

Quality of Life Report 2024

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Quality of Life - Better or Worse?

The annual quality of life indicators for South Gloucestershire

Autumn 2024

Quality of life indicators monitor those things that make an area a good place to live. This report measures and communicates important facts about South Gloucestershire and aims to demonstrate whether quality of life is getting better, worse or staying the same.

Most of the indicators have been monitored for several years making it possible to track change over time. There are also more recent indicators that show changes over the last few years. The report suggests there have been positive changes in some areas and identifies areas where further improvements are necessary. The indicators will be used by the council and its partners to identify and address priorities for the future.

Contents:

- Quality of life
- Our place
- Our economy
- Our communities
- Our health

Key information about South Gloucestershire

Total administrative area: 53,664.7 hectares / 536.6 sq. km (Cartesian Measure)

Wards: 28 (61 ward Councillors)

Population: 299,439 (ONS Mid-Year Estimates, 2023)

- Males: 148,189 (49.5% of total population)
- Females: 151,250 (50.5% of total population) (ONS Mid-Year Estimates, 2023)
- **Children age (0-15 years):** 53,059 (18.3% of total population)
- **Working age (16-64 years):** 183,172 (63.1% of total population)
- **Pensionable age (65+):** 54,192 (18.7 % of total population) (Census 2021)

Population density: 584 persons per sq. km (Census 2021)

Households: 118,101 (Census 2021)

Black and Minority Ethnic Population: 25,568 (8.8% of total population) (Census 2021)

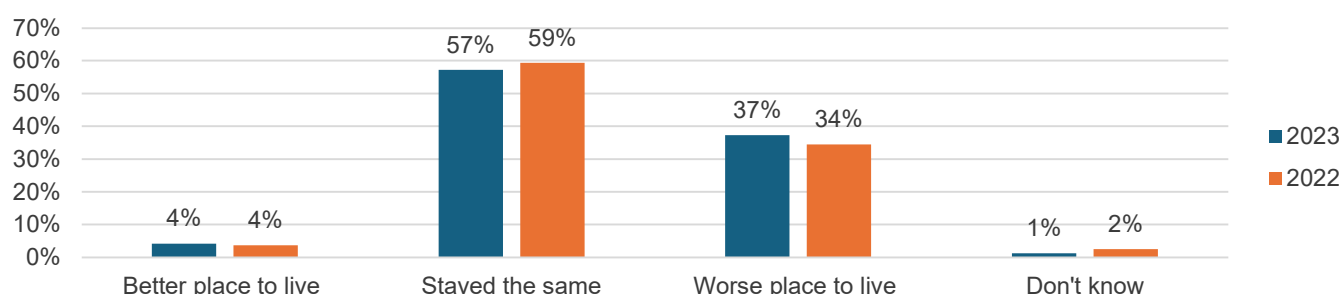
1. Quality of life

Has South Gloucestershire become a better or worse place to live over the last two years?

Our annual Viewpoint panel* budget survey asks residents if they feel South Gloucestershire has become a better or worse place to live over the last two years. In our latest survey, which was carried out in the autumn of 2023, we received 621 responses from residents living in the local authority.

The majority of respondents (57%) told us over the last two years, South Gloucestershire had 'stayed the same', and not become a better or worse place to live. In contrast, we received a relatively large proportion (37%) of respondents feeling it had become a 'worse place to live'. This is a slight increase from the previous year's survey held in 2022, when 34% felt it had become a worse place to live.

Has South Gloucestershire become a better or worse place to live?



Respondents who felt South Gloucestershire has become a worse place to live were prompted to tell us what had changed. A total of 211 comments were grouped into common themes, shown in the following table:

Theme	Number of comments
Quality of our road infrastructure has worsened	52
Too much new housing without necessary infrastructure	40
Increase in antisocial behaviour	30
Area is becoming more run down	27
Lack of public transport	25
Lack of police presence in communities	18
More crime in the area	16
More traffic in the area	16
Quality of council services have decreased	15
Problems with parking	14
Health care provision worsening	13
Rubbish collection worsening	8
Council ignores resident views	7
Community cohesion decreasing	2

Source: South Gloucestershire Viewpoint Survey and Residents' Budget survey 2015-2023

Note: Due to the profile of those responding, the views expressed may not be representative of the South Glos population.

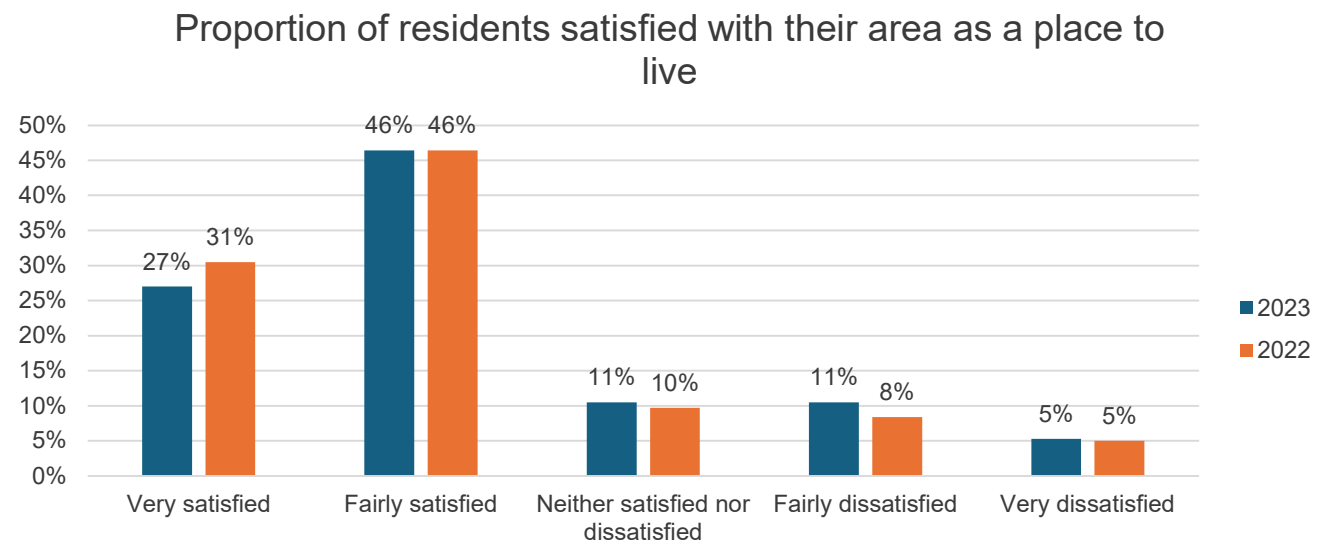
*South Gloucestershire Viewpoint is the council's residents' panel made up of around 1,800 residents who wish to regularly take part in research.

Resident satisfaction with their local area as a place to live

In the same budget survey, the Viewpoint panel is asked to share the level of satisfaction – or dissatisfaction – with their local area (the area 15-20 minutes walking distance of their home).

In 2023, the majority (73%) stated they were either very or fairly satisfied with their local area as a place to live. This is a slight decrease from the previous year’s survey, which received a satisfaction rate of 77%.

The proportion who felt either fairly or very dissatisfied increased from 13% in 2022 to 16% in 2023. The level of dissatisfaction in previous years’ surveys has been relatively stable. The results of next year’s survey will help us to decipher whether there is an emerging trend, or whether this year’s increase is an outlier.



Source: South Gloucestershire Viewpoint Survey 2015-2023

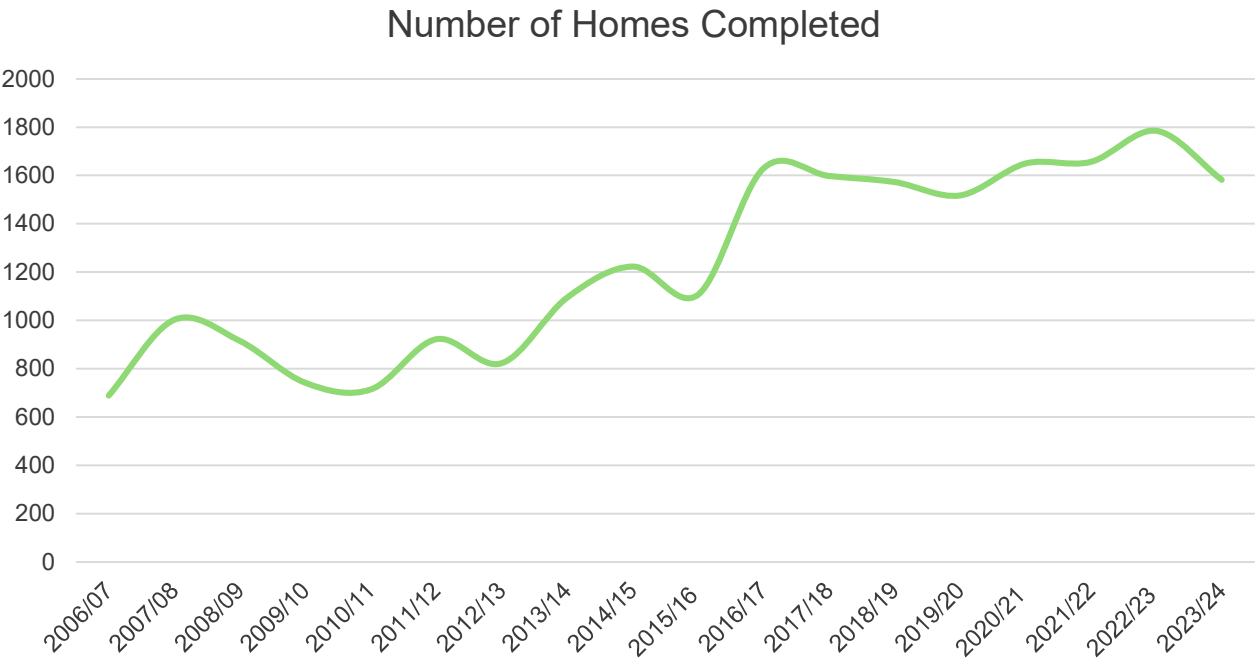
Our Place

Total homes completed

In 2023/24, 1,583 new homes were recorded as completed across South Gloucestershire.

Of these 1,393 were on large sites of 10 homes or more and 190 were completed on small sites of fewer than 10 homes.

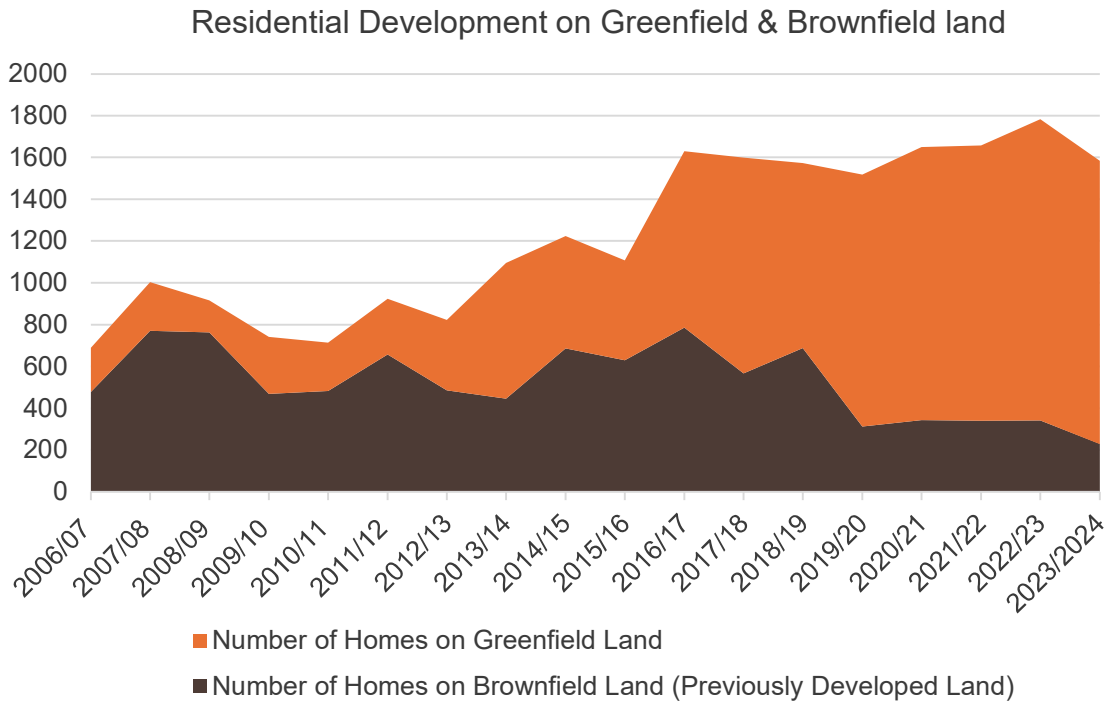
Overall, since April 2006, 22,231 new homes have been completed in South Gloucestershire.



Source: South Gloucestershire Council, Department for Place

Residential Development on Greenfield and Brownfield land

Of the 1,583 residential developments, 1,354 (86%) were built on Greenfield land and 229 (14%) were built on Brownfield land. A large proportion of these developments can be attributed to new housing schemes in Bristol’s North and East Fringes, including the Cribbs/ Patchway New Neighbourhood and Emersons Green (Lyde Green) along with North Yate New Neighbourhood and Thornbury.



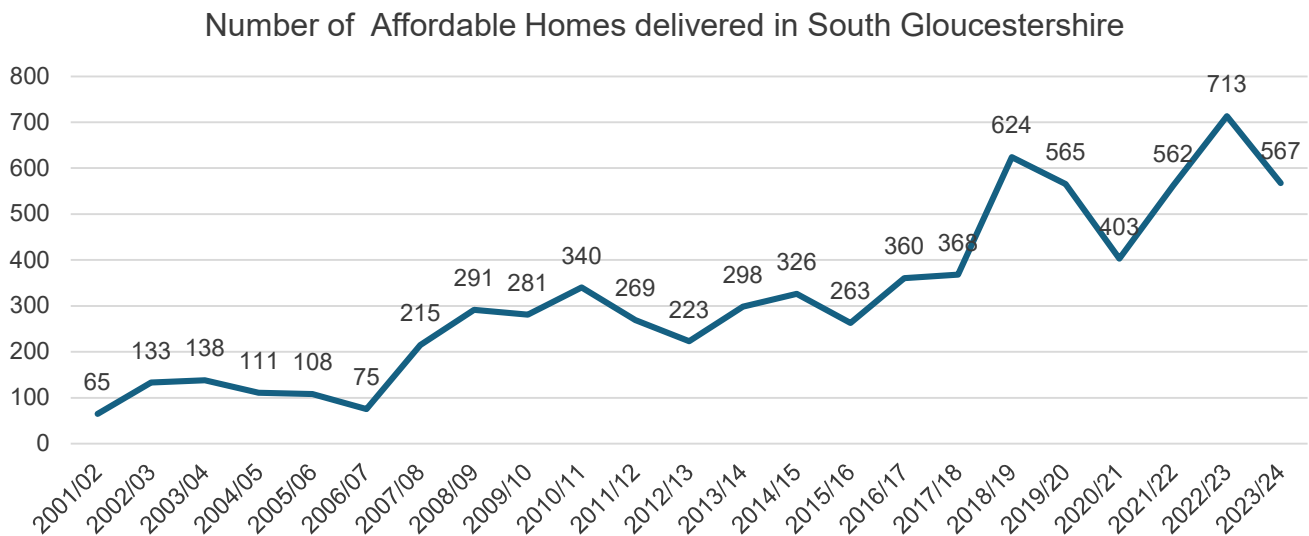
Source: South Gloucestershire Council, Department for Place

Number of affordable homes delivered

In 2023/24, 567 affordable homes were delivered in South Gloucestershire as a result of the Council's effective partnership working with our housing association partners and developers. This continues the strong track record of affordable housing delivery in the district.

The completions are comprised of 442 social rent, 14 affordable rent and 111 shared ownership (10 of these are non-new build). Approximately 80% of the completions are for rent. The delivery provides a range of housing options to suit people's needs.

Information and definitions can be found in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), December 2023 (Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities): [National Planning Policy Framework \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-planning-policy-framework)



Source: South Gloucestershire Council, Environment and Community Services

Ratio of average house price to average earnings

This indicator provides a broad measure of house affordability by illustrating the ratio of median house price (existing dwellings) to median gross annual workplace-based earnings*.

In the year ending September 2023, the average price paid for a residential property in South Gloucestershire was £330,000. This is an 8.2% increase from the average price in December 2021 (£305,000). The average house price in the South West was £310,000 and in England it was £287,000.

In 2023, the median annual earnings of fulltime workers living in South Gloucestershire was £40,539. This is greater than the median figure for the South West (£33,450), as well as the figure for England (£35,106).

As of December 2023, the average house price was 8.2 times the average pay in South Gloucestershire. As the graph shows this is slightly lower than the national average (8.2), and significantly lower than the South West average (9.3).

Ratio of average house price to work-place earnings



Source: Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings and Price Statistics for Small areas (Office for National Statistics)

*Median gross annual pay (residents) for full times workers.

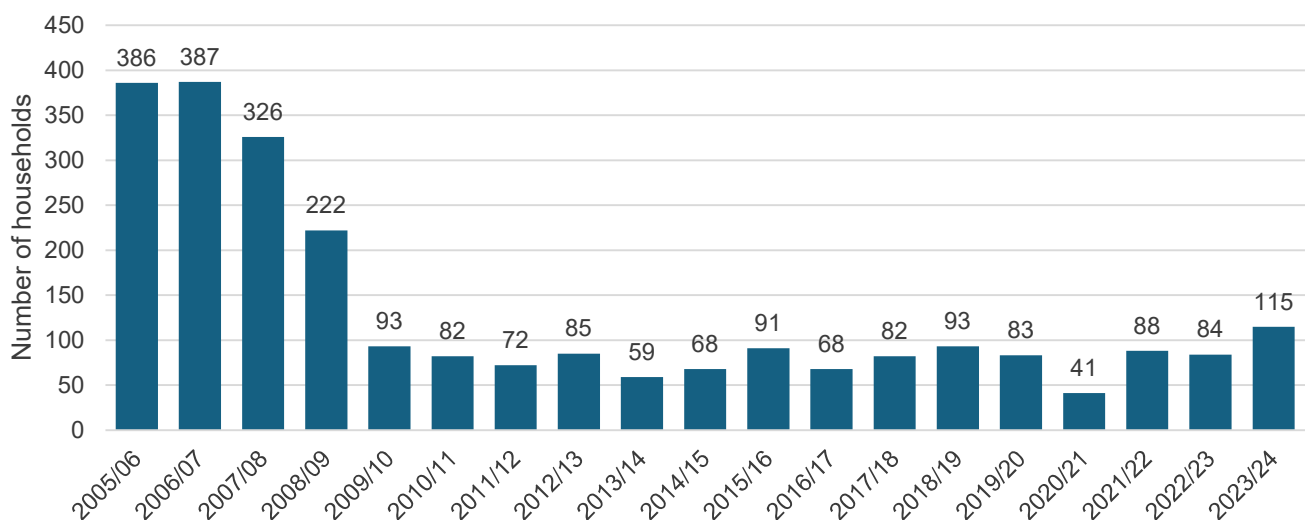
Number of households in temporary accommodation

The number of households in temporary accommodation as of 31 March 2024, stood at 115. This figure is based on the number of households provided with temporary accommodation under the council's statutory homelessness duties and is a snapshot of occupancy at the specific date.

