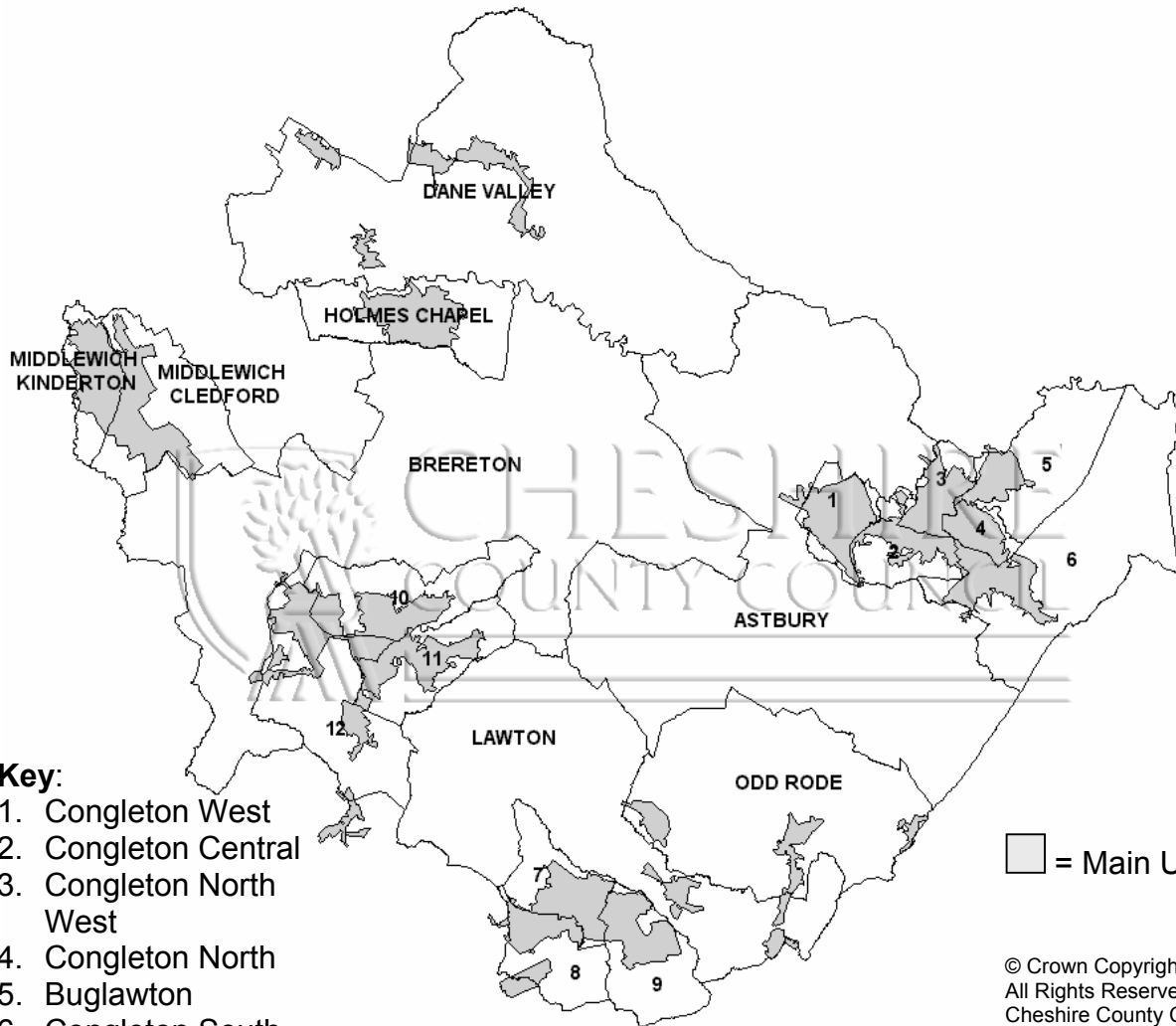


Congleton District Profile

Electoral Wards in Congleton



Key:

- 1. Congleton West
- 2. Congleton Central
- 3. Congleton North West
- 4. Congleton North
- 5. Buglawton
- 6. Congleton South
- 7. Alsager Central
- 8. Alsager West
- 9. Alsager East
- 10. Sandbach North
- 11. Sandbach East

☐ = Main Urban Areas

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Congleton In Perspective

The Borough of Congleton comprises the towns of Alsager, Congleton, Middlewich and Sandbach, the large village of Holmes Chapel and a number of small villages and hamlets set in the southeast Cheshire countryside. The borough has a population of 91,800 covering an area of approximately 21,100 hectares. It is bounded by Staffordshire to the south-east, the district of Macclesfield to the north-east and the districts of Vale Royal and Crewe & Nantwich to the north and west. Three-quarters of the population live in the four towns, each of which, prior to reorganisation in 1974, were either municipal boroughs or urban district councils in their own right. Each town now has its own town council.

