

Children's services intervention rates: an inequalities issue

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<http://www.coventry.ac.uk/research-bank/research-archive/business-management/sustainable-regeneration/current-projects/mapping-childrens-service-outcomes-project/>

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Children's Services Intervention Rates: an inequalities issue



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Presentation for Coventry Children's Services Managers

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Aim: to demonstrate forms of data analysis using deprivation, age and ethnicity

NB

Data is from March 2012

Data has been 'cleaned': intervention rates will be lower than published

The data and publications are available at MSOA level at www.coventry.ac.uk/child-welfare-inequalities

Child Welfare Inequalities: Definition



Unequal chances, experiences and outcomes of child welfare that are systematically associated with social advantage/disadvantage.

Parallels inequalities in health.

Child Welfare Inequalities: 5 Key Dimensions



- 1. Who receives child welfare interventions (and why)?**
- 2. Which children get what kinds of interventions (and why)?**
- 3. What differences are there in the childhood outcomes between children involved with child welfare services and those who are not (and why)?**
- 4. What differences are there in the adult outcomes between children involved with child welfare services and those who are not (and why)?**
- 5. What policies and interventions reduce inequalities in child welfare: upstream, midstream and downstream?**

Deprivation and Children's Services Outcomes

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The Coventry University study

Aim:

to examine the role of deprivation in explaining differences in key children's services' interventions between and within local authorities (LAs)

Study Methods

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14 Local Authorities in the English Midlands

Over 10% of all children England and of LAC and CPP

Routine data for all CPP and LAC: age, gender, ethnicity, disability, reason for CPP and legal status in LAC at 31.3.12

plus

Neighbourhood (Lower Layer Super Output Area) of origin.

Interviews with senior managers to provide contextual information and subsequent telephone focus groups with front line staff.

Analysis

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Sorted LSOAs (or MSOAs) in our sample by their national deprivation rank using 2010 Index of Multiple Deprivation scores and divided into deciles (10 groups of 10%) or quintiles (5 groups of 20%).

Where we refer to decile 10 in our sample, it means those LSOAs in the midlands sample that are in the 10% **most** deprived LSOAs nationally. Decile 1 are the LSOAs amongst the least deprived 10% nationally.

Misleading Statistics

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- You cannot get an accurate comparison of intervention rates between LAs without taking into account the population, deprivation and ethnicity.

Deprivation Amongst Child Population

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Table 1: Percentage of child population living in each quintile of neighbourhoods (MSOAs) by deprivation.

1 = most affluent 20% of neighbourhoods; 5 = least affluent.

Deprivation Quintile	1	2	3	4	5
Child population in England	19.4%	18.3%	18.5%	20.1%	23.7%
Child Population Midlands Sample	12.1%	15.9%	15.7%	18.1%	38.2%
All 0-4	10.1%	14.1%	15.1%	18.7%	42.0%
Birmingham	2.4%	3.8%	8.2%	18.5%	66.9%
Warwickshire	30.3%	24.4%	20.5%	16.8%	8.0%
Deprived Third	2.6%	5.2%	9.5%	18.9%	63.8%
COVENTRY	3.5%	14.1%	21.4%	15.5%	45.4%
COVENTRY 0 - 4	2.3%	11.7%	20.1%	15.9%	50.0%

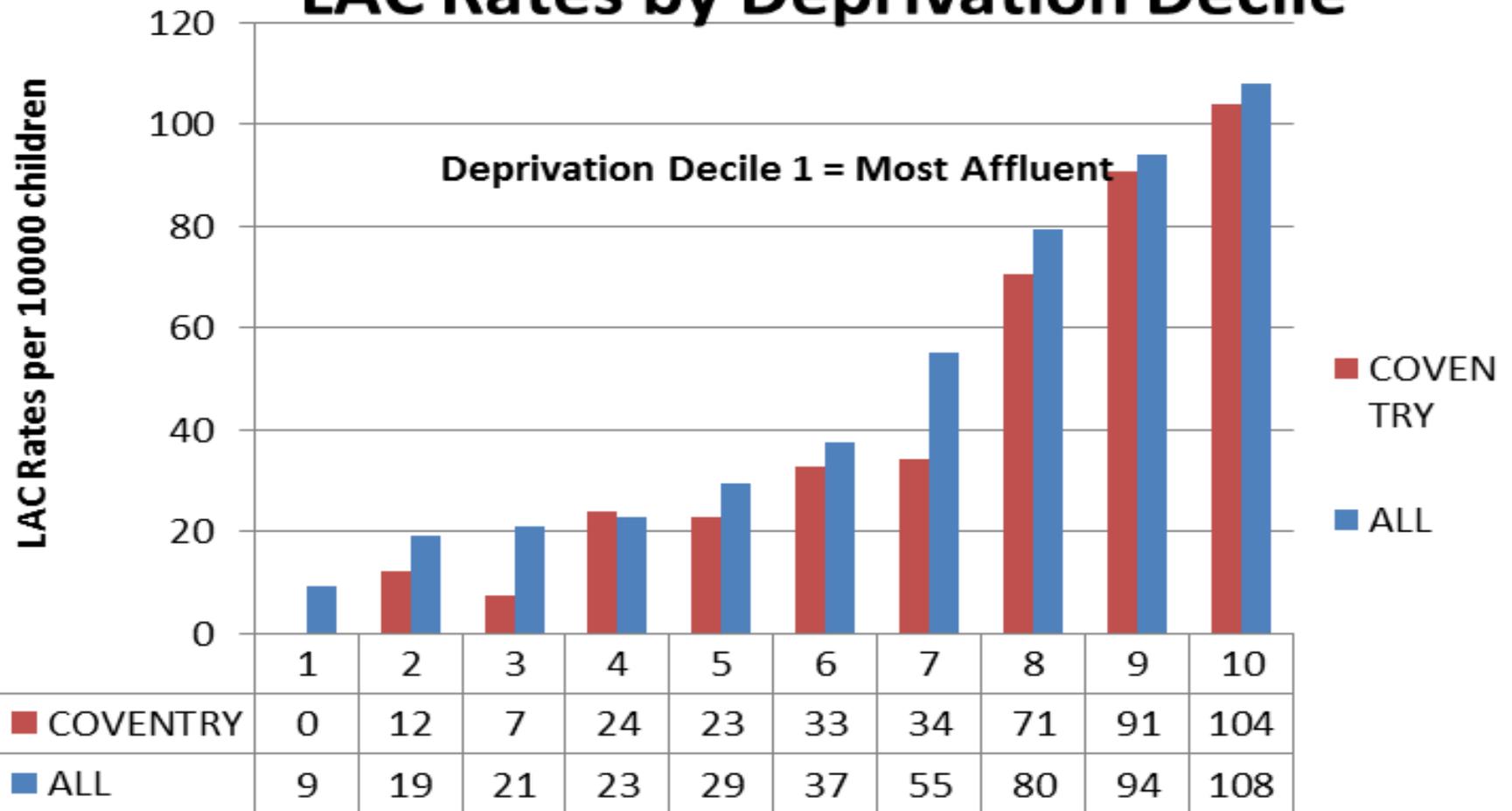
Key Findings 1: Very Large Inequalities

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Very large inequalities in children's chances of being on a child protection plan or being a looked after child, systematically and significantly related to deprivation levels.

