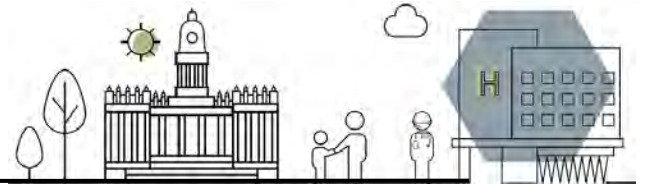
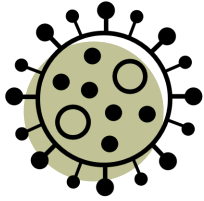


# The Coronavirus in Leeds

## 2020-2022

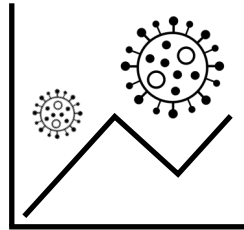


March 2020 - September 2022



**291,635 Total Cases**

28th Feb 2020 - 8 Sept 2022



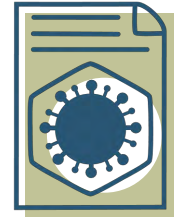
**3,651 Cases**

Highest number of cases recorded in one day (2nd January 2022)



**603,936 Vaccinated**

71.5% of Leeds GP Registered Population have received at least 1 dose of the Covid-19 Vaccine

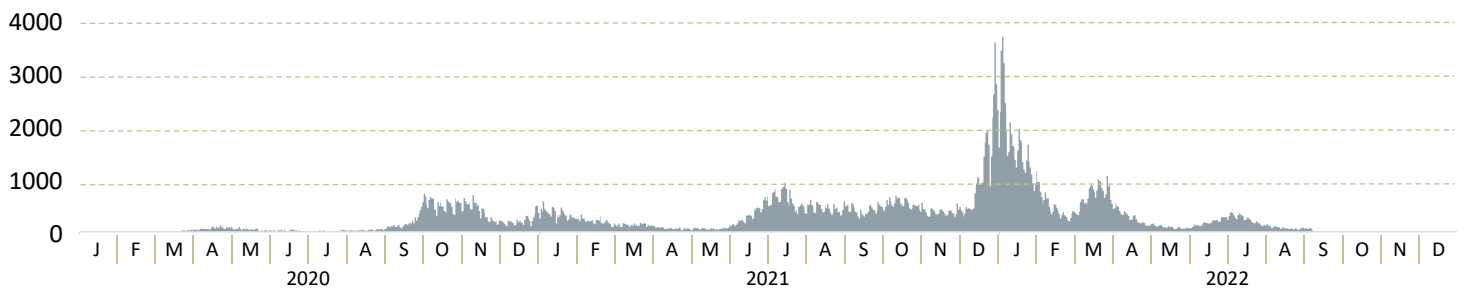


**2,253 Registered Deaths**

in total that mention Covid-19. (8th September 2022)

## Number of daily recorded cases in Leeds

...by specimen date



## An overview for Leeds

This Dashboard aims to provide a retrospective look back where data is still available. The first case of Covid-19 in Leeds was officially recorded on the 28 February 2020, four weeks after the first case had been recorded within the United Kingdom. By the end of March the recorded cases had increased to 236, and then increased seven-fold to 1,720 total cases by the 30th April 2020. Tragically, Covid-19 related deaths recorded in Leeds followed a similar increase during the early months of the pandemic, reaching 37 by the end of March, and peaking at a 404 by the end of April.

The everyday bustle of the city halted almost overnight, with footfall in the city centre dropping to 10% normal levels through March and April 2020, and vehicular traffic was recorded at 40% in comparison to 2019's traffic data. The city's economy was also starting to feel the effects of the pandemic, as small and large companies struggled to stay afloat, Leeds saw increases in the number of people claiming unemployment related benefits, with the number of claimants doubling from 18,000 to almost 37,000 in the first half of 2022. Leeds recovered from the primary economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic generally faster than many of our

neighbours, but like everywhere else the city is currently being impacted by the cost-of-living crisis, not only in terms of the challenges to households, particularly those on the lowest incomes, but also the further pressure it applies to wider public service provision, including the voluntary, community and faith sectors in terms of increased demand and costs.

