

# Cardiff Today Report



This document is available in Welsh / Mae'r ddogfen hon ar gael yn Gymraeg



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## What is the Cardiff Today Report?

Every 5 years, [Cardiff's Public Services Board \(PSB\)](#) has a duty, under the Well-being of Future Generations Act (Wales) 2015, to publish a revised Well-being Plan to improve the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of its area. The next plan is to be published in May 2023.

As a basis for developing the revised plan, the PSB is required to carry out a local well-being assessment to identify where the city is performing well, where it needs to improve and its key challenges.

Cardiff's local well-being assessment is brought together in this report under the following themes and by PSB well-being objective (WBO):

- Demography
- Health and Well-being
- WBO 1: Cardiff is a Great Place to Grow Up
- WBO 2: Cardiff is a Great Place to Grow Older
- WBO 3: Supporting People out of Poverty
- WBO 4: Safe, Confident and Empowered communities
- WBO 5: A Capital City that Works for Wales
- WBO 6: Cardiff Grows in a Resilient Way
- WBO 7: Modernising and Integrating our Public Services

As well as an analysis of key data sets, trends over time and performance relative to other areas, such as Welsh Local Authorities and UK Core Cities, the assessment draws on an extensive body of data and literature, including a number of major reports as summarised at **Appendix A**.

Please refer to the [Background Report](#) for further information about the approach taken to the assessment and the evidence base that supports it, including a summary of the statutory reviews and assessments that are taken into account.



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# Demography

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## Overview

In 2020, there were 369,202 people living in Cardiff; the population has grown significantly over the past 25 years, with an increase of 68,438 residents since 1995. Whilst population growth is a clear sign of success, it has increased pressure on the city's physical and social infrastructure including the city's transport system, and the city's green infrastructure. It has also increased demand on public services, particularly to meet the need for more health provision and housing allocation.

In particular, the environmental impacts of population growth in the context of the climate and nature emergencies is a major long-term challenge for the city. More people will mean more houses will need to be built, more journeys made, more energy used, and more waste created. It is crucial that this is managed in a resilient and low-carbon way. Cardiff will also need to adapt to help mitigate the potential climate change impacts that are wide ranging and include: greater risk and frequency of flooding and more frequent heatwaves; declines in ecosystem resilience; species decline and increased prevalence of pests and disease, impacting on food security and access to healthy food at a national and global scale.

Population growth in Cardiff has been driven by both natural change - the difference between births and deaths - and net migration levels, the difference between inward and outward migration. However, since 2013, the number of births per year has declined for Cardiff, matching a Wales-wide trend. Public services have had to consider this decline, particularly in the context of changes to priorities/ investment schemes, such as schools.

Overall, population projections indicate a slowdown in growth over the next 25 years (2018-2043). However, there is still a

projected increase of 24,642 residents. Nonetheless, projected growth is not even – population projections show growth in those aged 65+, but a decline in the 0-15 age group. The 16-64 age category is projected to see an increase in numbers but will account for a smaller percentage of the total population.

Cardiff currently has a high proportion of young adults (18-35) contributing to its population, which reflects, in part, the number of students in Cardiff. Work will be needed to ensure that the city remains an attractive place to live and work for young people. Furthermore, a declining school-aged population will demand a review of school places/ catchment areas. The continued growth in the city's older population will result in greater need, and consequently greater demand for health and care services. Pressures on service provision will have to be addressed by all partners, whether in terms of adapting existing services to be more flexible or by delivering increased and better infrastructure and facilities.

Cardiff has seen positive total net migration for a number of years, driven by high levels of net international migration. Cardiff has a significantly higher proportion of residents born outside of the United Kingdom than the Wales-wide proportion. It is a diverse city, where over 100 languages are spoken and 15.3 % of the population belongs to an ethnic minority group, which is significantly above the Wales-wide proportion.

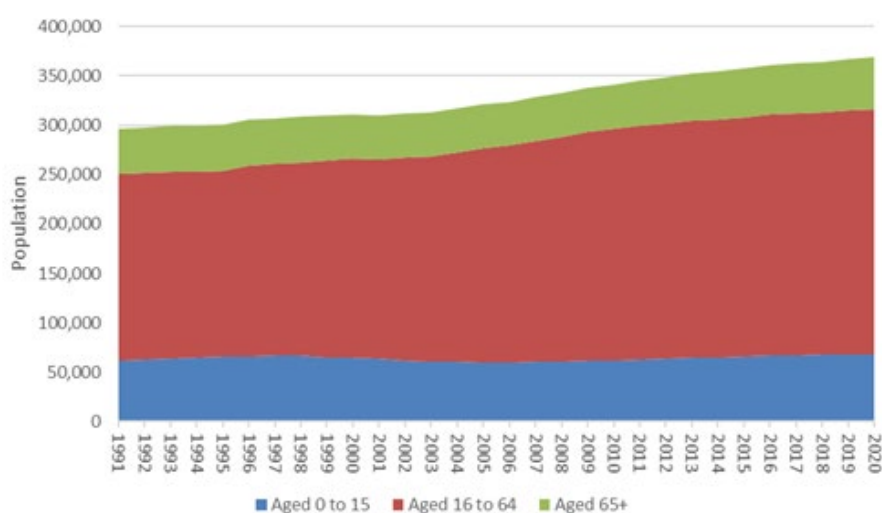
Furthermore, the number of total Welsh speakers in Cardiff aged 3 and above has increased significantly in recent years, largely driven by the migration of Welsh speakers from other regions in Wales and the expansion of Welsh language education provision. However, the number of adults reporting as 'Welsh speaking' is only improving marginally.

## Current Population Structure

In 2020, there were 369,202 people living in Cardiff. Population change in recent years has been driven by the 16-64 age group, who make up 67.3 % of the population. Cardiff's population aged 0-15 is 18.4 % of the total population and 14.3 % are aged 65+.

Cardiff's older population is currently more concentrated in the North, with high numbers in Rhiwbina, Llanishen, and Whitchurch and Tongwynlais. The Cardiff North locality<sup>1</sup> has both the highest percentage and number of people aged 65+, at 20 % (32,128 people). Young people (aged 0-25), however, are more concentrated in and around the city centre, with particularly high numbers of young people living in Cathays (16,721), which can be attributed to the large student population.

**Population of Cardiff by Age Group, 1991-2020 (Mid-Year Estimates)**



Source: Mid-Year Population Estimates, Office for National Statistics

<sup>1</sup> Comprising the Creigiau/St. Fagans, Cyncoed, Fairwater, Heath, Lisvane, Llandaff, Llandaff North, Llanishen, Pentwyn, Pentyrch, Penylan, Pontprennau/Old St. Mellons, Radyr, Rhiwbina, Whitchurch and Tongwynlais wards

## Anticipated Population Change

2018-based population projections project a slowdown in population growth. However, there is still a projected increase of 24,642 residents. Population projections for Cardiff indicate a growth in those aged 65+, increasing from 14.1% of the total population in 2018 to 17.6% in 2043, although this continues to be below the comparative figure for Wales. However, Cardiff will see faster growth in the number aged 65+ (33.2% increase) by 2043 than Wales (30.6%).

Proportionally, both the 0-15 and 16-64 age categories are projected to decrease their share of the total population by 1.7 and 1.8 percentage points respectively and in absolute terms the number of those aged 0-15 is projected to decline by 2,045.

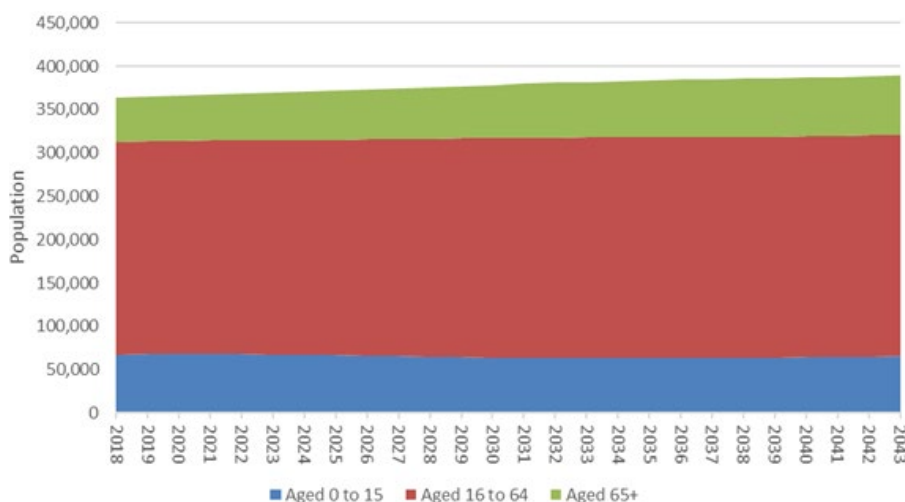
A new Local Development Plan (LDP) is currently being prepared for Cardiff, to ensure that the city's continued growth is met with new homes and jobs. Ensuring that new homes are high-quality, sustainable and energy efficient, whilst jobs align with the green economy, is crucial moving forward. A consultation has taken place on 3 growth scenarios:

**Option A (Baseline):** About 19,000 new homes in total (residual requirement for an additional 2,140 new homes); about 30,000 new jobs in total.

**Option B:** About 24,000 new homes in total (residual requirement for an additional 7,640 new homes); about 32,300 new jobs in total.

**Option C:** About 30,500 new homes in total (residual requirement for an additional 14,790 new homes); about 43,000 new jobs in total.

**Population of Cardiff by Age Group, 2018-2043 (2018-based Projections)**



Source: 2018-based Population Projections, Welsh Government

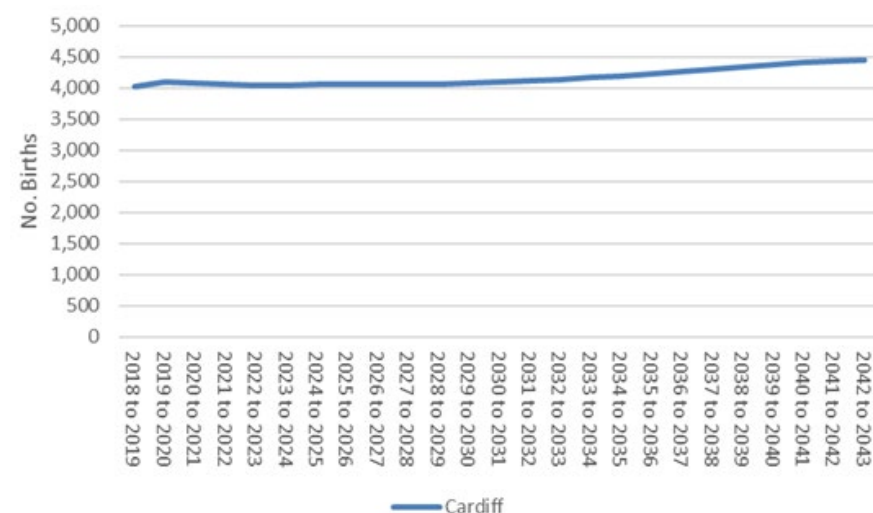
## Drivers of Population Change

### Births

Since 2013, the number of births per year has declined for Cardiff, matching the situation across Wales. The general fertility rate in Cardiff has also declined by just over 12 percentage points since 2013 and is currently 7 percentage points below the Welsh average.

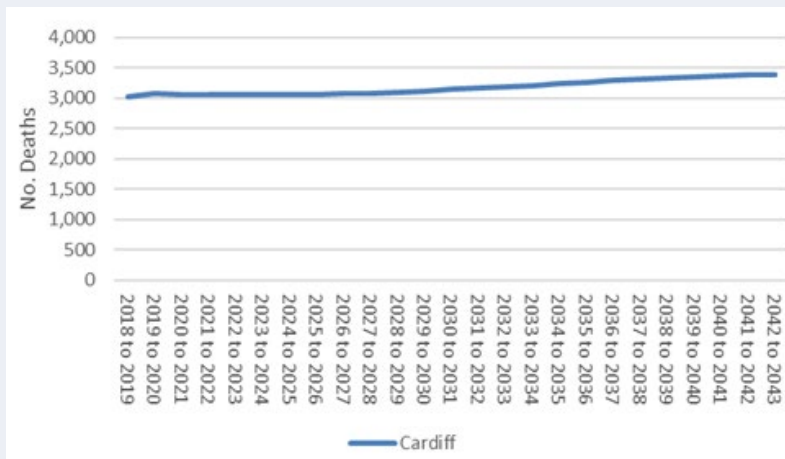
It is projected that in Cardiff, there will be a slight increase of approximately 10% in terms of the number of births per year in the area by 2043, with incremental increases each year. This compares with a Wales-wide increase of approximately 5% across the same period.

**Components of Population Change: Births During Period – 2018-based Projections**



Source: 2018-based Population Projections Components of Change, Welsh Government

## Components of Population Change: Deaths during Period – 2018-based Projections



## Deaths

Since 2013, Cardiff has seen an increase in the number of deaths per year and they are projected to continue to follow an upward trend between 2018 and 2043, although the rate of growth is lower than for Wales as a whole. In terms of age-standardised mortality rate, Cardiff is just below the Wales-wide average.

Source: 2018-based Population Projections Components of Change, Welsh Government

## Migration

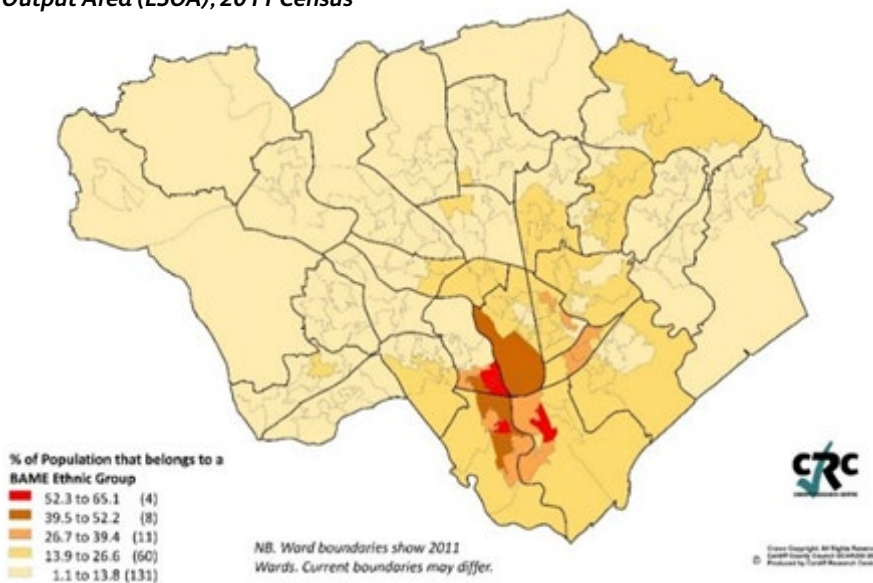
Cardiff has seen positive total net migration for a number of years, driven by high levels of net international migration. This has offset a net outflow of people in terms of internal migration over much of the last 20 years.

Cardiff is projected to have marginal positive net migration for the next 15 years, followed by 10 years of negative net migration. Consistent levels of net overseas migration will be offset by outflows of people through negative net UK migration.

Brexit, in particular, is likely to have an impact on migration, due to changes to the immigration system, as well as European Economic Area (EEA) nationals choosing to leave the UK.



## Percentage of Total Population that Belongs to a minority Ethnic Group by Lower Super Output Area (LSOA), 2011 Census



Source: 2011 Census

## Ethnicity

Cardiff is a very diverse and inclusive city. According to the 2011 Census, 15.3% of Cardiff's population belong to an ethnic minority group, this is above the Wales-wide proportion. This percentage is higher when considering the city's young population: 22.4% of those aged 0-19 identify as belonging to an ethnic minority group in Cardiff. Time series estimates show that the percentage of people in Cardiff who are from an ethnic minority background has been relatively stable between 2012 and 2021, although the figure has continued to be well above the Welsh average.

A high percentage of people who identify themselves as belonging to an ethnic minority group live in inner city wards.



## Language

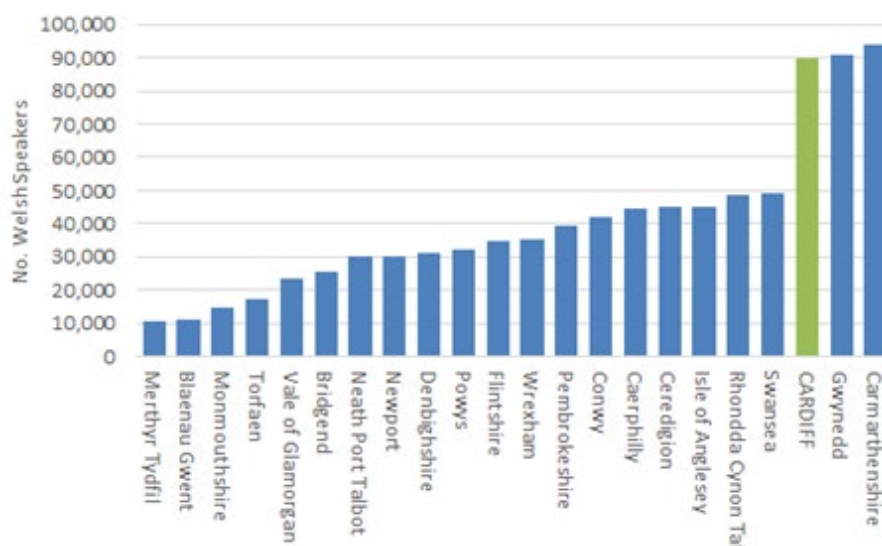
In Cardiff, over 100 languages are spoken. 91.7% of residents' main language is English or Welsh, comfortably the lowest proportion in Wales.

In 2020/21, there was a total of 89,600 Welsh speakers (aged 3 or over) in Cardiff, representing 24.8% of the 3+ population. This figure has increased by 32,500 speakers, or roughly 57%, since June 2015; the total percentage of Welsh speakers in Cardiff has risen by 8.0 percentage points over the same period.

As in 2015, Cardiff remains third in Wales for total Welsh speakers, behind Gwynedd and Carmarthenshire, but this gap has been narrowed considerably and Cardiff could surpass both in the coming years.

The Welsh language forms an important part of cultural well-being in Wales. It is recognised that Welsh language is not simply a means of communication – it is an intrinsic part of who we are as a nation, our culture and our way of life. The city's vision is to make Cardiff a truly bilingual capital of Wales, as well as to double the number of Welsh speakers in Cardiff by 2050.

**Number of People (Aged 3+) that Can Speak Welsh, Year Ending 30 June 2021 (Welsh Local Authorities)**



Source: Annual Population Survey, StatsWales





## SUMMARY OF KEY ISSUES

- **Continued, but slowing population growth:** Cardiff has grown significantly over the last 25 years. Although, population projections indicate a slowdown in growth over the next 25 years (2018-2043), there is still a projected increase of 24,642 residents, with those aged 65+ seeing the highest growth rate. The continued growth in the city's older population will result in greater need and consequently greater demand for health and care services.

The 16-64 age category is also projected to see an increase in numbers but will account for a smaller percentage of total population. Work will be needed to ensure that the city remains an attractive place to both live and work. Furthermore, there is projected to be a decline in the 0-15 age group, which will have implications for long term planning of the city's school system and other public services for children and young people.
- **Making provision for new homes and jobs:** Continued growth in the city's populations means that there is a need to make provision for new homes and jobs. Ensuring that new homes are high-quality, sustainable and energy-efficient, and jobs align with the green economy, is fundamental moving forward. A new Local Development Plan (LDP) is currently being prepared for Cardiff, with a consultation taking place on 3 population growth scenarios. The options allow consideration of different levels of growth in jobs and homes:
  - **Option A (Baseline):** About 19,000 new homes in total (residual requirement for an additional 2,140 new homes); about 30,000 new jobs in total.
  - **Option B:** About 24,000 new homes in total (residual requirement for an additional 7,640 new homes); about 32,300 new jobs in total.
  - **Option C:** About 30,500 new homes in total (residual requirement for an additional 14,790 new homes); about 43,000 new jobs in total.
- **Managing the environmental impacts of population growth:** The environmental impacts of population growth and of climate change is a major long-term challenge for the city. Cardiff will need to adapt to help mitigate the potential impacts that are wide ranging and include: greater risk and frequency of flooding and more frequent heatwaves; declines in ecosystem resilience; species decline and increased prevalence of pests and disease, impacting on food security and access to healthy food at a national and global scale.
- **An uncertain picture on international migration:** Cardiff has seen positive total net migration for a number of years, driven by high levels of net international migration, which offsets a net outflow of people in terms of internal migration. The future international migration picture is uncertain, given the recent changes to the immigration system and the impact of Covid-19.
- **Age profile across the city:** Cardiff's older population is currently more concentrated in the North of the city; the Cardiff North locality has both the highest percentage and number of people aged 65+, at 20% (32,128 people). Young people (aged 0-25), however, are more concentrated in and around the city centre, with particularly high numbers of young people living in Cathays (16,721), which can be contributed to the large student population.
- **An increasingly diverse population:** 15.3% of Cardiff's population belong to an ethnic minority group. This is much higher than the Welsh average of 4.4%, and by far the highest of the Welsh local authorities. There is also increasing diversity in the city's young population: in Cardiff, 22.4% of those aged 0-19 identify as belonging to an ethnic minority group.

A high percentage of people who identify themselves as belonging to an ethnic minority group live in inner city wards.
- **Increasing numbers of Welsh speakers:** The Welsh language forms an important part of cultural well-being in Wales. The number of total Welsh speakers in Cardiff aged 3 and above has increased significantly in recent years, largely driven by the migration of Welsh speakers from other regions in Wales and the expansion of Welsh language education provision. It is expected that Cardiff could move from third to first in Wales in total Welsh speakers in the coming years.

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# Health and Well-being

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## Overview

Levels of general health in Cardiff are high; for males, life expectancy, as well as the proportion of life spent in good health, has increased over time and moved above the Welsh average. For females, life expectancy has fluctuated over time but has been increasing since 2015-17. The proportion of life spent in good health is also steadily increasing and is now similar to the Welsh average. However, Cardiff has clear health inequalities across the city, with wards in the 'Southern Arc' - an area stretching from Ely in the West to St Mellons in the East with a population of almost 160,000 people - most deprived in terms of health.

In terms of healthy lifestyles, Cardiff compares well with other Welsh Local Authorities across a range of indicators, performing above the Welsh average. However, two thirds of adults are not eating five portions of fruit and vegetables a day; almost a third are active less than 30 minutes a week; 4 in 10 are not active for 150 minutes per week; and over half of the adult population is reported as being overweight or obese. Lifestyle significantly contributes to the likelihood of living with chronic conditions later in life.

The quality of the air we breathe also directly affects our health. A number of different air pollutants can cause problems, but two in particular – particulate matter (PM) and nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) – are of concern. Air pollution is a major cause of avoidable ill health and deaths, with petrol and diesel-fuelled transport a major contributor in Cardiff. Furthermore, there is an association between higher NO<sub>2</sub>

levels and deprivation, with more deprived areas having higher levels of the pollutant. People in more deprived areas are also more likely to have chronic conditions (such as lung disease), which makes them more susceptible to pollution. Respiratory disease is a leading contributor to inequality in life expectancy based on deprivation in Wales.

It is also pertinent to note that, whilst the full impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the general health of Cardiff's population remains to be captured and completely understood, it is expected that long-term conditions will have worsened for many people over the course of the pandemic. There are concerns about the impact of delayed diagnoses, due to limited seeking/ availability of 'non-essential' health services, and the knock-on effects as NHS services are resumed, as well as the potential long-term mental health impacts, such as post-traumatic stress disorder, depression, and anxiety. This is in the context of the ongoing risk of infection and consequences of those infections, such as long Covid.

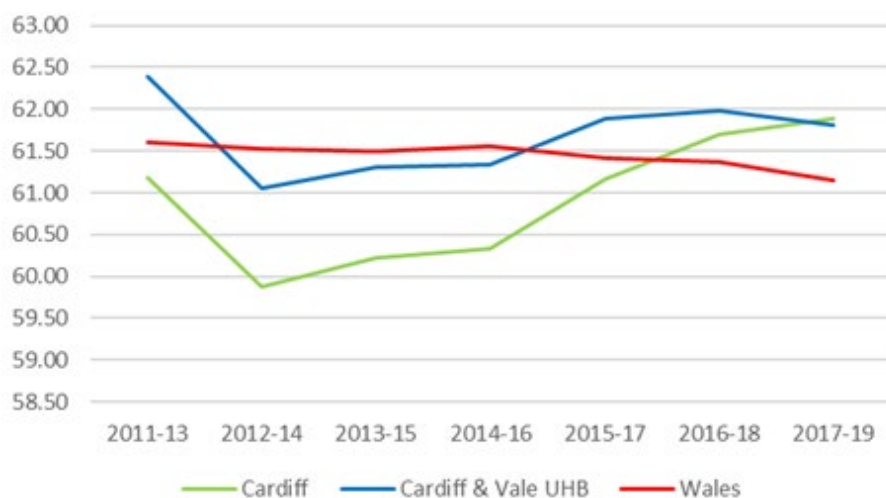
The pandemic has also exposed how existing inequalities, such as deprivation, access to green space and outdoor play, low income, and poor housing are associated with an increased risk of becoming ill with the disease. The long-term health and well-being consequences of the Covid-19 economic crisis are also likely to be unequally distributed based on these factors, exacerbating health inequalities particularly for individuals from poorer and disadvantaged backgrounds, ethnic minority groups and deprived communities.

## Healthy Life Expectancy at Birth

### Males

Cardiff's healthy life expectancy (HLE) at birth for males has increased over time and is currently the third highest of the UK's 'Core Cities' and Edinburgh. As a percentage of total life expectancy, HLE for males is the second highest out of the 'Core Cities' and Edinburgh but is just above the Wales average and below the UK average.

**Males – Healthy Life Expectancy at Birth**



Source: Office of National Statistics

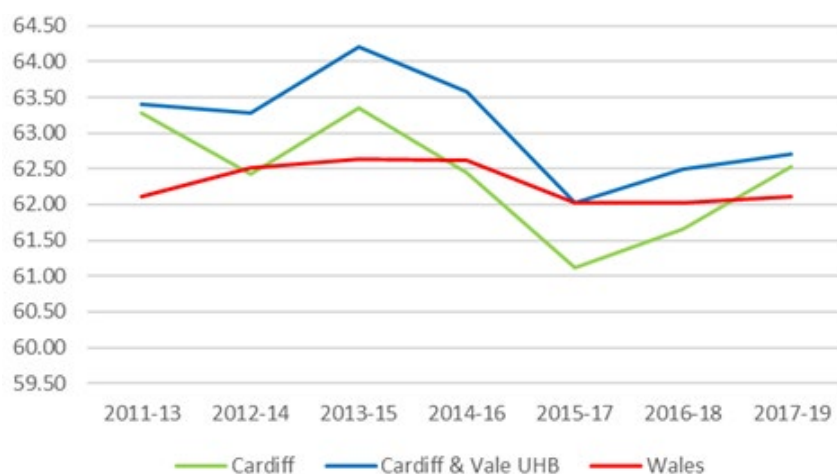


## Females

For females, life expectancy at birth has fallen overall from the 2011-13 position but has been steadily increasing from a 2015-17 low.

Cardiff's position is just above the Wales-wide average but below the Wales-wide average as a percentage of total life expectancy. Cardiff is also third highest of the UK's 'Core Cities' and Edinburgh, but mid-ranking in comparison to other Welsh Local Authorities.

### Females – Healthy Life Expectancy at Birth



Source: Office of National Statistics

## Proportion of Life Spent in Good Health

For males, the proportion of life spent in good health has increased over time and moved above the Welsh average. For females, the proportion of life spent in good health has become similar to the Welsh average (75.3%), having been below the Welsh average since 2014.

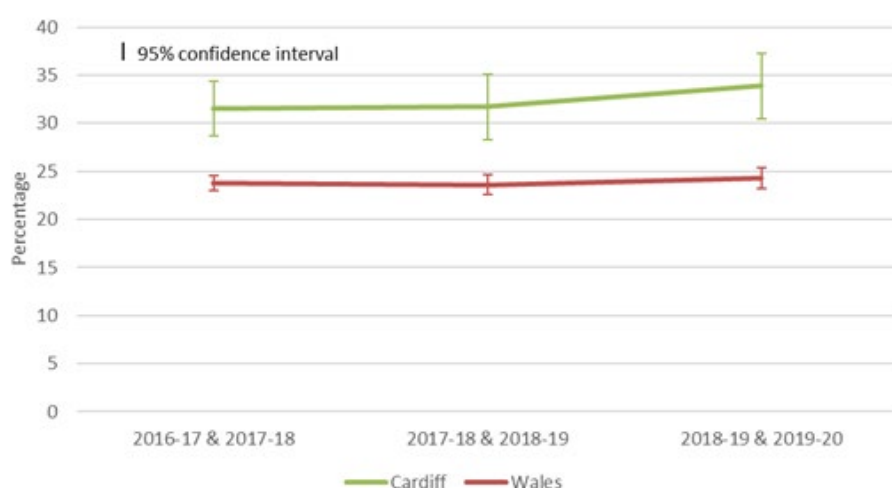
However, Cardiff has clear health inequalities across the city, with wards in the 'Southern Arc' most deprived in terms of health.

## Healthy Lifestyles

### Healthy Eating

In terms of adults eating 5 or more portions of fruit and vegetables a day, Cardiff is the top performing Welsh Local Authority. However, two thirds of adults are not eating five portions a day.

**Percentage of Adults Eating 5 or More Portions of Fruit and Vegetables a Day, 2016-17 and 2017-18 to 2018-19 and 2019-20 (Age-Standardised)**



Source: National Survey for Wales

### Physical Activity

Cardiff is in the top quartile for levels of physical activity in Wales. However, 29% are active less than 30 minutes a week.

Across Wales, Cardiff has the second highest proportion of people participating in sporting activities three times a week (37.8%). Cardiff has matched the trend across Wales and in recent years has seen an increase in the proportion of people participating in sporting activities three times a week.

