



Profile of Midlothian 2025



This Profile compiles information that has been published by statutory and voluntary sector agencies and is not primary research. References and hypertext links to the original sources are provided. The information used is the most recent at the time of publication. Further updates are due later on in 2025.

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Midlothian is one of 32 local authorities. This boundary is used to define the area of responsibility of the Community Planning Partnership statutory board.

Midlothian Council area has had six wards, each represented jointly by three Councillors.

Intermediate zones are built from clusters of data zones and contain at least 2,500 residents. There are 22 Intermediate zones in Midlothian. **Data zones** are groups of 2011 Census output areas with populations of between 500 and 1,000 household residents and contain households with similar social characteristics. 115 are in Midlothian.

Community Council Areas

Figure 1: Map highlighting the 15 community council areas boundaries in Midlothian

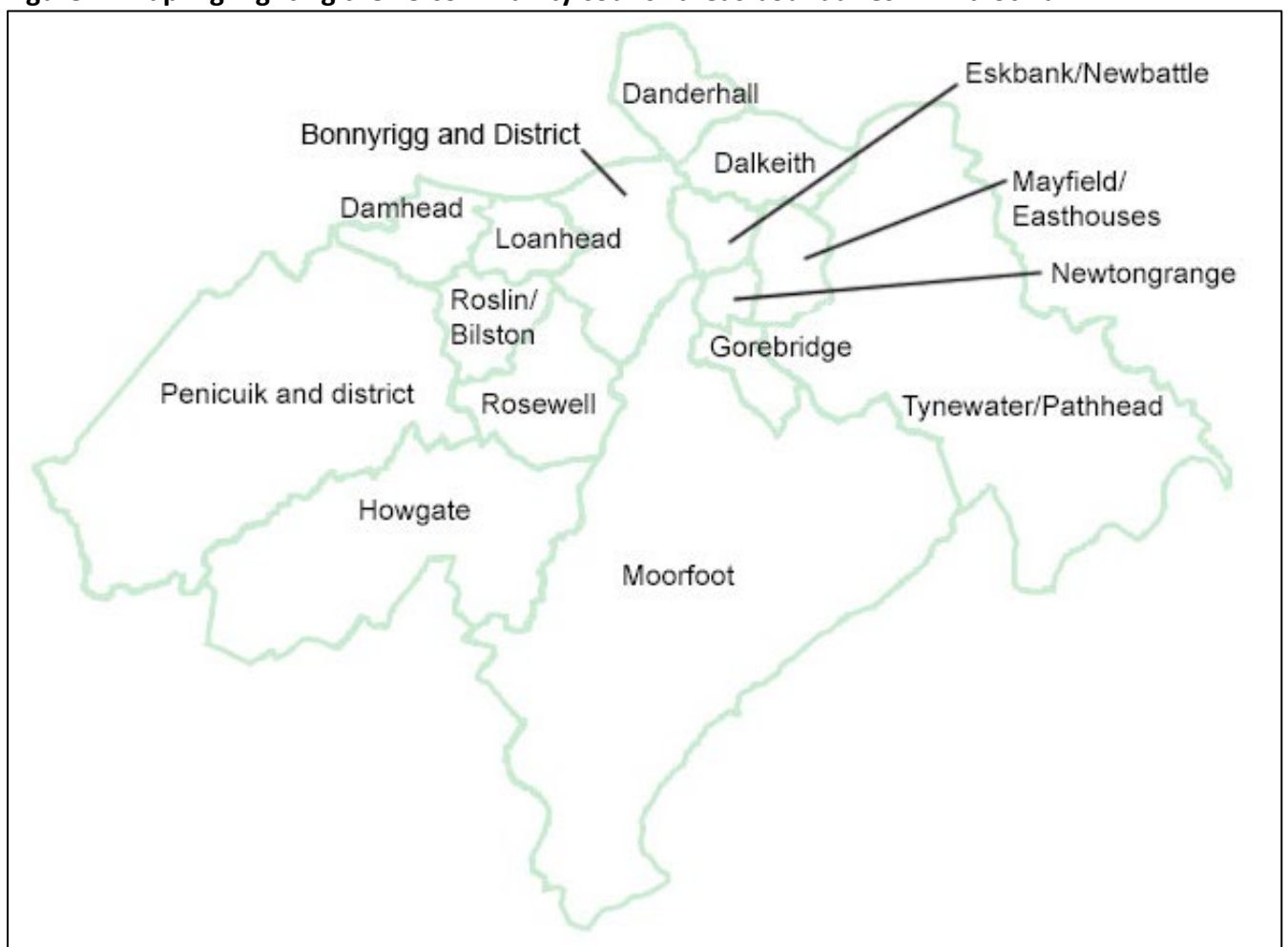


Table 1: Populations of each Community Council as of the 2022 census

| Community Council | Population from 2011 census | Population from 2022 Census | % of Midlothian's Population from 2022 Census |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|
| Bonnyrigg and District | 15,677 | 18,094 | 18.74 |
| Dalkeith and District | 12,342 | 15,146 | 15.69 |
| Danderhall | 2,732 | 3,385 | 3.5 |
| Eskbank | 5,634 | TBC | TBC |
| Tynewater | 2,429 | TBC | TBC |
| Mayfield and Easthouses | 13,290 | 14,276 | 14.8 |
| Gorebridge | 6,328 | 8,905 | 9.22 |
| Newtongrange | 5,431 | TBC | TBC |
| Damhead | 250 | TBC | TBC |
| Loanhead | 6,294 | 6,995 | 7.24 |
| Roslin and Bilston | 2,762 | 3,963 | 4.1 |
| Rosewell and District | 1,566 | 2,277 | 2.35 |
| Penicuik | 15,926 | 16,409 | 16.9 |
| Moorfoot | 3,382 (estimate) | TBC | TBC |
| Howgate | 451 | TBC | TBC |

Table 2: Household totals per Community Council as of 2011 census

| Community Council | Households 2011 | Households 2022 | % of Midlothian's Households |
|--------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Bonnyrigg and District | 6,383 | 7,409 | 18.09 |
| Dalkeith and District | 5,419 | 6,590 | 16.06 |
| Danderhall | 1,142 | 1,419 | 3.46 |
| Eskbank | - | - | - |
| Tynewater | - | - | - |
| Mayfield and Easthouses | 5,534 | 6,094 | 14.86 |
| Gorebridge | 2,592 | 3,566 | 8.69 |
| Newtongrange | 2,252 | TBC | TBC |
| Damhead | 102 | TBC | TBC |
| Loanhead | 2,803 | 3,198 | 7.8 |
| Roslin and Bilston | 1,232 | 1,723 | 4.2 |
| Rosewell and District | 653 | 908 | 2.21 |
| Penicuik | 6,627 | 7,114 | 7.34 |
| Moorfoot | - | - | TBC |
| Howgate | 179 | TBC | TBC |

Locality Information from the 2022 Census

Bilston

Table 3: Data for Bilston from 2022 Census

| Item | Total | Male | Female |
|--|-------|------|--------|
| Total Population | 1947 | 917 | 1030 |
| All Households | 818 | n/a | n/a |
| All full-time students aged 16 and over | 71 | n/a | n/a |
| Economically Active full-time student | 32 | n/a | n/a |
| Total number of individuals with no qualifications | 189 | n/a | n/a |
| Total number of individuals with Lower school qualifications to Apprenticeship qualifications | 638 | n/a | n/a |
| Further educations and above | 706 | n/a | n/a |
| BSL User | 17 | n/a | n/a |
| UK Armed Forces veterans, all people aged 16 and over | 46 | n/a | n/a |

Bonnyrigg

Table 4: Data for Bonnyrigg from 2022 Census

| Item | Total | Male | Female |
|--|-------|------|--------|
| Total Population | 18094 | 8724 | 9370 |
| All Households | 7409 | n/a | n/a |
| All full-time students aged 16 and over | 726 | n/a | n/a |
| Economically Active full-time student | 405 | n/a | n/a |
| Total number of individuals with no qualifications | 2211 | n/a | n/a |
| Total number of individuals with Lower school qualifications to Apprenticeship qualifications | 6305 | n/a | n/a |
| Further educations and above | 6077 | n/a | n/a |
| BSL User | 442 | n/a | n/a |
| UK Armed Forces veterans, all people aged 16 and over | 573 | n/a | n/a |

Dalkeith

Table 5: Data for Dalkeith from 2022 Census

| Item | Total | Male | Female |
|--|-------|------|--------|
| Total Population | 15146 | 7294 | 7853 |
| All Households | 6590 | n/a | n/a |
| All full-time students aged 16 and over | 625 | n/a | n/a |
| Economically Active full-time student | 344 | n/a | n/a |
| Total number of individuals with no qualifications | 2029 | n/a | n/a |
| Total number of individuals with Lower school qualifications to Apprenticeship qualifications | 4856 | n/a | n/a |
| Further educations and above | 5389 | n/a | n/a |
| BSL User | 279 | n/a | n/a |
| UK Armed Forces veterans, all people aged 16 and over | 416 | n/a | n/a |

Danderhall

Table 6: Data for Danderhall from 2022 Census

| Item | Total | Male | Female |
|--|-------|------|--------|
| Total Population | 3385 | 1620 | 1765 |
| All Households | 1419 | n/a | n/a |
| All full-time students aged 16 and over | 113 | n/a | n/a |
| Economically Active full-time student | 59 | n/a | n/a |
| Total number of individuals with no qualifications | 471 | n/a | n/a |
| Total number of individuals with Lower school qualifications to Apprenticeship qualifications | 1212 | n/a | n/a |
| Further educations and above | 1059 | n/a | n/a |
| BSL User | 80 | n/a | n/a |
| UK Armed Forces veterans, all people aged 16 and over | 100 | n/a | n/a |

Gorebridge

Table 7: Data for Gorebridge from 2022 Census

| Item | Total | Male | Female |
|--|-------|------|--------|
| Total Population | 8905 | 4322 | 4583 |
| All Households | 3566 | n/a | n/a |
| All full-time students aged 16 and over | 341 | n/a | n/a |
| Economically Active full-time student | 178 | n/a | n/a |
| Total number of individuals with no qualifications | 1130 | n/a | n/a |
| Total number of individuals with Lower school qualifications to Apprenticeship qualifications | 3118 | n/a | n/a |
| Further educations and above | 2636 | n/a | n/a |
| BSL User | 174 | n/a | n/a |
| UK Armed Forces veterans, all people aged 16 and over | 302 | n/a | n/a |

Loanhead

Table 8: Data for Loanhead from 2022 Census

| Item | Total | Male | Female |
|--|-------|------|--------|
| Total Population | 6995 | 3342 | 3653 |
| All Households | 3198 | n/a | n/a |
| All full-time students aged 16 and over | 285 | n/a | n/a |
| Economically Active full-time student | 150 | n/a | n/a |
| Total number of individuals with no qualifications | 1127 | n/a | n/a |
| Total number of individuals with Lower school qualifications to Apprenticeship qualifications | 2495 | n/a | n/a |
| Further educations and above | 2276 | n/a | n/a |
| BSL User | 126 | n/a | n/a |
| UK Armed Forces veterans, all people aged 16 and over | 252 | n/a | n/a |

Mayfield

Table 9: Data for Mayfield from 2022 Census

| Item | Total | Male | Female |
|--|-------|------|--------|
| Total Population | 14276 | 6876 | 7400 |
| All Households | 6094 | n/a | n/a |
| All full-time students aged 16 and over | 568 | n/a | n/a |
| Economically Active full-time student | 285 | n/a | n/a |
| Total number of individuals with no qualifications | 2399 | n/a | n/a |
| Total number of individuals with Lower school qualifications to Apprenticeship qualifications | 5405 | n/a | n/a |
| Further educations and above | 3640 | n/a | n/a |
| BSL User | 315 | n/a | n/a |
| UK Armed Forces veterans, all people aged 16 and over | 473 | n/a | n/a |

Pathhead

Table 10: Data for Pathhead from 2022 Census

| Item | Total | Male | Female |
|--|-------|------|--------|
| Total Population | 911 | 449 | 462 |
| All Households | 414 | n/a | n/a |
| All full-time students aged 16 and over | 25 | n/a | n/a |
| Economically Active full-time student | 18 | n/a | n/a |
| Total number of individuals with no qualifications | 148 | n/a | n/a |
| Total number of individuals with Lower school qualifications to Apprenticeship qualifications | 293 | n/a | n/a |
| Further educations and above | 317 | n/a | n/a |
| BSL User | 20 | n/a | n/a |
| UK Armed Forces veterans, all people aged 16 and over | 33 | n/a | n/a |

Penicuik

Table 11: Data for Penicuik from 2022 Census

| Item | Total | Male | Female |
|--|-------|------|--------|
| Total Population | 16409 | 8079 | 8333 |
| All Households | 7114 | n/a | n/a |
| All full-time students aged 16 and over | 637 | n/a | n/a |
| Economically Active full-time student | 324 | n/a | n/a |
| Total number of individuals with no qualifications | 1963 | n/a | n/a |
| Total number of individuals with Lower school qualifications to Apprenticeship qualifications | 5901 | n/a | n/a |
| Further educations and above | 5792 | n/a | n/a |
| BSL User | 406 | n/a | n/a |
| UK Armed Forces veterans, all people aged 16 and over | 602 | n/a | n/a |

Rosewell

Table 12: Data for Rosewell from 2022 Census

| Item | Total | Male | Female |
|--|-------|------|--------|
| Total Population | 2277 | 1102 | 1179 |
| All Households | 908 | n/a | n/a |
| All full-time students aged 16 and over | 98 | n/a | n/a |
| Economically Active full-time student | 51 | n/a | n/a |
| Total number of individuals with no qualifications | 300 | n/a | n/a |
| Total number of individuals with Lower school qualifications to Apprenticeship qualifications | 673 | n/a | n/a |
| Further educations and above | 834 | n/a | n/a |
| BSL User | 77 | n/a | n/a |
| UK Armed Forces veterans, all people aged 16 and over | 75 | n/a | n/a |

Roslin

Table 13: Data for Roslin from 2022 Census

| Item | Total | Male | Female |
|--|-------|------|--------|
| Total Population | 2016 | 964 | 1055 |
| All Households | 905 | n/a | n/a |
| All full-time students aged 16 and over | 81 | n/a | n/a |
| Economically Active full-time student | 42 | n/a | n/a |
| Total number of individuals with no qualifications | 175 | n/a | n/a |
| Total number of individuals with Lower school qualifications to Apprenticeship qualifications | 566 | n/a | n/a |
| Further educations and above | 923 | n/a | n/a |
| BSL User | 45 | n/a | n/a |
| UK Armed Forces veterans, all people aged 16 and over | 66 | n/a | n/a |

Community Planning Outcomes Profile

<https://scotland.shinyapps.io/is-community-planning-outcomes-profile>

In addition to the data in this profile you can find more at the Community Planning Outcomes Profile tool created by 'The Improvement Service'. It helps you assess if the lives of people in your community are improving as it uses a set of core measures on important life outcomes.

Our Vision

By working together as a Community Planning Partnership, individuals and communities will be able to lead healthier, safer, and greener lives by 2030. No child or household need live in poverty. Midlothian will be a Great Green Place to Grow by achieving our net zero carbon ambitions and supporting local people to strengthen the skills they need for learning, life, and work.

Summary

Demographics

Midlothian's population in the 2022 census was **96,600**. This is an increase of 16.1% from the 2011 census.

Between 2021 and 2022, the number of households in Midlothian grew from 40,466 to 41,009 and is still projected to increase in the future.

Midlothian's current population can be characterised by 19% being over 65 years of age, 63% between 15-64 years of age, and 17.8% under 14 years of age.

Midlothian Will Be Healthier

General health remains good, while the incidence of limiting long-term illness appears to have increased.

Cancer; coronary heart disease; respiratory disease, and diabetes all show large variations across Midlothian that correlate to areas of deprivation.

Midlothian has a higher rate of multiple admissions than the Lothian average, but slightly lower than the Scotland average rate.

The number of adult referrals to Social Services has increased. The increase in Community Care services (Homecare, Telecare etc.) corresponds to the increase in Midlothian's 65+ population. The number of Midlothian residents in care homes has decreased.

Midlothian Will Be Safer

Police recorded 4586 Group 1-5 crime in Midlothian in 2020-21, a decrease of 867 (7%) from the previous year.

The most common crime type recorded was 'Dishonesty crime' - includes housebreaking, theft of motor vehicles, shoplifting, fraud, and other thefts.

Midlothian Will Get It Right For Every Child

In Midlothian, the percentage of babies breastfed at 6-8 weeks has remained relatively stable but is around 12% less than those breastfed at the first visit. This is consistent with Lothian as a whole and nationally. Immunisations are above the Lothian and national averages. Childhood obesity has decreased.

The rate of teenage pregnancies in Midlothian has increased and remains above the Scottish rate.

We look after a small number of children as Corporate Parents, slightly below the national average. This has been decreasing since 2018. We have a higher-than-average rate of children on the Child Protection Register.

Educational attainment varies across Midlothian secondary schools, with some schools achieving above the Virtual Comparator (a virtual school whose characteristics reflect the socioeconomic make up of Midlothian), and others below. This generally reflects levels of deprivation and social exclusion in each area.

The percentage of children registered for free school meals is slightly lower than the national average. Free school meals are available to children whose families are on low incomes or who receive benefits themselves.

Midlothian Will Support Residents To Improve Employability and Outcomes In Our Communities

Child poverty is increasing and rising living costs are placing huge strain on households leading to a Midlothian wide approach to fuel and food poverty being put in place across the partnership. Positive destinations for school leavers continues to be good with the number of young people entering further education and employment from school remaining stable.

Workers in Midlothian, particularly women, earn less than the Scottish average and there is a lower proportion of people with qualifications at HNC and degree level or above. The numbers of people claiming out of work benefits has increased due to the pandemic.

Strong partnerships exist across Midlothian to improve outcomes for local people, families and children to build skills for learning, life and work.

Midlothian Will Have A Wellbeing Economy and Be Better Connected

Economy

The Midlothian economy is diverse yet retains its traditional and primary industries, while also benefitting from changing trends with a growing number of high-tech enterprises. It is part of the Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region (ESESCR) and to a large extent the Capital City supports a large number of jobs for commuters from Midlothian with public transport connections by bus and train.

Midlothian is home to several important clusters of high growth businesses bringing high gross value-added economic activities together. Key sectors include:

- **Life Sciences** - The internationally recognised Midlothian Science Zone is a world-leading centre for research in animal science and food security and is the largest concentration of animal related expertise in Europe.
- **Data Driven Innovation** - Midlothian and the University of Edinburgh have invested heavily in DDI and the Newbattle Digital Centre for Excellence preparing our future workforce by developing the data and digital skills for the future world of work, fostering digital inclusion and enabling young people to engage in a wider programme around data skills.
- **Construction** – as the fastest growing local authority region in Scotland, Midlothian has significant house building programmes along with major commercial projects in the pipeline.
- **Tourism** – Midlothian has a strong and growing tourism offer and the close proximity to the City of Edinburgh assist the growth of our businesses.

Employment: In the year ending December 2023, Midlothian's employment rate was higher than the national average. Among residents aged 16 to 64, 85.3% were employed, compared to 74.7% across Scotland. This marks an increase from the previous year, when Midlothian's employment rate stood at 79.4%.

Local Business: In 2024, Midlothian had 2,795 businesses. Of these, 89.9% (2,515) were classed as small (0-49 employees), 3.8% (105) as medium (50-249 employees), and 6.3% (175) as large (250+ employees).

Types of employment by industry. In 2024, the largest employment sector in 2024 was Construction, followed by Wholesale/Retail, Professional, Scientific, and Technical Activities, Administrative and Support Services, and Accommodation and Food Services.

Digital Connectivity

Digital connectivity is of ever-increasing importance in enabling businesses to trade competitively in local and international markets. It is also essential for residents in enabling them to access goods and services, education, leisure and entertainment, and connecting online through social media for example.

The percentage of businesses contracting more than 30Mb/s but less than 100 Mb/s has increased from 34.1% in 2019 to 36.2% in 2021 (ONS [Digital Economy Survey](#)).

Superfast Broadband

Midlothian Council is part of the Scottish Government's R100 programme which aims to achieve coverage of a minimum of 30 Mb/s download speeds for 100% of premises in Scotland. The R100 programme started in 2020 and is forecast to be completed in Midlothian in 2028.

The R100 Programme provides broadband vouchers for rural locations, where the deployment of broadband infrastructure would otherwise not be commercially viable. Further information on the Scottish Government and UK Government voucher schemes is on the [Locate in Midlothian](#) website.

[Ofcom's Connected Nations](#) report, Summer 2024, shows that coverage of 30 Mb/s download speeds in Midlothian was 98% (44,399 premises) in July 2024. While the percentage of those receiving this download speed hasn't increased since May 2023, the number of properties receiving it has increased by 564. This compares favourably with Scotland, and the UK, which had coverage of 96% and 97% respectively. This is also representative of the increase in the number of houses in Midlothian.

Universal Service Obligation (USO)

There are still some parts of Midlothian where there is poor digital connectivity. For this reason, the UK Government launched the broadband Universal Service Obligation (USO) in March 2020, this provides premises with the legal right to request a 'decent' broadband service of at least 10 Mb/s download and 1 Mb/s upload subject to meeting certain [eligibility criteria](#).

Ofcom's Connected Nations 2024 report indicates that the percentage of Midlothian premises unable to access 10 Mb/s download or 1 Mb/s upload was 1% (626 premises). This is a decline on the position as of May 2023 when 1% of Midlothian (421 premises) were unable to access 10 Mb/s download speeds and 1 Mb/s upload speeds. Midlothian compares well at 1% against Scotland at 2%, with the UK average at 1% for access 10 Mb/s download speeds and 1 Mb/s upload speeds as of May 2023.

Midlothian Will Be Greener

Midlothian Local Biodiversity Action Plan: The Midlothian Local Biodiversity Action Plan supports conservation through 5 priorities.

Drinking Water: Drinking water quality is very high in most of Midlothian.

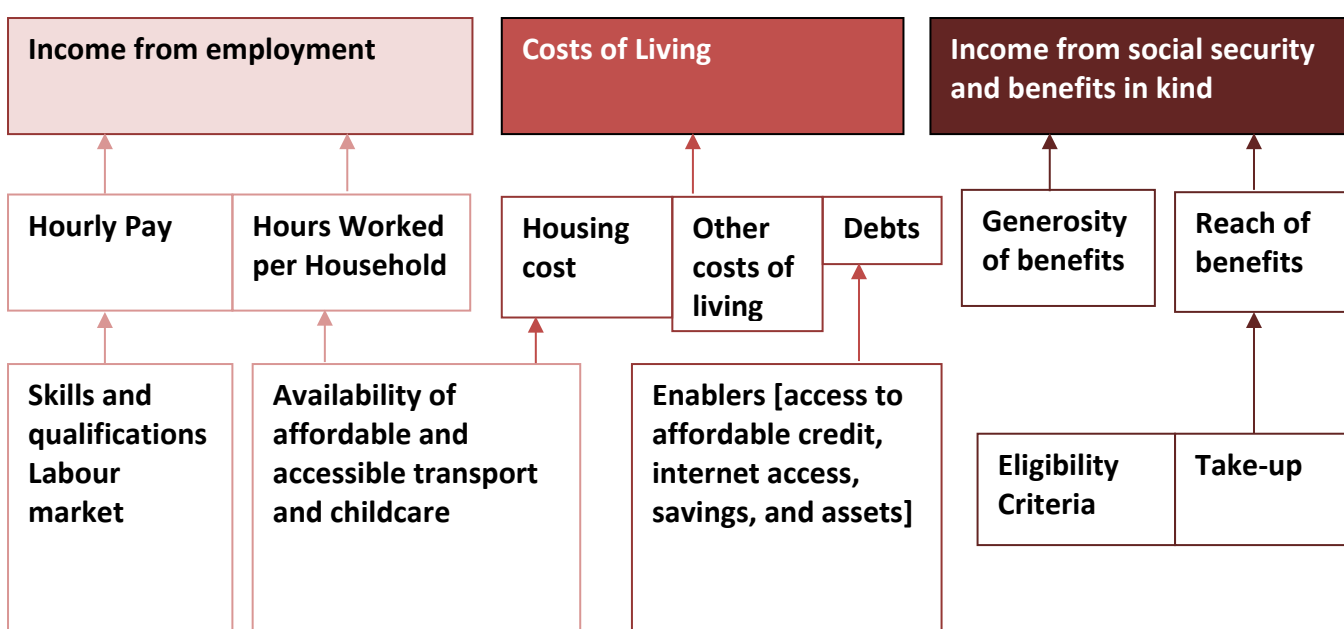
Household waste: Household waste is reducing, and the proportion collected for recycling is increasing.

Midlothian Will Work Towards Reducing Poverty

There are 3 main geographical areas which sit in the lowest SIMD areas in Midlothian. These include Central Dalkeith and Woodburn, Gorebridge and Mayfield/East Houses.

Child Poverty Rates and Unemployment is higher in these three geographically areas listed above. However, it is also important to note that most towns have a number of people living in them on low incomes and it can be more difficult for them as they do not have access to the same level of services in their immediate local area.

To support the reduction of Poverty we need to consider income from employment, cost of living and income from social security and benefits in Kind as set out below:



In Midlothian the following data highlights some key factors for consideration in reducing poverty these include:

- **Working Population:** The economically active population was 48,000 (81.5%) of people aged 16 to 64, in 2022 – update June 23 – 48,200 (80.3%) still above Scotland (77.4% and UK (78.6)
- **Earnings:** In 2022 the weekly pay in Midlothian by was £622.90, less than Scotland (£640.30) and Great Britain (£642.20)
- **Women’s earnings:** Female full-time workers in Midlothian (by place of residence) earned on averages £16.50 less than the overall Midlothian full-time employee in 2022, the gap has reduced from the 2020 figure by £1.40, £49.00 less in 2019 and £31.10 less in 2018.

- **Women's earnings:** (by Place of Work) In 2022 women earned £519.80 per week gross, men £732.90. Women in Scotland £604.50 and UK £584.50. Hourly female rate Midlothian £13.00 opposed to men £18.00 and women in Scotland £16.32 and UK £15.48
- **Job Density** (rate of jobs in location to population aged 16-64) is 0.64% in Midlothian, which is below the Scottish average of 0.81%

Housing

Housing Allocation Policy

Midlothian Council implemented an updated Housing Allocation Policy in June 2024. This maintained a target of allocating 60% of lets to homeless applicants. During this first year of the updated policy Midlothian Council was successful in meeting this target.

Supported accommodation/Tenancy Support/Housing First contract

Following a procurement exercise contract to deliver the above services have been awarded. When revising the specification for those services a greater emphasis was placed on delivering them from a trauma informed perspective.

As a result of this process Housing First has been mainstreamed. While we have been able to mainstream Housing First this has been at the same level as in previous years. Without additional funding it is likely that the number of new people accepted for Housing First will reduce as the service reaches capacity.

Due to the support needs of existing housing first tenants, there has not been capacity to accept new tenants into project since November 2024 to ensure the focus remains on tenancy sustainment and prevention of recurring homelessness.

Pressures on services

Midlothian Council continues to experience a high number of requests for homeless assistance. Since 2020 Midlothian Council successfully met the requirements of the Unsuitable Accommodation Order. Due to the increased pressures on the service in 2024/25 Midlothian Council breached the UAO on five occasions.

Flipping Temporary Accommodation

Throughout 2024/25 Midlothian Council continued to offer households who had been in temporary accommodation for the longest time the opportunity to have their accommodation converted to a permanent Scottish Secure Tenancy. During 2024/25 170 households had their property converted in this way.

Increasing the supply of larger properties

Midlothian Council is exploring ways to make larger properties available to those on the waiting list in need. Midlothian Council has employed a part time officer for a two-year period to offer support existing tenants who are under occupying larger homes and who wish to downsize. The officer will support households to explore all housing options to maximise opportunities to secure a smaller property, and where required provide more practical support such as preparing to move.

Accessing private rented accommodation

During 2023/24 Midlothian Council only closed five homeless cases after the applicant secure a private residential tenancy. This has since increased and between April and December 2024 this increased to 17 applications closed after moving to this type of tenancy.

Demographics

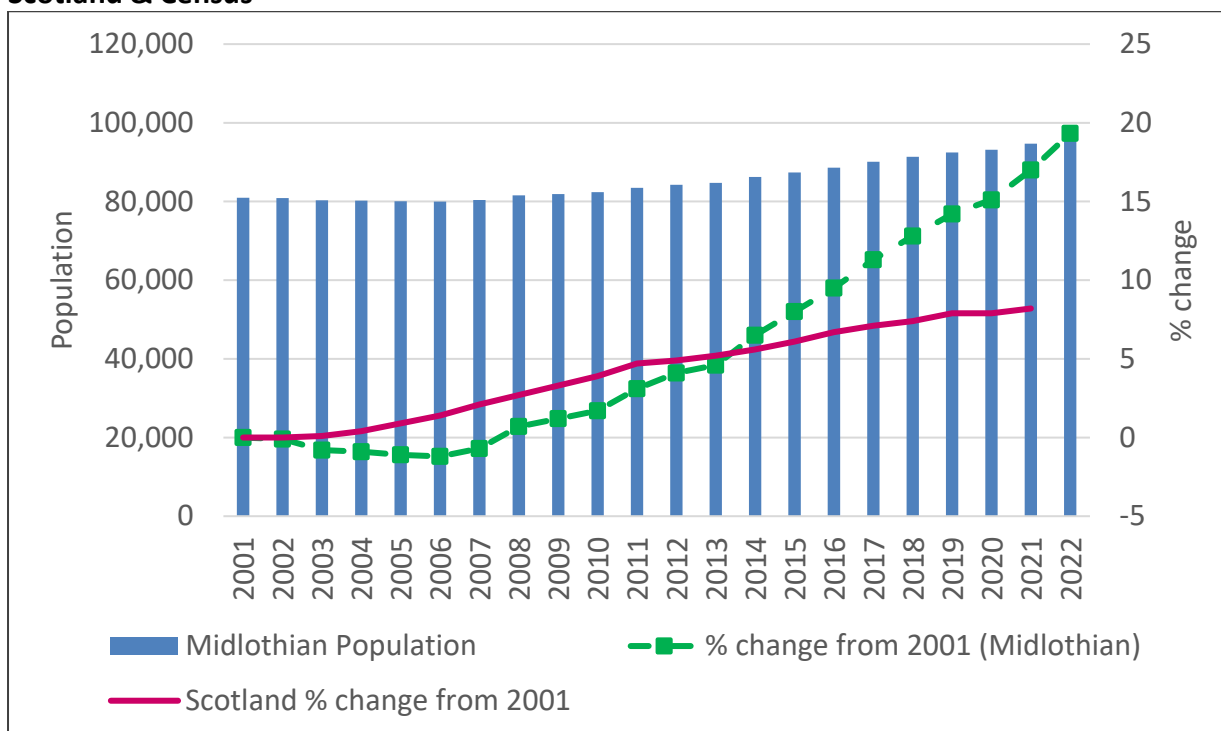


Where possible the demographic section has been updated with the initial 2022 Census data. Further updates will be done as and when data is released from the Census.

Introduction

Midlothian’s population in the 2022 census was **96,600**, an **increase of 4.8%** from 92,150 in 2019. The population of Scotland grew by 2.7% since the 2011 census to 5,436,600. This is a slower rate of growth than between 2001 and 2011, when the population grew by 233,400 (4.6%).

Figure 2: Midlothian’s population trend from 2001 to 2022 data source: National Records of Scotland & Census



Midlothian’s population is growing

An increasing birth rate, declining death rate, and a net migration inflow all have a part to play. Between 1998 and 2020, the population of Midlothian increased by 16.3%. This is the 4th highest percentage change out of the 32 council areas in Scotland. Over the same period, Scotland’s population rose by 7.7%.

Between 2018 and 2028, the population of Midlothian is projected to increase by 13.8% to 103,945 compared to a 1.8% for Scotland as a whole. Midlothian is projected to have the highest percentage change in population size out of all the 32 council areas in Scotland (2018 to 2028).

Population and Household Sizes

Table 14: Midlothian’s population and household sizes 2020, 2021 and 2022

Data Source: www.nrscotland.gov.uk/statistics-and-data & [Home | Scotland's Census](#)

| | Midlothian | Scotland | United Kingdom |
|-----------------|------------|-----------|----------------|
| Population 2022 | 96,600 | 5,436,600 | TBC |
| Population 2021 | 94,680 | 5,479,900 | 67,026,292 |
| Population 2020 | 93,150 | 5,459,454 | 67,220,000 |
| Households 2022 | 41,009 | 2,509,300 | 28,200,000 |
| Households 2021 | 40,466 | 2,528,823 | 28,100,000 |
| Households 2020 | 40,137 | 2,515,000 | 27,800,000 |

In between censuses the population is estimated annually by GRO Scotland. Previous estimates were based on the 2001 Census and not statistically relevant.

Estimate of Population Change

Table 15: Estimated population change in Midlothian from 2018 to 2028,

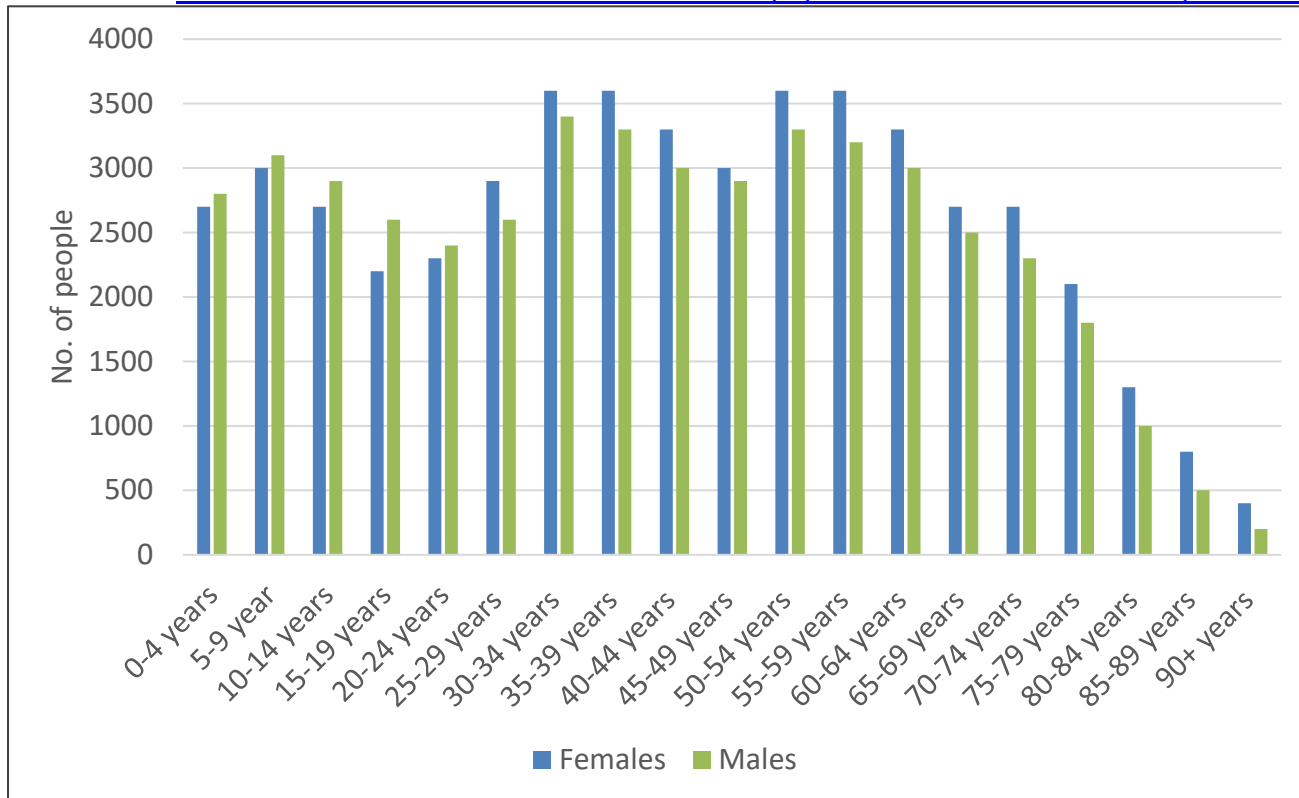
Data Source: [Midlothian Council Area Profile \(nrscotland.gov.uk\)](http://Midlothian Council Area Profile (nrscotland.gov.uk))

| Area | 2018 | 2028 | Total Change | Total % change |
|------------|-----------|-----------|--------------|----------------|
| Midlothian | 91,340 | 103,945 | 12,605 | 13.8 |
| Scotland | 5,438,100 | 5,537,116 | 99,016 | 1.8 |

The size of households in Midlothian, and in Scotland declined between 2001 and 2011 while the number of households has risen. Households may be smaller through children leaving home, divorce/death of a spouse, and ‘new’ households due to migration may be young families. The effect is greater in Midlothian, and Scotland, than in the UK overall.

Figure 3: Midlothian's population by age and sex in 2022

Data source: [scotland-s-census-2022-first-results-rounded-population-estimates-data.xlsx \(live.com\)](https://www.scotlandscensus.gov.uk/2022/first-results/rounded-population-estimates-data)



Between 2018 and 2028, each age group increased in size. The 75+ age group is projected to see the largest percentage increase (+40.9%). 25 to 44 is projected to become the largest age group.

Compared to the rest of Scotland, Midlothian's population is characterised by:

- larger than average young, and retired, segments;
- a slightly smaller than average working-age population;
- the female proportion of the retired population increasing as it ages.

Midlothian has a larger proportion of the population with the greatest demand for public services and this is likely to remain so in the medium term.

