



South Tyneside

State of Ageing Report

2025



What is a State of Ageing Report

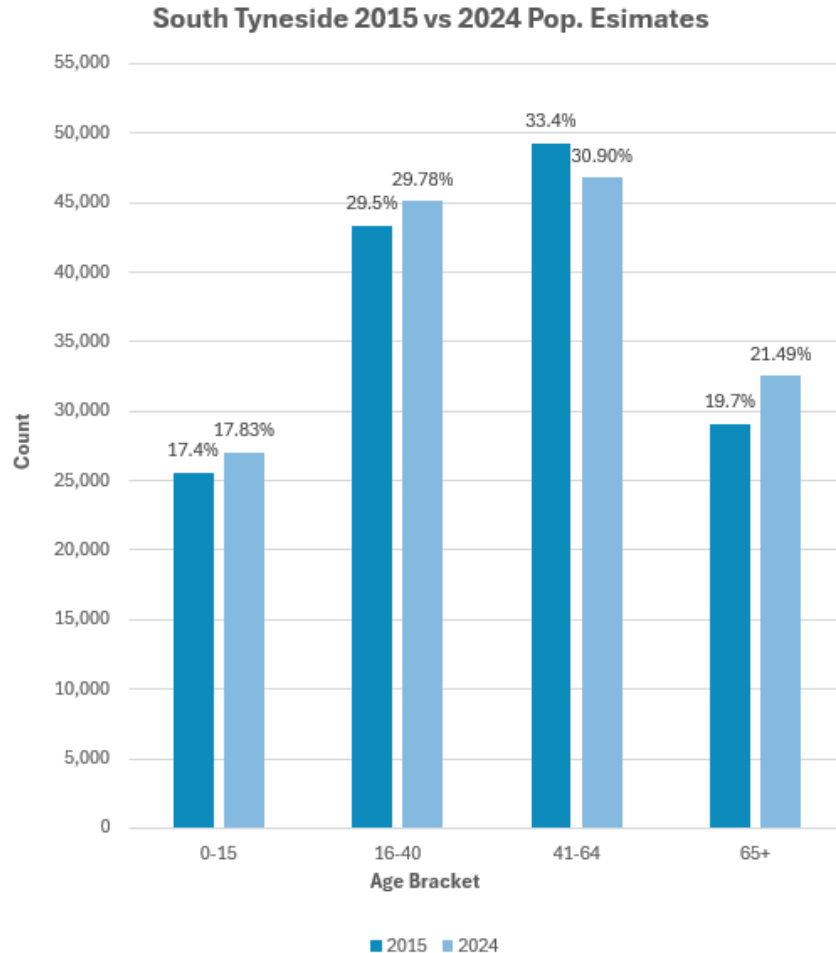
- The Centre for Ageing Better produces an annual State of Ageing report.
 - I. [*Our Ageing Population / The State of Ageing 2023-24 / Centre for Ageing Better*](#)
 - II. [*The-State-of-Ageing-2025-interactive-summary.pdf*](#)
- This national report looks at topics such as, diversity, poverty, homes, work and attitudes to ageing.
- Local Authorities are encouraged to produce a local version.
- This is South Tyneside's first State of Ageing report.



What does the population look like in South Tyneside?



South Tyneside's Population is Ageing

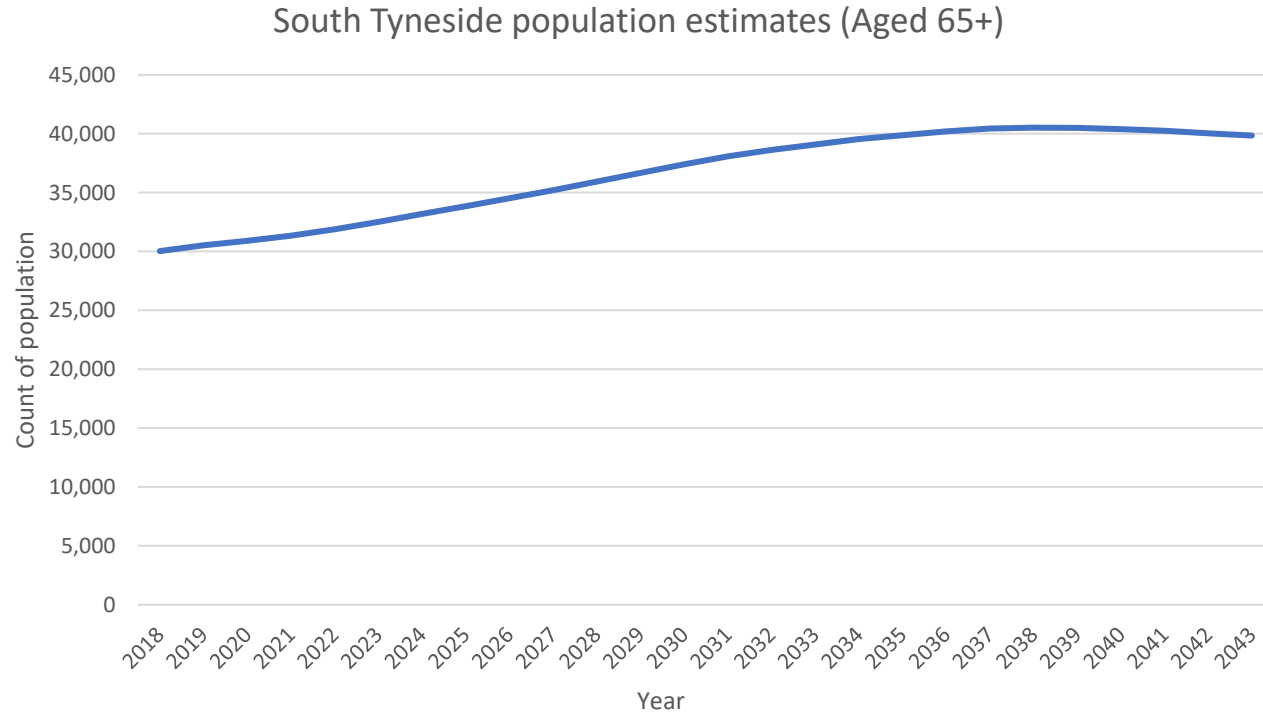


- 2024 Population Estimates show us the estimated count of people aged 65+ in South Tyneside was 32,539 (21.49% of the South Tyneside population).
- This is an increase from the 2015 population estimates which was 29,073 (19.7% of the South Tyneside population)
- That is a 11.9% increase in those aged 65 and over between 2015 & 2024.

