

**Population Needs Assessment 2018**

**Foreword**

To follow

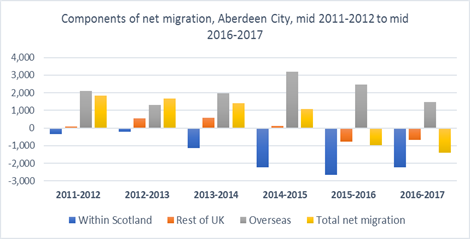
**Executive Summary**



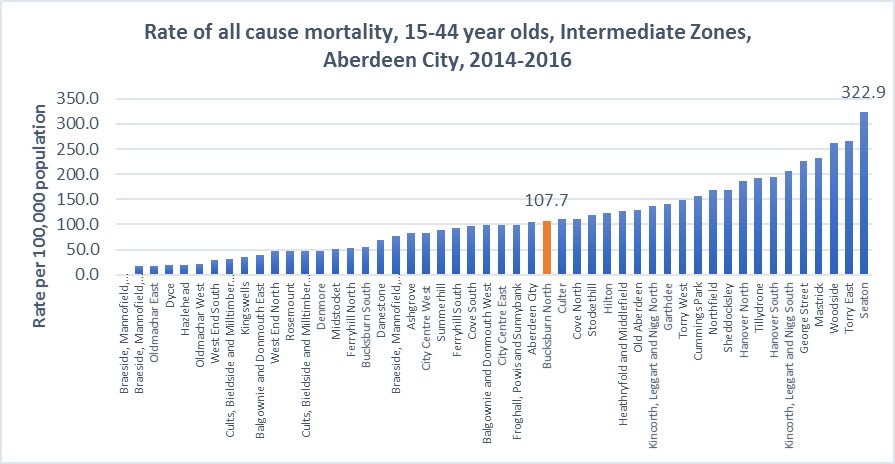
**OUR PEOPLE**

**Demography**

* **Population:** Following an 11-year period of year-on-year increases, the population of Aberdeen has decreased in each of the last two years and is currently at 228,800 – a drop of 1,550 since 2015. The decrease in population has been driven by a combination of increased net out-migration (mainly from Aberdeen City to other parts of Scotland) combined with reduced net in-migration from overseas, resulting in overall negative net migration to the City (-2,385 between 2015 and 2017). However, the effect of this was mitigated by positive natural change in the City (i.e. there were more births than deaths) of 794. The recent decreases in population notwithstanding, population levels are still relatively high with an overall increase of 5.3% (11,500 people) since 1997.

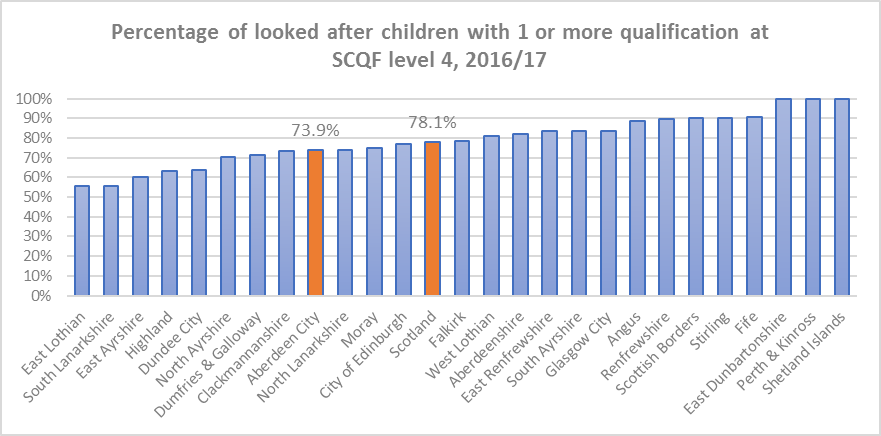


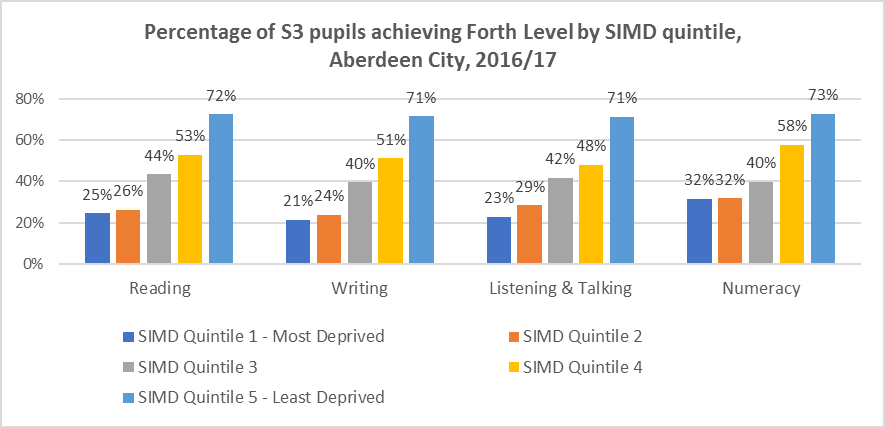
* **Age structure:** Compared to Scotland, Aberdeen has a relatively young population. The median age in Aberdeen is 36 years compared to 42 years for Scotland. Comparison of broad age structures shows that Aberdeen has a higher proportion of working age people (69% compared to 64%) and a lower proportion of under 16 year-olds (15% compared to 17%) and people of pensionable age (16% compared to 19%) than does Scotland. Within Aberdeen, however, the age structure varies considerably by neighbourhood.
* **Ethnicity:** The City is also ethnically diverse. Recent figures (2017) from National Records of Scotland estimate that 24% of the City’s population was born outside the UK (compared to 9.0% for Scotland). Of those, it is estimated that 60% are from EU countries and 40% from non-EU countries.
* **Population projections:** By 2026 the population of Aberdeen is projected to increase by 3.2% to 237,169, with the largest projected increase in the 75+ years age group (15.5%). In terms of size, however, the 25-44 year age group is projected to remain the largest age group and the 75+ years group the smallest. These estimates are based on the principle projection. Variant projections are also produced. Of these, the ‘low migration’ variant most closely matches our current situation. This projects that the population of Aberdeen City will fall by 0.3% between 2016 and 2026 giving an estimated population of 229,172.
* **Births:** In 2017 there were 2,402 births in Aberdeen City – a decrease of 4.7% from 2,512 births in 2016. Between 2016 and 2017 the birth rate fell from 8.5 to 8.3 per 1,000 population and is the second lowest (behind Edinburgh City) in Scotland. Compared to 30 years ago, more births are now to older mothers.
* **Deaths:** In 2017 there were 2,130 deaths in Aberdeen City – essentially unchanged from 2,129 in 2016. While the mortality rate remained unchanged at 10.6 per 1,000 population in Aberdeen City, in Scotland the rate increased between 2016 and 2017 from 10.5 to 10.7 per 1,000 people.



* **Early deaths (15-44 years, all causes):** In 2014-2016 the average rate for all-cause mortality in 15-44 year olds was 105.2 per 100,000 population (compared to 102.2 for Scotland). There was considerable variation within Aberdeen with rates ranging from a low of 0.0 in Braeside, Mannofield, Broomhill and Seafield South to 322.9 per 100,000 population in Seaton.
* **Estimated life expectancy:** In 2014-2016 estimated life expectancy at birth was 80.8 years for females and 76.4 years for males. Both male and female life expectancy have decreased in each of the last three years and are now lower than average life expectancy for Scotland. Consistent with longer-term trends in Scotland, both male and female life expectancy have increased since 2001-2003, with the rate of increase being higher in males than females, thus narrowing the gap between male and female life expectancy. However, the rates of increase in this period were lower in Aberdeen City than for all other local authorities.
* **Estimated life expectancy by deprivation**: Estimated life expectancy is strongly associated with deprivation. Males in the most deprived quintile (SIMD 2016) in Aberdeen have a life expectancy of 72.0 years compared to 81.0 years for those in the least deprived quintile – a difference of 9 years. Females in the most deprived quintile have a life expectancy of 77.1 years compared to 84.1 years for those in the least deprived quintile – a difference of 6.4 years.
* **Healthy life expectancy:** In Aberdeen healthy life expectancy is 65.0 years for males and 67.4 years for females, giving expected periods of ‘not healthy’ health of 11.9 years for males and 13.8 years for females. Therefore, while females have a higher life expectancy than males, they also experience a longer period of ‘not healthy’ health than males. As with life expectancy, healthy life expectancy is strongly associated with deprivation with the expected period of ‘not healthy’ health increasing with increasing deprivation.

**Children**

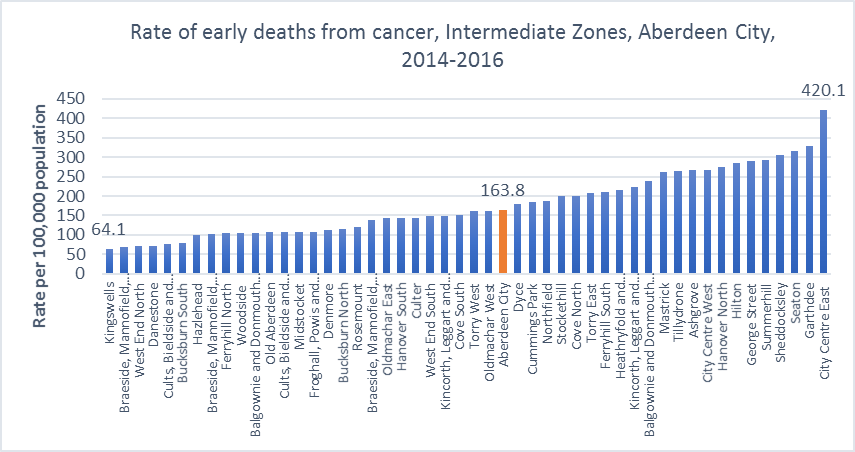
* **Child population:** In 2017 there were 34,495 children (0-15 years) in Aberdeen City – 15% of the City’s population. Both the number and proportion of children varies by neighbourhood. In terms of numbers, Old Aberdeen has the smallest child population (300) while Cults, Bieldside and Milltimber has the largest (2,149). Hanover has the smallest proportion of children (6.9% of the population) and Middlefield the largest (23.3%). 20% of households in Aberdeen City include children. Single parent families make up 20% of all households with children.
* **Looked after children (LAC)**: In July 2017 there were 590 looked after children in Aberdeen City – equivalent to 1.6% of the 0-17 years population. This is higher than the equivalent rate for Scotland of 1.4%. Almost half (49%) of LAC in Aberdeen live in foster care. While improved, the attainment outcomes for LAC are still lower than those for all pupils. In 2016/17 in Aberdeen City 74% of LAC left school with 1 or more qualification at SCQF level 4 (78% for Scotland). While attendance rates for LAC were the same in Aberdeen City and Scotland at 91%, the exclusion rate was higher in Aberdeen (244 compared to 169 per 1,000 pupils in Scotland).
* **Child protection**: In 2017 there were 81 children on the Child Protection Register in Aberdeen City. Despite fluctuations, overall the number of children on the Register in Aberdeen City has fallen over the past 10 years. Similarly, the rate (per 1,000 population aged 0-15 years) has dropped from 4.4 to 2.4 in the 10 years from 2007 to 2017. In 2016-2017, 4.9% of child protection registrations were re-registered within 18 months – lower than Scotland at 6.5%.
* **Child and adolescent mental health (CAMHS):** In 2017, a total of 1,212 CAMHS patients were seen in Grampian. Of these, 37.7% were seen within the target 18-week period, compared to 77.5% in Scotland. As at 31st December 2017, NHS Grampian employed 46.2 whole time equivalent clinical staff in child and adolescent mental health services per 100,000 population of 0 to 18 year-olds. This is the second lowest rate in Scotland.
* **Early learning and childcare:** In June 2017, 91% of all eligible children in Aberdeen City in their immediate pre-school year and 82% in their ante pre-school year received free or funded early learning and children places. In 2016/17, 26% of eligible two year-olds received free or funded places.
* **School and pupil numbers:** In September 2017 there were 22,733 primary school pupils and 8,667 secondary school pupils in Aberdeen City. 29.5% of primary pupils and 30.9% of secondary pupils in the City had additional support needs (compared to 23.5% and 29.3% respectively for Scotland). A fifth (20.3%) of school pupils in Aberdeen City do not have English as their main home language.
* **Attendance and exclusions:** In 2016/17 average attendance rates in Aberdeen City schools were similar to those for Scotland as a whole, although there was variation between schools. For primary schools in the City, attendance rates ranged from a low of 90.9% to a high of 97.5%. For secondary schools, attendance ranged from 86.9% to 95.4%. **Exclusions:** In 2016/17 there was a total of 1,072 exclusions from schools in the City. This is equivalent to a rate of 47.6 (crude rate per 1,000 population), which is significantly higher than the rate for Scotland of 26.9.



* **Attainment – Curriculum for Excellence**: In most subjects and stages, achievement of expected levels was lower in Aberdeen than Scotland. Achievement levels were also strongly associated with deprivation. In Aberdeen City, a smaller proportion of those in the most deprived 20% (SIMD 2016) achieved the expected level than those in the least deprived 20%. For example, only 21% of S3 pupils from the most deprived quintile achieved Forth Level writing compared to 71% of pupils from the least deprived quintile. The gap between most and least deprived widens as children progress through school.
* **Positive destinations/participation:** In2017 89.4% 16-19 year-olds in Aberdeen City were participating in education (70.3%), employment (17.3%) or training (1.8%). This is lower than the rate for Scotland as a whole (91.1%), but 0.5% higher than in 2016.
* **Free school meals:** In 2017, 52.6% of primary school pupils and 9% of secondary school pupils were registered for free school meals, although there was substantial variation between schools. Almost a quarter of primary pupils and a third of secondary pupils who were registered, did not take a FSM on the day of the survey.
* **Breast-feeding:** the proportion of babies exclusively breast-fed at 6-8 weeks is higher in Aberdeen (36.8%) than in Scotland (28.1%). However, rates of breast-feeding vary substantially by neighbourhood from a low of 16% to a high of 66.0%.
* **Teenage pregnancies:** The rate of teenage pregnancies has reduced significantly over the past 10 years but is still slightly higher in Aberdeen than Scotland (36.3 compared to 34.8 per 1,000 population). Rates varied across the City – ranging from 0 to 89.9 per 1,000 population.
* **Smoking:** In 2013, 5% of 15 year-olds and 1% of 13 year-olds reported being regular smokers – the lowest rates of all local authorities. A more recent (2015) report at Scotland level shows that the use of e-cigarettes has increased substantially with 91% of 15 year-old smokers (boys and girls) having used e-cigarettes and 24% of non-smokers having used them.
* **Child poverty:** In July-September 2017, an estimated 5,689 children (16.7%) in Aberdeen City were living in poverty (after housing costs). Levels of child poverty varied by ward, ranging from a low of 5.9% to a high of 28.0%.

**Adults**

* **Smoking:** It is estimated that over a fifth (21.1%) of adults in Aberdeen City smoke – lower than Scotland at 24.3%. Those in the most deprived areas are more likely than those in the least deprived areas to smoke (32% compared to 12%). In Aberdeen, 14.1% of women smoked during pregnancy (compared to 16.3% in Scotland). Rates of smoking during pregnancy ranged from a low of 0.0% to a high of 36.1%.
* **Alcohol:** An estimated 28.2% of males and 14.2% of females in Aberdeen have a potential drinking problem – higher than the respective rates for Scotland of 24.1% and 11.6%. In 2016/17 there were 1,520 alcohol-related hospital stays in Aberdeen City. While the rate of stays has decreased over the past 10 years, it is still higher than that for Scotland (705.4 compared to 680.8 per 100,000 population). In 2016/17 there were 45 alcohol-related deaths in the City. In contrast to recent trends, and trends for Scotland as a whole, the alcohol-related mortality rate increased between 2011-2015 and 2012-2016 and it is now at its highest level since 2005-2009 and higher than the average rate for Scotland (23.1 compared to 22.0 per 100,000 population). The alcohol-related mortality rate varies across the City ranging from 0.0 to 91.2 per 100,000 population.
* **Drugs:** It is estimated that 1.9% of Aberdeen’s population have a problem drug use. The proportion of females with problem drug use is significantly higher in Aberdeen (1.4%) than in Scotland (1.0%). The number of drug-related deaths has increased dramatically in the last few years, from 26 deaths in 2014 to 54 deaths in 2017. In the last 10 years the number of female drug-related deaths has increased more than male drug-related deaths, with 17.4% of drug-related deaths in 2007 being female compared to 33.3% in 2017. At 0.17 per 1,000 population, Aberdeen has the 4th highest average annual rate of drug deaths (after Dundee City at 0.25, Glasgow City at 0.24 and Inverclyde at 0.22) of all local authorities in Scotland.
* **Obesity:** It is estimated that 25% of the City’s adult population is obese (classified as a BMI of 30+). This is lower than the rate for Scotland of 28%.
* **Dementia**: in 2017 there were an estimated 3,455 people with dementia in Aberdeen City and dementia and Alzheimer’s disease accounted for 10.4% of all deaths (221 deaths of which 150 were female and 71 were male).
* **Prescriptions for anxiety/depression/psychosis:** In 2016/17 35,342 people in Aberdeen City were prescribed drugs for anxiety, depression or psychosis. This is equivalent to 15.4% of the population – significantly lower than the proportion for Scotland of 18.5%. Consistent with trends in Scotland, the proportion of people receiving prescriptions for these conditions has increased significantly in recent years, from 12.5% in 2009/10 to 15.4% in 2016/17. The proportion of people receiving drugs for anxiety, depression or psychosis varied by Intermediate Zone, ranging from a low of 9.3% to a high of 22.0%.
* **Deaths from suicide:** Between 2012 and 2016 there were an average of 31 deaths a year (5-year rolling average) in Aberdeen City which were classified as probable suicide. The rate of 13.9 per 100,000 population is the same as that for Scotland. Overall, the rate of deaths from suicide in Aberdeen City has decreased over the past 10 years (from 17.3 in 2002-2006), however there have been slight increases in the last two sets of figures.
* **Key diseases:** Cancer and circulatory diseases (such as coronary heart disease and stroke) together account for over half of all causes of death in Aberdeen City. In 2016, almost a third (31%) of male deaths and a quarter (25%) of female deaths were caused by cancer, and 27% of male deaths and 27% of female deaths were caused by circulatory diseases.
* **Cancer:** In 2013-2015 there was an average of 1,192 new cancer registrations per year in Aberdeen (3-year rolling average). The rate of new cancer registrations in Aberdeen increased sharply between 2012-2014 and 2013-2015, bringing the rate to its highest level for more than 10 years. Both the rate of new cancer registrations and the rate of early deaths from cancer vary across the City.

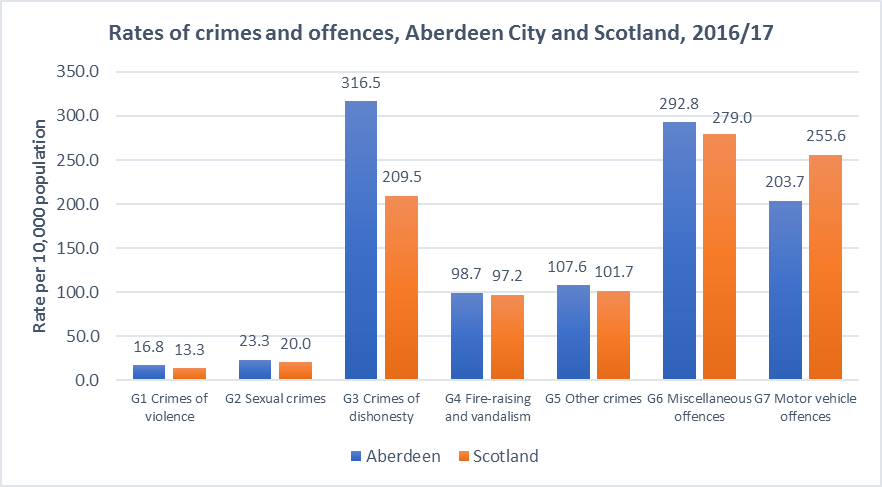


* **Coronary heart disease (CHD):** between 2014/15 and 2016/17 there were an average of 768 patients per year (3-year rolling average) hospitalised with CHD – equivalent to a rate of 423.1 per 100,000 population. This is significantly higher than the rate for Scotland of 386.9 per 100,000 population. Over the last 9 years, there have been year-on-year decreases in the rate of patients hospitalised with CHD in both Aberdeen and Scotland.
* **Emergency hospitalisations:** between 2014-2016 there were an average of 15,007 emergency hospitalisation per year (3-year rolling average) in Aberdeen City. Following a period of year-on-year decreases, the rate in Aberdeen City is now lower than the rate for Scotland (7,230.0 compared to 7605.9 per 100,000 population). In Aberdeen City the rate ranges from a low of 4,894.9 a high of 10,802.7 per 100,000 population.
* **Patients aged 65+ years with multiple emergency hospitalisations:** in contrast with the declining rates for patients with emergency hospitalisations, the rate of patients aged 65+ years with multiple emergency hospitalisations has increased in Aberdeen City, from 5,092.0 per 100,000 population in 2010-12 to 5,306.6 per 100,000 population in 2014-2016. This upward trend is consistent with trends in Scotland as a whole.
* **Social care:** In Aberdeen, in 2017 there were 470 people aged 65+ years with high levels of care need who were cared for at home (i.e. who received 10 and more hours of home care purchased or provided by the local authority). This equates to 26% of all people in this age group with high levels of care need – significantly lower than the Scottish average of 35.2%.