We have seen a substantial increase in the number of households requiring temporary accommodation during the year. This includes an 85% increase in the number of former asylum seekers approaching for help, compared to the previous financial year, due to the Government's programme to fast-track asylum decisions and the limited opportunity to offer prevention assistance due to the short notice period. The council's Housing & Resettlement teams continue to provide support to help this group access housing and move on from temporary accommodation.

Access to the private rented sector remains challenging for many due to high demand and an increase in rents. The council continues to offer financial support with the cost of deposits/first month's rent where households find a suitable property.

Households in temporary accommodation



Source: South Gloucestershire Council, Children, Adults and Health

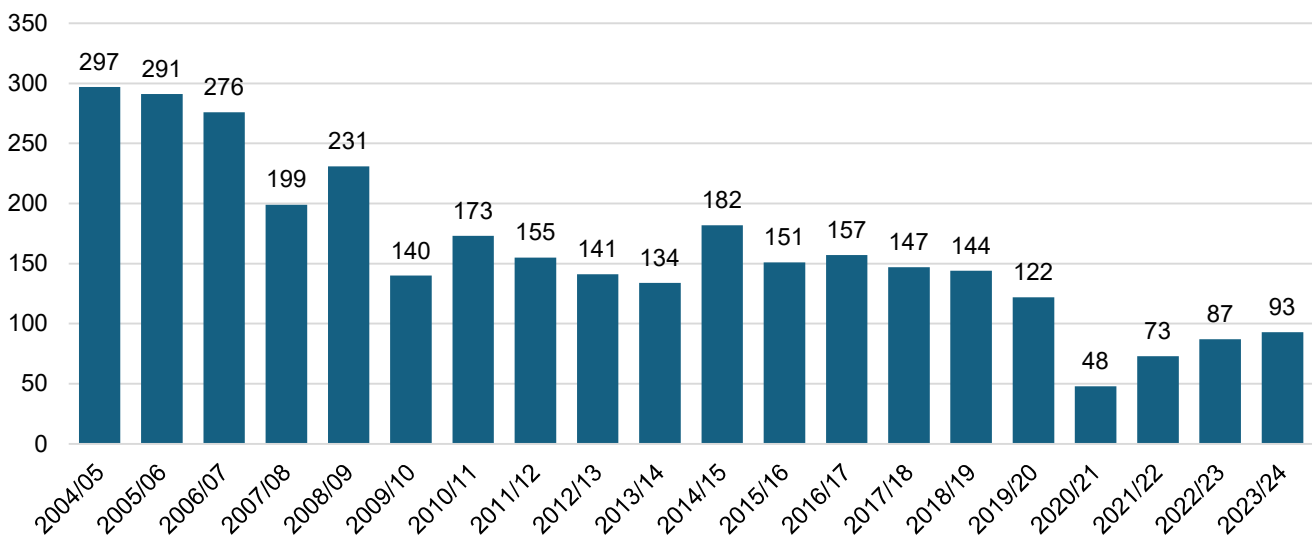
Number of households accepted by the council as homeless under a statutory homeless duty (Housing Act 1996, Part VII)

The number of homeless households accepted by the council stood at 93 as of 31/3/24.

The number of households owed the main housing duty (duties accepted) increased by approximately 5% on the previous year. This was partly due to an increase in the number of households facing eviction from private rented sector accommodation, who were unable to secure an alternative private let alongside the increase in former asylum seekers approaching for help.

A Personal Housing Plan is agreed with all households, who are homeless, or threatened with homelessness, which sets out the actions that a household and the council will take to resolve someone's housing situation. This is regularly monitored whilst the household is threatened with homelessness. Although the number of duties accepted increased, this has meant that the council was also able to prevent homelessness for 492 households during 23/24.

Number of households accepted by the council as homeless



Source: South Gloucestershire Council, Children, Adults and Health

Traffic Congestion

The Department for Transports measure of congestion is to use average speed on South Gloucestershire’s locally managed A roads (Table cgn0503d). This data source has been available since 2019 when average speed of 24.4mph was recorded in South Gloucestershire. In 2020 average speed rose to 26.8 mph, as a result of the significant reduction in congestion, due to the impact of Covid-19 related lockdowns. In 2023 average speed has returned to the level experienced prior to the Covid-19 pandemic.

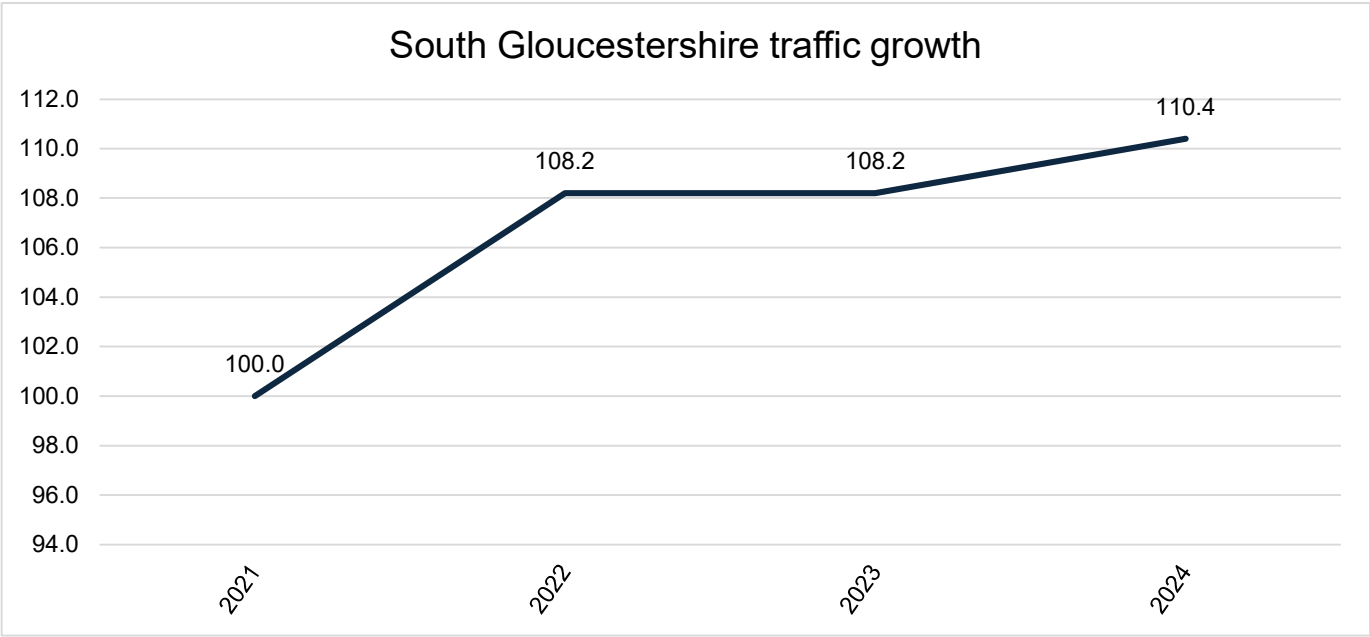
Year	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Average Speed in mph) (Table cgn0503d_).	24.4	26.8	25.5	25.3	24.7

General traffic levels within South Gloucestershire are measured using a basket of Automatic Traffic counters across the highway network and include all mechanised vehicles. Traffic levels have been baselined to 2021 (when the devices were installed). Traffic in 2021 was still suppressed following COVID restrictions earlier in the year. The data suggests that overall traffic volumes have continued to grow, and are now 10% above our 2021 baseline

Year ² .	2021	2022	2023	2024
South Gloucestershire traffic growth (2021 = 100)	100	108.2	108.2	110.4

Sources:

- 1. Congestion data from the Department for Transport (<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/road-congestion-and-reliability-statistics>)
- 2. Traffic Growth data from South Gloucestershire Council (based on average May daily traffic)

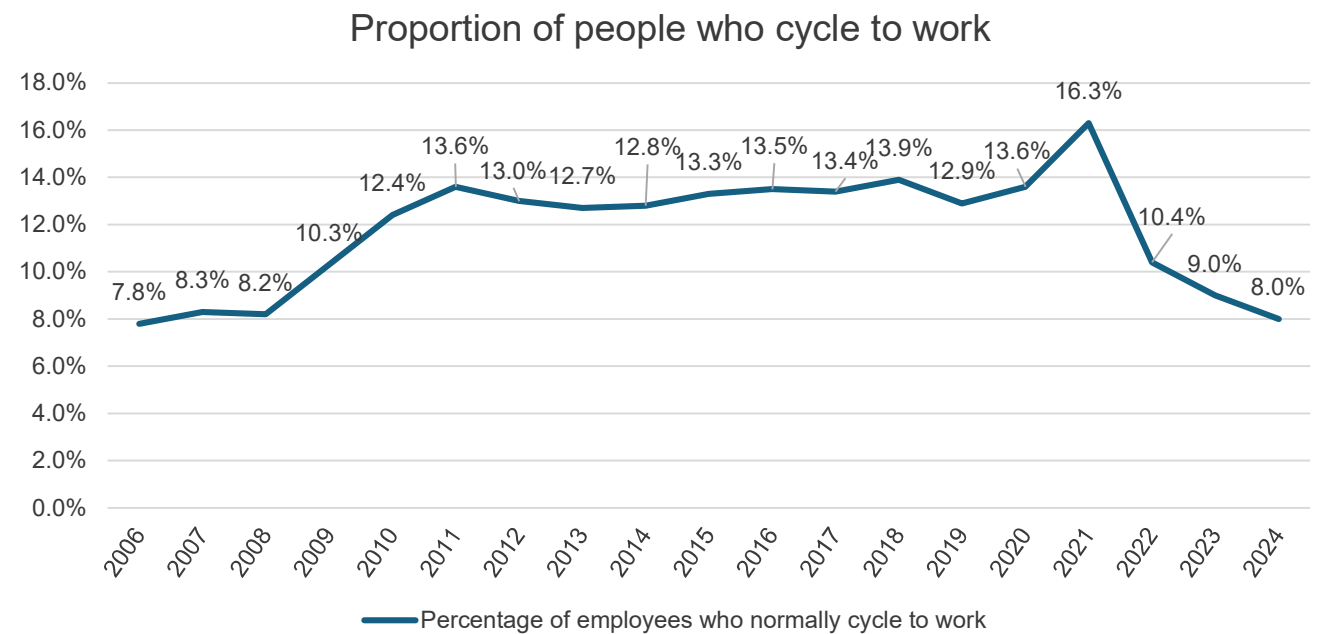


Source: South Gloucestershire Council, Environment and Community

Proportion of people cycling to work

The proportion of people cycling to work is measured in a snapshot survey undertaken by the Council in March each year. The survey results since 2021 have been directly impacted firstly by Covid-19 and then by secondary changes to employees work habits.

Between 2006 and 2020 there was a steady, generally upward trend in the percentage of employees cycling to work. In 2021 the survey reported a significant increase in the percentage of commuting trips by cycle; this high percentage now looks to be an outlier, with the 2024 survey suggesting only 8% of commuting trips are made by bike. The reduction in cycle mode share between 2023 and 2024 appears to be related to the inclusion of a large employer in the 2024 survey that had not participated in the 2023 survey.

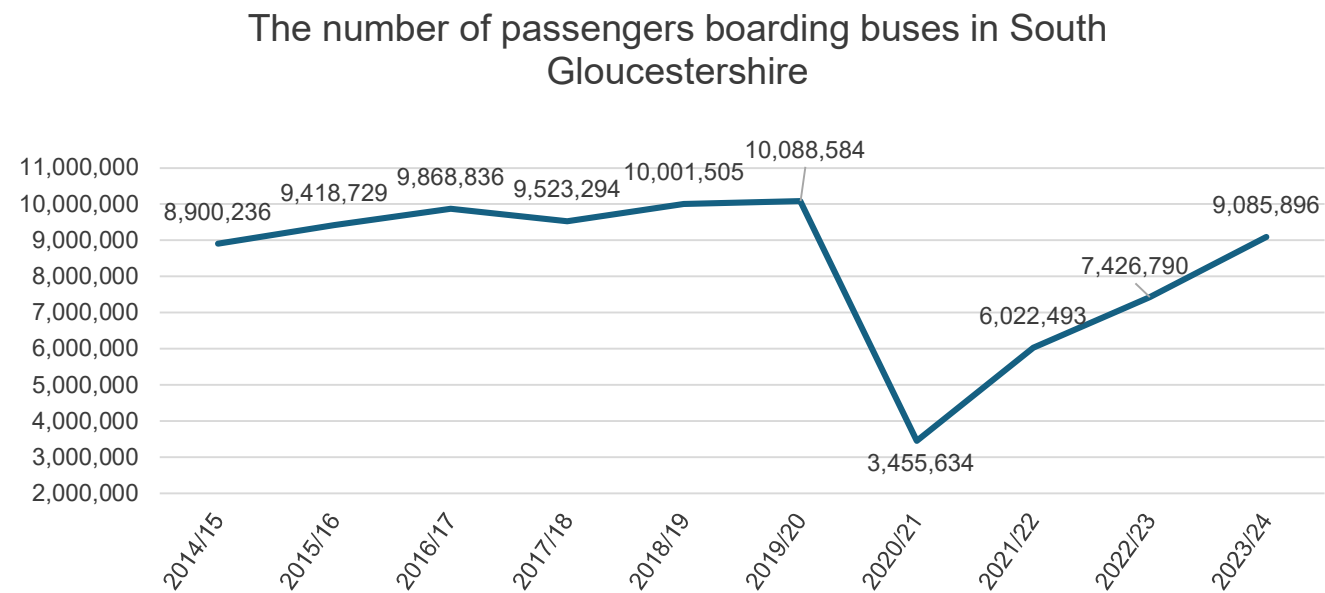


Source. Travel to Work Survey

* 2021 figures exclude those reporting as working from home as a Covid-19 related national lockdown was in place at the time of the survey resulting in over 60% of respondents working from home.

Bus Patronage

Overall bus patronage continues to recover from the pandemic, with over 9.0 million passengers boarding registered bus services in South Gloucestershire in 2023/24 (Source: WECA). This represents an increase of 22% compared to the previous year and is now around 90% of pre-Covid levels. Work continues to improve bus service coverage with service frequency enhancements on key routes serving our main market towns and continuation of bus fare cap.



Source: West of England Combined Authority

Number of people killed or injured on roads in South Gloucestershire

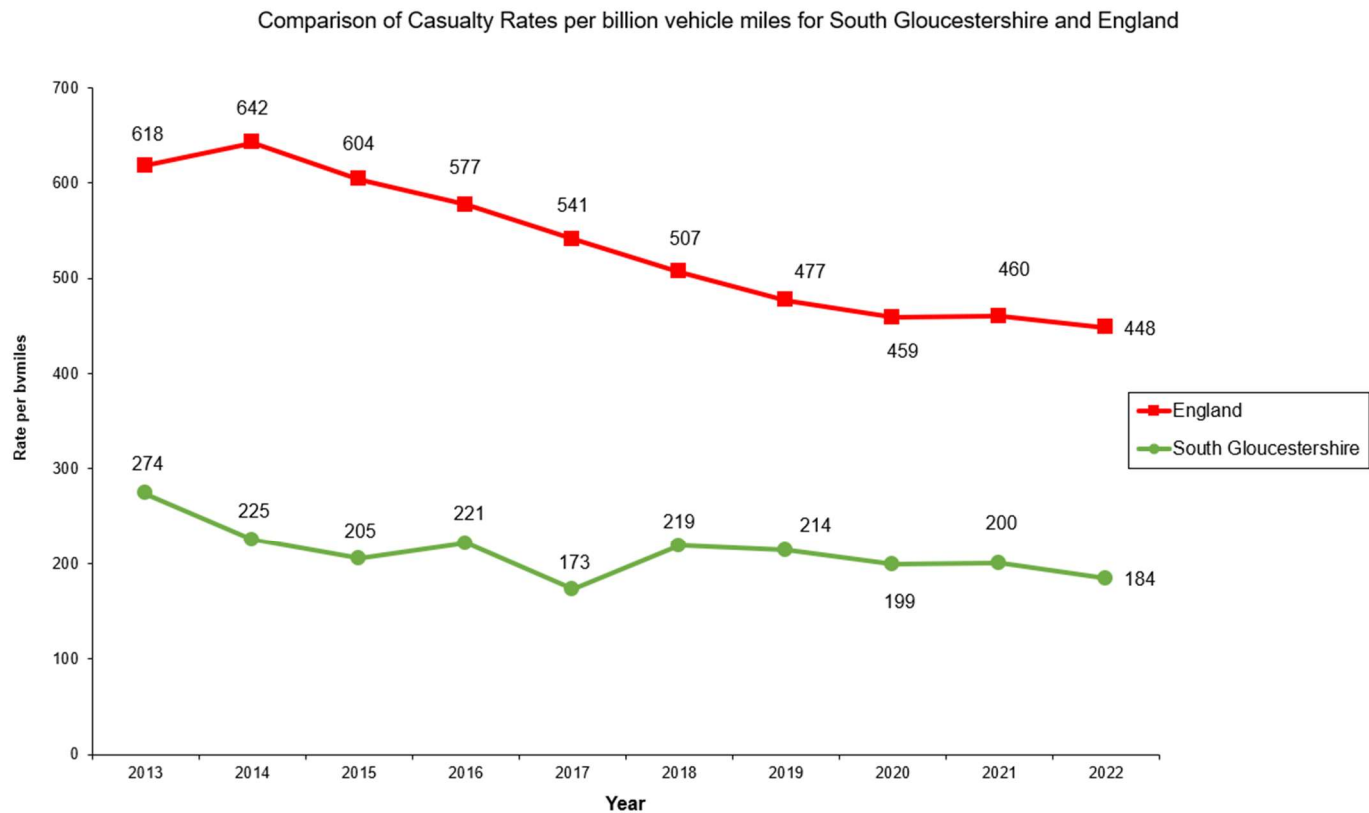
In 2023, the number of people killed or seriously injured on roads within South Gloucestershire was 71 (made up of 10 fatalities and 61 serious injuries). This represents a 32% increase on the number of KSIs in 2022 (54) and 38% increase on the 10-year average (52). This the first significant increase in the number of killed or serious injuries on roads in the authority since 2011.