Cardiff is also above Wales-wide average in the number of people reporting being active for 150 minutes per week (56.9%). However, this means that 4 in 10 people are not active for 150 minutes per week.



## Healthy Weight

46.2% of working adults (aged 16 to 64) in Cardiff are of a healthy weight. This is above the Welsh average of 38% and the highest percentage amongst Welsh Local Authorities.

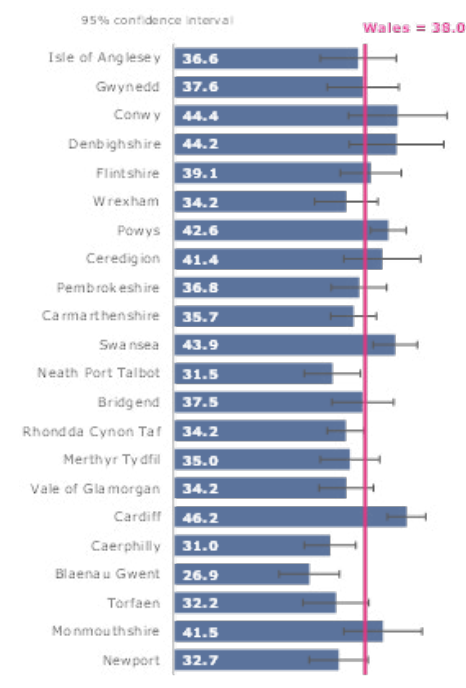
Cardiff has the third lowest percentage of adults that are obese compared to Welsh Local Authorities and has consistently been well below the Welsh average since 2017/18. However, the percentage of obese adults living in the most deprived areas of Cardiff is almost double the percentage living in the least deprived.

Within Cardiff and the Vale, the Move More, Eat Well Partnership Plan developed by Cardiff Public Services Board (PSB), the Vale of Glamorgan PSB and the Regional Partnership Board (RPB) (Cardiff and the Vale) provides a regional response to how we can encourage people to be more active and to have a healthier diet.

Across Cardiff and the Vale, there are well-established and innovative delivery mechanisms in place through the work of Food Cardiff, Food Vale, Sport Cardiff and the Vale Healthy Living Team.



## Working Age Adults of a Healthy Weight, Percentage, Persons aged 16 to 64, Wales Local Authorities, 2017/18-2019/20



Source: Public Health Wales Observatory, using NSW (WG)

## Substance misuse

Substance misuse refers to the use of substances in a way that is harmful or hazardous to health and mental well-being, including alcohol and illicit drugs. Substance misuse not only impacts on individual lives but on families, including children and young people and is a cause

and consequence of homelessness. Furthermore, people living in deprivation are more likely to suffer from impacts of substance misuse. In Wales, the proportion of all patients admitted for alcohol-specific conditions living in the most deprived areas was 2.7 times higher than those from the least deprived areas in 2019. In relation to illicit drug use, this figure

rose to 5.2 times higher in deprived communities in Wales. As detailed in the [Cardiff and Vale Population Needs Assessment 2022](#), significant innovative work and engagement is underway, focused on reducing the harm from substance misuse, to avoid stigmatisation and maximise engagement with support services.

## Alcohol Use

Cardiff is above the Welsh average in the number of adults drinking more than 14 units of alcohol per week. Evidence suggests that a higher proportion of adults in the least deprived areas of the city, and around the city centre consume above the recommended alcohol guidelines. Cardiff also has the highest number of individuals assessed for alcohol misuse (692) in Wales. This figure has declined by over 10% between 2014 and 2018.

## Drug misuse

Cardiff has the highest number of individuals assessed for drug misuse (603) in Wales. However, in terms of drug misuse deaths, at a regional level, Cardiff and Vale's position has improved compared to the 7 Health Boards in Wales. In 2019, Cardiff and Vale had the second lowest rate of drug misuse deaths and was below the rate for Wales.

Cardiff is mid-ranked amongst Welsh Local Authorities for the percentage of individuals accessing substance misuse services who report an improvement in their quality of life. Since 2016/17, there has been a slight increase from 81% to 83% in 2020/21.

## Impact of Covid-19

A public engagement survey informing [Cardiff and Vale's Population Needs Assessment 2022](#) found that since March 2020, almost one in four of 508 respondents felt their alcohol intake has increased, whilst one in six felt it had decreased. Despite pubs, clubs and restaurants closing for approximately 31 weeks during the national lockdowns, the total amount of alcohol released for sale during the pandemic was similar to pre-pandemic years, suggesting people were drinking more at home (325). It can also be assumed that there will have been a reduction in detection of substance misuse due to the disruption to face to face public services including health and social care.

## Key Areas of Need

To reduce harm from substance misuse, key areas of need identified in Cardiff and Vale's Population Needs Assessment 2022, include provision of mental health support on diagnosis, building on closer working between homelessness services and substance misuse services that was accelerated rapidly during Covid-19 and the link between substance misuse and children and young people being placed into care. In March 2018, substance misuse was identified as a parental factor amongst 36 % of Children Looked After in Wales.

## Smoking

Cardiff has the second lowest level of smoking (14 %) across Welsh Local Authorities, behind Gwynedd. Across Cardiff's GP Clusters, smoking is most prevalent in City & Cardiff South and Cardiff South East and least prevalent in Cardiff West and Cardiff North.



## Healthy and Sustainable Food

Access to high-quality, nutritious food is a prerequisite for a healthy lifestyle. To meet the demand for food in 2050, it is estimated that global agricultural production will need to increase by 50 per cent from 2012 levels. The global food system is responsible for between 21 and 37 per cent of greenhouse gas emissions. Based on current methods

of food production, processing, storage, transport, and packaging, these emissions are expected to increase to between 30 and 40 per cent by 2050 alongside the potential additional ecological degradation they currently entail.

Increased levels of CO2 threaten to lower the nutritional value of available food, with certain crops being shown to produce lower levels of zinc, iron,

protein and multiple vitamins when grown within high CO2 environments. This will contribute to an estimated 138 million people at risk of new zinc deficiency by 2050. Action is needed to develop, resilient and sustainable food systems that deliver food security and protect health whilst minimising green gas house emissions.

## Air Quality

Air pollution is a major cause of avoidable ill health and deaths, with petrol and diesel-fuelled transport a major contributor. Poor air quality also adversely affects the natural environment and biodiversity due to levels of Particulate Matter.

For the Cardiff and Vale University Health Board area, the number of equivalent deaths due to long-term air pollution are estimated to be in the range of 178-227 per year. According to Public Health Wales (2017), polluted air reduces average life expectancy across the UK by 7-8 months.

No levels of air pollution are 'safe'. Whilst poor air quality affects us all, some people are more vulnerable. The people who suffer most from poor air quality are often the very

young, the very old and those already suffering with ill health. Across Wales, there is an association between air pollution and deprivation, with more deprived areas having higher levels of pollutant. People living in more deprived areas are more likely to have chronic conditions, such as lung disease, which make them more susceptible to pollution. Households in more deprived areas are also less likely to own vehicles, thus contributing proportionately less to air pollution.

Cardiff has the highest NO2 and Particulate Matter (PM2.5 and PM10) pollution levels in Wales.

There are currently 4 Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs) declared across Cardiff, which were all declared due to exceedances of the annual mean NO2 Air Quality Standard (40 µg/m3), known to be derived from road transport.

## Mental Well-being

Mental health problems account for the majority of all health problems. They can have a significant impact on individuals, society, and the economy overall and can start early in life.

Adult mental well-being in Cardiff compares well to other Welsh Local Authorities (Cardiff ranks third) and has improved since 2016/17 by a greater margin than the Wales-wide average increase.

It is pertinent to note, however that the pandemic has had a significant negative impact in Wales on mental health and well-being, with loneliness, isolation and parental stress contributing. A response to the Ask Cardiff 2020 survey highlights this, with the individual noting, "I miss human contact."



## SUMMARY OF KEY ISSUES

- **Levels of general health in Cardiff are high:** For males, life expectancy, as well as the proportion of life spent in good health, has increased over time and moved above the Welsh average. For females, life expectancy has fluctuated over time but has been increasing since 2015-17. The proportion of life spent in good health is also steadily increasing and is now similar to the Welsh average.
- **However, there are clear inequalities across the city:** Wards in the 'Southern Arc' are most deprived in terms of health. There is ample evidence that social factors, including education, employment status, income level, gender and ethnicity have a marked influence on how healthy a person is.
- **Cardiff's residents, in general, have leading healthy lifestyles but issues remain:** Cardiff compares well with other Welsh Local Authorities across a range of healthy lifestyle indicators, performing above the Welsh average. However:
  - Two thirds of adults are not eating five portions of fruit and vegetables a day
  - Almost a third are active less than 30 minutes a week
  - 4 in 10 people are not active for 150 minutes per week
  - Over half of the adult population in Cardiff reported being overweight or obese.
- **Alcohol consumption:** Cardiff is above the Welsh average in terms of the number of adults drinking more than 14 units of alcohol per week. Evidence suggests that a higher proportion of adults in the least deprived areas of the city, and around the city centre, consume above the recommended alcohol guidelines.
- **Air quality:** Cardiff has the highest NO<sub>2</sub> and Particulate Matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub>) pollution levels in Wales. Air pollution is a major cause of avoidable ill health and deaths, with petrol and diesel-fuelled transport a major contributor. Poor air quality also adversely affects the natural environment and biodiversity due to levels of Particulate Matter.

Whilst poor air quality affects us all, some people are more vulnerable. The people who suffer most from poor air quality are often the very young, the very old and those already suffering with ill health. There is also an association between higher levels of air pollution and deprivation.
- **Health and Well-being of Children and Young People:** The health and well-being of Cardiff's children and young people is discussed in the chapter: Cardiff is a Great Place to Grow Up. In summary, general levels of Children's Health in Cardiff are high, however, over a fifth of children (aged 4 or 5) are overweight or obese; almost half of Flying Start children do not reach developmental milestones aged 3; and uptake of childhood vaccinations is below target across the majority of scheduled immunisations. Mental well-being in children (aged 11-16) is similar across Welsh Local Authorities, but the pandemic has led to a significant rise in children and young people presenting with emotional and mental health issues.
- **Health and Well-being of Older People:** The health and well-being of Cardiff's older people is discussed in the chapter: Cardiff is a Great Place to Grow Older. In summary, older people are more likely to have long term conditions and complex care needs, and have longer, more frequent stays in hospital. The number of people aged 65+ in Cardiff is anticipated to increase over the next 25 years, leading to: projected growth in the numbers of older people with complex care needs (including severe dementia); increases for demand for services based on frailty; and a need for additional older persons' accommodation.

## Impact of Covid-19:

- The Covid-19 pandemic has exposed how existing inequalities, such as deprivation, low income, and poor housing are associated with an increased risk of becoming ill with the disease.
  - As well as the obvious direct impacts, the pandemic has had substantial indirect impacts on health and social care services in Cardiff (in line with the rest of Wales), which has limited access to prevention, diagnosis, treatment, and rehabilitation, and has been compounded by disruption to hospital admissions, primary care and community services.
  - The long-term health and well-being consequences of the Covid-19 economic crisis are also likely to be similarly unequally distributed, exacerbating health inequalities for individuals from poorer and disadvantaged backgrounds, ethnic minority groups and deprived communities.
  - The latest Director of Public Health report focuses on tackling inequities and prioritising prevention. The report identifies 5 priorities areas for action in order to reduce health inequalities coming out of the pandemic:
1. **Childhood Immunisation:** The pandemic has impacted upon the timeliness of vaccination, particularly amongst pre-school aged children and children of secondary school age. There are some signs of recovery, but there is work to do to ensure that children receive their scheduled vaccinations at the appropriate time, as well as to increase vaccination uptake generally.
  2. **Child Mental Health:** The pandemic has had a significant negative impact in Wales on mental health and well-being, with loneliness, isolation and parental stress contributing. However, children and young people have been particularly affected, with the pandemic leading to increased demand and complexity for mental health services and crisis intervention for children and young people locally. Whilst referrals into specialist Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) took a dip as lockdown was introduced, once schools reopened in September 2020, referrals into the service increased by 108%.
  3. **Screening:** In March 2020, in order to support the response to Covid-19, many adult screening programmes were temporarily paused. All recommenced within 6 months, however, latest estimates at a Wales level suggest that programmes will take between 10-48 months to recover. Pre-pandemic, Cardiff and Vale UHB uptake/coverage for all adult population screening programmes was 'second lowest' compared to other Health Boards, apart from breast screening, for which it was ranked 'the lowest' compared to other Health Boards.
  4. **Physical Activity and Healthy Eating:** Whilst the impacts are still emerging, the pandemic is likely to have affected people's ability to eat well and be physically active. Emerging national and local survey data has highlighted those from disadvantaged communities as being most adversely affected, with physical activity levels being lower, fewer fruit and vegetables being consumed and the ability to afford food being affected.
  5. **Air Quality:** Lockdowns imposed during the Covid-19 pandemic reduced NO2 levels significantly as traffic volumes fell. This was associated with a decrease in car travel to work and shopping centres, and an increase in walking and cycling during these periods. It is currently unclear what medium and long-term travel patterns will look like as we move out of the pandemic.



Well-being Objective 1

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Cardiff is a great  
place to grow up

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## Overview

Cardiff is already a good place for many of its children and young people to grow up, with a fast-improving school system alongside the advantages that a capital city can bring such as a diverse and extensive range of leisure, sporting, and cultural opportunities. Cardiff also has a rich heritage of green infrastructure which allows children to connect with nature and play. Through the city's commitment to becoming a Child Friendly City, Cardiff is leading the way in ensuring that every child and young people have their voice heard and their needs taken into account, with a child's rights approach embedded not just into the school system, but across all aspects of public services and city life.

Education attainment has risen every year in Cardiff since 2012 and Cardiff schools now rank amongst the top performers in Wales. However, as is the case nationally, there is still a significant gap in educational outcomes between pupils from low-income families and those from more affluent backgrounds in Cardiff.

Although Cardiff is the commercial heart of the Welsh economy and contains many of the nation's most prosperous communities, a fifth of children aged under 16 are living in relative-low-income families. Growing up in poverty can have a detrimental impact on a child's future prospects and well-being; and a child's experiences at an early age, prior to entering school, can lead to delayed development in language, emotional and social skills and poor general health.

Health and well-being in the early years of childhood particularly impacts on long-term outcomes. Whilst levels of general health for children in Cardiff are good, children living in the most deprived communities are more likely to suffer poorer health outcomes today and demonstrate symptoms which point towards poor health in the future, such as obesity and low immunisation rates.

Like every local authority across the UK, Cardiff has experienced acute pressures within Children's Services that have been driven by a range of factors, not least the increasingly complex issues facing families, particularly in an urban environment.

Supporting young people into employment, further education or training is a key priority for the city. The cost of not addressing this issue is not just economic, but there are also effects on levels of unemployment, crime, health, and well-being. The number of Year 13 school leavers Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET) compares favourably to other Core Cities and is on a downward trajectory. The number of Year 11 school leavers NEET remains too high but is declining.

Furthermore, whilst the full impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on Cardiff's children remains to be fully captured and understood and whilst children and young people continue to be generally less clinically vulnerable to Covid-19 than the adult population, they have witnessed significant disruption as a result of the virus to their daily lives. Children and young people have particularly experienced substantial changes to education, with several extended periods of school closures and a switch to online learning, separation from friends and extended families, and a lack of access to recreation, sport, and leisure activities that they previously enjoyed.

## Population: Children and Young People

It is estimated that 67,995 younger people (aged 0-15) live in Cardiff, which is 18.4% of the population. Numbers of children and young people (aged 0-15) are more concentrated in Cardiff's outer southern wards, with particularly high numbers in Grangetown (4,410), Trowbridge (4,227) and Ely (4,156). Furthermore, there is increasing diversity in the city's young population, with 22.4% of those aged 0-19 identifying as belonging to an ethnic minority group.

Overall population projections predict a slowdown in growth over the next 25 years, with a decline in the 0-15 age category. The 16-64 age category is projected to see an increase in numbers but will account for a smaller percentage of the total population.

A projected peak in secondary school numbers is anticipated to provide localised sufficiency challenges, with short-to-medium-term challenges to meet Additional Learning Needs (ALN) provision needs.



## Childcare<sup>2</sup> and Nursery Sufficiency

In December 2021, Cardiff Council published its latest Childcare and Nursery Sufficiency Assessment in draft for consultation.

The initial findings of the draft Cardiff Childcare Sufficiency Assessment indicate that across Cardiff there is broadly sufficient childcare to meet the needs of parents so they can access work and/ or training. However, the data indicates that there is some unmet demand in some localities, in specific

childcare services and in specific types of childcare provision. It also recognises that further work needs to be carried out to promote the financial support that is available to help pay for childcare and ensure that more sectors and settings are fully aware of the Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (Wales) Act 2018 (ALNet) and their responsibilities. It raises concerns regarding recruitment and retention of qualified childcare staff across the city.

In terms of unmet demand, there are lower levels of childcare provision in Cardiff East compared to Cardiff overall.

There are also other pockets of potential unmet demand for specific services in four other Neighbourhood Planning Areas: Cardiff North, City and Cardiff South, Cardiff South West and Cardiff West.

The data also identifies that there is a potential unmet demand for Welsh medium childcare (morning sessions) in Cardiff North, full day care and Cylch Meithrin sessions in Cardiff West and after school care in City and Cardiff South, Cardiff South West and Cardiff West.

## Education - Cardiff's Schools

Cardiff maintains 127 schools:

- 3 Nursery schools
- 98 Primary schools
- 18 Secondary schools
- 7 Special schools
- 1 Pupil Referral Unit

As of April 2021, there were 56,943 pupils on roll in Cardiff maintained schools, an increase of 3,169 since January 2016.

Of these:

- 25.05 % were eligible for Free school meals (an increase from 19.28 % in 2016)
- 16.59 % had registered Special Educational Needs (SEN)
- 3.76 % were statemented (22.69 % of the SEN cohort)
- 23.2 % had English as an Additional Language
- 35.14 % were from an Ethnic Minority Group
- 164 first languages were recorded



<sup>2</sup> Childcare refers to childcare providers, such as childminders, full day-care, afterschool clubs, sessional day-care, and home childcare providers (nannies).



## Primary School

Primary school performance at Foundation Phase has significantly improved over recent years and the percentage of pupils aged 7 to 11 (Key Stage 2) achieving expected outcomes is now above the Wales average. In 2017, 89.4% of Key Stage 2 pupils achieved the expected L4+<sup>3</sup>, placing Cardiff 14th out of the 22 Welsh Local Authorities.

### Percentage of Key Stage 2 Pupils Achieving the Expected Level (L4+) in the Core Subject Indicator, 1999-2017



Source: Welsh Government

## Education Attainment

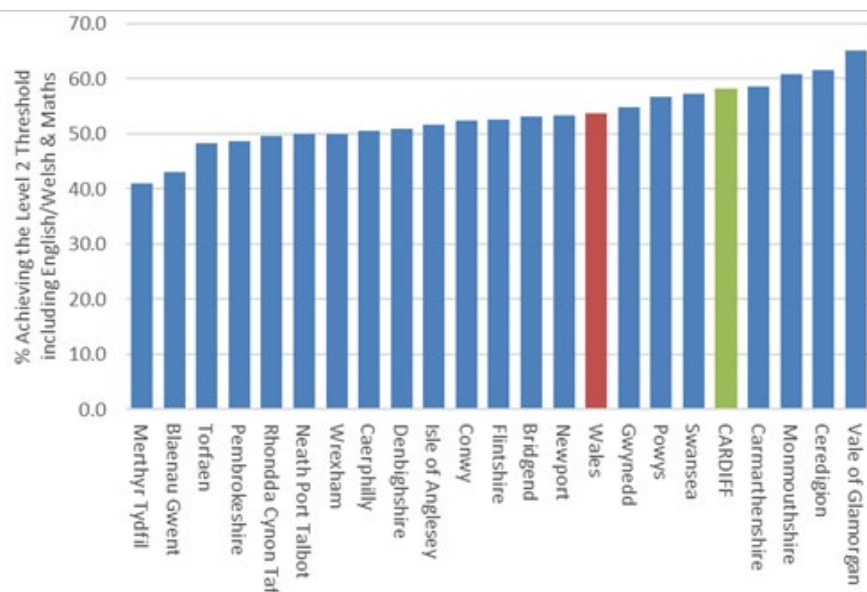
Education attainment in Cardiff has been characterised by sustained year on year improvement, with attainment levels now above the Welsh average for a number of key indicators. Whilst the introduction of a new national performance framework means that both year-on-year and national comparison data is not available, the overall performance of Cardiff schools has shown notable improvement over the past five years. This is evidenced by Estyn inspection outcomes, national categorisation, and attainment across all key stages of education when compared to Central South Consortium (CSC) and national averages.



## Secondary School

GCSE performance is also continuing to improve. In 2018/19<sup>4</sup>, 58.2% achieved the Level 2 Threshold, placing Cardiff in the top quartile.

### Percentage of Key Stage 4 Pupils Achieving the Level 2 Threshold, Including English/ Welsh and Maths, in Cardiff, 2018/19



Source: Welsh Government

<sup>3</sup> This indicator is no longer published.

<sup>4</sup> Data is no longer comparable to previous years due to definition changes.

## Gaps in Outcomes

The data makes clear that there are some groups of learners that are not achieving the expected outcomes. Whilst some progress is being made in improving the educational outcomes of key group of pupils at risk of underachievement, the outcomes for certain groups remain too low.

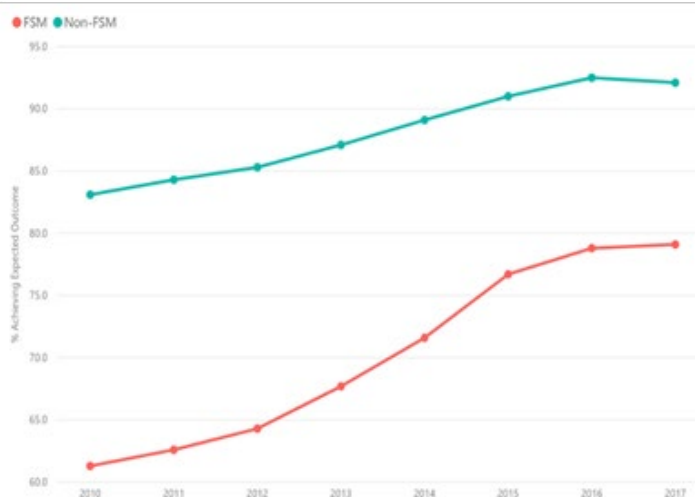
**Children Looked After:** At the end of Key Stage 2, 34 of the 48 children looked after by Cardiff Council achieved the Core Subject Indicator (CSI) (70.83%). This compares to 32 out of 38 children in 2018 (84.2%). Of the children educated within Cardiff schools (36 of the 48), 27 achieved the CSI (75%).

At the end of Key Stage 4, 6 of the 78 children looked after by Cardiff Council achieved the Level 2+ threshold (7.7%). This compares to 7 out of 49 in 2018 (14.3%). 52 (of the 78) were in Cardiff schools and 5 achieved the Level 2+ threshold (9.6%). 14 of the 52 pupils (27%) achieved over 353 points in the new Capped 9 measure.

**Free School Meals:** Whilst the attainment gap between those pupils from low-income families and those from more affluent backgrounds has narrowed in recent years, there is still a 13-percentage point difference in attainment between pupils in receipt

of free school meals (FSM pupils) and non-FSM pupils at Key Stage 2. At Key Stage 4, the gap is even wider, with a 32-percentage point difference between FSM and non-FSM pupils, just below the Wales average of 32.2%.

### Percentage of Pupils in Cardiff who Achieved the Core Subject Indicator at Key Stage 2: Free School Meals v Non-Free School Meals, 2010-2017



Source: Welsh Government

Source: Welsh Government

**Gender Gap:** In the primary phase, girls outperformed boys in all core subjects/areas of learning in both the Foundation Phase and Key Stage 2, as is the case nationally. At Key Stage 4, girls outperformed boys in all of the new measures this year. The largest gaps in performance

are Literacy, where girls achieved a 0.85 grade higher than boys, and the Skills Challenge Certificate where girls achieved nearly a grade higher than boys. Of particular note at Key Stage 4 is the performance of White British Boys eligible for FSM, which is particularly low.

**Pupils Educated other than at School (EOTAS):** The number of pupils EOTAS in Cardiff over the last five years has increased by 52.4%, from 204 in 2015 to 311 in 2019<sup>5</sup>.

Further information regarding the education performance and outcomes for learners in Cardiff can be found in the latest Education Annual Performance Report (2018/19).

## Education Attendance

Trends in attendance are difficult to measure, particularly as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic – since March 2020, Fixed Penalty Notices have not been issued to parents and carers, in line with Welsh Government guidance. Attendance in 2020/21 continued to be mixed across schools as a result of the pandemic, with increased Coronavirus cases and numbers of learners having to isolate.



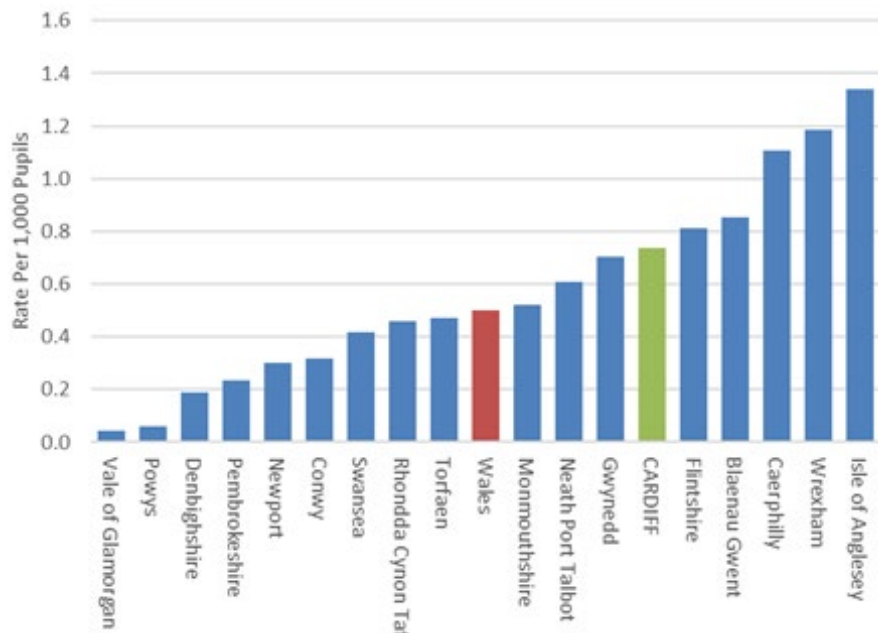
<sup>5</sup> This number includes EOTAS pupils that are only registered with the Local Authority, those educated in the Pupil Referral Unit and those that are dual registered with schools.

## School Exclusions<sup>6</sup>

### Permanent Exclusions

Permanent exclusions in Cardiff have increased year-on-year since 2016/17. In 2019/20, Cardiff had the sixth highest rate of permanent exclusions among Welsh Local Authorities, above the Welsh Average.

**Permanent Exclusions from Maintained Schools and Pupil Referral Units (Rate per 1,000 Pupils), 2019/20<sup>7</sup>**

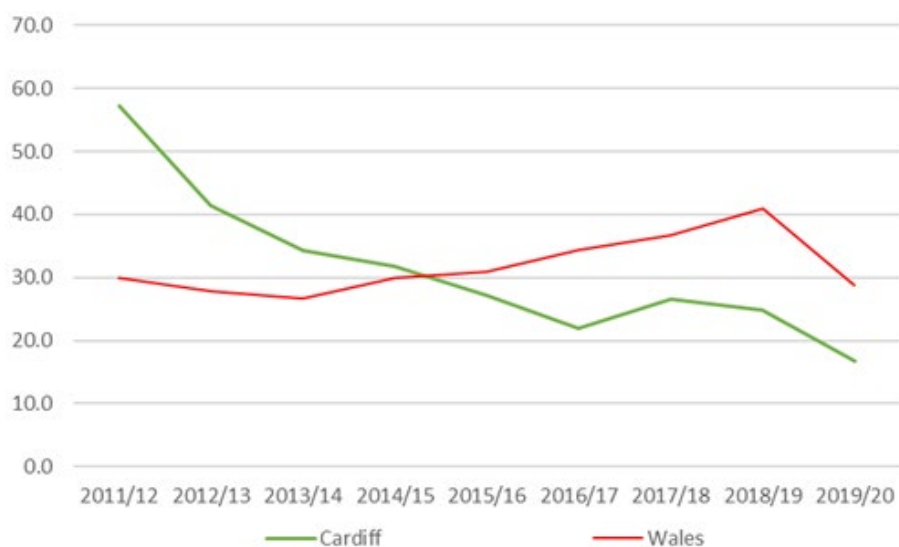


Source: Welsh Government

### Fixed Term Exclusions

In 2019/20, Cardiff had the second lowest rate of fixed-terms exclusions lasting 5 days or less among Welsh Local Authorities. The rate has been on a downward trend and has remained well below the Wales figure since 2016/17.

**Fixed-term Exclusions (5 Days or Less) from Maintained Schools and Pupil Referral Units (Rate per 1,000 Pupils), 2011/12 to 2019/20**



Source: Welsh Government

## Number of Young People Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET)

### Year 11

In 2020, Year 11 school leavers not in education, employment or training stood at 2.1 %, above the Welsh average of 1.7 %. From 2008, Cardiff saw a downward trend in school leavers not in education, employment, or training – in line with the all-Wales trend. The rate fell from 10.6 % in 2008 to 1.6 % in 2017.

### Year 13

As opposed to Year 11 school leavers, Cardiff's percentage of year 13 school leavers not in education, employment or training is comfortably below the Welsh average (2.6 % compared to 3.5 %).



<sup>6</sup> As a result of the pandemic, schools were closed between March 2020 and June 2020. This meant there were almost no exclusions during that period, which has affected overall exclusion numbers.

<sup>7</sup> Figures for Blaenau Gwent, Carmarthenshire, Ceredigion, Conwy, Merthyr Tydfil, Monmouthshire, Powys, Vale of Glamorgan are disclosive.

