

Scottish Borders Strategic Assessment 2020

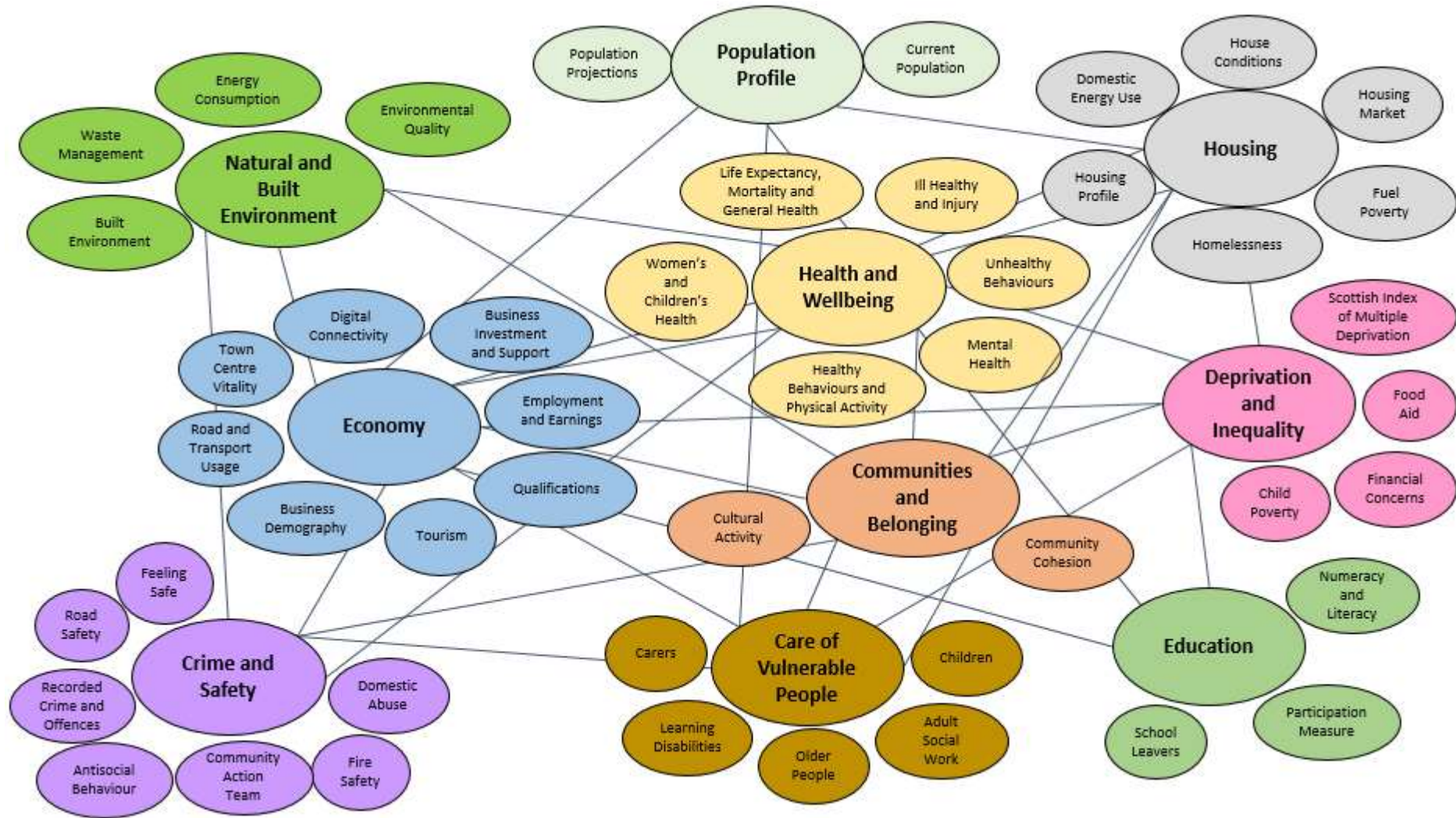
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STRATEGIC ASSESSMENT COMPONENTS – THE CONNECTIONS

The complexity and interconnectedness of the themes and components used in the strategic assessment are shown below. One theme or component should not be looked at in isolation but in a holistic manner.



OVERALL PICTURE OF THE SCOTTISH BORDERS

Going Good – Let's Keep it Up

- Over 90% of young adults (16-19 years old) in the Scottish Borders participate in education, training or employment.
- Lower % of people unemployed in Scottish Borders.
- Gender pay gap in Scottish Borders is lower than the level for Scotland.
- 9% increase in usage of Borders Railway between 2016-17 and 2017-18.
- Recorded crime has decreased by 39% between 2003-04 and 2018-19.
- 78% of people who live in the Scottish Borders feel “very” or “fairly” strongly that they belong to their community.
- Over 90% of the Safer Communities Mediation Cases show agreement or improvements after mediation.
- The Community Action Team have had an impact in each locality addressing antisocial behaviour, road traffic and parking issues.
- Scottish Borders has a larger “carbon sink” than the Scottish average, due to its larger land area which is covered in forestry. It has been generally increasing, which makes the Scottish Borders a tremendous asset to Scotland’s efforts to naturally offset CO2 pollution.
- Scottish Borders has 210 protected sites, of which 76.3% are in Favourable or Recovering condition.

Going OK – Let's Get Better

- 70% of adults say they have “Good” or “Very Good” health.
- Adults in the Scottish Borders report similar levels of mental wellbeing as Scotland as a whole using the SWEMWBS and GHQ-12.
- Hospital delayed discharges in the Scottish Borders is below the Scottish average.
- Overall educational literacy and numeracy competencies in the Scottish Borders is good.
- 81.3% of households have home internet access in the Scottish Borders compared to 85% for Scotland.
- The rate of fires in the Scottish Borders is generally below the rate for Scotland.
- 58.5% of people in the Scottish Borders are involved in voluntary work.
- Between 2005 and 2017 the total amount of energy consumed domestically reduced by 18% for the Scottish Borders.
- 38.8% of household waste is recycled.

Going Good in Some Places – Let's All Get Better

- Child Poverty exists in all areas of the Scottish Borders
- Some areas have more alcohol related hospital admissions compared to Scotland.
- In 2019 the towns with lower resilience were Hawick, Eyemouth and Jedburgh; the most resilient towns were Kelso, Peebles and Melrose.
- 13% of the Scottish Borders are unable to access decent broadband (USO) compared to 4% for Scotland
- Scottish Borders has 157 on the buildings at risk register of which 10 are being restored.

It's a Challenge – What to do?

- 60% of adults in the Scottish Borders report that they met the Moderate / Vigorous Physical Activity (MVPA) target, compared to 64% for Scotland.
- Scottish Borders has consistently had a higher crude rate of diabetes per 1,000 population compared to Scotland.
- Scottish Borders consistently has more emergency hospital admissions compared to Scotland
- 36% of carers in the Scottish Borders feel supported by social care services to continue in their caring role (similar to Scotland).

- There is an achievement gap for both literacy and numeracy between the most and least deprived pupils; 25% and 29% respectively for combined P1, P4 and P7 pupils.
- Gross Value Added (GVA) for Scottish Borders is 73% of the GVA for Scotland.
- Median Gross Weekly Earnings (Workplace-based) for Scottish Borders in 2018 was £483, 86% of the Scotland level of £563.
- More people in the Scottish Borders (25.7%) earn less than the Living Wage compared to Scotland (19.4%).
- Compared to Scotland more of the roads in the Scottish Borders should be considered for maintenance treatment.
- The proportion of households who are defined as “fuel poor” in the Scottish Borders has consistently been higher than the Scottish average.
- Increased use of Food Banks and food insecurity in the Scottish Borders.

It's a Challenge – Need to be Aware

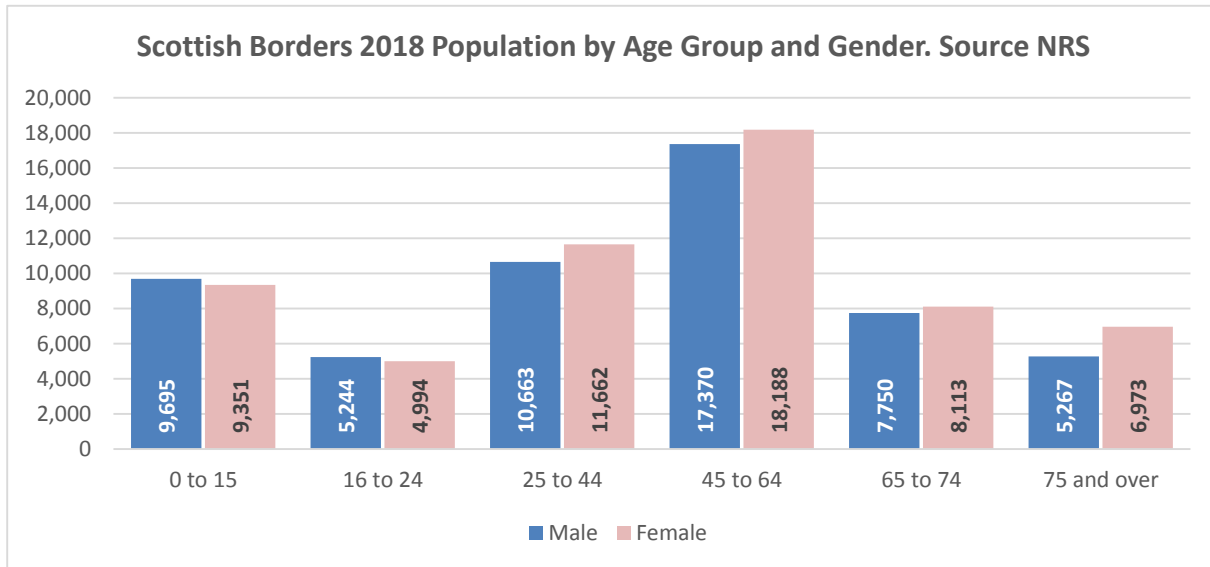
- The total population of the Scottish Borders is projected to increase by 2%, however there is a projected 14.2% decrease in working age people (16 to 64).
- Number of people aged 75 and older in the Scottish Borders will increase by 33.5% between 2016 and 2026.
- More micro businesses, 82% of the Business sites in the Scottish Borders have fewer than 10 employees compared to 74% for Scotland.
- House prices in the Scottish Borders are similar to Scotland.

POPULATION PROFILE

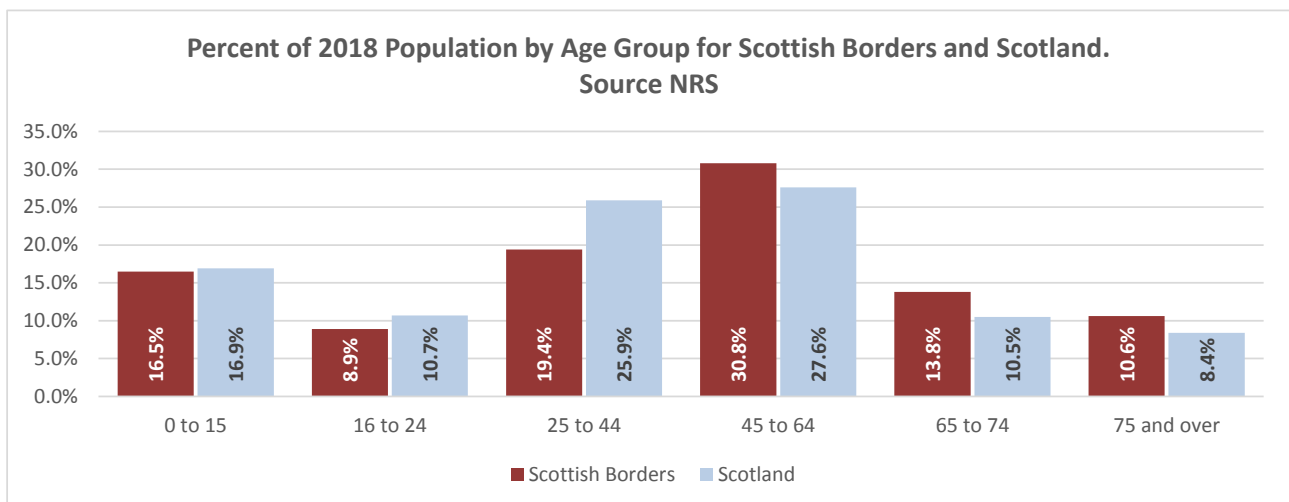
CURRENT POPULATION

According to National Records of Scotland (NRS), the [Mid-2018 Population Estimate for the Scottish Borders](#) was 115,270.

In 2018, there were more females (51.4%) than males (48.6%) living in Scottish Borders. The graph below show the distribution of population by age group and gender. Like other areas there are more males in the 0 to 15 and 16 to 24 age groups compared to female; then after age 25 there are more females than men.

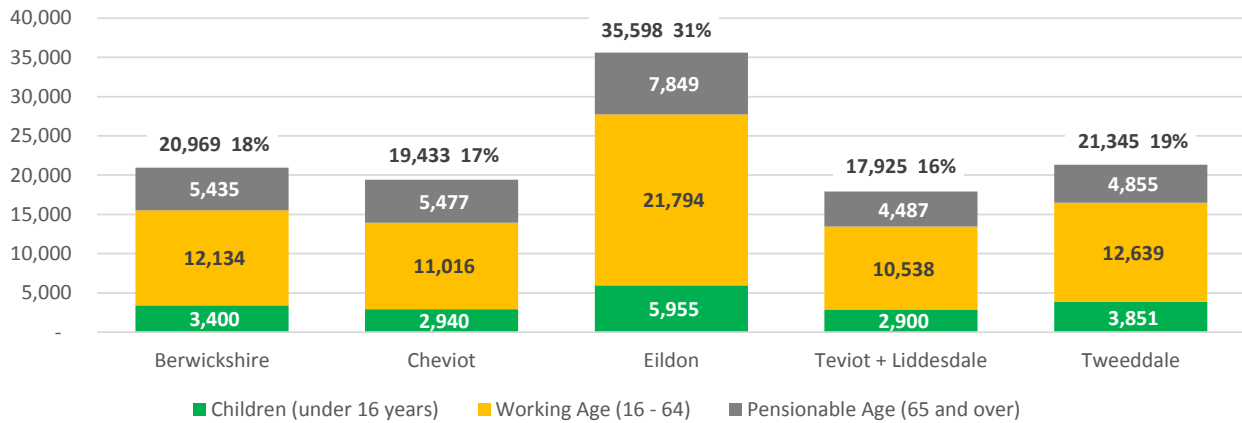


When compared to Scotland the Scottish Borders has a lower proportion of people in the younger age groups and a higher proportion in the older age group. The graph below shows the distribution of population by age group for both the Scottish Borders and Scotland.



Within the Scottish Borders the Eildon locality has the largest population (31%) whereas Teviot + Liddesdale has the smallest population (16%). The graph below show the 2018 Scottish Borders population by locality and age group. Cheviot is the locality with the higher proportion of people aged 65 and over. Tweeddale has the higher proportion of children.

2018 Population by Age Group and Locality in the Scottish Borders. Source NRS



The table below provides greater detail of the population distribution by settlement in the Scottish Borders for 2018.

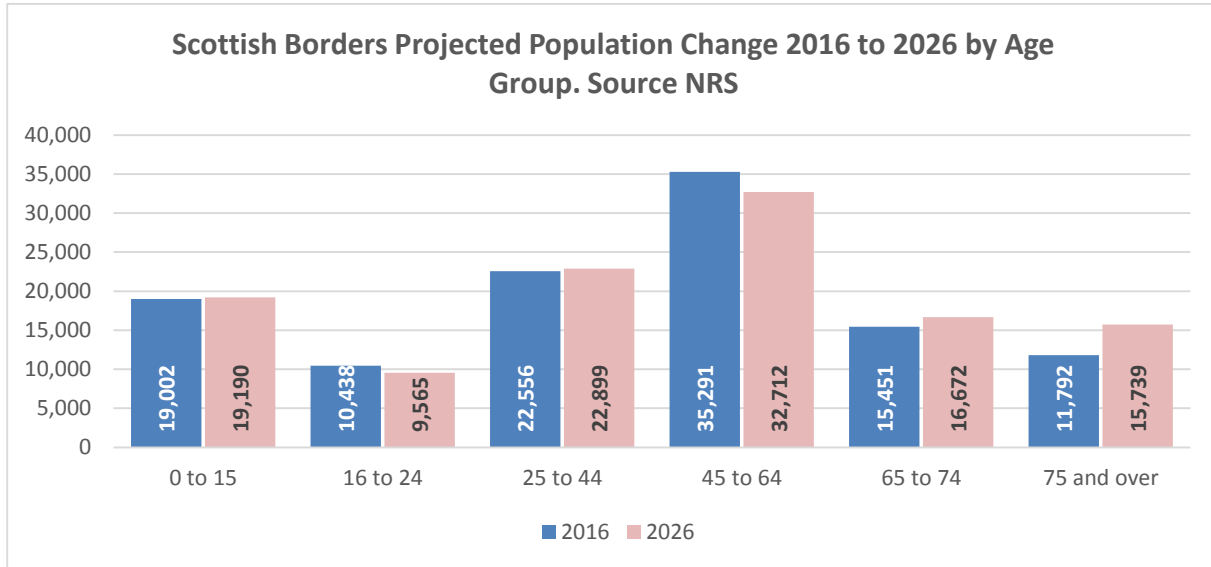
2018 Mid Year Population Estimates (NRS)

Locality	SETTLEMENT	POP ALL	POP 0 to 15	POP 16 to 64	POP 65+	% POP 0 to 15	% POP 16 to 64	% POP 65+
Berwickshire	Ayton	584	86	324	174	15%	55%	30%
	Chirnside	1,447	329	808	310	23%	56%	21%
	Coldingham	476	59	272	145	12%	57%	30%
	Coldstream	1,858	230	973	655	12%	52%	35%
	Duns	2,824	483	1,634	707	17%	58%	25%
	Eyemouth	3,538	726	1,953	859	21%	55%	24%
	Greenlaw	627	81	390	156	13%	62%	25%
Rural - Berwickshire	9,615	1,406	5,780	2,429	15%	60%	25%	
Berwickshire Total		20,969	3,400	12,134	5,435	16%	58%	26%
Cheviot	Jedburgh	3,885	657	2,262	966	17%	58%	25%
	Kelso	6,831	1,036	3,840	1,955	15%	56%	29%
	St Boswells	1,462	254	753	455	17%	52%	31%
	Yetholm	594	71	307	216	12%	52%	36%
	Rural - Cheviot	6,661	922	3,854	1,885	14%	58%	28%
Cheviot Total		19,433	2,940	11,016	5,477	15%	57%	28%
Eildon	Darnick and Gattonside	899	119	467	313	13%	52%	35%
	Earlston	1,712	298	991	423	17%	58%	25%
	Galashiels	12,588	1,952	8,176	2,460	16%	65%	20%
	Lauder	1,795	436	1,014	345	24%	56%	19%
	Melrose and Newstead	2,496	424	1,433	639	17%	57%	26%
	Newtown St Boswells	1,426	231	907	288	16%	64%	20%
	Selkirk	5,570	857	3,215	1,498	15%	58%	27%
	Stow	700	119	451	130	17%	64%	19%
	Tweedbank	1,992	352	1,267	373	18%	64%	19%
Rural - Eildon	6,420	1,167	3,873	1,380	18%	60%	21%	
Eildon Total		35,598	5,955	21,794	7,849	17%	61%	22%
Teviot and Liddesdale	Denholm	692	80	389	223	12%	56%	32%
	Hawick	13,872	2,389	8,190	3,293	17%	59%	24%
	Newcastleton	798	121	430	247	15%	54%	31%
	Rural - Teviot and Liddesdale	2,563	310	1,529	724	12%	60%	28%
Teviot and Liddesdale Total		17,925	2,900	10,538	4,487	16%	59%	25%
Tweeddale	Cardrona	894	218	536	140	24%	60%	16%
	Innerleithen	3,131	528	1,811	792	17%	58%	25%
	Peebles	8,573	1,483	4,907	2,183	17%	57%	25%
	Walkerburn	691	96	436	159	14%	63%	23%
	West Linton	1,760	377	1,017	366	21%	58%	21%
	Rural - Tweeddale	6,296	1,149	3,932	1,215	18%	62%	19%
Tweeddale Total		21,345	3,851	12,639	4,855	18%	59%	23%
Scottish Borders		115,270	19,046	68,121	28,103	17%	59%	24%
Scotland		5,438,100	919,502	3,492,484	1,026,114	17%	64%	19%

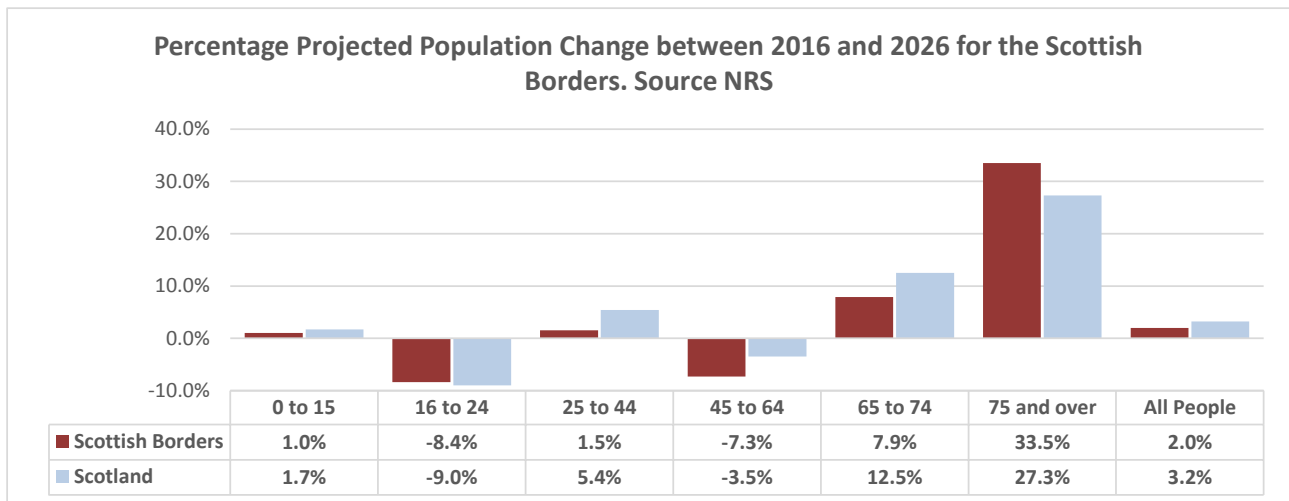
POPULATION PROJECTIONS

Between 2016 and 2026 the population of the Scottish Borders is projected to increase by 2% from 114,530 to 116,777. This is below the 3.2% population increase projected for Scotland by the NRS.

The graph below shows the Scottish Borders projected population change between 2016 and 2026 by age group. It is projected that there will be an increase in those aged 65 and older and a clear reduction in the number of people aged 16 to 24 and 45 to 64.



The percentage projected population change between 2016 and 2026 for the Scottish Borders seems to have a similar, albeit more extreme, change as Scotland. Specifically, for the working age population (aged 16 to 64) there is a projected 14.2% decrease for the Scottish Borders compared to a 7.1% decrease projected for Scotland.

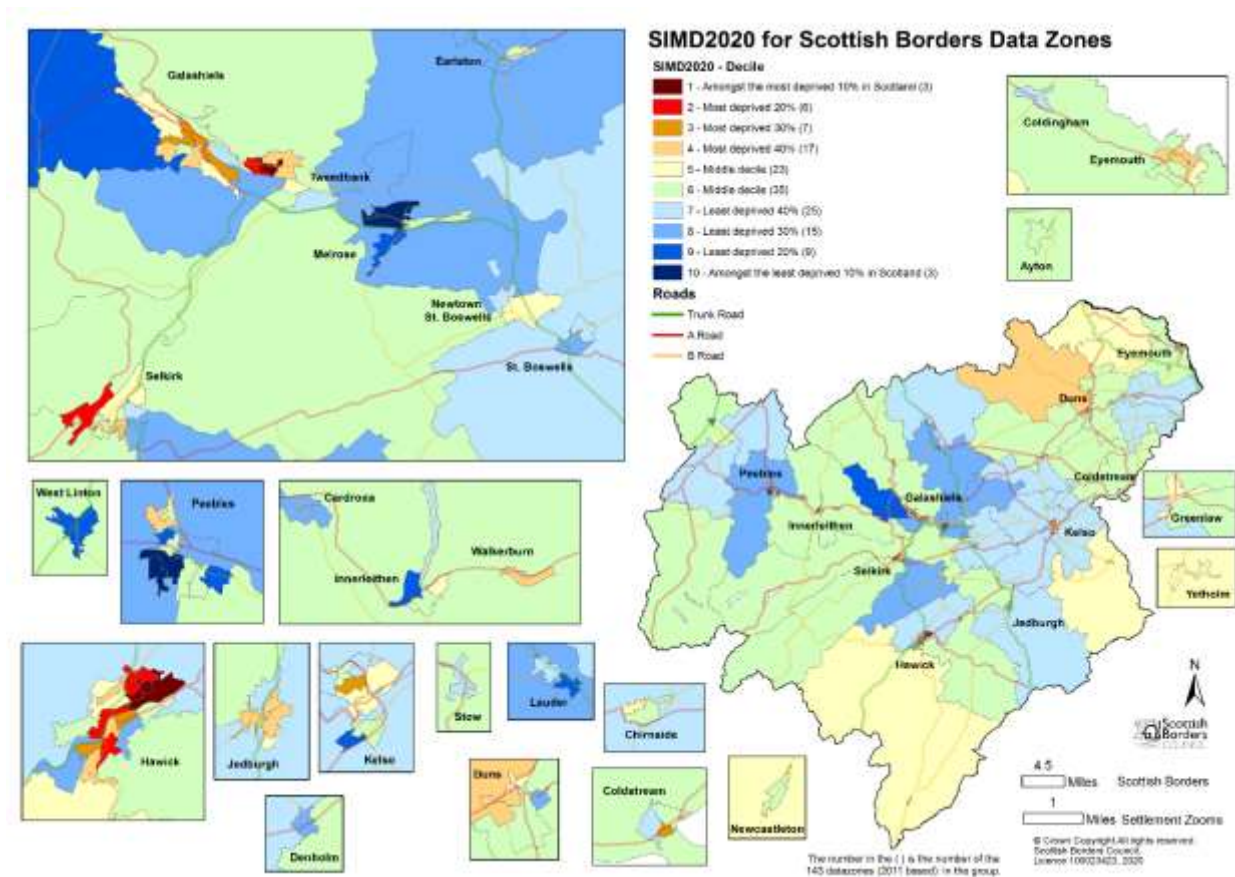
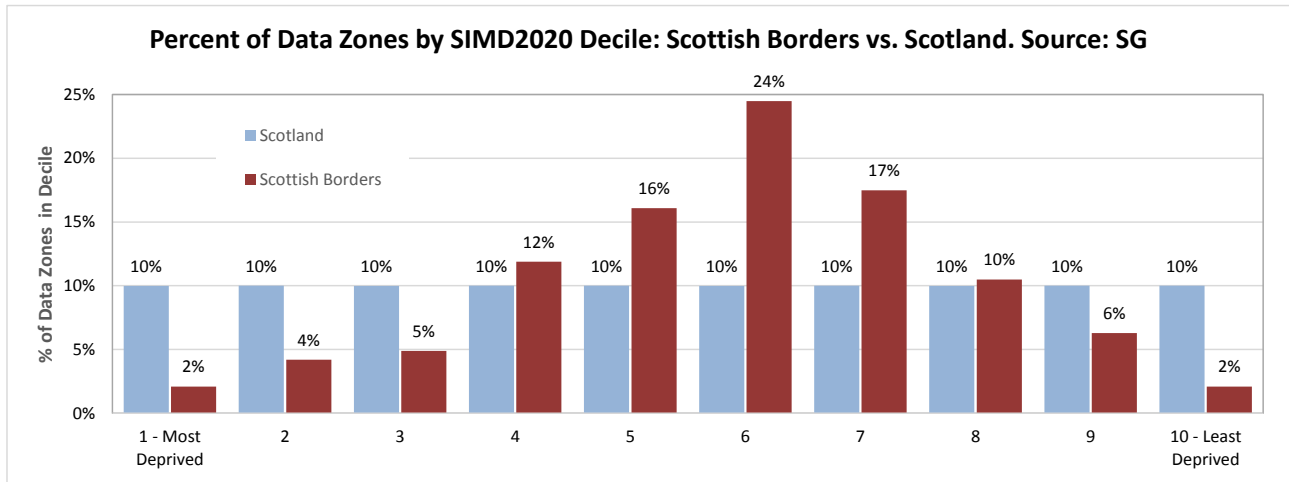


DEPRIVATION AND INEQUALITY

SCOTTISH INDEX OF MULTIPLE DEPRIVATION

The Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) is the official tool for finding the most deprived areas in Scotland¹. The [SIMD2020](#) consists of over 30 indicators across 7 Domains: Employment, Income, Education, Health, Access, Crime and Housing.









The SIMD2020 shows that 6% (9) of the 143 data zones in the Scottish Borders are part of the 20% most deprived of all of Scotland. A further 17% (24) of the data zones in the Scottish Borders are amongst the 21-40% most deprived in Scotland. The distribution of the 143 data zones in the Scottish Borders can be seen in the graph and map below.



¹ <https://www.gov.scot/collections/scottish-index-of-multiple-deprivation-2020/>

When specifically looking at the income and employment domain 9% of the Scottish Borders population is income deprived compared to 12% for Scotland. 8% of the Scottish Borders working age population is employment deprived compared to 9% for Scotland.

Within the domains of the SIMD the proportion of data zones that are in the 20% most deprived of Scotland varies.

	<p>9 (6%) of the 143 data zones in the Scottish Borders are part of the 20% most deprived of all of Scotland</p>	 <p>Income</p>	<p>10 (7%) of the 143 data zones in the Scottish Borders are in the 20% most income deprived data zones in Scotland.</p>
 <p>Employment</p>	<p>10 (7%) data zones in the Scottish Borders are in the 20% most employment deprived.</p>	 <p>Education</p>	<p>8 (6%) data zones in the Scottish Borders are in the 20% most education deprived.</p>
 <p>Health</p>	<p>9 (6%) data zones in the Scottish Borders are in the 20% most health deprived.</p>	 <p>Access to Services</p>	<p>46 (32%) data zones in the Scottish Borders are in the 20% most geographically access deprived.</p>
 <p>Crime</p>	<p>20 (14%) data zones in the Scottish Borders are in the 20% most crime deprived.</p>	 <p>Housing</p>	<p>3 (2%) data zones in the Scottish Borders are in the 20% most housing deprived.</p>

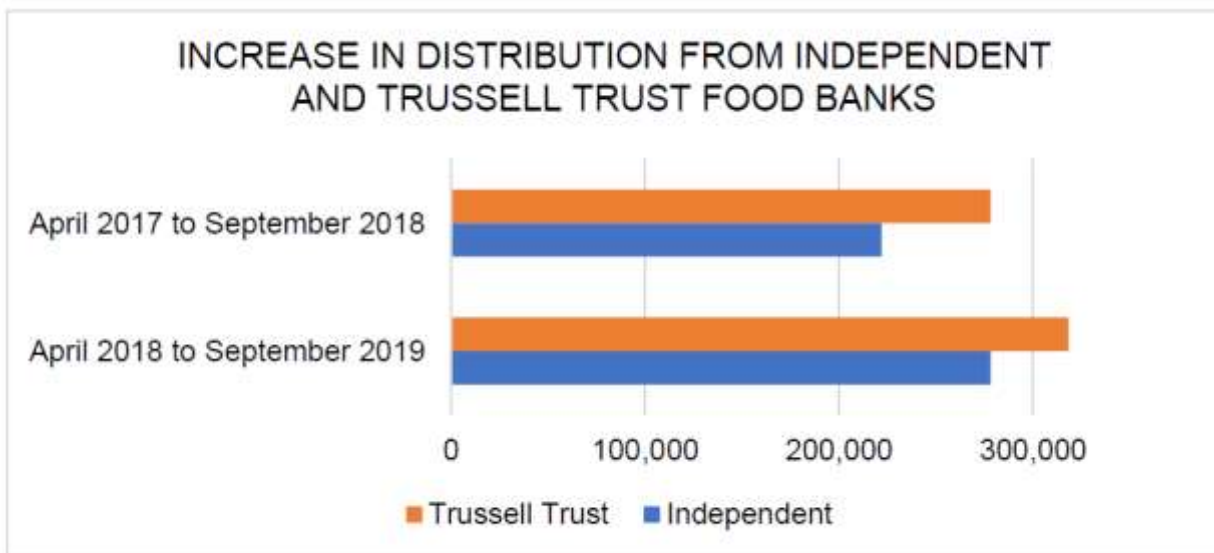
FOOD AID

According to the 2018 Scottish Health Survey (SHeS), **9%** of adults experienced food insecurity (as defined by being worried during the past 12 months that they would run out of food due to lack of money or resources).

In January 2020 the [Independent Food Aid Network](#) (IFAN) working with A Menu for Change published information about [emergency food parcel provision in Scotland April 2018 to September 2019](#). The briefing showed the increase in emergency food parcel provision for Scotland comparing two 18-month periods; April 2017 to September 2018 and April 2018 to September 2019.

Between April 2018 and September 2019 a total of 586,723 parcels were distributed by the food banks in Scotland. A 22% rise compared to the total of 480,583 parcels given out during the previous 18-month period recorded. April 2017 to September 2018². The graph below shows the increase in distribution from independent and Trussell Trust food banks for Scotland.

² There are some food banks where the number of parcels delivered is unknown.



According to the IFAN report there was a 9% increase in emergency food parcels from the independent food banks in the Scottish Borders from 3,373 (April 2017-September 2018) to 3,915 (April 2018 – September 2019).

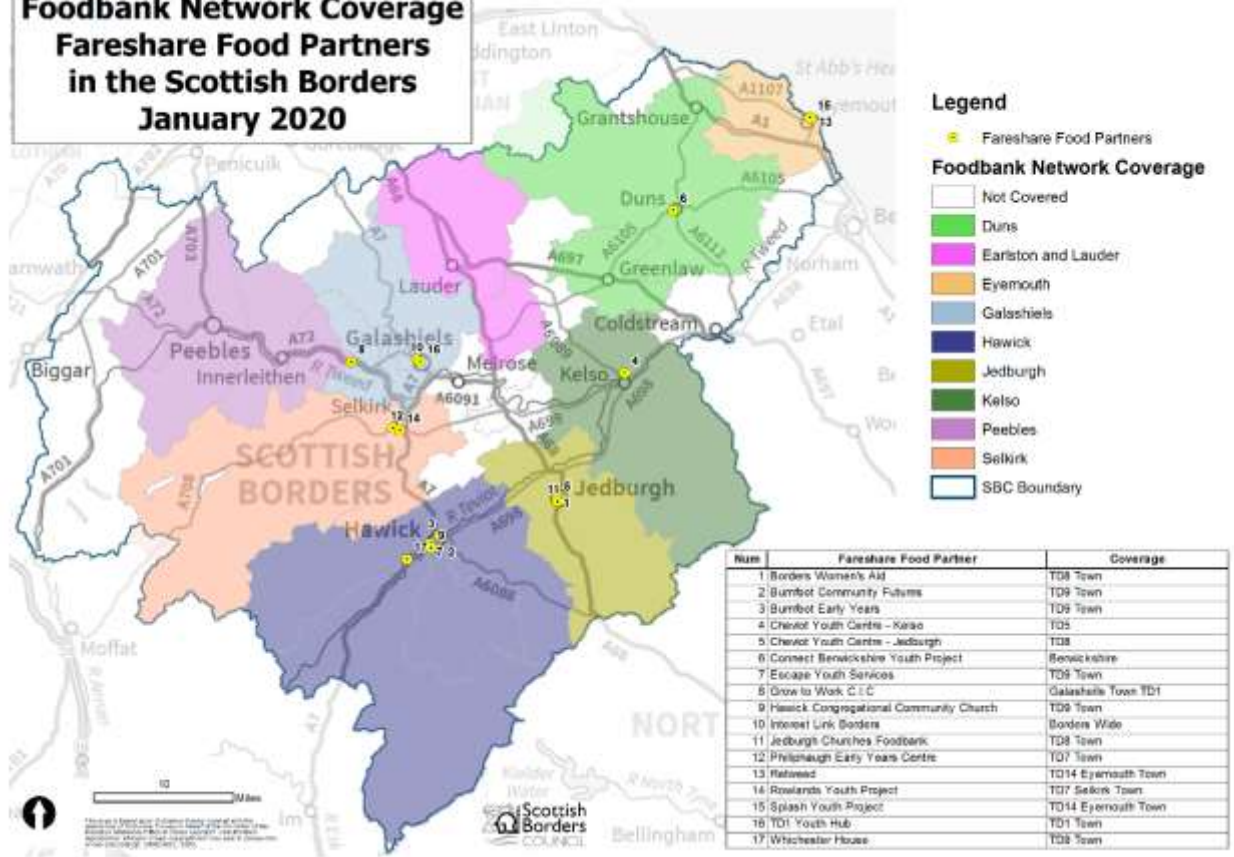
Across the UK the Trussell Trust has reported a 73% increase use of their food banks from 913,138 in 2013/14 to 1,586,668 in 2018/19.

[Fareshare](#) is a national UK network redistributing surplus food from producers and suppliers to not-for-profit organisations that work with vulnerable people (such as homeless hostels, community groups and children’s breakfast clubs). These organisations and individuals make significant savings on their food bills, while helping avoid excessive food waste. As of January 2020, there were 17 Fareshare Food Partners in the Scottish Borders.

Across the Scottish Borders there are a number of informal lunch clubs, food and cooking clubs that mitigate food aid.

The map below shows the coverage of the Foodbanks and the locations of Fareshare Food Partners in the Scottish Borders in January 2020.

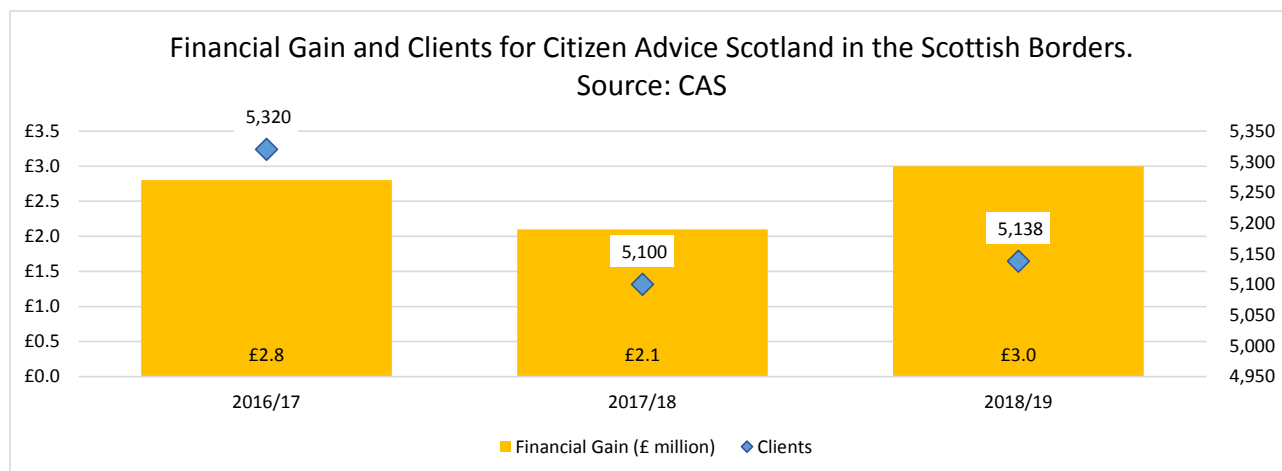
**Foodbank Network Coverage
Fareshare Food Partners
in the Scottish Borders
January 2020**



ADULTS WITH FINANCIAL CONCERNS

CITIZEN ADVICE ACTIVITY

In the Scottish Borders³ there are 3 CABx: Central Borders CAB, Peebles CAB, and Roxburgh and Berwickshire CAB. The graph below shows the number of clients and the financial gain for Scottish Borders clients between 2016/17 and 2018/19. In 2018/19 the CABx in the Scottish Borders achieved £3.0 million for 5,138 clients.