Authentic and collaborative partnerships were the foundations of the city's approach to the crisis, and this shone through our collective response to Covid-19, with businesses, organisations and local citizen groups stepping up to do what they could in support of local communities.

Multiple measures were implemented to aid the people in the city, including moving some public facing services and teaching online where possible and with the strong support of partners creating distribution networks of food, aid, medicines, PPE and more. This 'Team Leeds' approach has been a positive legacy.

## Health and Social Care Impact & Recovery

### Health Summary

#### Infection Rates

The latest available 7 day average (3rd Sept) for the overall Leeds case rate is at 48.10 per 100,000, with England recording rates of 44.0 per 100,000.

It should be noted however that since the lifting of all restrictions in early 2022, the proportion of people who official report a current infection is likely to be lower, and may cause the lower figures.

At the height of the Covid-19 pandemic this figure was recorded in excess of 650 infections per 100,000 people in Leeds.

#### Vaccinations

Vaccination figures, released by the Department of Health, records that as of 8th September a total of 603,946 Leeds residents have received at least one dose of the Covid-19 vaccination. Of the 603,946 people mentioned above, 447,936 (74.2%) have now received a booster/3rd dose.

Geographically there is a higher prevalence of vaccine take up within residents living in the outer Leeds area, this is consistent with these areas having older populations than the demographically younger inner city areas

#### Covid-19 Hospital Admissions

Over the last 4 weeks, an average of 386 new cases have been recorded per week in Leeds, with less than 15% requiring hospital admittance.

As of the 9th September there were 48 cases recorded within 8 care homes in Leeds.

#### Registered Deaths in Leeds

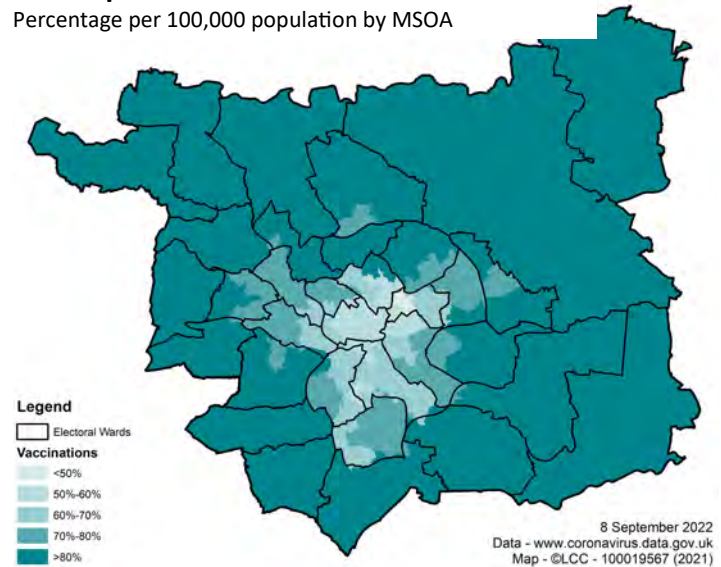
Between 2015 and 2019, Leeds recorded an average of 6842 deaths per year. In 2020 that number rose to 7499, and 7182 in 2021, this equated to over 650 and 340 excess deaths in each of these years.

However, the number of recorded deaths where Covid-19 is mentioned on the death certificate was 1,215 in 2020, and 772 for 2021, The difference could be explained through a reduced number of deaths from Road Traffic Accidents, Seasonal Flu Cases and other causes that were impacted by the national lockdowns and social distancing measures introduced by the UK Government.