A market town since the Middle Ages, Congleton remains a shopping centre with historic buildings. Sandbach is another thriving market town with many historic buildings, while Middlewich, once a Roman industrial settlement established to exploit the area's rich salt deposits, retains that link today. Alsager is the newest of the towns and owes its existence to the railways. Holmes Chapel is a large historical village in the north of the Borough of Congleton situated close to the M6 motorway.

About The Profile

This is a summary of information about Congleton Borough. It intends to help an understanding of the Borough to enable issues of concern to be identified and put into context.

Information given in this summary is mainly for the Borough of Congleton although some data is presented for wards, where significant trends are seen. Where ward level data is given it refers to the new 'post 1998' ward boundaries as displayed on the front of this profile.

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Key Facts

- Congleton has a population of 91,800 (2005)
- Population is forecast to grow by 4% (2005-2021)
- 95% of respondents to the Quality of Life Survey 2005 described their quality of life as being very or quite good
- The Quality of Life 2005 Survey highlighted that reducing crime and disorder remains respondents' top priority for improving their quality of life.
- Recorded crime per 1,000 population in 2004/2005 in Congleton was 52 compared to 83 for Cheshire. This rate was the lowest of all Cheshire districts
- Congleton's teenage conception rate is 20 per 1,000 females aged 15-17, lower than the 32 for the County (2001-03)
- 50% of young people thought that drugs were easy to get in their area (Quality of Life 2005 Survey)
- The Cheshire Community Survey 2006 found that 15% of Congleton's population smoke cigarettes
- Unemployment rates in Congleton tend to be slightly lower than the County rates
- 9% of unemployed claimants had been out of work for over a year at April 2006
- According to the Cheshire Community Survey 2006 two-thirds of internet users now have broadband at home
- A total of 14,200 tonnes of materials was recycled in Congleton between 2004 – 2005 accounting for 31% of all waste

Safer & Stronger Communities

Congleton's People

Size & Distribution

- Estimate (2005) for Congleton is 91,800¹
- This is 13.5% of Cheshire's population
- In 2005, 76% lived in the four towns of Alsager (12,400), Congleton (26,400), Middlewich (13,300) and Sandbach (17,600)
- Holmes Chapel and Odd Rode wards have populations of 5,000 to 6,000
- Brereton, Church Lawton and Goostrey have populations of 1,000 to 2,500
- The rest of the population is in scattered rural settlements.

Density

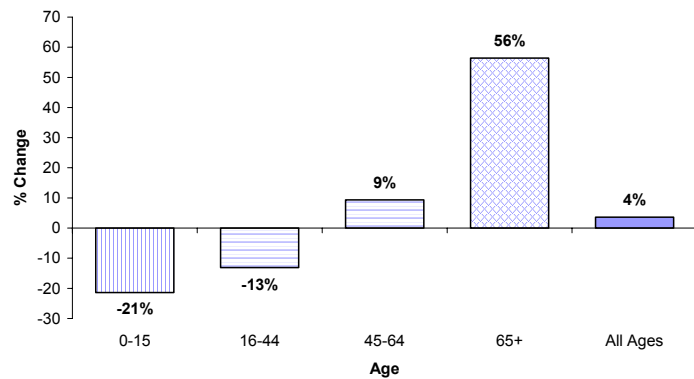
- The area of Congleton Borough is 21,100 hectares
- The density of population is 4.35 people per hectare.

Trends

- The population of Congleton Borough has grown substantially from 71,400 in 1971 to 91,800 in 2005, a rise of 22%. This compares with a rise of 10% for Cheshire.
- Congleton is expected to grow between 2005 and 2021². The population in 2021 will be 4% higher than in 2005. This compares with a growth of 4% for Cheshire

Age Distribution

% Change in Age Group 2005 - 2021 Congleton Borough



- 19% of the population is aged under 16
- 17% is aged 65 or more
- Children are forecast to show a decrease
- Adults aged 16-44 are forecast to decrease
- The largest proportional growth in population is expected for the 65+ age group (2005-2021).

Family Structure

- In the 2001 census³, 71% of households in Congleton Borough were 'family' households – a slightly higher proportion than for Cheshire (68%).

A 'family' household is (a) a married or cohabiting couple with or without children present including all pensioner households or (b) a lone parent with children present, and no others.

