



Bristol

Key Facts 2025

November 2025 Update

Insight, Performance and Intelligence Service

www.bristol.gov.uk/statistics



Population ¹

Bristol is one of the 12 UK 'Core Cities'² with an estimated population of **494,000** (mid-2024)³. Bristol is growing rapidly and is home to a wealth of cultures and creative ideas, and the city continues to build on its strengths as a safe and welcoming place to all, including as a **City of Sanctuary** that values its diversity.

Population change

- Over the decade 2014–2024, Bristol had the 3rd largest percentage population increase of the Core Cities in England and Wales. Bristol's population grew by an estimated 50,600 people, a 11.4% increase (England and Wales grew 7.6%).
- Following Covid-19, the population increased significantly. The main factor was net international migration, with an increase of 10,100, the highest level in more than two decades.
- The majority of immigration is now non-EU nationals (both international students and workers), mainly from India, China, Nigeria, Pakistan and Ukraine. The latest estimates however indicate a slowing of these trends due to recent changes to government policies.
- For the last four years, more people have moved out of Bristol to surrounding areas and other parts of the UK than moved into Bristol from other parts of the UK. Although there have been net gains in student age groups, the biggest net losses have been 30-44 year olds and young children, suggesting people with young families are moving out of Bristol.

Age profile⁴

- Bristol has a relatively young age profile with more children aged 0-15 than people aged 65 and over. The median age of people living in Bristol is 33.4 years compared to 40.3 years in England and Wales.

- **Students** - There are 43,700 full-time students aged 18 and over living in Bristol, making up 9.2% of the total population⁵.

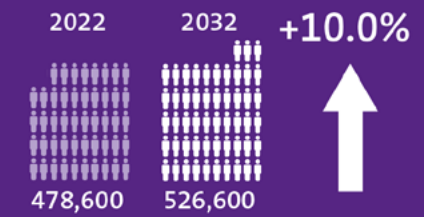
Diversity⁶

- The population of Bristol is increasingly diverse with at least 45 religions, 185 countries of birth, 287 different ethnic groups and 90 main languages.
- 28.4% of people in Bristol belong to a minority ethnic group⁷ (ie not 'White British'), up from 22.1% a decade ago, with 9.5% White Minority Ethnic and 18.9% Black, Asian & Minority Ethnic (including 6.6% Asian/Asian British, 5.9% Black/Black British, 4.5% Mixed and 1.9% Other). Younger people are more ethnically diverse: 36% of children belong to a minority ethnic group compared to 10% of people 65 & over.
- **Sexual orientation and gender identity⁸** - 6.1% of adults identify as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual or other (LGB+), almost double England and Wales average of 3.2% and 3,220 (0.8%) of adults identify as Trans (0.5% E&W).

Population projections⁹

- In mid-2025 Bristol local authority was projected to exceed half a million people for the first time.
- The population is projected to increase to 526,600 by 2032 – a 10% increase between 2022-32 (England 6.4%) and the 2nd highest percentage increase of the England Core Cities.
- The biggest factor in this projected population change is net international migration.

Key facts: Population



Migration

Highest international migration in over 2 decades; mainly non-EU



Diversity

Black, Asian & Minority Ethnic



Median age of people in Bristol is **33.4 years** compared to **40.3 years** in England and Wales

- In 2032 there will be 6,400 fewer children (aged 0-15), 46,900 more people of working age and 7,400 more older people (aged 65 and over).

Communities & Living ¹⁰

Deprivation 2025

- In Bristol 11% of residents (53,100 people) live in the 10% most deprived¹¹ areas in England (IMD 2025), including 13,500 children and 7,740 older people¹².
- Bristol has 30 areas¹³ in the most deprived 10% in England, with the greatest levels of deprivation in Hartcliffe & Withywood, Filwood and Lawrence Hill.
- 27,561 households in Bristol are estimated to experience fuel poverty¹⁴ (2022); this constitutes 13.8% of all households “fuel poor” (England 13.1%).
- 8% of households have experienced moderate to severe “food insecurity” in the last 12 months, doubling to 16% in the most deprived areas (QoL 2024/25)¹⁵.

Community cohesion

- 72% of Bristol residents are satisfied with their local area as a place to live, but only 43% of people in the most deprived areas (QoL 2024/25)¹⁵.
- 65% of residents “feel they belong to their neighbourhood”, with 45% of people in the most deprived areas (QoL 2024/25)¹⁵.
- 73% of Bristol residents citywide feel that “people from different backgrounds get on well together” in their local area, similar to last year’s 72% (QoL 2024/25)¹⁵.
- Around half (46%) of residents volunteer or help out in their community at least 3 times a year (43% in the most deprived areas) (QoL 2024/25)¹⁵.

Children

- There are 92,700 children under 18 living in Bristol (Mid-2024)¹⁶.
- 23.0% (18,844) of children under 16 live in relative low-income families¹⁷ in Bristol (2023/24), above the national average (21.8%) and significantly more than 16.2% in 2014/15.
- As at Jan 2025, 30.2% of

Bristol’s school pupils (around 19,000 children) are eligible for free school meals.

- 6.3% of 16-17 year olds (2024/25) were “Not in education, employment or training” (NEET) or destination unknown¹⁸.

Social care

- At the end of March 2025, 5,544 adults were receiving BCC funded Social Care¹⁹, with 1,430 in Care Homes and 4,157 receiving a community-based support service.
- A snapshot of Bristol Social Services taken in March 2025²⁰ shows that 758 children were in care and 368 children had a child protection plan²¹.
- Carers - Almost 34,000 people provide unpaid care in Bristol (7.6% of all people aged 5 & over; England and Wales average is 8.9%)²².

