

Blackburn

Intermediate Zone Statistical Summary

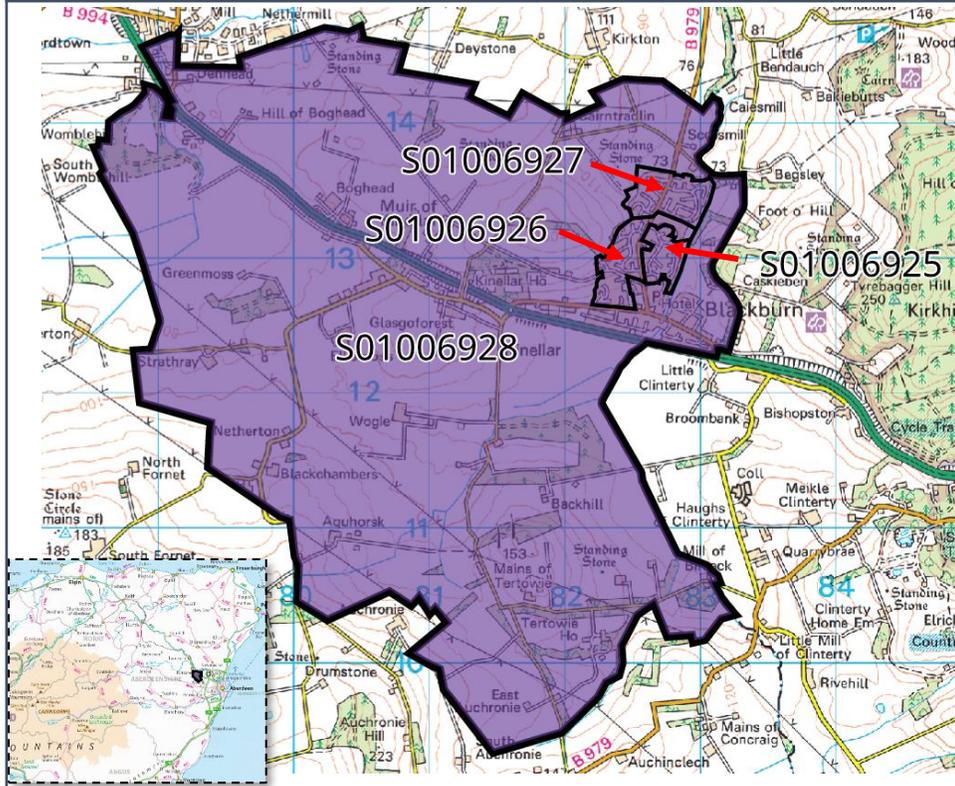
2023

Craig Watson

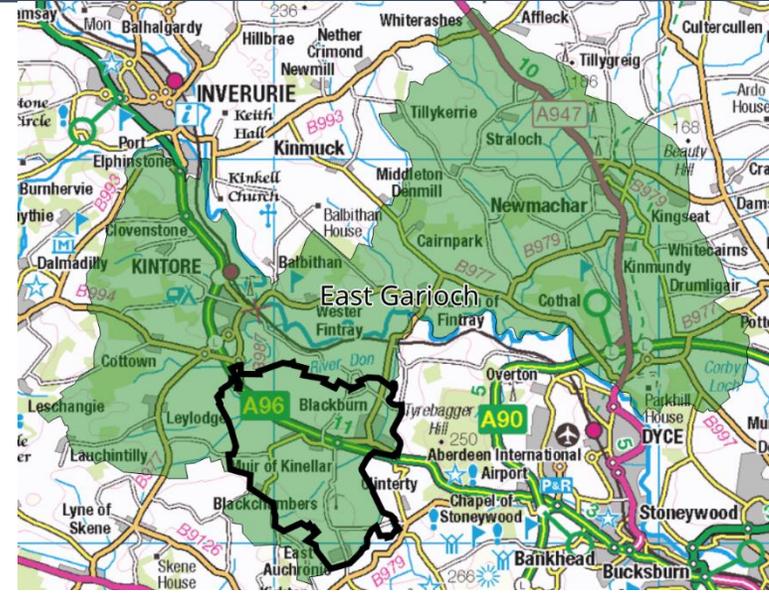


Blackburn

Data Zones Within the Intermediate Zone



Relevant Multi-Member Wards



Notes on the Maps

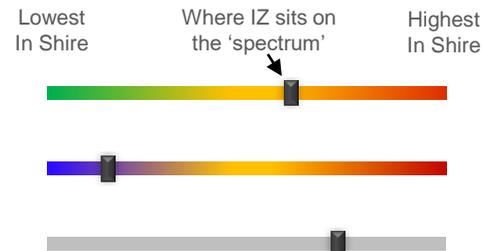
The map on the left shows the location and geographic area of the Blackburn Intermediate Zone. It contains 4 Data Zones. Blackburn itself comprises 3 Data Zones – S01006925, S01006926, and S01006927.

Only one MMW straddles the Intermediate Zone (East Garioch).

Spectrum Charts Explained

The following statistical pages frequently utilise spectrum charts as a visual aid to accompany an indicator. They are used to place the relevant Intermediate Zone (IZ) in the context of all other IZs in Aberdeenshire with regards to that indicator.

The charts to the right are examples of the spectrum charts used in this report. The black line represents where the IZ sits in the context of the highest and lowest figures in Aberdeenshire. If the black line is situated towards the left-hand side, the IZ recorded one of the lowest figures in Aberdeenshire. Conversely, if the black line is towards the right-hand side, it recorded one of the highest figures in Aberdeenshire.



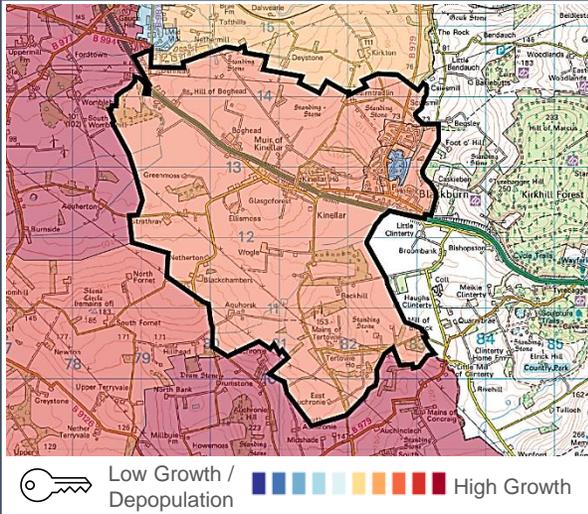
The green/red spectrum charts are the most common type. If the black line is situated towards the red end of the spectrum, it means the figure is objectively worse than most other IZs in Aberdeenshire and vice versa.

