

# HEALTH

In 2001, 4.5 million people in the UK had both a limiting long-term illness and rated their general health as 'poor'. Areas with high rates of poor health tend to have fewer doctors and dentists, but more people providing informal care and support, than areas with lower rates of poor health.

The 2001 Census reveals the continuation of an 'inverse care law' with regard to paid health professionals, but a 'positive care law' with regard to informal care provided by friends and family.



The image above shows British Sign Language for 'access'

Both maps in each figure represent the same places, shaded identically. The map on the left is a cartogram – each area is shown in proportion to the size of its population in 2001. The largest area is London, since it has the highest population of any of the places. The map on the right shows the actual boundaries of the areas.

