

(All data: Department of Energy and Climate Change, Fuel poverty sub-regional statistics (2010-2017))

In 2017, the latest data available, it was estimated by the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy that 9,525 households in South Gloucestershire were classed as fuel poor. This note presents a geographical analysis of fuel poverty across South Gloucestershire.

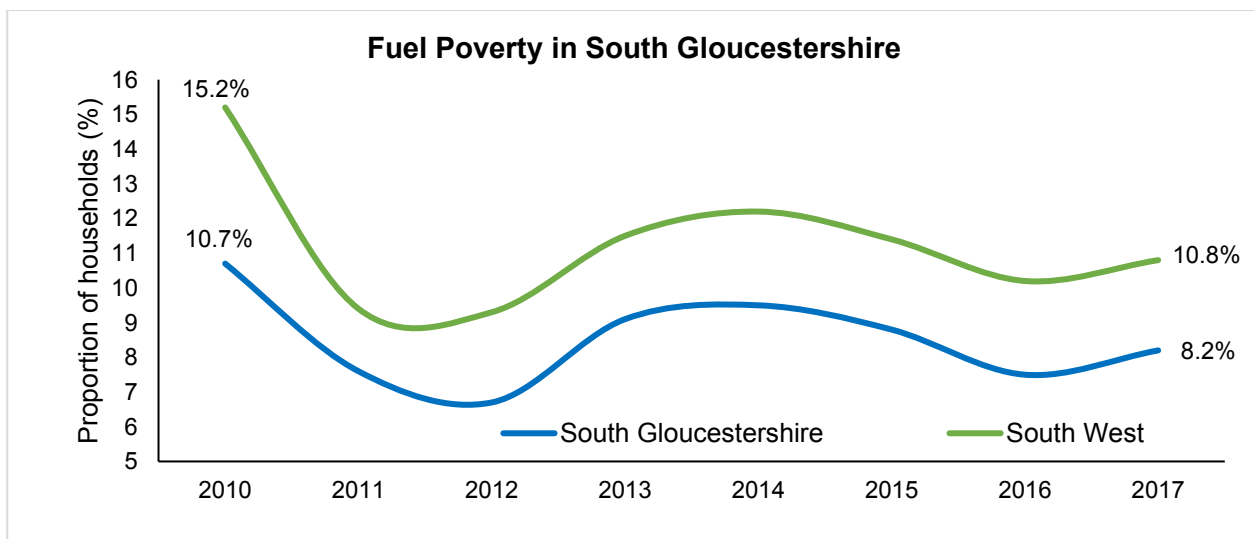
Background

A household is considered to be fuel poor if it has higher than typical energy costs and would be left with a disposable income below the poverty line (60% of the median income) if it spent the required money to meet those costs. It captures the fact that fuel poverty is distinct from general poverty: not all poor households are *fuel* poor, and some households would not normally be considered *poor* but could be pushed into fuel poverty if they have high energy costs. Fuel poverty is therefore an overlapping problem of households having a low income and facing high energy costs.

Fuel poverty statistics are based on data from the English Housing Survey (EHS). Given the sample size of the EHS (approximately 11,932 households in the combined datasets for 2016 and 2017 for the whole of England), it is not possible to robustly estimate fuel poverty rates at local authority level. However a logistic regression model is created, matching data from the EHS on whether a household is fuel poor or not with data from other sources available for all Census Output Areas (COAs), e.g. Census 2011 data. The model is used to estimate the levels of fuel poverty for all COAs across England; these are then aggregated to Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs*) and higher level geographies.

Fuel poverty in South Gloucestershire

In 2017 (the latest available data), approximately 9,525 households in South Gloucestershire were considered to be 'fuel poor'. This equates to approximately 8.2% of all households in the district (a slight increase on the 2016 figure of 7.5%), and is below the South West rate of 10.8%.