- 70% of Congleton Borough households had no dependent children present (59% of 'family' households plus 96% of no 'family' households)
- 15% of all 'family' households with dependent children were 'lone parent households' (Cheshire 18%)
- 3,886 (15%) of 'family' households had non-dependent children
- 30% of all live births were born outside marriage in 2000 (Cheshire 36%).

Households

- In 2001³, there were 37,283 households with residents in Congleton Borough
- 99% of people lived in households and 1% in communal establishments

¹ Office for National Statistics population estimates. © Crown Copyright 2005

² 2007 Cheshire County Council Population Report

³ Census 2001. © Crown Copyright 2005

- Household composition generally reflected the county patterns
- 9,456 (25%) of households were people living alone 27% of households had dependent children
- 30% of households had dependent children
- 24% of Congleton Borough households were all pensioner households, of these 5,060 (56%) were pensioners living alone
- Congleton Central ward had the highest proportion of households with people living alone (32%), Brereton and Dane wards had the lowest proportion (16%)
- Middlewich Cledford ward had the highest proportion of households with dependent children (38.5%), Lawton ward had the lowest proportion (22.8%).

Housing

- In 2001³, 37% of households in Congleton Borough lived in semi-detached houses (36% for Cheshire)
- In 2001³, 82% of households lived in owner-occupied accommodation, the highest percent in the county
- 11% lived in social rented housing, the lowest percent in the county (most of which is now administered by housing associations).
- In 2001³, 99.6% of households had exclusive use of bath/shower
- 94.8% of households had central heating (compared with 92.0% in Cheshire)
- Congleton North ward had the highest proportion (9.7%) of households without central heating
- Alsager Central ward had the highest percent of owner occupied accommodation owned outright (50.7%)
- Sandbach West ward had the highest percent of owner occupied accommodation owned with a mortgage or loan (59.7%)
- Blacon Lodge ward had the highest percent of local authority rented housing (21.4%) and housing rented from registered social landlords or housing associations (22.7%)
- Congleton North ward had the highest percent of local authority rented housing (11.3%) and housing rented from registered social landlords or housing associations (32.4%)

- In 2005, the average property price for Congleton was £176,113⁴.

Ethnic Background and Religion

- In 2001³, 1.2% of Congleton's population was 'non-white'
- 81% of Congleton's population were Christian
- Congleton Central ward had the highest percent of 'non-white' people (1.7%).

Socio-Economic Group

- In 2001³, Congleton had the second highest proportion of managerial and professional households in Cheshire (27.6%)
- Congleton had the second lowest proportion of semi-skilled and unskilled manual workers in Cheshire (13.2%).

Index of Multiple Deprivation 2004⁵

The Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) is well established as a key source of evidence of deprivation at small area level across England. The 2004 update was undertaken by Oxford University on behalf of the Neighbourhood Renewal Unit within the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM). The 2004 IMD was constructed at the lower layer super output area (LLSOA) level. The previous IMD (2000) was at ward level.

The IMD acknowledges that disadvantage is not just a matter of poverty. The index consists of 7 domains; Income, Employment, Health Deprivation & Disability, Education Skills and Training, Barriers to Housing and Services, Crime Domain (new in 2004) and Living Environment (new in 2004).

Results of the IMD 2004 include:

- Congleton has no LLSOAs falling within the top 10% most deprived LLSOAs in England or the top 10% in Cheshire
- The highest ranked LLSOA in Congleton fell within Congleton North ward and was ranked 47 out of 442 Cheshire LLSOAs
- Congleton was ranked 257th most deprived for extent of deprivation out of 354 English districts. This was the lowest rank of all Cheshire districts.

⁴ HM Land Registry. © Crown Copyright 2005, Crown Copyright material is reproduced with the permission of the Controller of HMSO

⁵ ODPM, Indices of Deprivation 2004

Crime & Disorder

- Recorded crime⁶ per 1,000 population in 2004/05 for Congleton District was 52 per 1,000 people, lower than the County rate (83). This rate was the lowest of all the Cheshire districts
- Burglary (8 per 1,000 population) was lower than the county rate (11)
- Vehicle crime (7 per 1,000 population) was lower than the county rate (10)
- Violence against the person (9 per 1,000 population) was lower than the county rate (14)
- Rates of burglary, vehicle crime and violence against the person (per 1,000 population) were lower in Congleton than any other District in Cheshire.