The total number of road casualties in 2023 (i.e. people slightly injured, as well as those killed or seriously injured) was 440, a year-on-year reduction of 16% on 2022 (526) and 14% reduction on the 10-year average (512).

The higher number of casualties killed and seriously injured and reduced number of casualties overall results in a severity ratio of 16%, which is higher than the 10-year average of 10%.

Whilst the above shows that 2023 saw an increase in severe and fatal injuries for road users in South Gloucestershire, care should be taken when assessing short term year-on-year changes which can be inconsistent.

The graph below shows the road casualty rate in South Gloucestershire remains considerably lower than the national average. Data for 2022, the latest available nationally, showed that South Gloucestershire had the sixth lowest casualty rate of the 157 local authorities in England.



Source: Department for Transport Table RAS0403

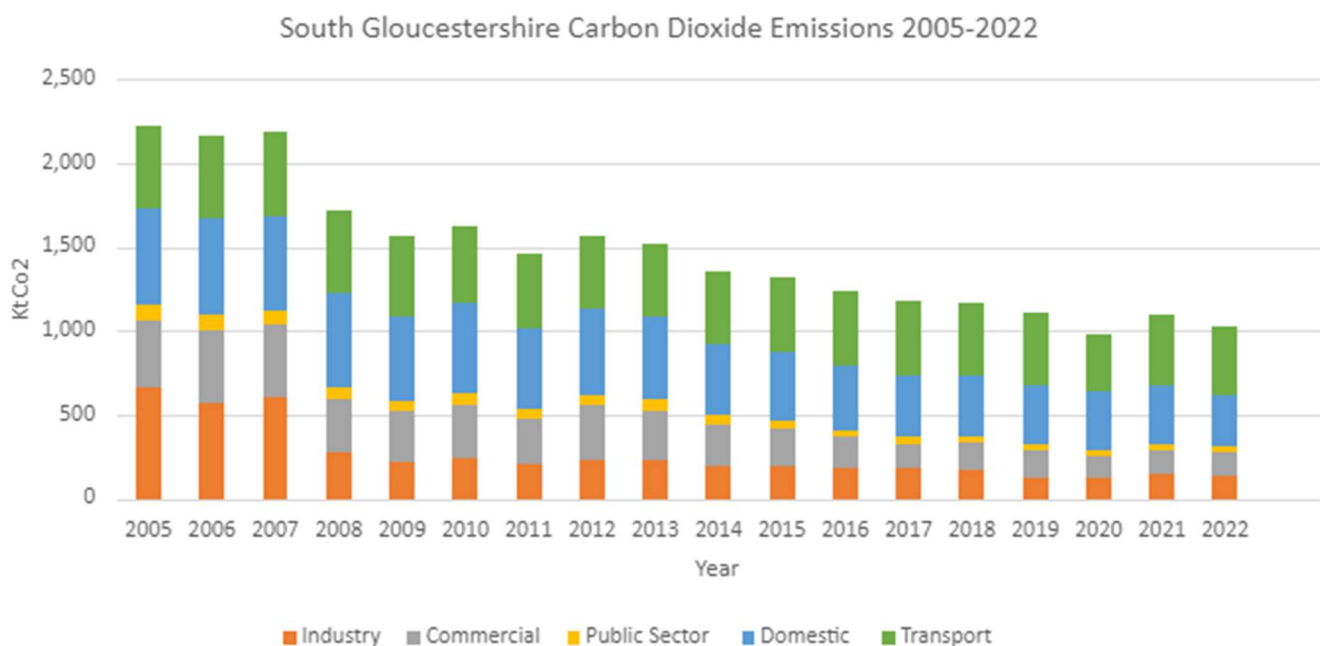
C02 emissions in South Gloucestershire

The UK national target for reducing greenhouse gas emissions requires emissions to be net zero by 2050. Net zero means any emissions would be balanced by schemes to offset an equivalent amount of greenhouse gases from the atmosphere, such as planting trees or using technology like carbon capture and storage.

However, many local authorities, including South Gloucestershire, consider that more rapid action is needed and have declared a Climate Emergency. South Gloucestershire Council has pledged to provide the leadership to enable South Gloucestershire to become carbon neutral by 2030, and this aim is reflected in the [South Gloucestershire Climate Emergency Strategy](#).

Each year the Department of Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ) provide a breakdown of Carbon Dioxide (CO₂) emissions by local authority area (published 2 years in arrears), and this is used to measure progress against the aim of South Gloucestershire becoming carbon neutral by 2030.

We report it as a percentage reduction from the 1990 baseline emissions figure of 2,073.3 kilo tonnes (kt) of Carbon Dioxide (CO₂). In 2022 (the most recently available data), carbon dioxide emissions totalled 1041.5 kt CO₂ which is 47% lower than in 1990. Data for 2022 shows a decrease again in local emissions, after the lockdown increase seen the year before. This decrease is largely as a result of warmer temperatures in 2022 resulting in less energy being used to heat buildings, and it may have also been affected by higher energy prices, particularly towards the end of the year.



Source: UK Government National Statistics.

Please note: The South Gloucestershire Climate Change Strategy targets and the local area emissions data presented relate to the 'subset' of total local area emissions which is deemed to be within the scope of influence of Local Authorities. The data excludes emissions from aviation, shipping and military transport, and emissions from motorways, diesel railways, and Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry

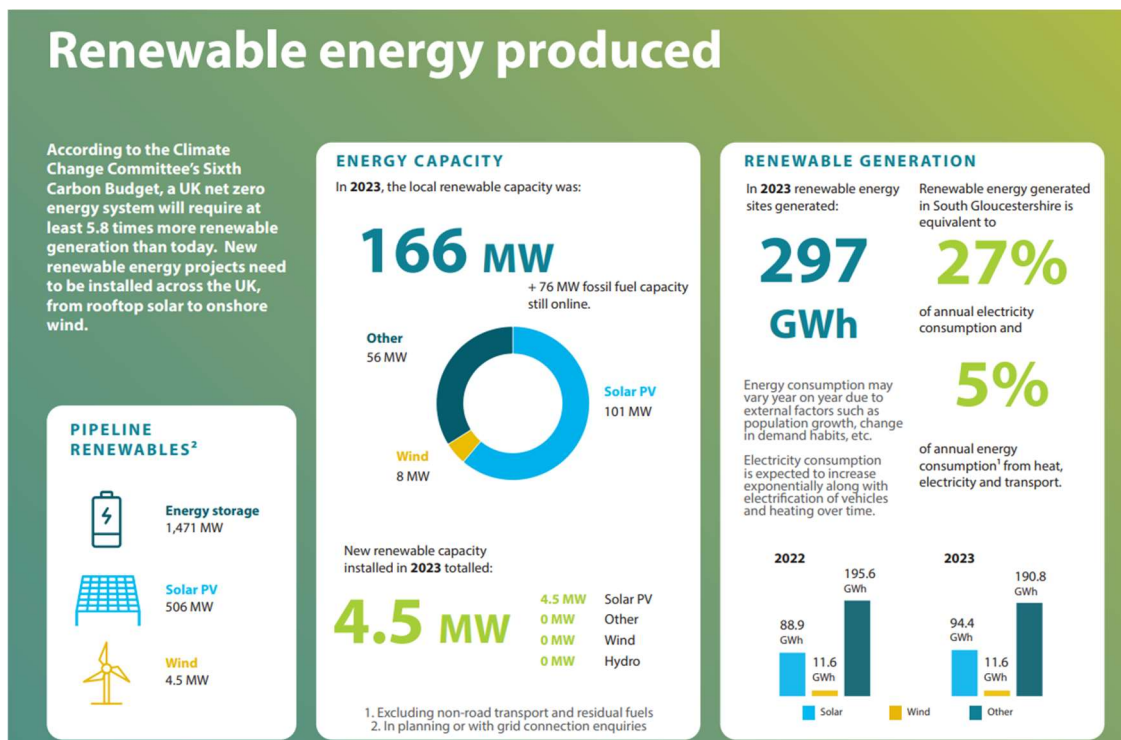
Proportion of energy produced from renewable sources

An estimated annual total of 297 Gigawatt (GWh) hours of energy was generated from renewable sources within South Gloucestershire in 2023. Solar photovoltaic (PV) projects were the most significant contributors to renewable energy generation, generating an estimated 101 GWh. The vast majority of renewable energy generation comes from renewable electricity. Progress needs to be made on renewable heat as well.

The proportion of annual energy demand currently generated from local renewable energy generation is 5%, a slight increase on last year. By the end of 2023, South Gloucestershire had a total of 166 MW of installed renewable energy capacity with 4.5 MW of new renewable capacity being installed in 2023. This is made up of: 101MW Solar PV; 8MW wind; and 56 MW from other sources (which include biomass, landfill gas, energy from waste and heat pumps).

Whilst the above figures show there is slow progress at present in the installation of large-scale renewable energy with South Gloucestershire, there is a significant amount of Solar PV and battery storage capacity currently in the planning system – 506 MW and 1,471 MW respectively. This is an increase again from last year and shows a significant pipeline of projects. We continue to highlight the issue of grid connection and capacity with National Grid Electricity Distribution (NGED).

South Gloucestershire Council declared a Climate Emergency on 17 July 2019 and pledged to provide the leadership to enable South Gloucestershire to become carbon neutral by 2030. The South Gloucestershire Climate Emergency Strategy reflects the 2030 carbon neutral target. Significantly increasing renewable energy within South Gloucestershire will be required to meet this target and enable local energy consumption (heat, electricity and transport) to be met from renewable energy sources. The Climate Emergency action plan looks to support the delivery of increased renewable energy generation capacity in the area, and as part of this a Renewable Energy Resource Assessment Study has been completed and the findings progressed through the emerging Local Plan and other projects. Progress on renewable energy is monitored annually by Regen on behalf of the Council and is summarised in the following infographic:



Source: South Gloucestershire REGEN Data Dashboard

Quantity of household waste collected and method of disposal

In 2023/24, 117,253 tons of waste were produced by households in South Gloucestershire. This is an increase of 2.2% on the previous year (22/23). Overall household tonnages have now returned to levels prior to the Covid-19 pandemic but were higher than in 2019/20, the year before the pandemic struck.

In 2023/24, 56.7% of our waste was recycled, a decrease of -1.9 percentage points on the previous year. The decrease in performance is a result of higher overall household tonnages e.g. growth in households combined with less waste being sent for reuse, recycling, and composting. The industrial action by waste collectors in the summer of 2023 had a significant effect on provision of waste services and recycling participation and which subsequently led to an increase in the proportion of residual waste that was collected.

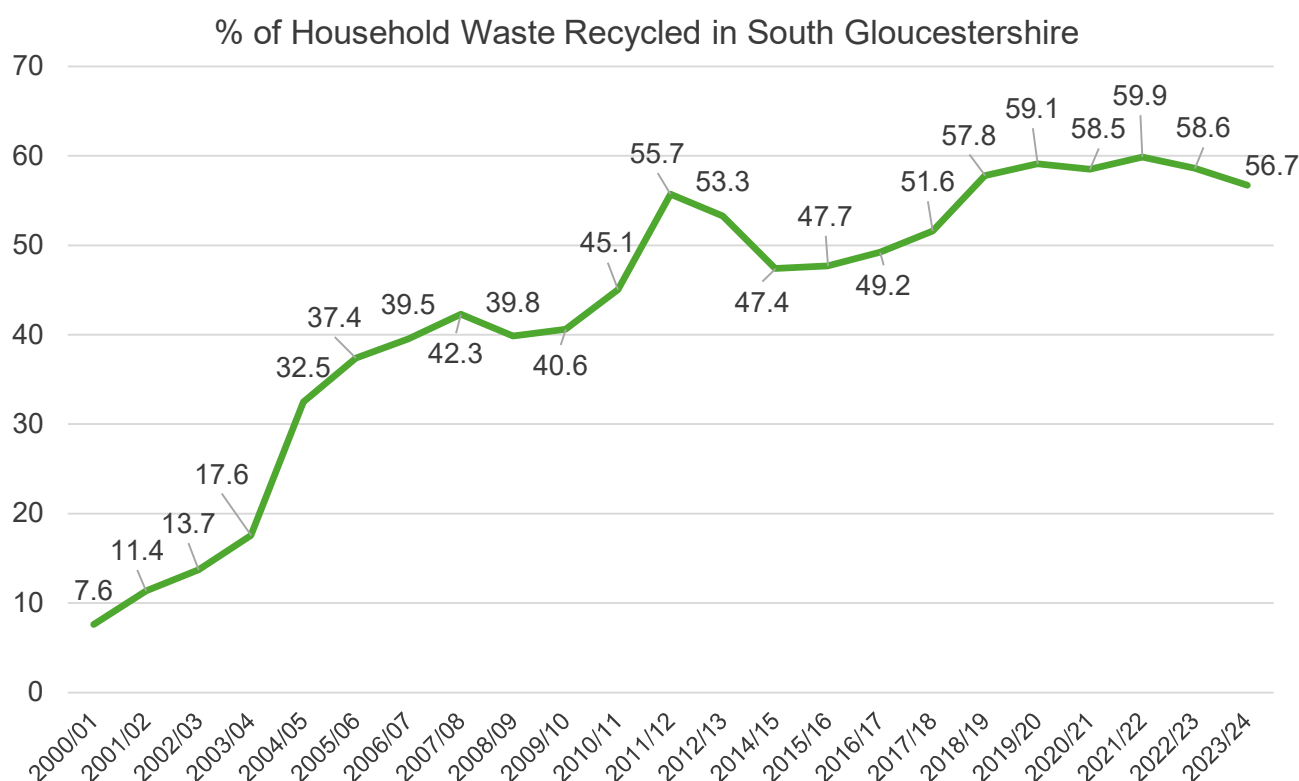
Total household (HH) waste = 117,253

HH waste sent for reuse, recycling, and composting = 66,518 (56.7%)

HH waste sent to energy recovery = 48,639 (41.5%)

HH waste sent to landfill = 3,034 (2.6%)

As the graph shows, at the start of the contract with Suez, in 2000, the council recycled only 6% of household waste with 94% being sent to landfill. Since that date we have steadily improved our performance with only 2.6% of our waste sent to landfill in 2023/24. The new West of England contracts which commenced in April 2020 for treatment of residual (non-recyclable) waste including bulky residual waste items continues to contribute to the reductions in the use of landfill.



Source: South Gloucestershire Council, Department for PLACE

Note: 2023/24 figures are provisional – subject to validation by DEFRA. Percentages and tonnages do not sum to 100% due to rounding numbers, process losses in the waste and or differences in collected and transported tonnages at transfer stations.

Biodiversity in South Gloucestershire

The State of Nature Report prepared by Bristol Regional Environmental Record Centre shows that the decline of biodiversity continues. Species are changing at an unprecedented rate with new arrivals from Europe and some species unexpectedly over wintering. So, whilst there are gains the overall picture is still of losses and declines in abundance. Rural hedgehog populations are described as being in 'steep decline' with the species classed as vulnerable and slow worms also show long term national decline.

Beavers are a high-profile example of a new species to South Gloucestershire having been spotted in Marshfield, Cold Ashton, Bitton and Hanham.

Biodiversity Net Gain became a legal requirement for the South Gloucestershire council planning department in Jan 2024 mandating that new developments enhance biodiversity beyond pre-existing levels by having a measurably positive impact of at least 10% compared with pre-development conditions.



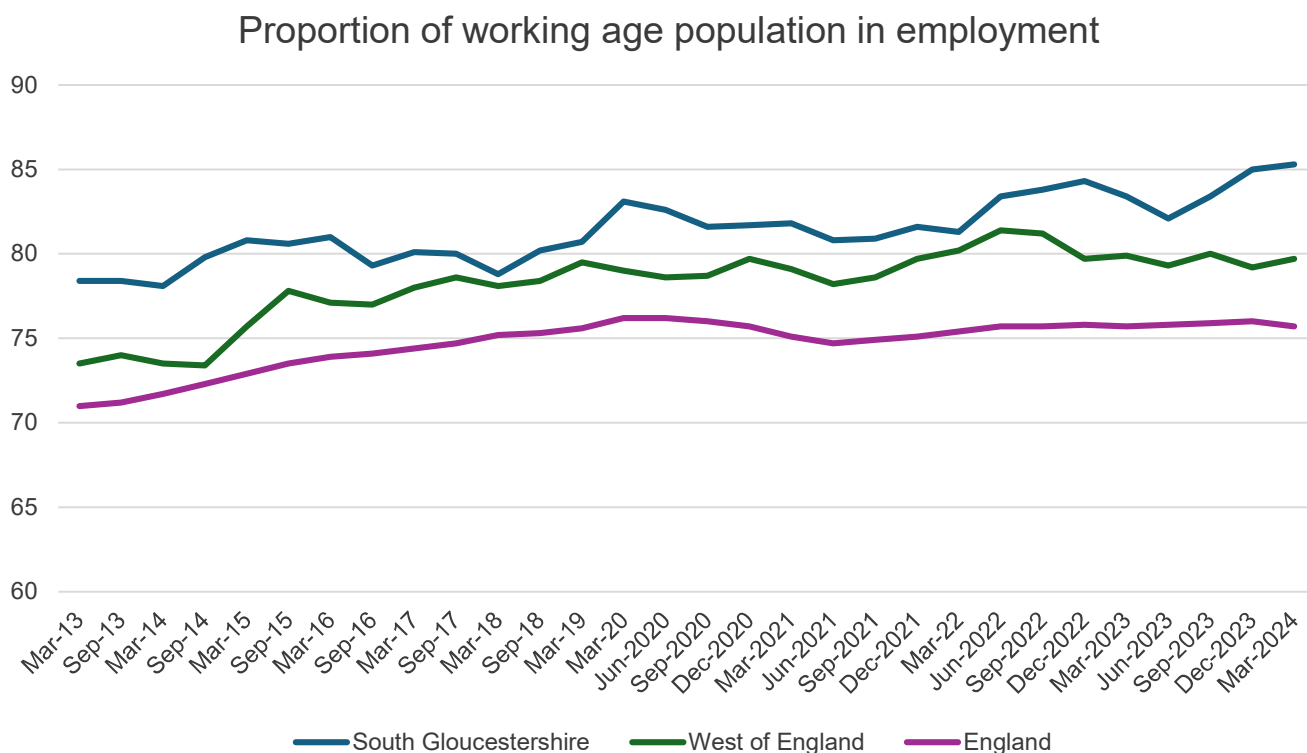
Source: South Gloucestershire Council, Environment and Community Services

Our Economy

Proportion of working age population in employment

In the year from April 2023 – March 2024, 85.3% of the working age population (16–64-year-olds) in South Gloucestershire were in employment. This is an increase of 1.9 percentage points on the figure for the same period last year (83.4%).

