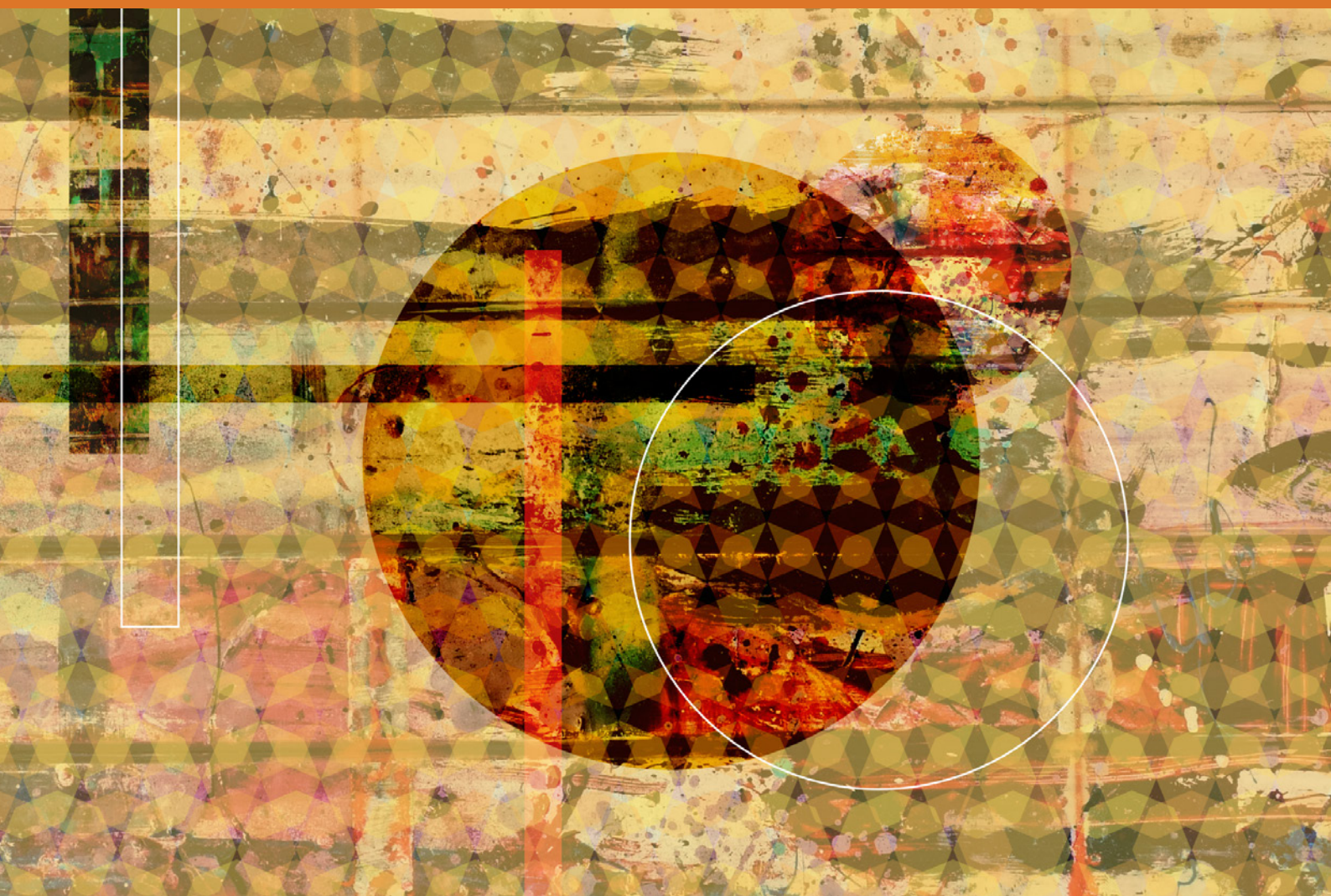


TIIG Lancashire

Falls across Lancashire - April 2013 to March 2016

March 2017

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CONTENTS

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	5
KEY FINDINGS	6
NORTH WEST AMBULANCE SERVICE DATA.....	6
HOSPITAL EPISODE STATISTICS DATA.....	7
THIS REPORT	8
LANCASHIRE AREA PROFILE	9
AREA DESCRIPTION AND POPULATION	9
LIFE EXPECTANCY.....	10
NORTH WEST AMBULANCE SERVICE DATA	11
DATA OVERVIEW	11
CALL OUT TIMES	12
DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE	13
CALL OUT LOCATION.....	14
OUTCOME.....	18
FALLS AND DEPRIVATION	19
HOSPITAL EPISODE STATISTICS DATA	20
DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE	20
AREA OF RESIDENCE	21
EMERGENCY ADMISSIONS FOR FRACTURED FEMUR.....	24
DATA COMPARISON	25
REFERENCES	27

TABLES

Table 1. AED fall attendances to Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust.....	8
Table 2. Mid-2015 population estimates by age (Lancashire, North West England, England and United Kingdom)	9
Table 3. Mid-2015 population estimates by authority area and gender	10
Table 4. Life expectancy at age 65 years (Lancashire, North West England and England), 2012 to 2014	10
Table 5. Ambulance call outs for falls across Lancashire by month and year, April 2013 to March 2016	11
Table 6. Ambulance call outs for falls across Lancashire by age and gender, April 2013 to March 2016	14
Table 7. Ambulance call outs for falls across Lancashire by authority area and year, April 2013 to March 2016.....	14
Table 8. Ambulance call outs for falls across Lancashire for the 20 LSOAs with the highest rates, April 2013 to March 2016	16
Table 9. Ambulance call outs for falls across Lancashire, numbers and age-standardised rates per 1,000 population by authority area and age, April 2013 to March 2016	17
Table 10. Ambulance call outs for falls across Lancashire by hospital location of where transported to, April 2013 to March 2016	18
Table 11. Ambulance call outs for falls across Lancashire by Lancashire hospital of where transported to, April 2013 to March 2016	18
Table 12. Ambulance call outs for falls across Lancashire by age and gender for those transported to hospital, April 2013 to March 2016.....	19
Table 13. Emergency hospital admissions for falls across Lancashire by age and gender, 65+ years, April 2013 to March 2016 ...	20
Table 14. Emergency hospital admissions for falls across Lancashire by authority area of residence, 65+ years, April 2013 to March 2016.....	21
Table 15. Emergency hospital admissions for falls across Lancashire for the 20 wards with the highest rates, 65+ years, April 2013 to March 2016.....	23
Table 16. Emergency hospital admissions for fractured femur across Lancashire by age and gender, 65+ years, April 2013 to March 2016.....	24
Table 17. Emergency hospital admissions for fractured femur across Lancashire by authority area of residence, 65+ years, April 2013 to March 2016.....	24
Table 18. Ambulance call outs and emergency hospital admissions for falls across Lancashire by authority area, 65+ years, April 2013 to March 2016.....	25
Table 19. Ambulance call outs and emergency hospital admissions for falls across Lancashire, numbers and rates per 1,000 population by authority area, 65+ years, April 2013 to March 2016.....	26

FIGURES

Figure 1. Ambulance call outs for falls across Lancashire by month and year, April 2013 to March 2016	11
Figure 2. Ambulance call outs for falls across Lancashire by day of week, April 2013 to March 2016.....	12
Figure 3. Ambulance call outs for falls across Lancashire by time of day, April 2013 to March 2016	12
Figure 4. Ambulance call outs for falls across Lancashire by gender, April 2013 to March 2016	13
Figure 5. Ambulance call outs for falls across Lancashire by age, April 2013 to March 2016	13
Figure 6. Ambulance call outs for falls across Lancashire by LSOA with authority boundaries, April 2013 to March 2016	15
Figure 7. Ambulance call outs for falls across Lancashire, rate per 1,000 population vs deprivation, April 2013 to March 2016 ...	19
Figure 8. Emergency hospital admissions for falls across Lancashire by ward of residence with authority boundaries, 65+ years, April 2013 to March 2016	22

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With thanks to the North West Ambulance Service for collecting and sharing call out data for the purpose of the Trauma and Injury Intelligence Group (TIIG) project, and to Lancashire County Council/Blackpool Council Public Health for obtaining Hospital Episode Statistics from Public Health England, Local Knowledge and Intelligence Service North West. Thanks also to the Pan Lancashire Steering Group for their comments and contributions, in particular Andrew Ascroft. Finally, thanks to Becky Willner for designing the front cover.

