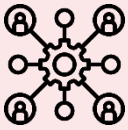


## What is deprivation?



Deprivation is defined as “**unmet needs** caused by a **lack of resources** of all kinds”

The IoD looks at **7 domains** of deprivation:



- Income
- Employment
- Education, skills & training
- Health & disability
- Crime
- Barriers to housing & services
- Living environment



England’s main measure of deprivation is the **Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD)**

- The IMD combines all 7 domains into one measure



It is often used to **target activity & funds**



Deprivation is a **deficit measure** – but all areas will have **assets** (people, groups, or places) **that can be strengthened to address the need**

## Small areas within Bolton



The main geography used by the IoD is **LSOA (a small administrative geography)** – Bolton has 177

**Deprivation deciles** are often used



- All areas are ordered & cut into 10 groups with 10% in each.
- The **most deprived** 10% is **decile 1**
- The **least deprived** 10% is **decile 10**
- There is **no cut-off** to be ‘deprived’ but...
- The **most deprived 10%** (decile 1) or **most deprived 20%** (decile 1+2) are often used



Bolton’s **least deprived** LSOAs on the IMD:

- Bolton 028E (in Westhoughton East)
- Bolton 001E (in Duncscar & Egerton)
- Bolton 002A (in Bromley Cross & Bradshaw)



Bolton’s **most deprived** LSOAs on the IMD:

- Bolton 016F (in Central Bolton)
- Bolton 016C (in Central Bolton)
- Bolton 012B (in Doffcocker & Moss Bank)

## Bolton as a whole



There are **various ways** of combining LSOAs to calculate **deprivation for a larger area**. Rank of average score is used here<sup>3</sup>



**Bolton is 30<sup>th</sup> most deprived of 296** local council areas in England

- **Just outside the top 10%** most deprived council areas

The Bolton population:



- **28%** of Bolton residents live in an area in the **10% most deprived** – decile 1
- **46%** of Bolton residents live in an area in the **20% most deprived** – decile 1+2
- **6%** of Bolton residents live in an area in the **10% least deprived** – decile 10
- **13%** of Bolton residents live in an area in the **20% least deprived** – decile 9+10

## Change over time



Each release of the IoD updates data sources, so they are **not directly comparable** over time. There have also been **council changes**



**Comparisons** are **relative to other areas**

- E.g. if an area becomes more deprived it may have improved or stayed the same in real world terms, but other areas improved more



Bolton’s rank is **similar** to that on IMD 2019

- IMD 2025 Bolton is ranked 30/296
- IMD 2019 Bolton was ranked 34/317
- Bolton remains just outside the top 10% most deprived council areas



Bolton’s **biggest moving LSOAs** have become **less deprived**, moving 2 deciles 7 → 9

- Bolton 014A (In Horwich East) 6,600 places
- Bolton 030B (in Over Hulton) 6,200 places
- 57 LSOAs have moved 1 decile: 27 becoming less deprived, 30 more deprived

## Domains of deprivation



The domains look at **different aspects of deprivation** which often interact

- They can be used separately as they put different lenses on people's experiences



Bolton's **worst** deprivation domain is **crime**, though is middling for Greater Manchester

- The risk of personal and material victimisation at a local level may be higher
- Bolton ranks 15<sup>th</sup> in England (6<sup>th</sup> in GM)



Bolton's **living environment** is **worse than average for GM**

- This looks at the quality of the home & local neighbourhood environment
- Bolton ranks 51<sup>st</sup> in England (3<sup>rd</sup> in GM)



Bolton does **best** in the **barriers to housing & services** domain

- Challenges are less for physical & financial access to housing and local services
- Bolton ranks 175<sup>th</sup> in England (6<sup>th</sup> in GM)

## Bolton vs elsewhere



**Bolton is 5<sup>th</sup> most deprived** among the **10 Greater Manchester councils**

- Most deprived is: Manchester (4<sup>th</sup> in England) followed by: Oldham (11<sup>th</sup> in England); Rochdale (17<sup>th</sup> in England)
- Least deprived is: Trafford (201 in England); followed by Stockport (158 in England)



**Bolton is 8<sup>th</sup> most deprived** amongst its **16 most similar areas**<sup>1</sup>

- Most deprived is: Middlesbrough (2<sup>nd</sup> in England), followed by Blackburn with Darwen (10<sup>th</sup> in England)
- Least deprived is: Swindon (167 in England) followed by Thurrock (122 in England)



**Bolton is 3<sup>rd</sup> most deprived** amongst its **6 immediate geographical neighbours**<sup>2</sup>

- Most deprived is: Blackburn with Darwen (10<sup>th</sup> in England) followed by Salford (24<sup>th</sup> in England)
- Least deprived is Chorley (179<sup>th</sup> in England) followed by Bury (90<sup>th</sup> in England)

## Other local geographies



**Health and care neighbourhoods** are a local geography used to run and plan health and care services

- **Bolton has 6 neighbourhoods** made up of LSOAs
- Bolton's **most deprived** neighbourhood: Central South
- Bolton's **least deprived** neighbourhoods: North; West

**Bolton has 20 wards** which each elect 3 councillors



- LSOA boundaries **aren't an exact match** to wards, so using best fits:
- Bolton's **most deprived** wards: Queen's Park & Central; Rumworth; Halliwell
- Bolton's **least deprived** wards: Bromley Cross; Heaton Lostock & Chew Moor

## References

Produced November 2025

Unless otherwise stated: MHCLG (2025). English Indices of deprivation 2025 <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/english-indices-of-deprivation-2025>

See: Bolton JSNA – deprivation for further information <https://www.boltonjsna.org.uk/deprivation>

[1] NHS England nearest neighbours to Bolton, based on census data: Blackburn with Darwen, (Bolton), Bradford, Bury, Derby, Kirklees, Middlesbrough, Oldham, Peterborough, Rochdale, Salford, Swindon, Tameside, Telford and Wrekin, Thurrock, Walsall

[2] Immediate geographical neighbours to Bolton: (Bolton), Blackburn with Darwen, Bury, Chorley, Salford, Wigan

[3] average score is population weighted as LSOAs differ slightly in their population sizes

Icons by:

Freepik; noomtah; Smashicons; Freepik; nangicon  
Freepik; Freepik; Catalin Fertu; th studio  
Nikita Golubev; Freepik; andinur  
Freepik; Freepik; Handicon; Freepik  
Freepik; Freepik; Freepik; Freepik  
Witdhawaty; IconBaandar; Freepik  
HAJICON; Freepik;