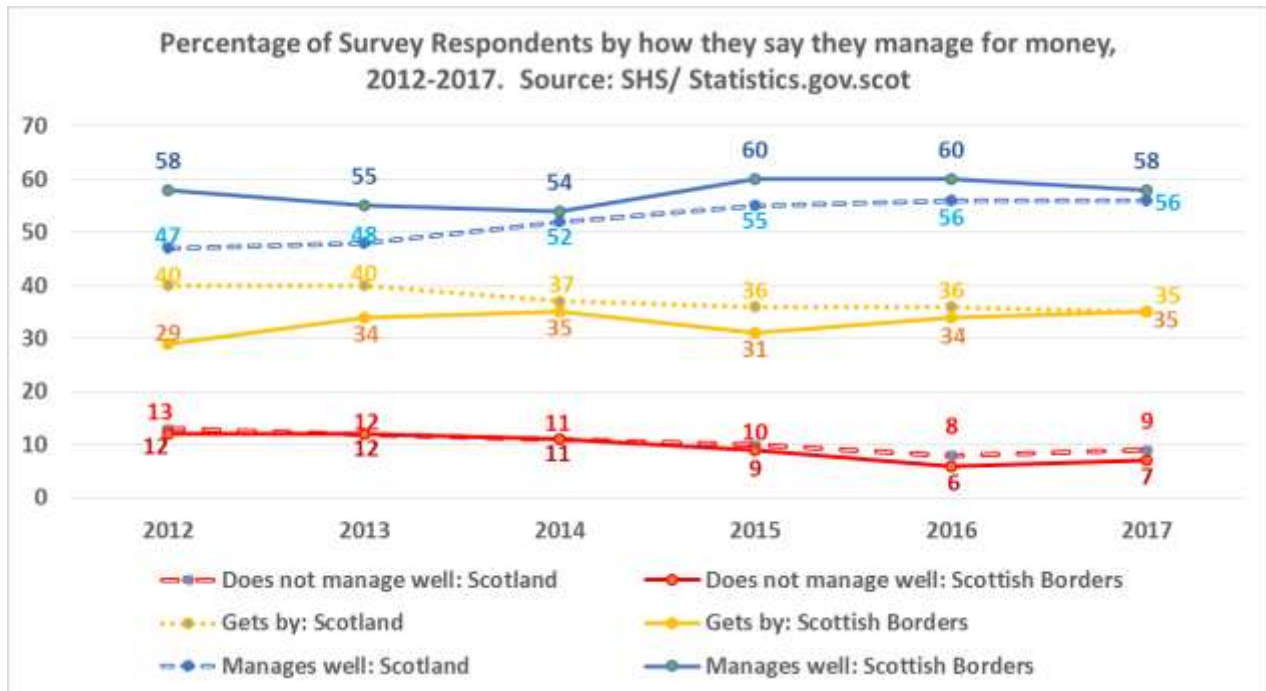
Citizens Advice Scotland records the topics of enquiries under 16 topic areas. The table below shows the advice given in the Scottish Borders by these topics for 2016/17 to 2018/19.

Advice Areas	2016/17		2017/18		2018/19	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Benefits	8,999	31%	8,056	37%	7,609	38%
Consumer	449	2%	140	1%	367	2%
Debt	8,934	31%	4,424	20%	3,563	18%
Discrimination	-	0%	43	0%	26	0%
Education	127	0%	109	0%	83	0%
Employment	1,990	7%	1,408	6%	1,215	6%
Finance and Charitable Support	1,954	7%	2,202	10%	2,506	12%
Health and community care	422	1%	418	2%	401	2%
Housing	1,216	4%	1,116	5%	996	5%
Immigration, Asylum and Nationality	136	0%	152	1%	164	1%
Legal Proceedings	790	3%	809	4%	897	4%
NHS Concern or Complaint	714	2%	393	2%	190	1%
Relationship	949	3%	724	3%	576	3%
Tax	1,170	4%	858	4%	730	4%
Travel, transport and holidays	273	1%	235	1%	242	1%
Utilities and communications	1,066	4%	620	3%	589	3%
Total Advice Given	29,189	100%	21,977	100%	20,156	100%

³ <https://www.cas.org.uk/about-us/scottish-citizens-advice-network-statistics/local-authorities>

MANAGING FINANCIALLY

According to the SHS⁴ the proportion of households who “manage well”, “gets by” and “does not manage well” in the Scottish Borders has been consistent and similar to the rate for Scotland.



- The number of applications to the Scottish Welfare Fund in the Scottish Borders has declined slightly between 2013/14 and 2017/18 in contrast to the average for Scottish local authorities which has increased.

⁴ SHS = Scottish Household Survey

CHILD POVERTY

The Scottish Borders Child Poverty Index (SB CPI) provides additional insight into Child Poverty in the Scottish Borders. The SB CPI was also created to work alongside the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation. SIMD provides a way of looking at deprivation in an area, covering the whole population and does not specifically reflect child poverty.

The index is a score based on data related to four components for each of the 143 data zones in the Scottish Borders. These components are listed below with the figure for the Scottish Borders:

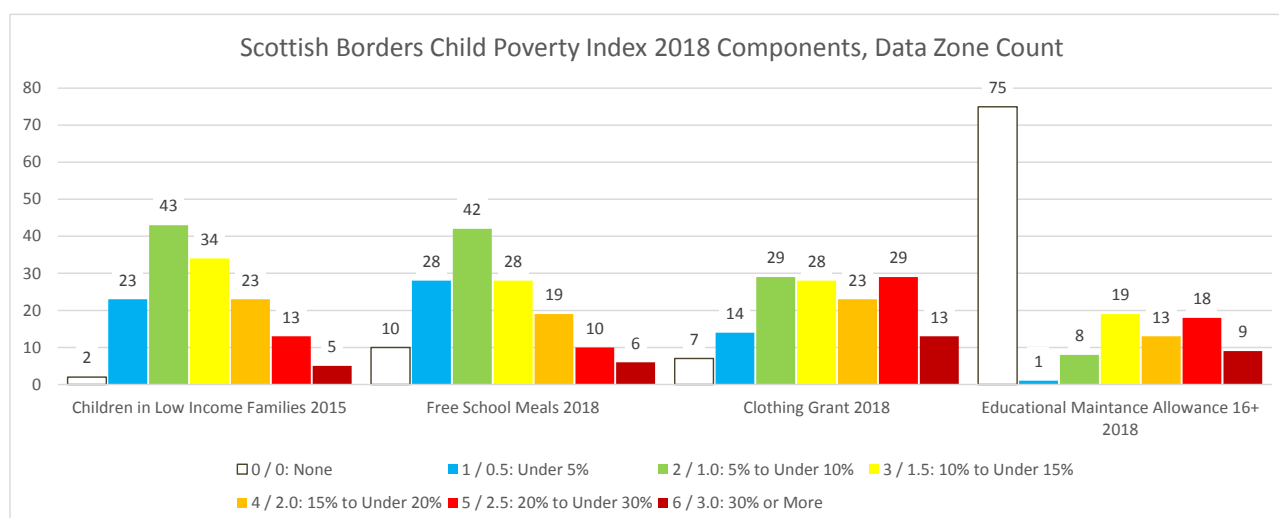
Component	Scottish Borders
Percent of Children in Low Income Families (CILIF) 2015 from HMRC ⁵	12.1%
Percent of Pupils in Receipt of Free School Meals (FSM) 2018 from SBC's SEEMIS	10.4%
Percent of Pupils in Receipt of Clothing Grant (CG) 2018 from SBC's SEEMIS	15.1%
Percent of Pupils Aged 16+ in Receipt of Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) 2018 from SBC's SEEMIS	8.3%

The table below shows the score that a data zone will receive based on the result for each component. The SB CPI allows for a data zone to have a score ranging from 0 to 21, where 0 indicates no element of child poverty and 21 the highest levels of child poverty.

% Children in Low Income Families (2015 – HMRC)	% Pupils in receipt of Free School Meals (2018 – SBC SEEMIS)	% Pupils in receipt of Clothing Grant (2018 – SBC SEEMIS)	% Pupils Aged 16+ in receipt of Education Maintenance Allowance (2018 – SBC SEEMIS)
0 = 0 - None	0 = 0 – None	0 = 0 - None	0 = 0 - None
1 = Under 5%	1 = Under 5%	1 = Under 5%	0.5 = Under 5%
2 = 5% to Under 10%	2 = 5% to Under 10%	2 = 5% to Under 10%	1.0 = 5% to Under 10%
3 = 10% to Under 15%	3 = 10% to Under 15%	3 = 10% to Under 15%	1.5 = 10% to Under 15%
4 = 15% to Under 20%	4 = 15% to Under 20%	4 = 15% to Under 20%	2.0 = 15% to Under 20%
5 = 20% to Under 30%	5 = 20% to Under 30%	5 = 20% to Under 30%	2.5 = 20% to Under 30%
6 = 30% or More	6 = 30% or More	6 = 30% or More	3.0 = 30% or More

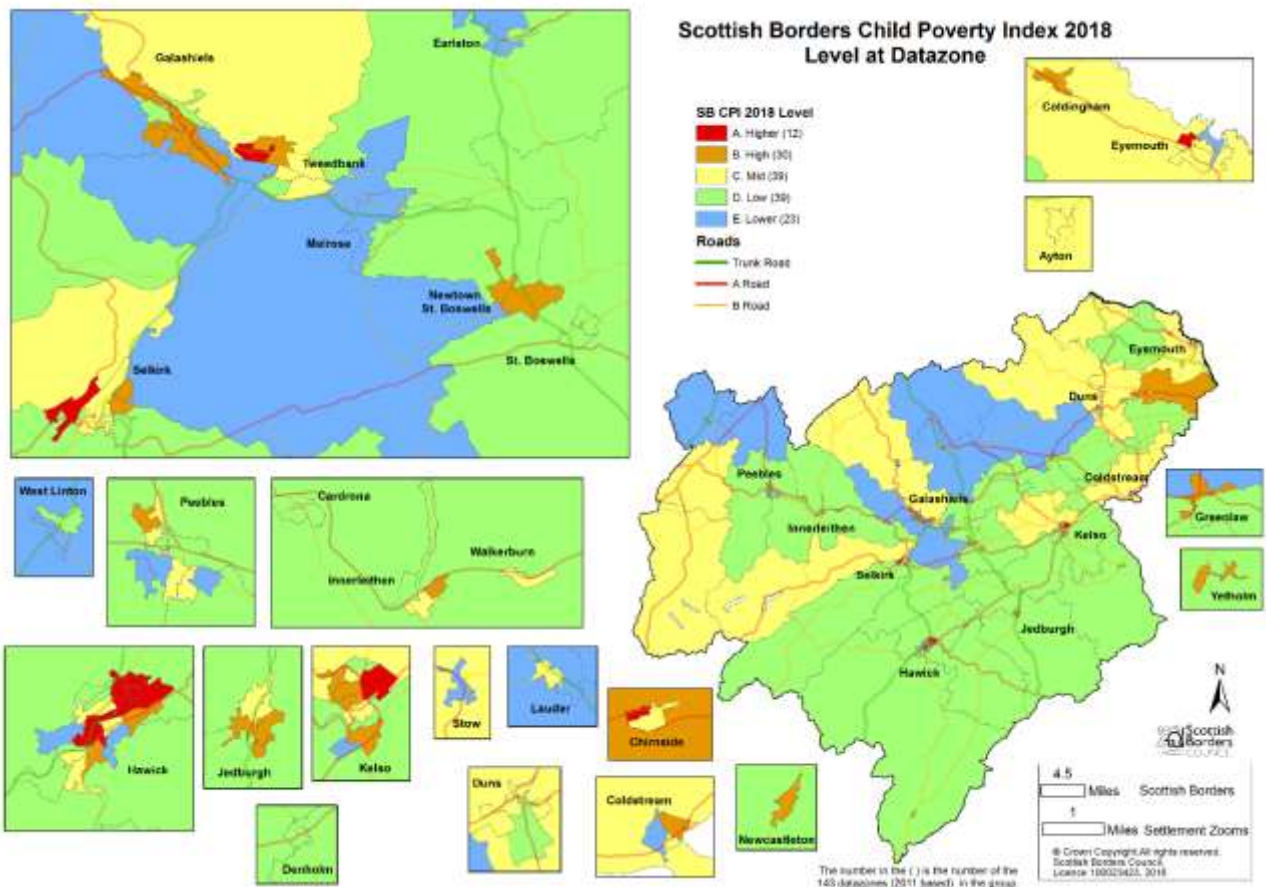
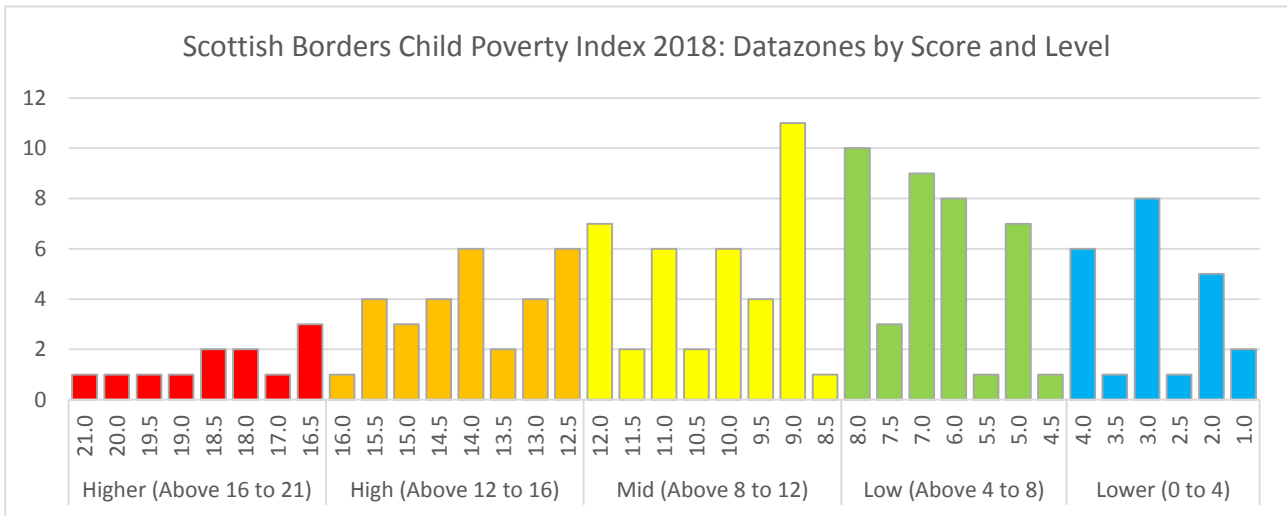
Note that the EMA scores are half the other components reflecting the population size.

The graph below shows the distribution of the 143 data zones in the Scottish Borders for each component.

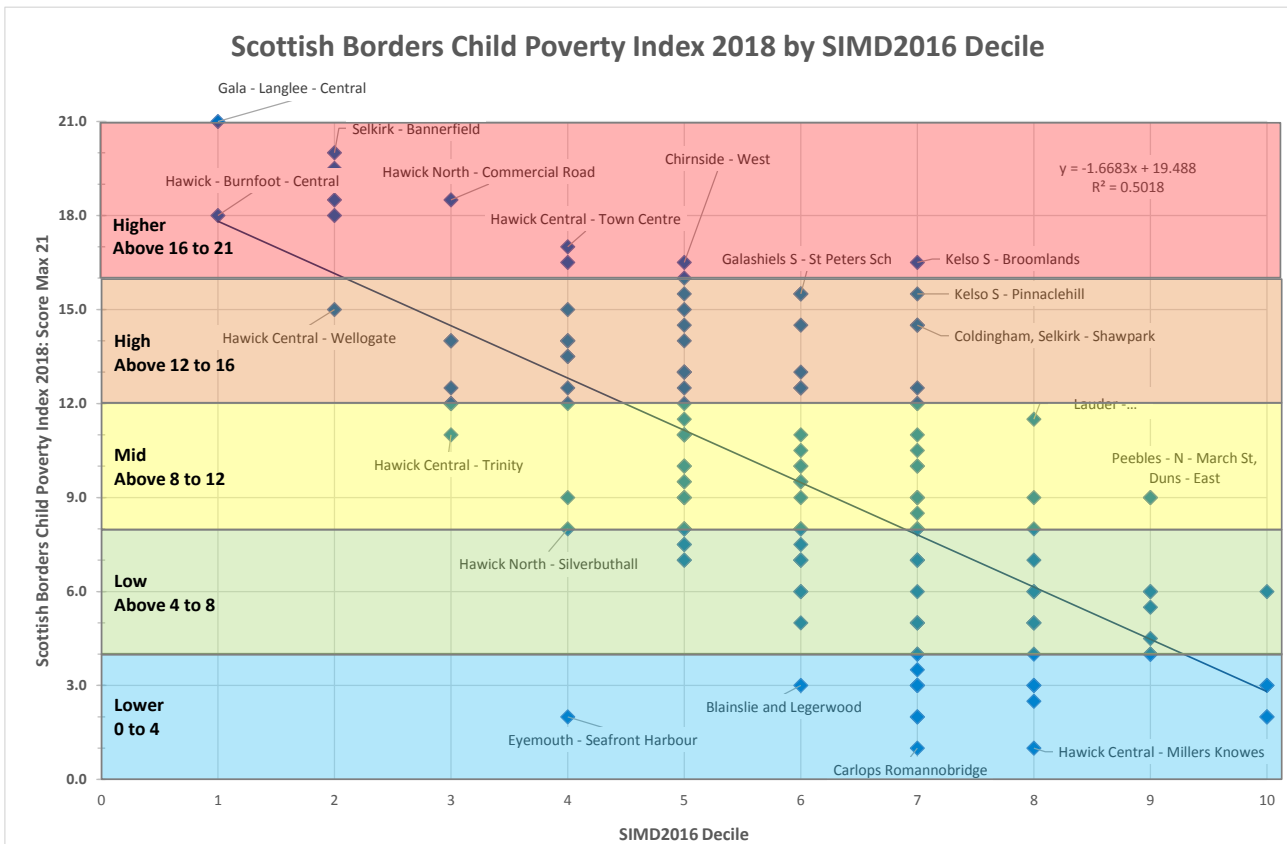


⁵Most recent data from HMRC at data zone.

The graph and map below shows the Scottish Borders data zones based on the SB CPI score, grouped into levels of Child Poverty. Higher level (12 data zones) have a score of above 16 to 21; High level (30 data zones) have a score of above 12 to 16; Mid level (39 data zones) have a score of above 8 to 12; Low level (39 data zones) have a score of above 4 to 8; and Lower level (23 data zones) have a score of 0 to 4. Every data zone in the Scottish Borders has some element of child poverty.

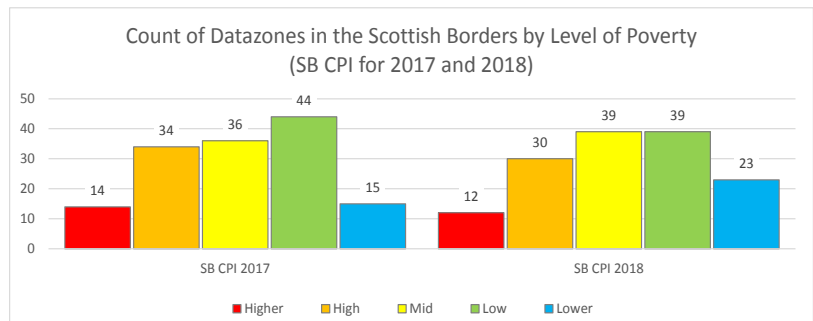


Although there is a clear relationship between child poverty and the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation there are areas within the Scottish Borders where there is a high or higher level of child poverty although not a high level of multiple deprivation.



Between 2017 and 2018 there were fewer data zones in the higher level and more in the lower level.

The table below shows the changes within the five Scottish Borders localities.



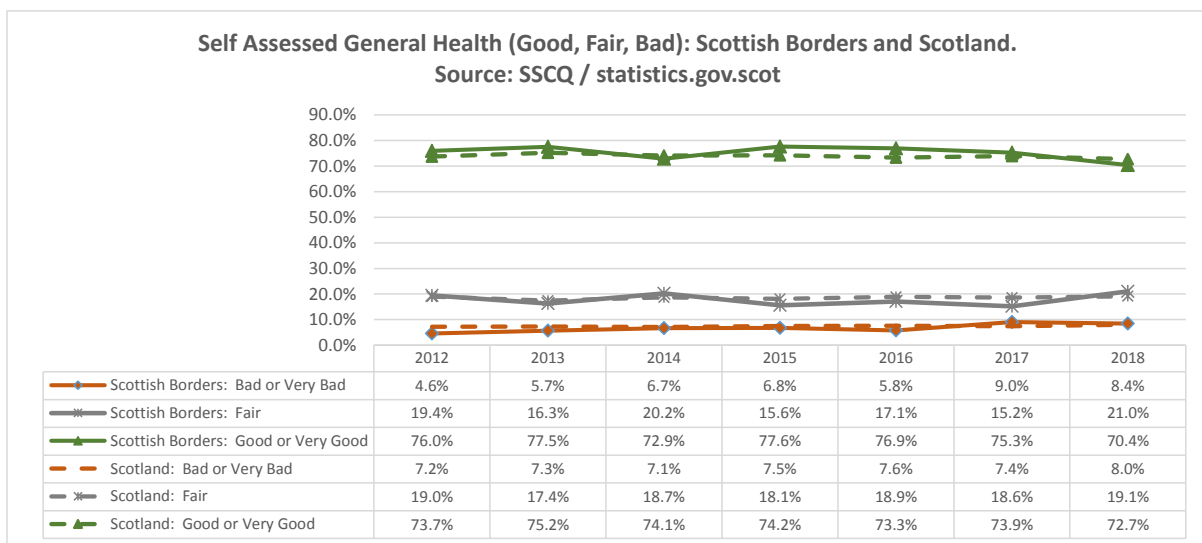
Locality / Year	Berwickshire		Cheviot		Eildon		Teviot and Liddesdale		Tweeddale		Scottish Borders	
	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018
A. Higher (Above 16 to 21)	3	2	2	1	4	3	5	6	0	0	14	12
B. High (Above 12 to 16)	11	4	6	8	10	13	4	3	3	2	34	30
C. Mid (Above 8 to 12)	7	14	7	5	11	8	7	4	4	8	36	39
D. Low (Above 4 to 8)	6	5	9	9	12	10	6	7	11	8	44	39
E. Lower (0 to 4)	1	3	0	1	7	10	0	2	7	7	15	23
Total Datasozes	28	28	24	24	44	44	22	22	25	25	143	143

HEALTH AND WELLBEING

A key source for understanding health, care and wellbeing is the Scottish Public Health Observatory ([ScotPHO](#)) profile website.

LIFE EXPECTANCY, MORTALITY AND GENERAL HEALTH

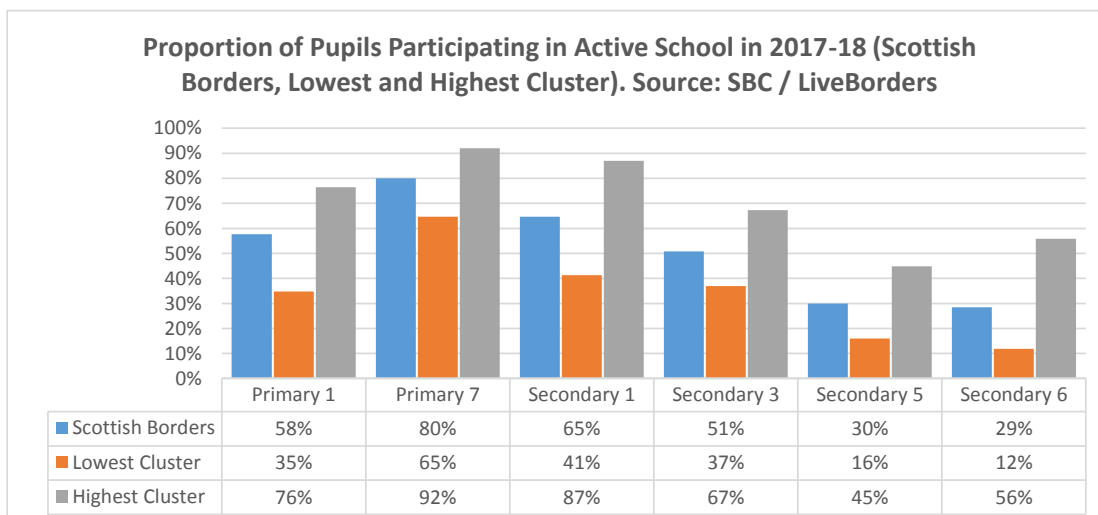
- Male life expectancy in the Scottish Borders (78.6 years) is higher than Scotland's (77.1 years), although it can range from 73.5 years to 84.6 years within the Scottish Borders.
- Female life expectancy in the Scottish Borders (82.6 years) is higher than Scotland (81.1 years), however it ranges from 78.8 years to 83.5 years within the Scottish Borders.
- The proportion of adults that self assess their general health as "Good or Very Good" had decreased in the Scottish Borders over the last few years.



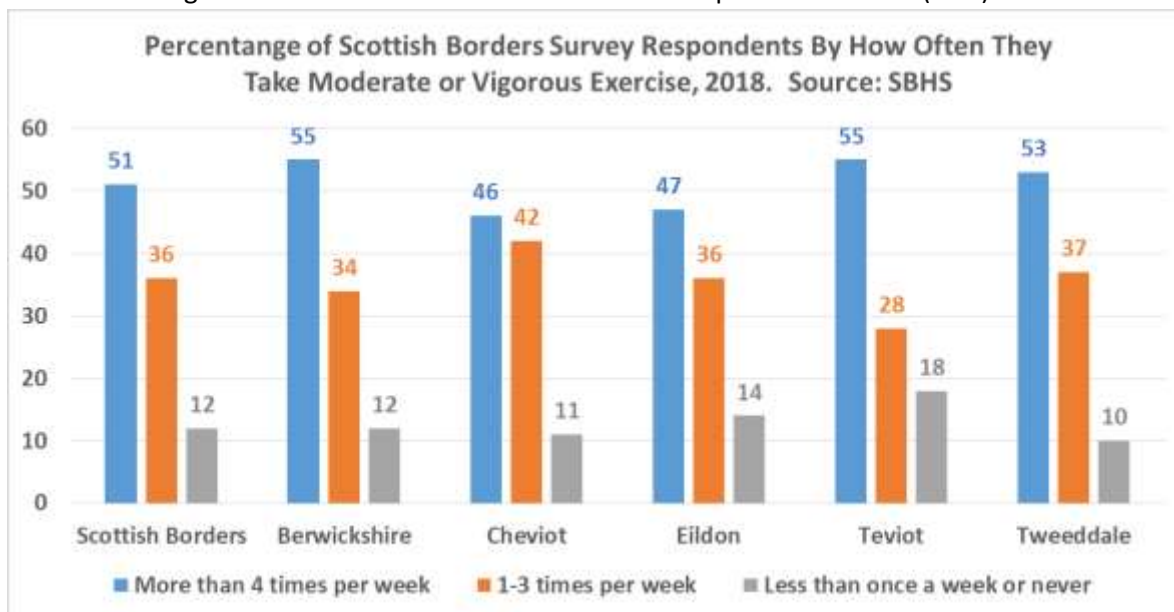
- More people in the Scottish Borders report a limiting, long-term health condition (29%) compared to Scotland (24.6%).
- Scottish Borders consistently has a lower rate of all-cause mortality in 15-44 year olds compared to Scotland.

HEALTHY BEHAVIOURS AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

- On average, 57.7% of Primary 1 pupils in Scottish Borders schools are Active Schools participants. This continues rising to a peak of 80% by Primary 7, after which it drops off sharply in Secondary School. The graph below shows the average participation rate by stage along with the participation rate range for the school clusters.



- Active travel to school level in the Scottish Borders is 48.9%, similar to Scotland (49.4%).
- 60% of adults in the Scottish Borders report that they met the Moderate / Vigorous Physical Activity (MVPA)⁶ target, compared to 64% for Scotland.
- 28% of adults in the Scottish Borders reported low or very low physical activity, more than the 25% for Scotland.
- Within the Scottish Borders more people in Teviot (55%) and Berwickshire (55%) report taking part in moderate or vigorous exercise 4 or more times a week compared to Cheviot (46%).



- More adults actively travel to work in the Scottish Borders (19.8%) compared to Scotland (14.9%).
- 22% of the adults in the Scottish Borders say they consume 5 portions of fruit and vegetables daily, similar to the 21% for Scotland.
- It is estimated that 66% of the adults in the Scottish Borders are overweight or obese similar to the 65% for Scotland.

WOMEN'S AND CHILDREN'S HEALTH

MATERNITY AND BABIES

- The Scottish Borders has a low rate of births to mothers aged under 20 compared to Scotland.
- The Scottish Borders has the same rate of maternal obesity (23.4%) as Scotland (23.5%).
- The rate of premature singleton births in the Scottish Borders (8.2%) is the same as Scotland.
- Infant mortality (deaths in children aged up to 1 year) is low compared to Scotland.
- The Scottish Borders has a lower rate of low birth weight births (1.4%) compared to Scotland (2.0%).
- The proportion of "healthy weight" births in the Scottish Borders has increased from 81.4% in 2007 to 83.9% in 2016.
- More babies are exclusively breast fed at 6-8 weeks in the Scottish Borders (36.1%) compared to Scotland (29.7%); although the rate ranges from 15.9% to 66.3%.

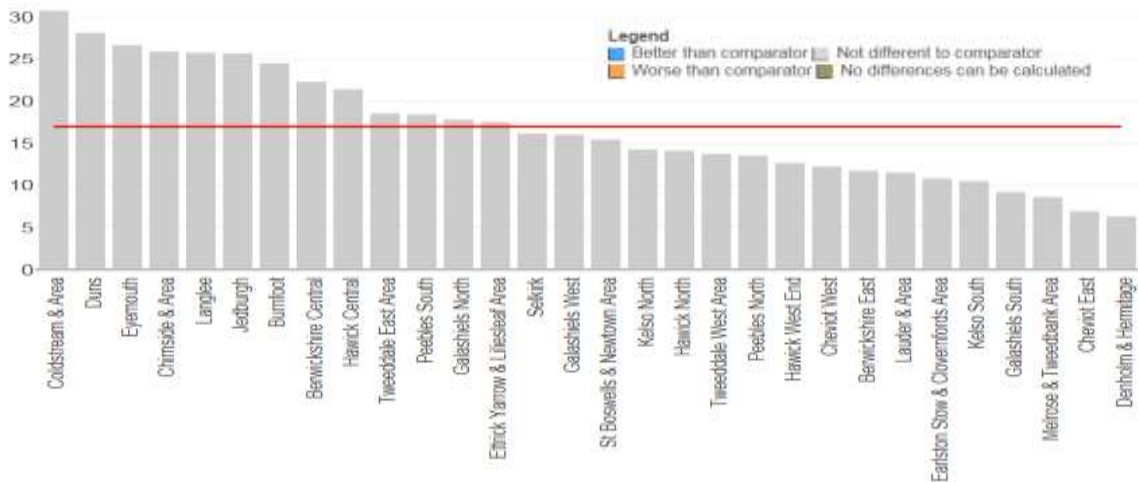
⁶ Moderate = 150 minutes; Vigorous = 75 minutes.

CHILDREN'S HEALTH

- Children with developmental concerns at 27-30 months in the Scottish Borders (17.0%) is similar to Scotland (18.3%); the rate ranges from 6.3% to 30.8% within the Scottish Borders.

Developmental concerns at 27-30 months

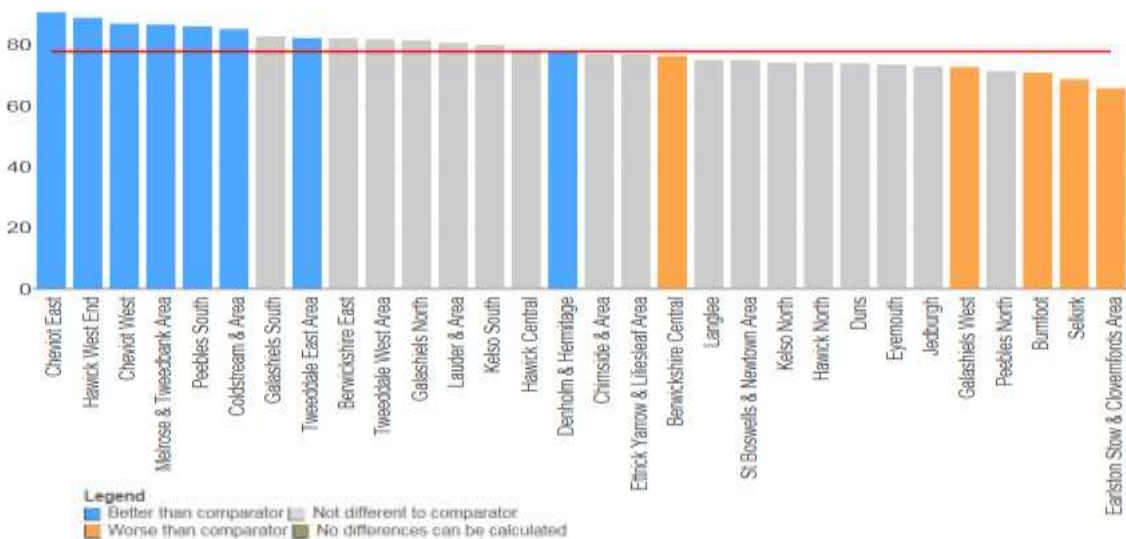
Intermediate zones compared against Scottish Borders - 2014/15-2016/17



- The proportion of primary 1 pupils with a healthy weight in the Scottish Borders (77.8%) is similar to Scotland (76.5%), within the Scottish Borders it ranges from 65.9% to 90.7%.

Child healthy weight in primary 1

Intermediate zones compared against Scottish Borders - 2017/18



- Good dental health for primary 1 pupils in the Scottish Borders (75.1%) is better than the Scottish level (70.4%), the range in the Scottish Borders is from 44.1% to 96.7%.
- Good dental health for primary 7 pupils in the Scottish Borders (76.9%) is better than the Scottish level (71.2%), the range in the Scottish Borders is from 60.6% to 94.1%.
- The rate of hospitalisation due to asthma in children aged 0 to 15 has reduced in the Scottish Borders from 2010 and is below the level for Scotland.

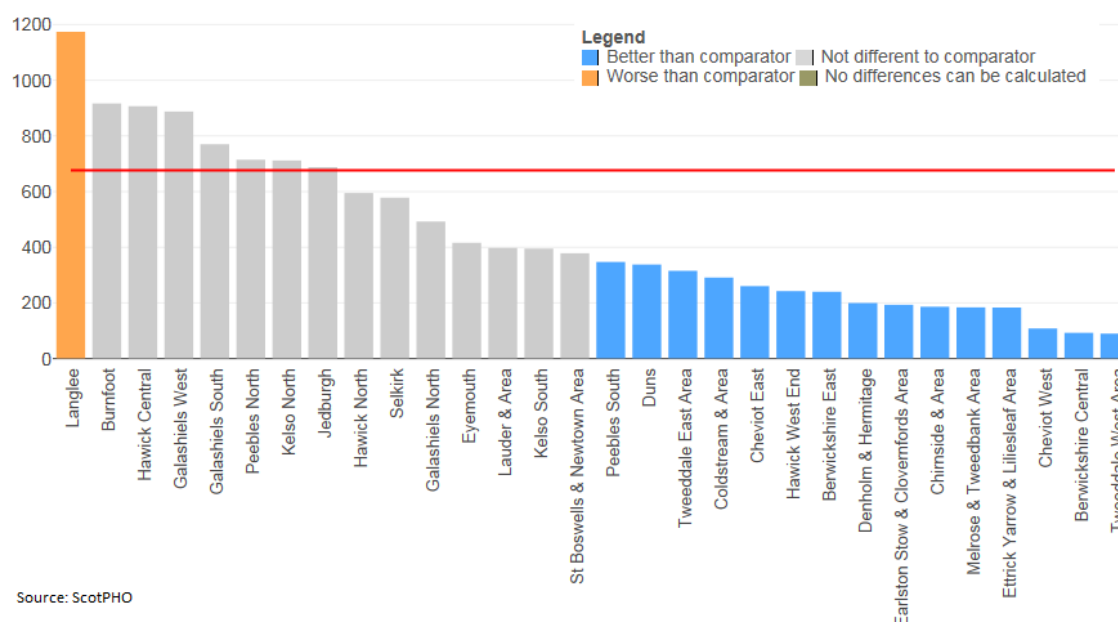
UNHEALTHY BEHAVIOURS

ALCOHOL

- Alcohol-related hospital stays among 11-25 year olds in the Scottish Borders has reduced since 2007 but has consistently been above the rate for Scotland.
- The proportion of women exceeding weekly drinking limits in the Scottish Borders has decreased from 20% (2008-2011) to 15% (2014-2017). For men the change was more dramatic, from 41% (2008-2011) to 29% (2014-2017).
- There was a reduction in men binge drinking from 24% (2008-2011) to 19% (2014-2017). In the same time period the percent of women binge drinking in the Scottish Borders fell from 15% to 10%.
- Between 2011/12 and 2017/18 several areas in the Scottish Borders experienced a decrease in the rate of alcohol-related hospital stays, these include: Burnfoot, Langlee, Galashiels North, Kelso South, Hawick West End and Eyemouth.
- Scottish Borders consistently has a lower rate of alcohol-related hospital stays compared to Scotland, although there are areas in the Scottish Borders that have a rate above the Scottish level.

Alcohol-related hospital stays

Intermediate zones compared against Scotland - 2017/18



- Alcohol-related mortality is lower in the Scottish Borders compared to Scotland.

DRUGS

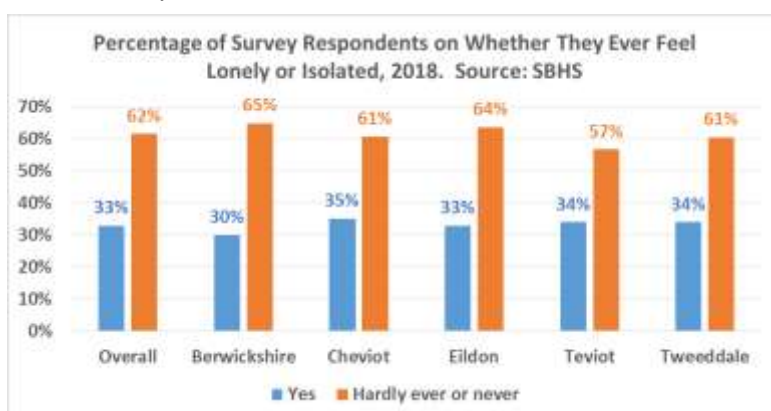
- Drug-related hospital stays among 11-25 year olds in the Scottish Borders has reduced since 2007 but has consistently been above the rate for Scotland.
- Drug-related hospital stays for the all ages in the Scottish Borders has been rising but it is still significantly below Scotland's rate.
- Since 2015 the proportion of clients waiting for specialist drug treatment more than 3 weeks has increased from 1.9% (2015) to 25.1% (2017).
- Drug-related mortality in the Scottish Borders is below the rate for Scotland.

SMOKING

- The proportion of adults (16+) smoking in the Scottish Borders has decreased from 19.9% in 2012 to 16.4% in 2017, compared to a Scottish decrease of 24% down to 18%.
- The rate of smoking attributed hospital admissions and deaths in the Scottish Borders has consistently been below the Scottish level.
- Between 2006 and 2013 smoking prevalence reduced for both S2 and S4 pupils in the Scottish Borders.
- The proportion of women smoking at the booking of pregnancy had reduced in the Scottish Borders, it is still higher than the rate for Scotland.
- The proportion of babies exposed to second-hand smoke at 6-8 weeks has reduced in the Scottish Borders, similar to the pattern for Scotland.

MENTAL HEALTH

- Scottish Borders has the lowest rate of referrals to NHS's Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) of the 14 health boards.
- The suicide rate for 11-25 year olds in the Scottish Borders has reduced and is now below the rate for Scotland.
- Adults in the Scottish Borders report similar levels of mental wellbeing as Scotland as a whole using the SWEMBWBS⁷ and GHQ-12⁸.
- The rate of hospital discharges for psychiatric disorders has reduced in the Scottish Borders between 2003 and 2016, although the rate is slightly higher than the Scottish level.
- The percent of population being prescribed drugs for anxiety, depression or psychosis has increased from 14.4% in 2009 to 18.9% in 2016, similar to the pattern for Scotland. Within the Scottish Borders the rate ranges from 14.9% for Tweeddale to 21.6% in Teviot and Liddesdale.
- Deaths from suicide in the Scottish Borders has reduced slightly between 2004 and 2015, although it varies by gender; deaths from suicide for men has decreased but there was an increase for women.
- Overall in Scottish Borders, 62% of respondents said that they had never felt lonely or isolated and 33% said that they had.



