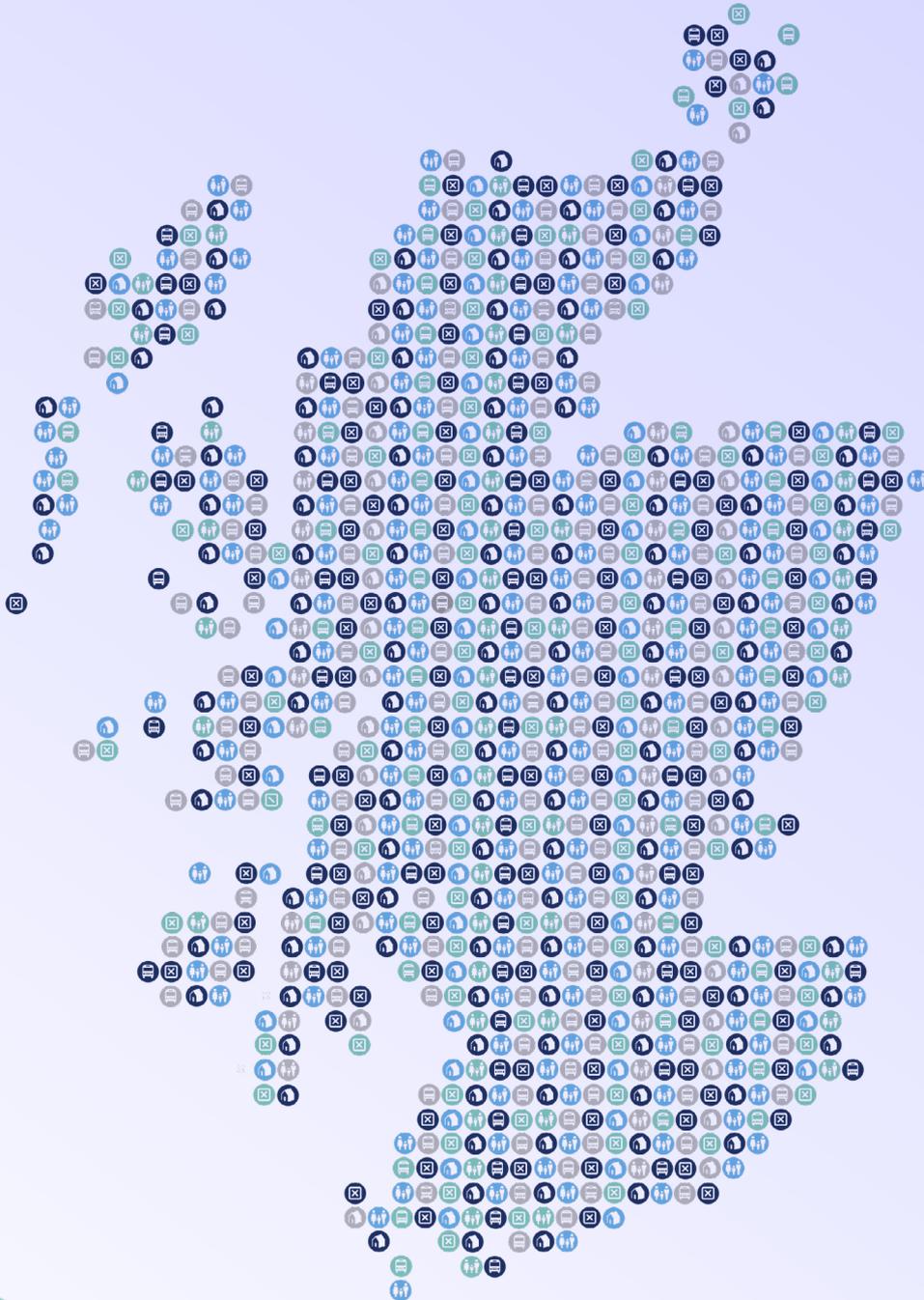


Scotland's People Annual Report

Key findings | 2018

A National Statistics publication for Scotland



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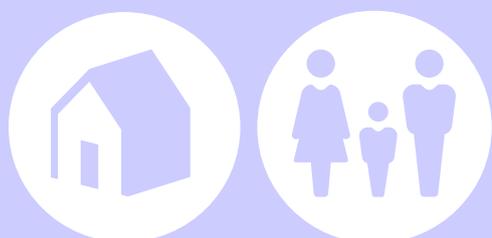
Acknowledgements

The Scottish Government acknowledges and thanks the 10,530 people across Scotland who gave their time to take part in the Scottish Household Survey 2018.

We would also like to thank all the Scottish Government lead analysts who contributed to the project.

Finally, special thanks to Ipsos MORI and their interviewers for their efforts during the fieldwork.

This report was produced by the Scottish Household Survey Project Team at the Scottish Government.



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National indicators in the SHS



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Information on the suite of indicators which comprise the performance framework can be found at <http://www.nationalperformance.gov.scot>

Introduction to the survey



The Scottish Household Survey (SHS) is a continuous survey based on a random sample of the general population in private residences in Scotland.

Questions are asked face-to-face by interviewers in homes all over Scotland.

Participation is voluntary, but it is important in helping us make representative estimates for Scotland.

Each home selected to take part receives an advance letter and leaflet in the post explaining that an interviewer from Ipsos MORI will call.

The survey started in 1999 and is essentially three surveys in one:

Transport and Travel in Scotland (TATIS), the Scottish House Condition Survey (SHCS) and the SHS. It covers a wide range of topics to allow links to be made between different policy areas.

About a third of households are randomly selected to take part in the SHCS, which normally takes place shortly after the interview at a convenient time selected by the householder. This non-intrusive survey is completed by a qualified surveyor who will assess the condition and energy efficiency of the selected homes.

The SHS is a unique chance for people in Scotland to tell about their views and experiences on a range of issues, helping to shape each local area and Scotland as a whole. Since its beginning, it has helped shape various public services over time.

At national and local level, analysis of SHS data is used to identify which people or areas need funding most, including for transport and housing.

For example, Scottish Government analysis of SHS data identified lower internet access for those living in social housing. Until then it had been thought that access to the internet was lowest for those who rented from private landlords. Knowing the facts meant that funding could be correctly targeted at social housing tenants in order to provide affordable broadband access and training.

The Scottish Household Survey report is produced under the Code of Practice for Official Statistics.

National Statistics are produced free of political interference, to agreed standards, and undergo regular quality assurance reviews. For more information, visit <https://www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk/publication/code-of-practice/>

Introduction to the survey:

Uses



Scotland's largest random pre-selected survey, the SHS, is at the centre of Scotland's evidence based approach to policy-making.

The survey provides robust evidence on the composition, characteristics, attitudes and behaviour of private households and individuals as well as evidence on the physical condition of Scotland's homes.

The current scale of the SHS enables all users to obtain a robust deeper understanding of issues and performance, by being able to analyse across key demographic household characteristics such as: deprivation, age, income, gender and rurality. This is crucial to informing the Fairer Scotland agenda.

Some of the ways in which SHS evidence is used:

Housing data is used to determine the size of the Private Rented Sector in Scotland and is a crucial element of National Records of Scotland (NRS) Household Projections, which local authorities use in their Housing Plans. Affordable Housing Funding is allocated using historic NRS household estimates.

Data is used for key **performance monitoring frameworks**, including: 12 Scotland Performance Indicators, half of the Housing & Regeneration Outcome Indicators, over half of the Active Scotland Outcome Indicators, and over a quarter of the Child Poverty Measurement Framework Indicators.

The SHS is the only source of **Fuel Poverty evidence** and the only nationally representative source of data on energy efficiency, house conditions and quality. This is used extensively in the design, targeting and funding allocations for SG energy efficiency programmes (SEEP).

The Travel Diary component of the SHS is a unique data source on personal **travel patterns**, which underpins analysis of future transport needs and economic business cases for national and local transport infrastructure investment projects.

Transport and Housing Energy Efficiency data are crucial for monitoring carbon emissions, informing Climate Change policies and progress.

All local authorities in Scotland use the data in their **Single Outcome Agreements**.

The Improvement Service use the data for the **Local Government Benchmarking Framework** to understand and improve local needs and circumstances.

There is particular interest in SHS local data on communities, local services, neighbourhoods, volunteering, recycling and access to outdoors and greenspace.

Introduction to the survey: Design



The survey has been designed so that there is a balance between building a useful evidence base and making sure that the interview is not a burden for respondents. Careful consideration is given to how many households should be asked each question, and how often.

All years

Everyone



A set of questions, including “**core**” questions, are asked of all households **annually** to allow local authority analysis on a yearly basis.

Some questions, including the physical survey, are asked of a **1/3 of households annually**. This allows national level estimates every year.

1/3 households



20 “core” questions are asked in the Scottish Household, Scottish Health and Scottish Crime and Justice surveys to create a large Scottish Surveys Core Questions (SSCQ) sample.

Odd years

Even years

Some **biennial full sample** questions are asked on **odd years** to allow local authority analysis on a biennial basis.

Everyone



Some **biennial full sample** questions are asked on **even years** to allow local authority analysis on a biennial basis.

Everyone



1/3 households



Some questions are asked of **1/3 of households biennially in odd years**. This allows national level estimates every two years.

Some questions are asked of **1/3 of households biennially in even years**. This allows national level estimates every two years.

1/3 households



Some questions are asked of **1/3 of households biennially in even years**. This allows national level estimates every two years.

Introduction to the survey



64 per cent
of people chosen agreed
to take part in the survey



10,530 households
participated in the household
section of the interview
(Target sample size was 10,450)

9,700 adults **participated**
in the random adult section
of the interview



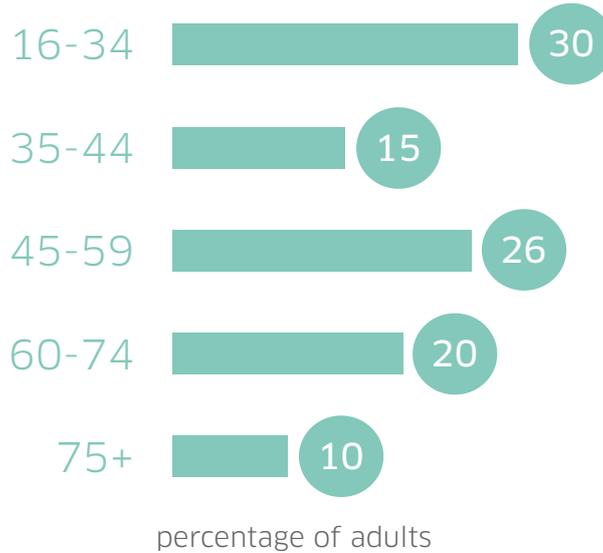
For further technical information, including how response rate is calculated, see the [Fieldwork and Outcomes report](#)

Composition and characteristics of households

Age, gender, health, urban/rural



Over half (56 per cent) of adults were aged 45 years or more.



There were more women (51 per cent) than men (49 per cent) in Scotland, and the gender of one tenth of one per cent (0.1 per cent) was reported as 'in another way'.

Three in 10 adults (30 per cent) reported having a long-term physical or mental health condition in 2018.

83 per cent of households in Scotland were in urban areas, while only 17 per cent were in rural areas.

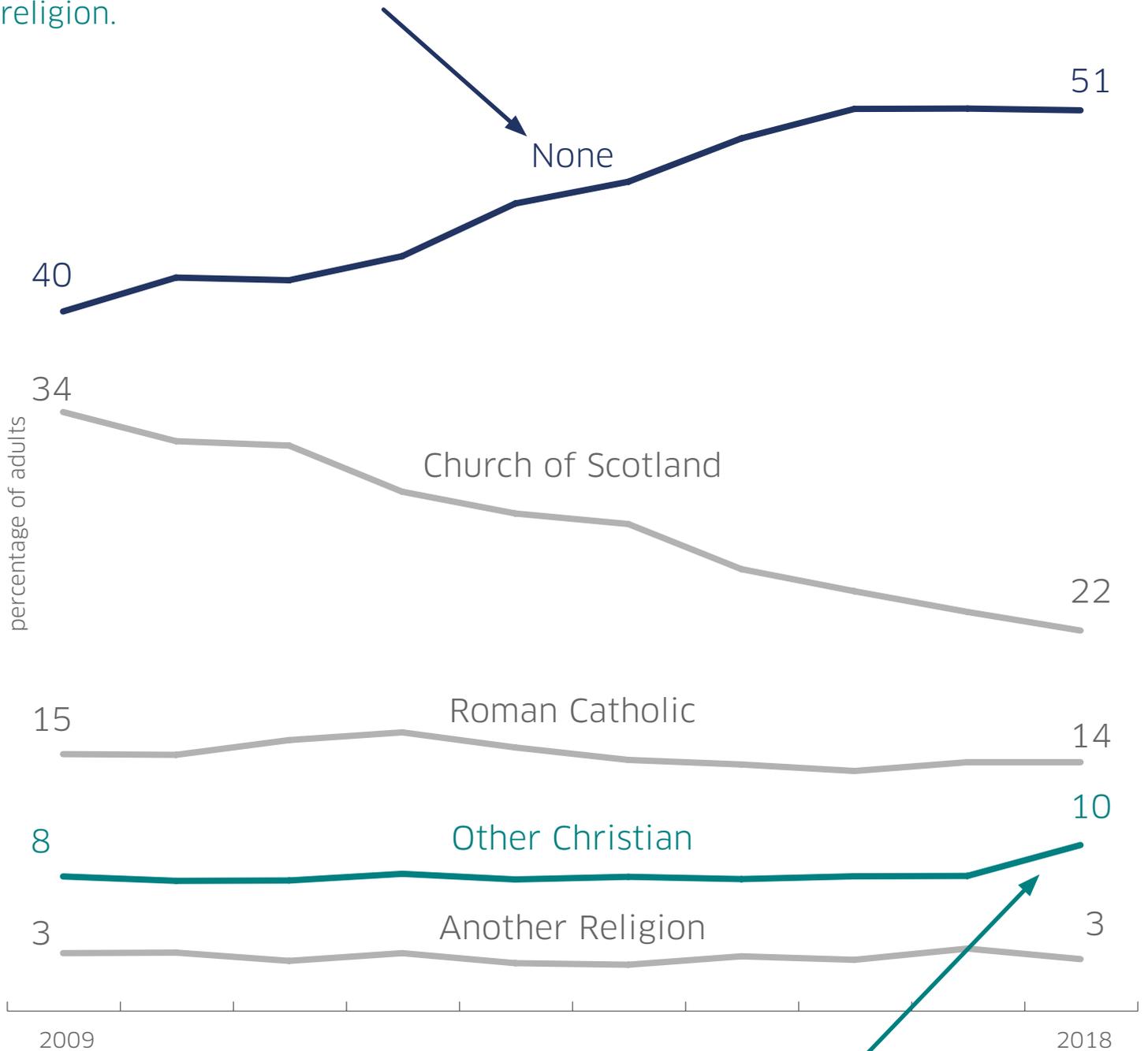


Composition and characteristics of households

Religious Belonging



Religious belonging in Scotland has been declining and this trend continued into 2018; 51 per cent of adults reported that they didn't belong to any religion.



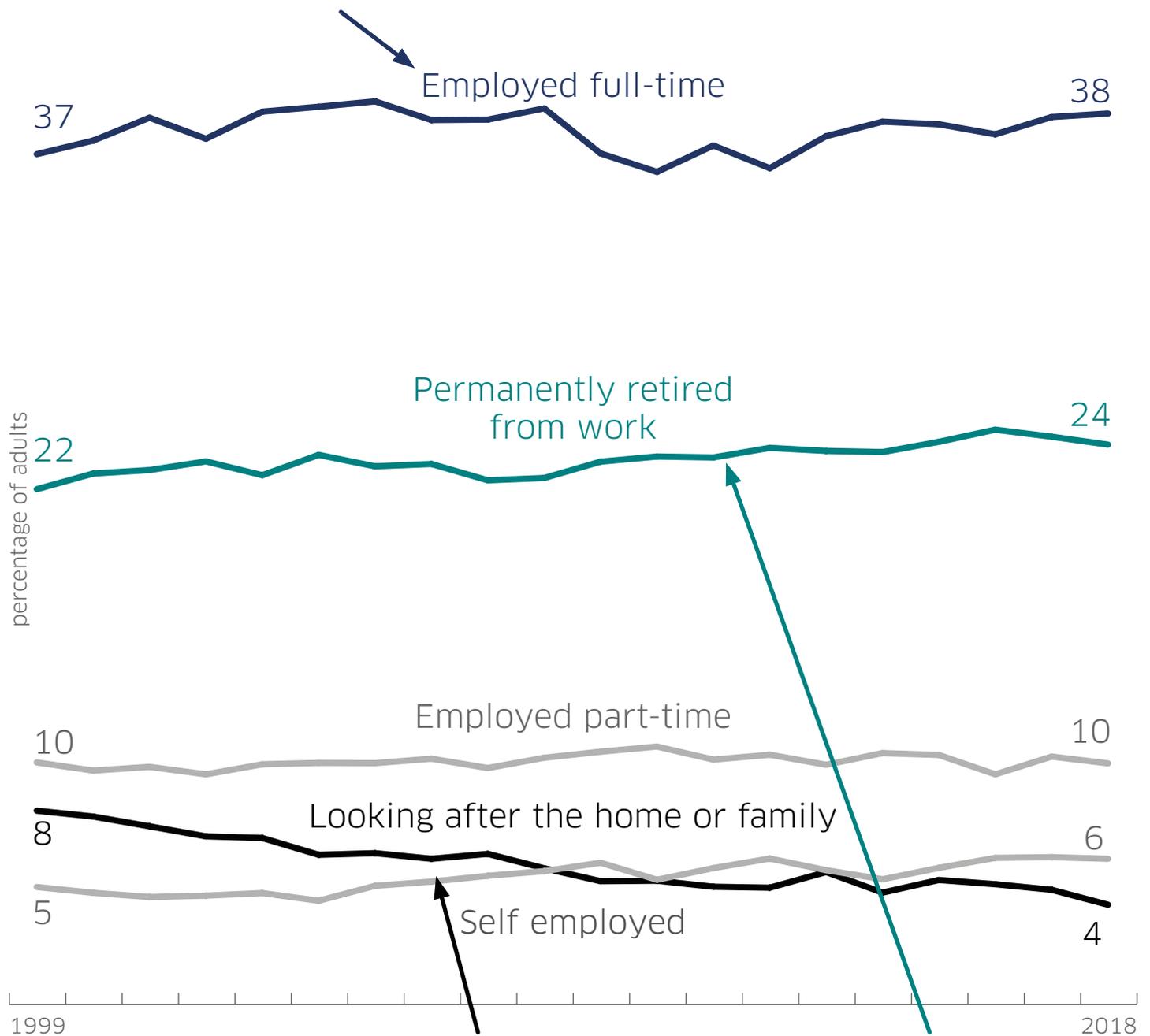
In 2018 there was an **increase** in the proportion of adults reporting belonging to 'Other Christian' compared to previous years.