As of the 9th September, the last recorded Covid-19 related death in Leeds occurred on 31st August

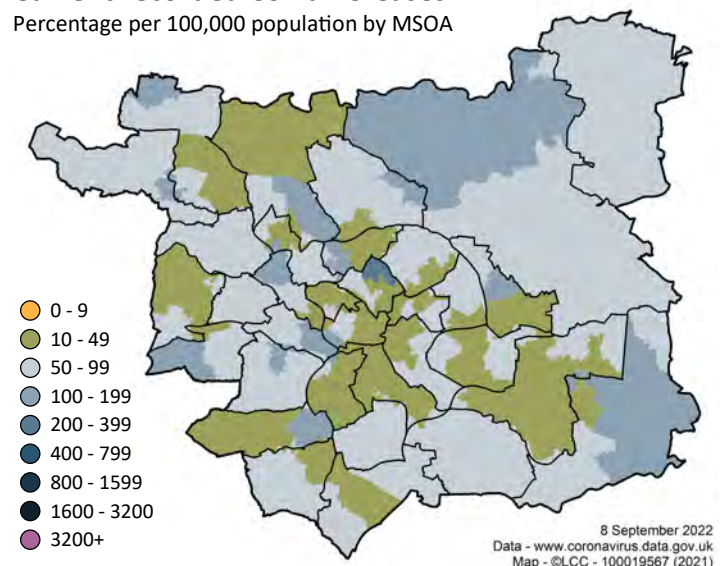
### All People Vaccinated with at least 1 Dose

Percentage per 100,000 population by MSOA

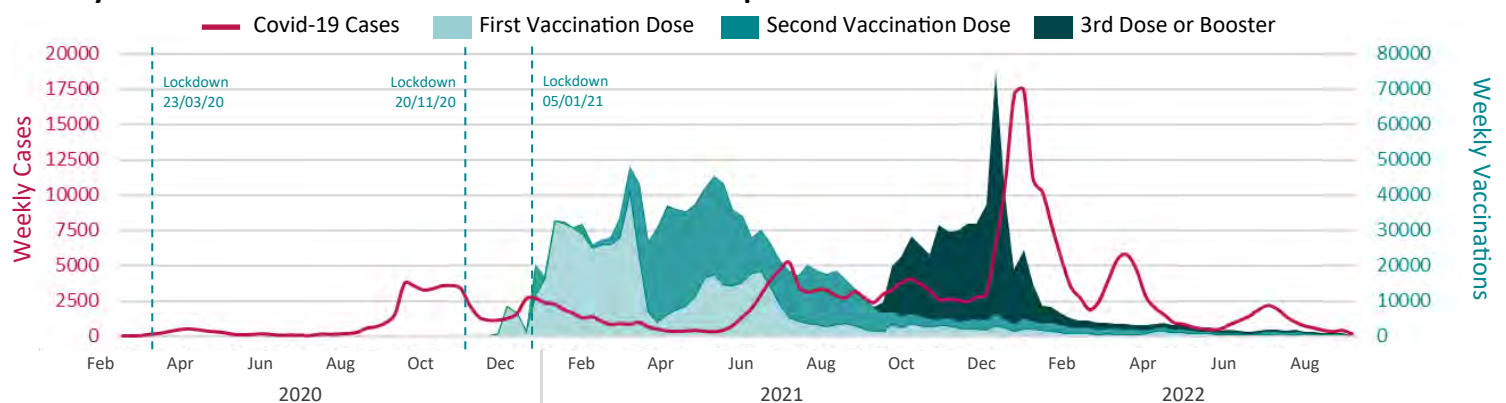


### Current recorded Covid-19 Cases

Percentage per 100,000 population by MSOA



### Weekly Covid-19 Cases & Vaccinations - Mar 2020 to Sep 2022



## Citizens and Community

### Crime Overview

The total volume of crime recorded during the pandemic was higher than in 2019 baselines, volume increases are associated with Public Order and Violence against the Person offending and can be attributed to the additional measures introduced during National lockdowns and Covid-19 restrictions

Domestic Violence and Abuse incidents recorded during the pandemic showed an increase, particularly around the periods of national lockdowns and in July 2022 the highest monthly volume to date was recorded.

