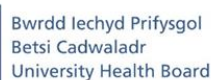


Equality in North Wales: Data and evidence report



North Wales Public Sector Equality Network



This report was supported by Gwynedd and Môn PSB, Conwy and Denbighshire PSB and Flintshire and Wrexham PSB, through the Welsh Government regional support funding for public services boards.

The report was researched and written by Cyngor Gwynedd's Research and Information Service.

Mae'r ddogfen yma hefyd ar gael yn Gymraeg / This document is also available in Welsh

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Equality in North Wales: Data and Evidence Report

1. Purpose of Report

This report has been commissioned by the North Wales Public Services Board Officers Network as an update to the previous report completed in 2019. The aim of this report, as with the previous report, is to gain a deeper understanding of equality data at a local level in North Wales, notably those discussed in the 'Is Wales Fairer (2018)' report completed by the Equality and Human Rights Commission. This report also intends to compare the latest available data with the data included in the previous report to review progress and include any new sources of data as applicable.

As with the previous report undertaken in 2019, this report is intended to supplement the data and findings contained in 'Is Wales Fairer (2018)' whilst focussing on the North Wales region. This report will include data looking at North Wales and the six local authority areas (Conwy, Denbighshire, Flintshire, Gwynedd, Isle of Anglesey and Wrexham). Furthermore, this report will contain updated data as is available at the time of writing in April 2023.

All tables and figures are listed in Appendix 0.

A comprehensive list of data sources used in the report is included in the reference list in Appendix 1. The hyperlinks included here could be used to update and review progress in delivering the objectives over time.

Any gaps identified in the data and information available at a local level are noted in Appendix 2. Areas for improvement have been noted here and throughout the document.

This report was supported by Gwynedd and Môn PSB, Conwy and Denbighshire PSB and Flintshire and Wrexham PSB, through the Welsh Government regional support funding for public services boards.

2. Introduction / Approach Used

This report uses the same headings and structure as the 'Is Wales Fairer (2018)' report as well as the previous 'Equality in North Wales' report completed in 2019, in order to emphasise the intention for this report to be seen as a supplement to the Wales wide report and to facilitate comparison with the data collected in 2019 for North Wales.

The starting point when collecting the data for this updated report was the 2019 'Equality in North Wales' report, where the data sources noted were reviewed to investigate whether updated data was available at a local level. Where updated data was not available alternative data sources have been identified where possible. Although this impacts on the ability to compare like for like data with those included in the previous report, it does allow a more current picture of the topic to be included. Furthermore, some additional data has been identified and included in this report that was not available in 2019, such as Census 2021 data regarding gender identity and sexual orientation.

Data has been included for sources including the Public Health Wales Observatory, StatsWales and Nomis. Data links have been provided throughout the report, with a summary of the references used included in Appendix 1.

This report is therefore comprehensive in terms of the information currently available at a local level. However, it must be noted that there are a number of gaps in this data and these are highlighted in Appendix 2. One particular issue is that the report contains more analysis of some protected characteristics (such as gender and age) than others. This reflects the data available for each topic and should not be taken or interpreted to imply that inequalities for the other protected groups do not exist or are somehow less important. Another issue is that intersectional data is most often not available at a local level, and this is also an issue at an all-Wales level as discussed in [Chwarae Teg's 2023 State of the Nation Report](#). Finally, some of the data is pre-pandemic data and so will not show the impact of Covid.

It is hoped that highlighting the information and data gaps that exist at a local level in this report will play a small part in addressing them for the future.

A note on language and terminology; the terms and acronyms used in this report are consistent with those used in the data sets and reports discussed and referenced and may vary by organisation and institution.

3. Key Statistics for North Wales

The figures below (Figures 1 – 10) include all data where it is currently available on protected and other characteristics from the 2021 Census, showing the proportions by local authority area. Figures 8, 9 and 10 are new datasets that were not included in the previous North Wales Equality Report.

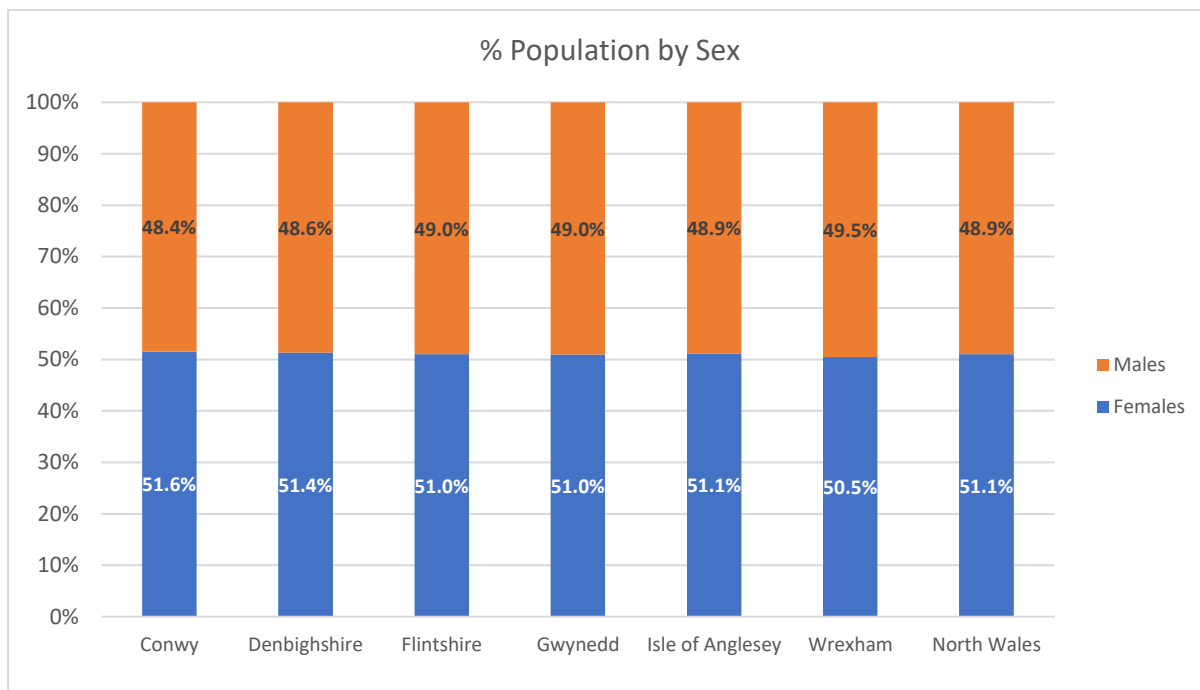


Figure 1 – Percentage population by sex for each of the six local authority areas in North Wales (ONS, 2022).

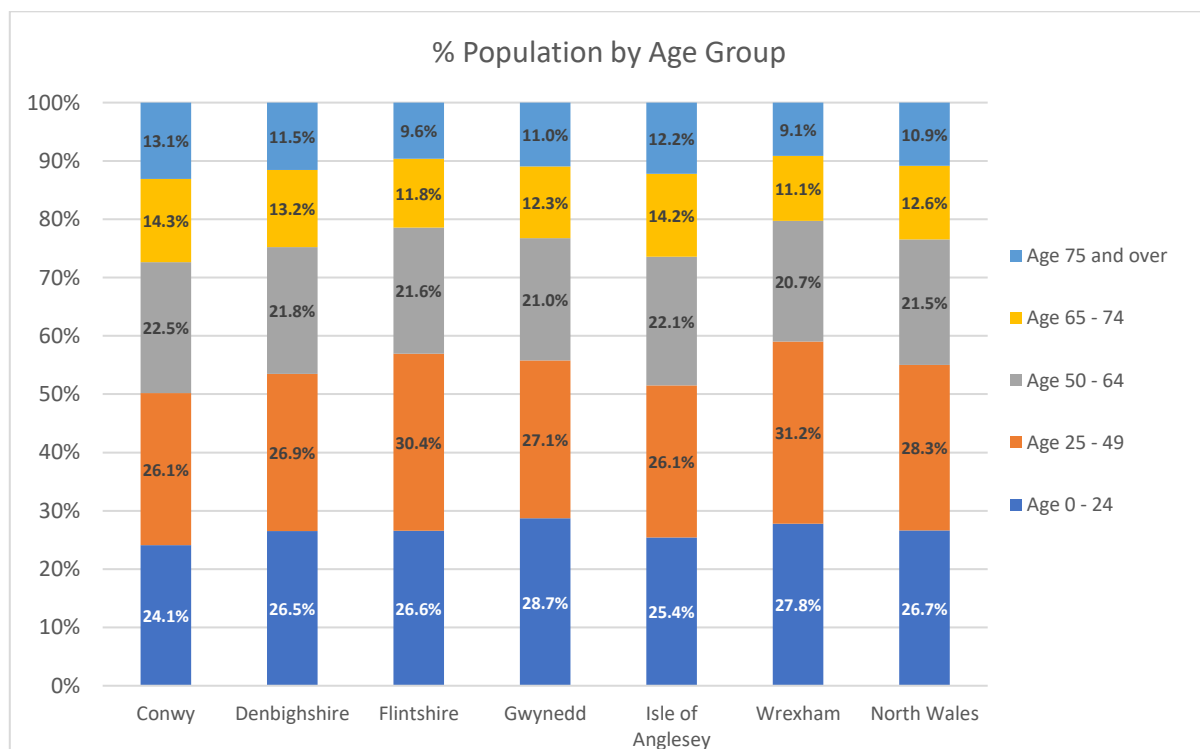


Figure 2 – Percentage population by age group for each of the six local authority areas in North Wales (ONS, 2022).

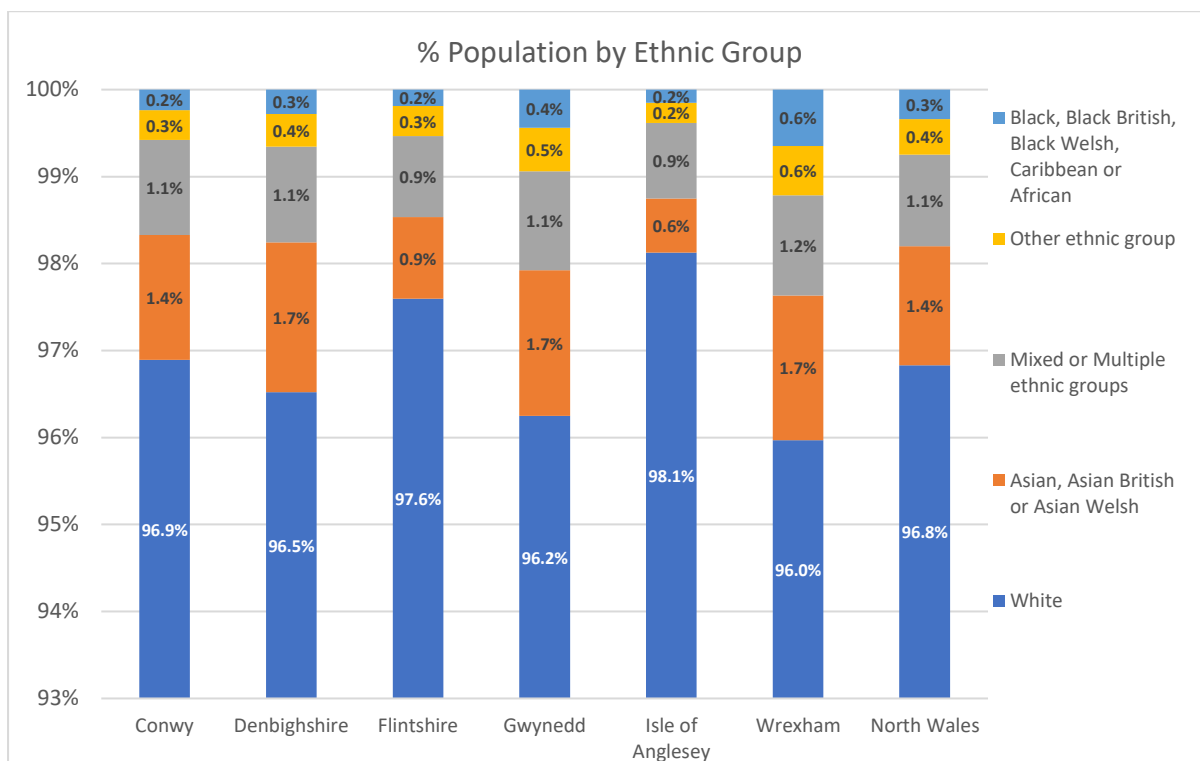


Figure 3 – Percentage population by ethnic group for each of the six local authority areas in North Wales (ONS, 2022).

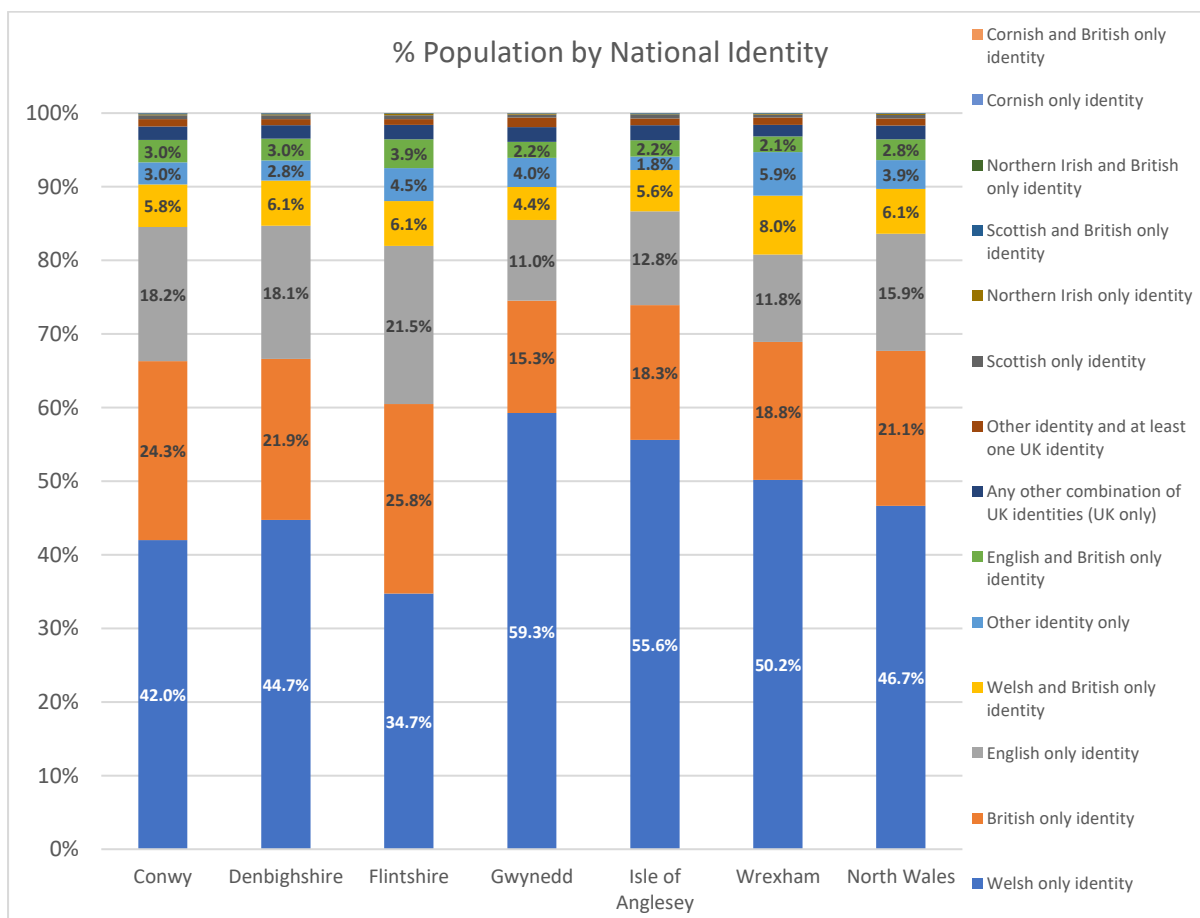


Figure 4 – Percentage population by National identity for each of the six local authority areas in North Wales (ONS, 2022).

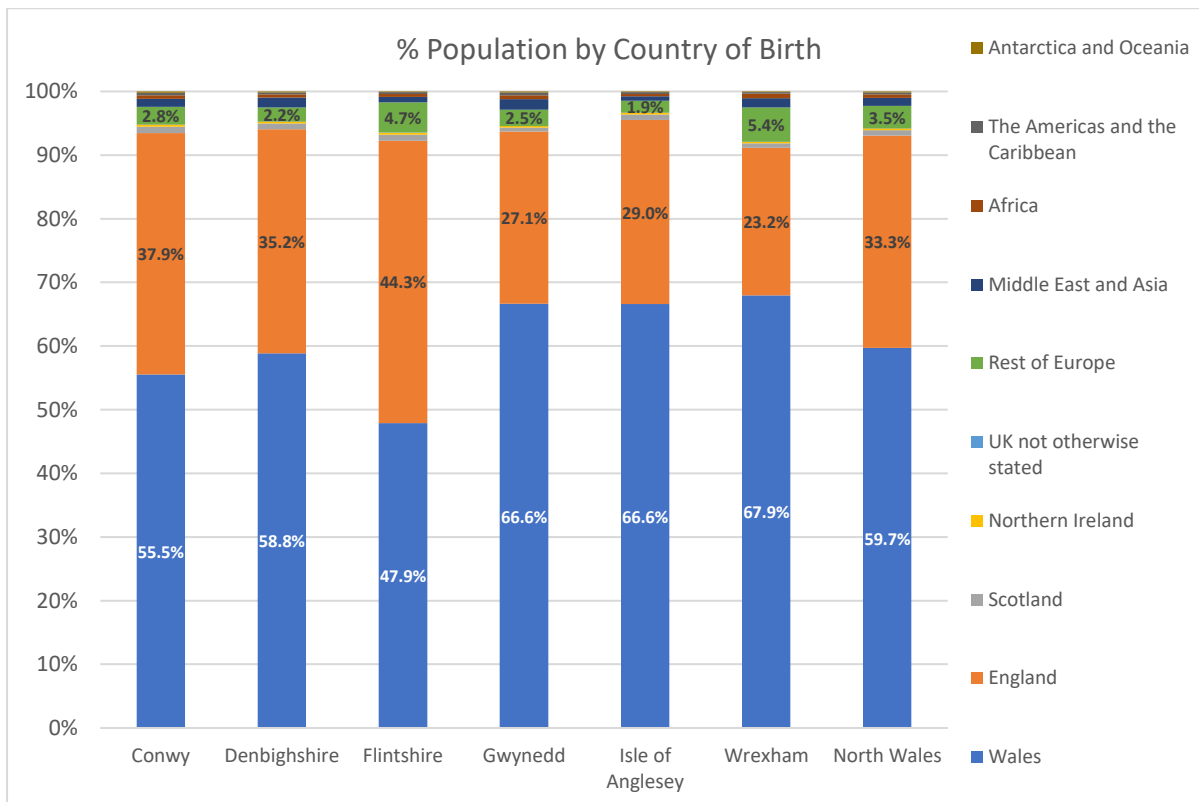


Figure 5– Percentage population by Country of Birth for each of the six local authority areas in North Wales (ONS, 2022).

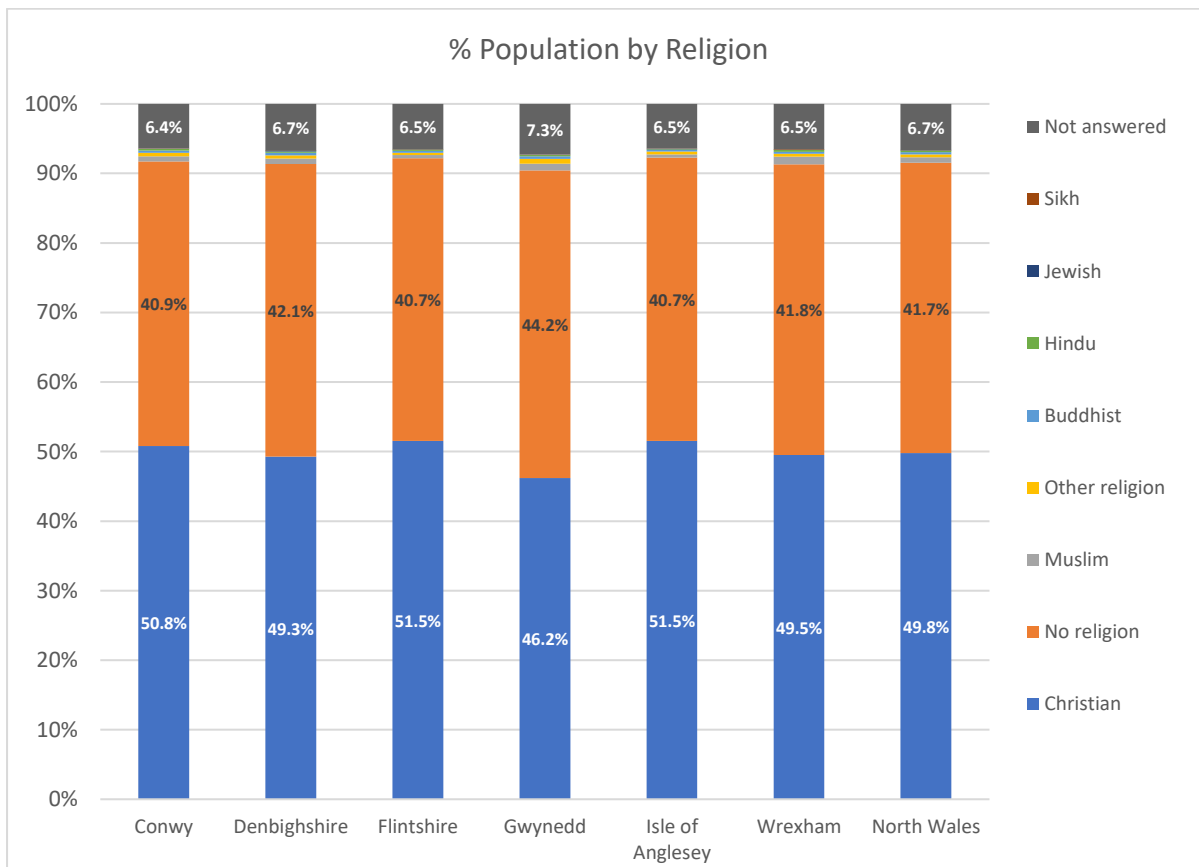


Figure 6 – Percentage population by religion for each of the six local authority areas in North Wales (ONS, 2022).

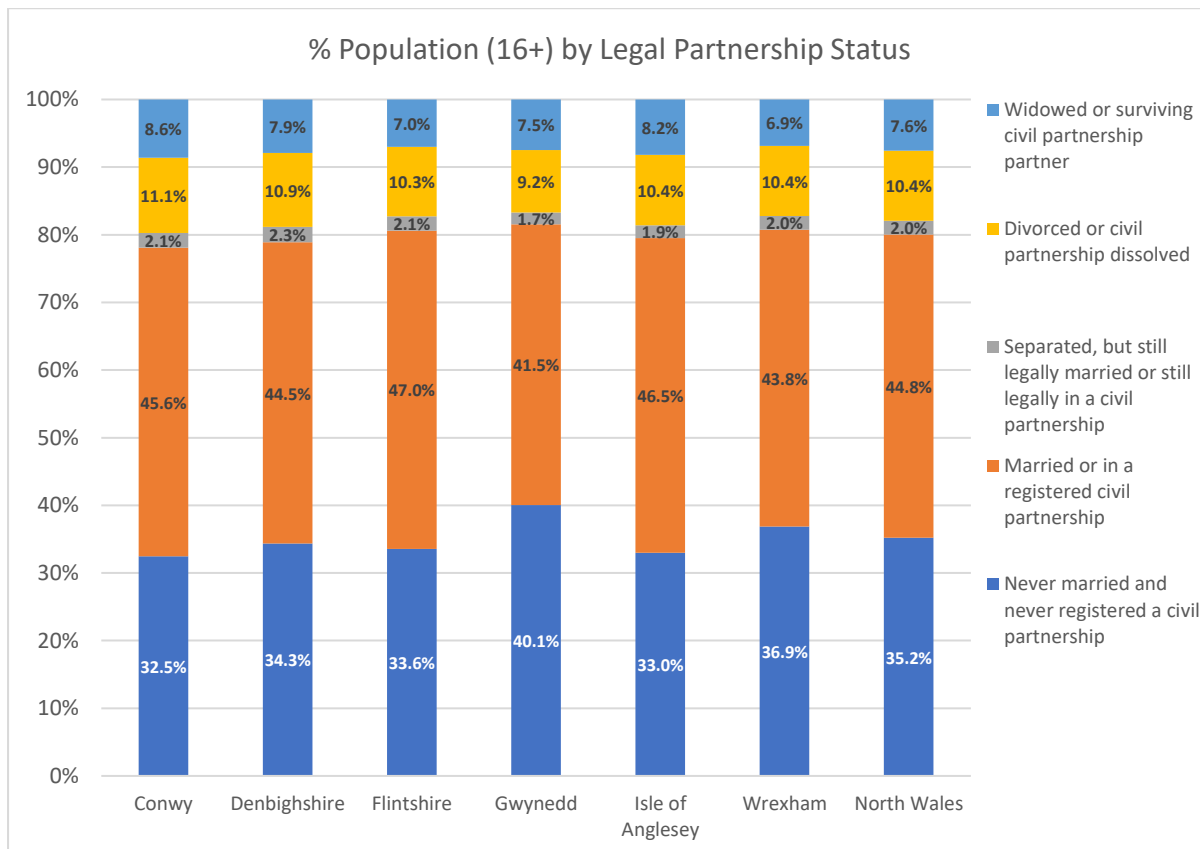


Figure 7 – Percentage population (16+) by legal partnership status for each of the six local authority areas in North Wales (ONS, 2022).

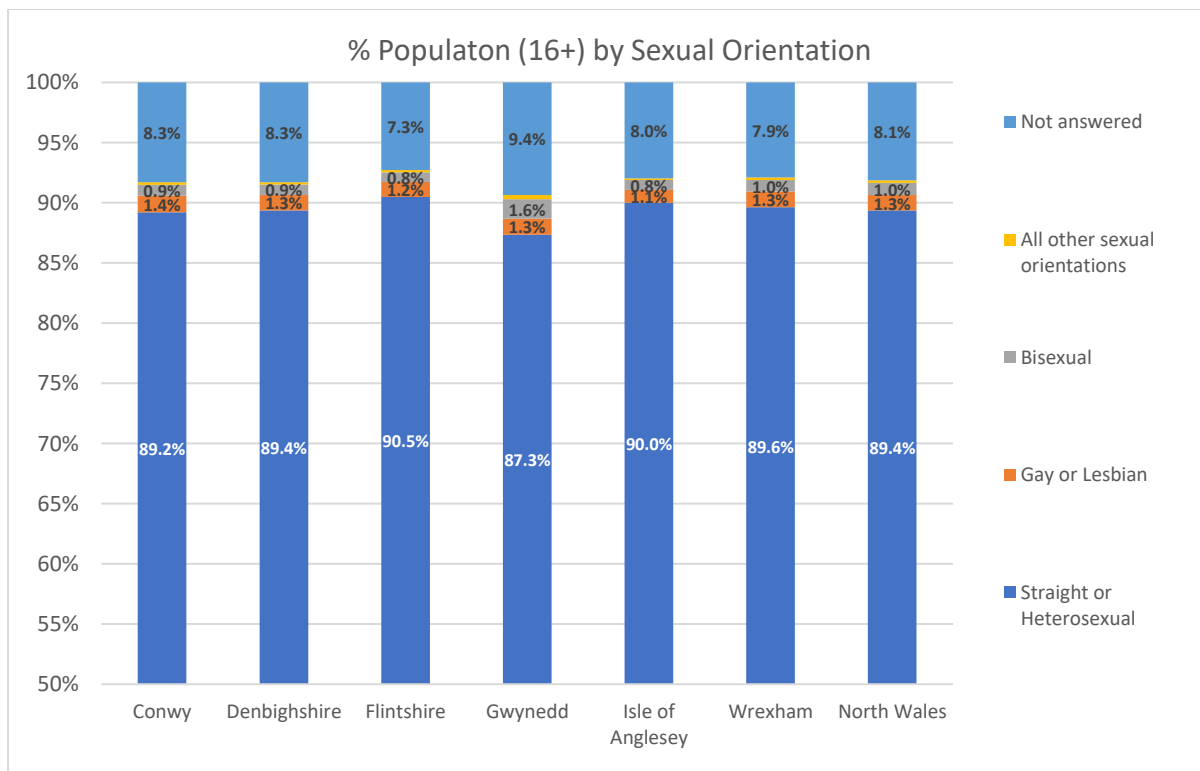


Figure 8 – Percentage population (16+) by sexual orientation for each of the six local authority areas in North Wales (ONS, 2023).

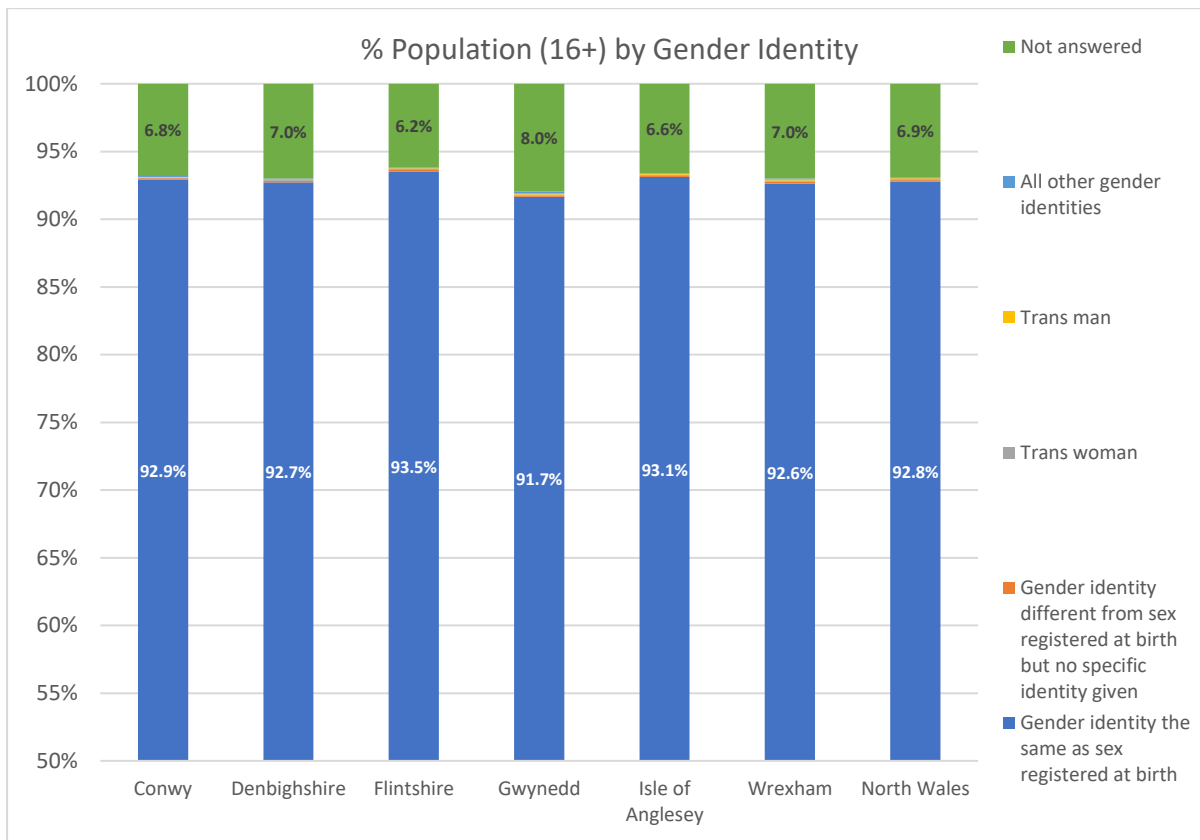


Figure 9 – Percentage population (16+) by gender identity for each of the six local authority areas in North Wales (ONS, 2023).

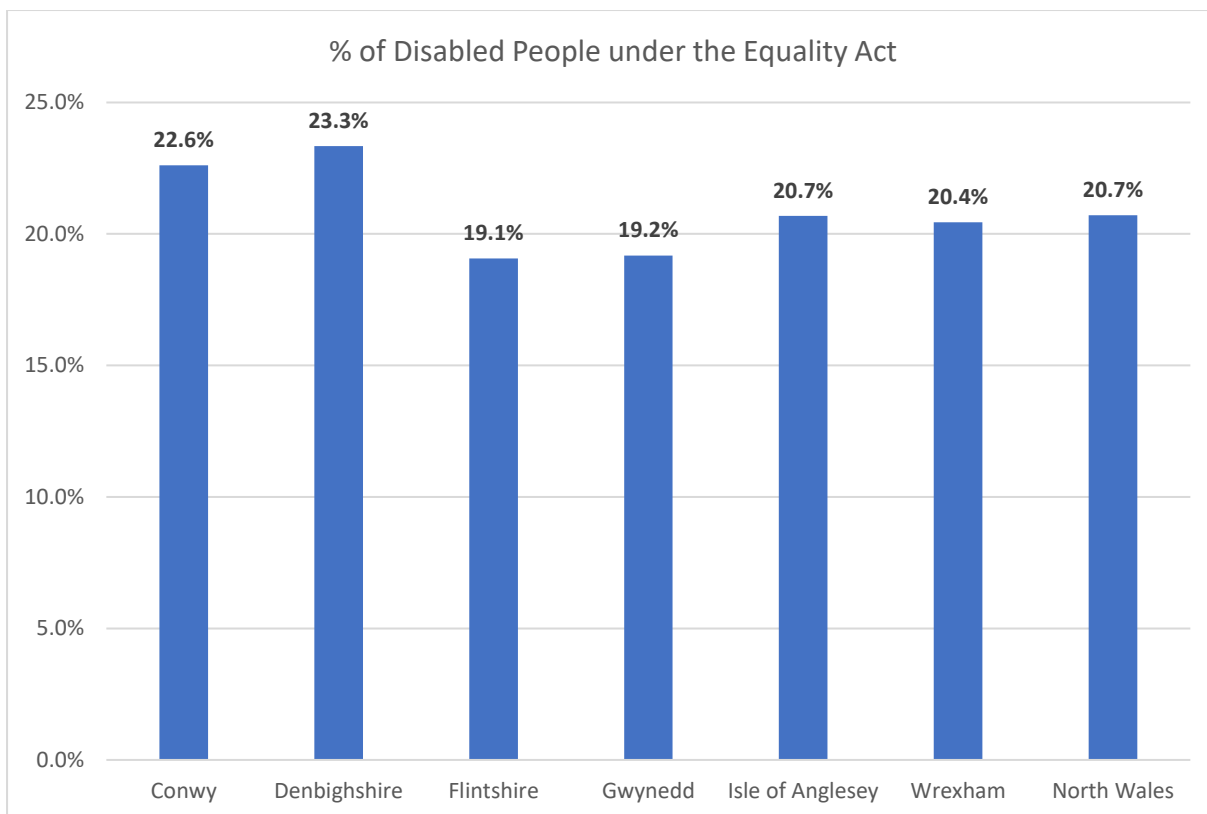


Figure 10 – Percentage of disabled people under the equality act for each of the six local authority areas in North Wales (ONS, 2023).

4. Education

4.1 Education Attainment of Children and Young People

It is important to note that the local authority level data in this section of the report is intended to inform greater understanding of equality issues and their impact on pupil achievement across North Wales, rather than measuring or assessing school / local authority performance. Furthermore, the attainment data included in 4.1.1 and 4.1.2 is from the pre-pandemic period and so will not reflect any changes seen as a consequence of Covid.

4.1.1 Early Years Education

Pupil attainment in early years education is measured through the percentage of children achieving the expected outcome at Foundation Phase. Unfortunately, there have been changes to the ways in which this data is collected since the previous report and as such this data is no longer available at local authority level as of 2018. Therefore, updated data for Wales and not the North Wales local authority areas is shown in the figures below (Figure 11 – 13), including analysis by gender, Free School Meal (FSM) eligibility and ethnic background. It should be noted that all three figures contain pre-pandemic data.

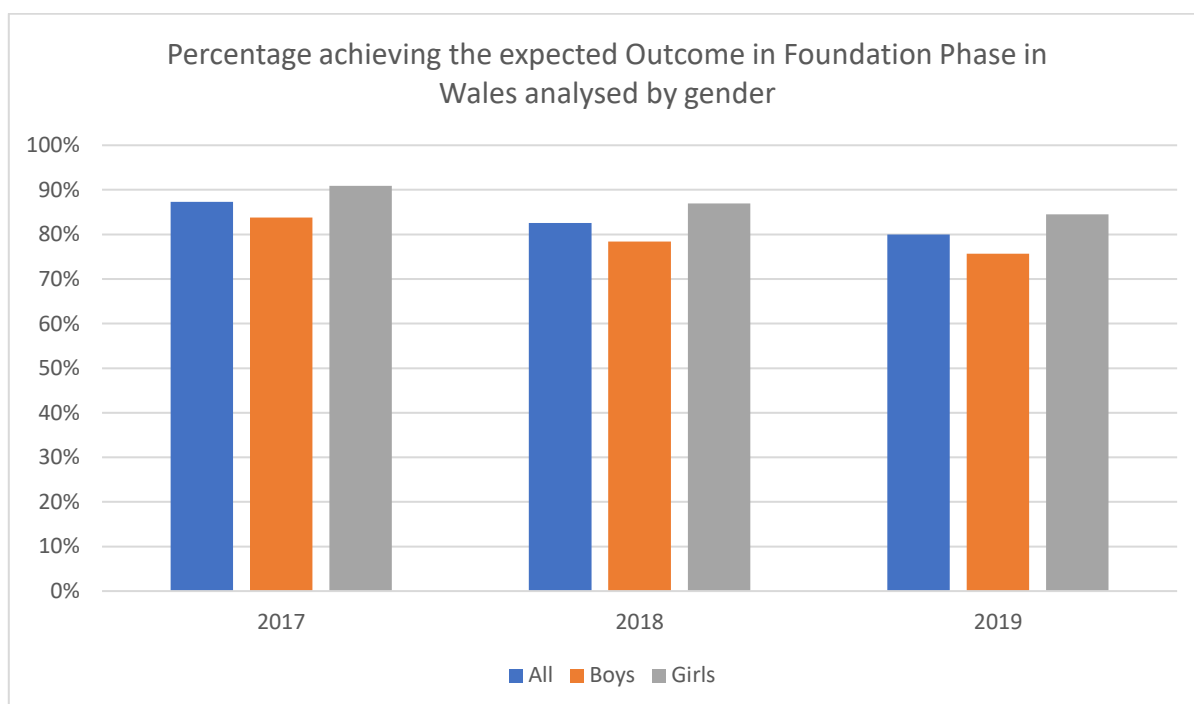


Figure 11 - Percentage achieving the expected outcome in Foundation Phase in Wales in 2017, 2018 and 2019 analysed by gender ([Welsh Government, 2019](#)).

Figure 11 above shows that the percentage achieving the expected outcome in Foundation Phase across Wales decreased steadily between 2017 and 2019, from 87.3% in 2017 to 80.0% in 2019. This decrease was also seen in both boys and girls when the data was split by gender. In all years between 2017 and 2019 the percentage of girls achieving the expected outcome in foundation phase was higher than boys.

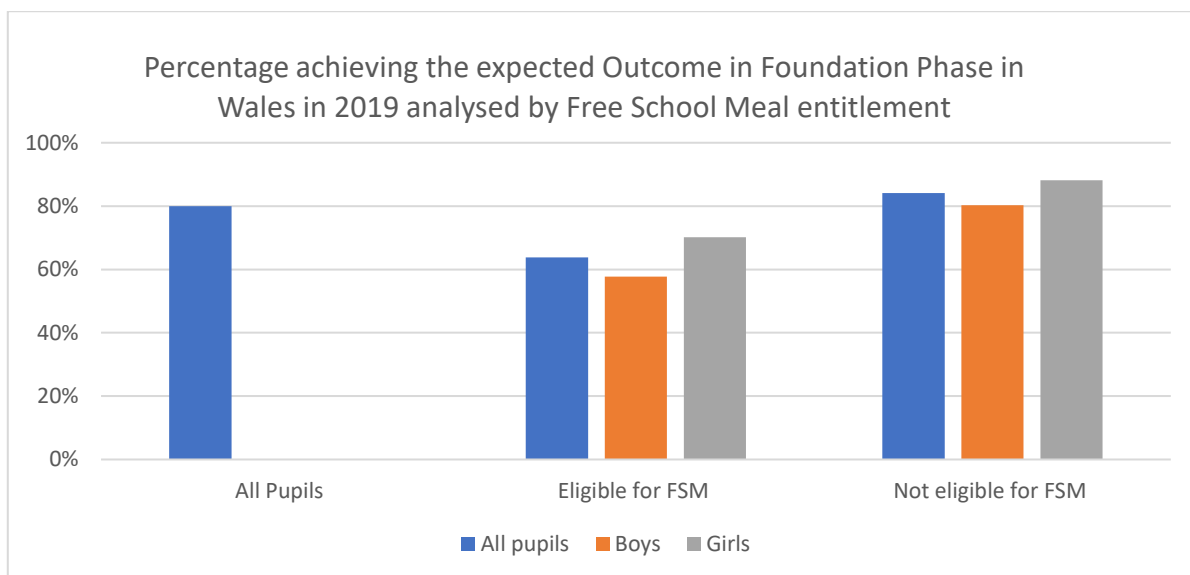


Figure 12 - Percentage achieving the expected outcome in Foundation Phase in Wales in 2019 analysed by Free School Meal (FSM) entitlement ([Welsh Government, 2019](#)).

In 2019 the percentage of pupils achieving the expected outcome in Foundation Phase was lower for pupils who are eligible for Free Schools Meals (FSM) compared with those who are not eligible (63.8% and 84.2% respectively). This was also the case when this data is further analysed by gender.

There is data available analysing this indicator by ethnic background, as included in the figure below (Figure 13).

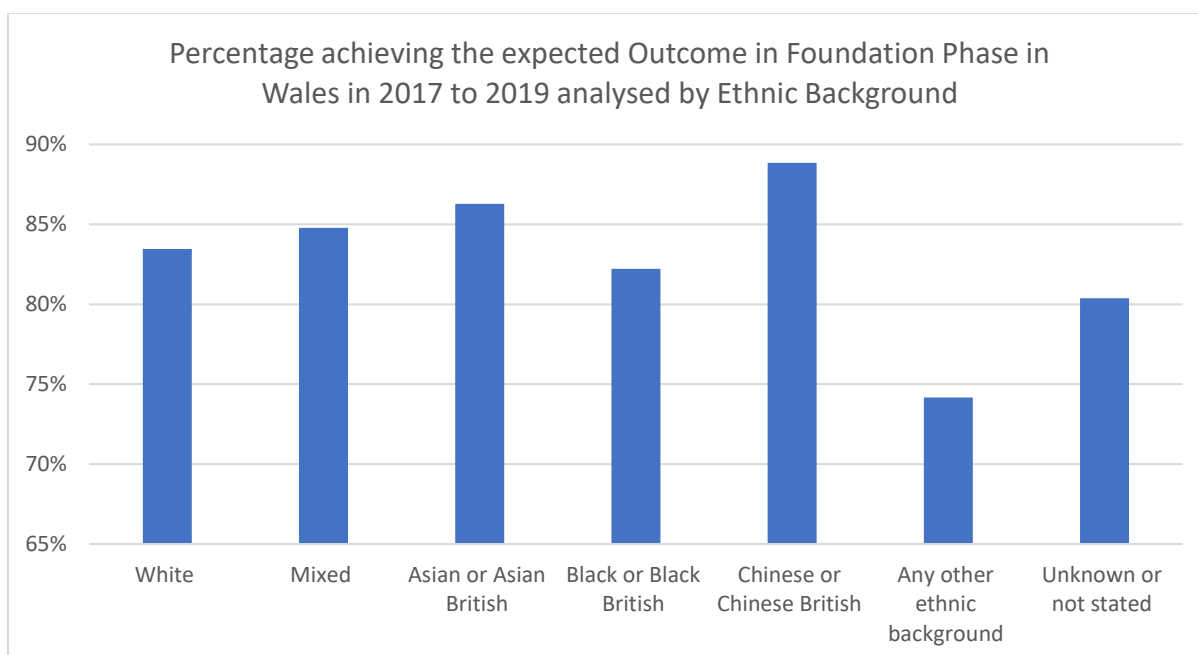


Figure 13 - Percentage achieving the expected outcome in Foundation Phase in Wales in 2017-2019 analysed by ethnic background ([Welsh Government, 2020](#)).

In 2017 to 2019 (3 year aggregations) when analysing data by ethnic background, the percentage of pupils achieving the expected outcome in Foundation Phase in Wales varied from 74.2% (Any other ethnic background) to 88.8% (Chinese or Chinese British).

4.1.2 Attainment at School-Leaving Age

Attainment is measured through the achievement of the ‘Level 2 Inclusive Threshold’, which requires the equivalent of five GCSEs at grade A*-C including English or Welsh first language and mathematics. The latest available data for North Wales and the local authority areas is from 2018/19 and so is pre-pandemic, and is shown in the figures below (Figure 14 and 15).

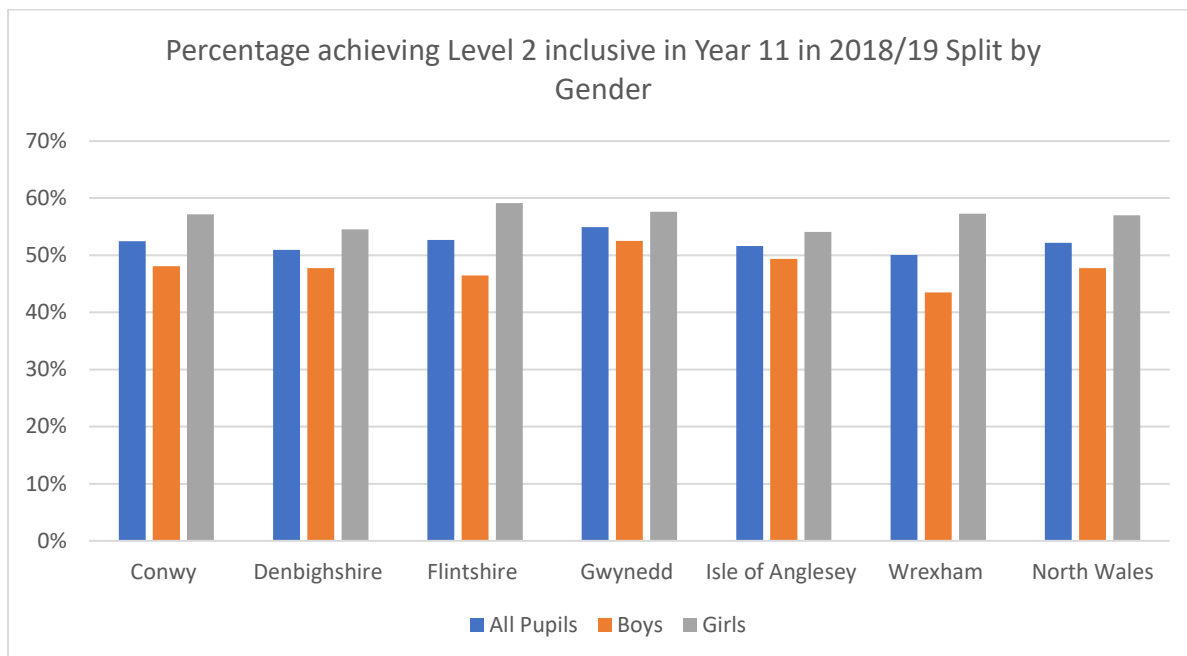


Figure 14 - Percentage achieving Level 2 inclusive in Year 11 in 2018/19 analysed by gender (Welsh Government, 2019).

Data from 2018/19 shows 52.2% of pupils achieving Level 2 inclusive in Year 11, this is more or less the same as the data from 2017/18 included in the previous North Wales Equality Report (52.0%).

When analysing by gender, this data shows that in 2018/19 a higher percentage of girls achieved level 2 inclusive than boys in all local authority areas. This was also the case in the data from 2017/18 included in the previous report.

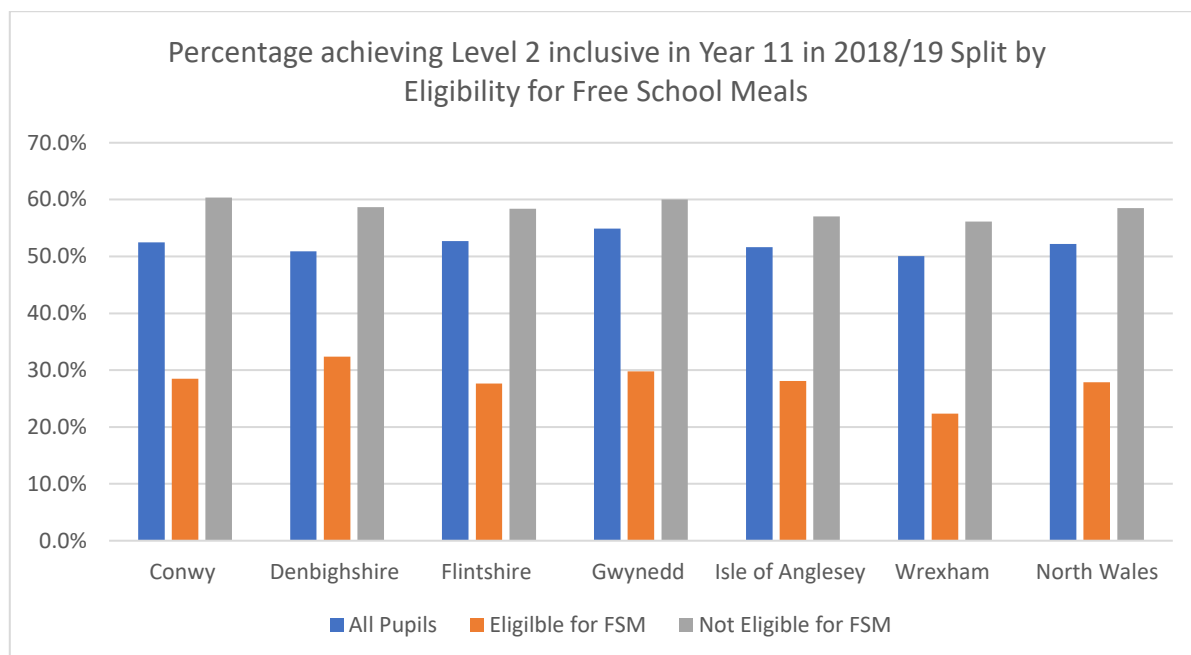


Figure 15 - Percentage achieving Level 2 inclusive in Year 11 in 2018/19 split by eligibility for free school meals (FSM) ([Welsh Government, 2019](#)).

