



Edinburgh by Numbers

2023

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Edinburgh by Numbers 2023

The City of Edinburgh Council



People

Welcome to the 16th edition of Edinburgh by Numbers. Produced by the City of Edinburgh Council, the publication provides an annual statistical overview of Edinburgh and how we compare against other cities in Scotland and across the UK.



Health and wellness



Work

The data included here covers our population and how it is changing, our economy and our environment, alongside data on how people live, work and visit our city.



Economy

The figures appearing in this publication are the most up-to-date available to the editorial team as of January 2023. We are awaiting the more detailed 2022 census data releases for Edinburgh before we update the 'People' and 'Healthy Life Expectancy' sections. These datasets are expected to be released in Summer 2024.



Tourism and festivals



Education

While every effort has been made to ensure a high degree of accuracy, the City of Edinburgh Council accepts no liability for any errors or misinterpretations. Some values may not sum to their respective totals due to rounding.



Environment



Property



Travel and connectivity



If you would like this document in another language or format such as Braille, large print or a translation, please email the Interpretation and Translation Service at ots@edinburgh.gov.uk quoting the unique reference number 24.977.

For more information, feedback and general queries about the report contact: data.team@edinburgh.gov.uk



People

Population and demographic change in Edinburgh



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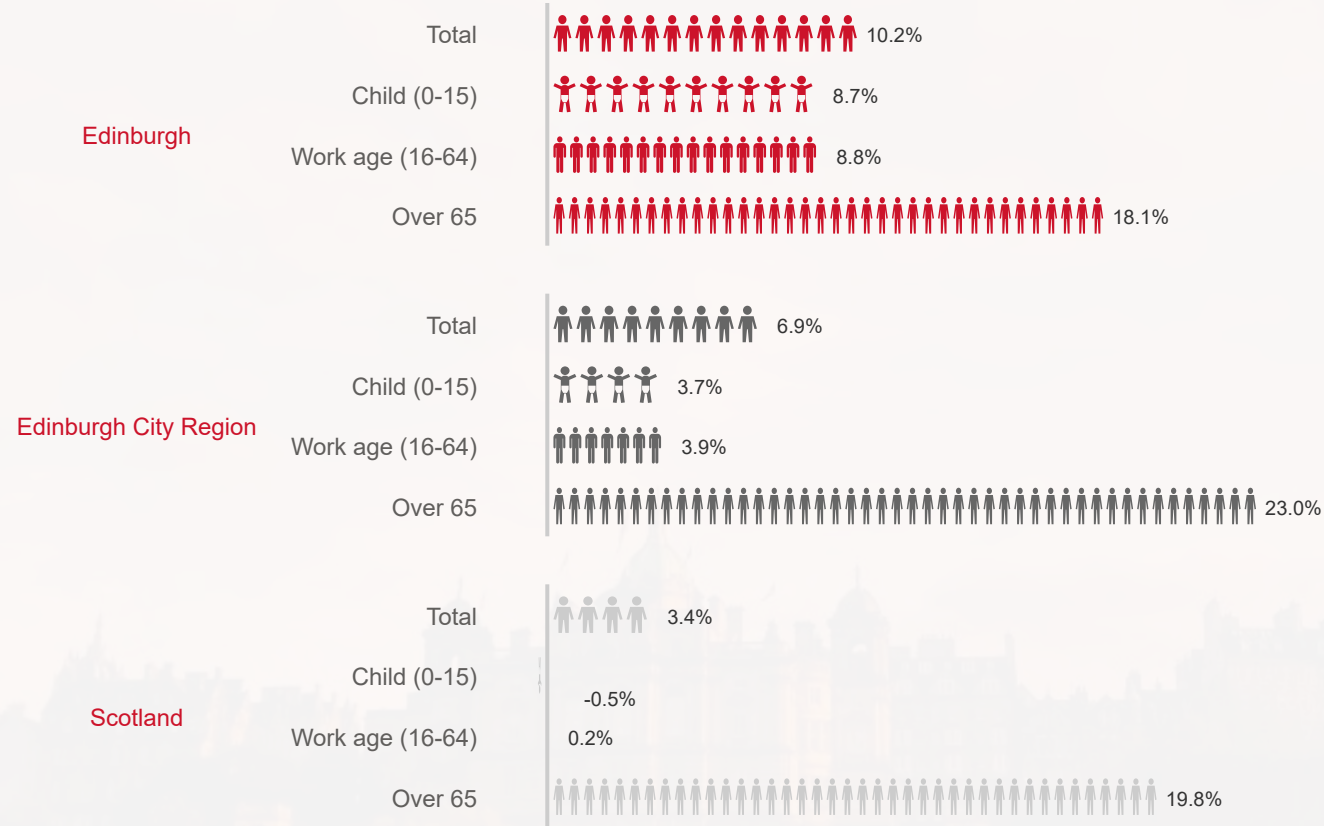


Property

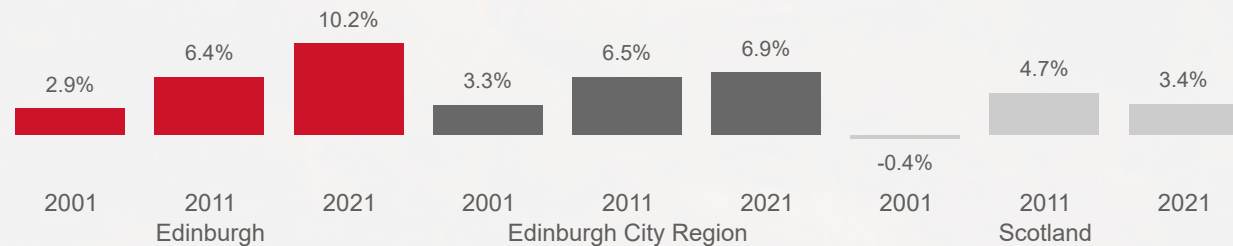


Travel and connectivity

Population change 2011 to 2021: Edinburgh, the Edinburgh city region and Scotland



Population change in Edinburgh, the Edinburgh city region and Scotland by decade



Source: [National Records of Scotland - Mid Year Population Estimates](#)

Key Facts

In the ten years to 2021, Edinburgh's population grew by 10.2% from an estimated 477,940 to an estimated 526,470 people. In the same time period Scotland's population grew by 3.4%. Edinburgh's population shows growth in each age group. In contrast, Scotland's child population fell a little and the working age population remained stable. Both Edinburgh and Scotland saw large increases in the older population.

Demographic change in Edinburgh, the Edinburgh City Region and Scotland from 2011 to 2021

	2011	2021
Edinburgh		
Total	478K	526K
Child (0-15)	72K	79K
Work age (16-64)	337K	366K
Over 65	69K	81K
Edinburgh City Region		
Total	1316K	1407K
Child (0-15)	226K	234K
Work age (16-64)	876K	910K
Over 65	214K	263K
Scotland		
Total	5.30M	5.48M
Child (0-15)	0.92M	0.91M
Work age (16-64)	3.49M	3.49M
Over 65	0.90M	1.07M
Density (km²)		
Edinburgh	1,815	1,999
Edinburgh City Region	169	181
Scotland	68	70

Note: Edinburgh city region is defined as Edinburgh, East Lothian, West Lothian, Midlothian, Fife, and the Scottish Borders.

Population changes: net migration, births and deaths

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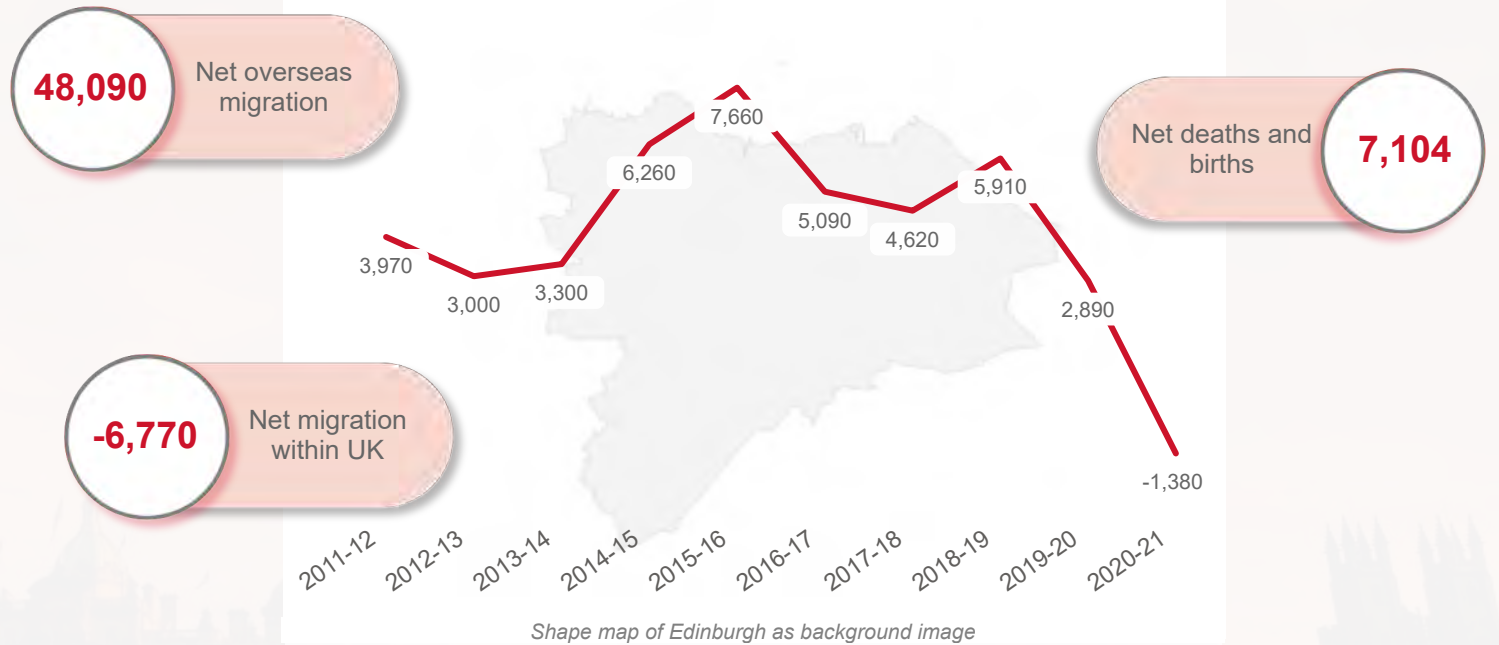
Travel and connectivity

Key Facts

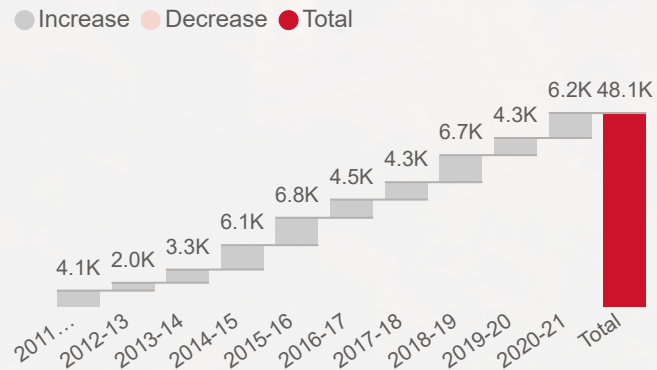
Overseas migration continues to be the main driver of population change in Edinburgh. The net effect of births and deaths on Edinburgh's population from 2011 to 2021 was 7,460. The net effect of migration was over five times higher at 41,320.

Edinburgh's net birth and death rate reduced from a net increase of 1,378 in 2011/12 to a net reduction of 239 in 2019/20. The size of overseas migration to Edinburgh increased in the period 2020/21 (6,190) up from 2019/20 (4,250) while the net migration within UK continued to decrease.

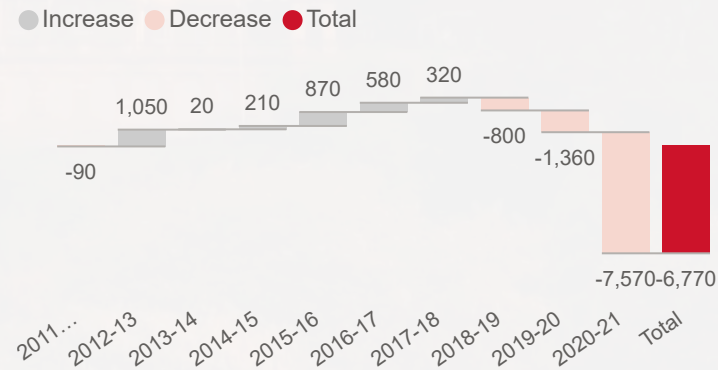
Net population change in Edinburgh by year in the last decade



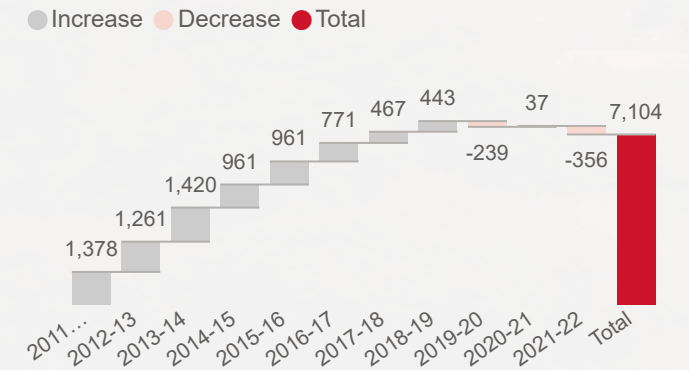
Net overseas migration to Edinburgh in the last decade



Net migration to Edinburgh within UK in the last decade



Net births and deaths in Edinburgh in the last decade



Source: [National Records of Scotland - Migrations](#)

Population in Edinburgh and the top eight largest cities in the UK excluding London

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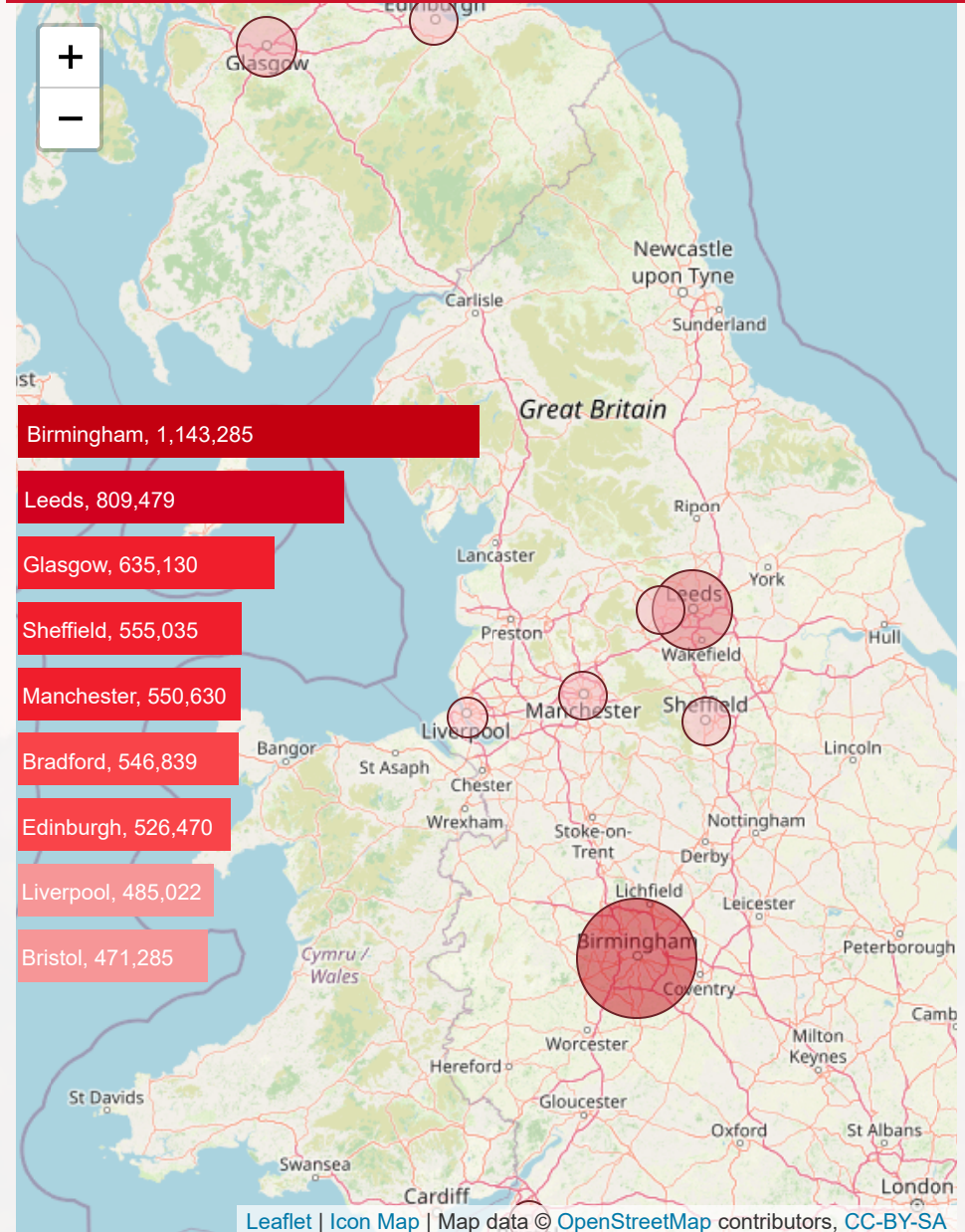
Education

Environment

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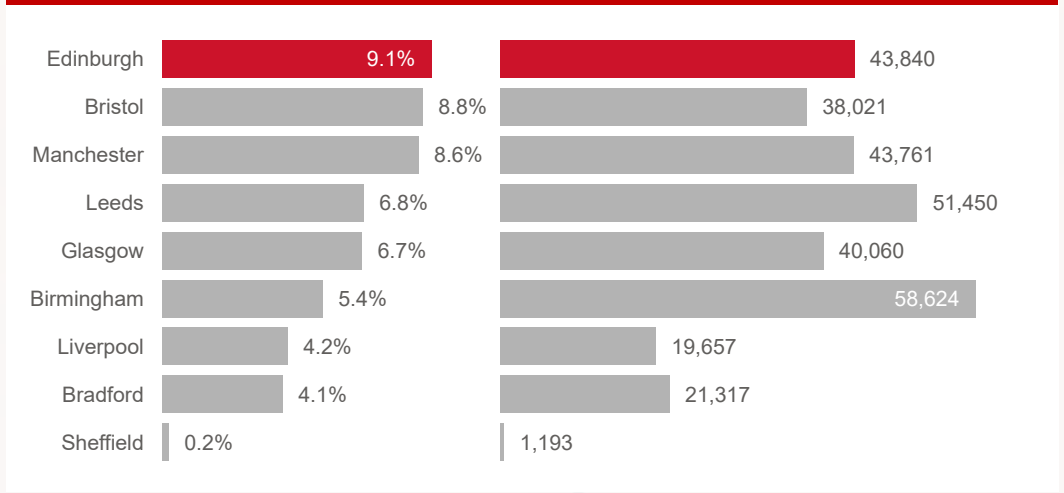
Travel and connectivity

Population in UK cities in 2021



Source: [ONS Population Estimates - NOMIS](#)

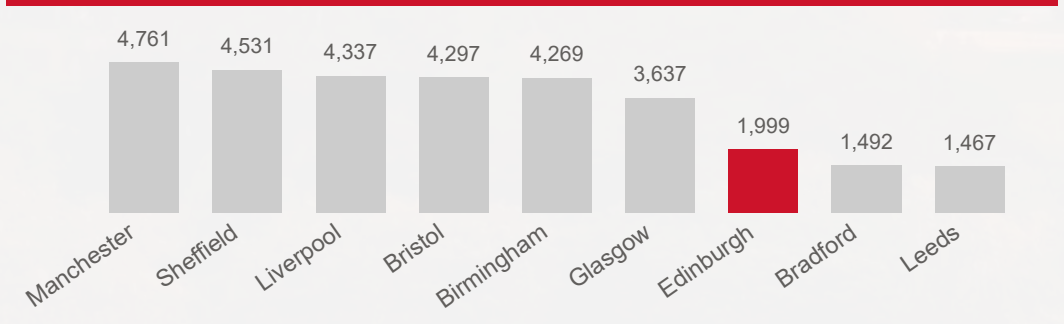
Population change for UK cities, % and number from 2011 to 2021



Key Facts

In 2021 Edinburgh's population density was 1,999 residents per square kilometre. Cities like Bristol, Birmingham, Liverpool, Manchester and Sheffield have over twice the population density level of Edinburgh. Proportionally, Edinburgh's population increase of 10.2% between 2011 to 2021 was the greatest of the comparison cities and third highest in absolute terms behind Leeds and Birmingham.

