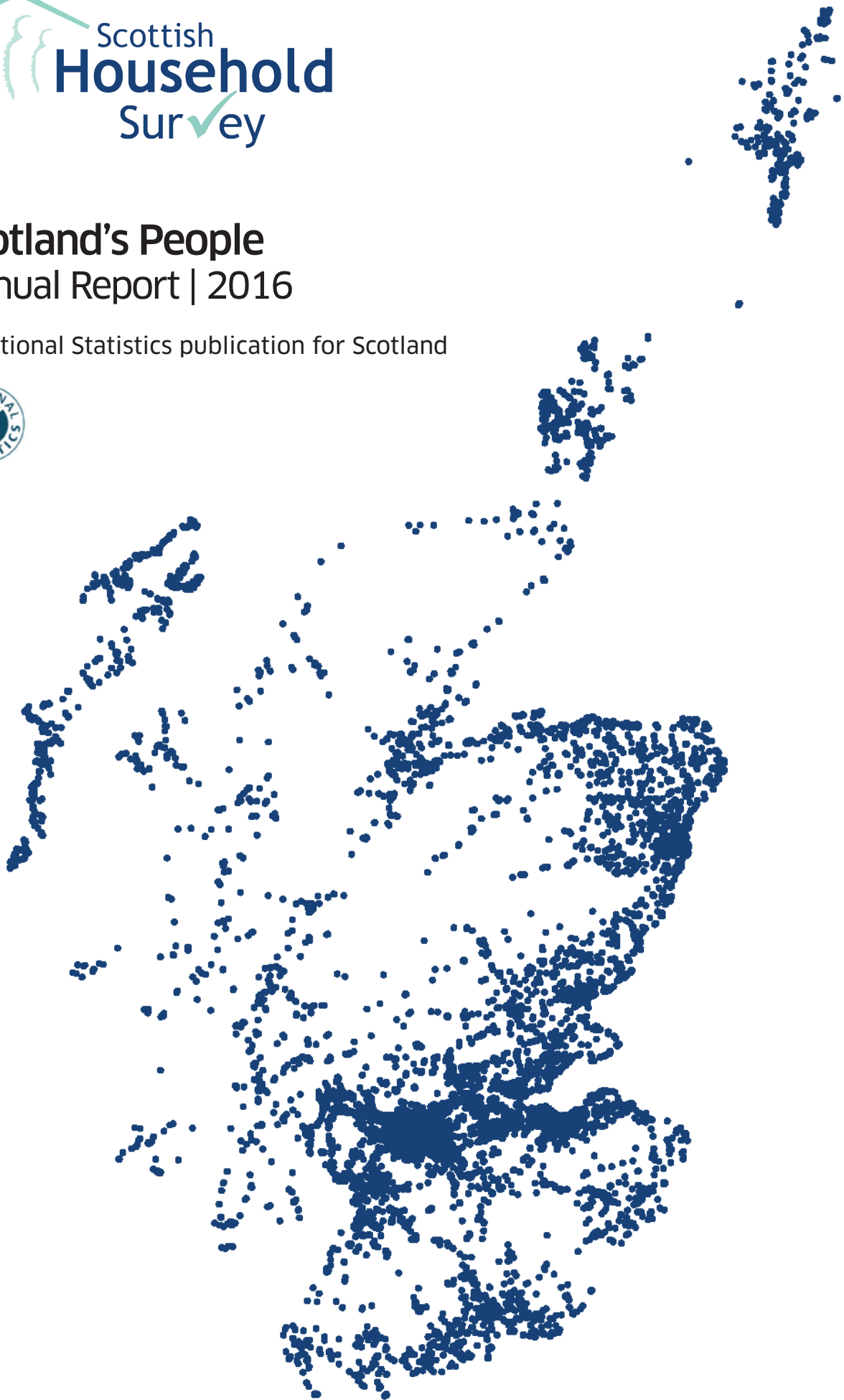




# Scotland's People Annual Report | 2016

A National Statistics publication for Scotland



September 2017



Scottish Government  
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# Acknowledgements

**The Scottish Government acknowledges and thanks the 10,470 people across Scotland who gave their time to take part in the Scottish Household Survey 2016.**

This report was produced by the Scottish Household Survey Project Team at the Scottish Government.

The map on the front cover has been produced by the Office of the Chief Statistician and Strategic Analysis. It is a plot of all the survey sampling points of the three major Scottish Government population surveys, including the Scottish Household Survey, Scottish Health Survey and Scottish Crime and Justice Survey. This map provides a broad picture of the sample in the surveys and reflects distribution of households across Scotland. As each dot on the map can represent hundreds of households there is no risk of identifying which households have taken part in the survey from this graphic.

We would also like to thank all the Scottish Government lead analysts who contributed to the project.

Finally, special thanks to Ipsos MORI and their interviewers for continuous and relentless efforts during the fieldwork.

**Scottish Household Survey Project Team  
Survey Management and Dissemination Branch  
Communities Analytical Services  
The Scottish Government  
September 2017**

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# 1 Introduction to the Survey

## 1.1 Introduction

### The Scottish Household Survey is:

- a face-to-face survey of a sample of people in private residences in Scotland
- interviewer-administered in people's homes
- Scotland-wide
- voluntary
- essentially 3 surveys in one
- a provider of robust evidence on the composition, characteristics, attitudes and behaviour of private households and individuals
- long-running since 1999
- wide-ranging in topics covered, including evidence on the physical condition of Scotland's homes

The Scottish Household Survey (SHS) is a continuous survey based on a random sample of the general population in private residences in Scotland. Questions are asked face-to-face by an interviewer in homes all over Scotland.

Computer Assisted Personal Interviewing (CAPI) is being used to collect the survey data. This has a number of important advantages over 'pen and paper' interviewing techniques, including faster interviews, automatic edit checks and a quicker flow of information from the survey interviewer to the survey database.

Participation is voluntary, but is important in helping us make representative estimates for Scotland.

The survey started in 1999 and up to 2011 followed a fairly consistent survey design. From 2012 onwards, the survey was substantially redesigned to include elements of the Scottish House Condition Survey<sup>1</sup> (SHCS) including the follow-up Physical Survey component. The SHS is now essentially 3 surveys in one, Transport and Travel in Scotland survey, the Scottish House Condition Survey as well as the SHS. The survey is run through a consortium led by Ipsos MORI.

The SHS is designed to provide reliable and up-to-date information on the composition, characteristics, attitudes and behaviour of private households and individuals, both nationally and at a sub-national level and to examine the physical condition of Scotland's

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<sup>1</sup> [www.gov.scot/SHCS](http://www.gov.scot/SHCS)



homes. It covers a wide range of topics to allow links to be made between different policy areas.

The specific aims of the survey are to:

- Meet central and local Government needs for priority policy relevant data across a broad range of topics (including needs for continuing time-series of data collected by the SHS and SHCS previously);
- Be understandable and useful to stakeholders and so lead to a high level of buy-in and use of the SHS;
- Have built in flexibility to respond to different data needs regarding geography and frequency (e.g. to provide some data annually at Local Authority level, and some biennially at national level), and changes to these requirements over time;
- Align with other surveys and data vehicles (in particular the Scottish Health Survey and Scottish Crime and Justice Survey);
- Produce high quality data in accordance with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics<sup>2</sup> so as to provide data that is suitable for the production of National Statistics publications in a cost effective way;
- Permit disaggregation of information both geographically and in terms of population sub-groups (such as families with children or households in the social rented sector);
- Allow the relationships between social variables within households to be examined. This will support cross-analysis on a range of issues;
- Allow detailed follow-up surveys of sub-samples from the main survey sample, if required.

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<sup>2</sup> [www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk/monitoring-and-assessment/code-of-practice/](http://www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk/monitoring-and-assessment/code-of-practice/)

## 1.2 Reporting

- Annual Report series since 1999
- Annual local authority level results
- Annual Scottish House Condition Survey Key Findings report
- Annual Transport and Travel in Scotland report
- Nine of the 55 national indicators in the Government's National Performance Framework
- Additionally some data is available through Open Data Platform at [statistics.gov.scot](http://statistics.gov.scot)
- Scottish Surveys Core Questions

SHS results have been reported in a series of Annual Reports between 1999 and 2016. The annual report is designed to act as an introduction to the survey and to present and interpret some of the key policy-relevant results at a national level. Results from the SHS at a local authority level will be published soon after. Findings from the Physical Survey component and other house condition information will be published through a separate SHCS 2016 Key Findings report usually scheduled for publication later in the year.

Whilst this release focuses on a number of key results, the SHS collects a wide array of information and so SHS Project Team can be contacted with any additional analysis requests or enquiries<sup>3</sup>.

The SHS is the source of information on nine of the 55 national indicators in the Government's National Performance Framework<sup>4</sup>. The two transport indicators<sup>5</sup> will be reported on separately by Transport Scotland within their Transport and Travel in Scotland, 2016 report<sup>6</sup> which will also include the SHS Travel Diary 2016. The SHS Annual Report provides estimates for the remaining seven national indicators:

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<sup>3</sup> [shs@gov.scot](mailto:shs@gov.scot) 0131 244 1685

<sup>4</sup> Information on the suite of indicators which comprise the performance framework can be found at [www.gov.scot/About/scotPerforms/indicators](http://www.gov.scot/About/scotPerforms/indicators)

<sup>5</sup> To reduce the proportion of driver journeys delayed due to traffic congestion and to increase the proportion of journeys to work made by public or active transport.

<sup>6</sup> [www.transportscotland.gov.uk/analysis/statistics/publications/transport-and-travel-in-scotland-previous-editions](http://www.transportscotland.gov.uk/analysis/statistics/publications/transport-and-travel-in-scotland-previous-editions)

**Table 1.1: National indicators reported in the SHS report**

<b>National Indicator</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Indicator</b>	<b>Chapter reference</b>
NI 33:	Public Service Quality	Improve people's perceptions of the quality of public services	Chapter 9
NI 34:	Public Service Responsiveness	Improve the responsiveness of public services	Chapter 9
NI 39:	Internet use	Widen use of the Internet	Chapter 7
NI 40:	Neighbourhood rating	Improve people's perceptions of their neighbourhood	Chapter 4
NI 41:	Cultural engagement	Increase cultural engagement	Chapter 12
NI 43:	Scotland's Outdoors	Increase people's use of Scotland's outdoors	Chapter 10
NI 54	Greenspace	Increase access to local greenspace	Chapter 10

Additionally SHS data will be published through the Open Data Platform ([statistics.gov.scot](https://statistics.gov.scot)), a range of official statistics about Scotland for information and re-use.

## **Glossary and annexes**

Guidance on using the information in the report and a glossary with detailed definitions of some of the key terms are included as annexes. Additional annexes present results on the main classificatory variables used in this report and provide guidance on assessing confidence intervals and the statistical significance of the results.

### **1.2.1 Additional SHS Reporting**

Technical Reports are published separately and include:

- questionnaire
- methodology and fieldwork outcomes

Further technical information on the SHS will also be published through the Technical Reports. The Technical Reports comprise of two documents; one providing details of the

questionnaire<sup>7</sup> used during 2016 fieldwork; and a more detailed technical report detailing the methodology and fieldwork outcomes<sup>8</sup>.

A number of other Scottish Government publications covering previous years are also available. A comprehensive listing of all publications is available from the SHS website<sup>9</sup>.

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<sup>7</sup> <http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/16002/PublicationQuestionnaire>

<sup>8</sup> [www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/16002/PublicationMethodology](http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/16002/PublicationMethodology)

<sup>9</sup> [www.gov.scot/SHSPublications](http://www.gov.scot/SHSPublications)

## 1.3 Comparability with Other Sources

In some cases the SHS is not the official source of statistics on a particular topic: such as income, employment or housing. The survey collects information on these topics to select the data of particular groups for further analysis or for use as background variables when analysing other topics. The results are included in order to set the context for, and aid interpretation of, the remaining chapters. Where results are not the official source, this is indicated in the chapter introduction.

The Scottish Government conducts several major population surveys that are used to inform the policy debate in Scotland, and in some instances the surveys can be complementary. The Long Term Strategy for Population Surveys in Scotland 2009-2019, of which the SHS is a central element, is designed to improve the way population surveys are run and to increase the availability and use of survey data, both at a national and local level. A guide is available providing more information on Scotland's surveys<sup>10</sup>.

There are also a number of Great British (GB) or UK surveys that include a Scottish dimension i.e. the Labour Force Survey (LFS) and the Annual Population Survey (APS) provide statistics for Scotland on employment, unemployment and economic inactivity. The results from both surveys are available from the Labour Market pages of the Scottish Government website.

### Preferred sources discussion

- Scottish Health Survey (SHeS) is the preferred source for smoking and health information
- Scottish Crime and Justice Survey is the recommended source for national estimates for fear of crime, perceptions of crime and confidence in the police
- Transport information found in Transport and Travel in Scotland (TATIS)
- Scottish Surveys Core Questions (SSCQ) is the preferred source for religion, economic activity and qualifications, disability/long term health condition, and tenure
- Family Resources Survey is the preferred source of Scotland level household income estimates

Both the SHS and the Scottish Health Survey (SHeS) collect information on smoking prevalence. Until September 2016, the SHS was the preferred source used to update National Indicator 29 on smoking prevalence. The main reason was a larger sample size compared to the Scottish Health Survey and the longer time series available for all adults aged 16+ when the indicator was initially developed.

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<sup>10</sup> [www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/About/scotlandsurveys](http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/About/scotlandsurveys)

From September 2016, SHeS became the preferred source for the National Indicator and the complete time series for the indicator was revised. The rationale for the decision was that SHeS uniquely gathers a wide range of other information on smoking behaviour in Scotland, which can also be linked to health related data.

Furthermore, SHeS contains a self-completion component for young adults who are more likely to accurately report their smoking behaviour this way compared to a face-to-face survey question. The latest results from SHeS were published on 20 September 2016 and can be found on the SHeS website<sup>11</sup>. The next SHeS report is due in October 2017.

SHS will continue to gather information on smoking prevalence to contribute to the Scottish Surveys Core Questions (SSCQ) pooled sample. Pooling samples across the SHS, SHeS and Scottish Crime and Justice Survey (SCJS) enables detailed and reliable analysis of national estimates by ethnicity, sexual orientation, religion, marital status, education level and a wide range of other characteristics and estimates for low levels of geography, including local authorities. The latest estimates for the SSCQ 2015 were published on 30 November 2016<sup>12</sup>.

Alongside smoking, there are a number of questions on general health, long-term conditions and unpaid care which were previously published in the Health chapter of the SHS report. These are also published in SHeS and are also Scottish Survey Core Questions. To avoid confusion around published national estimates, the decision was taken to dispense with the health chapter in the SHS annual report from SHS 2015 onwards.

Similarly, Chapter 4 previously contained data on fear of crime, perceptions of crime and confidence in the police. However, the recommended source for national estimates for these questions is the SCJS, with the most recent findings published in March 2016. Therefore, most of the results based on these questions (which were provided in earlier SHS reports) are no longer included in the SHS 2016 annual report.

Similar to smoking prevalence, the perceptions of crime and confidence in the police are also SSCQs. The Scottish Government recommends that users refer to the SSCQ publication as the preferred source of local authority data for these questions. It is anticipated that the SSCQ publication for 2016 will be published in February 2018.

In a similar vein, the SHS 2016 report no longer has a separate Transport chapter, as this chapter simply replicated data available in Transport and Travel in Scotland (TATIS), published on the same day as the SHS, or for household access to number of cars, the

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<sup>11</sup> <http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Health/scottish-health-survey/Publications>

<sup>12</sup> <http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/About/Surveys/SSCQ>

SSCQ. Similar to other data above, the SSCQ offers a higher level of precision for car access.

There are some key demographic and contextual SSCQs for which data continues to be published in the SHS annual report at national level and will therefore also be published in the SHS local authority tables, as well as in the SSCQ. This includes gender, religion, economic activity and qualifications, disability/long term health condition, and tenure. Due to its higher combined sample size, SSCQ data on these questions will offer a higher level of precision for users seeking standalone estimates for these variables.

Due to methodological difficulties banded household income is not currently reported in the SSCQ and will continue to be published in the SHS annual report and local authority tables as another key contextual variable. However, it should be noted that the Family Resources Survey is the preferred source of Scotland level household income estimates.

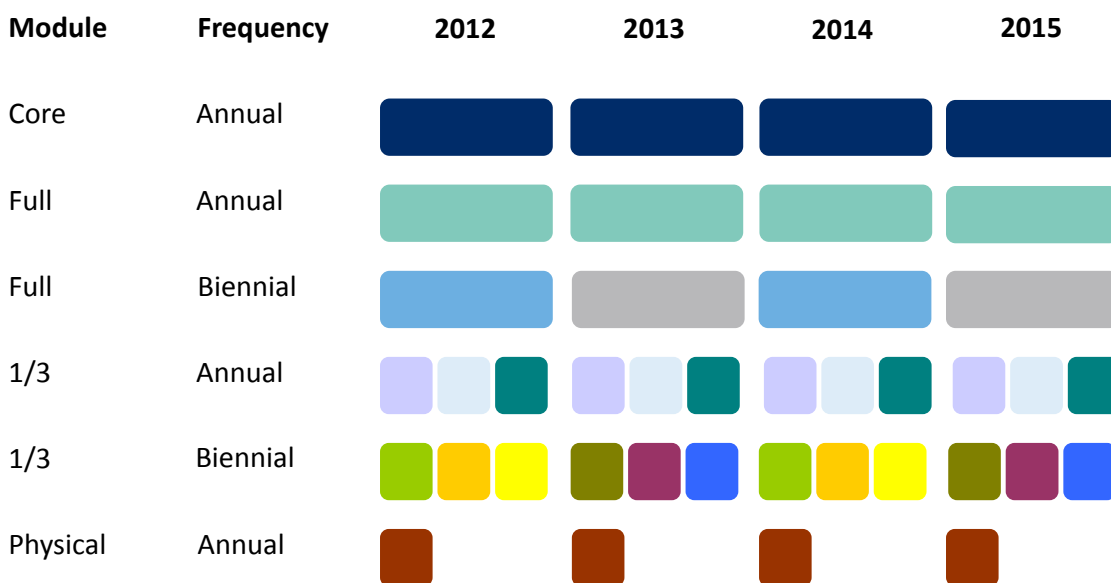
## 1.4 Survey Design

- Fully un-clustered core and modular structure
- High sample size (10,500 households, 9,600 adults)
- Annual LA level data and sub-group analysis including equalities groups
- Includes a “core” set of 20 questions which have been designed to be asked in consistent ways with other surveys, such as age and gender.
- “Modules” of questions have been designed to be flexible in terms of topic, frequency and geography

The current survey uses a fully un-clustered core and modular structure, meaning some questions are asked of the full sample and others of a one-third sub-sample. The overall sample size is around 10,500 though improvements from the old survey design mean it will be possible to obtain local authority estimates on an annual basis where sample sizes will produce robust estimates.

Figure 1.1 provides a visual representation of how the core and modular design is structured within each year (between 2012 and 2016) and how this rotates and replicates across subsequent years. This includes a “core” set of 20 questions which have been designed to be asked in consistent ways with other surveys, such as age and gender. The subsequent “modules” of questions have been designed to be flexible in terms of topic, frequency and geography. For example, questions asked of the “full” sample and asked on an “annual” basis would be able to provide local authority level data on an annual basis. Similarly, questions might only be asked of “1/3” of the sample on a “biennial” basis (i.e. asked every second year). Such questions could only get national level estimates every second year.

**Figure 1.1: Representation of multi-year core and modular design**





The survey questionnaire itself is structured in three main parts:

- Household (including 'Random Child');
- Random Adult (including 'Travel Diary'); and
- Physical inspection of dwelling.

The household reference person, who is the Highest Income Householder (HIH) or their spouse/partner completes part one of the interview ('Household'). Details of all members of the household, including children, are collected during the household interview. This includes questions related to the composition and characteristics of the household, and involves capturing basic demographic information of all members of the household, such as gender, age and economic situation at this stage, as well detailed information on dwelling characteristics as captured through the old SHCS. The topics covered in the Household section of the survey are presented in Figure 1.2.

**Figure 1.2: Topics covered in SHS 2016 Household component**

<b>Household Composition</b>	People living in household, basic demographics
<b>Accommodation</b>	Property type, Tenure & Length of tenure, Ownership of property, Previous home
<b>Household Services</b>	Number of bedrooms, Internet access, Food waste/recycling
<b>Driving and Transport</b>	Cars, Fuel spend, Bicycles
<b>Children and Young People</b>	Schools and travel to school, Activities and play
<b>Health and Disability</b>	Long-term health condition/illness
<b>House Condition Survey</b>	Repairs, Satisfaction with accommodation, Adaptations, Heating (including heating patterns, control, cost and suitability), Energy Efficiency and Insulation
<b>Household Employment</b>	Employment details including status, working patterns, type of work
<b>Household Income</b>	Householder/Spouse paid/self-employed/other jobs, Benefits, Other sources
<b>Household Finances</b>	Material deprivation
<b>Mortgages and Rent</b>	Mortgage & Rent, Household costs including service charges and council tax, Managing financially
<b>Household Composition</b>	People living in household, basic demographics

Subsequently a child is selected from all household members under 16 (the 'Random Child') and the household respondent is asked questions about childcare for that child. A child who is at school is also selected (the 'Random School Child')<sup>13</sup> and the household respondent answers questions about the school that child attends and the journey they make to go there.

Once the composition of the household has been established, one of the adults in the household is randomly selected by the interview's computer to complete part two ('Random Adult')<sup>14</sup>. This covers behavioural and attitudinal type questions, such as satisfaction with local services, and captures further demographic information on the random adult. This element also covers the 'Travel Diary' component which asks about travel behaviours on the day previous to that of the interview day. In all households with a single adult the same person completes both parts, but as the number of adults in the household increases, the probability of the random adult being the same as the household respondent declines<sup>15</sup>. The topics covered in the Random Adult section of the survey are presented in Figure 1.3.

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<sup>13</sup> The random school child may be the same as, or different from, the random child.

<sup>14</sup> Adults who are household members but have been living away for the previous six months are excluded from the selection of the random adult. Children and students living away during term time are counted as household members but are excluded from the random adult and random school child selection.

<sup>15</sup> Where the same person completes both parts one and two (i.e. they are both the household respondent and selected as the random adult) the CAPI (Computer Assisted Personal Interviewing) script does not repeat the questions common to both sections. This means that these respondents are not asked for the same information twice.

Figure 1.3: Topics covered in SHS 2016 Random Adult component

<b>Adult Characteristics</b>	Basic demographics, Country of birth and date of entry
<b>Accommodation</b>	Housing experiences
<b>Neighbourhoods and Communities</b>	Rating, Belonging, Crime & Police performance, Greenspace, Anti-social behaviour, Safety, Discrimination and Harassment, Involvement with Neighbours
<b>Education</b>	Qualifications, Internet (including use and access, internet security)
<b>Travel and Transport</b>	License, Driving, Electric cars, Travel to work/education, Congestion, Car sharing, Air travel, Public transport & Incidents, Journey planning, Road accidents, and Travel Diary
<b>Volunteering, Local government &amp; services, Culture &amp; Sport, Environment</b>	Volunteering, Perceptions of local government, Perceptions of local services, Culture, Sport, Views on Climate change, Access to Outdoors,
<b>Health, Disability &amp; Caring</b>	Self-assessed health, Disability, Caring responsibilities, Smoking, Concessionary travel
<b>Employment</b>	Employment status & Government work scheme

If the household was selected to take part in the physical inspection follow-up the HIH is asked if they would be willing to arrange an appointment for this at the end of the Household component of the survey. Such surveys are conducted by professional surveyors through a visual inspection of the dwelling. The surveyor will assess the condition, design and energy efficiency of the home, with much of their time spent surveying the outside, but they will ask to see all the rooms inside. Results from the Physical Survey will be reported on separately later in the year in the SHCS report previously mentioned.

Further information on the SHS Questionnaire can be found via the relevant technical report on the SHS website<sup>16</sup>.

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<sup>16</sup> [www.gov.scot/SHSPublications](http://www.gov.scot/SHSPublications)

## 1.5 Sampling

- SHS sample has been designed by the Scottish Government
- The sample is drawn from the small user file of the Postcode Address File (PAF)
- Sample design coordinated with other surveys
- Samples of the three surveys can be pooled for further analysis. The Scottish Survey Core Questions allows more detailed analysis
- Nationally representative samples of private households and of the adult population in private households are produced
- SHS sample has been designed to allow annual publication of results
- Target sample size for Scotland was 10,678 household interviews
- The SHS response rate declined from 67 per cent in 2014 to 64 per cent in 2015

Since 2012 the SHS sample has been designed by the Scottish Government. The sample design was coordinated with the sample designs for the Scottish Health Survey (SHeS) and the Scottish Crime and Justice Survey (SCJS) as part of a survey efficiency project and to allow the samples of the three surveys to be pooled for further analysis. The 2015 pooled sample for the three surveys was published in November 2016<sup>17</sup>. The Scottish Surveys Core Questions (SSCQ) 2015 is the latest in a series of publications providing statistics from pooled survey responses. SSCQ provides reliable and detailed information on the composition, characteristics and attitudes of Scottish households and adults across a number of topic areas including equality characteristics, housing, employment and perceptions of health and crime.

The sample for the survey meets a number of criteria. It is designed to provide nationally representative samples of private households and of the adult population in private households. This is achieved by splitting the interview between a household respondent and an adult selected at random from the permanent residents of the household.

The SHS sample has been designed to allow annual publication of results at a Scotland and local authority level. To meet these requirements the target sample size for Scotland was 10,678 household interviews with a minimum local authority target of 258. From 2012 onwards the physical survey of the Scottish House Condition Survey (SHCS) has been incorporated into the SHS. A subsample of the main sample has been allocated to the physical survey, which has a target sample size of 3,004 for Scotland and a minimum target of 80 for each local authority.

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<sup>17</sup> Scottish Survey Core Questions 2015  
<http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/About/Surveys/SSCQ/SSCQ2015>

The sample is drawn from the small user file of the Postcode Address File (PAF). The overall design is a random sample, stratified to target a minimum of 250 interviews per local authority.

The main features of the design are:

- First stage, disproportionate stratification by local authority;
- Within each local authority, second stage systematic random sampling was used to select the addresses from the sample frame with the addresses ordered by urban-rural classification, Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) rank and postcode;
- Once the overall sample was selected, systematic random sampling was used to select the subsample for the physical survey.

As the samples for the SHS, SHeS and SCJS have all been selected by the Scottish Government since 2012, addresses selected for any of the surveys are removed from the sample frame so that they cannot be re-sampled for another survey. This has helped to reduce respondent burden and has facilitated the development of the pooled sample. The addresses are removed from the sample frame for a minimum of 4 years.

Information on response rates and other such information will be available in the accompanying SHS 2016 Methodology and Fieldwork Outcomes report due for publication in Winter 2017/2018. The SHS response rate declined from 67 per cent in 2014 to 64 per cent in 2015 (10,325 household interviews) and 2016 (10,470). Analysis carried out to date suggests that this has had minimal or little impact on the survey results.

### **Conclusion**

This chapter has provided an introduction describing what the Scottish Household Survey is. It outlines the nature of the information reported, including the comparability with other sources. The survey design and sampling are both explained. This information sets the context for the next chapters describing the survey findings.

## 2 The Composition and Characteristics of Households in Scotland

### **Main Findings**

Religious belonging in Scotland is declining over time – just over a half of adults reported that they don't belong to a religion

Three out of ten adults in Scotland reported a long-term health condition. This is increasing over time.

A quarter of all adults in Scotland are permanently retired from work

Over a third of people in Scotland live alone

Only five per cent of households in Scotland are two adult families with three or more children, or three or more adult families with one or more children.

Six out of ten households in Scotland are owner-occupier

Almost six out of 10 households in Scotland earn less than £25,000 a year

## 2.1 Introduction and Context

This chapter describes the types of homes in Scotland and who lives in them.

Collecting information on age, disability, ethnicity, religion, gender, and sexual orientation provides an important contribution to the overall equality evidence base. This is used by policy makers to target services and tackle discrimination and disadvantage. The Scottish Household Survey (SHS) collects information about all household members, including children.

The age and number of people in the household are combined to give a 'household type'. The SHS uses eight household types defined as follows:

- A **single adult** household – contains one adult of 16-64 year olds and no children.
- A **single parent** household – contains one adult of any age and one or more children.
- A **single older** – household contains one adult of pensionable age and no children. Pensionable age is 60 for women and 65 for men.
- A **small family** household – contains two adults of any age and one or two children.
- An **older smaller** household – contains one adult of 16-64 year olds and one of pensionable age and no children, or two adults of pensionable age and no children.
- A **large adult** household – contains three or more adults and no children.
- A **small adult** household – contains two adults of 16-64 year olds and no children.
- A **large family** household – contains two adults of any age and three or more children, or three or more adults of any age and one or more children.

### Technical survey information

A technical description of why we have information on adults and households and where the Highest Income Householder (HIH) fits in is required.

The highest income householder gives the characteristics of all household members, including children and answers questions on characteristics of the household. Then, one of the adults in the household completes another part of the interview ('random adult'), which is mostly around behaviour and attitudes.

The characteristics of adults, households and the Highest Income Householder (HIH) are described below. Due to the method of collecting this data, the household member characteristics of gender and age will be accurately reported. However, whether a member of the household has a long standing illness or disability is thought to be under reported as the household reference person may not know of individuals' conditions.

## 2.2 All Household Members

Information on all household members shows:

- a quarter of people are over 60 years old.
- there are slightly more women than men in Scotland.
- there is an increasing number of people with a long-term health condition

The gender and age of all household members as well as whether a household member has a long-term illness or disability<sup>18</sup> are presented in Table 2.1.

**Table 2.1: Characteristics of all household members**

Column percentages, 2016 data

All household members

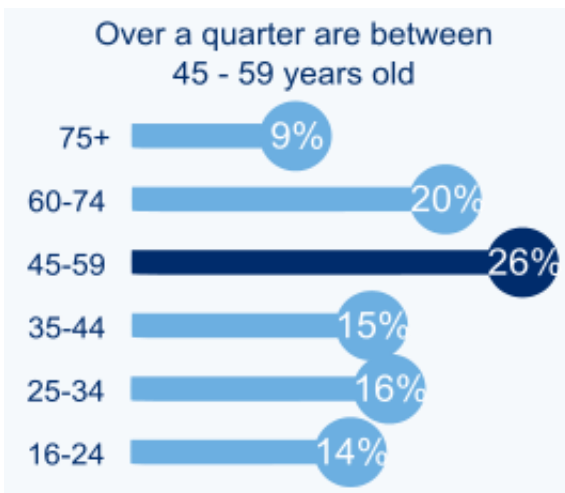
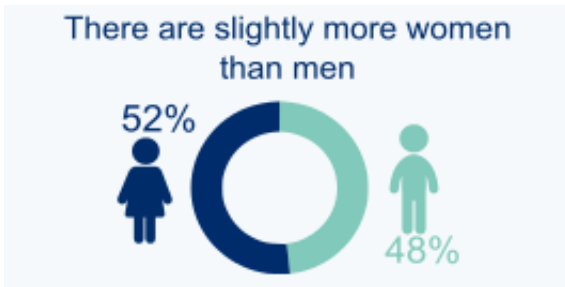
Age		Gender	
0-15	17	Male	49
16-24	11	Female	51
25-34	13	Total	100
35-44	12	<i>Base</i>	<i>22,760</i>
45-59	21	Long-term physical or mental health condition	
60-74	17	Yes	22
75+	8	No	78
Total	100	Total	100
<i>Base</i>	<i>22,760</i>	<i>Base</i>	<i>22,670</i>

<sup>18</sup>The question on long-term physical or mental health condition asks: "Do you have a physical or mental health condition or illness lasting or expected to last 12 months or more?" Long-term conditions were defined as a physical or mental health condition or illness lasting, or expected to last, 12 months or more. The wording of this question changed in 2012 and is now aligned with the harmonised questions for all large Scottish Government surveys. A long-term condition was defined as limiting if the respondent reported that it limited their activities in any way. The Scottish Health Survey (2015) reports that around a third (32 per cent) of adults had at least one long-term condition in 2012-2015.



## 2.3 Adults in Private Households

- Questions asked of individuals show that the population in Scotland is largely white, ageing and three out of ten adults have a long-term limiting physical or mental health condition.



A second part of the interview selects one adult at random. In one person households, this is the same person. More detailed questions are asked of this 'random adult'.

Table 2.2 to 2.8 present equality characteristics of adults, based on those selected to take part in the 'random adult' interview. These tables provide estimates for age, gender, marital status, ethnicity, current economic situation of all adults and 16-64 year olds adults, whether they have a long term illness or disability, sexual orientation and religion of adults in Scotland.

The results show that the population in Scotland is largely white, ageing and three out of ten adults have a long-term limiting physical or mental health condition. Changes over time show health is worsening.

**Table 2.2: Characteristics of adults – age, gender, and long-term health condition**

Column percentages, 2016 data

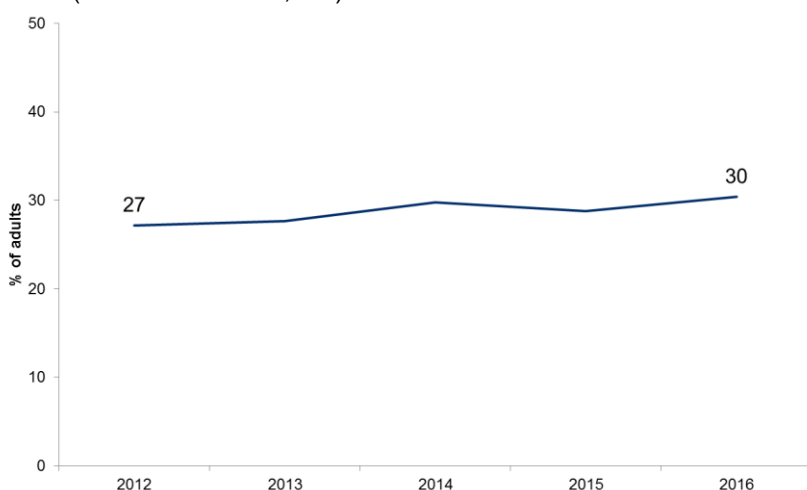
Adults

Age		Gender	
16-24	14	Male	48
25-34	16	Female	52
35-44	15	Total	100
45-59	26	<i>Base</i>	<i>9,640</i>
60-74	20	Long-term physical or mental health condition	
75+	9	Yes	30
Total	100	No	70
<i>Base</i>	<i>9,640</i>	Total	100
		<i>Base</i>	<i>9,610</i>

Examination of the time series data shows an increase in the percentage of adults reporting a long-term health condition (Figure 2.1). In 2016, three out of ten adults (30 per cent) reported a long-term physical or mental health condition, an increase from 27 per cent in 2012.

**Figure 2.1: Long-term physical or mental health condition of adults by year**

Adults (minimum base: 3,200)



**Table 2.3: Characteristics of adults – ethnicity**

Column percentages, 2016 data

Adults

Ethnicity	
<b>White</b>	<b>96.0</b>
Scottish	78.9
Other British	11.9
Irish	1.0
Gypsy / Traveller	0.0
Polish	1.8
Other white ethnic group	2.4
<b>Any mixed or multiple ethnic groups</b>	<b>0.3</b>
<b>Asian</b>	<b>2.3</b>
Pakistani, Pakistani Scottish or Pakistani British	0.7
Indian, Indian Scottish or Indian British	0.5
Bangladeshi, Bangladeshi Scottish or Bangladeshi British	0.1
Chinese, Chinese Scottish or Chinese British	0.5
Other Asian ethnic group	0.5
<b>African</b>	<b>0.5</b>
African, African Scottish or African British	0.3
Other African ethnic group	0.2
<b>Caribbean or Black</b>	<b>0.1</b>
Caribbean, Caribbean Scottish or Caribbean British	0.1
Black, Black Scottish or Black British	0.0
Other Caribbean or Black ethnic group	0.0
<b>Other Ethnic Group</b>	<b>0.7</b>
Arab, Arab Scottish or Arab British	0.2
Any other ethnic group	0.6
Don't know	0.0
Refused	0.1
Total	100
<i>Base</i>	<i>9,640</i>

Examining the economic status of all adults and then a subset of 16-64 year olds adults shows some interesting results (Table 2.4). A quarter of all adults are permanently retired from work and five per cent of 16-64 year olds adults are also retired. Only four per cent of 16-64 year olds adults are unemployed and seeking work.

**Table 2.4: Characteristics of adults – economic status**

Column percentages, 2016 data

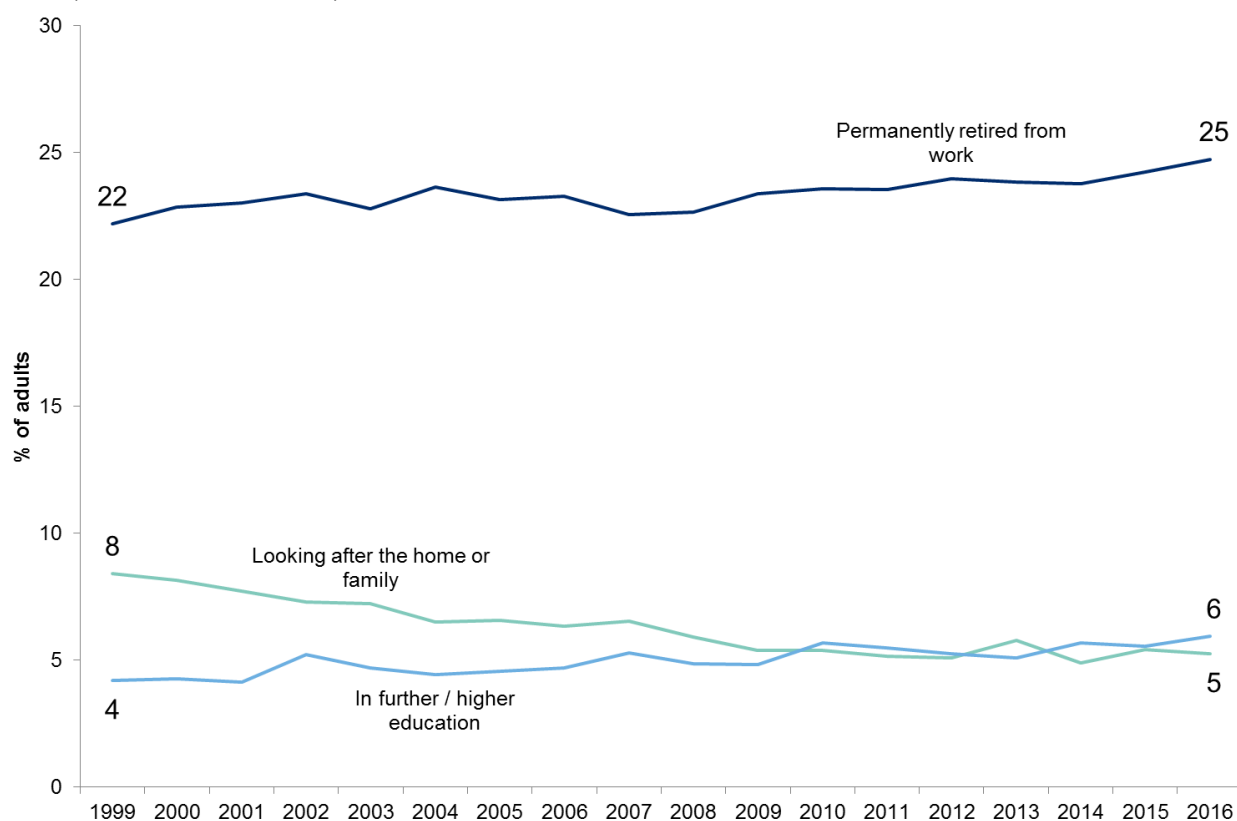
Adults

Economic status	All adults	Working-age adults
Self employed	6	8
Employed full time	37	48
Employed part time	10	12
Looking after the home or family	5	7
Permanently retired from work	25	5
Unemployed and seeking work	3	4
At school	2	3
In further / higher education	6	8
Govt work or training scheme	0	0
Permanently sick or disabled	4	5
Unable to work because of short-term illness or injury	1	1
Other	0	0
Total	100	100
<i>Base</i>	<i>9,640</i>	<i>6,680</i>

Looking at the economic status of selected groups of adults and how this has changed over time also presents some interesting results (Figure 2.2). The proportion of those who are permanently retired from work increased from 22 per cent in 1999 to 25 per cent in 2016. Similarly, the proportion of adults in further or higher education increased from four per cent in 1999 to six per cent in 2016, while the proportion of those looking after the home or family has been decreasing, from eight per cent in 1999 to five per cent in 2016.

**Figure 2.2: Economic status of adults by year – selected groups**

Adults (minimum base: 9,410)



## Sexual orientation

- Ninety-eight per cent of adults identified themselves as heterosexual.

**Table 2.5: Characteristics of adults – sexual orientation**

Column percentages, 2016 data

Sexual orientation	Male	Female	All
Heterosexual/Straight	97.7	98.1	97.9
Gay/Lesbian	1.4	0.9	1.1
Bisexual	0.4	0.3	0.4
Other	0.1	0.2	0.1
Refused	0.4	0.5	0.4
Total	100	100	100
Base	4,400	5,240	9,640

The question on sexual orientation was introduced to the SHS in 2011 as one of the Scottish Government’s “core” questions<sup>19</sup>. Developed by the Office for National Statistics, the question was designed to provide accurate statistics to underpin the equality monitoring responsibilities of public sector organisations and to assess the disadvantage or relative discrimination experienced by the lesbian, gay and bisexual population. It should be noted that estimates on self-identified sexual orientation from the SHS are likely to under-represent the lesbian, gay and bisexual population. Potential reasons for this are discussed in Annex 2: Glossary.

## Religion

- Religious belonging in Scotland is declining over time.
- Around a half of adults reported that they don’t belong to a religion.

Since the harmonised question on religious belonging was introduced to the SHS in 2009, there has been an upward trend in the proportion of adults reporting not belonging to a religion, from 40 per cent in 2009 to just over a half of adults (51 per cent)<sup>20</sup> in 2016 (Figure 2.3). There has also been a corresponding decrease in the proportion reporting belonging to ‘Church of Scotland’, from 34 per cent to 24 per cent.

**Table 2.6: Characteristics of adults – religious belonging**

Column percentages, 2016 data

Adults

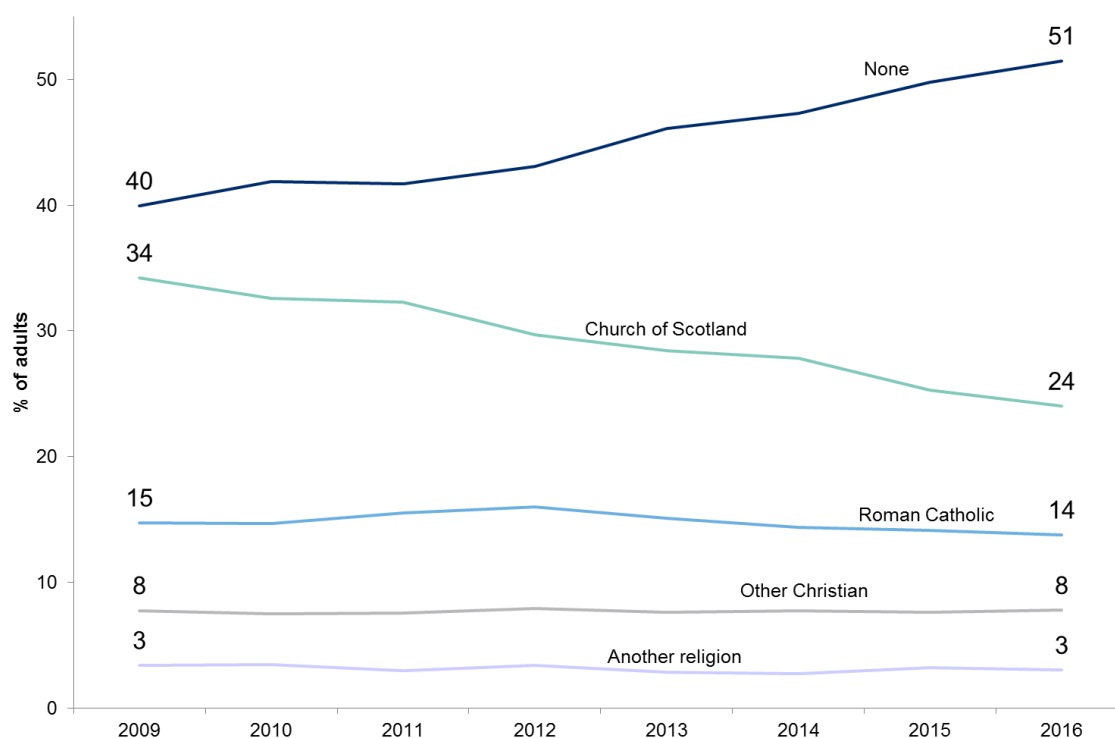
Religion	
None	51.5
Church of Scotland	24.0
Roman Catholic	13.8
Other Christian	7.8
Muslim	1.4
Buddhist	0.3
Sikh	0.1
Jewish	0.1
Hindu	0.3
Pagan	0.2
Another religion	0.6
Total	100
<i>Base</i>	<i>9,640</i>

<sup>19</sup> From January 2012, the same core questions are asked in all Scottish Government cross-sectional surveys. Data from all surveys for these questions will be pooled, to provide better estimates at national and local level. The Scottish Surveys Core Questions (SSCQ) is an annual Official Statistics publication. SSCQ enables the production of reliable and detailed information on the composition, characteristics and attitudes of Scottish households and adults across a number of topic areas including equality characteristics, housing, employment and perceptions of health and crime.

<sup>20</sup> The actual percentage is 51.484 hence rounded to 51.5 in the table but only to 51 when rounded to the whole number in the text.

**Figure 2.3: Religious belonging of adults by year**

2016 data, Adults (minimum base: 9,410)



## Marital status

Exploring the marital status of different age groups reveals the following:

- Young adults are mostly single.
- After age 35 adults are more likely to be married.
- Divorce rate rises after age 45.

**Table 2.7: Characteristics of adults – marital status**

Column percentages, 2016 data

Adults

Marital status	
Never married and never registered a same-sex civil partnership	36
Married	47
In a registered same-sex civil partnership	0
Separated, but still legally married	2
Separated, but still legally in a same-sex civil partnership.	0
Divorced	8
Formerly in a same-sex civil partnership which is now legally dissolved.	0
Widowed.	7
Surviving partner from a same-sex civil partnership	0
Refused	0
Total	100
Base	9,640

Figure 2.4 shows the relationships between current marital status and adults of different ages. Of those adults aged 16 to 24 in 2016, the vast majority (97 per cent) have never been married or been in a same sex civil partnership. For those in the age bands between 35 to 74, marriage is the predominant status and accounts for 60 per cent of adults across these categories. The proportion married or in a civil partnership then drops off slightly for those aged 75 or over (48 per cent) with fewer adults (40 per cent) in this age group reporting being widowed or a bereaved civil partner.

**Figure 2.4: Current marital status of adults by age**

2016 data, Adults (minimum base: 730)

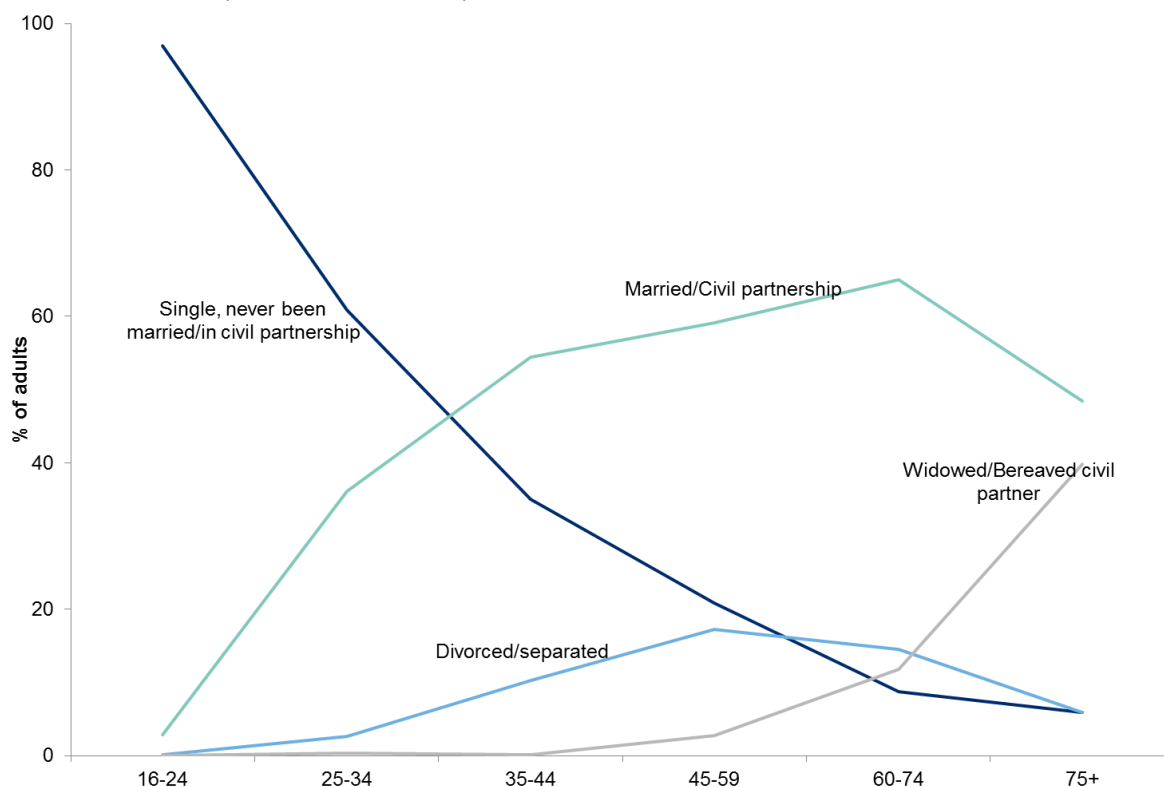


Table 2.8 shows the percentage of each marital status category who are aged 16 to 24, 25 to 34 and so on<sup>21</sup>.

**Table 2.8: Marital status and age of population**

Row percentages, 2016 data

Marital status	16-24	25-34	35-44	45-59	60-74	75+	Total	Base
Single, never been married/in civil partnership	37	27	14	15	5	2	100	3,130
Married/Civil partnership	1	12	17	32	28	10	100	3,990
Divorced/separated	0	4	15	45	30	6	100	1,330
Widowed/Bereaved civil partner	-	1	0	10	35	54	100	1,180
All	14	16	15	26	20	9	100	9,640

<sup>21</sup> Shown as row percentages.



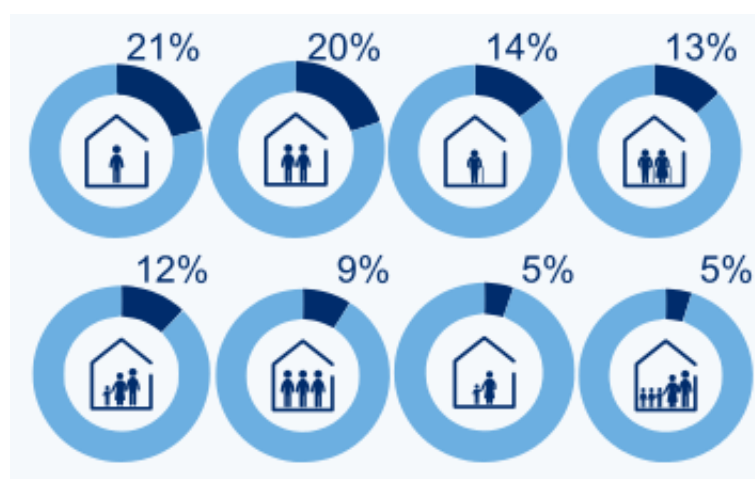
## 2.4 Household Characteristics

The Scottish Household Survey provides estimates of geographical characteristics (Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation and urban/rural classifications), property type, household type, tenure and net household income for households in Scotland.

Household type is derived from the details collected from the household respondent about all household members, using a combination of age and number of people in the household. Full definitions of each household type are included in section 2.1. Combining the data in this way provides an indicator of the life stage and family circumstance of households.

### Family circumstance of households

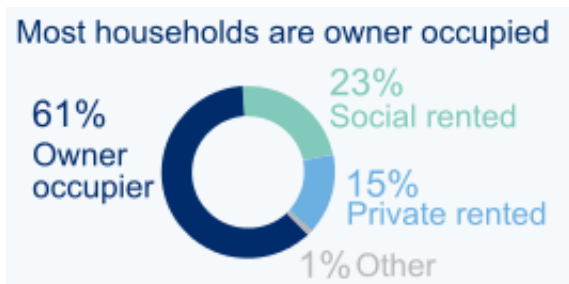
- Less than one in four households in Scotland contain children.
- There are very few families in Scotland with three or more children.
- Over a third of people in Scotland live alone.



Over a third of people in Scotland live alone (35 per cent). Only five per cent of households in Scotland are two adult families with three or more children, or three or more adult families with one or more children. Less than one in five of households in Scotland contain children (Table 2.9).

### House type and tenure

- Most people in Scotland live in a house or bungalow.
- Owner-occupier is the most common type of tenure.



Nearly two-thirds of people in Scotland live in a house or a bungalow with the remaining third living in a flat. Owner-occupier is the most common type of tenure with six out of ten adults living in a home they own outright or are buying, followed by nearly a quarter in the social rented sector. The private rented sector is growing in Scotland. More information on this is contained in Chapter 3 on housing.

### Area type

- Over four in five people in Scotland live in urban areas (including small towns) (83 per cent), with only 17 per cent in rural areas.



### Income

- Almost six out of ten households in Scotland earn less than £25,000 a year and only 20 per cent of Scottish households earn more than £40,000 a year.

Please note that the Scottish Household Survey is not the preferred source of income data. Income data in the SHS is mainly collected to be used to explain other results. The official source of income statistics for Scotland is the Family Resource Survey (FRS). Modelled local level household income estimates provide the best source of income data at a sub-Scotland level. Results from both are available from the Scottish Government website<sup>22</sup>.

<sup>22</sup> FRS based poverty and income inequality results:  
<http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Social-Welfare/IncomePoverty>

Small area income estimates: <http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Built-Environment/Housing/supply-demand/chma/statistics>

**Table 2.9: The characteristics of households in Scotland**

Column percentages, 2016 data

Household Type	
Single adult	21
Small adult	20
Single parent	5
Small family	12
Large family	5
Large adult	9
Older smaller	13
Single older	14
Total	100
<i>Base</i>	<i>10,470</i>

Property Type	
A house or bungalow	64.3
A flat, maisonette or apartment (including four-in-a-block or conversion)	35.3
A room or rooms	0.1
A caravan, mobile home or a	0.1
Some other kind of	0.2
Total	100
<i>Base</i>	<i>10,470</i>

Tenure	
Owner occupied	61
Social rented	23
Private rented	15
Other	1
Total	100
<i>Base</i>	<i>10,470</i>

SIMD quintiles	
1 - Most Deprived	22
2	21
3	20
4	19
5 - Least Deprived	19
Total	100
<i>Base</i>	<i>10,470</i>

Urban/Rural classification	
Large urban areas	36
Other urban areas	35
Accessible small towns	9
Remote small towns	4
Accessible rural	11
Remote rural	6
Total	100
<i>Base</i>	<i>10,470</i>

Total household income	
£0 - £6,000	3
£6,001 - £10,000	9
£10,001 - £15,000	17
£15,001 - £20,000	15
£20,001 - £25,000	13
£25,001 - £30,000	10
£30,001 - £40,000	14
£40,001+	20
Total	100
<i>Base</i>	<i>10,080</i>

## Conclusion

Many interesting features of households in Scotland and the homes they occupy have been examined in this chapter. The next chapter explores housing.

## 3 Housing

### Main Findings

The total number of households in Scotland has increased by 12 per cent from 2.19 million households in 1999 to 2.45 million households in 2016. This means that a specific tenure can have reduced in relative proportion but increased in absolute size.

### Housing Tenure from 1999 to 2016

The proportion of households in the private rented sector has grown steadily from 5 per cent in 1999 to 15 per cent in 2016, an estimated increase of 250,000 households.

The percentage of households in the social rented sector declined from 32 per cent in 1999 to 23 per cent in 2007, an estimated drop of 150,000 households, and has remained at around 23 per cent of all households since then.

The percentage of households in owner occupation grew from 61 per cent in 1999 to 66 per cent in 2005, but then declined by an estimated 90,000 households between 2009 and 2014 to 60 per cent. The level was around the same in 2015 and 2016 at 61 per cent.

### Characteristics of households by tenure, 2016

#### Owned-outright properties (estimated 780,000 households):

Most properties were houses (82 per cent).

Nearly three quarters (72 per cent) of households had a highest-income householder aged 60 and over.

Half of adults in these properties have lived at their address for more than 20 years. The vast majority (85 per cent) of adults in these properties did not expect to move from their current property in the future.

#### Properties owned with a mortgage or loan (estimated 720,000 households):

Thirty seven per cent of households contained children.

Adults in properties owned with a mortgage or loan were more likely to be employed (80 per cent) than adults in other tenures.

Over eight in ten (83 per cent) households had a net income of more than £20,000.

**Private rented properties (estimated 370,000 households):**

Sixty seven per cent of properties were flats and 46 per cent were located in large urban areas.

Over six in ten (62 per cent) of households contained one or two adults under 65 with no children.

Forty one per cent of adults in these properties had been at their address for less than one year.

**Social rented properties (local authority and housing association properties) (estimated 560,000 households):**

Around half (52 per cent) of local authority properties were flats. Thirty seven per cent of properties were located in the 20 per cent most deprived areas.

A little under two-thirds (62 per cent) of housing association properties were flats. Over half (56 per cent) of properties were located in the 20 per cent most deprived areas and 55 per cent were located in large urban areas.

Thirteen per cent of adults in social rented properties were permanently sick or disabled, and a further 9 per cent were unemployed and seeking work.

Over four in ten (44 per cent) of households in social rented accommodation stated that they would most like to live in an owner occupier property, with around half (49 per cent) preferring to live in social rented accommodation.

**Households on housing lists:**

An estimated 110,000 (4 per cent) of households were on a housing list in 2016, a decrease compared with an estimated 130,000 (5 per cent) of households in 2015.

Of households on a housing list in 2016, almost three quarters (72 per cent) were on a single list and over half (53 per cent) had been on a housing list for 3 years or less.

For around a quarter (24 per cent) of social rented households on a housing list, the main reason for being on a list was to move to bigger or smaller property. The main reason for private rented households was that they cannot afford current housing or would like cheaper housing (identified by 31 per cent of private rented households on a housing list).

### 3.1 Introduction and Context

The Scottish Government's vision for housing is that 'All people in Scotland live in high quality sustainable homes that they can afford and that meet their needs'<sup>23</sup>. While the Scottish House Condition Survey (SHCS)<sup>24</sup> is the primary source of information about the physical condition of housing in Scotland, the Scottish Household Survey (SHS) also includes many useful questions on housing which can be used to explore the relationships between living circumstances and the characteristics, attitudes and behaviours of Scottish households.

This chapter presents information on changes to housing tenure in Scotland between 1999 and 2016, along with tenure profiles for 2016 that provide information on characteristics of households by type of tenure.

The SHS has included a question since 2013 on whether a household is on a housing list, and therefore headline analysis on this is also presented. These estimates provide additional evidence on the proportion and number of households that are on housing lists and complement existing sources, such as the Housing Statistics for Scotland (HSfS) publication<sup>25</sup>, which was published on 12 September 2017 and included statistics on the number of households on a local authority or common housing list up to 31 March 2016.

### 3.2 Housing Tenure

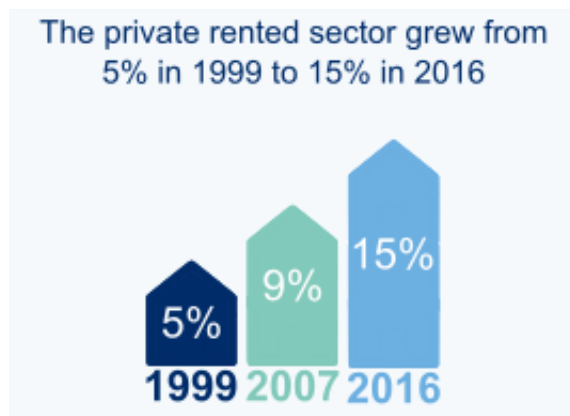
- The proportion of households in the private rented sector has grown steadily from 5 per cent in 1999 to 15 per cent in 2016, an estimated increase of 250,000 households.
- The percentage of households in the social rented sector declined from 32 per cent in 1999 to 23 per cent in 2007, an estimated drop of 150,000 households, and has remained at around 23 per cent of all households since then.
- The percentage of households in owner occupation grew from 61 per cent in 1999 to 66 per cent in 2005, but then declined by an estimated 90,000 households between 2009 and 2014 to 60 per cent. The level was around the same in 2015 and 2016 at 61 per cent.

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<sup>23</sup> Housing and Regeneration Outcomes Framework  
<http://www.gov.scot/About/Performance/scotPerforms/partnerstories/HARO>

<sup>24</sup> [www.gov.scot/SHCS](http://www.gov.scot/SHCS)

<sup>25</sup> <http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Housing-Regeneration/HSfS>



All figures presented in this section on proportions of households in different tenures should be considered in the context of changes over time to the total number of dwellings in Scotland. The number of dwellings in Scotland has increased from 1.77 million in 1969 to 2.58 million in 2016, an increase of 46 per cent over this time period.

This means that a reporting of a decrease over time in the percentage share of a specific group of households does not necessarily mean that this group has reduced in terms of absolute size. Some groups of households may have maintained or increased their absolute size whilst their proportionate share of the total has reduced.

There has been a substantial change in the profile of housing tenure in Scotland since the 1960s. The long-term trend has been a marked increase in the proportion of owner-occupier households, from around 30 per cent in 1969<sup>26</sup> to 66 per cent in 2005, although this percentage then dropped to 60 per cent in 2014, and in 2016 was around the same level at 61 per cent.

This long-term increase has been mirrored over this time period by the decline in the percentage of households in the social rented sector, which in 1969 accounted for around 50 per cent of households compared to 23 per cent in 2015 and 2016. The proportion of households in the private rented sector also decreased from around 20 per cent in 1969 to 5 per cent in 1999, before increasing to 15 per cent in 2016.

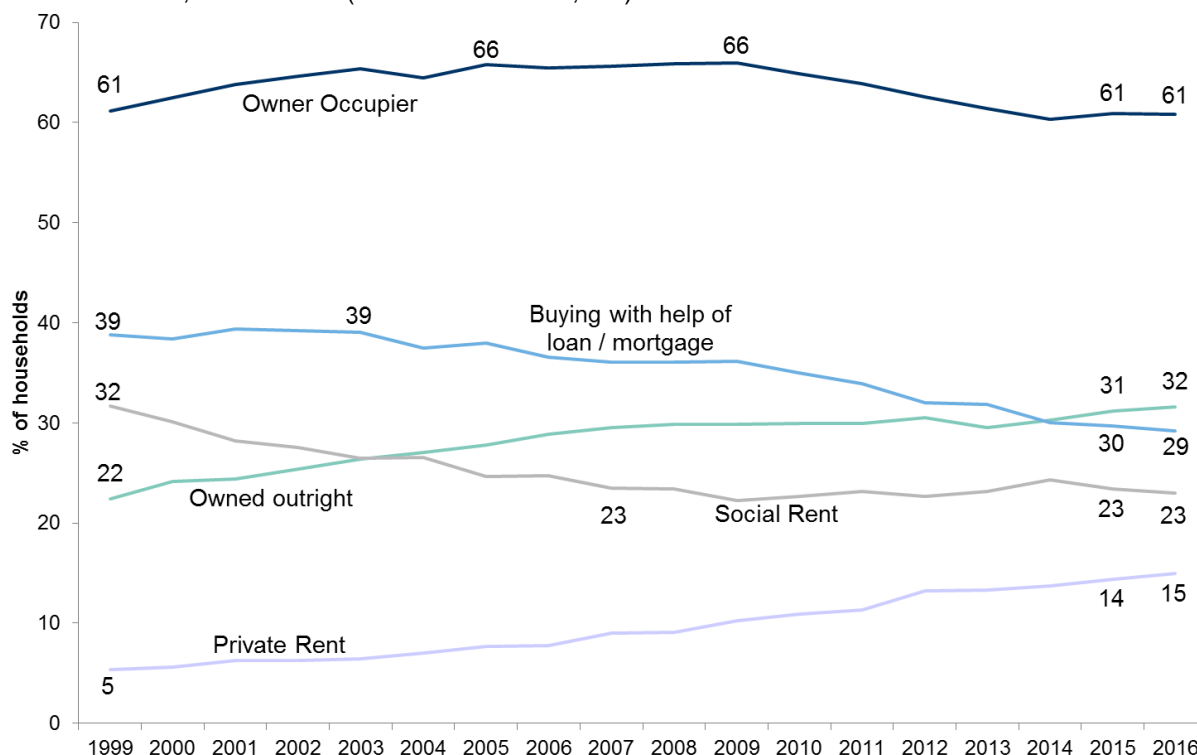
The percentage of households in owner occupation grew from 61 per cent in 1999 to 66 per cent in 2005 (an estimated 12 per cent increase in absolute numbers of households), but declined since 2009 to stand at 60 per cent in 2014 (an estimated 6 per cent decrease in absolute numbers of households), and stayed at around the same level to 2016 (an estimated 2 per cent increase in absolute numbers of households). The increase in total numbers of dwellings in Scotland from 1999 to 2016 means that there are more owner occupier properties in 2016 in terms of absolute numbers (1.49 million households) than there were in 1999 (1.34 million households).

<sup>26</sup> See DCLG Live table 107 at <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/live-tables-on-dwelling-stock-including-vacants>

The decrease in the share of owner occupier households between 2009 and 2014 was driven by a decline in the percentage of households owning their property with a mortgage or loan, from 39 per cent of all households in 2003 to 30 per cent of all households in 2014, after which the figure has remained at similar levels and was 29 per cent in 2016. The proportion of all households owning outright increased steadily from 22 per cent in 1999 to 30 per cent in 2007, a level at which it has remained since then, with a similar figure of 32 per cent seen in 2016.

**Figure 3.1: Tenure of household by year**

1999-2016 data, Households (minimum base: 10,330)



\*Please note the chart excludes 'other' tenure

Trends over the medium term have also seen an increase in the proportion of households in the private rented sector, from 5 per cent in 1999 to 15 per cent in 2016 (an estimated 208 per cent increase in absolute numbers of households). The breakdown of the private rented sector into component parts of households renting from private landlord and households renting from family/friends/employers is available from 2009 onwards.

This shows that the increase in the private rented sector since 2009 has been largely due to growth in the private landlord element of the sector, which has increased from 8 per cent to 13 per cent of all households, whilst the family/friends/employer part of the sector has remained flat at 2 per cent of all households for most of these years.