When analysing the results by eligibility for FSM, in 2018/19 a higher percentage of pupils not eligible for FSM achieved level 2 inclusive than those eligible for FSM in North Wales (58.5% compared with 27.9%). This is a similar gap to that noted in the previous report. This was also the case in all local authority areas, as was noted in the data from 2017/18 included in the previous equality report.

4.1.3 Impact of Gender Bias and Stereotyping on Educational Outcomes

As in the previous report, unable to find relevant local data to supplement the discussion in 'Is Wales Fairer (2018)?'.

4.1.4 Impact of Poverty and Social Exclusion on Educational Attainment

As in the previous report, unable to find relevant local data to supplement the discussion in 'Is Wales Fairer (2018)?'.

4.2 School Exclusions, Bullying and NEET

4.2.1 Exclusions from School

Local authority data from 2015/16 was included in the previous North Wales Equality Report, but updated data could not be identified.

4.2.2 Bullying in Schools

Survey based data by the School Health Research Network for 2019/20 suggests that 16% of secondary school (year 7 to 11) pupils in North Wales had bullied another person at school in the past couple of months; the figure across Wales was 15% ([School Health Research Network, 2021](#)). The percentage from 2017/18 included in the previous North Wales equality report was 17% for both North Wales and Wales.

Analysing this result by gender, 19% of male pupils in North Wales had bullied another person at school, compared to 12% of female pupils. 32% of pupils noting ‘neither word describes me’ had bullied another person, however care should be taken when interpreting this percentage due to the small numbers in this group.

The same research found that 35% of secondary school (year 7 to 11) pupils in North Wales reported some experience of being bullied at school in the last couple of months, compared to 33% across Wales as a whole. The percentage from 2017/18 included in the previous North Wales equality report was 37% for North Wales and 36% for Wales.

Analysing this result by gender, 33% of male pupils in North Wales reported being bullied at school, compared to 37% of female pupils. 59% of pupils noting ‘neither word describes me’ reported being bullied, however care should be taken when interpreting this percentage due to the small numbers in this group.

4.2.3 NEET (not in education, employment or training)

The previous North Wales equality report included NEET data on a local authority level, however this is no longer available. The figure below (Figure 16) therefore includes data for North Wales and Wales as a whole. Furthermore, as in the previous report, analysis by protected characteristic is also not available on a North Wales level.

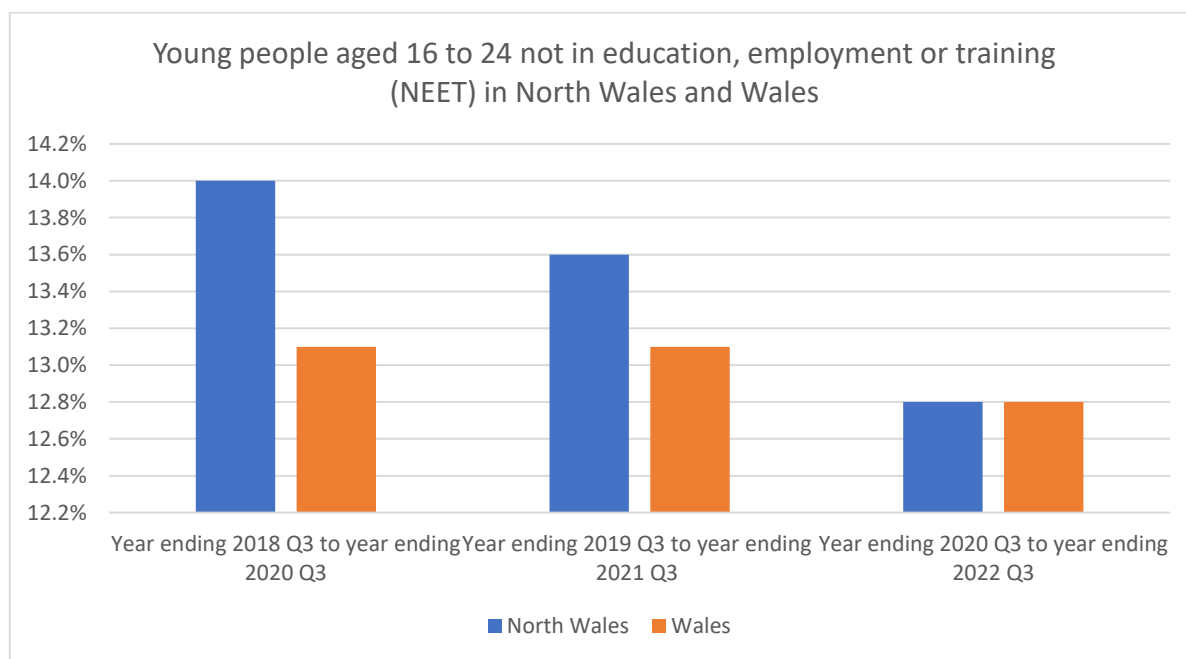


Figure 16 - Young people aged 16 to 24 not in education, employment or training (NEET) in North Wales and Wales ([Welsh Government, 2023](#)).

This data shows that the percentage of people aged 16-24 in North Wales that were NEET in the year ending 2020 Q3 to year ending 2022 Q3 was 12.8%, this was also the percentage for Wales.

4.3 Higher Education and Lifelong Learning

4.3.1 Higher Education, Including Subject Choice, Attainment and Degree-Level Qualifications

The figure below (Figure 17) includes Census 2021 data showing the percentage of the population with degree level qualifications or higher in the North Wales local authority areas.

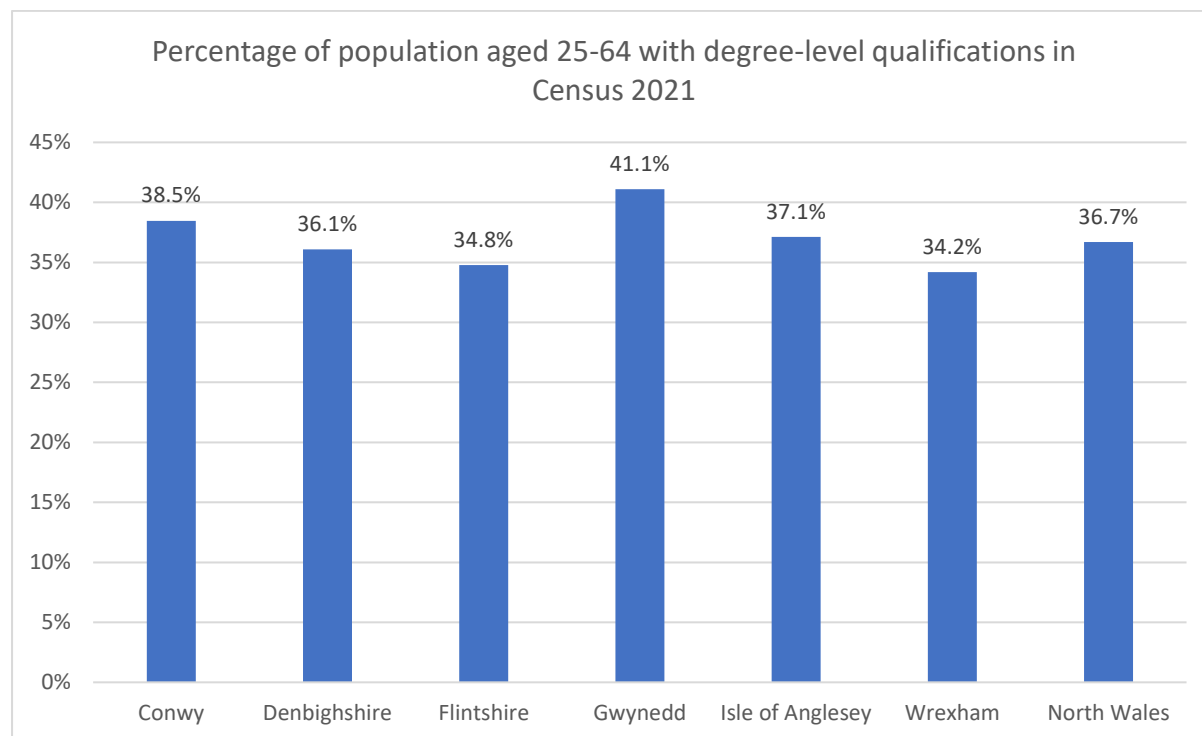


Figure 17 - Percentage of population aged 25-64 with degree-level qualifications or higher in the six North Wales local authority areas - Census 2021 data ([ONS, 2021](#)).

In North Wales, the 2021 Census showed that 36.7% of the population aged 25-64 had degree-level qualifications. This has increased from 29.3% in the previous Census (2011).

The local authority area in North Wales with the highest percentage of population aged 25-64 with degree-level qualification or higher in the 2021 Census was Gwynedd (41.1%) and the lowest were Wrexham (34.2%) and Flintshire (34.8%).

The figures below (Figure 18 – 20) analyse the percentage of population (25-64 years old) with degree-level qualifications in Census 2021 by sex, ethnic group, and religion.

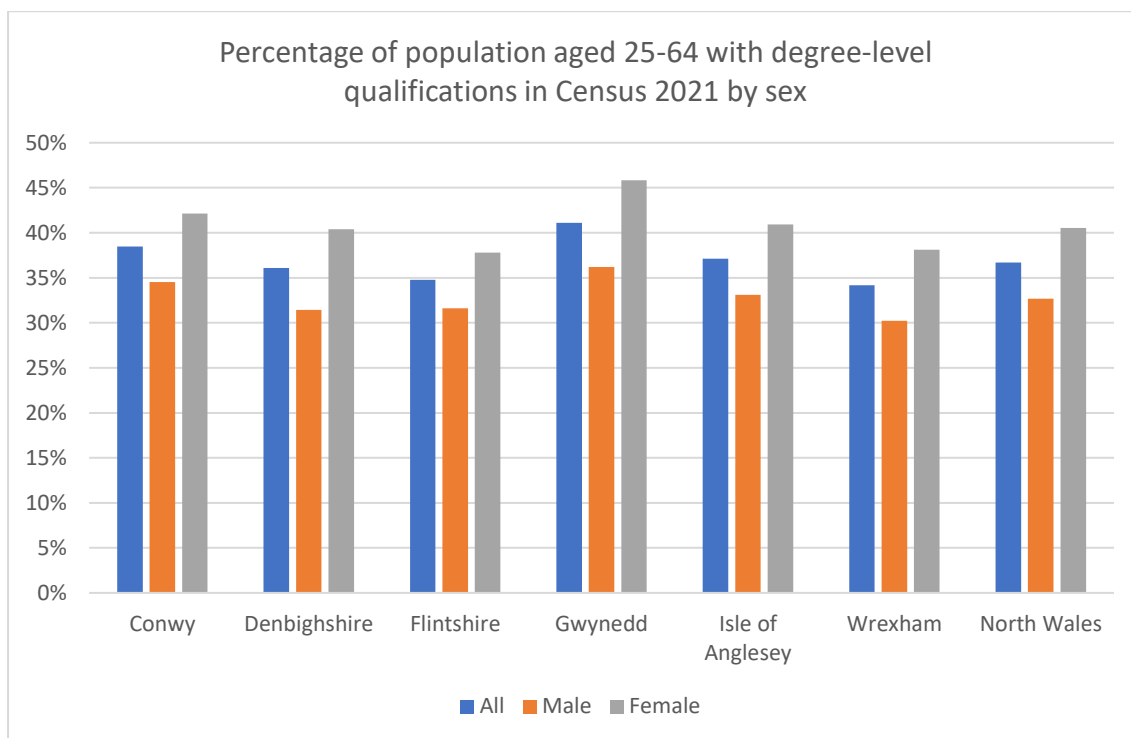


Figure 18 - Percentage of population aged 25-64 with degree-level qualifications or higher in the six North Wales local authority areas analysed by sex - Census 2021 data (ONS, 2021).

When analysing by gender, a higher percentage of females than males have a degree-level qualification in North Wales (40.5% compared with 32.7%). Analysis at a local authority area level shows a higher proportion of females have degree-level qualifications than males in each of the local authority areas. This was also seen in the 2011 Census data.

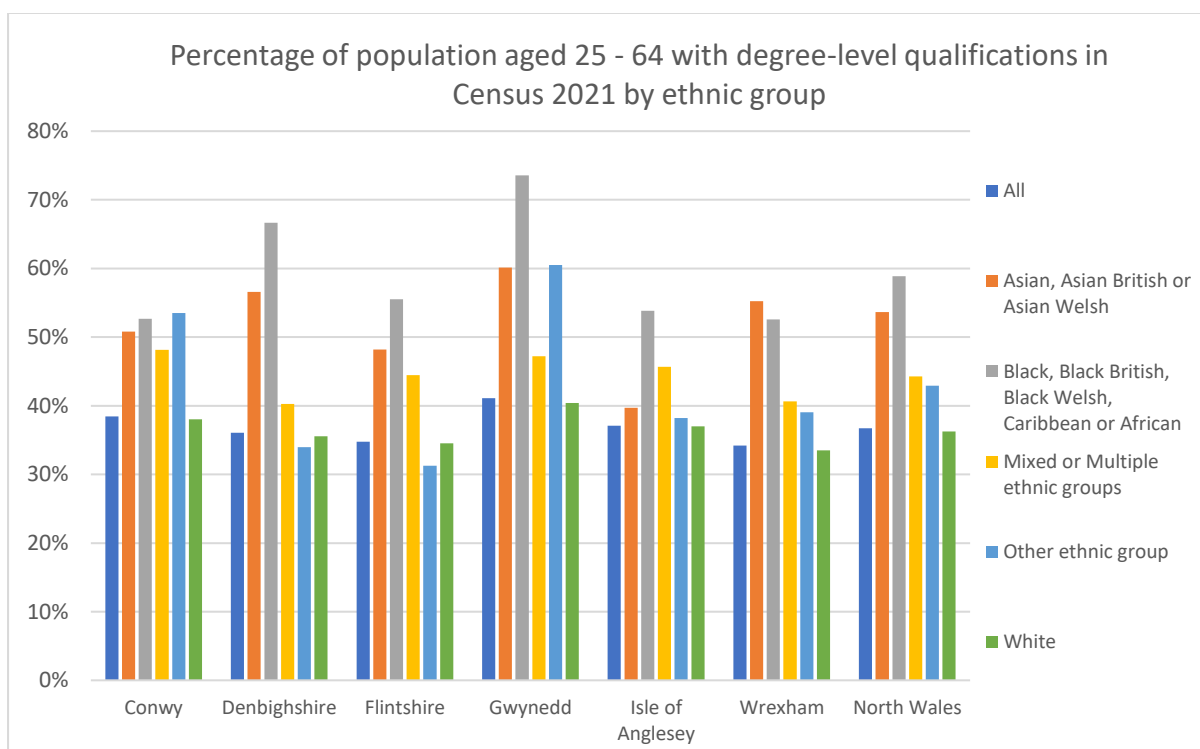


Figure 19 - Percentage of population aged 25 -64 with degree-level qualifications or higher in the six North Wales local authority areas analysed by ethnic group - Census 2021 data (ONS, 2021).

When analysing the 2021 Census by ethnic group, the highest proportion of people in North Wales with degree-level qualifications are Black, Black British, Black Welsh, Caribbean or African (52.9%) and the lowest proportion are White (30.5%). Some variation is seen in the different local authority areas.

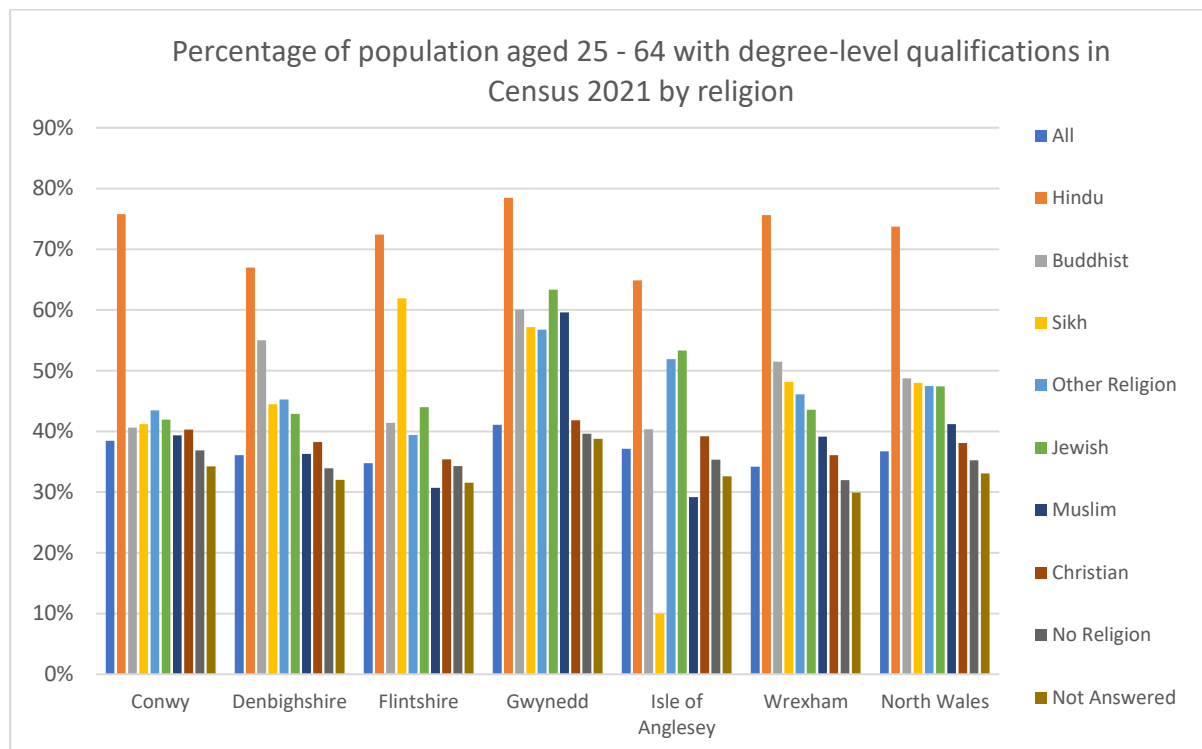


Figure 20 - Percentage of population aged 25 -64 with degree-level qualifications or higher in the six North Wales local authority areas analysed by religion - Census 2021 data (ONS, 2021).

When analysing the 2021 Census by religion, in North Wales, the highest proportion of people with degree-level qualifications are Hindu (73.7%) and the lowest proportion was amongst people who did not answer the religion question in the Census (33.1%). Some variation is seen in the different local authority areas.

4.3.2 Lifelong Learning

The figure below notes the percentage of the population ages 16-64 who received job-related training (Figure 21).

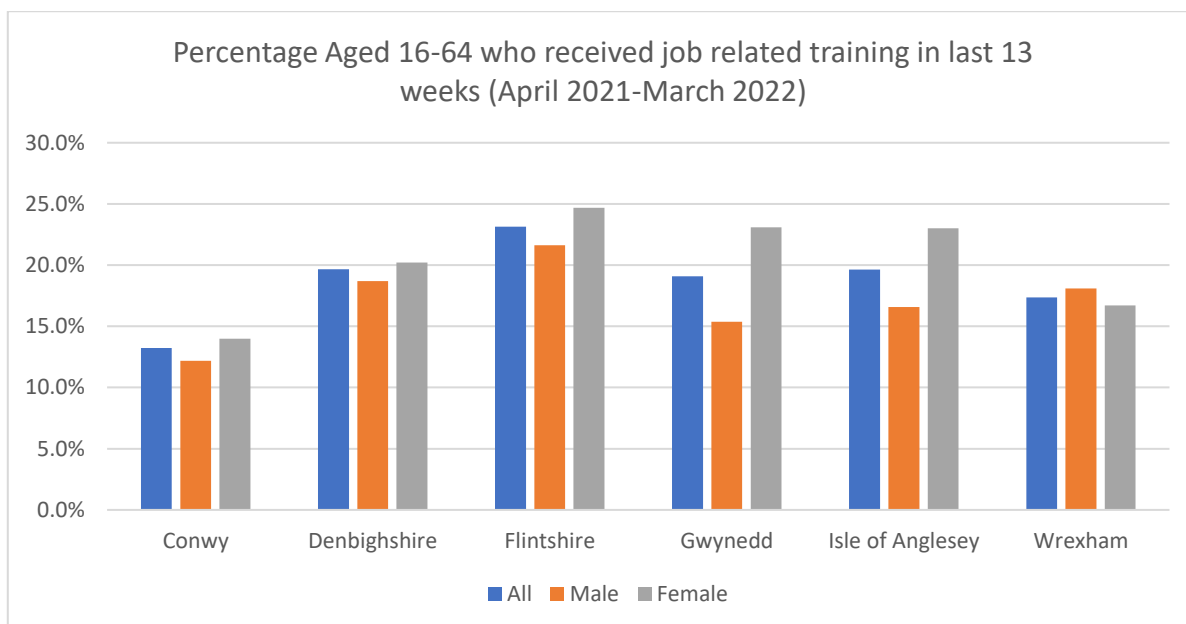


Figure 21 - Percentage aged 16-64 who received job related training in last 13 weeks analysed by gender (April 2021-March 2022) (ONS, 2022).

This data shows that a higher proportion of females received job-related training in five of the North Wales local authority areas, with the proportion of males being higher in Wrexham. In the previous North Wales Equality report, data from 2018-19 showed a higher proportion of females in all six local authority areas.

5. Work

5.1 Employment

5.1.1 Employment

The figure below (Figure 22) shows the total employment rate for all adults aged 16-64 in the North Wales local authority areas as well as analysis by gender.

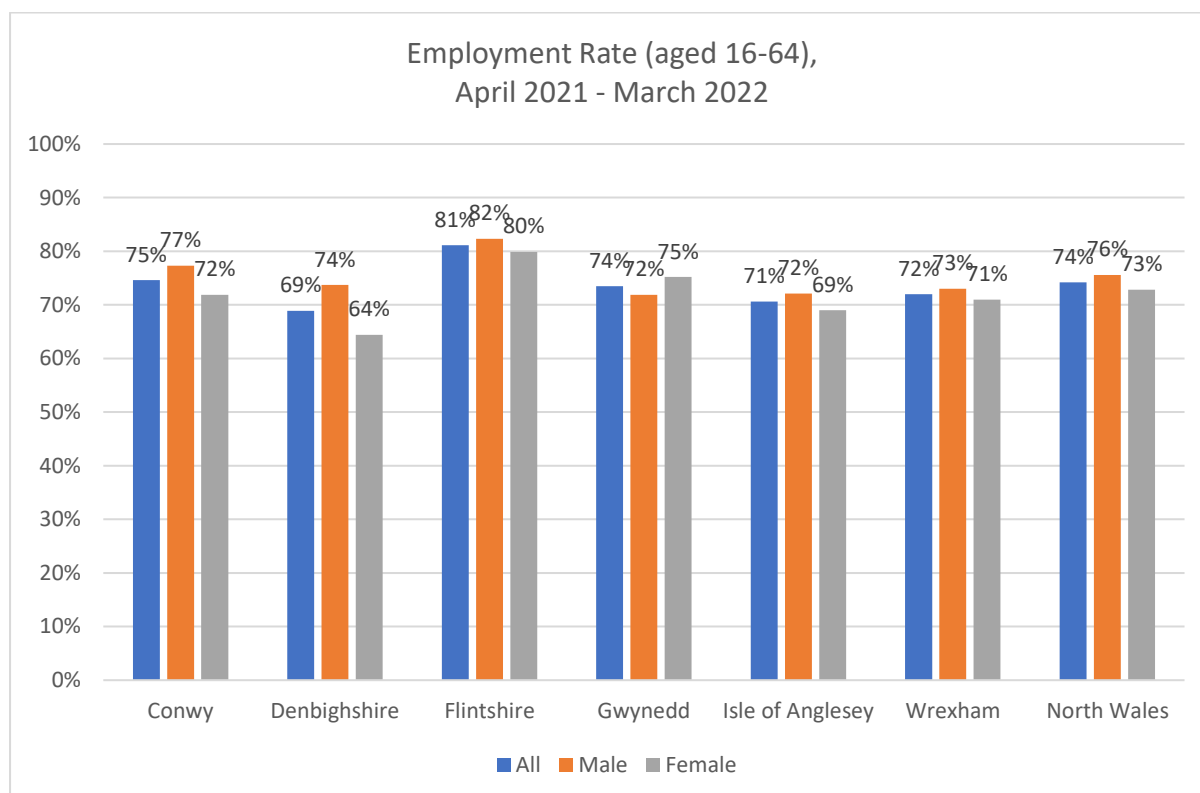


Figure 22 – Total employment rate (all adults aged 16-64) and rate by gender in April 2021 – March 2022 in North Wales and North Wales local authority areas (ONS, 2022).

The total employment rate for all adults aged 16-64 in North Wales in 2021/22 was 74%, and in the local authority areas this varied from 69% in Denbighshire to 81% in Flintshire. Data from 2018/19 showed that the total employment rate for this age group in North Wales was 75%, however there was less variation between the local areas from 73% in Gwynedd to 77% in Flintshire, Isle of Anglesey, and Wrexham.

When analysing by gender, the employment rate in 2021/22 for males ages 16-64 was higher than females (76% compared with 73%). This was also the case in 2018/19 although the gap was larger (78% for males 73% for females). In 2021/22 employment rate for males was higher than females in all local areas except for Gwynedd where the rate for females was higher (75% female, 72% male). The largest gap was in Denbighshire where the employment rate for males was 74% and females was 64%. In 2018/19 the rate for males was higher than females in all local authority areas, and the largest gap was in Conwy (80% rate for males 68% for females).

Analysis by ethnic group is shown in the figure below (Figure 23).

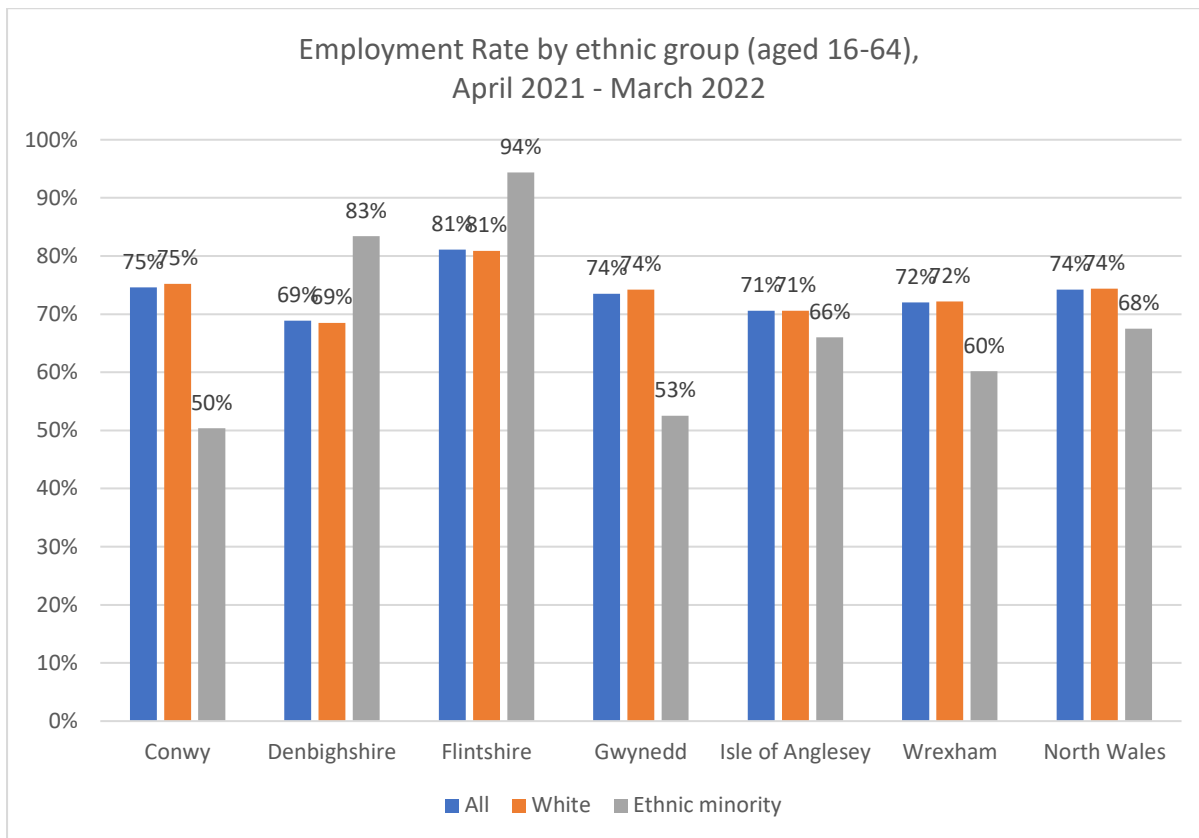


Figure 23 – Employment rate (adults aged 16-64) by ethnic group in April 2021 – March 2022 in North Wales and North Wales local authority areas (ONS, 2022).

In North Wales, the employment rate in 2021/22 was lower for ethnic minority people than white people (68% compared with 74%). This was not the case in all North Wales local authority areas. In Denbighshire and Flintshire employment rate is higher for ethnic minority people than white people, whereas the opposite was seen in Conwy, Gwynedd, the Isle of Anglesey and Wrexham. Further analysis by ethnic group (within the ethnic minority population) was not possible due to small sample sizes.

Analysis by age group is shown in the figure below (Figure 24) which shows the rate of people unemployed in each age group compared to the size of the relevant age group.

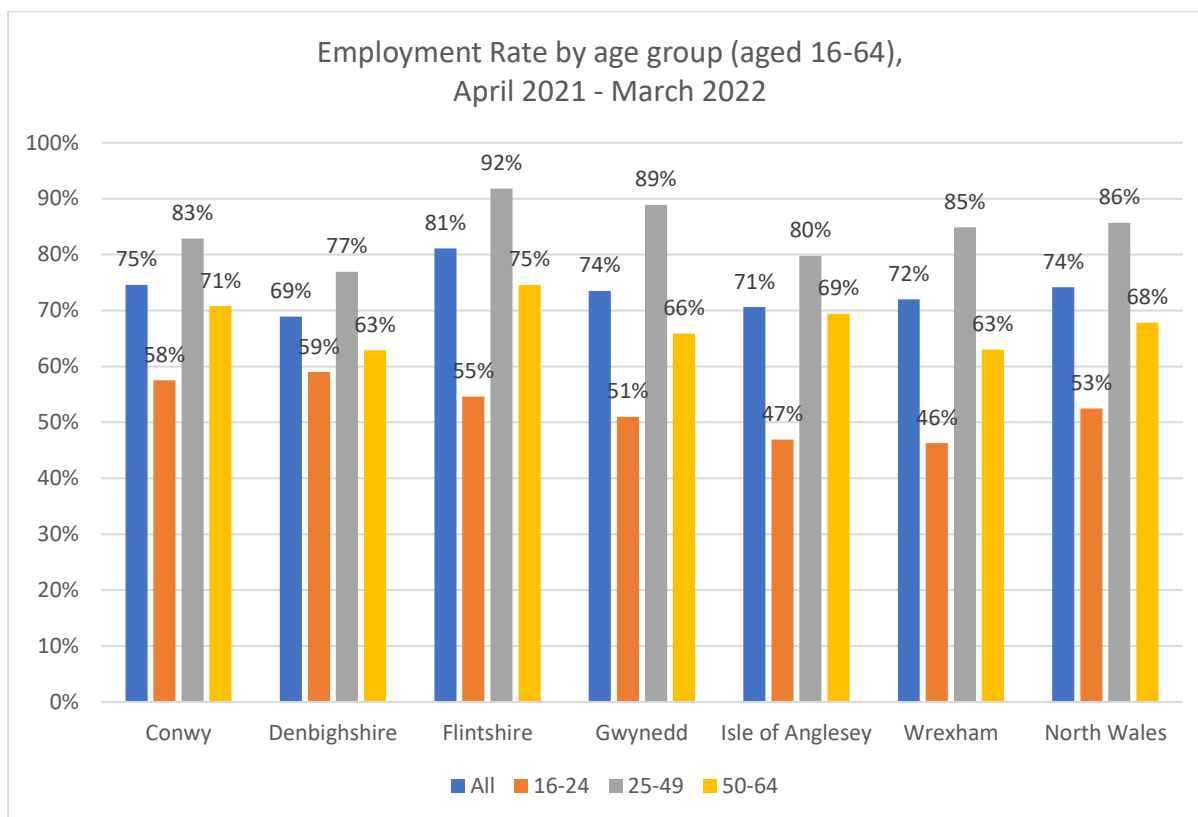


Figure 24 – Employment rate (adults aged 16-64) by age group in April 2021 – March 2022 in North Wales and North Wales local authority areas (ONS, 2022).

In North Wales, the employment rate in 2021/22 was highest in the 25-49 age group (86%), followed by age 50-64 (68%) and the lowest in the 16-24 age group (53%). A similar distribution is seen in all local authority areas. This was also the case in the data from 2018/19 included in the previous North Wales equality report.

Analysis when split into disabled and non-disabled populations is shown in the figure below (Figure 25).

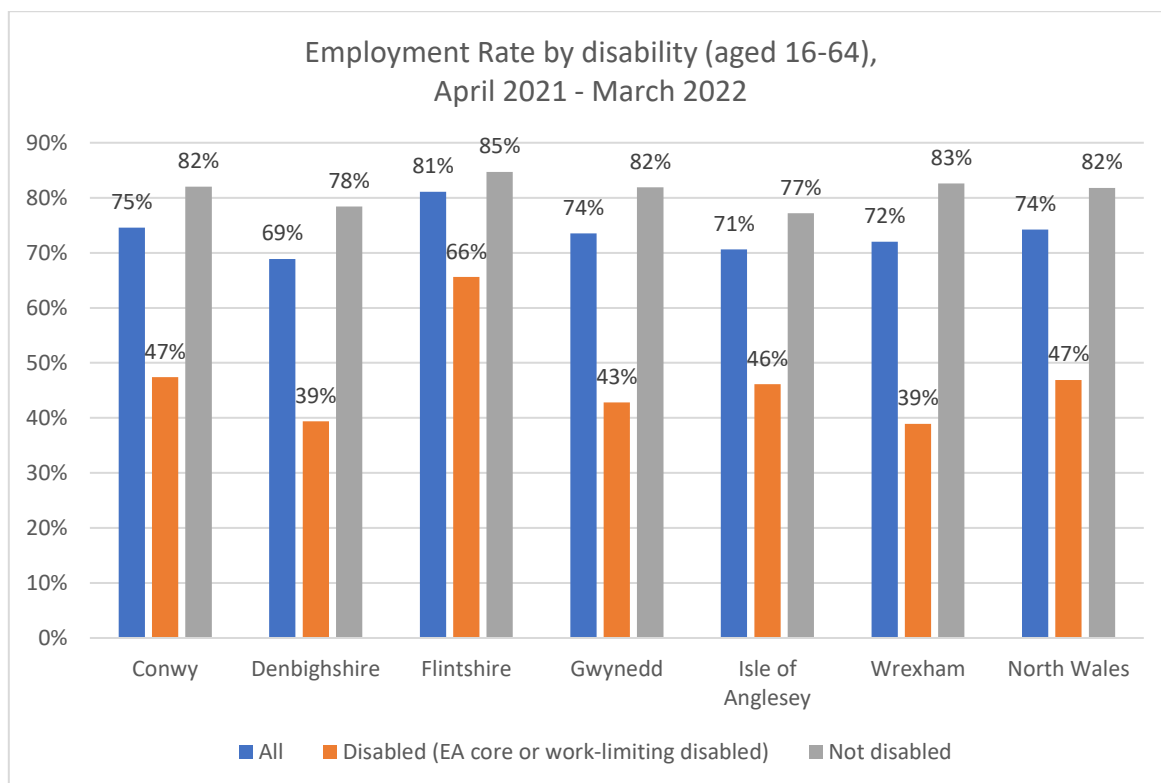


Figure 25 – Employment rate (adults aged 16-64) in people with a disability and people without a disability in April 2021 – March 2022 in North Wales and North Wales local authority areas (ONS, 2022).

In North Wales, the employment rate in 2021/22 was far higher for non-disabled people (82%) than disabled people (47%). A similar distribution is seen in all local authority areas, and the smallest gap was seen in Flintshire (85% and 66%) and largest in Wrexham (83% and 39%).

5.1.2 Unemployment

Similarly to the above, unemployment data is available from the ONS Annual Population Survey by gender, age group, and disability but not by ethnic group or religion.

The figure below (Figure 26) shows the total unemployment rate for all adults aged 16-64 in the North Wales local authority areas as well as analysis by gender.

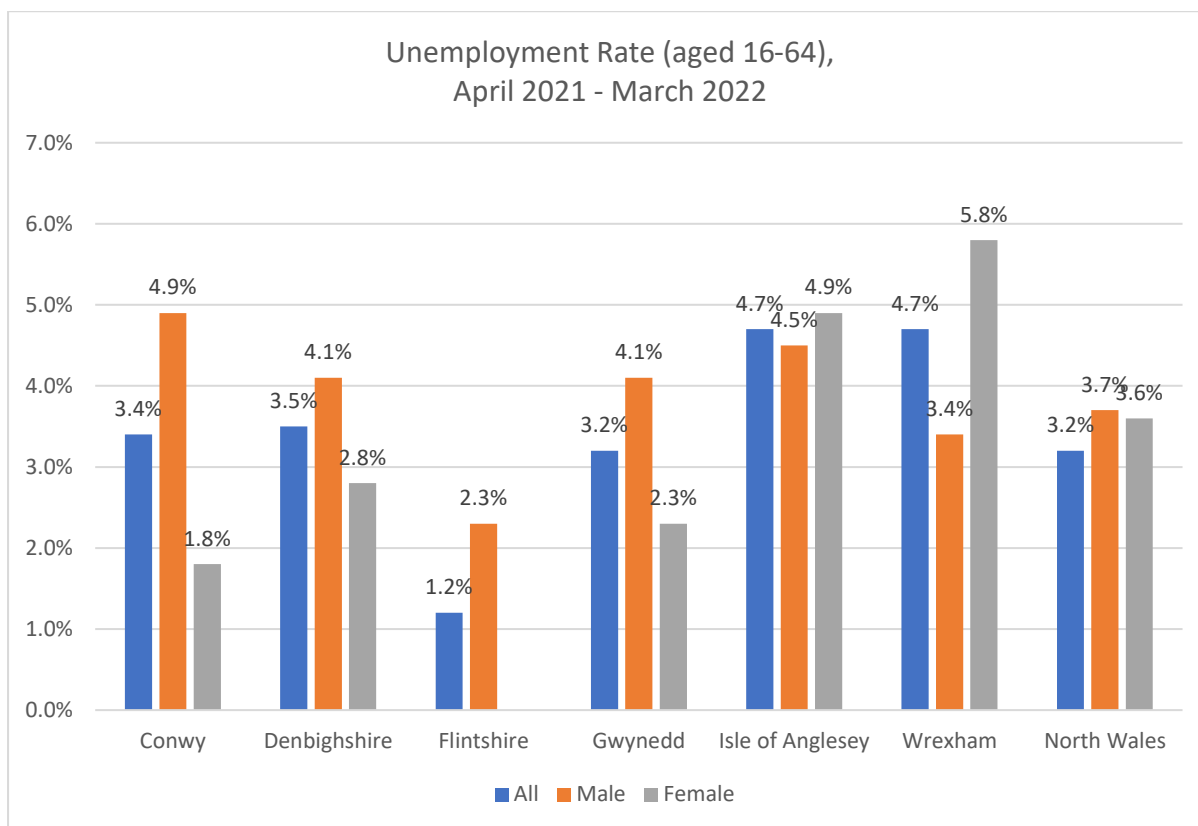


Figure 26 – Total unemployment rate (all adults aged 16-64) and rate by gender in April 2021 – March 2022 in North Wales and North Wales local authority areas ([ONS, 2022](#)). There are some gaps in the available data.

In North Wales the total unemployment rate in those aged 16-64 was 3.2%. This varied between the local authority areas with the lowest in Flintshire (1.2%) and highest in the Isle of Anglesey and Wrexham (both 4.7%). This data is not directly comparable with the data included in the previous equality report.

When analysing by gender, unemployment rate was slightly higher amongst males than females in North Wales (3.7% compared with 3.6%). In the local areas, unemployment rate was higher in males than females in Conwy, Denbighshire and Gwynedd, and higher in females compared to males in the Isle of Anglesey and Wrexham. There was no data available for females in Flintshire.

Analysis by age group is shown in the figure below (Figure 27).

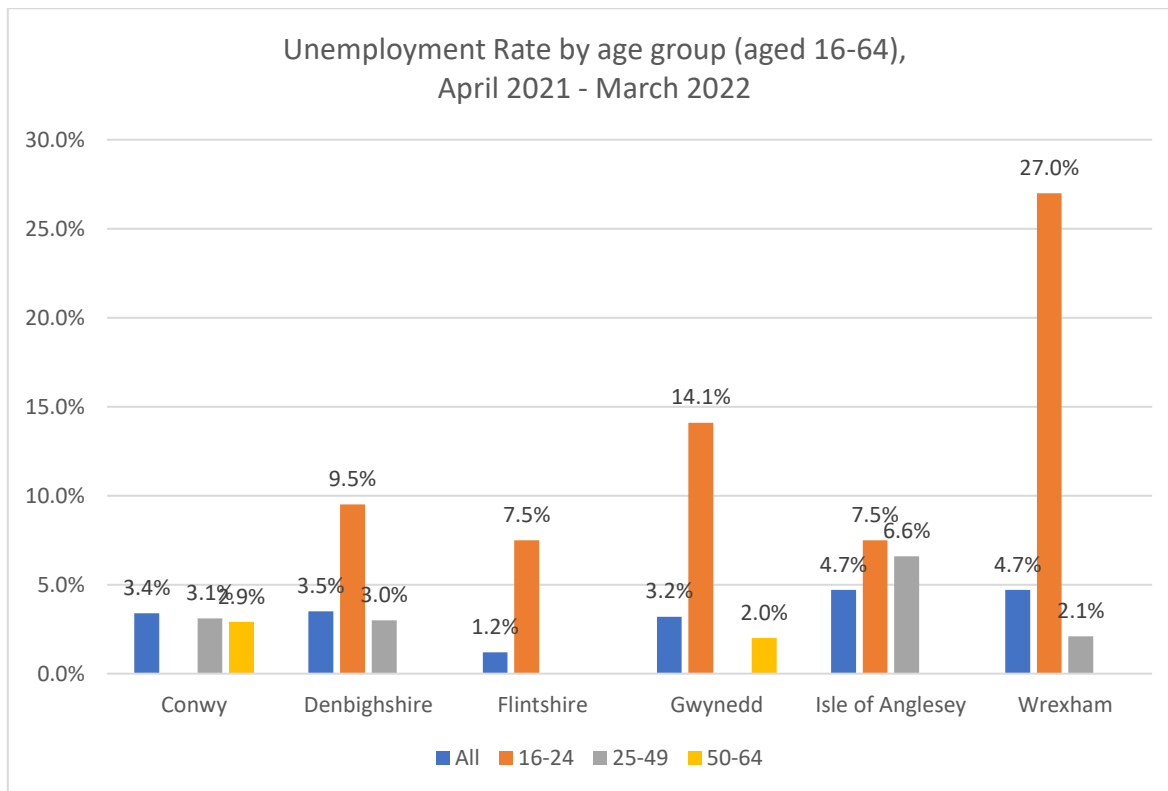


Figure 27 – Total unemployment rate (all adults aged 16-64) by age group in April 2021 – March 2022 in North Wales and North Wales local authority areas (ONS, 2022). There are some gaps in the data available.

There are gaps in the available data for unemployment rate by age group, and there are no local authority areas where the full data is available by age group. It is therefore difficult to draw firm conclusions from this data for 2021/22, however it appears that for the five local areas where data is available for the 16-24 age group that this is the group with the highest unemployment rate.

Unemployment rates for disabled people and non-disabled people is shown in the figure below (Figure 28).

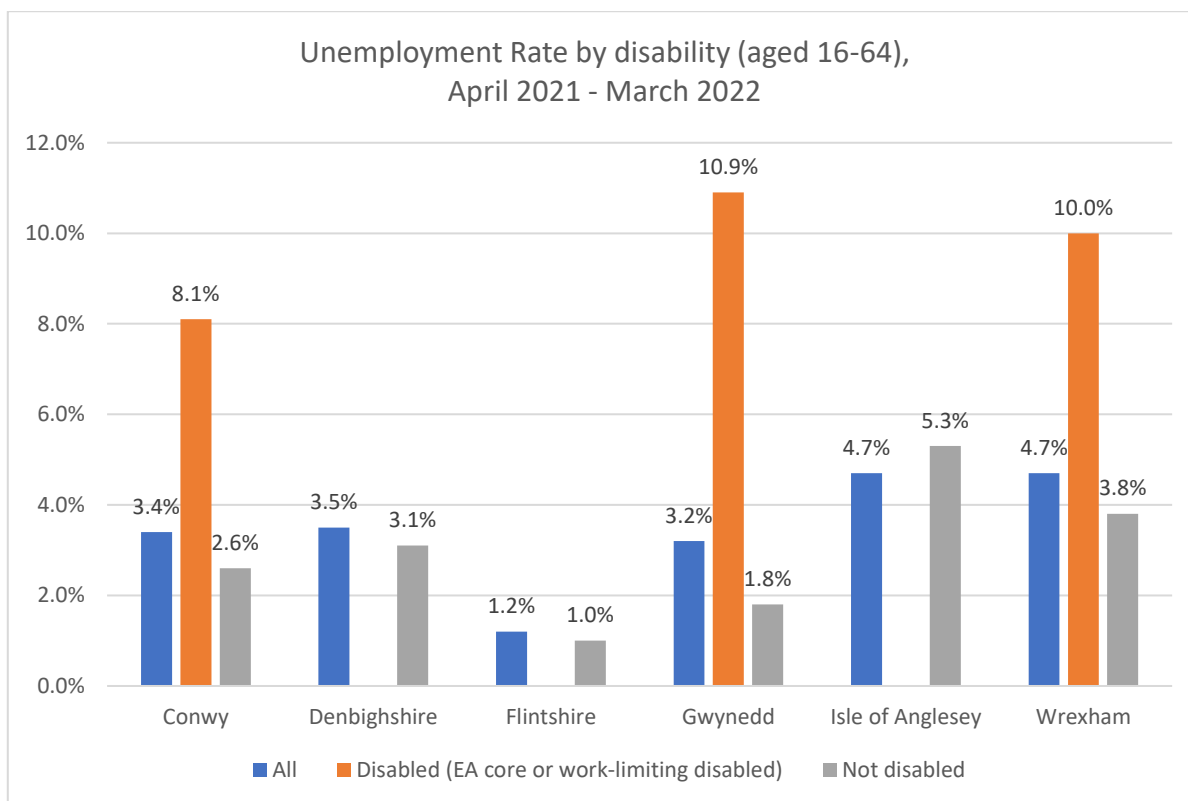


Figure 28 – Unemployment rate (adults aged 16-64) by disability in April 2021 – March 2022 in North Wales local authority areas (ONS, 2022). There are some gaps in the available data.

Once again, there are gaps in the available unemployment rate data. Three local authority areas have full data sets (Conwy, Gwynedd and Wrexham) and in these local areas unemployment rates are substantially higher for disabled people.

Unemployment data is not available at a local level by ethnic group, however in Wales there is some very limited data available. In the population aged 16 and over (not 16-64 as noted above) the unemployment rate was 9.4% for ethnic minority people in Wales (ONS, 2022). Unfortunately, further analysis by ethnic group (within the ethnic minority population) was not made available.

5.1.3 Insecure Employment

There was no relevant local data available in the previous report, and that is also the case here. However analysis by the TUC notes that insecure work ‘was particularly prevalent in Wales’ with 13.1% in insecure work as noted in their analysis of the Labour Force Survey (2019) and Family Resources Survey (2018/19) (TUC, 2020).

5.1.4 Unfair Treatment, Bullying and Harassment in the Workplace

As in the previous report, unable to find relevant local data to supplement the discussion in ‘Is Wales Fairer (2018)?’.

5.2 Earnings

5.2.1 Pay Gaps in Median Hourly Earnings

The gender pay gap for the six local authority areas is shown in the table below (Table 1).

Table 1 – The gender pay gap (% female lower than male) for the six North Wales local authority areas in 2022 ([ONS, 2022](#))

Authority area	Gender pay gap (% female lower than male) – based on median hourly earnings excluding overtime
Conwy	10.8%
Denbighshire	12.1%
Flintshire	13.8%
Gwynedd	8.6%
Isle of Anglesey	5.5%
Wrexham	12.7%

Men earn more than women in all six North Wales local authority areas. In the data from 2018 contained in the previous report men earned more than women in five of the six local authority areas.