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**OUR PLACE**

* **Our place:** Aberdeen City covers an area of 186 square kilometres and has a population density of 1,232 persons per square kilometre. In terms of population size, it is the 8th largest local authority in Scotland. The City is made up of 37 neighbourhoods – 8 of which have been recognised as deprived (based on SIMD) and identified as Priority Localities.
* **Dwellings**: In 2017 there were 116,821 dwellings in Aberdeen City – an increase of 1,741 (1.5%) on the number of dwellings in 2016. Most (60%) are in Council Tax bands A-C, with 25% being in bands D-E and 15% being in bands G-H. The proportion of dwellings within each Council Tax band varies by neighbourhood. Over a third (37%) of dwellings have a single adult discount and 6% have ‘occupied exemptions’ (e.g. student households). Most (55%) dwellings are flats, 18% are terraced, 16% are semi-detached and 11% are detached. At the time of the 2011 Census, 57.3% of households in the City were owned, 24.2% were socially rented, 17.0% were privately rented and 1.4% were rent-free.
* **Social housing**: In Aberdeen City in 2017 the Local Authority’s housing stock totalled 22,041 dwellings – equivalent to 83% of all social housing stock in the City (with the Housing Association managing the remaining 17% of social housing in the City) and 18.9% of all dwellings in the City. Of the Council stock, three-quarters (75.8%) were flats and a quarter (24.2%) were houses. Since 1998, the total housing stock owned by the Council has decreased by 25.1% - from 29,442 in 1998. At 31st March 2017 there were a total 6,631 applicants on the housing register – a decrease of 209 from end March 2016. Of those on the register 4,360 (65.8%) were on the waiting list and 2,271 (34.2%) were on the transfer list.
* **Supported housing:** A range of supported housing is provided by the Local Authority including 1,939 sheltered housing dwellings, 110 very sheltered housing dwellings and 1,261 amenity housing dwellings.
* **Adult care homes:** In Aberdeen City in 2016 there were 64 adult care homes – 32 of which are run by the private sector and 32 of which are run by the voluntary sector. These provided a total of 1,789 registered places – 80% of which were in care homes for older people. The total number of residents was 1,627 (occupancy rate of 91%). Since 2006, the number of registered places in care homes has decreased by 14%.
* **Private rental sector**: Almost half (49%) of rental properties in Aberdeen City are two-bedroom flats with 1- bedroom flats being the next most common (36%). The average monthly rent for privately-rented properties in Aberdeen City has dropped from a high of £1,110 per month in Q4 of 2014 to a low of £736 in Q1 of 2018 – a drop of 33.7% in the period.
* **House sales:** In 2017, the average purchase price for a residential property in Aberdeen City was £200,983 – higher than the average price for Scotland of £172,779 and sixth highest of all local authorities. However, both the number of properties sold and the average price per property have decreased in the last two years. Since peaking at £220,786 in 2015, the average purchase price in Aberdeen City has decreased by 9%. There were 3,991 properties sold in 2017 – down almost 9% from the number of properties sold in 2015, but up slightly from the number sold in 2016.
* **New builds:** A total of 671 new houses were supplied in 2016-17 in Aberdeen City. Of these, 518 were private new build completions, 28 were Housing Association new builds and 125 were as a result of conversions.
* **Crimes and offences:** In Scotland, crimes and offences are classified into 7 groups. In 2017/18 the most common crimes recorded in Aberdeen City were Miscellaneous Offences (5,987) and Crimes of Dishonesty (5,859). With the exception of Motor Vehicle Offences, rates of crimes and offences (per 10,000 population) are higher in Aberdeen City than in Scotland.

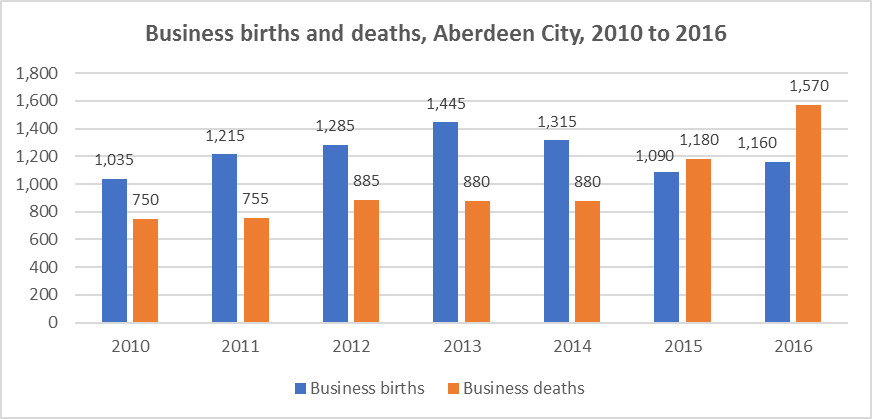


* **Accidental dwelling fires:** In 2016/17 there were 299 accidental dwelling fires in Aberdeen City. There were 2 fatal casualties and 21 non-fatal casualties. The rate of accidental dwelling fires is considerably higher in Aberdeen than in Scotland (259.8 per 100,000 dwellings compared to 191.3 in Scotland) and is the 6th highest out of all local authorities. Impairment due to alcohol/drugs was suspected to be a contributory factor to accidental dwelling fires in Aberdeen in 17% of cases – higher than the rate for Scotland of 14% and equal 6th highest of all local authorities.
* **Road safety:** In 2016 there were 175 road traffic accidents in Aberdeen City involving 210 casualties (of whom 10 were children). There were 3 fatalities and 63 serious injuries. While the total number of accidents where one or more people were injured has more than halved in the last 10 years (from 393 to 175), the number of people who were seriously injured has not – with serious injury occurring in almost a third of road traffic accidents (where one or more people were injured) in 2016 compared to 13% in 2006.
* **CO2 emissions:** In 2015 CO2 emissions in Aberdeen totalled 1,335.2 kt (down from 1,813.6 in 2005). Of this, 45% is attributed to industry and commerce, 30% to domestic use and 24% to transport. Between 2005 and 2015, per capita CO2 emissions (kt CO2) have fallen in both Aberdeen and Scotland. In 2015 the per capital levels were slightly lower in Aberdeen than in Scotland (5.8 compared to 6.1).
* **Flood risk:** 4 areas in Aberdeen has been identified as potentially vulnerable to flooding – Deeside, Peterculter, Bridge of Don, Denmore and Deeside. Total annual average damages = £17,370,000 (equivalent to 80% of annual average damages for the North East Local Plan area).
* **Waste and recycling:** In 2016, 96,123 tonnes of waste was generated in Aberdeen City. Most (60.4%) went to landfill with 39% being recycled. The proportion of waste being recycled in Aberdeen increased from 35.7% in 2011 to 39.0% in 2016.



**OUR ECONOMY**

* **GVA:** In 2016 Aberdeen City had a GVA of £10,607 million – equivalent to 7.9% of Scotland’s total GVA. Aberdeen was one of 4 local authorities which saw economic output decrease in 2016 (-2.2%). In 2016, Aberdeen City had the highest GVA per head ratio at £46,151 compared to £24,800 for Scotland. GVA per head fell by £3,715 between 2014 and 2016.
* **Hotel rates**: Between December 2014 and Q1 of 2017, the average price for a hotel room in Aberdeen dropped from £92.87 to £60.56.
* **Air passengers:** In 2016 there were2.96 million air passengers through Aberdeen Airport. This is a drop of 20.4% on the numbers from 2014 (3.72 million).
* **Oil and Gas:** Direct employment in Oil and Gas sector in the UK fell by 31.5% between 2014 and 2017 (UK figures only – not specific to Aberdeen).
* **Universities:** Aberdeen is home to two major universities; University of Aberdeen and Robert Gordon University as well as a further education college, North East Scotland College. The total number of students in 2017/18 was 41,684 (includes full-time and part-time).
* **Businesses:** In 2017, there were 8,700 enterprises in Aberdeen City (11,485 business units). Most (85.6%) were classified as Micro (0 to 9), 11% were Small (10 to 49), 2.6% were Medium (50 to 249) and 0.7% were Large (250+). The number of businesses in Aberdeen has decreased in the last two years - from 9,185 in 2015 to 8,700 in 2017.
* **Business births and deaths:** In 2016 there were 1,160 new business in Aberdeen and 1,570 business deaths. The number of new businesses starting each year fell between 2013 and 2015, before increasing slightly between 2015 and 2016 (from 1,090 to 1,160). The fall in business births has been accompanied by a sharp rise in business deaths (from 880 in 2014 to 1,570 in 2016 – an increase of 78%). One-year survival rates of 2015 business births was 89% in Aberdeen compared to 90% in Scotland. Five-year survival rates of 2011 business births was 53.5% in Aberdeen compared to 45.6% in Scotland.

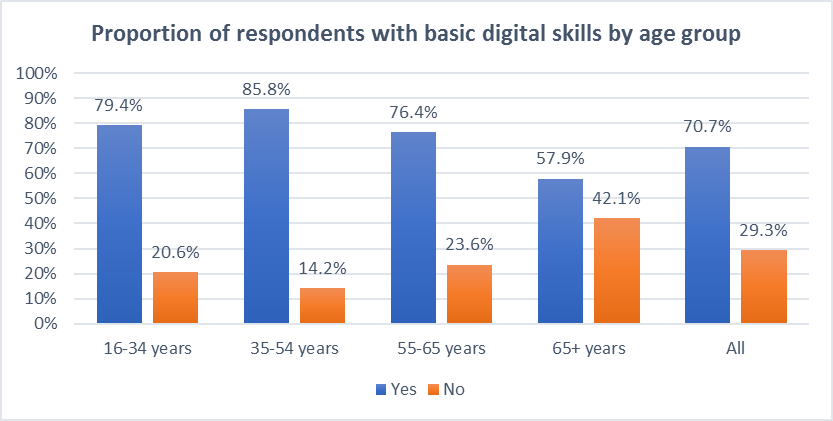


* **Average weekly wage**: In 2017 the median weekly wage in Aberdeen was £583.90 – second highest in Scotland (behind Edinburgh). Since 2014 the median weekly wage has dropped by 7.7% (compared to a 5.3% increase for Scotland).
* **Economic activity:** In 2017, 79% of Aberdeen’s working age population (16-64 years) was classified as economically active and 21% classified as economically inactive.
* **Unemployment:** In 2016 unemployment in Aberdeen reached 5.4% and for the first time in at least 10 years was higher than that for Scotland (4.8%). Unemployment fell between 2016 and 2017 and in 2017 was the same as Scotland (4.1%).
* **Workless households:** In 2016 there were an estimated 15,000 workless households (i.e. households where no-one aged 16 years or over is in employment) in Aberdeen City – 17.6% of all households.
* **Benefits:** In November 2016, there were 14,730 people (working-age) claiming benefits in Aberdeen City. This is equivalent to 9.2% of the working age population of the City. In December 2017 there were 1,587 households in Aberdeen City on Universal Credit, an increase of 282 in the year from December 2016.
* **Job density**: In 2016 there were an estimated 192,000 jobs in the City – equivalent to 1.19 jobs per person aged 16-64 years (compared to 0.8 for Scotland). The job density rate has fallen since 2014 when it was 1.26.
* **Employment:** Over a quarter (26.9%) of employees in Aberdeen City are in Professional Occupations compared to 20.7% in this category for Scotland. Compared to Scotland, Aberdeen City has a higher proportion of its workforce who are qualified to NVQ4 and above (51.7% in Aberdeen and 43.9% in Scotland). In 2016, the sector which provided the highest proportion of employee jobs in Aberdeen (as in Scotland) was Human Health and Social Work Activities (15.3% of all employee jobs). Other sectors which were high employers were Professional, Scientific and Technical Activities (13.0%) and Mining and Quarrying (13.0%).
* **Deprivation (SIMD 2016**): Based on overall rankings of deprivation (i.e. All Domains), Aberdeen performs relatively well in the SIMD with 113 (40%) of its data zones being in the 20% least deprived areas of Scotland. However, there are 22 (8%) data zones in the 20% most deprived areas of Scotland – equivalent to a population of 18,171. While only 22 of the City’s 283 data zones are in the most deprived quintile (0-20%) for All Domains, 98 data zones (34.6%) are in the most deprived quintile for Housing, 73 (28.8%) are in the most deprived quintile for Crime and 67 (23.7%) are in the most deprived quintile for Education, Skills and Training.
* **Relative poverty:** In Scotland an estimated 19% of people are living in relative poverty and it is estimated that 59% of those in relative poverty are in working households (i.e. households where at least one person is working).
* **Food poverty**: According to the Trussell Trust, in the North East of Scotland 61,567 3-day emergency supplies were given out in 2016/17.
* **Fuel poverty:** An estimated 28% of households in Aberdeen are in fuel poverty with 9% being in extreme fuel poverty.
* **Homeless applications:** In the year to end September 2017, there were 1,693 homelessness applications to Aberdeen City Council. This is an increase of 32% from the number of applications in the previous year.



**OUR TECHNOLOGY**

* **Access to superfast broadband:** In 2017, 90% of premises in Aberdeen City had access to Superfast Broadband – an increase of 7% from the figure in 2015 and one of the highest rates in Scotland. Only two local authorities had a higher coverage (Clackmannanshire and East Dunbartonshire both had 91% coverage). No premises had access to Ultrafast Broadband.
* **Average download speed:** The average download speed in 2017 for Aberdeen City was 26.4 Mbits/s. This is the 13th lowest of all local authorities in Scotland. (Ranges from a low of 17.6 Mbits/s in Orkney to a high of 71.2 Mbits/s in West Dunbartonshire).
* **Access to the internet:** In 2016, 84% of households in Aberdeen City reported having access to the internet – an increase of 2% from 2014 and similar to the rate for Scotland of 82%. The most common methods used for accessing internet for personal use were mobile phone/iPhone/smart phone (83%), laptop or PC (74%) and tablet (58%). 93% reported using a method other than laptop or PC to access the internet. The most common reasons for using the internet were; to send and receive emails (85%), search for information (77%), buy goods or services (74%), use social media (70%) and internet banking (70%).
* **Access to devices:** The 42nd City Voice questionnaire (January 2018) included questions on the use of technology. The respondents were initially asked “do you own or have easy access to a smartphone, tablet or laptop/PC”? Over three-quarters (78.5%) of respondents reported that they owned or had easy access to a laptop or PC, and 71.4% said they owned or had easy access to a smart phone. A smaller proportion (64.3%) reported owning or having easy access to a tablet. Approximately half (50.5%) of respondents reported owning or having easy access to all three devices and 90.2% of respondents owned or had access to at least one of the devices.
* **Digital skills:** Based on responses to a series of questions relating to use of digital technology for a number of different tasks, 70.6% of respondents to the City Voice were identified as having Basic Digital Skills. While no significant difference in the proportion of those with Basic Digital Skills was found between males and females, there was a significant difference by age group. The proportion of those with Basic Digital Skills was highest in those aged 35-54 years (85.8%) and lowest in those aged 65+ years (57.9%).

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# Introduction

## Context

To follow.

## What is a Population Needs Assessment?

To follow.

## Data used and limitations

Much of the data presented in this document comes from official statistics provided by the Scottish Government, National Records of Scotland, ScotPHO, ISD Scotland, Police Scotland and NOMIS (check for others). Additional data has been provided by Council services (not much yet – still to be sourced/added).

In general percentages and rates presented have been rounded to one decimal point. Some of these (e.g. life expectancy) will have a degree of error associated with them because of the way they are generated. Technically, these results should be presented with their associated Confidence Interval (usually ±x%). Differences are said to be statistically significant if confidence intervals do not overlap. However, for ease of presentation, confidence intervals have not been presented. A degree of caution is therefore required when interpreting some of the data – particularly for smaller geographies such as neighbourhoods where there is likely to be greater imprecision around estimates and confidence intervals are likely to be broader.

## Consultation – Place Standard and Aberdeen City Voice

Within this Population Needs Assessment information on the Customer and Citizens perspective has been included. This has been done using two sources, Place Standard and Aberdeen City Voice. Place Standard is a tool which provides a framework to structure discussion about the place in which you live. The Aberdeen City online Place Standard data collection took place between 22nd March 2018 – 8th May 2018. There were 324 completed surveys that were analysed and reported on. Aspects of that data have been used within this report. Further information on Place Standard can be found at <https://placestandard.scot/>.

The second source used is Aberdeen City Voice, Aberdeen’s citizens panel. There are over 1,400 citizens on the panel who have agreed to give their views on a range of issues. Full access to the questionnaires and reports can be found at [www.aberdeencityvoice.org.uk](http://www.aberdeencityvoice.org.uk).

## Layout

The layout follows the LOIP themes – People, Place, Economy and Enabling Technology. Sections 2, 3 and 4 relate to People, with Section 2 giving a demographic overview of the City, Section 3 covering Children and Section 4 looking at Adults. Section 5 focuses on Place, Section 6 on the Economy and Section 7 on Enabling Technology.

People

# Demography

## Population

On 30th June 2017 the population of Aberdeen City was estimated to be **228,800**. This equates to 4.2% of Scotland’s total population. In terms of population size, Aberdeen City is the 8th largest local authority in Scotland.

## Population by neighbourhood

The population varies considerably by neighbourhood, ranging from a low of 1,837 in Cummings Park to a high of 13,473 in Braeside, Mannofield, Broomhill and Seafield. (Note: these are based on 2016 MYEs – 2017 small area populations will not be available until August.)

Source: National Records of Scotland, Small Area Population Estimates, 2016

## Age and sex structure

In 2017, there were more females (50.2%) than males (49.8%) living in Aberdeen City. There were also more females (51.3%) than males (48.7%) living in Scotland overall.

Compared to Scotland, Aberdeen has a relatively young population with the median age in the City being lower than that for Scotland (36 years compared to 42 years). Aberdeen City has a higher proportion of its population in the working-age group than Scotland (69% compared to 64%) and a lower proportion of under 16 year-olds and people of pensionable age.

Source: National Records of Scotland, Mid-2017 Population Estimates

The population pyramid overlays the age and sex structure of the City onto that of Scotland (lightly shaded in the background) – highlighting the differences in the age structures between both areas.

**Population pyramid, Aberdeen City and Scotland, 2017**

Source: National Records of Scotland, Mid-2017 Population Estimates, Scotland

## Age structure by neighbourhood

The age structure of the population varies by neighbourhood. The proportion of children (0-14 years) is lowest in Hanover and City Centre at 7% and highest in Middlefield at 22%. The working-age population is highest in Hanover, George Street, City Centre and Old Aberdeen (86%) and lowest in Dyce and Hazlehead (61%). The population aged 65+ years is highest in Dyce (24%) and lowest in Froghall, Powis & Sunnybank, Old Aberdeen, City Centre and George Street (6%).

Source: National Records of Scotland, Small Area Population Estimates, 2016

## Ethnic composition

Compared to Scotland, Aberdeen City has a more diverse ethnic composition. At the time of the 2011 Census, 75% of Aberdeen City’s population classified themselves as White Scottish compared to 84% of the population of Scotland as a whole. The proportion of White Polish, White Other, Asian, Asian Scottish or Asian British and Other ethnic groups was higher in Aberdeen City than in Scotland as a whole.

Scotland’s Census 2011

More recent figures from National Records of Scotland (year ending June 2017) estimate that 24% of Aberdeen City’s population was born outside the UK compared to a figure of 9.0% for Scotland. Of those born outside the UK in Aberdeen, it is estimated that 60% are from EU countries and 40% from non-EU countries.

## Population change

Aberdeen’s population fell slightly in both 2016 and 2017. The small decreases seen in both 2016 (-0.2%) and 2017 (-0.5%) follow an 11-year period of year-on-year population increases. Since 1997, the population has increased by 5.3% (11,500 people). In Scotland the population increased by 0.4% between 2016 and 2017.

Source: National Records of Scotland, Population Estimates Time Series Data

## Population change by age group

Population change has not been consistent across all age groups. The largest percentage increases in population between 1997 and 2017 were in the 45-64 year age group (17%) and the 75+ years age group (16%) – although in both cases the rate of increase was lower in Aberdeen than in Scotland. In contrast, the number of people in the 16-24 year age group and the 0-15 year age group decreased over the period (-10% and -8% respectively).

Source: National Records of Scotland, Population Estimates Time Series Data

Source: National Records of Scotland, Population Estimates Time Series Data

## Components of population change

Population change is calculated from two main components; (1) natural change (births minus deaths) and (2) net migration (the sum of migration to/from Scotland and internal migration). It also includes other changes (e.g. changes in prisoner and armed forces population) although these tend to make up a smaller proportion of changes. In Aberdeen City, while there was a positive natural change between mid-2016 and mid-2017 (354), there was negative net migration (-1,416) over the period. In contrast, in Scotland there was negative natural change and positive net migration.

**Components of population change, Aberdeen City and Scotland, mid-2016 to mid-2017**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Population 2016** | **Natural change** | **Net migration** | **Other changes** | **Population 2017** | **Total change** | **Percentage change** |
|  | **n** | **n** | **n** | **n** | **n** | **n** | **%** |
| **Aberdeen City** | 229,840 | 354 | -1,416 | 22 | 228,800 | -1,040 | *-0.5* |
| **Scotland** | 5,404,700 | -3,810 | 23,855 | 55 | 5,424,800 | 20,100 | *0.4* |

Source: National Records of Scotland, Mid-2017 Population Estimates, Scotland, available at: <https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/statistics-and-data/statistics/statistics-by-theme/population/population-estimates/mid-year-population-estimates/mid-2017/list-of-figures>

n = number, % = percent

The negative net-migration in Aberdeen City for 2016-2017 indicates that more people moved out of the City than moved into it. The table below gives a breakdown of the migration figures for Aberdeen City for 2016-2017. It shows the figures for in-migration and out-migration as well as net-migration. Within-Scotland migration (i.e. people moving to and from Aberdeen City from other parts of Scotland) makes up the largest component of migration, accounting for 53.6% of all people moving into the City and 65.1% of people moving out of the City. Within Scotland migration was also the largest contributor to the negative net migration experienced in the City. Net migration between Aberdeen City and the Rest of the UK was also negative. Only net migration between Aberdeen and Overseas was positive.

