

# **Southampton Strategic Assessment (JSNA)**

## **COVID-19 Vulnerabilities**

*Last updated July 2020*

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## 1. Coronavirus (COVID 19) and increased vulnerabilities

A range of factors make people more vulnerable to COVID-19, in both the short-term and longer and medium terms. Vulnerabilities can be clinical and non-clinical.

Some people describe one time period when the risk of contraction is increasing, and actions need to be taken to reduce the spread as 'response'. Some people describe the time when trying to counteract the negative effects of COVID-19 related policies e.g. lockdown or economic downturn, as 'recovery'.

Coronavirus (COVID-19) can make anyone seriously ill. But for some people, the risk is higher.

There are 2 levels of higher risk:

- high risk (clinically extremely vulnerable)
- moderate risk (clinically vulnerable)

People who are clinically extremely vulnerable are advised to be 'shielding'. All local authorities, like Southampton City Council have been supporting those people with a 'shielding' offering support and advice, offering practical support like emergency food parcel and social contact, signposting to community groups and collection and delivery of medication.

Mapping the areas showing how many people are shielding on each neighbourhood and how many of these people have registered for support, help us understand in which communities more information is needed to be promoted. This information is in the resources in the slide pack of maps.

## 2. Vulnerabilities Index

A need to understand which areas showed higher levels of greater vulnerabilities was identified. The most up-to-date published reports, data sets and evidence were considered, to understand COVID-19 vulnerabilities. Indicators were sourced at neighbourhood level that could correlate with the evidence. The indicators were grouped into the three areas (domains) to explain different vulnerabilities at varying stages:

- **Clinical vulnerability to COVID:** Higher risk of experiencing severe outcomes from contracting COVID-19
- **Wider risks from COVID:** Increased risk of contracting COVID-19 through work / living conditions
- **Vulnerability to policies relating to COVID:** Increased risk of experiencing negative impacts from COVID related policies, e.g. lockdown or economic downturn

The method and the resulting Index maps are described in a document in the resources.

### 3. Resources

The slide set of maps shows a monthly time series of maps of the percentage of the working age population (aged 16 to 64 years) claiming Universal credit and those Universal Credit claimants who are required to seek and be available for work, as well as Job Seeker Allowance Claimants ('Claimant Counts').

[Slide set of COVID-19 Vulnerabilities Southampton Key Maps](#)

[COVID-19 Vulnerabilities Index method and results](#)

### 4. Other links

Understanding who, where and when different people are being more adversely affected is being continually researched and reported on. Key reports and data summaries include:

[COVID-19: review of disparities in risks and outcomes \(Public Health England\)](#)

[Beyond the data: Understanding the impact of COVID-19 on BAME groups \(Public Health England\)](#)

[Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) related deaths by ethnic group, England and Wales: 2 March 2020 to 15 May 2020 \(Office of National Statistics\)](#)

[Coronavirus and shielding of clinically extremely vulnerable people in England: 9 June to 18 June 2020 \(Office of National Statistics\)](#)