South Wight Locality Profile

Population Density

The total area of South Wight is 14,153 hectares with a population of 38,606. The South Wight area covers approximately 37% of the Isle of Wight’s total area (38,016 hectares) and approximately 27.4% of the total island population (140,984).

This means that the population density is just 2.7 people per hectare for South Wight compared to 3.7 per hectare for the Isle of Wight. This makes South Wight the least densely populated locality.

Population

![Population pyramid of the Isle of Wight, England and South Wight (2017)](image)


South Wight follows a similar pattern as the Island as a whole, although more exaggerated, with more older people and fewer younger people.

There are just 5,376 under 16s in South Wight ranging from 90 in Lake South B up to 366 in Sandown South B.
The number of people aged 65 and over is much higher with 11,723 ranging from 263 in Lake North B up to 611 in Ventnor West A.


Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) population

South Wight has a BME population of 2.2% - The lowest of the three localities. This ranges from just 0.8% in both Chale, Niton & Whitwell A and Ventnor West B up to 5.8% in Ventnor East B.

Source: 2011 Census

Housing

There are 61,085 households on the Isle of Wight.

South Wight has the highest proportion of houses owned outright (43.2%), the lowest proportion of houses owned with a mortgage (27.5%) and the middle proportion of those privately rented (15.3%).

Houses owned outright range from 29.5% in Ventnor East A to 64.6% in Lake South B.

Houses owned with a mortgage has its lowest figure at 17.7% in Ventnor West A and its highest figure in Newchurch B (37.0%).

Private renting is highest in Shanklin South B (35.8%) whereas it’s just 4.9% in Newchurch A.

Source: 2011 Census

Employment

South Wight has 4.76% of residents unemployed. This ranges from 1.9% in Newchurch A up to 7.6% in Lake North B.

South Wight has the lowest percentage of full-time employees with 27.2%. It is lowest in Ventnor West A (20.6%) and highest in Sandown South A (33.4%).

Source: 2011 Census

Economic Activity

South Wight has the lowest percentage of residents who are economically active (63.1%).

Within the area, the highest economic activity is in Sandown South A (70.2%) and the lowest is in Ventnor West A (51.1%).

Of those who are economically inactive in South Wight, as with all localities, the biggest reason is retirement. South Wight has 22.3% of retired people – the most of all the localities.

Within the area, this ranges from 15.6% in Sandown North B up to 38.3% in Ventnor West A.

Source: 2011 Census
**Out-of-Work Benefit Claimants** NB. Figures are rounded to the nearest five

South Wight has the lowest number of residents claiming out-of-work benefits with around 570.

This ranges from zero in Lake South B up to 60 in Ventnor East A.

Source: NOMIS

**Fuel Poverty**

In South Wight, the levels of fuel poverty range from 5.9% in Lake South B up to 14.7% in Ventnor West B with 11.3% average across the locality.

Source: Gov.UK – Fuel poverty sub-regional statistics

**Children in Poverty**

There are 1,230 children living in poverty in South Wight – The lowest of all the three localities.

Chale, Niton & Whitwell A has the lowest percentage of children in poverty with 5.7% while Ventnor West B has more than six times higher with 35.9%.

Source: HMRC Personal tax credits statistics (Children in low-income families)

**Education**

South Wight has the highest percentage of residents who report to have ‘no qualifications’ (26.8%). This ranges from 19.7% in Central Rural B up to 35.8% in Lake South A.

Conversely, South Wight has the lowest percentage of residents qualified to level 4 or above (20.5%). The lowest figure is in Lake North B (11.9%) and the highest is in Ventnor West A (32.3%).

Source: 2011 Census

**Health**

South Wight has the highest percentage of residents who report their health to be ‘bad’ or ‘very bad’ with 7.0%.

Levels range from 4.1% in Newchurch A to 10.0% in both Sandown North B and Ventnor East A.

Source: 2011 Census

**Long term Illness or Disability**

South Wight has the highest percentage of residents with a long-term illness or disability at 23.9%.

Within the area, levels range from 19.1% in Central Rural B up to 32.3% in Lake South A.

Source: 2011 Census
Deprivation

Areas in South Wight that are within the 20% most deprived on the Island are Ventnor East A, Shanklin Central B, Lake North B, Ventnor West B, Sandown South B, Sandown North A and Shanklin South B.

The single area in South Wight within the 20% least deprived on the Island is Newchurch A.

Source: Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) 2015

Single households aged 65 and over

In South Wight there are 5,601 households occupied by a single person – 2,925 of which are aged 65 and over.

Of the 19,957 single person households on the Island as a whole, 10,055 are aged 65 and over.

Source: 2011 Census

Social Isolation

Social isolation is measured using the question “Thinking about how much contact you have had with people you like, which of the following best describes your social situation?” with the answer “I have as much social contact I want with people I like”. This is worked out as a percentage which, when reversed and applied to the populations of the localities, gives an idea of the possible number of residents who are socially isolated.

For the Isle of Wight, the percentage of adult social care users who have as much social contact as they would like is 51.5%. This means that 48.5% do not have as much contact as they would like.

When applying this to the population of South Wight, it means that potentially there are 17,770 people socially isolated in this locality.

Source: 2016/17 Personal Social Services Carers survey

Health measures

The following six health measures are aggregated up from GP practice level data. This gives an idea of the kinds of numbers in each category but is not an exact number as patients can now be registered at a practice even if they live outside of its catchment area. Also, some practices have multiple surgeries across different localities. In these instances, the figure has been split equally which may under- or overestimate the figures depending on the actual location of the patients.

Source: NHS Quality Outcomes Framework (QOF)

Obesity (18+)

In 2017/18, there were 3,523 patients on South Wight GP records with a BMI of >= 30.

Dementia

In 2017/18, there were 564 patients on South Wight GP records with a diagnosis of dementia.
**Depression**

In 2017/18, there were 3,695 patients on South Wight GP records with a diagnosis of depression.

**Epilepsy**

In 2017/18, there were 309 patients on South Wight GP records receiving drug treatment for epilepsy.

**Learning disabilities**

In 2017/18, there were 294 patients on South Wight GP records with learning disabilities.

**Mental Health**

In 2017/18, there were 508 patients on South Wight GP records with mental health psychoses such as schizophrenia and bipolar.

**Smoking prevalence in adults**

Smoking prevalence is reported as the number of persons aged 18+ who are self-reported smokers in the Annual Population Survey. This is then worked out as a percentage of the total number of survey respondents. Using this percentage as a proxy gives an idea of how many smokers there may be in the locality.

In South Wight, 13.2% of residents equates to a potential 5,096 smokers.

*Source: Public Health England Fingertips tool*