Source: [Population estimates - local authority based by five year age band - Nomis - Official Census and Labour Market Statistics](#)



South Tyneside's Population is Ageing



- Population projections from NOMIS show us that the South Tyneside population of those aged 65+ could reach as high as 39,850 as of 2043.
- Comparing this to the 2024 population estimate of the same age group in South Tyneside (32,539). We could see a potential growth of 22.4% in people aged 65 and older.

Source: [Population projections - local authority based by single year of age - Nomis - Official Census and Labour Market Statistics](#)



Ethnicity

- In South Tyneside, the number of people aged 65 and over from Black, Asian and other Minority Ethnic backgrounds has increased from 307 as of the 2011 census to 533 in the 2021 census.
- This is a 73.6% increase.

	2021	2011	Change from 2011 to 2021
Asian, Asian British or Asian Welsh	260	137	123
Black, Black British, Black Welsh, Caribbean or African	29	18	11
Mixed or Multiple ethnic groups	134	102	32
Other ethnic group	110	50	60

South Tyneside ethnicity breakdown (2021 census against 2011 census)

Source: [2021 Census - Census of Population - Data Sources - home - Nomis - Official Census and Labour Market Statistics](#)



Disabilities and sexual orientation

Disabilities

- As of the 2021 census there were 11,998 people aged 65 and over in South Tyneside, who were disabled under the equality act.
- Due to a change in definition of this indicator between the 2011 and 2021 census we cannot compare this data will be able to compare going forward.

Sexual Orientation

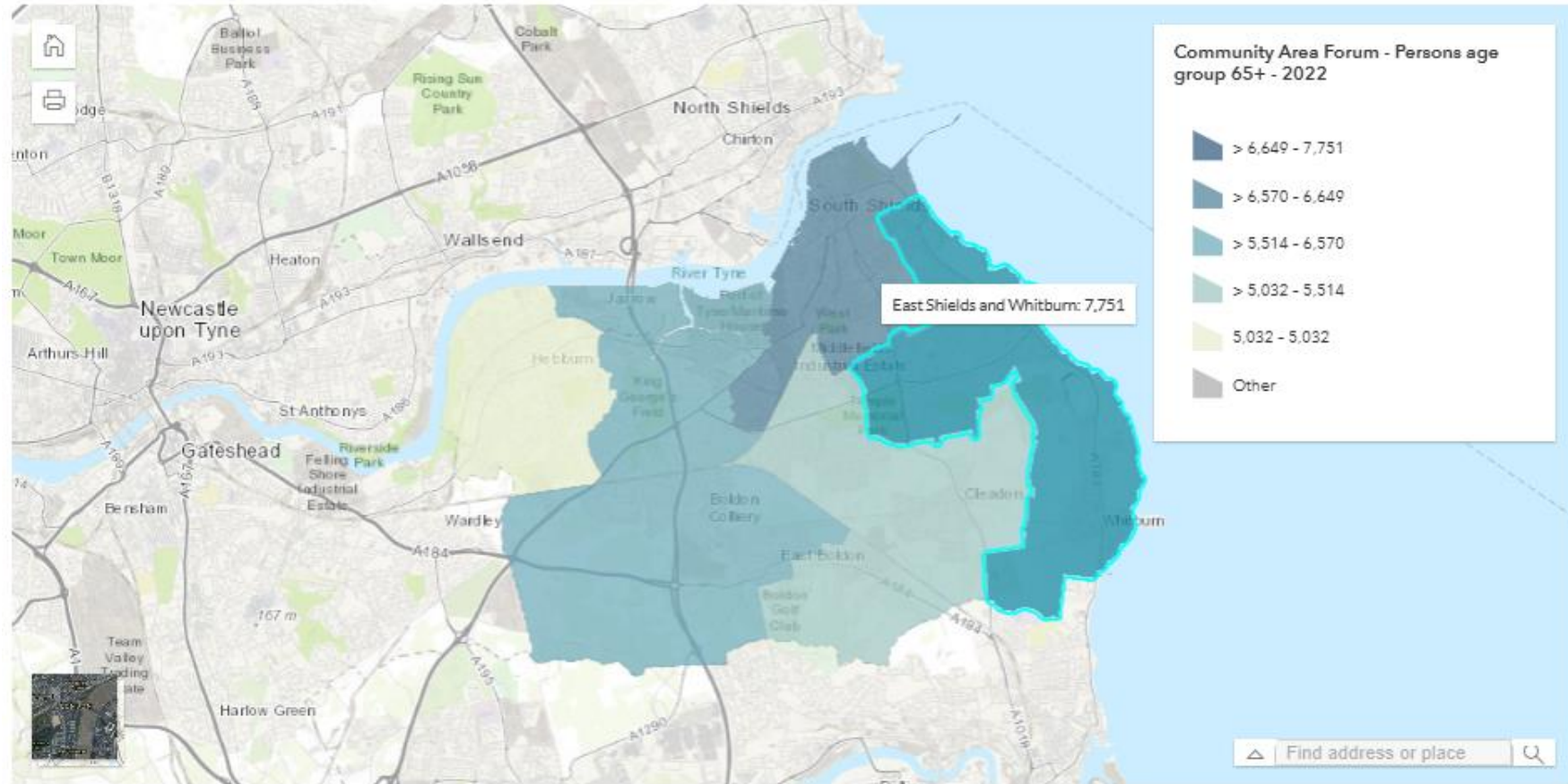
- In South Tyneside, in 2021, 1082 people aged 40-64 considered themselves lesbian, gay, bisexual or other LGB+ (this is first time this data has been collected, so there is no previous comparison.)
- The numbers of over 65s will rise as these people age.
- There are some key considerations such as health and care needs

Source: [2021 Census - Census of Population - Data Sources - home - Nomis - Official Census and Labour Market Statistics](#)



Coastal Regions

- Coastal and rural areas tend to have larger numbers and concentrations of older people, on average, and are the fastest ageing parts of the country
- When looking at South Tyneside community area forums (CAFs) we see the highest proportion of people aged 65+ is in East Shields and Whitburn (7,751 people)



Source: [Persons age group 65+ | South Tyneside Data Observatory – Data Explorer](#)



