

JSNA Health and Wellbeing Profile 2025/26

Income

Summary points

- Average total annual household income in local areas of Bristol differed by £46,400, from the lowest (£37,500 in Withywood) to the highest (£83,900 in Henleaze)
- Average disposable (net) annual household income in local areas of Bristol differed by £29,800, from the lowest (£29,600 in Barton Hill) to the highest (£59,400 in Clifton Village)
- Equivalised average disposable (net) household income before housing costs differed by £31,600, from the lowest (£27,400 in Barton Hill) to the highest (£59,000 in Clifton Village).
- Equivalised average disposable (net) household income after housing costs differed by £26,900, from the lowest (£21,400 in Withywood) to the highest (£48,300 in Henleaze).

Introduction (and definitions)

Data for household income estimates is published every two years by the Office of National Statistics (ONS)¹. Data is produced for England and Wales at small area levels known as Middle-layer Super Output Areas (MSOA²). There are 57 MSOAs in Bristol based on the 2021 boundaries.

The ONS have published income estimates using four different models which can be applied to two different approaches and are defined as below:

Approach 1: Household income

1. **Total annual household income:** This is the sum of the gross income of every member of the household plus any income from benefits, that is, wages and salaries, self-employment, pensions, investments, benefits (such as Working Families Tax Credit).
2. **Disposable (net) annual household income:** This is the sum of the disposable income of every member of the household. It is calculated using the same components as total income, but income is net of: income tax payments; national insurance contributions; domestic rates/council tax; contributions to occupational pension schemes; all maintenance and child support payments, which are deducted from the income of the person making the payments; and parental contribution to students living away from home.

Approach 2: Equivalised³ household income

1. **Disposable (net) annual household income before housing costs (equivalised):** This is composed of the same elements as disposable household weekly income but is subject to the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) equivalisation scale.

¹ The latest data available is for 2023 and was released in December 2025

² MSOAs are local areas with between 5,000 -15,000 households allowing meaningful comparisons across areas

³ Equivalised income means that the household income values have been adjusted to take into consideration the household size and composition; it represents the income level of every individual in the household.

- 2. Disposable (net) annual household income after housing costs (equivalised):** This is composed of the same elements of disposable household weekly income but is subject to the following deductions prior to the OECD's equivalisation scale being applied: rent (gross of housing benefit), water rates, community water charges and council water charges, mortgage interest payments (net of any tax relief), structural insurance premiums (for owner occupiers) and ground rent and service charges.

The ONS state that the four models of income (above) have been developed separately to produce the most accurate estimate of each income type. This may result in some inconsistencies between the different types of income for some local areas. Therefore, care should be taken when comparing estimates of one income type with estimates of another income type.

1. Household Income

- **Total annual household income**

Average (mean) household income in local areas of England and Wales differed by just over £103,000 from the lowest £25,400 to the highest £128,600 in the financial year ending (FYE) 2023. In Bristol average (mean) household income differed by £46,400, ranging from £37,500 in Witherwood to £83,900 in Henleaze.

Figure 1 overleaf illustrates the spread of income by MSOA and clearly shows the cluster of higher household incomes to the north of the City Centre in local areas such as Redland / Bishopston / Westbury Park / Clifton village / Westbury-on-Trym / Henleaze.

MSOA's with the lower household incomes are more dispersed over the city although there is a cluster in the south (Hartcliffe / Witherwood / Knowle West / Highridge), closer to the City Centre (Upper Easton / Barton Hill) and in the north (Avonmouth / Lawrence Weston).

- **Disposable (net) annual household income**

Average (mean) disposable household income in local areas of England and Wales differed by £63,800 from the lowest £20,700 to the highest £84,500 in the financial year ending (FYE) 2023. In Bristol average (mean) disposable household income differed by £29,800, ranging from £29,600 in Barton Hill to £59,400 in Clifton Village.

Figure 2 overleaf illustrates the spread of disposable income by MSOA and similar to figure 1 shows a cluster of higher disposable household incomes to the north of the City Centre in local areas such as Redland / Bishopston / Westbury Park / Clifton village / Westbury-on-Trym / Henleaze.

