

Key Points:

- In the Crime Domain in IMD 2015, Barnsley is ranked **97th** out of 326 (where 1 is the most deprived) using the Rank of Average Score measure.
- 7.5% of areas in Barnsley are amongst the 10% most deprived in England in the Crime Domain in IMD 2015. In IMD 2010, 9.5% were in the 10% most deprived.
- Due to the nature of the crime data that composes the indicators, the data is not released for comparison between local authorities or across previous IMDs.

Methodology

The Crime Domain comprises four underlying indicators, each one accounting for a proportion of the total Crime domain score. They are weighted as:

- Violence – 32.4%
- Criminal damage – 26.5%
- Theft – 22.2%
- Burglary – 18.9%

Each of these indicators is comprised of a set of Home Office Crime codes. These particular offence codes were selected as being the offences that 'best represented the definitions of the respective Crime Domain indicator'¹.

It is important to remember that the selection of each offence for the indicator is based on both its suitability to the definition but also that the offence demonstrates a form of deprivation.

The inclusion of specific codes and exclusion of others highlights the subjective nature of the selection of the crime codes. With no conceptual methodology given to support the choices and how they specifically relate to deprivation it can be difficult to understand the validity of the indicator and as such a measure.

Due to the methodology applied and the weightings given to the indicators, each particular crime code type can carry very different levels of influence on the overall crime score.

Within each indicator though it is merely an aggregated count of all of the crime code incidents, therefore it effectively weights each of those crime codes equally. Within each indicator there are crime codes that represent crimes of varying seriousness, for example in the Violence Indicator there is murder but there is also harassment.

This method of aggregation can be even more problematic when low volume offences such as murder are incorporated into an indicator with higher volume offences. This means that the effect that the murder count will have, despite perhaps being many times greater than the mean murder rate, will be lost by the relatively high count for the other offences. The higher number of crime codes included also means that each individual crime code is diminished in its effect on the aggregated count.

Changes From IMD 2010

Within the underlying indicators in the Crime domain, the only changes between IMD 2010 and IMD 2015 relate to changes in the Home Office counting rules. As a result of this change, the number of offence categories has reduced in the Violence and Criminal Damage indicators in order to maximise comparability between the 2010 and 2015 IMD Crime domains.

¹ Indices of Multiple Deprivation 2015 Technical Report, 4.7.3 p45.

Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) 2015 Crime Domain Briefing

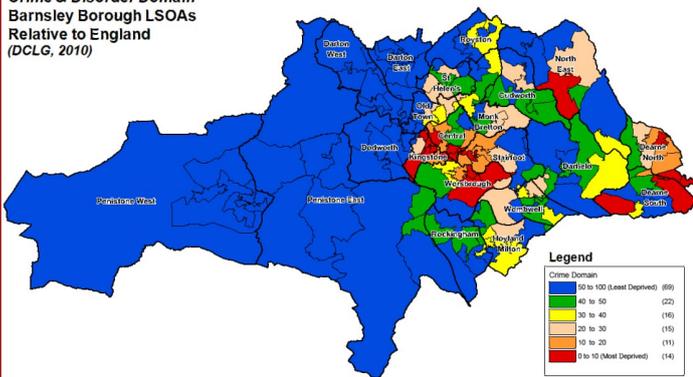
Results For Barnsley

In the Crime Domain in IMD 2015, Barnsley is ranked **97th** out of 326 (where 1 is the most deprived), using the Rank of Average Score measure.

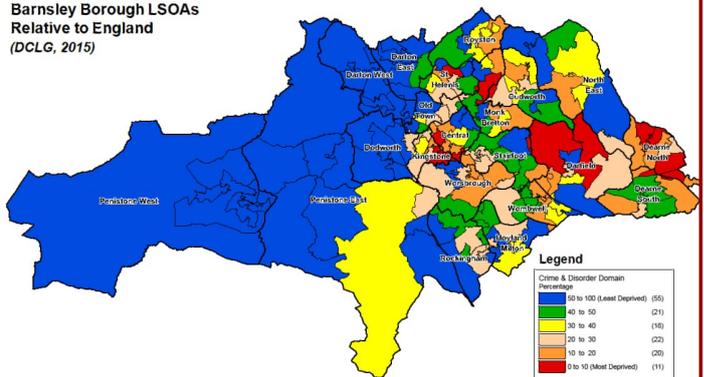
Figures 1 and 2 compare the levels of deprivation for each of the 147 Barnsley Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs) in the Crime domain, between IMD 2010 and IMD 2015.

11 (7.5%) LSOAs are within the most deprived 10% (shaded red) in IMD 2015, a decrease from 14 (9.5%) LSOAs in IMD 2010. The east and centre of the borough are generally more deprived than the west; however, decreases in relative deprivation have been experienced in LSOAs throughout of the borough between IMD 2010 and IMD 2015.

Index of Multiple Deprivation 2010
Crime & Disorder Domain
Barnsley Borough LSOAs
Relative to England
(DCLG, 2010)



Index of Multiple Deprivation 2015
Crime & Disorder Domain
Barnsley Borough LSOAs
Relative to England
(DCLG, 2015)



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Figure 1

Figure 2

Has the Level of Deprivation Actually Changed?

Barnsley's overall crime score for each indicator is determined by how well it performs in each of the crime codes selected that make up the indicator. Ultimately these determine the final crime score.

The scores for each of the indicators are not released so it is not possible to identify which of the indicators the borough performed better or worse in relative to other local authorities.

It is possible, however, to compare specific crime codes with those that are in South Yorkshire Police's comparative area model. By understanding Barnsley's relative performance in the specific crime types it is possible to identify those crime types that have the largest effect on Barnsley's overall score (based on the number of incidents and the weighting of the indicators).

Barnsley has a high incidence of criminal damage and as this is a heavily weighted indicator this is clearly an identifiable area for improvement within the borough. Beyond criminal damage though, due to the broad nature of crime types that compose the other indicators (and the lack of context in which to place the figure nationally) it is not possible to see which improvements could have the greatest effect on Barnsley's overall rank.

It is also not possible to compare Barnsley's performance to previous IMD results in the crime domain as a result of both changes to the indicators and also national changes to recording practices since IMD 2010.