



2022 Census: Equalities in Fife

Final Report

November 2024



Topics: Census, Economy, Education and Skills, Equalities, Health and Wellbeing, Housing and Community, Population

1. Scotland's Census 2022

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.

Scotland's census collection phase took place between 28 February and 1 June 2022.

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.

The protected characteristics in Scotland under the Equality Act 2010 include:

- Age
- Sex
- Sexual orientation
- Disability
- Gender reassignment
- Marriage and civil partnership
- Pregnancy and maternity
- Race
- Religion or belief

This report focuses on what the census tells us about the Fife population and its households, particularly in relation to equality characteristics, and how this has changed between 2011 and 2022.

A number of new questions introduced in the 2022 Census provide us with new insight on some aspects of equality, but this does mean no comparable data is available for previous censuses.

- Trans status or history
- Use of British Sign Language (BSL)
- Armed forces veterans

Information is included on other special populations, such as:

- Unpaid carers
- Armed forces veterans

2. Key Findings

The Census shows some significant changes in Fife's population structure that have taken place over the last 11 years.

Population

- Fife's population is estimated at 371,781 as of Census Day 20 March 2022, an increase of 1.8% since 2011.

Age

- Fife's age structure continues to change, with fewer children (-2,552) and working age people (-6,821) than in 2011, and significant increases in its older population (+15,939).
- In the decades leading up to 2011, the proportion of children in the population was higher than for older people. Since 2011, older people have overtaken the number of children, and in 2022, this gap continues to increase at a faster rate.

Sex

- Females make up 51.6% of Fife's population, while males make up 48.4%, similar to the overall proportions for Scotland.
- There continues to be a generally higher proportion of males than females for those people aged 0-20, but by their early 20s females make up a higher proportion of the population, and for females aged over 85, they significantly outnumber males.

Households

- Fife has 169,573 households, an increase of 8,621 from 2011.
- The number of Fife households has increased at a faster rate (5.4%) than its population (1.8%) continuing the trend for smaller numbers of people in each household.
- While more than half of households in Fife are owner-occupied, there are now more households living in private rented rather than in social rented accommodation.
- The 50-64 and 65 plus age groups have both seen increases in private renting over the last ten years of around 4-6%.
- One in four Fife households do not have access to a car or van.

Living arrangements

- One of the biggest changes to household size is the increase in single person households, which are now almost as common as two person households.
- For people aged 55 and over, just under two-thirds (63.7%) live alone in Fife in 2022.
- Older people are more likely to live alone than younger people, with only 3.4% of those aged 16-24 living alone.
- In 2022 there were 40,620 households with dependent children in Fife, just under one in four households (24%), similar to Scotland. This is a decrease of 2,769 or 3% since 2011. This reflects the decrease in the number of children in Fife over this period.
- In 2022 there were 16,923 households containing one family with only non-dependent children in Fife accounting for 10% of households.
- There were 17,045 households containing lone parent families in Fife. This is around 1 in 10 households and is similar to the Scottish average.

Marriage and Civil Partnership

- The census shows a gradual shift from marriage or civil partnerships towards cohabiting.
- The number of cohabiting couples went up by 15.8% from 2011, while married or civil partnership couple households decreased by 9.6%.
- There were 68,398 households containing couples in Fife in 2022. This is a decrease of 2,723 (-3.8%) from 2011, and contrasts with Scotland which saw an increase of 4.5%.
- Those that said that they had 'never married' increased to 35.1%, from 31.6% in 2011.
- The percentage of people who were married decreased from 48.2% in 2011 to 45.7% in 2022.
- People who were separated reduced slightly by 0.9% from 2011, while the proportion of those divorced or widowed, remained stable over the decade.

Sexual orientation

- This was a voluntary question for people aged 16 and over, around 8% of people did not answer the sexual orientation question in Fife (similar to Scotland).
- 88% of people (aged 16 and over) identified as straight or heterosexual.
- There were 11,919 LGB+ people (4.0%) aged 16 and over, similar to Scotland.
- There are more LGB+ people in younger age groups than in older groups.

Trans status or history

- There were 1,294 trans people in Fife (0.4% of people aged 16 and over), similar to the Scottish average.
- Just under 44% of Fife trans people identify as 'non-binary', slightly lower than the Scotland figure of 45%.
- 17% of trans people identified as trans men, while 15% identified as trans women, and 15% did not specify their trans status or history, similar to the Scottish average.

Disability and health

- In 2022 in Fife, 289,322 (77.8%) said that their health was good or very good. This is a decrease from 2011 of 9,569 people.
- The number of people with a health problem that limited their day-to-day activities increased across all age groups from 2011 to 2022.
- There is a strong relationship between this measure of health and age, with older people more likely to have a health problem or disability that limits their activities than younger people.
- In 2022, 95,552 Fife people said that they had a health problem or disability that limited their day-to-day activities either a little or a lot, an increase of 21,306 over the decade, and an increase from one in every five people suffering from a health problem or disability in 2011, to one in four people in 2022.
- In 2022, the most common type of health condition reported in the census was a 'long-term illness, disease or condition'¹.

¹ This is described in the census as a condition that you may have for life, that may be managed with treatment or medication, and is not in one of the other health condition categories. It is a broad category that includes a range of conditions such as Arthritis, Cancer, Diabetes and Epilepsy

- Nearly one in four people in Fife (23.4%) reported having a long-term illness/condition, higher than the Scottish average of 21.4% and has increased in Fife from 20.3% in 2011.
- Mental health is the second most commonly reported health condition. This has increased threefold to 11.9% in 2022, from 4.1% in 2011. This is driven by a large increase amongst younger people and is in line with the picture for Scotland as a whole.

Unpaid care

- In 2022, there were 44,222 unpaid carers in Fife (12.2%)
- The number of unpaid carers has increased across all age groups over the last decade in Fife and Scotland, with the largest increase in the 50 to 64 age group.
- Females (14.0%) provided higher levels of care than males (10.3%) across all age groups. The 50 to 64 age group showed the largest gap between females (24.5%) and males (17.1%) providing unpaid care.
- In 2022, more than half (54.8%) of all unpaid carers spent between 1 to 19 hours per week providing care support. A further one-quarter of unpaid carers spent more than 50 hours per week providing care. This is a similar picture for Scotland overall.

Qualifications

- 28.2% of people aged 16 and over in Fife had degree level qualifications or above, an increase from 23.8% in 2011. Fewer adults in Fife have a degree level qualification compared with Scotland overall (32.5%).
- The proportion of females with no qualifications continues to be lower than for males.

Economy

- In 2022 in Fife, there were 180,192 people that were classified as Economically Active. This is lower than 2011, when there were 184,453, a decrease of 4,262. This is despite an increase in Fife's population over the decade.
- In contrast, in 2022, there were 129,741 people that were classified as Economically Inactive. This is higher than the figure in 2011 of 116,348, an increase of 13,393 people.
- In 2022, more males (61.9%) were economically active compared to females (54.7%), but this is lower than in 2011, when there were 67.2% of males and 56% of females economically active.
- For age, and the extent to which people are economically active, there has been notable change over the last decade. Generally, those aged 16 to 50 have become less economically active, while those over 50 have become more economically active, even for those in post-retirement age groups (65 and over). In 2022, the highest levels of economic activity can be seen in the 50 to 59 age group, whereas in 2011, the highest levels were in the 40-49 age group.
- For people that are classified as economically inactive in Fife, with the exception of the youngest age group (16 to 19), and the 40 to 49 and 60 to 64 age groups, all other age groups have seen an increase in economic inactivity over the last decade. The highest levels of inactivity are in the over 65 age groups, which have seen a significant increase in numbers since 2011.
- 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%).
- Depending on the industry sector, the sex and age profile of the workforce can vary considerably.

- Like occupation, the type of industry that females and males tend to work in varies across Fife. For females, the highest proportion work in Human Health and Social Work Activities (23.9%), and Education (13%), whereas males tend to work in Manufacturing and Construction each with 13.5%.

Ethnic Group

- The majority of Fife people identified their ethnic group or background as “White” (96.0%), although this has fallen from the previous census from 97.6%.
- “White Scottish” is the predominant group making up 84.6% of the white population, again falling from 87.8% in 2011.
- The percentage of people in Fife with a minority ethnic background increased from 2.3% in 2011 to 3.9% in 2022. This is lower than the Scottish average of 12.9%.

Country of Birth

- The percentage of people living in Fife that were born outside the UK increased from 2.8% to 4.2% between 2011 and 2022.
- The largest increases were from European Union (EU) Accession countries (0.8%), other EU countries (0.5%), the Middle East and Asian countries (0.4%), and the Americas and Caribbean countries (0.3%).

Pregnancy and Maternity

- While the Census doesn’t ask directly about pregnancy and maternity, the trend over time is for a reduction in the number of children born in Fife.
- Compared with Scotland (45.4%), Fife (37.6%) has a lower proportion of births to parents that are married.
- Fife’s (44.8) fertility rate is also lower than Scotland’s (45.5), which is a driver of the trend of reducing household size.

National Identity

- The percentage of people who said “Scottish” was their only national identity increased from 63.8% in 2011 to 68.5% in 2022 (above Scottish average of 65.5%).
- School aged children (4-17) had the highest levels of Scottish identity, followed by those aged 25-34, with males and females showing similar levels for Scottish identity.
- Those who said that their only national identity was British increased from 7.9% in 2011 to 13.3% in 2022. Older age groups (65 and over) had highest levels of British identity.

Language

- In 2022, 94.6% of people in Fife said they speak, read and write English.
- Of the people in Fife aged 3 and over, 98.7% had no skills in Gaelic in 2022, a decrease from 99.3% in 2011.
- The percentage of people aged 3 and over in Fife with no skills in Scots language has decreased from 57.6% in 2011 to 49.1% in 2022.
- The 2022 Census included a new question on the use of BSL. Therefore, no comparable data is available for the previous censuses.
- For those aged 3 and over in the Fife population, 7,947 (2.2%) use British Sign Language (BSL), similar to the Scottish average. People in the 30 to 60 age groups have the highest levels of use of BSL, and twice as many females use BSL compared with males.

Religion and belief

- For the first time, 2022 Census figures show that the majority of people in Fife said that they had “No Religion” (61%), increasing from 46% in 2011. This is higher than the Scottish average of 51%.
- The Church of Scotland remains the largest religious group in Fife but saw the largest drop in numbers from 31% in 2011 to 19% in 2022.
- Other Christian religions have also reduced in numbers.

Armed Forces veterans

- 16,131 Fife households currently contain at least one UK Armed Forces veteran.
- This is nearly 10% of all Fife households and higher than Scottish average of 6.7%.

Conclusion

The report finds that the changing structure of Fife’s population presents a number of challenges in relation to:

- **Demand for public services** with fewer children and fewer people of working age, and an older population that will continue to increase.
- **Housing need** with the continuing trend to smaller household size.
- **Cost of living** and **local economy** with more people living alone and increased economic inactivity among people of working age.
- **Health and wellbeing** with one in four people having a health problem or disability that limits their day-to-day activities a little or a lot, an increase in people reporting a long term health condition or illness (particularly mental health) and an increase in unpaid care for working age people.
- All of the above have implications for the **Workforce**.

Further research will be undertaken in 2025 to understand how patterns of **migration** have changed over the last decade, and the implications of this for planning and delivering public services.

3. Population

Fife's population is estimated at 371,781 as of Census Day 20 March 2022, according to National Records of Scotland (NRS).

Fife's population has increased by 1.8% since 2011. This is lower than the Scottish rate of 2.7% and compares with the highest increase of 16% for Midlothian, and the highest decrease of -5% for Na h-Eileanan Siar (Western Isles).

The Census shows some significant changes in Fife's population structure that have taken place over the last 11 years.

Fife's age structure continues to change, with fewer children (-2,552) and working age people (-6,821) than in 2011, and significant increases in its older population (+15,939).

Table 3.1 –Total population by age group for Fife, 2022 Census

	Number	%
Total Population	371,781	100.0%
Children (aged 0 to 15)	61,845	16.6%
Working age (aged 16 to 64)	229,909	61.8%
Older people (aged 65 and over)	80,010	21.5%

Females make up 51.6% of Fife's population, while males make up 48.4%, similar to the overall proportions for Scotland.

Table 3.2 –Total population by sex for Fife, 2022 Census

	Number	%
Total Population	371,781	100.0%
Females	191,839	51.6%
Males	179,942	48.4%

4. Age

The Census shows some significant changes in Fife's population structure that have taken place over the last 11 years.

Fife's age structure continues to change, with fewer children and working age people than in 2011, and significant increases in its older population.

In 2011, Fife had 64,397 children (aged 0-15) (17.6% of the population). By 2022 this figure had reduced by -2,552 children to 61,845 (16.6%).

