



The Scottish
Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba

Scottish Government
Equality Outcomes:
Age
Evidence Review

Equalities



**SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT
EQUALITY OUTCOMES:
AGE
EVIDENCE REVIEW**

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1 INTRODUCTION

Purpose of this document

- 1.1 This paper is one of a series written to inform the development of equality outcomes for the Scottish Government. Guidance from the Equalities and Human Rights Commission (EHRC) states that a range of relevant evidence relating to equality groups and communities should be used to help set equality outcomes that are likely to make the biggest difference in tackling inequalities.
- 1.2 The EHRC suggests the following criteria for selecting equality outcomes:
- Scale – how many people are affected by the issue and how does the issue impact on their life chances?
 - Severity – does the issue present a risk to equality of opportunity for particular protected groups? Is it a significant barrier to opportunity or freedom?
 - Concern – do equality groups and communities see it as a significant issue?
 - Impact – is the problem persistent or getting worse? What is the potential for improving life chances? Is the problem sensitive to public intervention?
 - Remit – are you able to address the issue given your remit?
- 1.3 This series of papers provides evidence for some of the questions listed above – in particular, on the scale and severity of issues facing equality groups. It is intended that this evidence will feed into a process of engagement with equality groups and communities, to help develop the most relevant equality outcomes.
- 1.4 These papers seek to identify key facts and evidence gaps for people with protected characteristics in policy areas including: education, employment, poverty, housing, transport, hate crime, justice, public appointments, health, social care, sport, and culture.

Key facts

- 1.5 Education: Current participation rates in further and higher education are highest for under 21-years-olds, and fall with age. Those in the 25-34 age group have the highest rate of degree qualifications and the lowest level of no qualifications, whilst those aged 55 and over are most likely to have no qualifications.
- 1.6 Employment: The employment rate for people aged 16-24 fell between 2007-2011, but increased by 1% last year. People aged 16-24 also have a high rate of part-time work, low-paid work and underemployment. The employment rate for the 55-59/64 age group rose more rapidly between 1999 and 2006 than for the other age groups.

- 1.7 Poverty: Absolute and relative povertyⁱ rates for children and pensioners have fallen sharply since 1998/99. Persistent poverty rates for working age adults are lower than for children and pensioners; however, while poverty among working-age adults living with dependent children has fallen, there has been a steady rise in poverty among working-age adults without dependent children, both in and out of work. Views are mixed on the likely impacts of welfare reform in the context of high unemployment.
- 1.8 Housing: Young people are over-represented among the homeless, but youth homelessness in Scotland decreased sharply last year. Pensioners are the most likely group to own their homes outright, and home ownership among younger people is declining rapidly. Older people tend to be housed in the Owner Occupied or Social Rented sectors, and few pensioners live in private rented accommodation. Specialist housing for the elderly is currently under pressure, and as the population aged 65+ is projected to rise sharply, there will be further pressure on services for older people.
- 1.9 Transport: Those aged 80 and over travel significantly less than other age groups. Train use and walking for transport decrease with age, whilst younger and older people are more likely to use the bus. Car use rises sharply with age until around 60, and as people get older they are more likely to drive to work. Walking and cycling account for half of all journeys to school.
- 1.10 Victims of crime: The most common age group for victims of racist incidents is 26-35 for males, and 36-50 for females. Around 46 % of perpetrators of racist incidents in 2010-11 were aged 20 or under, with 23 % of perpetrators under the age of 16. The pattern is different for those charged with religiously aggravated crime, with 24% of those aged 20 or under, with only 3.5% aged under 16.
- 1.11 Justice: Young people are more heavily represented than older people in crime (as victims and as perpetrators), legal aid (both civil and criminal), the prison population, and in domestic abuse (both as victims and perpetrators). More older people die in fires than younger people.
- 1.12 Public appointments: The most common age range for applicants is 51-60 with 40%, which is over-represented relative to its 13% share of the population.
- 1.13 Health: Self-assessed health is associated with age, with older groups significantly less likely to report being in good or very good health than younger age groups. Dental problems, heart disease and obesity generally increase with age, whilst consumption of sufficient fruit and vegetables is least likely amongst the young. Hazardous or harmful drinking is greatest among the youngest age groups, and declines with age. Older in-patients are generally more positive about their experiences than younger patients.

ⁱ The terms 'absolute' and 'relative' poverty are used here as defined by Scottish Government (2010) *Child Poverty in Scotland: a brief overview of the evidence*. Edinburgh: Scottish Government. <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/304557/0107230.pdf>

- 1.14 Social care: The population of older residents in care homes has fallen, whilst the number of older people cared for in their own homes has risen. Older people are more likely than younger people to receive the help they need in daily living. Younger mothers make greater use of informal childcare than older parents, and people in their 50s are the age group that most commonly provide any informal care.
- 1.15 Sport: Participation in sport is highest among younger people, and declines with age. Walking is the commonest form of physical activity undertaken across all age groups. The most common barrier to participation by older people is ill-health, whilst children report difficulties accessing local playgrounds and reduced amounts of physical education in schools.
- 1.16 Culture: Participation in and engagement with culture decline with age, but attendance at cultural events varies with the type of event. Cost is a barrier affecting children and older people, whilst young adults are constrained by having insufficient free time.

Gaps in the data

- 1.17 The evidence reviewed to date for transport does not address age-specific accessibility needs on public transport, for example spaces for pushchairs and seating for older passengers.
- 1.18 Whilst there has been a substantial amount of evaluation related to promoting children's physical activity, it is reported that little of this has been conducted in the UK or amongst socially excluded children.
- 1.19 The following gaps are reported by Macpherson and Bond (2009)¹:
- 1.20 Relatively little research has been carried out to explore the differences in educational participation by people of different ages. Research into the motivations of the increasing numbers of older learners, and how these environments may or may not meet their needs, would provide useful additional information.
- 1.21 There may be important links between long-term illness/disability and ageing, that could be more explicitly considered through research on employment. In particular, aspects that might benefit from more detailed analysis include the relationships between age, social class, education and disability, and how their interaction impacts upon a person's labour market participation. In relation to earnings, there is scope to further analyse pay gaps in order to understand the interplay between age, earnings and gender.
- 1.22 There is little information about the distribution of incomes within households. It is expected that this will be investigated in the *Poverty and Social Exclusion Survey*, with data becoming available in on www.poverty.ac.uk.
- 1.23 We lack an accurate picture of the people who use sheltered housing, as there is no current regular collection of statistics on specialist housing residents.

2 CONTEXT

Equality Act (2010) definition²

2.1 The Act gives the following definition of “age”:

Where this is referred to, it refers to a person belonging to a particular age (e.g. 32 year olds) or range of ages (e.g. 18 - 30 year olds).

2.2 For the purposes of this report, the equality characteristic of age will be understood to include young people and older people. Where available, evidence from Scotland is presented. Otherwise, evidence is presented from the UK. This is made clear in the report.

Demographics

2.3 The resident population of Scotland on Census Day (29 April 2001) was 5,062,011, of which 19% were under 16 years old, and 21% were 60 or older – see Table 1 below³.

Table 1: Age structure of Scotland's population (Source: Census, 2001)

Total resident population	5,062,011
- % 0-4 years old	5.47
- % 5-15 years old	13.73
- % 16-29 years old	17.46
- % 30-44 years old	22.97
- % 45-59 years old	19.29
- % 60-74 years old	13.98
- % 75 and over	7.09

2.4 Figure 1 shows a population pyramid for Scotland in 2009⁴, illustrating the age structure of the population by gender.

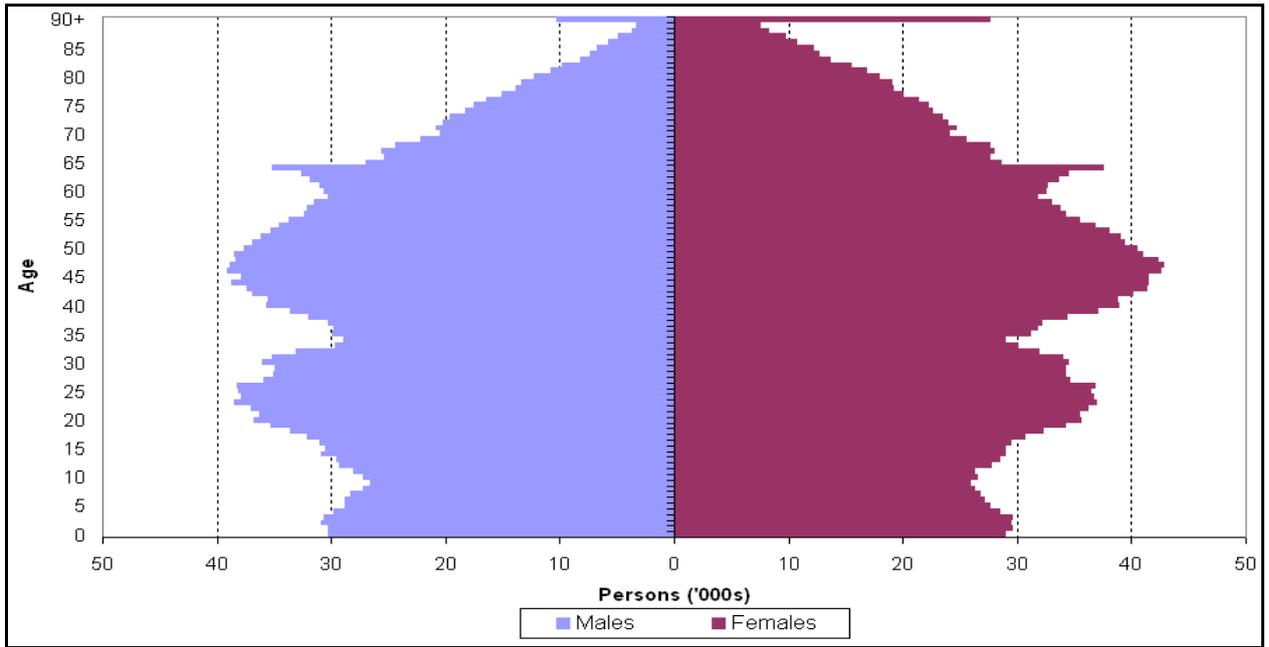


Figure 1: Estimated population by age and gender, 30 June 2009 (Source: General Register Office for Scotland, 2012)

3 EDUCATION

- 3.1 This section summarises the findings on educational qualifications and further and higher education.

Educational qualifications by age group

- 3.2 Dividing working-age adults into age categories, those in the 25-34 age group are most likely to be educated to at least degree level (34%)⁵. Those in this age group are also the least likely to have no qualifications (8%). Those in the most senior working age category (55-59 year-old women and 60-64 year-old men) are the most likely to have no qualifications (33%). Apart from the 16-24 age group, this group was also the least likely to be educated to degree level or above (19%).
- 3.3 The findings for low qualifications are echoed by the National Indicator data from *Scotland Performs*⁶. These report that the proportion of adults with low or no qualifications is strongly associated with age. Over a quarter of 60-64 year olds have no or low qualifications, which compares to around a tenth of those aged below forty.

Further and Higher Education Students

- 3.4 Young people under 21 make up 36% of all entrants to higher education⁷.
- 3.5 The majority of further education students study part-time (75%) and of these students, the largest age group is 25-59 year olds (45%). Of the full-time further education students (25%), the largest age group is the 16-18 year olds (44%). The second largest group is the 19-24 year olds (32%), followed by the 25-59 year olds (21%)⁸.
- 3.6 Older data show that between 1998-99 and 2004-05, the number of enrolments into further education increased most markedly for those aged 50 years and over, up 72% from 42,460 to 73,215⁹.
- 3.7 The *High-level summary of equality statistics*¹⁰ plots trends in higher education by age (see Figure 2). Since 1994-95, the number of higher education students studying in Scotland has increased across all age groups. The largest increase has been for students aged 50 years and over, more than a four-fold increase from 3,515 in 1994-95 to 15,145 in 2004-05, and this is followed by students aged between 40 and 49 years, who have more than doubled from 15,810 in 1994-95 to 32,630 in 2004-05. As would be expected, the highest proportion (over 50%) of all higher education students are aged 24 years or less, in 2004-05.

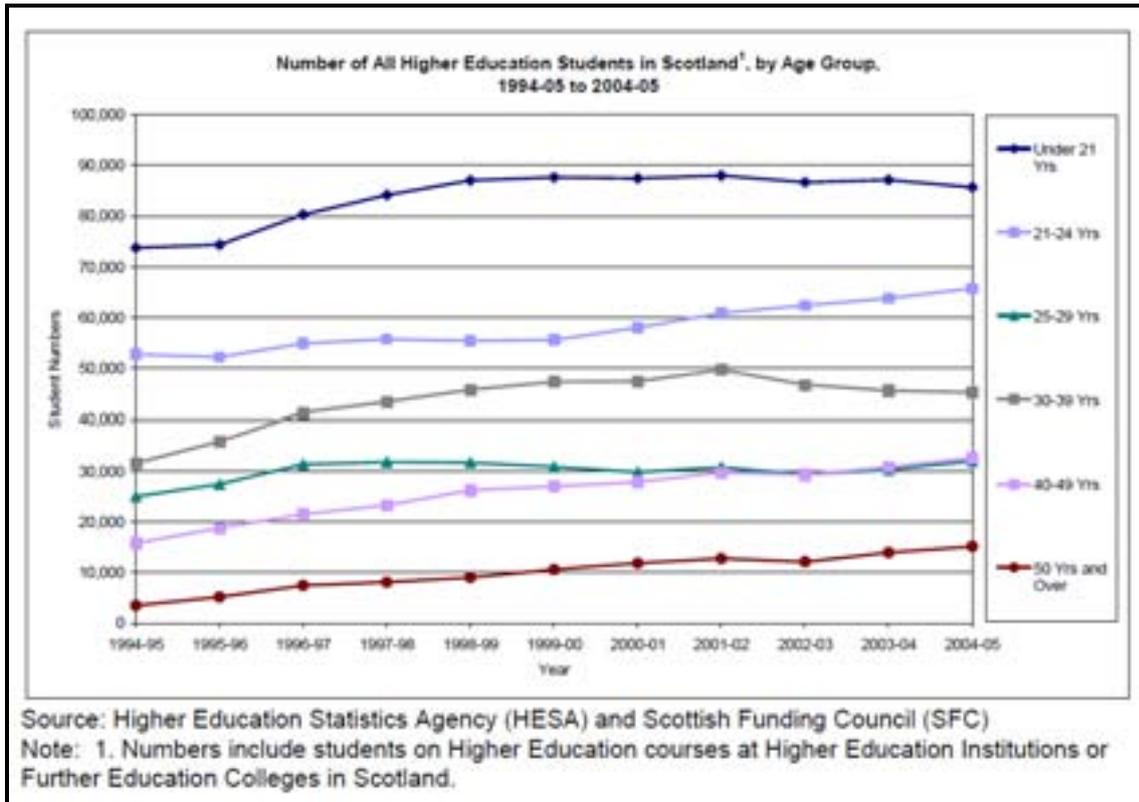


Figure 2: Higher education students by age

The teaching profession

3.8 The *High-level summary of equality statistics*¹¹ plots the number of school teachers by age (see Figure 3). More than a third of male and female primary and secondary school teachers were aged between 50 and 59 years in 2005. There were fewer male and female teachers in the younger age groups, most notably those aged under 25 years.

