

DONCASTER WOMEN'S HEALTH

MATERNITY AND BIRTH

In 2018/19, 28.2% of pregnant women in Doncaster lived with obesity compared to 22.1% in England. **Obesity in pregnancy increases the risks of health conditions including gestational diabetes, miscarriage, high blood pressure and pre-eclampsia. More women in Doncaster smoke during pregnancy compared to England.** In 2018/19 **24.6% were smoking in early pregnancy** compared to 12.8% for the England average. In 2023/24, **10.7% of women are recorded as smoking at the time of delivery**, compared to 7.4% in England.

In 2022, **3.0% of term babies in Doncaster had a low birth weight**, this percentage is slightly higher than England's 2.9%. **Low birth weight increases the risk of childhood mortality, developmental issues, and long-term health problems. There are also lower rates of first feed of breast milk in 2023/24 at 61.9% compared to the England average of 71.9%.**

There has been an **increase** in the number of accepted referrals to **perinatal mental health services since 2019.**

GIRLS AND YOUNG WOMEN

According to Doncaster's 2024 Pupil Lifestyle Survey, **just 41% of secondary school girls engage in more than an hour of physical activity daily**, compared to **57% of boys**. Just **57% of girls reported enjoying physical activity, compared to 82% of boys**. Additionally, **40% of girls cite feeling "shy about their body" as a reason for disliking physical activity.**

In Doncaster, the rate of births to mothers **under 18 years** in 2022, was 7.3 per 1,000, over double the England rate of 3.4 per 1,000. **Less than 1/3 (28%) of secondary school girls** that had responded to the Doncaster Pupil Lifestyle Survey in 2024 had been shown **how to use a condom. More female students (82.4%) aged 12-13 years have received 1 dose of the HPV vaccine in Doncaster (2022/23) compared to 71.3% national average.**

28% of secondary school girl participants in the 2024 Doncaster Pupil Lifestyle Survey reported being bullied in the last 12 months, compared to **17% boys. 15% of secondary school girls** in the 2024 survey said they **self-harm when they feel stressed**, five times the percentage of boys (3%). The rate of **hospital admission for self-harm for 10-24 year olds** in Doncaster in 2023/24 is above the average for England at **340.8 per 100,000** compared to 266.6 per 100,000. **For females in Doncaster it is 551.3 per 100,000.** In 2023, in Doncaster, **87.9% of eating disorder diagnoses were in girls**, the most affected age group were 15 to 18 year olds. The most prevalent eating disorder was Anorexia Nervosa.

MID-LIFE

There were **22,005 women aged between 45 and 55 years** in Doncaster, who were around the age of **perimenopause and menopause** (in 2021). **46% of South Yorkshire's health and care workforce are women of menopausal age.** Approximately just **10% of women aged 40 or over** in Doncaster are **prescribed HRT for menopause.**

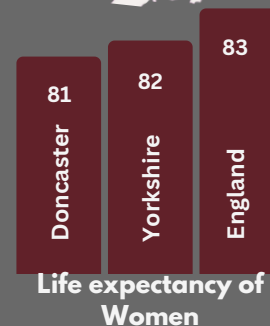
Admissions for **'alcohol specific conditions'** in Doncaster are **higher** compared to England for women **aged 40-64, at 911 per 100,000, compared to 617 per 100,000.** **The years of life lost to female suicide is 35.3 per 10,000 over double the rate of 17.2 per 10,000 for England average. Just under 4% of women in Doncaster report they are providing more than 50 hours per week of unpaid care.** The percentage of **adult carers who have as much social contact as they would like is less than 20% (18.8%) compared to 30% average for England.**

HEALTHY AGEING

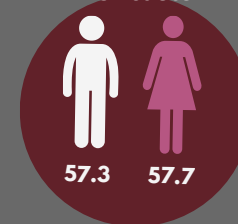
Doncaster has a larger population of **women aged over 65 (32,110)**, than men (27,742). Girls born in Doncaster in 2021-23 can only **expect to live in good health up to the age of 57.7 years, over 4 years less than the England average.**

The mortality rate for 2023 from **Dementia and Alzheimer** disease was much higher for women in Doncaster at **153.5 per 100,000** compared to 117.9 per 100,000 for the average for women in England. Emergency hospital admissions for women due to **falls for ages 65+ is higher in Doncaster (2760 per 100,000)** than the England average (2203 per 100,000) and **higher than men** in Doncaster (1.967 per 100,000).

