

Dying Well - Health

Dementia

Introduction

Dementia is a major challenge for health and social care services in England. Dementia is a progressive and terminal disease caused by damage to the brain tissue. There are several symptoms, including loss of memory, mood changes, and problems with communication and reasoning. Dementia is a progressive condition, meaning people with dementia, their family and their carers have to cope with changing and depreciating abilities over the time of the illness. These include increasing impairment in the capacity to make decisions about both major life events and day-to-day situations.

There are many types of dementia, the most common are Alzheimer's Disease, which affects the structure and chemical balance of the brain, causing the death of brain cells, and Vascular dementia, which occurs when the oxygen supply to the brain is cut, for example by a stroke, causing the death of brain cells.

Dementia is one of the most severe and devastating illnesses a person can experience. Dementia not only has a significant impact on the individual, but also on family members who, in most cases, provide the majority of the care and support. Although dementia is primarily associated with older people, there are a significant number of people who develop dementia earlier in life.

In 2017 the leading cause of death for men and women aged 80 and over was dementia, accounting for 15.1% of male and 23.2% of female deaths.

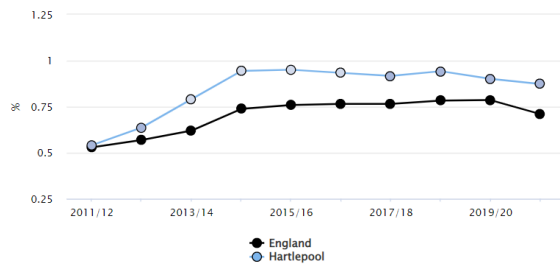
Whilst the root cause of dementia remains unknown - healthier lifestyles can contribute to prevention of dementia in later life. This includes not smoking, a balanced diet, regular physical activity, and moderate alcohol consumption. In addition reducing social isolation and maintaining good emotional health can help lower the risk of developing dementia in older people and delay the progression of symptoms.

Main Issues

Dementia prevalence across all ages has been in the 2nd highest quintile in England since 2017/18.

Dementia: QOF prevalence (all ages)

Proportion - %



Recent trend: No significant change

Period	Count	Value	Hartlepool		North East	England
			95% Lower CI	95% Upper CI		
2011/12	513	0.5%	0.5%	0.6%	0.6%	0.5%
2012/13	608	0.6%	0.6%	0.7%	0.7%	0.6%
2013/14	756	0.8%	0.7%	0.8%	0.8%	0.6%
2014/15	903	0.9%	0.9%	1.0%	0.9%	0.7%
2015/16	912	1.0%	0.9%	1.0%	0.9%	0.8%
2016/17	897	0.9%	0.9%	1.0%	0.9%	0.8%
2017/18	883	0.9%	0.9%	1.0%	0.9%	0.8%
2018/19	912	0.9%	0.9%	1.0%	0.9%	0.8%*
2019/20	872	0.9%	0.8%	1.0%	0.9%	0.8%
2020/21	845	0.9%	0.8%	0.9%	0.8%*	0.7%

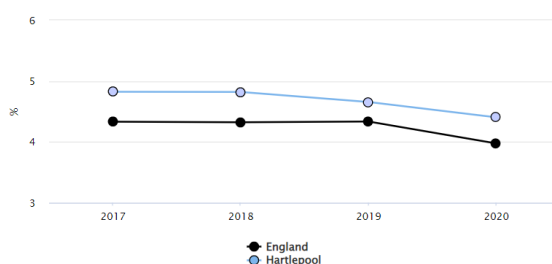
Source: Quality and Outcomes Framework (QOF), NHS Digital

Hartlepool's prevalence has remained static at 0.9% for five years, during which time the England and north east rates have both also remained largely static. Hartlepool has been in the 2nd highest quintile in England for dementia prevalence for the last four of those five years, in the four years prior Hartlepool sat in the top quintile in England for dementia prevalence.

For those aged over 65 the recorded prevalence of dementia in Hartlepool has decreased from 4.82% in 2017 to 4.4% in 2020.