Table 16: Electorate population by ward mid-2018 and 2021

Data Source: [Electoral ward population estimates - National Records of Scotland \(NRS\)](https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/electoral-ward-population-estimates)

| Ward | Mid-2018 | 2022 |
|------------------|----------|--------|
| Bonnyrigg | 14,661 | 18,235 |
| Dalkeith | 10,578 | 14,983 |
| Midlothian East | 13,193 | 15,905 |
| Midlothian South | 11,168 | 16,181 |
| Midlothian West | 12,870 | 17,779 |
| Penicuik | 11,570 | 13,444 |

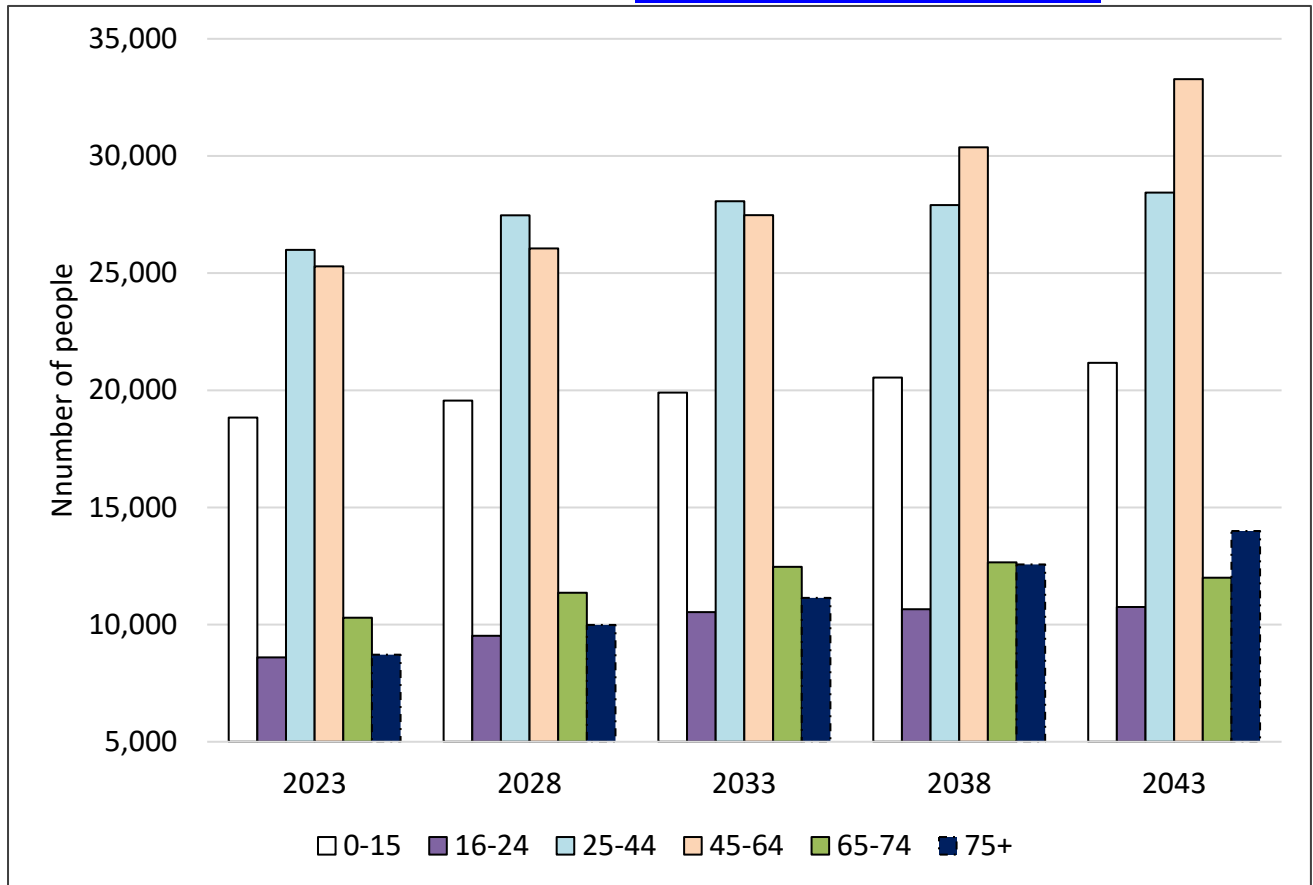


Population Projections

This 2018 projection predicts a **30.6% increase** over its trajectory, 5% more than the 2016 projection.

Figure 4: Midlothian's population projection to 2043

Data Source: National Records of Scotland 2018 [National Records of Scotland \(NRS\)](#)





Households

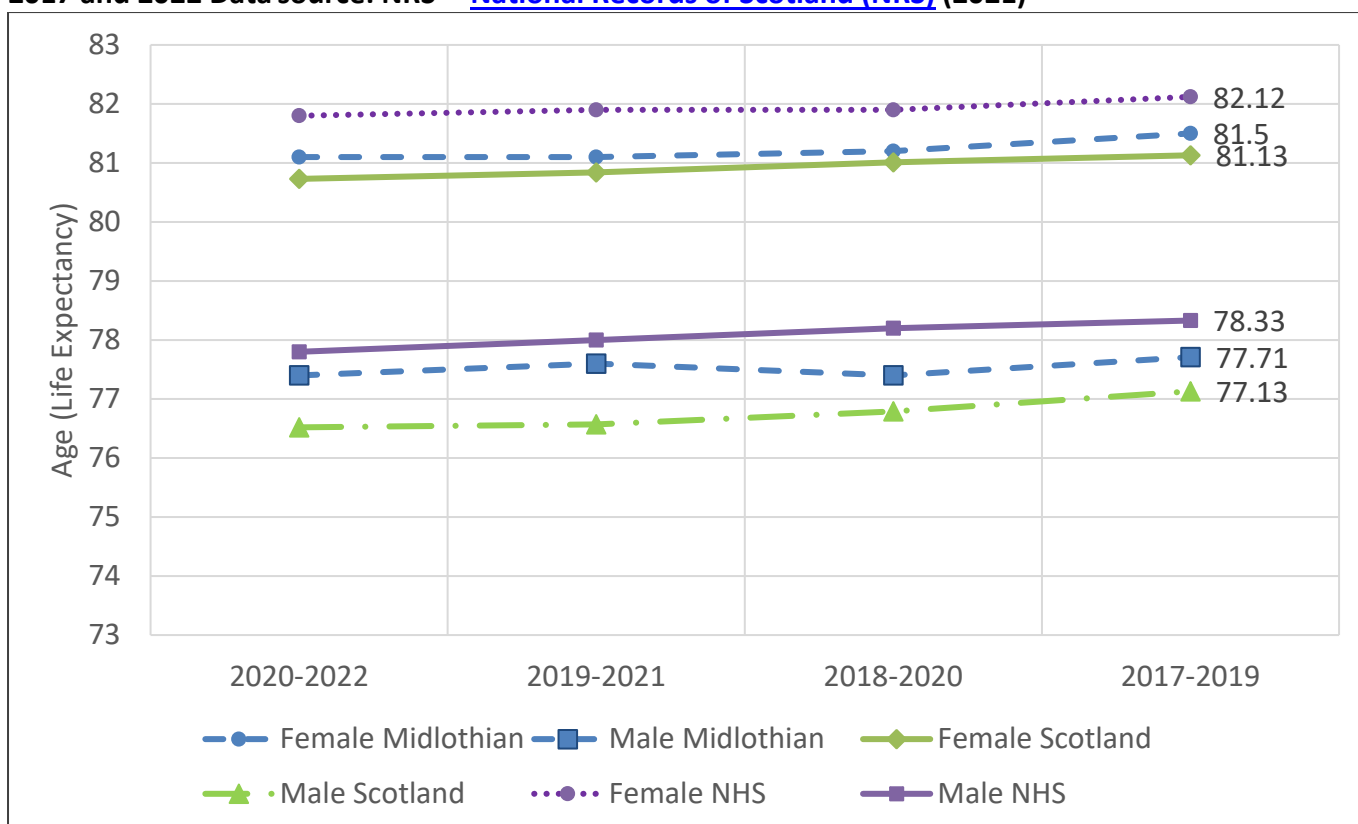
Table 17: Midlothian's household projections to 2028 Data Source: [National Records of Scotland \(NRS\)](#) (2020).

| Year | All households | % change from 2018 | Scotland % change from 2018 |
|------|----------------|--------------------|-----------------------------|
| 2018 | 39,122 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 2019 | 39,733 | 1.6 | 0.7 |
| 2020 | 40,354 | 3.1 | 1.3 |
| 2021 | 40,993 | 4.8 | 1.8 |
| 2022 | 41,685 | 6.6 | 2.5 |
| 2023 | 42,318 | 8.2 | 2.9 |
| 2024 | 42,979 | 9.9 | 3.4 |
| 2025 | 43,594 | 11.4 | 3.8 |
| 2026 | 44,213 | 13.0 | 4.2 |
| 2027 | 44,796 | 14.5 | 4.5 |
| 2028 | 45,374 | 16.0 | 4.9 |

Life Expectancy

The life expectancy (at birth) for males in Midlothian for 2018 – 2020 was 77.4 years, which was above the Scottish average figure but below NHS Lothian. The Midlothian female life expectancy at birth was 81.2 years which is above the Scottish figure but slightly below NHS Lothian.

Figure 5: Comparison of life expectancy between Midlothian, NHS Lothian and Scotland between 2017 and 2022 Data source: NRS – [National Records of Scotland \(NRS\)](#) (2021)



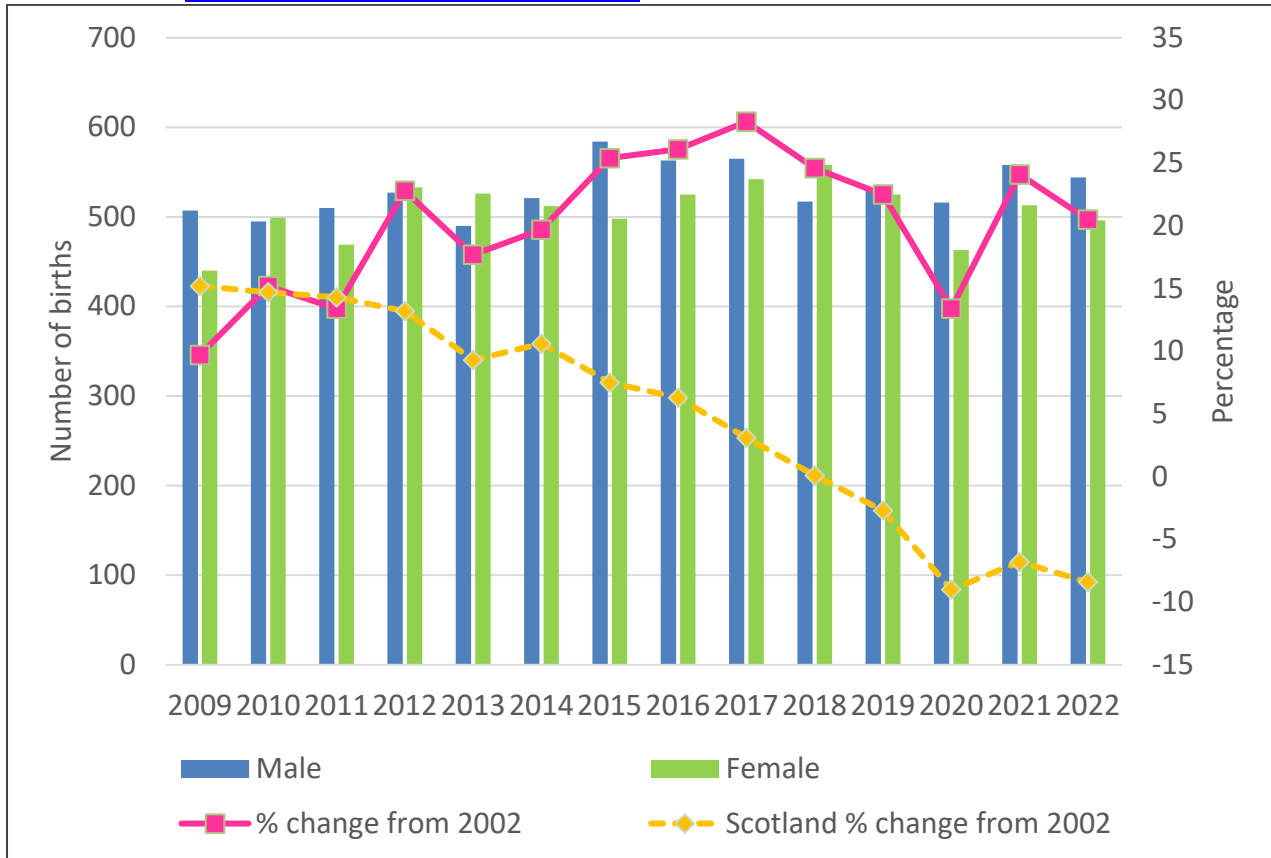


Births & Deaths

In 2022, there were 1,040 births in Midlothian. This is a decrease of 2.9% from 1,071 births in 2021. Of these 1,040 births, 496 (47.7%) were female and 544 (52.3%) were male.

Figure 6: Births in Midlothian by year and gender from 2002 to 2022

Data Source: [National Records of Scotland \(NRS\)](#)

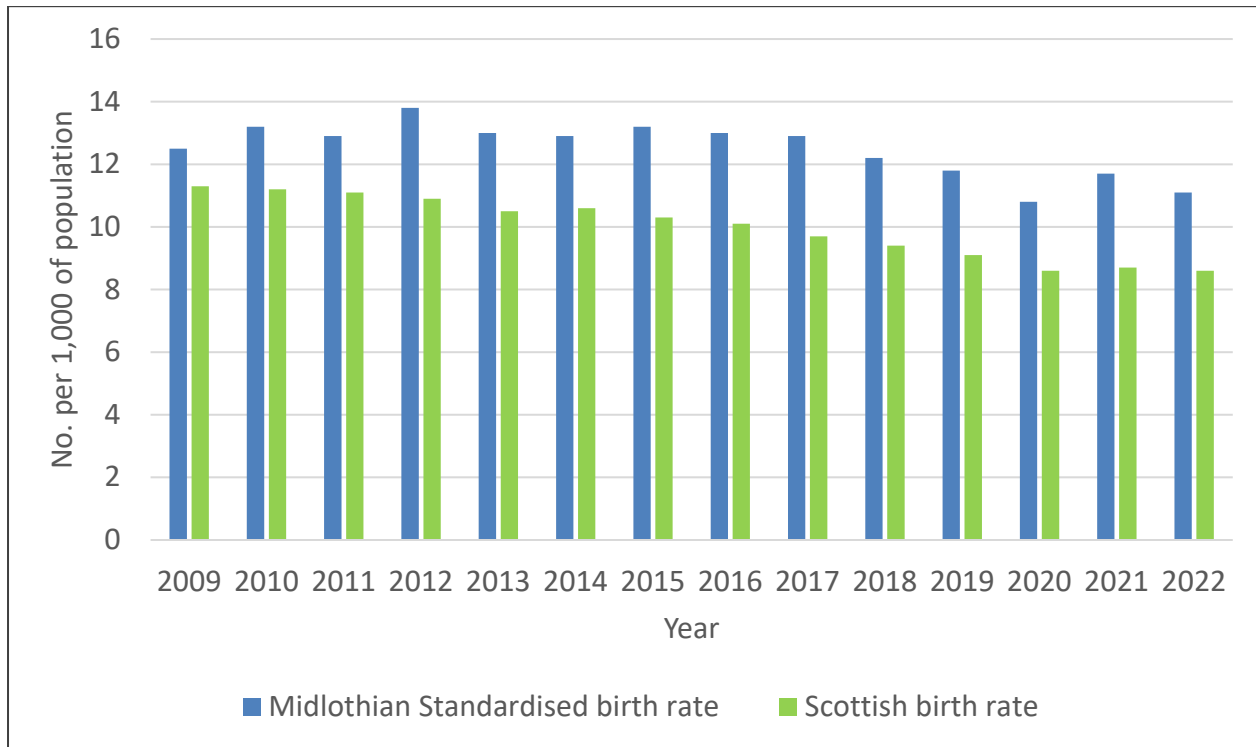


In Midlothian, the standardised birth rate decreased from 11.7 per 1,000 population in 2021 to 11.1 in 2022. In comparison, the rate in Scotland overall decreased from 8.7 to 8.6.

In 2022, Midlothian was the council area with the highest standardised birth rate. Between 2021 and 2022, 21 councils saw a decrease in standardised birth rate and 8 councils saw an increase. There were 3 councils that saw no change.

Figure 7: Birth rate per 1,000 population for Midlothian and Scotland from 2009 to 2020

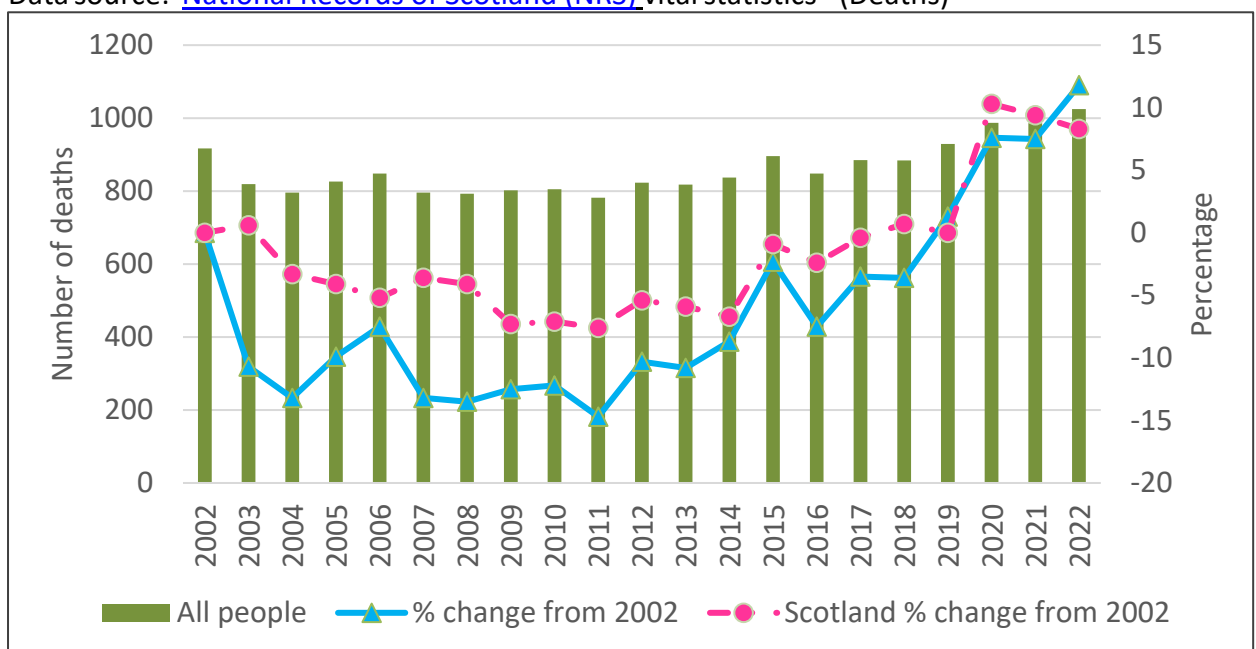
Data Source: [National Records of Scotland \(NRS\) vital events - \(Births\)](#)



In 2022, there were 1,025 deaths in Midlothian. This is a 4.0% increase from 986 deaths in 2021. Of these 1,025 deaths, 485 (47.3%) were female and 540 (52.7%) were male.

Figure 8 Deaths in Midlothian, 2002-2022

Data source: [National Records of Scotland \(NRS\) vital statistics - \(Deaths\)](#)

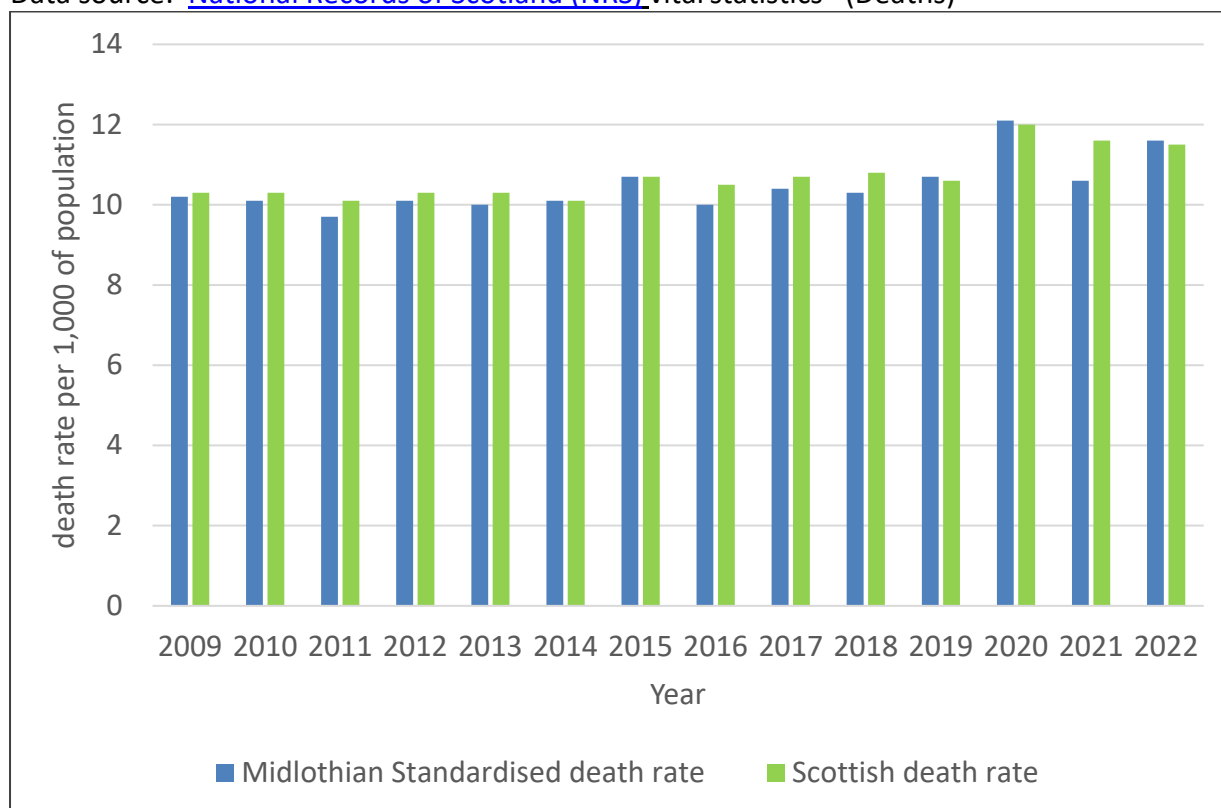


In Midlothian, the standardised death rate increased from 10.6 per 1,000 population in 2021 to 11.6 in 2022. In comparison, the rate in Scotland overall decreased from 11.6 to 11.5.

In 2022, Midlothian was the council area with the 13th highest standardised death rate.

Figure 9: Standardised Death Rate for Midlothian and Scotland between 2009 – 2022

Data source: [National Records of Scotland \(NRS\)](#) vital statistics - (Deaths)



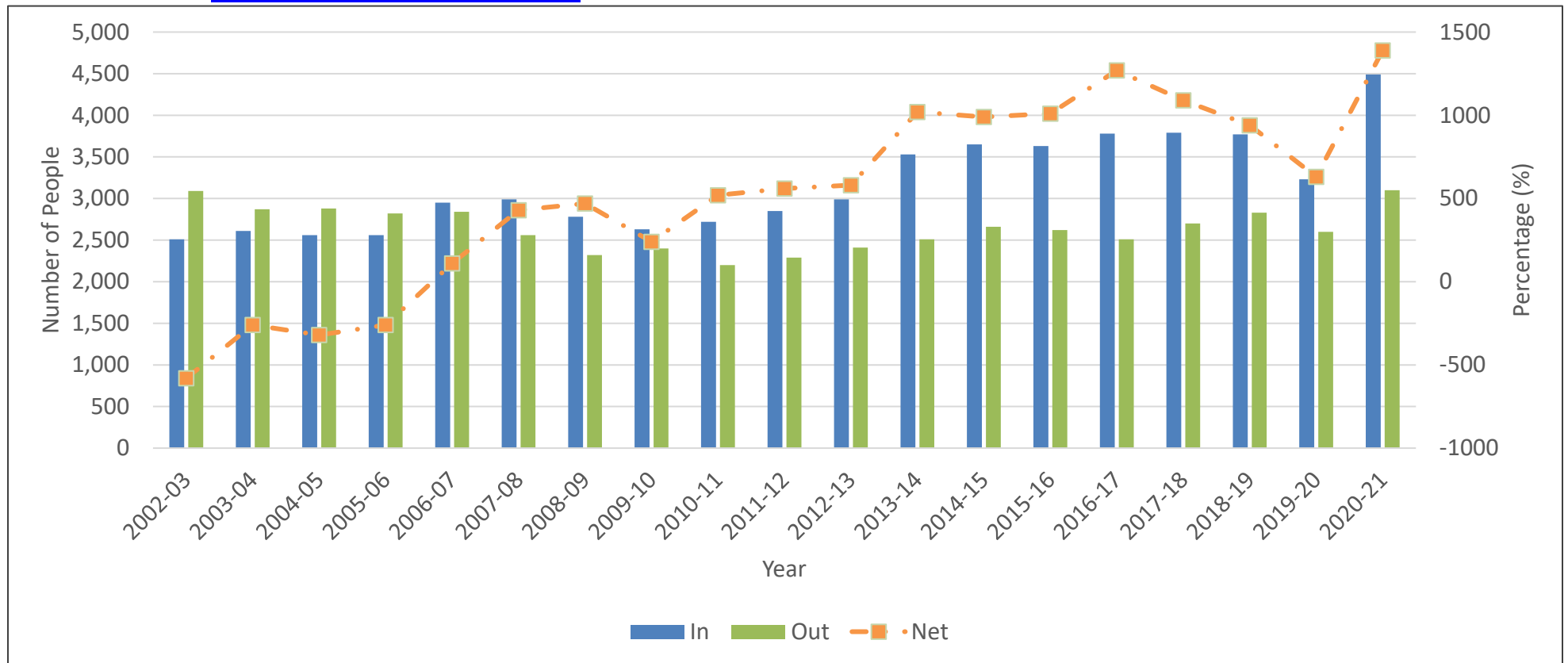


Migration

In the period 2020-21, the level of in-migration in Midlothian was 4,490, a 39.0% increase from 3,230 in the period 2019-20. The level of out-migration in Midlothian was 3,100, which is a 19.2% increase from 2,600 in 2019-20. In 2020-21, Midlothian had the 9th highest level of net migration out of the 32 council areas in Scotland, with a net total of 1,390 people. This is an increase of 760 from 630 people in 2019-20.

Figure 10: Net migration flows for Midlothian from 2001 to 2020,

Data Source: NRS - [National Records of Scotland \(NRS\)](#)



Minority Ethnic Populations

From the 2022 Census, 4.53% of Midlothian’s total population was made up of minority ethnic populations, which is an increase from the 2011 Census data that saw a figure of 1.77%.

Table 18: Midlothian’s country of birth figures in 2022,

Data Source: 2011 Census – [Home | Scotland's Census](#)

| Country of Birth | All people | Europe: Total | Europe: United Kingdom: Total | Africa: Total | Middle East and Asia: Total | The Americas and the Caribbean: Total | Antarctica and Oceania: Australia | Antarctica and Oceania: New Zealand | Antarctica and Oceania: Other Antarctica and Oceania |
|-------------------------|------------|---------------|-------------------------------|---------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| Midlothian total | 96527 | 93140 | 89076 | 864 | 1555 | 642 | 167 | 77 | 90 |

Table 19: Midlothian’s ethnic group by individuals figures in 2022,

Data Source: 2011 Census – [Home | Scotland's Census](#)

| Ethnic group | White: Total | White: White Scottish | White: Other White British | White: White Irish | White: Gypsy/ Traveller | White: White Polish | Other White | Mixed or multiple ethnic group | Asian, Asian Scottish or Asian British: Total | Asian, Asian Scottish or Asian British: Pakistani, Pakistani Scottish or Pakistani British |
|-------------------------|--------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|-------------|--------------------------------|---|--|
| Midlothian total | 92150 | 79572 | 7545 | 745 | 31 | 1855 | 2410 | 1027 | 2219 | 700 |

Table 19: Midlothian’s ethnic group by individuals figures in 2022, continued...

Data Source: 2011 Census – [Home | Scotland's Census](#)

| Ethnic group | Asian, Asian Scottish or Asian British: Indian, Indian Scottish or Indian British | Asian, Asian Scottish or Asian British: Bangladeshi, Bangladeshi Scottish or Bangladeshi British | Asian, Asian Scottish or Asian British: Chinese, Chinese Scottish or Chinese British | Asian, Asian Scottish or Asian British: Other Asian | African: Total | African: African, African Scottish or African British | African: Other African | Caribbean or Black: Total | Caribbean or Black: Caribbean, Caribbean Scottish or Caribbean British | Caribbean or Black: Black, Black Scottish or Black British |
|-------------------------|--|---|---|--|-----------------------|--|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|---|---|
| Midlothian total | 523 | 133 | 488 | 375 | 474 | 49 | 428 | 95 | 47 | 10 |

Table 19: Midlothian’s ethnic group by individuals figures in 2022, continued...

Data Source: 2011 Census – [Home | Scotland's Census](#)

| Ethnic group | Caribbean or Black: Other Caribbean or Black | Other ethnic groups: Total | Other ethnic groups: Arab, Arab Scottish or Arab British | Other ethnic groups: Other ethnic group |
|-------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|---|--|
| Midlothian total | 41 | 562 | 188 | 371 |

Minority Ethnic Population by Postal Area

At the 2011 Census less than 1.8% of Midlothian's population belonged to a minority ethnic community. This compares with 4% of the Scottish population overall. The Midlothian figure has doubled from 0.9% in 2001, the Scottish equivalent has also doubled. EH19 3 (Bonnyrigg/Lasswade) had the highest percentage of people from minority ethnic communities at 2.8%, followed by EH22 1 (Dalkeith central).

Data Source: 2011 Census – [Home | Scotland's Census](#)

Table 19: Midlothian's minority ethnic population by postal area in 2011

| | Ethnic Minorities (all ages) | % of Postal Population (2011 Census) |
|------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| EH18 1 | 33 | 1.4% |
| EH19 2 | 113 | 2.0% |
| EH19 3 | 227 | 2.8% |
| EH20 9 | 112 | 1.8% |
| EH22 1 | 149 | 2.7% |
| EH22 2 | 122 | 1.9% |
| EH22 3 | 71 | 1.9% |
| EH22 4 | 94 | 1.3% |
| EH22 5 | 90 | 1.4% |
| EH23 4 | 92 | 1.2% |
| EH24 9 | 40 | 2.4% |
| EH25 9 | 49 | 1.7% |
| EH26 0 | 151 | 2.2% |
| EH26 8 | 68 | 1.1% |
| EH26 9 | 44 | 1.1% |
| EH37 5 | 17 | 1.0% |
| Midlothian | 1,472 | 1.8% |

Whitecraig, between Musselburgh and Dalkeith, has a local authority caravan site for Gypsy/Traveller families. There are 20 pitches and the site is managed by East Lothian Council on behalf of both authorities. There are also Gypsy/Traveller families in sedentary accommodation throughout Midlothian, although there is no real estimate of numbers. The 2011 Census details Traveller/Gypsy numbers in Midlothian - 72 people (0.09%) identified with the Gypsy/Traveller ethnic minority compared to 0.08% in Scotland.

In most of Midlothian's electoral wards the proportion of residents born in Scotland is larger than the national average. The postal areas with the largest proportion of people born in non-EU countries were EH37 5 – 2.9% (Pathhead) and EH26 0 – 2.8% (Penicuik/Dreghorn).

Country of Birth by Postal area (Pre-2007 Wards) (% of people born in named country)

Table 20: Country of birth by postal area for Midlothian's population in 2011,

Data Source: 2011 Census – [Home | Scotland's Census](#)

| | All People | England | Scotland | Wales | Northern Ireland | ROI | Other EU | Africa | Middle/ East Asia | Americas /Caribbean | Antarctica & Oceania |
|------------|------------|---------|----------|-------|---------------------|------|----------|--------|----------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| EH18 1 | 2,399 | 9.5% | 84.9% | 0.5% | 0.7% | 0.3% | 1.4% | 0.6% | 1.1% | 0.5% | 0.3% |
| EH19 2 | 5,650 | 4.8% | 91.0% | 0.2% | 0.4% | 0.4% | 1.2% | 0.2% | 0.9% | 0.4% | 0.2% |
| EH19 3 | 8,254 | 4.9% | 90.9% | 0.2% | 0.4% | 0.3% | 1.1% | 0.3% | 1.1% | 0.4% | 0.2% |
| EH20 9 | 6,294 | 6.2% | 89.1% | 0.2% | 0.5% | 0.3% | 1.5% | 0.6% | 0.8% | 0.5% | 0.2% |
| EH22 1 | 5,599 | 5.5% | 89.4% | 0.4% | 0.4% | 0.3% | 1.7% | 0.7% | 0.9% | 0.3% | 0.2% |
| EH22 2 | 6,426 | 5.4% | 89.3% | 0.2% | 0.5% | 0.4% | 2.0% | 0.7% | 0.9% | 0.2% | 0.2% |
| EH22 3 | 3,653 | 10.3% | 83.2% | 0.4% | 1.3% | 0.4% | 1.5% | 0.7% | 1.2% | 0.4% | 0.4% |
| EH22 4 | 7,282 | 5.9% | 90.2% | 0.2% | 0.4% | 0.3% | 1.2% | 0.5% | 0.6% | 0.4% | 0.2% |
| EH22 5 | 6,458 | 4.6% | 90.3% | 0.2% | 0.4% | 0.3% | 2.6% | 0.6% | 0.6% | 0.2% | 0.1% |
| EH23 4 | 7,999 | 6.1% | 89.9% | 0.1% | 0.4% | 0.3% | 1.7% | 0.5% | 0.5% | 0.2% | 0.2% |
| EH24 9 | 1,677 | 10.1% | 84.1% | 0.5% | 0.7% | 1.0% | 1.3% | 1.1% | 0.7% | 0.2% | 0.2% |
| EH25 9 | 2,899 | 8.8% | 85.8% | 0.2% | 0.6% | 0.4% | 1.5% | 0.6% | 1.1% | 0.4% | 0.5% |
| EH26 0 | 7,002 | 8.2% | 85.8% | 0.3% | 0.6% | 0.3% | 1.6% | 0.9% | 0.6% | 0.6% | 0.7% |
| EH26 8 | 6,125 | 7.4% | 88.4% | 0.2% | 0.9% | 0.2% | 1.5% | 0.4% | 0.6% | 0.3% | 0.0% |
| EH26 9 | 3,840 | 10.1% | 84.9% | 0.2% | 0.7% | 0.2% | 1.5% | 0.5% | 0.6% | 0.7% | 0.2% |
| EH37 5 | 1,630 | 11.0% | 83.7% | 0.2% | 0.4% | 0.4% | 1.0% | 1.0% | 0.6% | 0.8% | 0.5% |
| Midlothian | 83,187 | 6.7% | 88.5% | 0.3% | 0.5% | 0.3% | 1.6% | 0.6% | 0.8% | 0.4% | 0.2% |
| Scotland | | 8.7% | 83.3% | 0.3% | 0.7% | 0.4% | 2.5% | 0.9% | 2.0% | 0.6% | 0.2% |

Leisure Activity

Table 21: Leisure Activity for Midlothian centres in 2024

| Leisure Centre | Number of active members |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Danderhall Leisure Centre | 1430 |
| Gorebridge Leisure Centre | 867 |
| Loanhead Leisure Centre | 9599 |
| Midlothian Snow Sports Centre | 15881 |
| Newbattle Community Campus | 5918 |
| Newtongrange Leisure Centre | 1426 |
| Lasswade Centre | 6886 |
| Penicuik Centre | 5209 |

Library Activity

Table 22: Library activity for Midlothian libraries

| Library | Yr 2022/23 Annual Visits | Yr 2023/24 Annual Visits | % |
|--------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|--------|
| Dalkeith | 60,581 | 60,802 | 0.4% |
| Danderhall | 16,908 | 21,909 | 29.6% |
| Gorebridge | 18,558 | 20,997 | 13.1% |
| Lasswade | 48,712 | 83,806 | 72.0% |
| Loanhead | 112,458 | 115,321 | 2.5% |
| Newbattle | 103,942 | 126,361 | 21.6% |
| Newtongrange | 20,821 | 22,552 | 8.3% |
| Penicuik | 49,007 | 47,900 | -2.3% |
| Roslin | 5,177 | 5,225 | 0.9% |
| Mobile 1 | 449 | 2,230 | 396.7% |
| | 436,613 | 507,103 | 16.1% |

Armed Forces Veterans

Table 23: UK Armed Forces veterans all people aged 16 and over. Data from 2022 Census

| | UK Armed Forces veteran | Not a UK Armed Forces veteran |
|--------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Midlothian | 3,127 | 75,190 |
| East Lothian | 3,609 | 88,495 |
| West Lothian | 6,127 | 141,464 |
| Scotland | 176,084 | 4,372,505 |

Midlothian Will Be Healthier



This data is online at www.midlothian.gov.uk/mid-hscp/
24.2% of adults had a limiting long-term condition in Midlothian, compared to 21.2% in NHS Lothian and 25.9% in Scotland (2019).