The Quality of Life 2005⁷ survey highlighted that respondents were most likely to suggest reducing crime and disorder as a way of improving their quality of life. Congleton respondents were less worried about being a victim of crime in general, and less concerned about specific crimes

- More people were worried about property crime (44% of all respondents worried about having their house burgled) than any other crime compared to 55% in 2000
- 37% of all respondents worried about having their car stolen, theft from their car and vandalism to any of their property, whereas, 36% worried about theft of personal items while out and about and a similar proportion worried about being mugged
- Generally worries about specific types of crime were lower in Congleton than the rest of Cheshire.

Road Safety⁸

- There were 325 reported injury collisions on Congleton's road network in 2004 resulting in a total of 473 casualties
- There were 3 fatalities on Congleton roads in 2004, a reduction from 13 in 2003
- There were 33 serious casualties in 2004, a reduction from 49 in 2003.

⁶ Management Information Unit, Cheshire Constabulary

⁷ Quality of Life Survey 2005, Cheshire County Council

⁸ Road Casualties Cheshire, Annual Report 2005, CCC

Community Involvement

The Cheshire Community Survey 2006⁹ found that:

- Nearly half (49%) of Congleton district respondents belonged to a charity, voluntary group or community organisation (43% Cheshire). 38% volunteered with the social or physical care of one or more people (not relatives) and/or provided a service on behalf of a charity, voluntary or community organisation for at least 2 hours a month without being paid (42% Cheshire)
- The Quality of Life Survey 2005⁷ found 23% of adult respondents in Congleton stated that they were a member of a home or neighbourhood watch group (27% in Cheshire)
- This survey also found that, 39% of Congleton residents ranked 'Involve local people in decision making' in their top 3 priorities (Cheshire total 35%).

Community involvement is evidenced in the governance of the district. In addition to the County and District councillors, there are 17 parish councils and four town councils that deal with many local issues.

Voting Patterns - County

- After the 2005 County Council Election the 7 County Electoral Divisions are represented by 5 Conservatives and 2 Liberal Democrats
- Turnout in Congleton at the 2005 County Council Election was 60%.

Voting Patterns - District

- At May 2006, the District Council was represented by 13 Liberal Democrat, 27 Conservative and 8 Others

Rural Services Survey¹⁰

The most recent of these surveys was carried out in 2005. Key findings for rural Congleton from the 2005 services survey can be found in the table below.

⁹ Cheshire Community Survey 2006, Cheshire County Council

¹⁰ Rural Services Series, Rural Access Survey 2005
http://www.countryside.gov.uk/EvidenceAndAnalysis/dataHub/rural_services_series_dataarea/RSS2005data.asp

Percentage of households in rural areas who travel more than 6 miles to a service

	Banks/ Building Soc	Super market	Job Centre	Libraries	Sec Schools
Congleton	0%	0%	43%	0%	0%
Cheshire (all households)	5%	2%	14%	4%	2%

Children & Young People

Schools and Pupils

In Congleton (Jan 2006) there were:

- Approximately 7,681 primary school pupils at 37 primary schools and 156 nursery pupils
- Approximately 7,920 secondary school pupils at 7 secondary schools.

Results

In 2005:

- For Key Stage 2 level 4 and above results, primary pupils in Congleton schools achieved a higher rate than Cheshire as a whole and above the national rate

	Congleton	Cheshire	National
English	89%	83%	79%
Maths	84%	79%	75%
Science	94%	89%	86%

- 68% of Congleton pupils achieved 5 GCSEs at grades A*-C in 2005, compared to 57% nationally and 60% in Cheshire
- Congleton pupils achieved an average point score of 287.5 (for two or more GCE A Levels or AS equivalent), compared to 273.7 nationally and 274.1 in Cheshire.

Teenage Conceptions¹¹

- From 2001 to 2003, there were 102 conceptions to females aged under 18 years old in Congleton
- The conception rate of under 18 year olds in Congleton is 20 per 1,000 females aged 15-17 years, this is lower than the county rate (32).

¹¹ Office for National Statistics. © Crown Copyright 2006.

Young people and crime

- According to the Quality of Life 2005⁷, people see a link between young people, crime & disorder and drugs. Young people were seen as major contributors to residents' concerns on crime & disorder, especially when they meet together in groups. Three of the top four actions suggested for tackling illegal drugs concerned educating and informing young people.
- However, young people are also victims of crime and illegal drugs. Young people were more worried than others were about being victims of harassment, assault and theft of personal items. They felt more strongly than others that reducing the illegal drugs problems is an important local issue.

Bullying in schools

- A recent Bullying Survey¹² found that just over a third of year 7, 8 and 9 pupils stated they had been bullied in the past school year. These results were similar to national figures
- The main suggestions by the pupils to combat bullying were to help develop confidence for all pupils, to help pupils feel better about themselves and to teach bullies why it is wrong and how to stop.