**Components of migration, Aberdeen City, mid-2016 to mid-2017**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | **Aberdeen City**  **2016-2017** |
| **In-migration** | *Within Scotland* | *6,074* |
| *Rest of UK* | *2,078* |
| *Overseas* | *3,182* |
| **Total** | **11,334** |
|  |  |  |
| **Out-migration** | *Within Scotland* | *8,296* |
| *Rest of UK* | *2,763* |
| *Overseas* | *1,691* |
| **Total** | **12,750** |
|  |  |  |
| **Net-migration** | *Within Scotland* | *-2,222* |
| *Rest of UK* | *-685* |
| *Overseas* | *1,491* |
| **Total** | **-1,416** |

Source: National Records of Scotland, Mid-2017 Population Estimates, Scotland, available at: <https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/statistics-and-data/statistics/statistics-by-theme/population/population-estimates/mid-year-population-estimates/mid-2017/list-of-figures>

The figure below shows the contribution of different components of **net** migration to Aberdeen City for 2011-2012 to 2016-17. The chart shows the changing patterns of net migration, in particular it highlights the increased levels of negative net migration from Aberdeen to other areas of Scotland in recent years. It also shows that levels of net overseas migration, while still positive, have more than halved since their peak in 2014-2015.

**Components of net migration, Aberdeen City, mid 2011-2012 to mid 2016-2017**

Source: National Records of Scotland, Mid-year Population Estimates, Scotland, available at: <https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/statistics-and-data/statistics/statistics-by-theme/population/population-estimates/mid-year-population-estimates>

## Population projections

By 2026 the population in Aberdeen City is projected to increase by **3.2%** from 229,840 in 2016 to **237,169** in 2026. The rate of increase in Aberdeen is the same as that for Scotland as a whole. (Note: NRS now tend to focus on 10-year projections rather than 25-year projections as these are more stable, and also new projections are released every two years).

**Projected change by gender:** the projected increase is higher for males (4.2%) than for females (2.2%). This would mean that by 2026, the number of males in Aberdeen City would, in contrast to recent trends, be higher than the number of females.

Source: National Records of Scotland, Population projections for Scottish Areas (2016-based)

**Projected change by age group:** the projected change is not consistent across all age groups. Continuing the trends of the past 30 years, between 2016 and 2026, the 16 to 24 age group is projected to see the largest percentage decrease (-10.7%) and the 75 and over age group is projected to see the largest percentage increase (+15.5%). In terms of size, however, 25 to 44 years is projected to remain the largest age group with the 75+ years group projected to remain the smallest group.

**Figure 2.6: Projected population change by age group, Aberdeen City, 2016-2026**

Source: National Records of Scotland, Population projections for Scottish Areas (2016-based)

**Comparison with previous projections**: A point to note is that the 2016-based projections for Aberdeen City are lower than previous projections. The 2014-based projected population in Aberdeen City for 2026 was 248,990 compared to a projected population of 237,169 using the 2016-based projections – **equivalent to 4.7% lower than the previous projection.** (Note: - population decreased in 2017 due to negative net migration. Likely therefore (unless there’s a substantial increase in positive net migration over the next year) that the next projections will be lower again – i.e. there will be a smaller population increase than currently projected.)

**Variant projections:** NRS also produces variant projections based on alternative assumptions for future fertility, mortality and migration to give an indication of the uncertainty of demographic behaviour, particularly for long-term projections. The variant which most closely matches our current situation is the ‘low migration’ projection. This estimates that the population of Aberdeen will fall by 0.3% between 2016 and 2026 giving an estimated population of 229,172.

## Population dependency ratio

Dependency ratios provide simple summary measures of age composition, with respect to relative numbers of people in 'dependent' and 'productive' groups. A crude dependency ratio can be calculated by looking at the ratio of the non-working age population (under 16 years and 65+ years) compared to the working-age population. On this basis in 2017 Aberdeen City had a dependency ratio of 44 ‘dependents’ per 100 working-age people. The dependency ratio for those of a pensionable age was 22 per 100 working-age people and for children it was also 22 per 100 working-age people.

Dependency ratios are lower in Aberdeen than in Scotland. The ratio of non-working/working-age population is 55 per 100 working age population in Scotland. The child dependency ratio is 26 per 100 working age population and the pensionable age is 29 per 100 working age population.

Source: Population estimates from National Records of Scotland, Mid-2017 Population Estimates

## Births

In 2017, there were 2,402 births in Aberdeen City. This is a decrease of 4.7% from 2,521 births in 2016. Of these 2,402 births, 1,154 (48.0%) were female and 1,248 (52.0%) were male. In Aberdeen City, the standardised birth rate decreased from 8.5 per 1,000 population in 2016 to 8.3 in 2017. In comparison, the rate in Scotland overall decreased from 10.1 to 9.7. Aberdeen City has the second lowest birth rate of all local authorities (only City of Edinburgh is lower at 7.2).

Source: National Records of Scotland, Births Time Series Data

Compared to 30 years ago, more births are to older mothers. The number of births to women aged 10-19 years, 20-24 years and 25-29 years has decreased, while the number of births to women aged 30-34 years, 35-39 years and 40 years and over has increased. In 2017, the most common age group of mothers in Aberdeen City was 30 to 34 years (821 births), a change from the 25 to 29 year age group in 1997. The least common age group of mothers in Aberdeen City was 0 to 19 (69 births), which is a change from the 40 and over age group in 1997.

Source: National Records of Scotland, Births Time Series Data

## Deaths

**All causes:** In 2017, there were 2,130 deaths in Aberdeen City. This is essentially unchanged from 2,129 deaths in 2016. Of these 2,130 deaths, 1,102 (51.7%) were female and 1,028 (48.3%) were male. In Aberdeen City, the standardised death rate in 2016 was 10.6 per 1,000 population and remained the same in 2017. In comparison, the rate in Scotland overall increased from 10.5 to 10.7.

Source: National Records of Scotland, Deaths Time Series Data

## 

**By Intermediate Zone:** Mortality rates vary considerably across the City. For the period 2014-2016 the average mortality rate (directly age-sex standardised per 1,000 population; 3-year aggregates) ranged from 6.8 in West End North to 36.0 in Hanover South (Intermediate Zones). The mortality rate in Hanover South was twice as high as the next highest rate (18.1 in Seaton) and over three times as high as the average rate for the City as a whole (11.9 per 1,00 population).

Source: ScotPHO Health and Wellbeing Profiles

**15-44 year-olds (all cause):** In the period 2014-2016 the average mortality rate (directly age-sex standardised per 100,000 population; 3 year aggregates) for Aberdeen City was 105.2 (compared to 102.2 for Scotland). Again, however, there was considerable variation across the City ranging from 0.0 in Braeside, Mannofield, Broomhill and Seafield South to 322.9 per 100,000 population in Seaton.

Source: ScotPHO Health and Wellbeing Profiles

## Life expectancy

Estimated life expectancy at birth is higher for women than for men. In 2014-2016 life expectancy at birth for females in Aberdeen was 80.8 years and for males it was 76.4 years. Both male and female life expectancy have decreased slightly in each of the last three years.

Since 2001-2003, male life expectancy has increased by 2.3 years and female life expectancy by 0.8 years. The higher increase for males has resulted in a closing of the gap between male and female life expectancy from 5.9 years to 4.4 years. However, rates of increase over this period have been lower in Aberdeen City than for all other local authority areas in Scotland. Life expectancy at birth in Aberdeen is now lower than average life expectancy for Scotland as a whole. (**Note:** It should be remembered that life expectancy is an estimate – and as such is subject to a margin of error. Also, there seems to be a consensus that life expectancy is beginning to plateau across the UK <https://blog.ons.gov.uk/2018/06/18/grinding-to-a-halt-is-life-expectancy-coming-to-an-end/>

).

Source: National Records of Scotland, Life Expectancy for Administrative areas within Scotland, 2014-2016

**Life expectancy at 65-69 years**: Life expectancy at age 65-69 years was also higher for females (19.7 years) than for males (16.9 years) in 2014-16. Again, male life expectancy at age 65-69 years has increased more rapidly than female life expectancy at age 65-69 years between 2001-03 and 2014-16.

**Life expectancy by level of deprivation (SIMD 2016):** In Scotland as a whole, life expectancy is strongly associated with level of deprivation. In Aberdeen City life expectancy for men in quintile 1 (most deprived) was 72.0 years compared to 81.0 years for men in quintile 5 (least deprived) – **a difference of 9.0 years**. For women, the difference in estimated life expectancy was less marked, at 77.7 years for women in quintile 1 compared to 84.1 years for women in quintile 5 - **a difference of 6.4 years**.

Source: National Records of Scotland, Life Expectancy for Administrative areas within Scotland, 2014-2016

The relationship between estimated life expectancy and deprivation means that for both males and females there are important differences in estimated life expectancy at birth depending on where you live in Aberdeen City. The most recent data available for smaller geographies (Intermediate Zones) is for the period 2011-2015. For **males**, estimated LE at birth ranges from a low of 69.7 years in Seaton to a high of 84.5 years in Braeside, Mannofield, Broomhill & Seafield North – a **difference of 14.8 years**. For **females** itranges from a low of 74.9 years in Mastrick to a high of 86.3 years in Braeside, Mannofield, Broomhill & Seafield East – a **difference of 11.4 years**. (Source: ScotPHO Health and Wellbeing Profiles).

Source: ScotPHO Health and Wellbeing Profiles

## Healthy Life Expectancy:

While Life Expectancy (LE) counts total years of expected life regardless of level of health, Healthy Life Expectancy (HLE) represents the number of years that an individual can expect to live in good health. Information on HLE at local authority level uses self-assessed health from the Census and is therefore not available on a frequent basis. The most recent HLE estimates for Aberdeen are for the 5-year period 2009-2013. *(Note: HLE is generally presented in relation to LE. The LE estimates given below cover a different time period to those in the previous section and therefore will not match).*

For the period 2009-2013, **males** in Aberdeen City had a LE at birth of 76.9 years and a HLE of 65.0 years, giving an expected period of **‘not healthy’ health of 11.9 years**. For **females** in Aberdeen City, life expectancy at birth was 81.2 years and healthy life expectancy was 67.4 years, giving an expected period of ‘**not healthy’ health of 13.8 years**. So, while women have a higher life expectancy, they also experience a longer time in ‘not healthy’ health than men. This pattern is consistent with Scotland as a whole – although both LE and HLE are slightly higher in Aberdeen City than in Scotland for both males and females. In Scotland men have an expected period of ‘not healthy’ health of 13.5 years. For women the figure is 15.6 years.

As with life expectancy, healthy life expectancy is strongly associated with deprivation. While no data is available at local authority level, in Scotland, the expected period of ‘not healthy’ health increased with increasing deprivation. For males the estimated period of ‘not healthy’ health ranged from 9.9 years in the least deprived quintile to 17.7 years in the most deprived quintile. The length of time a female could expect to spend in ‘not healthy’ health ranged from 11.3 years for a woman in the least deprived quintile to 21.0 years in the most deprived quintile. Another way of saying this is that a woman born in the least deprived quintile could expect to live 13% of her life in ‘not healthy’ health compared to a woman in the most deprived quintile who could expect to live over a quarter (27%) of her life in ‘not healthy’ health.

## Households

In 2017, there were **107,635** households in Aberdeen City an increase of 0.8% from 106,749 households in 2016, and the same as the rate of increase for Scotland as a whole. Since 2007, the number of households in Aberdeen has increased by 5.6% - lower than the average rate for Scotland of 6.2%.

## Household size

In 2017 the average household size in Aberdeen City was 2.04 – equal lowest (along with Argyll and Bute) of all local authorities in Scotland. The average household size for Scotland is 2.16. While relatively low, Aberdeen City is one of the few local authorities (including City of Edinburgh and Glasgow City) which has seen an overall increase in average household size over the past 10 years. However, unlike both Edinburgh and Glasgow, average household size has decreased sharply in Aberdeen over the past 2 years, from 2.10 in 2015 to its current level of 2.04.

Source: National Records of Scotland

## Household projections

Between 2016 and 2026, the number of households in Aberdeen City is projected to increase from 106,749 to 113,128. This is a 6.0% increase, which compares to a projected increase of 6.4% for Scotland as a whole. In 2026, the household type “One adult” is projected to remain the most common (40.9%) and the household type “One adult, one or more children” is projected to remain the least common (4.2%) in Aberdeen City. Between 2016 and 2026, the household type “Three or more adults” is projected to see the largest percentage decrease (-11.6%) and the household type “One adult” is projected to see the largest percentage increase (+9.4%).

Source: National Records of Scotland

## Household projections by age group of Household Reference Person

Between 2016 and 2026, the 25 to 29 age group is projected to see the largest percentage decrease (-17.2%) and the 35 to 39 age group is projected to see the largest percentage increase (+31.5%). In terms of size, however, 35 to 39 is projected to become the largest age group of a Household Reference Person (HRP), compared to 25 to 29 in 2016.

Source: National Records of Scotland.

# Children

## Overview – number of children by smaller age groups.

In 2016, there were 34,187 children (0-15 years) in Aberdeen City. The number and proportion of children varies by neighbourhood. In terms of numbers, Old Aberdeen has the smallest child population (300) while Cults, Bieldside and Milltimber has the largest (2,149). Hanover has the smallest proportion of children (6.9% of the population) and Middlefield the largest (23.3%). (Note: using 2016 MYEs to allow for neighbourhood breakdown since Small Area Population Estimates for 2017 are not due out until August.)

Source: National Records of Scotland, Small Area Populations, 2016

Source: National Records of Scotland, Small Area Populations, 2016

20% of households in Aberdeen City include children. Single parent families make up 4% of households in the City (equivalent to 20% of all households with children).

**Composition of households with children, Aberdeen City and Scotland, 2016**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Type of household** | **Aberdeen City** | **Scotland** |
| Single parent | 4% | 5% |
| Small family | 12% | 12% |
| Large family | 4% | 5% |
| **All households with children** | **20%** | **22%** |
| Households without children | 80% | 78% |

Source: Scottish Household Survey 2016, Characteristics of Households – Household Type

## Looked after children

Local authorities have a responsibility to provide support to certain children and young people, known as ‘looked after children’. A child may become looked after for a number of reasons; including neglect, abuse, complex disabilities which require specialist care, or involvement in the youth justice system.

On 31st July 2017 there were 590 looked after children (LAC) in Aberdeen City – equivalent to 1.6% of the 0-17 years population. This is slightly higher than the equivalent rate for Scotland of 1.4%. Most (60%) looked after children are boys, and over a quarter (29%) are under 5 years old. Six percent of looked after children and known to be from an ethnic minority group and 27% are known to have a disability.

There are several types of care setting in which looked after children or young people could be looked after, including at home (where a child is subject to a Compulsory Supervision Order and continues to live in their normal place of residence), foster care, residential unit or school, a secure unit, with prospective adopters, or in kinship care (where they are placed with friends or relatives).

Foster care is the most common setting for looked after children in Aberdeen City. At 48.9%, the proportion of looked after children in foster care is higher in Aberdeen City than in Scotland (35.3%). In contrast, Aberdeen has a lower proportion of looked after children at home with parents (18.3% compared to 25.3%) and in kinship care (19.0% compared to 27.8%) than does Scotland. The proportion of children in residential care is similar in Aberdeen and Scotland (11.5% compared to 10.1%).

Source: Children’s Social Work Statistics 2016/17

## Educational outcomes for looked after children

Findings from the Scottish Government report on Education Outcomes for Looked After Children 2015/16 (<http://www.gov.scot/Resource/0052/00521222.pdf> ) indicate that looked after children with the most positive education outcomes are those:

* In foster care settings rather than in other care settings
* With fewer care placements in the year
* Who have been looked after for the whole year rather than just part of it

**LAC leaver attainment:** While there has been an improvement in leaver attainment over the past few years, the outcomes for looked after children are still considerably lower than those for all pupils. For example, in Scotland in 2016/17 only 44% of looked after children left school with 1 or more SCQF at level 5 compared to 86% of all pupils. Part of the reason for this is that looked after children tend to leave school at earlier ages. In 2016/17 almost three quarters (72%) of looked after school leavers were aged 16 and under (i.e. they left school at the earliest point they could) compared to just over one quarter (28%) of school leavers more generally.

Levels of attainment vary for looked after children across Scotland. Figures for 2016/17 show that in Aberdeen City 74% of looked after children left school with 1 or more qualification at SCQF level 4 compared to the average of 78% for Scotland. This is the 9th lowest rate of all local authorities in Scotland (data for children who have been looked after for the full year. In Scotland the rate of children who were looked after for part of the year was lower at 65%).

Source: Scottish Government, Education Outcomes for Looked After Children 2016/17

**Positive destinations:** Again, while improved, the outcomes for looked after children are worse than those for all pupils. In Scotland in 2016/17, 76% of looked after children had positive destinations compared to 93% of all pupils. In Aberdeen City the figure was slightly lower than the Scottish average at 74% (both figures based on 9-month follow-up survey and children who were looked after for the full year. Children looked after for part of the year had worse outcomes – only 64% in positive destinations for Scotland).

**Attendance and exclusions**: In 2016/17attendance rates for looked after children were the same in Aberdeen City and Scotland at 91%. However, the exclusion rate (per 1,000 pupils) was higher in Aberdeen (244 per 1,000 pupils compared to 169 per 1,000 pupils in Scotland). In Aberdeen, as in Scotland, the exclusion rate was higher in males (330 per 1,000 pupils) than females (112 per 1,000 pupils).

## Child protection

In 2017, there were 2,631 children on the Child Protection Register in Scotland, most (53%) of whom were under 5 years old. In Aberdeen City there were 81 children on the Child Protection Register. Despite fluctuations, overall the number of children on the Register in Aberdeen City has fallen over the past 10 years. Similarly, the rate (per 1,000 population aged 0-15 years) has dropped from 4.4 to 2.4 in the 10 years from 2007 to 2017. In Scotland the rate has remained relatively stable over the past 10 years and in 2017 was 2.9.

Between 31st July 2016 and 31st July 2017, there were 164 registrations (80% of case conferences) and 201 de-registrations.

Source: Children’s Social Work Statistics 2016/17, available at: <http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2018/03/6242/downloads>

In 2016-2017, 4.9% of child protection registrations were re-registered within 18 months – lower than the figure for Scotland of 6.5%. The proportion of re-registered children has decreased substantially in each of the last 2 years, from 10.7% in 2014-2015 to 5.8% in 2016-2016 to the current level of 4.9%.

## Children and mental health services

The NHS in Scotland provides mental health services for children and young people with a wide range of mental health conditions including Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), anxiety, behaviour problems, depression and early onset psychosis. This treatment is provided through Child and Adolescent Mental Health (CAMH) services. These services, which are mainly outpatient and community based, are provided by a range of staff including psychiatrists, mental health nurses, clinical psychologists, child psychotherapists, occupational therapists and other allied health professionals.

The Scottish Government requires the NHS in Scotland to measure the time people wait for treatment and this includes people waiting for CAMH services. The Scottish Government has set a standard for the NHS in Scotland to deliver a maximum wait of 18 weeks from a patient’s referral to treatment for specialist CAMH services from December 2014.

In 2017, a total of 1,212 CAMHS patients were seen in Grampian. Of these, 37.7% were seen within the 18-week period, considerably lower than the Scottish rate where over three-quarters (77.5%) of these patients were seen within 18 weeks.

In the 39th City Voice questionnaire panellists were asked about Education and Children’s Services and what areas they see as a priority for improving services for children. 53% of respondents and 63% of respondents with children identified mental health as a priority issue.

Delivery of good quality and timely mental health services depends on having the required number of staff in the right post. As at 31st December 2017, NHS Grampian employed 46.2 whole time equivalent clinical staff in child and adolescent mental health services per 100,000 population of 0 to 18 year-olds. This is the second lowest rate of CAMHS staff in Scotland; only NHS Orkney employs fewer equivalent staff (24). (CAHMS characteristics of the workforce as at 31st December 2017, <http://www.isdscotland.org/Health-Topics/Workforce/CAMHS/index.asp> ).

Source: ISD Scotland, CAHMS characteristics of the workforce at 31st December 2017

## Wellbeing

Information on wellbeing is provided through the Scottish Schools Adolescent Lifestyle and Substance Use Survey (SALSUS). Emotional and behavioural problems are measured using the Goodman Strengths and Difficulties (SDQ)questionnaire and mental wellbeing is measured using the Warwick-Edinburgh Mental Wellbeing Scale (WEMWB). Each measure provides a total score. The most recent Scotland level data is from 2015, with the most recent local authority level data being for 2013.

Data from 2013 suggests levels of wellbeing in young people in Aberdeen are similar to those in Scotland as a whole. In 2013 the mean total difficulties score for S4 pupils in Aberdeen City was 12.6 compared to 12.9 for Scotland. The mean mental wellbeing score for S4 pupils in Aberdeen City was 47.7 compared to 47.6 for Scotland.