Key Findings 1: Very large inequalities

LAC Rates by Deprivation Decile



Key Findings 1: Very large inequalities

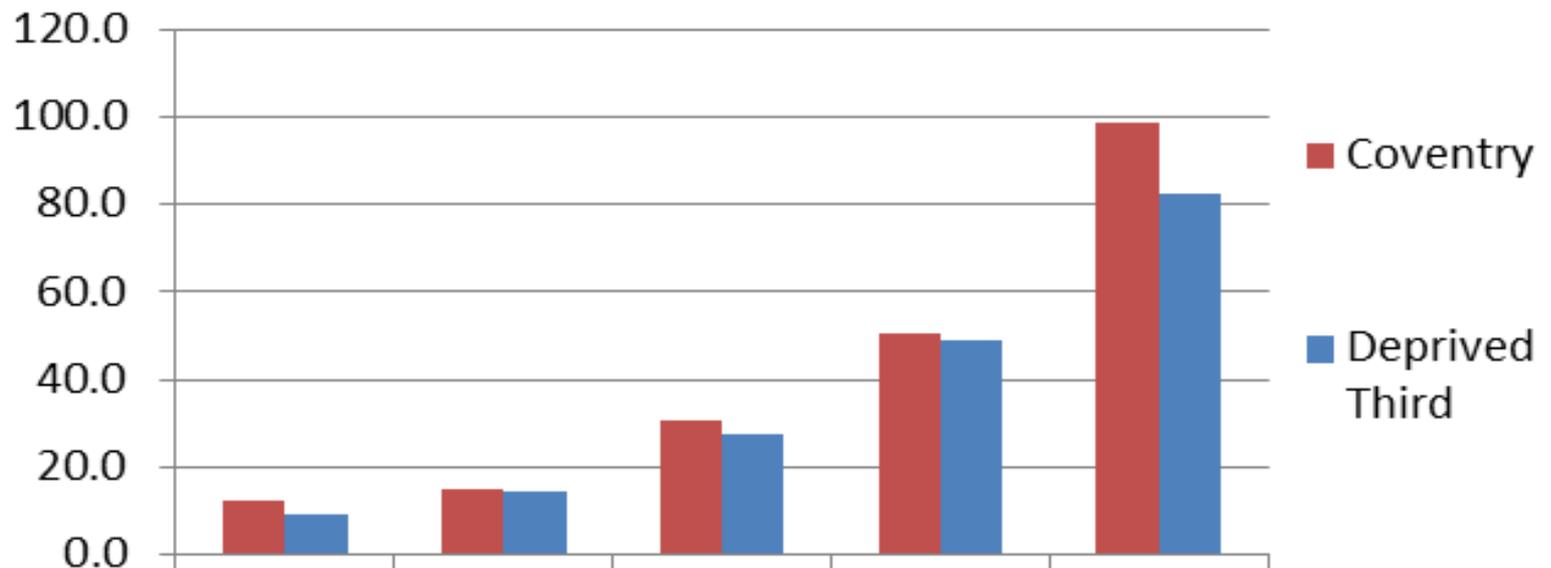
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Midlands	CPP	CPP	LAC	LAC
	Decile 1	Decile 10	Decile 1	Decile 10
Rates	6.3	68.5	9.2	108.0
Numbers	50	1823	73	2874
Ratio	CPP	1: 36.5	LAC	1: 39.4
Coventry	Decile 2	Decile 10	Decile 2	Decile 10
Rates	41.1	93.2	12.2	103.8
Numbers	1	176	3	196
Ratio	CPP	1:176	LAC	1:65

Coventry comparison

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LAC Rates: Coventry and Bottom Third of Midlands LAs by Deprivation



■ Coventry	12.2	15.1	30.5	50.3	98.4
■ Deprived Third	9.1	14.5	27.8	49.1	82.4

Key point

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- This does not necessarily mean that Coventry rates are too high. Other LA rates may be too low.
- Resource implications?
 - Allocation between neighbourhoods.
 - Priorities for work – which children (age, ethnicity) in which areas.
 - Priorities for work – balance of prevention and intervention
 - Prevention: where to focus

Key Findings 2: A Gradient of Inequality

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There is a gradient in rates across levels of deprivation, just as there is a gradient in other outcomes (health, education) for children across the whole of society:

Deprivation is a key factor but CPP and LAC are not found only in areas of high deprivation.

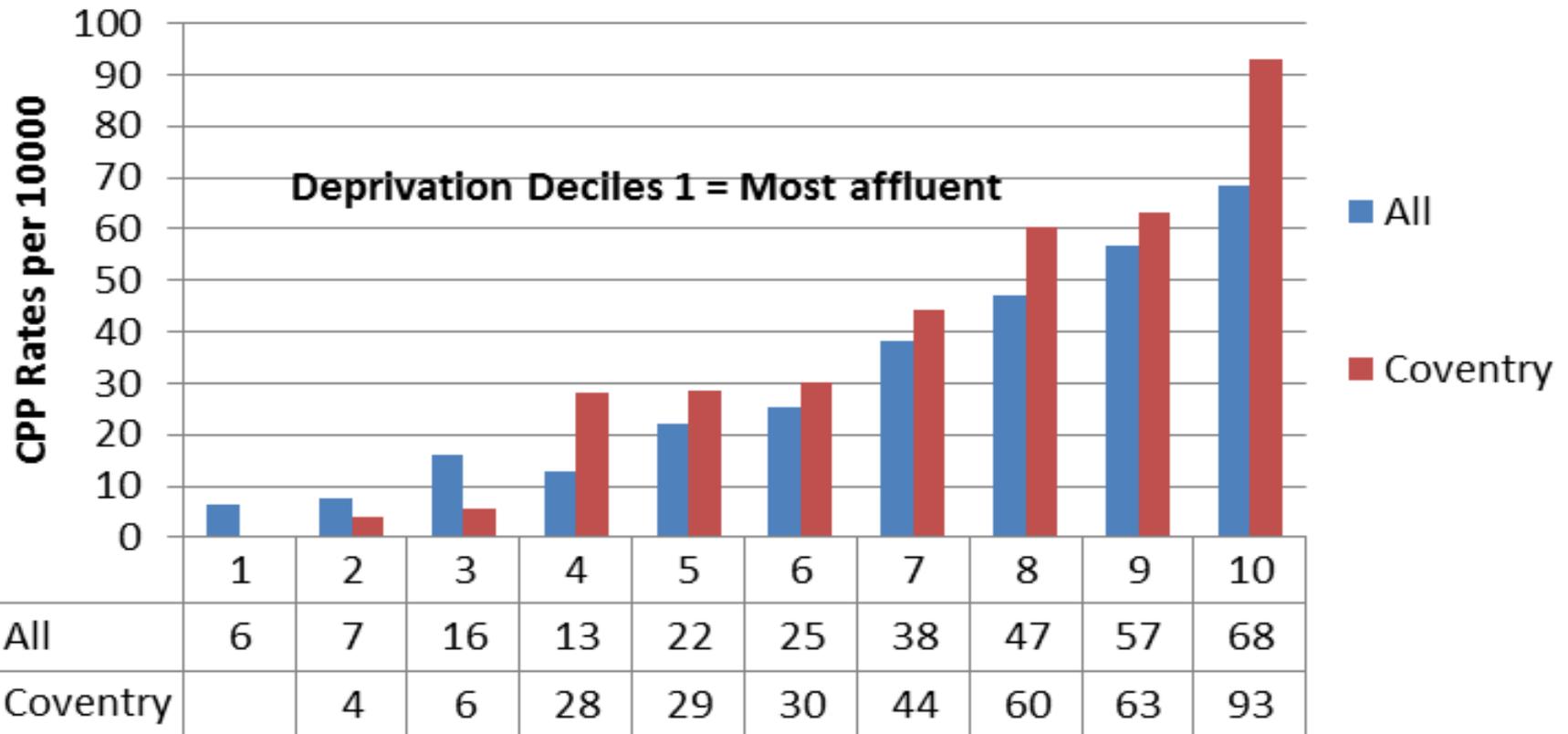
60% of CPP and LAC living in the most deprived 20% of neighbourhoods. 40% of CPP and LAC live in more affluent 80% of neighbourhoods.

In Coventry: 31% of CPP and 27% of LAC come from families living outside the most deprived 20% of neighbourhoods nationally.