The blue/red spectrum charts are used in the demographic section to denote high population growth (red) and population decline (blue).

The grey spectrum charts are simply used to denote high and low in the context of Aberdeenshire, where the high / low figure is neither good nor bad. An example would be the proportion of dwellings that fall within Council Tax Bands F-G.

Blackburn Demographic Data

Map of Blackburn: Population Change (2014-2021)



The population of the IZ increased by 0.6% between 2014 and 2021, which is a higher-than-average growth rate than that experienced by many other IZs in Aberdeenshire.

The fall in population in DZ S01006925 was more than offset by the growth in other DZs.

The DZ that experienced depopulation is just north of Kinellar Primary School, stretching towards the junction between Bishop Forbes Crescent and Marcus Road.

The DZs that registered the highest growth rates are situated in the northern portion of Blackburn (covering areas like Scotsmill Drive, Sett Road and Brockwood Park) and the largely rural area either side of the A96.

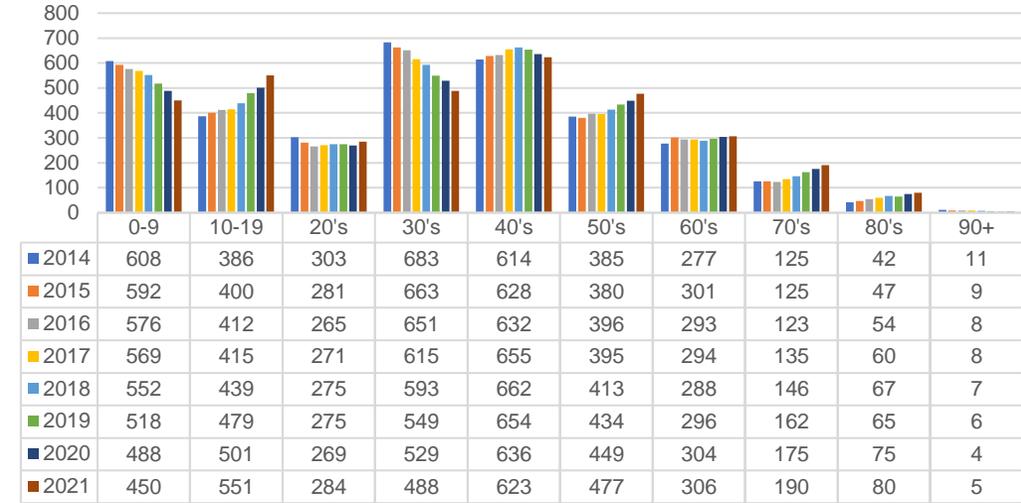
In percentage terms, the IZ is home to one of the largest child and working age populations in Aberdeenshire, and one of the smallest populations of people aged 65+.

Population Change per Data Zone, 2014 & 2021

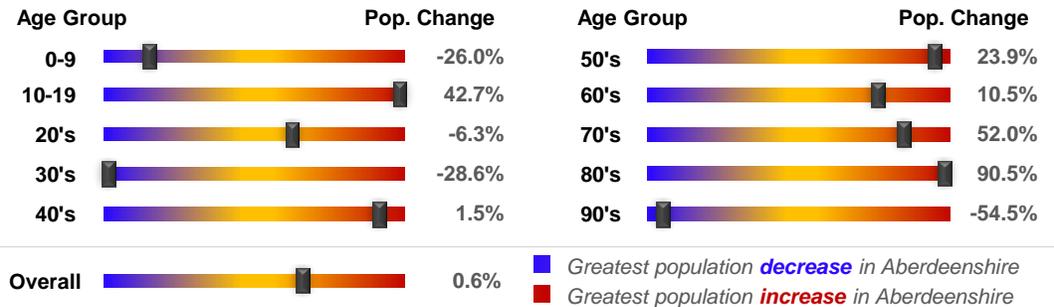
Data Zone	2014	2021	% Difference
S01006925	480	436	-9.2%
S01006926	769	774	0.7%
S01006927	1128	1153	2.2%
S01006928	1057	1091	3.2%
Total	3434	3454	0.6%

Consequently, the IZ's age profile tends to be considerably younger than most other areas in Aberdeenshire, with those in their 30's and 40's the most dominant group (in Aberdeenshire as a whole, 50-somethings tend to be the largest group). However, these age groups have registered declines in recent years, with the number of those in their 50's increasing (possibly erstwhile 40-something Blackburn residents have simply aged over the period covered). The IZ registered one of the highest growth rates in the 10-19 age group, thanks largely to growth in those aged 10-14.

Population per Age Group, Blackburn, 2014-2021



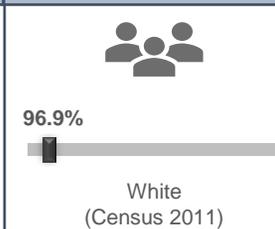
Rate of Population Change per Age Group, 2021 Compared to 2014