Dementia: Recorded prevalence (aged 65 years and over)

Proportion - %



Recent trend: Could not be calculated

Period	Count	Value	Hartlepool		North East	England
			95% Lower CI	95% Upper CI		
2017	855	4.82%	4.52%	5.15%	4.64%	4.33%
2018	870	4.82%	4.52%	5.14%	4.59%	4.32%*
2019	850	4.66%	4.36%	4.97%	4.56%	4.34%*
2020	813	4.40%	4.12%	4.71%	4.09%	3.97%*

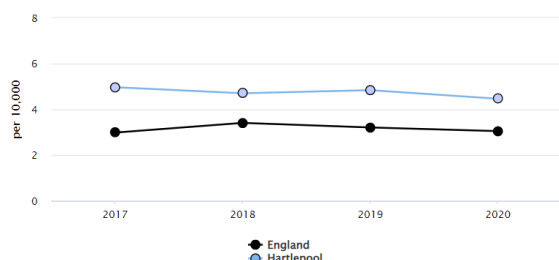
Source: NHS Digital, Recorded Dementia Diagnoses publications, December data files

Hartlepool's over 65 dementia prevalence has decreased by 8.8% from 2017 to 2020. The gap between Hartlepool and England had closed to 7% in 2019, but the 2020 data shows this has increased back up to 10%.

The prevalence of dementia in those under 65 in Hartlepool has declined by around 10% in the four year reporting period from 2017-2020. In the same time period the England rate has increased by 2%.

Dementia: Crude Recorded Prevalence (aged under 65 years) per 10,000

Crude rate - per 10,000



Recent trend: Could not be calculated

Period	Count	Value	Hartlepool		North East	England
			95% Lower CI	95% Upper CI		
2017	39	4.97	3.63	6.79	3.97	2.99
2018	37	4.70	3.41	6.48	4.65	3.41*
2019	38	4.84	3.53	6.64	4.29	3.21*
2020	35	4.46	3.21	6.21	4.00	3.05*

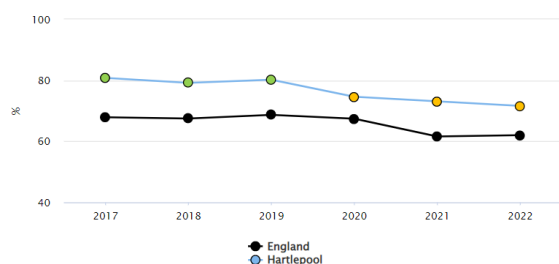
Source: NHS Digital, Recorded Dementia Diagnoses publications, December data files

Both England and Hartlepool's rates have remained relatively stable, with the gap between the two staying around two thirds.

Hartlepool's diagnosis rate for dementia in those aged over 65 had been statistically superior to the England average from 2017 to 2019, but since 2020 has been similar to the England rate.

Estimated dementia diagnosis rate (aged 65 and over)

Proportion - %



Recent trend: No significant change

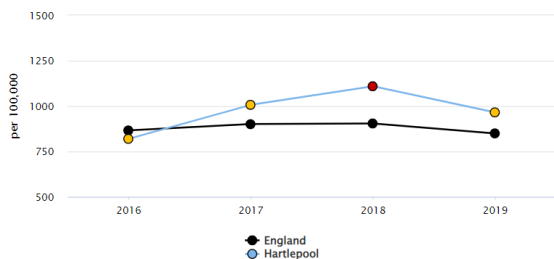
Benchmarking against goal: > 66.7% (significantly) similar to 66.7% < 66.7% (significantly)

Period	Count	Value	Hartlepool		North East	England
			95% Lower CI	95% Upper CI		
2017	862	80.8%	71.0%	89.4%	75.6%	67.9%
2018	851	79.2%	69.6%	87.7%	74.8%	67.5%
2019	882	80.2%	70.5%	88.7%	75.2%	68.7%
2020	833	74.6%	65.5%	82.6%	73.3%	67.4%
2021	817	73.1%	64.2%	80.9%	66.2%	61.6%
2022	819	71.6%	62.9%	79.3%	66.8%	62.0%

Source: NHS Digital

Hartlepool's estimated diagnosis rate fell from 80.2% in 2019 to 74.6% in 2020, which pushed Hartlepool to a similar position to the England rate of 67.4%. Hartlepool's rate has declined year on year from 2020 to 2022, falling to 71.6%.