Data Source: www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/About/Surveys/SSCQ

We do not have comparable information for the year 2021, the Scottish Health Survey ran as a telephone survey. Key changes highlighted in the survey results for 2021 include a decrease in levels of mental wellbeing compared to pre-pandemic and particularly high levels of food insecurity amongst single parent and single adult households in 2019/2021. We see smoking prevalence continuing to fall and an increase in the proportion of adults meeting the physical activity guidelines. <https://www.gov.scot/collections/scottish-household-survey-publications/>

While every effort was made to keep questions consistent with the face-to-face surveys, due to the change in the way the information was collected, and the shorter collection period (August – mid September 2020), this data is not directly comparable with the previous findings from face-to-face surveys. It is a useful snapshot into the health of the population during the COVID-19 pandemic

The difference between levels of response by deprivation was greater than usual, with fewer people in deprived areas taking part than is usual. The indication is that there were an insufficient number of interviews amongst the very deprived to make the results fully representative. This means that for some indicators that are generally higher in deprived areas it is possible that the telephone survey results may underestimate true prevalence.

Some of the more sensitive questions in the survey (for example mental health and loneliness) are usually included in a self-completion form which people complete themselves. This means that the telephone survey results may reflect prevalence less accurately as people can feel uncomfortable being asked sensitive questions directly by an interviewer.

Lastly, the shortened survey period means that it was not possible to monitor changes that can occur because of seasonality or whether changes occurred as restrictions were eased or reintroduced.

Cancer

1 in 2 people in the UK will get cancer in their lifetime. Trends predict that the number of people diagnosed with cancer is likely to rise. Over the last twenty years, most cancers have shown improvement in survival rates five years post-diagnosis.

In Midlothian, there was between 220 and 260 deaths from all cancers (excluding non-melanoma skin cancers) each year (2011 to 2019).

All age cancer mortality rates (2019)

The Covid-19 Pandemic has had an impact on services and treatment. People with specific cancers were placed on the shielding list including those with cancer of the blood or bone marrow and anyone undergoing active chemotherapy. Initial studies show that patients with cancer are more vulnerable to Covid-19 and have higher risks in all severe outcomes.

During the Covid-19 lockdowns, in the UK, there was a fall in referrals of urgent suspicion of cancer and the number of cancer patients starting treatment between April and July 2020 reduced by 26%.

COPD (Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease) and Asthma

In 2018/19 there was **6,421** people living with asthma. The prevalence rate is **6.65** (per 100 population). The Scottish rate is **6.39**.

In 2018/19 around **2,600** people were living with COPD. The number and prevalence of COPD has been increasing over the last decade. Midlothian ranks **10th highest** out of the 31 HSCPs for COPD prevalence, has the **highest prevalence rate among the Lothian HSCPs, and a higher prevalence rate than the Scotland average**.

COPD patient hospitalisation data indicates there are a higher number of people admitted with COPD in areas where people are more likely to experience disadvantage.

People with severe COPD were placed on the shielding list and studies show that patients with pre-existing COPD appear more vulnerable to Covid-19 and have higher risks in severity of illness and mortality. Midlothian's Community Respiratory Team expanded to Midlothian Community Respiratory Team. This includes COVID oxygen weaning, early facilitation from hospital for bronchiectasis/ Idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis and COVID alongside developed Scottish Ambulance Service pathways.

Stroke

The prevalence rate for stroke/TIA is 2.43 per 100 patients which equates to around 2,200 people. This is above the Scottish average prevalence rate (2.20). Nationally the death rate for cerebrovascular disease in the most deprived areas was 46% higher than in the least deprived areas in 2019.

74% of people were discharged to their own homes after admission to hospital for a stroke/TIA and 16% were discharged to a care home. 50% of people were discharged within 3 days or less (April 19-Aug 20).

Stroke Mortality (all ages) 2019

There is evidence in the UK of fewer stroke admissions to hospital during the COVID-19 Pandemic, particularly for ischemic stroke and stroke with less severe outcomes. Initial evidence also suggests that Covid-19 may be an important modifier of the onset, characteristics and outcome of acute ischaemic stroke. It is associated with greater severity of illness.

The pandemic has changed some behaviours, for example people are meeting up less and say they are feeling lonelier. Loneliness is associated with an increased risk of stroke.

Coronary Heart Disease

There are around 3,900 people in Midlothian living with Coronary Heart Disease. The prevalence rate is 4.30 per 100 population and is consistently higher in males.

Nationally chances of surviving for 30 days after being admitted to hospital as an emergency after your first heart attack has increased over the last decade from 90% to 93% in 2019/20. There has been a downward trend in deaths over the last 10 years. However, this has not been at the pace of decline in neighbouring northern European countries. It is still a leading cause of death and a major public health problem in Scotland. There were 105 potentially preventable admissions to hospital in 2019/20 for congestive heart failure.

Coronary Heart Disease Mortality

Pre-existing cardiovascular disease is associated with worse outcomes in patients with Covid-19 and it is believed that Covid-19 can cause some cardiovascular disorders. The pandemic has changed some behaviours, for example people are meeting up less and say they are feeling lonelier. Loneliness is associated with an increased risk of heart disease.

Type 2 Diabetes & Obesity

Around 5,100 adults in Midlothian have been diagnosed with diabetes. Approximately 80% of diabetes complications are preventable or can be significantly delayed through early detection, good care and access to appropriate self-management tools and resources. Being overweight or obese is the main modifiable risk factor for type 2 diabetes. 67% of adults in Midlothian have obesity or excess weight.

There is a known association between deprivation and type 2 diabetes. Approximately a third of Midlothian's population lives in a SIMD 2 area. When looked at as a rate per 100,000 people, the group with the highest rate of diagnosis is those in SIMD 5. People with type 2 diabetes are at increased risk of severe illness if they contract Covid-19.

Older People (65+)

There are approximately 17,670 people aged 65 and over. People are living longer, and most older people live without any formal support.

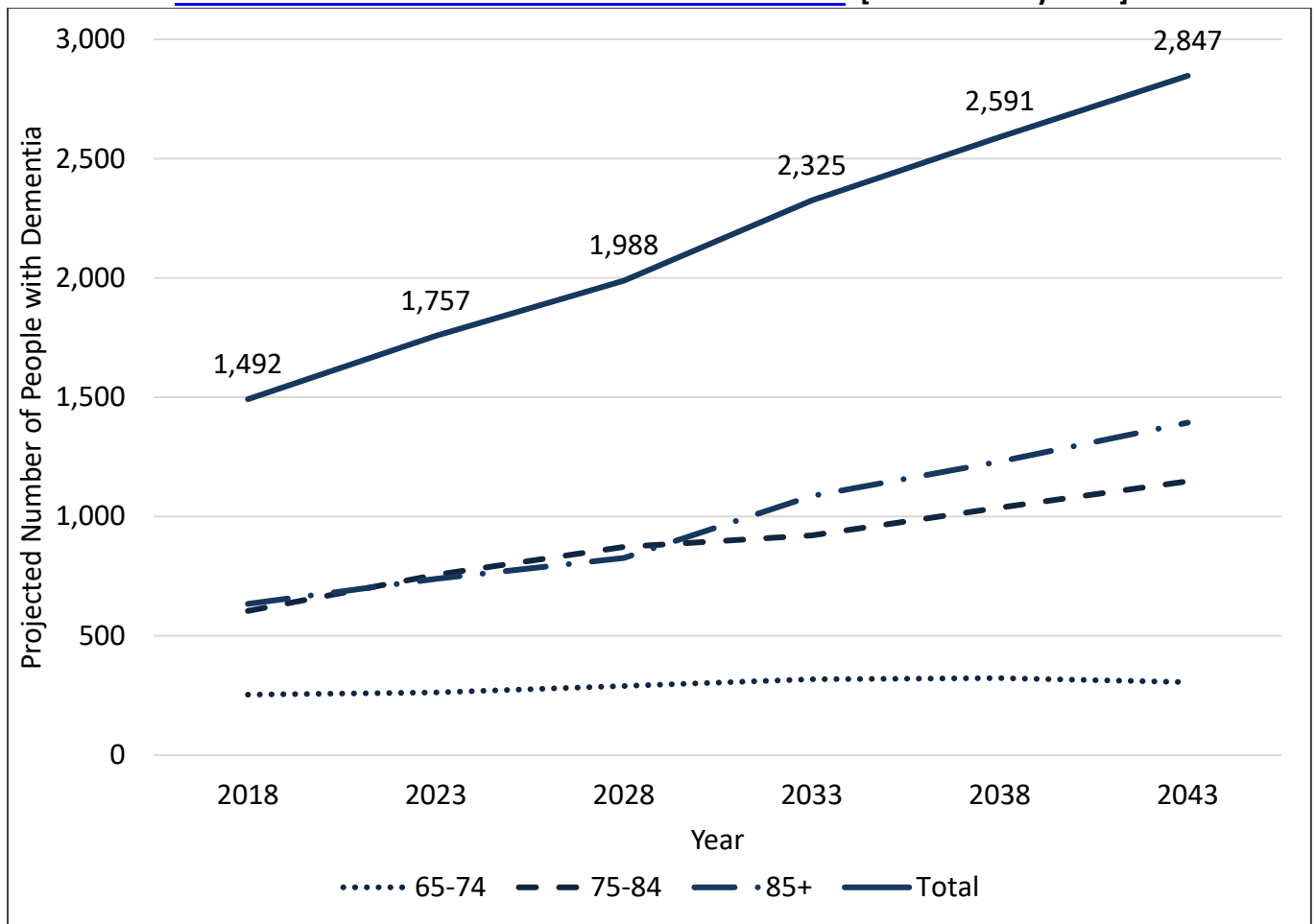
Dementia

Dementia is slightly more common in women than in men which is to be expected with women living on average longer than men.

31% of people aged over the age of 85 are living with a diagnosis of dementia. This compares to around 50 people below the age of 65. The number of people living with dementia will **nearly double** (from 1,492 to 2,847) by 2043.

Figure 11: Dementia Prevalence Projections.

Data source: [National Records of Scotland & Alzheimer’s Scotland](#). [Accessed May 2021].



(Based on NRS 2018 population projections & Dementia prevalence from Alzheimer’s Scotland)

It is known that health inequalities persist into old age and that many of the risk factors for dementia are associated with socio-economic disparities.

Dementia diagnosis rates are higher amongst people with a learning disability and onset is often younger. Up to 75% of people with Down's Syndrome over the age of 50 develop dementia. For people with other causes of learning disability the prevalence of dementia is estimated to be greater than 18% in those aged 65 years or over, approximately three times higher than in the general population.

Race does not affect prevalence rates for most types of dementia apart from early on-set (presenting before 65 years) and vascular dementia which have been found to be more prevalent in the black and ethnic minority community.

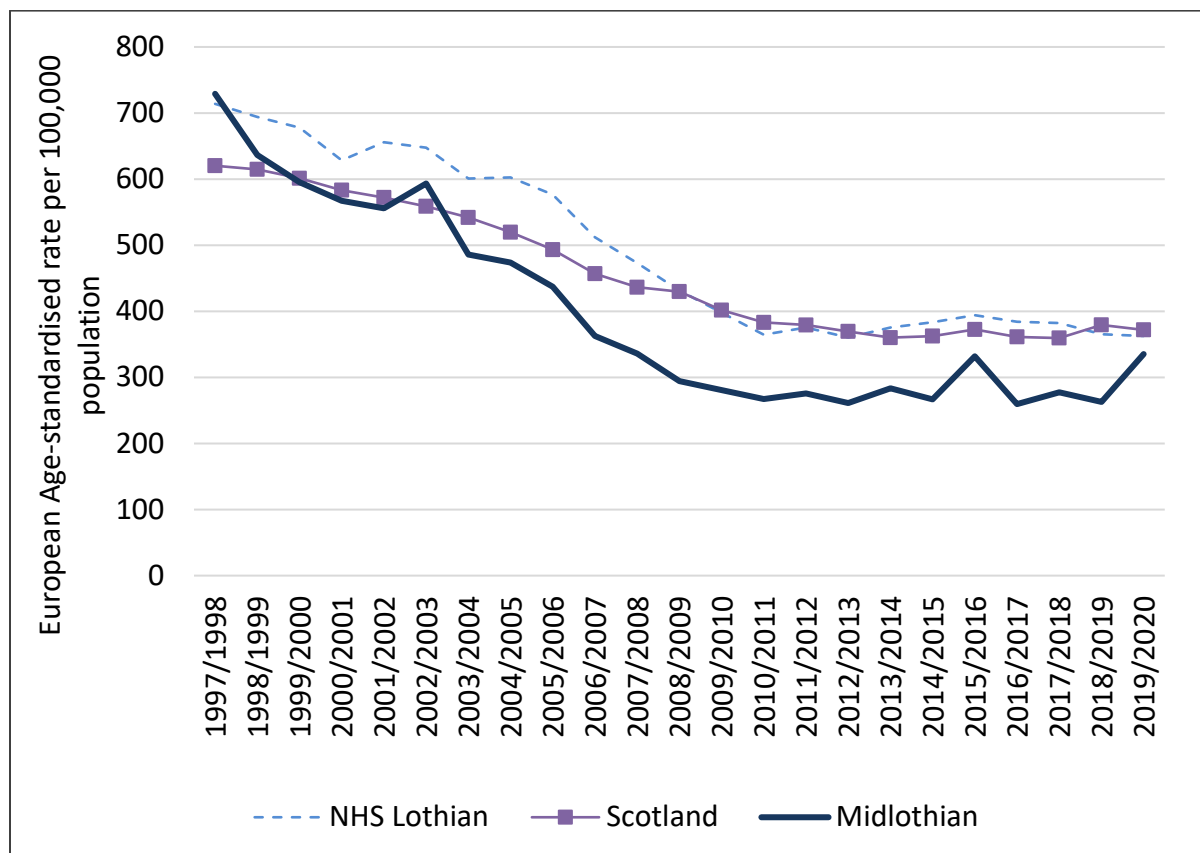
Mental Health

4.2% of people identified themselves as living with a mental health condition that had lasted or was expected to last 12 months.

17,680 people in 2019/20 (**19.1%** of the Midlothian population), were prescribed drugs for depression, anxiety and/ or psychosis. This has increased from 15.2% in 2010/11. The proportion of the Scottish population prescribed has also increased since 2010. For the most deprived SIMD (1) in Midlothian this rises to **23%**.

The **Covid-19 Pandemic** has had an impact on people’s mental health. People have reported being more anxious, more worried about their mental health and about family and friends. People have also reported feeling lonelier.

Figure 12: Mental Health Admissions for Midlothian, NHS Lothian & Scotland.



In 2019/20 there were **335** mental health admissions per 100,000 population in Midlothian. The rate of Midlothian patients with a psychiatric hospitalisation continues to be lower than the Scottish average.



Substance Use

Problem Drug Use

Problem drug use is the 'problematic use of opiates (including illicit and prescribed methadone use), and/or the illicit use of benzodiazepines and implies routine and prolonged use as opposed to recreational and occasional drug use'. A consequence of this definition is that people who use stimulants such as cocaine and amphetamines are not recorded in local and national figures. Due to the illicit nature of drugs misuse it is difficult to say how many people have problems with drugs. Data is collected for people attending a treatment service usually for addiction to an opiate (e.g. heroin) and/or benzodiazepine (e.g. Valium).

It is estimated that there are 760 problematic drug users in Midlothian - **530** males and **230** (30%) females. The proportion of female users is slightly higher than the national figure of 29%. The additional challenges women face, particularly around stigma and discrimination need to be considered when designing and delivering services to ensure they feel able to access available supports.

For both males and females, the age range 25-34 years has the greatest number of problematic drug users, **350** males and **150** females.

Like other areas of Scotland, Midlothian has experienced a marked increase in people using benzodiazepines primarily 'street benzos' such as etizolam. Cocaine and other stimulants are also increasing in popularity often with a younger age group most of whom will be in employment. Heroin, cannabis and diazepam were most often reported in the month prior to assessment.

In 2020 there were 21 drug related deaths in Midlothian, the highest figure ever recorded and more than double the 2016 figure. Of the deaths in 2020, 18 were classified as accidental poisoning. Any opiate or opioid was noted as the drug present in 20 of the deaths. In the period January to December 2020 there was a total of 93 non-fatal overdoses.

Comparably in Scotland drug related deaths have increased over the last 5 years from 868 to 1,339 in 2020, the largest number ever recorded. The five-year average in Midlothian was 7 for 2011-2015 and 16 for 2016-2020.

Alcohol Related Harm

Alcohol specific deaths:

23 alcohol related deaths (2018) with a five-year average of 15 (2014-2018).

The average age-standardised death rate for the five-year aggregate 2016-20 was 19.51 deaths per 100,000 population, which is similar to the average Scotland rate of 20.84 for 2016-20.

Nationally statistics are collected on a new definition of alcohol specific deaths – including conditions where each death is a direct consequence of alcohol misuse. It is a change to the previous national statistics definition of alcohol-related deaths where the deaths were related to alcohol consumption. They do not include deaths due to diseases for which alcohol is a risk factor

(such as cancer). However, studies suggest that the number of deaths where alcohol was a contributory or risk factor is much larger.

Alcohol related hospital stays are the number of general acute inpatient and day case stays with a diagnosis of alcohol misuse in any position: **553** patients in Midlothian had alcohol related hospital admissions (2019/2020).

Eight of Midlothian's intermediate zones sit above the Midlothian average for alcohol related hospital stays, this has reduced from ten in 2018:

- **Newtongrange** (rate of 1014 admissions per 100,000 population)
- **Dalkeith** (1009)
- **North Gorebridge** (997)
- Penicuik East (850)
- Mayfield (747)
- Thornybank (698)
- Loanhead (661)
- Bonnyrigg North (652)

“In Midlothian, a statistically significant relationship was found between alcohol outlet availability and alcohol-related deaths: neighbourhoods with more places to buy alcohol had higher alcohol-related death rates. Alcohol-related death rates in the neighbourhoods with the most off-sales outlets were 2.4 times higher than in neighbourhoods with the least”

It is reasonable to assume based on national data that alcohol related harm is most acutely felt in Midlothian's most deprived communities.

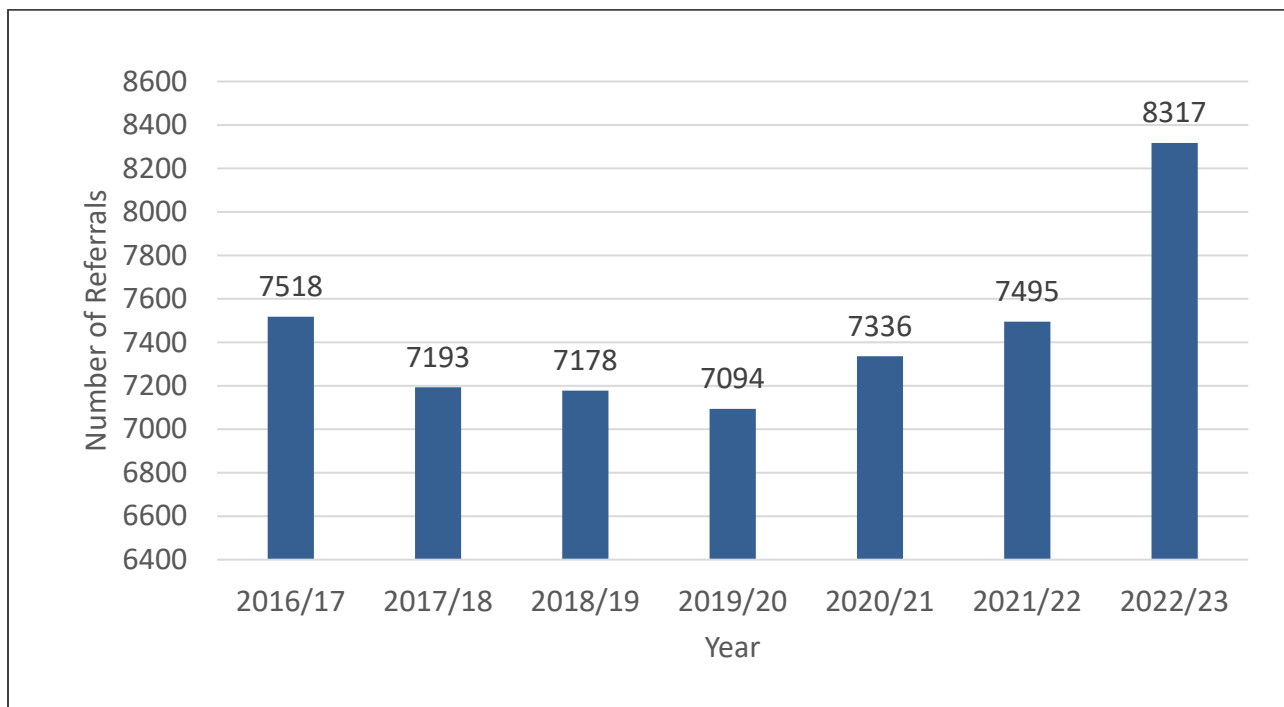


Adult Social Care

2806 **people 18+** were in receipt of a care package funded through the Adult Social Care Team as of **31/03/22**. There were 5282 referrals for those aged 65+, and 3035 referrals for those under the age of 65.

85% of people rated the help, care or support services they had as positive or neutral. 51% of people said that Social Care took what mattered to them into account and 60% of people said they were supported to live as independently as possible. 49% of people said that their health, support and care services provided by Social Care seemed to be well coordinated. 69% of people said they were treated with compassion and understanding. These results are not statistically different to Scotland.

Figure 13: Number of Referrals to Adult Social Work. Data source Midlothian Council (2023). Internal Service Figures [Accessed November 2023. Data represents number of referrals made, not number of individuals. An individual can have multiple referrals.



Day Opportunities

The Community Access Team (CAT) supports adults with Learning Disabilities. CAT provide a Monday to Friday day service, with an average of **27** service users per day as of **November 2023**. The service is offered from a variety of community hubs, based in Penicuik, Bonnyrigg /Polton Vale, two sites in Dalkeith, Mayfield and Gorebridge.

Residential care

Over 65

The private sector is the largest provider of care homes for older people. The voluntary sector provides proportionally more care home places in Midlothian than in Scotland as a whole. There is a move to support more people at home with complex needs, this means people living in care homes tend to have more complex needs. The number of care homes owned by the partnership reduced from 3 in 2015 to 1 in 2017 (Newbyres Village).

A small number of permanent residents remain at Highbank, hence its inclusion in the table below.

Table 22: Residential Care Provision for Midlothian Residents aged 65 and over. Data source: Midlothian Council (2023). Internal Service Figures [Accessed November 2023]. Data is based on the number of residential homes and care home residents at 31st March each year.

| | Local Authority | Private/ Voluntary | Total |
|---------|-----------------|--------------------|-------|
| 2022-23 | 101 | 356 | 457 |
| 2021-22 | 71 | 320 | 391 |
| 2020-21 | 62 | 317 | 379 |
| 2019-20 | 67 | 366 | 433 |
| 2018-19 | 69 | 355 | 424 |
| 2017-18 | 69 | 372 | 411 |
| 2016-17 | 65 | 388 | 453 |

Care homes figures relate to the number which Midlothian has responsibility for funding clients, whether in whole, or in part. While most people moving to a care home continue to reside in Midlothian some people move out of area, mainly into neighbouring Lothian Authorities. Midlothian retains responsibility for the funding of these placements. There was a large **increase in the number of Midlothian funded care home residents** in 2017, continuing to 2020. This goes against the trend of general decline between 2011 and 2016, which can be traced back to 2003. The change is believed to be linked to capacity issues with Care at Home services. The **Covid-19** Pandemic had a major impact on care homes and 2020/21 data showed a significant decline in the number of residents. This was associated with higher care home mortality from Covid-19. Data for 2022/23 shows that the number of residents has now increased back to pre-pandemic levels.

The average length of care home stay was 19.5 months in 2022/23 compared to 15 months in 2021/22 compared and 15.8 months in 2020/21. The average resident age in 2022/23 was 81, compared to 85 in 2021/22.

Under 65

We commission services from **1** residential care home registered in Midlothian to support adults with a learning disability.

There is **1** registered care home in Midlothian to support adults with a physical disability and 1 care home in the Southside of neighboring Edinburgh which supports a number of Midlothian residents.

RESPIRE

Self-directed support has resulted in an increase in respite being provided in alternative ways to traditional residential care. Funded respite requests in 2023 using Self Directed Support were as follows:

- **Option 1 - 8.8%**
The making of a direct payment by the local authority to the supported person for the provision of support.
- **Option 2 - 1.6%**
The selection of support by the supported person, the making of arrangements for the provision of it by the local authority on behalf of the supported person and, where it is provided by someone other than the authority, the payment by the local authority of the relevant amount in respect of the cost of that provision.
- **Option 3 – 87.2%**
The selection of support for the supported person by the local authority, the making of arrangements for the provision of it by the authority and, where it is provided by someone other than the authority, the payment by the authority of the relevant amount in respect of the cost of that provision.
- **Option – 2.4%**
The selection by the supported person of Option 1, 2 or 3 for each type of support and, where it is provided by someone other than the authority, the payment by the local authority of the relevant amount in respect of the cost of the support.

Table 23: Clients receiving respite by age group – 2022/23

Data source: Midlothian Council (2023). Internal Service Figures [Accessed Nov 2023]

| | Clients receiving overnight respite | Clients receiving daytime respite |
|---------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 18 - 64 | 55 | 39 |
| 65+ | 212 | 40 |

Table 24: Number of people in receipt of a telecare package. Data source: Midlothian Council (2023). Internal Service Figures [Accessed Nov 2023]

| | New packages in year | Total at year end |
|---------|----------------------|-------------------|
| 2022-23 | 522 | 1672 |

| | New packages in year | Total at year end |
|---------|----------------------|-------------------|
| 2021-22 | 483 | 1649 |
| 2020-21 | 461 | 1707 |
| 2019-20 | 553 | 1746 |
| 2018-19 | 544 | 1744 |
| 2017-18 | 527 | 1756 |
| 2016-17 | 371 | 1734 |

Care at Home

The main focus of care at home services is personal care. Most people in receipt of care at home are 65 and over. As at **31st March 2023**, the in-house Care at Home team provided care to approx. **607** individuals per week. The independent sector is the main provider of Care at Home and as at **31st March 2023** provided care to approx. **669** individuals per week.

Figure 14: Number of people receiving Care at Home Services.

Data source: Midlothian Council internal data. Mosaic Data. [Accessed Nov 2023]

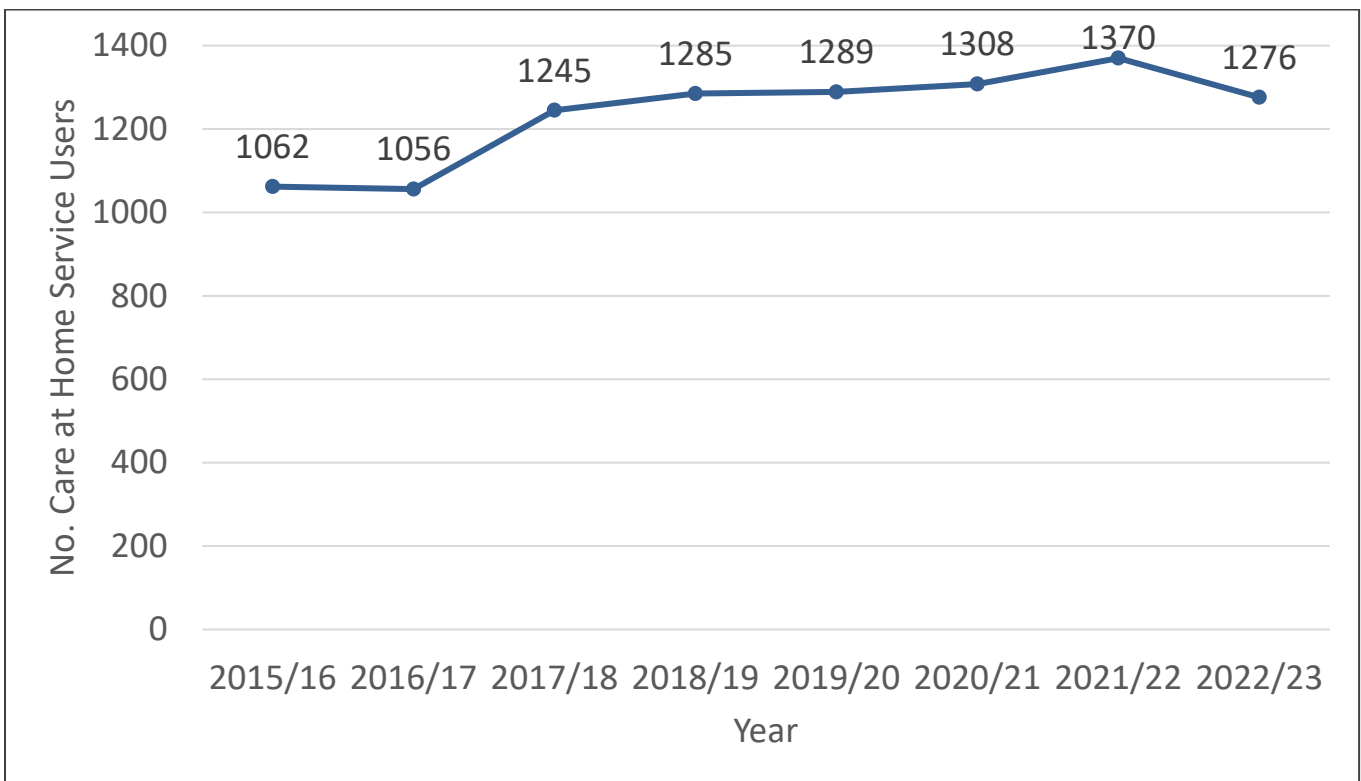
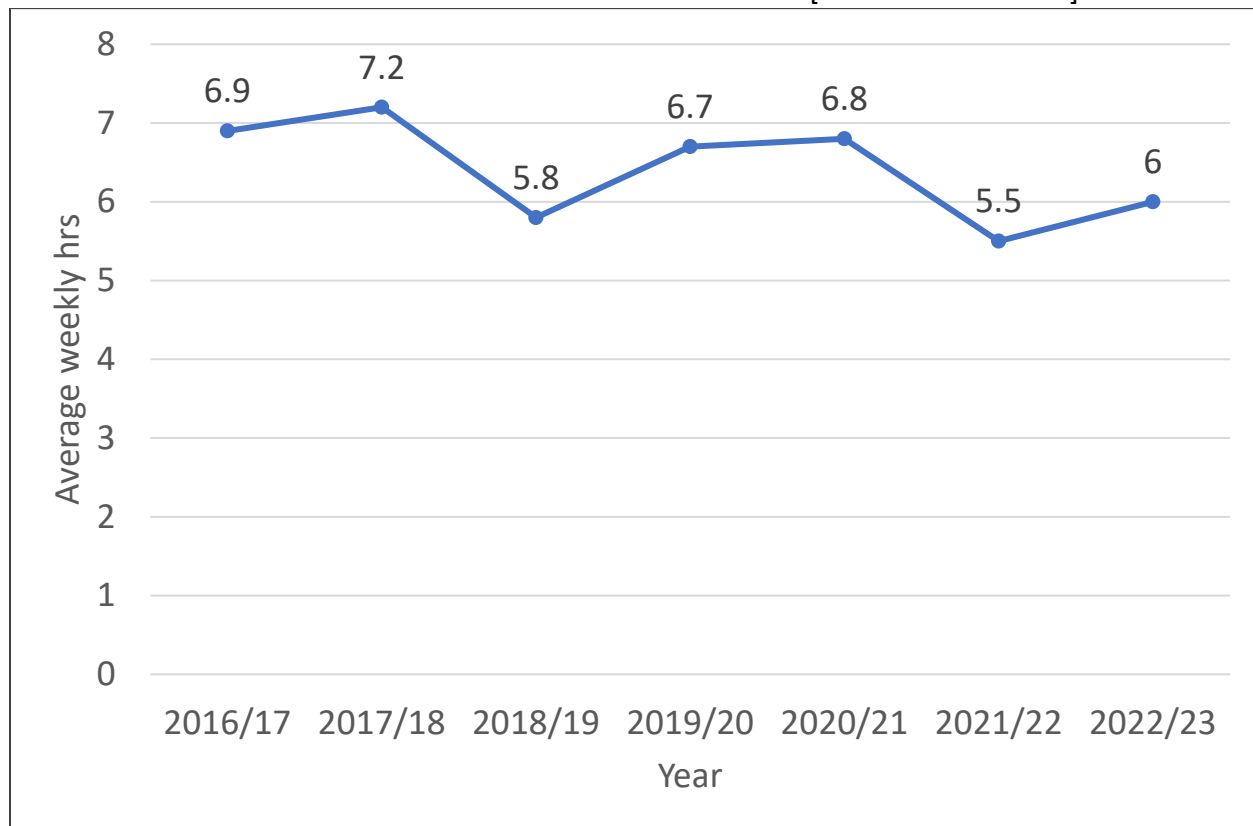


Figure 15: In-house care at home. Average hours of care received by an individual weekly.
Data source: Midlothian Council internal data. CM2000 Data. [Accessed Nov 2023]



Midlothian Will Be Safer



Community Justice is the prevention and reduction of offending by addressing the underlying causes. It is concerned with making a positive change for those who have committed offences, their families, and victims of crime through local community planning partnerships.

Preventing and reducing offending will contribute both to reducing inequality and strengthening social justice in Scotland. Social justice is the fair and equal distribution of wealth, opportunities, and privileges within society.

The [Community Justice national strategy](#) is complimented by Scottish Government's Vision for Justice (2022) strategy that highlights two key transformational priorities:

1. Ensuring justice services embed person centred and trauma informed practices.
2. Working across public services to improve outcomes for individuals, focussing on prevention and early intervention.

[Midlothian's Community Justice Outcome Improvement Plan](#) (2023-2028) sets out the improvement actions identified as being necessary to support achievement of the national common outcomes. One aspect focussing on partnership working which requires the input of a diverse range of individuals and organisations covering a wide range of interests, including housing, employability, and health and wellbeing.

Please note the crime and offence groups has changed since the last report was produced, so the data in the previous report is not comparable. This report has a 10-year time series with the adjusted data in order to make comparisons to previous years.

Police recorded 4,669 Group 1-5 crime in Midlothian in 2023-24, an increase of 214 (5%) from the previous year. Recorded crimes in 2016/17 were highest over a 10-year period with the longer-term trend (ten years) is a decline in crimes recorded. The most common crime type recorded was 'Dishonesty crime' - includes housebreaking, theft of motor vehicles, shoplifting, fraud, and other thefts.