Working age numbers (15-64 years) also reduced over the period, from 236,730 (64.8%) in 2011, to 229,909 (61.8%) in 2022, a reduction of -6,821 working age people.

Older age groups (65 and over) however, saw significant growth, increasing from 64,071 (17.5%) in 2011, to 80,010 (21.5%) in 2022, an increase of 15,939 older people.

In the decades leading up to 2011, the proportion of children in the population was higher than for older people. Since 2011 older people have overtaken the number of children, and in 2022, this gap continues to increase at a faster rate.

The chart in Figure 2. shows the change over the last decade in the age distribution of Fife's population. The numbers of people aged between 0 to 49 (with the exception of those in the 5-9, 10-14, and 30-34 age groups) have all decreased in number. In contrast, the numbers of people aged 50 and over have all increased.

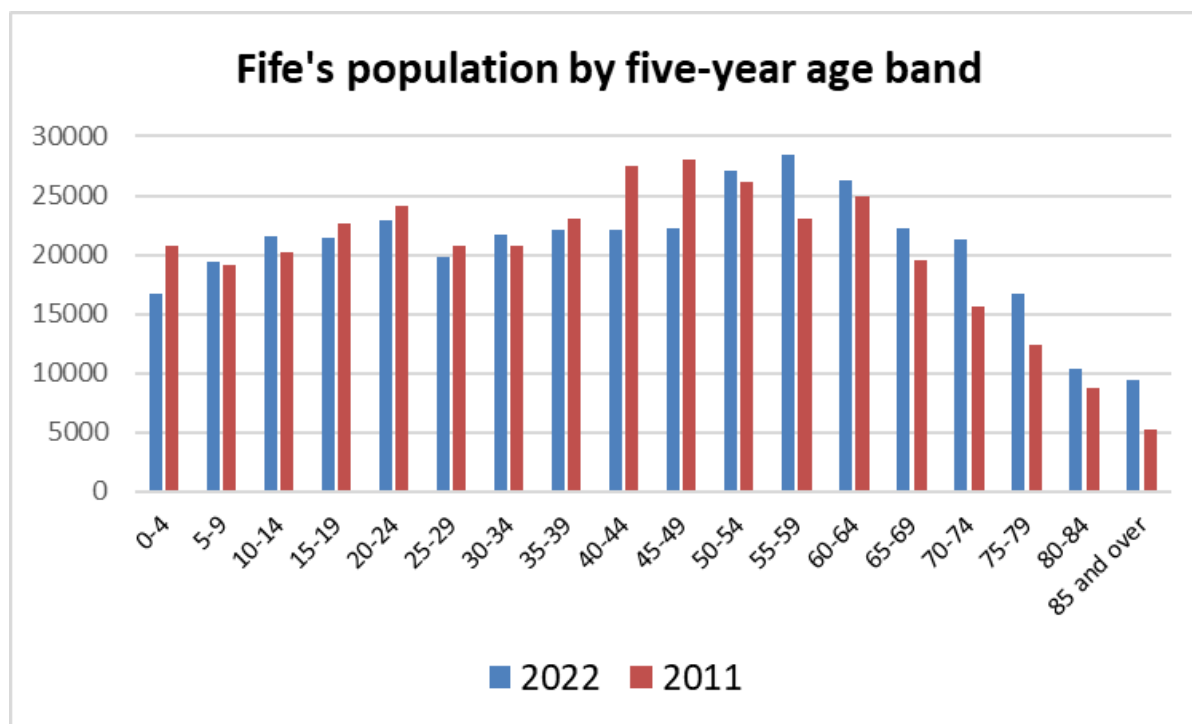


Figure 4.1 - Fife's population by five-year age band (Census 2022 and 2011)

5. Sex

Females make up 51.6% of Fife's population, while males make up 48.4%, similar to the overall proportions for Scotland.

There continues to be a generally higher proportion of males than females for those people aged 0-20, but by their early 20s females make up a higher proportion of the population, and for females aged over 85, they significantly outnumber males.

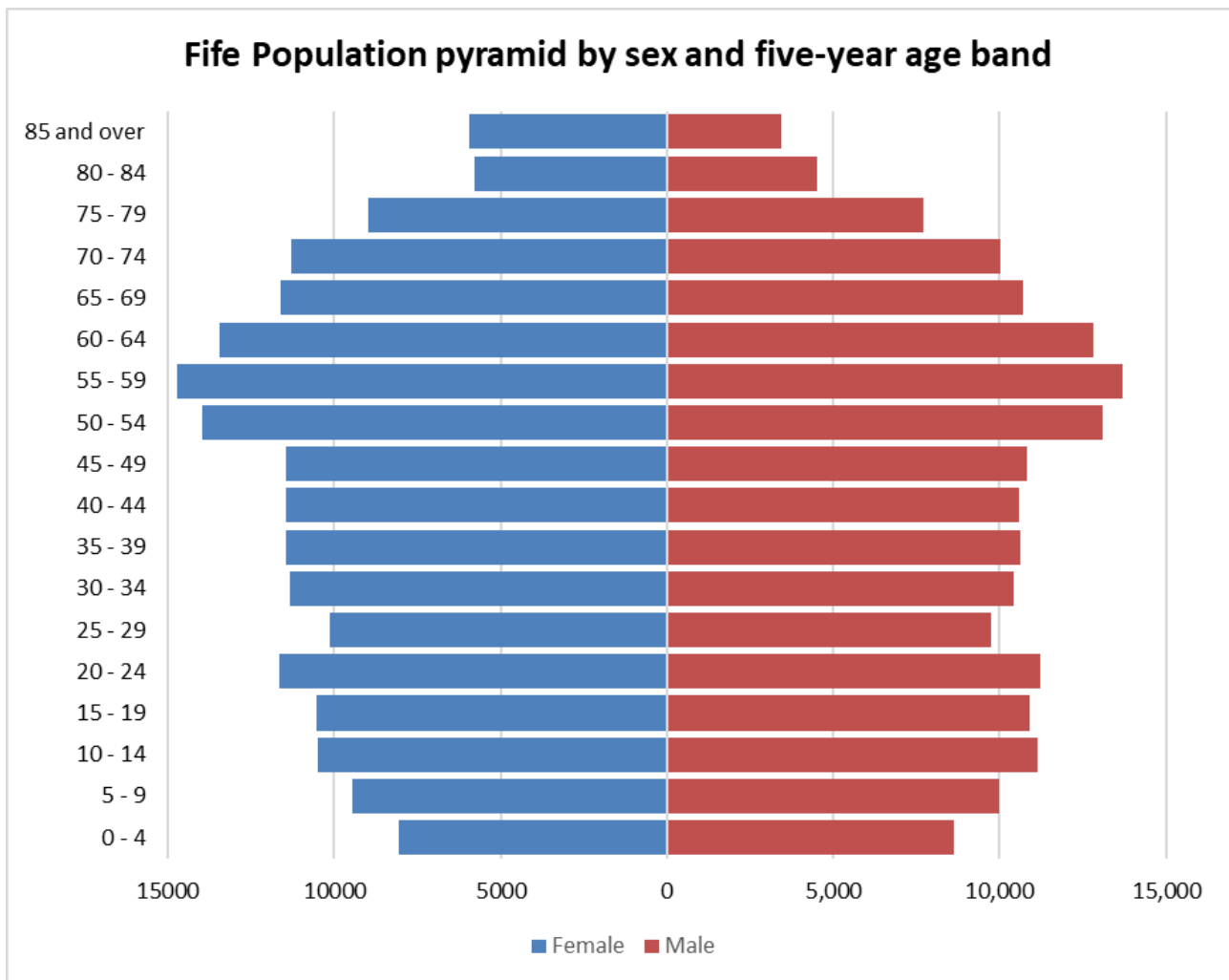


Figure 5.1 - Fife population pyramid by sex and five-year age band (Census 2022)

Table 5.1 –Total population by sex and five year age band for Fife, 2022 Census

	All People	Female	Male
Total	371,781	191,774	180,007
0 to 4	16,663	8,044	8,619
5 to 9	19,427	9,455	9,972
10 to 14	21,625	10,496	11,129
15 to 19	21,416	10,521	10,892
20 to 24	22,855	11,644	11,211
25 to 29	19,859	10,133	9,726
30 to 34	21,762	11,340	10,422
35 to 39	22,067	11,443	10,625
40 to 44	22,037	11,448	10,586
45 to 49	22,266	11,444	10,822
50 to 54	27,057	13,965	13,092
55 to 59	28,449	14,746	13,703
60 to 64	26,284	13,458	12,819
65 to 69	22,299	11,598	10,701
70 to 74	21,307	11,298	10,009
75 to 79	16,708	8,998	7,707
80 to 84	10,319	5,795	4,525
85 and over	9,383	5,941	3,442

6. Households

Census figures show that in 2022, Fife has 169,573 households, an increase of 8,621 (5.4%) from 2011. This is consistent with the Scottish average increase of 6%. For comparison, the highest increase was 17.2% for Midlothian, and the highest decrease of -0.1% for Inverclyde.

Table 6.1 – Change in number of households for Fife between 2011 and 2022
Census

	2011	2022	Change (Number)	Change (%)
All Households	160,952	169,573	+8,621	+5.4%
Total Population	365,198	371,781	+6,583	+1.8%

The number of Fife households has increased at a faster rate than its population continuing the trend for smaller numbers of people in each household.

Since 2011, although there has been an increase of 8,621 (5.4%) households, this contrasts with a lower increase in population of 6,583 (1.8%), This reinforces the trend towards reducing household size in Fife and Scotland.

Household tenure

More than half of households in Fife are owner-occupied, either owned outright or buying with the help of a mortgage.

There are now more households living in private rented rather than social rented accommodation.

Table 6.2 – Fife households by tenure type, Census 2022

Tenure Type	Number	%
All Households	169,573	100.0%
Owner-occupied	91,025	53.7%
Social rented	37,071	21.9%
Private rented	39,268	23.2%
Living rent free	2,209	1.3%

For owner occupied property in Fife, the age profile of those people living in these types of properties, over the last decade, has remained fairly constant for those aged 16-34 (just under 10%), and for those aged 50-64 (just under one-third). For people aged 35-49, there is a lower percentage of people in 2022 (21.2%), compared with 2011 (28.7%). Conversely, the 65 and over age group has increased its percentage in the owner-occupied category from 29.5% in 2011, to 36.3% in 2022, influenced largely by an increasing ageing population.

For the social rented sector in Fife, the proportions of people that rent their home for the youngest (16-34) and oldest age groups (65 and over), have remained largely unchanged

between 2011 and 2022. In the 35-49 age group, there has been a decrease in the percentage of people renting, reducing from 28.7% in 2011, to 25.5% in 2022. In the 50-64 age group, this group has seen an increase in social renting from 24.3% in 2011, to 30% in 2022.

In the private rented sector, the youngest age group (16-34) has seen the largest decrease from 44.2% in 2011, down to 35.7% in 2022. The proportion in the 36-49 age group renting privately has remained largely unchanged. The 50-64 and 65 and over age groups have both seen increases in private renting over the last ten years of around 4-6%.

Figure 6.1 shows the percentage of households in Fife by tenure and age of Household Reference Person.

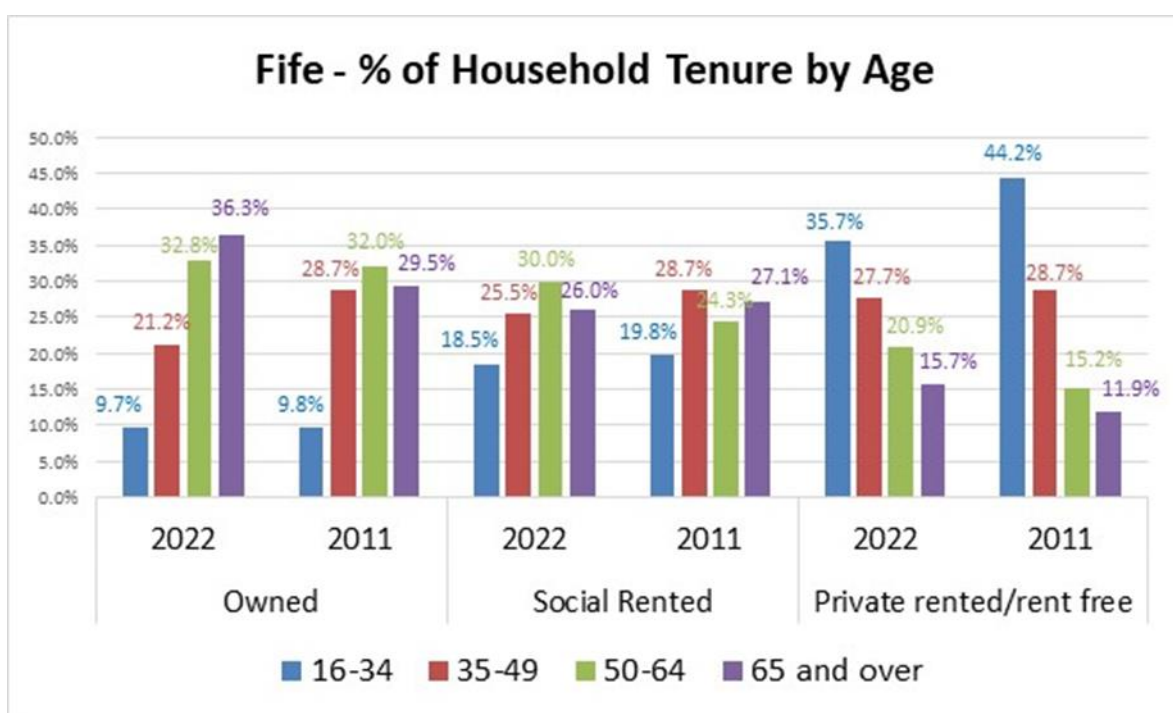


Figure 6.1 - Percentage of Fife Households by Tenure and Age (Census 2022, 2011)

Car or van availability

While 77.9% of Fife households have access to one or more car or van, 22.1% of Fife households do not have access to a car or van.

