

Quality of Life Report 2023

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Quality of Life - Better or Worse?

The annual quality of life indicators for South Gloucestershire

Autumn 2023

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

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

Contents:

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

Key information about South Gloucestershire

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

Wards: 28 (61 ward Councillors)

Population: 290,424 (Office for National Statistics, Census 2021)

- Males: 143,769 (49.5% of total population)
- Females: 146,655 (50.5% of total population)
- **Children age (0-15 years):** 53,059 (18.3% of total population)
- **Working age (16-64 years):** 183,172 (63.1% of total population)
- **Pensionable age (65+):** 54,192 (18.7 % of total population)

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

Households: 118,101 (Census 2021)

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

Please note: the axis for some graphs do not start at zero so the differences over time can be seen more clearly

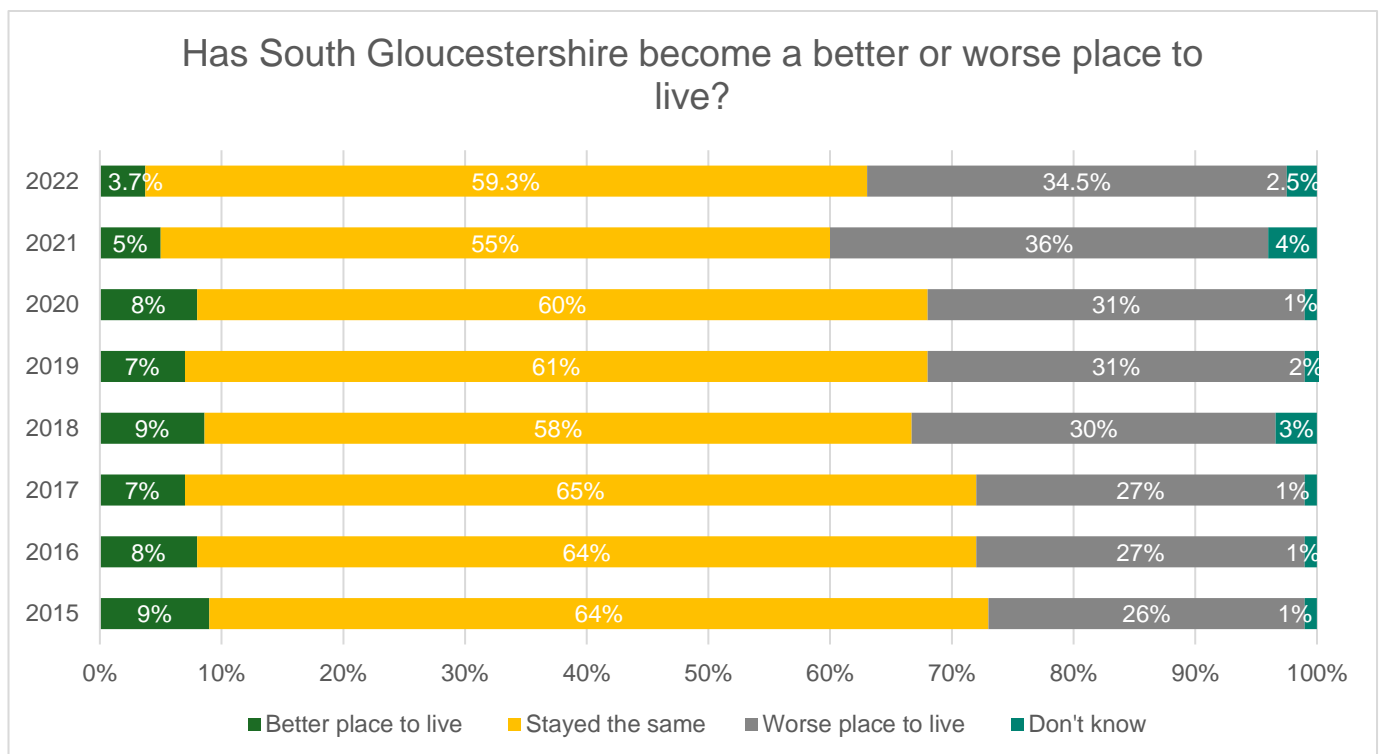
MAP AND ACCESS STATEMENT

1. Quality of life

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

Our budget and residents' Viewpoint survey*, which is undertaken annually by the council, asks residents if they feel South Gloucestershire has become a better or worse place to live. The graph shows the results to this question over the last five years.

In autumn 2022 (the latest data available) 3.7% of respondents to the Viewpoint survey felt that South Gloucestershire had become a better place to live. This is a decrease of 1.3 percentage points on the previous year. The majority of respondents (59.3%) continue to consider that South Gloucestershire has stayed the same. The number of respondents who feel South Gloucestershire has become a worse place to live has risen over the last five years from 26% in 2015 to 34.5% in 2022, however there is a slight improvement from last year's figure of 36%.



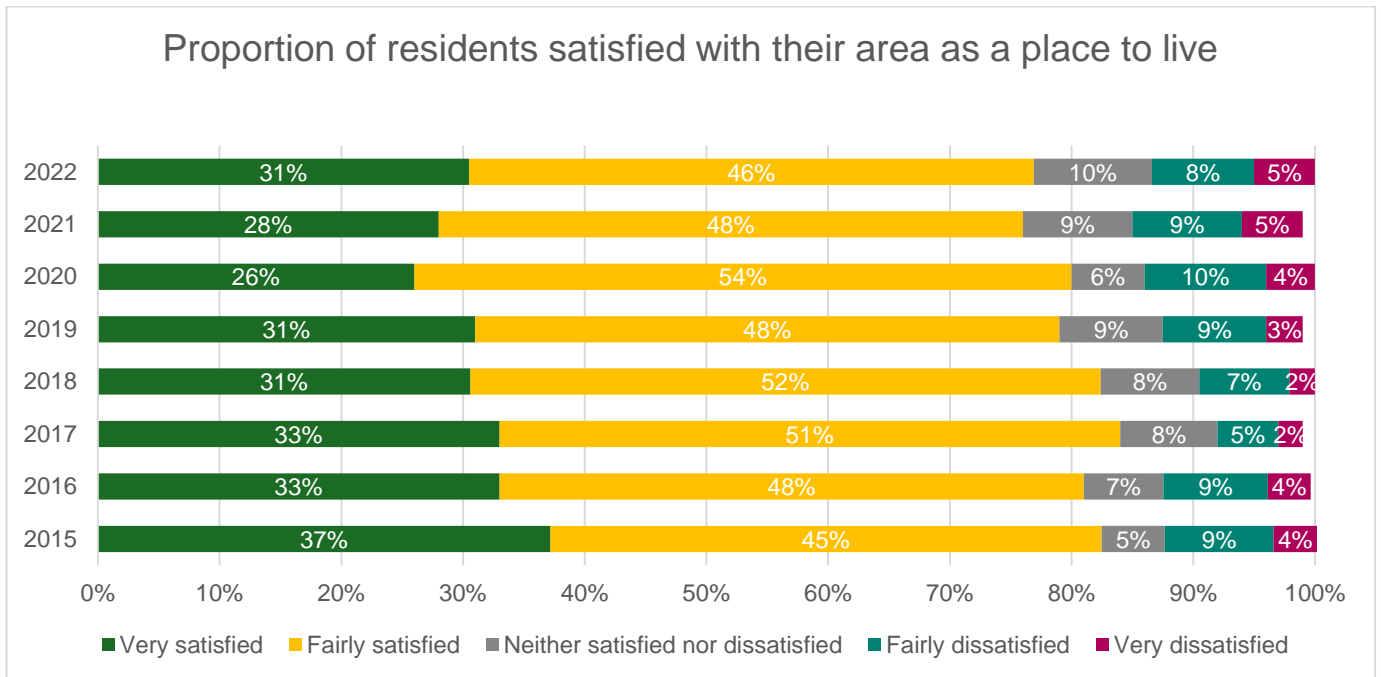
Source: South Gloucestershire Viewpoint Survey and Residents' Budget survey 2015-2022

*South Gloucestershire Viewpoint is the council's residents' panel. It is a panel of about 1,600 residents who are randomly selected to broadly represent the population of the district. It is made up of those who wish to regularly take part in research and members will have a greater exposure to council activities and communications than the general public.

Resident’s satisfaction with their local area as a place to live

The Viewpoint survey also collects data on satisfaction with the local area. On an annual basis, the council asks residents how satisfied they are with their local area as a place to live, and the graph below compares the results from the last five years.

In 2022, the majority of respondents said they were satisfied with their local area as a place to live (77%) with 31% of these saying they were very satisfied – an increase of 3% from 2021. 13% of respondents expressed dissatisfaction with their local area – down from 14% in 2021.



Source: South Gloucestershire Viewpoint Survey 2015-2021

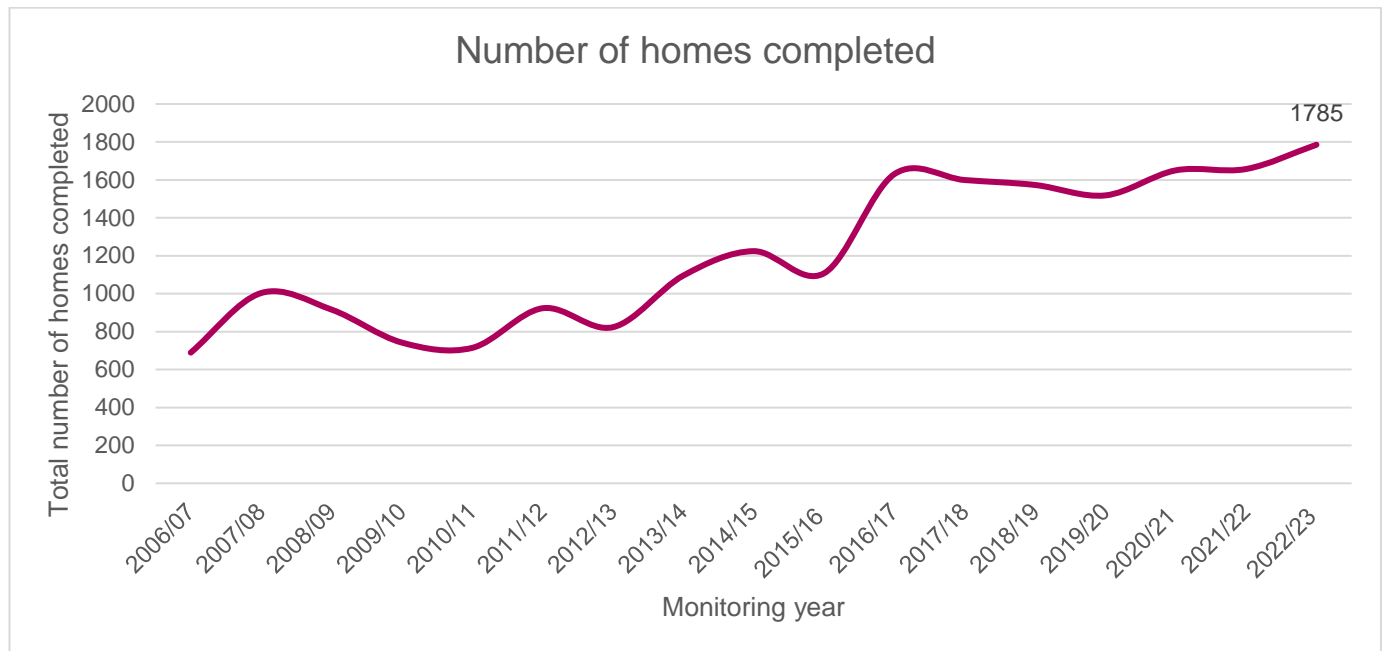
2. Our Place

Total homes completed

In 2022/23, 1,785 new homes were recorded as completed across South Gloucestershire, the highest figure since the Core Strategy started in 2006.

Of these, 1,588 were on large sites of 10 homes or more and 197 were completed on small sites of fewer than 10 homes.

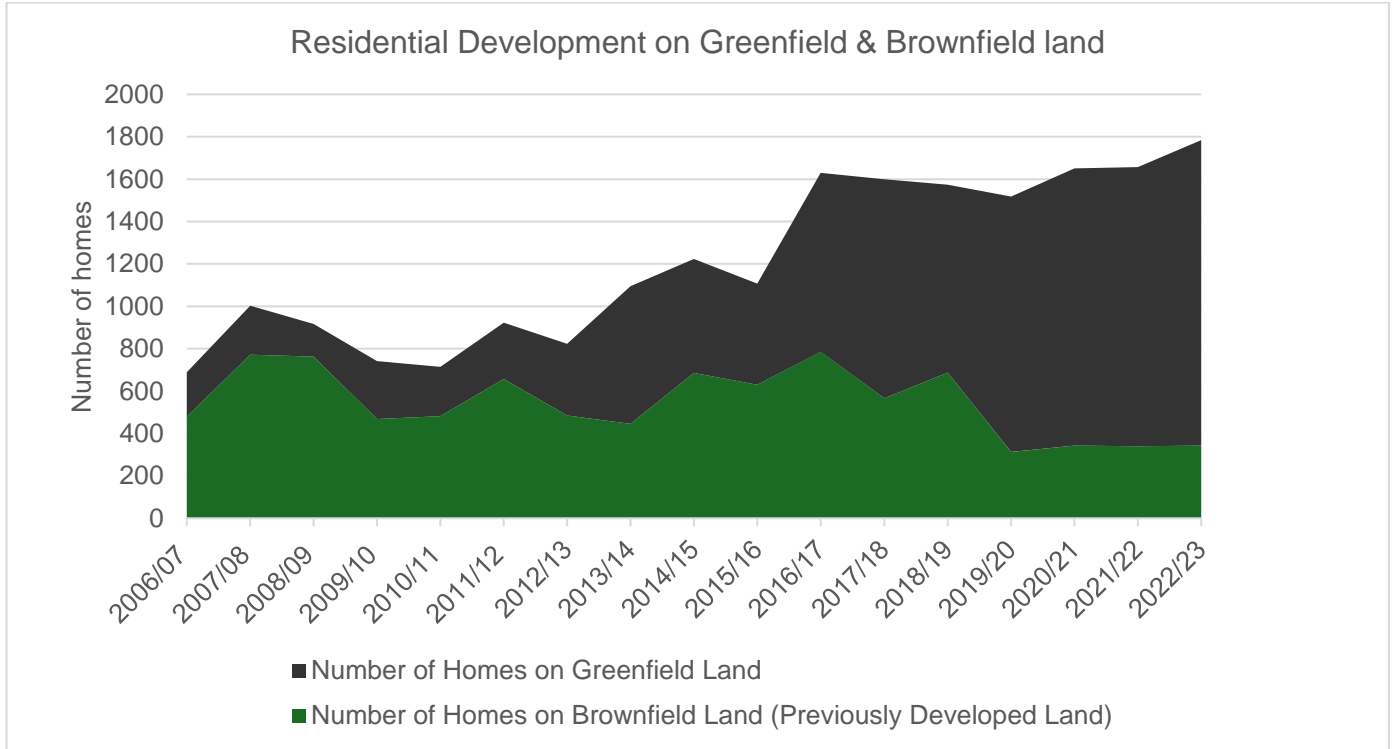
Overall, since April 2006, 20,648 new homes have been completed in South Gloucestershire.



Source: South Gloucestershire Council, Department for Place

Residential Development on Greenfield and Brownfield land

Of the 1,785 residential developments, 1,442 (81%) were built on Greenfield land and 342 (19%) were built on Brownfield land. A large proportion of these developments can be attributed to new housing schemes in Bristol’s North and East Fringes, including Charlton Hayes and Emersons Green (Lyde Green) along with North Yate New Neighbourhood and Thornbury.



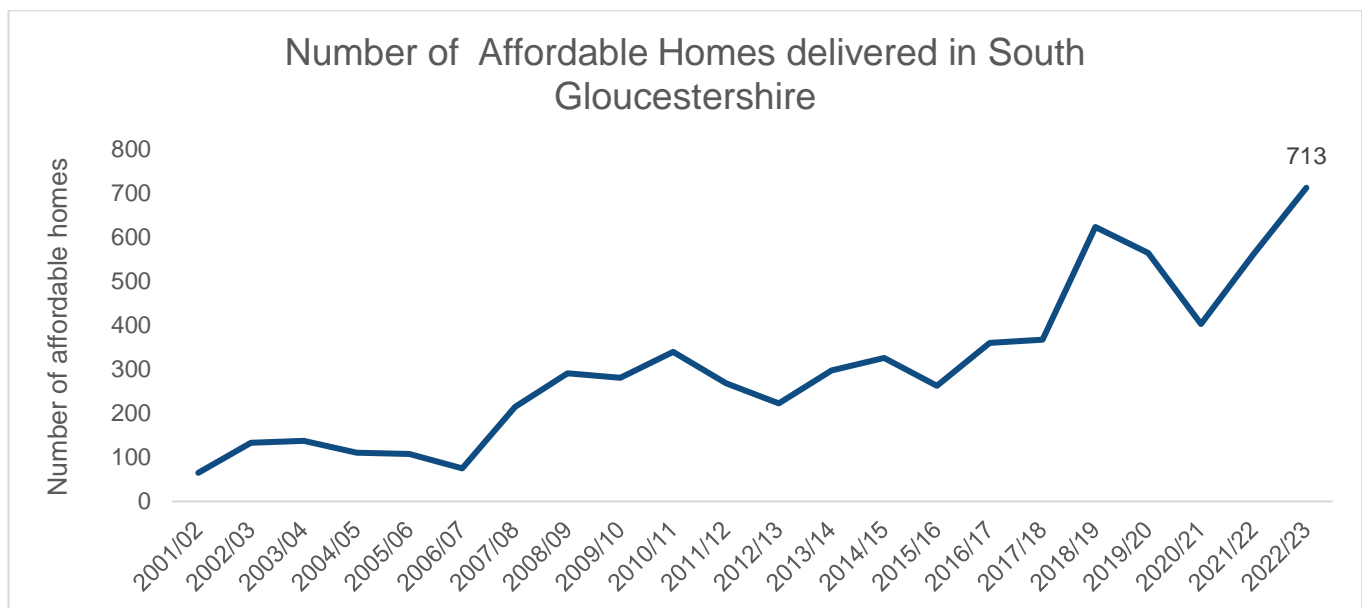
Source: South Gloucestershire Council, Department for Place

Number of affordable homes delivered

In 2022/23, 713 affordable homes were delivered in South Gloucestershire as a result of the Council's effective partnership working with our housing association partners and developers. This continues the strong track record of affordable housing delivery in the district.

All the completions were new build; 529 are social rent and 184 are shared ownership. Approximately 74% of the completions are for rent. The delivery provides a range of housing options to suit people's needs.