Figure 16: Crimes recorded by the police, Midlothian, 2013-14 to 2023-24, Data source: Recorded Crime in Scotland, Scottish Government[accessed Jan 2025]

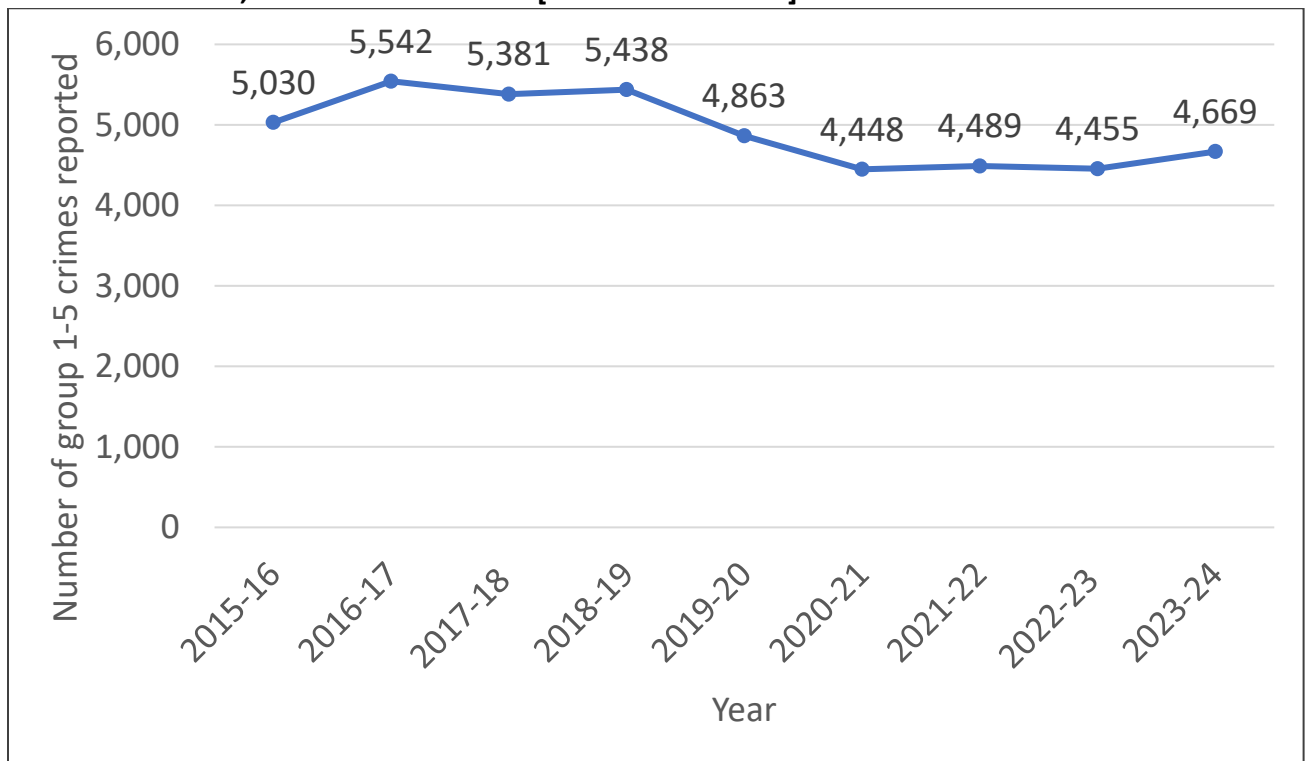
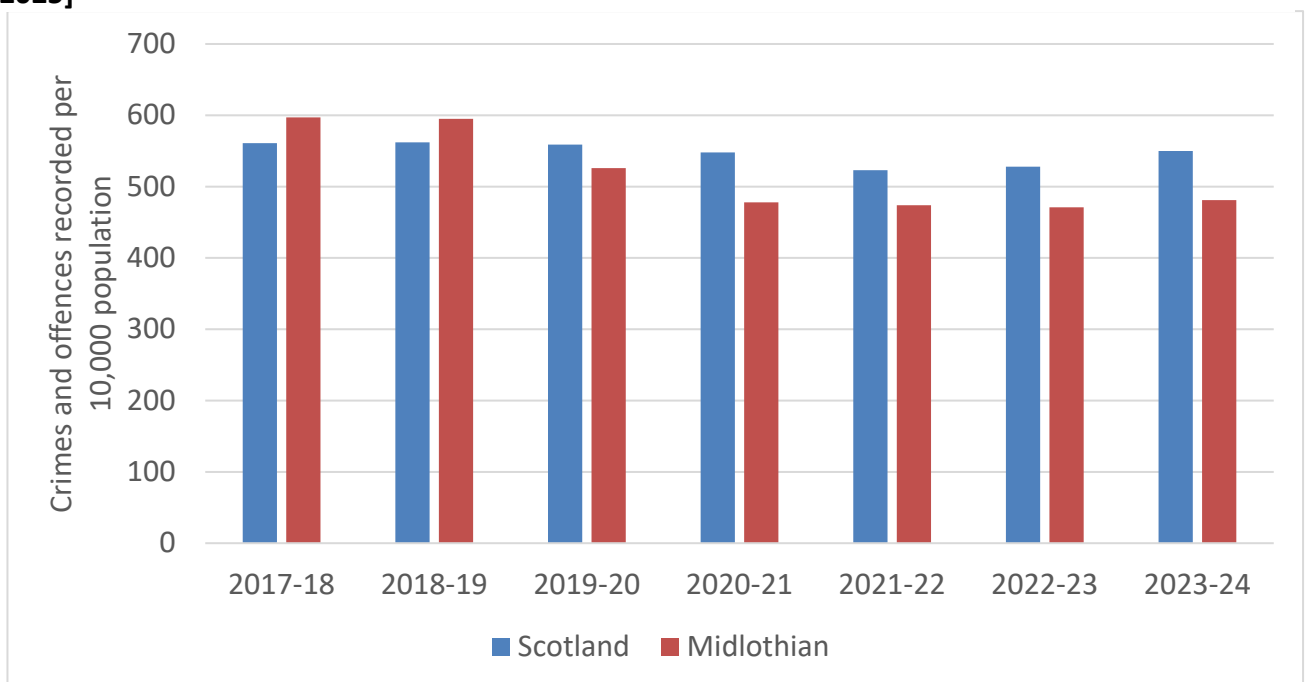


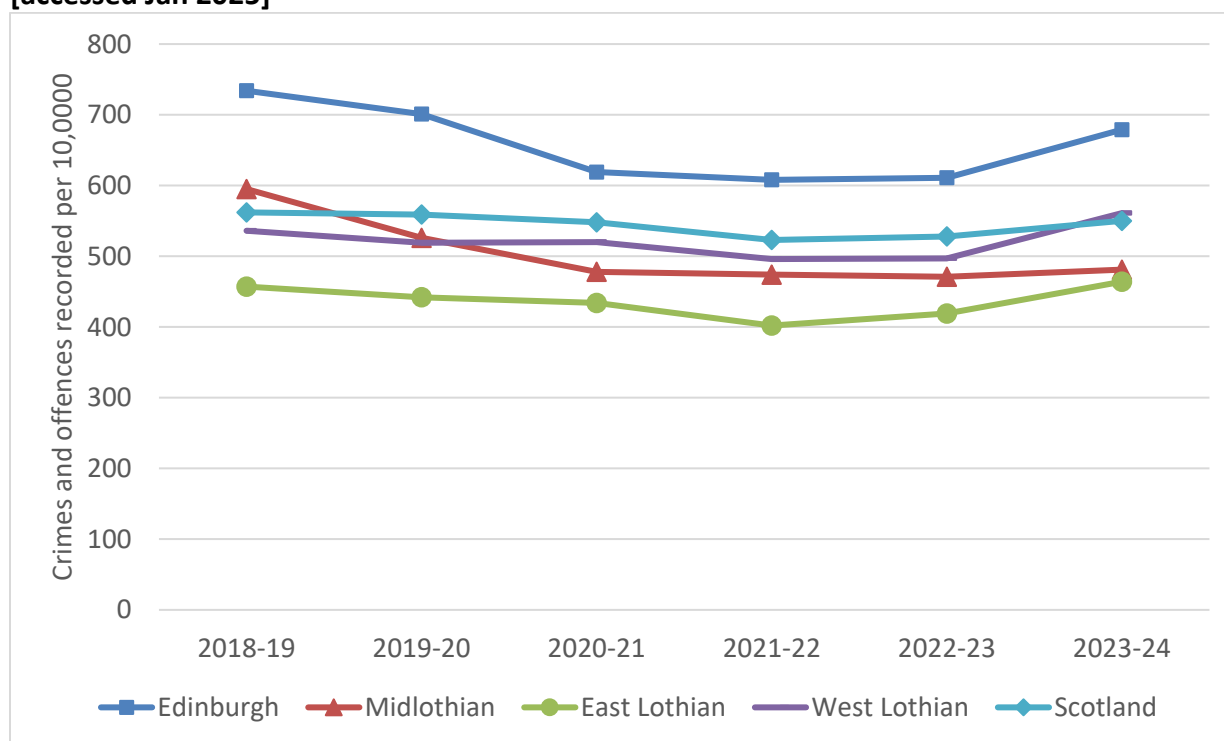
Figure 17: Crimes and offences recorded per 10,000 population, Midlothian and Scotland, 2017-18 to 2023-24. Data source: Recorded Crime in Scotland, Scottish Government [accessed Jan 2025]



The rate of crimes (Group 1-5) per head of population has decreased over the last six years, with a current rate of **481 crimes per 10,000 population**.

Midlothian has moved to the second lowest local authority in the Lothian area for recorded crimes group 1-5 crimes per head of population.

Figure 18: Crimes and offences recorded per 10,000 population, Local Authorities in Lothian and Scotland, 2017-18 to 2023-24. Data source: Recorded Crime in Scotland, Scottish Government [accessed Jan 2025]



The percentage of crimes/offences cleared up by the police (i.e., where there is a sufficiency of evidence under Scots law, to justify consideration of criminal proceedings) was **54.1%**. This is above the previous year when 53.3% of crimes were detected. This is below the three- and five-year average (59.3% and 54.4%).

Table 25: Group 1-5 crimes recorded by the police in Midlothian, 2018-19 to 2023-24. Data source: Recorded Crime in Scotland, Scottish Government [accessed Jan 2025]

| Crime group | 2018-19 | 2019-20 | 2020-21 | 2021-22 | 2022-23 | 2023-24 |
|-------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Non-sexual crimes of violence | 956 | 1,000 | 842 | 1,011 | 1,088 | 1149 |
| Sexual crimes | 202 | 205 | 198 | 204 | 212 | 263 |
| Crimes of dishonesty | 2,304 | 1,894 | 1,550 | 1,746 | 1,730 | 1712 |
| Damage and reckless behaviour | 883 | 792 | 724 | 742 | 783 | 734 |
| Crimes against society | 1,093 | 972 | 983 | 772 | 642 | 811 |

During the period of 2023/24 there were 1257 incidents of domestic abuse recorded by Police in Midlothian showing an increase of 132 incidents from 2022/23. This was a increase of 12% compared to the previous year. In terms of crimes/offences, 35% of incidents resulted in a crime report – a small decrease from last year (38%).

Table 26: Number of incidents of domestic abuse recorded by police. Data source: Domestic abuse: statistics recorded by the police in Scotland, Scottish Government [accessed Jan 2025]

| | 2019/20 | 2020/21 | 2021/22 | 2022/23 | 2023/24 |
|--|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| No. of Incidents | 1206 | 1207 | 1158 | 1125 | 1257 |
| Rate of incidents per 10,000 population | 130 | 130 | 122 | 116 | 128 |

Table 27: Incidents of domestic abuse and percentage which resulted in a crime report. Data source: Domestic abuse: statistics recorded by the police in Scotland, Scottish Government [accessed Jan 2025]

| | 2017/2018 | 2018/2019 | 2019/2020 | 2020/21 | 2021/22 | 2022/23 | 2023/24 |
|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| No. of Incidents | 987 | 1179 | 1206 | 1207 | 1158 | 1125 | 1257 |
| % of Incidents which result in a crime report | 41% | 33% | 34% | 35% | 38% | 36% | 35% |

These data are Police Scotland management information, not official reported statistics.

Midlothian Will Get It Right For Every Child (GIRFEC)



Introduction

Children and young people aged 21 years and under account for 24.7% of the population of Midlothian (0-4 years – 5.6%, 5-11 years – 8.6%, 12-15 years – 4.7%, 16-17 years – 2.2%, 18-21 years – 3.7%). From *Mid-Year Population Estimates, Scotland, mid-2023 (latest)*

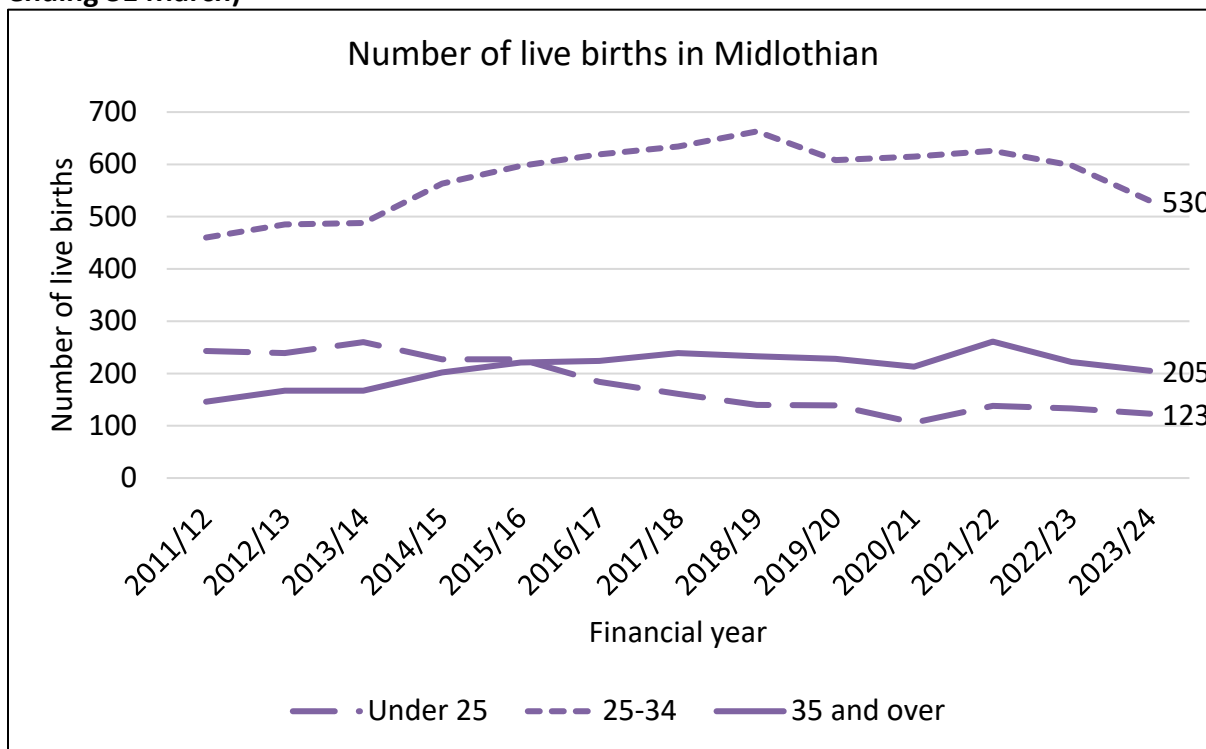
[Mid-2023 population estimates - National Records of Scotland \(NRS\)](#)



Women & children's health

Pregnancies, Births & Terminations

Figure 19: Number of live births in Midlothian by age of mother from 2011/12 to 2023/24 (year ending 31 March)



Teenage Pregnancies

Midlothian's teenage pregnancy rates are higher than the Scotland rate.

Table 28: Rate of pregnancies for 13-15 year olds from 2015 – 2022

Data Source: PHS, <https://publichealthscotland.scot/publications/teenage-pregnancies/teenage-pregnancies-year-of-conception-ending-31-december-2022/>

| | 2015/17 | 2016/18 | 2017/19 | 2018/20 | 2019/21 | 2020/22 |
|------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Midlothian | 3.1 | 2.4 | 2.8 | 2.3 | 3.1 | 3.2 |
| Scotland | 2.8 | 2.7 | 2.6 | 2.4 | 2.2 | 2.1 |

Table 29: Rate of pregnancies for 16-17 year olds from 2015 – 2023

| | 2015/17 | 2016/18 | 2017/19 | 2018/20 | 2019/21 | 2020/22 |
|------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Midlothian | 19.6 | 20.4 | 22 | 20.2 | 16.5 | 15.1 |
| Scotland | 18.5 | 17.4 | 16.3 | 15 | 13.6 | 13.2 |

Table 30: Rate of pregnancies for 18-19 year olds from 2015 – 2023

| | 2015/17 | 2016/18 | 2017/19 | 2018/20 | 2019/21 | 2020/22 |
|-------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Midlothian | 27.9 | 39.6 | 36.5 | 28.2 | 23.5 | 30.7 |
| Scotland | 30.3 | 29.6 | 27.7 | 24 | 23.2 | 27.1 |

1. Numbers and rates are shown as three-year rolling aggregates i.e. number is the addition of the values for each of the individual three year and the denominator used to calculate the rates is the addition of the populations for each of the three years.

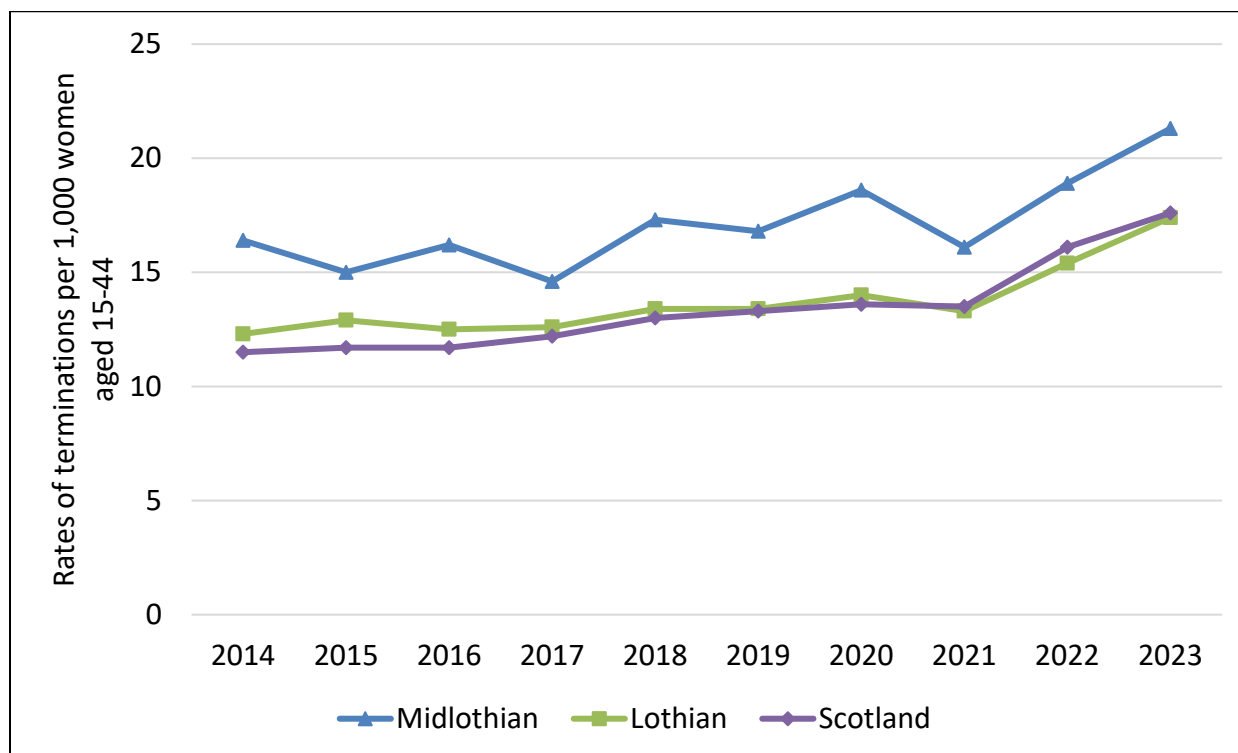
2. It is not possible to include Lothian in the comparison because Lothian rates are presented as single years rather than three year rolling aggregates.

Terminations

The rate of terminations in women aged 15-44 in Midlothian has consistently remained higher than both the Lothian rate and the Scotland rate.

Figure 20: Rate of terminations in women aged 15-44 years old from 2012 – 2023

Source: PHS, <https://publichealthscotland.scot/publications/termination-of-pregnancy-statistics/termination-of-pregnancy-statistics-year-ending-december-2023>



Breast Feeding

The percentage of babies breastfed at 6-8 weeks has remained relatively stable but is around 12% less than those breastfed at the first visit. However, this is consistent with what appears to happen in Lothian as a whole and nationally.

Table 31: Percentage of babies breastfed overall (includes mixed breast and formula fed) at time of 6-8 week review

Source: PHS, <https://www.opendata.nhs.scot/dataset/infant-feeding/resource/fd82a04b-20f7-4ee3-be91-fcef729c6426>

| | 2017/18 | 2018/19 | 2019/20 | 2020/21 | 2021/22 | 2022/23 | 2023/24 |
|-------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Scotland | 41.2 | 43.1 | 43.8 | 45.1 | 45.6 | 46.8 | 49 |
| Lothian | 55 | 57.7 | 57.8 | 59.1 | 59.2 | 58.2 | 61 |
| Midlothian | 43 | 45.3 | 45.9 | 48.4 | 47.9 | 49.6 | 47.4 |

Immunisation

In Midlothian, the rate of children having completed the primary and booster course of immunisations by 24 months compares favourably against the whole of Lothian and the Scotland rate. This is consistent with the percentage of children having completed the appropriate boosters by 24 months.

Primary and Booster Immunisation Uptake Rates

Table 32: Immunisation percentage uptake rate by 24 months old in 2024

Source: PHS, <https://www.opendata.nhs.scot/dataset/childhood-immunisation-statistics>

| | Number in cohort | Six-in-one | Hib/MenC | MenB (Booster) | MMR1 | PCVB |
|--------------------------|------------------|------------|----------|----------------|------|------|
| East Lothian | 1094 | 96.3 | 94.2 | 93.9 | 94.3 | 94.2 |
| Midlothian | 1108 | 97.6 | 95.9 | 95.8 | 95.9 | 95.7 |
| City of Edinburgh | 4037 | 95.6 | 91.3 | 90.8 | 92.4 | 91.9 |
| West Lothian | 1947 | 97.4 | 95.1 | 94.6 | 94.5 | 94.9 |
| Lothian | 8227 | 96.3 | 93.1 | 92.7 | 93.6 | 93.4 |
| Scotland | 48170 | 95.9 | 92.9 | 92.3 | 92.8 | 92.7 |

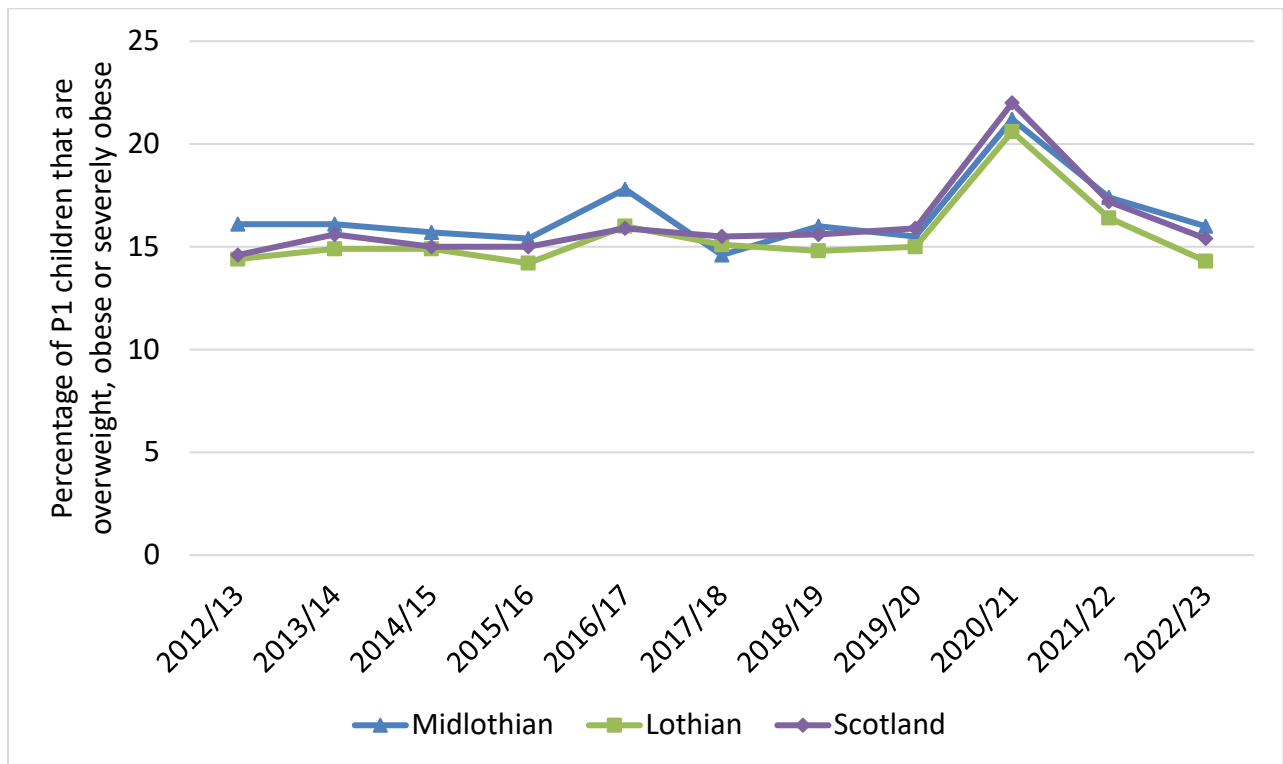
In Midlothian, more children are breastfed.

In Midlothian, the percentage of babies breastfed at 6-8 weeks has **remained relatively stable** but is around 12% less than those breastfed at the first visit. This is consistent with Lothian as a whole and nationally. Immunisations are above the Lothian and national averages. Childhood obesity has decreased.

Child Weight

Figure 21: Percentage of P1 children who are classed as overweight, obese, or severely obese by BMI

Source: PHS, <https://publichealthscotland.scot/publications/primary-1-body-mass-index-bmi-statistics-scotland/primary-1-body-mass-index-bmi-statistics-scotland-school-year-2023-to-2024/>





Corporate Parenting

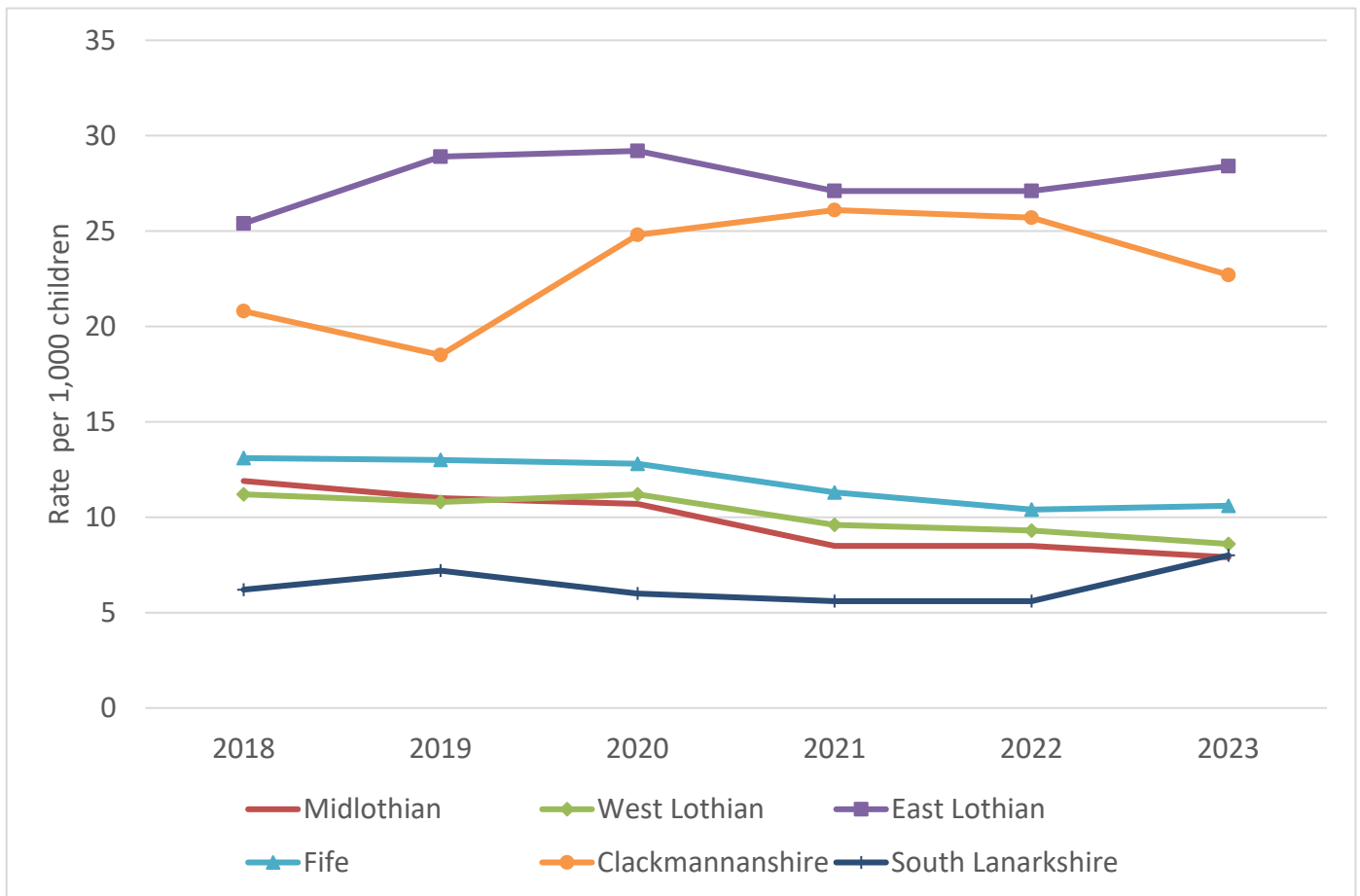
The rate per 1,000 of Looked after Children in Midlothian is 7.9, below the national average of 12.1. This has been decreasing since 2018.

The rate per 1,000 of children on the Child Protection Register is 3.7 in Midlothian, with a national average of 2.3. The rate in Midlothian is higher than our comparator Councils.

Please note the following when considering this material:

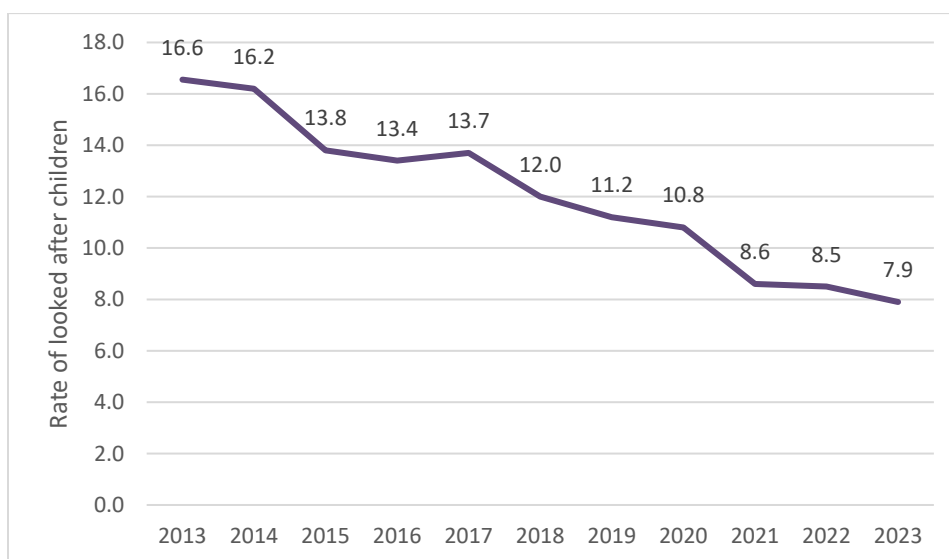
- the way in which population rates are expressed varies among sources. For ease of reading the rate per 1,000 of the target part of the population, 0-15 years or 0-17 has been used.
- the populations of looked-after children and those on the child protection register are not sub-sets of each other and should not be considered so. Any child may be looked after by the local authority, on the child protection register, both or neither.

Figure 22a: Rate of all looked after children 0-17 years old (per 1,000 children)



Source: Scottish Government Children's Social Work Statistics: www.gov.scot

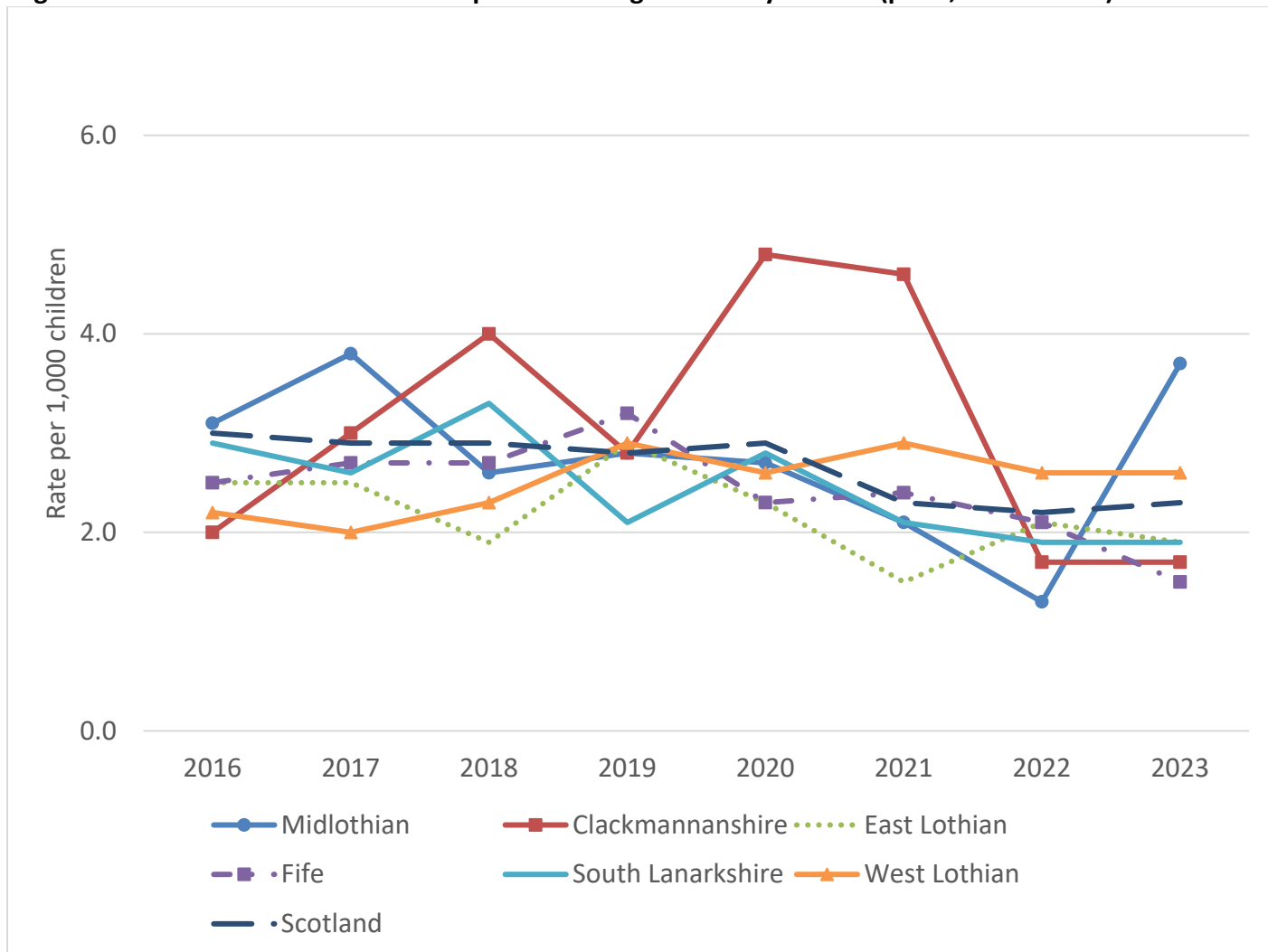
Figure 23b: Rate of looked after children in Midlothian over time



The number of children looked after in Midlothian has continued to decline. This coincides with plans implemented by Midlothian Council's Children's Services team specifically to reduce this number. The highest proportions of Midlothian's population of looked-after children normally reside in the Midlothian East and Midlothian South wards.

There is no consistent pattern followed by the local authority areas in the SOLACE 'family' of which Midlothian is a part, suggesting that in this respect they see different circumstances surrounding looked after children and/or different strategies are employed to address them.

Figure 24: Rate of all children on child protection register 0-15 years old (per 1,000 children).



Source: Scottish Government Children’s Social Work Statistics: www.gov.scot

Figure 24 shows the rate of child protection registrations in Midlothian falling from 2018. This has increased to 3.7 in 2023 in comparison with the national average of 2.3. All the figures for the local authority areas shown demonstrate significant year-to-year variation demonstrating reactive component in the factors driving registrations and this is emphasised by the aggregate rate the large for Scotland in which this reactive component is ‘damped out’.

Note that no absolute data on these populations (of small numbers) is given to ensure anonymity. Numbers on the Child Protection register have decreased over the last year, and the rate per 1,000 population aged 0-15 years is below the Scottish average.

The numbers are still small and thus % can be changed by a large amount by a relatively small change in absolute numbers. The highest proportion of children on the Child Protection Register live in the Dalkeith and Midlothian South wards.

Table 33: Percentage of children by ward that are looked-after, on the at-risk register and the percentage of Midlothian population.

Data Source: Midlothian Council internal data, snapshot at 31 March 2023

| | Penicuik | Mid West | Bonnyrigg | Mid South | Mid East | Dalkeith |
|--|----------|----------|-----------|-----------|----------|----------|
| % of Midlothian population | 14% | 18% | 20% | 15% | 17% | 16% |
| % of Midlothian looked after children normally resident in this ward | 8% | 13% | 8% | 22% | 26% | 20% |
| % of children on Midlothian Child protection register normally resident in this ward | 23% | 13% | 10% | 20% | 25% | 10% |

The highest proportions of Midlothian’s population of looked-after children normally reside in the Midlothian East and Midlothian South wards whereas the highest proportion of children on the Child Protection Register live in the Dalkeith and Midlothian South wards.

Note that no absolute data on these populations (of small numbers) is given to ensure anonymity. The numbers are still small and thus % can be changed by a large amount by a relatively small change in absolute numbers.



Education

There are 31 primary schools within Midlothian, six secondary schools and one special school. Midlothian is also home to two further education providers: Edinburgh College and Newbattle Abbey College. Private education attainment is measured separately and is not included in this section.

Exam success rates at Midlothian secondary schools vary with some schools achieving above the Virtual Comparator and others significantly below. Underachievement in attainment at particular schools generally reflects higher levels of deprivation and social exclusion in those areas.

A Virtual Comparator is made up of pupils from schools in other local authorities with similar characteristics to the pupils in a given school. It controls primarily for the background characteristics of pupils and offers a fairer comparison.

Exam Attainment Rates at Midlothian Secondary Schools

In 2024, Midlothian’s average attainment levels were **above** the Virtual Comparator at the end of S4, S5, and S6. The average figure does not reflect variation between schools.

Lasswade and Newbattle High Schools achieved attainment rates above the Virtual Comparator at Standard Grade. Beeslack, Dalkeith, Lasswade, Penicuik and St David’s High Schools achieved rates above the Virtual Comparator at Higher grade by the end of S5. Beeslack, Dalkeith, Lasswade, Newbattle and St David’s High Schools achieved rates above the Virtual Comparator at Higher Grade by the end of S6.

Table 34: Attainment rates at Midlothian Secondary Schools by the end of S4, S5 an S6 in 2024.