Table 6.3 – Table showing car/van availability for Fife households, Census 2022

Tenure Type	Number	%
All Households	169,573	100.0%
No access to a car or van	37,464	22.1%
Access to one or more car or vans	132,109	77.9%

7. Living arrangements

Household size

One of the biggest changes to household size is the increase in single person households. In 2011 single person households made up 31.8% of all households. By 2022, this had increased to 35.1%.

Table 7.1 – Fife households by household size, Census 2022

	Number	%
All households	169,573	100.0%
One person in household	59,546	35.1%
Two people in household	60,717	35.8%
Three people in household	23,860	14.1%
Four people in household	18,225	10.7%
Five people in household	5,360	3.2%
Six or more people in household	1,864	1.1%

While two-person households (60,717) are still the most common type of household in Fife, there are now almost as many single person households (59,546). Single households and two, six, and seven person households have increased in number, while three, four, and five person households have decreased since 2011.

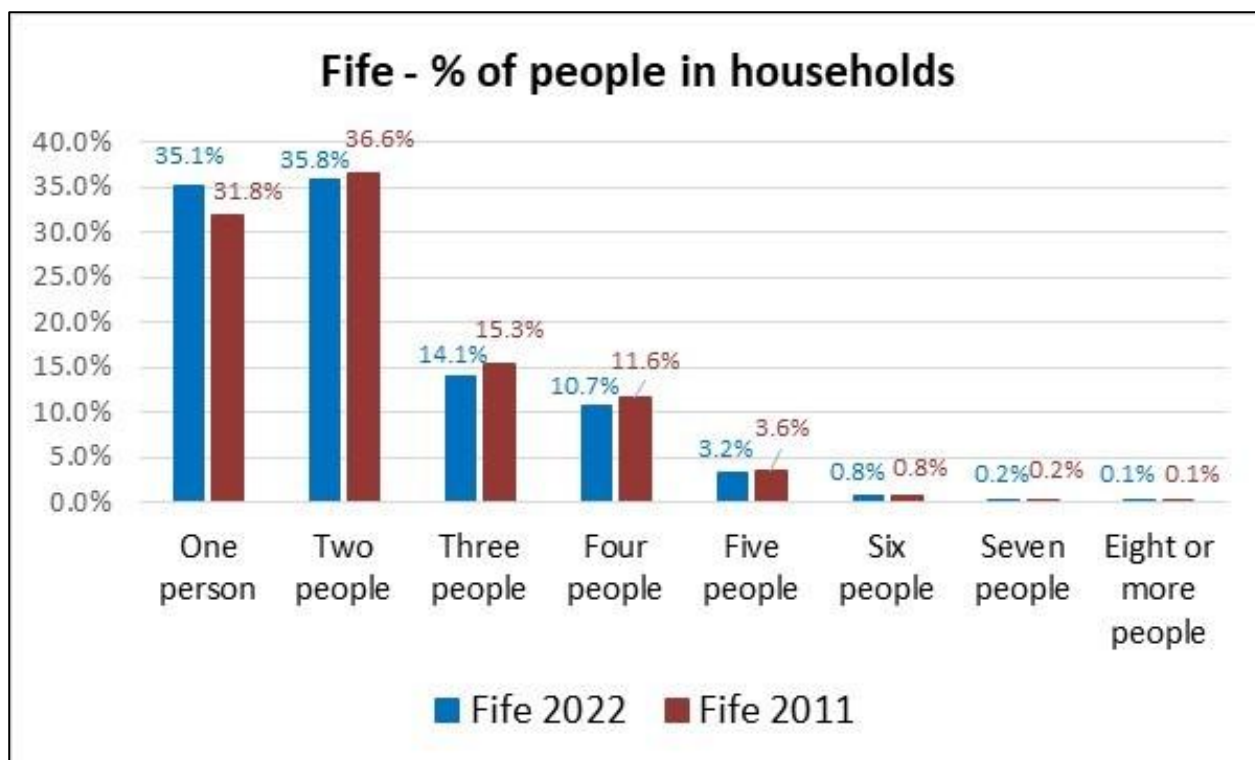


Figure 7.1 - Percentage of people living in Fife's households (Census 2022 and 2011)

Living alone

35.1% of Fife households now live alone. For people aged 55 and over, just under two-thirds (63.7%) live alone in Fife in 2022. Older people are more likely to live alone than younger people, with only 3.4% of those aged 16-24 living alone.

Females aged 16-64 are less likely to live alone compared with males, and particularly in the 35-44 age group. However, from 65 onwards, females are much more likely to live alone than males. This is mainly due to females having a higher life expectancy than males.

On average those aged over 55 were as likely to live alone in 2022 as they were in 2011, with the increase in the number of older people living alone being driven by the increase in the overall number of older people since 2011.

Figure 7.2 shows the percentages of people that live alone by age group.

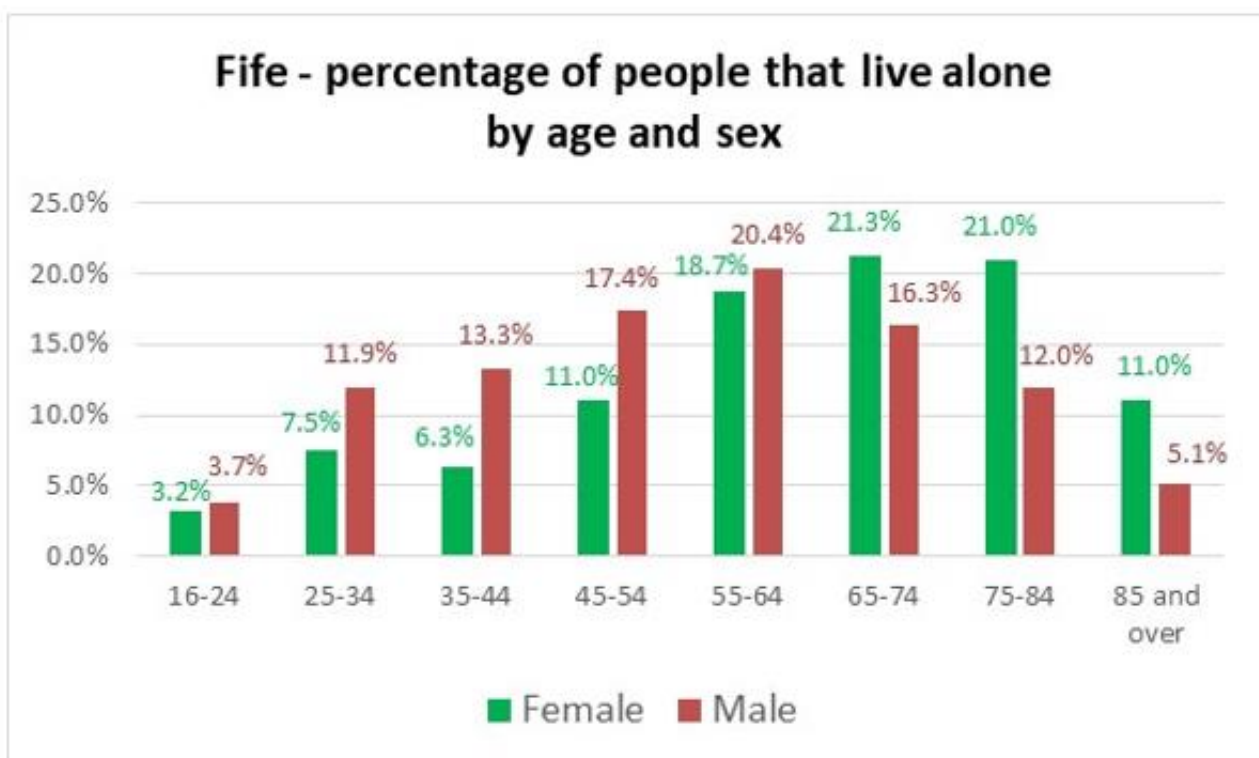


Figure 7.2 - Percentage of people that live alone in Fife by age and sex (Census 2022)

Households containing lone parent families

Census data shows that in 2022 there were 17,045 households containing lone parent families in Fife. This is around 1 in 10 households and is similar to the Scottish average.

Since 2011, the number of households containing lone parent families in Fife decreased by 450 (2.4%) which is lower than the Scottish average of 6.8% since 2011.

Households with dependent children

Census data on household composition shows households that include families with dependent children. Dependent children are those living with their parent(s) and aged under 16 or aged 16 to 18 in full-time education. Children aged 16 to 18 who have a spouse, partner or child living in the household are not included.

In 2022 there were 40,620 households with dependent children in Fife, just under one in four households (24%), and is a similar pattern to Scotland as a whole. This is a decrease of 2,769 or 3% since 2011. This reflects the decrease in the number of children in Fife over this period.

The number of 0–15-year-olds decreased by 1% from 64,397 in 2011 to 61,845 in 2022. Most of the decline in numbers of families with dependent children have been in those with married or civil partnerships and lone parent families, while cohabiting couples' families have seen a slight increase since 2011.

Figure 7.3 shows the percentage of families with dependent children by the type of household.

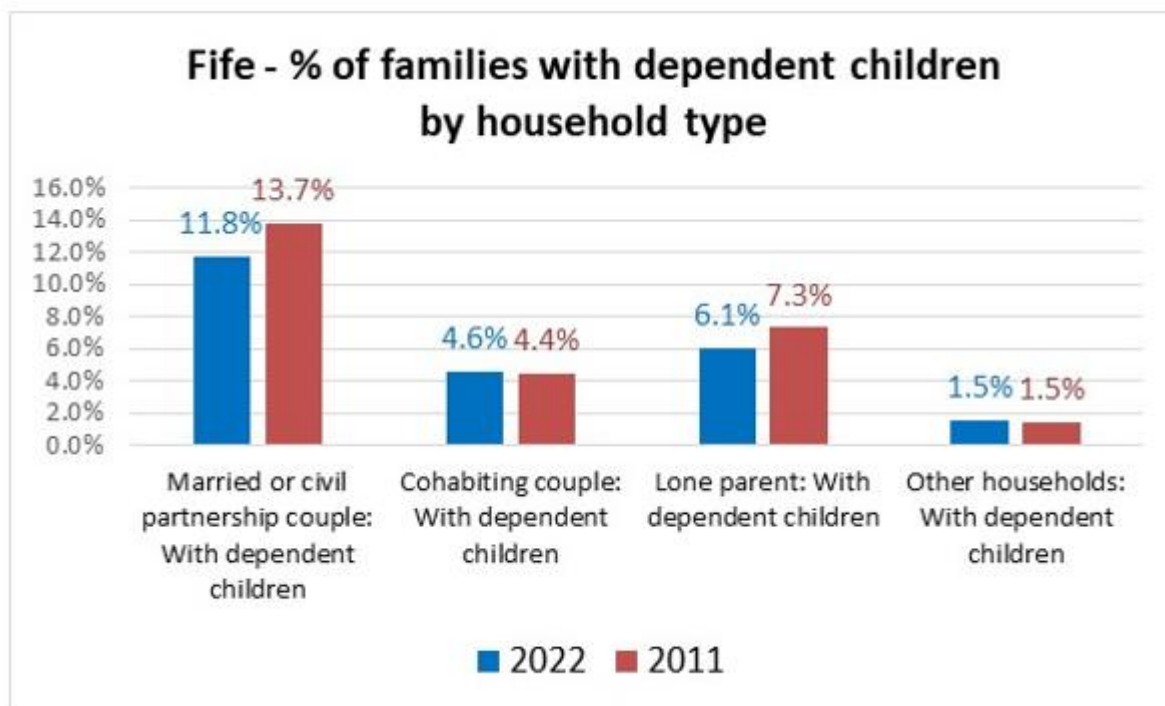


Figure 7.3 - Percentage of Fife families with dependent children by household type (Census 2022 and 2011)

Households with only non-dependent children

Census data on household composition also shows the number of households that have one family with non-dependent children. Non-dependent children are those living with their parent(s) and aged 19 or over or aged 16 to 18 and not in full-time education. Children who have a spouse, partner or child living in the household are non-dependent. Non-dependent children are sometimes called adult children.