Infant Mortality¹³

- In 2004, the infant mortality rate of children aged under 1 year old was 3.4* per 1,000 live births in Congleton, compared with 5.2 in Cheshire.

* Based on less than 5 events

¹² Anti-Bullying Survey 2005, Cheshire County Council

¹³ Vital Statistics, Office for National Statistics population estimates. © Crown Copyright 2006.

Healthier Communities & Older People

Standardised Mortality Ratios¹⁴

In 1999, as part of the 'Our Healthier Nation' strategy, the Government has set national targets to reduce mortality from cancer, circulatory diseases, suicide and accidents.

- Congleton had a standardised ratio* of 94 for deaths from cancer (2002 to 2004) (98 in Cheshire)
- Congleton had a standardised ratio* of 96 for deaths from circulatory diseases (2002 to 2004) (100 in Cheshire).

*Standardised mortality ratios compare the observed number of deaths to the number of deaths that would occur per 100,000 population if that population had the age-specific death rates of England & Wales.

Limiting Long Term Illness

- In the 2001 census³, 16.1% of people in Congleton had limiting long-term illness (LLTI). Congleton district ranked 6th in Cheshire in terms of LLTI
- 92.2% stated in the 2001 census that they were in good or fairly good health
- No Congleton wards appeared in the highest 10 wards in the county.

Health Issues

The Community Survey 2006⁹ found:

- 15% of residents in Congleton smoke, similar to the figure for Cheshire as a whole (16%)
- 88% drank alcohol; 15% thought the amount of alcohol they drank was harmful to their health which was lower than for any other district
- 90% of the Congleton population felt their health was either good or fairly good, this is comparable with 88% in Cheshire as a whole
- 62% of the Congleton population took some form of exercise every week (including walking), fewer than any other Cheshire district. 67% would like to exercise more with lack of time being the main barrier to more

¹⁴ National Centre for Health Outcomes Development:
<http://www.nchod.nhs.uk/>

exercise (41%) followed by health or medical problems (24%).

Benefit Claimants¹⁵

The government has made available Department of Social Security (DSS) ward level data to local authorities. This data covers a variety of income and health related benefits comprising six main benefit categories (Income Support, Disability Living Allowance, Incapacity Benefit/Severe Disablement Allowance, Pension Credit, Job Seekers Allowance and State Pension). Analysis of the benefit claimants data (November 2005) indicates:

- Congleton District had the lowest district rate per 1,000 population in Cheshire for Income Support 'All Claimants' with 16.7 claimants per 1,000 population (Cheshire 24.5).
- For all benefits, with the exception of State Pension, Congleton had claimant rates lower than Cheshire's.
- Congleton EastL3 Lower Layer Super Output Area (LLSOA) appeared in the top 10%, in Cheshire, for a number of the benefit categories.

Liveability in Congleton

A County Council survey about quality of life was undertaken in 2005⁷.

- 94% of residents of Congleton district liked where they lived (57% liked very much)
- 80% could find something that needed improving. 'More things for young people/children to do' and 'improve local amenities and leisure facilities' were mentioned by one in five who made suggestions
- 95% of respondents described their quality of life as being very or quite good (49% very good).

Issues

- The most significant issue was concern about crime. A more visible police presence was a top priority for reducing crime in Congleton
- More things for young people to do was seen as a good way of tackling crime concerns
- 50% of young people thought that drugs were easy to get in their area (40% in 2000)