The proportion of 16–64-year-olds in employment in South Gloucestershire remains above sub-regional and national averages (79.7% and 75.7% respectively)



Source: Annual population survey (Office for National Statistics via NOMIS)

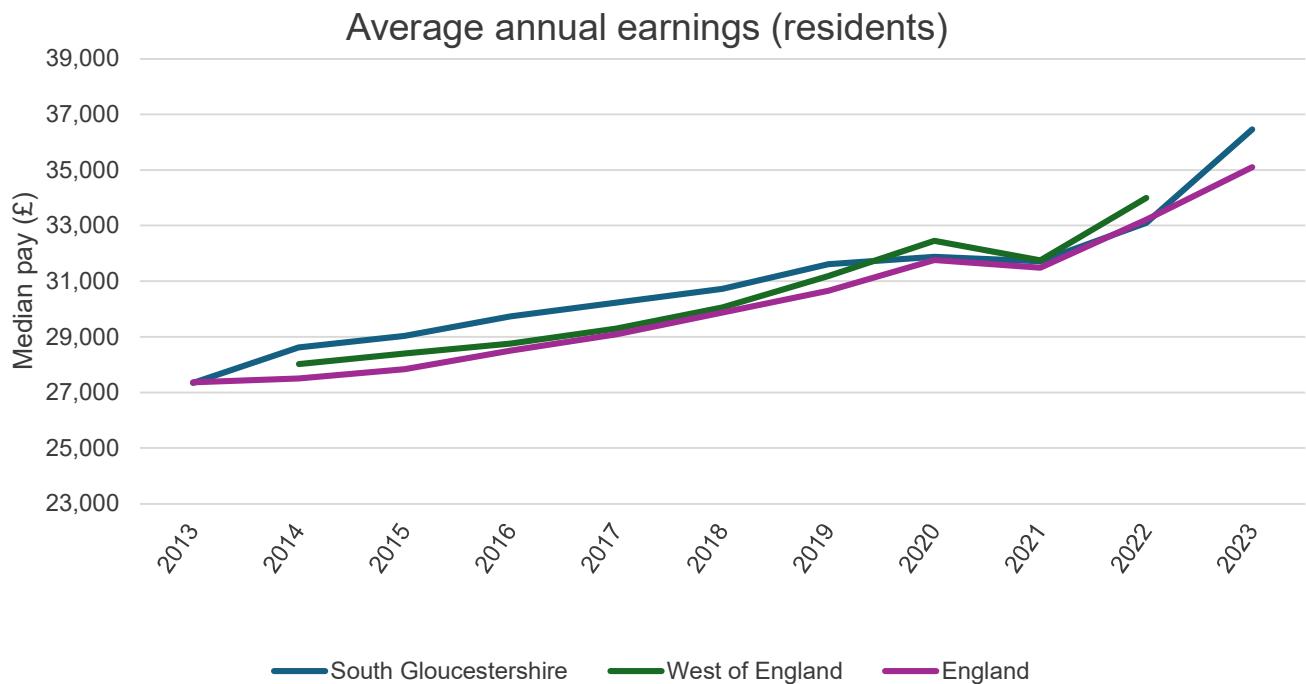
Note: This data is derived from a sample survey conducted at the national level. Naturally, at local authority level, fewer people were surveyed. Therefore, the statistical reliability of the data at this level is slightly worse.

Average annual earnings

In the year to December 2023, the average annual earnings for a full-time worker living in South Gloucestershire was £36,467, representing a 10% increase on the previous year's figure (£33,108).

The graph below shows that average earnings in South Gloucestershire in 2023 was greater than the national (England) average (£35,100). Estimates for the West of England were not available for 2023.

Please note this is a different dataset to the earnings estimate used to calculate the housing affordability ratio which looks at workplace earnings.



Source: Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings (Office for National Statistics via NOMIS)

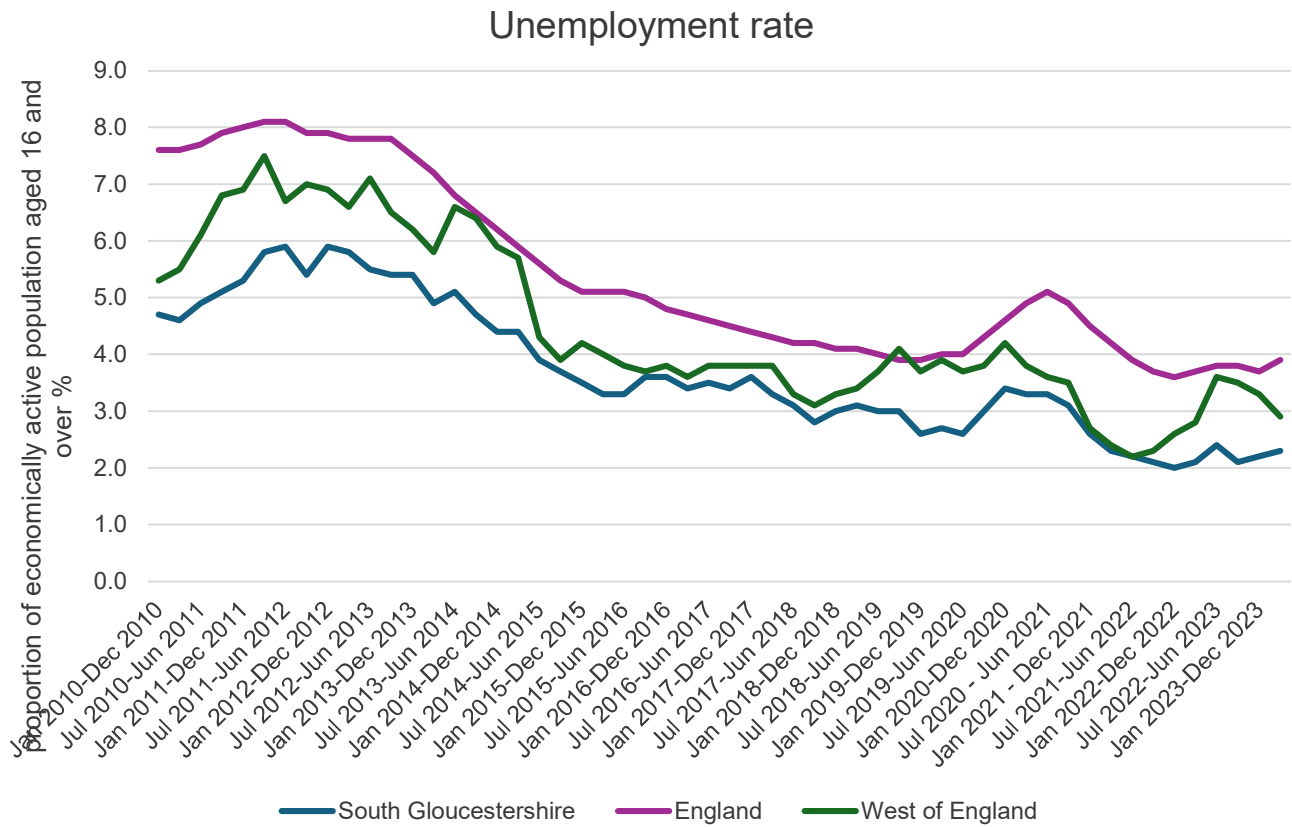
Note: Data is not available for the West of England prior to 2014.

*Median gross annual pay (residents) for a full-time worker.

Unemployment

In December 2023, 2.3% of the economically active population (16 and over) in South Gloucestershire were unemployed, a slight increase from last year's figure (2.0%).

The South Gloucestershire unemployment rate remains below the sub-regional (West of England) and national (England) averages (2.9% and 3.9% respectively).



Source: Model based estimates of unemployment (Office for National Statistics)

Qualifications of working age residents

In 2021 (latest data), 45.5% of people aged 16-64 living in South Gloucestershire were educated to NVQ level 4 or above (HND, degree, higher degree level qualifications or equivalent), which represents an increase on the figure for 2020 (44.7%). The South Gloucestershire figure for this level of qualification remains lower than the sub-regional (West of England) but higher than the national (England) averages (50.4% and 43.1%).

A larger proportion of South Gloucestershire's working aged population are educated to NVQ level 3 with 65.5% falling into this category. This figure remains below the West of England average (69.1%) but above the national average (61.3%).

Just 4.4% of 16–64-year-olds in South Gloucestershire do not have any qualifications. This is slightly below the West of England figure (4.5%) and lower than the national average (6.4%).

The annual population survey has not measured data on the qualifications of working age residents since 2021, however the latest Census provided insight into similar data. The 2021 Census has told us 14.2% of residents aged 16 and over had no qualifications, and 33% held a level 4 qualification (equivalent to NVQ4+) or above. Please note the differences in figures across the data sources is in part due to the age groups measured – the Annual Population Survey measures qualifications across residents aged between 16 and 64, whereas the Census looks at residents aged 16 and over.

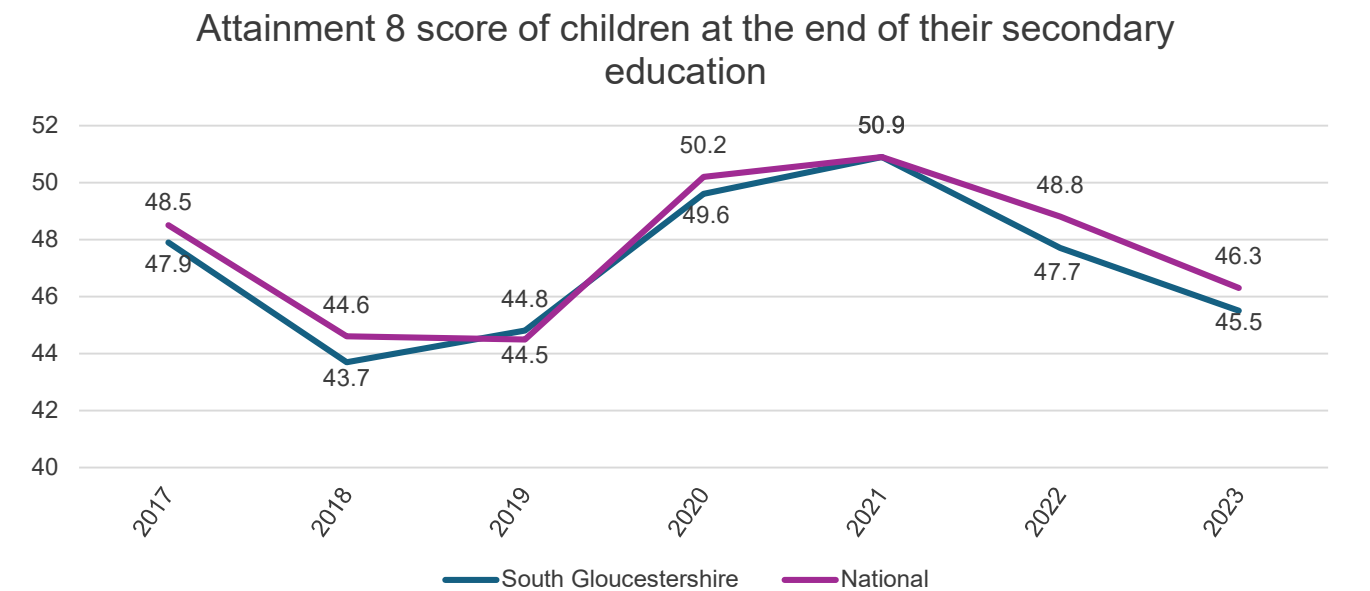


Source: Annual Population Survey (Office for National Statistics via NOMIS)

Attainment 8 score of children at the end of their secondary education

In 2023, South Gloucestershire had an average Attainment 8 score of 45.5, this is based on an eligible cohort of 2,687 pupils at the end of Key Stage 4. The average Attainment 8 score has decreased by 2.2 points from 47.7 in 2021/22 to 45.5 in 2022/23. While South Gloucestershire’s Attainment 8 score has decreased by 2.2, from 47.7 in 2021/22 to 45.5 in 2022/23, the National Attainment 8 score has decreased by 2.5, from 48.8 in 2021/22 to 46.3 in 2022/23.

For pupils with statements of Special Education Need (SEN) or Education, Health and Care plans (EHCPs) the attainment 8 score was 16.0 and this compares to the ‘all English unitary authorities’ average of 14.3. For pupils at SEN Support the attainment 8 score in South Gloucestershire was 30.9 and this compares the All-English unitary authorities of 32.3. For comparison, the attainment 8 score of pupils with no SEN was 49.6 score in South Gloucestershire and 49.2 in All English unitary authorities. Therefore, we do better than the English average for all children and those with an EHCP, however we do less well for young people at SEN Support. Addressing this is a priority of the SEN Strategy, published earlier this year.



Data source: 2023 Statistical First Release (academic year 22/23)

Proportion of children achieving the expected level in English and Maths at Key Stage 2

South Gloucestershire's expected standard percentage in Reading, Writing & Maths has increased by 0.1% from 60.0% in 2021/22 to 60.1% in 2022/23. This is equivalent to approximately 3 more pupils achieving the expected standard in 2022/23 compared to 2021/22.

From a cohort of 3,520 pupils in South Gloucestershire at the end of Key Stage 2, a total of 2,115 pupils achieved the expected standard in Reading, Writing & Maths, 0.5% higher than the National average of 59.6%. This is equivalent to 17 more pupils achieving the expected standard compared to the National average. Additionally, 5.6% achieved a higher standard in Reading, Writing & Maths, a total of 197 pupils.

Data source: DfE Key stage 2 attainment data 2022/23

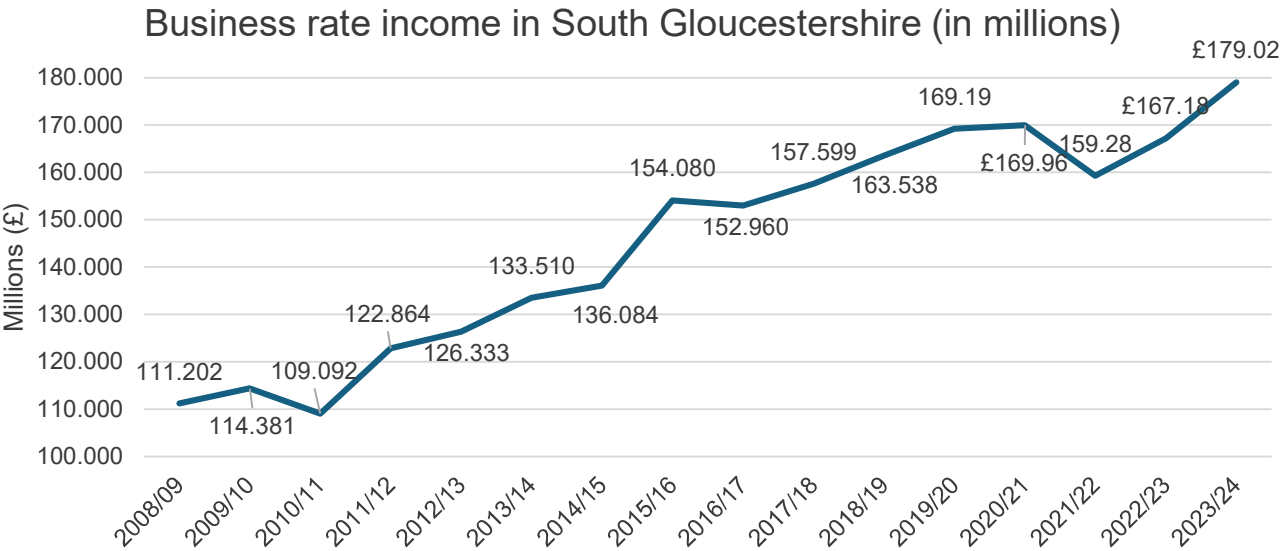
Proportion of 16–17-year-olds Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET)

The current cohort of year 12s (ages 16-17 only) is at 3135 and the pattern of participation remains relatively and consistently positive, with 95.31% of young people participating in Education, Employment or Training (EET,) the majority in school sixth forms or FE colleges. There are also a small number of young people (23) in work without recognised training. The current NEET figure stands at 2.58% and the Not Known figure has fallen to 1.37% (43). A strategy to reduce NEET, with a specific focus on Care Leavers and SEND as priority groups of young people was launched in 2023 and a multi-agency EET Forum established in January 2024 and commenced delivery of an agreed action plan. Further work is underway to reduce the level of "unknowns".

Data source: IYSS (Primary Cohort Summary V2 dated 11 June 2024 report)

Growth in business rate income

The gross Business Rate Income increased 7% to £179.02M in the FY 2023/24. This is a result of the national revaluation of all non-domestic properties from 1 April 2023. Whilst retail premises generally saw a decrease in their rateable values, industrial premises (particularly large distribution centres) saw significant increases. As a result, the total rateable value in the area has increased for the 2023 rating list.



Source: South Gloucestershire Council, Chief Executive & Corporate Resources: Statutory Accounts.