In 2022 there were 16,923 households containing one family with only non-dependent children in Fife, accounting for 10% of households. This is an increase of 965 or 0.1% since 2011. Non-dependent children living in families with cohabiting couples and lone parents have seen the largest increases since 2011, while those in families with a married/civil partnership have decreased.

Figure 7.4 shows the percentage of families with non-dependent children by the type of household.

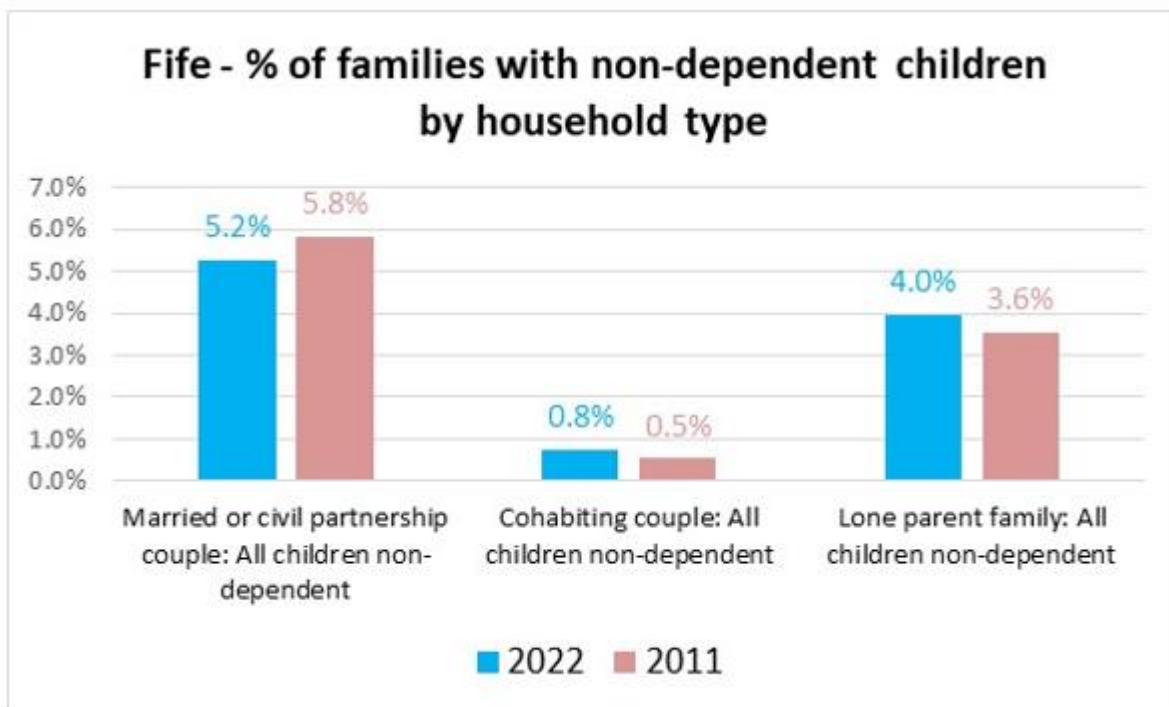


Figure 7.4 - Percentage of Fife families with non-dependent children by household type (Census 2022 and 2011)

8. Marriage and Civil Partnership

Marriage, civil partnerships and cohabiting couples

The census shows a gradual shift from marriage or civil partnerships towards cohabiting. There were 68,398 households containing couples in Fife in 2022. This is a decrease of 2,723 (-3.8%) from 2011, and contrasts with Scotland which saw an increase of 4.5%.

The number of cohabiting couples went up by 15.8% from 2011, while married or civil partnership couple households decreased by 9.6%. This reflects a gradual fall in the number of marriages in Scotland over the last 50 years.

Figure 8.1 shows the number of households with couples.

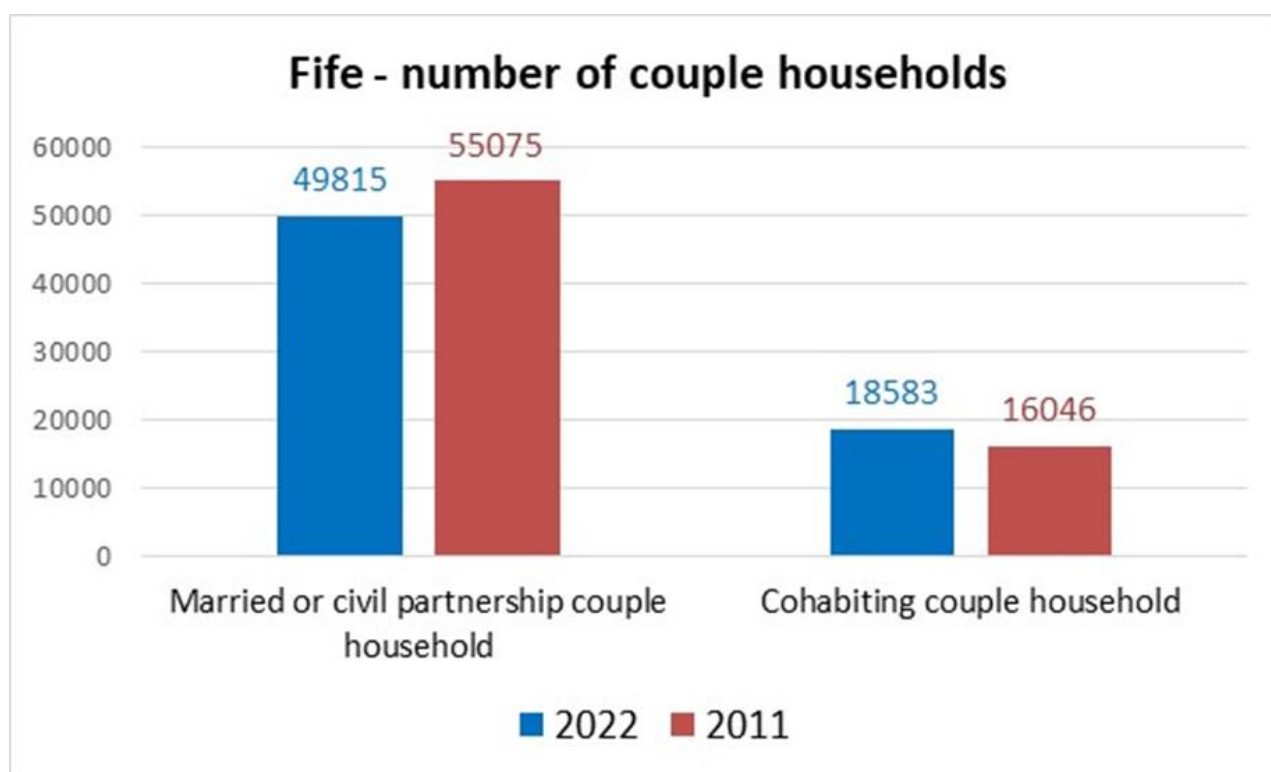


Figure 8.1 - Number of couple households in Fife (Census 2022, 2011)

Marital Status

There was an increase in those that said that they had 'never married' increasing to 35.1% in 2022, from 31.6% in 2011.

There was a decrease for those who were married from 48.2% in 2011 to 45.7% in 2022.

Those people who were separated reduced slightly by 0.9% from 2011, while the proportion of those divorced or widowed, remained fairly stable over the decade.

Figure 8.2 shows the percentage of people by marital status.



Figure 8.2 - Percentage of people in Fife by marital status (Census 2022, 2011)

9. Sexual orientation

Question background

Scotland's Census included a new question on sexual orientation in 2022, so no comparable is data available from previous censuses.

The census question was "Which of the following best describes your sexual orientation?". People were asked to tick "Straight / Heterosexual", "Gay or Lesbian", "Bisexual" or "Other sexual orientation". People who ticked "Other sexual orientation" were asked to describe their sexual orientation. Sexual orientation is an umbrella term covering sexual identity, attraction, and behaviour. The term sexual orientation may mean different things to different people.

This was a voluntary question for people aged 16 and over. Around 8% of people did not answer the sexual orientation question in Fife (similar to Scotland). The percentages used in this briefing are calculated using the overall population (aged 16 and over), not just those who answered the sexual orientation question.

In this briefing the term LGB+ people is used to refer to people who described their sexual orientation as "Gay or Lesbian", "Bisexual" or "Other sexual orientation".

Key points

In Fife, the Census found that 273,416 people identified as straight or heterosexual, accounting for 88% of people aged 16 and over, and similar to the Scottish average.

There were 11,919 LGB+ people in Fife. This is 4.0% of people aged 16 and over, and similar to the Scottish level.

Figure 9.1 shows the number of people in the LGB+ categories in Fife.

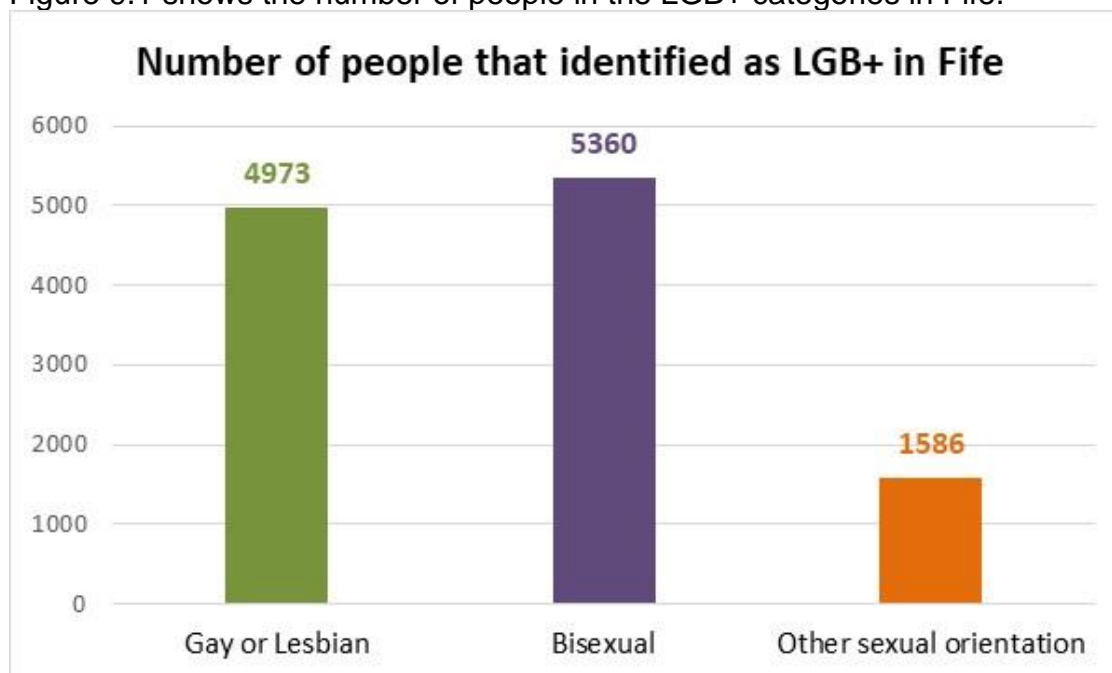


Figure 9.1 - Number of Fife people that identified as LGB+ (Census 2022)

Of all LGB+ people in Fife, 45% identified as bisexual, compared with 43.6% for Scotland, and 41.7% identified as gay or lesbian, compared with Scotland at 43.6%.

The 'other sexual orientation' category, which accounts for around 13% of LGB+ people, includes a number of different groups of people. Over a third did not specify their sexual orientation. The most common responses were 'pansexual', 'asexual' and 'queer'. Those three groups account for over half of people in this category.

Figure 9.2 shows how the number of LGB+ people varies across age groups.