Crime & Safety²³

- Total recorded crime²⁴ in Bristol in 2024/25 was 63,100, an increase of 8% on the previous year and the highest recorded in the last eight years.
- Of these, the biggest categories are 23,200 Violence offences, 13,500 Theft and 7,200 Public Order offences.
- The crime rate is 131.8 per 1,000 population (2024/25)²⁵ [National Crime rate is 87.9 per 1,000 population (2024)²⁶].
- Rates of people whose day-to-day life is affected by fear of crime has increased to 24% (from 21% the previous year), and is 41% in the most deprived areas (QoL 2024/25)¹⁵.
- Recorded hate crime in 2024/25 was 2,900 crimes, an increase of 15% on the previous year (2,520). Racial prejudice accounts for 69% of all hate crimes, followed by sexual orientation (10.8%) and disability (7.8%)²⁷.
- 40% of people from Black, Asian & Minority Ethnic groups said

Key facts: Communities & Living

Child poverty

23.0% of children under 16 in low income families (2023/24)
21.8% in 2022/23



Fuel poverty

27,561 households in Bristol are estimated to experience fuel poverty (2022)



Community cohesion

46% of residents volunteer or help out in their community at least 3 times a year



Carers

34,000 people provide unpaid care in Bristol



Crime

63,100 crimes in Bristol in 2024/25



Crime Rate (per 1,000 population)



they were a victim of racial discrimination or harassment in the last year, up from 29% the year before (QoL 2024/25)¹⁵.

Health & Wellbeing²⁸

Bristol is an active city but for many health outcomes the city performs poorly compared to the England average, but better than most of the English core cities. There are significant health and wellbeing inequalities within the city, often with worse health outcomes for people in the most deprived areas.

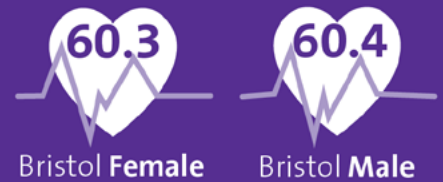
- Life expectancy²⁹ for women is 82.7 years and for men 78.9 years (2023) both are lower than the national average.
- The inequalities gap in life expectancy³⁰ between the most and least deprived areas in Bristol is 10.7 years for men and 7.2 years for women (2021-23).
- Bristol's healthy life expectancy³¹ (years living in good health) is 60.3 years for women and 60.4 years for men (2021-23; both lower than the national average of 61.9 and 61.5 years respectively).
- The mortality rate for COVID-19 was 48.7 per 100,000 people, significantly lower than the England average of 57.5 (2021-23)³².
- Cancer remains the biggest killer in the under 75 age group³³ (393 early deaths in Bristol in 2023).
- 9,479 Bristol GP patients aged 18 and over (2.0%) received a diagnosis of depression for the first time³⁴ in 2023/24, significantly higher than the England average incidence rate (1.5%).
- The rate of young people (10-24 years) admitted to hospital due to self-harm is 482.8 per 100,000, significantly higher than the England average (266.6) (2023/24)³⁵.
- 55.9% adults in Bristol are overweight or obese (2023/24), significantly better than the national average (64.5%)³⁶.
- 18.9% of 4-5yr olds have excess weight, rising to 33.5% for 10-11yr olds (2023/24)³⁷.
- 74.4% of Bristol adults are physically active³⁸, significantly higher than the national average (67.4%) and highest of all English core cities (2023/24).
- The smoking rate is 12.7% (2023), higher than the national average (11.6%). 7.0% of women smoke at the time of delivery (2023/24), similar to the national average (7.4%)³⁹.
- The rate of alcohol-related hospital admissions in 2023/24 was 699 per 100,000 people⁴⁰, significantly higher than the England average of 504.
- The teenage pregnancy rate in 2022 was 13.1 per 1,000, statistically similar to the national rate of 13.9⁴¹.
- Approximately 3,445 adults aged 65+ are on GP Dementia registers in Bristol⁴² (May 2025).
- The suicide rate in Bristol was 12.9 per 100,000 persons (2021-23), significantly higher than the national average of 10.7. Rates are higher in men (17.7) than women (8.2)⁴³.
- 17.2% of people have a long-term health issue or disability which affects their day-to-day activities (17.5% E&W)⁴⁴.
- 64% of Bristol residents are satisfied with life, lower than pre-pandemic satisfaction (75%) and only 57% for people in the most deprived areas (QoL 2024/25)⁴⁵.
- 4.7% of all deaths in 2023 in people aged 30 years and older was attributable to particulate air pollution, lower than the England average (5.2%)⁴⁵.


Key facts: Health & Wellbeing

Life expectancy (years)



Healthy life expectancy



Cancer remains the biggest killer in under 75's 




55.9% adults in Bristol overweight or obese

33.5% 10-11 yr olds overweight or obese

74.4% of Bristol adults are **physically active** - highest of all English core cities 

Smoking

Smoking rate **12.7%** (national average 11.6%) 

7.0% of women smoke during pregnancy

Health issues

17.2% have a long-term health issue or disability that affects their day-to-day activities

Education & Skills ⁴⁶

Bristol has a skilled workforce with a high proportion of graduates and students living in the city and is committed to providing an inclusive education for all children.

- The proportion of eligible 2 year olds benefiting from free early education has decreased between Jan 2024 and Jan 2025 from 69.2% to 63.9%, remaining below the national average of 65.2%.⁴⁷ Both Bristol and England take up rates have seen a notable drop in the last year, this drop may be linked to the introduction of working parent entitlement.
- In Early Years⁴⁸, 68.4% of children under 5 have a Good Level of Development at Foundation Stage (2024), above the England average
- For Key Stage 2 pupils⁴⁹ (at 11 years of age) 2024 data shows 56% achieved the expected standard in Reading, Writing and Maths combined, same as in 2023.
- For Key Stage 4 pupils⁵⁰ (at age 16), 2024 average Attainment 8 score⁵¹ for Bristol was 45.2 points, below the national average of 46.1. For disadvantaged pupils⁵² the score was 31.8 and for children with an EHC plan the score was 11.4.
- Bristol's 2024 Progress 8 score⁵³ was -0.01, better than the national benchmark (-0.03). For Disadvantaged pupils the Progress 8 score is -0.59.
- In 2024, 63.4% of Bristol secondary school pupils achieved grades 4 or above in English and Maths GCSEs⁵⁴, same as in 2023. This is below the England average of 65.4%.
- In 2024, 14.8% of A level students in Bristol achieved grades AAB or better⁵⁵, below the national average of 17.1%.
- As at January 2025, 16.9% of Bristol pupils received Special Educational Need (SEN) support⁵⁶ and 5.1% have an Education Health & Care Plan (EHCP). Over 15,400 pupils in Bristol schools have SEN, this is an increase of 5.8% from 2024.
- For 2023/24, the Bristol suspension rate was 5.74, higher than the national average of 4.13. Pupils eligible for free school meals have a higher suspension rate (13.7) and this is higher still for pupils with an EHC plan (15.7)⁵⁷.
- The persistent absence rate for Bristol in 2023/24 was 24.8%, higher than the national average of 20.0%⁵⁸.