Key Findings 2: A Gradient of Inequality

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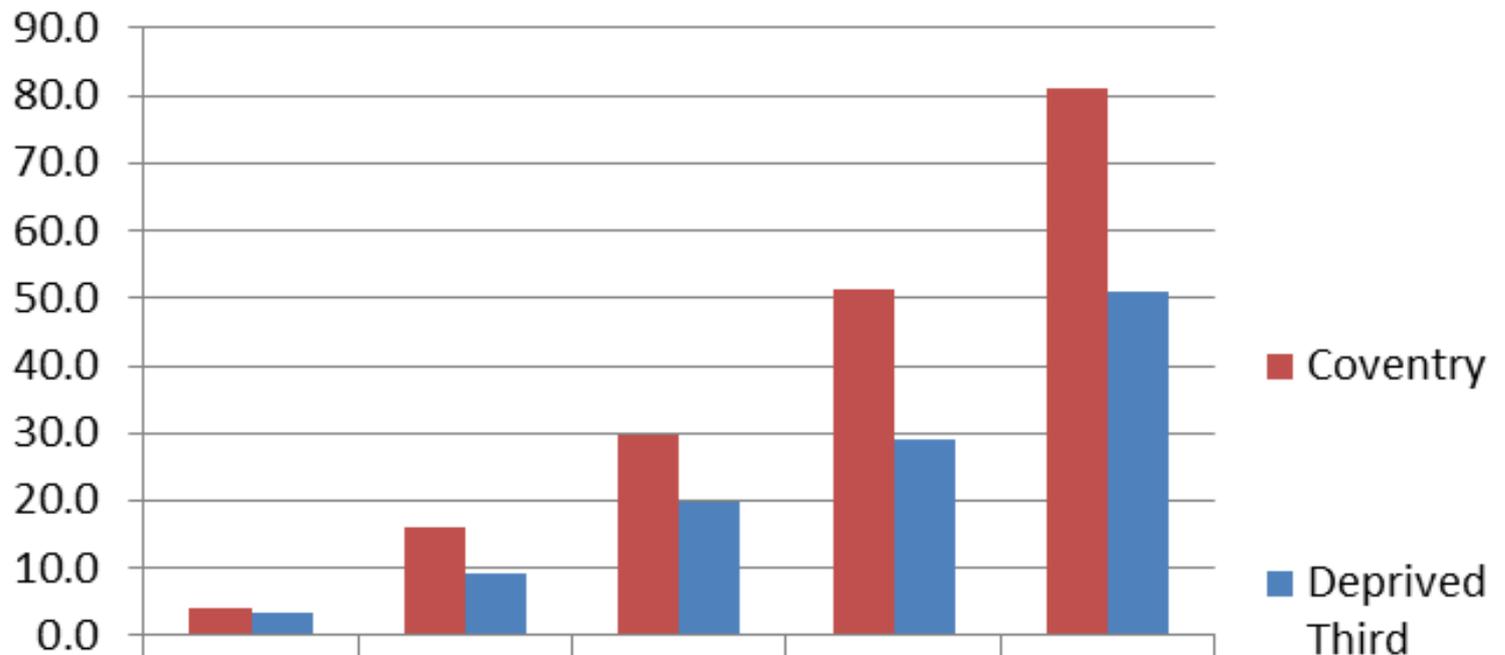
CPP Rates by Deprivation Decile



Coventry Comparison

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CPP Rates: Coventry and Bottom Third by Deprivation



■ Coventry	4.1	16.1	29.8	51.2	80.9
■ Deprived Third	3.3	9.3	19.8	29.1	51.0

Key Findings 2: A Gradient of Inequality

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Child safeguarding is not only about families in poverty.

Reducing inequalities in rates between and within areas is a possible policy objective underpinned by social work's commitment to social justice.

If we could reduce the steepness of the gradient of deprivation or the impact of deprivation on family life, we could reduce the demands on children's services.

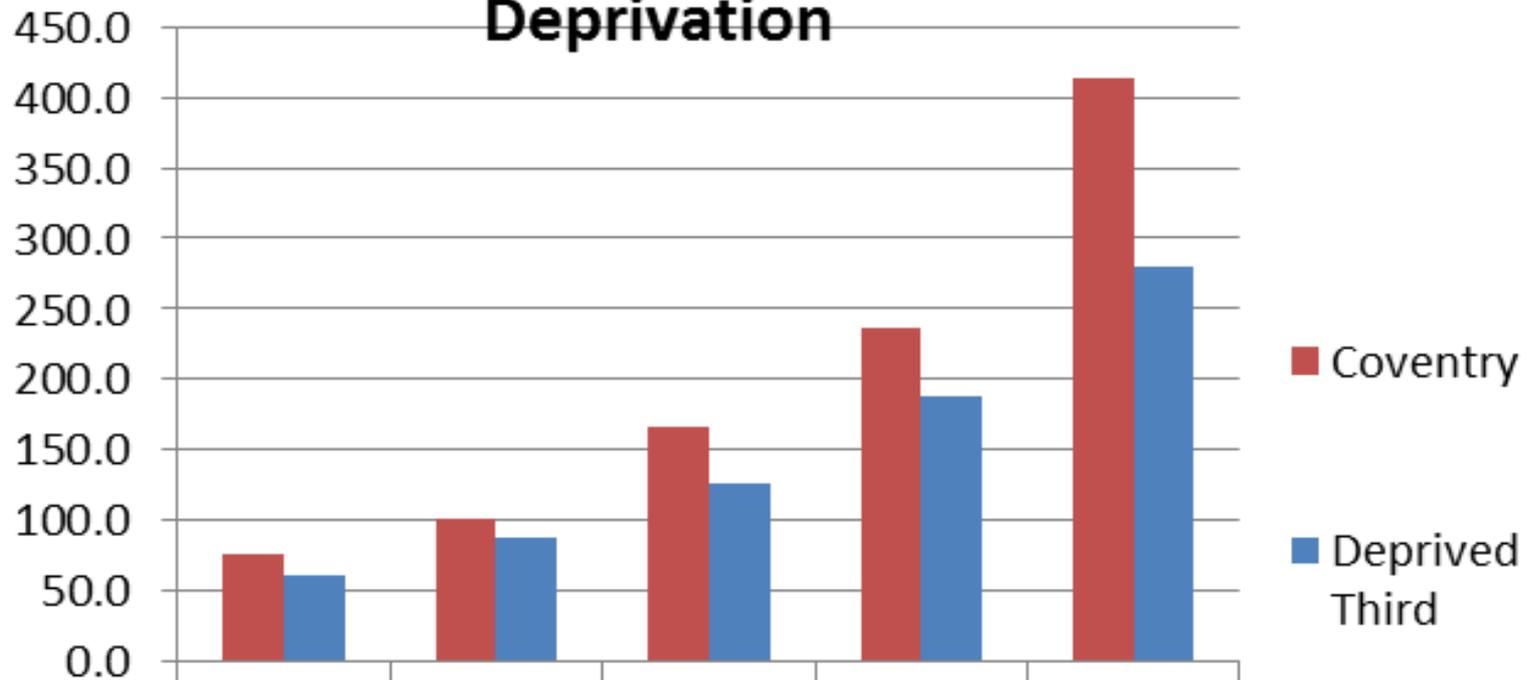
Key points

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- The gradient in Coventry is steeper than for bottom third LAs by deprivation. Each step increase in deprivation has greater impact on intervention rates.
- This does not necessarily mean that Coventry rates are too high. Other LA rates may be too low.
- Coventry CPP rates are higher than the bottom third LAs at every level of deprivation.
- The difference between Coventry and these other LAs is greater for CPP than for LAC.