Composition and characteristics of households

Economic situation



The proportion of adults (aged 16+) who were employed full-time has been roughly stable since 1999.



Since 1999, the proportion of those looking after the home or family has decreased to **four per cent** in 2018.

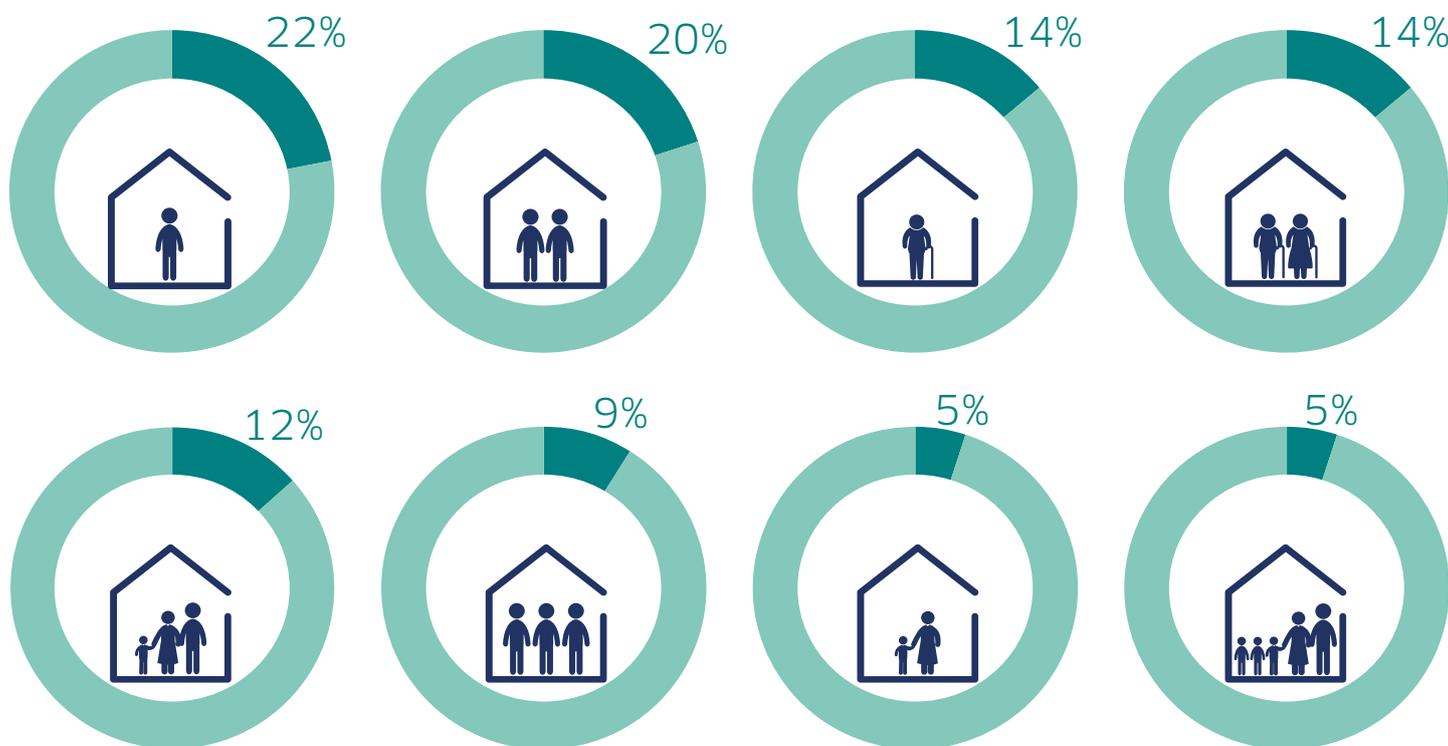
Since 1999, the proportion of people who were permanently retired from work has increased to **24 per cent** in 2018.

Composition and characteristics of households

Household Types



More than a third of households (36 per cent) contained adults that lived alone; 22 per cent were single adult households and 14 per cent were single older households.



Figures might not add up to 100 per cent due to rounding.

= proportion of all households this type makes up



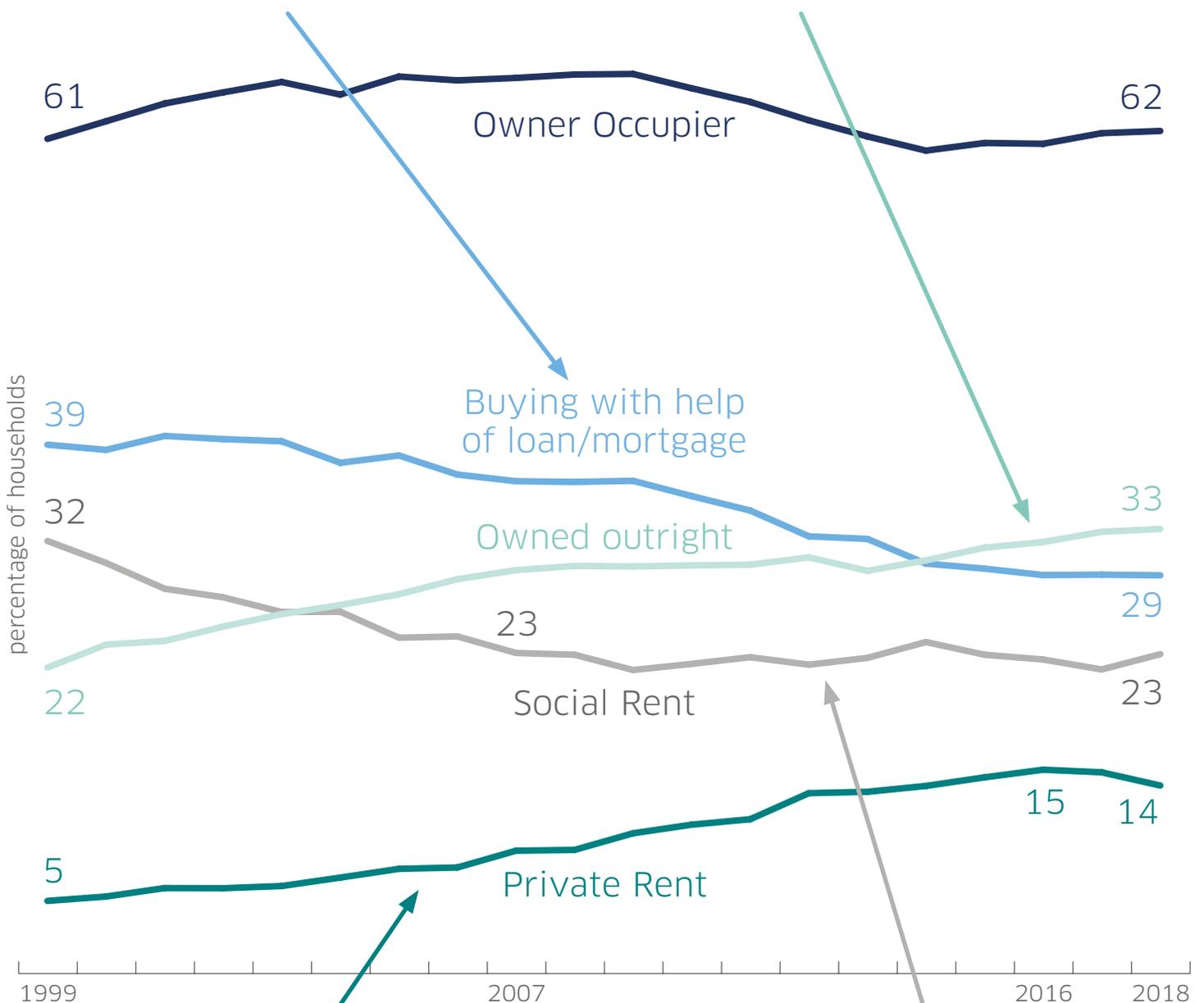
Of the households which contain children, over half were small families (55 per cent). Single parents accounted for just over one in five households with children (22 per cent in 2018).

Only **five per cent** were large families consisting of two adults and three or more children, or three or more adults with one or more children.

Housing Tenure



Whilst the proportion of owner occupied homes in 2018 was at a similar level to 1999, **there has been an increase in those owning outright and a decrease in those buying with a mortgage.**



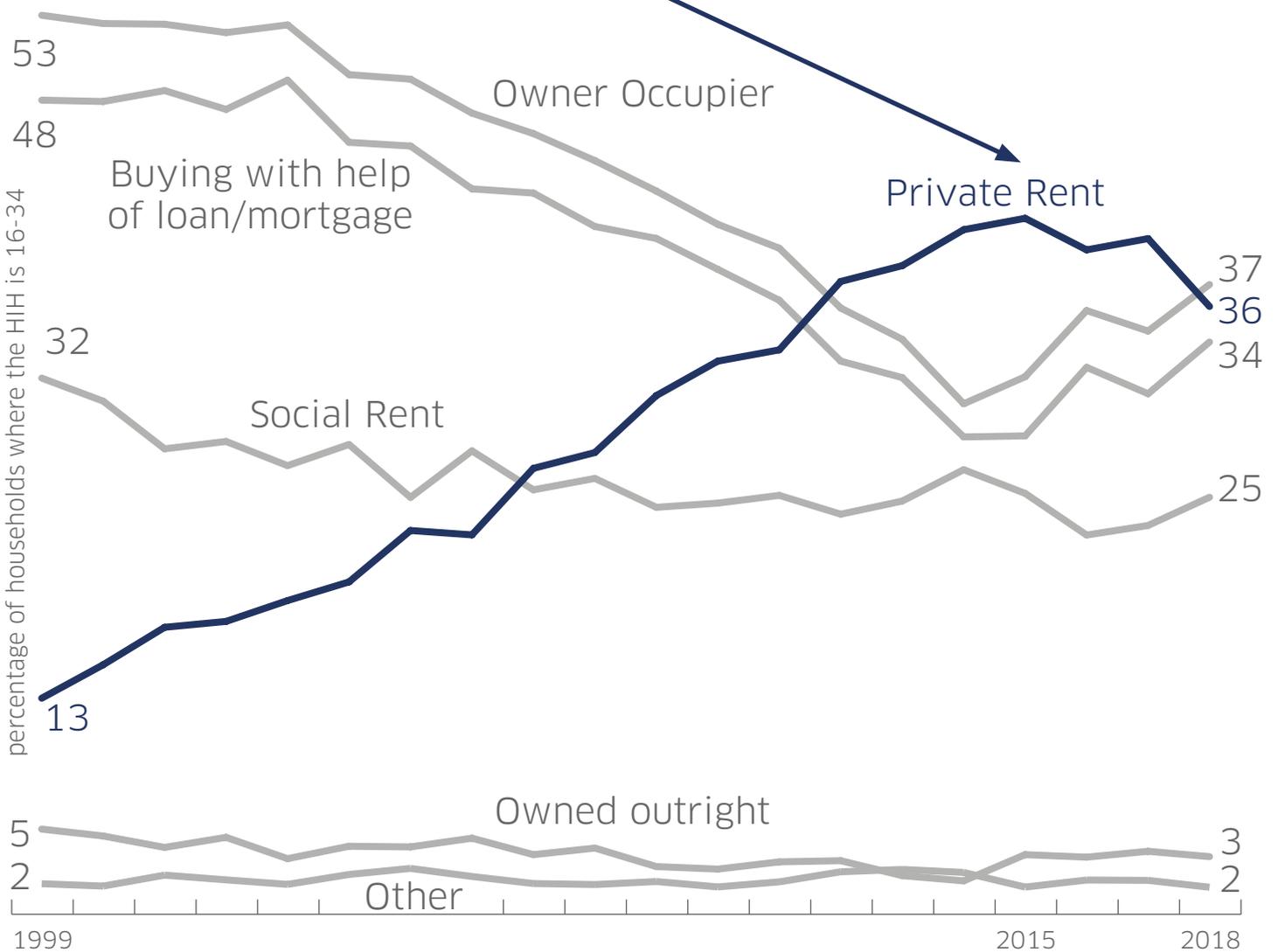
The private rented sector **grew steadily** from five per cent in 1999 to **15 per cent** in 2016, after which it has dropped slightly to 14 per cent in 2018.

The social rented sector declined from 32 per cent in 1999 to 23 per cent in 2007, and **has remained around this level** since then.

Housing Tenure (age 16-34)



The proportion of households with a highest income householder (HIH) aged between 16 and 34 years living in the private rented sector increased substantially from 1999 (**13 per cent**) to 2015 (**41 per cent**), but has since **decreased to 36 per cent in 2018**.



Between 2015 and 2018, there has been a decrease of approximately 20,000 private renting households where the HIH is aged 16 to 34. There has been a corresponding increase across this period of approximately 30,000 households aged 16 to 34 who are owning a property with a mortgage.

Housing

Satisfaction, tenure by deprivation



In 2018, nine in ten households (90 per cent) reported that they were very or fairly satisfied with their housing, with 51 per cent being very satisfied and 39 per cent being fairly satisfied.



■ 20% Most Deprived ■ 20% Least Deprived

Owner Occupier



In 2018, a quarter (25 per cent) of owner occupier properties were located in the 20 per cent least deprived areas of Scotland.

Private Rent



Private rented properties were spread fairly evenly across deprivation areas.

Social Rent



For social rented properties, almost half (47 per cent) were located in the 20 per cent most deprived areas, with only three per cent in the 20 per cent least deprived areas of Scotland.

Neighbourhoods and Communities Ratings



In 2018, the majority of adults (**57 per cent**) rated their neighbourhood as a very good place to live



Ratings of neighbourhoods have been consistently high since 1999 with over nine in 10 adults (90 per cent) viewing their neighbourhood as a very or fairly good place to live.

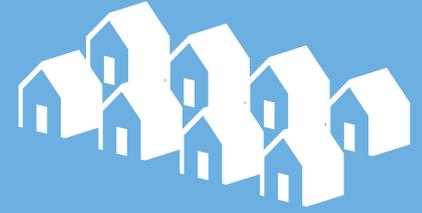
Whilst neighbourhoods were rated positively overall, **the strength of view varied with those in rural areas rating their neighbourhoods higher than those in cities.**



Those in accessible or remote rural areas were most likely to describe their neighbourhood as a very good place to live (69 per cent and 77 per cent respectively)

In contrast, just over half (53 per cent) of those in large urban areas rated their neighbourhood as a very good place to live.