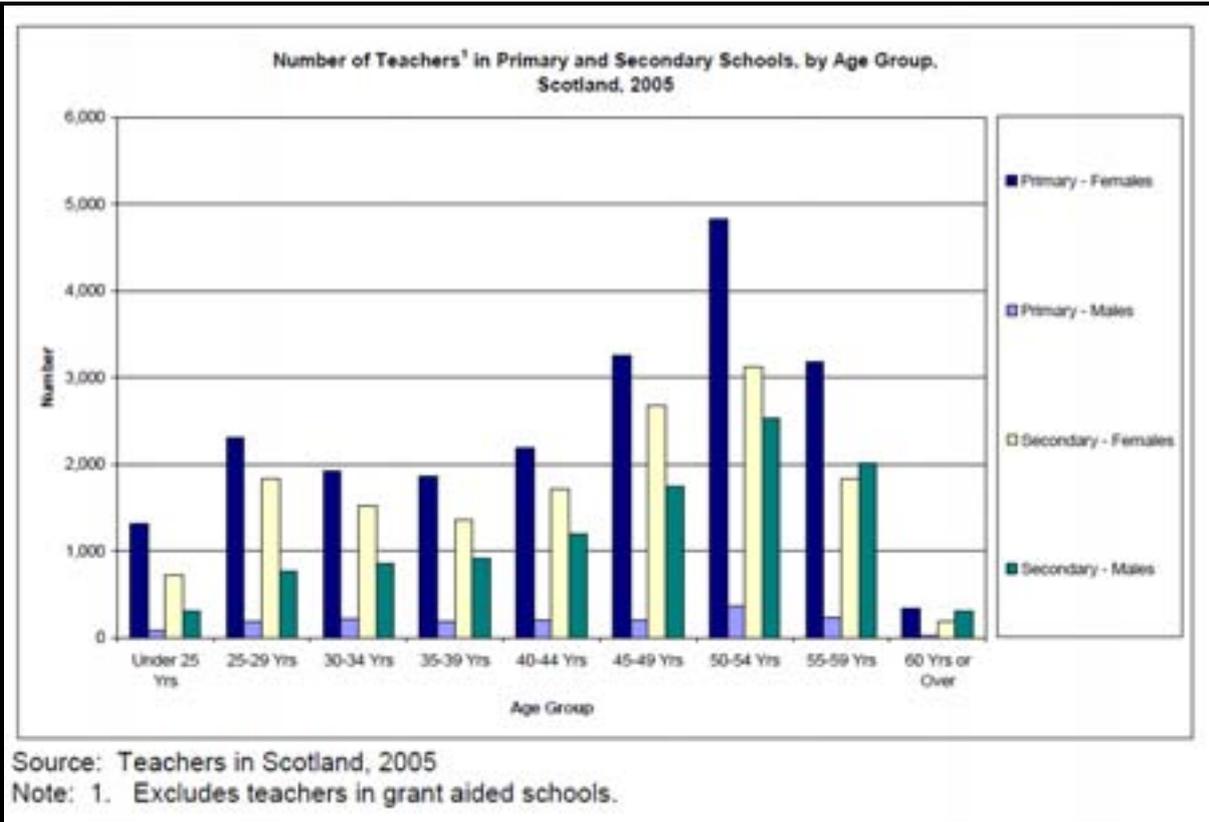


Figure 3: Teaching profession by age

4 EMPLOYMENT

4.1 This section examines what is known about the employment rate, the unemployment rate, underemployment, economic inactivity, self-employment, business ownership, employment by sector, occupational skills, modern apprenticeships, and pay gaps.

Employment rate

4.2 The EHRC *Review of Research*¹² gives an overview of employment trends in Scotland from 1991-2006 (see Figure 4). Employment rates increased between 1999 and 2006, most markedly for the 55 to 59/64 age band. These changes represent a rise of almost 8% among this age group, while other age groups saw only marginal rises in employment during that period. The recent increase in employment among older workers is likely to have been driven by increases in older women's employment – rising from 54% in 1984 to 67% in 2005. This increase is most strongly associated with the ageing of birth cohorts of women who had higher employment rates earlier in life than previous cohorts.

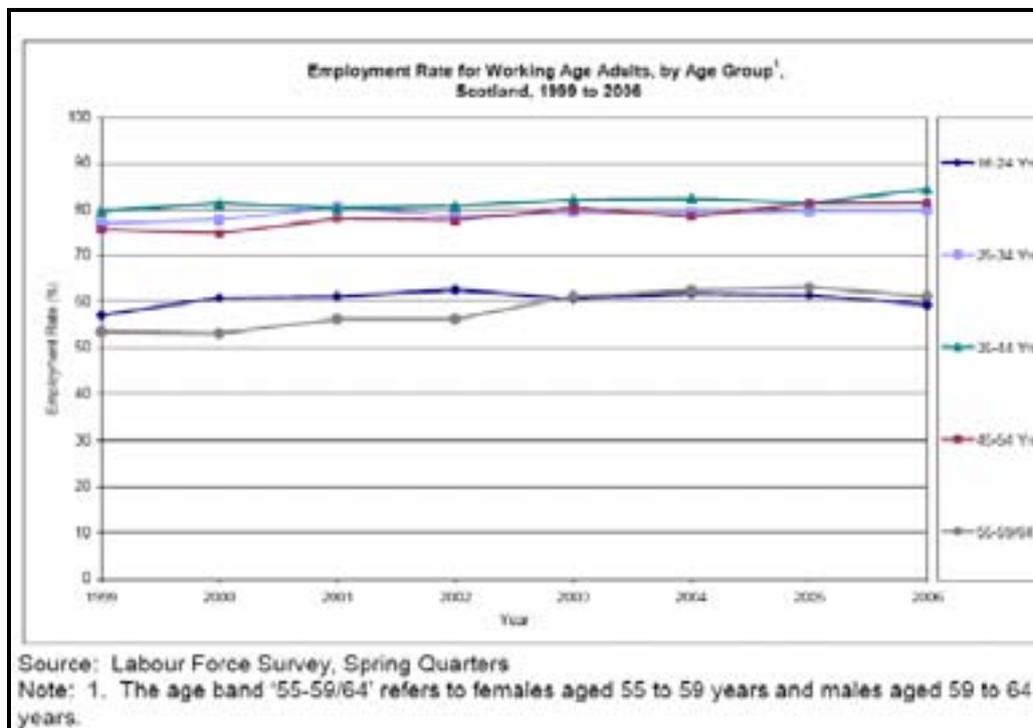


Figure 4: Employment rate by age group, 1999-2006

4.3 In recent years in Scotland there have been the following trends in employment rate for different age groups:

- 4.4 16-24 years: the proportion of this age group in employment decreased between 2008 and 2011, from 60.8% in 2008, to 55.6% in 2010 and 54.6% in 2011¹³. Importantly, almost all of the decrease in the 16-24 year old employment level was accounted for by those not in full-time education (down 39,100 since 2008). This decrease was a result of decreases in employment in medium-low skill occupations (down 24,200) and medium-high skill occupationsⁱⁱ (down 19,700). However, between May-Jul 2011 and May-Jul 2012 the non-seasonally adjusted employment rate for the 16-24 age group increased by 1.0 percentage points (328,000)¹⁴. Compared to other key age groups, 16-24 year olds saw the largest increase in employment over the year.
- 4.5 25-34 years: the percentage in employment in this age group had decreased from 81.2% in 2008 to 77.9% in 2010. However, it increased by 1.1 percentage points to 79.0% in 2011¹⁵.
- 4.6 35-49 years: between 2008 and 2011, the percentage in employment in this age group has decreased from 83.1% in 2008 to 81.5% in 2010, and to 81.1% in 2011¹⁶.
- 4.7 50-64 years: between 2008 and 2011, the percentage in employment in this age group decreased from 65.2% in 2008 to 64.1% in 2010, and to 63.7% in 2011¹⁷.

Unemployment rate

- 4.8 In 29 of the last 36 periodsⁱⁱⁱ there has been an increase in the youth unemployment rate over the year. This indicates an increasing underlying trend in youth unemployment in Scotland in recent years. Compared to other key age groups, 16-24 year olds saw the largest increase in unemployment rates over the year (up 2.8 percentage points to 105,000) followed by the 35-49 year olds age group (up 0.6 percentage points)¹⁸.
- 4.9 It is important to note that in 2012, only 23% of 16-24 year olds who were unemployed in Scotland were in full time education, compared to the UK-wide figure of 30%¹⁹.

Underemployment

- 4.10 Underemployment includes all employed persons aged 16 and over who are willing to work additional hours. Underemployment rates vary across age-groups²⁰:
- Those aged 16-24 had the highest underemployment rate in 2011 at 14.1%, an underemployment level of 46,500. The high rate for this group may be indicative of the higher percentage of those employed 16-24 year olds in part-time employment (about 43% compared to about 26% for those aged 16-64).

ⁱⁱ Definitions of occupation groups can be found on pages 19-20 of the 2011 Labour Market Statistics: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/0039/00396572.pdf>

ⁱⁱⁱ 'Periods' refer to the quarters during which the survey took place. Each period overlaps the previous two periods, e.g. June to August, May to July, April to June.

- Those aged 25-34 and 35-49 had similar underemployment rates in 2011, at 9.0% and 7.6% respectively.
- 50-64 year olds had the lowest underemployment rate at 6.1% in 2011. This group has seen the highest increase in level since 2004, having increased by 59% from 25,300 in 2004.

Inactivity

- 4.11 The data in *Revisiting Resilience*²¹ show that Scotland's youth inactivity rate (Apr-Jun 2011) was 24.2% (118,000 individuals) which is lower than the UK, where the rate was 30.2%. Over the year the rate in Scotland decreased by 0.2 percentage points. A large number of economically inactive 18-24 year olds will be students.
- 4.12 The data contained in *Local Area Labour Markets in Scotland*²² show that between 2005 and 2007 there was a significant reduction in the size of the NEET group (not in education, employment or training), a decrease of 7,000 to 29,000 (2.9 percentage points). This was followed by an increase of 7,000 (2.7 percentage points) between 2007 and 2010. Between 2010 and 2011 the proportion of 16 to 19 year olds estimated to be NEET decreased by 1.5 percentage points to 12.2% with the level reducing to 31,000.²³
- 4.13 The reason for not working is closely related to age. For young people, the primary reason is participation in education; later in life the main reason is looking after family; and for people aged 50 to State Pension Age the main reasons are long-term sickness and early retirement²⁴.
- 4.14 The number of people aged 25-49 in Scotland who have never worked has risen by just under 54% since 2004, from 33,500 to 51,600 in 2011, whereas the number of people aged 50 and over who have never worked has decreased by just under 33% from 32,900 in 2004 to 22,100 in 2011²⁵.
- 4.15 Retired people accounted for 18.3% of the inactive population aged 16-64 in Scotland in 2011²⁶.

Self-employment

- 4.16 Self-employment rates rise as people age²⁷. The self-employment rate for Scotland as a whole in 2011 was 11.5%. Although those aged 65 and over made up a small share of all those self employed (6.4%), those aged 65 and over had the highest self-employment rate (32.5%)²⁸.
- 4.17 The *High-level summary of equality statistics*²⁹ plots rates of self-employment by (working) age group – see Figure 5. The rate is highest for adults aged 55 to pensionable age (14% of adults in this age group) and lowest for those aged 25-30 years (7% of adults in this age group). In general, rates of self-employment have tended to fluctuate year on year for each age group but do appear to be decreasing for those aged 55 to pensionable age in recent years, following a peak in 2003 (21% of adults in this age group).

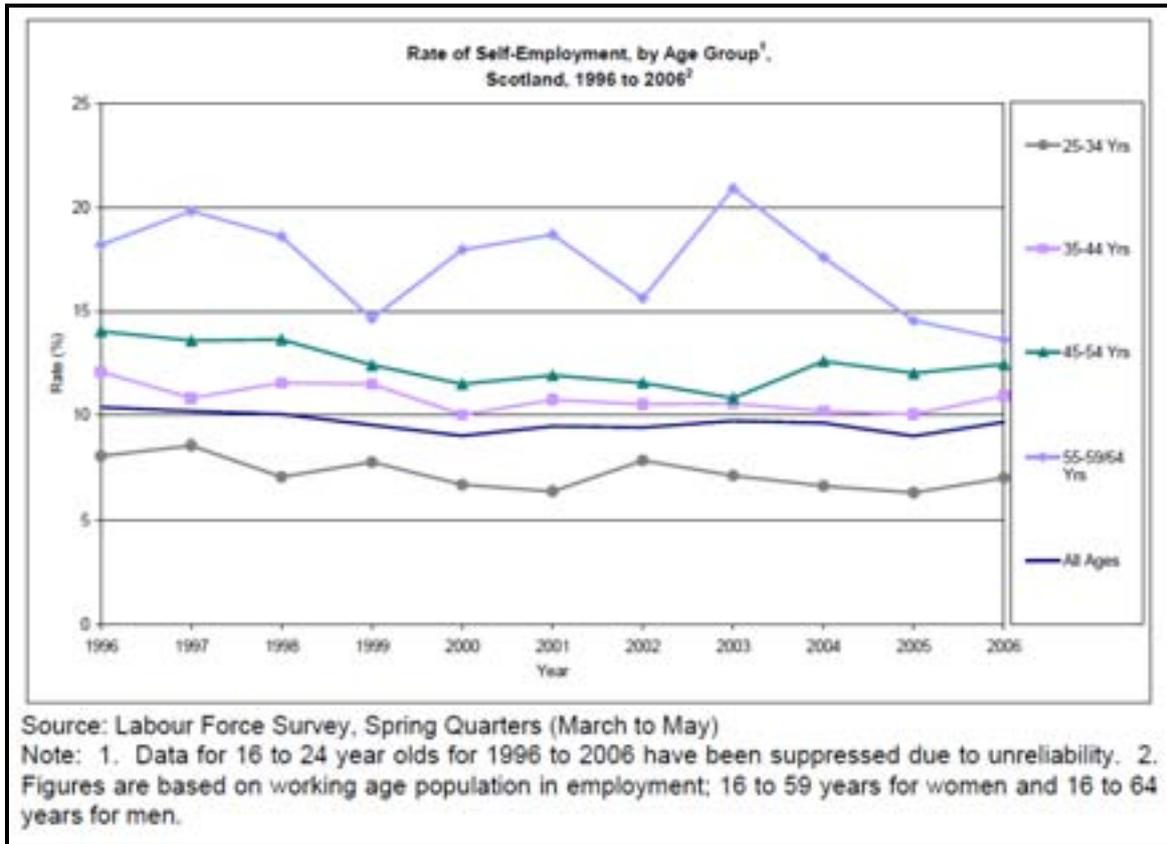


Figure 5: Self-Employment by Age Group, Scotland, 1996 to 2006

Business ownership

4.18 In 2007/08, the proportions of small to medium-sized enterprise owners and co-owners in Scotland fell in the following age groups: 35-44 (20%), 45-54 (35%) and 55-64 (28%). The proportions in younger and older cohorts were much smaller: just 10% were aged under 35, and 7% were aged 65 and over³⁰.

Employment by sector

4.19 The statistics from the *Annual Population Survey 2011*³¹ show that since the start of the recession in 2008, there have been decreases in both public sector and private sector employment in the 16-24 and 35-49 age groups. The 16-24 age group experienced a greater fall in private sector employment (down by 30,000) compared to public sector employment (down by 10,100) while the 35-49 age group experienced a greater fall in public sector employment (down by 34,600) than private sector employment (down by 26,600). In contrast, the 25-34, 50-64 and 65+ age groups saw increases in both public and private sector employment. In the public sector, there were increases of 3,800, 6,300 and 3,200 respectively, while in the private sector, the increases were higher for all three age groups at 10,400, 7,100 and 3,700 respectively.

4.20 Scotland's *Public Sector Employment statistics* for the first quarter of 2012³² (Figure 6) show that:

- There were 1,230 young people (aged 16 to 24 years) working in Scotland's key public bodies, representing 3.8% of total employment (see Figure 6). Of these, 550 were males (44%) and 690 females (56%). The majority were working in full-time (84%), permanent (69%) posts.
- There were 120 young people working in the Scottish Government Core Directorates as at the first quarter of 2012, representing 2.3% of the total workforce.
- Public Corporations and Executive Agencies had the highest proportion of young people within their workforce, at 6.1% and 5.4% respectively.