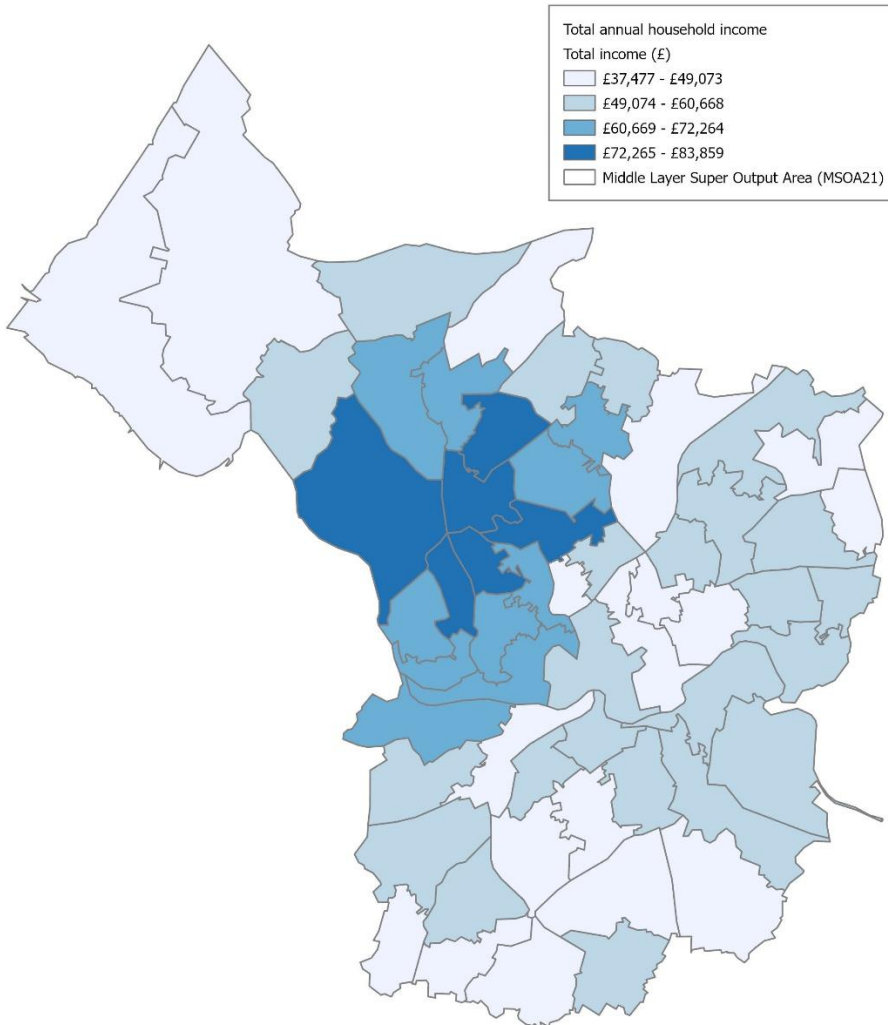
MSOA's with the lower disposable household incomes are more dispersed over the city with clusters in the south (Hartcliffe / Witherwood / Knowle West / Highridge), closer to the City Centre (Upper Easton / Barton Hill) and in the north (Avonmouth / Lawrence Weston).

Annual Household Income Estimates Financial Year Ending 2023

ONS Model-based Small Area Income Estimates

Annual household income is the sum of the income of every member of the household plus any income from benefits such as Working Families Tax Credit.

Middle Layer Super Output Areas (MSOAs) are local areas with between 5,000 and 15,000 households.