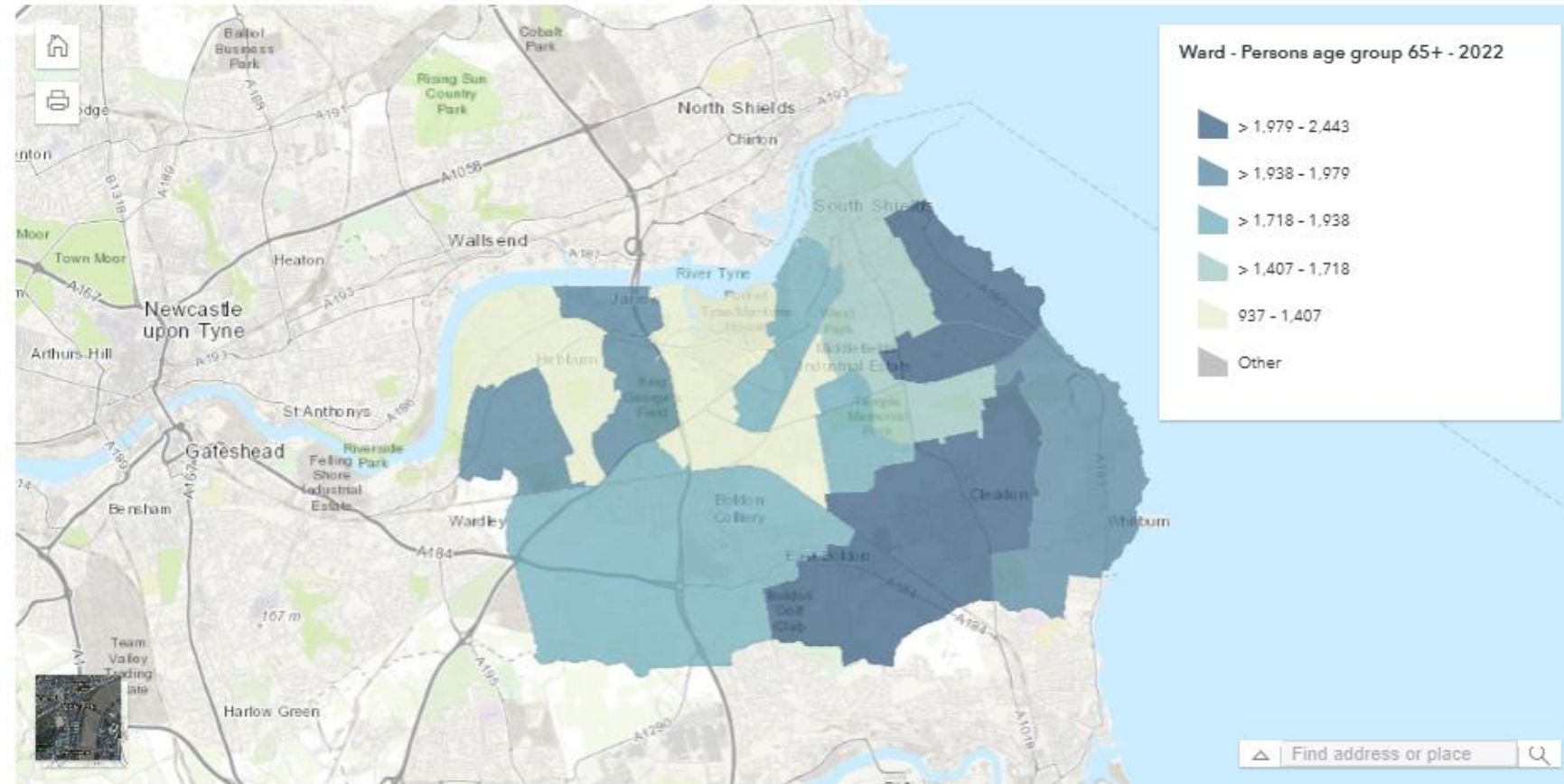
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Coastal Regions

- Further breaking down this map we can see the three wards with the highest count of people aged 65+ are:
 - Cleadon & East Boldon (2,443 people)
 - Horsley Hill (2,408 people)
 - Harton (2,010 people)



Source: [Persons age group 65+ | South Tyneside Data Observatory – Data Explorer](#)



Life Expectancy & Ageing in South Tyneside



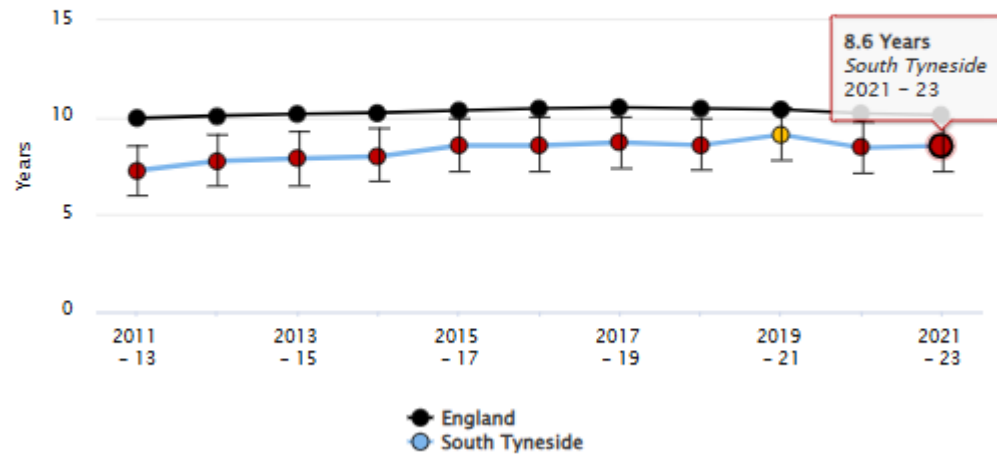
Life Expectancy & Healthy Life Expectancy are shorter when compared to the rest of England

Source: [Public Health Outcomes Framework - OHID \(phe.org.uk\)](https://phe.org.uk)

- In South Tyneside, the average healthy life expectancy at 65 in 2021-23 was 8.6 years for men and 9.4 years for women.
- For men this was 1.5 years below the England average and for women 1.8 years.