Source: <http://www.gov.scot/Resource/0051/00518032.pdf>

## Early learning and childcare provision

Local Authorities have a duty to secure “Early Learning and Childcare (EL&C) for all children in the nursery term following their third birthday until they start primary school. There is also a duty to provide early learning and childcare for two year-old children who are looked after or whose parents are on specific benefits.   Aberdeen City Council provides free places in nursery classes in local authority primary schools.  It also commissions early learning and childcare from the private, independent and voluntary sectors.  In June 2017, 91% of all eligible children in Aberdeen City in their immediate pre-school year and 82% in their ante pre-school year received free or funded early learning and childcare places in the city. Approximately 25% of the population of 2 year-olds are eligible for funded EL&C places. In 2016/17 26% of eligible two years received free or funded early EL&C places.

**Early learning and childcare provision, Aberdeen City, 2010 and 2017**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **2010** | **2017** | **Percentage change** |
| School nurseries operated by ACC (places) | 2,938 | 3,566 | +21.4% |
| Day nurseries (places) | 2,089 | 2,330 | +11.5% |
| Crèches (places) | 344 | 197 | -42.7% |
| After school clubs (places) | 1,409 | 1,627 | +15.5% |
| Breakfast clubs (places) | 989 | 1,111 | +12.3% |
| Playgroups (places) | 509 | 300 | -41.1% |
| Childminders (places) | 907 | 793 | -12.6% |
| Holiday playschemes (places) | 1,197 | 1,155 | -3.5% |

Source: Aberdeen City Council, Nurtured Audit 2017.

## Education - Schools

**Schools:** In Aberdeen City there are 48 primary schools (although the list includes Countesswells which isn’t built yet) and 12 secondary schools. There are also 7 special schools, giving a total of 67 schools in the City.

**Pupils:** In September 2017 there were 13,923 primary school pupils and 8,667 secondary school pupils in Aberdeen City. There were also 143 pupils enrolled in Special School/SEN Units. The total number of pupils was **22,733.**

**Additional support needs:** In 2017, 29.5% of primary pupils and 30.9% of secondary pupils in Aberdeen City had additional support needs. These figures are higher than the Scottish rates of 23.5% and 29.3% respectively.

**Ethnicity:** 70.2% of primary school pupils in Aberdeen City were classified as White-UK, 13.8% were classified as White-Other and 14.6% were classified as Minority Ethnic. The ethnicity of 1.3% of primary school pupils was not known/not disclosed. In contrast to recent trends, the proportion of Minority Ethnic and White-Other pupils in Aberdeen City schools has decreased slightly in the past year while the proportion of White -UK has increased (from 67.3% to 70.2%). A fifth (20.3%) of school pupils in Aberdeen City do not have English as their main home language. The main three home languages (other than English) are Polish, Arabic and Russian.

(Source: Scottish Government, School Education datasets, Pupil Census Supplementary Data 2017, available at: <http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/Browse/School-Education/dspupcensus> )

## Attendance and exclusions

In 2016/17 average attendance rates in Aberdeen City schools were similar to those for Scotland as a whole. For primary schools in the City the attendance rate was 94.7% (compared to 94.9% for Scotland) and for secondary schools in the City the attendance rate was 91.9% (compared to 91.2% for Scotland). There was, however, some variation in attendance rates by school. For primary schools in the City, attendance rates ranged from a low of 90.9% (Manor Park School) to a high of 97.5% (Airyhall School). For secondary schools, attendance ranged from 86.9% (Northfield Academy) to 95.4% (Cults Academy).

(Source: Scottish Government, Attendance and Absence 2016/17: <http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/Browse/School-Education/AttendanceAbsenceDatasets/atttab2017> )

**Exclusions:** In 2016/17 there was a total of 1,072 exclusions from schools in the City. This is equivalent to a rate of 47.6 (crude rate per 1,000 population), which is significantly higher than the rate for Scotland of 26.9. (Note: exclusion data at school level is not available.) (Source: School Exclusions 2016/17: <http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/Browse/School-Education/exclusiondatasets/exclusionsdataset2017> )

## Attainment – Curriculum for Excellence

Data onachievement against expected levels (Early Level, First Level, Second Level, Third level or better and Fourth Level) is given at five stages – P1, P4, P7, S3 and S4 – in four areas: reading, writing, listening and numeracy.

(Source: Scottish Government: <http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/Browse/School-Education/Datasets/ACELTrenddatasets> )

In almost every stage and area, the proportion of pupils in Aberdeen City achieving the expected level is lower than the equivalent proportion for Scotland as a whole. The only exception to this is ‘listening’ where the proportion of P4 and P7 pupils achieving the expected standard is the same in Aberdeen City as in Scotland.

**Percentage of pupils achieving expected levels, Aberdeen City and Scotland, 2016/17**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Reading** | | **Writing** | | **Listening** | | **Numeracy** | |
|  | **Aberdeen City** | **Scotland** | **Aberdeen City** | **Scotland** | **Aberdeen City** | **Scotland** | **Aberdeen City** | **Scotland** |
| **P1 -Early**  **Level** | 75% | 80% | 73% | 77% | 82% | 85% | 80% | 83% |
| **P4 -First**  **Level** | 75% | 77% | 70% | 71% | 83% | 83% | 74% | 75% |
| **P7 -Second**  **Level** | 72% | 76% | 66% | 69% | 81% | 81% | 69% | 70% |
| **S3 -Third Level**  **or better** | 85% | 90% | 82% | 89% | 86% | 91% | 82% | 88% |
| **S3 - Fourth  Level** | 48% | 51% | 46% | 48% | 47% | 51% | 51% | 56% |

Source: Scottish Government, Achievement of Curriculum for Excellence Datasets

Achievement of expected levels also varies by deprivation. In Aberdeen City in all subject areas, a smaller proportion of those in the most deprived 20% (SIMD 2016) achieved the expected level than those in the least deprived 20%. This is particularly evident when considering the percentage of S3 pupils achieving Forth Level, for example only 21% of S3 pupils from the most deprived quintile achieved Forth Level writing compared to 71% of pupils from the least deprived quintile.

Source: Scottish Government, Achievement of Curriculum for Excellence Datasets

The gap between most and least deprived seems to widen as children progress. For example, the percentage of P1 children achieving early level writing is 66.5% for those in the most deprived quintile compared to 84.1% for those in the least deprived quintile – a difference of almost 18%; for P4 pupils (First level) the difference between most and least deprived is 23% and for P7 pupils (Second Level) the difference is 30%.

Source: Scottish Government, Achievement of Curriculum for Excellence Datasets

## Positive destinations/participation

The Scottish Government’s ‘Opportunities for All’ commitment offers a place in learning or training to every 16-19 year-old who is not in employment, education or training.The ‘Annual Participation Measure’ has replaced school leaver destination data as the as the source of the indicator, “increase the proportion of young people in learning, training or work”. Unlike the school leaver destination data, the Annual Participation Measure includes all 16-19 year-olds.

(Source: Skills Development Scotland, available at: <https://www.skillsdevelopmentscotland.co.uk/media/43537/2017_annual-participation-measure-summary_aberdeencity.pdf> )

Data from the 2017 Annual Participation Measure Report indicates that **89.4%** of 6,862 16-19 year-olds in Aberdeen City were participating in education (70.3%), employment (17.3%) or training (1.8%). This is lower than the rate for Scotland as a whole (91.1%), but 0.5% higher than in 2016. **3.9%** of 16-19 year-olds in Aberdeen were identified as not participating (i.e. those unemployed seeking employment and others unemployed and not seeking) and **6.7%** had an unconfirmed status. Rates of ‘non-participation’ and ‘unconfirmed’ were higher in Aberdeen City than in Scotland (3.7% and 5.3% respectively).

The proportion of females participating in Aberdeen City is higher than males (90.6% compared to 88.4%). This is consistent with Scotland (91.6% compared to 90.5%).

Rates of participation varied across Scotland, ranging from low of 87.6% in Dundee City to a high of 96.9% in Eilean Siar. Aberdeen City had the sixth lowest participation rate of all local authorities.

Source: Skills Development Scotland, Annual Participation Measure 2017 (Supplementary Tables)

In Scotland, participation rates decrease with increasing deprivation (SIMD 2016 deciles), with 83.2% of those from the 10% most deprived areas participating compared to 96.8% of those in the 10% least deprived areas. There were also differences in the type of participation by deprivation. For example, those from the least deprived areas were more likely than those from the most deprived areas to enter higher education (30.5% compared to 10.5%), while those from the most deprived areas were more likely than those from the least deprived areas to enter further education (15.4% compared to 5.7%).

Source: Skills Development Scotland, Annual Participation Measure 2017 (Supplementary Tables)

## Free School Meals

In February 2017 52.6% of primary school pupils in Aberdeen were registered for FSM in mainstream local authority schools. All P1-P3 primary school pupils are entitled to free school meals. The proportion of P4-P7 pupils who were registered for FSM varied by school, ranging from a low of 0-<5% to a high of 40-<45%. At secondary school level, a total of 9.0% of pupils were registered for a FSM, although again there was variation between schools with the proportion of pupils registered ranging from a low of 2.8% to a high of 28.1%. At Aberdeen City’s special schools 30.8% of pupils were registered for a FSM. The table below shows the number and percentage of school pupils registered for free school meals in Aberdeen City, together with the percentage of pupils who were registered for a FSM and present on the day of the survey who took a FSM. Almost a quarter of primary pupils and a third of secondary pupils who were registered, did not take a FSM on the day of the survey.

**Pupils registered for free school meals, Aberdeen City, 2017**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Year** | **Number of pupils registered for FSM** | **Number registered as percentage of school roll** | **Registered and present who took a FSM** |
| Primary | 7,187 | 52.6% | 76.9% |
| Secondary | 763 | 9.0% | 68.1% |
| Special | 44 | 30.8% | 100% |

Source: Scottish Government, School Meals Data set 2017

**Free breakfasts:** Aberdeen City Council currently runs a free breakfast service at seven primary schools in areas of the city with high levels of deprivation. The Table shows the schools and the average number of pupils attending free breakfast in September 2017.

**Average number of pupils attending free breakfast, September 2017**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **School** | **September 2017** |
| Heathryburn School | 56 |
| Kittybrewster School | 24 |
| Riverbank School | 32 |
| St Peters RC School | 52 |
| Tullos School | 44 |
| Walker Road School | 34 |
| Woodside School | 23 |

Source: Aberdeen City Council

**Clothing Grants:** In 2016/17 a total of 2,135 clothing grants were awarded to pupils in Aberdeen City. Clothing grants were awarded to pupils in almost all local authority schools in the City with the number of grants awarded varying substantially by school.

**Clothing grants awarded, Aberdeen City, 2015/16 and 2016/17**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **2015/16** | | **2016/17** | |
| **Sector** | **No. of Grants Awarded** | **% of Total** | **No. of Grants Awarded** | **% of Total** |
| Primary | 1,287 | 62.6% | 1,365 | 63.9% |
| Secondary | 735 | 35.7% | 743 | 34.8% |
| Special | 23 | 1.1% | 18 | 0.8% |
| Independent schools | 12 | 0.6% | 9 | 0.4% |
| **Total** | **2,057** | **100.0%** | **2,135** | **100.0%** |

Source: Aberdeen City Council, Education and Children’s Services

## Child heath

## Breast feeding

In 2014/15 to 2016/17 (3-year aggregate), 36.8% of babies in the City were exclusively breast-fed at the time of their 6-8 week review. This is significantly higher than the Scottish average of 28.1%. Breast-feeding rates varied across the City – from a low of 16% in Sheddocksley to a high of 66.0% in West End North.

Source: ScotPHO Health and Wellbeing Profiles

## Immunisation

In Scotland there is a national target for 95% of children to complete courses of routine childhood immunisations (Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis, Polio, Hib (DTP/Pol/Hib), Men C and Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine (PCV)) by 24 months of age. Rates of babies who have completed the primary and booster courses for these immunisations by 24 months are lower in Aberdeen City than in Scotland.

Source: ISD Scotland, Childhood Immunisation Statistics, available at: <http://www.isdscotland.org/Health-Topics/Child-Health/publications/data-tables2017.asp?id=2136#2136>

For Hib/MenC and PCVB uptake rates are the lowest of all local authorities, and for DTP/Pol/Hib and MMR1 uptake rates are the second lowest of all local authorities.

Source: ISD Scotland, Childhood Immunisation Statistics, available at: <http://www.isdscotland.org/Health-Topics/Child-Health/publications/data-tables2017.asp?id=2136#2136>

## Healthy weight

Children’s weight and growth is an important marker of their general nutrition and physical health. Child growth references are widely used as a tool for detecting children who are not growing properly or who are under- or over-weight.

In 2016/17, height and weight measurements were recorded for 1,909 Primary 1 children in Aberdeen City. Of these, 77.4% were classified as ‘healthy weight’ – slightly higher than the figure for Scotland of 76.1%. 21.9% of P1 children in Aberdeen City were classified as being at risk of overweight and obesity (compared to 22.9% in Scotland), and 0.7% as at being at risk of underweight (compared to 1.0% for Scotland). While there have been fluctuations, the underlying trend in Aberdeen City is of increasing proportions of P1 children at risk of overweight or obesity.

ISD Scotland, Primary 1 Body Mass Index Statistics, available at: <http://www.isdscotland.org/Health-Topics/Child-Health/Child-Weight-and-Growth/>

## Dental health

In September 2017, 89.5% of children in Aberdeen City were registered with an NHS dentist. This is lower than the average rate for Scotland which was 93.8%. (Note: this is only for NHS dentists – data does not include registrations with private dentists.) Information on dental health is available through the National Dental Inspection programme where pupils in P1 and P7 are given a basic dental inspection. Those with ‘healthy’ teeth are given a letter ‘C’ (no obvious decay experience but should continue to see the family dentist on a regular basis). In 2016/17, 69.4% of P1 pupils in Aberdeen received a letter ‘C’ – significantly lower than the average rate for Scotland of 70.9%. The proportion of P1 pupils receiving a letter ‘C’ ranged from a low of 34.4% in Torry East to a high of 100% in Cove South.

Source: ScotPHO Health and Wellbeing Profiles

While the proportion of P7 children who received a letter C was significantly higher in Aberdeen than Scotland (73.4% compared to 69.4%), there was again substantial variation across the City with proportions ranging from a low of 45.4% in City Centre West to a high of 100.0% in West End North.

## Smoking

Data on smoking is limited. Previously SALSUS (Scottish Schools Adolescent Lifestyle And Substance Use Survey) published prevalence rates by local authority. The most recent data is from 2013. In 2013 in Aberdeen, 5% of 15 year-olds and 1% of 13 year-olds reported being regular smokers. At that time Aberdeen City had the lowest reported rate of smoking in school children across all local authority areas in Scotland. A more recent (2015) report at Scotland level shows that, while smoking prevalence has dropped slightly in 15 year-old girls (but not boys), the use of e-cigarettes has increased substantially with 91% of 15 year-old smokers (boys and girls) having used e-cigarettes and 24% of non-smokers having used them. <http://www.gov.scot/Resource/0050/00508257.pdf>

## Alcohol and drugs – hospital admissions 11-25 years

In 2014 (3 year rolling average 2013/14 to 2015/16 financial years) there were 149 alcohol admissions for people aged 11-25 years. This equates to a rate of 288.7 per 100,000 population (age-sex standardised rate) compared to the equivalent rate for Scotland of 271.4. There were 27 drug related hospital stays in Aberdeen City for the same age group and period, equivalent to a rate of 53.4 per 100,000 population (age-sex standardised rate, 3-year aggregate) – significantly lower than the rate for Scotland of 101.4. Rates of both alcohol- and drug-related hospital stays for people aged 11-25 years have decreased in the last 10 years.

Source: ScotPHO Children and Young People Profile

## Teenage pregnancies

In the period 2013-2015, the average rate for teenage pregnancies in Aberdeen City was 36.3 (crude rate per 1,000 population; 3-year aggregates) compared to 34.8 for Scotland. In Aberdeen City, as in Scotland, the rate of teenage pregnancies has reduced significantly in the last 10 years.

Source: ScotPHO Health and Wellbeing Profiles

In most Intermediate Zones in the city there were no teenage pregnancies in 2013-2015. However in Torry West (89.9 per 1,000 population), Torry East (83.5), Mastrick (77.5), Northfield (70.3) and Heathryfold and Middlefield (67.0) the rates were higher than the average for the City.

## Child poverty

According to Child Poverty Action Group in Scotland, more than 1 in 4 children in Scotland are officially recognised as living in poverty. Children are considered as living in poverty if they live in households with less than 60% of median household income. This is the key measure used by UK, Scottish Government and by the EU. Using this measure the latest (2015/16) official data shows that a lone parent family with two children (aged 5 and 14) is living in poverty if they are living on less than £297 per week (after housing costs have been deducted) and a two-parent family with two children (aged 5 and 14) is living in poverty if they are living on less than £401 a week (after housing costs have been deducted).

The Centre for Research in Social Policy calculates estimates of child poverty each year for the End Child Poverty Coalition ([www.endchildpoverty.org.uk](http://www.endchildpoverty.org.uk)). Estimates of child poverty levels are available at Local Authority and ward level.

In July-September 2017 an estimated 5,689 children (16.7%) in Aberdeen City were living in poverty (after housing costs). This is a decrease from the previous figures (October-December 2015) when 18.2% of children in Aberdeen City were estimated to be living in poverty.

There was considerable variation in levels of child poverty between different City wards – the proportion of children living in poverty after housing costs ranged from a low of 5.9% in Hazlehead/ Ashley/ Queen’s Cross to a high of 28.0% in Tillydrone/Seaton/Old Aberdeen. Comparison with data from October-December 2015 shows rates of child poverty have remained broadly similar in most wards, however, some have shown relatively large decreases (e.g. Kincorth/Loirston, Lower Deeside) and others have increased (e.g. Midstocket/Rosemount).

**Percentage of children in poverty (after housing costs), Aberdeen City and Wards, July to September 2017 and October to December 2015**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Oct-Dec 2015** | **July to September 2017** | |
| **Local Authority and wards** | **Percentage** | **Percentage** | **Number** |
|  |  |  |  |
| **Aberdeen City** | **18.18%** | **16.72%** | **5,689** |
| Hazlehead/Ashley/Queens Cross | 5.91% | 5.87% | 142 |
| Bridge of Don | 6.27% | 6.17% | 176 |
| Lower Deeside | 10.01% | 6.25% | 164 |
| Midstocket/Rosemount | 12.34% | 15.27% | 235 |
| Airyhall/Broomhill/Garthdee | 12.47% | 12.42% | 265 |
| Dyce/Bucksburn/Danestone | 13.31% | 12.24% | 340 |
| Kingswells/Sheddocksley | 17.60% | 14.79% | 473 |
| Kincorth/Loirston | 20.09% | 14.61% | 410 |
| Hilton/Stockethill | 24.53% | 22.76% | 588 |
| Torry/Ferryhill | 25.36% | 22.03% | 684 |
| George St/Harbour | 25.46% | 24.35% | 304 |
| Northfield/Mastrick North | 29.35% | 27.13% | 1,119 |
| Tillydrone/Seaton/Old Aberdeen | 27.59% | 28.03% | 730 |

Source: End Child Poverty

## Play and recreation

The Place Standard questionnaire asks respondents about play and recreation. When asked to rate this question from 1 – 7, where 1 = lots of room for improvement and 7 = very little room for improvement, the mean score for this question was 4.48 for Aberdeen City. When we look at the priority areas we see that the score varied, with locality 1 – Torry being an area identified as having the most room to improve.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | **Play and Recreation – mean score** |
| Aberdeen | 4.48 |
| Locality 1 - Torry | 3.27 |
| Locality 2 - Northfield, Cummings Park, Middlefield, Mastrick and Heathryfold | 4.06 |
| Locality 3 – Woodside, Tillydrone and Seaton | 4.65 |

*Source: Aberdeen Place Standard 2018*

As well as providing a score, respondents were asked to provide some further information on why they rated their answer the way they did. Some comments provided on this section included:

* *Vastly improved, evidence of money being spent by the city but also very encouraged by local community groups. These groups should be encouraged to continue and build on the successes to date.*
* *I think activities for teenagers are few and far between. Has been some trouble and anti social behaviour in certain parts. More facilities are now being built. Makro area developed and gym there too.*
* *The only park which I am aware of is dire. We had a skatepark but no more. There really should be more for children to do in our area.*
* *Hazlehead Park is great but difficult to access without a car. The Duthie Park is also excellent. We are very lucky to have such good facilities*

# Adults

## Health behaviours

## Smoking

**Smoking prevalence:** Information on smoking prevalence is available from the Scottish Household Survey (SHS – ScotPHO Profile). In 2015, smoking prevalence in Aberdeen City was estimated at 21.1% - slightly higher than the prevalence estimates for Scotland of 20.6% but lower than estimates for 2013 of 24.3%. Smoking is strongly associated with deprivation. While there are no specific figures for Aberdeen City, in Scotland in 2016 (based on Scottish Health Survey SHeS), smoking prevalence was higher in more deprived areas (32% in most deprived 20% compared to 12% in least deprived 20%) and higher in males than in females (38% for males in most deprived 20% compared to 33% for females in most deprived 20%).

**Smoking during pregnancy:** Overallthe rate of women who smoke during pregnancy (i.e. *women with a known smoking status recorded as ‘current smoker’ at first antenatal appointment*) is significantly lower Aberdeen City than in Scotland (14.1% compared to 16.3%). However, there is considerable variation across the City. Rates range from a low of 0.0% in West End North to 36.1% in Torry East.