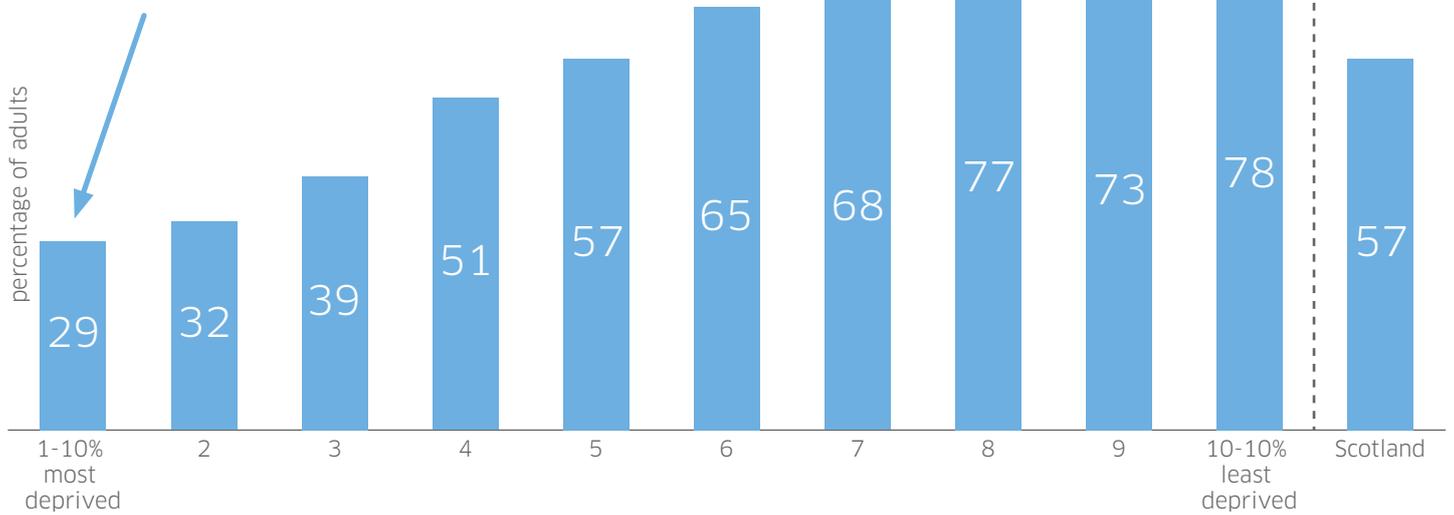
Neighbourhoods and Communities Ratings



Positive neighbourhood rating **increased** as area deprivation **decreased**.

Only 29 per cent of adults in the 10 per cent most deprived areas rated it as very good place to live.

Whereas 78 per cent in the 10 per cent least deprived areas rated this way.



Rating of neighbourhood as a **very good** place to live varied by Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation.



The proportion of people living in the 20 per cent most deprived areas who rate their neighbourhood as very good has increased over the last decade. The gap between the most and least deprived areas has slightly narrowed since 2006.

Neighbourhoods and Communities

Strengths, belonging, involvement, discrimination





National Indicator

In 2018, over half (**59 per cent**) of adults agreed that there were places in their neighbourhood where people could meet up and socialise.



91 per cent of adults in Scotland strongly agreed that they would help their neighbours in an emergency.

83 per cent of adults living in Scotland believed their neighbourhood is one where people are kind to each other. This perception of kindness improved with age.

78 per cent of adults felt a very strong or fairly strong sense of belonging to their neighbourhood. This varied by age, ethnicity and deprivation.

8 per cent of adults reported that they had experienced discrimination and six per cent of adults reported that they had experienced harassment in Scotland at some point over the last twelve months.

30 per cent of respondents who had been discriminated against believed the reason behind this was their ethnic origin or nationality.

14 per cent of younger people (16-24) experienced discrimination in 2018.

Neighbourhoods and Communities

Loneliness



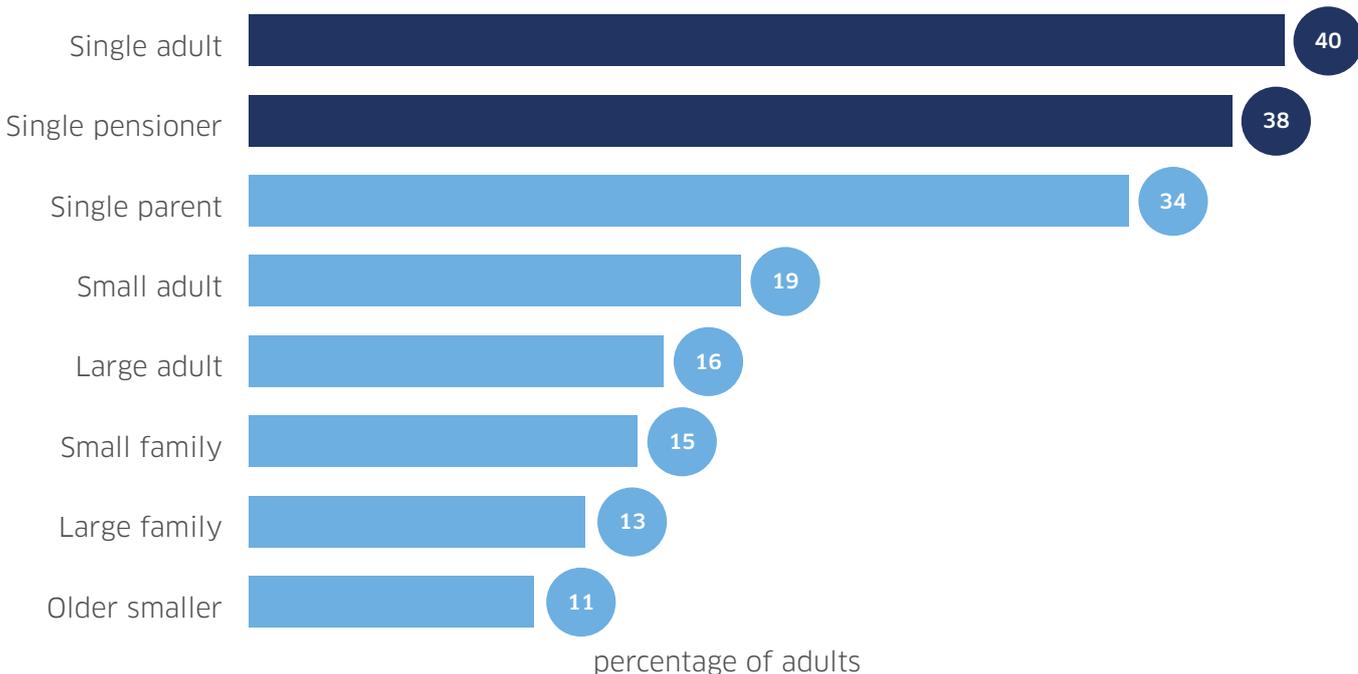
One in five (**21 per cent**) adults reported that they had experienced loneliness within the last week.



Those living in the most deprived areas (28 per cent) were **almost twice as likely** to experience loneliness as those living in the least deprived areas (16 per cent).

Over one third (**35 per cent**) of adults with a long-term health condition reported that they felt lonely, which is two times more than adults without a long-term health condition (16 per cent).

Adults living alone were the most likely to report feelings of loneliness.

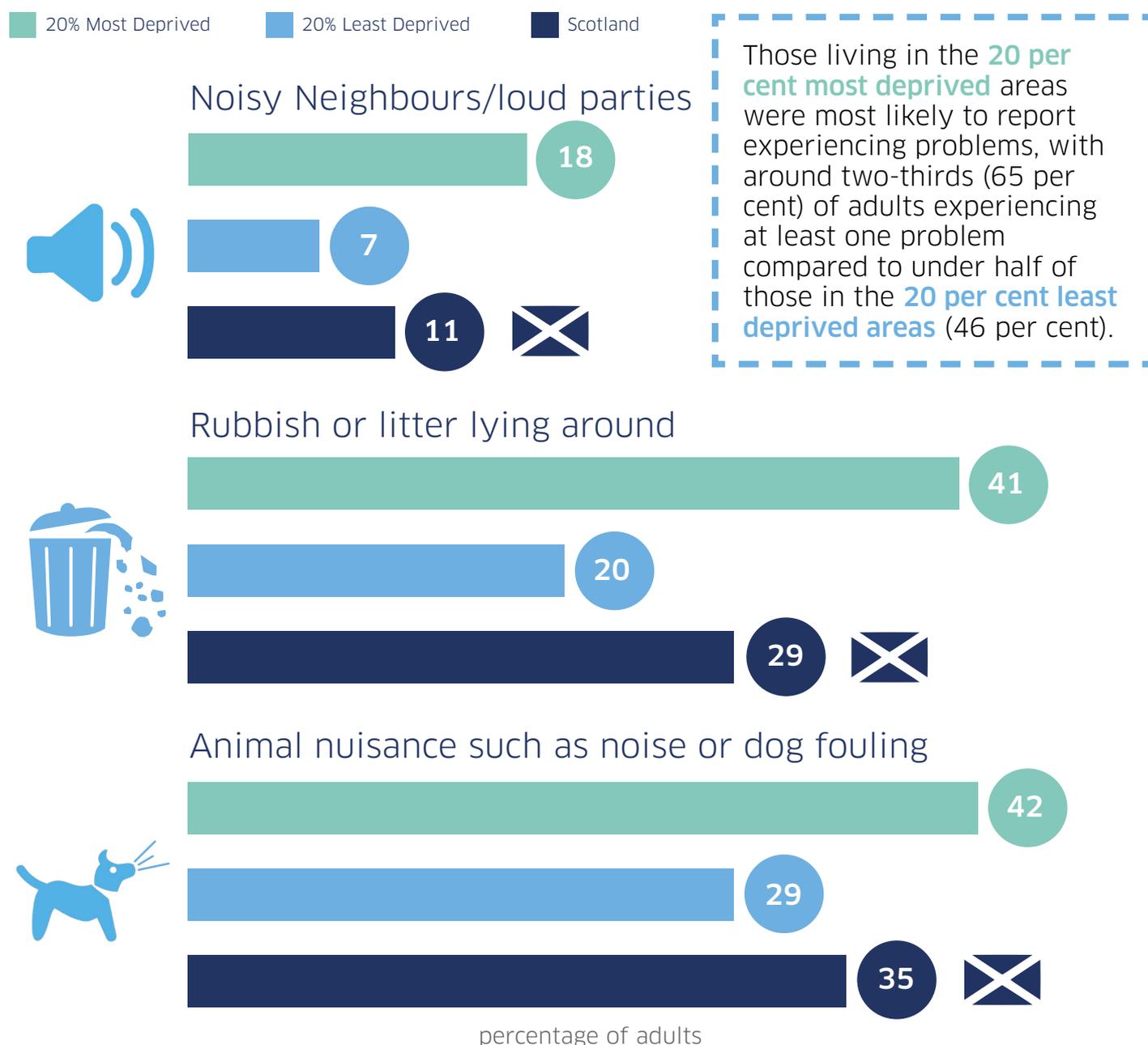


Neighbourhoods and Communities Problems



In 2018, 46 per cent of all adults in Scotland reported that they had experienced no neighbourhood problems.

For those who did experience neighbourhood problems, differences can be seen between area deprivation levels.



Those living in the **20 per cent most deprived** areas were most likely to report experiencing problems, with around two-thirds (65 per cent) of adults experiencing at least one problem compared to under half of those in the **20 per cent least deprived areas** (46 per cent).

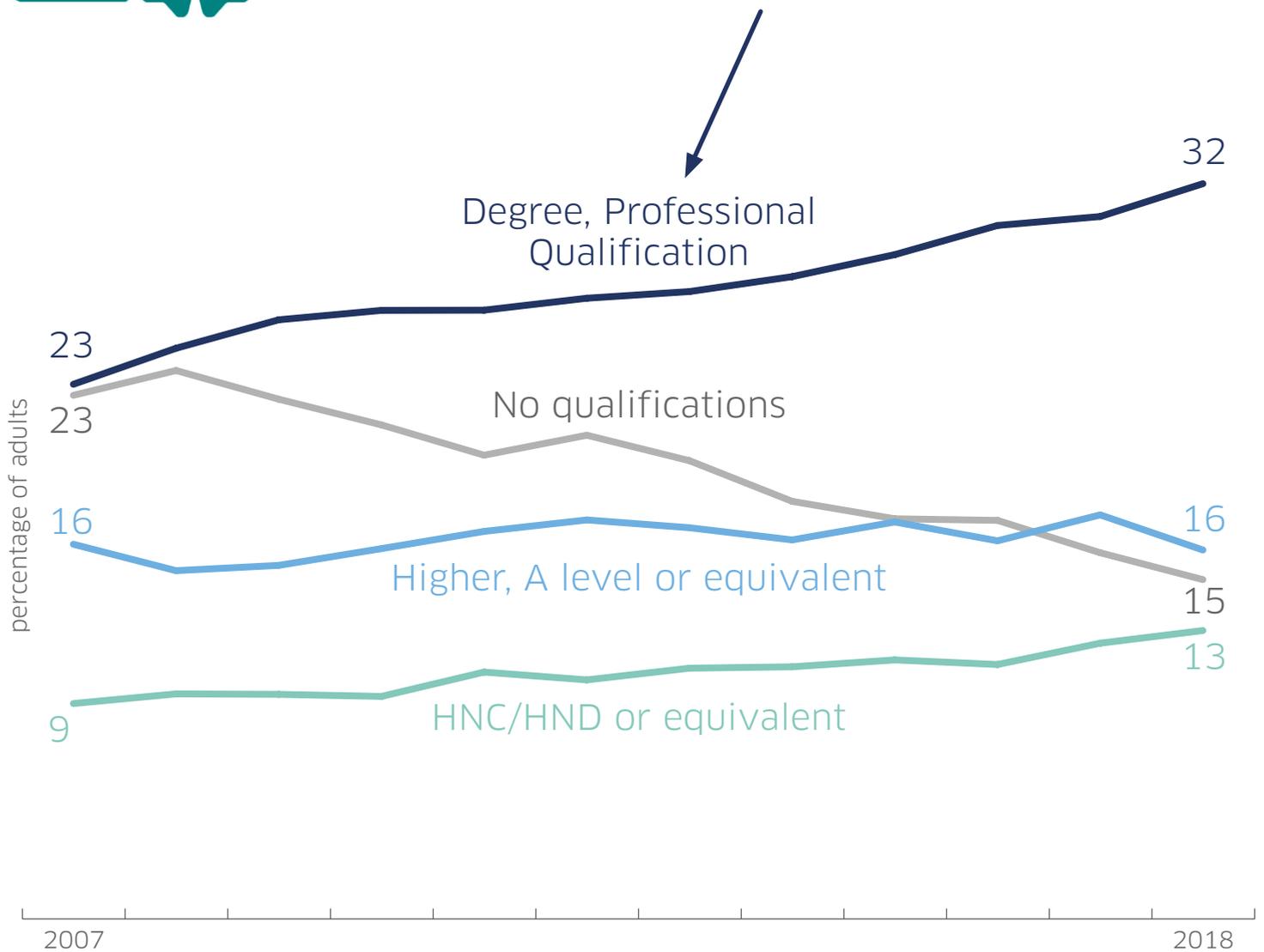
Economic activity

Qualifications



In 2018, **85 per cent** of adults held some kind of qualification as compared to **77 per cent** of adults in 2007.

The increase between 2007 and 2018 was mainly due to an increase in people holding a degree or professional qualification.

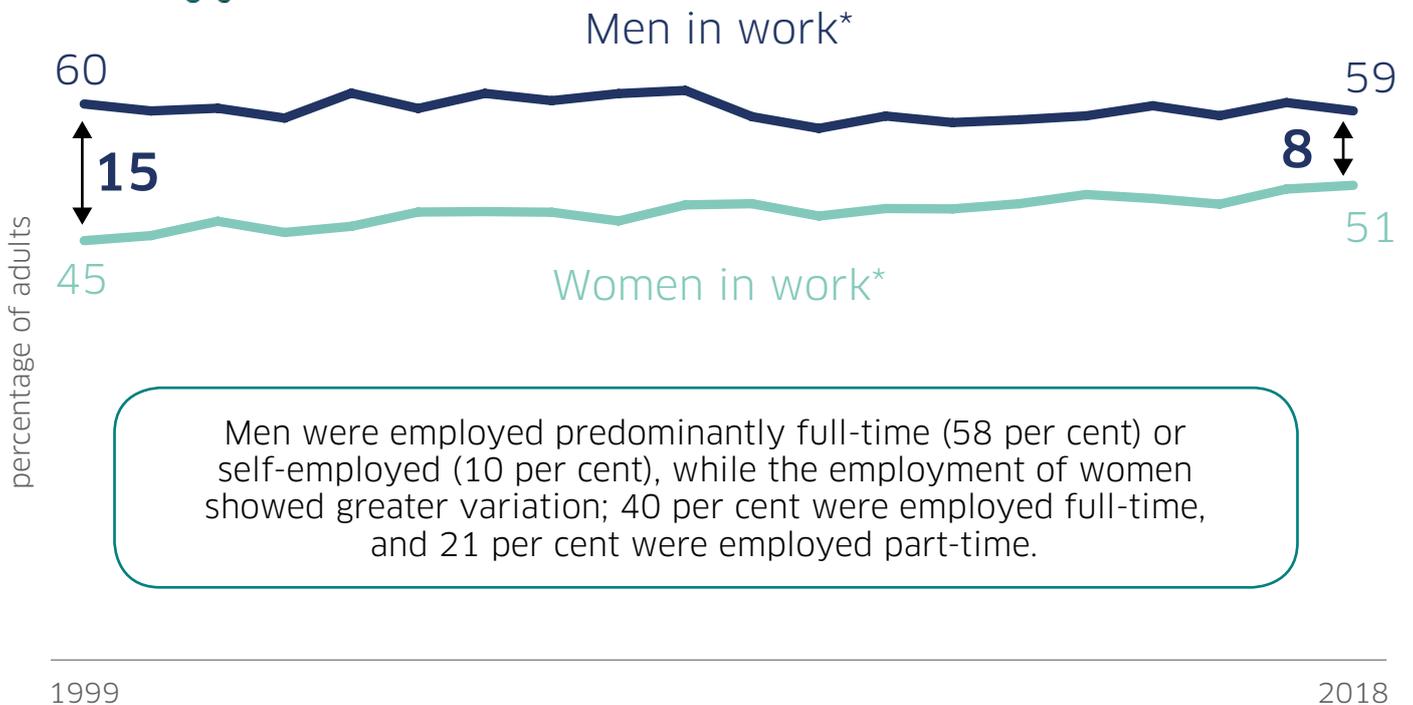


Economic activity

Work Rates

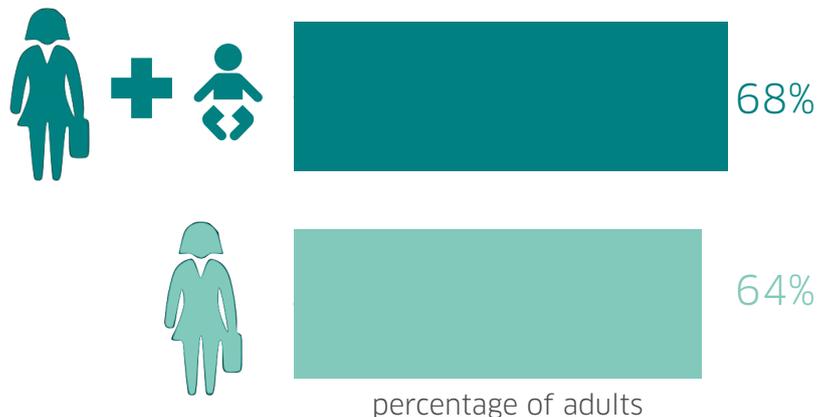


The proportion of women in work has increased since 1999, narrowing the gap between the number of men and women currently in work*.



