



## Background:

### Equality in Fife: Summary

Fife Centre for Equalities publishes every six months updated equality statistics to support organisations in their 'due regard' for advancing equality by fostering openness and transparency about known and enduring patterns of inequality. The points below are highlights of some equality issues we are noticing and bringing attention to. For more details, you can find the latest version of the full report online at:

[Fife Equality Statistics](https://centreforequalities.org.uk/fife-equality-statistics/)  
<https://centreforequalities.org.uk/fife-equality-statistics/>

**Disclaimer:** We recognise that this report is limited in depth and we are also aware of several data gaps<sup>1</sup> in equality evidence. We [welcome and encourage](#) contributions to improve accuracy, raise awareness and understanding of issues not presented here. If you would like to tell us about your experiences of barriers to equality, tell us through our [Community Concerns Register](#).

---

<sup>1</sup> FCE (May 2018) Report - Equality Evidence: Identifying Data Gaps in Fife. (available on request)





**AGE**



It is important to know that **age** is not defined in the Equality Act as a specific age group: it could be narrow or wide, relative \*(e.g. ‘younger than me’) or can be a specific age<sup>2</sup>. In this section we highlight recorded differences between age groups that can give rise to concerns about equality.

**#EqualityFacts about Age and Fife’s Population**

**Patterns across age groups in the past year**

**Net migration rate decreasing, increase in migration out of Fife**

In the period 2017-18, the level of in-migration in Fife was 11,160, a 0.1% decrease from 11,170 in the period 2016-17. The level of out-migration in Fife was 9,920, which is a 2.9% increase from 9,640 in 2016-17. The net population increase was **+1240** and the net migration rate decreased from 4.1 people per 1,000 population in 2016-17 to 3.3 in 2017-18.

**Recovering full time wages**

In 2018, full-time workers in Fife were paid on average £543.40 per week for full time workers, £19.30 less than Scotland’s average of £562.70 per week, a marked increase of near to £20pw over the previous year.

**Fuel poverty in just under 1 in 3 households**

An estimated 31% of households in Fife are in fuel poverty, just slightly greater than the national average (27%). Noticeably, people living in private rented accommodation in Fife were more likely to be in fuel poverty (44%) and extreme fuel poverty (13%).

**Children and Young People**

**More 15-19 coming to Fife and more female 20-24 year olds leaving**

In the period 2017-18, net migration in Fife was comparable for females (632) and males (612). The age group with the highest level of total net migration was 15 to 19 (713). In contrast, the age group with the lowest level of net migration were people aged 20 to 24 (-724), most of which were female (531).

<sup>2</sup> [EHRC \(March 2017\) Equality Act 2010 - Handbook for Advisors \[Scotland\] p6](#)



### **Ongoing issue in employment of younger people**

Despite being the most highly educated generation in history, young people still systemically struggle in the labour market. This is a consistent pattern in Fife and at the national level<sup>3</sup>. The claimant count is high locally across all age groups, but this is higher for those aged 18-21 (5.7%) and also in to the 18-24 age group (5.5%).

### **1 in 5 children with limited resources**

The percentage of children who live in families with limited resources after housing costs in Fife at **20.8%**, closely aligned to the national average (20.7%). Housing costs accounted for a difference of 2.8% in number of families in poverty.

### **Increased participation of young people**

In the period 2017-2018, we notice that there was a significant positive change in the participation measure, with Fife of +1.4%, which is 0.7% above the national average.

## Adults of working age

### **Increase in Fifers of the 16-39 age group reporting experiencing discrimination**

There was an increase in reported experiences of discrimination in the 16-39 age group from 9% in 2016 to 14% in 2017. Across other age groups this has adjusted to meet the lower national average, e.g. 40-59 age group reported in 2016 a lower experience of discrimination and harassment than Scotland on average (2% vs 7%) and by 2017 this was identical at 6%.

### **Diminishing community cohesion**

There was an overall drop across all age groups in the proportion of people reporting to belong 'Very Strongly' to their community in Fife recorded by the Scottish Household Survey of 13%, from 34% in 2016 to 21% in 2017. Most people report to belong 'Fairly Strongly, mainly within the 40-59 age group (61%).