Source: ScotPHO Health and Wellbeing Profile

Percentage - 2014/15 to 2016/17 financial years; 3-year aggregates

## Alcohol

**Prevalence of problem drinking:** In Aberdeen it is estimated that 28.2% of males and 14.2% of females (16+ years) have a potential drinking problem (2013-2016; 4-year aggregate). These are both higher than respective rates for Scotland (24.1% and 11.6%).

Source: SHS/ScotPHO Mental Health Profile.

**Alcohol-related hospital stays:** In 2016/17 there were 1,520 alcohol-related hospital stays in Aberdeen City. This equates to a rate (age-sex standardised) of 705.4 per 100,000 population. While still higher than the rate for Scotland (680.8 per 100,000 population), rates of alcohol-related hospital stays have fallen considerably over the past 10 years.

Source: ScotPHO Health and Wellbeing Profile

\*Age-sex standardised rate per 100,000 population

Based on Intermediate Zone data, rates of alcohol-related hospital stays vary across the City. Rates range from a low of 178.1 per 100,000 population in Cove South to a high of 2,023.7 per 100,000 in Tillydrone.

**Alcohol-related mortality**: Between 2012 and 2016 there were an average of 45 deaths per year (5-year rolling average) in Aberdeen City where alcohol was the underlying cause. Following a period of relative stability, and in contrast to trends for Scotland were the rate of alcohol-related mortality continues to fall, in Aberdeen City the rate increased between 2011-2015 and 2012-2016 and it is now at its highest level since 2005-2009. The rate of alcohol-related mortality in Aberdeen City is now slightly higher than the average rate for Scotland (23.1 per 100,000 population compared to 22.0 per 100,000 population).

Source: ScotPHO Health and Wellbeing Profile

\*Age-sex standardised rate per 100,000 population (5-year aggregate)

The rate of alcohol-related mortality varies across the City (based on Intermediate Zones). In 2012-2016, the average alcohol-related mortality ranged from 0.0 to 91.2 per 100,000 population.

Source: ScotPHO Health and Wellbeing Profile

\*Age-sex standardised rate per 100,000 population (5-year aggregate)

## Drug use

**Problem drug use:** In 2012/13 an estimated 3,100 people in Aberdeen City (aged 15-64 years) were estimated to have a problem drug use. This equates to a rate of 1.9% – higher than the average rate for Scotland of 1.7%. Estimated prevalence of problem drug use was higher in males (2.4%) than females (1.4%) and higher in the 25-34 year age group (3.93%) than either the 35-64 year age group (2.14%) or the 15-24 year age group (1.30%). The estimated prevalence of problem drug use was significantly higher in females in Aberdeen than in Scotland.

Source: ISD Scotland, Estimating the national and local prevalence of problem drug use in Scotland, 201213, available at: <https://isdscotland.scot.nhs.uk/Health-Topics/Drugs-and-Alcohol-Misuse/Publications/2014-10-28/2014-10-28-Drug-Prevalence-Report.pdf>

**Drug-related hospital stays**: between 2014/15 and 2016/17 (3-year rolling average) there were an average of 358 drug-related hospital stays per year in Aberdeen City. This equates to a rate (age-sex standardised) of 149.5 per 100,000 population. Since peaking in 2008/09-2010/11, the rate of drug-related hospital stays in Aberdeen has fallen and is now similar to the average rate for Scotland of 146.9 per 100,00 population.

Source: ScotPHO Health and Wellbeing Profile

\*Age-sex standardised rate per 100,000 population (3-year aggregate)

The rate of drug-related hospital stays varies considerably across the City, ranging from a low of 0.0 per 100,000 population in West End North to a high of 442.8 in Torry East (based on Intermediate Zones).

Source: ScotPHO Health and Wellbeing Profile

\*Age-sex standardised rate per 100,000 population (3-year aggregate)

**Drug-related mortality**: In 2017 there were 54 drug-related deaths in Aberdeen City. In the last few years there has been a notable increase in the number of drug-related deaths in the City each year with the number of deaths more than doubling since 2014. Information on deaths by gender shows that over the last 10 years the number of female deaths has increased more than the number of male deaths. In 2007, of the 23 deaths in Aberdeen City, 19 were male and 4 were female. In 2017, of the 54 deaths 36 were male and 18 were female (i.e. 33.3% of drug-related deaths in 2017 were female compared to 17.4% in 2007). Almost all deaths (52 out of 54) were classified as accidental poisoning.

Source: National Records of Scotland, Drug-related deaths in Scotland, 2017, available at: <https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/statistics-and-data/statistics/statistics-by-theme/vital-events/deaths/drug-related-deaths-in-scotland/2017/list-of-tables-and-figures>

For the period 2013-2017, the average annual rate of drug-related deaths was higher in Aberdeen City than in Scotland (0.17 per 1,000 population compared to 0.14 per 1,000 population). In both areas drug-related mortality was highest in the 35-44 year age group. Aberdeen City has the 4th highest average annual rate of drug deaths (after Dundee City at 0.25, Glasgow City at 0.24 and Inverclyde at 0.22) of all local authorities in Scotland.

Source: National Records of Scotland, Drug-related deaths in Scotland, 2017, available at: <https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/statistics-and-data/statistics/statistics-by-theme/vital-events/deaths/drug-related-deaths-in-scotland/2017/list-of-tables-and-figures>

## Lifestyle

**Active travel to work:** the proportion of people who reported ‘actively’ travelling to work is significantly higher in Aberdeen City than in Scotland. In 2015, 22.1% of people in Aberdeen City either walked or cycled to work compared to the Scottish average of 14.9%. Aberdeen had the second highest rate of all local authorities – only City of Edinburgh was higher (26.4%). (Source: ScotPHO/SHS)

**Physical activity:** In 2016 the proportion of people who reported undertaking some form of physical activity (including walking) in the last 4 weeks was significantly higher in Aberdeen City (85%) than in Scotland (79%). Walking (at least 30 minutes) was the most commonly reported form of activity for both areas (70% for Aberdeen City and 67% for Scotland). When walking is excluded, the proportions of people undertaking physical activity was similar in Aberdeen and Scotland (53% compared to 51%). (Source: SHS 2016: <http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/16002/LAtables2016/2016ExcelDownload> )

Interestingly, when this question was included in the City Voice questionnaire, the findings were very similar to the findings from the SHS, with 84% reporting that they had taken part in some form of physical activity (including walking) in the last 4 weeks. Again, walking was the most common activity with 70% of respondents choosing this option.

Based on Scottish Health Survey data (2013-2016 combined), an estimated 68% of adults in Aberdeen City meet the recommended guidelines for physical activity (i.e. 150 mins/week of moderate physical activity, 75 mins vigorous physical activity, or an equivalent combination of these). This is higher than the equivalent rate for Scotland of 64%.

Source: Scottish Government, Scottish Health Survey, results for local areas 2013/14/15/16, available at: <http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2017/10/6398/downloads>

**Healthy eating/obesity:** In Scotland in 2016, 65% of adults aged 16 and over were overweight, including 29% who were obese.  There was a significant increase between 2003 and 2008, where prevalence of overweight (including obesity) rose from 62% to 65%. Rates have stabilised since.

Data from the Scottish Health Survey (2013-2016 combined) estimates that 25% of the population of Aberdeen City are classified as obese (i.e. they have a BMI of 30+).

Source: Scottish Government, Scottish Health Survey, results for local areas 2013/14/15/16, available at: <http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2017/10/6398/downloads>

## Health

## General health

**Self-rated health:** Information on self-rated health was collected in the 2011 Census**.** When asked “How is your health in general?” 85.7% of people in Aberdeen rated their health as either very good (54.3%) or good (31.4%), slightly higher than the corresponding Scottish figures (52.5% and 29.7%). 10.4% rated their health as fair and the remaining 3.9% rated it as bad or very bad. However, those in the older age group (65+ years) were less likely than those in the younger age groups to rate their health as good or very good (58.1% of those aged 65+ years compared to 98.2% of 0-15 year-olds and 88.7% of 16-64 year-olds).

More recently, data from the Scottish Health Survey for the period 2013-2016 combined showed that 77% of people in Aberdeen rated their health as good or very good – higher than the respective rate for Scotland of 74%.

In the 42nd City Voice questionnaire, panellists were asked to rate their health. Almost three quarters (73%) of respondents to this question rated their health as very good (25%) or good (47%). Only 6% rated their general health as bad (5%) or very bad (1%). Similar to the findings from the Scottish Health Survey.

Source: Scottish Health Survey, Results for Local Areas, available at: <http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2017/10/6398/downloads>

**Long-term illness:** The 2011 Census also collected information on the presence of a long-term health problem or disability. People were asked “Are your day-to-day activities limited because of a health problem or disability which has lasted, or is expected to last, at least 12 months?” In Aberdeen, 7% of people reported a health problem or disability which limited activities ‘a lot’ and 9.0% which limited activities ‘a little’. Both these figures are slightly below comparative figures for Scotland of 9.6% and 10.1%. Again, the proportion of people whose activities were limited was highest in the 65+ year group, with 24.6% saying their activities were limited ‘a lot’ and 26.5% saying their activities were limited ‘a little’.

Source: Scotland’s Census 2011 – National Records of Scotland, Available at <http://www.scotlandscensus.gov.uk>

A similar question in the Scottish Health Survey asked about limiting long-term illnesses. In Aberdeen (2013-2016 combined data), 28% reported having a limiting long-term illness with a further 15% reporting having a non-limiting long-term illness (compared to 32% and 15% respectively for Scotland). 57% reported having no long-term illness – higher than the rate for Scotland of 53%.

Source: Scottish Health Survey, Results for Local Areas, available at: <http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2017/10/6398/downloads>

## Mental health

**Dementia:** In 2017 dementia and Alzheimer’s disease accounted for 11.3% of all deaths in Scotland (the second most common cause of death).Between 2016 and 2017 the number of deaths from dementia and Alzheimer’s disease rose by 17.6% to 6,549 (although part of this increase will be due to a change in methodology).

In Aberdeen City in 2017, dementia and Alzheimer’s disease accounted for 10.4% of all deaths (221 deaths of which 150 were female and 71 were male).

According to Alzheimer’s Scotland, in 2017 there were an estimated 3,455 people with dementia in Aberdeen City (equivalent to 1.5% of the population). Most people with dementia are 65 years or over (approximately 96% at Scotland level).

Source: Alzheimer’s Scotland, available at: <https://www.alzscot.org/campaigning/statistics>

It is estimated that 0.7% of patients in QoF registered GP practices in Grampian have a diagnosis of dementia (2016).

**Prescriptions for anxiety/depression/psychosis:** In 2016/17 (financial year) 35,342 people in Aberdeen City were prescribed drugs for anxiety, depression or psychosis. This is equivalent to 15.4% of the population – significantly lower than the proportion for Scotland of 18.5%. The proportion of people receiving prescriptions for these conditions has increased significantly in recent years, from 12.5% in 2009/10 to 15.4% in 2016/17. A similar trend has been seen in Scotland.

The 41st City Voice questionnaire asked panellists questions relating to mental health. Panellists were asked how likely they would be to talk to someone if they had a mental health issue – for example a family member, a friend, or a work colleague. 60% of respondents reported were likely or very likely to talk to someone if they had mental health issues.

Source: ScotPHO Health and Wellbeing Profiles

The proportion of people receiving drugs for anxiety, depression or psychosis varied by Intermediate Zone, ranging from a low of 9.3% in West End South to a high of 22.0% in Mastrick.

Source: ScotPHO Health and Wellbeing Profiles

**Patients with psychiatric hospitalisation:** between 2013/14 and 2015/16there were an average of 571 patients per year who were hospitalised with a mental health condition. This is equivalent to a rate (age-sex standardised, 3-year aggregates) of 257.1 per 100,000 population – slightly lower than the rate for Scotland of 269.7 per 100,000 population. The rate of patients with psychiatric hospitalisation has decreased over the past 10 years from 348.2 per 100,000 population in 2002/03-2004/05.

Source: ScotPHO Health and Wellbeing Profiles

The rate of psychiatric hospitalisations varied by Intermediate Zone, ranging from a low of 92.4 per 100,000 population in Balgownie and Donmouth East to a high of 793.6 Ashgrove.

Source: ScotPHO Health and Wellbeing Profiles

**Deaths from suicide:** between 2012 and 2016 there were an average of 31 deaths a year (5-year rolling average) in Aberdeen City which were classified as probable suicide.The rate of 13.9 per 100,000 population (age-sex standardised, 5-year aggregates) is the same as that for Scotland. Overall, the rate of deaths from suicide in Aberdeen City has decreased over the past 10 years (from 17.3 per 100,000 population in 2002-2006), however there have been slight increases in the last two sets of figures.

Source: ScotPHO Health and Wellbeing Profiles

While local level data is not available, in Scotland in 2016 a higher number of males (517) than females (211) had deaths recorded as probable suicide. Hanging (358) and poisoning (201) were the two most common methods recorded. The most common age for male probable suicides was 50-54 years and for females it was 45-49 years (1).

In Aberdeen City the rate of deaths from probable suicide ranges from a low 0.0 per 100,000 population in both Balgownie and Donmouth East and Kingswells, to a high of 50.0 per 100,000 population in City Centre West.

Source: ScotPHO Health and Wellbeing Profiles

## Key diseases

Cancer and circulatory diseases (such as coronary heart disease and stroke) together account for over half of all causes of death in Aberdeen City. In 2016, almost a third (31%) of male deaths and a quarter (25%) of female deaths were caused by cancer, and 27% of male deaths and 27% of female deaths were caused by circulatory diseases.

Source: National Records of Scotland, Vital Events Reference Tables 2016, Section 6: Deaths – Causes, available at: <https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/statistics-and-data/statistics/statistics-by-theme/vital-events/general-publications/vital-events-reference-tables/2016/section-6-death-causes>

Source: National Records of Scotland, Vital Events Reference Tables 2016, Section 6: Deaths – Causes, available at: <https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/statistics-and-data/statistics/statistics-by-theme/vital-events/general-publications/vital-events-reference-tables/2016/section-6-death-causes>

**Cancer – new registrations:** Between 2013 and 2015 there were an average of 1,192 new cancer registrations per year (3-year rolling average) in Aberdeen City. This is equivalent to a rate (age-sex standardised) of 657.5 per 100,000 population which is higher than the equivalent rate for Scotland of 644.9. The rate of new cancer registrations in Aberdeen increased sharply between 2012-2014 and 2013-2015, bringing the rate to its highest level for more than 10 years.

Source: ScotPHO Health and Wellbeing Profiles

Rate per 100,000 population, directly age-sex standardised

The rate of new cancer registrations varies across the City (Intermediate Zones) ranging from a low of 416.4 per 100,000 population in Denmore to a high of 1,358.6 per 100,000 population in Hanover South.

Source: ScotPHO Health and Wellbeing Profiles

Rate per 100,000 population; directly age-sex standardised

**Cancer – early deaths (<75 years):** between 2014 and 2016 there were an average of 283 early deaths per year (3-year rolling average) from cancer. This is equivalent to a rate (age-sex standardised) of 168.3 per 100,000 population – slightly higher than the equivalent rate for Scotland of 163.8 per 100,000 population. Rates of early deaths ranged from a low of 64.1 per 100,000 population in Kingswells to a high of 420.1 per 100,000 population in City Centre East.

Source: ScotPHO Health and Wellbeing Profiles

Rate per 100,000 population; directly age-sex standardised

**Coronary heart disease (CHD) – hospitalisations:** between 2014/15 and 2016/17 there were an average of 768 patients per year (3-year rolling average) hospitalised with CHD – equivalent to a rate of 423.1 per 100,000 population. This is significantly higher than the rate for Scotland of 386.9 per 100,000 population. Over the last 9 years, there have been year-on-year decreases in the rate of patients hospitalised with CHD in both Aberdeen and Scotland.

Source: ScotPHO Health and Wellbeing Profiles

Rate per 100,000 population; directly age-sex standardised

The rate of patients hospitalised varied across the City (Intermediate Zone), ranging from a low of 192.0 per 100,000 population in City Centre East to a high of 609.0 per 100,000 population in Tillydrone.

**CHD – early deaths (<75 years):** between 2014-2016 there were an average of 79 early deaths per year (3-year rolling average) due to CHD in Aberdeen. This is equivalent to a rate of 48.0 per 100,000 population which is slightly lower than the rate for Scotland of 53.2 per 100,000 population. Overall, the rate of early deaths from CHD has fallen in the last 12 years – from 87.4 in 2002-2004 to its current level of 48.0 per 100,000. The rate of early deaths from CHD varied across the city, ranging from a low of 0.0 per 100,000 population in West End North to a high of 139.3 per 100,000 population in Northfield.

## Hospitalisations

**Patients with emergency hospitalisations:** between 2014-2016 there were an average of 15,007 emergency hospitalisation per year (3-year rolling average) in Aberdeen City. Following a period of year-on-year decreases in rates of patients with emergency hospitalisations, the rate in Aberdeen City is now lower than the rate for Scotland (7,605.0 per 100,000 population compared to 7605.9 per 100,000 population). In Aberdeen City the rate ranges from a low of 4,894.9 per 100,000 population in Kingswells to a high of 10,802.7 per 100,000 population in Heathryfold and Middlefield (Intermediate Zones).

Source: ScotPHO Health and Wellbeing Profiles

Rate per 100,000 population; directly age-sex standardised; 3-year aggregates

**Patients aged 65+ years with multiple emergency hospitalisations:** in contrast with the declining rates for patients with emergency hospitalisations, the rate of patients aged 65+ years with multiple emergency hospitalisations has increased in Aberdeen City, from 5,092.0 per 100,000 population in 2010-12 to 5,306.6 per 100,000 population in 2014-2016. This upward trend is consistent with trends in Scotland as a whole. In Aberdeen City the rate ranges from a low of 3,076.9 per 100,000 population in Hanover North to a high of 8,275.8 per 100,000 population in Garthdee (Intermediate Zones).

Source: ScotPHO Health and Wellbeing Profiles

Rate per 100,000 population; directly age-sex standardised; 3-year aggregates

## Wellbeing

The Scottish Health Survey provides information on several ‘wellbeing’ indicators (2013-2016; 4-year aggregate).

Based on the Warwick Edinburgh Mental Wellbeing Scale (WEMWBS), the mean wellbeing score for males (50.7) and females (50.8) in Aberdeen City are similar to the respective scores for Scotland (50.0 and 49.8).

When asked ‘how satisfied are you with life nowadays?’, the mean score for both males and females in Aberdeen City was 7.8. Again, this was similar to the mean scores for males and females in Scotland which was 7.7.

Based on responses to the General Health Questionnaire, an estimated 17.0% of females and 8.5% of males in Aberdeen City have common mental health problems. The higher female rate is consistent with the pattern for Scotland as a whole. While the proportion of females with common mental health problems is similar in Aberdeen City and Scotland (17.0%), the rate of males with common mental health problems is lower in Aberdeen than in Scotland (13.6%).

Source: ScotPHO Health and Wellbeing Profiles (Scottish Health Survey, 2013-2016; 4-year aggregate).

## Social care

**People aged 65 years and over with high levels of care who are looked after at home**: In Aberdeen, in 2017 there were 470 people aged 65+ years with high levels of care need who were cared for at home (i.e. who received 10 and more hours of home care purchased or provided by the local authority). This equates to 26% of all people in this age group with high levels of care need – significantly lower than the Scottish average of 35.2%. The proportion who were cared for at home increased slightly between 2015 and 2017 (from 24.9% in 2015).

Source: ScotPHO Health and Wellbeing Profiles (Scottish Government, Community Care Statistics).

## Groups with special needs

To follow.

## Volunteering

In 2016, 25% of people in Aberdeen reporting providing unpaid help to an organisation or group over the last 12 months. A higher proportion of females (29%) than males (22%) volunteered. The proportion of people who reported volunteering has reduced in the past few years, from 29% in 2014, 36% in 2015 to 25% in 2016.

Source: SHS, available at: <http://www.gov.scot/Resource/0053/00531141.pdf>

## Carers

Data from the 2011 Census indicated that in Aberdeen there were 15,571 people in the city who provided unpaid care (equivalent to 7% of the population in 2011). Of these, 9,342 (60%) provided from 1-19 hours of unpaid care per week, 2,574 (17%) provided 20 to 49 hours and 3,655 (23%) provided 50 or more hours per week.

Source: <https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/census/2011/QS301UK/view/1946157405?cols=measures>

## Adult learners

While a complete absence of reading or writing ability is not thought to be a major issue, low or insufficient literacy and numeracy abilities are believed to be more widespread than previously thought. It is estimated that 23% of adults in Scotland may have low literacy and numeracy skills and another 30% may find their skills inadequate to meet the demands of the ‘knowledge society’ and the ‘information age’. Three factors have been identified as being strongly associated with low literacy and numeracy skills:

* having left education at 16 or earlier
* being on a low income
* being in a manual social class group.

Source: Scottish Government, Adult Literacy and Numeracy in Scotland, available at: <http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2001/07/9471/File-1> (Note: 2001 report so dated).

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Adult learners in Aberdeen City, January to December 2017** | |
| Number of adult enrolments on activities | **971** |
| Number of individual adult participants | **517** |
| Number of participants from the 15% most deprived areas | **60** |

Source: Aberdeen City Council

# Place

## Geography of Aberdeen

The city of Aberdeen covers an area of 186 square kilometres and has a population density of 1,232 persons per square kilometre.

In terms of population size, it is the 8 largest local authority in Scotland.