The largest gender pay gap is in Flintshire (13.8%) and the smallest is in the Isle of Anglesey (5.5%). Since the previous report the pay gap has increased in Flintshire (5.2% to 13.8%), and decreased in the Isle of Anglesey (17.3% to 5.5%), Gwynedd (10.7% to 8.6%), Denbighshire (16.7% to 12.1%) and Wrexham (16.4% to 12.7%). In Conwy women earned more than men in the previous report however this has changed in the latest data and the latest data shows that men earned more than women with a gap of 10.8%.

It is important to note that:

- This analysis is based on employee residence rather than workplace.
- The data refers to the working population of the area in general, rather than the workforce of the relevant local authorities.

The median hourly pay for all employees, and split by gender, for 2022 is shown in the figure below (Figure 29).



Figure 29 – Median hourly pay excluding overtime, all employees and split by gender, 2022 in the six North Wales local authority areas and Wales on a residence basis (ONS, 2022).

Pay for men and women has increased to some degree in all North Wales local authority areas since the previous report, although men earn more than women in all six local areas.

Unfortunately, there is no data available showing the pay gap by any other protected characteristics in North Wales.

Data from the [ONS assessing disability pay gaps in the UK](#) notes that the disability pay gap for Wales in 2021 was 11.6%, with disabled employees earning less than non-disabled employees. This was the smallest percentage gap of the UK countries. Note that this data was assessed by residence not place of work.

5.2.2 Low Pay

As in the previous report, unable to find relevant local data to supplement the discussion in ‘Is Wales Fairer (2018)?’.

5.2.3 Gender Differences in Earnings by Occupation, Sector and Industry

The analysis in 5.2.1 can also be carried out on full-time jobs and part-time jobs separately.

The tables below (Table 2 and 3) show median hourly earnings by gender and the gender pay gap for full-time workers and part-time workers.

Table 2 – Median hourly earnings excluding overtime for full-time workers and the gender pay gap for the six North Wales local authority areas and Wales (ONS, 2022).

Authority area	Female	Male	Gender pay gap (% female lower than male)
	£	£	
Conwy	£14.66	£16.48	11.0%
Denbighshire	£13.34	£14.41	7.4%
Flintshire	£14.48	£15.48	6.5%
Gwynedd	£13.37	£13.33	-0.3%
Isle of Anglesey	£16.41	£13.92	-17.9%
Wrexham	£15.10	£15.61	3.3%
<i>Wales</i>	<i>£14.70</i>	<i>£15.76</i>	<i>6.7%</i>

For full time workers in 2022, men were paid more than women in four of the six North Wales local authority areas (Conwy, Denbighshire, Flintshire and Wrexham) with the largest gap in Conwy (11.0%) and smallest in Wrexham (3.3%). Women are paid more than men in two local areas, with a gap of 0.3% in Gwynedd and 17.9% in the Isle of Anglesey.

Table 3 – Median hourly earnings excluding overtime for part-time workers and the gender pay gap for the six North Wales local authority areas and Wales (ONS, 2022).

Authority area	Female	Male	Gender pay gap (% female lower than male)
	£	£	
Conwy	£10.97	£9.81	-11.8%
Denbighshire	£10.97	£10.23	-7.2%
Flintshire	£10.68	not available	male component not available
Gwynedd	£11.19	not available	male component not available
Isle of Anglesey	£10.30	£9.94	-3.6%
Wrexham	£10.90	£10.25	-6.3%
<i>Wales</i>	<i>£11.19</i>	<i>£10.75</i>	<i>-4.1%</i>

For part time workers, in 2022 women were paid more than men in all four of the North Wales local authority areas where data was available (Conwy, Denbighshire, Isle of Anglesey and Wrexham). There was no data available for males in Gwynedd and Flintshire, and so the gender pay gap could not be calculated.

5.3 Occupational Segregation

5.3.1 Vertical and Horizontal Segregation

Analysis for the proportion of employees who are in jobs likely to be high paid (managerial and professional posts) and low paid (caring, leisure and other service occupations, sales and customer service occupations, elementary occupations) by gender is shown in the figures below (Figure 30 and 31).

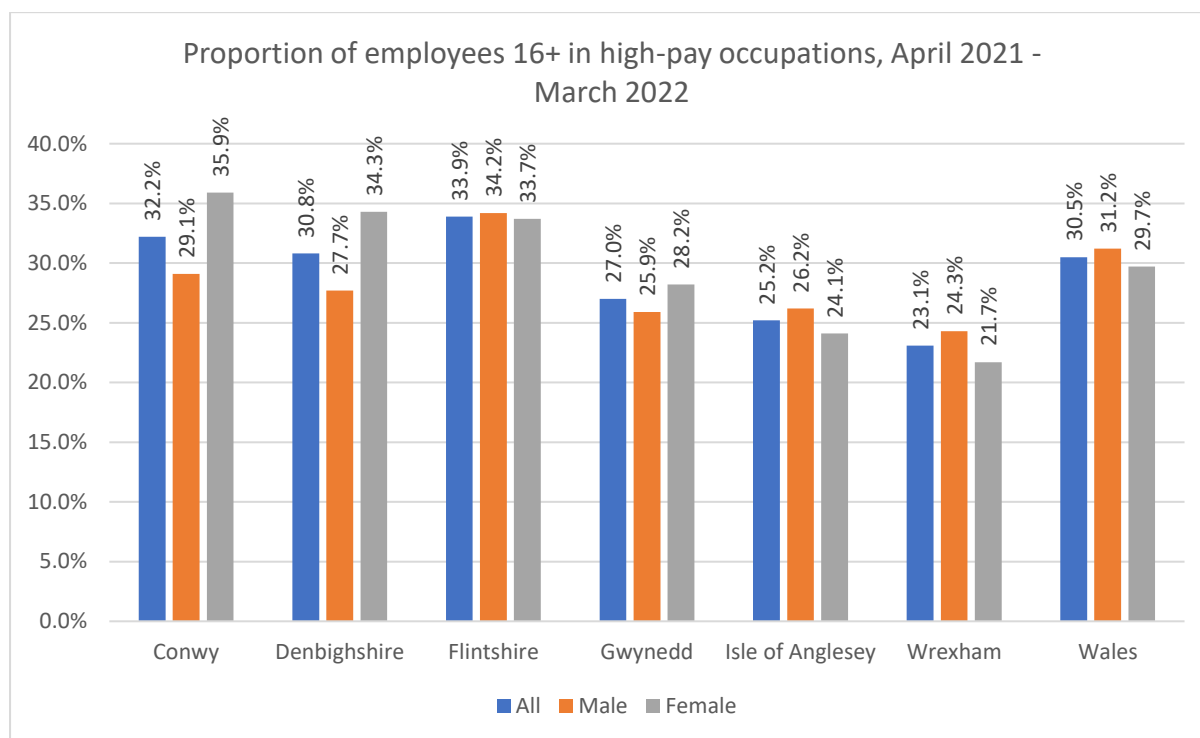


Figure 30 - Proportion of employees 16+ in high-pay occupations, April 2021 - March 2022, all and by gender in the North Wales local authority areas and Wales (ONS, 2022).

The proportion of men in high-pay occupations is somewhat higher than women in three of the North Wales local authority areas (Flintshire, Isle of Anglesey and Wrexham), whereas the proportion of women is higher than men in three local areas (Conwy, Denbighshire and Gwynedd). This has changed since the previous North Wales equality report where the proportion of women was somewhat higher than men in five of the local areas in 2018-19, the exception being Flintshire.

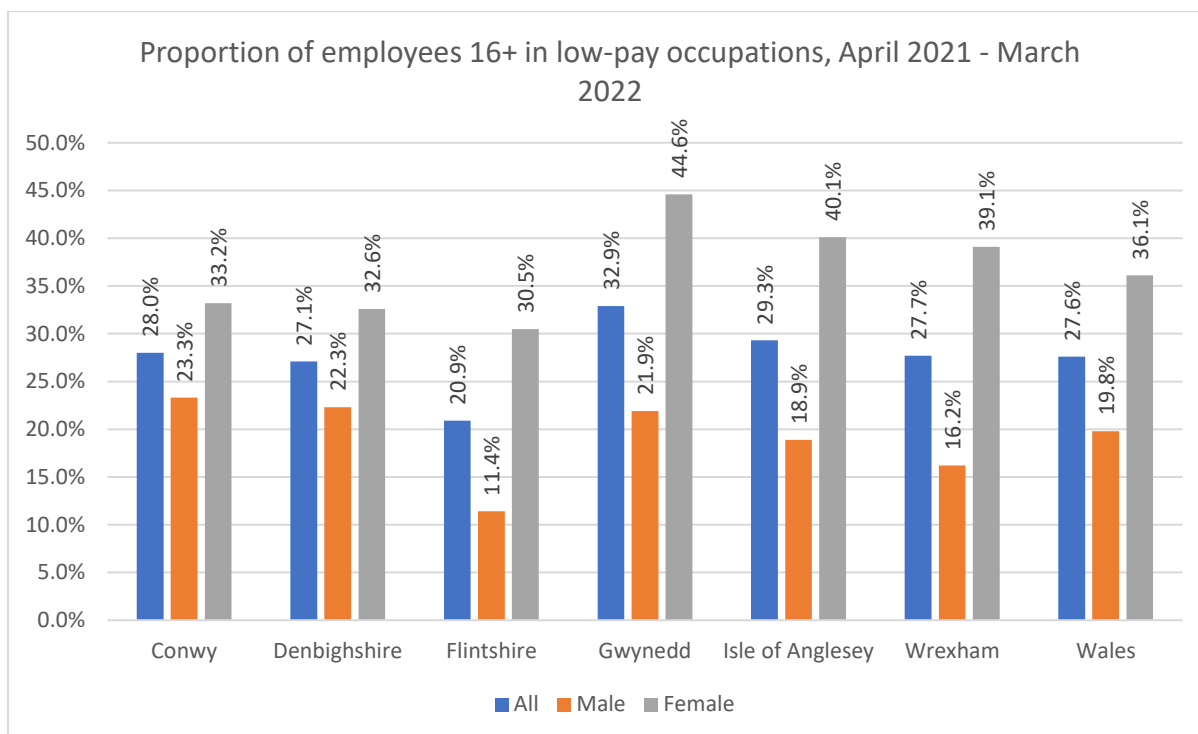


Figure 31 - Proportion of employees 16+ in low-pay occupations, April 2021 - March 2022, all and by gender in the North Wales local authority areas and Wales ([ONS, 2022](#)).

The proportion of women in low-pay occupations is higher than the proportion of men in all North Wales local authority areas. This was also the case in the previous North Wales equality report. In four of the local areas the proportion of women is at least double the proportion of men (Flintshire, Gwynedd, Isle of Anglesey and Wrexham).

There was also some data available analysing this data by ethnic group in the previous equality report, unfortunately this data is no longer accurately available. There is analysis available at an all-Wales level however. Data from April 2021-March 2022 notes that in Wales the proportion of the population in high-pay occupations is 30.5%, with 30.7% of White employees and 28.6% of Ethnic Minority employees in high-pay occupations ([ONS, 2022](#)). The same data notes that the proportion is 27.6% of employees in Wales in low-pay occupations, with 27.5% of White employees and 33.2% of Ethnic Minority employees in low-pay occupations.

5.3.2 Segregation Within Apprenticeships

The percentage of apprenticeships by gender is shown in the figure below (Figure 32).

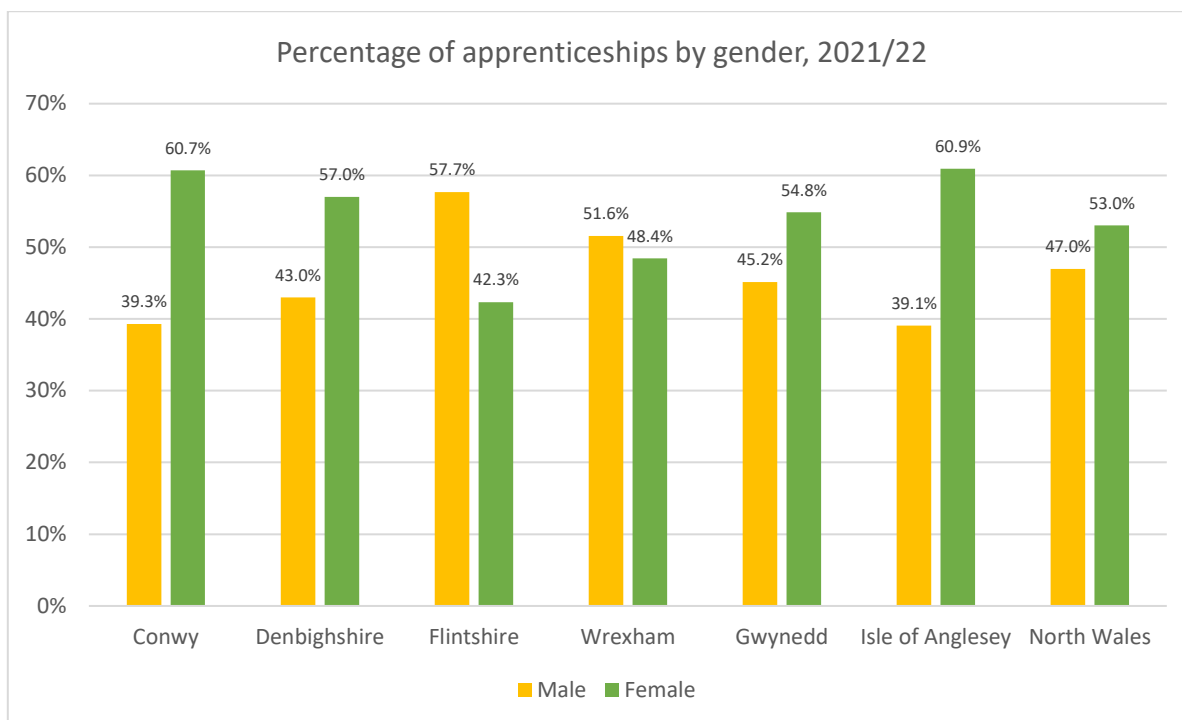


Figure 32 – Percentage of apprenticeships by gender in 2021/22 for the North Wales local authority areas and North Wales (Welsh Government, 2023).

53.0% of people on apprenticeship programmes in North Wales in 2021/22 were female, which has reduced from 60.9% in 2017/18. In 2021/22, there were more females on apprenticeship programmes in four of the local authority areas (Conwy, Denbighshire, Gwynedd and Isle of Anglesey), whereas in 2017/18 there were more females in all six local areas.

In the previous North Wales equality report there was data available showing the number of apprenticeships by sector analysed by gender, however this data has not been identified for this updated report as they are not released.

The percentage of apprenticeships by ethnicity is shown in the table below (Table 4).

Table 4 – Percentage of apprenticeships by ethnic group in 2021/22 for the North Wales local authority areas and North Wales (Welsh Government, 2023).

Local Authority Area	White	Black	Asian	Mixed	Other	Not known
Conwy	97.2%	*	0.8%	0.8%	0.4%	0.4%
Denbighshire	97.1%	*	1.0%	1.0%	*	0.5%
Flintshire	97.6%	*	0.6%	0.3%	0.3%	0.9%
Wrexham	96.8%	0.7%	0.7%	0.7%	0.7%	0.7%
Gwynedd	97.7%	0.7%	0.7%	0.3%	*	0.7%
Isle of Anglesey	99.0%	*	*	0.5%	*	*
North Wales	97.6%	0.3%	0.6%	0.6%	0.4%	0.6%

*data not disclosed due to very small numbers

The vast majority (97.6%) of people on apprenticeship programmes across North Wales in 2021/22 self-identified as White, a percentage similar to that noted in the previous report (98.3% in 2017/18). 0.3% self-identified as Black, 0.6% as Asian, 0.6% as Mixed and 0.4% as Other.

The percentage of people on apprenticeship programmes who stated that they were disabled (affecting learning) across North Wales and in the six local authority areas is shown in the figure below (Figure 33).

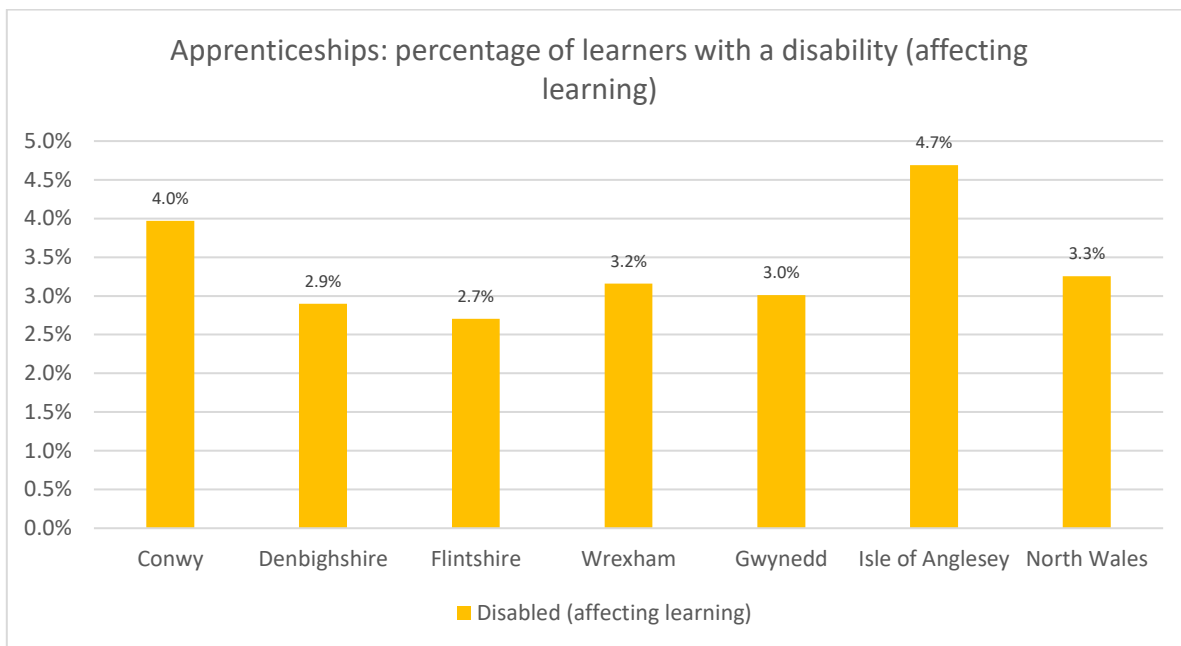


Figure 33 – Percentage of learners with a disability (affecting learning) in 2021/22 for the North Wales local authority areas and North Wales ([Welsh Government, 2023](#)).

The percentage of people on apprenticeship programmes across North Wales who stated that they were disabled (affecting learning) was 3.3%, a slight increase from the previous report (2.1% in 2017/18). The percentage in 2021/22 varies across the local authority areas from 2.7% in Flintshire to 4.7% in the Isle of Anglesey.

6. Living Standards

6.1 Housing

6.1.1 Overcrowding and Suitable Accommodation

When the previous 'Equality in North Wales' report was written in 2019, there was no relevant local data available to supplement the discussion in the 'Is Wales Fairer (2018)' Wales wide document.

However, the occupancy rating for bedrooms data from the 2021 Census provides the information to assess overcrowding in the North Wales local authority areas as shown in the figure below (Figure 34).

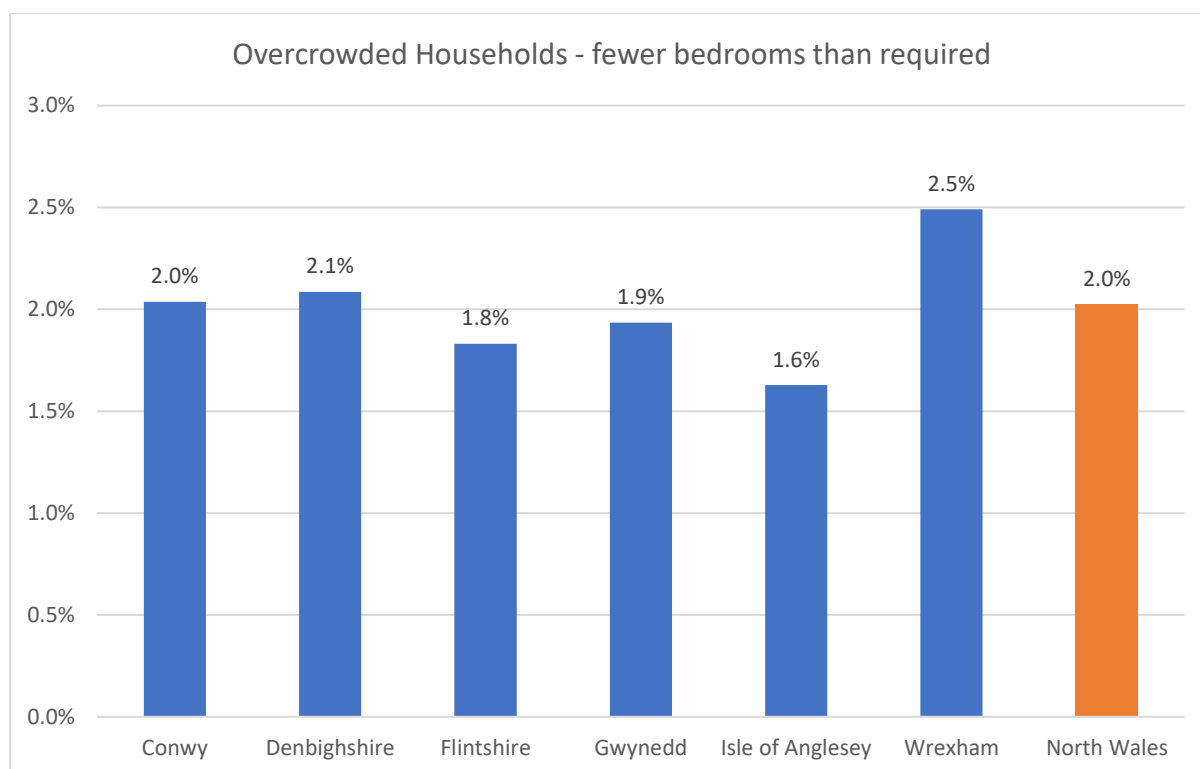


Figure 34 – Percentage of overcrowded households in North Wales and each of the six local authority areas in North Wales as shown in the Census 2021 ([ONS, 2023](#)).

This figure shows that 2% of households in North Wales are overcrowded, with the highest percentage of the local authority areas being in Wrexham (2.5%) and lowest in the Isle of Anglesey (1.6%).

Data is available from the 2021 Census that analyses the Percentage of population who live in Overcrowded Households - fewer bedrooms than required, by ethnic group (Figure 35).

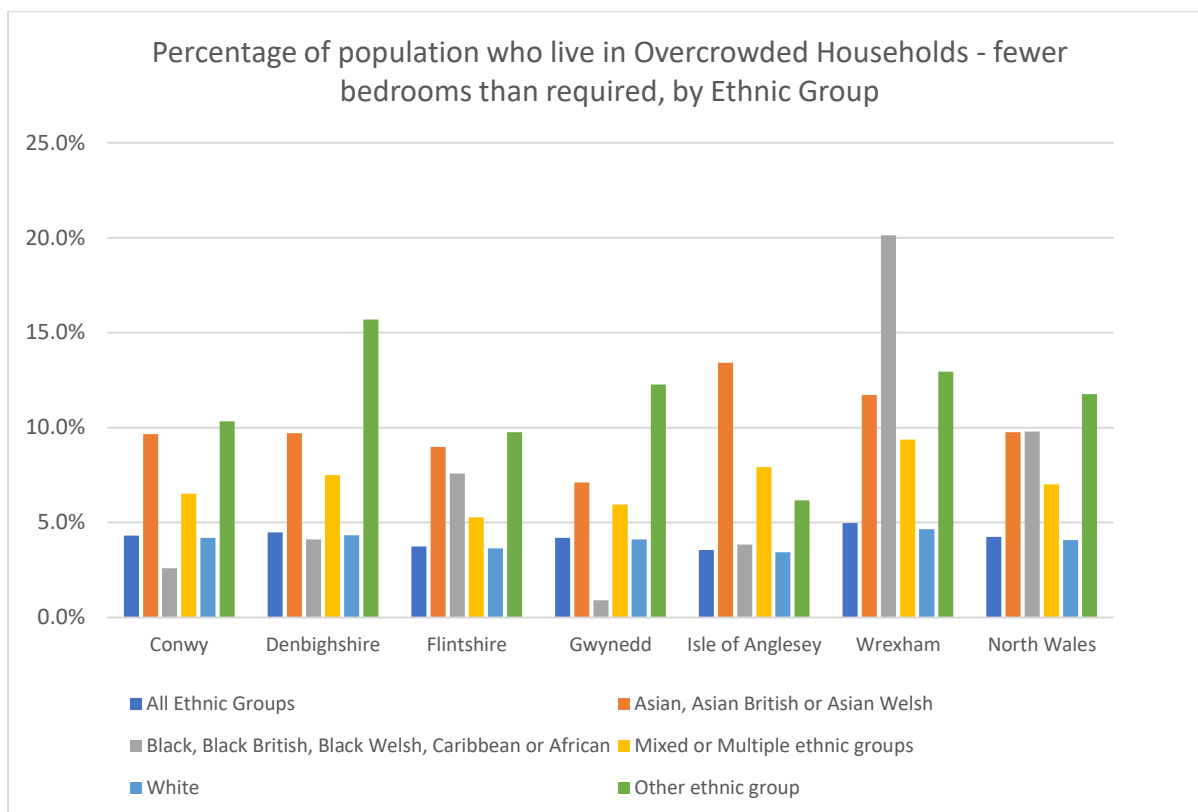


Figure 35 - Percentage of population who live in Overcrowded Households - fewer bedrooms than required, by Ethnic Group (ONS, 2023).

In North Wales, the percentage of the population who live in overcrowded households (fewer bedrooms than required) in the 2021 Census varied from 4.1% (White) to 11.8% (Other Ethnic Group). There was some variation seen in the North Wales local authority areas, where the highest percentage of the population living in overcrowded households in Wrexham was Black, Black British, Black Welsh, Caribbean or African (20.1%) and in the Isle of Anglesey was Asian, Asian British or Asian Welsh (13.4%).

There was also Census 2021 data analysing the percentage of population who live in overcrowded households by general health (Figure 36).

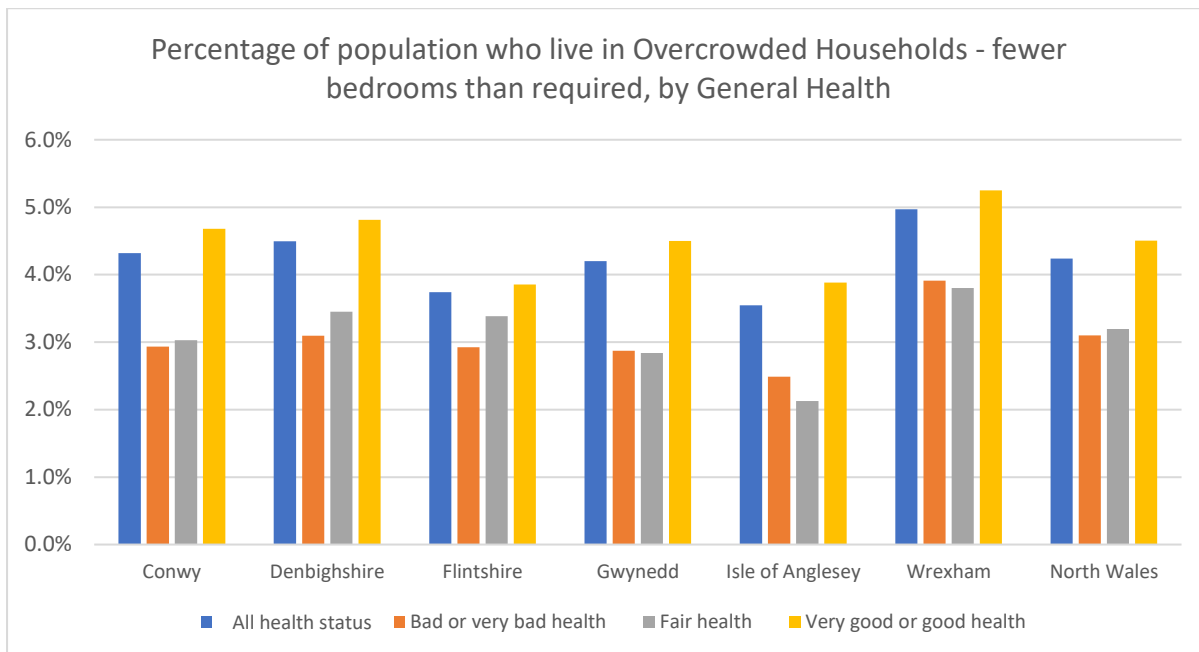


Figure 36 - Percentage of population who live in Overcrowded Households - fewer bedrooms than required, by General Health (ONS, 2023).

In North Wales and all local authority areas, the proportion of population who live in overcrowded households was highest in those with very good or good health. In North Wales, the percentage was 4.5% amongst those in very good or good health, 3.2% in fair health and 3.1 in bad or very bad health.

6.1.2 Homelessness

Of households threatened with homelessness in 2021/22, the majority of the applicants were female across North Wales and in all of the six local authority areas as shown below (Figure 37).

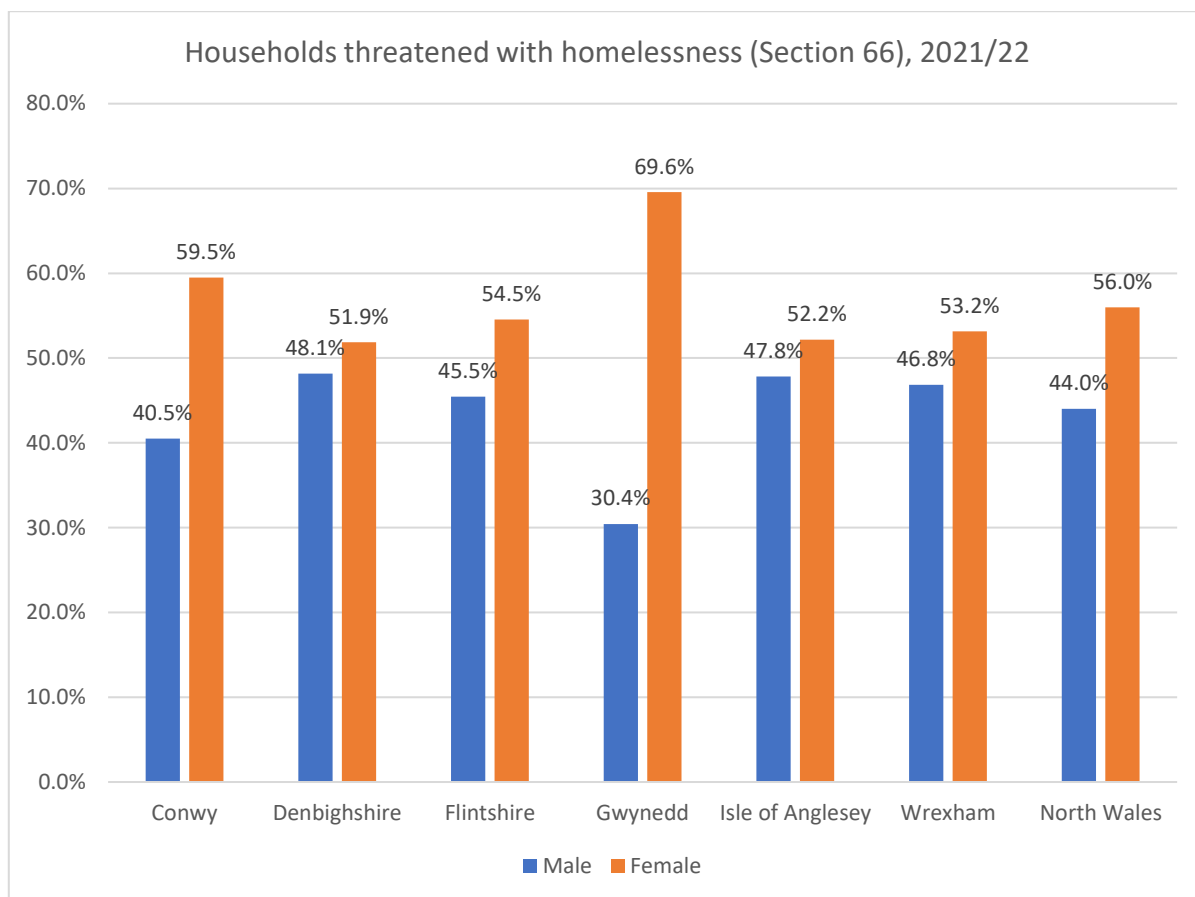


Figure 37 – Households threatened with homeless (Section 66) in 2021/22 split by gender ([Welsh Government, 2022](#)).

This gender disparity was also present in the data for 2018/19 included in the previous North Wales equality report, where 63.0% of the applicants across North Wales were female. In 2021/22 the local authority area with the highest percentage of females was Gwynedd (69.6%) and lowest was Denbighshire (51.9%).

On the other hand, the majority of applicants of the households who were homeless and owed a duty to help secure accommodation were male, as shown in the figure below (Figure 38).

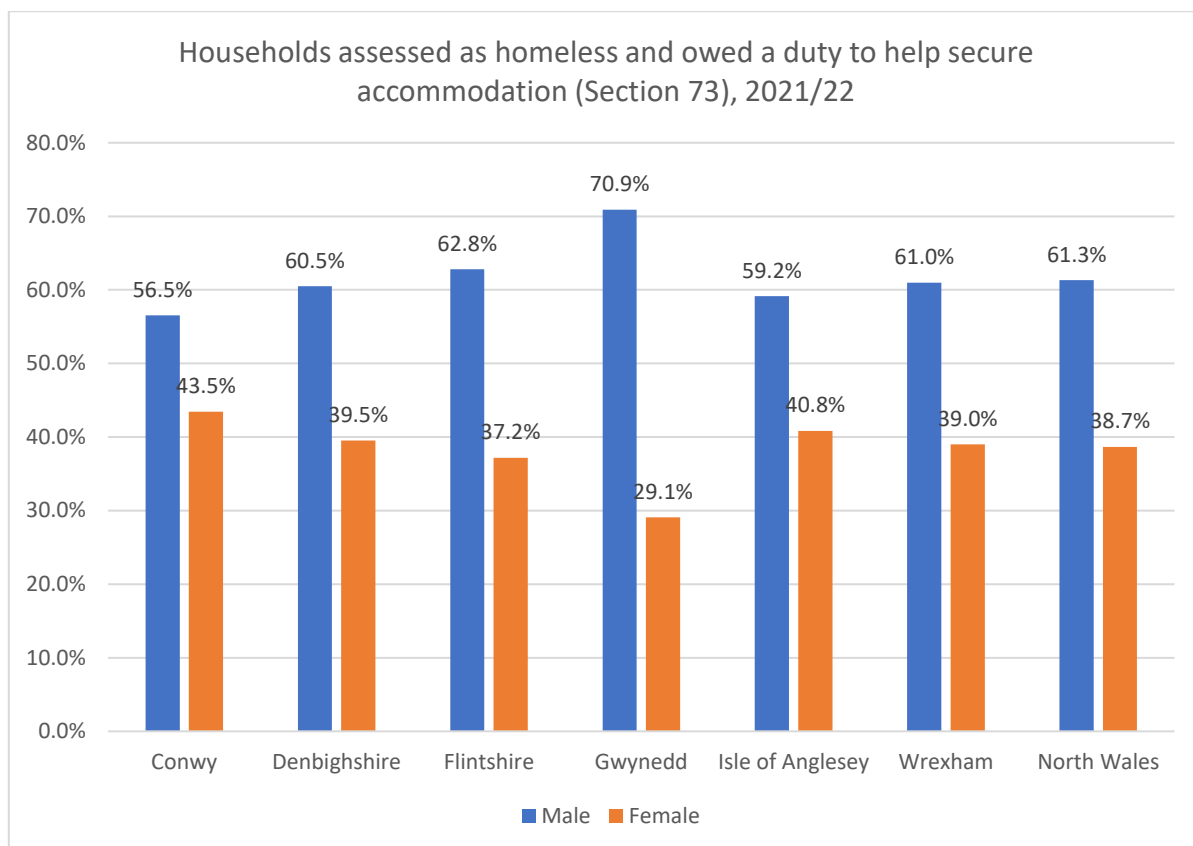


Figure 38 – Households assessed as homeless and owed a duty to help secure accommodation (Section 73) in 2021/22 split by gender ([Welsh Government, 2022](#)).

In North Wales 61.3% households assessed as homeless and owed a duty to help secure accommodation (Section 73) in 2021/22 were male. In all six local authority areas the majority were male, with the highest percentage in Gwynedd (70.9%) and lowest in Conwy (56.5%).

This gender disparity was also present in the data from 2018/19 where the majority of homeless households given assistance to find accommodation were male. Although this data is not directly comparable as the process has changed, 58.7% of homeless households given assistance to find accommodation in 2018/19 across North Wales were male and in all six local areas in 2018/19.

Further data is available showing households identified as unintentionally homeless and in priority need in 2021/22 split by gender as shown in the figure below (Figure 39).

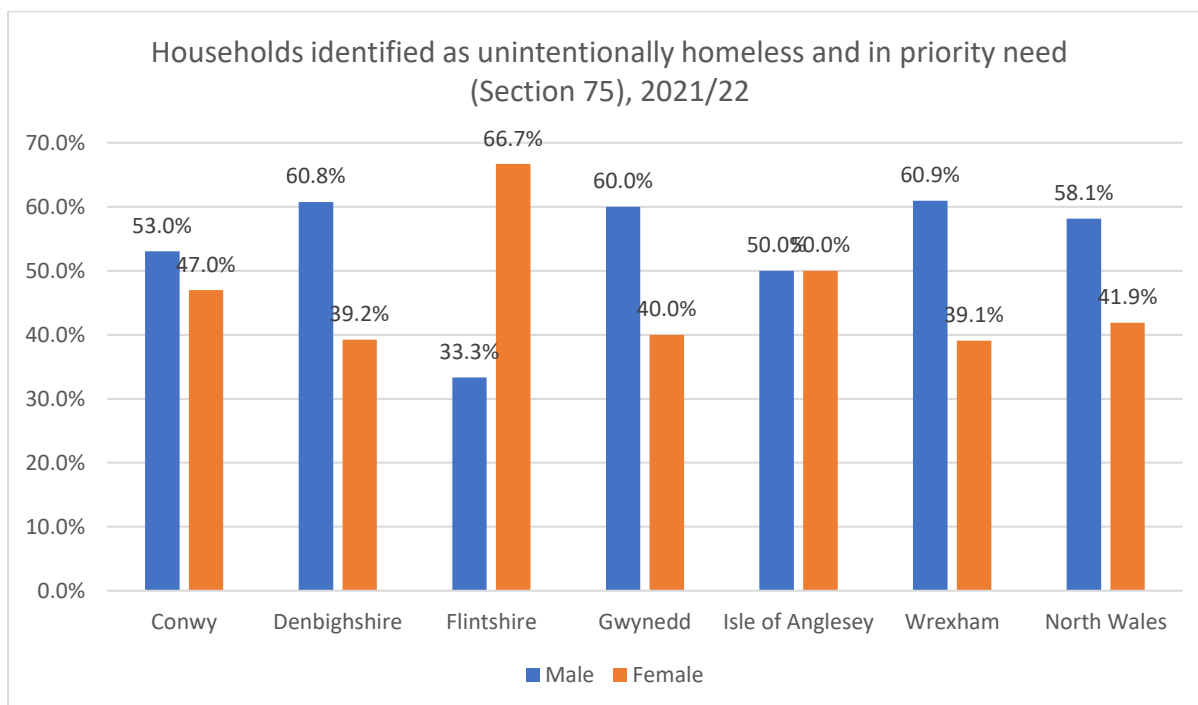


Figure 39 – Households identified as unintentionally homeless and in priority need (Section 75) in 2021/22 split by gender (Welsh Government, 2022).

The majority of households identified as unintentionally homeless and in priority need in 2021/22 across North Wales were male (58.1%), however this was not the case across the six local authority areas. The majority in Conwy (53.0%), Denbighshire (60.8%), Gwynedd (60.0%) and Wrexham (60.9%) were male, whereas the majority in Flintshire (66.7%) were female and the Isle of Anglesey had an equal proportion of male and female households.

6.1.3 Housing Benefits

Data is available noting the percentage of households on Universal Credit in North Wales and the six local authority areas, as shown in the figure below (Figure 40). This data was not included in the previous report.

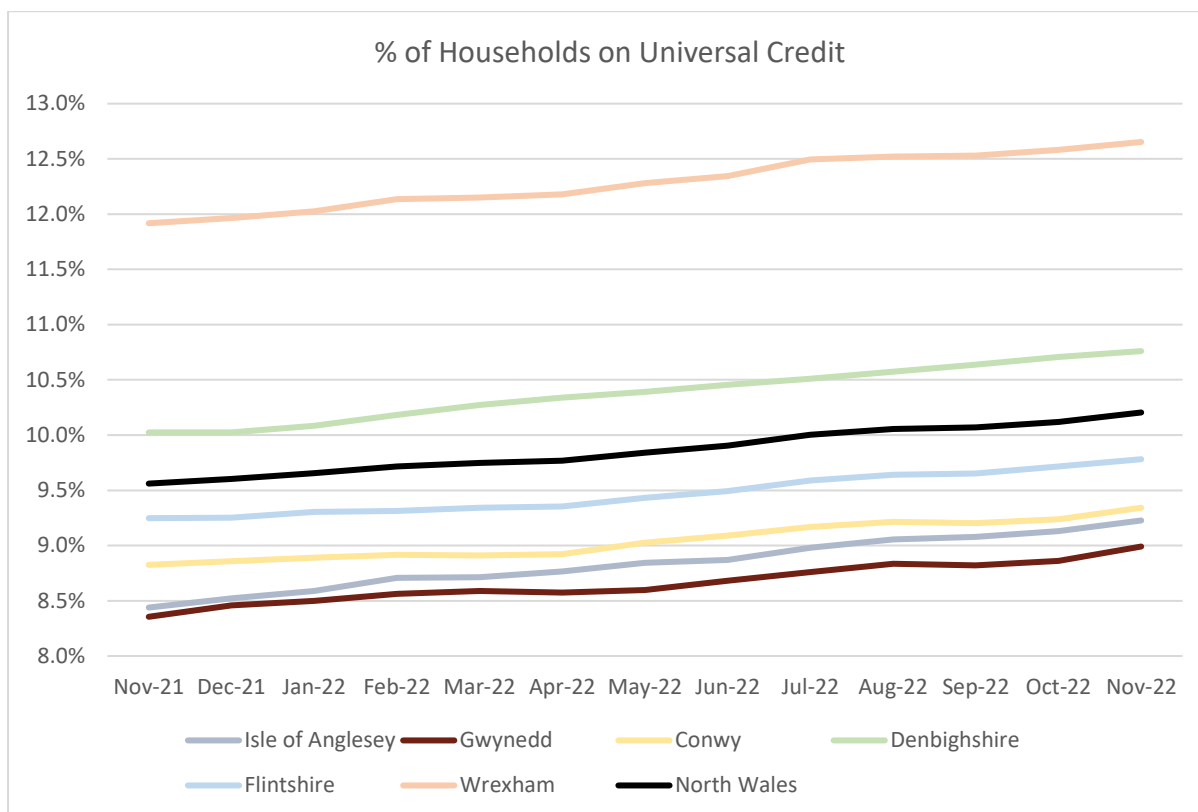


Figure 40 – Percentage of households on Universal Credit between November 2021 and November 2022 in North Wales and the six local authority areas (Gov, 2022).

In North Wales in November 2021 9.6% of households were on Universal Credit, a figure that gradually increased to 10.2% in November 2022.

Analysing the data by local authority area, the highest percentage of households on Universal Credit each month during the period were in Wrexham (11.9% - 12.7%). The lowest percentages were in Gwynedd (8.4% - 9.0%) and the Isle of Anglesey (8.4% - 9.2%).

6.1.4 Housing Tenure

Housing tenure data was collected in the 2021 Census, and this data is shown in the figures below (Figure 41 to 48). Most of this data is additional data that was not included in the previous report.

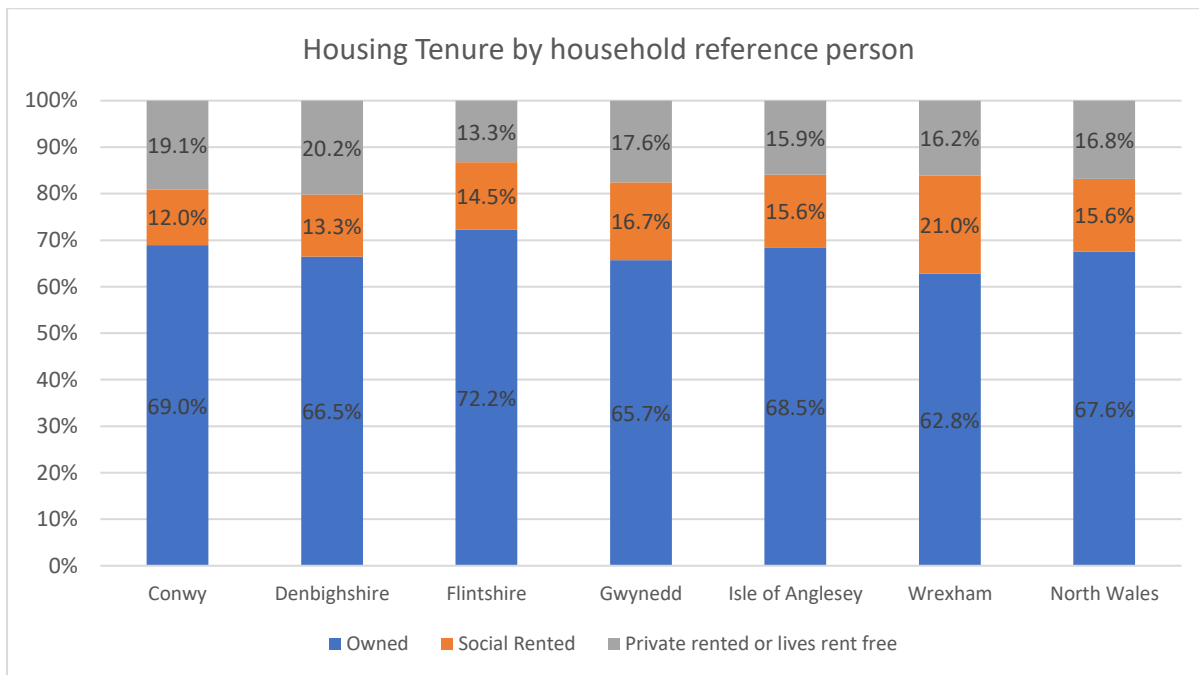


Figure 41 - Housing Tenure by household reference person (ONS, 2023).

Census 2021 data shows that the majority of housing tenure by household reference person in North Wales was owned (67.6%), a percentage that varies in the local areas from 62.8% (Wrexham) to 72.2% (Flintshire). In North Wales, the percentage of people private renting or living rent free is a little higher than the percentage social renting (16.8% and 15.6% respectively). This varies in some of the local authority areas, with Wrexham and Flintshire both having a higher percentage of social rented than private rented or living rent free.

Analysis by ethnic group of household reference person is noted below.

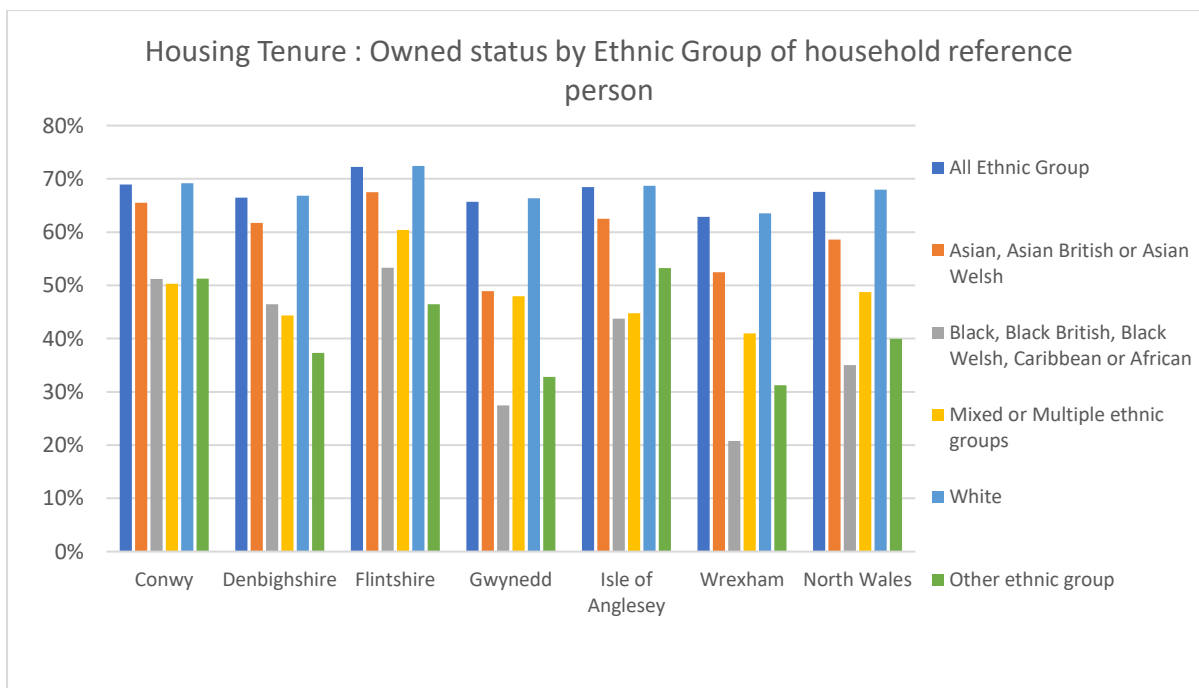


Figure 42 - Housing Tenure: Owned status by Ethnic Group of household reference person (ONS, 2023).