Higher education

- 42% of people aged 16 and over living in Bristol have a degree or higher. This is much higher than the England and Wales average of 34% and the highest of the Core Cities⁵⁹.
- In 2023/24 there were 68,100 students registered at the two Bristol universities⁶⁰ – 32,100 at the University of Bristol and 35,900 at UWE. [NB Not all live in Bristol]. Over 10 years there has been an increase in student numbers of 21,000 (44%).
- Overseas students make up more than a quarter (27%) of all students at the two universities with 2% from EU, and 25% non-EU countries.
- Significantly fewer young people in Bristol go on to higher education⁶¹ (31.6% compared to 42.2% in England). In South Bristol participation is only 22.3%, including 3 of the 5 lowest performing areas⁶² in England: Hartcliffe (8.7%, lowest in England), Highridge and Withywood. Highest in Bristol is Westbury Park at 77.6%.

Key facts: Education & Skills

68.4%

of children under 5 have a Good Level of Development at **Foundation Stage** (2024)



56%

of 11 year olds achieved the expected standard in **Reading, Writing and Maths** combined.



63.4%

achieved a "strong pass" in **English and Maths GCSE** (2024).



Below National average **65.4%**



24.8%

Persistent absence rate for Bristol. Higher than national average (**20.0%**)

68,100 students at the 2 main universities **up 44%** in the last 10 years

42%

of Bristol residents have a **degree** or higher
National average **34%**



3 of the **5** worst performing areas in England for young people **going on to higher education** are in South Bristol (Hartcliffe, Highridge and Withywood)

Housing⁶³

Building homes

Bristol has 208,000 dwellings⁶⁴ (end March 2024). Policy H1 of the new **Bristol Local Plan** sets a minimum of 1,925 new homes annually, with a minimum of 12,000 new affordable⁶⁵ homes within the period 2022 -2040.

- During 2023/24, 1,433 new homes⁶⁶ were built in Bristol (compared to the 5 year average of 1,707).
- 80.6% of dwellings completed (2023/24) were on previously developed land⁶⁷.
- 136 of housing completions (2023/24) were student units⁶⁸. Between 2020-2024, 1,029 student units were built, providing 1,899 bedspaces.
- 535 affordable homes were built in 2024/25⁶⁹.
- 16,016 dwellings have planning permission⁷⁰ (April 2024), including 3,021 under construction, and 3,343 for affordable homes.
- BCC has 26,766 Council Homes (March 2025)⁷¹.

Homelessness

Around 6,000 households approached the Council for help with homelessness issues in 2024/25. The cost-of-living crisis, increasing private rents and reduced supply of affordable housing is driving homelessness and an increase in Temporary Accommodation.

- 82 people were found sleeping rough⁷² in Bristol during January-March 2025 (was 70 in January-March 2024).
- At end March 2025 there were 1,628 households living in Temporary Accommodation⁷³ in Bristol, over 90 more than the year before.
- Nearly 1690 households were prevented from becoming homeless during 2024/25⁷⁴.
- During 2024/25, over 460 empty private sector dwellings were returned into occupation⁷⁵.

Housing market

- Average house prices: Bristol– £340,000; England & Wales– £282,500 (Sept 2024)⁷⁶.
- Over the last decade, average house prices in Bristol increased by 79% (+£150,000) – the highest increase of Core Cities (E&W) – and higher than England and Wales 49% (+£92,500)⁷⁷.
- In 2024 Bristol had a ‘housing affordability ratio’ of 8.72, which means the average house price is almost 9 times higher than average earnings. This is above England average (7.71) and highest of Core Cities (E&W)⁷⁸.
- Bristol had the least “affordable” rents outside of London in 2023/24, with private rent 44.6% of average household income (36.3% in England)⁷⁹.

Housing stock

- Household tenure: 55% owner occupied, 26% private rented, 19% social rented⁸⁰.
- 65% of households live in houses and 32% live in flats (nationally 20% live in flats)⁸¹.


Overcrowding⁸²

- 5.1% (9,684) of Bristol households are overcrowded (fewer bedrooms than required) (E&W: 4.3%).
- In some central areas, more than a fifth of housing is overcrowded.
- 34.4% of households have the required number of bedrooms (E&W 26.5%), whilst 60.6% are considered underoccupied (E&W 69.2%).

Household composition

- Of the 191,638 households in Bristol, 30% are one person households, 57% are single family households and 12% are multiple family or other household types⁸³.
- 27% of all households include dependent children⁸⁴ (E&W 28%) and 8% include non-dependent children (E&W 11%).
- There are 19,819 lone parent households, 10% of all households in Bristol (E&W 11%).

Key facts: Housing

1,433 
new homes built in Bristol in 2023/24

Rough Sleeping

82 
sleeping rough (January-March 2025)

1,628 
households in Temporary Accommodation (March 2025)

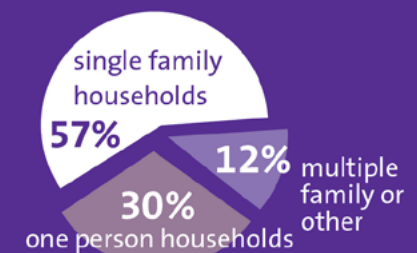
Average house prices

Bristol: **£340,000**
England & Wales: **£282,500**
(Sept 2024)



Average house prices increase in the last decade (+£150,000)

19,819 
lone parent households (10% of total).