NORTH WEST AMBULANCE SERVICE DATA

- Between April 2013 and March 2016, there were 63,398 ambulance call outs across Lancashire for falls injuries.
- Call outs for falls decreased by 14% between 2013/14 and 2014/15, but increased slightly by 1% between 2014/15 and 2015/16.
- The number of ambulance call outs were highest on a Saturday (n=9,893), followed by a Friday (n=9,215).
- There were more call outs during the day which peaked between 08:00 and 11:59 (n=13,904).
- There were more call outs for females compared to males (females = 35,355; 56%).
- The number of call outs increased substantially for those aged 75 years and over, accounting for 56% of call outs for falls. Those aged 65 years and over accounted for 69% of call outs.
- Variations in call outs for falls were found when comparing gender and age groups. There were more call outs for males than females in all age groups under 65 years; however, of people aged 65 years and over, females accounted for 62% of call outs (26,783 compared to 16,595).
- This may be partly explained by the difference in life expectancy between males and females. Between 2012 and 2014, from the age of 65 there was a 12% difference in life expectancy; females in Lancashire live an average of 2.2 years longer than males (ONS, 2015). In terms of the population, in 2015 there were 155,656 females and 131,089 males aged 65 years or older.
- While females life expectancy from the age of 65 was an average of 12% longer than males, and there were 19% more females than males in the Lancashire population aged 65 years or older, females accounted for 61% more call outs for falls than males. This indicates that females were more likely to be victims of falls compared to males, and that the consequences of falling were more serious for females compared to males.
- Blackpool had the largest number of ambulance call outs for falls (n=8,510), followed by Lancaster (n=6,935), Preston (n=5,822) and Blackburn with Darwen (n=5,531).
- The lower super output areas (LSOAs) with the highest number of call outs were Blackpool 010D (n=593), Blackpool 006A (n=545), Preston 017F (n=403) and Chorley 008A (n=402).
- The three LSOAs with the highest call out rates for falls were in Blackpool (010D = 151 per 1,000 population; 006A = 122 per 1,000 population; and, 010E = 77 per 1,000 population).
- The age-standardised rate of ambulance call outs for falls for persons aged 65 years and over across Lancashire was 50 per 1,000 population. The areas with the highest rates were Blackpool and Preston (59 each per 1,000 population) and Lancaster (58 per 1,000 population).
- Just under seven in ten (69%) ambulance call outs for falls resulted in the patient being taken to a hospital or health centre; of which, the majority (91%) were taken to one in Lancashire. Where patients were taken to a hospital in Lancashire with Accident & Emergency and/or Urgent Care Centre services, equal proportions were taken to Royal Blackburn Hospital and Blackpool Victoria Hospital (29% each), followed by 20% taken to Royal Preston Hospital. Notably, large numbers of ambulances took patients to hospitals outside of Lancashire: Southport and Formby District

General Hospital, Merseyside (n=2,285); Airedale General Hospital, West Yorkshire (n=739); and, Albert Edwards Infirmary, Wigan, Greater Manchester (n= 374).

HOSPITAL EPISODE STATISTICS DATA

- Hospital Episode Statistics (HES) data were requested by Lancashire County Council/Blackpool Council Public Health from Public Health England (PHE), Local Knowledge and Intelligence Service North West.
- HES data were provisional for 2015/16 and potentially subject to revision. HES data included persons aged 65 years and over only. In terms of geography, HES data was given down to Ward; therefore analysis by lower super outputs area (LSOA) was not possible. HES data also provided information relating to one key outcome 'fractured neck of femur'.
- Between April 2013 and March 2016, there were 17,182 emergency hospital admissions for falls injuries in persons aged 65 years and over in Lancashire.
- There were more females than males (females = 11,650; 68%), and 10,868 persons were aged 80 years and over. The proportion of females aged 80 years and over (72%) was even greater than the proportion of females overall; similar to ambulance call out data, this is likely to be due to unequal life expectancy between females and males.
- Lancaster had the largest number of residents admitted for falls injuries (n=1,990), followed by Blackpool (n=1,927), Wyre (n=1,678), Blackburn with Darwen (n=1,512), West Lancashire (n=1,453) and Fylde (n=1,327).
- The wards with the highest number of emergency hospital admissions for falls were in Fylde (Ashton = 155), Lancaster (Bare = 151; Torrisholme = 145) and Blackpool (Squires Gate = 146).
- The three wards with the highest rates of admissions for falls per 1,000 population were in Burnley (Queensgate = 44), Blackburn with Darwen (Corporation Park = 42) and Lancaster (Duke's = 40).
- Between April 2013 and March 2016, there were 4,962 emergency hospital admissions for fractured neck of femur in persons aged 65 years and over in Lancashire. Of which, 73% were female and 3,408 persons were aged 80 years and over. The areas with the highest numbers of persons aged 65 years and over admitted with fractured neck of femur were Blackpool (n=574), Lancaster (n=529) and Wyre (n=514).

As agreed by commissioners and members of the Pan Lancashire Steering Group, the structure of bespoke work in 2016/17 was changed from Themed Reports to analysis of identified key issues. This report presents data tables and analyses which consider falls injuries between April 2013 and March 2016, using ambulance call out data provided by North West Ambulance Service (NWAS) and Hospital Episode Statistics (HES) provided as a data request by Public Health England (PHE), Local Knowledge and Intelligence Service North West. This report does not analyse accident and emergency department (AED) data collated by the Trauma and Injury Intelligence Group (TIIG) as only Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (Chorley & South Ribble Hospital and Royal Preston Hospital) categorise falls as a specified injury group. All other trusts in Lancashire record falls under the 'other' injury category; however conversations between TIIG and the trusts are ongoing regarding the patient management systems' ability to record falls as a specified injury group.

Ambulance call out data for falls across Lancashire indicate trends across the three-year period and report the day and time of the call out, demographic profile, call out location and outcome. As HES data have been provided as a data request and therefore at an aggregated level, analysis is limited. HES data consider emergency hospital admissions for falls injuries sustained by residents of Lancashire aged 65 years and over between 2013/14 and 2015/16, presenting the demographic profile and patients' area of residence. Analyses also compare NWAS data with HES data for people aged 65 years and over, particularly in terms of numbers and rates by authority area. Caution should be taken when comparing the datasets (and the rates of ambulance call outs) as the call out location of the ambulance is not necessarily the patients' area of residence. These analyses may provide valuable information to Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) and other stakeholders in falls prevention work.

Fall-related injury attendances to Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (Chorley & South Ribble Hospital and Royal Preston Hospital) is the only trust in Lancashire to categorise falls as a specific injury group. Between April 2013 and March 2016, over one-third (36%) of total injury attendances to the trust were due to a fall. Other trusts in Lancashire record falls under the 'other' injury category and therefore are not capturing information that can be used in falls prevention work.

Over the three-year period there were a total of 52,800 fall-related injury attendances to Chorley & South Ribble Hospital and Royal Preston Hospital combined; the majority (95%) were residents of Lancashire (Table 1). Overall, fall injury attendances decreased by 8.2% over the three-year period, with the greatest reduction between 2014/15 and 2015/16 (5.8%).

Table 1. AED fall attendances to Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	Total
All attendances for falls injury	18,251	17,786	16,763	52,800
<i>Chorley & South Ribble Hospital</i>	6,719	6,294	6,125	19,138
<i>Royal Preston Hospital</i>	11,532	11,492	10,638	33,662
Lancashire residents only	17,347	16,934	16,023	50,304
<i>Chorley & South Ribble Hospital</i>	6,257	5,931	5,776	17,964
<i>Royal Preston Hospital</i>	11,090	11,003	10,247	32,340

Of the Lancashire residents, just under three in five (57%) were female; persons aged 65 years and over accounted for just under one in three (32%) attendances, followed by just under one in five (19%) aged between five and 19 years.

AREA DESCRIPTION AND POPULATION

Situated in the North West of England, Lancashire is made up of 14 authority areas (two unitary and 12 local authorities) and its total population in 2015 was estimated at 1.48 million (Office for National Statistics [ONS], 2016). Table 2 displays mid-2015 population estimates by age group. Compared to the North West of England, England and the United Kingdom, Lancashire had slightly lower proportions of persons aged four years and under, and between 20 and 49 years; but higher proportions aged between five and 19 years, and aged 50 years and over. Notably, the proportion of persons in Lancashire aged 65 years and over is 1.7% greater than England.