CIN Rates

CIN Rates: Coventry and Bottom Third by Deprivation



■ Coventry	77.0	100.6	165.7	236.9	414.1
■ Deprived Third	61.2	87.5	126.5	188.9	279.9

Key Findings 3: An Inverse Intervention Law

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Overall a child's chances of an extreme child welfare intervention is much greater at higher levels of deprivation, but **for a given level of deprivation a child in a more affluent local authority is more likely to be on a CPP or to be a looked after child.**

Key Findings 3: An Inverse Intervention Law

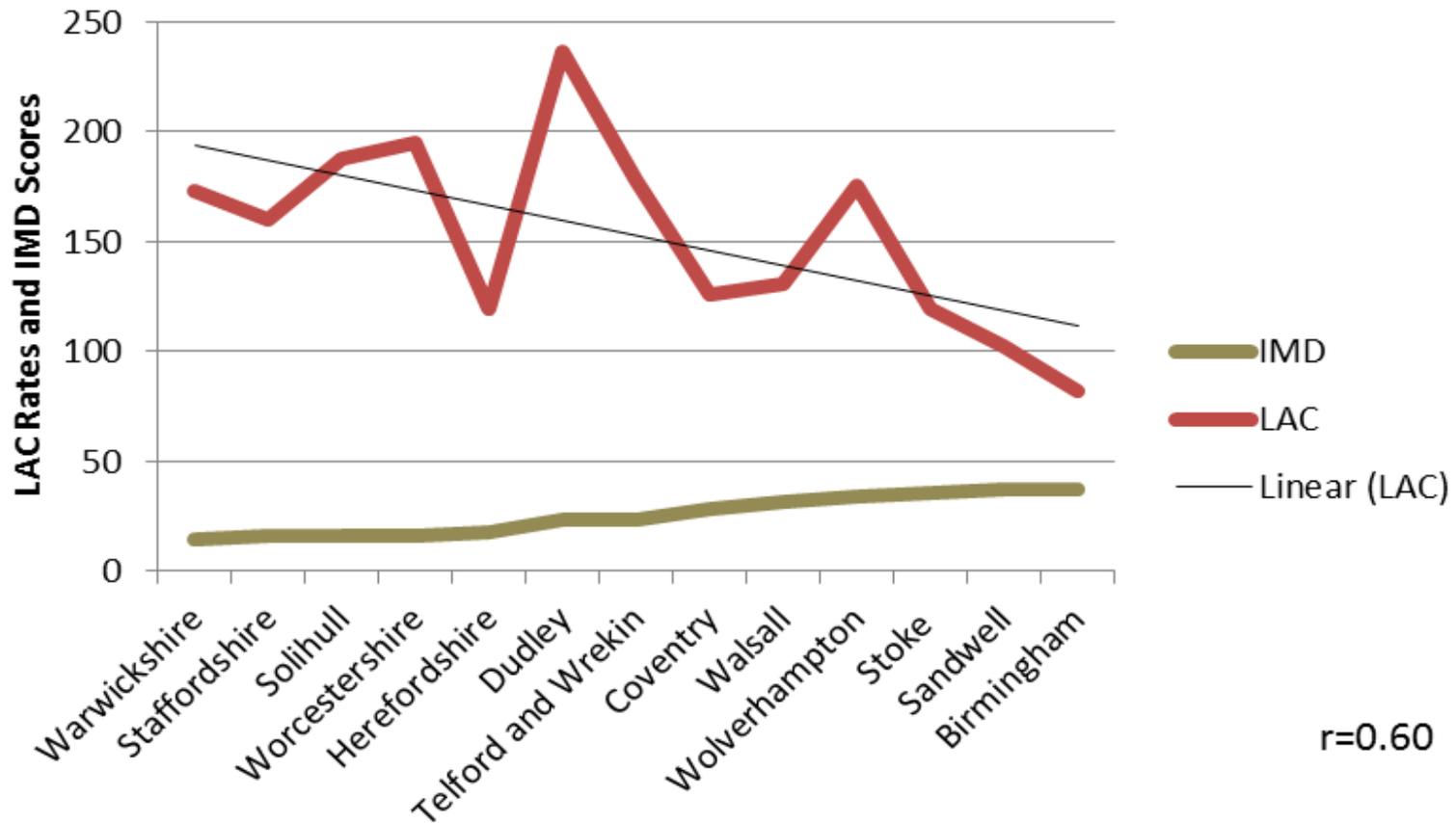
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LA	IMD score	Decile 10	CPP Rate in Overall CPP Rate
Herefordshire	17.91	238.1	42.2
Sandwell	36.97	50.2	41.9
Warwickshire	14.77	213.1	46.9
Coventry	28.44	93.2	53.5

Key Findings 3: An Inverse Intervention Law

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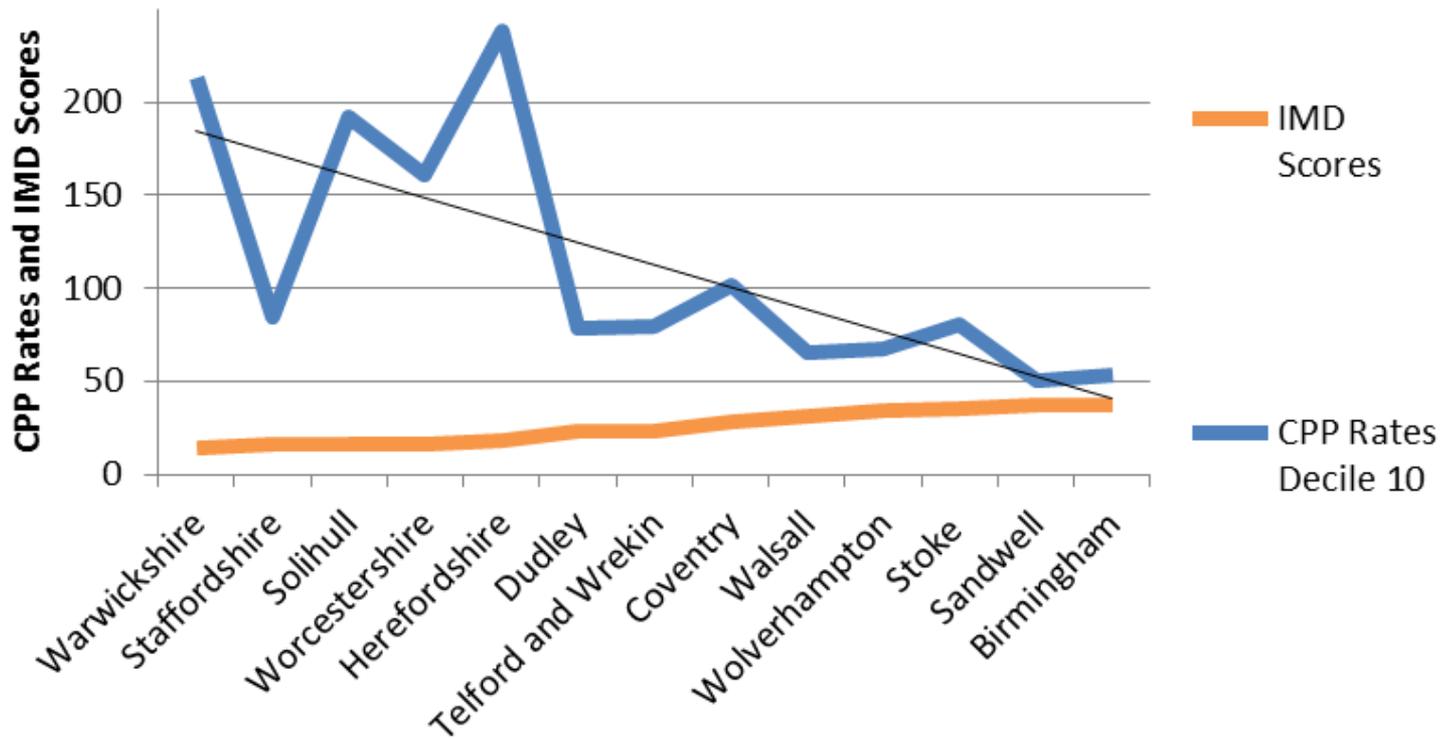
LAC rates in most deprived decile of neighbourhoods by overall deprivation (IMD) Score



Key Findings 3: An Inverse Intervention Law

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CPP Rates in the most deprived decile of neighbourhoods by overall deprivation (IMD) score.