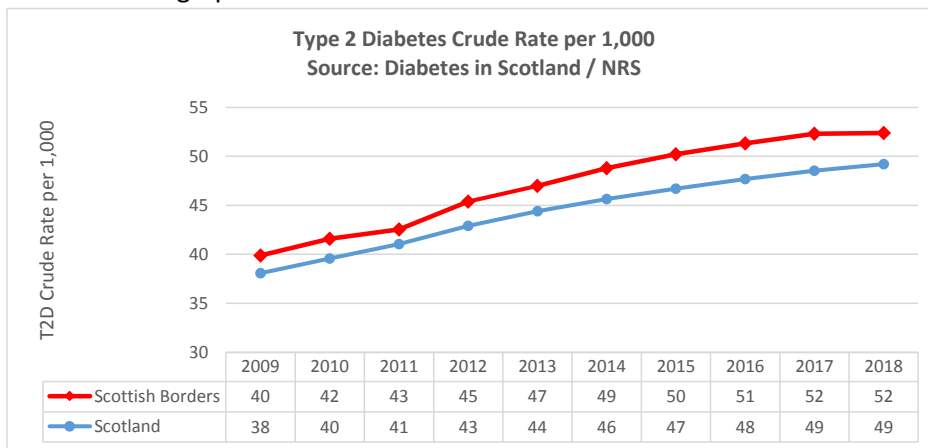
ILL HEALTH AND INJURY

- Between 2003 and 2017 the rate of hospitalisation with asthma decreased by 30% in the Scottish Borders resulting in the rate moving from being above the Scottish level to being below.
- The rate of hospitalisations for coronary heart disease in the Scottish Borders has dropped by 42% (2003 to 2017) and is below the level Scotland.

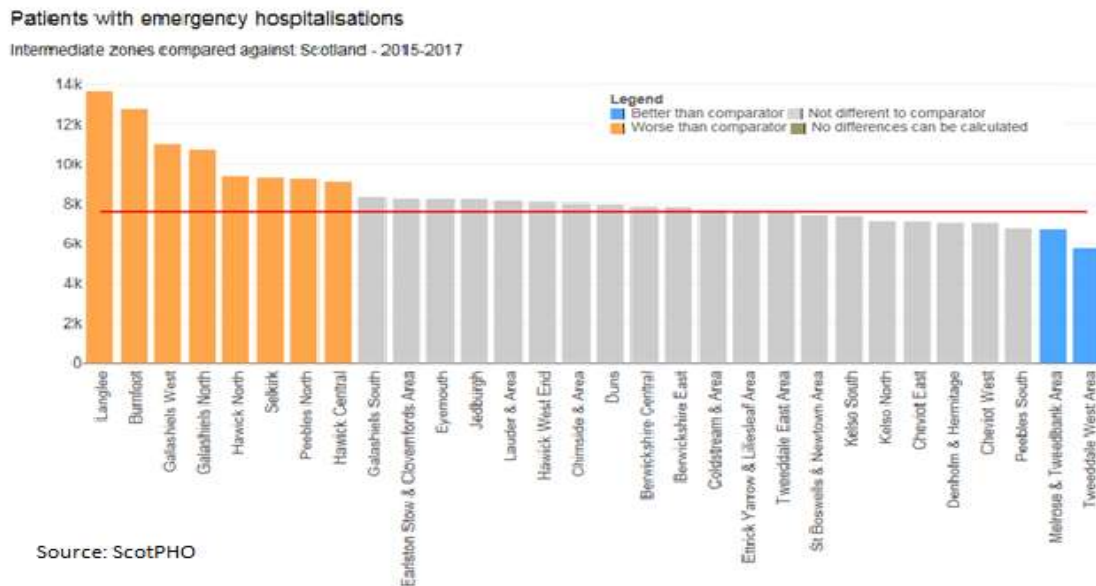
⁷ SWEMWBS = Shortened Warwick Edinburgh Mental Well-Being Scale

⁸ GHQ-12 = General Health Questionnaire

- The rate of early deaths from coronary heart disease (under 75 years) in the Scottish Borders has consistently been below the rate for Scotland and has decreased by 63% between 2003 and 2017.
- The rate of new cancer registrations in the Scottish Borders is similar to the rate for Scotland.
- Early deaths from cancer (under 75 years) in the Scottish Borders has consistently been below the rate for Scotland.
- The rate of Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) incidence has remained stable in the Scottish Borders, and below the level for Scotland.
- The rate of Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) deaths in the Scottish Borders has consistently been below the Scottish level.
- There has been a 33% increase in the number of people with Type 2 Diabetes in the Scottish Borders between 2009 and 2018.
- Scottish Borders has consistently had a higher crude rate per 1,000 population compared to Scotland, as seen in the graph below.



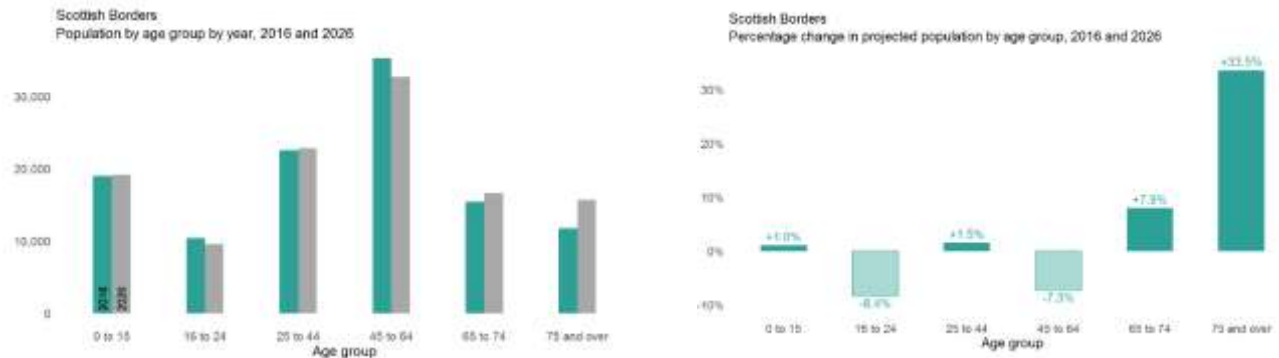
- Scottish Borders consistently has more emergency hospital admissions compared to Scotland. Eight intermediate zones in the Scottish Borders had significantly more patients with emergency hospitalisations compared to Scotland, as seen in the graph below.



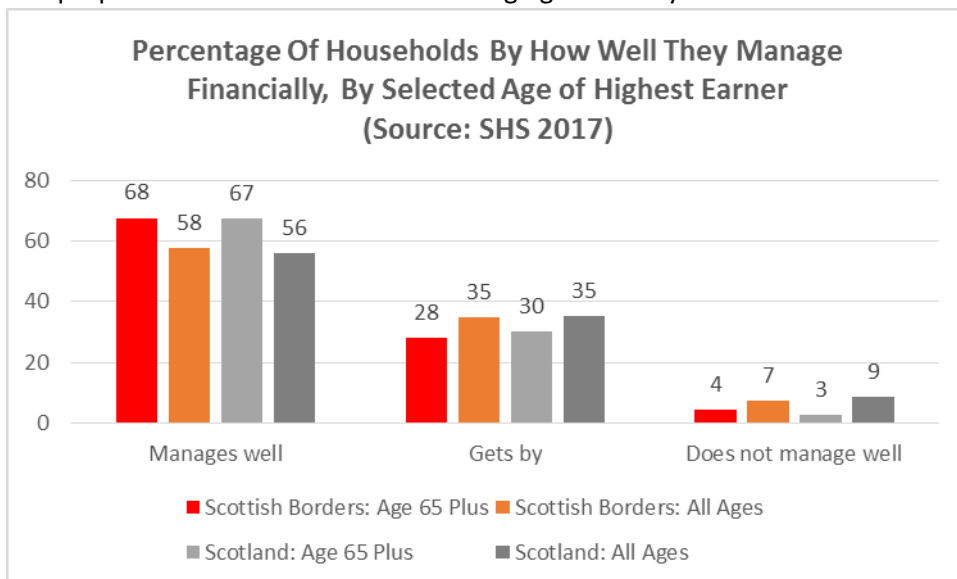
CARE OF VULNERABLE PEOPLE

OLDER PEOPLE

- According to NRS⁹ the number of people aged 75 and older in the Scottish Borders will increase by 33.5% compared to 27.3% for Scotland between 2016 and 2026. At the same time the number of people age 16 to 64 will change by -4.6% compared to a -0.9% for Scotland. Resulting in an increase in the dependency rate for Scottish Borders.



- Life Expectancy at 65 is higher for both men and women in the Scottish Borders compared to Scotland.
- Scottish Borders has consistently had a higher dependency ratio than the Scottish average and the ageing population profile means that this ratio is increasing.
- NRS projects that the number of one older person households will increase.
- The proportion of older households managing financially is similar to the level for Scotland.



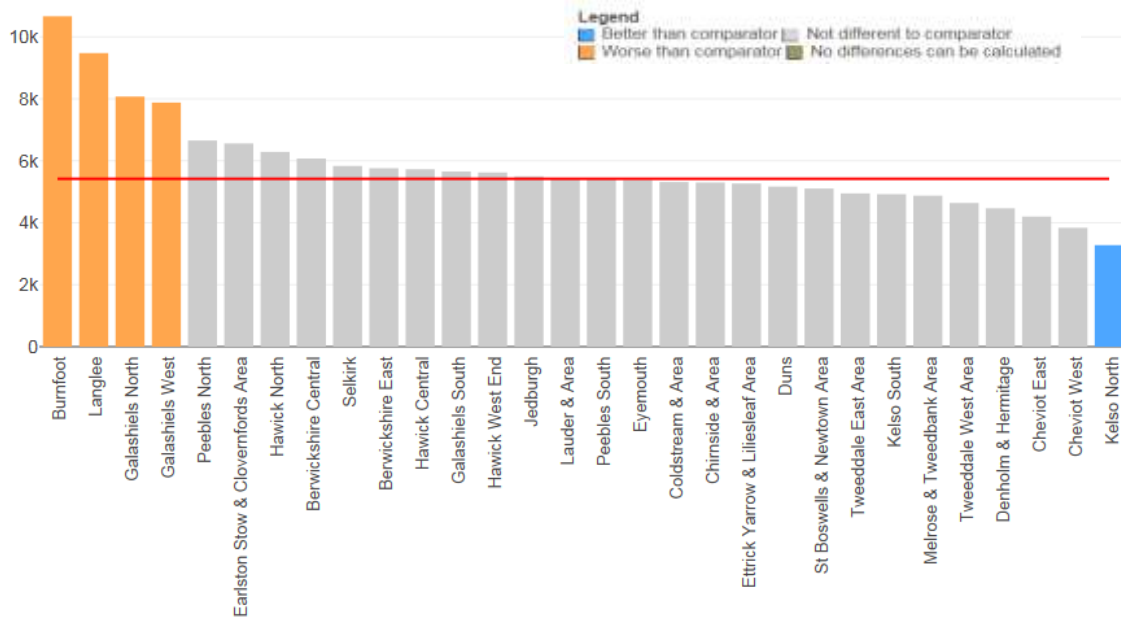
- A lower percentage of people aged over 60 in the Scottish Borders claim Pension Credit compared to Scotland.
- The proportion of over 65s who assess their general health as “good / very good” has increased by 10% from 61% in 2012 to 71% in 2016.
- Fewer people aged 65 and older say they have a long-term condition compared to the level for Scotland.

⁹ NRS = National Records of Scotland, Scottish Borders profile: https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/files//statistics/council-area-data-sheets/scottish-borders-council-profile.html#table_pop_proj_age

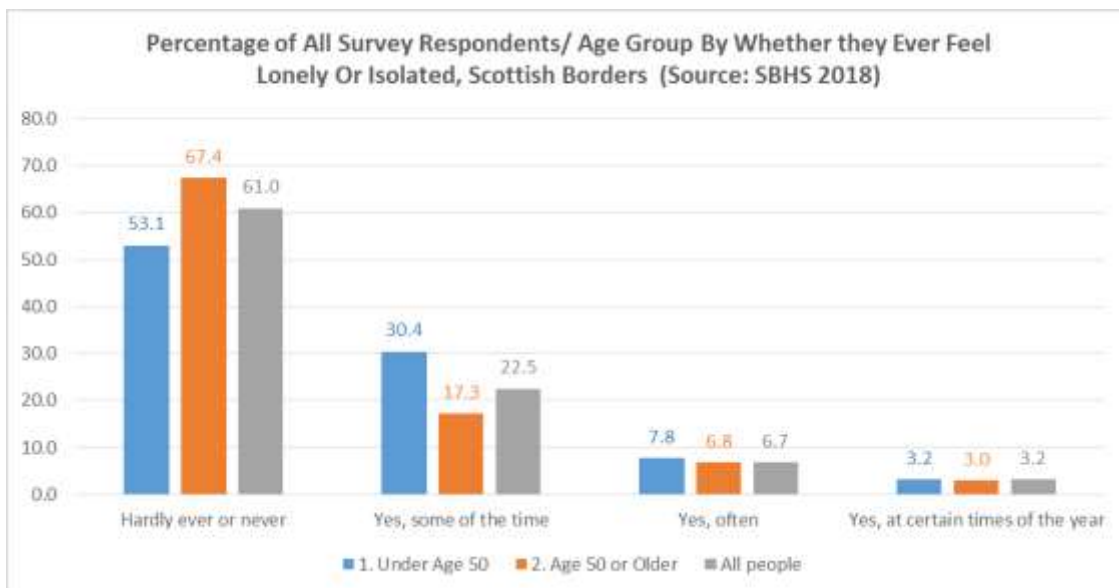
- The rate of multiple emergency hospital admissions for over 65s in the Scottish Borders has fluctuated around the rate for Scotland. However, within the Scottish Borders there are areas that have a significantly higher rate compared to Scotland.

Patients (65+) with multiple emergency hospitalisations

Intermediate zones compared against Scotland - 2015-2017



- The proportion of people aged 65+ with high levels of care needs who are cared for at home is lower in the Scottish Borders compared to Scotland.
- The number of deaths in the Scottish Borders from Alzheimer's/Dementia increased by 124%, from 58 (2000) to 130 (2017).
- The mental health score of the over 65s in the Scottish Borders is better compared to the Scottish over 65s and the general population.
- People over 50 in the Scottish Borders are less likely to feel lonely or isolated compared to those aged under 50.



- 15.6% of people aged 65 or older provide unpaid care similar to 15.4% for Scotland.
- Higher proportion of people aged 65 smoke in the Scottish Borders compared to Scotland.

ADULTS WITH LEARNING DISABILITIES

Information about adults with learning disabilities is collected by the Scottish Commission for Learning Disability, the commission produces the LDSS¹⁰.

- Scottish Borders has a slightly higher proportion of adults with learning disabilities compared to the Scottish Average.
- In 2018 there were 647 adults in the Scottish Borders known to learning disability services, a rate of 6.7 per 1,000 above the rate of 5.2 for Scotland. Key findings from the 2018 LDSS report for the Scottish Borders include:
 - 15.5% (100) have an Autism Spectrum Diagnosis, lower than the 18.7% for Scotland
 - A Similar proportion of adults with a learning disability live with a family carer in the Scottish Borders 29.8% (193) compared to Scotland's 30.3%.
 - A lower proportion have a Personal Life Plan (PLP) in the Scottish Borders 56.3% (364) compared to 64.7% for Scotland.
 - A slightly higher proportion of adults with learning disabilities have employment opportunities in the Scottish Borders 5.3% (34) compared to Scotland (4.2%).
 - Fewer attend a day centre 57 (9.1%) in the Scottish Borders compared to 17.3% for Scotland.
 - More are in further education in the Scottish Borders 45 (7.0%) compared to the 4.4% for Scotland.

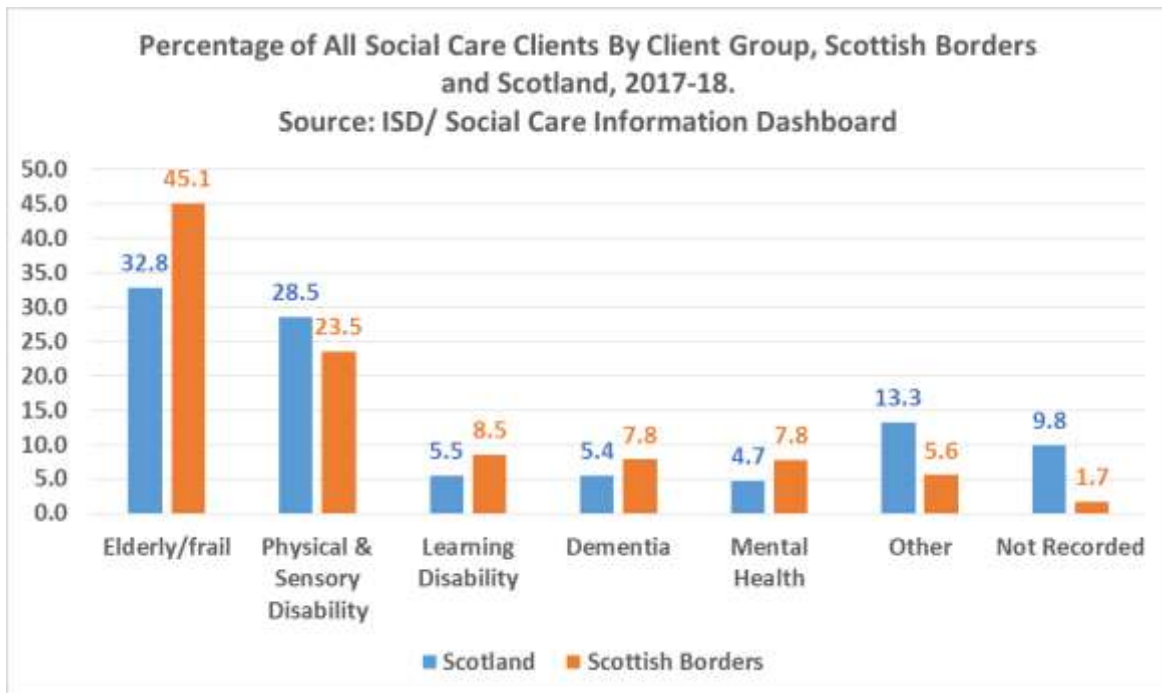
CARERS

- The proportion of adults providing unpaid care to a friend or loved one due to illness, disability, old-age etc. in the Scottish Borders (18.9%) is similar to the level for Scotland (18.4%).
- Compared to Scotland more unpaid carers in the Scottish Borders are women and in live in a pensioner household.
- Fewer unpaid carers are in a household with children in the Scottish Borders compared to Scotland.
- 36% of carers in the Scottish Borders feel supported by social care services to continue in their caring role, similar to the 37% for Scotland.
- The Scottish Borders (10.6) has a lower rate per 1,000 of claimants for Carer's Allowance compared to Scotland (14.3).

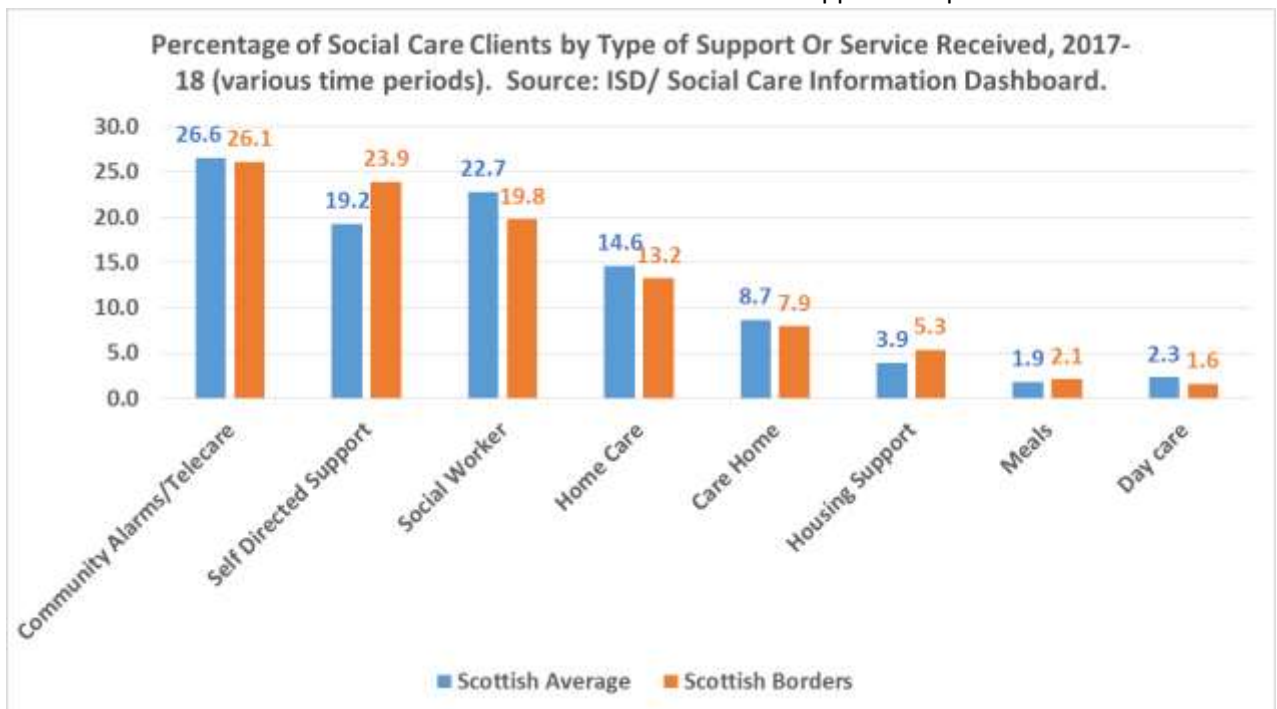
¹⁰ LDSS = Learning Disability Statistics Scotland <https://www.sclld.org.uk/what-we-do/population-statistics/>

ADULT SOCIAL CARE SERVICES

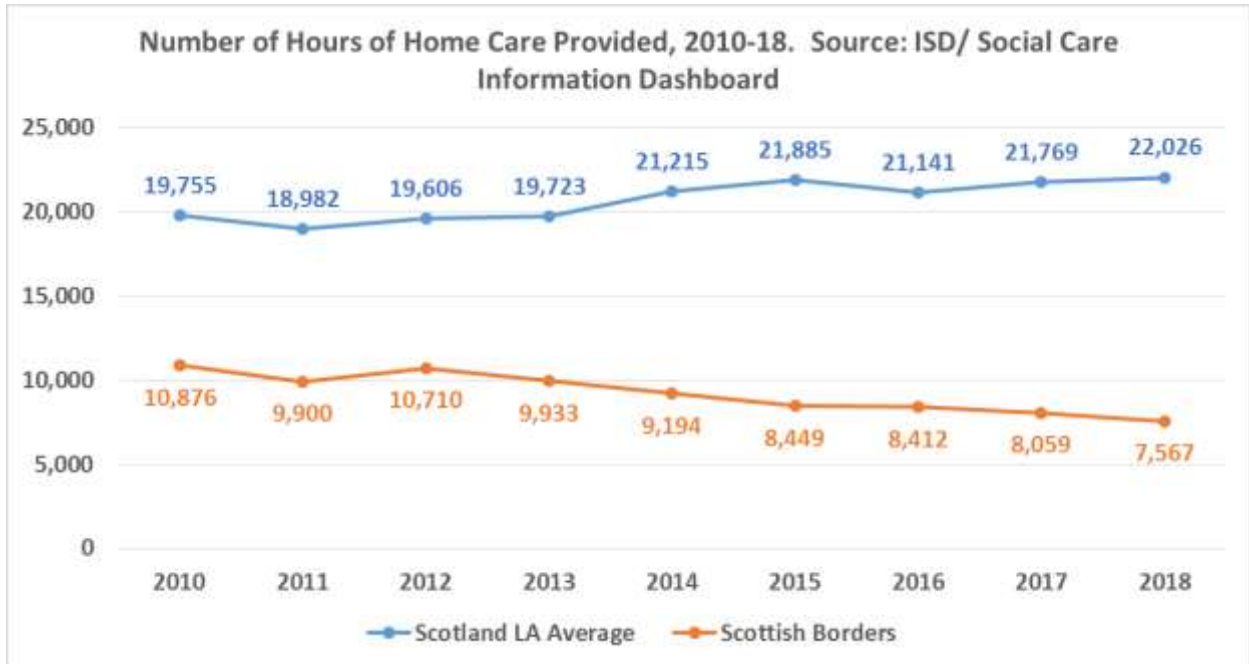
- Compared to Scotland the Scottish Borders has a higher proportion of elderly / frail, learning disability, dementia and mental health clients.



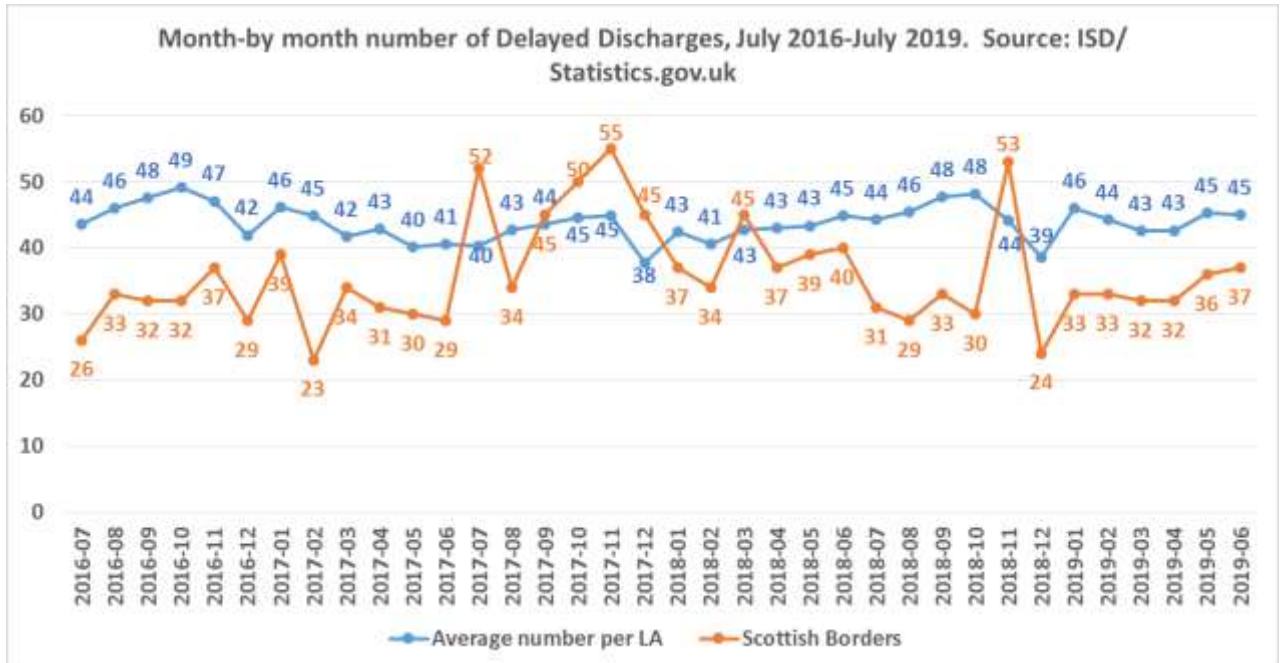
- More social care clients in the Scottish Borders have Self Directed Support compared to Scotland.



- In the Scottish Borders, both the number of Home care clients and the number of hours of homecare has steadily decreased since 2012.



- On average the number of delayed discharges for the Scottish Borders has been below the Scottish average.

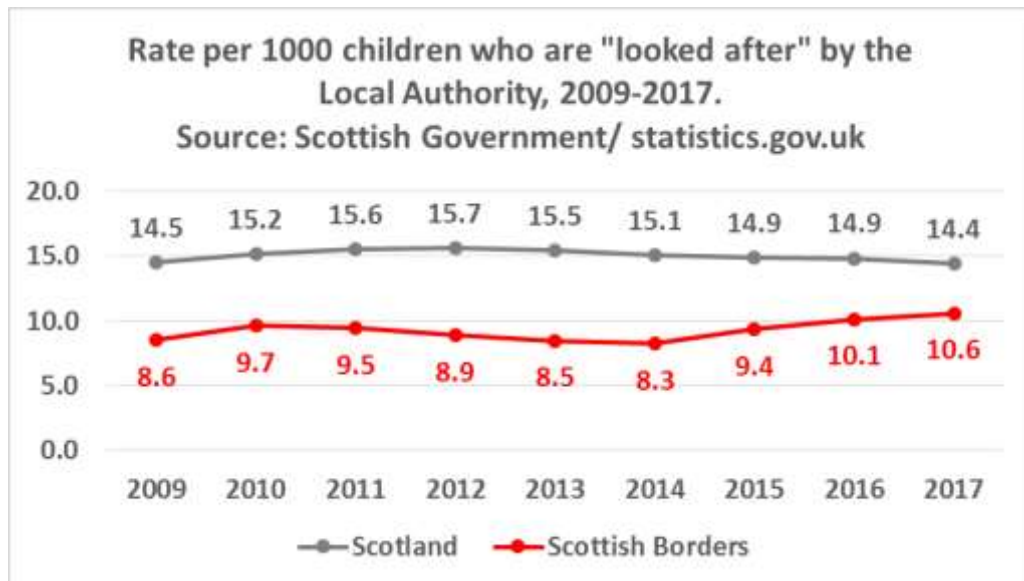


- The proportion of people who spent the last six months of life at home in the Scottish Borders increased from 84.1% in 2011/12 to 87.0% in 2017/18. Although the rate is below the level for Scotland.

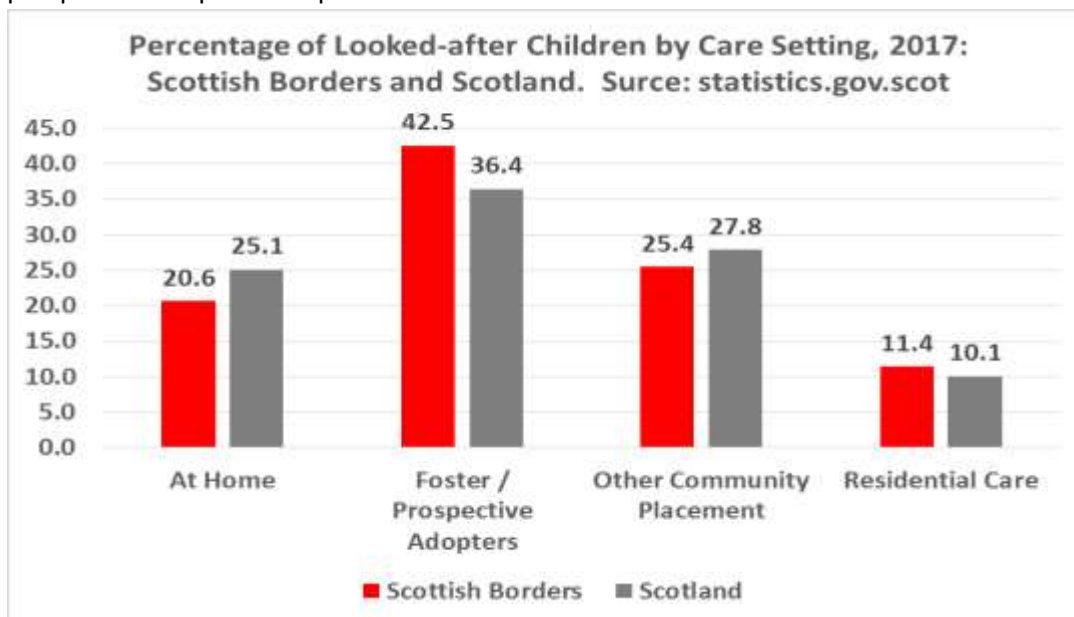
CHILDREN

CHILDREN LOOKED AFTER

- The Scottish Borders consistently has a lower rate per 1,000 of children looked after compared to Scotland.



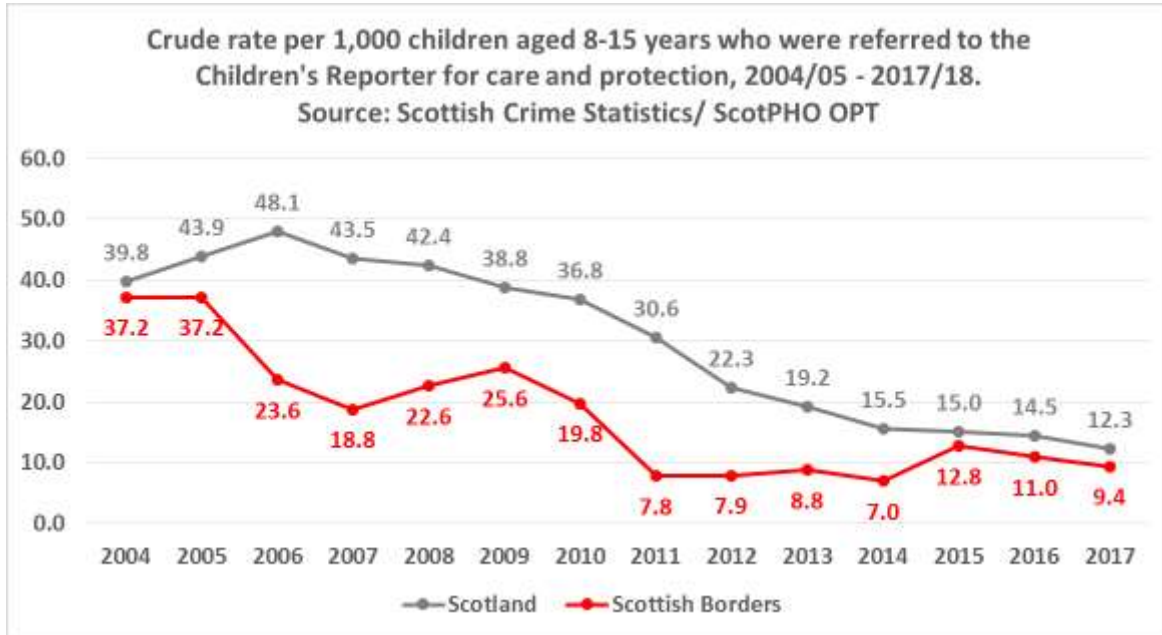
- In 2017 a higher proportion of children looked after in the Scottish Borders were with foster carers or prospective adopters compared to Scotland.



- 90% of the school leavers that are children looked after go to a positive destination for the Scottish Borders compared to 81% for Scotland.
- Fewer (43.3%) of pupils with Looked After Children status participated in Active Schools compared to all pupils (57.5%).

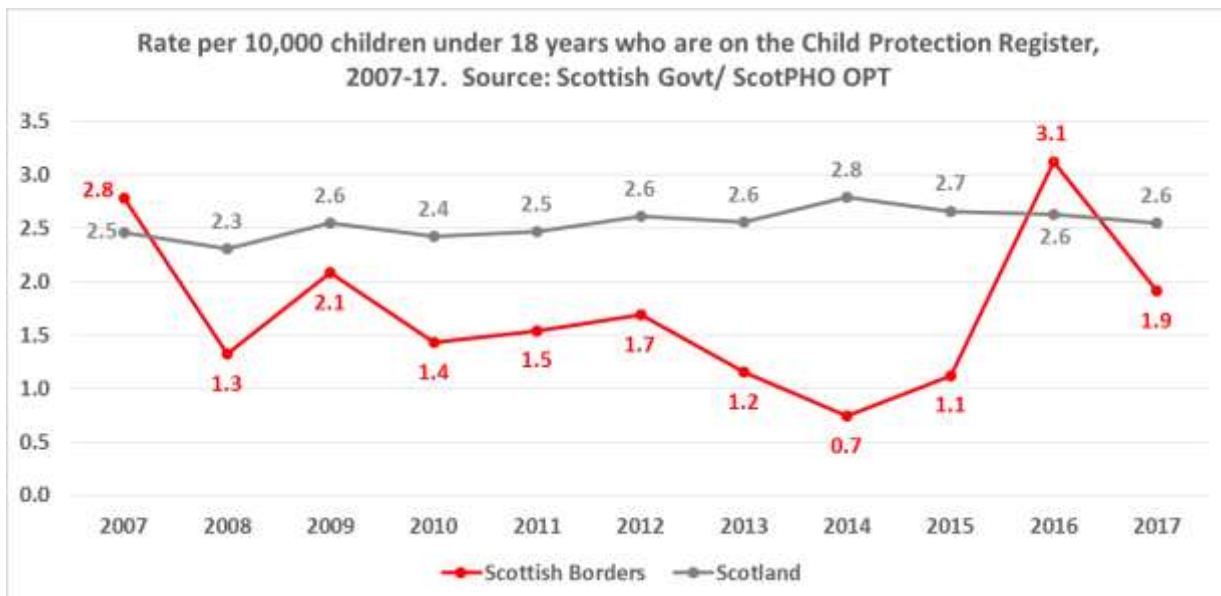
CHILDREN'S REPORTER

- The rate of children who were referred to the Children's Reporter for care and protection has steadily decreased for both the Scottish Borders and Scotland. The rate in the Scottish Borders has consistently been below average and has declined at a similar rate overall although with more erratic fluctuations, due to the low number of cases involved.



CHILD PROTECTION

- The rate per 10,000 children who are on the Child Protection register has remained the same in Scotland since 2007. Within the Scottish Borders the rate has usually been below the Scottish level.

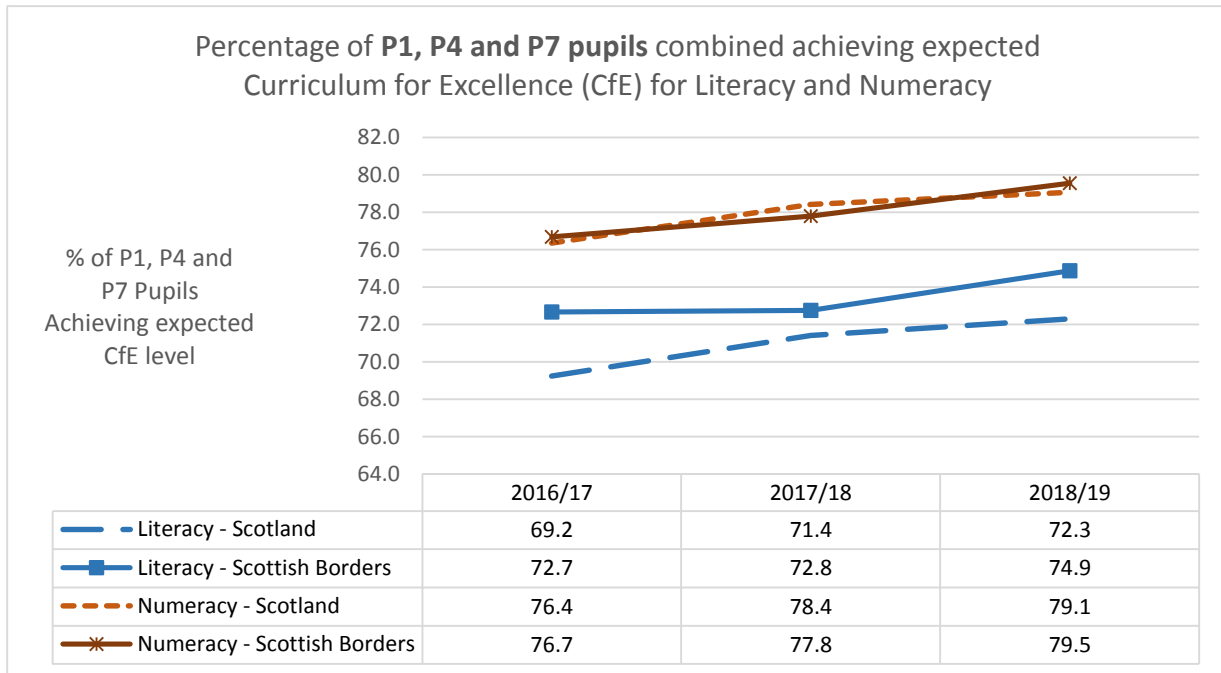


EDUCATION

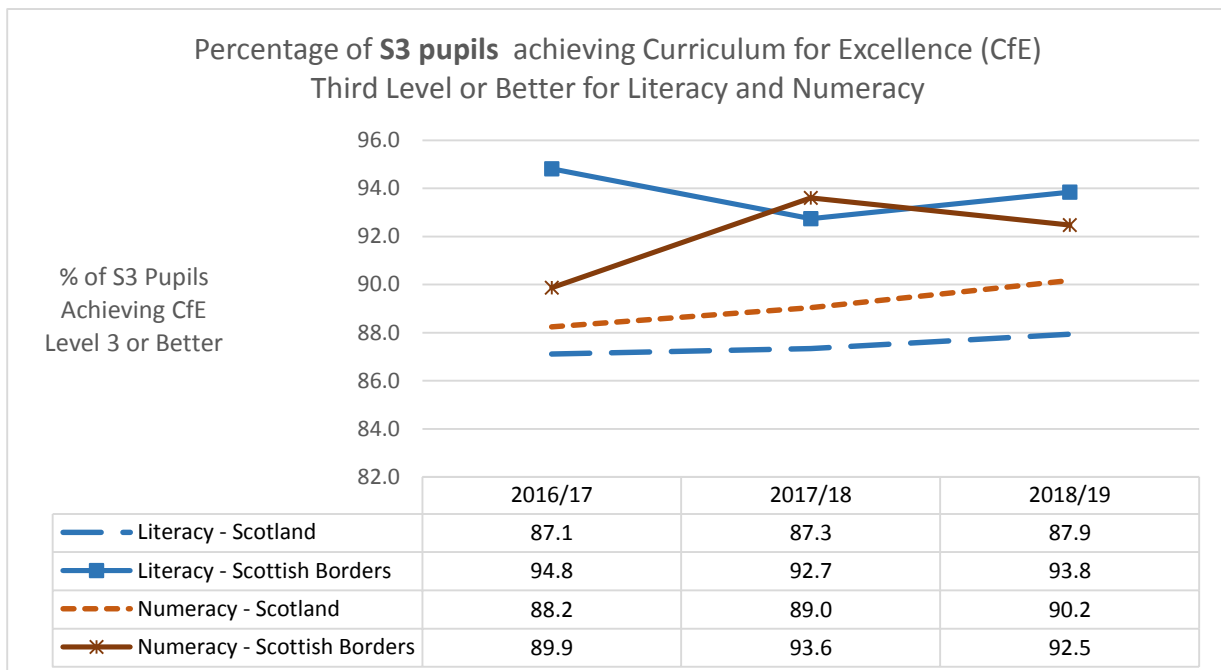
NUMERACY AND LITERACY COMPETENCIES

The Scottish Government publishes the results of [Achievement of Curriculum for Excellence Levels](#) (CfE) which shows pupils' achievement (based on Teachers Professional Judgements) in literacy and numeracy.