Information and definitions can be found in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), July 2021 (DHLUC): https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1005759/NPPF_July_2021.pdf



Source: South Gloucestershire Council, Environment and Community Services

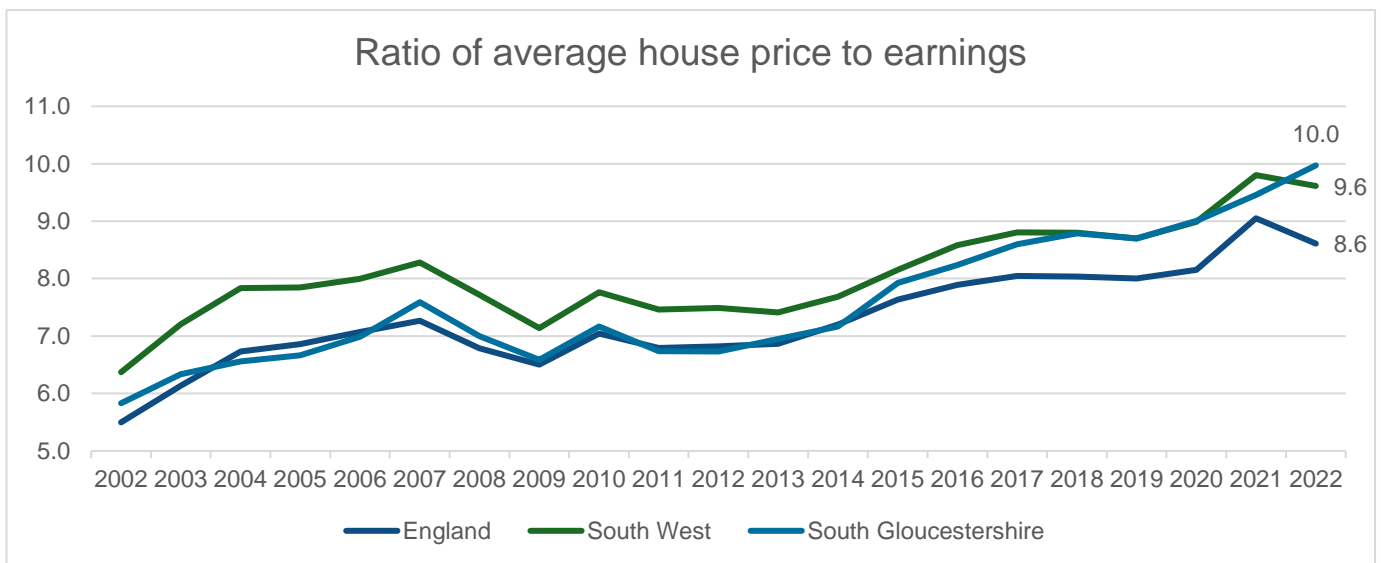
Ratio of average house price to average earnings

This indicator provides a broad measure of house affordability by illustrating the difference between average salary* and average house price**.

In December 2022, the average price paid for a residential property in South Gloucestershire was £330,000. This is an 8.2% increase from the average price in December 2021 (£305,000). The average house price in the South West was £305,000 and in England it was £286,000.

In 2022, the median annual earnings of fulltime workers living in South Gloucestershire was £33,094. This is greater than the median figure for the South West (£31,726), but lower than the figure for England (£33,208).

As of December 2022, the average house price is 10 times the average pay in South Gloucestershire. As the graph shows this is higher than the national average (8.6), as well as the South West average (9.6).



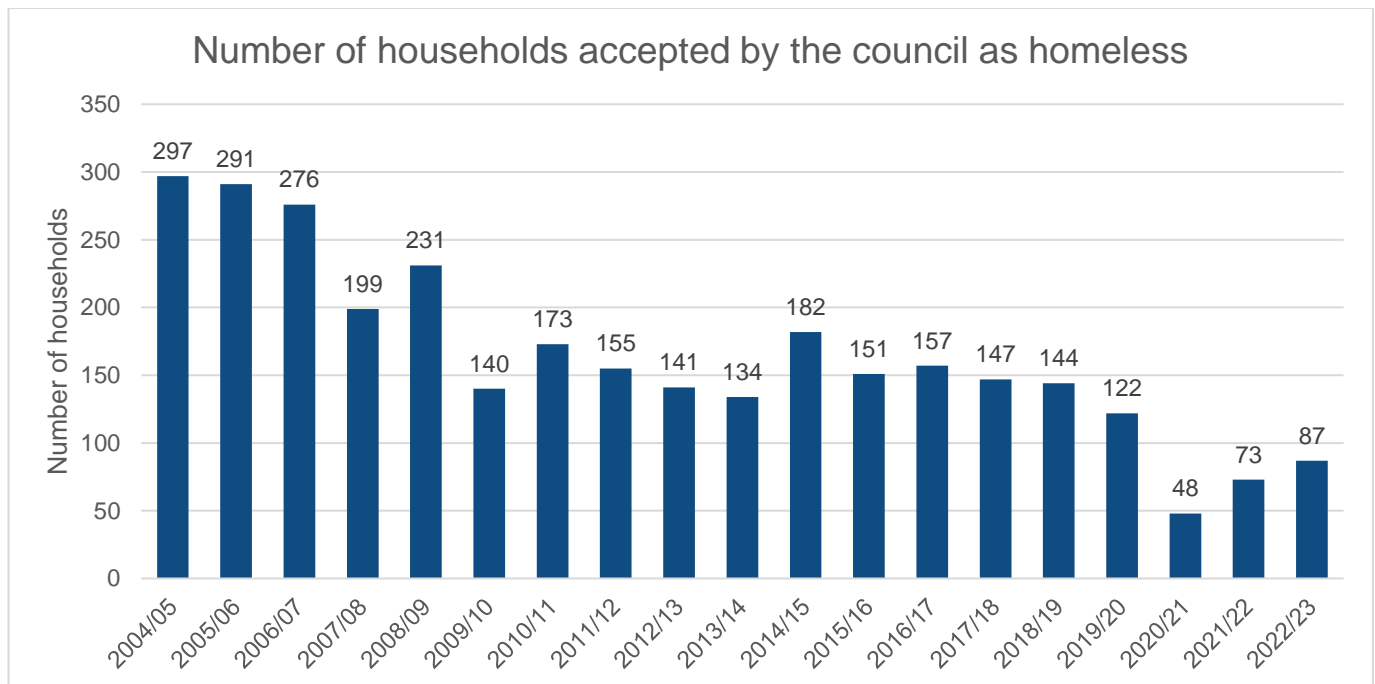
Source: Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings and Price Statistics for Small areas (Office for National Statistics)

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

** Median house price for all properties sold in 2002 – 2022.

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

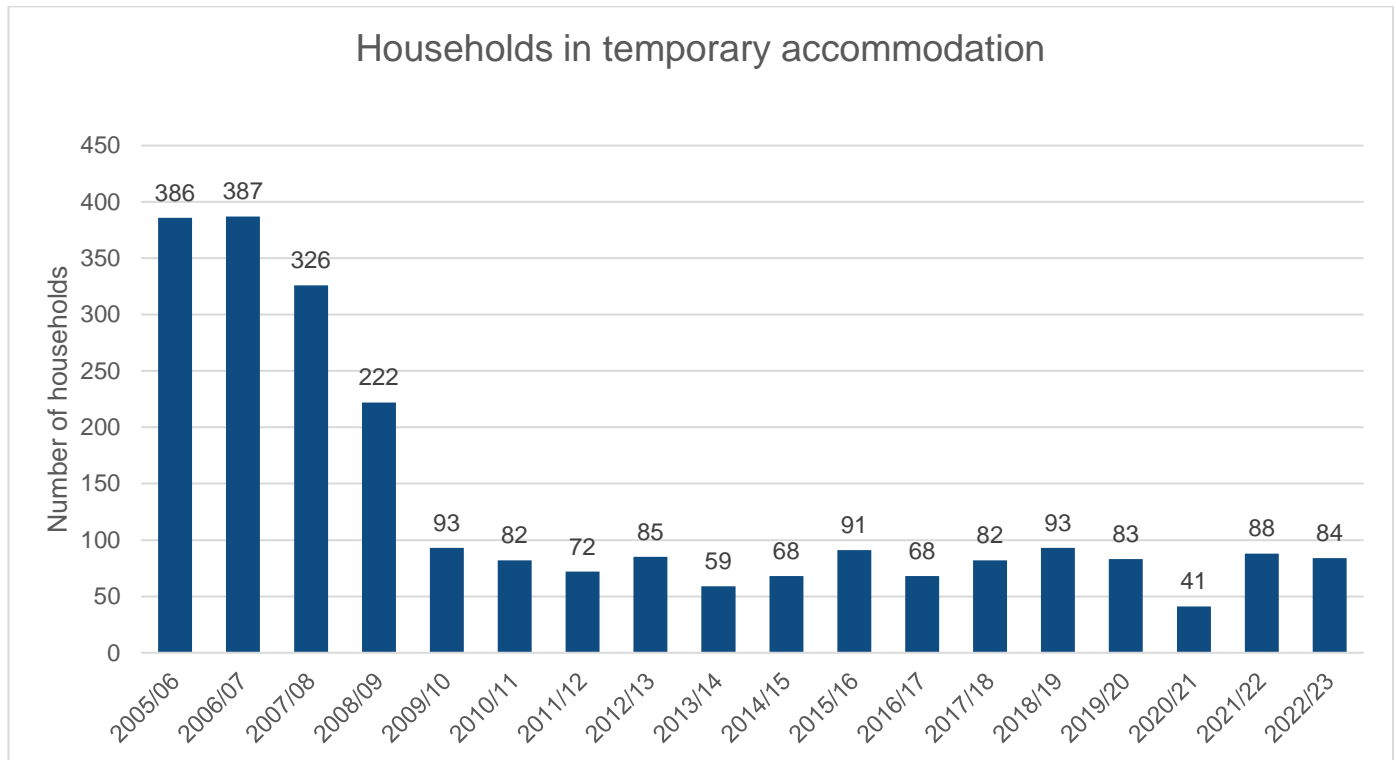
In 2022/23, the number of homeless households in South Gloucestershire accepted by the council was 87. The total number of households owed the main housing duty (duties accepted) increased by 15% on the previous year. This was partly due to an increase in the number of households facing eviction from private rented sector accommodation, who were unable to secure an alternative private let due to the increased demand for and cost of rental accommodation in the district. The council continues to offer targeted support to households threatened with homelessness to support them to secure settled housing. Whilst the number of duties accepted increased, the council was also able to prevent homelessness for 544 households, an increase on the previous year.



Source: South Gloucestershire Council, Children, Adults and Health

Number of households in temporary accommodation

In 2022/23, the number of households in temporary accommodation across South Gloucestershire was 84. The figure given is based on the number of households provided with temporary accommodation under the council's statutory homelessness duties and is a snapshot of occupancy at 31/3/23. Whilst we have seen an increase in the number of households requiring temporary accommodation during the year, the snapshot end of year figure is in line with the figure reported in 21/21. This is due to the ongoing advice and support provided by the council to help households move on into settled housing.



Source: South Gloucestershire Council, Children, Adults and Health

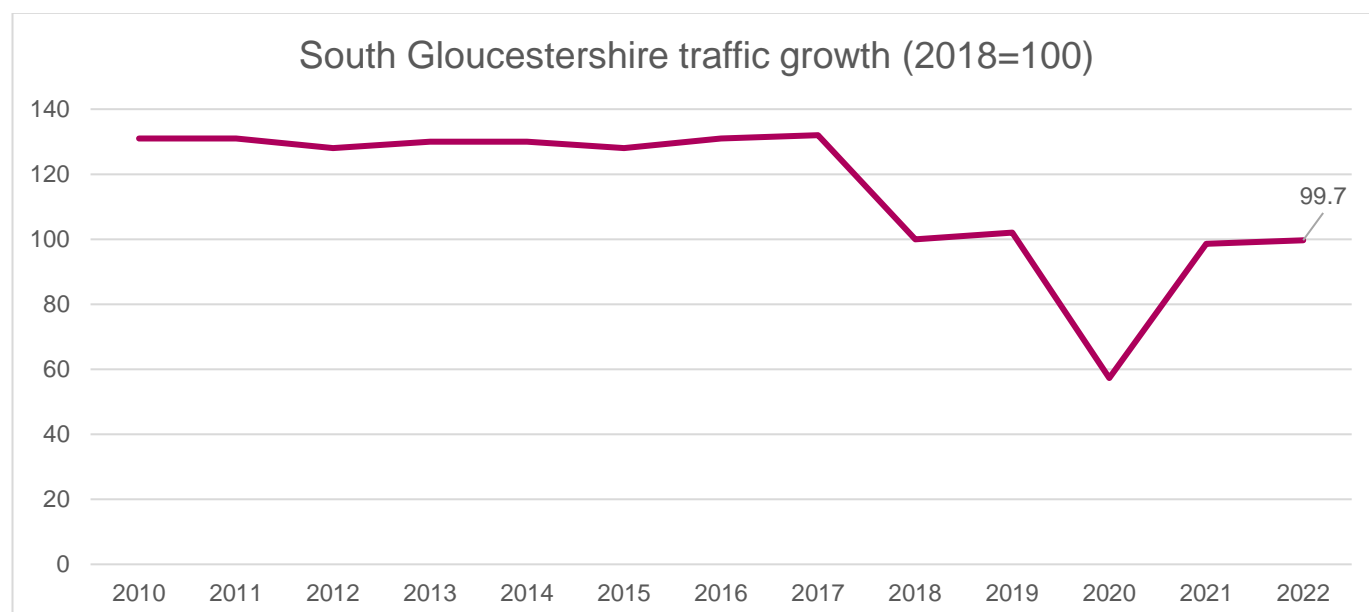
Traffic Congestion

The Department for Transport's preferred measure of congestion is to use average speed on South Gloucestershire's locally managed A roads. This data source has been available since 2015, and remained fairly constant at around 26mph until 2020 when the average speed rose to 28.9mph, an increase of 11.26% on 2019. This indicated a significant reduction in congestion, due to the impact of Covid-19 related lockdowns. In 2022 average speed has returned to the level experienced prior to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Year	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Average Speed in mph	26.4	25.6	25.6	25.6	26.0	28.9	N/A	N/A
Average Speed in mph	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	25.1	27.6	25.8	25.5

General traffic levels within South Gloucestershire are measured using a basket of Automatic Traffic counters across the network. This year we have developed a new basket of sites utilising our modern traffic counters. This was required as the previous basket relied on data from loop-based systems that had fallen out of service. As the geographical spread between the baskets is different we have presented both indexes below. Traffic levels from the new basket have been backdated to a baseline year of 2021 (when the devices were installed). The new basket indicates that overall traffic volumes have continued to grow, and are now likely to be higher than levels in 2019.

Year.	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
South Gloucestershire traffic growth (2018 = 100)	100.0	102.0	57.3	98.6	99.7	
South Gloucestershire traffic growth (2021 = 100)				100	107.5	109.3

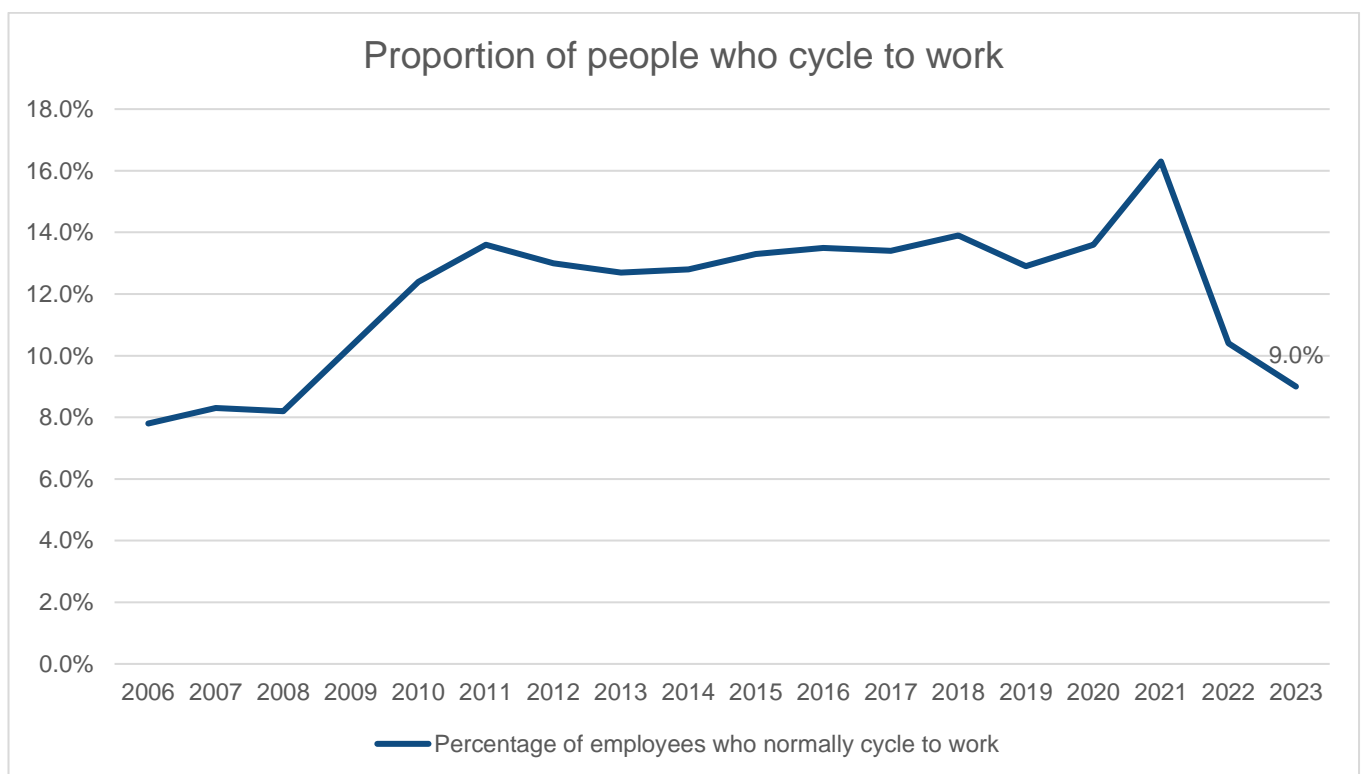


Source: South Gloucestershire Council, Environment and Community

Proportion of people cycling to work

The proportion of people cycling to work is measured in a snapshot survey undertaken by the Council in March each year. The survey results since 2021 have been directly impacted firstly by Covid-19 and then by secondary changes to employees work habits; it is possible that the 2020 results were also impacted by employees already adopting voluntary measures in the run-up to the introduction of the national lockdown at the end of March 2020.

Between 2006 and 2020 there was a steady, generally upward trend in the percentage of employees cycling to work. In 2021 the survey reported a significant increase in the percentage of commuting trips by cycle. This high percentage now looks to be an outlier, with the 2023 survey suggesting only 9% of commuting trips are made by bike. It is worth noting that according to the March 2023 survey 61% of respondents spent most of their working week at their formal workplace – which indicates that travel habits are still substantially different to pre Covid era.

