

Child Measurement Programme for Wales

Children aged 4 to 5 in 2014/15

This fourth release of the Child Measurement Programme (CMP) for Wales contains findings of the programme of child measurements carried out with children attending reception class in schools in Wales in 2014/15.

Key Messages

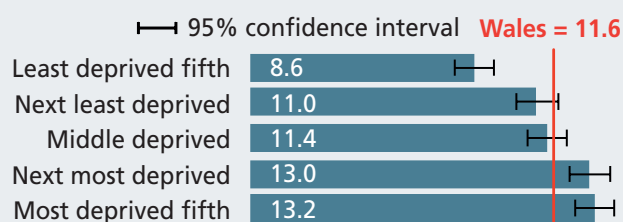
- Participation in the programme has increased by more than 10% in three years, from 84.3% of all children in 2012/13 to 94.5% in 2014/15
- Just over seven in every ten Welsh children have a healthy weight
- Reception-age children are significantly more likely than the Welsh average to be obese, if they live in areas of higher deprivation
- The local authority area with the highest prevalence of obesity is Merthyr Tydfil with 14.7% of children being obese. This is more than double that of the local authority area with the lowest prevalence – the Vale of Glamorgan at 7.3%
- Across the last three years there appears to have been a significant increase in the prevalence of overweight or obesity in reception year in Hywel Dda UHB (26.4% to 30.1%), and a significant fall in Cardiff and Vale UHB (23.7% to 20.9%). The small changes in the other health boards are not statistically significant
- 26.2% of children in Wales are overweight or obese, compared to 21.9% in England in this age group.

As can be seen from the chart below, there has been no statistically significant change across the last three years that the measurements have been carried out.



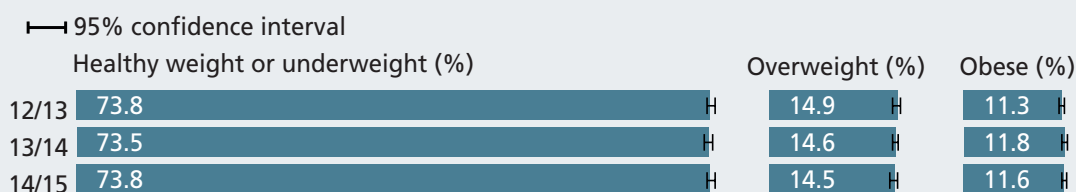
Percentage of children aged 4 to 5 years who are obese by Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation quintiles

Produced by Public Health Wales Observatory, using CMP data (NWIS)



Key measurement categories across the last three years – 2012/13, 2013/14 and 2014/15

Produced by Public Health Wales Observatory, using CMP data (NWIS)



Further resources and information about the programme are available at www.publichealthwales.org/childmeasurement
For further information on healthy eating visit www.publichealthwales.org/10steps