Table 2. Mid-2015 population estimates by age (Lancashire, North West England, England and United Kingdom)¹

Area	0-4		5-19		20-34		35-49		50-64		65+	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Lancashire	88,485	6.0%	261,567	17.7%	274,522	18.6%	282,500	19.1%	284,296	19.2%	286,745	19.4%
North West England	443,189	6.2%	1,255,733	17.5%	1,427,537	19.9%	1,394,338	19.4%	1,351,573	18.8%	1,301,465	18.1%
England	3,434,680	6.3%	9,571,047	17.5%	11,078,253	20.2%	10,996,732	20.1%	9,994,043	18.2%	9,711,572	17.7%
United Kingdom	4,027,092	6.2%	11,327,570	17.4%	13,117,440	20.1%	13,009,047	20.0%	12,017,718	18.5%	11,611,167	17.8%

¹ Throughout this report, percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding.

Table 3 shows the population of Lancashire authority areas by gender. Blackburn with Darwen had the largest population (n=146,846), followed by Lancaster (n=142,283), Preston (n=141,302) and Blackpool (n=139,578). Preston had the highest proportion of males (50.5%), followed by Chorley (50.1%), while West Lancashire had the highest proportion of females (51.4%), followed by Fylde and Wyre (51.2% each) and South Ribble (51.1%).

Table 3. Mid-2015 population estimates by authority area and gender

Authority area	Male		Female		Total population
	N	%	N	%	N
Blackburn with Darwen	73,180	49.8%	73,666	50.2%	146,846
Blackpool	68,795	49.3%	70,783	50.7%	139,578
Burnley	43,109	49.3%	44,262	50.7%	87,371
Chorley	56,568	50.1%	56,401	49.9%	112,969
Fylde	37,771	48.8%	39,551	51.2%	77,322
Hyndburn	39,671	49.4%	40,557	50.6%	80,228
Lancaster	70,018	49.2%	72,265	50.8%	142,283
Pendle	44,466	49.3%	45,645	50.7%	90,111
Preston	71,324	50.5%	69,978	49.5%	141,302
Ribble Valley	28,705	49.1%	29,775	50.9%	58,480
Rosendale	34,163	49.2%	35,324	50.8%	69,487
South Ribble	53,671	48.9%	55,980	51.1%	109,651
West Lancashire	54,739	48.6%	58,003	51.4%	112,742
Wyre	53,569	48.8%	56,176	51.2%	109,745
Total	729,749	49.4%	748,366	50.6%	1,478,115

LIFE EXPECTANCY

There is unequal life expectancy in England; between 2012 and 2014, at the age of 65, life expectancy was 18.8 years for males and 21.2 years for females (ONS, 2015). Life expectancy in Lancashire for both males and females is lower than England overall, but higher than the average for the North West of England (Table 4). Although there continues to be a gap between male and female life expectancy at age 65 years, this gap has narrowed. In 1991 to 1993, the life expectancy of females in England at age 65 years was 3.7 years higher than that of males, but in 2012 to 2014, the difference between males and females had fallen to 2.4 years (ONS, 2015). In Lancashire, the gap between male and female life expectancy at age 65 years between 2012 and 2014 was 2.2 years (Table 4).

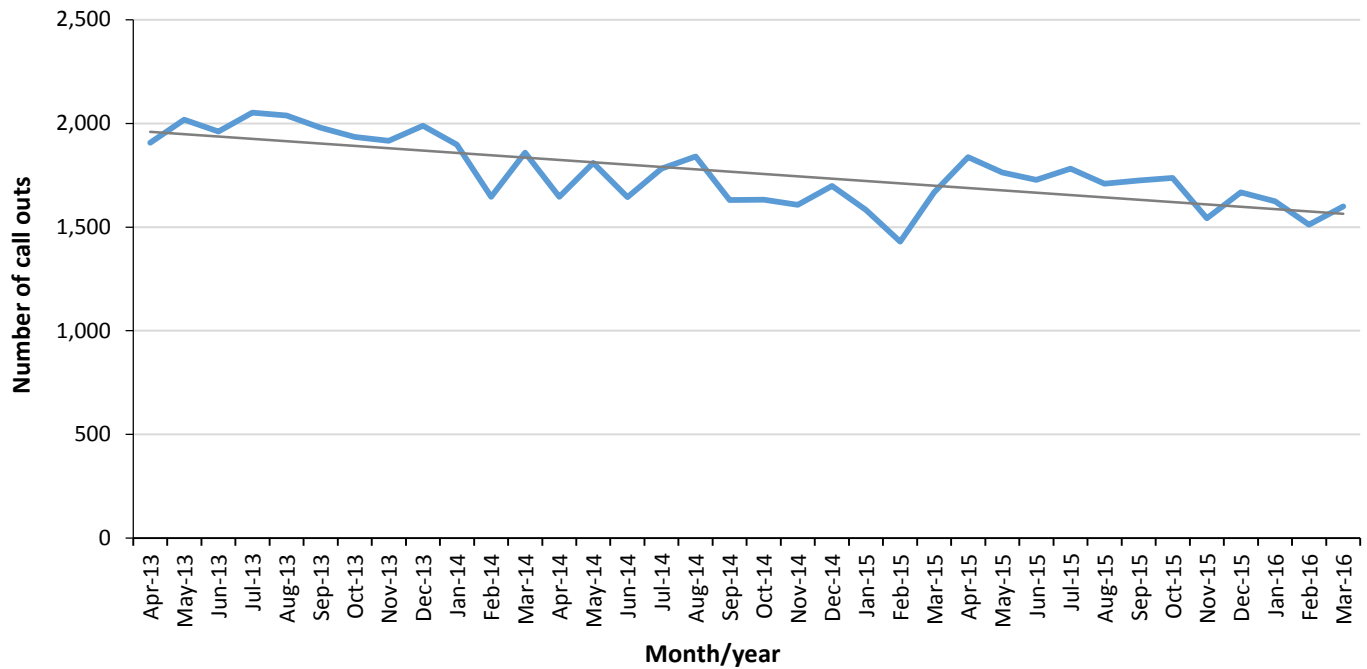
Table 4. Life expectancy at age 65 years (Lancashire, North West England and England), 2012 to 2014

Area	Male	Female
Blackburn with Darwen Unitary Authority	17.5	19.5
Blackpool Unitary Authority	16.5	19.3
Lancashire (not including Unitary Authorities)	18.2	20.4
North West England	18.0	20.3
England	18.8	21.2

DATA OVERVIEW

Between April 2013 and March 2016 there were 63,398 ambulance call outs for falls injuries across Lancashire. Between 2013/14 and 2014/15 there was a 14% decrease in call outs for falls, but between 2014/15 and 2015/16 there was a slight increase of 1% (Figure 1 and Table 5).

Figure 1. Ambulance call outs for falls across Lancashire by month and year, April 2013 to March 2016



The months with the highest rate of call outs for falls during the three-year period, calculated as a daily average were July, August and September 2013 (66 per day), while the months with the lowest rate were January, February and November 2015 (51 per day; Table 5).

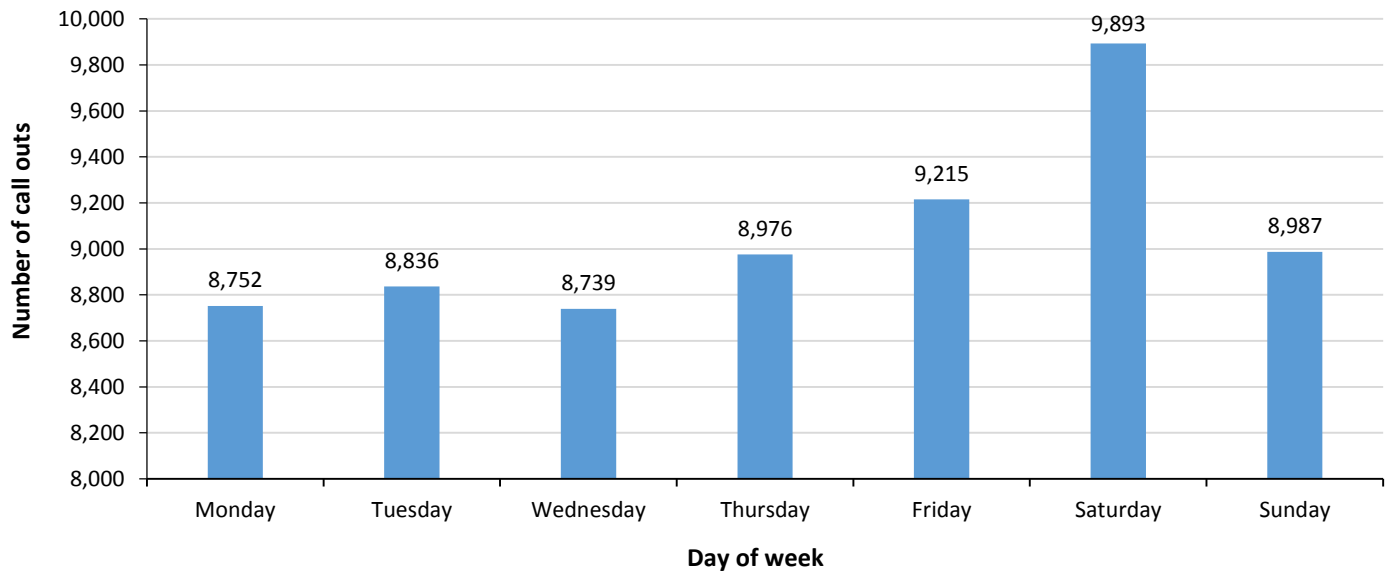
Table 5. Ambulance call outs for falls across Lancashire by month and year, April 2013 to March 2016