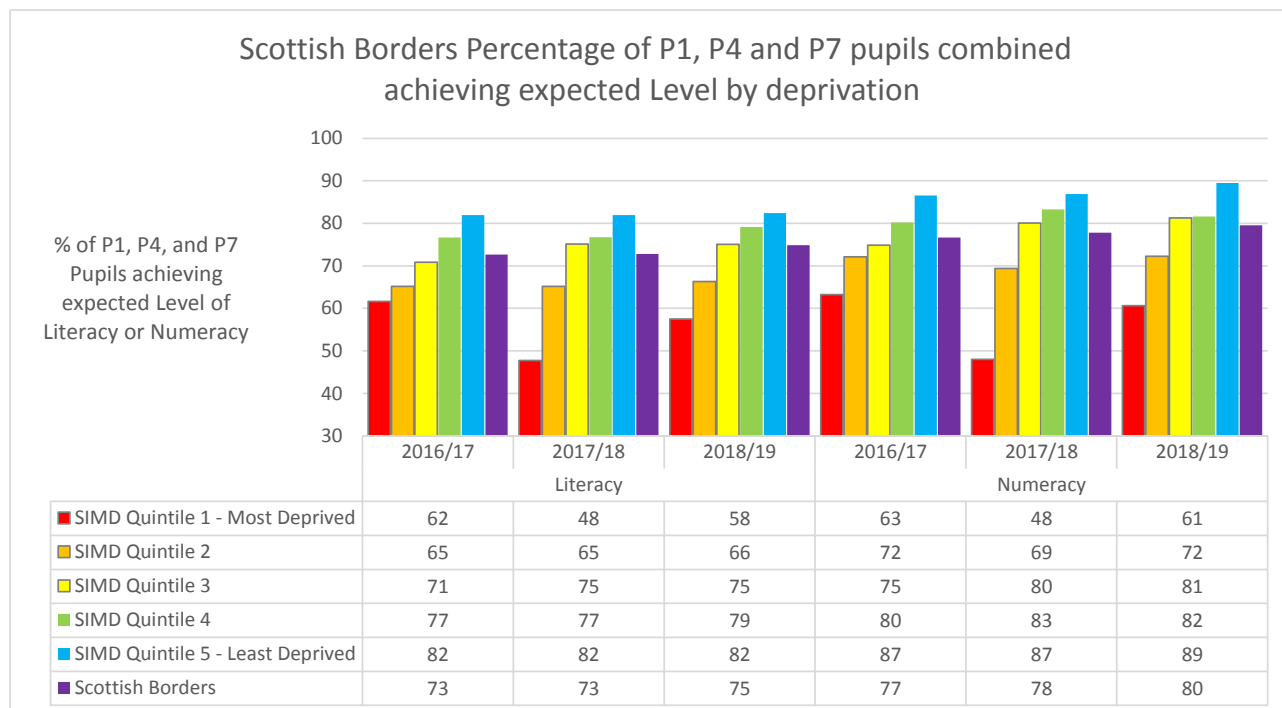
Compared to Scotland primary pupils in the Scottish Borders are achieving a similar level of numeracy and a slightly higher level of literacy.



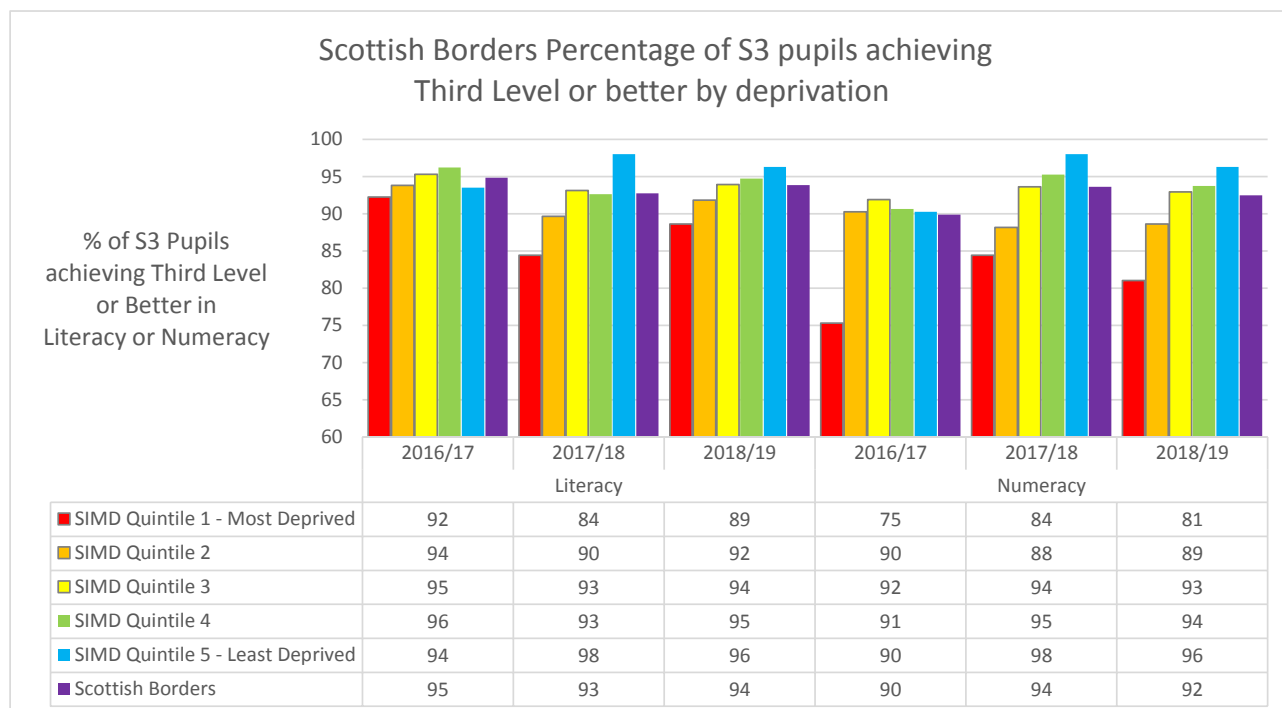
The Scottish Borders consistently has more S3 pupils achieving Third Level of Better for both literacy and numeracy compared to Scotland.



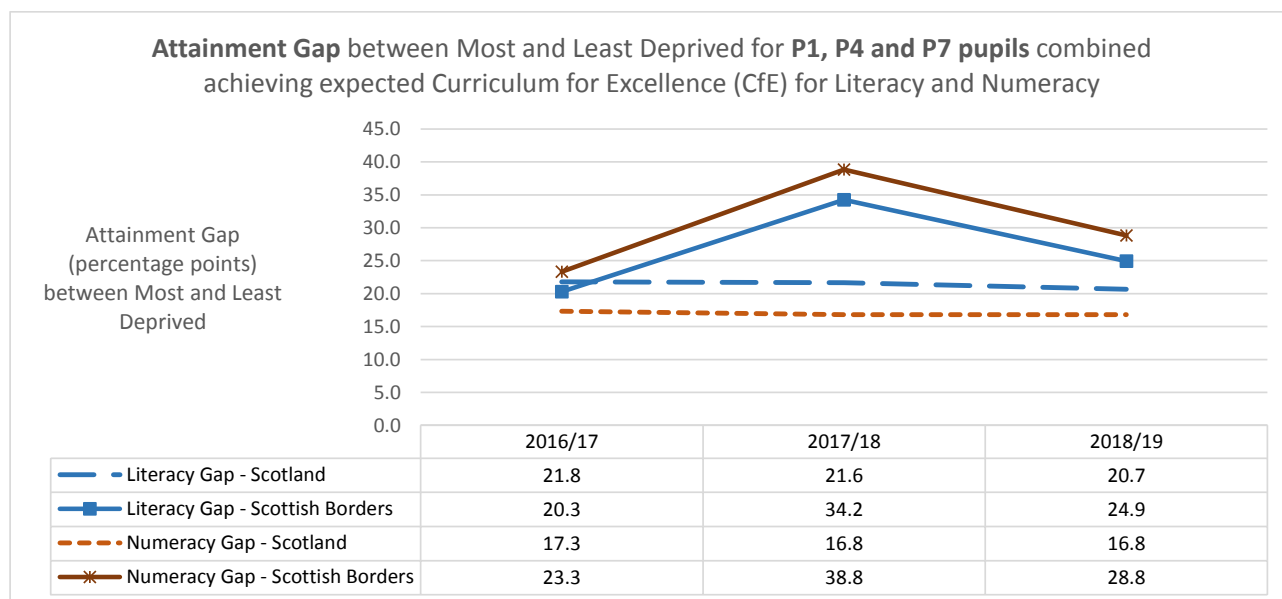
The graph below shows the proportion of pupils in P1, P4 and P7 who have achieved the expected level of competency for literacy and numeracy by SIMD Quintile. For both literacy and numeracy there are fewer children achieving the expected level who live in SIMD Quintile 1 – Most Deprived areas compared to other pupils. The achievement of those living in SIMD Quintile 1 fluctuates the most.



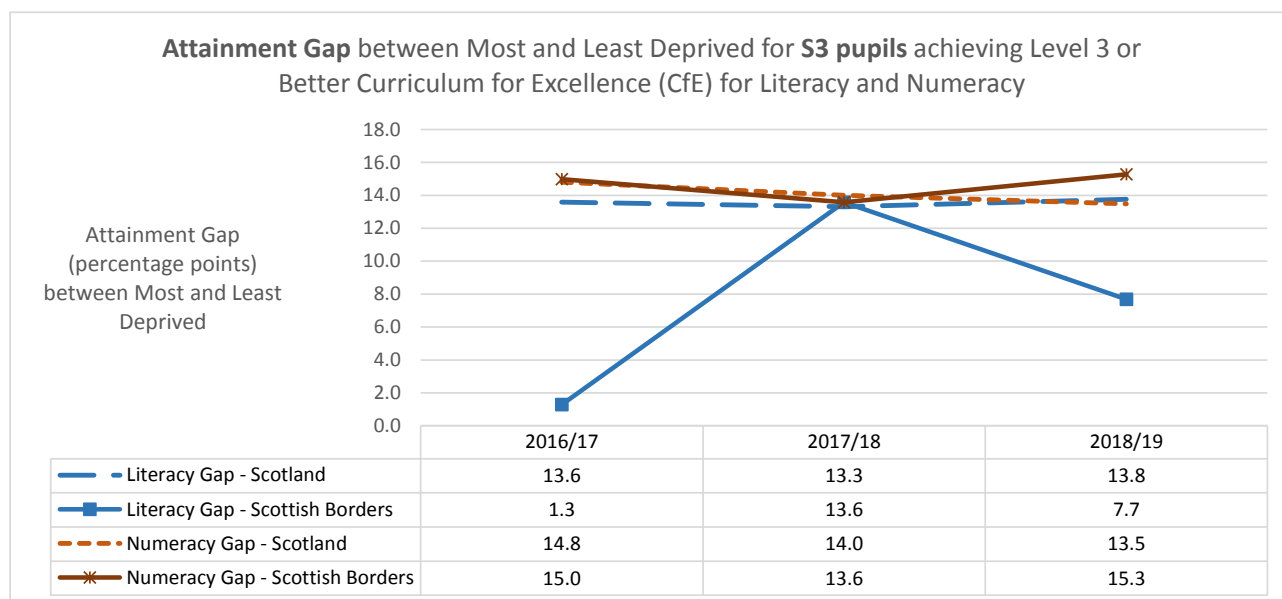
The graph below shows the proportion of pupils in S3 who have achieved the Third Level or better for literacy and numeracy by SIMD Quintile. For both literacy and numeracy there are fewer children achieving the expected level who live in SIMD Quintile 1 – Most Deprived areas compared to other pupils. The achievement of those living in SIMD Quintile 1 fluctuates the most.



Unfortunately, the Attainment Gap for both literacy and numeracy between the most and least deprived primary pupils is higher in the Scottish Borders compared to Scotland for P1, P4 and P7 pupils.



For S3 pupils in the Scottish Borders the Attainment Gap for literacy has fluctuated, whereas the gap for numeracy is similar.

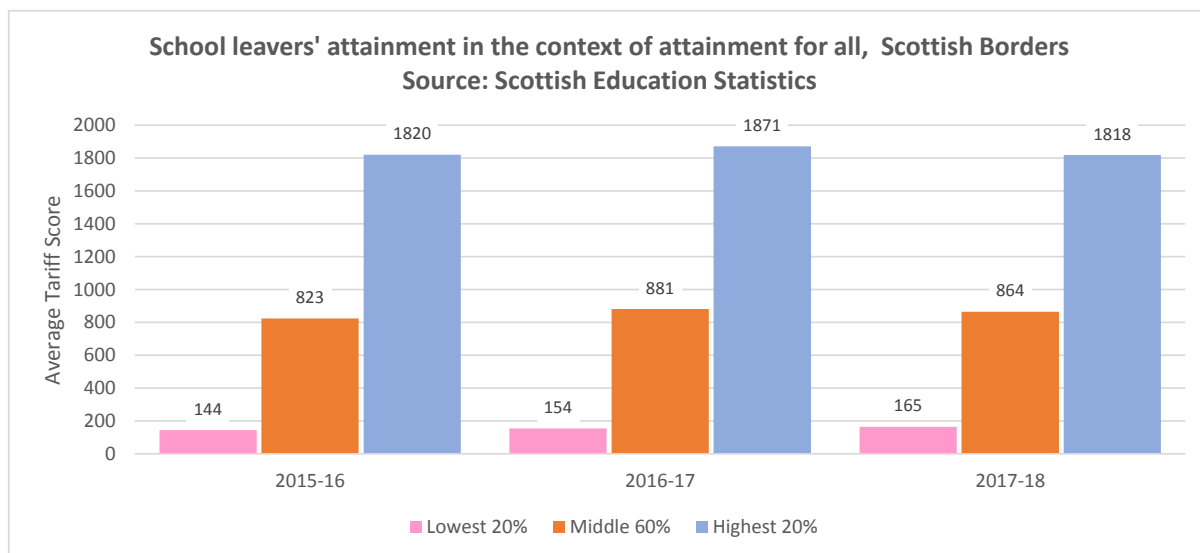


SCHOOL LEAVER ATTAINMENT (TARIFF SCORES)

School leaver attainment is measured through a tariff score which shows how pupils develop the range of skills, knowledge and attributes need to succeed in learning, life and work.

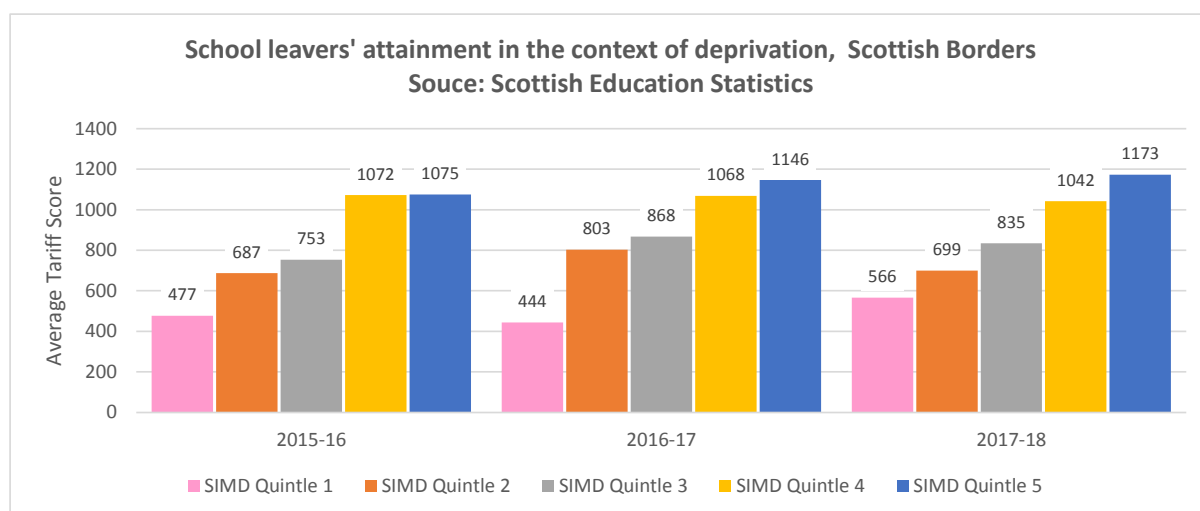
ATTAINMENT FOR ALL

Between 2015-16 and 2017-18 the attainment of Scottish Borders school leavers has remained consistent. The highest 20% of attainers in the Scottish Borders have an average tariff score significantly above the average score for the lowest 20% and middle 60%.



ATTAINMENT – DEPRIVATION CONTEXT

The average tariff score for Scottish Borders school leavers living in SIMD Quintile 1 areas consistently have lower scores compared to those in SIMD Quintile 4 or 5. Although there was a marked improvement for between 2016-17 and 2017-18 for school leavers from SIMD Quintile 1.



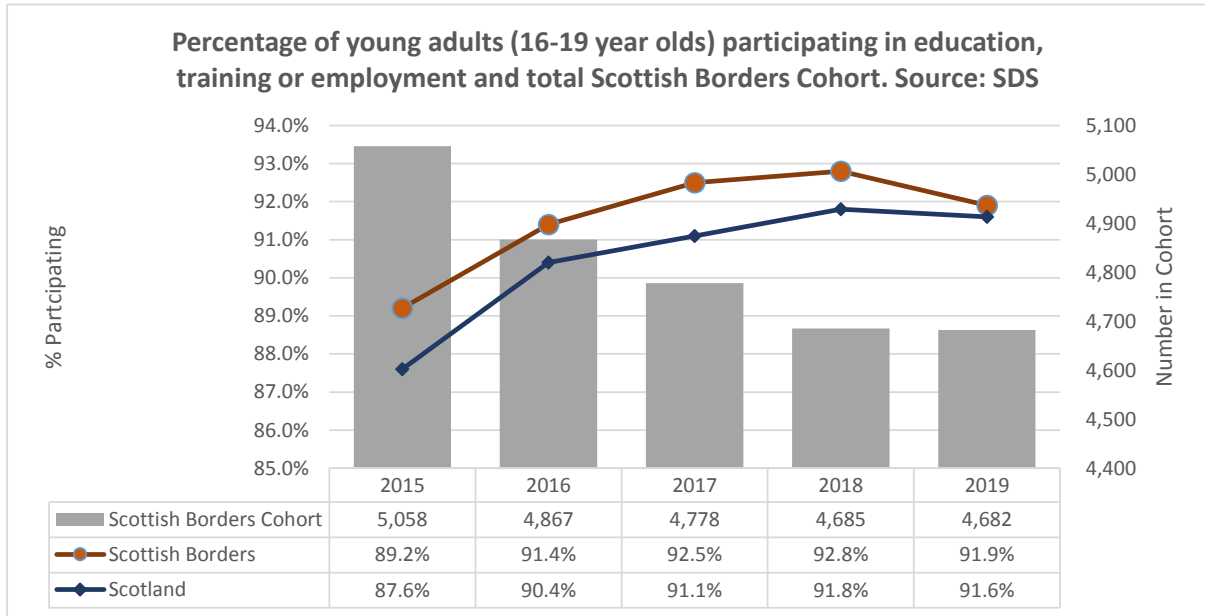
When looking at individual schools, Scottish secondary schools are assessed by comparing them to a 'virtual comparator'; of the nine secondary schools in the Scottish Borders only Earlston High School compares favourably to its 'virtual comparator'. Details for each school can be found at:

<https://public.tableau.com/profile/sg.eas.learninganalysis#!/vizhome/SchoolInformationDashboard-Secondary/Introduction>.

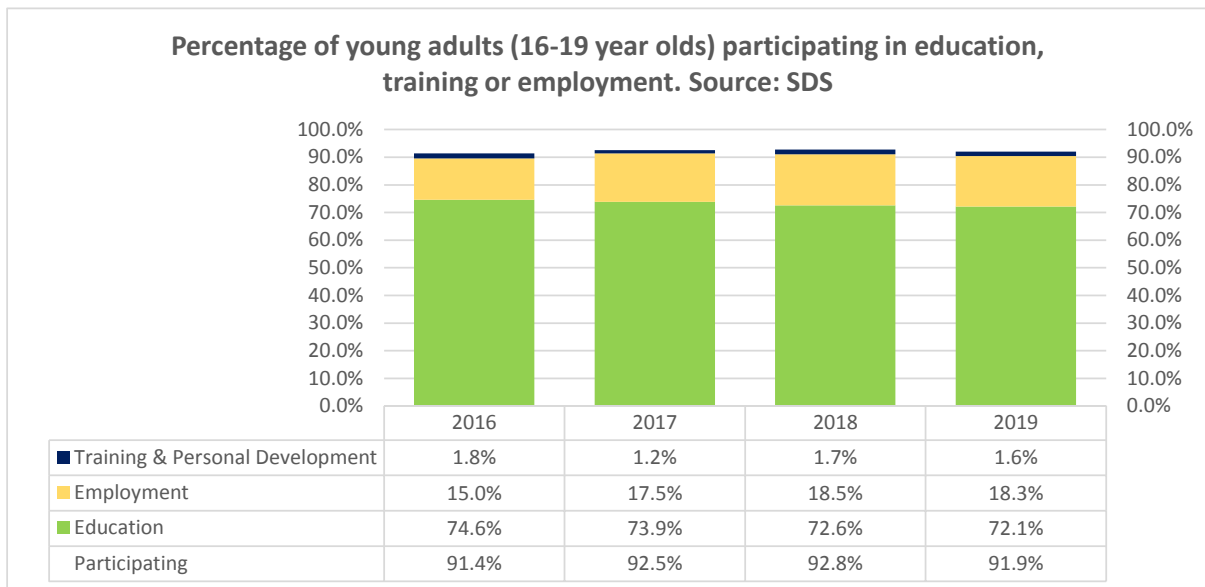
PARTICIPATION MEASURE

The participation measure, produced by [Skills Development Scotland](#), is the percentage of young adults (16-19 years old) participating in education, training or employment.

The Scottish Borders consistently has a higher proportion participating, compared to Scotland.



Within the groups participating in education, training and employment between 2016 and 2019 there was a small increase in the proportion in employment and a small decrease in the proportion in education in the Scottish Borders.



ECONOMY

A key source for economic information is the Office of National Statistics (ONS) [NOMIS](#) (official labour market statistics) website. One key feature of the website is the Labour Market Profile for each local authority including Scottish Borders¹¹.

[Skills Development Scotland](#) produce regional skills assessments which looks at the economy, employment and total requirement and supply both now and in the future.

EMPLOYMENT AND EARNINGS

- Occupations in the Scottish Borders
 - Lower % employed in Profession Occupations
 - Higher % employed in Skilled Trades Occupations and Elementary Occupations
 - Higher % people Self-Employed
- Gross Value Added (GVA) for Scottish Borders is 73% of the GVA for Scotland.
- Median Gross Weekly Earnings (Workplace-based) for Scottish Borders in 2018 was £483, 86% of the Scotland level of £563.
- Lower % of people unemployed in the Scottish Borders.
- Gender pay gap in the Scottish Borders is £69.50 lower than the level for Scotland and has decreased by 39% between 2008 and 2018.
- More people in the Scottish Borders (25.7%) earn less than the Living Wage compared to Scotland (19.4%).

BUSINESS DEMOGRAPHY

- The number of businesses in the Scottish Borders fell between 2008 and 2012 and has risen since then.
- The rate of Business “Births” Registrations is lower in the Scottish Borders compared to Scotland and has declined between 2014 and 2017.
- The rate of Business “Deaths” De-registrations has been lower than the Scottish level for 2016 and 2017.
- More micro businesses, 82% of the Business sites in the Scottish Borders have fewer than 10 employees compared to 74% for Scotland.

BUSINESS INVESTMENT AND SUPPORT

- 9% increase in usage of Borders Railway between 2016-17 and 2017-18. (Opened in September 2015).
- The percentage of A class roads that should be considered for maintenance in the Scottish Borders has increased over the past 10 years and is higher than the level for Scotland.
- Scottish Borders is involved with three different economic partnerships: South of Scotland Alliance (SOSA) / South of Scotland Enterprise (SOSE), Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Deal and Borderlands (Scottish-English border partnership).
- The % of employment in the Information Technology Industrial Group in the Scottish Borders (1.1%) is less than half of the level in Scotland (2.7%).
- [Business Gateway Scottish Borders](#) was established in 2001 to help support individuals and businesses with quality, practical advice, guidance and information.
- CABN ([Creative Arts Business Network](#)) supports the professional creative sector in the Scottish Borders, with a focus on creative micro-businesses across all art forms.

¹¹ <https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/la/1946157430/report.aspx>

QUALIFICATIONS

- The proportion of people aged 16 to 64 that are degree qualified increased by 6.9% between 2009 (21.3%) and 2018 (27.2%).
- The proportion of people aged 16 to 64 with no qualifications has decreased by 2.2% from 10.5% in 2009 to 8.35% in 2018.
- The Scottish Borders has a similar qualification profile to Scotland, although there is a higher proportion with a general school level with slightly less with higher qualifications.
- Scottish Borders has an above average success rate with Modern Apprenticeships but there is still scope for improvement.

TOWN CENTRE VITALITY

The Town Centre Matrix and Index is a tool used to measure and assess the vitality and resilience of the towns in the Scottish Borders. In 2019 the towns with lower resilience were Hawick, Eyemouth and Jedburgh. The most resilient towns were Kelso, Peebles and Melrose.

Town Centre Matrix at April 2019

Source	Theme	TCI	Measure	Hawick	Galashiels	Peebles	Kelso	Selkirk	Jedburgh	Eyemouth	Innerleithen	Duns	Melrose
NRS	Population 2017	*	Population 2017	13,889	12,603	8,535	6,903	5,560	3,882	3,557	3,141	2,756	2,464
			Age 0 -15	2,359	2,008	1,495	1,061	859	627	707	542	466	436
			Age 16 - 64	8,209	8,185	4,908	3,917	3,216	2,287	1,980	1,805	1,608	1,409
			Age 65+	3,321	2,410	2,132	1,925	1,485	968	870	794	682	619
			%Age 0 -15	17%	16%	18%	15%	15%	16%	20%	17%	17%	18%
			% Age 16 - 64	59%	65%	58%	57%	58%	59%	56%	57%	58%	57%
NRS	Population Change (2008 to 2017)	*	Pop 2008	13,787	12,229	8,006	6,276	5,590	3,949	3,173	2,975	2,615	2,028
			Pop Change (2008 to 2017)	102	374	529	627	-30	-67	384	166	141	436
			% Pop Change (2008 to 2017)	0.74%	3.06%	6.61%	9.99%	-0.54%	-1.70%	12.10%	5.58%	5.39%	21.50%
			1 (20% Most Deprived of Scotland)	29%	13%	0%	0%	18%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
SIMD 2016	% in SIMD2016 Quintile	*	2 Quintile	28%	39%	0%	12%	0%	18%	81%	0%	0%	0%
			3 Quintile	27%	35%	29%	31%	38%	63%	0%	25%	70%	24%
			4 Quintile	16%	12%	32%	47%	27%	19%	19%	52%	0%	0%
			5 (20% Least Deprived of Scotland)	0%	0%	39%	10%	17%	0%	0%	23%	30%	76%
			Claimant Count as proportion of 16-64	4.2%	4.0%	1.6%	2.7%	3.0%	3.1%	3.0%	2.2%	2.5%	0.7%
NOMIS	Jobseeker Allowance (January 2019)	*	Claimant Count	345	330	80	105	95	70	60	40	40	10
			Footfall 2014	3,750	7,930	7,610	4,980	2,090	2,610	2,150	n/a	1,780	990
			Footfall 2018	5,090	7,910	7,580	4,690	3,300	2,180	1,930	n/a	1,540	3,140
			Footfall 2018-2014	-1,340	20	30	290	-1,210	430	220	n/a	240	-2,150
			% Change Footfall 2018-2014	-36%	0%	0%	6%	-58%	16%	10%	n/a	13%	-217%
SBC	Town Centre Footfall (NO data for Innerleithen)	*	Footfall 2018 Rate Per 1,000	366	628	888	679	594	562	543	n/a	559	1274
			Retail Units 2018	263	241	144	168	88	88	67	52	61	80
			Retail Units 2018 per 1,000	19	19	17	24	16	23	19	17	22	32
			Summer 2014 - Vacancy Rate	14%	19%	6%	7%	16%	9%	8%	2%	8%	0%
			Summer 2018 - Vacancy Rate	15%	15%	8%	4%	13%	15%	13%	2%	10%	8%
			Change in Vacancy Rate (S2014 to S2018)	1%	-4%	2%	-3%	-3%	6%	5%	0%	-2%	8%
			Vacant Floor Space Summer 2018	10%	12%	5%	6%	9%	16%	11%	2%	10%	4%
SBC	Percent Chain Retail	*	Summer 2018	26%	39%	26%	28%	16%	19%	23%	6%	28%	15%
			Owned	57%	54%	69%	58%	61%	56%	55%	68%	56%	67%
Underst anding Scotlan d's Places	Housing Tenure	*	Social	31%	31%	20%	29%	29%	31%	37%	23%	34%	16%
			Private Rent	13%	16%	12%	14%	11%	13%	8%	9%	11%	17%
			Social to Private Rent Ratio	2.5	2.0	1.7	2.1	2.7	2.5	4.7	2.6	3.2	1.0
			Prof and Managerial	9%	13%	26%	14%	15%	12%	9%	21%	15%	30%
Underst anding Scotlan d's Places	Social grade (% households aged 16-64)	*	White collar	24%	32%	27%	24%	31%	25%	21%	30%	25%	32%
			Skilled manual	25%	22%	23%	29%	25%	29%	31%	25%	29%	18%
			Semi-skilled and unskilled manual	41%	33%	23%	33%	29%	34%	39%	25%	31%	20%
Underst anding Scotlan d's Places	Qualifications (% all people aged 16 and over)	*	None	39%	27%	23%	35%	31%	34%	36%	29%	33%	20%
			Standard Grade	25%	25%	20%	24%	22%	28%	28%	22%	24%	18%
			Higher Grade	13%	15%	14%	14%	15%	13%	13%	14%	14%	12%
			HNC, etc.	8%	10%	8%	8%	9%	9%	6%	8%	8%	8%
Underst anding Scotlan d's Places	Degree or higher	*		15%	23%	35%	20%	23%	17%	17%	28%	22%	43%

Town Centre Index at April 2019

Theme	Measure	Hawick	Galashiels	Peebles	Kelso	Selkirk	Jedburgh	Eymouth	Innerleithen	Duns	Melrose
Population Context	% Age 16 - 64 (2017)	9	10	5	2	6	8	1	4	7	3
	% Pop Change (2008 to 2017)	3	4	7	8	2	1	9	6	5	10
% in SIMD2016 Quintile	1 (20% Most Deprived of Scotland)	1	3	4	4	2	4	4	4	4	4
	5 (20% Least Deprived of Scotland)	1	1	9	5	6	1	1	7	8	10
Jobseeker Allowance (Jan 2018)	JSA claimants as proportion of 16-64	1	2	9	6	5	3	4	8	7	10
	Footfall 2018	7	9	8	6	5	3	2		1	4
Town Centre Footfall (NO Data for Innerleithen)	% Change Footfall 2018-2014	3	4	5	6	2	9	7		8	1
	Footfall 2018 Rate Per 1,000	1	6	8	7	5	4	2		3	9
Retail Units and Vacancy	Retail Units 2018 per 1000	5	6	3	9	1	8	4	2	7	10
	Summer 2018 -Vacancy Rate	1	1	7	9	4	1	4	10	6	7
	Change in Vacancy Rate (S2014 to S2018)	6	10	4	9	8	2	3	7	4	1
	Vacant Floor Space Summer 2018	4	2	8	7	6	1	3	10	4	9
	Long term Vacancy Rate 2018 (5 years +)	3	1	8	6	1	6	3	8	5	8
Housing Tenure	Owned	5	1	10	6	7	4	2	9	3	8
Social grade (% households aged 16-64)	Prof and Managerial	2	4	9	5	6	3	1	8	6	10
	Qualifications (% all people aged 16 and over)	None	1	8	9	3	6	4	2	7	5
	Degree or higher	1	7	9	4	6	2	3	8	5	10
	Ranking Score *	54	79	122	102	78	64	55	98	88	124
Overall Town Centre Index *		1	5	9	8	4	3	2	7	6	10

* Note: NO Town Centre Footfall data for Innerleithen which impacts on the score and ranking

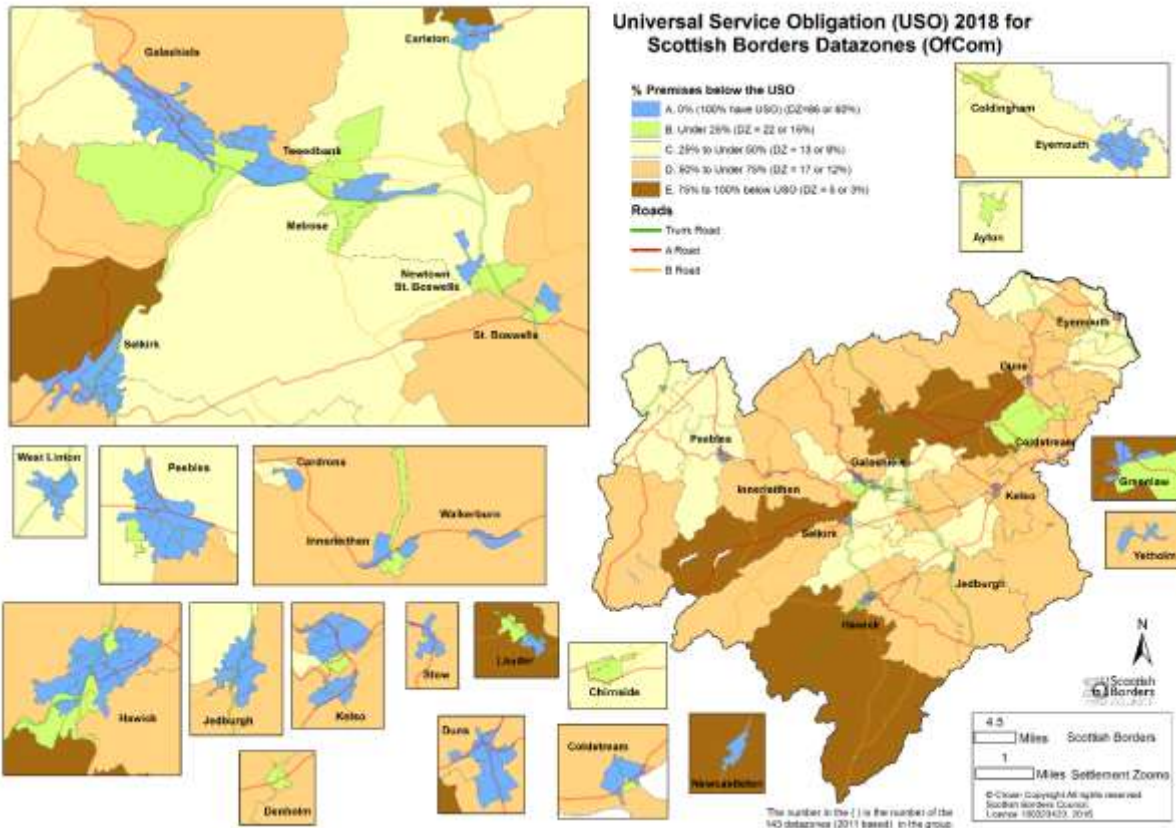
TOURISM

- The top five visitor attractions in the Scottish Borders are Tweed Valley Forest Park, Teviot Watergardens, Heart of Hawick, Abbotsford and Melrose Abbey.
- Between 2011 and 2017 the number of visitors had declined for both international (58% decrease) and domestic (35% decrease) visitors.
- Visitor spend in the Scottish Borders has also declined between 2011 and 2017; 92% decrease for international visitor spend and 18% decrease for domestic visitor spend.
- Between 2008 and 2017 the number of people employed in sustainable tourism in the Scottish Borders increased by 23% (from 3,000 to 3,700) compared to 14% for Scotland.
- In 2017 the sustainable tourism gross value added per head in the Scottish Borders (£23,318) was 17% higher than the level for Scotland (£19,974).

DIGITAL CONNECTIVITY

Ofcom's [Connected Nations](#) report is a key source for understanding the provision of digital connectivity.

- 81.3% of households have home internet access in the Scottish Borders compared to 85% for Scotland.
- The Scottish Borders has good 4G mobile coverage from all operators in 78% of indoor premises and 51% of geographic coverage.
- 83% of the Scottish Borders has access to Superfast Broadband (30 Mbit/s) compared to 92% for Scotland.
- Full Fibre (1 Gbit/s) is available to 1% of the Scottish Borders compared to 4% for Scotland.
- 13% of the Scottish Borders are unable to access decent broadband (USO) compared to 4% for Scotland. This varies across the Scottish Borders as seen in the map below.