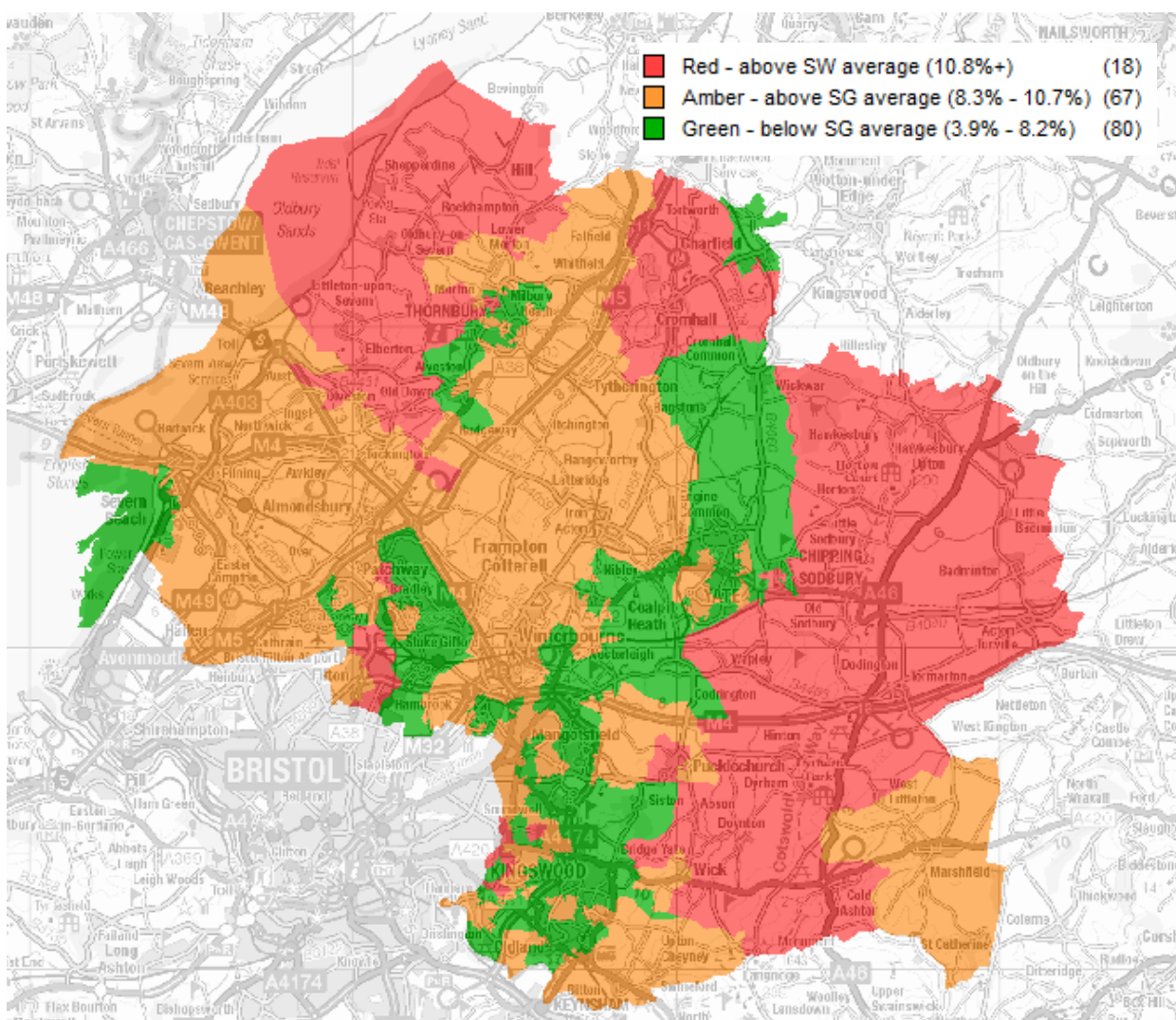


Between 2010 and 2012 there was a steady decline in the proportion of fuel poor households, reaching the lowest point in both South Glos. and the South West in 2012 (6.7% and 9.3% respectively). From 2012 to 2014 the proportion of fuel poor households increased, peaking at 12.2% in the South West and 9.5% in South Gloucestershire. The next two years saw the percentage of fuel poor households begin to decline again, however in the last year we have seen a slight increase in the proportion of fuel poor households recorded in both South Glos. and the South West.

The graph above shows that while both areas have experienced similar trends, the proportion of households who are considered as fuel poor in South Gloucestershire has remained considerably below the South West rate over the past seven years.

Fuel Poverty by LSOA

Fuel poverty data has been published at Lower Super Output Area (LSOA*) level. Of the 165 LSOAs in South Gloucestershire 11% (18) have a fuel poverty level above the South West rate of 10.8%. This is slightly more than in 2016 when 9% (16) of households in South Gloucestershire fell above the fuel poverty rate for the South West. The 18 LSOAs with rates above the South West fuel poverty rate in 2017 are listed overleaf.



In South Gloucestershire the LSOA with the highest level of fuel poverty was Tormarton and the surrounding rural area (E01014891) in Boyd Valley / Chipping Sodbury wards where 14.6% of households were estimated to be fuel poor (0.8% higher than the highest level of fuel poverty in South Gloucestershire in 2016)

Please note: *Estimates of fuel poverty at Lower Super Output Area (LSOA) should be treated with caution. Due to very small sample sizes, estimates should only be used to look at general trends and identify areas of particularly high or low fuel poverty.*

*Lower Super Output Area (LSOA) are small areas designed to be of a similar population size with an average of approximately 1,500 residents or 650 households. There are 32,844 LSOAs in England and 165 in South Gloucestershire.

