

General Details

Dataset Title:	Life Expectancy in Scottish Council areas split by deprivation, 2003-2007
Time Period of Dataset:	2003-2007
Geographic Coverage:	Sub-Council
Supplier:	National Records of Scotland (NRS)
Department:	Demographic Statistics, Population and Migration Statistics Branch

Purpose

This workbook contains life expectancy at birth for the most deprived (MD) areas and least deprived (LD) areas of each Council area in Scotland based on the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) 2012. These statistics were originally produced to aid monitoring of the inequality gap between those living in the most and least deprived parts of Council areas, with the aim of improving the measurement of local level outcomes in support of Single Outcome Agreements. The National Records of Scotland undertook to produce these estimates and to publish them if they were shown to be suitable for this type of analysis.

Recommendations

Based on the results discussed below, NRS advise that the type of analysis described above is unsuitable for Eilean Siar and Shetland Islands. Estimates for Falkirk, Moray and Orkney Islands should be treated with caution when using female life expectancy as an indicator, and users should bear in mind the confidence interval surrounding the estimate. Estimates for life expectancy at birth in sub-Council areas are subject to random fluctuations in the number of deaths and the age at death. As a result, conclusions about time trends for any specific small area may not be reliable. The results should therefore be interpreted as providing a general indication of life expectancy estimates over time, rather than precise and robust figures, and users should avoid annual year on year comparisons.

Important Points:

- Do not confuse a Council's 'most deprived' data zones with their share of the 15% most deprived nationally.
- Comparison across Councils is problematic and should be avoided.
- Comparison within a Council can be problematic
- Users should avoid annual year on year comparisons

Method

The life tables are constructed according to the Chiang II methodology, and are thereby consistent with the method used by NRS and the Office for National Statistics (ONS) to calculate life expectancy at birth and 95% confidence intervals for national and other sub-national areas in the United Kingdom

Geography

The geography was constructed, by NRS, using the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation 2012 rank and data zones as building blocks. For example, the data zones within the City of Edinburgh Council area were ordered by SIMD 2012 rank (from most to least deprived). The top 15% were then assigned to 'Edinburgh MD' (meaning Edinburgh's 15% most deprived areas) and the bottom 85% were assigned to 'Edinburgh LD' (Edinburgh's 85% least deprived areas).

Input Data

Small Area Population Estimates for 2003-2007 and death counts at the data zone level (obtained from NRS Vital Events) were used as input data. The population and death data was aggregated over a five year period (as opposed to the three year period used for other life expectancy statistics published by NRS) to ensure a higher level of statistical robustness.

The useful effects of increasing the size of the number of years used (n) needs to be weighed against the fact that the resultant life expectancy is an average (of 5 years) and assumes that the underlying life expectancy has not changed over the n years under investigation. For example, if n is equal to ten, then the implicit assumption is that life expectancy has not changed over those ten years. As n increases, the confidence interval decreases, but the validity of the assumption decreases too.

Results

Previous life expectancy (LE) figures - calculated by NRS for SIMD 2012 deprivation deciles - show a smooth trend of decreasing LE with increasing deprivation.

The results of this analysis show that for each Scottish Council area, LE at birth is usually higher in the least deprived areas compared to the most deprived areas. This is true for males and females in all areas.

The gap between male and female LE is wider for those living in the most deprived parts when compared to those in the least deprived parts. This is true for all areas except Shetland Islands and West Lothian. The gap is widest for those living in Inverclyde.

The gap between LE in the most deprived part of a given Council and LE in the least deprived part of that same Council varies by Council area and gender. In most cases the inequality gap is more pronounced for males, however in Shetland Islands the inequality gap is wider for females.

The confidence interval (CI) surrounding each life expectancy at birth figure is shown in Table 1, Chart 1 and Chart 2. The average CI surrounding male LE is 1.7 years, with a maximum of 7.2 years; the average CI surrounding female LE is 1.5 years with a maximum of 6.3 years. The CI surrounding the Eilean Siar MD and Shetland Islands MD life expectancy estimates are too large (as illustrated in Charts 1 and 2) for the data to be deemed fit for purpose. This is mainly a result of the small numbers involved in calculating LE at this level of geography. Charts 1 and 2 show that, for these Council areas, the upper CI of the most deprived LE estimate overlaps with the lower CI of the least deprived LE estimate.