Transport⁸⁵

Significant changes are being made to our transport network with the introduction of new cycle lanes – such as the those installed outside of the Bristol Royal Infirmary - the pedestrianisation of the Old City and local high streets like Cotham Hill and Princess Victoria Street as well as the introduction of modern and cleaner electric buses. The City Centre network will be completely transformed over the next 2 years making it much easier for people to walk, wheel, cycle and take public transport. Looking ahead the West of England area has secured £800 million of funding for new rail infrastructure, mass transit and active travel improvements.

- The top action that Bristol residents feel would improve their overall quality of life is better public transport, including improved reliability and routes for buses (QoL 2024/25)¹⁵.
- 42% of all Bristol residents stated they are satisfied with the local bus service, similar to the previous year's 41% (QoL 2024/25)¹⁵.
- There were 39.7 million bus passenger journeys in Bristol in 2024/25, up from 37.2mn in 2023/24. Almost pre-Covid numbers (40.8mn bus passenger journeys in 2019/20)⁸⁶.
- Of Bristolians who travelled to work in 2024, 36% did this via "active travel", similar to 35% from the year before. Of these, 15% cycled to work (down 1%) and 20% walked (up 1%). 34% drove to work (down from 37% previous year) (QoL 2024/25)²¹.
- 24% of Bristolians ride a bike at least once a week, 20% in the most deprived areas (QoL 2024/25)¹⁵.
- In 2024, there were 3,180,000 shared mobility rental trips (e-scooter and e-bike rentals) in Bristol & South Glos covering 7,170,000 km, a decrease from 2022 when there were 4,400,000 trips⁸⁷.
- Despite increased numbers of people using public transport, walking or cycling, continued level of vehicle use mean that reported air pollution levels of nitrogen

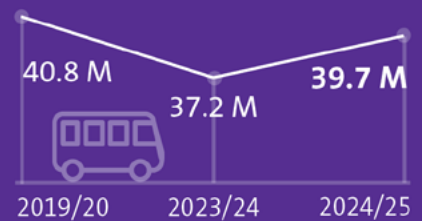
dioxide still exceed the UK and EU air quality limits in some city centre locations⁸⁸. The Clean Air Zone has improved air pollution in the city, but there is still more to do to meet legal limits in all locations.

Traffic

- The average speed⁸⁹ on local A roads in Bristol was 15.7 mph in 2024, slightly less than 2023 (16.1 mph) and significantly slower than the England average (23.0 mph).
- 83% of Bristolians feel that traffic congestion is a problem in their area (up from 74% previous year), and 71% think air quality and traffic pollution is a problem locally (up 4%) (QoL 2024/25)¹⁵.
- 138 people were killed or seriously injured in road traffic incidents⁹⁰ in Bristol during 2024. The highest number in recent years.
- 42% of residents are satisfied with the management of roadworks in Bristol, 1% point worse than the national average of 43% (NHT 2024)⁹¹.
- Bristol has the highest level of car availability of all the core cities in England⁹². 74% of households have at least one car or van available (E&W 77%), up from 71% in 2011. 26% of households in Bristol have no car or van (E&W 23%).
- Levels of car availability vary widely across the city⁹³. The proportion of households with no car range from 5% in parts of Henleaze to as high as 74% in parts of the city centre.

Key facts: Transport

Bus Passenger journeys in Bristol




Active Travel

36% travelled to work via "active travel"

20% walk, 15% cycle (2024)
(35% in 2023)

 In 2024 there were **3.2 million** e-scooter and e-bike rental trips

15.7 mph 
average speed on A roads in Bristol (2024)
(England average **23.0 mph**)

83% 
feel traffic congestion is a problem in their area

26% 
of households have **no car or van** (E&W 23%)

138 
killed or seriously injured in road traffic incidents in Bristol (2024)

Climate, Energy, Ecology & Waste ⁹⁴

Bristol City Council is committed to playing its part in both the **One City Ecological Emergency Strategy** which seeks an ecologically resilient, wildlife-rich Bristol by 2030, and the **One City Climate Strategy** which aims for Bristol to be climate resilient and carbon neutral for all scopes of emissions by 2030. Bristol was the first city to declare a Climate and Ecological Emergency⁹⁵ with **Bristol Climate Hub** helping the city come together to reduce its carbon footprint, and launched **Bristol City Leap**⁹⁶ in 2023 to help deliver a cleaner and greener smart energy city by 2030. See also **Managing green spaces for nature**.

Climate change

- 83% of residents are concerned about the impacts of Climate Change (QoL 2024/25)¹⁵.
- Bristol City Council's direct carbon emissions⁹⁷ reduced by 5% from 2022/23 to 2023/24.
- Citywide carbon emissions⁹⁸ in 2023 were 1,449k tonnes, down 8% on 2022, but not falling enough to be on track to achieve carbon neutrality by 2030. Overall, carbon emissions for Bristol have decreased by 56% since 2005 and per capita emissions reduced by 62%.

Energy

- Bristol City Council owns wind turbines and solar panels that generated enough electricity to power more than 5,340 average UK homes in 2024/25⁹⁹.
- Renewable electricity generation in 2023 jumped to 313,629 MWh, an increase of 274% from 2022. Where a small amount of this increase in generation came from additional solar, and onshore wind capacity, the majority came from new power exported to the grid via the incineration of municipal waste (Energy from Waste). Though energy from waste is only partially renewable, it is included in national figures on renewable electricity generation¹⁰⁰.
- In 2023, installed renewable generation capacity within the Bristol area was made up

of onshore wind (28%), solar photovoltaic (30%), anaerobic digestion (2%), sewage gas (4%) and energy from municipal solid waste (35%)¹⁰¹.

Ecology

- 68% of local residents have created space for nature (QoL 2024/25)¹⁵.
- Around 17.3% of council owned land (877 hectares) is managed for the benefit of wildlife¹⁰² and there are over 4,000 allotment plots¹⁰³.
- Tree canopy cover is 18.2%¹⁰⁴ with BCC planting over 110,000 trees since 2015 through the One Tree Per Child and TreeBristol planting programmes¹⁰⁵.
- In 2024 the West of England was the 1st region in England to launch a **Local Nature Recovery Strategy**. There are 4 priority species in need of recovery : house sparrow, swift, hedgehog and glowworm.