The percentage of households in the social rented sector has declined from 32 per cent in 1999 to 23 per cent in 2007 (a 22 per cent drop in estimated numbers of households). The



social sector has remained at around 23 per cent of all households for most years since then.

**Table 3.1: Households by tenure and year**

Column percentages and estimates, 1999-2016 data

	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
<b>Owner Occupier</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>61</b>
Owned outright	22	24	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	30	30	30	30	31	30	30	31	32
Buying with help of loan/mortgage	39	38	39	39	39	37	38	37	36	36	36	35	34	32	32	30	30	29
<b>Social Rent</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>23</b>
Local authority	27	25	23	22	20	19	17	17	16	15	14	14	15	13	14	14	13	13
Housing association / Co-op / Charitable trust	5	5	5	6	6	8	7	8	8	8	8	9	9	9	9	10	10	10
<b>Private Rented</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>
Private landlord	5	6	6	6	6	7	8	8	9	9	8	9	10	11	11	12	13	13
Family/Friends/Employer	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	2	2	2	2	2
<b>Other</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>
All	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
<b>Base</b>	<b>14,680</b>	<b>15,550</b>	<b>15,570</b>	<b>15,070</b>	<b>14,880</b>	<b>15,940</b>	<b>15,400</b>	<b>15,620</b>	<b>13,410</b>	<b>13,810</b>	<b>14,190</b>	<b>14,210</b>	<b>14,360</b>	<b>10,640</b>	<b>10,650</b>	<b>10,630</b>	<b>10,330</b>	<b>10,470</b>

	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
<b>Owner Occupier</b>	<b>1,340,000</b>	<b>1,380,000</b>	<b>1,400,000</b>	<b>1,430,000</b>	<b>1,460,000</b>	<b>1,450,000</b>	<b>1,500,000</b>	<b>1,500,000</b>	<b>1,520,000</b>	<b>1,540,000</b>	<b>1,550,000</b>	<b>1,530,000</b>	<b>1,520,000</b>	<b>1,490,000</b>	<b>1,470,000</b>	<b>1,460,000</b>	<b>1,480,000</b>	<b>1,490,000</b>
Owned outright	490,000	530,000	530,000	560,000	590,000	610,000	630,000	660,000	690,000	700,000	700,000	710,000	710,000	730,000	710,000	730,000	760,000	780,000
Buying with help of loan/mortgage	850,000	850,000	860,000	870,000	870,000	840,000	860,000	840,000	840,000	840,000	850,000	830,000	810,000	760,000	760,000	730,000	720,000	720,000
<b>Social Rent</b>	<b>690,000</b>	<b>660,000</b>	<b>620,000</b>	<b>610,000</b>	<b>590,000</b>	<b>600,000</b>	<b>560,000</b>	<b>570,000</b>	<b>540,000</b>	<b>550,000</b>	<b>520,000</b>	<b>540,000</b>	<b>550,000</b>	<b>540,000</b>	<b>560,000</b>	<b>590,000</b>	<b>570,000</b>	<b>560,000</b>
Local authority	580,000	550,000	500,000	490,000	450,000	420,000	390,000	390,000	370,000	350,000	330,000	330,000	350,000	320,000	330,000	330,000	320,000	320,000
Housing association / Co-op / Charitable trust	110,000	110,000	120,000	120,000	140,000	170,000	170,000	180,000	180,000	200,000	190,000	200,000	210,000	220,000	230,000	250,000	240,000	250,000
<b>Private Rented</b>	<b>120,000</b>	<b>120,000</b>	<b>140,000</b>	<b>140,000</b>	<b>140,000</b>	<b>160,000</b>	<b>170,000</b>	<b>180,000</b>	<b>210,000</b>	<b>210,000</b>	<b>240,000</b>	<b>260,000</b>	<b>270,000</b>	<b>320,000</b>	<b>320,000</b>	<b>330,000</b>	<b>350,000</b>	<b>370,000</b>
Private landlord	120,000	120,000	140,000	140,000	140,000	160,000	170,000	180,000	210,000	210,000	190,000	220,000	230,000	270,000	270,000	290,000	310,000	320,000
Family/Friends/Employer	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	50,000	40,000	30,000	40,000	50,000	40,000	40,000	50,000
<b>Other</b>	<b>40,000</b>	<b>40,000</b>	<b>40,000</b>	<b>40,000</b>	<b>40,000</b>	<b>50,000</b>	<b>40,000</b>	<b>50,000</b>	<b>40,000</b>	<b>40,000</b>	<b>40,000</b>	<b>40,000</b>	<b>40,000</b>	<b>40,000</b>	<b>50,000</b>	<b>40,000</b>	<b>30,000</b>	<b>30,000</b>
All*	2,186,100	2,203,160	2,194,564	2,211,430	2,230,797	2,251,262	2,274,283	2,295,185	2,318,966	2,337,967	2,351,780	2,364,850	2,376,424	2,387,211	2,401,788	2,418,335	2,433,956	2,451,869

Note that these estimates differ to the estimated stock of dwellings by tenure figures presented in annual Housing Statistics for Scotland publications. Housing Statistics for Scotland estimates focus on the number of dwellings each year as at March and use separately collected figures on social rent stock.

\* Household estimates are from National Records of Scotland. The 1999 and 2000 estimates are based on 2001 census data, all other years are based on 2011 census data. <http://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/statistics-and-data/statistics/statistics-by-theme/households/household-estimates>

### Age group of the highest income householder

- The proportion of households with a highest earner of age 60 and over has risen gradually from 32 per cent in 1999 to 36 per cent in 2016.
- The proportion of households with a highest earner of age 16 to 34 years fell from 22 per cent in 1999 to 19 per cent in 2003, and has remained around this level since then, being 20 per cent in 2016.

Figure 3.2 shows the trends from 1999 to 2016 in the proportions of households split by age group of the highest income householder. The proportion of households with a highest earner of age 16 to 34 years fell from 22 per cent in 1999 to 19 per cent in 2003, and has remained around this level since then, being 20 per cent in 2016. The percentage of households with a highest earner of age 35 to 59 years increased from 45 per cent in 1999 to 48 per cent in 2003, but has since fallen back to 45 per cent in 2015, where it remained in 2016. The proportion of households with a highest earner of age 60 and over has risen gradually from 32 per cent in 1999 to 36 per cent in 2016.

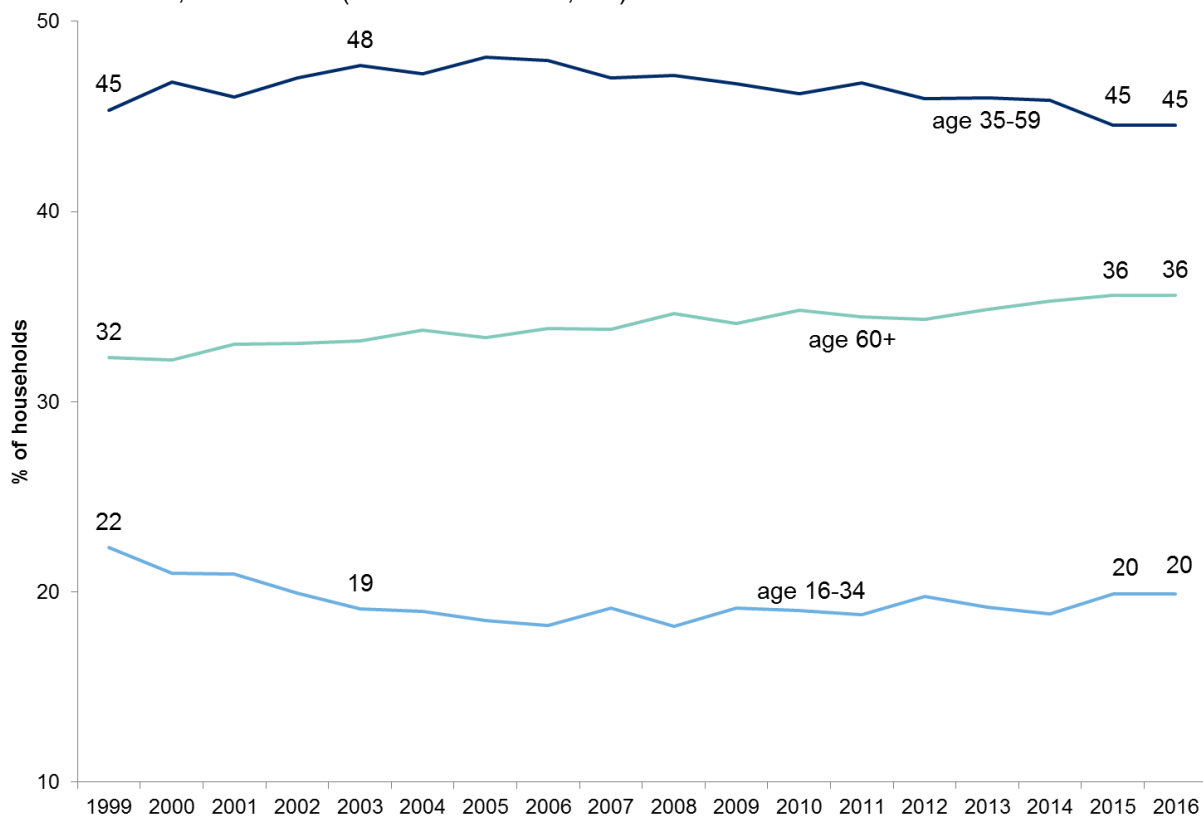
The small fall in the percentage of households aged 16 to 34 years between 1999 and 2016 may be a result of overall demographic population changes, for example an aging of the general population, but might also be a result of some younger people remaining within family homes rather than moving to their own property. Separate Census data on household composition<sup>27</sup> shows that the percentage of people aged 20 to 34 living with their parents increased by 2.2 per cent percentage points between 2001 (23.7 per cent) and 2011 (25.9 per cent).

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<sup>27</sup> NRS Census 2011 Analytical Report on composition for specific groups of people in Scotland [http://www.scotlandscensus.gov.uk/documents/analytical\\_reports/HHper cent20report.pdf](http://www.scotlandscensus.gov.uk/documents/analytical_reports/HHper%20report.pdf)

**Figure 3.2: Households by age of highest income householder, 1999 to 2016**

1999-2016 data, Households (minimum base: 10,330)



### Age and tenure of households

- The proportion of households with a highest earner of age 16 to 34 owning their property with a mortgage increased in the latest year from 28 per cent in 2015 to 33 per cent in 2016, which may reflect the wider availability of high loan to value mortgages in recent years, compared with the post-financial crisis period.
- This annual increase follows a longer term drop in owning with a mortgage for this age group, from 50 per cent in 2003 to 28 per cent in 2014.

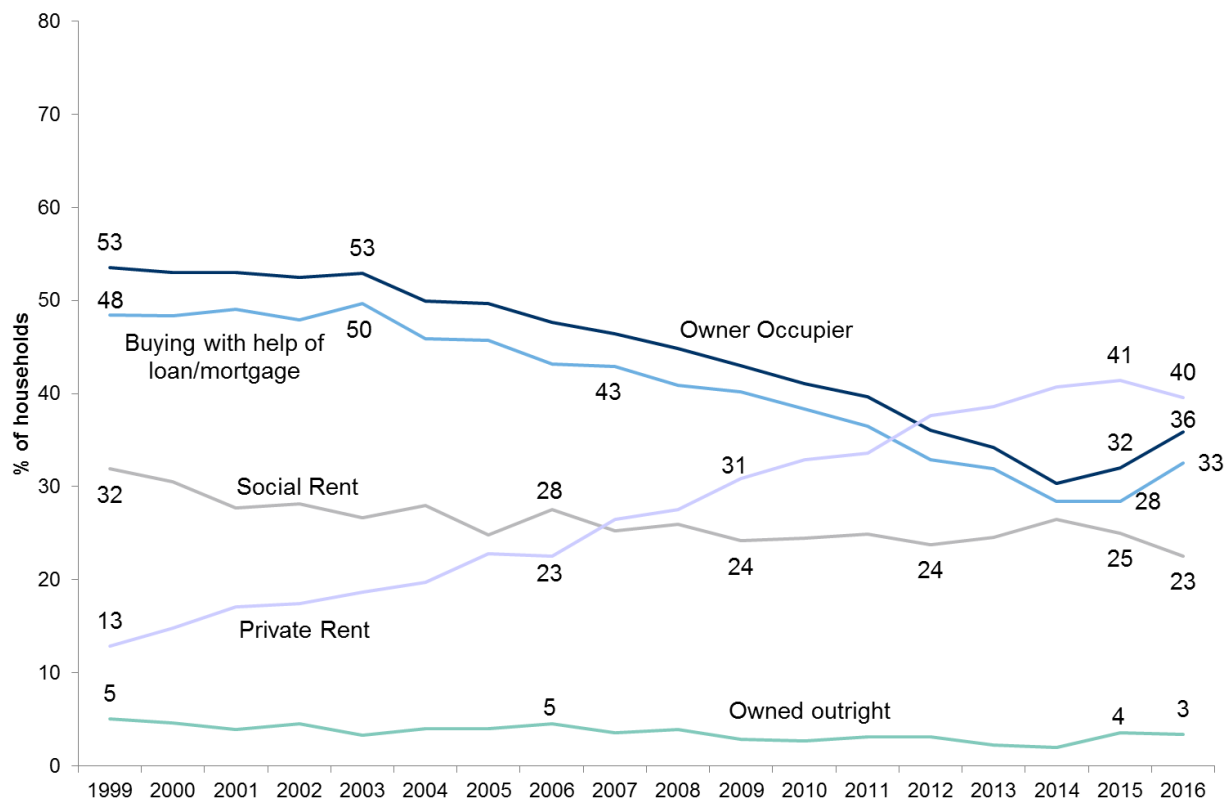
For households with a highest income householder aged between 16 and 34 years, the percentage living in the private rented sector increased substantially from 1999 (13 per cent) to 2015 (41 per cent), before remaining at a similar level of 40 per cent in 2016 (Figure 3.3). The percentage of households in properties owned with a mortgage fell from 50 per cent in 2003 to 28 per cent in 2014, after which the proportion stayed at a similar level in 2015 before increasing to 33 per cent in 2016. Sixty-two per cent of households in 2016 were living in a rented property (either social rented or private rented), a drop from 66 per cent in the previous year 2015.

The increase in the proportion of 16 to 34 year old households owning with a mortgage in 2016 may reflect the wider availability of high loan to value mortgages in recent years, compared with the post-financial crisis period. Data from the Council of Mortgage Lenders

show that the average loan to value ratio on loans for house purchase by first time buyers in Scotland reached 85 per cent in 2016, up from 75 per cent in 2009, while the number of such loans totalled 31,400 in 2016, a 6 per cent increase compared to 2015, and up by 77 per cent from the post-financial crisis low in 2010<sup>28</sup>.

**Figure 3.3: Tenure of households by year (HIH aged 16 to 34)**

1999-2016 data, Households (minimum base: 1,700)

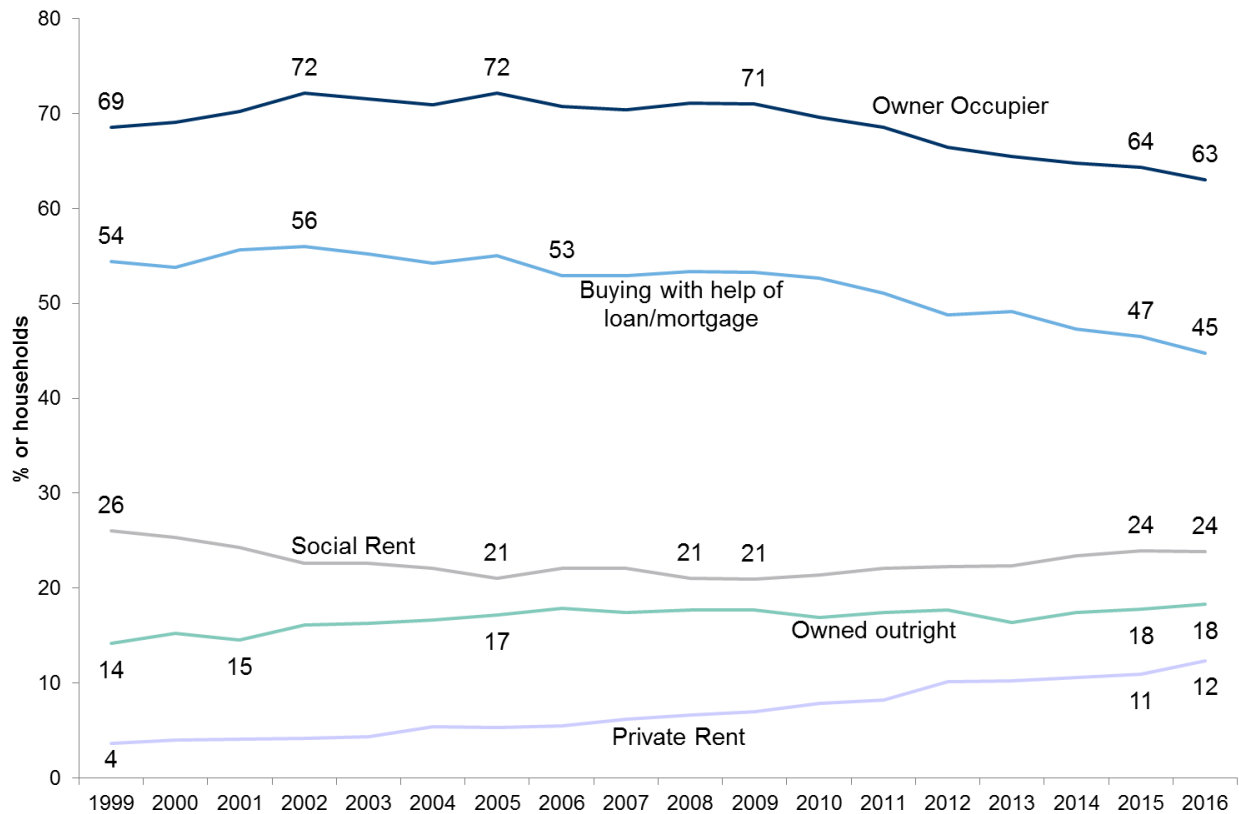


Households in which the age of the highest income earner is between 35 and 59 years (Figure 3.4) have also seen a rise in the percentage renting in the private sector, from 4 per cent in 1999 to 12 per cent in 2016. The proportion owning with a loan or mortgage has correspondingly dropped from 54 per cent in 1999 to 45 per cent in 2016.

<sup>28</sup> <http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Built-Environment/Housing/supply-demand/chma/statistics/SHMRQ2-2017>

**Figure 3.4: Tenure of households by year (HIH aged 35 to 59)**

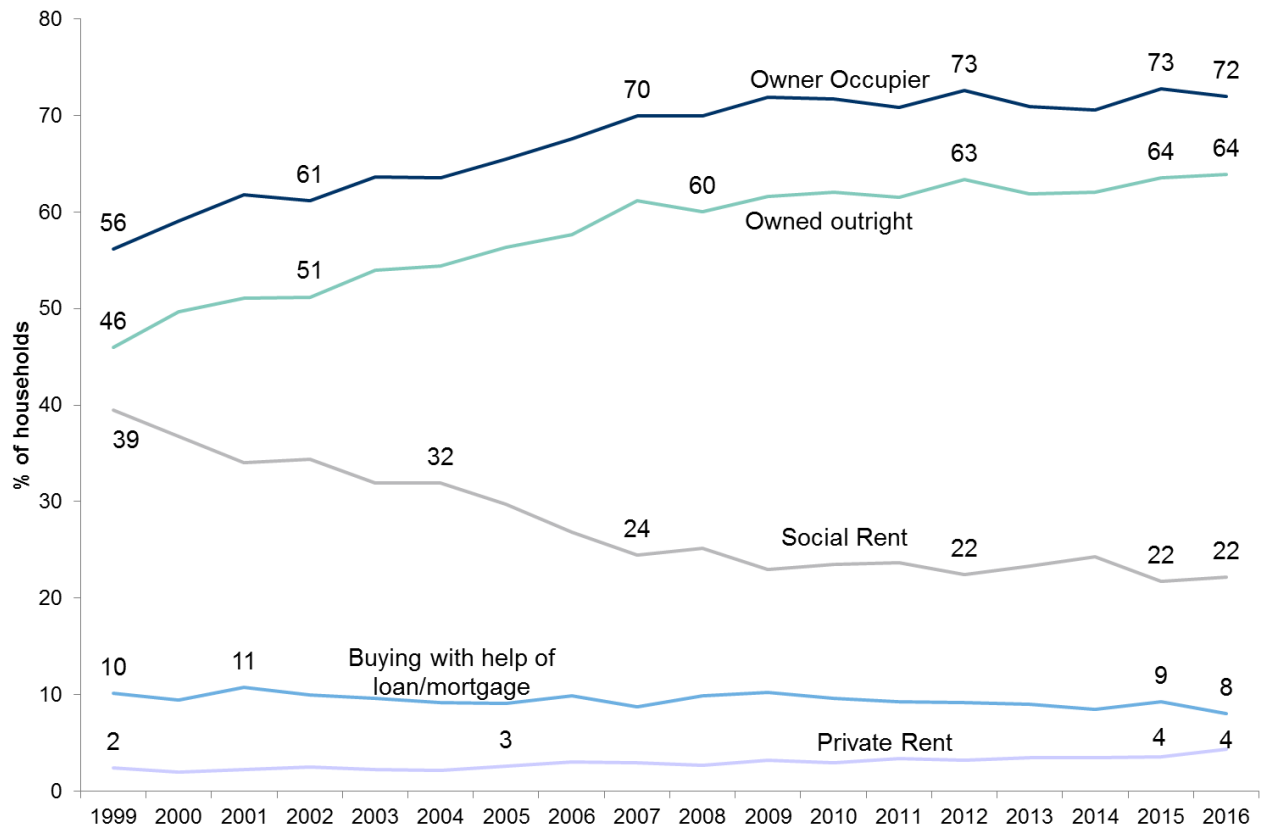
1999-2016 data, Households (minimum base: 4,640)



Households in which the age of the highest income earner is 60 years or over have seen a rise in the percentage who own outright, from 46 per cent in 1999 to 63 per cent in 2012 (Figure 3.5). There has been a corresponding drop in the proportion renting a social sector property from 39 per cent in 1999 to 22 per cent in 2012, after which the proportion has stayed at similar levels.

**Figure 3.5: Tenure of households by year (HIH aged 60 plus)**

1999-2016 data, Households (minimum base: 3,980)



### 3.3 Characteristics of Households by Tenure

- Household characteristics in 2016 show some marked differences by tenure.
- Most (82 per cent) of owned outright properties were houses, and nearly three quarters (72 per cent) of owned outright households had a highest-income householder over the age of 60.
- For households buying properties with a mortgage, 37 per cent contained children, and 80 per cent had an adult who was employed, a figure higher than other tenures.
- Sixty seven per cent of private rented properties were flats and 46 per cent were located in large urban areas. Forty one per cent of adults in private rented properties had been at their address for less than one year.
- Thirteen per cent of adults in social rented properties were permanently sick or disabled, and a further nine per cent were unemployed and seeking work.

The long-term decline in the percentage of social housing has been accompanied by substantial changes in the profile of its tenants. Data from the Scottish Census<sup>29</sup> show that in 1981 the profile of social sector tenants was similar to the profile of all Scottish households in terms of size, composition, and social and economic characteristics. This is no longer the case and household characteristics in 2016 show some marked differences by tenure.

Table 3.2, Table 3.3, Table 3.4, Table 3.5, Table 3.6 and Table 3.7 explore these differences in characteristics for 2016 in more depth across all main tenure categories.

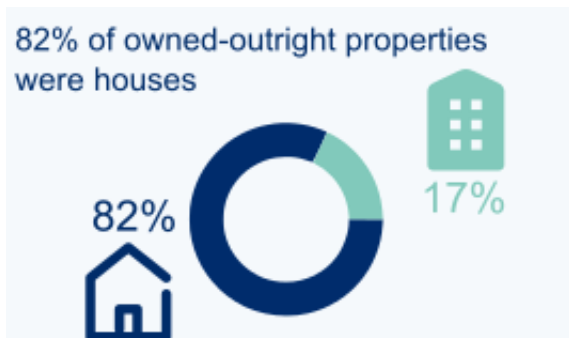
Table 3.2 focuses on housing characteristics for the year 2016 such as dwelling type, location (urban/rural and index of multiple deprivation) as well as size of property as measured by the numbers of bedrooms.

Owned outright properties are much more likely to be houses (82 per cent) than flats (17 per cent). Half (50 per cent) of properties owned outright are located in the 40 per cent least deprived areas of Scotland, while only 12 per cent are in the 20 per cent most deprived areas. Only five per cent of properties owned outright have one bedroom, with nearly two-thirds (64 per cent) of properties having three or more bedrooms.

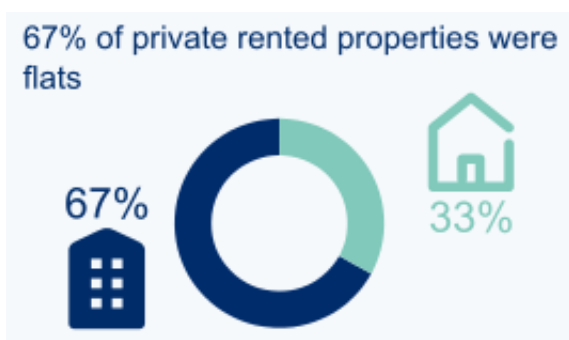
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<sup>29</sup> <http://www.gov.scot/Resource/Doc/201716/0053780.pdf> (Page 35, Chart 10)



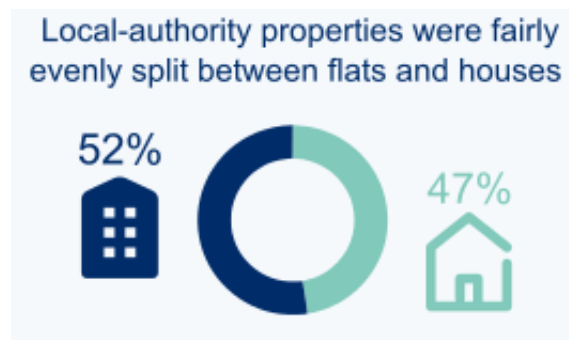
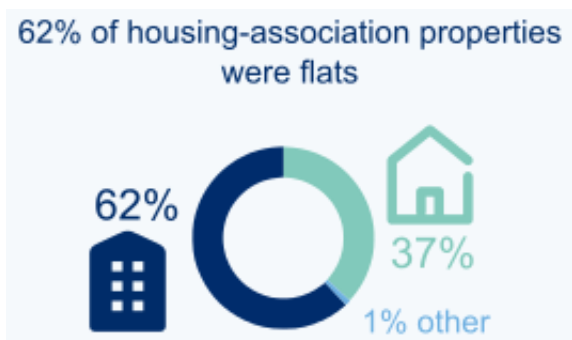


Properties owned with a mortgage or loan have a similar profile to properties owned outright, although they are marginally more likely to be flats, located in large urban areas and in the 20 per cent most deprived areas. In contrast to owner occupied properties, private rented properties are more likely to be flats (67 per cent) than houses (33 per cent), and they are generally much smaller – one in five (24 per cent) have one bedroom and a little under half (47 per cent) have two bedrooms. Eighty-seven per cent of private rented properties are located in urban areas (this includes small towns).



There are slightly more local authority flats (52 per cent) than houses (47 per cent). Thirty seven per cent of local authority properties are located in the 20 per cent most deprived areas of Scotland, while 44 per cent are located in 'other' (i.e. not large) urban areas.

Housing association properties have a broadly similar profile to private rented properties in terms of dwelling type (62 per cent are flats). However, they are more likely than any other tenure to be located in the 20 per cent most deprived areas (56 per cent) and to have one bedroom (30 per cent).



**Table 3.2: Housing characteristics by tenure**

Column percentages, 2016 data

	Owner Occupier			Private Rent	Social Rent Housing association / Co-op / Charitable trust			Other	All
	Owned outright	Buying with help of loan/mortgage	All		Local authority	All	All		
<b>Proportional sizes of sectors</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Dwelling type</b>									
House	82	78	80	33	47	37	43	70	64
Flat	17	22	20	67	52	62	56	30	35
Other	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	.	0
<b>SIMD16</b>									
1 - Most Deprived	12	14	13	20	37	56	46	24	22
2	17	18	18	22	36	20	29	8	21
3	21	20	21	22	17	13	15	31	20
4	24	23	23	19	8	7	8	26	19
5 - Least Deprived	27	25	26	17	2	3	2	12	19
<b>Urban / Rural Classification</b>									
Large urban areas	30	35	32	46	27	55	39	23	36
Other urban areas	33	37	35	31	44	28	37	28	35
Accessible small towns	10	9	10	7	10	6	8	8	9
Remote small towns	4	3	4	3	5	4	4	1	4
Accessible rural	14	12	13	8	10	4	7	20	11
Remote rural	8	4	7	4	4	4	4	19	6
<b>Number of bedrooms</b>									
1 bedroom	5	5	5	24	25	30	27	15	13
2 bedrooms	31	28	30	47	48	46	47	39	36
3 bedrooms	44	41	43	23	25	20	23	35	35
4+ bedrooms	20	26	23	6	3	4	3	11	16
<b>Base</b>	<b>3,650</b>	<b>2,920</b>	<b>6,570</b>	<b>1,390</b>	<b>1,360</b>	<b>1,020</b>	<b>2,380</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>10,470</b>

Table 3.3 provides information on household characteristics for the year 2016 such as number of people in the household, type of household composition, and number of cars.

Households who own outright have the biggest percentage of two-person households (49 per cent) across all main tenure types. Only 15 per cent of owned outright households have three or more people living in them. Correspondingly, households in this tenure are much more likely than other tenures to be older one-person (27 per cent) or older two-person (32 per cent) households. Eighty<sup>30</sup> per cent of households owning outright have at least one car. Almost three quarters (74 per cent) of owned-outright households state that they are managing very well or quite well financially, a figure higher than other tenures.

Households that own with a mortgage or loan have the highest proportion of three people (22 per cent) or four or more people (28 per cent) living in the household. Correspondingly, 37 per cent of these households have children. Over 90 per cent (91 per cent) of households that own with a mortgage or loan have at least one car and 83 per cent of households have a net household income of over £20,000, the highest of any tenure. Sixty-two per cent of private renting households are either single adult households or small adult households. Forty-four per cent of private renting households do not have a car.



The profiles of households in local authority rented properties and those in housing association properties are similar. Social rented households are characterised by large percentages of one-person households (47 per cent), and correspondingly have a high proportion of single adult household compositions (30 per cent). Six in ten (59 per cent) of social sector households do not have a car, and almost half (47 per cent) have a net household income of £15,000 or less. Thirty-one per cent of social sector households state that they manage well financially, a figure lower than other tenures. Around one in five (19 per cent) state that they don't manage well, a figure that is higher than other tenures.

<sup>30</sup> Due to rounding to the whole number, this is displayed in the table as 50 and 31 per cent, however, this sums up to 80.46 per cent.

**Table 3.3: Household characteristics by tenure**

Column percentages, 2016 data

	Owner Occupier			Private Rent	Social Rent Housing association / Co-op /		All	Other	All
	Owned outright	Buying with help of loan/mortgage	All		Local authority	Charitable trust			
<b>Proportional sizes of sectors</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Number of people in household</b>									
1 person	36	19	28	39	47	48	47	50	34
2 people	49	32	40	35	27	25	26	33	36
3 people	9	22	15	14	13	15	14	10	15
4+ people	6	28	17	12	13	12	13	7	15
<b>Household composition</b>									
Large adult	9	12	11	7	7	8	7	3	9
Large family	2	9	5	4	5	5	5	2	5
Older smaller	32	4	18	2	8	6	7	11	13
Single adult	11	18	14	35	29	30	30	26	21
Single parent	1	4	2	9	11	11	11	7	5
Single older	27	2	15	5	18	19	19	24	14
Small adult	16	27	21	27	12	13	12	19	20
Small family	3	25	14	11	10	9	9	8	12
<b>Number of cars</b>									
0 cars	20	9	14	44	57	61	59	39	29
1 car	50	40	45	43	36	30	34	45	42
2+ cars	31	51	40	13	7	8	8	16	29
<b>Net household income</b>									
£0-£6,000	2	1	2	4	3	3	3	7	2
£6,001-£10,000	11	2	7	7	14	17	15	12	9
£10,001-£15,000	17	5	11	18	28	30	29	24	16
£15,001-£20,000	14	7	11	17	22	19	20	18	14
£20,001 plus	50	83	66	49	30	27	29	34	54
Don't know/Refused	5	1	3	5	3	5	4	4	4
<i>Base</i>	<i>3,650</i>	<i>2,920</i>	<i>6,570</i>	<i>1,390</i>	<i>1,360</i>	<i>1,020</i>	<i>2,380</i>	<i>130</i>	<i>10,470</i>
<b>How well household is managing financially*</b>									
Manages well	74	63	69	46	30	33	31	34	56
Gets by	24	31	28	43	52	48	50	52	36
Does not manage well	2	5	3	11	18	19	19	15	8
<i>Base</i>	<i>3,620</i>	<i>2,900</i>	<i>6,520</i>	<i>1,380</i>	<i>1,350</i>	<i>1,010</i>	<i>2,350</i>	<i>130</i>	<i>10,380</i>

\*Excludes Don't know / Refused responses. The "Manage well" category has been created by combining the response categories "Manages very well" and "Manages quite well". The "Does not manage well" category has been created by combining the response categories "Does not manage very well", "Has some financial difficulties" and "Is in deep financial trouble".

Table 3.4 provides information on characteristics for the year 2016 such as age, ethnicity, length of tenure and tenure of previous address.

Adults in households who own outright tend to be older compared to other tenures, with 72 per cent having a highest income householder aged 60 years or more. Over half (55 per cent) of adults in owned-outright properties are estimated to be permanently retired from work, and half (50 per cent) have been in living in the same address for more than 20 years. Of the small proportion (3 per cent) of adults who have moved into their address within the previous year, it is estimated that nearly half (47 per cent) have moved from another owned-outright property.



Households owning with a mortgage or a loan are more likely to have a highest income householder of age 35 to 44 (27 per cent) or 45 to 59 (41 per cent) than any other tenure. Based on random adult householder interviews, adults in properties owned with a mortgage or loan were more likely to be employed<sup>31</sup> (80 per cent) than adults in other tenures. Of the 9 per cent of adults who have moved into their address in the previous year, an estimated 38 per cent moved from another property owned with a mortgage and a further 21 per cent moved from the private rented sector.

Households in private rented accommodation are more likely to have a highest income householder aged 16 to 24 (19 per cent) or 25 to 34 (34 per cent) than other tenures. An estimated 21 per cent of adults in the private rented sector are in school or further/higher education. Only 57 per cent have recorded their ethnicity as white Scottish, which is much lower than other tenures, while 41 per cent have been at their current address for less than one year, much higher than any other tenure. For those who have moved into their property in the last year, over half (55 per cent) moved from another private rented dwelling, whilst 26 per cent moved from living at their parental home.

Adults living in local authority dwellings and housing association properties have a very similar profile of person characteristics. Adults in social rented properties have a higher proportion of people permanently sick or disabled (13 per cent) compared to adults in private rented households or owner occupier households, and a higher proportion of people unemployed and seeking work (9 per cent) compared to other tenures. Eighty-seven per cent of people in social sector properties record their ethnicity as white Scottish, compared with 79 per cent for Scotland as a whole. For the 12 per cent who have moved into their property in the last year, 49 per cent had moved from another social rented property.

<sup>31</sup> Includes full-time, part-time and self-employed.

**Table 3.4: Adult characteristics by tenure**

Column percentages, 2016 data

	Owner Occupier			Private Rent	Social Rent		All	Other	All
	Owned outright	Buying with help of loan/mortgage	All		Local authority	Housing association / Co-op / Charitable trust			
<b>Proportional sizes of sectors*</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Ethnicity</b>									
White Scottish	83	80	81	57	89	84	87	74	79
White other British	13	12	13	16	5	8	6	14	12
White Polish	0	2	1	5	3	2	3	.	2
White other	2	3	2	11	1	2	2	2	3
Any Mixed or Multiple Ethnic Groups	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	0
Asian, Asian Scottish or Asian British	1	2	2	8	1	1	1	3	2
African, Caribbean or Black	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	4	1
Other Ethnic Group	1	0	0	2	0	1	1	1	1
Don't know	-	-	-	0	-	-	-	-	0
Refused	-	0	0	0	-	-	-	-	0
<b>Economic situation</b>									
Self employed	6	8	7	8	3	2	3	7	6
Employed full time	22	59	41	41	23	26	24	25	37
Employed part time	7	13	10	8	10	11	11	6	10
Looking after the home or family	2	4	3	8	10	9	9	10	5
Permanently retired from work	55	5	29	6	23	22	23	32	25
Unemployed and seeking work	1	1	1	5	10	8	9	8	3
At school	1	4	2	1	2	2	2	-	2
In further / higher education	2	5	3	20	3	5	4	5	6
Gov't work or training scheme	-	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	0
Permanently sick or disabled	2	1	1	2	13	13	13	6	4
Unable to work because of short-term illness or injury	0	0	0	1	3	3	3	1	1
Other (specify)	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	-	0
<b>Length of time at current address</b>									
Less than one year	3	9	6	41	12	12	12	20	12
1 to 2 years	5	14	10	27	14	16	15	14	13
3 to 4 years	5	11	8	15	14	14	14	15	10
5 to 10 years	12	27	20	12	20	28	24	18	19
11 to 20 years	25	28	27	3	19	21	20	12	22
More than 20 years	50	10	29	2	20	9	16	22	23
Average time at current address in years	22.3	9.9	15.9	2.8	11.9	8.9	10.6	11.8	12.9
<i>Base</i>	<i>3,440</i>	<i>2,610</i>	<i>6,050</i>	<i>1,270</i>	<i>1,260</i>	<i>940</i>	<i>1,390</i>	<i>120</i>	<i>9,640</i>
<b>Age</b>									
16 to 24	1	2	1	19	6	5	5	9	5
25 to 34	2	20	11	34	14	14	14	23	15
35 to 44	3	27	14	19	16	18	17	11	16
45 to 59	23	41	32	18	28	30	29	15	29
60 to 74	45	8	27	8	24	21	23	15	23
75 plus	27	2	15	3	11	12	12	27	13
<i>Base</i>	<i>3,650</i>	<i>2,920</i>	<i>6,570</i>	<i>1,390</i>	<i>1,360</i>	<i>1,020</i>	<i>2,380</i>	<i>130</i>	<i>10,470</i>
<b>Tenure of previous address**</b>									
Owned outright	47	5	16	5	3	2	3	-	8
Buying with help of loan/mortgage	20	38	33	7	9	4	7	-	15
Private Rented	13	21	19	55	16	23	19	-	36
Rent – Local authority	8	4	5	2	38	13	27	-	8
Rent - Housing association/Coop/Charitable trust	2	3	3	2	7	41	22	-	6
Other	4	4	4	3	6	6	6	-	4
In parental/family home	6	26	21	26	20	11	16	-	22
<i>Base</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>220</i>	<i>320</i>	<i>470</i>	<i>150</i>	<i>110</i>	<i>260</i>	<i>20</i>	<i>1,080</i>

\* Based on Household sample (base: 10,470)

\*\* Only asked of those who have been at their current address for less than a year

Responses for ethnicity, economic situation, length of time at current address and tenure of previous address are based on the random adult part of the survey, and therefore reflect characteristics of adults within households rather than the entire household.

### Neighbourhood views, reasons for moving and future housing aspirations

- Over a third of households who own their property outright moved to their area to get the right size or kind of property.
- Around one in five households in private rented accommodation moved to their area to be close to work or employment.
- Only 19 per cent of households in private rented accommodation had a very strong feeling of belonging to their immediate neighbourhood (45 per cent of households who own outright).
- Seven in ten households in private rented accommodation state that the type of accommodation they would most like to live in would be an owner occupier property.
- Over four in ten (44 per cent) of households in social rented accommodation state that the type of accommodation they would most like to live in would be an owner occupier property, with around half (49 per cent) preferring to live in social rented accommodation.

Table 3.5 provides information for the year 2016 on people's views on their neighbourhood, their reasons for moving to the area, and their future housing aspirations.

Over a third (36 per cent) of households who own their property outright moved to their area to get the right size or kind of property, a figure higher than for rented tenures. Over two thirds (68 per cent) of households who own outright rate their neighbourhood as a very good place to live, with a further 30 per cent rating their neighbourhood as fairly good. Nearly half (45 per cent) of households who own outright have a very strong feeling of belonging to their immediate neighbourhood, with a further 41 per cent having a fairly strong feeling of belonging. Eighty five per cent of households who own outright expect not to move from their current property in the future, and nearly all owned-outright households (99 per cent) state that the type of accommodation they would most like to live in would be an owner occupier property.

Similar to owned-outright households, a third (34 per cent) of households owning with a mortgage or a loan moved to their area to get the right size or kind of property. Nearly one in five (20 per cent) of households owning with a mortgage or a loan state that they would expect to move from their current property within 5 years. Almost three quarters (73 per cent) expect not to move from their current property in the future. Similar to owned-outright households, nearly all (97 per cent) of households owning with a mortgage or a loan state that the type of accommodation they would most like to live in would be an owner occupier property.

Around one in five (21 per cent) households in private rented accommodation moved to their area to be close to work or employment, a higher percentage figure than other tenures. Only 19 per cent of households in private rented accommodation had a very strong feeling of belonging to their immediate neighbourhood, whilst 40 per cent felt not very strongly or not at all strongly; the highest of any tenure. Over half (54 per cent) of households in private rented accommodation expect to move from their current property within the next 5 years, a percentage much higher than in other tenures. Seven in ten (70 per cent) households in private rented accommodation state that the type of accommodation they would most like to live in would be an owner occupier property. Nine per cent would most like to live in social rented accommodation and 18 per cent would most like to live in private rented accommodation.

Local authority dwellings and housing association properties show a very similar profile. Around four in ten (41 per cent) of households in social rented properties rated their neighbourhood as a very good place to live, a percentage which is lower than other tenures. Almost eight in ten (79 per cent) expect not to move from their current property in the future. Over four in ten (44 per cent) of households in social rented accommodation state that the type of accommodation they would most like to live in would be an owner occupier property, with around half (49 per cent) preferring to live in social rented accommodation.

44% of social rented households would most like to live in an owner-occupier property



49% would most like to live in a social rented home



**Table 3.5: Views on neighbourhood and housing aspirations, by tenure**

Column percentages, 2016 data

	Owner Occupier			Private Rent	Social Rent			Other	All
	Owned outright	Buying with help of loan/mortgage	All		Local authority	Housing association / Co-op / Charitable trust	All		
<b>Proportional sizes of sectors*</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Reasons for moving to area</b>									
To be near family/friends	7	10	8	9	12	9	11	18	9
To be close to work/employment	11	11	11	21	3	3	3	19	11
Change in family/household circumstances / left home	25	23	24	29	30	31	30	19	26
To buy own house/flat or rent place of own	13	21	17	9	9	7	8	2	13
Health reasons, including move to bungalow / flat	3	1	2	1	9	11	10	5	4
Moved to sheltered housing / supported accommodation	-	0	0	0	2	2	2	-	1
Like the area / nice area	18	17	18	15	8	11	9	10	15
Move to the countryside / sea	2	2	2	1	0	1	0	-	2
Good schools	2	4	3	1	1	-	0	3	2
Good services / amenities	1	2	2	3	2	3	2	5	2
Good transport	1	1	1	1	-	0	0	-	1
Wanted a garden / land	3	3	3	1	1	-	1	2	2
Right size / kind of property	36	34	35	17	27	20	24	20	29
Cheaper property	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	4	2
No choice - allocated by council / Housing Association, eviction	1	1	1	3	10	15	12	4	4
To avoid violence / discrimination	1	1	1	1	3	2	2	4	1
Other	1	1	1	2	2	1	2	4	1
Don't know	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	-	0
<b>Base</b>	<b>1,120</b>	<b>900</b>	<b>2,020</b>	<b>450</b>	<b>470</b>	<b>360</b>	<b>830</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>3,360</b>
<b>Rating of neighbourhood as a place to live</b>									
Very good	68	60	63	49	43	40	41	56	57
Fairly good	30	37	34	45	47	49	48	37	38
Fairly poor	2	2	2	5	8	7	7	3	4
Very poor	1	0	0	1	3	4	3	4	1
No opinion	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	-	0
<b>Strength of belonging to immediate neighbourhood</b>									
Very strongly	45	33	39	19	32	35	33	38	35
Fairly strongly	41	46	44	39	42	42	42	26	42
Not very strongly	11	17	14	27	16	15	15	19	16
Not at all strongly	2	4	3	13	8	8	8	13	5
Don't know	0	0	0	2	1	1	1	3	1
<b>Base</b>	<b>3,440</b>	<b>2,610</b>	<b>6,050</b>	<b>1,270</b>	<b>1,260</b>	<b>940</b>	<b>2,200</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>9,640</b>
<b>When the householder expects to move</b>									
Within 6 months	1	3	2	16	2	3	2	-	4
Over 6 months to less than 1 year	1	2	2	12	3	4	3	-	3
Over 1 year, less than 2 years	2	4	3	14	4	4	4	-	5
Over 2 years, less than 3 years	1	3	2	8	2	2	2	-	3
Over 3 years, less than 4 years	1	4	2	2	2	0	1	-	2
Over 4 years, less than 5 years	1	3	2	2	1	1	1	-	2
More than 5 years	3	5	4	3	1	1	1	-	3
Don't expect to move	85	73	79	35	79	79	79	-	72
Don't know	4	3	4	8	5	4	5	-	4
<b>Accommodation householder would like to live in</b>									
Owner occupier	99	97	98	70	46	41	44	-	82
Local Authority Rent	0	1	1	7	42	5	26	-	7
Housing Association Rent	0	1	0	2	5	47	23	-	6
Private Rent	0	0	0	18	1	0	1	-	3
Sheltered / Supported accommodation	0	0	0	1	4	4	4	-	1
Other	-	-	-	0	-	1	0	-	0
Don't know	0	1	1	2	2	1	1	-	1
<b>Base</b>	<b>1,160</b>	<b>980</b>	<b>2,140</b>	<b>450</b>	<b>410</b>	<b>310</b>	<b>720</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>3,350</b>

\* Based on Household sample (base: 10,470)

\*\* Columns may not add up to 100 per cent since multiple responses were allowed

## Housing adaptations and support

- Households in social rented accommodation (60 per cent) were more likely than other tenures to have a member of the household with a physical or mental health condition or illness lasting or expecting to last 12 months or more.
- The most common types of home adaptations already in place for all homes (whether needed or not) are handrails, which are in 10 per cent of all homes, and in 15 per cent of social sector homes.
- Over one in ten (12 per cent) of social sector homes have a specially designed or adapted bath or shower, and 5 per cent of social sector homes have a specially designed or adapted toilet.

Table 3.6 and Table 3.7 provide information for the year 2016 on housing adaptations and support.

Households owning their property outright (44 per cent) and households in social rented accommodation (60 per cent) were more likely than other tenures to have a member of the household with a physical or mental health condition or illness lasting or expecting to last 12 months or more.

For households with a person with a physical or mental health condition, the most common aspects of their home that limit activities that can be done (based on the question options provided in the Scottish Household Survey) are not being able to get upstairs inside the house (six per cent) and the bath or shower being difficult to access or use (four per cent). Of all households with a person with a physical or mental health condition, 86 per cent stated that nothing about the home limited activities that could be done.

Twelve per cent of households with a person with a physical or mental health condition state that their home requires adaptations to make it easier to go about daily activities, rising to 16 per cent for those in social rented accommodation.

The most common types of home adaptations already in place for all homes (whether needed or not) are handrails, which are in 10 per cent of all homes, and in 15 per cent of social sector homes. Over one in ten (12 per cent) of social sector homes have a specially designed or adapted bath or shower, and five per cent of social sector homes have a specially designed or adapted toilet.

Two per cent of all households currently receive a home care worker or home help to help with housework, cooking and cleaning, whilst two per cent receive a home care worker to help with washing, bathing, dressing etc. Four per cent of homes receive some sort of assistance from a relative, friend or neighbour, rising to seven per cent of social sector homes.

**Table 3.6: Limiting activities by tenure**

Column percentages, 2016 data

	Owner Occupier			Private Rent	Social Rent		All	Other	All
	Owned outright	Buying with help of loan/mort gage	All		Local authority	Housing associatio n / Co-op / Charitable trust			
<b>Proportional sizes of sectors*</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Household has someone with a long term physical/mental health condition/illness**</b>									
Yes	44	24	35	25	60	59	60	46	39
No	56	76	65	75	40	41	40	54	61
<i>Base</i>	<i>3,650</i>	<i>2,920</i>	<i>6,570</i>	<i>1,390</i>	<i>1,360</i>	<i>1,020</i>	<i>2,380</i>	<i>130</i>	<i>10,470</i>
<b>What about the home limits activities that can be done***</b>									
Can't get upstairs inside house	8	6	8	7	4	6	5	-	6
Too small / need more rooms	0	-	0	-	0	1	0	-	0
Can't leave house because of stairs	1	1	1	1	2	1	2	-	1
Restricted movement / can't get around the house due to design / Doors too narrow	2	1	1	3	2	1	2	-	2
Rooms too small	0	-	0	-	0	1	1	-	0
Bath / shower difficult to access / Toilet difficult to access / use	4	3	4	2	5	7	6	-	4
Electric lights / sockets are difficult	1	1	1	1	2	3	2	-	2
Heating controls are difficult to	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	-	1
Can't open windows	1	2	1	2	1	3	2	-	1
Difficulty answering / opening door	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	-	1
Cupboards / shelves are difficult to	2	2	2	1	1	3	2	-	2
Can't get into / use garden	1	1	1	-	1	1	1	-	1
Other	1	0	0	-	0	0	0	-	0
None / nothing	87	88	87	91	85	82	84	-	86
<b>Whether the home requires adaptations to make it easier to go about daily activities ***</b>									
Yes	10	7	9	9	15	18	16	-	12
No	89	92	90	91	83	82	83	-	87
Don't know	1	1	1	-	2	-	1	-	1
<i>Base</i>	<i>550</i>	<i>250</i>	<i>800</i>	<i>130</i>	<i>320</i>	<i>240</i>	<i>560</i>	<i>30</i>	<i>1,510</i>

\* Based on Household sample (base: 10,470)

\*\* A long term condition is defined as lasting or expecting to last for 12 months or more

\*\*\* Asked of households with someone with a long term condition/illness

Columns may not add up to 100 due to multiple answers allowed

**Table 3.7: Housing adaptations and support, by tenure**

Column percentages, 2016 data

	Owner Occupier			Private Rent	Social Rent			Other	All
	Owned outright	Buying with help of loan/mortgage	All		Local authority	Housing association / Co-op / Charitable trust	All		
<b>Proportional sizes of sectors*</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Home adaptations that are already in place</b>									
Ramps	4	3	4	1	5	3	4	4	3
Door widening	2	2	2	0	2	4	3	7	2
Relocated light switches and power points	1	1	1	1	3	3	3	2	1
Individual alarm systems	3	1	2	0	4	4	4	3	2
Stairlift	3	1	2	0	2	1	1	4	2
Through floor lift	0	0	0	-	0	0	0	-	0
Handrails	13	5	9	5	17	12	15	21	10
Specially designed / adapted kitchen	1	0	0	0	2	2	2	-	1
Specially designed / adapted bathroom / shower	8	2	5	2	14	9	12	5	6
Specially designed / adapted toilet	4	2	3	1	6	3	5	4	3
Door entry phone	2	2	2	5	7	8	7	7	4
Extension to meet disabled person's needs	0	0	0	-	0	0	0	-	0
Special Furniture	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	-	1
Other	-	-	-	-	0	0	0	-	0
None needed / provided	78	89	84	88	67	74	70	67	81
Don't know	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	1
<b>Services that household members currently receive</b>									
Home care worker / home help (helping with housework, cooking, cleaning)	3	1	2	0	5	5	5	9	2
Home care worker (helping with washing / bathing, dressing, toilet)	2	0	1	0	3	3	3	1	2
Meals delivered to home / meals on wheels	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	0
Day care / day centre (in hospital, residential home or other organisation)	0	-	0	1	1	1	1	-	0
Respite / short term care in residential / nursing home	1	0	0	0	1	-	0	-	0
Occupational therapy / physiotherapy	1	0	1	1	2	2	2	-	1
Help with shopping	2	1	1	1	4	3	4	5	2
Night care (someone present at night only)	0	-	0	0	1	1	1	-	0
Assistance from relative / friend / neighbour	4	1	3	2	9	5	7	4	4
None	91	98	94	97	86	87	87	89	93
<b>Base</b>	<b>1,260</b>	<b>1,010</b>	<b>2,270</b>	<b>480</b>	<b>530</b>	<b>390</b>	<b>910</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>3,730</b>

\* Based on Household sample (base: 10,470)

Columns may not add up to 100 due to multiple answers allowed

### 3.4 Housing Lists

- An estimated 110,000 (4 per cent) of households were on a housing list in 2016, a decrease compared with an estimated 130,000 (5 per cent) of households in 2015.
- Of households on a housing list in 2016, almost three quarters (72 per cent) were on a single list and over half (53 per cent) had been on a housing list for 3 years or less.
- For around a quarter (24 per cent) of social rented households on a housing list, the main reason for being on a list was to move to bigger or smaller property. The main reason for private rented households was that they cannot afford current housing or would like cheaper housing. This was identified by 31 per cent of private rented households on a housing list.

The number of people on housing lists helps provide an indication of the demand for social housing. In Scotland anyone over the age of 16 has the right to be admitted to a housing list. Since there is no test of particular housing need at the stage that an application is made, housing lists are indicators of demand and not necessarily of housing need.

Housing lists are held by social landlords, local authorities and housing associations, individually or jointly as Common Housing Registers. They can include people who are already in social housing but are seeking a move and in some cases applicants will be on more than one landlord's list. Social landlords are responsible for allocating their housing, in line with their allocation policies and the legislative framework.

The Housing (Scotland) Act 2014 contains provisions intended to support social landlords to allocate and manage their housing in a way which balances the variety of housing needs in their area and gives local communities a greater say in who gets priority for housing.

A question on whether a household was on a housing list was introduced to the SHS in 2013, with additional, supplementary questions introduced in 2016. These questions are asked of the random adult<sup>32</sup>. Table 3.8 provides information on households on a housing list in 2016.

Eleven per cent of private rented households state that they are on a housing list, of which almost three quarters (73 per cent) are only on one list. Around half (51 per cent) of private rented households on a housing list had been so for 3 years or less, with one third (33 per cent) on a list for 1 to 3 years. Twelve per cent had been on a housing list for more than 10 years. For over three in ten (31 per cent) of private rented households on a housing list, the main reason for being on a housing list was that they can't afford current housing or

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<sup>32</sup> Further explanation of the interview structure is contained in the Introduction to the Survey

would like cheaper housing. This was a much larger percentage than the equivalent figure for social rented households (3 per cent).

Nine per cent of social rented households state that they are on a housing list, of which 71 per cent are only on one list. Fifty-nine per cent of social rented households on a housing list had been so for 3 years or less, with almost one third (29 per cent) on a list for less than a year. Eight per cent had been on a housing list for more than 10 years. For around a quarter (24 per cent) of social rented households on a housing list, the main reason for being on a housing list was to move to a bigger or smaller property.

**Table 3.8: Households on a Housing List by tenure**

Column percentages, 2016 data

	Owner Occupier			Private Rent	Social Rent			Other	All
	Owned outright	Buying with help of loan/mortgage	All		Local authority	Housing association / Co-op / Charitable trust	All		
<b>Whether household is on a housing list</b>									
Yes	1	1	1	11	10	8	9	10	4
No	99	99	99	88	88	90	89	89	95
Don't know/Refused	0	0	0	1	2	2	2	1	1
<i>Base</i>	<i>3,440</i>	<i>2,610</i>	<i>6,050</i>	<i>1,270</i>	<i>1,260</i>	<i>940</i>	<i>2,200</i>	<i>120</i>	<i>9,640</i>
<b>How many housing lists households are on (households on a list)</b>									
1 list	-	-	-	73	69	75	71	-	72
2 lists	-	-	-	13	10	11	11	-	12
3 or more lists	-	-	-	9	6	5	5	-	7
Don't know	-	-	-	6	15	10	13	-	9
<b>How long has the household been on a housing list (households on a list)</b>									
Less than a year	-	-	-	18	34	21	29	-	24
1 to 3 years	-	-	-	33	27	35	30	-	30
4 to 5 years	-	-	-	20	18	14	17	-	18
6 to 10 years	-	-	-	13	12	17	14	-	14
More than 10 years	-	-	-	12	7	9	8	-	11
Don't know	-	-	-	4	3	3	3	-	3
<b>Main reason for household being on a housing list (households on a list)</b>									
Can't afford current housing/Would like cheaper housing	-	-	-	31	-	7	3	-	13
Threatened with homelessness	-	-	-	11	12	5	9	-	12
To move to a different area - anti-social/safety concerns in current area	-	-	-	2	9	8	8	-	5
To move to a different area - for work opportunities	-	-	-	2	3	3	3	-	2
To move to a different area - to a better area	-	-	-	5	11	3	8	-	6
To move to a different area - to be nearer family and friends	-	-	-	8	9	11	10	-	8
To move to a different area - other reason	-	-	-	3	1	0	1	-	2
To move to a different property - bigger/smaller	-	-	-	11	22	26	24	-	17
To move to a different property - need adaptations	-	-	-	3	5	1	4	-	4
To move to a different property - need ground floor access	-	-	-	2	10	12	11	-	8
To move to my own property away from parents/partner etc	-	-	-	8	7	6	6	-	8
To move to a different property - other reason	-	-	-	9	6	4	5	-	7
Other	-	-	-	4	4	6	4	-	5
Don't know	-	-	-	-	1	8	4	-	2
<i>Base</i>	<i>20</i>	<i>20</i>	<i>40</i>	<i>160</i>	<i>120</i>	<i>80</i>	<i>200</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>400</i>

Table 3.9 and Table 3.10 present the results for 2016 based on the percentage of respondents who indicated that they were on at least one housing list, whether through a Council, Registered Social Landlord (RSL) or a Common Housing Register (CHR).

**Table 3.9: Adults on housing lists**

Column percentages and population estimates, 2013 to 2016 data

	2013		2014		2015		2016		Difference	
	Per cent	Adults	Per cent	Adults	Per cent	Adults	Per cent	Adults	Per cent	Adults
No, not on a housing list	91.9	4,060,000	92.9	4,120,000	94.3	4,210,000	95.5	4,290,000	1.2	80,000
Yes, on a housing list	6.4	280,000	6.0	270,000	5.0	220,000	3.9	170,000	-1.1	-50,000
Don't know/refused	1.7	80,000	1.1	50,000	0.7	30,000	0.6	30,000	-0.1	0
All*	100	4,416,021	100	4,436,318	100	4,460,738	100	4,488,783	0	28,045
Base	9,920	-	9,800	-	9,410	-	9,640	-	-	-

\* Adult estimates (population aged 16 and over) are from National Records of Scotland

**Table 3.10: Households on housing lists**

Column percentages and household estimates, 2013 to 2016 data

	2013		2014		2015		2016		Difference	
	Per cent	Households	Per cent	Households	Per cent	Households	Per cent	Households	Per cent	Households
No, not on a housing list	90.9	2,180,000	92.2	2,230,000	94.0	2,290,000	94.9	2,330,000	0.9	40,000
Yes, on a housing list	7.3	170,000	6.6	160,000	5.2	130,000	4.4	110,000	-0.8	-20,000
Don't know/refused	1.8	40,000	1.2	30,000	0.8	20,000	0.7	20,000	-0.1	0
All*	100	2,401,691	100	2,419,921	100	2,433,956	100	2,451,869	0	17,913
Base	9,920	-	9,800	-	9,410	-	9,640	-	-	-

\* Household estimates are from National Records of Scotland

To convert the SHS estimate into the corresponding number of adults, the SHS percentage is multiplied by the estimated adult population<sup>33</sup>. This estimates that there were 170,000 adults in Scotland on housing lists for 2016, a decrease from the estimated 220,000 adults in 2015. It is important to note that this estimate does not include children and that, where an adult is responsible for a child, the child will effectively also be on a housing list.

Housing list statistics are more commonly reported in terms of the number of households on lists rather than the number of adults. Table 3.10 shows that 4.4 per cent of households were on a housing list in 2016. In a similar way to the estimates for adults, this is multiplied by NRS household estimates<sup>34</sup> to give an estimate that 110,000 households are on a list. This is a decrease from the estimated 130,000 households in 2015.

Some of the decrease in the proportion of adults and households who have reported that they were on a housing list between 2013 and 2016 may be due to some social landlords moving to using a choice based letting system over this time period, as opposed to using a more traditional points based housing list system. This may have resulted in some households not considering themselves to be on a housing list even though they are actively seeking social housing through other routes such as choice based lettings. Changes have been made to the 2017 SHS questions on housing lists with the aim to better capture households who are using choice based lettings when seeking social housing.

<sup>33</sup> National Records of Scotland, Population Estimates Scotland  
<http://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/statistics-and-data/statistics/statistics-by-theme/population>

<sup>34</sup> National Records of Scotland, Estimates of Households and Dwellings in Scotland  
<http://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/statistics-and-data/statistics/statistics-by-theme/households>



Note that the Scottish Household Survey is based on a sample of the general population living in private residences in Scotland, and therefore it may exclude some people or households or who are on a housing list but who are living in other types of accommodation such as hostels or bed and breakfast accommodation.

The estimated share of households on a housing list has been calculated based on responses from the random adult but weighted to make it representative of households.

This methodology is likely to slightly under-estimate the true figure due to assumptions which are discussed in Annex 2: Glossary.

### 3.4.1 Other Sources of Housing List Statistics

Housing list statistics are also reported in Housing Statistics for Scotland (HSfS)<sup>35</sup>, which reported that there were 167,122 applicant households on Local Authority or Common Housing Register housing waiting or transfer lists as at 31 March 2016, compared with the estimate of 110,000 from the SHS. The Housing Statistics for Scotland figure will include some double counting of households who are on multiple housing lists. However, it also excludes six Local Authorities (including Glasgow) which have transferred all of their social housing stock to Housing Associations.

Housing lists statistics are also available from an Ipsos MORI Omnibus Survey<sup>36</sup> conducted in 2010 and 2011, which reported 144,000 and 128,000 households respectively on lists. The questions asked in this survey were more detailed than the question asked in the SHS and provides information about current and previous experiences of households on housing lists. The Ipsos MORI results were based on sample sizes of around 1,000 adults, so they are less reliable than the SHS results.

## Conclusion

This chapter has summarised Scottish Household Survey findings on housing. This has covered housing tenure, characteristics of households by tenure, housing adaptations and support and housing lists.

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<sup>35</sup> Housing Statistics for Scotland <http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Housing-Regeneration/HSfS/HousingLists>

<sup>36</sup> Housing List Statistics from an Ipsos MORI Omnibus Survey <http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Housing-Regeneration/HSfS/HousingListSurvey>

## 4 Neighbourhoods and Communities

### Main Findings

Over nine in ten adults view their neighbourhood as a very or fairly good place to live.

The majority of adults in Scotland (56.7 per cent) rated their neighbourhood as a very good place to live in 2016. Overall ratings of neighbourhoods have been consistently high since the SHS began in 1999. The proportion of adults who described their neighbourhood as very or fairly good in 2016 was significantly higher than in each individual year between 1999 and 2013.

Neighbourhood ratings vary depending how deprived the area is. Adults in less deprived areas are more likely to rate their neighbourhood as a very good place to live. This has been a consistent finding in recent years.

There is a large gap in neighbourhood ratings between those living in the most and least deprived areas, although the gap is narrowing over time.

Those in accessible or remote rural areas were more likely to describe their neighbourhood as a very good place to live than those in urban areas.

Most potential neighbourhood problems are not considered to be particularly common. In 2016, the most prevalent issue cited was animal nuisance (e.g. noise or fouling) which was reported as being very or fairly common by 31 per cent of adults.

Just under half (46 per cent) of all adults reported that they did not experience any neighbourhood problems in 2016, although this proportion has decreased since 2011. Those living in the 20 per cent most deprived areas are more likely to experience neighbourhood problems.

Just over one in twenty adults reported that they had experienced discrimination or harassment in the last three years. Younger people were more likely to experience this. Experiences also varied according to sexual orientation, religion, ethnicity and whether an individual had a long-term physical or mental illness. The most common reason cited as a motivating factor was the respondent's ethnicity.

More than three-quarters (77 per cent) of all adults felt a very or fairly strong sense of belonging to their neighbourhood in 2016, however this varied according to age, ethnic group and deprivation. The majority of adults in Scotland strongly agreed that they would assist neighbours in an emergency (75 per cent) and could rely on those around them for advice and support (63 per cent).

## 4.1 Introduction and Context

Improving the quality of life in Scotland's neighbourhoods and communities is one of the Scottish Government's five Strategic Objectives<sup>37</sup>: Safer and Stronger - help local communities to flourish, becoming stronger, safer places to live, offering improved opportunities and a better quality of life.

The Scottish Household Survey (SHS) is one of the sources of evidence that can be used to assess the National Outcomes<sup>38</sup> associated with this overarching objective. It is used specifically to monitor one of the National Indicators associated with the Safer and Stronger objective: 'Improve people's perceptions of their neighbourhood'. In addition, the outcome 'we live our lives safe from crime, disorder and danger' can draw directly on the findings presented in this chapter.

This chapter starts with an overview of public perceptions of their neighbourhoods. It then explores the perceptions and experiences of various forms of anti-social behaviour, before looking at experiences of discrimination and harassment. Finally, the chapter investigates how engaged people were with their local community in 2016.

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<sup>37</sup> <http://www.gov.scot/About/Performance/scotPerforms/objectives>

<sup>38</sup> <http://www.gov.scot/About/Performance/scotPerforms/outcome>

## 4.2 Neighbourhoods

The section below explores how people view their neighbourhoods and their impression of how their local area has changed (if at all) over the last few years.

### 4.2.1 Overall Ratings of Neighbourhoods

- Overall ratings of neighbourhoods have been consistently high since the SHS began in 1999, with over nine in ten adults viewing their neighbourhood as a very or fairly good place to live in each year. This proportion has steadily increased over time.
- The majority of adults in Scotland rated their neighbourhood as a very good place to live in 2016.
- Those in accessible or remote rural areas were more likely to describe their neighbourhood as a very good place to live than those in urban areas.
- There is a large gap in neighbourhood ratings between those living in the most and least deprived areas, although the gap is narrowing over time. In 2016, just over three in ten adults in the 10 per cent most deprived areas of Scotland rated their neighbourhood as a very good place to live, compared to almost eight in ten of those living in the 10 per cent least deprived areas.



The majority of adults in Scotland (56.7 per cent) rated their neighbourhood as a very good place to live in 2016, as shown in Table 4.1.

