

Westmorland and Furness

Statistical Summary

Westmorland and Furness is the 3rd largest local authority in England and Wales by land area; covering an area of 3,760 square km. With a population of 227,600 persons, Westmorland and Furness has an average population density of 61 people per square km; much more sparsely populated than the national average (England & Wales 399 people per square km). Population density varies greatly across the wards in the authority; ranging from 14 people per square km in Greystoke and Ullswater ward to 3,613 people per square km in Kendal Highgate ward.

When compared to England and Wales, Westmorland and Furness has an older age profile; with a lower proportion of residents aged 0-15 years and 16-64 years, and a higher proportion of resident aged 65+. However, the age profile of Westmorland and Furness's wards varies considerably; with the proportion of residents aged 65+ ranging from 16.7% in Old Barrow and Hindpool ward to 37% in Grange and Cartmel ward.

The 2018-Based Subnational Population Projections (SNPPs), published by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) in 2020, project that by 2028, in Westmorland and Furness: The total population may increase by 2,400 persons (+1.1% vs. England +5%); Numbers of 0-15 year olds may decrease by -1,900 persons (-5.5% vs. England -1.6%); Numbers of 16-64 year olds may decrease by 4,600 persons (-3.5% vs. England +2.7%); Numbers of 65+ year olds may increase by 9,000 persons (+15.5% vs. England +19.6%); The proportion of people aged 65+ may increase to 29.4% (England 20.7%). An older population will create a greater demand for personal health and social care at a time when there are less people of working age to provide it.

The 2019 Indices of Deprivation (IoD) published by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) classified 12 of Westmorland and Furness's 144 Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs) as being within the 10% most deprived of areas in England. These communities were all located within Barrow-in-Furness. Inversely, Westmorland and Furness had 7 LSOAs that were classified as being in the 10% least deprived of LSOAs nationally; these LSOAs were located in South Lakeland (6 LSOAs) and Barrow-in-Furness (1 LSOA). It is important to note that not all socially and economically disadvantaged people will be living in the most deprived areas of the county and that they may reside in more affluent areas, therefore consideration should be given to all.

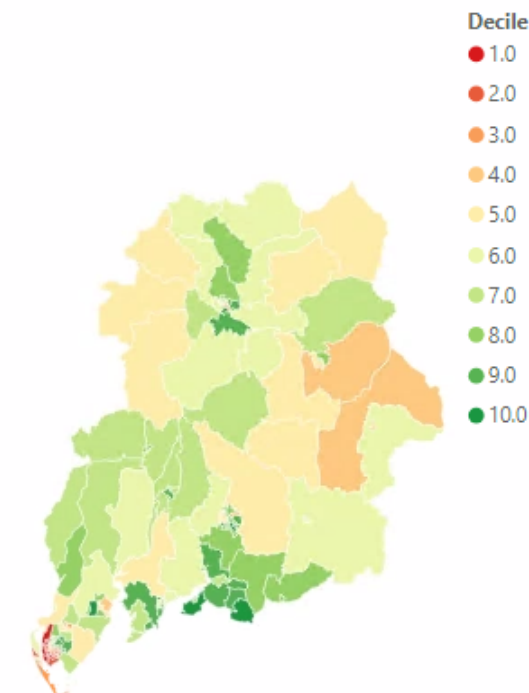
15.8% of children in Westmorland and Furness live in relative low-income families. While this is lower than the national average (19.9%), there are some wards where levels of child poverty are much higher than the national average; the proportion of children in relative low-income families in Barrow-in-Furness's Central ward is almost twice the national average (36.1%).

In Westmorland and Furness there were 2,520 claimants of Job Seekers Allowance or Universal Credit (out of work and seeking work); this equates to a claimant rate (actively seeking work) of 1.9% which is below the national rate (England and Wales = 3.8%). All of Westmorland and Furness's former districts had claimant rates that were lower than the national average. However, there were some wards where claimant rates were much higher than the national average; with the claimant rate in Barrow Island ward around twice the national average (7.1%).

Average weekly earnings (full time) at workplaces in Westmorland and Furness are estimated to be slightly lower than the national average (£662 vs. £682 nationally), while average weekly earnings for residents in Westmorland and Furness are estimated to be slightly higher than the national average (£693 vs. £682 nationally). It is important to note that historically there has always been a large amount of variation in earnings across Westmorland and Furness's former districts, but data is no longer available at district level.

There are 115,000 jobs at workplaces in Westmorland and Furness. The manufacturing sector accounts for the greatest proportions of jobs (15.7%), while the wholesale and retail sector and the accommodation and food service sector account for a further 14.8% of jobs each. When compared to the national average, Westmorland and Furness has a much higher proportion of jobs in both the accommodation and food services sector and the manufacturing sector. There is a particularly high rate of manufacturing jobs in the former district of Barrow-in-Furness; the 2nd highest proportion of all LTLAs nationally.

LSOAs by Overall Deprivation Decile (1 is % Most Deprived)



Westmorland
& Furness
Council

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Westmorland & Furness Council

Published

28 February 2024