## Older People

### **Low reported levels of age-based discrimination**

Between 2016-2018, people in Fife were slightly less likely to be worried about insulted, pestered or intimidated on the basis of age than nationally (1.1% vs 2.6%).

### **Life expectancy is reducing in the UK and in Fife since 2013**

In Fife, life expectancy at birth was higher for females (80.8 years) than for males (77.2 years) in 2015-17. The rate of decrease is however also higher for females.

<sup>3</sup> [Scottish government \(2017\) The Life Chances of Young People in Scotland](#)





## What do we know about **Disability** and Equality?



A person has a **disability** if she or he has a physical or mental impairment that has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on that person's ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities<sup>4</sup>.

This includes sensory impairment and the period described as 'long-term' means that it has lasted or is likely to last at least 12 months, or for the rest of the person's life. Life conditions such as HIV, cancer and multiple sclerosis are included, as well as people living with severe disfigurements, with the exception of unremoved tattoos and piercings. People certified by an ophthalmologist as blind, a severely sight-impaired, sight-impaired or partially sighted are also protected as having a 'deemed disability'.

It is known that disability tends to increase with age, however disability is more common than thought as it is not always visible. Approximately 1 in 5 Fifers across all ages have their day-to-day activities limited, and after the age of 50, this becomes 1 in 4 people (26%). For those over 85, this become 4 out of 5 people. About 1 in 3 Fifers have one or more long-term conditions which may or may not be recognised as a disability.

Also, we do not have at this time the detailed breakdown of attainment or destinations of disabled young people in Fife's schools. It is however well-known that there is a gap reaching positive destinations after secondary school, with 87.2% of disabled young people across Scotland in 2015-2016, compared to 93.1% of all school leavers. This gap improved by 3% over the previous year cycle.

### #EqualityFacts about **Disability** in Fife

#### High proportion of people with disability

In 2017, 26% of all household members in Fife reported having long-term physical or mental health condition, this is significantly greater than the national average (22%).

<sup>4</sup> [EHRC \(March 2017\) Equality Act 2010 - Handbook for Advisors \[Scotland\] p6](#)



**High proportion of people with autism spectrum diagnosis**

There is a relatively higher proportion (28.9%) of adults with a learning disability that have an autism spectrum diagnosis in Fife, higher than Scotland's average (18.7%). Classical autism is the main (47.95%) diagnosis, however 26.02% are diagnosed with Asperger's Syndrome (vs 14.35% national average) and a much lower proportion have a 'Other' diagnosis (26% vs 37.79%).

**Improving participation of disabled young people, but still with a 11% gap**

The average participation of 16-19 year olds in Fife is 90.1%, and tends to be consistently lower for young people identified as disabled at 81.3%, although this is improving year per year

**More disabled young people are beginning Modern Apprenticeships**

Over the 2017-2018 year period, 13.4% of the working age population in Scotland self-identified as disabled, and in Fife this figure was at 18.5%. Over the same time period, 14.5% of MA starts in Fife self-identified with an impairment, health condition or learning difficulty compared to 11.3% of all MA starts

**Improving employment rate of disabled people**

Over the past 3 years, Fife has improved the employment rate for people with a disability and was by 2018 7.6 percentage points higher than Scotland as a whole (53.2% vs 45.6%). Correspondingly, there has been a marked drop in economic inactivity of people aged 16-64 with a disability in the same time period, from 55.5% in 2016 to 41.6% in 2018. This is also significantly lower than the national average of 49.7%.

**More housing adaptations required for private renters**

The majority of dwellings requiring adaptations in Fife are Private rented (11%), over 5 times the national average (2%).

**Increasing concerns about hate incidents due to disability**

Between 2016-2018, people in Fife were slightly more likely to be worried about insulted, pestered or intimidated on the basis of a disability or condition than nationally (3.1% vs 2.5%). This increased noticeably from 2014-2015 from a low of 0.5%.