**Table 4.1: Rating of neighbourhood as a place to live by year**

Column percentages, 1999; 2006-2016 data

Adults	1999	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
<i>Very/fairly good</i>	90.7	92.0	92.4	92.5	93.6	93.5	93.9	93.7	94.1	94.4	94.6	95.0
Very good	49.4	51.1	51.7	53.1	55.0	55.4	55.9	55.2	55.2	55.8	56.3	56.7
Fairly good	41.3	40.9	40.7	39.4	38.6	38.1	38.0	38.5	38.9	38.5	38.3	38.3
Fairly poor	5.4	5.2	4.8	4.9	4.3	4.4	4.2	4.3	4.1	3.6	3.7	3.6
Very poor	3.4	2.4	2.4	2.4	1.8	1.8	1.7	1.7	1.5	1.7	1.4	1.2
No opinion	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.3
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Base	13,780	14,190	10,390	9,310	12,540	12,440	12,890	9,890	9,920	9,800	9,410	9,640

Overall ratings of neighbourhoods have been consistently high since the SHS began in 1999, with over nine in ten adults viewing their neighbourhood as a very or fairly good place to live in each year. This proportion has steadily increased over the years as shown

in the above table, meaning the percentage of adults who described their neighbourhood as very or fairly good in 2016 was significantly higher than in each individual year between 1999 and 2013.

Whilst neighbourhoods were rated highly across the board, the strength of view varied by urban rural classification, with those in accessible or remote rural areas most likely to describe their neighbourhood as a very good place to live (69 per cent and 75 per cent respectively). In contrast, around half (51 per cent) of those in large urban areas rated their neighbourhood as being very good, as shown in Table 4.2.

**Table 4.2: Rating of neighbourhood as a place to live by Urban Rural classification**

Column percentages, 2016 data

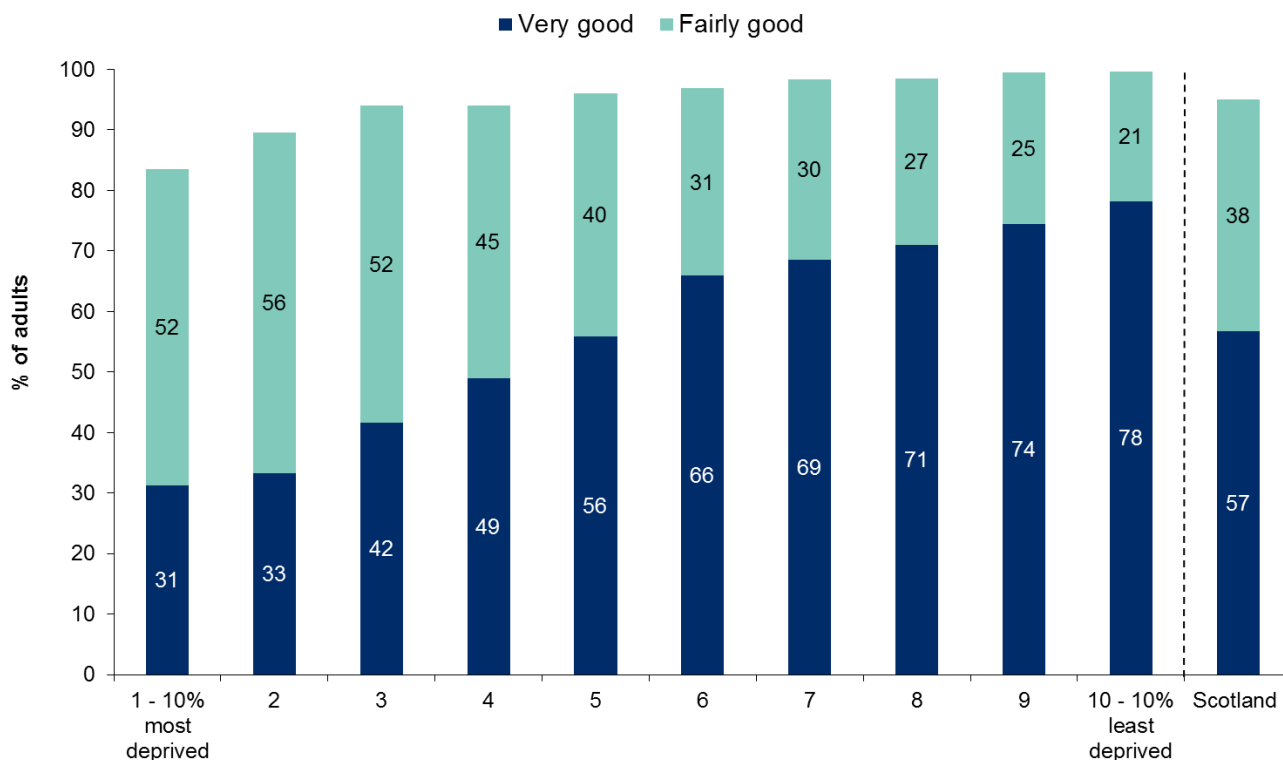
Adults	Large urban areas	Other urban areas	Accessible small towns	Remote small towns	Accessible rural	Remote rural	Scotland
<i>Very/fairly good</i>	94	94	97	97	98	97	95
Very good	51	55	60	56	69	75	57
Fairly good	43	39	37	40	29	22	38
Fairly poor	4	4	2	2	1	2	4
Very poor	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
No opinion	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
<i>Base</i>	2,880	3,280	930	550	1,050	960	9,640

Neighbourhood ratings also vary by deprivation<sup>39</sup>, with the proportion of adults rating their neighbourhood as a very good place to live increasing as deprivation decreases, as found consistently over recent years (see Figure 4.1).

<sup>39</sup> As defined by the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation – see Annex 2: Glossary

**Figure 4.1: Rating of neighbourhood as a place to live by Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation**

2016 data, Adults (minimum base: 860)



Just over three in ten adults (31 per cent) in the 10 per cent most deprived areas of Scotland rated their neighbourhood as a very good place to live in 2016, compared to almost eight in ten (78 per cent) of those living in the 10 per cent least deprived areas. That said, the proportion of those living in the 10 per cent most deprived areas describing their neighbourhood as very good has increased from 22 per cent in 2007 meaning the gap between the most and least deprived areas has narrowed over the last decade.

#### 4.2.2 Neighbourhood Improvements

- Overall just under two-thirds of adults reported in 2016 that they thought their neighbourhood had stayed the same over the last few years.
- Perceived neighbourhood change was more likely in the most deprived areas.

Respondents were also asked whether and to what extent they thought their neighbourhood had changed in the preceding three years. Overall just under two-thirds of adults reported in 2016 that they thought their neighbourhood had stayed the same over the last few years.

However, as shown in Table 4.3 below, perceptions varied by deprivation with those living in the 20 per cent most deprived areas of Scotland less likely to believe that their area had

stayed the same in recent years than those in the rest of Scotland. That said, the proportion of people in the 20 per cent most deprived areas who said their neighbourhood had stayed the same did increase from 51 to 56 per cent between 2015 and 2016.

**Table 4.3: Perceptions of neighbourhood improvements in past three years by Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation**

Column percentages, 2016 data

Adults	20% most deprived	Rest of Scotland	Scotland
Got much better	5	3	3
Got a little better	13	12	12
Stayed the same	56	67	65
Got a little worse	14	10	11
Got much worse	6	3	3
Don't know	6	5	5
<i>Base</i>	<i>1,880</i>	<i>7,760</i>	<i>9,640</i>

### 4.2.3 Neighbourhood Ratings and Fear of Crime

- There is a clear association between people rating their neighbourhoods highly and feeling safe in their communities.

As discussed in section 1.3 (Comparability with Other Sources), much of the analysis in relation to perceptions and fear of crime, and confidence in the police that is published in alternative sources has been excluded from this year's report. However, the SHS questions on fear of crime uniquely enable the link between neighbourhood ratings and feelings of safety to be explored.

Table 4.4 below shows a clear association between how adults rated their neighbourhoods and how safe they felt in their communities. For example, the majority of all respondents (86 per cent) said they felt very or fairly safe walking alone in their neighbourhood. However, this was true for just over a third (35 per cent) of adults who rated their neighbourhood as a very poor place to live, compared to 87 per cent of those who rated their local area as very or fairly good.

**Table 4.4: Perceptions of safety when walking alone in the neighbourhood and in their home alone at night by rating of neighbourhood as a place to live**

Column percentages, 2016 data

Adults	Very/fairly good	Fairly poor	Very poor	No opinion	All
<b>Walking alone</b>					
Very / Fairly safe	87	55	35	*	86
Very / A bit unsafe	12	45	63	*	14
Don't Know	1	-	1	*	1
Total	100	100	100	100	100
<i>Base</i>	<i>8,770</i>	<i>320</i>	<i>110</i>	<i>20</i>	<i>9,230</i>
<b>At home</b>					
Very / Fairly safe	98	89	76	*	98
Very / A bit unsafe	2	10	24	*	2
Don't Know	0	1	-	*	0
Total	100	100	100	100	100
<i>Base</i>	<i>9,170</i>	<i>330</i>	<i>120</i>	<i>30</i>	<i>9,640</i>



## 4.3 Neighbourhood Problems

### 4.3.1 Perceptions of neighbourhood problems

- Continuing the trend seen over the last decade, the most prevalent issues cited in 2016 were animal nuisance (such as noise or dog fouling) and rubbish or litter lying around (which around three in ten people said was common).
- Many perceived problems have been fairly stable in recent years, although the prevalence of some has changed over the last decade. For instance, the proportion of people citing vandalism/damage to property as a common issue has halved since 2006, whilst perceived animal nuisance has increased since 2009.

As well as asking respondents about their general views on their neighbourhoods and how it has changed, the SHS also collects information on perceptions and experiences of specific neighbourhood problems, such as anti-social behaviour. As with previous years, the nine neighbourhood problems which respondents were asked about can be categorised in four key groups as shown below.

<b>General anti-social behaviour</b>	<b>Neighbour problems</b>	<b>Rubbish and fouling</b>	<b>Vehicles</b>
Vandalism / graffiti / damage to property	Noisy neighbours/ loud parties	Rubbish or litter lying around	Abandoned or burnt out vehicles
Groups or individuals harassing others	Neighbour disputes	Animal nuisance such as noise or dog fouling	
Drug misuse or dealing			
Rowdy behaviour			

Perceptions of social problems overall are outlined in Table 4.5 which shows the percentage of adults describing each issue as very or fairly common in their neighbourhood over the last 10 years.

Continuing the trend seen over the last decade, the most prevalent issues cited in 2016 were:

- Animal nuisance such as noise or dog fouling (which 31 per cent saw as very or fairly common); and
- Rubbish or litter lying around (which 30 per cent said was very or fairly common).



Between 2015 and 2016 there were small but statistically significant increases in the proportion of people citing rubbish lying around and abandoned or burnt out vehicles as very or fairly common issues in their area. Perceptions of all other neighbourhood problems were stable between the last two sweeps.

Many perceived problems have been fairly stable in recent years, although the prevalence of some has changed over the last decade. For instance, the proportion of people citing vandalism/damage to property as common issue halved between 2006 and 2016, whilst perceived animal nuisance has increased since 2009.

**Table 4.5: Percentage of people saying a problem is very/fairly common in their neighbourhood**

Percentages, 2006-2016 data

Adults	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
<b>General anti-social behaviour</b>											
Vandalism / graffiti / damage to property	16	17	15	14	11	11	11	10	8	8	8
Groups or individual harassing others	11	12	11	10	8	8	8	7	6	6	6
Drug misuse or dealing	12	12	13	12	11	12	13	12	11	12	12
Rowdy behaviour	12	17	17	16	14	14	15	13	12	11	11
<b>Neighbour problems</b>											
Noisy neighbours / loud parties	8	9	10	10	10	10	12	11	11	10	10
Neighbour disputes	5	5	5	6	5	6	6	6	6	6	6
<b>Rubbish and fouling</b>											
Rubbish or litter lying around	27	29	29	26	24	25	29	27	27	28	30
Animal nuisance such as noise or dog fouling	-	-	-	24	23	26	30	31	31	31	31
<b>Vehicles</b>											
Abandoned or burnt out vehicles	-	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2
Base	14,190	10,390	9,310	11,400	11,140	11,280	9,890	9,920	9,800	9,410	9,640

Columns may not add to 100 per cent since multiple responses were allowed.

### 4.3.2 Variation in Neighbourhood Problems

#### Deprivation

- Those living in more deprived areas were more likely to perceive neighbourhood problems as very or fairly common.

The perceived prevalence of neighbourhood problems varies by deprivation. Table 4.6 shows that those living in more deprived areas were more likely to perceive each issue to be a very or fairly common problem. For example, there is a difference between adults in the 10 per cent most and 10 per cent least deprived areas in perceptions of rubbish or litter lying around (46 per cent compared to 19 per cent), drug misuse or dealing (30 per cent compared to 3 per cent), and rowdy behaviour (23 per cent compared to 5 per cent).

**Table 4.6: Percentage of people saying a problem is very/fairly common in their neighbourhood by Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation**

Percentages, 2016 data

Adults	10% most deprived										Scotland
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
<b>General anti-social behaviour</b>											
Vandalism / graffiti / damage to property	20	13	11	9	7	4	4	3	3	4	8
Groups or individual harassing others	15	10	10	8	5	5	4	2	2	3	6
Drug misuse or dealing	30	23	19	16	10	7	6	3	3	3	12
Rowdy behaviour	23	19	17	12	12	8	5	5	6	5	11
<b>Neighbour problems</b>											
Noisy neighbours / loud parties	18	16	13	12	13	7	6	4	4	5	10
Neighbour disputes	13	10	9	7	7	5	4	3	2	3	6
<b>Rubbish and fouling</b>											
Rubbish or litter lying around	46	44	39	33	31	27	23	17	18	19	30
Animal nuisance such as noise or dog fouling	43	43	41	34	31	29	27	23	22	20	31
<b>Vehicles</b>											
Abandoned or burnt out vehicles	3	3	1	2	1	2	1	1	1	1	2
Base	910	980	950	1,030	1,080	990	1,090	880	880	860	9,640

Columns may not add to 100 per cent since multiple responses were allowed.

#### Tenure

- Neighbourhood problems are generally perceived to be more common by those who live in social rented housing.

Table 4.7 shows that neighbourhood problems are generally perceived to be more common by those who live in social rented housing compared to owner occupiers and private renters. For instance, drug misuse or dealing was most likely to be perceived to be a very or fairly common problem by those in social rented accommodation, with a quarter (25 per cent) citing it as regular issue compared to 13 per cent of those in private rented housing and 8 per cent of owner occupiers. In part, these associations further emphasise the link between social rented housing and deprivation.

**Table 4.7: Percentage of people saying a problem is very/fairly common in their neighbourhood by tenure of household**

Percentages, 2016 data

Adults	Owner occupied	Social rented	Private rented	Other	All
<b>General anti-social behaviour</b>					
Vandalism / graffiti / damage to property	6	14	9	6	8
Groups or individual harassing others	4	12	7	6	6
Drug misuse or dealing	8	25	13	11	12
Rowdy behaviour	7	19	18	8	11
<b>Neighbour problems</b>					
Noisy neighbours / loud parties	6	19	15	8	10
Neighbour disputes	4	13	7	6	6
<b>Rubbish and fouling</b>					
Rubbish or litter lying around	27	39	31	26	30
Animal nuisance such as noise or dog fouling	30	41	24	27	31
<b>Vehicles</b>					
Abandoned or burnt out vehicles	1	3	2	3	2
<i>Base</i>	<i>6,050</i>	<i>2,200</i>	<i>1,270</i>	<i>120</i>	<i>9,640</i>

Columns may not add to 100 per cent since multiple responses were allowed.

## Age

- Perceptions of neighbourhood problems generally decrease with age.

Perceptions of neighbourhood problems generally decrease with age, as shown in Table 4.8 below. For example, those aged 16-24 were more likely than those aged 75 and above to view rowdy behaviour as a very or fairly common issue (reported by 18 per cent and 3 per cent respectively).

However, it should be noted that the association between age and the perceived prevalence of neighbourhood problems is not entirely linear across all of the issues considered, despite the general declining trend in reported prevalence with increasing age. For example, whilst one-quarter (25 per cent) of adults aged 16-24 reported animal nuisance (such as noise or fouling) as being very or fairly common, this was true for around a third (32 per cent) of those aged 25-34.

**Table 4.8: Percentage of people saying a problem is very/fairly common in their neighbourhood by age of respondent**

Percentages, 2016 data

Adults	16 to 24	25 to 34	35 to 44	45 to 59	60 to 74	75 plus	All
<b>General anti-social behaviour</b>							
Vandalism / graffiti / damage to property	9	11	11	7	6	3	8
Groups or individual harassing others	8	9	8	7	4	1	6
Drug misuse or dealing	13	13	14	14	10	6	12
Rowdy behaviour	18	16	13	11	7	3	11
<b>Neighbour problems</b>							
Noisy neighbours / loud parties	14	15	11	9	6	3	10
Neighbour disputes	7	9	9	6	4	2	6
<b>Rubbish and fouling</b>							
Rubbish or litter lying around	35	36	31	28	27	20	30
Animal nuisance such as noise or dog fouling	25	32	37	34	31	23	31
<b>Vehicles</b>							
Abandoned or burnt out vehicles	2	3	2	1	1	0	2
<i>Base</i>	<i>730</i>	<i>1,270</i>	<i>1,480</i>	<i>2,380</i>	<i>2,450</i>	<i>1,330</i>	<i>9,640</i>

Columns may not add to 100 per cent since multiple responses were allowed.

### Urban/Rural area

- People living in urban areas were generally more likely to consider neighbourhood problems to be common, compared to those in rural areas.

Table 4.9 shows that adults living in urban areas were generally more likely to consider neighbourhood problems to be common, compared to those in rural areas. In particular, those living in large urban areas were generally most likely to perceive each issue as being very or fairly common, whilst those in accessible and remote rural areas tended to have the lowest levels of perceived prevalence.

Continuing the trend from recent years, the issue most commonly reported by those in large urban areas was rubbish or litter lying around (38 per cent), a problem only rated as very or fairly common by 21 per cent of those in accessible rural areas, and 14 per cent of adults living in remote rural areas.

**Table 4.9: Percentage of people saying a problem is very/fairly common in their neighbourhood by Urban Rural classification**

Percentages, 2016 data

Adults	Large urban areas	Other urban areas	Accessible small towns	Remote small towns	Accessible rural	Remote rural	Scotland
<b>General anti-social behaviour</b>							
Vandalism / graffiti / damage to property	11	8	5	8	3	2	8
Groups or individual harassing others	9	6	5	6	4	2	6
Drug misuse or dealing	14	13	11	20	6	5	12
Rowdy behaviour	14	12	8	15	4	7	11
<b>Neighbour problems</b>							
Noisy neighbours / loud parties	13	10	8	12	4	4	10
Neighbour disputes	7	6	5	7	6	3	6
<b>Rubbish and fouling</b>							
Rubbish or litter lying around	38	29	22	31	21	14	30
Animal nuisance such as noise or dog fouling	34	31	35	36	28	20	31
<b>Vehicles</b>							
Abandoned or burnt out vehicles	2	1	1	1	1	2	2
<i>Base</i>	<i>2,880</i>	<i>3,280</i>	<i>930</i>	<i>550</i>	<i>1,050</i>	<i>960</i>	<i>9,640</i>

Columns may not add to 100 per cent since multiple responses were allowed.

Between 2015 and 2016 there were some changes in the perceived prevalence of neighbourhood problems across different areas. Most notably, there was an increase in the proportion of those living in remote small towns who perceived rubbish lying around and drug misuse or dealing to be common issues (increasing by 10 and 8 percentage points respectively).

### 4.3.3 Personal Experience of Neighbourhood Problems

- Some problems were perceived to be common by a higher percentage of the adult population than had actually experienced the issue.
- Nearly half of all adults in Scotland reported that they had experienced no neighbourhood problems in 2016, although this proportion has decreased since 2011.
- Those living in the 20 per cent most deprived areas were more likely to report experiencing problems than those in the rest of Scotland.

The previous section examined perceptions of neighbourhood problems by a range of socio-demographic and geographic characteristics; this section will now focus on personal experience of neighbourhood problems.

It is important to note that it is not always necessary to have direct personal experience of an issue to know about it or perceive it as a problem in an area. For example, in the case

of vandalism, a person may not have experienced vandalism to their property, but may have seen other vandalised property in their neighbourhood.

In addition, what respondents define as “experience” is related to their own perceptions, beliefs and definitions. For instance, one respondent may consider witnessing drug dealing as experiencing the issue, whilst another respondent may only report experience of this problem if they personally have been offered drugs.

Figure 4.2 compares the perception that a neighbourhood problem is fairly or very common with reported experiences of that problem in the previous year. It is notable that some problems were perceived to be common by a higher percentage of the adult population than had actually experienced the issue (with the reverse being true of animal nuisance). For example, 12 per cent of individuals believed drug misuse or dealing was a very or fairly common problem in their neighbourhood, yet only 6 per cent of adults reported that they had personally experienced this problem. That said, the relationship between experiences and perceptions was much more evident for certain neighbourhood problems (such as issues with neighbours like noise and disputes).

**Figure 4.2: Perceptions and experience of neighbourhood problems**

2016 data, Adults (base: 9,640)

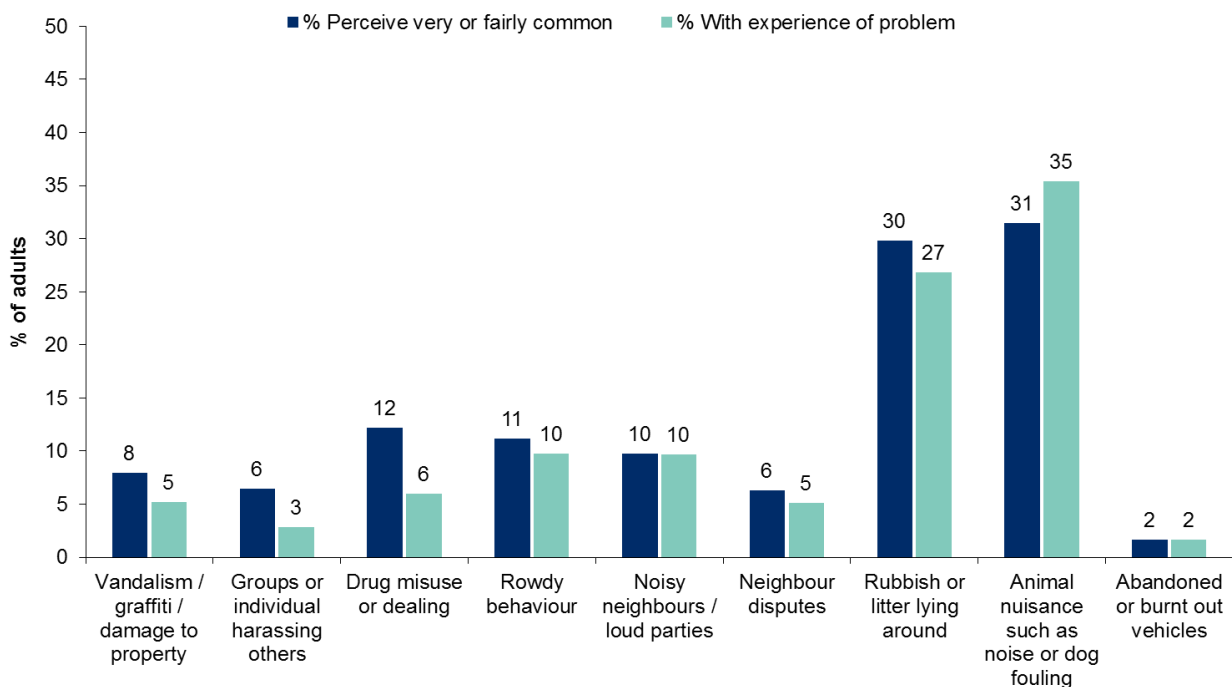


Table 4.10, Table 4.11 and Table 4.12 present the proportions of people who said that they have experienced each of the neighbourhood problems broken down by area deprivation, housing tenure and urban rural classification respectively. These show:

- 46 per cent of all adults in Scotland reported that they had experienced no neighbourhood problems in 2016, although this proportion has decreased from 58 per cent in 2011 and 49 per cent in 2015;
- Those living in the 20 per cent most deprived areas were more likely to report experiencing problems than those in the rest of Scotland;
- Adults in social rented accommodation were generally more likely than those in owner occupied and private rented house to say they had experienced neighbourhood problems; and
- People living in rural areas were the most likely to report having experienced no neighbourhood problems in the last year.

**Table 4.10: Experience of neighbourhood problems by Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation**

Percentages, 2016 data

Adults	20% most deprived	Rest of Scotland	Scotland
<b>General anti-social behaviour</b>			
Vandalism / graffiti / damage to property	10	4	5
Groups or individual harassing others	5	2	3
Drug misuse or dealing	12	4	6
Rowdy behaviour	14	9	10
<b>Neighbour problems</b>			
Noisy neighbours / loud parties	15	8	10
Neighbour disputes	8	4	5
<b>Rubbish and fouling</b>			
Rubbish or litter lying around	37	24	27
Animal nuisance such as noise or dog fouling	42	34	2
<b>Vehicles</b>			
Abandoned or burnt out vehicles	2	2	35
None	36	49	46
<i>Base</i>	<i>1,880</i>	<i>7,760</i>	<i>9,640</i>

Columns may not add to 100 per cent since multiple responses were allowed.



**Table 4.11: Experience of neighbourhood problems by tenure of household**

Percentages, 2016 data

Adults	Owner occupied	Social rented	Private rented	Other	All
<b>General anti-social behaviour</b>					
Vandalism / graffiti / damage to property	4	7	8	3	5
Groups or individual harassing others	2	6	3	2	3
Drug misuse or dealing	4	12	8	5	6
Rowdy behaviour	7	13	16	10	10
<b>Neighbour problems</b>					
Noisy neighbours / loud parties	6	17	15	5	10
Neighbour disputes	3	10	5	4	5
<b>Rubbish and fouling</b>					
Rubbish or litter lying around	25	31	29	22	27
Animal nuisance such as noise or dog fouling	36	40	27	23	35
<b>Vehicles</b>					
Abandoned or burnt out vehicles	2	2	2	4	2
None	49	39	46	61	46
<i>Base</i>	<i>6,050</i>	<i>2,200</i>	<i>1,270</i>	<i>120</i>	<i>9,640</i>

Columns may not add to 100 per cent since multiple responses were allowed.

**Table 4.12: Experience of neighbourhood problems by Urban Rural Classification**

Percentages, 2016 data

Adults	Large urban areas	Other urban areas	Accessible small towns	Remote small towns	Accessible rural	Remote rural	Scotland
<b>General anti-social behaviour</b>							
Vandalism / graffiti / damage to property	7	5	2	5	3	1	5
Groups or individual harassing others	3	2	2	4	3	2	3
Drug misuse or dealing	7	6	5	9	3	2	6
Rowdy behaviour	12	11	6	13	4	5	10
<b>Neighbour problems</b>							
Noisy neighbours / loud parties	13	10	8	11	4	3	10
Neighbour disputes	5	5	3	8	5	6	5
<b>Rubbish and fouling</b>							
Rubbish or litter lying around	33	25	19	33	21	18	27
Animal nuisance such as noise or dog fouling	37	34	38	47	33	29	35
<b>Vehicles</b>							
Abandoned or burnt out vehicles	2	2	1	1	1	1	2
None	41	48	51	36	54	57	46
<i>Base</i>	<i>2,880</i>	<i>3,280</i>	<i>930</i>	<i>550</i>	<i>1,050</i>	<i>960</i>	<i>9,640</i>

Columns may not add to 100 per cent since multiple responses were allowed.

## 4.4 Discrimination and Harassment

- In 2016, just over one in 20 adults reported that they had experienced either discrimination or harassment in Scotland at some point over the last three years.
- Some groups are more likely than others to report having experienced discrimination or harassment in Scotland, younger people in particular.
- A third (33 per cent) of respondents who reported that they had been discriminated against said that they believed the reason behind this was their ethnic origin.

The SHS explores whether respondents have experienced any kind of discrimination or harassment, in the last three years, whilst in Scotland. In 2016, just over one in 20 adults reported that they had experienced either discrimination (7 per cent) or harassment (6 per cent) in Scotland at some point over the last three years. At a national level, reported experiences of discrimination and harassment have been relatively stable in recent years, although the proportion of adults experiencing discrimination during the reference period decreased by 0.9 per cent between 2015 and 2016<sup>40</sup>.

As in previous years, younger adults were most likely to have experienced either discrimination or harassment over the last three years, as shown in Table 4.13 below.

**Table 4.13: Experience of discrimination and harassment by gender, age and level of deprivation**

Percentages, 2016 data

Adults	Discrimination		Harassment		Base
	Yes	No	Yes	No	
<b>Gender</b>					
Male	7	93	6	94	4,400
Female	7	93	7	93	5,240
<b>Age</b>					
16 to 24	10	90	10	90	730
25 to 34	9	91	8	92	1,270
35 to 44	8	92	8	92	1,480
45 to 59	6	94	6	94	2,380
60 to 74	4	96	4	96	2,450
75+	1	99	1	99	1,330
<b>Deprivation</b>					
20% Most Deprived	8	92	8	92	1,880
Rest of Scotland	6	94	6	94	7,760
All	7	93	6	94	9,640

<sup>40</sup> Although this is not shown by the rounded figures, discrimination was reported by 7.45 per cent in 2015 and 6.58 per cent in 2016.

Table 4.14 displays the proportion of adults experiencing discrimination or harassment by a further range of demographic breakdowns: sexual orientation, ethnicity, religion, and whether the individual has a long term physical or mental health condition which has (or is expected to) last at least 12 months. It highlights that some groups are more likely than others to report having experienced discrimination or harassment in the last three years in Scotland (although small base sizes for some groups – such as ‘gay/lesbian/bisexual’ - means that estimates can have relatively large degrees of uncertainty around them and should therefore be interpreted with caution).

**Table 4.14: Experiences of discrimination and harassment by sexual orientation, ethnicity, religion and long term physical/mental health condition**

Row percentages, 2016 data<sup>41</sup>

Adults	Discrimination		Harassment		Base
	Yes	No	Yes	No	
<b>Sexual Orientation</b>					
Heterosexual/Straight	6	94	6	94	9,450
Gay/Lesbian/ Bisexual	15	85	17	83	120
<b>Ethnicity</b>					
White	6	94	6	94	9,370
Other minority ethnic group	18	82	14	86	270
<b>Religion</b>					
None	6	94	6	94	4,630
Church of Scotland	4	96	4	96	2,670
Roman Catholic	9	91	7	93	1,280
Other Christian	12	88	9	91	820
Another religion	18	82	11	89	240
<b>Long term physical/mental health condition</b>					
Yes	9	91	9	91	3,330
No	6	94	5	95	6,280
All	7	93	6	94	9,640

Between 2015 and 2016, the proportion of adults with a long-term health condition experiencing discrimination in the previous three years decreased from 11 per cent to nine per cent. Experiences of discrimination over this period have also decreased amongst heterosexual adults, those of white ethnicity and people with no religion since 2015. On the other hand, the proportion of those in the ‘other Christian’ category reporting that they had been discriminated against during the last three years increased between 2015 and 2016.

Reported experiences of harassment were stable across all groups between the 2015 and 2016 surveys.

<sup>41</sup> Caution around the precision and significance of findings should be exercised when interpreting percentages with a base number less than 100 as results derived from a relatively small number of individuals have large margins of error around them and are subject to large fluctuations based on the experiences of only a few people. This is particularly important when considering trends over time or comparing experiences of different population groups.

It is important to note that Table 4.13 and Table 4.14 do not show the reasons behind experiences of discrimination and harassment, which can be but are not necessarily related to the equality characteristics presented.

To explore this issue, adults who reported that they had experienced harassment or discrimination were asked what they think might have motivated this. Respondents were asked to provide spontaneous responses to these questions and where possible, the interviewer coded these answers into one of the main categories shown in Table 4.15 (e.g. age, disability, gender, and so on). As there were a wide range of options which adults could have provided (and the fact multiple reasons could be given), it was not possible to code every potential type of response in advance, which has resulted in high levels of ‘other’ reasons being recorded.

Table 4.15 shows that a third (33 per cent) of respondents who had been discriminated against believed the reason behind this was their ethnic origin. Aside from ‘other’ reasons, the next most common motivating factors were said to be the respondent’s age, disability or gender.

Of those who had experienced harassment, around a fifth cited their ethnic group as the perceived reason, with ‘other reasons’ being the most common response (39 per cent).

**Table 4.15: Reasons for discrimination and harassment**

Percentages, 2016 data

Adults	Discrimination	Harassment
Age	14	7
Disability	11	8
Gender	10	13
Ethnic group	33	19
Religion	7	5
Sexual orientation	5	4
Sectarian reasons	6	3
Other	15	39
Don't know	3	7
Refused	1	0
<i>Base</i>	<i>570</i>	<i>530</i>

Columns may not add to 100 per cent since multiple responses were allowed.

As in previous years, those who had experienced harassment or discrimination were more likely to say that they feel very or a bit unsafe walking in their local neighbourhood or at home late at night as shown in Table 4.16<sup>42</sup>.

<sup>42</sup> Following the approach in the 2015 SHS report, much of the analysis in relation to perceptions and fear of crime, and confidence in the police that is published in alternative sources has been excluded from this year’s report. However, this section does make use of the fear of crime questions as an analytical variable to provide breakdowns on experiences of harassment and discrimination as these are not available in alternative sources – see 1.3 Comparability with Other Sources for more detail.

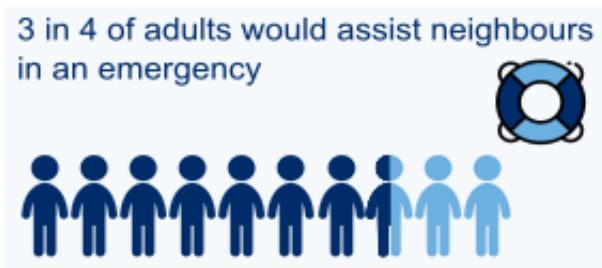
**Table 4.16: Perceptions of safety when walking alone in the neighbourhood and in their home alone at night by experience of discrimination and harassment**

Column percentages, 2016 data

	Have experienced harassment	Have not experienced harassment	Have experienced discrimination	Have not experienced discrimination	All
<b>Adults</b>					
<b>Walking alone</b>					
Very / Fairly safe	71	87	76	86	86
Very / A bit unsafe	29	13	23	13	14
Don't Know	0	1	1	1	1
Total	100	100	100	100	100
<i>Base</i>	<i>510</i>	<i>8,710</i>	<i>550</i>	<i>8,680</i>	<i>9,230</i>
<b>At home</b>					
Very / Fairly safe	93	98	93	98	98
Very / A bit unsafe	7	2	6	2	2
Don't Know	0	0	0	0	0
Total	100	100	100	100	100
<i>Base</i>	<i>530</i>	<i>9,110</i>	<i>570</i>	<i>9,070</i>	<i>9,640</i>

## 4.5 Community Engagement and Resilience

- Over three-quarters of adults felt a very or fairly strong sense of belonging to their neighbourhood in 2016, a finding which has been very stable in recent years.
- The sense of belonging to their community is stronger amongst older people, and also varies by gender, ethnic group and deprivation.
- The vast majority of adults in Scotland reported that they would help their neighbours in an emergency and are also positive about the ability to call on others around them for support if need be.



### 4.5.1 Community Engagement

The SHS also seeks to explore how strongly adults feel that they belong to their immediate neighbourhood. Table 4.17 shows that 77 per cent of adults felt a very or fairly strong sense of belonging to their neighbourhood in 2016, a finding which has been very stable in recent years.

However, whilst the majority of those in all categories shown said that they felt a very or fairly strong sense of belonging, it is important to note the variation in feelings by gender, age, ethnic background and deprivation. For example, almost nine in ten adults (87 per cent) aged 75 and above said they felt a very or fairly strong sense of belonging to their community, compared to around seven in ten (71 per cent) of those aged between 16 and 24.

**Table 4.17: Strength of feeling of belonging to community by gender, age, ethnicity and Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation**

Row percentages, 2016 data

Adults	Very strongly	Fairly strongly	Not very strongly	Not at all strongly	Don't know	Total	Base
<b>Gender</b>							
Male	33	43	18	6	1	100	4,400
Female	37	42	15	5	1	100	5,240
<b>Age</b>							
16-24	29	42	21	7	2	100	730
25-34	23	44	23	9	2	100	1,270
35-44	28	45	19	7	1	100	1,480
45-59	36	43	16	4	0	100	2,380
60-74	43	43	10	4	0	100	2,450
75+	54	33	9	3	1	100	1,330
<b>Ethnicity</b>							
White	35	42	16	5	1	100	9,370
Minority Ethnic Groups	21	43	25	7	4	100	270
<b>Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation</b>							
20% Most Deprived Areas	29	44	18	8	1	100	1,880
Rest of Scotland	36	42	16	5	1	100	7,760
All	35	42	16	5	1	100	9,640

Table 4.18 highlights that the vast majority of adults in Scotland reported that they would help their neighbours in an emergency and are also positive about the ability to call on others around them for support if need be, offering a slightly different perspective of community engagement.

**Table 4.18: Involvement with other people in the neighbourhood**

Row percentages, 2016 data

Adults	Strongly agree	Tend to agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Tend to disagree	Strongly disagree	Base
Could rely on friends/relatives in neighbourhood for help	67	23	4	4	2	9,640
Could rely on friends/relatives in neighbourhood to look after home	70	21	4	4	2	9,640
Could turn to friends/relatives in neighbourhood for advice or	63	23	6	5	3	9,640
Would offer help to neighbours in an emergency	75	19	4	2	1	9,640

## Conclusion

This chapter has explored people's perceptions of their neighbourhoods and communities in Scotland. It has shown that the vast majority of adults in Scotland view their neighbourhood as a very or fairly good place to live. However, there is a large gap in neighbourhood ratings between those living in the most and least deprived areas, although the gap is narrowing over time.

## 5 Economic Activity

### Main Findings

Almost every other adult of 16-64 year olds was employed full time in 2016 (48 per cent).

Since 1999, the proportion of working-age adults employed full-time has been stable at around 45 per cent. Recently this has increased from 45 per cent in 2012 to 48 per cent in 2016. Part time employment has remained stable over time, at around 12 per cent in 2016. During this time, the proportion of working-age adults looking after the home or family decreased from nine to seven per cent while the number of working-age adults being self-employed increased from six to eight per cent.

Over seven in ten (71 per cent) adult men of 16-64 year olds were currently engaged in some form of paid work.

A higher proportion of men (59 per cent) than women (49 per cent) were currently in work. Women were more likely to be in part-time employment than men (15 compared with 4 per cent). In contrast, self-employment was more common among men than women (eight and four per cent, respectively).

In 2016, 52 per cent of 16-64 year olds adults in households earning over £40,000 had degree level or professional qualifications, while only three per cent had no qualifications.

There was a relationship between the highest level of qualification and full time employment, with those who have attained degree level or professional qualifications having the highest proportion in full-time employment (59 per cent). In contrast, 26 per cent of adults with no qualifications were in full time employment.

Around one in six (17 per cent) adults had no qualifications, with those aged 75 and over least likely to have qualifications (47 per cent).



## 5.1 Introduction and Context

The Scottish Government is committed to improving the economic situation and opportunity of people in Scotland, through sustainable economic growth<sup>43</sup>. The Scottish Household Survey (SHS) gathers information about the current economic situation and the characteristics of individuals and households in different economic activity categories.

The information gathered in the SHS about the current economic situation of members of the household is reported by the respondent in the 'household' part of the interview and may not conform to official definitions of employment and unemployment. The SHS has questions on these topics only for selecting the data of particular groups, such as working adults<sup>44</sup> or those who are permanently retired from work, for further analysis or for use as background variables when analysing other topics.

The official source of statistics on employment, unemployment and economic activity is the Labour Force Survey for Scotland and the Annual Population Survey at a local authority level. Results from both surveys are available from the Scottish Government website<sup>45</sup>.

[Scotland's Labour Market Strategy](#) provides a framework for our approach to the labour market. It described the actions to be taken forward and how this approach will help to drive inclusive growth.

In this chapter, the current economic situation of adult men and women is considered. This is followed by an examination of the economic situation of working households, starting with the number of working adults within households. In households with adults of 16-64 year olds<sup>46</sup>, the current economic situation is further analysed by gender and whether an adult has a long standing illness, health problem or disability. Finally, this chapter explores the current economic situation of women of 16-64 year olds, specifically investigating the impact of whether there are children present in the household.

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<sup>43</sup> Scotland's Economic Strategy (March 2015) <http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2015/03/5984>

<sup>44</sup> Refer to Glossary for further definitions of the working age population.

<sup>45</sup> [www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Labour-Market](http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Labour-Market)

<sup>46</sup> Defined as 16-64 for males and females

## 5.2 Highest Qualification Level

- The proportion of those with a degree or professional qualification was highest in the 25 to 34 and 35 to 44 age categories
- Just around one in six adults had no qualifications. Of these, the highest proportion was in the 75 and over age group, with around half having no qualifications
- As income increased, the proportion of working-age adults with a degree or professional qualification increased



Table 5.1 shows that the proportion of those with a degree or professional qualification was highest in the 25 to 34 and 35 to 44 age categories (43 and 39 per cent, respectively) and can then be seen to decrease by increasing age group. The proportion of adults with degree level or professional qualifications was lowest for those aged 16 to 24 (17 per cent), but this is likely to be because many adults in this age category were in higher or further education and had therefore not completed degree qualifications.

In contrast, just around one in six adults (17 per cent) had none of the qualifications listed below. Of these, the highest proportion was in the 75 and over age group, with around half (47 per cent) having no qualifications.

**Table 5.1: Highest level of qualification held by gender and age**

Column percentages, 2016 data

Adults	Male	Female	16 to 24	25 to 34	35 to 44	45 to 59	60 to 74	75 plus	All
Degree, Professional Qualification	30	30	17	43	39	32	26	18	30
HNC/HND or equivalent	11	11	13	14	14	13	7	3	11
Higher, A level or equivalent	18	15	36	15	16	15	12	6	17
No qualifications	16	18	6	7	8	15	28	47	17
O Grade, Standard Grade or equivalent	20	19	26	19	21	22	17	8	20
Other qualification	4	5	1	1	1	2	10	16	4
Qualifications not known	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	2	1
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Base	4,400	5,240	730	1,270	1,480	2,380	2,450	1,330	9,640

Links between degree level qualifications and higher incomes can be seen among working-age adults <sup>47</sup> (Table 5.2). In 2016, as income increased, the proportion of working-

<sup>47</sup> Adults aged over 16

age adults with a degree or professional qualification increased while conversely, the proportion with no qualifications decreased (Figure 5.1).

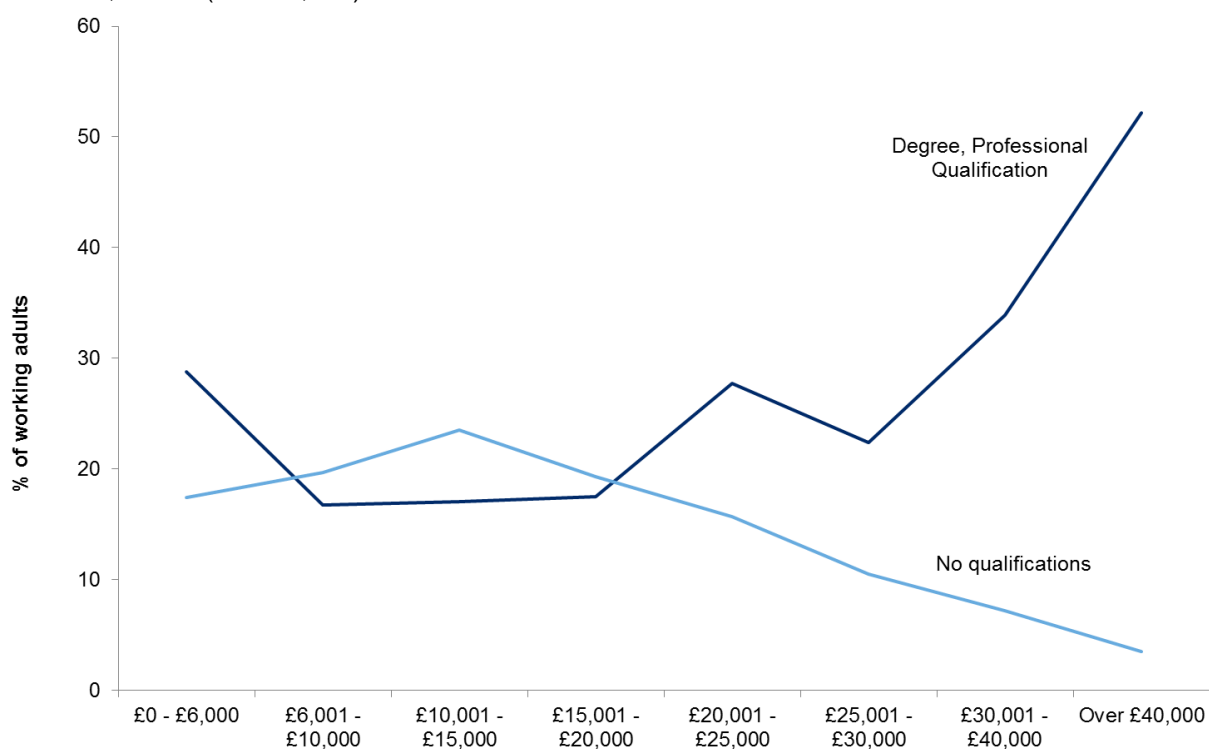
**Table 5.2: Highest level of qualifications held by working-age adults by net annual household income**

Column percentages, 2016 data

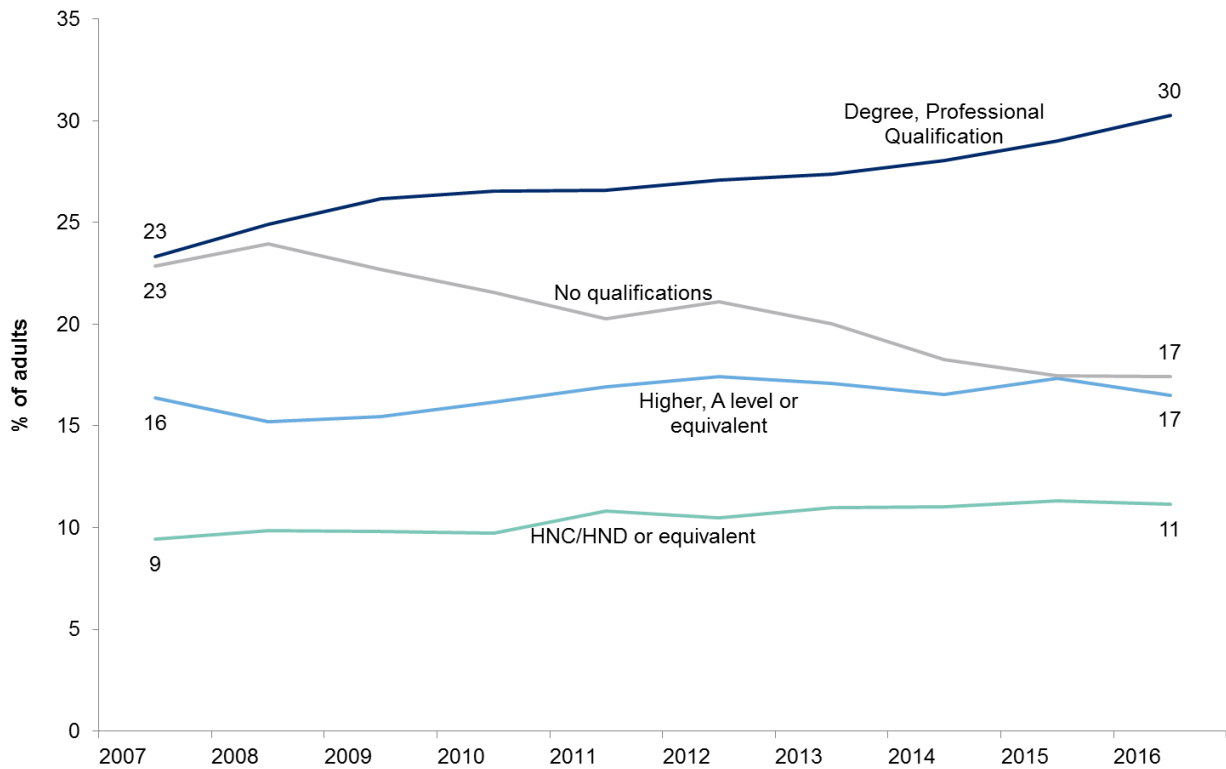
Adults	£0 - £6,000	£6,001 - £10,000	£10,001 - £15,000	£15,001 - £20,000	£20,001 - £25,000	£25,001 - £30,000	£30,001 - £40,000	Over £40,000	All
Degree, Professional Qualification	29	17	17	18	28	22	34	52	33
HNC/HND or equivalent	10	10	10	12	15	13	15	13	13
Higher, A level or equivalent	23	19	17	21	17	22	20	17	19
O Grade, Standard Grade or equivalent	18	30	29	27	21	31	22	13	22
Other qualification	0	4	2	3	3	1	2	1	2
No qualifications	17	20	24	19	16	10	7	3	11
Qualifications not known	2	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	1
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Base	180	440	870	850	820	680	1,060	1,590	6,480

**Figure 5.1: Highest level of qualifications held by working-age adults by net annual household income**

2016 data, Adults (base: 6,480)



**Figure 5.2: Highest level of qualifications held by adults over time**  
 2016 data, Adults (base: 9,410)



The number of adults without any qualifications has decreased from 23 per cent in 2008 to 17 per cent in 2016 while the number of adults with a degree or professional qualification has increased from 23 per cent in 2007 to 30 per cent in 2016. The proportion of adults with other types of qualifications has been largely stable.

## 5.3 Current Economic Situation

### Variation by gender

- A higher proportion of men compared to women were 'currently in work'
- Since 1999, the number of men in work has been far greater than the number of women in work. This gap has narrowed to around nine per cent in 2009 and has been stable since then
- Men were more likely to be full-time employed or self-employed
- Women were more likely to be part-time employed or looking after the home or family

A higher proportion of men (59 per cent) compared to women (49 per cent) were 'currently in work'. In 2016, this is demonstrated in Table 5.3, with some of the key differences picked out and displayed graphically in Figure 5.3, which shows that men were more likely to be full-time employed or self-employed, while women were more likely to be part-time employed or looking after the home or family.

**Table 5.3: Current economic situation of adults aged 16 and over**

Column percentages, 2016 data

Adults	Male	Female	All
Self employed	8	4	6
Employed full time	46	29	37
Employed part time	4	15	10
Looking after the home or family	1	9	5
Permanently retired from work	22	27	25
Unemployed and seeking work	5	2	3
Education/training	8	8	8
Permanently sick or disabled	4	3	4
Other	1	1	1
Total	100	100	100
Base	4,400	5,240	9,640

**Figure 5.3: Current economic situation of adults aged 16 and over by gender**  
 2016 data, Adults (min base: 4,400)

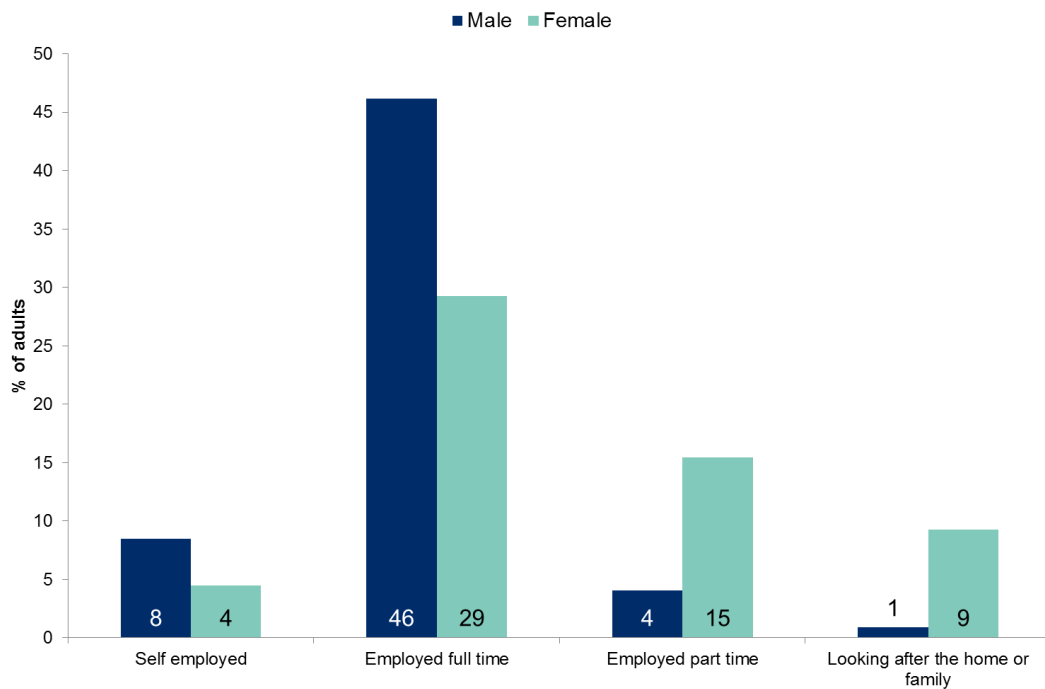
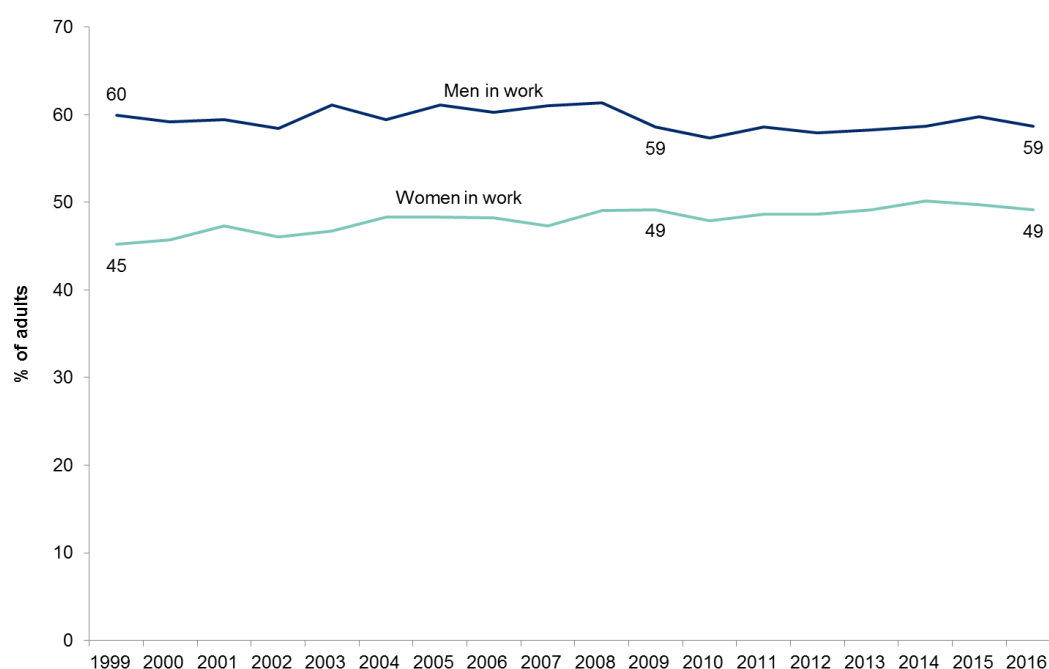


Figure 5.4 shows how the proportion of men and women in work changed over time. The number of men in work has been far greater than the number of women in work, in 1999 this was 60 and 45 per cent respectively. This gap has narrowed to around nine per cent in 2009 and has been stable since then.

**Figure 5.4: Adults currently in work over time**

1999 - 2016 data, Households (minimum base: 9,400)



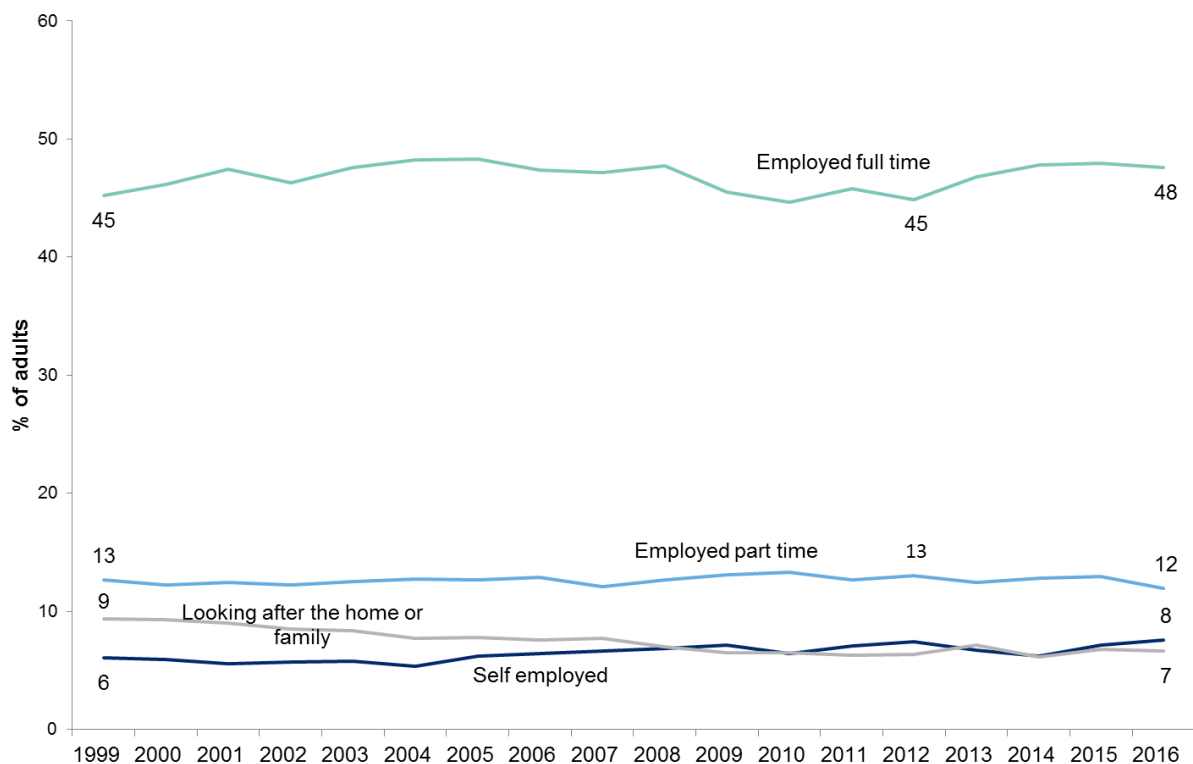
### 5.3.1 Current Economic Situation of 16-64 year olds Adults

- Almost every other adult aged between 16 and 64 years is employed full time.
- Since 1999, the proportion of working-age adults employed full-time has been stable at around 45 per cent until 2012 when a steady increase has been evident.
- Since 1999, the proportion of working-age adults employed part time has been stable.
- The proportion of working-age adults looking after the home or family has decreased over time.
- The number of working-age adults being self-employed has increased over time.

#### Variation by age

Figure 5.5 shows the current economic situation of adults of 16-64 year olds (16 – 64) over time. Almost every other adult aged between 16 and 64 years is employed full time (48 per cent). For the duration of the survey, since 1999, the proportion of working-age adults employed part time has been stable, at around 12 per cent in 2016. During this time, the proportion of working-age adults looking after the home or family decreased from nine to seven per cent while the number of working-age adults being self-employed increased from six to eight per cent.

**Figure 5.5: Current economic situation of adults of working age by year**  
 1999 - 2016 data, Households (minimum base: 6,590)



### Variation by gender

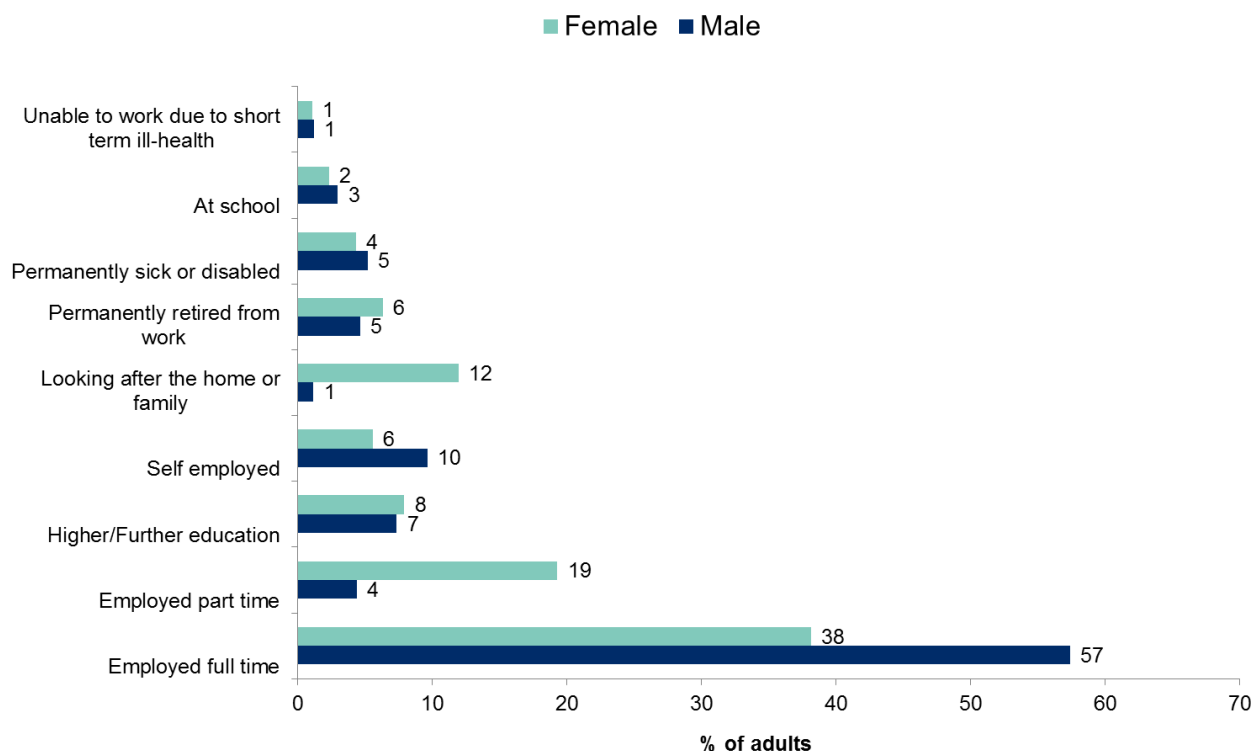
- Men of 16-64 year olds were more likely to be employed in paid work compared to women.
- Over seven in ten adult men of 16-64 year olds were currently engaged in some form of paid work.
- 63 per cent of 16-64 year olds women were in some form of paid work. However, there was greater variation in how women were employed.

Figure 5.6 shows that men of 16-64 year olds were more likely to be employed in paid work compared to women. Men were employed predominantly either full-time (57 per cent) or were self-employed (10 per cent). Taken together with the relatively small proportion of 16-64 year olds men employed part-time, this means that over seven in ten (71 per cent) adult men of 16-64 year olds were currently engaged in some form of paid work.



**Figure 5.6: Current economic situation of adults of 16-64 year olds by gender**

2016 data, Households (minimum base: 3,110)



In comparison, 63 per cent of 16-64 year olds women were in some form of paid work. However, there was greater variation in how women were employed. Full-time employment was the most common type of employment and accounted for 38 per cent of 16-64 year olds women. However, unlike men, the next most common option among women was part-time employment which accounted for 19 per cent of 16-64 year olds women.

It was relatively uncommon for men or women of 16-64 year olds to be permanently retired from work (5 per cent males; 6 per cent females). This is likely to have under-represented all those who have taken early retirement as some who do so will subsequently take up other employment opportunities.

### Qualification and economic activity

- Those who had attained degree level or professional qualifications having the highest proportion in full-time employment.

There was a relationship between the highest level of qualification and full time employment (Table 5.4), with those who had attained degree level or professional qualifications having the highest proportion in full-time employment (59 per cent). In contrast, 26 per cent with no qualifications were in full time employment. This group also had the highest proportion (20 per cent) who were permanently sick or disabled.

**Table 5.4: Current economic situation of adults of 16-64 year olds by highest level of qualification**

Column percentages, 2016 data

Working age adults (16-64)	Degree, Professional Qualification	HNC/HND or equivalent	Higher, A level or equivalent	O Grade, Standard Grade or equivalent	Other qualification	No qualifications	Qualifications not known	All
Employed full time	59	51	44	44	35	26	*	48
Employed part time	10	14	12	14	13	10	*	12
Self employed	9	10	8	6	4	6	*	8
Higher/Further education	6	9	16	5	2	1	*	8
Looking after the home or family	5	6	5	8	12	12	*	7
Permanently retired from work	7	3	4	4	13	7	*	5
Permanently sick or disabled	1	2	2	5	8	20	*	5
Unemployed and seeking work	2	4	3	6	9	10	*	4
At school	0	-	5	6	-	4	*	3
Unable to work due to short term	0	1	1	2	2	3	*	1
Other	0	0	-	0	-	0	*	0
Government work/training scheme	0	-	0	0	1	0	*	0
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Base	2,160	850	1,160	1,520	120	830	30	6,680

## Health and economic situation

- Those with limiting health issues were less likely to be in full-time employment.

It is possible to compare the differing economic situations of the adults with limiting long-term conditions with the rest of the population (Table 5.5). In 2016, a quarter (25 per cent) of adults of 16-64 year olds with a long-standing physical or mental health condition or illness were permanently sick or disabled and around the same proportion (24 per cent) was in full-time employment.

In comparison, over a half (53 per cent) of 16-64 year olds adults who did not report having long-standing physical or mental health condition or illness were in full-time employment. When excluding those who are permanently sick or disabled, the proportion of people with limiting health issues who were in full-time employment rises to 32 per cent.

**Table 5.5: Current economic situation of adults of 16-64 year olds by whether they have a long-standing physical or mental health condition or illness**

Column percentages, 2016 data

Working age adults (16-64)	All adults of working age				Excluding 'Permanently sick or disabled'			All
	Limiting long-term condition	Non-limiting long-term condition	No long-term condition	All	Limiting long-term condition	Non-limiting long-term condition	No long-term condition	
Self employed	6	7	8	8	8	7	8	8
Employed full time	24	46	53	48	32	46	54	50
Employed part time	10	17	12	12	13	17	12	13
Looking after the home or family	8	5	6	7	11	5	6	7
Permanently retired from work	9	11	4	5	12	11	4	6
Unemployed and seeking work	8	7	3	4	11	7	3	5
At school	1	1	3	3	1	1	3	3
Higher/Further education	5	5	9	8	6	5	9	8
Government work/training scheme	0	-	0	0	0	-	0	0
Permanently sick or disabled	25	2	0	5	-	-	-	-
Unable to work due to short term ill-health	4	1	0	1	6	1	0	1
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Base	1,360	420	4,890	6,660	970	410	4,870	6,250

## 5.4 Working Households

In this section the focus is on working households. Firstly, the number of adults in paid employment<sup>48</sup> in households is examined. Subsequently, adults of 16-64 year olds are investigated in more detail.