Our communities

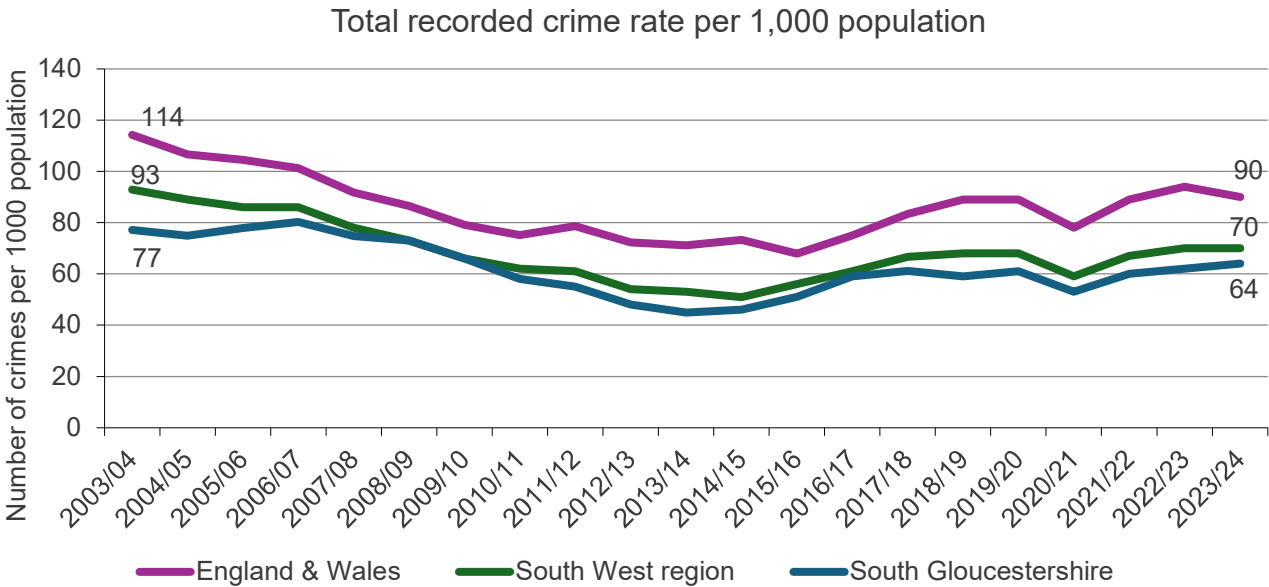
Recorded crime rate in South Gloucestershire

In 2023/24 the overall rate of recorded crime in South Gloucestershire was 64 crimes per 1,000 residents, which represents 19,001 crimes across the year. This is an increase of 5% (982 offences) compared to 2022/23. Crime rates were unusually low during the period of Covid lockdown but have increased again since.

Across England and Wales, the crime rate sits at 90 offences per 1,000 population, which represents a 3% decrease compared to the year before. Avon and Somerset police force saw a 6% increase in offending compared to the previous year, and the South West region saw a 1% increase.

Looking at our rate of crime per 1,000 population compared to other areas, our rate of 64 per 1,000 is lower than the rate of 85 per 1,000 in Avon and Somerset, 70 per 1,000 in the South West region, and 90 per 1,000 across England & Wales.

South Gloucestershire has a lower rate of offending than the Avon and Somerset area in general. Eleven years ago the level of crime in South Gloucestershire was higher than the South West average, but we have remained below that average in the years since.



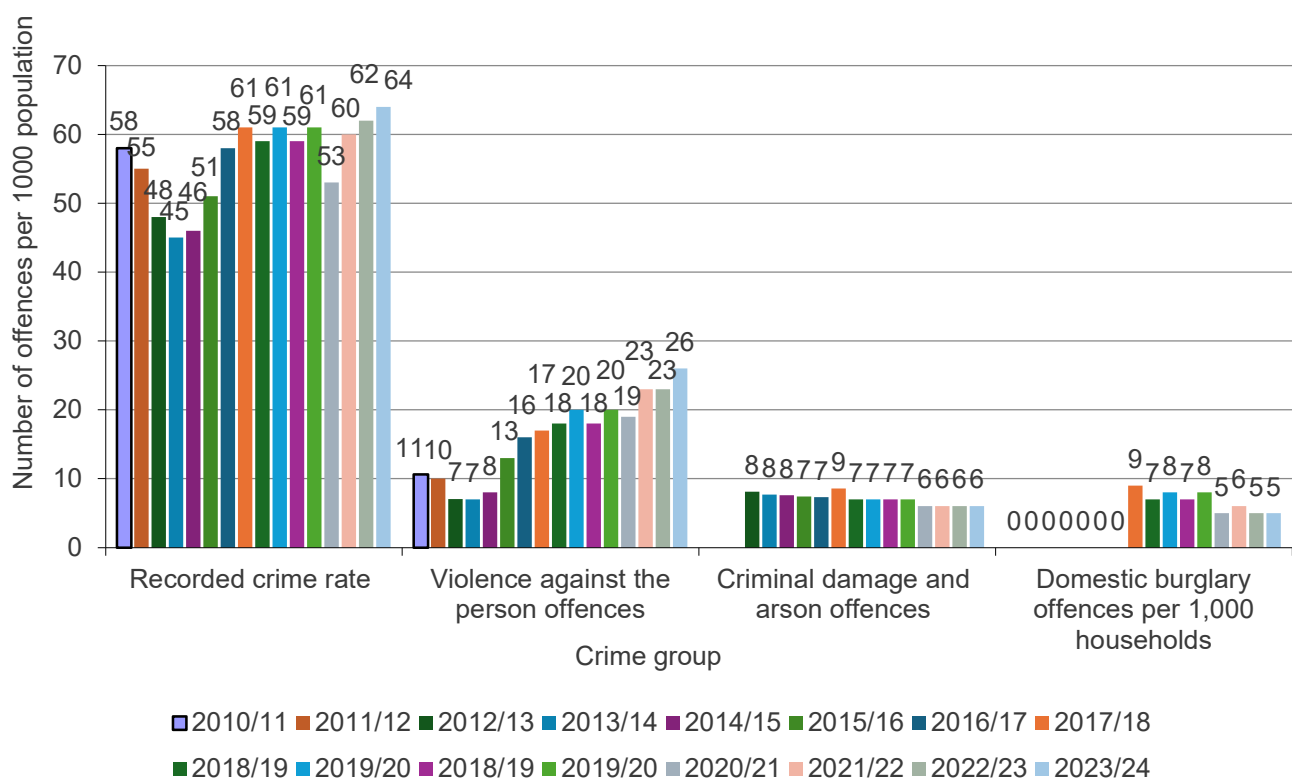
Source: Home Office statistics

Recorded crime rate for high impact crimes

Our crime reduction efforts focus on the crimes that have the most impact on our communities. Rates of violence against the person are higher than the previous year, at 26 per 1,000 population, and are currently at their highest rate in recent times. This is below the rate of 33 per 1,000 in Avon & Somerset, 28 per 1,000 in the South West, and 33 per 1,000 across England & Wales, but is still of concern given the significant negative impact that crimes of this type have on victims.

Rates of domestic burglary have remained static, holding steady at 5 offences per 1,000 households. The rate of criminal damage and arson offences has stayed at 6 offences per 1000, and robbery has stayed at 1 offence per 1000.

Crime rates South Gloucestershire (per 1,000 population)



Source: Home Office statistics

Perceptions of antisocial behaviour

Our annual Viewpoint panel community cohesion survey asks respondents on their perceptions of anti-social behavior and their satisfaction with public services in dealing with criminal activity. In our last survey, which was carried out in the spring of 2024, we received 539 responses from residents.

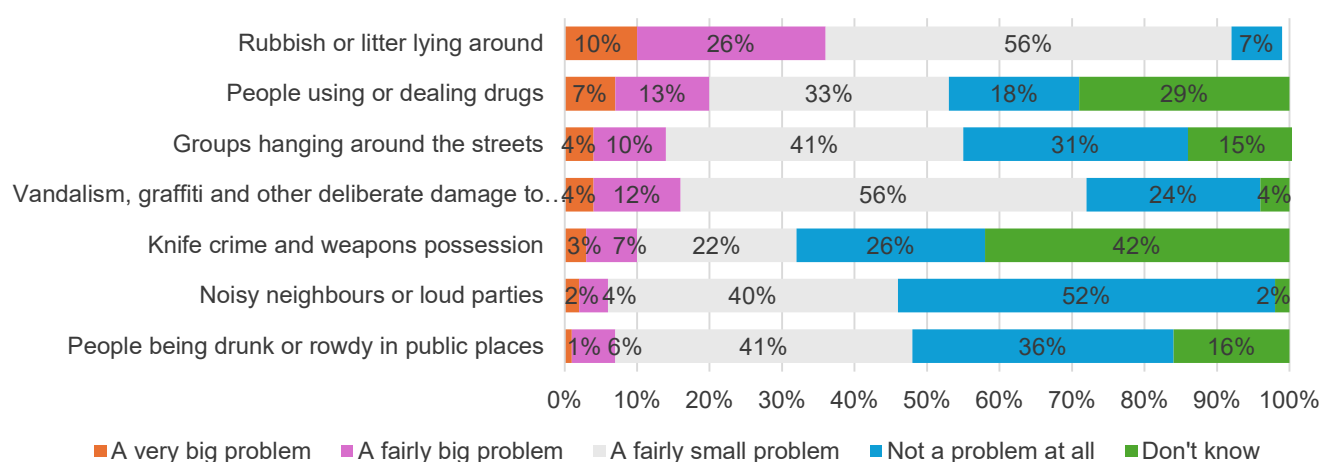
Respondents were asked to note to what extent a list of anti-social behaviors are a problem in their local communities.

Rubbish or litter lying around were the most commonly noted issues, with 36% stating it is either a 'very big' or 'fairly big' problem. The second biggest issue was people using or dealing drugs, with 20% stating there is a problem in their local area.

Several of the listed anti-social behaviours received a significant proportion of people stating they 'don't know' whether they pose problems in their local area. This may in part be due to the demographic profile of respondents; for example, younger people may be more likely to experience different types of crimes to older people. Therefore, some caution should be taken when interpreting these results.

There is ongoing research with our external partners on the perceptions of crime which may provide useful insight into this area in the future.

Proportion who view each criminal/anti-social behaviour as a problem in their local area



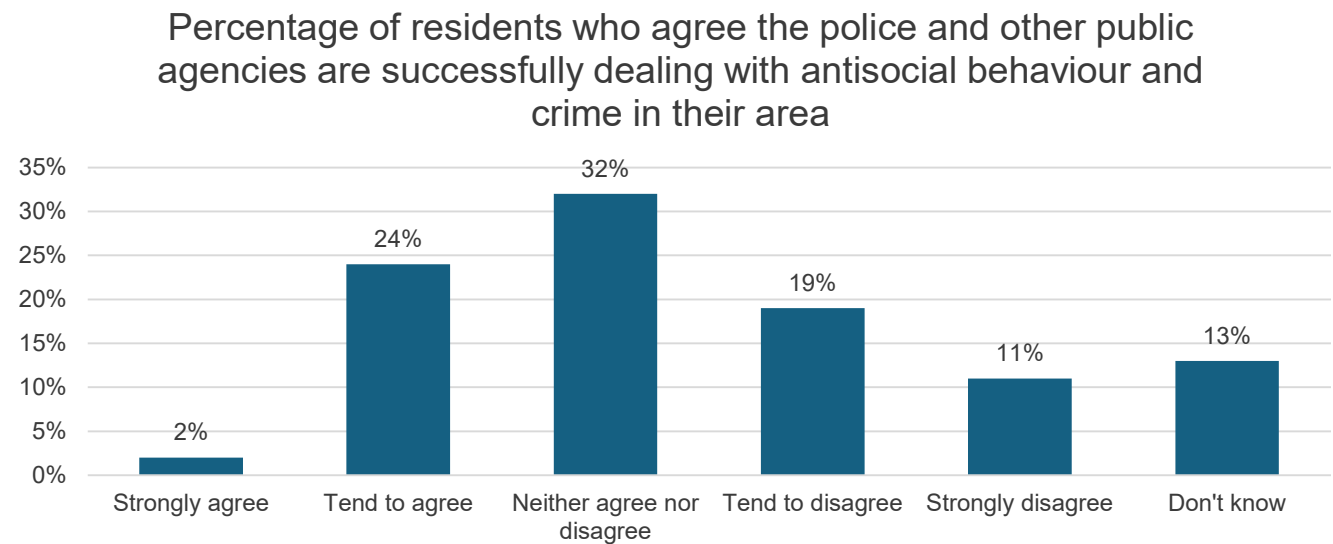
Source: South Gloucestershire Community Cohesion Viewpoint Survey 2024

Note: Whilst we received a sufficient number of responses, due to the profile of respondents being older and less ethnically diverse than our usual resident population, the views expressed in the survey are not entirely representative.

Percentage of residents who agree the police and other public agencies are successfully dealing with antisocial behaviour and crime in their area.

Respondents to the community cohesion survey were asked how much they agree or disagree with the statement: "The police and other local public services are successfully dealing with crime and anti-social behaviour in my local area".

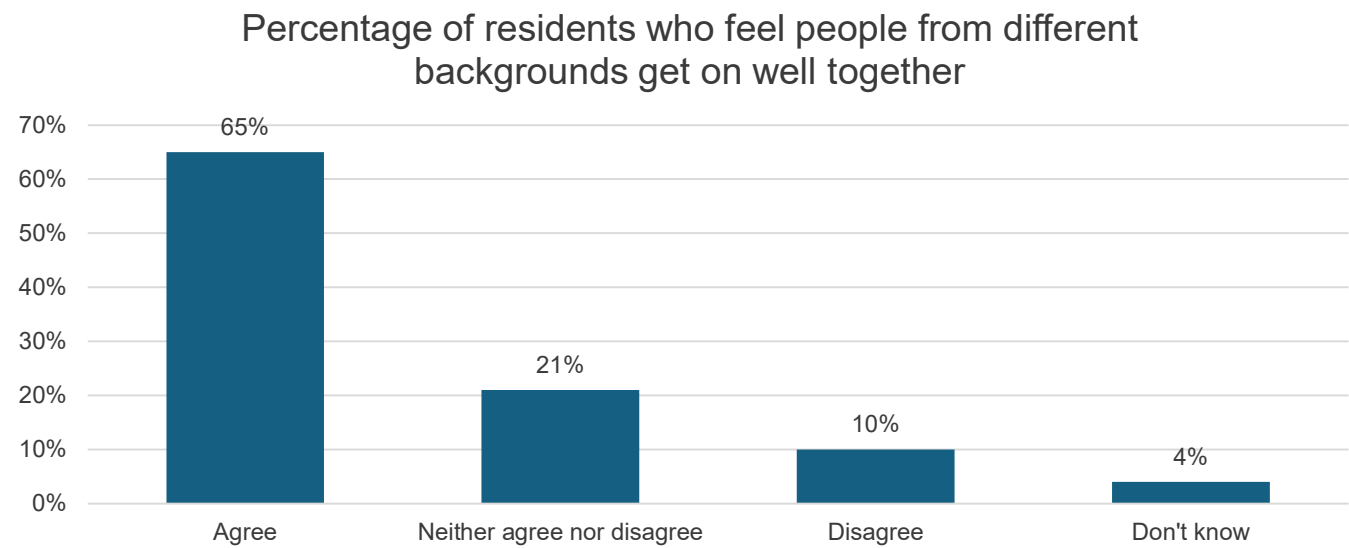
In the 2024 survey, the proportion of respondents that disagreed (30%) was greater than the proportion that agreed (26%), with a high level of neutrality reported (32% neither agree nor disagree).



Source: South Gloucestershire Community Cohesion Viewpoint Survey 2024

Percentage of residents who feel people from different backgrounds get on well together.

In the same survey, participants were asked if they feel people from different backgrounds in their local area get on well together. The majority of respondents (65%) agreed, whilst a minority (10%) disagreed. This is broadly similar to previous years' responses, although there is a slightly higher level of disagreement this time around. Future surveys will help us to see whether this is an emerging trend of a outlier.



Source: South Gloucestershire Community Cohesion Viewpoint Survey 2024

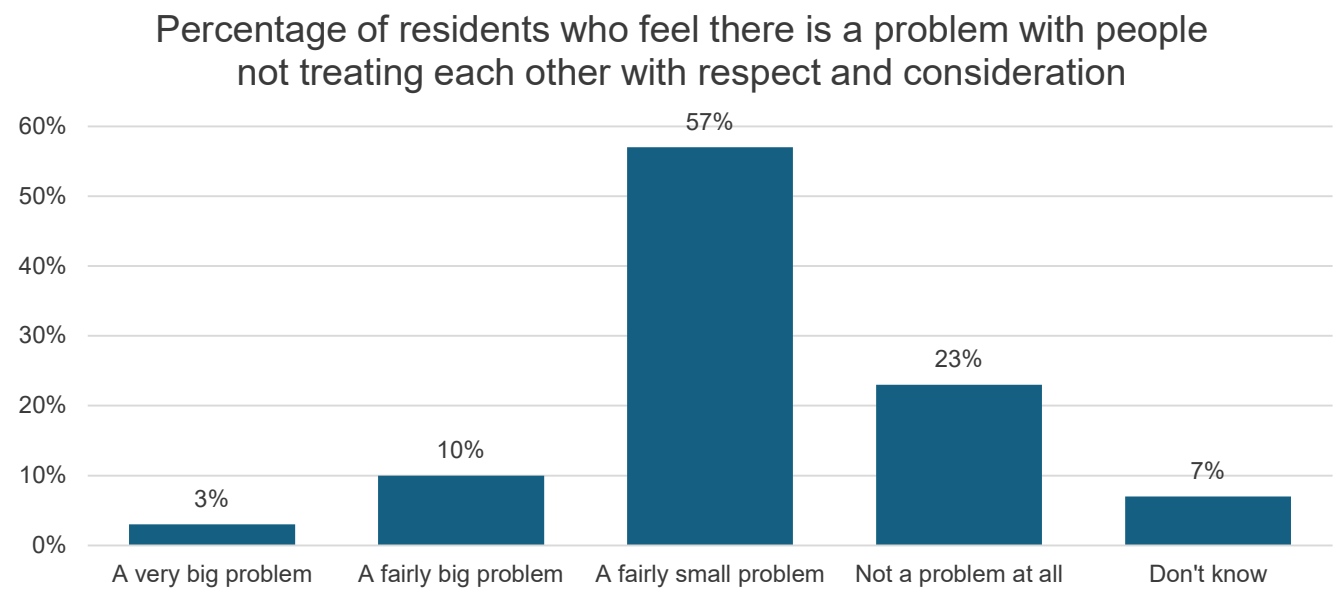
Percentage of residents who feel there is a problem with people not treating each other with respect and consideration.

The Viewpoint panel is asked if they feel there is a problem with people not treating each other with respect and consideration in their local area.

In 2024, 80% of survey respondents felt this to be a fairly small problem or not a problem at all, with 23% of those indicating it is 'not a problem at all'.

Across the last 6 years results have been fairly consistent and each year, 2-3% of respondents state that people not treating each other with respect and consideration is a 'very big problem' in their local area, whilst the majority feel that this is a 'fairly small problem'.

Please note, changes were made to the statistical weighting of respondent demographics applied to this year's community cohesion survey, and therefore some caution should be taken when comparing the results to previous years.