Key point

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- We don't know why this inverse relationship exists.
- Dudley and Telford have high rates for the level of deprivation. Is it possible that Coventry (IMD Score 28) is closer to Dudley and Telford (IMD score 23) in structure, than the other more deprived midlands LAs with scores over 31?

Key Finding 4: Inequalities by Ethnicity

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children from black and mixed heritage backgrounds are over-represented among children who are looked after and Asian children tend to be under-represented (Owen and Statham 2009)

CIN, CPP and LAC Rates per 10,000 Children at 31.3.12 (Midlands Sample).

	White	Mixed	Asian	Black	Other	All
CIN	253.7	351.5	109.4	226.7	298.9	235.8
CPP	39.5	62.9	21.6	34.1	37.7	37.7
LAC	64.4	122.7	17.7	71.9	51.6	60.5

Key Finding 4: Inequalities by Ethnicity

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Population 0-17 by Ethnic Group in Deprivation Quintiles 4 and 5 (%)

Quintile	Deprived Third		Coventry	
	4	5	4	5
White	22.8	54.8	15.5	38.4
Mixed	18.2	68.4	16.9	52.7
Asian	13.5	74.6	16.9	53.1
Black	11.9	81.1	11.8	75.2

Child population 0-4, deprivation and ethnicity

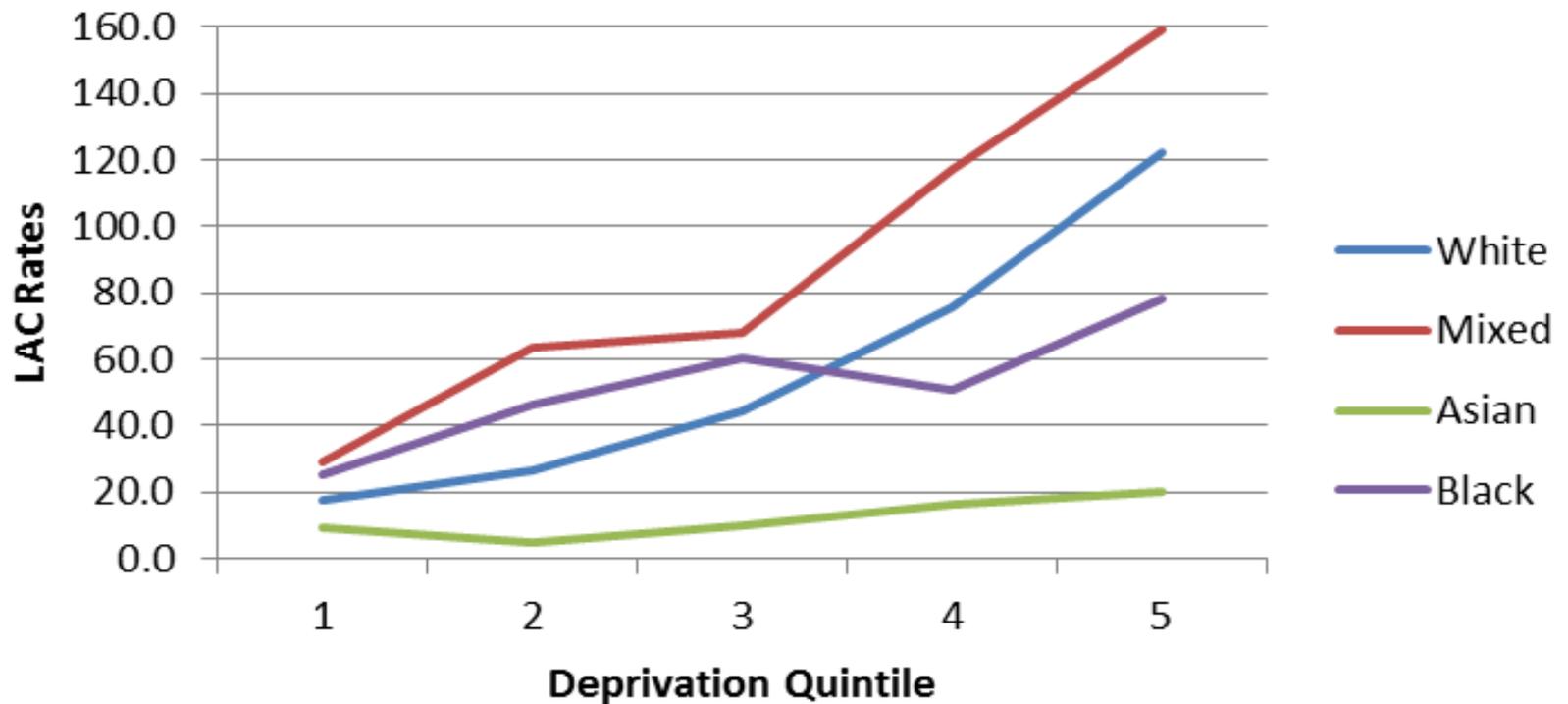
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IMD Quintile		%						
Pop 0-4	W	M	A	B	O			
1	73.2	3.6	18.9	0.8	3.4		100.0	
2	76.9	4.9	15.1	1.9	1.2		100.0	
3	73.6	6.2	14.3	4.8	1.1		100.0	
4	62.9	8.0	20.3	7.3	1.5		100.0	
5	53.0	7.6	20.4	16.0	2.9		100.0	

Key Finding 4: Inequalities by Ethnicity

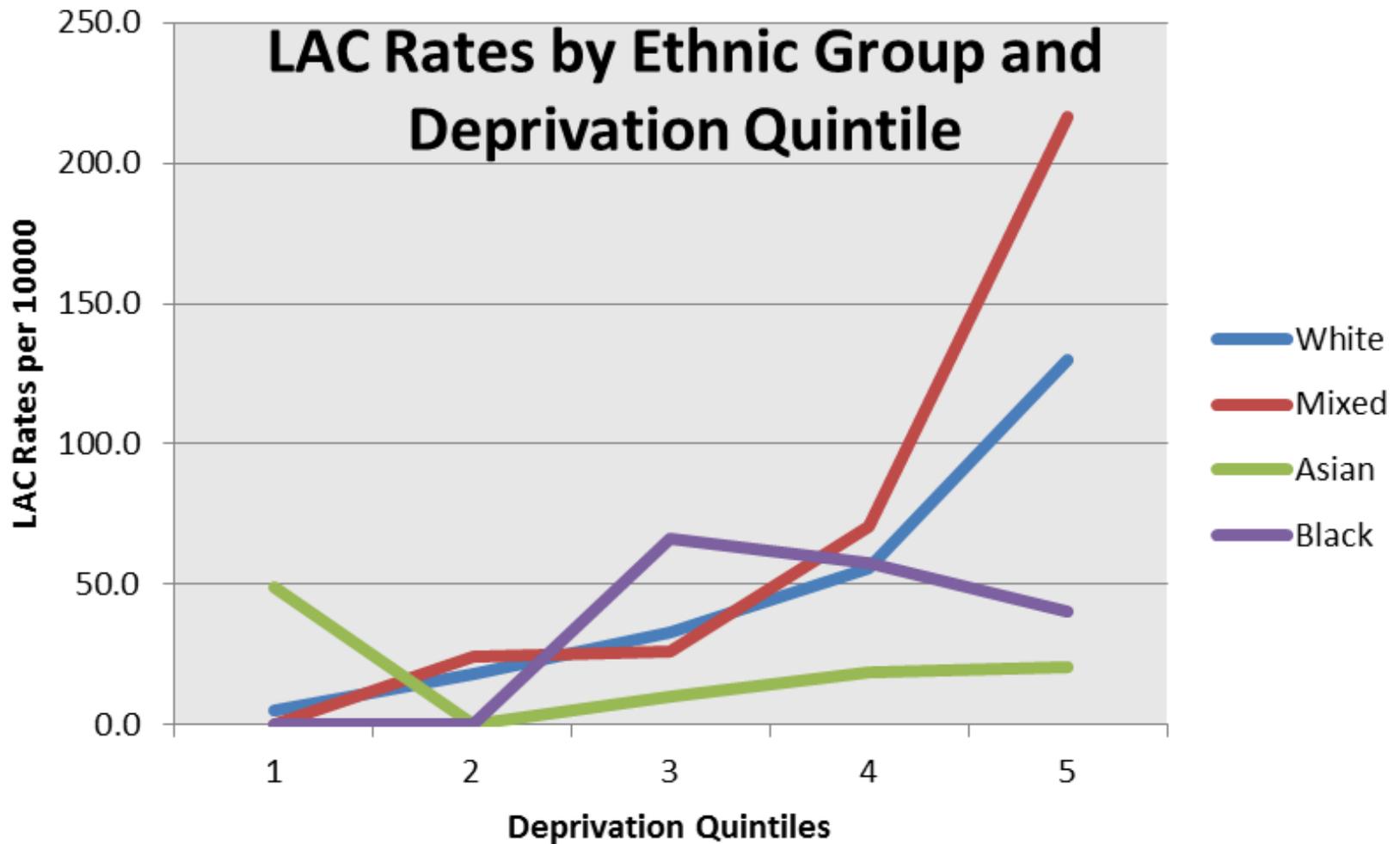
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Chart 3: LAC Rates by ethnic group and deprivation quintile