Population density (residents per square km) in Edinburgh and major UK cities in 2021



Note: For information in this section the administrative geography for Edinburgh and Glasgow defined as Council area, Bristol as Unitary authority area and Manchester Liverpool, Birmingham, Sheffield, Bradford and Leeds are defined as Metropolitan District area.



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Personal wellbeing in Edinburgh and the top eight largest cities in UK excluding London

Personal wellbeing in Edinburgh from 2013 to 2023

Worthwhile



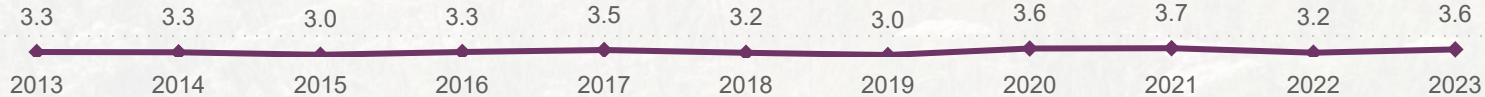
Life satisfaction



Happiness



Anxiety

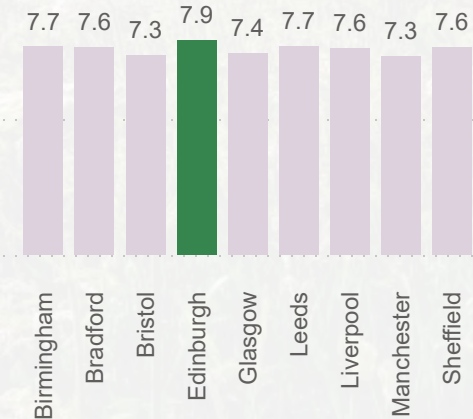


Key Facts

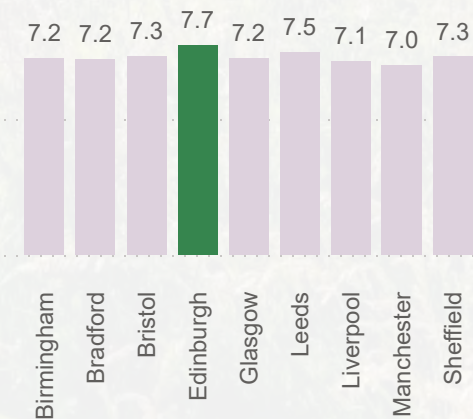
Personal Wellbeing is measured across four indicators : Worthwhile, Life Satisfaction, Happiness and Anxiety. Edinburgh's scores for the first three have improved in the last three years, with 'the feeling that things done are worthwhile' measure at it's highest point of the last 10 years. Edinburgh scores higher than the rest of the comparable cities in UK in Worthwhile and Life satisfaction.

Personal wellbeing in UK cities in 2023

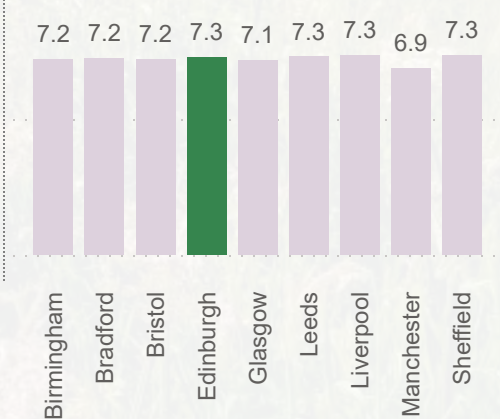
Worthwhile



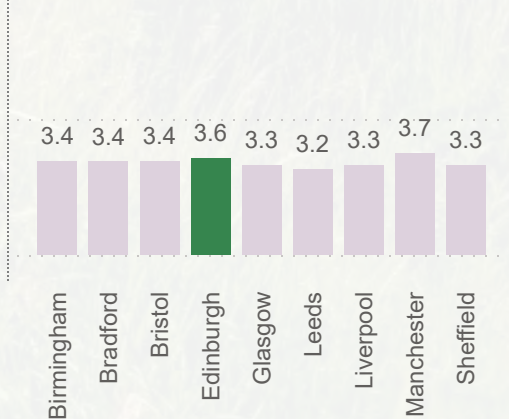
Life satisfaction



Happiness



Anxiety



Source: [ONS Personal Wellbeing Estimates](#)



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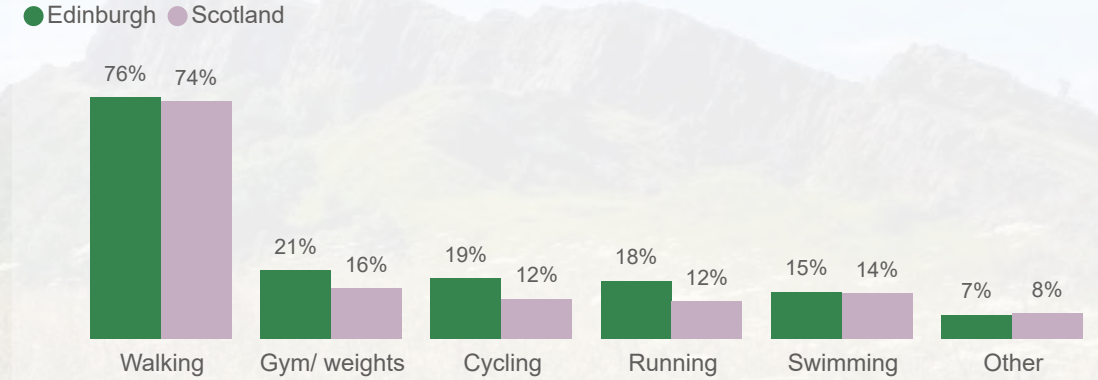
Travel and connectivity

Being well

Key Facts

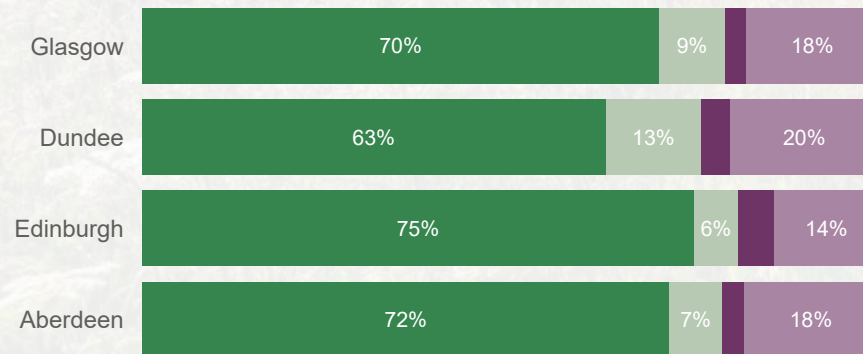
Most people in Edinburgh self-assess their own health as good or very good (80% of the population). During the period 2018-2022 only 14% of people in Edinburgh said that they had very low levels of activity. The percentage of the population in Edinburgh who walk for fitness (76%) is higher than the average for Scotland (74%).

Percentage of population who practices some kind of sport in Edinburgh and Scotland 2022

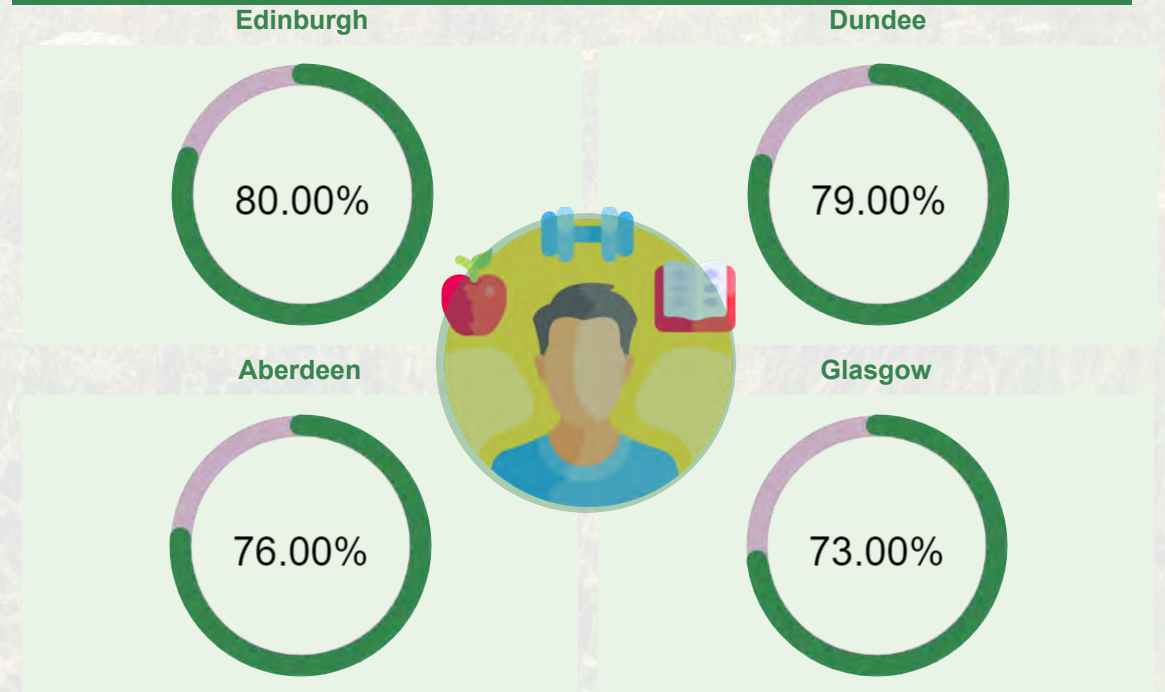


Percentage of population that achieved different levels of activity in main Scottish cities 2018-22

Meets recommendations (dark green), Some activity (light green), Low activity (purple), Very low activity (dark purple)



Percentage of population who self-assess their health as good or very good in Scottish cities 2018-22



86.5% of people in Edinburgh practices some kind of sport or fitness activity, including walking.

Source: [Scottish Health Survey](#) and [Scottish Household Survey](#)



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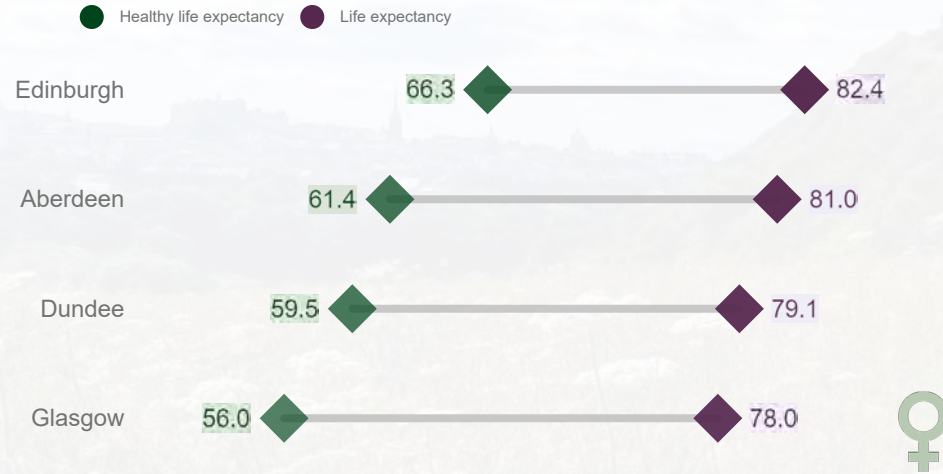
Property



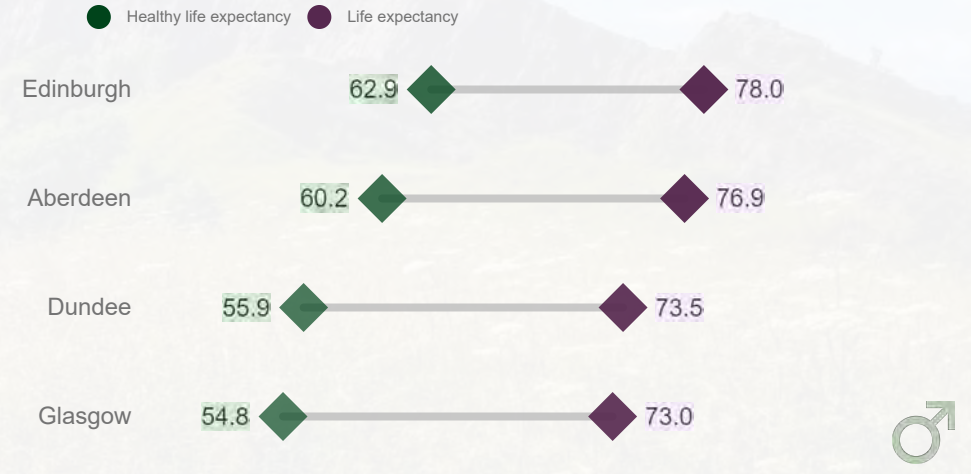
Travel and connectivity

Life expectancy and relative poverty in Edinburgh and other Scottish cities

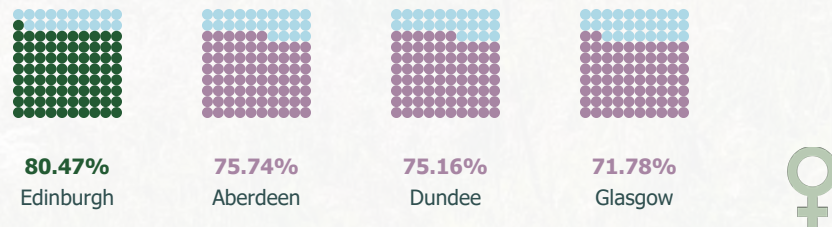
Female life and healthy life expectancy in Scottish Cities 2019-21 (years)



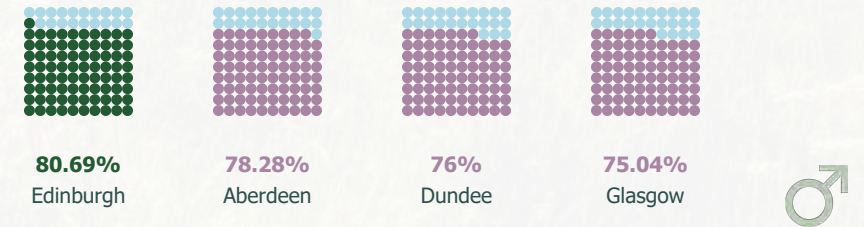
Male life and healthy life expectancy in Scottish Cities 2019-21 (years)



Proportion of life spent in good health (females) in Scottish Cities 2019-21



Proportion of life spent in good health (males) in Scottish Cities 2019-21



Healthy life expectancy refers the estimate of lifetime spent in "very good" or "good" health, based on how individuals perceive their own general health, according to the Office for National Statistics..

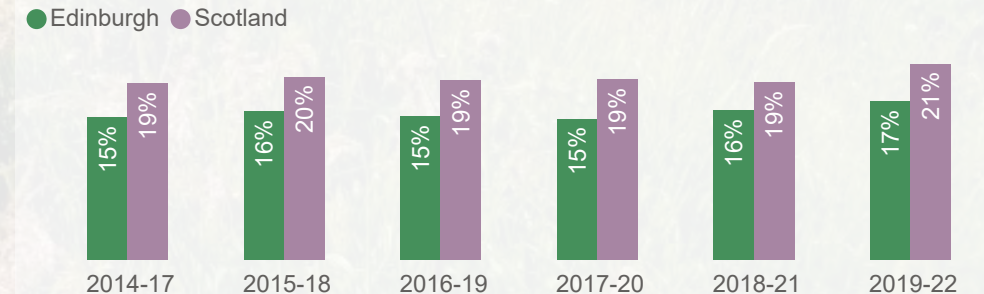
Key Facts

Edinburgh has the highest life expectancy and healthy life expectancy compared with the rest of Scottish cities, with female population expected to live to an average of just over 82 years old and male population to 78 years old. Both male and female population spend an average of around 80% of their lives in good health.

The percentage of people in relative poverty in Edinburgh continues to sit below the Scottish average but has been slowly increasing in the last 5 years.

Source: [National Records of Scotland - Healthy Life Expectancy](#).

Relative poverty in Scotland and Edinburgh 2014-2022



Relative poverty (Individuals living in households whose equivalised income is below 60% of UK median income in the same year) for all ages and after housing costs.



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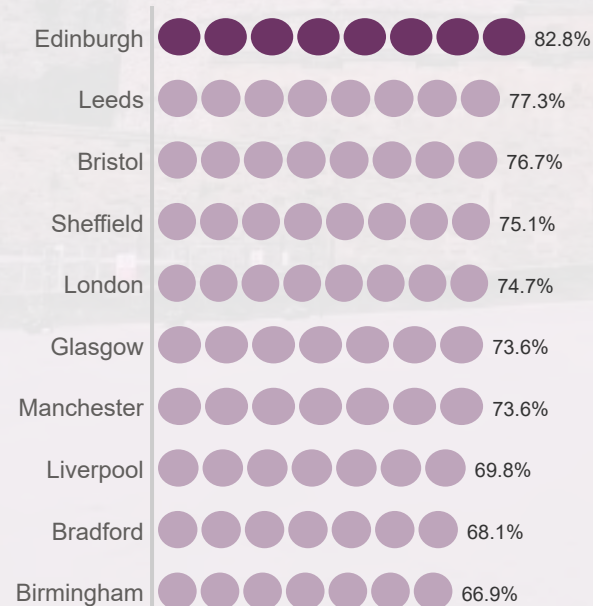
Economic status of Edinburgh residents and employment compared with other UK cities

Key Facts

The proportion of people in Edinburgh who are economically inactive but want a job is lower than the average of major UK cities. Over four fifths (81.2%) of the population between 16 and 64 years are in employment, which is the highest percentage of the eight main cities in UK (excluding London). The main reasons for being economically inactive in Edinburgh includes being a student (45.5%) and being long-term sick (22.8%).

Note: Major UK Cities average is based on the top eight largest populated cities in the UK excluding London, which are: Bradford, Bristol, Birmingham, Glasgow, Leeds, Liverpool, Manchester, and Sheffield. The year refers to the 12 months prior to last June.