Data Source: Insight Benchmarking Tool

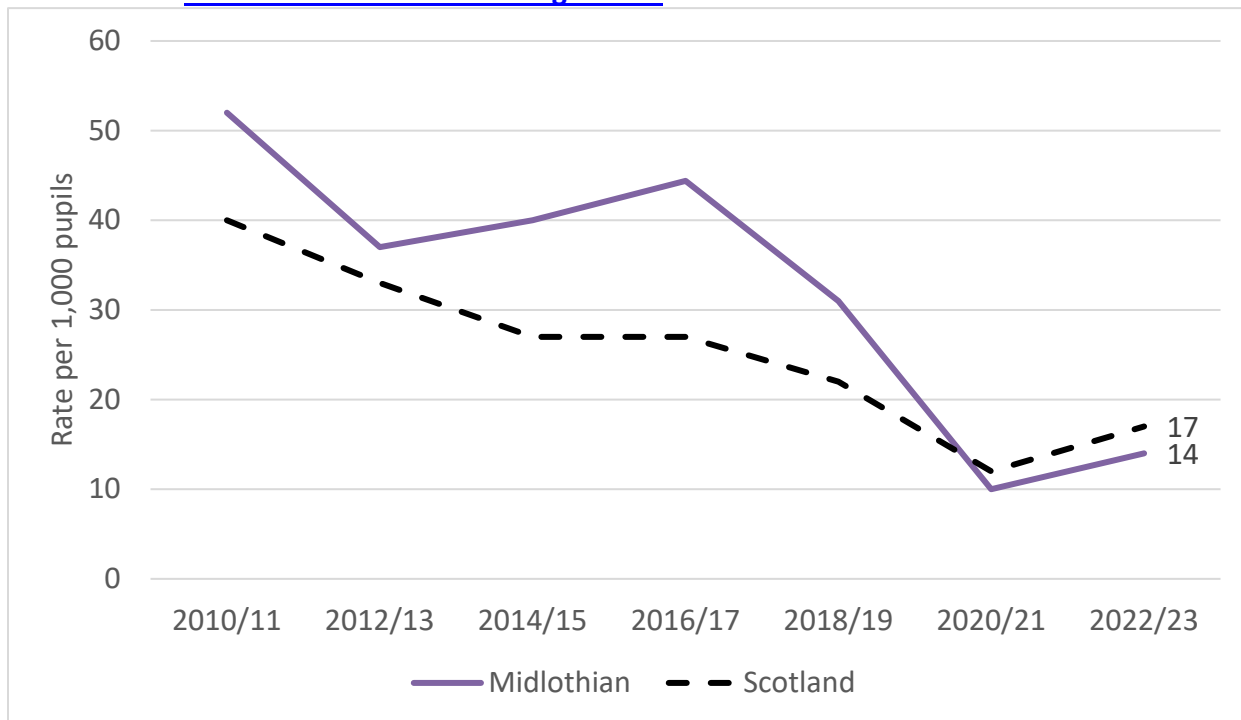
| High School | Attainment by the end of S4 Five or more awards at Standard Grade Credit level (or equivalent) or better | Attainment by the end of S5 Five or more awards at Higher or better | Attainment by the end of S6 Five or more awards at Higher or better |
|---------------------------------|---|--|--|
| Beeslack High School | 45.3% | 47.0% | 66.2% |
| Dalkeith High School | 44.6% | 29.7% | 71.6% |
| Lasswade High School Centre | 67.7% | 45.3% | 69.0% |
| Newbattle Community High School | 54.5% | 21.7% | 67.1% |
| Penicuik High School | 44.4% | 30.2% | 62.8% |
| St David’s RC High School | 51.9% | 31.2% | 60.6% |
| Midlothian | 53.8% | 34.5% | 67.1% |
| Virtual Comparator | 53.3% | 27.4% | 62.4% |

Exclusions and school absences

Information on attendance, absence, and exclusions from school is collected on a biennial basis. During 2022/23 there were 198 temporary exclusions in Midlothian schools. This is equivalent to 14 incidents per 1,000 pupils, which is **lower** than the Scottish average of 17 per 1,000 pupils.

Figure 25: Rate of school exclusions (per 1,000 pupils) from 2010 – 2023.

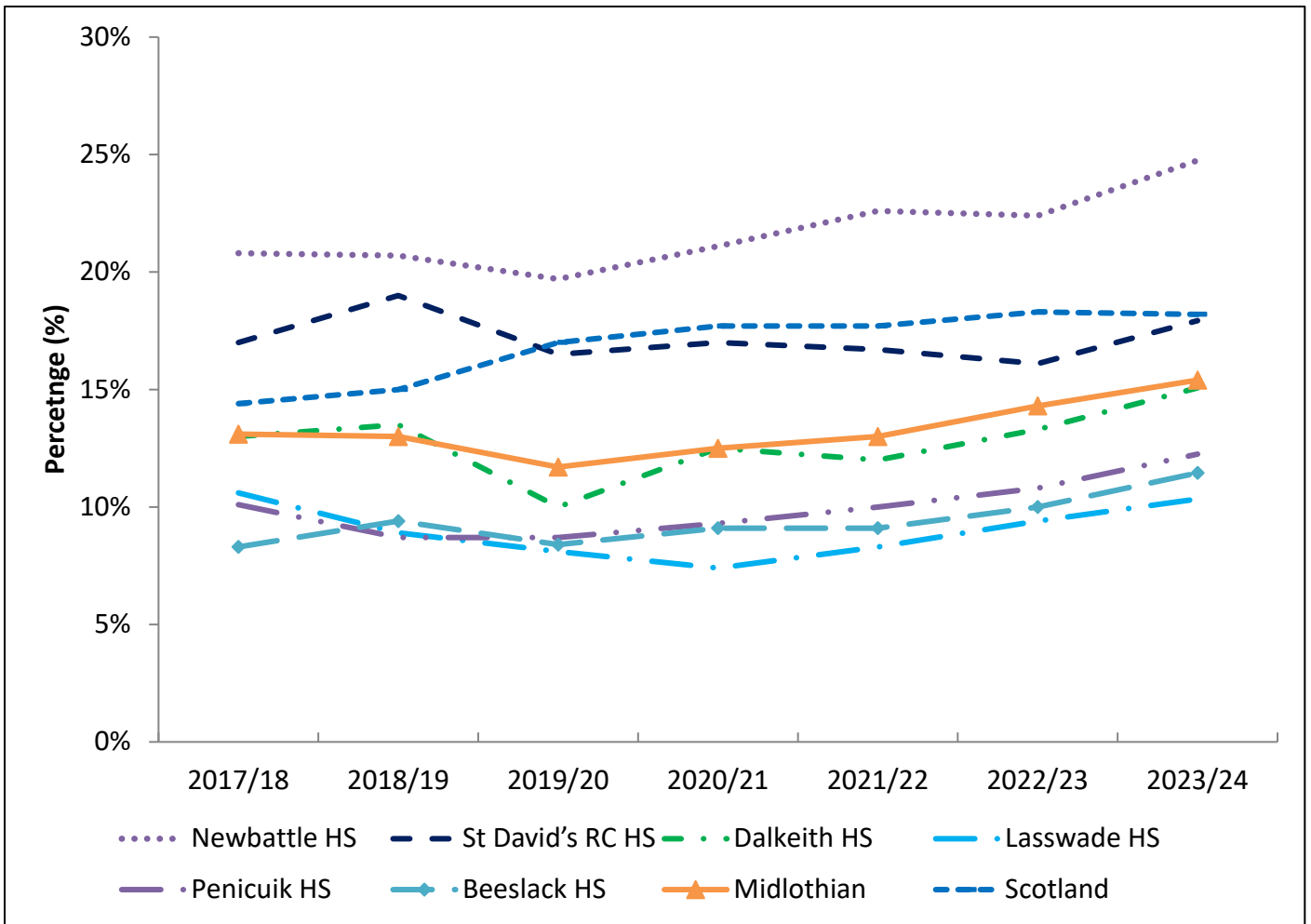
Data Source: [School exclusion statistics - gov.scot](https://www.gov.scot/publications/school-exclusion-statistics/)



Free School Meals

In 2023/24 the number of pupils registering for free school meals increased by 1.1% whereas nationally it has stayed the same. On average, in 2023/24 a **lower** percentage of pupils registered for free school meals in Midlothian (15.4%) than in Scotland (18.2%). At Newbattle High School the percentage has been consistently higher than the Scottish average for at least seven years.

Figure 26: Percentage of school pupils registered for free school meals by high school from 2017 – 2024. Data source: <https://www.gov.scot/publications/school-level-summary-statistics/>



Ethnicity of young people in schools

The profile and ethnicity of young people in schools is changing in a similar pattern to that of the whole of Midlothian. The change in the profile over the past five years in Midlothian is very similar to national profile (Table 29), with the number and percentage of White British pupils reducing, by 5.09% in Midlothian, and the percentage of Minority ethnic groups and Other white pupils increasing.

Table 29: Ethnicity of young people in schools in Midlothian compared to national levels, 2020-2024

Data source: [Pupil census supplementary statistics - gov.scot](#)

| | Midlothian 2020 | National 2020 | Midlothian 2021 | National 2021 | Midlothian 2022 | National 2022 | Midlothian 2023 | National 2023 | Midlothian 2024 | National 2024 |
|---|--------------------|------------------|--------------------|------------------|--------------------|------------------|--------------------|------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| White – British | 87.75% | 83.34% | 86.28% | 82.56% | 85.40% | 81.15% | 83.46% | 79.58% | 82.66% | 78.48% |
| White – Other | 5.24% | 5.96% | 5.71% | 6.10% | 5.99% | 6.44% | 6.47% | 6.57% | 6.78% | 6.63% |
| Minority ethnic group | 5.67% | 8.64% | 6.22% | 9.23% | 6.84% | 10.06% | 7.67% | 11.30% | 8.46% | 12.42% |
| Pupils with not known/ not disclosed ethnicity | 1.34% | 2.06% | 1.79% | 2.11% | 1.77% | 2.35% | 2.41% | 2.55% | 2.09% | 2.47% |

Midlothian have a Local Employability Partnership Plus



Midlothian's Third Sector

Voluntary and Community Groups

Midlothian has a thriving local third sector, which is supported by the Third Sector Interface (TSI) and other community planning partners. There are at least 500 formal groups or voluntary associations in existence in Midlothian, including sports clubs, uniformed youth groups (e.g. Brownies and Scouts) and small special interest groups such as art clubs or history societies. It is difficult to establish an exact figure, as many groups operate independently and are not in contact with any other umbrella organisations (SCVO, 2022). Another factor is that the third sector is a constantly evolving landscape of projects and initiatives. Some groups are established with a very specific purpose in mind, for a set duration, while others grow to become larger organisations providing essential services in local communities.

Charities

There are around 270 registered charities based in Midlothian. This is also an approximate figure because of the way data is collected and displayed by the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR). Many Edinburgh organisations are listed as being based in Midlothian, whereas not all charities based in Midlothian are registered at a Midlothian postcode. Several of the larger charities that work in Midlothian also operate elsewhere, such as in Edinburgh, and across multiple local authority areas. The TSI Scotland Network notes that for every 10 charities registered, there are likely to be on average a further eight community groups (informal or constituted) in existence.

Social Enterprise

As of 2019, there were 73 social enterprises active in Midlothian. This figure reflects a 10% rise since 2017 based on figures from the bi-annual Scottish Social Enterprise Census, and is equivalent to roughly 8 social enterprises in existence per 10,000 of the Midlothian population. It includes development trusts, housing associations, childcare organisations, and other income-generating organisations. Figures for 2021 are still pending (as of September 2022) and may show a reduction in the amount of social enterprise activity due to the impact of the pandemic and other socioeconomic factors.

Third Sector Workforce There are at least 100,000 paid staff in Scotland's third sector (Audit Scotland, 2021), however nearly three quarters (72%) of Scottish voluntary organisations have no staff whatsoever and rely on volunteers to run their services. Based on official population and employment data, it is likely that more than 2500 people are currently employed within Midlothian's third sector. Social care and health organisations employ over half of all paid staff in the third sector. The Scottish Social Services Council (SSSC) publishes headcount figures for people working within care organisations and the latest SSSC figures for 2020 show that of the 3190 people employed in Midlothian, 590 work for a voluntary organisation (approx. 18% - no significant change from the previous Midlothian Profile).

Some organisations are not required to be registered with the Care Inspectorate, so are not included in this figure. There are also some exclusions, such as centrally based office staff in voluntary organisations, meaning these figures are likely to be an underestimate.

Volunteering in Midlothian

Volunteering Rates

The figures for volunteering in Midlothian mirror the national average, which sits at around one quarter to a third of the population volunteering at any given time. This refers to 'formal volunteering', which is undertaken on behalf of an organisation to help other people or support a particular cause. The Scottish Household Survey (2020) indicates that on average, people do between 5-8 hours of volunteering per week. Findings from the most recent survey also suggest that the rates for 'informal volunteering' are substantially higher than formal volunteering, at around 56% of the population. Informal volunteering is defined as any unpaid help given by an individual to others who are not relatives.

Volunteering in Midlothian during the Pandemic

After the pandemic was declared in March 2020, there was a dramatic rise in the number of adults volunteering in Midlothian. This was linked primarily to the emergence of community-led resilience initiatives. Over 500 volunteers also registered in response to the national 'Scotland Cares' campaign to recruit a volunteer workforce during the first lockdown. However, only a small proportion of sign-ups went on to volunteer, as others had already been mobilised at a very local level. At this time the number of registered volunteering opportunities on offer in Midlothian via the TSI's online search widget dropped by more than 50%, to a low of around 90, as organisations moved their volunteer-based services online to avoid the need for face-to-face contact. After lockdown, most of the volunteer-led community resilience initiatives were scaled back and the number of registered volunteering opportunities began to slowly increase again. The overall number of registered opportunities via the TSI (which is a good barometer for wider trends) currently stands at 125, remaining significantly lower than it was prior to the onset of Covid-19. This indicates that the impact of the pandemic is still being felt by third sector organisations in their work with volunteers, for example because of reduced staff capacity to manage or coordinate volunteers, and when promoting new volunteer roles.

Volunteering Demographics

Rates of volunteering vary depending upon economic status and other demographic factors. In general, the percentage of adults volunteering increases with income. However, research published by Volunteer Scotland in 2021 suggests that volunteers living in the 20% most deprived areas of Scotland actually contribute more informal volunteer hours compared to any of the other quintiles, and a similar number of hours for formal volunteering. This research also shows that for formal volunteering, the highest participation rates (meaning the number of people who volunteer at least once per year) are among those that are self-employed, aged 35-44, in part-time employment and in education or training. The highest numbers of volunteering hours (meaning the intensity or amount of time given over a four-week period) are provided by those looking after the family or home, people aged 65+, the retired and the unemployed. Research from 2018 has also shown that the people who stand to gain the most from volunteering in terms of health and wellbeing benefits, are those from lower SIMD quintiles or more disadvantaged backgrounds, provided appropriate support is given to establish and sustain volunteering activities.



Inequality

SCOTTISH INDEX OF MULTIPLE DEPRIVATION (SIMD)

The SIMD divides Scotland into 6,976 zones and lists them from the most deprived (1) to the least deprived (6,505). Midlothian has **115 datazones**.

In 2012, Midlothian had eight datazones in the most deprived 20% datazones in Scotland:

- 0 - in the most deprived 5% datazones;
- 2 - in the most deprived 5-10% datazones, (Dalkeith and Woodburn)
- 1 - in the most deprived 10-15% (Mayfield);
- 5 - in the most deprived 15-20% (Dalkeith, Mayfield, Easthouses, and two in Gorebridge).

Whilst all the datazones in the most deprived 20% were concentrated in Dalkeith/Woodburn, Mayfield/Easthouses, and Gorebridge, the datazones in the most deprived 20-30% were spread more widely including also parts of Loanhead, Penicuik, and Rosewell.



Destination of School Leavers

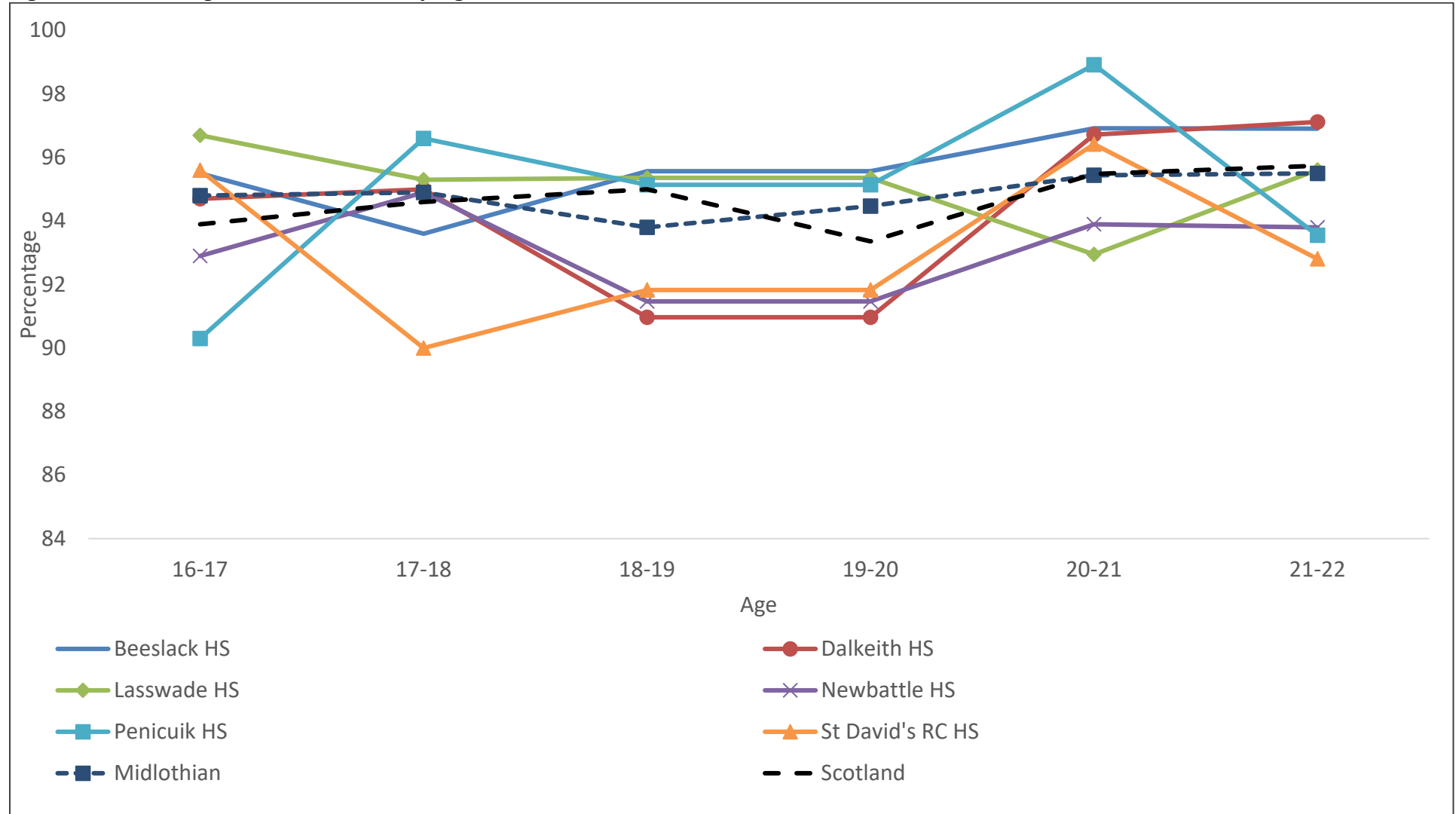
Skills Development Scotland surveys all school leavers approximately three months after they leave school to determine their destination. These initial destinations are reported in the School Leaver Destination Return (SLDR).

The SLDR from December 2020 supplied destination information for 800 pupils who left school between 1 August 2021 and 31 July 2022. There was a positive outcome for 766 pupils (**95.5%**) whilst 34 pupils had a negative outcome (4.25%).

The overall proportion of Midlothian school leavers going to **positive destinations** has remained the same from 2019-20 to 2020-21. Midlothian is 0.2% slightly below the Scottish average.

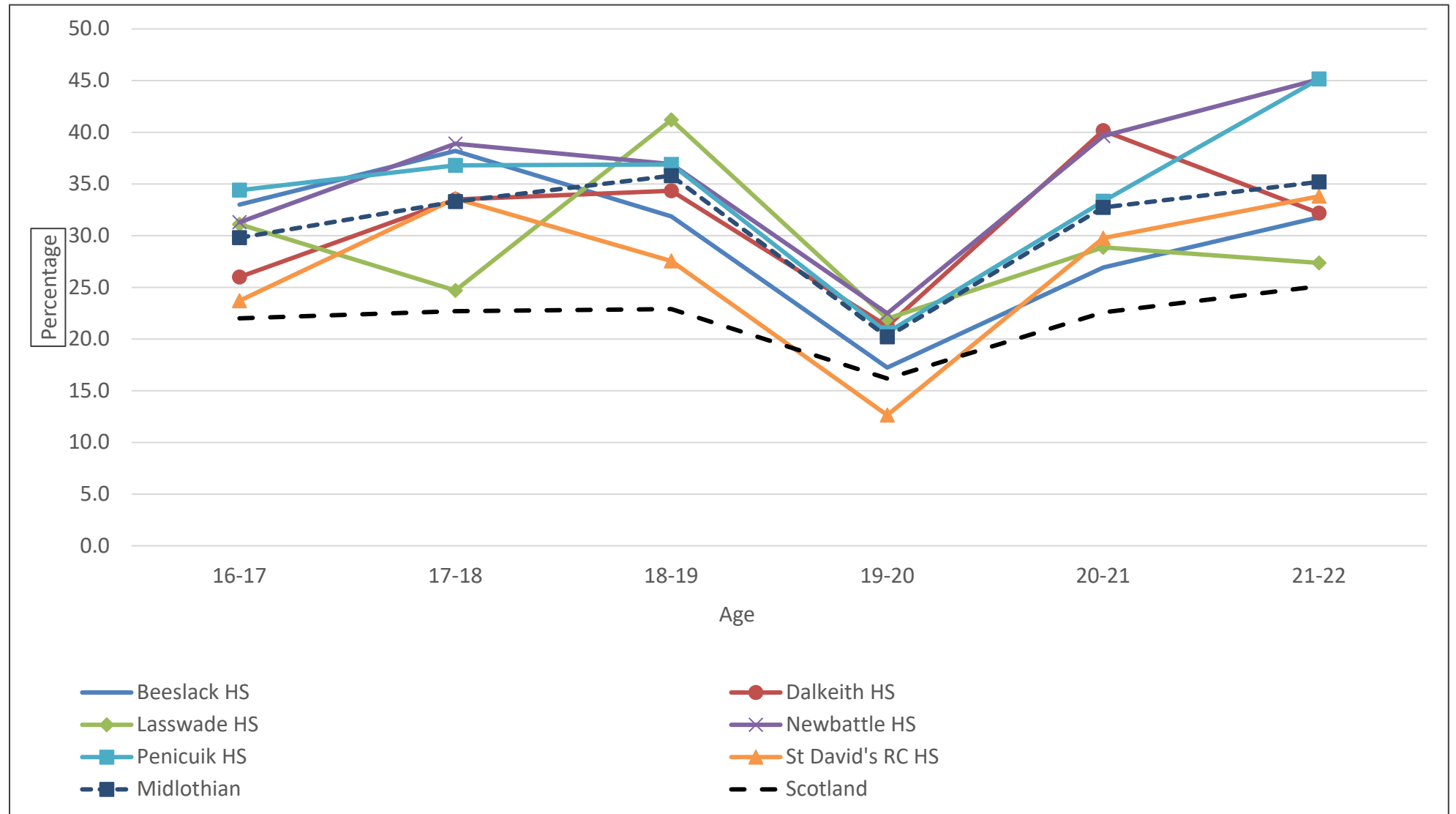
Initial destinations of students from Midlothian secondary schools

Figure 27: Percentage of school leavers by high school, Midlothian and Scotland from 2016 – 2022.



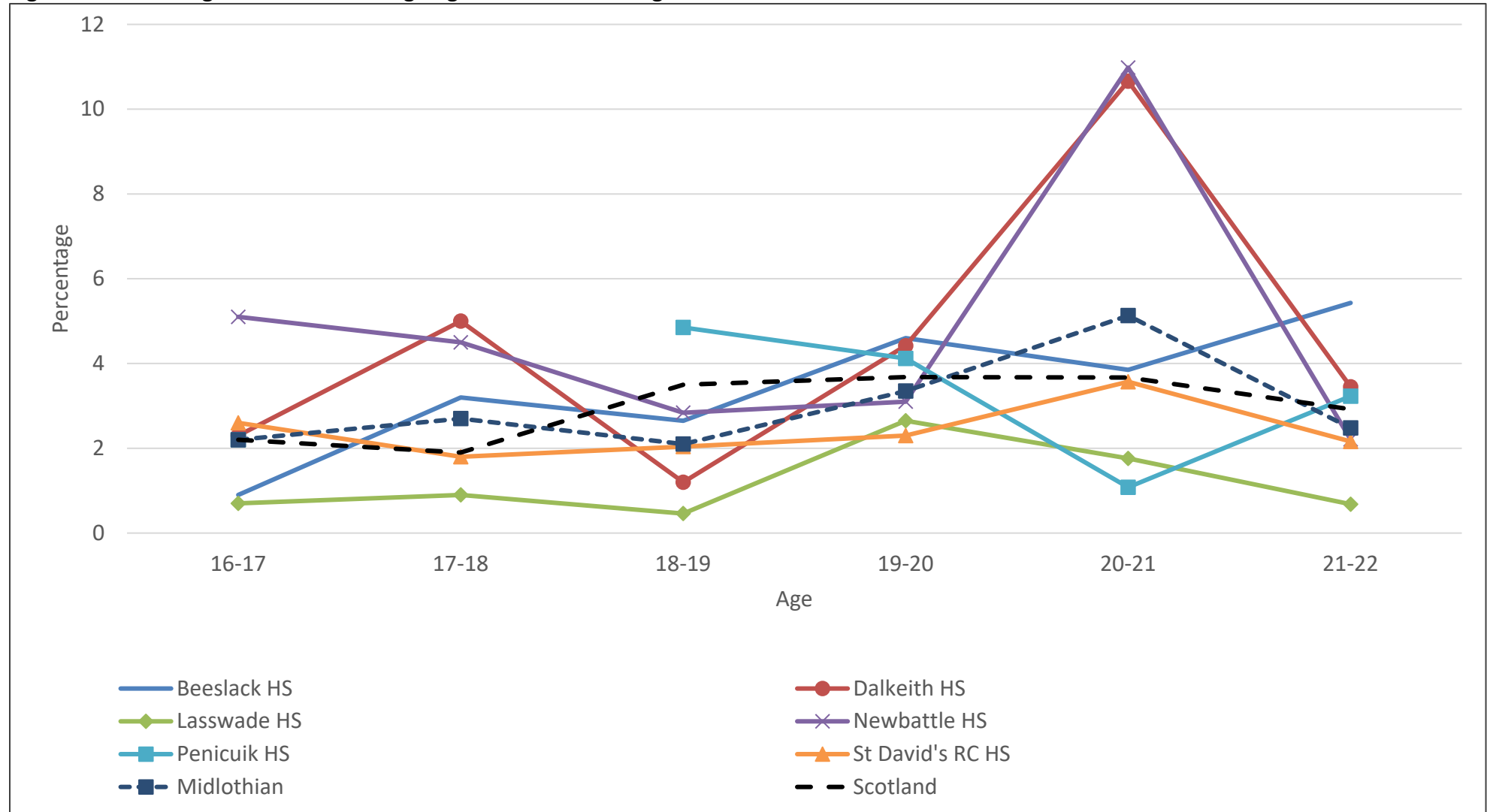
Over the last six years, Midlothian has consistently exceeded the national average proportion of leavers entering employment. The percentage in 2021/22 was 35.2% and is a higher than the National average of 25.1%

Figure 28: Percentage of school leavers entering employment from 2016 - 2022



Training

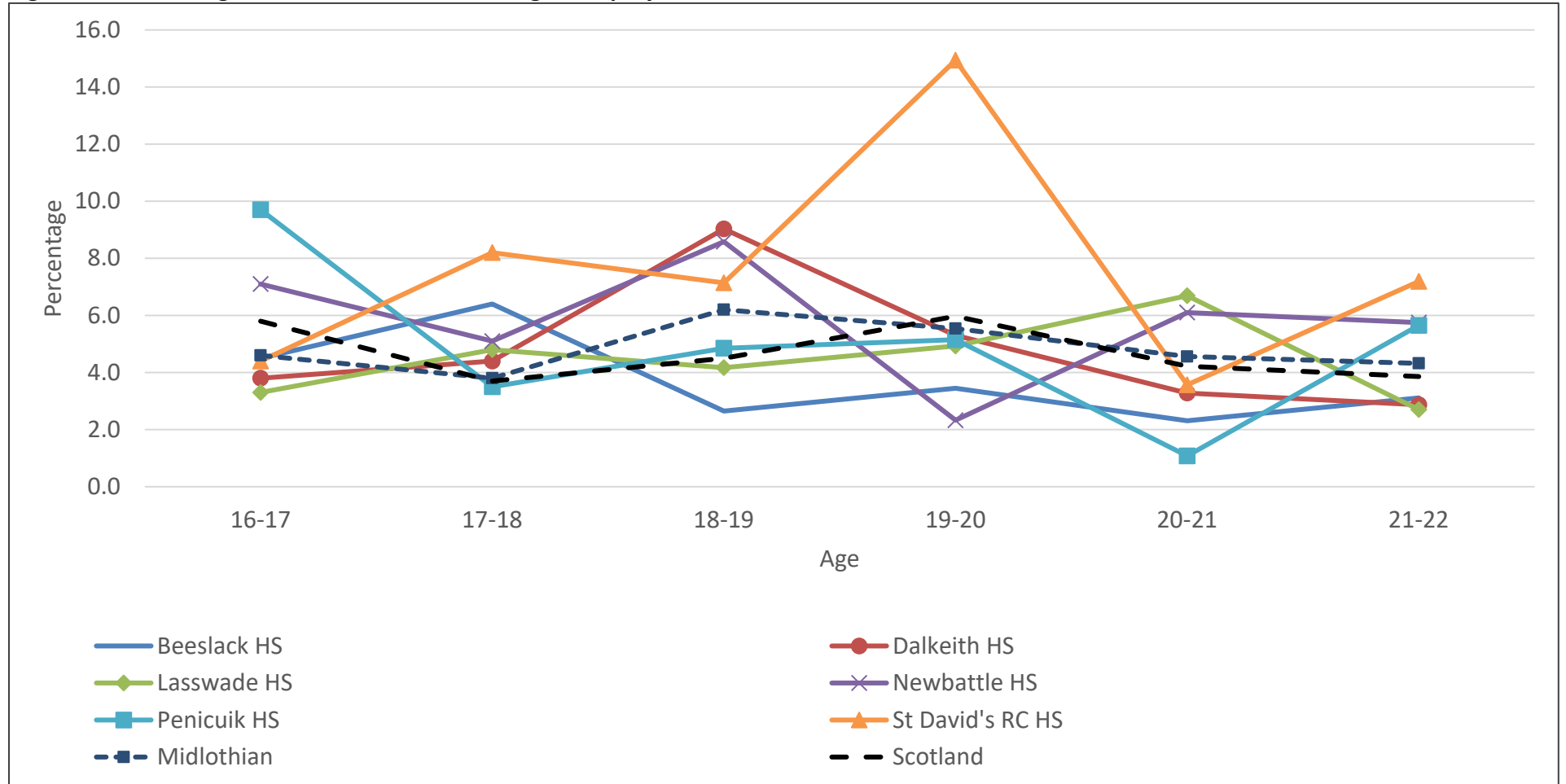
Figure 29: Percentage of school leavers going into further training from 2016 - 2022



Becoming Unemployed

The proportion of Midlothian leavers becoming unemployed (seeking & not seeking) reduced from 4.6% in 2020-21 to 4.3% in 2021-22. The largest decrease was seen at Lasswade HS from 6.7% to 2.7%. Other categories - The same percentage of Midlothian leavers go into Voluntary Work than the national average (0.6). However, actual pupil numbers in these two categories are very low.

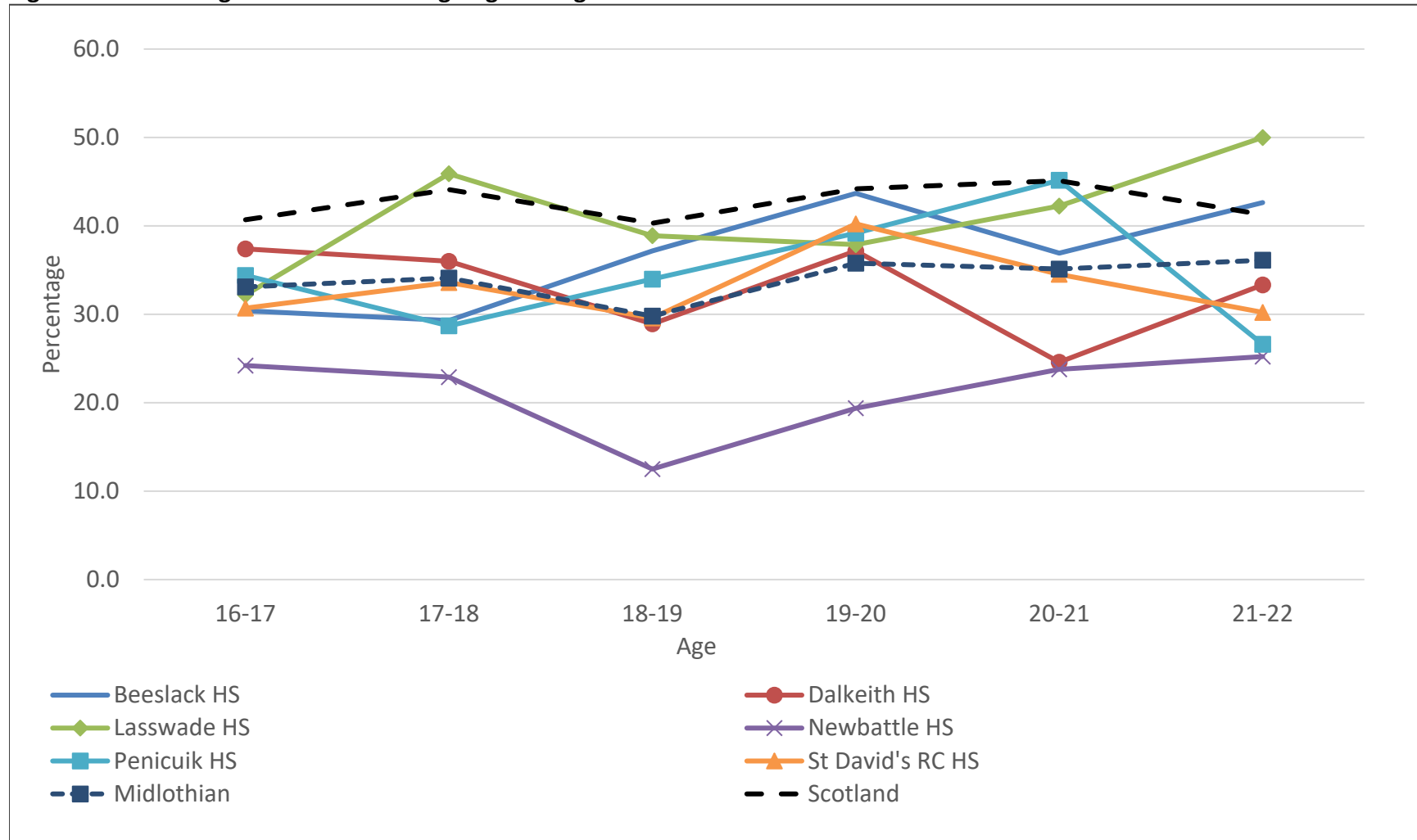
Figure 30: Percentage of school leavers becoming unemployed from 2016 - 2022



Higher Education

The percentage of Midlothian leavers going into Higher Education over the last 6 years has increased by 3.0%. During the same time period, the national average has increased by 0.6%. In the last year, Beeslack HS, Dalkeith HS and Lasswade HS have increased their proportions by 5.7%, 8.7% and 7.8% respectively.

Figure 31: Percentage of school leavers going into high education from 2016 - 2022

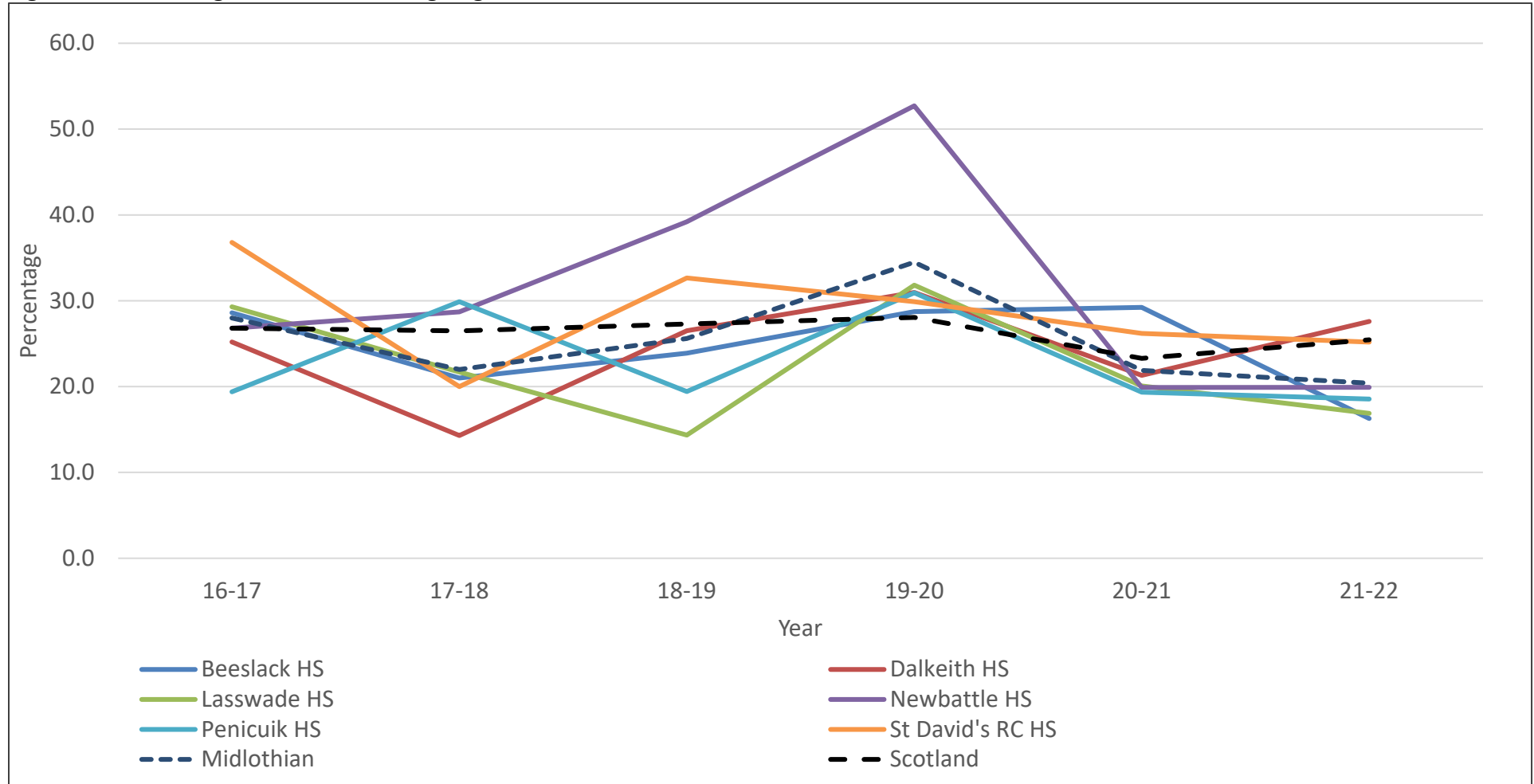


Further Education

A lower percentage of Midlothian leavers go onto Further Education (20.4%) than the national average (25.5%). This varies widely between school with the lowest proportion from Beeslack HS (16.3%) and the highest from Dalkeith HS (27.6%).