Air quality

- A Clean Zone was introduced in Bristol in November 2022. To check vehicle compliance, charges and zone boundaries see **Bristol's Clean Air Zone**.
- As of July 2025, there were 203 air quality monitoring sites. 8 of these sites produce live data.

Waste

- 45% of all household waste was sent for reuse, recycling and composting in 2024/25¹⁰⁶.

Key facts: Climate, Energy, Ecology & Waste

83% of residents are concerned about the impacts of climate change (2024/25)

Carbon emissions for Bristol decreased by 56% since 2005
1,449k tonnes (2023)

313,629 MWh renewable energy generated (2023)

Tree canopy cover is **18.2%**

45% of all household waste sent for reuse, recycling and composting (2024/25)

Untreated waste to landfill per household
31kg (2023/24) **21kg** (2024/25)

84% think street litter is a problem in their area (2024/25)

- 3% of municipal waste was sent to landfill (2024/25), a significant reduction from 16% five years earlier¹⁰⁷. 21kg of untreated waste per household was landfilled in 2024/25, compared with 31kg in 2023/24.
- 84% of residents think street litter is a problem in their area, rising to 96% in the most deprived areas (QoL 2024/25)¹⁵.

Economy, Employment & Culture ¹⁰⁸

Economy

Bristol has one of the most vibrant and successful economies in the UK, with the highest productivity levels per capita, employment and qualification rates of the major cities.

- In 2024 gross annual earnings (median) in Bristol were £39,000 a year (up by £6,700 since 2021) compared to £37,500 in Great Britain¹⁰⁹. Female earnings were around £7,000 less than male, at £34,500 and £41,400 respectively.
- In 2024 there were 18,330 business units registered in Bristol, slightly down on 18,395 in 2023. 15,895 (86.7%) were micro businesses (0-9 employees); 1,985 (10.8%) small sized (10-49 employees), 360 (1.9%) medium sized (50-249 employees) and 90 (0.5%) large sized (250+ employees)¹¹⁰.
- In June 2025 there were 33,655 active companies registered in Bristol. In 2024, 4,500 new companies were incorporated and 3,964 enterprises ceased trading, an increase of 1.1%¹¹¹. In terms of trading enterprises there were 60 start-ups per 10,000 working age population over 2024-25¹¹².
- At June 2025, of new companies incorporated in 2019, 47.7% survived for 5 years (48.6% in England); 88.8% survived for 1 year (89.9% in England)¹¹³.

Employment

- In March 2025 the employment rate in Bristol was 77.6% with 249,200 working age residents in employment¹¹⁴. This is the second highest of the GB core cities and well above the national rate (75.4%).
- In 2024/25 64,900 (26%) employees in Bristol worked

part-time. 45,900 (38.4%) female employees worked part-time, well over double the 19,000 (14.6%) of males working part-time¹¹⁵.

- 59,900 (18.6%) working age residents were economically inactive¹¹⁶ in the year ending March 2025, the second lowest of the GB core cities and lower than nationally (21.5%). Of these, 26% want a job and 74% do not want a job. Economically inactive includes long-term sick (35%), looking after family/home (25%) and full-time students (24%).
- 12,100 (4.6%) working age residents were unemployed¹¹⁷ in the year ending March 2025, higher than national (4.0%). This compares with 19,100 (8.0%) a decade ago in March 2015.
- In June 2025, 12,755 working age residents were claiming out of work benefits, 3.8% of Bristol's working age population. This is lower than national (4.1%), having fallen from 6.2% in May 2020¹¹⁸.

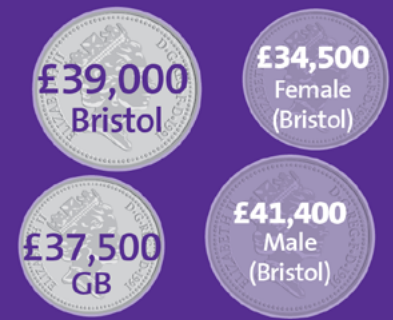
Culture ¹¹⁹

Bristol has a vibrant cultural sector including museums, theatres, festivals, music and events, plus UNESCO City of Film designation.

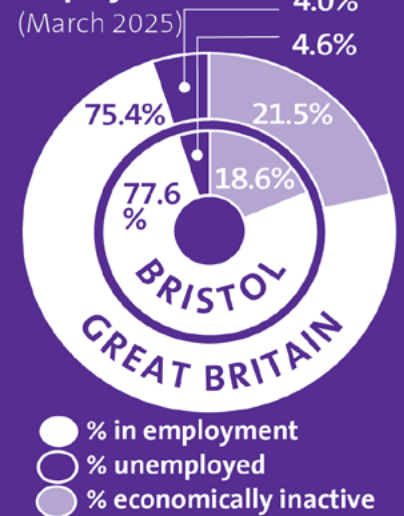
- Only 36% of Bristol residents participate in cultural activities at least once a month, from 43% pre-pandemic (QoL 2024/25)¹⁵.
- 757,294 people visited Bristol Museums during 2024/25, almost 15,000 more visitors than the previous year¹²⁰.
- 49% of residents are satisfied with the range and quality of outdoor events in the city, from 74% pre-pandemic (QoL 2024/25)¹⁵.
- Bristol Libraries had over 1,000,000 visits during 2024/25, up from c900,000 visits during 2022/23¹²¹.

Key facts: Economy, Employment & Culture

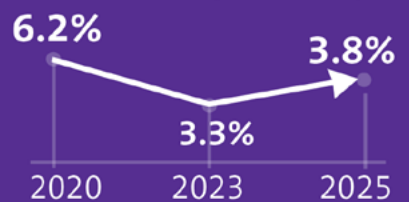
Average earnings (2024)



Employment



3.8% of the city's working age population claiming **out of work benefits** (June 2025)



757,294 people visited Bristol Museums (2024/25)

almost 50,000 more than 2 years before

49% Satisfied with the range and quality of outdoor events in the city. Down from 74% pre-pandemic.

Endnotes section

Please note that different indicators update at different points during the year. The latest available data is used.