Overlapping confidence intervals are also a problem for female LE in East Lothian, Falkirk, Moray and Orkney Islands. These findings suggest that either deprivation has little impact on female life expectancy in these areas or they could be a result of problems associated with using the SIMD in this way (see 'limitations associated with using the SIMD in this manner' section).

Limitations associated with using the SIMD in this manner

Firstly, care needs to be taken to not confuse a Council's 'most deprived' data zones with their share of the 15% most deprived nationally, e.g. 42% of the data zones in Glasgow lie in the 15% most deprived data zones in Scotland.

Secondly, comparison across Councils is problematic and should be avoided. Life expectancy in Glasgow's 'most deprived' is very low but this is because we are looking at data zones that fall within the 3% most deprived nationally, whereas Clackmannanshire's most deprived data zones are split across the 11% most deprived nationally with 2 in vigintile 1, 6 in vigintile 2 and 1 in vigintile 3.

Lastly, comparison within a Council can be problematic. Given the way that the SIMD is constructed it works best at the most deprived end of the distribution as at the least deprived end it is measuring an absence of deprivation (e.g. low numbers of benefit claimants) rather than affluence so there is little differentiation (e.g. an area ranked 4,000 will not be much different to a rank of 5,000 but a rank of 100 will be very different to an area ranked 500). The 15% most deprived data zones in Glasgow fall within the most deprived 3% nationally and so will be areas with similar deprivation levels. For Perth & Kinross the 15% most deprived data zones in the Council area include data zones in the 35% most deprived nationally - the two data zones in the 5% most deprived nationally will be very different to those in the 30-35% band.

Expectation of Life at Birth, by Sex for each Council Area within Scotland, split by level of deprivation (where MD=most deprived 15% and LD = least deprived 85%), for the period 2003-2007

	Males				Females			
	Expectation of Life at birth	Lower 95% CI	Upper 95% CI	Length of CI	Expectation of Life at birth	Lower 95% CI	Upper 95% CI	Length of CI
Aberdeen CityLD	75.9	75.5	76.3	0.8	80.8	80.5	81.2	0.7
Aberdeen CityMD	69.7	68.7	70.8	2.1	75.9	74.8	76.9	2.1
Aberdeen City	75.0	74.7	75.4	0.8	80.1	79.7	80.4	0.7
AberdeenshireLD	77.9	77.5	78.3	0.8	81.3	81.0	81.7	0.7
AberdeenshireMD	72.9	71.9	73.8	2.0	79.7	78.8	80.5	1.7
Aberdeenshire	77.0	76.7	77.4	0.7	81.1	80.7	81.4	0.6
AngusLD	76.8	76.2	77.3	1.1	80.5	80.0	81.0	1.0
AngusMD	72.6	71.2	74.1	2.9	77.9	76.5	79.3	2.8
Angus	76.1	75.6	76.7	1.1	80.1	79.6	80.6	0.9
Argyll & ButeLD	76.4	75.7	77.0	1.3	80.5	79.9	81.1	1.1
Argyll & ButeMD	69.6	68.0	71.2	3.3	78.3	77.0	79.6	2.7
Argyll & Bute	75.4	74.8	75.9	1.2	80.2	79.7	80.7	1.0
ClackmannanshireLD	74.7	73.8	75.6	1.7	79.9	79.1	80.7	1.6
ClackmannanshireMD	68.3	66.1	70.5	4.5	76.9	74.7	79.0	4.3
Clackmannanshire	73.8	73.0	74.6	1.6	79.5	78.8	80.2	1.4
Dumfries & GallowayLD	76.8	76.4	77.3	1.0	80.5	80.1	80.9	0.8
Dumfries & GallowayMD	70.7	69.4	71.9	2.5	76.4	75.3	77.5	2.2
Dumfries & Galloway	76.0	75.5	76.4	0.9	79.9	79.5	80.3	0.8
Dundee CityLD	74.0	73.4	74.5	1.0	79.6	79.1	80.0	0.9
Dundee CityMD	68.8	67.4	70.2	2.7	75.3	74.2	76.5	2.4
Dundee City	73.2	72.7	73.7	1.0	78.9	78.5	79.3	0.9
East AyrshireLD	74.6	74.0	75.1	1.1	78.4	77.9	78.9	1.0
East AyrshireMD	70.5	69.1	71.9	2.8	76.1	74.9	77.3	2.4
East Ayrshire	74.0	73.5	74.5	1.0	78.0	77.6	78.5	0.9

Note

The red text indicates where the upper CI of the MD area overlaps the lower CI of the least deprived area.