Men were employed predominantly full-time (58 per cent) or self-employed (10 per cent), while the employment of women showed greater variation; 40 per cent were employed full-time, and 21 per cent were employed part-time.

In 2018, a significantly higher proportion of women aged 16-64 in households which contained children were in work compared to households without children.



*In work includes full and part-time employment and the self-employed. Based on adults aged 16+.

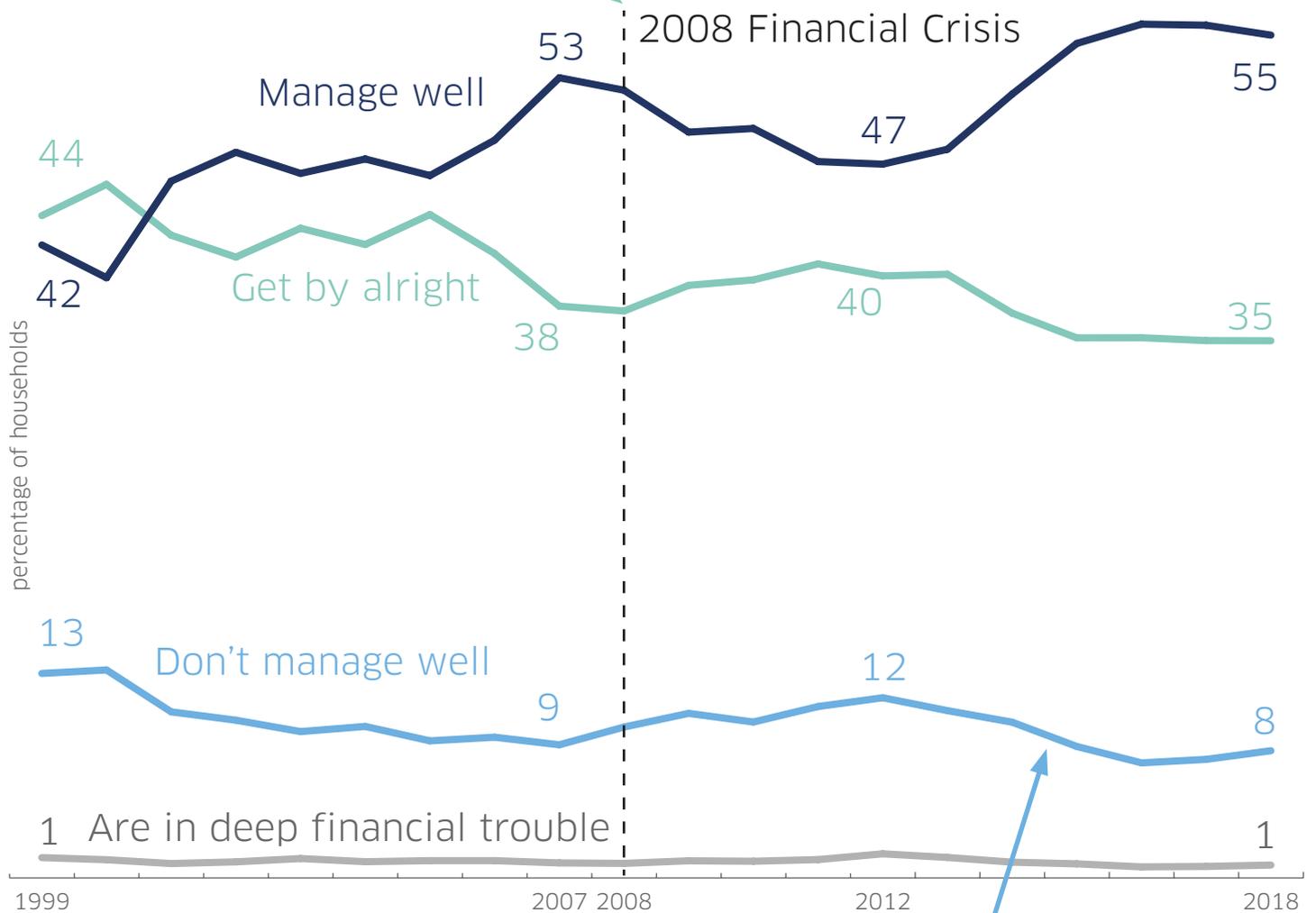
Finance

How households are managing financially



Over half of households (55 per cent) reported they managed well financially in 2018, an increase of 13 percentage points since 1999.

Recent levels suggest a **period of recovery** following the dip between 2007 and 2012.



The proportion of households who didn't manage well **has fallen by five percentage points** since 1999.

Finance

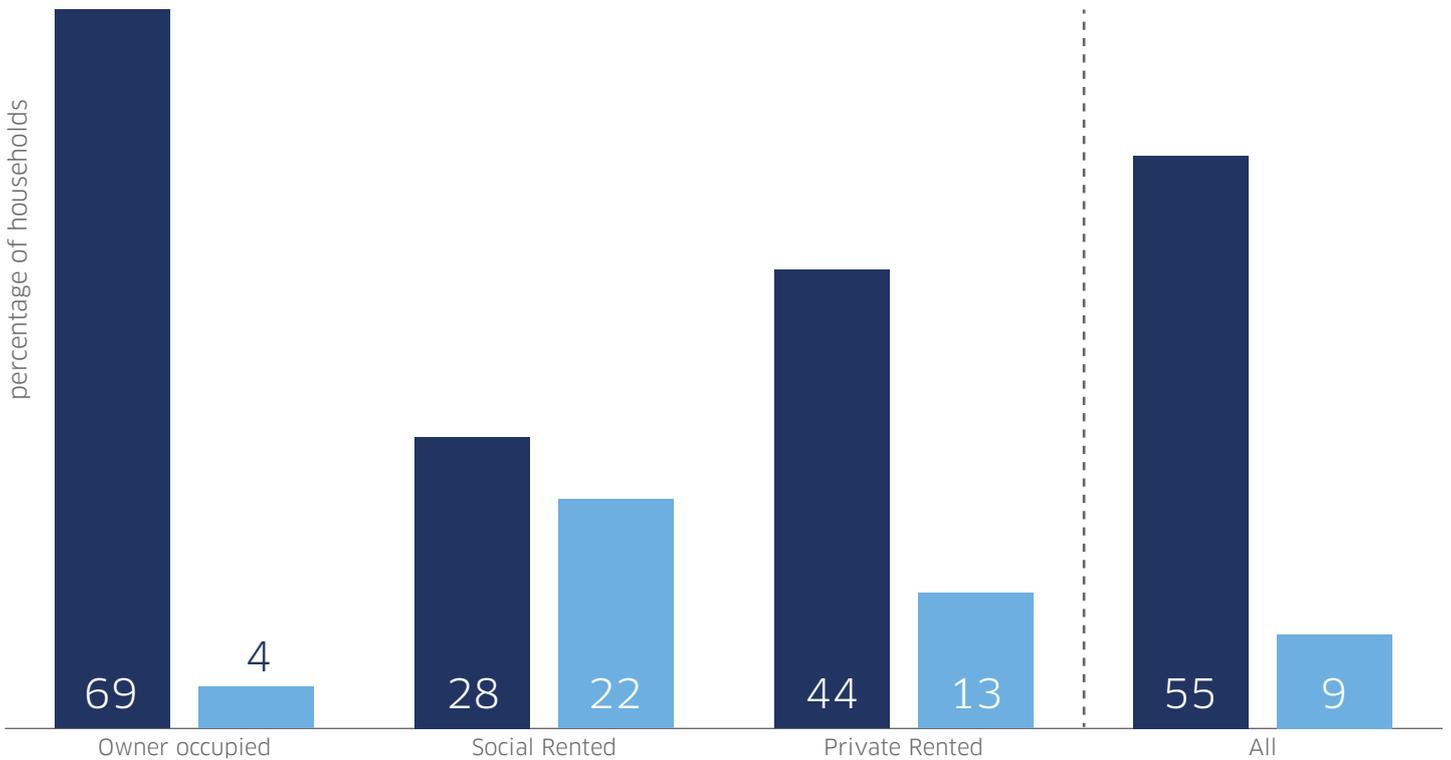
How households are managing financially



Households in more deprived areas were less likely to say they were managing well financially. The gap between the 20 per cent most and least deprived areas has not changed much over time.

Perceptions of managing financially varied with household tenure. Those in the social and private rented sectors were the most likely to report **not managing well**.

- Manages well
- Does not manage well



18%

18%

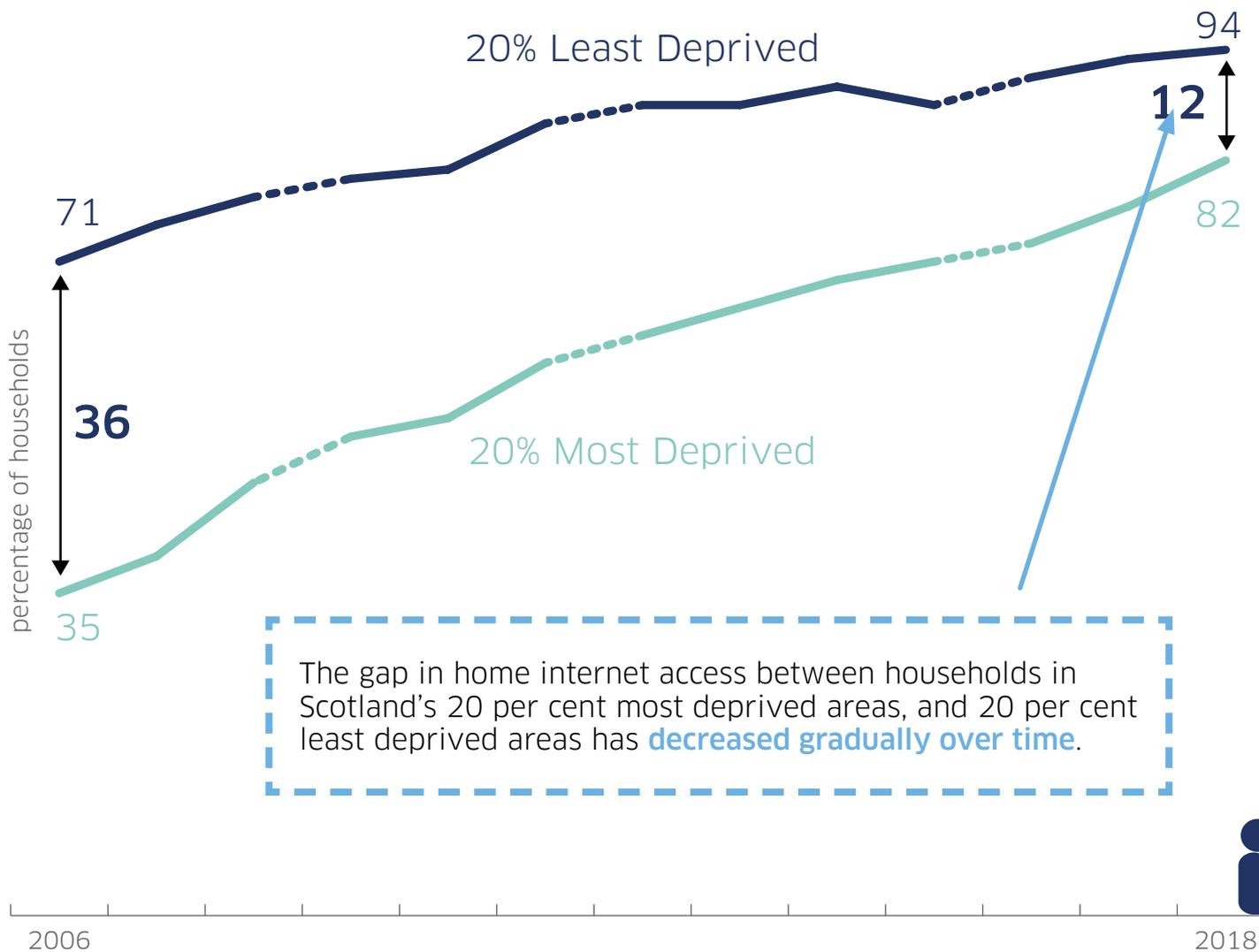
9%

Single adult and **single parent** households were the most likely to report they were not managing well financially in 2018.

Internet Access



Home internet access has increased steadily over time, reaching an all-time high of **87 per cent** of households in 2018, up from 42 per cent in 2003.



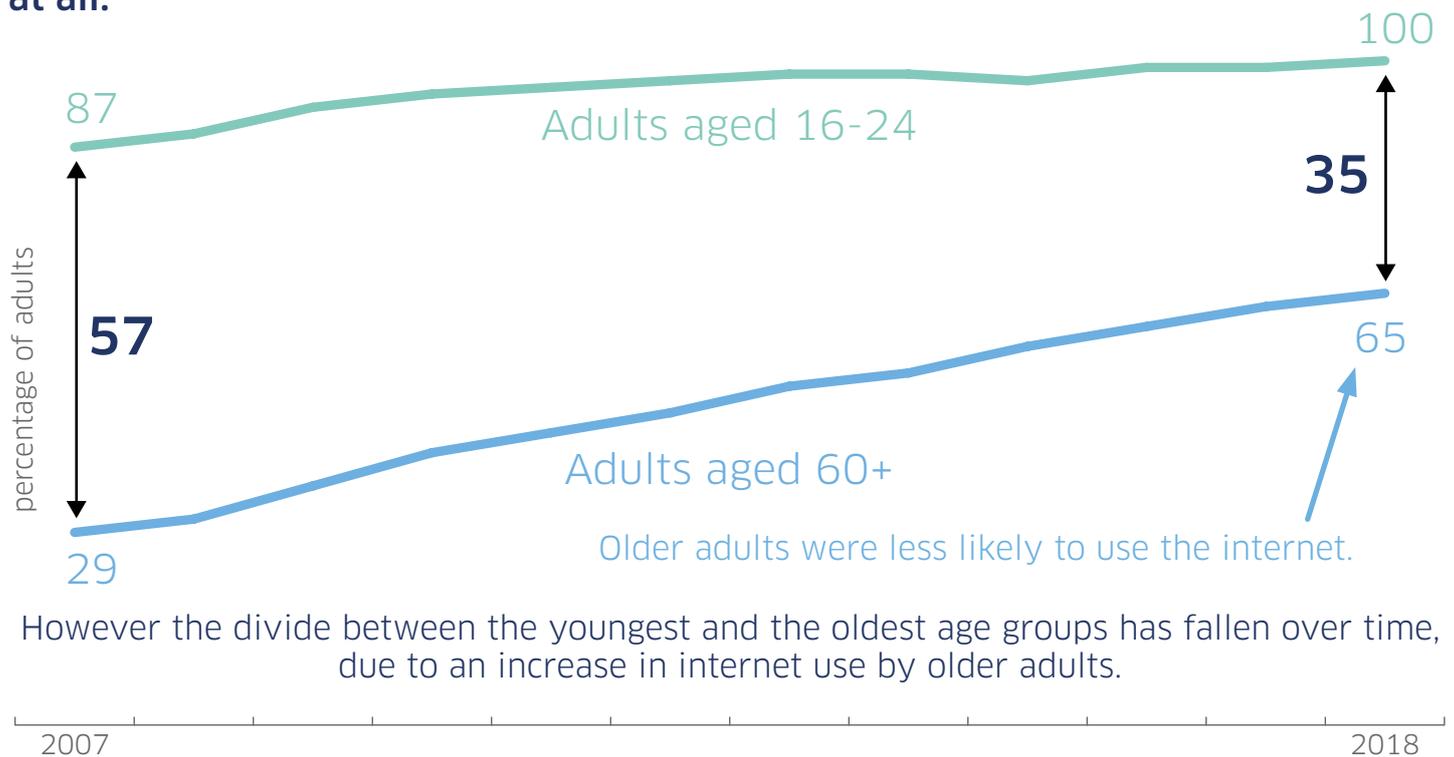
The gap in home internet access between households in Scotland's 20 per cent most deprived areas, and 20 per cent least deprived areas has **decreased gradually over time**.