**GENDER REASSIGNMENT**



## What do we know about Gender Reassignment and Equality?



A person has the protected characteristic of **Gender Reassignment** if the person is proposing to undergo, is undergoing or has undergone a process (or part of a process) for the purpose of reassigning the person's sex by changing physiological or other attributes of sex<sup>5</sup>. The terms 'gender reassignment' and 'transsexual' are used in the Equality Act 2010, however following the [Women and Equalities Committee 2016](#), the preferred term is trans.

This is an umbrella term for people whose gender identity and/or gender expression differs from their birth sex, including transsexual people, transvestite / cross-dressing people (those who wear clothing traditionally associated with the other gender either occasionally or more regularly), androgynous / polygender people (those who have non-binary gender identities and do not identify as male or female), and others who define as gender variant<sup>6</sup>.

There are ongoing equality issues faced by trans people. Young trans people can become rejected by their families and run into a lack of financial and/or housing support. This often occurs in parallel to bullying at school which is known to involve staff as well as students. In 2018 with 82% of transgender young people reporting having experienced bullying in school on the grounds of being LGBT<sup>7</sup>.

Transphobia is also prevalent at work, including discrimination at interview stages. [A survey by Stonewall<sup>8</sup> describes that one in eight trans employees \(12%\) have been physically attacked by a colleague or customer in 2017. Just over half \(51%\) have hidden their identity at work for fear of discrimination and a quarter \(25% per cent\) have experienced homelessness. A recurring social barrier encountered by trans people is the lack of access to unisex toilet and changing facilities. Another common issue is the disclosing another person's trans status without their expressed permission, which can be illegal in several circumstances.](#)

We also know that hate crime against trans people is underreported and that hate incidents are commonplace. The Stonewall 2018 Trans report indicates 79% of trans people choosing not report hate crime to the police. Younger trans adults are at greatest risk with 53% of trans people aged 18 to 24 have experienced a hate crime or incident based on their gender identity.

## #EqualityFacts about Gender Reassignment in Fife

<sup>5</sup> [EHRC \(March 2017\) Equality Act 2010 - Handbook for Advisors \[Scotland\] p7](#)

<sup>6</sup> EHRC (11 Aug 2017) [Gender Reassignment discrimination](#).

<sup>7</sup> LGBT Youth (2018) [Life in Scotland for LGBT Young People](#)

<sup>8</sup> [Stonewall \(2018\) GBT in Britain - Trans Report](#)



**Better estimates for gender variance**

Improved estimates say that we can expect around 4091 males and 2975 females to be gender variant in Fife, but it is important to note that this does not imply the same prevalence for the number of people deciding to transition. Estimates are for between n17-34 trans people are likely to live in a council area of Fife’s size and population.

**On-going barriers to healthcare**

More recently, the Stonewall 2018 Trans report shows patterns persisting in healthcare. 41% of trans people surveyed said that healthcare staff lacked understanding of specific trans health needs when accessing general healthcare services in the last year. 7% of trans people said they have been refused care because they are LGBT, while trying to access healthcare services in the last year.

**Lower amount of hate crime reported, but also a marked increased worry about being insulted, pestered or intimidated for being trans**

There were 40 charges reported in 2018-19 with an aggravation of transgender identity, compared to 52 in 2017-18. 3% of comparable to the national level (3.2%), however this increased remarkably from a low of 0.8% in 2014-2015.



**MARRIAGE AND CIVIL PARTNERSHIPS**

**What do we know about Gender Reassignment and Equality?**



A person has the protected characteristic of **Gender Reassignment** if the person is proposing to undergo, is undergoing or has undergone a process (or part of a process) for the purpose of reassigning the person’s sex by changing physiological or other attributes of sex<sup>9</sup>. The terms ‘gender reassignment’ and ‘transsexual’ are used in the Equality Act 2010, however following the [Women and Equalities Committee 2016](#), the preferred term is trans.