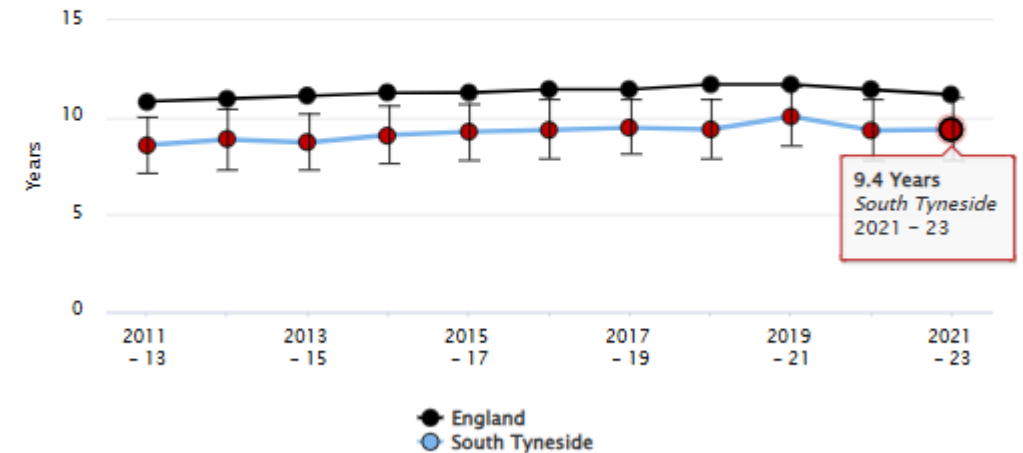
Healthy life expectancy at 65 (Male)

[Hide confidence intervals](#) [Show 99.8% CI values](#)



Healthy life expectancy at 65 (Female)

[Hide confidence intervals](#) [Show 99.8% CI values](#)



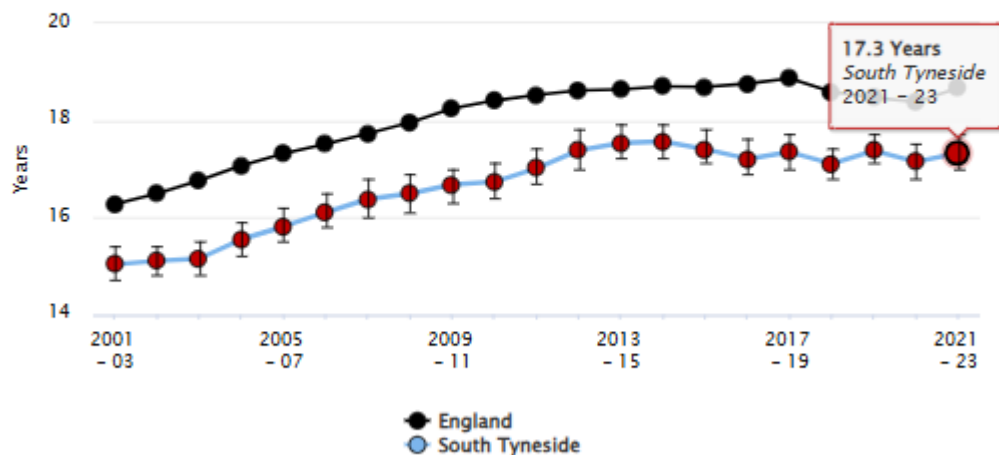
- In South Tyneside, the average life expectancy at 65 in 2021-23 was 17.3 years for men and 20.0 years for women.
- For men this was 1.4 years below the England average and for women 1.1 years.

Source: [Public Health Outcomes Framework - OHID \(phe.org.uk\)](https://phe.org.uk)

[Life expectancy at 65 \(Male, 3 year range\)](#)

[Hide confidence intervals](#)

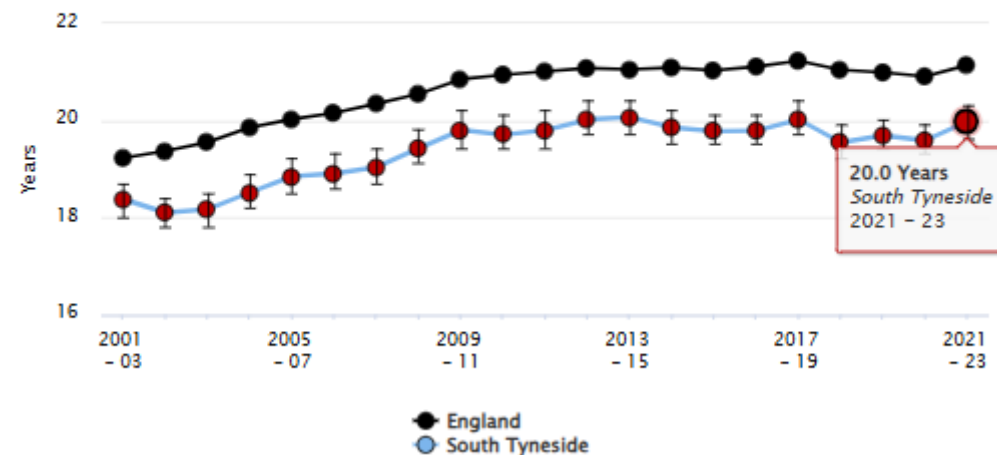
[Show 99.8% CI values](#)



[Life expectancy at 65 \(Female, 3 year range\)](#)

[Hide confidence intervals](#)

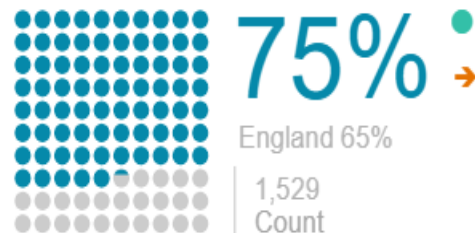
[Show 99.8% CI values](#)



What does ageing look like in South Tyneside compared to England.

- There is a higher rate of estimated dementia diagnosis for people aged 65 and over as of 2024.
- South Tyneside has more hip fractures and emergency hospital admissions due to falls, in people aged 65 or over as of 2022/23
- The percentage of people aged 65 and over offered reablement services following discharge from hospital, continues to be significantly higher than England according to data from 2021/22.

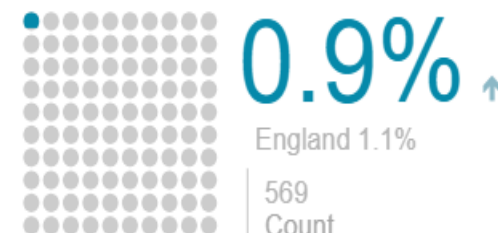
Estimated dementia diagnosis rate (aged 65 and older)
| 2024



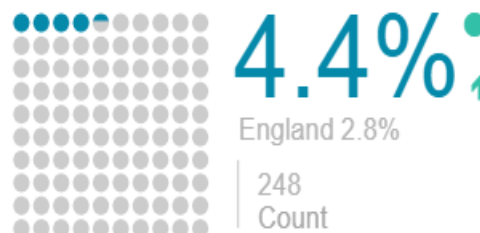
Social Isolation: percentage of adult social care users who have as much social conta...
| 2022/23



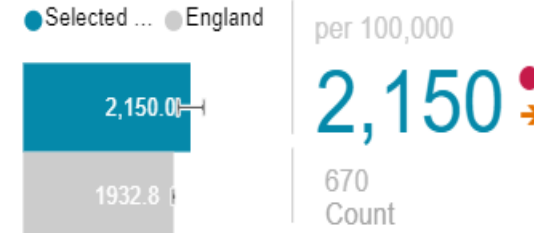
Osteoporosis: QOF prevalence (50+ yrs)
| 2023/24