Internet Use



In 2018, around one in eight (**13 per cent**) adults did not use the internet at all.



However the divide between the youngest and the oldest age groups has fallen over time, due to an increase in internet use by older adults.



Mobile phone/iPhone/Smartphone



The proportion of internet users reporting that they access the internet using a smartphone continued to increase.



This is now greater than the share of internet users using a PC or laptop to go online.

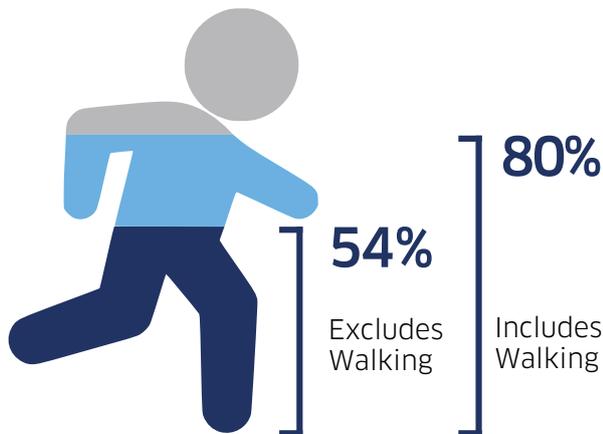
A personal computer or laptop

61 per cent of respondents used both types of devices to access the internet.

Physical Activity and Sport Participation

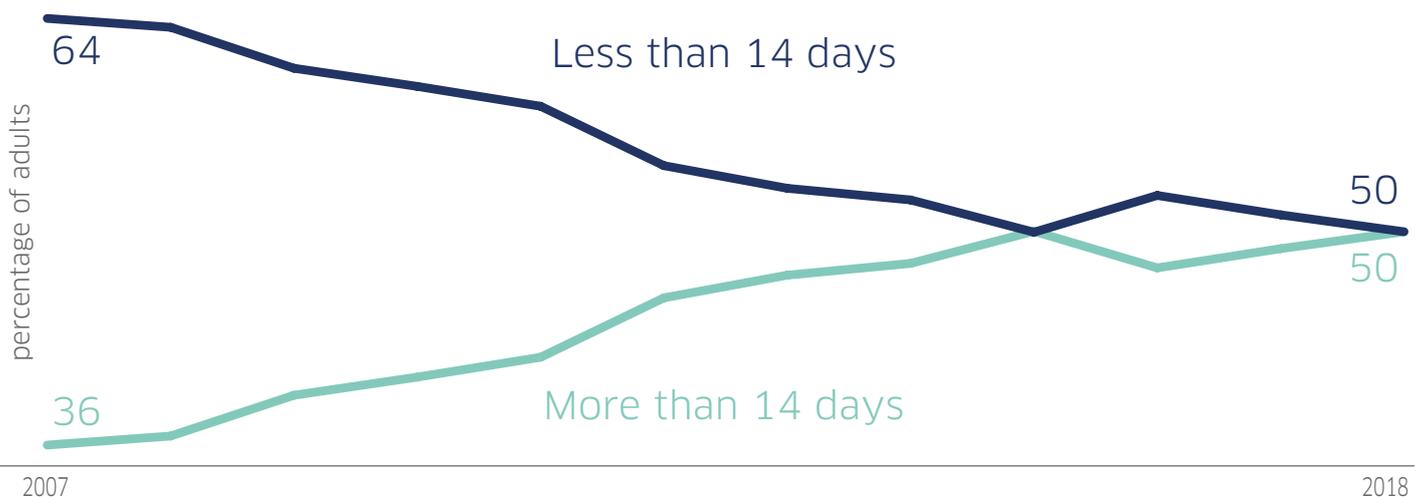


In 2018, the vast majority of adults (**80 per cent**) had taken part in physical activity or sport in the previous four weeks.



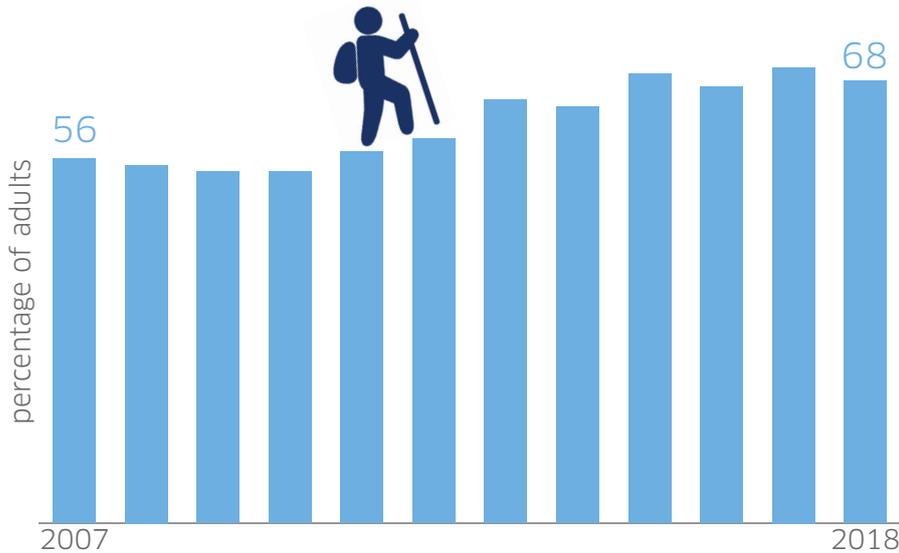
People have become more active in recent years (rising from 72 per cent in 2010 to 80 per cent in 2018). The rise in physical activity was driven by a rise in recreational walking.

The proportion of adults who reported frequent participation (on more than 14 days in the past four weeks) in physical activity and sport (including walking) has increased from 36 per cent in 2007 to **50 per cent** in 2018.



Since 2007, the rise in frequency (increase of 14 percentage points) is greater than the rise in the number of people becoming active (increase of seven percentage points) which suggests that the increase in frequency of participation is **due to individuals who are already active becoming more active**.

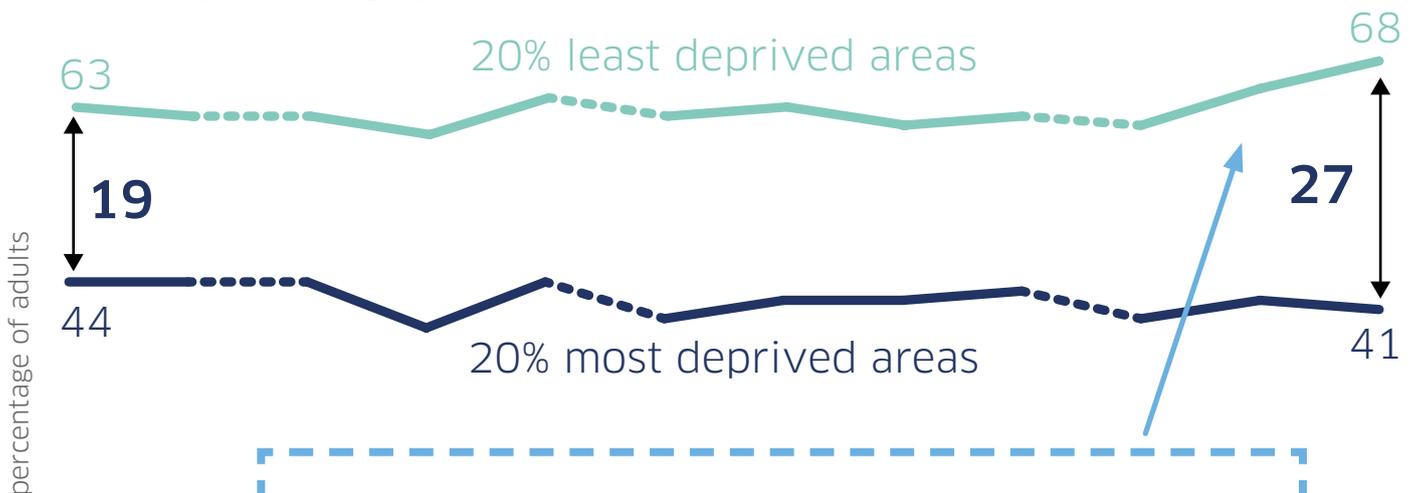
Physical Activity and Sport Participation



The most common activity in 2018 was walking for at least 30 minutes (for recreational purposes), reported by **68 per cent** of adults.

Less than one in five (<20 per cent) adults participated in other individual physical activities.

When walking was excluded, the gap between participation levels in the 20 per cent most and the 20 per cent least deprived areas increased from 19 percentage points in 2007 to **27 percentage points** in 2018.



This gap increase was largely driven by a rise of participation levels among those living in the least deprived areas.

2007 2018

The gap remained similar between 2007 and 2018 when walking was included (around 20 percentage points).

Dotted lines indicate where there has been an update to SIMD.

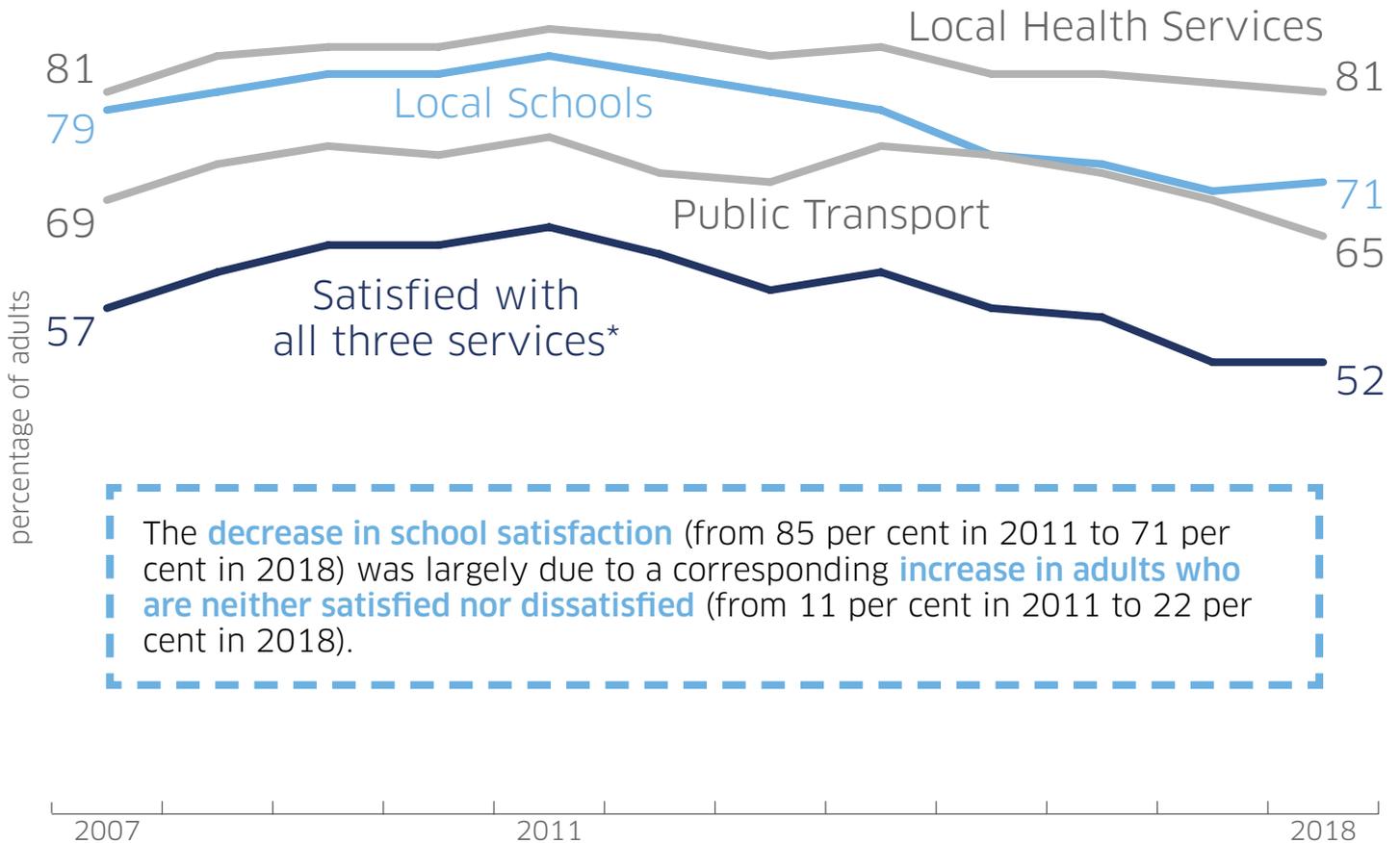
Local Services Satisfaction



In 2018, 52 per cent of adults were satisfied with the three local services: local health services, schools and public transport.



Combined satisfaction with all three public services (local health services, schools and public transport) is at its lowest level since first measured in 2007, and down from a peak of 66 per cent in 2011, mainly due to a decrease in satisfaction with local schools.



The **decrease in school satisfaction** (from 85 per cent in 2011 to 71 per cent in 2018) was largely due to a corresponding **increase in adults who are neither satisfied nor dissatisfied** (from 11 per cent in 2011 to 22 per cent in 2018).

The percentage of people dissatisfied with at least one of these three public services has increased since 2011, from 20 per cent to 28 per cent.

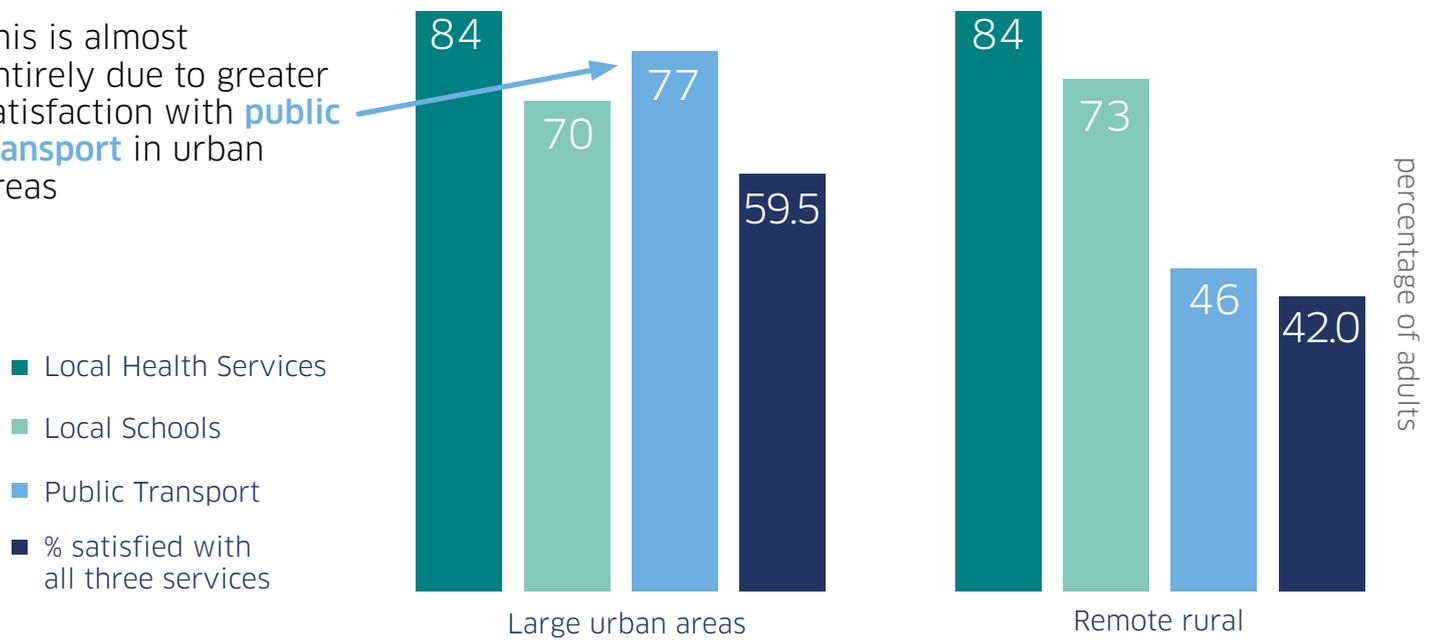
*Percentages reported for all three services combined are those for which an opinion was given. Respondents could express no opinion for up to two of the services.