Percentage of residents aged 16 to 64 years currently in employment in UK cities in 2023



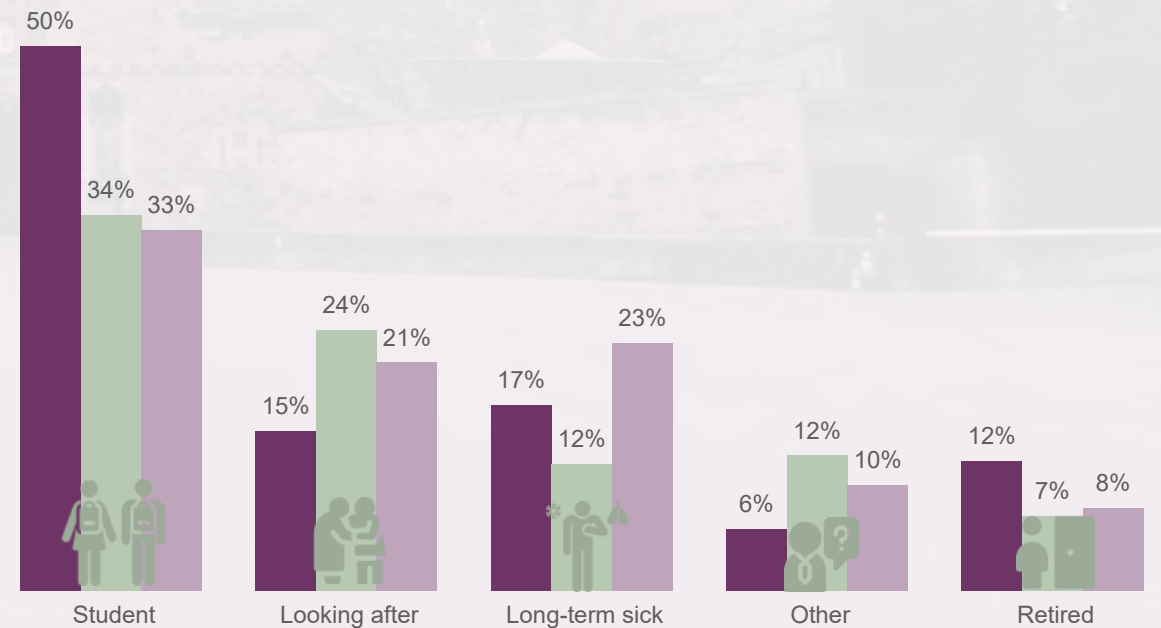
Economic status of residents in Edinburgh and UK cities 2023 (as a % of population aged 16 to 64 years)



● % of economically active ● % of economically inactive who want a job ● % of economically inactive who do not want a job

Main reasons for being economically inactive in Edinburgh and UK cities in 2023

● Edinburgh ● London ● UK 8 cities average



Source: Annual Population Survey



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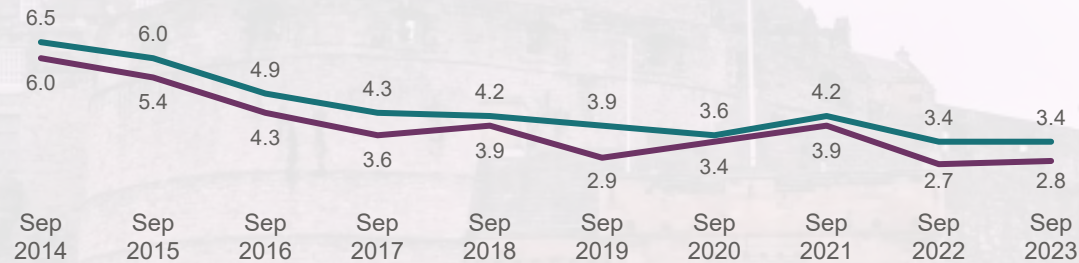
Model based unemployment data

Key Facts

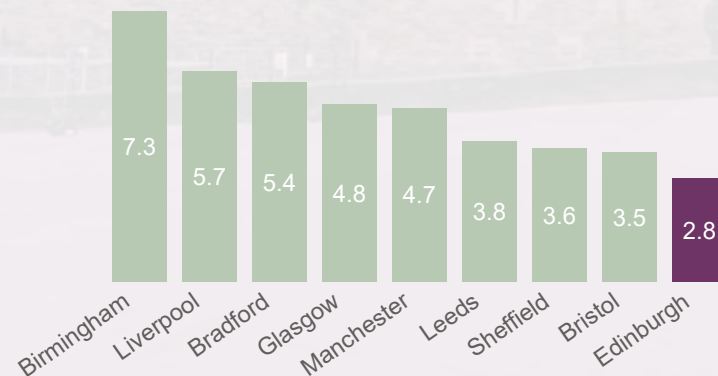
Edinburgh's unemployment rate, at 2.6%, is now under half what it was in 2014 (6.3%). By 2020 it had dropped to a low of 2.8%, followed by an increase in 2021 to 4.4% after which it fell back to 2.9% in 2022 and 2.6% in 2023. The median hourly pay has risen to £17.70 which is the highest of the major UK cities excluding London.

Model based estimate of unemployment rate in Edinburgh 2014 to 2023

● City of Edinburgh ● Scotland



Model based estimate of unemployment in major UK cities in 2023



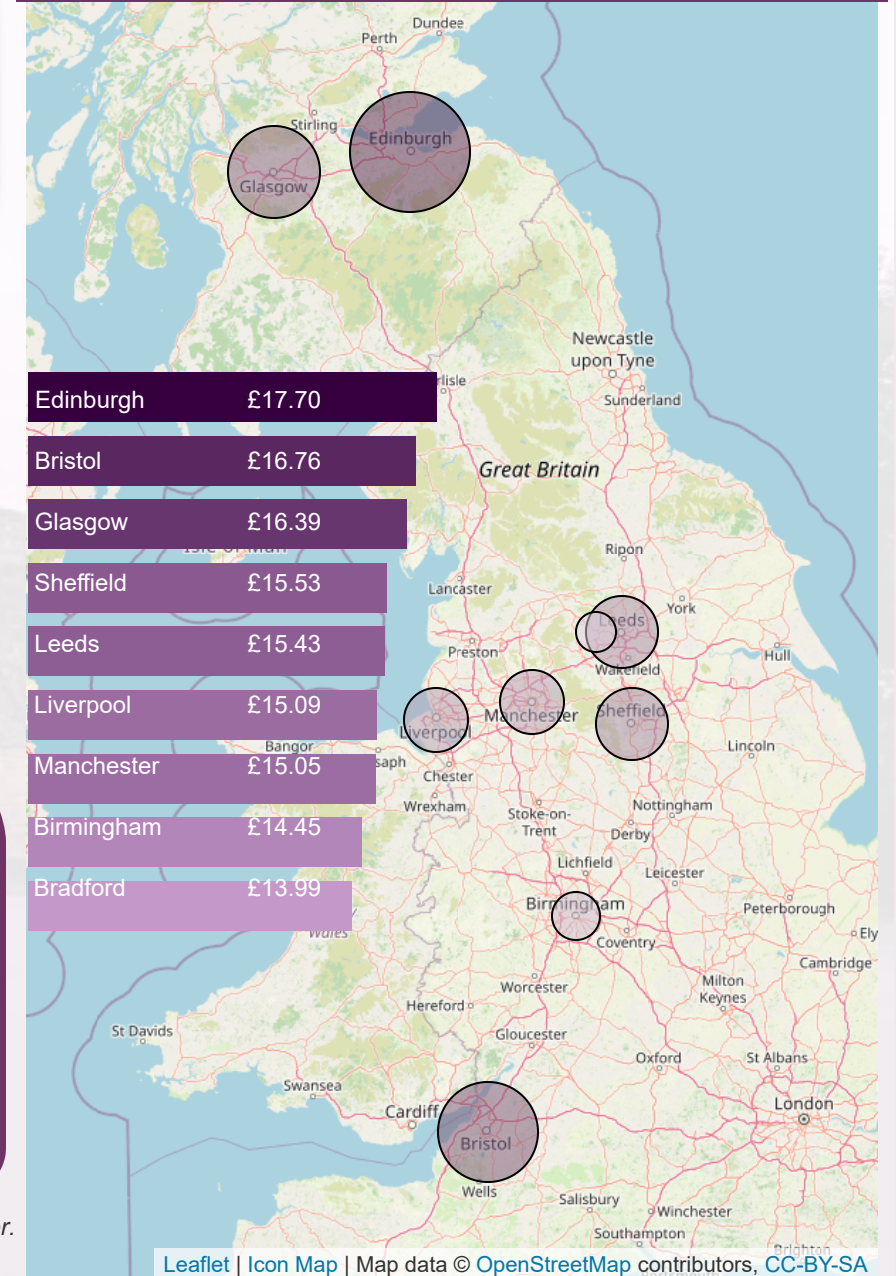
Did you know...?

The median hourly pay has increased 8.3% in Edinburgh from 2022, which is just under the Scottish increase of 10.7%. The Real Living Wage in the UK is £12 for 2023/24 and is calculated annually by The Resolution Foundation, it is the wage that employees need to earn in order to afford the basket of goods required for a decent standard of living.

Note: Model based estimate of unemployment in charts above refers to a 12 month moving average to September.

Source: [NOMIS - Annual Population Survey](#) and [NOMIS - Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings](#)

Median hourly pay per worker in major UK cities 2023



Leaflet | Icon Map | Map data © OpenStreetMap contributors, CC-BY-SA



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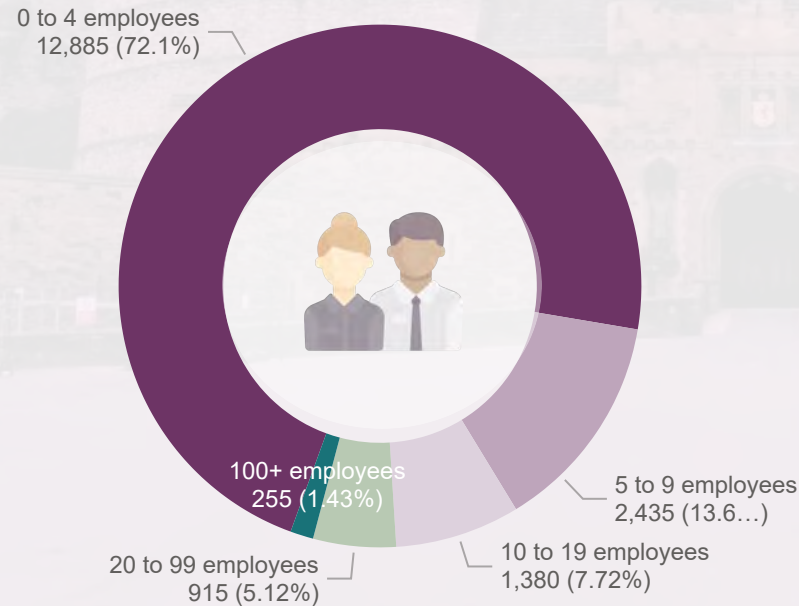
Travel and connectivity

Enterprise sizes and occupations by skill

Key Facts

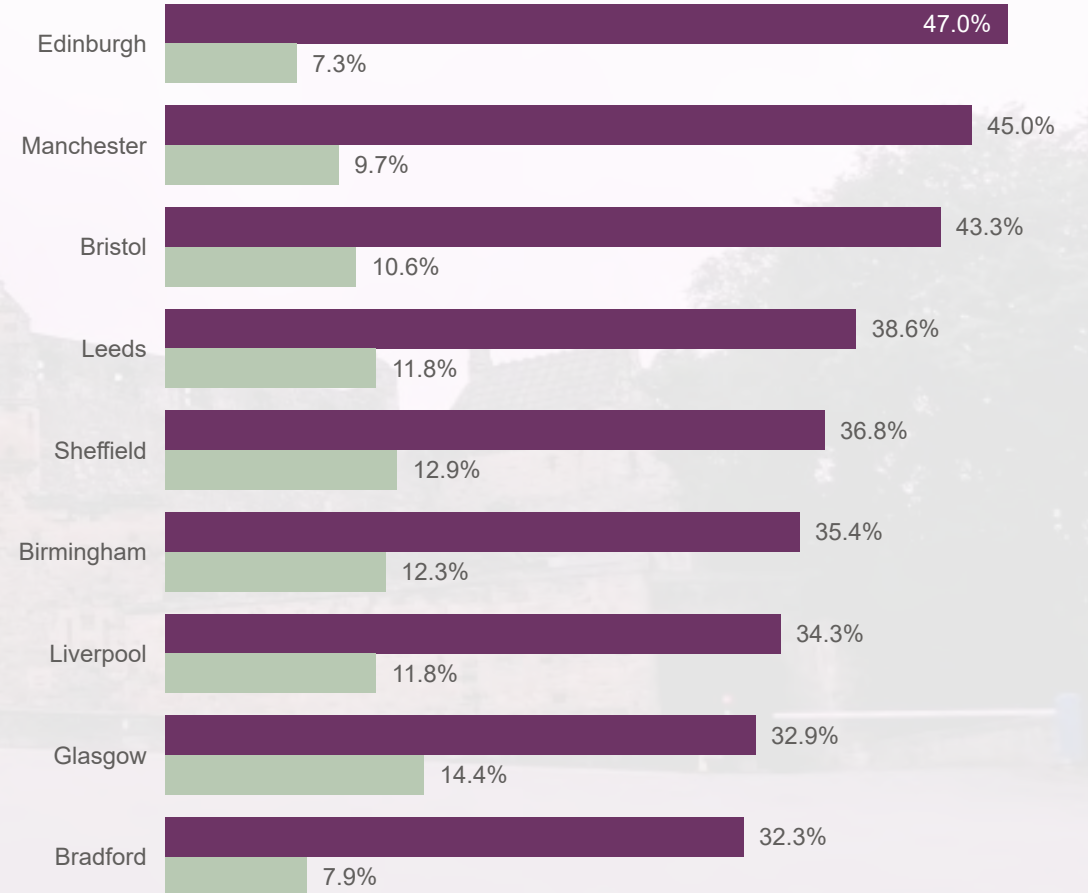
Nearly three quarters of enterprises in Edinburgh (72.1 %) are small companies with up to four employees, while only 1.43% are enterprises with 100 or more employees. Edinburgh has a large proportion of workers in high skilled occupations. Almost half of the people in employment work in high skilled occupations (47%) while just around 7% work in low skilled occupations.

Enterprises in Edinburgh by employment size 2023



High and Low Skilled occupations by major UK cities July 2022 to June 2023

● High skill ● Low skill



Note: Skilled occupation level by occupation type is defined from the sub-major groups of SOC2020 Office of National Statistics - Table 1; High Skilled Occupations defined by following SOC 2020 sub-major groups (Level 4 skill level): Corporate managers and directors; Science, research, engineering and technology professionals; Health professionals, Teaching and educational professionals; Business, media and public service professionals. Low skilled (Level 1 skill level) is defined by: Elementary trades and related occupations; Elementary administration and service occupations.

Source: [NOMIS - Annual Population Survey](#) and [NOMIS - UK Business Counts](#)



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People in employment - Industry share

People in employment by industry 2022 Edinburgh, Scotland and average of UK cities

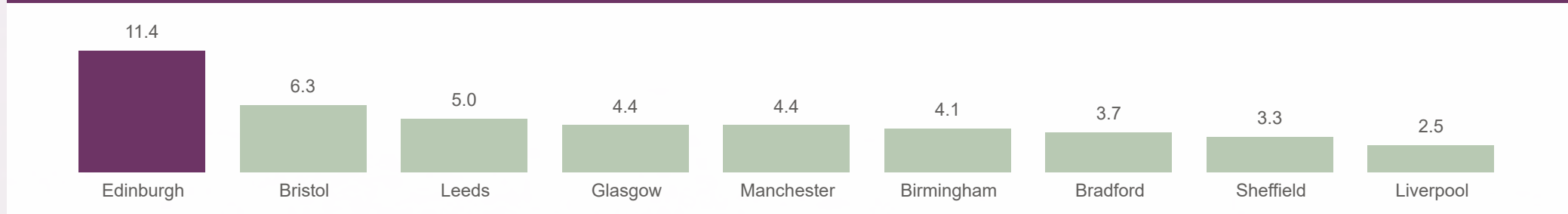
Industry Sectors	City of Edinburgh		Scotland	UK 8 cities average
		%	%	%
Health	53,000	14.7	15.0	15.8
Financial & insurance	41,000	11.4	3.2	4.2
Education	36,000	10.0	8.4	9.6
Professional, scientific & technical	35,000	9.7	7.4	10.1
Accommodation & food services	34,000	9.4	8.2	7.1
Business administration & support services	26,000	7.2	7.8	9.6
Retail	25,000	6.9	8.7	7.8
Public administration & defence	24,000	6.7	6.2	5.7
Arts, entertainment, recreation & other services	19,000	5.3	4.6	3.9
Information & communication	18,000	5.0	3.1	4.4
Transport & storage	11,000	3.1	4.0	4.3
Construction	10,000	2.8	5.6	3.6
Manufacturing	9,000	2.5	6.6	5.7
Property	6,000	1.7	1.3	2.1
Wholesale	5,000	1.4	2.4	3.5
Mining, quarrying & utilities	4,000	1.1	2.4	1.0
Motor trades	4,000	1.1	1.7	1.4
Agriculture, forestry & fishing	800	0.2	3.4	0.1

Major UK city average includes the eight largest populated UK cities (excluding London). These are, Birmingham, Bradford, Bristol, Glasgow, Leeds, Liverpool, Manchester and Sheffield.

Key Facts

53,000 people in Edinburgh are employed in the health industry. This makes up nearly 15% of all jobs in Edinburgh. In 2022, over one in ten people employed in Edinburgh worked in finance and insurance. This is close to three times as much as the average across other major UK cities. Edinburgh relative to other UK cities has higher relative employment in accommodation and food services, information and communication and arts, entertainment, recreation and other services but less relative employment in construction and manufacturing.

Percentage of people working in the finance and insurance sector in UK cities 2022



Source: NOMIS - Business Register and Employment Survey.



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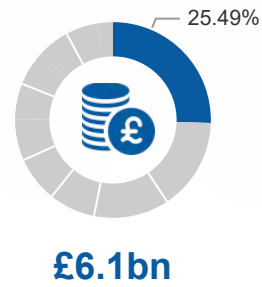
Property

Travel and connectivity

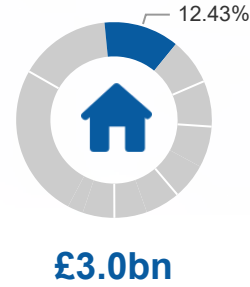
Gross Value Added (GVA)

Did you know...?

Gross Value Added (GVA) is the value generated by an area, industry or sector of an economy engaged in the production of goods and services. These pie charts show GVA in Edinburgh for 2021



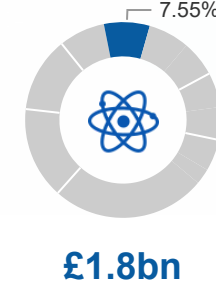
Financial and insurance



Real estate activities



Human health and social work



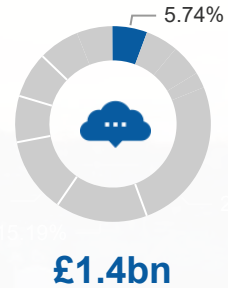
Professional, scientific and tech



Education



Public admin and defence



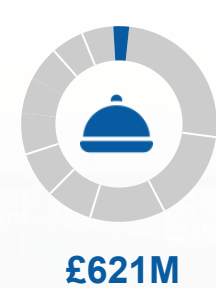
Information and communication



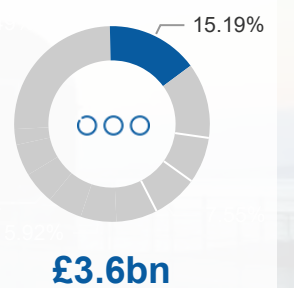
Wholesale/ retail trade



Manufacturing

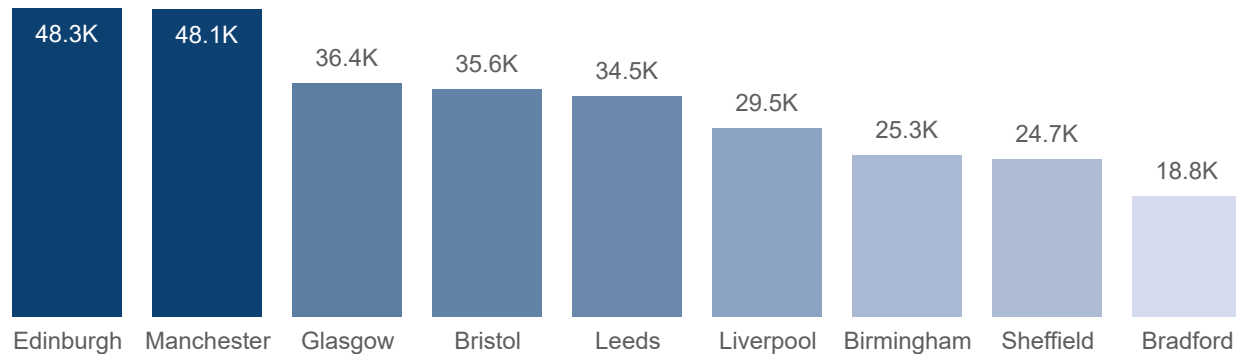


Accommodation & food service



Other

GVA per capita in major UK cities 2021



Source: [ONS - Gross Value Added](#) and [NOMIS - Population Estimates](#)

Key Facts

The finance and insurance industry in Edinburgh provides twice as much Gross Value Added (GVA) (£6.1bn) as the next largest sector, real estate activities (£3.0bn). In terms of GVA per capita, Edinburgh (£48.3k) has almost a third (32.7%) per person more than Glasgow (£36.4k), the next highest Scottish city.