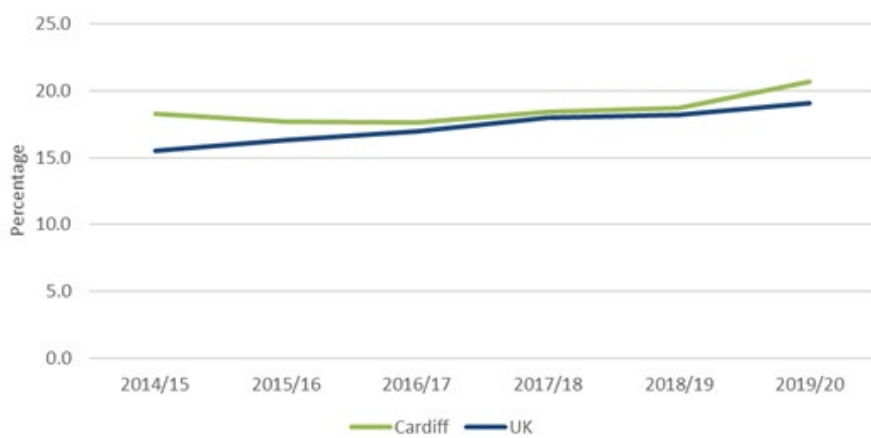


## Children in Low-Income Families

Cardiff has the third lowest percentage of children in relative low-income families out of the UK's Core Cities. However, a fifth of children aged under 16 are living in relative low-income families. Since 2016/17, the percentage has increased, with a noticeable increase in 2019/20 (from 18.7% to 20.7%).

Evidence suggests that children from low-income families are more likely to have feelings of isolation, be drawn into anti-social behaviour, young offending or suffer the effects of crime. Children from low-income families are also more likely to be at risk of Adverse Childhood Experiences and the rates of children considered to be at risk, being placed on the child protection register, or taken into care, are significantly higher in the city's most deprived communities.

**Percentage of Children (Aged Under 16) Living in Relative Low-Income Families, 2014/15 – 2019/20**



Source: DWP/ HMRC

## Children's Health

It is recognised that the early years are vital in terms of laying down the foundations for health, achievement and well-being in later years. A child's experience and relationships in their formative years, as well as what they eat and their general health, can have enormous long-term effects.

## Children of a Healthy Weight

The National Child Measurement Programme data for 2018/19 demonstrates that most children aged 4-5 are of a healthy weight in Cardiff (76%). Cardiff is performing well compared to other Welsh local authorities (Cardiff is ranked fourth in terms of the percentage of children aged 4-5 of a healthy weight) and has been above the Welsh average consistently since 2012. However, over a fifth of children aged 4 or 5 in Cardiff are overweight or obese (24%).

There is an 11 percentage point difference when comparing Cardiff's least/most deprived communities, with the gap increasing compared to previous years.

## Childhood Vaccinations

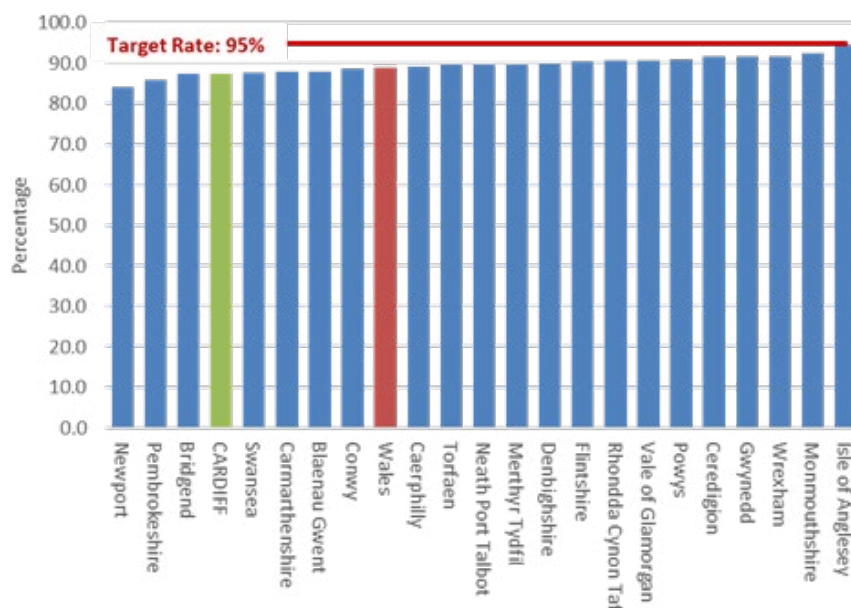
Long-term trends in childhood vaccination uptake in Cardiff and Vale University Health Board (UHB) remain fairly static; uptake is consistently below the 95% target across the majority of scheduled immunisations.

Looking at 2019 to 2020 data, across all age groups in Cardiff and Vale, there is an association between children living in more socio-economically deprived areas and lower vaccination uptake. There is also an age inequality for uptake of some vaccinations; compared with the rest of Wales, uptake of teenage vaccinations in Cardiff and the Vale is significantly lower.

The pandemic has impacted upon the timeliness of vaccination, although there are signs of recovery.

In terms of the MMR2 vaccination, Cardiff has one of the lowest uptake rates in Wales, at 87.4%. No local authority in Wales currently meets the 95% target. The City & Cardiff South GP cluster has particularly low levels of uptake and has seen a decline in recent years. The best performing clusters in Cardiff are still below the national target.

**MMR2 Vaccine Uptake in Children reaching their 4th Birthday between 01/04/2019 and 31/03/2020 and Resident on 31/03/2020 (%), 2019/20 (Welsh Local Authorities)**



Source: Public Health Wales

## Children Reaching or Exceeding their Developmental Milestones

Cardiff is just below the Wales-wide average in terms of the percentage of Flying Start children exceeding their developmental milestones at 3 years old (49%). This means that almost half of Flying Start children do not reach developmental milestones aged 3.

## Mental Well-being

Mental well-being in children aged 11-16 is similar across Welsh Local Authorities<sup>8</sup>. Cardiff is equal to the Wales-wide average.

It is pertinent to note, however, that the pandemic has had a significant negative impact in Wales on mental health and well-being. Coinciding with the reopening of schools following

the latest Covid-19 lockdown (which ended in April 2021), there has been a significant rise in Children and Young People presenting with emotional and mental health issues, with a rise in in-patient admissions and referrals to both Child Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) and Children's Services. In addition, the numbers of young people engaging with street-based youth work citing health as a concern are high.

## Teenage Pregnancies

Cardiff compares well against Core Cities and Welsh Local Authorities, with a low level of under 18 conceptions (13.9 per 1,000 females). Cardiff has seen a significant decrease in under 18 conceptions over time (down from almost 50 per 1,000 in 2008)

The 'Southern Arc' of Cardiff has a higher proportion of under 18 conceptions than the rest of the city.

## Children Cycling or Walking to School

Since 2014, the percentage of children cycling or walking to school has steadily increased. Just over half of children in Cardiff active travel to school (51.5%).

This can largely be attributed to the city's promotion and support of active travel. Almost every school in Cardiff now has an Active Travel Plan in place, which is specific to each school, and over 11km of new cycle lanes have been delivered since 2017. The plans play a key role in helping children, parents, and staff to think of alternative ways to do the school run without having to depend on the car. This tailored approach plays a key role in changing the way people travel around the city, helps clean up the air and reduces Cardiff's impact on the climate.

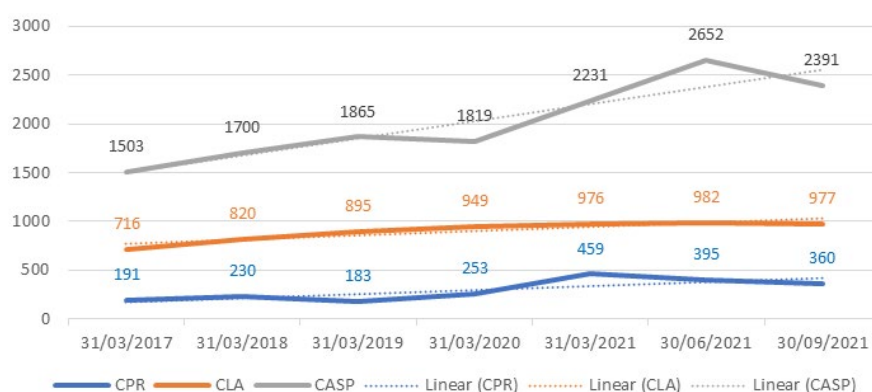
Promoting active travel also encourages children to spend time and play outdoors, amongst the city's high-quality, green spaces. An increased connection with nature, as well as a more active level, is evidenced to have numerous health and wellbeing benefits.

## Children's Services Data

### Caseload Breakdown

Since 2017, there has been an increase in caseloads across Children's Services, from first point of contact through to Child Protection Register and Looked After Children numbers. Since the onset of the pandemic in March 2020, there has been a particular increase in the number of children in receipt of care and support.

**Caseload Break Down Over Time, 2017-2021**



Source: Cardiff Council

<sup>8</sup> Local Authorities are compared using the Short Warwick Edinburgh Mental Well-being Scale (SWEMWBS).

## Sufficiency of Placements

There is a recognised need to shift the balance of care from high-cost, secure, residential, and purchased foster care to early intervention where an increased number of children are

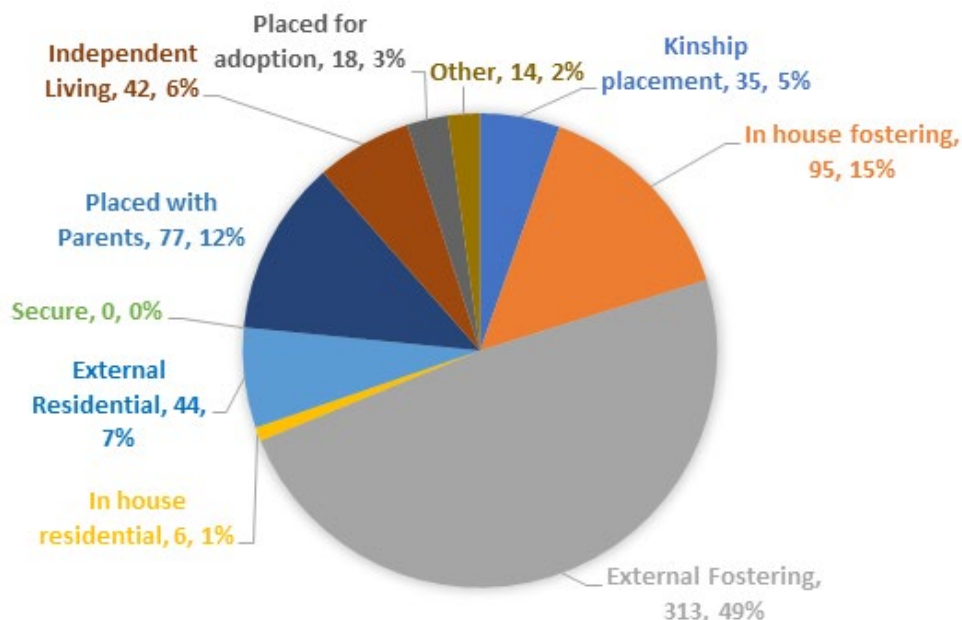
supported to safely remain with their parents and extended family or, if necessary, Cardiff Council foster carers.

Analysis of data points to encouraging trends with regards to the shift in the balance of care in Cardiff. There has been an increase in the number of

kinship carers and in-house fosters carers, particularly in relation to the number of in-house fostering at pre-school and primary age. However, issues remain in increasing residential placements for teenagers with very complex issues.

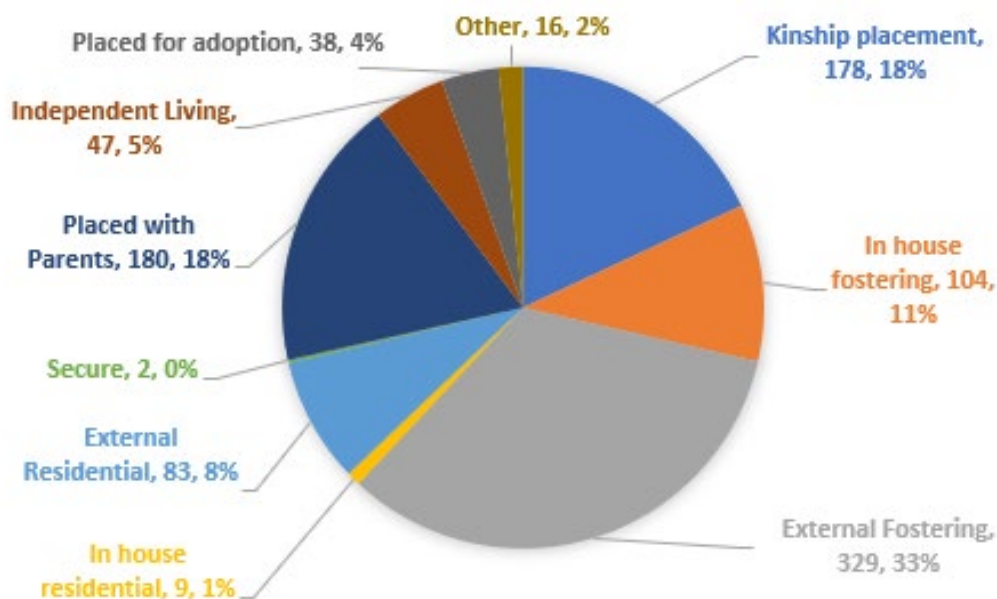
### Total Children Looked After by Placement Type, 2016 v 2021

2016



Source: Cardiff Council

2021



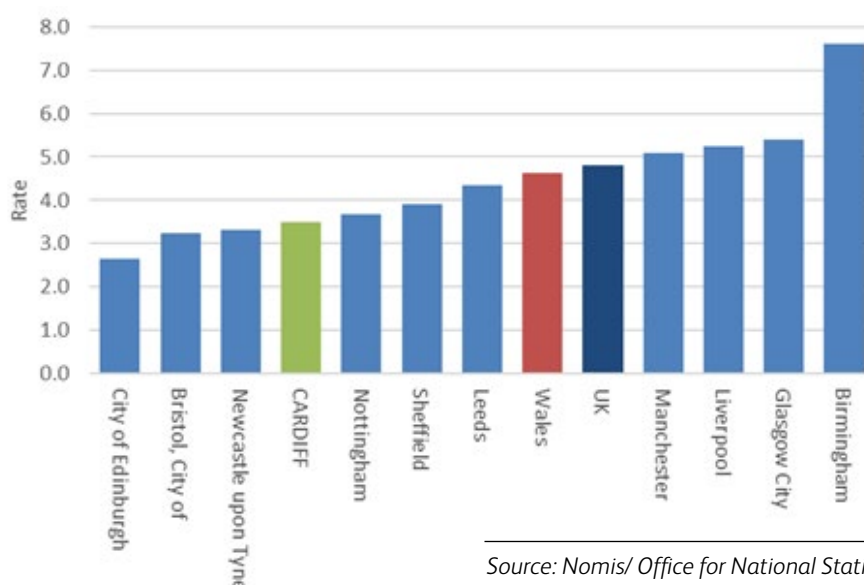
Source: Cardiff Council



## Claimant Count aged 16-24

Cardiff's claimant count rate for young people aged 16-24 is the fourth lowest of the UK's Core Cities and Welsh Local Authorities and is below the Welsh average. The rate is half the rates found in Birmingham and Newport.

Claimant Count Rate (Population Aged 16-24), October 2021 (UK Core Cities)



Source: Nomis/ Office for National Statistics

## Young People and Crime

It is recognised that children and young people are more likely to be the target of grooming and exploitation, particularly if they are considered to be more at risk or vulnerable. Responses to the Child Friendly Cardiff Survey

consistently place fear of crime – particularly knife crime – as one of the top reasons for feeling unsafe in neighbourhoods. In the 2019 survey, 'Put an end to knife crime' was ranked by responders as the most important issue for Wales.

First time entrants (FTE's) to the youth justice system – children aged 0 to 17 who receive their first youth caution or court sentence during a specific period – have decreased since 2016/17, with a significant reduction in 2020/21.

According to the Youth Justice Services Strategic Needs Assessment (2021-2022), there are several factors which seem to increase the likelihood of a young person becoming involved with crime. This includes:

**Being male;** 84 % of all cases are male

**Living in Cardiff's 'Southern Arc';** these are areas of higher deprivation, based on the Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation (WIMD). There is a correlation between the residence of young offenders and higher levels of deprivation.

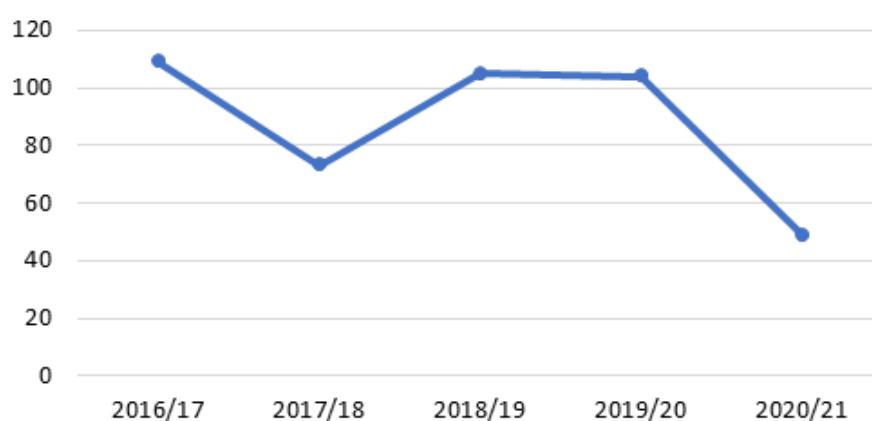
**Involvement with Children's Services;** Children Looked After (CLA) are 6 times more likely to be involved with the youth justice system.

**Having a previous sentence or conviction;** around 27 % of the repeat offenders are responsible for over half of arrests.

**Being a victim of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs);** almost half (49 %) of the repeat offenders have family members with a history of violence.

**Being linked to drug-related activity,** which can lead to further associated with violent behaviour such as knife crime.

Number of First Time Entrants to the Youth Justice System, 2016/17 to 2020/21



Source: Cardiff Youth Justice Service

Further insight is given into reoffending through the Wales Violence Prevention Unit's (VPU's) Needs Assessment, as the Unit commissioned Barnardo's and Cardiff University to carry out co-production with young people. The young offenders reported that following release, reoffending is more likely if they are unable to transfer to a prison more local to their home. Without access to support, there is a likelihood

that they will return to their previous criminal lifestyle, as they feel there is no other option. This highlights the importance of readily, easily accessible, and meaningful support for this cohort.

## SUMMARY OF KEY ISSUES

- **A slowdown in growth in the population of children and young people:** As of April 2021, there were 56,943 pupils on roll in Cardiff maintained schools, an increase of 3,169 since January 2016. However, overall population projections predict a slowdown in growth over the next 25 years, with a decline in the 0-15 age category. A projected peak in secondary school numbers, however, is anticipated to provide localised sufficiency challenges, with short-to-medium-term challenges to meet Additional Learning Needs (ALN) provision needs.
- **Increasing diversity in the city's young population:** In Cardiff, 22.4 % of those aged 0-19 identify as belonging to an ethnic minority group.
- **Childcare sufficiency:** Initial findings indicate that across Cardiff there is broadly sufficient childcare to meet the needs of parents so they can access work and/ or training. However, there is some unmet demand in some localities, and work needs to be carried out to promote the financial support that is available to help pay for childcare.
- **Good progress in educational attainment, but gaps remain for certain groups of learners:** Education attainment has risen every year in Cardiff since 2012 and Cardiff schools now rank amongst the top performers in Wales. However, there is still a significant gap in education outcomes for certain population groups, including:
  - Pupils from low-income families
  - Children Looked After
  - Children Educated other than at School (EOTAS)
  - White British boys from areas of higher deprivation
- **The impact of Child Poverty:** A fifth of children aged under 16 are living in relative-low-income families in Cardiff. The impact of this is evident in lower educational outcomes for pupils from low-income families in Cardiff. Evidence suggests that children from low-income families are more likely to have feelings of isolation, be drawn into anti-social behaviour, young offending or suffer the effects of crime. Children from low-income families are also more likely to be at risk of Adverse Childhood Experiences and the rates of children considered to be at risk, being placed on the child protection register, or taken into care, are significantly higher in the city's most deprived communities.
- **Children's Health:** A child's experienced and relationships in their formative years can have long-term effects. Whilst general levels of Children's Health are high in Cardiff:
  - Over a fifth of children aged 4 or 5 in Cardiff are overweight or obese
  - Almost half of Flying Start children do not reach developmental milestones aged 3.
  - Uptake in childhood vaccinations is consistently below the 95 % target across the majority of scheduled immunisations. There is also an association between children living in more socio-economically deprived areas and lower vaccination uptake. Furthermore, uptake of teenage vaccination in Cardiff and the Vale is significantly lower compared with the rest of Wales.
- **Increasing caseloads across Children's Services:** Since 2017, there has been an increase in caseloads, from first point of contact through to Child Protection Register and Looked After Children numbers.
- **Supporting young people into work, education or employment:** Supporting young people into employment, further education or training is a key priority for the city. The city must continue to build strong relationships between Cardiff's schools, employers, and further education partners to support young people to access good jobs and careers.
- **Young people and crime:** It is recognised that children and young people are more likely to be the target of grooming and exploitation, particularly if they are considered to be more at risk or vulnerable. There are several factors which seem to increase the likelihood of a young person becoming involved with crime, including:
  - Being male
  - Living in Cardiff's 'Southern Arc' / areas of higher deprivation
  - Involvement with Children's Services
  - Having a previous sentence or conviction
  - Being a victim of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs)
  - Being Linked to drug-related activity, which can lead to further associated with violent behaviour such as knife crime.

## Impact of Covid-19:

- Whilst children and young people continue to be generally less clinically vulnerable to Covid-19 than the adult population, they have witnessed significant disruption as a result of the virus to their daily lives. Children and young people have particularly experienced substantial changes to education, with several extended periods of school closures and a switch to online learning, separation from friends and extended families, and a lack of access to recreation, sport, and leisure activities that they previously enjoyed. As one respondent to the 2021 Budget Consultation noted, *"We are not sure of the total impact COVID will have to Cardiff children of all ages. My children's schools have done an amazing job, but we must continue to support them to help our children. Children will need more support services, IT and changes to school buildings for more space."*
- For the city's most vulnerable children and young people, the impact of the pandemic has been greater, further widening inequalities. Children who are most vulnerable include: children with additional learning needs; children from ethnic minority backgrounds; Welsh medium learners who do not speak Welsh at home; children who lack internet access; children with developmental delay; and children from deprived areas, especially those with no access to outdoor space. The pandemic has increased the exposure of Welsh children to Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse, and Sexual Violence (VAWDASV), reflected by increased calls to helplines.
- The pandemic has had a significant negative impact in Wales on mental health and well-being, with loneliness, isolation, and parental stress contributing. Coinciding with the reopening of schools following the latest lockdown, there has been a significant rise in children and young people presenting with emotional and mental health issues. Adolescents were more vulnerable to the mental health impacts of pandemic restrictions than younger children or older adults; as were young people not in employment, education or training, and people from more deprived areas.



## Well-being Objective 2

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Cardiff is a great  
place to grow older

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## Overview

How a society treats people as they get older reflects its values and principles and sends an important message to future generations. Cardiff's ambition is for the city to be a great place to grow older, where older people are more empowered, healthy, and happy, supported by excellent public and community services and integrated within all areas of community life. This also includes recognising and building upon the strengths that older people bring to communities, including volunteering, knowledge and skill sharing, as well as a sense of community.

With an ageing population that is continuing to grow, the city has recognised the importance of new communities being designed in a way that accommodates the needs of older people, with housing options developed that enable people to live independently, in their own homes and communities for as long as possible.

86.7% of older people aged 65+ feel that they live in a home that best supports their well-being, with nearly four fifths feeling actively involved in decisions made about their care and support. Cardiff's Independent Living Service has been particularly crucial in helping older people to access the financial support to which they are entitled and has facilitated preventative interventions that empowers older people to age well and lead their own lives, in their own homes.

Whilst success has been seen in these areas, the Covid-19 pandemic has represented a great risk to, and had greatest impact on, the city's older people. It has also highlighted the importance of Council and partner services for many older people in the city, particularly those who are most vulnerable. To meet the challenge the pandemic has presented, and to make sure that the city's older people can continue to access support safely, services have been reshaped and additional care and support

measures have been put in place, with partnership working and integration between the city's health and social care services taken to a new level.

In addition to the greater level of direct risk from Covid-19, older people have often suffered greater levels of loneliness and social isolation as a result of lockdown, with this separation from loved ones being acutely felt by those suffering from diseases like dementia and their families.

As Cardiff recovers from the pandemic, public services will prioritise supporting the city's older people, particularly those who are most vulnerable.

Demand pressures and costs associated with an ageing population are therefore significant and show no sign of reducing. Finding solutions to these long-term challenges will mean public services working in ever closer partnership to help older people stay safe, as healthy, and independent as possible, and to lead lives that have value, meaning and purpose.

## Population: Older People

It is estimated that 52,807 older people (aged 65+) live in Cardiff, which is 14.3% of the population. Cardiff North has the highest percentage and number of people aged 65-84 (17% - 16,003 people). In contrast, Cardiff South East has the lowest percentage of people aged 65-84 (at 5.5%), but City and Cardiff South has the lowest numbers of 65-84 (2,475). Looking at the population aged 85 plus, this shows a similar cluster pattern to ages 65-84, but with lower numbers and percentages. Overall, Cardiff North has the highest number of older people (aged 65 plus).

In Cardiff, using 2018-based population projections, the number of people aged 65+ is projected to increase to 68,364 in 2043. The number of people who are aged 85 and over is projected to rise even more sharply, with numbers expected to double in the next 20 years – to 11,156 in 2043.

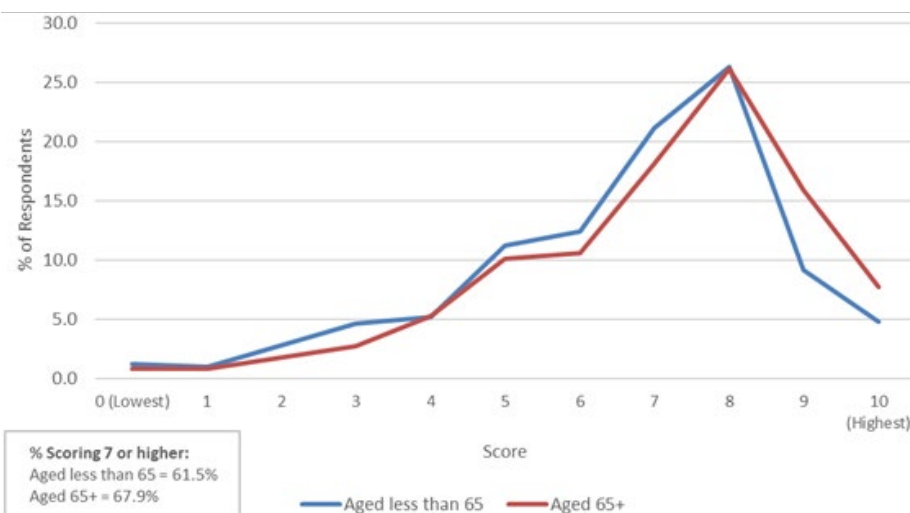
The continued growth in the city's older population will result in a need for more health services and will result in a greater demand on both health and care services.

## Life Satisfaction

Life satisfaction amongst older people in Cardiff is just below the Wales-wide average.

In the 2020 Ask Cardiff Survey, however, a higher proportion of older people (aged 65+), compared to people under the age of 65, reported their life satisfaction as 7 out of 10 or higher.

**Overall, How Satisfied are you with your Life Nowadays? (Score by Age Group), 2020, (0-10; 0 = lowest, 10 = highest)**



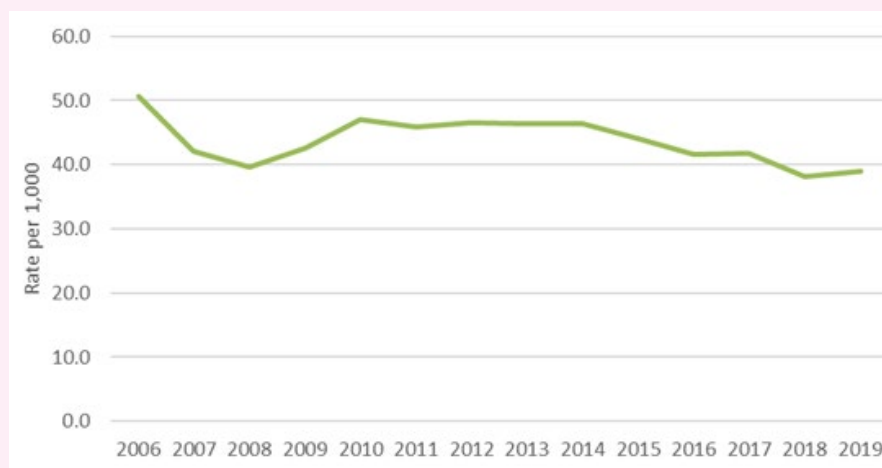
Source: Ask Cardiff Survey

## Support in the Community

In terms of older people supported in the community in Cardiff, the rate has decreased over time, from a high of just over 50 % in 2006 to just under 40 % in 2019.

Source: Welsh Government

Older People Supported in the Community, per 1,000 Population 65+, 2006-2019

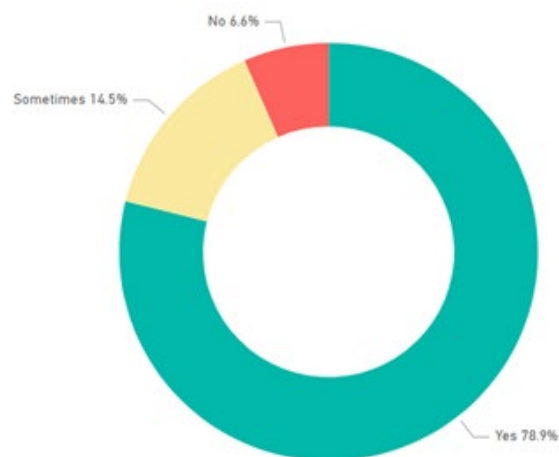


## Decisions Made About Care and Support

In terms of the percentage of people aged 65+ reporting that they feel involved in any decisions made about their care and support, nearly four fifths feel actively involved.

