

## **2009 Local Authority Health Profiles**

Health Profiles are produced by the Association of Public Health Observatories on behalf of the Department of Health. They are designed to provide useful, accessible summaries of the health of local people to assist in prioritising and planning services. The indicators included in the profiles were chosen because they show important measures of the health of the population, and some of the factors that can affect health. They are displayed in such a way as to allow each local authority to be compared with the England average. This year's Health Profiles (which are the fourth edition) include a new indicator on excess winter deaths, and some improvements to the design and layout. Sixteen of the indicators relate to the National Indicator Set 2009.

Health Profiles are available in printed form, and may also be downloaded from the interactive Health Profiles website, [www.healthprofiles.info](http://www.healthprofiles.info). In addition, the website can be used to create and view a variety of maps and charts to display comparisons between local authorities or regions. Detailed descriptions of all the indicators are available from the website in document form, which describes how the indicators are calculated.

Regional Health Profiles are being redesigned and the second edition of regional profiles will be released later in 2009.

If you have any queries about the Health Profiles data, or would like help with its interpretation, please contact the South West Public Health Observatory. Comments and any examples of how Health Profiles have been used in your locality would also be welcomed.