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	Males				Females			
	Expectation of Life at birth	Lower 95% CI	Upper 95% CI	Length of CI	Expectation of Life at birth	Lower 95% CI	Upper 95% CI	Length of CI
East DunbartonshireLD	78.5	77.9	79.0	1.1	82.4	81.9	83.0	1.1
East DunbartonshireMD	72.8	71.5	74.2	2.7	77.9	76.8	79.0	2.2
East Dunbartonshire	77.6	77.1	78.1	1.0	81.6	81.2	82.1	1.0
East LothianLD	76.6	76.0	77.2	1.2	80.8	80.2	81.3	1.1
East LothianMD	73.5	72.1	74.9	2.9	79.2	77.9	80.5	2.6
East Lothian	76.2	75.6	76.7	1.1	80.6	80.1	81.1	1.0
East RenfrewshireLD	78.4	77.8	79.0	1.2	82.2	81.7	82.8	1.1
East RenfrewshireMD	70.9	69.4	72.3	3.0	78.2	76.7	79.6	2.8
East Renfrewshire	77.1	76.6	77.7	1.1	81.5	81.0	82.1	1.0
Edinburgh, City ofLD	77.2	76.9	77.5	0.5	81.5	81.2	81.7	0.5
Edinburgh, City ofMD	68.6	67.9	69.3	1.4	76.6	76.0	77.3	1.4
Edinburgh, City of	75.7	75.5	76.0	0.5	80.7	80.4	80.9	0.5
Eilean SiarLD	73.4	72.2	74.6	2.3	80.2	79.0	81.3	2.3
Eilean SiarMD	70.3	66.9	73.8	6.9	80.1	77.7	82.5	4.8
Eilean Siar	73.0	71.8	74.1	2.2	80.2	79.1	81.2	2.1
FalkirkLD	75.6	75.1	76.0	0.9	79.4	79.0	79.8	0.8
FalkirkMD	69.9	68.6	71.1	2.5	78.1	77.0	79.2	2.2
Falkirk	74.7	74.3	75.2	0.9	79.2	78.8	79.6	0.7
FifeLD	76.5	76.2	76.8	0.6	80.3	80.1	80.6	0.6
FifeMD	70.5	69.7	71.3	1.7	77.4	76.7	78.2	1.5
Fife	75.6	75.3	75.8	0.6	79.9	79.6	80.2	0.5
Glasgow CityLD	71.1	70.8	71.3	0.5	77.4	77.2	77.7	0.5
Glasgow CityMD	64.9	64.3	65.5	1.2	73.5	72.9	74.1	1.2
Glasgow City	70.1	69.9	70.4	0.5	76.8	76.6	77.0	0.4

Note

The red text indicates where the upper CI of the MD area overlaps the lower CI of the least deprived area.