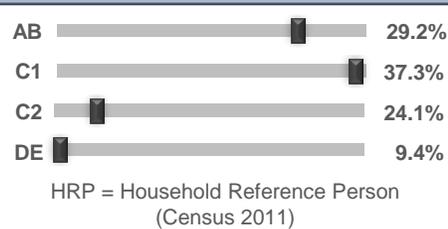
Country of Birth



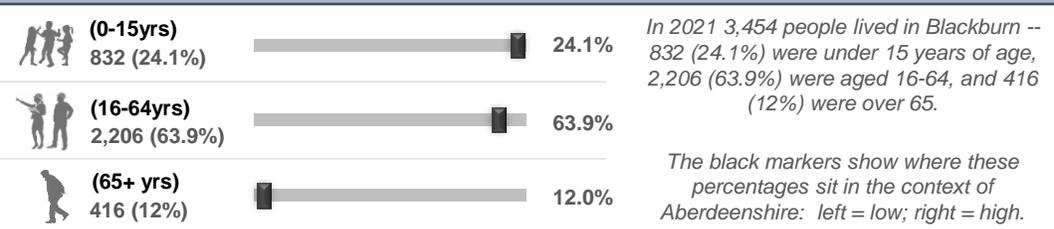
Ethnicity



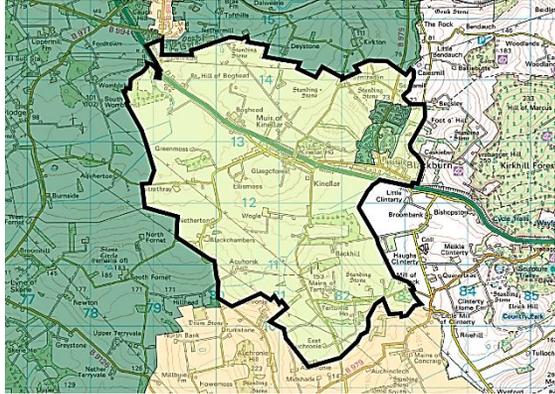
Approximated Social Grade of HRP



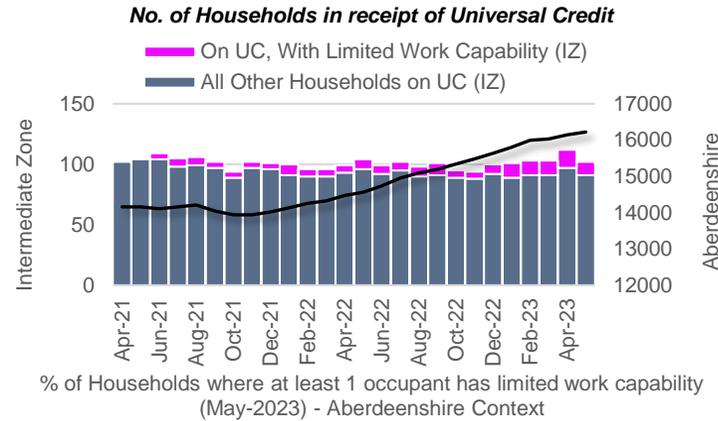
Population per Broad Age Group, 2021



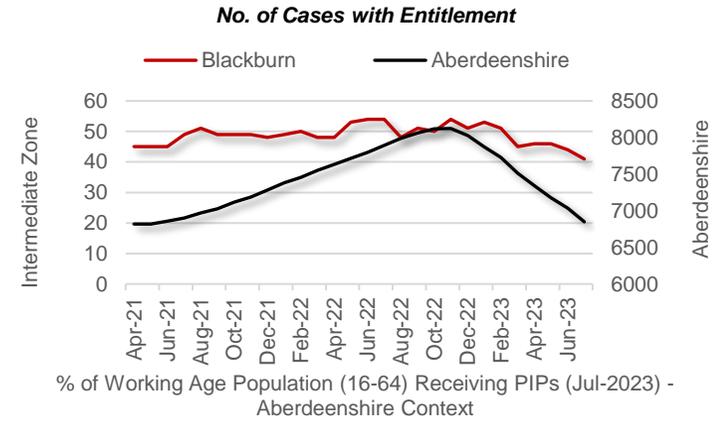
SIMD 2020 Health Domain Rank



Universal Credit (UC) Limited Work Capability Households



Personal Independence Payments



Day-to-Day Activities

Proportion of people whose day-to-day activities are limited a little or a lot - Aberdeenshire Context (Census 2011)



Health Rating

Proportion of people who rated their health as either 'good' or 'very good' - Aberdeenshire Context (Census 2011)



According to monthly health-related benefits data, the number of households on Universal Credit increased from the start of Covid and has remained relatively static since. The number of households with Limited Work Capability or LWC (due to physical or mental health issues) has remained relatively low throughout, tending to affect no more than 10-15 households over any given month. The IZ figure of 0.8% of households with at least 1 occupant assessed as having LWC is among the lowest in Aberdeenshire, but higher when compared to the previous publication of this report.

A higher proportion of the Working Age Population (1.6%) receive Personal Independence Payments (PIPs). This helps with some of the extra costs caused by long-term disability, ill-health or terminal ill-health. The IZ trend has increased in line with the Aberdeenshire trend. Again, the 1.6% figure is among the lowest in Aberdeenshire, perhaps reflecting the younger age profile of the area.

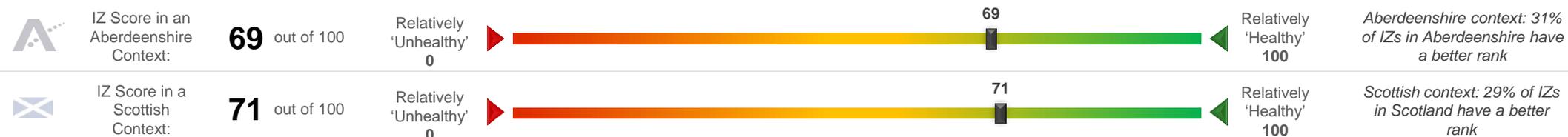
According to SIMD 2020 data, a number of DZs are among the least health deprived in Scotland. Very few Data Zones in Scotland have registered a better health ranking, according to the official statistics measuring national aspects of deprivation.

SIMD 2020 Health Domain Indicators per each Data Zone in the Blackburn Intermediate Zone (compared to Aberdeenshire average)

SIMD Health Domain Indicator (Data Zones colour-coordinated with map) >>	S01006925	S01006926	S01006927	S01006928	Shire
Health Domain Rank (see map for colour-coded rankings) (the higher, the better)	6405	6796	6954	5672	5,254
Comparative Illness Factor (Scotland = 100) (the lower, the better)	35	30	20	40	58
Emergency stays in hospital (Scotland = 100) (the lower, the better)	72.6	51.4	45.1	77.8	71.5
Hospital stays related to alcohol misuse (Scotland = 100) (the lower, the better)	7.1	20.2	8.3	50.2	45.4
Hospital stays related to drug misuse (Scotland = 100) (the lower, the better)	0.0	0.0	0.0	38.8	30
Proportion of live singleton births of lowbirth weight (the lower, the better)	0.0%	0.0%	3.0%	0.0%	4.0%
Proportion of population being prescribed drugs for anxiety, depression or psychosis	13.7%	10.9%	8.9%	14.1%	15.6%
Standardised Mortality Ratio (Scotland = 100) (the lower, the better)	83	46	23	92	85

Blackburn Health Data (2 of 2)

Blackburn's position on the 'Health Spectrum' – Aberdeenshire and Scottish Context (the higher the score, the better)



Selection of ScotPHO indicators, Blackburn IZ compared to Aberdeenshire & Scotland (latest data)