Dwellings per hectare: Aberdeen City has an average of 6.25 dwellings per hectare. The number of dwellings per hectare varies considerably by local authority with large city authorities such as Glasgow City (17.60), Dundee City (12.42) and City of Edinburgh (9.32) having the highest number of dwellings per hectare. In Scotland as a whole the average is 0.33 dwellings per hectare.

## Communities

**Neighbourhoods:** The City contains 37 neighbourhoods – small area geographies that are used (by Community Planning) to differentiate (plan services?) between different areas of the City. (Note: the neighbourhood boundaries do not match official administrative data boundaries. As a result, official data may not be available at neighbourhood level. Intermediate Zones approximate neighbourhood boundaries).

**Priority localities:** The Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivations (SIMD) is the Scottish Government’s official tool for identifying small area concentrations of multiple deprivation across Scotland. Eight of Aberdeen’s neighbourhoods are recognised as deprived on this basis: Torry, Tillydrone, Seaton, Woodside, Middlefield, Cummings Park, Northfield and Mastrick.

**Wards:** There are 13 multi-member wards in the City.

## Dwellings[[1]](#footnote-1)

In 2017 there were **116,821** dwellings in Aberdeen City. This was an increase of 1,741 (1.5%) on the number of dwellings in 2016. Between 2007 and 2017, the number of dwellings in the City increased by 6.8% (7,396 dwellings) – slightly higher than the increase seen in Scotland of 6.3%.

**Dwellings by neighbourhood (2016)**: The total number of dwellings within each neighbourhood ranges from a low of 737 dwellings in Cummings Park to a high of 6,664 dwellings in Braeside, Mannofield, Broomhill & Seafield.

Source: National Records of Scotland, Small area statistics on households and dwellings, available at: <https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/statistics-and-data/statistics/statistics-by-theme/housholds/household-estimates>

\*Braeside, Mannofield, Broomhill and Seafield

## Council tax band

Dwellings are placed in one of eight Council Tax bands A-H with band H being the most expensive. Most dwellings in Aberdeen City (60%) are in bands A-C, with 25% being in bands D-E and 15% being in bands G-H. The proportion in each category is similar to respective proportions in Scotland as a whole (60%, 27% and 13% respectively). However, the proportion of dwellings within each council tax band varies substantially by neighbourhood. For example, the proportion of dwellings in bands A-C ranges from a low of 7.5% in Kingswells to a high of 99.7% in Middlefield.

Source: National Records of Scotland, Small area statistics on households and dwellings, available at: <https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/statistics-and-data/statistics/statistics-by-theme/housholds/household-estimates>

\*Braeside, Mannofield, Broomhill and Seafield

**Single adult discount:** Single adult discounts are given to dwellings where one adult lives alone, with children or with another adult who is exempt from paying Council Tax (e.g. student). Of the 115,080dwellings in Aberdeen City, 42,903 (37.3%) have a single adult discount. At a neighbourhood level, the proportion of dwellings with a single adult Council Tax discount ranged from a low of 22.3% in Kingswells to a high of 49.9% in Woodside.

Source: National Records of Scotland, Small area statistics on households and dwellings, available at: <https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/statistics-and-data/statistics/statistics-by-theme/housholds/household-estimates>

\*Braeside, Mannofield, Broomhill and Seafield

**‘Occupied exemptions’:** ‘Occupied exemptions’ relate to dwellings which are occupied but the occupants are exempt from paying Council Tax. Most of these are all-student households, although other types of dwelling such as armed forces accommodation are included in this category. In Aberdeen City, 6,857 (6.0%) dwellings had ‘occupied exemptions’. While this rate is relatively high compared to Scotland (2.9%), it is consistent with the rate in other council areas which have major universities including; Dundee City (7.1%), Glasgow City (6.7%), City of Edinburgh (6.5%) and Stirling (4.2%). For most other local authorities, the rate of ‘occupied exemptions’ is around 1%. In most neighbourhoods of the City the proportion of dwellings exempt from paying Council Tax is relatively low and considerably less than the average for Aberdeen City of 6%. However, there are several neighbourhoods where the proportion is much higher than the average rate for the City. In particular, Old Aberdeen (32.7%) and Froghall, Powis & Sunnybank (23.3%) have a high proportion of exempt dwellings.

Source: National Records of Scotland, Small area statistics on households and dwellings, available at: <https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/statistics-and-data/statistics/statistics-by-theme/housholds/household-estimates>

\*Braeside, Mannofield, Broomhill and Seafield

## Dwelling type

Flats are the most common dwelling type in Aberdeen City, making up 55% of all dwellings compared to 38% for Scotland. Terraced (18%) and semi-detached (16%) dwellings are the next most common, with detached houses (11%) making up the smallest proportion of the City’s dwellings.

Source: National Records of Scotland, Estimates of Households and Dwellings in Scotland, 2017

While flats are the most common dwelling type overall in the City, there are differences depending on where you live. For example, in Kingswells (64.8%) and Cults, Bieldside and Milltimber (58.6%) most of the dwellings are detached properties, while in Sheddocksley (67.5%), Northfield (64.5%), Heathryfold (62.2%) and Mastrick (59.3%) most dwellings are terraced houses.

Source: National Records of Scotland, Small area statistics on households and dwellings, available at: <https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/statistics-and-data/statistics/statistics-by-theme/housholds/household-estimates>

\*Braeside, Mannofield, Broomhill and Seafield

**Dwellings by occupancy**: Ninety-five percent of the City’s dwellings are occupied (compared to 96% for Scotland). Of those that are not occupied, almost 80% (4,544) are classified as vacant and 20% (1,175) are classified as second homes. Over the past year there has been a sharp increase (30%) in the number of vacant dwellings from 3,484 in 2016. The proportion of unoccupied dwellings varies by neighbourhood. The neighbourhood with the highest percentage of unoccupied dwellings is Middlefield (9.8%), while the neighbourhood with the lowest percentage of unoccupied dwellings is Northfield (1.3%).

## Household tenure

At the time of the 2011 Census, 57.3% of households were owned, 24.2% were socially rented, 17.0% were privately rented and 1.4% were rent-free. Compared to Scotland, Aberdeen had a lower proportion of owned households (62.0% in Scotland) and a higher proportion of privately rented households (12.4% in Scotland). The proportion of social rented households was similar (24.3% in Scotland).

Household tenure varied by neighbourhood. For example, in Oldmacher, Cove and Kingswells almost 90% of households were ‘owned’ whereas over three-quarters (78.5%) Middlefield were socially rented. Almost half (47.1%) of households in the City Centre were privately rented.

Source: Scotland’s Census, 2011

## Social housing

**Housing stock:** In Aberdeen City in 2017 the Local Authority’s housing stock totalled 22,041 dwellings – equivalent to 83% of all social housing stock in the City (based on 2016 data with the Housing Association managing the remaining 17% of social housing in the City) and to 18.9% of all dwellings in the City.

Of the Council stock, three-quarters (75.8%) were flats and a quarter (24.2%) were houses. Since 1998, the total housing stock owned by the Council has decreased by 25.1% - from 29,442 in 1998. The number of houses has decreased more than the number of flats (-38.2% compared to -19.7%).

Source: Scottish Government, Housing Statistics annual Key Trends, available at: <http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Housing-Regeneration?utm_source=website&utm_medium=navigation&utm_campaign=statistics-topics>

In the year to 31st March 2017, there were 1,774 vacancies of which 1,696 were re-let. Of those which were re-let, 698 (41%) were let to homeless households.

At 31st March 2017 there were a total 6,631 applicants on the housing register – a decrease of 209 from end March 2016. Of those on the register 4,360 (65.8%) were on the waiting list and 2,271 (34.2%) were on the transfer list.

Source: Scottish Government, Housing Statistics for Scotland, Housing Lists, available at: <http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Housing-Regeneration>

## Affordable housing/shortage of housing?

To follow.

## Supported housing and care homes

## Supported housing

A range of supported housing is provided by the Local Authority.

**Local Authority provision of supported housing, Aberdeen City, 31st March 2017**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | **No. of dwellings** | |
|  | **Type of housing** | **2007** | **2017** |
| **Housing for older people** | Sheltered housing  *(of which are wheelchair adapted)* | 2,161  *(37)* | 1,939  *(223)* |
| Very sheltered housing | 103 | 110 |
| Amenity/medium dependency housing | 277 | 1,261 |
| Dwellings with a community alarm | 1,076 | 2,573 |
|  |  |  |  |
| **Housing for people with physical disabilities** | Adapted for wheelchair use | - | 293 |
| Ambulant disabled | - | 86 |
| Other adapted | - | 1,900 |

Source: Scottish Government, Housing for Older People and those with disabilities, available at: <http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Housing-Regeneration/HSfS/SpecialNeeds>

## Adult care homes

In Aberdeen City in 2016 there were 64 adult care homes – 32 of which are run by the private sector and 32 of which are run by the voluntary sector. No care homes in the City are run by the local authority/NHS. Almost half of the care homes in the City are for Older people (31 care homes) with the next largest number of care homes being for adults with learning difficulties (18 care homes). There are 8 care homes for adults with mental health problems, 4 care homes for adults with physical difficulties and 4 care homes for ‘other’ groups.

In 2016 there were a total of 1,789 registered places in adult care homes – 80% of which were in care homes for older people. The total number of residents was 1,627 (occupancy rate of 91%).

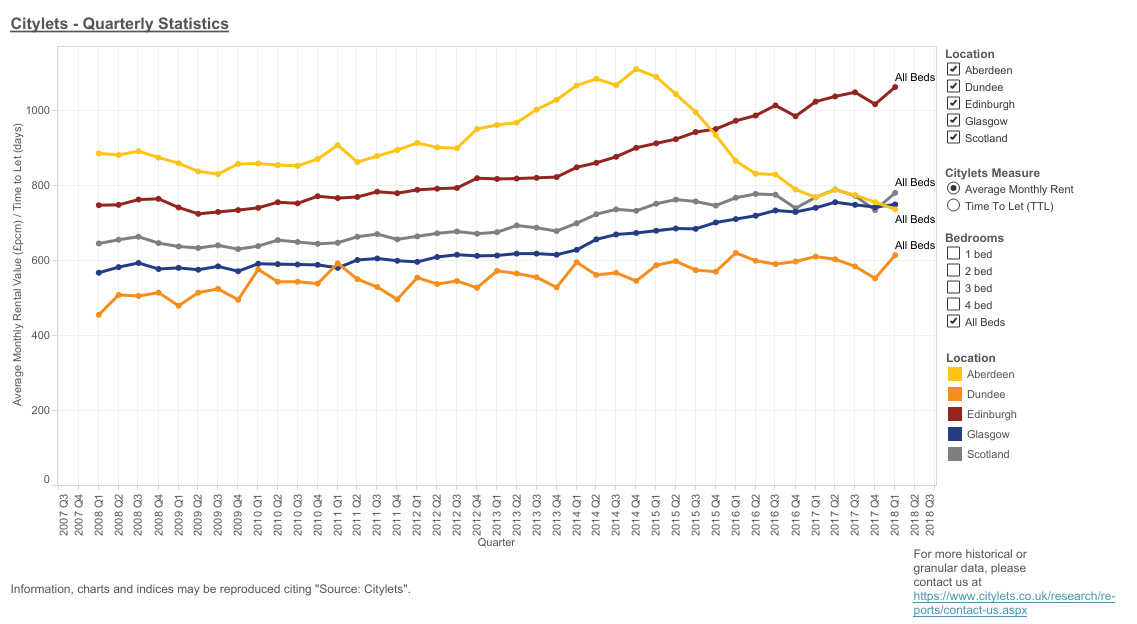
Since 2006 the number of adult care homes has decreased by a third (from 96 in 2006) with the number of registered places decreasing by 14% in the same period. The largest proportionate decrease in number of registered places has been in care homes for the adults with learning disabilities (-48%) and ‘other’ (-47%). Registered places in care homes for adults with mental health problems have decreased by 39% and places for older people have decreased by 5%. The number of places for adults with physical disabilities has increased by 22%.

Source: ISD Scotland, Care Home Census for Adults in Scotland, available at: <https://www.isdscotland.org/Health-Topics/Health-and-Social-Community-Care/Publications/2016-10-25/2016-10-25-CHCensus-Report.pdf>

## Private rented sector

Almost half (49%) of rental properties in Aberdeen City are two-bedroom flats with 1- bedroom flats being the next most common (36%). The average monthly rent for privately-rented properties in Aberdeen City has dropped from a high of £1,110 per month in Q4 of 2014 to a low of £736 in Q1 of 2018 – a drop of 33.7% in the period. This contrasts with the continuing upwards trends for monthly rent seen in other cities. Prior to the downturn at the end of 2014, the average monthly rent in Aberdeen was the highest in Scotland. Average rental prices in Aberdeen City are now slightly lower than those for Scotland as a whole. In the same period the average time to let increased from 22 days to 58 days.

**Average monthly rent by city, 2007 to 2018**



Source: Citylets Datahub, available at: <https://www.citylets.co.uk/research/datahub/>

## House sales

Both the number of properties sold and the average price per property have decreased in the last two years. In 2017, the average purchase price for a residential property in Aberdeen City was £200,983 – higher than the average price for Scotland of £172,779 and sixth highest of all local authorities. However, since peaking at £220,786 in 2015, the average purchase price in Aberdeen City has decreased by 9%. There were 3,991 properties sold in 2017 – down almost 9% from the number of properties sold in 2015, but up slightly from the number sold in 2016.

Source: Registers of Scotland, Calendar year market review, available at: <https://www.ros.gov.uk/property-data/property-statistics/calendar-year-reports>

## New builds

A total of 671 new houses were supplied in 2016-17 in Aberdeen City. Of these, 518 were private new build completions, 28 were Housing Association new builds and 125 were as a result of conversions. The number of new houses supplied each year has fluctuated considerably over the past 20 years.

**Supply of new housing, Aberdeen City, 1996-97 to 2016-17**

Source: Scottish Government, Housing statistics for Scotland – supply of new housing, available at: <http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Housing-Regeneration/HSfS/NewHousingSupply>

## Planned developments

The Aberdeen Local Development Plan was adopted on 20 January 2017. The Plan shows what land is being allocated to meet the city’s development needs over the next 10-20 years and it sets out the planning policies that will apply in promoting the sustainable growth of the city over this period. It plans for 8,000 homes to be built between 2017 and 2026, and a further 7,000 to be built between 2027 and 2035.

Many of the sites have a phased delivery and a full list of the sites and their planned release can be found in the Local Development Plan: <http://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/nmsruntime/saveasdialog.asp?lID=74821&sID=9484>

This map below provides an indication of where major developments are planned.

**Planned housing developments in Aberdeen**



## Crime

In Scotland, crimes and offences are classified into 7 groups:

* **Group 1** – **Non-sexual crimes of violence** (includes murder, culpable homicide, attempted murder and serious assault, robbery and assault with intent to rob, and ‘other’ crimes including threats and extortion and possession of a firearm with intent to endanger life).
* **Group 2** – **Sexual crimes** (includes rape and attempted rape, sexual assault, crimes associated with prostitution and other sexual crimes).
* **Group 3** – **Crimes of dishonesty** (includes housebreaking, theft, shoplifting, fraud).
* **Group 4** – **Fire-raising and vandalism etc**.
* **Group 5** – Other crimes (includes crimes against public justice, handling offensive weapons, drug-related and ‘other’ including offences relating to serious organised crime).

The final two groups come under the category of ‘offences’ rather than ‘crimes’.

* **Group 6 – Miscellaneous offences** (includes common assault, breach of the peace, drunkenness and other disorderly conduct and ‘other’).
* **Group 7 – Motor vehicle offences** (includes dangerous and careless driving, driving under the influence, speeding, unlawful use of vehicle, vehicle defect offences, seatbelt and mobile phone offences and ‘other).

Further information on classifications can be found at: <https://beta.gov.scot/publications/recorded-crime-scotland-2016-17/pages/36/>

In 2017/18 the most common crimes recorded in Aberdeen City were Miscellaneous Offences (5,987) and Crimes of Dishonesty (5,859).

Source: Police Scotland

Comparison with Scotland shows that, with the exception of Motor Vehicle Offences, rates of crimes and offences (per 10,000 population) are higher in Aberdeen City than in Scotland. In most cases this difference is relatively small, however the rate of Crimes of Dishonesty is over 50% higher (51.1%) in Aberdeen compared to Scotland. (Note: this comparison is using 2016/17 data as 2017/18 data national data is not yet available.)

Source: Police Scotland

Over the past 5 years, the rates (per 10,000 population) of Crimes of Dishonesty, Fire-raising and Vandalism, Miscellaneous Offences and Motor Vehicle Offences have decreased. Rates for Crimes of Violence, Sexual Crimes and Other Crimes have increased slightly over the period, although rates of both Crimes of Violence and Sexual Crimes fell between 2016/17 and 2017/18.

Source: Police Scotland

## Crimes and offences by neighbourhood

Rates of crime and offences in different neighbourhoods of the City are compared using 5-year aggregate data (2013/14-2017/18). The rates for crimes/offences are highest in the City Centre for every category. Consistent with findings for the City as a whole, the most commonly recorded are Miscellaneous Offences (4,152.6 per 10,000 population) and Crimes of Dishonesty (2,667.9 per 10,000 population). The next most common are Other Crimes (1,036.7), Motor Vehicle Offences (921.3), Fire-raising, vandalism etc. (343.1), Crimes of Violence (123.0) and Sexual Crimes (107.6).

Given the disparity between the City Centre and other neighbourhoods in the City, to more easily allow comparison between neighbourhoods, the City Centre is not included in the chart below. In some areas of the City such as Kingswells, Oldmachar and Cults, the overall rates of recorded crimes/offences are relatively low, while in other areas such as Woodside, Ashgrove and Cummings Park they are considerably higher.

While Miscellaneous Offences and Crimes of Dishonesty remain the most commonly recorded crimes/offences in most neighbourhoods, the rates for other categories of crimes/offences varies. For example, the rate of Crimes of Violence in Hannover is more than twice the average rate for the City (33.6 per 10,000 population compared to 14.8 per 10,000 population). Similarly, the rate of Sexual Crimes in Hannover is more than 4 times the rate for the City (87.5 compared to 21.3). The table below shows the neighbourhoods with the highest rates within each category of crime/offence.

**Neighbourhoods with the highest rates for each crime/offence category, Aberdeen City, 2013/14-2017/18**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Category of crime/offence (rate for Aberdeen City)** | **Neighbourhood (rate per 10,000 population)** | **Neighbourhood (rate per 10,000 population)** | **Neighbourhood**  **(rate per 10,000 population)** | **Neighbourhood**  **(rate per 10,000 population)** |
| Crimes of Violence (14.8) | City Centre (123.0) | Woodside (33.6) | Torry (26.4) | Middlefield (26.1) |
| Sexual crimes (21.3) | City Centre (107.6) | Hanover (87.5) | Middlefield (52.8) | Cummings Park (41.4) |
| Crimes of dishonesty (319.9) | City Centre (2,667.9) | Ashgrove (647.1) | Hanover (531.6) | Woodside (491.2) |
| Fire-raising, vandalism etc. (107.5) | City Centre (343.1) | Torry (291.9) | Cummings Park (246.1) | Middlefield (235.9) |
| Other Crimes (114.5) | City Centre (1,036.7) | Woodside (247.1) | Torry (243.6) | Seaton (240.0) |
| Miscellaneous Offences (332.4) | City Centre (4,152.6) | Woodside (574.9) | Cummings Park (559.6) | Middlefield (495.2) |
| Motor Vehicle Offences (224.1) | City Centre (921.5) | Woodside (459.6) | Bucksburn (432.8) | Hanover (428.4) |

Source: Police Scotland

Rate per 10,000 population; 5-year aggregate 2013/14-2017/18

## Feel safe in community

In 2016, an estimated 95% of people in Aberdeen City rated their neighbourhood as a very (55.3%) or fairly (39.7%) good place to live. While most people thought their neighbourhood had stayed the same (63%) or got better (14%) over the past three years, 20% thought that it had gotten worse over this period. The most commonly reported neighbourhood problems were rubbish or litter lying around (26%) and animal nuisance such as noise or dog fouling (25%). A higher proportion of those in social housing than those in owner occupied housing reported these problems were very/fairly common (45% and 39% respectively). Other problems reported as very/fairly common by those in social housing were drug misuse or dealing (35%), neighbour problems (34%) and groups or individuals harassing others (33%).

An estimated 85% of people in the City said they felt safe when walking alone in their neighbourhood at night and 98% felt safe in their home at night.

In City Voice 42 (January 2018) 85.5% of respondents either agreed or strongly agreed with the statement that they feel safe in the neighbourhood where they live.

Similarly, in the Place Standard Survey (Spring 2018), in response to the question ‘Do I feel safe?’, a mean score of 5.02 was returned. (Scoring is on a scale from 1 to 7 where 1 means there is a lot of room for improvement and 7 means there is little room for improvement.)

(Source: Scottish Household Survey, 2016, available at: <http://www.gov.scot/Resource/0053/00531141.pdf> ).

## Dwelling fires

In 2016/17 there were 350 dwelling fires in Aberdeen City. Of these 51 (44.3 per 100,000 dwellings) were deliberate and 299 were accidental (rate of 259.8 per 100,000 dwellings) – 2 fatal casualties and 21 non-fatal casualties.

The rate of accidental dwelling fires is considerably higher in Aberdeen than in Scotland (259.8 per 100,000 dwellings compared to 191.3 in Scotland) and is the 6th highest out of all local authorities.