Source: South Gloucestershire Community Cohesion Viewpoint Survey 2024

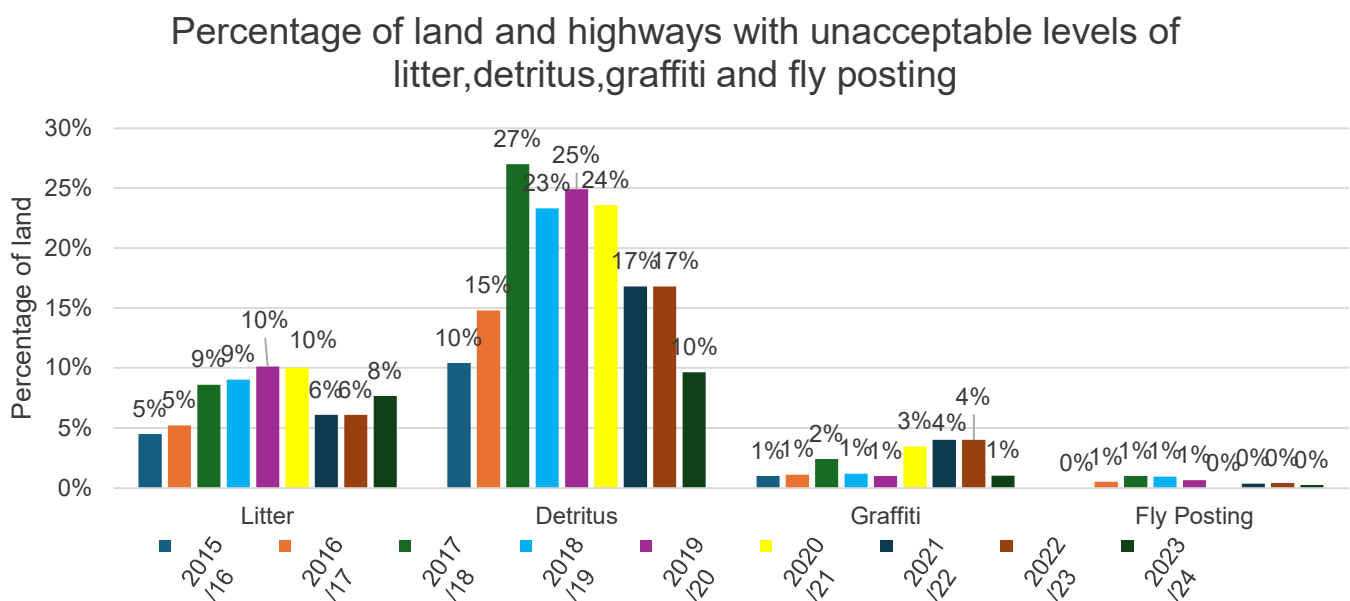
Percentage of land and highways with unacceptable levels of litter, detritus, graffiti, and fly posting

This indicator measures the percentage of areas with unacceptable levels of litter, detritus, graffiti or fly posting. The aim is to achieve the lowest score as possible. Between April 2023 and March 2024, 455 inspections were carried out on a range of different land use types including shopping areas, main roads, residential streets and recreation areas. Graffiti and fly posting is also assessed on private land which is visible from the highway.

Litter – 7.65%
 Detritus – 9.65%
 Graffiti – 1.03%
 Fly Posting – 0.23%

This year (2023/24) 7.65% of land and highways in South Gloucestershire were deemed to have unacceptable levels of litter, which is consistent with the cleanliness standards reported in the previous year (7.48%). Main roads, rural roads and industrial areas were recorded as the most heavily littered land uses – litter picking some of these areas is limited for safety reasons. Town centres, residential roads and recreation areas were recorded as having the lowest levels of litter.

The improvement in detritus levels recorded during 2022/23 was maintained this year, with 9.65% of inspected areas recording unsatisfactory levels. The areas with highest levels of detritus were main roads and heavily parked areas where mechanical sweeping is less effective. We also maintained the improvement in visible graffiti levels, against a target of 1%.



Source: South Gloucestershire Council*Detritus consists of dust, mud, soil, grit, gravel, stones, rotted leaf and vegetation residue

Our Health

Health data

Health data has been primarily obtained from the Office for Health Improvement and Disparities (OHID) Fingertips Public health data tool which allows for comparison with regional and national rates across all indicators. We also provide internal data collected by South Gloucestershire Council on the number of people receiving self-directed support.

Please note: The data in this section is the latest available data that enables analysis of trends over a significant period. Following Census 2021, the Office for National Statistics (ONS) carried out reconciliation and rebasing of the mid-year population estimates (MYE) it produces. This process happens every 10 years following the census. The official population estimates for mid-2012 to mid-2020 have been revised, to incorporate the data now available from Census 2021. The data for the health indicators were revised to use the rebased population estimates from 2012 onwards. Therefore, the trend data in this report will not match values in previous iterations.

All the Population Health information included in this report is routinely updated with the latest available data in our Population Health Intelligence Portal at <https://beta.southglos.gov.uk/health-and-social-care/health-services/jsna>

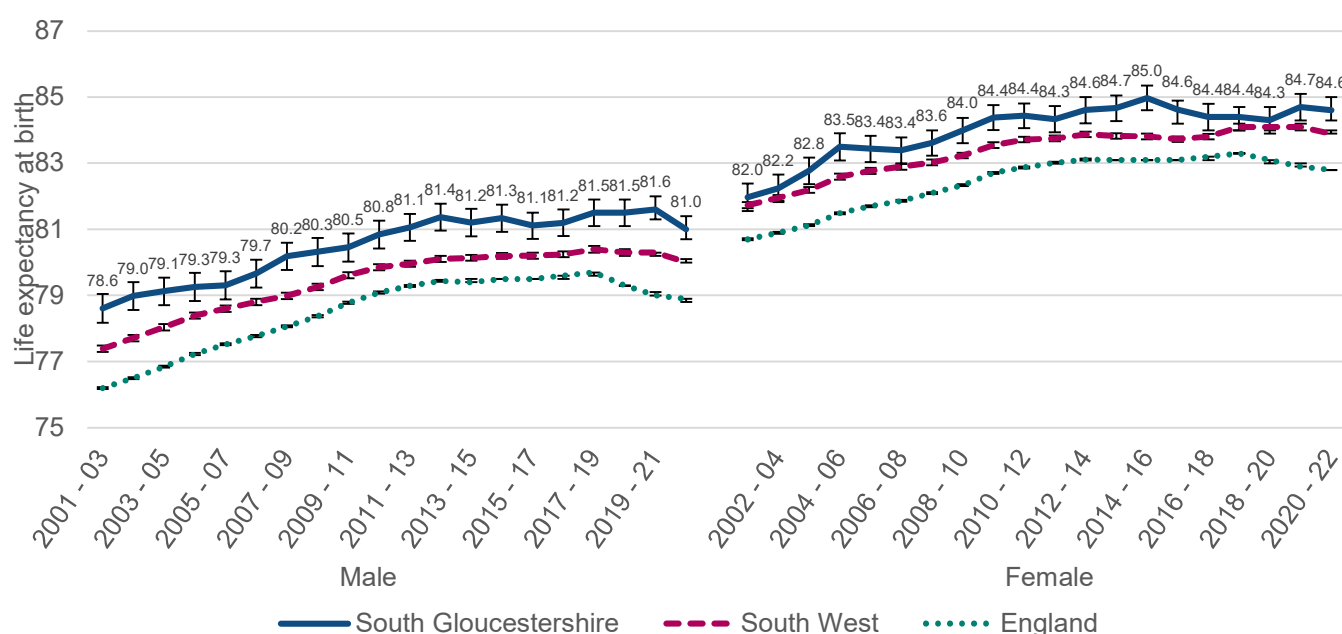
Life expectancy in South Gloucestershire

Overall, since 2001-03, life expectancy for both males and females in South Gloucestershire has increased. The most recent figures from 2020-22 show that in comparison to the South West region and England, South Gloucestershire continues to have a greater life expectancy for both males and females. In recent years, there has been weak evidence of a change in life expectancy and a slight dip in the most recent figures means that life expectancy for males and females is now statistically similar to that seen in 2008-10.

The most recent decrease in figures of 0.6 years for males and 0.1 years for females is likely to have been a consequence of the Covid-19 pandemic which increased the number of excess deaths in 2020 and 2021.

At a national and local level, there is an inequality in life expectancy between males and females. In South Gloucestershire 2020-22, the life expectancy for females was 84.6 whereas for males it was 81.0, a 3.6 year difference. There are also large inequalities in life expectancy between the most and least deprived geographical areas. For example, in 2018-20, the inequality in life expectancy figures showed that females born in the most deprived areas of South Gloucestershire were expected to live 5.7 years fewer compared to females born in the least deprived areas.

Trend in Life Expectancy at Birth by sex, South Gloucestershire, South West & England, 2001-03 to 2018 -2022



Data source: Office for Health Improvement & Disparities. Public Health Profiles. 10/07/2024
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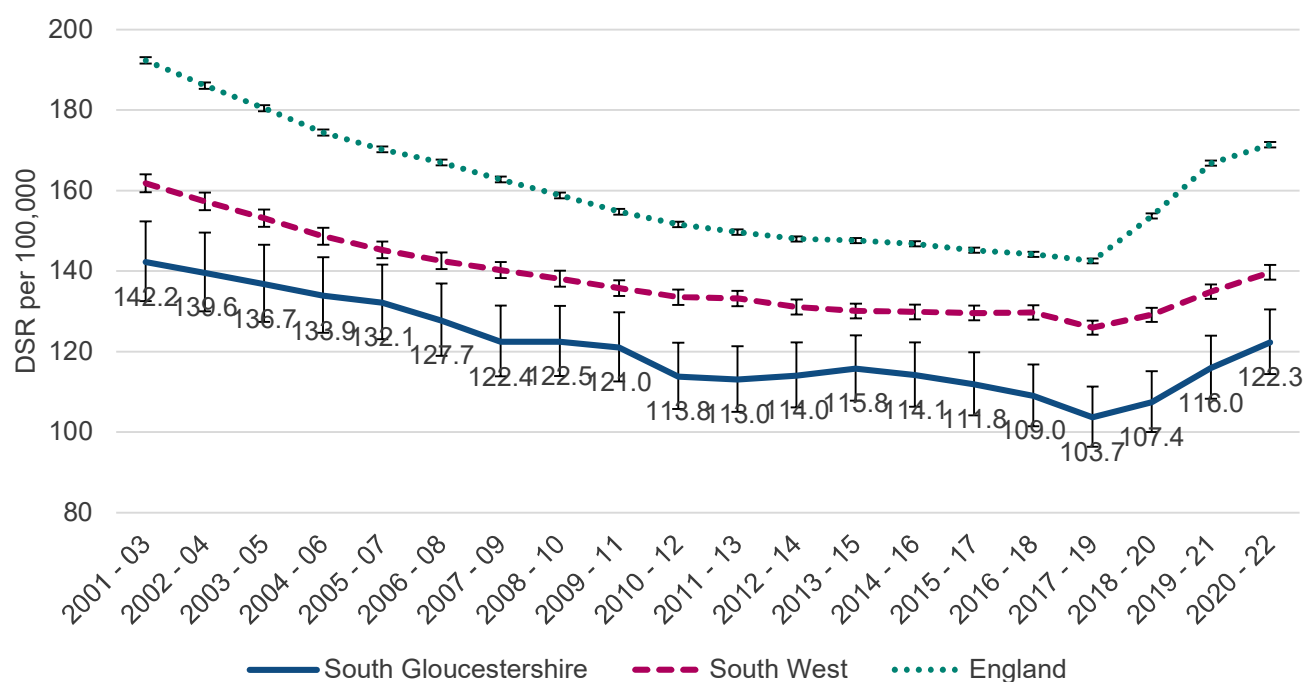
Under 75 mortality rate from causes considered preventable

The basic concept of preventable mortality is that deaths are considered preventable if, in the light of the understanding of the determinants of health at the time of death, all or most deaths from the underlying cause (subject to age limits if appropriate) could mainly be avoided through effective public health and primary prevention interventions.

The rate of deaths considered preventable is also an important indicator of the overall health of the population. Since 2001-03, the trend shows there has been an overall decrease in the under 75 mortality rate from causes considered preventable. Recent figures also show that the rate for South Gloucestershire has remained statistically lower than the South West region and England rate.

However, since 2017-19, the mortality rate has statistically increased from 103.7 per 100,000 to 122.3 per 100,000 in South Gloucestershire. Similar increases can also be seen regionally and nationally. As commented in the previous section, this is likely to be a consequence of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Under 75 mortality rate per 100,000 from causes considered preventable (Persons), 3-year range, South Gloucestershire, South West, and England, 2001-03 to 2020-22



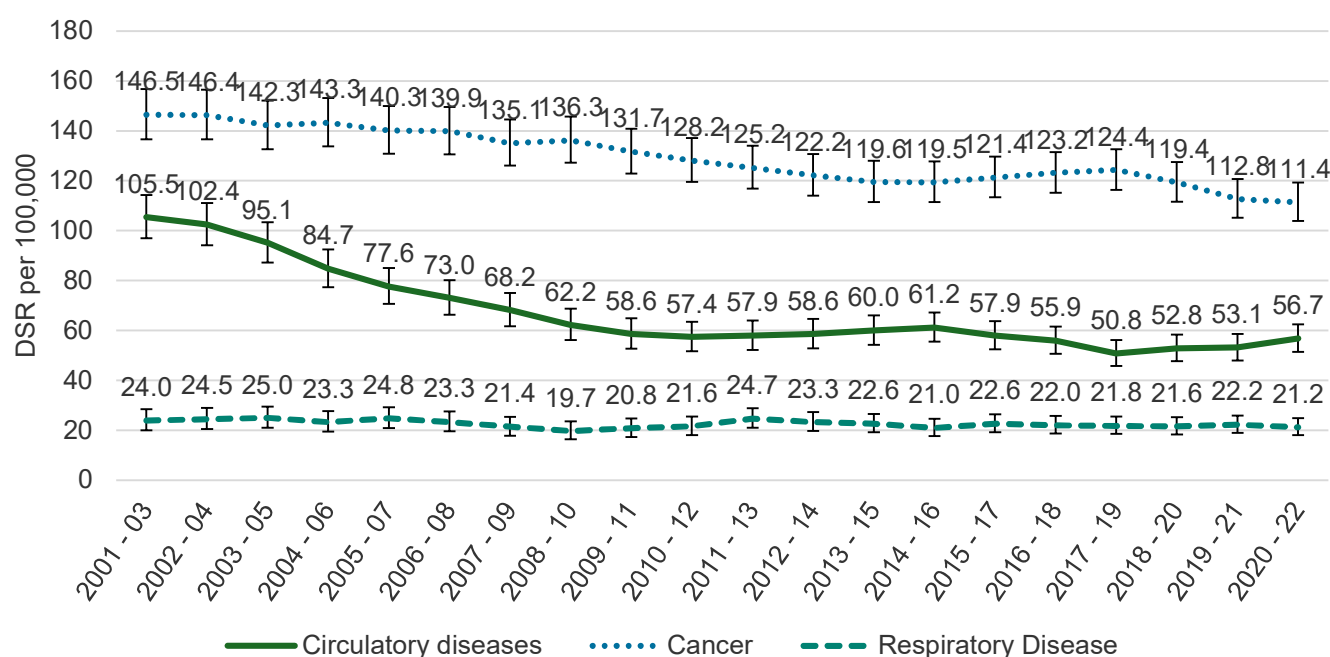
Data source: Office for Health Improvement & Disparities. Public Health Profiles. 10/07/2024
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Mortality rates

Previous reports have highlighted that, despite an overall decrease in the mortality rate, two of the largest causes of deaths under 75 years of age (nationally and locally) are cancer and circulatory diseases - this remains the case in South Gloucestershire.

Although there have been improvements in treatment and lifestyle, especially in terms of circulatory diseases over recent decades, to ensure that there continues to be a reduction in the rate of premature mortality from cancer and cardiovascular diseases, there needs to be concerted action in both prevention and treatment.

Trend in Under 75 mortality rate per 100,000 by cause of death
(Persons), 3-year range, South Gloucestershire, 2001-03 to
2020-22



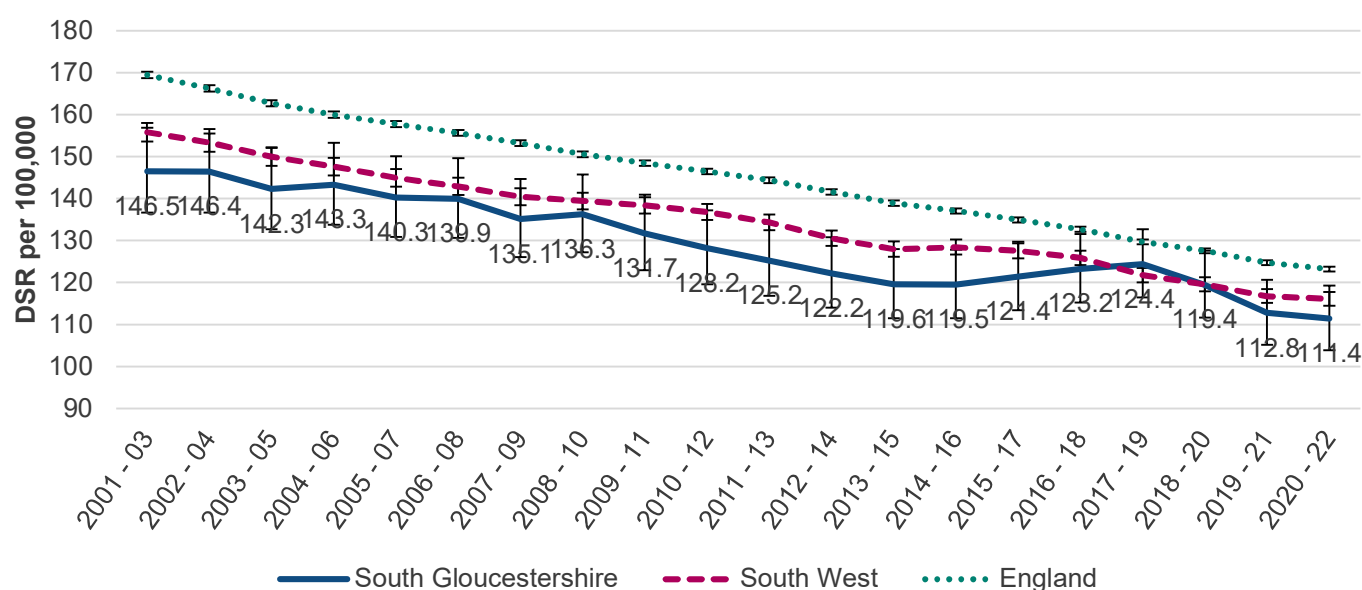
Data source: Office for Health Improvement & Disparities. Public Health Profiles. 10/07/2024
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Cancer

Cancer remains the greatest cause of premature death in South Gloucestershire. Overall, since 2001-03, the under 75 cancer mortality rate has statistically decreased in South Gloucestershire. Between 2020 and 2022, cancer was responsible for 824 deaths among those under the age of 75, 331 (40%) of which were considered to be preventable according to another OHID indicator.