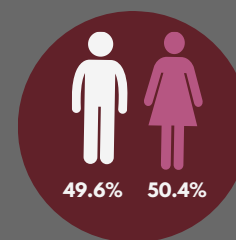
Doncaster Female population (2021): 155,571



Years living in 'good health' in Doncaster

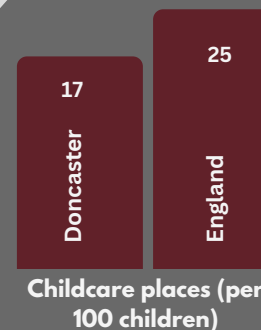


Population of Doncaster



Approx. 10% of women aged 40 or over are prescribed HRT for menopause

87.9% of people diagnosed with eating disorders were girls



WIDER DETERMINANTS

The gender pay gap in Doncaster in 2020 was 23%. This gap has decreased in recent years and in 2023, **men in Doncaster now receive an average pay 15.2% greater than women**, similar to the England average of 15.5% gender pay gap.

In 2024 over a quarter of women (26.7%) in Doncaster were **economically inactive compared to 17.3% of men**. 13% of economically inactive women would have liked a job and 87% did not.

Nearly half (45.8%) of people in Doncaster in 2022 were living in areas at risk of **food insecurity**. Between December 2023 and May 2024, **1,870 single parents utilised local food banks**, the majority of whom are likely to be women. As it is estimated that **85.9% of single parents nationally are women**, **more people in Doncaster (18.2%) experienced fuel poverty in 2022** compared to the average for England (13.1%).

According to the 2021 census, Doncaster has a **higher rate of people with no qualifications** than the average for England with **nearly a quarter** of residents over 16 years (24.6%) compared to 18.1% for England with no qualifications. In Doncaster, **more women than men have no qualifications** but more women than men also have qualifications over level 4.

PHYSICAL HEALTH & LONG-TERM CONDITIONS

Girls born in Doncaster in 2021-23 **can only expect to live in good health to 57.7 years**. This is **over 4 years less** than the England average and over 13 years less than the highest in England. In Doncaster, according to the 2021 census, **more women reported having a 'long term physical or mental health condition' compared to men**. For 2023/24, just under **a third of women are physically inactive** in Doncaster (33%). This is **higher than the rate for Yorkshire (28.4%) and for England (26.3%)**.

For 2021-23, the **mortality rates for causes considered preventable were higher in Doncaster** than for the England average. In Doncaster, over **40% of all premature deaths were from Cancer**. This was followed by over 17% of deaths from circulatory disease including conditions such as heart disease and stroke. The under 75 **mortality rate for all cancers for 2021-23 is significantly higher for females in Doncaster (133.2 per 100,000)** than the England rate (109.8). **Rates for cervical screening for females in Doncaster are higher than the national average but are declining over time**. In 2023, **Doncaster fell below England average for breast cancer screening rates**. In 2024, the coverage rate was 66.5% compared to 69.9% for England.

MENTAL WELL-BEING

There was a **higher estimated prevalence of common mental health disorders amongst people in Doncaster** at 19.1% of population over 16 compared to 16.9% for England in 2017. **Female suicides in Doncaster in 2021-23** were at a rate of 8.8 per 100,000 compared to England's 5.4 per 100,000. From 2020-22, **the years of life lost due to suicide for females aged 15-74 in Doncaster was also more than double the national average—35.3 per 10,000 in Doncaster compared to 17.2 per 10,000 in England**.

In 2023/24 **64.7% of people from Doncaster who entered 'Talking Therapies' services were female**. The most common reasons for women attending the service included **depression (29%) and generalised anxiety (14%)**. **49% of users did not specify their reason**. There are **more females diagnosed with eating disorders than males** each year in Doncaster.

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN & GIRLS

A woman is killed by a man every 3 days in the UK. In Doncaster for 2023/24, **violent crime-sexual offences are higher** than the average for England at 3.4 per 1,000 people for Doncaster and 2.9 per 1,000 people for England and increasing.