<sup>9</sup> [EHRC \(March 2017\) Equality Act 2010 - Handbook for Advisors \[Scotland\] p7](#)



This is an umbrella term for people whose gender identity and/or gender expression differs from their birth sex, including transsexual people, transvestite / cross-dressing people (those who wear clothing traditionally associated with the other gender either occasionally or more regularly), androgyne / polygender people (those who have non-binary gender identities and do not identify as male or female), and others who define as gender variant<sup>10</sup>.

There are ongoing equality issues faced by trans people. Young trans people can become rejected by their families and run into a lack of financial and/or housing support. This often occurs in parallel to bullying at school which is known to involve staff as well as students. In 2018 with 82% of transgender young people reporting having experienced bullying in school on the grounds of being LGBT<sup>11</sup>.

Transphobia is also prevalent at work, including discrimination at interview stages. A survey by Stonewall<sup>12</sup> describes that one in eight trans employees (12%) have been physically attacked by a colleague or customer in 2017. Just over half (51%) have hidden their identity at work for fear of discrimination and a quarter (25% per cent) have experienced homelessness. A recurring social barrier encountered by trans people is the lack of access to unisex toilet and changing facilities. Another common issue is the disclosing another person's trans status without their expressed permission, which can be illegal in several circumstances.

We also know that hate crime against trans people is underreported and that hate incidents are commonplace. The Stonewall 2018 Trans report indicates 79% of trans people choosing not report hate crime to the police. Younger trans adults are at greatest risk with 53% of trans people aged 18 to 24 have experienced a hate crime or incident based on their gender identity.

## #EqualityFacts about Gender Reassignment in Fife

### **Better estimates for gender variance**

Improved estimates say that we can expect around 4091 males and 2975 females to be gender variant in Fife, but it is important to note that this does not imply the same prevalence for the number of people deciding to transition. Estimates are for between n17-34 trans people are likely to live in a council area of Fife's size and population.

### **On-going barriers to healthcare**

More recently, the Stonewall 2018 Trans report shows patterns persisting in healthcare. 41% of trans people surveyed said that healthcare staff lacked understanding of specific trans health needs when accessing general healthcare services in the last year. 7% of trans people said they have been refused care because they are LGBT, while trying to access healthcare services in the last year.

<sup>10</sup> EHRC (11 Aug 2017) [Gender Reassignment discrimination.](#)

<sup>11</sup> LGBT Youth (2018) [Life in Scotland for LGBT Young People](#)

<sup>12</sup> [Stonewall \(2018\) GBT in Britain - Trans Report](#)



**Lower amount of hate crime reported, but also a marked increased worry about being insulted, pestered or intimidated for being trans**

There were 40 charges reported in 2018-19 with an aggravation of transgender identity, compared to 52 in 2017-18. 3% of comparable to the national level (3.2%), however this increased remarkably from a low of 0.8% in 2014-2015.



**PREGNANCY AND MATERNITY**

**What do we know about Pregnancy & Maternity and Equality?**



**Pregnancy** is the condition of being pregnant. **Maternity** refers to the period after the birth and is linked to maternity leave in the employment context.

The protected period covers in non-work cases the whole of a woman’s pregnancy as well as 26 weeks following the birth (or stillbirth after more than 24 weeks of pregnancy).

In work cases, the protected period commences when a woman becomes pregnant and ends either two weeks after the end of the pregnancy or, if entitled to ordinary and additional maternity leave, at the end of that period or when she returns to work if that is earlier<sup>13</sup>. Maternity discrimination includes treating a woman unfavourably because she is breastfeeding.

**#Equality facts about Pregnancy & Maternity in Fife**

**More male new-borns than female new-borns**

There were 3479 live births reported in Fife in 2018 of which 1699 were male and 1780 female.

**Mothers choosing to have children later**

Over the past 20 years, the most common age for mothers in Fife has become 30 to 34 (1,041 births) changing from 25 to 29.

<sup>13</sup> [EHRC \(March 2017\) Equality Act 2010 - Handbook for Advisors \[Scotland\] p8](#)



**Birth rate continues to fall**

Fife has a slightly higher birth-rate than Scotland as a whole. The standardised birth rate in 2017 was 10.2 per 1,000 population and remained the same in 2018. In comparison, the rate in Scotland overall decreased from 9.7 to 9.4.