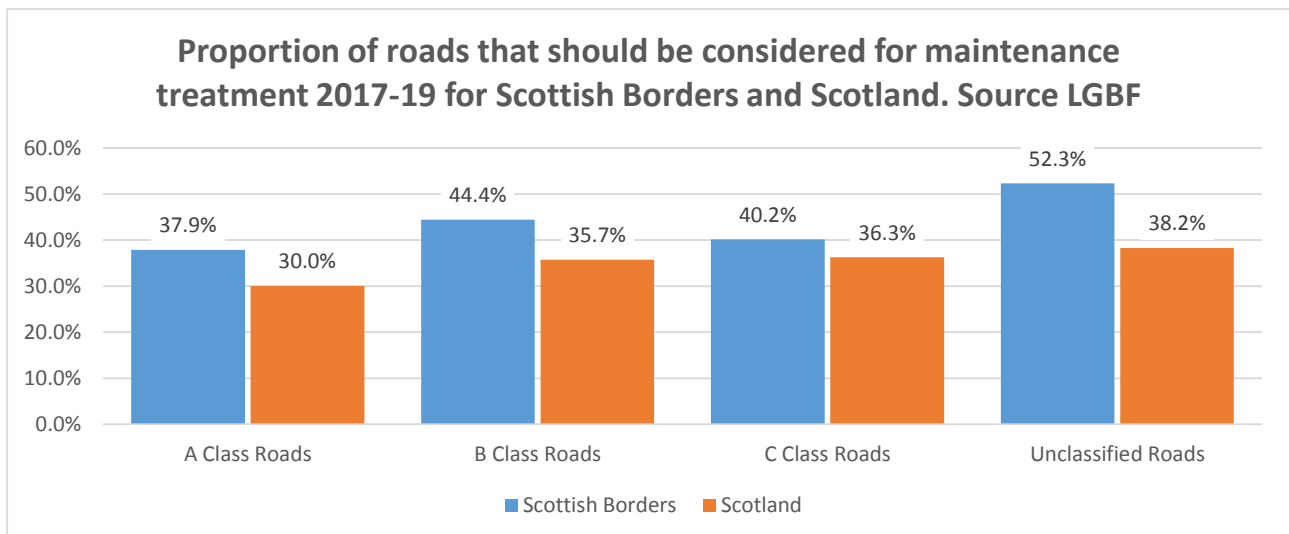


ROADS AND TRANSPORT USAGE

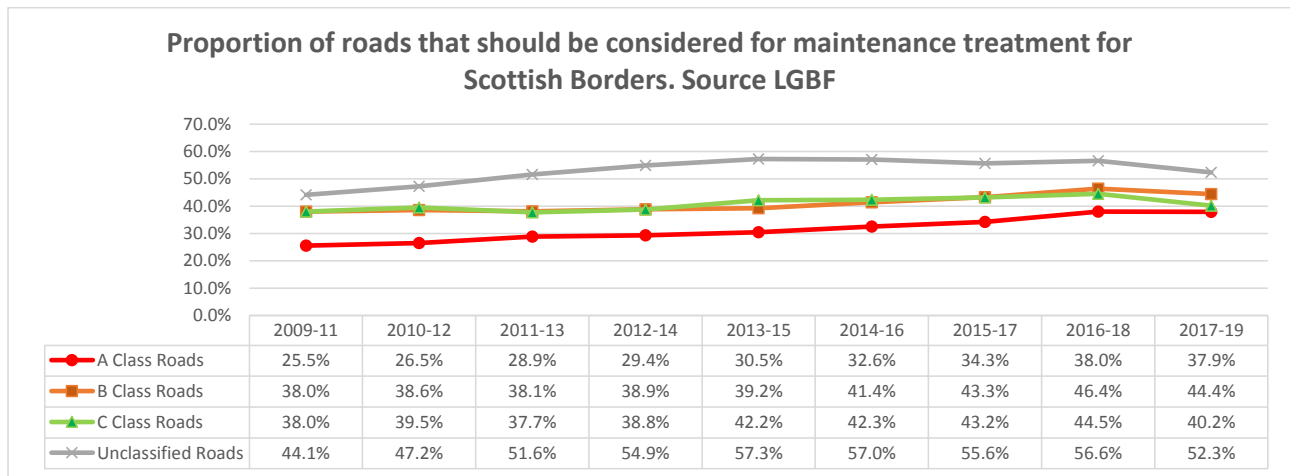
ROAD QUALITY

In the Scottish Borders, there are nearly 3,000 km of road. The proportion of road network that should be considered for maintenance treatment is one of the indicators used in the [Local Government Benchmarking Framework](#) (LGBF).

Compared to Scotland more of the roads in the Scottish Borders should be considered for maintenance treatment.

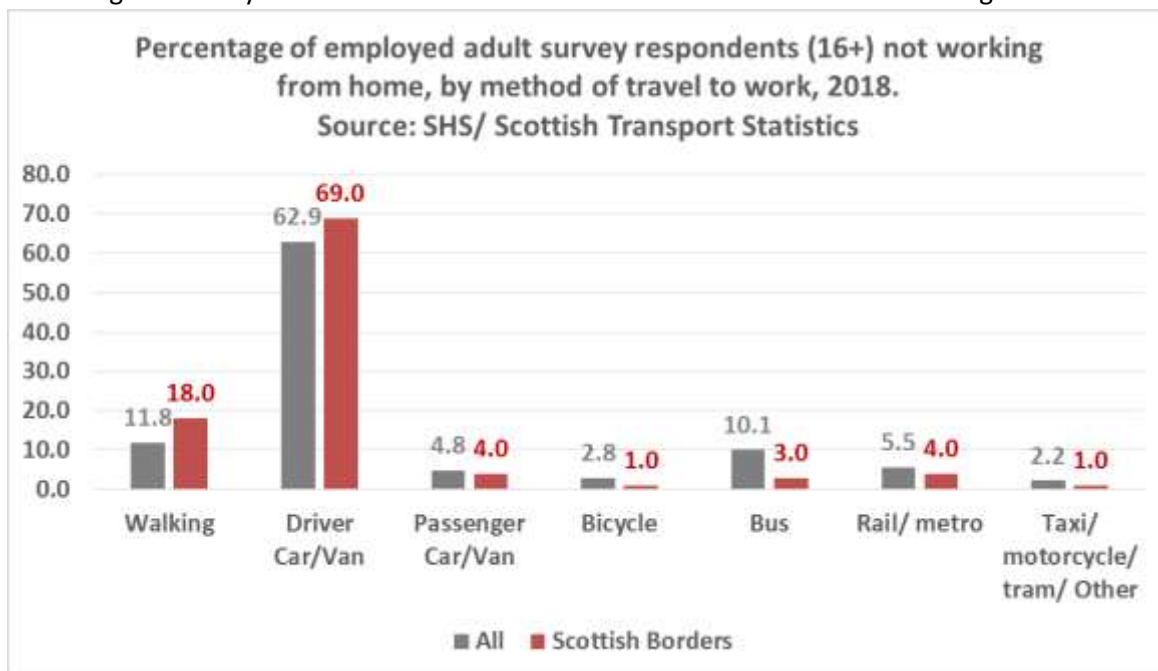


Between 2009-11 and 2017-19 the proportion of roads in the Scottish Borders that should be considered for maintenance treatment has increased. Specifically, there has been an increase of 12.3% for A Class roads and 6.4% for B Class roads, as seen in the graph below.



TRANSPORT MODE USAGE

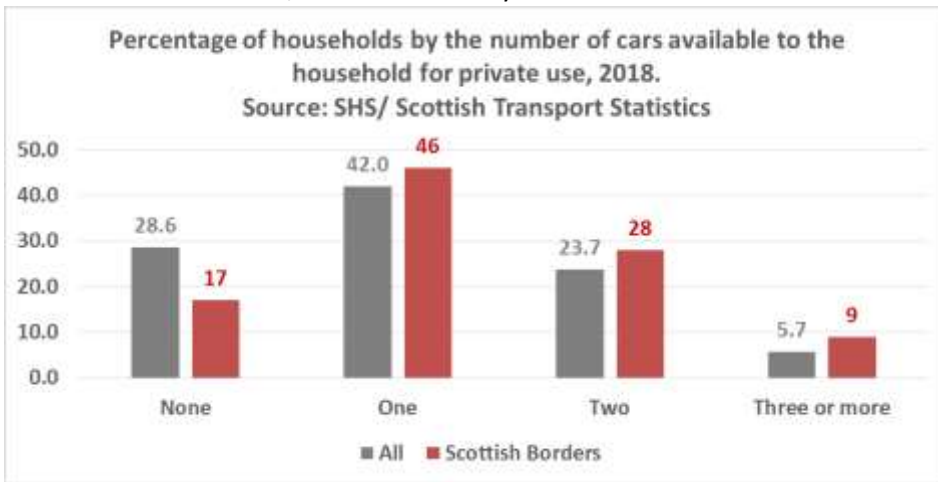
According to the Scottish Household Survey (SHS) using a car or van to get to work is more common in the Scottish Borders than the Scottish average. This is a typical pattern for a more rural area like the Scottish Borders, where alternative forms of transport are less likely to be feasible. Walking to work, where feasible, is quite popular in the Scottish Borders but cycling and public transport methods are less common. Travelling to work by train is now more common in the Scottish Borders than using the bus.



CAR USAGE

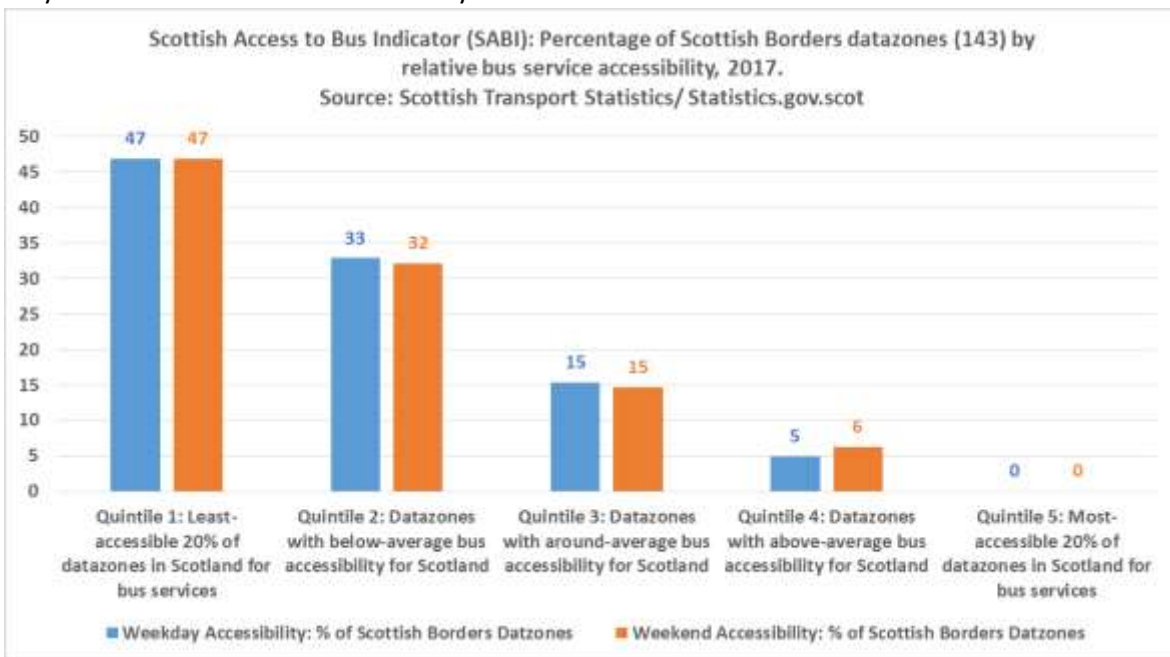
Scottish Borders has a higher dependency on car ownership than average for Scotland, with many households more likely to own a car, or two, or three. With access to a car being deemed a necessity in a rural area like the Scottish Borders, this focuses attention on the remaining 17% of households who still do

not have access to a car, and whether they can access services.



The Scottish Access to Bus Indicator (SABI) gives a score for the accessibility of bus services in each datazone and provides an objective measure of accessibility to public transport by bus in every Datazone in Scotland. The indicator provides separate scores for weekday and weekend services.

According to these figures, 47% of Scottish Borders datazones are within the least-accessible quintile in Scotland for bus services, and this is similar whether on a weekday or weekend. A further 33% of Scottish Borders datazones are within the second-“worst” quintile for access to bus services, meaning that 80% of the Scottish Borders is served by relatively poor accessibility to bus services by Scottish standards. There is very little difference between weekday and weekend services.

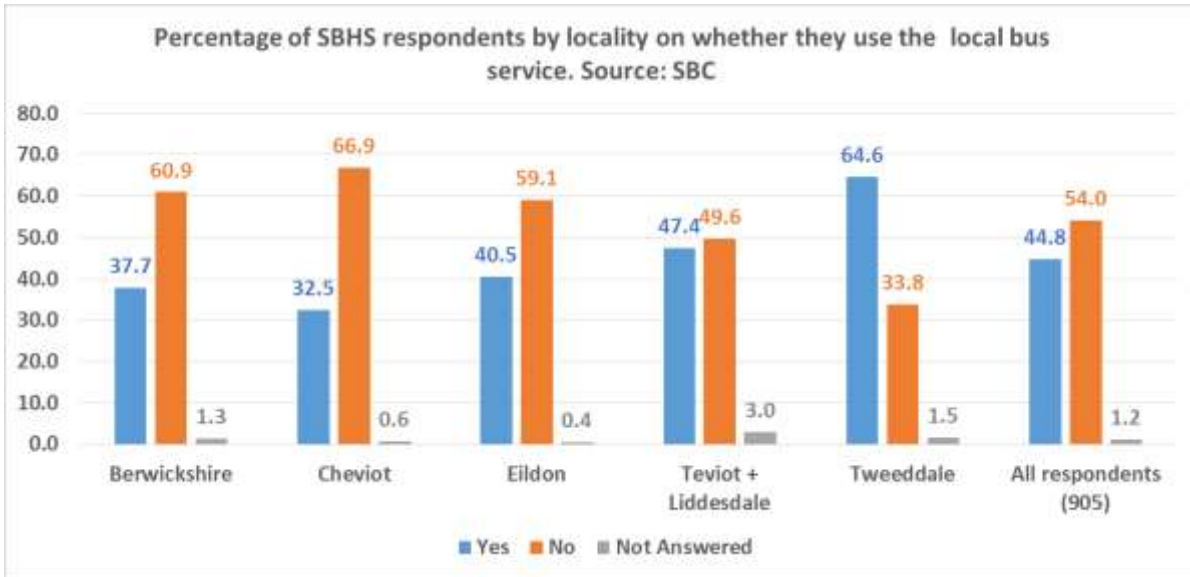


It should be remembered that using a measurement of services based on datazones does not take into account that all datazones are not equal, in terms of need. There are some datazones in the region that cover large areas and are populated by scattered hamlets, villages and farmsteads with a high level of car ownership. Bus service need and feasibility in these areas will inevitably be quite different from that in a datazone covering a large residential community or main town centre.

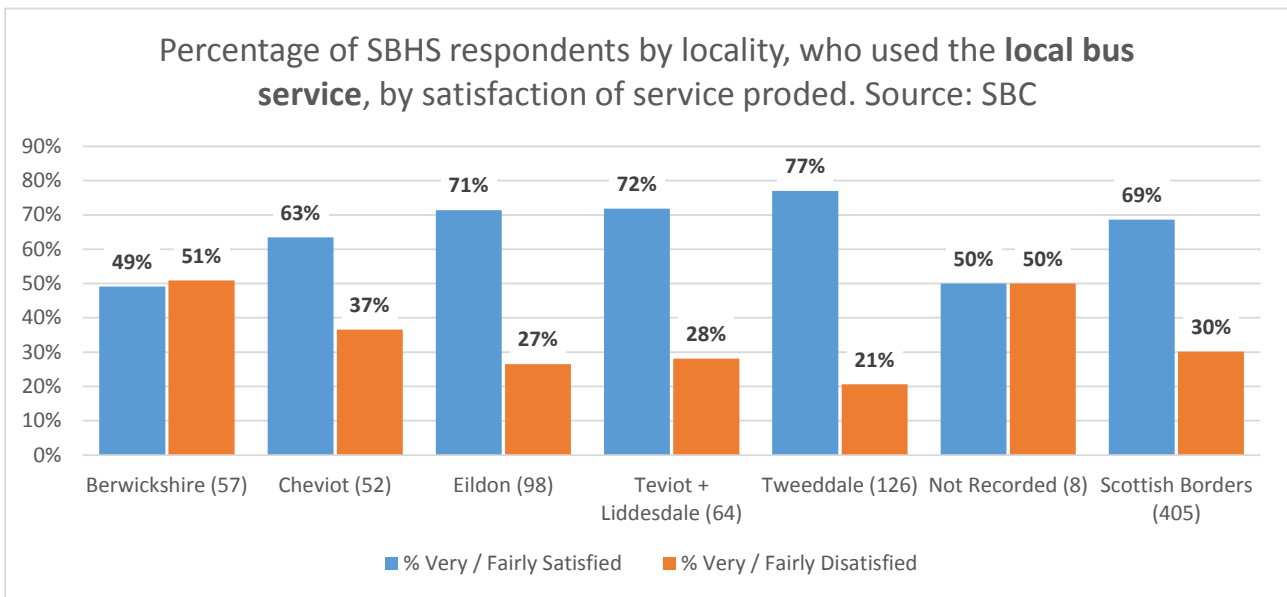
PUBLIC TRANSPORT - BUS

The 2018 Scottish Borders Household Survey (SBHS) asked about bus service usage. Overall, 45% of respondents said that they did use it and 54% did not. This varies a great deal by locality, with bus service

usage being highest in Tweeddale and lowest in Cheviot.



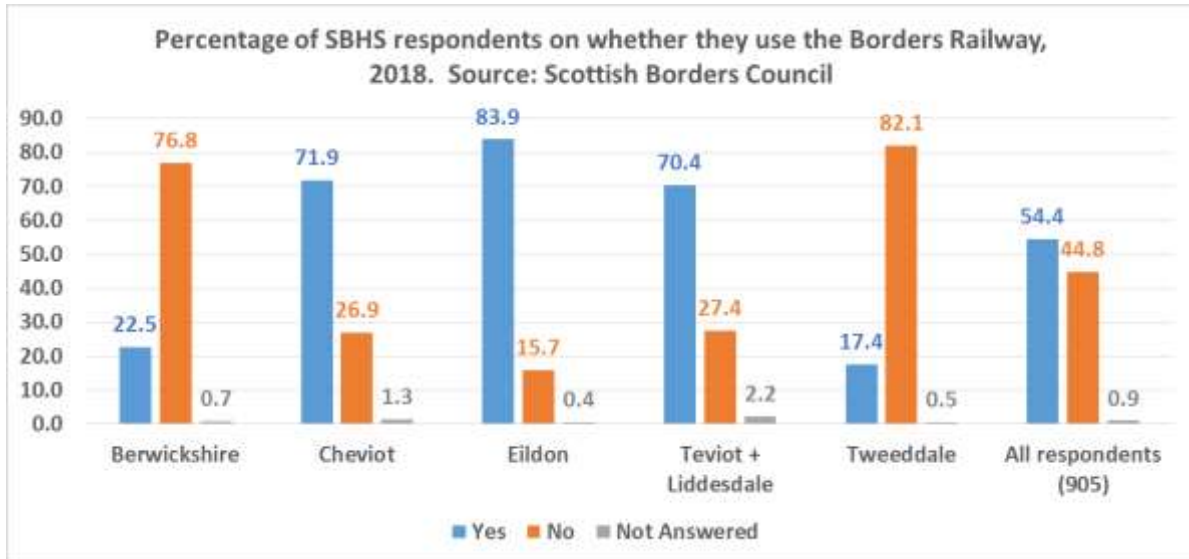
The 2018 SBHS asked respondents, who used the local bus service, about their level of satisfaction with their local bus service. The majority of respondents who use the local bus service were satisfied with the service (69%). Satisfaction levels were highest in Tweeddale and lowest in Berwickshire.



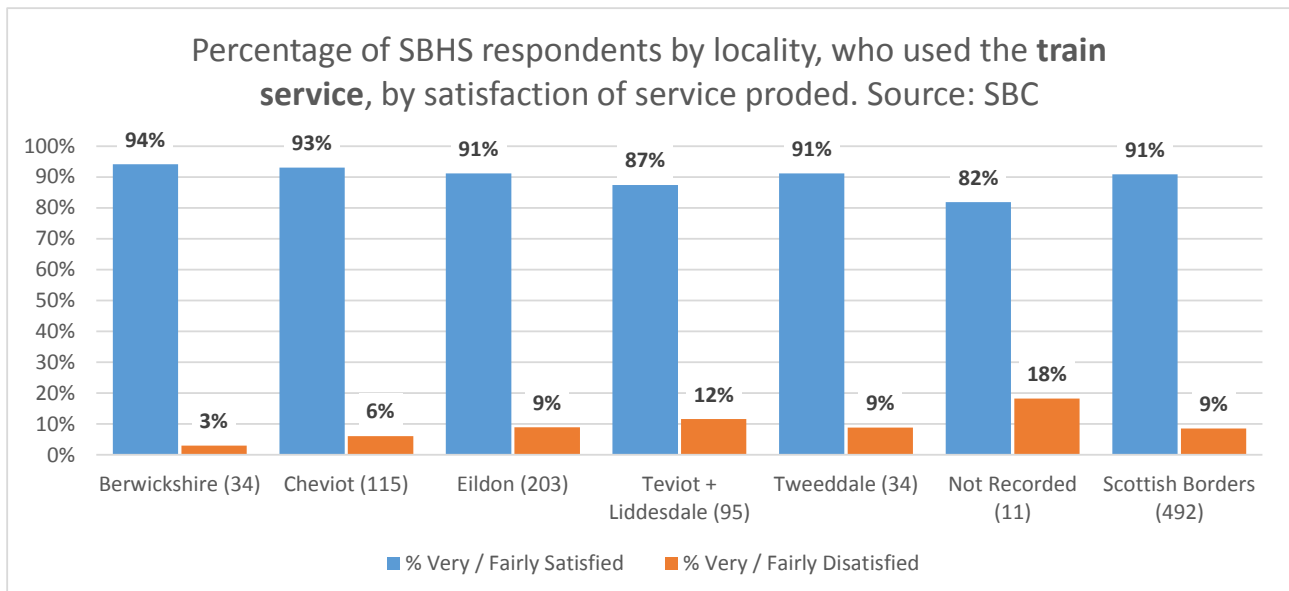
PUBLIC TRANSPORT - TRAIN

Since the opening of the Borders railway, in September 2015, traffic on the line has continued to increase, and this has had a considerable impact on the proportion of Scottish Household Survey respondents who are now able to say that they use the train service and how often.

Overall, just over half of respondents to the Scottish Borders Household Survey said that they use the Borders railway service, and 45% said that they did not. This varies very much by locality, with respondents in Eildon being very much more likely than those in Tweeddale or Berwickshire to use the service.



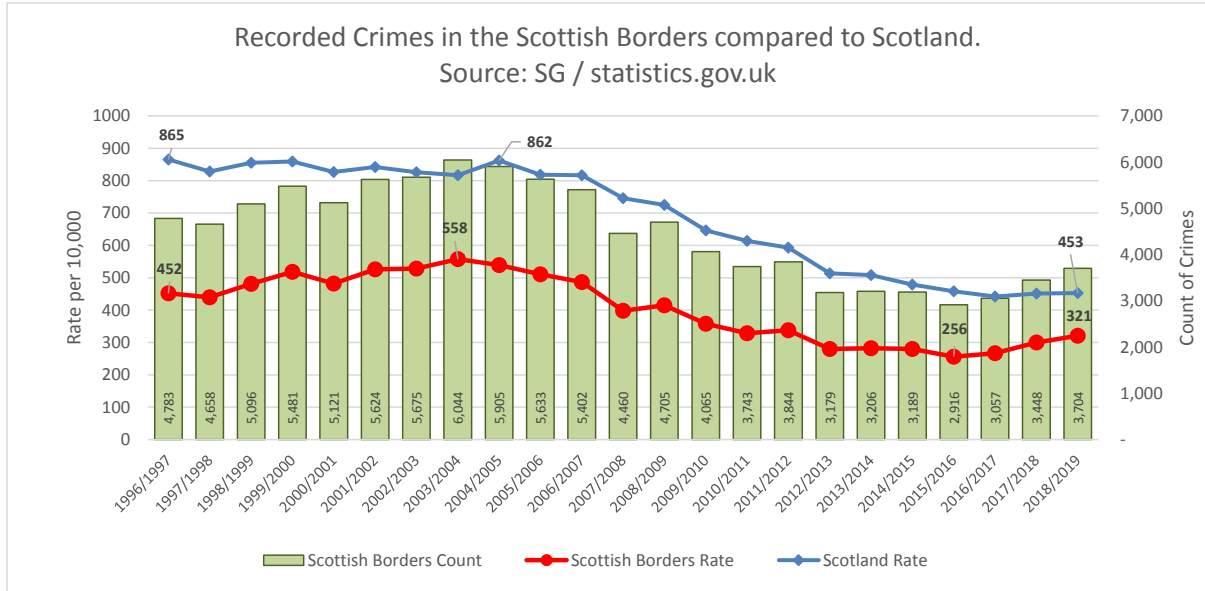
The 2018 SBHS asked respondents, who used the train service, about their level of satisfaction with their train service. The majority of respondents who use the train service were satisfied with the service (91%). It is important to note that the number of train service users varies greatly amongst the localities.



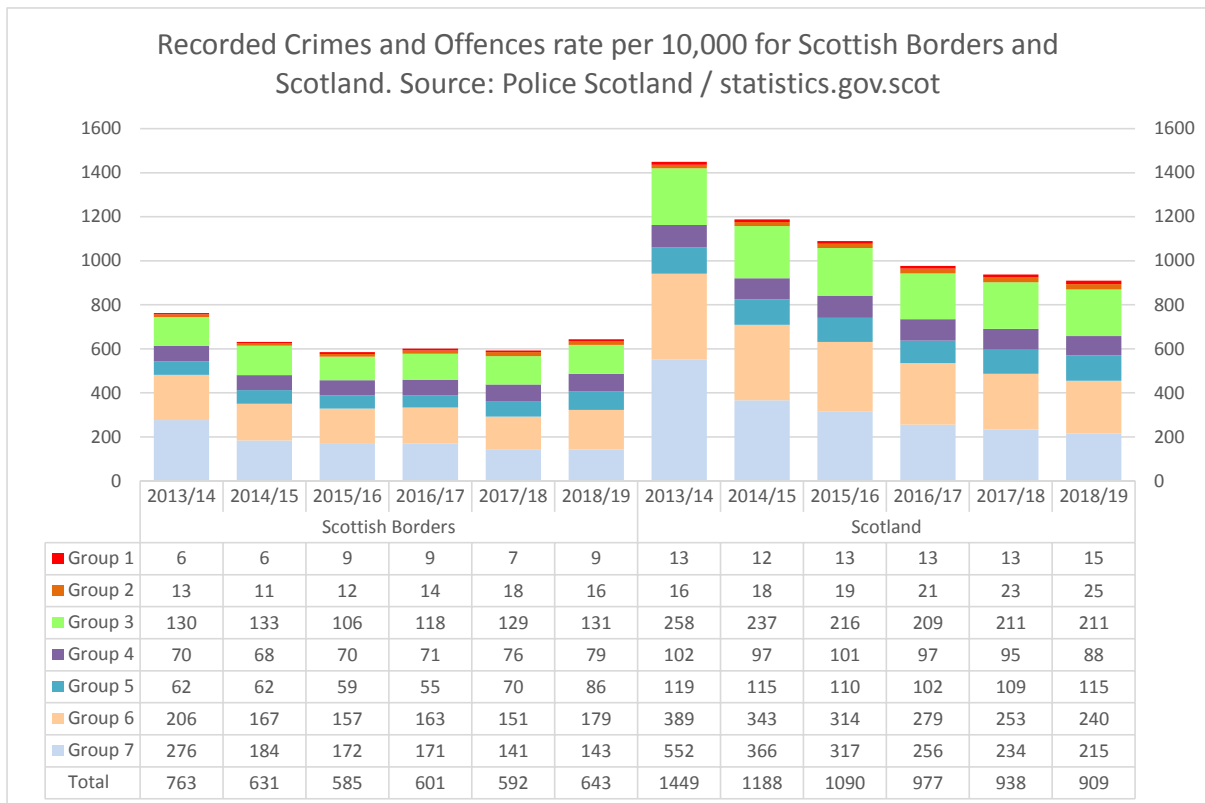
CRIME AND SAFETY

RECORDED CRIMES AND OFFENCES AND CLEAR UP

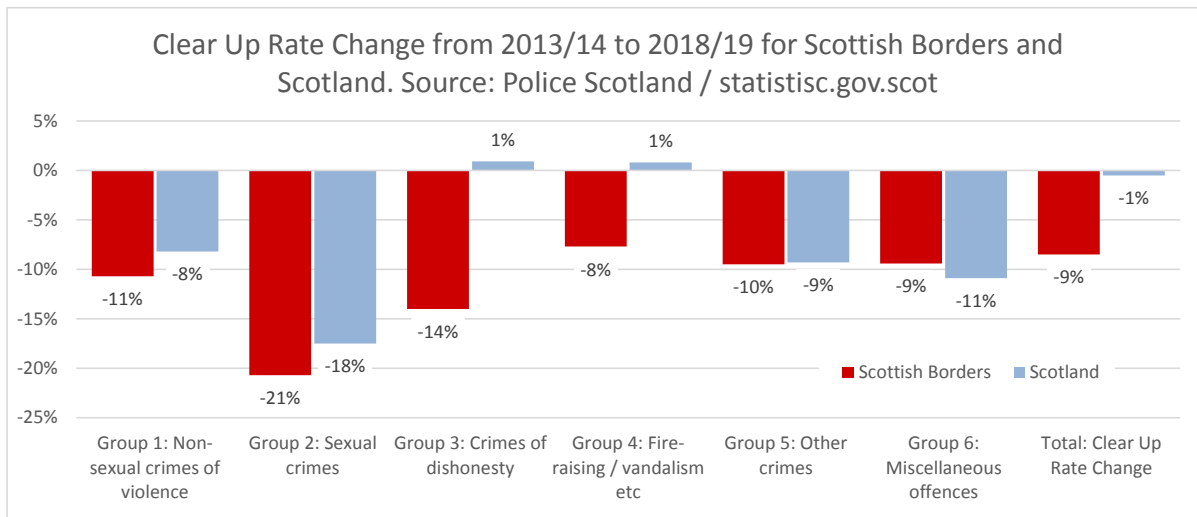
Police recorded crime in the Scottish Borders had a peak in 2003/2004 with 6,044 recorded crimes, in 2018/2019 there were 3,704 recorded crimes, a decrease of 39%. However, there has been a rise in recorded crime in the Scottish Borders from the low of 2,916 in 2015/2016. The Scottish Borders has consistently had a lower rate of crime compared to Scotland.



The graph below show the rate per 10,000 for each of the recorded crime and offence groups between 2013/14 and 2018/19 for the Scottish Borders and Scotland. Overall there is a lower rate of crime and offence in the Scottish Borders. However the trend for Scotland is a reduction and there has been a slight increase in the Scottish Borders.










The clear up rate for crimes and offences in the Scottish Borders decreased by 9% between 2013/14 and 2018/19 compared to a 1% drop for Scotland. Compared to Scotland there were two groups where the clear up rate for the Scottish Borders has been different. These are Group 3: Crimes of dishonesty and Group 4: Fire-raising/ vandalism etc. For both Scotland and the Scottish Borders there has been a reduction in the clear up rate for Group2: Sexual crimes, this may be attributed to reporting of historic crimes in addition to increase of reporting.



ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

The Safer Communities team works with people to record, monitor and address [antisocial behaviour](#) in the Scottish Borders.

The Safer Communities activity is reported quarterly as part of Scottish Borders Council’s performance reports. Below is an extract from the report for Quarter 2 of 2019-20 (July to September).

Safer Communities		17-18	18-19	Q1 19-20	Q2 19-20	Target	Trend	Status
	Performance Indicators	Basis						
	Cases showing agreement or improvement after mediation	% in period	87.7%	93.3%	86.7%	91.2%	80%	
	Referrals to mediation	Number in year to date	153	123	49	87	*74	 Context
	Number of reported ASB incidents	Number in year to date	5,633	5,676	1,454	2,931	*3,066	 Context
	ASB Early Interventions	Number in year to date	806	899	192	375	*468	 Context
	Monitored for ASB	Number in year to date	1,688	1,561	448	865	*820	 Context
	Group 1-5 recorded crimes and offences	Number in year to date	3,404	3,704	1,021	1,930	*1,674	 Context

* Target = 2018/19 Q2 Ytd. value

Observations:

Mediation referrals increased by 13 in the year to date when compared to 2018/19, which equates to a 17.6% increase. The increase in referrals to the service is positive as this early intervention can help prevent escalation in issues. There has been an increase of 11.2% in the % of mediation cases that show agreement/improvement after mediation in 2019/20 when compared to the baseline target of 80%. Mediation is proving to be successful in the majority of cases taken on for mediation. Action has included increased integration of the mediation service into the daily operations of the ASBU (Anti-Social Behaviour Unit) and awareness raising of the service.

With regards the **Number of Reported ASB Incidents**, there has been a 4.4% decrease in incidents in the year to date when compared to the same time period in 2018/19. This equates to 135 fewer incidents recorded, which is positive. We continue to intervene early in cases of antisocial behaviour to try and reduce the number of cases where there is an escalation in antisocial behaviour. Effective partnership working allows us to target problematic cases and provide a coordinated response to addressing more persistent issues of antisocial behaviour.

Early ASB interventions have decreased by 93 Year to date, when compared to 2018/19, which equates to a 19.9% decrease. 45 additional persons are **Monitored for antisocial behaviour** in the year to date in 2019/20 when compared to 2018/19, which equates to a 5.5% increase. The increase is largely attributed to an increase in telephone complaint logs received directly into Scottish Borders Council in quarter 2. We are continuously looking at what other agencies do or what diversions can be implemented. A formal process exists between partner agencies to take a consistent approach to addressing antisocial behaviour.

There has been a 15.3% increase in **Group 1-5 crimes** in 2019/20 when compared to the same time period in 2018/19, which equates to 256 additional victims.

For more on performance visit www.scotborders.gov.uk/performance or email performance@scotborders.gov.uk
Correct at time of publication: 12 November 2019

THE COMMUNITY ACTION TEAM (CAT)

In April 2018 the Community Action Team (CAT) comprised of 6 Police Officers and 1 Police Sergeant was deployed in the Scottish Borders. The team is funded by Scottish Borders Council with a specific remit to tackle persistent issues that impact communities within the Scottish Borders. In April 2019 a second team of 6 Police Officers and 1 Police Sergeant received funding and was deployed with effect from September 2019.

The team are tasked and scrutinised through an Elected Member/Officer Strategic Oversight Group that is made up of nine cross party elected members that represent each locality. Meetings are held monthly. These meetings cover:

- Summary by police officers on activity undertaken during the previous period.
- Assessment of priority areas for the CAT to cover the forthcoming month (based on analysis of Police Scotland information systems).
- Elected members also bring community issues to the meeting as constituency matters.
- Agree which tasks are suitable for the CAT and alternatives suggested and endorsed for any falling outwith the scope of the team.

From April 2018 to March 2019 the CAT oversight group reviewed 115 tasking requests and the CAT accepted 61 of the requests (which equates to 53%). From April 2019 to December 2019 the CAT oversight group have reviewed 82 tasking requests and the CAT have accepted 62 of the requests (which equates to 76%).

The CAT have had a number of notable successes in the time they have been operational. The CAT impact report is published quarterly and gives examples of the work carried out and results achieved. Reports are published on the [Scottish Borders Council Website](#). An extract from the Q2 Report for 2019/20 (July to September) can be seen below.

COMMUNITY ACTION TEAM IMPACT REPORT FOR QUARTER 2 JULY to SEPTEMBER 2019																			
BERWICKSHIRE				CHEVIOT				EILDON				TEVIOT				TWEEDDALE			
TASKING DURING PERIOD				TASKING DURING PERIOD				TASKING DURING PERIOD				TASKING DURING PERIOD				TASKING DURING PERIOD			
1. Youth issues of antisocial behaviour in Eyemouth High Street during weekends.				1. Reported youth issues in Shedden Park, Kelso. 2. Several premises in Kelso are subject to monitoring for antisocial behaviour and potential licensing issues.				1. CAT officers executed drugs warrants in Tweedbank in September. 2. The CAT executed drugs warrants in Newtown St Boswells in July				1. The CAT executed drugs warrants in Hawick in August.				1. The CAT were present at cycling and crime prevention events in Peebles and Innerleithen. 2. Antisocial driving issues in several locations in Peebles.			
EVIDENCE OF IMPACT				EVIDENCE OF IMPACT				EVIDENCE OF IMPACT				EVIDENCE OF IMPACT				EVIDENCE OF IMPACT			
1. Patrols carried out by CAT, alcohol seizures made and youths identified and charged with offences. Incidents numbers have reduced by 70% in September.				1. CAT patrolled the area and addressed issues of antisocial behaviour. 2. Licensed premises checks carried out in Kelso.				1. Dealer amounts of drugs recovered and charges being progressed. 2. Significant seizures of class A and class B drugs and charges brought.				1. Significant amounts of class A and class B drugs were recovered and charges brought.				1. Positive response from event organisers, supporters and local businesses. 2. CAT are currently investigating issues and building a case in respect of individuals engaging in antisocial driving.			
COMMUNITY ACTION TEAM (CAT) ACTIONS																			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4			
Raised in Quarter	5	2			5	5			5	6			3	7					
Accepted in Quarter	3	2			2	3			3	5			3	4					
<small>Note: Not all issues received and discussed at the CAT oversight group meeting are taken on as actions by the CAT. Some actions may be more appropriately followed up and actioned by another service within 58C or by a partner organisation. Also some actions are tasked directly through Police Scotland so are not reflected in the figures above but show the impact the team is having in the Borders.</small>																			

For more on performance visit www.scotborders.gov.uk/performance or email performance@scotborders.gov.uk
Correct at time of publication: 12 November 2019



COMMUNITY ACTION TEAM

IMPACT REPORT FOR QUARTER 2 JULY to SEPTEMBER 2019



HI-VISIBILITY FOOT PATROL (HOURS)			MOBILE PATROL (HOURS)			STATIC ROAD CHECKS			ROAD TRAFFIC NO. OF FIXED PENALTIES ISSUED			PARKING NO. OF TICKETS ISSUED		
18-19	Q1	Q2	18-19	Q1	Q2	18-19	Q1	Q2	18-19	Q1	Q2	18-19	Q1	Q2
335	118	117	588.5	133	153	101	27	14	23	14	4	884	209	160

During the quarter the CAT has conducted targeted foot patrols in the identified areas of concern. On patrol, officers have engaged with residents to gain a better understanding of the problems and gleaned intelligence in their areas.

Mobile patrols are regularly carried out throughout the Borders by the CAT. Some of these patrols are intelligence led in relation to disrupting drugs supply or responding to information received regarding vehicles being driven by disqualified or uninsured drivers. As a result of these patrols officers have made a number of drugs recoveries and issued traffic tickets and reported offenders.

The CAT have continued to conduct static road checks on many of our arterial routes. The visibility of Police conducting these types of checks has a positive effect on road safety with speed guns often being used to monitor speeds in the smaller towns and villages.

Over the last three months the CAT has worked closely with Roads Policing colleagues as part of the campaign to target drink/drug driving in the Borders.

From completing mobile patrols and static road checks several motorists have been charged with relevant road traffic offences with fixed penalty tickets being issued and drivers reported to court.

All Borders towns have received attention in relation to dangerous and inconsiderate parking with 160 parking tickets issued in the quarter. Officers have been completing timed parking in our Main/High Streets in response to concerns raised. Problems with the supply of ticket books reduced the team's ability to issue parking tickets in July.