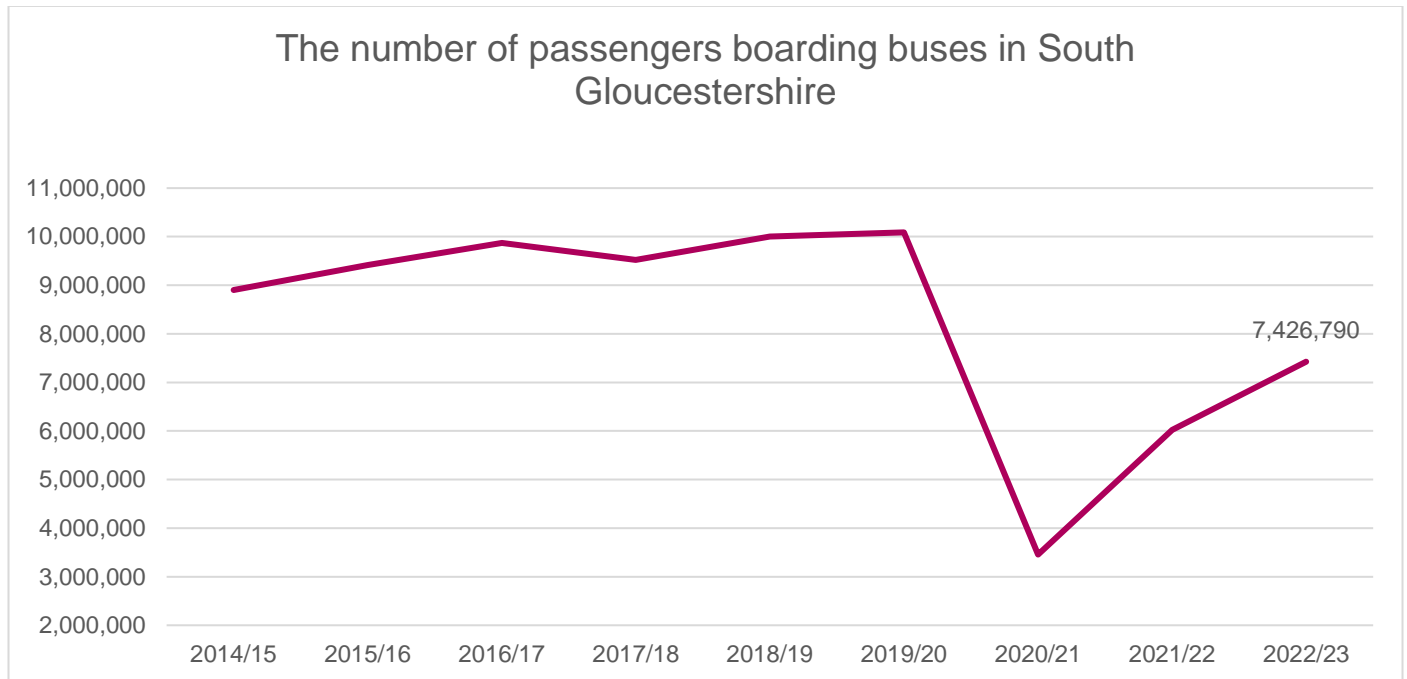


Source. Travel to Work Survey (SGC: Access West Programme)

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

Bus Patronage

Overall bus patronage continues to recover with over 7.4 million passengers boarding registered bus services in South Gloucestershire in 2022/23 (Source: WECA). This represents an increase of 23% compared to the previous year but is still only around 74% of pre-Covid levels. Work continues to improve bus service coverage (i.e. extension of Metrobus network with the provision of M4 service, together with significant service frequency enhancements on routes serving our main market towns (Y1, T1).



Source: West of England Combined Authority

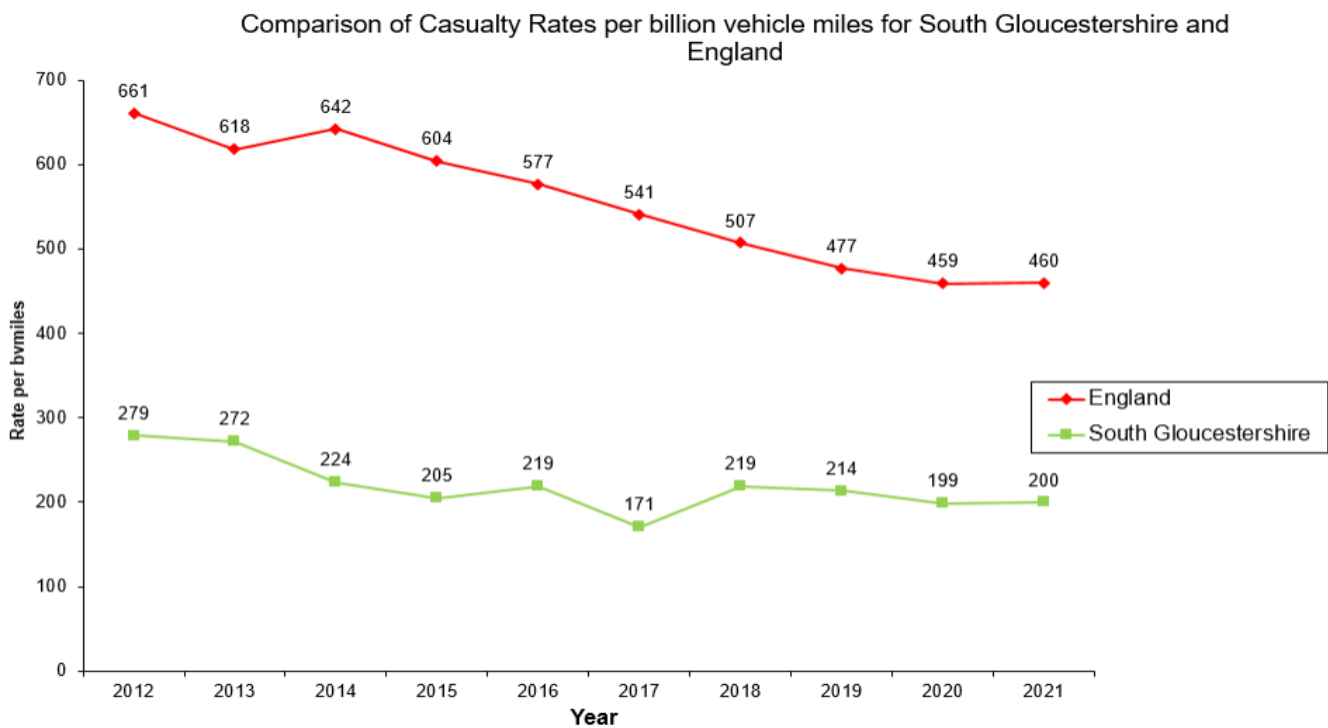
Number of people killed or injured on roads in South Gloucestershire

In 2022, the number of people killed or seriously injured on roads within South Gloucestershire was 47 (made up of 4 fatalities and 43 serious injuries), which is a small decrease on the previous year's figure of 53 (made up of 4 fatalities and 49 serious injuries). This number of casualties being killed or serious injured has plateaued over the last few years, with similar numbers being recorded since 2013.

The total number of road casualties in 2022 (i.e. people slightly injured, as well as those killed or seriously injured) was 456, which is a reduction on the number in 2021 when of 482 people were injured and lower than the 2017-19 average of 538.

It should, however, be noted that changes to the reporting system at Avon and Somerset Police mean that these numbers are still provisional at this time, and it is expected that additional collisions will be received.

The graph below shows the road casualty rate in South Gloucestershire remains considerably lower than the national average. Data for 2021, the latest available nationally, showed that South Gloucestershire had the eighth lowest casualty rate of the 157 local authorities in England.



Source: Department for Transport Table RAS0403

CO2 emissions in South Gloucestershire

The South Gloucestershire Strategic Partnership is committed to reducing CO2 emissions arising from local road transport, industrial, commercial, and domestic sources.

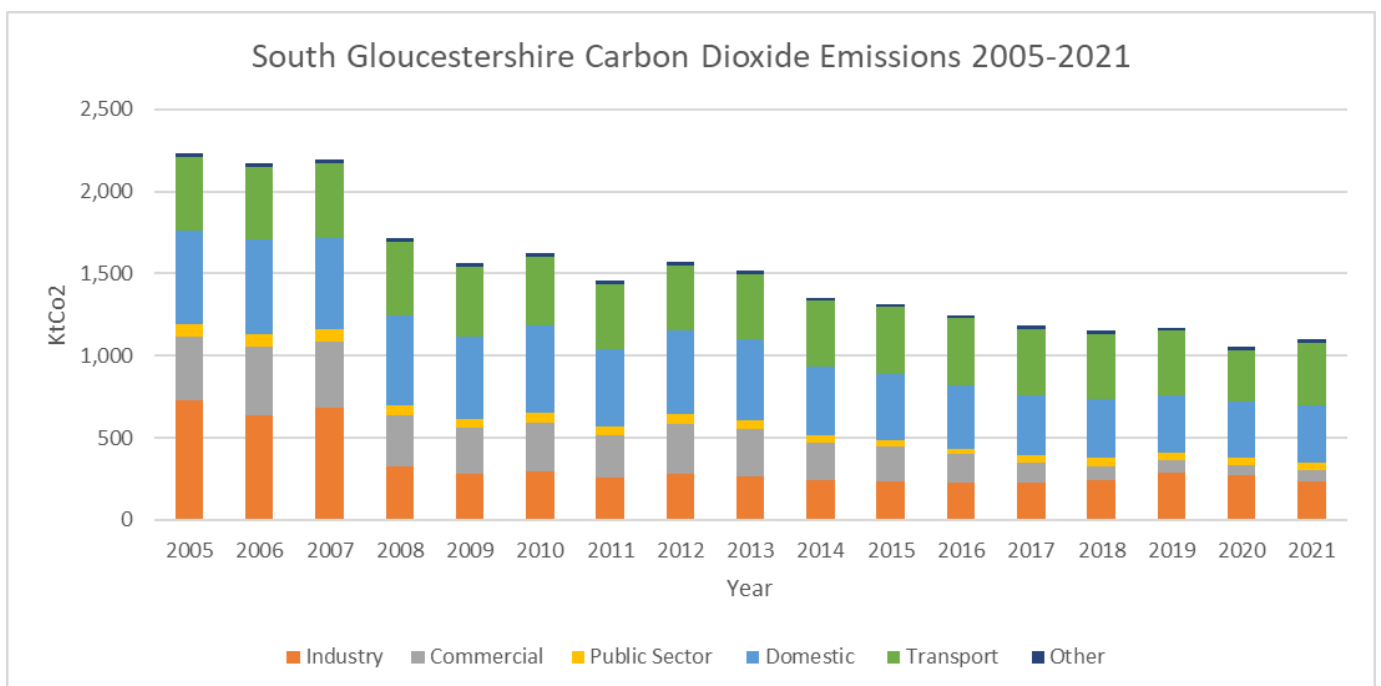
The UK national target for reducing greenhouse gas emissions requires emissions to be net zero by 2050. Net zero means any emissions would be balanced by schemes to offset an equivalent amount of greenhouse gases from the atmosphere, such as planting trees or using technology like carbon capture and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

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

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

We report it as a percentage reduction from the 1990 baseline emissions figure of 2,073.3 kilo tonnes (kt) of Carbon Dioxide (CO₂). In 2021 (the most recently available data), carbon dioxide emissions totalled 1099 kt CO₂ which is 47% lower than in 1990.

Data for 2021 shows an increase in local emissions when compared to the previous year (2020) but remains lower than the last pre-lockdown year of 2019. This post lockdown rebound was expected and follows national trends being primarily due to the increase of road transport emissions as lockdown measures reduced. Increases also occurred from the residential sector, due to a colder winter in 2021 compared to 2020, and increases in emissions from power stations.



Source: UK Government National Statistics.

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

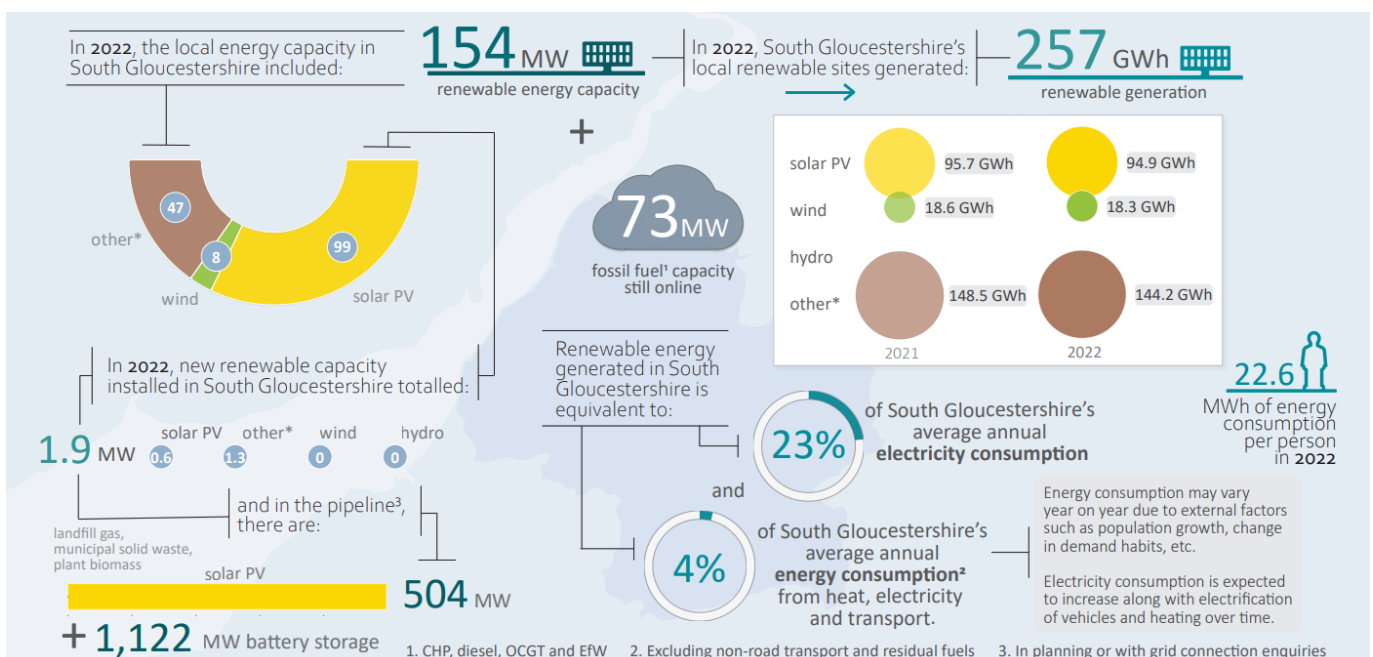
Proportion of energy produced from renewable sources

An estimated annual total of 257 Gigawatt (GWh) hours of energy was generated from renewable sources within South Gloucestershire in 2022. Solar photovoltaic (PV) projects were the most significant contributors to renewable energy generation, generating an estimated 94.9 GWh. The vast majority of renewable energy generation comes from renewable electricity. Progress needs to be made on renewable heat as well.

The proportion of annual energy demand currently generated from local renewable energy generation is 4%, the same as last year. By the end of 2022, South Gloucestershire had a total of 154MW of installed renewable energy capacity which is 1MW more than in 2021. This is, made up of: 98MW Solar PV; 8MW wind; and 46 MW from other sources (which include biomass, landfill gas, energy from waste and heat pumps). Solar PV is the largest technology type, making up two-thirds of the capacity installed.

Whilst the above figures show there is slow progress at present in the installation of large-scale renewable energy with South Gloucestershire, there is a significant amount of Solar PV and battery storage capacity currently in the planning system – 504 MW and 1,122 MW respectively. This is a sizable increase from last year and shows a significant pipeline of projects. It is hoped that many of these projects will complete their journey through the planning system in due course and we continue to highlight the issue of grid connection and capacity with National Grid Electricity Distribution (NGED).

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



Source: Regen Net Zero Dashboard 2022

Quantity of household waste collected and method of disposal

In 2022/23, 114,717 tonnes of waste were produced by households in South Gloucestershire. This is a decrease of 6.4% on the previous year (21/22) and the considerable increases in waste that were caused by the impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic on people’s health, freedoms, behaviours and changing work habits. The continual decrease in waste handled since the pandemic is likely to be due to a combination of the return to normal lifestyles and the now effects of rising living costs on consumers. Overall household tonnages have returned to the same levels experienced prior to the pandemic.

In 2022/23, 58.6% of our waste was recycled, a decrease of -1.3 percentage points on the previous year. The decrease in performance is a result of lower overall household tonnages combined with less waste being sent for reuse, recycling, and composting and is being experienced by other authorities too.

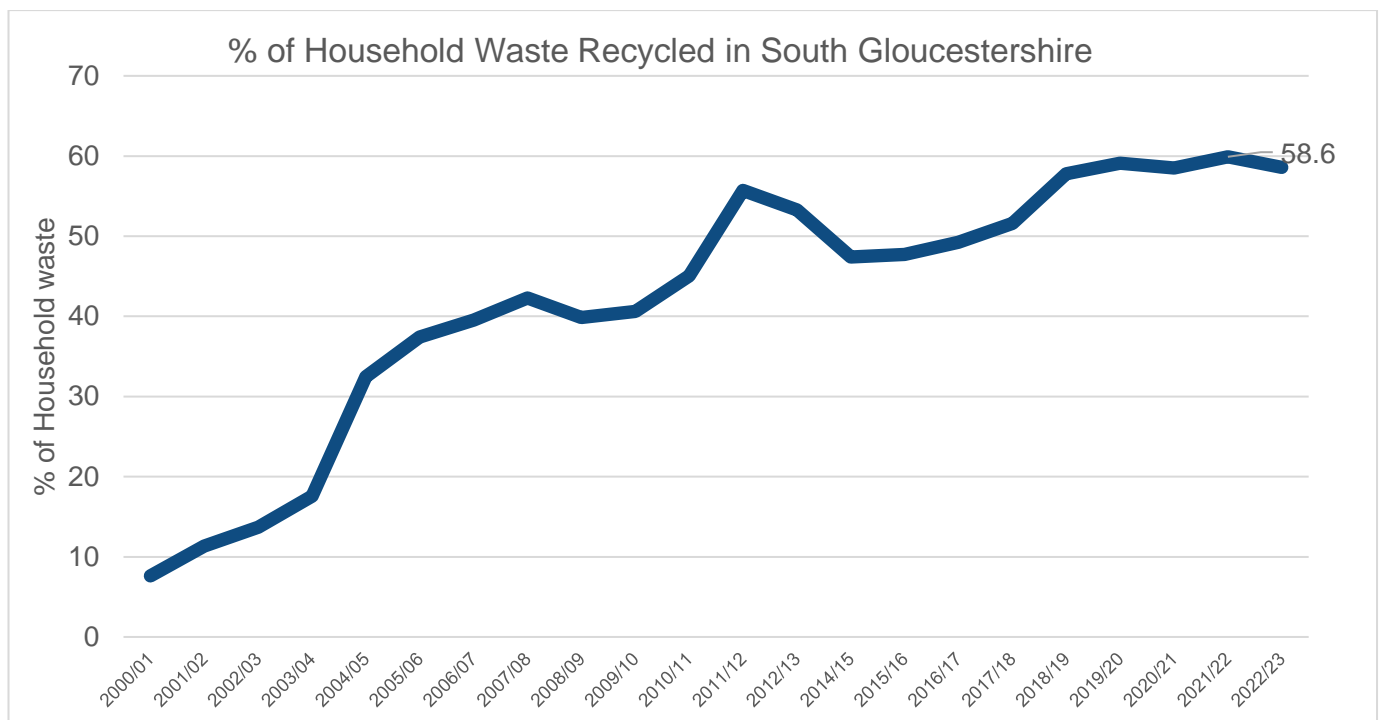
Total household (HH) waste = 114,717

HH waste sent for reuse, recycling, and composting = 67,228 (58.6%)

HH waste sent to energy recovery = 43,025 (37.5%)

HH waste sent to landfill = 4,039 (3.5%)

As the graph shows, at the start of the contract with Suez, in 2000, the council recycled only 6% of household waste with 94% being sent to landfill. Since that date we have steadily improved our performance with only 3.5% of our waste sent to landfill in 2022/23. The new West of England contracts which commenced in April 2020 for treatment of residual (non-recyclable) waste including bulky items continues to contribute to the reductions in the use of landfill.



Source: South Gloucestershire Council, Environment and Community Services

Note: 2022/23 figures are provisional – subject to validation by DEFRA. Percentages and tonnages do not sum to 100% due to process losses in the waste and or differences in collected and transported tonnages at transfer stations.

Biodiversity in South Gloucestershire

A local climate and nature emergency was declared in 2019; with nature still in decline.

Over 2022/23 South Gloucestershire council has been preparing for statutory Biodiversity Net Gain. This is a change to UK planning law so that every development must leave their site better for wildlife. There are strict national metrics, and it will be enforced by each local authority. Ongoing maintenance and wildlife monitoring are factored in and each legal agreement will run for 30 years. Internal council projects will also provide net gain for wildlife and we have been trialling this with projects such as the new Yate park & ride. Also new is that nature has become embedded in every council decision with the roll out of the Cornwall Decision Wheel which checks sustainability measures including biodiversity.