Data source: Skills Development Scotland: www.skillsdevelopmentscotland.co.uk

Figure 32: Percentage of school leavers going into further education from 2016 - 2022



Qualification Levels of Midlothian Residents

There is a lower proportion of people in Midlothian with HNDs, degrees, or degree-level qualifications than in Scotland overall. A lower proportion of Midlothian residents of working age achieve qualifications at NVQ3 and above than people in Scotland as a whole.

Note on data: The figures below represent estimates based on a survey of households. NOMIS supplies the following explanation of the qualifications given below:

- No qualifications: no formal qualifications held;
- Other qualifications: includes foreign qualifications and some professional qualifications;
- NVQ1 equivalent: fewer than five GCSEs at grades A-C, foundation GNVQ, NVQ 1, intermediate 1 national qualification (Scotland) or equivalent;
- NVQ2 equivalent: five or more GCSEs at grades A-C, intermediate GNVQ, NVQ 2, intermediate 2 national qualification (Scotland) or equivalent;
- NVQ3 equivalent: two or more A levels, advanced GNVQ, NVQ 3, 2 or more advanced higher national qualifications (Scotland) or equivalent;
- NVQ4 equivalent and above: HND, Degree and Higher Degree level qualifications or equivalent.

Table 35: Number of qualifications levels of Midlothian residents 2024.

Data Source: NOMIS – www.nomisweb.co.uk

| Qualification | Midlothian | Midlothian % | Scotland % | GB % |
|-------------------|------------|--------------|------------|------|
| RQF4 and above | 29,400 | 52.3 | 54.5 | 47.6 |
| RQF3 and above | 41,500 | 73.7 | 72.5 | 67.9 |
| RQF2 and above | 50,000 | 89.0 | 87.4 | 86.7 |
| RQF1 and above | 50,500 | 89.8 | 88.5 | 89.1 |
| No Qualifications | 3,800 | 6.8 | 8.0 | 6.7 |

Edinburgh College

Edinburgh College has over 32,000 enrolments and around 1,200 staff and is one of the largest colleges in Scotland and the UK. The College engages with Midlothian schools to deliver courses to improve the learner journey and develop the young workforce, at ages from primary to secondary.

Table 36: Midlothian students enrolling at Edinburgh College by gender for 2022/23.

Data source Edinburgh College

| | Male | Female | Other | Unknown | Total |
|--|------|--------|-------|---------|-------|
| Midlothian Full-Time Enrolments at Edinburgh College | 502 | 405 | 15 | - | 922 |
| Total Midlothian Enrolments at Edinburgh College | 2083 | 2272 | 211 | - | 4566 |

Table 37: Midlothian students enrolling at Edinburgh College by age for 2022/23.

Data source Edinburgh College

| Age | Number of Enrols |
|----------|------------------|
| under 16 | 1814 |
| 16-17 | 707 |
| 18-19 | 411 |
| 20-24 | 357 |
| 25+ | 1277 |

Table 38: Midlothian students enrolling at Edinburgh College with disabilities for 2022/23.

Data source Edinburgh College

| Item | Number of Enrols |
|---|------------------|
| A disability impairment or medical condition that is not listed above (No longer use from 2023/24) | 76 |
| Blindness or partial sight loss | 9 |
| Deafness or partial hearing loss | 43 |
| Developmental disorder (a condition that you have had since childhood which affects motor, cognitive, social and emotional skills, and speech and language) | 162 |
| Full or partial loss of voice or difficulty speaking (a condition that requires you to use equipment to speak) | - |
| Learning difficulty (a specific learning condition that affects the way you learn and process information) | 565 |
| Learning disability (a condition that you have had since childhood that affects the way you learn, understand information and communicate) | 12 |
| Long-term illness, disease or condition (a condition, not listed above, that you may have for life, which may be managed with treatment or medication) | 66 |
| Mental health condition (a condition that affects your emotional, physical and mental wellbeing) | 320 |
| Physical disability (a condition that substantially limits one or more basic physical activities such as walking, climbing stairs, lifting or carrying) | 31 |
| Total | 1284 |

Table 39: Midlothian students enrolling at Edinburgh College with previous qualifications for 2022/23. Data source Edinburgh College

| Level of Qualification | Enrols |
|---|--------|
| 01 – Degree | 85 |
| 02 - Membership etc. of professional institution | 7 |
| 03 - Higher National Diploma, HE Diploma, Teaching Diploma, or equivalent | 34 |
| 04 - SVQ: Level 4 and above | 60 |
| 05 - No longer used (SVQ: Level 4 or above) | - |
| 06 - Higher National Certificate or equivalent | 225 |
| 07 - Other advanced qualifications | 39 |
| 08 - Certificate of Sixth Year Studies (CSYS) / Advanced Higher | 7 |
| 09 - SVQ: Level 3 | 77 |
| 10 - Access 3/Foundation Standard Grade | 12 |
| 11 - Access to University course | 10 |
| 12 - SVQ: Level 2/Intermediate 2/Credit Standard Grade | 45 |
| 13 - Access 2 | 3 |
| 14 - SVQ: Level 1/Intermediate 1/General Standard Grade | 23 |
| 15 - Access 1 | 8 |
| 16 - Ordinary/Scottish National Diploma | 6 |
| 17 - Ordinary/Scottish National Certificate | 25 |
| 20 - National 1 | - |
| 21 - National 2 | - |
| 22 - National 3/Skills for work National 3 | 24 |
| 23 - National 4/Skills for work National 4 | 196 |
| 24 - National 5/Skills for work National 5 | 531 |
| 25 - Skills for work Higher | 7 |
| 26 - Advanced Higher/Scottish Baccalaureates | 40 |
| 27 – Doctorate | 6 |
| 28 - Masters Degree | 32 |
| 99 - Standard/Higher Grade | 319 |
| Unknown | 2745 |

36

Table 40: Midlothian students enrolling at Edinburgh College ethnicity for 2022/23.

Data source Edinburgh College

| Ethnicity | Numbers |
|---|----------------|
| 10 – Scottish | 2668 |
| 11 – English | 98 |
| 12 – Welsh | 3 |
| 13 – Irish | 12 |
| 14 - Any other white background | 125 |
| 15 - Any mixed background | 16 |
| 16 - Indian, Indian Scottish or Indian British | 13 |
| 17 - Pakistani, Pakistani Scottish or Pakistani British | 22 |
| 18 - Bangladeshi, Bangladeshi Scottish or Bangladeshi British | 5 |
| 19 - Chinese, Chinese Scottish or Chinese British | 28 |
| 20 - Any other Asian background | 24 |
| 21 - Caribbean, Caribbean Scottish or Caribbean British | 1 |
| 22 - African, African Scottish or African British | 15 |
| 23 - Other African background | 4 |
| 24 - Any other background | 13 |
| 30 - Northern Irish | 6 |
| 31 – British | 109 |
| 32 - Gypsy / Traveller | 4 |
| 33 – Polish | 92 |
| 34 - Arab, Arab Scottish or Arab British | 9 |
| 35 - Black, Black Scottish or Black British | 5 |
| 36 - Other Caribbean or black background | 1 |
| 98 - Prefer not to say | 167 |
| 99 - Not known | 678 |
| Unknown | 448 |
| Total | 4566 |

Unemployment

Figure 33: Unemployment number from 2019 to 2024.

Data Source: NOMIS – www.nomisweb.co.uk The percentages are a “percentage of the economically active population” and do not includes those who are economically inactive

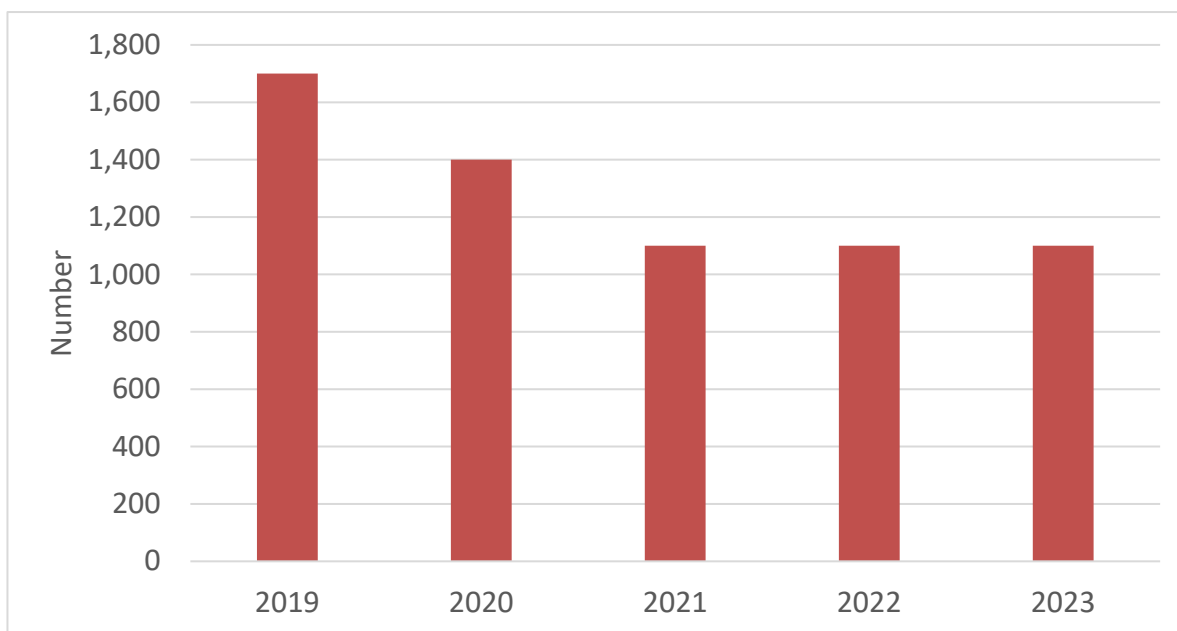


Table 41: Number of those on benefits in Midlothian 2025 and by gender.

Data source: NOMIS – www.nomisweb.co.uk

| | Numbers |
|------------|---------|
| All people | 1,405 |
| Males | 805 |
| Females | 595 |

% Universal Credit Claimant (March 2022)

There are more male Universal Credit Claimants than female. Reasons for this may include that many women do not pay National Insurance contributions because they work in part-time low paid jobs. It may also be because more women than men are likely to be ineligible for income-based Universal Credit because of their partner’s earnings.

Figure 34: Percentage of people claiming universal credit by gender.

Data source: *NOMIS* – www.nomisweb.co.uk. Percent now shows claimants as a proportion of the resident population of the same age. Previously it showed claimants as a percentage of all claimants.

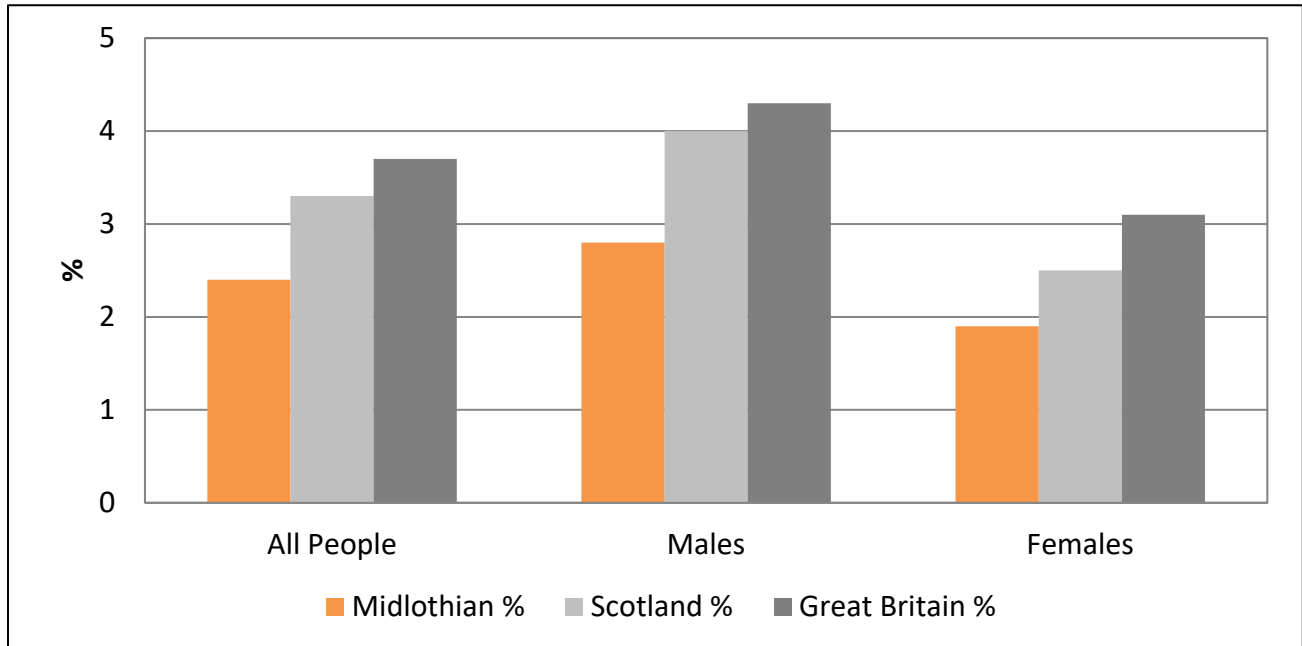
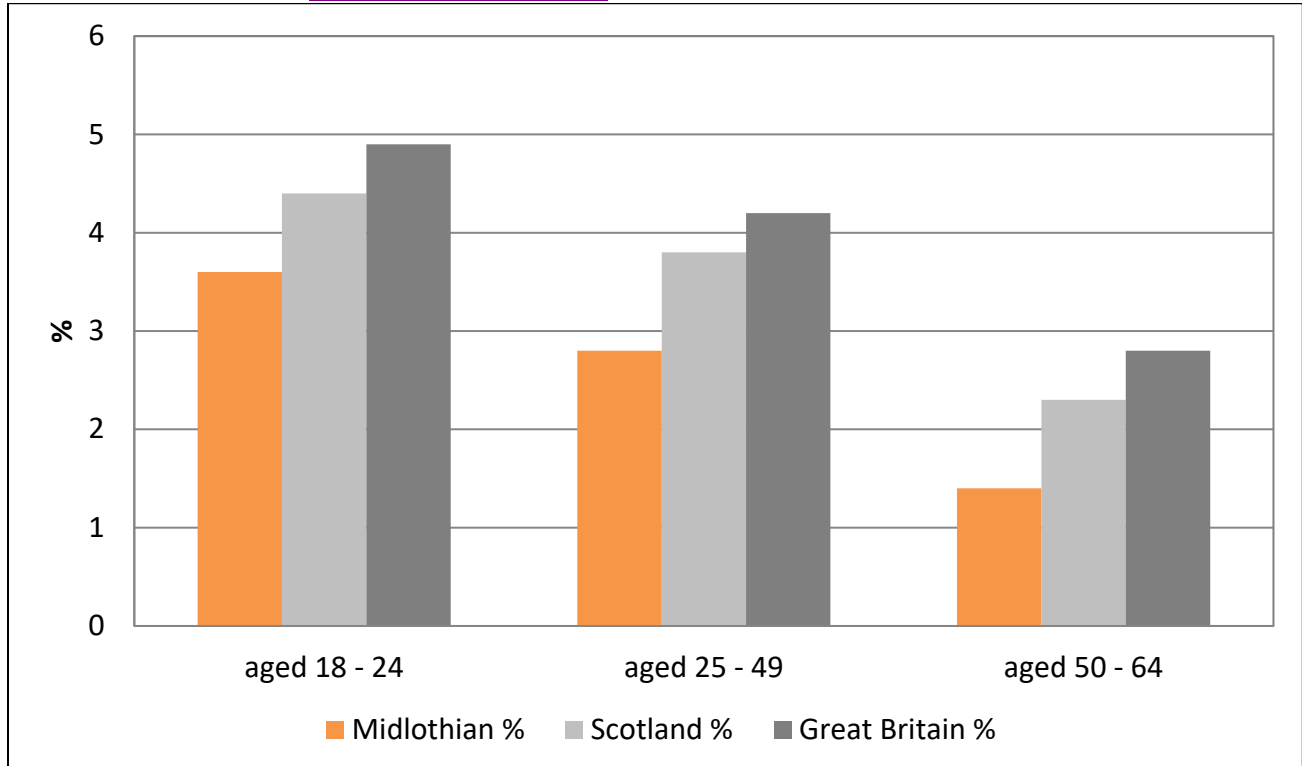


Figure 35: Percentage of people claiming universal credit by age.

Data Source: *NOMIS* – www.nomisweb.co.uk



Adult Literacy & Numeracy

This section presents data about the number of participants in Adult Literacy & Numeracy (ALN) programmes in Midlothian. This data for 2021/2022 reflects the fact that CLLE staff were delivering critical services only during Covid and maintaining contact with only those deemed to be most vulnerable, mainly English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) learners and Syrian refugees.

The data has been compiled by Midlothian Communities, Lifelong Learning and Employability's Adult Literacy and Numeracy/English as a Second or Other Language (CLLE, ALN/ESOL) service. Increasing the service in 2021/22 is part of the recovery plan for CLLE.

No. of Adult Learners Participating in Programs in Midlothian in 2021/22

Table 42: Number of adult learners participating in programs in Midlothian

| Programme | No of Learners |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|
| Adult Literacy and Numeracy (ALN) | 17 |
| ESOL | 119 |
| Syrian Project ESOL | 17 |
| Total | 153 |

Attendance at ALN/ESOL programmes 2021/22

Table 43: Attendance at ALN/ESOL programmes by gender. Data Source: CLD, ALN/ESOL

| Gender | No of learners |
|--------|----------------|
| Male | 43 |
| Female | 110 |

Area Where Adult Literacy/ESOL Learners Live at Point of Entry to Programme

Table 44: Locations of adult learners at point of entry

| Area of residence | ESOL | ALN | Total no of learners |
|-------------------------|------|-----|----------------------|
| Bonnyrigg/Lasswade | 4 | 1 | 5 |
| Dalkeith and district | 46 | 2 | 48 |
| Mayfield/Easthouses | 22 | 1 | 23 |
| Gorebridge and district | 6 | 2 | 8 |
| Loanhead and district | 6 | 3 | 9 |
| Penicuik and district | 19 | 3 | 22 |
| Newtongrange | 7 | 1 | 8 |
| Danderhall and district | 2 | | 2 |
| Poltonhall and district | 7 | 3 | 10 |
| Moorfoot | | | |
| Eskbank/Newbattle | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| Roslin/Bilston | 2 | | 2 |
| Tyne water | | | |

| Area of residence | ESOL | ALN | Total no of learners |
|---------------------|------|-----|----------------------|
| Damhead | | | |
| Howgate | | | |
| Rosewell & District | 1 | | 1 |
| Unknown | 12 | | 12 |

First Language Spoken by Adult Learners accessing the Programme Offered by Midlothian LLE ALN/ESOL Service (2021/22)

Table 45: First language of adult learners LLE ALN/ESOL Service 2021/22

| Learner's first language | Number of people |
|--------------------------|------------------|
| Polish | 34 |
| Arabic | 22 |
| Bulgarian | 2 |
| Russian | 2 |
| Spanish | 8 |
| Chinese | 10 |
| Italian | 10 |
| Romanian | 7 |
| Lithuanian | 2 |
| Urdu | 4 |
| Bengali | 2 |
| Hungarian | 5 |
| Punjabi | 3 |
| Turkish | 6 |
| Other | 11 |
| Unknown | 8 |

Provision of Midlothian LLE ALN/ESOL Service Courses Offered (2021/22)

Table 46: The number of learning opportunities offered 2021/22

| Type | No of learning opportunities offered (inc1:1 Tuition/groups) (NOT the total number of sessions) |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| ALN | 5 |
| ESOL | 18 |
| Total Learning opportunities | 23 |



Libraries

The table below sets out Library activity over the last five years and illustrates a steady increase in active membership and visits to our libraries until the pandemic in 2020, reflecting local libraries' role as a centre for community activities. Physical footfall and the borrowing of library materials in 2022-23 were significantly impacted by the emergency restrictions, however both showed an increase over the previous year 2021-22, with physical footfall up 218% and borrowing up 43%.

Midlothian Library Activity

Table 47: Activity in Midlothian's libraries from 2017 - 2023

| | 2017/18 | 2018/19 | 2019/20 | 2020/21 | 2021/22 | 2022/23 |
|-----------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|---------|---------|---------|
| Library Membership | 35,682 | 33,795 | 27,733 | 28,519 | 30,963 | 33,569 |
| Issues of Library Materials | 317,700 | 300,601 | 331,341 | 156,768 | 242,905 | 346,397 |
| PC Use | 22% | 21% | 18% | 32% | 12% | 8% |
| Visits (physical) | 545,159 | 706,448 | 679,130 | 17,431 | 137,231 | 436,613 |
| Visits (virtual) | 540,203 | 934,749 | 458,846 | 273,259 | 225,844 | 167,599 |
| Visits (Total) | 1,085,362 | 1,642,197 | 1,137,976 | 290,690 | 363,075 | 604,212 |



Employment & Income

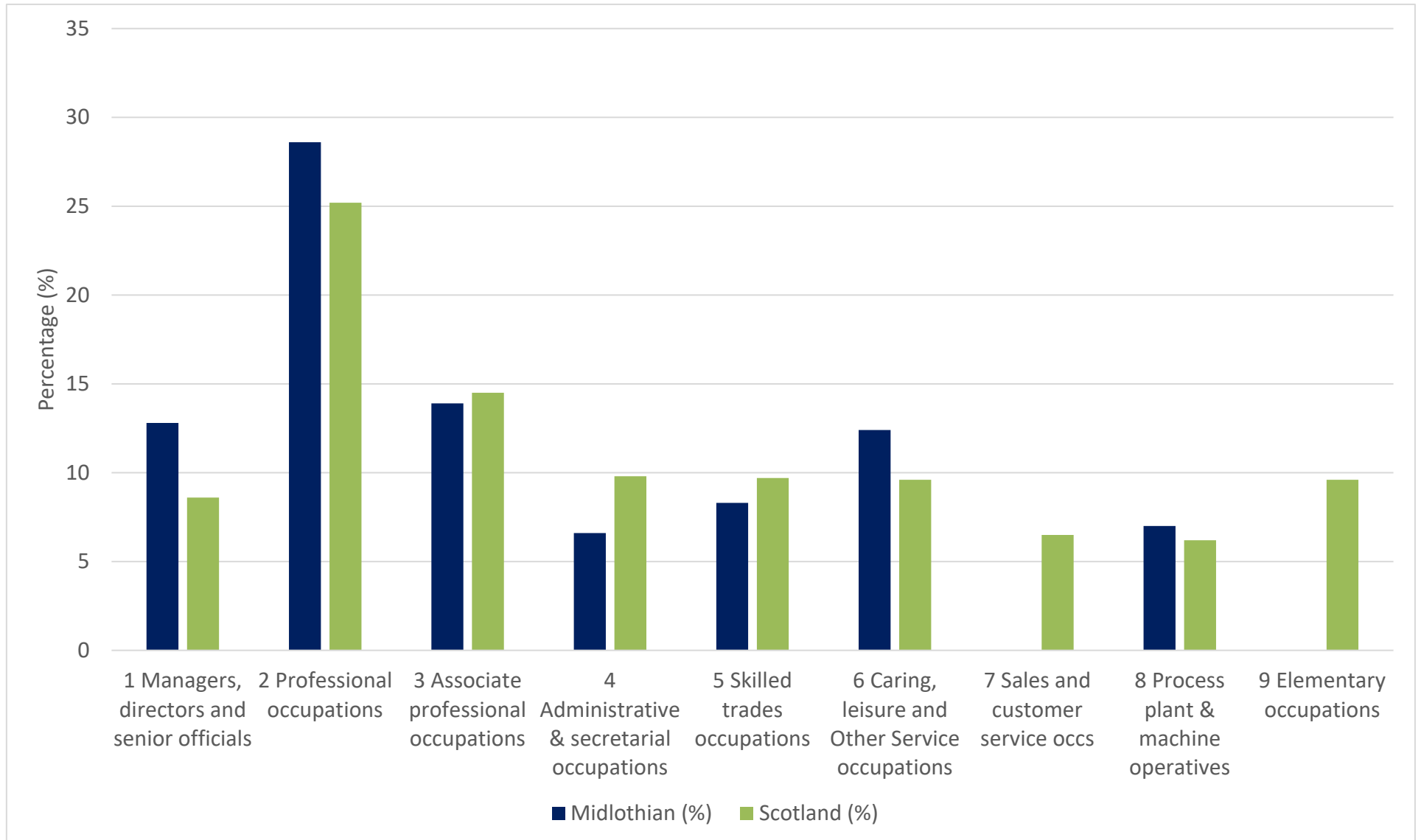
Working Population: The economically active population was 47,900 which is 80.5% of total working age population in 2024^{xxiv}. This is a decrease from 2020 (83.3%) and 2019 (81.8%). The Scottish rate is 77%.

Earnings: Workers in Midlothian (by place of residence) consistently earn less than the Scottish median earnings per week. Midlothian full-time employed residents in 2022 earned on average £622.90 per week^{xxvii}. This compares to the Scottish equivalent of £640.30, (a gap of £17.40) and UK of £642.20. This gap has increased from £17 in 2021 to £19.30 in 2022.

Women's earnings: Female full-time workers in Midlothian (by place of residence) earned on averages £16.50 less than the overall Midlothian full time employee average figure in 2022, £24.90 less in 2020 and £49.00 less in 2020.

Employment: Between 2015 and 2020, there was an increase in the number of Midlothian residents in employee jobs from 29,000 to 30,000, 10,000 of which are part time^{xxix}. (Employee jobs exclude self-employed, government-supported trainees, HM Forces and farm-based agriculture.) In 2020, Job Density (rate of jobs in location to population aged 16-64) remains below the Scottish average figures - 0.59 Midlothian to 0.80 Scotland and 0.84 The UK^{xxx}

Figure 36: Midlothian resident's employment by occupation 2024.
Data source: [ONS Annual Population Survey](#). [Accessed April 25]



Covid-19 and benefits

Covid-19 and lockdown have changed people's employment and income. In February 2021, there was 3,085 people claiming out-of-work benefits in Midlothian, this represents 5.4% of the resident population aged 16-64^{xxxii}. The proportion of people claiming out-of-work benefit is higher in Scotland and UK at 6.1% and 6.5% respectively. This is the highest proportion of claims since back in the 1990s.

Furlough was a temporary scheme introduced by the UK government in the Spring of 2020 to stop people being paid off by their employers during lockdown. In February 2021, 6,700 people remained on Furlough^{xxxiii}. There is a concern that furlough may be a precursor to redundancy with retail, hospitality and accommodation services vulnerable to job losses (skills development Scotland)^{xxxiii}.

Midlothian Council set up the Food and Key Essentials Fund, paying grocery vouchers and fuel payments, in December 2020 using Scottish Government funding. In 11 weeks 5,140 applications were processed and 2099 applicants were referred to the 2 Citizens Advice Bureaus (Dalkeith and Penicuik) for further support^{xxxiv}. Many people were not previously known to Citizens Advice who were already dealing with an approximate 30% increased workload due to the impacts of Covid^{xxxv}.

As of November 2020, 7,155 households in Midlothian were on universal credit of which 6,103 are in payment. Universal Credit replaces the following benefits into one monthly payment (or twice a month in Scotland if selected) Child Tax Credit, Housing Benefit, Income Support, Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA), Income-based Employment and Support Allowance (ESA) & Working Tax Credits. Most claimants are now on Universal Credit. Transfers are triggered by a change of circumstances.

As of April 2021, 5,069 people were receipt of Personal Independence Payment including where the payment has been suspended (e.g. due to hospital admission). This benefit is gradually replacing Disability Living Allowance^{xxxvi}. There are 2,372 people still in receipt of active Disability Living Allowance payments^{xxxvii}.

Midlothian Will Be Greener





Biodiversity, Flora & Fauna

Midlothian has a wide range of wildlife habitats including moorlands, gorge woodlands, incised river valleys and wetlands. Many rare and endangered species and other species identified in the UK and Scottish Biodiversity Lists occur in the area.

There are **two Special Protection Areas (SPAs)** at Gladhouse and Fala Flow covering a total of 504 hectares. Both sites are also designated as Ramsar sites.

There is a **one Special Area of Conservation (SAC)** at Peeswit Moss extending to about 53 hectares. These are also designated as Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs). There are **16 SSSI sites** covering a total area of 807 hectares.

Midlothian has **1 Local Nature Reserve** at Straiton Pond; **1 Regional Park** at Pentland Hills; **4 Country Parks** at Dalkeith, Hillend, Roslin Glen and Vogrie; **61 Local Biodiversity Sites** and **5 potential Local Biodiversity Sites**; **2 Woodland Trust sites** (Beeslack Wood and Currie Wood); approximately **2,600 hectares of ancient woodland in the Ancient Woodlands Inventory**; **5 Scottish Wildlife Trust wildlife reserves** at Roslin Glen, Erraid Wood, Hadfast Valley, Milkhall Pond, and Linn Dean and **3 Scottish Lowland Raised Bog Inventory Sites** at Auchencorth Moss, Kitchen Moss and Fala Flow.

During 2023/24 Green Flags were awarded at Straiton Pond Local nature reserve and Kings Park.

Currently there are **3 Regionally Important Geological sites** (Bilston Burn (Glen), Hewan Bank, and The Howe (Pinnacle), and **6 Geological Conservation Review sites** (Hewan Bank, Keith Water, Carlops, Gutterford Burn (x2), and Bilston Burn). Nineteen sites have been identified for taking forward through the production of Midlothian Local Development Plan no. 2 for consideration as potential Local Geodiversity Sites (LGS).

These local designations protect sites and features that help to sustain the overall biodiversity and geodiversity of the area, and help form a network with nationally and internationally protected sites. However many other features in the landscape are of importance for the migration, dispersal and genetic exchange of plant and animal species. Figure 6.9a and 6.9b list Midlothian's protected areas and local biodiversity sites.

Designated Nature Conservation Sites -

Table 48: Nature conservation sites in Midlothian and their designation. Data Source: [Midlothian Council](#)

| Area | Designation |
|----------------------------|------------------|
| Auchencorth Moss | SSSI |
| Bilston Burn | SSSI |
| Black Burn | SSSI |
| Carlops Meltwater Channels | SSSI |
| Crichton Glen | SSSI |
| Dalkeith Oakwood | SSSI |
| Dundreich Plateau | SSSI |
| Fala Flow | SSSI/ SPA/Ramsar |
| Gladhouse Reservoir | SSSI/SPA/Ramsar |
| Habbies Howe – Logan Burn | SSSI |
| Hadfast Valley | SSSI |
| Hewan Bank | SSSI |
| Keith Water | SSSI |
| North Esk Valley | SSSI |
| Peeswit Moss | SSSI/SAC |
| Roslin Glen | SSSI |
| Straiton Pond | LNR |
| Pentland Hills | Regional Park |
| Dalkeith | Country Park |
| Hillend | Country Park |
| Roslin Glen | Country Park |
| Vogrie | Country Park |

Local Biodiversity Sites

Aikendean Glen
Arniston Estate Woodlands
and River South Esk
Auchendinny Ponds and
Glencorse Burn Wood
Auchendinny Wood
Beeslack Wood and
Haughhead
Bellyford Burn West
Black Burn North
Black Hill
Black Springs
Bonnyrigg to Rosewell
Disused Railway
Borthwick Glen
Brothershiels Marsh
Bush Estate and Glencorse
Burn
Camp Hill
Carrington Mill Wood
Cockmuir Marsh
Costerton and Fala Woods
West
Dalhousie Burn
Dalhousie Castle Estate
Dalkeith Estate
Edgelaw Reservoir
Erraid Wood
Ford Glen & Dewar Town
Glen
Fullarton Water
Glencorse Reservoir & Glen
Gore Glen
Hare Moss & Auchencorth
Moss
Hope Quarry
Kate's Cauldron
Linn Dean
Logan Burn
Loganlee Reservoir and
Logan Burn
Mavisbank
Melville Castle
Middleton Lime Quarries
(East)
Middleton Lime Quarries
(West)
Milkhall Pond
Mount Lothian Quarry
Ponds
Newbattle Woods
Penicuik House Estate
Penicuik Mill Lade and
River Esk to Esk Bridge
River North Esk:
Drumbuie to Brunston
Castle
River North Esk: Eskbank
River North Esk: Lasswade
River South Esk: Dalhousie
Bridge to Lothian Bridge
River South Esk: Dundreich
Plateau to Little Gladhouse
River South Esk - Little
Gladhouse to Moorfoot
Rosebery Reservoir
Rosewell to Auchendinny
Disused Railway
Roslin Glen Country Park
Roslin-Moat and Curling
Pond
Scroggy Brae
Shiel Burn Wood
Springfield Mill and the
Maiden Castle
Straiton Pond
Stretchendean Wood
Temple Wood
Toxside Moss (North)
Toxside Moss (South)
Tyne Water and Preston
Hall Estate Woodlands
Vogrie Country Park
Birkyside
Middleton House Pond
Tyne Water &
Waverley Railway
at Tynehead
Waverley Railway –
Gorebridge to Tynehead
Waverley Railway –
Newbattle to Gorebridge

Data Source: Midlothian Council

WATER

The water environment includes rivers, reservoirs, their valleys and catchments and groundwater resources. The river valleys of the North and South Esk, and the Tyne are important physical features and natural systems and have high visual amenity and rich habitats whilst providing recreational opportunities for local residents.

The quality of stretches of river is classified in quality from 'High' to 'Bad'. All the data for Midlothian shows the condition to be between Moderate and High.

Flooding: A relatively small proportion of Midlothian's surface area, around falls within the 1:200 year flood risk zone.

Drinking Water Quality: Drinking water in Midlothian is provided mostly from the public water supply by Scottish Water. Some rural parts of Midlothian, including eastern and southern eastern areas have private water supplies. The quality of all of these water supplies is monitored by the Drinking Water Quality Regulator (DWQR) for Scotland.

Climate emergency & Energy

The Climate Change (Emissions Reduction Targets) (Scotland) Act 2019, which amends the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009, sets targets to reduce Scotland's emissions of all greenhouse gases to net-zero by 204

Table 49: Carbon Dioxide equivalent (CO₂e) emissions estimates 2005-2022 (kt CO₂e) for Midlothian. Data Source: [UK Government Department for Energy Security and Net Zero](#)

| Year | Industry | Commercial | Domestic | Transport | Other Sources | Total Emissions |
|------|----------|------------|----------|-----------|---------------|-----------------|
| 2005 | 44 | 84 | 209 | 160 | 230 | 726 |
| 2006 | 45 | 104 | 209 | 160 | 230 | 747 |
| 2007 | 43 | 88 | 205 | 163 | 203 | 702 |
| 2008 | 40 | 98 | 207 | 159 | 219 | 723 |
| 2009 | 37 | 85 | 187 | 154 | 213 | 676 |
| 2010 | 42 | 94 | 202 | 151 | 205 | 693 |
| 2011 | 34 | 75 | 177 | 148 | 188 | 622 |
| 2012 | 37 | 97 | 191 | 143 | 168 | 635 |
| 2013 | 37 | 94 | 186 | 140 | 174 | 630 |
| 2014 | 38 | 75 | 159 | 143 | 162 | 578 |
| 2015 | 35 | 72 | 160 | 144 | 156 | 567 |
| 2016 | 32 | 67 | 149 | 148 | 163 | 559 |
| 2017 | 38 | 46 | 145 | 151 | 176 | 556 |
| 2018 | 38 | 35 | 142 | 147 | 183 | 544 |
| 2019 | 44 | 25 | 142 | 143 | 169 | 524 |
| 2020 | 39 | 21 | 136 | 117 | 157 | 470 |
| 2021 | 48 | 24 | 143 | 137 | 161 | 513 |
| 2022 | 20 | 45 | 119 | 138 | 35 | 357 |

Note: 'Other Sources' in the table above are comprised of emissions from the public sector, agriculture; land use, land-use change and forestry; and waste management.

Electric Vehicles:

- There are 1190 ultra-low emissions vehicles registered in Midlothian as of Quarter 2 2024. These are defined as vehicles that emit less than 75g of CO₂ per km and include battery electric and plug-in hybrids. **Source:** [Department for Transport and DVLA](#).
- As of Q1 of 2025 there are 104 public electric vehicle charging devices in Midlothian (of which 28 are rapid chargers). This equates to 28 per 100,000 people, which compares to a UK average of 108.5 per 100,000 people. **Source:** [Department for Transport](#).
- Midlothian Council currently has 21 electric vehicles, out of its total fleet of 290 vehicles.