LSOAs with highest rates of fuel poverty in South Gloucestershire (18 LSOAs with fuel poverty level above South West rate)

| Rank | LSOA Code | Landmark | Ward | Priority neighbourhood? | Estimated number of households | Estimated number of Fuel Poor Households | Proportion of households fuel poor (%) |
|------|-----------|--|---|-------------------------|--------------------------------|--|--|
| 1 | E01014891 | Tormarton and surrounding rural area | Boyd Valley (65%) / Chipping Sodbury (35%) | | 739 | 108 | 14.6 |
| 2 | E01014909 | Northville Road area | Filton | | 638 | 84 | 13.2 |
| 3 | E01014905 | Wades Road / Mackie Road area | Filton | | 716 | 87 | 12.2 |
| 4 | E01014886 | Woodmans Close / Kingrove Crescent area | Chipping Sodbury & Cotswold Edge | | 911 | 110 | 12.1 |
| 5 | E01014870 | Doynton / Dyrham rural area | Boyd Valley | | 689 | 82 | 11.9 |
| 6 | E01014867 | Pucklechurch Trading Estate area | Boyd Valley | | 564 | 66 | 11.7 |
| 7 | E01014924 | Downend Road / Worcester Road area | Kingswood | Kingswood | 846 | 99 | 11.7 |
| 8 | E01014962 | Oldbury on Severn rural area | Severn Vale | | 728 | 85 | 11.7 |
| 9 | E01014915 | Lower Hanham Road area | Hanham | | 704 | 81 | 11.5 |
| 10 | E01014904 | Conygre Grove / Bude Road area | Filton | | 701 | 79 | 11.3 |
| 11 | E01014907 | Mid Filton Avenue / Mortimer Road area | Filton | | 737 | 83 | 11.3 |
| 12 | E01015005 | Potterswood- Blackhorse Road area | Kingswood (85%) / Hanham (15%) | Kingswood | 913 | 102 | 11.2 |
| 13 | E01014884 | Cromhall / Leyhill / Tortworth area | Charfield | | 664 | 74 | 11.1 |
| 14 | E01014890 | Area surrounding Horton / Hawkesbury Upton | Chipping Sodbury & Cotswold Edge | | 891 | 99 | 11.1 |
| 15 | E01014926 | New Cheltenham Road area | Kingswood (6%) / Woodstock (58%) / New Cheltenham (36%) | Kingswood | 738 | 82 | 11.1 |
| 16 | E01014910 | Filton College area | Filton | | 663 | 73 | 11.0 |
| 17 | E01014986 | North Road /Eastland Avenue /Gloucester Road | Thornbury | | 717 | 79 | 11.0 |
| 18 | E01014947 | Patchway CofE Primary / Shellmor Ave area | Bradley Stoke North (89%) / Patchway Coniston (11%) | | 685 | 75 | 10.9 |
| 19 | E01014929 | Rangeworthy and Iron Acton rural area | Frampton Cotterell | | 871 | 93 | 10.7 |
| 20 | E01014977 | Pendennis Road area | Staple Hill & Mangotsfield | Staple Hill | 748 | 80 | 10.7 |

LSOAs with greatest increase in the proportion of fuel poverty in South Gloucestershire between 2016 and 2017 (Top 5)

| LSOA Code | Landmark | Ward | Priority neighbourhood? | 2017 Rank | 2016 Rank | 2017 Proportion of households fuel poor (%) | 2016 Proportion of households fuel poor (%) | Difference (%) |
|-----------|--|---|-------------------------|-----------|-----------|---|---|----------------|
| E01014919 | Samuel White Road area | Hanham | No | 61 | 145 | 9.0 | 5.1 | - 3.90 |
| E01014990 | St Davids Road / Sibland Road area | Thornbury | No | 49 | 123 | 9.4 | 6.1 | - 3.30 |
| E01014947 | Patchway CofE Primary / Shellmor Ave area | Bradley Stoke North (89%) / Patchway Coniston (11%) | No | 18 | 68 | 10.9 | 7.8 | - 3.10 |
| E01014961 | Burley Grove / Gerrish Avenue area | Staple Hill & Mangotsfield | No | 39 | 105 | 9.8 | 7 | - 2.80 |
| E01014901 | Bromley Heath Infants & Junior School area | Frenchay & Downend | No | 74 | 128 | 8.7 | 5.9 | - 2.80 |

LSOAs with greatest decrease in the proportion of fuel poverty in South Gloucestershire between 2016 and 2017 (Top 5)

| LSOA Code | Landmark | Ward | Priority neighbourhood? | 2017 Rank | 2016 Rank | 2017 Proportion of households fuel poor (%) | 2016 Proportion of households fuel poor (%) | Difference (%) |
|-----------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------|-----------|---|---|----------------|
| E01014896 | Landfill Site Shire Way area | Dodington | No | 120 | 44 | 7.1 | 8.7 | 1.60 |
| E01014882 | Keperley Way area | Bradley Stoke South | No | 159 | 134 | 4.5 | 5.6 | 1.10 |
| E01014954 | Severn Beach area | Pilning & Severn Beach | No | 128 | 89 | 6.4 | 7.3 | 0.90 |
| E01015022 | Area north of Cranleigh Court School | Yate North | No | 142 | 120 | 5.4 | 6.2 | 0.80 |
| E01015013 | Glenfall / Northfield Area | Dodington (66%) / Yate Central (34%) | No | 72 | 29 | 8.8 | 9.6 | 0.80 |

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