	Number of 16-24 year olds employed	Total Employment	% Young People in Total Workforce	Number of organisations surveyed
Scottish Government Core Directorates	120	5,200	2.3%	1
Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service	70	1,700	4.2%	1
Executive Agencies	360	6,600	5.4%	8
Non Ministerial Departments	70	3,000	2.4%	5
Total Devolved Civil Service	620	16,500	3.8%	15
Executive NDPBs	340	11,700	2.9%	33
Public Corporations	270	4,400	6.1%	5
Overall Total - Key Public Bodies	1,230	32,600	3.8%	53

Source: Youth Employment Survey, June 2012

Notes:

1. 'Overall Total - Key Public Bodies' includes Total Devolved Civil Service, Executive NDPBs Public Corporations.
2. 16-24 year olds rounded to nearest '10', total employment rounded to nearest '100'

Figure 6: Youth Employment in Scotland's Key Public Bodies, Headcount, Q1 2012

Occupational skills

4.21 The occupational skill distribution is broadly similar across the key age groups, with the majority (approximately two thirds) of employees in medium-low and medium high skilled occupations and a minority (around 10%) in low skilled occupations^{iv}. However, the distribution is different for the 16-24 year old age group which has a relatively lower percentage of employees in high skill jobs (6%) and a relatively higher percentage in low skill (25%) and medium-low skill (45%). The different distribution for 16-24 year olds may be explained by the fact that it takes time to acquire the relevant qualifications and experience required for high skill occupations³³.

^{iv} Definitions of occupation groups can be found on pages 19-20 of the 2011 Labour Market Statistics: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/0039/00396572.pdf>

Modern Apprenticeships

4.22 Young people figure prominently in modern apprenticeship schemes. 54% of new starts to Modern Apprenticeships are aged 16-19, and of all those in training following a Modern Apprenticeship 66% are 16-19 years old³⁴.

Pay gaps

4.23 Low pay (less than £7 per hour) is most prevalent among workers aged 21 and under: they account for one fifth of all low-paid workers on adult rates³⁵.

5 POVERTY

- 5.1 This section explores child poverty, working-age poverty, welfare reform, pensioner poverty, and in-work poverty.
- 5.2 The EHRC Review of Research³⁶ offers an overview of the trends in low income for all age groups (see Figure 7). The issue of low pay has been decreasing for all age groups, but most markedly for households with children and for pensioner households. Data from 2004/05 (before housing costs) shows that 19% of all children in Scotland were living in relative low income households, a reduction of 41% since 1996/97. The number of pensioners living in low-income households was 18% in 2004/05, having fallen from 23% since 1996/97. These figures compare with an average of 15% of working-age low-income households.

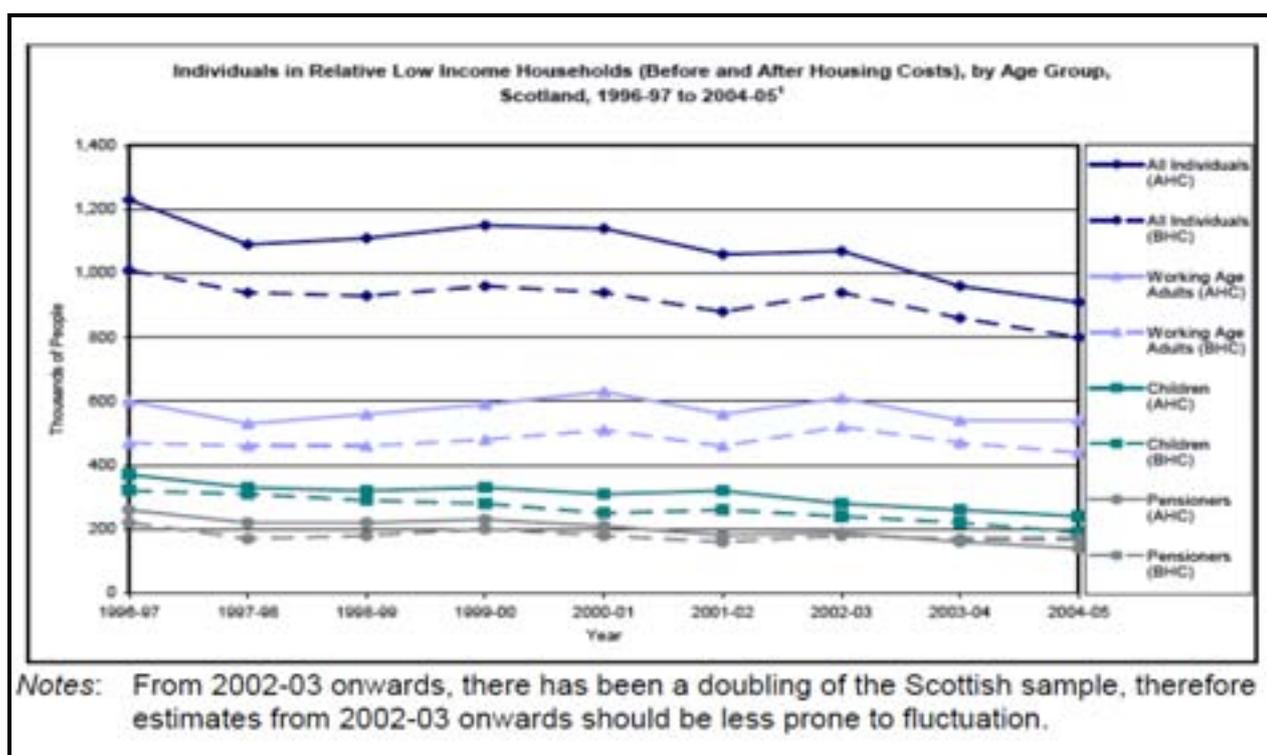


Figure 7: Relative low-income households by age, 1996/97-2004/05 (Source: EHRC Review of Research, 2009)

Child poverty

- 5.3 Between 1998/99 and 2004/05 the percentage of children in relative and absolute poverty^v (before housing costs) in Scotland fell markedly. After 2004/05, the rates did not show much change up to 2009/10. Figures for the percentage of children in low income and material deprivation combined have

^v The terms 'absolute' and 'relative' poverty are used here as defined by Scottish Government (2010) *Child Poverty in Scotland: a brief overview of the evidence*. Edinburgh: Scottish Government. <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/304557/0107230.pdf>

only been available since 2004/05. They have not changed substantially and have remained around 15% or 16% until 2009/10 before dropping slightly in 2010/11³⁷.

- 5.4 Between 2009/10 and 2010/11, all three child poverty indicators reported a decrease in the child poverty rate (see Figure 8)³⁸. The percentage of children in relative poverty (before housing costs) decreased from 20% to 17%, a reduction of 20,000 children to 170,000 children. The proportion of children in absolute poverty (before housing costs) decreased from 11% to 10%, a reduction of 10,000 children. The percentage of children in material deprivation and low income combined decreased from 15% to 13%, a reduction of 20,000 children.

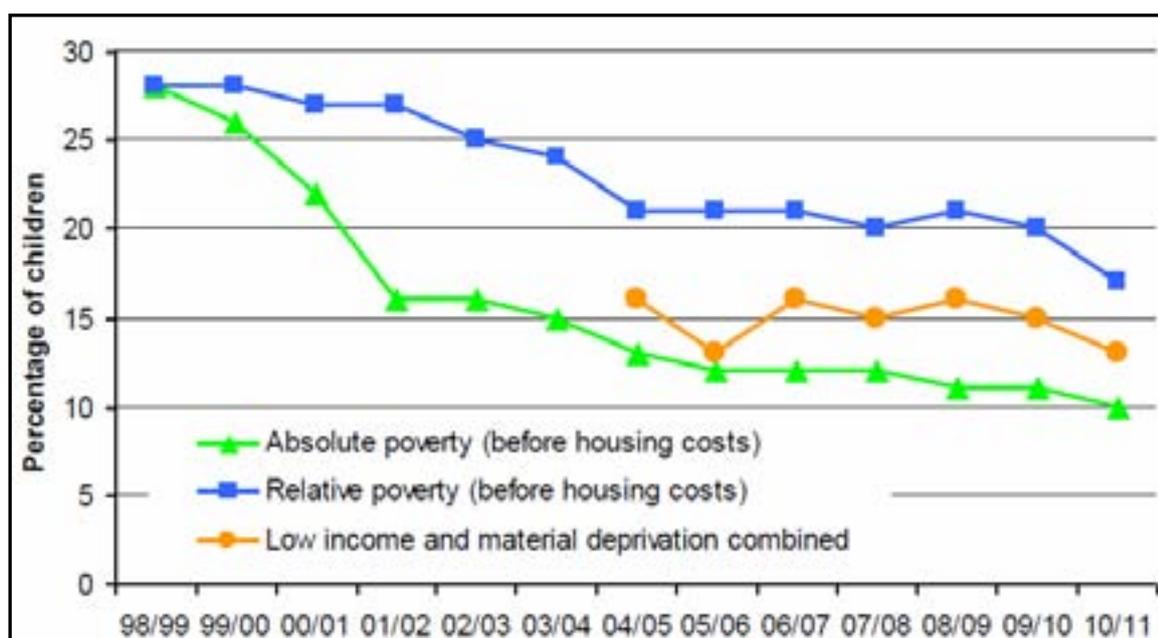


Figure 8: Child Poverty in Scotland: 1998/99 - 2010/11 (Source: *Poverty and Income Inequality in Scotland, 2012*)

- 5.5 The risk of poverty is far greater for children in workless families than those in families where one or more adults is employed or self-employed (71% of children in workless families are poor compared to 11% of children in working families)³⁹. The same publication found that child poverty is more concentrated in deprived areas than in the rest of the country. In 2008/09, 45% of children in the 15% most deprived areas were living in relative poverty (before housing costs). This figure compares to 17% in the rest of the country.
- 5.6 With regards to the distribution of relative poverty in families with children, the highest prevalence of poverty is for families with a youngest child aged 0-4 years: 24% of such families are in poverty⁴⁰. Parents in this category will be youngest on average, and therefore are likely to earn less than older parents. Also, parents with a young child are more likely to work fewer hours. The rates of poverty are also high (21%) for families with a youngest child aged 16-19 years. This could be due to retired parents and costs for higher

education. The rates are smaller for families with the youngest child aged 5-10 (16%) and 11-15 (18%).

- 5.7 Over the period 2005 to 2008, 13% of children in Scotland lived in persistent poverty (before housing costs)⁴¹. Persistent poverty rates for children fell across all the GB countries between 1999 to 2002 and 2005 to 2008.
- 5.8 According to *Growing Up In Scotland*⁴², nearly one quarter of three- to four-year-old Scottish children are persistently poor, defined as living in income poverty in at least three of the four years from 2005/06 to 2008/09. Just over four in ten of children had experienced poverty in at least one of the years over the same period.
- 5.9 The same research has found that how long children experience poverty is linked to child outcomes. Persistently poor children are disproportionately likely to face social, emotional and behavioural difficulties, be overweight and have multiple problems.
- 5.10 Having parents who are regularly without work is the factor with most bearing on persistent poverty: around 140,000 children in Scotland live in workless households, and two-thirds of them are in lone parent households⁴³. Living in social rented housing, living in deprived areas, being the member of a large family or a lone-parent family and having a mother with low or no qualifications are all associated with persistent poverty.
- 5.11 Regarding welfare reform, the Children's Society⁴⁴ observes that the household benefit cap will disproportionately affect families with children. It uses the Department for Work and Pensions' impact assessment of the number of households likely to be affected to conclude that, in Great Britain, an estimated 210,000 children will be affected compared to 70,000 adults.

Working-age poverty

- 5.12 *Poverty and Income Inequality in Scotland: 2010-11*⁴⁵ shows that since around 2003/04, working age poverty has remained fairly stable and has not shown the same extent of early decreases observed in child and pensioner poverty. In 2010/11 the proportion of working age adults in relative poverty (before housing costs) dropped from 16% to 14%. This represents a reduction of 70,000 individuals, to 440,000. The proportion of working age adults in relative poverty (after housing costs) dropped from 20% to 18% between 2009/10 and 2010/11 (a reduction of 40,000 individuals). The proportion in absolute poverty (before housing costs) remained unchanged at 10 %, while the (after housing costs) figure dropped from 14% to 13% between 2009/10 and 2010/11.
- 5.13 The drop in child poverty in Scotland over the last decade has naturally been accompanied by a fall in poverty among working-age adults living with dependent children⁴⁶. But this fall has been accompanied by a steady rise in poverty among working-age adults without dependent children, both in and out of work.

- 5.14 As for the factors that have influenced the reduction in relative poverty in 2010/11, *Poverty and Income Inequality in Scotland: 2010-11*⁴⁷ lists the following:
- Median equivalised household income decreased in real terms (down from £439 to £416 in 2010/11), which in turn decreased the relative poverty thresholds.
 - Individual earnings fell in real terms in 2010/11 and this was one of the main factors in the reduction in median incomes.
 - Benefit and tax credit income grew in cash terms and fell only slightly in real terms. This meant that low-income benefit-dependent households saw their income fall less in 2010/11 than households at the median, tending to decrease the overall rate of relative poverty, before and after housing costs.
- 5.15 Persistent poverty rates for working age adults are lower than for children and pensioners. Between 1999 to 2002 and 2005 to 2008 these rates were relatively flat in England and Scotland⁴⁸.
- 5.16 Regarding welfare reform, the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) has published an Equalities Impact Assessment for Universal Credit⁴⁹. It models the positive impact of Universal Credit on the distribution of participation tax rate (calculated as the proportion of earnings which are lost in tax, national insurance or reduced benefit payments when a person moves into work) for people moving into ten hours of work per week at the minimum wage, and shows that the improvement is seen across all age groups. In summary, DWP concludes that households of all ages will see significant improvements in their incentives to work.
- 5.17 Currently Working Tax Credit is not available to those under 25 unless they have children or are disabled, so younger people should benefit particularly from the reduced taper and integration of in and out-of-work support. This should help to promote employment incentives and opportunities for younger people.
- 5.18 In contrast, the Joseph Rowntree Foundation⁵⁰ observes that worsening unemployment figures, specifically the rise in people working part-time instead of full-time, indicate that the issue is the lack of jobs, not an unwillingness to look for work. Joseph Rowntree Foundation conclude that policies that focus solely on changing incentives to find work via benefit reform cannot solve this problem.
- 5.19 The Department for Work and Pensions' impact assessment of the new Benefits Cap⁵¹ anticipates that around 80% of those affected by the cap will be aged 25 to 44, as those under 25 tend to receive less benefit, and are less likely to have children. Most of the other 20% affected will therefore be 45 or over. The cap will only apply to working-age benefits and will not impact on single people or couples who have both reached the qualifying age for Pension Credit. In Housing Benefit the cap will not apply to most couples where one partner has reached the qualifying age for Pension Credit.

Pensioner poverty

5.20 The fall in pensioner poverty since 1998/99 has been steeper than comparable falls for children and working age adults. The latest data on poverty and income inequality on Scotland⁵² shows that 160 thousand pensioners were living in relative poverty in 2010/11. Pensioner relative poverty before housing costs decreased slightly from 17% in 2009/10 to 16% in 2010/11 (see Figure 9), whilst the pensioner relative poverty measure after housing costs remained at 12% in 2010/11. (Pensioners are the group where outright ownership is common hence after housing costs poverty is lower than before housing costs). 7% of over 65s were materially deprived in 2010/11, this is a decrease from 10% in 2009/10.