### Education

An initial analysis of attendance and absence in Leeds, derived from local data from 199 of 221 primary schools and 42 of 46 secondary schools in the city, suggests that school attendance across all phases continues to be lower than before COVID-19. At the end of the 2021/22 academic year, primary school attendance was 93.1% , compared to 96% in 2018/19, though initial indications suggest that Leeds attendance is higher than national for 2021/22. Of the 6.9% absence rate, 4.1% was authorised and 2% was unauthorised, an increase from 2.6% authorised and 1.5% unauthorised in 2018/19 academic year.

Secondary school attendance was 89.6% in 2021/22, compared to 94.2% in 2018/19, with initial indications suggesting this is broadly in line with national attendance in 2021/22. The 10.4% absence rate comprised of 5% authorised and 4.4% unauthorised absence, an increase from 3.1% authorised and 2.7% unauthorised in 2018/19.

### Food Aid & Community Support

Leeds achieved a strong response to the challenges of food insecurity during the lockdowns / restrictions that followed from the outbreak of the Coronavirus Pandemic. This was achieved through establishing citywide delivery schemes early in the pandemic alongside the creation of a citywide hub model connected to a large central warehouse.

As the Pandemic progressed the service needed to change and adapt to issues it faced, firstly there was more of a need to deliver food directly to people's accommodation, secondly much of the purchasing of food in 2020 was focused on resourcing the Council and Food Distributors. When the third lockdown occurred financial resources started to be distributed more directly to food aid providers in order to resource their infrastructure and to help them purchase food.

Leeds is now in the process of developing new collaborative ways forward to support people in a state of food poverty for the current cost of living crisis.

## Infrastructure

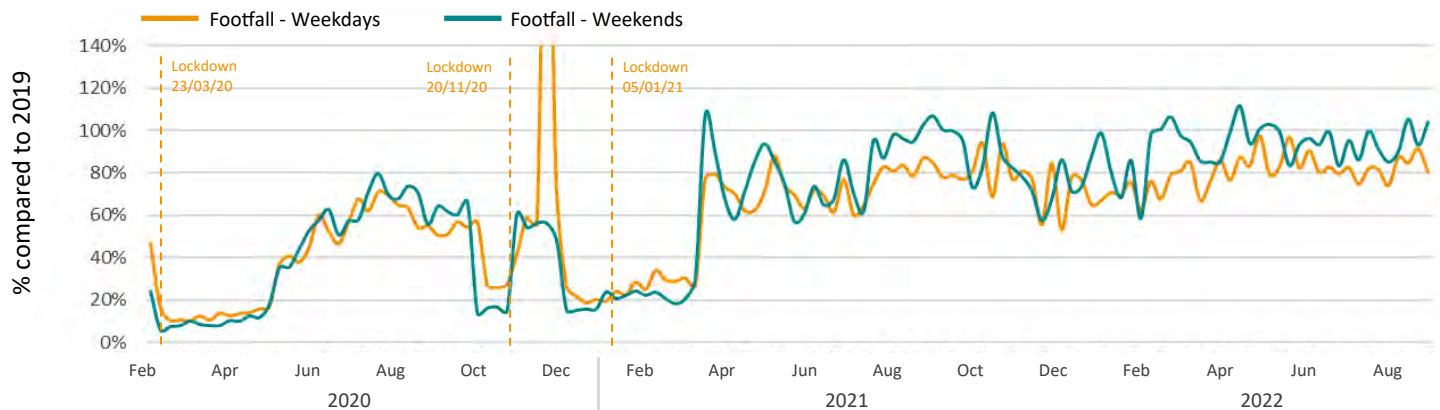
### City Centre Footfall

We have seen a steady increase in footfall since the easing of restrictions from early 2021 onwards, this positive trend has continued over the last six months increasing from around 70% to around 80% of pre pandemic levels. Weekend footfall has been higher, often matching or higher than pre pandemic levels. Interestingly, total night time footfall reached pre-pandemic levels in April 2022 and has continued to exceed these levels in each month since.