The mortality rate for people over 65 with dementia had reached a level above 1,000 per 100,000 people in 2017 and 2018, but has fallen below this mark in 2019.



Recent trend: Could not be calculated

Period	Count	Value	Hartlepool		North East region	England
			95% Lower CI	95% Upper CI		
2016	141	819	689	967	934	866
2017	173	1,007	861	1,170	985	901
2018	198	1,109	958	1,276	966	904
2019	176	965	827	1,120	917	849

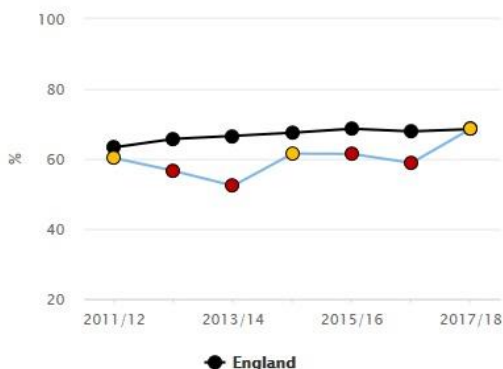
Source: Public Health England (Office for National Statistics Mortality File)

Hartlepool’s rate of 965 per 100,000 population in 2019 is a decrease of 13% on the 2018 rate of 1,109 per 100,000. During the same period the England average decreased by 6%, from 904 per 100,000 in 2018 to 849 per 100,000 in 2019. Hartlepool’s mortality rate for those over 65 with dementia has returned to a position of similarity with the England average, after being significantly worse than England in 2018.

Of those deaths of people over 65 with dementia, the proportion who died in their usual place of residence has fluctuated greatly across the seven year reporting period. Death in usual place of residence is often used as a proxy measure to look at the quality of end of life care of someone on a dementia end of life pathway.

Deaths in Usual Place of Residence: People with dementia (aged 65 years and over) Hartlepool

Proportion - %



Recent trend: ↗

Period	Count	Value	Hartlepool		North East region	England
			Lower CI	Upper CI		
2011/12	47	60.3%	49.2%	70.4%	58.1%	63.3%
2012/13	60	56.6%	47.1%	65.6%	62.4%	65.7%
2013/14	67	52.3%	43.7%	60.8%	63.4%	66.6%
2014/15	72	61.5%	52.5%	69.9%	63.9%	67.5%
2015/16	102	61.4%	53.9%	68.5%	66.3%	68.6%
2016/17	83	58.9%	50.6%	66.6%	66.6%	67.9%
2017/18	118	68.6%	61.3%	75.1%	68.3%	68.5%

Source: Public Health England (Office for National Statistics Mortality File)

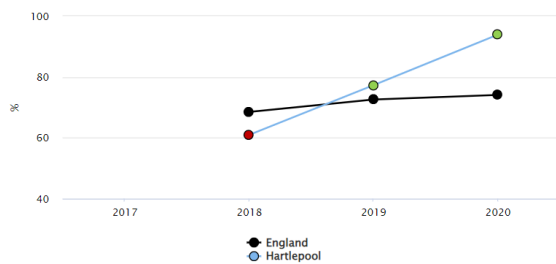
While Hartlepool begins and ends the reporting period statistically similar to the England average, the years in between followed different paths for Hartlepool and England. England’s progression from 2011/12 to 2017/18 shows a general steady increase, with year on year figures moving no more than 3.8% and moving an

average of 1.7%. Hartlepool however has year on year changes of up to 17.6%, with an average of 8.7%.

Hartlepool has increased the number of nursing home beds appropriate for those with dementia aged 65 or over which are rated 'good' or 'outstanding' from 60.9% in 2018 to 93.9% in 2020. This has moved Hartlepool from being significantly worse than England to significantly better than England. The England rate for 2020 was 74.1%.

Dementia: Quality rating of residential care and nursing home beds (aged 65 years and over)

Proportion - %



Recent trend: Could not be calculated

Period	Count	Value	Hartlepool		North East	England
			95% Lower CI	95% Upper CI		
2018	462	60.9%	57.4%	64.4%	71.3%	68.5%
2019	586	77.3%	74.2%	80.1%	82.5%	72.6%
2020	710	93.9%	92.0%	95.4%	87.6%	74.1%

Source: Care Quality Commission