NUMBER OF DRUG SEARCHES UNDERTAKEN PERSONS			NUMBER OF DRUG SEARCHES UNDERTAKEN PREMISES		
18-19	Q1	Q2	18-19	Q1	Q2
217	66	12	63	14	13

33% (Q2) of searches were positive for drugs

87% (Q2) of searches were positive for drugs

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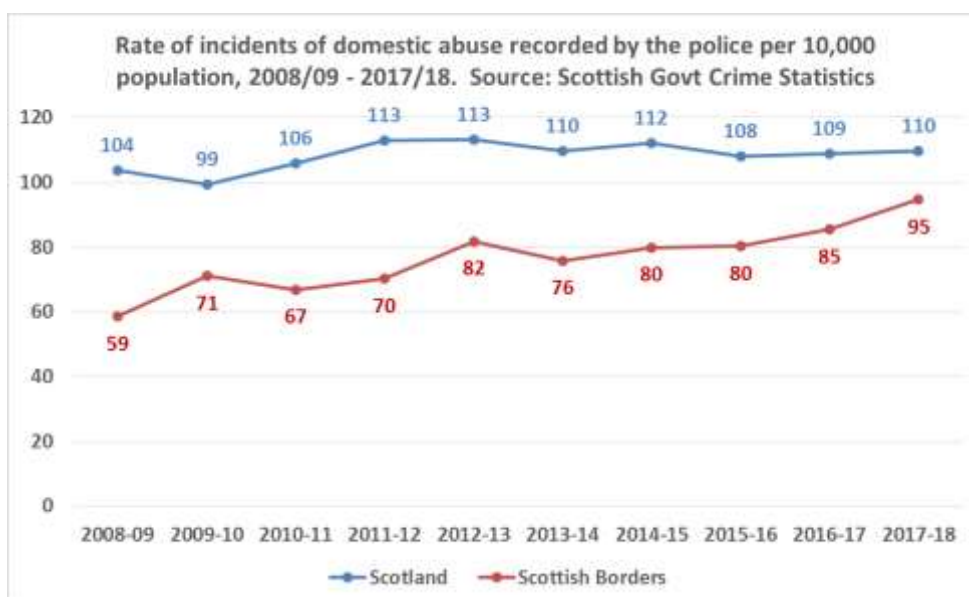


DOMESTIC ABUSE

The definition of domestic abuse used by Police Scotland is:

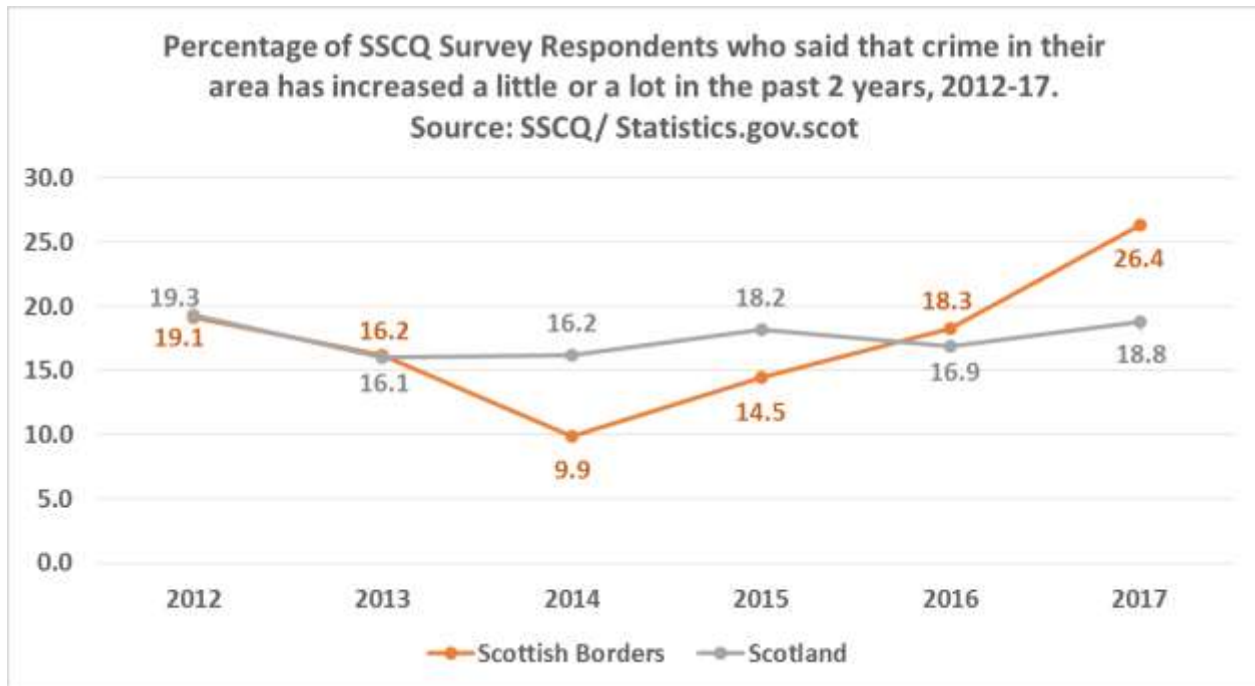
'Any form of physical, verbal, sexual, psychological or financial abuse which might amount to criminal conduct and which takes place within the context of a relationship. The relationship will be between partners (married, cohabiting, civil partnership or otherwise) or ex-partners. The abuse can be committed in the home or elsewhere including online.'

Between 2008-09 and 2017-18 the rate of incidents of domestic abuse recorded by the police has increased in the Scottish Borders while remaining stable at a Scottish level.



FEELING SAFE

The proportion of SSCQ¹² respondents in the Scottish Borders who said that crime in their area has increased a little or a lot in the past 2 years increased by 16% from 9.9% in 2014 to 26.4% in 2017. In 2016 and 2017 the proportion who said that crime in their area has increased by a little or a lot was higher in the Scottish Borders compared to Scotland.



- More adults in the Scottish Borders feel very or fairly safe walking alone after dark compared to Scotland, although there has been a slight decline.
- The proportion of people feeling a bit or very unsafe when walking alone after dark in the Scottish Borders has remained consistent 9% in 2017 compared to 13% for Scotland.

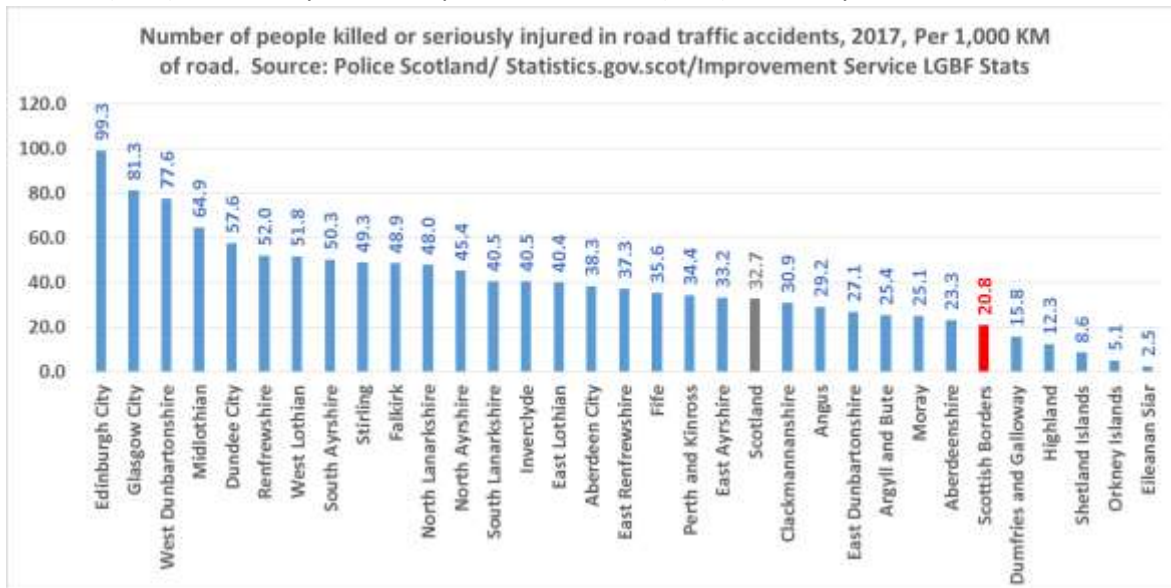
¹² SSCQ = Scottish Survey Core Questions

ROAD SAFETY

- Scottish Borders has seen a mostly declining trend in the number of people killed or seriously injured on the roads since 1996, although with several fluctuations due to the smaller numbers involved.



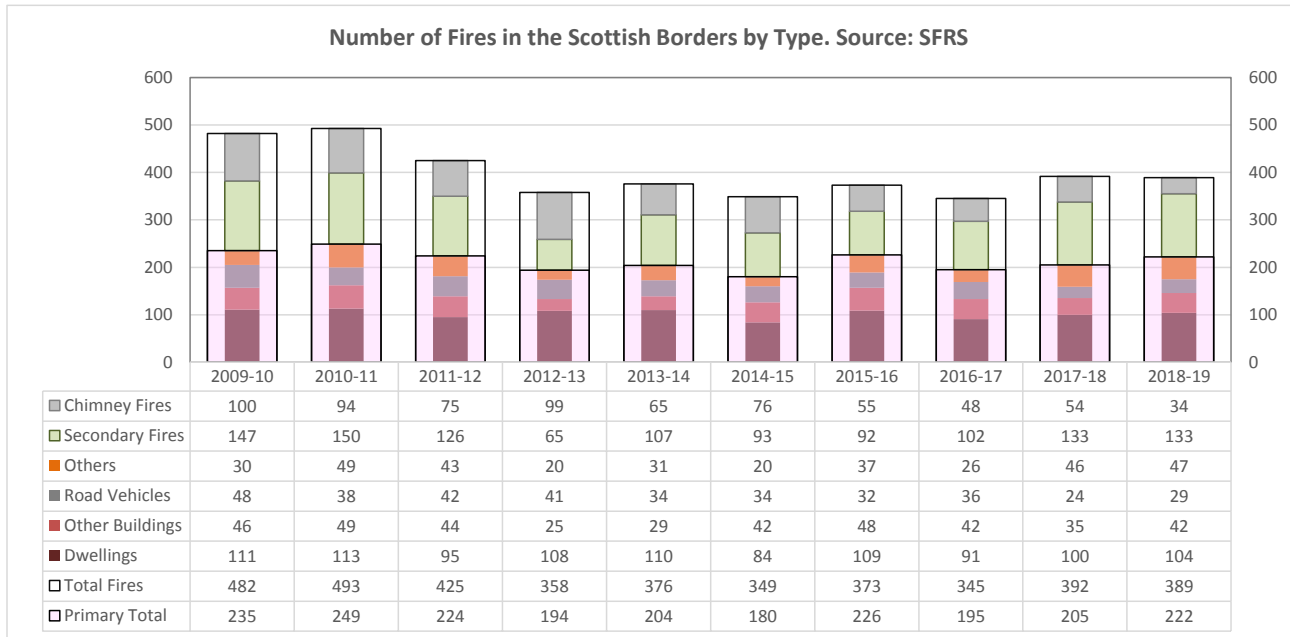
- When looking at the rate of people killed or seriously injured per 1,000 km of road network the Scottish Borders (20.8) is relatively safer compared to Scotland (23.7) and many other Scottish local authorities.



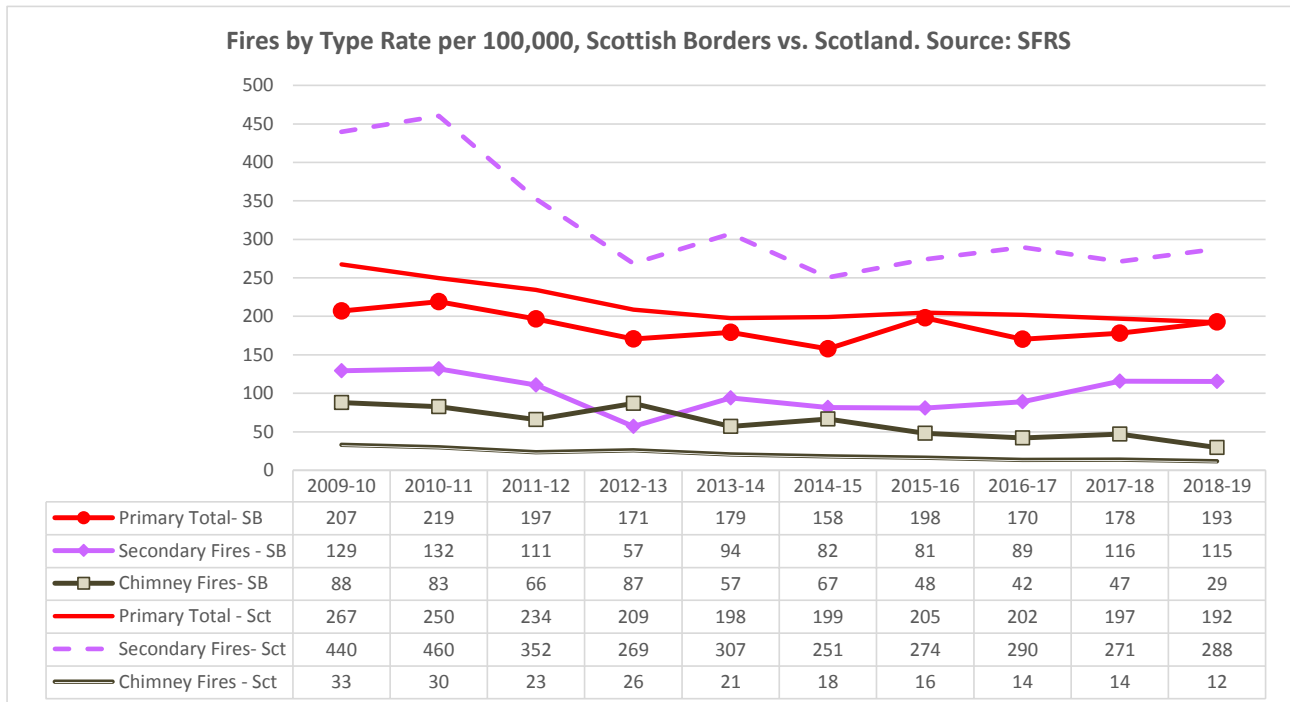
- Fewer people aged 0-19 were killed or seriously injured in road traffic accidents in the Scottish Borders compared to the Scottish average.

FIRE SAFETY

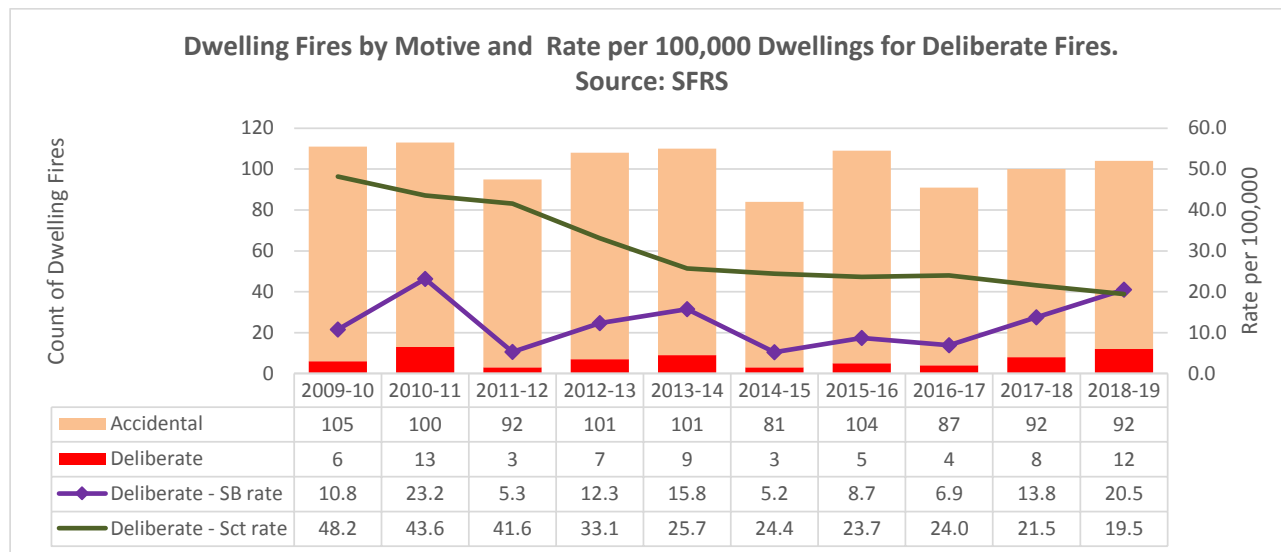
According to [Scottish Fire and Rescue Service \(SFRS\)](#) the number of fires in the Scottish Borders has consistently been below 400 since 2012-13. In 2018-19 57% of the fires were considered primary fires. The graph with table below shows the number of fire incidents by type and year for the Scottish Borders from 2009-10 to 2018-19.



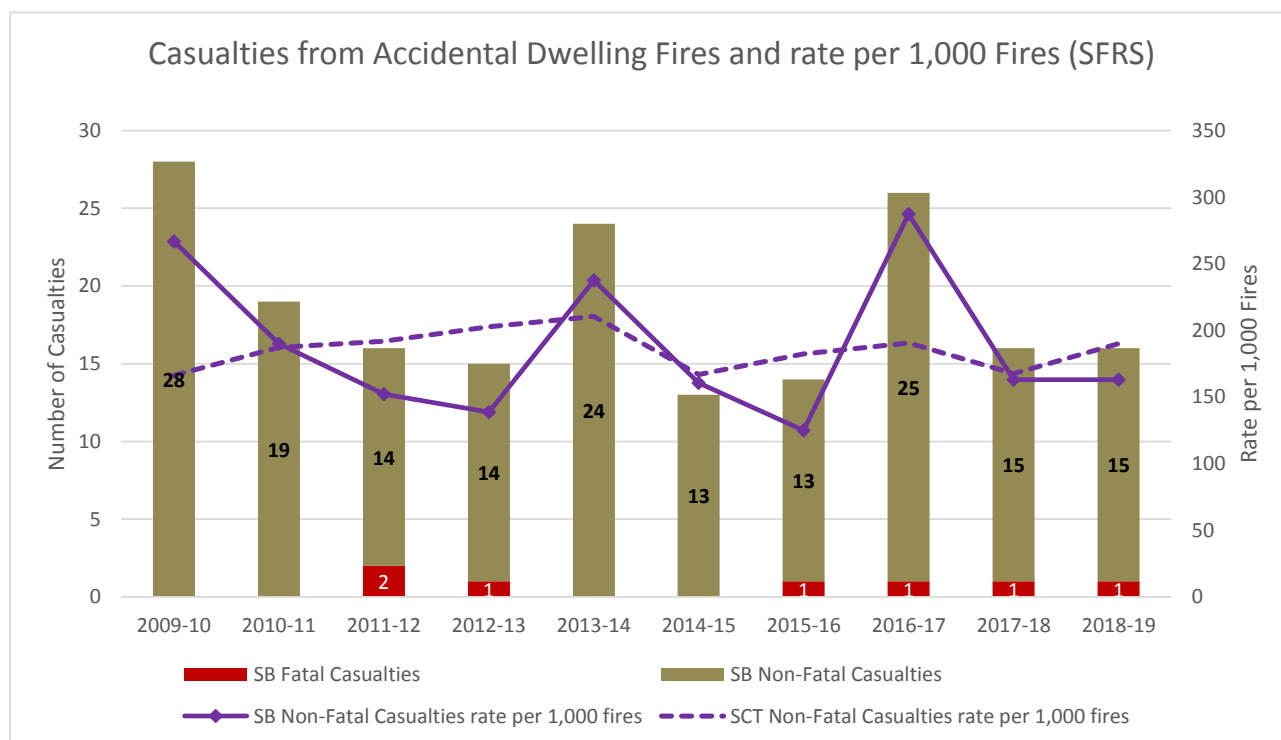
The rate of primary fires per 100,000 in the Scottish Borders has generally been below the rate for Scotland. The rate of secondary fires per 100,000 in the Scottish Borders had consistently been well below the rate for Scotland. However, the rate of chimney fires has consistently been higher in the Scottish Borders per 100,000 compared to Scotland.



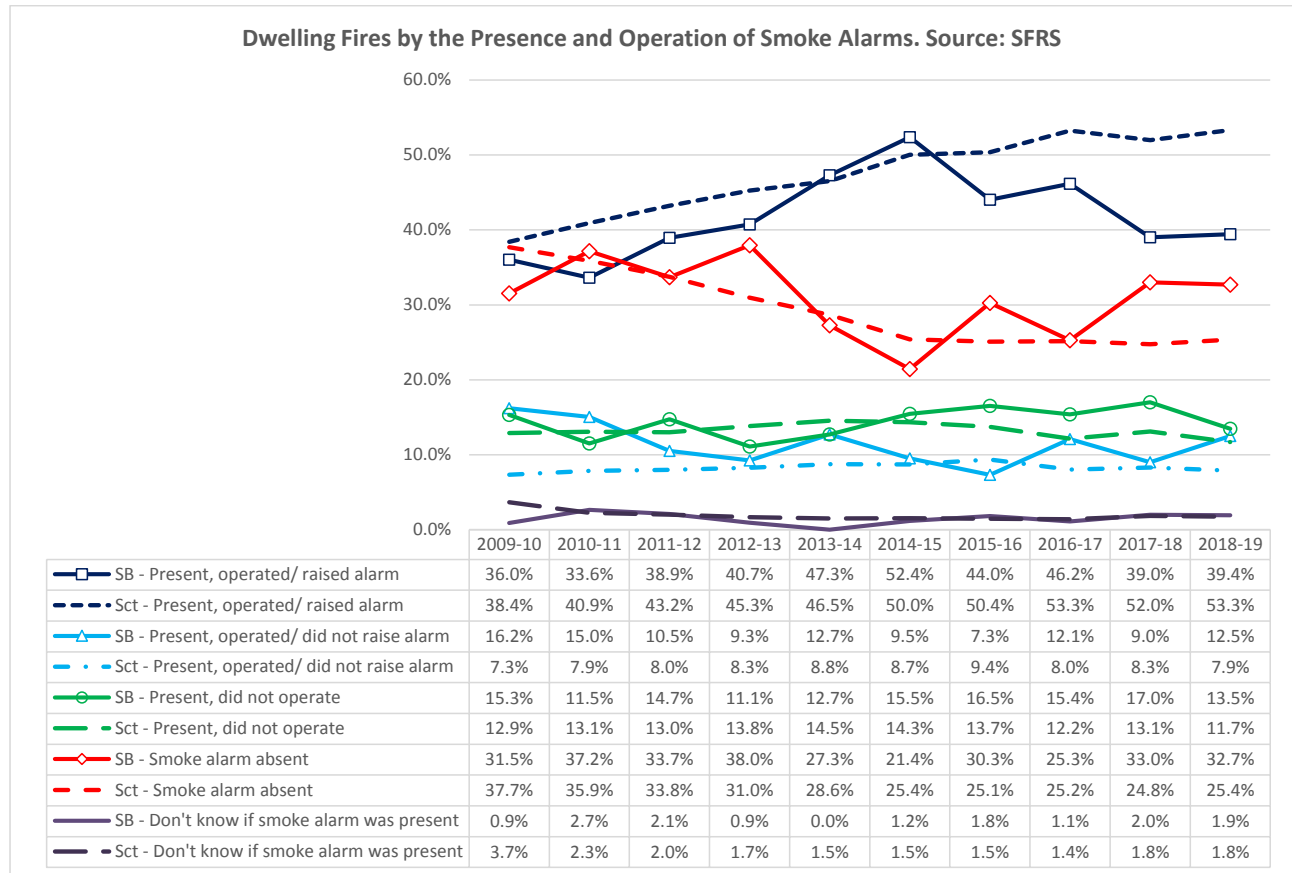
Between 2009-10 and 2018-19 the number of dwelling fires in the Scottish Borders has generally been about 100 per year; the deliberate dwelling fires have been between 3% and 12%. The rate of deliberate dwelling fires per 100,000 in the Scottish Borders has generally been below the Scottish rate. However over the last few years the rate has dropped for Scotland and increased for the Scottish Borders.



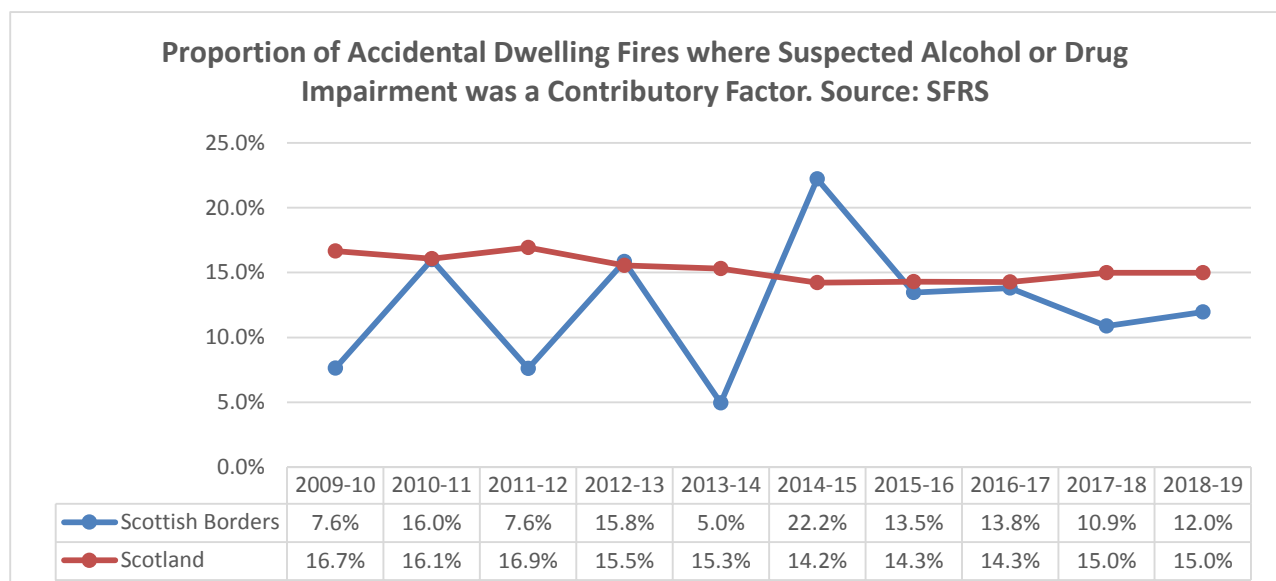
Over the last 10 years the number of casualties from accidental dwelling fires in the Scottish Borders has ranged from 13 to 28. Of the 180 casualties 7 were fatal (4%). The rate of non-fatal casualties per 1,000 fires for the Scottish Borders fluctuates around the rate for Scotland.



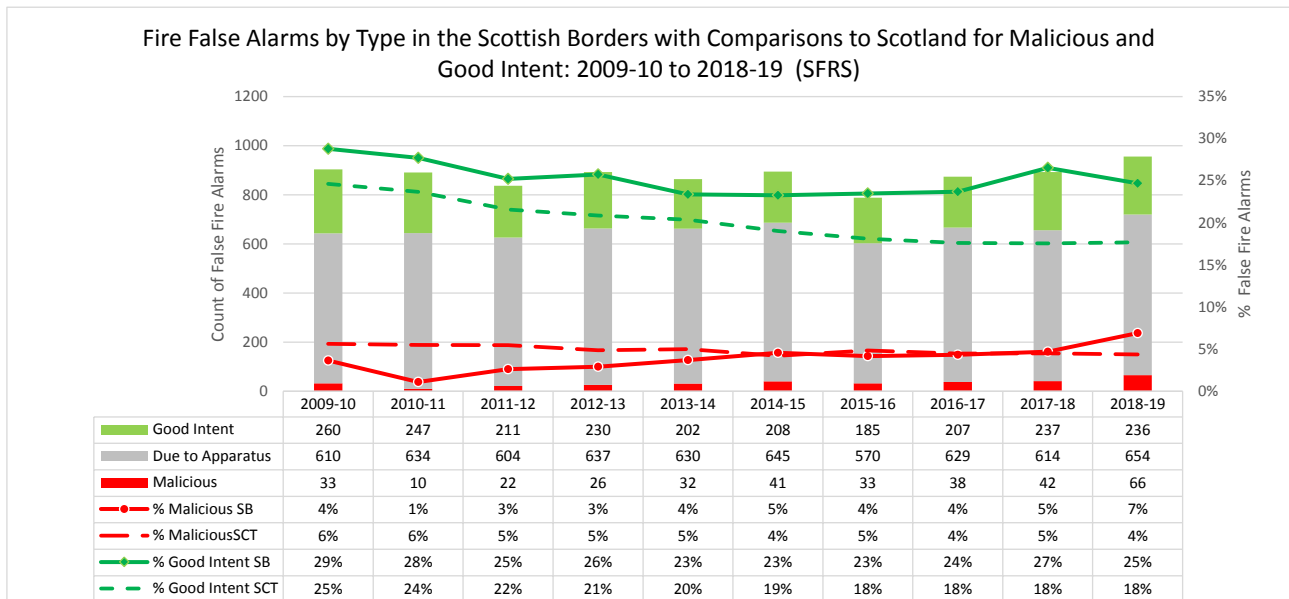
The proportion of dwelling fires in the Scottish Borders where the smoke alarm operated and raised the alarm has decreased by 13% between 2014/15 (52.4%) and 2018-19 (39.4%). This is also below the proportion for Scotland. The proportion of dwelling fires in the Scottish Borders where the smoke alarm was absent was higher (7.3%) compared to Scotland.



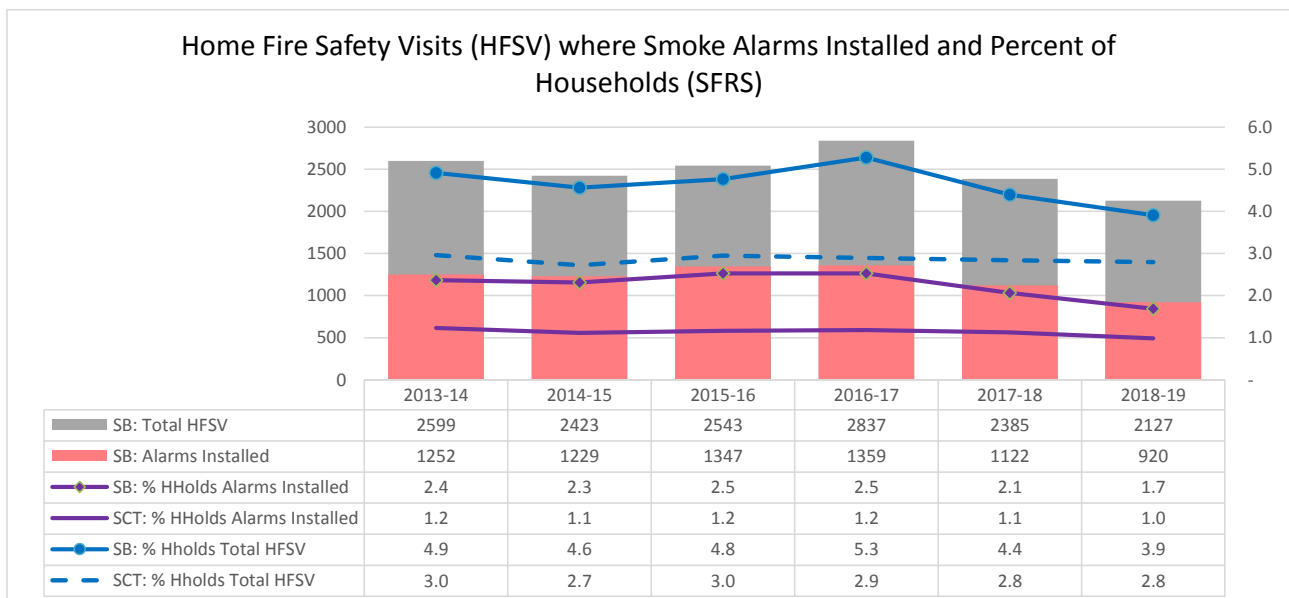
The proportion of accidental dwelling fires where suspected alcohol or drug impairment was a contributory factor in the Scottish Borders has ranged from 5% to 22% between 2009-10 and 2018-19, generally below the Scottish level.



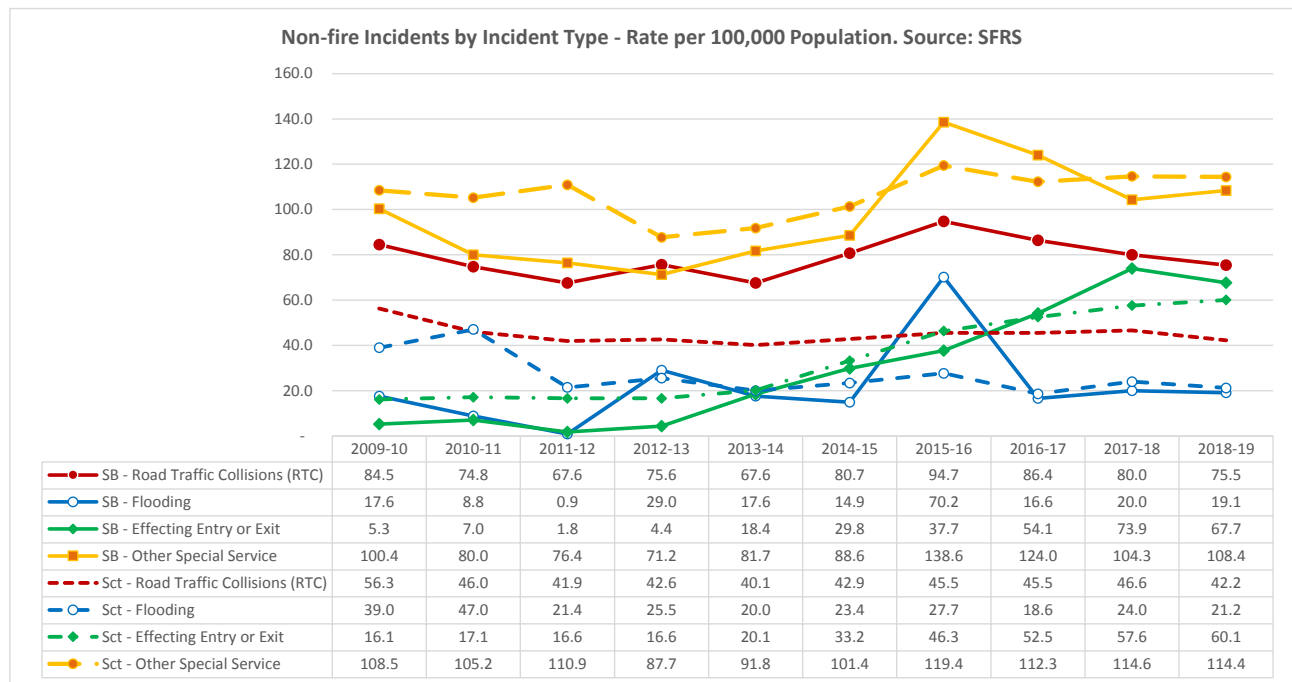
The number (66) of fire false alarms in 2018-19 for the Scottish Borders was highest for the last 10 years. The Scottish Borders has consistently had fewer than 1,000 fire false alarms, of which between 22% and 29% are of good intent.



In the Scottish Borders the SFRS consistently conducts more Home Fire Safety Visits (HFSV) per household compared to Scotland. The proportion of HFSV that result in installation of fire alarms has ranged between 43% (2018-19) to 53% (2015-16) in the Scottish Borders.



The non-fire incidents attended by SFRS include Road Traffic Collisions (RTC), Flooding, Effecting Entry or Exits and Other Special Service. The graph/table below shows the rate of these incidents per 100,000 for the Scottish Borders compared to Scotland. Of note is that in the Scottish Borders there is consistently a higher rate of RTC incidents. There were heavy rains in the Scottish Borders 2015-16 resulting in more flooding incidents.



COMMUNITIES AND BELONGING

COMMUNITY COHESION

COMMUNITY OWNERSHIP

The Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 enables community groups to become owners of land and buildings for community benefit. The table below shows a summary position for the Scottish Borders compared to Scotland average and Highland Council (the most prolific).

Community Ownership measures for 2017	Scottish Borders	Scotland Average	Highland Council
Number of Community Groups	13	12	102
Number of Community-owned land parcels and assets	17	16	124

NEIGHBOURHOOD ATTITUDE

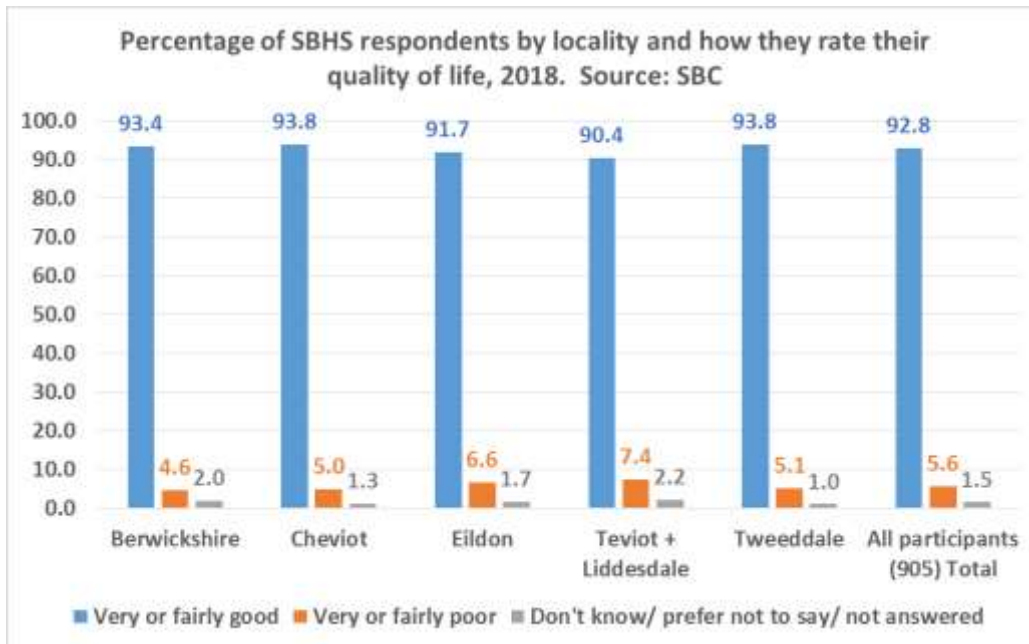
Understanding how people feel about their community in the Scottish Borders comes from two main sources: Scottish Borders Household Survey (SBHS) 2018 and the Scottish Household Survey (SHS) which allows for comparisons to Scotland.

Findings from the SHS for the Scottish Borders, related to community cohesion include:

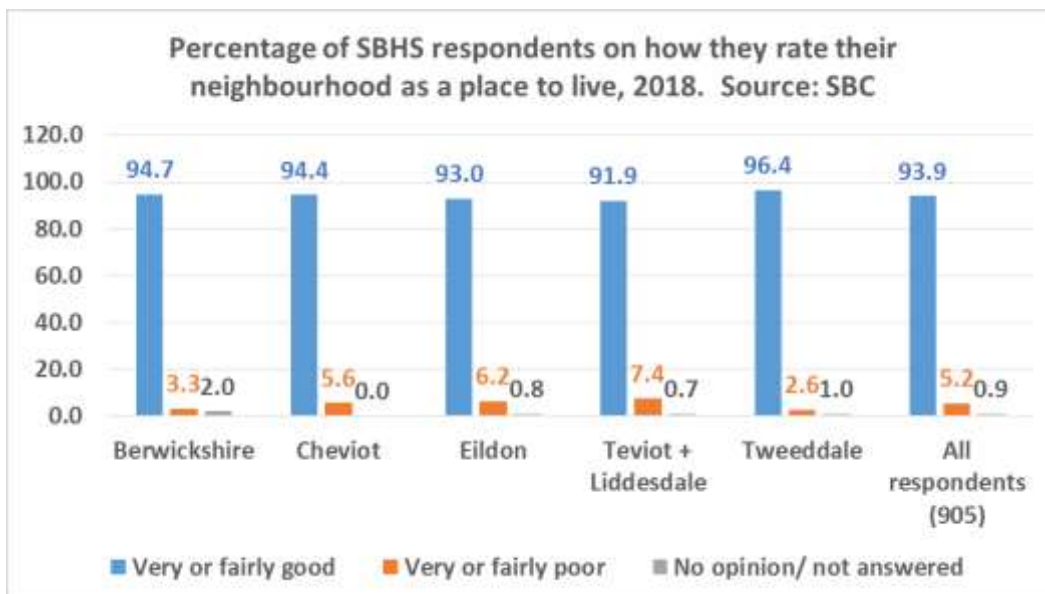
- 78% of respondents in 2018 who live in the Scottish Borders feel “very” or “fairly” strongly that they belong to their community, similar to Scotland. Although this is below the 82% recorded for 2013 and 2016.
- The proportion of Scottish Borders respondents who felt that they belong to their community “not very strongly” or “not at all” in 2018 was the same as Scotland at 21%. This is compared to 15% for the Scottish Borders in 2016.
- The proportion of Scottish Borders respondents who agree they can “rely on people in this neighbourhood to help me” has consistently been higher than the level for Scotland, in 2018 the figures were 91% and 86% respectively.
- The proportion of respondents in Scottish Borders who agreed they can “rely on people in this neighbourhood to look after my home when away” has generally been above 90% and slightly higher compared to Scotland.
- In 2018, 86% of the Scottish Borders respondents agreed they can “turn to people in this neighbourhood for advice and support”, down from 91% in 2017; higher than Scotland for both years.
- In 2018, 93% of the Scottish Borders respondents agreed they would “offer to help neighbours in an emergency”, similar to the 91% for Scotland.

Community findings from 2018 Scottish Borders Household Survey allows for comparisons across the Scottish Borders.