The percentage has remained fairly steady since 2017/18 – in 2017/18 76.8 % reported feeling actively involved compared to 78.9 % in 2019/20.

Percentage of People aged 65+ Reporting they Live in the Right Home for them, 2019/20



Source: Social Services and Well-being Survey, Cardiff Council

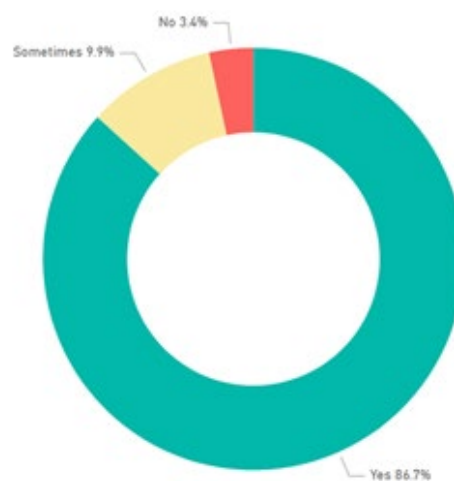
## Living in the Right Home

Cardiff's ageing population has particular implications for the amount, type and location of accommodation which is specific to their needs. Poor or unsuitable housing can impact disproportionately on older peoples' physical and mental health, independence and well-being. As one respondent to the 2021 Budget Consultation stated, "Older people deserve to live in dignity. So living in their own homes should be a priority and enabling them to do that in a supportive way can only be beneficial."

An assessment of older person's housing accommodation, undertaken for the Regional Partnership Board in 2018, estimated a need for an additional 3,051 units of older persons' accommodation by 2035 in Cardiff, a mix of housing, housing with care and nursing care.

In 2019/20, 86.7 % of respondents to Cardiff Council's Social Services and Well-being Survey reported that they live in the right home for them. This compares to 89.2 % in 2017/18.

Percentage of People aged 65+ Reporting they Live in the Right Home for them, 2019/20



Source: Social Services and Well-being Survey, Cardiff Council



## Disabled Facilities Grants

A Disabled Facilities Grant aims to give residents better freedom of movement in and around their home. The grant helps toward the cost of adapting homes to meet people's needs.

Over 1,000 dwellings were improved through Disabled Facilities Grants in Cardiff in 2018/19, the highest in Wales.

## Information and Advice

Nearly four fifths of people aged 65+ feel that they receive the right information or advice when needed.

The percentage has slightly decreased since 2017/18 – in 2017/18 82.5% reported that they have the right information or advice when needed compared to 77.7% in 2019/20.

## Loneliness

In terms of the percentage of people aged 65+ reporting loneliness, on average, 84.9% of respondents reported that they were happy with the support from family, friends, and neighbours between 2017/18 and 2019/20 (pre-pandemic).

## Adult Services Data

Adult Services provide and arrange care services for adults who need support, care, or protection, including people leaving hospital and carers in difficult situations. The services also provide support to help people live more independently, such as home adaptations, community equipment, supported activities, as well as information and advice.

## Care and Support Packages

Care and Support Packages are for anyone who needs care or cares for someone else.

The number of Care and Support Packages provided by Adult Services in Cardiff has gradually decreased since 2017. In September 2021, the number of Care and Support packages provided was 4,425.

**Number of Care and Support Packages, 2017-2021**



Source: Cardiff Council

## Domiciliary Care

Domiciliary care is also known as in-home care. Between September 2017 and March 2019, there was generally a downward trend in the number of Domiciliary Care service users. Between March 2019 and November 2019, users slightly increased (with a peak seen in November 2019), before decreasing again until May 2020. Since May 2020, the number of users has generally increased, from 2,349 to 2,485 in September 2021, highlighting a surge in demand since the pandemic began.

Over the same time period, the number of hours of care provided has generally decreased, with a noticeable dip between November 2020 and February 2021.

**Domiciliary Care: Number of Service Users and Hours of Care Provided**



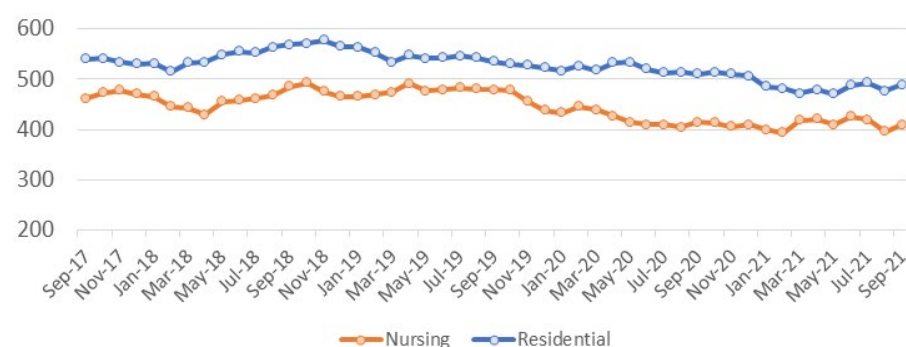
Source: Cardiff Council

## Residential and Nursing Care

The total number of people requiring residential and nursing care has gradually decreased since 2017. However, 2021 has seen an increase in the number of new service users.

Source: Cardiff Council

Number of Residential and Nursing Care Service Users, 2017-2021



## Older People's Health

Older people are more likely to have long term conditions and complex care needs, and have longer, more frequent stays in hospital. Poor health in older age can contribute to increased social isolation, separating older people off from their communities.

Just over half of older people aged 65+ in Cardiff (56.1%) consider themselves to be in good health (2018/19 figures). Time

series data (available up until 2014/15) shows improvement in recent years.

Historic data shows that, at ward level, the 65-year-old healthy life expectancy inequality gap as 10.5 years for males and 12.1 years for females. Males in Adamsdown can expect to spend a quarter (24.8%) of their remaining life in good health compared to an expected two-thirds (65.4%) for those living in Lisvane. For females, the figures are

23.5% and 56.9% respectively. Data is not available for this beyond 2013.

Furthermore, as Cardiff has a very diverse population, with people from many different cultures and backgrounds, it is recognised that needs can further differ across the population. Services need to be able to adapt and respond to this diversity, and to the coming generations of older people that will have different needs and offer different assets to the community.

## Older Adults of a Healthy Weight

37.3% of older adults (aged 65+) are of a healthy weight in Cardiff; this is slightly below the Welsh average (38.1%).

## Hip Fractures

Cardiff is equal to the Wales-wide average in the number of people per 100,000 experiencing a hip fracture.

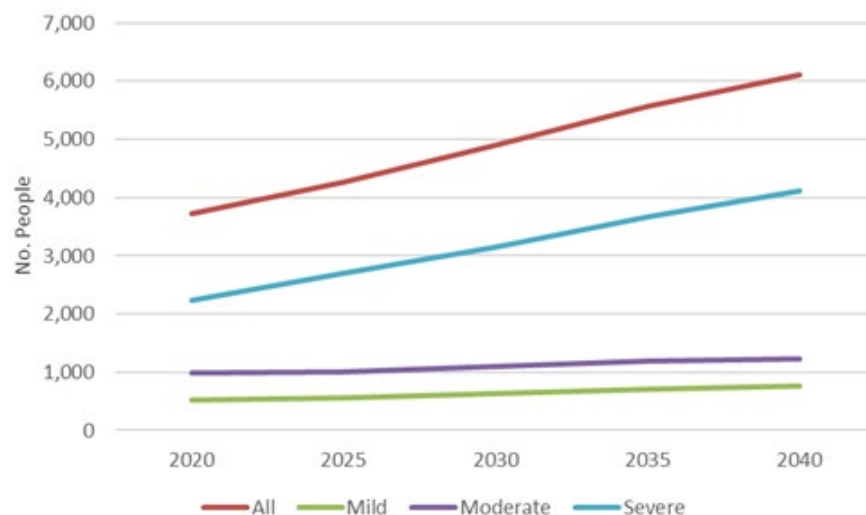
Cardiff has been below the Wales-wide average for many years and has in recent years moved equal to it (above the Wales-wide average by 3.7 per 100,000).

Hip fracture rates vary across the city with some areas having much higher rates than the Wales average and some with much lower rates.

## Dementia Projections

The risk of developing dementia is strongly age-related. As life expectancy increases, so the total number of people with dementia is going to increase. In the next 20 years, the number of people aged 65+ with dementia is projected to increase by almost two thirds. The number of people with severe dementia is projected to almost double.

Projected Number of People Aged 65+ with Dementia in Cardiff, 2020-2040



Source: Daffodil

## Frailty and Falls

Physical ability was by far the biggest issue preventing older people, responding to the Population Needs Assessment (PNA) survey, from being in control over their daily lives (62.9%). Frailty can be a cause of falls, and falls are a key public health concern for older people.

Telecare Cardiff undertook some analysis of clients who fell during 2020-21 and found that 84% of those who fell were repeat fallers, i.e. they had fallen more than once. Strength and balance loss was stated as the reason for most of these falls, followed by long term health conditions.

Demand for services based on levels of frailty are predicted to increase due to the increased numbers of older people in the future. Previous modelling has predicted an increase in demand of up to 31% in Cardiff and the Vale between 2015 and 2025.

## SUMMARY OF KEY ISSUES

- **An ageing population:** Using 2018-based population projections, the number of people aged 65+ in Cardiff is projected to increase by just over 33 % by 2043, to 68,364. The number of people aged 85 and over is projected to rise even more sharply, by just over 52 % to 11,156 in 2043.

The older population is currently more concentrated in the North of Cardiff; the Cardiff North locality has both the highest percentage and number of people aged 65+, at 20 % (32,128 people).

The continued growth in the city's older population will result in a need for more health services and will result in a greater demand on both health and care services.

- **Life satisfaction for older people:** A high proportion of older people (aged 65+) in Cardiff report their life satisfaction as 7 out of 10 or higher, higher than other demographics, although life satisfaction amongst older people in Cardiff is just below the Wales-wide average.
- **Increasing number of people with complex care needs:** The projected growth in the numbers of older people with complex care needs (including severe dementia) is highly likely to result in increased pressure on health and care services, for example, the number of older adults living with severe dementia is predicted to double by 2040 in Wales.
- **Frailty and falls:** Demand for services based on levels of frailty are predicted to increase due to the increased numbers of older people in the future, and previous modelling has predicted an increase in demand of up to 31 % in Cardiff and the Vale between 2015 and 2025. Physical ability was by far the biggest issue preventing older people, responding to the Population Needs Assessment (PNA) survey, from being in control over their daily lives (62.9 %). Frailty can be a cause of falls, and falls are a key public health concern for older people. Telcare Cardiff undertook some analysis of clients who fell during 2020-21 and found that 84 % of those who fell were repeat fallers, i.e., they had fallen more than once. Strength and balance loss was stated as the reason for most of these falls, followed by long term health conditions.
- **Housing:** Cardiff's ageing population has particular implications for the amount, type and location of accommodation which is specific to their needs. Poor or unsuitable housing can impact disproportionately on older peoples' physical and mental health, independence and well-being. An assessment of older person's housing accommodation, undertaken for the Regional Partnership Board in 2018, estimated a need for an additional 3,051 units of older persons' accommodation by 2035 in Cardiff, a mix of housing, housing with care and nursing care.

- **Diverse needs:** Cardiff and Vale has a diverse population, with people from many different cultures and backgrounds, which is a great asset in our communities, but also means that needs can differ across the population. Services need to be able to adapt and respond to this diversity, and to the coming generations of older people that will have different needs and offer different assets to the community. For example, more will be familiar with digital technology in the future.

## Impact of Covid-19:

- **Physical health and access to health care:** Covid-19 has had a significant impact upon older people, from both mortality and ill health and mental and physical well-being perspectives. Research has shown that age increases the risk of dying from Covid-19 due to deterioration of immune systems and being more likely to have long term conditions. Likewise, the mobility and circulatory conditions of older people have deteriorated in lockdown and de-conditioning has occurred, potentially leading to falls risks.
- **Mental health and well-being:** The pandemic has led to increased risks of health anxiety, panic, and depression for older people, particularly those in institutions. Covid-19 has had adverse effects on the well-being of older people in care homes, for example, constraints on social contact due to suspension of indoor visiting. Loneliness and isolation have increased for many older people, as exemplified by one respondent to the Ask Cardiff 2020 survey who noted, *"The biggest change for me is not being able to freely see family and friends (I live alone) and not to be able to go to the cinema and the theatre. I am retired so these things are a big part of my life."* Feelings of anxiety and fear have also emerged due to the pandemic and lockdowns. People who were previously self-sufficient found themselves in need of support. Many older people have struggled with getting support when leaving hospital, sometimes leading to longer hospital stays.
- **Digital exclusion:** Although many more people aged over 55 have been able to get online, the digital divide has widened during the pandemic, with more services moving to online-only. Digital exclusion has been an issue for many older people in accessing vital support services, not just because of a lack of equipment but a lack of confidence or a fear of using online services.
- **Positive developments in response to Covid-19:** Services have had to adapt, and, in some cases, this has resulted in more people being able to access them and services implementing flexible and agile ways of working. New connections have been made, and many people have volunteered within their communities to support older people with shopping, collecting prescriptions or befriending via telephone. As highlighted, Covid-19 has also encouraged the development of digital solutions. Health and social care staff have used technology to link people with their families, for example, tablets in care homes and hospital wards so that families and loved ones can talk. This has been helpful when a person's family is a long way away and would otherwise be unable to see their relatives easily.



Well-being Objective 3

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Supporting people  
out of poverty

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## Overview

A simple overview of city performance across the outcomes in this report would suggest that Cardiff is performing well in comparison with Core Cities and other parts of Wales across a range of factors which can affect a resident's well-being. However, as with other cities in the UK, significant and entrenched inequalities exist in Cardiff. Additionally, whilst the full impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on Cardiff's population remains to be fully captured and understood, we know that it has exacerbated existing inequalities and work is needed to ensure that Cardiff is able to recover strongly and more fairly.

Levels of general health in Cardiff are high. However, there are clear inequalities across the city; Cardiff is above Wales average in the proportion of Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs) in the 10% most deprived areas in Wales, but also exceeds the Wales average in

terms of the proportion of LSOAs in the 50% least deprived areas in Wales.

Although school performance across the city has improved significantly over recent years, 14% of the LSOAs in Cardiff are ranked in the 10% most deprived in Wales for educational outcomes, the fifth highest proportion of Welsh Local Authorities. Additionally, 27.8% of LSOAs in the 'Southern Arc' are ranked in the 10% most deprived in Wales.

In terms of income deprivation, almost one fifth of the Lower Super Output Areas in Cardiff are ranked in the most deprived in Wales, the third highest proportion of all Welsh Local Authorities. Whilst the percentage of households in poverty (material deprivation) has fallen since 2016-17, Cardiff is still just above the Wales-wide average. Additionally, whilst Cardiff has the third lowest percentage of workless households of all Welsh Local Authorities and there has been a steady decrease in the percentage of children living in workless households

since 2016, a fifth of children aged under 16 are living in relative low-income families.

The pandemic's impact on unemployment caused the claimant count rate in Cardiff to double in the spring of 2020, although this figure has been on a downward trajectory since May 2021 and now matches the UK average. However, it remains above the pre-pandemic level. Unemployment is not felt evenly across the city, with claimant count rate being 7.8 percentage points higher for the most deprived fifth of the population compared to the least deprived fifth.

Housing, a central component of quality of life, remains relatively unaffordable in Cardiff compared to other major British cities and the rate of people sleeping rough are amongst the highest in Wales. However, Cardiff is the best performing Welsh Local Authority for the rate of households prevented from homelessness for at least 6 months.

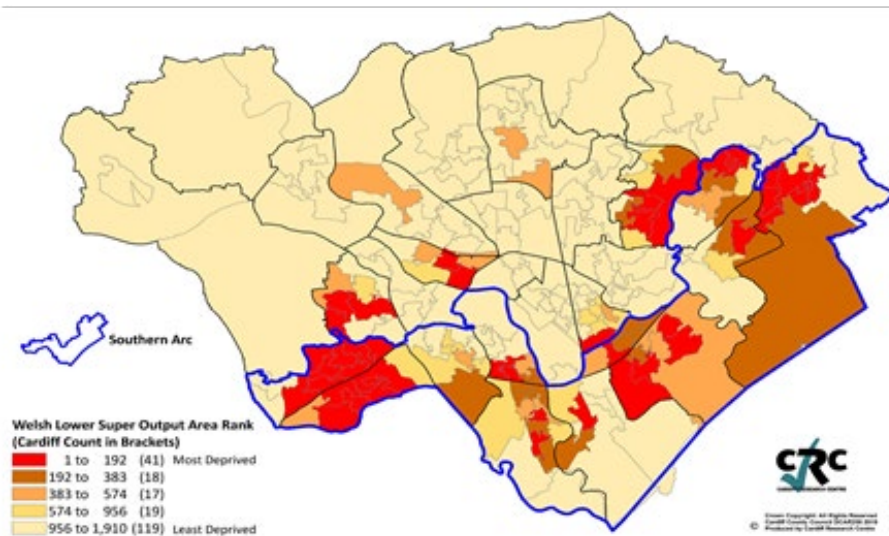
## Inequality: Income

In Cardiff, some of Wales' most and least deprived communities can be found within miles of each other. Almost one fifth (19.2%), or 41 out of 214 Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs) in Cardiff are ranked in the 10% most deprived in Wales. This is the third highest proportion of all Welsh Local Authorities.

These LSOAs are mainly found in the 'Southern Arc' of the city. Over a third (35.6%) of LSOAs in the 'Southern Arc' are ranked in the 10% most deprived areas in Wales, exceeding Newport (20.0%), which has the highest proportion amongst Welsh Local Authorities. If the 'Southern Arc' of Cardiff were a single local authority, it would be by some margin the most income deprived in Wales.

How to ensure that all citizens benefit from the capital city's economic growth is one of the most complex and challenging issues facing Cardiff over the years to come.

2019 Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation Cardiff – Income Domain



Source: Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation 2019, Welsh Government

## Households in Poverty

Levels of material deprivation – defined as an inability to afford basic resources – in Cardiff have fallen from 16% in 2016-17 to 13% in 2019-20, just above the Wales-wide average. Poverty is concentrated in the 'Southern Arc' of the city.

## Workless Households

Cardiff has the third lowest percentage of workless households of all Welsh Local Authorities. Since 2016, the percentage has dropped below the Wales-wide average, from 17.7% to 12.9% in 2020. There has also been a downward trend in the percentage of children living in

workless households, from 18.6% in 2016 to 11.0% in 2019, the eighth lowest percentage among Welsh Local Authorities. In 2020, Cardiff had the second lowest percentage of Welsh Local Authorities (5.3%). However, due to a small sample size the figures for this year are less reliable so should be treated with caution.

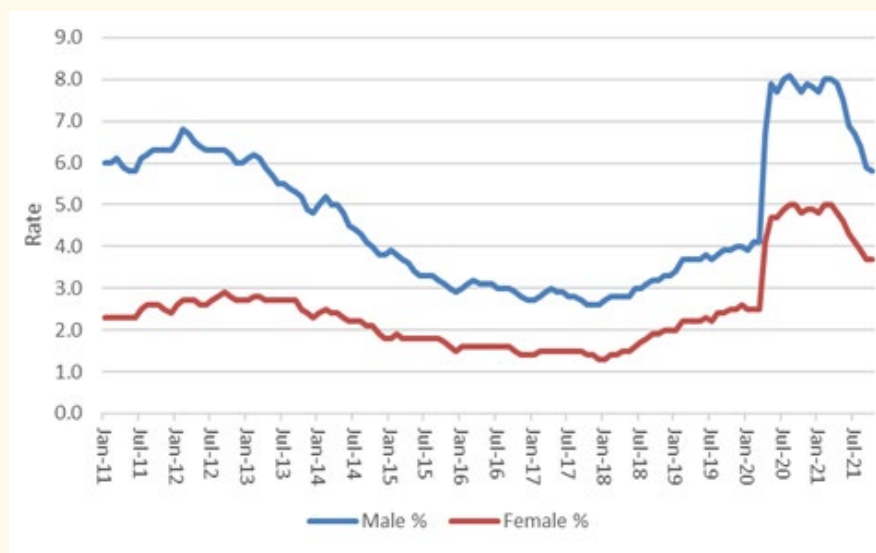
## Claimant Count Rate<sup>9</sup>

The percentage of working aged people claiming unemployment-related benefits was relatively stable between 2016 and 2018, before a gradual incline over the following two years.

The claimant count rate for men in Cardiff has been consistently and significantly higher than the rate for women over the past decade. This gap had started to narrow from 2015 until the onset of the pandemic, which accounts for the

Source: Claimant Count

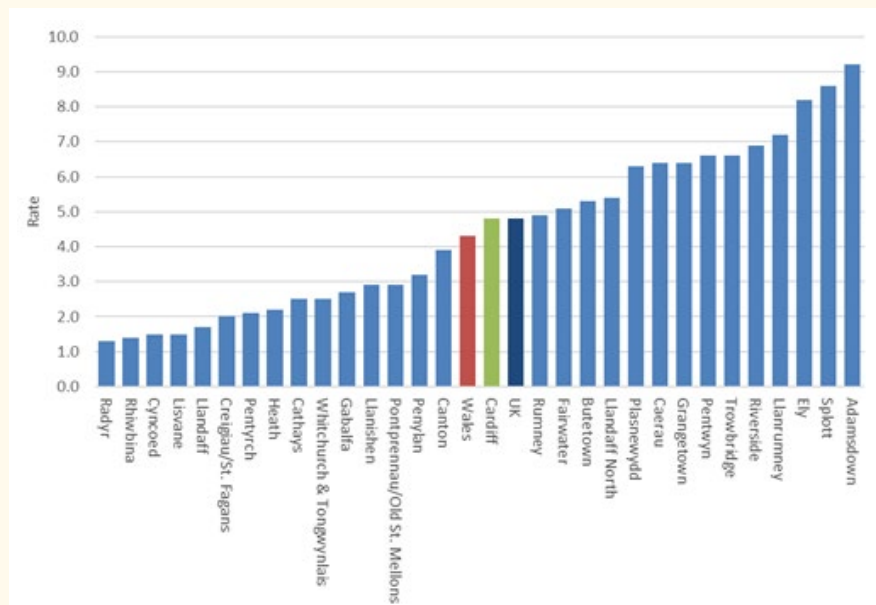
Claimant Count Rate in Cardiff by Gender, January 2011 – October 2021



The claimant count rate in Adamsdown, the Cardiff ward with the highest rate, is roughly 7 times higher than in Radyr, the ward with the lowest rate (9.2% v 1.3%), revealing a persistent problem with spatial inequality in Cardiff.

Source: Claimant Count

Claimant Count Rate by Ward, October 2021



**CAERDYDD  
AR WAITH  
CARDIFF  
WORKS**



**gwasanaeth  
cynghori  
i mewn  
i waith  
into work  
advice  
service**



**Volunteer  
Cardiff**

<sup>9</sup> The Claimant Count is a measure of the number of people claiming benefits principally for the reason of being unemployed, based on administrative data from the benefits system. The Claimant Count does not attempt to measure unemployment, however, since the people claiming benefits are generally a particular subset of the unemployed, the Claimant Count can provide a useful indication of how unemployment is likely to vary between areas and over time. The Claimant Count is based on a tabulation of monthly extracts from the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) administrative systems.



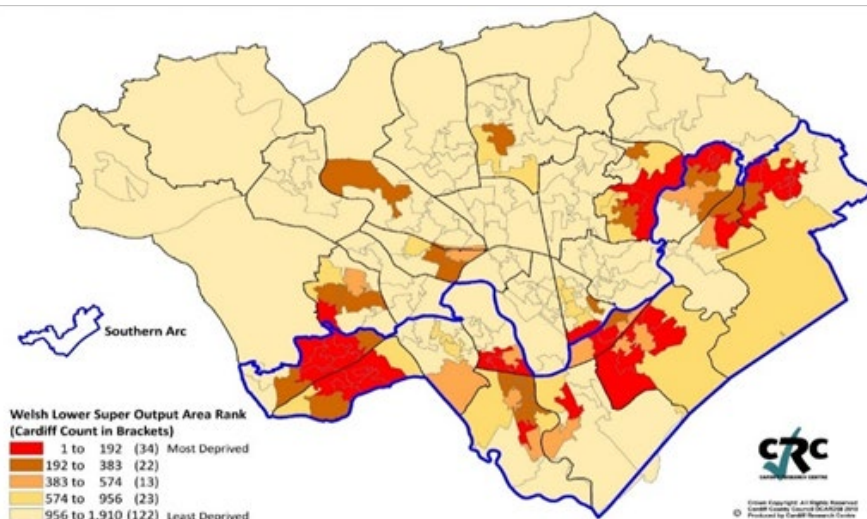
## Inequality: Health

Cardiff has clear health inequalities across the city. Cardiff is above the Wales average in the proportion of Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs) in the 10% most deprived areas in Wales, but also exceeds the Wales average in terms of the proportion of LSOAs in the 50% least deprived areas in Wales.

There is ample evidence that social factors, including education, employment status, income level, gender and ethnicity have a marked influence on how healthy a person is. The lower an individual's socio-economic position, the higher their risk of poor health.

The impact of the pandemic is expected to widen existing health inequalities over the years to come. There will therefore be a number of short, medium and long-term priorities that will require joint action in order to address widening health inequalities coming out of the pandemic.

### 2019 Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation Cardiff – Health Domain



Source: Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation 2019, Welsh Government

## Food Poverty

Cardiff is mid to low ranking among the UK's Core Cities in terms of households experiencing food poverty. However, it is estimated that 1 in 10 households report skipping or reducing

the size of meals or seeking external help. The affordability of food is also likely to be affected by climate change with impacts on crop yields leading to food price spikes in the UK. This will also impact on the health of

people living in poverty or households with low income as increased CO2 emissions due to climate change could impact on the nutritional value of certain crops and therefore the ability to access healthy food.

## Personal Well-being

In terms of personal well-being across the Core Cities, Cardiff is:

- Second in terms of 'Life Satisfaction', but below both the Wales and UK average rating.
- Mid-ranked in terms of 'Feeling Worthwhile', but below both the Wales and UK average rating.
- Second in terms of 'Happiness', but below both the Wales and UK average ratings.
- Best ranked in terms of 'Anxiety', matching the UK figure and comparing favourably with Wales.

Across the range of measures, personal well-being deteriorates as deprivation increases.

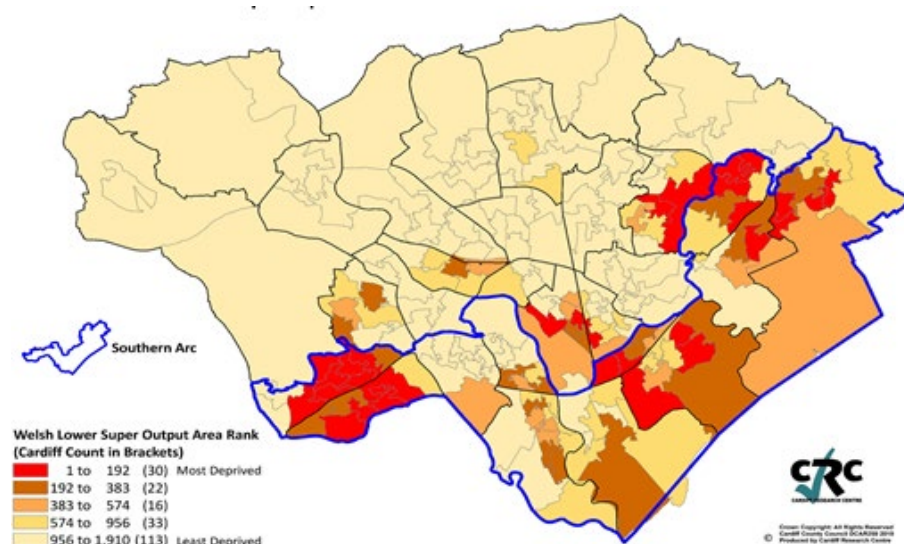


## Inequality: Education

Educational outcomes across the city vary significantly. 14%, or 30 out of 214, Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs) in Cardiff are ranked in the 10% most deprived in Wales. This is the fifth highest proportion of all Welsh Local Authorities. These LSOAs are mainly found in the 'Southern Arc' of the city.

As a whole, Cardiff's schools have seen a period of consistent improvement, with education attainment rising every year since 2012 and Cardiff schools now ranking amongst the top performers in Wales. However, there still remains a marked variability in performance between schools and further work is needed to address the attainment gap.

### 2019 Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation: Cardiff – Education Domain



Source: Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation 2019, Welsh Government

## Housing Affordability

Housing is central to liveability. Good, low carbon homes are associated with all of the outcomes covered in this report.

Housing in Cardiff is the second least affordable amongst the UK's Core Cities, just behind Bristol; on average, property costs are over seven and a half times the median gross annual earnings. Having been

the sixth least affordable local authority in Wales in 2019, Cardiff is now second, just behind the Vale of Glamorgan and well above the Wales-wide average.