**Teenage pregnancies continue to fall**

The rate of teenage pregnancy in Fife was 36.5, which was still higher than the national average (32.4) but a marked reduction from a high figure of 66.9 in 2007.

**Barriers in employment due to pregnancy**

In Fife, we can estimate that around 413 mothers face reduction in employment every year due to their being pregnant, and up to 376 being discouraged from attending neonatal appointment.



**RACE**

**What do we know about Race and Equality?**



**Race** to a group of people defined by their race, colour, nationality (including citizenship) or ethnic or national origins refers<sup>14</sup>. Data used in monitoring tends to be based on Office of National Statistics questions for ethnicity and therefore is often referred to as ‘Ethnicity’.

There are many aspects to race, including ethnic and racial groups - an individual can belong to one or many racial groups, such as British Asians and/or British Sikhs, or British Irish and/or Romany Gypsies / Irish Traveller.

The Scottish Government’s [Race Equality Framework for Scotland](#) recognises that people from minority ethnic communities tends to face poorer outcomes than average across generations, this includes lower employment rates, higher risk of poverty, under-representation in public life and day-to-day experiences of racism that may also involve hate crime or incidents<sup>15</sup>.

<sup>14</sup> [EHRC \(March 2017\) Equality Act 2010 - Handbook for Advisors \[Scotland\] p8](#)  
<sup>15</sup> [Scottish Government \(2016\) Race Equality Framework for Scotland 2016-2030.](#)



## #Equalityfacts about Race in Fife

### **Lower reported proportion of Asian ethnicity**

The Asian ethnicity was reported to have increased to 2.6% nationally but decreased to 1% in Fife and the 'All other ethnic groups' now becoming the most common (non-white) minority ethnic group.

### **Half of refugees in Fife are children or newborns**

Following the Syrian crisis, it is expected to welcome around 140 people to Fife over the next four years. Fife Council reported in June 2019, that 122 individuals in total have been resettled since December 2015 in Fife, of which 52 are children and 9 babies have been born in Fife since arrival.

### **Primary schools are slightly more diverse than secondary schools**

Fife's pupil minority ethnic mix is 4.6% for primary 3.8% for secondary and 5.2% for special schools. Most teachers are White Scottish (e.g. 86% vs 70% nationally) and by contrast, Glasgow schools have a student population about five times more diverse.

### **Consistently low uptake in modern apprenticeships by minority ethnic groups**

In Fife, MA starts who self-identify being from a Mixed or Multiple; Asian; African; Caribbean or Black; and Other ethnic group is at 1.1%, compared to 1.9% in all MA starts. This improved from 0.6% in the previous year but is still noticeably lower than the estimated population of 2.4% locally.

### **Increase in employment rate of minority ethnic groups**

Employment rate statistics for ethnic minorities in the Mid Scotland and Fife region in 2016-2017 were at 53.4% and is now at the highest across all Scotland of at 70%, a change of +16.6%.

### **Slight increase in racially aggravated crime**

In Fife, partial data shows that there were 162 charges reported for racially aggravated crime (64 in Dunfermline, 98 in Kirkcaldy) in 2018-2019, decreasing from 200 in the previous year.

### **Increased worry about being insulted, pestered or intimidated for on the basis of race**

The Scottish Justice and Crime Survey (SCJS) reported that between 2016-2018, people in Fife were more likely to be worried about insulted, pestered or intimidated on the basis of their race than nationally (8.3% vs 5.6%). This has increased both in Fife and nationally in the time period





**RELIGION AND BELIEF**

**What do we know about Religion and Belief and Equality?**



**Religion** has the meaning usually given to it and includes lack of religion, and **Belief** includes religious and philosophical beliefs (such as humanism) and includes lack of belief<sup>16</sup>.

Generally, a belief should affect one's life choices or the way that one lives for it to be included in the definition. The Equality Act also points out that a belief must also be worthy of respect in a democratic society and not affect other people's fundamental rights.

