



## Fife results from Scotland's Census 2022

### Education, Labour Market, Travel to Work

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Scotland's Census is the official count of every person and household in the country. There has been a census in Scotland every 10 years since 1801, except 1941. The 2021 census in Scotland was moved to 2022 due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. The answers people give to census questions help build up a picture of the population. Government and other service providers rely on census data to make important decisions. Scotland's census collection phase took place between 28 February and 1 June 2022.

**This briefing is the seventh in a series of topic summaries, and provides census data on education, labour market and travel to work. These statistics show Scotland's people, where they live, and how they are changing.**

#### Highest level of qualification

Scotland's Census asked people aged 16 and over which qualifications they have. This briefing covers people's highest qualification - degree level qualifications or above, including:

- Degree, Postgraduate Qualifications, Masters, PhD, SVQ Level 5 or equivalent
- Professional Qualifications (for example, teaching, nursing, accountancy)
- Other degree level Higher Education qualifications (including foreign qualifications)

In 2022, 88,755 (28.2%) of people aged 16 and over in Fife had degree level qualifications or above. This is higher than in 2011, when 71,568 (23.8%) had this level of qualification. Fewer adults in Fife have a degree level qualification compared with Scotland overall (32.5%). Figure 1 shows those people aged 16 and over that have a degree in Fife.

If we combine the number of Fife adults that have an HNC/HND level qualification, with those with a degree, this rises to 43.9% of the Fife adult population, similar to the Scottish level. This also shows that there are now 30,750 more people in Fife with either an HNC/HND or a degree, than there were in 2011 (an increase of 29%).

Females saw larger increases than males over the decade in achieving a degree level qualification. In 2022, 31.2% of females in Fife had a degree, up from 24.7% in 2011. This is lower than the Scottish level of 35.1% of females in 2022, and 27.1% in 2011.

The percentage of males with degrees increased from 22.8% in 2011, to 25.8% in 2022. Again, lower than the Scottish level of 25.0% in 2011, and 29.6% in 2022.

In Fife, a higher percentage of females had degree level qualifications across all age groups up until those aged over 70. The difference between females and males was highest in

younger age groups (those aged up to 44), with the 35-39 age group showing the largest difference between females (44%) compared to males (32%). Figure 2 shows the percentage of adults with a degree, by age and sex.

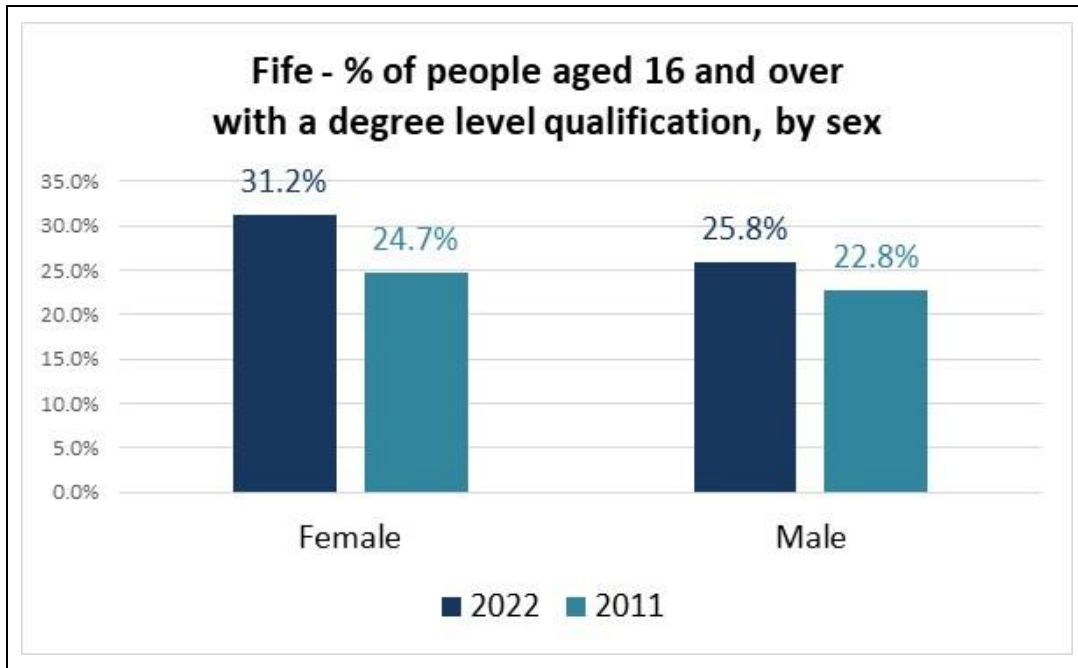


Figure 1. % of people aged 16 and over in Fife that have a degree level qualification, by sex (Census 2022, 2011)