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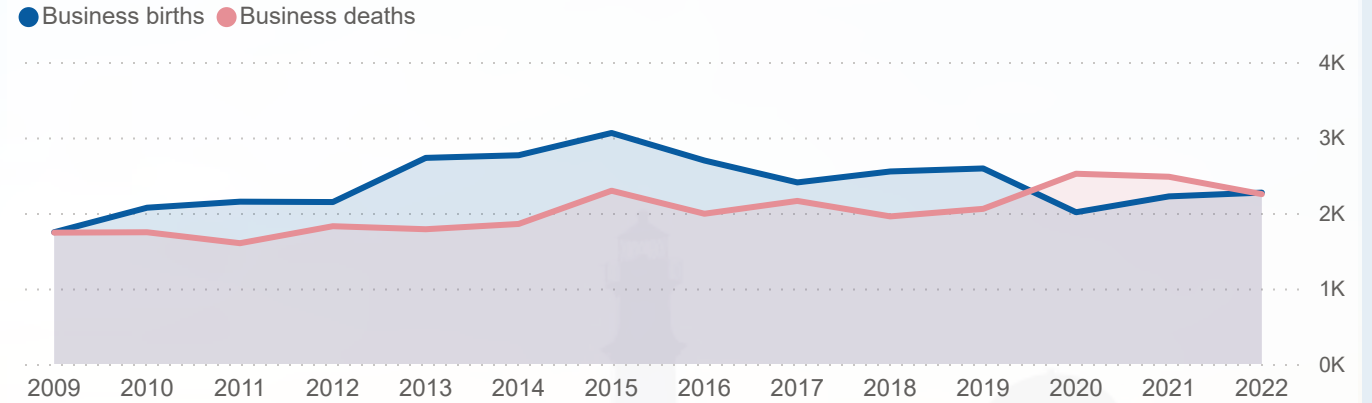
Travel and connectivity

Business demography and hotel completions

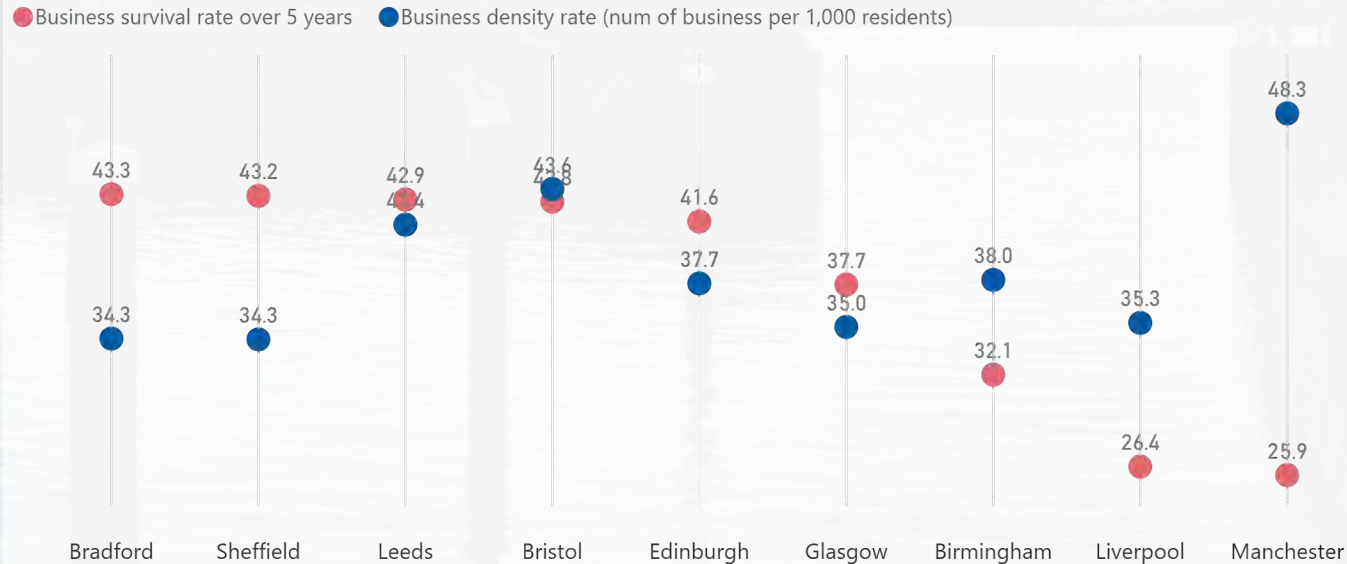
Key Facts

The years 2011-2019 represented a period of growth in the number of businesses in Edinburgh. However, as a likely impact of the pandemic, business deaths overtook births during 2020 and 2021. In 2022 the number of business deaths return to being below business births, resulting in a small but positive business growth. Despite the previous years' net decrease in business growth, 41.6% of Edinburgh businesses survived their first 5 years of operation. The period 2020-22 also had a 56.6% reduction in the number of hotel rooms completed.

Edinburgh businesses births and deaths from 2009 to 2022



Business survival rate over 5 years (2017 to 2022) and Business density rate (registered business per 1,000 residents)



Hotel development completions in Edinburgh 2005 to 2022 (number of rooms)



Source: ONS - Gross Value Added and NOMIS - Population Estimates. Hotel room completions provided by The City of Edinburgh Council.

The background image features a silhouette of a classical building with a pediment and columns on the left side. The sky is a warm, golden-orange color, suggesting a sunset or sunrise, with a bright sun partially obscured by clouds. Several prominent lens flare rays emanate from the sun, extending across the sky. In the distance, a cityscape and a body of water are faintly visible.

Tourism and Festivals



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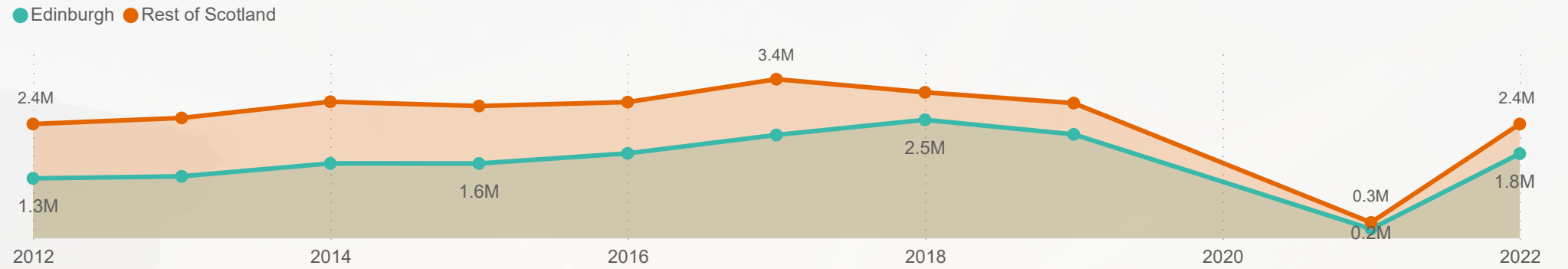
Property



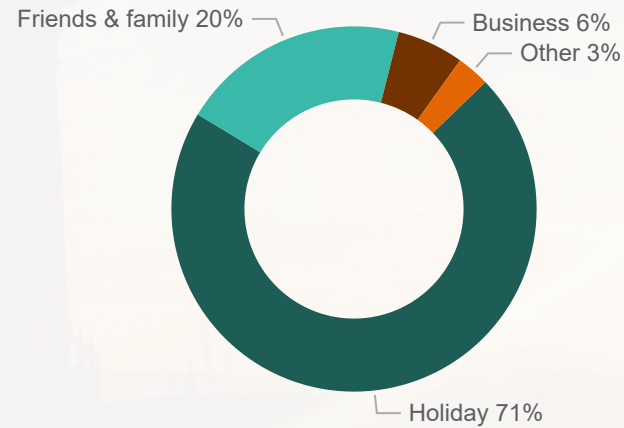
Travel and connectivity

Visitors to Edinburgh

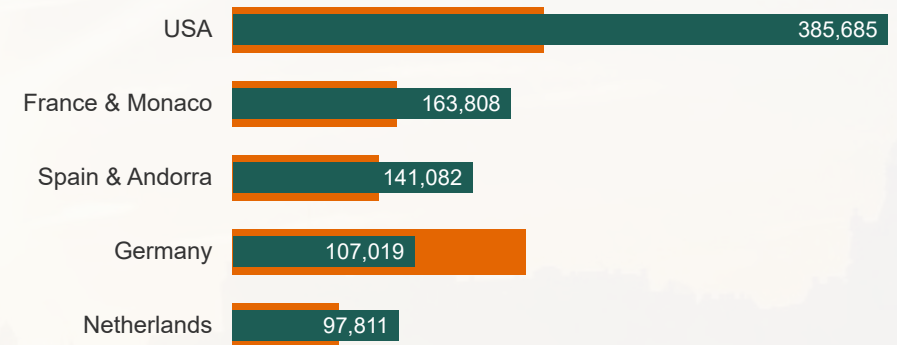
Number of staying visits in Edinburgh and the rest of Scotland from 2012 to 2022



Percentage of staying visits to Edinburgh by purpose in 2022



Staying visits to Edinburgh by origin (top 5) in 2022 (green) vs 2012 (orange)



Key Facts

In 2022, Edinburgh experienced a rebound in tourism, representing 42.5% of the total of staying visits in Scotland. Holidays was the main purpose of visiting our city (71%) but 20% of visitors were here to see friends and family. The highest visitor numbers originated from the USA (21.5%), France (9.1%) and Spain (7.9%). Data regarding staying visitors is not available for 2020.

Source: [International Passenger Survey](#)



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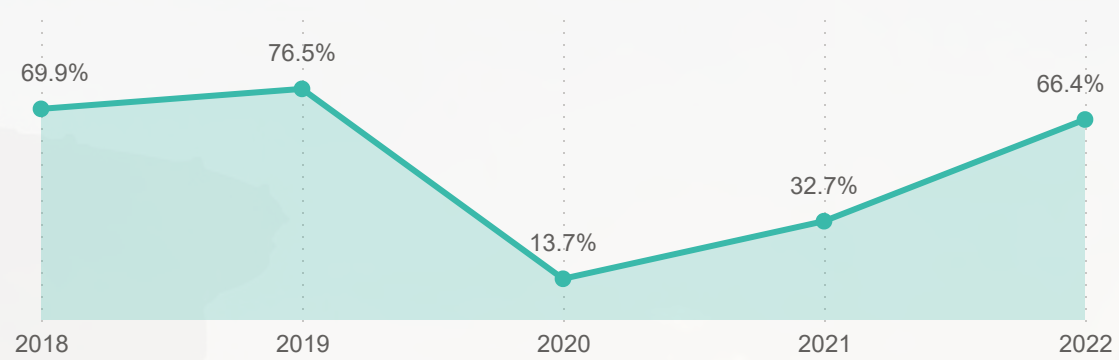
Property



Travel and connectivity

Visitors to Edinburgh

Occupancy in hotels and B&Bs in Edinburgh from 2018 to 2022

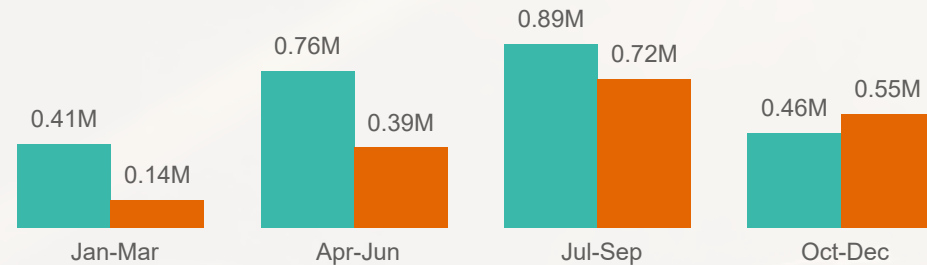


Key Facts

The hotel occupancy in Edinburgh in 2022 shows has recovered after the dip during 2020 and 2021 due to the pandemic and is only 3% below what it was in 2018. Most overnight visits to Edinburgh happen during the summer season but in 2022 there was increase of visitors from October to December. Edinburgh secured the second spot in the UK for the highest number of overnight visits only surpassed by London.

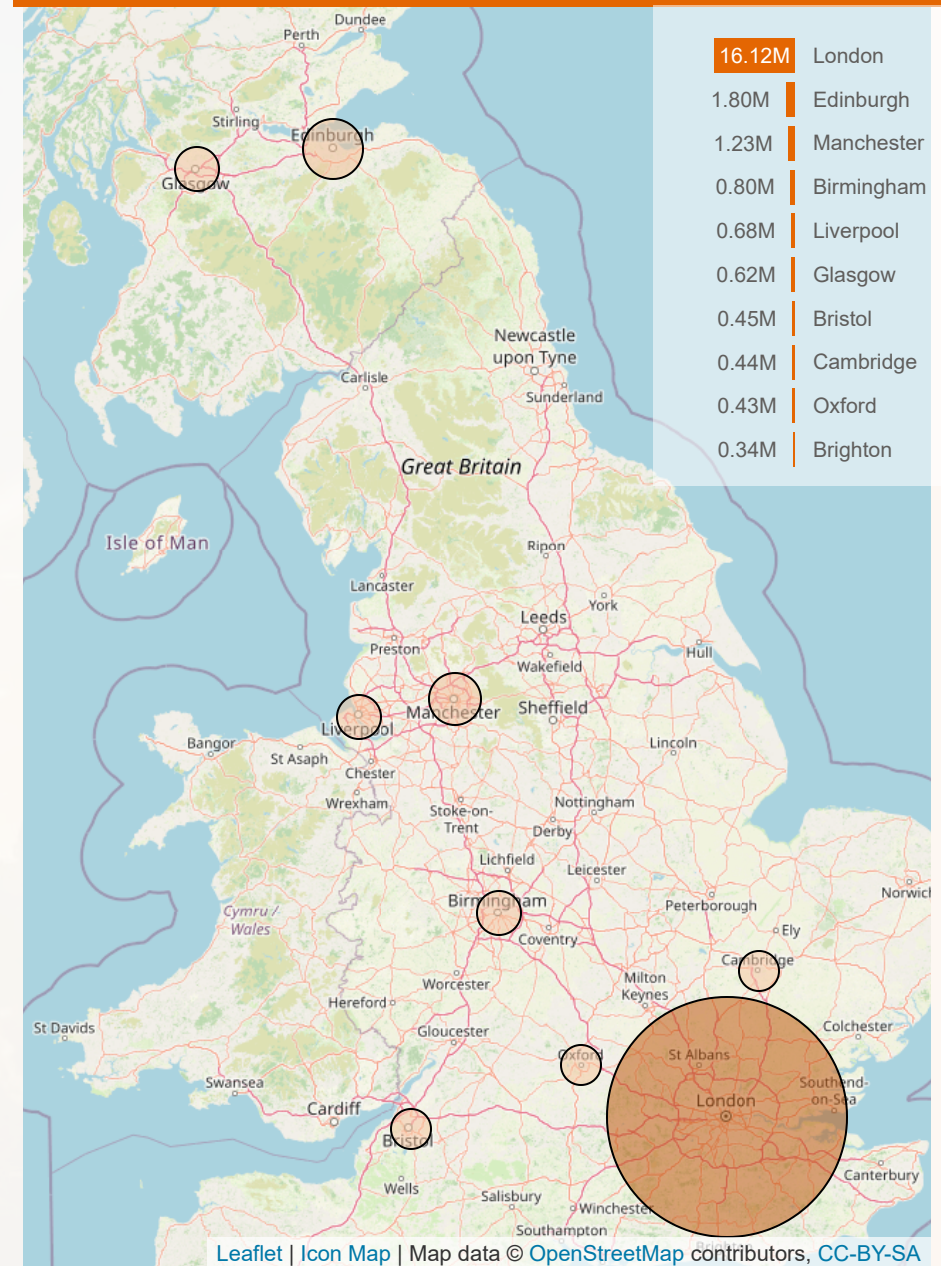
Number of visitors by season in Edinburgh in 2018 and 2022

● 2018 ● 2022



Source: [Moffat Centre for Travel and Tourism Business Development](#) and [International Passenger Survey](#).

UK cities that received the highest number of staying visits in 2022 (Top 10)





People



Health and wellness



Work



Economy



Tourism and festivals



Education



Environment



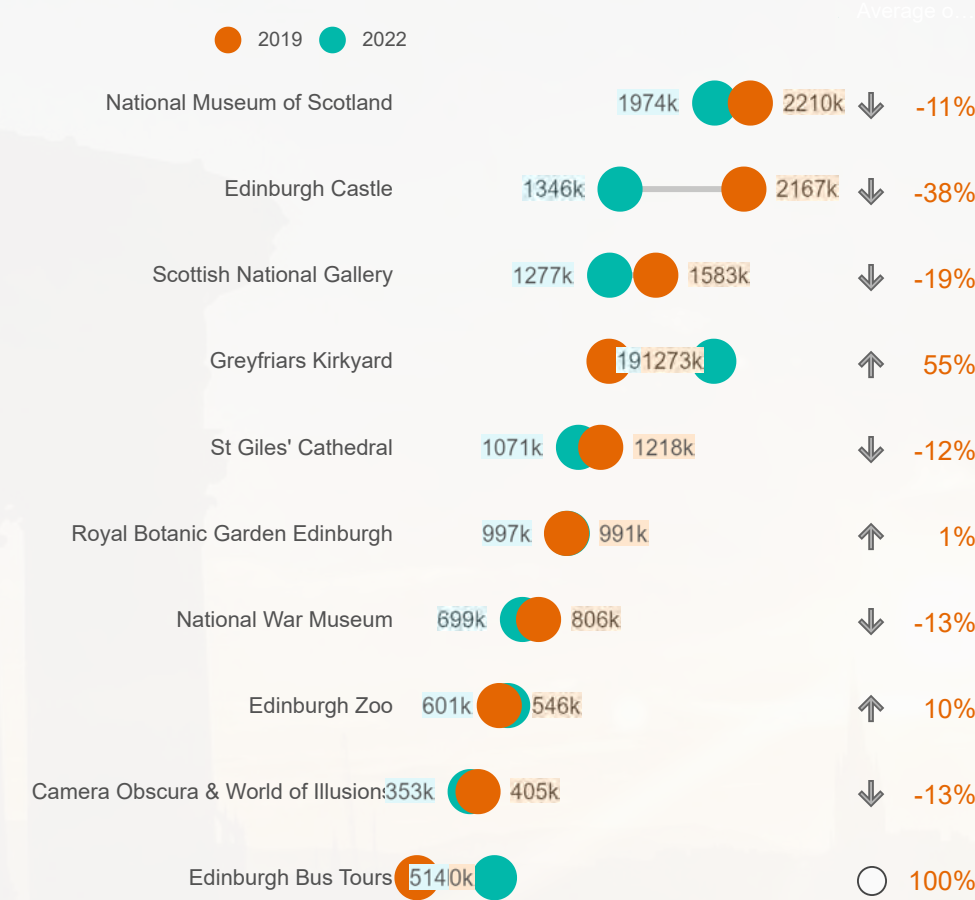
Property



Travel and connectivity

Attractions in Edinburgh

Top visitor attractions in Edinburgh 2022



Key Facts

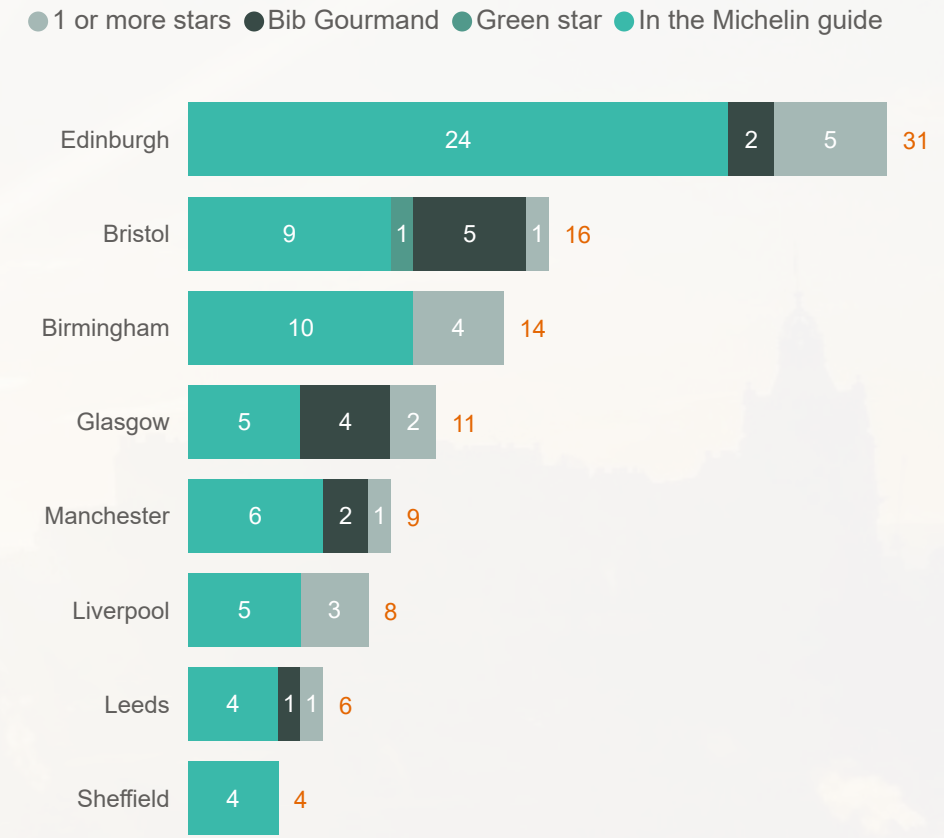
In 2022 some of the most visited attractions in Edinburgh start showing a recovery after the pandemic, with some of them like the Greyfriars Kirkyard or the Edinburgh Zoo increasing their numbers in relation to the visitors in 2019. Edinburgh Bus Tours has made it to the top 10 of visitors attractions in 2022, but the figure is not comparable to 2019 since the number of users is not available for that year.