Month/year	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Total
2013/14	1,907	2,018	1,961	2,052	2,038	1,979	1,934	1,916	1,988	1,897	1,646	1,859	23,195
2014/15	1,646	1,810	1,645	1,782	1,840	1,631	1,632	1,608	1,699	1,583	1,430	1,668	19,974
2015/16	1,838	1,764	1,728	1,782	1,709	1,724	1,737	1,543	1,668	1,624	1,512	1,600	20,229
Total	5,391	5,592	5,334	5,616	5,587	5,334	5,303	5,067	5,355	5,104	4,588	5,127	63,398

CALL OUT TIMES

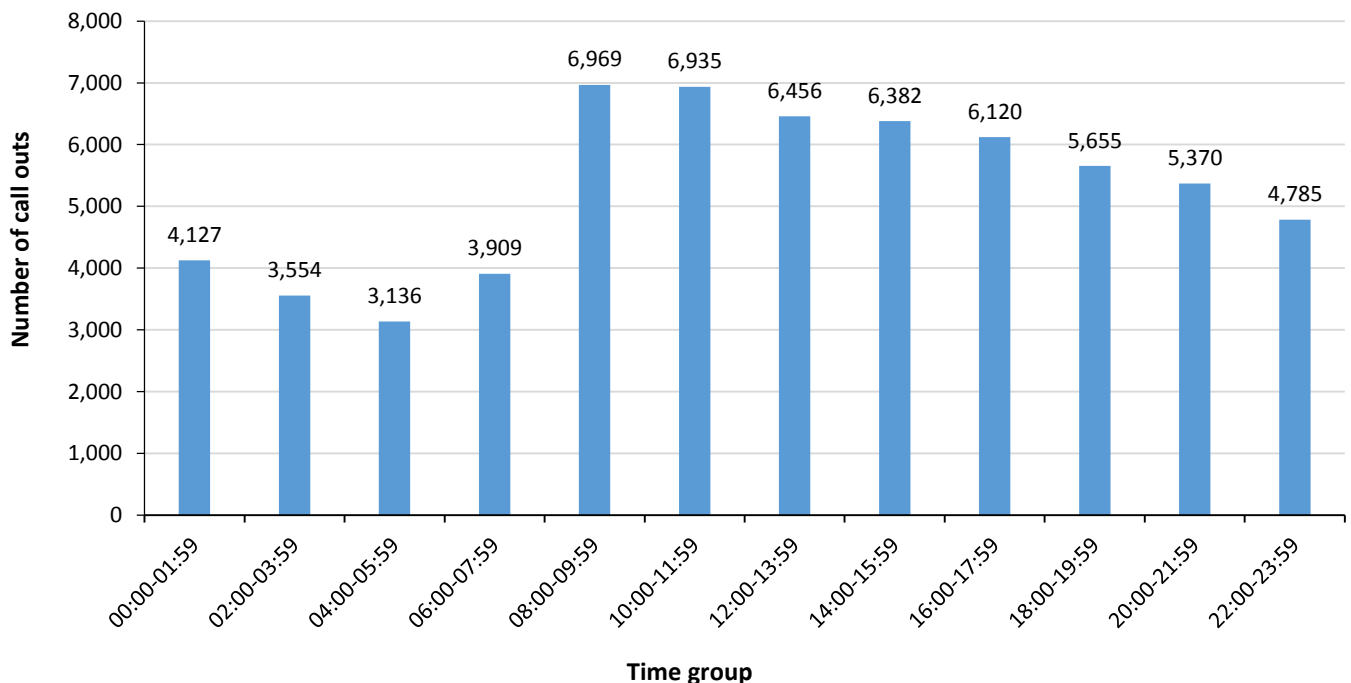
The number of ambulance call outs for falls between 2013/14 and 2015/16 was highest on a Saturday (n=9,893; 16%), followed by Friday (n=9,215; 15%; Figure 2).

Figure 2. Ambulance call outs for falls across Lancashire by day of week, April 2013 to March 2016



There were more ambulance call outs for falls during the day, which peaked between 08:00 and 11:59 (n=13,904; Figure 3).

Figure 3. Ambulance call outs for falls across Lancashire by time of day, April 2013 to March 2016



DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

Females accounted for more call outs for falls than males (females = 56%; Figure 4).

Figure 4. Ambulance call outs for falls across Lancashire by gender, April 2013 to March 2016²

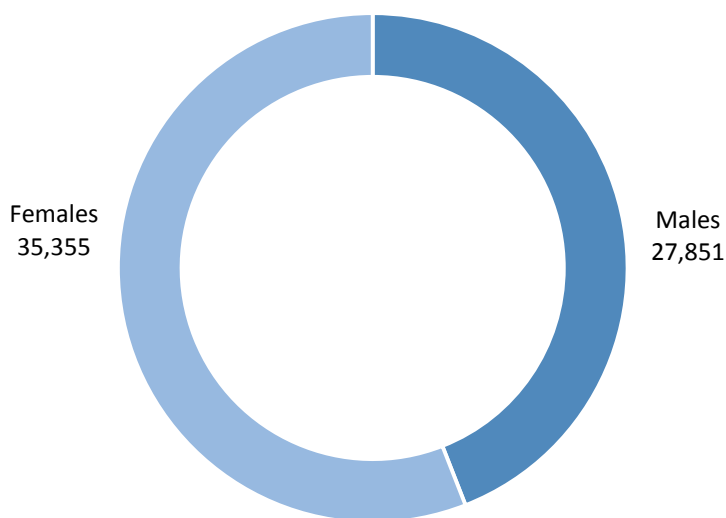
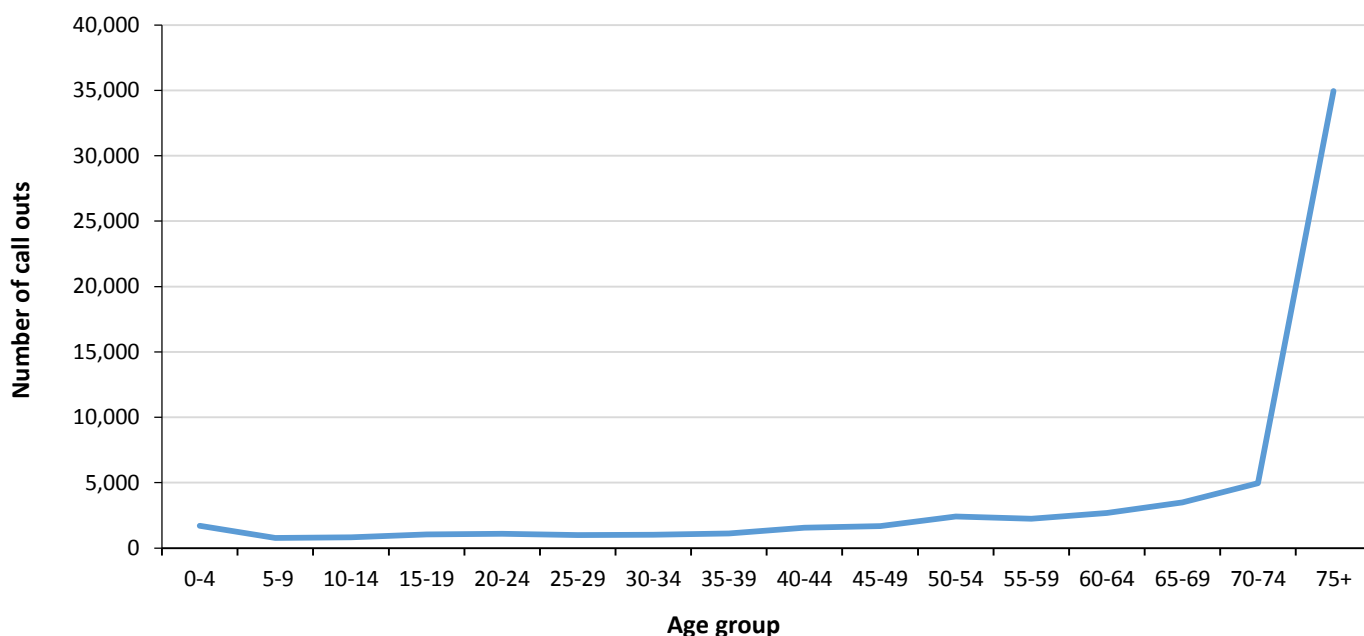