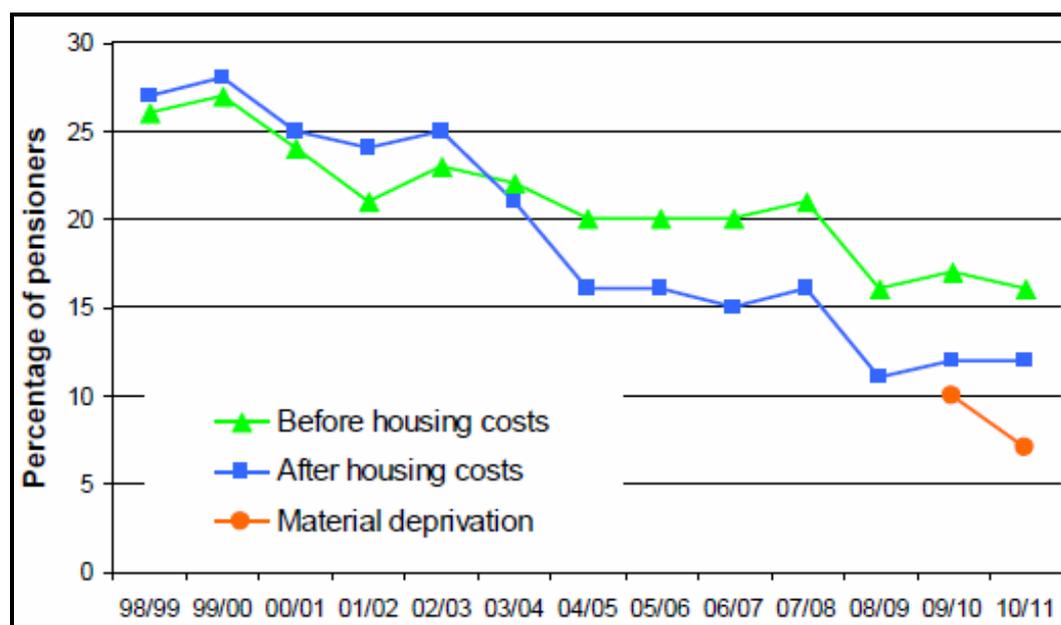


Figure 9: Pensioner Relative poverty: 1998/99 - 2010/11 (Source: *Poverty and Income Inequality in Scotland, 2012*)

- 5.21 The explanation given by the same report is that households containing pensioners at the lower end of the income distribution generally received a larger proportion of their income from benefits and a smaller proportion from other sources. So because benefit income grew more than earned income, households with pensioners saw their overall income fall less in real terms in 2010/11 than other households with more income from earnings.
- 5.22 Dividing up pensioners into 5-year age bands, the poverty rate is fairly stable for the age categories below 80 years (between 13% and 16%). However, for the 80-85 years age group this rises to 18%, and for 85 years and over the rate is 22%⁵³.
- 5.23 In Scotland persistent poverty among pensioners (after housing costs) fell from 17% to 5% between 1999 to 2002 and 2005 to 2008⁵⁴. This was the largest drop seen in any GB country for this group.

In-work poverty

- 5.24 8% of children and 8% of working age adults live in in-work poverty households⁵⁵. On average, children are slightly more likely than working age adults to be in households where no-one is working.

Income inequalities by age group

- 5.25 53% of pensioners and 47% of children are in the bottom two income quintiles (the bottom 40%), compared to 34% of working age adults⁵⁶. 55% of households with a youngest child aged 0-4 years are in the bottom two income quintiles. This compares with 41% of households with a youngest child aged 5 or over⁵⁷.

Coping financially

- 5.26 There are marked age-related differences in how people are managing financially, with an increase in those managing well as people get older (36% of those aged 16-24 up to 61% of those aged 75 plus), as against a decreasing pattern for those not managing well (21% of those aged 16-24 down to 2% of those aged 75 plus)⁵⁸. In almost every case, as the age of the household head increases, so too do the savings of the family. 64% of families headed by a 16-24 year-old have no savings. Families that are most likely to have savings are those with a household head over 75 (74%). Families with a household head aged 60-74 were most likely to have savings over £20,000 (19%). The least likely were families headed by a 16-24 year old (the likelihood is so small that it rounds to 0%).

6 HOUSING

6.1 This section covers the evidence on housing tenure, homelessness, fuel poverty, house condition, housing for older people, and neighbourhoods.

Tenure

- 6.2 Older people are much more likely to own their homes than younger people⁵⁹, with the trend being that an increasing proportion of those aged 65 and over live in owner-occupied housing. In 2010, 70% of all households where the highest income householder is aged 65 were owner occupied compared with 53% in 1999. In the same year, 63% of households where the highest income householder is aged 16 to 64 were owner-occupied⁶⁰.
- 6.3 In contrast, analysis of the *Scottish Household Survey* shows that home ownership is in rapid decline amongst younger households, from 45% of households under 30 in 1998 to 35% of under 30's in 2009 and has been rising rapidly amongst older age groups from 53% of over 65s to 68% over the same period⁶¹. Data from the *Scottish Household Survey 2010* shows that adults in older age groups are more likely to have preserved Right To Buy terms (which are considered to be financially more favourable) than adults in younger age groups: 41% of adults with preserved right to buy terms are aged 60+, compared with around 18% of those with modernised (financially less favourable) terms; those aged 25-34 are least likely to have preserved right to buy terms (20%) while those aged 75+ are most likely (72%)⁶².
- 6.4 Single older person households and older couple households are also likely to be living in Social Rented Sector (13.4% and 2.6% respectively)⁶³. Few pensioners rent from a private landlord⁶⁴.

Homelessness

- 6.5 Younger age groups are over-represented in homelessness figures. For example, 6% of main applicants assessed as homeless or potentially homeless were aged 16 or 17 years old, but this age group makes up only 3% of the adult population. Similarly, 18 to 25 year olds make up 33% of cases assessed as homeless or potentially homeless, but account for only 13% of the adult population⁶⁵.
- 6.6 Recent homelessness data⁶⁶ show that at a national level, youth homelessness (16-24) represents a fairly static share of the number of all homeless households (around 35%). In absolute numbers, however, youth homelessness decreased by 19% in 2011-12, compared with 2010-11 (from 14,552 to 11,823).
- 6.7 More than one in eight (13%) children leaving care between April 2006 and March 2007 experienced one or more episodes of homelessness. This compared to nearly two in five (37%) children leaving care between April 2004 and March 2005 who experienced at least one spell of homelessness⁶⁷, suggesting decreased vulnerability to homelessness among this group.

Fuel poverty^{vi}

- 6.8 There has been a steep rise in pensioner fuel poverty since 2003/04. In 2003-04, 35% of all single pensioner households and 27% of all older smaller households were fuel poor (Scottish Executive, 2006). In 2010, 55% of single pensioner households (196,000) and 40% of older smaller households (161,000) were fuel poor⁶⁸.
- 6.9 A recent review of fuel poverty in Scotland⁶⁹ has found that the elderly are most at risk from fuel poverty: half of pensioner households live in fuel poverty (49%), compared with 18% of households without pensioners. Over half of households in fuel poverty (55%) in Scotland are pensioners (32% of all fuel poor households are single pensioners; 23% of all fuel poor households are households with pensioners in them). The extreme fuel poor are twice as likely to be elderly (62% of people who are extreme fuel poor are elderly compared to 29% non- extreme fuel poor and 32% general population). Of all household types, single pensioners are also most at risk of extreme fuel poverty (20% in 2008-10). As people get older and their income falls they become more vulnerable to fuel poverty; in Scotland, 38% of pensioners are on a low income⁷⁰.
- 6.10 Approximately 1 in 10 families in Scotland are fuel poor (12%). Single parents are nearly 3 times more likely to experience fuel poverty than couples with children⁷¹: 31% of the former live in fuel poverty⁷². More positively, only 5% of the fuel poor in Scotland have a child under 5 in the household⁷³.
- 6.11 Apart from households with older people, fuel poverty also affects a high number of households with the oldest householder aged 16-25 (31%). Households with the oldest householder aged 25-59 are visibly less affected⁷⁴.
- 6.12 The culture and attitudes of older people towards heating the home in winter may also contribute to their living in cold homes. For example, one study that explored the experiences of older people affected by fuel poverty in the winter, reported that the people interviewed usually turned heating off during the day and that it was common practice to sleep in an unheated bedroom and to keep the window open at night⁷⁵.

House condition

- 6.13 Households containing a person over 60 are slightly more likely to live in energy inefficient homes than younger households. However, their dwellings are also less likely to be in need of urgent repair⁷⁶.
- 6.14 Older data⁷⁷ show that between 1996 and 2003-04, the number of working age adult households with dampness has decreased from 130,000 to 71,000 (a fall of 45%). The number of pensioner households with dampness has

^{vi} A definition of fuel poverty can be found on page 8 of the following report: Scottish Government (2012) *Fuel Poverty Evidence Review*. Edinburgh: Scottish Government. <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/0039/00398798.pdf>

decreased from 47,000 to 32,000 (a fall of 32%). In the same period the number of working age adult households with condensation decreased from 348,000 to 177,000 (a fall of 49%). The number of pensioner households with condensation decreased from 101,000 to 66,000 (a fall of 35%).

Housing for older people

- 6.15 A recent report on the impact of population ageing on housing⁷⁸ estimates that the population aged 65 and over is projected to rise from 857,000 in 2008, to 1,409,000 in 2033. Similarly, the population aged 65 and over with a life limiting illness or disability is projected to rise over the same period.
- 6.16 The report states that specialist housing is under pressure and that costs are projected to continue to rise for support for people to remain at home. However, the ratio of sheltered housing stock to disabled pensioners is projected to fall in all areas of Scotland. In order to maintain current ratios of provision to probable need, the combined numbers of sheltered and very sheltered housing stock would need to rise from 38,000 in 2008/9, to 45,900 in 2018 and to 61,400 in 2033, a rise of 23,400 units over the period. Overall pensioner households requiring adaptations are projected to rise from 66,300 households in 2008 to 106,174 in 2033, all things remaining equal.
- 6.17 The report also recognised that pressure on informal and family support is projected to rise as age ratios change. The large population cohort which is currently in the key later middle aged group supplies a very large proportion of the informal home care, and will soon be moving from the age bracket which is most likely to give care, to that which is most likely to be in need of care.
- 6.18 As for the implications, the report noted that large numbers of later middle aged people will reach retirement age at the same time and may need to access equity in their houses or to sell their house which may affect the future housing market. Older home owners are more likely to want to move to a smaller property than to a larger property.
- 6.19 The report concluded that Scotland will have many more people ageing in their current homes both as a total number, and as a proportion of the pensioner population. If there is a constant proportion of older people in need of specialist housing then demand for specialist housing would grow commensurately. This could mean either greater pressure for public sector delivery, or the Scottish Government could facilitate its being built in the private sector⁷⁹.
- 6.20 The most recent data on housing stocks for older people can be found on the Scottish Government website⁸⁰. Overall, the amount of very sheltered accommodation showed consistent increases every year, rising from about 700 in 1996 to 5,300 in 2009. It remained at 5,300 for 2010, but has fallen to 3,700 in 2011. Figures for sheltered accommodation have remained fairly constant during the past 10 years at about 32,000-35,000 units, while the less specialised medium dependency housing has shown an overall drop from 17,600 to 14,800 units since 1996. Wheelchair adapted housing has increased from 2,300 in 1996 to 6,600 in 2011.

- 6.21 At the Census 2001, 5 % of people in Scotland aged 65 and over were in communal establishments (mainly care homes), rising to 22 % of the 85 and over age group⁸¹.
- 6.22 In March 2011 the *Care Home Census* found that there were 920 care homes for older people in Scotland providing 38,341 places to 33,645 residents, of whom 32,545 were long stay (97%)⁸². Around a third of residents had been in the care home for more than three years at the census. The median length of stay was around 2 years.
- 6.23 In 2005, people under 65 constituted a small minority of long-stay residents in care homes for older people. The 65-74 age group constituted 11% while older residents were in visible majority (36% were aged 75-84 and 48% were aged 85 and over)⁸³.
- 6.24 With the majority of older people preferring to stay in their own homes as long as they can, a review of research on housing in older age found that sheltered housing was a common choice for people who required support to live at home⁸⁴. The review suggested that sheltered housing provides social contact and a secure environment that appeal to many older people. Extra-Care and very sheltered housing have proven to be popular for a minority of people who have higher-level support needs, offering a positive alternative to residential care or high intensity care at home. Supported housing is thought to offer flexible care and accommodation that is suited to those with mobility problems, with people reporting high levels of satisfaction in relation to access to care and the provision of meals. The same review found that decisions about moving in older age are complex and highly dependent on individual circumstances.

Neighbourhoods

- 6.25 As for deprived areas, evidence shows that deprived neighbourhoods tend to have a disproportionately younger population than more affluent neighbourhoods⁸⁵. This is because there are high numbers of children in the most deprived areas (deciles 1 and 2) (but a high number also reside in the least deprived areas)⁸⁶, and also because people in deprived neighbourhoods have shorter life expectancy.
- 6.26 There are relatively more people aged 25 years to pensionable age in the less deprived areas⁸⁷. Pensioners are less likely than average to live in either the most or least deprived areas which tend to be more urban areas.

7 TRANSPORT

- 7.1 This section considers variations in, and barriers to, the use of various modes of transport including car, bus and rail. It considers reasons for travelling, and concessionary travel.

Travel patterns

- 7.2 Data from the *Scottish Household Survey 2009/2010*⁸⁸ show that those aged 80 and over carried out the least travel (39% had travelled the previous day). This compares with 63% for those aged 70-79 and 71% for those aged 60-69. Those aged 80 and over experienced the greatest decline in travel between 2007 and 2010.

Travel to work/school

- 7.3 According to the *Scottish Household Survey* in 2005, the car/van (either as a passenger or driver) is the most popular form of transport used to commute to work for all age groups. *Scottish Household Survey* data also shows that travelling to work by car became more common between 1999 and 2005⁸⁹. *Transport and Travel in Scotland 2011*⁹⁰ shows that as people get older they are more likely to drive to work. 31% of those aged 16-20 drive to work compared to two thirds of those aged 50- 59. Another 17% of those aged 16-19 travel to work as a passenger in a car. The same report also reveals that young people are more likely to walk to work or travel by bus. 18.5% of 16-20 year olds walk to work and 31% travel by bus. However, 48% travel by car either as a driver or as a passenger.
- 7.4 As for the mode of transport to school, the *National Travel Survey*^{vii} shows that the percentage walking to school has fallen, that those who travel by car has risen, and that there has been little change in the use of the bus⁹¹. According to *Transport and Travel in Scotland 2011*⁹², 52% of journeys to school were made by walking or cycling in 2011. The levels have remained relatively stable over the last ten years. For those aged 4-11, the next most popular mode is as a passenger in a car or van (29.5%). For those aged 12-18, the next most popular is bus (22.3%).

Driving

- 7.5 Younger and older people are less likely to drive every day. 33% of those aged 20-29 and 38% of those aged 60-69 drive every day, compared to more than half of those aged 30-59. Only 23% of those aged 70-79 drive every day and 12% of those aged 80 or over drive every day⁹³. The *Transport and Travel in Scotland 2011* report also shows that driving licence possession varies with age, increasing from 26% in 17 to 19 year olds to peak at 80% of 40 to 49 year olds, before decreasing back down to 35% of those 80 or over.
- 7.6 63% of single pensioner households had no access to a car, compared to 11 – 12 % for family households and 18% for pensioner couples.

^{vii} Cited in the *High Level Summary of Equality Statistics: 2006*

7.7 According to the *National Travel Survey*^{viii}, in Great Britain adults aged between 30 and 59 years used a car (or van/lorry) for 80% of the annual distance travelled. This proportion of car usage is the highest of all age groups⁹⁴.

Road accidents

7.8 Young drivers aged 17-25 are twice as likely to be involved in an injury accident than older drivers. The rate is 6 per thousand population for 17-25 year olds, compared to 3 for those aged 26 and over⁹⁵.

7.9 Since 1999 casualty rates have been steadily declining across all age groups, with the exception of those aged 60 and above, for whom rates have remained fairly static⁹⁶.

Bus travel

7.10 According to *Transport and Travel in Scotland 2011*⁹⁷ both younger and older people are more likely to use the bus. 46% of adults had used the bus in the month prior to the *Scottish Household Survey* interview. 70% of 16-19 year olds had used the bus in the last month and half of those aged 60-69 and 70-79 had used it.

7.11 Adults aged 16 to 19 were much more likely to use the bus almost or every day than older age groups (21% compared to an average of 11% for all adults). Older age groups (60 and over) were more likely to travel by bus than those aged 30-59.

7.12 According to the *Scottish Household Survey 2005*, there is little difference in walking time to the nearest bus stop for households containing one or more people of pensionable age and all households. 47% of respondents from households containing one or more people of pensionable age reported that walking time to the nearest bus stop took under 3 minutes⁹⁸.

7.13 Since 2002, the most marked difference in local bus use is that the proportion of pensioners using a local bus service in the previous month (before the survey) has increased from 46% to 51%⁹⁹.

Rail travel

7.14 Train use decreases as age increases. 20-29 year olds are the age group most likely to use the train every day¹⁰⁰. Pensioners are less likely to use train services than adults as a whole¹⁰¹. Over a third of those under 30 had used the train in the last month compared to less than 20% of those aged 60 or over¹⁰².

^{viii} Cited in the *High Level Summary of Equality Statistics: 2006*

Concessionary travel

7.15 The *Bus and Coach Statistics 2010/11*¹⁰³ show that:

- 87% of those aged 60 and over hold a concessionary pass.
- A third of bus journeys are undertaken by concessionary pass holders.