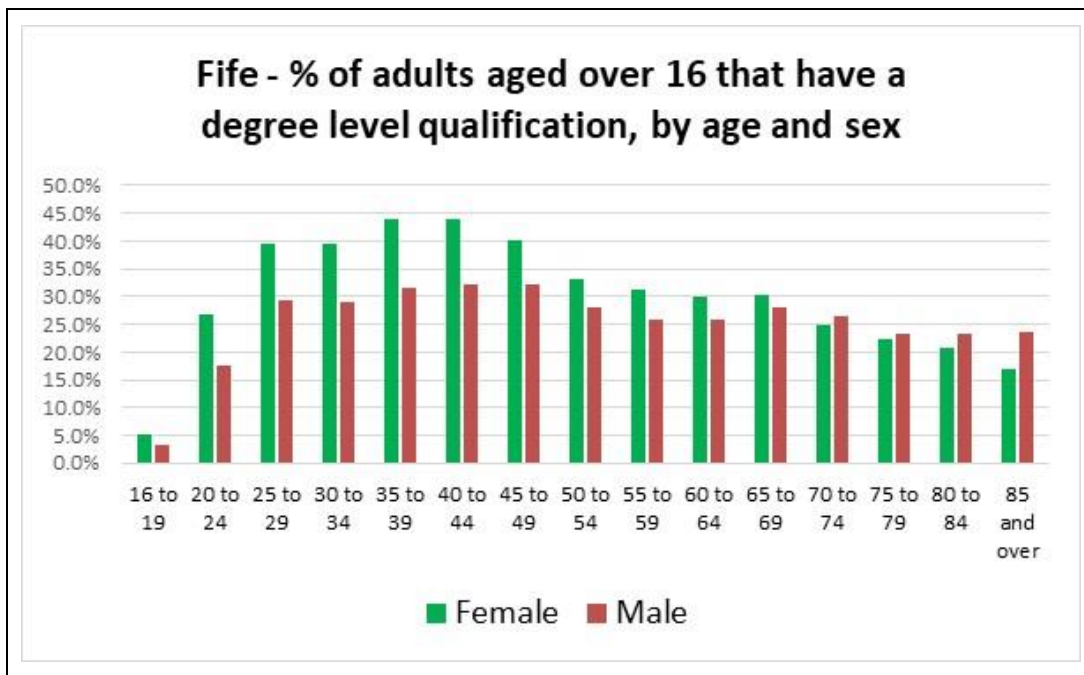


Figure 2. Fife - % of those aged 16 and over with a degree, by sex and age (Census 2022)

## Occupation

The Census asks about people’s job title and their main job. This information is used to derive their occupation.

In Fife, professional occupations are the most common type of job, accounting for 18.4% of the Fife workforce. This is followed by associate professional and technical jobs (14.0%) and

elementary occupations (12.4%). Since 2011, these three occupations have also seen the largest increases in numbers, with professional occupations increasing the most by 5,813 (22.6%). Occupations that have seen the largest decreases in numbers are administrative and secretarial jobs, reducing by -2,379 (-13.3%)

Figure 3 shows the number of jobs by occupation type in Fife.