Figure 5 shows the age of the patients who had an ambulance call out for a fall. The number of call outs increased substantially for those aged 75 years and over, with this age group accounting for 56% of call outs for falls overall (n=34,940). Those aged 65 years and over accounted for just under seven in ten (69%) of ambulance call outs (n=43,385).

Figure 5. Ambulance call outs for falls across Lancashire by age, April 2013 to March 2016³



² There were 192 records where the gender was unknown or not recorded.

³ There were 921 records where the age was not recorded.

Although Figure 4 showed there were more females than males overall, there are some variations when comparing age by gender. Table 6 shows there were more call outs for males compared to females for all age groups under 65 years but there were substantially more call outs for females aged 65 years and over, accounting for 62% call outs in that age group.

Table 6. Ambulance call outs for falls across Lancashire by age and gender, April 2013 to March 2016⁴

Age group	Male		Female		Total
	N	%	N	%	N
0-4	988	58%	718	42%	1,706
5-19	1,572	60%	1,047	40%	2,619
20-34	1,755	56%	1,354	44%	3,109
35-49	2,522	58%	1,817	42%	4,339
50-64	4,008	55%	3,302	45%	7,310
65+	16,595	38%	26,783	62%	43,378
Total	27,440	44%	35,021	56%	62,461

CALL OUT LOCATION

Table 7 shows ambulance call outs for falls by local/unitary authority and financial year. The area with the highest number of call outs was Blackpool with 13% of total call outs (n=8,510), followed by Lancaster (n=6,935; 11%), Preston (n=5,822; 9%) and Blackburn with Darwen (n=5,531; 9%).

Table 7. Ambulance call outs for falls across Lancashire by authority area and year, April 2013 to March 2016

Authority area	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	Total (N)	Total (%)
Blackburn with Darwen	2,018	1,771	1,742	5,531	9%
Blackpool	3,206	2,610	2,694	8,510	13%
Burnley	1,310	1,116	1,202	3,628	6%
Chorley	1,569	1,320	1,362	4,251	7%
Fylde	1,554	1,295	1,255	4,104	6%
Hyndburn	1,274	1,129	996	3,399	5%
Lancaster	2,454	2,241	2,240	6,935	11%
Pendle	1,211	1,003	1,063	3,277	5%
Preston	2,040	1,895	1,887	5,822	9%
Ribble Valley	706	662	709	2,077	3%
Rosendale	905	784	814	2,503	4%
South Ribble	1,464	1,302	1,231	3,997	6%
West Lancashire	1,588	1,394	1,347	4,329	7%
Wyre	1,896	1,452	1,687	5,035	8%
Total	23,195	19,974	20,229	63,398	100%

⁴ There were 937 records where the gender and/or age was unknown or not recorded.

As established earlier in the report, call outs for falls decreased by 14% between 2013/14 and 2014/15, but then increased slightly by 1% between 2014/15 and 2015/16. However there were some variations across authority areas. The largest reductions in call outs between 2013/14 and 2014/15 were in Wyre (23%) and Blackpool (19%), while the smallest reductions were in Ribble Valley (6%) and Preston (7%). Between 2014/15 and 2015/16, call outs reduced in Hyndburn (22%), South Ribble (5%), Fylde (3%), West Lancashire (3%), Blackburn with Darwen (2%) and Preston (<1%), though they increased in the other nine areas. The largest increase in call outs between 2014/15 and 2015/16 was in Wyre (16%).

Mapped out in Figure 6 are call outs for falls by lower super output area (LSOA) of call out location with authority boundaries. The LSOAs with the highest number of call outs were Blackpool 010D (n=593), Blackpool 006A (n=545), Preston 017F (n=403) and Chorley 008A (n=402).

Figure 6. Ambulance call outs for falls across Lancashire by LSOA with authority boundaries, April 2013 to March 2016

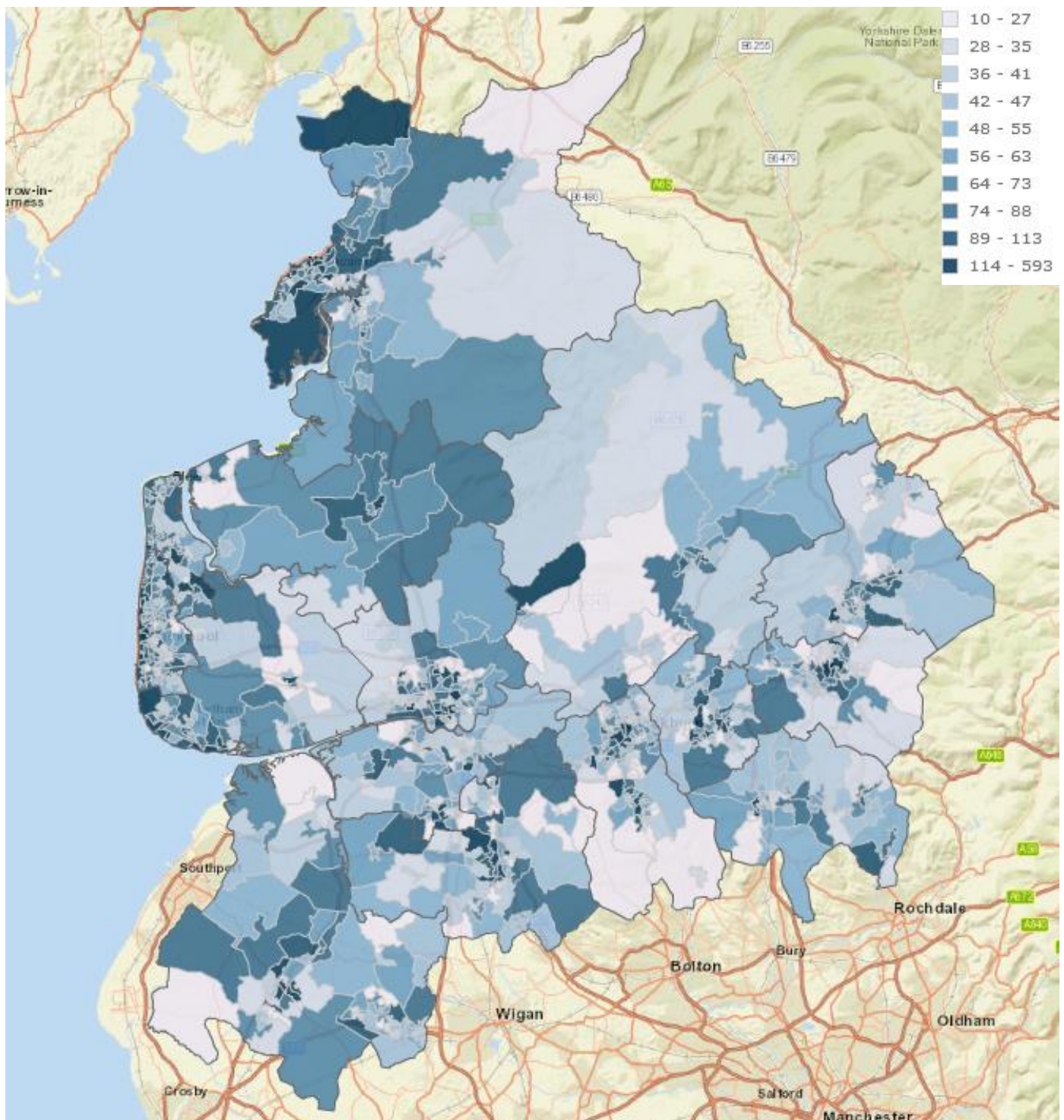


Table 8 shows the 20 LSOAs with the highest rates of call outs for falls, per 1,000 population. The three highest rates were in Blackpool (010D = 151; 006A = 122; 010E = 77). It should be noted that the NWAS dataset does not include where the patient resides, only the location of where the ambulance was called to which may not be the same geographical area; therefore care should be taken when considering rates per population for call outs. Rates have been calculated using the average number of call outs across the three years.