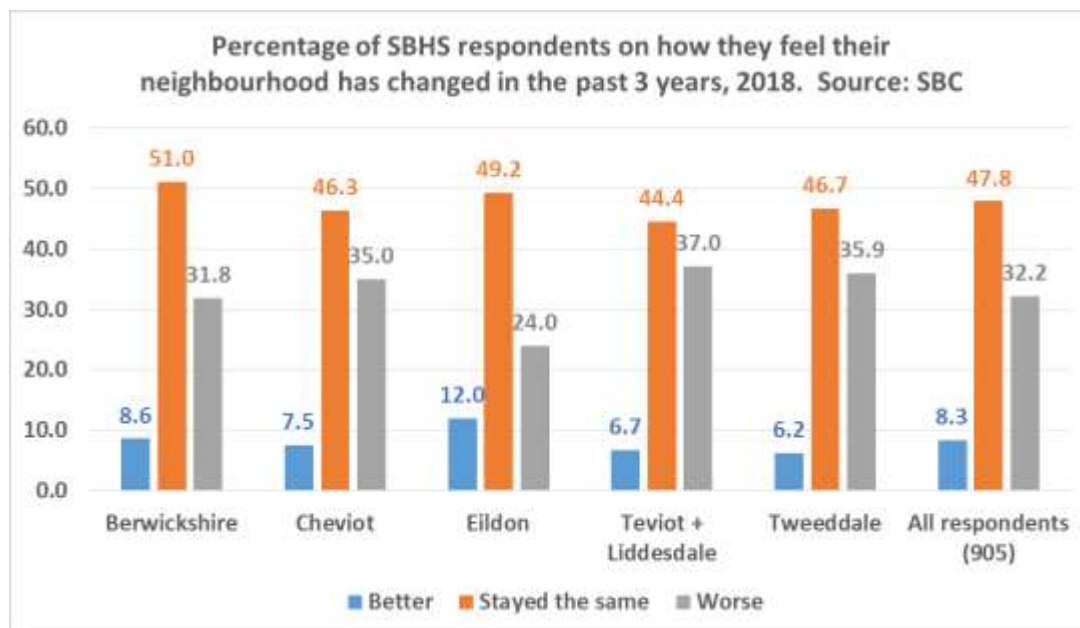
In all localities over 90% of the respondents rate their quality of life as “good” or “fairly good”.



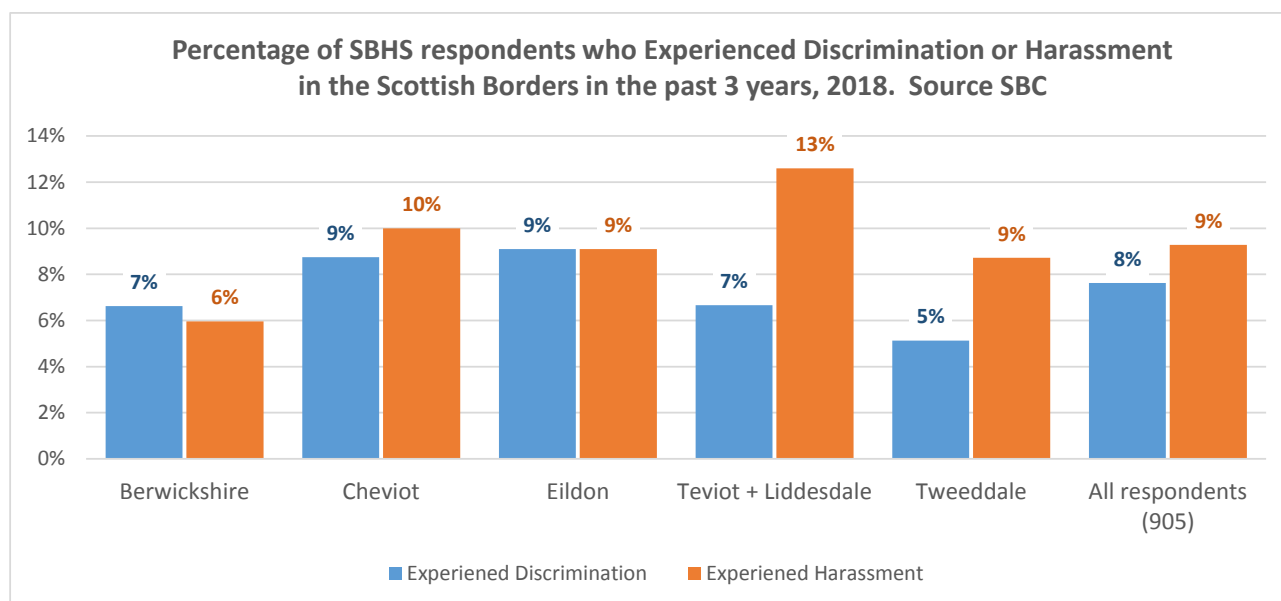
The vast majority of Scottish Borders survey respondents rated their neighbourhood as a “very or fairly good” place to live in the 2018 survey. Neighbourhood satisfaction is highest in Tweeddale and lowest in Teviot & Liddesdale, although the difference is not significant.



There were bigger differences in opinion in the 2018 Scottish Borders Household Survey when respondents were asked how they feel their neighbourhood has changed in the past 3 years. Overall, almost half of respondents said that it had stayed the same, a third said that it had got worse and 8% said that it had got better. In Eildon more respondents felt their neighbourhood got better and fewer felt it got worse compared to other localities.



Respondents were asked if in the past three years, whilst in the Scottish Borders if they experienced any kind of discrimination (8%) or harassment (9%). The graph shows the results for each of the localities.



VOLUNTEERING

- According to the Scottish Household Survey (SHS) more adults in the Scottish Borders (55%) volunteer compared to Scotland (48%).
- According to the Scottish Borders Household Survey (SBHS) the proportion of people that are involved in any voluntary work is 58.5%. Across the localities the rate ranges from 50.6% in Cheviot to 66.7% in Tweeddale.

CULTURAL ACTIVITY

Many of the culture and sport facilities in the Scottish Borders are provided through [Live Borders](#) (a charitable trust). The services of Live Borders include: libraries, community sport centres, museums and galleries, archives, country park and community venues.

[Historic Environment Scotland](#) have 12 sites in the Scottish Borders including: Dryburgh Abbey, Hermitage Castle, Jedburgh Abbey, Melrose Abbey and Smailholm Tower.

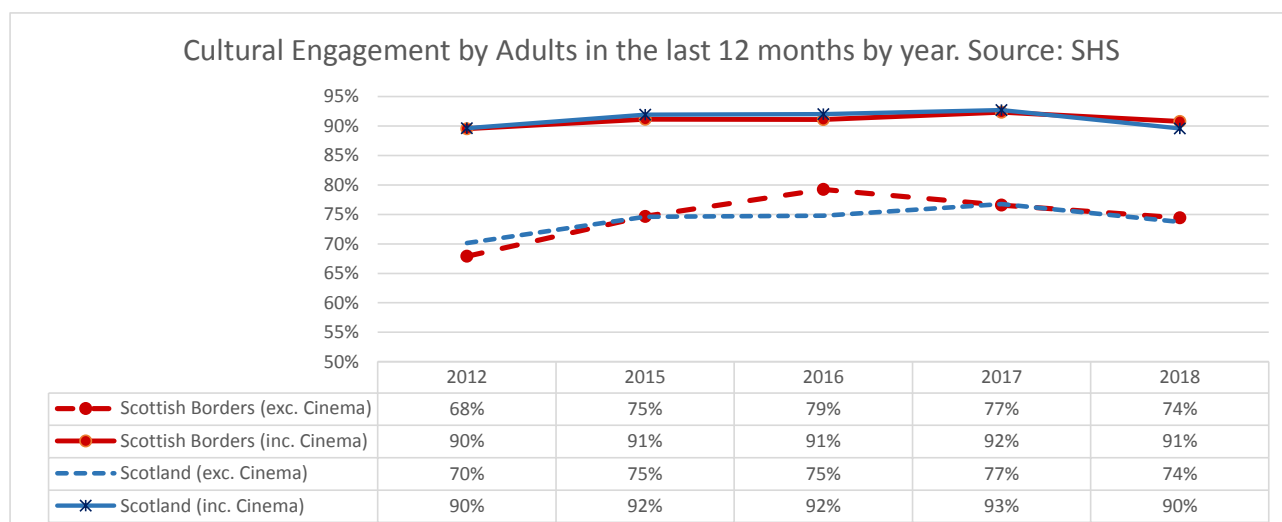
Every town in the Scottish Borders has annual festival or common ridings, which celebrate the local community and its history. In addition to the local town civic weeks or common riding festivals, the Scottish Borders also have other festivals including:

- Borders Book Festival in Melrose
- Reivers Festival in Hawick
- Melrose 7s – April in Melrose (part of the King of the 7's Series)
- Jim Clark Rally in Berwickshire
- Borders Art Fair in Kelso
- The Border Union Show in Kelso
- Borders Walking Festival – varies location each year
- Borders Heritage Week – September
- TweedLove Bike Festival in Peebles (Glentress)

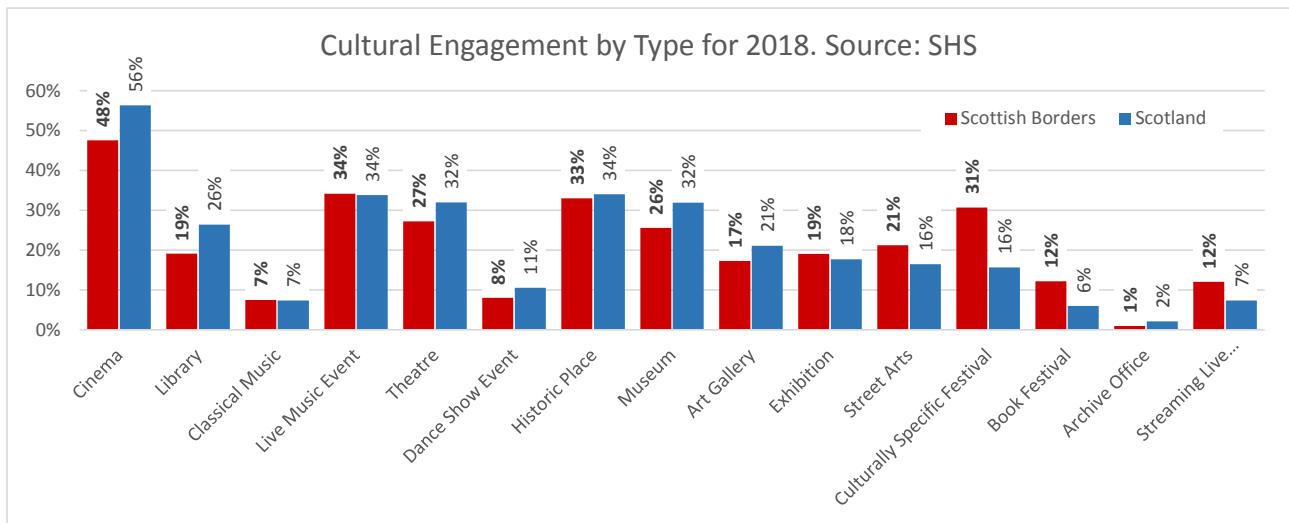
There are eight amateur operatic societies in the Scottish Borders; located in Selkirk, Galashiels, Hawick, Eyemouth, Kelso, Melrose, Innerleithen and Duns. Each does at least one production throughout the year, mainly in the spring.

CULTURAL ENGAGEMENT

The Scottish Household Survey (SHS) asks respondents about their cultural engagement. The results show that the Scottish Borders is very similar to Scotland; in 2018, 74% of the respondents for the Scottish Borders said they attended a cultural event excluding the cinema and 91% including the cinema.



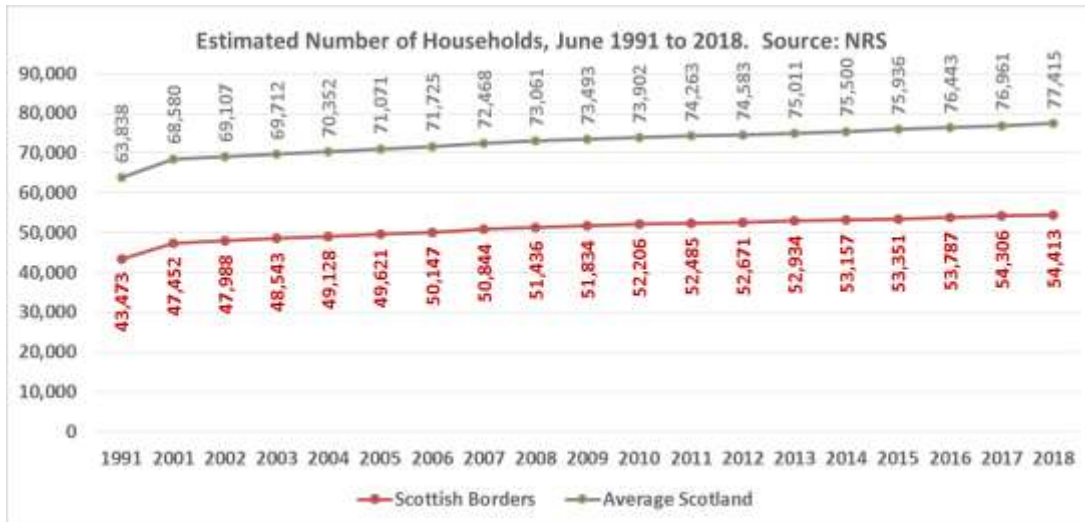
The SHS also asked respondents about what type of events they attend. More adults in the Scottish Borders attend 'culturally specific festival', 'book festival' and 'streaming live events', compared to Scotland. However, adults in the Scottish Borders are less likely to attend the cinema, library or museum.



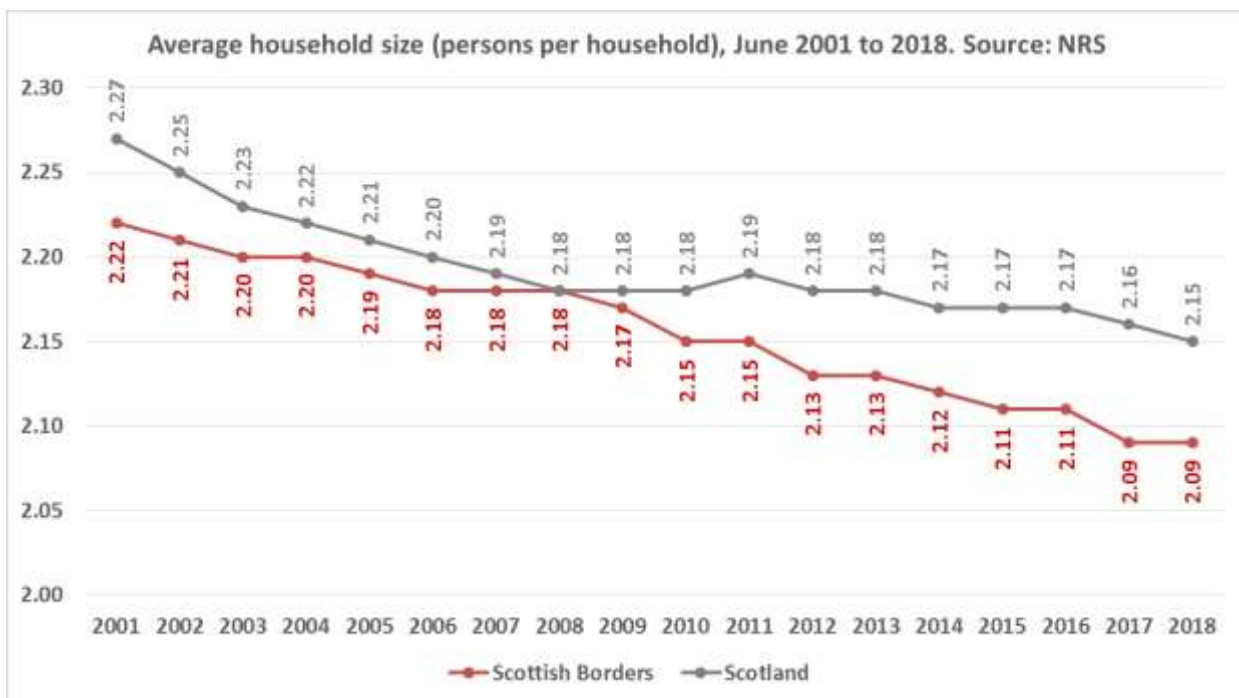
HOUSING

HOUSING PROFILE

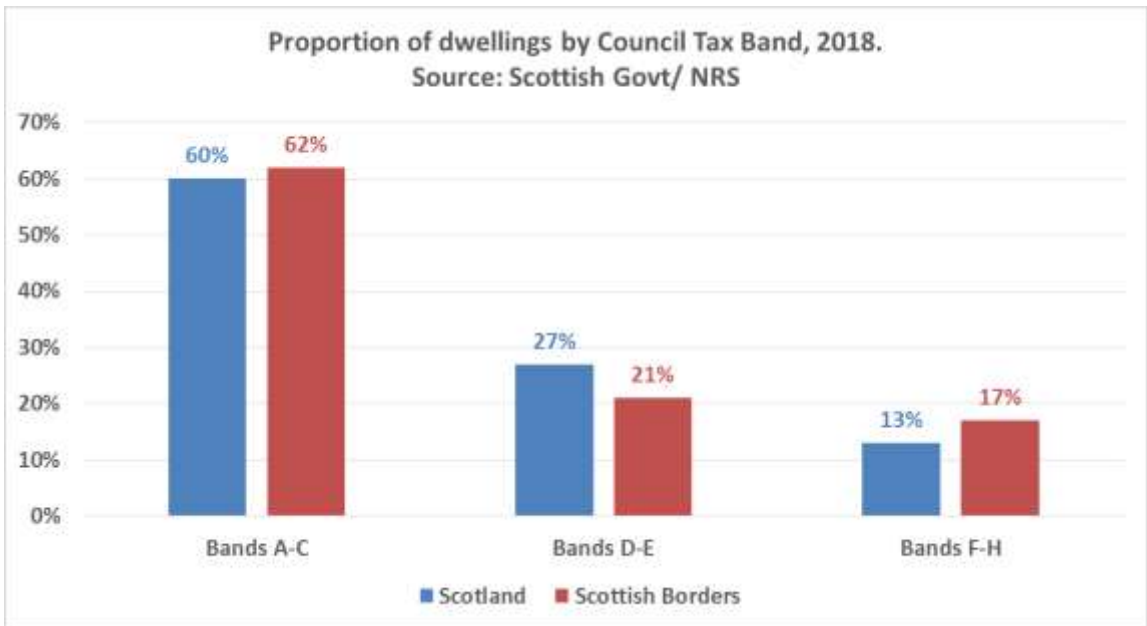
In 2018, there were 54,413 households in the Scottish Borders, an increase of 0.2% on the previous year and an increase of 5.8% since 2008. This is slightly slower than the rate of growth in Scotland as a whole.



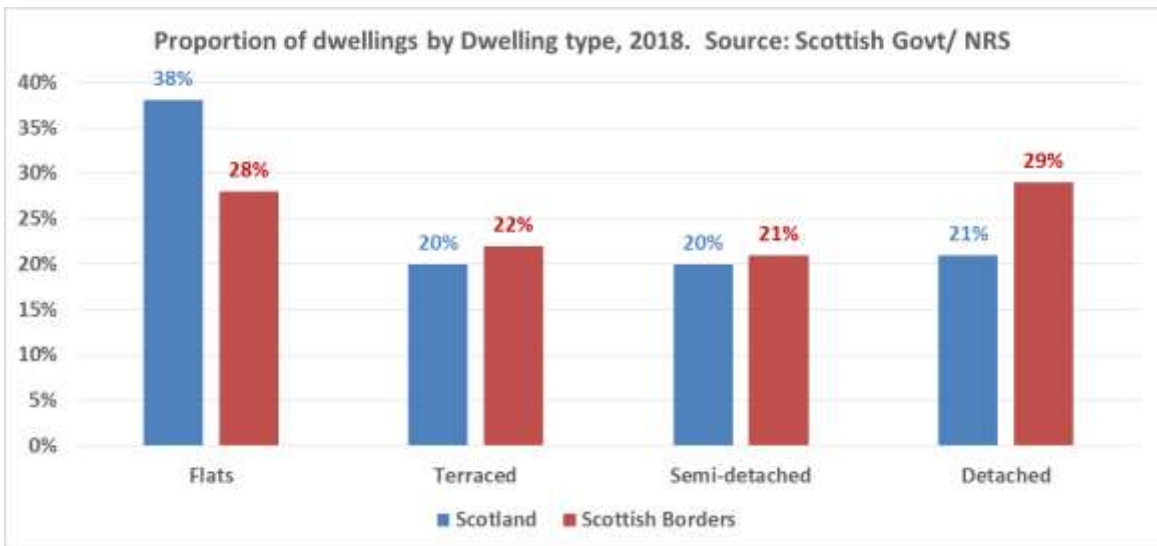
The average number of persons in a household in the Scottish Borders has consistently been below the Scottish level.



- In 2018 fewer households in the Scottish Borders (93.4%) were occupied compared to Scotland (65.9%).
- The Scottish Borders had a higher proportion of vacant (5.0%) and second homes (1.6%) compared to Scotland, 3.2% and 1% respectively.
- 35.8% of dwellings in the Scottish Borders have a 'single adult discount' slightly lower than the 37.4% for Scotland.
- Scottish Borders has a higher proportion of dwellings in Bands A-C and F-H compared to Scotland.



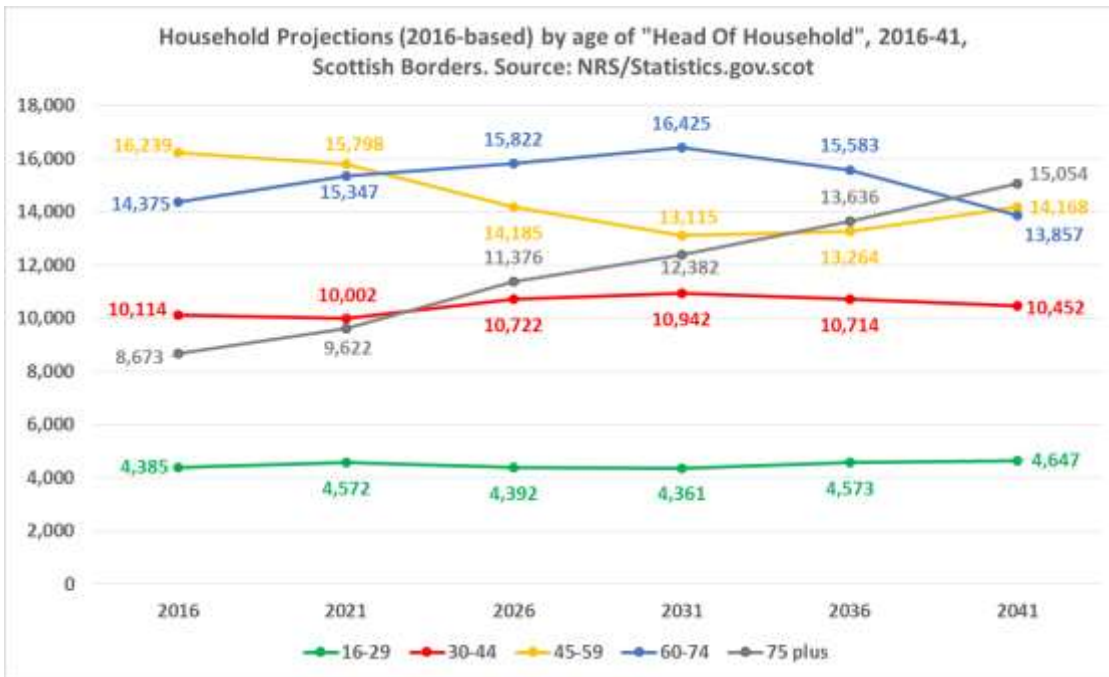
The Scottish Borders has a higher proportion of detached houses compared to Scotland and a lower proportion of flats, reflecting the town / rural nature of the area.



National Records of Scotland (NRS) produce housing projections similar to those for population. Household numbers are projected up to 25 years but with more certainty in the first 10 years and with the following 15 years being more speculative.

Between 2016 and 2026, the number of households in Scottish Borders is projected to increase from 53,787 to 56,497. This is a 5.0% increase, which compares to a projected increase of 6.4% for Scotland as a whole. By 2041 the number of households in the Scottish Borders is projected to increase by 8.2% compared to 10.1% for Scotland.

NRS's projections for household numbers by age of "Head of Household" show a marked increase in the number of households where the "Head of Household" is aged 75 or older. Whereas those households where the "Head of Household" is aged between 16 and 29 or 30 and 44 remain stable.



HOUSING MARKET

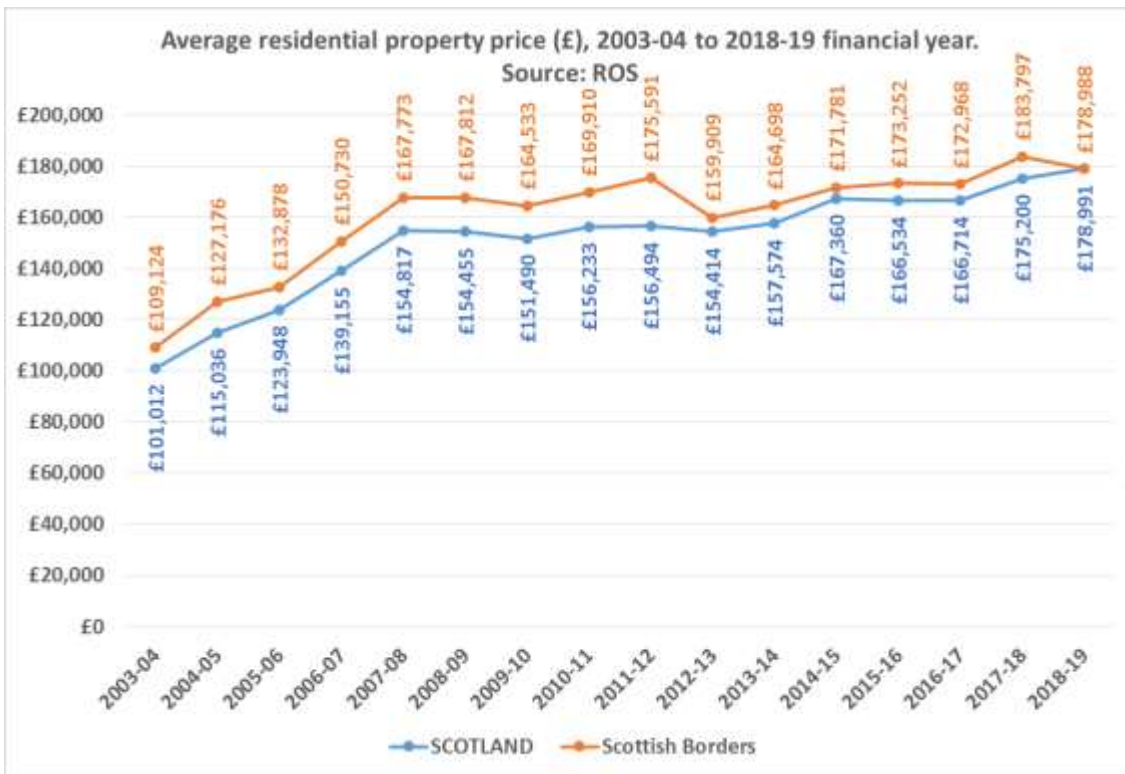
Registers of Scotland (ROS) is the non-ministerial department of the Scottish Government responsible for keeping public registers of land, property and other legal documents in Scotland.

According to ROS's most recent annual Property Market Report (2018-19), the total value of the residential sales market was £18.2 billion in 2018-19. The market value has been increasing every year since 2011-12, but remains 21 per cent below the pre-financial crisis level in 2007-08.

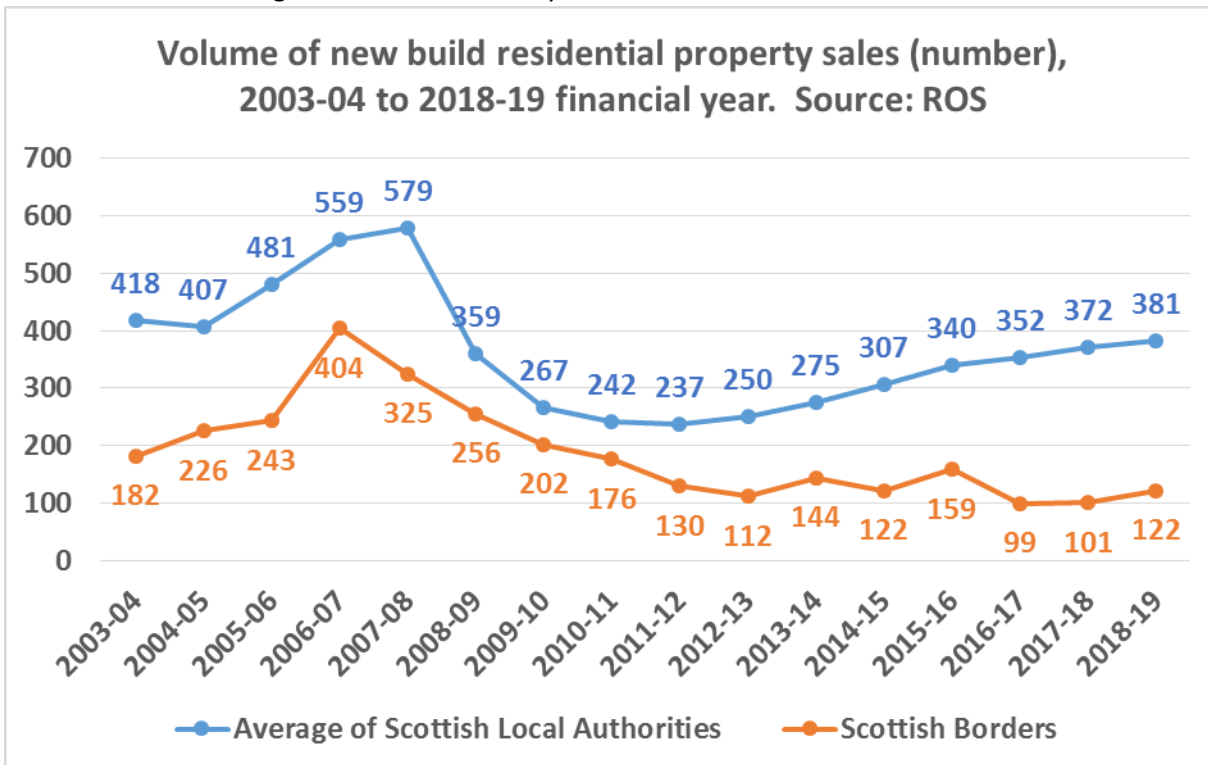
The Scottish Borders has a smaller housing market than average, but its trends show a similar pattern to the activity in Scotland as a whole. The Scottish Borders property market continues to be worth slightly less than the Scottish average and is recovering, in line with the recovery of the Scottish housing market as a whole.



According to ROS the average price of a residential property in the Scottish Borders had consistently been slightly above the Scottish average. The Scottish Borders followed the Scottish pattern with rapid rising property prices prior to 2007-08 and more static/slow rising house prices since.¹³



The volume of new build residential property sales in the Scottish Borders is lower than the average for Scotland but reflects a similar pattern to the Scottish trend, with a slump in sales beginning in 2007-08, from which the housing market has never fully recovered.



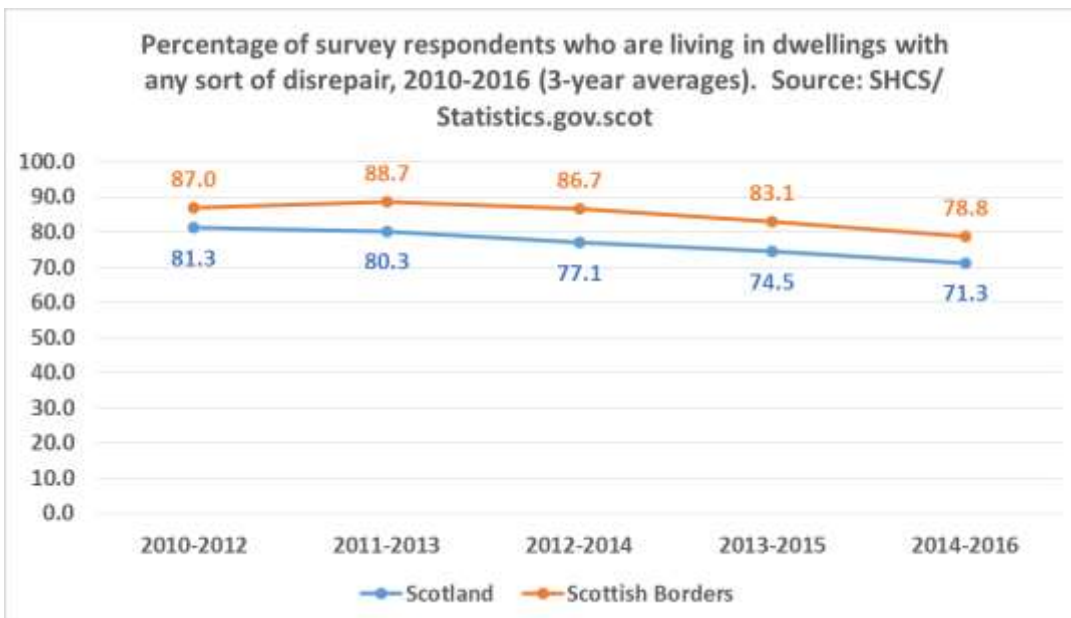
¹³ 2007-08 was the 'financial crash'.

Housing affordability for Scottish Borders-based workers has improved slightly since 2008 but has always been poorer than average.



HOUSE CONDITIONS

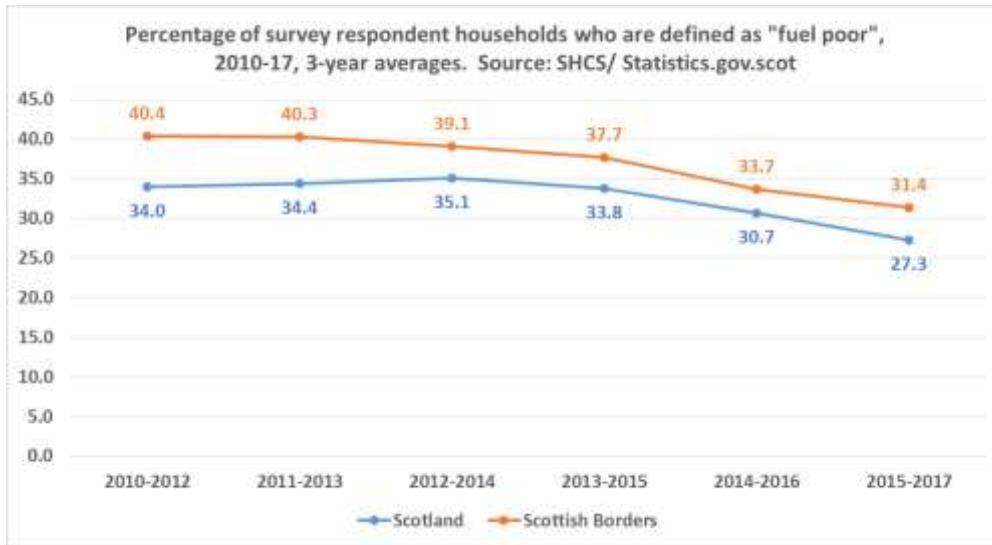
A higher proportion of people in the Scottish Borders are living in dwellings with any sort of disrepair compared to Scotland.



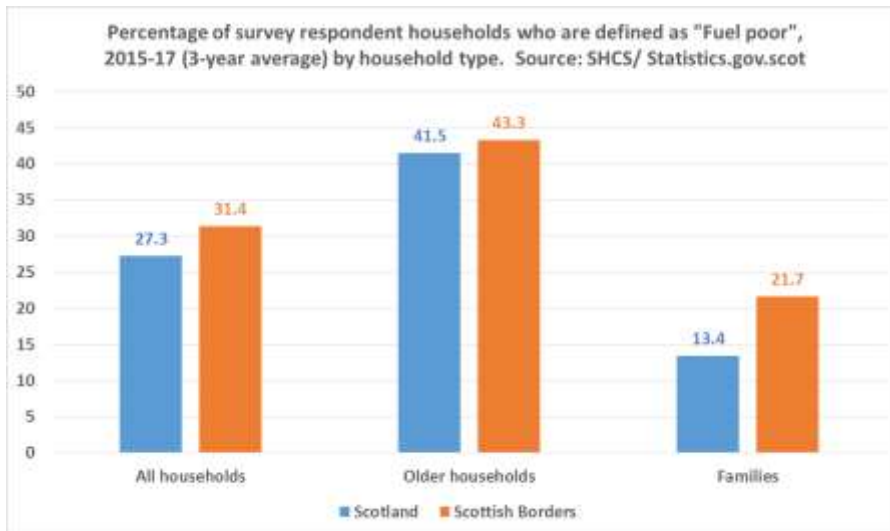
A higher proportion of households with children are living in houses that failed the Scottish Household Quality Standard in the Scottish Borders compared to Scotland.

FUEL POVERTY

- The proportion of households who are defined as “fuel poor” in the Scottish Borders has consistently been higher than the Scottish average. Although the figure has decreased from 40.4% (2010-2012) to 31.4% (2015-17).



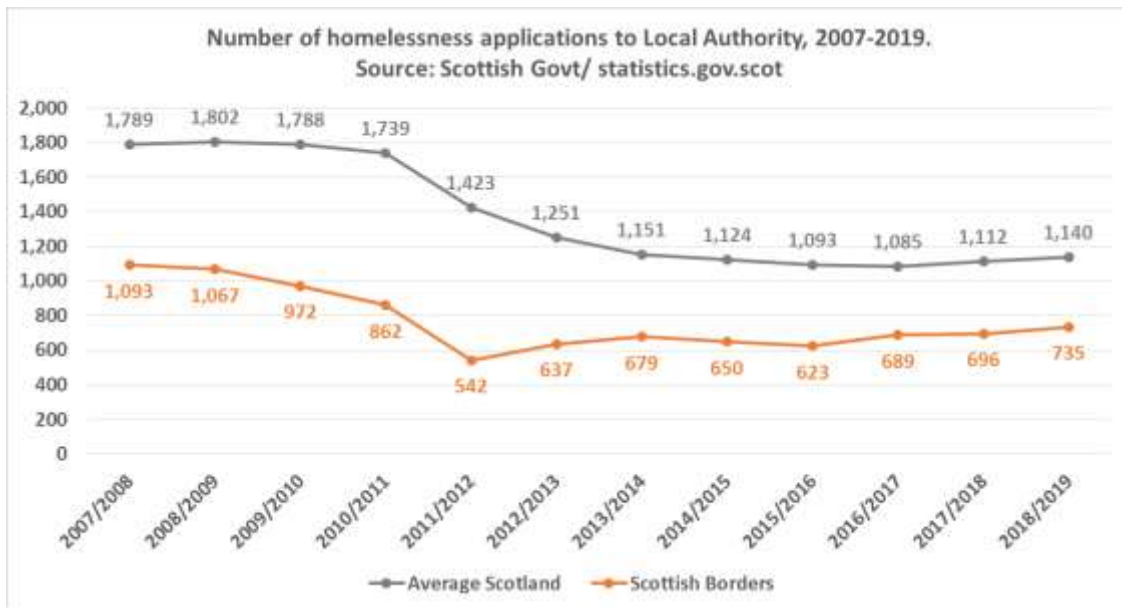
- Fuel poverty by household structure in the Scottish Borders is similar to Scotland for Older Households. However, a higher (21.7%) proportion of Families are “fuel poor” in the Scottish Borders compared to Scotland (13.4%).



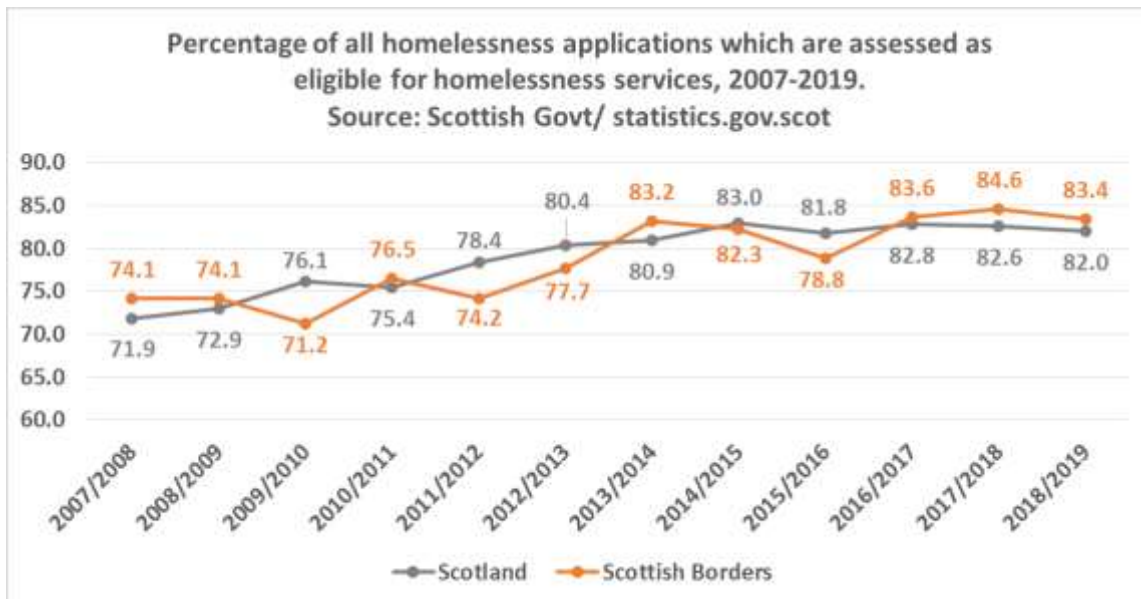
- More respondents from Social Rented housing in the Scottish Borders (39.4%) are “fuel poor” compared to Scotland (30.8%).
- The proportion of “fuel poor” households in older houses (pre-1945 dwellings) has reduced in the Scottish Borders similar to the trend for Scotland.
- Fuel poverty in Scottish Borders’ larger households has consistently been higher than the Scottish average.
- The proportion of “fuel poor” older households in the Scottish Borders has decreased from 63.3% to 43.3% from 2010 to 2017.