On a practical level the Forest of Avon provided grants for new woodland and hedgerows. CPRE The Countryside charity trained and recruited 26 volunteers in the craft of hedgelaying and enhanced over 1,000m of hedgerows. Bristol Avon Rivers Trust worked with South Gloucestershire council and the Frome Reconnected project to enhance five sections of the River Frome's tributaries north of Bradley Stoke. 3 ponds enhanced and local nature action plans written by nearly half of the local parish councils.



Source: South Gloucestershire Council, Environment and Community Services

3. Our Economy

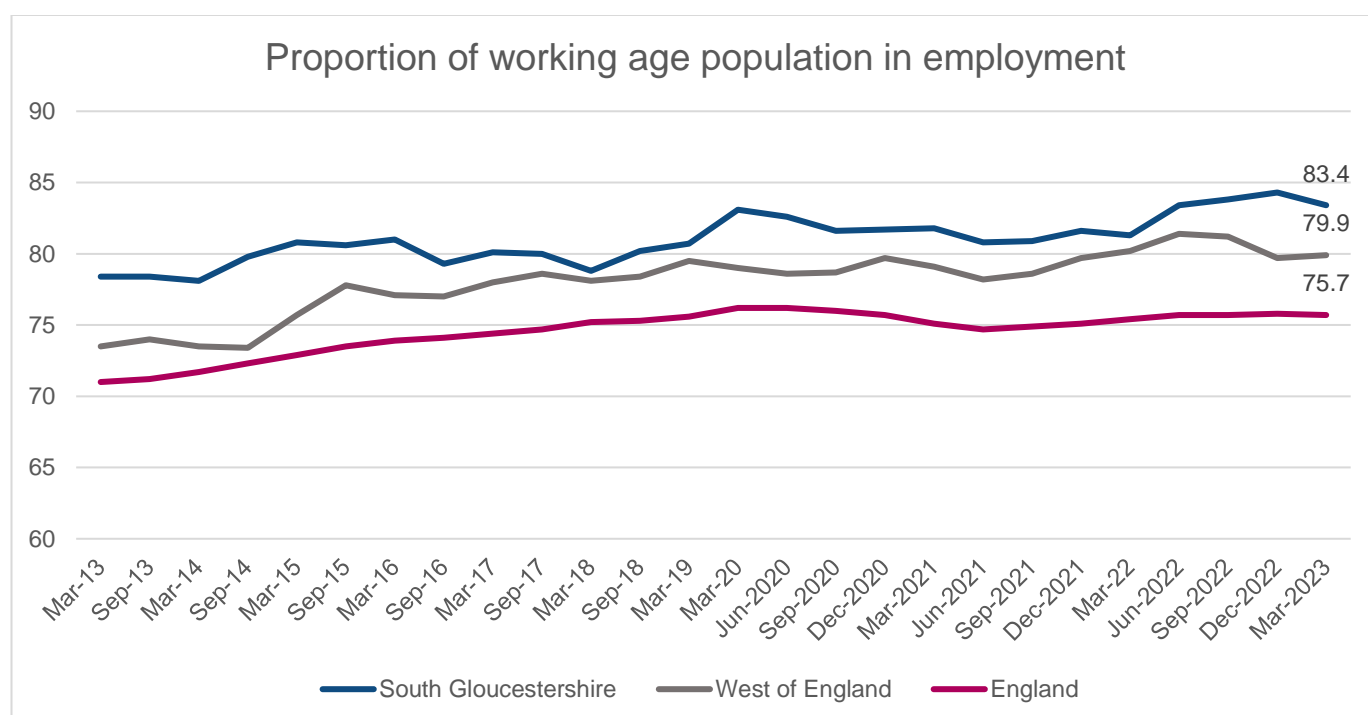
Please note: Due to the time-lag with publishing official economic data, some indicators in this section relate to the 2021-2022 financial year so do not yet fully reflect the emerging economic impact of the Covid-19 pandemic.

The council will continue to monitor relevant economic indicators and will publish regular briefings at: www.southglos.gov.uk/statistics

Proportion of working age population in employment

In the year from April 2022 – March 2023, 83.4% of the working age population (16–64-year-olds) in South Gloucestershire were in employment. This is an increase of 1.9 percentage points on the figure for the same period last year (80.9%).

The proportion of 16–64-year-olds in employment in South Gloucestershire remains above sub-regional and national averages (79.9% and 75.7% respectively)



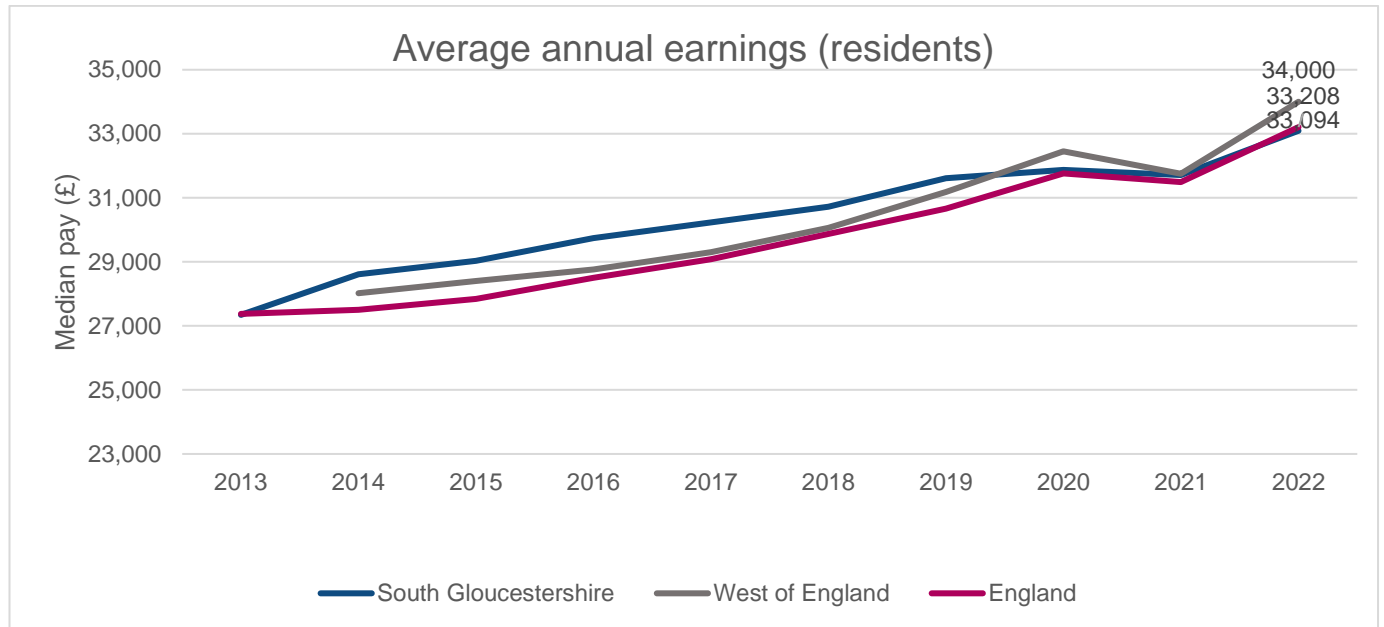
Source: Annual population survey (Office for National Statistics via NOMIS)

Note: This data is derived from a sample survey conducted at the national level. At local authority level a smaller number of people will be surveyed so the statistical reliability of the data (measured by confidence intervals) will be lower. For example, the 95% confidence interval for the latest period for South Gloucestershire is 2.7%, meaning there is a 95% chance the true value falls between 80.4% and 85.8%.

Average annual earnings

In the year to December 2022, the average annual earnings for a full-time worker living in South Gloucestershire was £33,094, representing a 5% increase on the previous year's figure (£31,518).

The graph below shows that average earnings in South Gloucestershire remain 0.3% below the national (England) average (£33,208) and 2.7% below the regional (West of England) average (£34,000).



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

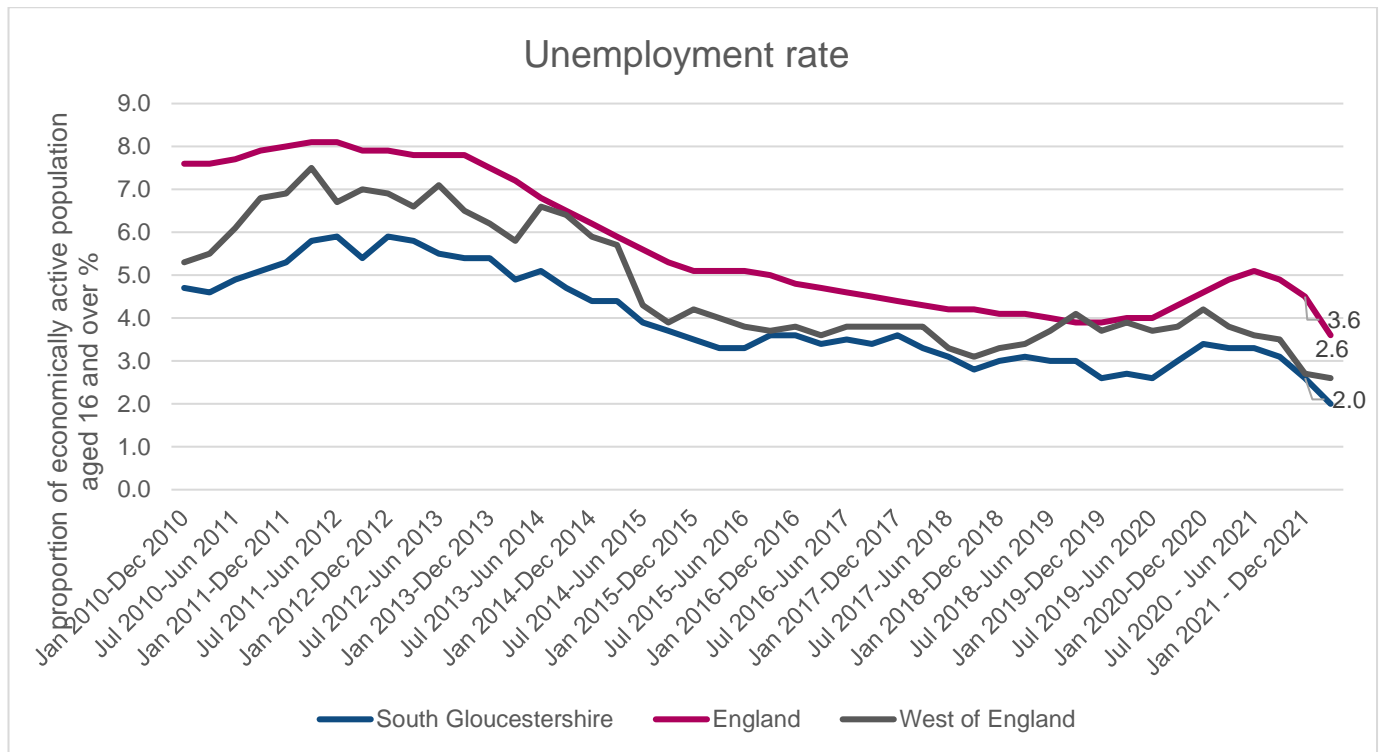
Note: Data is not available for the West of England prior to 2014.

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

Unemployment

In December 2022, 2.0% of the economically active population (16 and over) in South Gloucestershire were unemployed, a decrease on last year's figure (2.6%).

The South Gloucestershire unemployment rate remains below the sub-regional (West of England) and national (England) averages (2.6% and 3.6% respectively). As can be seen in the graph, the trend for South Gloucestershire unemployment rates is largely reflected at both sub-regional and national level.



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

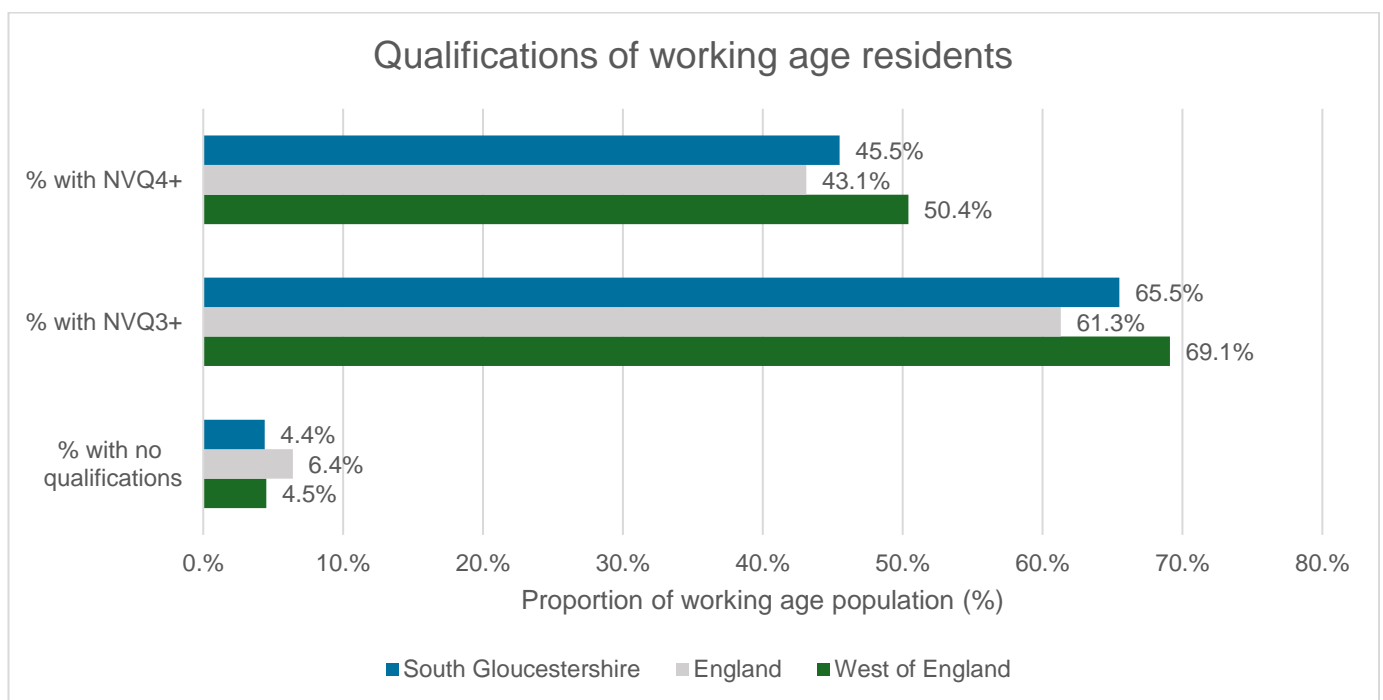
Qualifications of working age residents

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

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

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

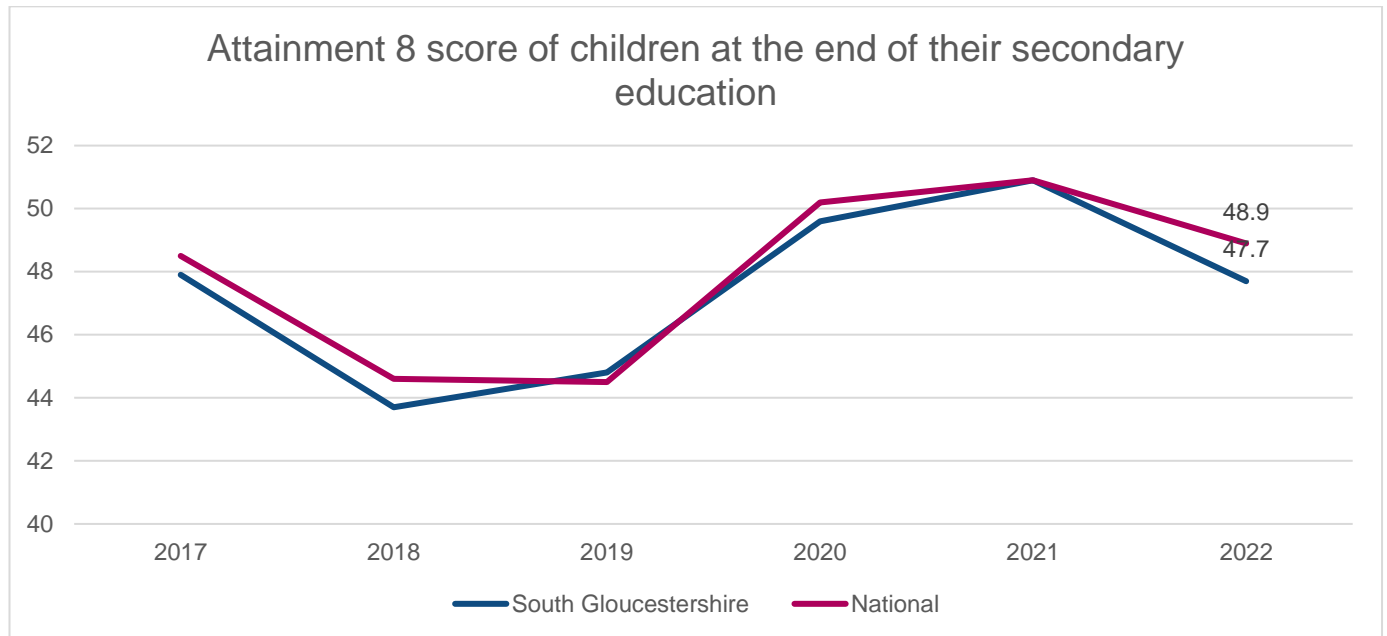
The annual population survey has not measured data on the qualifications of working age residents since 2021, however the latest Census provided insight into similar data. The 2021 Census has told us 14.2% of residents aged 16 and over had no qualifications, and 33% held a level 4 qualification (equivalent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



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

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

In 2022, the average attainment 8 has decreased compared with the previous year, which is what we might have expected given the grading approach used in 2021. The Attainment 8 score for pupils in South Gloucestershire was 47.7, slightly lower than the national figure for all schools of 48.9. Girls continue to score better than boys both locally and nationally. South Gloucestershire pupils from the Chinese ethnic group had the highest average Attainment 8 score out of all ethnic groups at 70.7. Whereas South Gloucestershire pupils from the Black ethnic group had the lowest score of 43.1.



Source: South Gloucestershire Council Children, Adults and Health Department

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

The cohort of year 12s (the majority of 16- and 17-year-olds fall into this cohort) has now stabilised at 3107 after increased in the last couple of years – the pattern of participation remains relatively and consistently positive, with almost 95% of young people participating in Education, Employment or Training (EET,) the majority in school sixth forms or FE colleges.