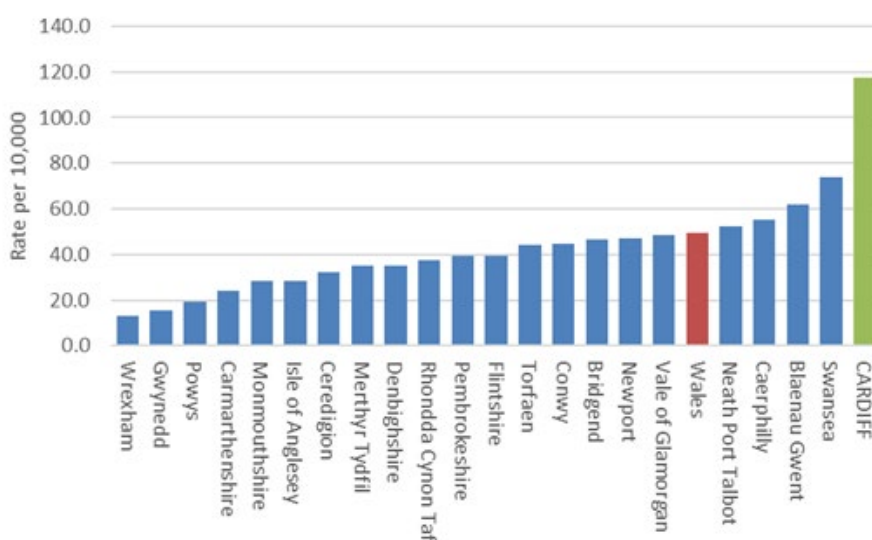
## Homelessness

Being without a home affects every aspect of a person's life, from their ability to hold down or find a job, to their health and their relationships. The immediate and long-term effects of homelessness on individuals have a high impact on public services, putting additional pressures on health, support services, the police and judicial system.

In 2019-20 (represented by a 2-week survey period in October 2019), Cardiff had the third highest estimated rate of rough sleepers across Welsh LAs, behind Newport and Ceredigion. Between 2018-19 and 2019-20, Cardiff's estimated number of rough sleepers was relatively unchanged, falling slightly from 100 to 92.

In terms of the rate of households for whom homelessness was successfully prevented for at least 6 months, per 10,000 households, Cardiff is the top performer amongst Welsh Local Authorities.

### Rate of Households for whom Homelessness was Successfully Prevented for at least 6 Months per 10,000 Households, 2019-20 (Welsh Local Authorities)



Source: Welsh Government

## SUMMARY OF KEY ISSUES

- **If the 'Southern Arc' of Cardiff were a single local authority, it would be by some margin the most income deprived in Wales:** In terms of income deprivation, over a third (35.6%) of Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs) in the 'Southern Arc' are ranked in the 10% most deprived areas in Wales. Almost one fifth of the LSOAs in Cardiff are ranked in the 10% most deprived in Wales, the third highest proportion of all Welsh Local Authorities. How to ensure that all citizens benefit from the capital city's economic growth is one of the most complex and challenging issues facing Cardiff over the years to come.

- **The impact of deprivation on health and well-being:** Cardiff has clear health inequalities across the city, with wards in the 'Southern Arc' generally more deprived in terms of health. There is ample evidence that social factors, including education, employment status, income level, gender and ethnicity have a marked influence on how healthy a person is. The lower an individual's socio-economic position, the higher their risk of poor health.

Similarly, across a range of personal well-being measures (levels of happiness, satisfaction, anxiety and feeling worthwhile), well-being deteriorates as deprivation increases in Cardiff.

- **Child Poverty:** Child poverty is discussed in the chapter: Cardiff is a Great Place to Grow Up. In summary, a fifth of children aged under 16 are living in relative low-income families in Cardiff. Evidence suggests that children from low-income families are more likely to have feelings of isolation, be drawn into anti-social behaviour, young offending or suffer the effects of crime. Children from low-income families are also more likely to be at risk of Adverse Childhood Experiences and the rates of children considered to be at risk, being placed on the child protection register, or taken into care, are significantly higher in the city's most deprived communities
- **Overall unemployment in Cardiff is low, but this varies significantly across the city:** The percentage of working age people claiming unemployment-related benefits was relatively stable between 2016 and 2018, before a gradual incline over the following two years. However, in April 2020, claims began to increase sharply, coinciding with the start of the pandemic. The rate has since declined but remains above pre-pandemic levels. Cardiff's claimant count rate reveals a persistent problem with spatial inequality in Cardiff. The claimant count rate in Adamsdown is roughly 7 times higher than in Radyr.
- **Housing affordability:** Housing in Cardiff is the second least affordable amongst the UK's Core Cities, just behind Bristol; property costs are over seven and a half times the median gross annual earnings. Having been the sixth least affordable local authority in Wales in 2019, Cardiff is now second, just behind the Vale of Glamorgan and well above the Wales-wide average.

- **Homelessness and Rough Sleeping:** Cardiff has the third highest estimated rate of rough sleeping across Welsh Local Authorities, behind Newport and Ceredigion. However, Cardiff is the best performing Welsh Local Authority for rate of households prevented from homelessness for at least 6 months.

### Impact of Covid-19:

- The Covid-19 pandemic has had, and continues to have, a direct and differential impact on communities within the Cardiff and Vale University Health Board (UHB) area, evidenced by 'long-Covid' and premature mortality rates. Poorer outcomes are associated with underlying health conditions and disability, levels of deprivation, housing conditions, occupation, income and being from an ethnic minority community.
- The long-term health and well-being consequences of Covid-19 – such as long-Covid, as well as the impacts of delayed diagnosis, treatment, and rehabilitation, due to limited seeking/ availability of 'non-essential' health services during the pandemic – are likely to be similar unequally distributed, exacerbating health inequalities.
- The pandemic has had a significant impact on Cardiff's economy, causing the extended shutdown of key sectors employing high numbers of the city's residents, including hospitality, retail, leisure, cultural and events. Those employed by these sectors have been most adversely affected – typically young people, women, and people from an ethnic minority background.

Whilst these sectors have taken major steps towards recovery and footfall levels in the city centre have returned to levels just below that in 2019 (pre-pandemic), the situation remains uncertain and fragile, not least due to the ongoing threat of the virus and measures needed to prevent its spread.

- The claimant count rate in Cardiff doubled at the beginning of the pandemic. It has since declined but remains above its pre-pandemic level.
- During the first three weeks of the initial lockdown in March 2020, 140 people, including some of the most entrenched rough sleepers, were provided with appropriate accommodation where they could safely shield or self-isolate. These achievements are now being embedded into a long-term, preventative approach, with the backing of all public service partners, so that the city can permanently reduce the number of people sleeping rough and experiencing homelessness.



Well-being Objective 4

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Safe, Confident  
and Empowered  
Communities

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## Overview

Cardiff is a comparatively safe city, with the second lowest crime rate of comparable cities in England and Wales. However, within Wales, Cardiff has the third highest crime rate per thousand population.

During the height of the pandemic, Cardiff saw a significant drop in overall crime. However, since the easing of restrictions in June 2021, levels of crime and anti-social behaviour have returned to pre-Covid levels, leading to a significant increase in non-emergency calls to the Police. This has put pressure on the 101 helpline, as well as increasing pressure on A&E services from non-Covid related admissions.

It is likely that Covid-19 lockdowns and restrictions will have particularly resulted in under-reporting of domestic violence and difficulties with mental health. The volume of domestic abuse referrals received is being closely monitored and escalated as appropriate to the Community Safety Partnership.

At 37%, Cardiff has the highest rate of reoffending of comparable cities in England and Wales, as well as Welsh Local Authorities. The impact of reoffending can be destructive and long-term, affecting not only victims of crime and their families as well as the wider community, but also the offender and their family.

In terms of fear of crime, Cardiff has dipped for the first time in three years below the Welsh average for feeling safe when walking in the local area and when travelling. People feel least safe when walking in the city centre, particularly people with a disability and women. Furthermore, respondents living in the most deprived areas of the city are more likely to feel unsafe compared to those living in the least deprived areas of the city.

With one of the oldest ethnically diverse communities in Britain, Cardiff is renowned for its cultural diversity and vibrancy. In terms of the percentage of people who agree that they belong to the area; that people from different backgrounds get on well

together; and that people treat each other with respect, Cardiff is above the Wales-wide average and the highest placed urban Welsh Local Authority. However, there is an intra-city gap, with people from the most deprived communities less likely to agree. Maximising opportunities to support community cohesion and inclusion is crucial, particularly in these areas.

Cardiff has a strong foundation to build on in terms of civic engagement with just over a quarter of people in Cardiff participating in some form of volunteering. Volunteering makes communities more resilient, helping people gain confidence, learn skills, and give back to those around them, benefiting community cohesion.

There are also high levels of interest in influencing key decisions that affect the city as a whole. A 42.7% turnout in the 2017 Welsh Local Elections was just above the Wales-wide average. Additionally, turnout for both the 2019 General Election and the 2021 Senedd Election was above the Wales-wide average.

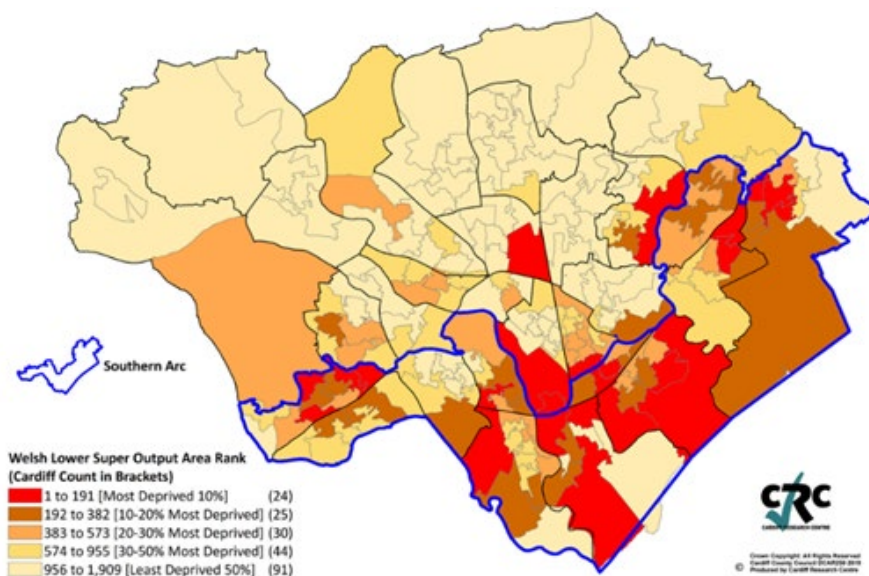
## Overall Crime

There are numerous impacts of criminal behaviour. Being a victim of even a 'minor' crime can have an impact on mental or physical health, ability to work and personal relationships. The impacts can also be felt by an entire community, in terms of their perceptions of the safety of where they live and work.

The crime rate in Cardiff has continued to fall since 2002/03 and, compared to the other Core Cities within the UK, Cardiff has the second lowest overall crime rate. Cardiff also has the lowest rate of Violence Against The Person Offences (per thousand population) of all the Core Cities, with the rate below the Wales average. Within Wales, however, Cardiff has the third highest crime rate per thousand population, behind the other urban areas of Newport and Wrexham.

Levels of crime are higher in the south and east of Cardiff where there are concentrations of deprivation, impacting on the quality of life and mental health of those living in these communities.

### 2019 Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation: Cardiff – Community Safety Domain



Source: Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation, 2019

## Violence Against the Person

Being a victim of violent crime can have consequences not only for physical well-being but also for mental health. Victims may go on to develop anxiety, depression, post-traumatic stress disorder or substance misuse issues. These results can in turn affect their personal and working relationships.

Cardiff has the lowest rate of violence against the person of comparable cities in England and Wales. The rate has dipped below the Wales-wide average in the last 2 years and is the eighth lowest out of the Welsh Local Authorities.

## Criminal Damage

Criminal damage includes damage to property, ranging from graffiti and vandalism to arson. It can have similar individual and community impacts to anti-social behaviour.

Cardiff has the second lowest criminal damage rate of comparable cities in England and Wales. An improving trend can be seen but the rate has remained above the Wales and England & Wales rates since 2016/17. Cardiff has the seventh highest rate of Welsh Local Authorities but compares well to Newport and Blaenau Gwent, who have the highest rates. A significant drop in offences was seen during 2020/21 - during the pandemic (from 4070 to 3233 offences).



## Anti-Social Behaviour

Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) covers a wide range of behaviour which causes or is likely to cause harassment, alarm or distress. It can have a serious impact on victims and communities, making people feel unsafe in their own homes and surrounding areas.

Cardiff has the highest anti-social behaviour rate (per 100 persons) of all Welsh Local Authorities. However, when looking at South Wales Police data, since 2016/17, Cardiff has seen a steady decrease in anti-social behaviour incidents (from 12,039 to 9307 in 2019/20). The significant increase in 2020/21 was due to breaches of Covid-19 guidelines being recorded as anti-social behaviour incidents.

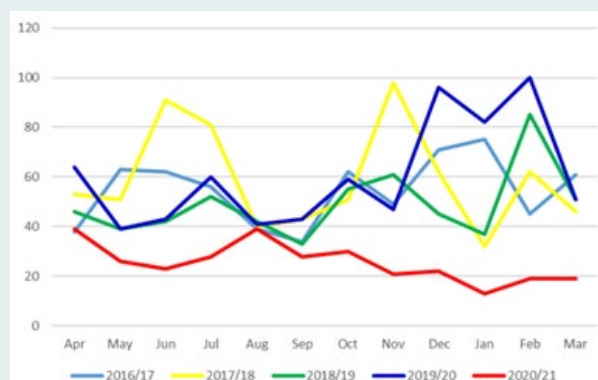
Hotspots for anti-social behaviour are concentrated in the 'Southern Arc' of the city.

Overall Anti-Social Behaviour Incidents in Cardiff: Yearly Trends Data



Source: South Wales Police / Office for National Statistics

Overall Theft from the Persons Offences in Cardiff: Monthly Trends Chart



## Theft

Since 2016/17, theft from a person has fluctuated in Cardiff (ranging from 588 to 725). In 2021, there were half as many thefts compared to the previous year due to the pandemic (from 725 to 307). Figure 38 shows the number of crimes usually peak in the winter months.

Source: South Wales Police



## Youth Offending

Between April 2020 and March 2021, the main offences for which youth were arrested were Public Order Offences, Violence Without Injury and Drug Trafficking. Of those arrested for all categories of offence, 80% were aged between 16 and 18 and 27% were classed as repeat offenders. Whilst the majority of Children and Young people who are arrested are committing minor offences, it is recognised that those considered to be at risk or vulnerable are more likely to be the target of grooming and exploitation. Several factors have been identified which seem to increase the likelihood of a young person becoming involved with crime, including:

- Being male
- Living in Cardiff's 'Southern Arc' / areas of higher deprivation
- Involvement with Children's Services
- Having a previous sentence or conviction
- Being a victim of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE's)
- Being linked to drug-related activity, which can lead to further issues associated with violent behaviour such as knife crime.

First time entrants (FTE's) to the youth justice system – children aged 0 to 17 who receive their first youth caution or court sentence during a specific period – have decreased since 2016/17, with a significant reduction in 2020/21. However, the impact of Coronavirus should be considered<sup>10</sup>.

## Hate Crime

Hate crimes are incidents or crimes against someone based on a part of their identity: their disability, ethnicity, religion or belief, sexual orientation or gender identity.

Between 2016/17 and 2017/18, the total number of recorded hate crimes dipped. However, since 2017/18, numbers have steadily increased, from 774 to 860 in 2021. Furthermore, since 2016/17, the total number of hate incidents in Cardiff have remained at similar levels (ranging from 1110 to 1053).

The number of crimes and incidents tend to peak in the summer months.

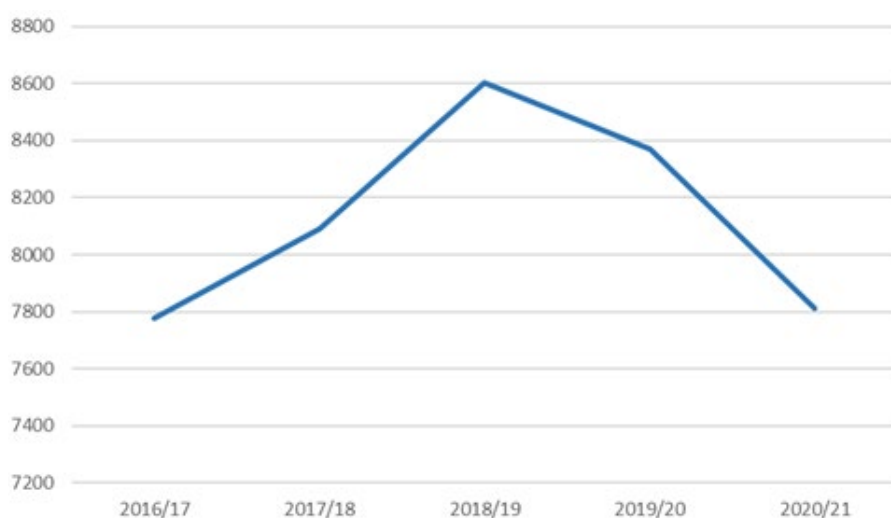
## Domestic Abuse

Domestic abuse encompasses not just physical violence, but emotional, psychological, financial or sexual abuse within a family or intimate relationship. The consequences are stark, affecting everything from the victim's mental and physical well-being to their financial security, their relationships with friends and family, to their ability to hold down a job.

Between 2016/17 and 2018/19, there was a steady increase in the number of domestic incidents recorded (from 7777 to 8605). The drop in the last 2 years is likely due to under reporting and restrictions during the pandemic (from 8605 to 7812).

Similarly, between 2016/17 and 2018/19, there was a steady increase in the number of domestic-related crimes recorded (from 3603 to 4349). The drop in the last 2 years is also likely due to under reporting and restrictions during the pandemic (from 4349 to 3889).

**Overall Domestic Incidents in Cardiff: Yearly Trends Chart**



Source: South Wales Police

## Reoffending

Cardiff (at 37.2%) has the highest rate of reoffending (combined rate for young people and adults) of comparable cities in England and Wales, as well as Welsh Local Authorities. The rate is on an upward trend and is significantly higher than the England and Wales-wide average (26.1%). However, rates of reoffending among young people have steadily declined in Cardiff from 52.5% in 2017 to 34.4% in 2019 - significantly below the Wales average (44.1%) and just above the UK average (33.1%).

The causes of reoffending, as with first time offending, are wide ranging. For young offenders, the likelihood of committing crime is increased if male, living in areas of higher deprivation and having experience of children's services, Adverse Child Experiences and contact with drug-related activity (please refer to the above section, 'youth offending', as well as the chapter 'Cardiff is a Great Place to Grow Up' for further detail). In addition, a key factor reported by young offenders in the Wales Violence Prevention Unit's Needs Assessment - that also applies to adult offenders and is highlighted in Cardiff's Youth Justice Strategy 2020-2022 - is access to their support networks if in prison away from their hometown and, furthermore, the ability to access professional support following release. Without support, the likelihood that offenders will return to their previous criminal lifestyle increases, as they feel there is no other option. This highlights the importance of readily, easily accessible, and meaningful support.

<sup>10</sup> Further detail can be found in the chapter: Cardiff is a Great Place to Grow Up.

## Feeling Safe at Home, Walking in the Local Area and when Travelling

How safe people feel is important because it often affects quality of life. People who think they are likely to be victims of crime tend to rate themselves as having lower overall well-being.

National Survey for Wales 2020/21 data shows that Cardiff has dipped below the Welsh average for feeling safe when walking in the local area and when travelling.

When looking at Ask Cardiff Survey results (from 2016 to 2018), respondents living in the most

deprived areas of the city are more likely to feel unsafe compared to those living in the least deprived areas of the city. Additionally, in each survey from 2017 to 2020, less than half of respondents noted that they feel safe walking in the city centre after dark, with the percentage dropping from 44.2% in 2017 to 37% in 2020. In 2020, only 25% of respondents with a disability and 30% of female respondents noted that they feel safe. Residents noted, “at night if on my own, I wouldn’t feel safe on a bus/train” and “at night, I feel that trouble may start at any time.”

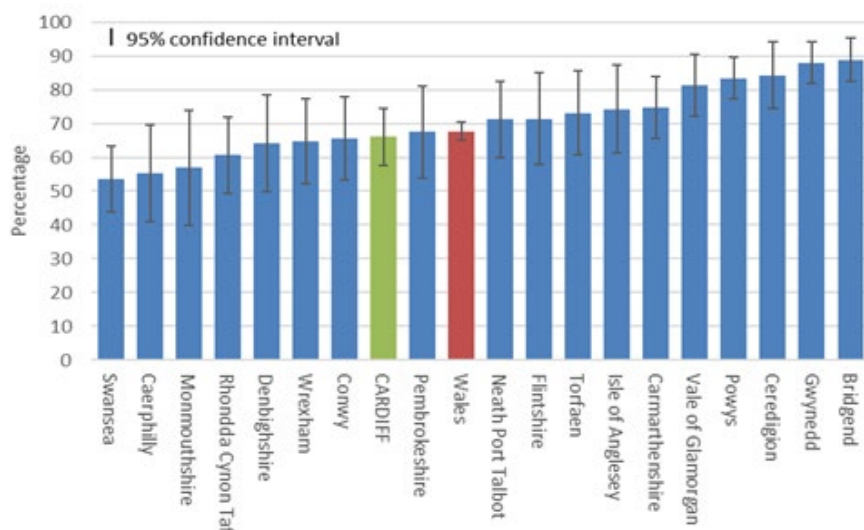
## Tackling Anti-Social Behaviour and Crime – What do Residents Think?

According to Ask Cardiff 2020 Survey data, when asked the question, “to what extent would you agree or disagree that the Police and other local public services are successfully dealing with anti-social behaviour and crime in your local area?”, three in ten respondents agreed that enough was being done. This compares to 46.6% of respondents who disagreed.

Respondents living in the most deprived areas of the city were least likely to agree, with 66.9% of people in the most deprived areas either disagreeing or strongly disagreeing, compared to 30.7% in the least deprived areas.

Those living in the ‘Southern Arc’ and male respondents were least likely to agree with this statement (23.4% and 31.9% respectively), with respondents of a minority ethnicity or under the age of 35 most likely to agree (37.4% and 36.6% respectively).

**Percentage of People Feeling Safe at Home, Walking in the Local Area, and when Travelling, 2020-21**



Source: National Survey for Wales

## Satisfaction with Local Area as a Place to Live

In terms of the percentage of people satisfied with their local area as a place to live, Cardiff is mid-ranked amongst Welsh Local Authorities and just above the Wales-wide average. Levels of satisfaction do not vary significantly across Wales, with a 6-percentage point difference between Cardiff, at 92%, and Vale of Glamorgan, the top performer, at 98%. The percentage for Cardiff has increased by 4 percentage points since 2016/17.



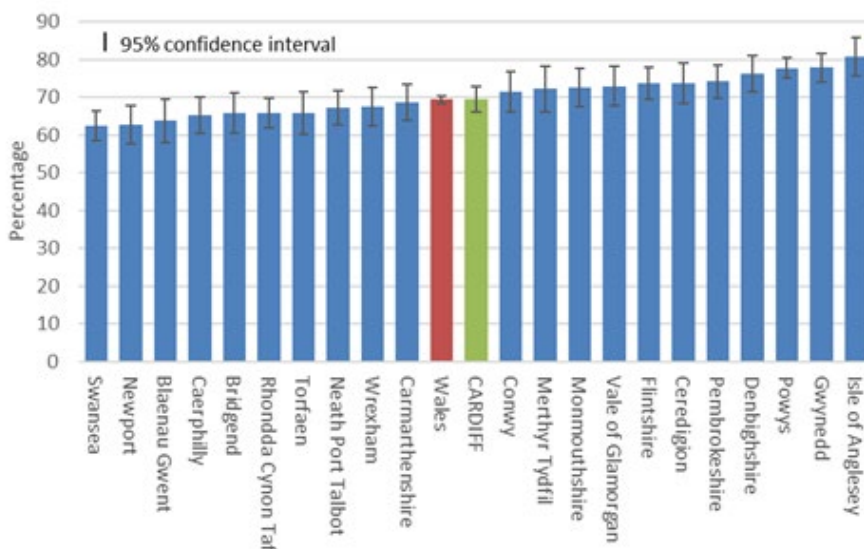


## Perception of Cohesion

In terms of the percentage of people who agree that they belong to the area; that people from different backgrounds get on well together; and that people treat each other with respect, Cardiff is above the Wales-wide average and the highest placed urban Welsh Local Authority – at 69%. Ask Cardiff Survey data (2020) shows that there is an intra-city gap, however, with a 32-percentage point difference between the most and least deprived communities.

Source: National Survey for Wales

**Percentage of People who Agree that they Belong to the Area; that People from Different Backgrounds Get on Well Together; and that People Treat each other with Respect, 2020/21 (Welsh Local Authorities)**



## Refugees and Asylum Seekers

In Cardiff, there are established and significant programmes of partnership delivery regarding the specific needs of refugees and asylum seekers. This includes a coordinated approach to ensure access to key services such as healthcare, education, and housing pathways for those who have received refugee status or have become destitute and are ineligible for Home Office support. This is a well-established area of collaboration, with Cardiff

having been a major asylum dispersal centre for over two decades.

Beyond the focus on core public service accessibility, as focus is placed on actively influencing broader areas of delivery and policy to maximise wellbeing and inclusion in, for example, employability, language-learning, volunteering and civic participation, as well as women-specific services.

In addition to core business in this area, Cardiff is currently a participating city in research led by the University of Oxford regarding inclusion approaches

for precarious migrants. The city's interest in this area reflects the complexities and challenge for local government in providing support to some migrant groups, in particular refused asylum seekers, and recognition that service exclusions defined by UK Government can undermine cohesion and broader equality objectives at the local level. The research is an exchange of local practice with the cities of Vienna, Austria and Frankfurt, Germany, with a view to strengthening local practice in this area.



## Volunteering

Volunteering can aid social cohesion and connection, as well as improve the well-being of volunteers. The well-being effect of volunteering results in a sense of purpose, confidence in one's own abilities, and forming of social connections.

In terms of the percentage volunteering in Cardiff, since 2016/17, there has been small percentage drop from 30 % to 26 %. Cardiff is just below the Wales-wide average. This compares to 33 % in Gwynedd, the top performing authority. Rates are also similar across least and most deprived communities (9.9 percentage point difference).

In Cardiff, the experience of community groups during the Covid-19 pandemic suggests that place and interest-based groups can help to alleviate loneliness and provide a sense of purpose. Over 1,000 people responded to the call to help the most vulnerable access essential food and medical supplies at the onset of the pandemic, with respondents to the Ask Cardiff 2020 survey noting that “sense of local community increased” and “community spirit grew.”

## Influencing Decisions

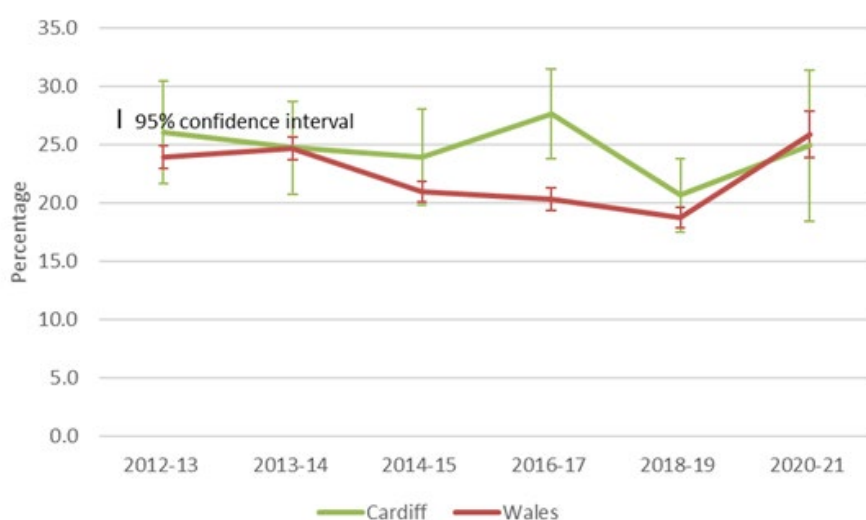
Being part of a strong social network and taking an active part in local community life is central to cultural well being and can make people, and their communities, more resilient. Given the growth of the city and the pressures on public services, now more than ever it is imperative that communities and residents feel that they can be involved in shaping their city and the services they receive.

In Cardiff, the percentage of people that agree that they can influence decisions affecting their local area was 24.9 % in 2020/21, slightly below the Wales-wide average of 25.9 %. This is an increase from the 2018/19<sup>11</sup> figure of 20.6 %.

A 42.7 % turnout in the 2017 Welsh Local Elections was just above the Wales-wide average. Voting turnout by ward in Cardiff ranged from 26.6 % in Trowbridge to 61.9 % in Rhiwbina.

In the 2019 General Election, Cardiff's turnout was 68.3 %, just above the Wales-wide average. In the 2021 Senedd Election, Cardiff's turnout was 49.5 %, above the Wales-wide average.

**Percentage of People that Agree that they can Influence Decisions Affecting their Local Area, 2012/13 to 2020/21**



Source: National Survey for Wales

<sup>11</sup> Data is not available for 2019/20



## SUMMARY OF KEY ISSUES

- **Cardiff is a safe city:** The crime rate in Cardiff has continued to fall since 2002/03 and, compared to the other Core Cities within the UK, Cardiff has the second lowest overall crime rate. Cardiff also has the lowest rate of Violence Against The Person Offences (per thousand population) of all the Core Cities, with the rate below the Wales average. Within Wales, however, Cardiff has the third highest crime rate per thousand population, behind the other urban areas of Newport and Wrexham.
- **However, fear of crime is increasing:** In terms of fear of crime, Cardiff has dipped for the first time in three years below the Welsh average for feeling safe when walking in the local area and when travelling. People feel least safe when walking in the city centre, particularly people with a disability and women. Furthermore, respondents living in the most deprived areas of the city are more likely to feel unsafe compared to those living in the least deprived areas of the city.
- **Crime and deprivation:** Levels of crime are higher in the south and east of Cardiff where there are concentrations of deprivation, impacting on the quality of life and mental health of those living in these communities.
- **Youth offending:** Between April 2020 and March 2021 the main offences for which youth were arrested were Public Order Offences, Violence Without Injury and Drug Trafficking. Of those arrested for all categories of offence, 80% were aged between 16 and 18 and 27% were classed as repeat offenders.

Whilst the majority of Children and Young people who are arrested are committing minor offences, it is recognised that those considered to be at risk or vulnerable who are more likely to be the target of grooming and exploitation. Further detail can be found in the chapter: Cardiff is a Great Place to Grow Up.