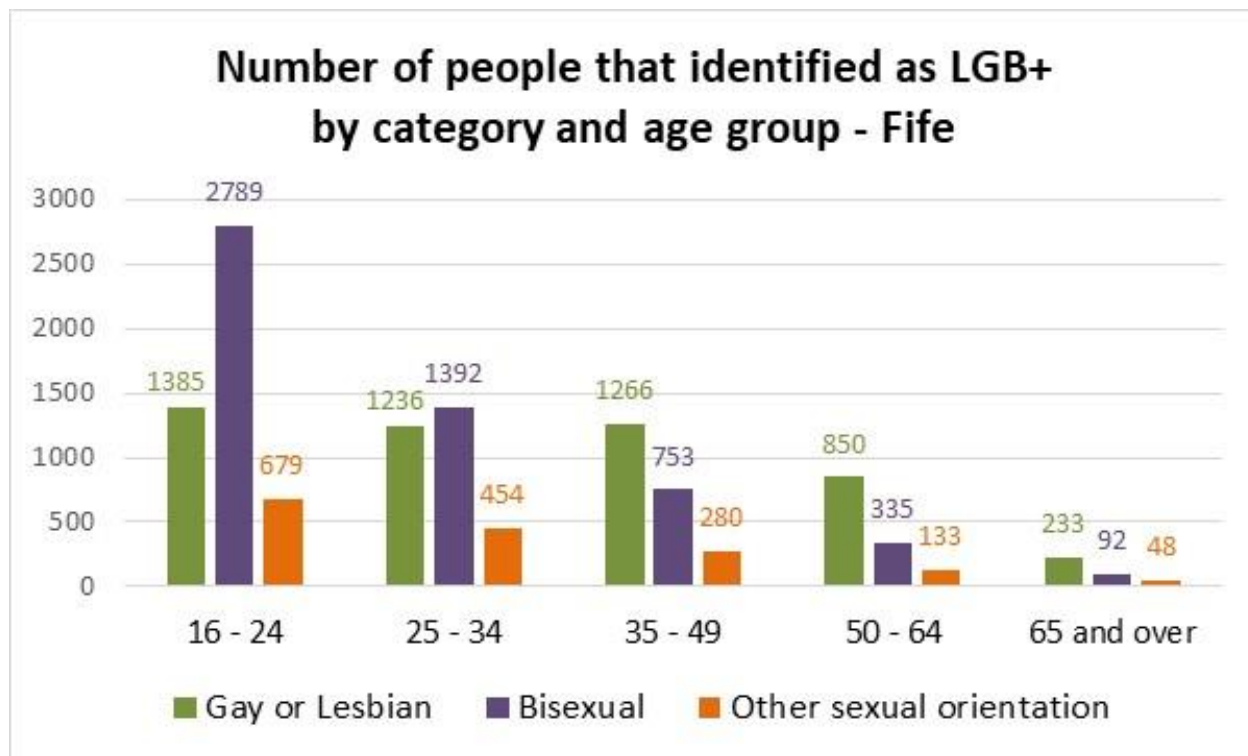


Figure 9.2 - Fife people that identified as LGB+ by category and age (Census 2022)

There are more LGB+ people in younger age groups than in older groups. More than half (52%) of bisexual people were aged 16 to 24 in Fife, compared to 46.6% for Scotland. Just over one quarter (26%) were aged 25 to 34, lower than the Scottish average of 32%.

In Fife, 28% of gay or lesbian people were aged 16 to 24, compared with Scotland at 23.1%. A further 25% were aged 25 to 34, lower than the Scotland figure of 28.6%. Similar to Scotland, from age 35, gay or lesbian people make up the bulk of LGB+ people in Fife.

Figure 9.3 shows how the percentage of LGB+ people varies across age groups.

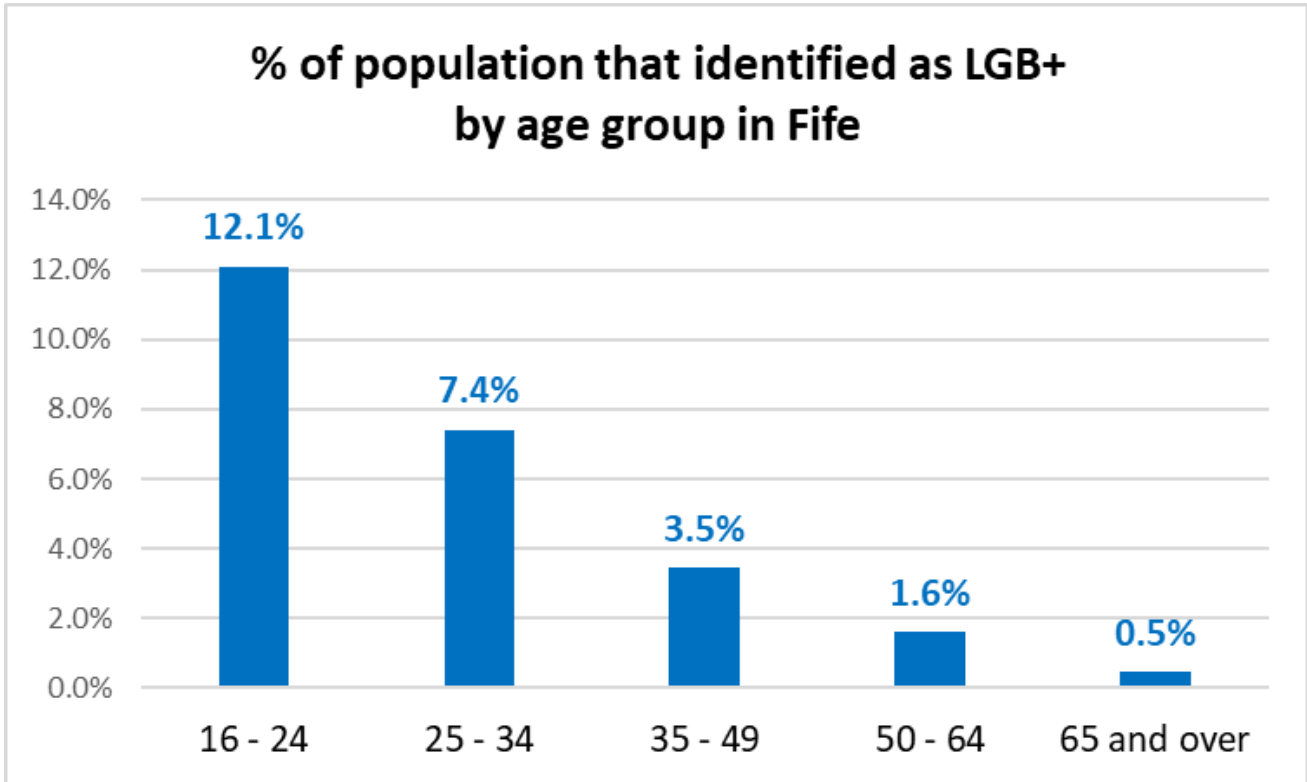


Figure 9.3 - Percentage of Fife population that identified as LGB+ by age group (Census 2022)

The highest proportion of LGB+ people in Fife are in the 16 to 24 age group (12.1%), followed by the 25 to 34 age group (7.4%). Proportions of LGB+ people decrease from younger to older age groups.

The largest concentrations of LGB+ people in Scotland are mainly in the four ‘City’ council areas, which have the highest percentage of LGB+ people relative to their population (aged 16 and over). City of Edinburgh had the highest percentage (7.6%), followed by Glasgow City (7.1%), Dundee City (6.6%) and Aberdeen City (5.2%). This compares with Fife’s 4.0%. This higher proportion of LGB+ people in city areas is due to them having higher levels of younger age groups, through large student populations, and a generally younger demographic profile.

Figure 9.4 shows more females were LGB+ than males. This is explained by the higher number of females identifying as bisexual. More males (2,589) than females (2,381) identified as gay or lesbian, whereas the number of females (3,894) identifying as bisexual was more than double the number of males (1,468). There were also more females (1,012) than males (574) in the ‘Other sexual orientation’ category.

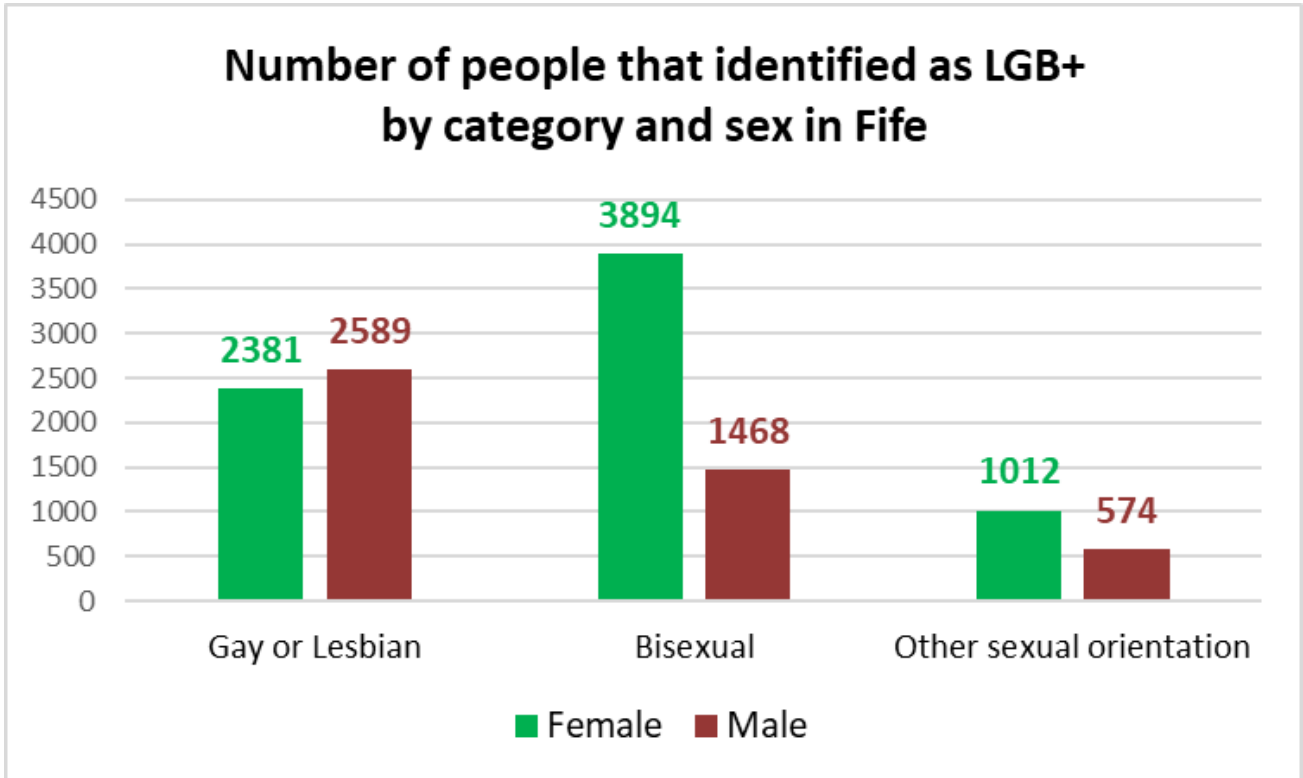


Figure 9.4 - Number of Fife people that identified as LGB+ by category and sex (Census 2022)

Figure 9.5 shows that more females than males identified as LGB+ in younger age groups, particularly ages 16 to 24. From age 50 onwards, this changes to more males identifying as LGB+.

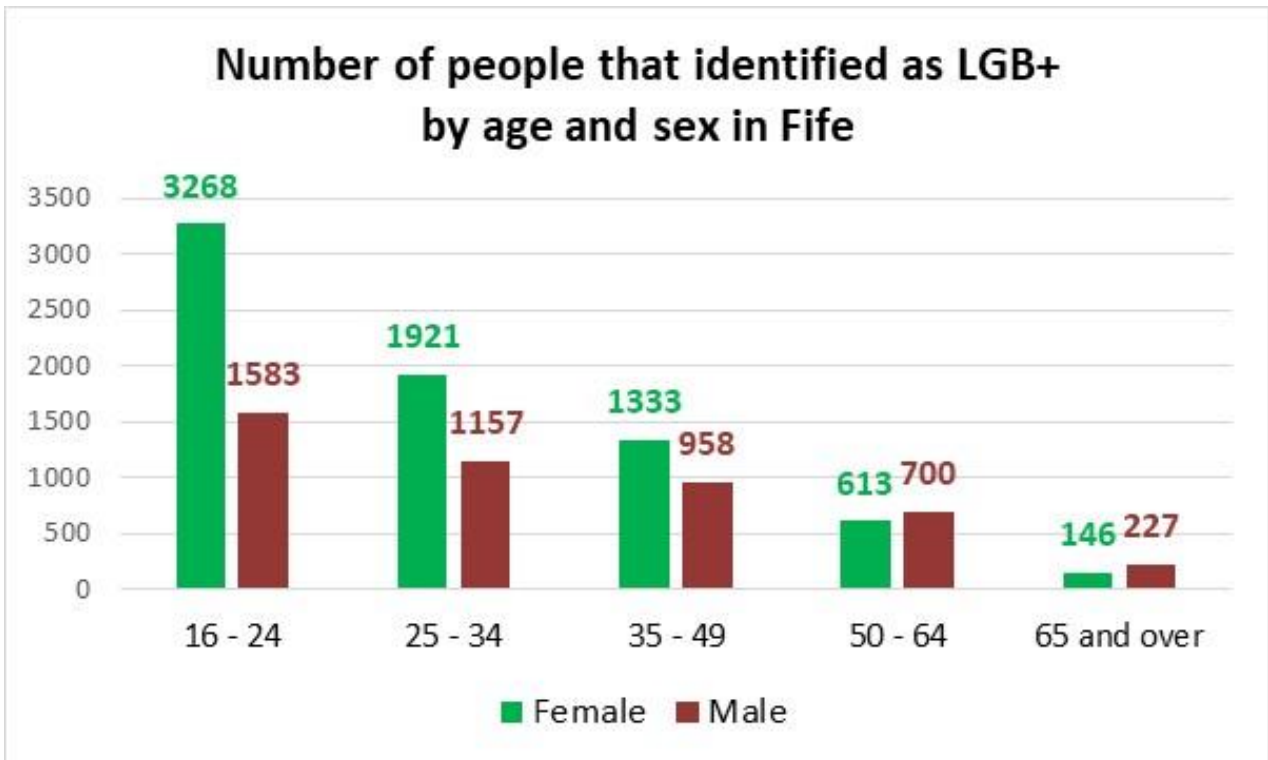


Figure 9.5 - Number of Fife people that identified as LGB+ by age and sex (Census 2022)

10. Trans status or history

Question background

Scotland’s Census included a new question on trans status or history in 2022. Comparisons with previous censuses are therefore not possible for this topic.