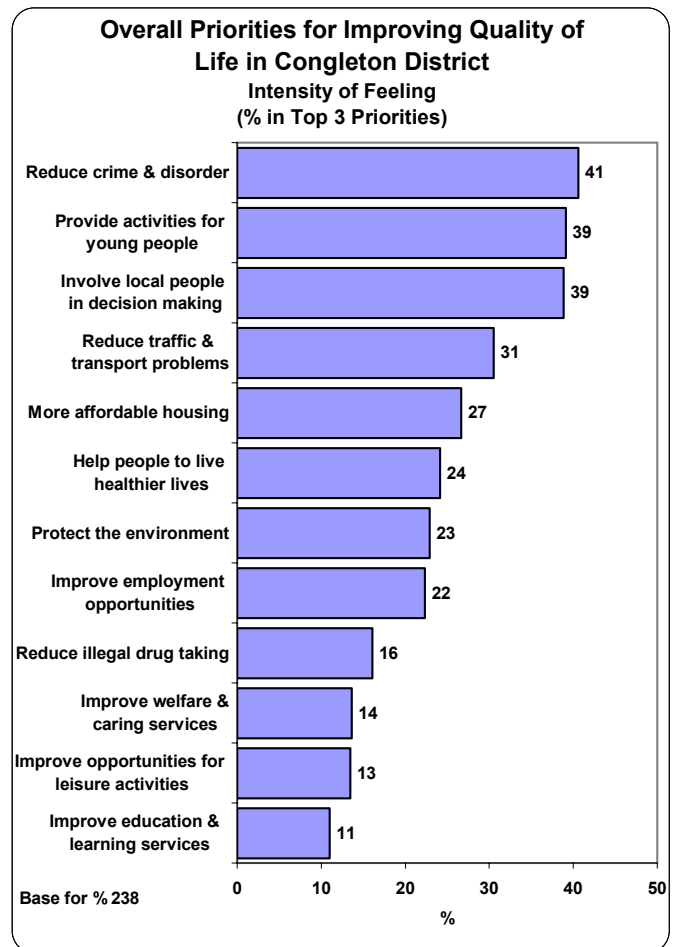
¹⁵ Benefit Claimants 2005, Department for Work and Pensions
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- More importance placed on affordable housing. Within this topic, there has been increased support for 'building more affordable houses to buy' as an action to improve housing
- Less importance placed on the environmental actions 'provide more recycling facilities and kerbside collections' and 'reduce industrial pollution' compared to all of Cheshire
- Higher importance in Congleton on providing advice to households as a way of improving the local environment
- The importance of smoke free buildings as a new priority action in 2005 and ranked 1st in Congleton to improve health
- Congleton respondents placed high importance on 'more employers offering flexible working hours' as a way of improving employment prospects (ranked joint 2nd in Congleton).

Overall Priorities for Improvement

- 'Reducing crime and disorder' was the issue rated as the highest priority in Congleton for improvement. Two-fifths of respondents (41%) placed this in their top three priorities with almost a similar number (39%), stating that 'providing activities for young people' was a priority along with 'involving local people in decision making' (39%). Other priorities included 'reduce traffic and transport problems' (31%).

Overall Priorities for Improving Quality of Life Intensity of Feeling (% in top 3 Priorities) **Congleton District**



Mental Health and Well Being

- 16% of adults suffer from mental illness in Great Britain¹⁶. This would be around 9,000 people in Congleton.
- 1 in 10 children have some kind of mental health problem¹⁷. For children looked after by local authorities overall rates of disorder are at least 5 times higher than for children in the general population¹⁶. At March 2005 Congleton had 40 children looked after by a local authority, this is around 2 per 1,000 population aged under 18.
- The 2004 mental health index identifies Congleton EastL3 Lower Layer Super Output

¹⁶ ONS 2000, Psychiatric Morbidity Among Adults Living in Private Households in Great Britain

¹⁷ ONS, 2004, The Health of Children and Young People

Areas (LLSOA's) as having the highest evidence of mental health problems¹⁸.

- 14% of Middle Layer Super Output Areas* (MLSOA's) in Congleton have alcohol attributable death mortality ratios higher than the North West's. The highest is West Sandbach North MLSOA which is 18% above the North West average¹⁹.
- According to the regional drug misuse database, Cheshire had 1,200 drug misusers in treatment in 2000/01. People with drug problems have a higher risk of suicide than the average population.
- Only one Middle Layer Super Output Areas (MLSOA's), in Congleton, had a self harm hospitalised incidence ratios higher than the North West's. This was Sandbach North MLSOA which is 50% above the North West average¹⁸.
- From 2002 to 2004 there were 7 deaths due to suicide in Congleton²⁰

Economic Development & Enterprise

Economic Prospects

- Forecasts from the Cheshire & Warrington Econometric Model indicate that Congleton's GVA (a measure of output) will increase by 1.1% p.a. between 2000 and 2015. This is below that for the North West (2.2%) and is below Cheshire's (2.5%)²¹
- These forecasts also show that, over the same period, those sectors with the highest GVA growth p.a. will be Utilities (5.8%) and Transport & Communications (4.4%). Manufacturing is expected to decline by around 1% p.a.