Source: *Moffat Centre for Travel and Tourism Business Development and Michelin Guide - Restaurants 2022*

Did you know...?

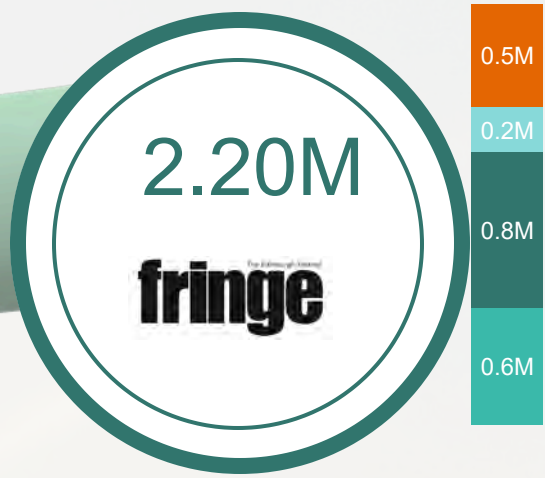
The Michelin Green Star is an annual award that spotlights restaurants for their sustainable practices. The restaurants hold themselves accountable for ethical and environmental standards. The Bib Gourmand show the best value restaurants in the Michelin Guide.

Michelin awarded restaurants in UK cities 2023



Number of online and in person attendances at major festivals 2022 with a breakdown by origin of the audience

4.33M
attendees



Edinburgh
Rest of Scotland
Outside of Scotland
Unknown

- People
- Health and wellness
- Work
- Economy
- Tourism and festivals
- Education
- Environment
- Property
- Travel and connectivity

A large, cylindrical metal lattice tower under construction in a field. The tower is composed of a complex network of steel beams forming a grid-like structure. It stands in a field of tall, dry grass. In the background, there are rolling hills and a cloudy sky. A dark purple rectangular box is overlaid on the right side of the image, containing the word "Education" in white text.

Education



People



Health and wellness



Work



Economy



Tourism and festivals



Education



Environment



Property



Travel and connectivity

Number of students in Edinburgh

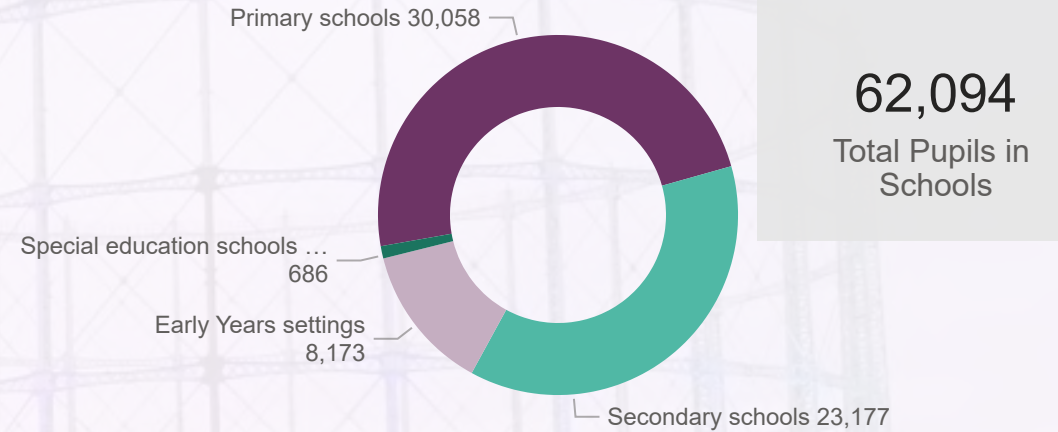
Did you know...?

There are 90 Primary Schools, 23 Secondary schools, 11 Special schools, 18 independent, and 207 Early Years centres: a total of 349 establishments.

Key Facts

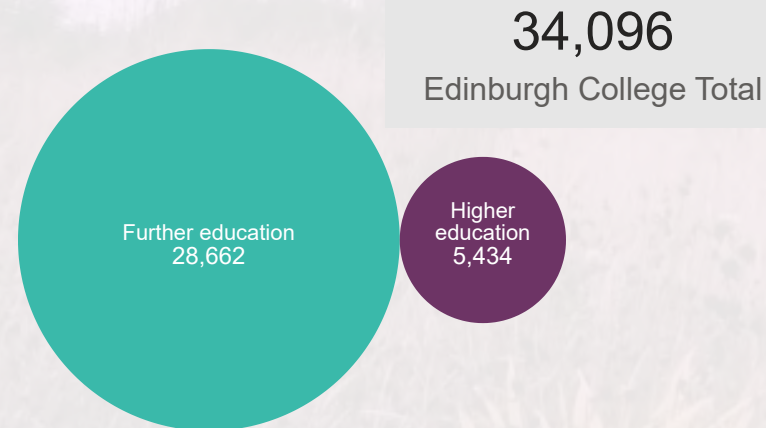
In 2022/23 the number of students enrolled in an Edinburgh university was higher than the number in schools. In 2022/23 there were more than 170,000 pupils or students in Edinburgh based education institutions, including schools, universities and colleges.

Number of pupils in Edinburgh schools 2023

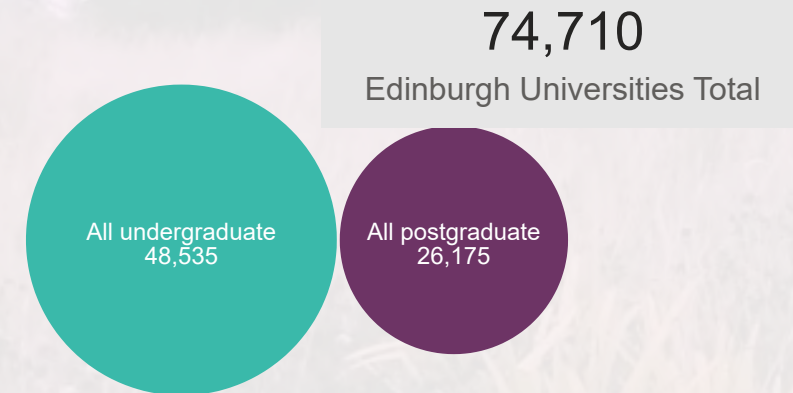


Note: figures for public primary and secondary schools refer to September 2023 and early learning figure is from Nov 2023. No data is available for independent schools.

Students at Edinburgh College 2022



Students enrolled in higher education in Edinburgh 2022



Source: [Pupil Census](#), [Higher Education Statistics Agency](#) and [Scottish Funding Council](#)

Queen Margaret University - Edinburgh is included in the count although is located in Musselburgh. SRUC is not included since there isn't a split available by campus.



People



Health and wellness



Work



Economy



Tourism and festivals



Education



Environment



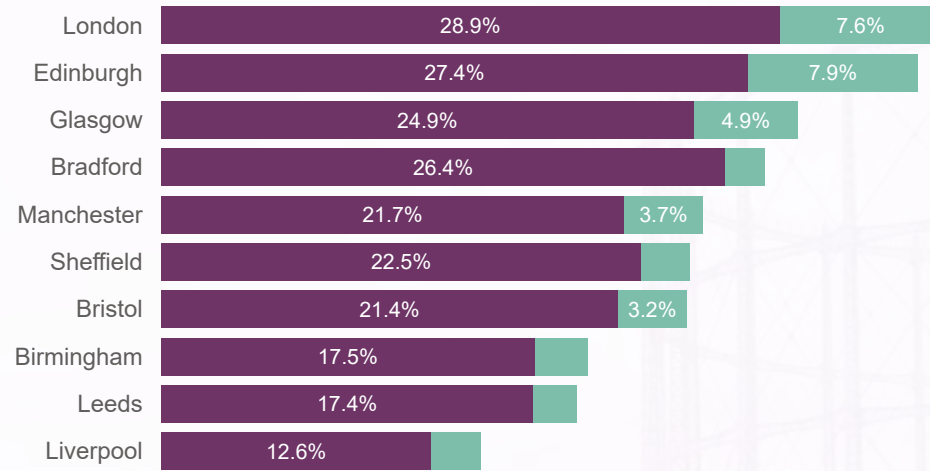
Property



Travel and connectivity

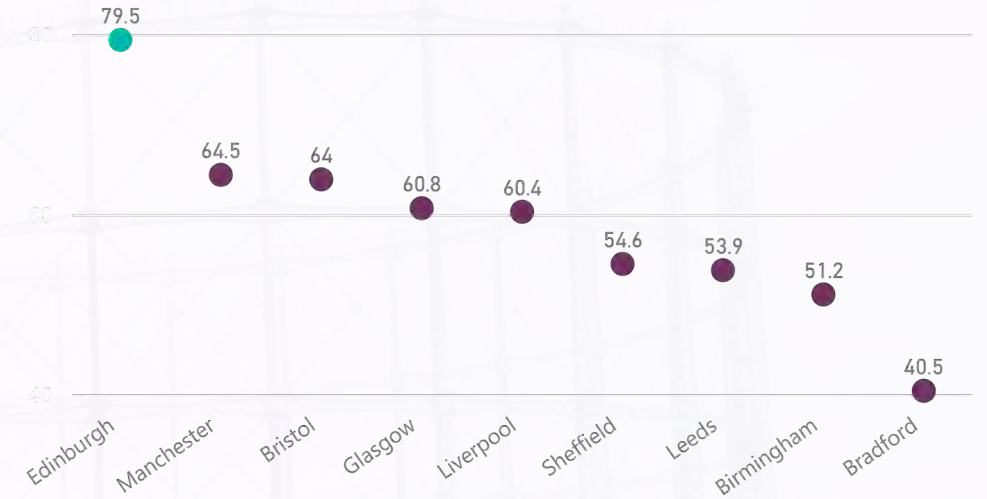
Higher education in Edinburgh and other major UK cities

Percentage of non-UK students in Higher Education in UK cities 2022



● European Union ● Non-European Union

Percentage of workforce educated to degree level or above in major UK cities 2022



Higher Education students per 1,000 population in UK cities 2022



Key Facts

In 2022, 64.7% of higher education students in Edinburgh were from the UK. Compared to other major UK cities, Edinburgh has the fourth highest proportions of Higher Education students per 1,000 population. In 2022, 79.5% of the Edinburgh workforce in employment is educated to degree level or above.

Source: [Pupil Census](#), [Higher Education Statistics Agency](#) and [Scottish Funding Council](#)



Environment



People



Health and wellness



Work



Economy



Tourism and festivals



Education



Environment



Property



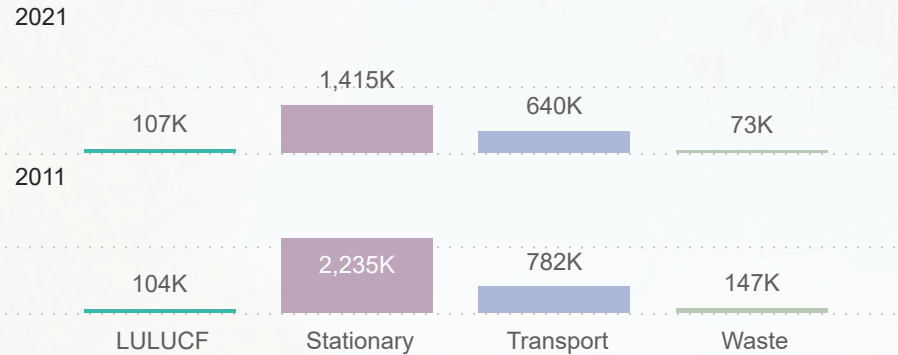
Travel and connectivity

Greenhouse gas emissions

Did you know...?

In 2023, Edinburgh received its 3rd consecutive [CDP Cities 'A' rating](#) for its environmental action. The A-list status recognises cities that are taking bold leadership on environmental action and transparency. In October 2023, [Climate Emergency UK](#) rated the City of Edinburgh Council fourth in the UK and first in Scotland for its action on addressing the climate crisis.

Greenhouse gas emissions estimates (in tonnes CO2e) in Edinburgh



Note: Stationary energy covers energy consumption from domestic buildings; industrial, institutional and commercial buildings & facilities as well as industrial processes and fuel consumption from agriculture. CO2e describes different greenhouse gases in a common unit. For any quantity and type of greenhouse gas, CO2e signifies the amount of CO2 which would have the equivalent global warming impact." – from [Ecometrica](#).

LULUCF: Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry

Greenhouse gas emissions per capita (in tonnes CO2e) in major UK cities in 2021 and reduction from 2011

City	Emissions per capita	Reduction in emissions
Manchester	3.81	43.7% ↓
Liverpool	3.80	40.7% ↓
Bristol	3.45	38.6% ↓
Edinburgh	4.25	37.9% ↓
Glasgow	4.27	36.6% ↓
Sheffield	4.09	33.9% ↓
Leeds	4.84	30.8% ↓
Bradford	3.94	29.4% ↓
Birmingham	3.92	27.4% ↓

Source of greenhouse gases in major UK cities 2021 (in thousand tonnes CO2e)

City	Transport	Domestic	Commercial ... Industry	Public Sector	Waste management	Agriculture &... LULUCF
Birmingham 4,481	1,174	1,446	1,229	356	254	21
Leeds 3,915	1,434	1,127	847	241	207	60
Glasgow 2,710	761	774	624	274	196	81
Sheffield 2,270	572	769	621	128	156	24
Edinburgh 2,236	640	740	435	240	73	107
Manchester 2,153	556	635	450	288	161	6
Bradford 2,096	503	779	570	155	75	72
Liverpool 1,841	463	624	425	192	130	7
Bristol 1,626	481	536	305	156	138	10

Source: [Department for Energy Security and Net Zero](#)



People



Health and wellness



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Property



Travel and connectivity

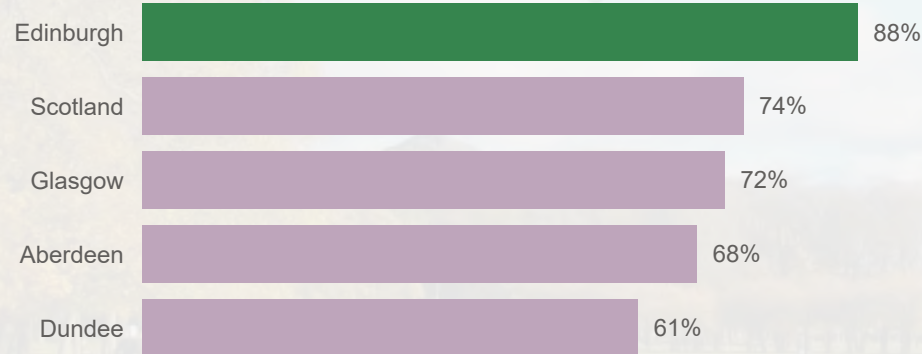
Climate change and use of renewables in UK cities

Did you know...?

The City of Edinburgh Council has become the first Council in Scotland to endorse the [Plant Based Treaty](#), a global campaign designed to put food systems at the forefront of combating the climate crisis. In 2024, the Council published its first [Plant-Based Treaty action plan](#).

Edinburgh continues to be [recognised by the Sustainable Food Places awards](#), in recognition of our pioneering work to promote healthy and sustainable food.

Proportion of people who believe climate change is an immediate and urgent problem 2022

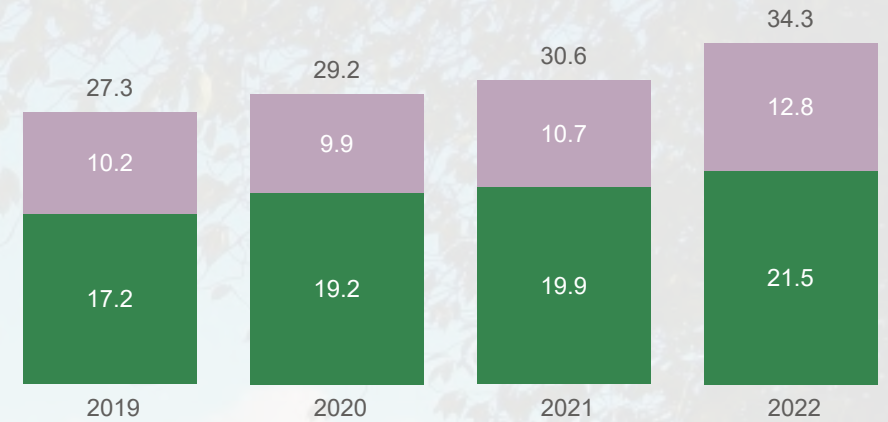


Key Facts

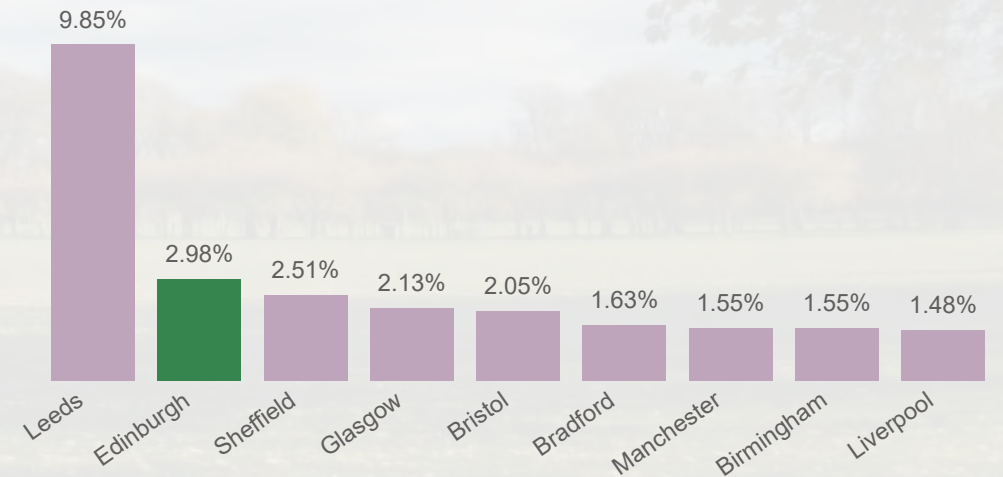
The percentage of people who believe that climate change is an urgent problem continues to increase and it has reached over 88% in Edinburgh, the highest percentage in Scotland. The generation of renewable energy is showing a steady growth from 2019. Nearly 3% of vehicles in Edinburgh are now ultra-low emissions vehicles.

