

2.3 Economic

Outline

One of the wider determinates of health is income as illustrated in Dalgren and Whitehead's 1991 '*Determinants of Health*' model. Levels of income are a key factor in determining the quality of life that individuals and families enjoy. People who experience disadvantages in this area are more likely to have poorer health outcomes.

While percentages of people claiming out of work benefits and Incapacity Benefit are lower in Northamptonshire than the country as a whole, the levels across the county vary.

Key Issues

The highest levels of out of work benefits and incapacity benefit are found in Corby, and the lowest levels in South Northamptonshire. Compared to similar PCTs Northamptonshire has a high percentage of people on Incapacity Benefit.

Consequences

There is a differential quality of life available due to increased levels of income in different parts of the county. As a district, Corby has higher percentages of claimants of out of work benefits, Jobseekers Allowance and Incapacity Benefit than other districts in the county. However, when this data is broken down, there is a correlation with deprived areas especially in the urban parts of the county.

Key Documents

Dalgren G and M. Whitehead. 1991. *Policies and Strategies to Promote Social Equity*. Stockholm: Health Institute of Future Studies

Northamptonshire Observatory. 2008. *Northamptonshire Economic and Labour Market Assessment 2008* (Online). Available from:

<http://www.northamptonshireobservatory.org.uk/publications/document.asp?documentid=1448>