The census question was “Do you consider yourself to be trans, or have a trans history?”. People were asked to tick “No” or “Yes”. People who ticked “Yes” were asked to describe their trans status (for example, non-binary, trans man, trans woman).

Transgender or trans is a term used to describe people whose gender is not the same as the sex they were assigned at birth. This was a voluntary question for people aged 16 and over. In 2022 5.7% of people in Fife did not answer the trans status question. The percentage of people who were trans or have a trans history is calculated using the overall population (aged 16 and over), not just those who answered the question.

In this briefing people that consider themselves to be trans, or have a trans history are referred to as trans people.

Key findings

The 2022 Census found that there were 1,294 trans people in Fife. This is 0.4% of people aged 16 and over, similar to the Scottish average.

Figure 10.1 shows how trans people responded across five high level categories.



Figure 10.1 - Number of Fife people that identified as trans or had a trans history (Census 2022)

Just under 44% of Fife trans people identify as 'non-binary', slightly lower than the Scotland figure of 45%. 17% of trans people identified as trans men, while 15% identified as trans women, and 15% did not specify their trans status or history, similar to the Scottish average.

9% stated 'Other trans status or history' in Fife, compared with 7% for Scotland. The 120 people in this category includes a number of different groups of people. The most common responses in this category were 'genderfluid', 'agender' and 'genderqueer'. Those three different groups account for around two thirds of people in this category.

Figure 10.2 shows the number of trans people across five age groups.

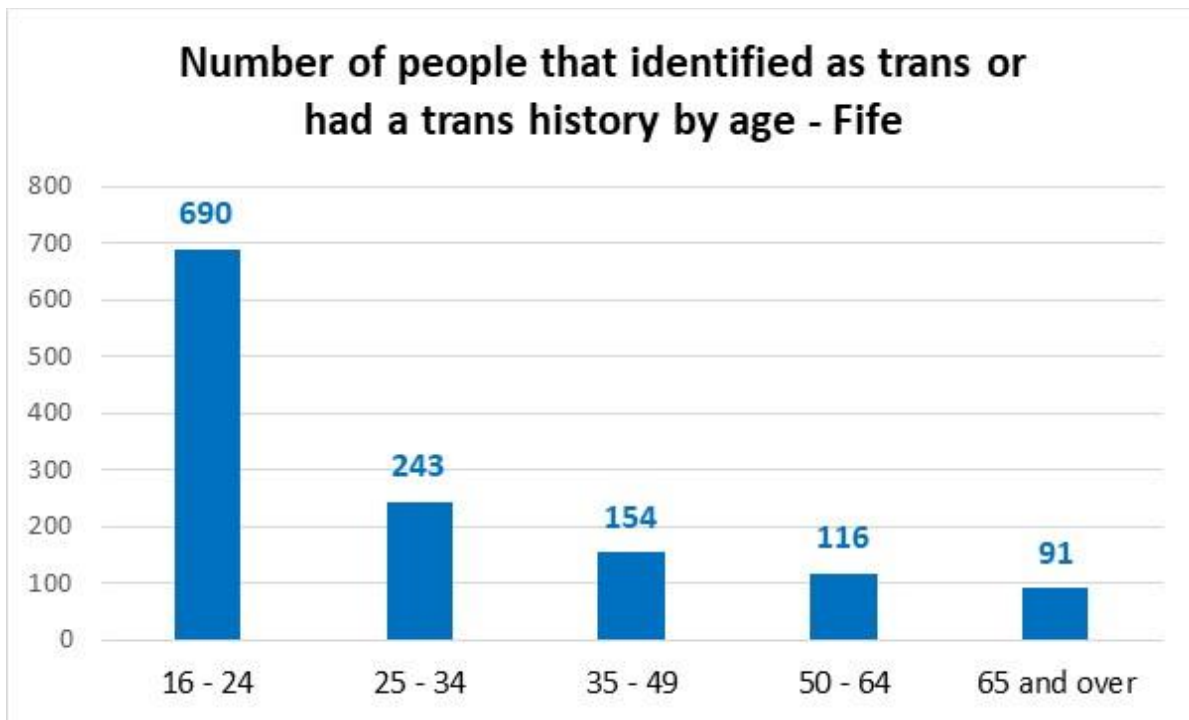


Figure 10.2 Number of Fife people that identified as trans or had a trans history by age (Census 2022)

There were more trans people in younger age groups than in older groups, with more than half (53%) in the 16-24 age group, which is higher than the Scotland figure of 46%. The next highest number was in the 25-34 age group with 19%, compared with Scotland at 26%.

Figure 10.3 shows trans people as a percentage of the population in each age group. This highlights that the percentage of trans people decreases as people get older, with 1.7% of the population aged 16-24, compared with 0.1% for those over 50.

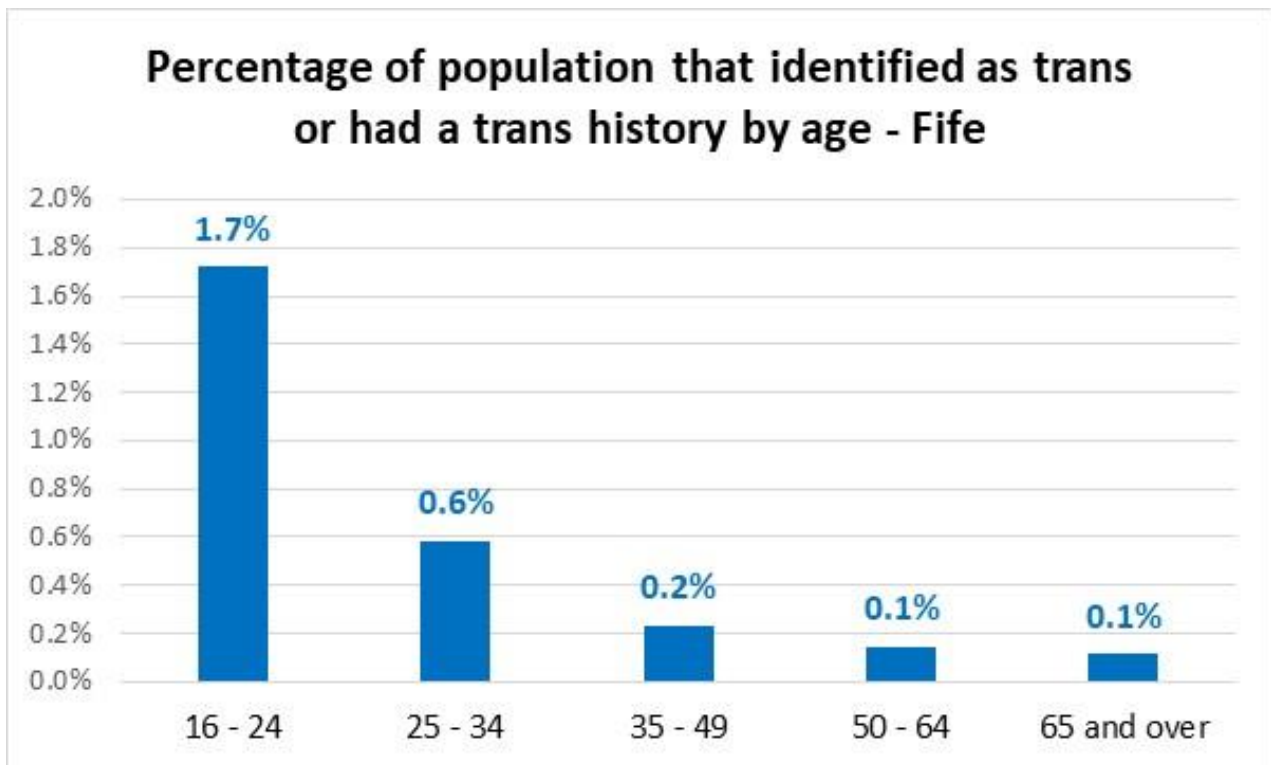


Figure 10.3 - Percentage of Fife’s population that identified as trans or had a trans history by age (Census 2022)

The largest proportions of trans people in Scotland are in the four ‘City’ council areas relative to their population (aged 16 and over). Dundee City had the highest percentage (0.91%), followed by City of Edinburgh and Glasgow City (both 0.77%), and Aberdeen City (0.58%). This compares with Fife’s 0.4%.

The percentage of trans people is usually higher in areas with higher concentrations of younger age groups, with the four ‘City’ council areas having large numbers of student population, and a generally younger age profile.

11. Disability and Health

General Health

One of the questions in Scotland’s Census asked, “How is your health in general?”. In 2022 in Fife, 289,322 (77.8%) said that their health was good or very good. This is a decrease from 2011 of 9,569 people.

For those people that said that their health was bad or very bad, 26,147 (7%) of Fife’s population fell into these categories. This was an increase of 6,717 people from 2011. This is mostly driven by an ageing population and the increase in older people since 2011. There is a strong link between age and general health. In a population with more older people, you would expect worse health.

Figure 11.1 shows how the percentage of people reporting bad or very bad health increases as age increases.

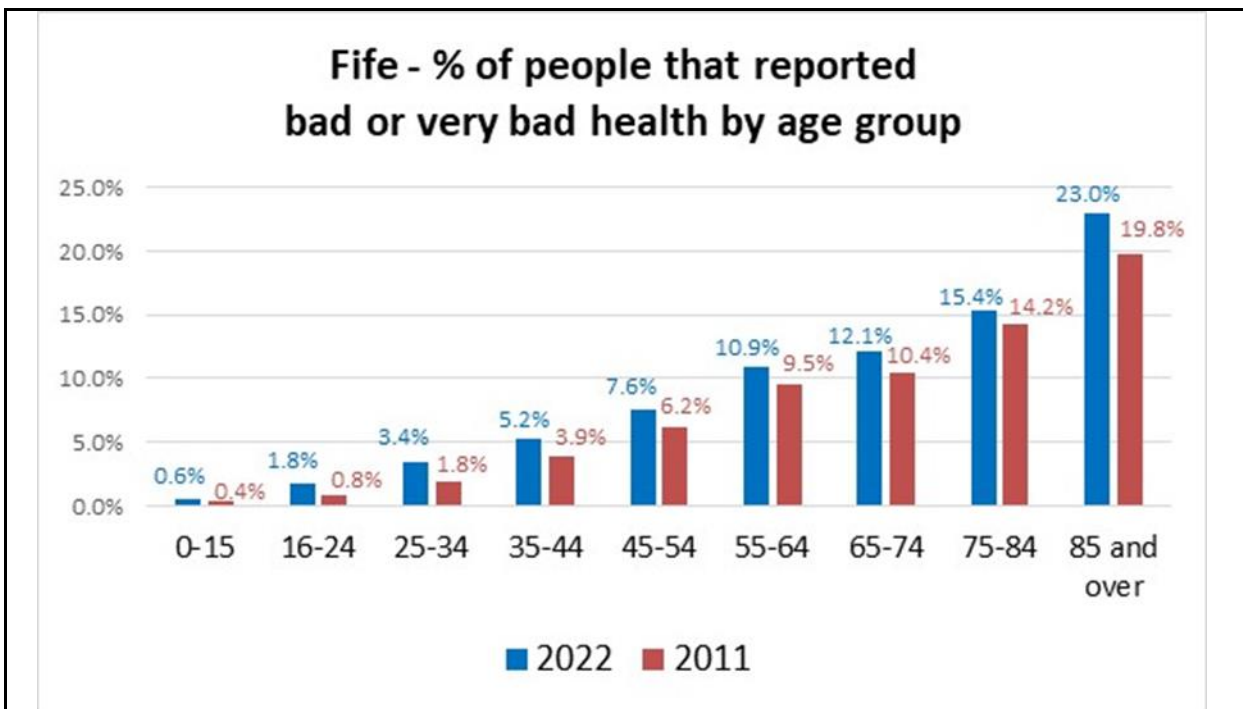


Figure 11.1 - Percentage of people in Fife that reported bad or very bad health by age group (Census 2022, 2021)

In 2022 in Fife, there 23,606 more people aged 50 or over than in 2011. This means that there would be more people reporting bad or very bad health even if rates were unchanged.