- **Anti-social behaviour:** Whilst the city has seen a steady decrease in anti-social behaviour incidents since 2016/17, Cardiff has the highest rate of anti-social behaviour of all Welsh Local Authorities. Hotspots for anti-social behaviour are concentrated in the 'Southern Arc' of the city.
- **Relatively high rates of reoffending:** Cardiff has the highest rate of reoffending of comparable cities in England and Wales, as well as Welsh Local Authorities. The rate has increased since 2017 and is significantly higher than the England and Wales average.
- **Cohesion:** Cardiff performs above the Welsh average and is the highest placed urban authority in Wales across a range of community cohesion indicators. However, there is an intra-city gap, with people from the most deprived communities less likely to agree. Furthermore, the total number of recorded hate crimes has steadily increased since 2017/18.

### Impact of Covid-19:

- During the height of the pandemic, Cardiff saw a significant drop in overall crime. However, since the easing of restrictions in June 2021, levels of crime and anti-social behaviour have returned to pre-Covid levels. This has led to a significant increase in non-emergency calls to the Police, putting pressure on the 101 helpline, as well as increasing pressure on A&E services from non-Covid related admissions.
- It is likely that Covid-19 lockdowns and restrictions will have particularly resulted in under-reporting of domestic violence and difficulties with mental health.
- Following the launch of the 'Together for Cardiff' initiative, which saw over 1,000 people volunteer to help the most vulnerable access food and medical supplies at the beginning of lockdown in March 2020, high levels of volunteering have continued. Between March and December 2020, 6,212 food parcels were delivered to vulnerable people.

Well-being Objective 5

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A Capital City that  
Works for Wales

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## Overview

Cardiff is the economic powerhouse of Wales, playing a vital role in creating jobs and wealth for the people of the city and the wider city region. Cardiff accounts for 18 % of Welsh GVA and the wider South East Wales Capital City Region also creates over half the economic output of Wales.

Whilst Cardiff has the building blocks for a competitive economy, productivity still lags behind many of the UK's leading cities, which in turn affects earnings. The number of employers paying the Real Living Wage in Cardiff has increased significantly in recent years; Cardiff has the lowest percentage of jobs that pay below the Living Wage in Wales and is amongst the lowest of the Core Cities. Additionally, disposable income levels in Cardiff are at the Welsh average, despite Gross Value Added (GVA) being significantly higher. Earnings in Cardiff are lower than the UK average, rising marginally.

Cardiff's sports and leisure offer, as well as its cultural scene and retail and hospitality industry, are some of the major draws for residents and visitors alike, and all play a vital role in the city's economic success. These sectors have been hit hard by the pandemic; since the onset of Covid-19 in March 2020, cultural

venues, hospitality venues and shops have had to frequently close to control the spread of the virus and events have been cancelled.

The claimant count rate in Cardiff doubled at the beginning of the pandemic, although it has since declined. However, the rate is significantly higher in the most deprived fifth of the population. Despite the lockdown restrictions, high and sustained levels of unemployment in Cardiff have been avoided, although the rate has increased from 3.7 % in 2020 to 5.1 % in 2021<sup>12</sup>.

Another welcoming and attractive feature of Cardiff is its green and blue infrastructure. The city has a rich heritage of green infrastructure that forms an integral part of its character, from the parkland in Bute Park, through to the tree lined avenues and green spaces that form the setting of the Civic Centre. Furthermore, much of the city's success can be attributed to its canals, rivers, and waterfront location. Whilst this is crucial in terms of resilience in the face of climate change, with biodiversity benefits, Cardiff's green and blue infrastructure also contributes to the health and mental well-being of residents.

Cardiff can be deemed a skilled city; high level skills are above average and the number of adults with no

skills is low. With three universities, the city and region's universities act as a conveyor belt of talent into the city economy and cultural life. Moving forward, the city will need to focus on investing in skills training and into-work support for young people, women and workers displaced by the pandemic, ensuring that this support is accessible to ethnic minority communities in order to address the gap in economic activity and employment. This includes ensuring that skills match with the city's ambition for a prosperous, green and equal recovery. Attracting inward investment to create jobs in high-value industries of the future – including the green economy -as well as creating good-quality, accessible jobs across Cardiff's communities to increase economic and social well-being will also continue to be essential.

Visitor numbers, and their associated economic impact, have fallen drastically due to the pandemic. However, numbers had been strong and rising before the pandemic and will presumably recover as the pandemic recedes. Recovery work in the city centre will need to be centred around the development of unique attractions and experiences to rebuild the visitor numbers and footfall.

## Economic Output (Gross Value Added)

Gross Value Added (GVA) measures the value of goods and services produced in an area, giving an indication of how well an economy is performing. In 2019, GVA per head in Cardiff stood at £32,333, well above the Welsh average and slightly exceeding the UK average. However, there is a large gap in GVA per head between Cardiff and certain Core Cities, namely Manchester and Edinburgh, revealing that Cardiff needs to make progress in this area. Between 2015 and 2019, GVA per head in Cardiff rose by roughly 13 % and consistently remained above the Wales and UK averages.

## Productivity

Cardiff fails to deliver the 'agglomeration' productivity benefits compared to other major European cities due to a lack of density and scale.

Welsh cities make the lowest proportional contribution to regional output in comparison with all other UK regions. The need for competitive cities is backed up by a significant weight of international work. The OECD cites that, *"the larger the urban agglomeration within a region, the faster the growth the region experienced."*



<sup>12</sup> The 2020 figure has been taken from July 2019 to June 2020 model-based unemployment data, whilst the 2021 figure has been taken from July 2020 to June 2021 model-based unemployment data.

## Labour Market Profile

For the year ending June 2021, over three-quarters (77.4%) of the Cardiff population aged 16-64 were economically active (either in work or actively looking for work). However, this rate varied substantially by gender; 84.6% of males were active compared with just 69.9% of females. There is a similar disparity by ethnicity, with 21.0% of the white population aged 16-64 being economically inactive (neither in employment nor actively looking for work), compared with 30.6% of those from an ethnic minority group. This highlights that there is both a gender and ethnicity gap in terms of involvement in the labour market across the city.

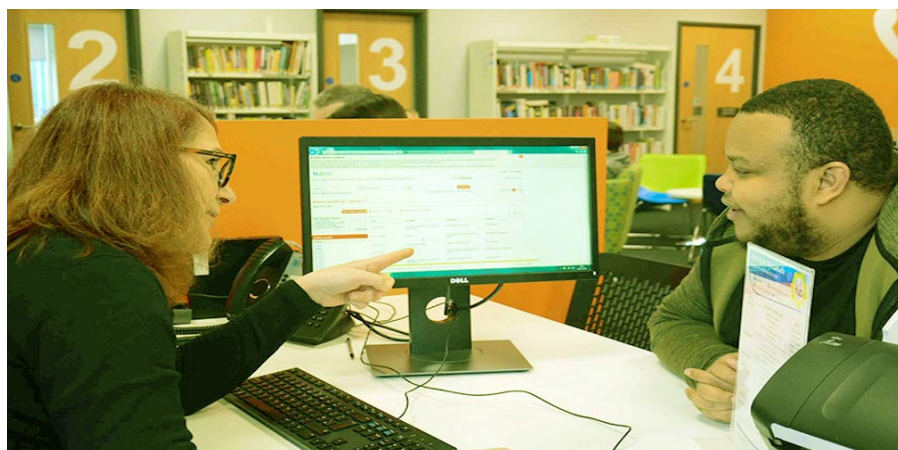
Overall, 55,800 people in Cardiff (22.6% of those aged 16-64) were classed as being economically inactive. The most common reasons for being inactive were due to being a student (45.5%), followed by long-term sick (18.1%) and looking after family/ home (16.0%).

In 2020, the top 3 employee jobs, by industry, were:

1. Human Health and Social Work Activities (13.2% of jobs)
2. Wholesale and Retail Trade (10.8%)/ Repair of Motor Vehicles and Motorcycles (10.8%)
3. Public Administration and Defence; Compulsory and Social Security (10.4%)/ Education (10.4%)

Between July 2020 and June 2021, 60.8% of Cardiff's employed population were in the following occupations:

1. Managers, Directors and Senior Officials (10.6%)
2. Professional Occupations (28.7%)
3. Association Professional & Technical (21.3%)

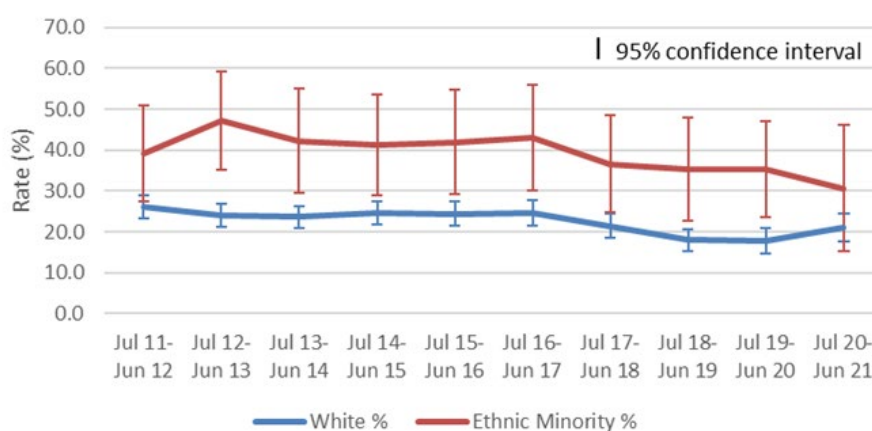


## Unemployment

The unemployment rate in Cardiff in 2021<sup>13</sup> was 5.1%, just above the Great Britain average of 5.0% and above the Welsh average of 4.4%. Since reaching a high of 9.9% in 2013, unemployment in Cardiff has seen a general downward trend. At the time of the last Well-being Assessment in 2016, the unemployment rate was 6.0%.

There is a large and longstanding disparity in the economic inactivity rates of Cardiff's ethnic minority and white residents, with the ethnic minority population being much more likely to be economically inactive.<sup>14</sup>

**Economic Inactivity Rate (Aged 16-64) in Cardiff by Ethnicity, July 2011-June 2012 to July 2020-June 2021**



Source: Annual Population Survey

<sup>13</sup> Based on July 2020 to June 2021 data.

<sup>14</sup> Ethnic minority figures are subject to large confidence intervals but the difference between the rates is significant for the majority of the period covered by the chart



## Average Earnings and the Living Wage

In 2021, median gross weekly earnings of full-time workers working in Cardiff stood at £586.70, exceeding the Welsh average (£562.80), yet falling short of the UK average (£610.70) and nearly all other Core Cities.

Between 2016 and 2021, median gross weekly earnings of people working in Cardiff increased by 10%, below the rates of increase seen across both Wales (14%) and the UK (13%).

Levels of household income also varies across the city, remaining low in many parts. Almost one fifth (19.2%), or 41 out of 214, of Cardiff's Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs) are ranked in the 10% most income deprived in Wales. These LSOAs are mainly found in the 'Southern Arc' of the city, where over a third (35.6%) of LSOAs are ranked in the 10% most deprived in Wales.

As a Living Wage City, the number of employers paying the Real Living Wage in Cardiff has increased significantly in recent years. In 2021, the percentage

of employee jobs with hourly pay below the living wage stood at 11.6%. This percentage is significantly below the UK-wide (17.1%) and Wales-wide (17.9%) averages, as well as the majority of other Core Cities and all other local authorities in Wales. Between 2020 and 2021, the percentage of employee jobs with hourly pay below the living wage decreased by 2.7 percentage points.

## Qualifications

In 2020, the percentage of Cardiff's adult population qualified to NVQ4+ (degree level or equivalent) stood at just below 50% (at 49.2%), comfortably above the Welsh and UK average, and above the majority of other Core Cities. Since 2004, the percentage of people qualified to degree level in Cardiff has remained consistently above the Wales and UK averages. Between 2016 and 2020, this percentage has been on a broadly increasing trajectory in Cardiff.

In 2020, the percentage of Cardiff's adult population with no qualifications stood at just over 5%, comparing favourably to the Welsh and UK averages, as well as the rates seen in most other Core Cities.

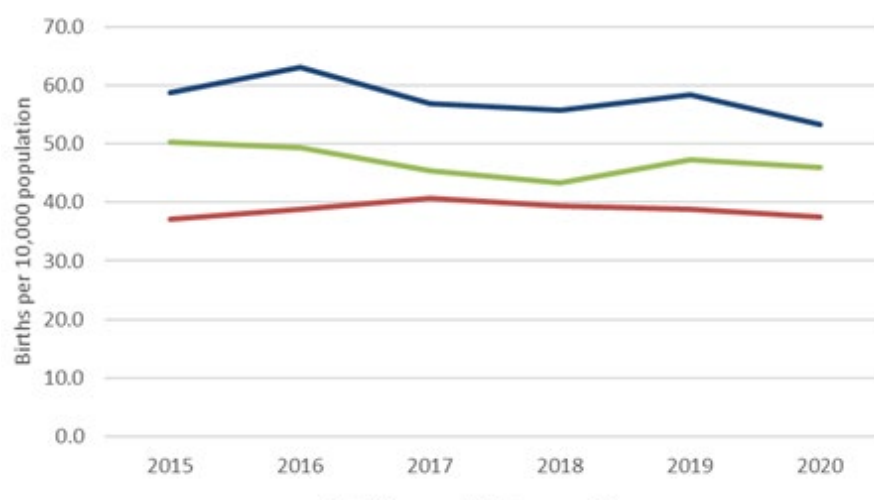


## Business Start-Ups

In 2020, 46.0 new enterprises per 10,000 population were created in Cardiff, amounting to 1,700 businesses. This rate exceeds the Welsh average (37.6) but sits well below the UK average (53.3) and that of most Core Cities; the size of the gap between Cardiff and Bristol, Birmingham and Manchester reveals that there is much room for improvement in this area.

The current rate is lower than it was at the time of the last Well-being Assessment in 2016 (49.3%).

**Births of New Enterprises per 10,000 Population, 2015-2020**



Source: Business Demography/Mid-Year Population Estimates, Office for National Statistics

<sup>13</sup> Based on July 2020 to June 2021 data.

<sup>14</sup> Ethnic minority figures are subject to large confidence intervals but the difference between the rates is significant for the majority of the period covered by the chart

## Culture

Over the past two decades, culture has been inventively used to transform Cardiff. The city's cultural offer is therefore an area of competitive advantage, with the city's infrastructure and broad offer recognised by citizens as amongst the best in Europe. The sector generates over £1bn of GVA for Cardiff's economy each year and employs around 15,000 people –which represents a third of the sector in Wales.

As a national centre for arts and performance, the city is home to major cultural venues, including the Wales Millennium Centre, the National Museum and Gallery of Wales, St David's Hall, and the New Theatre. Music – in particular - forms an important component of the city's identity and history, with Cardiff responsible for approximately 30 % of the production and 41 % of the jobs generated by the core of the Welsh music sector. Sport is also a big part of the city's culture, from professional teams through to the thousands of grassroots teams and clubs across the city.

As highlighted in the Wales Centre for Public Policy's Cultural Well-being Evidence Briefing Paper (2021), as well as the Future Generations 2020 Report on the progress of the well-being goals, culture shapes cities as a place to work, to live and to visit, and is increasingly recognised as a key well-being asset. Indeed, individual/ community participation or attendance in arts, cultural or heritage events is associated with higher levels of well-being. Prior to the pandemic, participation in culture is high in Cardiff and the city leads Wales in the percentage of its residents participating in cultural life (with 84 % attending at least three events during 2019-20). However, there is a marked difference – of 17.4 percentage points - between the most and least deprived fifths of Cardiff's population participating in cultural activities, with the latter being far more likely to attend a cultural activity. Work is therefore needed to increase participation through ensuring that local arts, culture, heritage, and sports events are reasonably accessible to all communities.

Furthermore, much of the cultural sector has been significantly impacted

by the pandemic, with venues closed by the restrictions for over a year. Sport was also suspended, affecting both professional and grassroots participation. Living without these cultural activities has served to highlight the importance of culture and support to city life, to the economy and to wellbeing, with one resident in the Ask Cardiff 2020 survey noting that it is crucial to *“work to maintain [the city's] facilities and cultural venues after the end of COVID.”*

As well as supporting the cultural sector through assistance in accessing Covid-19 business grants, the city has worked closely with the sector to direct additional support from the Cultural Recovery Funds administered by Welsh Government's Creative Wales and the Arts Council of Wales. Moving forward, it will be essential to put culture and sport at the centre of recovery, embracing the role the sector plays in shaping the city centre – how Cardiff will do this is highlighted in the city's Greener, Fairer, Stronger Recovery and Renewal Strategy. The new Cultural Cities Report also cites the way in which culture can contribute to the recovery effort.

## Tourism

Cardiff is the most important tourism and visitor destination in Wales in terms of reputation, profile, and impact; the city contributes over 25 % of all visitor-generated expenditure in Wales and has a higher spend per head per visitor than anywhere else in Wales. This means that tourism makes a significant contribution in Cardiff – not only in terms of economic value but in social and cultural benefits.

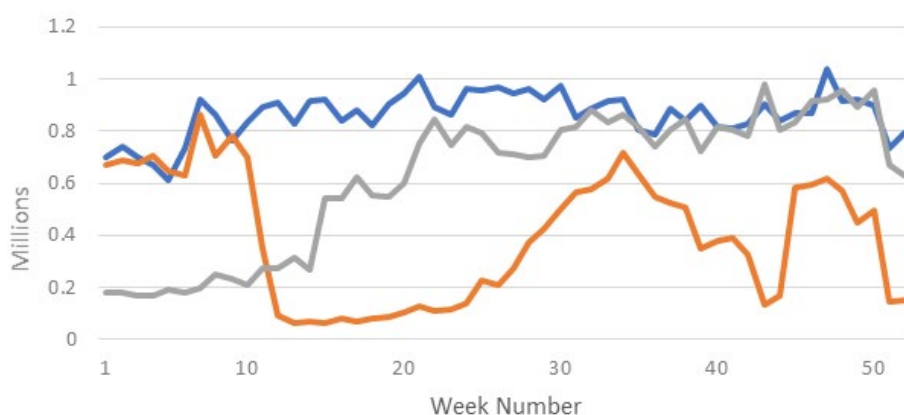
Cardiff's cultural offer also differentiates the city from other cities for visitors. This has led to the development of a unique tourism and day visitor offer based upon innovative and especially curated experiences that reflect the cultural, heritage and sporting strengths of Cardiff.

Covid-19 clearly impacted visitor numbers. Between 2019 to 2020, numbers fell sharply: in 2019, Cardiff received over 21 million visitors, compared to roughly 8.25 million in 2020. Consequently, the economic impact of visitors in Cardiff has been significantly affected, falling by roughly 65 % from 2019 to 2020.

It should, however, be noted that city centre footfall has now returned to pre-pandemic footfall.

More broadly, the tourism sector is a critical part of the city's post-Covid recovery. In order to ensure that visitor numbers recover, the city will need to continue to build upon its innovative approach to tourism, promoting Cardiff to both domestic and international audiences.

**City Centre Footfall**



Source: Cardiff Council

## Music

Music forms an important component of Cardiff's identity and history, as well as a strength and opportunity within the creative sector. In 2019, Sound Diplomacy undertook a Music Ecosystem Study in Cardiff, in order to identify the most effective way to use music to promote the city, ensure the support of musicians and music professionals, and enhance cultural value. The development of the study was supported by evidence

and opinions of people working in or alongside the music industry.

The outcome of the study was a series of strategic recommendations that have the potential to support the local music industry, generate economic impact, and improve the quality of life of those who live in, visit, or choose to study in the city. Recommendations vary from strengthening the engagement between the music industry and policy makers, to promoting music education, ensuring it is

given the same priority as other subjects, as well as supporting musicians with accessible, affordable, and adequate facilities to rehearse, record and perform in.

The study has led to the establishment of a Music Board, to champion Cardiff as a music-friendly city on a local, national, and international level, as well as a Music Strategy Work Programme to progress the recommendation identified.

## Brexit

The United Kingdom officially withdrew from the European Union on 31 January 2020, with a 'transition period'<sup>15</sup> put in place for 11 months, providing time for a new relationship to be agreed. This culminated with the agreement of an EU-UK Trade and Cooperation Agreement in December 2020.

An extensive amount of work has been – and continues to be – undertaken both to prepare for and respond to the impacts of EU Transition across the city. Alongside Covid-19, Brexit will continue to have a profound impact on the Welsh economy. Attempts to model the short-term impacts produce uncertain results, however, extensive modelling of the likely medium-term impact estimates that this will be concentrated in certain sectors – as highlighted in the Wales Centre for

Public Policy's 2020 report, 'The implications of the European transition for key Welsh economic sectors.' Brexit will therefore impact the well-being of those employed in these sectors and areas where they are geographically concentrated.

The sectors most vulnerable to EU transition are those that rely on importing and exporting to the EU, such as the agricultural and food sector, and the manufacturing and steel sectors. Other impacted sectors include automotive; compound semiconductors; financial services; cyber security; digital and creative goods and services; and life sciences. Cardiff has some exposure to these sectors, with IQE an important semiconductor company in St Mellons, and aerospace facilities across the city-region. Life sciences, cyber security and the creative economy are also developing sectors in Cardiff.

The Cardiff economy will also be substantially impacted by the drop in the number of overseas workers – especially EU workers, who are specifically deterred by Brexit. Across Wales, this is already leading to particularly high demand in some sectors, notably manufacturing, transport, logistics and warehouse, and catering and hospitality. The easing of post-Brexit immigration rules, as well as further investment in skills and training, could help to address these shortages in the long run.

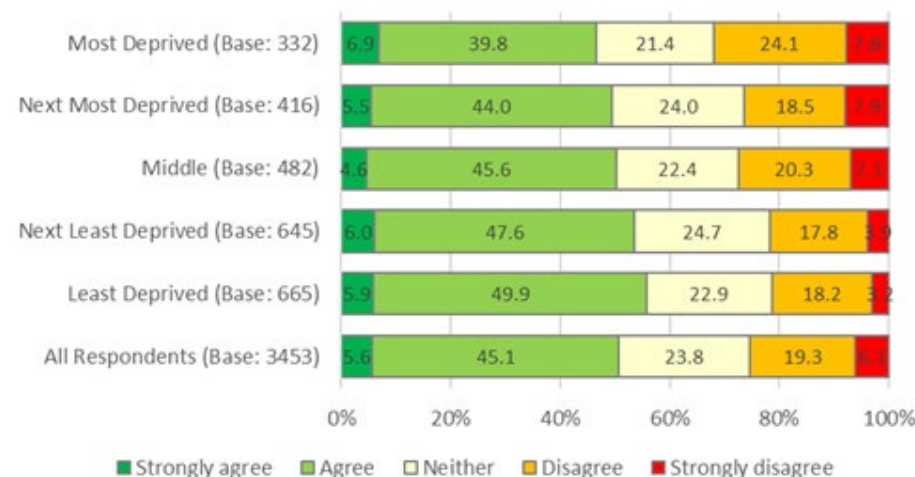
The position across Cardiff – as well as across Wales – is moving towards incorporating Brexit impacts into 'business as usual' arrangements across the city, ensuring that both the challenges and opportunities are addressed, aligning with post-Covid recovery.

## What Do Our Residents Think?

In 2020, just over 50% of surveyed residents agreed or strongly agreed that Cardiff has a thriving and prosperous economy, representing a significant decrease of roughly 15 percentage points relative to 2016.

The most deprived fifth of the population is least inclined to agree that Cardiff has a thriving and prosperous economy; there is a significant gap of almost 10 percentage points between the most and least deprived fifths.

**To What Extent do you Agree or Disagree with this Statement: Cardiff has a Thriving and Prosperous Economy? 2020, Deprivation Fifth**



Source: Ask Cardiff Survey, 2020

<sup>15</sup> During this time, the UK was no longer a member of the EU but remained a member of the single market and customs union.

## SUMMARY OF KEY ISSUES

- **Cardiff is the economic and commercial centre of Wales:** Cardiff plays a vital role in creating jobs and wealth for the people of the city and the wider city region. As Wales' core city, Cardiff will continue to play a leadership role in the Welsh economy post Covid-19.
- **However, Cardiff lags behind some UK cities in terms of productivity:** Cardiff fails to deliver the 'agglomeration' productivity benefits that it could for Wales due to a lack of density and scale. Welsh cities make the lowest proportional contribution to regional output in comparison with all other UK regions. The need for competitive cities is backed up by a significant weight of international work. The OECD cites that, "the larger the urban agglomeration within a region, the faster the growth the region experienced." Agglomeration, innovation, and creativity is critical to driving economic growth and jobs moving forward.
- **Cardiff has both a gender and ethnicity gap in terms of involvement in the labour market across the city:** For the year ending June 2021, 84.6% of males were economically active (either in work or actively looking for work) compared with just 69.9% of females. There is a similar disparity by ethnicity, with 21.0% of the white population aged 16-64 being economically inactive (neither in employment nor actively looking for work), compared with 30.6% of those from an ethnic minority group.
- **Levels of economic inequality remain high:** Unless concerted action is taken, the inequalities that exist between the richest and poorest communities across the cities will widen. Levels of household income remains low in many parts of the city. Given the role income plays in all forms of deprivation, there needs to be inclusive growth across Cardiff and the city region.
- **Cardiff is a Living Wage City, but levels of household disposable income remain low:** The number of employers paying the Real Living Wage in Cardiff has increased significantly in recent years; Cardiff has the lowest percentage of jobs that pay below the Living Wage in Wales and is amongst the lowest of the Core Cities. However, disposable income levels in Cardiff are at the Welsh average, despite GVA being significantly higher, reflecting the additional costs (notably housing) of living in the city.
- **Cardiff is a Skilled City:** High Level Skills (degree level or equivalent) are above average and the number of adults with no skills is low. Cardiff also has a strong university presence, with three universities, which are home to world leading research expertise.
- **Cardiff's sports and leisure offer, as well as its cultural scene and retail and hospitality industry, are some of the major draws for residents and visitors alike.** All play a vital role in the city's economic success, as well as the well-being of individuals and communities.

## Impact of Covid-19:

- The Covid-19 pandemic has had a major impact on every aspect of city life. Jobs and businesses where there is direct person to person contact, including retail, hospitality and close contact services, have been particularly affected – these sectors are typically, though not exclusively, concentrated within the city centre.
- Most businesses in the city centre ceased operating during the initial lockdown. This is in an area with almost 70,000 jobs, Wales' largest cluster of employment, representing around a third of the city's workforce and responsible for attracting the majority of the city's 21 million annual visitors.
- Across the UK, businesses have also been making permanent job losses. In some cases, this has been as a result of the direct economic impact of the pandemic, whilst other businesses (notably some large high street retail chains) have seen an acceleration of trends such as the movement towards online shopping. City centres have also seen the impact of restrictions on events and the prevalence of work from home for office workers – 46% of the workforce worked from home at the peak of the pandemic.
- Over 2021 footfall levels in Cardiff City Centre have almost returned to pre-pandemic levels. The city centre is (and will continue to) face challenges however – with continued hybrid working office workers are unlikely to return to the city centre in the same volume, and the 'Amazonisation' of the high street will continue. The long-term impacts of this, particularly on the labour market, are currently unknown.
- Despite the lockdown restrictions, high and sustained levels of unemployment in Cardiff have been avoided, with the unemployment rate in Cardiff standing at 5.1% in 2021 – although this is an increase from 3.7% in 2020<sup>16</sup>. The rate is just above the Great Britain average of 5.0% and above the Welsh average of 4.4%.
- The UK Government's furlough scheme, which protected millions of jobs across the UK, came to an end in September 2021. Initial Office for National Statistics (ONS) data shows that the number of UK workers on payrolls rose by 160,000 between September and October 2021, however, the full impact of furlough coming to an end is likely to take months to emerge.
- Visitor numbers and their associated economic impact fell drastically due to the pandemic, but had been strong and rising before the pandemic, and is expected to recover as the pandemic recedes.
- Through engagement mechanisms, residents have frequently highlighted the importance of economic recovery, with one resident noting in the 2021 Budget Consultation, "Economic recovery is fundamental to the wellbeing of all the citizens of Cardiff. Without a viable economy, none of the other issues can be addressed."

<sup>16</sup> The 2021 figure has been taken from July 2020 to June 2021 model-based unemployment data, whilst the 2020 figure has been taken from July 2019 to June 2020 model-based unemployment data.



Well-being Objective 6

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Cardiff grows in a  
resilient way

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## Overview

Climate change remains one of the most serious threats facing Cardiff with impacts such as rising sea levels, increased frequency of extreme weather events and the depletion of natural resources and ecosystem resilience putting the city and the well-being of residents at direct risk. Managing the impacts of climate change in a resilient and sustainable fashion is a major long-term challenge for Cardiff.

The effects of the climate emergency are already being felt in Cardiff, including erratic weather patterns, heatwaves, and changes in biodiversity. This has come with associated economic and social costs as businesses and citizens have struggled with issues like flood damage and other interruption to their daily lives. Just over 87 % of residents have expressed concern about the Climate Emergency. The journey to address the challenge is not new, however, and work has been underway to reduce Cardiff's carbon dioxide emissions and to increase its climate change resilience for many years. Further action to address the climate emergency is being taken forward through Cardiff's One Planet

Strategy and City-wide Action Plan as the city looks to become Cardiff carbon neutral by 2030.

Cardiff has the second highest figure for CO2 emissions per capita out of the UK's 'Core Cities'. However, Cardiff's emissions have been on a downward trend since 2016 and consistently below the figures for the UK and Wales. Emissions from Transport at 41 % and Domestic property at 27 % make up the majority of Cardiff's carbon footprint. This compares to Industry at 14 %, the Commercial sector at 12 % and the Public Sector at 6 %.

Cardiff continues to have the largest volume of motor vehicle traffic by local authority in Wales, which contributes to Cardiff's carbon emissions. However, use of sustainable transport modes has increased in recent years, with just over 51 % of Cardiff's residents now travelling to work using sustainable transport.