### 5.4.1 Adults in Paid Employment

- Just over three fifths of households had at least one adult in paid employment.

As Figure 5.7 shows, in 2016 for Scotland as a whole, just over three fifths (61 per cent of) households had at least one adult in paid employment. This was made up of almost a third of households (32 per cent) containing two or more adults in paid employment and 29 per cent having one adult in paid employment. The remaining households (39 per cent) contained no adults in paid employment.

#### Variation by deprivation

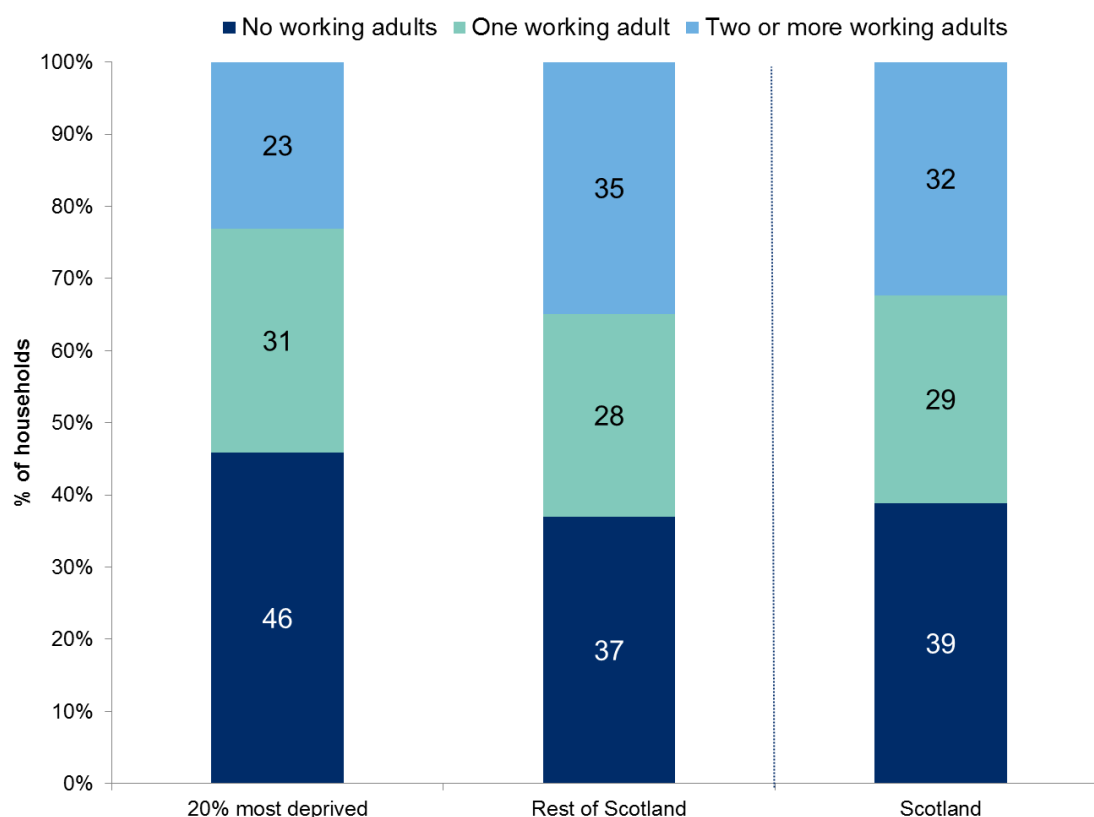
- In the 20 per cent most deprived areas, there are less households with at least one adult in paid employment.

The number of working adults in a household varied according to the deprivation levels of the area in which they were situated. Just over a half of households in the 20 per cent most deprived areas contained at least one adult in paid employment (54 per cent). In comparison, over six in ten households in the rest of Scotland contained at least one adult in paid employment (63 per cent).

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<sup>48</sup> Including those in full or part time employment and the self-employed.

**Figure 5.7: Number of adults in paid employment by Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation**  
2016 data, Households (minimum base: 2,050)



It is important to note that while these estimates demonstrate that households in the most deprived areas were less likely to contain adults in employment, these households also contained fewer adults and we would therefore expect to see a smaller proportion of households in these areas to have two or more working adults. Furthermore, the figures presented here are for all households that took part in the survey. This means the data presented includes people who you would not necessarily expect to be in paid employment. For example, pensioners, people who have taken early retirement and students are all included. The results have not been broken down further because the SHS is not the recognised source for employment statistics.

#### 5.4.2 Women of 16-64 year olds

- The majority of women of 16-64 year olds are in some form of work and the presence of children in the household does not significantly affect this.
- A higher proportion of those with no children in the household were employed full-time.

The final section of this chapter focuses on the current economic situation of women of 16-64 year olds and examines the difference in situation according to whether there are children in the household.

Figure 5.6 showed that the majority of women of 16-64 year olds are in some form of work and Table 5.6 shows that the presence of children in the household does not significantly affect this. The 2016 SHS found that 62 per cent of women in households containing children were in work, compared to 63 per cent of those without children.

The main differences between the two groups of 16-64 year olds women were that a higher proportion of those with no children in the household were employed full-time (44 per cent compared with 28 per cent of those where children are present), while a higher proportion with children in the household were looking after the home or family (22 per cent compared with 6 per cent of those with no children present).

**Table 5.6: Current economic situation of women by presence of children in the household**

Column percentages, 2016 data

Working age females (16-64)	Yes, have children	No children	All
Self employed	6	5	6
Employed full time	28	44	38
Employed part time	27	14	19
Looking after the home or family	22	6	12
Permanently retired from work	0	10	6
Unemployed and seeking work	2	3	3
At school	4	1	2
Higher/Further education	5	9	8
Government work/training scheme	-	0	0
Permanently sick or disabled	2	6	4
Unable to work due to short term ill-health	1	1	1
Other	0	0	0
Total	100	100	100
Base	1,370	2,200	3,570

## Conclusion

This chapter has summarised Scottish Household Survey findings on the current economic situation of households. It has shown that almost every other adult of 16-64 year olds was employed full time in 2016 and has explored changes over time and variations within economic activity.

## 6 Finance

### Main Findings

The proportion of households reporting that they manage well financially increased from 48 per cent in 2013 to 56 per cent in 2016.

Single parent and single adult households were most likely to report that they do not manage well financially with around a fifth (20 and 15 per cent, respectively) reporting they do not manage well financially - higher than the overall Scotland figure of 8 per cent.

Households in the social rented sector were the least likely to say they were managing well (31 per cent) which is in contrast to owner occupiers and the private rented sector where 68 per cent and 45 per cent, respectively, reported that they were managing well.

The proportion of households in the 20 per cent most deprived areas who report they were managing well increased from 29 per cent in 2012 to 41 per cent in 2016.

Consistently over the last 10 years it has been shown that those in the 20 per cent most deprived areas manage less well than those in the rest of Scotland. However this gap has narrowed since 2012 and was 20 per cent in 2016.

## 6.1 Introduction and Context

The Scottish Government's overall approach to tackling poverty and inequality is set out in the Fairer Scotland Action Plan, which was published in October 2016. The Plan is a response to the Fairer Scotland conversation, and is based around five ambitions for 2030:

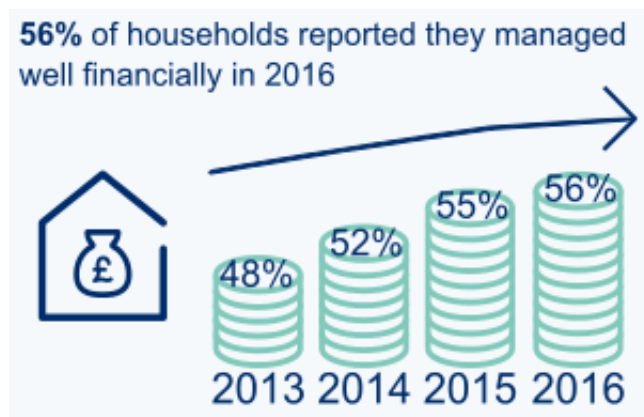
- A Fairer Scotland for all
- Ending child poverty
- A strong start for all young people
- Fairer working lives
- A thriving third age

The ambitions are underpinned by 50 key actions that the Scottish Government will take during this Parliamentary term, including introducing a new socio-economic duty on public bodies, bringing forward a Child Poverty Bill, and establishing a national Poverty and Inequality Commission. A range of new steps to tackle poverty in the short term and inform consideration of fundamental changes for the longer term were also outlined in the 2017-18 Programme for Government. These include establishing a new £50 million Tackling Child Poverty Fund, providing access to free sanitary products to those in schools, colleges and universities, funding research into the feasibility of a citizens' basic income scheme and providing a financial health check to families on low incomes..



## 6.2 How Households are Managing Financially

- There has been an increase in the amount of people who manage well since 1999.
- There has been a decrease in those with financial difficulties since 1999.

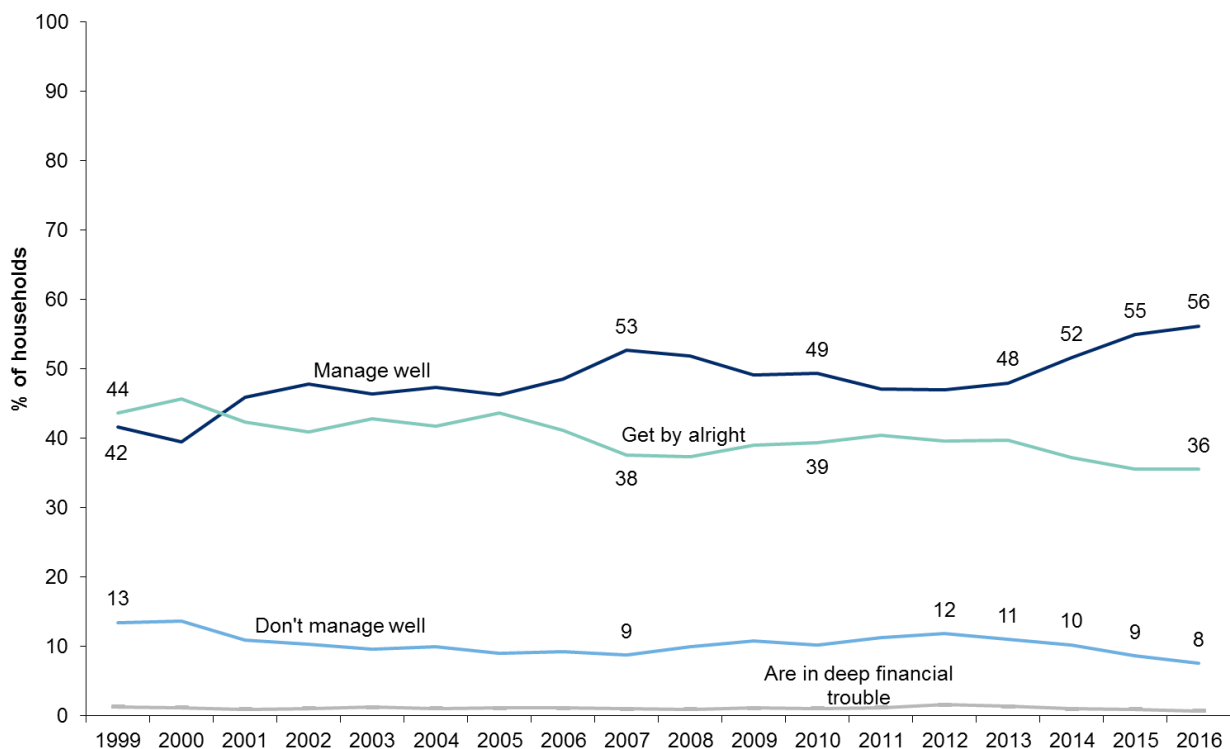


The SHS asks respondents to rate how they feel their households have coped financially over the last year. The trend since 1999 (when the survey started) is shown in Figure 6.1 below.

Between 1999 and 2007 there was a general increase in the proportion of households that reported positively about their household finances, rising from 42 per cent of households in 1999 to more than a half (53 per cent) in 2007. Between 2007 and 2010 this proportion fell to around a half of all households and remained stable until 2013. In 2016, over a half of households (56 per cent) reported they managed very or quite well, this has gradually increased from 48 per cent in 2013. The proportion of households that don't manage very well and have some financial difficulties decreased by four per cent since its high in 2012 (12 per cent).

**Figure 6.1: How households are managing financially by year**

1999-2016 data, Households (minimum base: 3,660)



This question was only asked between January and March in 2003.

### Variation by income

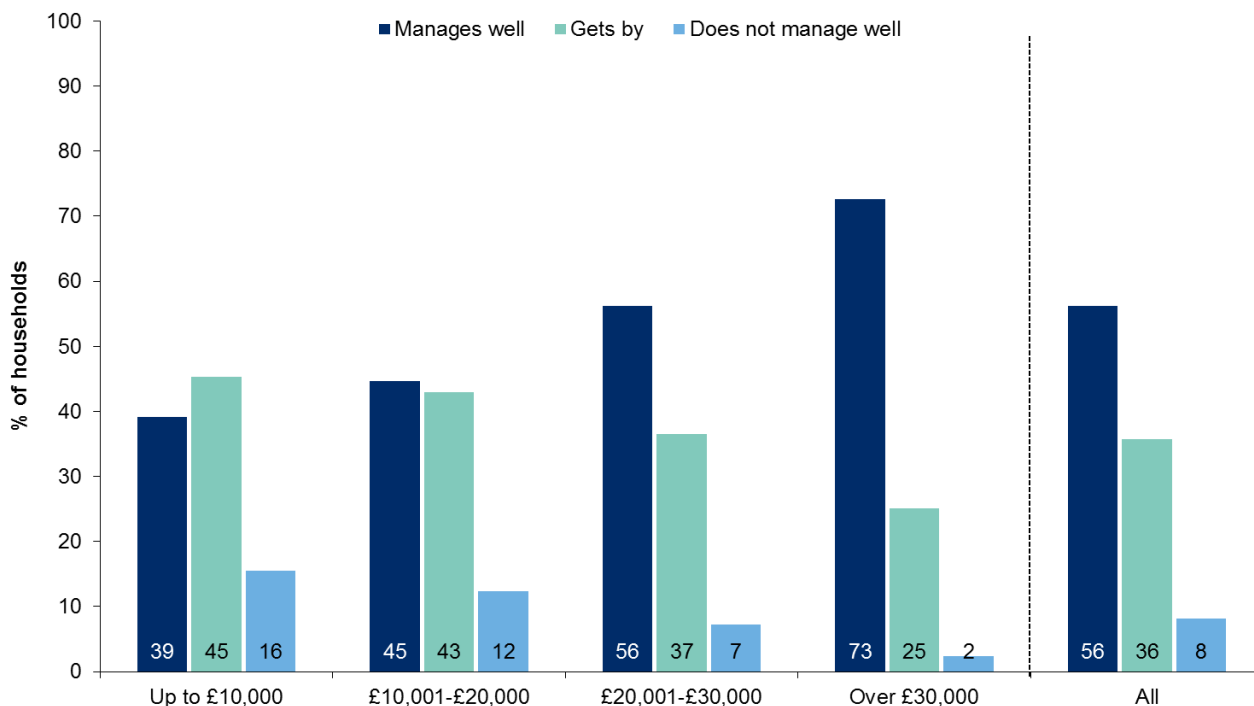
- More households on lower incomes (up to £10,000) said they did not manage well than those on higher incomes.
- Nearly three quarters (73 per cent) of all households with incomes over £30,000 reported managing well which is much higher than those on lower incomes.

Figure 6.2 shows the household perceptions of how they manage financially vary by household income. Households on lower incomes (up to £20,000) were as likely to say that they manage well as they were to say that they get by (43 and 44 per cent respectively). However, one in six households (16 per cent) on incomes up to £10,000 said they did not manage well - much higher than those on higher incomes.

There is a large gap between households with incomes over £30,000 and those below £30,000 - nearly three quarters (73 per cent) of all households with incomes over £30,000 reported managing well which is 16 percentage points higher than households with annual net income of £20,001 to £30,000 and 33 percentage points higher than households on the lower incomes up to £10,000.

**Figure 6.2: How the household is managing financially this year by net annual household income**

2016 data, Households (minimum base: 1,200)



**Variation by household type**

- Single parent households were the most likely to report that they were not managing well financially.
- Another group above the Scotland average were single adult households with around one in six (15 per cent) reporting that they were not managing well financially.

Single parent & single adult households were more likely to report that they do not manage well financially, compared to Scotland overall

Household Type	Percentage
Single parent households	20%
Single adult households	15%
Scotland overall	8%

Table 6.1 shows how perceptions of management of household finances varied by household type. Single parent households were the most likely to report that they were not managing well financially with one in five (20 per cent) saying they are not managing well financially – this is more than double the proportion of all households in Scotland (8 per cent). Another group above the Scotland average were single adult households with around one in six (15 per cent) reporting that they were not managing well financially.

**Table 6.1: How the household is managing financially this year by household type**

Column percentages, 2016 data

Households	Single adult	Small adult	Single parent	Small family	Large family	Large adult	Older smaller	Single older	All
Manages well	45	64	30	55	45	60	70	61	56
Gets by	40	29	50	38	46	34	28	36	36
Does not manage well	15	7	20	8	9	6	2	4	8
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Base	2,040	1,880	600	1,290	520	860	1,550	1,630	10,380

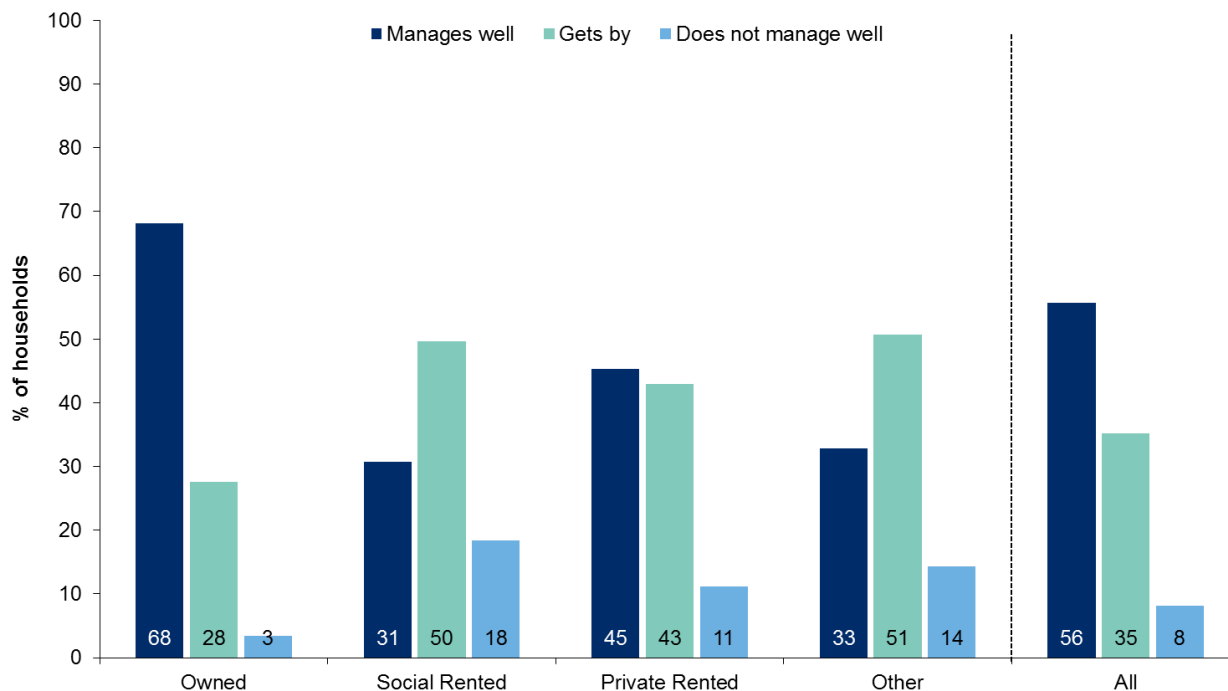
### Variation by household tenure

- Around two-thirds of owner occupiers reported managing well – more than double the proportion of households in social rented properties saying the same.

Perceptions of financial management are also associated with household tenure, as shown in Figure 6.3. Around two-thirds (68 per cent) of owner occupiers reported managing well – more than double the proportion of households in social rented properties saying the same (31 per cent). Almost one in five (18 per cent) social rented households reported not managing well which is more than double the rate of all households in Scotland (8 per cent). By contrast, only 11 per cent in the private rented sector and 3 per cent in the owner occupied sector reported that they were not managing well financially.

**Figure 6.3: How the household is managing financially this year by tenure of household**

2016 data, Households (minimum base: 130)



## Variation by income source

- Households relying mainly on benefits were the most likely to say they are not managing well.

Table 6.2 shows how households were managing financially by their main income source. Households relying mainly on benefits (which includes recipients of the state pension) were the most likely to say they are not managing well with around one in seven (14 per cent) reporting that they were not managing well. Conversely only six per cent of households relying on earnings and two per cent of households relying on other sources<sup>49</sup> reported that they were not managing well.

**Table 6.2: How the household is managing financially this year by income sources**

Column percentages, 2016 data

Households	Main income from earnings	Main income from benefits	Main income from other sources	All
Manages well	59	43	79	56
Gets by	35	42	19	36
Does not manage well	6	14	2	8
Total	100	100	100	100
Base	5,490	3,400	1,120	10,020

## Variation by gender and age

- Households where the Highest Income Householder (HIH) was male were more likely to say they manage well.
- Increasing age of the highest income householder is also associated with managing well.

Households where the Highest Income Householder (HIH) was male were more likely to say they do manage well (Table 6.3) with three fifths saying so compared to a half of households where the highest income householder was female (60 per cent, compared with 50 per cent). Increasing age of the highest income householder is also associated with a higher percentage of households reporting that they were managing well.

**Table 6.3: How the household is managing financially this year by gender and age of highest income householder**

Column percentages, 2016 data

Households	Male	Female	16 to 24	25 to 34	35 to 44	45 to 59	60 to 74	75 plus	All
Manages well	60	50	51	52	48	54	62	67	56
Gets by	33	39	41	38	38	36	34	31	36
Does not manage well	7	10	8	10	14	10	4	2	8
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Base	6,060	4,310	420	1,270	1,660	2,950	2,650	1,430	10,380

<sup>49</sup> Occupational pensions, other investments and other non-earned income such as maintenance payments or student grants.

## Variation by deprivation

- There are high levels of perceived financial difficulty in areas of deprivation.
- There has consistently been a gap between those in deprived areas managing less well than those in the rest of Scotland.
- This gap has narrowed since 2012. This change is driven mainly by a decrease in the proportion of households reporting they were not managing well (in the 20 per cent most deprived areas).

The Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) is a relative measure of deprivation across small areas in Scotland. There are high levels of perceived financial difficulty in areas of deprivation (Table 6.4). More than double the proportion of households in the 20 per cent most deprived areas of Scotland said they were not managing well financially (15 per cent), compared with households in the rest of Scotland (six per cent).

**Table 6.4: How the household is managing financially this year by Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation<sup>50</sup>**

Column percentages, 2016 data

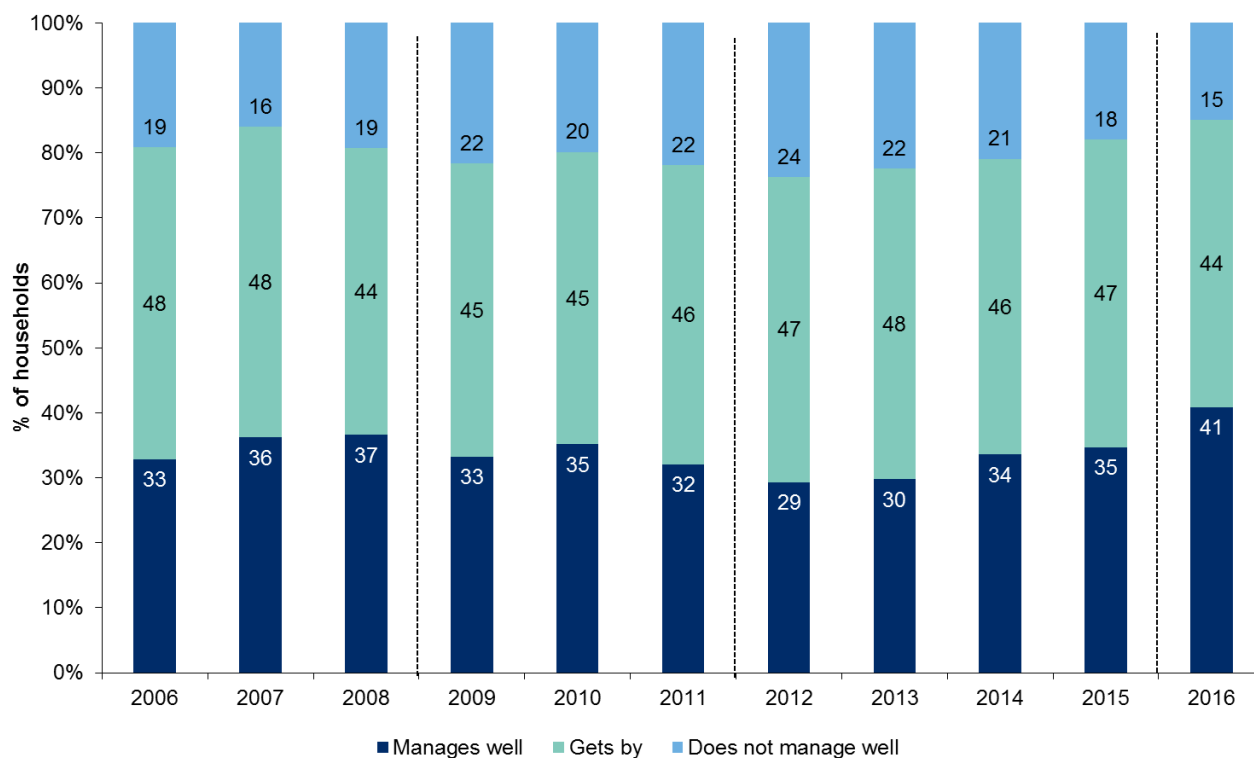
Households	20% Most Deprived	Rest of Scotland	All
Manages well	41	60	56
Gets by	44	33	36
Does not manage well	15	6	8
Total	100	100	100
Base	2,030	8,350	10,380

Figure 6.4 shows how this has changed over time. In 2012, almost a third (29 per cent) of households in the 20 per cent most deprived areas reported they were managing well. This has since then gradually increased. In 2016, 41 per cent of households in the 20 per cent most deprived areas reported they were managing well. This change is driven mainly by a decrease in the proportion of households reporting they were not managing well (24 per cent in 2012 compared with 15 per cent in 2016).

<sup>50</sup> As defined by the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation – see Annex 2: Glossary

**Figure 6.4: How households in the 20 per cent most deprived areas are managing financially over time**

2006 - 2016 data, Households (minimum base: 5,500)

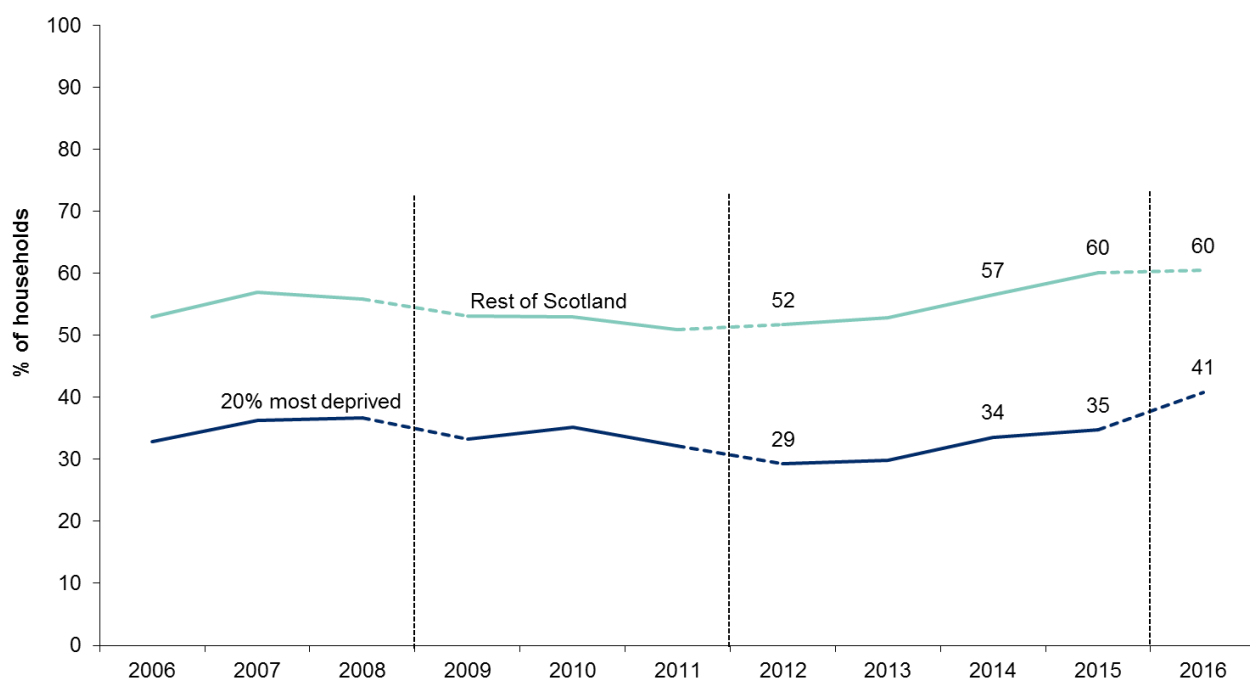


Note: The Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) is a relative measure of deprivation across small areas in Scotland. It is updated every few years. This analysis uses the SIMD measure which is relevant for each data year; SIMD06 for 2006 – 2008 data, SIMD09 for 2009 – 2011 data, SIMD12 for 2012 – 2015 data, and SIMD16 for 2016 data. Therefore, upon each update, some areas will shift away from being the most deprived. This creates “breaks” in the data which are represented by the dotted lines in the Figures 6.4 and 6.5.

Figure 6.5 compares the number of households who manage well financially in the 20 per cent most deprived areas with households in the rest of Scotland over time. There has consistently been a gap between those in the 20 per cent most deprived areas managing less well than those in the rest of Scotland. However this gap has narrowed since 2012. The proportion of households reporting they managed well has increased in both groups: in the 20 per cent most deprived areas this increased from 29 to 41 per cent, while in the rest of Scotland this increased from 52 to 60 per cent.

**Figure 6.5: Households who manage well financially by year**

2006 - 2016 data, Households (minimum base: 6,800)



\* Based on the most recent available SIMD measure for each year; SIMD06, SIMD09, SIMD12 and SIMD16

While the gap between 2006 and 2016 isn't smaller, the gap between 2012 and 2016 is smaller demonstrating a recent closing of gap on the persistent financial inequality.

## Conclusion

This chapter has summarised Scottish Household Survey findings on how households in Scotland are managing financially. It has revealed an increasing proportion of households in Scotland managing well financially and a recent closing of the gap on the persistent financial inequality.



## 7 Internet

### Main Findings

Home internet access in Scotland is high and continuing to increase. 82 per cent of Scottish households reported having internet access at home in 2016, an increase of 2 percentage points from the prior year. Home internet access has increased over the past decade from 42 per cent in 2003.

The vast majority of households with internet access at home reported having a broadband connection (98 per cent). Across all households (both households that have access to the internet and those who do not), 81 per cent had broadband at home.

Home internet access varies with household income. In 2016, 63 per cent of households with incomes of £15,000 or less had home internet access, increasing to 98 per cent of households with incomes over £40,000.

Eighty-four per cent of adults reported using the internet for personal or work use in 2016, while 16 per cent reported not using the internet at all.

Gaps in internet access and use remain amongst certain groups including those in deprived areas, those in social housing and those on low incomes.

Methods used to access the internet are continuing to change. The proportion of adults accessing the internet through tablets and mobile phones have continued to increase.

The most common activities undertaken by those who have access to the internet include sending and receiving emails (90 per cent) and searching for information (80 per cent).

Among those that have access, a lower proportion of adults in social housing were confident in their ability to use the internet than those in private rented housing and those who own their own homes. Those aged over 45 and those on incomes between £6,000 - £20,000 consistently reported being less confident than average.

Not liking or not needing to use the internet or computers remain the main reasons for not using the internet.

There is variation in the uptake of online security measures. Whilst 68 per cent of respondents said they avoid opening emails or attachments from unknown people, only a third (33 per cent) regularly change their passwords for online accounts. Those aged 75 and above were most likely to say they took none of the security measures discussed.

## 7.1 Introduction and Context

The Scottish Government is committed to ensuring that all of Scotland is well positioned to take full advantage of all opportunities offered by the digital age. This includes a vision of a Scotland where businesses and individuals are making effective use of digital tools, public services are designed around the needs of users, high quality connectivity is provided across the whole of the country, the current gender gap in digital skills and careers is addressed and where digital technology is supporting inclusive economic growth, social cohesion and future innovation<sup>51</sup>.

Part of the Scottish Government's Digital Strategy<sup>52</sup> is to increase digital participation in order to enable social mobility and tackle persistent inequalities. Digital participation refers to people's ability to gain access to digital technology and use it effectively and creatively. Being able to use the internet provides access to a range of political, educational, cultural and economic resources and is thereby an important facilitator of social inclusion. Ultimately, increased digital participation can improve people's quality of life, boost economic growth and allow for more effective delivery of public services.

The Scottish Government has an ambition to make Scotland a world leader in cyber resilience, with a global reputation for being a secure place to work, learn and do business.

The SHS provides information on a number of relevant areas of digital participation that can be used to measure progress. This chapter begins by looking at internet access and use by key demographic factors such as age, gender, income and deprivation. It then examines where and how users access the internet, including the activities for which the internet is being used and how confident users are undertaking different activities. Finally, it looks at the reasons why people do not use the internet and the security measures people take to protect themselves when online.

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<sup>51</sup> <https://beta.gov.scot/policies/digital/>

<sup>52</sup> [Realising Scotland's Full Potential in a Digital World: A Strategy for Scotland](#)

## 7.2 Internet Access and Usage

### 7.2.1 Internet Access

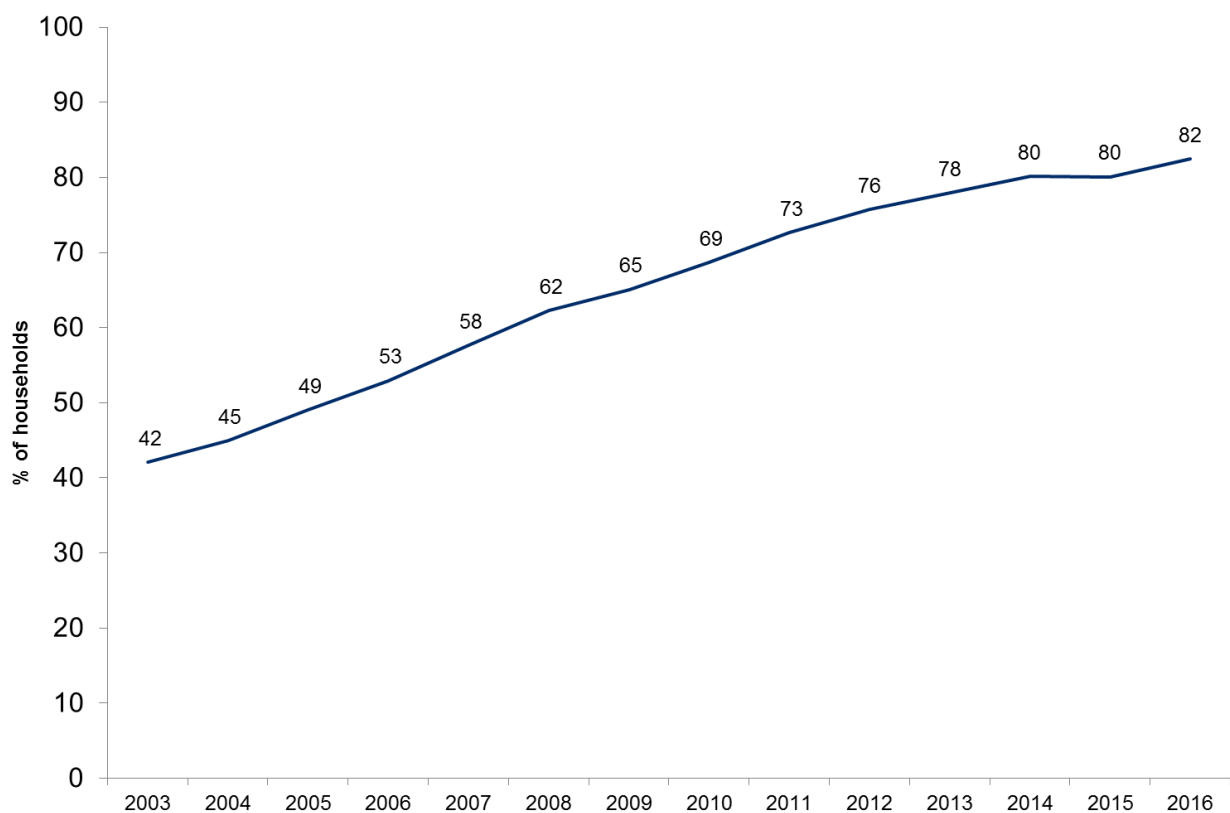
- Home Internet access at an all-time high and has increased steadily over time.



The SHS has asked whether households currently have access to the internet from their home every year since 2003. In 2016, the proportion of households with home internet access was 82 per cent (Figure 7.1) having increased steadily from 42 per cent of households surveyed in 2003.

**Figure 7.1: Households with home internet access by year**

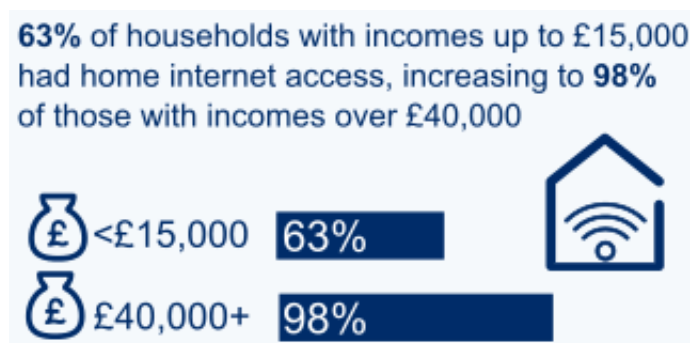
2003-2016 data, Households (minimum base: 3,270)



## Variations in internet access

- Households with higher income more likely to have internet access.
- Households in Scotland's 20 per cent most deprived areas continue to be less likely than those in the rest of Scotland to have home internet access.
- Internet access varies by tenure. Eighty-eight per cent of both owner occupied households and privately rented households reported having home internet access compared to only 65 per cent of those in social rented housing.
- The proportion of households with home internet access is highest in remote rural areas.

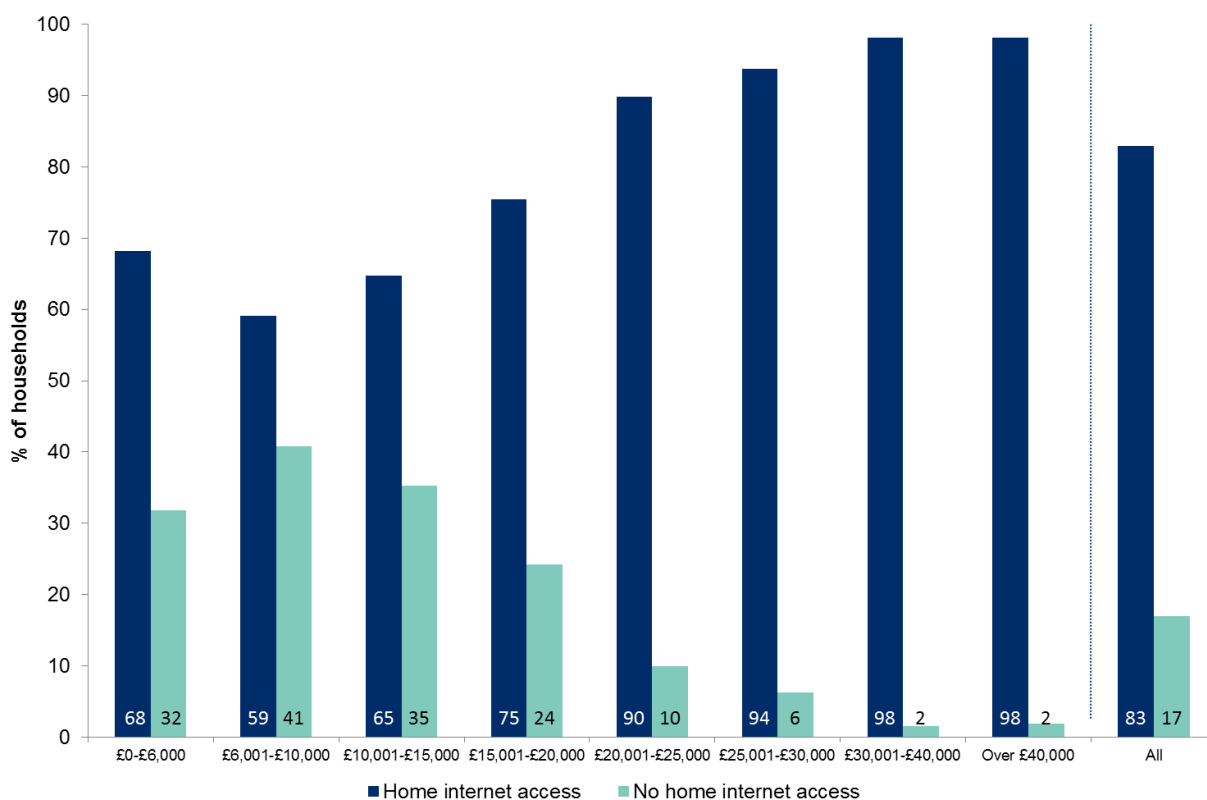
## Variations in internet access by income



Home internet access tends to increase with household income (Figure 7.2), with the exception of the lowest income bracket (£0 - 6,000). This result is likely to be driven, in part, by students (of whom 98 per cent have home internet access) being overrepresented in the lowest income bracket (making up almost a quarter of it) and the permanently retired (of whom only 64 per cent have access) making up a smaller proportion of the bracket compared to the £6,001 - £10,000 and £10,001 - £15,000 brackets. In 2016, 63 per cent of households with incomes of £15,000 or less had home internet access, increasing to 98 per cent of households with incomes over £40,000. Since 2007, the gap in access between the lowest and highest income brackets has decreased from 67 per cent to 30 per cent in 2016.

**Figure 7.2: Households with home internet access by net annual household income**

2016 data, households (minimum base: 90)



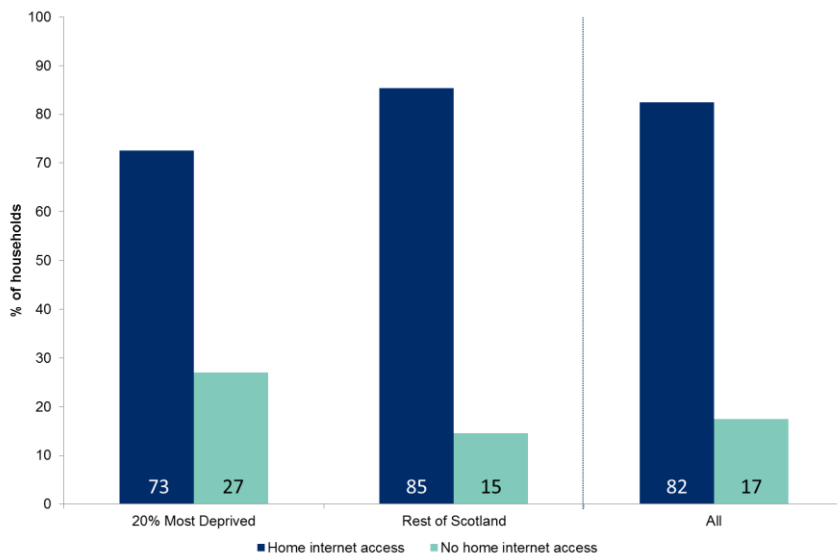
### Variations in internet access by level of deprivation

Figure 7.3 shows that households in Scotland's 20 per cent most deprived areas<sup>53</sup> continue to be less likely than those in the rest of Scotland to have home internet access, the proportions with access being 73 per cent and 85 per cent respectively.

<sup>53</sup> As defined by the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation: see <http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/SIMD>

**Figure 7.3: Households with home internet access by Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) 20 per cent most deprived areas**

2016 data, Households (minimum base: 700)

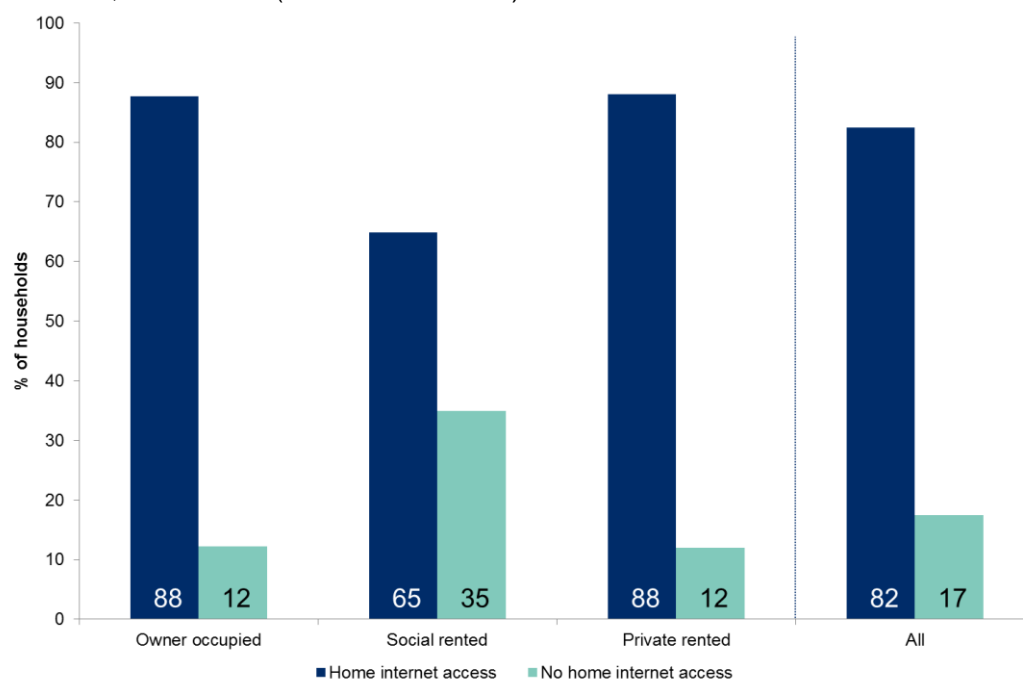


### Variations in internet access by tenure

Figure 7.4 shows that that internet access varies by tenure. Eighty-eight per cent of both owner occupied households and privately rented households reported having home internet access compared to only 65 per cent of those in social rented housing.

**Figure 7.4: Households with internet access at home by tenure**

2016 data, Households (minimum base: 40\*)



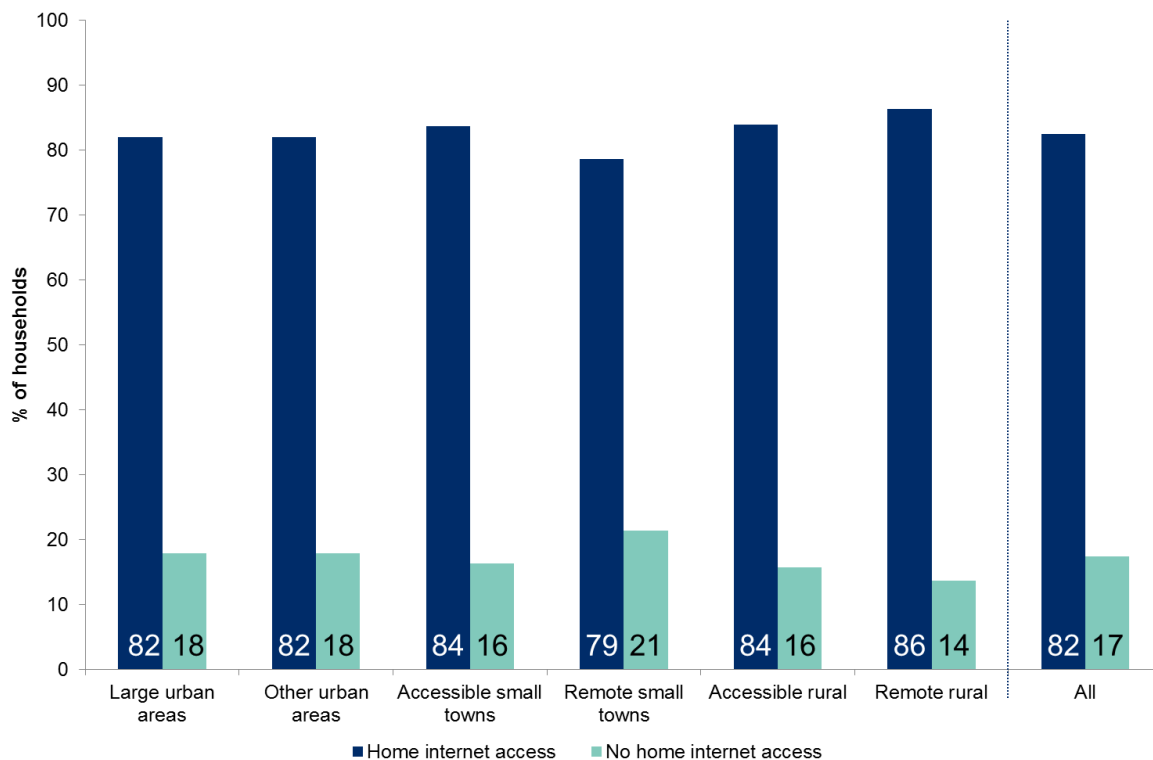
\*The category with the minimum base is not shown in the chart because the figures have been suppressed due to low sample size.

## Variations in internet access by urban – rural area classification

Figure 7.5 shows the prevalence of home internet access by area, based on Urban Rural Classification<sup>54</sup>. The proportion of households with home internet access is highest in remote rural areas. In 2016, 86 per cent of households in remote rural areas had home internet access, an increase of seven percentage points from the prior year.

**Figure 7.5: Households with home internet access by Urban Rural Classification**

2016 data, Households (minimum base: 190)



## Extent of broadband

- The vast majority of households with internet access at home had broadband in 2016 (98 per cent).

Since 2007, the SHS has asked households who reported having access to the internet at home if they have a broadband connection<sup>55</sup>. The vast majority of households with internet access at home had broadband in 2016 (98 per cent). The proportion of households with access to the internet through a broadband connection has risen from 87 per cent since 2007. Across all households (that is, both households that have access to the internet and those who do not), 81 per cent had broadband at home in 2016.

<sup>54</sup> <http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/About/Methodology/UrbanRuralClassification>

<sup>55</sup> A breakdown of the type of internet connection other than broadband that households have at home can be provided on request.

## 7.2.2 Exploring who does not use the internet

In addition to the questions on household take-up of internet and broadband, the SHS asks a randomly selected adult in the household whether they use the internet either for work or personal use. Overall, 84 per cent of adults said that they used the internet in 2016 for work or personal use, with 16 per cent stating that they did not use the internet at all. Under one per cent said that they only used it for work purposes.



The following section focuses primarily on those who do not use the internet at all. In order to increase digital participation and enable more people to enjoy the benefits that the internet can offer, it is important to identify if there are any groups of people that face barriers accessing or using the internet. In particular, this section looks at those who do not use the internet by age, health, income, level of deprivation and tenure. It then looks in more detail at use by tenure.

### Variations in internet use: Age

- Older people have lower internet usage rates.

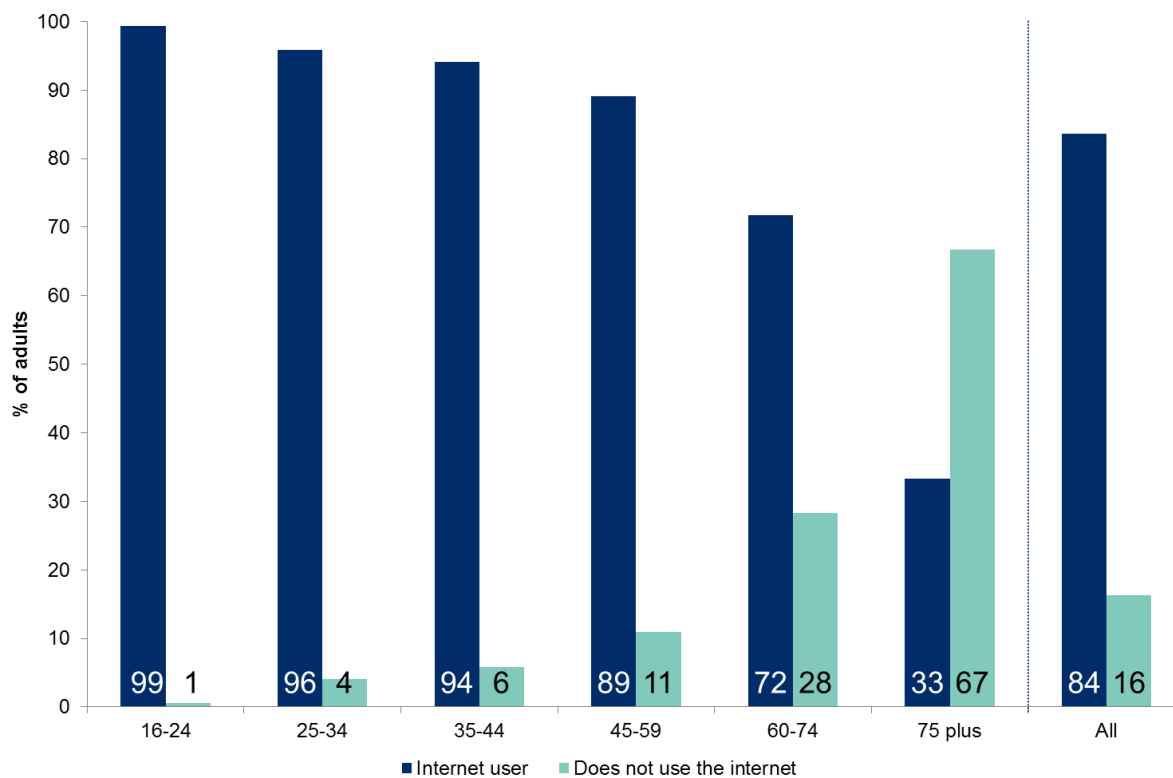
Figure 7.6 shows there is a clear relationship between age and internet use, with lower usage rates among older people. In 2016, one per cent of adults aged 16 to 24 reported not using the internet compared to 67 per cent of those aged 75 and over.

There was no difference in internet use between genders for younger age groups, although there is some variation in use amongst older age groups. For example, men aged 75 and over were 11 percentage points more likely to use the internet than women.



**Figure 7.6: Use of internet by age**

2016 data, Adults (minimum base: 370)

**Variations in internet use: Health**

- Poor health is a barrier to internet use.

Thirty-one per cent of those who have some form of a longstanding physical or mental health condition or illness reported not using the internet compared with 10 per cent of those who do not have any such condition (Table 7.1). The result is more marked among the older age groups.

**Table 7.1: Proportion of adults who do not use the internet by age and whether they have a physical or mental health condition lasting or expecting to last 12 months or more**

Column percentages, 2016 data

	Does not have a physical or mental health condition or illness	Has a physical or mental health condition	All
<b>16-24</b>			
Internet user	99	100	99
Does not use the internet	1	0	1
<i>Base</i>	<i>300</i>	<i>70</i>	<i>370</i>
<b>25-34</b>			
Internet user	97	89	96
Does not use the internet	3	11	4
<i>Base</i>	<i>500</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>600</i>
<b>35-44</b>			
Internet user	96	88	94
Does not use the internet	4	12	6
<i>Base</i>	<i>580</i>	<i>170</i>	<i>740</i>
<b>45-59</b>			
Internet user	94	78	89
Does not use the internet	6	22	11
<i>Base</i>	<i>790</i>	<i>350</i>	<i>1,140</i>
<b>60-74</b>			
Internet user	77	66	72
Does not use the internet	23	34	28
<i>Base</i>	<i>650</i>	<i>540</i>	<i>1,190</i>
<b>75+</b>			
Internet user	39	30	33
Does not use the internet	61	70	67
<i>Base</i>	<i>260</i>	<i>390</i>	<i>650</i>
<b>All</b>			
Internet user	90	69	84
Does not use the internet	10	31	16
<i>Base</i>	<i>3,070</i>	<i>1,620</i>	<i>4,690</i>

Excludes 'Don't know'/'Refused' statements

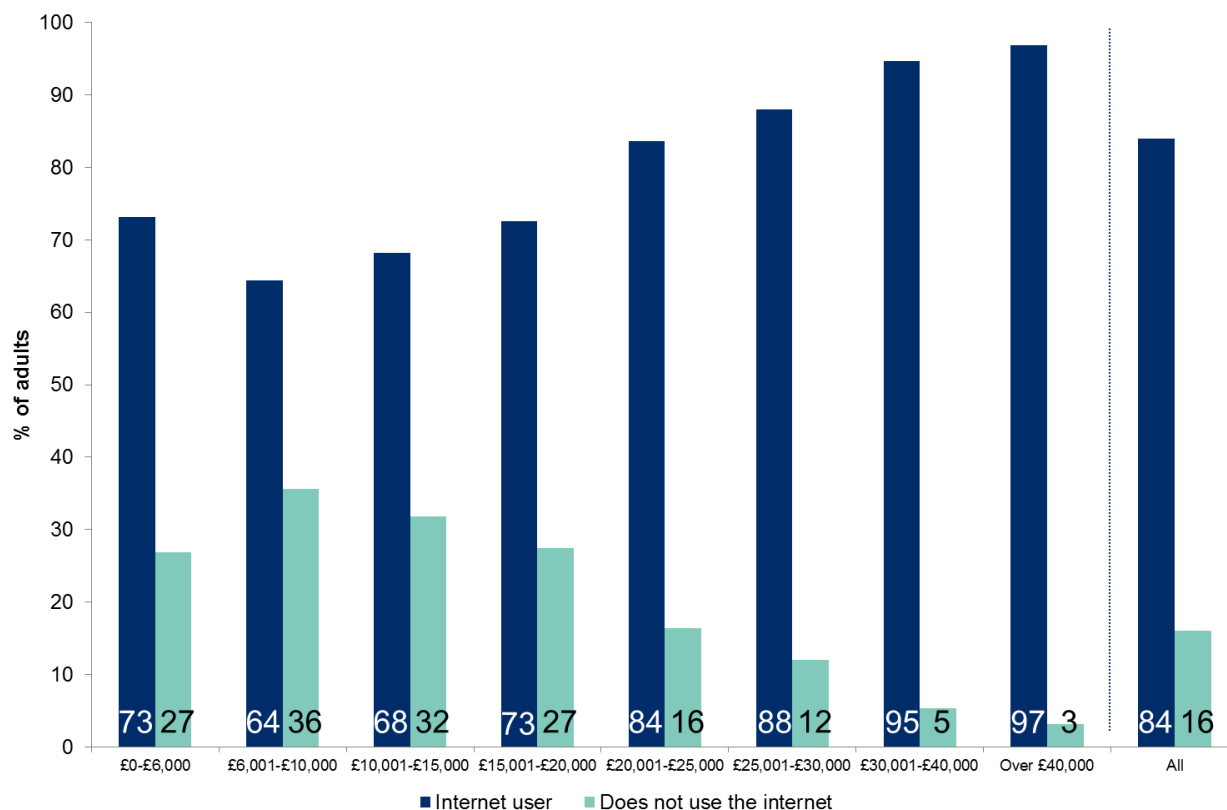
## Variations in internet use: Income

- Poorer households less likely to use the internet although the gap is lessening over time.

Figure 7.7 shows that, as with internet access, there is a broadly positive relationship between internet usage and income with the exception of the lowest income bracket – this feature is discussed in the internet access section. 3 per cent of adults living in a household with a total net income of £40,000 or more did not use the internet in 2016 compared with 36 per cent of those in the £6,001-£10,000 bracket. Since 2007, the gap in use between the lowest and highest income brackets has decreased from 57 per cent to 24 per cent in 2016.

**Figure 7.7: Use of the internet by net annual household income**

2016 data, Adults (minimum base: 120)



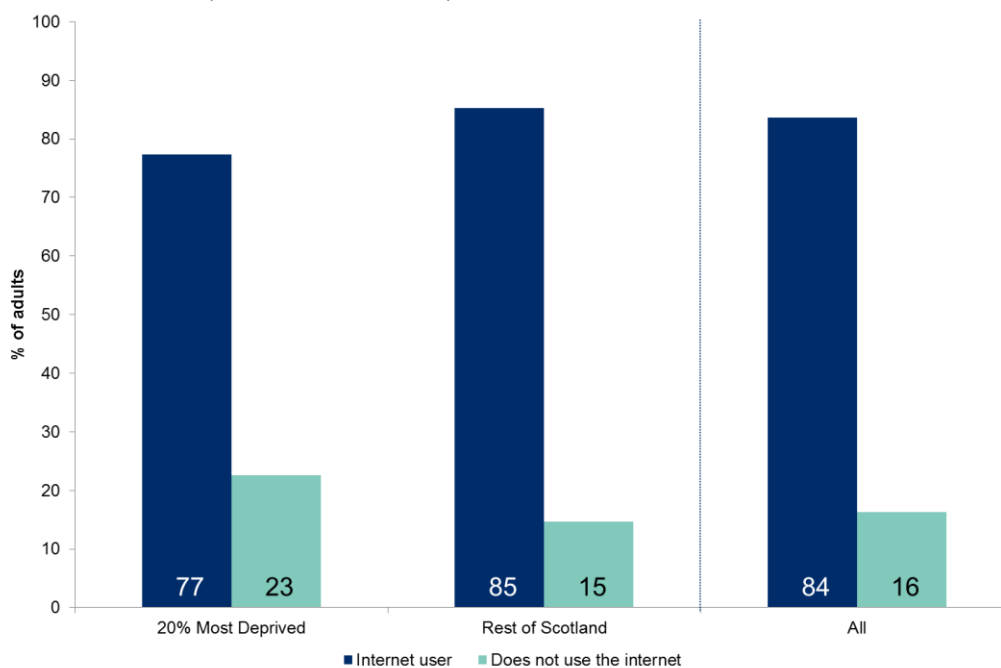
## Variations in internet use: Deprivation

- People living in the most deprived areas of Scotland were less likely to use the internet.

As with internet access, there is a difference in internet usage by deprivation (Figure 7.8). 23 per cent of adults living in the 20 per cent most deprived areas in Scotland reported not using the internet compared with 15 per cent in the rest of the country.

**Figure 7.8: Use of the internet by Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) 20 per cent most deprived areas**

2016 data, Adults (minimum base: 930)



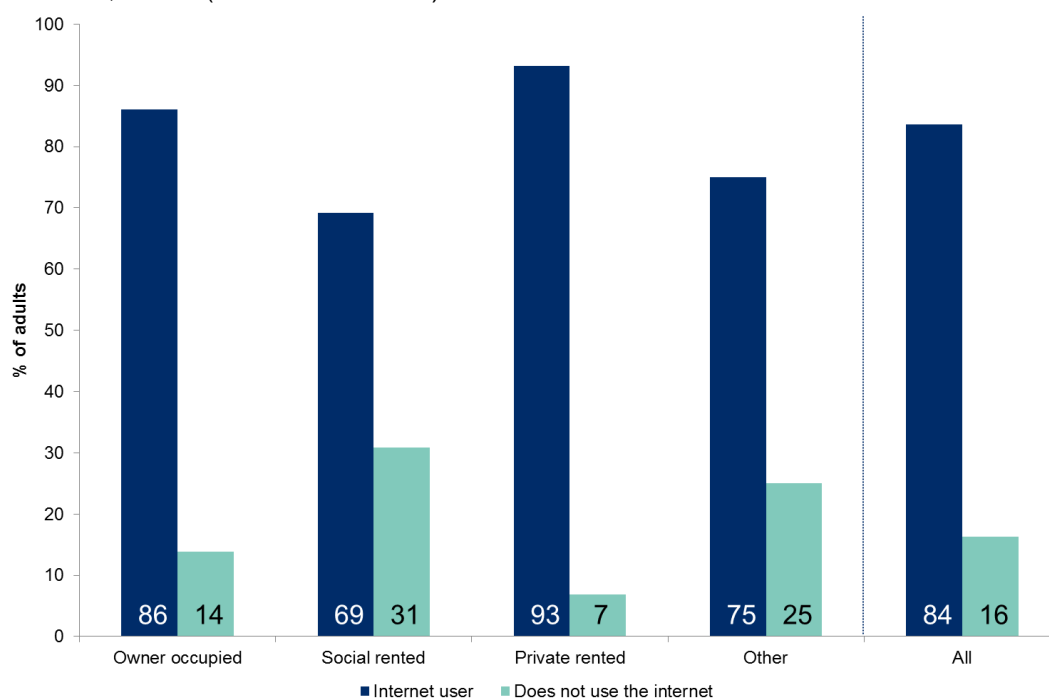
## Variations in internet use: Tenure

- People living in social rented housing were less likely to use the internet.

Figure 7.9 shows that there was a difference in internet use by tenure. Thirty-one per cent of those in social rented housing reported not using the internet compared to only seven per cent of those in private rented housing and 14 per cent of those that own their own homes.

**Figure 7.9: Use of the internet by tenure**

2016 data, Adults (minimum base: 50)



## 7.3 Where and How Users Access the Internet

- Access to the internet on the move via a mobile phone or tablet rose by six percentage points over the year to stand at 51 per cent in 2016.

The ways in which people access the internet are becoming increasingly diverse. Since 2007, the SHS has asked adults who use the internet for personal use about the location where they access it and the methods they use. Almost all adults (97 per cent) said that they use the internet at home (Table 7.2). Access on the move via a mobile phone or tablet rose by six percentage points over the year to stand at 51 per cent in 2016. Over a quarter of adults (27 per cent) said that they made personal use of the internet at work.

### Variations in methods used to access the internet: income

- Those on higher incomes were more likely to accessing the internet for personal use on the move via a phone or tablet.

There appears to be a broadly positive relationship between the proportion of people accessing the internet for personal use on the move via a phone or tablet and household income.