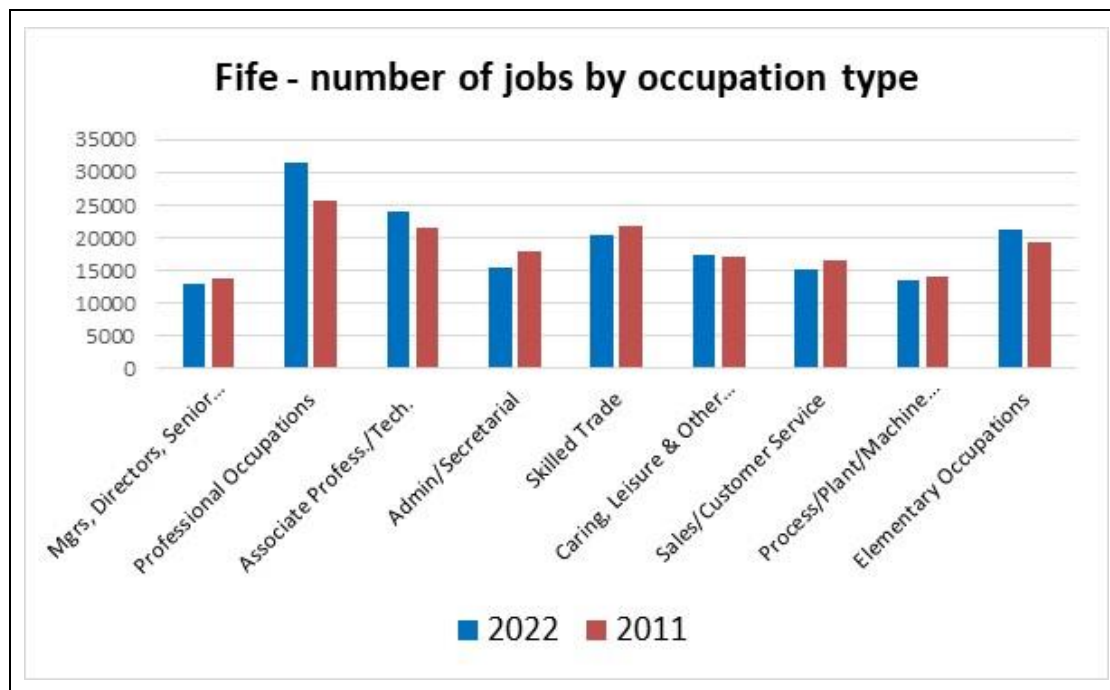


Figure 3. Number of jobs in Fife by occupation type (Census 2022, 2011)

The Census shows that some occupations have higher proportions of males, while others have higher levels for females. Skilled trades occupations have the highest proportions of males (just under 90%), as do process, plant and machinery operative type occupations (83.5%). Caring, leisure and other service occupations have the highest level for females (80.9%) and administrative and secretarial occupations (77.1%)

Figure 4 shows the percentage of occupations in Fife by sex.