Table 8. Ambulance call outs for falls across Lancashire for the 20 LSOAs with the highest rates, April 2013 to March 2016

LSOA code	LSOA name	Total number of ambulance call outs for falls 2013/14-2015/16	Rate of ambulance call outs for falls per 1,000 population (three-year average)
E01012736	Blackpool 010D	593	151
E01012681	Blackpool 006A	545	122
E01012737	Blackpool 010E	326	77
E01033223	Preston 017F	403	75
E01025570	Wyre 008C	261	71
E01024897	Burnley 002C	287	69
E01025300	Preston 004D	216	67
E01033071	Lancaster 014E	317	64
E01024877	Burnley 003D	313	64
E01024986	Fylde 006C	298	61
E01025036	Hyndburn 008B	250	60
E01033224	Preston 017G	189	59
E01024988	Fylde 006E	271	58
E01025139	Lancaster 006D	302	57
E01025405	South Ribble 007B	191	56
E01025500	West Lancashire 007D	267	56
E01024991	Fylde 009B	181	56
E01024952	Chorley 001B	218	53
E01025087	Lancaster 004C	209	53
E01024929	Chorley 006A	199	52

Table 9 shows the total number of ambulance call outs for falls and age-standardised rate per 1,000 population by authority area and age. The area with the highest total number of call outs for persons aged 65 years was Blackpool with 12% of total call outs (n=5,031), followed by Lancaster (n=4,847; 11%), Wyre (n=3,856; 9%) and Preston (n=3,618; 8%). The age-standardised rate of ambulance call outs for falls across Lancashire for persons aged 65 years and over was 50 per 1,000 population; the areas with the highest rates were Blackpool and Preston (59 each per 1,000 population) and Lancaster (58 per 1,000 population).

Table 9. Ambulance call outs for falls across Lancashire, numbers and age-standardised rates per 1,000 population by authority area and age, April 2013 to March 2016⁵

Authority area	0-4		5-19		20-34		35-49		50-64		65+	
	N	Rate	N	Rate	N	Rate	N	Rate	N	Rate	N	Rate
Blackburn with Darwen	210	6	335	4	378	4	476	5	796	11	3,236	52
Blackpool	280	11	353	5	550	7	829	10	1,308	16	5,031	59
Burnley	81	5	131	3	192	4	291	6	448	9	2,436	51
Chorley	88	4	141	2	198	3	239	3	398	6	3,140	48
Fylde	85	8	104	3	100	3	191	5	349	7	3,230	53
Hyndburn	88	5	135	3	149	3	227	5	457	10	2,283	53
Lancaster	172	7	289	4	336	4	439	6	749	10	4,847	58
Pendle	109	6	125	3	164	3	187	4	354	7	2,283	47
Preston	215	8	310	4	415	4	497	6	667	9	3,618	59
Ribble Valley	25	3	100	3	81	3	120	4	247	6	1,481	37
Rossendale	64	5	106	3	119	3	165	4	307	7	1,711	47
South Ribble	95	5	135	2	127	2	198	3	367	6	3,044	46
West Lancashire	89	5	189	3	152	3	255	4	399	6	3,189	45
Wyre	112	7	167	3	149	3	225	4	464	7	3,856	44
Total	1,713	6	2,620	3	3,110	4	4,339	5	7,310	9	43,385	50

⁵ There were 921 records where the age was not recorded. Rates have been calculated using the average number of call outs across the three years; the numbers presented are the three-year totals for each age group, not the numbers used to calculate the rates.

OUTCOME

Of the 63,398 ambulance call outs for falls between April 2013 and March 2016, 43,622 resulted in the patient being transported to a hospital or health centre (69%), providing an indication of the severity of the injury sustained. Of the patients transported to hospital, the majority (91%) were taken to one in Lancashire (Table 10).

Table 10. Ambulance call outs for falls across Lancashire by hospital location of where transported to, April 2013 to March 2016^{6,7}

Area	N	%
Lancashire	39,620	91%
Merseyside	2,376	5%
Outside of North West	849	2%
Greater Manchester	741	2%
Cheshire	***	0%
Cumbria	***	0%
Total	43,592	100%

Table 11 shows the hospitals (where Accident & Emergency and/or Urgent Care Centre services are provided) in Lancashire where patients were transported to. Within Lancashire, equal proportions were transported to Royal Blackburn Hospital and Blackpool Victoria Hospital (29% each), followed by one-fifth (20%) transported to Royal Preston Hospital.

Table 11. Ambulance call outs for falls across Lancashire by Lancashire hospital of where transported to, April 2013 to March 2016⁸

Hospital	N	%
Royal Blackburn Hospital	11,390	29%
Blackpool Victoria Hospital	11,205	29%
Royal Preston Hospital	7,939	20%
Royal Lancaster Infirmary	4,401	11%
Chorley and South Ribble Hospital	3,077	8%
Burnley General Hospital	953	2%
Ormskirk and District General Hospital	263	1%
Total	39,228	100%

It should also be noted that large numbers of ambulances transported patients to AEDs outside of Lancashire: Southport and Formby District General Hospital, Merseyside (n=2,285); Airedale General Hospital, West Yorkshire (n=739); and, Albert Edwards Infirmary, Wigan, Greater Manchester (n= 374).

⁶ There were 30 records where the patient was taken to hospital but the hospital was not stated (nearest casualty = 24; other = 6). The remaining 19,776 records had no details recorded.

⁷ Numbers less than five have been suppressed (with ***) to maintain patient confidentiality.

⁸ This table only includes hospitals where Accident & Emergency and/or Urgent Care Centre services are provided. There were 392 occasions where patients were taken to other hospitals or health centres within Lancashire.

Table 12 shows the age group and gender of the 43,622 persons transported to hospital/health centre following an ambulance call out due to a fall. Overall there were more females than males (females = 56%) and persons aged 65 years and over accounted for almost two-thirds (65%).

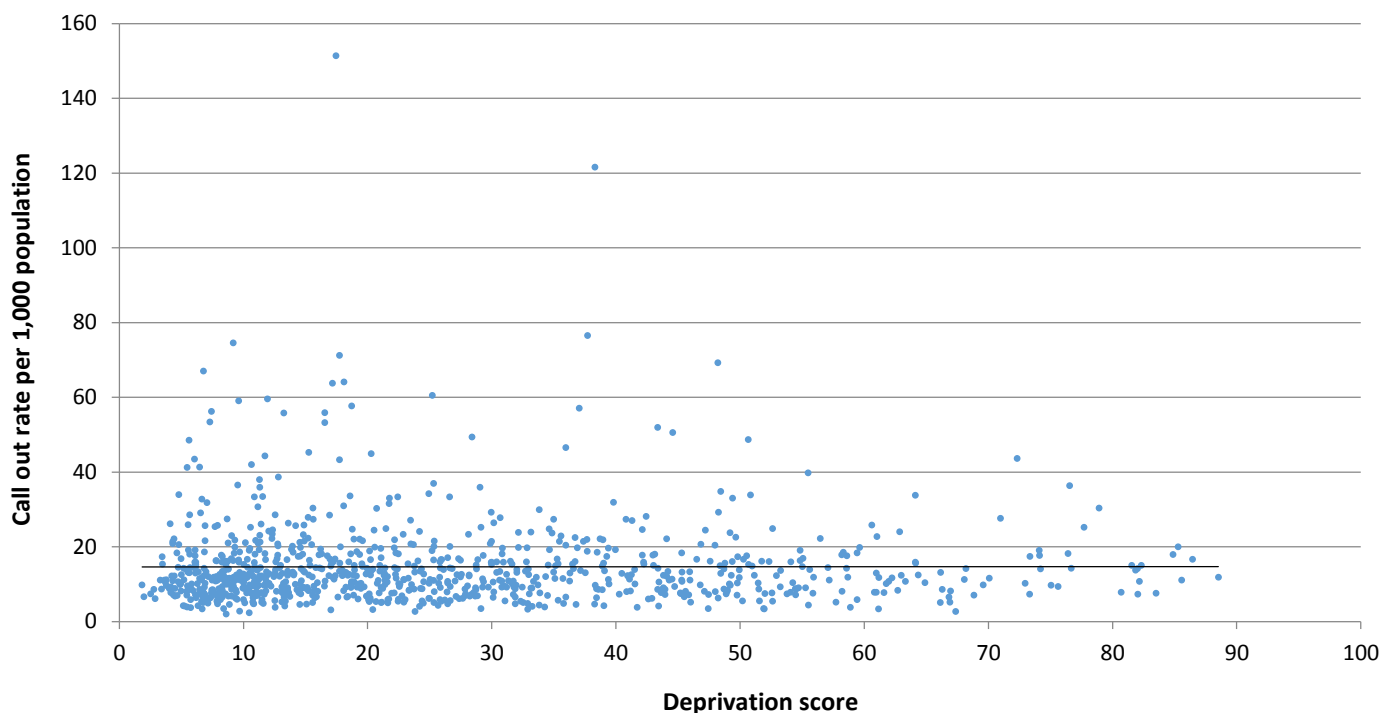
Table 12. Ambulance call outs for falls across Lancashire by age and gender for those transported to hospital, April 2013 to March 2016⁹