¹ Population

For more information see www.bristol.gov.uk/population

² **12 UK Core Cities:** Belfast, Birmingham, Bristol, Cardiff, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Leeds, Liverpool, Manchester, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Nottingham and Sheffield. Note – some indicators only use the 8 English Core Cities

³ **Population** Estimates are for the Bristol Local Authority area, Office for National Statistics 2023 Mid-Year Estimates (released July 2024)

⁴ **Age profile** – Source ONS Mid-Year Estimate 2023

⁵ **Student numbers** – Source ONS Census 2021 [Census 2021 \(bristol.gov.uk\)](http://www.bristol.gov.uk/census2021)

⁶ **Diversity** – Source ONS Census 2021 [Census 2021 \(bristol.gov.uk\)](http://www.bristol.gov.uk/census2021)

⁷ **Ethnicity** – Source ONS Census 2021 (and ONS Census 2011) [Census 2021 \(bristol.gov.uk\)](http://www.bristol.gov.uk/census2021)

⁸ **Sexual orientation** and gender identity Census 2021 asked questions on sexual orientation and gender identity for the first time – the questions were voluntary and only asked of those aged 16 years and over. There is some uncertainty about the quality of the gender identity statistics. Source: ONS Census 2021 [Census 2021 \(bristol.gov.uk\)](http://www.bristol.gov.uk/census2021)

⁹ **Population projections** ONS 2022-based Sub-National Population Projections [Population of Bristol](http://www.bristol.gov.uk/population-projections) Future population projections are uncertain, in particular future directions and levels of international migration.

¹⁰ Communities & Living

¹¹ **Deprivation** - Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) updated Nov 2025; see www.bristol.gov.uk/deprivation

¹² **Deprivation** MHCLG 2025 Indices of Deprivation for England [Deprivation \(bristol.gov.uk\)](http://www.bristol.gov.uk/deprivation)

¹³ **Areas of Deprivation** – these are 2021 Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs)

¹⁴ **Fuel Poverty**. 2022 data (published in 2024) and 2020 data based on the “Low Income Low Energy Efficiency (LILEE)” fuel poverty method (not the Low Income, High Cost method previously reported). Sources:

[Sub-regional fuel poverty in England, 2023 \(2021 data\) - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk/sub-regional-fuel-poverty-in-england-2023)

[Sub-regional fuel poverty data 2023 \(2021 data\) - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk/sub-regional-fuel-poverty-data-2023)

[Sub-regional fuel poverty data 2022 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk/sub-regional-fuel-poverty-data-2022)

¹⁵ **BCC Quality of Life survey 2024/25** – see www.bristol.gov.uk/qol and [QoL Data Dashboard](http://www.bristol.gov.uk/qol-data)

¹⁶ **Child population** – 0-17 year olds. Source: ONS Mid-2024 population estimates (provisional)

¹⁷ **Child Poverty:** Official statistics using the Relative Poverty definition. Relative low income is defined as a family in low income Before Housing Costs (BHC) in the reference year. A family must have claimed one or more of Universal Credit, Tax Credits or Housing Benefit at any point in the year to be classed as low income in these statistics

[Children in low income families: local area statistics - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk/children-in-low-income-families)

¹⁸ **NEET** (16 & 17 year olds Not in Education, Employment or Training or whose activity is not known, over 3 months Dec-Feb) – Source: BCC Strategic Intelligence & Performance Team (Education & Skills) [Also see GOV.UK -

[Education, training and NEET age 16 to 17 by local authority\]](http://www.gov.uk/education-training-and-neet)

¹⁹ **Source:** BCC Strategic Intelligence & Performance Team (Adult Social Care); snapshot at end March 2025

²⁰ **Source:** BCC Strategic Intelligence & Performance Team (Childrens’ Social Care); snapshot at March 2025

²¹ **Source:** BCC Strategic Intelligence & Performance Team (Childrens' Social Care); snapshot at March 2025

²² **Unpaid care** Source: ONS Census 2021 [Census 2021 \(bristol.gov.uk\)](https://www.bristol.gov.uk/census-2021)

²³ Crime and Safety

Data in this section is from Avon and Somerset Constabulary, 2024/25, other than perception data via Quality of Life survey 2024/25.

²⁴ **Crime data** – 2024/25 data from Avon & Somerset Constabulary, April 2025. Note - Historic data may change as recording data is finalised.

²⁵ **Total recorded crime** per 1000 population - Avon & Somerset Constabulary

²⁶ **Crime rate** – Total recorded crimes (excluding fraud) for England & Wales for year ending Dec 2024. Source: [Crime in England and Wales: Police Force Area data tables](#)

²⁷ **Number of hate crimes** - Avon & Somerset Constabulary, April 2025

²⁸ Health & Wellbeing

This section is taken mainly from the Bristol Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) 2024/25 updates – see [JSNA Data Profiles](#)

²⁹ **Life expectancy at birth:** ONS, 2023, via Public Health Outcomes Framework (PHOF)2025 (indicator A01b)

³⁰ **Life expectancy gap:** Slope index of inequality, PHE, 2021-23, via PHOF 2025 (A02a)

³¹ **Healthy Life Expectancy:** ONS 2021-23, via PHOF 2025 (A01a)

³² **Covid-19 deaths:** Mortality rate for deaths due to COVID-19, all ages. <https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/birthsdeathsandmarriages/deaths/datasets/weeklyprovisionalfiguresondeathsregisteredinenglandandwales> ONS, 2021-23, via PHOF 2025

³³ **Under 75 mortality:** Public Health England (based on ONS data), 2023, via PHOF 2025 (E05a)

³⁴ **Depression:** NHS Quality Outcomes Framework (QOF) 2023/24, via PHOF 2025. Definition: Patients (18+) registered with depression recorded on practice disease registers for the first time in the financial year.

³⁵ **Self-harm:** Hospital admissions due to self-harm in 10-24 year olds, 2023/24. Hospital Episode Statistics (HES) via PHOF 2025.

³⁶ **Excess weight in adults:** Active Lives survey, Sport England, 2023/24 via PHOF 2025 (C16)

³⁷ **Excess weight in children:** National Child Measurement Programme 2023/24 via PHOF 2025 (C09a & C09b).

³⁸ **Physical activity:** Active Lives survey, Sport England, 2023/24 via PHOF 2025 (C17a). Definition: % adults (19+) that have 150+ moderate intensity equivalent minutes per week.