**Table 7.2: Where adults who use the internet access it for personal use by annual net income**

Column percentages, 2016 data

Adults who make personal use of the internet	£0-£6,000	£6,001-£10,000	£10,001-£15,000	£15,001-£20,000	£20,001-£25,000	£25,001-£30,000	£30,001-£40,000	Over £40,000	All
At home	88	90	93	96	98	97	99	99	97
On the move via a mobile phone/smartphone/tablet	45	41	42	40	48	52	52	61	51
At work	14	3	10	17	23	25	32	44	27
At another person's home	8	12	13	13	15	10	15	13	13
School, college, university, other educational institution	26	12	10	7	6	7	7	6	7
Internet café or shop	6	8	4	3	4	3	4	5	4
Public library	11	12	7	5	3	4	3	3	5
Somewhere else	3	1	1	0	1	1	2	1	1
Community or voluntary centre/organisation	4	1	0	1	-	1	1	0	1
A government/council office	0	0	-	-	-	-	1	1	1
<i>Base (minimum)</i>	60	170	340	320	320	250	380	520	2,340

### Variations in methods used to access the internet: age

- Already very high (in 2015) tablets and mobile phones use among 25-34 year olds maintained.
- The use of mobile phones to access the internet increased by 9 percentage points amongst 60-74 year olds between 2015 and 2016.

Table 7.3 shows which methods are used to access the internet for personal use by age. The proportion of adults reporting that they access the internet using personal computers or laptops remained broadly stable over the years (80 per cent in 2016 compared to 81 per cent in 2015). The proportion of adults accessing the internet by any means other than a personal computer or laptop (including tablets and mobile phones) continued to increase over the year, from 81 per cent in 2015 to 84 per cent in 2016.

There was very little change in access by means other than a personal computer or laptop among 25-34 year olds, where uptake was already very high in 2015. However there was an increase of nine percentage points in access by these 'other' means among 60-74 year olds. The 'other' technologies used are overwhelmingly tablets and mobile phones amongst all age brackets.

**Table 7.3: Where adults who use the internet for personal use access it by age**

Column percentages, 2016 data

Adults who make personal use of the internet	16-24	25-34	35-44	45-59	60-74	75 plus	All
A personal computer or laptop	78	80	76	81	83	83	80
Digital, cable or satellite television	13	16	15	11	9	1	12
Mobile phone/iPhone/Smartphone	93	87	80	70	45	16	72
A games console/PS2/xBox	25	18	11	6	1	-	11
A tablet - iPad/Playbook or similar	43	51	58	54	55	53	52
Another way	1	0	0	0	0	-	0
Other than a personal computer or laptop	96	91	89	79	70	61	84
<i>Base (minimum)</i>	<i>250</i>	<i>380</i>	<i>450</i>	<i>640</i>	<i>540</i>	<i>160</i>	<i>2,420</i>

## Common internet activities

- The top three internet activities are sending and receiving emails, searching for information and buying goods or services.

As shown in Table 7.4, the most common activities undertaken by those who have access to the internet include sending and receiving emails (90 per cent of all adults who make personal use of the internet), searching for information (80 per cent), buying goods or services (74 per cent), using social media (68 per cent) and internet banking (62 per cent). Those in social rented housing were less likely than average to use the internet for banking, buying goods and services, making telephone or video calls and sending and receiving emails.

**Table 7.4: Which methods are used to access the internet for personal use by tenure**

Column percentages, 2016 data

Adults who make personal use of the internet	Owner occupied	Social rented	Private rented	Other	All
Send and receive e-mails	90	82	95	*	90
Search for information	81	76	84	*	80
Buy goods or services	76	59	81	*	74
Use social media	65	71	81	*	68
Internet banking	62	51	74	*	62
Play or download games, films or music	49	52	64	*	52
Make telephone/video calls over the internet	44	37	57	*	45
Look for/apply for jobs	24	28	39	*	27
Create websites or blogs	10	6	16	*	10
None of these	1	1	-	*	1
<i>Base (minimum)</i>	<i>1,590</i>	<i>430</i>	<i>360</i>	<i>30</i>	<i>2,420</i>

## Confidence in using the internet

- Adults in social housing, older people and poorer people were less confident in their ability to use the internet.

Among those that have access, a lower proportion of adults in social housing were very or fairly confident in their ability to use the internet across all activities discussed than those in private rented housing and those who own their own home (Table 7.5). Those aged over 45 and those on incomes between £6,000-£20,000 consistently reported being less confident than average across all activities.



**Table 7.5: Confidence in pursuing activities when using the internet by tenure**

Column percentages, 2016 data

Adults who make personal use of the internet	Owner occupied	Social rented	Private rented	Other	All
Send and receive e-mails	94	87	96	*	93
Use a search engine	96	94	99	*	96
Shop online	88	78	94	*	87
Use public services online	86	78	89	*	85
Identify and delete spam	83	74	86	*	82
Be able to tell what websites to trust	81	73	86	*	81
Control privacy settings online	78	71	84	*	78
<i>Base (minimum)</i>	<i>1,550</i>	<i>410</i>	<i>350</i>	<i>30</i>	<i>2,330</i>

## 7.4 Why People Do Not Use the Internet

Among those adults who make no personal use of the internet, not liking or not needing to use the internet/computers remained the most commonly reported reasons for non-use.

**Table 7.6: Reasons why people might not use the internet (other than work)**

Column percentages, 2016 data

Adults who make no personal use of the internet	
I don't like using the internet or computers	34
I don't need to use the internet or computers	33
I don't know how to use a computer	24
There's nothing of interest to me on the internet	21
It would be too difficult to learn how to use the internet	9
I prefer to do things in person rather than use computers	8
I can't afford a computer	7
Other reason	5
I am concerned about privacy e.g. keeping credit card or personal details safe	4
I have a disability or illness that prevents me	4
Internet connection would be too expensive	2
I am worried about unsuitable or inappropriate material on the internet	2
<i>Base (minimum)</i>	<i>710</i>

## 7.5 Use of Security Measures

Since 2015, the SHS has asked about the security measures adults take to protect themselves whilst online and how security concerns are impacting internet use.

### 7.5.1 Security Measures Used Online

- Two-thirds of adults indicated that they avoid opening emails or attachments from unknown people.
- Only around a third said they regularly change passwords for online accounts or make sure their mobile phone has up-to-date antivirus software.
- The proportion of internet users who say they back-up important information which increased from 40 per cent to 43 per cent.

Some online security measures appear to be used more widely than others. For example, whilst just over two-thirds of adults (68 per cent) indicated that they avoid opening emails or attachments from unknown people, only around a third said they make sure their mobile phone has up-to-date antivirus software (34 per cent) or regularly change passwords for online accounts (33 per cent). The only measure where there was any change between 2015 and 2016 was in the proportion of internet users who say they back-up important information which increased from 40 per cent to 43 per cent.

#### **Variation in the use of online security measures: age**

- Older people were less likely to adopt security measures.

Use of online security measures varies by age, with those aged 60 and above generally less likely to adopt each of the measures than those in younger age groups as shown in Table 7.7. In particular, adults aged 75+ were notably less likely to adopt any of the security measures, with 23 per cent saying that they did not take any of the suggested actions. Moreover, whilst 59 per cent of those aged 16-24 said that they back-up important information, this was the case for only 34 per cent of those aged 60-75 and 22 per cent of those aged 75 and above.

#### **Variation in the use of online security measures: deprivation**

- Those in the most deprived areas were less likely to adopt security measures.

In general, adults living in the 20 per cent most deprived areas of Scotland were less likely than those in the rest of Scotland to adopt online security measures.

**Table 7.7: Online security measures by age and deprivation**

Column percentages, 2016 data

Adults	16-24	25-34	35-44	45-59	60-74	75 plus	20% Most Deprived	Rest of Scotland	All
Download and install software updates/patches when prompted	61	60	60	59	48	44	46	60	57
Avoid opening emails or attachments from unknown people	70	72	71	69	64	54	60	70	68
Use different passwords for different accounts	66	64	69	66	60	36	57	66	64
Set complex passwords	71	60	55	50	43	31	45	56	54
Change passwords for online accounts regularly	39	34	38	35	24	16	38	32	33
Avoid giving personal information online	72	67	70	66	62	57	59	69	67
Make sure my computer has up-to-date anti-virus software	60	58	64	63	61	56	55	62	61
Make sure my mobile phone has up-to-date anti-virus software	40	40	44	31	24	12	35	34	34
Make sure my home wi-fi is protected with a username and password	62	62	61	58	53	41	47	61	58
Back-up important information	59	48	44	39	34	22	34	45	43
None of these	2	5	3	8	13	23	9	6	7
<i>Base (minimum)</i>	<i>250</i>	<i>380</i>	<i>450</i>	<i>640</i>	<i>540</i>	<i>160</i>	<i>440</i>	<i>1,970</i>	<i>2,420</i>

Columns may not add to 100 per cent since multiple responses were allowed.

## 7.5.2 Impact of Security Concerns on Internet Use

- There has been an increase in the proportion reporting that security concerns made them less likely to buy goods online.
- Younger people (particularly those aged 16-24) were less likely to have changed their use of the internet as a result of security concerns.
- The SHS explores whether concerns about security issues have made people change the way they make use of the internet. Since 2015, there has been an increase in the proportion reporting that security concerns made them less likely to buy goods online, from eight per cent in 2015 to 11 per cent in 2016.

Table 7.8 shows that, in general, younger people (particularly those aged 16-24) were less likely to have changed their use of the internet as a result of security concerns. For example, only six per cent of those aged 16-24 reported that security concerns made them less likely to bank online, compared to 20 per cent of those aged between 60-74 and 25 per cent of those aged 75 and above.

The impact of security concerns on various types of internet usage was generally greater for those with a long-term physical or mental health condition. For example, 20 per cent of those with a long-term condition reported that they were less likely to bank online compared to 12 per cent of those without such a condition.

**Table 7.8: Impact of security concerns on internet use by age and physical or mental health condition**

Column percentages, 2016 data

Adults	Age						Long-term physical or mental health		All
	16-24	25-34	35-44	45-59	60-74	75+	Yes	No	
Less likely to buy goods online	8	8	8	13	14	20	15	9	11
Less likely to bank online	6	10	10	18	20	25	20	12	14
Less likely to give personal information on websites	30								
Only visit websites you know and trust	26	24	36	40	35	44	38	33	34
Only use your own computer/mobile device	13	28	32	38	29	40	36	31	32
Less likely to use the internet	1	16	21	28	26	29	28	20	22
No, none of the above	55	2	2	5	6	12	7	3	4
<i>Base (minimum)</i>	<i>250</i>	<i>380</i>	<i>450</i>	<i>640</i>	<i>540</i>	<i>160</i>	<i>660</i>	<i>1,760</i>	<i>2,420</i>

## Conclusion

This chapter has summarised Scottish Household Survey findings on the internet.

## 8 Physical Activity and Sport

### Main Findings

In 2016 the vast majority of adults (79 per cent) had taken part in physical activity and sport in the previous four weeks.

Participation in all physical activity and sport remained relatively constant between 2007 and 2010 (around 72 per cent). Recently people have become more active (rising to 75 per cent in 2011 and again to 79 per cent in 2016). The rise in physical activity is driven by the rise in recreational walking.

Recreational walking (for at least 30 minutes) has consistently been the most common type of physical activity. Participation has risen from 57 per cent in 2011 to 67 per cent in 2016.

Excluding walking, just over half (51 per cent) of the adult population participated in physical activity and sport in the four weeks prior to interview. This has remained broadly constant since 2007.

Frequent participation (on more than 15 days in the past 4 weeks) was undertaken by just under half (48 per cent) of people. This was a slight drop from 50 per cent in 2015 but a pronounced improvement from the 36 per cent of 2007.

Men are more active than women (81 per cent and 77 per cent respectively).

Participation in physical activity and sport including walking declines with age.

Recreational walking is the most common activity. Sixty-nine per cent of women and 66 per cent of men participate.

Sports and exercise participation (including recreational walking) is lower for those living in deprived areas (69 per cent compared to 88 per cent for those living in the least deprived areas).

Health has the biggest impact on participation. Those with a condition causing long term major reduced daily capacity were less likely to be physically active (39 per cent compared to 87 per cent of those with no condition).

Satisfaction with sports and leisure facilities has remained relatively constant since 2011. In 2016 87 per cent of users in the last 12 months were very or fairly satisfied.

## 8.1 Introduction and Context

Physical inactivity is the fourth leading cause of death globally<sup>56</sup> and contributes to nearly 2,500 deaths in Scotland annually, costing the NHS around £94 million<sup>57</sup>.

The Scottish Government recognises this as a major health challenge and has made increasing physical activity a priority. The percentage of adults meeting the CMOs Guidelines of 150 minutes of moderate or vigorous physical activity a week is one of the 55 national indicators for the National Performance Framework.

More widely we have set out our ambitions for a more active Scotland in the Active Scotland Outcomes Framework<sup>58</sup> (ASOF), developed in 2014 with partners. The ASOF has six high level outcomes, including getting the inactive active and is underpinned by a commitment to equality. We want to ensure that people of all ages and from all communities across Scotland have the opportunity to participate in physical activity and sport. The ASOF is monitored through 20 indicators, 11 of which use data from the Scottish Household Survey (SHS).

Questions on physical activity and sport participation were introduced in the SHS for the first time in 2007. The SHS questions cover levels and frequency of participation in physical activity and sport activities in the last 4 weeks. From 2012 onwards, it is possible to obtain data at local authority level every year.

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<sup>56</sup> [http://www.who.int/topics/physical\\_activity/en/](http://www.who.int/topics/physical_activity/en/)

<sup>57</sup> Foster, C and Allender, S. (2012) Costing the burden of ill health related to physical inactivity for Scotland. British Heart Foundation Research Group report for SPARCOII. NHS Health Scotland  
[www.healthscotland.com/uploads/documents/20437-D1physicalinactivityscotland12final.pdf](http://www.healthscotland.com/uploads/documents/20437-D1physicalinactivityscotland12final.pdf)

<sup>58</sup> <http://www.gov.scot/About/Performance/scotPerforms/partnerstories/Outcomes-Framework>

## 8.2 Participation in Physical Activity and Sport

### 8.2.1 Participation in Physical Activity and Sport in the Last Four Weeks

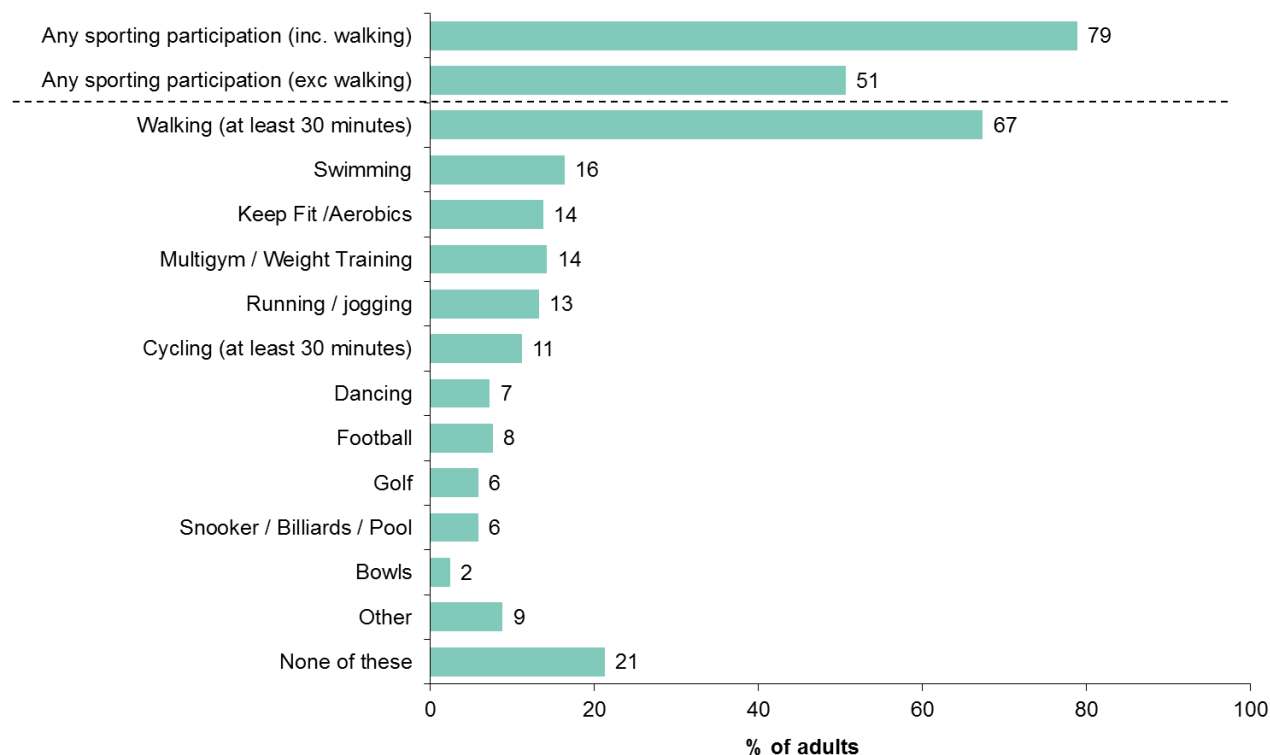
- In 2016 approximately four fifths of adults (79 per cent) participated in physical activity.
- The most prevalent activity by far was walking for at least 30 minutes (67 per cent of adults).



The SHS asks “In the last four weeks have you done any of the activities listed“. Figure 8.1 shows the full list of activities that respondents could choose from. In 2016 approximately four fifths of adults (79 per cent) participated in physical activity. The most prevalent activity by far was walking for at least 30 minutes (for recreational purposes), reported by 67 per cent of adults. If walking is excluded just over half of adults (51 per cent) participated in physical activity and sport. Participation in activities ranged from two per cent (in bowls) to 16 per cent (swimming).

**Figure 8.1: Participation in sports and physical activity in the last four weeks**

Percentage of adults (base: 9,640)



## 8.2.2 Participation in Physical Activity and Sport – Trends Over Time

- Participation in physical activity is increasing largely due to a rise in walking.

Figure 8.2 and Table 8.1 show that participation in all physical activity and sport remained relatively constant between 2007 and 2010 at around 72 per cent. This was followed by an upward trend from 75 per cent in 2011 to 79 per cent in 2016.

When recreational walking is excluded participation in physical activity and sport has remained relatively constant between 2007 and 2016 fluctuating between 51 and 54 per cent.

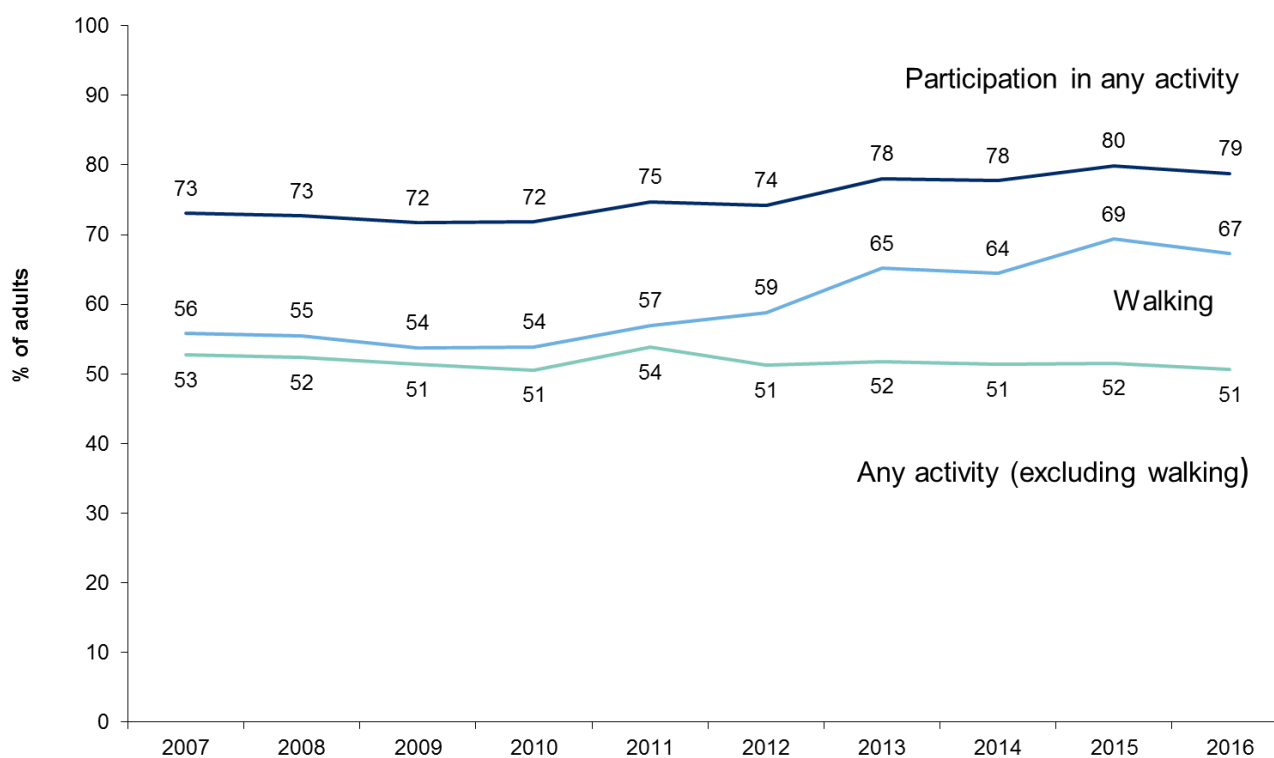
Recreational walking on its own shows a similar pattern to all physical activity and sport in that it remained fairly constant between 2007 and 2010 at between 54 and 56 per cent and then showed a steady upward trend from 57 per cent in 2011 to a peak of 69 per cent in 2015. It dropped to 67 per cent in 2016 but the upward trend is maintained. This suggests that the rise in all physical activity is driven by the rise in recreational walking.



Different types of sport also show consistent levels of participation over time with the exception of dancing which has halved in popularity between 2007 and 2016 (14 to 7 per cent).

**Figure 8.2: Participation in physical activity and sport in the last four weeks**

Percentages, 2007 to 2016 data (minimum base: 9,130)



**Table 8.1: Participation in physical activity and sport in the last four weeks**

Percentages, 2007 to 2016 data

Adults	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Any sporting participation (inc. walking)	73	73	72	72	75	74	78	78	80	79
Any sporting participation (exc walking)	53	52	51	51	54	51	52	51	52	51
Walking (at least 30 minutes)	56	55	54	54	57	59	65	64	69	67
Swimming	19	19	17	17	18	17	17	18	17	16
Keep Fit / Aerobics	12	12	12	13	14	14	13	13	14	14
Multigym / Weight Training	11	11	11	11	12	12	12	12	13	14
Running / jogging	10	9	10	10	11	11	12	12	12	13
Cycling (at least 30 minutes)	9	9	9	9	10	10	11	11	12	11
Dancing	14	12	11	10	10	8	7	7	7	7
Football	9	8	9	9	8	7	8	7	8	8
Golf	9	8	8	7	8	6	7	6	6	6
Snooker / Billiards / Pool	9	9	8	7	7	5	6	5	5	6
Bowls	4	4	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	2
Other	9	10	6	8	10	10	10	9	9	9
None of these	27	27	28	28	25	26	22	22	20	21
Base	10,300	9,230	9,130	9,620	9,680	9,890	9,920	9,800	9,410	9,640

### 8.2.3 Frequency of Participation in Physical Activity and Sport – Trends over Time

- Over time people are becoming more active.
- The likely cause is that those who are already active are becoming more active.

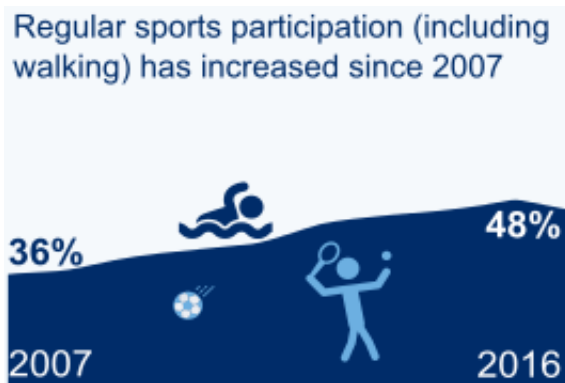
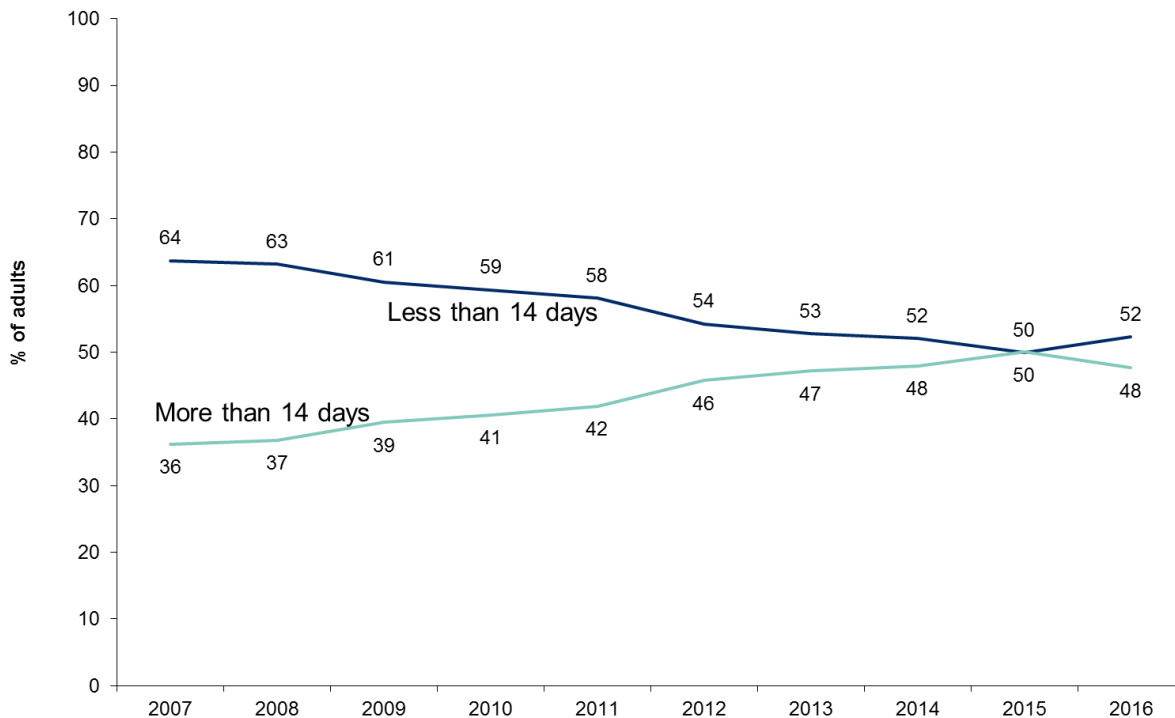


Figure 8.3 shows that frequency of participation in physical activity and sport among participants has increased since 2007. The proportion of the population reporting frequent participation (on more than 14 days in the past 4 weeks) increased from just over a third (36 per cent) in 2007, to just under a half (48 per cent) in 2016. Given the relatively steady levels of participation shown in Figure 8.2 it would appear this increase in frequency of participation is due to individuals who are already active becoming more active.

**Figure 8.3: Frequency of participation by adults who took part in physical activity and sport in the previous four weeks**

Percentages, 2007 to 2016 data (minimum base: 6,240)



## 8.2.4 Participation in Physical Activity and Sport by Gender and Age

- Men are more active.
- Walking is the most common activity.
- Women walk more than men.
- Generally physical activity declines with age.
- Participation in football, running, jogging and weight training decreases with age.
- Participation in swimming increases with age but tails off after age 45.
- Participation in golf increases with age.

### 8.2.4.1 By Gender

Physical activity and sport participation is higher for men than women (81 per cent and 77 per cent respectively). This difference was larger when excluding walking (56 and 46 per cent respectively).

As for the population as a whole the most prevalent activity for both men and women was recreational walking. Women participated more than men (69 and 66 per cent respectively).

Men participated more than women in most of the other activities listed apart from dancing (10 and 4 per cent respectively) and keep fit (18 and 9 per cent respectively).

#### **8.2.4.2 By Age**

Participation in all physical activity and sport, including walking, declines with age (Table 8.2). The highest levels of participation were in the 16 to 24 year age group (89 per cent). This fell gradually to 81 per cent for those aged 45 to 59. The decline becomes more evident in the 60 to 74 age group with 72 per cent participation and in the 75+ group only 50 per cent engaged in physical activity.

When walking is excluded, participation also declines markedly with age. Participation is at its highest in age group 16-24 (70 per cent) compared to 37 per cent in those aged 60-74 years and 20 per cent for those over the age of 75.

Walking participation varies between 64 and 74 per cent between the ages of 16 and 74 and declines sharply after this with only 42 per cent of those over 75 participating.

The popularity of different types of sports and physical activity varied by age. Football is one example, with 22 per cent of those aged 16 to 24 having participated in the previous four weeks compared with 4 per cent of 45 to 59 year olds. Running/jogging and weight-training showed a similar pattern. Contrary to this participation in swimming initially increased with age, peaking at around 24 per cent between 25 and 44 years and then began to decline from the age of 45. Golf also shows a pattern of increasing participation with age with the highest level of participation occurring in the 60 to 74 year age group (7 per cent).

**Table 8.2: Participation in physical activity and sport in the past four weeks by gender and age**

Percentages, 2016 data

Adults	Male	Female	16 to 24	25 to 34	35 to 44	45 to 59	60 to 74	75 plus	All
Walking (at least 30 minutes)	66	69	68	73	74	71	64	42	67
Swimming	15	17	17	24	23	16	11	3	16
Keep Fit /Aerobics	9	18	21	18	15	14	9	6	14
Multigym / Weight Training	17	11	27	24	16	11	7	2	14
Running / jogging	16	10	29	22	18	9	3	0	13
Cycling (at least 30 minutes)	15	8	13	14	14	13	6	2	11
Dancing	4	10	11	8	7	8	5	3	7
Football	14	1	22	13	9	4	0	0	8
Golf	10	2	5	5	6	6	7	4	6
Snooker / Billiards / Pool	10	2	15	8	6	5	2	1	6
Bowls	3	2	3	2	0	2	3	4	2
Other	10	8	14	11	10	8	6	2	9
None of these	19	23	11	13	14	19	28	50	21
Any sporting participation (inc. walking)	81	77	89	87	86	81	72	50	79
Any sporting participation (exc walking)	56	46	70	63	59	49	37	20	51
Base	4,400	5,240	730	1,270	1,480	2,380	2,450	1,330	9,640

Columns add up to more than 100 per cent as multiple responses allowed.

### 8.2.5 By Age Groups Over Time

- Participation in physical activity and sport remains stable in most age groups.
- Upward trend in recreational walking seen from 2011 applies to all age groups.

Figure 8.4, Figure 8.5 and Figure 8.6 show how physical activity and sport participation (including and excluding walking) and recreational walking in the previous four weeks has changed over time within different age groups.

The upward trend in participation in physical activity and sport including walking shows within almost all age groups. The exception is for the 25 to 34 year age group where participation has decreased slightly, going from 91 per cent in 2015 to 87 per cent in 2016 but the upward trend is maintained (Figure 8.4).

**Figure 8.4: Participation in physical activity and sport (including walking) in the last four weeks over time by age**

Percentages, 2007 to 2016 data (minimum base: 710)

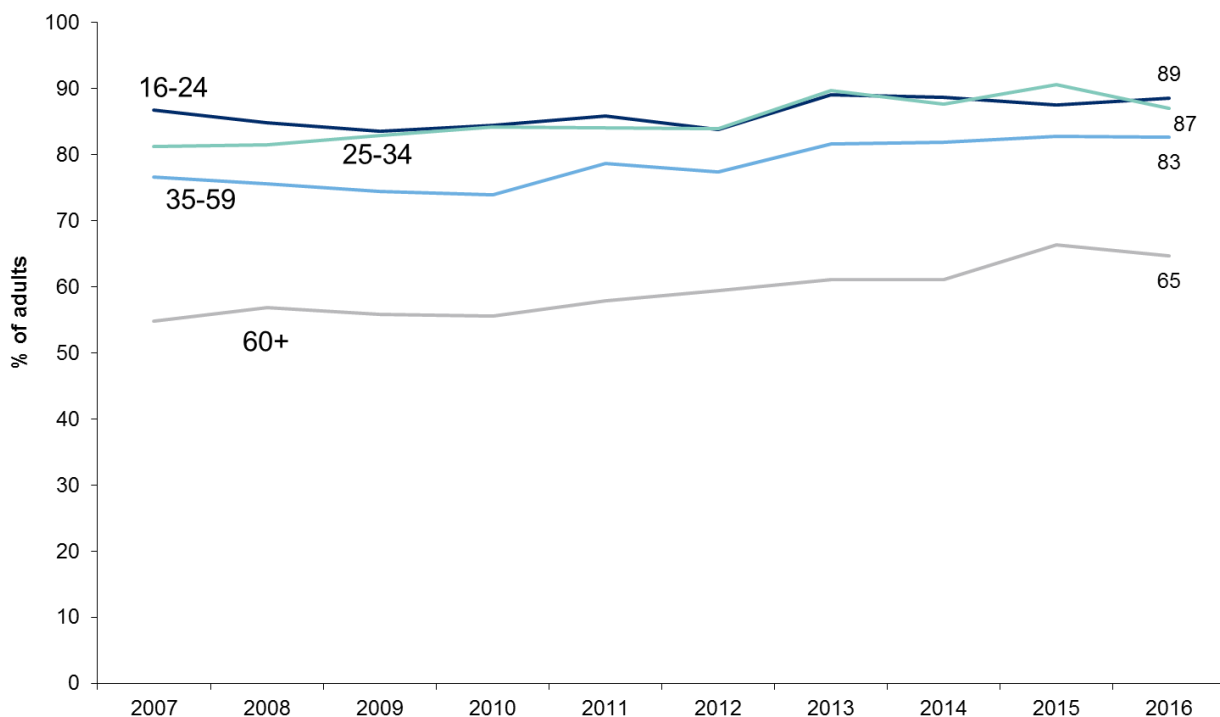


Figure 8.5 shows how physical activity and sport participation (excluding walking) has remained relatively stable within most age groups over time. Similar to the pattern when walking is included, the 25 to 34 year age group has seen a decrease in participation going from 70 per cent in 2015 to 63 per cent in 2016.

**Figure 8.5: Participation in physical activity and sport (excluding walking) in the last four weeks over time by age**

Percentages, 2007 to 2016 data (minimum base: 710)

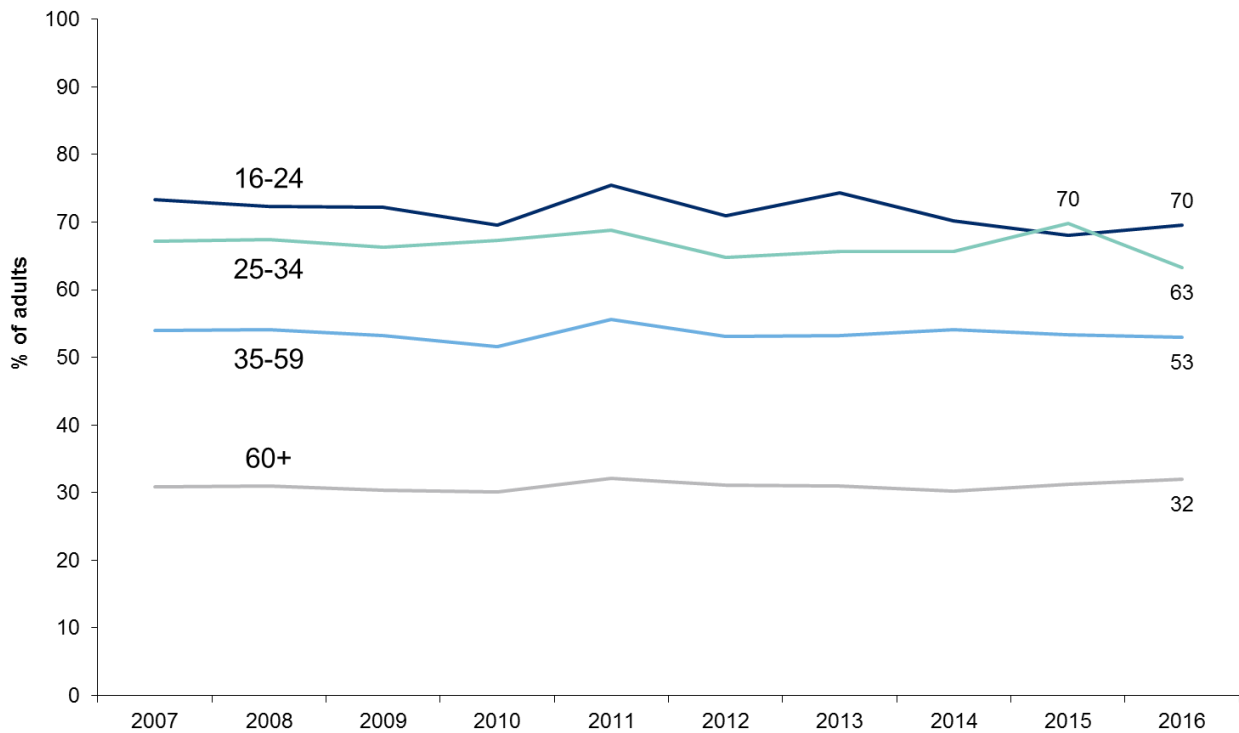
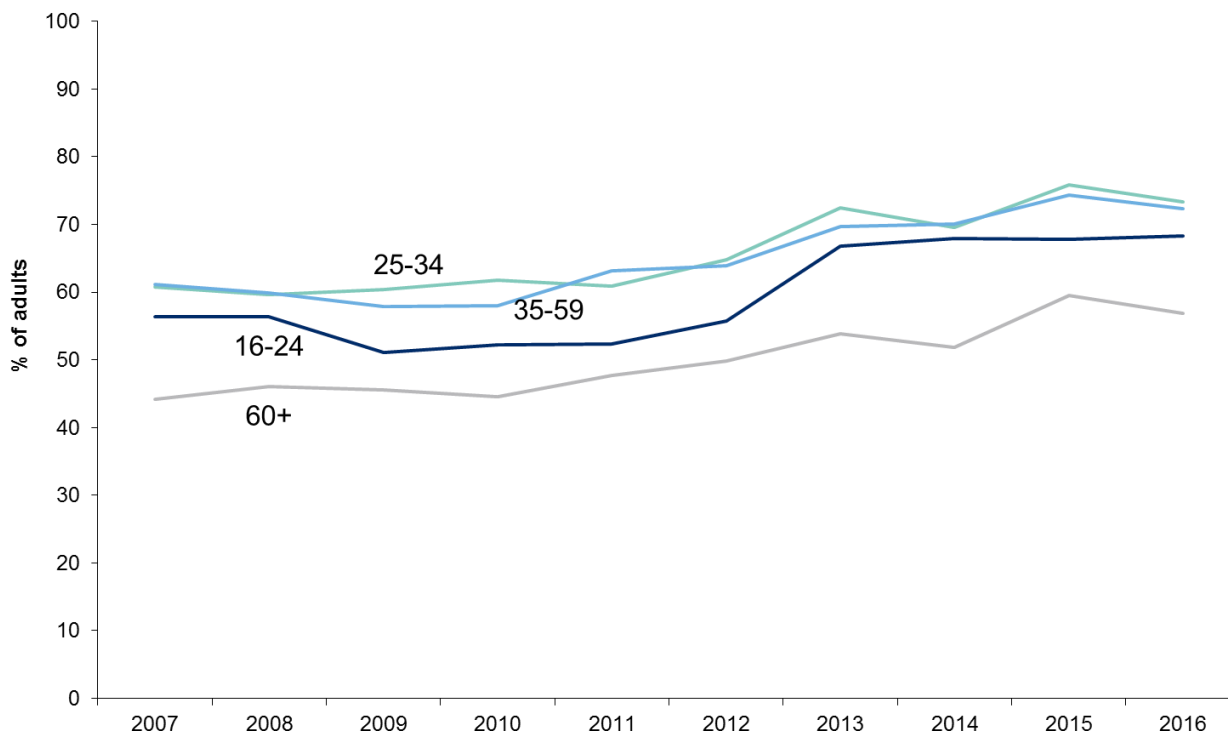


Figure 8.6 shows the upward trend in recreational walking seen from 2011 applies to all age groups. The levels of participation in 2016 have remained consistent with those seen in 2015 except in the 60+ age group where a small decline has occurred (from 59 to 57 per cent), although the upward trend remains.

**Figure 8.6: Participation in recreational walking in the last four weeks over time by age**  
 Percentages, 2007 to 2016 data (minimum base: 710)



### 8.2.6 Participation in Physical Activity and Sport by Highest Level of Qualification

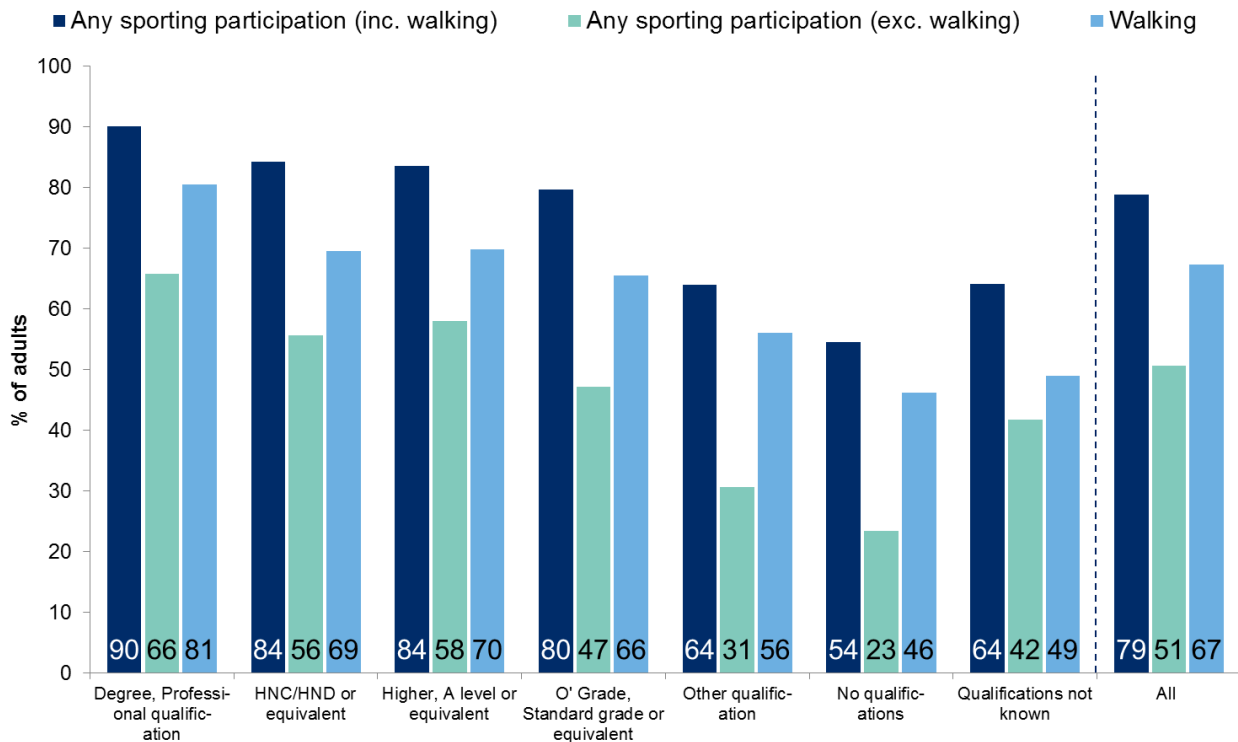
- Participation was highest amongst those with a degree or professional qualification and lowest for those with no qualifications

Figure 8.7 shows how participation in physical activity and sport (including walking) varies with level of qualification. In 2016 participation was highest amongst those with a degree or professional qualification (90 per cent) and lowest for those with no qualifications (54 per cent). When walking is excluded, the difference between qualification levels is even greater (66 per cent compared to 23 per cent). Walking is the most prevalent activity across the range of educational attainment but there is still a 32 percentage point gap in participation between those with a degree or professional qualification (81 per cent) and those with no qualification (46 per cent).



**Figure 8.7: Participation in physical activity and sport in the past four weeks by highest level of qualification**

2016 data, percentage of adults (minimum base: 60)



### 8.2.7 Participation in Physical Activity and Sport by Area Deprivation

- Sports and exercise participation (including recreational walking) is lower for those living in deprived areas and higher in the least deprived areas.
- However, some activities (football, snooker, bowls and dancing) were broadly similar between areas of both high and low deprivation

Figure 8.8 shows how participation in physical activity and sport (including walking) varies by area deprivation. Participation in the previous four weeks was lowest (69 per cent) among those in the 20 per cent most deprived areas of Scotland, compared with 88 per cent in the 20 per cent least deprived areas, as measured by the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD). Participation excluding walking and participation in walking follow the same pattern with higher levels being associated with lower levels of deprivation.

**Figure 8.8: Participation in physical activity and sport in the last four weeks by Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation**

2016 data, percentage of adults (minimum base: 1,730)

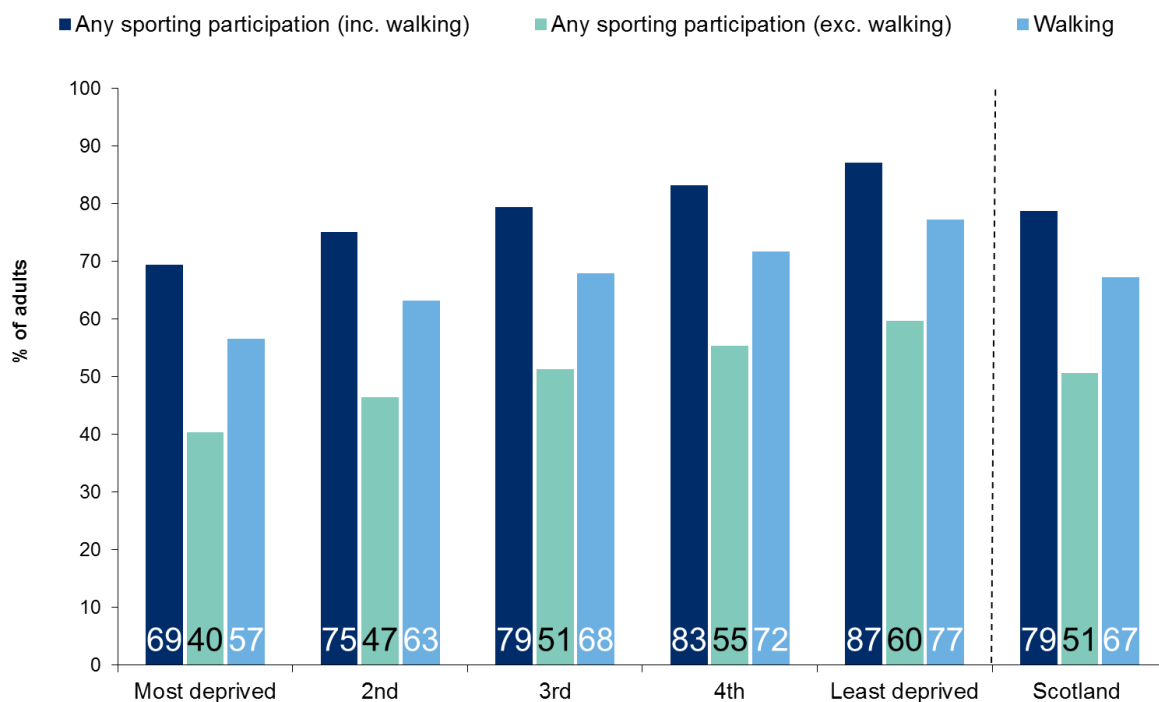


Table 8.3 shows participation in a range of different physical activity and sports by SIMD. This indicates that walking is the most popular activity irrespective of SIMD area; however those in the least deprived areas participate substantially more than those in the areas of highest deprivation.

A similarly unequal pattern of participation was observed for swimming, keep fit, running, cycling and golf, whereas levels of participation in football, snooker, bowls and dancing were broadly similar between areas of both high and low deprivation.

**Table 8.3: Participation in different types of physical activity and sport in the last four weeks by Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation**

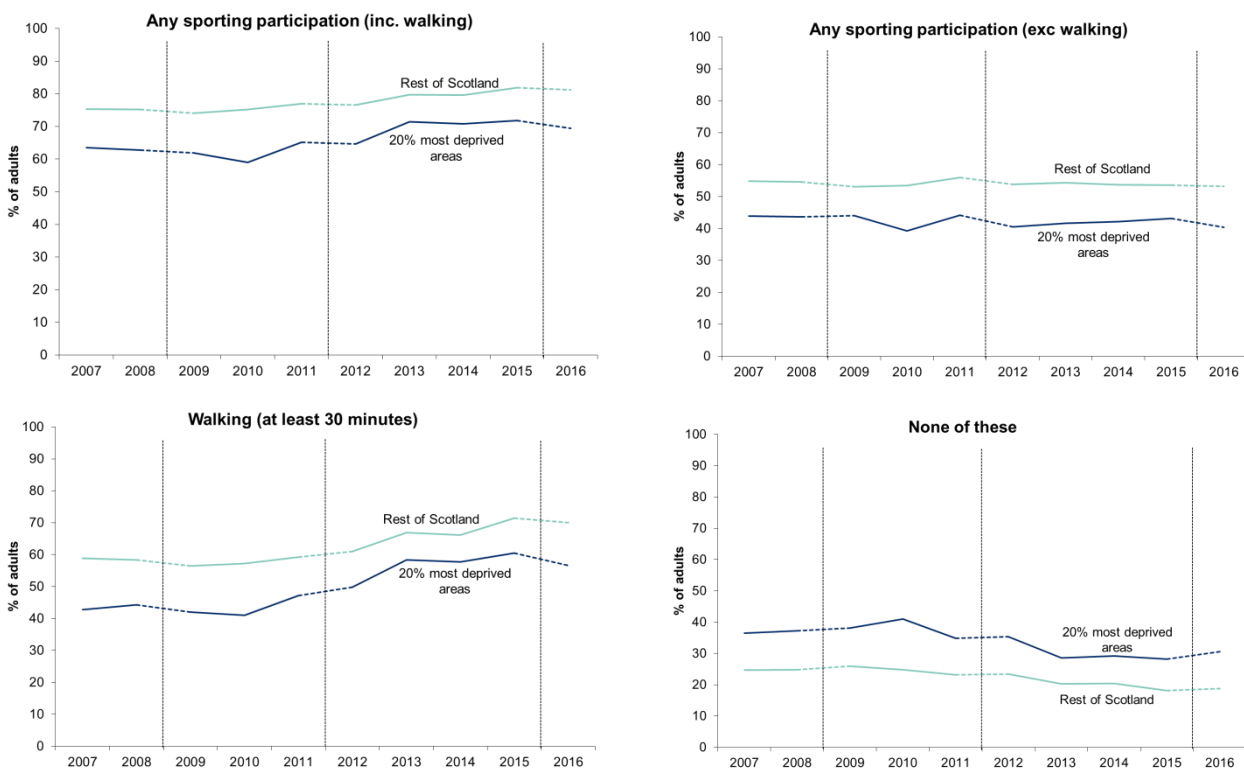
Percentages, 2016 data

Adults	Most deprived 20%	2nd	3rd	4th	Least deprived 20%	Scotland
Walking (at least 30 minutes)	57	63	68	72	77	67
Swimming	14	15	17	16	19	16
Keep Fit /Aerobics	10	12	14	15	17	14
Multigym / Weight Training	11	12	15	15	18	14
Running / jogging	8	12	13	15	17	13
Cycling (at least 30 minutes)	6	9	12	11	17	11
Dancing	6	6	7	8	9	7
Football	8	8	8	6	7	8
Golf	3	5	4	8	9	6
Snooker / Billiards / Pool	6	7	6	6	5	6
Bowls	2	3	3	2	2	2
Other	4	6	11	12	11	9
None of these	31	25	21	17	13	21
Any sporting participation (inc. walking)	69	75	79	83	87	79
Any sporting participation (exc walking)	40	47	51	55	60	51
<i>Base (minimum)</i>	<i>1,880</i>	<i>1,990</i>	<i>2,070</i>	<i>1,970</i>	<i>1,730</i>	<i>9,640</i>

Columns add up to more than 100 per cent as multiple responses allowed.

Figure 8.9 shows that the gap between participation in sport and physical activity in the 20 per cent most deprived areas and the rest of Scotland is consistent over time. For participation in any sport and physical activity (including walking) the gap was 12 percentage points in 2007 (63 per cent and 75 per cent respectively) and the gap remains 12 percentage points in 2016 (69 per cent and 81 per cent respectively). When walking is excluded the gap varies from between 9 and 14 percentage points. For recreational walking the gap narrows over time from 16 percentage points in 2007 to 14 percentage points in 2016.

**Figure 8.9: Participation in different types of physical activity and sport in the last four weeks over time by Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation**  
 2016 data, percentage of adults (minimum base: 9,130)



## 8.2.8 Participation in Physical Activity and Sport by Long-term Physical/Mental Health Condition

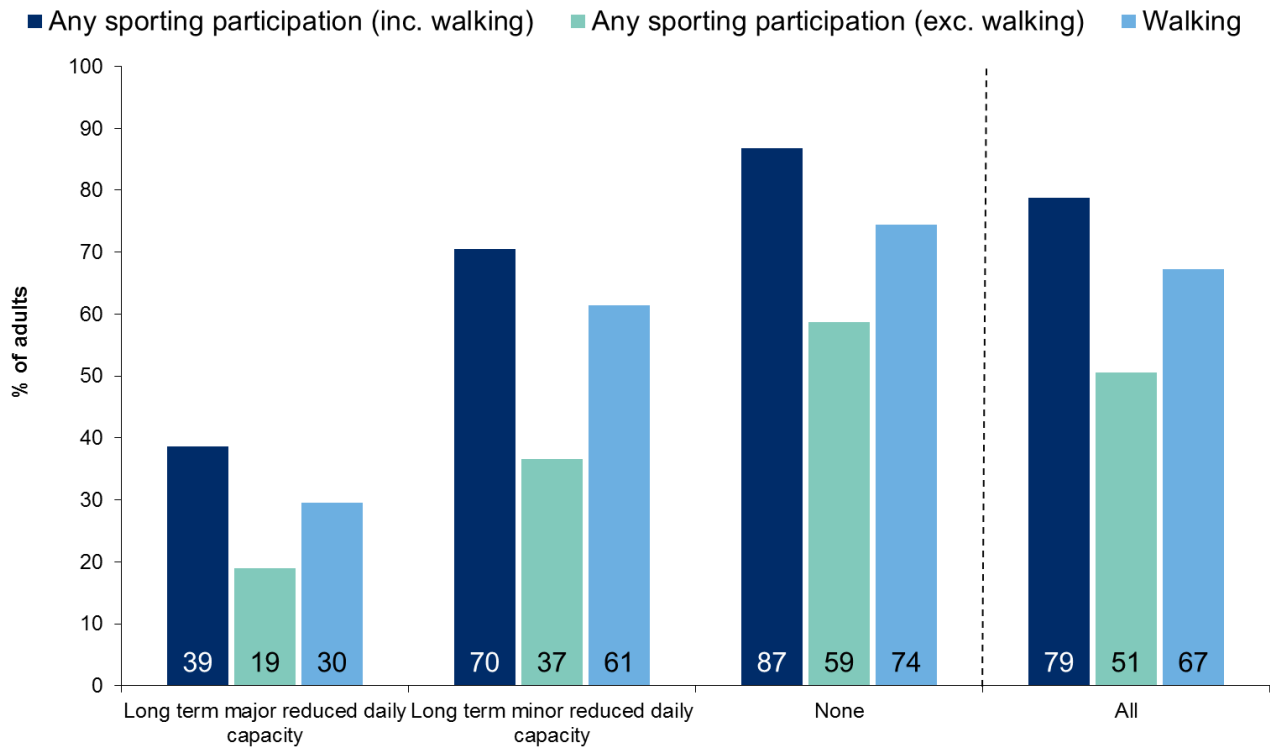
- Poor physical or mental health affects physical activity, with higher participation for those who are well.

Figure 8.10 shows participation in physical activity and sport by long-term physical or mental health condition (lasting, or expected to last 12 months or more). Participation was lowest for those who reported a condition which caused long-term major reduced daily capacity (39 per cent), compared to 87 per cent participation for those with no condition. For those where the condition caused minor reduced daily capacity, the participation rate was also lower at 70 per cent.

There is also a marked difference in participation in recreational walking between those with (30 per cent) and without longer-term physical and mental health conditions (74 per cent) and hence sports and physical activity participation whether walking is included or not.

**Figure 8.10: Participation in physical activity and sport in the last four weeks, by long-term physical/mental health condition**

Percentages, 2016 data (minimum base: 1,290)



## 8.3 Satisfaction with Local Authority Cultural and Sports Services

- Most (87 per cent) users were satisfied with local authority sports and leisure services. This has been stable since 2011 but has increased since 2007.

Since 2007, questions have been asked in the Local Services suite of questions in the SHS on the frequency of use and satisfaction with local authority cultural and sport and leisure services. Table 8.4 presents the results for satisfaction with local authority sports and leisure services in 2016. It shows that levels of satisfaction amongst respondents (which include non-users) have been relatively constant since 2007 at around 50 per cent. There has been a small decrease in the proportion who expressed dissatisfaction from around 8 per cent between 2007 and 2011 to around 5 per cent from 2012 to 2016.

**Table 8.4: Satisfaction with local authority sport and leisure services**

Column percentages, 2007 to 2016 data

Adults	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
<b>Sports and leisure facilities</b>										
Very/fairly satisfied	50	50	48	49	51	51	53	52	51	50
Neither satisfied or dissatisfied	11	9	9	9	9	7	9	12	14	14
Very/fairly dissatisfied	9	8	8	8	8	5	6	5	5	5
No opinion	30	32	35	35	33	36	33	31	30	31
<i>Base</i>	<i>10,220</i>	<i>9,240</i>	<i>9,710</i>	<i>9,020</i>	<i>9,660</i>	<i>9,890</i>	<i>9,920</i>	<i>9,800</i>	<i>9,410</i>	<i>9,640</i>

Table 8.5 shows levels of satisfaction with local authority sports and leisure services, as above, but only amongst adults who have used these services in the past year. In 2016, a large majority were very or fairly satisfied (87 per cent). This has been stable since 2011 but represents an increase compared to 2007 (82 per cent).

**Table 8.5: Satisfaction with local authority culture and sport and leisure services. (Service users within the past 12 months only)**

Column percentages, 2007 to 2016 data

Adults	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
<b>Sports and leisure facilities</b>										
Very/fairly satisfied	82	83	82	82	85	88	88	87	86	87
Neither satisfied or dissatisfied	7	6	6	6	5	5	5	5	6	5
Very/fairly dissatisfied	10	9	10	9	8	7	6	7	7	7
No opinion	1	1	1	2	2	1	2	1	1	1
<i>Base</i>	<i>3,650</i>	<i>3,210</i>	<i>3,270</i>	<i>3,140</i>	<i>3,230</i>	<i>3,400</i>	<i>3,450</i>	<i>3,390</i>	<i>3,230</i>	<i>3,200</i>

## Conclusion

This chapter has explored physical activity levels in Scotland. It has been shown that the vast majority of adults in Scotland do some physical activity or sport. Walking is the most common activity.

## 9 Local Services

### Main Findings

In 2016, 56 per cent of adults were satisfied with three public services: local health services, schools and public transport.

Satisfaction with the three public services is at its lowest level since first measured in 2007, and down from a peak of 66 per cent in 2011.

Satisfaction with the three public services among service users is generally higher than that of the whole adult population, and is more stable over time.

Adults living in urban areas were more satisfied with the quality of the three public services than those in small towns and rural areas – mainly due to greater satisfaction with public transport.

In 2016, 23 per cent of adults agreed that they can influence decisions affecting their local area. Just over a third (34 per cent) said they would like to be more involved in the decisions their council makes.

Generally, older adults were more likely than younger adults to say they are satisfied with local government performance and less likely to want to be more involved in making decisions. Forty-two per cent of 25-34 year olds said they would like to have greater involvement with decisions affecting their local area (compared to 28 per cent for 60-74 year olds, and 14 per cent for those aged 75 plus).

Adults living in the most deprived areas were less likely to agree that they can influence decisions in their local area (21 per cent in the most deprived areas, compared to 27 per cent in the least deprived areas) and less likely to want to be more involved in local decision making, (29 per cent in the most deprived areas, compared to 38 per cent in the least deprived areas).

## 9.1 Introduction and Context

High quality public services which work together and with Scotland's communities are essential to support a fair, prosperous and inclusive society. The Scottish Government's approach to public service delivery seeks to place people and communities at the centre of what we do. In particular, it is an approach designed to target the causes rather than the consequences of inequalities; and to make sure that our public services are sustainable. Scotland's 32 local authorities work closely with other organisations (in a range of partnerships, including Community Planning Partnerships) to plan and deliver a wide range of services that improve the lives of people living in their areas.

As part of the National Performance Framework (NPF), which is supported by local councils, one of the Scottish Government's national outcomes is that 'our public services are high quality, continually improving, efficient and responsive to local people's needs'. There are also two National Indicators relating to public services: improve people's perceptions of the quality of public services (National Indicator 33) and improve the responsiveness of public services (National Indicator 34). Progress on these two indicators is monitored using data from the Scottish Household Survey (SHS). Many local authorities also use the SHS to assess progress towards their Single Outcome Agreements (a statement of the outcomes that they want to see for their local area). Under the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015, community planning is about how public bodies work together and with the local community to plan for, resource and provide or secure the provision of services which improve local outcomes in a local authority area, with a view to reducing inequalities. Each CPP must produce a Local Outcomes Improvement Plan which is collaboratively agreed and signed off by 1 October 2017, and these Local Outcome Improvement Plans supersede Single Outcome Agreements.

This chapter begins by exploring satisfaction with the quality of local services and attitudes to involvement in local decision-making. It then reports respondents' views on local authority performance. Breakdowns by urban rural classification and SIMD are provided.



## 9.2 Local Service Quality

- Just over half of adults in Scotland were satisfied with public services in 2016. This is the lowest level since first measured in 2007.
- Satisfaction levels rose from 2007 and peaked in 2011. Satisfaction has steadily fallen since then due to increasing numbers of adults being ambivalent about schools. The number of people who are very or fairly dissatisfied with local schools has remained stable throughout this period.
- Adults tend to be most satisfied with local health services.

The Scottish Government's National Indicator to 'improve people's perceptions of the quality of public services' is measured by the percentage of adults who say they are (very or fairly) satisfied with three public services: local health services, schools and public transport. In 2016, the percentage of adults who said they were very or fairly satisfied with these services was roughly stable once taking account of statistical significance compared to 2015 at 56 per cent, but has decreased from 66 per cent in 2011 (Table 9.1).

**56% of adults in 2016 were satisfied with 3 public services: local health services, schools and public transport, compared to 62% in 2014**



Looking at the services individually, adults tend to be most satisfied with local health services, followed by local schools and public transport. In 2016, 83 per cent of adults were satisfied with local health services, compared to 73 per cent who were satisfied with schools and 72 per cent with public transport. Satisfaction with schools has fallen over the last five years, from a high of 85 per cent in 2011 to the current level of 73 per cent, and this is the biggest factor in the corresponding trend in the combined indicator over this period.

**Table 9.1: Percentage of people very or fairly satisfied with the quality of public services delivered (local health services, local schools and public transport) by year**

Percentages, 2007-2016 data

Adults	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Local health services	81	85	86	86	88	87	85	86	83	83
Local Schools	79	81	83	83	85	83	81	79	74	73
Public Transport	69	73	75	74	76	72	71	75	74	72
% satisfied with all three services*	57.1	61.8	64.9	64.0	66.0	63.0	59.9	61.9	57.5	56.1
Base (minimum)	6,270	5,500	5,470	5,000	5,510	5,340	5,700	5,720	5,790	6,130

\* Percentages reported for all three services combined are those for which an opinion was given.

Respondents could express no opinion for up to two of the services. While the base minimum has been quoted here (for the three main services) the base size for the composite “satisfaction with all three services” is for the whole adult sample 9,640.

**Figure 9.1: Percentage of people very or fairly satisfied with the quality of public services delivered (local health services, local schools and public transport) by year**

2007 - 2016 data, Adults (min base: 5,000)

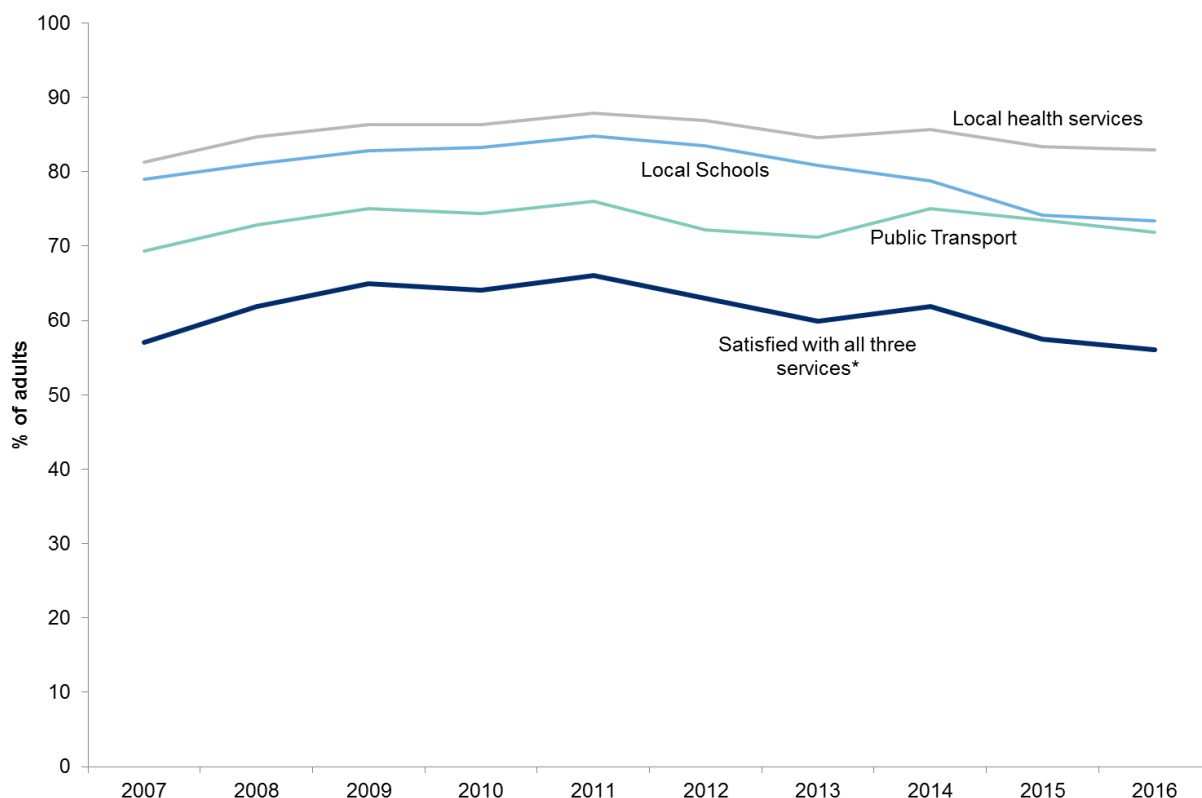


Table 9.2 provides a more detailed breakdown of satisfaction levels with each of the three public services. While the number very or fairly satisfied with local schools has fallen from 85 to 73 per cent since 2011, this is almost entirely due to a corresponding increase from 11 to 22 per cent in the number of people who are neither satisfied nor dissatisfied. The number of people who are very or fairly dissatisfied with local schools has remained stable throughout this period.