Age group	Male		Female		Total
	N	%	N	%	N
0-4	903	58%	665	42%	1,568
5-19	1,376	60%	924	40%	2,300
20-34	1,379	55%	1,120	45%	2,499
35-49	1,979	58%	1,433	42%	3,412
50-64	2,865	55%	2,383	45%	5,248
65+	10,365	37%	17,658	63%	28,023
Total	18,867	44%	24,183	56%	43,050

FALLS AND DEPRIVATION

Figure 7 shows the rate of ambulance call outs for falls per 1,000 population against deprivation. As displayed, there was no association between call outs for falls and deprivation score.

Figure 7. Ambulance call outs for falls across Lancashire, rate per 1,000 population vs deprivation, April 2013 to March 2016



⁹ There were 563 records where the gender and/or age was unknown or not recorded.

DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

Between April 2013 and March 2016 there were 17,182 emergency hospital admissions for injuries due to falls in persons aged 65 years and over in Lancashire.¹⁰

Females accounted for more hospital admissions due to fall-related injuries than males (females=68%) and over three in five (62%) patients were aged 80 years and over (Table 13). The proportion of females aged 80 years and over (72%) was greater than the proportion of females overall.

Table 13. Emergency hospital admissions for falls across Lancashire by age and gender, 65+ years, April 2013 to March 2016¹¹

Age group	Male		Female		Total
	N	%	N	%	N
65-79 years	2,525	40%	3,789	60%	6,314
80+ years	3,007	28%	7,861	72%	10,868
Total	5,532	32%	11,650	68%	17,182

¹⁰ Please note that data for 2015/16 is provisional.

¹¹ Where gender has not been specified, in order to maintain patient confidentiality numbers were included in the female count (numbers were less than five).

AREA OF RESIDENCE

Table 14 shows emergency hospital admissions for falls injuries by local/unitary authority of residence. The area with the highest number of residents admitted was Lancaster (12%), followed by Blackpool (11%), Wyre (10%), Blackburn with Darwen (9%), Fylde (8%), and West Lancashire (8%). The areas with the highest rates of admissions for falls were Blackburn with Darwen and Lancaster (25 each per 1,000 population), Hyndburn (24 per 1,000 population), and Blackpool, Burnley, Fylde and Rossendale (23 each per 1,000 population).

Table 14. Emergency hospital admissions, numbers and rates per 1,000 population for falls across Lancashire by authority area of residence, 65+ years, April 2013 to March 2016

Authority area	N	%	Rate
Blackburn with Darwen	1,512	9%	25
Blackpool	1,927	11%	23
Burnley	1,059	6%	23
Chorley	832	5%	14
Fylde	1,327	8%	23
Hyndburn	999	6%	24
Lancaster	1,990	12%	25
Pendle	1,031	6%	22
Preston	957	6%	16
Ribble Valley	740	4%	20
Rossendale	807	5%	23
South Ribble	870	5%	14
West Lancashire	1,453	8%	21
Wyre	1,678	10%	20
Total	17,182	100%	21

Mapped in Figure 8 are emergency hospital admissions for falls by ward of residence with authority boundaries. The wards with the highest number of admissions were in Fylde (Ashton = 155), Lancaster (Bare = 151; Torrisholme = 145) and Blackpool (Squires Gate = 146).

Figure 8. Emergency hospital admissions for falls across Lancashire by ward of residence with authority boundaries, 65+ years, April 2013 to March 2016

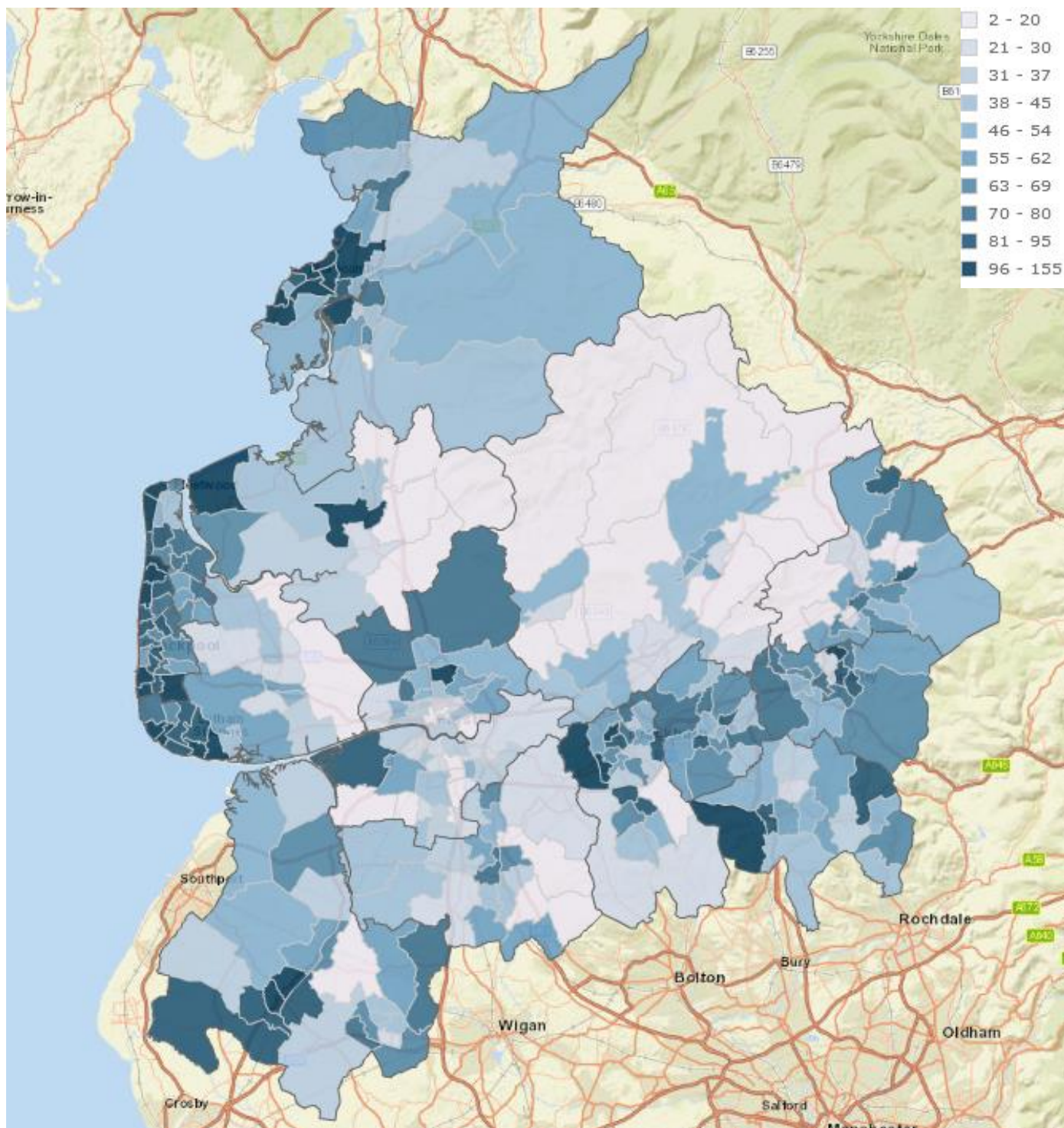


Table 15 shows the 20 wards with the highest rates for emergency hospital admissions for falls, per 1,000 population¹². The three highest rates per 1,000 population were in Burnley (Queensgate = 44), Blackburn with Darwen (Corporation Park = 42) and Lancaster (Duke's = 40).