Local Services Satisfaction

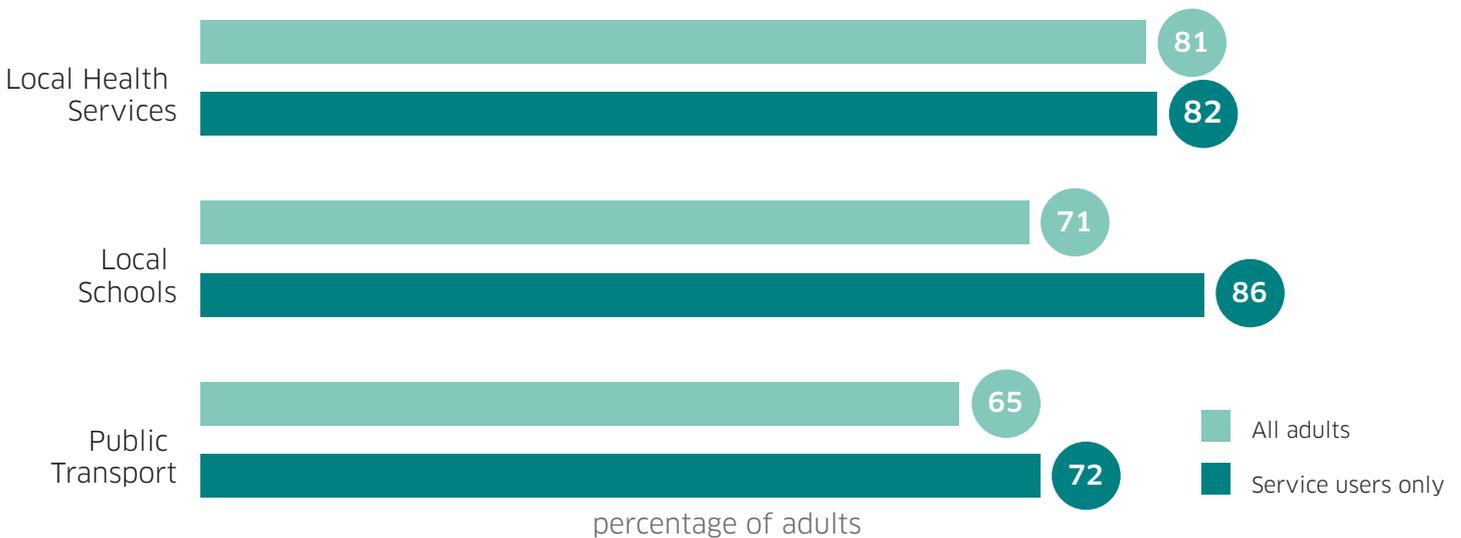


Adults living in urban areas were more satisfied with the quality of the three public services than those in rural areas.

This is almost entirely due to greater satisfaction with **public transport** in urban areas



Eight out of 10 respondents were satisfied with local health services, independent of if they used the service or not.



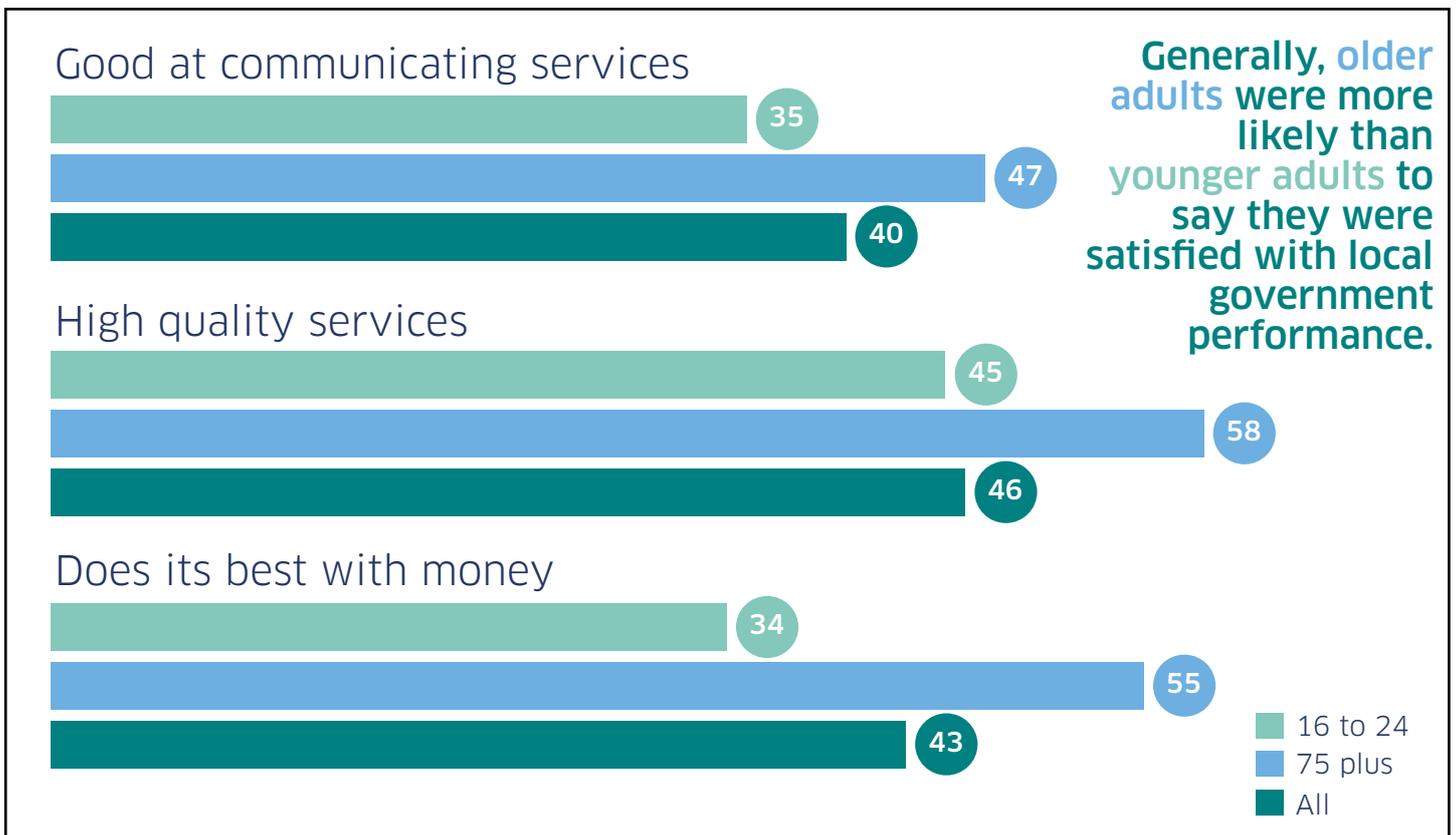
Service users were more satisfied with local schools and public transport than **all adults**.

Local Services

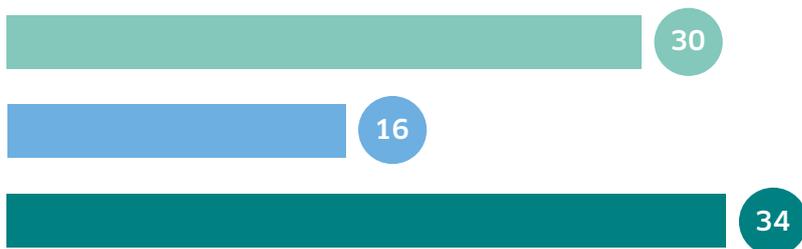
Performance and involvement



In 2018, four in five adults (80 per cent) felt that they can't influence decisions affecting their local area.



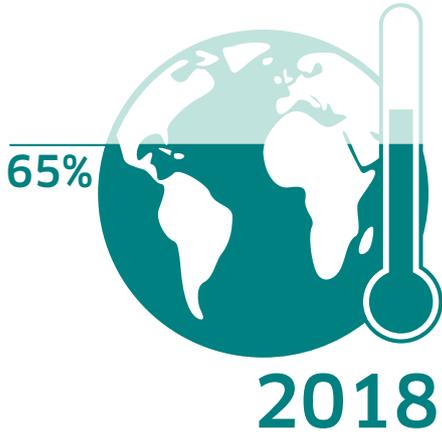
I want greater involvement in decisions



percentage of adults

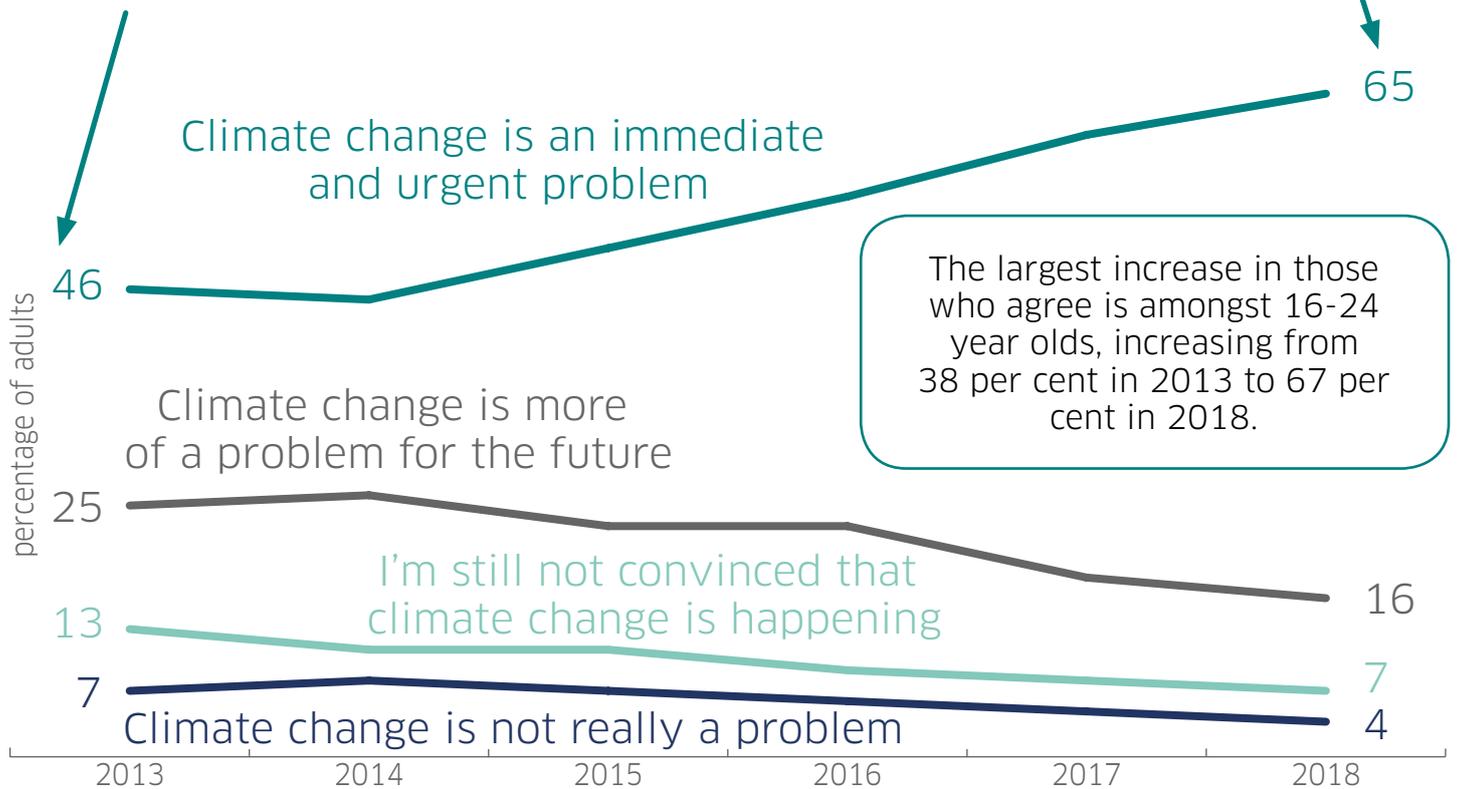
However, **younger adults** were more likely to want to be more involved in making decisions.

Environment Climate Change



Almost two thirds (65 per cent) of adults viewed climate change as an immediate and urgent problem

compared to less than half (46 per cent) five years ago.



In 2018, around three quarters (74 per cent) of adults agreed they understood what actions they should take to help tackle climate change.

Environment

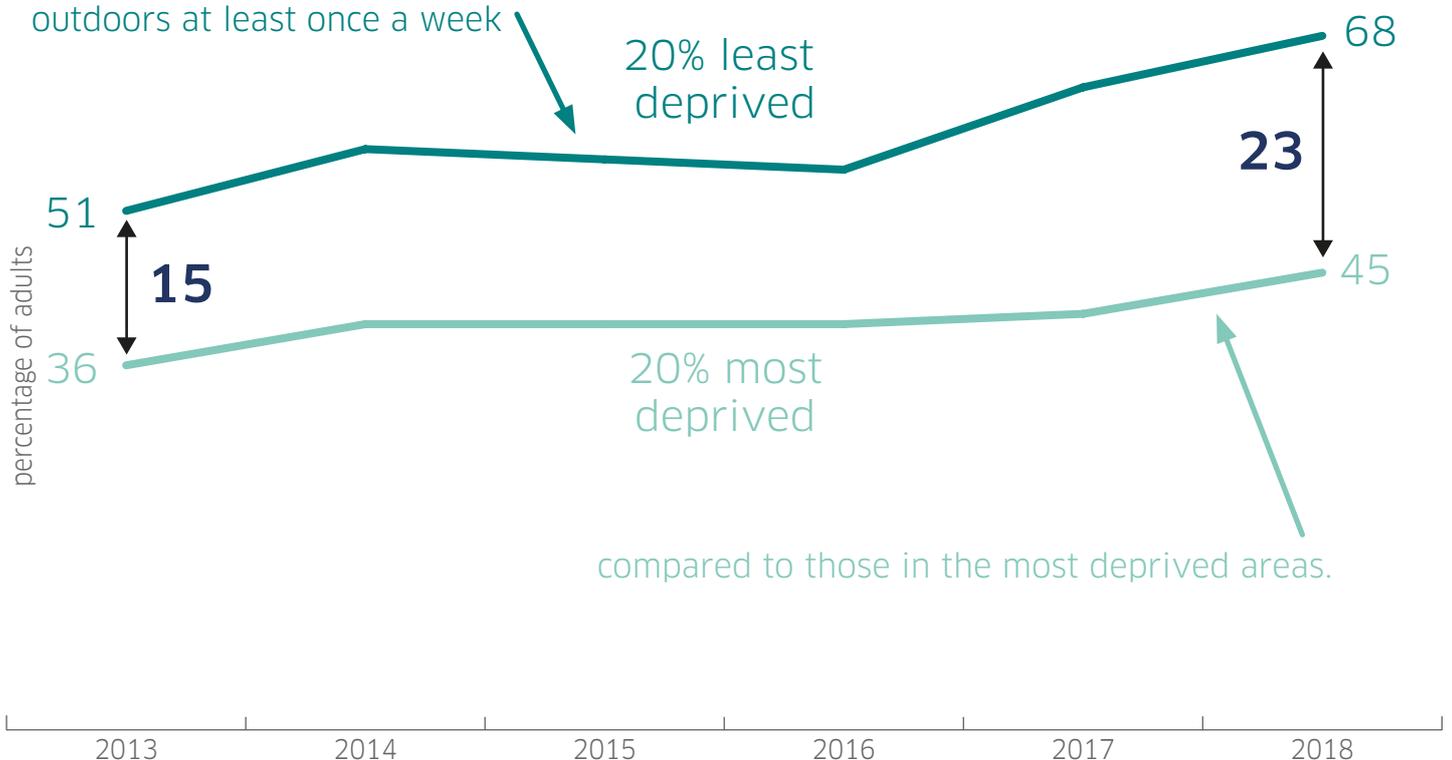
Outdoors



More than half of adults (**59 per cent**) visited the outdoors at least once a week in the last year, an increase from 52 per cent in 2017.

The 2018 figure is the highest observed since the start of data collection in 2012 (42 per cent). The annual increase of seven percentage points since 2017 is also the largest observed.

Adults living in the least deprived areas were more likely to visit the outdoors at least once a week



The gap between those living in the most and least deprived areas has increased over time due to a larger increase in those in the least deprived areas visiting the outdoors in recent years.

The breakdown by area deprivation for 2012 is not included in the chart but the observed trend is the same.