**#Equalityfacts about Religion and Belief in Fife**

**Diversity of religious communities**

Religions in Fife include Christianity (Church of Scotland, Roman Catholic, other Christian), Islam, Buddhism, Hinduism, Sikhism, Baha'i and Judaism.

**Increasing secularity and Other Christian religions**

In Fife in 2017, there was a drop in the proportion of people reporting they had no religion in Fife (from 62% to 55%). There is compared to the national average a lower proportion of Roman Catholic followers (7% vs 14%) and a higher proportion of Other Christian followers.

**Decrease in worry about being insulted, pestered or intimidated for on the basis of religion**

The Scottish Justice and Crime Survey (SCJS) reported that between 2016-2018, people in Fife were less likely to be worried about insulted, pestered or intimidated on the basis of their religion than nationally (0.9% vs 3.6%). This is decreased significantly in Fife while at the same time it increased nationally.

**Slight decrease in religiously aggravated crime**

In Fife, partial data shows that there were 19 charges reported for religiously

<sup>16</sup> [EHRC \(March 2017\) Equality Act 2010 - Handbook for Advisors \[Scotland\] p8](#)



aggravated crime (13 in Dunfermline, 6 in Kirkcaldy) in 2018-2019, a marked decrease from the previous year (29). The number of people convicted with religious aggravations diminished between 2016-2017 and 2017-2018 by 10%.



**SEX (GENDER)**

## What do we know about Sex (Gender) and Equality?



The characteristic in terms of the Equality Act refers to a man or a woman<sup>17</sup>. In survey data, this characteristic is often self-defined and allows transgender people to self-identify according to their gender and not their biological sex.

In several surveys, this biological characteristic however is still referred to as 'Gender'. Gender and sex do not mean the same thing. The Scottish Government distinguishes this as:

- **Sex** refers to the biological characteristics, which distinguish people as male or female. These relate to the reproductive system.
- **Gender** refers to the quality of being male or female. It is about what we expect of women and men. This is not biology, although some gender differences stem from biological differences. To put it simply, men and women are made (by the society they live in), not born<sup>18</sup>.

Also, please note that in several sections below, the data referred to is extracted from existing surveys that have not yet incorporated the categories of Intersex and Non-Binary.

## #Equalityfacts about Sex (Gender) in Fife

### **Gender and life expectancy differences**

From an estimated total population of Fife of 371,910, 180,620 are males (48.6%) and 191,290 (51.4%) females.

<sup>17</sup> [EHRC \(March 2017\) Equality Act 2010 - Handbook for Advisors \[Scotland\] p9](#)

<sup>18</sup> [Scottish Government \(2010\) What does gender have to do with violence against women?](#)



### **Marked gender patterns in higher education**

In the 2017-2018 year cycle and the previous year, females have predominantly followed allied Medical Studies (82.1%), Veterinary Science (81.7%), and Psychology (78.5%). Males mainly chose Engineering and Technology (83.4%), Computer Science (80.6%), Architecture, building and planning (62.6%).

### **Gender barriers to MAs**

In 2017/2018 38% of MA starts who reside in Fife were female. The proportion of the 16-24 population in Fife of 46.3%, suggesting a gap of 12% in access to Mas.

### **More male than female benefit claimants**

In May 2019, there was a higher proportion of male claimants in Fife (4.8%) than females (2.0%), increasing slightly over the last year.

### **Persistent Gender Paygaps**

People of working age in Fife are paid on average £482.4 per week, which is somewhat less than Scotland's average of £530.0 per week, however gross weekly pay has increased by 4.9% compared to 2.6% nationally in the past year. The highest increase was for female part-time employees, with a change of +9.7%. Figures for part-time male employees were too low to be measured reliably.

### **Differing experiences in older age**

In Fife, life expectancy at birth was higher overall for females (80.8 years) than for males (77.2 years). However, female life expectancy at birth in Fife is lower and male life expectancy at birth is higher than the national average. Men in Fife are expected to live an average of 14.9 years in a 'not healthy' condition in later life, and women in Fife are expected to live an average of 18 years in a 'not healthy' condition.