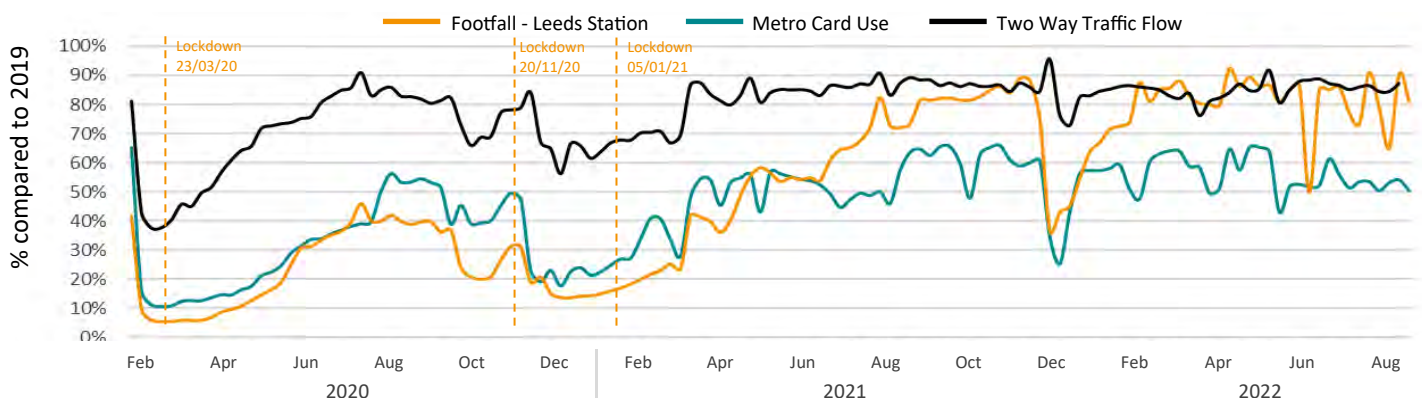
### Transport links

The most recent 'travel to workplaces' data for June and July 2022 (outside of the influence of school holidays), show levels at 76% of pre-pandemic baselines, building on a gradual increase since the start of the year, with bus passenger volumes peaking at just under 80% of pre-pandemic levels in mid-June, before the effects of summer holidays began. Road traffic has increased over the same period coming close to pre-pandemic levels, though morning peak traffic on Leeds roads continues to be suppressed, relative to pre-pandemic, suggesting continued behaviour change during traditional commuting hours. Weekend traffic is around 20% less than midweek, exceeding per Covid-19 baselines.

### City Centre Footfall - Mar 20 to Feb 22



### Transportation - proportion of pre-pandemic numbers - Mar 2020 to Aug 2022



## Economy and Business Impact & Recovery

### Economy

Leeds recovered from the primary economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic generally faster than many of our neighbours, but like everywhere else the city is currently being impacted by the cost-of-living crisis, not only in terms of the challenges to households, particularly those on the lowest incomes, but also the further pressure it applies to vital public service provision in terms of increased demand and costs.

Nationally, according to the latest ONS data, the UK economy grew slower than expected in July, with growth of 0.2% in July, following a sharp drop of 0.6% in June largely explained by the Jubilee Bank Holiday. The services sector was the biggest contributor to July's growth, boosted by the UK hosting the Women's Euro Championship. Used-car sales were also strong, although there is also evidence that consumer spending remains under pressure because of rising prices, as inflation reached a four decade high of 10.1% in July. The ONS reported that between May and July, economic growth was flat compared with the previous three months, with production and construction sectors particularly hard hit. Last month, the Bank of England predicted that the UK could fall into recession by the end of this year, a recession is defined as two consecutive quarters of shrinking economic output. Between April and June, the economy contracted by 0.1% compared with the previous quarter.