Table 15. Emergency hospital admissions for falls across Lancashire for the 20 wards with the highest rates, 65+ years, April 2013 to March 2016

Ward name	Ward code	Authority area	Total number of emergency hospital admissions for falls	Rate of emergency hospital admissions for falls per 1,000 population
Queensgate	E05005160	Burnley	126	44
Corporation Park	E05001623	Blackburn with Darwen	104	42
Duke's	E05005227	Lancaster	36	40
Ashton	E05005186	Fylde	155	37
Earcroft	E05001624	Blackburn with Darwen	87	35
Central	E05005187	Fylde	109	35
Scott	E05005373	West Lancashire	129	35
Spring Hill	E05005221	Hyndburn	68	34
Wensley Fold	E05001641	Blackburn with Darwen	83	34
Bare	E05005222	Lancaster	151	34
Central	E05005209	Hyndburn	51	34
Waterloo	E05001663	Blackpool	132	33
Meadowhead	E05001632	Blackburn with Darwen	113	33
St Andrew's	E05005219	Hyndburn	83	33
Castle	E05005226	Lancaster	99	32
Singleton and Greenhalgh	E05005203	Fylde	40	32
Shear Brow	E05001638	Blackburn with Darwen	70	31
Barnfield	E05005207	Hyndburn	73	31
Altham	E05005206	Hyndburn	69	31
Heysham Central	E05005231	Lancaster	105	31

¹² Rates have been calculated as an average (the total number of emergency hospital admissions for the three-year period ÷ 3).

EMERGENCY ADMISSIONS FOR FRACTURED FEMUR

Between April 2013 and March 2016 there were 4,962 emergency hospital admissions for fractured neck of femur in persons aged 65 years and over in Lancashire.¹³

Females accounted for more emergency hospital admissions due to a fractured femur than males (females = 73%) and just under seven in ten (69%) persons were aged 80 years and over (Table 16). The proportion of females aged 80 years and over (76%) was even greater than the proportion of females overall, which is likely due to unequal life expectancy between males and females.

Table 16. Emergency hospital admissions for fractured femur across Lancashire by age and gender, 65+ years, April 2013 to March 2016

Age group	Male		Female		Total
	N	%	N	%	N
65-79 years	503	32%	1,051	68%	1,554
80+ years	819	24%	2,589	76%	3,408
Total	1,322	27%	3,640	73%	4,962

Table 17 shows emergency hospital admissions for fractured neck of femur by local/unitary authority of residence. The area with the highest number of residents admitted was Blackpool (12%), followed by Lancaster (11%) and Wyre (10%).

Table 17. Emergency hospital admissions for fractured femur across Lancashire by authority area of residence, 65+ years, April 2013 to March 2016

Authority area	N	%
Blackburn with Darwen	372	7%
Blackpool	574	12%
Burnley	268	5%
Chorley	340	7%
Fylde	374	8%
Hyndburn	248	5%
Lancaster	529	11%
Pendle	259	5%
Preston	391	8%
Ribble Valley	195	4%
Rossendale	183	4%
South Ribble	334	7%
West Lancashire	381	8%
Wyre	514	10%
Total	4,962	100%

¹³ Please note that data for 2015/16 is provisional.

DATA COMPARISON

Table 18 shows a comparison of ambulance call outs and emergency hospital admissions by authority area of call out location/area of residence and gender, for people aged 65 years and over between April 2013 and March 2016. Across both datasets, Blackpool and Lancaster had the highest numbers of ambulance call outs (n=5,030 and 4,847 respectively) and emergency hospital admissions (n=1,927 and 1,990 respectively).

Overall there were slightly more female emergency hospital admissions for falls (68%) when compared to ambulance call outs (62%). In terms of ambulance call outs, Chorley had the highest proportion of females aged 65 years and over (65%), followed by Ribble Valley (64%); while Blackpool, Hyndburn, Lancaster, Preston and South Ribble had the highest proportion of males (40% each). In terms of emergency hospital admissions, Fylde and Wyre had the highest proportion of females aged 65 years and over (71% each) and Pendle had the highest proportion of males (35%).

Table 18. Ambulance call outs and emergency hospital admissions for falls across Lancashire by authority area, 65+ years, April 2013 to March 2016¹⁴

Authority area	Ambulance call outs					Emergency hospital admissions				
	Male		Female		Total	Male		Female		Total
	N	%	N	%	N	N	%	N	%	N
Blackburn with Darwen	1,184	37%	2,051	63%	3,235	505	33%	1,007	67%	1,512
Blackpool	2,019	40%	3,011	60%	5,030	632	33%	1,295	67%	1,927
Burnley	924	38%	1,512	62%	2,436	355	34%	704	66%	1,059
Chorley	1,092	35%	2,047	65%	3,139	247	30%	585	70%	832
Fylde	1,189	37%	2,040	63%	3,229	389	29%	938	71%	1,327
Hyndburn	905	40%	1,377	60%	2,282	325	33%	674	67%	999
Lancaster	1,923	40%	2,924	60%	4,847	593	30%	1,397	70%	1,990
Pendle	867	38%	1,415	62%	2,282	360	35%	671	65%	1,031
Preston	1,440	40%	2,177	60%	3,617	317	33%	640	67%	957
Ribble Valley	538	36%	943	64%	1,481	235	32%	505	68%	740
Rossendale	630	37%	1,081	63%	1,711	250	31%	557	69%	807
South Ribble	1,226	40%	1,818	60%	3,044	277	32%	593	68%	870
West Lancashire	1,183	37%	2,006	63%	3,189	480	33%	973	67%	1,453
Wyre	1,475	38%	2,381	62%	3,856	486	29%	1,192	71%	1,678
Total	16,595	38%	26,783	62%	43,378	5,451	32%	11,731	68%	17,182

¹⁴ For ambulance call outs, there were 7 records where gender was unknown or not recorded. For emergency hospital admissions, where gender has not been specified, numbers were included in the female count (numbers were less than five).

Table 19 shows a comparison of ambulance call outs and emergency hospital admissions for falls by authority area in terms of numbers and rates per 1,000 population aged 65 years and over (calculated as an average¹⁵). As previously stated, it should be noted that the location of where the ambulance was called to may not be the same geographical area of residence; therefore care should be taken when considering rates per population for call outs.

Blackpool, Lancaster and Preston had the highest rate of ambulance call outs for falls sustained by people aged 65 years and over (60 each per 1,000 population), while Ribble Valley had the lowest rate of call outs (39 per 1,000 population). Blackburn with Darwen and Lancaster had the highest rate of emergency hospital admissions for falls (25 each per 1,000 population), followed by Hyndburn (24 per 1,000 population), while Chorley and South Ribble had the lowest rate of admissions (14 each per 1,000 population).

Table 19. Ambulance call outs and emergency hospital admissions for falls across Lancashire, numbers and rates per 1,000 population by authority area, 65+ years, April 2013 to March 2016¹⁶

Authority area	65+ population	Ambulance call outs		Emergency hospital admissions	
		N	Rate	N	Rate
Blackburn with Darwen	20,204	3,236	53	1,512	25
Blackpool	28,179	5,031	60	1,927	23
Burnley	15,122	2,436	54	1,059	23
Chorley	20,140	3,140	52	832	14
Fylde	19,585	3,230	55	1,327	23
Hyndburn	13,809	2,283	55	999	24
Lancaster	26,880	4,847	60	1,990	25
Pendle	15,528	2,283	49	1,031	22
Preston	20,060	3,618	60	957	16
Ribble Valley	12,579	1,481	39	740	20
Rosendale	11,614	1,711	49	807	23
South Ribble	21,151	3,044	48	870	14
West Lancashire	22,659	3,189	47	1,453	21
Wyre	28,136	3,856	46	1,678	20
Total	275,646	43,385	52	17,182	21

¹⁵ The total number of call outs/emergency hospital admissions for the three-year period ÷ 3. Aggregated HES data were provided by 2014 wards. There are no available lookup tables to be able to present NWAS data by 2014 wards; therefore comparisons between the two datasets at this level are not possible.

¹⁶ The numbers presented are the three-year totals, not the numbers used to calculate the rates.

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