Impairment due to alcohol/drugs was suspected to be a contributory factor to accidental dwelling fires in Aberdeen in 17% of cases – higher than the rate for Scotland of 14% and equal 6th highest of all local authorities.

Source: Fire Scotland, available at: <http://www.firescotland.gov.uk/about-us/fire-and-rescue-statistics.aspx>

## Road safety

In 2016 there were 175 road traffic accidents in Aberdeen City involving 210 casualties (of whom 10 were children). There were 3 fatalities and 63 serious injuries.

While the total number of accidents where one or more people were injured has more than halved in the last 10 years (from 393 to 175), the number of people who were seriously injured has not – with serious injury occurring in almost a third of road traffic accidents (where one or more people were injured) in 2016 compared to 13% in 2006.

Source: Transport Scotland, available at: <https://www.transport.gov.scot/publication/reported-road-casualties-scotland-2016/summary/#tba>

## Travel/transport

To follow.

## Aberdeen Western Peripheral Route

The AWPR is a major transport infrastructure project which will significantly improve travel in and around Aberdeen and the North East of Scotland. The £745m investment of the AWPR is just one of a number of transport infrastructure projects in the pipeline which will significantly improve road safety and accessibility, reduce congestion and grow the local economy - ensuring the North East remains a competitive business location.

## Berryden Corridor improvement scheme

The £26.4million Berryden Corridor improvement scheme is designed to help traffic move around the city better and work alongside the improvements already delivered by the new crossing over the River Don which opened in 2016, the Diamond Bridge.

Berryden Corridor improvement scheme: <https://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/services/roads-transport-and-parking/berryden-corridor-improvement-scheme>

## Environment

## Green space

Aberdeen City has healthy extent of greenspace, and within the city boundaries are four Sites of Special Scientific Interest, four Local Nature Reserves, one Special Area of Conservation[[2]](#endnote-1) and a number of Local Nature Conservation Sites.

62% of people in Aberdeen live within a 5-minute walk of their nearest green space with a further 18% living within a 6 to 10-minute walk. 47% report visiting their nearest green space at least once a week. 78% report being satisfied or fairly satisfied with their nearest green space. Source: SHS, available at: <http://www.gov.scot/Resource/0053/00531141.pdf>

City Voice 42 (January 2018) – 25% visited green space at least once or twice a week. 70% reported being satisfied or fairly satisfied with their local green space.

**Outdoors:** 58% make a visit to the outdoors at least once a week with a further 12% visiting the outdoors at least once a month.

Source: SHS, available at: <http://www.gov.scot/Resource/0053/00531141.pdf>

**Allotments:** Aberdeen has 496 Council owned allotment plots located across 21 sites. In addition to this there are also a few sites in private ownership. Source: ACC, <https://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/services/leisure-culture-and-sport/allotments>

## Travel and transport - environment

**Travel to work:** In 2011, 58.7% of people (16-74 years who were in employment) used the car to travel to work, 15.4% walked and 12.3% used the bus (2011 Census).

**Car or van availability**: In 2011, 44.9% of households in the city had access to a car or van with a further 23.8% having access to two or more cars or vans. 31.4% of households did not have access to a car or van.

## CO2 emissions

Carbon dioxide (CO2) is the main greenhouse gas and accounts for over 80% of greenhouse gas emissions in the UK. In 2015 CO2 emissions in Aberdeen totalled 1,335.2 kt (down from 1,813.6 in 2005). Of this, 45% is attributed to industry and commerce, 30% to domestic use and 24% to transport.

Between 2005 and 2015, per capita CO2 emissions (kt CO2) have fallen in both Aberdeen and Scotland. In 2015 the per capital levels were slightly lower in Aberdeen than in Scotland (5.8 compared to 6.1).

## Flood risk

Scotland has been separated into 14 Local Plan Districts for flood risk management purposes. These districts are based on river catchments and coastal areas which cross administrative and institutional boundaries. SEPA, working with others, has produced a Flood Risk Management Strategy for each Local Plan District.The latest Flood Risk Management Strategyproduced by SEPA for the North East Local Plan District identifies 4 areas in Aberdeen City that are potentially vulnerable to flooding – Peterculter, Bridge of Don, Denmore, and Deeside. Total annual average damages = £17,370,000

Average annual damages for each area:

* Aberdeen City – Deeside: £12 million (River 86%, Coastal 1% and Surface Water 14%)
* Aberdeen City – Bridge of Don: £4.5 million (River 81%, Coastal <1%, Surface Water 19%)
* Aberdeen City – Denmore: £570,000 (89% River)
* Peterculter - £300,000 (River 94%, Surface Water 6%)

**Aberdeen City – Deeside**

Source: <http://apps.sepa.org.uk/FRMStrategies/north-east.html>

Total average annual damages for the North East local plan area = £21,746,500. Therefore, 80% of average annual damages for flooding are within Aberdeen City.

## Waste and recycling

In 2016, 96,123 tonnes of waste were generated in Aberdeen City. Most (60.4%) went to landfill with 39% being recycled. Less than 1% was manged by other methods (e.g. incineration). In Scotland, 45% of waste generated went to landfill with 45.2% being recycled (with the remainder being managed by other methods).

The proportion of household waste being recycled in Aberdeen increased from 35.7% in 2011 to 39.0% in 2016.

Source: <https://www.environment.gov.scot/data/data-analysis/household-waste/>

## Air pollution – particulate matter (PM10) concentrations

Particulate pollution can harm the human respiratory and cardiovascular systems and is linked to asthma and mortality. Current targets focus on particles less than 10µm in diameter (PM10), the greatest source of which is combustion. One of the Air Quality Strategy (AQS) objectives for PM10 was to achieve an annual mean of 18μg/m3 by 2010. In 2011 this target was met at only 2 monitoring stations. However, by 2016, all 6 monitoring stations met the target.

Source: Scottish environment statistics online, available at: <http://www.gov.scot/seso/Datasets.aspx?TID=2>

## Cleanliness score

In 2016-2017 Aberdeen City had a Street Cleanliness Score of 88% (i.e. percentage streets at an acceptable A or B grade standard). This was the lowest score of all local authorities in Scotland. However, it is an increase of 7% from the 2015-2016 score.

Source: <https://www.keepscotlandbeautiful.org/media/1561095/16_17-leams-benchmarking-report.pdf>

In 2017-16 Aberdeen City Council spent £9,211 per 1,000 people on street cleaning. This was the 6th lowest amount of all local authorities and lower than the average for Scotland of £14,431 per 1,000 people. Since 2013-14 the amount of money spent on street cleaning has increased from £8,061 per 1,000 people – an increase of 14.3%.

In 2014-17 68.7% of Aberdeen’s residents were satisfied with local street cleanliness compared to 72.3% for Scotland. Since 2013-16, the proportion of satisfied residents has risen in Aberdeen (from 66%) and decreased in Scotland (from 73.7%).

Source: Scottish Improvement Service, Local Government Benchmarking Framework, available at: <http://www.improvementservice.org.uk/benchmarking/explore-the-data.html>

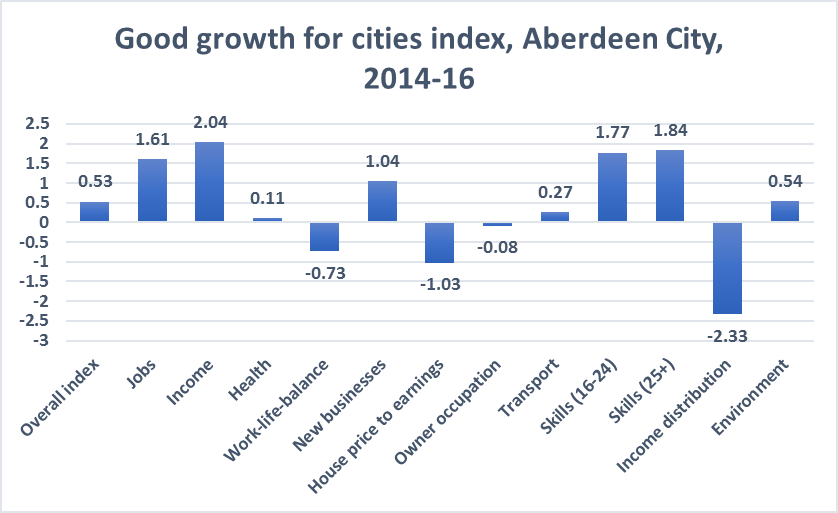
# Economy

## Overview of Aberdeen’s economy

To follow.

## Good growth for cities index

Based on the good growth for cities index (2014-2016), Aberdeen has the second highest rating in Scotland after Edinburgh (Score of 0.53 on the overall index compared to 0.72 for Edinburgh). The index measures the current performance of a range of the largest UK cities against 10 indicators. While Aberdeen scores well for Income, Skills, Jobs, New Business and Environment, it scores poorly for Income Distribution, House Price to Earnings, and Work-life Balance.



Source: <https://www.pwc.co.uk/industries/government-public-sector/good-growth.html>

## GVA

In 2016 Aberdeen City had a GVA of £10,607 million – equivalent to 7.9% of Scotland’s total GVA (third highest behind Glasgow at £20,371 million and Edinburgh at £19,942 million). Aberdeen City was one of 4 local authorities which saw economic output decrease in 2016 - Aberdeen City (-2.2%), Aberdeenshire (-1.4%), Na h-Eileanan Siar (-1.1%), and West Dunbartonshire (-0.7%) all saw economic output decline.

In 2016, Aberdeen City had the highest GVA per head ratio at £46,151 compared to £24,800 for Scotland. GVA per head fell by £3,715 between 2014 and 2016.

Source: <https://digitalpublications.parliament.scot/ResearchBriefings/Report/2018/2/23/A-Guide-to-Gross-Value-Added--GVA--in-Scotland#Local-authority-GVA>

## Key Sectors

Scotland’s Economic Strategy recognises the importance of key industries in the continued growth of the country. The Strategy has identified six sectors where Scotland has a distinct comparative advantage – Food and Drink (including fisheries and agriculture), Creative Industries (including digital), Sustainable Tourism, Energy (including renewables), Financial and Business Services, and Life Sciences.

The table below gives an overview of statistics for five of these key sectors in Aberdeen City

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **No. of enterprises 2016** | **Total turnover 2014 (£, M)** | **GVA 2014**  **(£, M)** | **GVA per head 2014 (£)** | **Employment 2015** |
| Tourism | 540 | 456 | 271 | 26,150 | 11,300 |
| Energy | 795 | 21,991 | 8,770 | 299,905 | 30,800 |
| Food & Drink | 125 | 321 | 125 | 110,498 | 1,300 |
| Life Sciences | 35 | 53 | 28 | 40,091 | 700 |
| Creative Industries | 915 | 582 | 346 | 80,601 | 4,500 |

Source: Scottish Government Growth Sector Statistics

## Tourism

**Hotel rates**: Between December 2014 and Q1 of 2017, the average price for a hotel room in Aberdeen dropped from £92.87 to £60.56.

Source: (Jamie), SG Growth Sector Statistics

**Air passengers:** In 2016 there were2.96 million air passengers through Aberdeen Airport. This is a drop of 20.4% on the numbers from 2014 (3.72 million).

**Source:** Transport Scotland, Scottish Transport Statistics, available at: <https://www.transport.gov.scot/publication/scottish-transport-statistics-no-36-datasets/>

**Number of tourists:** to follow

## Oil and Gas

To follow.



Source: <https://www.nasdaq.com/markets/crude-oil-brent.aspx?timeframe=4y> (18th June 2018)

**Employment:** ThelatestOil and Gas UKEconomic Report estimates that in 2017 there were 28,300 people in the UK who were directly employed in the Oil and Gas sector. This is a drop of 31.5% from the total number directly employed in the sector in 2014 (41,300). In the same period the number indirectly supported has fallen from 206,100 to 141,900 – a drop of 31.1%.

## Universities

Aberdeen is home to two major universities, University of Aberdeen and Robert Gordon University as well as a further education college, North East Scotland College. The total number of students in 2017/18 was 41,684 (includes full-time and part-time).

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Further & higher education student numbers, 2017/18** | | | |
|  |  |  |  |
| **Name of Institution** | **Total** | **Full time** | **Part time** |
| University of Aberdeen | 14,793 | 12,814 | 1,979 |
| Robert Gordon University | 15,338 | 10,379 | 4,959 |
| North East Scotland College | 11,553 | 6,736 | 4,817 |

Source: Aberdeen University, Robert Gordon University, North East Scotland College

## Businesses

## Business Count

In 2017, there were 8,700 enterprises in Aberdeen City (11,485 business units). Most (85.6%) were classified as Micro (0 to 9), 11% were Small (10 to 49), 2.6% were Medium (50 to 249) and 0.7% were Large (250+).

Source: Nomis, ONS Inter Departmental Business Register, (Labour Market Profile); available at: <https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/la/1946157405/report.aspx?#ld>

The number of businesses in Aberdeen has decreased in the last two years - from 9,185 in 2015 to 8,700 in 2017.

Source: Nomis, ONS Inter Departmental Business Register, (Labour Market Profile); available at: <https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/la/1946157405/report.aspx?#ld>

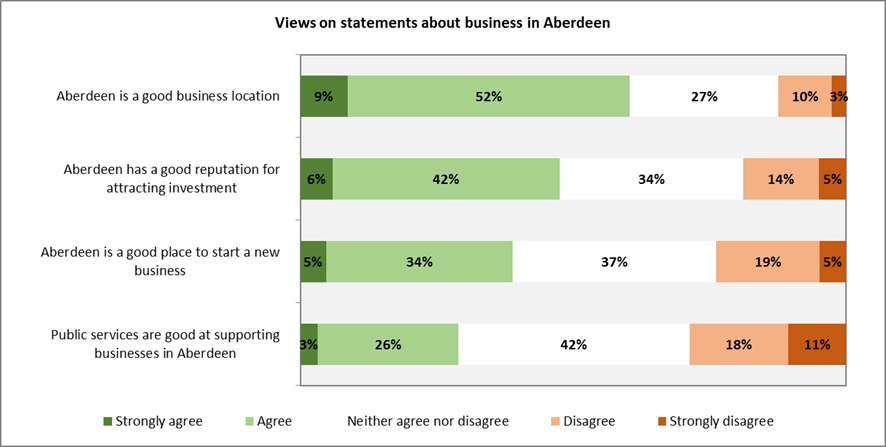
## Business births and deaths

The number of new businesses starting each year fell between 2013 and 2015, before increasing slightly between 2015 and 2016 (from 1,090 to 1,160). The fall in business births has been accompanied by a sharp rise in business deaths (from 880 in 2014 to 1,570 in 2016 – an increase of 78%).

One-year survival rates of 2015 business births was 89% in Aberdeen compared to 90% in Scotland. Five-year survival rates of 2011 business births was 53.5% in Aberdeen compared to 45.6% in Scotland.

Source: ONS Business Demography, available at: <https://www.ons.gov.uk/businessindustryandtrade/business/activitysizeandlocation/datasets/businessdemographyreferencetable>

In City Voice 48, respondents were asked their views about business in Aberdeen. 9% of respondents strongly agreed that Aberdeen is a good business location, with a further 52% agreeing. 34% of respondents agreed that Aberdeen is a good place to start a new business.



*Source: 38 Aberdeen City Voice (Base = 556, 553, 550, 551)*

## Innovation

Although an imperfect measure, patent data is widely used to measure innovation. While patents do not cover all forms of innovation – they exclude process innovations, trademarks and creative innovations - it can act as a proxy. Figures obtained by the Centre for Cities has revealed that in 2015 there were 57.3 patent applications per 100,000 population in Aberdeen City – the sixth highest rate of any UK city.

Source: Centre for Cities, available at: <http://www.centreforcities.org/data-tool/#graph=bar&city=show-all&indicator=patent-applications\\single\\2015&sortOrder=high>

## Income and earnings

## Average weekly wage by place of work

In 2017, the median weekly wage (excluding overtime) for a full-time worker who works in Aberdeen City was £583.90 – higher than the figure for Scotland of £547.30. Only City of Edinburgh has a higher median weekly wage at £598.50 for people who work there. In Aberdeen (as in Scotland as a whole) the median wage was higher for males (£646.30) than females (£540.80). The gap between male and female earnings is higher in Aberdeen than in Scotland (16.3% compared to 14.1%).

In contrast to trends for Scotland, since 2014 the median weekly wage in Aberdeen has fallen - from £632.30 in 2014 to £583.90 in 2017 (7.7%). The fall in weekly wage has been higher in males than in females with male earnings reducing from £693.00 in 2014 to £646.30 in 2017 (a drop of 6.7%) and female earnings falling from £555.70 in 2014 to £540.80 in 2017 (a drop of 2.7%).

The gap between male and female earnings has reduced – from 23.7% in 2007 to 16.3% in 2017. This is consistent with trends in Scotland where the gap between male and female earnings dropped from 20.8% to 14.1%.

Source: NOMIS, Labour Market Profile (Annual Population Survey); available at: <https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/la/1946157405/report.aspx?#ls>

## Average weekly wage by place of residence

Wages for people who live in the City are lower than those who work in the City. The median weekly wage for a full-time worker who lives in Aberdeen is £545.60 (compared to £583.90 for those who work in the City). This is lower than the figure for Scotland of £547.30. Again, the median weekly wage was higher for males (£563.20) than females (£516.90). (Note: Situation reversed in Aberdeenshire – higher residence based than work-place base wages - £566.10 compared to £514.6)

As with work-place based wages, the median weekly wage decreased between 2014 and 2017, with the drop being higher for males than females. Between 2007 and 2017 the gap between male and female wages fell from 20.4% to 8.2%.

Source: NOMIS, Labour Market Profile (Annual Population Survey); available at: <https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/la/1946157405/report.aspx?#ls>

## Annual household income

Information on annual household income in available from CACI Paycheck data. In 2017 the median household income for Aberdeen City was £31,672. This is higher than the respective figure for Scotland of £28,342 and 6th highest out of all local authorities in Scotland. There was considerable variation in annual household income by neighbourhood, ranging from a low of £18,596 in Middlefield to a high of £61, 570 in Cults, Bieldside and Milltimber.

Source: CACI paycheck 2017

## Labour market

## Economically active

**Economically active:** In 2017, 79% of Aberdeen’s working age population (16-64 years) was classified as economically active – slightly higher than the rate for Scotland of 77.5%. A higher proportion of males (82.2%) than females (75.9%) were economically active.

Source: NOMIS, Labour Market Profile (Annual Population Survey); available at: <https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/la/1946157405/report.aspx?#ls>

**Employed**: Of those who were economically active, 76.1% were in employment and an estimated 4.1% were unemployed (note: the figures don’t add up to 79% as the unemployment rate is a model-based estimate). A higher proportion of males (78.0%) than females (74.2%) were in employment. Of those who were in employment, 75.2% were in full-time positions. Again, males were more likely than females to work full-time (89.7% compared to 59.5%).

**Graduate employment:** 44.8% of those in employment in Aberdeen are graduates. This is higher than the rate for Scotland (35.6%) and the fifth highest rate of all local authorities.

**Underemployment:** This relates to people who would like either more hours in their existing job, an additional job to supplement their existing job or another job with more hours. In 2017 there were an estimated 10,900 people in underemployment in Aberdeen – equivalent to 8.9% of those in employment – slightly higher than the rate for Scotland of 8.0% and the 9th highest of all local authorities. Since 2015 the rate of underemployment has increased by 3.9% in Aberdeen, compared to a decrease of 1.2% in Scotland.

Source: Scottish Government, Regional Employment Patterns in Scotland (Statistics from Annual Population Survey); available at: <http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Labour-Market/Local-Authority-Tables>

## Economically inactive

In 2017, 21% of Aberdeen’s working age population (16-64 years) were classified as economically inactive – slightly lower than the rate for Scotland of 22.5%. Students made up the highest proportion of this group (41.6%), followed by long-term sick (20.2%) and those looking after the family home (16.1%). Those who were retired accounted for 11.7% of those who were economically inactive. Compared to Scotland, Aberdeen has a higher proportion of students and a lower proportion of long-term sick, retired and looking after the family home. Aberdeen also has a higher proportion of economically inactive people who would like a job (31.8% in Aberdeen compared to 23.7% in Scotland).

Source: NOMIS, Labour Market Profile (Annual Population Survey); available at: <https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/la/1946157405/report.aspx?#ls> Note: figure for Total are as % of 16-64 year population and figures for other categories are % of economically inactive.

A higher proportion of females than males are economically inactive (24.1% compared to 17.8% of population aged 16-64 years). The rate of males who are economically inactive has increased substantially in recent years from 12.7% in 2013, peaking at 22.3% in 2016 before dropping back to 17.8% in 2017. For females the rate dropped between 2013 and 2015 (from 26.6% to 21.2%). Between 2015 and 2016 the rate increased before falling again between 2016 and 2017.

Source: NOMIS, Labour Market Profile (Annual Population Survey); available at: <https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/la/1946157405/report.aspx?#ls>

## Unemployment

Two main measures are used to provide unemployment figures. The first is The **Annual Population Survey** which is aresidence-based labour market survey. Because unemployed people form only a small percentage of the population, estimates for local authorities were often unreliable. To improve estimates for local authority areas, model-base estimates were developed. The second measure is the **Claimant Count**. This counts the number of people claiming Jobseeker's Allowance plus those who claim Universal Credit and are required to seek work and be available for work. As an administrative count, the claimant count is very useful as provides reliable figures for all those who are claiming unemployment-related benefits. The main draw-back of the claimant count is that it only includes those who are claiming unemployment-related benefits - not all those who are unemployed will necessarily want to, or be able to, claim these benefits and will therefore be excluded from the count. As a result, the claimant count is likely to under-estimate actual unemployment levels.