Indicator	Latest Available Figures			IZ Trend	Indicator Measurement
	IZ	IZ's latest figure compared to:			
		Aberdeenshire	Scotland		
Alcohol-related hospital stays	283.0	6.5%	-53.7%	Up	Rate per 100,000 pop.
All-cause mortality among the 15-44 year olds	104.8	11.0%	-10.6%	Up	Rate per 100,000 pop.
Babies exclusively breastfed at 6-8 weeks	42.6	2.0%	10.8%	Up	% of babies with a valid feeding status
Bowel screening uptake	74.8	1.8%	9.3%	Up	% of eligible people (aged 50-74)
Child dental health in primary 1	84.2	5.4%	11.1%	Up	% of P1 pupils
Child dental health in primary 7	89.4	9.6%	14.4%	Up	% of P7 pupils
Child healthy weight in primary 1	71.7	-5.7%	1.9%	Up	% of P1 pupils
Deaths all ages	1058.1	-0.1%	-10.4%	Down	Rate per 100,000 pop.
Developmental concerns at 27-30 months	0.9	-2.0%	-13.7%	Down	% of children reviewed
Early deaths from cancer (<75)	90.8	-31.0%	-39.3%	Down	Rate per 100,000 pop.
Early deaths from coronary heart disease (<75)	10.4	-72.6%	-80.3%	Down	Rate per 100,000 pop.
Female life expectancy	No Data		No Data	#####	Life expectancy at birth in years
Healthy birth weight	75.0	-8.1%	-9.1%	Down	% of all singleton births
Immunisation uptake at 24 months - 6 in 1	98.2	0.4%	1.2%	Down	% of children in relevant age group
Immunisation uptake at 24 months - MMR	97.3	2.5%	2.9%	Down	% of children in relevant age group
Male life expectancy	No Data		No Data	#####	Life expectancy at birth in years
Maternal obesity	13.6	-10.9%	-12.5%	Up	% of women at antenatal booking
Patients (65+) with multiple A&E hospitalisations	9574.8	52.2%	40.3%	Down	Rate per 100,000 pop.
Patients hospitalised with asthma	53.5	67.5%	-21.8%	Up	Rate per 100,000 pop.
Patients hospitalised with COPD	254.3	117.3%	22.6%	Up	Rate per 100,000 pop.
Patients hospitalised with coronary heart disease	259.2	-11.9%	-24.1%	Down	Rate per 100,000 pop.
Patients with emergency hospitalisations	4804.1	-9.0%	-33.6%	Down	Rate per 100,000 pop.
Premature births	3.6	-5.7%	-4.6%	Down	% of all live births
Uptake of the HPV vaccine in S3 girls	93.4	4.1%	8.6%	Up	% of S3 girls

Based on the 24 health-related indicators in the table, this IZ is situated towards the less vulnerable end of the spectrum in both an Aberdeenshire and a Scottish context. However, the rankings appear to have deteriorated relative to the previous iteration of this report, particularly in relation to Aberdeenshire.

The area compares favourably to most other areas in Scotland in terms of a range of health-related outcomes, particularly in relation to Child dental health in primary 1; Developmental concerns at 27-30 months; premature births; Early deaths from cancer (<75); Early deaths from coronary heart disease (<75); and Patients with emergency hospitalisations. In each instance the area is in the top 10% in Scotland.

Issues that may require further investigation include:

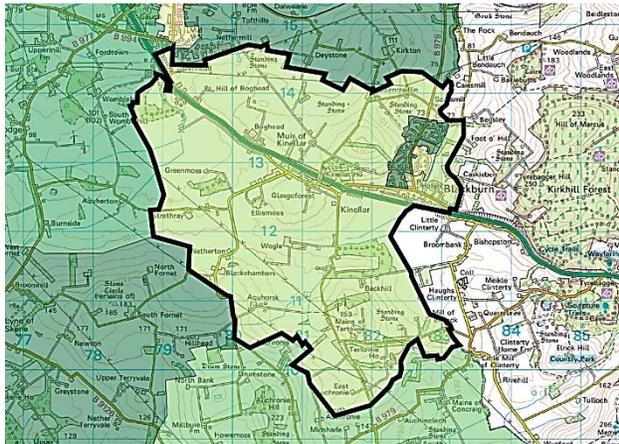
- Healthy birthweight;
- All-cause mortality among 15-44 year olds
- Hospitalisation rates for various conditions, including for COPD, asthma, and multiple visits to A & E

With regards to these particular indicators the IZ compares less favourably to other areas in Aberdeenshire and, to some extent, Scotland (and/or the trend is worsening).

The IZ is also one of the few in Scotland not to be associated with life expectancy figures for either males or females.

Blackburn Economic Data (1 of 3)

Rank of Household Income per Data Zone (2023)



Relatively low Relatively high

In terms of household income, this IZ is among the most affluent in Aberdeenshire. The median household income in 2023 equated to £56,761, which is £15,000 higher than the Shire average (£41,756).

Median household income ranges from £46,256 in DZ S01006925 (area north of Kinellar Primary School) to £65,863 in DZ S01006927 (northern tip of Blackburn, north and west of Scotsmill Drive).

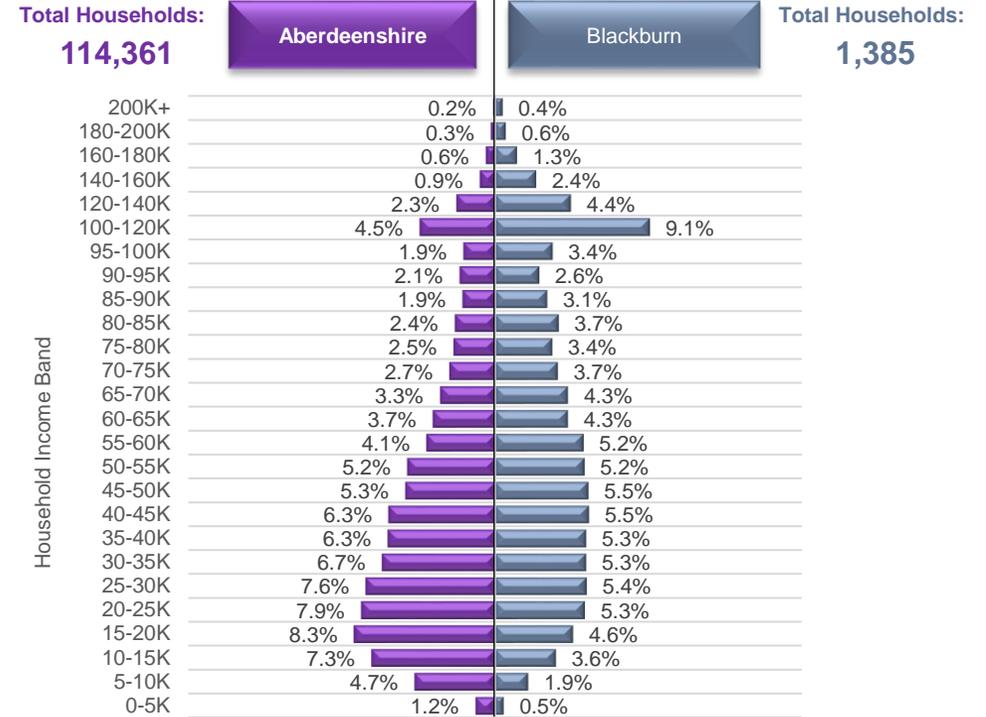
Approximately 2.5% of households in this IZ earn less than £10,000 per year, which is much lower than average (5.3%), and an improvement on last year's 2.5%. This equates to roughly 34 households. These are mostly found in the Fechnie Brae House area (Sheltered Housing) and around Dalrymple Circle.