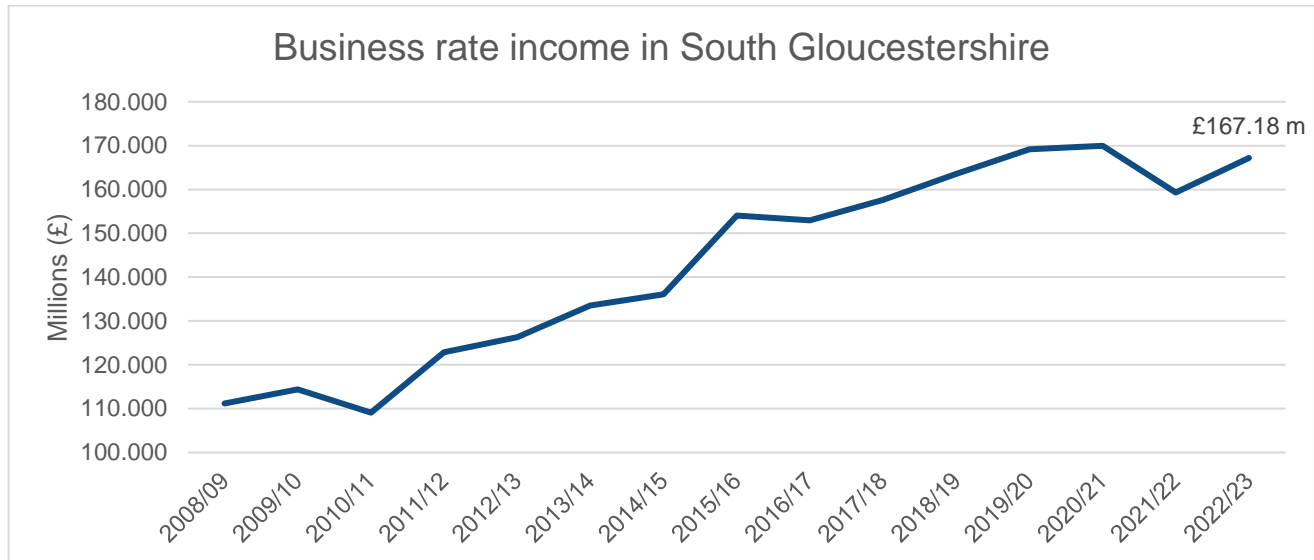
There are just over 2% of young people who are not in EET and a small number (19) in work without recognised training. Alongside this, a frustrating number of year 12 destinations are Not Known (just over 2%) and the team continues to seek contact with those young people as they join the year 13 cohort.

Of the 656 17-year-olds in year 13, 92% remain in EET, 2.2% are NEET and 4.4% have destinations that are Not Known. We are aware that it becomes more difficult to track young people in year 13 if we have not been successful in year 12 – the tracking team is placing a good deal of focus on ensuring that data for year 11 leavers this year so that future contact is more likely to be successful and participation rates are shown to improve.

Source: South Gloucestershire Council Children, Adults and Health Department

Growth in business rate income

The gross Business Rate Income increased 4.96% to £167.18M in FY 2022/23. This growth in gross income can be primarily attributed to the increased frequency of completing and occupying large industrial buildings. The easing of previous challenges related to COVID restrictions and material imports has played a significant role in facilitating this positive trend.



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

4. Our communities

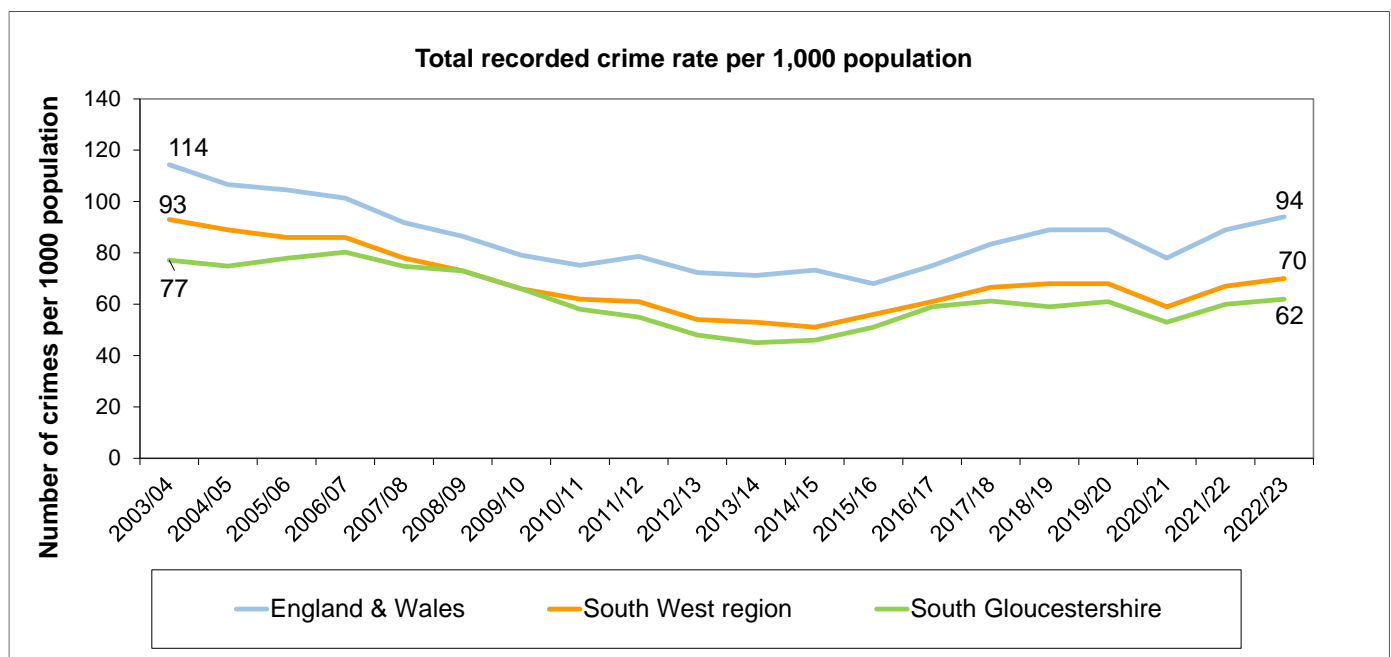
Recorded crime rate in South Gloucestershire

In 2022/23 the overall rate of recorded crime in South Gloucestershire was 62 crimes per 1,000 residents, which represents 18,019 crimes across the year. This is an increase of 5% (851 offences) compared to 2021/22. Crime rates were unusually low during the period of Covid lockdown but have increased again since.

Across England and Wales, the crime rate sits at 94 offences per 1,000 population, which also represents a 5% increase compared to the year before. Avon and Somerset police force saw a 1% increase in offending compared to the previous year, and the South West region saw a 5% increase. These modest increases come on the back much larger increases in the year before, as we moved out of Covid lockdown.

Looking at our rate of crime per 1,000 population compared to other areas, our rate of 62 per 1,000 is lower than the rate of 81 per 1,000 in Avon and Somerset, 70 per 1,000 in the South West region, and 94 per 1,000 across England & Wales.

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

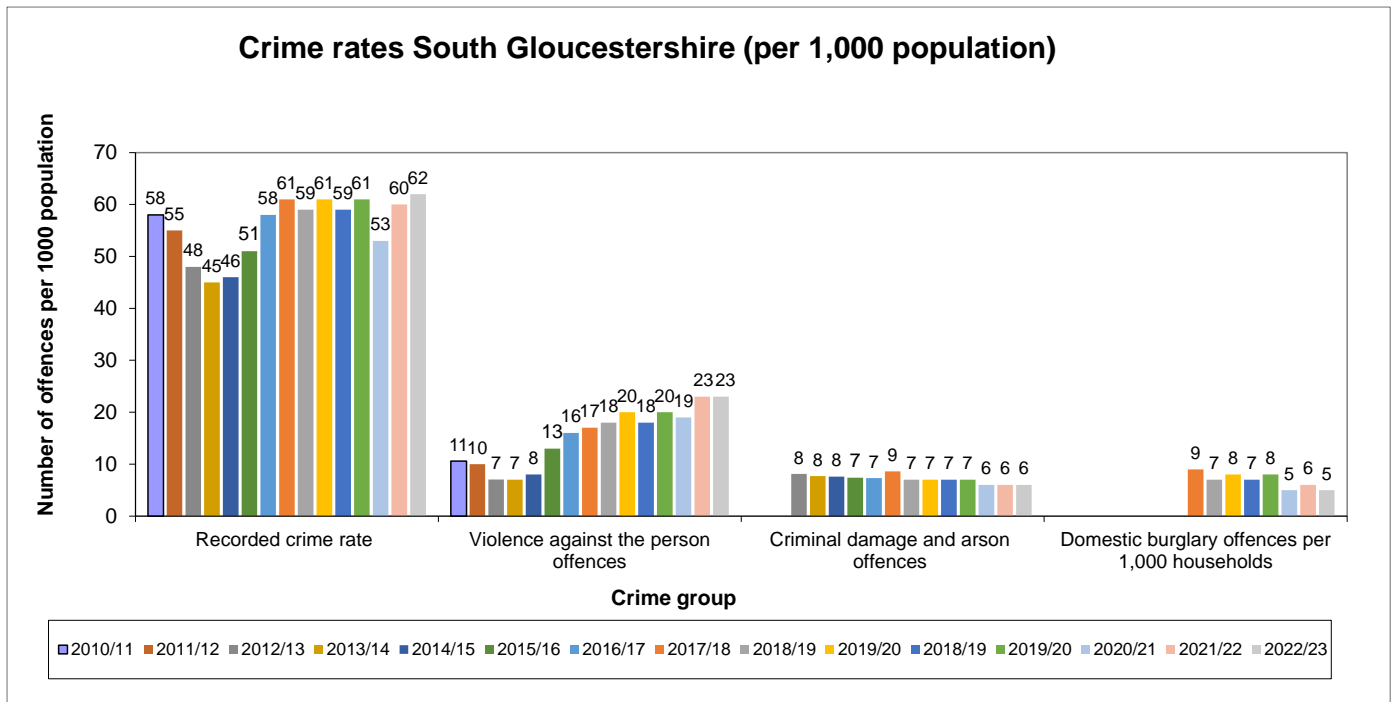


Source: Home Office statistics

Recorded crime rate for high impact crimes

Our crime reduction efforts focus on the crimes that have the most impact on our communities. Rates of violence against the person are slightly higher than the previous year, at 23 per 1,000 population, and are currently at their highest rate in recent times. This is below the rate of 30 per 1,000 in Avon & Somerset, 28 per 1,000 in the South West, and 35 per 1,000 across England & Wales, but is still of concern given the significant negative impact that crimes of this type have on victims.

Rates of domestic burglary have remained more static, with a slight fall from 6 to 5 offences per 1000 households compared to the previous year. The rate of criminal damage and arson offences has stayed at 6 offences per 1000, and robbery has stayed at 1 offence per 1000.



Source: Home Office statistics

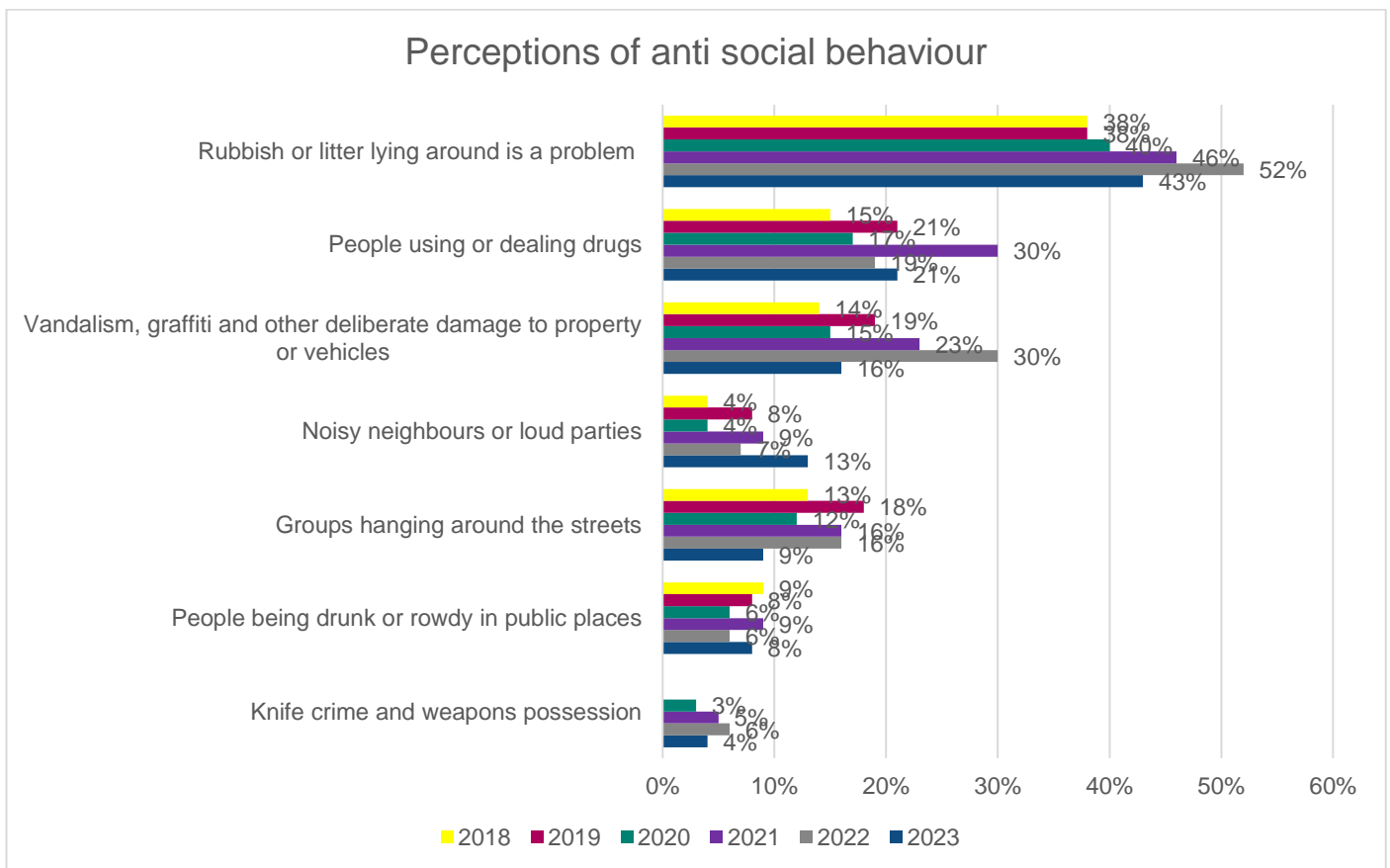
Perceptions of antisocial behaviour

The council measures perceptions of anti-social behaviour through the Viewpoint survey*.

The graph shows the percentage of respondents who view each of seven types of anti-social behaviour as a problem in their local area.

Rubbish or litter lying around continues to be the largest issue with 43% of respondents highlighting this as a problem in 2023. This is a decrease from the 2022 figure of 52%. Knife crime and weapons possession remains one of the behaviours receiving the lowest level of concern (4%) this has decreased from 6% in 2022.

Vandalism, graffiti and other damage to properties has seen a large decrease in the percentage of respondents who consider this to be an issue, 30% in 2022 to 16% in 2023.



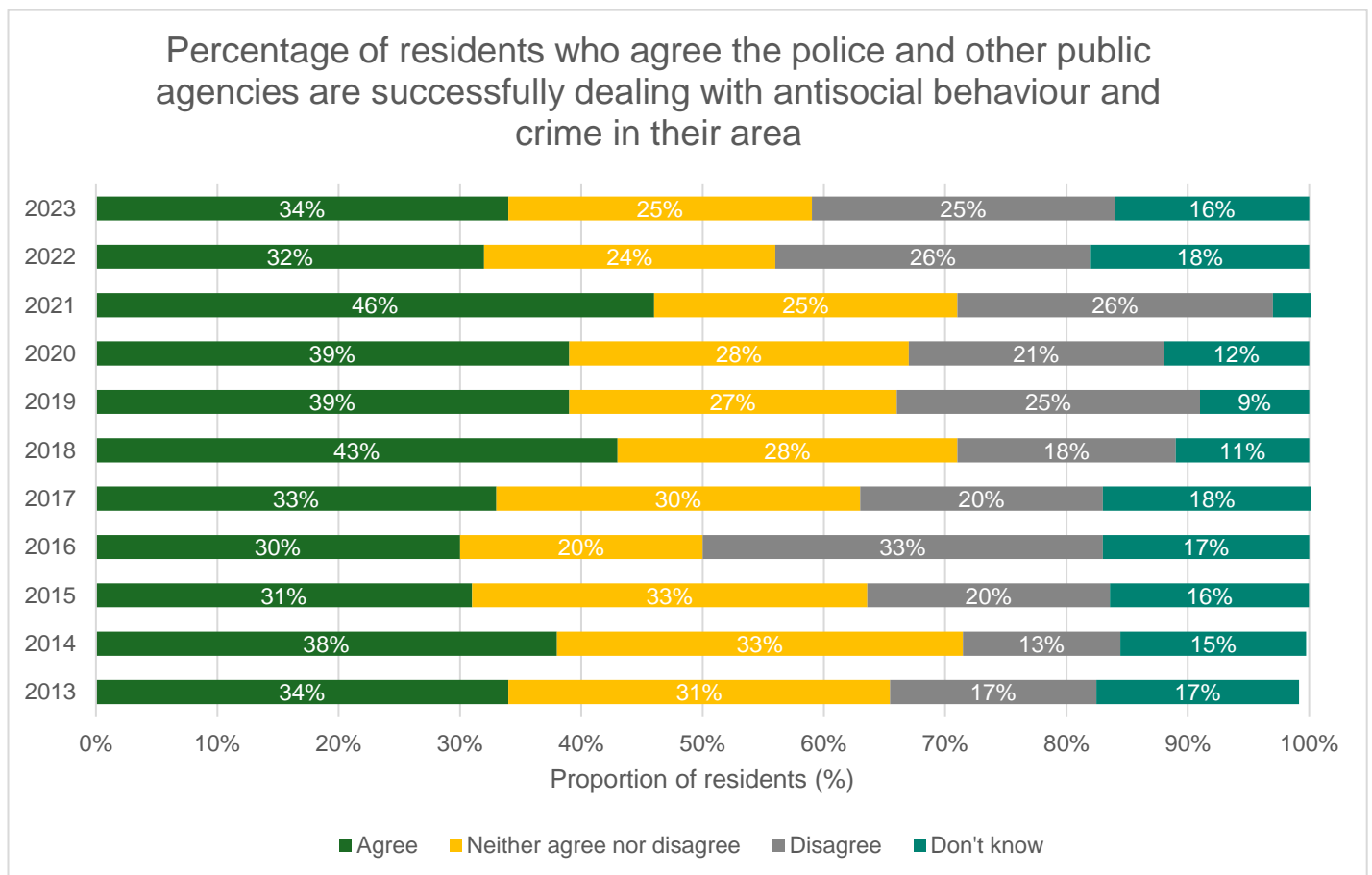
Source: South Gloucestershire Feb Viewpoint Survey 2018-2023

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

The council also uses the Viewpoint survey* to measure the extent to which residents agree that police and other public services are successfully dealing with anti-social behaviour and crime in their area. The graph shows the results for the last ten years.

In February 2023, 34% of the survey respondents agreed that police and other public services are successfully dealing with anti-social behaviour and crime in their local area. This is slightly higher than last year's figure (32%).