**Model-based estimates:** In 2016 unemployment in Aberdeen reached 5.4% and for the first time in at least 10 years was higher than that for Scotland (4.8%). Unemployment fell between 2016 and 2017 and in 2017 was the same as Scotland (4.1%).

Source: NOMIS, Labour Market Profile (Annual Population Survey); available at: <https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/la/1946157405/report.aspx?#ls>

**Claimant count:** In May 2018there were 3,315 Claimants in Aberdeen City. This is equivalent to a rate of 2.1% of the working age population (16-64 years) which is lower than the rate for Scotland of 2.6%. Most claimants in Aberdeen were male (70.9% compared to 29.1%).

Between 2007 and 2014 the trends for claimant count rates were similar in Aberdeen and in Scotland, although the rates themselves were consistently lower in Aberdeen. However, while the claimant count rate continued to fall in Scotland, at the start of 2015 the claimant count rate in Aberdeen began to increase - by mid 2016 the claimant count rates in Aberdeen were similar to Scotland. However, following a drop in claimant numbers during 2017, the rate in Aberdeen City is now lower than the rate for Scotland.

Source: NOMIS, ONS Claimant Count; available at: <https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/la/1946157405/report.aspx?#ls>

The number of claimants varied by Intermediate Zone – from 5 in West End North to 195 in Tillydrone.

Source: NOMIS, ONS Claimant Count; available at: <https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/la/1946157405/report.aspx?#ls>

**Workless households:** In 2016 there were an estimated 15,000 workless households (i.e. households where no-one aged 16 years or over is in employment) in Aberdeen City – 17.6% of all households.This is lower than the average figure for Scotland of 18.3%. The percentage of workless households in Aberdeen has increased every year since 2012 when it was 12.6%.

Source: NOMIS, Labour Market Profile (Annual Population Survey); available at: <https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/la/1946157405/report.aspx?#ls>

## Benefits claimants

In November 2016, there were 14,730 people (working-age) claiming benefits in Aberdeen City. This is equivalent to 9.2% of the working age population of the City.

**DWP benefit claimants, Aberdeen City and Scotland, November 2016**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Aberdeen City** | **Aberdeen City** | **Scotland** |
|  | **(numbers)** | **(%)** | **(%)** |
| **Total claimants** | 14,730 | 9.2 | 13 |
|  |  |  |  |
| By statistical group |  |  |  |
| *Job seekers* | *2,480* | *1.5* | *1.4* |
| *ESA and incapacity benefits* | *8,620* | *5.4* | *7.8* |
| *Lone parents* | *1,050* | *0.6* | *0.9* |
| *Carers* | *1,170* | *0.7* | *1.7* |
| *Others on income related benefits* | *180* | *0.1* | *0.2* |
| *Disabled* | *1,010* | *0.6* | *0.9* |
| *Bereaved* | *220* | *0.1* | *0.2* |
| Main out-of-work benefits† | 12,330 | 7.7 | 10.2 |

Source: Nomis, DWP benefit claimants – working age client group (Labour Market Profile), available at: <https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/la/1946157405/report.aspx?#ld>

†   Main out-of-work benefits includes the groups: job seekers, ESA and incapacity benefits, lone parents and others on income related benefits.

Note: From August 2017 DWP discontinued this dataset when they changed the way they publish their benefit statistics. The last period of data is the November 2016 figures published in May 2017.

## Welfare reforms

**Universal credit:** In December 2017 there were 1,587 households in Aberdeen City on Universal Credit, an increase of 282 in the year from December 2016.

Source: Stat-Xplore, DWP, available at: <https://stat-xplore.dwp.gov.uk>

## Employment

**Job density:** In 2016 there were an estimated 192,000 jobs in the City – equivalent to 1.19 jobs per person aged 16-64 years. Although still considerably higher than the rate for Scotland of 0.80, the number of jobs and the job density rate have fallen since 2014 from 203,000 jobs and a job density of 1.26.

The Aberdeen Place Standard questions asked respondents their views on ‘work and local economy’. This question had a mean score of 4.08 on a scale from 1 to 7 where 1 means there is a lot of room for improvement and 7 means there is very little room for improvement. Comments from respondents included:

*“It is very difficult to run a small business in Aberdeen. Lots of jobs have been lost recently due to the problems in the oil industry. Restaurants and shops have closed down.”*

*“Aberdeen is still a one-horse town, and although that is picking up there are far more experienced people than jobs, so opportunities are minimal.”*

*“Good economy though still recovering from the oil and gas downturn”*

*“we run a successful business. there is lots of support from various agencies and good liaison with schools”*

**Employee jobs:** In 2016 the rate of full time employee jobs was higher in Aberdeen City (70.6%) than in Scotland (66.7%).

**Employee jobs by sector**: In 2016, the sector which provided the highest proportion of employee jobs in Aberdeen (as in Scotland) was Human Health and Social Work Activities (15.3% of all employee jobs). Other sectors which were high employers were Professional, Scientific and Technical Activities (13.0%) and Mining and Quarrying (13.0%). With the exception of these two sectors and Transportation and Storage, the percentage of employees in each of the other sectors was lower in Aberdeen City than in Scotland.

Source: Nomis, ONS Business Register and Employment Survey, (Labour Market Profile); available at: <https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/la/1946157405/report.aspx?#ld>

Note: the proportion of employees in the Mining and Quarrying sector fell from 14.3% in 2015 to 13.0% in 2016.

## Employment by occupation

Over a quarter (26.9%) of employees in Aberdeen City are in Professional Occupations compared to 20.7% in this category for Scotland as a whole. The next highest occupational sectors in Aberdeen are Associate Professional and Technical (13.8%), followed by Administrative and Secretarial (12.8%).

Source: Nomis, ONS Annual Population Survey, (Labour Market Profile); available at: <https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/la/1946157405/report.aspx?#ld>

**Qualification level:** Compared to Scotland, Aberdeen City has a higher proportion of its workforce who are qualified to NVQ4 and above (51.7% in Aberdeen and 43.9% in Scotland). Aberdeen also has a lower proportion of employees with no qualifications (6.3% in Aberdeen compared to 8.7% in Scotland).

Source: Nomis, ONS Annual Population Survey, (Labour Market Profile); available at: <https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/la/1946157405/report.aspx?#ld>

## Deprivation – SIMD 2016

The Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) identifies small area (data zones) concentrations of multiple deprivation across the whole of Scotland. There are 283 data zones in Aberdeen City.

To calculate the SIMD 38 indicators are used to measure different aspects of deprivation in each data zone. All indicators are then grouped into seven categories or ‘domains’. These are: income; employment; health; education, skills & training; housing; access to services; and crime. These seven domains are then combined into one overall SIMD which is used to rank each data zone.

Based on overall rankings of deprivation (i.e. All Domains), Aberdeen performs relatively well in the SIMD with 113 (40%) of its data zones being in the 20% least deprived areas of Scotland. However, there are 22 (8%) data zones in the 20% most deprived areas of Scotland – equivalent to a population of 18,171. The most deprived data zones are located in Torry, Middlefield, Northfield, Seaton, Tillydrone, Woodside, Mastrick, Sheddocksley and George Street neighbourhoods. Aberdeen City has no data zones in the 5% most deprived areas of Scotland. The Table below shows the number and population of the data zones in Aberdeen City that fall within the most deprived data zones in Scotland.

**Number and population of data zones in Aberdeen City that fall within the 20% most deprived data zones in Scotland**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **MD 0-5% in Scotland** | **MD 5-10% in Scotland** | **MD 10-15% in**  **Scotland** | **MD 15-20% in Scotland** | **All data zones in MD 0-20%** |
| Number of data zones | 0 | 3 | 6 | 13 | **22** |
| Population of data zones | 0 | 2,214 | 5,365 | 10,496 | **18,075** |
| % of Aberdeen City Population\* | 0.0% | 1.0% | 2.3% | 4.6% | **7.9%** |

Source: <http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/SIMD>

\* Population based on 2016 small area population estimates published by the National Records of Scotland. Total population in Aberdeen City is 229,840

Deprivation is unevenly distributed across the City. The map below shows the level of deprivation for Aberdeen City’s data zones using SIMD 2016 quintiles. (*Note: each quintile contains 20% of Scotland’s data zones*.)

**SIMD Level of deprivation by data zone, Aberdeen City, SIMD 2016 quintiles**



**Location of most deprived data zones, by neighbourhood**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **2011 Data Zone** | **Neighbourhoods** |
| **Most deprived 5-10%** | S01006634 | Torry |
| S01006684 | Woodside |
| S01006636 | Torry |
| **Most deprived 10-15%** | S01006667 | Seaton |
| S01006724 | Northfield |
| S01006729 | Middlefield |
| S01006727 | Middlefield |
| S01006666 | Seaton |
| S01006677 | Tillydrone |
| **Most deprived 15-20%** | S01006707 | Mastrick |
| S01006676 | Tillydrone |
| S01006726 | Middlefield |
| S01006633 | Torry |
| S01006711 | Sheddocksley |
| S01006704 | Mastrick |
| S01006675 | Tillydrone |
| S01006645 | George Street |
| S01006629 | Torry |
| S01006674 | Seaton |
| S01006632 | Torry |
| S01006627 | Torry |
| S01006685 | Woodside |

A more detailed examination of deprivation in Aberdeen City can be carried out by looking at individual domains. The chart below shows the number of Aberdeen City’s data zones within each individual domain split by deprivation quintile. So, for example, while only 22 of the City’s 283 data zones are in the most deprived quintile (0-20%) for All Domains, 98 data zones (34.6%) are in the most deprived quintile for Housing, 73 (28.8%) are in the most deprived quintile for Crime and 67 (23.7%) are in the most deprived quintile for Education, Skills and Training.

**Number of data zones in each SIMD domain by SIMD (2016) quintile**

Source: SIMD 2016

## Poverty

## Relative poverty

According to the Scottish Government’s Poverty and Income Inequality Report for 2014-17, both poverty rates and income inequality in Scotland appear to be rising. In 2014-17 an estimated 19% of people in Scotland were living in relative poverty (i.e. below 60% of UK median income), and the top 10% of the population had 24% more income in 2014-17 than the bottom 40% combined (compared to 21% more income in 2013-16).

**In-work poverty:** The proportion of people in relative poverty (after housing costs) who are in working households is increasing. In Scotland in 2014-17 an estimated 59% of those in relative poverty were in working households (i.e. at least one adult in employment). The proportion of children in relative poverty in working households has increased from 52% in 2009-12 to 66% in 2014-17.

Source: Scottish Government, Poverty and Income Inequality in Scotland, 2014-17, available at: <http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2018/03/3017/downloads>

## Financial inclusion team

The Financial Inclusion Team (FIT) offer specialist advice and advocacy on all aspects of Social Security benefits, Council Tax, Housing Benefits and Tax Credits, representation at appeal tribunals and support with money, budgeting and debt advice. Information is provided separately for enquires and cases. Enquiries are usually dealt with on the same day with no follow-up being required, while cases require on-going work with the client to achieve resolution. In the year to end March 2018, FIT dealt with 1,724 enquiries and 2,183 open cases.

Help provided is classified into three categories; debt, money guidance and welfare rights. For both enquires and open cases, advice/help was most commonly requested in relation to welfare rights (62.6% of enquires and 66.2% of open cases).

**Count of open cases and enquiries, April 2017 to March 2018**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **April 2017 to March 2018** | **April 2017 to March 2018** |
| **Matter Category** | **Open cases** | **Enquiries** |
| Debt | 680 | 322 |
| Money Guidance | 57 | 323 |
| Welfare Rights | 1446 | 1079 |
| **Report Total** | **2183** | **1724** |

Source, ACC Financial Inclusion Team

Only six months of data is currently available for year to end March 2017 (October 2016 to March 2017) so it is not possible to do a full comparison. However, just going by number of cases for the six months it looks like while the number of enquiries were lower in the year to end March 2018 than the previous year, the number of cases has increased.

**Count of open enquires, October 2016 to March 2018**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **April 2017 to March 2018** | **October 2016 to March 2017** |
| **Matter Category** | **Count Number of Cases** | **Count Number of Cases** |
| Debt | 322 | 203 |
| Money Guidance | 323 | 84 |
| Welfare Rights | 1079 | 764 |
| **Report Total** | **1724** | **1051** |

**Count of open cases, October 2016 to March 2018**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **April 2017 to March 2018** | **October 2016 to March 2017** |
| **Matter Category** | **Count Number of Cases** | **Count Number of Cases** |
| Debt | 680 | 404 |
| Money Guidance | 57 | 23 |
| Welfare Rights | 1446 | 924 |
| **Report Total** | **2183** | **1351** |

## Food Poverty

Food Poverty can be defined as the inability of individuals or households to obtain an adequate and nutritious diet, either because they cannot afford healthy food or there is a lack of shops to buy food in the area that are easy to reach. Two key mechanisms to address this are food banks and the direct provision of meals.

According to the Trussell Trust, there were 145,865 3-day emergency supplies given to people in Scotland in 2016/17 – this included 47,955 children. In the North East of Scotland 61,567 3-day emergency supplies were given out in 2016/17.

While The Trussell Trust is the most commonly cited source for data on food insecurity, a Scottish Government report by the Independent Working Group on Food Poverty suggests that the numbers given are likely to under-estimate the number of people who are food insecure – firstly because there are other providers of emergency food supplies (e.g. CFINE), and secondly because it is known that many people who are struggling to afford food do not use foodbanks (Source: Scottish Government, Dignity: Ending Hunger Together, available at: <http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2016/06/8020> ).

There are a number of food banks operating outside the Trussell Trust network in Aberdeen City: <https://www.theguardian.com/society/2017/may/29/report-reveals-scale-of-food-bank-use-in-the-uk-ifan>

* Community Food Initiatives North East (CFINE)
* Bethany Christian Trust
* The Cyrenians
* Instant Neighbour - estimated that they would be giving out 6,500 food parcels in 2017 which is an increase of 30-35% on the total of 5,000 for the previous year.
* Somebody Cares
* Integrate Aberdeen
* St Vincent de Paul Society
* Salvation Army

<https://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/sites/default/files/Food%20and%20clothing%20banks%20in%20Aberdeen.pdf>

The 42nd Aberdeen City Voice asked respondents a series of questions relating to food security. Almost 8% of respondents reported that there was a time during the last 12 months when they were worried they would not have enough food to eat and 3% reported that their household had run out of food at some time over the last year.

## Fuel poverty

A household is considered as being in fuel poverty if, to heat their home to a satisfactory standard, they need to spend more than 10% of their household income on fuel. Extreme fuel poverty indicates that a household would have to spend more than 20% of its income to maintain a satisfactory heating regime.

In Aberdeen City an estimated 28% of households are in fuel poverty – lower than the average rate for Scotland of 34%. The proportion of the City’s households in fuel poverty is higher social housing (44%) than owner-occupied housing (18%). The disparity between social housing and owner-occupied housing in greater in Aberdeen than in Scotland where the respective figures are 37% and 32%. Extreme fuel poverty is estimated to affect 9% of households in Aberdeen – the same as the rate for Scotland as a whole. Again, there are differences between social housing households and owner-occupied households.

Scottish House Condition Survey (2013-15), available at: <http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/SHCS/keyanalyses/LAtables1315>

## Homelessness

In the year to end September 2017, there were 1,693 homelessness applications to Aberdeen City Council. This is an increase of 32% from the number of applications in the previous year (i.e. the year to end September 2016) – the second highest rate of increase of all local authorities in Scotland. In Scotland the number of homelessness applications increased by 0.3% for the same period.

Source: Scottish Government, Homelessness in Scotland: Update to 30 September 2017, available at: <http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2018/01/8686/downloads>

# Technology

## Connectivity

## Access to superfast broadband.

In 2017, 90% of premises in Aberdeen City had access to Superfast Broadband – an increase of 7% from the figure in 2015 and one of the highest rates in Scotland. Only two local authorities had a higher coverage (Clackmannanshire and East Dunbartonshire both had 91% coverage). No premises had access to Ultrafast Broadband.

Source: Ofcom Connected Nations 2017, available at: <https://www.ofcom.org.uk/research-and-data/multi-sector-research/infrastructure-research/connected-nations-2017>

## Average download speed

Average download speed in 2017 for Aberdeen City was 26.4 Mbits/s. This is the 13th lowest of all local authorities in Scotland. (Ranges from a low of 17.6 Mbits/s in Orkney to a high of 71.2 Mbits/s in West Dunbartonshire).

Source: Ofcom Connected Nations 2017, available at: <https://www.ofcom.org.uk/research-and-data/multi-sector-research/infrastructure-research/connected-nations-2017>

## Mobile coverage

In 2017 99.5% of premises in Aberdeen City had Outdoor 4G coverage (compared to 82.6% for Scotland).

Source: Ofcom Connected Nations 2017, available at: <https://www.ofcom.org.uk/research-and-data/multi-sector-research/infrastructure-research/connected-nations-2017>

## Access to internet

In 2016, 84% of households in Aberdeen City reported having access to the internet – an increase of 2% from 2014 – similar to the rate for Scotland of 82%. The most common methods used for accessing internet for personal use were mobile phone/iPhone/smart phone (83%), laptop or PC (74%) and tablet (58%). 93% reported using a method other than laptop or PC to access the internet.

The most common reasons for using the internet were; to send and receive emails (85%), search for information (77%), buy goods or services (74%), use social media (70%) and internet banking (70%).

Source: SHS, available at: <http://www.gov.scot/Resource/0053/00531141.pdf>

## Access to devices

The 42nd City Voice questionnaire (January 2017) included questions on the use of technology. The respondents were initially asked “do you own or have easy access to a smartphone, tablet or laptop/PC”? Over three-quarters (78.5%) of respondents reported that they owned or had easy access to a **laptop or PC**, and 71.4% said they owned or had easy access to a **smart phone**. A smaller proportion (64.3%) reported owning or having easy access to a tablet. Approximately half (50.5%) of respondents reported owning or having easy access to all three devices and 90.2% of respondents owned or had access to at least one of the devices.

*Source: 42 Aberdeen City Voice (Base = 837)*

## Digital skills

City Voice panellists were then asked a set of questions about their use of digital technology for a number of different tasks. In each case panellists were asked ‘could you do this?’ Response options were; ‘I could do this if I was asked’, ‘I couldn’t do this if I was asked’ or ‘I have no idea what you’re talking about’. As the table shows a high percentage of respondents felt they were able to undertake the tasks listed. Only a small percentage of respondents answered that they had no idea what the question was asking.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Digital skills category** |  | **I could do this if I was asked to** | **I couldn't do this if I was asked to** | **I have no idea what you are talking about** |
| Managing information | Use a search engine to look for information | 91.1% | 5.2% | 3.7% |
| Download/save a photo | 82.1% | 16.0% | 1.9% |
| Find a website you have visited before | 92.7% | 5.6% | 1.7% |
| Communicating | Send a message via email on online messaging | 94.5% | 4.1% | 1.4% |
| Make comments/share information online | 85.4% | 12.0% | 2.6% |
| Transacting | Buy items or services from a website | 89.6% | 8.8% | 1.7% |
| Buy and install apps on a device | 77.6% | 19.2% | 3.2% |
| Problem solving | Solve a problem you have with a device using online help | 74.6% | 22.7% | 2.7% |
| Verify sources of information you found online | 72.7% | 23.6% | 3.6% |
| Creating | Complete online application forms which include personal details | 86.6% | 11.4% | 2.0% |
| Create something new from existing online images, music or video | 51.9% | 44.1% | 4.0% |
| Security | Protect yourself from fraud by recognising a secure website | 81.4% | 15.4% | 3.2% |
| Recognise a suspect email so not open to online fraud or viruses | 83.2% | 14.0% | 2.7% |
| Advanced | Use any advance digital function (e.g. programming) | 24.5% | 70.8% | 4.8% |

*Source: 42 Aberdeen City Voice (Base = multiple)*

**Basic Digital Skills**: The tasks specified in the first five categories (managing information, communicating, transacting, problem solving and creating) are taken from the [Basic Digital Skills](https://www.thetechpartnership.com/globalassets/pdfs/basic-digital-skills-standards/basic-digital-skills-assessment-questions.pdf) measure. This is a tool developed specifically to measure the level of digital skills of adults across the UK. Based on this tool, those who could do one task in each of the five skills categories are classified as having “Basic Digital Skills”. On this basis, 70.6% of respondents were identified as having Basic Digital Skills.

**Age group**: While no significant difference in the proportion of those with Basic Digital Skills was found between males and females, there was a significant difference by age group. The proportion of those with Basic Digital Skills was highest in those aged 35-54 years (85.8%) and lowest in those aged 65+ years (57.9%). Figure 4.3 shows the proportion of those with and without Basic Digital Skills by age group.

Source: City Voice 42

Base = 731

# References

1. **Scotland, National Records of.** Probable Suicides: Deaths which are the Result of Intentional Self-harm or Events of Undetermined Intent. *National Records of Scotland.* [Online] 5 June 2018. https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/statistics-and-data/statistics/statistics-by-theme/vital-events/deaths/suicides/list-of-tables-and-chart.

2. **Government, Scottish.** School Education. *Scottish Government.* [Online] 5 June 2018. [Cited: 5 June 2018.] http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/Browse/School-Education.

1. While ‘household’ refers to people living together in a dwelling, ‘dwelling’ refers to the accommodation itself, e.g. a house or a flat. The number of dwellings will not necessarily match the number of households as, for example, some dwellings may be vacant or more than one household may live in a single dwelling. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. [↑](#endnote-ref-1)