High income households tend to be situated in the southwest of Blackburn (Norman Gray Park area) and in the north-west and northern tip (around Scotsmill Drive and Badger Rise).

Household Income per Data Zone (2023)

Data Zone	Households	Average Income	Median Income	Lower Quartile Income
S01006925	198	£ 53,698	£ 46,256	£ 24,786
S01006926	292	£ 70,494	£ 63,077	£ 38,877
S01006927	433	£ 72,669	£ 65,863	£ 41,194
S01006928	462	£ 57,741	£ 49,796	£ 28,862

Household Income per Band, Blackburn & Aberdeenshire (2023)



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Median Household Income (2023)



£56,761

Aberdeenshire: £41,756

£56,761



% of Households Earning Less Than £10k (2023)



<£10K

2.5%

Aberdeenshire: 5.3%

2.5%



% of Households Earning More Than £100k (2023)



>£100K

18.3%

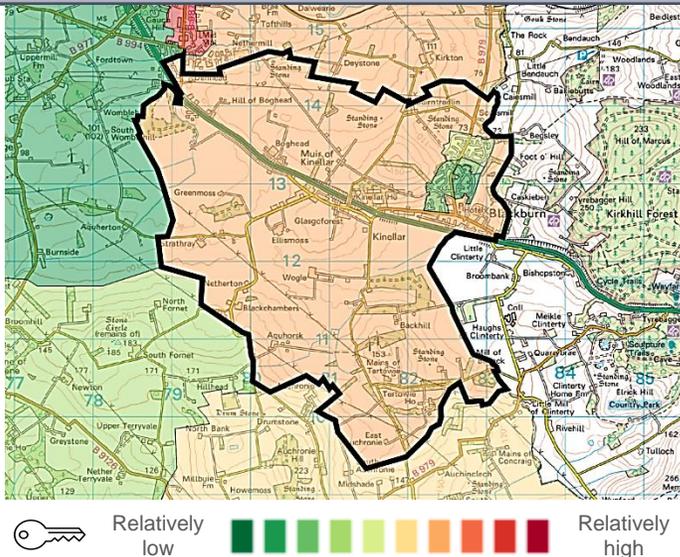
Aberdeenshire: 10.1%

18.3%

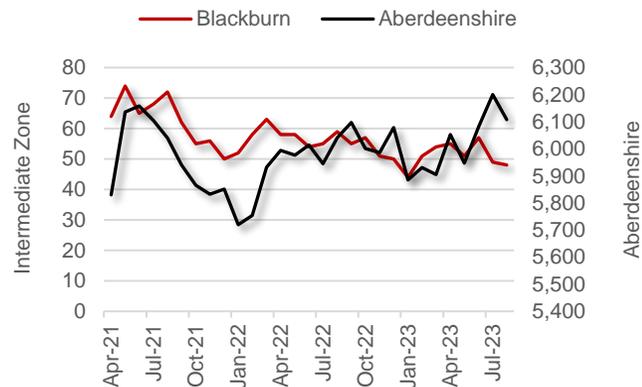


Blackburn Economic Data (2 of 3)

Latest Unemployment Rate - Ranking per Data Zone



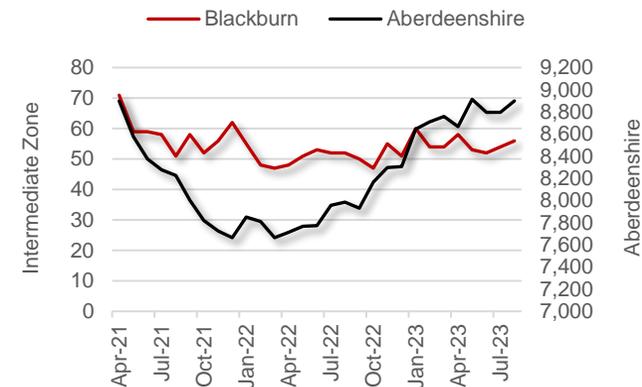
People on Universal Credit - In Employment



% of Working Age Population on Universal Credit and In Employment - Aberdeenshire Context (Aug 2023)



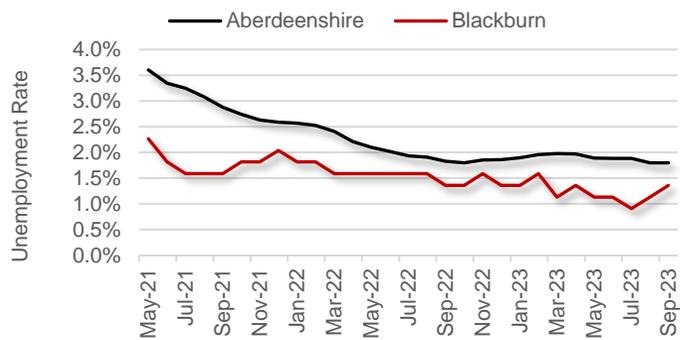
People on Universal Credit - Not In Employment



% of Working Age Population on Universal Credit and Not In Employment - Aberdeenshire Context (Aug 2023)



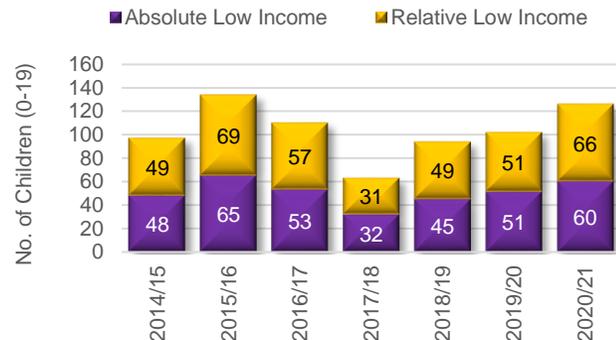
Alternative Claimant Count - Effective 'Unemployment Rate'



Blackburn's Alternative Claimant Count (Unemployment Rate) - Aberdeenshire Context (Sep 2023)



Children in Low Income Families



% of Children (aged 0-19) in Low Income Families (2020/21)



Summary

The number of people claiming Universal Credit (UC) - who are also in employment - has decreased over the course of this year having increased in the aftermath of Covid. Latest figures show 2.2% of people aged 16-64 (who also have jobs) are claiming UC. This is towards the lower end of the spectrum. A similar picture emerges in relation to people on UC and not in employment.