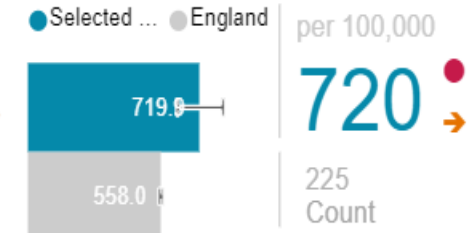
Percentage of people aged 65 and over offered reablement services following discharge fr...
| 2021/22



Emergency hospital admissions due to falls in people aged 65 and over
| 2022/23



Hip fractures in people aged 65 and over
| 2022/23



Sources: [Office for Health Improvement and Disparities 'A picture of health: Health intelligence pack for health improvement'](#)



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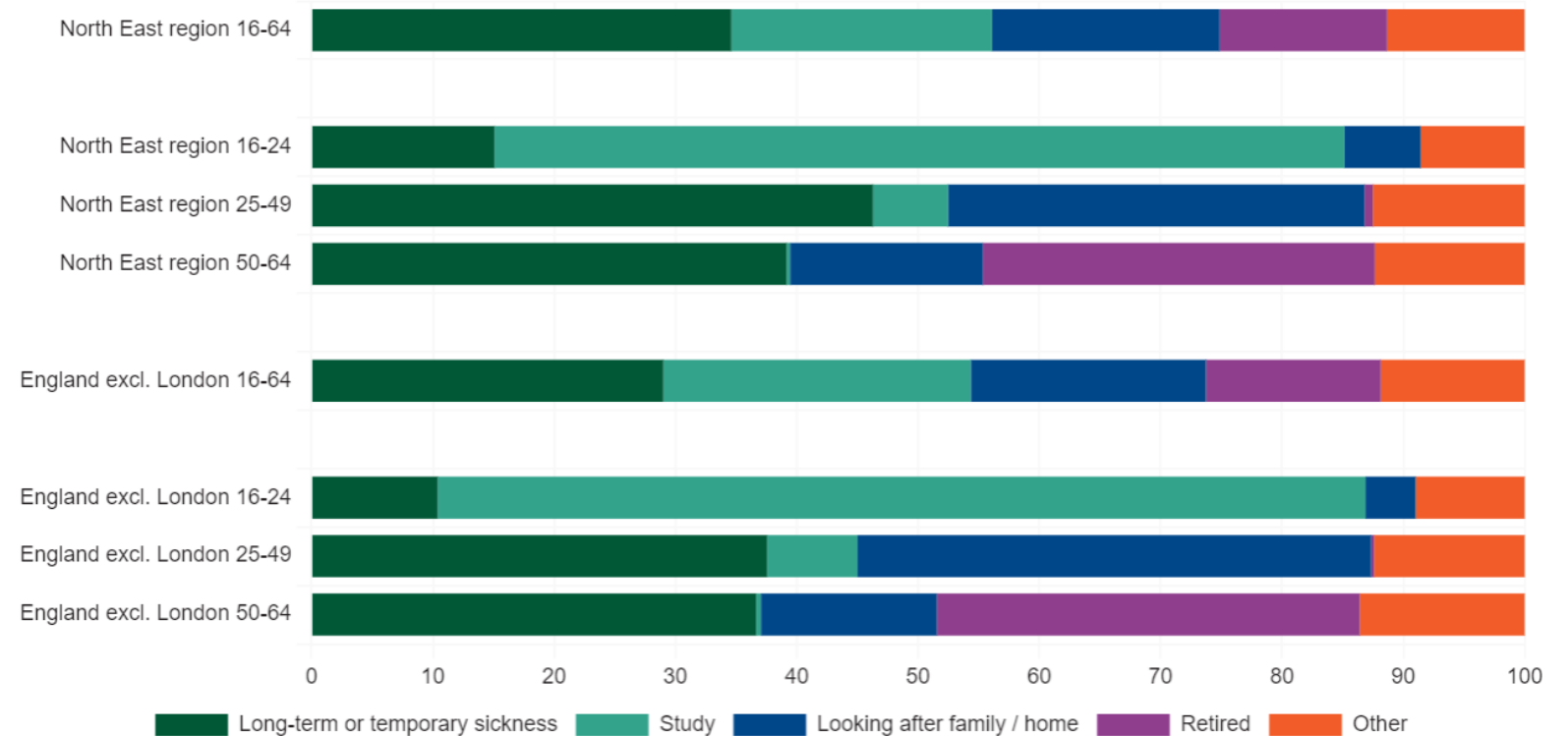
Employment for those aged 65+



Economic inactivity by region / age

Economic inactivity by reason (% of total), by age group, North East region , England excl. London

- Economic inactivity due to ill health is higher in those aged 25 – 29 (46.29%) and tapers off slightly for the age bracket of 50 – 64 (39.17%)



18/10/2023 Office for National Statistics

Source: [North East Evidence Hub](#)



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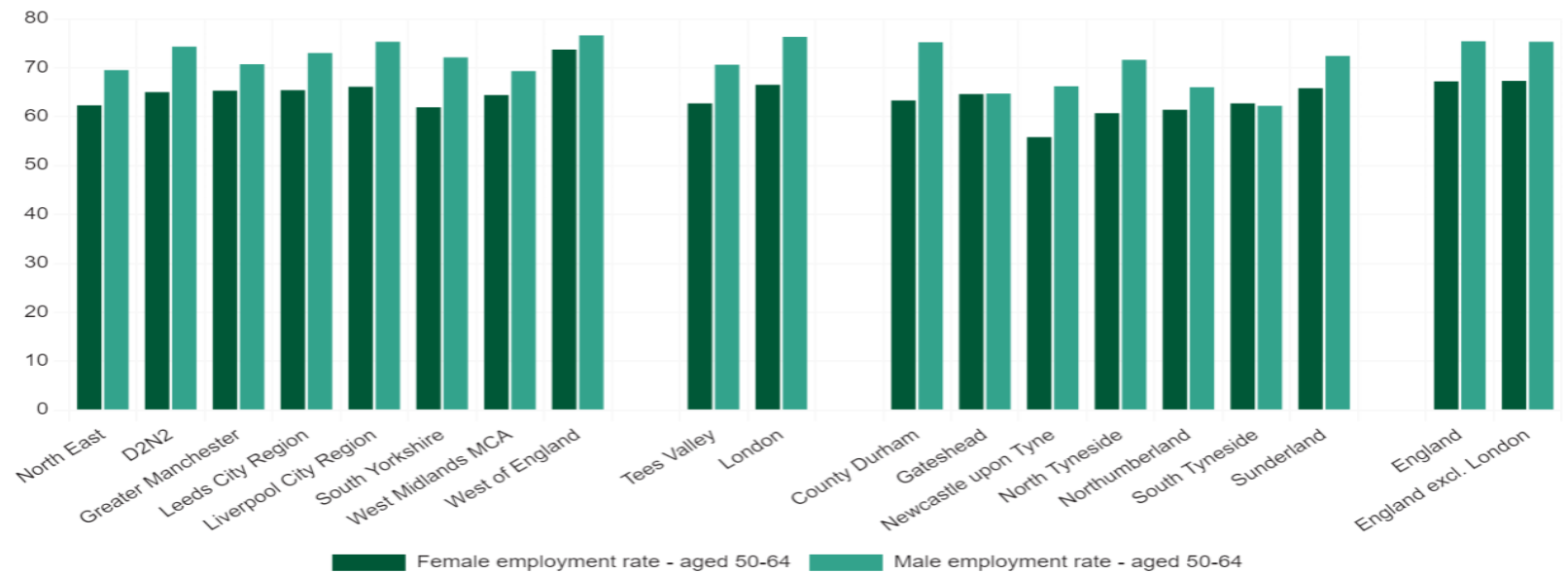
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Age and Employment