The 2020-22 cancer mortality rate of 111.4 per 100,000 for South Gloucestershire is similar to the South West region and is statistically lower than the England rate. However, this most recent value remains statistically similar to values seen back in 2011-13.

Under 75 mortality rate per 100,000 from cancer (Persons), 3-year range, South Gloucestershire, South West, and England, 2001-03 to 2020-22



Data source: Office for Health Improvement & Disparities. Public Health Profiles. 10/07/2024
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Circulatory diseases

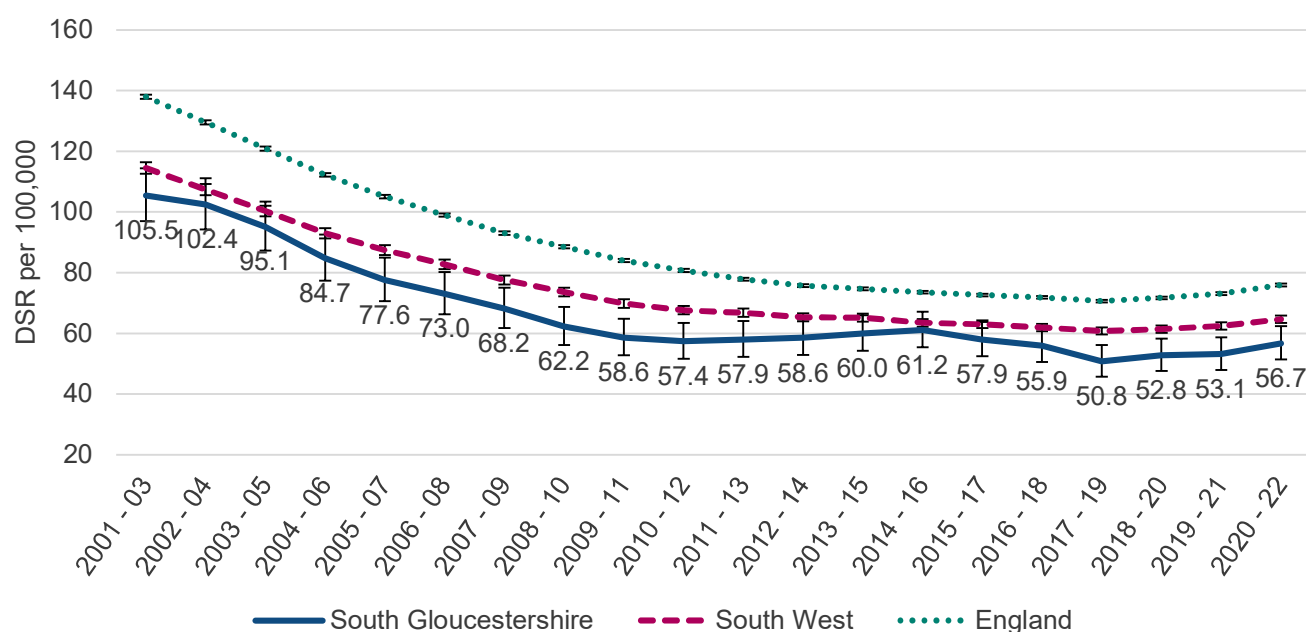
Circulatory diseases, which include coronary heart disease and stroke, are the second greatest cause of premature deaths in South Gloucestershire. Overall, since 2001-03, the under 75 mortality rate for circulatory diseases has statistically decreased in South Gloucestershire. Between 2020 and 2022, circulatory diseases were responsible for 421 deaths among those under the age of 75, 155 (37%) of which were considered to be preventable according to another OHID indicator.

The 2020-22 circulatory diseases mortality rate of 56.7 per 100,000 for South Gloucestershire is similar to the South West region and is statistically lower than the England rate. However, this most recent value remains statistically similar to values seen back in 2011-13.

Please note: Data may not match published Office for National Statistics (ONS) figures due to differences in the version of postcode lookup used and the application of comparability ratios in Office for Health Improvement and Disparities (OHID) data

This indicator was previously known as 'Under 75 mortality rate from cardiovascular disease'. However, to enable consistency across indicators produced, it has been decided to rename this indicator 'Under 75 mortality rate from circulatory disease', as the indicator is based on the ICD-10 codes I00 to I99, which is referred to in ICD-10 as 'Diseases of the circulatory system'. There have been no other changes to this indicator.

Under 75 mortality rate per 100,000 from all circulatory diseases (Persons), 3-year range, South Gloucestershire, South West, and England, 2001-03 to 2020-22

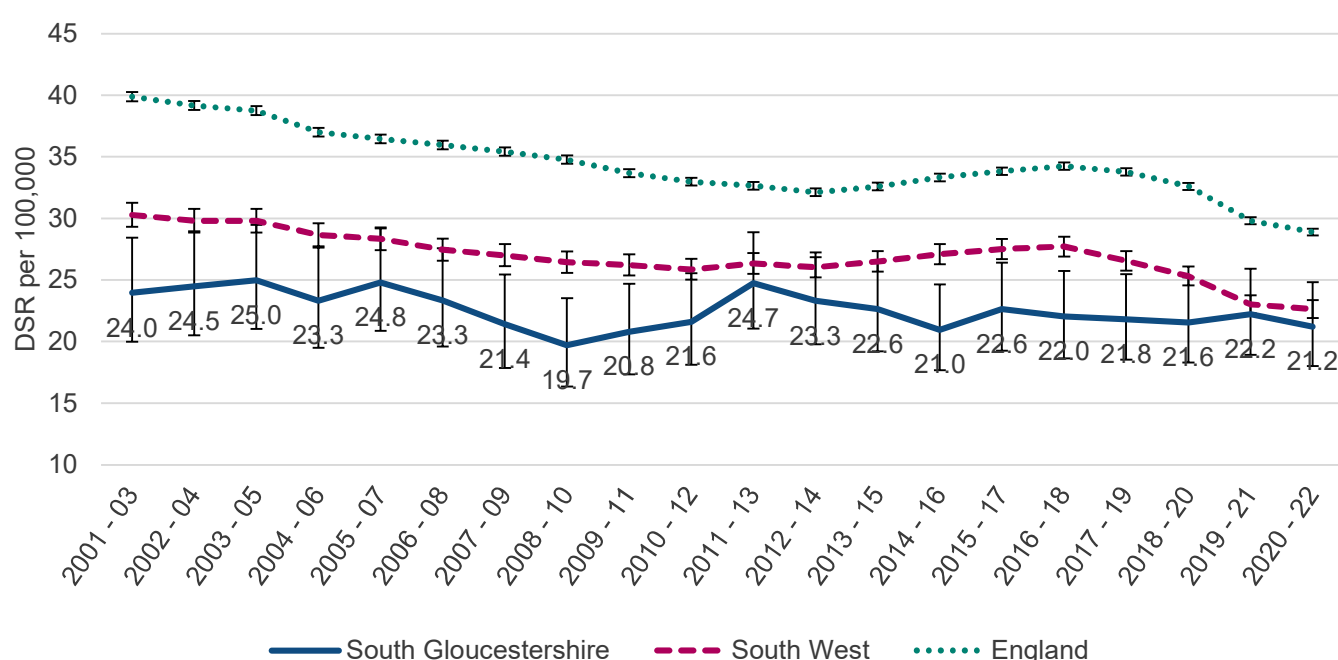


Data source: Office for Health Improvement & Disparities. Public Health Profiles. 10/07/2024
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Respiratory disease

Respiratory disease is one of the top causes of death in England and smoking is the major cause of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), one of the major respiratory diseases. Overall, since 2001-03, the under 75 mortality rate for respiratory disease in South Gloucestershire has remained statistically similar over time. Between 2020 and 2022, respiratory diseases were responsible for 156 deaths among those under the age of 75, 93 (60%) of which were considered to be preventable according to another OHID indicator. The 2020-22 respiratory diseases mortality rate of 21.2 per 100,000 for South Gloucestershire is similar to the South West region and is statistically lower than the England rate.

Under 75 mortality rate per 100,000 from respiratory disease (Persons), 3-year range, South Gloucestershire, South West, and England, 2001-03 to 2020-22

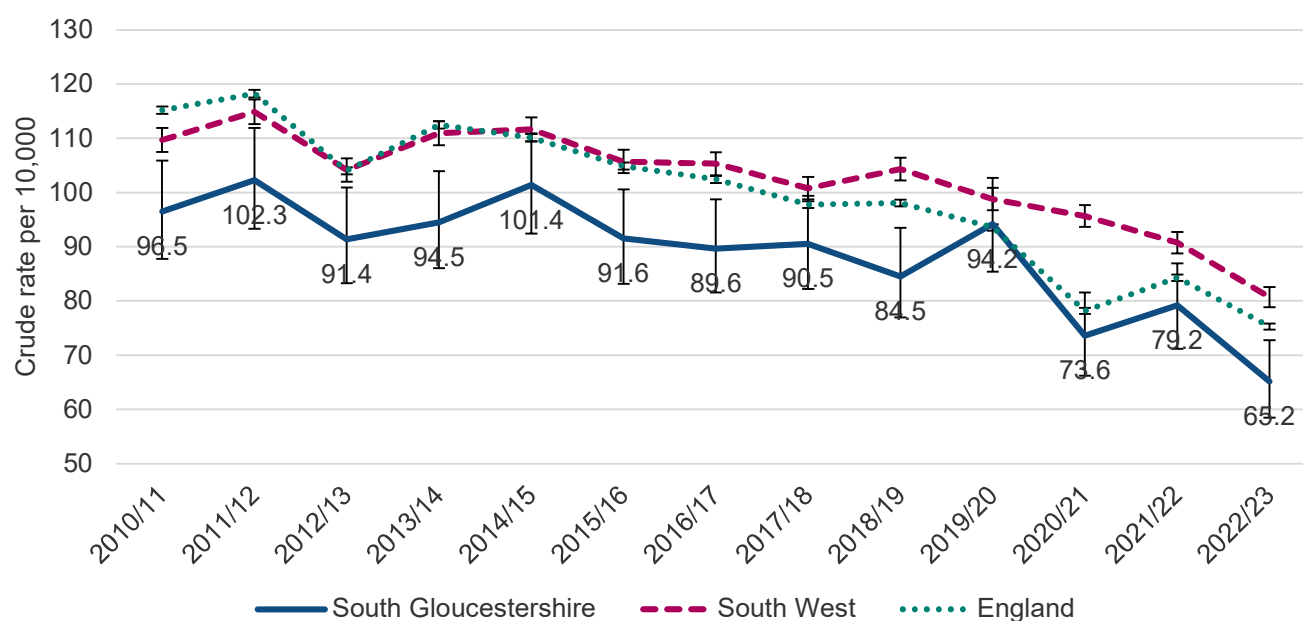


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Childhood Injuries

Injuries are a leading cause of hospitalisation and represent a major cause of premature mortality for children and young people. They are also a source of long-term health issues, including mental health related to experience(s). The rate of hospital admissions caused by unintentional and deliberate injuries for children aged 0 to 14 years in South Gloucestershire was 65.2 per 10,000 in 2022/23. This is statistically lower than the South West and England rate. The trend since 2010/11 shows that the rate of these hospital admissions has statistically decreased over time and the 2022/23 rate is lower than the rates seen from 2010/11 to 2019/20.

Rate of Hospital Admissions per 10,000 caused by unintentional and deliberate injuries in children aged 0 to 14 years, South Gloucestershire, South West, and England, 2010/11 to 2022/23



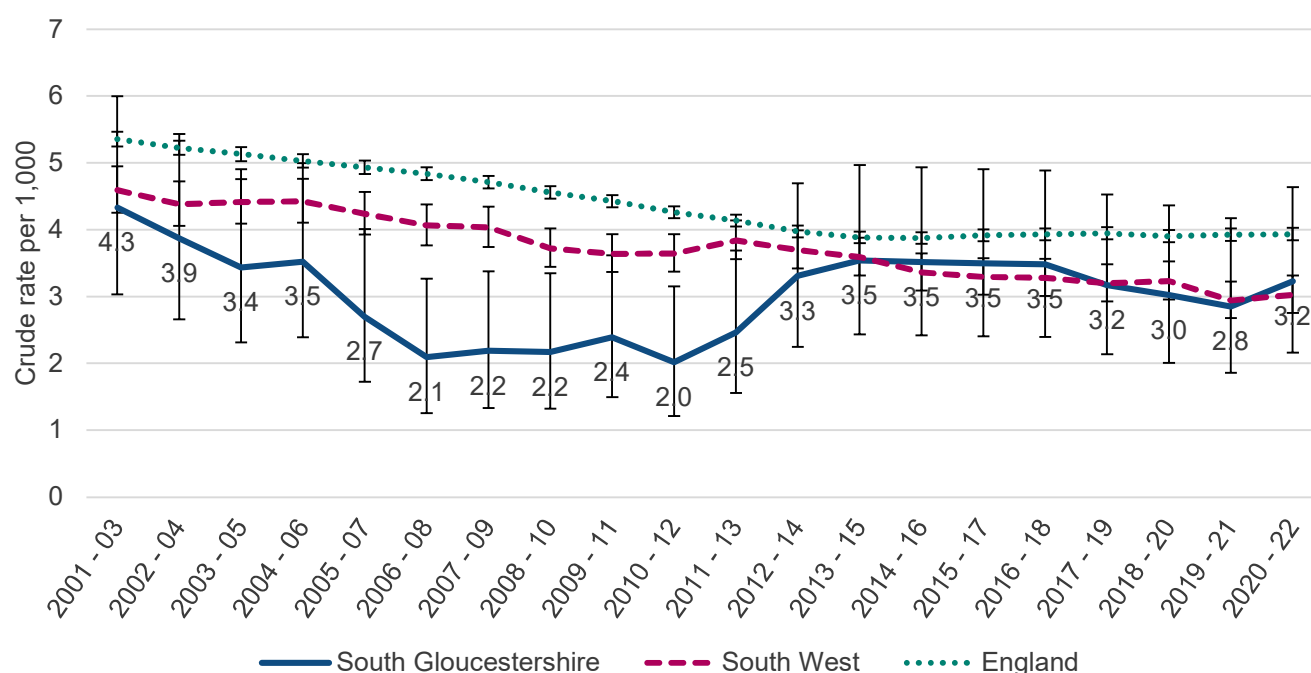
Data source: Office for Health Improvement & Disparities. Public Health Profiles. 10/07/2024
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Infant mortality

Infant mortality is an indicator of the general health of an entire population. It reflects the relationship between causes of infant mortality and upstream determinants of population health such as economic, social and environmental conditions. Deaths occurring during the first 28 days of life (the neonatal period) in particular, are considered to reflect the health and care of both mother and newborn.

In any one year, the numbers of infant deaths are very small and so a more reliable picture can be obtained from data pooled over several years. In South Gloucestershire in 2020-22, the infant mortality rate was 3.2 per 1,000 live births, equating to 29 infant deaths. The rate is similar to the South West region (3.0 per 1,000 live births) and England (3.9 per 1,000 live births) rates.

Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000, 3-year range, South Gloucestershire, South West, and England, 2001-03 to 2020-22

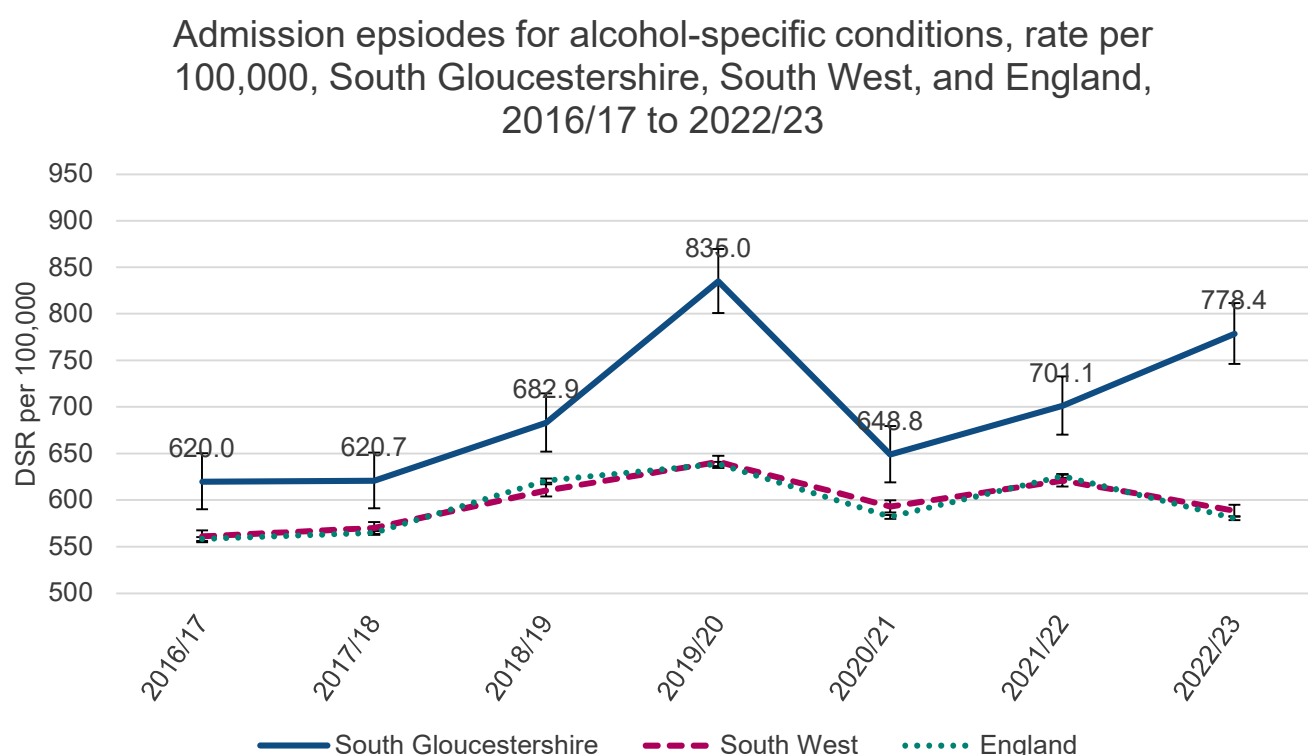


Data source: Office for Health Improvement & Disparities. Public Health Profiles. 10/07/2024
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Alcohol-specific hospital admissions

Alcohol consumption is a contributing factor to hospital admissions and deaths from a diverse range of conditions. Alcohol misuse is estimated to cost the NHS about £3.5 billion per year and society as a whole £21 billion annually. Alcohol specific admissions are an indicator of the level of alcohol misuse and the effectiveness of services to prevent admissions and readmission to hospital. These figures include both emergency and planned admissions so show the total burden on the hospital system that alcohol specific conditions cause.