Environment Greenspace

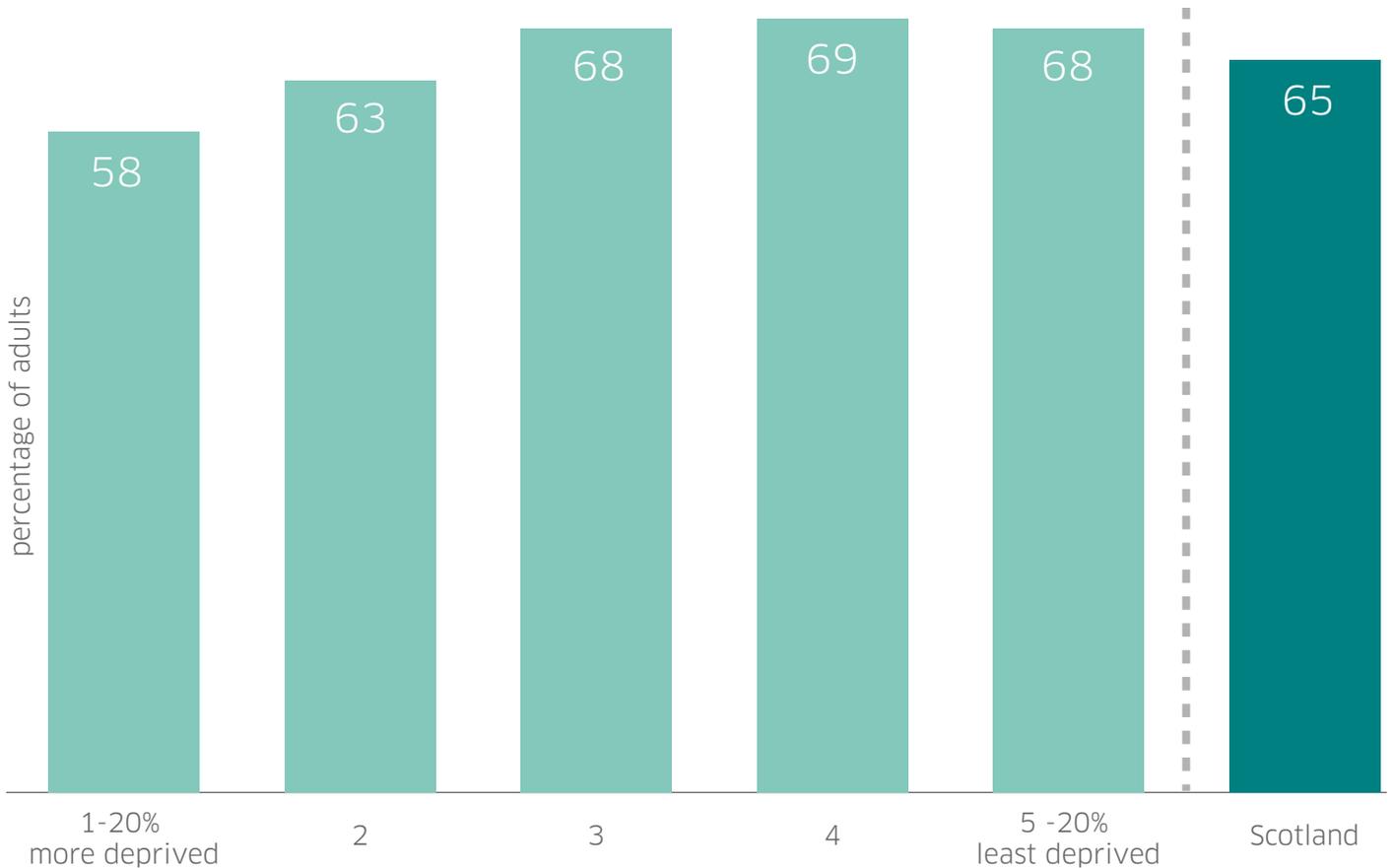


Most adults (**65 per cent**) lived within a five minute walk of their nearest area of greenspace, a similar proportion to 2017 and 2016.



 5 Min

A smaller proportion of adults in the most deprived areas lived within a five minute walk of their nearest greenspace compared to adults in less deprived areas.

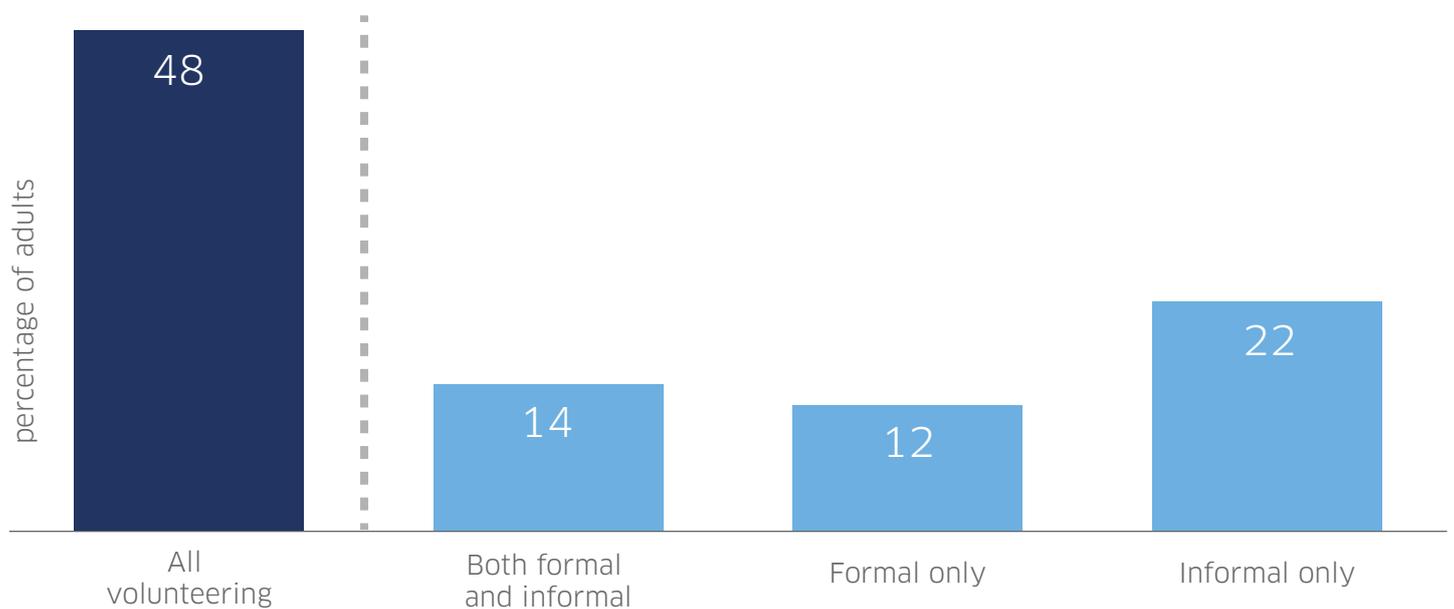


Volunteering

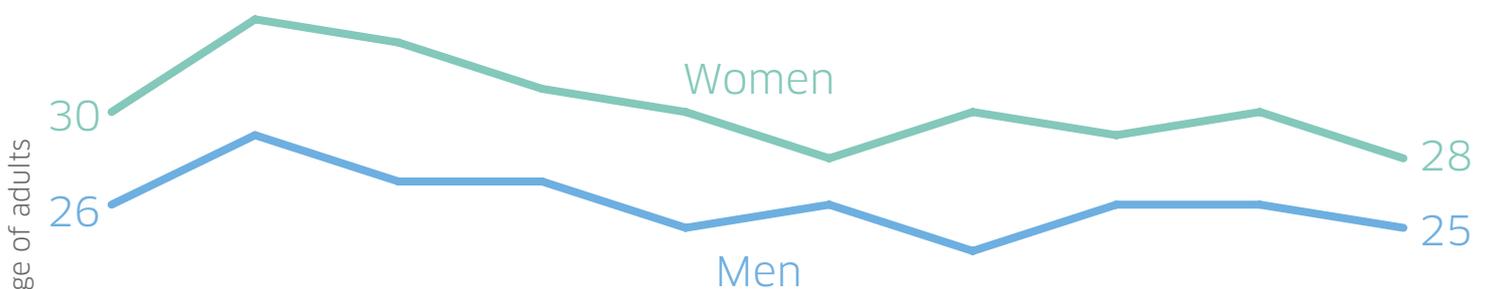
Overall and formal



In 2018, **48 per cent** of adults provided unpaid help through formal and/or informal volunteering in the last 12 months.



In 2018, **26 per cent** of adults provided unpaid help to groups, clubs or organisations in the last 12 months through **formal volunteering**.



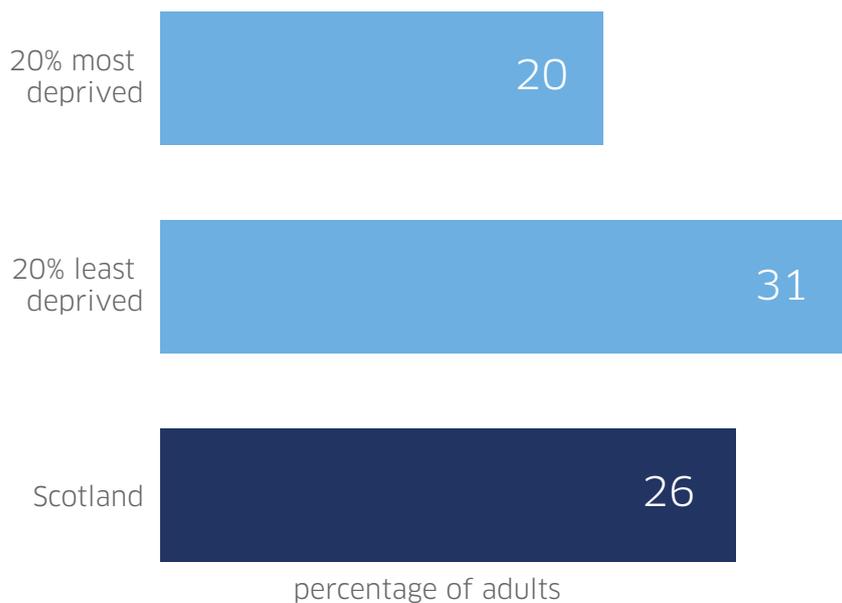
The proportion of **women** volunteering formally has been consistently higher than that of **men**.

2009

2018

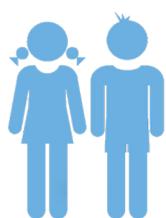
Volunteering

Formal



Levels of formal volunteering increased as area deprivation decreased.

The **most common** types of organisations which volunteers helped with were ‘youth or children’s activities outside schools’, ‘local community or neighbourhood groups’ and ‘children’s education and schools’.



24%

Youth or children’s activities



21%

Local community or neighbourhood



20%

Children’s education and schools



17%

Health, disability and wellbeing



16%

Hobbies and recreation

Volunteering

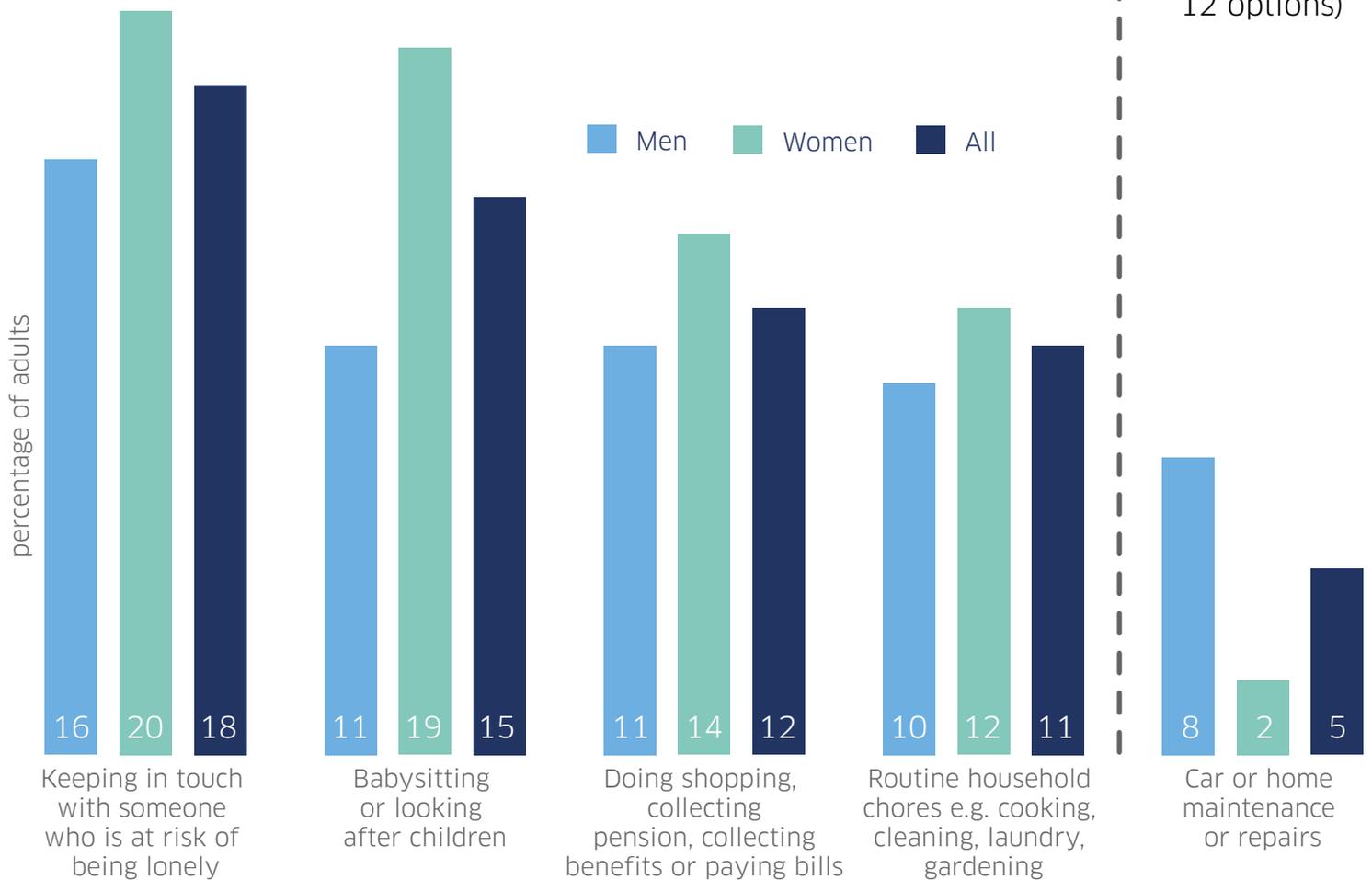
Informal



In 2018, **36 per cent** of adults provided unpaid help through **informal volunteering**.

The most common unpaid activities were 'keeping in touch with someone who is at risk of being lonely', 'babysitting or looking after children', 'doing shopping, collecting pension, collecting benefits or paying bills' and 'routine household chores'.

Not a common activity (9th of 12 options)



Women were more likely than **men** to help by 'babysitting or looking after children'.



Men were more likely than **women** to help with 'car or home maintenance or repairs.'

Culture and Heritage Attendance



Nine in 10 (**90 per cent**) adults were **culturally engaged in 2018**, either by attending or visiting a cultural event or place or by participating in a cultural activity.



In 2018, **81 per cent** of adults in Scotland attended or visited a cultural event or place. When trips to the cinema are excluded, the attendance figure was lower at 74 per cent.

Attendance (inc. cinema)



Attendance (exc. cinema)



Cultural attendance increased as area deprivation decreased.

- 20% most deprived
- 20% least deprived
- All

percentage of adults

Over half of respondents (**56 per cent**) attended the cinema in the last 12 months which made this the most common type of cultural attendance. The next most common types of cultural attendance were visits to historical or archaeological places and attendance at live music events.



56%



34%



34%

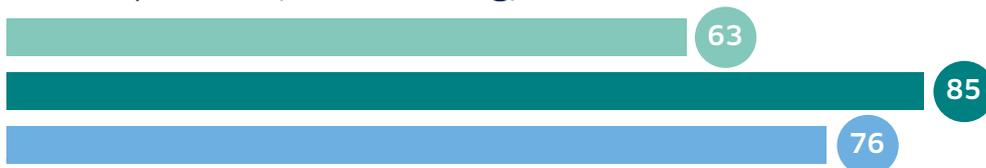
Culture and Heritage Participation



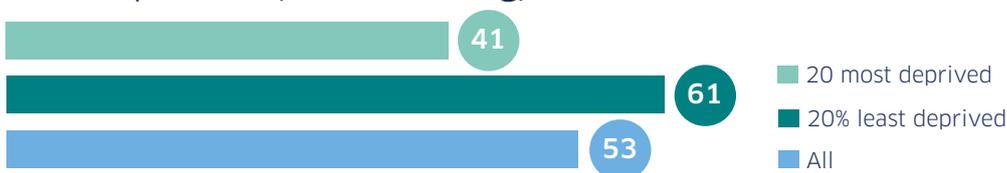
In 2018, **76 per cent** of adults in Scotland participated in a cultural activity. When reading is excluded, participation reduced to 53 per cent.

Cultural participation increased as deprivation decreased.

Participation (inc. reading)



Participation (exc. reading)



percentage of adults

The largest difference between those living in the 20 per cent least deprived areas and those living in the 20 per cent most deprived areas was from reading a book for pleasure (73 per cent and 51 per cent, respectively).

Reading for pleasure was the most common cultural activity in 2018, with **63 per cent** of respondents saying that they had done this in the last year.