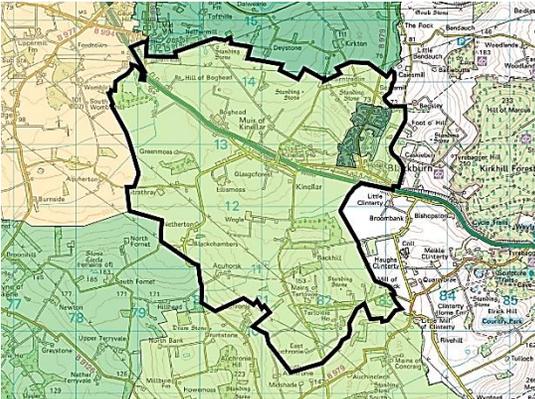
Like Aberdeenshire, the unemployment rate in the IZ has fallen substantially since the August 2020 peak of 3.4%. Latest data suggests approximately 1.4% of the Working Age population is currently out-of-work, which is lower than the Aberdeenshire-wide rate (1.8%). The IZ rate ranges from 0.0% (S01006925 the largely rural area either side of the A96) to 1.7% (S01006928, the relatively large area to the west of Blackburn, either side of the A96 westbound).

At 6.6%, the proportion of children living in relative low-income households is among the lowest in the Shire. A similar picture emerges in relation to those living in absolute low-income families. However, the rising figures suggest the issue may be coming more to the fore over recent years.

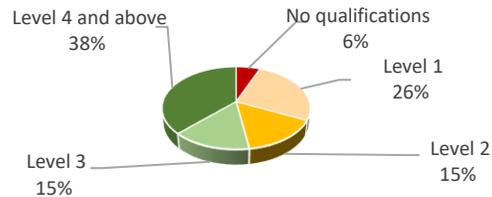
Economic Indicators

Blackburn Economic Data (3 of 3)

People With No Qualifications, Census 2011



% of Employees per Qualification Type



Summary

The employment numbers per broad industrial group relate to the kind of jobs within the area, which may be filled by those living outwith the IZ.

This IZ plays host to a number of industries. Major industries in terms of jobs in the area include the Mining, quarrying & utilities sector (i.e., oil & gas), as well as the Professional, etc. sector, Manufacturing, and Business admin. The largest industry in terms of jobs (Mining, etc.) appears to have been relatively stable over the period covered.

As in previous years, the Manufacturing sector comprises the largest sector in the region in terms of enterprises turning over at least £1 million per annum, and numbers increased over the course of 2022 and were sustained in 2023.

Small to Medium-sized enterprises (less than £0.5 million in annual sales) comprise the bulk of companies in the region. These tend to be in the Professional, scientific & technical sector, and the Construction sector, with the remaining equally spread among Information & communication, Motor trades, Transport, Business admin, and Agriculture.

Approximate Employment Count per Broad Industrial Group, Blackburn, 2020-22

Broad Industrial Group	2020	2021	2022	2020-22 % Diff.
Agriculture, forestry & fishing	0	0	0	0%
Mining, quarrying & utilities	400	400	400	0%
Manufacturing	200	200	175	-13%
Construction	125	125	100	-20%
Motor trades	75	75	50	-33%
Wholesale	35	50	75	114%
Retail	35	35	25	-29%
Transport & storage (inc postal)	150	50	40	-73%
Accommodation & food services	75	75	175	133%
Information & communication	75	50	75	0%
Financial & insurance	30	30	40	33%
Property	15	10	10	-33%
Professional, scientific & technical	225	200	225	0%
Business administration & support services	125	125	150	20%
Public administration & defence	0	0	0	0%
Education	50	75	100	100%
Health	0	5	0	0%
Arts, entertainment, recreation & other services	10	0	5	-50%
Total	1,625	1,505	1,645	1%

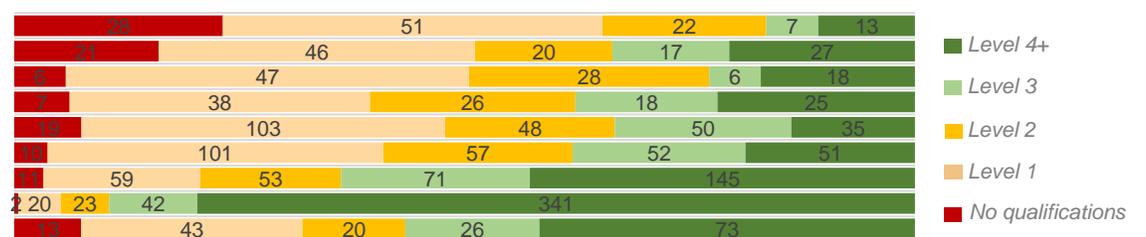
Approximate Number of Enterprises per Turnover Band (£), Blackburn, 2021-23

Turnover	2021	2022	2023	2021-23 % Diff.
£1m+	5	10	15	200%
£500-999k	15	15	15	0%
£200-499k	5	10	15	200%
£100-199k	60	30	35	-42%
£50-99k	25	30	15	-40%
£0-49k	20	20	25	25%

Employees per Occupation Type, Census 2011

Elementary occupations	121
Process, plant and machine operatives	131
Sales and customer service occupations	105
Caring, leisure and other service occupations	114
Skilled trades occupations	255
Administrative and secretarial occupations	271
Associate professional and technical...	339
Professional occupations	428
Managers, directors and senior officials	175