Energy Consumption: Residual fuel/energy consumption statistics are available at a local authority level from: [Sub-national residual fuel consumption: 2005 to 2018 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

Renewable energy projects in Midlothian (150kW or over)

Table 50: Midlothian’s renewable energy projects (150kW or over). Source: [Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy](#). An interactive map is also available [here](#).

| Site Name | Technology Type | Capacity (MW) |
|--|--------------------------------|---------------|
| Millerhill | Energy from waste incineration | 12.50 |
| Oatslie Landfill | Landfill gas | 2.00 |
| James Hamilton Way, Penicuik | Solar Farm | Unknown |
| David Lloyd Leisure Ltd, Danderhall | Solar Photovoltaics | 0.15 |
| Bonnyrigg | Landfill gas | 2.20 |
| Scottish Water, Rullion Rd, Penicuik | Solar array | 0.26 |
| Scottish Water, Silverburn Water Tank | Solar array | 0.24 |
| Drummond Moor Landfill | Landfill gas | 2.00 |
| Bowbeat Wind Farm | Onshore wind | 31.20 |
| | | |
| Easter Bush | Solar photovoltaics | 3.00 |
| E ON UK Heat Ltd, Sainsburys, Straiton Mains | Solar Photovoltaics | 0.55 |
| Buckleuch Group, Salters Battery Efficiency Storage system | Stand alone battery storage | 200 |
| Nairns Oatcakes Ltd Butlerfield Industrial Estate | Solar photovoltaics | 0.37 |
| Edinburgh College, Dalhousie Road | Solar photovoltaics | 0.19 |

Midlothian Business Green Pledge:

As part of Midlothian Council's Net Zero 2045 goal and Scotland's Net Zero 2045 target, Midlothian Council's Economic Development Service are encouraging Midlothian based businesses to reduce their carbon footprint.

The [Midlothian Business Carbon Charter](#) was designed encourage local businesses and sole traders to start their net zero journey. Standard carbon measurement tools are complex and small business can be overwhelmed by the processes involved. The Carbon Charter sets out small steps that can collectively make a difference to achieving our net zero objectives. The Midlothian Business Carbon Charter aims to have everything businesses need in one place with partner organisations clearly signposted and ongoing support available.

To support the Carbon Charter, the [Midlothian Business Green Pledge](#) was designed to give businesses a way to commit to being more sustainable in their everyday activities. When signing up, businesses agree to:

- Switch to a 100% renewable energy supplier
- Review their energy use such as switching off IT at the end of the day, using energy efficient light bulbs, switching heating down a degree
- Encourage their employees to use active travel options
- Review work practices – encouraging work from home
- Switch to green products – paper instead of plastic
- Re-use and recycle equipment, waste and products.

At the end of Q2 of 2024/25, 147 Midlothian businesses have committed to the Midlothian Business Green Pledge and have received:

- Tailored support to help them extend their green activities, decarbonise buildings, reduce their carbon footprint, develop green initiatives and transition to Net Zero
- Their logo, business name and website link on a dedicated webpage on the Locate in Midlothian website and shared through multiple social channels
- Features in articles about their business and changes they've made on Locate in Midlothian.
- Access to environmental partners and support services
- Midlothian Business Green Pledge branding to host on their website and marketing materials
- Access to a dedicated LinkedIn Group with other Pledgers to discuss challenges, best practice and tips.

All sign ups are listed on Locate in Midlothian's dedicated Green Pledgers page - [Midlothian Business Green Pledgers - Locate in Midlothian](#)

Perception of neighbourhood

In the winter of 2018/19 a survey of 970 residents of Midlothian showed:

- 95% of people rated their neighbourhood as good or very good place to live; and
- 67% of people rated the quality of life in Midlothian as 'good' (taking the top 3 responses on a 10-point scale)

Cultural Heritage & Material Assets

Midlothian's towns and villages have many areas and individual buildings of special architectural or historic interest. There are **21 designated conservation areas** and **697 buildings listed with Historic Environment Scotland** as being listed for their architectural and/or historic and cultural significance. 323 are listed in category 'C', 301 in category 'B' and 68 in category 'A'. There are **29 buildings on the register of buildings at risk**, and also **10 Nationally Important Gardens and Designed Landscapes** [Search \(historicenvironment.scot\)](http://search.historicenvironment.scot).

A variety of archaeological and other historic monuments are found throughout Midlothian including castles, churches, standing stones, remains of ancient settlements and fortifications, and industrial archaeology. There are **106 Scheduled Monuments** that mainly comprise prehistoric, domestic and defensive sites. Also of note are Midlothian battlefields.- [Downloads \(historicenvironment.scot\)](#) and [Welcome to Buildings at Risk Register | Buildings at Risk Register](#)

Landscape

There is a varied land form and land cover, including significant areas of arable farmland, lowland grasslands, improved and unimproved upland pastures, broadleaved woodland, coniferous plantations, peatlands, and grass or heather moorland. The Lothians Landscape Character Assessment identifies four landscape character types in Midlothian:

- Uplands of the Pentland Hills, Moorfoot Plateau, and Fala Moor;
- Upland Fringes on the flanks of the Pentlands and Moorfoot Hills;
- Lowland Hills and Ridges
- Lowland River Valleys, associated with the Upper Tyne and North and South Esk Rivers.

Special Landscape Area designations cover 20,855 hectares or 59% of Midlothian's total land area. There are seven SLAs – Fala Moor, Fala Rolling Farmland and Policies, Gladhouse Reservoir and Moorfoot Scarp, North Esk Valley, Pentland Hills, South Esk Valley and Carrington Farmland, and Tyne Water Valley. The Pentland Hills Regional Park falls partly in Midlothian, and there are four country parks.

There are **75 hectares of vacant and/or derelict land in Midlothian across 39 sites.**

Approximately **26% of the total area of Midlothian agricultural land is classed as grade 1, 2 or 3.1 soil.** (James Hutton Institute Land Classification system). Areas of peat soil and peaty soil with peat, particularly important for their carbon content, are found on the periphery of the county. Some small areas have a legacy of dereliction, degraded or contaminated land with polluted or degraded soils.



Waste

From 2011, SEPA changed the way it reports waste data, moving from reporting municipal waste to reporting household waste only and reporting over a calendar rather than a financial year.

Information on Midlothian's household waste is available at [Household waste data | Scottish Environment Protection Agency \(SEPA\)](#)

Household waste managed by (or on behalf of) Midlothian Council

Table 51: The amount (tonnes) of household waste that is managed by, or on behalf of, Midlothian Council from 2011 - 2023

| Reporting Period | Generated (Tonnes) | Recycled/Composted (Tonnes) | Other* (Tonnes) | Landfilled (Tonnes) |
|------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| 2011 | 43,849 | 20,687 | 0 | 23,163 |
| 2012 | 42,701 | 19,339 | 0 | 23,362 |
| 2013 | 40,177 | 17,012 | 0 | 23,165 |
| 2014 | 40,726 | 19,111 | 27 | 21,588 |
| 2015 | 42,076 | 20,136 | 7,714 | 14,227 |
| 2016 | 42,636 | 22,804 | 5,752 | 14,079 |
| 2017 | 42,725 | 22,049 | 1,819 | 18,857 |
| 2018 | 41,890 | 24,369 | 5,194 | 12,327 |
| 2019 | 40,610 | 20,643 | 15,600 | 4,367 |
| 2020 | 42,153 | 19,938 | 17,332 | 4,838 |
| 2021 | 43,837 | 20,761 | 17,651 | 5,428 |
| 2022 | 41,096 | 19,401 | 16,644 | 5,051 |
| 2023 | 41,335 | 19,388 | 15,249 | 6,699 |

* Other waste diverted from landfill is the fate of waste material not reused, recycled or landfilled.

It includes household waste treated by incineration, mechanical biological and heat treatment. Landfill waste is rejected material from dry mixed recycling and food waste plus ash from incineration of residual waste. No waste/recycling is sent to landfill without pre-treatment. It also includes composted wastes that do not reach the quality standards set by PAS 100/110. It also includes any weight loss during the treatment process. It does not include temporary storage of treated waste pending a recycling or disposal market.

Table 52: The percentage of total household waste that is recycled and percentage of waste going to landfill that is managed by, or on behalf of, Midlothian Council from 2011 - 2023

| Reporting Period | % of total household waste recycled | % of waste going to landfill |
|------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 2011 | 47.2% | 54.2% |
| 2012 | 45.3% | 54.0% |
| 2013 | 42.3% | 52.0% |
| 2014 | 46.9% | 55.3% |
| 2015 | 47.9% | 34.0% |
| 2016 | 53.5% | 33.0% |
| 2017 | 51.6% | 40.9% |
| 2018 | 58.2% | 24.6% |
| 2019 | 50.8% | 11.5% |
| 2020 | 47.3% | 11.5% |
| 2021 | 47.5% | 12.3% |
| 2022 | 42.0% | 13.3% |
| 2023 | 46.9% | 16.2% |

The 746,000 tonnes of Scottish household waste diverted from landfill through incineration in 2023 was 146,000 tonnes (24.2%) greater than in 2022, and 676,000 tonnes (964%) greater than in 2011. Incineration waste includes grey bin (black bag) waste, plus fine and non-recyclable waste collected in the bulky waste at the two HW recycling centres, as well as non-target materials placed in the blue recycling bins.

Midlothian Council is committed to achieving the targets set out by the Scottish Government in Scotland's Zero Waste Plan and Midlothian is signed up to The Household Recycling Charter. A joint Midlothian/City of Edinburgh Council Recycling and Energy Recovery Centre (RERC) at Millerhill to treat kerbside collected residual waste is now operational. The joint project will aid both Councils in meeting Zero waste targets and to produce electricity from the waste. The plant will incinerate around 135,000 tonnes of household residual waste and a further 20,000 tonnes of commercial waste every year from Midlothian Council and City of Edinburgh Councils. It will generate electricity to power approximately 32,000 households.

A separate facility, which takes the food waste collected by the partner councils, is in operation on a neighbouring site. It is hoped that these facilities will help both authorities contribute to the national recycling target of 70% by 2025 and only 5% of waste going to landfill by 2025.

During 2023/24 MLC Roads Service resurfaced 14.83km of carriageway 4.59km of footway. New waste service standards and waste collection policies were approved by Council this year. The development of these policies will ensure services operate transparently and fairly, encouraging householder participation, maximise the quality and quantity of materials collected for recycling

and improve operational efficiencies.

£2.2m was awarded from the Scottish Government’s Recycling Improvement Fund which allows the Council to fully transition existing waste and recycling collection services to meet the recommendations in the Charter for Household Waste Recycling.



Road Services

There has been significant capital investment in modern road maintenance equipment including a road planer to remove the surface of roads, specialist rollers, road tar hot box and mobile welfare facilities for staff. The purchase of a JBC Pothole Pro (PHP) will play a key part in recovering our road and footpath network going forward.

Table 53: The total savings in street lighting carbon emissions and percentage of all street light repairs completed within 7 days managed by, or on behalf of, Midlothian Council from 2019 - 2022

| Reporting Period | Total savings in street lighting carbon emissions (Tonnes) | % of all street lighting repairs completed within 7 days |
|------------------|--|--|
| 2019 | 1206 Tonnes | 80.5% |
| 2020 | 1295 Tonnes | 94% |
| 2021 | 1256 Tonnes | 100% |
| 2022 | 1075 Tonnes* | 98.74% |
| 2023 | 1121 Tonnes | 98.42 |

* Reduced Carbon saving caused by Emission factor being reduced per KWH.

Table 54: The percentage of footpath and total road network resurfaced managed by, or on behalf of, Midlothian Council from 2011 - 2022

| Reporting Period | Percentage of the footpath network resurfaced | Percentage of the total road network resurfaced |
|------------------|---|---|
| 2011 | 4.4% | 2.7% |
| 2012 | 0.8% | 1.62% |
| 2013 | 1.2% | 1.4% |
| 2014 | 0.2% | 1% |
| 2015 | 1.3% | 1.15% |
| 2016 | 1.7% | 1.1% |
| 2017 | 1.1% | 1.3% |
| 2018 | 0.7% | 1.67% |
| 2019 | 0.47% | 0.85% |
| 2020 | 0.38% | 0.54% |
| 2021 | 0.54% | 2.05% |
| 2022 | 1.02% | 2.89% |
| 2023 | 0.64% | 2.15% |

Midlothian Will Have a Wellbeing Economy and be Better Connected



Midlothian's economic vision is to create a connected, collaborative and ambitious culture that will support the transition to a Wellbeing Economy for Scotland, putting the collective well-being of current and future generations first and foremost (Scottish Government, '[Wellbeing economy toolkit](#)', 2022)

The vision for the Midlothian Strategy for Inclusive Economic Growth 2025-2030 is to create a wellbeing economy for Midlothian where everyone can live, work and do business sustainably to generate wealth and wellbeing for its citizens with:

- A commitment to Sustainability, Inclusivity and Innovation
- Support for Communities and Businesses
- Thriving Town Centres
- Fair Work and Opportunities for all.

The Strategy's 6 strategic priorities are:

- Develop Midlothian's Proposition within the Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region
- Enhance Skills and Employability Opportunities
- Maximise the Potential of Key Sectors
- Capitalise on Strategic Partnerships
- Re-imagine Town Centres
- Deliver Infrastructure Enhancements

The Community Wealth Building approach has five interconnected pillars that focus on People, Place and Planet. Community Wealth Building changes the way local economies function by redirecting wealth into local economies, creating opportunities for the benefit local people.

Midlothian Council's Economic Development Service has supported the Progressive Procurement and Plural Ownership Pillars since 2020, localising our supply chain to redirect wealth into the local economy and support a Just Transition, and encouraging and supporting commercialisation of the Third Sector.

Community Wealth Building Pillars:

- Plural ownership of the economy
- Making financial power work for local places
- Fair employment and just labour markets
- Progressive procurement of goods and services
- Socially productive use of land and property

The Midlothian economy is diverse yet retains its traditional and primary industries, while also benefitting from changing trends with a growing number of high-tech enterprises. It is part of the Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region (ESESCR) and to a large extent the Capital City supports a large number of jobs for commuters from Midlothian with public transport connections by bus and train.

Midlothian is home to a number of important clusters of high growth businesses bringing high gross value-added economic activities together. Key sectors include:

- **Life Sciences** - The internationally recognised Midlothian Science Zone is a world-leading

centre for research in animal science and food security and is the largest concentration of animal related expertise in Europe.

- **Data Driven Innovation** - Midlothian and the University of Edinburgh have invested heavily in DDI and the Newbattle Digital Centre for Excellence preparing our future workforce by developing the data and digital skills for the future world of work, fostering digital inclusion and enabling young people to engage in a wider programme around data skills.
- **Construction** – as the fastest growing local authority region in Scotland, Midlothian has significant house building programmes along with major commercial projects in the pipeline.
- **Tourism** – Midlothian has a strong and growing tourism offer and the close proximity to the City of Edinburgh assist the growth of our businesses.

In 2024 there were **2,795 local unit businesses** - 175 were defined as large (having more than 250 employees). This figure includes national companies not necessarily headquartered in Midlothian but having a Midlothian branch.

Source: [Businesses in Scotland 2024](#)

Midlothian’s largest employer is in the public sector, Midlothian Council headquartered in Dalkeith with 3990 employees.

Source: Midlothian Council.

Between October 2023 and October 2024, the main occupations in Midlothian by Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) were:

- Professional (13,900).
- Associate Professional and Technical (7,500).
- Caring, Leisure, and Other Service Occupations (7,000).
- Skilled Trades Occupations (3,800).
- Administrative & Secretarial (3,200).
- Managers, Directors and Senior Officials (4,300).
- Process Plant & Machine Operatives (2,400)

Key sectors by number of businesses in Midlothian are Wholesale and Retail Trade, Education, Human Health and Social Work, Manufacturing and Construction.

Source: www.nomisweb.co.uk

Local business

Midlothian continues to have a diverse business base comprising of sole traders, micro enterprises, and SME’s and a thriving third sector.

The following statistics have been taken from the Scottish Government’s Businesses in Scotland 2022 publication.

Table 51: Number of PAYE/VAT registered businesses in Midlothian

| | 2020 | % | 2022 | % | 2024 | % |
|---------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Small | 2445 | 89.9 | 2470 | 90.1 | 2515 | 89.9 |
| Medium | 100 | 3.7 | 95 | 3.5 | 105 | 3.8 |
| Large | 175 | 6.4 | 175 | 6.4 | 175 | 6.3 |

| | | | |
|---------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Totals | 2720 | 2740 | 2795 |
|---------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|

- **Source:** [Businesses in Scotland 2024](#) In 2012 Midlothian had 2,210 businesses; Midlothian has had steady growth since 2020 with an increase of 75 businesses during the four year period. Of the current 2,795 enterprises, small businesses accounted for 89.9% of the enterprises and employed 43% of the workforce in 2024.
- Midlothian has fewer smaller enterprises at 89.9% than the Scottish average of 96.3%.
- In 2024 the number of large enterprises in Midlothian reduced by 0.1% compared to 2022. Also, employment has reduced to 38.38 of the workforce compared to 40.7% in 2022.

Table 52: Self-employed aged 16 and over

- The number of self-employed people was 7,000 (11.4% of the 16 – 64 population) between October 2023 and October 2024. Midlothian was higher in proportion of self-employed people than Scotland (8.2%) and Great Britain (9.2%).

| Dates | Midlothian | Scotland | GB |
|-------------------|-----------------|----------|-----|
| | Count % | % | % |
| Apr 2020-Mar 2021 | 3,800 (5.8%) | 7.8 | 9.6 |
| Apr 2021-Mar 2022 | 5,300 (8.3%) | 7.8 | 9.3 |
| Apr 2022-Mar 2023 | 3,800 (6.5) | 7.1 | 9.2 |
| Oct 2023-Oct 2024 | 7,000 (11.4) | 8.2 | 9.2 |

Source: www.nomisweb.co.uk

Of note from the table below are the strengths of Construction (450 businesses); Professional Scientific and Technical activities (380 businesses); and Wholesale and Retail Trade; Repair of Motor Vehicles and Motorcycles (425 businesses). The small employee size band is the most predominant size of business for the aforementioned sectors, making up 96.7%, 93.4%, and 76.5% respectively.

Table 53: Enterprises by size band and broad industry categories in Midlothian 2022.

| Industry | Employee Sizeband | | | |
|--|-------------------|--------|------|--------|
| | 0-49 | 50-249 | 250+ | Total* |
| A: Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing | 110 | 0 | 0 | 110 |
| B: Mining and Quarrying | 0 | 0 | 5 | 5 |
| C: Manufacturing | 150 | 15 | 5 | 175 |
| D: Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply | 10 | 0 | 0 | 10 |
| E: Water supply; Sewerage, waste management and remediation activities | 15 | 0 | 5 | 20 |
| F: Construction | 480 | 10 | 10 | 500 |

| Industry | Employee Sizeband | | | |
|---|-------------------|------------|------------|-------------|
| | 0-49 | 50-249 | 250+ | Total* |
| G: Wholesale and retail trade; Repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles | 320 | 25 | 75 | 420 |
| H: Transportation and storage | 90 | 0 | 5 | 95 |
| I: Accommodation and food service activities | 175 | 0 | 15 | 195 |
| J: Information and communication | 110 | 0 | 5 | 115 |
| K: Financial and insurance activities | 40 | 0 | 10 | 45 |
| L: Real estate activities | 95 | 0 | 5 | 110 |
| M: Professional, scientific and technical activities | 360 | 15 | 10 | 385 |
| N: Administrative and support service activities | 220 | 5 | 10 | 230 |
| P: Education | 35 | 0 | 0 | 40 |
| Q: Human health and social work activities | 100 | 15 | 15 | 135 |
| R: Arts, entertainment and recreation | 65 | 5 | 5 | 70 |
| S: Other service activities | 145 | 5 | 0 | 150 |
| Total | 2515 | 105 | 175 | 2800 |

Source: <https://www.gov.scot/publications/businesses-in-scotland-2024/>

Note: The 'Total' figures may not agree with the sum of other columns as statistics are rounded up or down to the nearest increment of five.

Midlothian Will Work Towards Reducing Poverty



Child Poverty

In 2022-23, a number of data sources were examined to establish the picture of child poverty in Midlothian, including children living in low-income families by school catchment area and children living in poverty (after housing costs). Further work is ongoing over 2024/25 to establish an agreed set of indicators for poverty, including child poverty, with the Improvement Service and national partners. This year, early 2025, DWP updated their approach so that it now includes Scottish Child Payment as an income source for the first time, and have backdated this approach to all historic years. This means some previous data outlined may now be incorrect. For more information, please see this link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/children-in-low-income-families-local-area-statistics-background-information-and-methodology/background-information-and-methodology-children-in-low-income-families-local-area-statistics>.

Table 55: % of children living in poverty, below 60% median income after housing costs

| Area | 2019/20 | 2020/21 | 2021/22 | % point change 2020-2022 |
|----------------------|---------|---------|---------|-----------------------------|
| Midlothian | 23.9% | 20.0% | 22.7% | -1.2% |
| East Lothian | 24.5% | 18.9% | 21.1% | -3.4% |
| West Lothian | 24.6% | 21.1% | 23.9% | -0.7% |
| City of Edinburgh | 20.3% | 17.2% | 19.5% | -0.8% |
| Scottish Borders | 24.2% | 19.5% | 23.4% | -0.8% |
| Scotland | 24.3% | 24.6% | 24.5% | 0.2% |

Child poverty rates vary across Midlothian localities, and the table below highlights the extent of child poverty across Midlothian datazone areas. The data illustrates higher levels of child poverty in areas of multiple deprivation and helps us to understand where targeted approaches may be required.

Table 56: Child poverty rates across Midlothian 2024

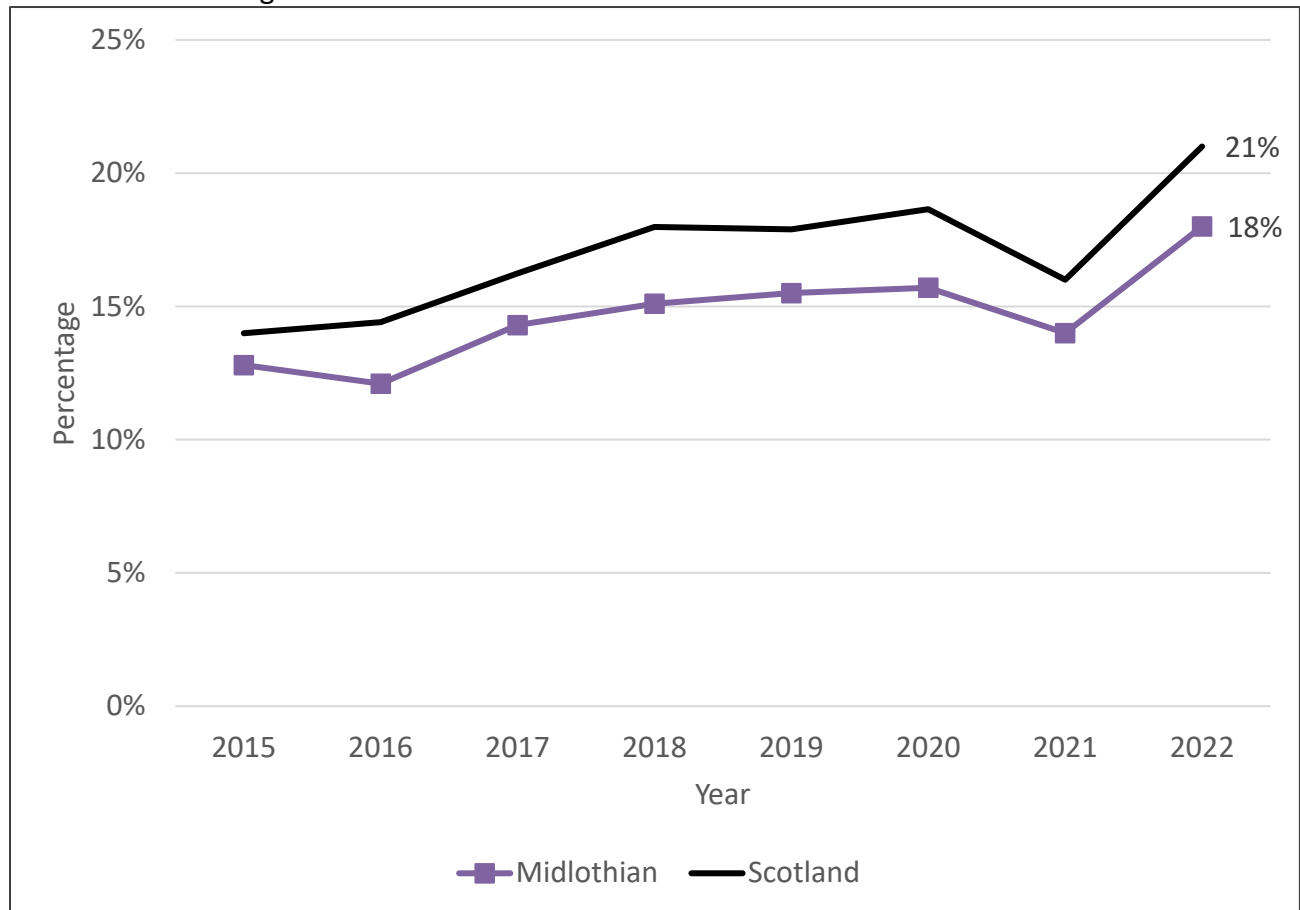
Data source: [CPOP](#) – these figures are projections and are subject to change

| Ward | % projections from CPOP for 2024/25 |
|------------------------|--|
| Penicuik | 15.7% |
| Bonnyrigg | 15.95% |
| Dalkeith | 28.1% |
| Mayfield and Easthouse | 23.15% |
| Gorebridge | 20.95% |
| Newtongrange | 12.1% |
| Loanhead | 15.8% |

The mid-2021 population estimates were the latest available. % are shown for children under 16 due to difficulty identifying 16 to 19 year olds defined as child dependents in the population estimates.

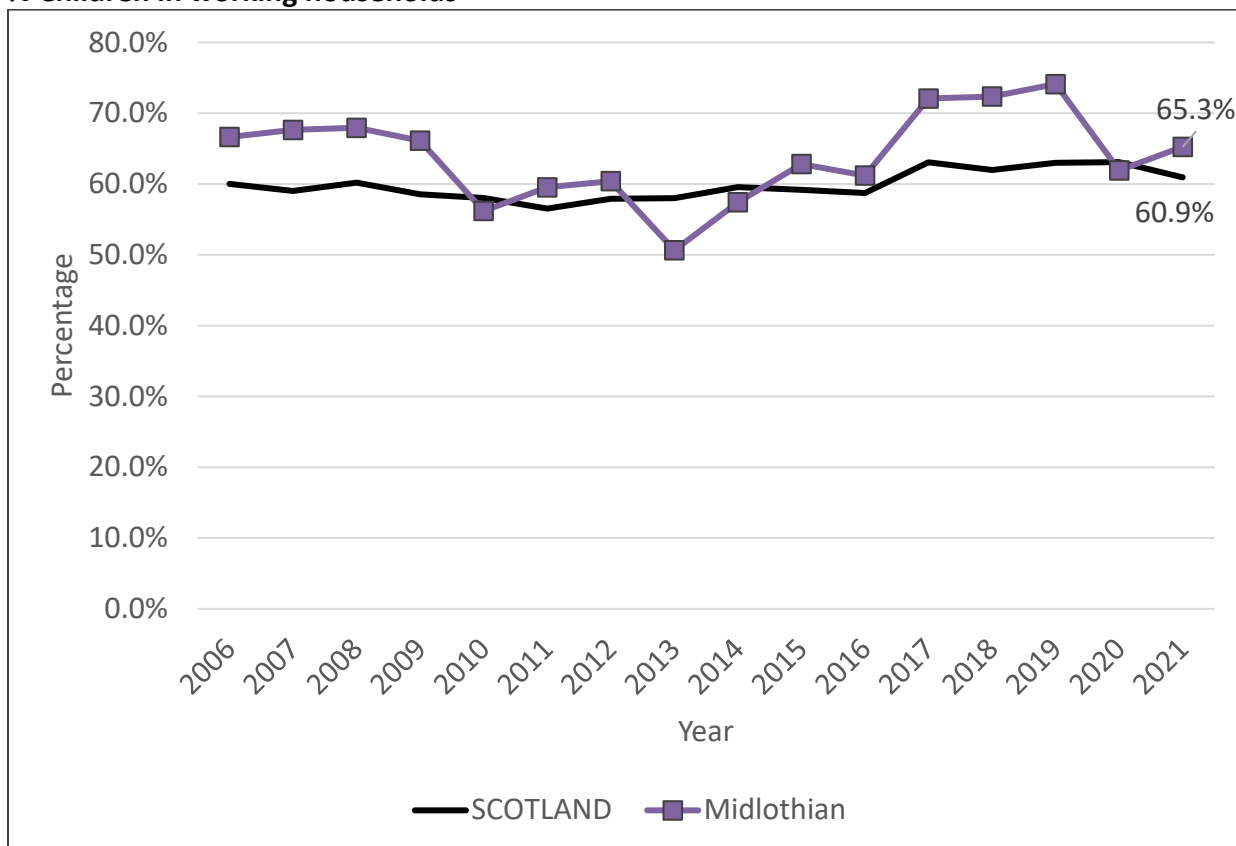
Figure 37: Percentage of Children (under 16) living in relative low income families

Data Source: www.gov.uk.



This chart shows the proportions of all children under 16 who live in households that contain at least one person aged 16 to 64, where all individuals aged 16 and over are in employment. These statistics are taken from the Annual Population Survey (APS) and cover calendar years. Please note that changes year-on-year are volatile in a number of local authority areas due to sample size. The overall trend should be considered rather than individual data points.

**Figure 38: Source: ONS, Workless households for regions across the UK
% Children in working households**



Out of work benefits

In March 2025, 1,405 Midlothian residents, up from 1,370 residents in July 2023, were receiving out of work benefits. This included a greater number of male than female claimants; 805 and 595 respectively.

Best Start Grant and Best Start Foods

Best Start Grant and Best Start Foods are a collection of payments which provide parents or carers who get certain low income benefits or tax credits with financial support during pregnancy and the key early years of a child's life. There is a single application form that enables an individual to apply for any relevant Best Start Grant Payments - Pregnancy and Baby Payment , Early Learning Payment and School Age Payment as well as Best Start Foods - a recurring four weekly pre-paid card payment which can be used towards the cost of purchasing healthy foods including fresh, dried, tinned and frozen items.

Rather than indicating what they wish to apply for on the form, applicants provide details about

themselves, their partner, all dependent children, and any details about their pregnancy and expected children. When the application is processed, Social Security Scotland determines which elements of Best Start Grant the client is eligible to receive and makes a payment to the client to cover all applicable elements. Social Security Scotland will also determine whether the client is eligible for Best Start Foods.

Applications and payments for Best Start Grants and Best Start Foods in Midlothian from 2018/19 – 2023/24 are detailed below:

Table 57: Best Start Grants and Best Start Foods applications 2018-2024

| | Applications for Best Start Grant - Pregnancy and Baby Payment | Applications for Best Start Grant - Early Learning Payment | Applications for Best Start grant - School Age Payment | Applications for Best Start Foods | Total Midlothian applications |
|--------------------|--|--|--|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Number | 3,675 | 2,965 | 2,220 | 5,950 | 9,550 |
| Total value | £759,944 | £628,671 | £655,028 | £1,082,078 | £3,125,722 |

Table 58: Best Start Grant & Best Start Foods applications 2018-24

| | 2018-19 | 2019-20 | 2020-21 | 2021-22 | 2022-23 | 2023-24 | Total |
|---|--------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|-------|
| Applications received | 350 | 2,240 | 2,240 | 1,705 | 1,570 | 1,445 | 9,550 |
| Applications processed | 320 | 2,090 | 2,115 | 1,710 | 1,625 | 1,615 | 9,475 |
| Applications authorised | 225 (71%) | 1,485 (71%) | 1,480 (70%) | 1,160 (68%) | 1,075 (66%) | 925 (57%) | 6,350 |
| Applications denied | 90 (28%) | 525 (25%) | 605 (29%) | 395 (23%) | 500 (31%) | 655 (40%) | 2,770 |
| Applications withdrawn | 5 (1%) | 80 (4%) | 30 (2%) | 155 (9%) | 50 (3%) | 35 (2%) | 355 |
| % processed authorised | 71% | 71% | 70% | 68% | 66% | 67% | 69% |
| % processed applications denied | 28% | 25% | 29% | 23% | 31% | 29% | 27% |
| % processed applications withdrawn | 1% | 4% | 2% | 9% | 3% | 4% | 4% |

(Source: [Best Start Grant and Best Start Foods: high level statistics to 31 March 2023 - gov.scot](https://www.gov.scot/best-start-grant-and-best-start-foods-high-level-statistics-to-31-march-2023) (www.gov.scot))

Scottish Child Payment

On 9 November 2020, Social Security Scotland began taking applications for Scottish Child Payment. At the beginning of the application process, individuals can choose to make a joint application for

Scottish Child Payment, Best Start Grant and Best Start Foods. If they choose to do this, the applicant completes one application form for all of these benefits.

To make it easier for families to access the support they are entitled to, Social Security Scotland began, on 28 November 2022, to award Best Start Grant Early Learning Payment and School Age Payment automatically to eligible families in receipt of Scottish Child Payment. These awards, made to individuals who are in receipt of Scottish Child Payment and who have an eligible child within the relevant Early Learning Payment or School Age Payment application window, happen automatically without the need for a new application.

Scottish Child Payment is intended to provide regular, additional financial support for families already in receipt of qualifying benefits to assist with the costs of caring for a child. From launch to March 2024, 6,920 applications were received for Midlothian, of these 6,860 were processed and 5,635 authorised.

Table 59: Scottish Child Payment applications Feb 2021 – 2024

| | Launch to 31/01/21 | 2021 -2022 | 2022 – 2023 | 2023-24 | Total |
|--|-----------------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|----------------|
| Applications received | 1,990 | 1,045 | 2,810 | 1,075 | 6,920 |
| *Applications processed | 1,540 | 1,315 | 2,740 | 1,385 | 6,860 |
| No. of applications authorised and % of processed applications authorised | 1,420 (92)% | 995 (75%) | 2,355 (86%) | 865 (62%) | 5,635 (82%) |
| Value | £68,290 | £1,059,740 | £3,596,315 | £8,085,885 | £12,821,320 |

Young Carer Grant

Young Carer Grant is a yearly payment of £359.65 (rising to £383.75 from 1/4/24) for young carers in Scotland. To be eligible for Young Carer Grant, carers must be 16-18 years old and have been caring for 1-3 people for an average of 16 hours a week for at least the last 3 months. Young Carer Grant is paid once a year, up until the age of 19yrs.

Table 60: Young Carer Grant applications Oct 2019 – April 2023

| | From launch to 30 April 2020 | From launch to 30 April 2021 | From launch to 30 April 2022 | From launch to 30 April 2023 | From launch to March 2024 | Total |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------|
| Applications received | 30 | 60 | 75 | 85 | 95 | 354 |
| *Applications processed | 25 | 65 | 70 | 75 | 90 | 325 |
| Applications | 20 | 40 | 40 | 40 | 55 | 195 |

| | From launch to 30 April 2020 | From launch to 30 April 2021 | From launch to 30 April 2022 | From launch to 30 April 2023 | From launch to March 2024 | Total |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|---------|
| authorised (% processed apps) | (80%) | (62%) | (57%) | (53%) | (61%) | (60%) |
| Value | £6,000 | £12,194 | £12,015 | £12,031 | £19,777 | £61,998 |

Job Start Payment

Job Start Payment is a payment to help young people in Scotland with the costs associated with the transition into employment after a period of time out of paid work. It's a one off payment of £314.45 available to young people in Scotland who are on certain benefits, and need help with the costs of starting a new job. If the person has a child, they could get £503.10.

Table 61: Job Start Payment Applications Aug 2020 – March 2024

| | 2020-21 (from Aug 20) | 2021-22 | 2022-23 | 2023-24 | Total* |
|--|-----------------------|----------|---------|----------|----------|
| Applications received | 30 | 90 | 20 | 20 | 160 |
| *Applications processed | 25 | 80 | 20 | 30 | 155 |
| Applications authorised (% processed apps) | 10 (31%) | 30 (38%) | 5 (26%) | 10 (33%) | 55 (34%) |
| Value | £2,300 | £8,989 | £1,201 | £2,551 | £15,137 |

* Applications are processed once a decision has been made to authorise or deny, or once an application is withdrawn by the applicant

Child Disability Payment

Child Disability Payment provides money to help with the extra care and mobility costs that a child or young person living with a disability might have. In 22 November 2021, Child Disability Payment launched nationwide to all new applicants living in Scotland.

Table 62: Number of applicants for child disability payment in Midlothian

| Child Disability Payment | 2023 – June 2024 |
|--------------------------|------------------|
| Applications received | 615 |
| Applications processed* | 685 |
| Applications authorised | 495 (80%) |
| Value | £10,595,640 |

* Applications are processed once a decision has been made to authorise or deny, or once an application is withdrawn by the applicant

Clothing grants and Free School Meals

Midlothian Council provide children from low-income families with free school meals (FSM), and money to help towards buying school clothes. An award provides a pupil with one free meal each day they attend school and a BACS payment to cover holiday periods.

Table 63: Free school meal registrations in Midlothian

| FSM Registrations | 2020/21* No. (%) | 2021/22* No. (%) | 2022/23* No. (%) | 2023/24** No (%) |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Primary | 624 (14%) | 489 (14%) | 367 (16%) | 458 (19%) |
| Secondary | 636 (12%) | 707 (13%) | 743 (13%) | 936 (15%) |
| Special | 50 (57%) | 57 (61%) | 102 (100%) | 30 (45%) |
| Total | 1310 | 1253 | 1212 | 1320 |

(Source: These figures are taken using census information from September each year)

* In 2020/21, universal FSM was provided for P1-P3.