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	Males				Females			
	Expectation of Life at birth	Lower 95% CI	Upper 95% CI	Length of CI	Expectation of Life at birth	Lower 95% CI	Upper 95% CI	Length of CI
HighlandLD	76.3	75.9	76.7	0.8	81.0	80.7	81.4	0.7
HighlandMD	70.3	69.3	71.3	2.0	77.2	76.3	78.1	1.8
Highland	75.4	75.0	75.7	0.7	80.5	80.1	80.8	0.7
InverclydeLD	72.9	72.2	73.6	1.4	78.6	77.9	79.2	1.3
InverclydeMD	65.2	63.3	67.0	3.7	75.6	74.0	77.3	3.3
Inverclyde	71.7	71.1	72.4	1.3	78.2	77.6	78.8	1.2
MidlothianLD	76.3	75.7	77.0	1.4	80.0	79.5	80.6	1.1
MidlothianMD	71.7	70.1	73.4	3.2	77.7	76.2	79.2	3.0
Midlothian	75.7	75.1	76.3	1.2	79.7	79.2	80.2	1.0
MorayLD	76.4	75.8	77.0	1.3	80.5	80.0	81.1	1.1
MorayMD	72.7	71.4	74.0	2.7	79.0	77.4	80.6	3.2
Moray	75.9	75.3	76.5	1.1	80.3	79.8	80.8	1.0
North AyrshireLD	74.5	74.0	75.0	1.0	79.8	79.3	80.2	0.9
North AyrshireMD	69.1	67.9	70.4	2.6	75.0	73.7	76.2	2.5
North Ayrshire	73.7	73.2	74.2	1.0	79.0	78.6	79.4	0.8
North LanarkshireLD	73.6	73.3	74.0	0.6	78.3	78.0	78.6	0.6
North LanarkshireMD	68.0	67.2	68.9	1.7	75.6	74.8	76.3	1.5
North Lanarkshire	72.8	72.5	73.1	0.6	77.9	77.7	78.2	0.6
Orkney IslandsLD	77.0	75.7	78.2	2.6	81.9	80.6	83.2	2.6
Orkney IslandsMD	70.4	67.5	73.3	5.8	79.5	77.6	81.4	3.7
Orkney Islands	75.7	74.5	76.9	2.3	81.2	80.1	82.3	2.2
Perth & KinrossLD	77.2	76.7	77.7	1.0	81.1	80.7	81.5	0.9
Perth & KinrossMD	72.5	71.1	73.9	2.8	78.9	77.6	80.3	2.6
Perth & Kinross	76.5	76.0	77.0	0.9	80.8	80.4	81.2	0.8

Note

The red text indicates where the upper CI of the MD area overlaps the lower CI of the least deprived area.