³⁹ **Smoking:** Adults is Annual Population Survey 2023, and “% of women who smoke at time of delivery” (pregnancy) 2023/24 via PHOF 2025 (C18/C06)

⁴⁰ **Alcohol:** Hospital admissions for alcohol-related conditions (narrow definition). Source: PHE, 2023/24 via PHOF 2025 (C21)

⁴¹ **Teenage pregnancy:** Rate of conceptions per 1,000 females aged 15-17, ONS 2022

⁴² **Dementia:** Primary Care Dementia Data, May 2025

⁴³ **Suicide:** Suicide rate per 100,000 persons, 2021-23 via PHOF 2025 (E10)

⁴⁴ **Health issue or disability** Census 2021 collects data on whether people have long-term physical or mental health conditions or illnesses and the extent to which they affect day-to-day activities. This can provide data on numbers of people that would be considered Disabled under the definition of the Equality Act 2010, but not on people that consider themselves to be Disabled. Source: ONS Census 2021 [Census 2021 \(bristol.gov.uk\)](https://www.bristol.gov.uk/census-2021)

⁴⁵ **Mortality due to air pollution:** Fraction of mortality attributable to particulate air pollution, 2023 via PHOF 2025

46 Education & Skills

⁴⁷ Early years data source: [Funded early education and childcare: 2025 - GOV.UK](#)

⁴⁸ Early Years, 2024 results: [Early years foundation stage profile results, Academic year 2023/24 - Explore education statistics - GOV.UK](#)

⁴⁹ Key Stage 2 results; Source: [Key stage 2 attainment \(revised\): 2024 - GOV.UK](#) via BCC Performance team

⁵⁰ Key Stage 4 results; Source: [Key stage 4 performance, Academic year 2023/24 - Explore education statistics - GOV.UK](#)

⁵¹ **Attainment 8** is a student's average achievement across 8 subjects, with extra weighting given to Maths and English

⁵² **Disadvantaged pupils** are those who have “ever been In Care, been adopted or been eligible for free school meals at any point in the last 6 years”

⁵³ **Progress 8** is a value-added measure which compares how well a student does when compared to other pupils with the same prior attainment at the end of Key Stage 2.

⁵⁴ **GCSE English & Maths pass** – GCSE grade 4 or above. Source: [Statistics: GCSEs \(key stage 4\) - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#) via BCC Performance team

⁵⁵ **AAB or better** with at least two facilitating subjects. A level results Source: [A level and other 16 to 18 results: 2022 \(revised\) - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

⁵⁶ **Special Educational Needs & Disability (SEND)**; Source: [Special educational needs in England, Academic year 2024/25 - Explore education statistics - GOV.UK](#)

⁵⁷ [Statistics: exclusions - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

⁵⁸ **Persistent absence** defined as pupils who miss 10% or more of possible sessions. Source: [Pupil absence in schools in England, Academic year 2023/24 - Explore education statistics - GOV.UK](#)

⁵⁹ **Qualifications** ONS Census 2021 Source: [Census 2021 \(bristol.gov.uk\)](#)

⁶⁰ **University students** Source: [HE Student Data | HESA](#)

⁶¹ **Higher Education** Participation of Students from State-funded Mainstream Schools March 2021 (TUNDRA). Source: [Office for Students](#). TUNDRA (tracking underrepresentation by area) is an area-based measure that uses tracking of state-funded mainstream school pupils in England to calculate young participation. Data published in 2021, tracking students who took GCSEs between 2012-2016).

⁶² “Areas” here are Middle Super Output Areas (MSOAs).

63 Housing

⁶⁴ **Dwelling stock**: [Live tables on dwelling stock \(including vacants\) - GOV.UK](#) for 31 May 2024 (published May 2025)

⁶⁵ **Affordable Housing**: is “social rented, affordable rented and intermediate housing, for eligible households whose needs are not met by the market” BCC, Planning Policy

⁶⁶ **New homes built**: Data from annual Residential Development Survey for 2023/24. Data for 2024/25 due Autumn 2025

⁶⁷ **2024 Residential Development Survey**

⁶⁸ [2024 Bristol Development Monitoring Report](#) (AMR)

⁶⁹ **Affordable homes built**: Data via BCC Performance reporting; Affordable housing is reported via a different and more timely process than the annual Residential Development Survey for total new builds.

⁷⁰ **Planning permissions** – Source: [2024 annual Residential Development Survey](#)

- ⁷¹ **Council homes** – Source: BCC Housing Management and Estates
- ⁷² **Rough sleeping**: Average number from combined counts during Q4 2024/25 – Source: via BCC Corporate Performance Reporting (2024/25)
- ⁷³ **Temporary accommodation**: Data via BCC Performance reporting (2024/25)
- ⁷⁴ **Homelessness prevention**: Source: [Tables on homelessness - GOV.UK](#)
- ⁷⁵ **Private sector properties returned to occupation**: Data via BCC Performance reporting (2024/25)
- ⁷⁶ **Housing prices and affordability** [Housing affordability in England and Wales Statistical bulletins - ONS](#)
- ⁷⁷ **Housing prices and affordability** [Housing affordability in England and Wales Statistical bulletins - ONS](#)
- ⁷⁸ **Housing affordability** – Source: [Housing affordability in England and Wales Statistical bulletins - ONS](#). The affordability ratio for Bristol reached a high of 9.77 in 2021. The ratio had increased from 2002 until the 2008 recession when it took a dip, but then continued to increase, escalating from 2015 onwards.
- ⁷⁹ **Private rental affordability** – Source: ONS [Private rental affordability, England, Wales and Northern Ireland: 2024](#)
- ⁸⁰ **Housing tenure**: ONS Census 2021 data [Bristol City Council Census 2021](#)
- ⁸¹ **Housing stock** Source: ONS Census 2021 [Census 2021 \(bristol.gov.uk\)](#)
- ⁸² **Overcrowding** Whether a household’s accommodation is overcrowded, ideally occupied or under-occupied is calculated by comparing the number of bedrooms the household requires to the number in the property. Source: ONS Census 2021 [Census 2021 \(bristol.gov.uk\)](#)
- ⁸³ **Household composition** Source: ONS Census 2021 [Census 2021 \(bristol.gov.uk\)](#)
- ⁸⁴ **Dependent children** A dependent child is any person aged 0 to 15 in a household (whether or not in a family) or a person aged 16 to 18 who’s in full-time education and living in a family with his or her parent(s) or grandparent(s). It does not include any people aged 16 to 18 who have a spouse, partner or child living in the household. Source: ONS Census 2021 [Census 2021 \(bristol.gov.uk\)](#)

