



National Public Health  
Service for Wales

Gwasanaeth Iechyd Cyhoeddus  
Cenedlaethol Cymru

# A Profile of the Health of Older People in Wales



A Report by the National Public Health  
Service for Wales



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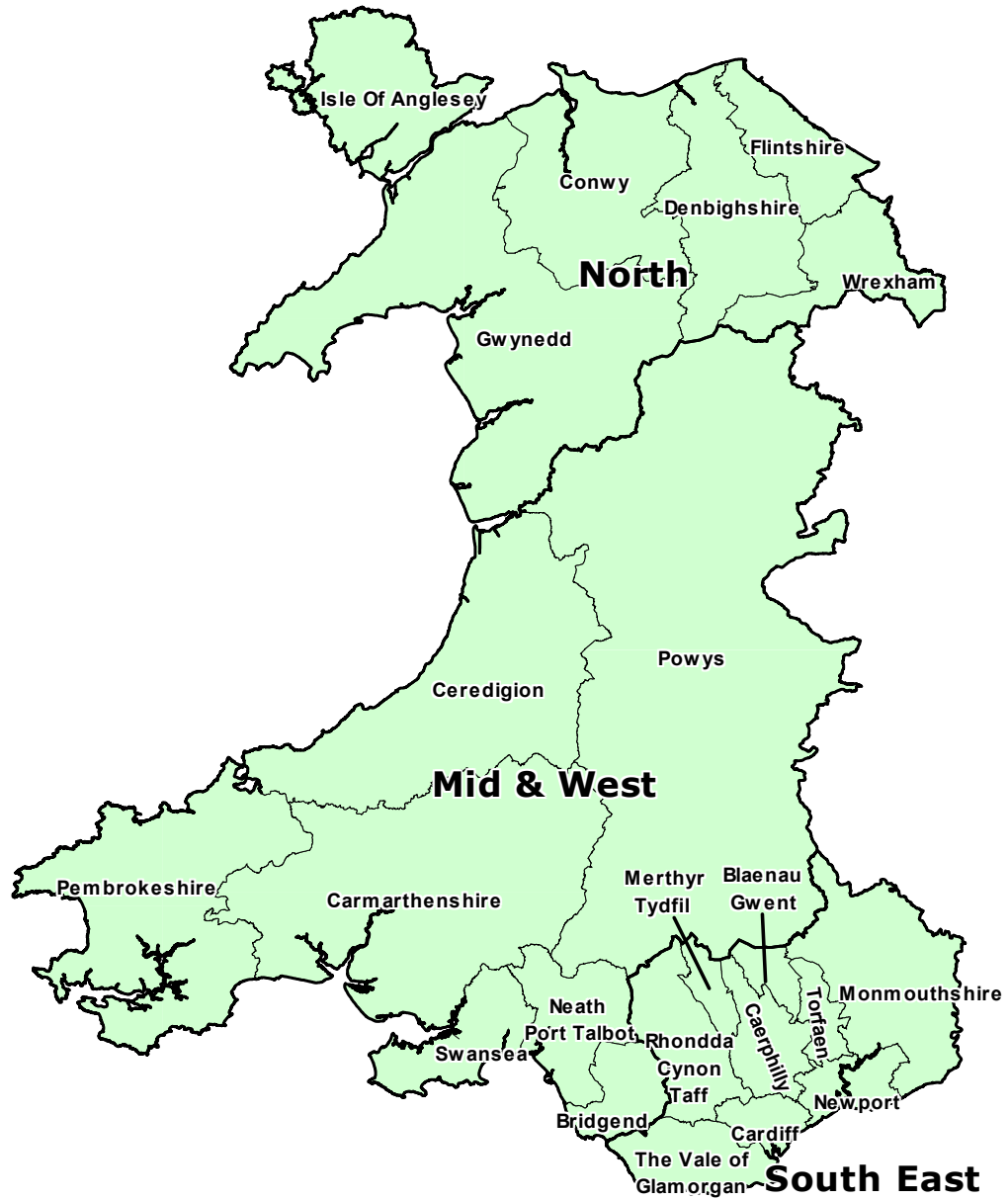
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Figure 1 Local authority and NHS regional boundaries in Wales



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# 1. Introduction

This profile describes the health of older persons aged 65 years and over. Information is shown for Wales, the 22 local authorities / local health boards and, where appropriate, electoral divisions (formerly known as wards). The profile contains sections on demography, determinants of health, dependency and health status.

Data from a wide range of sources are included reflecting the fact that many of the factors affecting the health of the older population lie beyond the NHS. Improving the health of older people cannot be achieved by the NHS alone and requires partnership working with other agencies, in particular the health and social care interface. This has been made easier following the reorganisation of the NHS in Wales with health and local government sharing the same boundaries.

This profile has been produced by the Health Information Analysis Team (HIAT) of the National Public Health Service for Wales (NPHS), in collaboration with the NPHS Vulnerable Adults Team. Its purpose is to help inform policy with a view to improving the health of older persons in Wales both at a local level and through national initiatives such as the forthcoming older persons National Service Framework for Wales. Further background data are available on request.

In producing this profile we have aimed to include any relevant information that is of acceptable quality in terms of accuracy and completeness. Where there are gaps in the information available these are highlighted.

Where appropriate, we have tried to add value to the information by indicating whether differences, for example between local authorities and the Welsh average, are statistically significant. The use of the word 'significant' is only used in the context of statistical significance. It should be borne in mind that differences which are statistically significant need not necessarily be important clinically or in terms of policy development. Equally, there may be differences which are not statistically significant, but which may be important. The term is simply used to indicate whether the difference is real, as opposed to one that may have occurred by chance.

[Go to Chapter 2 - Demography](#)