Inequalities by Ethnicity: Coventry

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LAC Numbers and Ethnicity: Coventry

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	White	Mixed	Asian	Black	Other	
LAC						
Number	323	56	22	26	7	434
Percent	74.4	12.9	5.1	6.0	1.6	100.0
Child Population						
Number	46145	4198	12844	5905	1333	70425
Percent	65.5	6.0	18.2	8.4	1.9	100

Coventry CPP Rates by deprivation and ethnicity

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CPP Rates	White	Mixed	Asian	Black
1	5.3	0.0	0.0	0.0
2	16.6	24.0	0.0	139.9
3	21.6	104.8	44.4	0.0
4	58.6	84.6	23.1	0.0
5	108.5	117.3	22.0	56.3
	59.2	97.7	22.6	45.7
N =	273	41	29	27

Coventry LAC Rates by deprivation and ethnicity

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LAC Rates	White	Mixed	Asian	Black
1	5.3	0.0	48.8	0.0
2	17.9	24.0	0.0	0.0
3	32.9	26.2	9.9	66.6
4	55.8	70.5	18.5	57.4
5	130.0	216.6	20.5	40.5
	70.0	133.4	17.1	44.0
N =	323	56	22	26

Actual/Expected CPP: Coventry and Deprived Third

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Excess	CPP	Numbers					5	ALL
		1	2	3	4			
White	0	6	4	20	71	101		
Mixed	0	0	3	3	10	16		
Asian	0	0	7	1	-2	6		
Black	0	1	0	-2	10	9		
Other	0	0	2	2	-2	3		
All	0	7	16	24	86	134		

Actual/Expected LAC: Coventry and Deprived Third

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Excess	1	2	3	4	5	ALL	
White	0	2	2	1	29	34	
Mixed	0	-1	-2	-2	15	11	
Asian	1	0	1	2	0	3	
Black	0	0	0	0	-17	-17	
Other	0	0	0	1	1	2	
All	1	1	1	2	28	33	

Actual/Expected CIN: Coventry and Deprived Third

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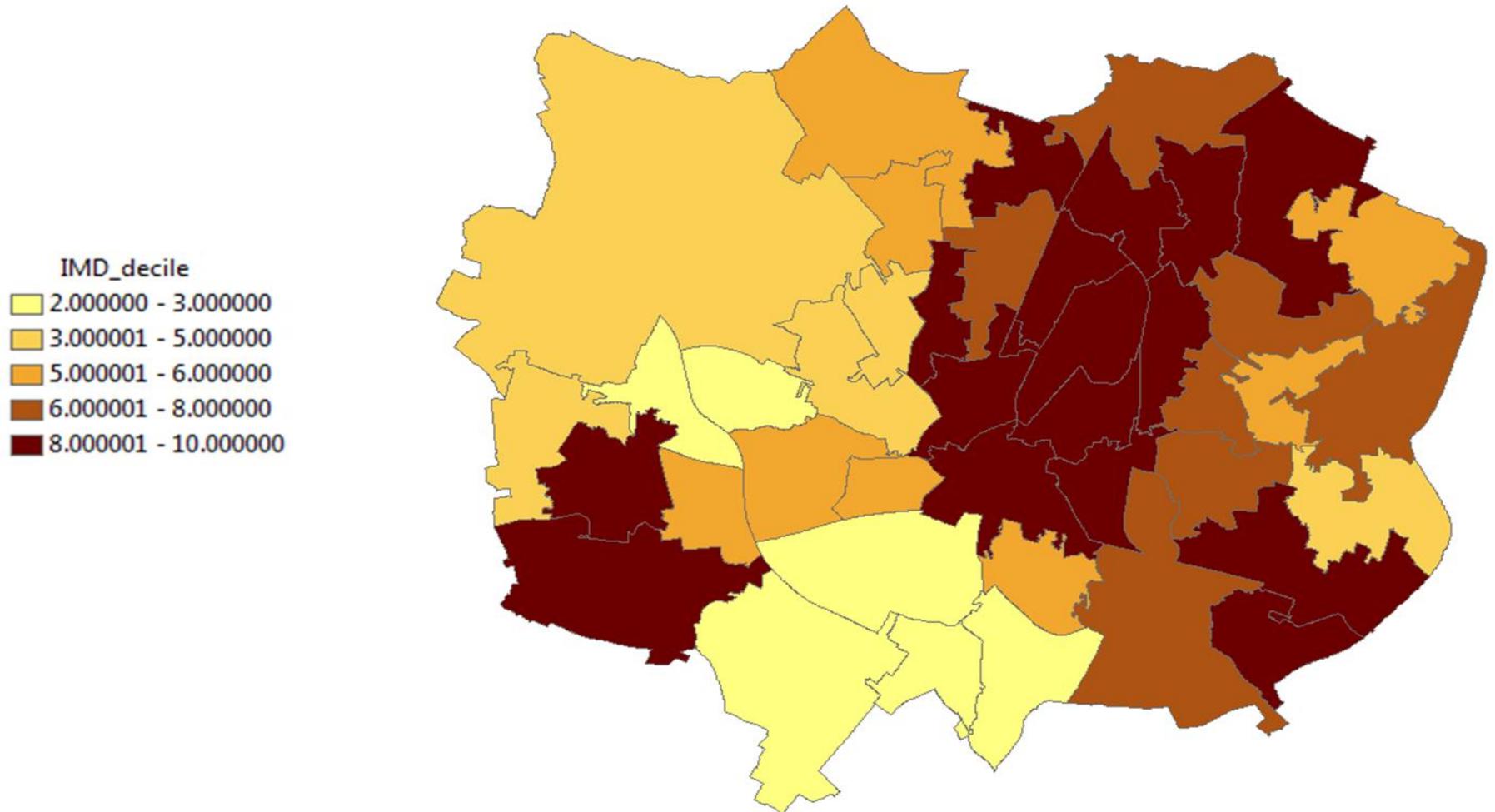
	1	2	3	4	5	ALL
White	1	11	44	41	251	349
Mixed	1	0	0	2	76	79
Asian	3	1	4	5	41	53
Black	0	2	-1	5	-9	-3
Other	0	0	4	1	4	8
All	4	14	51	54	363	486