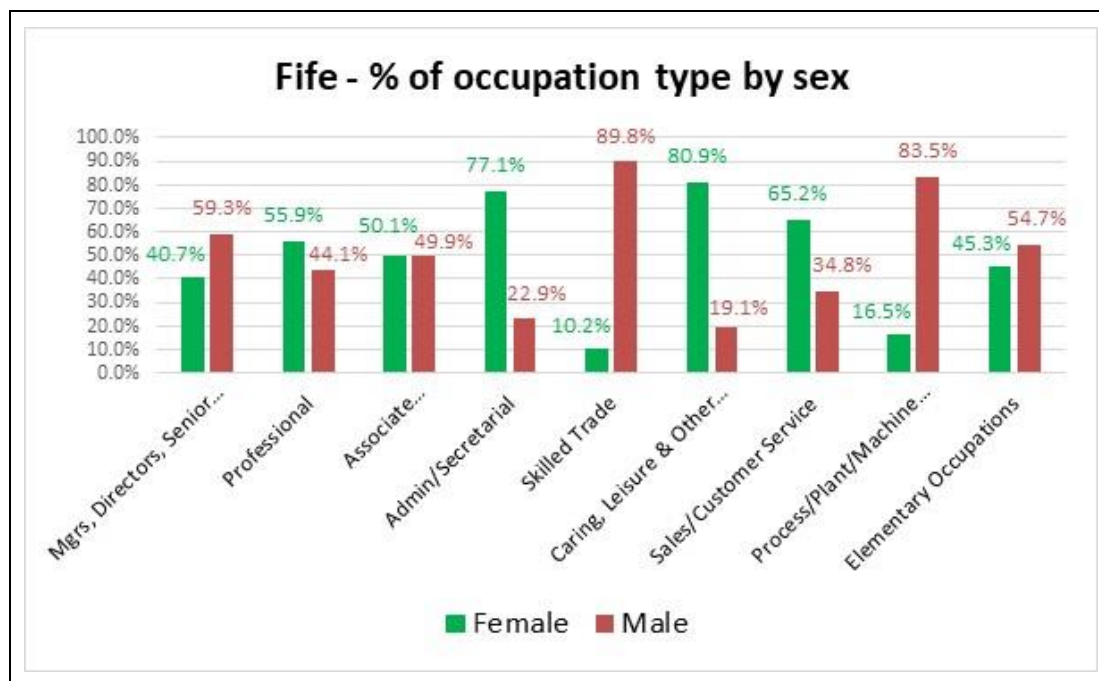


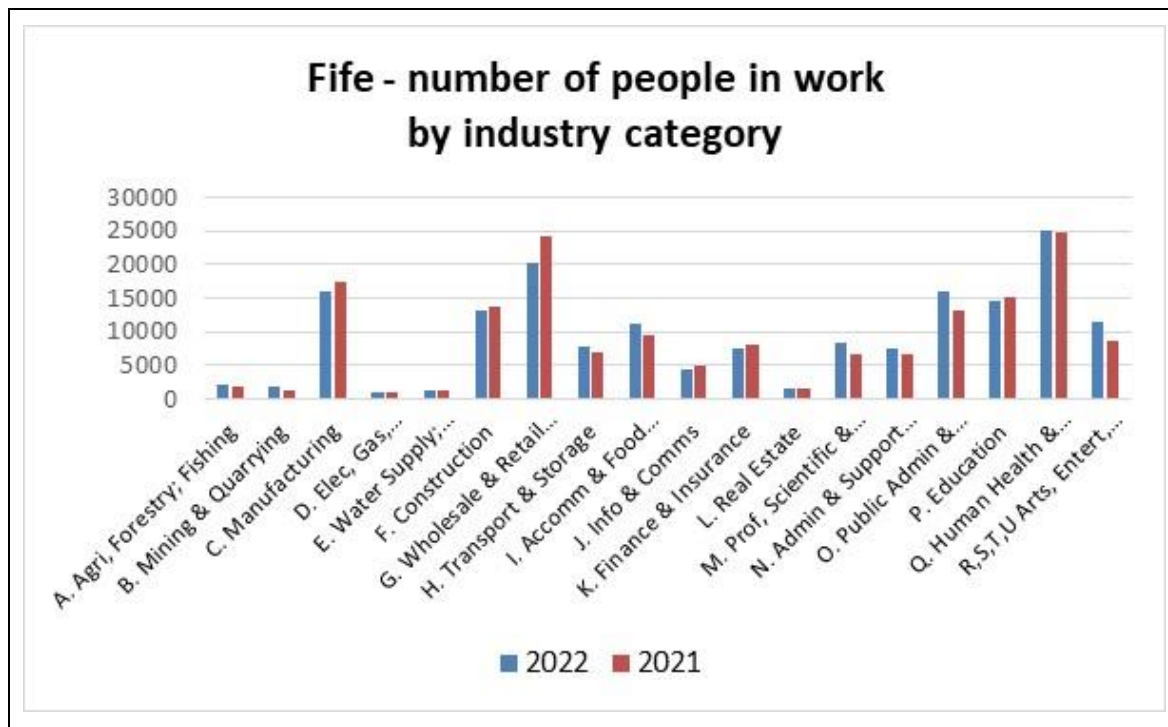
Figure 4. Percentage of occupation type by sex (Census 2022)

## Industry

The census asked people for the main activity of their organisation, business or freelance work. This information is used to derive the industry they work in.

For Fife, the industry sector employing the most people is health and social care, employing 25,080, (14.6% of the Fife workforce). This is followed by the wholesale and retail sector with 20,297 people (11.8%) and public administration 16,120 (9.4%) These are the same levels as for Scotland. Public administration does not include frontline public sector workers such as teachers, which are part of the education sector.

The industry sectors showing the largest increases in people employed were in public administration, up by 3,061 (23.4%), arts, entertainments, and recreation, increasing by 2,658 (30.3%), and professional, scientific and technical industries, increasing by 1,787 (26.6%). Industry sectors showing the largest decreases in personnel were in, wholesale, retail trade, and motor vehicle repair, down by 3,986 (-16.4%), and manufacturing, which has reduced by 1,253 (-7.2%). Figure 5 shows the number of people in work by industry category in Fife.



**Figure 5. Number of people in work in Fife by industry category (Census 2022, 2011)**

Depending on the industry sector, the age profile of its workforce can vary considerably. In the 16-19 age group, the highest number of people work in the accommodation and food industry sector (37.1%), while the least number of people work in the electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply industry (5.3%).

In the 25-44 age group, the highest proportion of this age group (50.6%) work in the information and communications industry, while the lowest proportion (33.1%) work in the agriculture, forestry, and fishing industry.

