

The KnowFife Dataset can be used to understand the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD).

It is an extremely useful tool for anyone with an interest in understanding a local area or neighbourhood, particular in relation to concentrations of deprivation within and between areas in Fife.

Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation

The Scottish Government published the latest Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD16) on 31 August 2016.

It ranks datazones (some 700 people on average) across Scotland from 1 (most deprived) to 6976 (least deprived). As an index, it measures **relative** not absolute deprivation (i.e. how multiple deprivation compares between datazones, rather than how much deprivation is in each).

Its uses include: understanding the concentration of multiple deprivation, informing policy and allocating resources.

The SIMD16 methodology is based on 38 indicators across six thematic domain indices: income, employment, education, health, crime, geographic access and housing, and one overall multiple deprivation index.

KnowFife Dataset

The KnowFife Dataset is a shared information resource for partners and the public in Fife, which uses datazones as its basic building block. Data loaded at datazone level is usually aggregated up to other higher level geographies.

As the SIMD is a relative index, ranking areas across Scotland, the SIMD ranks and scores are **not** suitable for aggregation to higher geographic areas. However, the SIMD domains of Income and Employment are based on counts and rates of people who are experiencing deprivation, which can be aggregated, and these domains together account for 56% of the overall index.

Annual updates (where available) in relation to the Income and Employment Domain help us look at change in these indicators between indices.

The KnowFife Dataset can be used to:

- Give a **general profile** of levels of deprivation in an area, and how it compares with Fife and Scotland.
- Produce **thematic maps**, at a range of geographies, showing how income and employment deprivation have varied across Fife between 2004 and 2016:
<https://knowfife.fife.gov.uk/dataviews/view?viewId=251>
- Look at the percentage of the population who are income and employment deprived for any given area(s), alongside other indicators of interest through **Pick and Mix**
- Export tables of the numbers of income and employment deprived people in any given area(s).
- Explore some of the individual indicators used in the calculation of an index score for other domains, where that data is available.
- Frame enquiries about the gap between most and least deprived areas across a range of indicators through use of SIMD related geographies.

It cannot be used to:

- Directly look at the overall SIMD or the education, health, crime, geographic access, or housing domains.
- Produce maps of SIMD areas

To sum up

As the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation is a relative index based on ranks, it cannot be directly replicated through the KnowFife Dataset. However, the KnowFife Dataset can be used to look at concentrations of income and employment deprivation at higher geographic areas.

More information

Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation

<http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/SIMD>

Fife analysis of the Scottish Index of Deprivation

www.fifedirect.org.uk/deprivation

KnowFife Dataset

www.fifedirect.org.uk/knowfifedataset

Contact

Coryn Barclay, Fife Council Research Team coryn.barclay@fife.gov.uk
Kerry Humphries, KnowFife Co-ordinator kerry.humphries@nhs.net / know.fife@fife.gov.uk