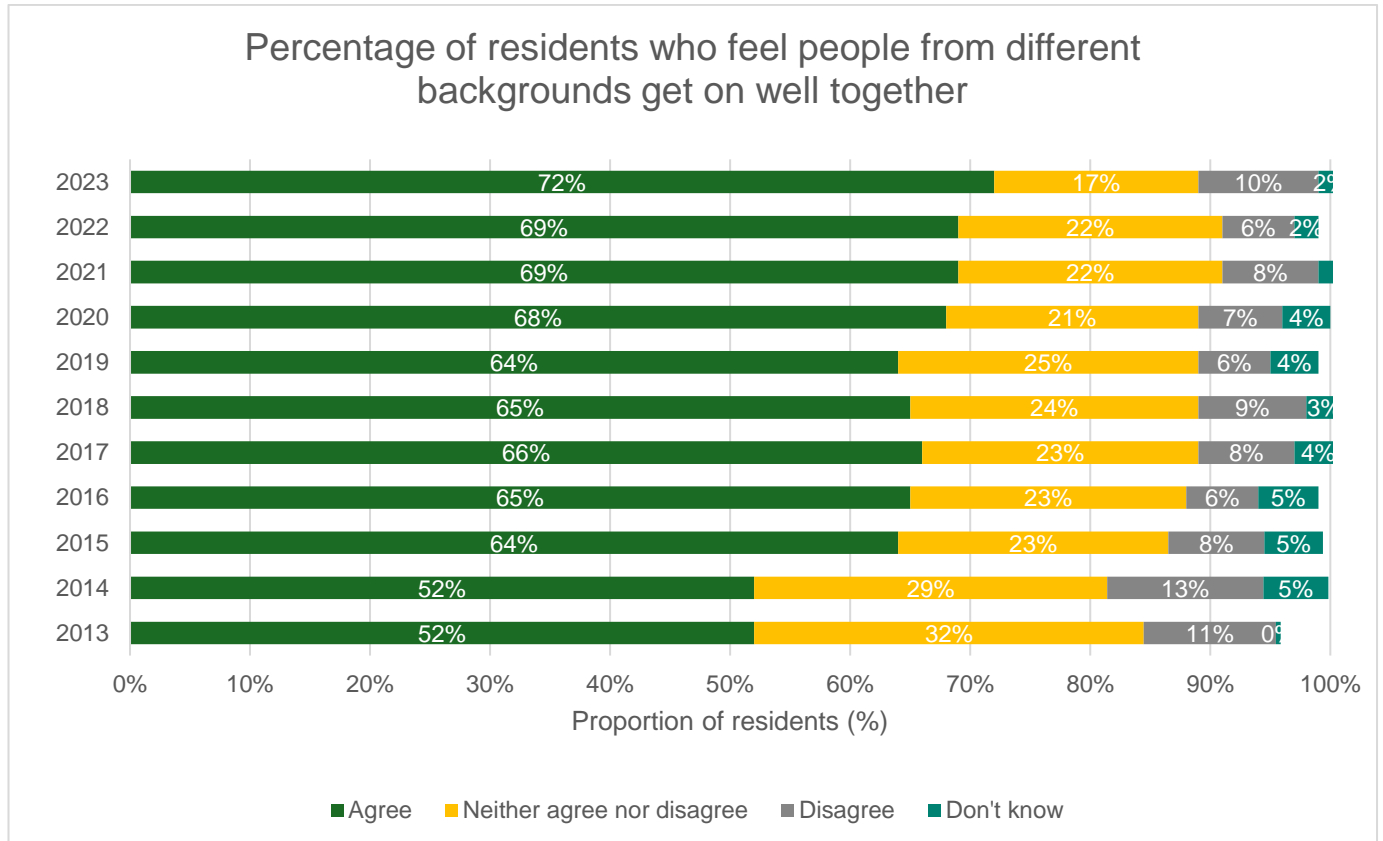
The number of respondents who disagree with this statement has remained very similar to last year (25% in comparison to 26% in 2022).



Source: South Gloucestershire Feb Viewpoint Survey 2013-2023

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

In the Viewpoint survey* participants were asked if they feel people from different backgrounds in their local area get on well together. Results over the years have remained consistent with a general increase in agreement, which sits at 72% as of 2023.



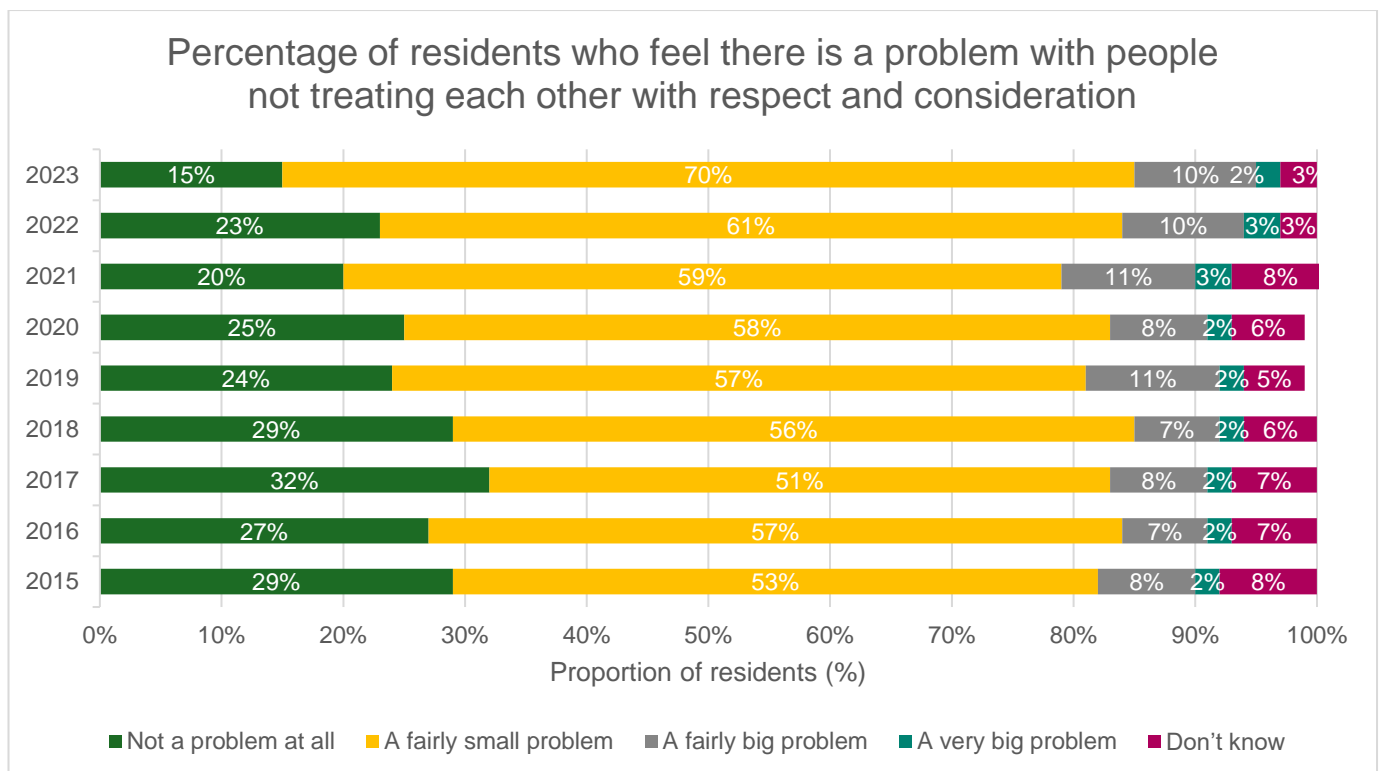
Source: South Gloucestershire Feb Viewpoint Survey 2013-2023

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

Members of the South Gloucestershire Viewpoint panel* are asked if they feel there is a problem with people not treating each other with respect and consideration in their local area.

In 2023, 85% of survey respondents felt this to be a fairly small problem or not a problem at all, with 15% of respondents indicating not a problem at all.

Across the last 6 years results have been fairly consistent. However, respondents that feel there is no problem with people treating each other with respect and consideration has continuously dropped over the years. Each year 2-3% of respondents state that people not treating each other with respect and consideration is a very big problem in their local area, and the majority feel that this is a fairly small problem.



Source: South Gloucestershire Feb Viewpoint Survey 2015-2023

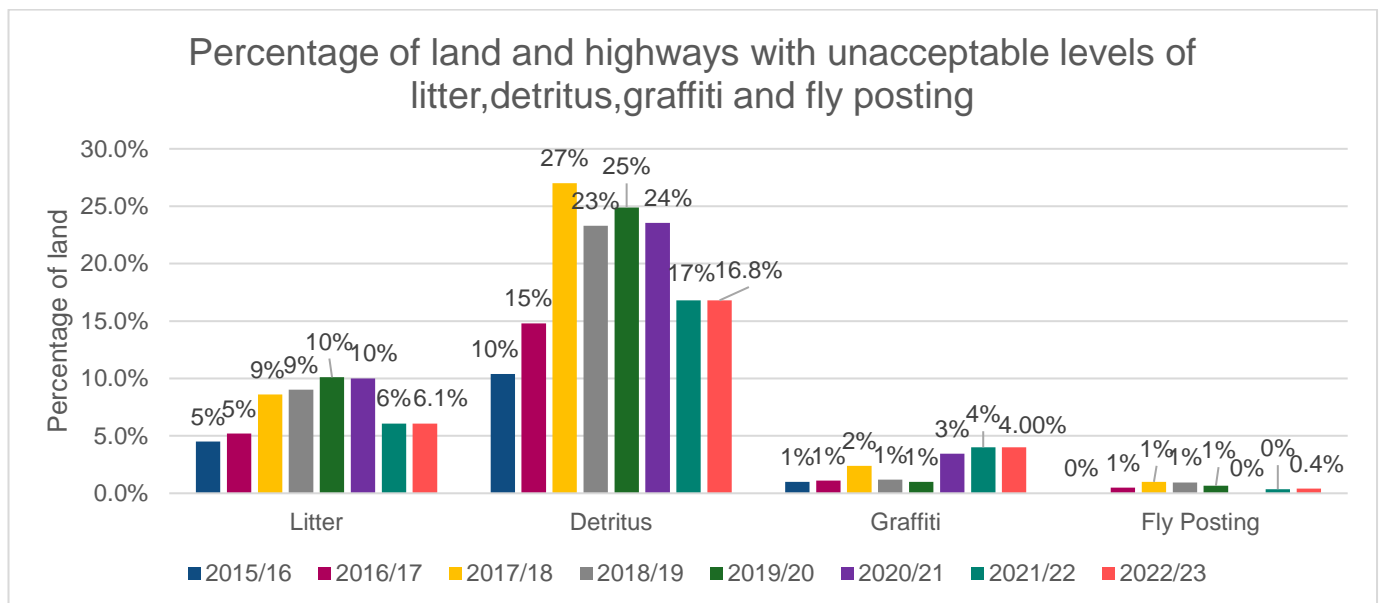
Percentage of land and highways with unacceptable levels of litter, detritus, graffiti, and fly posting

This indicator measures the percentage of areas with unacceptable levels of litter, detritus, graffiti or fly posting. The aim is to achieve the lowest score as possible. Between April 2022 and March 2023, 535 inspections were carried out on a range of different land use types including shopping areas, main roads, residential streets and recreation areas. Graffiti and fly posting is also assessed on private land which is visible from the highway.

- Litter – 7.48%
- Detritus – 8.39%
- Graffiti – 0.93%
- Fly Posting – 0%

This year (2022/23) 7.48% of land and highways in South Gloucestershire were deemed to have unacceptable levels of litter, which is a small drop in cleanliness standards compared to the previous year (6.08%). Main roads and rural roads were recorded as the most heavily littered land uses – the frequency of litter picking some of these areas is limited as traffic management is required for safety reasons. Town centres, residential roads and recreation areas were recorded as having the lowest levels of litter.

We recorded a significant improvement in detritus levels, with 8.69% of inspected areas recording unsatisfactory levels compared to 16.80% the previous year. Local shopping areas and industrial sites were the most improved land uses. We also recorded an improvement in visible graffiti levels, meeting our target of 1%.



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

5. Our Health

Health data

Health data has been primarily obtained from the Public Health Outcomes Framework and the Local Alcohol Profiles for England produced by Office for Health Improvement and Disparities (OHID) which allows for comparison with regional and national rates across all indicators.

Life expectancy in South Gloucestershire

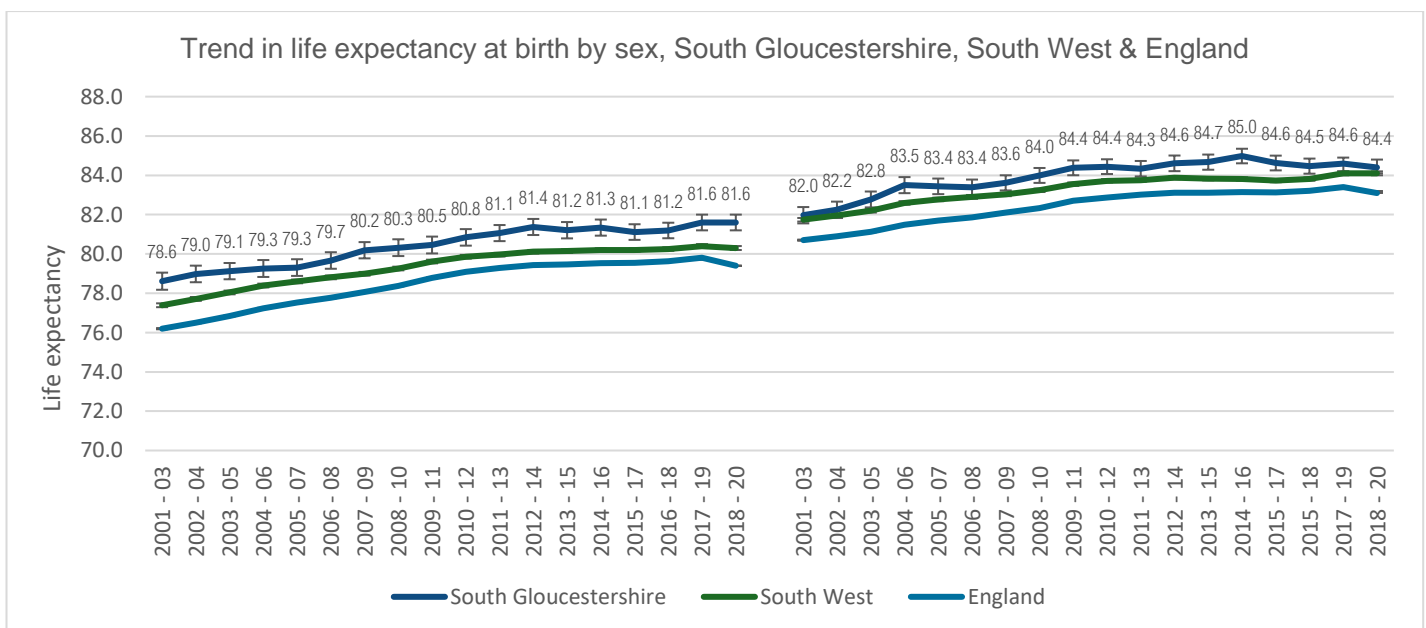
Please note: The data in this section is the latest available data that enables analysis of trends over a significant period. More recent trends cannot be reported due to delays in rebasing historical population estimates, following the 2021 Census.

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

Overall, data up to 2020 indicated an upward trend in life expectancy for both males and females in South Gloucestershire.

The rolling average of female life expectancy increased by 0.4 years over the 10 years prior to 2020, from 84.0 in 2008-10 to 84.4 in 2018-20. Whilst there has been a slight decline in life expectancy between 2014-16 and 2018-20, South Gloucestershire remained significantly higher than England or the South West. Male life expectancy increased by 1.3 years to 81.6 years over the same period. Life expectancy in South Gloucestershire remained significantly higher than the national average for both males and females.

There are large inequalities in life expectancy between geographical areas, with deprivation associated as a key factor. For example, at birth a female born in the most deprived areas of South Gloucestershire can expect to live 5.7 years fewer than a female born in the least deprived area.

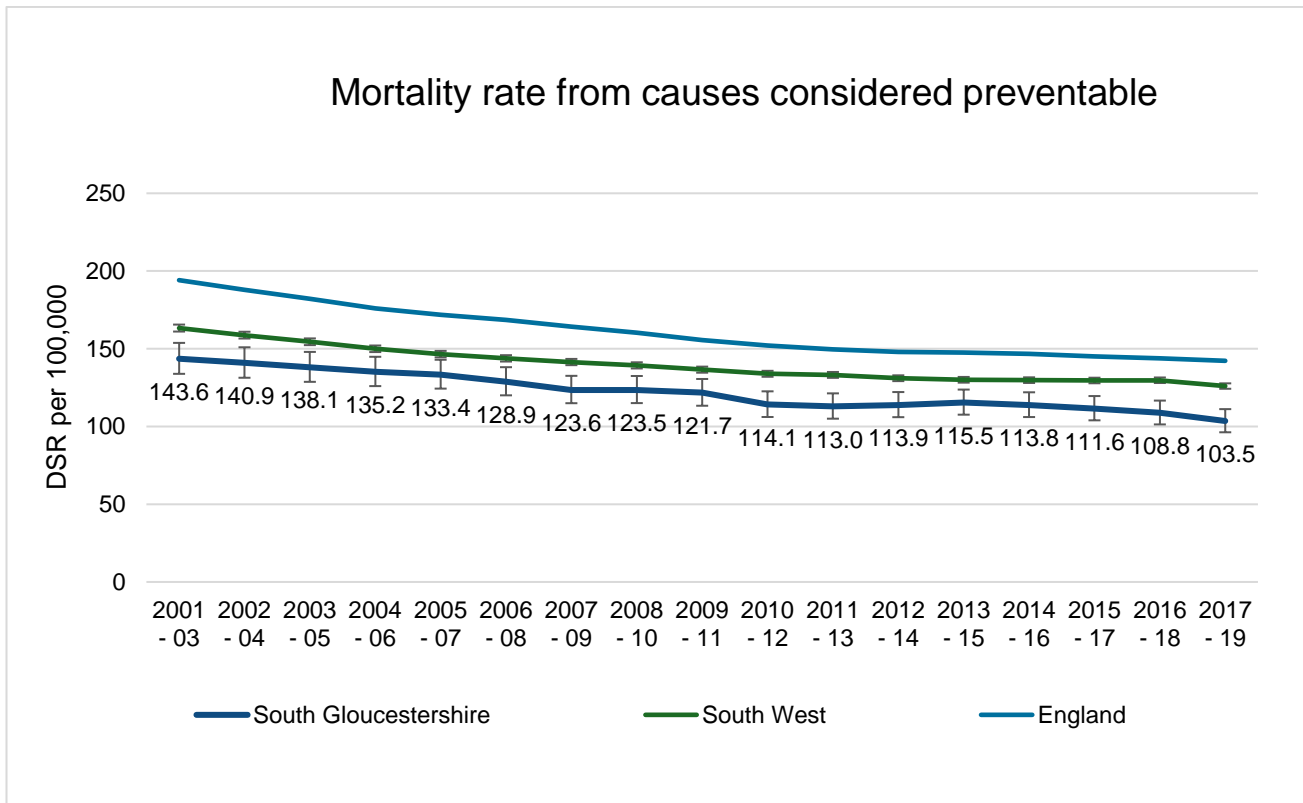


Source: Office for Health Improvement & Disparities 2022

Rate of mortality considered preventable

The concept behind preventable mortality is that deaths are considered preventable if, in the light of the understanding of the determinants of health at the time of death, all or most deaths from the underlying cause (subject to age limits if appropriate) could potentially be avoided by public health interventions in the broadest sense.

The rate of deaths considered preventable is also an important indicator of the overall health of the population. Between 2017 and 2019, the premature mortality rate in South Gloucestershire was approximately 103.5 per 100,000 of the population. Since 2001-03 the rate of preventable death in South Gloucestershire has shown declines in line with national trends and has been consistently and significantly lower than both the South West and the national average.