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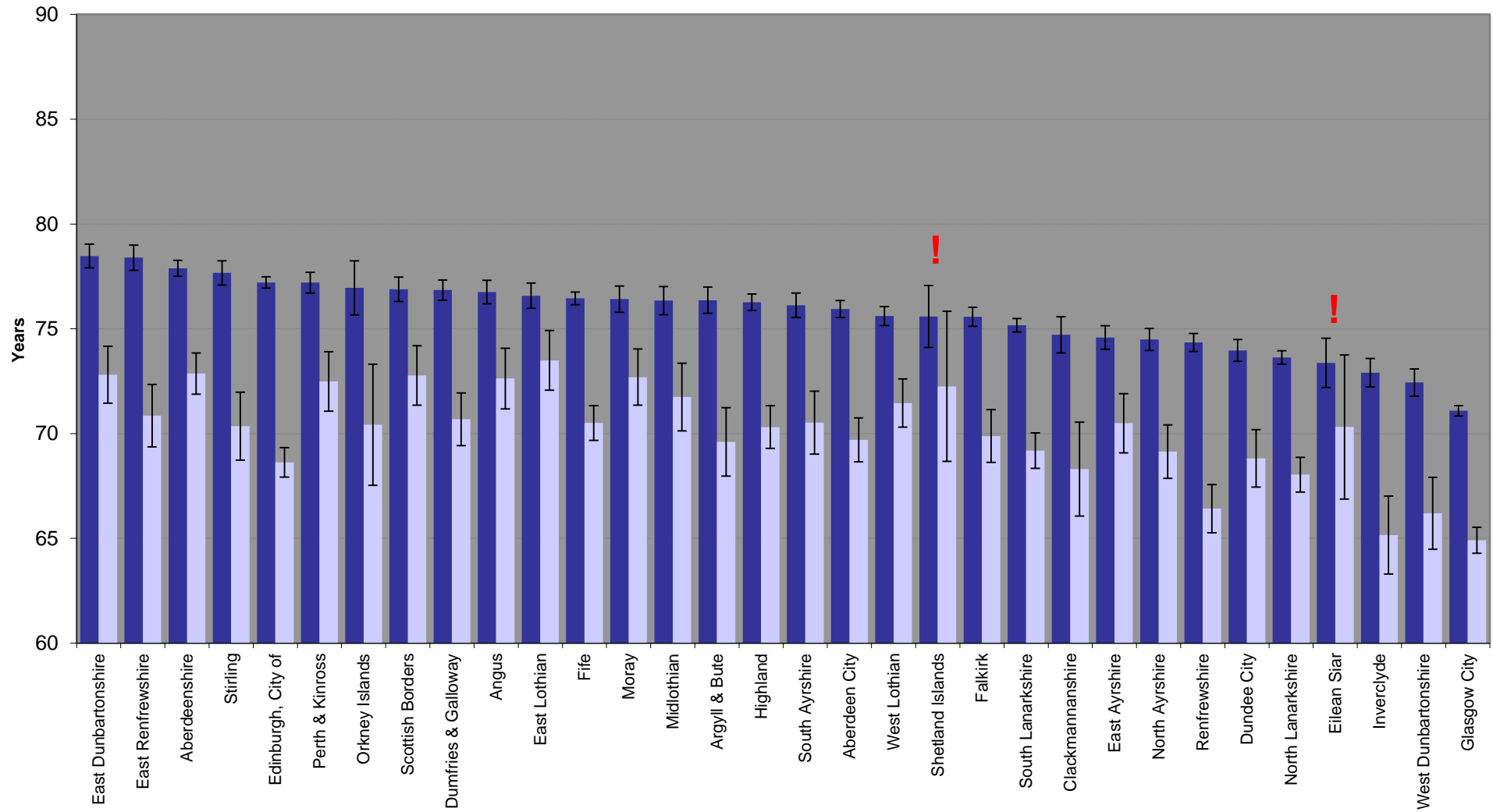
	Males				Females			
	Expectation of Life at birth	Lower 95% CI	Upper 95% CI	Length of CI	Expectation of Life at birth	Lower 95% CI	Upper 95% CI	Length of CI
RenfrewshireLD	74.3	73.9	74.8	0.9	79.2	78.8	79.6	0.8
RenfrewshireMD	66.4	65.3	67.6	2.3	74.4	73.3	75.5	2.2
Renfrewshire	73.1	72.7	73.6	0.8	78.5	78.1	78.9	0.7
Scottish BordersLD	76.9	76.3	77.5	1.2	81.0	80.5	81.5	1.0
Scottish BordersMD	72.8	71.4	74.2	2.8	77.8	76.6	79.0	2.4
Scottish Borders	76.3	75.8	76.9	1.1	80.5	80.0	80.9	0.9
Shetland IslandsLD	75.6	74.1	77.1	3.0	81.9	80.7	83.1	2.5
Shetland IslandsMD	72.3	68.7	75.8	7.2	78.5	75.4	81.7	6.3
Shetland Islands	75.2	73.8	76.5	2.7	81.4	80.3	82.6	2.3
South AyrshireLD	76.1	75.5	76.7	1.2	80.6	80.2	81.1	1.0
South AyrshireMD	70.5	69.0	72.0	3.0	78.4	77.2	79.6	2.4
South Ayrshire	75.2	74.7	75.8	1.1	80.3	79.9	80.8	0.9
South LanarkshireLD	75.2	74.9	75.5	0.6	79.9	79.6	80.1	0.6
South LanarkshireMD	69.2	68.3	70.0	1.7	75.8	75.0	76.6	1.6
South Lanarkshire	74.2	73.9	74.6	0.6	79.2	78.9	79.5	0.5
StirlingLD	77.7	77.1	78.2	1.1	81.4	80.8	81.9	1.1
StirlingMD	70.4	68.7	72.0	3.2	76.1	74.7	77.5	2.8
Stirling	76.5	76.0	77.1	1.1	80.5	80.0	81.0	1.0
West DunbartonshireLD	72.4	71.8	73.1	1.3	78.5	77.9	79.1	1.1
West DunbartonshireMD	66.2	64.5	67.9	3.4	73.8	72.3	75.3	3.0
West Dunbartonshire	71.6	70.9	72.2	1.2	77.8	77.2	78.3	1.1
West LothianLD	75.6	75.2	76.1	0.9	79.4	79.0	79.8	0.8
West LothianMD	71.5	70.3	72.6	2.3	75.2	74.2	76.3	2.0
West Lothian	75.0	74.6	75.4	0.8	78.7	78.3	79.1	0.7

Note

The red text indicates where the upper CI of the MD area overlaps the lower CI of the least deprived area.