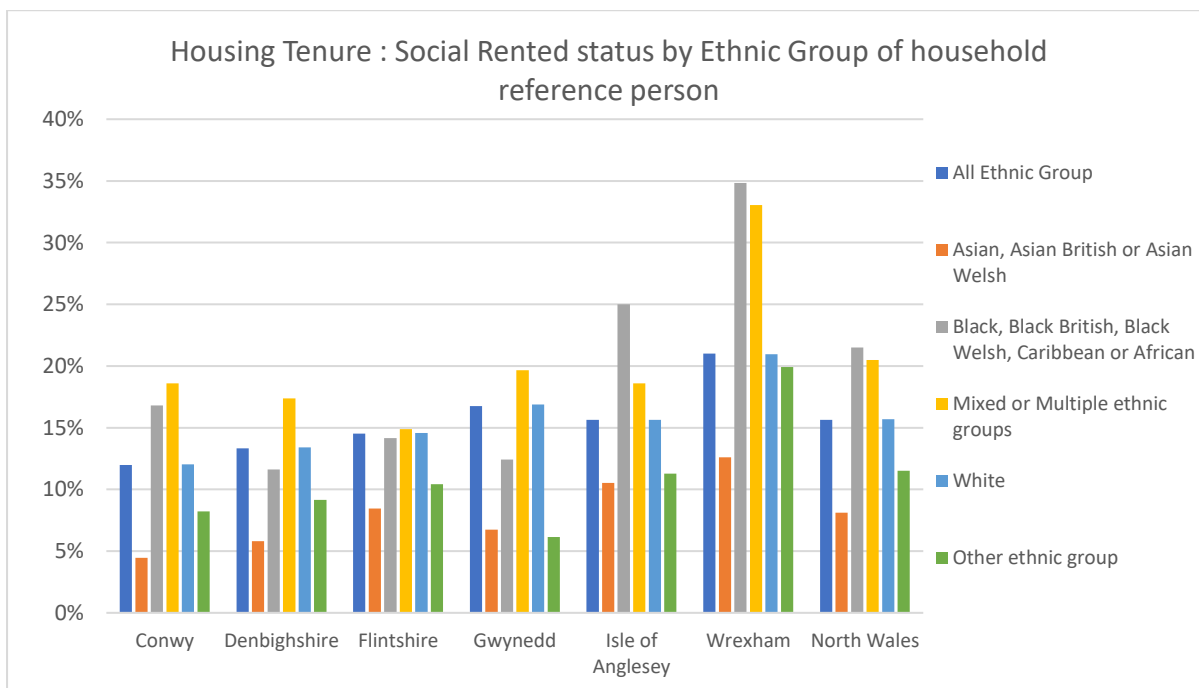


Figure 43 - Housing Tenure: Social Rented status by Ethnic Group of household reference person (ONS, 2023).

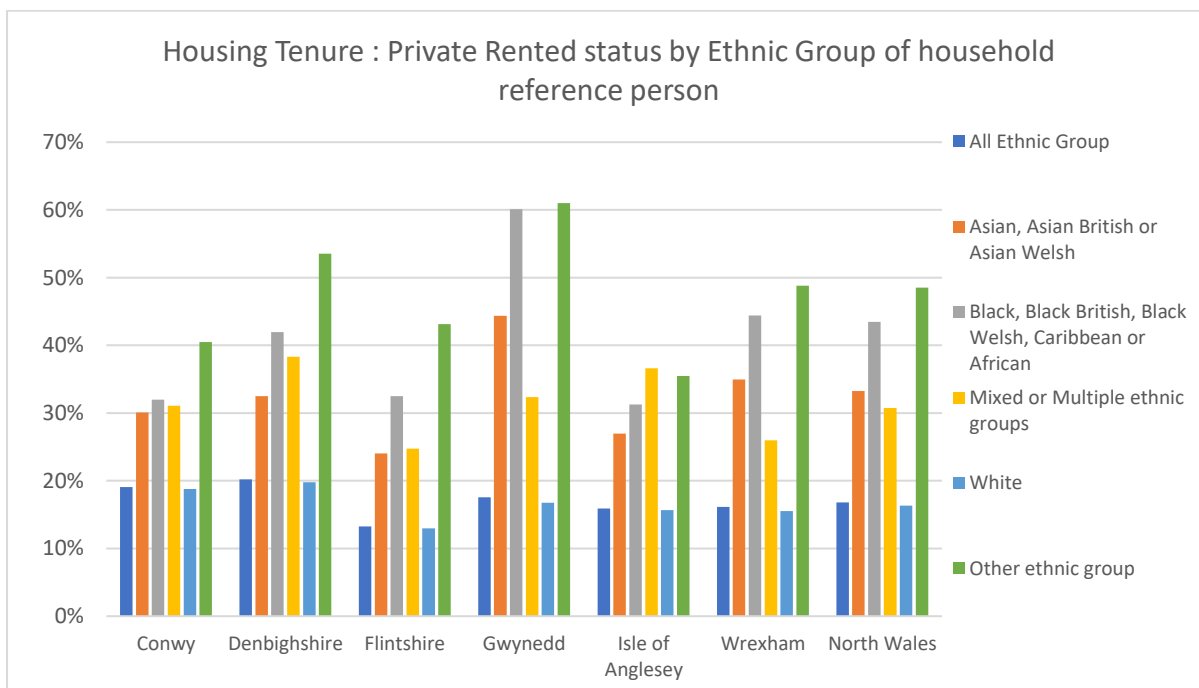


Figure 44- Housing Tenure: Private Rented status by Ethnic Group of household reference person (ONS, 2023).

In North Wales, the percentage of housing tenure owned status by ethnic group varied from 35.0% (Black, Black British, Black Welsh, Caribbean or African) to 68.0% (White). The percentage of housing tenure social rented status by ethnic group varied from 8.1% (Asian, Asian British or Asian Welsh) to 21.5% (Black, Black British, Black Welsh, Caribbean or African). The percentage of housing tenure private rented status by ethnic group varied from 16.3% (White) to 48.5% (Other Ethnic Group). Some variation is seen at a local authority level as shown in the figures above.

Analysis by age of household reference person is shown below.

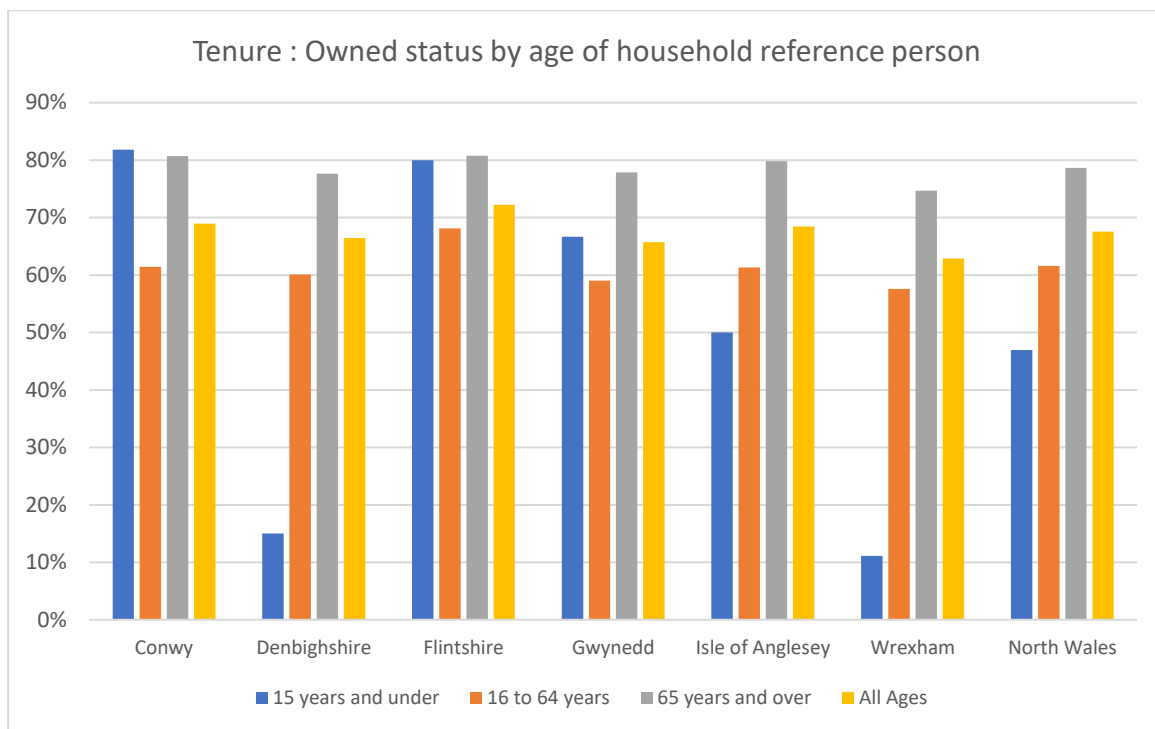


Figure 45 - Tenure : Owned status by age of household reference person (ONS, 2023).

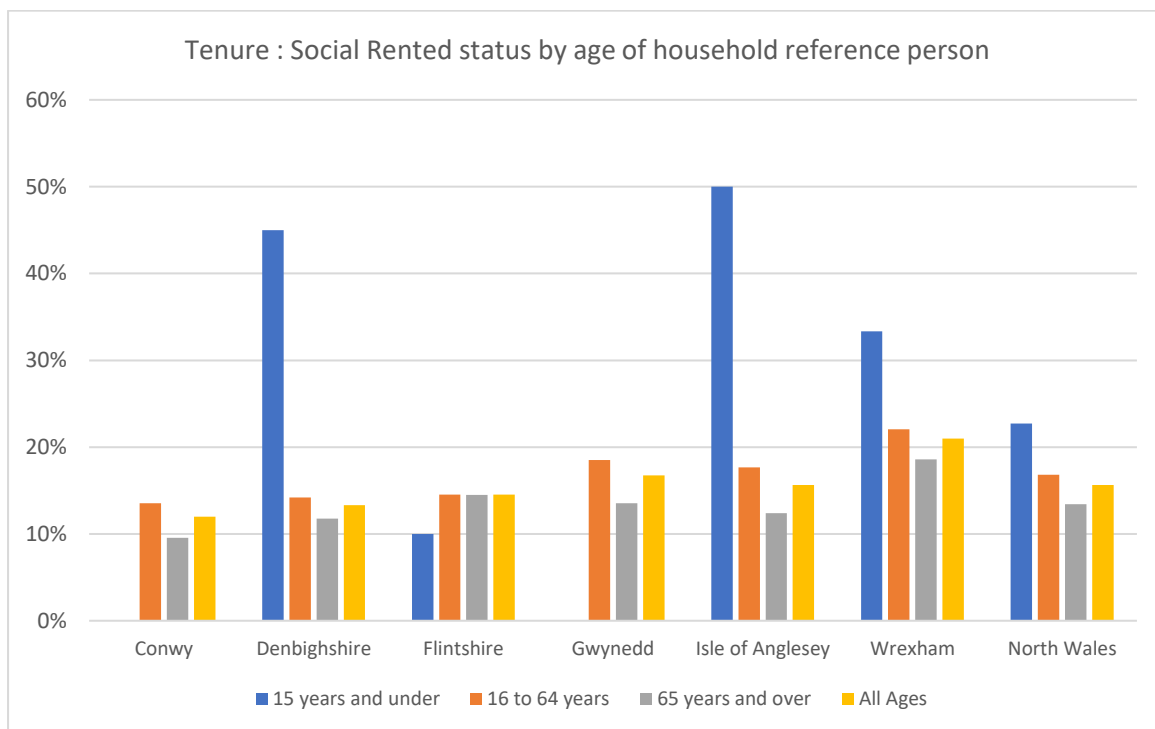


Figure 46 - Tenure : Social Rented status by age of household reference person (ONS, 2023).

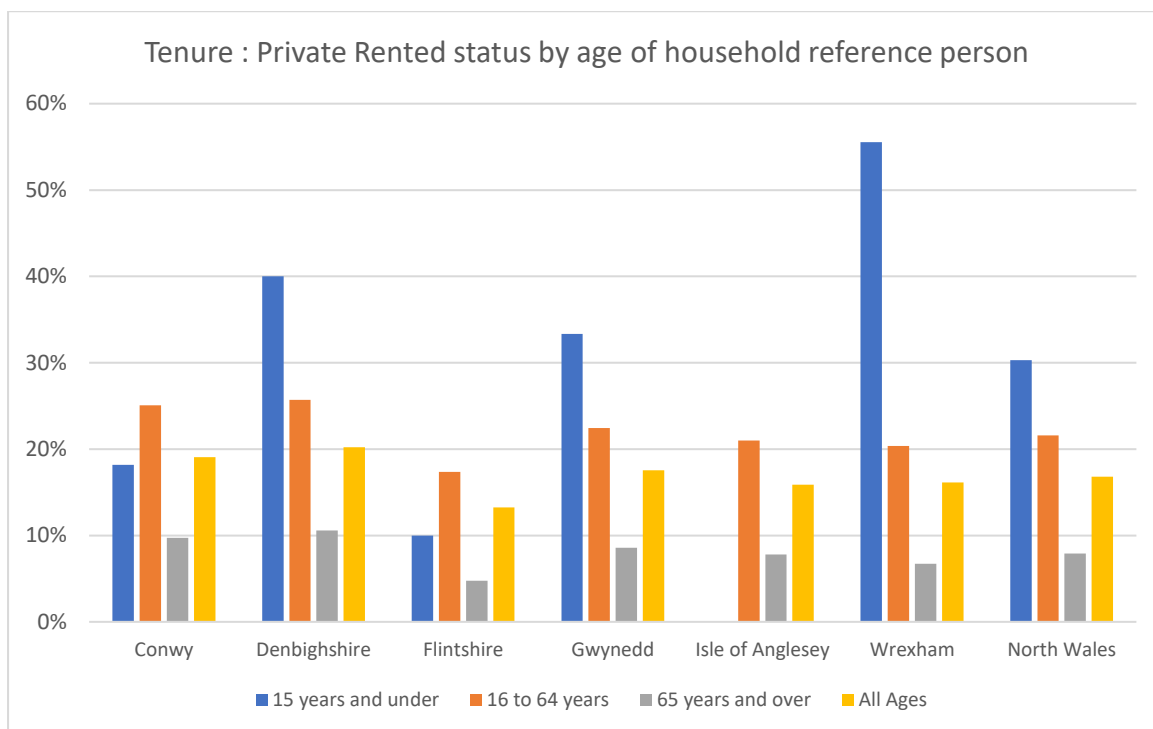


Figure 47 - Tenure : Private Rented status by age of household reference person (ONS, 2023).

In the 2021 Census, the owned status by age of household reference person proportion percentage varied from 47.0% (15 years and under) to 78.7% (65 years and over). Social rented status by age of household reference person percentage varied from 13.4% (65 years and over) to 22.7% (15 years and under). Private rented status by age of household reference person percentage varied from 7.9% (65 years and over) to 30.3% (15 years and under). On a local authority level some variation was seen in all three housing tenure status, particularly in the percentage of those aged 15 and under which varied greatly by local authority area.

Analysis of those with owned house status only by highest level of qualification of household reference person is shown below.

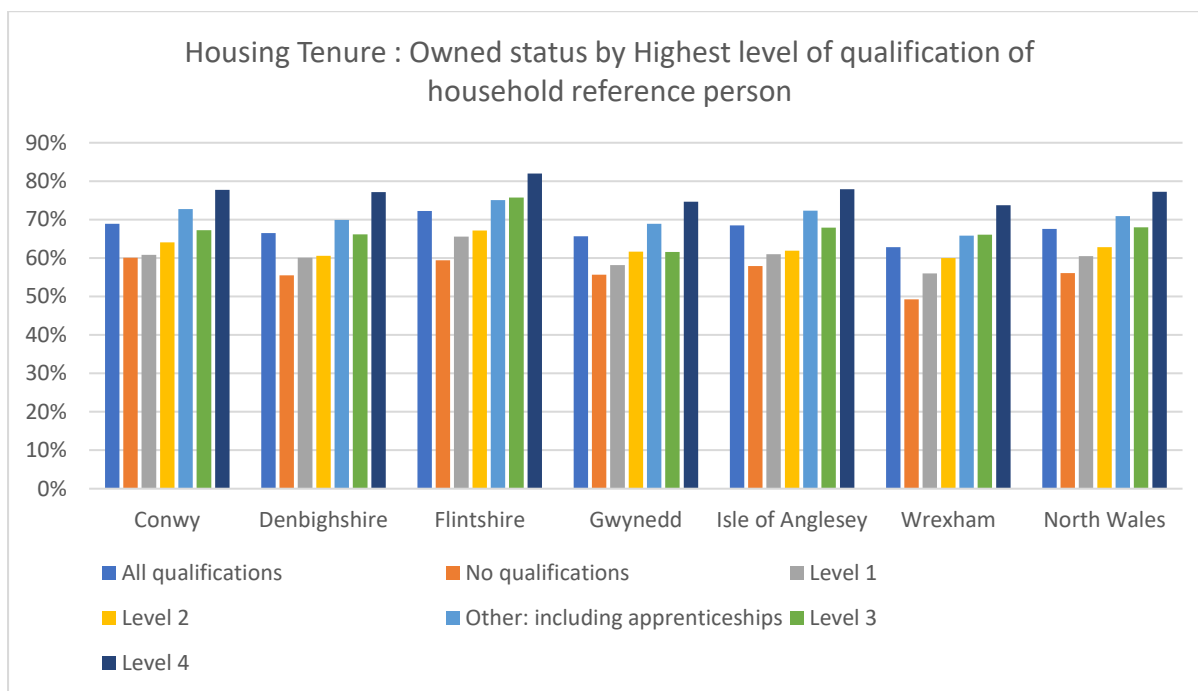


Figure 48 - Tenure : Owned status by Highest level of qualification of household reference person (ONS, 2023).

In North Wales a higher proportion of those with Level 4 qualifications owned their own homes (77.3%) with the lowest among those with no qualifications (56.1%). This was also the case in all North Wales local authority areas.

6.1.5 Housing for Gypsies and Travellers

The following table (Table 5) contains data from the 2021 Census and was not included in the previous equality report.

Table 5 – Ethnic group data from the 2021 Census for North Wales and the six local authority areas in North Wales (ONS, 2022).

Area	Total: All usual residents	White: Gypsy or Irish Traveller		White: Roma	
	Number	Number	Rate per 10,000 people	Number	Rate per 10,000 people
Conwy	114,743	104	9.1	19	1.7
Denbighshire	95,820	62	6.5	32	3.3
Flintshire	154,960	123	7.9	74	4.8
Gwynedd	117,392	111	9.5	45	3.8
Isle of Anglesey	68,879	54	7.8	33	4.8
Wrexham	135,122	119	8.8	64	4.7
North Wales	686,916	573	8.3	267	3.9

The table below (Table 6) contains the latest data noting the number of gypsy and traveller caravans in North Wales, showing a total of 271 caravans.

Table 6 – Number of Gypsy and Traveller caravans in each of the six local authority areas in North Wales on 21 July 2022 (Welsh Government, 2022).

Area	Total number of caravans on authorised sites	Total number of caravans on unauthorised sites	All caravans
Conwy	4	3	7
Denbighshire	0	36	36
Flintshire	132	26	158
Gwynedd	14	8	22
Isle of Anglesey	0	3	3
Wrexham	36	9	45
North Wales	186	85	271

6.1.6 Accessible Housing for Disabled People

The latest data available data noting the number of disabled facilities grants completed is from 2021/22 and is shown in the table below (Table 7).

Table 7 – Number of Disabled Facilities Grants completed in 2021/22 for each of the six local authority areas in North Wales (Welsh Government, 2022).

Area	Number of grant applications approved	Owner occupier	Private renting	Local authority / RSL tenant	Total	% of approved grants completed
Conwy	123	83	23	6	112	91%
Denbighshire	78	54	19	0	73	94%
Flintshire	41	38	5	0	43	100%
Gwynedd	39	32	7	0	39	100%
Isle of Anglesey	55	50	4	0	54	98%
Wrexham	123	32	4	33	69	56%
North Wales	459	289	62	39	390	85%

In 2021/22 390 Disabled Facilities Grants were completed across North Wales out of a total of 459 grant applications that were approved, this is equal to 85% of approved grants being completed. The number of grants approved and completed has reduced from the number noted in the last North Wales equality report. This data from 2017/18 showed that 729 grant applications were approved and 716 completed, with 98% of approved grants completed.

The table above shows that in 2021/22 the majority of grants completed in North Wales were for owner-occupier. This was also the case in five of the six local authority areas, whereas in Wrexham the number of owner-occupier and local authority / RSL tenant were almost equal (32 and 33 respectively).

6.1.7 Housing for Refugees and Asylum Seekers

When the previous ‘Equality in North Wales’ report was written in 2019, there was no relevant local data available to supplement the discussion in the ‘Is Wales Fairer (2018)’ Wales wide document.

However, additional data has been located which notes the number of refugees resettled by resettlement scheme and local authority. This data has been used to total the number of refugees resettled since 2016 in each North Wales local authority as noted in the table below (Table 8).

Table 8 – The number of refugees resettled since 2016 in North Wales and the six local authority areas, data last updated November 2022 (gov.uk, 2022).

Area	Refugees resettled since 2016
Conwy	17
Denbighshire	81
Flintshire	49
Gwynedd	39
Isle of Anglesey	27
Wrexham	79
North Wales	292

This table shows that a total of 292 refugees have resettled in North Wales since 2016 (data correct as of November 2022).

6.2 Poverty

6.2.1 Relative Poverty and Severe Material Deprivation

Data on the percentage of people living in households in material deprivation is available by local authority, however due to low sample sizes this information is not published analysed by characteristic except for a few authorities where a figure for females is available. This data is noted in the table below (Table 9). Material deprivation is measured here by the self-reported ability of households to afford particular goods and activities.

Table 9 - Percentage of people living in households in material deprivation in 2021-22 by local authority area and Wales, including percentage for females where data available (Welsh Government, 2022).

Area	Total	Females
Conwy	8%	11%
Denbighshire	*	*
Flintshire	12%	11%
Gwynedd	13%	14%
Isle of Anglesey	9%	*
Wrexham	13%	14%
Wales	11%	13%

*data not available

In Wales in 2021/22 there were 11% of people living in households in material deprivation. In the five North Wales local authority areas where data was available this percentage varied between 8% (Conwy) and 13% (Gwynedd and Wrexham). In the data from 2018/19 included in the previous report this percentage varied from 9% (Flintshire) to 16% (Denbighshire). There is some suggestion that the proportion of females may be slightly higher than the overall proportion in all included local areas except for Flintshire.

6.2.2 Social Security and the Benefit System

As in the previous report, unable to find relevant local data to supplement the discussion in 'Is Wales Fairer (2018)?'.

6.2.3 Experiences of at-risk Groups: Child Poverty and Poverty of Disabled People, Refugees and Asylum Seekers

As in the previous report, unable to find relevant local data to supplement the discussion in 'Is Wales Fairer (2018)?'.

6.2.4 Food and Fuel Poverty

As in the previous report, unable to find relevant local data to supplement the discussion in 'Is Wales Fairer (2018)?' for food poverty. However, some data for the North Wales local authority areas looking at fuel poverty has been identified.

The data available for the local areas is from 2018, and so does not factor in the recent increased energy prices and so is unlikely to provide a full picture of fuel poverty in North Wales. With this in mind, the data from 2018 estimated that the proportion of households in fuel poverty were as follows:

- 12% of households in Conwy
- 12% of households in Denbighshire
- 9% of households in Flintshire
- 23% of households in Gwynedd
- 17% of households in the Isle of Anglesey
- 10% of households in Wrexham

([House of Commons, 2023](#))

This was compared with 12% across Wales in 2018. Updated data would be essential to fully assess the levels of fuel poverty in North Wales.

There is data available from October 2021 looking at fuel poverty in Wales ([Welsh Government, 2022](#)). This data shows that some households were at a higher risk of being in fuel poverty, including households living in the private rented sector, single person households without children, households where the respondent is unemployed or on means tested benefits, households living in older properties, households living in dwellings without central heating and households with a lower EPC rating.

6.2.5 Wealth and Income Distribution

Updated data could not be identified.

6.3 Social Care

6.3.1 Access to Social Care

Updated data could not be identified.

6.3.2 Impact of Social Care Funding on the Provision of Services

As in the previous report, unable to find relevant local data to supplement the discussion in ‘Is Wales Fairer (2018)?’.

6.3.3 Quality of Social Care

Updated data could not be identified.

6.3.4 Choice and Control Over Support to Enable Independent Living and Independent Advocacy

As in the previous report, unable to find relevant local data to supplement the discussion in ‘Is Wales Fairer (2018)?’.

6.3.5 Dignity and Respect in Social Care

As in the previous report, unable to find relevant local data to supplement the discussion in ‘Is Wales Fairer (2018)?’.

6.3.6 Impact of Caring on Carers

The data for the provision of unpaid care from the Census 2021 for the local authority areas and North Wales is shown below (Figure 49).

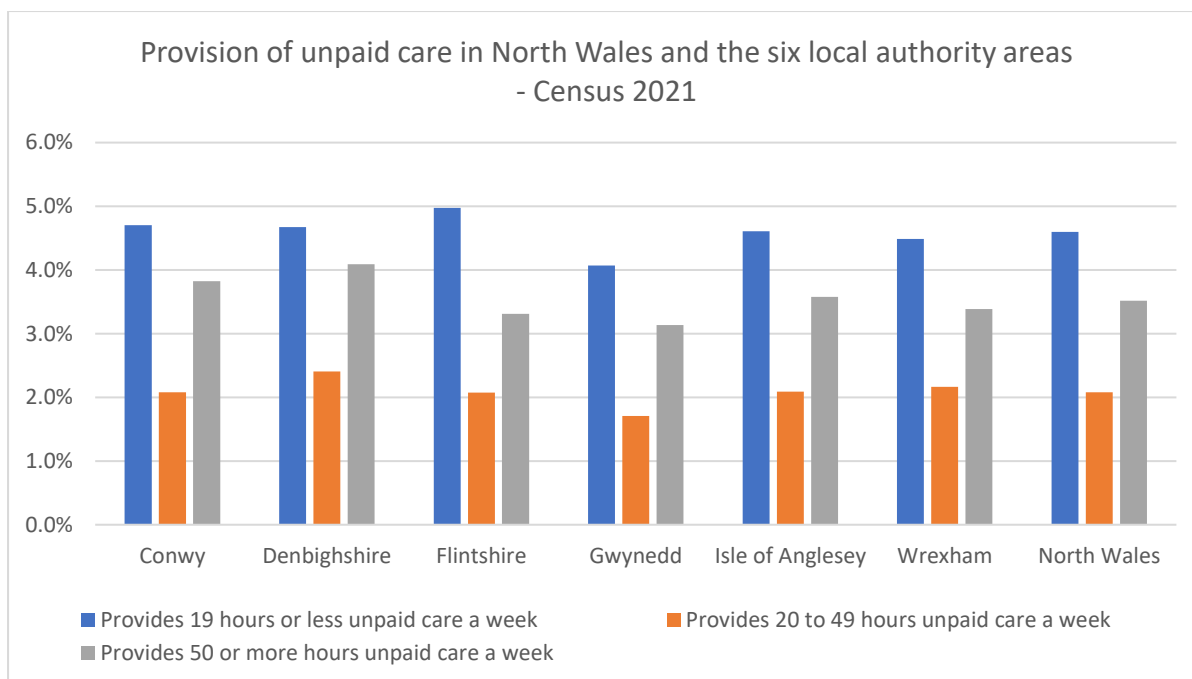


Figure 49 - Provision of unpaid care in North Wales and the six local authority areas - Census 2021 (ONS, 2023).

In North Wales the Census 2021 found that 4.6% of persons aged 5 and over provided 19 hours or less unpaid care a week, 2.1% provided 20 to 49 hours and 3.5% provided 50 hours or more unpaid care a week. It should be noted that this was data collected during the Covid pandemic which may have affected these percentages.

Further data analysing the provision of unpaid care is shown below, the data analysing provision of unpaid care by ethnic group and religion is additional data that was not included in the previous report.

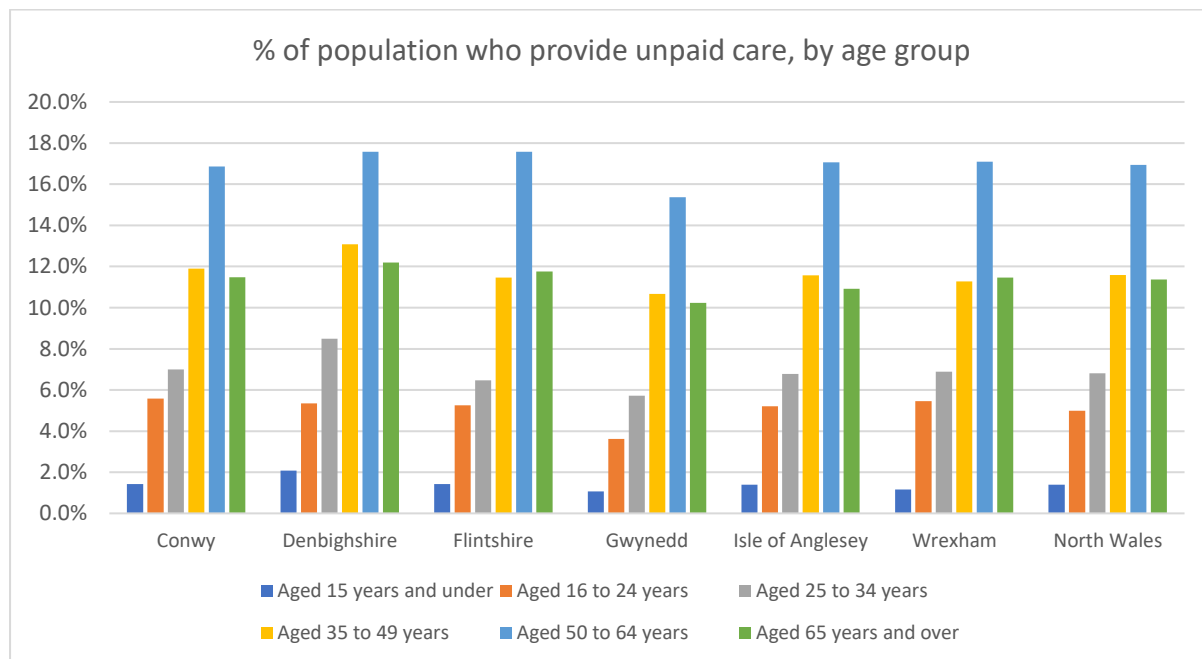


Figure 50 – Percentage of population who provide unpaid care by age group (ONS, 2023).

In North Wales, the highest proportion who provide unpaid care are those aged 50 to 64 years (16.9%) and the lowest are aged 15 years and under (1.4%). In the Census 2011 data included in the previous report, the highest proportion who provide unpaid care were also those aged 50 to 64 years (20.6%) and the lowest are aged 15 years and under (2.8%). The data for all local authority areas in the 2021 and 2011 Census also showed that the highest proportion who provide unpaid care are those aged 50 to 64 years and the lowest are aged 15 years and under.

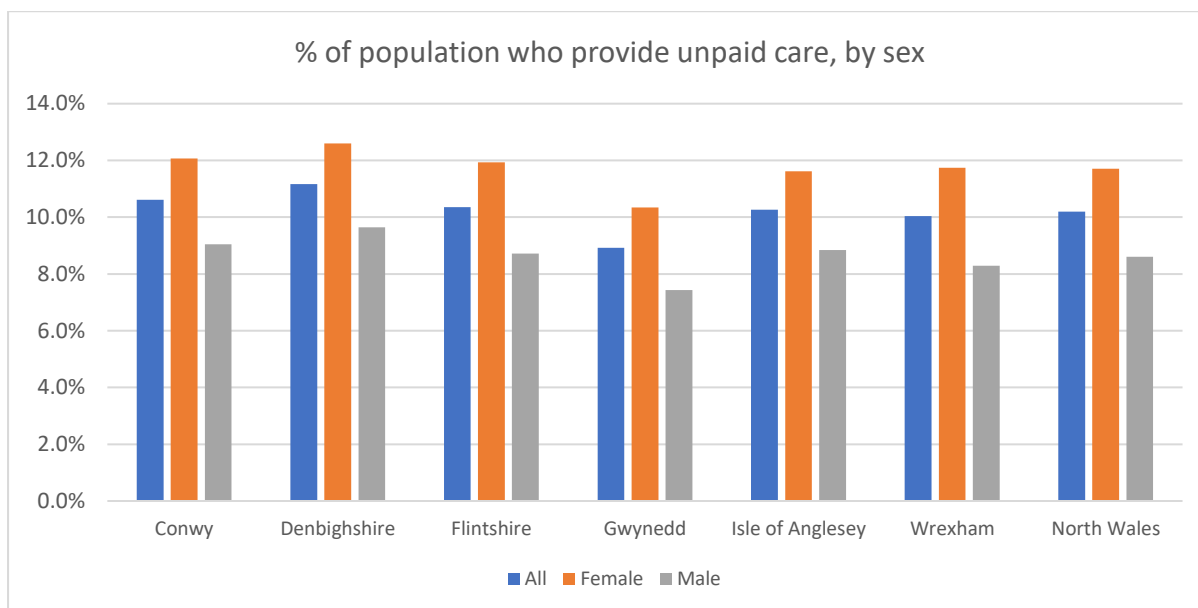


Figure 51 – Percentage of population who provide unpaid care by sex (ONS, 2023).

In North Wales, a higher proportion of females (11.7%) provide unpaid care than males (8.6%). This is consistent throughout the local authority areas. In the 2011 Census in North Wales the proportion of females (13.1%) who provided unpaid care was higher than males (10.0%). This was also seen in all local authority areas.

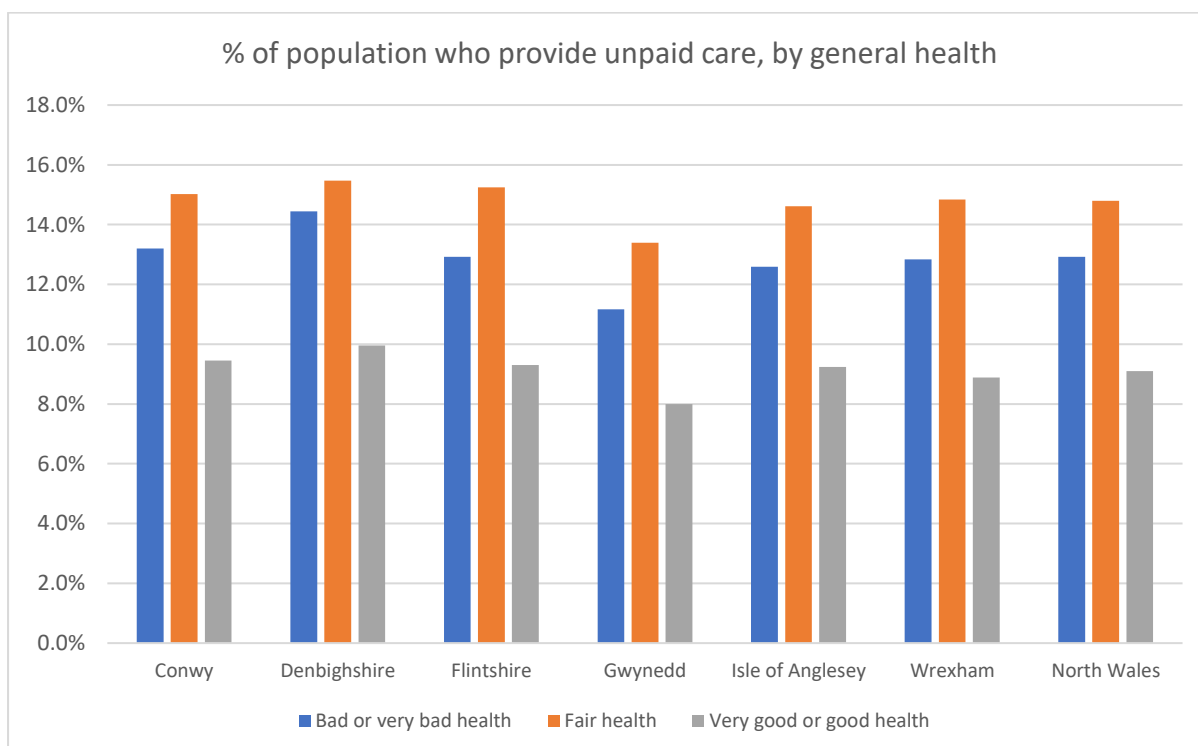


Figure 52 – Percentage of population who provide unpaid care by general health (ONS, 2023).

In North Wales, the highest proportion of those who provide unpaid care are in fair health (14.8%), followed by those in bad or very bad health (12.9%), with the lowest proportion in the population in very good or good health (9.1%). This is consistent throughout the local authority areas.

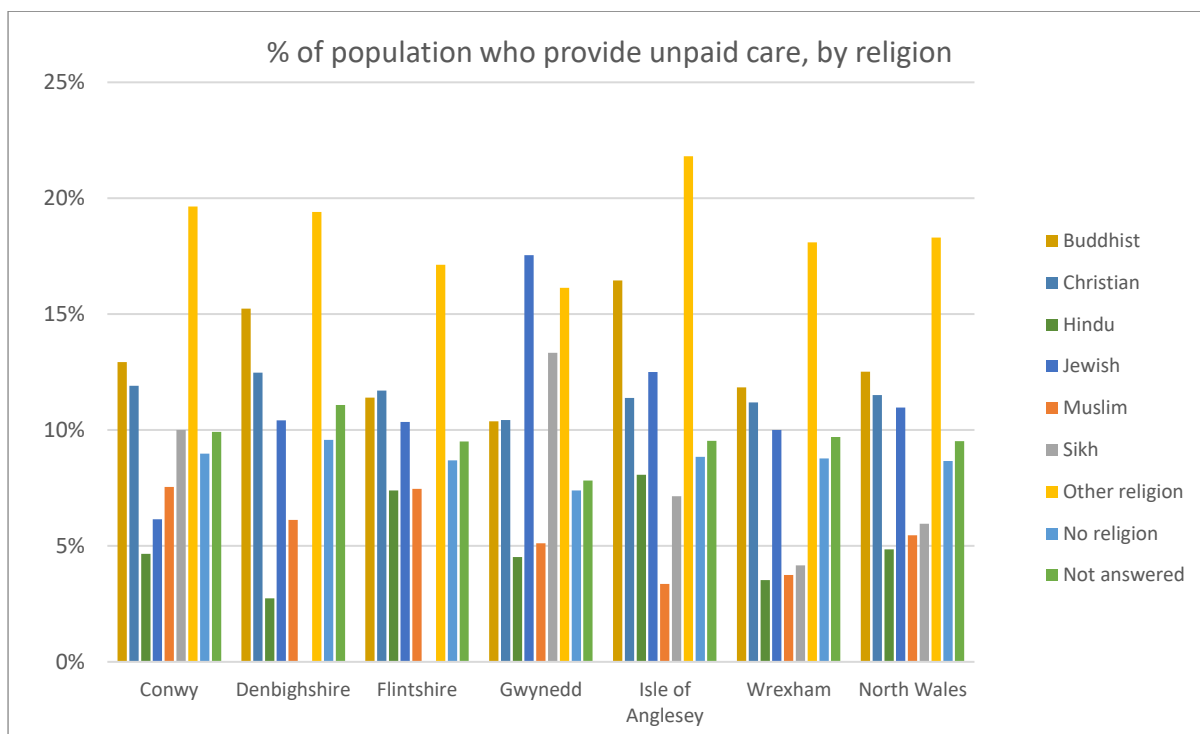


Figure 53 – Percentage of population who provide unpaid care by religion (ONS, 2023).

In North Wales, the highest proportion of people who provide unpaid care by religion were Other Religion (18.3%) with the lowest being Hindu (4.9%). Some variation was seen in the different local authority areas as seen in the figure above.

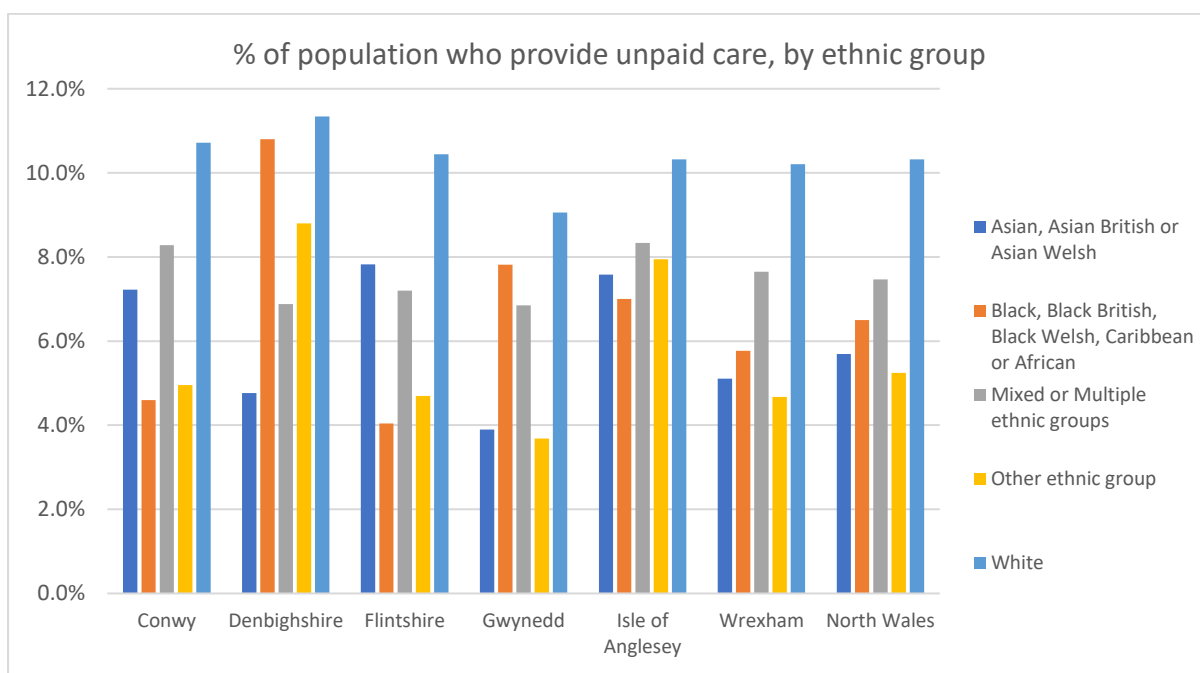


Figure 54 – Percentage of population who provide unpaid care by ethnic group (ONS, 2023).

In North Wales, the highest proportion of people who provide unpaid care by ethnic group were White (10.3%) and the lowest were Other Ethnic Group (5.2%). Some variation was seen in the local authority areas.

6.3.7 Abuse and Neglect

The last North Wales Equality Report contained at risk adults from 2017/18. The latest data identified was from 2018/19 and is shown in the table below (Table 10).

Table 10 - Adults suspected of being at risk of abuse or neglect reported during the year by local authority area ([Welsh Government, 2019](#))

Area	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	Increase between 17/18 and 18/19
Isle of Anglesey	166	174	204	17.2%
Gwynedd	349	326	394	20.9%
Conwy	286	468	552	17.9%
Denbighshire	398	422	450	6.6%
Flintshire	350	403	501	24.3%
Wrexham	786	793	827	4.3%
North Wales	2,335	2,586	2,928	13.2%
Wales	11,761	13,741	14,938	8.7%

In 2018/19 2,928 adults were suspected of being at risk of abuse or neglect in North Wales, an increase from 2,335 in 2016/17 and 2,586 in 2017/18.

Additional data was also identified regarding children receiving care and support on the Child Protection Register, as shown in the table below (Table 11).

Table 11 - Children receiving care and support on the Child Protection Register by local authority and gender ([Welsh Government, 2022](#))

Area	2018			2019			2020			2021		
	Male	Female	All	Male	Female	All	Male	Female	All	Male	Female	All
Isle of Anglesey	20	20	40	35	40	80	40	30	70	30	35	65
Gwynedd	45	40	85	20	25	50	40	35	75	50	50	95
Conwy	30	20	50	20	20	40	30	25	55	10	20	30
Denbighshire	35	45	80	40	70	110	40	60	95	25	25	50
Flintshire	55	50	110	55	30	85	65	50	115	55	55	110
Wrexham	55	65	120	75	80	155	70	70	140	60	70	130
North Wales	240	240	485	245	265	520	285	270	550	230	255	480
Wales	1,220	1,145	2,365	1,135	1,075	2,210	1,250	1,130	2,380	1,240	1,225	2,470

In 2021 there were 480 children receiving care and support on the Child Protection Register in North Wales, which is equal to 3.6 per 1,000 population under 18 years old.

7. Health

7.1 Access to Health

7.1.1 Waiting and Referral Times

The Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board (BCUHB) is the health board for the North Wales area, and data is available showing the percentage of patients who waiting more than 26 weeks for treatment in this health board, as shown in the figure below (Figure 55).

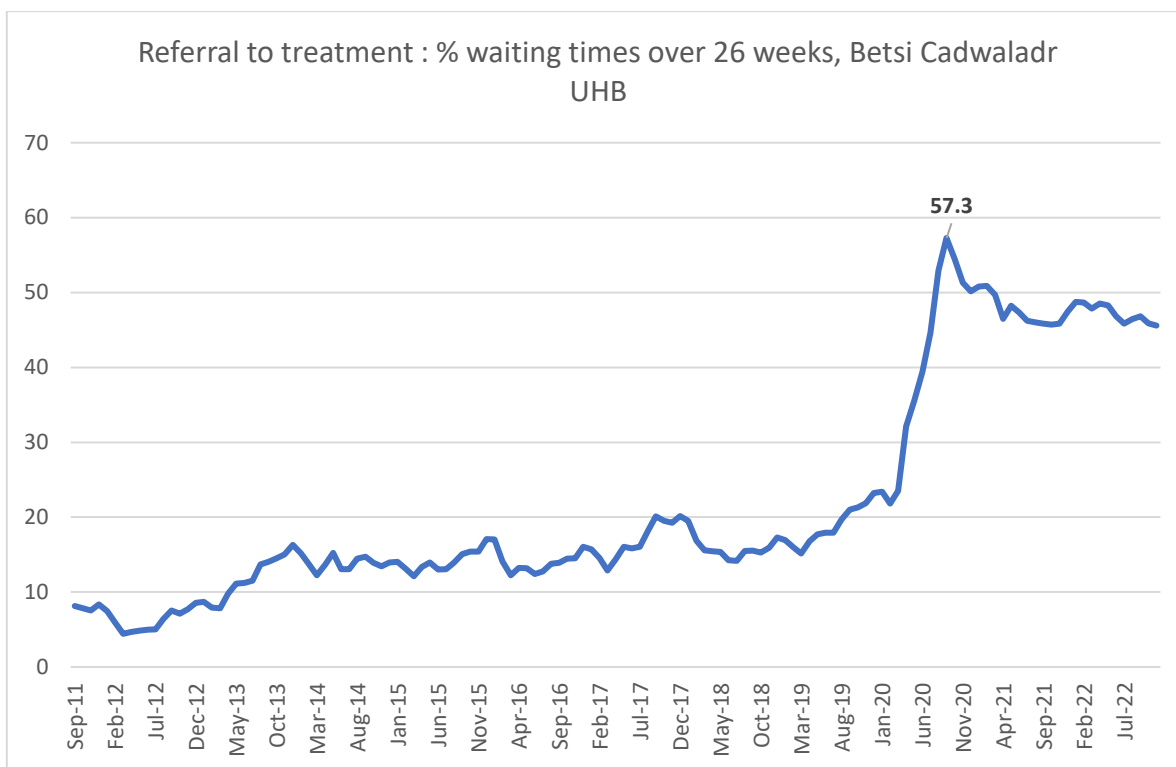


Figure 55 – Referral to treatment: percentage waiting times over 26 weeks at the Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board ([Welsh Government, 2023](#)).

According to the latest available data (November 2022) 45.6% of patients waited more than 26 weeks for treatment (referral to treatment waiting times). This is significantly higher than the data included in the last North Wales equality report where 12.7% of patients waited more than 26 weeks for treatment (July 2019). Waiting times were increasing prior to the Covid-19 pandemic, however the situation worsened significantly during 2020 when this percentage peaked at 57.3% in September 2020.

Data is also available for Welsh Ambulance Service emergency response times for red and amber calls. This data is shown by local health board and all-Wales although in all cases this data relates to a service provided by the Welsh Ambulance Service.

Red calls are immediately life-threatening (that is a patient in imminent danger of death, such as a cardiac arrest). According to the latest available data from the [Welsh Government](#) in December 2022, 37.7% of red calls were responded to in the BCUHB area by the Welsh Ambulance Service within 8 minutes. This has reduced significantly from the data included in the last report where 69.0% of red calls were responded to in 8 minutes in June 2019. Both percentages were lower than the all Wales

percentage where 39.5% and 72.5% of red calls were responded to in 8 minutes in December 2022 and June 2019 respectively.

Amber calls are serious but not immediately life threatening (that is a patient who will often need treatment to be delivered on the scene, and may then need to be taken to hospital). According to the latest available data from the [Welsh Government](#), in December 2022 3.6% of amber calls were responded to in the BCUHB area by the Welsh Ambulance Service within 8 minutes. This has reduced significantly from the data included in the last report where 13.6% of amber calls were responded to in 8 minutes in June 2019. The percentage for December 2022 was lower than the all-Wales percentage where 4.1% of amber calls were responded to in 8 minutes. The opposite was true in June 2019 where the percentage for Wales was lower than BCUHB area at 12.1%.

7.1.2 Access Issues for At Risk Groups

As in the previous report, unable to find relevant local data to supplement the discussion in ‘Is Wales Fairer (2018)?’.

7.2 Health Outcomes

7.2.1 People’s Current Health Status

The latest data available measuring people’s current health status is the self-reported general health data from the 2021 Census, with percentages for each of the North Wales local authority areas noted in the table below (Table 12). This data is not comparable with the previous equality report as the previous report looked at adult health only, whereas this report contains data for all usual residents.