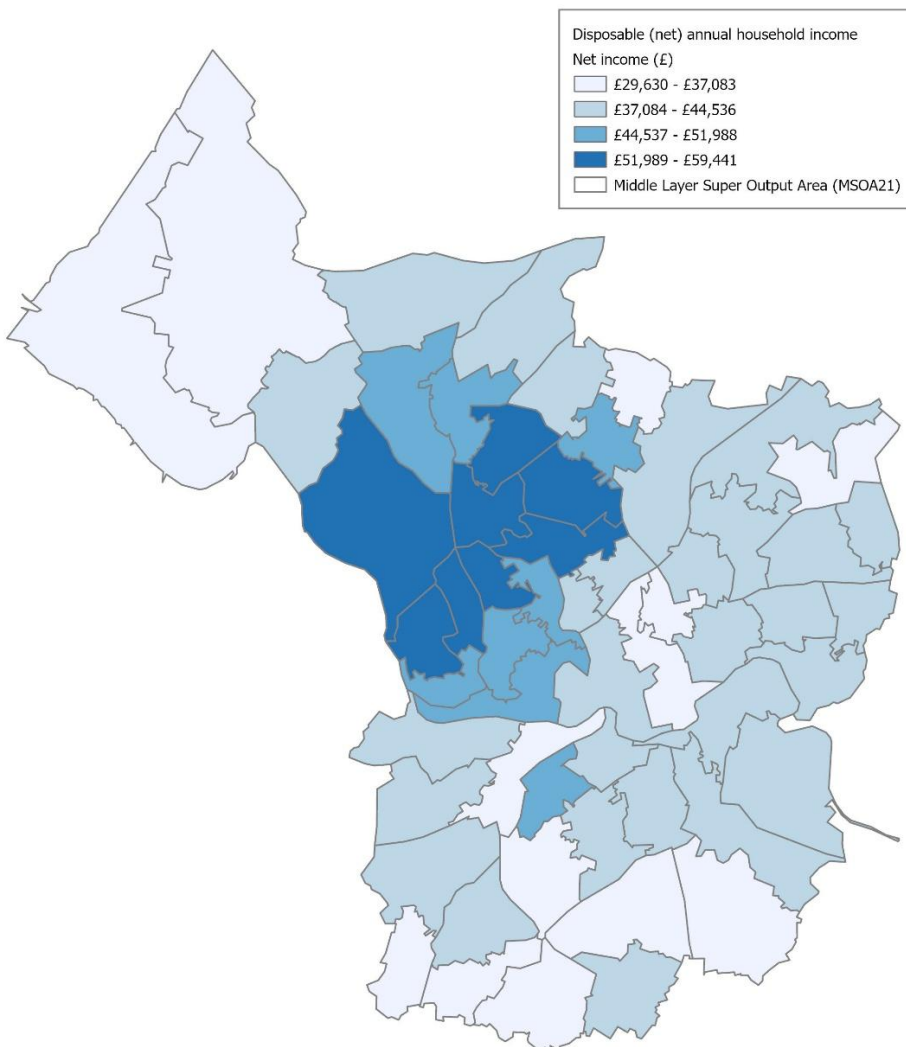
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Figure 1: Total annual household income by Bristol MSOA21.

Source: ONS

Annual Household Income Estimates Financial Year Ending 2023

ONS Model-based Small Area Income Estimates
 Annual household income is the sum of the income of every member of the household plus any income from benefits such as Working Families Tax Credit.
 Middle Layer Super Output Areas (MSOAs) are local areas with between 5,000 and 15,000 households.



Source: Strategic Intelligence and Performance, Bristol City Council.
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Figure 2: Disposable (net) annual household income by Bristol MSOA21. Source: ONS

2. Equivalised household income

- **Disposable (net) annual household income before housing costs (equivalised)**

Average (mean) household disposable income (net) before housing costs in local areas of England and Wales differed by £86,800 from the lowest £20,800 to the highest £107,600, in the financial year ending (FYE) 2023. In Bristol average (mean) household disposable income (net) before housing costs differed by £31,600, ranging from £27,400 in Barton Hill to £59,000 in Clifton Village.

Figure 3 below highlights that the MSOA's just north of the city centre continue to have higher disposable annual household income (equivalised) before housing costs than other MSOA's in the city albeit lower than before equivalisation. MSOA's with the lowest income are spread across the city as before, in parts of the South, North and City Centre.