**Table 9.2: Percentage of people very or fairly satisfied with the quality of public services delivered (local health services, local schools and public transport) by year**

Percentages, 2007-2016 data

Adults	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
<b>Local health services</b>										
Very or fairly satisfied	81	85	86	86	88	87	85	86	83	83
Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	7	6	5	5	4	5	6	5	6	6
Very or fairly dissatisfied	12	10	9	9	8	9	10	9	11	11
<b>Local Schools</b>										
Very or fairly satisfied	79	81	83	83	85	83	81	79	74	73
Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	17	14	12	12	11	13	15	18	22	22
Very or fairly dissatisfied	4	5	5	5	4	3	4	3	4	5
<b>Public Transport</b>										
Very or fairly satisfied	69	73	75	74	76	72	71	75	74	72
Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	14	12	11	12	10	14	12	13	12	15
Very or fairly dissatisfied	17	15	14	14	14	14	17	11	14	13
<i>Base (minimum)</i>	6,270	5,500	5,470	5,000	5,510	5,340	5,700	5,720	5,790	6,130

### People's perceptions of public services by urban rural classification

- People in urban areas were more satisfied with the quality of public services overall than those in rural areas.

Table 9.3 shows the differences in people's perceptions of public services by urban rural classification. It can be seen that, overall, adults living in urban areas and accessible small towns were more satisfied with the quality of public services than those in remote small towns and rural areas. However, when we look at the individual services separately, it can be seen that it is the satisfaction with public transport in remote and rural areas that is mainly responsible for these overall results. Satisfaction with public transport in large urban areas was 80 per cent, compared to only 49 per cent in remote rural areas, whereas remote rural areas had higher levels of satisfaction with local schools (78 per cent compared to 67 per cent in large urban areas).

**Table 9.3: Percentage of people very or fairly satisfied with the quality of public services delivered (local health services, local schools and public transport) by urban rural classification**

Percentages, 2016 data

Adults	Large urban areas	Other urban areas	Accessible small towns	Remote small towns	Accessible rural	Remote rural	All
Local health services	84	82	82	80	82	83	83
Local Schools	67	76	82	79	73	78	73
Public Transport	80	73	69	66	57	49	72
% satisfied with all three services*	60.1	56.6	56.8	52.7	47.7	46.0	56.1
<i>Base (minimum)</i>	1,680	2,060	570	420	690	720	6,130

\* Percentages reported for all three services combined are those for which an opinion was given. Respondents could express no opinion for up to two of the services. While the base minimum has been quoted here (for the three main services) the base size for the composite "satisfaction with all three services" is for the whole adult sample 9,640.

## People’s perceptions of public services by level of deprivation

- Overall satisfaction with the quality of public services is broadly similar across all levels of deprivation.

Table 9.4 shows the differences in people’s perceptions of public services by level of deprivation, as defined using the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) and divided into quintiles<sup>59</sup>. Overall satisfaction with the quality of public services is broadly similar across all levels of deprivation, with satisfaction with schools and local health services in particular being very similar across all deprivation levels.

**Table 9.4: Percentage of people very or fairly satisfied with the quality of public services delivered (local health services, local schools and public transport) by Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation quintiles**

Percentages, 2016 data

Adults	← 20% most deprived		20% least deprived→			All
	1	2	3	4	5	
Local health services	82	81	83	84	85	83
Local Schools	72	73	74	75	73	73
Public Transport	75	73	69	68	74	72
% satisfied with all three services*	56.2	56.1	53.8	56.4	57.9	56.1
<i>Base (minimum)</i>	<i>1,160</i>	<i>1,300</i>	<i>1,360</i>	<i>1,250</i>	<i>1,060</i>	<i>6,130</i>

\* Percentages reported for all three services combined are those for which an opinion was given.

Respondents could express no opinion for up to two of the services. While the base minimum has been quoted here (for the three main services) the base size for the composite “satisfaction with all three services” is for the whole adult sample 9,640.

## Service users

- Satisfaction levels are higher amongst those who have used the service.

People who have actually used the services i.e. those who travel on public transport, have children in school or have used the health service arguably have a more informed opinion of the service. Currently users of schools and of public transport can be identified.

Table 9.5 shows satisfaction with the 3 public services among service users only. Satisfaction with both schools (88 per cent) and public transport (80 per cent) was higher in 2016 among those who use these services than the corresponding satisfaction level for the whole adult population. Satisfaction of service users is also more stable over time than that of all adults.

<sup>59</sup> See Annex 2: Glossary

**Table 9.5: Percentage of service users very or fairly satisfied with the quality of public services delivered (local health services, local schools and public transport) by year<sup>60</sup>**

Percentages, 2007-2016 data

Service users	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Local health services	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Local Schools	90	89	88	88	90	92	90	90	90	88
Public Transport	77	80	81	80	82	80	78	82	79	80
<i>Base (minimum)</i>	<i>2,040</i>	<i>1,740</i>	<i>1,880</i>	<i>1,650</i>	<i>1,800</i>	<i>1,750</i>	<i>1,820</i>	<i>1,780</i>	<i>1,690</i>	<i>1,740</i>

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<sup>60</sup> User of Local health services not available. Analysis of these users will be possible from 2017 onwards

Users of Local schools identified by whether there is a school child present in the household

Users of Public transport identified by whether the respondent has used a bus or train within the last month

### 9.3 Perceptions of Local Authority Performance and Involvement in Local Decision Making

- People think their local authority is good at letting people know about the kinds of services it provides (45 per cent) and provides high quality services (45 per cent).
- Far fewer (just under a quarter) feel they are able to influence decisions in their local area (23 per cent) or that the council is good at listening to local people's views (25 per cent).
- More adults would like greater involvement in the decisions affecting their local area than those who perceive they can influence them.

The Scottish Government's approach continues to be informed by the findings of the Christie Commission on the Future Delivery of Public Services in 2011<sup>61</sup>, providing consistent and clear strategic direction built around the four pillars of reform: partnership; prevention; people and performance. This approach places people and communities at the centre of public service delivery and policy making. Perceptions of local authority performance have been collected.

As well as satisfaction with local services, perceptions of local authority performance in the SHS are measured by asking people to indicate their level of agreement or disagreement with various statements relating to the role of a local council and the perceived quality of communication and services, involvement in decision making, and value for money. These are as follows:

- A. My local council provides high quality services
- B. My local council does the best it can with the money available
- C. My local council is addressing the key issues affecting the quality of life in my local neighbourhood
- D. My council is good at listening to local people's views before it takes decisions
- E. My local council designs its services around the needs of the people who use them
- F. My council is good at letting local people know how well it is performing
- G. My local council is good at letting people know about the kinds of services it provides
- H. I can influence decisions affecting my local area
- I. I would like to be more involved in the decisions my council makes that affect my local area

Figure 9.2 shows the percentage of adults who agreed (strongly or slightly) with these statements about different aspects of their local authority's performance. The highest level of agreement was amongst the almost half who said their council is good at letting people

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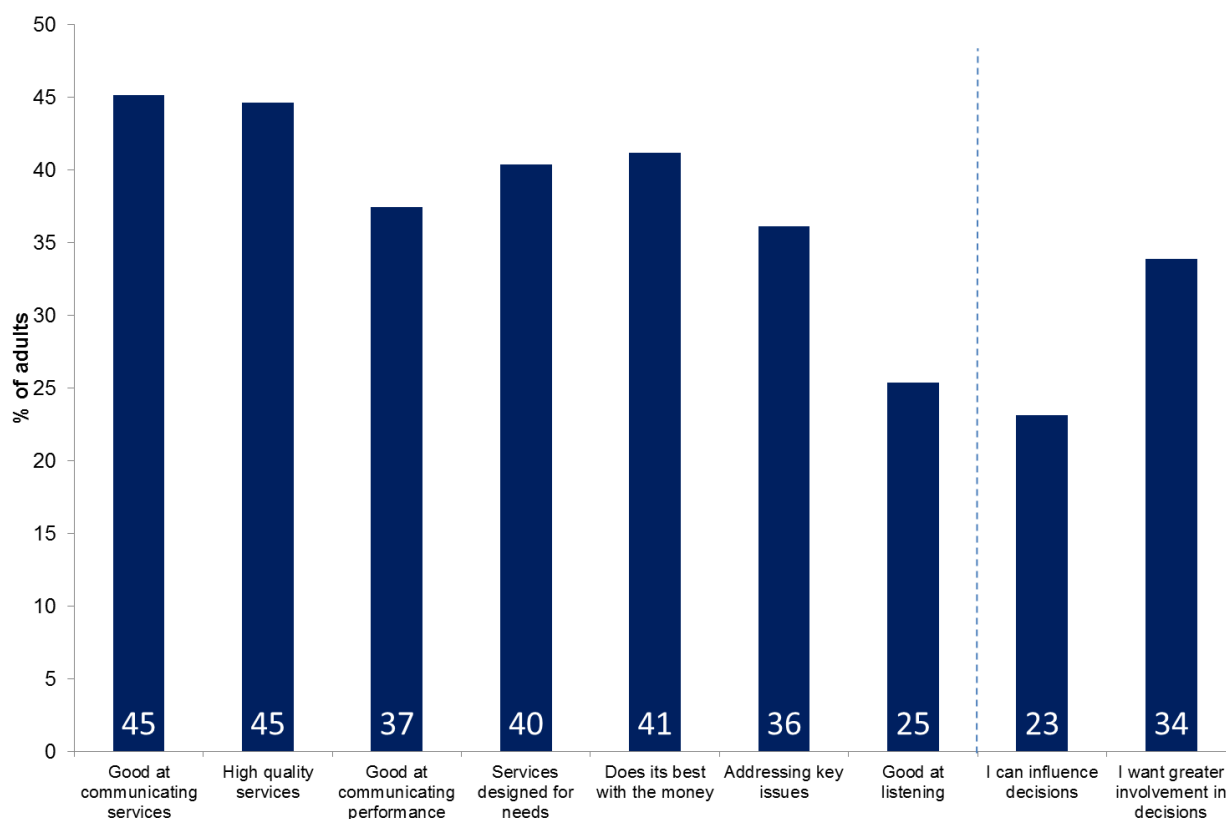
<sup>61</sup> <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2011/06/27154527/0>

know about the kinds of services it provides (45 per cent) and provides high quality services (45 per cent).

The lowest levels of agreement were with statements about being able to influence decisions in their local area (23 per cent) and the council being good at listening to local people's views (25 per cent).

**Figure 9.2: Percentage agreeing with various statements about local authority services and performance**

2016 data, Adults (base: 9,640)



### Changes over time

- Less people want greater involvement in decisions affecting their local area since 2007.
- More people think that their local council is good at listening since 2007.

The National Performance Framework National Indicator 'Improve the responsiveness of public services' is measured as the percentage of adults in the SHS who agree that they can influence decisions affecting their local area.

In 2016, 23.1 per cent of people agreed that they can influence decisions affecting their local area, as shown in Table 9.6. This is an increase of 3.5 percentage points since 2007,

and is unchanged since 2015 when the Community Empowerment Act 2015 came into force.

**Table 9.6: Percentage of people who agree with the statement 'I can influence decisions affecting my local area' by year**

Percentages, 2007-2016 data

Adults	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
I can influence decisions	19.6	21.7	21.8	21.3	22.4	21.5	22.0	23.0	23.6	23.1
Base (minimum)	10,230	9,250	9,710	9,020	9,660	9,890	9,920	9,800	9,410	9,640

The proportion of adults who agree that they would like greater involvement in the decisions affecting their local area is higher than those who perceive they can influence them. In 2016, 34 per cent of adults said they would like to be more involved in the decisions their council makes that affects their local area, compared to 23 per cent who felt they can influence decisions affecting their local area (Figure 9.2). In 2016, a quarter (25 per cent) of adults agreed that their council is good at listening to local people's views before it takes decisions.



Table 9.7 shows how level of agreement with the nine statements has changed over time. The percentage of people who agree that their local council is good at communicating services and good at communicating performance were both relatively stable between 2007 and 2014. However, since then the percentage who say that their local council is good at communicating services has declined (from 49 per cent to 45 per cent), as has the percentage who say that their local council is good at communicating performance (from 41 per cent to 37 per cent).

The percentage of people who want greater involvement in decisions affecting their local area has decreased since 2007 (from 38 per cent in 2007 to 34 per cent in 2016), while the percentage who think that their local council is good at listening has increased over the same period (from 21 per cent to 25 per cent).



**Table 9.7: Percentage of people who agree with the statement 'I can influence decisions affecting my local area' by year**

Percentages, 2007-2016 data

Adults	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Good at communicating services	47	48	49	48	49	48	48	49	46	45
High quality services	40	42	43	42	44	44	45	47	46	45
Good at communicating performance	42	42	41	41	40	41	40	41	38	37
Services designed for needs	32	34	38	39	39	40	40	41	40	40
Does its best with the money	35	38	36	39	39	40	40	41	41	41
Addressing key issues	33	34	34	34	34	35	36	37	36	36
Good at listening	21	22	23	23	23	25	25	26	25	25
I can influence decisions	20	22	22	21	22	21	22	23	24	23
I want greater involvement in decisions	38	37	36	36	36	33	35	34	34	34
Base (minimum)	10,230	9,250	9,710	9,020	9,660	9,890	9,920	9,800	9,410	9,640

All time series data is produced on a consistent basis. Figures published in the 2007 SHS Annual Report may differ slightly for some question statements

### Changes by age

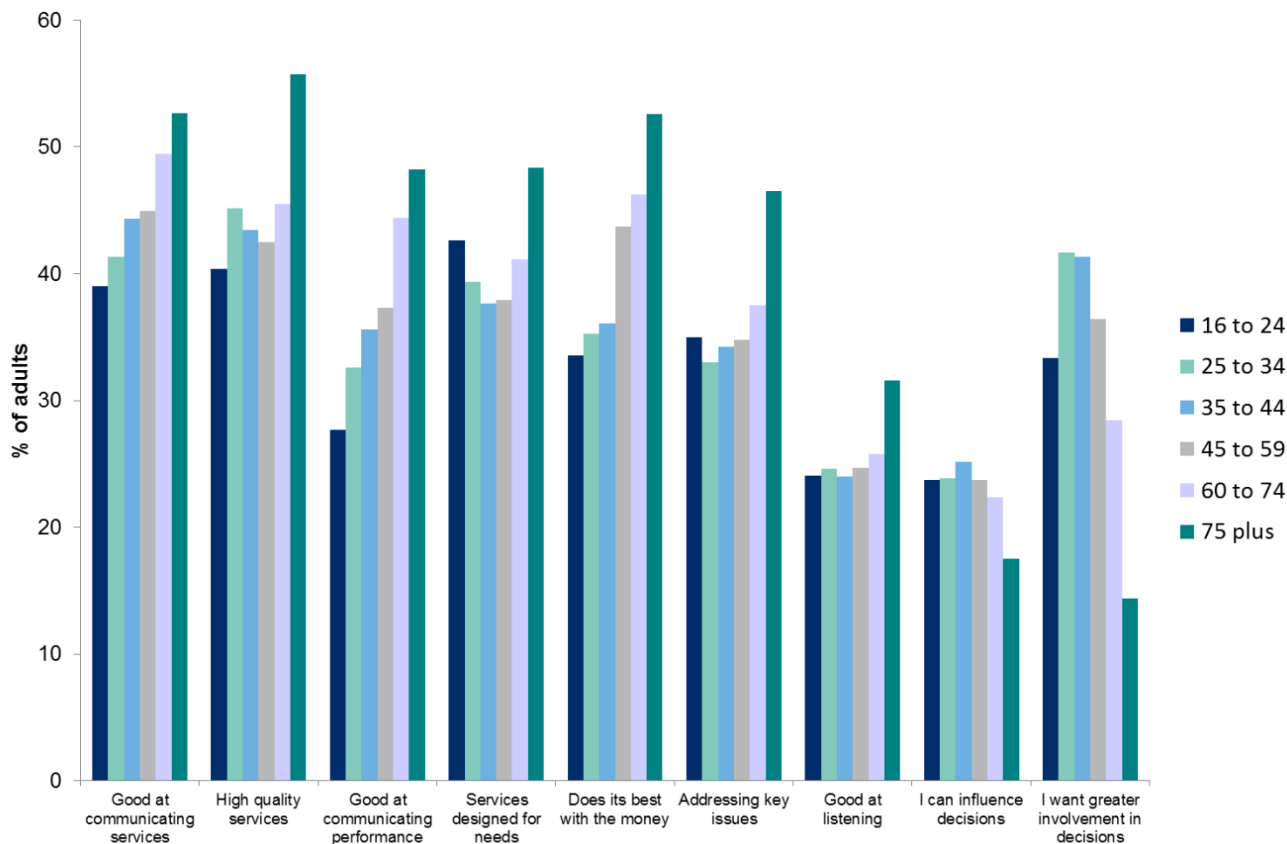
- Generally, older adults are more likely than younger adults to say they are satisfied with the performance statements about local government services and less likely to want to be more involved in making decisions.

Figure 9.3 shows that there are some differences by age group in agreement with statements about local authority services and performance. Generally, older adults are more likely than younger adults to say they are satisfied with the performance statements about local government services and less likely to want to be more involved in making decisions. Around half of 60 to 74 year olds and those aged 75 years and over agreed with the statement that their council does the best it can with the money available, compared to around one third of 16 to 24 and 25 to 34 year olds.

The strongest desire to participate in local decision-making was shown by those aged 25 to 34, with 42 per cent saying they would like to have greater involvement with decisions affecting their local area (compared to 28 per cent for those aged 60-74, and 14 per cent for those 75 and above). Those aged 75 and above were also least likely to feel that they can influence decisions (18 per cent, compared to 25 per cent for those aged 35-44).

**Figure 9.3: Percentage agreeing with various statements about local council services by age**

2016 data, Adults (min base: 730)



## Deprivation

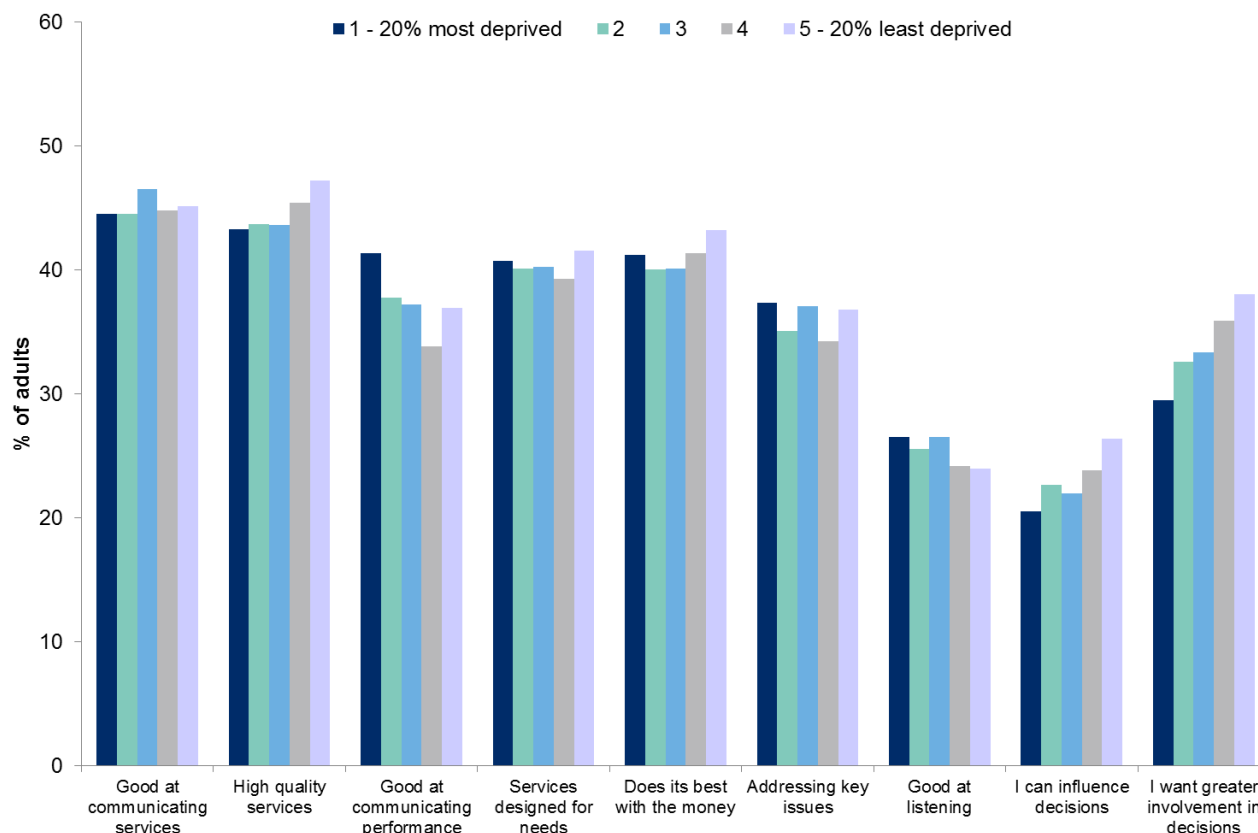
- Perceptions of being able to influence decisions and the desire to be involved in decision-making were lower in the most deprived areas compared to the least deprived areas.

Figure 9.4 looks at differences in agreement with statements about local authority performance by the level of deprivation of the area, as defined using the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) and divided into quintiles as above. Levels of agreement with most statements were similar across areas, regardless of deprivation levels.

Perceptions of being able to influence decisions and the desire to be involved in decision-making were lower in the most deprived areas compared to the least deprived areas. Adults living in the most deprived areas were less likely to agree that they can influence decisions in their local area (21 per cent in the most deprived areas, compared to 26 per cent in the least deprived areas) and less likely to want to be more involved in local decision making, (29 per cent in the most deprived areas, compared to 38 per cent in the least deprived areas).

**Figure 9.4: Percentage agreeing with various statements about local council services by Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD)**

2016 data, Adults (min base: 1,730)



Columns may not add to 100 per cent since multiple responses were allowed.

### Conclusion

This chapter has explored satisfaction with the quality of local services and attitudes to involvement in local decision-making. It has reported respondents' views on local authority performance.

# 10 Environment

## Main Findings

### Climate change

Over half of adults (55 per cent) view climate change as an immediate and urgent problem, an increase of 5 percentage points compared with 2015 (50 per cent). Concern about climate change has increased in particular among the 16-24 age group, and is lowest among the 75+ age group.

### Recycling

More households are now disposing of their food waste in local authority-provided food caddies (56 per cent in 2016 compared with 26 per cent in 2012).

Households in flats are much more likely to dispose of their food waste with their general waste as opposed to those living in houses (63 per cent compared to 39 per cent), while households in rural areas are more likely to use composting to dispose of their food waste than households in urban areas (20 per cent compared to 8 per cent).

### Visits to the outdoors and greenspace

Around half of adults (48 per cent) visited the outdoors at least once a week in the last year. This is around the same proportion as in 2015. Adults living in the most deprived areas were more likely not to have made any visits to the outdoors in the past twelve months (19 per cent) compared to those in the least deprived areas (7 per cent).

Those living closer to their nearest greenspace are more likely to use it more frequently. Most adults (65 per cent) live within a five minute walk of their nearest area of greenspace, a similar proportion to 2015.

More than a third of adults (36 per cent) visit their nearest area of greenspace at least once a week, which is around the same proportion since 2013, when comparable figures were first collected.

Most adults (75 per cent) are satisfied or very satisfied with their nearest area of greenspace, a similar proportion to 2015.

## 10.1 Introduction and Context

The Scottish Government and partners are working towards creating a greener Scotland by improving the natural and built environment, and protecting it for present and future generations. Actions are being taken to reduce local and global environmental impacts, through tackling climate change, moving towards a zero-waste Scotland through the development of a more circular economy, increasing the use of renewable energy and conserving natural resources. The Scottish Government is also committed to promoting the enjoyment of the countryside and of green spaces in and around towns and cities.

There are a number of Scottish Government National Outcomes relating to the environment<sup>62</sup> including:

- We value and enjoy our built and natural environment and protect it and enhance it for future generations;
- We reduce the local and global environmental impact of our consumption and production; and
- We live in well-designed, sustainable places where we are able to access the amenities and services we need.

A range of National Indicators<sup>63</sup> have been developed to track progress towards environmental outcomes. Two of these indicators, 'increase people's use of Scotland's outdoors' and 'improve access to local greenspace', are monitored using data from the Scottish Household Survey (SHS).

Some local authorities also use the SHS to assess progress towards environmental objectives, including those in their Single Outcome Agreements (a statement of the outcomes that they want to see for their local area).

This chapter begins by exploring attitudes towards climate change and then reports findings on the recycling of waste. It finishes by looking at visits to the outdoors and access to local greenspace.

Responses to questions on litter and dog fouling are found in Chapter 4 - "Neighbourhoods and Communities".

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<sup>62</sup> <http://www.gov.scot/About/Performance/scotPerforms/outcome>

<sup>63</sup> <http://www.gov.scot/About/Performance/scotPerforms/indicator>

## 10.2 Attitudes to Climate Change

### 10.2.1 Introduction and Context

Action to address climate change is a high priority for the Scottish Government. The Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009<sup>64</sup> set a target of reducing Scotland's greenhouse gas emissions by 42 per cent by 2020 and 80 per cent by 2050, compared with the 1990 baseline. The Scottish Government's draft Climate Change Plan<sup>65</sup> sets out how Scotland can deliver these targets over the period 2017–2032. The Scottish Government recognises that all sectors of society will need to contribute to meeting these targets. Its Low Carbon Behaviours Framework sets out a strategic approach to encourage low carbon lifestyles amongst individuals, households, communities and businesses in Scotland<sup>66</sup>.

Public attitudes towards climate change are likely to influence their willingness to support initiatives to address climate change, as well as to take action themselves. For the last four years the SHS has included a question about the immediacy of climate change as a problem, which was first asked in the Scottish Environmental Attitudes and Behaviours Survey (SEABS) in 2008<sup>67</sup>. The SHS results are discussed in relation to the SEABS results, although it is worth noting that there were some differences between the surveys. In the SEABS survey, respondents were asked a more detailed set of questions about the environment compared with the SHS, in which climate change is one of a wide range of topics on which respondents answer questions.

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<sup>64</sup> Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 - <http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Environment/climatechange/scotlands-action/climatechangeact>

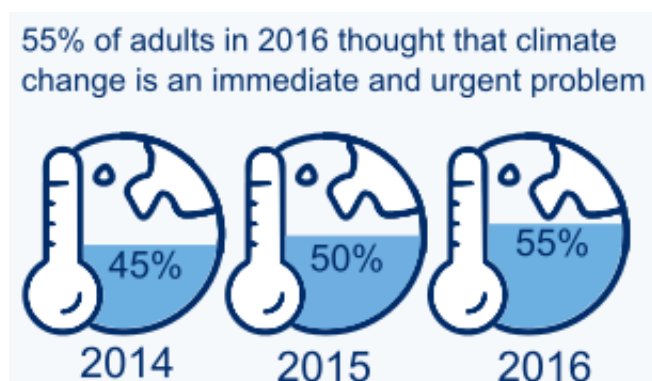
<sup>65</sup> Scottish Government Draft Climate Change Plan - the draft Third Report on Policies and Proposals 2017-2032 - <http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2017/01/2768/downloads>

<sup>66</sup> Scottish Government (2013) Low Carbon Scotland: Behaviours Framework <http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2013/03/8172>

<sup>67</sup> Scottish Environmental Attitudes and Behaviours Survey 2008 - <http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Environment/funding-and-grants/enviro-attitudes-2008>

## 10.2.2 Attitudes about the Immediacy and Urgency of Climate Change

- Increase in the proportion of adults who view climate change as an immediate and urgent problem.



Respondents were presented with four different statements about the problem of climate change and asked which, if any, came closest to their own view. Table 10.1 shows an increase in the proportion of adults who view climate change as an immediate and urgent problem, from 50 per cent in 2015 to 55 per cent in 2016. The 2016 finding is now broadly the same as the SEABS finding of 57 per cent in 2008.

**Table 10.1: Perceived immediacy of the problem of climate change**

Column percentages

Adults	2013	2014	2015	2016
Climate change is an immediate and urgent problem	46	45	50	55
Climate change is more of a problem for the future	25	26	23	23
Climate change is not really a problem	7	8	7	6
I'm still not convinced that climate change is happening	13	11	11	9
No answer	3	3	3	2
Don't know	7	6	7	6
Total	100	100	100	100
Base	9,920	9,800	3,100	3,150

### Variation in climate change attitudes: age

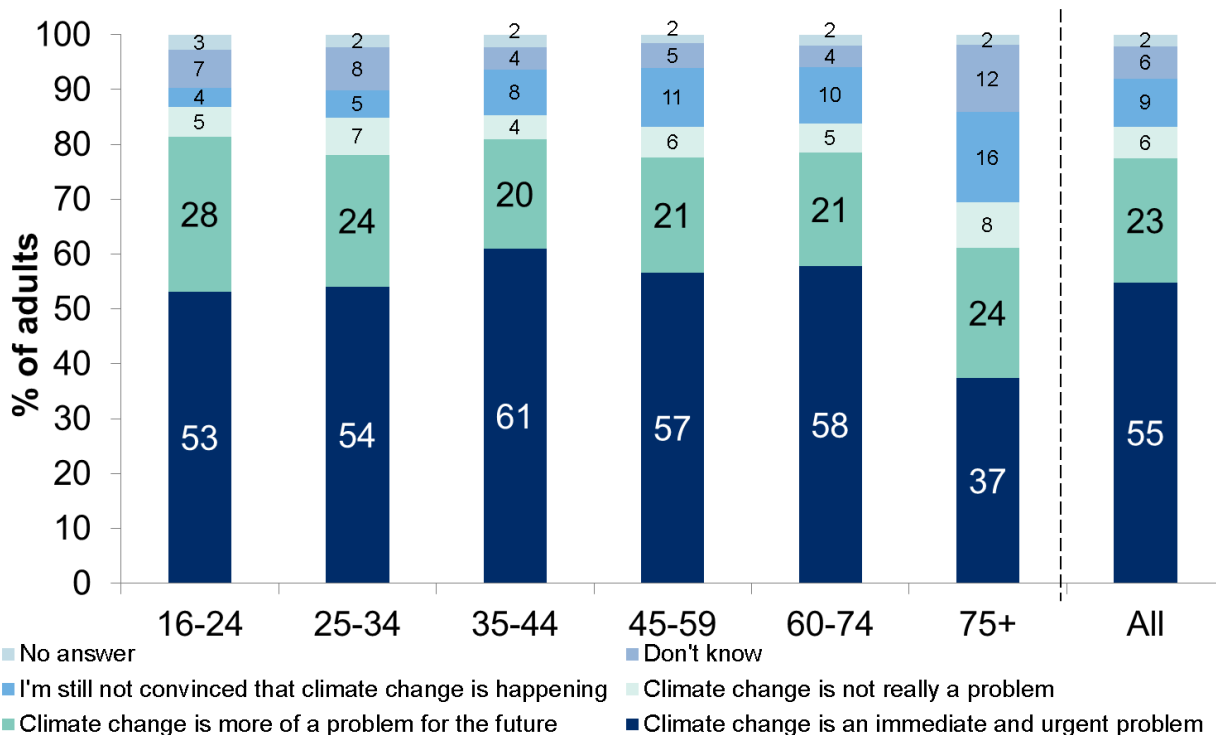
- The lowest level of concern is among adults aged 75+.

Attitudes about the immediacy of climate change as a problem had previously varied by age, with the youngest and oldest age groups least likely to view climate change as an immediate problem. Since 2013, the greatest increase in concern has been among the youngest age group, aged 16-24. Fifty-three per cent of this group now consider climate change to be an immediate and urgent problem, broadly similar to the average across all

age groups (see Figure 10.1), compared with 38 per cent in 2013. The lowest level of concern is among adults aged 75+ (37 per cent).

**Figure 10.1: Perceived immediacy of the problem of climate change by age**

2016 data, Adults (minimum base: 260)



Percentages may not add exactly to 100 per cent due to rounding.

### Variation in climate change attitudes: educational attainment and deprivation

- Adults with a degree or professional qualification are more likely to perceive climate change as an immediate problem.
- Climate change is more likely to be perceived as an immediate problem by adults living in the least deprived quintile.

In 2016, there continues to be a gap in perceptions according to educational attainment and deprivation. Adults with a degree or professional qualification are more likely to perceive climate change as an immediate problem compared with adults with no qualifications. Climate change is more likely to be perceived as an immediate problem by adults living in the least deprived quintile, compared with adults living in the most deprived quintile.



## 10.3 Recycling

### 10.3.1 Introduction and Context

Scotland's first circular economy strategy, "Making Things Last"<sup>68</sup>, published in February 2016, sets out the Scottish Government's priorities for moving towards a more circular economy – where products and materials are kept in high value use for as long as possible.

Scottish Government's recycling and landfill targets, as originally set out in its 2010 "Zero Waste Plan"<sup>69</sup>, are as follows:

- 60 per cent of household waste recycled by 2020;
- 70 per cent of all waste recycled by 2025;
- A ban on municipal biodegradable waste going to landfill from 1 January 2021;
- No more than five per cent of all waste going to landfill by 2025.

In addition, a Scottish Food Waste Reduction Target was announced in February 2016 which commits to a 33 per cent reduction by 2025 against a 2013 baseline.

To help achieve Scotland's recycling targets, the Waste (Scotland) Regulations 2012 require local authorities to provide separate household collections for recyclable materials. Outwith specified rural areas this includes collection of food waste. Food collected for recycling can be processed to produce nutrient-rich fertilisers and biogas - a low carbon energy source. In January 2017, the Scottish Government reported that 80 per cent of Scottish households (1.95 million) had access to a food waste collection service<sup>70</sup>. Zero Waste Scotland (ZWS) and the Scottish Government have also led initiatives to help people reduce unnecessary food waste (e.g. the Love Food Hate Waste, ZWS Volunteer and Community Advocate Programme, and Greener Scotland campaigns), as well as to recycle food waste.

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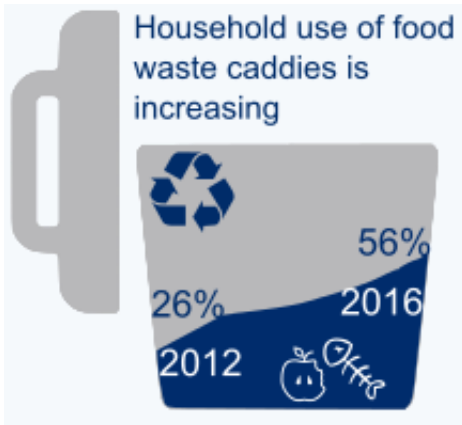
<sup>68</sup> Scottish Government (2016) Making Things Last - <http://www.gov.scot/Resource/0049/00494471.pdf>

<sup>69</sup> <http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Environment/waste-and-pollution/Waste-1/wastestrategy>

<sup>70</sup> Scottish Government (2017) Draft Climate Change Plan – <http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2017/01/2768>

### 10.3.2 Food Waste Recycling

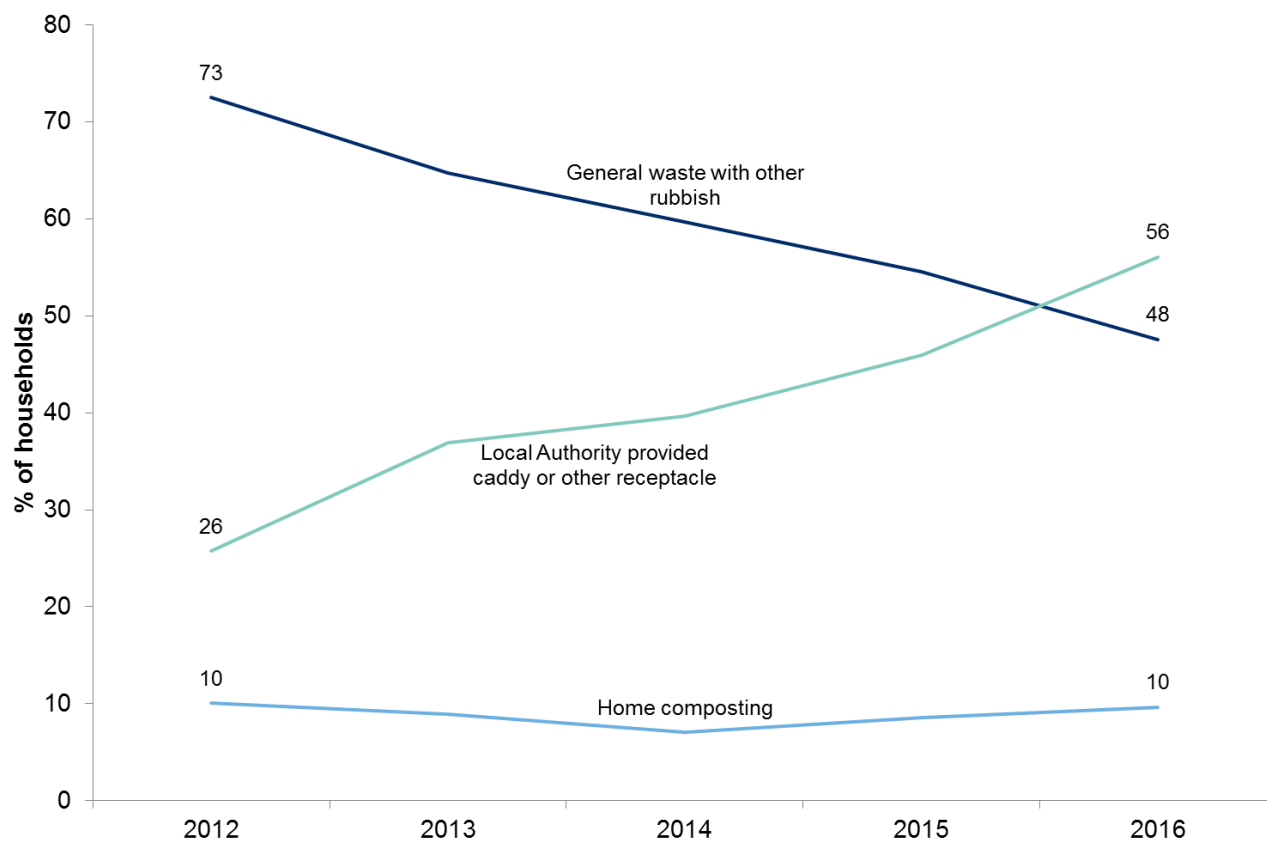
- Steady increase in the number of people using food waste recycling caddies.
- While more people in houses than flats use food waste recycling caddies, the proportion of use in flats is increasing.
- Higher rate of food waste composting in rural areas.



There has been a steady increase in the number of people using food waste recycling caddies, rather than throwing food out with general waste. Less than half (48 per cent) of households now dispose of food waste with their general rubbish (Figure 10.2), a decrease from 55 per cent of households in 2015. There has also been an increase in the proportion of households making use of local authority-provided food caddies between 2015 and 2016, from 46 per cent to 56 per cent. This represents a substantial increase from the 26 per cent of households using food waste recycling caddies in 2012. Ten per cent of households dispose of their food waste by home composting, which is a similar proportion to previous years.

**Figure 10.2: Methods used to dispose of food waste in the past week**

2016 data, Households (base: 3,430)



Percentages add to more than 100 per cent since multiple responses were allowed.

Table 10.2 shows that, in 2016, 39 per cent of those living in houses dispose of their food waste with general rubbish, down from 45 per cent in 2015. Whilst a higher proportion of those living in flats dispose of their food waste in this way (63 per cent), this has fallen from 73 per cent in 2015.

**Table 10.2: Method used to dispose of food waste by property type**

Percentages, 2016 data

Household	House or bungalow	Flat, maisonette or apartment	Scotland
General waste with other rubbish	39	63	48
Local Authority-provided caddy or other receptacle	65	40	56
Home composting e.g. Heap in garden or allotment, green cone	13	4	10
<i>Base</i>	<i>2,340</i>	<i>1,080</i>	<i>3,430</i>

Columns may not add to 100 per cent since multiple responses were allowed.

Consequently, a higher percentage of households living in houses use a food waste caddy (65 per cent) or home composting (13 per cent) to dispose of their food waste compared to households living in flats. This may reflect differences in the amount of space available for food waste caddies and home composting.

Table 10.3 shows that the largest difference between urban and rural households is in the higher rate of food waste composting in rural areas (20 per cent compared to eight per cent in urban areas). This might be due to households in some rural areas being provided with compost bins as opposed to food waste caddies.

**Table 10.3: Methods used to dispose of food waste by Urban/Rural classification**

Percentages, 2016 data

Household	Urban	Rural	Scotland
General waste with other rubbish	48	46	48
Local Authority-provided caddy or other receptacle	57	52	56
Home composting e.g. Heap in garden or allotment, green cone	8	20	10
<i>Base</i>	<i>2,700</i>	<i>730</i>	<i>3,430</i>

Columns may not add to 100 per cent since multiple responses were allowed.

## 10.4 Visits to the Outdoors, Greenspace

### 10.4.1 Introduction and Context

Spending time outdoors has been associated with numerous benefits, with urban green and open spaces having been shown to contribute to public health and wellbeing <sup>71</sup>.

Responsibility for promoting visits to the outdoors is shared between Scottish Natural Heritage, other agencies such as Forestry Commission Scotland, local authorities and the National Park Authorities. Local authorities and National Park Authorities are also responsible for developing core path networks in their areas. People have a right of access to most land and inland water in Scotland, for walking, cycling and other non-motorised activities.

The National Performance Framework includes two National Indicators which aim to measure progress in this area. These are:

- 'Increase people's use of Scotland's outdoors'<sup>72</sup>, and
- 'Improve access to local greenspace'<sup>73</sup>.

The second indicator was added during the recent National Performance Framework review to reflect the importance of accessibility to greenspace in Scottish Planning Policy (SPP)<sup>74</sup> and National Planning Framework 3 (NPF3)<sup>75</sup>, which aims to significantly enhance green infrastructure networks, particularly in and around Scotland's cities and towns.

This section starts by looking at key factors and characteristics associated with outdoor visits for leisure and recreation purposes. This is followed by an exploration of the access and use of greenspace for adults in the local neighbourhood and their satisfaction with that greenspace.

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<sup>71</sup> James Hutton Institute et al (2014) Contribution of Green and Open Space to Public Health and Wellbeing <http://www.hutton.ac.uk/sites/default/files/files/projects/GreenHealth-InformationNote7-Contribution-of-green-and-open-space-in-public-health-and-wellbeing.pdf>

<sup>72</sup> <http://www.gov.scot/About/Performance/scotPerforms/indicator/outdoors>

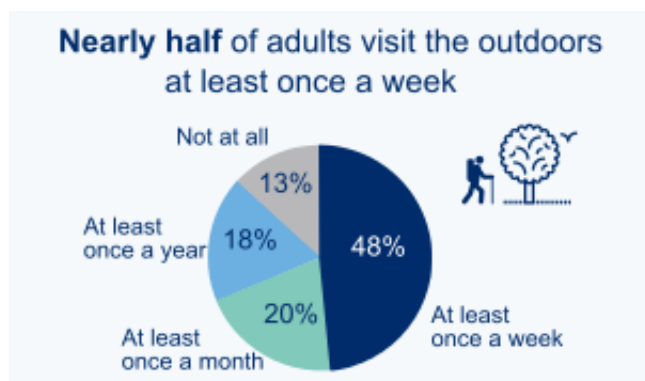
<sup>73</sup> <http://www.gov.scot/About/Performance/scotPerforms/indicator/greenspace>

<sup>74</sup> Scottish Government (2014) Scottish Planning Policy - <http://www.gov.scot/Resource/0045/00453827.pdf>

<sup>75</sup> <http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Built-Environment/planning/National-Planning-Framework>

## Visits to the Outdoors

- Nearly half of Scottish adults visit Scotland's outdoors at least once a week and this figure has been stable in recent years.



Outdoor visits for leisure and recreation purposes include visits to both urban and countryside open spaces (for example, parks, woodland, farmland, paths and beaches) for a range of purposes (such as walking, running, cycling or kayaking). The associated National Indicator is measured by the proportion of adults making one or more visits to the outdoors per week.

The proportion of adults visiting the outdoors at least once a week in 2016 is similar to that in 2015. Forty-eight per cent of Scottish adults visited Scotland's outdoors at least once a week in 2016 compared to 49 per cent in 2015 (see Table 10.4). The figure is stable over time with figures only varying by 1-2 per cent annually since 2013 figure. A further fifth of adults report visiting the outdoors at least once a month while 13 per cent of adults report that they did not visit the outdoors at all in 2016, both similar proportions to 2015.

**Table 10.4: Frequency of visits made to the outdoors**

Column percentages

Adults	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
One or more times a week	42	46	48	49	48
At least once a month	19	20	19	20	20
At least once a year	20	18	17	17	18
Not at all	20	16	16	14	13
<i>Base</i>	<i>9,890</i>	<i>9,920</i>	<i>9,800</i>	<i>9,410</i>	<i>9,640</i>

## Variation in outdoors visits: area deprivation

- Adults in the most deprived areas visit the outdoors less.

There is substantial variation in the proportion of adults making visits to the outdoors by level of area deprivation (Table 10.5). In the most deprived areas of Scotland, 40 per cent of adults visit the outdoors at least once a week, compared to 55 per cent of adults in the

least deprived areas. Adults in the most deprived areas are also more likely not to have visited the outdoors at all in the past twelve months (19 per cent) compared to those in the least deprived areas (7 per cent).

**Table 10.5: Frequency of visits made to the outdoors by Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation**

Column percentages, 2016 data

Adults	← 20% most deprived			20% least deprived →		Scotland
	1	2	3	4	5	
One or more times per week	40	46	50	52	55	48
At least once a month	19	20	19	21	23	20
At least once a year	21	19	19	16	15	18
Not at all	19	15	13	12	7	13
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100
Base	1,880	1,990	2,070	1,970	1,730	9,640

### Variation in outdoors visits: rural urban classification

- Adults living in rural areas are more likely to visit the outdoors.

Table 10.6 shows that adults living in rural areas are more likely to visit the outdoors at least once a week compared to adults living in urban areas (55 per cent compared to 47 per cent).

**Table 10.6: Frequency of visits made to the outdoors in the past twelve months by Urban/Rural classification**

Column percentages, 2016 data

Household	Urban	Rural	Scotland
Once or more times a week	47	55	48
At least once a month	21	17	20
At least once a year	19	16	18
Not at all	13	13	13
Total	100	100	100
Base	7,640	2,010	9,640

### Variation in outdoors visits: gender and age group

- Younger people are more likely to visit the outdoors.

There was a small difference between men and women in the proportion visiting the outdoors at least once a week in 2016 (Table 10.7).

Thirty-two per cent of the over 75 age group report that they did not visit the outdoors at all in the past twelve months, which may reflect declining mobility and accessibility issues.

**Table 10.7: Frequency of visits made to the outdoors in the past twelve months by gender and age group**

Column percentages, 2016 data

Adults	Male	Female	16-24	25-34	35-44	45-59	60-74	75+	All
One or more times per week	50	47	54	51	53	48	47	32	48
At least once a month	21	20	20	26	24	20	17	14	20
At least once a year	16	20	18	16	16	20	18	20	18
Not at all	13	13	8	8	7	12	17	34	13
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Base	4,400	5,240	730	1,270	1,480	2,380	2,450	1,330	9,640

### Variation in outdoors visits: health

- Less people with poor health visit the outdoors.

This is further reflected in the high proportion of those adults describing their health as either bad or very bad, who did not visit the outdoors at all in the last year (44 per cent). Conversely, 53 per cent of adults who describe their health as good or very good report that they visit the outdoors at least once a week (Table 10.8).

**Table 10.8: Frequency of visits made to the outdoors in the past twelve months by self-perception of health**

Column percentages, 2016 data

Adults	Good / Very Good	Fair	Bad / Very Bad	All
Once or more times a week	53	41	23	48
At least once a month	22	19	12	20
At least once a year	17	21	21	18
Not at all	8	20	44	13
Total	100	100	100	100
Base	6,730	2,020	880	9,640

### 10.4.2 Walking Distance to Local Greenspace

- Nearly two-thirds of adults reported living within a 5 minute walk of their nearest greenspace. This figure has remained relatively stable over time.





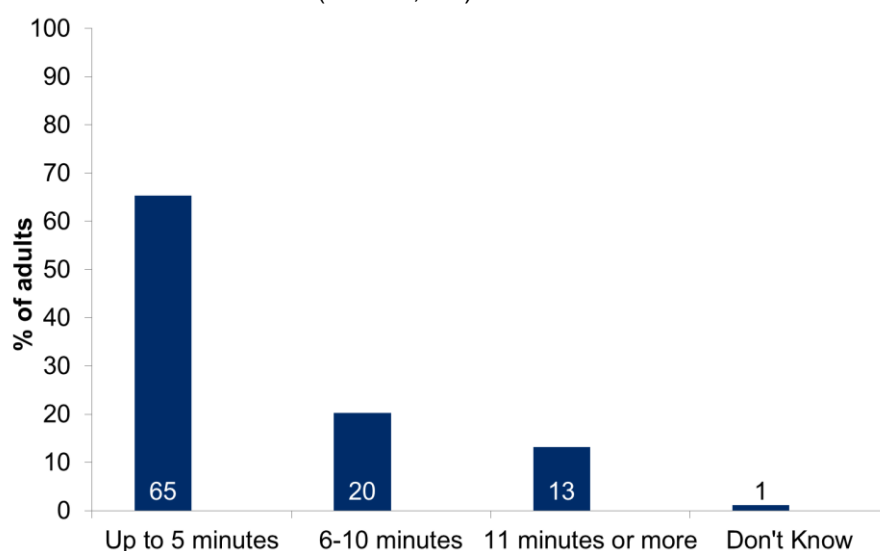
Accessibility of greenspace is an important factor in its use, both in terms of its proximity to people's homes and the ease of physical access. The accessibility standard is taken to be equivalent to a five minute walk to the nearest publicly usable open space, which is the measurement used for the National Indicator. Greenspace is defined in the SHS as public green or open spaces in the local area such as parks, play areas, canal paths and beaches (private gardens are not included).

Respondents are asked how far the nearest greenspace is from their home and how long they think it would take the interviewer to walk there.

In 2016, 65 per cent of adults reported living within a 5 minute walk of their nearest greenspace, down slightly from 67 per cent in 2015 (see Figure 10.3). While it is lower in 2016 there is not sufficient variation to suggest a trend. The earlier figures are 68 per cent in 2013, 69 per cent in 2014.

**Figure 10.3: Walking distance to nearest greenspace**

2016 data. Random adults (base: 9,640)



### 10.4.3 Frequency of Use of Local Greenspace

- There has been little change in how often local greenspace is used over time. Variation over the whole time series is no more than 2 per cent for all categories.
- Just over a third of adults visit their nearest green space several times a week.
- Nearly a quarter of adults did not visit their nearest greenspace during a week.
- People who live within 5 minutes of their nearest greenspace use it more frequently than those who live further away.
- Those who feel healthier use their nearest greenspace more frequently.

As shown in Figure 10.4, there has been little change in how often local greenspace is used between 2015 and 2016. The question was added in 2012, and the figures are comparable back to 2013. In both 2015 and 2016, 36 per cent of adults reported visiting their nearest green space several times a week, while 23 per cent of adults reported not visiting their nearest greenspace at all during the same period. The figures are stable over time<sup>76</sup>.

**Figure 10.4: Frequency of use of nearest greenspace**

2015 and 2016 data. Random adults (minimum base: 9,300)

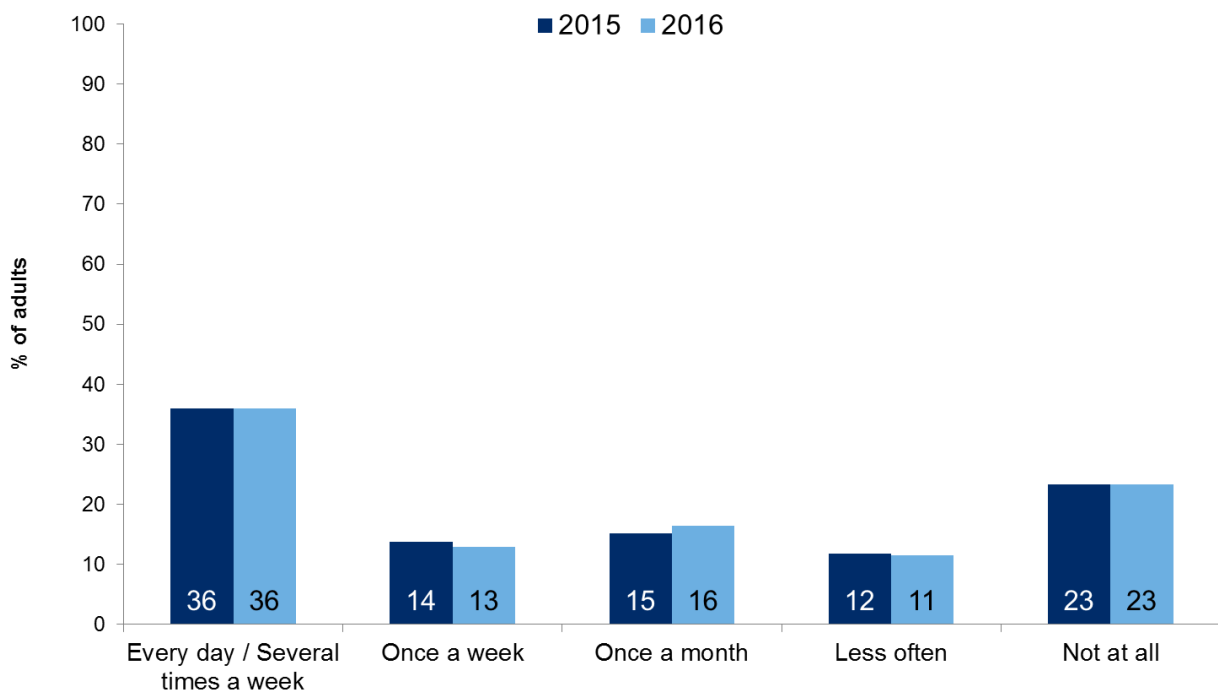


Table 10.9 shows that a higher proportion of people who live within 5 minutes of their nearest greenspace report using it at least once a week compared to people who live a 6-10 minute walk away (45 per cent compared to 23 per cent). The proportion of people who live at least 11 minutes' walk from their nearest greenspace and do not use it (38 per cent) is nearly twice the corresponding proportion of people who live within 5 minutes' walk (20 per cent).

<sup>76</sup> Figures for those visiting their nearest greenspace at least several times a week are 36 per cent for 2013, 37 per cent for 2014 and 36 per cent for both 2015 and 2016.

**Table 10.9: Frequency of use of nearest greenspace by walking distance to nearest greenspace**

Column percentages, 2016 data

Adults	A 5 minute walk or less	Within a 6-10 minute walk	An 11 minute walk or more	All
Every day / Several times a week	45	23	13	36
Once a week or less	35	51	50	41
Not at all	20	26	38	23
Total	100	100	100	100
Base	6,260	1,960	1,270	9,490

As shown in Table 10.10, people's perception of their own health has a significant impact on how often they visit their nearest greenspace. A higher proportion of people who describe their health as good or very good report using their nearest greenspace several times a week (39 per cent) than those who describe their health as bad or very bad (20 per cent). Furthermore a higher proportion of people who describe their health as bad or very bad report not visiting their nearest greenspace at all in the last 12 months (50 per cent) than those people describing their health as good or very good (19 per cent).

**Table 10.10: Frequency of use of nearest greenspace by self-perception of health**

Column percentages, 2016 data

Adults	Good / Very Good	Fair	Bad / Very Bad	All
Every day / Several times a week	39	31	20	36
Once a week or less	42	39	30	41
Not at all	19	30	50	23
Total	100	100	100	100
Base	6,650	1,980	840	9,490

#### 10.4.4 Satisfaction with Local Greenspace

- Three quarters of adults described themselves as satisfied with their nearest greenspace.
- Those who describe their neighbourhood as a fairly good or very good place to live are more satisfied with their local greenspace.
- Satisfaction with greenspace does not have as strong an effect on the frequency of use.

In order to be effective, greenspace needs to be viewed as suitable for use by the local population. If individuals feel that greenspace is unsafe, unclean or otherwise not fit for purpose then they may be less likely to make use of it. Three quarters of adults described themselves as satisfied with their nearest greenspace in 2016, while only nine per cent were dissatisfied (see Figure 10.5).

**Figure 10.5: Satisfaction with nearest greenspace**

2016 data, Adults (base: 9,490)

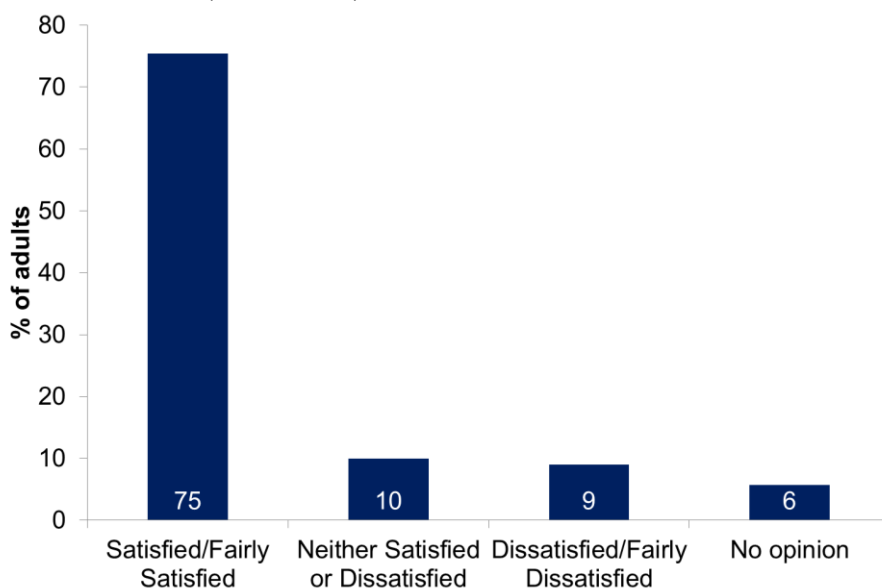


Table 10.11 shows that those who describe their neighbourhood as a fairly good or very good place to live are more satisfied with their local greenspace than those who rate their neighbourhood as a fairly poor or very poor place to live. This may be because higher levels of satisfaction with local greenspace contribute to a more favourable impression of the neighbourhood in general, or vice versa.

**Table 10.11: Satisfaction with nearest greenspace by rating of neighbourhood as place to live**

Column percentages, 2016 data

Adults	Very good	Fairly good	Fairly poor	Very poor	No opinion	Scotland
Satisfied/Fairly Satisfied	80	72	51	55	*	75
Neither Satisfied or Dissatisfied	8	12	21	18	*	10
Dissatisfied/Fairly Dissatisfied	7	11	20	20	*	9
No opinion	6	5	8	7	*	6
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100
Base	5,630	3,400	320	110	20	9,490

While those living closer to their nearest greenspace are more likely to use it more frequently, level of satisfaction with local greenspace does not have an ordinal interaction on the frequency of use (see Table 10.12). The proportion of those satisfied or fairly satisfied who use their greenspace every day or several days a week is higher than for the other satisfaction levels. However a higher proportion of those who are dissatisfied or fairly dissatisfied use their greenspace more frequently than those who are neither satisfied or dissatisfied.

**Table 10.12: Use of nearest greenspace by satisfaction with nearest greenspace**

Column percentages, 2016 data

Adults	Satisfied/ Fairly Satisfied	Neither Satisfied or Dissatisfied	Dissatisfied/ Fairly Dissatisfied	No opinion	All
Every day / Several times a week	42	18	31	-	36
Once a week or less	43	42	41	4	41
Not at all	15	41	27	95	23
<i>Base</i>	<i>7,190</i>	<i>870</i>	<i>740</i>	<i>700</i>	<i>9,490</i>

### 10.4.5 Greenspace by level of area deprivation

- Adults in the most deprived areas are more likely to live further from their nearest greenspace.
- Adults in the most deprived areas are less likely to be satisfied with their nearest greenspace.
- Adults in more deprived areas are less likely to use their nearest greenspace.

People's distance from their nearest greenspace and their use and satisfaction of that space vary with the level of area deprivation. Table 10.13 shows that a greater proportion of adults in deprived areas live at least an 11 minute walk away from their nearest greenspace compared to adults in the least deprived areas (17 per cent compared to 11 per cent).

**Table 10.13: Walking distance to nearest greenspace by Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation**

Column percentages, 2016 data

Adults	← 20% most deprived		20% least deprived →			Scotland
	1	2	3	4	5	
A 5 minute walk or less	55	66	68	71	67	65
Within a 6-10 minute walk	26	21	17	15	22	20
11 minute walk or greater	17	12	14	12	11	13
Don't Know	2	2	1	1	-	1
All	100	100	100	100	100	100
<i>Base</i>	<i>1,880</i>	<i>1,990</i>	<i>2,070</i>	<i>1,970</i>	<i>1,730</i>	<i>9,640</i>

Also, Table 10.14 shows that adults in the most deprived areas are less likely to be satisfied with their nearest greenspace than adults in the least deprived areas. This could lead to fewer people in deprived areas making use of their nearest greenspace, as people are more likely to use greenspace if it is close by and of good quality.

**Table 10.14: Satisfaction of nearest greenspace by Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation**

Column percentages, 2016 data

Adults	← 20% most deprived		20% least deprived →			Scotland
	1	2	3	4	5	
Satisfied/Fairly Satisfied	65	73	77	80	81	75
Neither Satisfied or Dissatisfied	14	10	10	8	8	10
Dissatisfied/Fairly Dissatisfied	14	12	7	6	6	9
No opinion	7	6	6	6	4	6
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100
Base	1,840	1,950	2,040	1,940	1,720	9,490

This is supported by the figures in Table 10.15. Adults in the most deprived areas are more likely than adults in the least deprived areas not to have used their nearest greenspace in the past 12 months (31 per cent compared to 17 per cent). Adults in more deprived areas are also less likely to use their nearest greenspace several times a week compared to adults in less deprived areas.

**Table 10.15: Frequency of use of nearest greenspace by Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation**

Column percentages, 2016 data

Adults	← 20% most deprived		20% least deprived →			Scotland
	1	2	3	4	5	
Every day / Several times a week	28	34	39	40	39	36
Once a week or less	41	41	38	39	44	41
Not at all	31	25	23	21	17	23
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100
Base	1,840	1,950	2,040	1,940	1,720	9,490

## Conclusion

This chapter has summarised Scottish Household Survey findings on the environment. This has covered climate change, recycling, and visits to the outdoors and greenspace.

# 11 Volunteering

## Main Findings

Levels of volunteering have remained relatively stable over the last 5 years, with around three in ten adults providing unpaid help to organisations or groups. In 2016, 27 per cent of adults provided unpaid help to organisations or groups in the last 12 months.

The profile of volunteers has also remained relatively stable over time. Volunteers are more likely to be:

- women
- from higher socio-economic and income groups
- from rural areas
- from less deprived areas.

Overall, the volunteering results from 2016 by economic situation, household income and area deprivation continue to support existing evidence about the under-representation of disadvantaged groups in volunteering.

The type of organisations most commonly volunteered for were 'health, disability and social welfare' organisations and 'youth or children' organisations (19 per cent).

Younger adults were more likely to work with children and young people and help with sporting activities, whilst older adults were more likely to volunteer for religious organisations, community groups, and groups working with the elderly.

Eighteen per cent of adults that provided unpaid help do so 'several times a week' and a quarter (25 per cent) of volunteers provided unpaid help 'about once a week'. Three in four (75 per cent) of adults that volunteered did so for up to 10 hours a month.

Most people stopped volunteering due to changes in their circumstances such as no longer having time (34 per cent), they have moved house (13 per cent) or due to illness (10 per cent).

## 11.1 Introduction and Context

The Scottish Government recognises that volunteers of all ages form a valuable national resource, vital to the success of Scotland and that volunteering is a key component of strong communities. Volunteering is all about new experiences, feeling good and making a difference and it is important to recognise the benefits of volunteering, in terms of skills development, community empowerment and strengthening public services.

The definition of volunteering currently used by the Scottish Government is: ‘the giving of time and energy through a third party, which can bring measurable benefits to the volunteer, individual beneficiaries, groups and organisations, communities, environment and society at large. It is a choice undertaken of one's own free will, and is not motivated primarily for financial gain or for a wage or salary’<sup>77</sup>. This definition broadly encompasses ‘formal volunteering’ – where unpaid work is undertaken through an organisation, group or club to help other people or to help a cause (such as improving the environment). In contrast, ‘informal volunteering’ refers to unpaid help given as an individual directly to people who are not relatives.

The volunteering questions in the Scottish Household Survey (SHS) ask about providing unpaid help to organisations or groups, therefore the focus of this chapter is on formal volunteering. This chapter presents findings from the 2016 data about the prevalence and frequency of volunteering, the type of organisations for which individuals gave up their time, the activities which individuals undertook, hours they volunteered in the past month, and reasons why people who volunteered in the past had given up<sup>78</sup>. A number of terms are used interchangeably to refer to volunteering throughout the chapter (e.g. unpaid help, unpaid work, unpaid activity and voluntary work).

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<sup>77</sup> Scottish Executive (2004) Volunteering Strategy  
<http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2004/05/19348/36990>

<sup>78</sup> Prevalence and frequency of volunteering and the type of organisation for which individuals give up their time are asked annually. Activities which individuals undertake, hours spent volunteering and reasons why people who have volunteered have now given up are asked biennially.



## 11.2 Providing Unpaid Help to Organisations or Groups

### 11.2.1 Prevalence of Providing Unpaid Help

- Just over a quarter of adults provided unpaid help to organisations or groups in the last 12 months.
- The overall rate of volunteering has remained relatively stable between 2009 and 2016 with the proportion of females being consistently higher than males.

Table 11.1 shows that 27 per cent of adults provided unpaid help to organisations or groups in the last 12 months.



### Profile of volunteers

- There is an under-representation of disadvantaged groups who have volunteered.
- Volunteering information has been collected since 1999. Overall, in 2016 as in every other year, more women (29 per cent) than men (26 per cent) volunteered in the last 12 months.
- Levels of volunteering have varied according to economic status - fewer people from lower socio-economic groups have provided unpaid help compared with higher income groups.
- In general the percentage of adults volunteering has increased with income.
- Volunteering has been consistently lower for those in the 20 per cent most deprived areas (18 per cent) than in the rest of Scotland (30 per cent).
- The rate of volunteering has been consistently higher in rural areas than in urban areas, where 41 per cent of adults in remote rural areas and 31 per cent of adults in accessible rural areas provided unpaid help to groups or organisations compared to

around a quarter of adults in large and other urban areas (26 per cent and 24 per cent respectively).