Employees per Qualification & Occupation Type, Census 2011



Blackburn Housing Data



Relatively sparse / rural

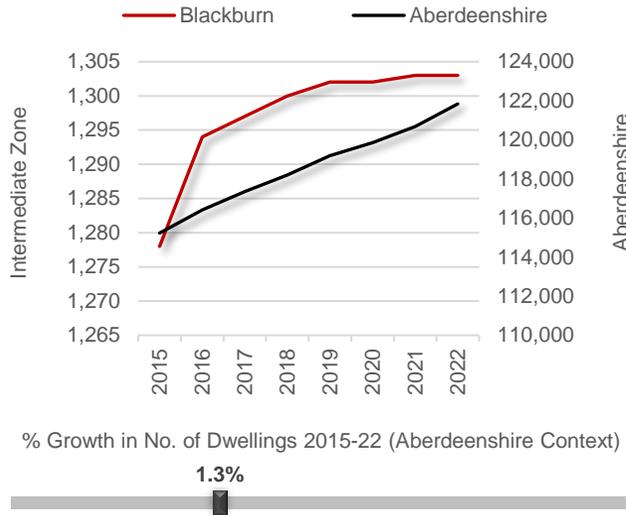
Dwellings per Hectare (2022)

0.81



Relatively dense / urban

Number of Dwellings, 2015-22



Summary

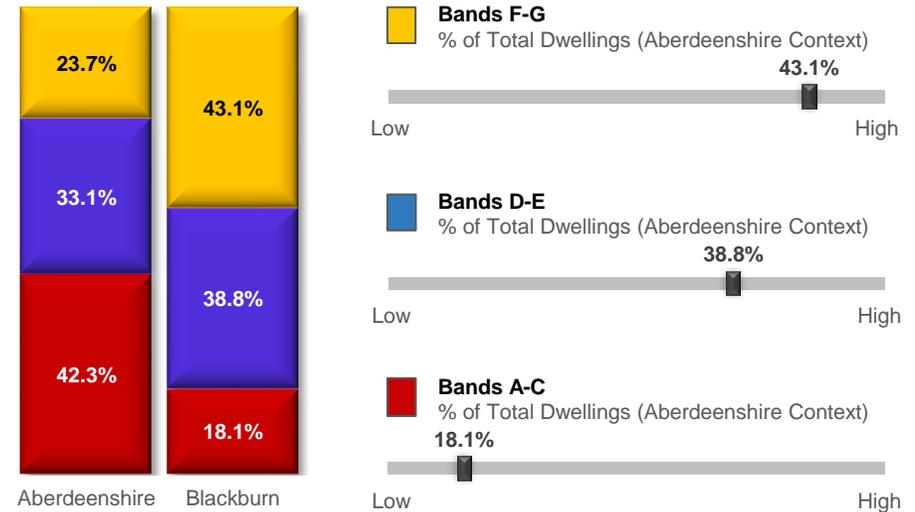
At 0.81 dwellings per hectare, this IZ is in the middle of the urban/rural range in the context of Aberdeenshire. This is because the IZ comprises the town of Blackburn itself as well as the largely rural area to the west, lying either side of the A96 westbound.

The number of dwellings in the IZ has increased by 1.3% since 2015, which is towards the lower end of the spectrum in an Aberdeenshire context. The population of the IZ has grown by 0.6% over a similar period. House building appears to have accelerated over the 2016-2019 period, and now appears to have plateaued over the last year or so.

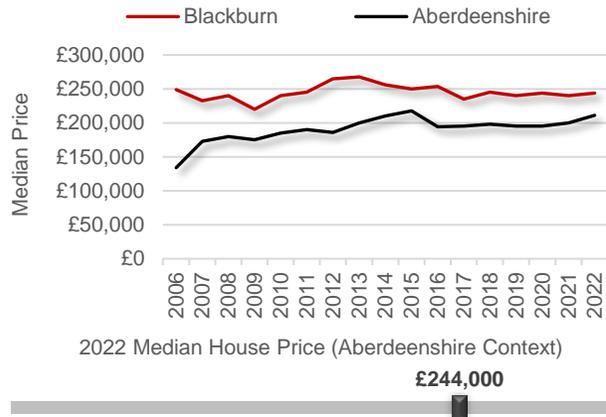
A relatively large proportion of the dwellings in this IZ (43.1%) fall within Council Tax Bands F-G. This puts the IZ towards the higher end of the spectrum in this particular regard. Conversely, the area is home to relatively few properties in Bands A-C.

The median house price is £244,000 which is approximately £33,000 higher than the Aberdeenshire average (£210,995).

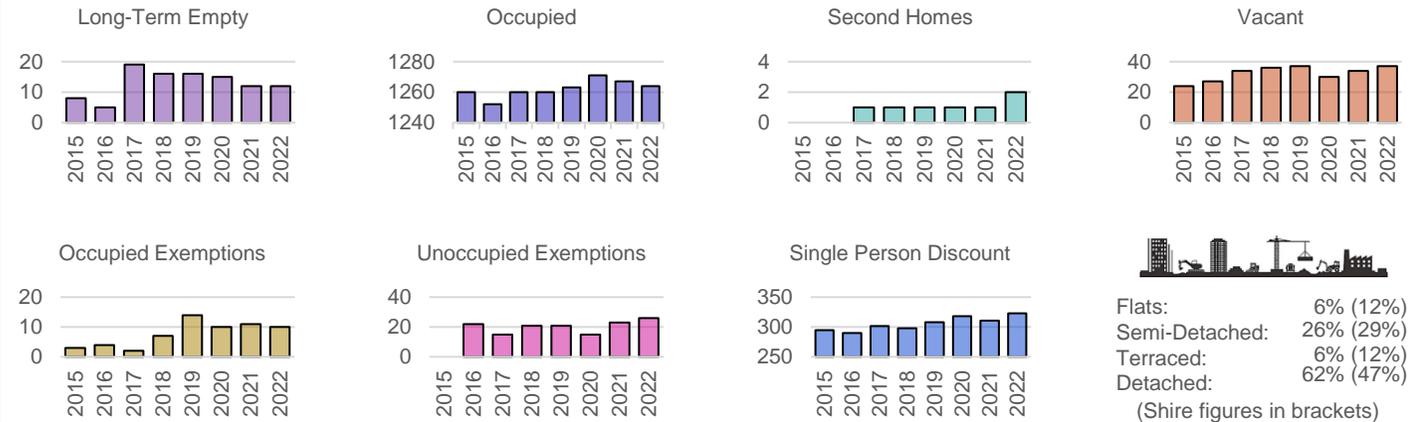
Proportion of Dwellings per Council Tax Band, 2022