Source: Office for Health Improvement & Disparities 2022

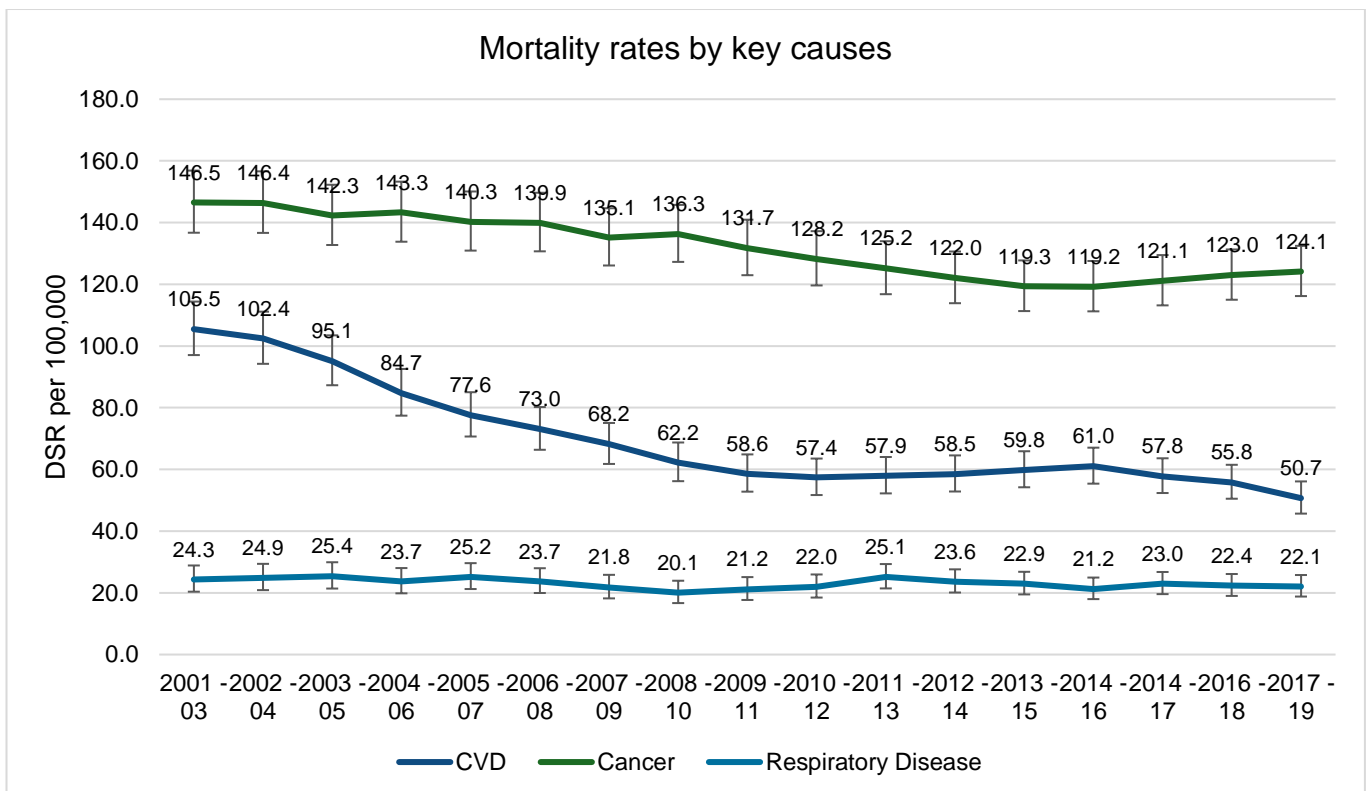
Mortality rates

Please note: The data in this section is the latest available data that enables analysis of trends over a significant period. More recent trends cannot be reported due to delays in rebasing historical population estimates, following the 2021 Census.

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

Previous reports have highlighted that, despite a consistent decrease in the mortality rate, two of the largest causes of premature deaths (nationally and locally) are cancer and cardiovascular diseases (CVD) - this remains the case in South Gloucestershire.

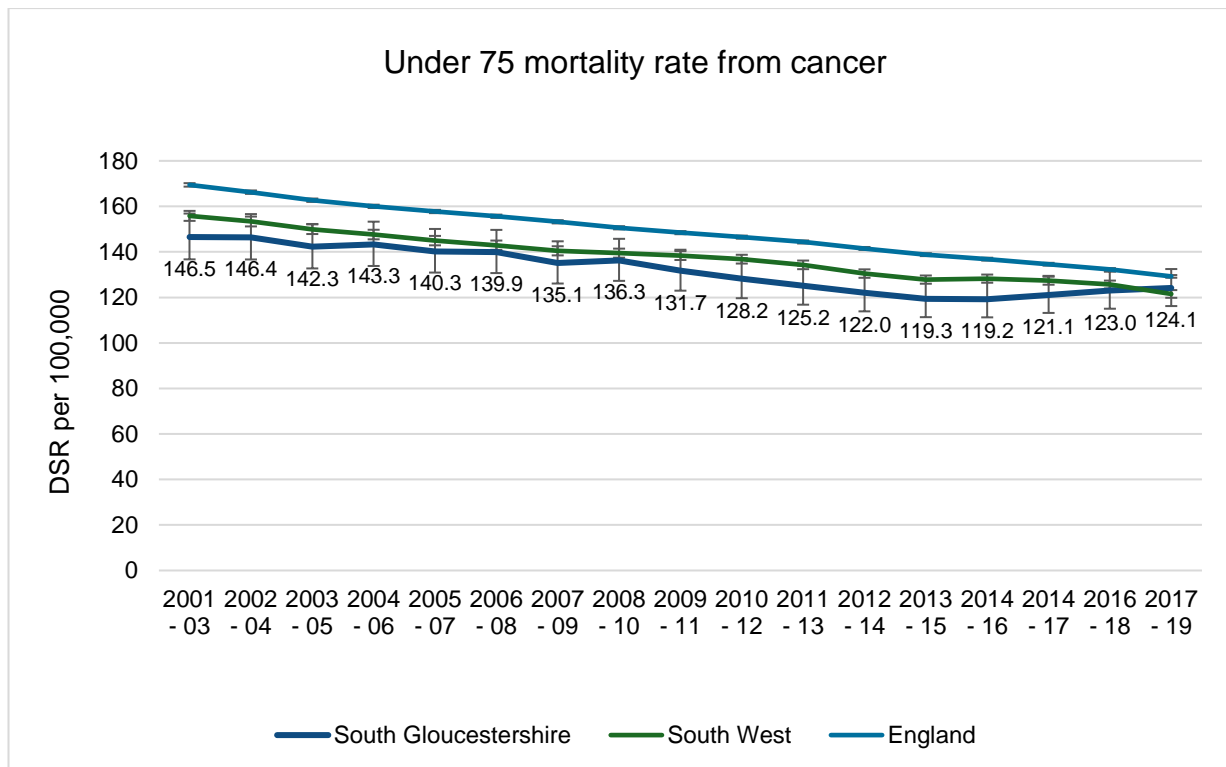
Although there have been improvements in treatment and lifestyle, especially in terms of CVD over recent decades, to ensure that there continues to be a reduction in the rate of premature mortality from cancer and cardiovascular diseases, there needs to be concerted action in both prevention and treatment.



Source: Office for Health Improvement & Disparities 2022

Cancer

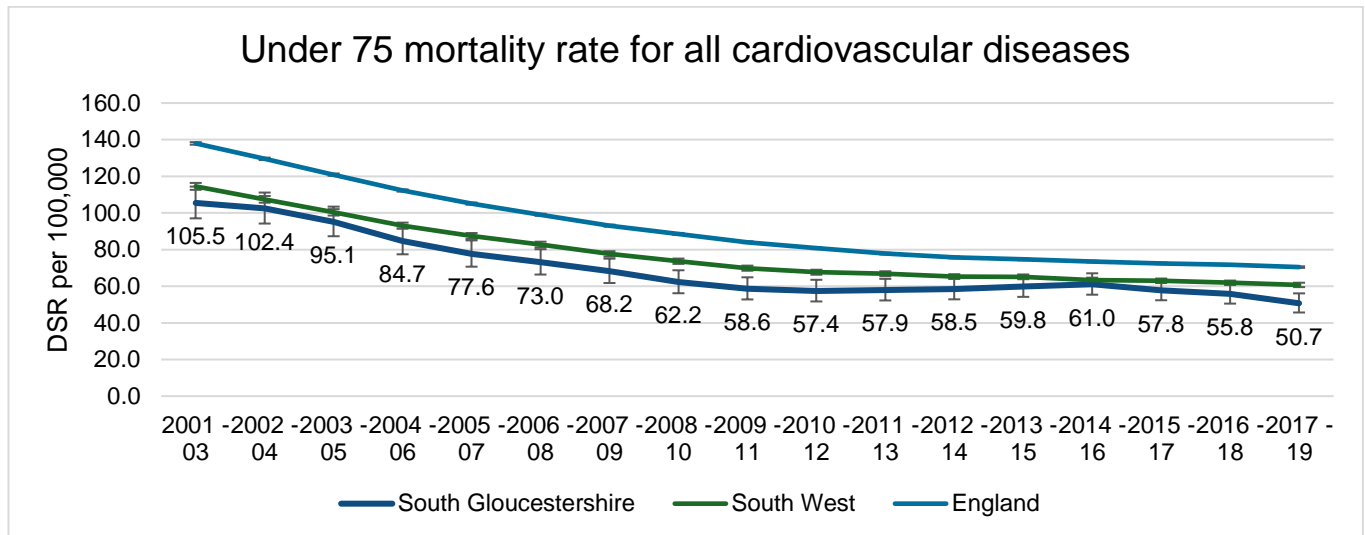
Cancer remains the greatest cause of premature death in South Gloucestershire. Overall, between 2001-03 and 2017-19 there was a significant downward trend in the premature death rate due to cancer, though since 2014-16 there has been a marginal increase. Between 2017 and 2019, cancer was responsible for 914 deaths among those under the age of 75, 343 (37%) of which were considered to be preventable*. This equates to 40% of all premature deaths considered preventable in South Gloucestershire for that period.



Source: Office for Health Improvement & Disparities 2022

Cardiovascular diseases

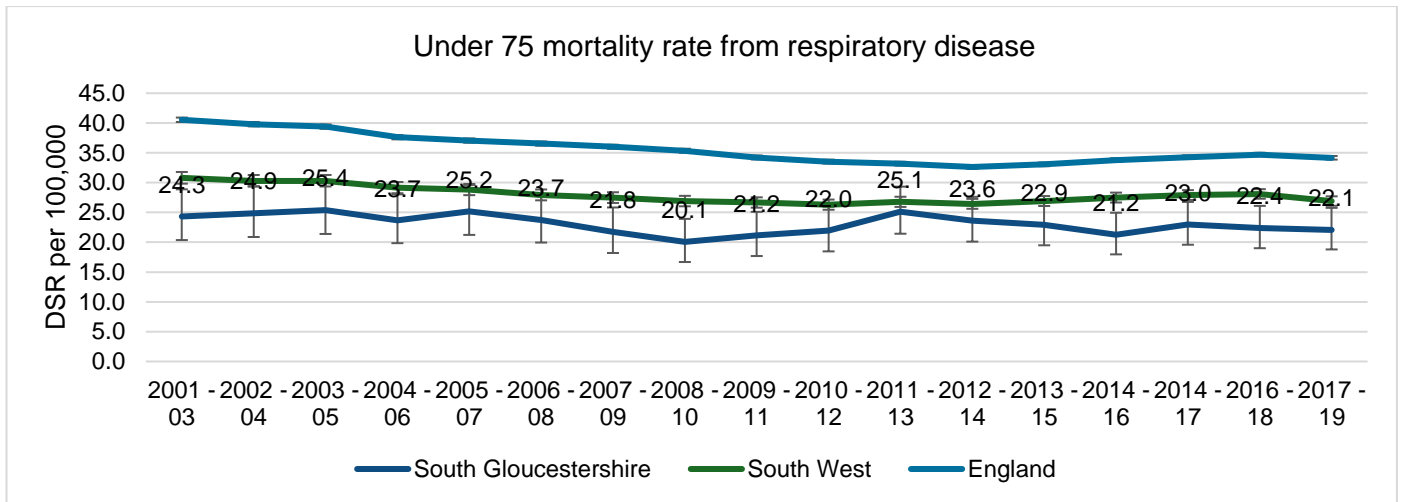
Cardiovascular diseases, which include coronary heart disease and stroke, are the second greatest cause of premature deaths in South Gloucestershire. Overall, the premature death rate due to cardiovascular diseases has significantly decreased in South Gloucestershire between 2001-03 and 2017-19, falling from 106 per 100,000 population to a rate of 50.7 per 100,000 population in 2017-19. Between 2017-19, cardiovascular diseases were responsible for 374 deaths among those under 75 years old, 142 (38%) of which were considered preventable*, with cardiovascular diseases accounting for 19% of all preventable* deaths.



Source: Office for Health Improvement & Disparities 2022

Respiratory disease

Respiratory disease is one of the top causes of death in England in under 75s and smoking is the major cause of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), one of the major respiratory diseases. Premature death rates due to respiratory disease in South Gloucestershire have remained relatively consistent since 2001-03. Latest data shows rates in South Gloucestershire to be marginally lower than rates across the Southwest and significantly lower than rates observed nationally. 77 (48%) of the 162 premature deaths due to respiratory disease in 2017-19 were considered preventable*.

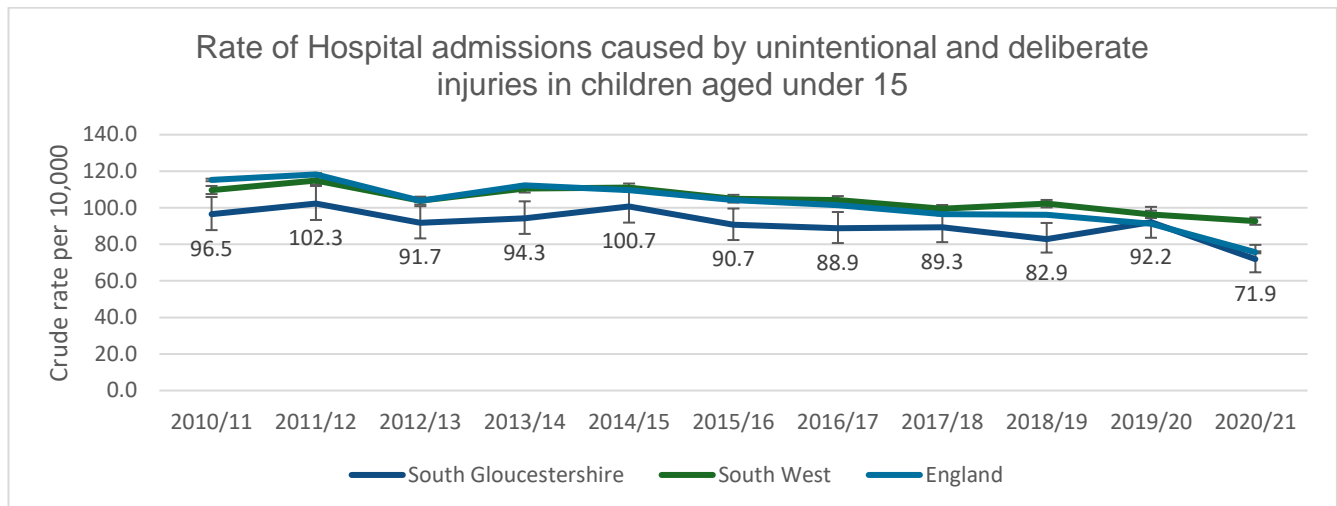


Source: Office for Health Improvement & Disparities 2022

* The Public Health methodology for mortality considered preventable has changed so counts and percentages will differ from those presented in previous reports so should not be used for comparison.

Childhood Injuries

Injuries are a leading cause of hospitalisation and represent a major cause of premature mortality for children and young people. They are also a source of long-term health issues, including mental health related to experience(s). Rates of hospital admission for young people under the age of 15 in South Gloucestershire, due to injury, were significantly lower than the South West in 2020/21 and decreased between 2019/20 and 2020/21.

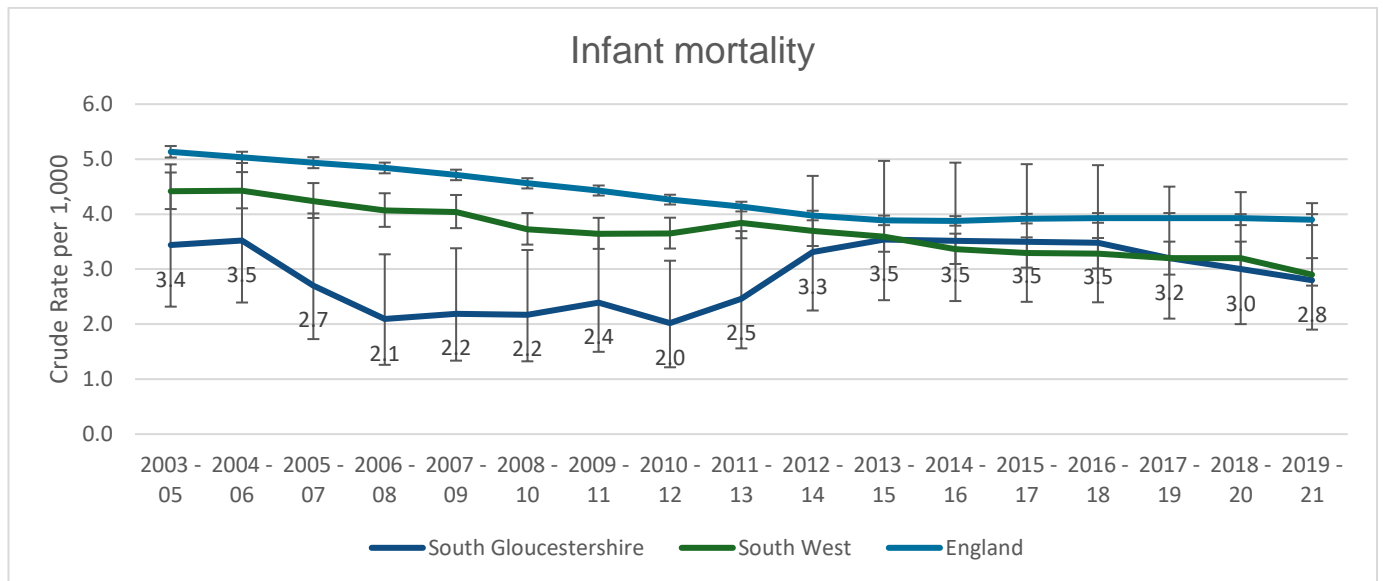


Source: Office for Health Improvement & Disparities 2023

Infant mortality

Infant mortality is an indicator of the general health of an entire population. It reflects the relationship between causes of infant mortality and upstream determinants of population health such as economic, social and environmental conditions.

In any one year, the numbers of infant deaths are very small and so a more reliable picture can be obtained from data pooled over several years. In South Gloucestershire in 2019-21 there were 26 deaths amongst infants, equating to 2.8 per 1,000 live births. The rate is consistent with regional (2.9 per 1,000 live births) and national (3.9 per 1,000 live births) rates.