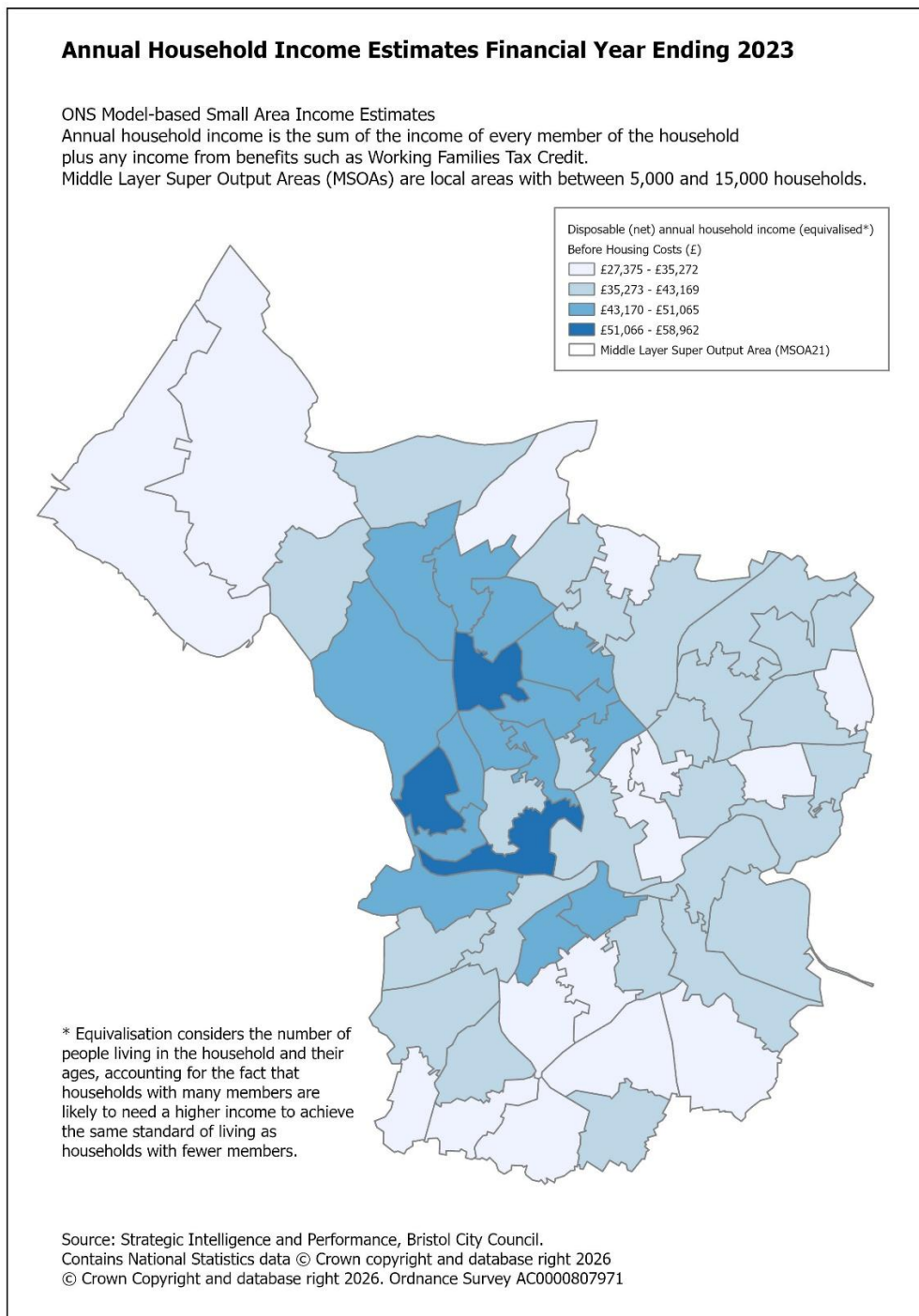


Figure 3: Disposable (net) annual household income (equivalised) before housing costs, by Bristol MSOA21.
 Source: ONS

- **Disposable (net) annual household income *after housing costs* (equivalised)**

Average (mean) household disposable income (net) after housing costs in local areas of England and Wales differed by £56,400 from the lowest £16,100 to the highest £72,500, in the financial year ending (FYE) 2023. In Bristol average (mean) household disposable income (net)

after housing costs differed by £26,900, ranging from £21,400 in Barton Hill to £48,300 in Henleaze.

There are stark gaps in disposable household income between the outlying areas (Lawrence Weston / Hillfields / Knowle West) and most other parts of Bristol, though Barton Hill in the centre of Bristol is lowest (Figure 4). Bristol’s MSOAs have a fairly even distribution across the national income scales (from lowest to highest, and approximately half on each side) whereas many cities have big clusters of MSOAs in the lower income end.