7.16 The main reasons cited by people aged 70 and over for not using buses more frequently are health reasons and no need.

7.17 Additionally, we know that 55% of those aged 60 or over used their concessionary pass at least once a month. 31% have a pass but have not used it and 13% have no pass¹⁰⁴. 28% of those 16-18 have a young person's concessionary travel pass, with 22% using it at least once a fortnight¹⁰⁵.

Walking and cycling

7.18 Walking for transport decreases with age. In 2005, 53% of adults had done so. Adults aged 16 to 19 years were the most likely to walk for transport, with over two-thirds reporting this, compared with only about half of those in their 50s and 60s, and one third of those aged 80 years and over¹⁰⁶.

7.19 Walking for pleasure increases to a peak with 40-49 year olds and then decreases again. Only 25% of those aged 80 and above had gone for a walk for pleasure in the last seven days, compared to the average of 54 % for all adults. Those aged 40-49 are the only group to be as likely to walk for pleasure as for transport¹⁰⁷.

7.20 In 2005, 3% of adults had made a trip of more than a quarter of a mile by bicycle, in the previous seven days. The percentage was slightly higher for men and for younger adults. 4% had cycled for pleasure or to keep fit¹⁰⁸.

7.21 The National Indicator data from *Scotland Performs*¹⁰⁹ show that those aged 16-24 are more likely to use public or active transport than other age groups, with 46% of 16-24 year olds using public or active transport to travel to work in 2011, compared to 29% those aged 25-64. Since 1999 there has been no significant change in the proportion of people using public or active transport, either for the whole population or by age band.

Public services in general

7.22 The National Indicator data from *Scotland Performs*¹¹⁰ show that people over the age of 75 are more likely to be satisfied with the quality of public services than younger adults. In 2011, 74% of people aged 75 and older reported being satisfied with the quality of local health services, local schools and public transport, compared to 62% of people aged 16-24 years.

7.23 Regarding the responsiveness of public services, the proportion of people who agree they can influence decisions affecting their local area has been stable over the last five years, at around one fifth (22% in 2011). Within that, however, people aged 75 and over consistently show the lowest level of

agreement. While there is some annual fluctuation for the other age groups, people aged 35 to 64 generally tend to show the highest levels of agreement (between 21% and 25% since 2007).

8 VICTIMS OF CRIME

8.1 This section explores the incidence of crime, with reference to the ages of the victims and the perpetrators. It covers violent crime, hate crime, racist incidents, and religiously aggravated offending. The section closes with a look at social attitudes towards age.

Incidence of violent crime

8.2 The *EHRC Triennial Review*¹¹¹ reports that children aged under one are more likely to die as a result of homicide than any other age group in England and Wales. However, in 2008/09, the rate was half that of a decade ago. On average one child aged under 16 died as a result of cruelty or violence each week in England and Wales in 2008/09 – two-thirds of them aged under five.

8.3 Trend data suggest that homicide victimisation rates among adults peak before the age of 30. In England and Wales, the rate for victims aged 16-29 in 2008/09 was 21 per million: in Scotland, the rate for victims aged 16-30 was higher at 34 per million – see Figure 10¹¹².

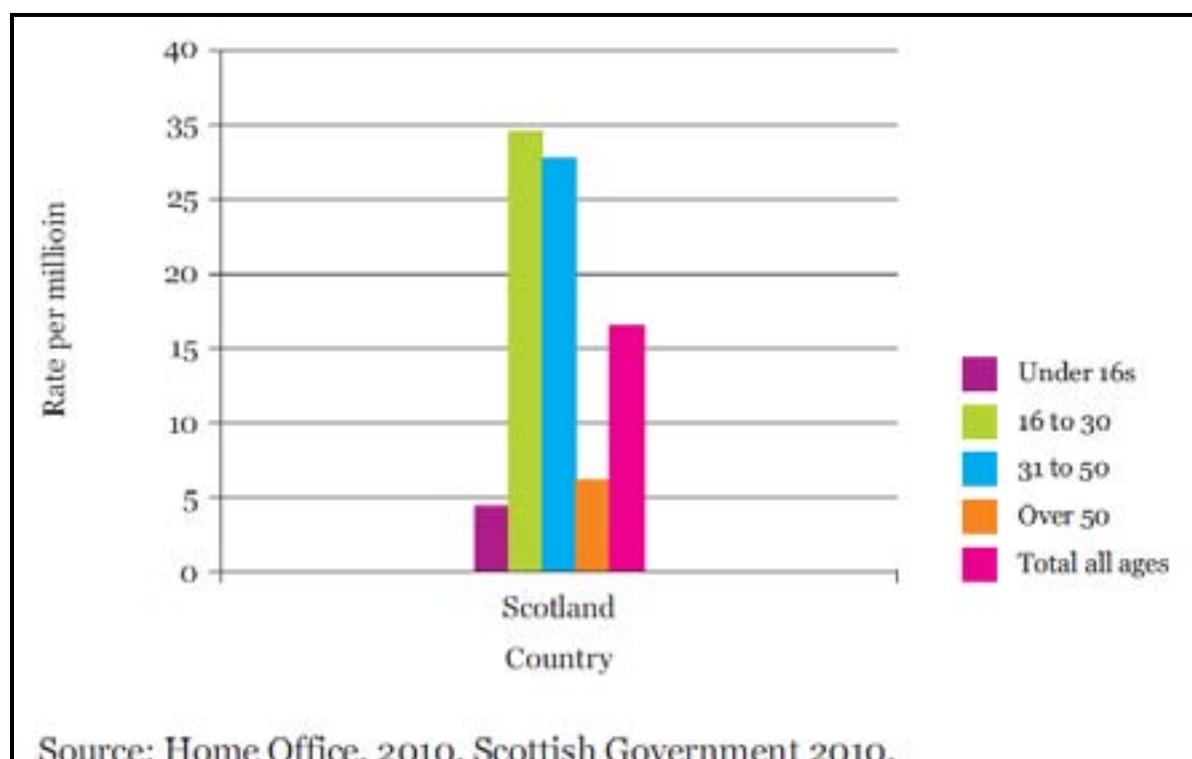


Figure 10: Homicide rates per million population by victim age in Scotland, 2008/09

Hate crime

8.4 In England and Wales, the Crown Prosecution Service has started to recognise a category of hate crime against older people – defined broadly to cover a range of offences where the advanced age of the victim is relevant, either because the crime exploits an older person’s vulnerability or because it is linked to hostility because of a person’s age. The volume of cases referred

to the Crown Prosecution Service by the police has risen year on year and 2,213 defendants were charged in 2010/11, an increase of 44% on the previous year¹¹³.

- 8.5 Regarding the ages of the perpetrators, the legislation for the more recent categories of hate crime (disability, sexual orientation and transgender identity) came into force on 24 March 2010; therefore there is little available data on the age of people charged with disability, sexual orientation and transgender identity aggravated crime. A recent publication on hate crime¹¹⁴, however, contains information on numbers of offenders referred to Children's Reporter. Using this category as a proxy for 'under 16', we know that 3% of people charged in 2011/12 with disability aggravated crime were under 16; 1% of people charged in 2011/12 with sexual orientation aggravated crime were under 16; and that 16 people (close to 0%) under 16 were charged in 2011/12 with transgender identity aggravated crime.

Racist incidents

- 8.6 Racist incidents data collected by the Police¹¹⁵ shows that 5,902 individuals were recorded as victims of racist incidents in Scotland in 2010-11. Three quarters of victims of racist incidents recorded in 2010-11 were male (where age and gender was known). Among male victims, 36% of those who were a victim of a racist incident recorded in 2010-11 were aged 26-35, with this being the most common age group for male victims. However, the most common age group for female victims were those aged 36 to 50, with 31% of female victims being in this age group. Overall, of those who were victims of a racist incident recorded in 2010-11, 14% were aged 20 or under (see Table 10 in the *Racist Incidents Recorded by the Police*¹¹⁶ publication for further details).
- 8.7 The same report shows that around 46% of perpetrators in 2010-11 were aged 20 or under, with 23% of perpetrators under the age of 16 (see Table 14 in the *Racist Incidents*¹¹⁷ report for further details).
- 8.8 These statistics do not record every occurrence of racist incidents in Scotland. The 2010-11 *Scottish Crime and Justice Survey* estimated that approximately 39% of all crimes came to the attention of the police.
- 8.9 Macpherson & Bond (2009)¹¹⁸ noted that evidence from a study on ethnic minority young people in Edinburgh and Glasgow highlights that the situation in Scotland has been very different to England, as a result of a smaller ethnic minority population and a positive relationship historically between police and elders within ethnic minority communities. The study observed, however, that many ethnic minority people accept verbal racist harassment as part of everyday life - so much so that they would not normally consider reporting it to the police.

Religiously aggravated offending

- 8.10 There were 897 charges with a religious aggravation reported in 2011-12, 29% more than in 2010-11¹¹⁹. In 2010-11 95% of the charges related to males

and 58% of all accused were between the ages of 16 and 30. People aged under 16 and over 60 constituted a very small minority of offenders (3.5% and 2.5% respectively)¹²⁰.

Social Attitudes

8.11 The *Scottish Social Attitudes Survey* (2010) report¹²¹ presents key findings from a study of public attitudes towards discrimination and positive action. The findings show that 75% of respondents thought it would be wrong to make people retire at a given age – a figure almost unchanged since the 2006 survey - while just 22% felt that “older people ought to be forced to retire to make way for younger people”. However, these results vary with context: even among those who disagreed with making people retire at a certain age, 35% felt that someone aged 70 would be unsuitable for primary school teaching. This number has dropped from 49% in 2006.

9 JUSTICE

9.1 This section looks at older and younger people's experience of crime, civil and criminal law, prison, domestic abuse, fires, perceptions of criminal justice, and the prison population.

Experience of crime

9.2 The *Scottish Crime and Justice Survey 2010-11*¹²² estimates that around one in six (approximately 18%) adults aged 16 or over was the victim of at least one crime. The risk of being a victim of any crime decreased with age: 26% of 16-24 year olds were victims of crime compared with 9% of those aged 60 or older. The risk of being a victim of violent crime also decreased with age: 7% for 16-24 year olds compared with 1% of those aged 60 or over.

9.3 The *Scottish Crime and Justice Survey* reports that 27% of adults had experienced at least one civil law problem in the last three years, including:

- 16% of adults had experienced problems with home, family or living arrangements;
- 12% had experienced problems with money, finance or things they had paid for.

Civil and criminal law

9.4 The most common civil law problem was with neighbours (11% had experienced) followed by problems with faulty goods or services (6%). People aged over 60 are less likely to have experienced civil legal problems in the last three years than those in other age brackets (13% of those aged over 60, compared to 30% of those aged 16-24, 37% of those aged 25-44, and 29% of those aged 45-59). In addition those aged over 60 tend to suffer fewer numbers of problems: an average 1.29 problems compared to 1.78 for those aged 16-24, 1.76 for those aged 25-44, and 1.62 for those aged 45-59. Across all types of civil assistance¹²³ in 2010-11 the most common age groups seeking assistance lie between the late 20's through to the early 40's (most commonly 27 to 31 years).

9.5 The peak rates of convictions for males in 2010-11¹²⁴ were in the age range 18-20, at approximately 110 per 1,000 population. This compares to a rate of 47 per 1,000 population for all males. For women, the peak rates for convictions in 2010-11 were between 26 – 30, at approximately 19 per 1,000 population, around double the rate for all females.

9.6 In terms of Criminal Justice Social Work, Social Enquiry Reports were most common amongst young adults, accounting for 260 per 10,000 population of 18 to 20 year olds in 2010-11¹²⁵. This is around three times the overall rate of 86 per 10,000 population.

9.7 The *High-level summary of equality statistics*¹²⁶ plots youth crime by the age of the offender (see Figure 11). Offence referrals to the Children's Reporter

are most likely to occur for children aged 15 years. Since 1999-00, offence referrals have increased for all children aged between 8 and 17 years, with the largest increase being for children aged 15 (up 24%), followed by those aged 13 years (up 23%). It should be noted that the number of young people aged 16 or 17 years who are referred is relatively small. This is because most offenders in this age group are dealt with by the adult Criminal Justice System^{ix}.

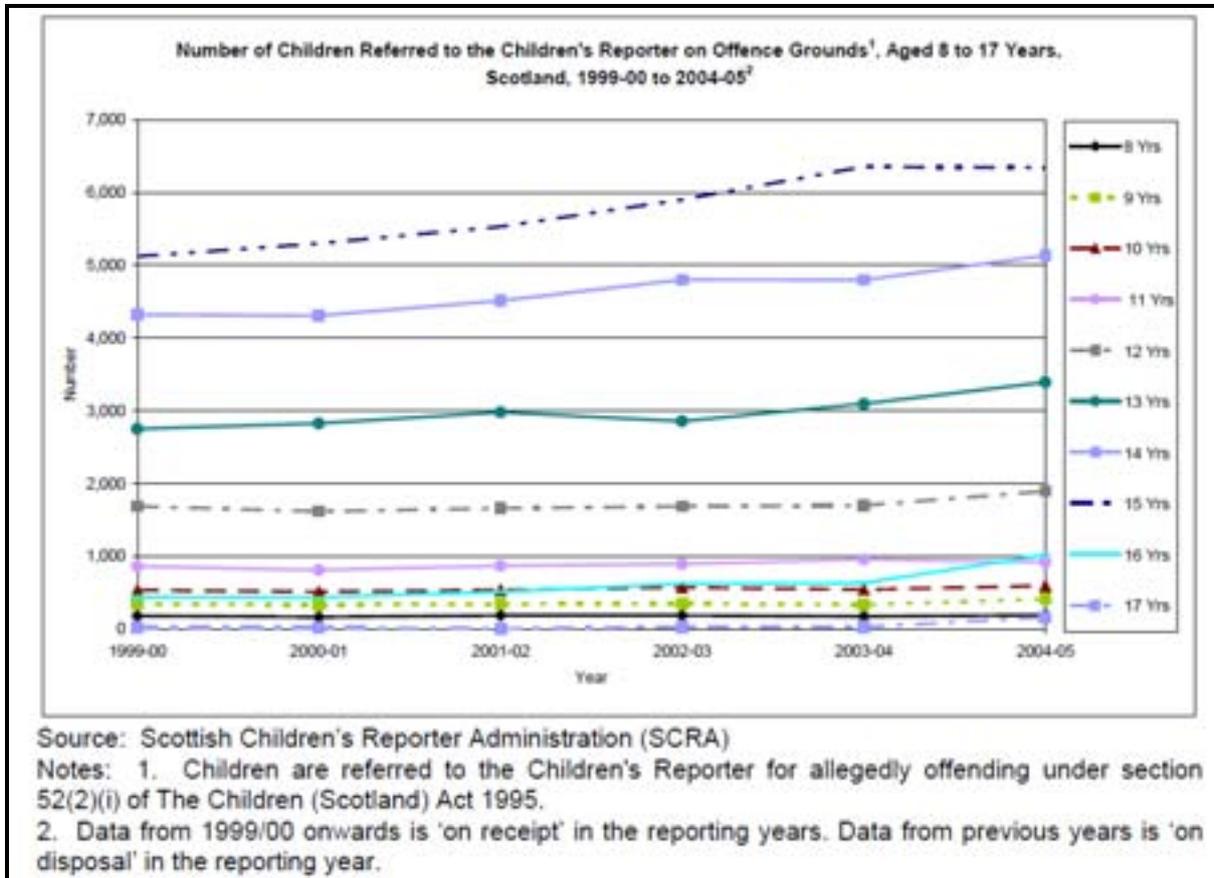


Figure 11: Youth crime by age

Workforce

9.8 Figure 12 shows evidence on the age distribution of the workforce reported in a survey of legal aid solicitors in Scotland¹²⁷.

^{ix} Note that these data are not National Statistics.