Employment rates by age group

- South Tyneside has the lowest employment rate for those aged 65+ in the North East region, at just 3.3%, against a North East average of 8.1% and a national rate of 11.1%
- For those aged 50 – 64, South Tyneside (62.5%) is second lowest after Newcastle (61.3%), and lower than regional/ national averages (65.8%/ 71.3%).
- South Tyneside also has the lowest overall employment rate in the North East region, therefore the age-related differences are relative to the wider picture.

Employment rate, males and females aged 50 to 64, geographical comparisons



13/10/2023 Office for National Statistics

Source: [North East Evidence Hub](#)



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Key Issues for Older Workers in South Tyneside

Employment rates for 50-64-year-olds in the region lag behind other areas in both the Region and the UK.

Long-term health conditions and caring responsibilities force many out of work prematurely.

Barriers to Re-entry:

- Older workers face age discrimination, inflexible work practices, and inadequate employment support.
- Health inequalities and economic deprivation in South Tyneside exacerbate these issues.
- Some workers from this age bracket have chosen not to re-enter the workplace for health related or caring responsibilities.

Economic and Social Impacts:

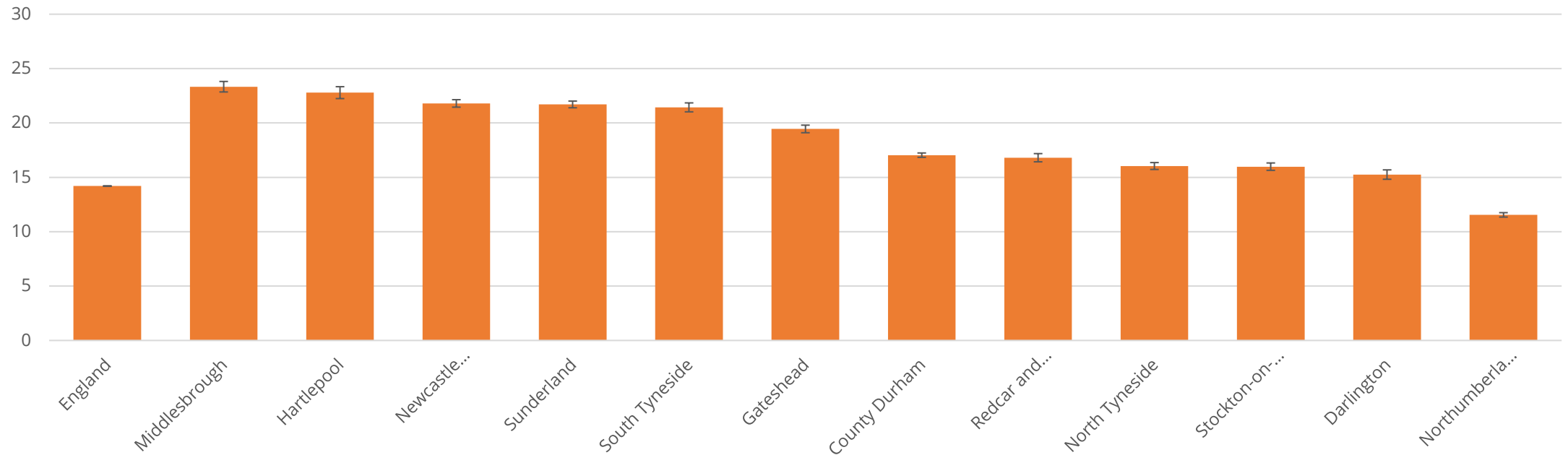
- Exclusion from the labour market increases poverty and financial insecurity.
- Lost workforce potential undermines regional productivity and economic growth.

Source [South-Tyneside-Employment-Skills-Report.pdf](#) and [Managing older workers: a report for Acas | Acas](#)



Older People & Deprivation

Percentage of Older People in Poverty (IDAOPi; 2019)



According to the 2019 Income Deprivation Affecting Older People Index (IDAOPi), just **over 1 in 5 (21.4%) South Tyneside's residents aged 60+ were experiencing income deprivation** (8,209 people). This compares to 14.2% of people aged 60+ across England.¹



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Older People & Deprivation

According to the 2021 census, 21,113 South Tyneside residents aged 65+ were living in households deprived in at least one dimension (70.4% of residents 65+).