Table 12 – General health in 2021 for all usual residents for each of the six local authority areas in North Wales and Wales from the Census 2021 ([ONS, 2023](#)).

Area	Very good health	Good health	Fair health	Bad health	Very bad health
Conwy	44.5	33.4	15.5	5.1	1.5
Denbighshire	45.0	32.6	15.3	5.4	1.7
Flintshire	47.4	33.5	13.5	4.3	1.3
Gwynedd	49.9	31.6	13.3	4.0	1.1
Isle of Anglesey	47.6	31.8	14.8	4.4	1.3
Wrexham	45.4	34.0	14.3	4.9	1.3
North Wales	46.7	33.0	14.3	4.7	1.4

This data shows that Gwynedd has the highest proportion of residents in North Wales in very good health in the 2021 Census (49.9%), followed by the Isle of Anglesey (47.6%) and Flintshire (47.4%). On the other hand, the lowest proportion in self-reported very good health was Conwy (44.5%).

At the other end of the scale, the highest percentage of residents who self-reported bad or very bad health was Denbighshire (7.1%) followed by Conwy (6.6%). The lowest percentage was in Gwynedd (5.2%).

It is possible to analyse this data by age, ethnic group, sex, disability, socio-economic class and religion as shown in the figures below looking at bad or very bad health. Much of this data was not included in the previous report.

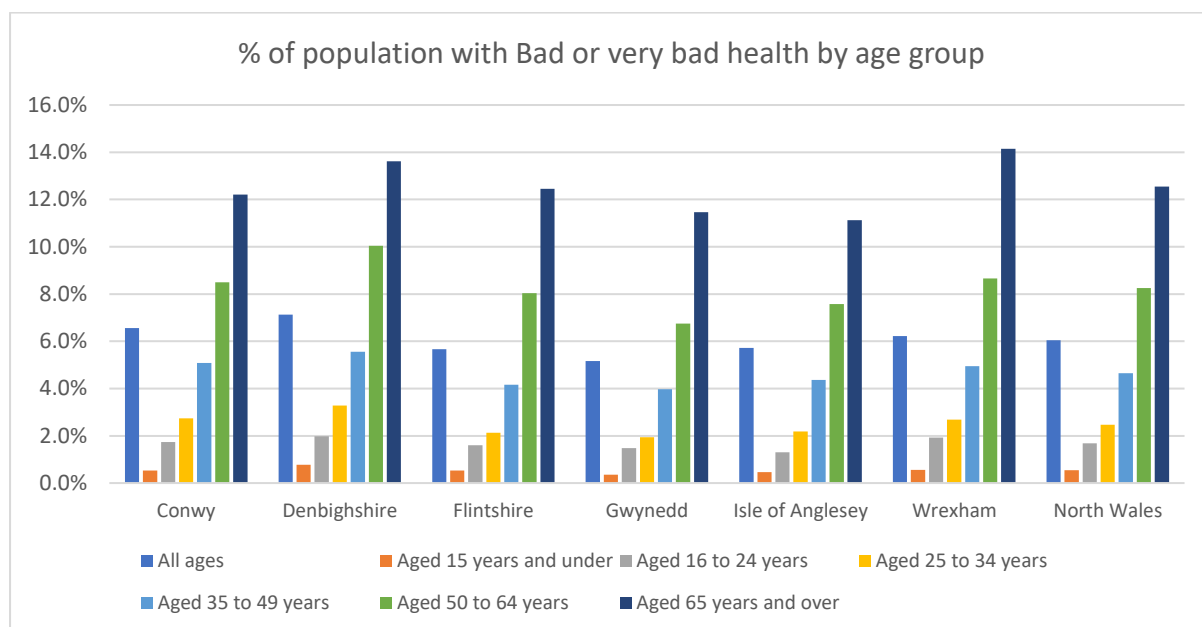


Figure 56 – Percentage of population with bad or very bad health by age group for each of the six local authority areas in North Wales and North Wales from the Census 2021 (ONS, 2023).

In North Wales, Census 2021 data shows that the age group with the highest proportion of people with bad or very bad health are those ages 65 and over (12.5%), with the lowest proportion in those aged 15 years and under (0.5%). This was seen in all local authority areas with some variation in the percentages.

It was also possible to analyse child health using the 2021 Census (not shown in the figure above). In North Wales, the highest percentage within the population aged 17 years or under with bad or very bad health were aged 16 to 17 years (1.2% of this population), and the lowest percentage in North Wales was in those aged 2 years and under (0.3% of this population). There was some variation in the local authority areas although the highest percentage was in those aged 16 to 17 years in all local areas except Denbighshire where the highest percentage was in those aged 15 years (1.7% of this population). It is not possible to compare this data with the data included in the previous report as an alternative data source was used.

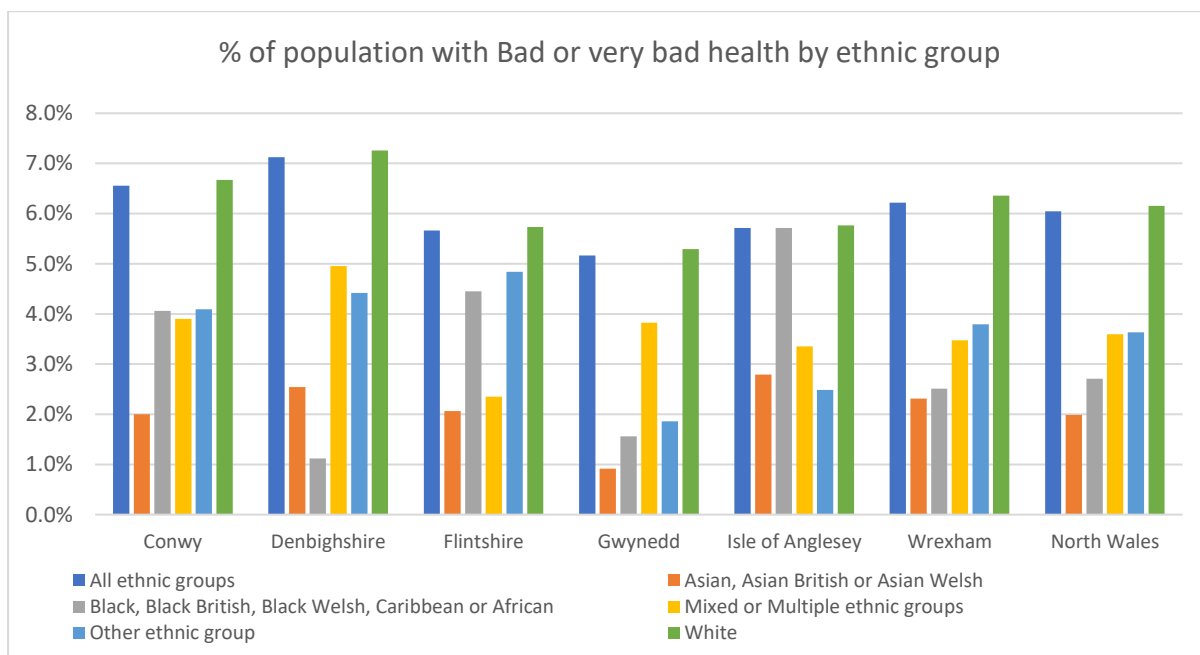


Figure 57 – Percentage of population with bad or very bad health by ethnic group for each of the six local authority areas in North Wales and North Wales from the Census 2021 (ONS, 2023).

In North Wales, Census 2021 data shows that the ethnic group with the highest proportion of people with bad or very bad health was White (6.2%), with the lowest proportion for Asian, Asian British or Asian Welsh (2.0%). The highest proportion was White in all local authority areas, although there was a similar percentage of White and Black, Black British, Black Welsh, Caribbean or African people with bad or very bad health in the Isle of Anglesey (5.8% and 5.7% respectively). The lowest proportion was Asian, Asian British or Asian Welsh in all local areas except Denbighshire where the lowest proportion was Black, Black British, Black Welsh, Caribbean or African.

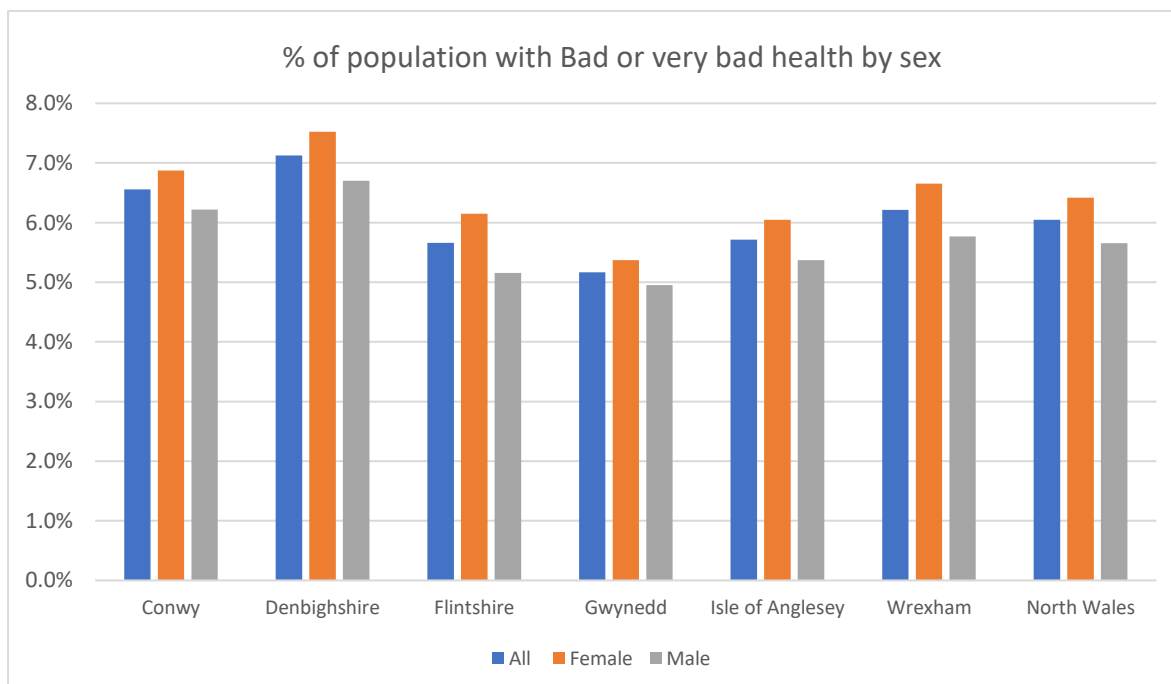


Figure 58– Percentage of population with bad or very bad health by sex for each of the six local authority areas in North Wales and North Wales from the Census 2021 (ONS, 2023).

In North Wales, a higher proportion of the female population were in bad or very bad health (6.4%) compared to males (5.7%). This was consistent in all local authority areas.

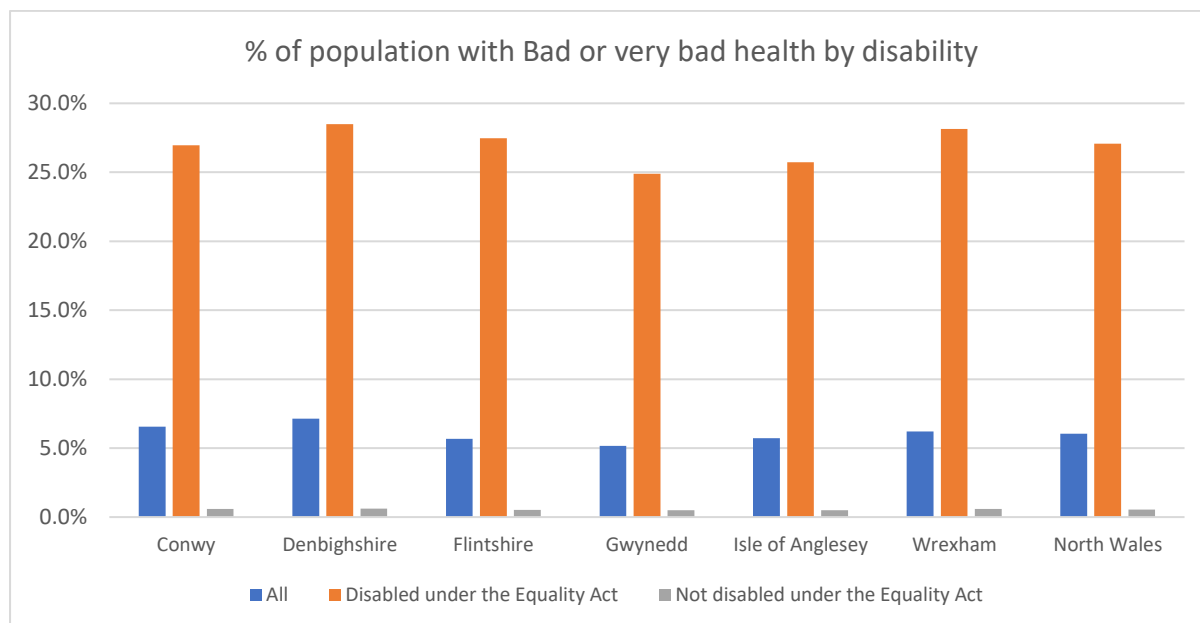


Figure 59 – Percentage of population with bad or very bad health by disability for each of the six local authority areas in North Wales and North Wales from the Census 2021 (ONS, 2023).

The proportion of disabled people with bad or very bad health in the Census 2021 in North Wales was 27.1%, far higher than the proportion of non-disabled people which was 0.6%. This was consistent in all local authority areas.

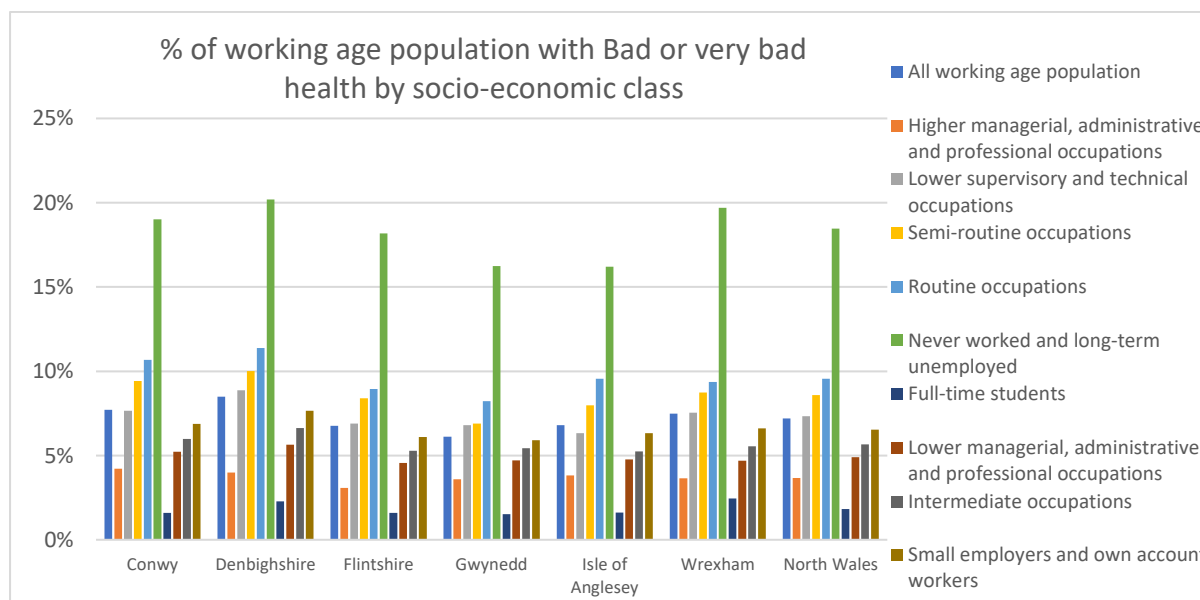


Figure 60 – Percentage of working age population with bad or very bad health by socio-economic classification for each of the six local authority areas in North Wales and North Wales from the Census 2021 (ONS, 2023).

In North Wales and all the local areas the highest proportion of working age with bad or very bad health by socio-economic classification were people who have never worked and long-term

unemployed, where the proportion was 18.5% in North Wales. The lowest proportion in North Wales and the local areas were full-time students, with a proportion of 1.8% in North Wales.

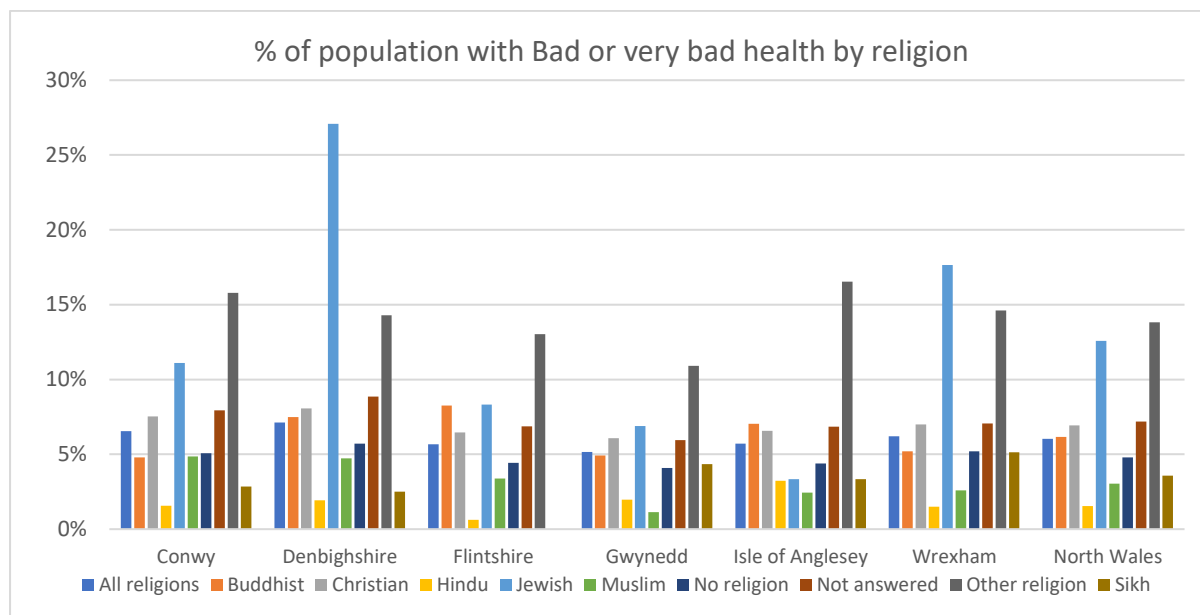


Figure 61– Percentage of population with bad or very bad health by religion for each of the six local authority areas in North Wales and North Wales from the Census 2021 (ONS, 2023).

In North Wales, the highest percentage of population with bad or very bad health by religion was Other Religion (13.8%) and the lowest was Hindu (1.5%). There was some variation in the different local authority areas.

7.2.2 Health Outcomes for Other Groups

Additional data has been identified looking at health outcomes for different groups that was not included in the previous report.

Homelessness

A publication from Public Health Wales (PHW) looking at the health of individuals with lived experience of homelessness in Wales during the Covid pandemic states that homelessness causes and is a consequence of poor health outcomes, as well as having difficulty accessing healthcare (Public Health Wales, 2021). Health issues may include poor mental health, physical illness and substance dependency (PHW, 2021). Excess preventable morbidities and a reduced health expectancy also affects the homeless population, and the tables below note the number of deaths of homeless people by local authority area (Table 13) and the mean age at death amongst homeless people in England and Wales (Table 14).

Table 13 - Deaths of homeless people (identified and estimated) by local authority, 2017 to 2021, for the six local authority areas in North Wales (ONS, 2022).

Area name	2021 - Identified deaths	2020 - Identified deaths	2019 - Identified deaths	2018 - Identified deaths	2017 - Identified deaths	2021 - Estimated deaths	2020 - Estimated deaths	2019 - Estimated deaths	2018 - Estimated deaths	2017 - Estimated deaths
Conwy	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Denbighshire	1	0	2	0	0	2	0	3	0	0
Flintshire	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	0
Gwynedd	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0
Isle of Anglesey	0	2	0	2	0	0	3	0	3	0
Wrexham	1	0	3	2	5	2	0	4	3	6

Table 14 - Mean age at death among homeless people, England and Wales, deaths registered between 2013 and 2021 (ONS, 2022).

Cause of death	Age	Sex	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
Deaths of homeless people (identified)	Aged between 15 and 74	Males	45.4	45.9	46.4	45.1	45.2	45.2	44.7	44.7	44.2
Deaths of homeless people (identified)	Aged between 15 and 74	Females	43.2	41.6	43.9	43.0	43.0	42.0	41.3	41.4	43.8
All causes of death	Aged between 15 and 74	Males	61.9	62.3	62.0	61.9	62.1	61.8	61.8	61.7	61.7
All causes of death	Aged between 15 and 74	Females	62.9	63.1	62.9	62.9	62.9	62.7	62.6	62.5	62.5
All causes of death	All ages	Males	75.9	76.5	76.1	76.0	76.0	75.7	75.8	75.4	75.4
All causes of death	All ages	Females	80.6	81.1	80.9	81.0	81.1	80.8	81.1	80.7	80.9

Disabled People

Data from the 2021 Census noted that there are 142,230 disabled people in North Wales. There is data available showing the breakdown of the disabled population by sex and age as shown in the figures below (Figure 62 and Figure 63).

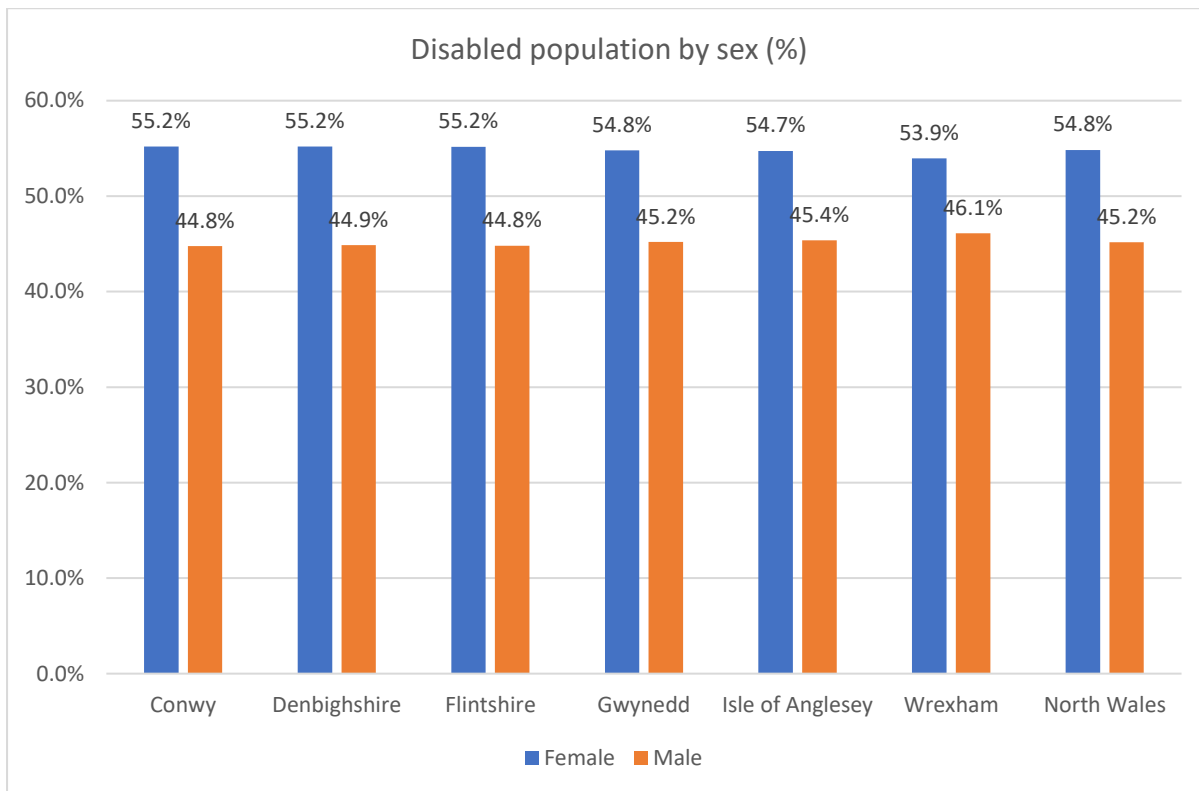


Figure 62 – Disabled population by sex in North Wales and the six local authority areas in 2021 (ONS, 2023).

Most of the disabled population in 2021 in North Wales was female (78,005 people or 54.8%), this is also the case in all six local authority areas.

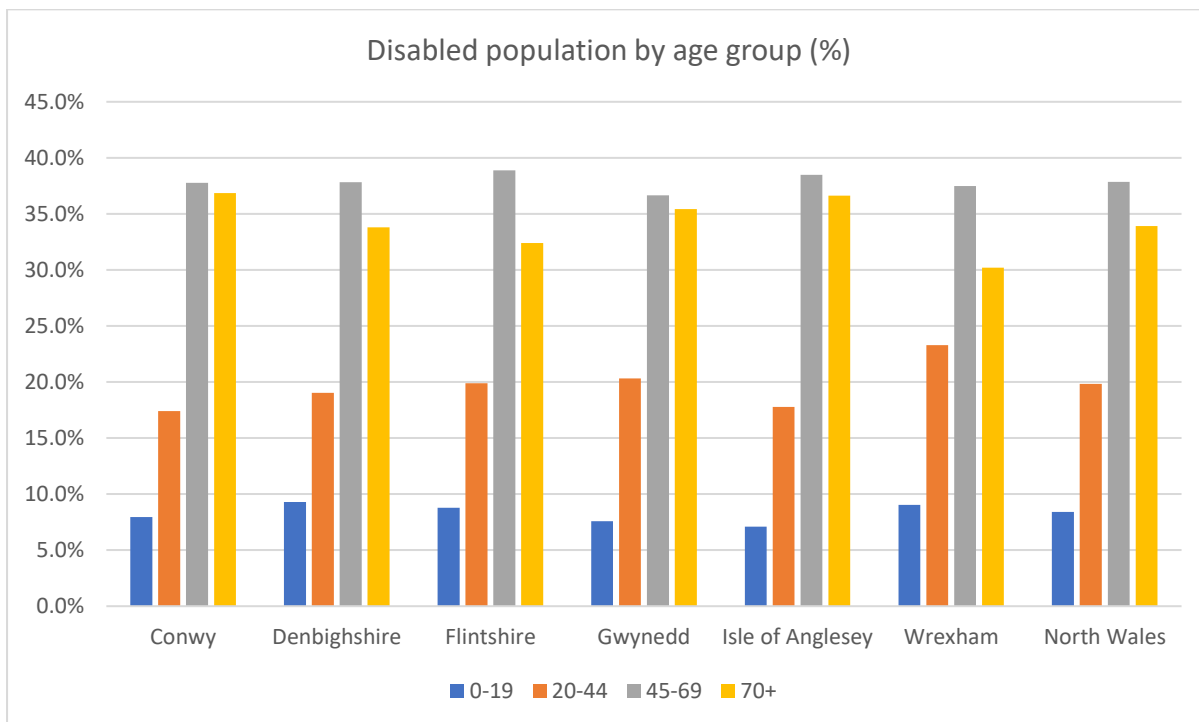


Figure 63 – Disabled population by age group in North Wales and the six local authority areas in 2021 (ONS, 2023).

Most of the disabled population in 2021 in North Wales was in the 45-69 age group (53,845 people or 37.9%), followed by the 70+ age group (48,225 people or 33.9%). A similar breakdown is seen in the six local authority areas.

The Census also included data noting self-reported severity of disability (Figure 64).

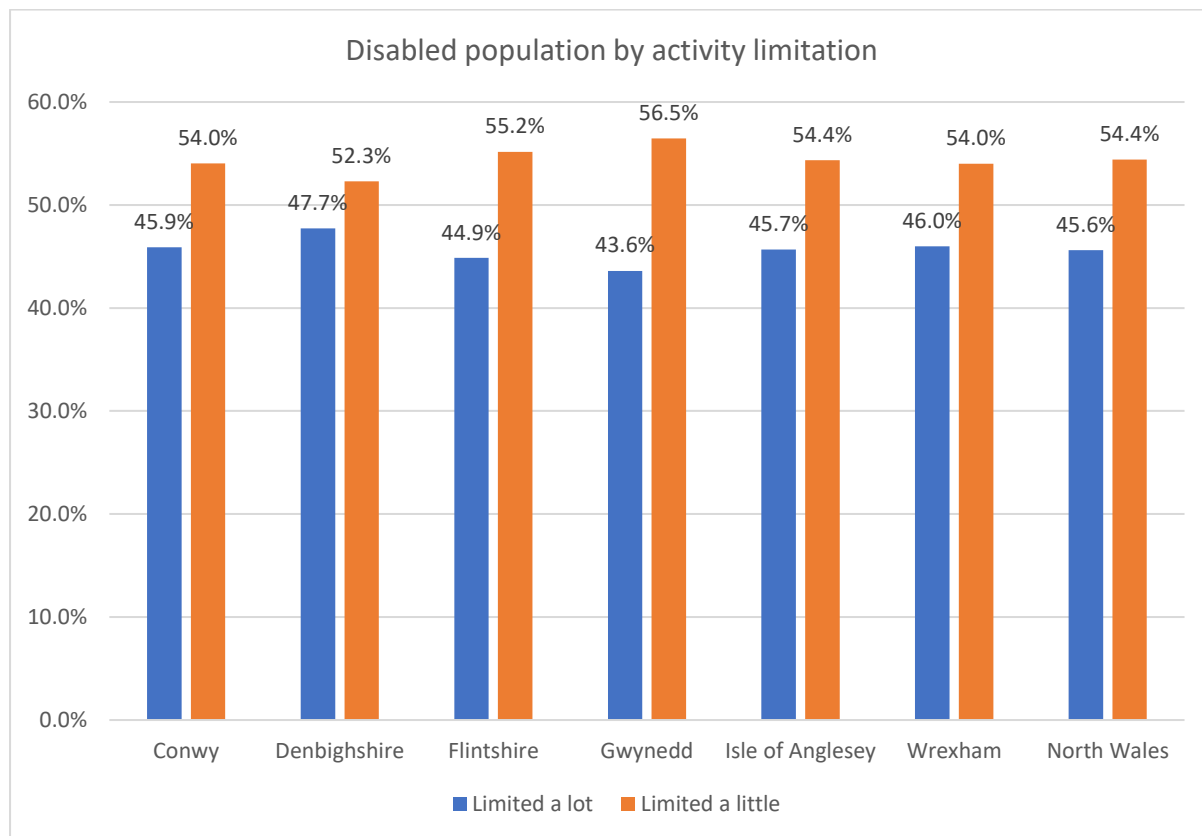


Figure 64 – Disabled population by activity limitation in North Wales and the six local authority areas in 2021 (ONS, 2023).

In North Wales, more disabled people noted that their activities were limited a little (77,390 people or 54.4%) than limited a lot (64,860 people or 45.6%). A similar split was noted in all local authority areas.

Transgender

Research undertaken by [Stonewall in 2017](#) found that 51% of the transgender people surveyed in Wales noted that ‘healthcare staff lacked understanding of specific trans health needs when accessing general healthcare services in the last year’. This was higher than the 41% noted in Britain.

In Britain 7% of transgender people noted that ‘they have been refused care because they are LGBT, while trying to access healthcare services in the last year’.

Gypsies and Travellers

Research undertaken by the [ONS in 2022](#) regarding the lived experience of Gypsy and Traveller communities noted the following key findings in their qualitative research; there is potential vulnerability to negative health outcomes in the community due to delay or barriers when accessing healthcare services, as well as a range of health conditions noted. Any delay in accessing healthcare could delay diagnosis, treatment, screening and preventative care.

There was also a description of health conditions that were felt by participants to be associated with environmental conditions and occupational hazards. Furthermore, for those without a fixed address, there were challenges when registering with a GP Surgery. Also, access to healthcare may be undermined by experiences of perceived discrimination and derogatory attitudes by healthcare providers.

7.2.3 Suicide

Using data from the ONS, we can see the number of deaths and age-standardised rates per 100,000 population for the North Wales local authority areas as shown in the table below (Table 15).

Table 15 - Number of deaths from suicide and age-standardised suicide rates per 100,000 population for the six North Wales local authority areas and Wales. Rolling three year aggregates, deaths registered 2015 to 2021 (ONS, 2022).

Area	2019 to 2021		2018 to 2020		2017 to 2019		2016 to 2018		2015 to 2017	
	Number of deaths	Rate per 100,000	Number of deaths	Rate per 100,000	Number of deaths	Rate per 100,000	Number of deaths	Rate per 100,000	Number of deaths	Rate per 100,000
Conwy	31	9.9	31	10.0	35	11.5	34	11.1	29	9.6
Denbighshire	37	14.7	36	15.1	32	13.4	27	11.2	26	10.9
Flintshire	38	9.5	47	11.7	56	14.1	48	11.9	42	10.3
Gwynedd	37	11.3	34	10.2	48	15.5	51	16.4	49	16.1
Isle of Anglesey	20	11.4	20	10.8	24	13.1	25	13.4	28	15.2
Wrexham	53	14.9	47	13.3	45	12.7	38	10.8	35	9.9
Wales	962	11.7	964	11.8	1,039	12.7	1,031	12.6	1,032	12.7

The table above notes that the highest age-standardised suicide rates of the six North Wales local authority areas in the latest data for 2019-2021 was Wrexham (14.9 per 100,000) and Denbighshire (14.7 per 100,000). The lowest rates were Flintshire (9.5 per 100,000) and Conwy (9.9 per 100,000). It should be noted that this varies during the different periods noted in the table, and in 2017-2019, 2016-2018 and 2015-2017 the rate was highest in Gwynedd and Wrexham was either the lowest or amongst the lowest rates.

The previous North Wales Equality Report contained suicide rate data from 2013-2017 and noted that the highest rate at this time was in Gwynedd and lowest in Conwy, although the data is not directly comparable as it covers a different time period.

Data analysing suicide rate by age and gender in North Wales and at the local authority level was included in the previous North Wales equality report, however it has not been possible to find updated data analysing suicide by protected characteristics at this level.

The last report noted that in 2011 the rate of suicide was highest in the 35-54 age group, followed by the 55-74 age group across North Wales and each local authority area (although these were small numbers at a local level). The rate of suicide was also higher in males than females in 2011, across North Wales and the local authority areas to some degree.

Although this data is not available at a North Wales or local authority level, there is data analysing suicide rate by age (using different age brackets), gender, and deprivation at an all-Wales level (ONS, 2022).

This Welsh data from 2017-2021 notes that suicide rates were highest in the 45-64 age group (14.9 per 100,000) followed by the 18-44 age group (14.8 per 100,000). The rate was lowest in the 10-17 age group (1.7 per 100,000).

The gender breakdown for Wales in 2017-2021 showed rates to be far higher in males than females, with rates of 19 per 100,000 and 5.7 per 100,000 respectively.

When looking at suicide rates broken down by deprivation in Wales in 2017-2021, the highest suicide rate was noted in the most deprived fifth (7.1 per 100,000) and lowest in the least deprived fifth (3.9 per 100,000).

In addition, research from the [ONS in 2023](#) looking at the socio-demographic inequalities of dying by suicide found that rates of dying by suicide were higher for disabled people than non-disabled people.

When analysing by ethnicity, the same research found that estimated suicide rates were highest in White and Mixed/Multiple ethnic groups and lowest for Arab ethnic group.

Unfortunately, data was not available for other protected characteristics at a Wales or local level.

7.2.4 Life Expectancy

There is data available from the ONS which notes life expectancy at birth at a local authority level, as shown in the figure below (Figure 65). It is important to note that the latest data available for this topic is pre-pandemic and so will not reflect the impact of Covid on this topic.

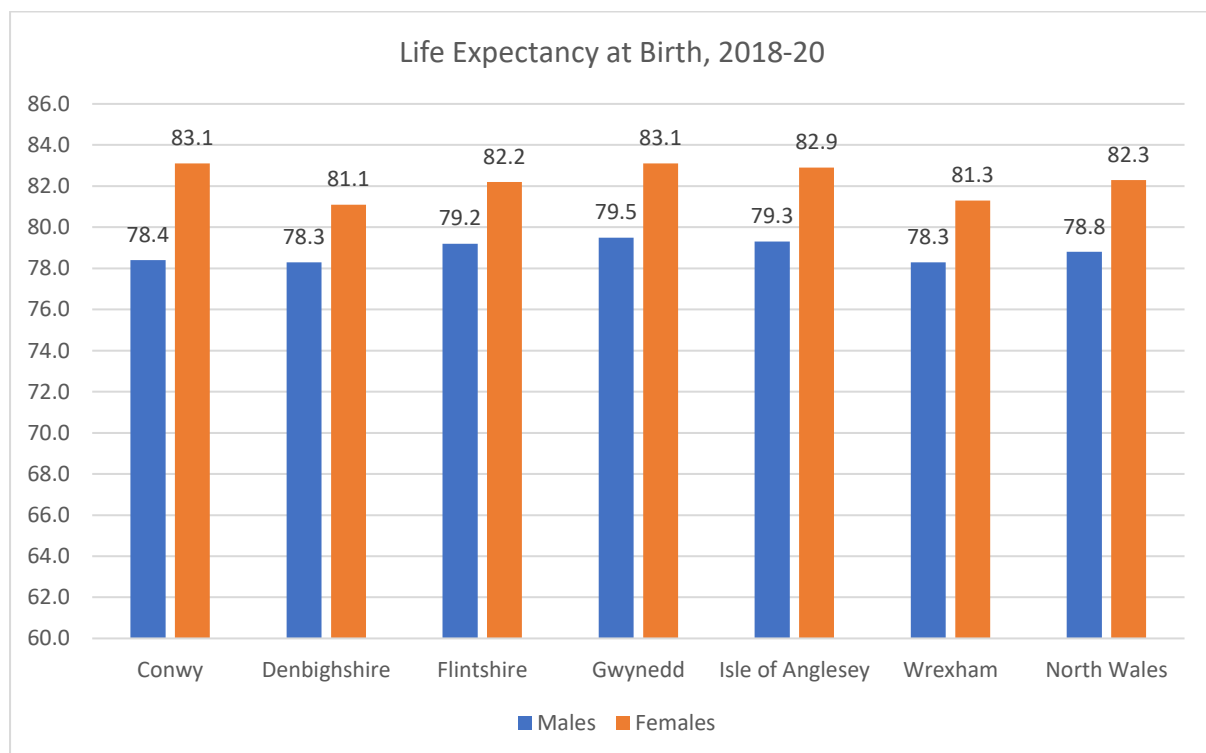


Figure 65 – Life expectancy at birth for males and females in North Wales and each of the six local authority areas in North Wales for 2018-20 ([ONS, 2021](#)).

In 2018-20, life expectancy at birth in North Wales was 82.3 for females and 78.8 for males as shown in the figure above. Life expectancy for females in North Wales has reduced since the last North Wales

equality report which included data from 2014-16 (previously female life expectancy was 82.6) whereas male life expectancy has remained the same across the region.

Analysis at a local authority level shows that the highest life expectancy for females in 2018-20 was in Conwy and Gwynedd (both 83.1). Gwynedd also had the highest female life expectancy in the previous data from 2014-16, although this has also reduced from 83.6. The lowest life expectancy for females as shown in the figure above was in Denbighshire (81.1), the previous data from 2014-16 noted that the lowest female life expectancy was in Wrexham (81.6). The highest life expectancy for males in the latest data from 2018-20 was in Gwynedd (79.5), whereas highest in the data from 2014-16 was Flintshire (79.2). The lowest life expectancy at birth in the latest data was Denbighshire and Wrexham (both 78.3). Denbighshire also had the lowest life expectancy for males in 2014-16 (77.5).

It is also important to look at healthy life expectancy, and this is shown in the figure below (Figure 66).

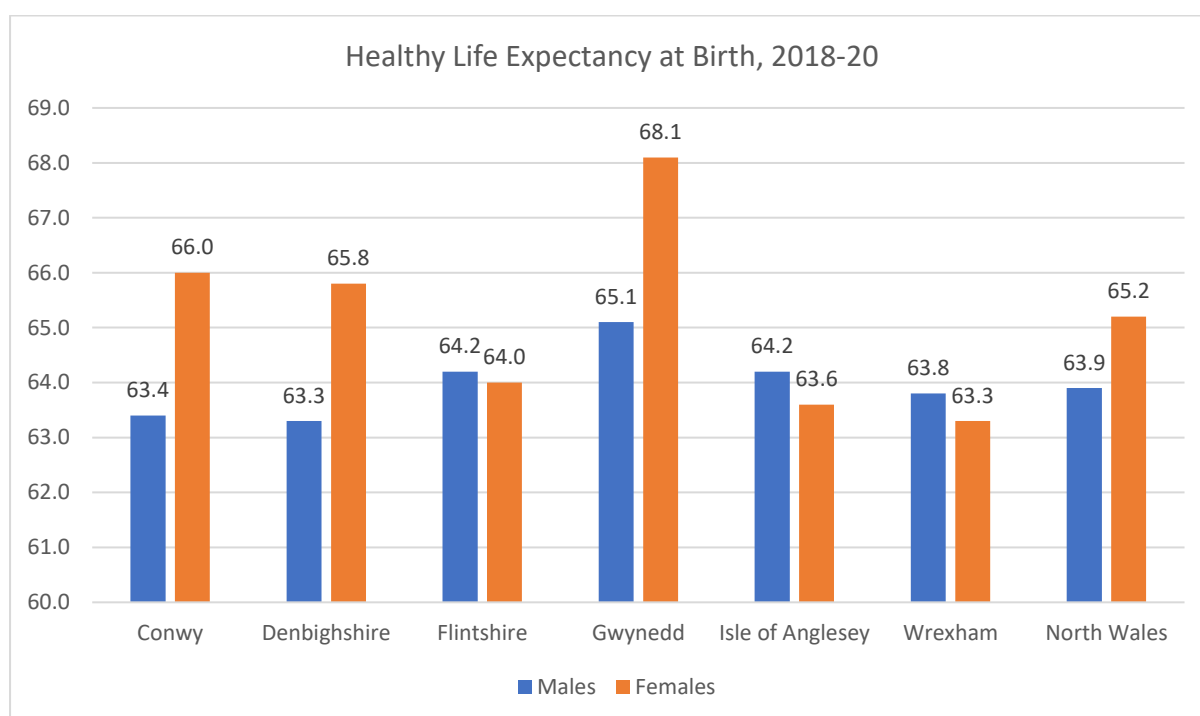


Figure 66 – Healthy life expectancy at birth for males and females in North Wales and each of the six local authority areas in North Wales for 2018-20 (ONS, 2021).

In 2018-20, healthy life expectancy at birth in North Wales was 65.2 for females and 63.9 for males as shown in the figure above. When analysing the data at a local authority level, Gwynedd has the highest female healthy life expectancy at birth (68.1) whilst Wrexham has the lowest (63.3). The highest male healthy life expectancy was also in Gwynedd (65.1), whilst the lowest was in Denbighshire (63.3). This data was not part of the previous equality report.

Data is also available noting disability free life expectancy at birth, and this is noted in the figure below (Figure 67).

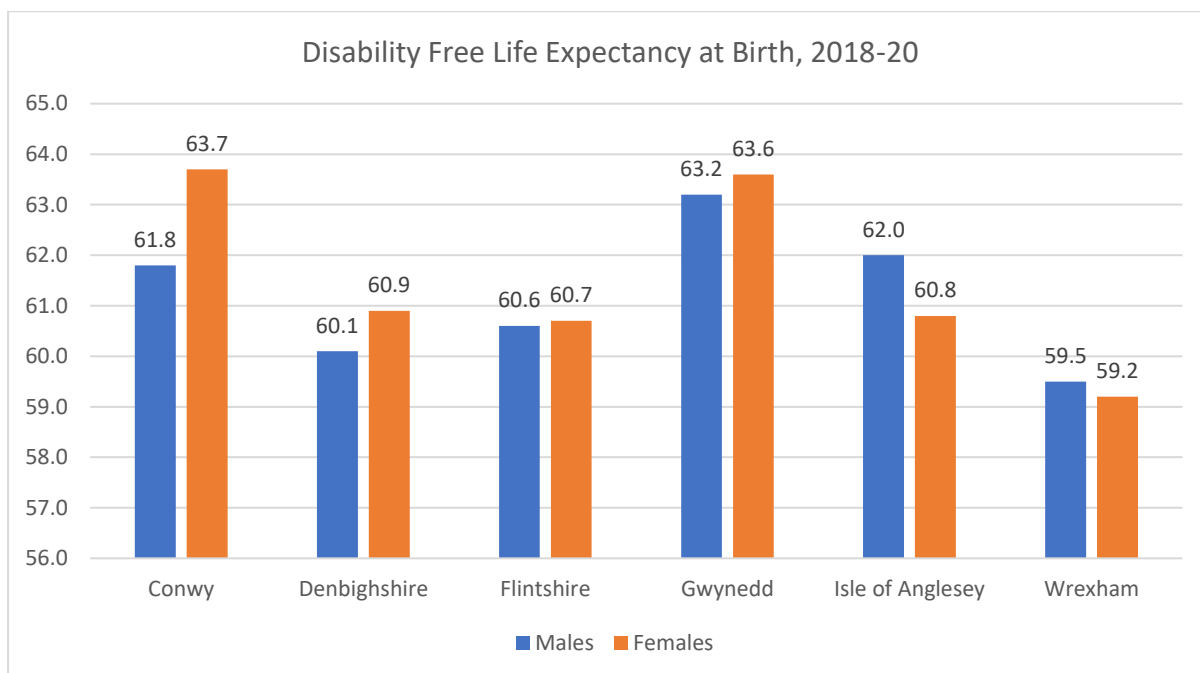


Figure 67 – Disability free life expectancy at birth for males and females in each of the six local authority areas in North Wales for 2018-20 (ONS, 2021).

Analysis of disability free life expectancy at a local authority level in 2018-20 shows that females had the highest expectancy in three of the local areas (Conwy, Denbighshire and Gwynedd) and slightly higher in one other local area – although this was very similar (Flintshire). Two of the local authority areas had higher expectancy for males (Wrexham and the Isle of Anglesey).

Furthermore, there is additional data available that looks at years expected to live with a limiting long term physical or mental condition by local authority area and gender as shown below (Figure 68).

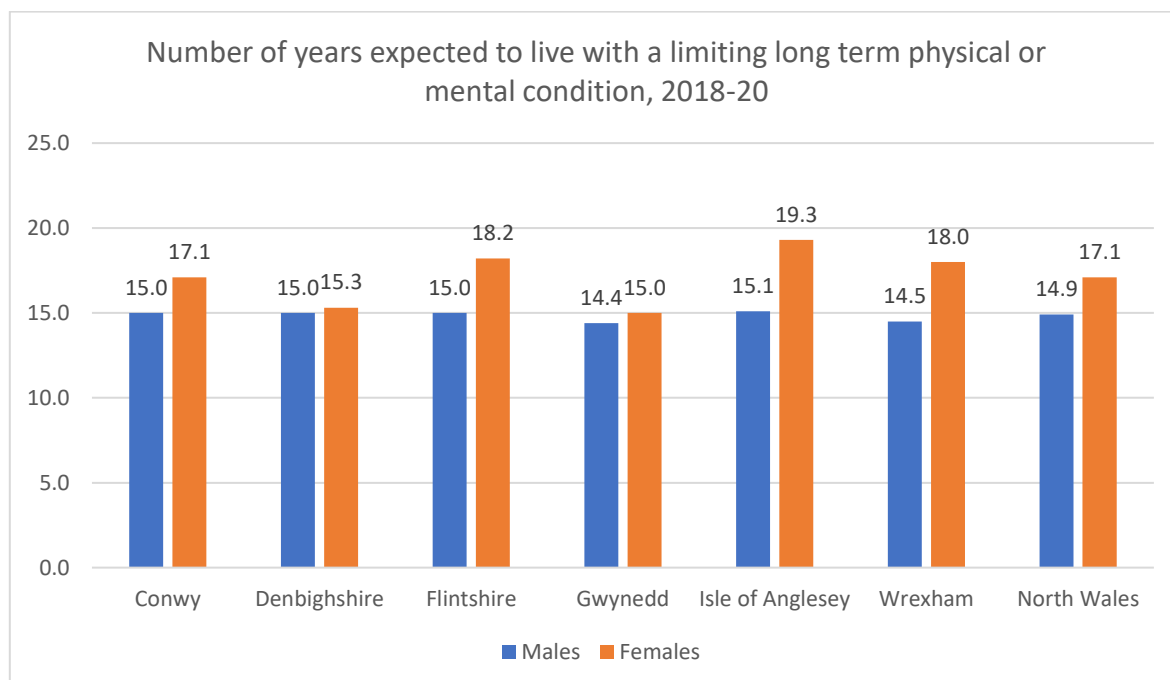


Figure 68 – Number of years expected to live with a limiting long term physical or mental condition for males and females in North Wales and each of the six local authority areas in North Wales for 2018-20 (ONS, 2021).

In the North Wales region and each of the local authority areas in North Wales females were expected to live with a limiting long term physical or mental condition for a longer number of years in 2018-20, as was the case in the previous data included in the North Wales equality report. In North Wales in 2018-20 females were expected to live with a limiting long term physical or mental condition for 17.1 years, compared with 14.9 for males. This has reduced from the data from 2014-16 where 20.9 years was noted for females and 17 years for males.

Of the North Wales local authority areas in 2018-20 the largest number of years for females and males was in the Isle of Anglesey (19.3 and 15.1 years respectively) and the shortest was in Gwynedd for both females and males (15.0 and 14.4 years respectively). It should therefore be noted that although females live longer in the region, they are also expected to live with a limiting long term physical or mental condition for a longer number of years.

There is also data available looking at the gap in years between the most deprived and the least deprived population in 2018-20 by local area and gender for both life expectancy at birth and healthy life expectancy at birth as shown in the figures below (Figure 69 and Figure 70 respectively). This was not included in the previous equality report.

