

Dental extractions in children and young people

This profile deals primarily with dental extractions that occur in hospital of which the majority relate to dental decay. Tooth decay is one of the most common reasons for hospital admissions among children and young people. Rates across England are significantly higher in the most deprived areas highlighting deep-rooted oral health inequalities ([Oral Health Foundation](#)).

Why is this important?



Poor oral health in children can lead to pain, infections, altered sleep and eating patterns, decreased wellbeing and an increased risk of dental problems later in life.

What is the local context?



Hospital extractions among Torbay's children and young people have consistently been significantly higher than England, this is also true for extractions due to dental decay.

What should we do?

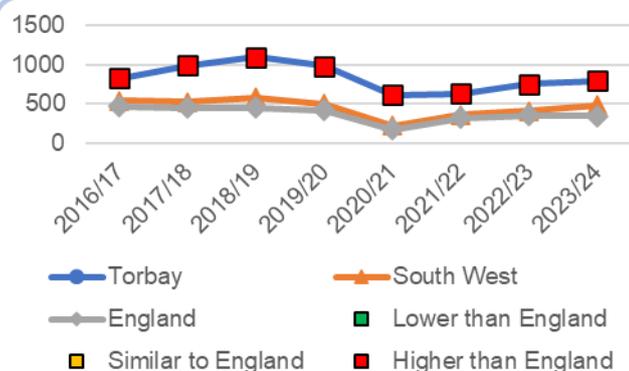


Raise awareness of programmes such as supervised tooth brushing. Jointly work with partners such as Children's Services and Community Dentistry to improve oral health.

Levels of hospital tooth extractions:

Torbay has significantly higher rates of hospital tooth extractions in children and young people than the South West and England (Fig 1). There is a similar pattern if you look at extractions due to dental decay (dental caries). 81% of the 1,872 Torbay resident 0 to 19 admissions over the last 8 years related to dental decay.

Fig 1: Rate of hospital tooth extraction admissions, aged 0 to 19, per 100,000



Source: HES, ONS mid-year population estimates

Sex:

The Torbay breakdown by sex over the last 8 years is almost a 50/50 female/male split (Fig 2). When you look at different age groups within Torbay by sex then males have higher (but not significantly higher) rates in the 0 to 9 age range. By contrast, rates are significantly higher among

females when compared to males in the 10 to 19 year age group. This is also reflected in the level of hospital admissions for extractions due to dental decay.

This pattern is confirmed when looking at wider national figures, male rates are higher for those aged 0 to 9 whilst female rates are higher within the 10 to 19 age range.

Fig 2: Number of hospital tooth extraction admissions – Torbay (2016/17 to 2023/24)

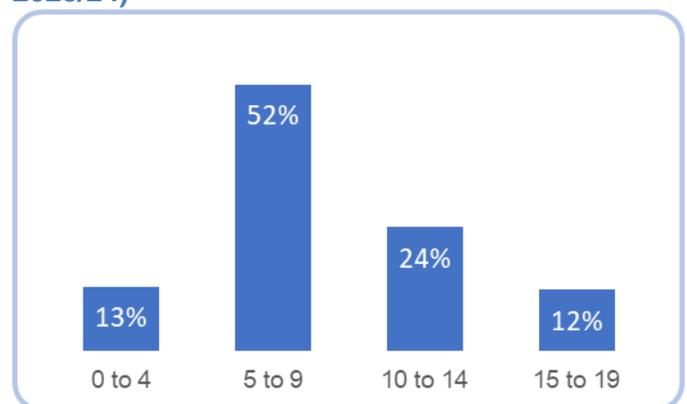
Age group	Female	Male
0 to 4	101	134
5 to 9	468	498
10 to 14	235	214
15 to 19	139	83
0 to 19	943	929

Source: HES

Age Group:

During the period 2016/17 to 2023/24, 52% of extraction admissions in the 0 to 19 age range were for those aged 5 to 9 (Fig 3). If you just look at extractions due to dental decay, then 60% of extraction admissions were for those aged 5 to 9.

Fig 3: Percentage of hospital tooth extraction admissions by age group – Torbay (2016/17 to 2023/24)



Source: HES, ONS mid-year population estimates

Ward and Deprivation:

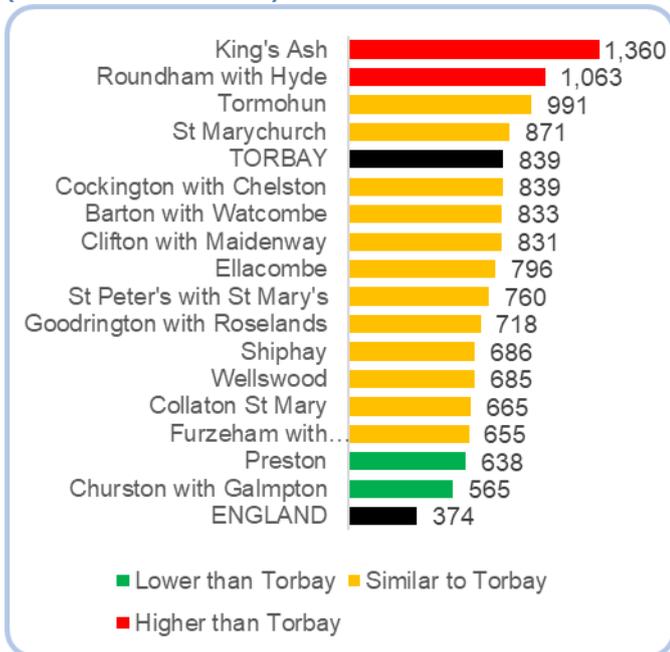
During the period 2016/17 to 2023/24, there have been significant differences between wards (Fig 4) and it should be noted that all Torbay wards have extraction rates significantly higher than England. This is also the case for extractions due to dental decay. When looking at extractions due to dental decay, Tormohun joins King's Ash and Roundham with Hyde as having rates significantly

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higher than the Torbay average. Furzeham with Summercombe and Shiphay join Preston and Churston with Galmpton as having rates significantly lower than the Torbay average.

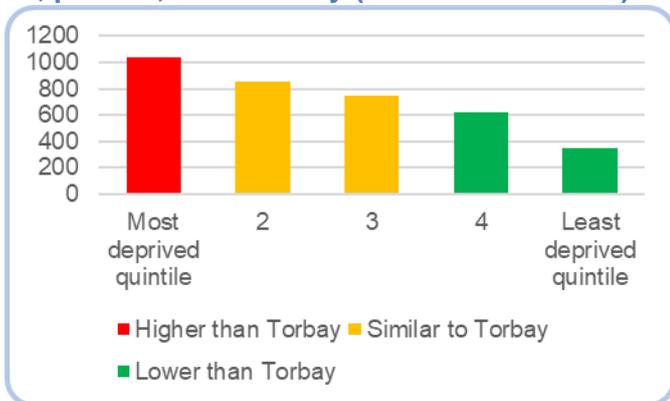
During the period 2016/17 to 2023/24, there is a significant link between hospital extractions and deprivation with rates in Torbay's most deprived areas close to triple the rate of those in Torbay's least deprived areas (Fig 5). This pattern is repeated for those extractions due to dental decay.

Fig 4: Rate of hospital tooth extraction admissions by ward, aged 0 to 19, per 100,000 (2016/17 to 2023/24)



Source: HES, ONS mid-year population estimates

Fig 5: Rate of hospital tooth extraction admissions by deprivation quintile, aged 0 to 19, per 100,000 – Torbay (2016/17 to 2023/24)



Source: HES, ONS mid-year population estimates

Dental Procedures:

For extractions in hospital, we have some limited information in relation to procedures but no

numbers in relation to the numbers of teeth extracted for the period 2016/17 to 2023/24. 77% (85% of those involving dental decay) of procedures were in relation to OPCS Code 10.4 which involves the extraction of multiple teeth. A further 14% (13% of those involving dental decay) related to OPCS Code 10.9 which is classified as 'Unspecified'

Extractions by NHS Dentists:

Whilst tooth extractions at hospital are significantly higher in Torbay than the South West and England, rates of extractions for Torbay NHS practice patients aged 0 to 17 are significantly lower than England.

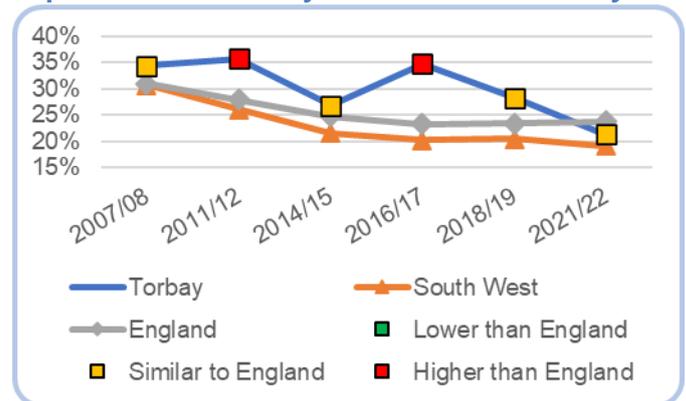
When looking at the number of teeth extracted, levels of extractions in Torbay are significantly lower than both the South West and England. In total, for the 5 year period 2018/19 to 2022/23, there were 4,425 claims for extractions involving the extraction of 6,339 teeth among those aged 0 to 17 in Torbay.

Source: [NHS Dental Statistics for England](#)

Visually obvious dental decay:

Torbay's level of visually obvious tooth decay in 5 year olds is generally decreasing according to National Dental Epidemiology Programme surveys (Fig 6). The last 2 surveys have seen rates that are statistically similar to England.

Fig 6: Percentage of 5 years olds with experience of visually obvious dental decay



Source: [Fingertips](#)

References:

References/links to data used are throughout the profile.