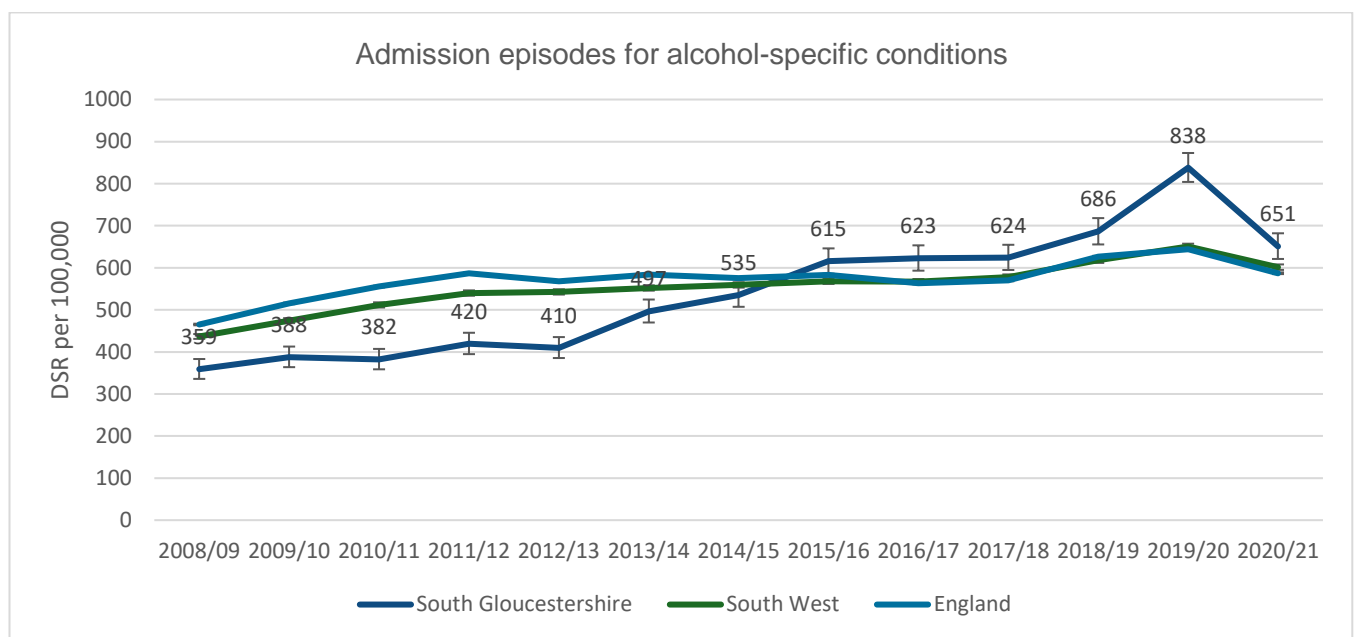


Source: Office for Health Improvement & Disparities 2023

Alcohol specific hospital admissions

Alcohol specific admissions are an indicator of the level of alcohol misuse and the effectiveness of services to prevent admissions and readmission to hospital. These figures include both emergency and planned admissions so show the total burden on the hospital system that alcohol specific conditions cause.

The graph shows that following an increase in admissions between 2012/13 and 2015/16, rates of admission were relatively stable between 2015/16 and 2017/18 however the rate significantly increased in 2019/20. Since 2016/17 the rate in South Gloucestershire has remained significantly higher than rates regionally and nationally. Though there has been decrease from 2019/20 to 2020/21, the rate of admission is still significantly higher than South West and England level.

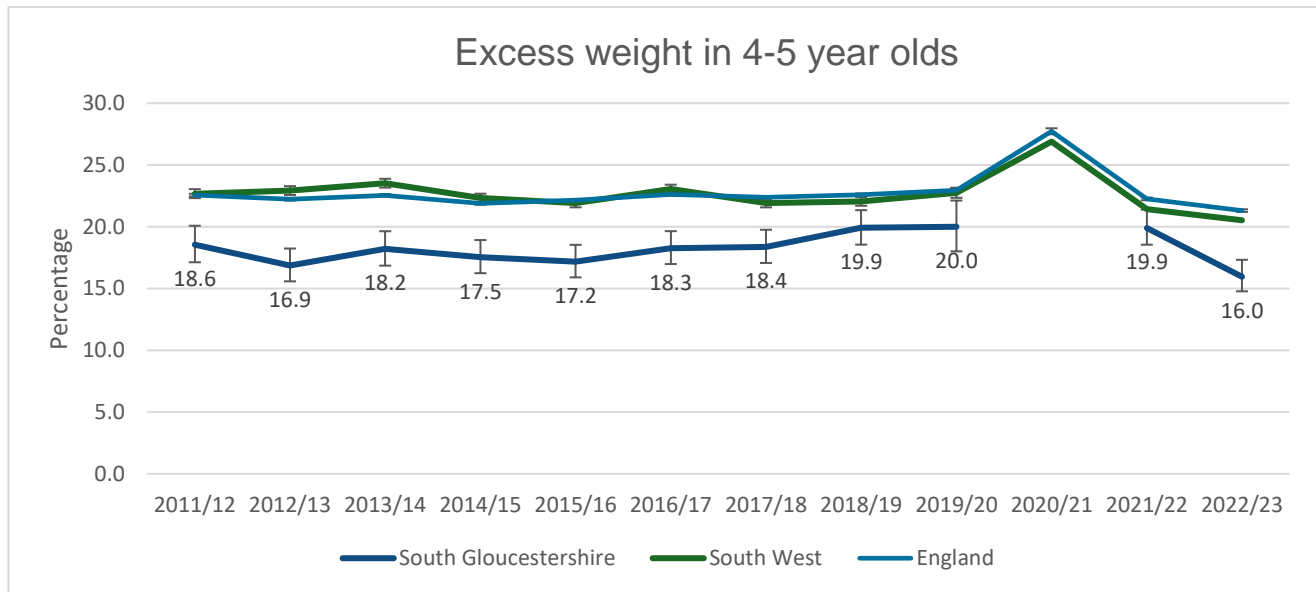


Source: Office for Health Improvement & Disparities 2022

The percentage of children's classified as overweight or obese

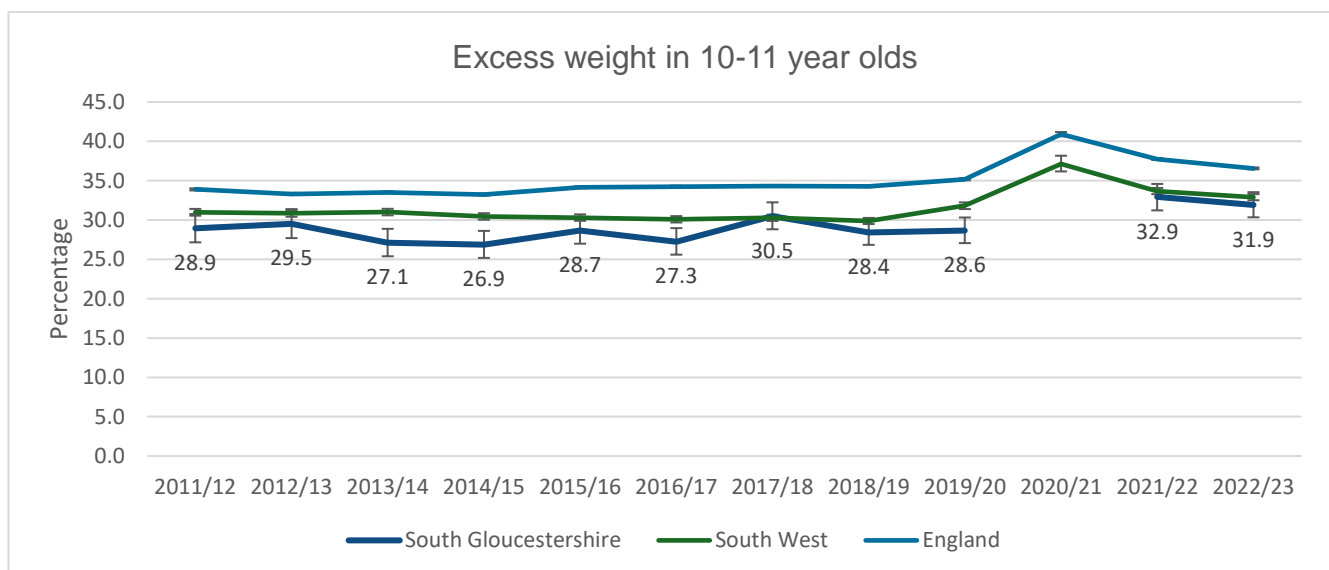
The National Child Measurement Programme (NCMP) measures the weight and height of children in reception class (aged 4 to 5 years) and year 6 (aged 10 to 11 years) to assess overweight and obesity levels. This data is used to support local public health initiatives and inform the local planning and delivery of services for children. The 2019/20 NCMP data collection stopped in March 2020 when schools were closed due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

This graph shows that the percentage of 4–5-year-old children (in Reception year) reporting as overweight or obese increased marginally between 2015/16 and 2019/20, while remaining lower than the Southwest and England. Data for 2022/23 shows that excess weight in 4-5-year-old children remains lower and decreased from 2021/22.



Source: 2023 NHS Digital

The percentage of 10–11-year-olds who are overweight or obese has remained relatively constant between 2007/08 and 2019/20. South Gloucestershire has seen a marginal decrease in excess weight and currently has rates significantly lower than national level, but similar to the Southwest.

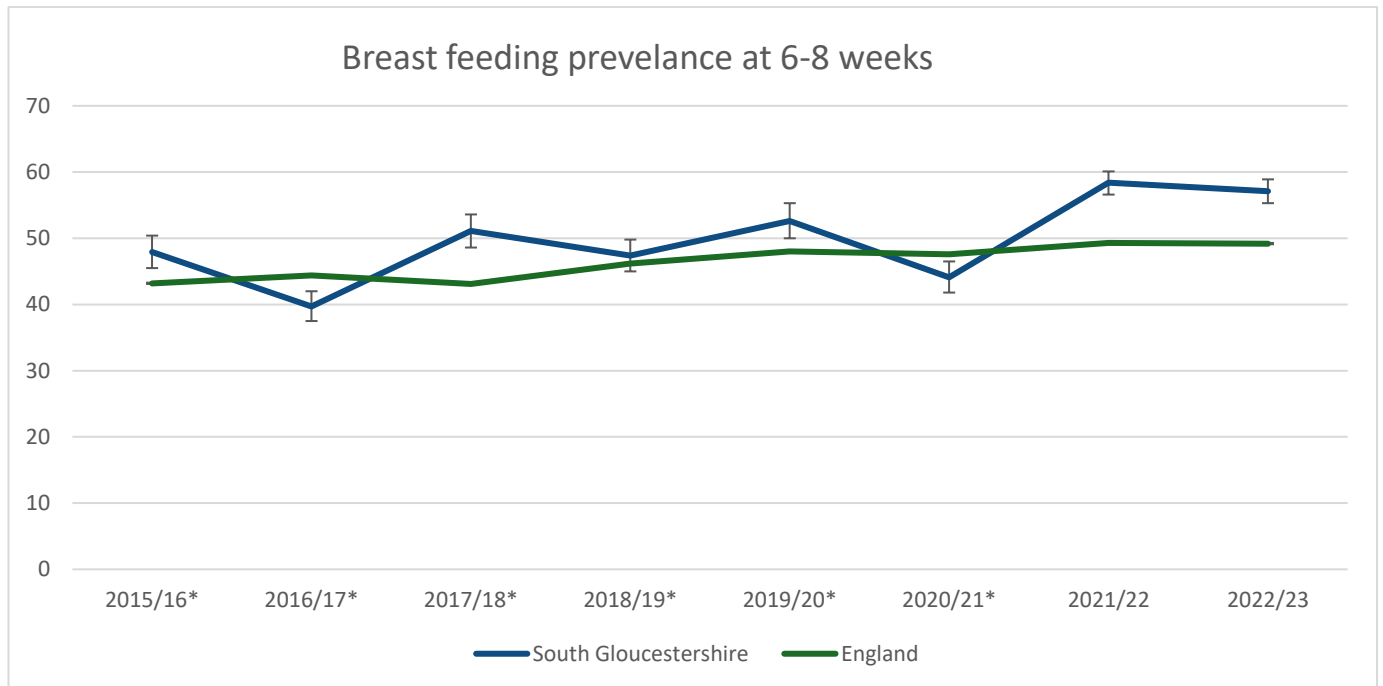


Source: 2023 NHS Digital

Breastfeeding prevalence at 6-8 weeks

Breastfeeding improves health outcomes for both mother and child, both in the short term and long term. For babies, breastfeeding reduces the risk of developing infections, allergic diseases, insulin dependent diabetes mellitus and sudden unexpected death in infancy. It also improves neurological development and helps create secure emotional attachments which can improve the longer-term emotional wellbeing of the child. Mothers benefit from a reduction in the risk of breast cancer, ovarian cancer and osteoporosis, while both mother and baby, in the longer term, have a reduced risk of cardiovascular disease and obesity.

The graph shows the breastfeeding prevalence in South Gloucestershire has increased since 2020/21 and for both 2021/22 and 2022/23 has tracked above breast feeding levels nationally.



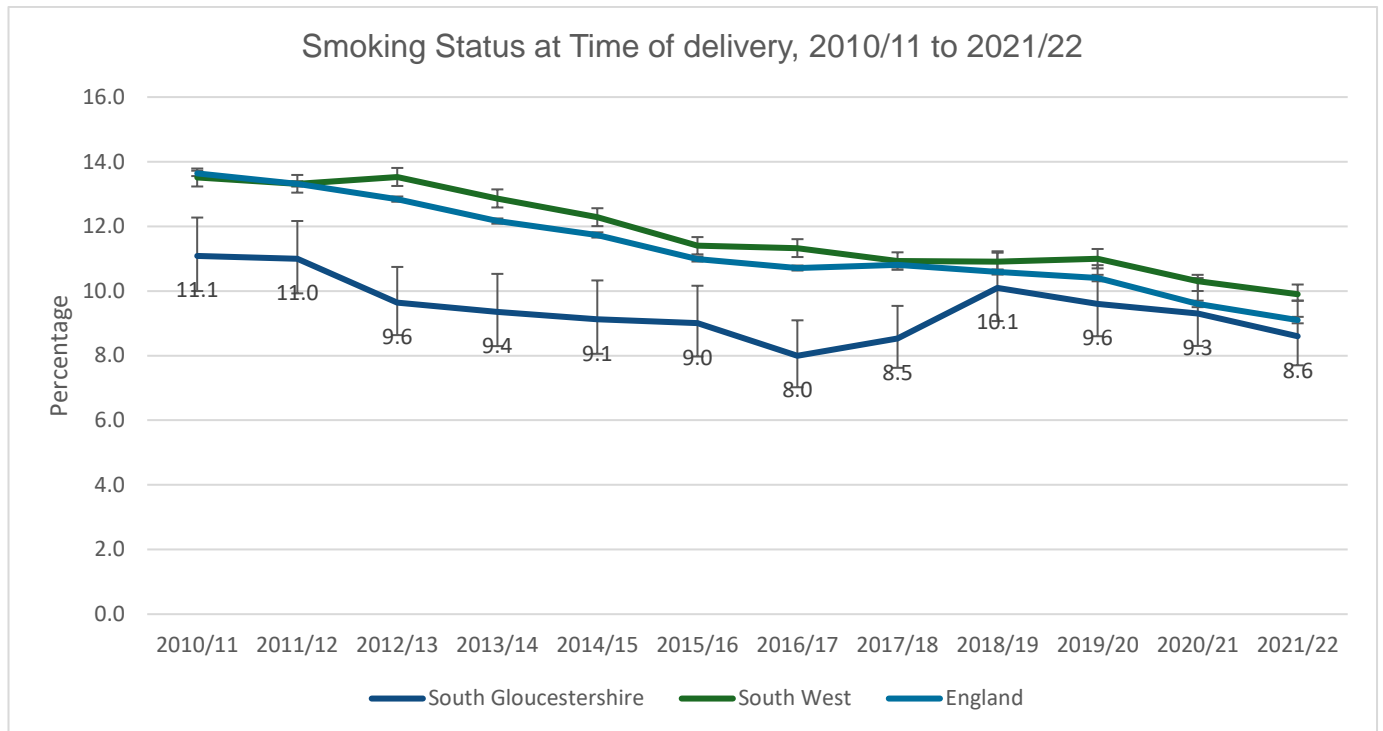
* Limited coverage means data was not report by OHID for the years specified for validation reasons

Source: Office for Health Improvement & Disparities 2023

Smoking status of mothers at time of delivery

Smoking during pregnancy is detrimental to both mother and child. It can cause premature birth, miscarriage or perinatal death. Furthermore, it has been linked with an increased chance of developing respiratory conditions, problems with the ear, nose and throat, attention and hyperactivity disorders, learning difficulties, obesity and asthma.

Until 2017/18, there was a significantly lower percentage of mothers smoking at the time of delivery in South Gloucestershire compared to the South West and national average. Between 2016/17 and 2018/19, an increase in South Gloucestershire now means there is no statistical difference between South Gloucestershire and regional/national comparators, however since 2018/19, South Gloucestershire has continued to see a decrease consistent with regional/national trends.



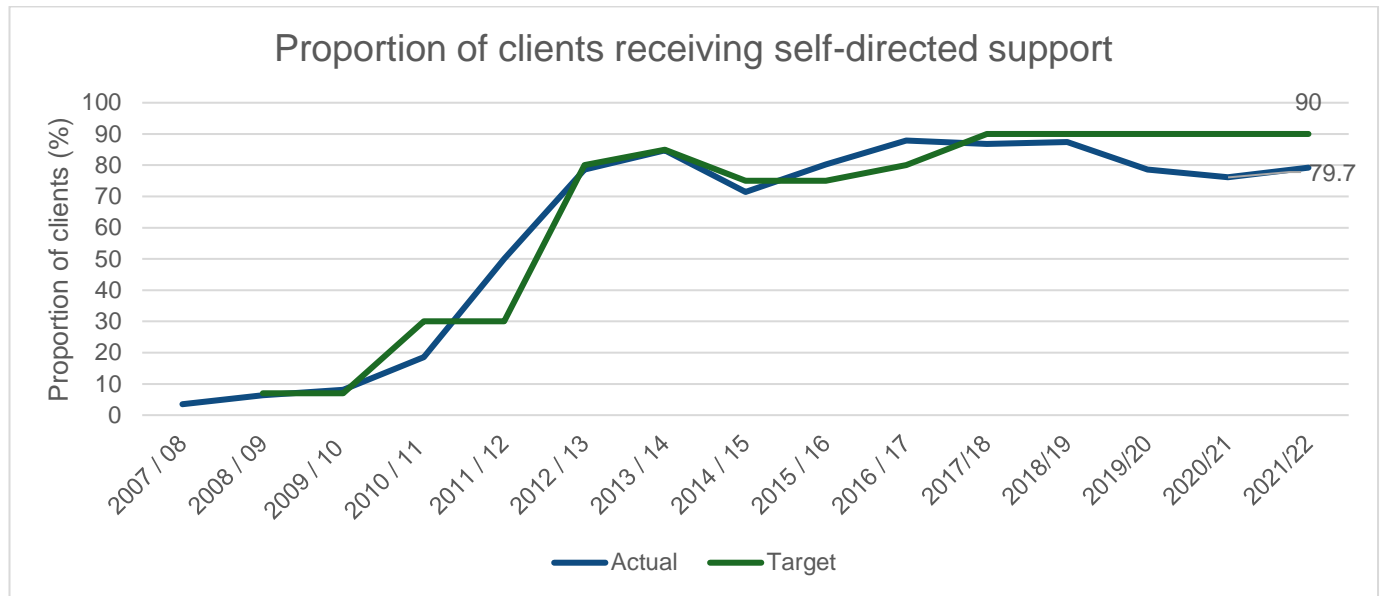
Source: Office for Health Improvement & Disparities 2023

The number of people receiving self-directed support

In 2021/22, the proportion of clients in South Gloucestershire receiving self-directed support was 79.7%.

Residents are continuing to take advantage of being able to receive self-directed support and choose individually tailored, social care services.

Self-directed support offers an increased level of choice and control for people who receive adult social care. The environment within which ASC is currently operating has an impact on the ability to offer self-directed support. With the easing of COVID-19 restrictions and the roll out of the vaccination programme it should be possible to return to pre-COVID-19 levels of activity in 2021/22.



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

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