Median Residential House Prices (Sales), 2006-22

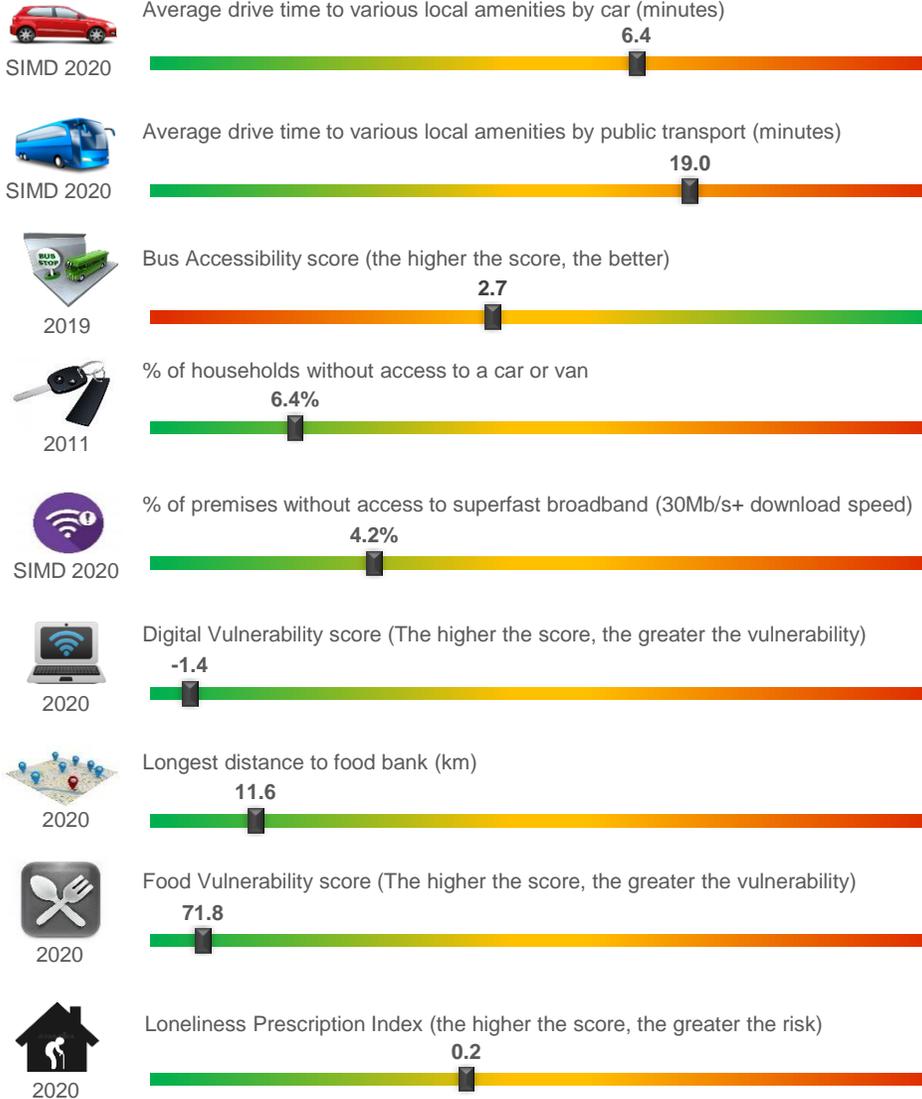


Housing Types, 2015-22 (Data on Flats, etc., relate to 2017 - the latest year for which data are available)

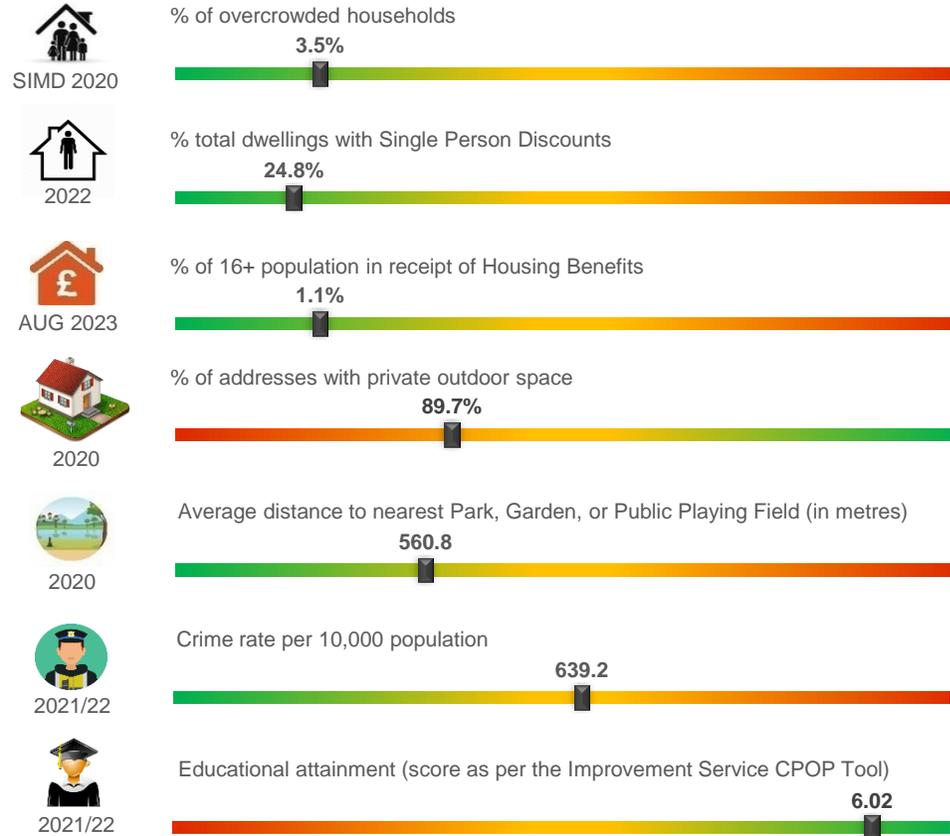


Blackburn Other Socio-Economic Data

Geographic Access / Digital Connectivity / Food Vulnerability / Loneliness Proxy



Housing / Environment / Crime Rate / Educational Attainment



Summary

The miscellaneous socio-economic indicators on this page tend to suggest residents in the area are relatively well-served in relation to multiple aspects of life, and pupils are among the highest achievers in the region. However, SIMD 2020 data suggests some residents in the area experience longer journeys to local amenities via public transport and longer drive times. It is probable that this will affect DZs outside of the town of Blackburn itself.

In terms of access to superfast broadband, the area is generally well served. However, approximately 4.2% of premises are unable to access it. These premises are more likely to be situated to the south side of the A96.