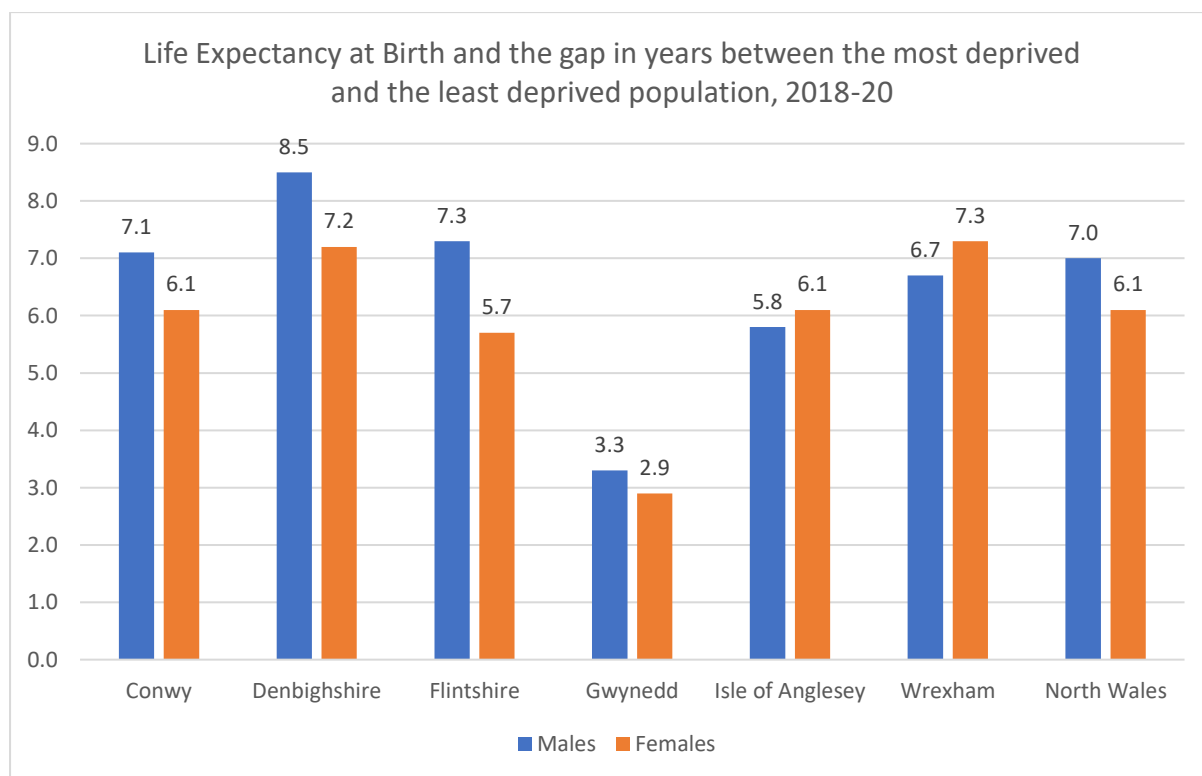


Figure 69 – Life expectancy at birth and the gap in years between the most deprived and the least deprived population for males and females in North Wales and each of the six local authority areas in North Wales for 2018-20 (ONS, 2021).

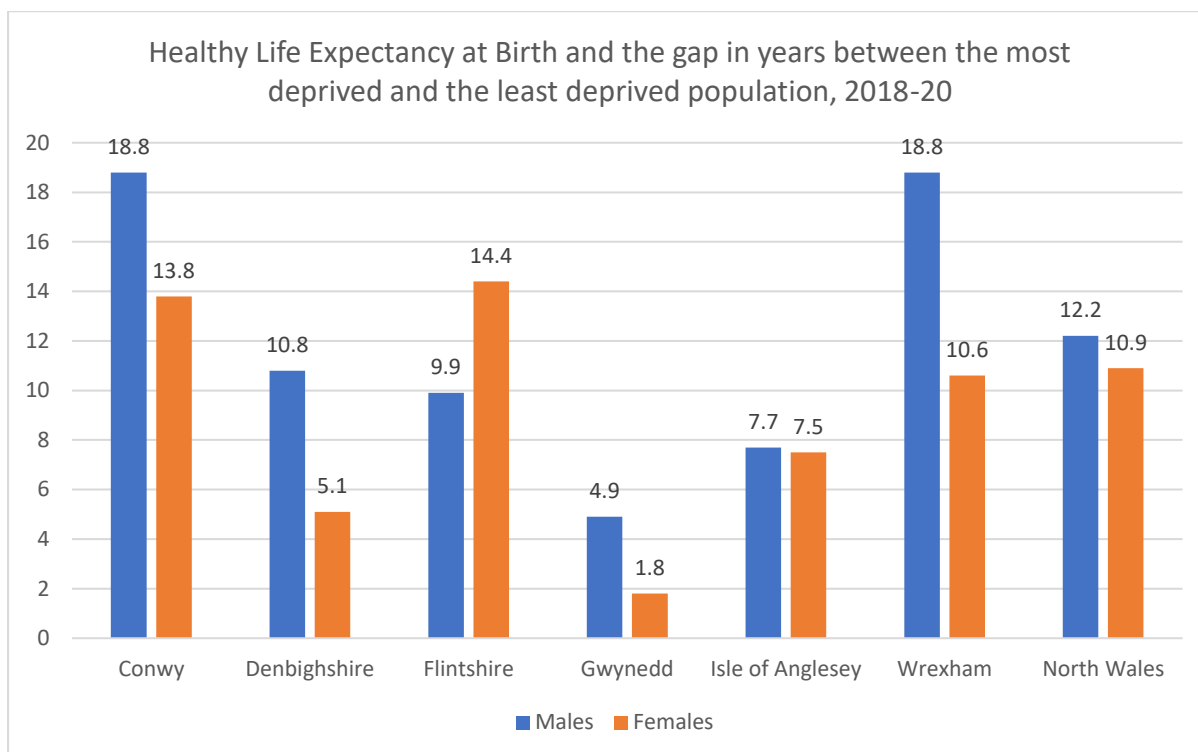


Figure 70 – Healthy life expectancy at birth and the gap in years between the most deprived and the least deprived population for males and females in North Wales and each of the six local authority areas in North Wales 2018-20 (ONS, 2021).

In 2018-20, the gap in years for both life expectancy at birth and healthy life expectancy at birth between the most deprived and least deprived population was higher for males than females in the North Wales region. The gap in life expectancy for males was 7.0 years and females was 6.1 years, where the healthy life expectancy gap was 12.2 for males and 10.9 for females.

This is not seen in all the North Wales local authority areas. When looking at the gap in life expectancy at birth between the most and least deprived population the gap is larger for males in four of the North Wales local areas (Conwy, Denbighshire, Flintshire and Gwynedd) with the largest gap for males seen in Denbighshire (8.5 years). The gap is larger for females than males in two of the local areas (Isle of Anglesey and Wrexham) with the largest gap for females seen in Wrexham (7.3 years).

When looking at the healthy life expectancy at birth gap in years between the most deprived and the least deprived population in 2018-20, the gap is larger in males than females in five local authority areas (Conwy, Denbighshire, Gwynedd, Isle of Anglesey and Wrexham), with the largest male gaps seen in Conwy and Wrexham (both 18.8 years). The female healthy life expectancy gap is higher in one local area (Flintshire), with the largest gap for females also seen in Flintshire (14.4 years).

Unfortunately, further data was not available looking at other protected characteristics.

7.2.5 Malnutrition

As noted in 'Is Wales Fairer (2018)?' and the previous North Wales equality report, there is only limited information available on malnutrition in general and no further local data has been found to add to that discussion.

However, there is updated data looking at the percentage of adults who eat five fruit or vegetable portions a day, as noted below (Figure 71). The source of this data has changed and so is not directly comparable.

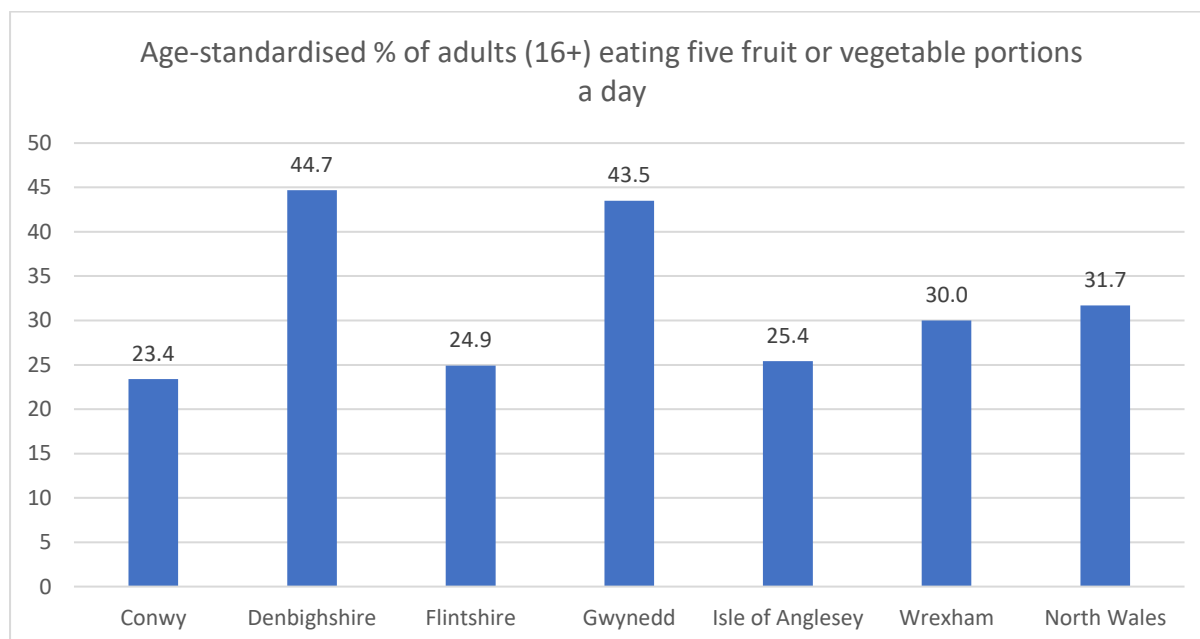


Figure 71 - Age-standardised % of adults (16+) eating five fruit or vegetable portions a day in North Wales and the six local authority areas in 2020-21 ([Welsh Government, 2022](#)).

The National Survey for Wales data shown in the figure above estimated that 31.7% of adults (16+) in North Wales ate five fruit or vegetable portions a day in 2020-21. The highest percentage of the North Wales local authority areas was in Denbighshire (44.7%) and lowest in Conwy (23.4%).

Further analysis by protected characteristic is not possible using this local data, however some data is available at an all-Wales level. In Wales in 2020-21, 30.7% of adults ate five portions a day. More males than females ate these portions (32.2% compared with 29.3%), and disabled people were less likely to eat five portions a day than non-disabled people (28.2% compared with 32.1%). When analysing different age groups, the group with the highest percentage eating five portions was 16-44 (33%) and the lowest was 85+ (21.3%), with a reduction seen in each advancing age group. Analysis was also undertaken by deprivation, and the most deprived fifth were the least likely to eat these portions (22%) and middle were most likely (35.1%). Although there is some benefit to assessing this data at an all-Wales level, it would be beneficial to assess whether similar patterns are seen at a more local level.

No updated data was identified looking at healthy weight and diet in children.

7.2.6 Infant Mortality

Infant mortality is measured by deaths per 1,000 live births of infants up to 1 year old, this data for North Wales and the local authority areas is shown in the figure below (Figure 72).

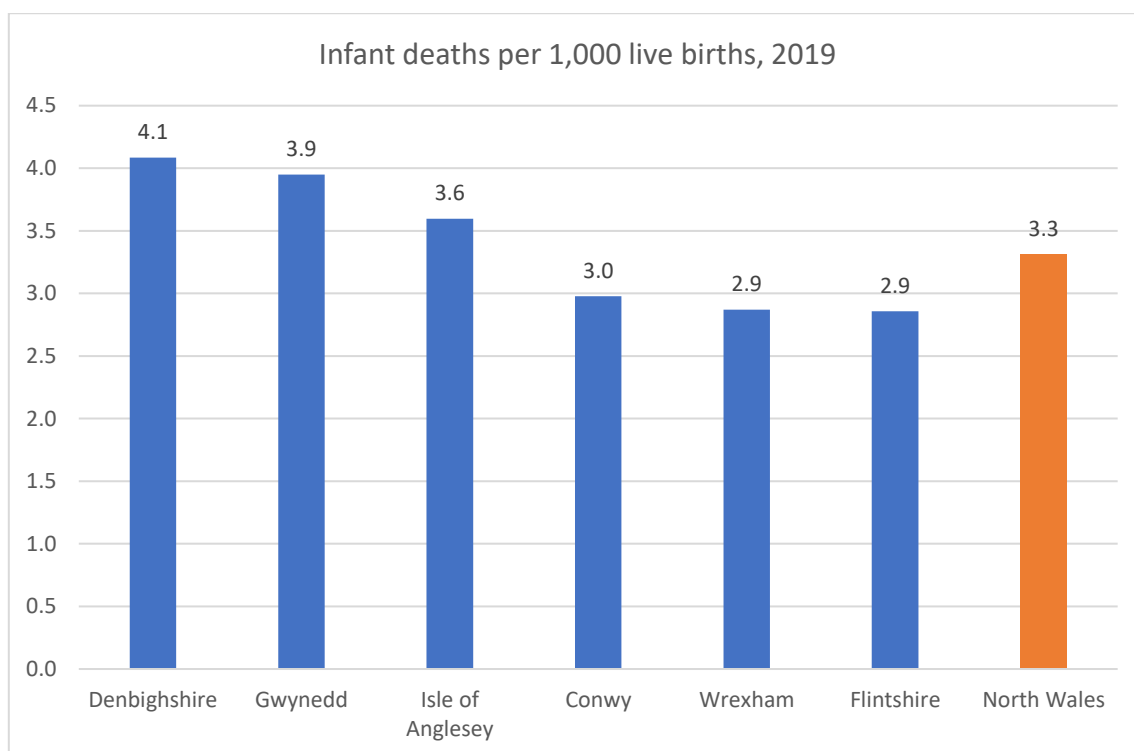


Figure 72 – Infant deaths per 1,000 live births in North Wales and the six local authority areas in 2019 (ONS, 2022).

In 2019 the rate for North Wales was 3.3, this is lower than the rate included in the previous North Wales equality which was 4.1 per 1,000 in 2016. The data for 2019 shown in the figure above shows that the range for the local areas was between 2.9 and 4.1, with the lowest being in Wrexham and Flintshire and highest in Denbighshire.

This local authority level data is not available to be analysed further by protected characteristic, however there is data for England and Wales that shows infant deaths by ethnic group. In 2019 the rate for all ethnic groups was 3.7, however this varied significantly between different ethnic groups from 2.9 per 1,000 to 8.4 per 1,000. The lowest rates were White Other (2.9) and White British (3.1), whereas the highest rates were Black Caribbean (8.4) and Pakistani (7.0).

7.2.7 Low Birth Weight

Data for babies born with a low birth weight in North Wales is shown in the figure below (Figure 73).

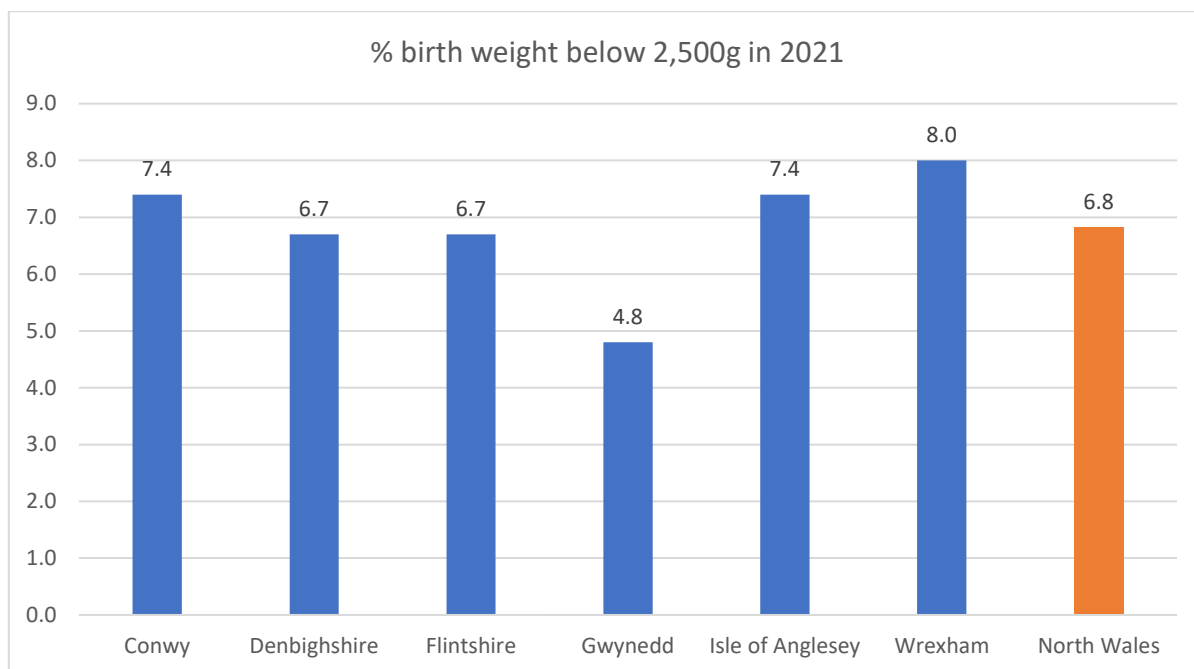


Figure 73 – Percentage with birth weight below 2,500g in 2021 in North Wales and the six local authority areas ([ONS, 2023](#))

In 2021, 6.8% of babies in North Wales were born with a low birth weight, that is below 2,500g. This is higher than the percentage included in the previous North Wales equality report where 6.1% of babies in North Wales were born with a low birth weight in 2017.

When analysing the data from 2021 at a local authority level, the percentage is lowest in Gwynedd (4.8%) and highest in Wrexham (8.0%). The data from 2017 included in the previous equality report also showed that Wrexham had the highest percentage in North Wales at 7.0%.

7.3 Mental Health

7.3.1 Population Reporting Poor Mental Health and Wellbeing

The previous North Wales equality report included the percentage of adults being treated for any mental illness in each local authority area. Unfortunately, updated data could not be located, and so alternative sources of data were identified.

In 2020-21, 1,183 patients were admitted to mental health facilities in the Betsi Cadwaladr UHB area, of whom 51.6% were male and 48.4% were female ([Welsh Government, 2022](#)). To compare, in 2016/17, 1,262 patients were admitted to mental health facilities in Betsi Cadwaladr UHB area, of whom 51.6% were male and 48.4% were female.

There is data available from the psychiatric census noting Wales and BCUHB data, and this is shown in the tables below (Table 16 and 17).

Table 16 - Patients in mental health hospitals and units in Wales and BCUHB with a learning disability ([Welsh Government, 2019](#)).

Area	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Wales	125	117	115	117	87
Betsi Cadwaladr UHB	21	16	18	24	15

The number of patients in mental health units in the BCUHB with a learning disability has fluctuated between 2015-2019. In 2019 86.7% (13 of the 15 patients) were men.

Table 17 - Patients in mental health hospitals and units in the BCUHB with a mental illness analysed by age ([Welsh Government, 2019](#)).

Age Group in BCUHB	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
All ages	224	236	237	224	239
under 18	8	14	10	5	9
18-44	89	96	95	93	91
45-64	54	46	54	52	58
65+	73	80	78	74	81

In 2019 most of the patients in mental health hospitals and units in the BCUHB with a mental illness were aged 18-44 (38.1%), followed by those aged 65+ (33.9%) and 45-64 (24.3%). The lowest number of patients were aged under 18 (3.8%). The equivalent data for Wales showed a similar pattern with the highest percentage aged 18-44 (37.9%), followed by those aged 65+ (35%) and 45-64 (25.2%). The lowest number of patients were also aged under 18 (1.9%).

7.3.2 Access to, and Quality of, Mental Health Services

The previous North Wales equality report did not include any data under this heading, however data has been identified showing Specialist Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (sCAMHS) patient pathways waiting for a first appointment by month (Table 18).

Table 18 - sCAMHS patient pathways waiting for a first appointment by month and grouped weeks for BCUHB showing number waiting up to and over 4 weeks between November 2021 and November 2022 ([Welsh Government, 2023](#)).

Month	Up to 4 weeks	Over 4 weeks	Total	Percentage waiting over 4 weeks
Nov-21	0	1	1	100.0%
Dec-21	2	0	2	0.0%
Jan-22	9	0	9	0.0%
Feb-22	6	5	11	45.5%
Mar-22	3	2	5	40.0%
Apr-22	1	0	1	0.0%
May-22	1	1	2	50.0%
Jun-22	2	1	3	33.3%
July-22	1	0	1	0.0%
Aug-22	0	0	0	0.0%
Sep-22	2	0	2	0.0%
Oct-22	1	1	2	50.0%
Nov-22	4	1	5	20.0%

7.3.3 Access to Psychological Therapies

No specific local information to add to the discussion in 'Is Wales Fairer (2018)?'.

7.3.4 Mental Health Provision for Looked After Children

The previous North Wales equality report did not include any data under this heading, however data has been identified and have been shown in the figure below (Figure 74).

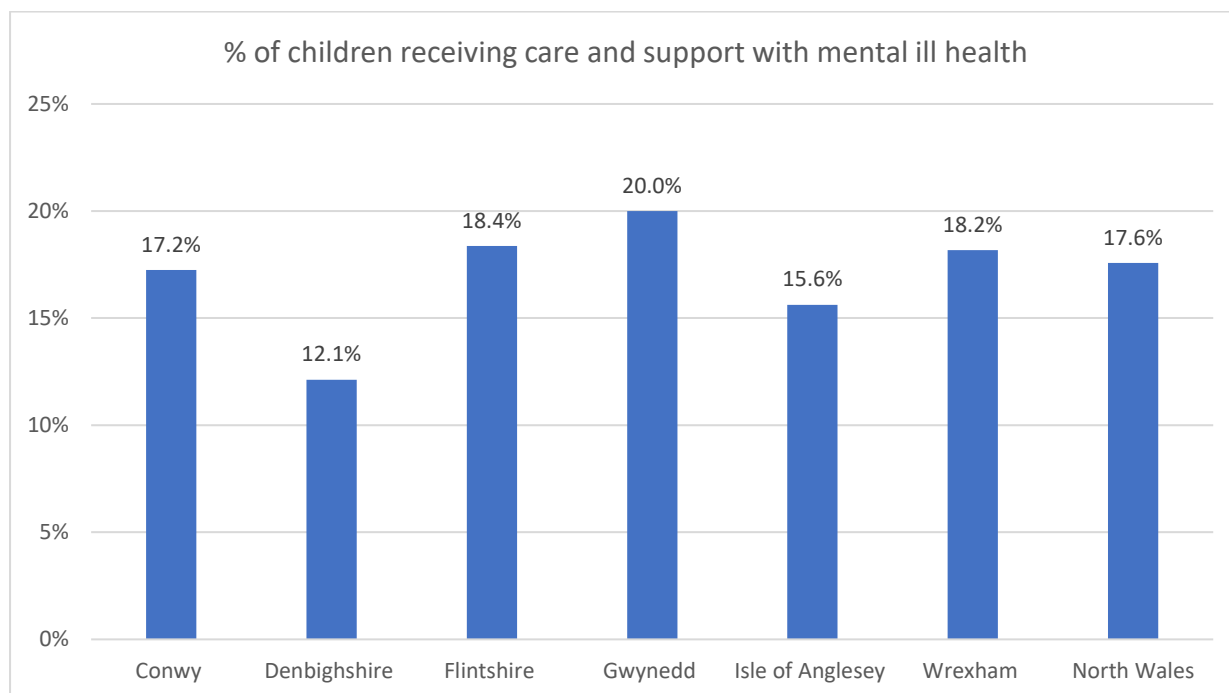


Figure 74 – Percentage of children receiving care and support by local authority area with mental ill health in 2021 ([Welsh Government, 2022](#)).

17.6% of children receiving care and support in North Wales of which mental health information was available reported child mental ill health on 31st March 2021. In the local authority areas this varied from 12.1% in Denbighshire to 20.0% in Gwynedd.

7.3.5 Suicides of Mental Health Service Users

As in the previous report, unable to find relevant local data to supplement the discussion in 'Is Wales Fairer (2018)?'.

7.3.6 Use of Restraint of Mental Health Service Users

As in the previous report, unable to find relevant local data to supplement the discussion in 'Is Wales Fairer (2018)?'.

7.3.7 Use of Mental Health Act and Supervised Community Treatment

As in the previous report, unable to find relevant local data to supplement the discussion in 'Is Wales Fairer (2018)?'.

8. Justice and Personal Security

8.1 Criminal and Civil Justice: Public Confidence and Access to Justice

8.1.1 Public Confidence in the Justice System

In North Wales in 2019/20, 59.5% of people ages 16+ said police do an excellent/good job in response to the Crime Survey for England and Wales ([ONS, 2020](#)). This compares with 55.4% across Wales, although the ONS notes that police force area estimates should be treated with caution due to small sample sizes.

This percentage has decreased since the previous North Wales equality report, where in 2018/19, 65% of those interviewed in North Wales agreed and 59.9% in Wales as a whole.

In the same survey in 2019/20, 59.5% of respondents in North Wales agreed that police deal with local concerns, the percentage in Wales was lower (53.3%). This percentage has also decreased since the previous report, where in 2018/19 63.4% of respondents in North Wales agreed and 59% in Wales agreed.

In addition, in the latest survey in 2019/20, 56.3% said they strongly agree/tend to agree that police and local council are dealing with issues in North Wales, compared with 55.8% in Wales. Once again this has decreased since the previous report where in 2018/19, 62.5% of respondents in North Wales agreed/strongly agreed and 62.9% in Wales.

There is no data available to analyse the responses by protected characteristics at a North Wales level.

8.1.2 Access to Courts and Tribunals

As in the previous report, unable to find relevant local data to supplement the discussion in 'Is Wales Fairer (2018)?'.

8.1.3 Provision of Legal Aid

As in the previous report, unable to find relevant local data to supplement the discussion in 'Is Wales Fairer (2018)?'.

8.2 Violence and Abuse: Hate Crimes, Homicides, and Sexual and Domestic Abuse

8.2.1 Hate Crime and Prejudice-Based Harassment

1,520 offences were recorded by North Wales Police as hate crime in 2021/22. This is an increase of 123.2% since the previous North Wales equality report, where 681 offences were recorded in 2017/18.

There are five strands by which hate crime is recorded, and the number of crimes by monitored strand in 2021/22 is shown below (Figure 75).

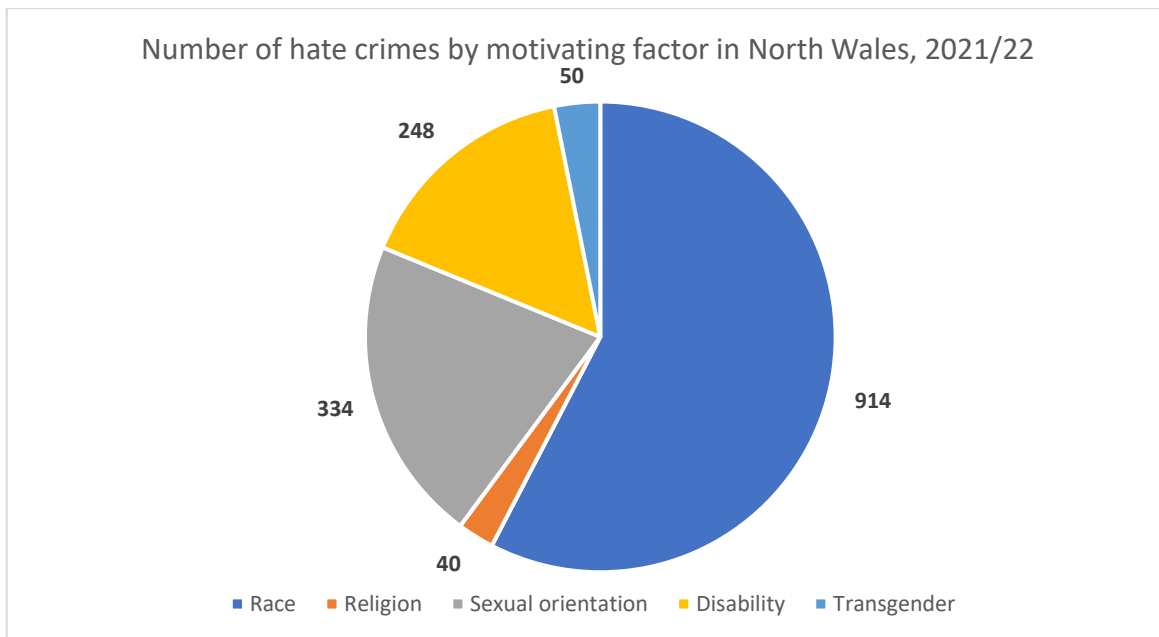


Figure 75 – Number of hate crimes by monitored strand in North Wales as recorded by North Wales Police in 2021/22 ([Home Office, 2022](#)). The total number across all strands is greater than the number of offences, since some offences were attributed to more than one factor.

This figure shows that of the hate crimes recorded in 2021/22, 914 (58%) related to race, 334 (21%) to sexual orientation, 248 (16%) to disability, 50 (3%) to transgender identity and 40 (3%) to religion.

The figure below (Figure 76) shows breakdown of hate crime by monitored strand from 2016/17 to 2021/22.

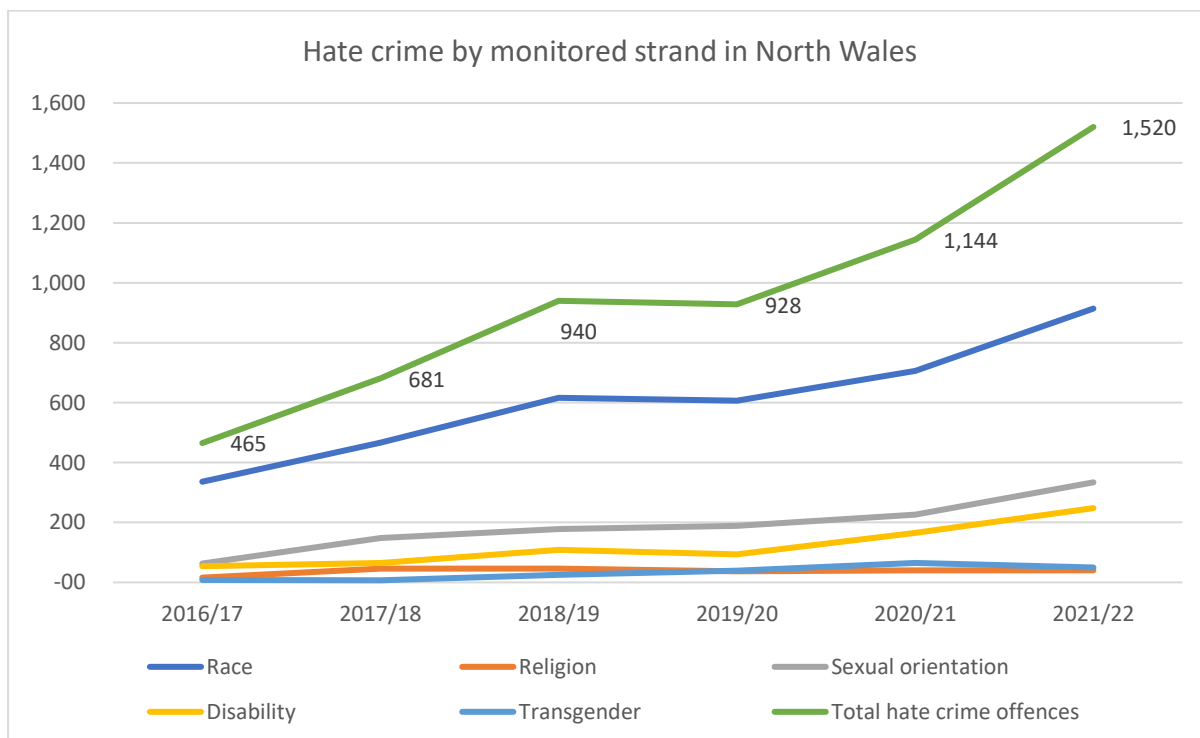


Figure 76 – Number of hate crimes by monitored strand in North Wales as recorded by North Wales Police annually from 2016/17 to 2021/22 ([Home Office, 2022](#)).

This figure shows an increase in hate crime offences recorded from 2016/17 to 2021/22, an increase of 578 (172%) related to race, 271 (430%) to sexual orientation, 194 (359%) to disability, 42 (525%) to transgender and 24 (150%) to religion.

Research by Stonewall in 2017 and noted in their [LGBT in Britain: Trans Report](#) found that the majority of trans people don't report incidences to the police, and so this is underreported. The hate crime figures above are therefore unlikely to demonstrate fully the incidences of hate crime in North Wales. Further research may be beneficial to assess the extent of under reporting of hate crime in all monitored strands.

8.2.2 Homicides

The homicide rate for North Wales between April 2019 and March 2022 was 7.6 per million population, the lowest rate in Wales. The all Wales rate for this period was 9.7 per million population. Due to small numbers it is not possible to analyse this data by protected characteristic.

8.2.3 Sexual Violence and Abuse

There were 2,681 sexual offences recorded in North Wales in 2021/22, with a rate of 3.8 per 1,000 population. This is higher than the rate for Wales which was 3.1 per 1,000. The rate for both North Wales and Wales from 2018/19 to 2021/22 is shown in the figure below (Figure 77).

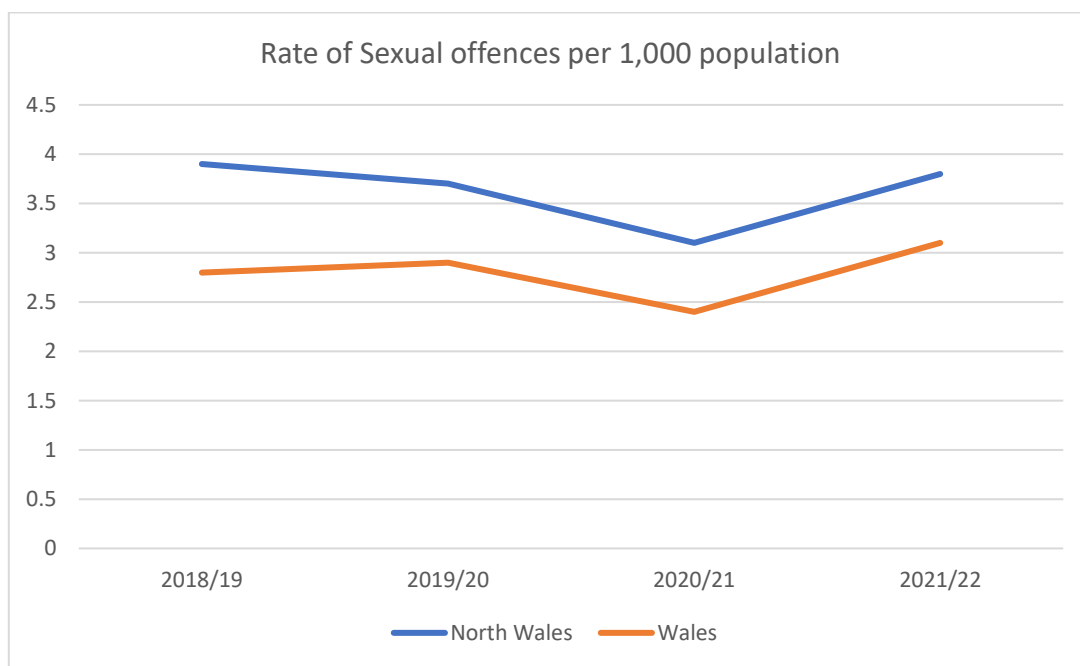


Figure 77 – The rate of recorded sexual offences per 1,000 population annually in North Wales and Wales between 2018/19 and 2021/22 (ONS, 2023)

The rate of recorded sexual offences has been consistently higher in North Wales than Wales between 2018/19 and 2021/22. The rate of recorded offences reduced in both North Wales and Wales between 2018/19 and 2020/21 before increasing in 2021/22.

This data is unlikely to reflect the extent of sexual offences in North Wales as the ONS state in their [Sexual offences in England and Wales overview: year ending March 2022](#) that many more sexual offences are committed compared with the number recorded by police, as these offences are under-reported to the police in England and Wales.

There is no data available at a North Wales level analysing this data by protected characteristic. However, there is some data available at an England and Wales level from 2019/20.

In the year ending March 2020, police recorded crime data showed that 84.5% of victims of sexual offences were female, with 90% of recorded victims of rape female and 81.2% of victims of other sexual offences also being female (ONS, 2021). This data is also available broken down by age. For recorded female victims of sexual offences in England and Wales, the highest percentage were aged between 10-14 (24.1%), 15-19 (21%) and 20-24 (11.6%). For recorded male victims of sexual offences in England and Wales in the year before March 2020, the highest percentage were aged between 10-14 (29.5%), 5-9 (18.9%) and 15-19 (14%).

8.2.4 Domestic Violence and Abuse

14,147 domestic abuse-related crimes were recorded by North Wales Police during the year between April 2021 – March 2022, which is a rate of 20.6 domestic abuse related crimes per 1,000 population. This was higher than the rate for Wales which was 15.2 per 1,000. Furthermore, 20.9% of all crimes reported in North Wales were domestic abuse-related whereas in Wales 17.6% were domestic abuse-related.

The number of domestic-abuse offences recorded has increased in North Wales since the previous equality report. Where data for April 2017 – March 2018 recorded 9,449 cases which represented 18.1% of cases. In Wales in this period 15.1% were domestic abuse-related.

The figure below (Figure 78) shows the percentage of cases that were domestic abuse related in North Wales and Wales between these periods.

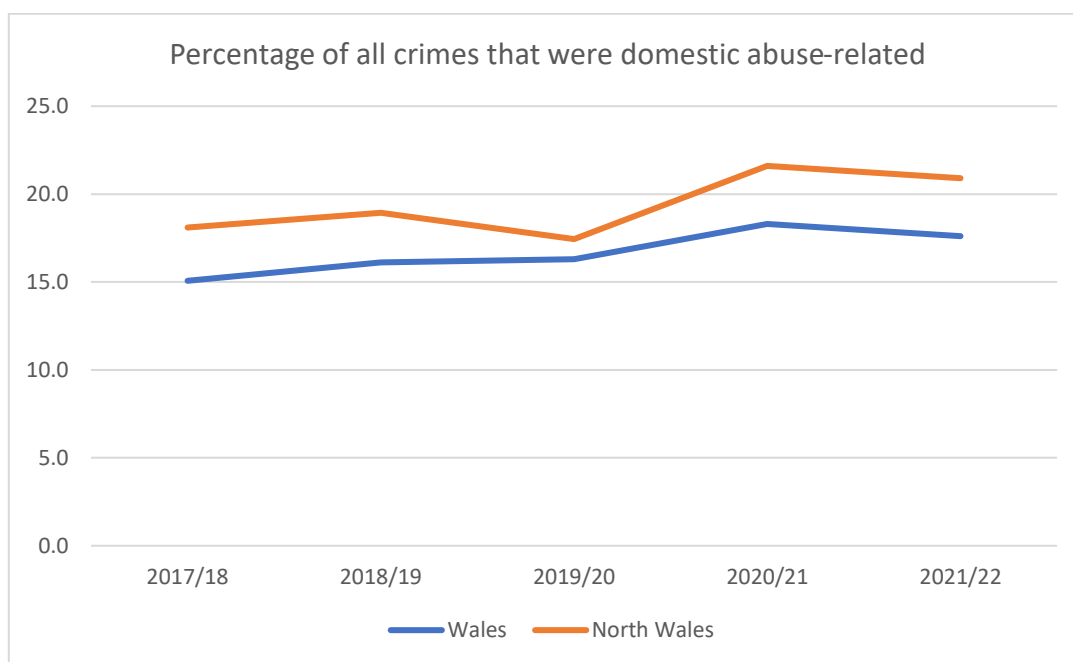


Figure 78 - Percentage of recorded offences annually that were domestic abuse-related in North Wales and Wales between 2017/18 and 2021/22 (ONS, 2022).

11,472 violence against the person domestic abuse-related offences were recorded in North Wales between April 2021 – March 2022, a rate of 16.7 per 1,000 population. This is higher than the rate for Wales which is 12.1 per 1,000 population. Furthermore, 35.3% of violence offences were domestic abuse-related in North Wales, whereas in Wales 32.2% were domestic abuse-related.

The number (but not percentage) of violence against the person domestic abuse-related offences recorded has increased in North Wales since the previous equality report. Where data for April 2017 – March 2018 recorded 7,401 cases which represented 37.8% of all violence cases. In Wales in this period 35.6% were domestic abuse-related.

There is no breakdown of domestic abuse offences by characteristics on a local level, however in England and Wales 74.1% of recorded victims were female and 25.9% of recorded victims were male in the year up to March 2022.

8.2.5 Crimes Against Children

Experimental statistics on child sexual abuse / sexual exploitation by police force area for April 2021 – March 2022 notes that there were 1,991 crimes flagged as child sexual abuse in North Wales, with 18 crimes flagged as child sexual exploitation ([ONS, 2023](#)).

The number of crimes flagged as child sexual abuse in North Wales has increased slightly since the previous equality report where 1,929 crimes were flagged in 2018/19, and the number of crimes flagged as child sexual exploitation has decreased from 85.

These statistics need to be used with care due to their experimental status and the recording / flagging practices seem to be at an emerging stage.

8.2.6 Stalking and Harassment

Additional data has been identified analysing stalking and harassment. This topic was not included in the previous equality report. Police recorded crime data for the year ending March 2022 shows that there were 13,340 recorded stalking and harassment offences in North Wales, a rate of 19.0 per 1,000 population. This is higher than the Wales wide rate of 15.1 ([ONS, 2023](#)).

8.2.7 Personal Safety and Security

An additional discussion of feelings of personal safety and security was identified in the [Implementing the Socio-economic Duty Evidence Review](#) published in 2021. This review concluded that based on National Survey for Wales data from 2018-19, in Wales the following people were more likely to feel unsafe in their local area:

- Women (who were also a lot less likely to feel safe after dark compared with men)
- Older people
- People experiencing material deprivation
- People who didn't feel a sense of cohesion in their community,

or less safe in their community:

- People who didn't identify as heterosexual.

8.3 Conditions of Detention

8.3.1 Detained Population

In 2020/21 there were 82.3 formal (detained under a section of the Mental Health Act 1983 or other legislation) adult admissions to mental health facilities per 100,000 population in the BCUHB ([Welsh](#)

[Government, 2022](#)). This has increased from 65.6 per 100,000 in 2016/17 as noted in the previous North Wales equality report.

This data can be analysed by gender, and the rate of formal admissions per 100,000 population for males is 89.8 and females is 75.3 in the BCUHB area. Both rates have increased from the data from 2016/17 included in the previous equality report where the rate for males was 74.8 and females was 56.9.

Additional data has been identified showing the number of children cautioned or sentenced in North Wales, and this is detailed in the table below (Table 19).

Table 19 - Number of children cautioned or sentenced in North Wales, years ending March 2014 to 2020 ([Ministry of Justice and Youth Justice Board for England and Wales, 2021](#)).

Area	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
Conwy and Denbighshire	213	170	127	113	90	54	84
Flintshire	108	91	58	52	48	53	54
Gwynedd Môn	165	115	96	61	41	43	47
Wrexham	176	147	125	102	61	40	32
North Wales	662	523	406	328	240	190	217

In the latest available data from 2019/20, 217 children were cautioned or sentenced in North Wales, including 84 total in Conwy and Denbighshire, 54 in Flintshire, 47 total in Gwynedd Môn and 32 in Wrexham. Between 2013/14 and 2018/19 there was a decrease in the total number for North Wales, with continuous decreases seen in all smaller areas except Flintshire and Gwynedd Môn whose figures increased slightly in 2018/19. There was an increase in the total number for North Wales between 2018/19 and 2019/20 with increases seen in Conwy and Denbighshire, Flintshire and Gwynedd Môn and a decrease in Wrexham in this period.

The number of custodial sentences given to children in North Wales is shown in the table below (Table 20).

Table 20 - Number of youth custodial sentences in North Wales, years ending March 2014 to 2020 ([Ministry of Justice and Youth Justice Board for England and Wales, 2021](#)).

Area	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
Conwy and Denbighshire	7	4	6	5	7	6	4
Flintshire	6	1	2	7	3	2	1
Gwynedd Môn	4	1	2	5	0	2	4
Wrexham	6	7	16	11	13	2	2
North Wales	23	13	26	28	23	12	11

In the latest available data from 2019/20 in North Wales 11 youth custodial sentences were given to children. This includes a total of 4 in Conwy and Denbighshire, 4 in Gwynedd Môn, 2 in Wrexham and 1 in Flintshire. This was a lower total for North Wales than the total noted in the previous North Wales equality report where 23 youth custodial sentences were given in 2017/18.

Further data has been identified from these youth justice statistics and are detailed in the tables below (Table 21 – 25).

Table 21 – Youth justice statistics showing rate of offences in 2019/20 ([Ministry of Justice and Youth Justice Board for England and Wales, 2021](#)).

Area	Total offences	Population	Rate per 10,000 population
Conwy and Denbighshire	235	18,482	127.2
Flintshire	100	14,729	67.9
Gwynedd Môn	151	16,635	90.8
Wrexham	80	12,863	62.2
North Wales	566	62,709	90.3

The rate of offences per 10,000 population of children was 90.3 in North Wales, with the rate in the local areas ranging from 62.2 in Wrexham to 127.2 in Conwy and Denbighshire.

Table 22 - Youth justice statistics showing type of offences in 2019/20 ([Ministry of Justice and Youth Justice Board for England and Wales, 2021](#)).

Area	Breach of statutory order	Burglary	Criminal Damage	Drugs	Motoring Offences	Public order	Robbery	Sexual offences	Theft and handling stolen	Violence against the person	Other	Total Offences
Conwy and Denbighshire	2.1%	6.8%	11.1%	9.4%	6.8%	12.8%	0.0%	4.3%	5.5%	24.3%	17.0%	235
Flintshire	5.0%	1.0%	13.0%	8.0%	11.0%	14.0%	2.0%	2.0%	4.0%	39.0%	1.0%	100
Gwynedd Môn	0.7%	11.3%	20.5%	2.6%	6.0%	20.5%	1.3%	1.3%	9.3%	21.2%	5.3%	151
Wrexham	6.3%	18.8%	11.3%	3.8%	7.5%	7.5%	1.3%	2.5%	11.3%	28.8%	1.3%	80
North Wales	2.8%	8.7%	14.0%	6.5%	7.4%	14.3%	0.9%	2.8%	7.1%	26.7%	8.8%	566

The most common type of offence by a child in North Wales was ‘violence against the person’ (26.7%), and this is consistent in all local areas.

Table 23 - Youth justice statistics showing age of offenders in 2019/20 ([Ministry of Justice and Youth Justice Board for England and Wales, 2021](#)).

Area	10 to 14 year olds	15 to 17 year olds	Total number
Conwy and Denbighshire	26.2%	73.8%	84
Flintshire	38.9%	61.1%	54
Gwynedd Môn	23.4%	76.6%	47
Wrexham	21.9%	78.1%	32
North Wales	28.1%	71.9%	217

In North Wales, the majority of child offenders were aged 15 to 17 years old (71.9%), this is consistent in all local areas.

Table 24 - Youth justice statistics showing percentage of offenders that are boys and girls in 2019/20 ([Ministry of Justice and Youth Justice Board for England and Wales, 2021](#)).

Area	Boys	Girls	Total number
Conwy and Denbighshire	79.8%	20.2%	84
Flintshire	81.5%	18.5%	54
Gwynedd Môn	85.1%	14.9%	47
Wrexham	81.3%	18.8%	32
North Wales	81.6%	18.4%	217

The majority of child offenders in North Wales were boys (81.6%), and this is consistent in all local areas.

Table 25 - Youth justice statistics showing offenders by ethnic group in 2019/20 ([Ministry of Justice and Youth Justice Board for England and Wales, 2021](#)).

Area	Asian	Black	Mixed	Unknown	White	Total number
Conwy and Denbighshire	0.0%	1.2%	3.6%	0.0%	95.2%	84
Flintshire	0.0%	0.0%	3.7%	1.9%	94.4%	54
Gwynedd Môn	2.1%	2.1%	2.1%	2.1%	91.5%	47
Wrexham	0.0%	0.0%	3.1%	6.3%	90.6%	32
North Wales	0.5%	0.9%	3.2%	1.8%	93.5%	217

In North Wales, the majority of child offenders were White (93.5%), this was consistent in all local areas.

8.3.2 Overcrowding and Conditions of Detention

The latest data from June 2022 for the only prison in North Wales (HMP Berwyn) shows that it is close to its full operational capacity, with 1,864 prisoners compared with 1,875 capacity (99.4%) ([Ministry of Justice, 2023](#)).

The breakdown below notes the age breakdown for the prison population of HMP Berwyn (Table 26).

Table 26 – Age breakdown of HMP Berwyn prisoners in June 2022 ([Ministry of Justice, 2023](#)).

Age	Number	Percentage
18 - 20	42	2.3%
21 - 24	194	10.4%
25 - 29	373	20.0%
30 - 39	679	36.4%
40 - 49	363	19.5%
50 - 59	161	8.6%
60 - 69	39	2.1%
70 and over	13	0.7%
Total	1,864	100%

The highest percentage of prisoners in June 2022 were aged 30-39 (36.4%), 25-29 (20.0%) and 40-49 (19.5%).

There is also data available from June 2022 noting the nationality of the prison population in HMP Berwyn as noted in the table below (Table 27).

