# Proposed changes: Fingertips musculoskeletal health local profiles

Published February 2025

### Introduction

In 2023, the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC), including the Office for Health Improvement and Disparities (OHID), NHS Business Services Authority (NHSBSA), UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA), Office for National Statistics (ONS) and NHS England (NHSE) sought views on possible changes to their health and social care statistical products. A [response to this consultation](https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/health-and-social-care-statistical-outputs) was published in November 2024.

OHID would now like to ask users for their views on specific changes it plans to make to the [Musculoskeletal health: local profiles](https://fingertips.phe.org.uk/profile/msk) based on the responses it received to this consultation. If you have any comments about these changes, please email [pha-ohid@dhsc.gov.uk](mailto:pha-ohid@dhsc.gov.uk) by 28 March 2025.

### Addition of new indicators

We propose looking to add new indicators for the following topics:

* Prevalence of national level musculoskeletal conditions indicators using data from the Health Survey for England
* Economic inactivity rate

### Archiving of indicators

We will be archiving some indicators in the musculoskeletal health: local profiles for which data is no longer being updated. The data will remain available on Fingertips as an .ods file. The affected indicators are:

* Back pain prevalence in people of all ages (last updated with 2012 data)
* Severe back pain prevalence in people of all ages (last updated with 2012 data)
* Percentage reporting a long-term back problem (last updated with 2016 to 2017 data)
* Prevalence of hip osteoarthritis in people aged 45 and over (last updated with 2012 data)
* Prevalence of severe hip osteoarthritis in people aged 45 and over (last updated with 2012 data)
* Prevalence of knee osteoarthritis in people aged 45 and over (last updated with 2012 data)
* Prevalence of severe knee osteoarthritis in people aged 45 and over (last updated with 2012 data)
* Percentage reporting arthritis or long-term joint problem (last updated with 2016 to 2017 data)
* Percentage physically active for at least one hour per day seven days a week at age 15 (last updated with 2014 to 2015 data)
* Percentage with a mean daily sedentary time in the last week over 7 hours per day at age 15 (last updated with 2014 to 2015 data)
* Percentage reporting depression or anxiety (last updated with 2016 to 2017 data)
* Percentage reporting a long term MSK problem who also report depression or anxiety (last updated with 2016 to 2017 data)
* Average health related quality of life score for adults who reported having a long term MSK problem (last updated with 2016 to 2017 data)

Other indicators we propose removing are:

* Smoking prevalence in adults (aged 18 and over) - current smokers (GPPS). This indicator will be removed as the estimate for local authority smoking prevalence from the Annual Population Survey (APS) is more widely used.