¹⁸ ODPM, Indices of Deprivation 2004: Mental Health Indicator

¹⁹ North West Public Health Observatory:

<http://www.nwpho.org.uk>

²⁰ National Centre for Health Outcomes Development:

<http://www.nchod.nhs.uk/>

²¹ Baseline projections from the Cheshire & Warrington Econometric Model. Projections were obtained using Cambridge Econometrics/IER LEFM software and are consistent with Regional Economic Prospects

Employment²²

- Total numbers of employees in Congleton fell from 31,900 in 1998, to 30,800 in 2004²³
- In Cheshire, employment increased over this period, rising from 288,300 to 309,200
- Employment in the manufacturing sector has fallen by 27% between 1998 and 2004
- Economic output per head was estimated to be £11,470 in 2002
- In 2004, mean household income was £33,700, 15% above the UK average²⁴

Qualifications

The 2001 Census³ found:

- 23% of 16-74 year olds were qualified to degree level or above, compared with 23% in Cheshire and 20% in England and Wales
- 24% had no qualifications at all (Cheshire 26%)
- Dane Valley ward had the highest proportion of people aged 16-74 with degree level qualifications or above (34%)
- Congleton North ward had the highest proportion of people aged 16-74 with no qualifications (40%).

Unemployment²⁵

- Unemployment in Congleton at April 2006 was 1.3%, compared with a Cheshire rate of 1.8%
- 9% of unemployed people had been out of work for over a year (10% for Cheshire) at April 2006
- 24% of unemployed were under 25 years old (31% for Cheshire) at April 2006
- 25% of unemployed were aged 50+ (18% for Cheshire) at April 2006
- According to the 2001 Census³, Congleton North ward had the highest proportion of

²² Figures come from the Annual Business Inquiry 2004 which is survey based, therefore figures must be treated with caution.

²³ Annual Business Inquiry 2004 (the survey based nature of the ABI means that data needs to be treated with caution)

²⁴ Information from CACI quoted in 'Building on Success': Cheshire and Warrington Annual Economic Report 2006, CWEA

²⁵ Office for National Statistics (ONS). Crown Copyright material is reproduced with the permission of the Controller of HMSO.

people aged 16-74 who were unemployed (4.2%) in the district.

Lifelong Learning

- Over half (52%) of respondents had taken part in some form of learning activity during the last 3 years (Community Survey 2006⁹)
- A quarter of courses had been supplied or funded by employers and nearly a quarter of courses (24%) were in computing or IT.

Use of Internet

- According to the 2006 Cheshire Community Survey⁹, 71% of Congleton respondents used the Internet compared with 75% for Cheshire overall
- Two thirds, 67%, have a broadband connection at home
- Nearly three quarters, 72%, access the Internet twice or more a week. The most used areas were: personal email, hobbies and interests, and booking holidays / travel tickets
- Nearly half, 45%, had accessed the Cheshire County Council website in the last 12 months; three quarters of these, 76%, achieved what they set out to do.

Funding

- From 2000 to 2006, part of Cheshire is fully eligible for European Union funding under Objective 2, as an area of industrial decline. The North West England Objective 2 2000-2006 funding, will be delivered through Action Plan Partnerships. There are 4 local Action Plan Partnerships relating to Ellesmere Port & Neston and Vale Royal areas, with £12m European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) grant achieved to date for projects to apply for. Projects can operate until 2008.
- In addition, all Cheshire is also eligible for Objective 3 funding to combat long term unemployment and promote equality of opportunity, gain access to work and adapt to change in employment. From the 13 Direct bidding rounds so far since 2000, the Cheshire sub-region has succeeded with 158 bids achieving £14.6m European Social Fund (ESF) grant. In addition, other routes through the Learning & Skills Council(Cheshire & Warrington) , Jobcentre Plus and Global Grants initiative amount to an additional £18m ESF grant into the Cheshire sub-region.

- The new European programmes period for funding will operate during 2007 to 2013 and will involve significant change. Work is in development during 2006 and may not be fully completed until mid 2007.
- Between January 1995 and April 2006, over £12 million of lottery funding had been received in Congleton²⁶ (over £85 million in Cheshire):

Environment & Transport

Recycling and Waste

- A total of 46,500 tonnes of waste was produced by Congleton for the year 2005/06²⁷
- Of this a total of 14,200 tonnes of materials was recycled in Congleton between 2005/06, accounting for 31% of all waste (this was double the figure in 2002/03, 15.9%)

The Quality of Life Survey⁷ (2005) showed that:

- The most common actions taken by Congleton respondents to protect the environment were 'switch off TV completely' (60% usually do so, 69% for Cheshire and 54% in the district in 2000) and 'use radiator thermostats' (52% usually do so, lower than the Cheshire rate of 63%; the 2000 district figure was 57%).
- 'The amount of household waste produced locally' and 'dog fouling in local public places' caused the greatest local environmental concern for Congleton respondents, each a concern to 79%.