Table 27– Nationality of HMP Berwyn prisoners in June 2022 ([Ministry of Justice, 2023](#)).

Nationality	Number	Percentage
British National	1,808	97.0%
Foreign National	55	3.0%
Not Recorded	1	0.1%
Total	1,864	

The data above shows that the vast majority (97.0%) of HMP Berwyn prisoners in June 2022 were British Nationals.

Data noting the ethnicity of HMP Berwyn prisoners is also available and noted in the table below (Table 28).

Table 28– Ethnicity of HMP Berwyn prisoners in June 2022 ([Ministry of Justice, 2023](#)).

Ethnicity	Number	Percentage
Asian / Asian British	78	4.2%
Black / African / Caribbean / Black British	49	2.6%
Mixed / Multiple ethnic groups	44	2.4%
Other ethnic group	7	0.4%
White	1,675	89.9%
Not stated	9	0.5%
Not recorded	2	0.1%
Total	1,864	

This data shows that in June 2022, the majority (89.9%) of HMP Berwyn prisoners were White.

8.3.3 Non-Natural Deaths

As in the previous report, unable to find relevant local data to supplement the discussion in ‘Is Wales Fairer (2018)?’.

8.3.4 Safety of Those Detained

The previous North Wales Equality Report contained data regarding self-harm and assaults in HMP Berwyn. Updated data could not be identified, however a study by the ONS analysing drug-related deaths and suicide in prison custody in England and Wales between 2008 and 2019 found that male prisoner risk was 3.9 times higher of dying by suicide than the male population generally in this time period ([ONS, 2023](#)).

8.3.5 Use of Force and Restraint

In April 2021 – March 2022 North Wales Police used Conducted Energy Devices (CEDs) or ‘Tazers’ 406 times, of which the device was fired 34 times. This has increased from the data used in the previous North Wales equality report, where in 2017 they were used by North Wales Police 134 times, of which it was discharged 12 times.

The following tables show a breakdown by gender (Table 29), age (Table 30), ethnicity (Table 31) and mental health status (Table 32). This data was not included in the previous North Wales equality report.

Table 29 – Breakdown of number of use of CEDs by North Wales Police in April 2021 – March 22 by gender ([Home Office, 2022](#)).

Use	Female	Male	Total
Aimed	5	40	45
Arced	1	9	10
Drawn	14	79	93
Drive Stun	0	1	1
Fired	2	32	34
Red Dot	19	204	223
Total	41	365	406

Table 30 - Breakdown of number of use of CEDs by North Wales Police in April 2021 – March 22 by age ([Home Office, 2022](#)).

Use	11 - 17	18 -34	35 - 49	50 - 64	65 and over	Not Stated
Aimed	4	32	8	1	0	0
Arced	0	6	2	1	1	0
Drawn	9	44	32	8	0	0
Drive Stun	0	0	1	0	0	0
Fired	0	13	19	1	0	1
Red Dot	10	142	61	10	0	0
Total	23	237	123	21	1	1

Table 31 – Breakdown of number of use of CEDs by North Wales Police in April 2021 – March 22 by ethnicity ([Home Office, 2022](#)).

Use	Asian	Black	White	Not Stated
Aimed	0	3	41	1
Arced	0	0	10	0
Drawn	0	1	91	1
Drive Stun	0	0	1	0
Fired	0	0	32	2
Red Dot	1	3	210	9
Grand Total	1	7	385	13

Table 32 – Breakdown of number of use of CEDs by North Wales Police in April 2021 – March 22 by mental Health status ([Home Office, 2022](#)).

Use	No Mental Health Condition	With a Mental Health Condition
Aimed	37	8
Arced	7	3
Drawn	73	20
Drive Stun	0	1
Fired	29	5
Red Dot	180	43
Grand Total	326	80

It is also possible to analyse CEDs use data to show whether the individual was injured by force (Table 33).

Table 33 – Breakdown of use of CEDs by North Wales Police in April 2021 – March 22 showing whether person was injured by force ([Home Office, 2022](#)).

Injury Status	Aimed	Arced	Drawn	Drive Stun	Fired	Red Dot	Total
Not Injured	41	9	84	0	18	212	364
Unknown	2	0	5	0	8	5	20
Injured	2	1	4	1	8	6	22

9. Participation

9.1 Voting and Civic Participation and Representation

9.1.1 Voting

Data is available from the local election held in Wales in May 2022 showing the ballot box turnout for each the six local authority areas in North Wales as well as the figure for Wales. This is noted in the table below (Table 34) and is additional data that was not included in the previous equality report for North Wales.

Table 34 – Local Election Wales May 2022 electorate and turnout for each of the six local authority areas in North Wales and at an all Wales level ([The Electoral Commission, 2022](#)).

Local Election Wales May 2022	Electorate & Turnout			Uncontested & tendered ballots
Local Authority	Electorate	Ballots at the count	Ballot box Turnout	Proportion of electorate in uncontested wards
Conwy	90,477	37,163	41.1%	0%
Denbighshire	39,694	14,109	35.5%	3%
Flintshire	118,824	42,450	35.7%	3%
Gwynedd	55,099	24,302	44.1%	37%
Isle of Anglesey	54,614	23,806	43.6%	0%
Wrexham	87,304	32,050	36.7%	14%
Total Wales 2022	2,244,814	868,750	38.7%	6%

Ballot box turnout in the North Wales region varied from 35.5% (Denbighshire County Council) to 44.1% (Gwynedd Council). This is compared with 38.0% for Wales. Ballot box turnout in Wales has decreased from 2017 where it was 42.0%.

9.1.2 Political Participation and Freedom of Expression, Assembly and Association; Trade Unions, Legislation and Membership

As in the previous report, unable to find relevant local data to supplement the discussion in 'Is Wales Fairer (2018)?'.

9.1.3 Civic Participation, Including Public Appointments and Volunteering; Ability to Influence Decisions in the Local Area

The previous North Wales equality report included data analysing elected members by gender, unfortunately updated data could not be identified. However, Chwarae Teg's [State of the Nation Report \(2023\)](#) includes data for Wales noting female representation in Welsh Politics. This report notes that in Wales 43% of MSs are women, 36% of councillors are women and 35% of Welsh MPs are women. It also notes that at that in Wales, 23% of Council Chief Executives are women and 18% of Council Leaders are women.

The Welsh Government's [Anti-racist Wales Action Plan](#) from 2022 noted that 5% of Members (3 members in total) elected were from an ethnic minority background in the Senedd 2021 elections.

National Survey for Wales data is available regarding the topic of civic participation and ability to influence decisions in the local area, as shown in the tables below (Table 35 to 38). This is additional data that was not included in the previous North Wales equality report. There are limitations to this data including a limited sample size and unfortunately due to the low sample size it is not possible to analyse this data by protected characteristics.

Table 35 – Opportunity to participate in local authority decision making (percentage) for each of the six local authority areas in North Wales for 2021/22 ([Welsh Government, 2022](#)).

Area	Strongly Agree	Tend to Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Tend to disagree	Strongly disagree
Conwy	-	31	16	33	16
Denbighshire	-	32	19	25	18
Flintshire	-	24	22	28	22
Gwynedd	-	37	21	22	17
Isle of Anglesey	-	23	15	38	17
Wrexham	-	29	21	23	21

This data shows that there is variation across the local authority areas as to whether the majority of those surveyed tend to agree or disagree with the opportunity in local authority decision making. The majority of those surveyed in the Isle of Anglesey, Conwy and Flintshire tend to disagree whilst the majority Gwynedd, Denbighshire and Wrexham tend to agree. However, in all local authority areas the total of those who either tend to disagree or strongly disagree was higher than the total who tend to agree.

Table 36 – Contacted councillor in the last year (percentage) for each of the six local authority areas in North Wales for 2021/22 ([Welsh Government, 2022](#)).

Area	Yes	No
Conwy	12	88
Denbighshire	12	88
Flintshire	13	87
Gwynedd	16	84
Isle of Anglesey	24	76
Wrexham	18	82

This data shows that the majority of those surveyed had not contacted a councillor in the last year, with the highest proportion that had contacted being the Isle of Anglesey (24%) and the lowest in Conwy and Denbighshire (both 12%).

Table 37 – Whether councillor works closely with the local community (percentage) for each of the six local authority areas in North Wales for 2021/22 ([Welsh Government, 2022](#)).

Area	Strongly Agree	Tend to Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Tend to disagree	Strongly disagree
Conwy	21	25	22	18	14
Denbighshire	23	27	13	20	18
Flintshire	13	26	23	16	22
Gwynedd	22	27	22	19	9
Isle of Anglesey	17	28	17	25	14
Wrexham	23	25	24	14	13

The table above notes that ‘Tend to Agree’ was selected most often those surveyed in each of the six local authority areas when asked whether the councillor works closely with the local community.

Table 38 – Whether understand what a councillor does (percentage) for each of the six local authority areas in North Wales for 2021/22 ([Welsh Government, 2022](#)).

Area	Strongly Agree	Tend to Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Tend to disagree	Strongly disagree
Conwy	16	32	11	25	16
Denbighshire	22	28	10	18	22
Flintshire	14	26	14	21	26
Gwynedd	22	31	13	22	12
Isle of Anglesey	17	26	14	31	12
Wrexham	19	27	13	19	21

The table above notes that the highest proportion of those surveyed in five of the six local authority areas selected ‘Tend to Agree’ when asked whether understand what a councillor does. However, the highest proportion in the Isle of Anglesey selected ‘Tend to Disagree’.

9.2 Access to Services

9.2.0 Access to Services

Additional data has been located looking at access to services at a local authority level that was not included in the previous report. This National Survey for Wales data is noted in the tables below (Table 39 and 40).

Table 39 – Satisfaction with ability to get to local services (percentage) for each of the six local authority areas in North Wales for 2021/22 ([Welsh Government, 2022](#)).

Area	Very Satisfied	Fairly Satisfied	Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	Fairly dissatisfied	Very dissatisfied
Conwy	52	35	-	-	-
Denbighshire	61	26	-	-	-
Flintshire	49	35	-	6	-
Gwynedd	54	37	-	-	-
Isle of Anglesey	29	48	-	14	-
Wrexham	42	39	9	-	-

The table above notes that the majority of those surveyed are ‘Very Satisfied’ with ability to get to local services in five of the six local authority areas in North Wales (Gwynedd, Conwy, Denbighshire, Flintshire, Wrexham), whereas in the Isle of Anglesey the majority are ‘Fairly Satisfied’.

Table 40 – Satisfaction with availability of services (percentage) for each of the six local authority areas in North Wales for 2021/22 ([Welsh Government, 2022](#)).

Area	Very Satisfied	Fairly Satisfied	Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	Fairly dissatisfied	Very dissatisfied
Conwy	35	48	-	-	-
Denbighshire	40	39	-	-	-
Flintshire	26	43	10	13	6
Gwynedd	32	33	7	10	-
Isle of Anglesey	23	43	-	18	-
Wrexham	22	47	6	15	7

The table above notes that the majority of those surveyed are ‘Fairly Satisfied’ with availability of services in five of the six local authority areas in North Wales (Isle of Anglesey, Gwynedd, Conwy, Flintshire, Wrexham), whereas in Denbighshire the majority are ‘Very Satisfied’.

9.2.1 Access to Transport

Using Census 2021 data, car and van availability can be analysed as shown below (Figure 79).

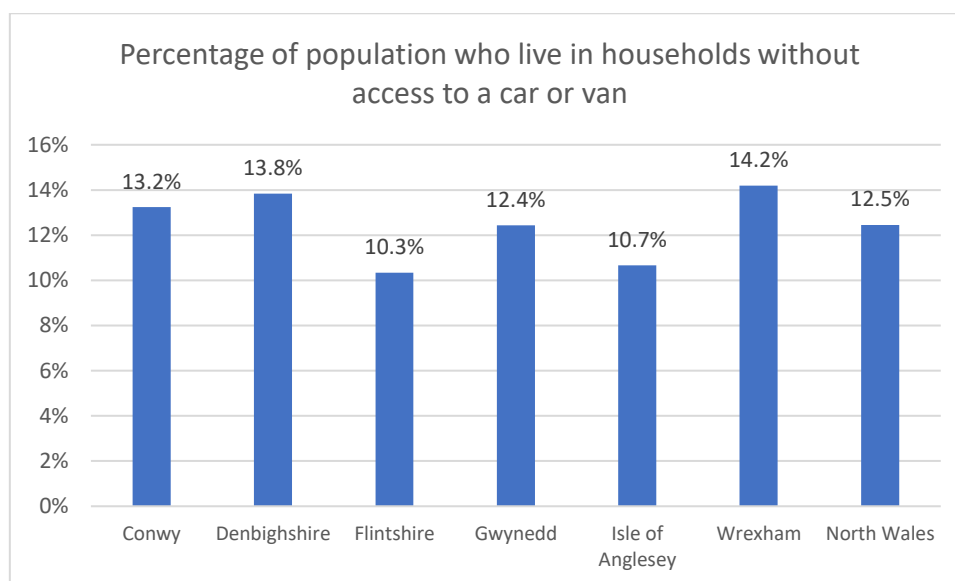


Figure 79 – Percentage of population who live in households without access to car or van in local authority area and North Wales – Census 2021 ([ONS, 2023](#)).

The percentage of the population who live in households without access to a car or van in North Wales is 12.5%. In the local authority areas this varies from 10.3% (Flintshire) to 14.2% (Wrexham). This data can be analysed further as shown in the figures below.

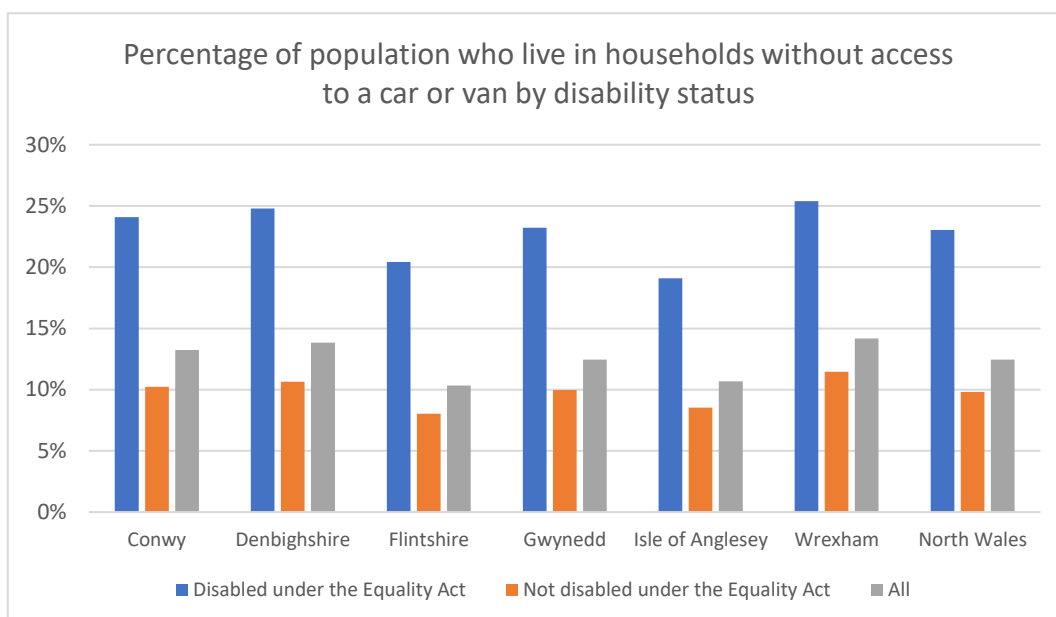


Figure 80 – Percentage of population who live in households without access to car or van in local authority area and North Wales by disability status – Census 2021 (ONS, 2023).

The percentage who live in households without access to a car or van in North Wales is higher for disabled people (23.0%) than non-disabled people (9.8%). This is consistent in all local authority areas.

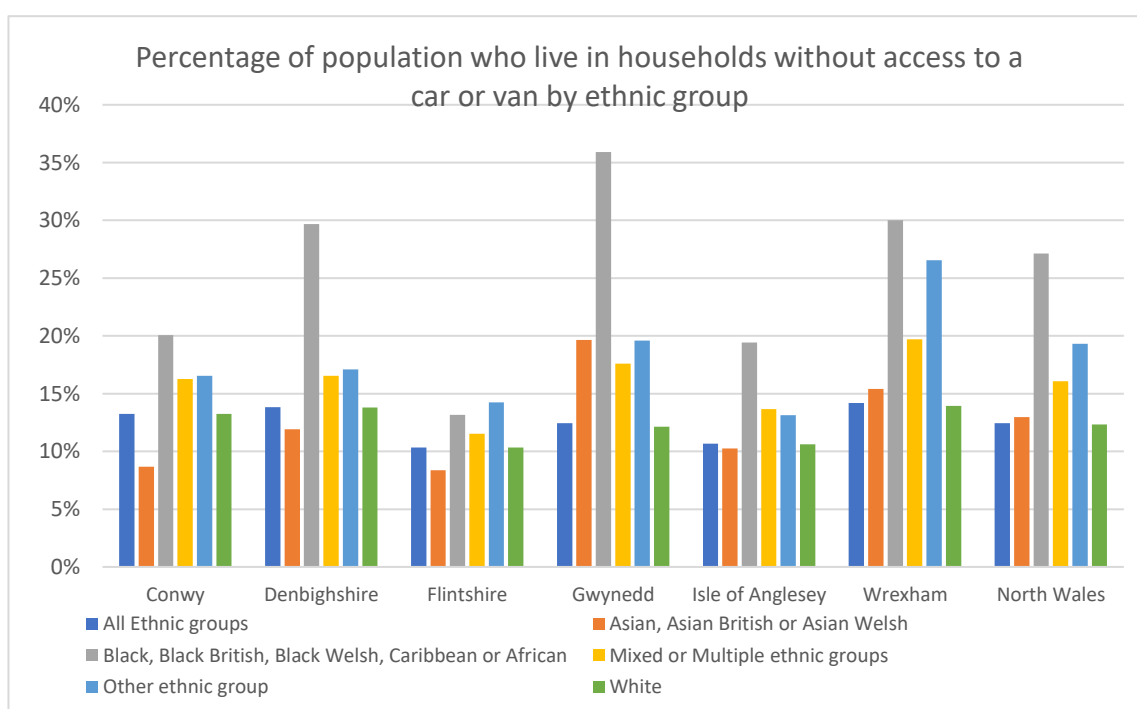


Figure 81 – Percentage of population who live in households without access to car or van in local authority area and North Wales by ethnic group – Census 2021 (ONS, 2023).

The percentage living in households without access to a car or van in North Wales by ethnic group is highest for Black, Black British, Black Welsh, Caribbean or African (27.1%) and lowest for White (12.3%).

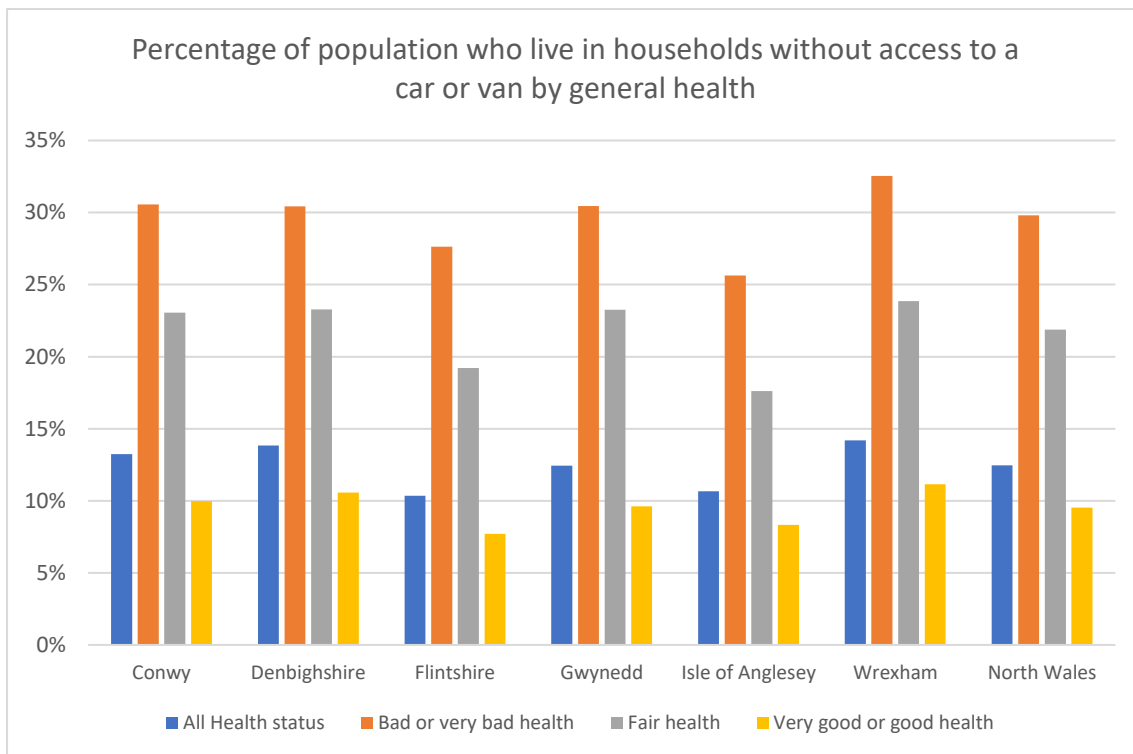


Figure 82 – Percentage of population who live in households without access to car or van in local authority area and North Wales by general health – Census 2021 (ONS, 2023).

The percentage who live in households without access to a car or van in North Wales by health status is highest for those in bad or very bad health (29.8%), and lowest in those in very good or good health (9.5%). This is consistent in all local authority areas.

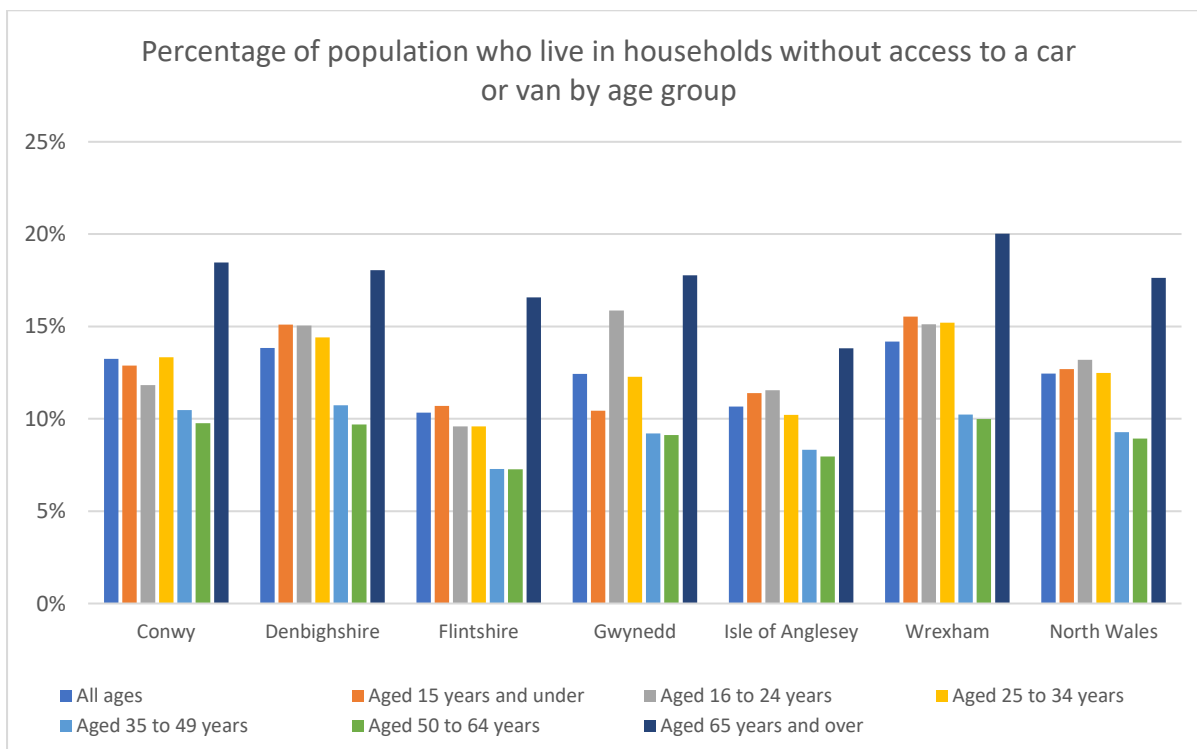


Figure 83 – Percentage of population who live in households without access to car or van in local authority area and North Wales by age – Census 2021 (ONS, 2023).

The highest percentage who live in households without access to a car or van in North Wales by age is in the aged 65 and over age group (17.6%), and lowest in the 50 to 64 age group (8.9%). This is consistent in all local authority areas except Flintshire where both those aged 35 to 49 years and 50 to 64 years are equally as low.

9.2.2 Access to Digital Services

Data from the National Survey for Wales is available for each of the local authority areas noting whether the household of those surveyed has internet access (Table 41).

Table 41 – Whether household has internet access (percentage) for each of the six local authority areas in North Wales for 2018/19 and 2021/22 ([Welsh Government, 2022](#)).

Area	2018/19	2021/22
Conwy	86	91
Denbighshire	88	92
Flintshire	85	92
Gwynedd	85	87
Isle of Anglesey	84	91
Wrexham	84	92

This table shows that household internet access varied somewhat throughout the region from 87% (Gwynedd) to 92% (Denbighshire, Flintshire and Wrexham). This has increased since the last North Wales equality report where the percentage varied from 84% to 88% in 2018/19.

There is also data from the National Survey for Wales data looking at whether those surveyed used the internet as shown in the table below (Table 42).

Table 42 – Whether use the internet (including Smart TV and handheld devices) (percentage) for each of the six local authority areas in North Wales for 2018/19 and 2021/22 ([Welsh Government, 2022](#)).

Area	2018/19	2021/22
Conwy	88	93
Denbighshire	90	93
Flintshire	89	94
Gwynedd	87	91
Isle of Anglesey	86	91
Wrexham	86	93

This table shows an increase in internet use in all local authority areas between 2018/19 and 2021/22, with internet use in 2018/19 ranging from 86% to 90% and use in 2021/22 ranging from 91% to 94%.

The Welsh Government note that in Wales, people at increased risk of being digitally excluded are; older adults (although older adults' use of the internet is increasing), disabled people or long-term health conditions, people with lower educational attainment, people or families with lower income, rural populations, Welsh speakers, people who are not English first language, people who are socially isolated or lonely and people who are homeless ([Welsh Government, n.d.](#)).

9.2.3 Barriers to Financial Access and Vulnerability to Fraud

The number of alleged cases of financial abuse reported for adults aged 65 and over in the North Wales local authority areas is shown in the figure below (Figure 84). The data is for the year 2018/19, as it is no longer updated and this is the latest year that this data was collected.

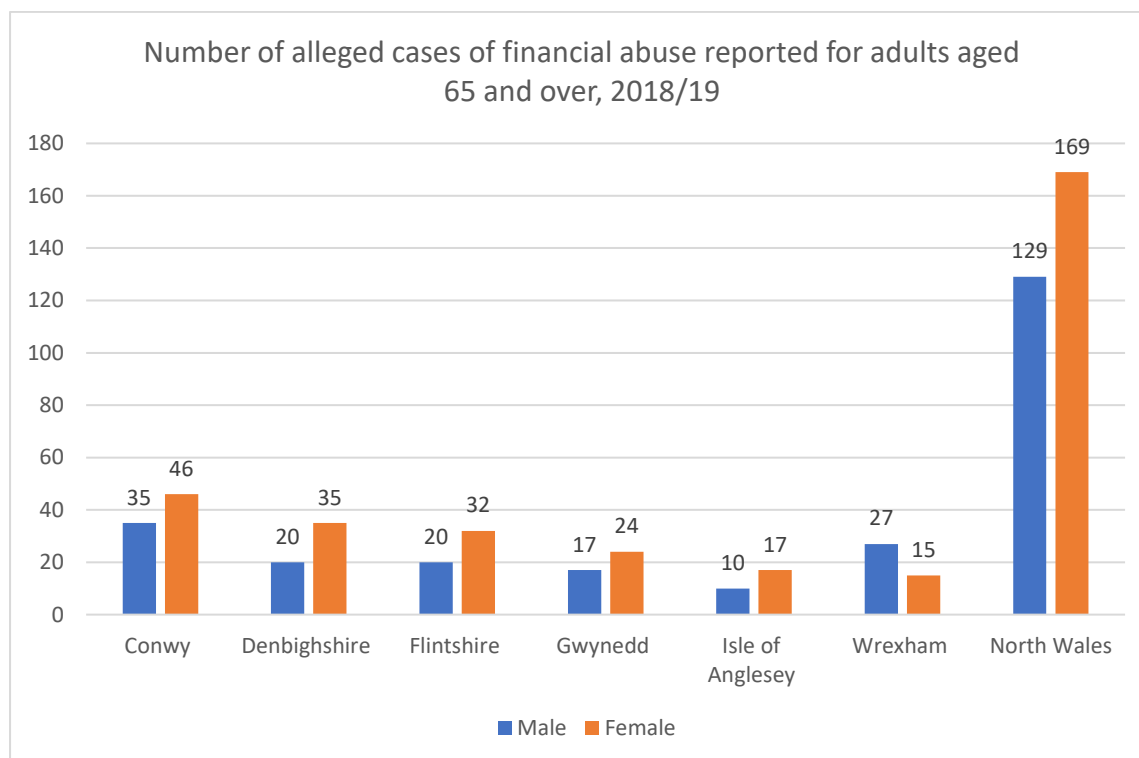


Figure 84 – Number of alleged cases of Financial abuse reported for adults aged 65 and over in 2018/19 ([Welsh Government, 2019](#)).

In total, there were 298 alleged cases of financial abuse reported for adults aged 65 and over in 2018/19 in North Wales. There were more female victims (169) than male (129) across North Wales (57% and 43% split respectively). The data from the previous North Wales equality report was from 2017/18 and noted 282 alleged cases including 182 female victims and 100 male victims (65% and 35% split respectively).

When analysing the data on a local authority level, in 2018/19 there were more alleged female than male victims for all local areas except for Wrexham where there was more alleged male than female victims. In 2017/18 there were more alleged female than male victims in all local authority areas.

9.2.4 Access to Culture, Leisure, and Sport

Additional data has been identified looking at access to culture and leisure in North Wales that was not included in the previous report, as shown in the figure below (Figure 85).

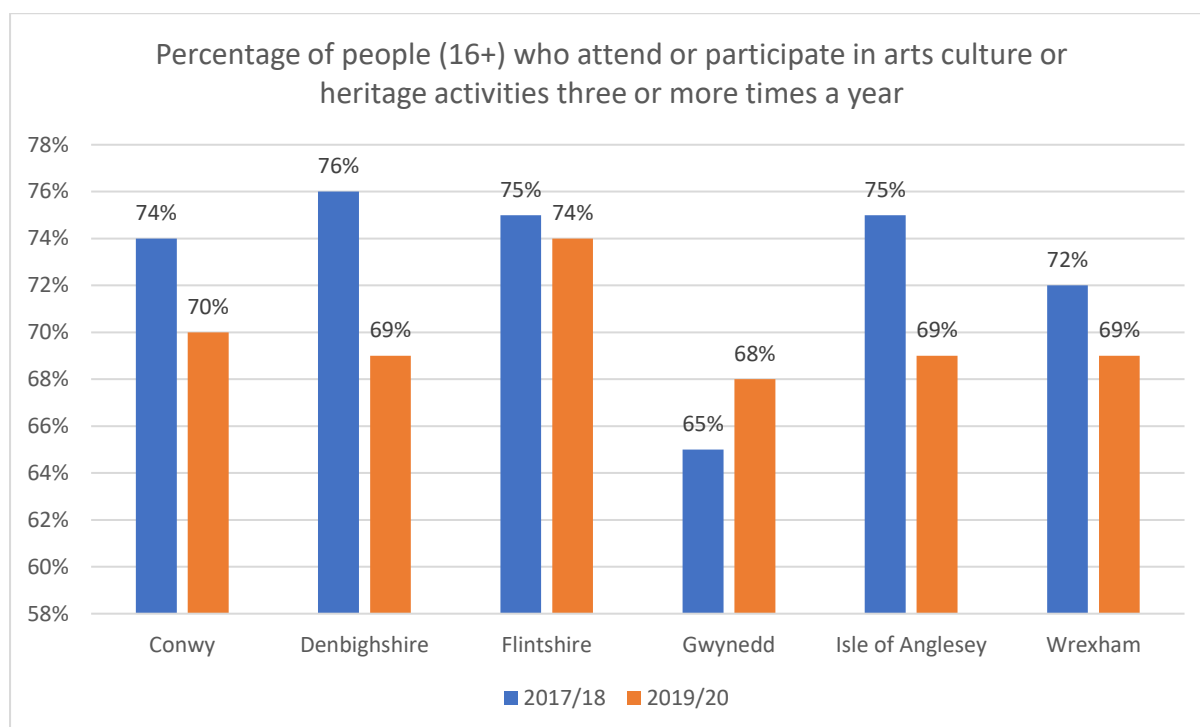


Figure 85 - Percentage of people (16+) who attend or participate in arts culture or heritage activities three or more times a year by local authority area in 2017/18 and 2019/20 ([Welsh Government, 2022](#)).

This data shows that the percentage of respondents who attend or participate in arts culture or heritage activities three or more times a year has reduced in all local authority areas except for Gwynedd between 2017/18 and 2019/20. The local area with the highest percentage in 2019/20 was Flintshire (74%) and the lowest was Gwynedd (68%).

This data from 2019/20 can be analysed by sex and age as shown in the figures below (Figure 86 and 87).

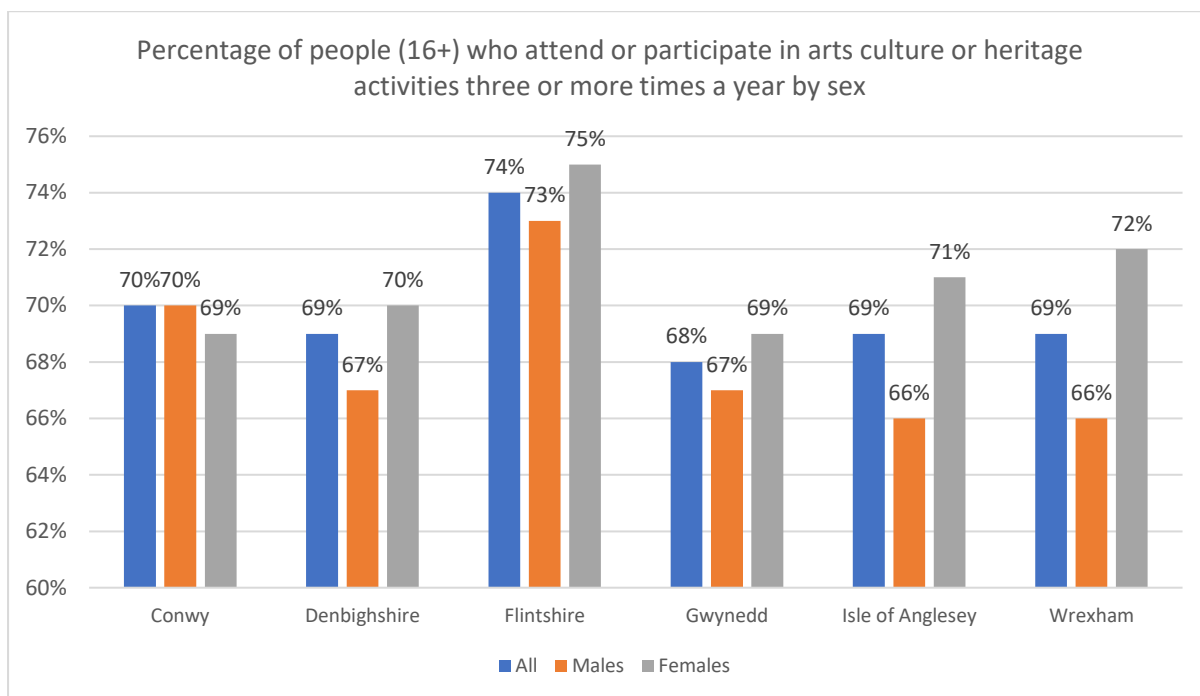


Figure 86 - Percentage of people (16+), males and females who attend or participate in arts culture or heritage activities three or more times a year by local authority area in 2019/20 (Welsh Government, 2022).

More females than males attended or participated in arts culture or heritage activities three or more times a year in all local authority areas except for Conwy. The largest gap between females and males was in Wrexham where 72% females and 66% males attended or participated.

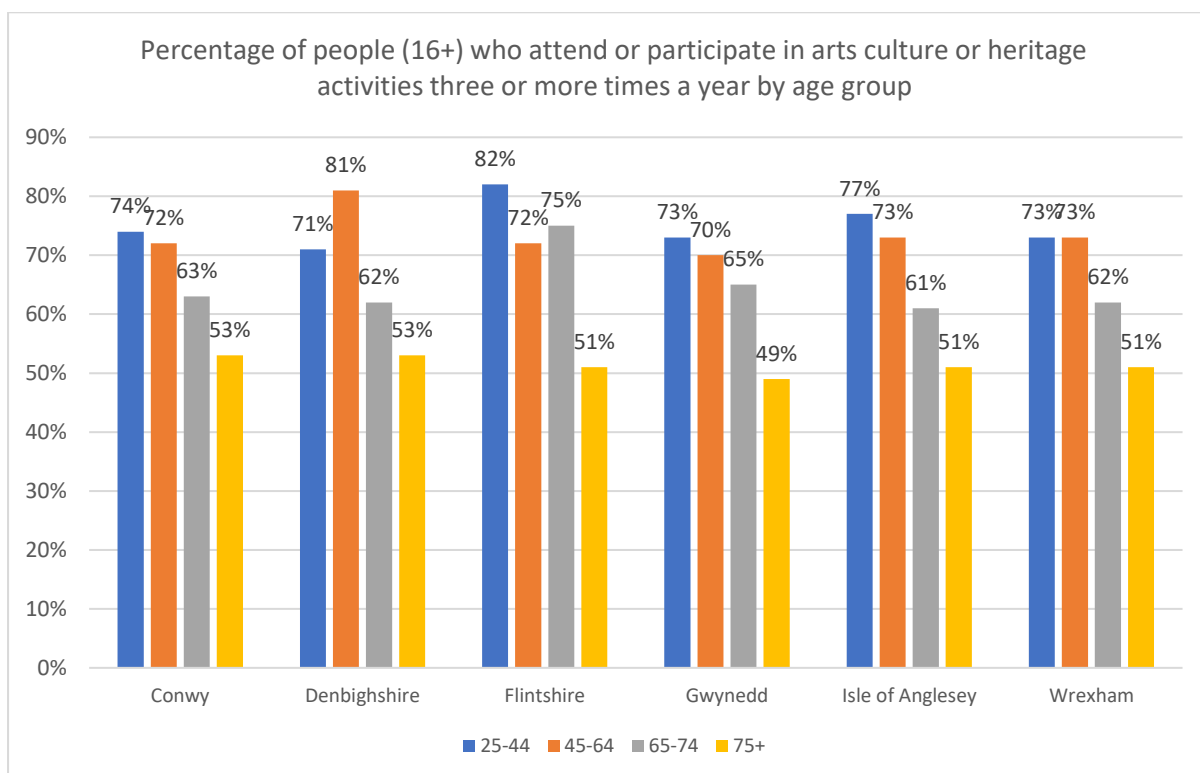


Figure 87- Percentage of people who attend or participate in arts culture or heritage activities three or more times a year by local authority area in 2019/20 by age group (Welsh Government, 2022). Note – data for 16-24 age group not included as unreliable.

Of the age groups shown in the figure above, the highest percentage attendance or participation was either the 25-44 age group (Conwy, Flintshire, Gwynedd, Isle of Anglesey) or 45-64 (Denbighshire) or both (Wrexham). The lowest percentage was for the 75+ age group in all local authority areas.

The previous North Wales equality report measured participation in sport or exercise through participation of adults doing sport or exercise in the last four weeks, and this data as well as the updated data for this measure is noted in the figure below (Figure 88).

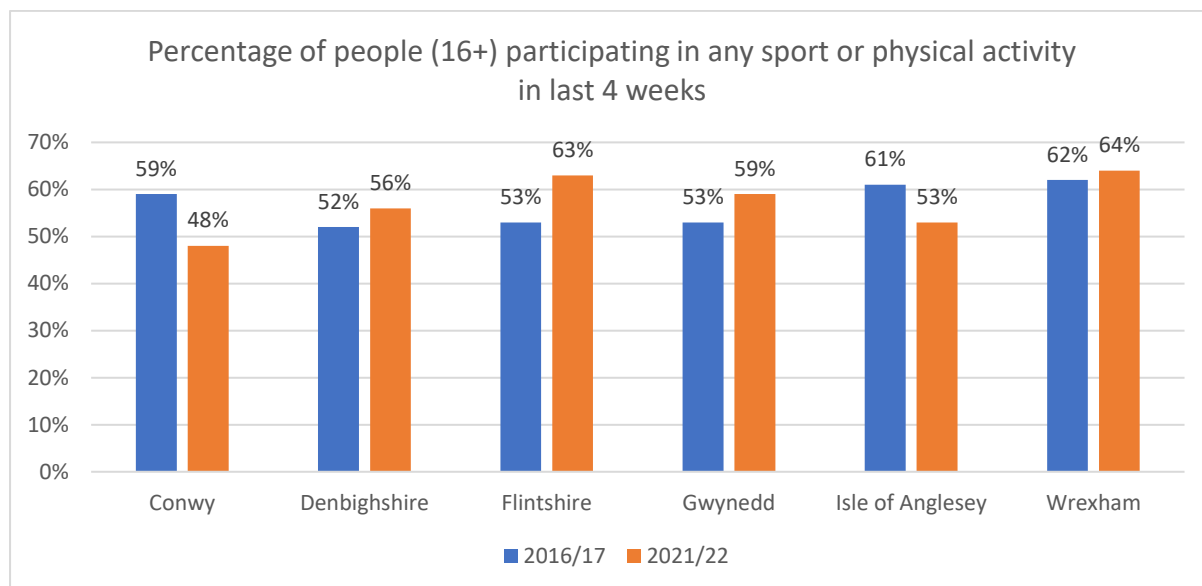


Figure 88 – Percentage of people (16+) participating in any sport or physical activity in last 4 weeks ([Welsh Government, 2022](#)).

This data shows that the percentage of people participating in any sport or physical activity in the last 4 weeks has increased in four of the North Wales local authority areas (Denbighshire, Flintshire, Gwynedd, and Wrexham) and decreased in two local areas (Conwy and Isle of Anglesey).

Further analysis of this data by characteristic (gender and age) was available for the previous report, however this was no longer available. Therefore, alternative data has been found to measure participation in sport or exercise that can be analysed by characteristic. The figure below notes the percentage of people participating in sporting activities three or more times a week (Figure 89).

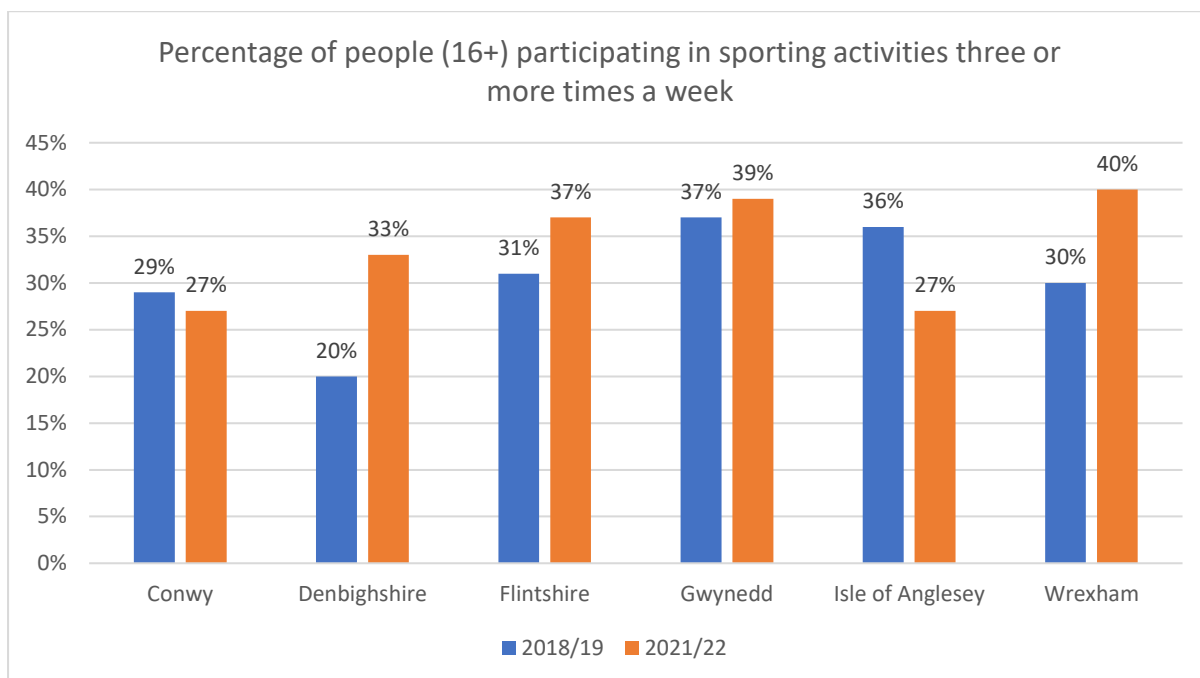


Figure 89 – Percentage of people (16+) participating in sporting activities three or more times a week in 2018/19 and 2021/22 ([Welsh Government, 2022](#)).

In 2021/22 the highest percentage of people participated in sporting activities three or more times a week in Wrexham (40%) and Gwynedd (39%) with the lowest in Conwy and the Isle of Anglesey (both 27%).

This data also shows that there has been an increase in the percentage of people participating in sporting activities between 2018/19 and 2021/22 in four of the North Wales local authority areas (Denbighshire, Flintshire, Gwynedd, and Wrexham) and decreased in two local areas (Conwy and Isle of Anglesey).

Unfortunately, it was only possible to analyse this data by gender and this is shown in the figure below (Figure 90).

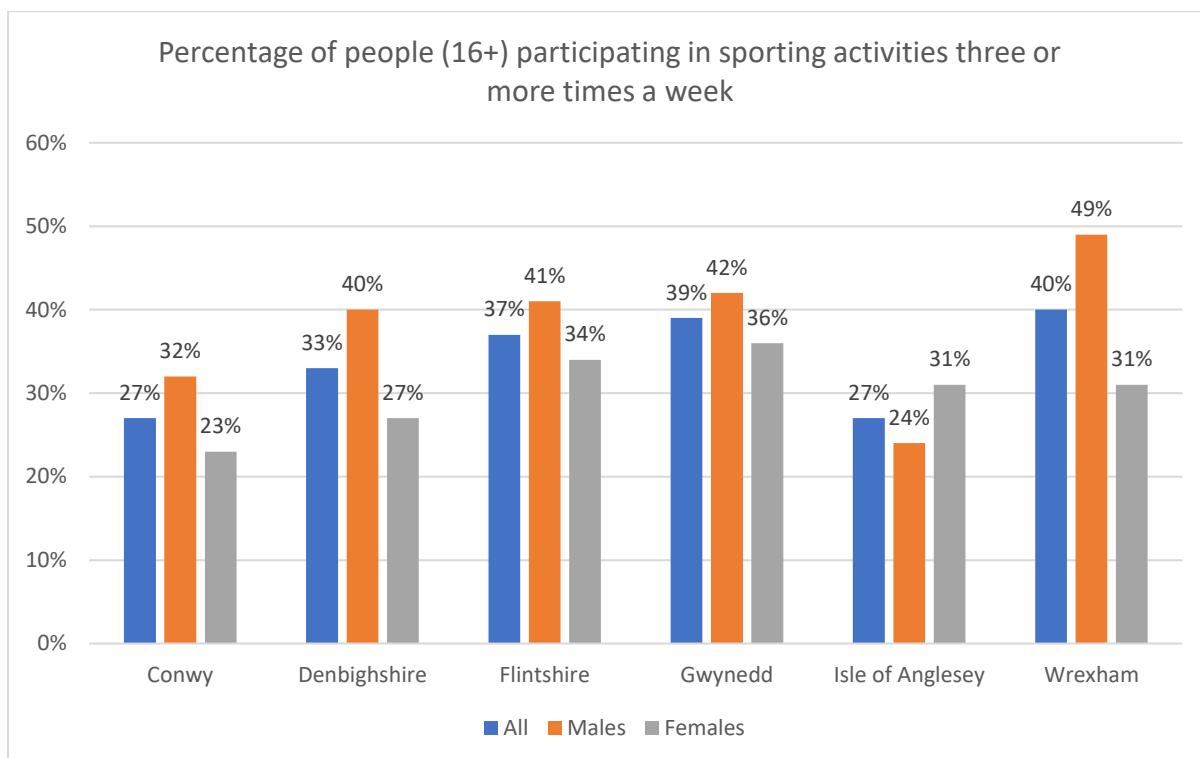


Figure 90 – Percentage of people (16+) participating in sporting activities three or more times a week, total and split by gender, in 2021/22 ([Welsh Government, 2022](#)).

In 2021/22 more males than females participated in sporting activities three or more times a week in all local authority areas in North Wales except for the Isle of Anglesey, where more females participated than males.

There is also sport participation among pupils (Years 3 to 11) data available from Sport Wales’ School Sport Survey, this was not included in the previous report. The result for each local area is shown in the figure below (Figure 91).