Domestic abuse related crime accounted for **15% of total crimes** recorded by South Yorkshire (SY) police in 2023/24. There were 23,738 **domestic abuse related crimes reported to SY police** in 2023/24. **1,444 referrals to Doncaster Independent Domestic Abuse Advisor Service** in 2023/24 were at **high risk of serious harm or death**. **Violence against women and girls reported crime (non-domestic abuse)** made up **25% of the total crimes** reported in the **Doncaster district in 2023/24**.

ALCOHOL, DRUGS & SMOKING

Admissions for **alcohol-specific conditions for women in Doncaster are higher than the national average**. For 2023/24 the Doncaster rate is 426 per 100,000 females compared to 373 for England. **Alcohol-related mortality for females (2023)** in Doncaster (26.9 per 100,000) is also **higher than in England (22.1 per 100,000)**. The rate of potential years of female life lost to alcohol-related conditions in 2023 was 699 per 100,000 in Doncaster and 533 per 100,000 for England.

Rates of **premature death from liver disease in females have risen more rapidly** over the last 20 years than in males. The number of **hospital admissions for women due to liver disease has increased significantly over 10 years**.

Female deaths from drug misuse for 2021-23 in Doncaster (4.8 per 100,000) are **higher than the England average (3.1 per 100,000)** but lower than the male deaths from drug misuse in Doncaster (15.4 per 100,000).

Doncaster had significantly higher rates of smoking in 2023 (17.8%) than the England average (11.6%). **More males (20.8%) than females smoke** in Doncaster (15.1%). Doncaster has a **higher rate of successful quitters after 4 weeks of support than the England average**.

INCLUSION HEALTH

According to census data there are a **higher number of women who are disabled (33,474) compared to men (28,942) in Doncaster** and a higher number of disabled women than the England average. In the 2021 census, **79.4% of female residents who are disabled (under the Equality Act 2010) reported their health as 'bad or very bad'**.

89.6% of the Doncaster population were born in the UK more than the average for England. Doncaster has a **significant population which is White: Gypsy or Irish traveller, Roma or other white**. According to census data for 2021, **over 12 % of White Gypsy or Irish traveller women, 10% of White Irish women and almost 9% of Black Caribbean women reported their health as 'bad or very bad' compared to a 4.65% average for women in Doncaster**.

Between 2016-2020, **female life expectancy in Doncaster varied by ward, with a difference of 6.8 years**. Roman Ridge had the highest life expectancy at 84.9 years, while Adwick le Street and Carcroft had the lowest at 78.1 years. The national average for England during this period was 83.2 years.

In Doncaster, **households owed a duty under the homelessness reduction act** in 2023-24 were **20.1 per 1000, higher than the England average of 13.4 per 1000**. Between April 2023 and March 2024 in Doncaster, there were **466 single females with or without children owed a homelessness prevention duty** (as they were at risk of homelessness) and a further **667 owed a homelessness relief duty** (as they were homeless). **Women accounted for 35% of the rough sleeping population**. This represents the **highest percentage of female rough sleepers** recorded in Doncaster since 2017.

SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH

The **demand for free hygiene products has increased**, with The Hygiene Bank receiving nearly **14,000 requests** in 2023 for women and girls aged 13 to 65 **living in poverty in Doncaster**.

In 2023, the rate of **Long-Acting Reversible Contraception (LARC) prescriptions** (excluding injections) in Doncaster was 45 per 1,000 women aged 15 to 44. **This is similar to the England average of 43.5 per 1,000**.

Abortion rates in Doncaster are rising. In 2021, the overall rate was 24.7 per 1,000 compared to 19.2 per 1,000 in England. Amongst **women under 25** who had an abortion in 2021, **32.4% had previously had one**, slightly higher than the national figure of 29.7%.

In 2023, the rate of **new sexually transmitted infection (STI) diagnoses** (excluding chlamydia in under-25s) in Doncaster was 363 per 100,000—**lower than England's rate of 520 per 100,000**. The **gonorrhoea rate was 86 per 100,000, also lower than the national rate of 149 per 100,000, but cases are rising**. The **chlamydia detection rate for females aged 15 to 24 was 2,122 per 100,000**, in line with England's rate of 1,962 but **below the target of 3,250**.

Women's Health in Doncaster Visual Summary

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