- Those in 'education (including HE/FE)' (39 per cent), followed by those who are 'self-employed' (36 per cent) and those in 'part-time employment' (31 per cent) were most likely to have provided unpaid help. Adults who are 'permanently sick or have short term ill health issues or are disabled' (11 per cent) were least likely to have volunteered.

There is a difference along gender lines with a higher percentage of women (29 per cent) saying that they have provided unpaid help compared with men (26 per cent). Figure 11.1 shows the trend in volunteering over the past eight years. It can be seen that the overall rate of volunteering has remained relatively stable over the time period with the proportion of females being consistently higher than males.

**Table 11.1: Whether provided unpaid help to organisations or groups in the last 12 months by gender**

Column percentages, 2016 data

Adults	Male	Female	All
Yes	26	29	27
No	74	71	73
Total	100	100	100
Base	4,400	5,240	9,640

**Figure 11.1: Percentage providing unpaid help to organisations or groups in the last 12 months by gender**

2009-2016 data, Adults (minimum base: 2,450)

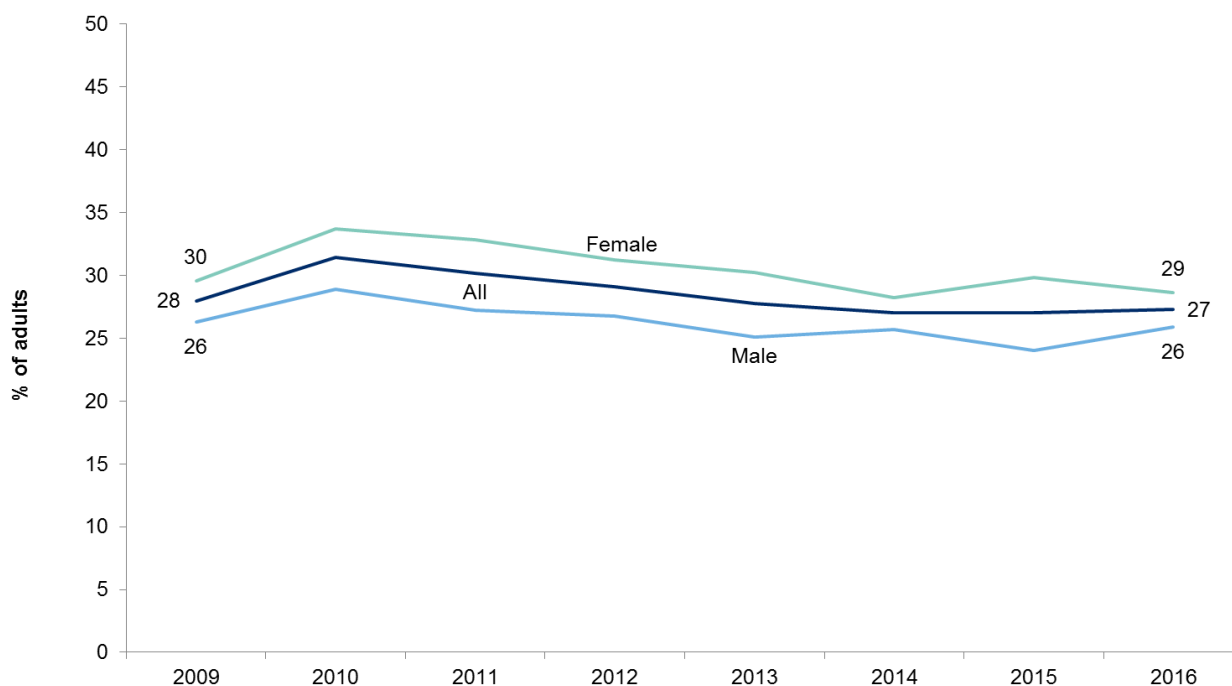
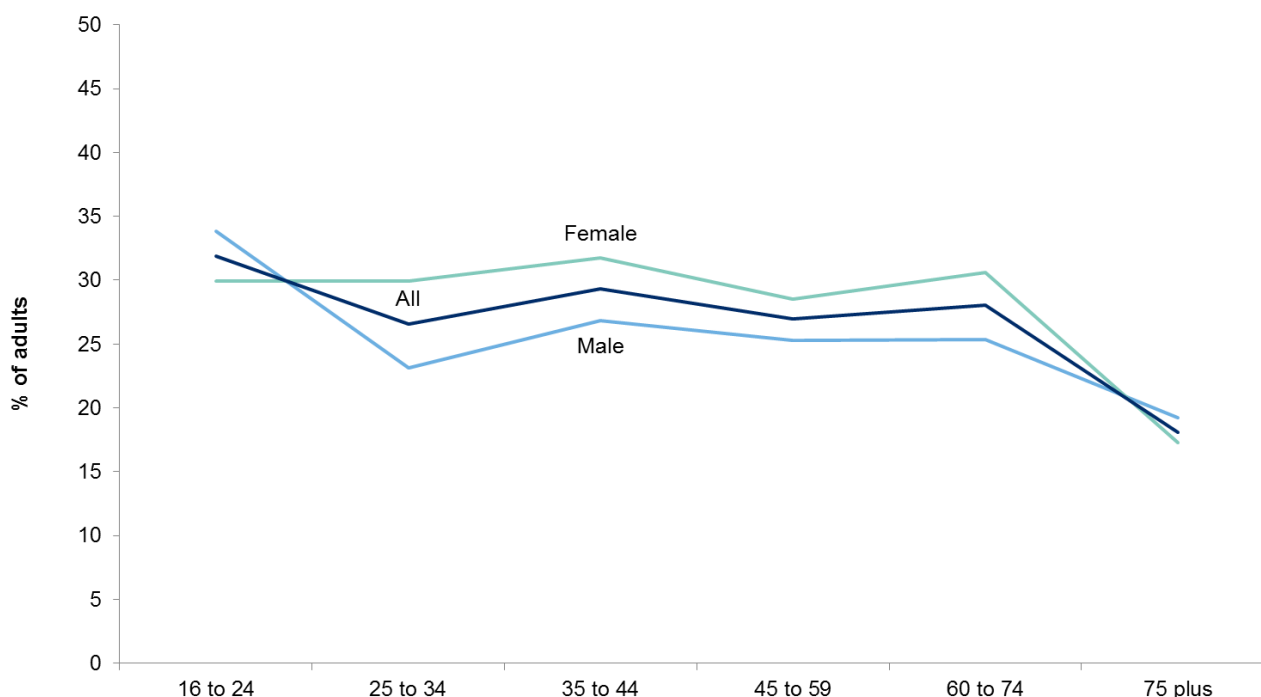


Figure 11.2 shows the gender difference in volunteering by age. In 2016, there was a difference between males and females within the 25 to 34 age group, where a higher proportion of females (30 per cent) volunteered than males (23 per cent) and within the 60 to 74 age group, where 31 per cent of females and 25 per cent of males volunteered.

Volunteering was lowest among men aged 25 to 34 compared to all of the other age groups under the age of 75 (23 per cent of men in this age group provided unpaid help). After the age of 75, providing unpaid help declined: 19 per cent of men and 17 per cent of women aged 75 and over provided unpaid help to organisations or groups in the last 12 months.

**Figure 11.2: Percentage providing unpaid help to organisations or groups in the last 12 months by age within gender**

2016 data, Adults (minimum base: 730)



### Variations in volunteering: economic situation

- Those in education, self-employed or working part-time were most likely to have volunteered.

There is also variation in volunteering according to individuals' current economic situation (Table 11.2). Those in 'education (including HE/FE)' (39 per cent), followed by those who are 'self-employed' (36 per cent) and those in 'part-time employment' (31 per cent) were most likely to have provided unpaid help. Adults who are 'permanently sick or have short term ill health issues or are disabled' (11 per cent) were least likely to have volunteered. Just over one-fifth (21 per cent) of those 'unemployed and seeking work' had volunteered in the previous 12 months.

**Table 11.2: Whether provided unpaid help to organisations or groups in the last 12 months by current economic situation**

Column percentages, 2016 data

Adults	Self - employed	Full-time employment	Part-time employment	Looking after home / family	Perma-nently retired from work	Unem-ployed and seeking work	In Education (including HE/FE)	Perma-nently sick or short term ill health or disabled	All
Yes	36	27	31	24	25	21	39	11	27
No	64	73	69	76	75	79	61	89	73
All	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Base	630	3,130	960	460	3,180	320	410	530	9,640

- The percentage of adults who volunteered increased with income.

Table 11.3 shows the differences in volunteering by household income band. It can be seen that in general the percentage of adults who volunteered increased with income. Around one-fifth of adults in households in the lowest net income bands, £0-£20,000, volunteered in the last 12 months, compared to almost two-fifths (39 per cent) of those with a net household income of more than £40,000.

**Table 11.3: Whether provided unpaid help to organisations or groups in the last 12 months by net annual household income**

Column percentages, 2016 data

Adults	£0 - £6,000	£6,001 - £10,000	£10,001 - £15,000	£15,001 - £20,000	£20,001 - £25,000	£25,001 - £30,000	£30,001 - £40,000	£40,001+	All
Yes	21	21	20	20	26	26	29	39	28
No	79	79	80	80	74	74	71	61	72
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Base	250	900	1,620	1,420	1,170	900	1,280	1,760	9,300

Household income in the SHS is that of the highest income householder and their partner only. Includes all adults for whom household income is known or has been imputed. Excludes refusals/don't know responses.

### Variations in volunteering: deprivation

- Volunteering was lower for those in the 20 per cent most deprived areas.

Table 11.4 shows the prevalence of volunteering by level of deprivation, as defined using the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD). It can be seen that volunteering was lower for those in the 20 per cent most deprived areas (18 per cent) than in the rest of Scotland (30 per cent).

**Table 11.4: Whether provided unpaid help to organisations or groups in the last 12 months by Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation**

Column percentages, 2016 data

Adults	20% most deprived	Rest of Scotland	Scotland
Yes	18	30	27
No	82	70	73
Total	100	100	100
Base	1,880	7,760	9,640

### Variations in volunteering: urban/rural areas

- Volunteering in rural areas was higher than in urban areas.

Table 11.5 shows differences in volunteering by Urban Rural classification. It can be seen that the rate of volunteering in rural areas was higher than in urban areas, with 41 per cent of adults in remote rural and 31 per cent of adults in accessible rural areas saying they provided unpaid help to groups or organisations compared to around a quarter of adults in large and other urban areas (26 per cent and 24 per cent respectively).

**Table 11.5: Whether provided unpaid help to organisations or groups in the last 12 months by Urban Rural Classification**

Column percentages, 2016 data

Adults	Large urban areas	Other urban areas	Accessible small towns	Remote small towns	Accessible rural	Remote rural	Scotland
Yes	26	24	27	34	31	41	27
No	74	76	73	66	69	59	73
All	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Base	2,880	3,280	930	550	1,050	960	9,640

### 11.2.2 Types of organisations Unpaid Help Provided to

- The most common types of organisations which volunteers helped with were those working with 'health, disability and social welfare' and 'youth / children'.
- There was variations in the types of unpaid activity adults had undertaken in the last 12 months by gender.

Table 11.6 lists the types of organisations that adults who did voluntary work in the last 12 months provided unpaid help to. The most common types of organisations which volunteers helped with were 'health, disability and social welfare' and 'youth / children' (both 19 per cent). This was followed by people who worked with 'local community or neighbourhood groups' and 'children's activities associated with schools' (both 18 per cent). The next most common types of volunteering were, 'sport / exercise (coaching or organised)' (17 per cent), 'religious groups' and 'hobbies / recreation / arts / social clubs' (both 16 per cent).

#### **Variations in the types of organisations unpaid help provided to: Urban Rural Classification**

Table 11.6 also shows the variation in the types of organisations that adults volunteered with by Urban Rural Classification. It can be seen that similar percentages of adults in large and other urban areas and remote and accessible rural areas (around one-fifth) provided unpaid help to 'youth / children' organisations. A higher percentage of adults in large and other urban areas (17 per cent and 22 per cent respectively) provided unpaid help to 'health, disability and social welfare' organisations compared to remote rural and accessible rural areas (15 per cent and 18 per cent respectively).

A higher percentage of adults in remote small towns provided unpaid help to 'sport / exercise (coaching or organising)' groups (34 per cent) than all other areas (between 15 and 18 per cent) and to 'the elderly' (26 per cent) compared to nine per cent in large urban areas and 11 per cent in accessible rural areas. A higher percentage of adults in remote small towns (one quarter) and remote and accessible rural areas (around one-fifth) provided unpaid help to 'hobbies / recreation / arts / social clubs' compared to large and other urban areas (15 and 14 per cent respectively). Conversely, one-third (33 per cent) of volunteers in remote rural areas and just over one-quarter in accessible rural areas provided unpaid help to 'local community or neighbourhood' organisations compared to large urban areas (14 per cent) and other urban areas (15 per cent).

**Table 11.6: Types of organisations or groups for which adults provided help for in the last 12 months by Urban Rural Classification**

Percentages, 2016 data

Adults who did voluntary work in the last 12 months	Large urban areas	Other urban areas	Accessible small towns	Remote small towns	Accessible rural	Remote rural	All
Health, disability and social welfare	17	22	22	16	18	15	19
Youth / children	20	17	24	17	20	20	19
Local community or neighbourhood groups	14	15	16	20	26	33	18
Children's activities associated with schools	19	15	15	16	23	19	18
Sport / exercise (coaching or organising)	15	18	15	34	17	17	17
Religious groups	14	18	15	20	15	13	16
Hobbies / recreation / arts / social clubs	15	14	16	25	19	21	16
The elderly	9	12	14	26	11	17	12
Environmental protection	5	3	4	2	9	9	5
Citizens groups	2	4	6	7	4	9	4
Education for adults	6	3	3	2	5	6	4
Safety, first aid	3	3	3	3	4	8	4
Justice and human rights	6	4	4	1	3	2	4
Wildlife protection	3	2	3	2	5	4	3
Domestic animal welfare	3	3	3	4	5	2	3
Political groups	3	3	4	0	2	4	3
Trade union activities	1	1	-	-	1	0	1
None	5	4	4	4	3	3	4
Don't Know	1	0	0	-	0	0	0
<i>BaseMin</i>	710	750	240	180	320	420	2,620

Columns may add to more than 100 per cent since multiple responses were allowed

### Variations in the types of organisations unpaid help provided to: gender and age

Table 11.7 shows the types of organisations that adults volunteered with in the last 12 months by gender and age. Women were more likely to volunteer with 'children's activities associated with schools' (23 per cent), 'health, disability and social welfare' organisations (22 per cent), 'youth / children' (20 per cent) and 'local community or neighbourhood groups' and 'religious groups' (both 17 per cent). Men were most likely to have volunteered with 'sport / exercise (coaching or organising)' (25 per cent), 'local community or neighbourhood groups' and 'hobbies / recreation / arts / social club' (both 20 per cent) and 'youth / children' organisations (18 per cent).

Providing help with 'children's activities associated with schools' (32 per cent) and 'youth / children' (27 per cent) was most common among adults aged 35 to 44. Adults aged 16 to

24 were most likely to have volunteered with organisations working with 'sport / exercise (coaching or organising)' (31 per cent) followed by 'youth / children' (23 per cent) and 'hobbies / recreation / arts / social clubs' (19 per cent). In contrast, volunteering for 'religious groups' and organisations working with 'the elderly' tended to increase with age, as did volunteering with 'local community or neighbourhood groups' (to age 60-74 on the latter). Of those adults aged 75 and over who had volunteered, 39 per cent did so with 'religious groups', and 23 per cent with organisations working with 'the elderly'.

**Table 11.7: Types of organisations or groups for which adults provided help for in the last 12 months by gender and age**

Percentages, 2016 data

Adults who did voluntary work in the last 12 months	Male	Female	16 to 24	25 to 34	35 to 44	45 to 59	60 to 74	75 plus	All
Health, disability and social welfare	15	22	16	22	14	20	21	18	19
Youth / children	18	20	23	21	27	22	10	6	19
Local community or neighbourhood groups	20	17	10	12	15	23	24	20	18
Children's activities associated with schools	12	23	18	22	32	18	7	2	18
Sport / exercise (coaching or organising)	25	10	31	17	18	17	11	3	17
Religious groups	14	17	9	8	8	13	29	39	16
Hobbies / recreation / arts / social clubs	20	13	19	15	17	15	16	13	16
The elderly	9	14	7	7	11	13	17	23	12
Environmental protection	6	5	3	4	6	8	6	3	5
Citizens groups	5	4	3	3	3	3	7	7	4
Education for adults	4	4	4	7	4	4	4	2	4
Safety, first aid	3	4	4	6	3	4	2	1	4
Justice and human rights	3	5	6	6	3	4	3	4	4
Wildlife protection	2	4	3	4	3	4	2	3	3
Domestic animal welfare	2	5	1	7	4	4	2	2	3
Political groups	5	1	2	2	3	3	3	5	3
Trade union activities	1	1	.	1	1	2	1	0	1
None	4	4	1	5	4	4	4	7	4
Dont Know	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0
<i>Base/Min</i>	<i>1,090</i>	<i>1,520</i>	<i>220</i>	<i>340</i>	<i>450</i>	<i>660</i>	<i>700</i>	<i>240</i>	<i>2,620</i>

Columns may add to more than 100 per cent since multiple responses were allowed.

## Type of unpaid work or activities

- The most common types of unpaid work or activities undertaken were:
  - generally helping out
  - raising money
  - whatever is required.

Table 11.8 shows the type of unpaid work or activities that adults undertook on behalf of the group or organisation they gave most help to in the last 12 months. The most common unpaid activity undertaken was 'generally helping out', with 43 per cent of adults who volunteered doing this type of activity. In terms of more specific roles, 30 per cent of adults helped by 'raising money', whilst 29 per cent said they did 'whatever is required'. Twenty-eight per cent helped to 'organise or run events or activities'.

The proportion of females 'raising money' was 35 per cent compared to 23 per cent of males. Conversely, a higher proportion of males were involved in 'education or training or coaching' (21 per cent) compared to females (15 per cent).



**Table 11.8: Types of unpaid activity adults have undertaken in the last 12 months by gender**  
Percentages, 2016 data

	Male	Female	All
Generally helping out	41	45	43
Raising money	23	35	30
Doing whatever is required	28	30	29
Helping to organise or run events or activities	26	30	28
Committee work	20	17	18
Education or training or coaching	21	15	18
Providing advice or assistance to others	14	13	14
Office work or administration	10	11	11
Managing, organising or co-ordinating other	7	9	8
Visiting, buddying or befriending people	5	9	7
Providing transport or driving	8	4	6
Providing direct services (e.g. meals on	5	6	6
Campaigning	5	6	6
Counselling	4	4	4
Representing others	4	4	4
IT Support	4	3	3
Advocacy	3	3	3
No answer	3	1	2
<i>Base</i>	<i>1,080</i>	<i>1,510</i>	<i>2,590</i>

### 11.2.3 Time Spent Volunteering

- Nearly one in five adults that provided unpaid help did so fairly frequently.

Table 11.9 shows that 18 per cent of adults provided unpaid help ‘several times a week’ and a quarter (25 per cent) of volunteers provided unpaid help ‘about once a week’.

#### Variation in the time spent volunteering: gender

- More men than women provided unpaid help ‘several times a week’.

There are gender differences with more men (21 per cent) than women (15 per cent) who provided unpaid help ‘several times a week’.

**Table 11.9: Frequency of unpaid help to organisations or groups in the last 12 months by gender**

Percentages, 2016 data

Adults who did voluntary work in the last 12 months	Male	Female	All
Several times a week	21	15	18
About once a week	24	27	25
Less than once a week but at least once a month	17	22	20
Less than once a month but at least five or six times a year	10	13	12
A few times a year	18	15	16
Less often	7	6	7
No answer	3	2	3
All	100	100	100
Base	1,090	1,520	2,620

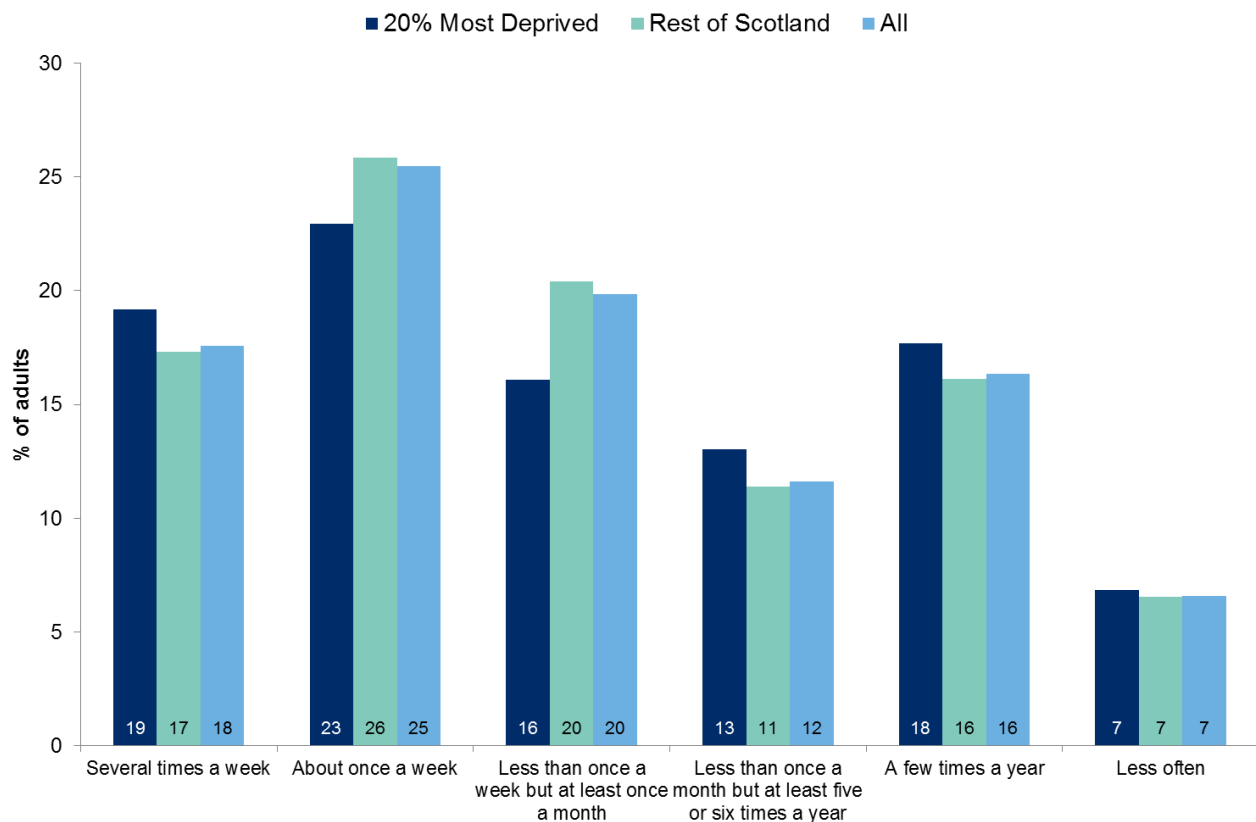
### Variation in the time spent volunteering: area deprivation

- There is little variation in time spent volunteering by area deprivation.

Figure 11.3 shows that the frequency of volunteering does not vary by area deprivation.

**Figure 11.3: Frequency of unpaid help to organisations or groups in the last 12 months by Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation**

2016 data, Adults (minimum base: 320)



## Number of unpaid help hours provided

- Three quarters of volunteers in Scotland provided unpaid help for 10 hours or less in the last four weeks.

Adults who had undertaken voluntary work in the last 12 months were asked the specific number of hours that they provided unpaid help in the last four weeks. Table 11.10 shows that three quarters (75 per cent) of volunteers in Scotland provided unpaid help for 10 hours or less, and that around half (51 per cent) provided help for between one and 5 hours. There was no variation between the 20 per cent most deprived areas and the rest of Scotland in the number of unpaid help hours provided.

**Table 11.10: Total number of hours of unpaid work provided in the last four weeks by Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation**

Column percentages, 2016 data

Adults who did voluntary work in the last 12 months	20% most deprived	Rest of Scotland	Scotland
Less than an hour	8	5	6
Between 1 and 5 hours	50	52	51
6 to 10 hours	19	18	18
11 to 15 hours	7	7	7
16 to 20 hours	6	6	6
21 to 35 hours	5	6	6
36 hours or more	7	5	5
All	100	100	100
<i>Base</i>	<i>310</i>	<i>2,270</i>	<i>2,580</i>

### 11.2.4 Reasons for Stopping Volunteering

- Around a quarter of non-volunteers said they had previously given unpaid help.
- The majority of respondents stopped being involved in voluntary work or activities because of changes to their life circumstances.
- People are most likely to opt in or out of volunteering according to how much time they have to give to it.

Table 11.11 shows that of those adults who said they had not given unpaid help to clubs or organisations in the last 12 months, 24 per cent said they had nonetheless given unpaid help to an organisation or group previously. This figure has remained fairly constant in recent years, ranging between 23 per cent and 25 per cent of respondents since 2009.

**Table 11.11: Giving unpaid help previously**

Column percentages, 2009 - 2016 data

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2014	2016
Yes	23	25	24	23	24	24
No	75	74	75	76	75	75
Don't know	1	1	1	1	1	1
All	100	100	100	100	100	100
<i>Base</i>	3,430	2,650	3,390	6,960	7,130	7,020

Table 11.12 shows that the majority of respondents stopped being involved in voluntary work or activities because of changes to their life circumstances, for example because they no longer had the time (34 per cent), they moved house (13 per cent), through illness (10 per cent), or had started paid employment (8 per cent). There was little indication that people stopped volunteering due to anything the organisation they had volunteered for had done, or had failed to do: for example, only one per cent said they had felt unappreciated and only one per cent felt things could have been better organised.

**Table 11.12: Reasons why adults stopped providing unpaid help**

Column percentages, 2016 data

Reasons for stopping unpaid help	Male	Female	All
I didn't have the time any longer	33	34	34
I moved house	14	12	13
Through illness	9	11	10
I started paid employment	9	8	8
My circumstances changed	7	8	8
I had children	5	9	7
I had achieved what I wanted to achieve	8	5	6
I had new caring responsibilities	2	5	4
I got bored or lost interest	3	2	3
I wanted a change	3	2	3
Things could have been better organised	1	2	1
I didn't feel appreciated	1	1	1
It was costing me money	1	0	1
Other reasons	5	3	4
<i>Base</i>	730	930	1,660

Correspondingly, when asked what might encourage them to undertake work or activities on a voluntary basis again in the future, the most common response (Table 11.13) was 'if it fitted in with my other commitments' (14 per cent). This suggests that people are most likely to opt in or out of volunteering according to how much time they have to give to it, and the fit with other commitments in their life at the time. However, six per cent of respondents said they might be encouraged to undertake unpaid work or activities again in the future 'if it fitted in with my interests and skills' or 'if someone asked me to do something' (four per cent), suggesting there may be potential to tailor more volunteering opportunities to the interests and skills individuals feel they have to offer or improve communication about the opportunities on offer.

**Table 11.13: Reasons why adults may undertake unpaid help in the future**

Column percentages, 2016 data

Reasons for undertaking unpaid work in future	Male	Female	All
If it fitted in with my other commitments	14	14	14
If it fitted in with my interests and skills	7	6	6
If someone asked me to do something	5	4	4
If I thought I could help others	3	3	3
If I could volunteer when I felt like it	2	2	2
If I knew more about the opportunities available	2	2	2
If it was good fun	3	1	2
If it would improve my career/job prospects	1	1	1
If it helped me gain qualifications	1	1	1
If it would improve my skills	1	1	1
If someone I knew volunteered with me	1	1	1
If I had more confidence	0	1	1
If I was sure I wouldn't be out of pocket	1	0	0
If I was certain that it wouldn't effect my benefits	1	0	0
If there were more people like me volunteering	0	1	0
No answer	56	56	56
Other	1	1	1
Don't know	10	11	10
<i>Base</i>	<i>3,310</i>	<i>3,720</i>	<i>7,020</i>

## Conclusion

This chapter has summarised Scottish Household Survey findings on volunteering. Both the levels of volunteering and the profile of volunteers have remained relatively stable over the last 5 years. Overall, the volunteering results from 2016 by economic situation, household income and area deprivation continue to support existing evidence about the under-representation of disadvantaged groups in volunteering. People are most likely to opt in or out of volunteering according to how much time they have to give to it. One suggestion is that the potential to increase volunteering is to make opportunities flexible and to fit skills.

# 12 Culture and Heritage

## **Main Findings**

There are high and increasing levels of cultural participation in Scotland.

Around nine in ten (92 per cent) adults were culturally engaged in 2016, either by attending or visiting a cultural event or place or by participating in a cultural activity. The level of cultural engagement has increased by around five percentage points since first recorded in 2007.

### **Cultural attendance**

Women, younger people, those with degrees or professional qualifications, those with good physical and mental health and those living in less deprived areas are more likely to attend cultural events.

This profile has remained the same over time.

### **Cultural participation**

The most popular form of cultural participation was reading for pleasure.

Overall participation in cultural activities was higher among women, those with degrees or professional qualifications, those with good physical and mental health and those living in less deprived areas.

The overall level of cultural attendance doesn't change with age. However, the types of cultural activities people participate in changes with age for most activities. This picture of cultural participation has not changed over time.

### **Cultural services provided by local authorities**

In 2016, around nine in ten adults who had used local authority cultural services were very or fairly satisfied with their provision.

Satisfaction with local authority services provision in 2016 was similar to 2007. Library services satisfaction declined during this period.

## 12.1 Introduction and Context

The Scottish Government is currently developing a new Culture Strategy for Scotland which will set out culture's importance to Scotland's future as well as what is working well and ways to address challenges. Through the strategy the Scottish Government is committed to ensuring that everyone in Scotland has an opportunity to access, enjoy and participate in cultural activity and can experience and enjoy our heritage. Culture, creativity and a rich, dynamic heritage sit at the heart of Scotland's communities.

The Scottish Government is committed to ensuring that everyone in Scotland has an opportunity to access, enjoy and participate in cultural activity and can experience and enjoy our heritage. Culture, creativity and a rich, dynamic heritage sit at the heart of Scotland's communities. The Scottish Government aims to:

- Promote and develop the crucial role of culture and creativity in making the strongest contribution that we can to sustainable economic development;
- Focus on the contribution that culture can make to improving the health, wellbeing, confidence and quality of life for our communities;
- Encourage the understanding, value and enjoyment of the historic environment, and to promote the care and protection of this precious and dynamic resource to ensure a rich legacy for future generations;
- Raise the profile of Scotland at home and abroad, and ensure that as many people as possible in Scotland and overseas are able to benefit from, be inspired by and enjoy the very best of Scotland's creative, cultural and historic wealth.

The Government's work is focused on widening access and participation and ensuring that the necessary infrastructure is in place to deliver cultural opportunities whilst promoting a drive to achieve cultural excellence. This work contributes to the Government's strategic objectives<sup>79</sup>, through understanding and monitoring levels of cultural engagement and participation both at the national and sub-national levels, to inform decisions on government and local government policy making. For example, data from the Scottish Household Survey (SHS) informs our National Indicator 41: Increase cultural engagement.

Cultural **engagement** is defined as those adults who have either participated in a cultural activity or who have attended at least one type of cultural event or place in the past 12 months. The SHS is the primary source of information on cultural attendance and participation in Scotland and is the only source of data on attendance and participation at local authority level. Questions on cultural attendance were introduced in the SHS for the

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<sup>79</sup> [www.scotland.gov.uk/ScotlandPerforms](http://www.scotland.gov.uk/ScotlandPerforms)

first time in 2007. From 2012 onwards, it is possible to obtain data at local authority level every year. For 2016, these data will be published at a later date.

**Attendance** at "a cultural event or place of culture" is defined as those adults who attended at least one type of cultural place in the previous year. There are a number of different types of cultural events and places of culture: cinemas, museums libraries and live music events, for example. Likewise, **participation** in any cultural activity means that adults take part in at least one activity in the previous year. Examples of cultural activities include reading for pleasure, dancing and crafts.

Annex 2: Glossary provides a full list of activities, places or events for cultural attendance and participation.

Please note that figures from 2012 onwards are not directly comparable with previous years, due to a change of wording in 2012. More detail about the culture questions can be found in the historical SHS questionnaires<sup>80</sup>.

## 12.2 Cultural Engagement

- Around nine in ten adults had attended or participated in some cultural event or activity in 2016.
- The level of cultural engagement in Scotland has increased by around 5 percentage points since it was first recorded in the SHS in 2007.
- Trips to the cinema make up the majority of cultural attendance, and reading for pleasure is the most common participation activity.



Figure 12.1 shows that around nine in ten adults had attended or participated in some cultural event or activity in 2016 (92 per cent). Trips to the cinema make up the majority of cultural attendance, and reading for pleasure is the most common participation activity. The level of cultural engagement in Scotland has increased by around 5 percentage points since it was first recorded in the SHS in 2007.

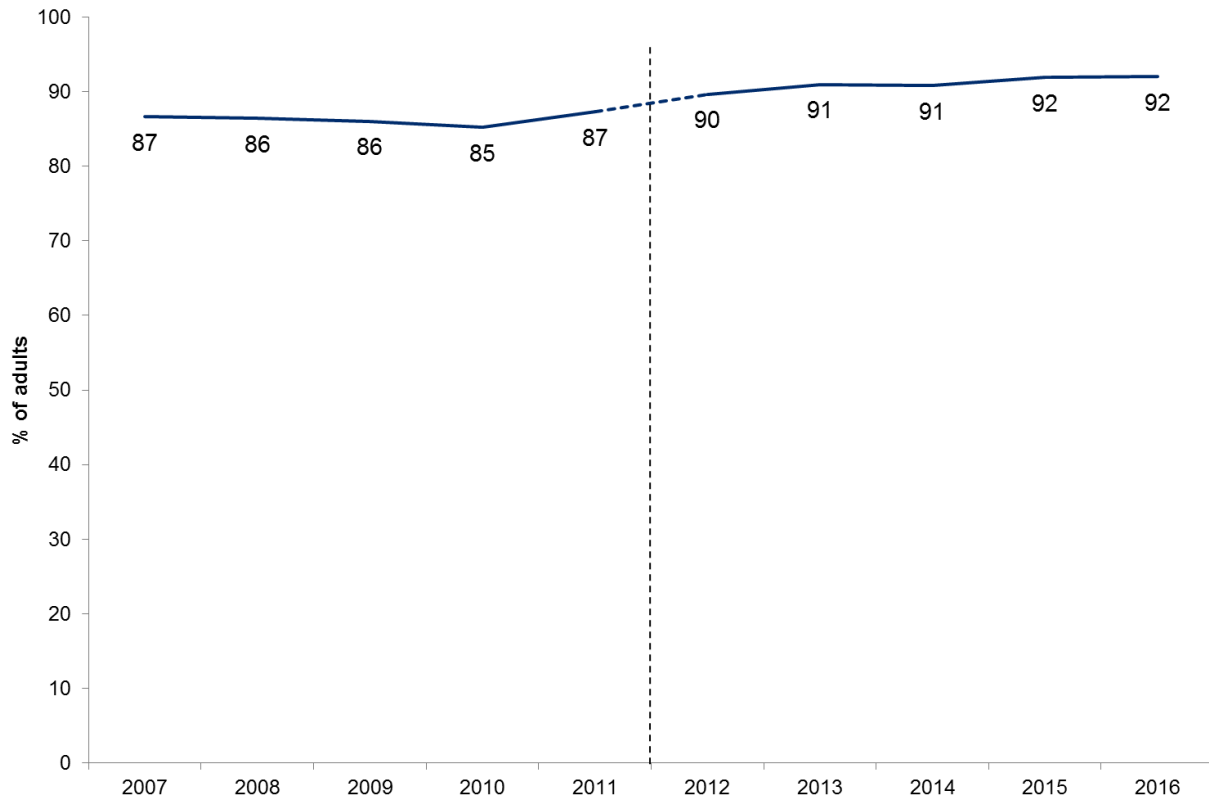
<sup>80</sup> <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Statistics/16002/PublicationQuestionnaire>



Cultural engagement is a composite measure of both cultural attendance and participation. Each of these will be reported on separately in the sections to follow.

**Figure 12.1: Cultural engagement by adults in the last 12 months by year**

Percentages, 2007 to 2016 data (minimum base: 9,130)



\* Note that the figures for 2012 onwards are not directly comparable with previous years due to changes in the wording of the cultural attendance and participation questions.

## 12.3 Attendance at Cultural Events and Places

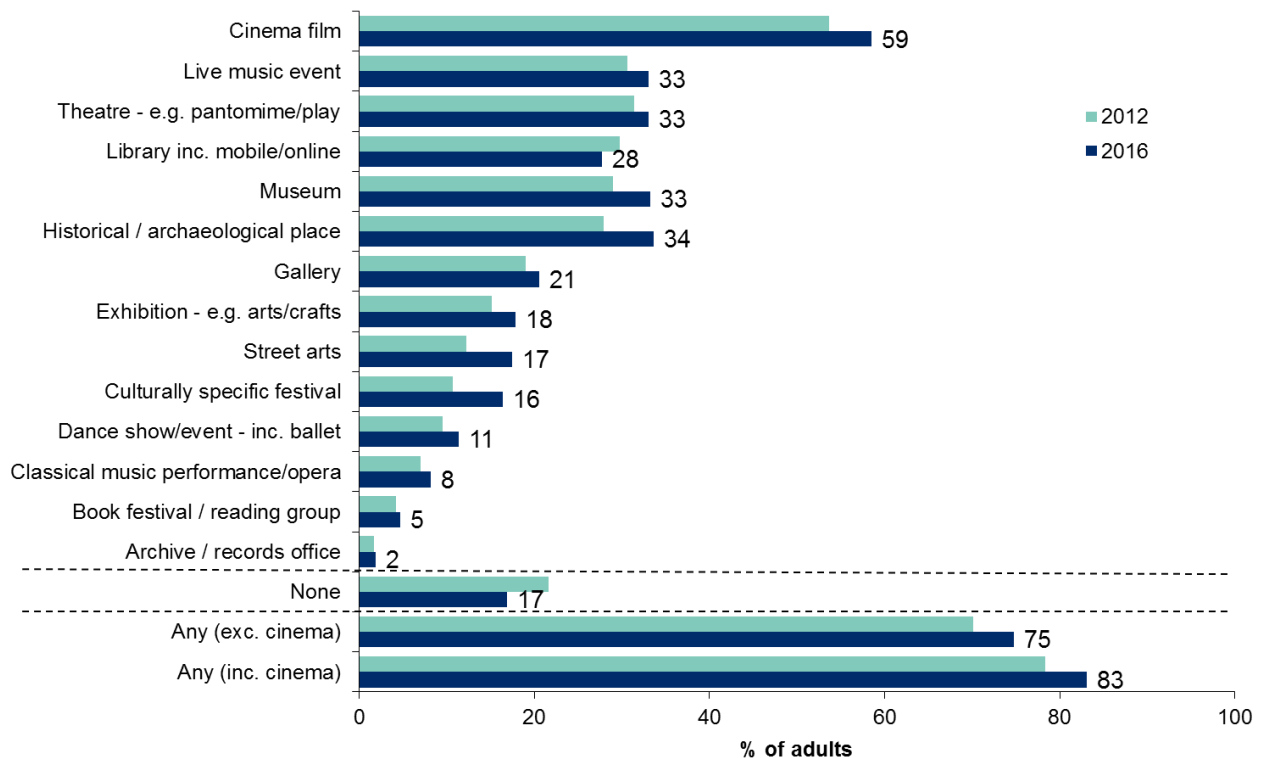
- Around eight in ten adults in Scotland had recently attended a cultural event or place of culture.

Figure 12.2 shows how attendance has changed since 2012. In 2016, around eight in ten adults had attended a cultural event or place of culture in the last 12 months (83 per cent). When trips to the cinema are excluded, the attendance figure was lower at 75 per cent. Since 2012, attendance when cinema trips are included has increased from 78 per cent to 83 per cent. When trips to the cinema are excluded, the attendance figure has increased from 70 per cent to 75 per cent.

Attendance at individual cultural events or places has been broadly static or increased by one or two percentage points since 2012. However, there have been larger increases in some areas. The number of adults who attended street art events has increased by 5 percentage points between 2012 and 2016 (12 per cent to 17 per cent). Similarly, visits to historical or archaeological places increased by 6 percentage points (28 to 34 per cent).

**Figure 12.2: Attendance at cultural events and visiting places of culture in the last 12 months**

Percentage of adults, 2012 to 2016 data (minimum base: 9,410)



### 12.3.1 Attendance by Gender and Age

- Attendance in the last 12 months at specific cultural events and visiting places of culture varied by gender and age.

Table 12.1 shows that in 2016, more women attended a cultural event than men (84 per cent and 82 per cent). Women also had higher cultural attendance than men after excluding trips to the cinema, increasing the gap to 6 percentage points (78 per cent and 72 per cent).

More women than men attended the theatre (39 per cent, compared with 27 per cent). Women were also more likely than men to visit the library (32 per cent compared with 23 per cent).

People in the younger age groups were more likely to have attended the cinema. Eighty-six per cent of adults aged 16 to 24 and 77 per cent of 25-34 year olds visited the cinema, compared with 19 per cent of those aged 75 or over. Similarly, almost half of 16 to 24 year olds (47 per cent) attended a live music event, compared with almost a quarter of 60 to 74 year olds (23 per cent).

**Table 12.1: Attendance at cultural events and visiting places of culture in the last 12 months by gender and age**

Percentages, 2016 data

Adults	Male	Female	16 to 24	25 to 34	35 to 44	45 to 59	60 to 74	75 plus	All
Cinema	58	59	86	77	71	56	39	19	59
Live music event - e.g. traditional music, rock concert, jazz event (not opera or classical music performance)	34	32	47	42	36	35	23	9	33
Theatre - e.g. pantomime / musical / play	27	39	26	29	34	37	39	25	33
Library (including mobile and online)	23	32	29	33	33	22	27	26	28
Museum	33	34	34	41	39	32	30	20	33
Historic place - e.g. castle, stately home and grounds, battle or archaeological site	35	33	31	40	40	34	32	19	34
Gallery	20	21	20	23	23	21	19	11	21
Exhibition - including art, photography and crafts	17	19	17	17	18	19	20	11	18
Street arts (e.g. musical performances or art in parks, streets or shopping centre)	17	18	18	20	22	20	14	4	17
Culturally specific festival (e.g. mela /Feis/ local Gala days)	16	17	17	17	22	19	13	6	16
Dance show / event - e.g. ballet	8	14	10	12	14	14	10	5	11
Classical music performance or opera	8	9	4	6	7	9	12	9	8
Book festival or reading group	4	6	4	4	5	5	6	3	5
Archive or records office (e.g. Scotland's Family History Peoples Centre)	2	2	1	1	1	2	3	2	2
None	18	16	6	8	11	17	24	41	17
Any cultural attendance (excluding cinema)	72	78	79	80	79	76	72	56	75
Any cultural attendance (including cinema)	82	84	94	92	89	83	76	59	83
Base	4,400	5,240	730	1,270	1,480	2,380	2,450	1,330	9,640

Columns may not add to 100 per cent since multiple responses were allowed.

### 12.3.2 Attendance by Highest Level of Qualification

- Attendance at cultural places or events was highest for those with degrees or professional qualifications and lowest for those with no qualifications.

Figure 12.3 shows that in 2016, adults with degrees or professional qualifications were most likely to attend cultural places and events; whereas attendance was lowest for those with no qualifications (95 per cent compared to 58 per cent). The pattern holds when cinema attendance is excluded (91 per cent to 50 per cent).

**Figure 12.3: Attendance at cultural events and visiting places of culture in the last 12 months by highest level of qualification**

2016 data, percentage of adults (minimum base: 500)

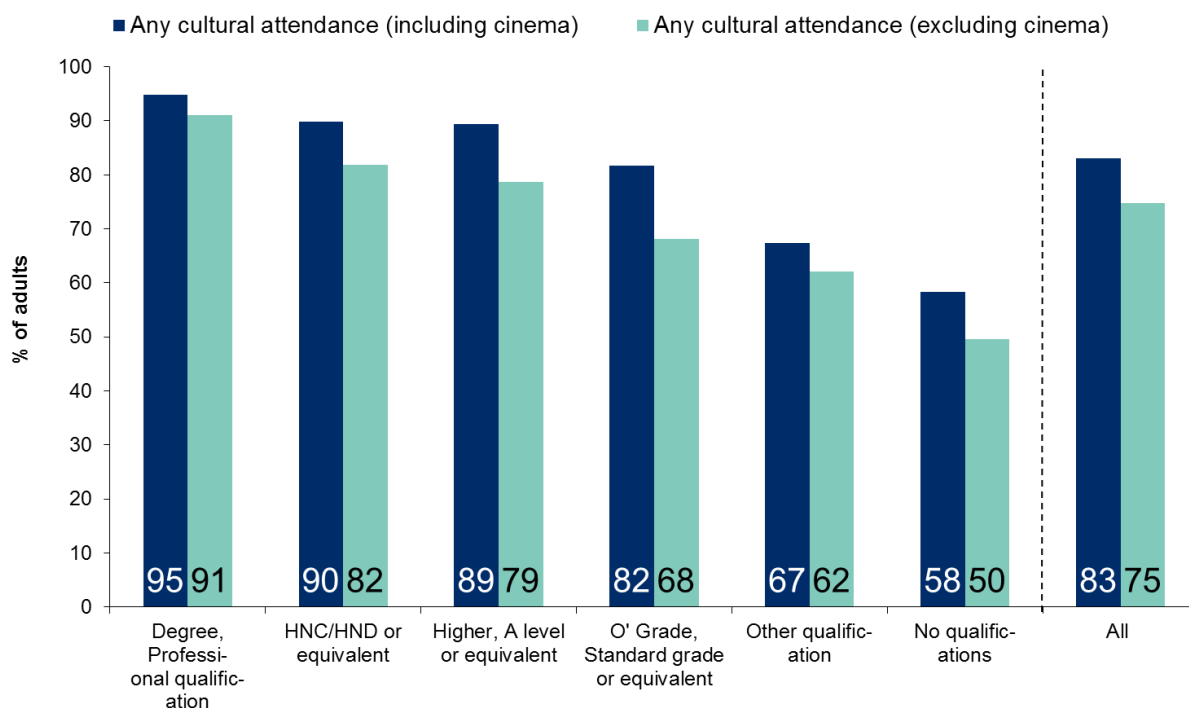


Table 12.2 gives a breakdown of attendance at each individual cultural event or place. As with the overall figure, attendance was consistently higher for adults with a degree or professional qualification at individual events or places. The most marked differences between those with degrees and no qualifications can be seen for attendance at the cinema (74 per cent and 27 per cent respectively) and at a historic place (56 per cent and 12 per cent respectively).

**Table 12.2: Attendance at cultural events and visiting places of culture in the last 12 months by highest qualification level**

Percentages, 2016 data

Adults	Degree, Professional qualification	HNC/HND or equivalent	Higher, A level or equivalent	O' Grade, Standard grade or equivalent	Other qualification	No qualifications	All
Cinema	74	66	69	56	32	27	59
Live music event - e.g. traditional music, rock concert, jazz event (not opera or classical music performance)	48	41	38	28	12	10	33
Theatre - e.g. pantomime / musical / play	47	32	32	27	33	18	33
Library (including mobile and online)	39	29	28	20	20	18	28
Museum	55	32	32	22	21	14	33
Historic place - e.g. castle, stately home and grounds, battle or archaeological site	56	35	33	22	20	12	34
Gallery	39	18	19	10	12	7	21
Exhibition - including art, photography and crafts	34	17	16	8	8	5	18
Street arts (e.g. musical performances or art in parks, streets or shopping centre)	29	18	15	13	9	6	17
Culturally specific festival (e.g. mela /Feis/ local Gala days)	27	18	15	12	8	6	16
Dance show / event - e.g. ballet	16	16	10	9	5	5	11
Classical music performance or opera	17	8	6	3	5	3	8
Book festival or reading group	10	3	3	2	4	1	5
Archive or records office (e.g. Scotland's Family History Peoples Centre)	4	1	2	1	1	1	2
None	5	10	11	18	33	42	17
Any cultural attendance (excluding cinema)	91	82	79	68	62	50	75
Any cultural attendance (including cinema)	95	90	89	82	67	58	83
Base	2,780	1,000	1,400	1,890	500	2,010	9,640

Columns add to more than 100 per cent since multiple responses allowed.

### 12.3.3 Attendance by Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD)

- Those living in the less deprived areas of Scotland were more likely to attend cultural events or places compared to those living in the most deprived areas.
- This has held true since the questions were introduced although the gap is now narrowing over time.

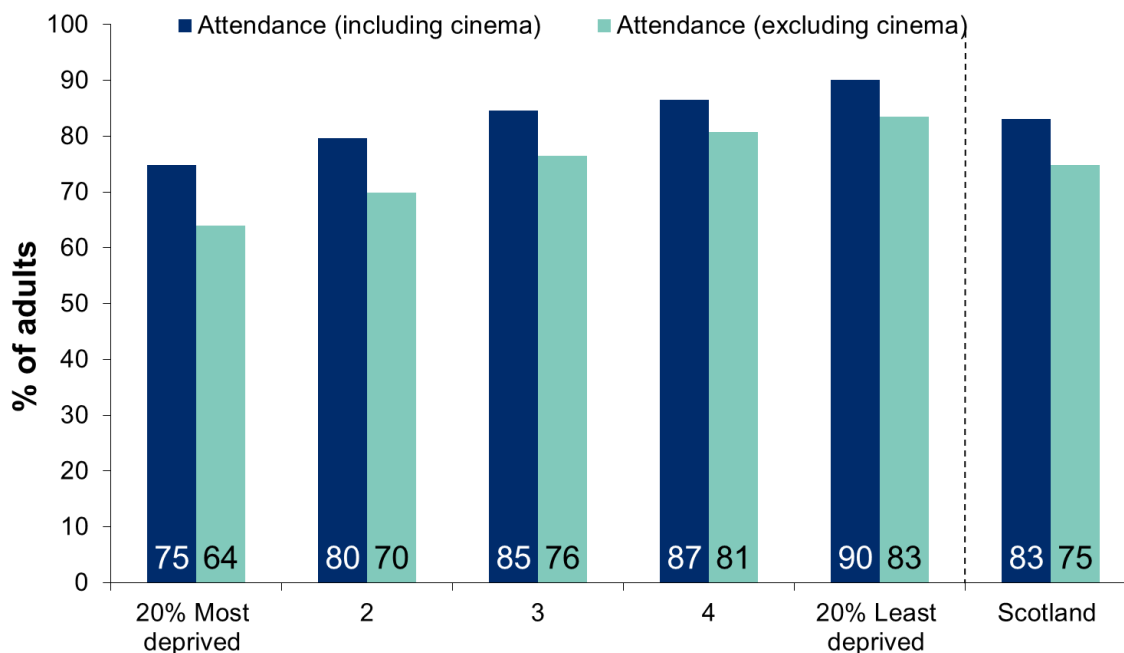
Figure 12.4 shows that levels of cultural attendance increase as deprivation as measured by the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD 2016) decreases.

In 2016 there was a 15 percentage point difference in cultural attendance (including cinema) between the 20 per cent most and 20 per cent least deprived areas (75 per cent compared with 90 per cent). This gap has narrowed since 2014 (the gap was 20 per cent in 2014 dropping to 15 per cent in 2016). When excluding cinema attendance, the difference is greater; 64 per cent in the most deprived areas and 83 per cent in the least deprived areas (in 2014 25 percentage points dropping to 20 percentage points<sup>81</sup> in 2016).

<sup>81</sup> 20 per cent due to rounding although may appear as only 19 per cent

**Figure 12.4: Attendance at cultural events and visiting places of culture in the last 12 months by Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation**

2016 data, adults (minimum base: 1,880)



**Table 12.3: Attendance at cultural events and visiting places of culture in the last 12 months by area deprivation**

Percentages, 2012 to 2016 data

Adults	2012		2013		2014		2015		2016		Base (2016)
	Attendance (including cinema)	Attendance (excluding cinema)	Attendance (including cinema)	Attendance (excluding cinema)	Attendance (including cinema)	Attendance (excluding cinema)	Attendance (including cinema)	Attendance (excluding cinema)	Attendance (including cinema)	Attendance (excluding cinema)	
20% Most deprived	70	60	72	61	70	60	72	62	75	64	1,880
2	73	63	76	67	76	68	79	69	80	70	1,990
3	77	69	79	71	81	74	83	75	85	76	2,070
4	82	75	85	78	84	78	87	81	87	81	1,970
20% Least deprived	88	83	90	85	91	86	91	85	90	83	1,730
Scotland	78	70	80	72	80	73	82	75	83	75	9,640

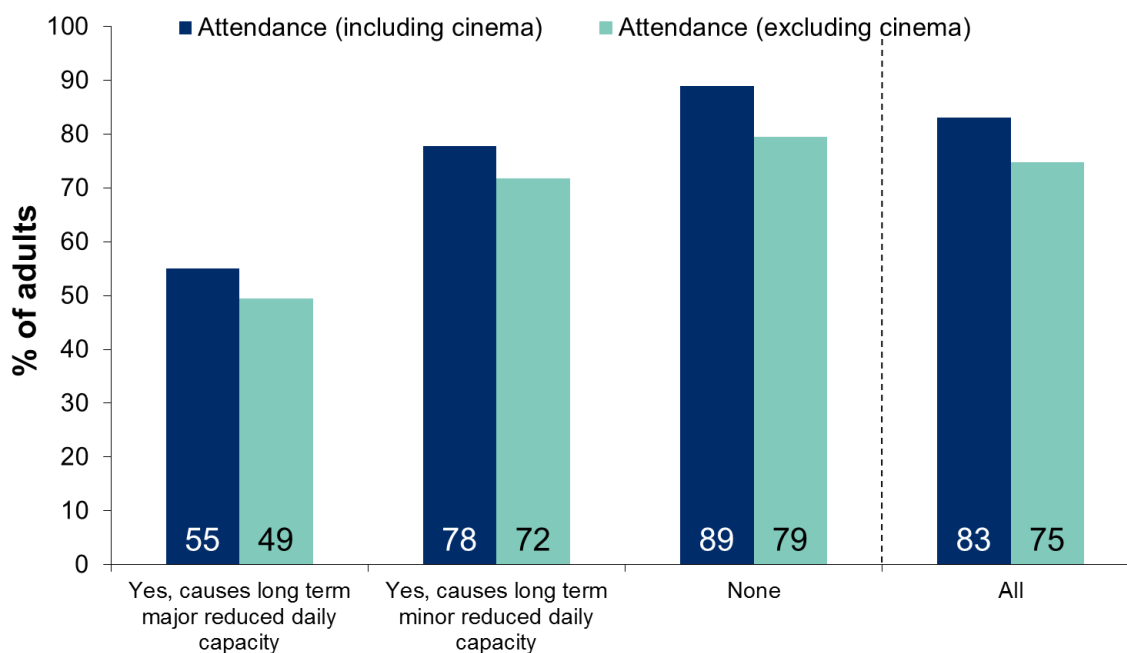
### 12.3.4 Attendance by Long-Term Physical/Mental Health Condition

- Cultural attendance was highest among those with good physical and mental health.
- Cultural attendance was lower for those with a long-term physical or mental health condition, especially if the condition caused a major reduction in daily capacity.

Figure 12.5 shows that cultural attendance was lowest among adults with a physical or mental health condition that caused long term major reduced daily capacity (55 per cent compared to 89 per cent attendance for those with no condition). For those whose condition caused minor reduced daily capacity, the attendance rate was 78 per cent.

**Figure 12.5: Attendance at cultural events and visiting places of culture in the last 12 months by long term physical/mental health condition**

2016 data, adults (minimum base: 1,290)



### 12.3.5 Frequency of Attending cultural events or places

- The library was the most frequently attended cultural place or event.

The library was the most frequently attended cultural place or event, with almost one in five people (18 per cent) attending at least once a week, and double that number attending at least once a month (35 per cent).

Cinema attendance was the next most popular, with 19 per cent of respondents attending at least once a month. Table 12.4 shows the frequency of cultural attendance in the past year.

**Table 12.4: Frequency of attending cultural events and visiting places of culture in the last 12 months**

Percentages, 2016 data

Adults	At least once a week	Less often than once a week / at least once a month	Less often than once a month but within the last 12 months	Don't know	Total	Base
Cinema	2	19	78	0	100	5,020
Live music event - e.g. traditional music, rock concert, jazz event (not opera or classical music performance)	1	11	87	0	100	2,870
Theatre - e.g. pantomime / musical / play	0	3	96	1	100	3,060
Library (including mobile and online)	18	35	47	1	100	2,760
Museum	1	8	90	0	100	3,060
Historic place - e.g. castle, stately home and grounds, battle or archaeological site	1	10	88	1	100	3,090
Gallery	1	11	87	1	100	1,890
Exhibition - including art, photography and crafts	1	6	92	1	100	1,730
Street arts (e.g. musical performances or art in parks, streets or shopping centre)	3	7	90	1	100	1,500
Culturally specific festival (e.g. mela /Feis/ local Gala days)	0	2	97	1	100	1,530
Dance show / event - e.g. ballet	1	4	95	1	100	1,080
Classical music performance or opera	0	7	92	1	100	840
Book festival or reading group	3	7	89	1	100	480
Archive or records office (e.g. Scotland's Family History Peoples Centre)	4	7	86	3	100	210

Columns add to more than 100 per cent since multiple responses allowed.



## 12.4 Participation in Cultural Activities

- Overall participation in cultural activities is high, and has remained largely unchanged since 2012.
- Reading for pleasure was by far the most common cultural activity in 2016.

Figure 12.6 shows levels of participation by adults at specific cultural activities in the last 12 months in 2012 and 2016. Overall participation in 2016 was 79 per cent, which is largely unchanged since 2012. When reading is excluded, participation was 53 per cent. This has increased, year on year, from 48 per cent in 2012.

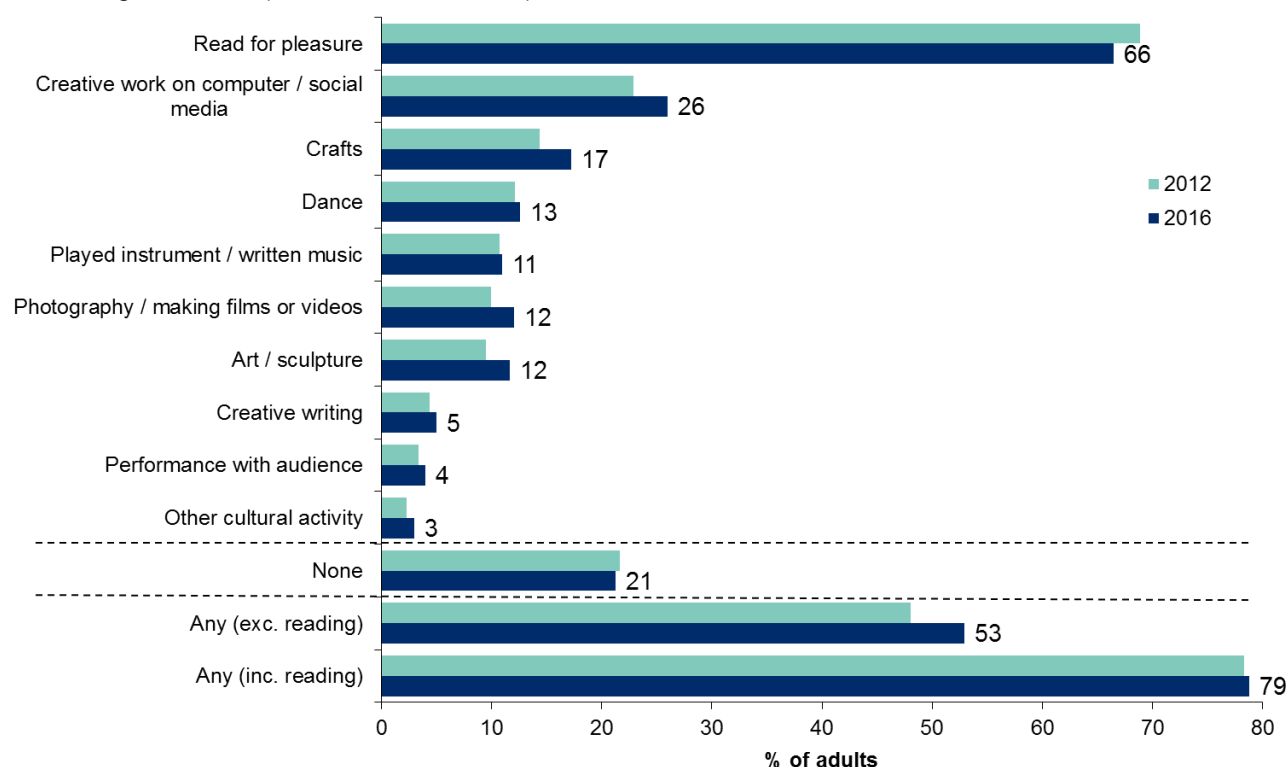
Reading for pleasure was by far the most common cultural activity in 2016, with 66 per cent of respondents saying that they had done this in the last year.

The next most popular activity was doing creative work on a computer or by social media (26 per cent), followed by crafts (17 per cent) and dance (13 per cent). Participation levels in all other cultural activities was 12 per cent or less.

About one in five people (21 per cent) had not participated in any cultural activity in the last 12 months.

**Figure 12.6: Participation in cultural activities in the last 12 months**

Percentage of adults (minimum base: 9,640)



### 12.4.1 Participation by Gender and Age

- Overall participation in cultural activities was higher among women than men, although this does vary by activity.
- Cultural participation was broadly similar for all age groups. However, participation decreased with age when reading was excluded from the measure.
- Women were more likely to read for pleasure, do crafts or dance than men, whereas men were more likely to play a musical instrument or write music and use a computer or social media to produce creative work.
- Older people were more likely to read for pleasure and do craftwork such as knitting, woodwork and pottery.

Table 12.5 shows that in 2016, more women than men participated in a cultural activity in the last 12 months (85 per cent and 73 per cent respectively). When reading is excluded, the difference between women and men was slightly smaller (eight percentage points). Overall cultural participation was broadly similar for all age groups; however, participation decreased with age when reading was excluded from the measure. Women participated more than men in a number of cultural activities including reading for pleasure (74 per cent compared with 59 per cent), crafts (26 per cent compared with 8 per cent) and dance (15 per cent compared with 10 per cent). Men had higher participation rates than women for playing a musical instrument or writing music (15 per cent of men and seven per cent of women) and using a computer or social media to produce creative work (28 per cent compared with 24 per cent).

For most cultural activities, younger adults, particularly those aged 16-24 were more likely than older age groups to participate in cultural activities. However, older people were more likely to read for pleasure and do craftwork such as knitting, woodwork and pottery.

**Table 12.5: Participation in any cultural activity in the last 12 months by gender and age**

Column percentages, 2016 data

Adults	Male	Female	16 to 24	25 to 34	35 to 44	45 to 59	60 to 75 plus 74	All	
Read for pleasure (not newspapers, magazines or comics)	59	74	57	63	66	68	73	68	66
Used a computer / social media to produce creative work of any kind	28	24	41	33	28	25	18	8	26
Crafts such as knitting, wood, pottery, etc.	8	26	11	16	14	17	24	21	17
Dance - e.g. ceilidh, salsa, Highland dancing, ballet	10	15	18	16	14	12	9	6	13
Played a musical instrument or written music	15	7	21	15	11	8	8	4	11
Photography / making films or videos as an artistic activity (not family or holiday 'snaps')	13	11	19	15	12	11	10	4	12
Painting, drawing, printmaking or sculpture	9	14	23	16	12	8	8	4	12
Creative writing - stories, books, plays or poetry	5	5	10	6	5	4	4	3	5
Took part in a play / sang in a choir or other performance (not karaoke)	3	5	6	4	3	3	5	3	4
Other cultural activity	4	2	3	3	4	3	3	3	3
None	27	15	20	23	22	21	19	24	21
Participated in any (excluding reading)	49	57	66	58	54	50	51	38	53
Participated in any (including reading)	73	85	80	77	78	79	81	76	79
<i>Base</i>	<i>4,400</i>	<i>5,240</i>	<i>730</i>	<i>1,270</i>	<i>1,480</i>	<i>2,380</i>	<i>2,450</i>	<i>1,330</i>	<i>9,640</i>

Columns add to more than 100 per cent since multiple responses allowed.

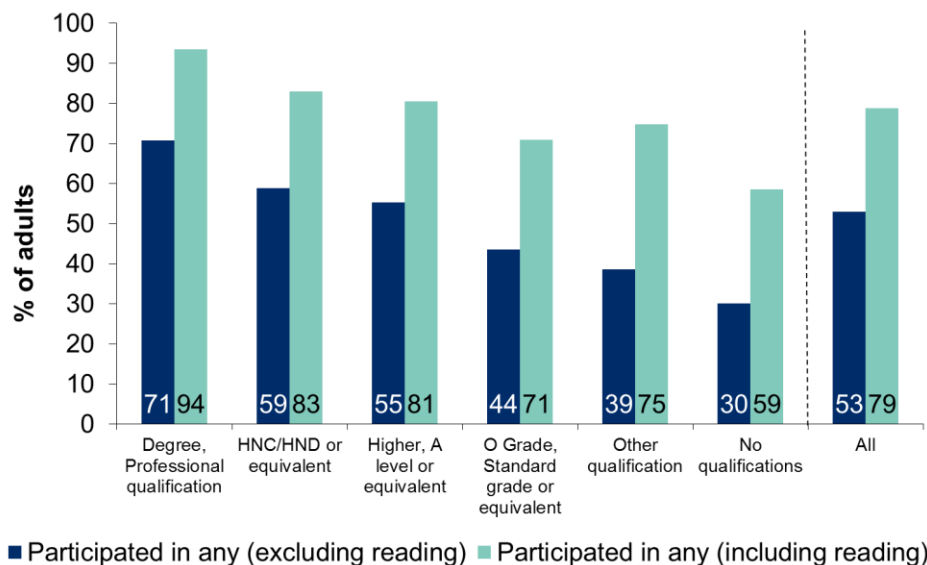
## 12.4.2 Participation by Highest Level of Qualification

- Those with a degree or professional qualification were more likely to participate than adults with no qualifications (94 per cent compared to 59 per cent). The gap between these two groups increases when reading is excluded.

As with cultural attendance, Figure 12.7 and Table 12.6 show that participation in cultural activities in 2016 was highest among adults with a degree or professional qualification (94 per cent) and lowest for those with no qualifications (59 per cent). When reading is excluded, the difference between qualification levels is even greater (71 per cent for those with a degree or professional qualifications, compared with 30 per cent for those with no qualifications).