Renewable electricity generation (GWh/ year) in Edinburgh in period 2019-2022

● Bioenergy and Waste ● Other renewable sources



Percentage of ultra low emission vehicles (ULEVs) in UK cities Q2 2023





People



Health and wellness



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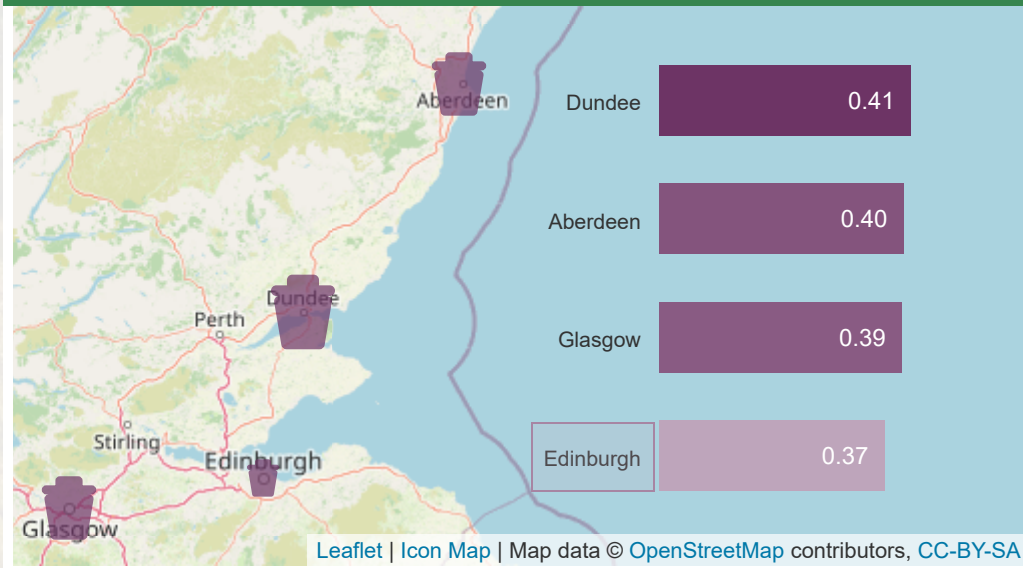
Property



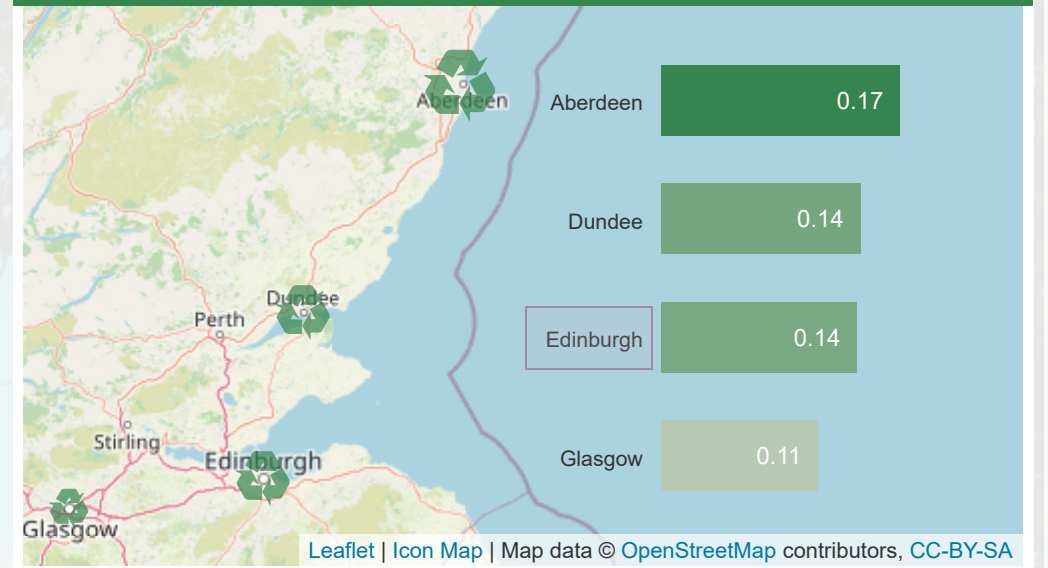
Travel and connectivity

Recycling

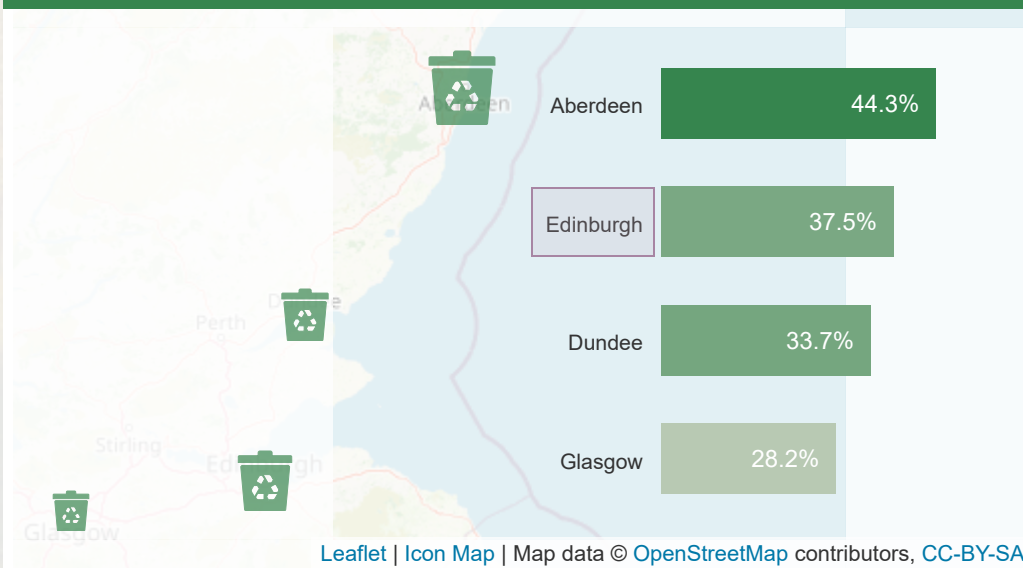
Tonnes of household waste generated per person in Scottish cities 2022



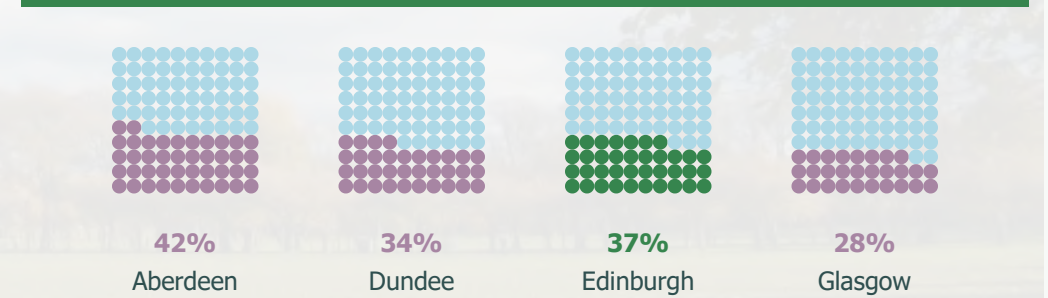
Tonnes of household waste recycled per person in Scottish cities 2022



Percentage of household waste recycled in Scottish cities three year average 2020-22



Percentage of waste per person recycled in Scottish cities 2022



Key Facts

Edinburgh has the lowest amount of household waste generated per person of the four Scottish cities and the second highest amount of household waste recycled per person. It has the second highest rate of recycling of the four cities.

Source: [Scottish Environment Protection Agency \(SEPA\)](https://www.sepa.org.uk).



People



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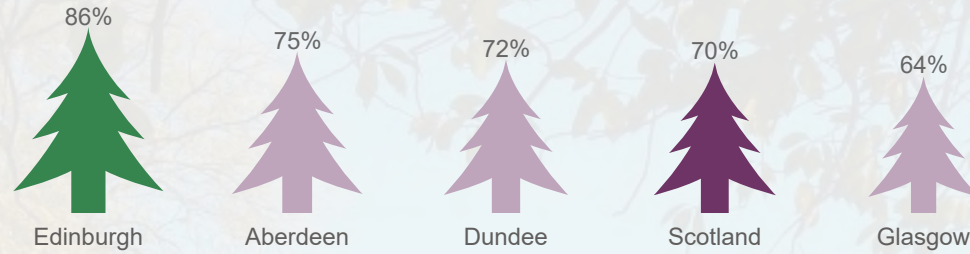
Property



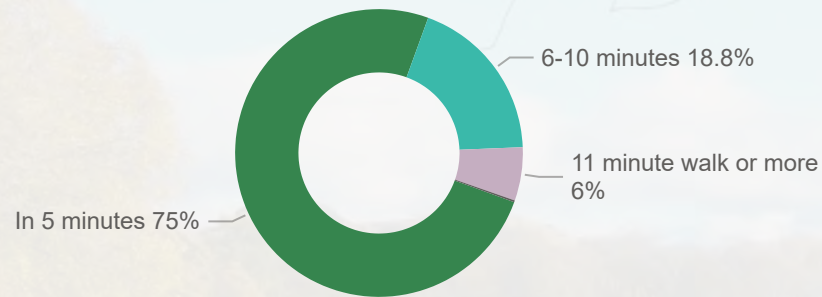
Travel and connectivity

Parks: use, satisfaction and green flags

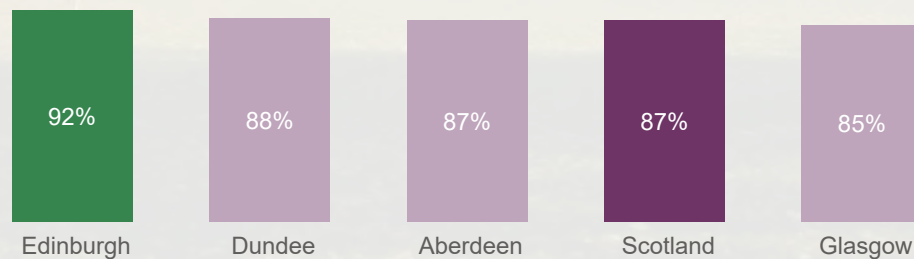
Percentage of population who visits the outdoors once or more times a week 2022



Walking distance to the nearest green or blue of space for Edinburgh population 2022



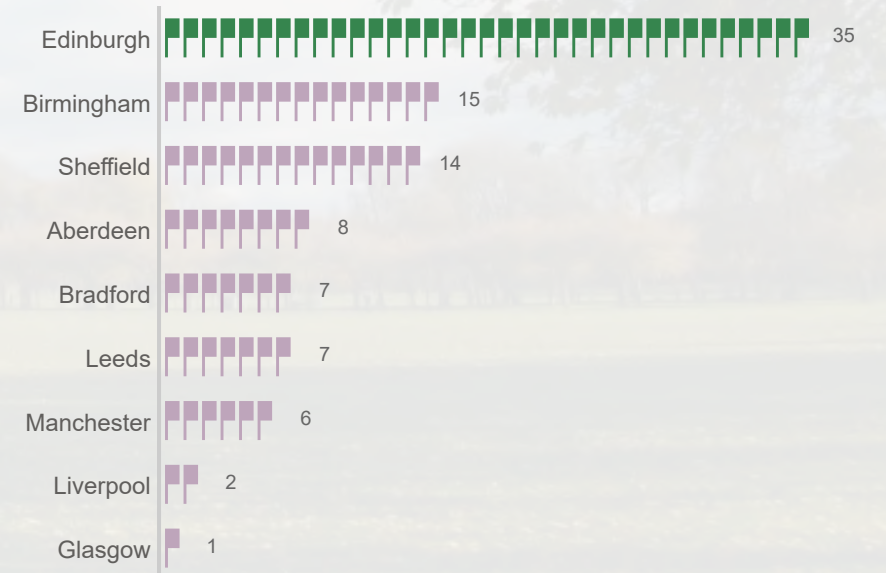
Percentage of population satisfied with their nearest green or blue space 2020-22



Key Facts

The Green Flag award is a signifier of well managed parks and open spaces that ensure people have access no matter where they live and the needs of those communities are met in the parks. Edinburgh has over twice as many parks with Green Flags as Birmingham, the city with the next highest number of parks with the award. The percentage of population in Edinburgh who visited the outdoors in 2022 is 16% over the Scottish average. With 75% of people having a green or blue space no more than 5 minutes away, 92% of the population are satisfied with these spaces.

Green Flag parks in major UK cities 2023



Source: *Scottish Household Survey, LGBF and Green Flag Award*



People



Health and wellness



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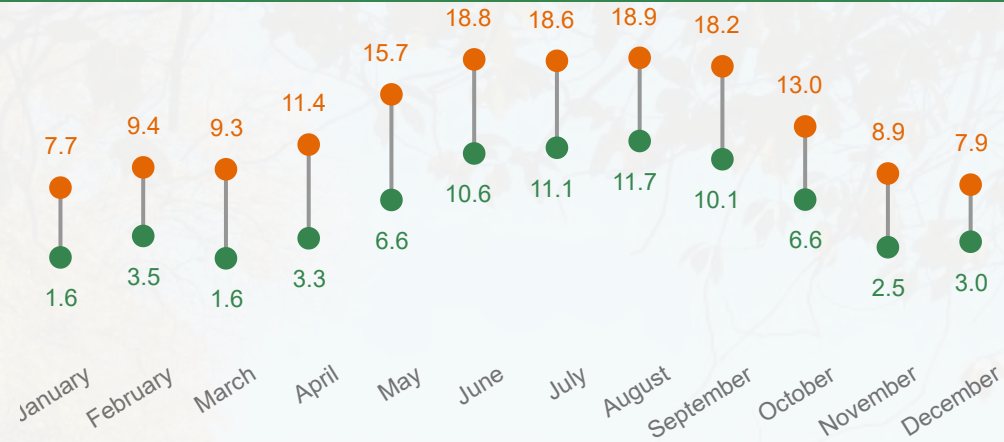
Property



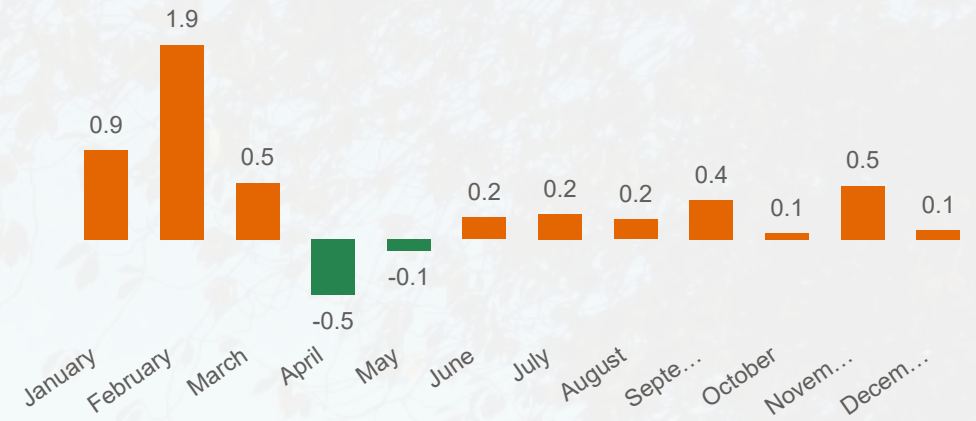
Travel and connectivity

Edinburgh weather

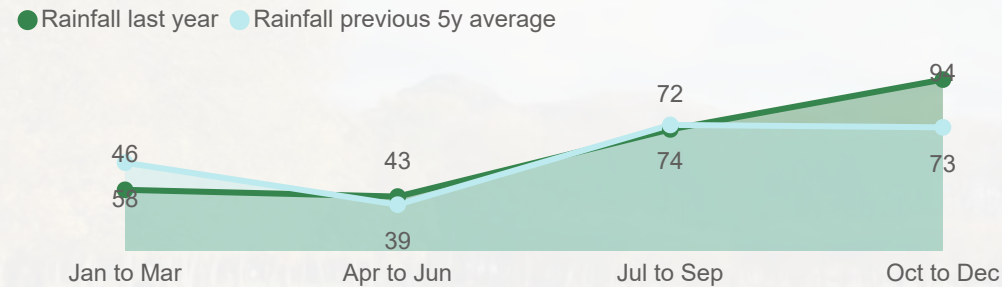
Edinburgh weather, range in average max and min temperature (in Celsius), January 2023 to December 2023



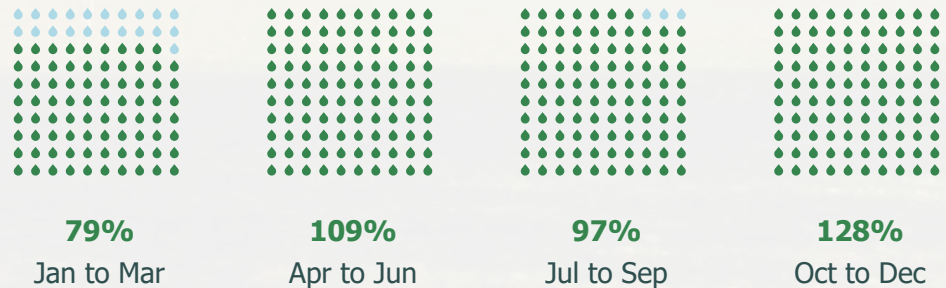
Edinburgh weather, difference between average temperature (in Celsius) in 2019-2023 vs average in period 1961-1990



Total rainfall per quarter during 2023 vs the average for 2018-22 (millimetres and % over previous period)



Edinburgh weather, number of days per year when wind speed reached 10 mph or more



Key Facts

The average temperature in Edinburgh from 2019-2023 compared with the average from 1961-1990 is the same or higher in ten months of the year. For the remaining two months it is only cooler on average by a small amount. A similar amount of rain fell in 2023 compared to the previous five years, but it was drier in October to December 2023 and wetter in January to March 2023.

Source: [Meteostat](#) and [Scottish Environment Protection Agency \(SEPA\)](#)

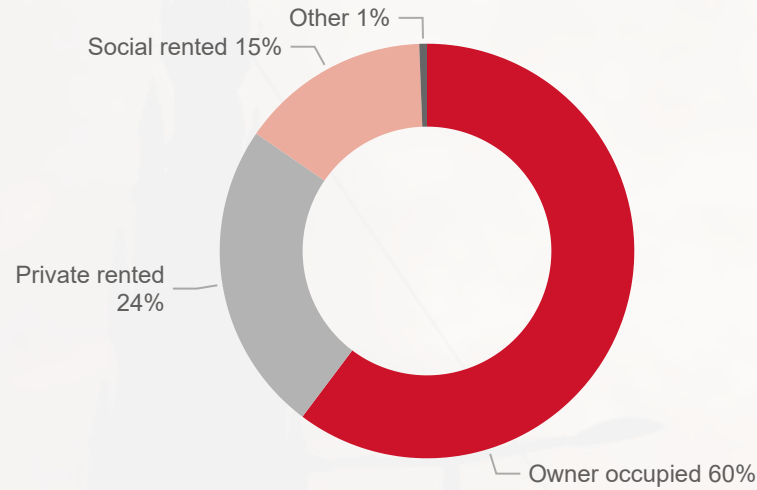
A photograph of a cityscape at sunset. The sky is filled with soft, orange and pink clouds. In the foreground, the silhouettes of several tall, ornate buildings with spires are visible against the bright sky. A street lamp and power lines are also silhouetted. On the right side, a modern building with a glass facade is partially visible. A solid red rectangular box is overlaid on the right side of the image, containing the word "Property" in white, sans-serif font.