### **Differing main causes of death**

In Fife and Scotland, the leading cause of death for males in 2018 was heart diseases (14.8% of all male deaths), followed by dementia and Alzheimer's disease (8.0%). For females, dementia and Alzheimer's disease (14.7% of all female deaths)

### **Slight decrease in suicide rate, however still predominantly men**

In Fife, the number of probable suicides recorded has been decreasing over the past 5 years (with 44 recorded in 2018) with the exception of in 2017 when it rose to 52.

### **Increase in domestic abuse**

The Fife Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) annual report 2017/18 highlights that there have been more cases of high-risk domestic abuse discussed this year than ever before; an increase of 36%. There have been 411 case discussions at MARAC for the highest risk domestic abuse cases. There have been 714 children impacted in these cases.





## SEXUAL ORIENTATION

## What do we know about Sexual Orientation and Equality?



The Equality Act defines sexual orientation as including how you choose to express your sexual orientation, such as through your appearance or the cultural and social activities you choose, such as places you visit. Protection from discrimination relates to feelings as well as actions and manifestations (e.g. appearance, dress, social life etc)<sup>19</sup>. Sexual orientation described as being towards people of the same sex, the opposite sex or of either sex.

Data used in monitoring this usually based on allowing respondents to self-define as belonging to one of the following categories: Heterosexual or straight; Gay or Lesbian; Bisexual or Other.

## #Equalityfacts about Sexual Orientation in Fife

### **Public surveys still report low proportions of people reporting as LGB & other**

The [SSCQ2017](#) reporting 94.5% people who are heterosexual and 2.4% LGB & other nationally. In Fife, this was 94.6% and 2.5% (a marked +0.7% increase from 1.6% in the previous year), giving an approximate number of 7650. More likely estimates however indicate 5%~7% of the population are likely to be LGB & other.

### **Age and gender effects are present in reporting**

In Scotland, people aged 16-24 are not over 5 times more likely to identify and report as LGBO than the 75+ group (5.4% vs 1.0%). There is also a gender effect with 6% women aged 16-24 are likely to identify LGB & other compared to 4.8% of men.

### **Slight increase in sexual orientation aggravated crime**

In Fife, partial data shows that there were 73 charges reported for sexual orientation aggravated crime (26 in Dunfermline, 47 in Kirkcaldy) in 2018-2019, a slight increase on the previous year.

<sup>19</sup> [EHRC \(March 2017\) Equality Act 2010 - Handbook for Advisors \[Scotland\] p9](#)



**Increased worry about being insulted, pestered or intimidated for on the basis of sexual orientation**

The Scottish Justice and Crime Survey (SCJS) reported that between 2016-2018, people in Fife were slightly less likely to be worried about insulted, pestered or intimidated on the basis of their sexual orientation than nationally (0.4% vs 1%). This is decreasing stability since 2012, contrasting to nationally where it has nearly doubled.

If you have any concerns or difficulties in accessing to Universal Credit and think this may be due to a protected characteristic, do not hesitate to contact us.

**Contact us:**

**Fife Centre for Equalities**

New Volunteer House, 16 East Fergus Place, Kirkcaldy, KY1 1XT

**Telephone:** 01592 645 310

**Email:** [info@centreforequalities.org.uk](mailto:info@centreforequalities.org.uk)

**Opening Hours:**

Monday-Friday, 09:00 – 17:00



[Attribution-NonCommercial 4.0 International \(CC BY-NC 4.0\)](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/4.0/)

The license is also available in the following languages:

Bahasa Indonesia , Deutsch , français , hrvatski , italiano, Nederlands, norsk , polski, suomeksi, svenska, te reo Māori, Türkçe, українська, العربية, 日本語.



[www.centreforequalities.org.uk](http://www.centreforequalities.org.uk)

Fife Centre for Equalities is a Company Limited by Guarantee, registered in Scotland No. 536028 and registered Scottish Charity No. SC046683.

*Working with Partners and Communities to make Fife a fair,  
equal and inclusive place to live, work and study.*