**In 2021/22, universal FSM was provided for P1-P4.

**In 2022/23, universal FSM was provided for P1-P5.

Table 64: Clothing grant awards in Midlothian

| Clothing grants | 2018/19 | 2021/22 | 2022/23 | 2023/24 |
|------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Primary | £125,280 | £165,490 | £171,900 | £163,530 |
| Secondary | £60,890 | £128,380 | £129,060 | £136,650 |
| Special | £1,060 | £4,290 | £4,320 | £4,920 |
| Total | £187,230 | £298,160 | £305,280 | £305,100 |

Clothing grants are now paid at:

- £120 for primary pupils (£100, 2018/19)
- £150 for secondary pupils (£100, 2018/19)



Foodbank

Vouchers by Ward

Table 65: Number of vouchers issued by ward and by adult/children

| | No of vouchers | Adults | Children | TOTAL |
|------------------|----------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Bonnyrigg | 190 | 287 | 296 | 583 |
| Dalkeith | 459 | 625 | 388 | 1013 |
| Midlothian East | 605 | 970 | 1076 | 2046 |
| Midlothian South | 762 | 1192 | 1088 | 2280 |
| Midlothian West | 133 | 183 | 186 | 369 |
| Penicuik | 34 | 39 | 35 | 74 |
| NFA | 2 | 3 | 2 | 5 |
| Unknown | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| TOTAL | 2185 | 3299 | 3071 | 6370 |

Crisis

Table 66: Number of crisis vouchers issued by ward and by adult/children

| | No of vouchers | Adults | Children | TOTAL |
|-----------------------------|----------------|--------|----------|-------|
| Benefit Changes | 69 | 105 | 90 | 195 |
| Benefit Delays | 169 | 248 | 178 | 426 |
| Child Holiday Meals | 572 | 909 | 1464 | 2373 |
| Debt | 445 | 653 | 583 | 1236 |
| Delayed Wages | 24 | 40 | 37 | 77 |
| Domestic Violence | 24 | 27 | 54 | 81 |
| Homeless | 28 | 31 | 9 | 40 |
| Low Income | 18 | 27 | 22 | 49 |
| No recourse to public funds | 9 | 12 | 3 | 15 |
| Other | 314 | 454 | 389 | 843 |

| | No of vouchers | Adults | Children | TOTAL |
|--------------|----------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Refused STBA | 34 | 43 | 18 | 61 |
| Sickness | 85 | 133 | 131 | 264 |
| Total | 1791 | 2682 | 2978 | 5660 |

Age Groups

Table 67: Midlothian residents using food bank by age

| Age Group | No of people |
|-----------------|--------------|
| 0-4 | 822 |
| 5-11 | 1240 |
| 12-16 | 662 |
| Child (unknown) | 254 |
| 17-24 | 337 |
| 25-64 | 1584 |
| 65+ | 46 |
| Adult (unknown) | 715 |
| TOTAL | 5660 |

Family Types

Table 68: Midlothian family types and the number of vouchers

| Size of Family | No. of Vouchers |
|----------------|-----------------|
| Couple | 93 |
| Family | 567 |
| Single | 416 |
| Single Parent | 609 |
| Other | 106 |
| TOTAL | 1791 |

Scottish Government flexible funding to tackle financial insecurity over Winter 2021-22 enabled our Winter Flexible Fund partners to provide

over 850 instances of support to Midlothian residents. 76% of the funding supported residents with food and fuel costs, including dealing with fuel poverty. Other costs included provision of white goods, petrol, outdoor clothing for school camp, a bed, bedding, warm clothing, and job-related expenses.

2089 families benefited from a £40 additional payment to the Child Bridging Payment to support with the increased cost of living and Midlothian residents on low incomes accessing the Scottish Welfare Fund were able to get funding to support with food, heating, and unexpected costs to cover an emergency.

Scottish Welfare Fund

The Scottish Welfare Fund is one of the key benefits administered by Midlothian Council. Crisis Grants may help residents who are in crisis because of a disaster, such as a fire or flood, or an emergency such as losing all their money or having to visit a sick child in hospital. Community Care Grants may help residents who are about to leave care to live on their own in the community, or to help those who are struggling to provide a safe and secure home for their family. There are limits to the number of applications that can be made for both funds. Allocations for 2021/22 and 2022/23 are detailed below.

Table 69: Crisis grant applications and value in Midlothian

| | 2021/22 | 2022/23 |
|-----------------|---------------|---------------|
| Paid | 3,953 (56.6%) | 4,083 (52.4%) |
| Declined | 118 (1.7%) | 165 (2.2%) |
| Refused | 2,908 (41.7%) | 3,542 (45.4%) |
| TOTAL | 6,979 | 7,790 |
| Value | £452,499 | £450,850 |

Table 70: Community Care Grant applications and value in Midlothian

| | 2021/22 | 2022/23 |
|-----------------|-------------|-------------|
| Paid | 483 (33.7%) | 490 (33.6%) |
| Declined | 121 (8.4%) | 21 (1.4%) |
| Refused | 830 (57.9%) | 946 (64.%) |

| | 2021/22 | 2022/23 |
|--------------|----------|----------|
| TOTAL | 1,434 | 1,457 |
| Value | £353,094 | £449,088 |

Social Security Scotland data

| Benefit | 2024 figures |
|--------------------------|------------------------|
| Winter Heating Payment | 7,160 |
| Child Winter Payment | 965 |
| Best Start | 6630 authorised |
| Job Start | 55 authorised |
| Carer Benefit | 20 approved |
| Funeral Payment | 345 offered |
| Scottish Child Payment | 5790 offered |
| Adult Disability Payment | 2260 offered |



Housing

Figure 39 shows the change in Midlothian Council’s housing stock by year. The trend shows the effect of the Council’s new-build programme and off market purchases with increasing stock levels.

Figure 39: Level of Council Housing Stock, 2011 – 2024

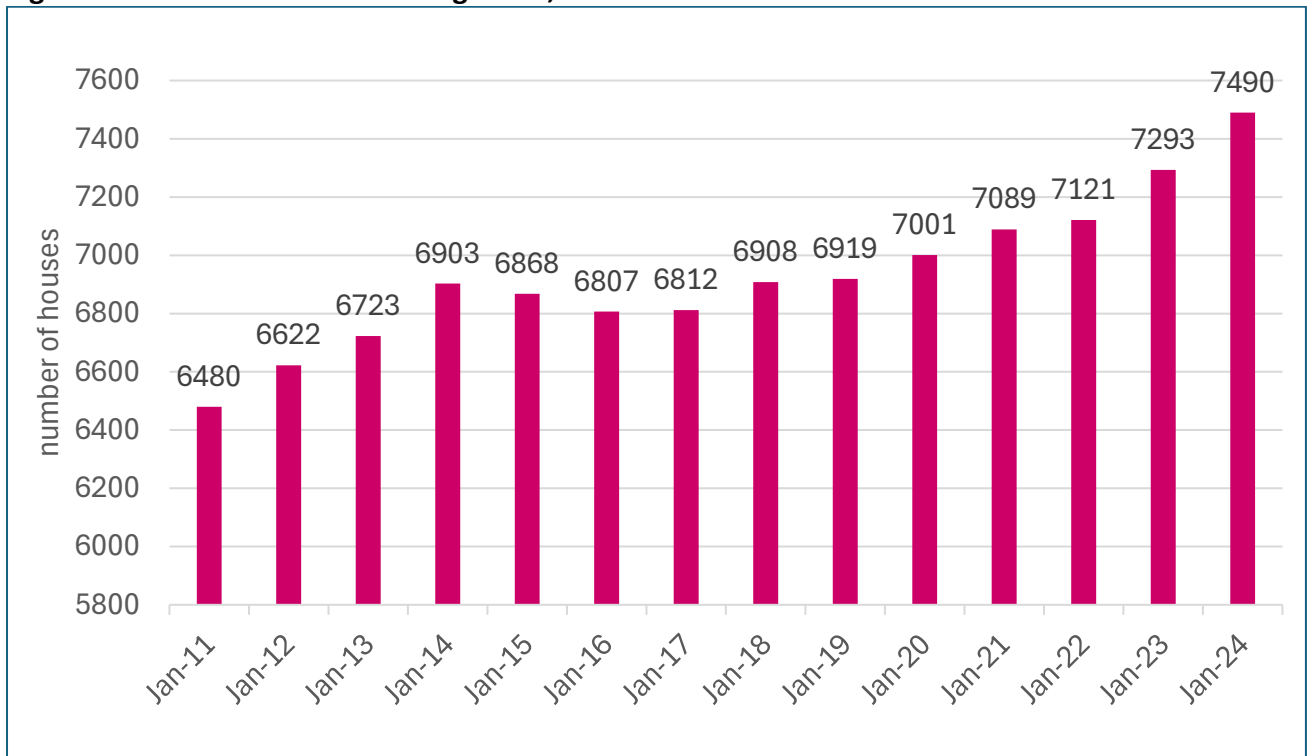
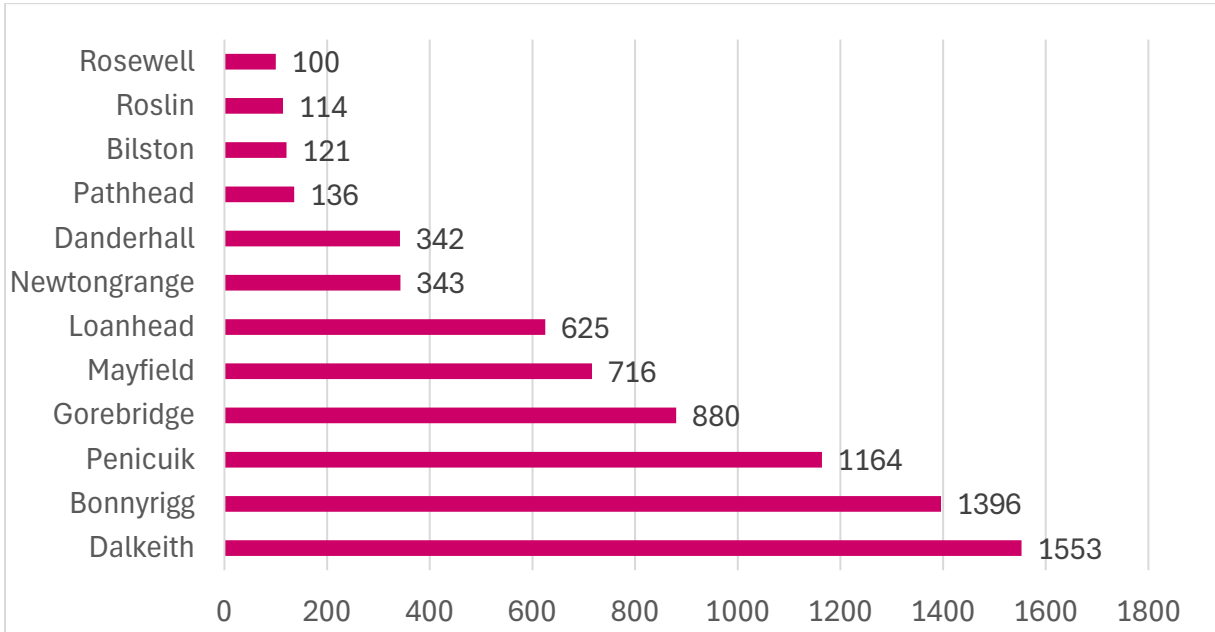


Figure 40 shows the breakdown of stock by area in Midlothian, with the larger towns and villages containing the largest number of homes, conversely rural areas have fewer council properties. Several of the smaller villages have been combined for example Pathhead includes Cousland and Mayfield includes Easthouses.

Figure 40: Midlothian Council's Housing Stock by Area 2023



All affordable rented housing in Scotland needs to meet a minimum standard for property condition called the Scottish Housing Quality Standard (SHQS). Figure 41 benchmarks Midlothian Council with the rest of Scotland in meeting this standard although continued investment is required in the stock in order that housing continues to meet the SHQS. The figures presented contain a discrepancy in reporting. We are working to resolve this, as we do not believe these figures represent the quality of your homes.

Figure 41: Number of new build houses Let in 2023 - 2024

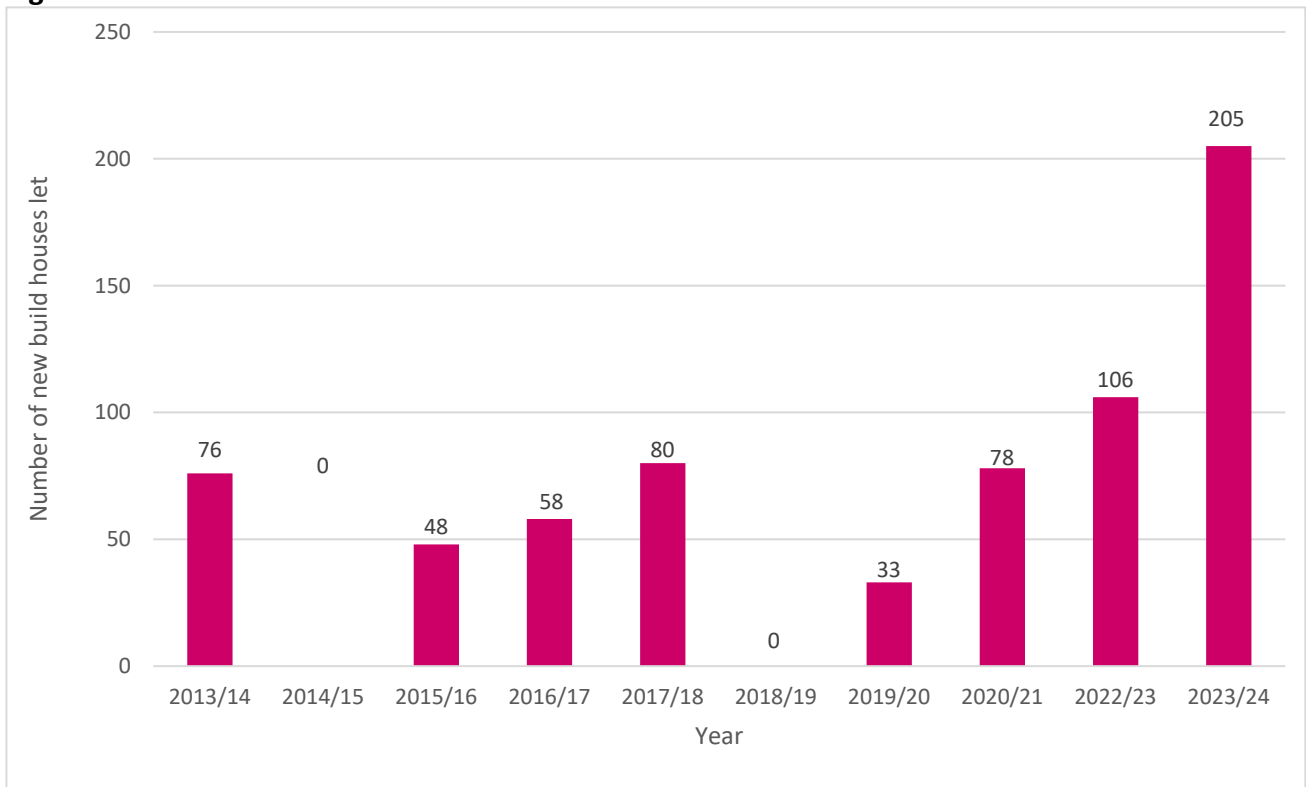


Figure 42 shows detail of the Housing List for housing at Midlothian Council – this figure can fluctuate due to waiting list reviews and the number of lets being made in a year. Currently there are 6027 applicants on the Council’s Housing List.

Figure 42: Number on Council House Waiting List

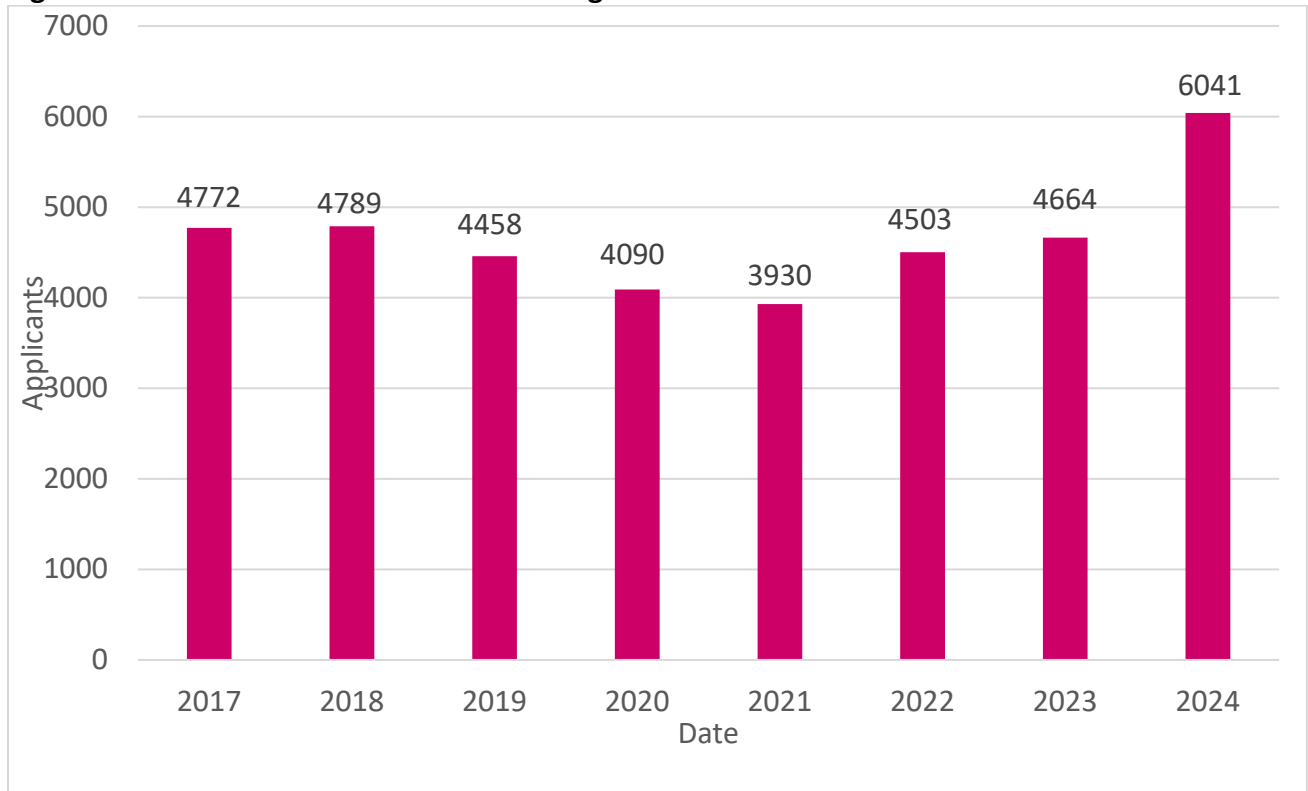
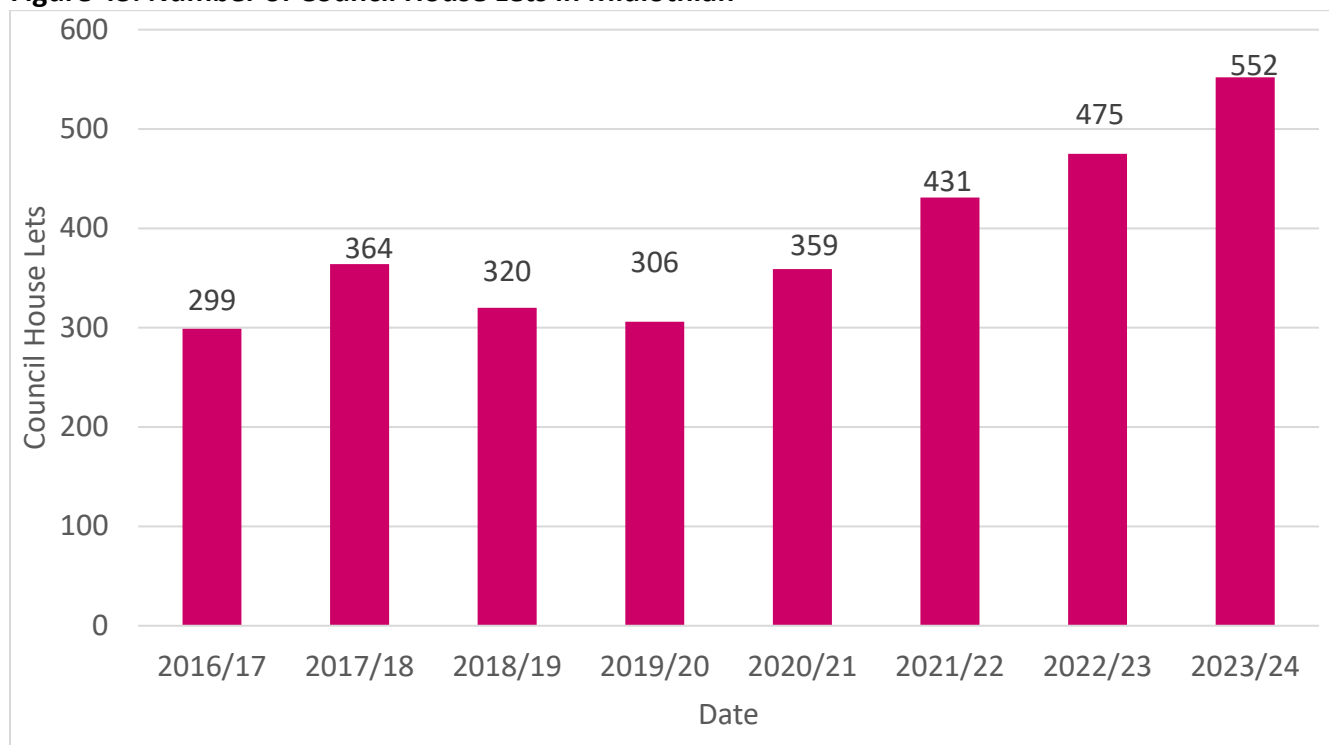


Figure 43 shows how the number of lets is starting to increase, this is due to the numbers of properties being completed in Midlothian’s New-Build programme. This number is expected to continue to rise during 2024/25 and beyond.

Figure 43: Number of Council House Lets in Midlothian



Combining council new build development with that of housing associations in the same period gives a total of 2,432 affordable or subsidised homes built during this period. A recent study of Housing Need and Demand in South East Scotland indicated that the level of need for housing to meet current and future projected need was very high, with 8,246 new units required to meet the need for housing in Midlothian. Need for social rented housing was highest, accounting for over half of the required new units. An indication of the demand for housing in the area is the significant increase in house prices during the past decade – despite the market being affected by recession. Table 63, below, showed that prices in Midlothian have increased by 48% between 2004/05 and 2014/15 – a greater increase than Edinburgh and in Scotland as a whole. Table 65 shows the total number of completed new build homes in Midlothian with very high levels of house completions in recent years.

Annual housing requirement in 5-Year bands / constrained results

| | 2021-2025 | 2026-2030 | 2031-2035 | 2036-2040 | 20 Yr Total | 20 yr p.a |
|-----------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-------------|-----------|
| Social rent | 351 | 322 | 223 | 221 | 5,587 | 270 |
| Below market | 147 | 131 | 131 | 121 | 2,656 | 133 |
| Private rent | 63 | 46 | 40 | 36 | 926 | 46 |
| Owner occupied | 203 | 181 | 186 | 183 | 3,768 | 188 |
| Total p.a | 765 | 681 | 580 | 562 | 12,936 | 647 |
| Affordable p.a | 499 | 454 | 354 | 343 | 8,243 | 412 |
| Market p.a. | 266 | 227 | 226 | 219 | 4,693 | 235 |

Table 71: Annual Average House Price by Local Authority Area

| Local Authority | Jan-23 | Jan-24 | Difference |
|-------------------|----------|----------|------------|
| East Lothian | £285,317 | £308,378 | 8.1% |
| City of Edinburgh | £308,976 | £325,659 | 5.4% |
| Midlothian | £222,342 | £240,896 | 8.3% |
| West Lothian | £207,086 | £215,670 | 4.1% |
| Scotland | £181,612 | £190,328 | 4.8% |

Table 72: Number of new build homes built in Midlothian and Scotland, per annum

| Area | 2013-14 | 2014-15 | 2015-16 | 2016-17 | 2017-18 | 2018-19 | 2019-20 | 2020-21 | 2021-22 | 2022-23 | 2023-24 |
|------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Midlothian | 585 | 640 | 653 | 670 | 517 | 783 | 643 | 579 | 844 | 957 | 1,052 |
| Scotland | 15139 | 16748 | 16861 | 17137 | 17570 | 21269 | 22189 | 15919 | 21427 | 23726 | 19846 |

Homelessness

Figure 44 shows the level of homeless presentations to Midlothian Council by year since 2017/18. The cost of living crisis has resulted in higher requests for Homeless support.

Figure 44: Homeless Presentations to Midlothian Council

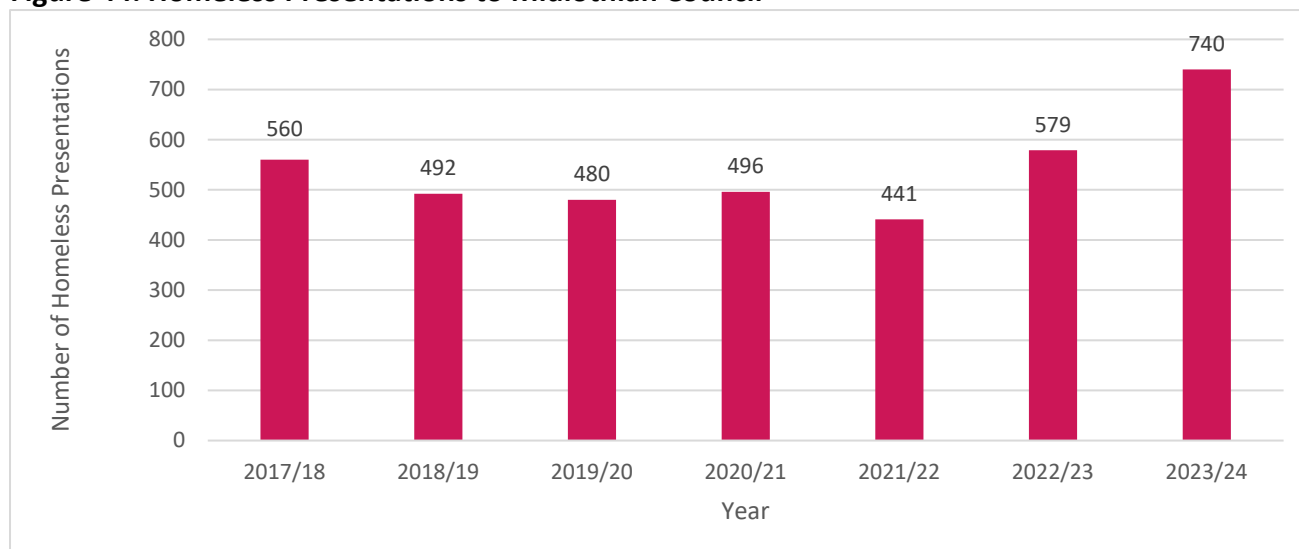
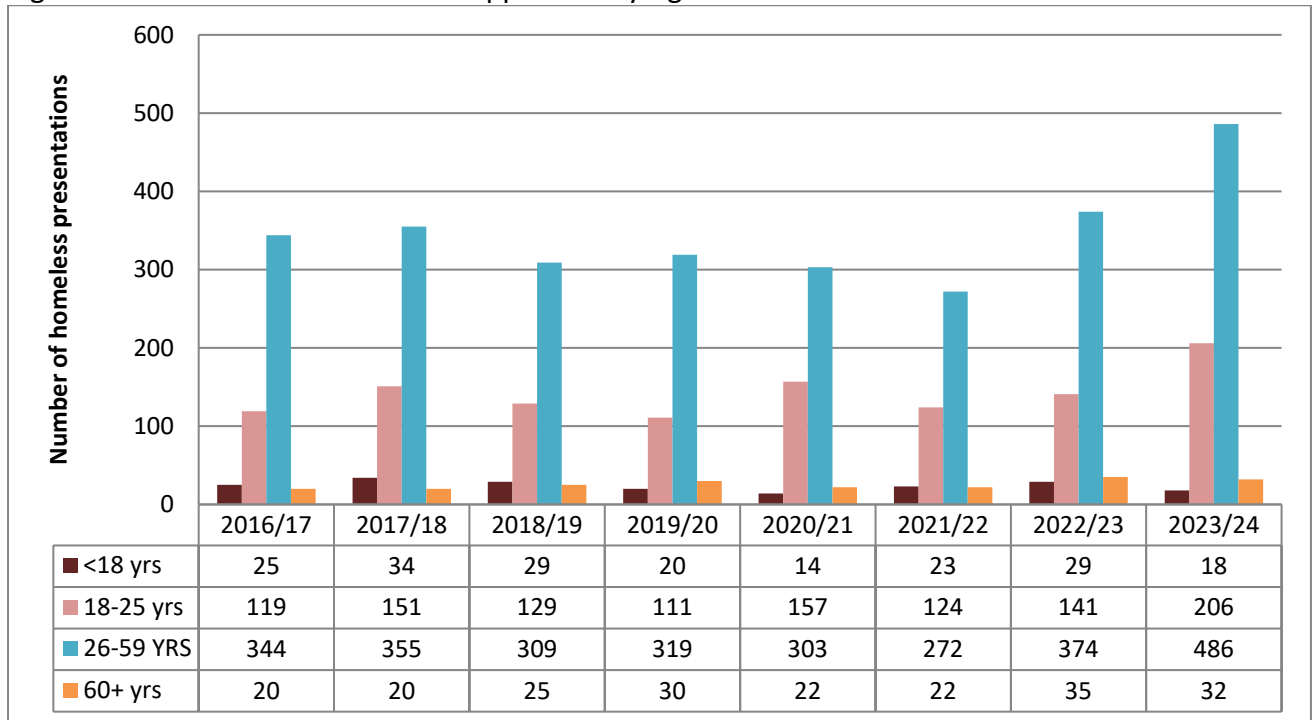


Table 73: Yearly Change in Numbers of Homeless Presentations by Area

| | 2020-21 | 2021-22 | 2022-23 | 2023-24 | Change 22-23 to 23-24 Number | Change 22-23 to 23-24 Percentage |
|-----------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Scotland | 34,367 | 35,792 | 39,308 | 40,685 | 1,377 | 4% |
| East Lothian | 629 | 654 | 700 | 790 | 90 | 13% |
| Midlothian | 496 | 441 | 579 | 740 | 161 | 28% |
| West Lothian | 1,462 | 1,190 | 1,251 | 1,169 | -82 | -7% |

The breakdown of homeless applicants into age ranges can be seen in Figure 45 which shows that most homeless households were not younger people or older people but those aged between 26 and 59.

Figure 45: Breakdown of Homeless Applicants by Age



Due to the limited supply of housing in Midlothian most homeless households spend a longer time in temporary accommodation until they can be permanently housed. We are converting some tenancies from temporary accommodation where we can.

Figure 46: Homeless Applicants Housed in Temporary Accommodation at Year End

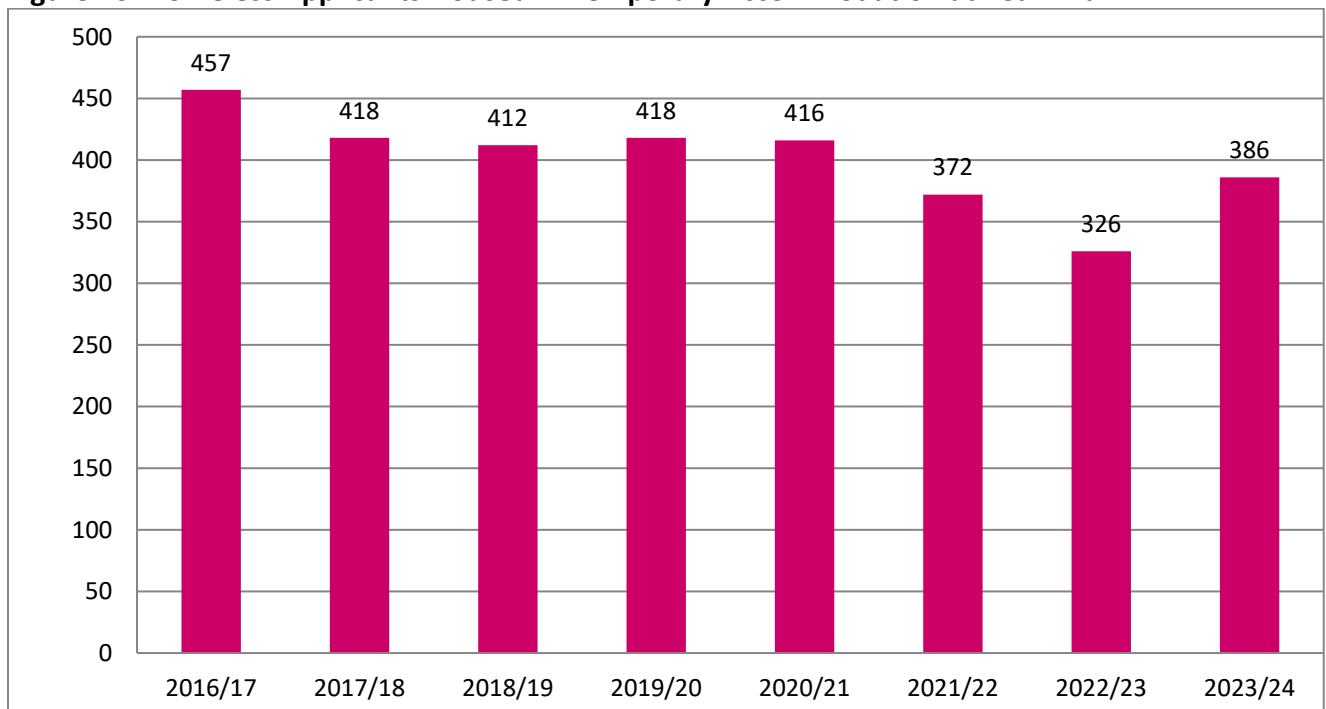


Table 74: Midlothian lets by Housing Association 2017-2024

| RSL | 2017/18 | 2018/19 | 2019/20 | 2020/21 | 2022/23 | 2023/24 | Total |
|-------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|---------------------|
| Bield HA | 19 7% | 1 1% | 0 0% | 0 0% | 0 0% | 0 0% | 20 2% |
| Blackwood HA | 0 0% | 1 1% | 1 1% | 0 0% | 0 0% | 1 1% | 3 0% |
| Castle Rock Edinvar HA | 115 43% | 36 26% | 16 21% | 11 13% | 12 7% | 0 0% | 190 22% |
| Dunedin Canmore HA | 8 3% | 9 6% | 8 10% | 2 2% | 71 42% | 49 43% | 147 17% |
| Link HA | 2 1% | 1 1% | 1 1% | 3 4% | 1 1% | 3 3% | 11 1% |
| Melville HA | 118 44% | 83 59% | 47 60% | 65 76% | 81 48% | 55 49% | 449 53% |
| Viewpoint HA | 4 2% | 2 1% | 1 1% | 1 1% | 1 1% | 4 4% | 13 2% |
| Ark HA | 0 0% | 0 0% | 0 0% | 0 0% | 0 0% | 0 0% | 0 0% |
| Trust HA | 0 0% | 8 6% | 4 5% | 3 4% | 4 2% | 1 1% | 20 2% |
| Total | 266 | 141 | 78 | 85 | 170 | 113 | 853 100% |

Data Sources

- ASHE – Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings: www.statistics.gov.uk
- DWP – Department for Work and Pensions: www.dwp.gov.uk
- Midlothian Council: www.midlothian.gov.uk
- NRS: [National Records of Scotland \(NRS\)](http://www.nrs.gov.uk)
- NHS Statistics: <https://www.publichealthscotland.scot/>
- NOMIS – Official Labour market Statistics: www.nomisweb.co.uk
- SALSUS - [Scottish Schools Adolescent Lifestyle and Substance Use Survey](http://www.salsus.gov.uk)
- [Scottish Drug Misuse Database:](http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Statistics)
- Scottish Executive Statistic: www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Statistics
- Scottish Further Education Funding Council: www.sfc.ac.uk
- Scottish Government: www.scotland.gov.uk
- SIMD – [Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation](http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Statistics/SIMD)
- Scottish Schools Online: [Scottish Schools Online | LTSCOTLAND.ORG.UK](http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Statistics/Schools)
- ScotXed: [Scottish Exchange of Data \(ScotXed\) - gov.scot](http://www.scotxed.gov.scot)
- Skills Development Scotland: www.skillsdevelopmentscotland.co.uk
- NatureScot: [NatureScot](http://www.naturescot.gov.uk)
- Forestry Commission Scotland: [Home - Forestry and Land Scotland | Forestry and Land Scotland](http://www.forestry.gov.uk)
- The Woodland Trust: [Woodlands and forests | Scottish Wildlife Trust](http://www.woodlandtrust.co.uk)
- Scottish Wildlife trust: <http://scottishwildlifetrust.org.uk>
- [Midlothian biodiversity Action Plan:](http://www.midlothian.gov.uk/Topics/Biodiversity)
- Scottish Environment Protection Area: www.sepa.org.uk/
- Drinking Water Quality Regulator for Scotland: [Drinking Water Quality Regulator for Scotland](http://www.dwr.gov.uk)
- Historic Scotland: [Historic Environment Scotland | Àrainneachd Eachdraidheil Alba](http://www.historic.gov.uk)
- Buildings at Risk Register for Scotland: www.buildingsatrisk.org.uk/
- Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs: www.defra.gov.uk
- Office for National Statistics: www.ons.gov.uk
- [Public Health Scotland. General Practice – disease prevalence data](http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Health)
- [Local Health Intelligence](http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Health)