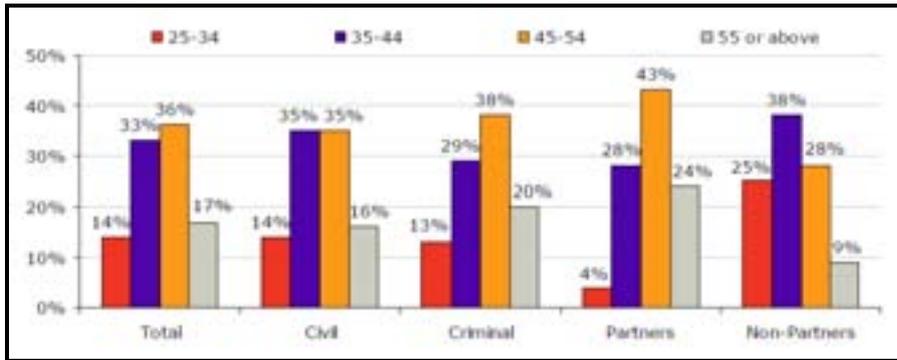


Figure 12: Age by main case type and by job role (Source: *Solicitor Survey, 2010*)

Prison population

9.9 The age profile of female prisoners tends to be somewhat older than that for men, as shown in Figure 13 below¹²⁸:

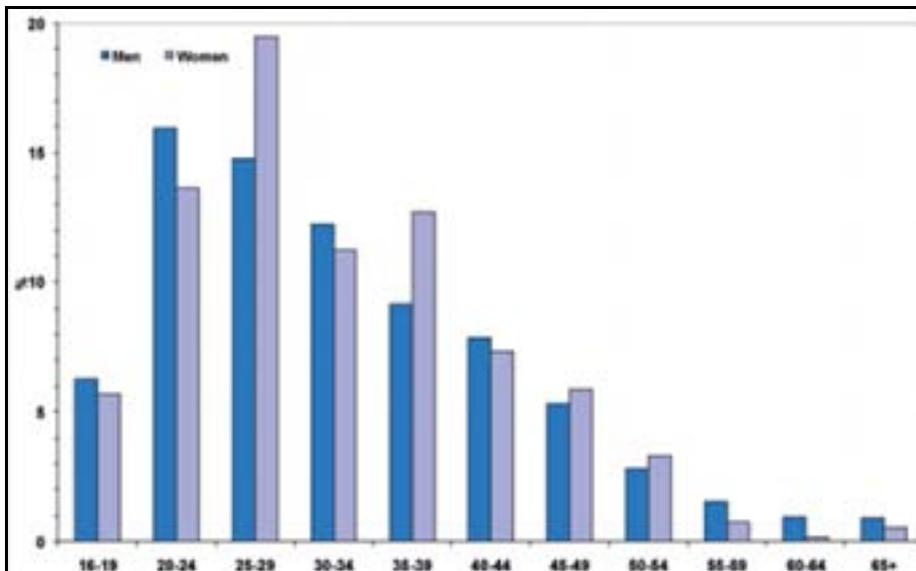


Figure 13: Age distribution of prisoners by gender: 30 June 2010 (Source: *Prison Statistics Scotland, 2010-11*)

Domestic abuse

9.10 In 2009-10, the highest rates of incidents of domestic abuse per 100,000 population among female victims was for those aged between 19 and 30, where the rate was around 4,500 incidents per 100,000 population compared to a rate of around 1,600 for all female victims¹²⁹. Among male victims, the highest rate of incidents of domestic abuse per 100,000 population in 2009-10 was for those aged 31 to 35 years, where the rate was 865 incidents per 100,000 population, compared to a rate of around 350 for all male victims. In 2009-10, the highest rate of incidents of domestic abuse per 100,000 population among female perpetrators was by those aged 19 to 21 years, where the rate was 928 incidents per 100,000 population, compared to an

overall rate of around 320 for female perpetrators. Among male perpetrators, the highest rate of incidents of domestic abuse per 100,000 population was by those aged between 22 and 35, where the rate was over 4,000 incidents per 100,000 population, compared to an overall rate of around 1,700 for male perpetrators.

Fires

- 9.11 The provisional fire casualty statistics for 2010-11¹³⁰ show that there were 47 fatal casualties, with 21 in the 30-59 year age group and 20 for those aged over 60. The rate of fatal casualties was 16.6 per million population in the over 60 age group, compared to 9.9 per million for those aged 30 to 59.

10 PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS

- 10.1 This section presents the available data on public appointments in relation to age.
- 10.2 A Public Appointment is an appointment to the board of any of the public bodies across Scotland - either as a member, or as the chair¹³¹. The board's role is to provide leadership, direction and guidance, it is not involved in the day-to-day running of the public body.
- 10.3 *Diversity Delivers* shows that the rate of appointments for applicants aged under 49/50^x has increased in the previous three years: from 15.6% in 2010 to nearly 29% in 2011/12¹³². The proportion of applications from this age group, however, has fallen markedly: from 32.4% in 2006 to 20.5% in 2011/12^{133 134}.
- 10.4 *Diversity Delivers* provides a detailed breakdown of applicants' age compared with general population (data for 2005-07). It shows that the most common age range for applicants remained the 51-60 age group. At around 40% of all applicants, this group accounted for around twice as many applicants as any other age bracket, despite only 13% of the population falling into this category.
- 10.5 The Scottish Government's website for public appointments¹³⁵ reports that, in the public appointments rounds for 2011-12, 20.5% of applicants were under 50 and almost 29% of appointees were under 50. It is anticipated that data to 2013 will be published on the same website later this year.

^x Age 49 was used in 2010 and 2011; Age 50 for 2005-2008 and 2011/12.

11 HEALTH

11.1 This section summarises the findings of the 2012 *Scottish Health Survey* and the 2010 *Patient Experience Survey* in Scotland. It then explores evidence on self-reported health, emergency admissions to hospital, disease, suicide and accidental death across the UK, from a variety of sources.

Health outcomes

11.2 According to the *Scottish Health Survey (2012)*¹³⁶, older groups were significantly less likely to report being in good or very good health than younger age groups. 89% of 16-24 year olds reported being in good or very good health and this fell consistently with increasing age to reach a level of 53% for those aged 75 and over.

11.3 There was a complex association between mental wellbeing and age. The WEMWBS scale measures positive mental wellbeing, with higher scores indicating greater wellbeing. People aged 16-24 (scoring 50.3 on WEMWBS) and 65-74 (51.1) had the highest levels of positive wellbeing, and those aged 45-54 (49.1) and 75 and over (49.0) had the lowest (see Figure 14). The relationship between GHQ12 (which indicates mental ill-health) and age showed an inverse pattern to that observed for WEMWBS. 45-54 year olds were most likely to have high GHQ12 scores (18%) whilst 65-74 year olds were least likely (10%). These patterns fit with the widely cited 'U-curve' in subjective wellbeing, where levels of self-reported subjective wellbeing dip during the middle years and among the oldest in society.

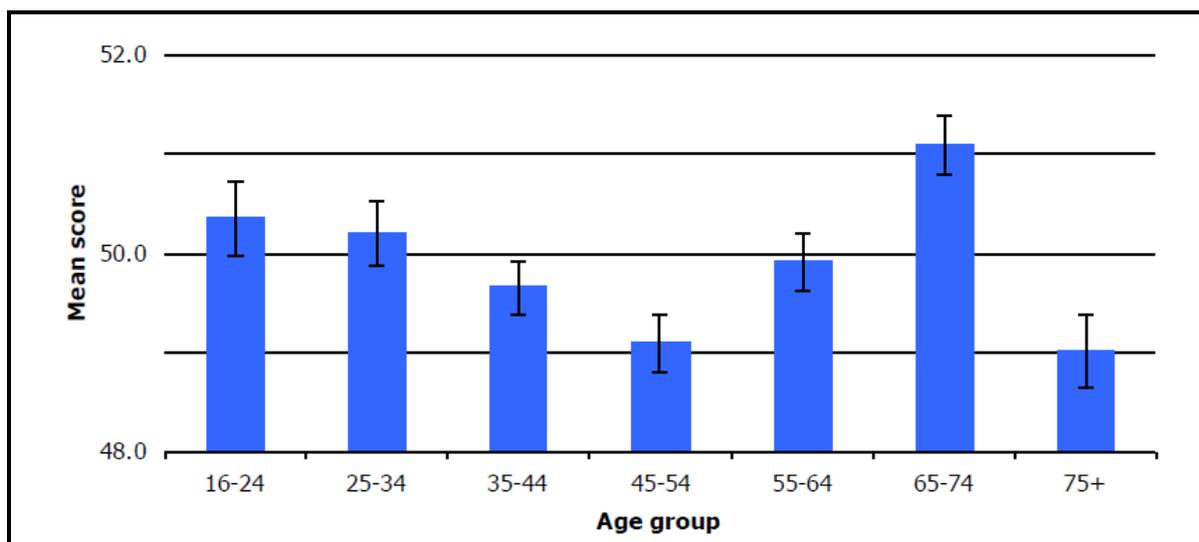


Figure 14: WEMWBS mean score, by age, 2008-2011 combined (Source: *Scottish Health Survey, 2012*)

11.4 Dental health has a strong, linear association with age. Almost all adults aged 16-24 (99%) had 20 natural teeth or more compared with one in five adults over 75 (19%). Prevalence of toothache in the previous month was inversely associated with age. Younger age groups were more likely to report having

experienced toothache in the last month with 18% of 16-24 year olds reporting this compared to 7% of those aged 75 and over.

- 11.5 Prevalence of overweight and obesity increased with age, peaking at age 55-64, before falling slightly for older age groups. 16-24 year olds were least likely to be overweight (35%) or obese (13%) whilst 55 to 64 year olds were the most likely to be overweight (77%) or obese (36%). For children, younger children are consistently more likely to be in the healthy weight range than older children¹³⁷.
- 11.6 There was a strong association between cardiovascular disease and age. The likelihood of having a cardiovascular condition increased steadily with age from 5% of 16- 24 year olds, to 41% of over 75 year olds. The prevalence of diabetes also increased with age: this was more pronounced between the ages of 45-54 and the 65-74 age group, where diabetes prevalence rose from 5% to 12%¹³⁸.

Health Behaviours

- 11.7 Prevalence of hazardous or harmful drinking was greatest among 16-24 year olds (30%) and dropped to 23%-26% between the ages of 25-64 before falling to 18% for 65-74 year olds and 10% for those aged 75 and over. The proportion of 16-24 year olds drinking above daily recommended limits on their heaviest drinking day was not significantly different from other age groups under 55 (figures ranged from 45% to 47%). From the age of 55 onwards, the proportion of adults drinking over the daily limit decreased with increasing age, reducing to 9% for the 75 and over age group.
- 11.8 Age was significantly associated with smoking prevalence and the number of cigarettes smoked. Prevalence was highest in the 25-34 year old age group (31%) before falling gradually until the age of 55-64 and dropping more dramatically from the age of 65 onwards. The pattern was somewhat reversed when looking at the average number of cigarettes smoked. 16-24 year-old smokers smoked the least (10.3 cigarettes a day) and smokers between the ages of 45-54 smoked the most (16.9 per day). Levels dropped off among older groups to reach an average of 12.6 among those aged 75 and over. The average age at which people started smoking was 17.5 years.
- 11.9 Regarding the consumption of fruit and vegetables, consumption of 5-a-day was significantly associated with age. Adults aged 16-24 were least likely to eat 5 or more portions per day (16%) and ate the fewest portions per day (2.7). Consumption peaked at age 55-64 (when 25% ate 5 or more portions per day with an average of 3.5 portions) before decreasing to a level of 21%(and 3.3 portions) at age 75 and over.
- 11.10 In Scotland there were large increases for men taking recommended amounts of exercise among those aged 25-34 and 35-44, both of which saw rises of 10 percentage points of those meeting the recommendations. Exercise levels are lower in those over 65 years. This is likely to be largely accounted for by the increase in 'poor' health and life-limiting illnesses and the decrease in mobility that is associated with older age; however, social and environmental factors,

including increasing personal security concerns may also contribute to this situation¹³⁹. Further detail is available from the *Scotland Performs* National Indicators¹⁴⁰, which confirm that physical activity is highly associated with age, with activity declining as age increases. Around half of 16-44 year olds meet the recommendations. This compares to one in five 65-74 year olds and less than one in ten of those aged 75 or older.

Patient experience

- 11.11 Scotland's 2010 *Inpatient Experience Survey*¹⁴¹ reports that older patients were generally more positive than younger patients. In 50 of the survey questions, older patients were more likely to report a positive experience. There were four questions where older patients were less likely to report a positive experience. These were: danger signals to watch for when they got home, and questions related to medicines. Given that there is some anecdotal evidence of frail, elderly patients having worse experiences in hospital, the findings that older patients are generally more likely to report positive experiences may be surprising. However this is consistent with findings from other studies. Differences may be accounted for by lower expectations of quality of care among older people. However the differences may be accounted for by young people feeling that they are seen as not needing the same care and attention as older people; staff may perceive that younger patients may be more able to look after themselves. This seems to correspond with some of the findings from our initial analysis of the open text comments which respondents provided in the survey. The analysis revealed that some of young people felt distressed at being expected to 'just get on with it' and look after themselves.
- 11.12 There are several other factors to consider. The survey will not capture the experiences of very frail elderly patients sufficiently because although the survey achieved a good response rate among older patients, very frail patients who may have more limiting illnesses are probably less likely to respond than others.

Emergency admission

- 11.13 The older an adult the more likely they are to make an emergency admission to hospital¹⁴², with the sharpest increases seen for age bands above 65. For example, for every 100,000 people aged 65 to 69 in 2010/11, there were 14,196 emergency admissions. This compares to 25,557 for those aged 75 to 79 and 47,744 for those aged 85 or older. The National Indicator data from *Scotland Performs*¹⁴³ focus on younger people: young adults (16-24 year olds) show the lowest rate of emergency admissions, and the rate of emergency admissions increases with age. Under 16s have a higher rate of emergency admissions than 16-44 year olds but a lower rate than those 45 and older.

Workforce

11.14 As at end December 2011, 13% of the NHS Scotland workforce (full-time equivalent) were aged under 30 years, whilst over half (54%) were aged between 30 and 49 years, and a further third (33%) were aged over 50 years¹⁴⁴.

Mortality

11.15 For both men and women, advancing age increases the number of deaths from ischaemic heart disease and cerebrovascular disease (or stroke), which increase across England, Scotland and Wales after 65 years¹⁴⁵.

11.16 The *EHRC Triennial Review*¹⁴⁶ reports that men continue to experience more cancer-related deaths overall than women, although women have a higher rate in a number of age groups. In England and Wales in 2008, the overall cancer mortality rate for all ages was 206 per 100,000 for men and 150 per 100,000 for women. Overall cancer rates are far higher in Scotland for both men and women. In 2008, Scottish men had an overall cancer mortality rate of 309 per 100,000 and women had a slightly lower rate of 283 per 100,000. Although there is a higher number of cancer deaths in the over 65s, cancer causes a greater proportion of the deaths among younger people. Three-quarters of cancer deaths (76%) occur in people aged 65 years and over, but cancer caused more than a third (36%) of all deaths in the under 65s in the UK in 2008, compared with 25% of all deaths in the over 65s.

11.17 Although suicide has fallen for most groups in recent years, the *EHRC Triennial Review* reports that it remains a disturbing cause of early death, especially among younger adults whom it affects the most. Around three times as many men as women committed suicide in Britain in 2008. The suicide rate in Scotland is higher than that in England and Wales for both women and men in most age groups, and is particularly high in Scotland for men aged 25-34 and 35-44¹⁴⁷.

11.18 Men have higher rates of accidental death than women in every age group except 85+¹⁴⁸, and linked to this difference, almost all people killed at work are men: only four fatalities (out of 129) at work in 2008/09 were women. The risk of accidental death rises rapidly in very old age for both men and women. Because of women's greater life expectancy, a higher number of older women than older men die from accidents.

11.19 The *EHRC Triennial Review* reports that in the forthcoming Children's Measurement Framework, it is proposed that there is a specific indicator on the numbers of children in fatal traffic accidents. The number of children that have been killed or seriously injured in traffic accidents has been decreasing over time. The number of children killed or seriously injured in road or traffic accidents in 2009 was 2,671 (down 5% on 2008). Of those, 1,660 were pedestrians, 7% down on 2008. A study carried out in 2003 by the AA Foundation for Road Safety Research¹⁴⁹ in Britain identified higher risks where there is an intersection between youth and ethnicity or hearing impairments. *Scotland Performs* National Indicator data¹⁵⁰ show that fatality

numbers are highest among young adults, with a quarter of fatalities on Scotland's roads in 2010 for those aged 16-24 although this group represents just over a tenth of the total population.