The recent Government announcement that a typical household in Britain will pay no more than £2,500 a year for energy bills until October 2024 under a new government guarantee, means households will be spared the expected leap in average bills, saving an average of around £1,000 this year. According to the Resolution Foundation the "Energy Price Guarantee" will prevent household energy bills from soaring this winter, but they are still set to be more than double their pre-crisis level. The ONS also reported in their latest economic update a fall in demand for energy such as electricity, and that while "higher than usual temperatures" might be a factor over the summer, anecdotal evidence suggests "that there may be some signs of changes in consumer behaviour and lower demand in response to increased prices".

In terms of local data, footfall in the city centre has continued its positive trend over the last six months increasing from around 70% to around 80% of pre pandemic levels. Weekend footfall has been higher, often matching or higher than pre pandemic levels. City traffic has increased slightly over the same period from an average of around 80% of pre-pandemic levels, to around 85% now. Weekend traffic is around 20% less than midweek, the same ratio with mid-week peaks as pre-pandemic trends.

Air Travel passenger numbers recovered quicker than expected when Covid-19 flight restrictions were lifted, however this has slowed in recent months with Leeds Bradford Airport recording passenger levels that were 90% of pre-pandemic levels in June 2022, up by 2% from the previous month.

### Labour Market

Recent months have seen the claimant count (covering people on out-of-work benefits) continue to decline, whilst employment continued to increase beyond pre- pandemic levels, though at a reduced rate in the last couple of months. The number of Out of Work Benefit claimants in Leeds stood at 22,700 (4.4%) in July, slightly above regional (4.1%) and national rates (3.7%), against corresponding city, regional and national highs in February 2021 of 7%, 6.6% and 6.4% respectively.

### LCC's financial position

The Leeds City Council Budget for 2022/23, approved by Full Council on 23rd February 2022, outlined expected budget pressures and included £20.7m of measures proposed to deliver a balanced budget for 2022/23, including £16.5m of savings. The report also provided updated budget gaps for 2023/24 and 2024/25, of £32.9m and £25.0m respectively.

The position in 2022/23 is very challenging as a consequence of the estimated impact of inflation on costs including energy, fuel and pay and the impact of the cost of living crisis on the Council's income. Reflecting these concerns the latest Financial Health report for the year, due to be received at September's Executive Board meeting, projects a £12.1m overspend position for the year. In response, the Council has introduced a number of cross-cutting measures including freezes on non-essential recruitment and other non-essential spending, and Directorates are identifying in year measures to support delivery of a balanced position.

The Authority continues to experience the ongoing impact of COVID across a range of services, such as the impact of the slowdown in the housing market on the resettlement of young adults exiting care and the increased costs of collection of household waste. No additional funding has been received from Government to support the Council's financial position in 2022/23. However the Authority itself has resourced a Covid-19 Backlog Recovery Fund to support services to clear backlogs caused by the pandemic and lessen any impact on our community.

Inflationary pressures have also impacted on the estimated financial position shown in the Council's updated Medium Term Financial Strategy, also to be received at September's Executive Board. The budget gaps for the years 2023/24 and 2024/25 reported in February have risen to £63.6m and £37.8m respectively, with the estimated gap for the five years covered by the Strategy standing at £182.6m. Recognising the challenge of bridging this estimated budget gap, whilst at the same time seeking to ensure that the Council's budget remains robust, resilient and sustainable, another savings programme has been established. Reviews are underway across the Authority to identify opportunities to continue to modernise and improve services, reduce costs and generate additional income. This work will lead to a number of savings proposals for consideration by Executive Board during the Autumn of 2022.

### Proportion of Claimants (May 2022)

As a proportion of Working Age Population