Reading 63%



Viewing performance online 22%



Arts and Crafts 16%



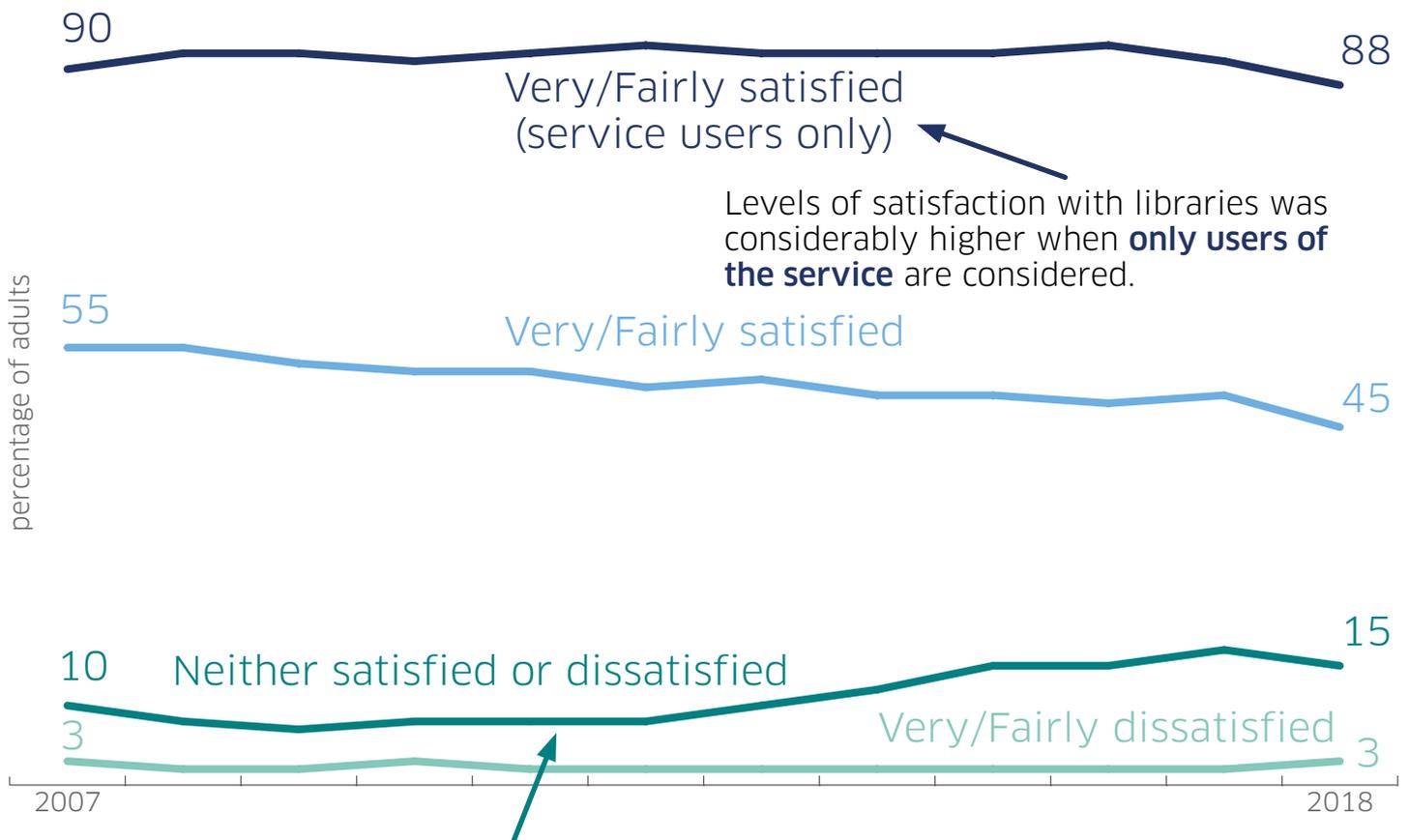
About a quarter of adults (24 per cent) had not participated in any cultural activity in the last 12 months.

Culture and Heritage Satisfaction



Between 2007 and 2018 satisfaction with libraries decreased by ten percentage points from 55 per cent to 45 per cent.

Satisfaction with libraries only



Despite an overall decrease in satisfaction with libraries in recent years, this was accompanied by an increase in **'neither satisfied or dissatisfied'**. Levels of **dissatisfaction** have maintained around three per cent.

Satisfaction with theatres or concert halls and satisfaction with museums and galleries has remained relatively stable between 2007 and 2018.

Childcare

Types of Childcare



Overall, **80 per cent** of households with a two- to five-year-old used some form of childcare in 2018.

Types of childcare used



Use of local authority childcare increased as area deprivation increased.

Small families were more likely to use private nurseries or pre-schools compared with large families and single parent families.

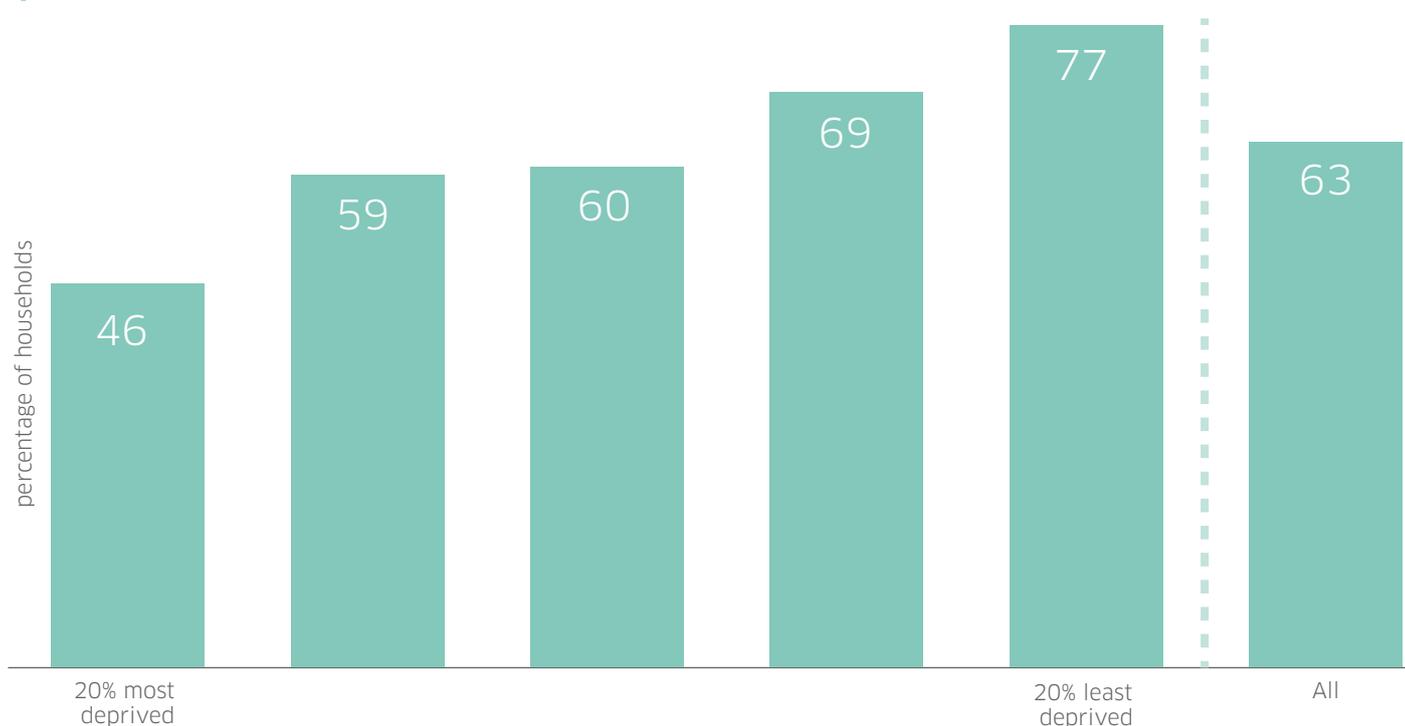
Households with two-year-olds were more likely than households with three or four+ year-olds to not use any childcare: 31 per cent compared to 14 per cent and 12 per cent respectively.

Childcare

Uses and reasons



63 per cent of households with two- to five-year-olds reported that they use childcare so that parents/carers can work. **This increased as area deprivation decreased.**



45 per cent of households who used some type of childcare used between **11 and 20 hours** of **childcare** per week during term-time.

40 per cent of households did not use childcare during school holidays.

Childcare

Funded childcare and costs

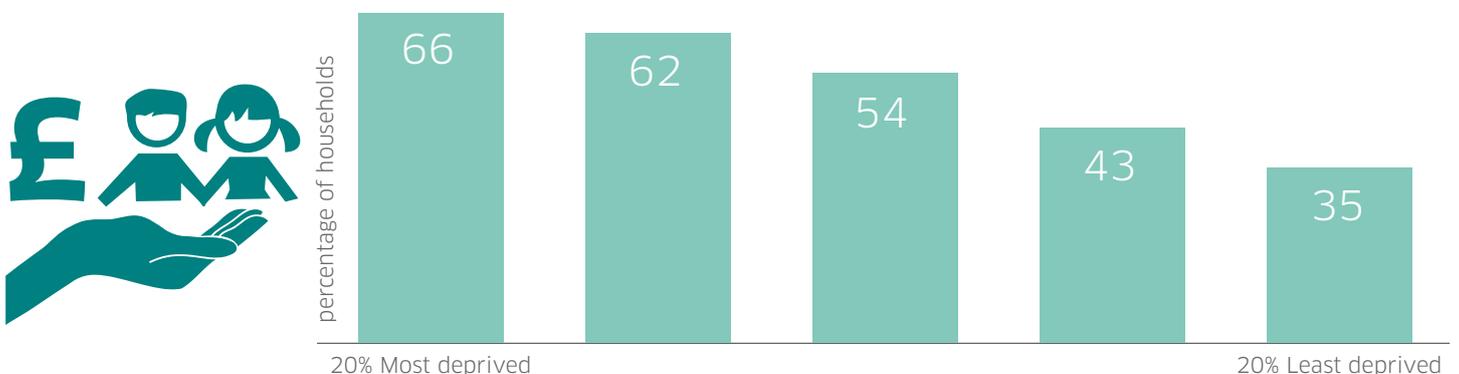


53 per cent of households used **funded** childcare during term-time.

86 per cent of households were either very or fairly satisfied with the overall quality of funded childcare.

20 per cent of households reported that there were not enough funded hours to meet their needs. This increased as area deprivation decreased.

52 per cent who used some type of childcare either did not pay for childcare during school term-time or all childcare used was funded by the local authority or Scottish Government. **This proportion of households decreased as area deprivation decreased.**



All the data presented is from households with children aged two- to five-years-old who have not yet started school.

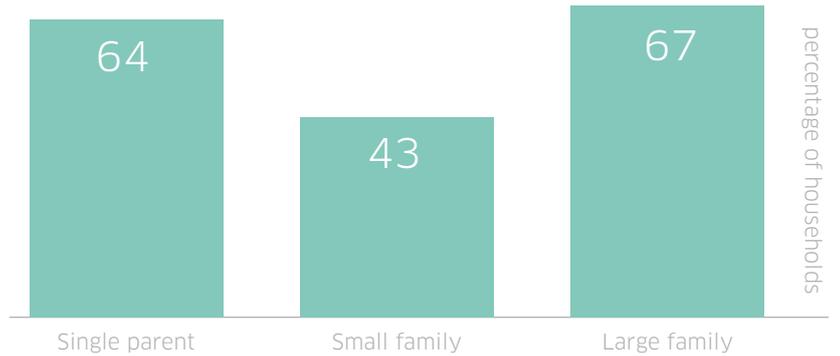
All three- and four-year-olds and some two-year-olds are entitled to Early Learning and Childcare (ELC) which is funded by the Scottish Government. Some children also receive ELC which is funded at the local authority's discretion.

Childcare

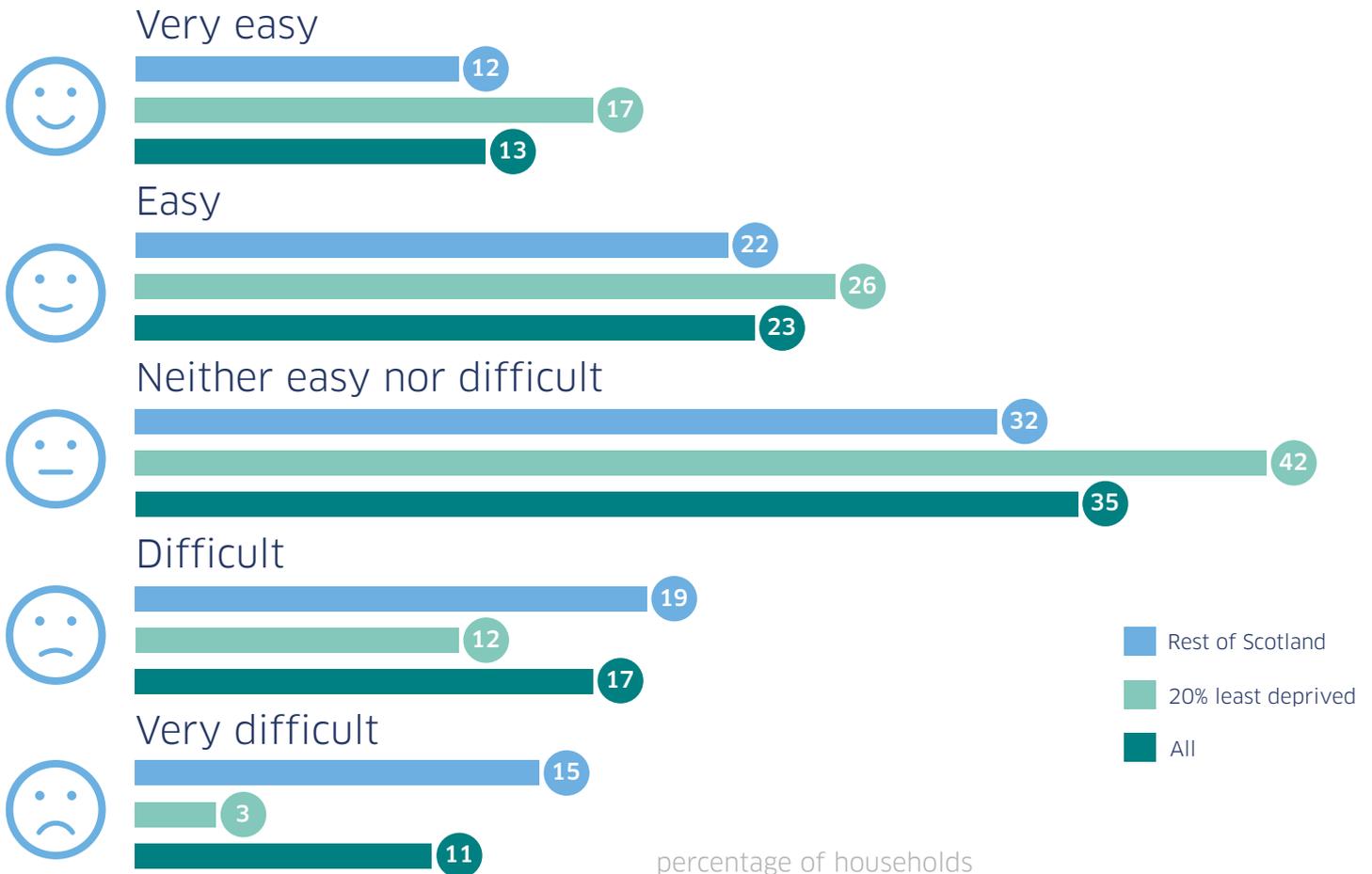
Costs and affordability



Only two in five (43 per cent) **small families** stated that they did not spend money on childcare. They were more likely to spend money on childcare compared to single parents and large families.



The majority of households (72 per cent) with children aged two- to five-years-old said that they did not find it difficult to afford childcare.



All the data presented is from households with children aged two- to five-years-old who have not yet started school. The affordability information is based on households who are paying for some type of childcare. A small family is up to two children and a large family is three or more children in the household.

Key resources



Additional titles in the Scottish Household Survey Reporting series



[Scottish Household Survey Annual Report:](#)

- Scotland's People series since 1999
- Annual local authority level results
- Topic reports and data visualisation tools

[Scottish Household Survey Methodology Reports](#)

[Scottish Household Survey Questionnaires](#)

SHS data is also available through the Open [Data Platform](#)



[Annual Scottish House Condition Survey Reports](#)



[Annual Transport and Travel in Scotland report Transport and Travel in Scotland \(TATIS\)](#)



The [Scottish Surveys Core Questions \(SSCQ\)](#) SSCQ is a result of a harmonised design across the three major Scottish Government household surveys, envisaged in the [Long Term Survey Strategy](#).

Related Links

- Major Statistical Surveys
- Centre of Housing Market Analysis
- Housing, Regeneration and Planning Research
- Housing and Regeneration Statistics
- Social and Welfare Statistics
- Planning Statistics
- National Performance Framework
- The Scottish Household Survey
- Ipsos Mori



Contact details



 **Webpage:** <http://www.gov.scot/SHS>

 **Email:** shs@gov.scot

 **Tel:** 0131 244 1685

 **SHS Project Team**
Area 2-H North
Victoria Quay
Edinburgh
EH6 6QQ

 **Twitter**
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and/or the Scottish Household Survey' sub-topic on the ScotStat Register at:
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