Property

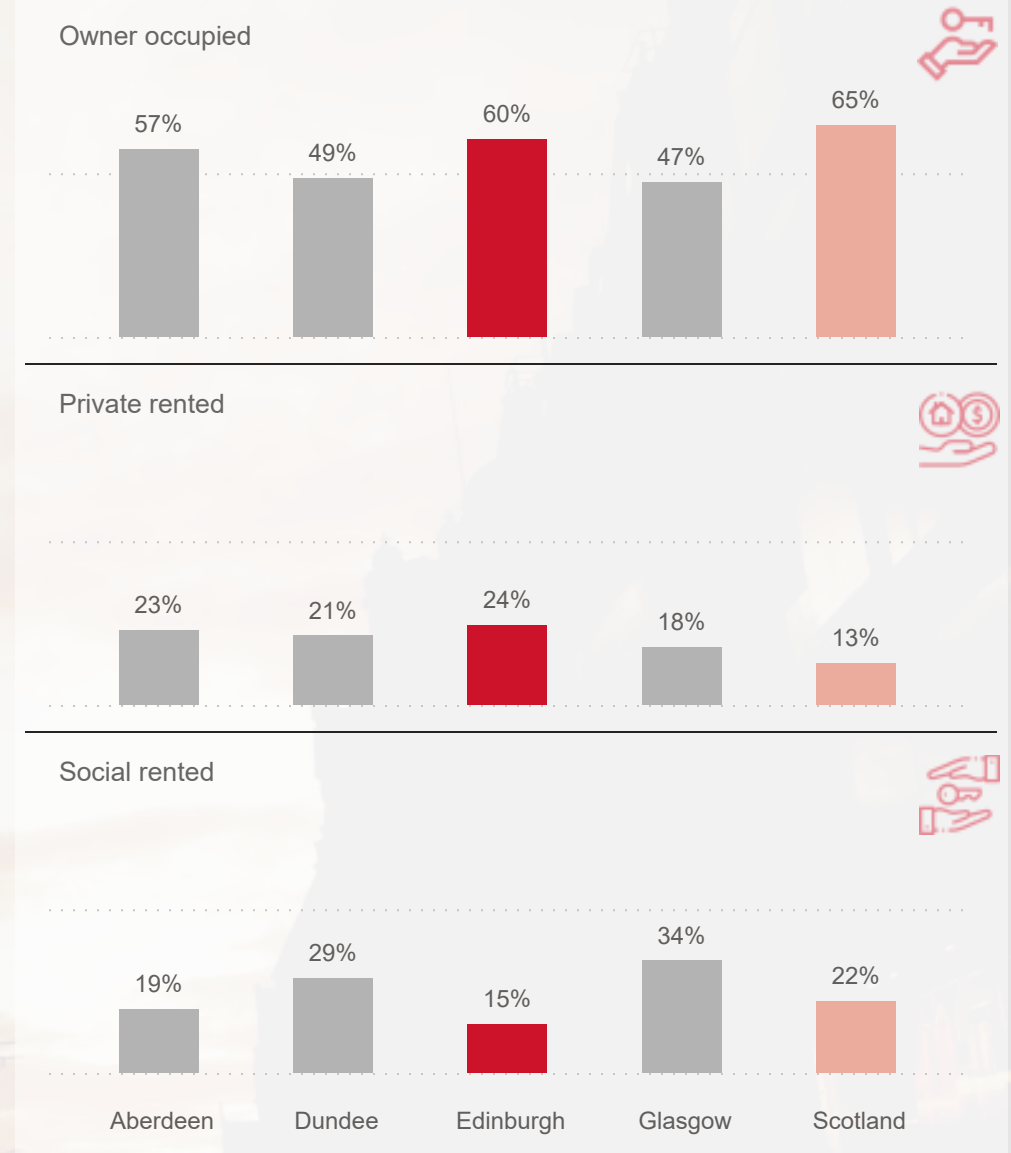
Housing tenure

-  People
-  Health and wellness
-  Work
-  Economy
-  Tourism and festivals
-  Education
-  Environment
-  **Property**
-  Travel and connectivity

Percentage of households by tenure in Edinburgh 2022



Housing by tenure in Scottish cities 2022



Key Facts

The charts display housing tenure statistics for Edinburgh in 2021, where 60% of households are owner-occupied, 24% are privately rented, and 15% are socially rented. Comparing to other Scottish cities and the entire country, Edinburgh has a higher percentage of private rentals and a lower percentage of social rentals. Owner occupation has the highest prevalence in Edinburgh, aligning closely with the Scottish average.

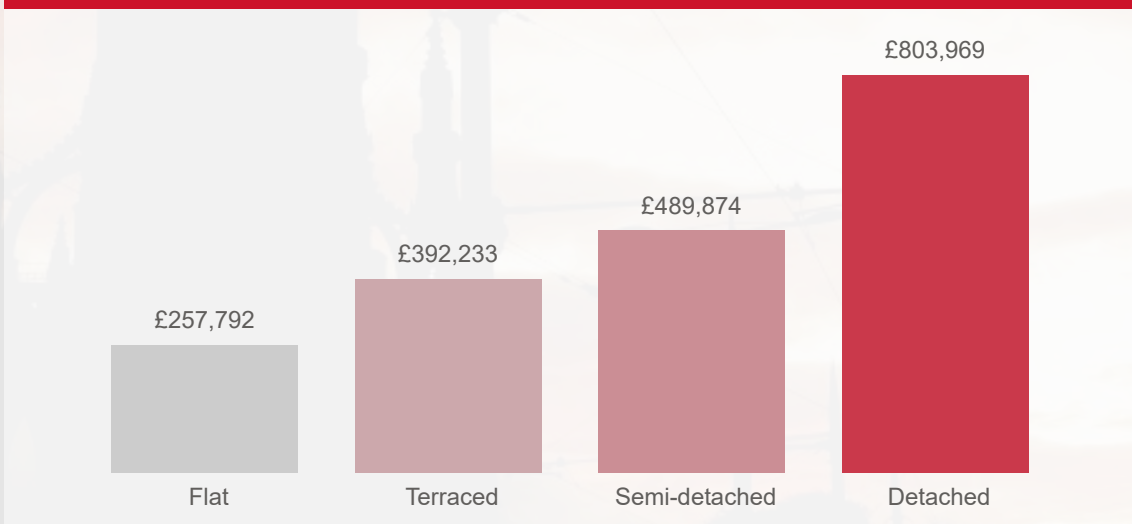
Source: [Scottish Household Survey](#)

Average house prices

Average house prices in UK cities September 2023 and percentage change from average in September 2022

City	Average house price (September 2023)	Percentage change from average in September 2022
Bristol	£350,920	-2.4%
Edinburgh	£343,520	3.4%
Leeds	£246,187	2.7%
Manchester	£243,985	4.8%
Birmingham	£234,517	1.3%
Sheffield	£223,965	4.9%
Liverpool	£186,730	4.0%
Glasgow	£183,494	4.3%
Bradford	£177,733	0.7%

Edinburgh average house price by building type September 2023



Key Facts

Building types have different average house prices. In Edinburgh the average detached property was sold for £803,969 in September 2023 and the average flat was £257,792.

The average property price in Edinburgh in September 2023 was £343,520 which is higher than most other major UK cities outside London. The average property price in Edinburgh has increased by 3.4% over the year to September 2022. The growth has slowed or even decreased in most UK cities.

Source: [UK Government - HM Land Registry - UKHPI](#)



People



Health and wellness



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Economy



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Travel and connectivity



People



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Education



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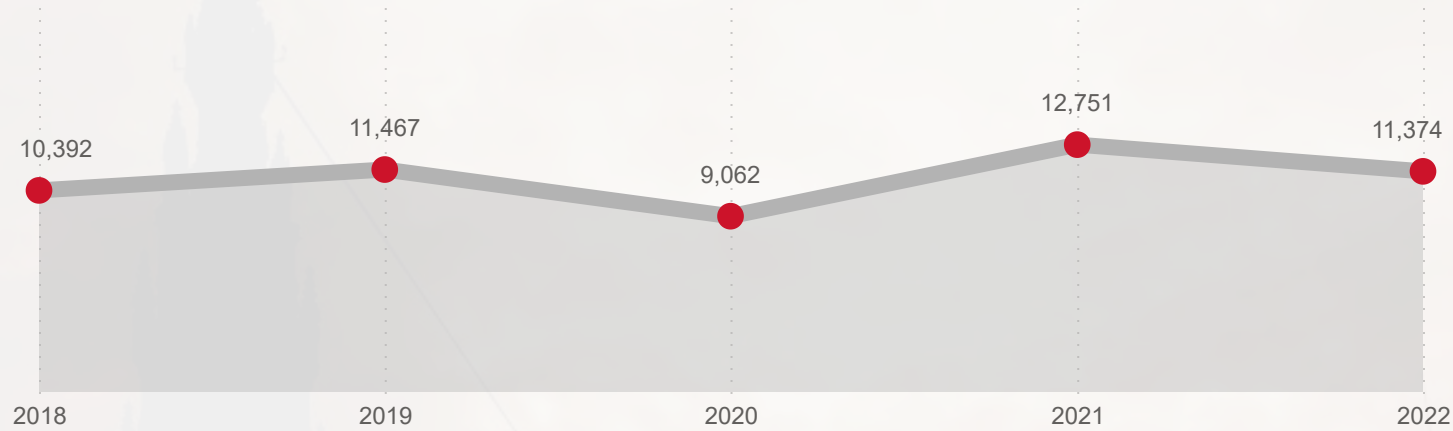
Property



Travel and connectivity

Property sales

Annual number of property sales in Edinburgh 2018 to 2022 (5 Year Period)



Did you know...?

The market value of residential property sales in 2022-23 was £3.12 billion, the highest residential market value of all of Scotland's cities. This represents 46% of the residential market value of all Scottish cities, and 14.2% of the market value of the whole of Scotland in 2022-23.

Source: [Registers of Scotland Property Market Report 2022-23](#)

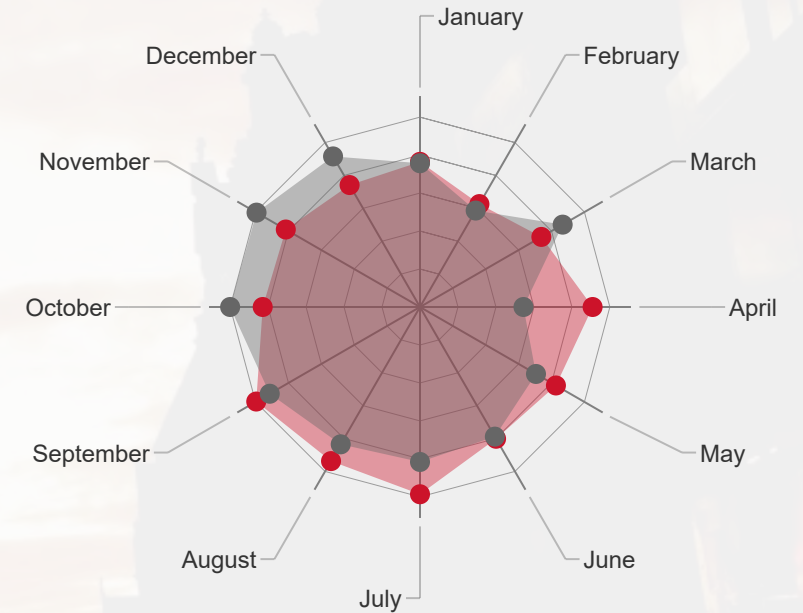
House sales in Edinburgh by month 2022 vs average 2019-21

Key Facts

The number of house sales each year has been relatively consistent except for a dip in sales in 2020, to just over 9,000, during the pandemic. House sales rose in 2021 to over 12,500 in 2021 and then have stabilised in 2022, at 11,374.

Compared with the average of 2019-2021, the number of sales shows a noticeable spike in sales during April and a decrease during autumn 2022. The summer months continue to show a high level of sales.

Month	2022	Avg 2019-21
January	872	864
February	714	669
March	842	990
April	1,037	622
May	943	805
June	914	899
July	1,125	931
August	1,069	953
September	1,136	1,042
October	945	1,141
November	931	1,134
December	846	1,045



Source: [UK Government - HM Land Registry - UKHPI](#)

New developments



People



Health and wellness



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Property



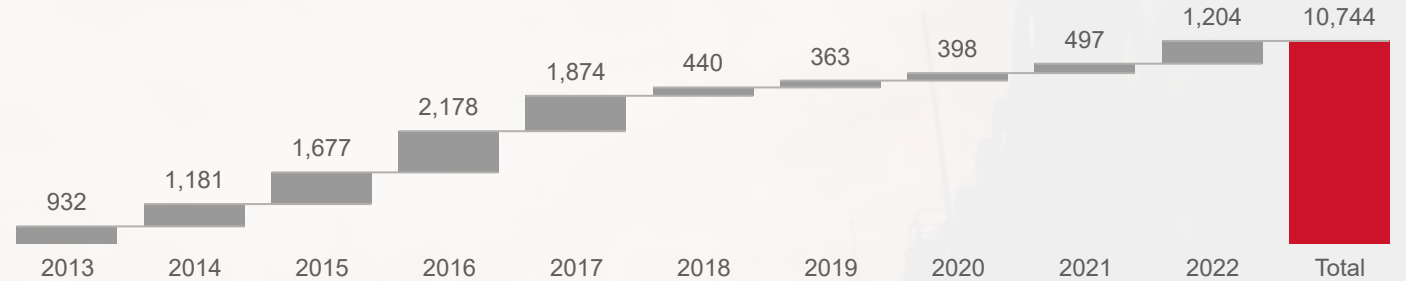
Travel and connectivity

Did you know...?

In addition to the student rooms completed in 2022 there were a further 1,024 under construction across 6 new city developments

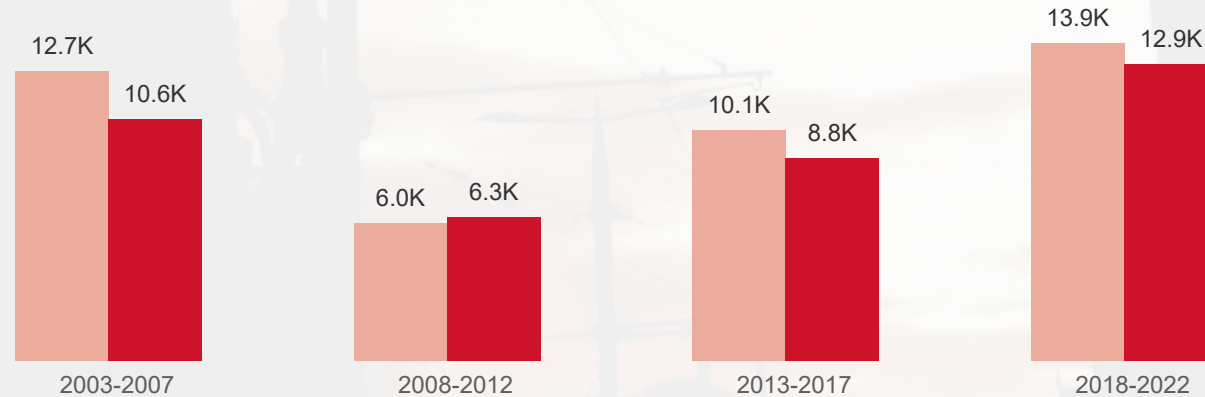


Student housing development completions 2013 to 2022 (number of rooms)



Number of new build house starts and completions in Edinburgh 2003 to 2022 (five year periods)

● Starts ● Completions



Key Facts

The number of new build house starts and completions has been rising over each five-year period since 2008-2012. The number of starts and completions has more than doubled from the period 2008-2012 to the period 2018-2022.

Source: Student housing data provided by The City of Edinburgh Council. Housing starts and completions from Scottish Government - Housing Statistics



Travel and Connectivity



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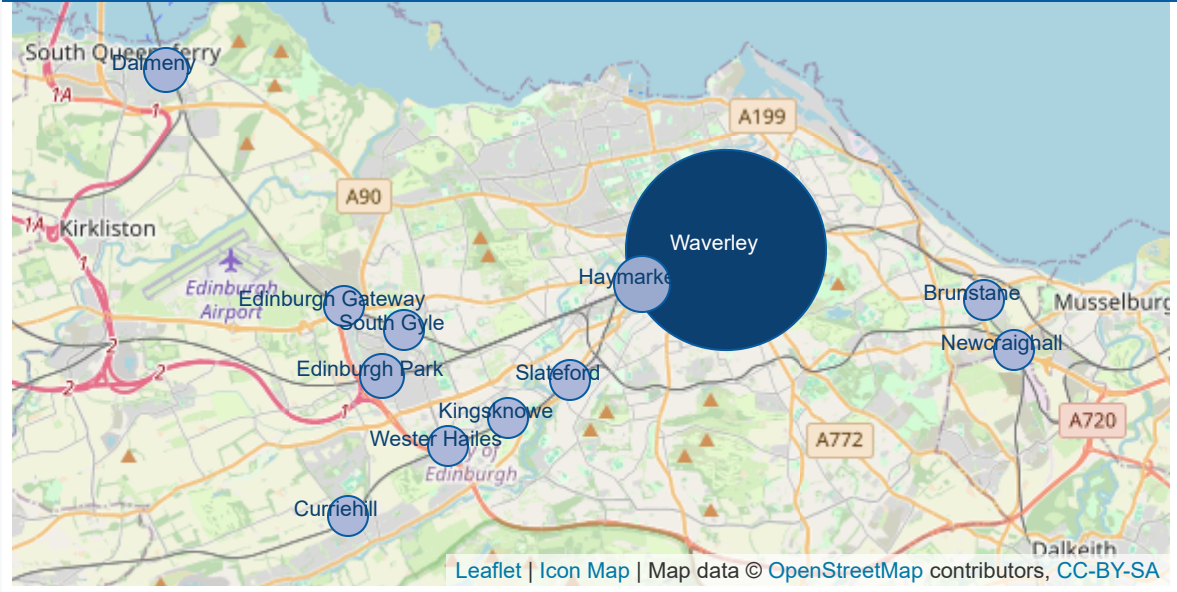
Property



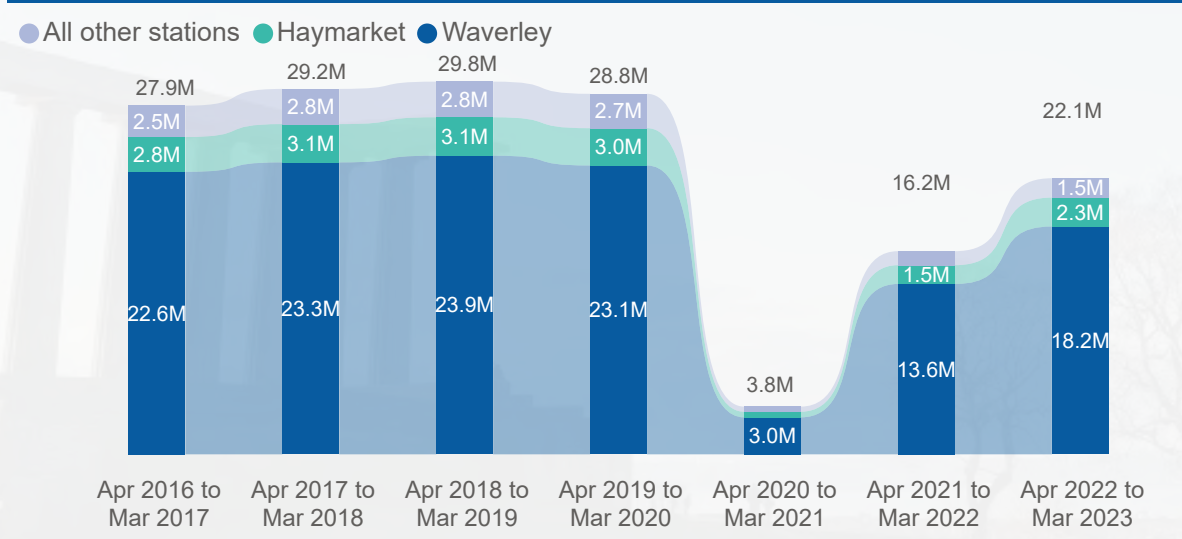
Travel and connectivity

Rail and plane passengers

Volume of rail passengers by station in Edinburgh from Apr 22 to Mar 23



Rail passenger numbers in Edinburgh stations from 2017 to 2023



Source: Office of Rail and Road, Scotrail and Google Maps

Travel times to Edinburgh

City	By car	By train
Glasgow	1 hr 6 min	48 min
Manchester	4 hr 12 min	3 hr 12 min
Leeds	4 hr 13 min	2 hr 57 min
Liverpool	4 hr 21 min	3 hr 28 min
Bradford	4 hr 33 min	3 hr 32 min
Sheffield	4 hr 50 min	3 hr 21 min
Birmingham	5 hr 23 min	4 hr 14 min
Bristol	6 hr 43 min	6 hr 8 min
London	7 hr 47 min	4 hr 00 min



Car travel times based on leaving Edinburgh at 9.30 am on Wed 10/01/2024. Train times based on shortest trip available on same date.

Key Facts

The number of rail passengers travelling to and from Edinburgh fell in 2020/21 to less than 4 million passengers from almost 29 million the previous year. Passenger numbers continue to steadily recover and reached 22.1 million passengers in 2022/23, getting closer to the pre-pandemic number.