- 64.3% (13,585 people) were living households deprived in one dimension
- 31.5% (6,648 people) were living in households deprived in two dimensions
- 4.2% (883 people) were living in households deprived in three dimensions
- 0.08% (17 people) were living in households deprived in four dimensions

Compared to all South Tyneside residents, those aged 65+ are more likely to live in households:

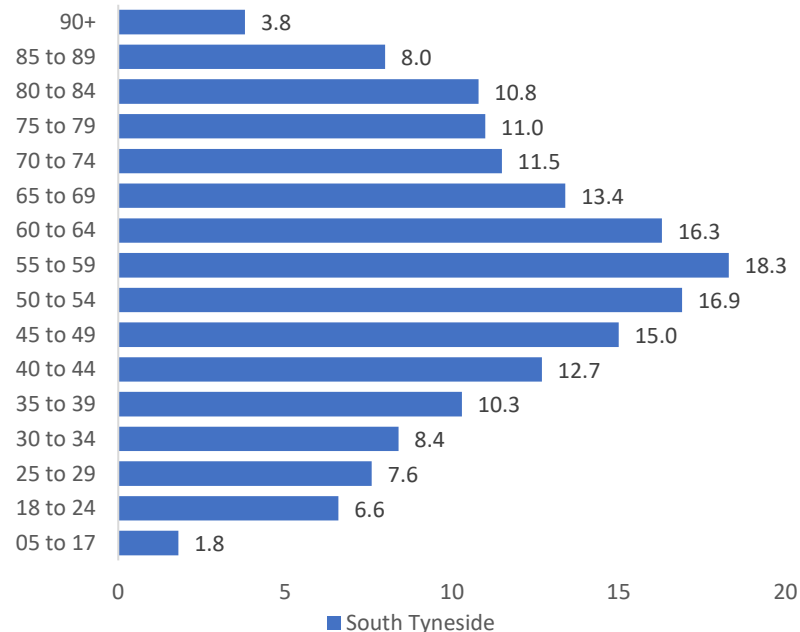
- Deprived in at least one dimension (54.9% vs 70.4%)
- Deprived in the education dimension (17.6% vs 37.7%)
- Deprived in the health and disability dimension (38.4% vs 51.8%)
- However, those aged 65+ were less likely to be deprived in the housing dimension (1.5% vs 6.7%) and employment dimension (7.7% vs 16.6%).

*Excludes those who are not defined as living in a household (those living in communal establishments)



Unpaid Carers in South Tyneside by Age

Percentage of Unpaid Carers by Age Group
(% of age group; Census 2021)



- In South Tyneside, the 55-59 age group has the highest proportion of people providing unpaid care, closely followed by people aged 50-54 and 60-64.

Source: [2021 Census - Unpaid care by age, sex and deprivation, England and Wales - Office for National Statistics](#)



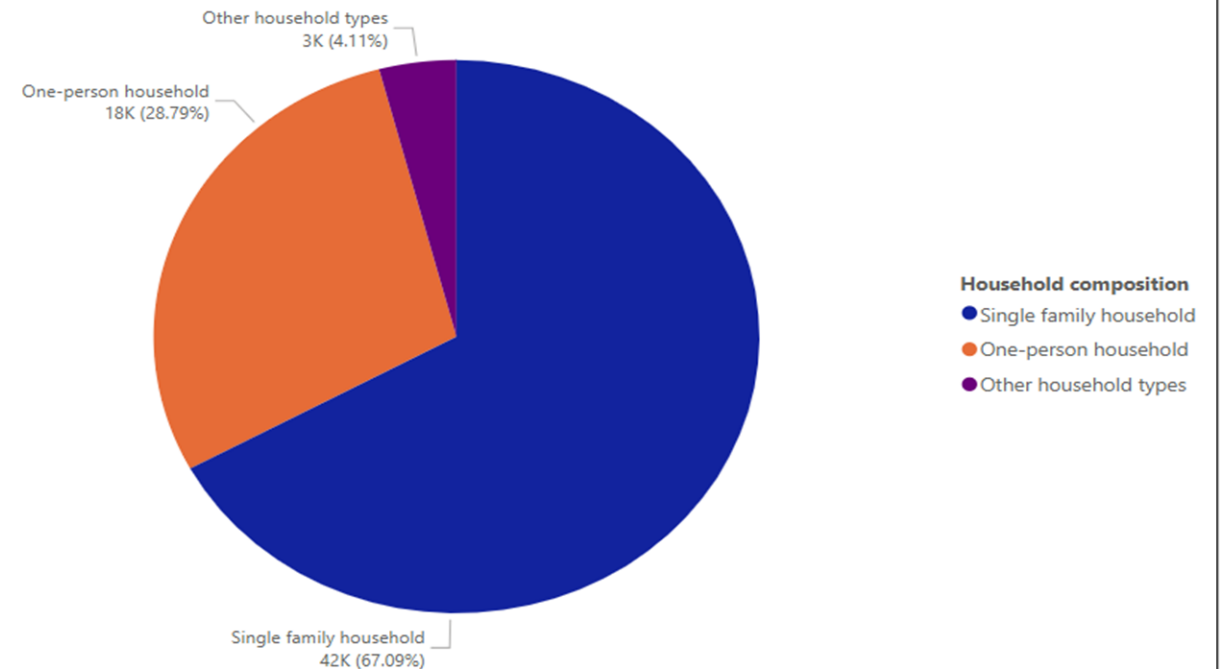
Family structures & homes



Family Structures

- In South Tyneside 28.8% of people aged 50 and over live in a one-person household.
- This is higher than England as whole, where 23.6% of people aged 50 and over, live in a one-person household.
- In South Tyneside there has been a 47.9% increase in those aged 50 and over who are divorced between the 2011 and 2021 census.