12 SOCIAL CARE

12.1 This section addresses care of older people, help with daily living, childcare, and the provision of informal care.

Formal care

12.2 In 2011 the vast majority of both home-care clients (82%) and long stay care home residents (86%) were at least 65 years old¹⁵¹. The *High-level summary of equality statistics*¹⁵² plots the care home population by age and gender (see Figure 15). Over the period 2003 to 2005 the number of older people (aged 65 years or over) in care homes, which make up 86% of the care home population, fell by almost 900 from the 2003 level of around 33,000. This drop can mainly be attributed to a drop in the numbers of residents aged 85 years and over in care homes with almost 1,000 fewer in 2005 than in 2003.

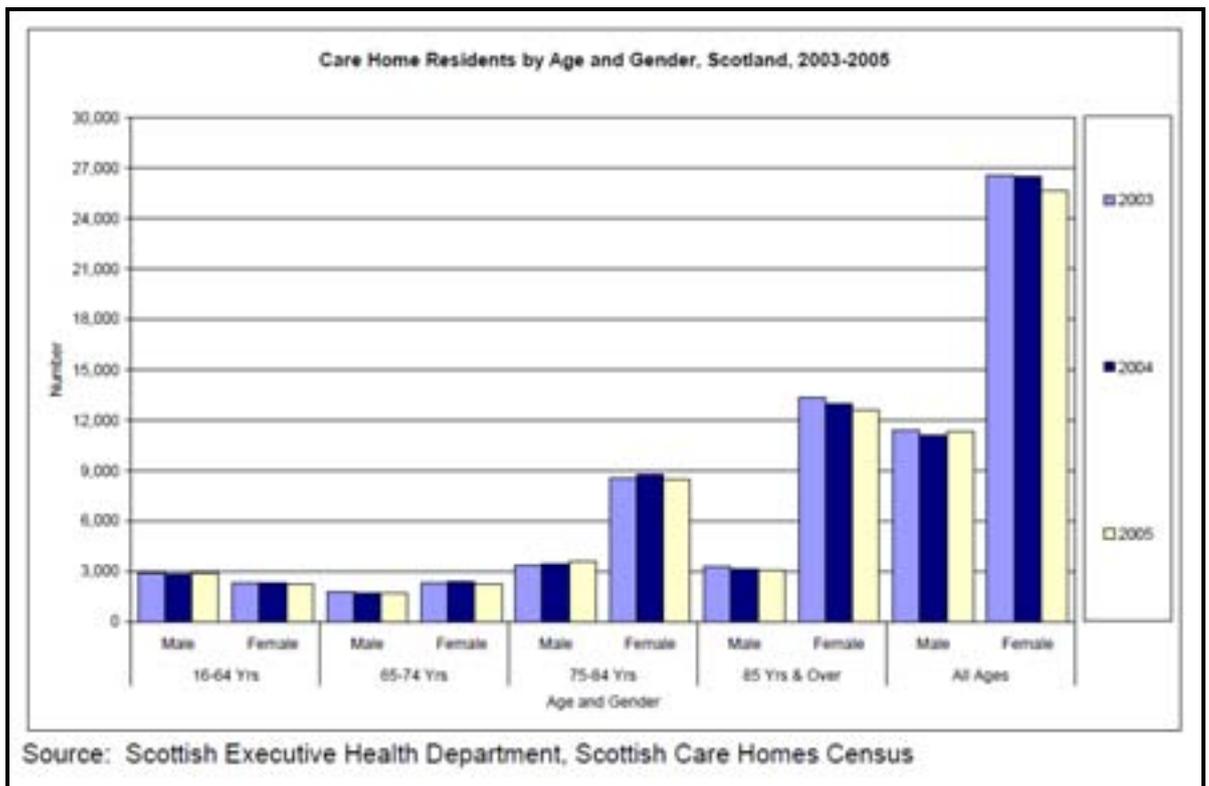


Figure 15: Care home residents by age and gender

12.3 In contrast to the reduction in care home residents, the number of people being cared for in their own homes has risen over the same period¹⁵³ (see Figure 16). Between 2003 and 2005 there was an increase in the number of home care clients in each age group with the exception of the 0 to 15 year age group in which there was a small drop. In 2005, roughly 58,000 home care clients were aged 65 or over, this was an increase of over 2,000 from the 2003 level of around 56,000. The biggest increase occurred in the 16 to 64 year age group with over 1,000 more males and 800 more females in this age group in 2005 than in 2003. There were also increases of over 900 and 750 in the 75 to 84 years and 85 years and over age groups. In 2005, females made

up 70% of all home care clients, due mainly to larger numbers of women aged 75 years and over.

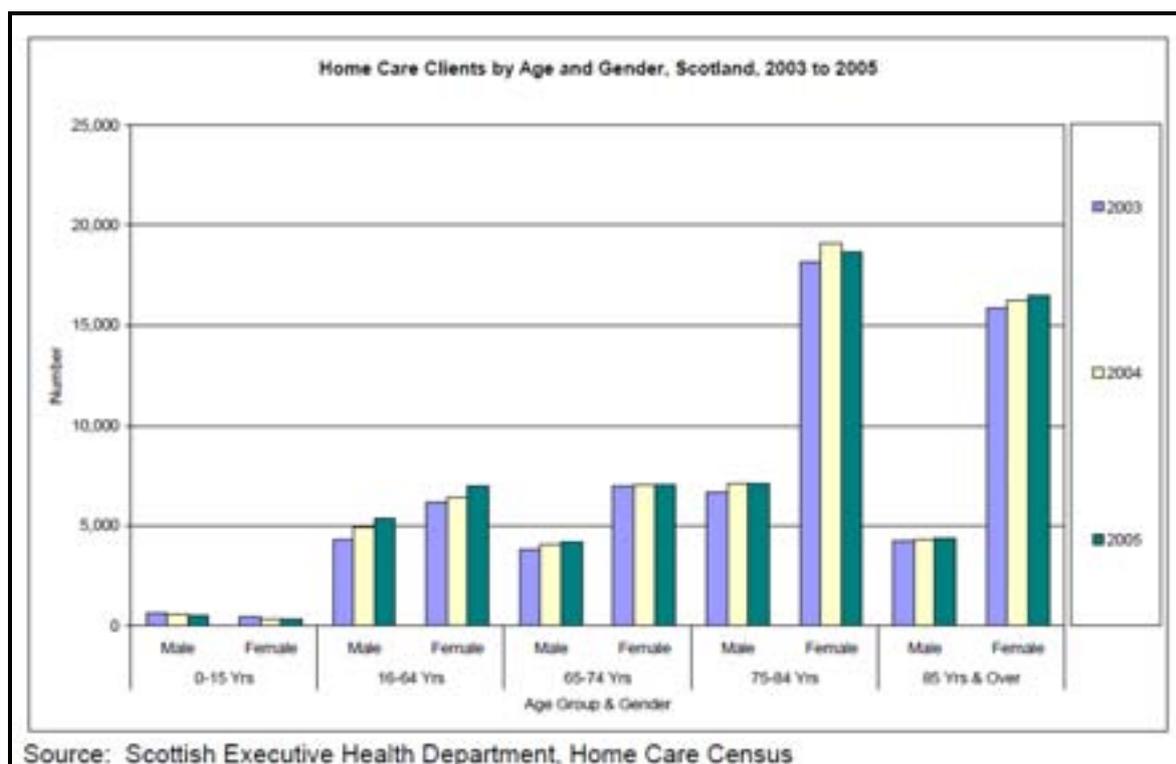


Figure 16: Home care clients by age and gender

12.4 In terms of the experiences of older people, one key area of concern to the EHRC in its *Triennial Review* is the use of restraint. In 2007 a report, *Rights, risks and restraints*¹⁵⁴ from the Commission for Social Care Inspection, gave many examples of restraint undermining the wellbeing and dignity of vulnerable older people. The Commission used qualitative methods primarily and says it cannot, from this work, give an idea of the prevalence of restraint.

Informal care

12.5 The *EHRC Triennial Review* finds that men and women are more likely to report needing help with Activities of Daily Living and Instrumental Activities of Daily Living and receiving more help as they get older. Older people are more likely to report receiving help which meets their needs than younger people. Initial analysis of the *English Longitudinal Survey of Ageing 2004*¹⁵⁵ conducted as part of the development of the Equality Measurement Framework, shows that 57% of those aged over 75 felt this was the case, compared with 40% of those aged 65-74 and 37% of those aged 50-64. Sources of help and support differ by gender and age. Except for women aged 75 years and over, a spouse or partner was the most common source of help. Married men also receive most of their support from their spouses regardless of their age. Many of those women aged 75 and over were widowed - for these women children were a prominent source of help, particularly for those aged 85 and over. For men aged over 85, many received

help and support with shopping and working in the house and garden from friends and neighbours.

Childcare

- 12.6 Younger mothers appear to be more likely to use informal childcare than parents overall. The *Youth Cohort Study 2008*¹⁵⁶ (England) found that by age 17, 3% of respondents had children of their own. The majority of these respondents (88%) had their children living in the same household as them, and just over two-fifths (41%) had a partner living with them. The survey found that these mothers were most likely to use informal care (as opposed to any other providers). The mother's parents were the most likely to provide care for this group with 37% of young mothers stating this as one of the types of childcare they used, followed by 18% using another relative and 10% using the ex-partner or the child's non-resident parent. Attending a playgroup or pre-school or using a childminder were the least commonly used options for childcare (4% each).

Carers

- 12.7 According to the 2001 Census, people in their fifties are more likely than people in any other age group to provide care¹⁵⁷. More than 1 in 5 people aged 50-59 are providing some unpaid care. The provision of informal care in later life is associated with socio-economic status: people aged 55-69 from lower occupational groups are more likely to be caring for a spouse than those from higher ones. This is linked both to a higher incidence of disability among those in lower occupational groups, and to the inaccessibility of support for those without the resources to pay for it. Many older people play an important role in caring for their grandchildren. In Scotland and Wales, grandparents are the most common source of childcare; in England, they are the most common source of informal childcare and make up 26% of all childcare used.

13 SPORT

- 13.1 This section explores the range and rates of participation in sport and physical activity, and the barriers to greater participation.
- 13.2 According to the *Scottish Household Survey* (2009/10), participation in sport was highest among those aged 16 to 34 (84%), thereafter, participation decreased steadily until the age of 75, after which there was a sharp reduction with only 38% of those aged 75 and over engaging in sport in the past four weeks¹⁵⁸. Walking was the single more popular sport undertaken by all age groups. Excluding walking, swimming was the most popular single sport for all age groups other than 16-24 year olds (26% of whom had played football in the previous month) and over 75s (6% of whom had played bowls).
- 13.3 The *Scottish Health Survey* (2012)¹⁵⁹ found that the likelihood of adhering to the physical activity recommendations fell steadily after the age of 34. Over half of respondents aged 16-24 and 25-34 met the recommendations, compared to only 20% of 65-74 year olds and 8% of those aged 75 and over.
- 13.4 The 2007/8 *Scottish Household Survey*¹⁶⁰ elaborates on the age profile for participation in sport, as shown in Table 2 below. In 2008, 73% of respondents participated in sport including walking and 48% participated in sport excluding walking. Participation decreased with age. Levels of participation including walking did not change significantly between 2007 and 2008: participation excluding walking dropped slightly between 2007 and 2008 (51% to 48%), but there was no clear age pattern in the decrease in participation excluding walking. Note that care should be taken in drawing any conclusions about trends, because two years of data are not enough to establish a trend. Although the decrease in participation excluding walking is significant, it is only marginally so and further years of data are required before establishing whether there is a true downward trend.

Table 2: Participation in Sport in last 4 weeks by Gender and Age (Source: Scottish Household Survey, 2007/8)

Adults	Male	Female	16-24	25-34	35-44	45-59	60-74	75+	All
2007									
Any sport (excluding walking)	60	44	70	67	61	44	43	22	51
Any sport (including walking)	79	70	89	86	79	72	69	48	74
Walking (at least 30 mins for recreational purposes)	64	60	73	69	64	62	57	41	62
2008									
Any sport (excluding walking)	54	43	77	63	55	45	37	16	48
Any sport (including walking)	76	70	91	86	80	72	67	38	73
Walking (at least 30 mins for recreational purposes)	62	60	69	70	67	62	59	32	61
Base 2007	1,436	1,952	280	440	617	832	780	439	3,388
Base 2008	1,486	1,901	253	417	608	818	845	446	3,387

13.5 Of those who did not participate in sport during the previous 12 months (see Table 3), the most common reason for not participating was poor health (54%), followed by a lack of interest (24%) and not having enough time (16%). Older respondents (aged 60 and over) reported poor health as being the most common reason for not participating, whilst disinterest was the main reason for lack of participation in the younger age groups¹⁶¹.

Table 3: Barriers to Sport Participation by Gender and Age (Source: *Scottish Household Survey, 2007/8*)

Adults who had not participated in sport during the last 12 months	Male	Female	16-24	25-34	35-44	45-59	60-74	75+	All
2007/2008									
Health isn't good enough	56	53	6	33	30	39	64	77	54
Not really interested	22	26	51	36	22	31	26	13	24
It's difficult to find the time	17	15	24	35	39	22	9	2	18
Never occurred to me	4	4	8	3	8	4	5	2	4
I wouldn't enjoy it	2	4	5	4	3	5	3	1	3
It costs too much	2	3	3	9	3	3	1	0	2
Fear of injury	1	2	-	2	1	1	2	3	2
Lack of transport / I can't easily get to it	0	2	3	0	1	2	1	1	1
No-one to do it with	0	2	0	1	2	2	1	1	1
I might feel uncomfortable or out of place	1	1	0	6	1	2	0	1	1
Not enough info on what is available	-	0	6	0	-	0	-	0	0
Changing facilities are not good enough	0	-	-	-	-	0	-	-	0
Base 2007/2008	534	967	30	65	142	333	459	472	1,501

- 13.6 Research conducted in 2003¹⁶² for the Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure, explored barriers to participation in certain sporting activities. It reported that elderly people felt sports programmes or events were aimed at the young, or that they would feel self-conscious participating when young people were present.
- 13.7 A systematic review of research on barriers and facilitators to children aged 4-10 and physical activity in the UK in 2003¹⁶³ indicates how low levels of physical activity in childhood have been linked with low levels in adulthood, and those at greatest risk of inactivity belong to groups considered to be 'socially excluded'. The review found that there are "few evaluated health promotion interventions which address physical activity beyond school-based physical education" and that even fewer have been rigorously evaluated. However, in one rigorous study, interventions that engaged parents in supporting and encouraging their children's physical activity and a combination of school-based physical education and home-based activities were found to have been effective. Children identified barriers to their participation in physical activity, including restricted access to opportunities for physical activity caused by busy traffic, poor quality of playgrounds, and the need for local accessible facilities.

14 CULTURE

- 14.1 This section explores available evidence on cultural participation.
- 14.2 *Scottish Household Survey Annual Report, 2011*¹⁶⁴, found that: in 2011, the percentage of adults who have engaged in culture in the previous year (those who attended a cultural event or participated in any cultural activity) decreased with increasing age (from 93% of those aged 16 to 24 to 85% of those aged 60 to 74). The figure for cultural engagement is lower for those aged 75 and above (74%).
- 14.3 Cultural attendance at specific events or places vary by age for particular events or places. However, overall attendance at any cultural event is highest for the younger age groups and lowest for the oldest age groups.
- 14.4 Differences between the youngest and oldest age groups are most marked for cinema attendance and for attendance at live music events. Four fifths of 16 to 24 year olds state that they have viewed films at the cinema in the last 12 months, compared with 13% of those aged 75 or greater. Over four out of ten (41%) of 16 to 24 year olds state that they have attended a live music event in the last 12 months. This compares with 20% of 60 to 74 year olds and 9% of those aged 75 or greater.
- 14.5 Levels of cultural participation in any activity in the previous year are broadly constant for those aged 16 to 74 (at around 74%) whilst participation levels are lower for those aged 75 or over (67%).
- 14.6 Participation in some but not all cultural activities decreases with increasing age of respondent. For instance, participation in dance is most popular amongst 16 to 24 year-olds (26%), whilst the figure drops to 14% for 60 to 74 year olds and 7% for those aged 75 or above¹⁶⁵.
- 14.7 The 2007/8 *Scottish Household Survey*¹⁶⁶ elaborates on the age profile for attendance at cultural events (see Figure 17). It shows that there is a strong negative relationship between age and attendance at cultural events. It can be seen that 88% of respondents between 16-24 years attended some kind of cultural event in the previous 12 months, as opposed to 65% of those aged 60-74 years and 49% of those aged over 75 years. This difference is most likely to be primarily attributed to the youngest age group attending visual arts such as cinema, much more than their older counterparts (81% v 29%). When looking at other categories of cultural events it is noticeable that the overall trend is not constant throughout, since the age group 35-44 years were the most likely to attend a theatrical performance, a dance event and other cultural events.