From the 130 acres of landscaped gardens and parkland in Bute Park, through to the canals, rivers and its waterfront location, Cardiff has a rich heritage of both blue and green infrastructure that forms an integral part of its character. The city is the top

performer in Wales in terms of walking accessibility to local green space and is the most awarded area in Wales in terms of the Green Flag Award, with 35 awarded sites in total. However, proximity to accessible green space varies across the city,

The emergence of Covid-19 in 2020 demanded urgent work to establish Cardiff city centre and district centres as Covid-secure spaces. Whilst the most recently available data does not fully capture the implications of this, we know that the work not only helped to safeguard residents and visitors, but also delivered public realm improvements and improved the local environment – including improvements to air quality. The long-term implications are currently unknown, but the benefits will continue to be harnessed, where possible moving forward.

Cardiff is the worst performing local authority in Wales in terms of the percentage of municipal waste reused/ recycled/ composted, though it outperforms all major UK cities. The percentage in Cardiff has dipped over the last two years to 55.8 % in 2021.

## Climate Change

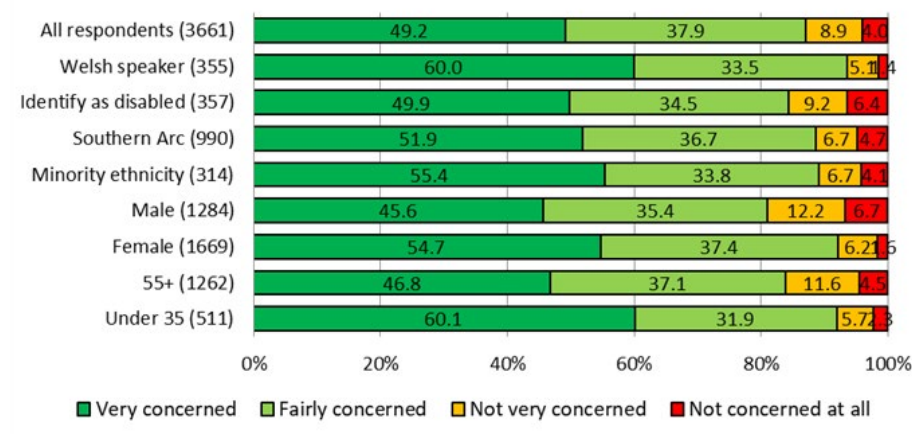
### Climate Risk

The changes in climate that we are already experiencing are projected to continue and intensify. In the second half of the century, the amount of change that occurs will depend strongly on how successful we are in reducing greenhouse gas emissions globally<sup>17</sup>.

In the 2020 Ask Cardiff survey, a large majority of Cardiff residents (87.1 %) expressed concern about the Climate Emergency, up slightly from 83.9 % reported in 2019.

Climate change risk impacts on all areas of well-being. The present and future magnitude of this risk is high for Wales, and more action is needed. As respondents to the 2021 Budget Consultation noted, *"Unless we tackle the climate emergency all the other priorities are impossible and irrelevant"* and *"if climate change is not tackled, all the other objectives will be pointless."*

### How concerned are you about the Climate Emergency? 2020



Source: Ask Cardiff 2020, Cardiff Council

<sup>17</sup> UK Climate Change Risk Assessment (CCRA): Summary for Wales (UK Climate Risk, 2021)

## Impact on Health and Well-being and Particular Groups in Society

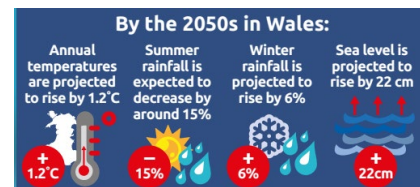
Climate change will have a significant impact on health and well-being, as well as on particular population groups in society.

Climate change means that extreme weather, flooding, and heatwave events are likely to occur more often in Wales. By the 2050s in Wales, annual temperatures are projected to rise by 1.2 degrees, with summer rainfall expected to decrease by around 15%. Winter rainfall is projected to rise by 6% and sea levels are projected to rise by 22cm.

People on low-income are less likely to have the resources to adapt to or recover from floods or other extreme weather. Threats to food security could see the potential increase in food costs, and those living in areas of socio-economic disadvantage are more likely to be exposed to higher concentrations of air pollution.

More extreme weather events could also have significant impact on older people. As well as being at higher risk of heat related illness and mortality, social isolation may increase during heatwaves. Older people are particularly vulnerable during flooding events that could lead to disruption to their health and social care support. Older adults are also more susceptible to the effects of poor air quality.

People with disabilities and long-term health conditions are also particularly vulnerable during heatwaves and flooding events. Heat waves can have negative impacts on conditions such as mental health problems, cardiovascular and respiratory disease, and diabetes. Sleep disturbance during heat waves can also have a profound impact.



## CO2 Emissions

BEIS data shows that Cardiff has the second highest figure for CO2 emissions per capita out of the UK's Core Cities. However, Cardiff's emissions have reduced since 2015, from 5.3t to 4.4t, and have been consistently below overall figures for the UK and Wales.

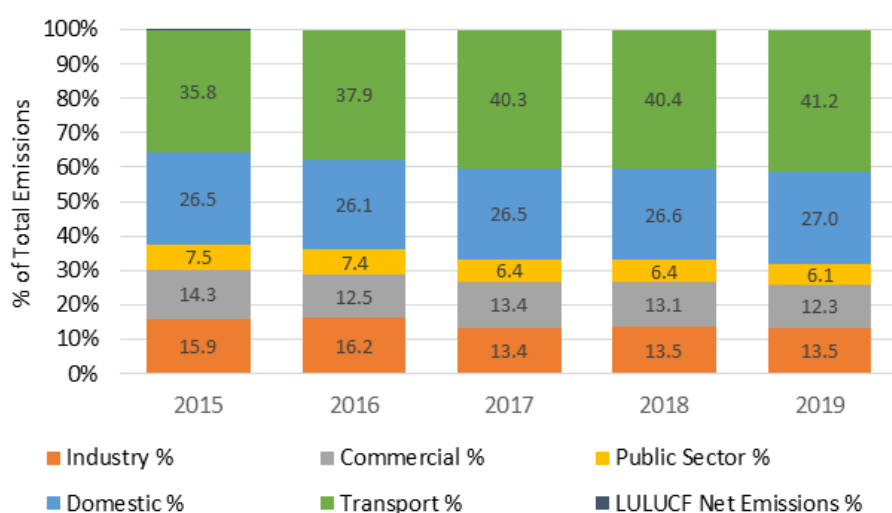
Transport contributes the most to CO2 emissions, at 41.2%.

The implementation of identified One Planet Cardiff Projects will lead to a 22% reduction in per annum emissions. The most significant emissions reductions that are forecasted to be achieved are from the implementation of the Cardiff's Transport White Paper, provided it meets its ambition to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from road travel by 50% across the city.

## Air Quality

Poor air quality has huge social costs through its impacts on health, and adverse effects on wildlife and biodiversity. No levels of air pollution are 'safe' and whilst poor air quality affects us all, some people are more vulnerable. For further detail in terms of air pollution and inequalities, please refer to the 'Health and Well-being' Chapter.

**Cardiff CO2 Emissions by Main Emission Type (% of Total Emissions), 2015-2019**



Source: BEIS



## Nitrogen Dioxide<sup>18</sup>

Based on UK modelling data, Cardiff has the highest NO<sub>2</sub> pollution levels in Wales, with high levels of pollution concentrated in and around the city centre and the stretch of the M4 near Whitchurch and Tongwynlais.

However, the modelling data demonstrates that Cardiff's NO<sub>2</sub> levels have slightly decreased since 2015, from 19 µg/m<sup>3</sup> to 16 µg/m<sup>3</sup> in 2019.

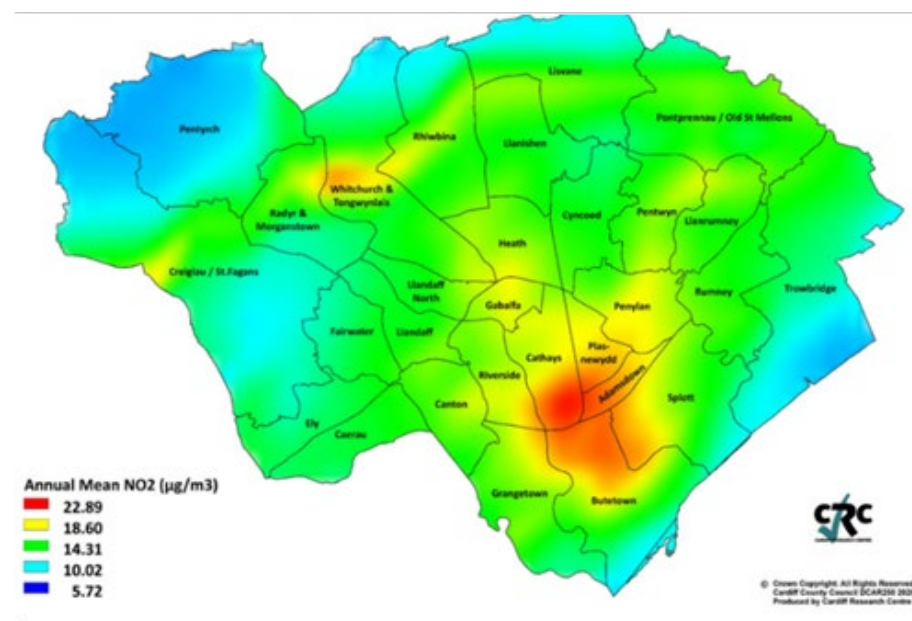
There are currently 4 Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs) declared across Cardiff, which were all declared due to measured exceedances of the annual mean NO<sub>2</sub> Air Quality Standard (40 µg/m<sup>3</sup>), with the main source of the pollution known to be derived from road transport emissions:

1. Ely Bridge
2. Stephenson Court
3. Llandaff
4. Cardiff City Centre

Monitoring data obtained during 2020 showed that monitored concentrations for NO<sub>2</sub> all complied with the annual average objective of 40 µg/m<sup>3</sup>, including all monitoring locations within the established AQMAs.

Following the first lockdown in March 2020, there was a marked reduction in

Annual Mean NO<sub>2</sub> (µg/m<sup>3</sup>), 2019 (DEFRA)



Source: Defra Modelled Data<sup>20</sup>

air pollution in central Cardiff of 40 % compared with the average for the time of year (for example, 14.4 µg/m<sup>3</sup> compared with 23.9 µg/m<sup>3</sup> average at Frederick Street). Improvements in air quality across the city continued to be seen following subsequent lockdowns.

Improvements can be associated with a decrease in car travel to work and

shopping centres, and an increase in walking and cycling during lockdown periods. It is notable that reductions appeared larger in less deprived areas; this is likely to be due to a higher proportion of working adults being able to work from home in these areas.

## Particulate Matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>)<sup>19</sup>

Cardiff has the highest modelled PM<sub>2.5</sub> pollution levels in Wales, with high levels of pollution concentrated just outside the city centre, predominantly in Plasnewydd and Adamsdown.

Cardiff's PM<sub>2.5</sub> levels have slightly decreased since 2015, from 10 µg/m<sup>3</sup> to 9 µg/m<sup>3</sup> in 2019.

## Particulate Matter (PM<sub>10</sub>)<sup>19</sup>

Cardiff has the highest modelled PM<sub>10</sub> pollution levels in Wales, with high levels of pollution concentrated in and just outside the city centre, predominantly in Cathays, Plasnewydd, Adamsdown and Penylan. High levels of pollution can also be found in parts of Pentwyn, Pontprennau/ Old St Mellons, Whitchurch & Tongwynlais, Radyr & Morganstown and Pentyrch.

Cardiff's PM<sub>10</sub> levels have slightly decreased since 2015, from 15 µg/m<sup>3</sup> to 14 µg/m<sup>3</sup> in 2019. This is below the revised 2021 WHO PM<sub>10</sub> guideline value of 15 µg/m<sup>3</sup>.

Monitored PM<sub>10</sub> data from 2020 at the Frederick Street, Richards Terrace and Castle Street AURN monitoring stations demonstrated compliance with the annual average air quality objective for PM<sub>10</sub> of 40 µg/m<sup>3</sup>.

<sup>18</sup> Modelled data is supported by local (monitored) data captured as part of the Council's duties under Local Air Quality Management.

<sup>19</sup> Data represents average NO<sub>2</sub> levels – specific locations may have higher or lower levels than indicated in the map.



## Ecosystem Resilience

Biodiversity loss is accelerating both globally and in Wales at an unprecedented rate. Reduced ecological resilience will affect how ecosystems recover and adapt to disturbance events such as wildfire, extreme weather events or disease.

In Wales, 8 % of species on the red list are threatened with extinction, and 17 % of species in Wales are at risk of extinction.

For the 16 protected conservation sites in Cardiff, there is insufficient evidence, staff resource or understanding to assess the condition of 50 % of the key protected features. Of those features which can be assessed, 5 out of 13 are in

an 'unfavourable condition'.

Invasive Non-Native Species are one of the five main threats and causes of biodiversity decline alongside climate change, habitat change, pollution and exploitation. Between 2016 and 2019, Cardiff had 133 occurrences of Invasive Non-Native Species.

Crucial to ecological resilience will be ensuring that nature works with and for us, rather than against us. Nature-based solutions could be targeted to areas of deprivation in particular, ensuring that people benefit in the long-term from enhanced ecosystems.

Further detail regarding the implications for Cardiff as a result of biodiversity

loss, as well as the city's current plans to maintain and enhance biodiversity to deliver a wide range of economic, social and environmental benefits can be found in Cardiff's Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems Duty (BRED) Forward Plan.

## Natural resources

Natural resources are being used at an unsustainable rate. Globally overconsumption, methods of production, along with emissions, are leading to changes in the environment that are having significant impacts on the natural resources and ecosystems that we rely on.

## Food Security

As well as more extreme weather disrupting food production and supply in the UK and internationally, there is the increased risk of pests, invasive species and diseases impacting on crop yields and livestock health. Poorer soil quality and less water will also impact on crop yields, whilst higher water temperatures and ocean acidification will impact on the availability of fish. Wales, like the UK as a whole, is currently reliant on food imports from

other countries, many of which are vulnerable to reductions in crop yields. As well as the risk to food insecurity, growing CO2 emissions - of which agriculture is a major contributor - could impact on access to nutritious food directly impacting health. Increased levels of CO2 has been shown to affect levels of nutritional content in certain crops.

The importance of sustainable food sources has been highlighted by residents, with one respondent to

the 2021 city-wide Food Strategy consultation stating, "*More locally produced, affordable food with less waste and carbon footprint would be good for all.*"

More detail is provided under the 'Health and Well-being' chapter of this assessment. Issues with food security will also lead to increases in food prices and the cost of living and this is discussed in the 'Supporting People out of Poverty' chapter.

## Water Health

Water bodies across Wales are failing on several Water Framework Directive measures; for example, the Ely River is in a 'bad condition' while the Taff and Rhymney rivers are in a 'moderate condition'. The Afon Clyne, a tributary of the river Ely, is the worst performing river in Wales<sup>20</sup>.

Legal and illegal discharge of sewage is a major concern in Cardiff and upstream. For example, in 2002 the Combined Sewers Overflow (CSO) at Tongwynlais Recreation Ground, storm overflow spilled 206 times for a total of 3809 hours<sup>21</sup>.

## Flood Risk

The frequency and severity of floods is increasing and is expected to further increase as a result of climate change. Risk levels are likely to increase along with the number of properties and extent of infrastructure at risk.

Over 30,000 residential properties in Cardiff are currently at some level of flood risk. Demand for interventions to reduce risk of surface water flooding is concentrated in the 'Southern Arc', an area with a concentration of deprivation. Furthermore, when the risks from all flood sources (tidal, fluvial and surface water) are combined, 5 of the 33 areas in Wales identified as being at most risk are within Cardiff's Southern arc: St. Mellons, Roath, Canton, Riverside and Grangetown<sup>22</sup>. The pattern of distribution against deprivation is therefore clear and consistent. 83 % of properties within

NRW's designated Flood Warning Areas within Cardiff, are linked to its Flood Warning Service.

Climate change and sea level rise will also pose additional risks of coastal flooding. Coastal habitats such as saltmarsh and mudflats play a role in mitigating flood risk and providing wider benefits. However, they are currently being impacted by coastal squeeze and erosion, which will be exacerbated by climate change - including Rumney in Cardiff. There are opportunities to use nature-based solutions to address these pressures and to enhance the biodiversity of hard coastal defence structures.

It will not be possible to prevent all flooding; there is therefore a need to use a range of adaptive approaches. However, the rate of adaptation needs to quicken in order to keep pace with the increasing impacts of climate change.

<sup>20</sup> Water Watch Wales (Natural Resources Wales)

<sup>21</sup> Is my river fit to play in? (arcgis.com)

<sup>22</sup> Communities at Risk Register (CaRR) (gov.wales)

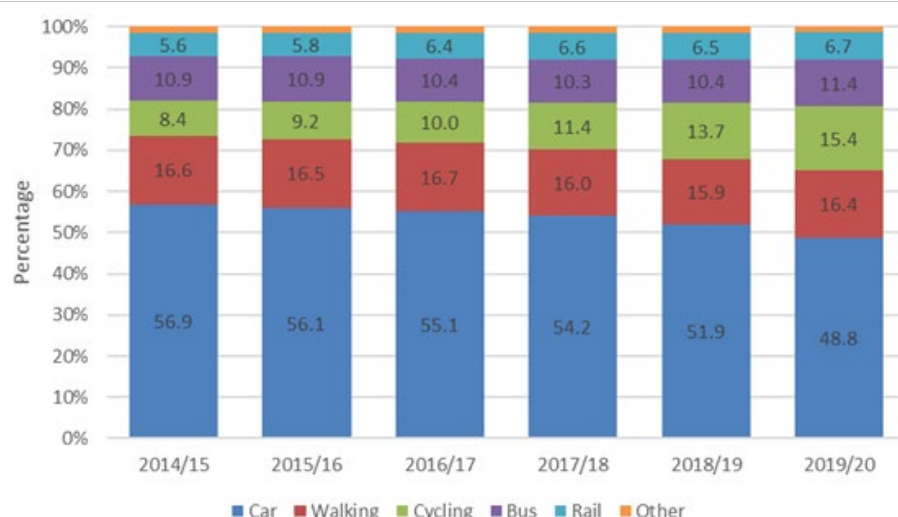
## Transport

Pre-pandemic, over 100,000 people commuted into Cardiff each day – around 80,000 of them by car<sup>23</sup>. With the largest travel to work area population in Wales, at 778,000 residents, Cardiff has by far the largest volume of motor vehicle traffic by local authority in Wales. Transport is therefore consistently one of the most important issues for Cardiff's residents, and traffic congestion, traffic pollution and a public transport system which struggles to adequately serve the people who live and work in the city are all issues of major concern.

The high use of single-person car journeys into and around Cardiff only adds to the city's carbon figures – transport contributes the most to CO2 emissions, at 41.2%, and is the main cause of air pollution. Changing how people travel – with a shift to sustainable transport – is seen as one of the biggest contributions cities can make to reducing the impact on the climate. This will need to be supported by accessible, sustainable, and efficient transport services and infrastructures, as well as bringing services to people in order to reduce the need to travel. This aligns with the priorities set out in Welsh Government's *Llwybr Newydd: the Wales Transport Strategy 2021*.

In the latest Transport Survey (2019/20), 51.2% of responses reported that they travel to work using sustainable transport, exceeding the 50:50 target.

**Travel to Work by Mode of Transport (%), 2014/15 – 2019/20**



Source: Transport Survey, Cardiff Council

This is a 6% increase since 2016/17. There has been a significant shift in cycling as a mode of travel, from 10% in 2016/17 to 15% in 2019/20, aligned with the city's promotion and support of active travel, such as the building of a high-quality, safe and full-segregated cycle network across the city. Public transport usage (bus and rail) only slightly increased between 2016/17 and 2019/20, from 16.8% to 18.1%.

These shifts are positive and support Welsh Government's Sustainable Transport Hierarchy, which prioritises walking and cycling, followed by public transport and ultra-low emissions

vehicles, before other private motor vehicles.

The importance of cleaner, more sustainable modes of transport was also highlighted by several respondents to the 2019 Child Friendly Cardiff survey. When asked "Is there anything else we can do to make Cardiff a great place to grow up?", individuals replied "use more electric cars. Use more eco-friendly buses", "make electric cars so there is not anymore CO2 going into the atmosphere" and "less cars and more public transport."

## Energy Demand

The Powering Future Cities Report predicts that, of the UK's major cities, Cardiff is to have the most significant increase in domestic electricity demand between 2015 and 2035, at 44%. Cardiff also has the largest projected increase in domestic gas demand, at 28%. Domestic electricity and gas demand in the 11 cities studied is strongly correlated with population growth.



## Renewable Energy

Cardiff is placed 10th out of 22 Welsh Local Authorities for renewable energy generation. Whilst the capacity of renewable energy equipment installed in Cardiff has increased since 2016, compared to other Welsh Local Authorities, Cardiff has the fifth lowest capacity.

Of the renewable energy equipment installed in Cardiff, Energy from Waste has the highest capacity, followed by Solar PV and Sewage Gas. Cardiff's Tremorfa food recycling plant, opened in 2017, provides 1.8MW of electricity per year.

A 9MW solar farm has been built at the former Lamby Way landfill site in Cardiff; this is not yet reflected in the data.

It is crucial, moving forward, that renewable energy generation/ projects are not merely concentrated in more affluent areas, but also reach and positively impact more deprived communities, ensuring that the benefits are accessible to all.



<sup>23</sup> These figures were estimated pre-pandemic.

## Accessible Natural Green Space

In terms of the Green Flag Award, the national benchmark standard for parks and green spaces, Cardiff is the most awarded area in Wales, with 35 awarded sites in total (16 Fully Awarded sites and 19 Community Awarded sites).

Cardiff is also the top performer in Wales in terms of walking accessibility to local green space.

The importance of Cardiff's green spaces to residents was highlighted in the Ask Cardiff 2020 survey, with one resident noting, "Appreciation of our green spaces, and the environment in which we live. We need to protect open areas, no matter the impetus for development."

However, there is also only 11 (ha) of accessible natural greenspace per 1,000 population in Cardiff - the second lowest in Wales<sup>24</sup>. In terms of proximity to accessible natural green space, Cardiff ranks below the overall figure for Wales.

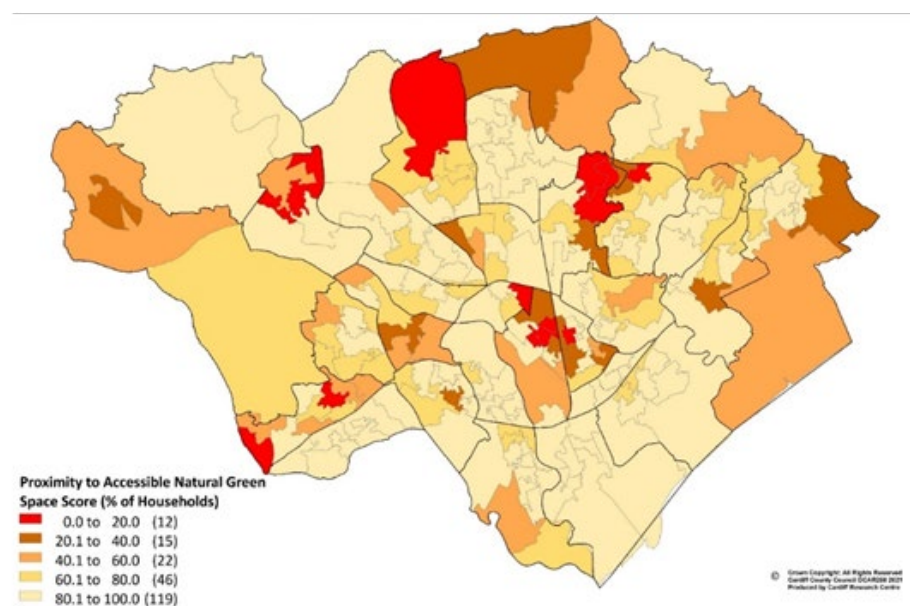
Proximity to accessible natural green space varies across the city. Wards containing areas with little proximity to accessible natural green space include Rhiwbina, Radyr & Morganstown, Cyncoed, Pentwyn, Plasnewydd, Cathays, Gabalfa and Ely.

Furthermore, access to urban green space is unequal across the city. Parts of South and East Cardiff do not currently have good access to urban green space and demand is highest in the 'Southern Arc' based on the number of people and overall deprivation of the area.

It is concerning that the most deprived communities are less likely to have good access to the greenest areas, as we know time spent in nature has an impact on indicators such as mental health and well-being, social contact, cohesion and integration, crime levels and education. Inequalities in access to green space were exacerbated during the Covid-19 pandemic, as people turned to green spaces to access nature during lockdown.

Furthermore, in the 2020 Ask Cardiff Survey, 79.0% of all respondents noted that they are satisfied with Cardiff's Parks and Open Spaces. Respondents from least deprived areas were more likely to be very satisfied with Cardiff's Parks and Open Spaces compared to those from most deprived areas (with a 11.7% difference between the least and most deprived).

### **Proximity to Accessible Natural Green Space Score (% of Households within a 5 Minute Walk/ 300 metres): Cardiff Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs) (Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation: 2019 Indicator Data)**



Source: WIMD Indicator Data 2019

## Blue Infrastructure

Cardiff is a city that owes much of its success and growth to its canals, rivers and waterfront location, however, over the years, many of these features have become underutilised, been built over or hidden from view.

Enhanced use of water ways and water frontages has the potential to bring wider community, economic, environmental and biodiversity benefits, helping to improve people's health and wellbeing.



<sup>24</sup> Figures are only available for 14 out of 22 Welsh Local Authority areas.

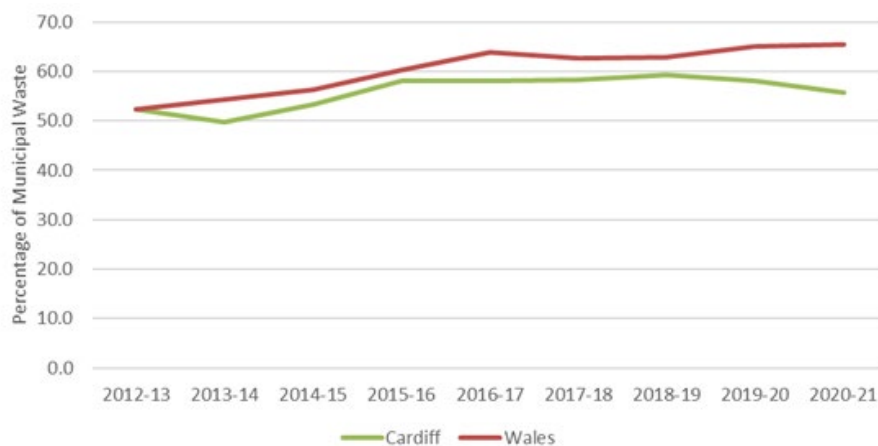


## Waste and Recycling

Cardiff is the worst performing local authority in Wales in terms of municipal waste reused/ recycled/ composted, although it outperforms all major UK cities. The percentage in Cardiff has dipped over the last two years to 55.8% in 2021. This is below Welsh Government's target of 64% by 2020 and 70% by 2025.

Improving recycling rates is a key component of Welsh Government's objective to reach zero waste by 2050. It is the foundation which provides the platform to take the next steps and move to a more circular economy, where all waste that is produced is re-used or recycled as a resource, without the need for landfill or energy recovery.

Percentage of Municipal Waste Reused/ Recycled/ Composted, 2012-13 to 2020-21



Source: Welsh Government

## Cleanliness

The quality and cleanliness of the environment is an important factor in determining how people feel about the place they live. It also assists with attracting people and investment to the city.

As a whole, Cardiff can be considered a clean city. However, a number of wards, particularly in the city centre and in the south of the city, fall under the target for high or acceptable standard of cleanliness.

In the 2020 Ask Cardiff Survey, 38.2% of all respondents noted that they agreed Cardiff has a clean environment. Respondents from least deprived areas were more likely to agree that Cardiff has a clean environment compared to those from most deprived areas (with an 8.1% difference between the least and most deprived).

The latest cleanliness index of Wales (2018-19) ranks Cardiff below the Wales-wide figure with a two-percentage point improvement since 2016/17.





## SUMMARY OF KEY ISSUES

- **Responding to the Climate Emergency:** The changes in climate that we are already experiencing are projected to continue and intensify. A large majority (87.1 %) of Cardiff residents are concerned about the Climate Emergency and feel that more action is needed.

### **The climate emergency is likely to lead to an increase**

**in extreme weather events:** The frequency and severity of flooding is increasing and is expected to further increase as a result of climate change. Of the 33 areas in Wales identified at most risk from flooding, 5 are within Cardiff's 'Southern Arc': St. Mellons, Roath, Canton, Riverside and Grangetown. 83 % of properties within NRW's designated Flood Warning Areas within Cardiff are linked to its Flood Warning Service.

- **Biodiversity loss is accelerating both globally and in Wales at an unprecedented rate.** Reduced ecological resilience, will affect how ecosystems recover and adapt to disturbance events such as wildfire, extreme weather events or disease. For the 16 protected conservation sites in Cardiff, there is insufficient evidence, staff resource or understanding to assess the condition of 50 % of the key protected features.
- **Natural resources are being used at an unsustainable rate.** Globally, overconsumption, methods of production, along with emissions, are leading to changes in the environment that are having significant impacts on the natural resources and ecosystems that we rely on.
- **The impacts of climate change will not be felt evenly:** Extreme weather will have a significant impact on health and well-being, as well as on particular population groups in society, including children and young people, people on low-incomes, older adults, and people with disabilities and long-term health conditions.
- **Transport:** Cardiff has the largest volume of motor vehicle traffic by local authority in Wales. However, the number of people travelling to work using sustainable transport is increasing – it is now at 51.2 %. There has been a significant shift in cycling as a mode of travel, from 10 % in 2016/17 to 15 % in 2019/20. Public transport usage (bus and rail) only slightly increased during this timeframe, from 16.8 % to 18.1 %.
- **Air pollution:** Poor air quality also adversely affects the natural environment and biodiversity due to levels of Particulate Matter. The health effects of air pollution on us have also been extensively researched and are well documented. Along with physical inactivity, it is one of the biggest health issues of our time. Modelling data demonstrates that Cardiff has highest levels of Nitrogen Dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) and Particulate Matter (2.5 and 10) pollution in Wales. In fact, levels exceed the EU and national limits for NO<sub>2</sub> in some areas: there are currently 4 Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs) declared across Cardiff.