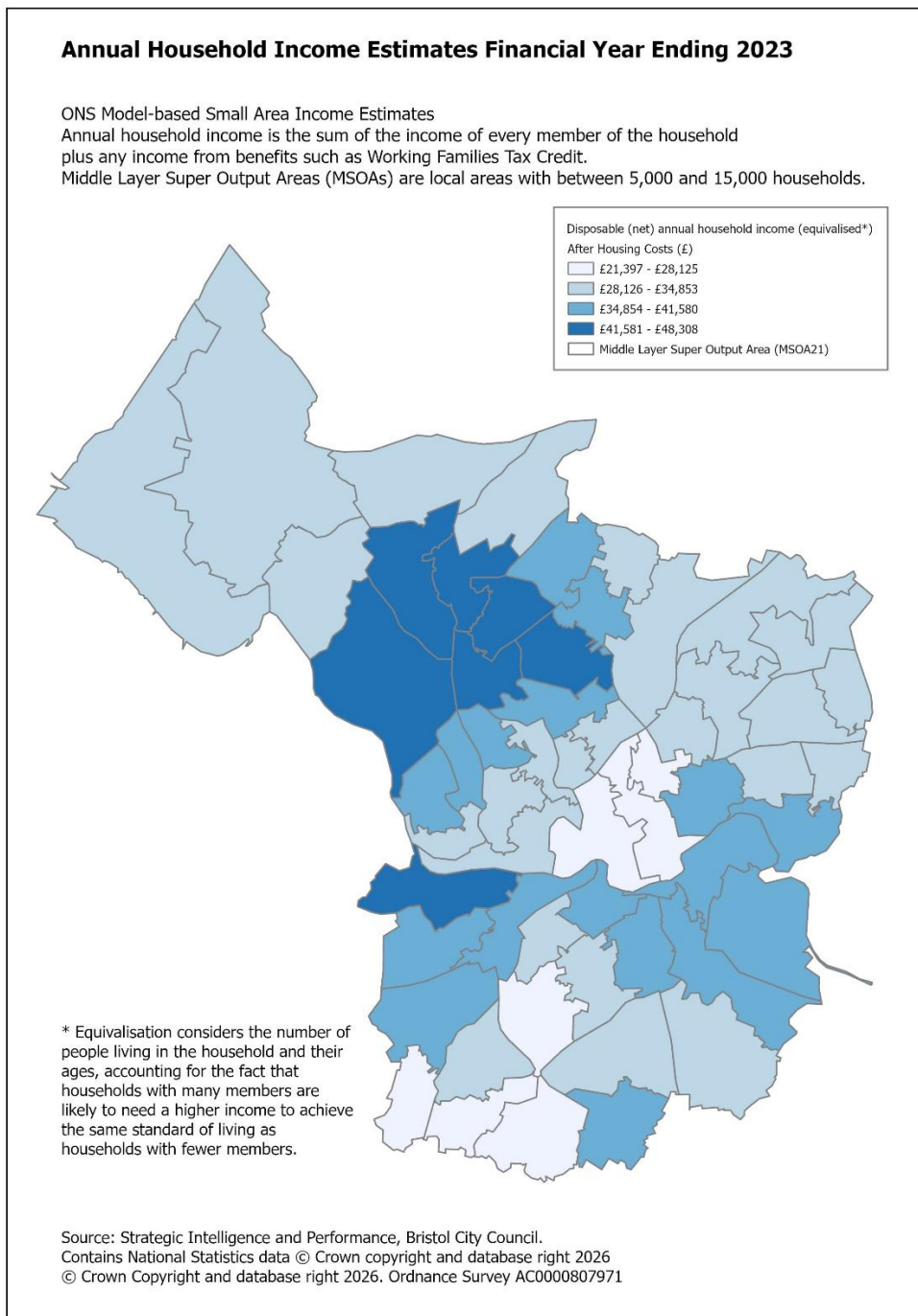


Figure 4: Disposable (net) annual household income (equivalised) after housing costs, by Bristol MSOA21.
 Source: ONS

Equalities data:

As income is one of the measures of deprivation it is clear that the deprivation decile slices will reflect the MSOA's range of income e.g. MSOA's with the lowest levels of income are in the top 10% most deprived areas, MSOA's with the highest levels of income are in the 10% least deprived areas.

Data is not available at person level.

Further data / links / consultations:

- [Income estimates for small areas, England and Wales - Office for National Statistics](#)
- [Data related to Income estimates for small areas, England and Wales - Office for National Statistics](#)

Date updated: March 2026

Date of next update: January 2028 (Date released every two years)