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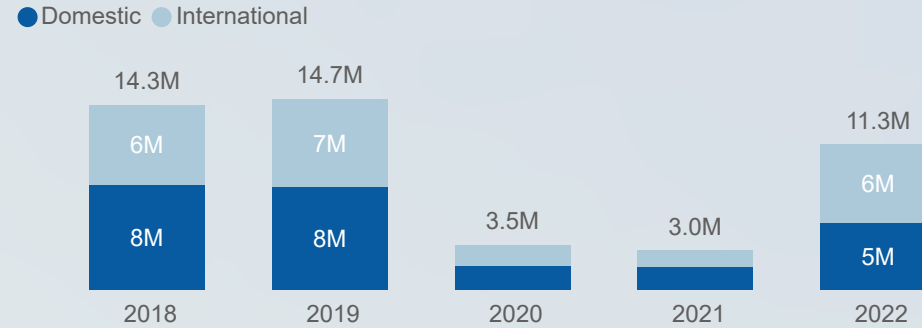
Property



Travel and connectivity

Domestic and international passengers

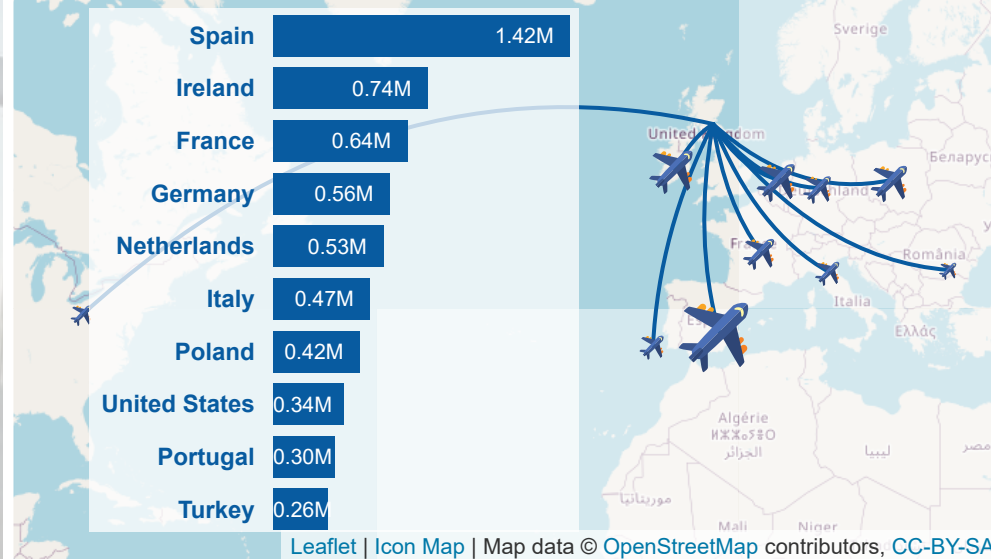
Passenger numbers (millions) Edinburgh airport 2018 to 2022



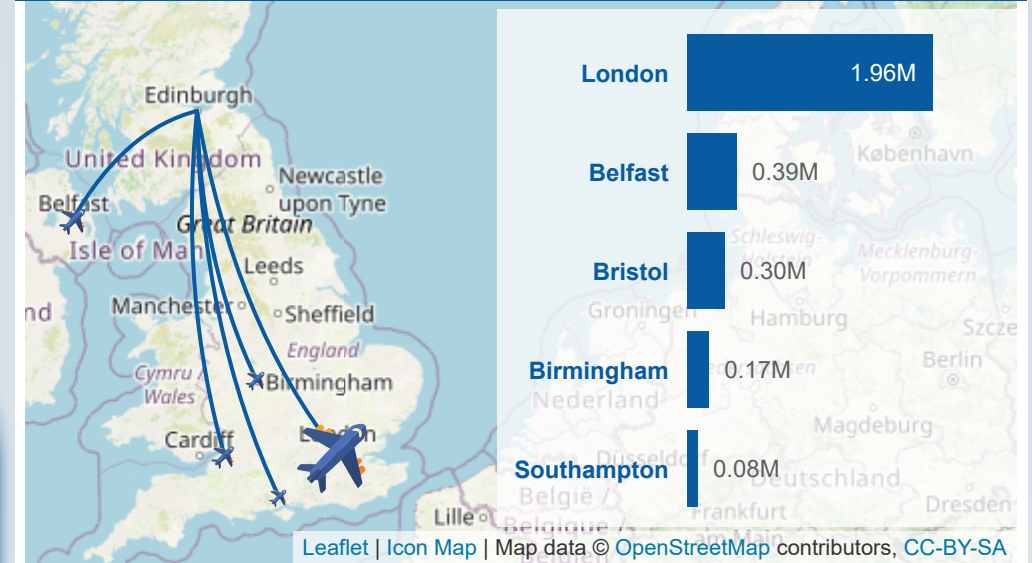
Key Facts

Due to the Pandemic the number of passengers arriving in Edinburgh fell to a low of 3 million in 2021. However, figures for 2022 have shown a strong recovery with passenger numbers reaching 11.3 million.

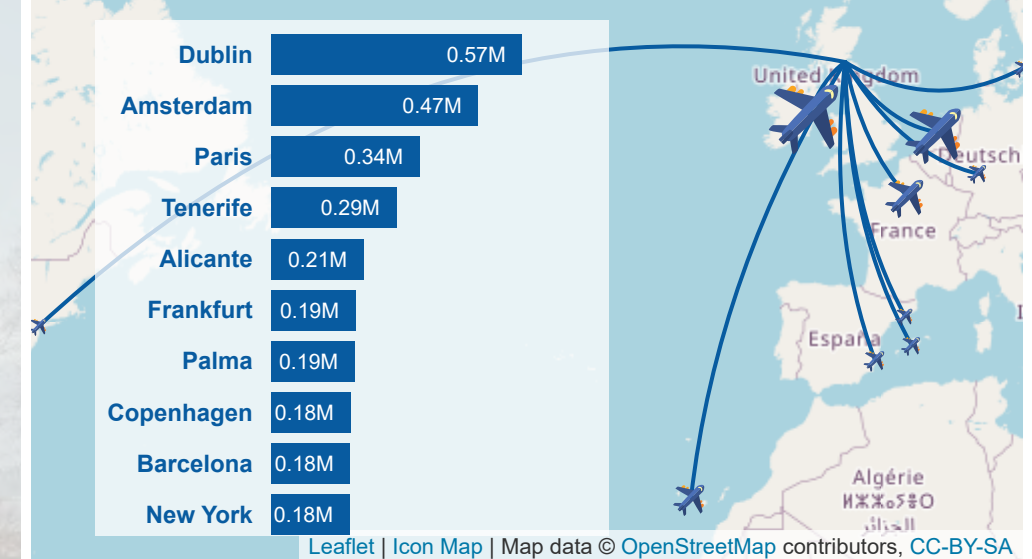
Top ten international countries from Edinburgh Airport by passenger numbers 2022



Top five domestic destinations from Edinburgh Airport by passenger numbers 2022



Top ten international cities from Edinburgh Airport by passenger numbers 2022



Source: Civil Aviation Authority



People



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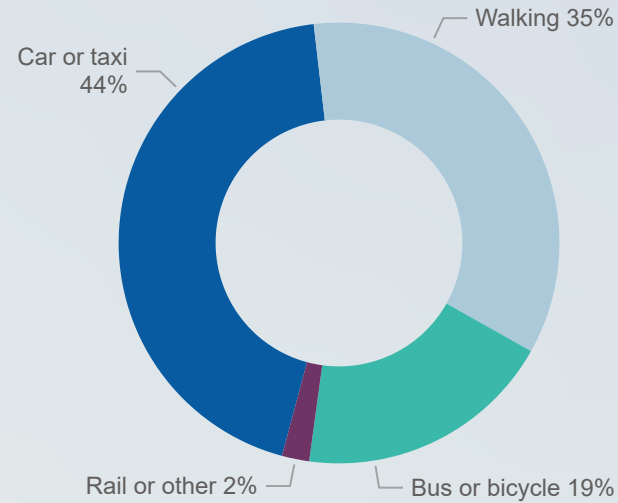
Property



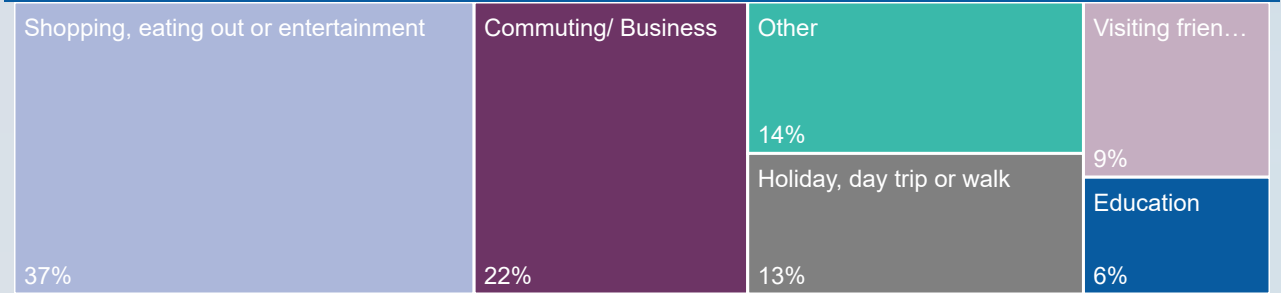
Travel and connectivity

Travel within the city

Main mode of travel in Edinburgh 2022



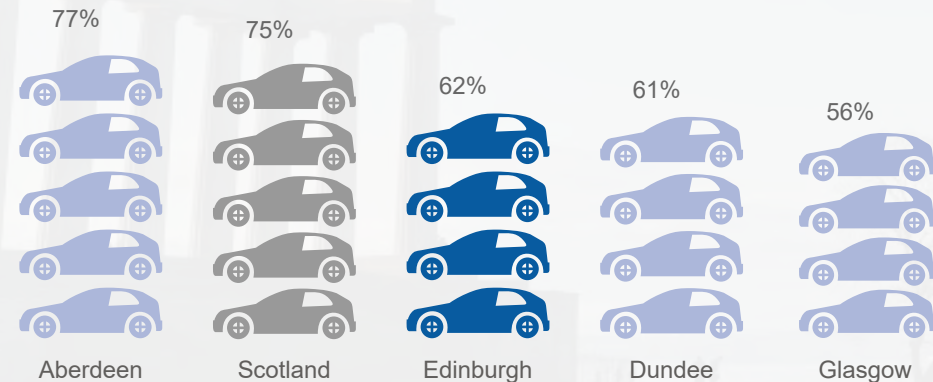
Main purpose of travel in Edinburgh 2022



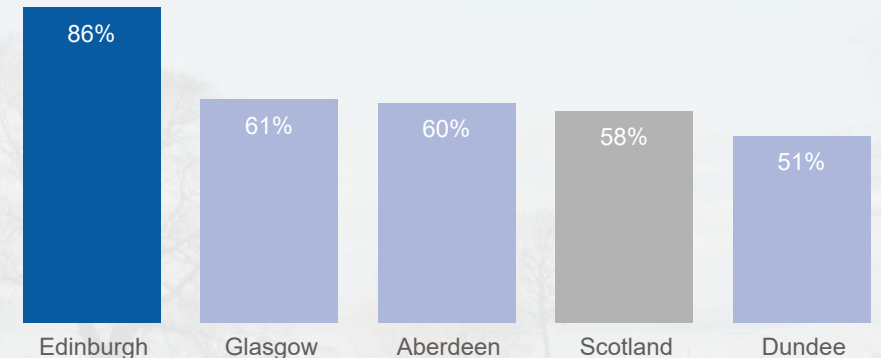
Key Facts

In 2022, over 55% of Edinburgh's travel involved walking or public transport, with leisure activities as the primary purpose in 37% of the trips. Public transport satisfaction stood at 86%, nearly 20% over the Scottish average. Despite this good use of sustainable travel, 62% of households owned at least one car.

Percentage of households who has at least one car in Scottish cities 2022



Percentage of population satisfied with public transport in Scottish cities 2022



Source: [Transport Scotland Scottish Household Survey](#)



People



Health and wellness



Work



Economy



Tourism and festivals



Education



Environment



Property



Travel and connectivity

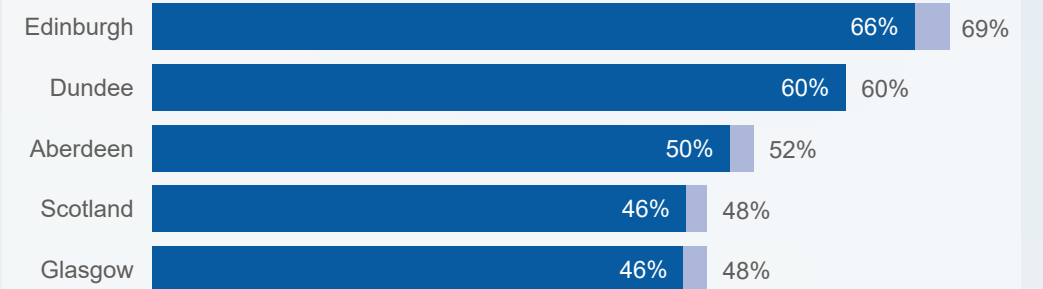
Active travel within the city

Key Facts

Almost 70% of the short trips made by people in Edinburgh in 2022 were either cycling or walking. A large proportion of residents (62%) walk between 3 and 5 days every week, just over half of them walk as a method of transport but the rest (29%) do it for pleasure. The percentage walking for pleasure increases to 32% for people who walk almost every day of the week. More than one third of the households in Edinburgh own at least one bike, which sits just under the Scottish average.

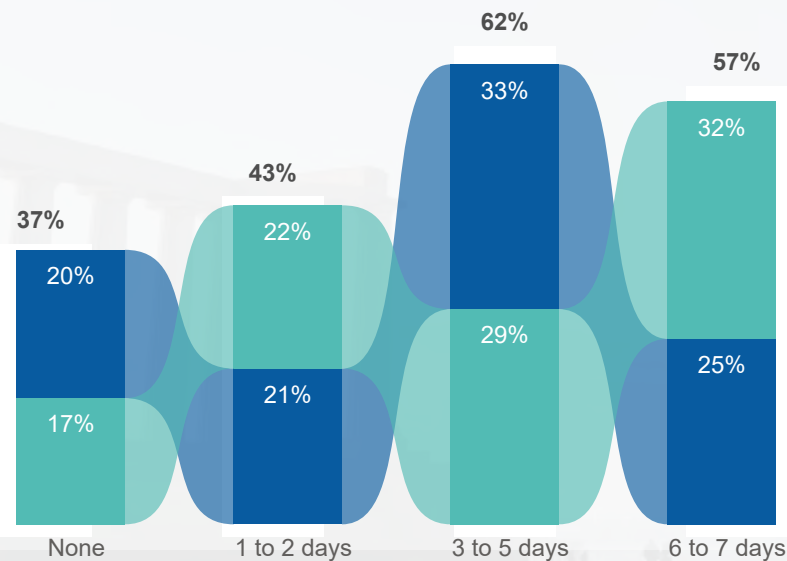
Proportion of short journeys that are made walking or cycling in Scottish cities 2022

● % of journeys under 2mi walking ● % of journeys under 2mi cycling

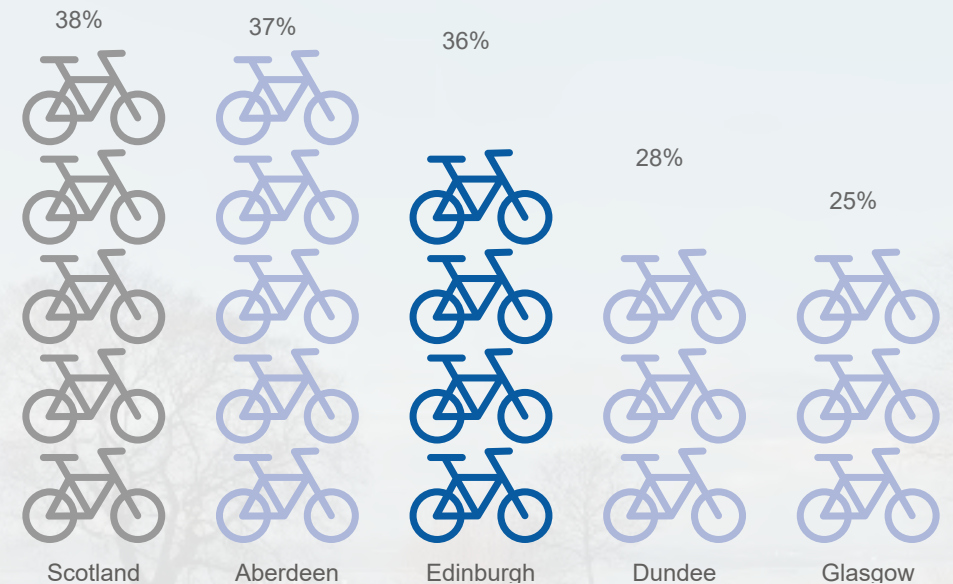


Days per week people walk in Edinburgh 2022

● As transport ● For pleasure



Percentage of households that have at least one bike in Scottish cities 2022



Source: [Transport Scotland Scottish Household Survey](#)

Driving in Edinburgh



People



Health and wellness



Work



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Education



Environment



Property



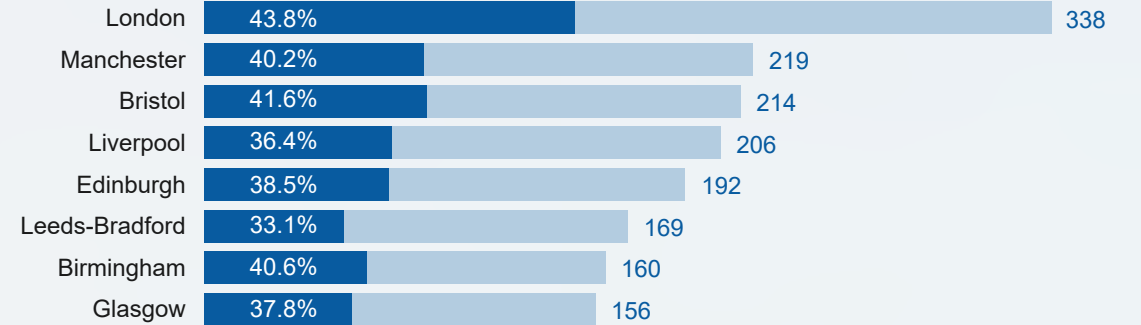
Travel and connectivity

Key Facts

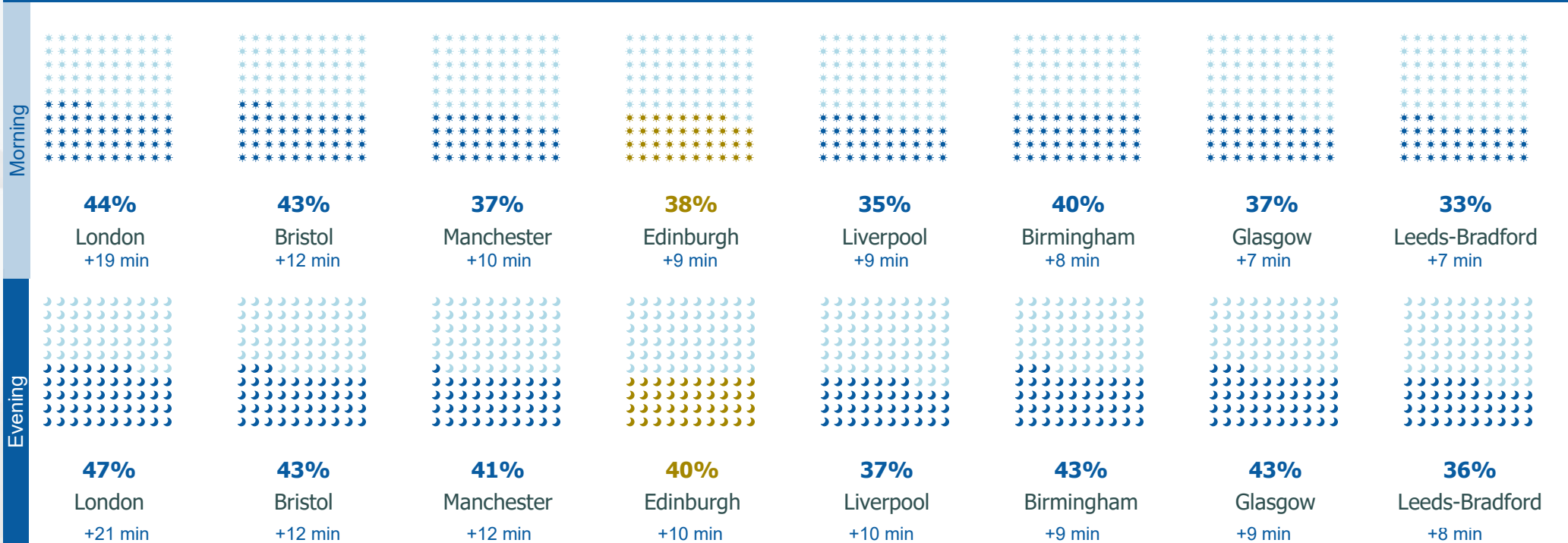
On average, the time spent driving per person in Edinburgh during 2023 was 192 hours, and 53 of them are due to congestion. The extra time added to a 10km commute is similar across cities at an additional 30%-40% both in the morning and evening peak times.

Time in hours spent driving per person (yearly figure) in 2023

● Due to congestion ● Not due to congestion



Extra time added to a 10 km commute during the morning and evening peak times



Source: [TomTom Traffic Index](#)

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you think!

For more information or
feedback contact:
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