Key Points

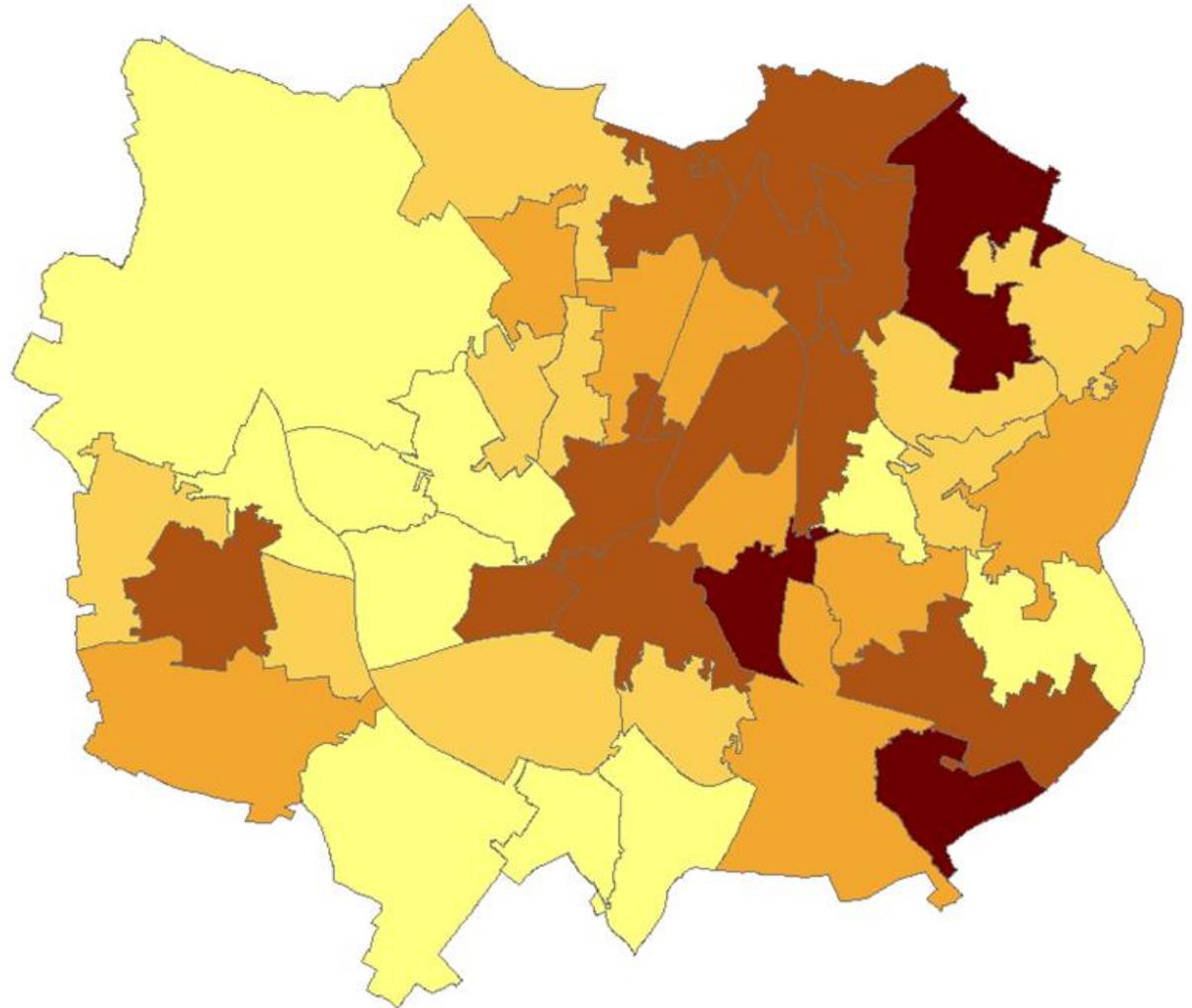
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- This does not necessarily mean that Coventry rates are too high. Other LA rates may be too low.
- ‘Excess’ in CPP greater than LAC
- ‘Excess’ greater than expected for White children:
80% of excess White; 73% of CPP +LAC White
- Could identify ‘excess’ at neighbourhood level

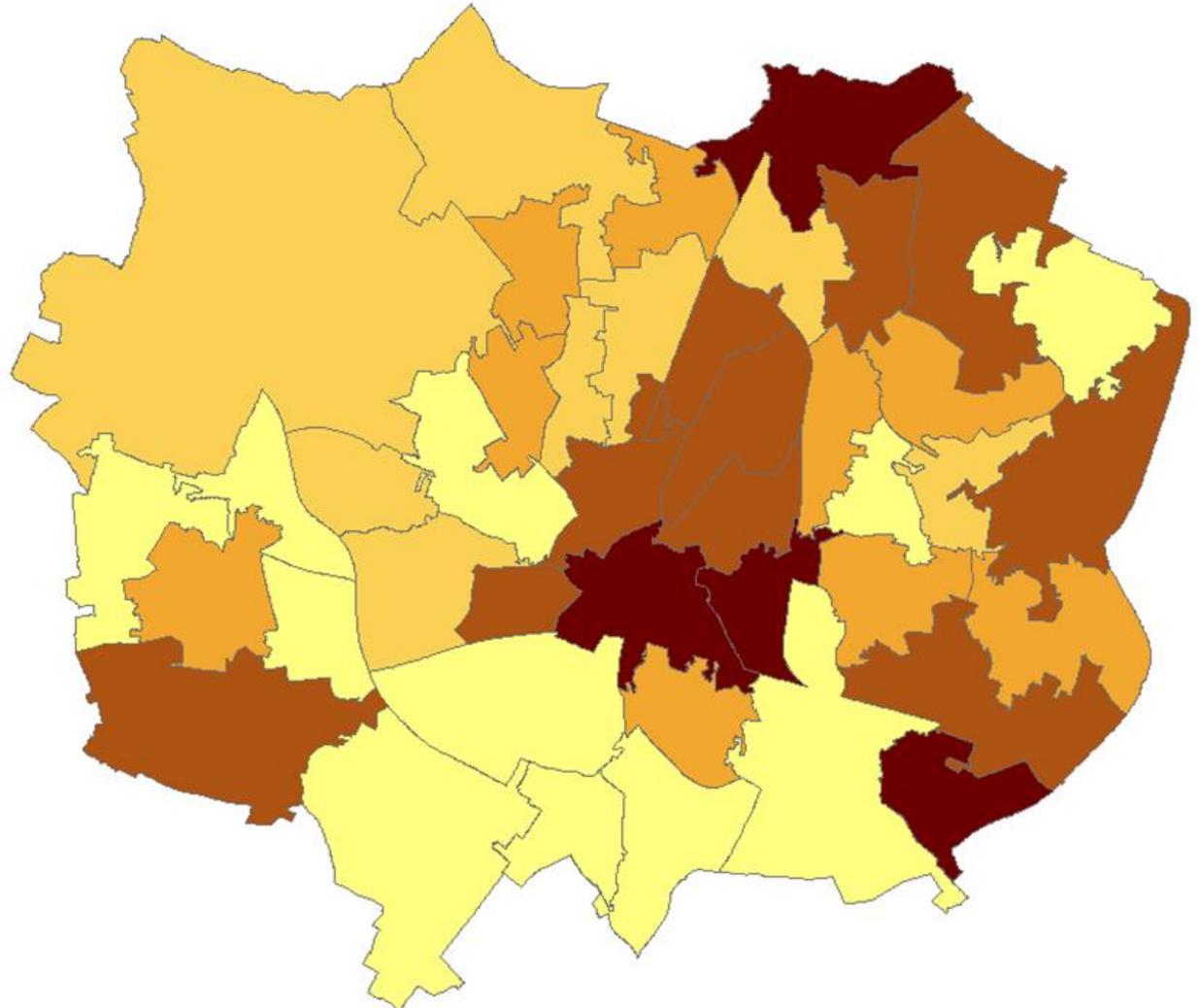
Coventry Deprivation Scores (MSOA)