Figure 11.1 also shows that there were small increases in the percentage of people reporting bad or very bad health in all age groups, similar to the picture for Scotland as a whole. This means the overall increase in the percentage of people reporting bad or very bad health is not entirely due to the higher number of older people compared to 2011. It is also worth bearing in mind that there is a strong link between age and health when making comparisons between populations, and two areas with the same size population may have very different health outcomes depending on their age profiles.

People with a health problem or disability that limited their activities

In 2022, 95,552 Fife people said that they had a health problem or disability that limited their day-to-day activities either a little or a lot. This was an increase of 21,306 over the decade, and shows an increase from one in every five people suffering from a health problem or disability in 2011, to one in four people in 2022.

Figure 11.2 shows that the number of people with a health problem that limited their day-to-day activities increased across all age groups from 2011 to 2022. There is a strong relationship between this measure of health and age, with older people more likely to have a health problem or disability that limits their activities than younger people.

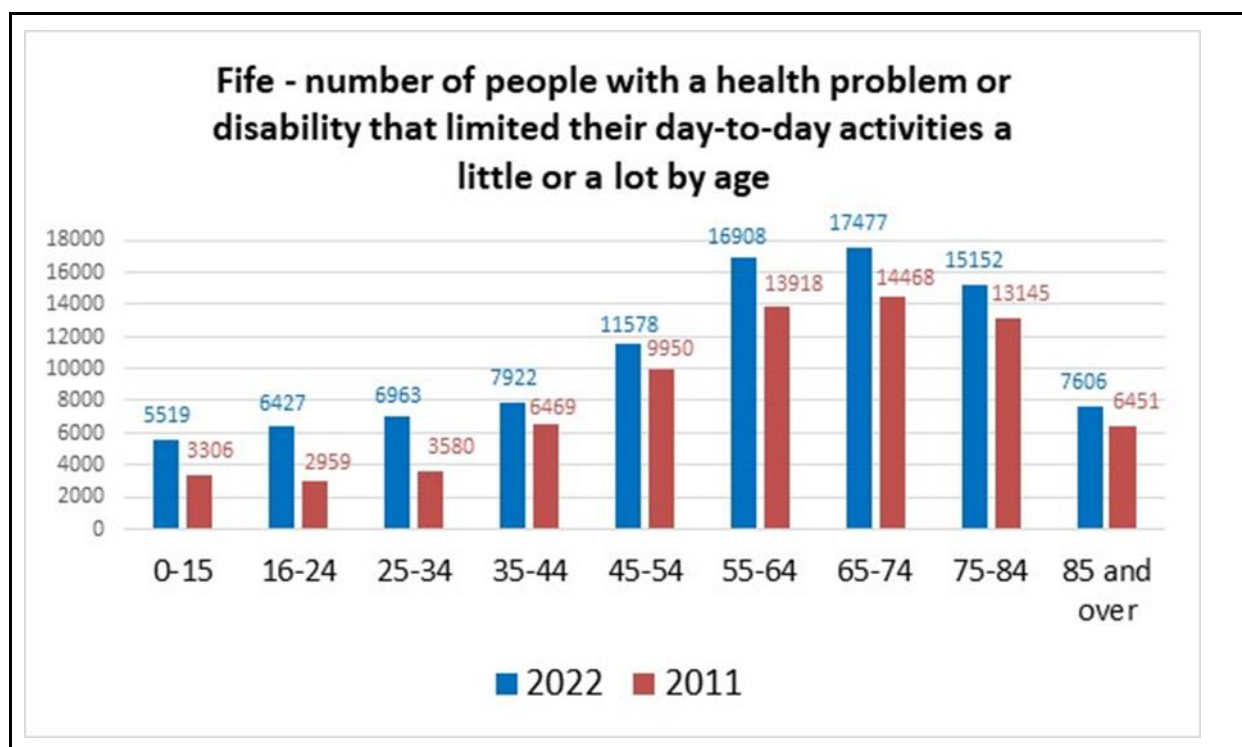


Figure 11.2 - Number of people in Fife with a health problem or disability that limited their day-to-day activities a little or a lot by age (Census 2022, 2011)

The increase in the number of older people in Fife with an activity-limiting health problem or disability was driven by an ageing population, although the percentage of people aged 75 or older who have a health problem/disability actually decreased over the decade from 67.8% in 2011, to 62.5% in 2022, similar to the Scottish level picture. However, the overall increase in older people meant there was an increase in the number of older people with an activity-limiting health problem or disability.

Fife's younger age groups also saw increases in the number of people with a health problem or disability that limited their day-to-day activities. In particular, the number of people in the 16-24 age group with a health problem/disability more than doubled during the decade, increasing from 2,959 in 2011 to 6,427 in 2022.

Health conditions

The census asked if people had a health condition which had lasted or was expected to last more than twelve months. A list of conditions was presented along with descriptions. People were asked to tick all that apply. The question included tick boxes for learning disabilities, learning difficulties and developmental disorders. However, data for these categories is not included in this Census briefing, as there were changes to how these three conditions were presented on the census form in 2022, and the National Records of Scotland are undertaking further quality assurance of this data and will provide an update later in the year.

In Fife in 2022, the most common type of health condition reported in the census was a 'long-term illness, disease or condition'. This is described in the census as a condition that you may have for life, that may be managed with treatment or medication, and is not in one of the other health condition categories. It is a broad category that includes a range of conditions such as Arthritis, Cancer, Diabetes and Epilepsy. Nearly one in four people in Fife (23.4%) reported having this condition, and it is higher than the Scottish average of 21.4%. The number of people with this condition has also increased in Fife from 20.3% in 2011.

Figure 11.3 shows the percentage of people in Fife that reported that they had a specific health condition.

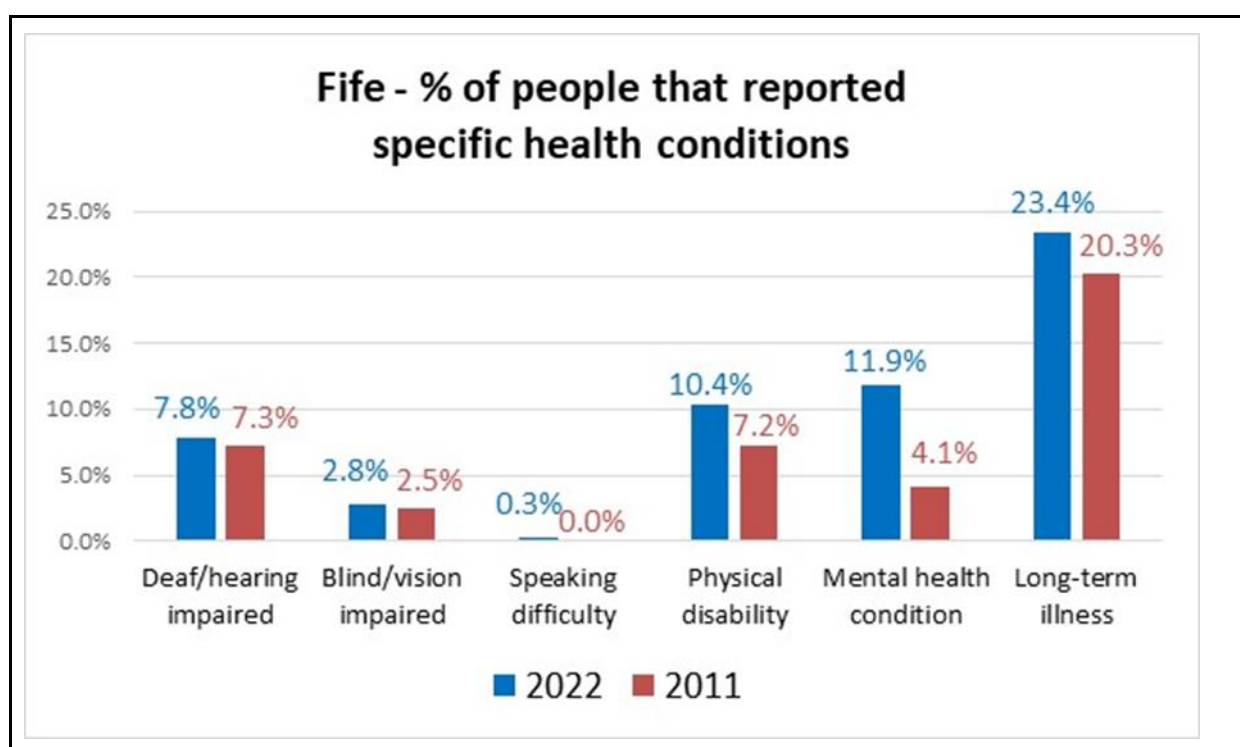


Figure 11.3 - Percentage of people in Fife that reported specific health conditions (Census 2022, 2011)

The second most common condition reported in the census was a mental health condition. The percentage of people in Fife with this condition was 11.9% in 2022, compared with 4.1% in 2011. This shows a near three-fold increase over the decade, and is in line with the picture for Scotland as a whole.

The increase in the number of people reporting a mental health condition was driven by a large increase amongst younger people. In 2022, younger people were more likely to report a mental health condition than older people, a reversal from the picture in 2011. The largest increases were in the 16 to 24 age group. In 2011 in Fife, 2.6% of those aged 16 to 24 reported a mental health condition. By 2022, this had increased to 17.5%. This is higher than the Scottish level of 15.4%.

Figure 11.4 shows the percentage of people that reported a mental health condition by age in Fife.

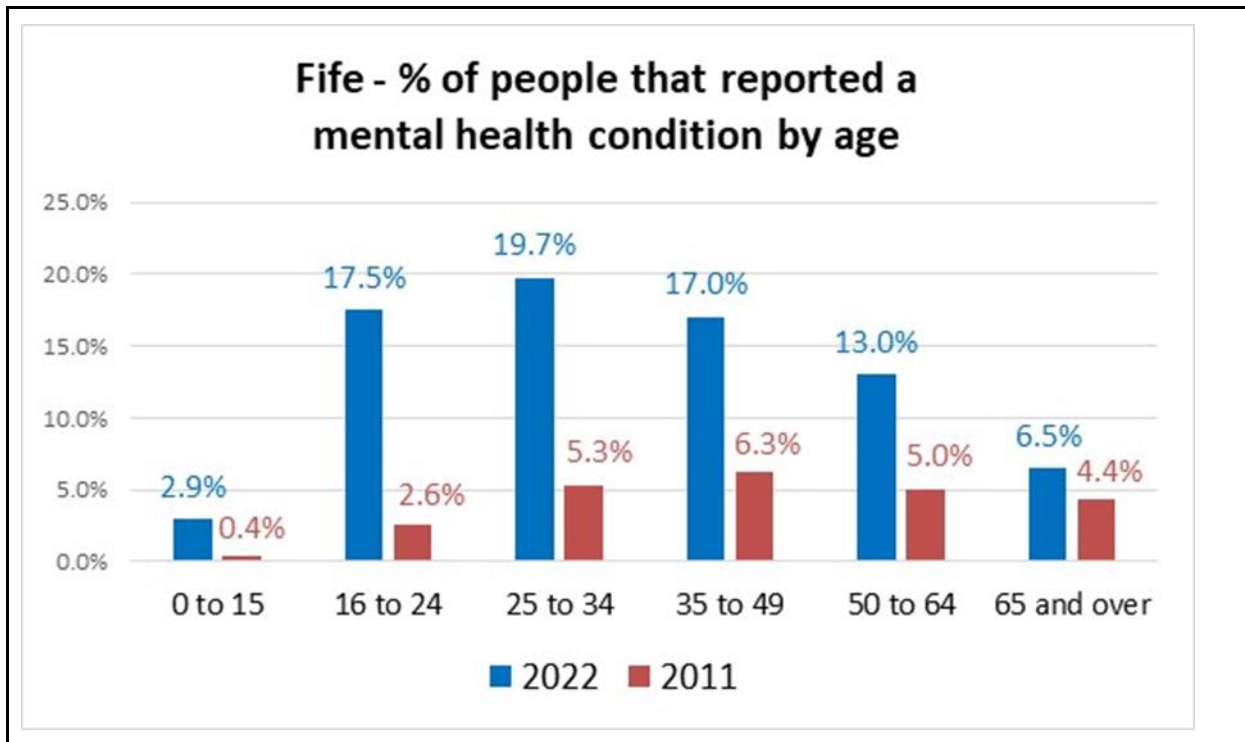


Figure 11.4 - Percentage of Fife people that reported a mental health condition by age (Census 2022, 2011)

It is important to note that census data on health conditions is self-reported. Changes over time may reflect people’s understanding of their circumstances and their willingness to report their health condition, as well as changes in prevalence. Increases in demand for services may be partially driven by decreased stigma and more awareness about mental health and wellbeing.