Count of people aged 50+ by household composition

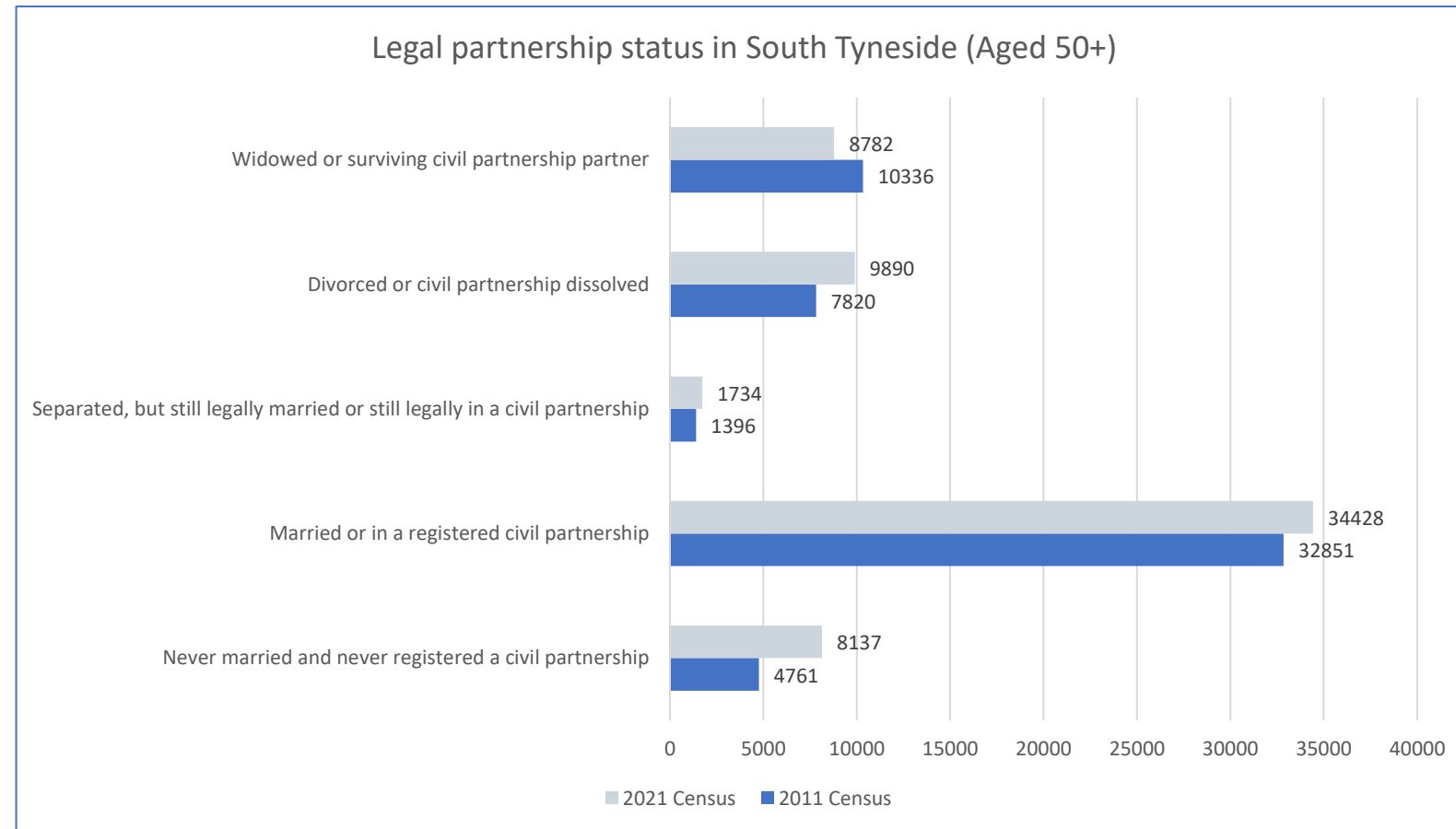


Source: [2021 Census - Household composition by age - Nomis - Official Census and Labour Market Statistics](#)



Changes to Family Structures

- Changes to family structures will have implications for future care and support needs of the population.
- In South Tyneside, since 2011, there has been an increase in the number of people aged 50 and over, who are divorced or never married.
- The 2011 census shows that 4761 people were never married compared to 8137 in the 2021 census.



Source: [2021 Census - Legal partnership status by sex by age - Nomis - Official Census and Labour Market Statistics](#)



Non-Decent Homes – South Tyneside

- In South Tyneside in 2023/24, 12.9% of the councils social housing was classed as non-decent
- This was a combination of tenants refusing to have work carried out (often older residents), due for demolition and or going through a right to buy sale process. These homes were made decent by the end of March 2024.
- The age profile for these properties is still to be analysed
- In 2021 6.8% owner occupied, 7.3% private rented and 3.4% social rented were said to have category 1 hazards. This stock condition report is being updated

Source: [Local Authority Housing Statistics data returns for 2023 to 2024 - GOV.UK](#)



Category One Hazards

South Tyneside, All Tenure 2021

- The housing health and safety rating system (HHSRS) is a risk-based evaluation tool to help local authorities identify and protect against potential risks and hazards to health and safety.
- A category 1 hazard is a hazard that is a serious and immediate risk to a person's health and safety.

Variable		Private sector stock				Social stock	
		Owner occupied		Private rented			
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
No. of dwellings		36,947	-	12,502	-	22,815	-
HHSRS category 1 hazards	All hazards	2,509	7%	912	7%	782	3%
	Excess cold	337	1%	124	1%	97	<1%
	Fall hazards	2,107	6%	708	6%	574	3%
Disrepair		2,485	7%	1,437	11%	761	3%
Fuel poverty (10%)		4,123	11%	1,410	11%	4,485	20%
Fuel poverty (Low Income High Costs)		4,301	12%	2,522	20%	3,356	15%
Low income households		8,701	24%	7,031	56%	16,871	74%

Source: BRE integrated Dwelling Level Housing Stock Modelling and database for South Tyneside Council (Internal)



Insight from the age friendly communities baseline survey 2022/23

Source - [Age Friendly Strategy and Action Plan - South Tyneside Council](#)



Examples of positive comments from the age friendly baseline survey (2022/23)

"The events, parades
and activities are
excellent"

"The sea front
beaches and parks
are very well looked
after and a pleasure
to visit."

"Voluntary services are a credit
to South Tyneside- great
network"

"My wife and
myself attend the
gym and are
made to feel
welcome"

"Have had good service from
my GP since I moved here 2
years ago"



Examples of less favourable comments from the age friendly baseline survey (2022/23)

"If you are not internet savvy or don't have access to it, it is difficult to find out information"

"More warden patrols to curb anti social conduct"

"Need to have more accessible toilets. Public buildings need to have more dementia friendly signage and visual cues"

Trying to get help for our elderly loved one's is extremely depressing and stressful.

"Too much dependence on online bookings for GP appointments, many old people are not IT literate and never will be"

"Kerbs + paths terrible for zimmer frames + mobility scooters"

"I have good neighbours, but there isn't a sense of community in my area."



Challenges for South Tyneside

The population in South Tyneside is ageing and becoming more diverse
For some ageing in South Tyneside can be a challenge.

- Life expectancy and healthy life expectancy is below that of England's as a whole
- Just over 1 in 5 of South Tyneside's residents aged 60+ are experiencing income deprivation
- That family structures are changing and 28.8% of people aged 50 and over live in a one-person household.
- South Tyneside has the lowest employment rate for those aged 65+ in the North East region
- Insight tells us that some local people struggle with accessibility, the reliance on digital technology, the fear of anti-social behaviour, houses that no longer meet their needs, difficulty getting where they need to go.
- Yet despite the challenges, there are many aspects that people like, including the events and parades, beaches and open spaces, the voluntary sector support, leisure and healthcare.



Recommendations for South Tyneside

As those living and working in South Tyneside age, there is a need to:

- Acknowledge and celebrate what is done well
- Maximise the opportunities in other key strategies by:
- Utilising the data, insight and evidence to drive improvements where needed
- Acknowledge that some older people are at more risk than others – so target improvements where it is needed.
- Ensure that, the social / wider determinants of health such as housing, transport, employment & volunteering and the sense of community belonging is integral to the way we collectively work towards becoming an age friendly community.
- To continue to learn from the Centre for Ageing Better and the Global Age Friendly agenda.