Environmental Concerns

- From the 2006 Cheshire Community Survey⁹, the majority of Congleton residents, 59%, thought that quarrying and mining activities were relevant to their area. This was the highest figure of all Cheshire districts
- 57% strongly agreed that the world's climate was changing, compared with 54% of Cheshire respondents. Over a quarter, 28%, thought the biggest change in Cheshire was to weather patterns
- More Congleton residents, 68%, thought that air travel had a major impact on climate change than other factors

²⁶ <http://www.lottery.culture.gov.uk/>

²⁷ Waste Management, Cheshire County Council

- The most supported form of large scale renewable technology was hydro electric power with 86% support
- Over two thirds of respondents would consider domestic solar or solar thermal panels. Less than half, 46%, would consider domestic wind turbines; mainly because of aesthetic or efficiency concerns.

Heritage and Conservation

- Congleton had 5,290 hectares of green belt land at 2004, 7% of Cheshire's Green Belt²⁸
- There are 857 sites of archaeological importance in Congleton²⁹, 391 of these are from the 'Post Medieval' period (1540AD-1900AD).

Participation

Respondents to the Quality of Life Survey⁷ 2005 were asked what they liked to do in their spare time:

- 'Watching TV' (74%)
- 'Listening to music' (71%)
- 'Walking and rambling' (60%)
- 'Visiting clubs, nightclubs and restaurants' (59%).

Barriers to Participation

Respondents to the Quality of Life Survey⁷ 2005 were also asked what were the major constraints that prevented them from spending more time on any leisure activities:

- 'Working' (35%)
- 'Poor health or old age' (14%)
- 'Caring for children', (13%) were the most popular responses
- 31% of respondents said that 'nothing' prevented them from spending time on leisure activities.

Car Availability

- Car availability as shown in 2001 (from the 2001 Census³) was high with 85.5% of households owning at least one car (81.1% in Cheshire). There was more car ownership in Congleton than any other district

²⁸ Local Planning Authority Green Belt Statistics: England 2004

²⁹ County Historic Environment Record (CHER), Cheshire County Council

- In the Cheshire Community Survey 2006⁹, 91% of Congleton respondents stated that they owned or had available for use by members of their family one or more car/van.

Means of Travel to Work

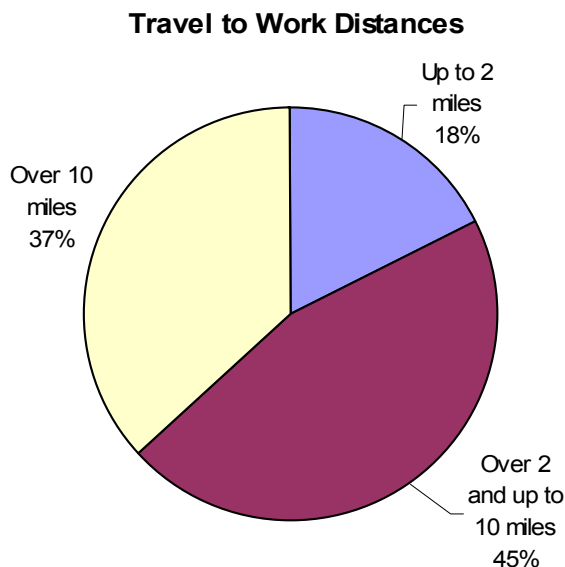
- The car was the dominant means of travel to work by Congleton Borough residents (75.1% drivers or passengers in 2001 compared with 71.1% for Cheshire)

In the 2006 Cheshire Community survey⁹:

- 4% travelled to work by foot and
- 3% travelled to work by public transport, compared with 5% for Cheshire.

Patterns of Travel to Work

In the Cheshire Community Survey 2006, respondents were asked how far their place of work was from their home:



Attitudes to Transport

From the Quality of Life Survey 2005⁷:

- The main actions that would make public transport more attractive to respondents in Congleton were 'run more frequent services' 54%, 'more reliable services' 52%, and 'cheaper fares', 51%
- Of those Congleton respondents who have lived in the area for more than five years, 55% felt that the roads have become less safe in the past 5 years with 8% feeling that they have become safer.

Adult respondents in the Quality of Life 2005 Survey⁷ were most likely to think that 'improving public transport' would most improve the traffic and transport situation in their local area, with 50% of respondent putting this action in their top 3 priority actions (52% in 2000).

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اگر آپ مزید معلومات لینا چاہیں تو اپنے کسی انگریزی بولنے والے دوست سے کہیں کہ وہ آپ کیلئے اس نمبر پر فون کرے۔ 01244 602437