Whilst poor air quality affects us all, some people are more vulnerable. For further detail in terms of air pollution and inequalities, please refer to the chapter: Health and Well-being.

- **Water pollution:** Legal and illegal discharge of sewage is a major concern in Cardiff and upstream. Water bodies across Wales are failing on several Water Framework Directive measures; for example, the Ely River is in a 'bad condition' while the Taff and Rhymney rivers are in a 'moderate condition'.
- **One of Cardiff's major assets is its green infrastructure:** Cardiff has the highest percentage in Wales in terms of those who find it easy to walk to their local green space. However, Cardiff ranks below the overall figure for Wales in terms of proximity to natural green space, which varies across the city. In addition, access to urban green space is unequal across the city. Demand is highest in the 'Southern Arc' based on the number of people and overall deprivation of the area. The most deprived communities are less likely to have good access to the greenest areas. Time spent in nature has an impact on indicators such as mental health and well-being, social contact, cohesion and integration, crime levels and education.
- **Cardiff's blue infrastructure has significant potential:** Cardiff owes much of its success and growth to its canals, rivers, and waterfront location. The city recognises that its blue infrastructure has the potential to bring wider community, economic, environmental and biodiversity benefits, helping to improve people's health and well-being.
- **Cardiff is the worst performing local authority in Wales in terms of municipal waste reused/ recycled/ composted:** The percentage in Cardiff has dipped over the last two years to 55.8 % in 2021. This is below Welsh Government's target of 64 % by 2021 and 70 % by 2025. Cardiff does, however, outperform all major UK cities.
- **Cleanliness:** Individuals from least deprived areas are more likely to agree that Cardiff has a clean environment compared to those from most deprived areas. A number of wards, particularly in the city centre and in the south of the city, fall under the target for high or acceptable standard of cleanliness.

## Impact of Covid-19:

- The pandemic has changed the way people use the city. Cardiff has seen radical shifts in how people move around, with increases in cycling allied to big falls in public transport usage. Congestion has reduced and city-region commuting is a fraction of pre-pandemic levels.
- Following the first lockdown in March 2020, there was a marked reduction in air pollution in central Cardiff - of 40% compared with the average for the time of year (for example, 14.4 µg/m<sup>3</sup> compared with 23.9 µg/m<sup>3</sup> average at Frederick Street). Improvements in air quality across the city continued to be seen following subsequent lockdowns.
- Improvements can be associated with a decrease in car travel to work and shopping centres, and an increase in walking and cycling during lockdown periods. However, it is notable that reductions appeared larger in less deprived areas; this is likely to be due to a higher proportion of working adults being able to work from home in these areas. Increased active travel and reduced levels of air pollution has had a positive impact on the health of residents.
- It is currently unclear what medium and long-term travel patterns will look like post-pandemic; current surveys of businesses in the city and more broadly across the UK suggest a 'hybrid' work pattern will emerge which would see people commuting to work on fewer days each week. This has the potential to 'lock in' some of the gains in air quality, but those patterns are far from assured.
- The increase in home working, has led to many discovering the neighbourhoods on their doorstep for the first time, and a greater demand for services and amenities closer to home. The city's public spaces and parks were incredibly important for accessing green spaces and nature during lockdown. As one respondent to the 2021 Budget Consultation highlighted, *"Parks and open spaces are the only thing I've been able to enjoy over the last year and cycling to and in those parks."*

Well-being Objective 7

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Modernising and  
Integrating our  
Public Services

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## Overview

In the face of rising demand and reducing budgets, Cardiff's public services each set out a programme of modernisation that would improve efficiency, better support service delivery, and promote social and environmental change. The challenge of responding to Covid-19 has radically accelerated this agenda, particularly the use of digital

technologies and data analysis in service delivery, and necessitated the delivery of innovation, both within and between organisations. Indeed, the past 20 months has seen joint working between the city's public services on an unprecedented depth and scale.

Moving forward, it is crucial that Cardiff's public services build on this platform, developing a new approach that brings together assets, technology,

and the workforce to unlock further efficiency savings, achieve productivity gains and deliver an enhanced service offer, whilst jointly responding to increased demand and new, complex issues that will arise as the city emerges from the pandemic. This will enable the city's public services to become more agile organisations, providing a more responsive and adaptable service for citizens.

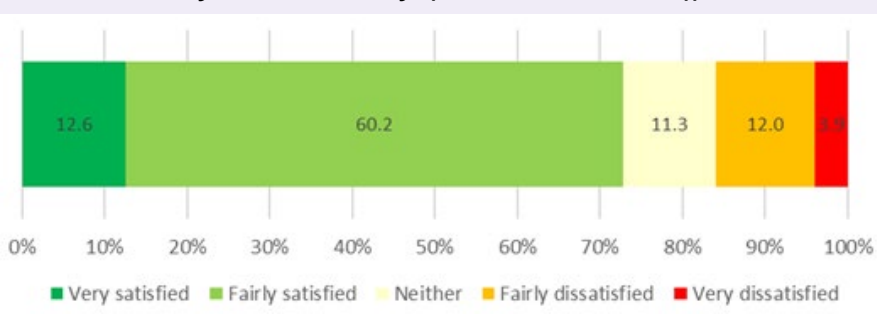
## The Quality of Public Services in Cardiff

In 2020<sup>25</sup>, nearly 73 % of Cardiff's surveyed residents reported being either very or fairly satisfied with the quality of public services in Cardiff.

Satisfaction with the quality of public services in Cardiff has had minor increases and decreases since 2014, but it has stayed broadly consistent. Satisfaction in Cardiff's public services has been maintained despite significant budgetary cuts during this period, which has likely been made possible by the adoption of new and more efficient ways of working, namely the integration of digital technology in service delivery.

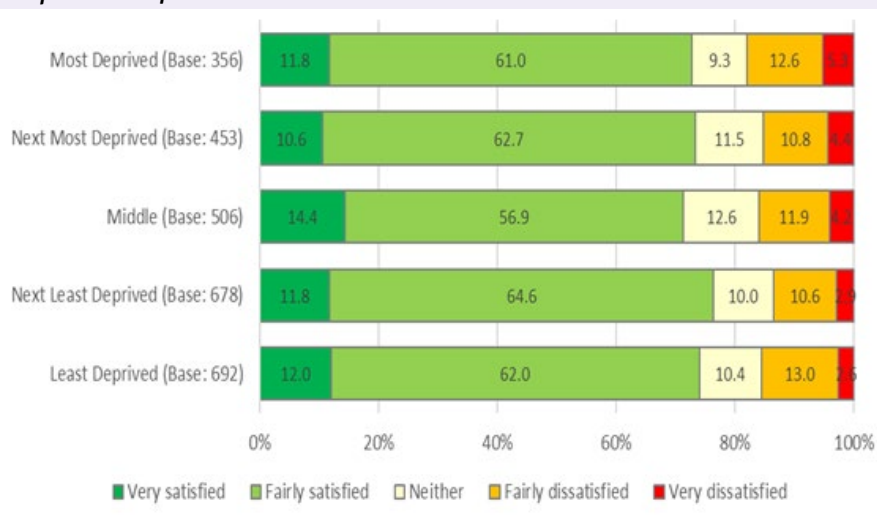
In 2020, satisfaction with the quality of public services in Cardiff was broadly consistent across deprivation fifths, reflecting the commitment to making good quality services accessible to all communities across the city. Four of the five groups reported higher satisfaction levels from 2019 to 2020, with the level of satisfaction for the other group falling only 0.4 %.

*How Satisfied are you with the Quality of Public Services in Cardiff? 2020*



Source: Ask Cardiff Survey, 2020

*How Satisfied are you with the Quality of Public Services in Cardiff? 2020, Deprivation Fifth*



Source: Ask Cardiff Survey, 2020

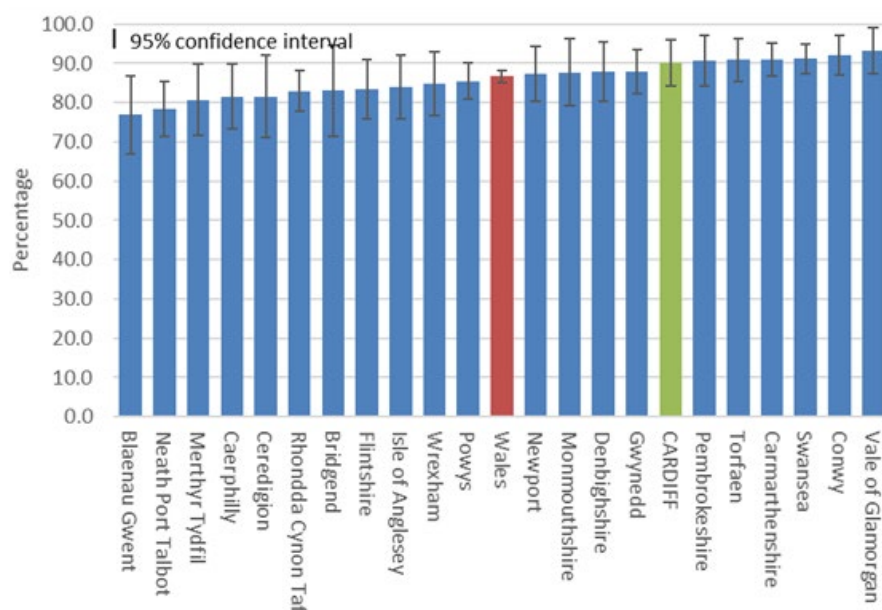
<sup>25</sup> 2020 figures are not directly comparable with previous years due to a change in wording of the question.



## Ability to Get to/ Access Services and Facilities

In 2020/21, Cardiff was seventh amongst Welsh Local Authorities in terms of satisfaction with access to facilities and services, at 90.1 %. The top performing local authority, Vale of Glamorgan, was only 3.1-percentage points higher.

Percentage of People Satisfied with their Ability to Get to/ Access the Facilities and Services they Need, 2020/21 (Welsh Local Authorities)



Source: Welsh Government

## SUMMARY OF KEY ISSUES

- **Satisfaction with public services:** The past 20 months has seen joint working between the city's public services on an unprecedented depth and scale. In 2020, nearly 73 % of Cardiff's surveyed residents reported being either very or fairly satisfied with the quality of public services in Cardiff. Satisfaction was also broadly consistent across deprivation fifths, reflecting the commitment to making good quality services accessible to all communities across the city.

Cardiff is also a high performer amongst Welsh Local Authorities for people being satisfied with access to facilities and services, with 90.1 % satisfied with access in 2020/21.

### Impact of Covid-19:

- The continued management of the pandemic and many of the most complex problems facing public services in the post-Covid environment will continue to require partnership commitment and action. More broadly, the strengthened partnership arrangements and joint working will be required in order to respond to increased demand and new, complex issues that will arise as the city emerges from the pandemic.
- The shift towards online access to services seen in the pandemic will continue across all sectors. Providing an enhanced range of services online is crucial, where all those who can use digital routes to service choose to do so. Ensuring accessibility is a key part of this, as highlighted by one respondent to the 2020 Smart City Road Map Survey, "First you must ensure that all have access to digital services and understand how to use them."
- The city's pandemic response has relied on the rapid, robust collection, presentation and analysis of real-time data across the public service system to inform decision making. Embedding this shift broadly is crucial to strengthening corporate performance management and insight across public services.

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# Appendix A

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## Appendix A: Data and Literature Reviewed<sup>26</sup>

Cardiff's Local Well-being Assessment has been developed concurrently with the [Population Needs Assessment for Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan \(2022\)](#).

### Demography

The data sets analysed can be viewed by [clicking here](#).

#### Data Sets:

1. Population Estimates by Age Group	9. Ethnicity
2. 2018-based Local Authority Population Projections by Age Group	10. Country of Birth
3. 2018-2043 Local Authority Population Projections by Age Group	11. Main Language
4. Live Births and Birth Rates	12. Overall numbers of Welsh speakers in Cardiff
5. Birth Rates and Birth Rate Projections	13. Percentage of people aged 16+ who can speak Welsh
6. Deaths and Mortality Rate	14. Percentage of people who speak Welsh daily and can speak more than just a few words of Welsh
7. Population Change – Deaths during period	15. Welsh Language Education in Cardiff
8. Migration	16. Number of people who consider themselves non-Welsh

#### Publications:

- [Local Development Plan](#)
- [Welsh Language Strategy \(2017-2022\)](#)
- [Welsh Language Skills Strategy 2021](#)
- [Welsh in Education Strategic Plan \(2017-2020\)](#)

<sup>26</sup> Please note: some data sets are included under more than one well-being objective.

## Health and Well-being

The data sets analysed can be viewed by [clicking here](#).

### Data Sets:

1. Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation – Health Domain	23. Deaths from illicit drugs and alcohol by age
2. Healthy life expectancy at birth a) Male b) Female c) Male & Female - gap between the least and most deprived	24. Pollution Levels in the Air: a) Nitrogen Dioxide (NO2) b) Particulate Matter (PM2.5) c) Particulate Matter (PM10)
3. Proportion of life spent in good health	25. Rate of cancer registrations per 100,000 population
4. Gap between the employment rate of those with a long-term health condition and the employment rate of people aged 16 - 64 years	26. Rate of deaths due to cardiovascular diseases per 100,000 people (European age-standardised)
5. Mental well-being	27. Rate of suicide deaths per 100,000 people
6. Percentage of people who are lonely	28. Number of suicide deaths registered
7. Percentage of adults eating 5 or more portions of fruit and vegetables a day	29. Percentage of people who called for an ambulance in the last 12 months
8. Percentage of adults active for less than 30 minutes in a week	30. Number of killed or seriously injured road casualties
9. Percentage of people participating in sporting activities three or more times a week	31. Percentage of low-birth-weight babies
10. Percentage of adults who reported being active for 150 minutes in the week	32. Percentage of babies exclusively breastfed at 10 days following birth
11. Food Poverty	33. Percentage of Flying Start children reaching or exceeding their developmental milestones at 3 years
12. Percentage of working age adults of a healthy weight, persons aged 16 to 64	34. Uptake of MMR2 by age 4
13. Percentage of adults who reported being overweight or obese (BMI 25+)	35. Percentage of children aged 4 to 5 who are a healthy weight
14. Obesity by deprivation fifth	36. Percentage of Children cycling/walking to school
15. Percentage of adults who are current smokers	37. Average number of decayed, missing or filled teeth in children a) aged 5 years b) aged 12 years
16. Adults drinking above guidelines (more than 14 units of alcohol per week)	38. Mental Well-being: Children & Young Adults
17. Percentage of adults who reported binge drinking alcohol on at least one day in the past week	39. Teenage Pregnancies (u18 conceptions)
18. Number of individuals assessed for alcohol misuse	40. Percentage of people aged 65+ who reported their general health as being very good or good
19. Alcohol related hospital admissions	41. Dementia Projections
20. Alcohol attributable deaths	42. Percentage of older adults of a healthy weight, persons aged 65+
21. Number of individuals assessed for drug misuse	43. Hip fractures among older people
22. Drug misuse deaths	

### Publications:

- [Let's leave no one behind – Annual Report of the Director of Public Health for Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan 2020](#)
- [Re-imagining Ageing into the Future - Annual Report of the Director of Public Health for Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan 2019](#)
- [Moving Forwards: Move More, More Often - Annual Report of the Director of Public Health for Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan 2018](#)
- [Cardiff \(and Vale\) Healthy Travel Charter](#)
- [Move More, Eat Well \(2020-2023\)](#)
- [Health and Well-being Impacts of Climate Change \(2021\)](#)



## Well-being Objective 1: Cardiff is a Great Place to Grow Up

The data sets analysed can be viewed by [clicking here](#).

### Data Sets:

1. Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation 2019: Education Domain	14. Percentage of babies exclusively breastfed at 10 days following birth
2. Percentage of children in relative low-income families	15. Percentage of Flying Start children reaching or exceeding their developmental milestones at 3 years
3. Key Stage 2 pupils achieving the expected (L4+) in the Core Subject Indicator	16. Uptake of MMR2 by age 4
4. Key Stage 2 pupils achieving the expected (L4+) in the Core Subject Indicator (Free School Meals (FSM) vs non-FSM)	17. Percentage of children aged 4 to 5 who are a healthy weight
5. Key Stage 4 pupils achieving the expected Level 2 Threshold including English/Welsh & Maths and FSM vs non-FSM	18. Percentage of children cycling/walking to school
6. Year 11 school leavers known not to be in Education, Employment or Training (NEET)	19. Average number of decayed, missing or filled teeth in children a) aged 5 years b) aged 12 years
7. Year 13 school leavers known not to be in Education, Employment or Training (NEET)	20. Mental Well-being: Children & Young Adults
8. Permanent exclusions from maintained schools	21. Teenage Pregnancies
9. Fixed term exclusions 5 days or less	22. Looked after children with 3 or more placements
10. Fixed term exclusions over 5 days	23. Children's Services Caseload
11. Claimant count (Aged 16-24)	24. Sufficiency of Child Looked After placements
12. Claimant count (Aged 18-24)	25. Youth offending
13. Percentage of low-birth-weight babies	

### Publications:

- [Cardiff 2030: A ten-year vision for a Capital City of learning and opportunity \(2019\)](#)
- [Cardiff Additional Learning Needs \(ALN\) Strategy \(2018-2022\)](#)
- [Education Annual Performance Report \(2018/19\)](#)
- [Child Friendly Cardiff Strategy \(2018\)](#)
- [Play Sufficiency Assessment and Action Plan \(2019\)](#)
- [Children's Services Strategy \(2019-2022\)](#)
- [Corporate Safeguarding Policy \(2018-2021\)](#)
- [Corporate Parenting Strategy \(2021-2024\)](#)
- [Right Home, Right Support: A commissioning strategy for accommodation and support for Children Looked After \(2019-2022\)](#)
- [Youth Justice Services Development Strategy \(2020-2022\)](#)
- [Youth Justice Services Strategic Needs Assessment \(2021-2022\)](#)
- [Wales Violence Prevention Unit's \(VPU's\) Needs Assessment](#)
- [Early Help Strategy \(2015\)](#)
- [Youth Engagement and Progression Strategy \(2016\)](#)
- [Annual Report of the Director of Public Health for Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan \(2020\)](#)
- [Recovery and Renewal: Delivery a Child Friendly Recovery \(2021\)](#)
- [Draft Childcare and Nursery Sufficiency Assessment \(2022\)](#)

## Well-being Objective 2: Cardiff is a Great Place to Grow Older

The data sets analysed can be viewed by [clicking here](#).

### Data Sets:

1. Percentage of people aged 65+ who reported their general health as being very good or good	8. Percentage of older adults of a healthy weight, persons aged 65+
2. Life satisfaction amongst older people	9. Hip fractures among older people
3. Percentage of people aged 65+ reporting they felt involved in any decisions made about their care and support	10. Older people supported in the community, per 1,000 population 65+
4. Percentage of people aged 65+ reporting they received the right information or advice when they needed it	11. Number of care and support packages provided
5. Percentage of people age 65+ reporting they live in the right home for them	12. Domiciliary Care – Number of service users and hours of care provided
6. Percentage of people aged 65+ reporting happy with the support from my family, friends and neighbours ( <i>Proxy question for Percentage of people age 65+ reporting loneliness</i> )	13. Number of people requiring residential and nursing care services
7. Dementia Projections	

### Publications:

- [Older Person's Housing Strategy \(2019-2023\)](#)

## Well-being Objective 3: Supporting People out of Poverty

The data sets analysed can be viewed by [clicking here](#).

### Data Sets:

1. Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation 2019: Income Domain	15. Claimant count – Wards (Aged 16-64)
2. Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation 2019: Education Domain	16. Housing Affordability: Ratio of house price to median gross annual salary (ONS)
3. Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation: Health Domain	17. Fuel Poverty
4. Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation: Physical Domain	18. Food poverty
5. Percentage of households in poverty (i.e., material deprivation)	19. Rough sleepers per 10,000 persons
6. Percentage of children in relative low-income families	20. Rate of households for whom homelessness successfully prevented for at least 6 months per 10,000 households
7. Percentage of workless households	21. Rate of households accepted to be eligible, unintentionally homeless and in priority need per 10,000 households
8. Percentage of children living in workless households	22. Percentage of clients accessing substance misuse services who reported an improvement in their quality of life
9. Key Stage 2 pupils achieving the expected (L4+) in the Core Subject Indicator and FSM vs Non-FSM	23. Percentage of people satisfied with their ability to get to/ access the facilities and services they need
10. Key Stage 4 pupils achieving the expected Level 2 Threshold including English/Welsh & Maths and FSM vs Non-FSM	24. Percentage that agree they can influence decisions affecting their local area
11. Permanent exclusions from maintained schools, rate per 1,000 pupils	25. Elections
12. Year 11 school leavers known not to be in Education, Employment or Training (NEET)	26. Personal Well-being – Life Satisfaction, Feeling Worthwhile, Happiness, Anxiety
13. Year 13 school leavers known not to be in Education, Employment or Training (NEET)	27. Percentage of People Moderately or Very Satisfied with their Jobs
14. Claimant count (Aged 18-24)	

### Publications:

- [Housing Strategy \(2016-2021\)](#)
- [Rough Sleeper Strategy \(2017-2021\)](#)
- [Homelessness Strategy \(2018-2022\)](#)
- [Homelessness: The Response to the Covid-19 Crisis and Delivering the Future Services Model \(2020\)](#)
- [Let's leave no one behind – Annual Report of the Director of Public Health for Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan 2020](#)
- [Greener, Fairer, Stronger: Draft City Recovery and Renewal Strategy \(2021\)](#)
- [Equality and Inclusion Strategy \(2020-2024\)](#)

## Well-being Objective 4: Safe, Confident and Empowered Communities

The data sets analysed can be viewed by [clicking here](#).

### Data Sets:

1. Overall Crime	17. Sexual Offences
2. Percentage of people feeling safe at Home, Walking in Local Area and when Travelling	18. Theft from person
3. To what extent would you agree or disagree that the police and other local public services are successfully dealing with anti-social behaviour and crime in your local area?	19. Theft from motor vehicle
4. Violence Against the Person	20. Theft of motor vehicle
5. Violence with injury	21. Bicycle theft
6. Violence without injury	22. All other theft offences
7. Possession of weapon	23. Robbery
8. Drug Offences	24. Residential burglary
9. Criminal Damage	25. Business and community burglary
10. Anti-Social Behaviour	26. Shop lifting
11. Public Order	27. Percentage of people satisfied with local area as a place to live
12. Proportion of offenders who reoffend (adults and juveniles) overall in previous 12 months	28. Percentage of people agreeing that they belong to the area; that people from different backgrounds get on well together; and that people treat each other with respect
13. Hate Incidents	29. Percentage Volunteering
14. Hate Crime	30. Percentage that agree they can influence decisions affecting their local area
15. Domestic Incidents	31. Elections
16. Domestic Related Crime	32. Youth Offending

### Publications:

- [Youth Justice Services Development Strategy \(2020-2022\)](#)
- Youth Justice Services Strategic Needs Assessment (2021-2022)
- [Wales Violence Prevention Unit's \(VPU's\) Needs Assessment](#)
- [Violence against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Strategy \(2018-2023\)](#)
- [Equality and Inclusion Strategy \(2020-2024\)](#)
- [Hub and Library Strategy \(2019-2023\)](#)
- [South Wales Police and Crime Plan \(2021-25\)](#)

## Well-being Objective 5: A Capital City that Works for Wales

The data sets analysed can be viewed by [clicking here](#).

### Data Sets:

1. GVA per head in Cardiff	13. How satisfied are you with the quality of public services in Cardiff? a) Overview b) By deprivation fifth
2. Gross Disposable Household Income per head	14. Percentage of people attending or participating in arts, culture or heritage activities at least 3 times in a year
3. Percentage of population aged 16-64 qualified to NVQ4+ (degree level or equivalent)	15. City centre footfall
4. Unemployment rate of the economically active population age 16+ a) Claimant count rate/Deprivation fifth b) Claimant count/gender and ward c) Ethnicity	16. Funding awarded to arts organisations and individuals (2020-2021)
5. Percentage of employee jobs with hourly pay below the living wage	17. Covid-19 Emergency Funding and Arts Attendance trends
6. Median gross weekly earning of full-time workers a) Overview b) Gender	18. Percentage of people participating in sporting activities three or more times a week?
7. Percentage of people living in households in material deprivation	19. Overall numbers of Welsh speakers in Cardiff
8. Percentage of population aged 16-64 with no qualifications	20. Percentage of people aged 16+ who can speak Welsh
9. Year 11 and Year 13 school leavers that are not in education, employment or training a) Year 11 b) Year 13	21. Percentage of people who speak Welsh daily and can speak more than just a few words of Welsh
10. To what extent do you agree or disagree that Cardiff has a thriving and prosperous economy?	22. Welsh Language Education in Cardiff
11. Active Enterprises per 10,000 Population	23. Number of people who consider themselves non-Welsh
12. Births of New Enterprises per 10,000 Population a) Overview b) Continued c) Net new enterprise creation d) Number of visitors to Cardiff and expenditure/ economic impact per resident	

### Publications:

- [Economy Strategy \(2019\)](#)
- [Cardiff East Industrial Strategy \(2019\)](#)
- [Night-time Economy Strategy \(2017-2022\)](#)
- [Cardiff Capital Region City Deal Strategic Business Plan Wider Investment Fund \(2018\)](#)
- [Cardiff Capital Region Industrial and Economic Plan \(2019\)](#)
- [Cardiff Capital Region Business Plan \(2021-2026\)](#)
- [South East Wales Regional Economic Framework \(2021\) – Draft](#)
- [Cardiff Capital Region Industrial and Economic Plan \(2019\)](#)
- [Greener, Fairer, Stronger: Draft City Recovery and Renewal Strategy \(2021\)](#)
- [Delivering the Future For Cardiff – Business Plan 2021-2026](#)
- [Wales Centre for Public Policy's Cultural Well-being Evidence Briefing Paper \(2021\)](#)
- [Future Generations Report \(2020\)](#)
- [Cultural Cities Report \(2020\)](#)
- [Sound Diplomacy Music City Report: Informing a Music Strategy for Cardiff](#)



## Well-being Objective 6: Cardiff Grows in a Resilient Way

The data sets analysed can be viewed by [clicking here](#).

### Data Sets:

1. Climate Change Risk (NRW)	15. Energy Use
2. Per Capita CO2 Emissions	16. Future Energy Demand
3. Pollution Levels in the Air: a) Nitrogen Dioxide (NO2) b) Particulate Matter (PM2.5) c) Particulate Matter (PM10)	17. Capacity of Renewable Energy Equipment Installed (MW)
4. Air Quality Management Areas (NRW)	18. Parks and Open Spaces
5. Ammonia: Total Emissions (All Sectors)	19. Accessible natural green space per 1,000 population
6. Ecosystem Resilience	20. Proximity to natural green space
7. Marine and coastal habitats	21. Accessibility of natural green space
8. Flood Risk: Present Day and Future	22. Public rights of way
9. Environmental Pollution Incidents	23. Access to urban green space
10. Water Health	24. Demand areas for green space to help tackle environmental hazards
11. Deliberate Wildfire	25. Demand for interventions to reduce risk of pluvial flooding
12. Soundscapes and Noise Pollution	26. Does Cardiff have a Clean Environment?
13. Total Transport Modal Split	27. Municipal Waste Reuse/ Recycling/ Composting Rates
14. Sustainable Transport Modal Shift	

### Publications:

- [Local Flood Risk Management Strategy \(2014\)](#)
- [Flood Risk Management Plan \(2015\)](#)
- [Transport White Paper \(2020\)](#)
- [Clean Air Strategy and Action Plan \(2019\)](#)
- [Low Emission Transport Strategy \(2018\)](#)
- [One Planet Cardiff Strategy and Action Plan \(2021\)](#)
- [UK Climate Change Risk Assessment – Summary for Wales \(2021\)](#)
- [Health and Well-being Impacts of Climate Change \(2021\)](#)
- [Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems Duty Forward Plan \(2019\)](#)
- [Cardiff Good Food Strategy \(2021\)](#)
- [Powering Future Cities Report \(2016\)](#)
- [State of Natural Resources Report \(SoNaRR\) for Wales \(2020\)](#)
- [Natural Resources Wales \(NRW\) South Central Area Statement](#)
- [Llwybr Newydd: The Wales Transport Strategy \(2021\)](#)
- [Beyond Recycling: A Strategy to make the Circular Economy in Wales a Reality \(2021\)](#)

## Well-being Objective 7: Modernising and Integrating our Public Services

The data sets analysed can be viewed by [clicking here](#).

### Data Sets:

1. How satisfied are you with the quality of public services in Cardiff? a) Overview b) By deprivation fifth	2. Percentage of people satisfied with their ability to get to/ access the facilities and services they need
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### Publications:

- [Digital Strategy \(2019\)](#)
- [Draft Smart City Roadmap \(2019\)](#)

## Citizen Engagement

The following engagement work has been considered within the assessment, which contains a range of qualitative and quantitative primary data from citizens:

### **Publications:**

- [Ask Cardiff Survey \(2020\)](#)
- [Budget Consultation \(2021\)](#)
- [Greener, Fairer, Stronger Engagement \(2021\)](#)
- [One Planet Cardiff Consultation \(2021\)](#)
- [City-wide Food Strategy Consultation \(2021\)](#)
- [Smart City Road Map Survey \(2020\)](#)
- [Child Friendly Cardiff Survey \(2019\)](#)
- [Transport and Clean Air Consultation \(2019\)](#)
- [Clean Air Consultation \(2019\)](#)
- [Waste Strategy Consultation \(2018\)](#)