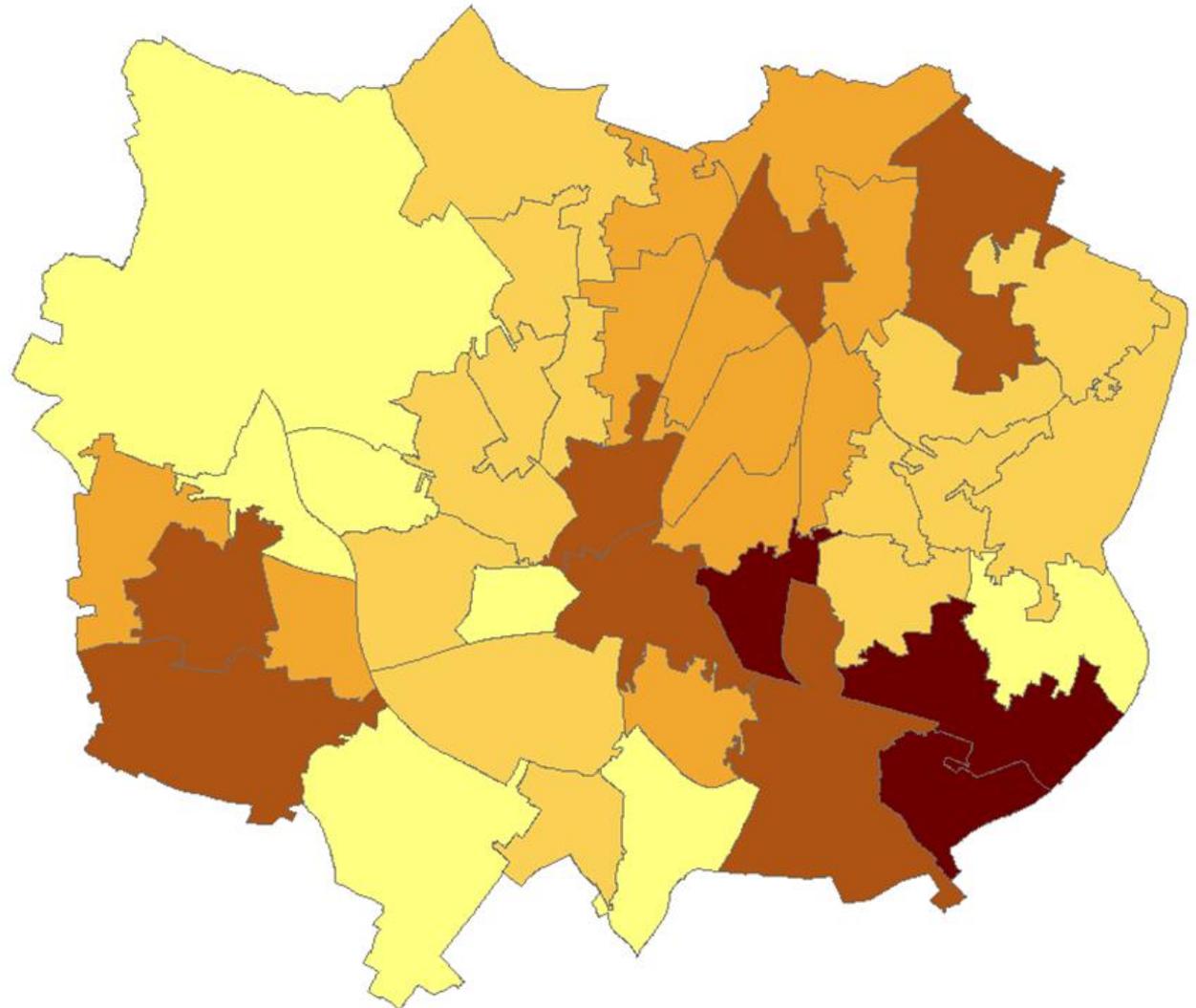
Coventry CIN Rates (MSOA)



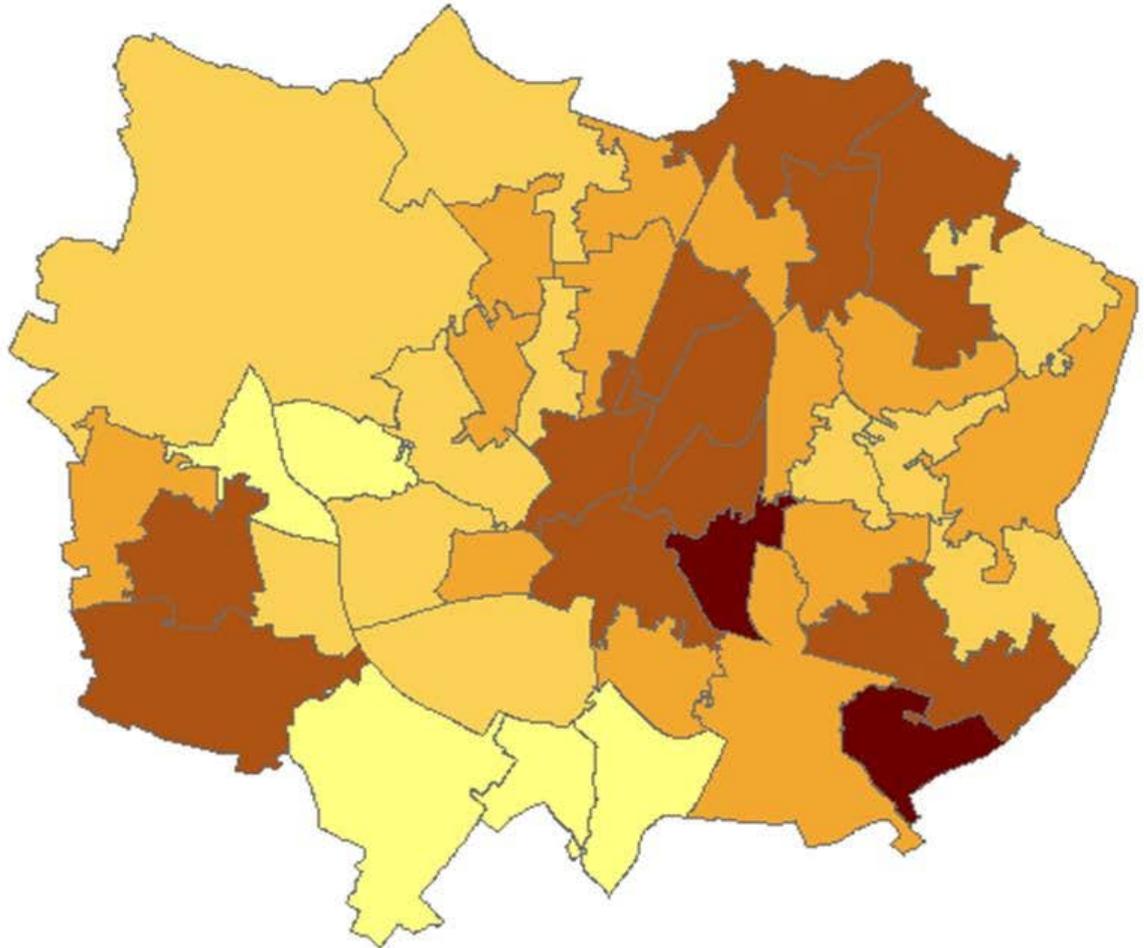
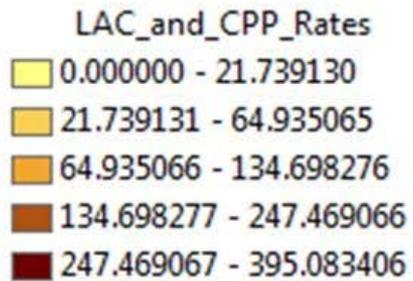
Coventry CPP Rates (MSOA)



Coventry LAC Rates (MSOA)



Coventry CPP + LAC Rates (MSOA)



Acknowledgements

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For further details:

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'Child Welfare Inequalities: new evidence, further questions', Child and Family Social Work

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