

Isle of Wight Joint Strategic Needs Assessment: Core Dataset**2009**

Domain: Lifestyle and Risk Factors
 Sub-Domain: Other
 Sub-sub- Domain: Obesity

Indicator: Obesity among Primary School Age Children in Reception Year
 Indicator References: National Indicator 55 / Vital Sign VSB09
 Data Source: National Child Measurement Programme (NCMP)
 Indicator definition: [see below](#)

% of Eligible Reception Year Children Measured (Coverage)

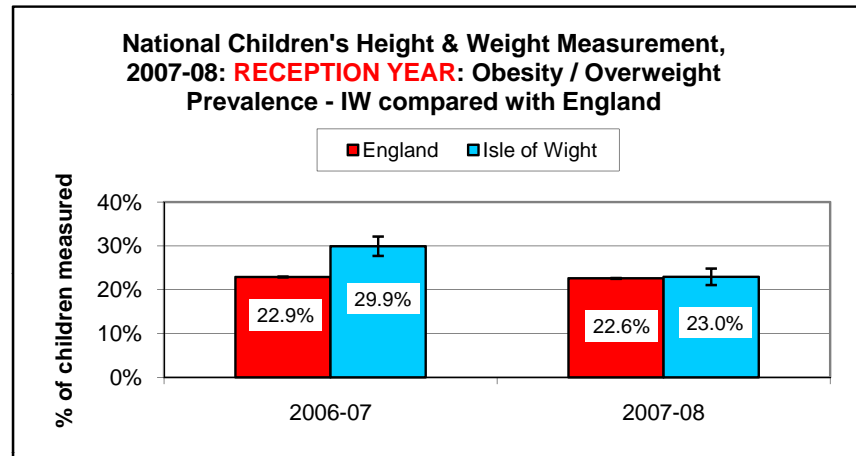
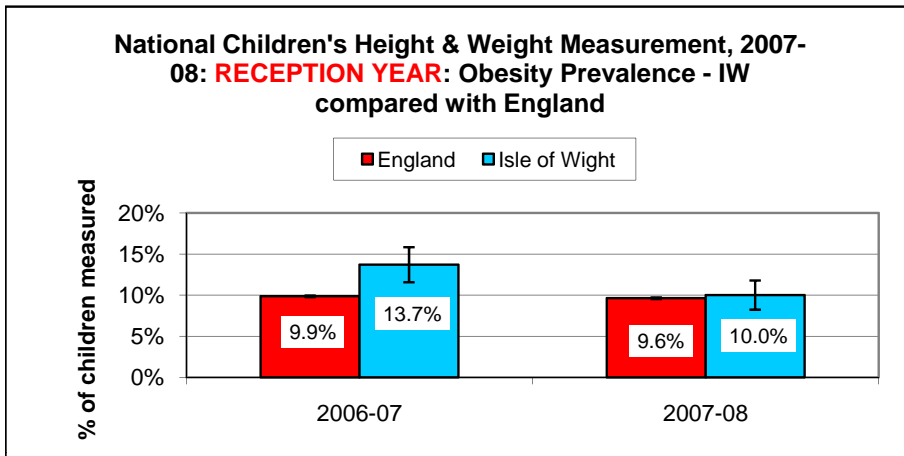
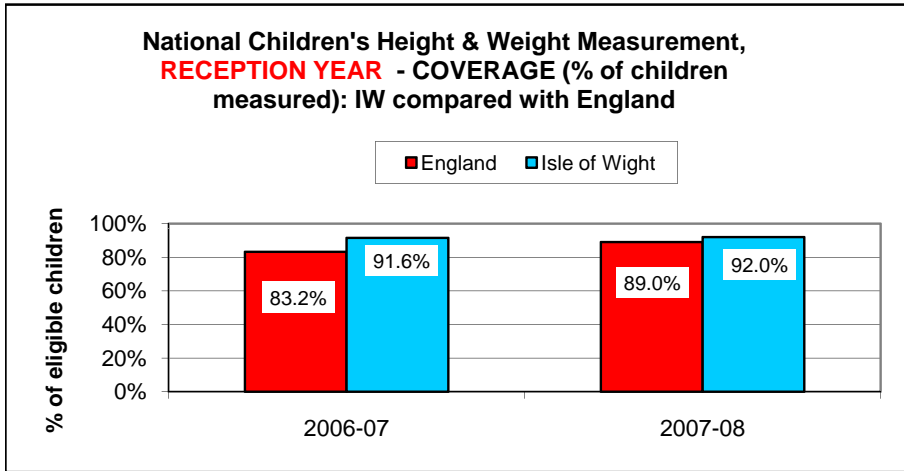
	2006-07	2007-08
England	83.2%	89.0%
Isle of Wight	91.6%	92.0%