**Figure 12.7: Participation in any cultural activity in the last 12 months by highest level of qualification**

2016 data, percentage of adults (minimum base: 500)



Participation rates for specific cultural activities are shown in Table 12.6.

**Table 12.6: Participation in cultural activities in the last 12 months by highest level of qualification**

Percentages, 2016 data

Adults	Degree, Professional qualification	HNC/HND or equivalent	Higher, A level or equivalent	O Grade, Standard grade or equivalent	Other qualification	No qualifications	All
Read for pleasure (not newspapers, magazines or comics)	85	66	65	55	64	48	66
Used a computer / social media to produce creative work of any kind	38	35	29	20	12	6	26
Crafts such as knitting, wood, pottery, etc.	23	19	14	12	20	14	17
Dance - e.g. ceilidh, salsa, Highland dancing, ballet	19	13	13	9	5	7	13
Played a musical instrument or written music	18	11	14	6	3	4	11
Photography / making films or videos as an artistic activity (not family or holiday 'snaps')	21	14	12	6	4	3	12
Painting, drawing, printmaking or sculpture	16	13	13	10	6	4	12
Creative writing - stories, books, plays or poetry	10	4	5	2	1	1	5
Took part in a play / sang in a choir or other performance (not karaoke)	7	4	4	2	2	2	4
Other cultural activity	5	3	1	2	2	2	3
None	6	17	19	29	25	41	21
Participated in any (excluding reading)	71	59	55	44	39	30	53
Participated in any (including reading)	94	83	81	71	75	59	79
Base	2,780	1,000	1,400	1,890	500	2,010	9,640

Columns add to more than 100 per cent since multiple responses allowed.

### 12.4.3 Participation by Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD 2016)

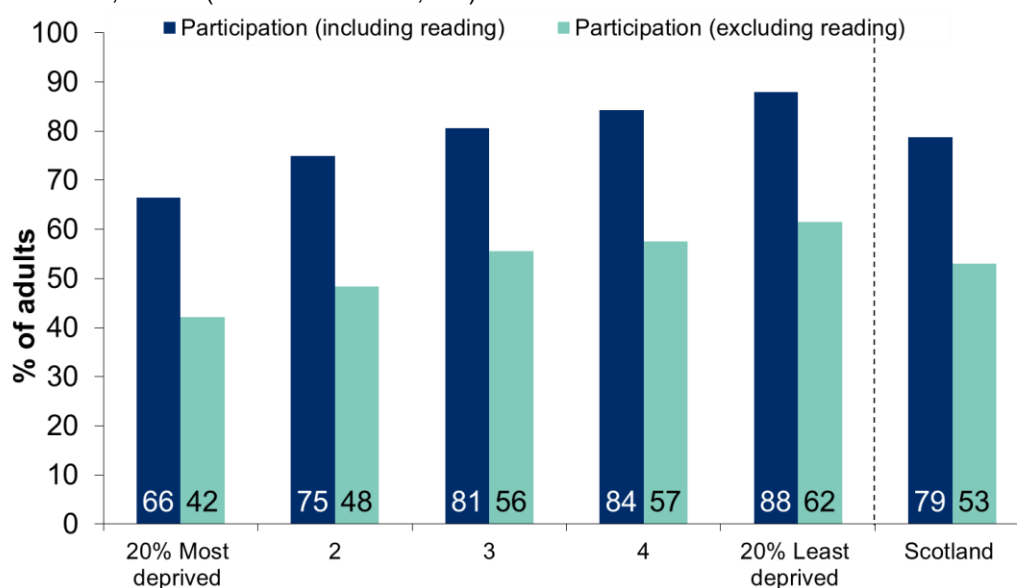
- Those in less deprived areas participate in culture more.

There was a 22 percentage point difference in cultural participation between those living in the 20 per cent most deprived and the 20 per cent least deprived areas (66 per cent compared with 88 per cent). This is consistent with the differences observed for cultural attendance.

Table 12.7 and Figure 12.8 show that levels of cultural participation increase as deprivation, as measured by the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD 2016), decreases. Sixty-six per cent of adults in the 20 per cent most deprived areas participated in cultural activities, compared with 88 per cent of adults in the 20 per cent least deprived areas. When reading is excluded, the pattern is similar, with 42 per cent in the most deprived areas and 62 per cent in the least deprived areas of Scotland participating in a cultural activity.

**Figure 12.8: Participation in any cultural activity in the last 12 months by Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation**

2016 data, adults (minimum base: 1,730)



**Table 12.7: Participation in any cultural activity in the last 12 months by area deprivation**

Percentages, 2012 to 2016 data

Adults	2012		2013		2014		2015		2016		Base (2016)
	Participation (including reading)	Participation (excluding reading)	Participation (including reading)	Participation (excluding reading)	Participation (including reading)	Participation (excluding reading)	Participation (including reading)	Participation (excluding reading)	Participation (including reading)	Participation (excluding reading)	
20% Most deprived	68	38	68	40	69	40	68	42	66	42	1,880
2	74	42	73	44	73	43	73	46	75	48	1,990
3	80	49	79	50	78	50	80	52	81	56	2,070
4	83	55	83	53	85	58	85	58	84	57	1,970
20% Least deprived	87	55	88	56	88	58	88	60	88	62	1,730
Scotland	78	48	78	49	79	50	79	52	79	53	9,640

### 12.4.4 Participation by Long-Term Physical/Mental Health Condition

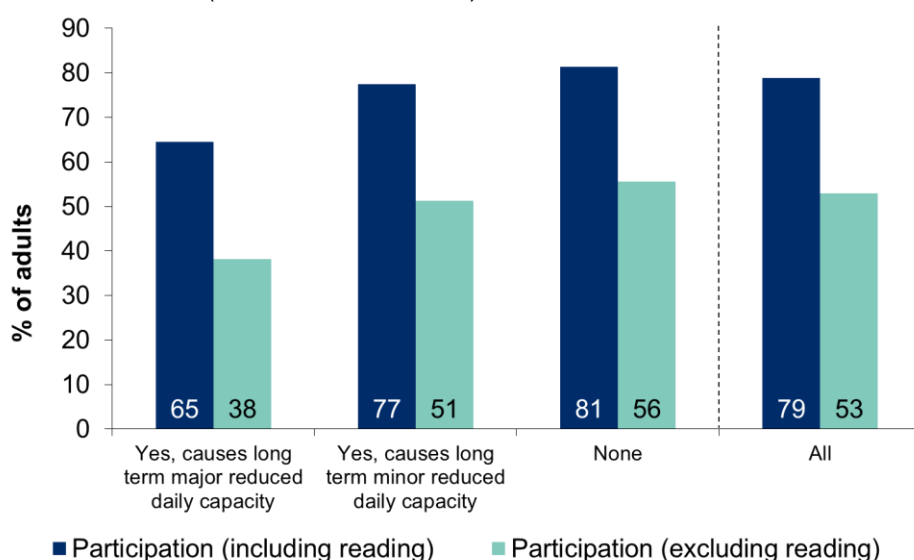
- Cultural participation was lower for those with a long-term physical or mental health condition, especially if this caused major reduced daily capacity.

Figure 12.9 shows that cultural participation was lower for those with a physical or mental health condition (lasting, or expected to last 12 months or more). Participation was lowest where this condition caused long term major reduced daily capacity (65 per cent) compared with 81 per cent participation for those with no such condition.

When reading is excluded, participation for those with conditions with major reduced daily capacity was 38 per cent and, for those with no condition, it was 56 per cent. For those with minor reduced daily capacity, the participation rate was 51 per cent.

**Figure 12.9: Participation in any cultural activity in the last 12 months by long term physical/mental health condition**

2016 data, adults (minimum base: 1,290)



### 12.4.5 Frequency of Participating in Cultural Activities

- Respondents participated in cultural activities more frequently than they attended cultural places or events.
- Reading for pleasure was the cultural activity most frequently participated in.

Table 12.8 shows that reading for pleasure was the cultural activity most frequently participated in. Of those who read for pleasure, 76 per cent did so at least once a week, and a further 12 per cent read at least once a month. Using a computer or social media for

creative work was also popular among participants, with 70 per cent of those who participated having done so at least once a week.

Respondents participated in cultural activities more frequently than they attended cultural places or events. Eighteen per cent attended a library at least once a week but, apart from this, attendance at cultural events at least once a week was low. However, participation in cultural activities at least once a week ranged from 25 per cent to 76 per cent.

**Table 12.8: Frequency of participating in cultural activities in the last 12 months**

Row percentages, 2016 data

Adults	At least once a week	Less often than once a week / at least once a month	Less often than once a month but within the last 12 months	Don't know	Total	Base
Read for pleasure (not newspapers, magazines or comics)	76	12	12	0	100	6,470
Used a computer / social media to produce creative work of any kind	70	14	15	1	100	2,250
Crafts such as knitting, wood, pottery, etc.	45	26	28	1	100	1,840
Dance - e.g. ceilidh, salsa, Highland dancing, ballet	25	18	56	1	100	1,140
Played a musical instrument or written music	59	20	21	0	100	950
Photography / making films or videos as an artistic activity (not family or holiday 'snaps')	34	31	34	1	100	1,090
Painting, drawing, printmaking or sculpture	37	32	30	1	100	1,040
Creative writing - stories, books, plays or poetry	38	30	30	2	100	490
Took part in a play / sang in a choir or other performance (not karaoke)	38	18	43	1	100	350
Other cultural activity	31	26	41	2	100	270

Columns add to more than 100 per cent since multiple responses allowed.

## 12.5 Satisfaction with Local Authority Cultural Services

- In 2016, around half of adults were either very or fairly satisfied with each of the three Local Authority Cultural Services: museums and galleries, theatres or concert halls and libraries. Levels of satisfaction with local authority provision is considerably higher (around nine in ten) when only users of the services are included in the analysis i.e. users are more satisfied with the service than those who don't use it.
- Adults (including users and non-users of these services) were more satisfied with museums and galleries and with theatres or concert halls in 2016 than they had been in 2007.
- The overall level of satisfaction with library services has decreased since 2007, with satisfaction levels among non-users driving the decrease.
- Since 2007, questions have been asked in the SHS on the frequency of use and satisfaction with local authority cultural services.

Table 12.9 presents the results for satisfaction with three different types of local authority services in 2016. It shows that adults (including users and non-users of these services) were more satisfied with museums and galleries and with theatres or concert halls in 2016 than they had been in 2007. This increase was relatively small, three to four percentage points across this period for each type of service. However, there has been a seven percentage point decrease in satisfaction with library services (from 55 per cent in 2007 and 2008 to 48 per cent in 2016).

**Table 12.9: Satisfaction with local authority culture services**

Column percentages, 2007 to 2016 data

Adults	2007	...	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
<b>Libraries</b>							
Very/fairly satisfied	55	...	50	51	49	49	48
Neither satisfied or dissatisfied	10	...	8	10	12	15	15
Very/fairly dissatisfied	3	...	2	2	2	2	2
No opinion	32	...	39	38	36	34	35
<b>Museums and galleries</b>							
Very/fairly satisfied	41	...	42	44	46	46	45
Neither satisfied or dissatisfied	14	...	10	11	14	16	17
Very/fairly dissatisfied	4	...	2	2	2	2	2
No opinion	41	...	46	42	38	35	36
<b>Theatres or concert halls</b>							
Very/fairly satisfied	44	...	44	46	47	48	47
Neither satisfied or dissatisfied	14	...	9	10	13	15	16
Very/fairly dissatisfied	5	...	2	2	2	3	2
No opinion	38	...	45	42	38	35	35
<i>Base</i>	<i>10,220</i>	<i>...</i>	<i>9,890</i>	<i>9,920</i>	<i>9,800</i>	<i>9,410</i>	<i>9,640</i>

Table 12.10 shows levels of satisfaction with local authority provision is considerably higher when only users of the services are included in the analysis. In 2016, around nine in ten adults were either very or fairly satisfied with each of the three services (between 90



per cent and 93 per cent). As noted above, the overall level of satisfaction with library services has decreased since 2007, with satisfaction levels among non-users driving the decrease. In contrast, the levels of satisfaction among the service users have increased since 2007 across all services.

**Table 12.10: Satisfaction with local authority culture services. (Service users within the past 12 months only)**

Column percentages, 2007 to 2016 data

Adults	2007	...	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
<b>Libraries</b>							
Very/fairly satisfied	90	...	93	92	92	92	93
Neither satisfied or dissatisfied	5	...	3	3	4	4	4
Very/fairly dissatisfied	3	...	2	3	2	3	2
No opinion	2	...	2	2	2	1	1
<i>Base</i>	<i>4,090</i>	...	<i>3,450</i>	<i>3,370</i>	<i>3,270</i>	<i>3,100</i>	<i>3,060</i>
<b>Museums and galleries</b>							
Very/fairly satisfied	87	...	92	91	92	91	91
Neither satisfied or dissatisfied	8	...	3	4	5	6	5
Very/fairly dissatisfied	2	...	2	2	1	2	1
No opinion	3	...	3	3	2	2	3
<i>Base</i>	<i>2,870</i>	...	<i>2,800</i>	<i>2,980</i>	<i>3,020</i>	<i>2,920</i>	<i>2,830</i>
<b>Theatres or concert halls</b>							
Very/fairly satisfied	86	...	90	91	91	90	90
Neither satisfied or dissatisfied	8	...	5	4	5	6	6
Very/fairly dissatisfied	3	...	2	2	2	2	2
No opinion	3	...	3	3	3	3	3
<i>Base</i>	<i>3,560</i>	...	<i>3,020</i>	<i>3,260</i>	<i>3,290</i>	<i>3,340</i>	<i>3,230</i>

## Conclusion

This chapter has summarised Scottish Household Survey findings on Culture and Heritage.

## 13 Young People

### Main Findings

Around nine in ten households (92 per cent) with young children have access to some form of play areas within their neighbourhood. Around two thirds have access to a park (65 per cent), whilst over half have access to either a playground (56 per cent) or field or other open space (53 per cent).

Generally, households with young children within rural areas are more likely to say children would be very safe or fairly safe when walking or cycling to play areas on their own – the largest difference is 23 percentage points for being safe walking or cycling to parks when compared to urban areas (74 per cent and 51 per cent, respectively).

The average age that most householders with young children felt comfortable with children playing without supervision at such play areas was around 9 or 10 years old.

Around three-quarters (76 per cent) of young people aged 8 to 21 take part in some form of activity regularly, with taking part in a sports or sporting activity being the most common activity (53 per cent of young people).

These findings from 2016 are similar to the findings in 2014 when these questions were last included in the Scottish Household Survey.

## 13.1 Introduction and Context

This chapter starts with an overview of the types of play areas available for children to play in, followed by the measures on perceptions of adults on how safe it is for children to play there. Finally, this chapter looks at the types of activities young people engage in within their local area.

Data from these variables are collected every two years and were last presented in the Scotland's People Annual Report: Results from 2014 Scottish Household Survey<sup>82</sup>.

A key element of the Early Years Framework is improving the physical and social environment for children, with an emphasis on play. At the start of 2009, a series of questions on the opportunities for children to play in their neighbourhood were added to the Scottish Household Survey to measure progress on this framework. From 2012, the set of questions were only asked if there was a child aged 6 to 12 years in the household.

## 13.2 Opportunities for Children to Play

- Just over nine in ten households with children aged 6 to 12 years old have access to play areas within their neighbourhood.
- Households within the 20 per cent most deprived urban areas of Scotland say they have less access to a natural environment or wooded area in their neighbourhood, compared to the rest of urban areas.
- Children in rural areas have more access to fields, natural environments and woods whereas those in urban areas have more access to parks.

### Overall opportunities for Children to Play

Table 13.1 shows that just over nine in ten households with children aged 6 to 12 years old have access to play areas within their neighbourhood (92 per cent). Around two-thirds (65 per cent) have access to a park, and over half can access a playground and a field or other open space (56 per cent and 53 per cent, respectively).

### Differences in playing opportunities based on the level of deprivation

There are some differences based on the level of deprivation in urban areas. In particular, of those households within the 20 per cent most deprived urban areas of Scotland, only a third (36 per cent) say there is a natural environment or wooded area in their neighbourhood, compared to half of households (50 per cent) in the rest of the urban areas of Scotland.

<sup>82</sup> <http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2015/08/3720>

## Variation in access to play areas for children between urban to rural areas

There is evidence of greater variation in access to play areas for children when comparing urban to rural areas. As expected, a higher proportion of households in rural areas have access to either fields or other open space (62 per cent) or natural environment / wooded areas (72 per cent) than urban areas (51 per cent and 46 per cent respectively). Conversely, a higher proportion of households in urban areas have access to a park (67 per cent) in comparison to rural areas (55 per cent). These findings are very similar to the findings from 2014 when these questions were last asked in the Scottish Household Survey<sup>83</sup>.

**Table 13.1: Types of children play areas available in the neighbourhood by Urban Rural Classification and Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD)**

Percentages, 2016 data

Households containing children aged 6 to 12	Urban			Rural	Scotland
	20% Most Deprived	Rest of Urban	All Urban		
Playground	52	59	57	52	56
Park	64	68	67	55	65
Football or other games pitch	42	48	46	43	46
Field or other open space	46	54	51	62	53
School playground	35	45	42	39	42
Natural environment / wooded	36	50	46	72	50
Access to at least one play area	91	92	91	94	92
Access to none	9	8	8	6	8
<i>Base (minimum)</i>	<i>280</i>	<i>800</i>	<i>1,080</i>	<i>290</i>	<i>1,370</i>

Columns may add to more than 100 per cent since multiple responses were allowed.

## Children's safety

- Most consider that 9 or 10 years old is the youngest age that children are able to play without supervision.
- Children are perceived to be safer in rural areas.
- The overall feeling of safety for playgrounds, parks and football or other games pitches are higher when going with two or three friends than they are when children travel alone.
- Those from rural areas are less concerned about bullying by other children compared to those from urban areas.
- Households in the 20 per cent most deprived urban areas of Scotland are more concerned about bullying by other children compared to other urban areas.

Generally, households within rural areas are more likely to say children would be very or fairly safe when walking or cycling to play areas on their own compared to urban areas

<sup>83</sup> <http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2015/08/3720/14>

(Table 13.2). The largest difference of 23 percentage points is for walking or cycling to parks (74 per cent in rural areas compared to 51 per cent in urban areas).

**Table 13.2: Percentage of households that think it is very or fairly safe for children to walk or cycle to play areas on their own by Urban Rural Classification and Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD)**

Percentages, 2016 data

Households containing children aged 6 to 12	Urban			Rural	Scotland
	20% Most Deprived	Rest of Urban	All Urban		
Playground	48	60	57	73	59
Park	41	55	51	74	55
Football or other games pitch	48	53	52	67	54
Field or other open space	45	56	53	69	57
School playground	53	53	53	67	55
Natural environment / wooded	28	36	34	53	39
Street/Road	48	57	54	63	56
<i>Base (minimum)</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>350</i>	<i>450</i>	<i>120</i>	<i>570</i>

Columns may add to more than 100 per cent since multiple responses were allowed.

Table 13.3 shows similar patterns of variation when considering how safe it would be for children to go to play areas with two or three friends to play. Again, those in rural areas are generally more likely to say they think it is very or fairly safe than those living in urban areas, (except for in the Street/Road where there was no significant difference). Intuitively, the overall feeling of safety for playgrounds, parks and football or other games pitches is higher when going with two or three friends than they are when children travel alone (compare with Table 13.2).

**Table 13.3: Percentage of households that think it is very or fairly safe for children to go to play areas with 2 or 3 friends by Urban Rural Classification and Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD)**

Percentages, 2016 data

Households containing children aged 6 to 12	Urban			Rural	Scotland
	20% Most Deprived	Rest of Urban	All Urban		
Playground	59	66	64	78	66
Park	52	60	58	78	61
Football or other games pitch	58	60	59	70	61
Field or other open space	52	62	59	73	62
School playground	58	60	59	68	61
Natural environment / wooded	30	43	40	57	44
Street/Road	50	58	56	63	57
<i>Base (minimum)</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>350</i>	<i>450</i>	<i>120</i>	<i>570</i>

Columns may add to more than 100 per cent since multiple responses were allowed.

At the national level, the percentage of households being concerned about children being bullied or harmed by other children while playing in play areas varied from 26 per cent for streets around the respondents home, to 40 per cent for playing within a natural environment or wooded area (Table 13.4).

There are also differences when comparing different levels of rurality and deprivation. Those from rural areas are less concerned about bullying by other children compared to those from urban areas across all types of play areas (differences range from 12 to 22 percentage points). Households in the 20 per cent most deprived urban areas of Scotland are more concerned about bullying by other children compared to other urban areas (although there was no significant difference in the Field or Open space, School playground, and Natural environment/wooded play areas).

**Table 13.4: Percentage of households who are very or fairly concerned of bullying by children in play areas by Urban Rural Classification and Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD)**

Percentages, 2016 data

Households containing children aged 6 to 12	Urban			Rural	Scotland
	20% Most Deprived	Rest of Urban	All Urban		
Playground	53	34	39	27	37
Park	49	37	40	28	38
Football or other games pitch	49	37	40	27	38
Field or other open space	44	37	39	23	35
School playground	46	36	38	16	35
Natural environment / wooded	54	42	45	25	40
Street/Road	37	24	28	15	26
<i>Base (minimum)</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>350</i>	<i>450</i>	<i>120</i>	<i>570</i>

Columns may add to more than 100 per cent since multiple responses were allowed.

There is a similar level of concern amongst householders of children being harmed by adults whilst playing in play areas (Table 13.5). The greatest concern of safety nationally is related to those playing within a natural environment or wooded area (48 per cent). Households in urban areas are much more likely to be concerned about the safety of children being harmed by adults across all play areas than households in rural areas (ranging from 10 to 23 percentage points lower in rural areas, but there was no significant difference for Football or other games pitch).

**Table 13.5: Percentage of households who are very or fairly concerned of children being harmed by adults in play areas by Urban Rural Classification and Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD)**

Percentages, 2016 data

Households containing children aged 6 to 12	Urban			Rural	Scotland
	20% Most Deprived	Rest of Urban	All Urban		
Playground	53	32	37	27	36
Park	52	35	40	24	37
Football or other games pitch	47	35	38	28	36
Field or other open space	47	39	41	21	37
School playground	43	32	34	17	32
Natural environment / wooded	61	52	54	31	48
Street/Road	37	27	30	17	28
<i>Base (minimum)</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>350</i>	<i>450</i>	<i>120</i>	<i>570</i>

Columns may add to more than 100 per cent since multiple responses were allowed.

Table 13.6 shows the average youngest age that households consider it would be safe for a child to play in each of the different play areas without supervision. Most would feel comfortable with children being aged around 9 or 10 years old to play without supervision at such play areas.

**Table 13.6: Youngest mean age at which it is considered it would be safe for a child to play without supervision by Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation and Urban Rural Classification (SIMD)**

Percentages, 2016 data

Households containing children aged 6 to 12	Urban			Rural	Scotland
	20% Most Deprived	Rest of Urban	All Urban		
Playground	10	10	10	9	10
Park	10	10	10	9	10
Football or other games pitch	10	10	10	9	10
Field or other open space	10	10	10	9	10
School playground	10	10	10	9	10
Natural environment / wooded	11	11	11	10	11
Street/Road	9	9	9	8	9
<i>Base (minimum)</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>350</i>	<i>450</i>	<i>110</i>	<i>570</i>

Mean age presented

## 13.3 Participation in Activities

- Taking part in a sports or sporting activity, whether played competitively or not, is the most common activity among young people.
- Young people in rural areas are more likely to take part in activities compared to those in urban areas.
- In the 20 per cent most deprived areas less young people take part in activities than in other urban areas.

Households with someone aged between 8 and 21 years old are asked a series of questions within the SHS on whether they take part in a series of activities regularly. A fuller description of the activities is provided in Annex 2: Glossary.

Table 13.7 shows that taking part in a sports or sporting activity, whether played competitively or not, is the most common activity among young people (53 per cent). Young people in rural areas are more likely to take part in activities (82 per cent) compared to those in urban areas (74 per cent). In the 20 per cent most deprived urban areas, two thirds of young people (68 per cent) take part in activities which is lower than the three quarters of young people (77 per cent) in other urban areas.

**Table 13.7: Activities young people aged 8 to 21 take part in by Urban Rural Classification and Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD)**

Percentages, 2016 data

Households containing anyone aged 8 to 21	Urban			Rural	Scotland
	20% Most Deprived	Rest of Urban	All Urban		
Music or drama activities	18	28	25	31	26
Other arts activities	7	8	8	8	8
Sports or sporting activities	44	55	52	54	53
Other outdoor activities	16	20	19	29	21
Other groups or clubs	16	21	20	28	21
Representing young people's views	2	3	3	5	3
Mentoring or peer education	3	4	4	6	4
None	32	23	26	18	24
<i>Base (minimum)</i>	<i>460</i>	<i>1,360</i>	<i>1,820</i>	<i>470</i>	<i>2,290</i>

Columns may add to more than 100 per cent since multiple responses were allowed.



## Conclusion

This chapter has summarised Scottish Household Survey findings on young people. The findings show that most young children have access to play areas; but there are differences in the availability of different types of play areas for different levels of deprivation within urban areas, and between urban and rural areas. The findings also show that the majority of households perceive that children are both safe in, and travelling to, most play areas; apart from natural environment or wooded areas. However, a slim majority of households in the 20 per cent most deprived urban areas don't think it is safe for children to travel alone to most play areas, and the percentage of households in this group that perceive that children are safe from harm is lower than the percentage of households from other urban areas and rural areas. The majority of young people take part in some form of activity, irrespective of the level of deprivation or between urban or rural areas.

# Annex 1: Using the Information in this Report

## How Data is Displayed in Tables

Tables are generally presented in the format 'dependent variable by independent variable' where the independent variable is being used to examine or explain variation in the dependent variable. Thus, a table titled 'housing tenure by household type' shows how housing tenures vary among different household types. Tables generally take three forms within the report; column percentages (the dependent variable is in the rows), row percentages (the dependent variable is in the columns) and cell percentages which may show agreement or selection of a statement with one or a number of statements.

All tables have a descriptive and numerical base showing the population or population sub-group examined in it. While all results have been calculated using weighted data, the bases shown provide the unweighted counts, which have been rounded to the nearest 10 to comply with statistical disclosure control principles and the Code of Practice for Official Statistics. It is therefore not possible to calculate how many respondents gave a certain answer based on the results and bases presented in the report.

## Reporting Conventions

In general, percentages in tables have been rounded to the nearest whole number. Zero values are shown as a dash (-), values greater than 0 per cent but less than 0.5 per cent are shown as 0 per cent and values of 0.5 per cent but less than 1 per cent are rounded up to 1 per cent. Columns or rows may not add to exactly 100 per cent because of rounding, where 'don't know/refused' answers are not shown<sup>84</sup> or where multiple responses to a question are possible.

In some tables, percentages have been removed and replaced with '\*'. This is where the base on which percentages would be calculated is less than 50 and this data is judged to be insufficiently robust for publication.

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<sup>84</sup> Missing responses are not included within the analysis. Similarly 'don't know/refused' options are not shown as a separate category in some tables.

## Variations in Base Size for Totals

As the questionnaire is administered using computer assisted personal interviewing (CAPI), item non-response is kept to a minimum. Bases do fluctuate slightly due to small amounts of missing information (where, for example, the age or gender of household members has been refused and where derived variables such as household type use this information).

Some questions are asked of a reduced sample and the bases are correspondingly lower. From January 2012, the redesigned survey asked questions typically of full or one-third sample allocation. This concept of streaming was first introduced to the SHS in 2007, when some questions were streamed or changed in the course of the year and again the base size is lower. Further changes to streaming have been made in subsequent years.

Chapter 2 gives details of frequencies and bases for the main dependent variables.

## Statistical Significance

All proportions produced in a survey have a degree of error associated with them because they are generated from a sample survey of the population rather than a survey of the entire population (e.g. Census). Any proportion measured in the survey has an associated confidence interval (within which the 'true' proportion of the whole population is likely to lie), usually expressed as  $\pm x$  per cent. As a general rule of thumb, the larger the sample size for a given question, the smaller the confidence interval around that result will be (thus making it easier to detect real change year-on-year and differences between sub-groups).

It is possible with any survey that the sample achieved produces estimates that are outside this range. If the survey were to be run multiple times on the same population in the same year (i.e. under repeated sampling), the number of times out of a 100 surveys that the result achieved would be expected to lie within the confidence interval is also quoted; conventionally the level set is 95 out of 100, or 95 per cent. Technically, all results should be quoted in this way however, it is less cumbersome to simply report the percentage as a single percentage, the convention adopted in this report.

Where sample sizes are small or comparisons are made between sub-groups of the sample, the sampling error needs to be taken into account. There are formulae to calculate whether differences are statistically significant (i.e. they are unlikely to have occurred by chance) and Annex 3 provides a simple way to calculate whether differences are significant. Annex 3 also provides further explanation on statistical significance and on how confidence intervals can be interpreted. The local authority tables, published

alongside this report, incorporate a tool which highlights cells that are significantly different from the comparator figure - the default setting is to compare a local authority with national level data.

## Annex 2: Glossary

This Annex includes a list of terms used within the report. Definitions for those terms and, in some cases, further explanation of the term are provided.

### Current Economic Situation

The household respondent is asked to select which of the following categories best describes the current situation of each member of the household:

- Self-employed
- Employed full-time
- Employed part-time
- Looking after the home or family
- Permanently retired from work
- Unemployed and seeking work
- At school
- In further/higher education
- Government work or training scheme
- Permanently sick or disabled
- Unable to work because of short-term illness or injury
- Pre-school/not yet at school
- Other

SHS data on the economic situation of members of the household reflects the view of the respondent to the 'household' part of the interview, and so may not conform to official definitions of employment and unemployment, for example. The SHS cannot provide estimates of unemployment that are comparable to official statistics of unemployment<sup>85</sup>. Therefore, the SHS cannot be used as a source of unemployment rates or average earnings. Please see the Scottish Government Statistics website<sup>86</sup> for details of Scottish Government contacts who deal with unemployment rates and average earnings statistics through the Labour Market topic.

### Economic Activity, Qualifications and Training

The SHS is not directly comparable with the Labour Force Survey (LFS) which is the official source of employment, qualifications and training data in the UK. Compared with

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<sup>85</sup> For further information, please see the SHS Methodology and Fieldwork Outcomes reports: [www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/16002/PublicationMethodology](http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/16002/PublicationMethodology)

<sup>86</sup> [www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics](http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics)

the LFS, the SHS under-estimates the level of employment and over-estimates both unemployment and economic inactivity. This is due to the fact that current economic situation in the SHS is asked in a single question whereas in the LFS it is determined by a selection of other questions.

The SHS also underestimates the number of people with a qualification of some sort, as the LFS covers all possible levels of qualifications. The LFS is the preferred source of estimates on employment, qualifications and training as it uses internationally agreed definitions and is used for international comparisons including OECD indicators.

It should be noted that SHS estimates of 16-64 year olds adults historically were based on the traditional 16-64 year olds definition (males aged 16-64, females aged 16-59). From 2011, these were replaced by estimates based on the population aged 16-64 to account for legislative changes in the state retirement age. Specifically the current female state pension age is changing dynamically to match the male state pension age. The Office for National Statistics (ONS) no longer publish rates using a 16-64 year olds definition, instead reports rates for all people aged 16 to 64.

## Highest Level of Qualification

The highest level of qualification has been classified as follows:

- **O Grade, Standard Grade or equivalent** – Includes: School leaving certificate, NQ unit, O Grade, Standard Grade, GCSE, GCE O level, CSE, NQ Access 3 Cluster, Intermediate 1, Intermediate 2, Senior Certificate, GNVQ/ GSVQ Foundation or Intermediate, SVQ Level 1, SVQ Level 2, SCOTVEC/National Certificate Module, City and Guilds Craft, RSA Diploma or equivalent.
- **Higher, A Level or equivalent** – Includes: Higher Grade, Advanced Higher, CSYS, A Level, AS Level, Advanced Senior Certificate. GNVQ/ GSVQ Advanced, SVQ Level 3, ONC, OND, SCOTVEC National Diploma, City and Guilds Advanced Craft, RSA Advanced Diploma or equivalent.
- **HNC/ HND or equivalent** – Includes: HNC, HND, SVQ Level 4, RSA Higher Diploma or equivalent.
- **Degree, Professional qualification** – Includes: First degree, Higher degree, SVQ Level 5, Professional qualifications e.g. teaching, accountancy.
- Other qualification.
- No qualifications.
- Qualifications not known.

Please see the Scottish Government Statistics website<sup>87</sup> for details of Scottish Government contacts who deal with economic activity, qualifications and training statistics.

## Household Economic Situation

Household economic situation refers to economic situation of the highest income householder (HIH) and/or their spouse or partner. The variable is derived from the question that asks about the economic activity of members of the household. Household economic situation variable includes the following categories:

- Single working adult
- Non-working single
- Working couple
- Couple, one works
- Couple, neither work

As mentioned previously (see Current Economic Situation), SHS data on the economic situation of the household reflects the view of the respondent to the 'household' part of the interview, and so may not conform to official definitions of employment and unemployment, for example.

## Household Income

The term net annual household income refers to income (i.e. after taxation and other deductions) from employment, benefits and other sources that is brought into the household by the highest income householder and/or their spouse or partner. This includes any contribution to household finances made by other household members (e.g. dig money).

The definition is not the same as that used by other Government surveys such as the Family Resources Survey. These measure the income of all household members. Income data from the SHS should not, therefore, be compared with other sources without careful consideration of the methods used in compiling the data<sup>88</sup>. The SHS is not designed to provide reliable statistics on average income or average earnings. The current income information collected through the SHS is only intended to provide estimates by income band. The SHS asks for income only for use as a 'background' variable when analysing

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<sup>87</sup> [www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics](http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics)

<sup>88</sup> More information on household income can be found in Raab, G., MacDonald, C., and Macintyre, C. (2004) Comparison of Income Data between Surveys of Scottish Households: Research report for Communities Scotland. Further information on this report is available on the SHS website.

other topics, or for selecting the data for particular sub-groups of the population (such as the low paid) for further analysis<sup>89</sup>.

## Housing Lists

Housing lists are held by social landlords, local authorities and housing associations, individually or jointly as Common Housing Registers. They can include people who are already in social housing but are seeking a move and in some cases applicants will be on more than one landlord's list. Social landlords are responsible for allocating their housing, in line with their allocation policies and the legislative framework.

Calculating an estimate of the number of households on a housing list makes an assumption that the random adult response is valid for the entire household. This may however lead to a slight under-estimate because there may be a small number of multi-adult households where one adult is on a housing list but the remaining adults are not. In these cases, the SHS estimate will be influenced by which household member is selected as the random adult. In some cases, the household member on a housing list will be picked up, but in others cases they will not. This means that some households containing a household member who is on a housing list will not be identified in the survey. An example would be where a young adult is living with their parents but now wishes to form their own household separately from the existing household.

The weighting strategy for households is based on the 10,470 households responding to the household interview, rather than the 9,642 households with a complete random adult interview (providing responses to the housing lists question). This is likely to introduce a small level of non-response bias, because those households which do not complete a random adult interview are likely to be systematically different from those that do.

There is also the possibility, as with the majority of social survey questions, for a respondent to give an incorrect answer. In this case, a respondent may report being on a housing list when they are not as a result of local authorities refreshing lists and removing people from whom they have not had any contact. A respondent may report not being on a housing list when in fact they are, because some local authorities do not refresh lists and so somebody who no longer wishes to be on a housing list may still be on one that they signed up to many years previously.

Further to this, some households may not consider themselves to be on a housing list even though they are actively seeking social housing through other routes such as choice based lettings. Changes have been made to the 2017 SHS questions on housing lists with

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<sup>89</sup> For further information, please see the SHS Methodology and Fieldwork Outcomes reports: [www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/16002/PublicationMethodology](http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/16002/PublicationMethodology)



the aim to better capture households who are using choice based lettings when seeking social housing.

A final point on the use of the Scottish Household Survey to estimate the number of households or adults on a housing list is that it is a sample of the general population living in private residences in Scotland, and therefore it may not pick up some people or households who are on a housing list but who are living in other types of accommodation such as hostels or bed and breakfast accommodation.

## Household Members

For the purposes of the SHS, a **household** is defined as one person, or a group of people, living in accommodation as their only or main residence and either sharing at least one meal a day or sharing the living accommodation.

The respondent for the first part of the interview must be the household reference person, a person in whose name the accommodation is owned or rented or who is otherwise responsible for the accommodation.

In households that have joint householders, the **household reference person** is defined as the **highest income householder (HIH)**, that is, the person with the highest income. If householders have exactly the same income, the older is taken as the household reference person.

**Adult** is used to refer to those aged 16 and over (except where otherwise stated).  
**Children** are aged under 16 years.

References to **16-64 year olds** population throughout the publication refer to the 16-64 year olds definition as discussed in the economic activity, qualifications and training section in the Annex 2: Glossary, i.e. those aged 16 to 64.

In each household, one of the eligible adult members of the household is randomly selected to take part in the second half of the interview. Eligible adults are adult household members who have not been living apart from the household continuously for the previous six months. This might include adults working away from home, in the Armed Forces or in prison. The person selected is referred to as the **random adult**. The household respondent is automatically the random adult in one-adult households and may be the same as the household respondent in households with more than one adult.

## Household Type

The SHS uses eight household types defined as follows:

- A **single adult** household – contains one adult of 16-64 year olds and no children.
- A **single parent** household – contains one adult of any age and one or more children.
- A **single older** household - contains one adult of pensionable age and no children. Pensionable age is 65 for both women and men.
- A **small family** household – contains two adults of any age and one or two children.
- An **older smaller** household – contains one adult of 16-64 year olds and one of pensionable age and no children, or two adults of pensionable age and no children.
- A **large adult** household – contains three or more adults and no children.
- A **small adult** household – contains two adults of 16-64 year olds and no children.
- A **large family** household – contains two adults of any age and three or more children, or three or more adults of any age and one or more children.

## Housing Tenure

The SHS collects information on the ways in which households occupy their accommodation and from which organisation or individual their accommodation is rented, where this is the case. These are combined into a housing tenure variable, which is shown in the annual report broken down into four categories, namely:

- **Owner occupied** – Includes households who own outright and those buying with a mortgage or loan.
- **Social rented** sector – Includes households renting from a local authority and all households renting from a Housing Association or Co-operative.
- **Private rented** sector – Includes households renting from an individual private landlord.
- **Other** tenure – Includes any other category of tenure such as living rent free.

## Income Imputation

While in general the level of missing data throughout the SHS is minimal, one section of the questionnaire is substantially affected by missing information. In the section on household income, approximately one-in-three of respondents either refuse to answer the questions or are unable to provide information that is sufficiently reliable to report, for example, because there are no details of the level of income received for one or more components of their income.

Statistical analysis of data gathered in the survey on the characteristics of households where income is available, allows income data to be imputed for households where income data is missing. Income imputation is a process whereby complete information given by 'similar' households is used for respondents that have missing income information. Income is collected as a variety of different components, such as income from employment, benefits and other sources, which are summed to create total net household income. Income was imputed for each component using either Hot Deck imputation, where the sample is divided into subgroups based on relevant characteristics, or Predictive Mean, where a statistical model is constructed and the value is predicted using this model. After imputation, income data is unavailable for between 3 to 4 per cent of households. Please contact the SHS project team if you would like further information on the imputation process.

A more advanced income imputation project was undertaken by the Scottish Government Income and Poverty Statistics team in 2010 to impute income for adults in multi-adult households for which the SHS does not capture any information. Estimates from this project were released through the “Relative Poverty Across Scottish Local Authorities” publication in August 2010<sup>90</sup> as data being developed. These estimates were subsequently used in a project commissioned by the Improvement Service to develop improved measures of local incomes and poverty in Scotland at a small level published in March 2013<sup>91</sup>.

## Physical or Mental Health Problems and Disabilities

### Random Adult

A two part question was introduced to replace the old question on long-standing illnesses. The new question asked, of the random adult respondent, to establish the prevalence of physical or mental health conditions among the adult population and the extent to which

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<sup>90</sup> [www.gov.scot/Publications/2010/08/26155956](http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2010/08/26155956)

<sup>91</sup> [www.improvementservice.org.uk/income-modelling-project.html](http://www.improvementservice.org.uk/income-modelling-project.html)

such conditions reduce ability to carry out day-to-day activities<sup>92</sup>. The respondent's own assessment of what constitutes a physical or mental condition or illness was used rather than a medical assessment.

The current question was introduced in October 2012 and is split into two parts: 'Do you have a physical or mental condition or illness lasting or expected to last 12 months or more?' and if so then 'Does your condition or illness reduce your ability to carry-out day-to-day activities?'

It should be noted that these changes in the question mean the 2013 data is not directly comparable to reports relating to the period 1999-2012.

## Household

In the household questionnaire, the household representative is asked whether anyone in the household (including children) has any physical or mental health condition or illness lasting or expected to last for twelve months or more. The current question was introduced in 2014 and has been designed to align it with the question asked of the random adult. The response options for this question are 'Yes', 'No', 'Don't know', and 'Refused'.

Previously, the question had asked the household representative whether anyone in the household had any long-standing illness, health problem or disability that limits daily activity. The response options were 'Disability', 'Long-term illness', 'Both', 'Neither' and 'Refused'.

As noted in Chapter 2, this figure is likely to under represent the true value as the household representative may not know about the health conditions of other household members.

The above changes in the question mean that the 2014 results are not directly comparable with previous years' data.

## Marital Status

The random adult is asked to confirm their legal marital status using the following categories:

- Single – never married or never formed a legally recognised same sex civil partnership
- Married and living with husband/wife
- A civil partner in a legally recognised same sex civil partnership

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<sup>92</sup> For further details, please see questions RG5A and RG5B in the 2013 SHS questionnaire and RG5 in previous years: [www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/16002/PublicationQuestionnaire](http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/16002/PublicationQuestionnaire)

- Married and separated from husband/wife
- In a legally recognised same sex civil partnership and separated from your civil partner
- Divorced
- Formerly a civil partner – the same sex civil partnership now legally dissolved
- Widowed
- A surviving same sex civil partner – your partner having since died

It should be noted that this question was changed from October 2012 to remove references to “single” and to simplify the wording of the other status types. Whilst two different variables have been created in the datasets to reflect the different questions being asked, a combined derived variable was produced.

Where these have been used in the report to analyse results, these categories have been combined as:

- Single/never been married
- Cohabiting/living together
- Married/civil partnership
- Separated/divorced/dissolved civil partnership
- Widowed/bereaved civil partner

## **Participation, Attendance and Engagement in Sports and Physical Activity**

Participation in “any sporting activity” means that people do at least one activity from the available list asked of respondents in the survey (rather than each and every sporting activity). The activities are listed as follows:

- Walking – at least 30 minutes for recreational purposes
- Swimming
- Football
- Cycling – at least 30 minutes for recreational, health, training or competition purposes
- Keep Fit / Aerobics
- Multigym use / Weight Training
- Golf
- Running / Jogging
- Snooker / Billiards / Pool
- Dancing
- Bowls

- Other (specified) – e.g. Angling, Badminton, Judo, Horse-riding, Skiing, Sailing, Yoga
- + Angling, bird-watching
- + Racket/ball sports
- + Field sports – shooting, archery
- + Water sports
- + Winter sports – curling, skating, skiing
- + Boxing, martial arts
- + Riding
- + Pilates, Yoga, Tai-Chi
- + Climbing, hillwalking
- None of these

Note, that activities prefixed above with a '+' indicate that these are backcoded following data collection based on the open text responses to the 'Other' category. This means that these activities will have been coded as 'Other' at point of collection but then moved out during the post-data processing to be assigned against the more detailed variables, and the number of responses within the 'Other' category thus lowered. The analysis presented in this report groups these additional activities back under the 'Other' category though.

## Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation

The Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD)<sup>93</sup> is a relative measure of deprivation across small areas in Scotland. It is the Scottish Government's official tool for identifying those places in Scotland suffering from multiple deprivation. It incorporates several different aspects of deprivation, combining them into a single index.

SIMD16 has been used throughout this report. It divides Scotland into 6,976 small areas, called data zones, each containing around 350 households. The Index provides a relative ranking for each data zone, from 1 (most deprived) to 6,976 (least deprived). By identifying small areas where there are concentrations of multiple deprivation, SIMD can be used to target policies and resources at the places with greatest need.

SIMD16 uses seven domains to measure the multiple aspects of deprivation: income; employment; health; education; skills and training; housing; geographic access to services; and crime. In the tables, the data zones are grouped as quintiles (from the 20 per cent

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<sup>93</sup> [www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/SIMD](http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/SIMD)

most to the 20 per cent least deprived data zones)<sup>94</sup>. Occasionally deciles (from the 10 per cent most deprived data zones to 10 per cent least deprived)<sup>95</sup> are used.

There are also time series charts in the annual report, comparing certain characteristics over time using SIMD. SIMD was updated in 2006, 2009, 2012 and, most recently, 2016. The time series charts use the most relevant version of SIMD for each year; SIMD 2006 for 2006 – 2008 data, SIMD 2009 for 2009 – 2011 data, SIMD 2012 for 2012 – 2015 data, and SIMD16 for 2016 data. Therefore, upon each update, some areas will shift away from being the most deprived. This creates “breaks” in the data which are represented by the dotted lines in the figures.

## A2 1: Number of households by Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation 2016

2016 data, Frequency rounded to base 10

	Unweighted Frequency	Weighted Frequency	Weighted Per cent
1 - 10% most deprived	992	1,123	10.7
2	1,062	1,156	11.0
3	1,029	1,057	10.1
4	1,111	1,110	10.6
5	1,178	1,095	10.5
6	1,069	989	9.5
7	1,184	1,029	9.8
8	966	915	8.7
9	958	1,007	9.6
10 - 10% least deprived	921	989	9.4
<i>Total</i>	<i>10,470</i>	<i>10,470</i>	<i>100</i>

The classificatory variable used in the analysis contained in the report is based on the 2016 version of SIMD.

## Self-identified Sexual Orientation

The question on self-identified sexual orientation, presented in Chapter 2, was introduced to the SHS in 2011 to provide statistics to underpin the equality monitoring responsibilities of public sector organisations and to assess the disadvantage or relative discrimination experienced by the lesbian, gay and bisexual population. Despite this positive step in collecting such information, it is felt that the figures are likely to under-report the percentage of lesbian, gay or bisexual (LGB) people within society due to a number of reasons, including the following:

- Asking about sexual orientation/identity is a new development in national surveys and such questions can be seen as intrusive and personal.

<sup>94</sup> Numbered 1 (most deprived) to 5 (least deprived).

<sup>95</sup> Numbered 1 (most deprived) to 10 (least deprived).

- There is still significant prejudice and discrimination against LGB people in society. In a context where some LGB people will not have told friends and family about their sexual identity, there is a real question about whether LGB people generally would want to be open with an interviewer.
- The default option for being uncertain about one's sexual orientation may be to respond 'straight/heterosexual' rather than to say 'Don't know / not sure'.
- Particular LGB people are still less likely to be open where they belong to groups or communities where an LGB identity is less acceptable.

Despite the uncertainties of the data, it does make sense to collect statistics on sexual orientation to start to make this a more standard element within data collection. This does not mean that data will necessarily become reliable over the short term, but they may still be able to offer useful insights into the experience of some LGB people in particular areas of policy interest. The Scottish Government is looking at how it can improve its data collection on these issues going forward.

## Socio-economic Classification (NS-SEC)

National Statistics Socio-economic Classification (NS-SEC)<sup>96</sup> is an occupationally-based classification which, in line with all official statistics and surveys, is used in the SHS. The eight-fold analytic version of NS-SEC has been used.

Respondents' occupations and details of their employment status (whether an employer, self-employed or employee; whether a supervisor; number of employees at the workplace) have been used to create the following classifications:

- Higher managerial and professional occupations.
- Lower managerial and professional occupations.
- Intermediate occupations.
- Small employers and own account workers.
- Lower supervisory and technical occupations.
- Semi-routine occupations.
- Routine occupations.

## Urban Rural Classification

The Scottish Government six-fold urban/rural classification of Scotland is used throughout this report. This classification is based on settlement size and remoteness (measured by drive times) allowing more detailed geographical analysis to be conducted on a larger

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<sup>96</sup> More information on the definition of NS-SEC can be found at - [www.ons.gov.uk/ons/guide-method/classifications/current-standard-classifications/index.html](http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/guide-method/classifications/current-standard-classifications/index.html)



sample size. The classification being used in this report is the 2013-2014<sup>97</sup> version based on 2011 datazone codes<sup>98</sup>

The areas in which respondents live have been classified as follows:

- **Large urban areas** – settlements of over 125,000 people.
- **Other urban areas** – settlements of 10,000 to 124,999 people.
- **Accessible small towns** – settlements of between 3,000 and 9,999 people and within a 30 minute drive of a settlement of 10,000 or more.
- **Remote small towns** – settlements of between 3,000 and 9,999 people and with a drive time of over 30 minutes to a settlement of 10,000 or more.
- **Accessible rural** – settlements of less than 3,000 people and within 30 minute drive of a settlement of 10,000 or more.
- **Remote rural** – settlements of less than 3,000 people with a drive time of more than 30 minutes to a settlement of 10,000 or more.

Table A2 2 shows the percentage of households in each area type.

#### **A2 2: Number of households by Scottish Government 2013-2014 Urban Rural Classification**

2016 data, Frequency rounded to base 10

	Unweighted Frequency	Weighted Frequency	Weighted Per cent
Large urban areas	3,139	3,761	35.9
Other urban areas	3,563	3,640	34.8
Accessible small towns	1,001	938	9.0
Remote small towns	587	376	3.6
Accessible rural	1,148	1,140	10.9
Remote rural	1,032	615	5.9
<i>Total</i>	<i>10,470</i>	<i>10,470</i>	<i>100</i>

## Volunteering

This section of the questionnaire was revised for the 2006 survey in order to gather greater information on individuals' experience of volunteering and barriers that may prevent them from participation. Respondents were asked to give a 'yes' or 'no' response to a question on whether they had given up any time to help clubs, charities, campaigns or organisations in the last 12 months. This question was followed up by a question asked of those who said no to the first, which gave a list of types of groups and organisations and asked for which, if any, the respondent had undertaken any work or activities on a

<sup>97</sup> More information on the six-fold urban/rural classification of Scotland is available at - [www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/About/Methodology/UrbanRuralClassification](http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/About/Methodology/UrbanRuralClassification)

<sup>98</sup> Previous SHS reports were based on 2001 datazone codes

voluntary basis. The list of options was revised substantially in 2007. The third question asked if there were any other types of organisations not on the list for which respondents had given up their time. Respondents who did not answer 'yes' to the first question, or who answered 'none' to the first question but 'yes' to the second or third question were classed as having taken part in voluntary activities.

A series of follow-up questions are asked to determine the frequency and types of activities adults volunteer within, if it is clear from their responses to the first three questions that they have indeed volunteered within the previous 12 months. Similarly, for those that haven't volunteered a follow-up question is asked on what might encourage them to volunteer in the future.

In 2012, it was noticed that in some cases during post-data processing, respondents that have been subsequently identified as volunteers from their answers to the second and third questions, may not have been asked the follow up questions during the actual interview. As such the number of people asked the follow-up questions might not have matched the total number of volunteers identified in the final dataset.

In 2014, the routing of the questionnaire was changed so that the maximum number of suitable people were asked the follow up questions. This means that, although it will only affect a small proportion of the sample, the 2014 results to the follow up volunteering questions are not directly comparable with previous years.

## **Participation, Attendance and Engagement at Cultural Events**

Cultural engagement is defined as those adults who have either participated in a cultural activity or who have attended at least one type of cultural place in the previous 12 months.

A number of changes were made to the questions in 2012. The ordering of questions changed from asking about "attendance" then "participation", in 2011 for example, to asking about "participation" first from January 2012. The types of activities or events were also reworded (e.g. 'Dance' became 'Dance – e.g. ceilidh, salsa, Highland dancing, ballet') as well as switching the order of the activities and events also. More detailed information on the changes can be found in the SHS 2011 and 2012 Questionnaire publications.

Attendance at "a cultural event or place of culture" can cover any one of the following:

- Cinema
- Library – Includes: mobile and online
- Classical music performance or opera
- Live music event – e.g. traditional music, rock concert, jazz event (not opera or classical music performance)
- Theatre – e.g. pantomime / musical / play

- Dance show / event – e.g. ballet
- Historic place – e.g. castle, stately home and grounds, battle or archaeological site
- Museum
- Gallery
- Exhibition – Includes: art, photography and crafts
- Street arts – e.g. musical performances or art in parks, streets or shopping centre
- Culturally specific festival (e.g. mela /Feis/ local Gala days)
- Book festival or reading group
- Archive or records office – e.g. Scotland's Family History Peoples Centre
- None

Participation in "any cultural activity" means that people do at least one activity from the available list asked of respondents in the survey (rather than each and every cultural activity). The activities are listed as follows:

- Read for pleasure – not newspapers, magazines or comics
- Dance – e.g. ceilidh, salsa, Highland dancing, ballet
- Played a musical instrument or written music
- Took part in a play / sang in a choir or other performance – not karaoke
- Painting, drawing, printmaking or sculpture
- Photography / making films or videos as an artistic activity – not family or holiday 'snaps'
- Used a computer / social media to produce creative work of any kind
- Crafts such as knitting, wood, pottery, etc.
- Creative writing - stories, books, plays or poetry
- Other cultural activity
- None

## Youth Activities

The Scottish Government is interested in the extent to which young adults and children are involved in a range of activities. Those households for which there is someone aged between 8 and 21 are asked a series of questions within the SHS on whether they take part in a series of activities regularly. These activities are:

- *Any music or drama activities* such as playing in a band or a theatre group;
- *Any other arts activities* such as a photography or art club including classes;
- *Any sports or sporting activity* whether played competitively or not;
- *Any other outdoor activities* such as walking, angling, bird-watching, etc.;

- *Any other groups or clubs* such as a youth club or youth group, scouts, chess club, bridge club, etc.;
- *Representing young people's views* or involvement in youth politics (e.g. Youth Forum or Dialogue Youth);
- Mentoring or peer education; and,
- None

# Annex 3: Confidence Intervals and Statistical Significance

## The Representativeness of the Scottish Household Survey

Although the Scottish Household Survey (SHS) sample is chosen at random, the people who take part in the survey will not necessarily be a representative cross-section of the population. Like all sample surveys, the results of the SHS are estimates for the whole population and these results might vary from the true values in the population for three main reasons:

1. The sample frame does not completely cover the population because accommodation in hospitals, prisons, military bases, larger student halls etc. are excluded from the sampling frame. The SHS provides a sample of private households rather than all households. The effect of this on the representativeness of the data is not known.
2. Some people refuse to take part in the survey and some cannot be contacted by interviewers. If these people are systematically different from the people who are interviewed, this represents a potential source of bias in the data. Comparison of the SHS data with other sources suggests that for the survey as a whole, any bias due to non-response is not significant<sup>99</sup>.
3. Samples always have some natural variability because of the random selection of households and people within households. In some areas where the sample is clustered, the selection of sampling points adds to this variability.

Each of these sources of variability becomes much more important when small sub-samples of the population are examined. For example, a sub-sample with only 100 households might have had very different results if the sampling had, by chance, selected four or five more households with children, rather than households including one or two adults of pensionable age and no younger adults.

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<sup>99</sup> For further information, please see the SHS Methodology and Fieldwork Outcomes reports - [www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/16002/PublicationMethodology](http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/16002/PublicationMethodology)

## Confidence Intervals

The likely extent of sampling variability can be quantified by calculating the 'standard error' associated with an estimate produced from a random sample. Statistical sampling theory states that, on average:

- Only about one sample in three (33 per cent) would produce an estimate that differed from the (unknown) true value by more than one standard error;
- Only about one sample in twenty (5 per cent) would produce an estimate that differed from the true value by more than two standard errors;
- Only about one sample in 400 (0.25 per cent) would produce an estimate that differed from the true value by more than three standard errors.
  - By convention, the '95 per cent confidence interval' is defined as the estimate plus or minus about twice the standard error because there is only a 5 per cent chance (on average) that a sample would produce an estimate that differs from the true value of that quantity by more than this amount.

The standard error of the estimate of a percentage depends upon several things:

- The value of the percentage itself;
- The size of the sample (or sub-sample) from which it was calculated (i.e. the number of sample cases corresponding to 100 per cent per cent);
- The sampling fraction (i.e. the fraction of the relevant population that is included in the sample); and
- The 'design effect' associated with the way in which the sample was selected (for example, a clustered random sample would be expected to have larger standard errors than a simple random sample of the same size).

Figure A3 1 at the end of this Annex shows the 95 per cent confidence limits for a range of estimates calculated for a range of sample sizes, incorporating a design factor of 1.15<sup>100</sup> to account for the complex survey design. To estimate the potential variability for an estimate for the survey you should read along the row with the value closest to the estimate until you reach the column for the value closest to the sub-sample. This gives a value which, when added and subtracted from the estimate, gives the range (the 95 per cent confidence interval) within which the true value is likely to lie. Where the exact value is not given in the table, we recommend using the closest value in the table. Otherwise, you may also derive more precise estimates through using standard formulas for confidence intervals from survey estimates, incorporating a design factor of 1.15.

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<sup>100</sup> The design factor is calculated as an overall average across a number of variables, and should not be taken as a 'typical' value across all variables. For further information, please see the SHS Methodology and Fieldwork Outcomes reports - [www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/16002/PublicationMethodology](http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/16002/PublicationMethodology)

For example, if the survey estimates that 18.0 per cent of households in Scotland are 'single adult' households and this has a confidence interval of  $\pm 0.9$  per cent, it means that, we could be 95 per cent confident that the true value for the population lies between 17.1 per cent and 18.9 per cent.

However, smaller sample sizes have wider confidence intervals. So, for example, looking at household type might show that in, say, Edinburgh, 28.0 per cent of households are 'single adult' households. However, if there were 780 households in Edinburgh interviewed, this estimate would have a 95 per cent confidence interval of approximately  $\pm 3.7$  per cent. This suggests that the true value lies between 24.3 per cent and 31.7 per cent. Clearly, the estimate for any single area is less reliable than the estimate for Scotland as a whole.

### Statistical Significance

Because the survey's estimates may be affected by sampling errors, apparent differences of a few percentage points between sub-samples may not reflect real differences in the population. It might be that the true values in the population are similar but the random selection of households for the survey has, by chance, produced a sample which gives a high estimate for one sub-sample and a low estimate for the other.

A difference between two areas is significant if it is so large that a difference of that size (or greater) is unlikely to have occurred purely by chance. Conventionally, significance is tested at the 5 per cent level, which means that a difference is considered significant if it would only have occurred once in 20 different samples. Testing significance involves comparing the difference between the two samples with the 95 per cent confidence limits for each of the two estimates.

For example, suppose the survey estimates that there are 14 per cent 'single adult households' in Stirling ( $\pm 4.1$  per cent), 10 per cent in Aberdeenshire ( $\pm 1.7$  per cent), 15 per cent in Fife ( $\pm 2.0$  per cent), and 24 per cent in Edinburgh ( $\pm 2.5$  per cent). Assuming that the estimates' values are 'exact' (i.e. that the figure underlying 10 per cent is 10.0 per cent), we can say the following:

- The difference between Stirling and Fife is not significant because the difference between the two (1 per cent) is smaller than either of the confidence limits (at least  $\pm 2.0$  per cent). In general, if the difference is smaller than the larger of the two limits, it could have occurred by chance and is not significant;
- The difference between Stirling and Edinburgh is significant because the difference (10 per cent) is greater than the sum of the limits ( $4.1 + 2.5 = 6.6$  per cent). In general, a difference that is greater than the sum of the limits is significant.

If the difference is greater than the larger of the two confidence limits, but less than the sum of the two limits, the difference might be significant, although the test is more complex.

Statistical sampling theory suggests that the absolute value of the difference between the two estimates  $|p_1 - p_2|$  is significant if it is greater than the square root of the sum of the squares of the limits for the two estimates, as explained by the following formula:

$$|p_1 - p_2| > \sqrt{[(CI_1)^2 + (CI_2)^2]}$$

The difference of 5 per cent between Aberdeenshire and Fife is greater than the largest confidence limit ( $\pm 4.1$  per cent) but it is less than the sum of the two limits (4.1 per cent + 2.0 per cent = 6.1 per cent) so it might be significant. In this case  $4.1^2 = 16.81$  and  $2.0^2 = 4$  giving a total of 20.81. The square root of this is 4.56, which means that the difference of 5 per cent is significant (although only just). Similar calculations will indicate whether or not other pairs of estimates differ significantly.

It should be noted that the estimates published in this report have been rounded, generally to the nearest whole number, and this can affect the apparent significance of some of the results. For example:

- If the estimate for Aberdeenshire was 10.49 per cent (rounded to 10 per cent) and the estimate for the Fife was 14.51 per cent (rounded to 15 per cent) the difference would be calculated as 4.02 per cent rather than 5 per cent. This is below the calculated 'significance threshold' value of 4.56 per cent;
- If, however, the estimate for the Lothians was 10.51 per cent (rounded to 11 per cent) and the estimate for Fife was 15.49 per cent (rounded to 15 per cent) the difference would be calculated as 4.98 per cent rather than 5 per cent. This is higher than 4.56 per cent.

For this reason, caution should be exercised where differences are on the margins of significance. In general, we would suggest that differences should only be considered significant where the difference is clearly beyond the threshold of significance.

### Statistical Significance and Representativeness

Calculations of confidence limits and statistical significance only take account of sampling variability. The survey's results could also be affected by non-contact/non-response bias. If the characteristics of the people who should have been in the survey but who could not be contacted, or who refused to take part, differ markedly from those of the people who were interviewed, there might be bias in the estimates. If that is the case, the SHS results will not be representative of the whole population.



Without knowing the true values (for the population as a whole) of some quantities, we cannot be sure about the extent of any such biases in the SHS. However, comparison of SHS results with information from other sources suggests that they are broadly representative of the overall Scottish population, and therefore that any non-contact or non-response biases are not large overall. However, such biases could, of course, be more significant for some sub-groups of the population or in certain council areas, particularly those that have the highest non-response rates.

In addition, because it is a survey of private households, the SHS does not cover some sections of the population - for example, it does not collect information about students in halls of residence. Please refer to the companion technical reports<sup>101</sup> for a comparison of SHS results with information from other sources.

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<sup>101</sup> For further information, please see the SHS Methodology and Fieldwork Outcomes reports: [www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/16002/PublicationMethodology](http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/16002/PublicationMethodology)

**Figure A3 1: Estimated sampling error associated with different proportions for different sample sizes**

	100	200	300	400	500	700	1,000	2,000	3,000	4,000	5,000	6,000	7,000	8,000	9,000	10,000	11,000
5%	4.9%	3.5%	2.8%	2.5%	2.2%	1.9%	1.6%	1.1%	0.9%	0.8%	0.7%	0.6%	0.6%	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%
10%	6.8%	4.8%	3.9%	3.4%	3.0%	2.6%	2.1%	1.5%	1.2%	1.1%	1.0%	0.9%	0.8%	0.8%	0.7%	0.7%	0.6%
15%	8.0%	5.7%	4.6%	4.0%	3.6%	3.0%	2.5%	1.8%	1.5%	1.3%	1.1%	1.0%	1.0%	0.9%	0.8%	0.8%	0.8%
20%	9.0%	6.4%	5.2%	4.5%	4.0%	3.4%	2.9%	2.0%	1.6%	1.4%	1.3%	1.2%	1.1%	1.0%	1.0%	0.9%	0.9%
25%	9.8%	6.9%	5.6%	4.9%	4.4%	3.7%	3.1%	2.2%	1.8%	1.5%	1.4%	1.3%	1.2%	1.1%	1.0%	1.0%	0.9%
30%	10.3%	7.3%	6.0%	5.2%	4.6%	3.9%	3.3%	2.3%	1.9%	1.6%	1.5%	1.3%	1.2%	1.2%	1.1%	1.0%	1.0%
35%	10.8%	7.6%	6.2%	5.4%	4.8%	4.1%	3.4%	2.4%	2.0%	1.7%	1.5%	1.4%	1.3%	1.2%	1.1%	1.1%	1.0%
40%	11.0%	7.8%	6.4%	5.5%	4.9%	4.2%	3.5%	2.5%	2.0%	1.7%	1.6%	1.4%	1.3%	1.2%	1.2%	1.1%	1.1%
45%	11.2%	7.9%	6.5%	5.6%	5.0%	4.2%	3.5%	2.5%	2.0%	1.8%	1.6%	1.4%	1.3%	1.3%	1.2%	1.1%	1.1%
50%	11.3%	8.0%	6.5%	5.6%	5.0%	4.3%	3.6%	2.5%	2.1%	1.8%	1.6%	1.5%	1.3%	1.3%	1.2%	1.1%	1.1%
55%	11.2%	7.9%	6.5%	5.6%	5.0%	4.2%	3.5%	2.5%	2.0%	1.8%	1.6%	1.4%	1.3%	1.3%	1.2%	1.1%	1.1%
60%	11.0%	7.8%	6.4%	5.5%	4.9%	4.2%	3.5%	2.5%	2.0%	1.7%	1.6%	1.4%	1.3%	1.2%	1.2%	1.1%	1.1%
65%	10.8%	7.6%	6.2%	5.4%	4.8%	4.1%	3.4%	2.4%	2.0%	1.7%	1.5%	1.4%	1.3%	1.2%	1.1%	1.1%	1.0%
70%	10.3%	7.3%	6.0%	5.2%	4.6%	3.9%	3.3%	2.3%	1.9%	1.6%	1.5%	1.3%	1.2%	1.2%	1.1%	1.0%	1.0%
75%	9.8%	6.9%	5.6%	4.9%	4.4%	3.7%	3.1%	2.2%	1.8%	1.5%	1.4%	1.3%	1.2%	1.1%	1.0%	1.0%	0.9%
80%	9.0%	6.4%	5.2%	4.5%	4.0%	3.4%	2.9%	2.0%	1.6%	1.4%	1.3%	1.2%	1.1%	1.0%	1.0%	0.9%	0.9%
85%	8.0%	5.7%	4.6%	4.0%	3.6%	3.0%	2.5%	1.8%	1.5%	1.3%	1.1%	1.0%	1.0%	0.9%	0.8%	0.8%	0.8%
90%	6.8%	4.8%	3.9%	3.4%	3.0%	2.6%	2.1%	1.5%	1.2%	1.1%	1.0%	0.9%	0.8%	0.8%	0.7%	0.7%	0.6%
95%	4.9%	3.5%	2.8%	2.5%	2.2%	1.9%	1.6%	1.1%	0.9%	0.8%	0.7%	0.6%	0.6%	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%

# A National Statistics Publication for Scotland

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The data collected for this statistical bulletin:

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The Scottish Government  
St Andrew's House  
Edinburgh  
EH1 3DG

ISBN: 978-1-78851-231-2 (web only)

Published by The Scottish Government, September 2017

Produced for The Scottish Government by APS Group Scotland, 21 Tennant Street, Edinburgh EH6 5NA  
PPDAS283686 (09/17)

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