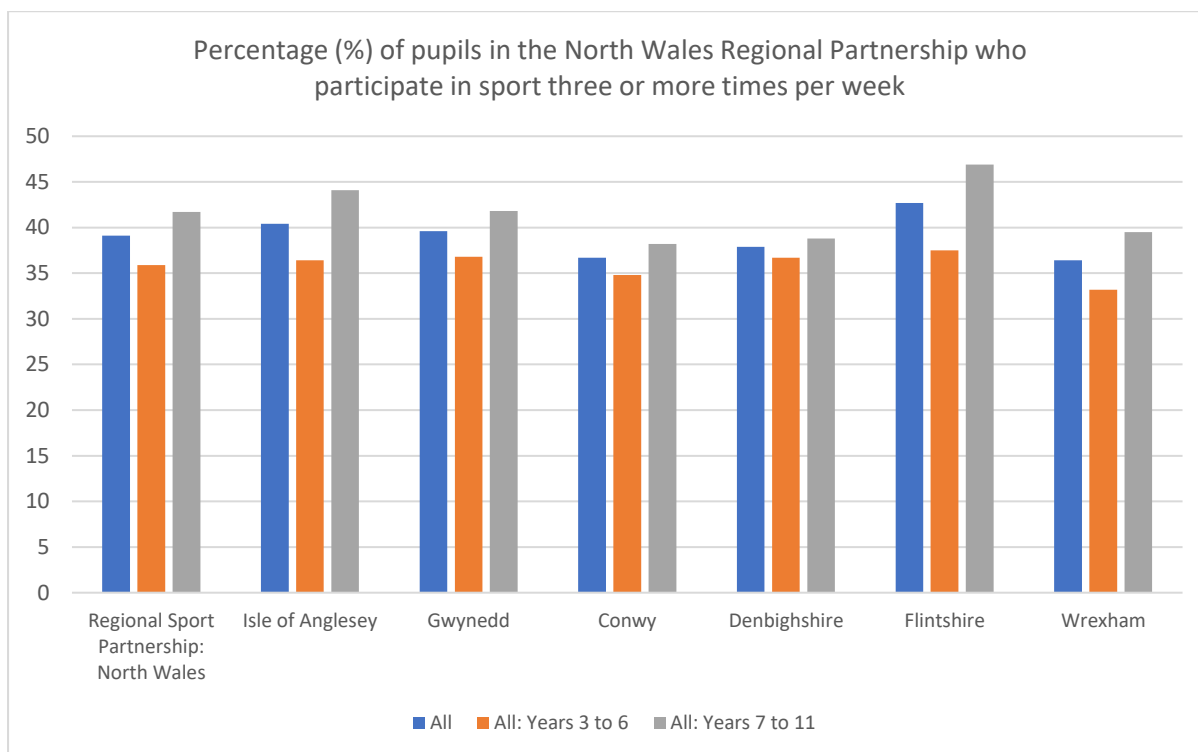


Figure 91– Percentage of pupils in the North Wales Regional Partnership and each local authority area who participate in sport three or more times per week in 2022 ([Sport Wales, 2022](#)).

Results from this survey note that 39.1% of pupils in the North Wales Regional Partnership participated in sport three or more times per week in 2022. Highest overall participation was in Flintshire (42.7%) and lowest was in Wrexham (36.4%) and Conwy (39.7%). Across the North Wales Regional Area and in all local authority areas participation is higher was in Years 7 to 11 than Years 3 to 6.

Data is available analysing this data by some of the protected characteristics for North Wales, and this is shown in the tables below (Table 43 to 45).

Table 43 – Percentage of pupils with and without a disability or impairment in the North Wales Regional Partnership who participate in sport three or more times per week in 2022 ([Sport Wales, 2022](#)).

	With Disability or impairment	Without Disability or impairment
North Wales Regional Partnership	38%	40%

In the North Wales Regional Partnership, a higher proportion of pupils without disability or impairment reported participating in sport three time or more times per week in 2022 than pupils who reported a disability or impairment (40% compared with 38%).

Table 44 – Percentage of pupils in the North Wales Regional Partnership who participate in sport three or more times per week by ethnic background in 2022 ([Sport Wales, 2022](#)).

	Asian	Black	Mixed or Multiple Ethnic Group	White	Other
North Wales Regional Partnership	34%	37%	47%	40%	38%

In the North Wales Regional Partnership in 2022, pupils who identified as Mixed or Multiple Ethnic Group were most likely to report participating in sport three or more times per week (47%). The lowest percentage were pupils who identified as Asian, Asian Welsh or Asian British.

Table 45 – Percentage of pupils in the North Wales Regional Partnership who participate in sport three or more times per week by gender ([Sport Wales, 2022](#)).

	Boys	Girls	Identify as "Other"
North Wales Regional Partnership	43%	36%	23%

In the North Wales Regional Partnership in 2022, boys were most likely to report participating in sport three or more times per week (43%) than girls (36%), with pupils identifying as ‘other’ being the least likely (23%).

9.3 Privacy and Surveillance

9.3.1 Internet Use and Awareness of Privacy Settings

As in the previous report, unable to find relevant local data to supplement the discussion in ‘Is Wales Fairer (2018)?’.

9.3.2 Treatment of Personal Data

As in the previous report, unable to find relevant local data to supplement the discussion in ‘Is Wales Fairer (2018)?’.

9.4 Social and Community Cohesion

9.4.1 Trust and Sense of Belonging in the Local Neighbourhood

Data is available from the National Survey for Wales looking at whether people aged 16 and over are satisfied with their local area as a place to live, this data is shown in the table below (Table 46).

Table 46 – Percentage of people aged 16+ satisfied with their local area as a place to live ([Welsh Government, 2022](#)).

Area	2018/19	2021/22
Conwy	94	93
Denbighshire	91	95
Flintshire	81	85
Gwynedd	89	92
Isle of Anglesey	88	93
Wrexham	82	88

The percentage of people surveyed who agreed that they were satisfied with their local area as a place to live in 2021/22 varied from 85% (Flintshire) to 95% (Denbighshire). This percentage has increased since the data from 2018/19 included in the previous report in all local authority areas except Conwy, where the percentage has decreased slightly. The data from 2021/22 could also be analysed by gender and age and this data is shown in the tables below (Table 47 and 48).

 Table 47 – Percentage of people aged 16+ satisfied with their local area as a place to live analysed by gender in 2021/22 ([Welsh Government, 2022](#)).

Area	Male	Female	Total
Conwy	94	93	93
Denbighshire	98	95	95
Flintshire	85	85	85
Gwynedd	94	92	92
Isle of Anglesey	91	93	93
Wrexham	84	88	88

Of the people surveyed, men were more satisfied with their local area as a place to live in three of the local authority areas (Conwy, Denbighshire and Gwynedd), whereas both men and women were equally satisfied in one local area (Flintshire) and women being more satisfied than men in two local areas (Isle of Anglesey and Wrexham).

 Table 48 – Percentage of people aged 16+ satisfied with their local area as a place to live analysed by age in 2021/22 ([Welsh Government, 2022](#)).

Area	16-24	25-44	45-64	65-74	75+	Total
Conwy	*	92	92	99	90	93
Denbighshire	*	97	93	100	95	95
Flintshire	*	86	85	87	87	85
Gwynedd	*	90	91	96	93	92
Isle of Anglesey	*	95	91	94	93	93
Wrexham	*	88	84	95	85	88

*data not available

Of the data available, in the majority of local areas the age group most satisfied with their local area as a place to live in this survey were aged 65-74, with the exceptions being the Isle of Anglesey where it was the 25-44 age group and Flintshire where it was both the 65-74 and 75+ age groups equally. This was not included in the previous report.

The National Survey for Wales also includes data noting whether those surveyed agree that they belong to their local area (Table 49).

Table 49 – Percentage of adults aged 16+ agreeing that they belong to the area; that people from different backgrounds get on well together; and that people treat each other with respect ([Welsh Government, 2022](#)).

Area	2018/19	2021/22
Conwy	61	73
Denbighshire	58	69
Flintshire	56	63
Gwynedd	53	73
Isle of Anglesey	60	69
Wrexham	49	59

The percentage of adults aged 16+ agreeing that they belong to the area; that people from different backgrounds get on well together; and that people treat each other with respect in the survey ranged from 59% (Wrexham) and 73% (Conwy and Gwynedd) in the North Wales local authority areas in 2021/22. This range has increased from 49% (Wrexham) to 61% (Conwy) in 2018/19. Data is available analysing this data by age (Table 50).

Table 50 – Percentage of adults aged 16+ agreeing that they belong to the area; that people from different backgrounds get on well together; and that people treat each other with respect analysed by age in 2021/22 ([Welsh Government, 2022](#)).

Area	16-24	25-44	45-64	65-74	75+	Total
Conwy	*	68	71	82	79	73
Denbighshire	*	*	65	79	79	69
Flintshire	*	61	59	73	79	63
Gwynedd	*	64	74	73	77	73
Isle of Anglesey	*	64	73	70	75	69
Wrexham	*	49	62	69	68	59

*data not available

Of the available data, the lowest percentage who agree with this statement are the 25-44 age group in four local authority areas (Conwy, Gwynedd, Isle of Anglesey and Wrexham), the lowest percentage for the two other local areas are the 45-64 age Group (Denbighshire – where there was no 25-44 data available, and Flintshire). The highest percentage belonged either to the 75+ or 65-74 age groups in all local areas. This data was not included in the previous report.

Additional data from the National Survey for Wales was identified noting the percentage of people aged 16+ who volunteer by local authority area (Table 51). This data was not included in the previous report.

Table 51 – Percentage of people aged 16+ who volunteer by local authority area in 2019/20 analysed by gender and age where possible ([Welsh Government, 2022](#)).

Area	All	Males	Females	16-24	25-44	45-64	65-74	75+
Conwy	29	35	25	*	*	31	*	*
Denbighshire	32	32	32	*	31	34	38	*
Flintshire	29	29	28	*	*	29	35	*
Gwynedd	33	37	29	*	39	33	32	*
Isle of Anglesey	28	29	27	*	*	27	31	*
Wrexham	26	25	28	*	*	26	*	*

*data not available

This survey data suggests that the percentage of people who volunteered in North Wales in 2019/20 varied between 26% (Wrexham) and 33% (Gwynedd). More males than females volunteered in four of the local authority areas (Conwy, Flintshire, Gwynedd and Isle of Anglesey), one was equal (Denbighshire) and in one local area more women volunteered than men (Wrexham). There was less data available analysing by age and so it is more difficult to draw meaningful conclusions.

9.4.2 Social and Community Cohesion, Building Relationships to Counter Radicalisation and Extremism

As in the previous report, unable to find relevant local data to supplement the discussion in ‘Is Wales Fairer (2018)?’.

9.4.3 Community Interaction and Use of Common Spaces; Access to, and Exclusion from, Engaging with the Local Community

Data from the National Survey for Wales estimates the percentage of people aged 16+ who are lonely, as shown below (Figure 92).

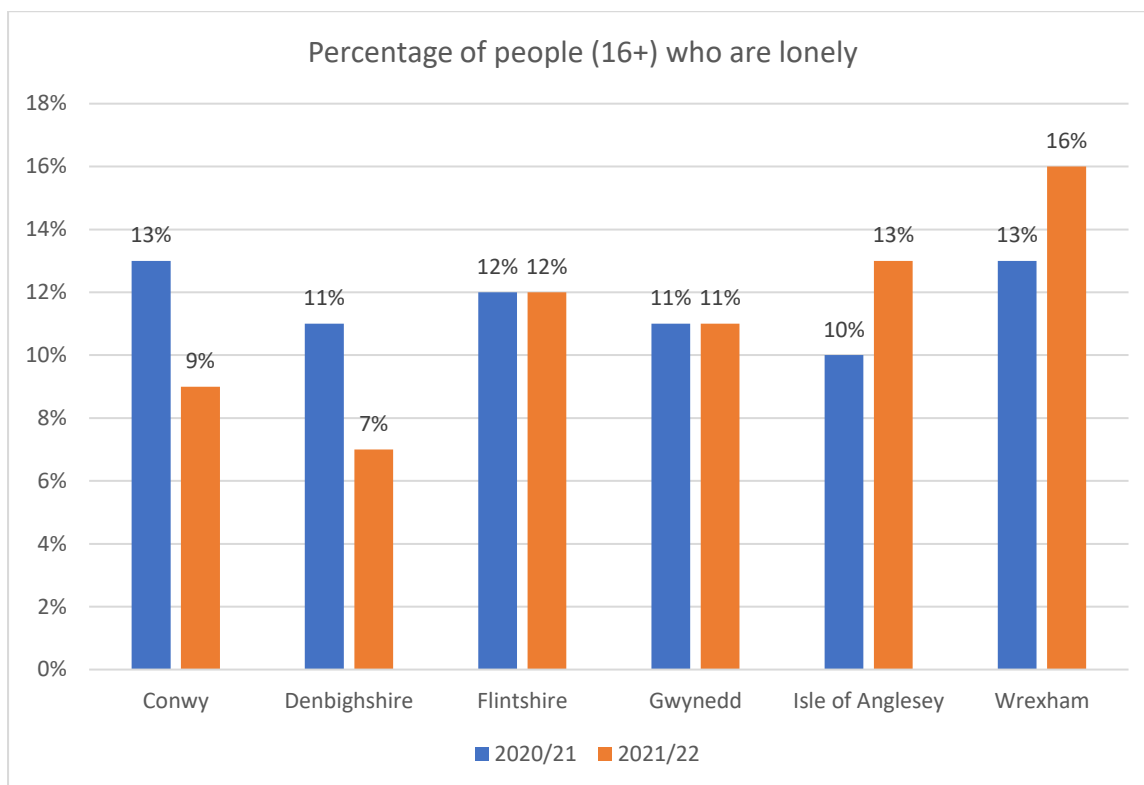


Figure 92 – Percentage of people aged 16+ who are lonely by local authority area for 2020/21 and 2021/22 ([Welsh Government, 2022](#)).

In this survey in 2021/22 there was some variety in the percentage of people who felt lonely in the different local authority areas, from 7% in Denbighshire to 16% in Wrexham. There was less variation in 2020/21, where the percentages ranged from 10% in the Isle of Anglesey to 13% in Wrexham and Conwy.

The previous North Wales equality report included data from 2017/18, where the percentages who were lonely ranged from 11% in Flintshire to 21% in Wrexham. The previous report also included some data split by gender, it was not possible to replicate this analysis with updated data.

Although not directly related to this topic (or to any other single topic in isolation), data on life satisfaction from the Annual Population Survey is noted below (Figure 93-96). The source of this data is different to the previous North Wales equality report.

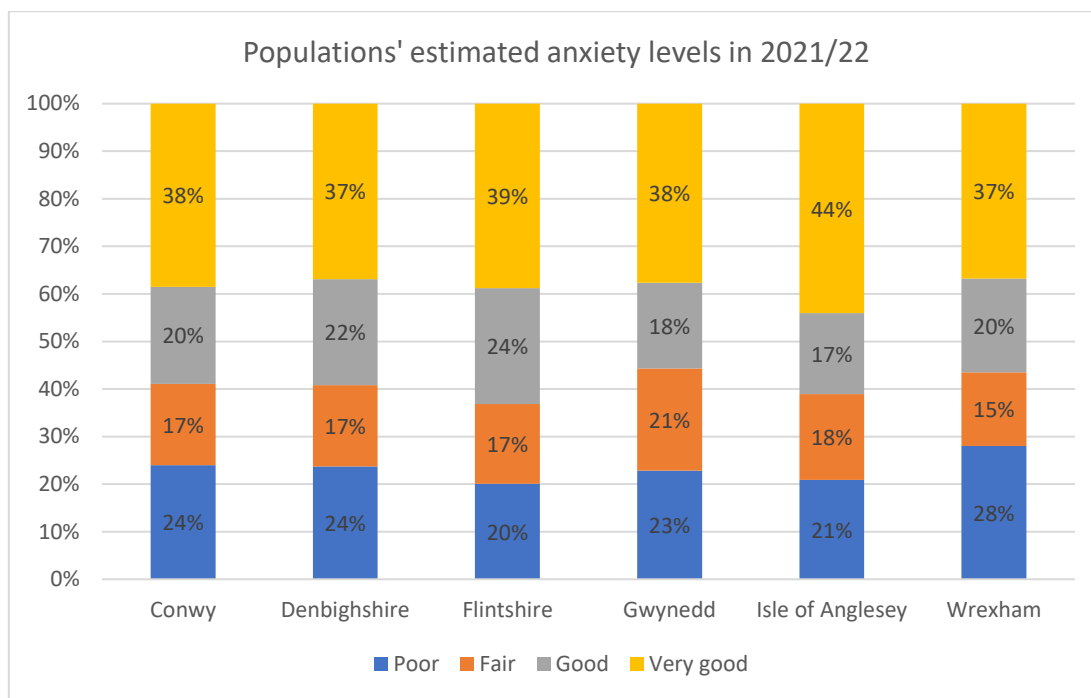


Figure 93 – Populations’ estimated anxiety levels in 2021/22 by local authority area (ONS, 2022).

Estimated ‘poor’ anxiety levels in North Wales local authority areas range from 20% (Flintshire) to 28% (Wrexham), whereas ‘very good’ levels range from 37% (Denbighshire and Wrexham) to 44% (Isle of Anglesey).

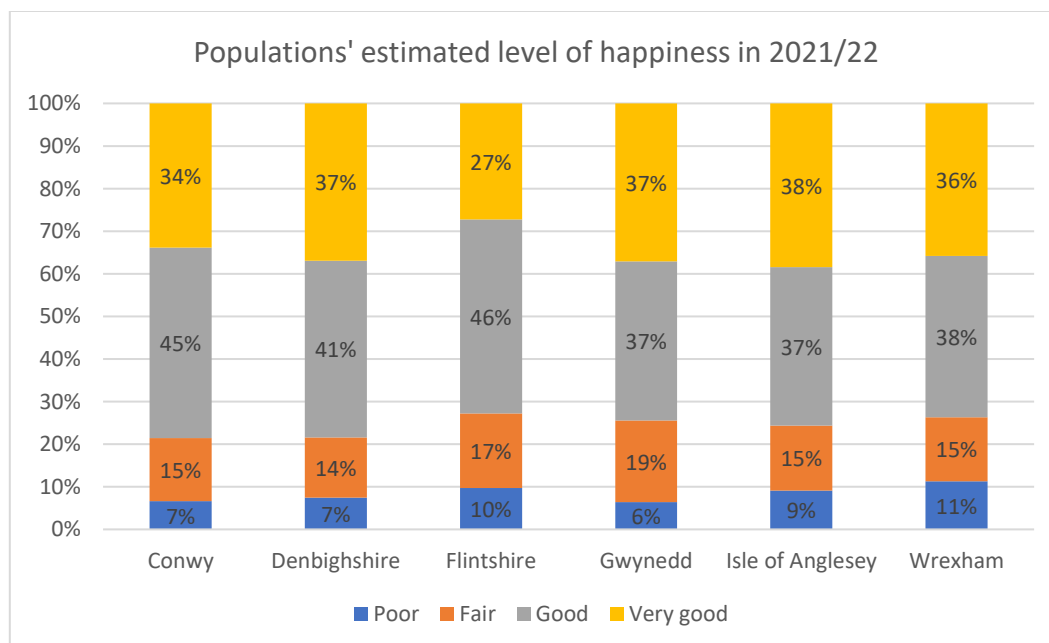


Figure 94 – Populations’ estimated happiness levels in 2021/22 by local authority area (ONS, 2022).

Estimated ‘poor’ happiness levels in North Wales local authority areas ranged from 6% (Gwynedd) to 11% (Wrexham), whereas ‘very good’ levels ranged from 27% (Flintshire) to 38% (Isle of Anglesey).

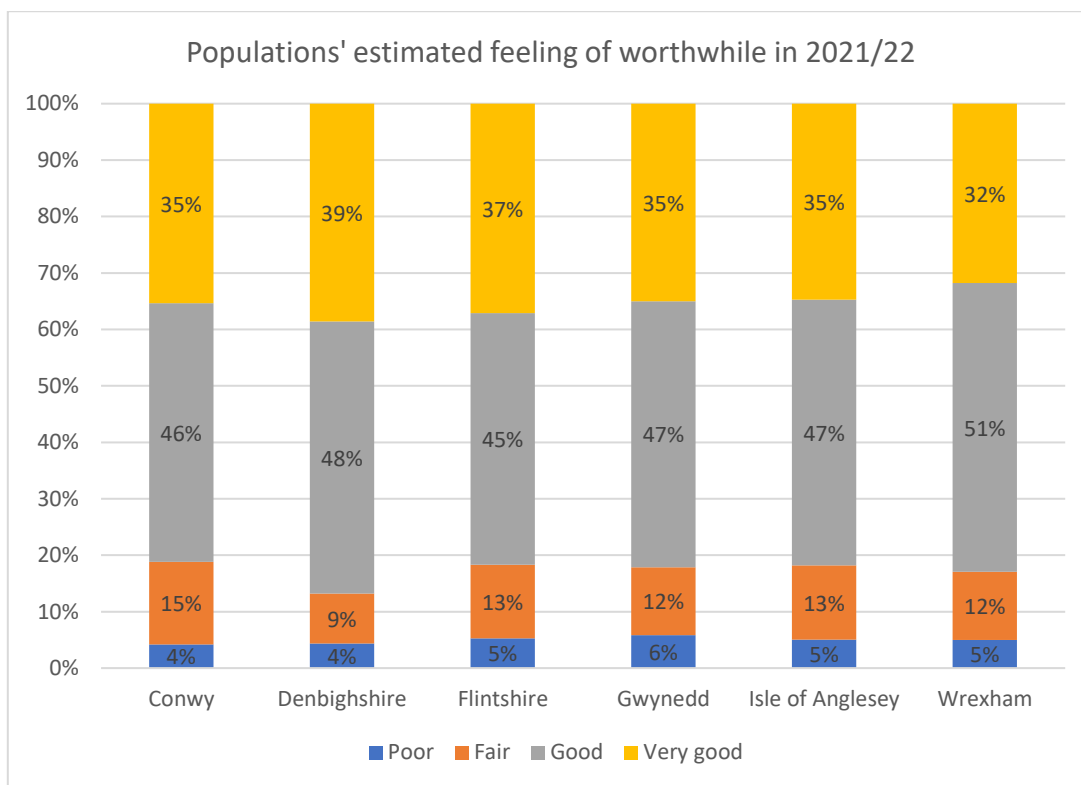


Figure 95 – Populations' estimated feeling of worthwhile in 2021/22 by local authority area (ONS, 2022).

Estimated 'poor' feeling of worthwhile in North Wales local authority areas ranged from 4% (Conwy and Denbighshire) to 6% (Gwynedd), whereas 'very good' estimates ranged from 32% (Wrexham) to 39% (Denbighshire).

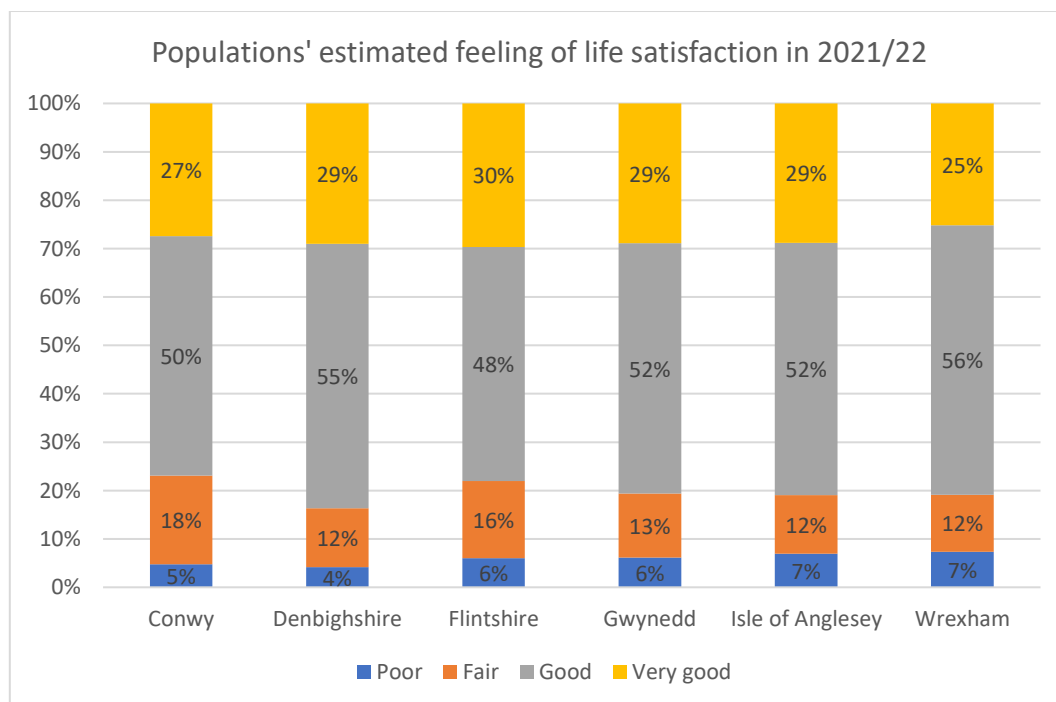


Figure 96 – Populations' estimated feeling of life satisfaction in 2021/22 by local authority area (ONS, 2022).

Estimated 'poor' feeling of life satisfaction in North Wales local authority areas ranged from 4% (Denbighshire) to 7% (Isle of Anglesey and Wrexham), whereas 'very good' levels ranged from 25% (Wrexham) to 30% (Flintshire).

Unfortunately, this data was not available analysed by any protected characteristics.

10. Conclusion

The main findings of this report are somewhat similar to the previous North Wales Equality Report, showing the effect of poverty, inequality and exclusion evidenced in local communities across North Wales.

The main findings which become evident are:

Socio-economic disadvantage

The impact of poverty and deprivation on peoples' lives are apparent in this report. This was seen when assessing educational attainment, where in North Wales 27.9% of pupils eligible for free school meals achieved Level 2 inclusive in Year 11 in 2018/19, compared with 58.5% of pupils who were not eligible. This was similar to the data from 2017/18 included in the previous report. Data was not available to assess the impact of Covid and the lockdown period on pupils, this should be investigated further, when data is available.

Health data from the 2021 Census analysed health status by socio-economic class, found that in North Wales and all local authority areas people who have never worked and the long-term unemployed were the highest proportion with bad or very bad health. More investigation into the impact of socio-economic disadvantage in North Wales at a local level would be beneficial to further understanding of this issue.

Disabled people

Employment rate for disabled people is far lower than non-disabled people in North Wales (47% and 82% respectively), and all local authority areas in North Wales. In addition, although there was no data available for North Wales, the disability pay gap for Wales (assessed by residence not place of work) in 2021 was 11.6%.

Census 2021 data noted that disabled people were more likely than non-disabled people to live in households without access to a car or van in North Wales (23% and 9.8% respectively), and all six local authority areas. This could be a particular issue for people living in rural areas.

Further issues that may impact disabled people were raised in this report with data that was only available at a Wales level, including a higher risk of being digitally excluded, that should be investigated at a local level when data becomes available.

Women and girls

Much of the data and indicators included could be analysed to understand their impact on women and girls. In education, girls achieved higher educational attainment than boys in Wales in foundation phase (only Wales data available) and in North Wales and all six local authority areas at Year 11. Furthermore, Census 2021 data shows a higher percentage of females have degree level qualifications in North Wales and all six local authority areas, this was also seen in the Census 2011 data. However, in work women earn less money than men in all six local authority areas, with the largest gender pay gap at a local authority level being 14% in 2022 which is smaller than the 17% pay gap noted in the previous report.

In three of the four local authority areas where data was available, a slightly higher proportion of females were living in households in material deprivation in 2021-22. Furthermore, a higher proportion of females provide unpaid care than men in North Wales and all local areas.

At a Wales level, in 2018-19 women were less likely to feel safe in their local area and a lot less likely to feel safe after dark. Police recorded crime data for the year ending March 2020 for England and Wales shows that the majority of victims of sexual offences were female, and in the year ending March 2022 the majority of victims of domestic abuse offences were also female. Further data looking at these issues at a local level would be beneficial.

Data from 2018-20 showed females to have a higher life expectancy at birth in North Wales, although this has reduced since the previous equality report. Females are expected to live for a longer number of years with a limiting long term physical or mental condition in North Wales.

Race inequality

When analysing the 2021 Census by ethnic group, the highest proportion of people in North Wales with degree-level qualifications are Black, Black British, Black Welsh, Caribbean or African (52.9%) and the lowest proportion are White (30.5%). However, the employment rate in 2021/22 in North Wales was lower for ethnic minority people than white people (68% compared with 74%). This was not the case in all North Wales local authority areas. Further analysis by ethnic group (within the ethnic minority population) was not possible due to small sample sizes.

When looking at data relating to housing, in North Wales the percentage of the proportion who live in overcrowded households (fewer bedrooms than required) in the 2021 Census varied from 4.1% (White) to 11.8% (Other Ethnic Group). There was some variation seen in the North Wales local authority areas. In North Wales, the percentage of housing tenure owned status by ethnic group varied from to 35.0% (Black, Black British, Black Welsh, Caribbean or African) to 68.0% (White). The percentage of housing tenure social rented status by ethnic group varied from to 8.1% (Asian, Asian British or Asian Welsh) to 21.5% (Black, Black British, Black Welsh, Caribbean or African). The percentage of housing tenure private rented status by ethnic group varied from to 16.3% (White) to 48.5% (Other Ethnic Group). Furthermore, the percentage who live in households without access to a car or van in North Wales by ethnic group is higher for Black, Black British, Black Welsh, Caribbean or African (27.1%) and lowest for White (12.3%).

In North Wales in 2021/22 58% of hate crimes recorded by North Wales Police related to race. In 2016/17 there were 336 hate crimes related to race recorded compared with 914 in 2021/22, an increase of 172%. Further research is needed to assess the full extent of hate crime in North Wales and at a more local level.

LGBTQ+ people

Of the hate crimes recorded by North Wales Police in 2021/22, 334 (21%) related to sexual orientation and 50 (3%) to transgender identity. There was an increase in hate crime offences recorded from 2016/17 to 2021/22, with an increase of 271 (430%) to sexual orientation and 42 (525%) to transgender. Research by Stonewall in found that the majority of trans people don't report incidences to the police, and so this is underreported. The hate crime figures above are therefore unlikely to demonstrate fully the incidences of hate crime in North Wales. Further research may be beneficial to assess the extent of underreporting of hate crime in all monitored strands.

There is limited data available at a local level or for North Wales, and this should be explored further to understand the experience of LGBTQ+ people in North Wales.

The Covid Pandemic

It is known that the pandemic period has affected inequality as noted in the Equality and Human Rights Commission's paper '[How coronavirus has affected equality and human rights](#)' from 2020. Although this report was written quite early in the pandemic it highlights issues that may have longer-term consequence on equality, including the pandemic's impact on:

- young people's education, attainment levels and job prospects,
- the risk that remote learning could have increase inequality for pupils who performed less well in school before Covid, including pupils who are socio-economically disadvantaged, boys, pupils who need to be supported in education, Black pupils and some Gypsy, Roma and Traveller pupils,
- older people's higher risk of mortality during this period and isolation associated with restrictions, may have a longer term impact on both physical and mental health,
- more pressure and reliance on unpaid carers, with women being more likely to be unpaid carers, due to pressure of social care,
- rise in reported domestic abuse,
- ethnic minority people were more likely to die from the virus and experience financial hardship,
- disabled people were more likely to die from the virus and experience financial hardship,
- rise in poverty.

Some of the data included in this analysis was from the pre-pandemic period with other datasets from the height of the pandemic. The former will therefore not show its impact on equality in North Wales, and it is unlikely that the latter will fully show its impact. Further research and analysis of the pandemic's impact is recommended when this data becomes available.

Data Gaps

Data has been identified allowing more analysis than the previous North Wales Equality Report, in particular the latest Census allowing more analysis by protected characteristic. However, it is also apparent that there are still gaps in the data available when undertaking a full assessment of inequality in North Wales.

As with the previous report, one particular issue is that the report contains more analysis of some protected characteristics (such as gender and age) than others, with some characteristics not included at all in the analysis. This reflects the data available for each topic and should not be taken or interpreted to imply that inequalities for the other protected groups do not exist or are somehow less important.

Another issue is that intersectional data is most often not available at a local level, and this is also an issue at an all-Wales level as discussed in [Chwarae Teg's 2023 State of the Nation Report](#). Should this data become available at a local level it would allow a more comprehensive analysis of equality in North Wales.

In addition, there are some datasets that are no longer available, this was a particular issue with some of the indicators used for assessing education. Where possible alternative data sources have been identified, although this may have impacted the ability to compare with the data included in the previous report. The full list of data gaps identified are noted in Appendix 2.

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The number of refugees resettled since 2016 in North Wales and the six local authority areas, data last updated November 2022 (gov.uk, 2022).
Percentage of people living in households in material deprivation in 2021-22 by local authority and Wales, including percentage for females where data available (Welsh Government, 2022).
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[Infant deaths per 1,000 live births in North Wales and the six local authority areas in 2019 \(ONS, 2022\).](#)

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[Admissions to mental health facilities by local health board \(Welsh Government, 2022\).](#)

[Patients in mental health hospitals and units in Wales and BCUHB with a learning disability \(Welsh Government, 2019\).](#)

[Patients in mental health hospitals and units in the BCUHB with a mental illness analysed by age \(Welsh Government, 2019\).](#)

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[Percentage of children receiving care and support by local authority with mental ill health in 2021 \(Welsh Government, 2022\).](#)

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[Crime Survey for England and Wales \(ONS, 2020\)](#)

[Number of hate crimes by monitored strand in North Wales as recorded by North Wales Police in 2021/22 \(Home Office, 2022\).](#)

[Number of hate crimes by monitored strand in North Wales as recorded by North Wales Police annually from 2016/17 to 2021/22 \(Home Office, 2022\).](#)

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[The rate of recorded sexual offences per 1,000 population annually in North Wales and Wales between 2018/19 and 2021/22 \(ONS, 2023\)](#)

[Sexual offences in England and Wales overview: year ending March 2022](#)

[Sexual offences prevalence and victim characteristics, England and Wales \(ONS, 2021\)](#)

[Percentage of recorded offences annually that were domestic abuse-related in North Wales and Wales between 2017/18 and 2021/22 \(ONS, 2022\).](#)

[Statistics on child sexual abuse / sexual exploitation by police force area for April 2021 – March 2022 \(ONS, 2023\)](#)

[Crime in England and Wales: Police Force Area data tables \(ONS, 2023\)](#)

[Implementing the Socio-economic Duty Evidence Review \(2021\)](#)

[Adult admissions to mental health facilities per 100,000 population in the BCUHB \(Welsh Government, 2022\)](#)

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Number of youth custodial sentences in North Wales, years ending March 2014 to 2020 (Ministry of Justice and Youth Justice Board for England and Wales, 2021).
Youth justice statistics showing rate of offences in 2019/20 (Ministry of Justice and Youth Justice Board for England and Wales, 2021).
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Prison population figures: 2022 (Ministry of Justice, 2023).
Age breakdown of HMP Berwyn prisoners in June 2022 (Ministry of Justice, 2023).
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Drug-related deaths and suicide in prison custody in England and Wales: 2008 to 2019 (ONS, 2023).
Breakdown of number pf use of CEDs by North Wales Police in April 2021 – March 22 by gender (Home Office, 2022).
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Breakdown of use of CEDs by North Wales Police in April 2021 – March 22 showing whether person was injured by force (Home Office, 2022).
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Whether use the internet (including Smart TV and handheld devices) (percentage) for each of the six local authority areas in North Wales for 2018/19 and 2021/22 (Welsh Government, 2022).
Digital inclusion in Wales (Welsh Government, n.d.).
Number of alleged cases of Financial abuse reported for adults aged 65 and over in 2018/19 (Welsh Government, 2019).
Percentage of people (16+) who attend or participate in arts culture or heritage activities three or more times a year by local authority area area in 2017/18 and 2019/20 (Welsh Government, 2022).
Percentage of people (16+), males and females who attend or participate in arts culture or heritage activities three or more times a year by local authority area area in 2019/20 (Welsh Government, 2022).
Percentage of people who attend or participate in arts culture or heritage activities three or more times a year by local authority area area in 2019/20 by age group (Welsh Government, 2022).
Percentage of people (16+) participating in any sport or physical activity in last 4 weeks (Welsh Government, 2022).
Percentage of people (16+) participating in sporting activities three or more times a week in 2018/19 and 2021/22 (Welsh Government, 2022).
Percentage of people (16+) participating in sporting activities three or more times a week, total and split by gender, in 2021/22 (Welsh Government, 2022).
Percentage of pupils in the North Wales Regional Partnership and each local authority area area who participate in sport three or more times per week in 2022 (Sport Wales, 2022).
Percentage of pupils with and without a disability or impairment in the North Wales Regional Partnership who participate in sport three or more times per week in 2022 (Sport Wales, 2022).
Percentage of pupils in the North Wales Regional Partnership who participate in sport three or more times per week by ethnic background in 2022 (Sport Wales, 2022).
Percentage of pupils in the North Wales Regional Partnership who participate in sport three or more times per week by gender (Sport Wales, 2022).
Percentage of people aged 16+ satisfied with their local area as a place to live (Welsh Government, 2022).
Percentage of people aged 16+ satisfied with their local area as a place to live analysed by gender in 2021/22 (Welsh Government, 2022).
Percentage of people aged 16+ satisfied with their local area as a place to live analysed by age in 2021/22 (Welsh Government, 2022).

Percentage of adults aged 16+ agreeing that they belong to the area; that people from different backgrounds get on well together; and that people treat each other with respect (Welsh Government, 2022).
Percentage of adults aged 16+ agreeing that they belong to the area; that people from different backgrounds get on well together; and that people treat each other with respect analysed by age in 2021/22 (Welsh Government, 2022).
Percentage of people aged 16+ who volunteer by local authority area in 2019/20 analysed by gender and age where possible (Welsh Government, 2022).
Percentage of people aged 16+ who are lonely by local authority area for 2020/21 and 2021/22 (Welsh Government, 2022).
Populations' estimated anxiety levels in 2021/22 by local authority area (ONS, 2022).
Populations' estimated happiness levels in 2021/22 by local authority area (ONS, 2022).
Populations' estimated feeling of worthwhile in 2021/22 by local authority area (ONS, 2022).
Populations' estimated feeling of life satisfaction in 2021/22 by local authority area (ONS, 2022).
10. Conclusion
How coronavirus has affected equality and human rights (Equality and Human Rights Commission, 2020)
Chwarae Teg's 2023 State of the Nation Report

Appendix 2 – Data Gaps

Indicator	Further Detail and Notes for Improvement
The Whole Report	
Intersectionality	Limited data available to undertake analysis exploring the intersectionality of protected characteristics locally.
Covid Impact	It is widely reported that Covid has had a detrimental effect on equality, however some of the data available relates to the pre-pandemic period and will not reflect any changes that may have occurred due to the pandemic.
Protected Characteristics	There are limitations to the analysis that can be undertaken by protected characteristic due to a lack of available data. Some protected characteristics are more represented in the report due to availability of data not importance of topic.
4. Education	
4.1 Education Attainment of Children and Young People	
All included indicators	Limited data available to undertake analysis by protected characteristic for this topic.
4.1.1 Early Years Education	
Percentage achieving the expected Outcome in Foundation Phase	This data was previously provided by the Welsh Government at a local authority area level and included in the previous North Wales Equality Report but is no longer available. Identifying alternative local data would be useful.
4.1.3 Impact of Gender Bias and Stereotyping on Educational Outcomes	
Impact of Gender Bias and Stereotyping on Educational Outcomes	As with previous North Wales Equality Report, unable to find relevant data to supplement the discussion in 'Is Wales Fairer (2018)?'.
4.1.4 Impact of Poverty and Social Exclusion on Educational Attainment	
Impact of Poverty and Social Exclusion on Educational Attainment	As with previous North Wales Equality Report, unable to find relevant data to supplement the discussion in 'Is Wales Fairer (2018)?'.
4.2 School Exclusions, Bullying and NEET	
All included indicators	Very limited data available to undertake analysis by protected characteristic for this topic.
4.2.1 Exclusions from School	
Rate of exclusions from schools per 1,000 pupils	This data was previously provided by the Welsh Government at a local authority area level and included in the previous North Wales Equality Report but is no longer available. Identifying alternative local data would be useful.
4.2.2 Bullying in Schools	

Data on bullying	Data on bullying is scarce on a local level (below North Wales region) and there seems to be no data on how the likelihood of bullying / being bullied varies by other protected characteristics.
4.2.3 NEET	
Young people not in education, employment or training (NEET)	Data was previously available at a local authority area level analysing NEET amongst Year 11 leavers, and was included in the previous North Wales Equality Report but is no longer available. Identifying alternative local data would be useful as would analysis of this data at a local level by protected characteristic.
4.3 Higher Education and Lifelong Learning	
4.3.2 Lifelong Learning	
Percentage of adults participating in learning activities in last three months (either having attended an education course of job-related training)	This analysis was conducted for the 'Is Wales Fairer (2018)?' report using privileged access to data. This could not be replicated here or in the previous report. A similar analysis on a local level and by protected characteristic would be useful to assess lifelong learning in adults.
5. Work	
5.1 Employment	
5.1.3 Insecure Employment	
Insecure Employment	As with previous North Wales Equality Report, unable to find relevant data to supplement the discussion in 'Is Wales Fairer (2018)?', however some Wales level data included in discussion. More local data would be useful.
5.1.4 Unfair Treatment, Bullying and Harassment in the Workplace	
Unfair Treatment, Bullying and Harassment in the Workplace	As with previous North Wales Equality Report, unable to find relevant data to supplement the discussion in 'Is Wales Fairer (2018)?'. Identifying local data analysed by protected characteristic would be useful.
5.2 Earnings	
All included indicators	It was only possible to analyse data by gender for this topic, it would be beneficial if data was available analysing earnings by protected characteristics other than gender.
5.2.2 Low Pay	
Low Pay	As with previous North Wales Equality Report, unable to find relevant data to supplement the discussion in 'Is Wales Fairer (2018)?'. Identifying local data analysed by protected characteristic would be useful.
5.3 Occupational Segregation	
5.3.1 Vertical and Horizontal Segregation	

Proportion of employees in high and low pay occupation by ethnic group	This data was previously available at a local authority area level and included in the previous North Wales Equality Report but is no longer available. Data for Wales included in the report.
Self-employed	As with the previous report, this data includes employees only and not those who are self-employed.
Further analysis by protected characteristic	As with previous North Wales Equality Report, unable to analyse by age, disability, marital status and religion.
5.3.2 Segregation Within Apprenticeships	
Number of apprenticeships by sector	This data was previously available at a local authority area level and included in the previous North Wales Equality Report but is no longer available.
6. Living Standards	
6.2 Poverty	
Poverty indicators	Limited data available looking at these indicators by protected characteristics. Data on child poverty could not be identified at a local level, and would be beneficial when analysing poverty.
6.2.2 Social Security and the Benefit System	
Social Security and the Benefit System	As with previous North Wales Equality Report, unable to find relevant data to supplement the discussion in 'Is Wales Fairer (2018)?'.
6.2.3 Experiences of at-risk Groups: Child Poverty and Poverty of Disabled People, Refugees and Asylum Seekers	
Experiences of at-risk Groups: Child Poverty and Poverty of Disabled People, Refugees and Asylum Seekers	As with previous North Wales Equality Report, unable to find relevant data to supplement the discussion in 'Is Wales Fairer (2018)?'.
6.2.4 Food and Fuel Poverty	
Food and Fuel Poverty	As with previous North Wales Equality Report, unable to find relevant data to supplement the discussion in 'Is Wales Fairer (2018)?' with regards to food poverty. Limited data identified for fuel poverty but local data in from 2018 and does not reflect recent increases in fuel cost.
6.2.5 Wealth and Income Distribution	
Wealth and Income Distribution	Unable to identify updated data for this indicator.
6.3 Social Care	
6.3.1 Access to Social Care	

Total number of adults receiving social services per 1,000 population in each age group	This data was previously provided by the Welsh Government at a local authority area level and included in the previous North Wales Equality Report but updated data could not be identified.
6.3.2 Impact of Social Care Funding on the Provision of Services	
Impact of Social Care Funding on the Provision of Services	As with previous North Wales Equality Report, unable to find relevant data to supplement the discussion in 'Is Wales Fairer (2018)?'.
6.3.3 Quality of Social Care	
Quality of Social Care	Indicators looking at the quality of social care were included in the previous North Wales Equality Report, but updated data could not be identified.
6.3.4 Choice and Control Over Support to Enable Independent Living and Independent Advocacy	
Choice and Control Over Support to Enable Independent Living and Independent Advocacy	As with previous North Wales Equality Report, unable to find relevant data to supplement the discussion in 'Is Wales Fairer (2018)?'.
6.3.5 Dignity and Respect in Social Care	
Dignity and Respect in Social Care	As with previous North Wales Equality Report, unable to find relevant data to supplement the discussion in 'Is Wales Fairer (2018)?'.
6.3.7 Abuse and Neglect	
Number of adults suspected at risk of abuse/neglect	This data was previously included in the previous North Wales Equality Report but updated data could not be identified.
7. Health	
7.1 Access to Health	
Indicators by protected characteristic	As with the previous report, there is a lack of data analysing treatment and ambulance waiting times by protected characteristic.
7.1.2 Access Issues for At Risk Groups	
Access Issues for At Risk Groups	As with previous North Wales Equality Report, unable to find relevant data to supplement the discussion in 'Is Wales Fairer (2018)?'.
7.2 Health Outcomes	
Many indicators in this section	There is a lot of data available in this section, however much of it cannot be analysed by protected characteristic.
7.2.3 Suicide	
Suicide rate by protected characteristic	Suicide rates are not available by protected characteristic at North Wales or local authority area level. Previous report included data for North Wales and local authority areas analysed by age and gender.
7.2.5 Malnutrition	

Nutrition indicators for children	This data was previously included in the previous North Wales Equality Report but updated data could not be identified.
Healthy weight data for children	This data was previously included in the previous North Wales Equality Report but updated data could not be identified.
7.3 Mental Health	
All included indicators	Much of this data cannot be analysed by protected characteristic
7.3.3 Access to Psychological Therapies	
Access to Psychological Therapies	As with previous North Wales Equality Report, unable to find relevant data to supplement the discussion in 'Is Wales Fairer (2018)?'.
7.3.5 Suicides of Mental Health Service Users	
Suicides of Mental Health Service Users	As with previous North Wales Equality Report, unable to find relevant data to supplement the discussion in 'Is Wales Fairer (2018)?'.
7.3.6 Use of Restraint of Mental Health Service Users	
Use of Restraint of Mental Health Service Users	As with previous North Wales Equality Report, unable to find relevant data to supplement the discussion in 'Is Wales Fairer (2018)?'.
7.3.7 Use of Mental Health Act and Supervised Community Treatment	
Use of Mental Health Act and Supervised Community Treatment	As with previous North Wales Equality Report, unable to find relevant data to supplement the discussion in 'Is Wales Fairer (2018)?'.
8. Justice and Personal Security	
Many indicators in this section	Many of the indicators in this section cannot be analysed by protected characteristic.
8.1 Criminal and Civil Justice: Public Confidence and Access to Justice	
8.1.2 Access to Courts and Tribunals	
Access to Courts and Tribunals	As with previous North Wales Equality Report, unable to find relevant data to supplement the discussion in 'Is Wales Fairer (2018)?'.
8.1.3 Provision of Legal Aid	
Provision of Legal Aid	As with previous North Wales Equality Report, unable to find relevant data to supplement the discussion in 'Is Wales Fairer (2018)?'.
8.2 Violence and Abuse: Hate Crimes, Homicides, and Sexual and Domestic Abuse	
Violence and abuse	Chwarae Teg's State of the Nation 2023 Report notes that crime data alone is not enough to fully assess violence against women, and this is also likely to be true for other forms of violence and abuse.
8.3 Conditions of Detention	
8.3.3 Non-Natural Deaths	
Non-Natural Deaths	As with previous North Wales Equality Report, unable to find relevant data to supplement the discussion in 'Is Wales Fairer (2018)?'.

8.3.4 Safety of Those Detained	
Number of self-harm incidents at HMP Berwyn	This data was previously included in the previous North Wales Equality Report but updated data could not be identified.
Number of prisoner-on-prisoner assaults at HMP Berwyn	This data was previously included in the previous North Wales Equality Report but updated data could not be identified.
Number of assaults on staff at HMP Berwyn	This data was previously included in the previous North Wales Equality Report but updated data could not be identified.
9. Participation	
Many indicators in this section	Many of the indicators in this section cannot be analysed by protected characteristic.
9.1 Voting and Civic Participation and Representation	
9.1.2 Political Participation and Freedom of Expression, Assembly and Association; Trade Unions, Legislation and Membership	
Political Participation and Freedom of Expression, Assembly and Association; Trade Unions, Legislation and Membership	As with previous North Wales Equality Report, unable to find relevant data to supplement the discussion in 'Is Wales Fairer (2018)?'.
9.1.3 Civic Participation, Including Public Appointments and Volunteering; Ability to Influence Decisions in the Local Area	
Analysis of elected members by gender	This data was previously included in the previous North Wales Equality Report but updated data could not be identified. It would also be useful to gather detailed information of diversity of local government and other public bodies to see if representative of local society.
9.2 Access to Services	
9.2.1 Access to Transport	
Access to Transport	As with previous North Wales Equality Report, there was little information available on access to transport.
9.3 Privacy and Surveillance	
9.3.1 Internet Use and Awareness of Privacy Settings	
Internet Use and Awareness of Privacy Settings	As with previous North Wales Equality Report, unable to find relevant data to supplement the discussion in 'Is Wales Fairer (2018)?'.
9.3.2 Treatment of Personal Data	
Treatment of Personal Data	As with previous North Wales Equality Report, unable to find relevant data to supplement the discussion in 'Is Wales Fairer (2018)?'.
9.4 Social and Community Cohesion	
9.4.2 Social and Community Cohesion, Building Relationships to Counter Radicalisation and Extremism	

Social and Community Cohesion,
Building Relationships to
Counter Radicalisation and
Extremism

As with previous North Wales Equality Report, unable to find relevant data to supplement the discussion in 'Is Wales Fairer (2018)?'.