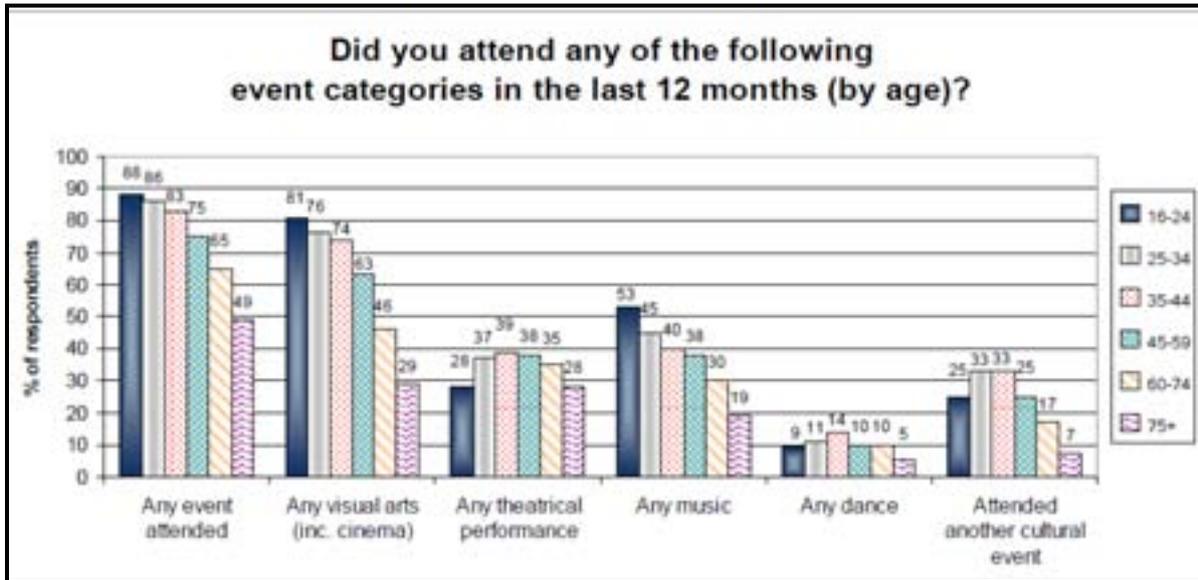


Figure 17: Attendance at cultural events in the past 12 months, by age (Source: Scottish Household Survey, 2007/8)

14.1 The *Scottish Household Survey 2007/8* further observes that the category relating to creating music using a computer highlights the growing prevalence of computers in society and suggests that the younger age groups have embraced the technology to a greater extent than older groups. The National Indicator data from *Scotland Performs*¹⁶⁷ show that use of the Internet for personal use is strongly linked to age (see Figure 18). In 2011 over nine out of ten 16-34 year olds used the internet for personal use, compared to less than six out of ten 60-74 year olds and around two out of ten people aged 75 and older. Over the four years to 2011 all age groups have seen increases in the proportion of people using the internet for personal use. Those aged 45-74 have seen the greatest increase and the 75 and older age group has seen the smallest increase.

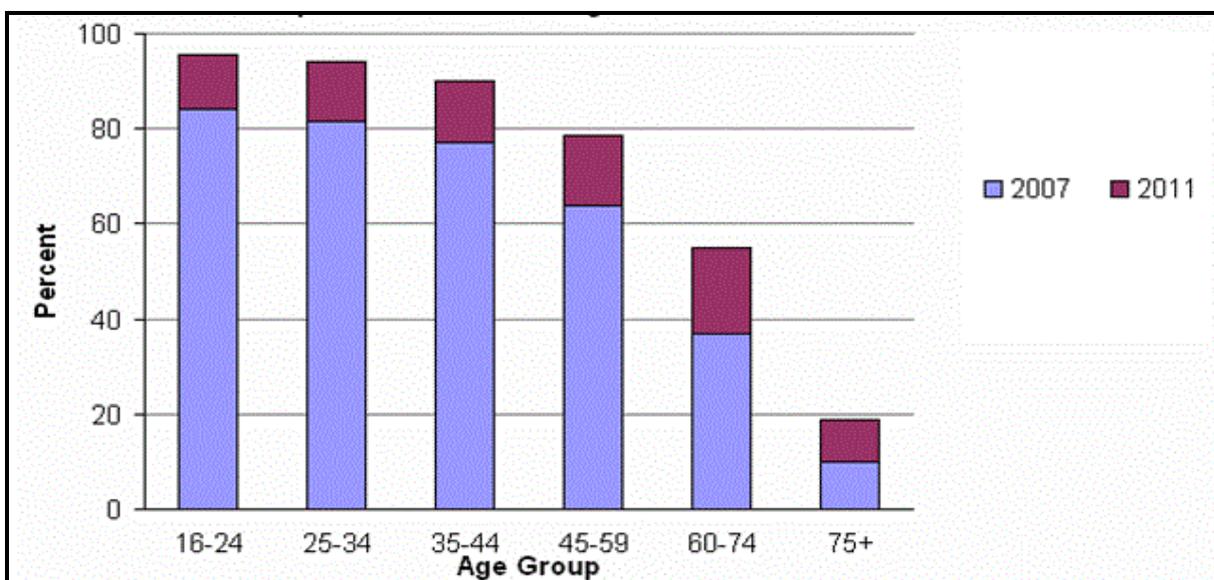


Figure 18: Proportion of adults using the Internet for personal use (Source: Scotland Performs: National Indicators, 2011)

14.2 The *Scottish Household Survey 2007/8*¹⁶⁸ also concludes that the main factors that influence frequency of attendance vary widely between age groups. Having more free time was the top response for those aged 25-59 years, but it is interesting to note the different top responses for the older age groups. The most common response for those aged 60-74 years was that cheaper admission prices would encourage them to attend more frequently. One fifth of those aged 60-74 years stated that more performances and events about subjects that interest them was the most important factor, which was higher than any other age group. This suggests that perhaps the content of events does not appeal to these particular age groups and that cheaper admission prices would therefore not be a motivating factor.

14.3 Figure 19 shows the reasons for non-attendance for those who did not attend cultural events by age (excluding the 16-24 years age group where too few people answered this question). Those aged between 25 and 44 years were more likely to be unable to find the time for culture. This would reflect the ages at which people are busy bringing up children or with their careers. In contrast, those aged 60 years or above were more likely to state that their health was not good enough or that they were not interested.

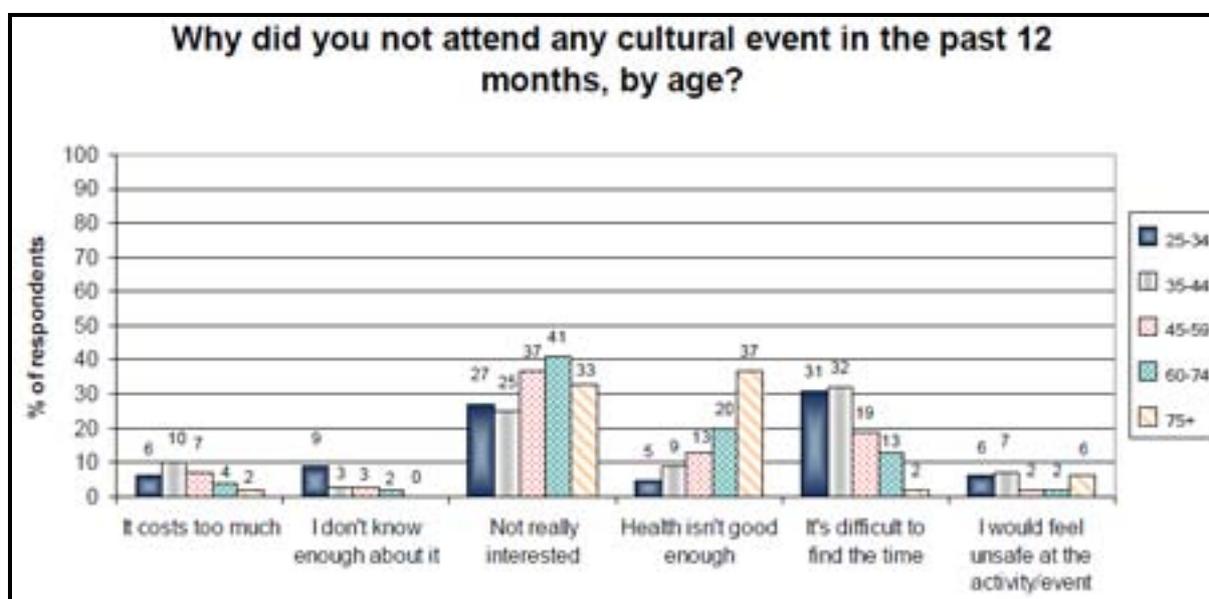


Figure 19: Main reason for not attending cultural events, by age (Source: *Scottish Household Survey 2007/8*)

14.4 A MORI study of young people's cultural activities in 2003¹⁶⁹ included a survey of 62 schools in Scotland; questionnaires completed by 1543 pupils aged 11-16 years; 2,124 interviews with this pupils aged 11-16 years; and a representative quota sample of 972 young people aged 17-25 years were surveyed and interviewed across 85 enumeration districts in Scotland. The study found that:

- over half (55%) of 17-25 year olds agreed with the statement that 'Scotland is a creative culture, with lots of fresh ideas', and that their topics of conversation ranged from personal issues, to social and cultural issues e.g.

television programmes, future employment, sport, cost of living, clothing and fashion, and their family's health.

- the most popular activities that this age group typically take part in on a weekly basis include watching TV (81%), listening to music (77%), going to a pub/bar (65%), going to a nightclub (54%) and listening to the radio (51%).
- in comparison, 11-16 year olds most liked to listen to music (81%), go to friends' houses (79%), watch TV or videos (77%), text friends (67%) and talk on the phone (66%). Just over half liked to 'hang about the street' and pupils living in deprived areas were more likely than other groups to report this, suggesting a financial barrier to cultural participation.
- when 17-25 year olds were asked what they would like to do more of in their free time, 26% mentioned going to the gym, 15% to live music events, 11% to do volunteering, and 9% to go to a leisure centre.
- amongst 11-16 years olds the responses included going to the cinema (31%), volunteering (28%), go clubbing (25%), take part in sports (23%) and take music/dance/swimming lessons (17%).

14.5 A small-scale study in Scotland in 1999¹⁷⁰ that explored children's perceptions of and participation in the arts, examined barriers children may encounter when they wish to take part – this appears to be a useful addition, despite its publication earlier than the 10-year cut-off usually applied in this Evidence Review. Five focus group discussions took place with children aged 5-12 years in urban and rural primary school in Scotland. Amongst the findings were that although most of the children said they participated in the arts and attended events to a significant extent, with regard to events such as dance, plays or music, children's opportunities were restricted, with disinterest by parents and costs cited as barriers.

14.6 Another obstacle cited by children was the fact that exhibitions and plays tend to be adult-centred, with limited if any, attention paid to children's interests and needs. All the types of arts children said they liked in particular were forms in which they had "a significant level of control", particularly in relation to books (which they could choose when and where to read), and drawing and painting, particularly outside school.

14.7 The author argues that if children's participation in the arts is to be sustained, a child-centred approach is required. For example, few galleries and museums display children's arts, where they could see how and what other children express through the arts. The author points out that much could be gained if children were consulted about the structure of museums and galleries. The study concludes that finding the 'right way' to involve children in the arts "could make all the difference between whether some children lose all interest in the arts, or remain interested no matter what other activities they pursue at the same time".

15 CONCLUSION - CROSS-CUTTING SUMMARY

- 15.1 Although there has been a notable decline in child poverty in recent years, a significant number of children continue to experience persistent poverty. This reflects the fact that parents in such families are likely to be young, and so have lower incomes than older parents, and to work fewer hours.
- 15.2 The evidence reviewed suggests that young people may be disadvantaged relative to older people, in the areas of employment and housing.
- Young people have been most affected by recent labour market changes: since the start of the recession, there has been an increasing trend in youth unemployment. Young people who find a job are more likely than other age groups to be on a low pay and to work part-time or be underemployed.
 - Younger people may also be disadvantaged in accessing home ownership. High property prices and the lending squeeze are the main factors here.
 - Young people are also over-represented in the homeless population.
- 15.3 The evidence presented in this review should be seen in the context of changing demography and policy, as the population aged 65 and over is projected to rise from 857,000 in 2008 to 1,409,000 in 2033. The on-going and future impacts of the welfare changes should also be considered.
- 15.4 Looking at working age adults, the evidence shows that in recent years there has been a rise in poverty for childless households, whether they are in or out of work. In terms of employment, the 35-49 age group has been hit by the recession relatively harder than 25-34 and 50-64 groups, though less than the 16-24 year olds. Older working age people are more likely than other age groups to have no qualifications, and they also provide the bulk of informal care. More positively, this age group has high owner occupation rates and are more likely to hold public appointments.
- 15.5 Poverty has fallen more dramatically for pensioners than for children and working age adults. Pensioners are most likely to own their homes outright, and to have savings. In recent years, they benefited from the fact that benefit income grew more than earned income, and from free bus travel. On the negative side, pensioners are more likely to be vulnerable to fuel poverty than other age groups. As the population ages, the demand from older people to be supported (in their own homes or in specialist housing) is likely to grow.

16 APPENDIX

Methods

16.1 Four research methods have been employed for this review. Firstly, a number of bibliographic search engines were used. These included Web of Knowledge, COPAC, Index to Social Sciences and Humanities Proceedings, Open Grey, TRID, British Education Index and CareData. The list of keywords used in Web of Knowledge was as follows:

Age+equality+Scotland;
public appointments+Scotland;
hate crime+Scotland;
transport+Scotland+age;
poverty+Scotland+age;
housing+Scotland+age;
employment+Scotland+age;
education+Scotland+age.

16.2 Secondly, the researchers consulted five key organisations Age Scotland; Children in Scotland; the Children's Commissioner; Poverty Alliance; and CREID. Dr. Suzi Macpherson (formerly Research Manager at EHRC, and now based in the Health and Social care division of the Scottish Government) was also contacted as an expert in the equalities field.

16.3 Thirdly, the researchers hand-searched bibliographies in recent publications on the subject.

16.4 Lastly, a focused Internet search was carried out and included the following websites: DWP; The Young Foundation; Scottish Government; Joseph Rowntree Foundation; Poverty Alliance; Equality and Human Rights Commission; Age UK; Age Scotland; Equality Network; and The Poverty Website.

16.5 The criteria for inclusion of evidence in this review were that it should have been produced within about the last ten years, be based on data for Scotland or else the UK where this is available, and address the relevant policy areas.

Limitations

16.6 It should be noted that, due to the time constraints under which this review was prepared, the evidence search has been selective rather than systematic or exhaustive. This review therefore bears the limitations of any rapid evidence assessment. Due to time constraints, the review is biased towards 'hard', numerical evidence rather than theoretical arguments about causation or social policy arguments about ways of alleviating age-related inequalities. Indicating where findings can be attributed to policy intervention or general economic/ societal trends would be useful but would necessarily require a more systematic review. Additionally, the results may be biased because there is a greater tendency for statistical findings to be published than non-statistical ones (technically called the 'publication bias').

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