The rate of admission episodes for alcohol-specific conditions in South Gloucestershire in 2022/23 was 778.4 per 100,000, equating to 2223 admissions. This is statistically greater than the South West region and England rates, and has been so since 2016/17. Looking at the trend since 2016/17, the overall rate of admissions has statistically increased over time.



Data source: Office for Health Improvement & Disparities. Public Health Profiles. 10/07/2024
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The percentage of children's classified as overweight or obese

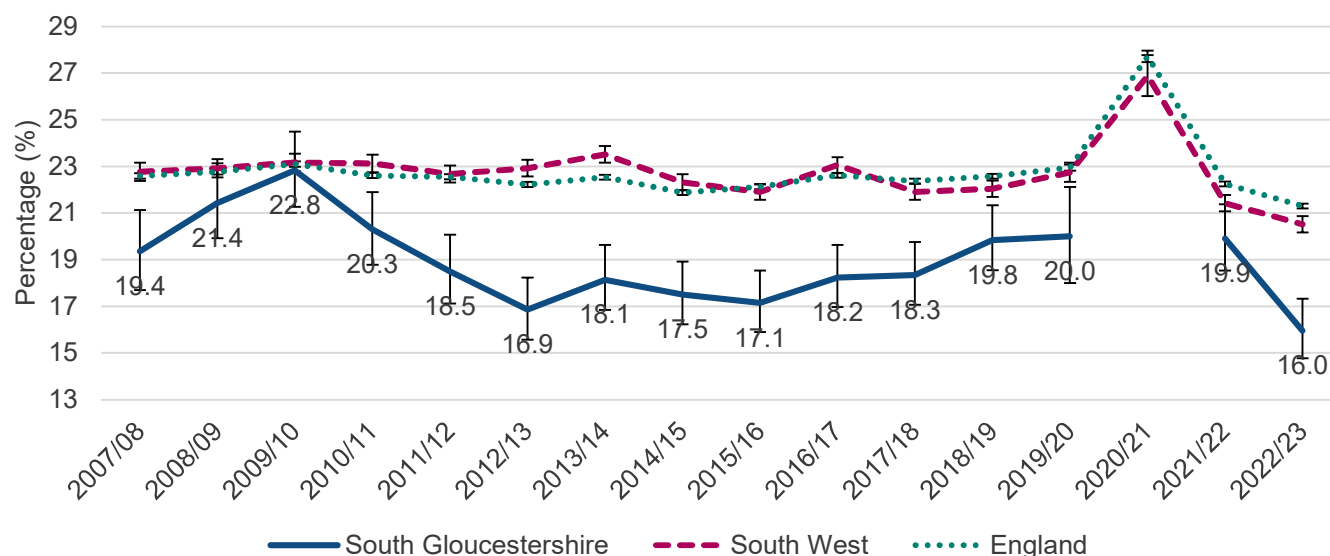
The National Child Measurement Programme (NCMP) measures the weight and height of children in reception class (aged 4 to 5 years) and year 6 (aged 10 to 11 years) to assess child body mass index (BMI). A child's BMI is classed as overweight or obese where it is on or above the 85th centile or 95% centile, respectively, based on the British 1990 growth reference data. This data is used to support local public health initiatives and inform the local planning and delivery of services for children.

The 2019/20 NCMP data collection stopped in March 2020 when schools were closed due to the Covid-19 pandemic. This resulted in an incomplete measurement year, meaning values for this year should be interpreted with caution. This also applies to the 2020/21 school year where local authority values are not available due to small participation rates.

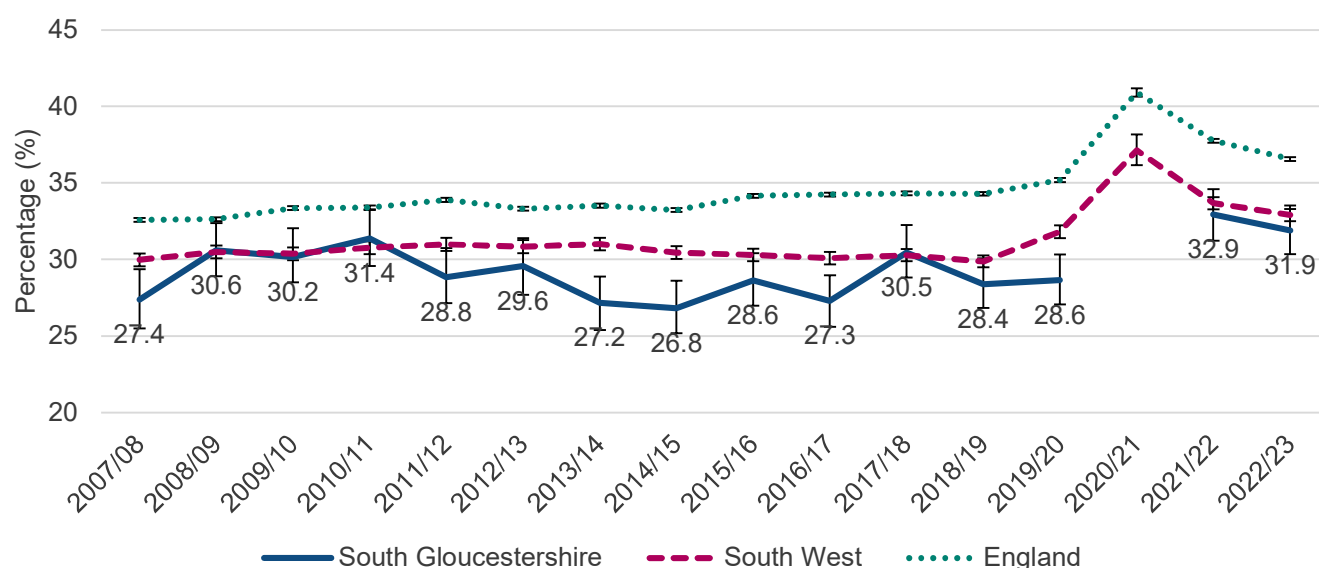
The percentage of Reception children (aged 4-5) classified as overweight or obese was 16.0% in 2022/23. This is statistically lower than the South West region and England proportion. There has been a 3.9 percentage point decrease from 2021/22 to 2022/22 and this is the smallest proportion of reception children classified as overweight or obese since 2007/08.

The percentage Year 6 children (aged 10-11) classified as overweight or obese was 31.9% in 2022/23. This is statistically similar to the South West region, but lower than the England value. From 2007/08 to 2019/20, the proportion of Year 6 children classified as overweight or obese remained similar over time. However, there was a 4.3 percentage point increase from 2019/20 to 2021/22 and the proportion has remained high in 2022/23.

Reception prevalence of overweight (including obesity) (4-5 years), South Gloucestershire, South West, and England, 2007/08 to 2022/23



Year 6 prevalence of overweight (including obesity) (10-11 years), South Gloucestershire, South West, and England, 2007/08 to 2022/23

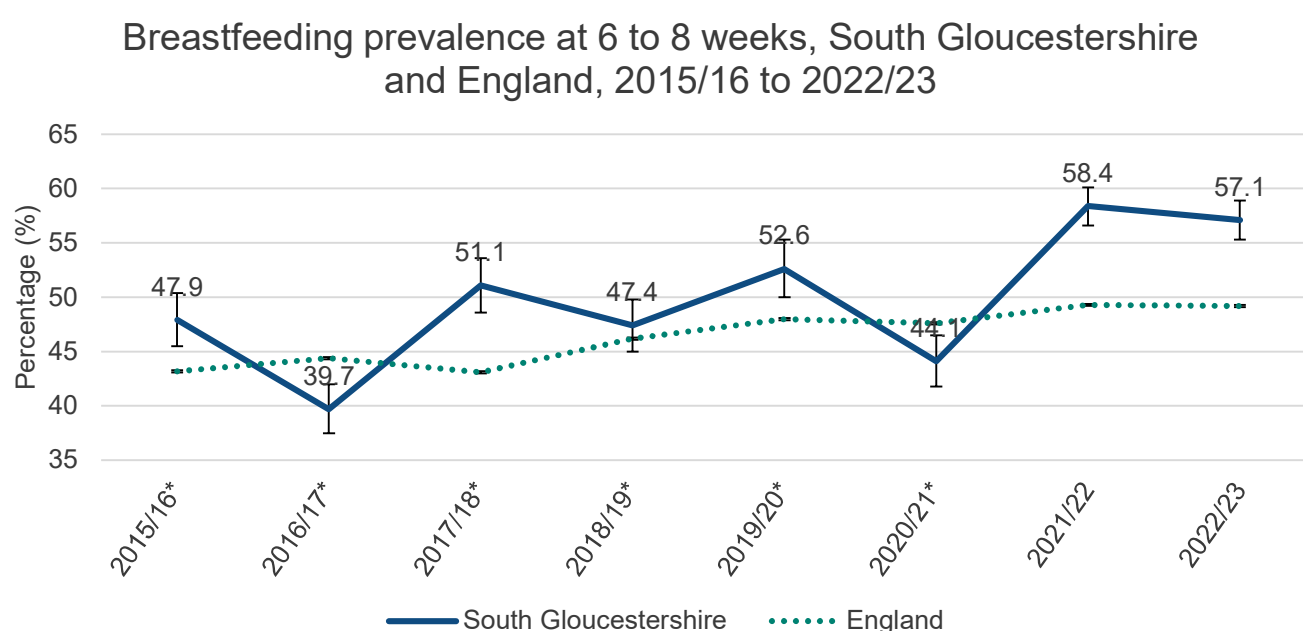


Data source: Office for Health Improvement & Disparities. Public Health Profiles. 10/07/2024
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Breastfeeding prevalence at 6-8 weeks

Increases in breastfeeding are expected to reduce illness in young children, have health benefits for the infant and the mother. Breast milk provides the ideal nutrition for infants in the first stages of life. There is evidence that babies who are breast fed experience lower levels of gastro-intestinal and respiratory infection. Observational studies have shown that breastfeeding is associated with lower levels of child obesity. Mothers who do not breastfeed have an increased risk of breast and ovarian cancers and may find it more difficult to return to their pre-pregnancy weight. Current national and international guidance recommends exclusive breastfeeding for newborns and for the first six months of infancy.

Breastfeeding prevalence at 6 to 8 weeks in South Gloucestershire was 57.1% in 2022/23. The overall trend since 2015/16 shows a statistical increase in breastfeeding at 6 to 8 weeks. The percentage for 2022/23 remains above the England value. Values for the South West region is not available due to data quality reasons.



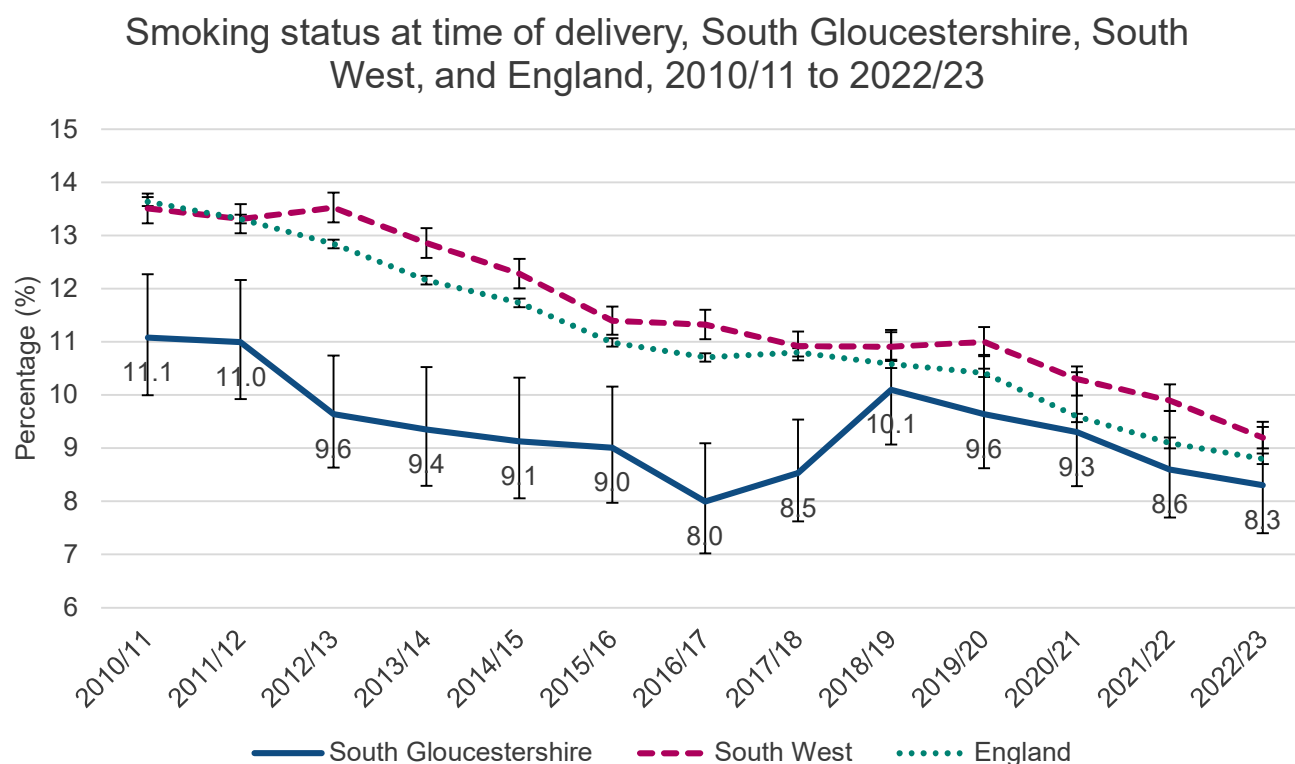
* Data for the years indicated were removed from OHID Fingertips due to data quality reasons. The data shown is from previous QoL report publications.

Data source: Office for Health Improvement & Disparities. Public Health Profiles. 10/07/2024
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Smoking status of mothers at time of delivery

Smoking during pregnancy can cause serious pregnancy-related health problems. These include complications during labour and an increased risk of miscarriage, premature birth, stillbirth, low birth-weight and sudden unexpected death in infancy. This indicator only includes maternities where smoking status is known.

The percentage of women known to be smokers at time of delivery was 8.3% in 2022/23. This is statistically similar to the South West region and England value. Since 2010/11, the overall trend has statistically decreased in South Gloucestershire similar to regional and national trends.



Data source: Office for Health Improvement & Disparities. Public Health Profiles. 10/07/2024
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The number of people receiving self-directed support

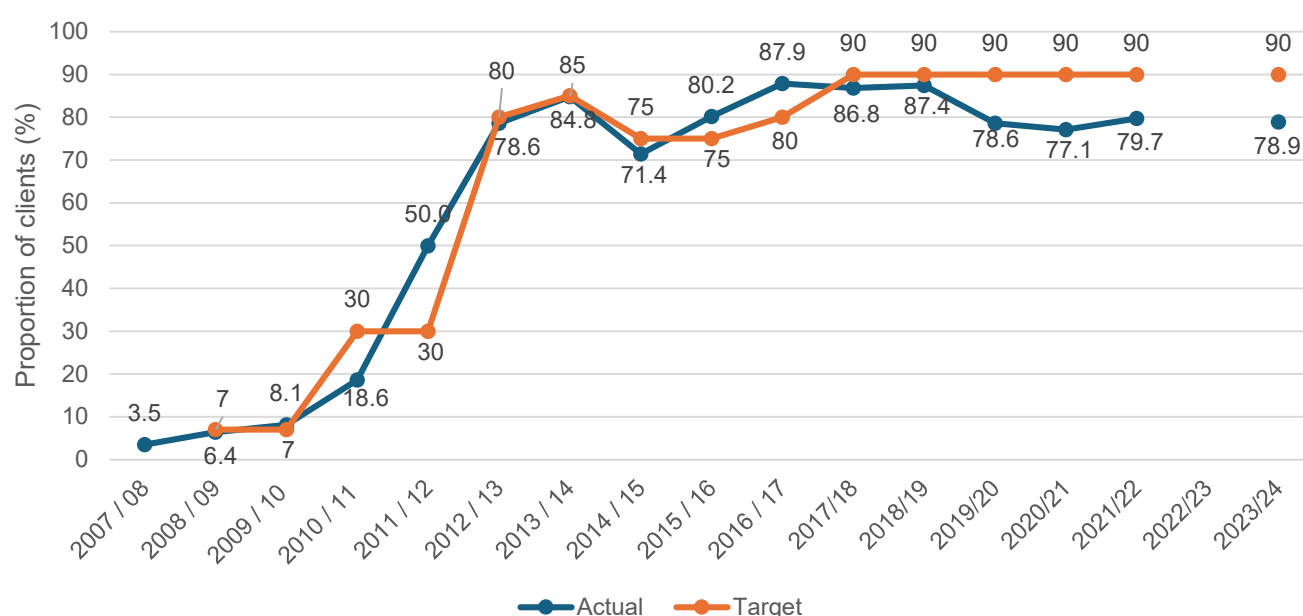
In 2023/24, the proportion of clients in South Gloucestershire receiving self-directed support was 78.9%.

Self-directed support is defined as when a person has their care and support needs and outcomes assessed by a social care worker, and the individual takes responsibility for choosing their support services.

Self-directed support offers an increased level of choice and control for people who receive adult social care (ASC). The market environment within which ASC is currently operating has an impact on the ability to offer self-directed support. This has now started to improve following work with our social care providers.

Please note, data is missing for the year 2022/23.

Proportion of clients receiving self-directed support



Source: South Gloucestershire Council; Children, adults, and health

Please note that the percentage of people receiving Self Directed Support includes eligible service users in Extra Care Housing.