Prevalence of Obesity among Reception Year Children Measured

	2006-07	2007-08
England	9.9%	9.6%
Isle of Wight	13.7%	10.0%

Prevalence of Obesity / Overweight among Reception Year Children Measured

	2006-07	2007-08
England	22.9%	22.6%
Isle of Wight	29.9%	23.0%



COMMENTARY

The National Child Measurement Programme (NCMP) weighs and measures children in Reception (4 -5 years) and Year 6 (aged 10 – 11 years) to gather population-level data to allow analysis of trends in growth patterns and obesity; assess overweight and obese levels in order to inform local planning and delivery of services for children; and be a vehicle for engaging with children and families about healthy lifestyles and weight issues. The measurement process is overseen by trained healthcare professionals in schools; data is collected and checked by Primary Care Trusts (PCTs) and submitted to the NCMP. 2 years' worth of measurement data (2006-07 and 2007-08) are now available for the Isle of Wight.

The chart **above, left** shows the % of Reception children measured (coverage) compared with England for both years in which children on the Island have been measured. The IW has had a higher coverage rate of Reception Year children in both years.

The chart **below, left** compares the IW's measured Reception Year obesity prevalence with England's in both years in which children on the Island have been measured. In 2006-07 the IW's prevalence was significantly higher than England's and among the highest in the country. In 2007-08 the IW's prevalence fell and was closer to the England average. However the IW's confidence intervals for these 2 periods overlap and so the difference between these 2 periods is unlikely to be statistically significant. With the relatively small size of the Island's year groups (e.g. there were 1,194 Reception Year children eligible for measurement in 2007-08), the prevalence will naturally vary from year to year.

The chart **below, right** compares the IW's measured Reception Year prevalence of obesity / overweight with England's in both years in which children on the Island have been measured. In 2006-07, the IW's prevalence was significantly higher than England's and among the highest in the country. In 2007-08 the IW's prevalence fell and was closer to the England average. The IW's confidence intervals for these 2 periods do not overlap and so the difference between these 2 periods could be statistically significant.

INDICATOR DEFINITION

Indicator:	Obesity among Primary School Age Children in Reception Year
Definitions:	<p>% of Children Measured who are Obese.</p> <p>NB: since children's height and weight change at different rates at different ages, it is not possible to use simple BMI cut-off points, as used with adults, to decide whether they are overweight or obese. Instead there is a specific BMI threshold for obesity, and for overweight but not obese, which varies according to a child's gender and age. Children whose BMI falls above the obesity, or overweight but not obese, threshold for their gender and age will be categorised accordingly. The thresholds are derived from a major study of children in 1990.</p>
Numerator (number of people or events)	<p>The number of children whose BMI exceeds the obesity threshold for their gender and age.</p> <p>The number of children whose BMI exceeds the threshold for obesity / overweight for their age.</p>
Denominator (total population or events)	<p>Resident Population of the specified area in the specified time period.</p> <p>Children in Reception Year whose height and weight have been measured for the NCMP.</p>
Geographic Coverage	Primary Care Trust
Time period	2006-07 and 2007-08 academic years
Data Source(s)	<p>National Child Measurement Programme</p> <p>http://www.ic.nhs.uk/ncmp</p>
Significance for Health	<p>Higher obesity rates indicate worse health.</p> <p>Lower obesity rates indicate better health.</p>
Factors that might affect the Accuracy of this Indicator	The accuracy of the obesity prevalence rates derived from this data depends on the percentage of children measured. There has been some evidence nationally that lower measurement rates are associated with lower measured rates of obesity, as children who are obese are more likely to opt-out, or be opted out by their parents, of the measurement.