85 Transport

- ⁸⁶ **Bus passenger journeys**: [Local bus passenger journeys \(BUS01\)](#), reported via BCC Performance Reporting 2023/24
- ⁸⁷ **E-scooter and e-bike rentals** – 2022 data is e-scooter only and 2024 is e-scooter and e-bike; Source: Vianova via BCC Strategic City Transport and WECA
- ⁸⁸ **Air pollution levels** – Source: BCC Sustainable City and Climate Change Team
- ⁸⁹ **Average speed** – Source: Department for Transport [Average speed, delay and reliability of travel times](#) (Table CGN0503; June 2025)
- ⁹⁰ **Killed or seriously injured in traffic incidents** - Avon & Somerset Constabulary data reported via BCC Performance reporting.
- ⁹¹ **Roadworks satisfaction** – Source: National Highways and Transport survey 2024; Bristol analysis
- ⁹² **Car availability** Source: ONS Census 2021 [Census 2021 \(bristol.gov.uk\)](#)
- ⁹³ **Car availability** Source: ONS Census 2021 [Census 2021 \(bristol.gov.uk\)](#)

94 Climate, Energy, Ecology and Waste

⁹⁵ Bristol's Climate Emergency (2018): [Our action on climate and ecology \(bristol.gov.uk\) / one-city-climate-strategy.pdf \(bristolonecity.com\)](https://www.bristol.gov.uk/one-city-climate-strategy.pdf)

Bristol's Ecological Emergency (2020): [Bristol's ecological emergency](#)

⁹⁶ Bristol City Leap - a joint venture between Bristol City Council and Ameresco

⁹⁷ Bristol City Council Corporate Decarbonisation Programme – Update – Source: BCC report to Env. & Sustainability Committee, Dec 2024 [7.1 Committee Report - Corporate Decarbonisation Programme.pdf](#)

⁹⁸ Carbon emissions (for Bristol overall) – [2023 data taken from [report to BCC Environment & Sustainability Committee - July 2025](#)] Source: DNZES UK local authority and regional greenhouse gas emissions national statistics: data taken from Table 1.1: Local Authority territorial carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions for local Authorities 2005-2023 (kt CO₂e). Note that data and associated source have been updated as previous figures used a slightly different data set and reporting boundary.

⁹⁹ Source: BCC – Climate Change and Sustainable City Service. Definition: Ofgem 'Typical Domestic Consumption Values (TDCV)'.

¹⁰⁰ Renewable electricity generation – Source: BCC – Sustainable City and Climate Change Service. DESNZ Renewable electricity by local authority 2014 – 2023. Published 31st October 2024.

¹⁰¹ Renewable electricity generation – Source: BCC – Sustainable City and Climate Change Service. DESNZ Renewable electricity by local authority 2014 – 2023. Published 31st October 2024.

¹⁰² Land managed for wildlife – Source: BCC Corporate Performance Reporting, 2024-25

¹⁰³ Allotments - [Bristol City Council Allotments](#): 2025

¹⁰⁴ Tree canopy – 2023 data on a 3-year reporting cycle; Source: Bluesky International and BCC Parks and Green Spaces Service via BCC Performance reporting

¹⁰⁵ Tree planting – Source: BCC Tree Planting report 2024-25

¹⁰⁶ Waste reuse, recycling and composting – Source: via BCC Corporate Performance Reporting, 2024-25

¹⁰⁷ Waste sent to landfill – Source: via BCC Corporate Performance Reporting, 2024-25

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¹⁰⁹ Average earnings - Median Gross Annual Earnings of Full-time workers (residence based); Source: Annual Survey for Hours and Earnings (ASHE), ONS Crown Copyright Reserved [from Nomis on 20 Nov 2024] [Nomis - Official Census and Labour Market Statistics \(nomisweb.co.uk\)](#).

¹¹⁰ Business units – Source: ONS UK Business Counts, [Nomis official labour market statistics](#). Business units are VAT and/or PAYE registered.

¹¹¹ Company Trends – Source: Companies House data, BankSearch Consultancy Ltd, June 2025

¹¹² Business start-ups – Source: New business bank accounts opened, BankSearch Consultancy Ltd, May 2025

¹¹³ Company Survival Rates – Source: Companies House data, BankSearch Consultancy Ltd, June 2025

¹¹⁴ Employment rate – Source: ONS annual population survey, via [Labour Market Profile - Nomis - Official Census and Labour Market Statistics \(nomisweb.co.uk\)](#)

¹¹⁵ Hours worked – Source: ONS annual population survey. Due to small sample size, the APS has been reclassified as 'Statistics in development' rather than National Statistics

¹¹⁶ **Economic inactivity** - Source: ONS annual population survey, via [Labour Market Profile - Nomis - Official Census and Labour Market Statistics \(nomisweb.co.uk\)](#)

¹¹⁷ **Model-based estimate of unemployment**. Source: ONS annual population survey, via [Labour Market Profile - Nomis - Official Census and Labour Market Statistics \(nomisweb.co.uk\)](#)

¹¹⁸ **Out of work benefits** – Source: [Labour Market Profile - Nomis - Claimant count by age and sex](#)

¹¹⁹ Culture

¹²⁰ **Bristol Museum visitors** – Source: BCC Culture and Creative Industries via BCC Performance reporting 2024/25

¹²¹ **Bristol Library visitors** – Source: BCC Libraries Service, via BCC Corporate Performance Reporting, 2024-25

Compiled by the Strategic Intelligence and Performance Team,
Insight, Performance and Intelligence Service, Bristol City Council.

www.bristol.gov.uk/statistics

Documents available in other formats:

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