HOMELESSNESS

- The number of homelessness applications has consistently been lower in the Scottish Borders compared to the Scottish average. Although between 2011/12 and 2018/19 the number of homeless applications in the Scottish Borders increased by 36% in contrast to a 20% reduction for Scotland.

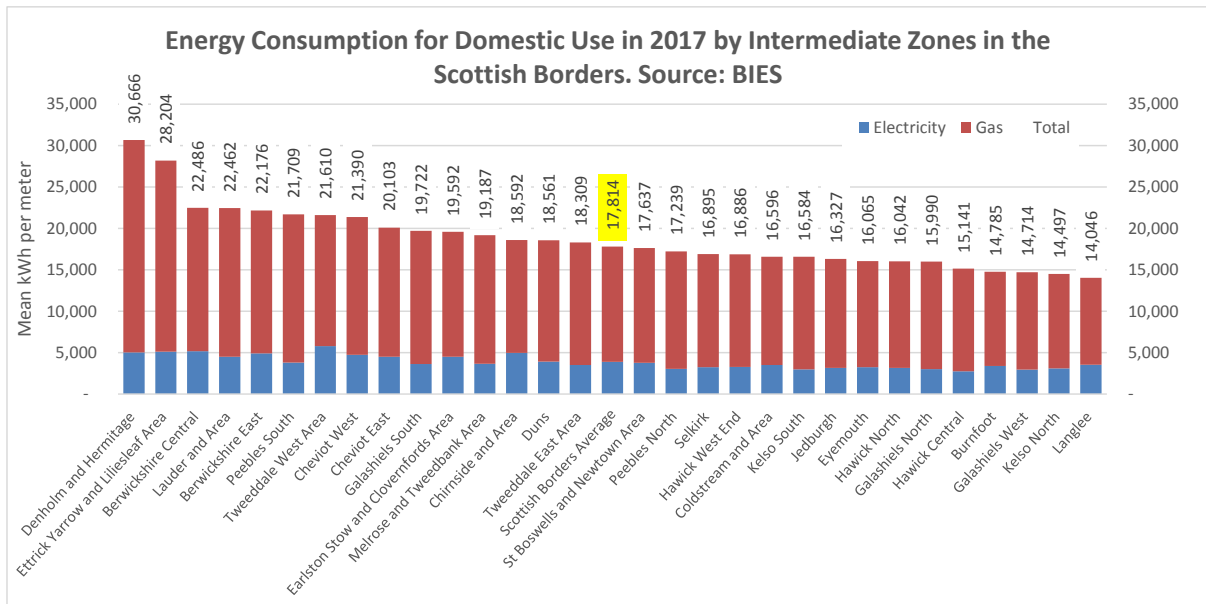


- The proportion of homeless applications which were assessed as eligible for homelessness services in the Scottish Borders has been similar to the rate for Scotland.



DOMESTIC ENERGY USE

- More households in the Scottish Borders (34.8%) are not connected to the gas network compared to 19.7% for Scotland.
- Between 2005 and 2017 the total amount of energy consumed domestically reduced by 18% for the Scottish Borders compared to a 20% reduction for Scotland.
- 22% of the domestic consumption was electric in 2017 with a range for the Scottish Borders intermediate zones from 16% to 27%.
- The graph below shows the average (mean) kWh energy consumption per meter for each of the Intermediate Zones in the Scottish Borders and the average for the Scottish Borders in 2017. Factors that may influence energy consumption include housing construction and the ability to pay for energy.



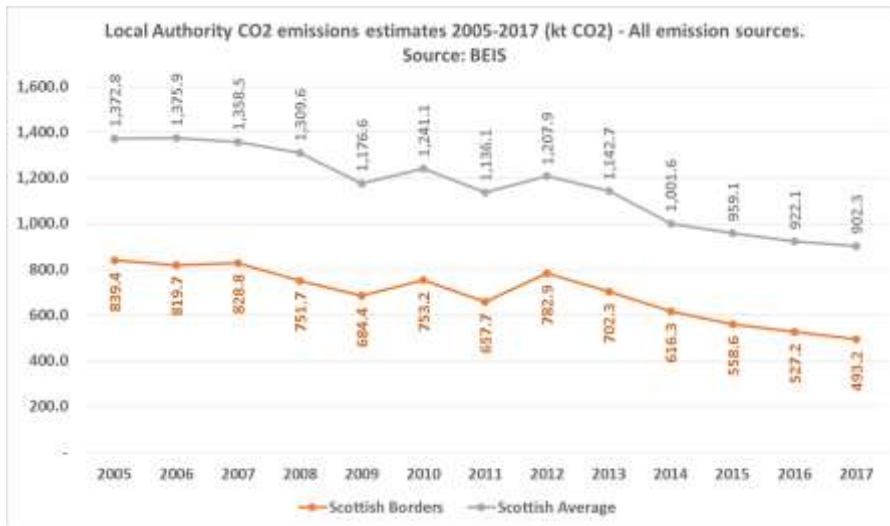
- An average annual gas bill for Scotland was £335 in 1990, increased by 70% to £570 in 2018, based on 2010 prices.
- An average annual electricity bill for Scotland increased by 37% from £437 in 1990 to £599 in 2018, based on 2010 prices.
- In 2018, 19.7% of customers in the Scottish Borders switched energy supplier compared to 18.2% for Scotland.

NATURAL AND BUILT ENVIRONMENT

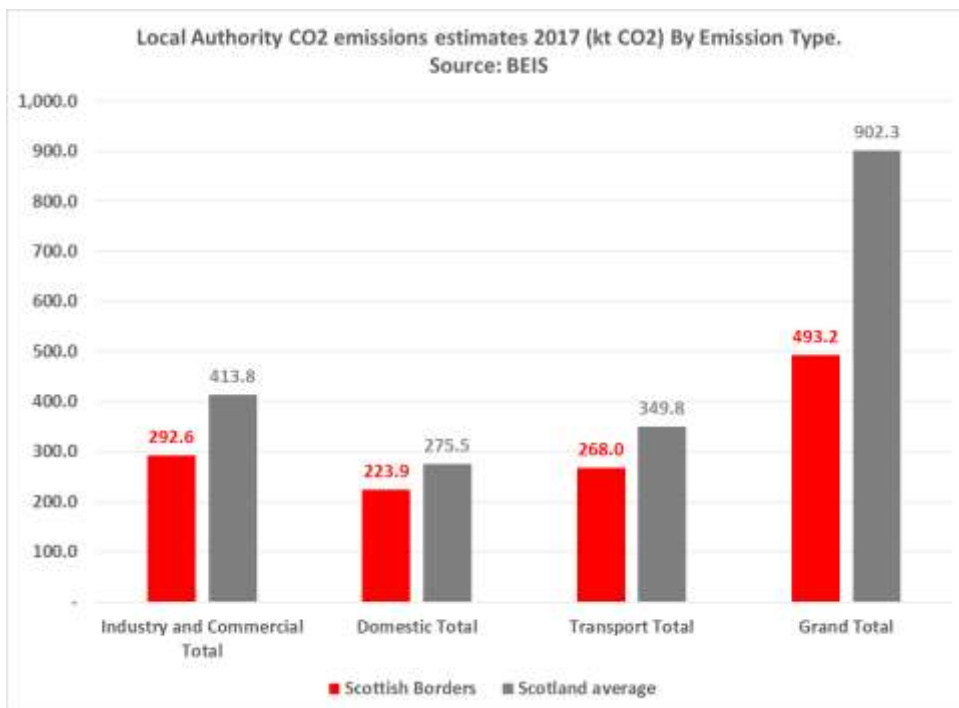
NATURAL ENVIRONMENT QUALITY

AIR QUALITY

Overall the air quality in the Scottish Borders is good and better than Scotland as a whole. Between 2016 and 2017, CO2 emissions decreased in the Scottish Borders. This is consistent with a continuing trend of decreasing CO2 emissions in Scotland and the UK. The main driver of the decrease was a change in the fuel mix for electricity generation, with a decrease in the use of coal and more use of renewables. The graph below shows the reduction in CO2 emissions between 2005 and 2017 for the Scottish Borders compared to Scotland.



The Scottish Borders has a lower rate of CO2 emissions from all sources, around half the national average. The highest proportion is from industrial and commercial sources and the lowest is from domestic energy consumption, as expected.



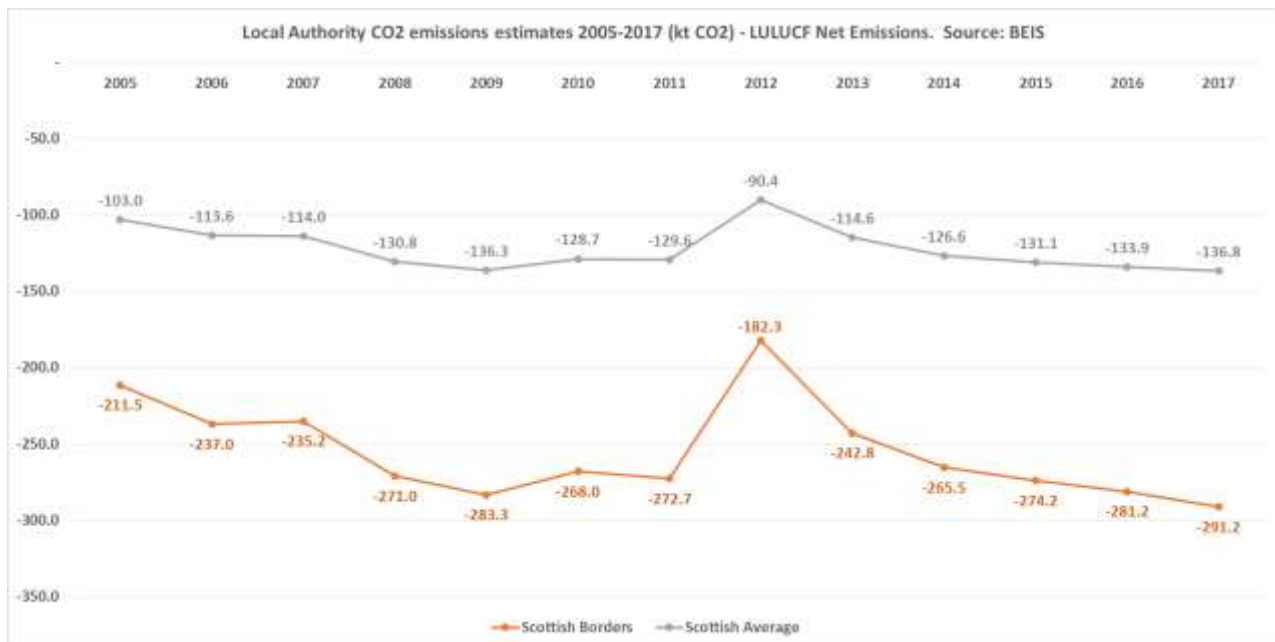
LAND USE AND “CARBON SINK”

Land use, land-use change and forestry (LULUCF) is defined by the United Nations Climate Change Secretariat as a "greenhouse gas inventory sector that covers emissions and removals of greenhouse gases resulting from direct human-induced land use, land-use change and forestry activities."

Trees and forests, in particular, can act as a “Carbon Sink”. A carbon sink is a natural reservoir that stores carbon-containing chemical compounds accumulated over an indefinite period of time, or sequesters it from the atmosphere. Public awareness of the significance of CO2 sinks has grown since the passage of the Kyoto Protocol, which promotes their use as a form of carbon offset.

Land uses that promote a land mass’s ability to act as a carbon sink include forestry, water and natural vegetation. Land use changes that reduce its ability to act as a carbon sink include: removing forestry, draining wetlands and converting natural vegetation to agricultural land.

Scotland’s “carbon sink” has generally increased since 2005, except for one year where there is a “blip” in the data series. Scottish Borders has a larger “carbon sink” than the Scottish average, due to its larger land area which is covered in forestry. It has been generally increasing, which makes the Scottish Borders a tremendous asset to Scotland’s efforts to naturally offset CO2 pollution.



WATER QUALITY

Scottish Environmental Protection Agency ([SEPA](#)) monitors bathing, surface and groundwater quality for Scotland.

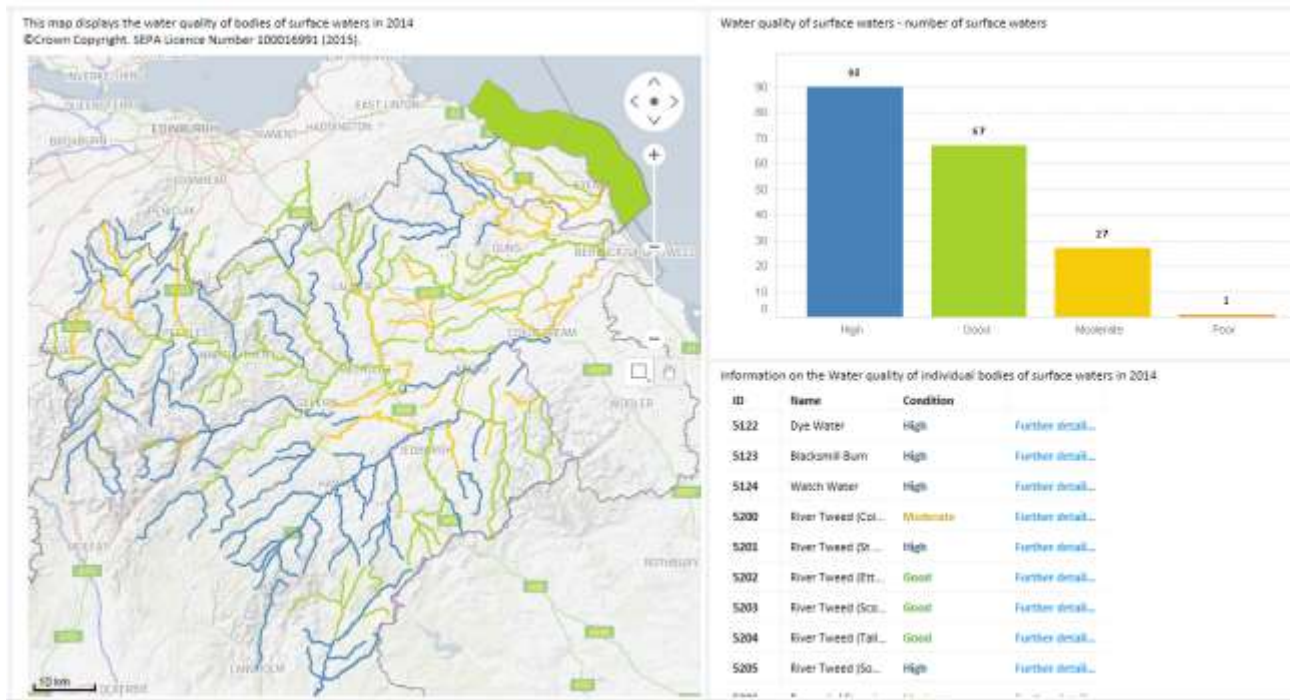
Bathing Water

The Scottish Borders has three beaches where the bathing water quality is monitored by [SEPA](#). The table below shows the results from the last four years; showing that Pease Bay has excellent water quality.

Location	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19
Pease Bay (Cockburnspath)	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent
Coldingham Bay	Good	Good	Good	Good
Eyemouth	Poor	Sufficient	Poor	Poor

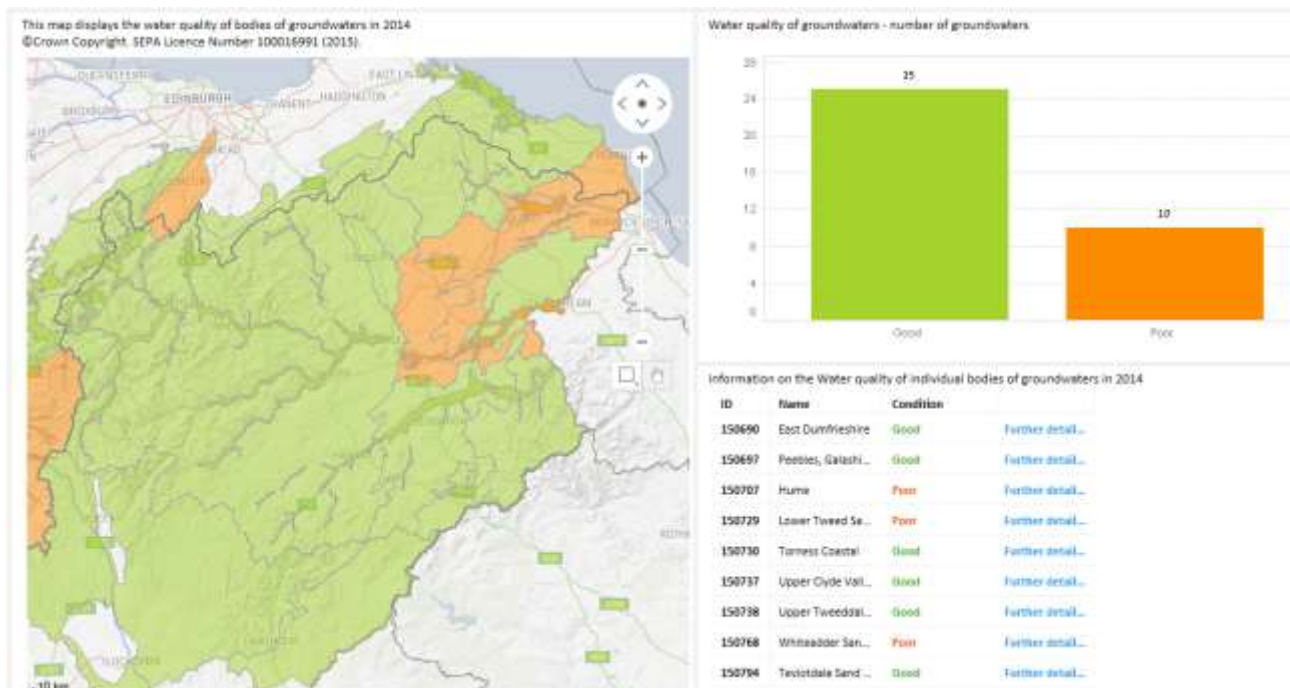
Surface Water

According to SEPA's 2014 [assessment of surface water](#) the majority of the surface water in the Scottish Borders is of High or Good quality, as seen in the figure below.



Ground waters

The ground water in the Scottish Borders is generally good, however some of the ground water in Berwickshire is poor, according to the [2014 SEPA assessment](#).



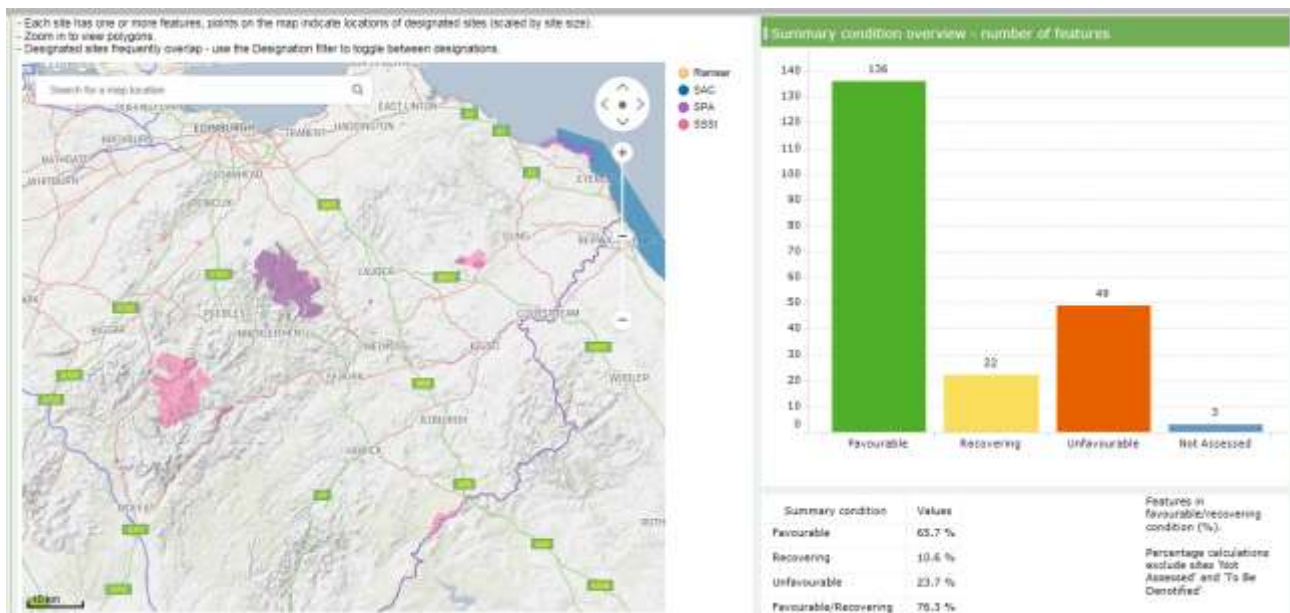
BIODIVERSITY (PROTECTED SITES)

Scotland's protected areas are designated by [Scottish Natural Heritage](#) to safeguard the very best of our landscapes, plants and animals, and rocks, fossils and landforms. A series of nature conservation designations aim to protect the best examples nationally and internationally of the nation's wildlife populations, habitats and earth science features:

- **SAC:** Special Areas of Conservation, internationally important for a number of habitats and species, both terrestrial and marine, which are listed in the Habitats Directive.
- **SPA:** Special Protection Areas, an internationally important designation under the Birds Directive.
- **SSSI:** Sites of UK national importance representing the best of Scotland's natural heritage - its diversity of plants, animals and habitats, rocks and landforms, or a combination of such natural features.
- **Ramsar:** - Sites classified under the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance.

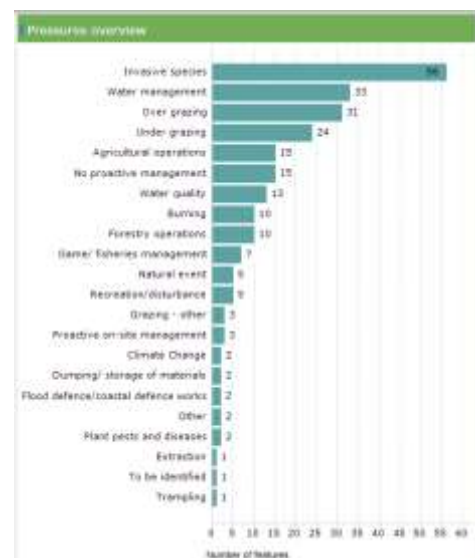
There are a total of 1,868 of sites protecting nature across Scotland, although some of their boundaries overlap and they host a total of 5,388 designated natural features.

According to the [Scotland's Environment website](#) the Scottish Borders has 210 protected sites, of which 76.3% are in Favourable or Recovering condition, just lower than the 78.8% for Scotland. The figure below shows the location of the designated sites and summary condition.



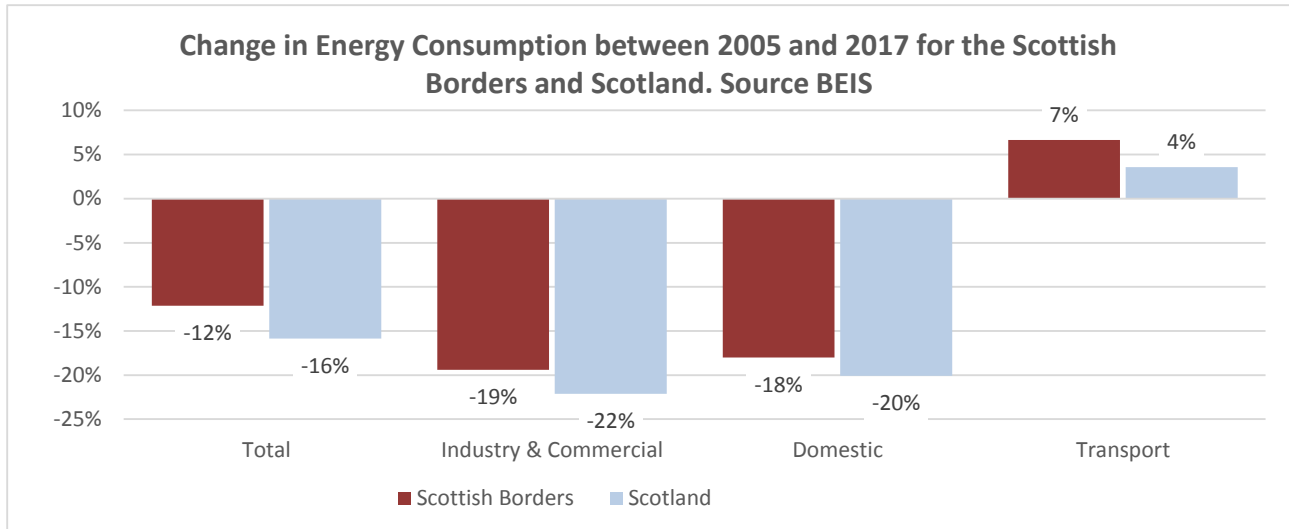
An important aspect of the assessing features through Site Condition Monitoring is identifying factors which have the capacity to impact upon the feature in a detrimental way. These factors are termed Pressures, and can apply to both man-made and natural activities. Knowledge of these factors can be of great use in determining why a feature may be in unfavourable condition and thus help identify the remedial work required to improve the feature condition.

In the Scottish Borders the most common pressures are: invasive species, water management, and over and under grazing.

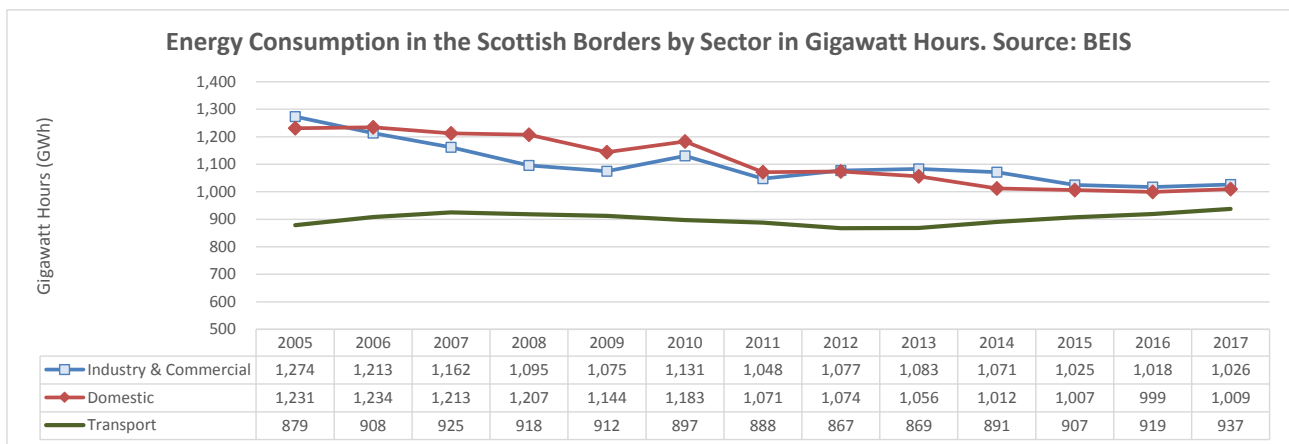


ENERGY CONSUMPTION

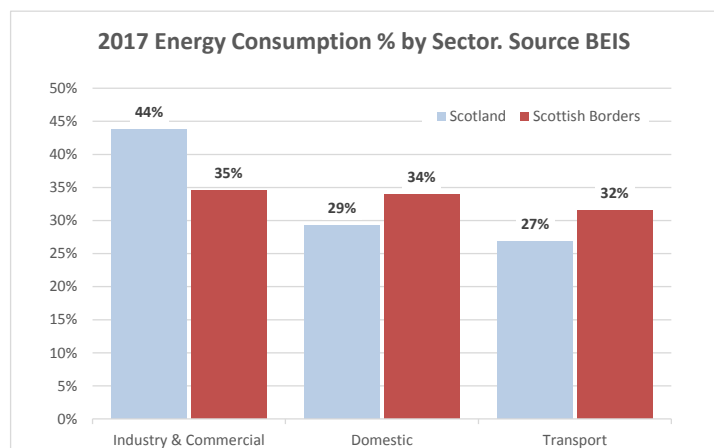
Energy consumption is grouped into three sectors: Industry & Commercial, Domestic and Transport. Between 2005 (3,384 GWh) and 2017 (2,973 GWh) the total amount of energy consumed in the Scottish Borders reduced by 12% (411 GWh), below the 16% reduction for Scotland. Although both Industry & Commercial and Domestic energy consumption reduced, the Transport energy consumption increased by 7% in the Scottish Borders and 4% for Scotland.



The graph below shows the energy consumption in the Scottish Borders by sector in Gigawatt Hours between 2005 and 2017.



In 2017 the energy consumption by sector in the Scottish Borders and Scotland varied. In Scotland more energy was used by Industry & Commercial whereas the Scottish Borders had a higher proportion of energy use in the Domestic and Transport sectors.



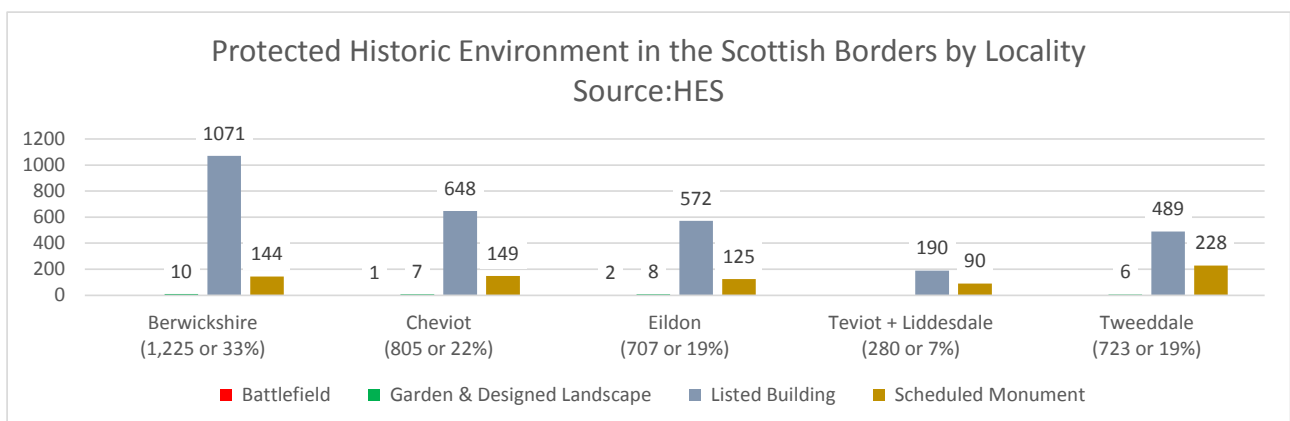
BUILT ENVIRONMENT

PROTECTED HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT

The Scottish Borders has 3,740 different protected sites, of which 2,970 (79.4%) are Listed Buildings and 736 (19.7%) are Scheduled Monuments, the remaining are Garden and Designed Landscapes and Battlefields as recorded by [Historic Environment Scotland \(HES\)](#).

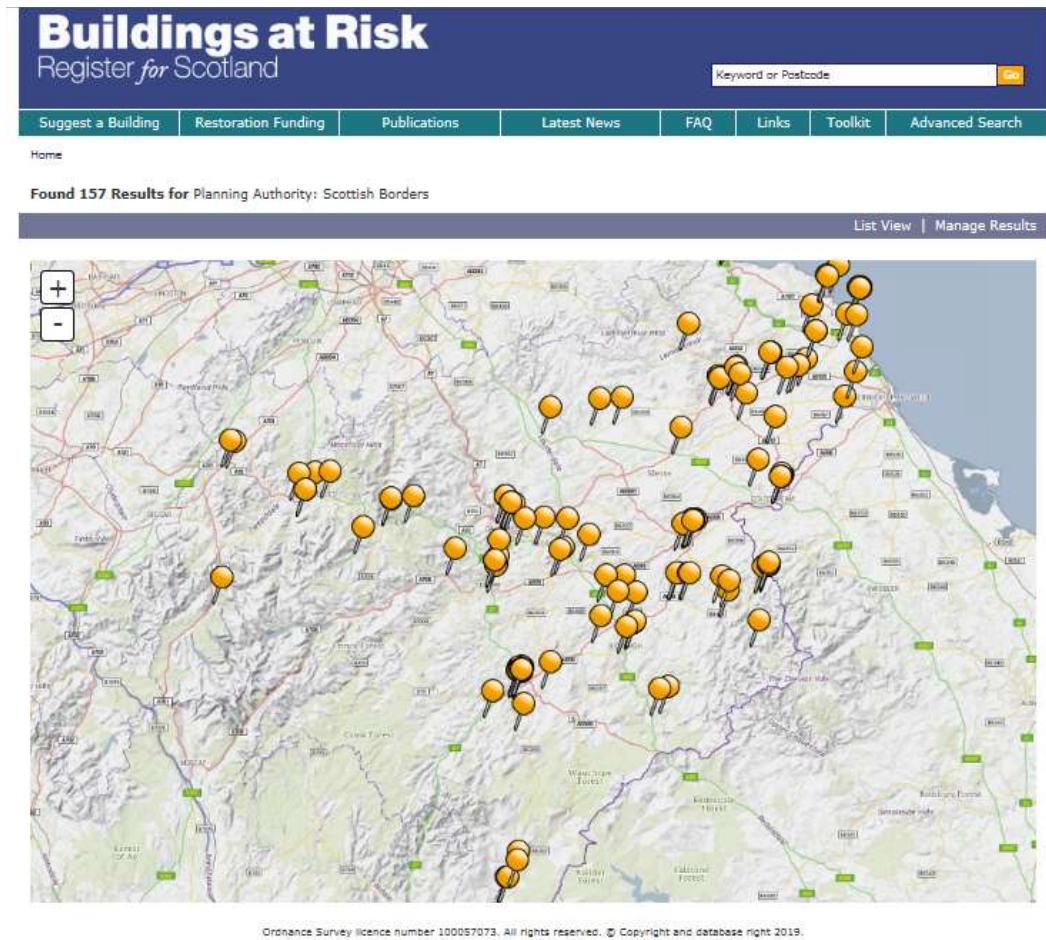
Protected Designation	Description	Examples in the Scottish Borders
Listed Buildings	Buildings of 'special' architectural or historic interest which enrich Scotland's landscape and help chart its history.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gunsgreenhill, Old Windmill • Coldstream Bridge (That Part In Scotland) Over The Tweed • Duns Castle • Rhymer's Tower • Mellerstain House • Hornshole Bridge • Kirkstile, Former Tower Mill • Kirkurd Parish Church • Ice House, In Policies Of Whim House • Stobo Castle
Scheduled Monuments	The aim of scheduling is to preserve the most significant sites and monuments as far as possible in the form in which they have been passed down. Scheduling began in 1882, when the first Ancient Monuments Act was passed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St Abb's Kirk, church and monastic remains, St Abb's Head • Kelso Abbey • Jedburgh Abbey • Dryburgh Abbey • Melrose Abbey • Peebles, town wall
Garden and designed landscapes	Grounds consciously laid out for artistic effect – are an important element of Scotland's historic environment and landscape.	The Hirsell Paxton House Bemersyde Bowhill Kailzie
Battlefields	The landscapes where these events took place.	Battle of Ancrum Moor Battle of Philiphaugh Battle of Darnick

The Berwickshire locality has the most protected sites (primarily Listed Buildings) although Tweeddale has more Scheduled Monuments. HES has [interactive mapping](#) which shows where these protected sites are across Scotland.



BUILDINGS AT RISK

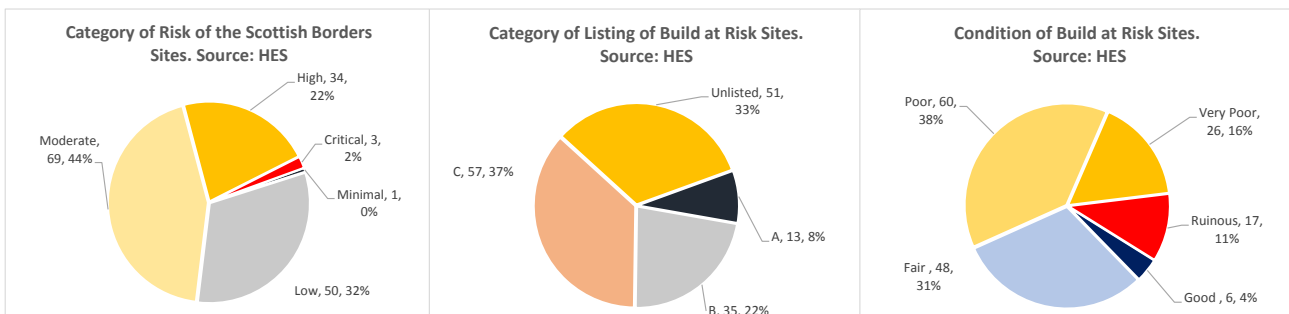
According to HES records, the Scottish Borders has 157 registrations of which 147 are At Risk and 10 are Restoration in Progress. The figure below is an extract from the [Buildings at Risk Register for Scotland](#) website pin pointing the buildings at risk in the Scottish Borders.



Buildings may be at risk for a number of reasons, these include:

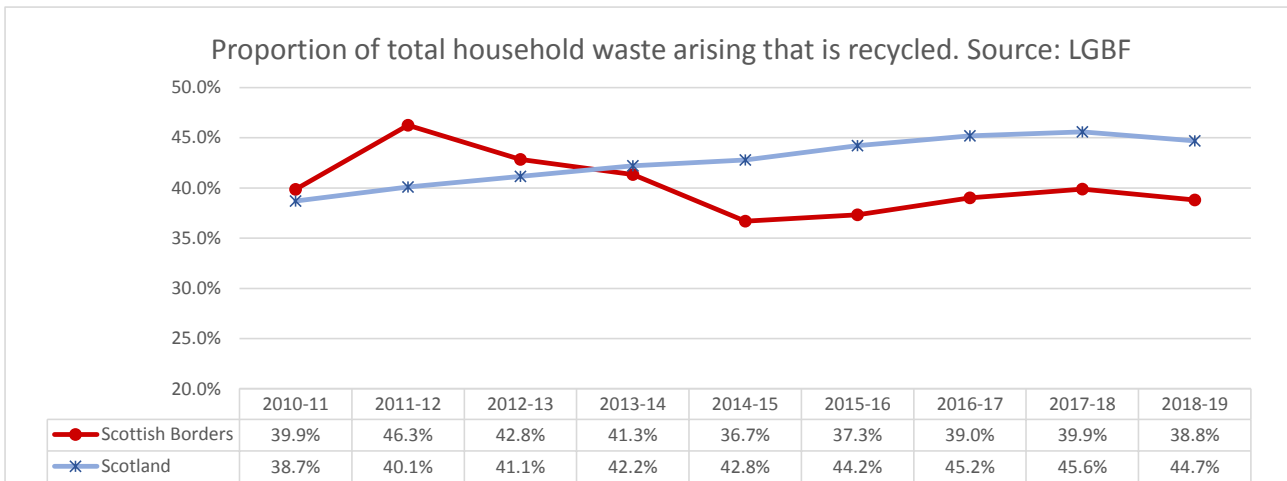
- long-term vacant
- neglected and/or poorly maintained
- structurally unsound
- damaged by fire
- unsecured and open to the elements
- threatened with demolition

The graphs below show the characteristics of the 157 buildings at risk in the Scottish Borders.



WASTE MANAGEMENT

The proportion of total household waste arising that is recycled is part of the [LGBF](#). The graph below shows that since 2014-15 the Scottish Borders has had a lower proportion of household waste recycled compared to Scotland.



The proportion of adults satisfied with refuse collection is asked within the Scottish Household Survey (SHS) and is an indicator within the LGBF as well. Over time Scottish Borders has had a similar proportion of adults satisfied with refuse collection compared to Scotland.