The 45-64 age group's most common industry to work in is water supply, sewage, waste management and remediation (53.4%). The lowest numbers are employed in accommodation and food service activities (26.1%). For the 65 and over age group, where people are still employed, agriculture, forestry, and fishing (12.3%) is the most common industry, while financial and insurance activities (2.3%) have the lowest numbers.

## Working from home and method of travel to work

In March 2022, nearly one-third of workers in Fife worked from home, similar to the Scottish average. The number of people working from home increased by just under 35,000 (224.2%) from 2011, again similar to the increase seen at the Scotland level.

This increase was largely driven by changes in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Some changes in response to the pandemic were temporary. Others are likely to be longer lasting. There were limited COVID related restrictions in place in March 2022, outside of health and social care settings.

In 2022, the number of people driving a car or van to work remained the most popular method of travelling to work, with just under 85,000 people (51.2%) in Fife using this method. However, the number of people travelling this way reduced by 17,000 (16.7%) from 2011. Car passengers also reduced by 35.7% from 2011.

Other methods of travelling to work also reduced from 2011, including, train (-49.8%), bus (-27.0%), bicycle (-25.2%), and on foot (-25.1).

Figure 6 shows the percentage of people in work by travel to work method in Fife.

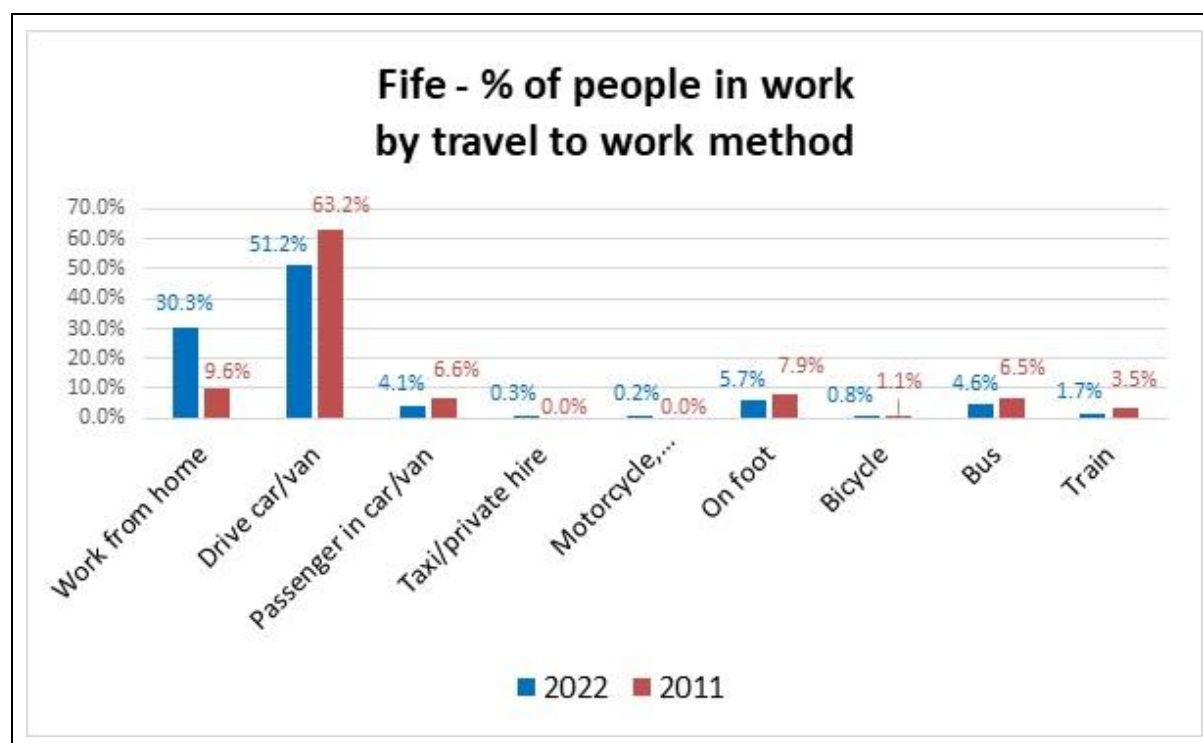


Figure 6. Percentage of Fife people in work by travel to work method (Census 2022, 2011)

## Census Results

Fife briefings on Scotland's Census 2022 are available from [Census | KnowFife](#)

To access Census results, please go to [Scotland's Census \(scotlandscensus.gov.uk\)](https://scotlandscensus.gov.uk)