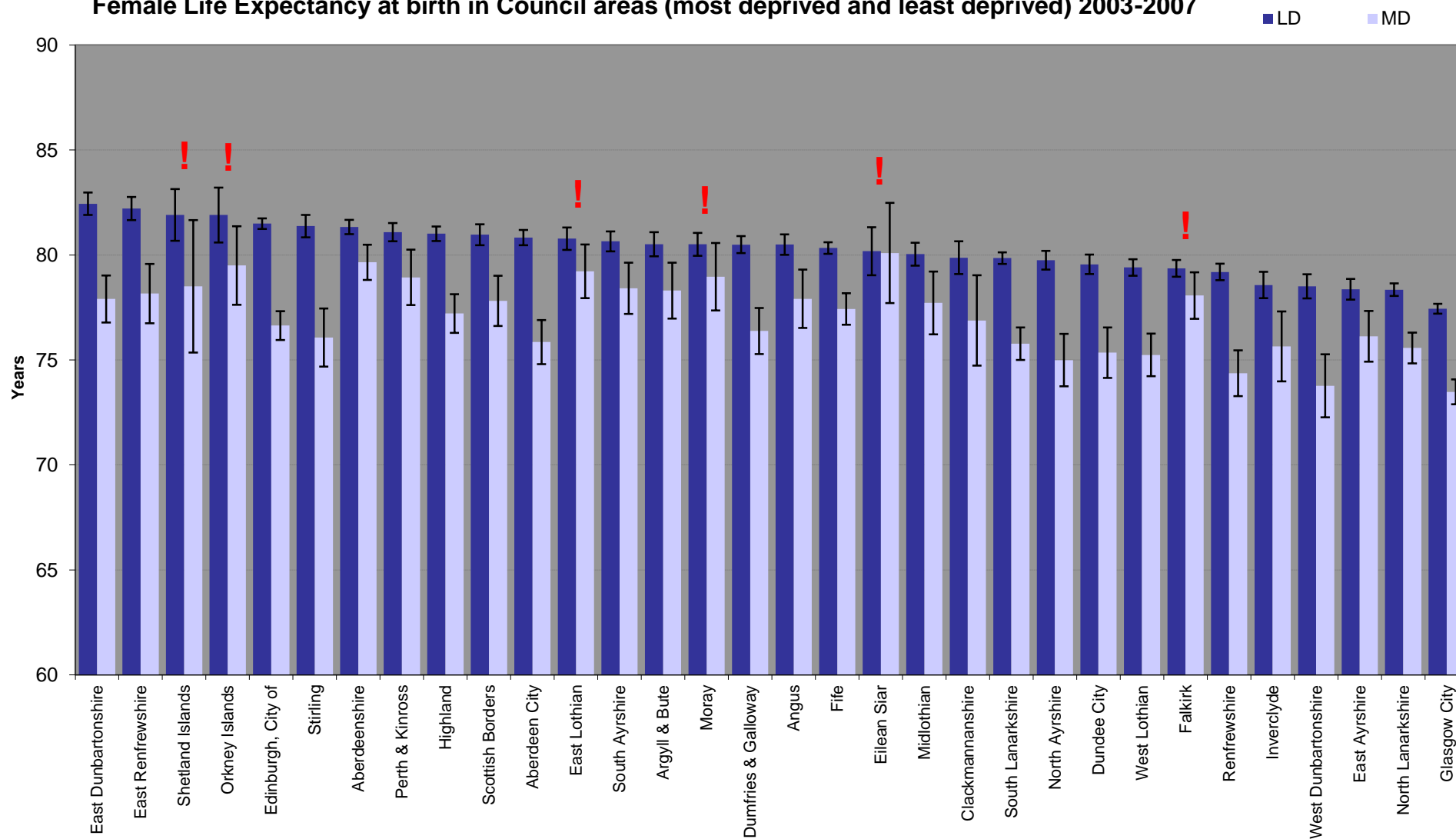
Male Life Expectancy at birth in Council areas (most deprived and least deprived) 2003-2007

■ LD ■ MD



! indicates where the MD upper CI overlaps with the LD lower CI

Female Life Expectancy at birth in Council areas (most deprived and least deprived) 2003-2007



! indicates where the MD upper CI overlaps with the LD lower CI