The census also found that a higher percentage of females reported a mental health condition across all age groups in 2022, similar to the pattern in 2011. The largest difference in 2022 was among the 16 to 24 age group, where the percentage of females (23.4%) in Fife reporting a mental health condition was more than double the number for males (11.6%). These percentages are also higher than the Scottish average of 20.4% for females and 10.5% for males.

Figure 11.5 shows the percentage of people in Fife that reported a mental health condition by age and sex.

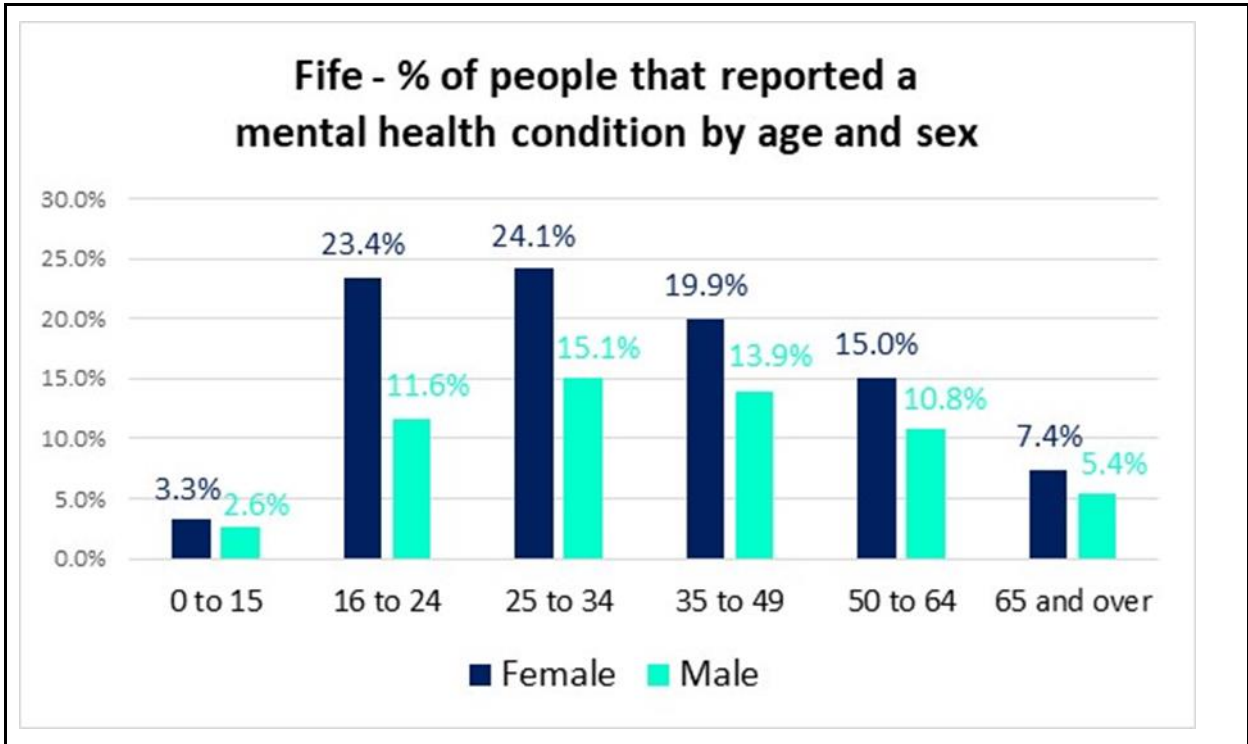


Figure 11.5. Percentage of people that reported a mental health condition by age and sex in Fife (Census 2022)

12. Unpaid Care

The census asked people if they look after, or give any help or support to family members, friends, neighbours or others.

The question said this was support required because of long-term physical/mental ill-health/disability, or problems related to old age. This briefing refers to these people as unpaid carers.

In 2022, there were 44,222 unpaid carers in Fife. This was an increase of 9,394 people (27.0%) from 2011, and in line with the Scottish national figure of 27.5%

Figure 12.1 shows the number of unpaid carers in Fife by age.

The number of unpaid carers has increased across all age groups over the last decade in Fife and Scotland.

The largest increase has been in the 50 to 64 age group which has increased by 4,125 people since 2011 in Fife. This age group is most likely to have parents in the oldest age groups which have the highest levels of health problems or disability that limits their day-to-day activities.

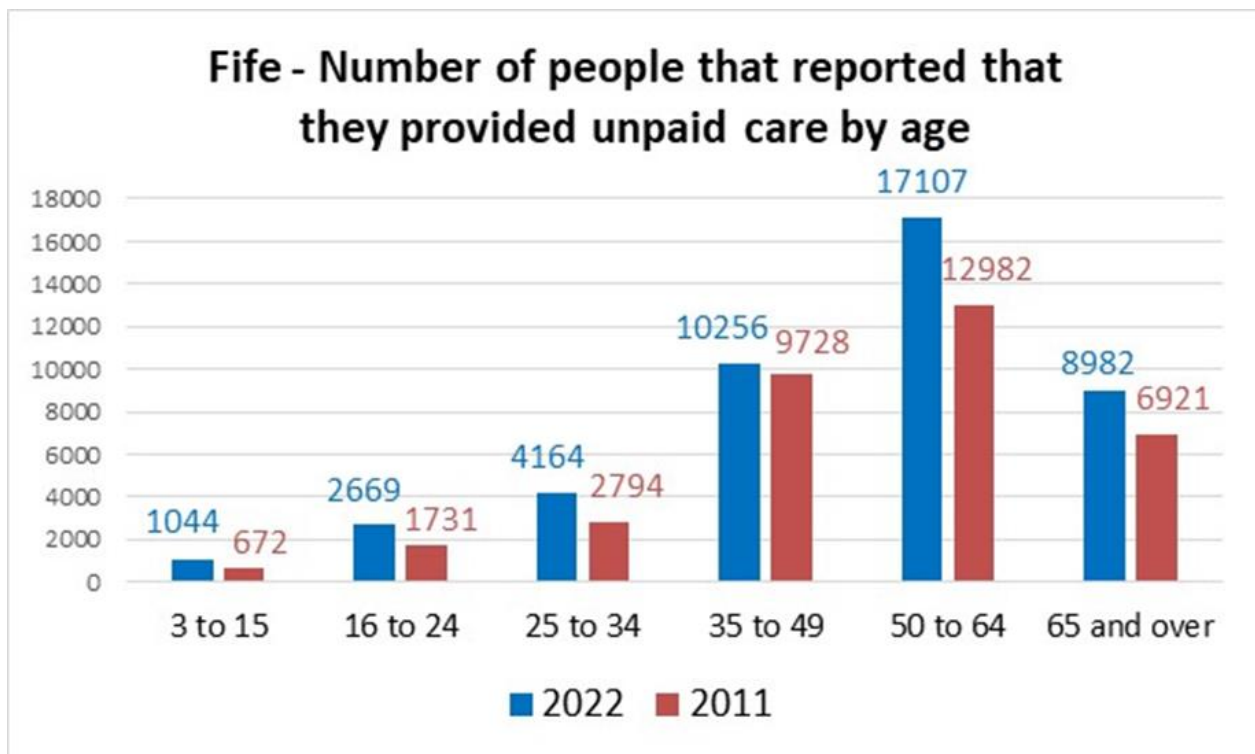


Figure 12.1 - Number of people in Fife that reported that they provided unpaid care by age (Census 2022, 2011)

Figure 12.2 shows the percentage of people in Fife that provide unpaid care by age and sex.

In 2022, 12.2% of people aged 3 and over in Fife were providing unpaid care. Females (14.0%) provided higher levels of care than males (10.3%) across all age groups. The 50 to 64 age group showed the largest gap between females (24.5%) and males (17.1%) providing unpaid care.

In 2022, more than half (54.8%) of all unpaid carers spent between 1 to 19 hours per week providing care support. A further one-quarter of unpaid carers spent more than 50 hours per week providing care. This is a similar picture for Scotland overall.

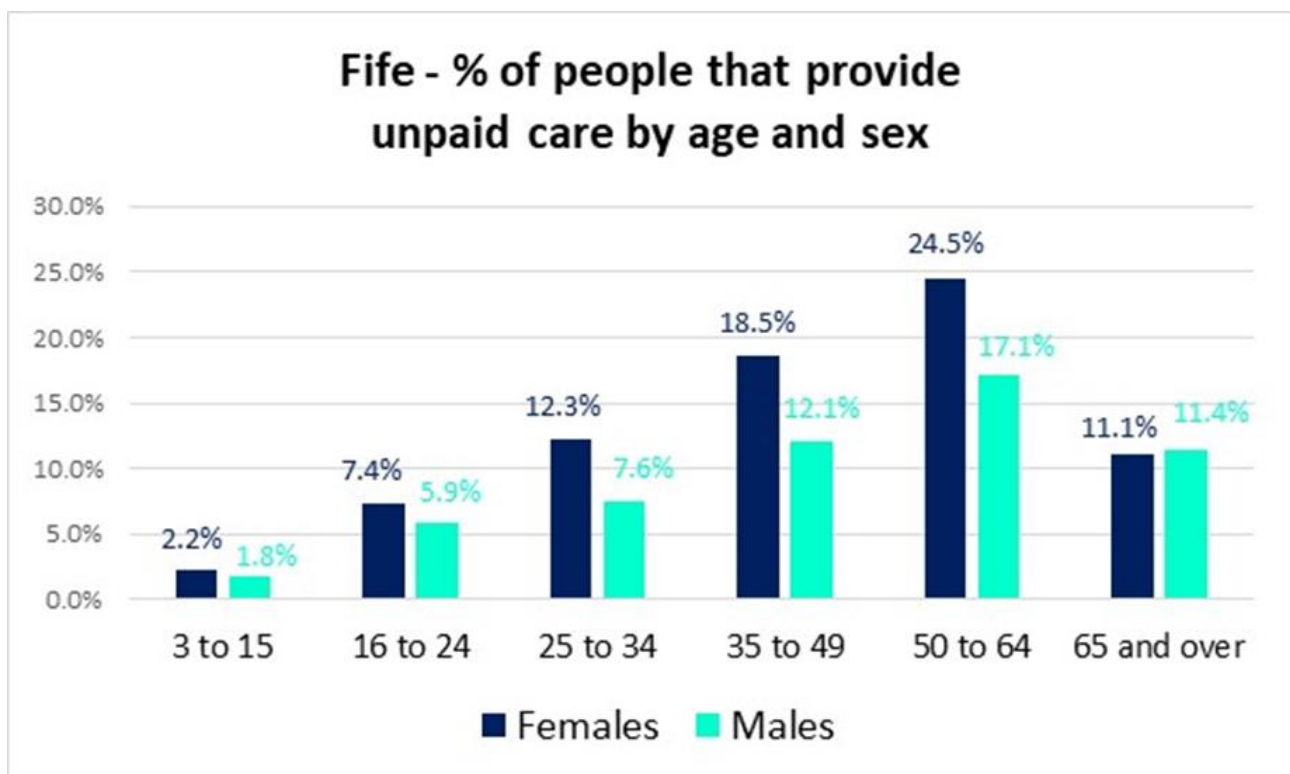


Figure 12.2 - Percentage of people that provide unpaid care by age and sex (Census 2022)

13. Qualifications

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)

Table 13.1 – Table showing highest level of qualification for Fife by sex (Census 2022)

	Number of people	% of people	Number of Males	% of Males	Number of Females	% of Females
Degree level qualification or above	88,755	28.6%	38,270	25.8%	50,486	31.2%
Further Education and sub degree Higher Education qualifications	47,159	15.2%	22,827	15.4%	24,332	15.0%
School or apprenticeship qualifications	122,812	39.6%	64,984	43.8%	57,828	35.8%
No qualifications	51,210	16.5%	22,151	14.9%	29,059	18.0%
Population (aged 16 and over)	309,936	100.0%	148,232	100.0%	161,704	100.0%

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 13.1 shows those people aged 16 and over that have a degree in Fife by sex.

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.

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%).

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%).

The gap between females and males with degrees continues to grow, with a 2% gap in 2011, increasing to 5.4% in 2022. Figure 13.2 shows the percentage of adults with a degree, by five year age band and sex.

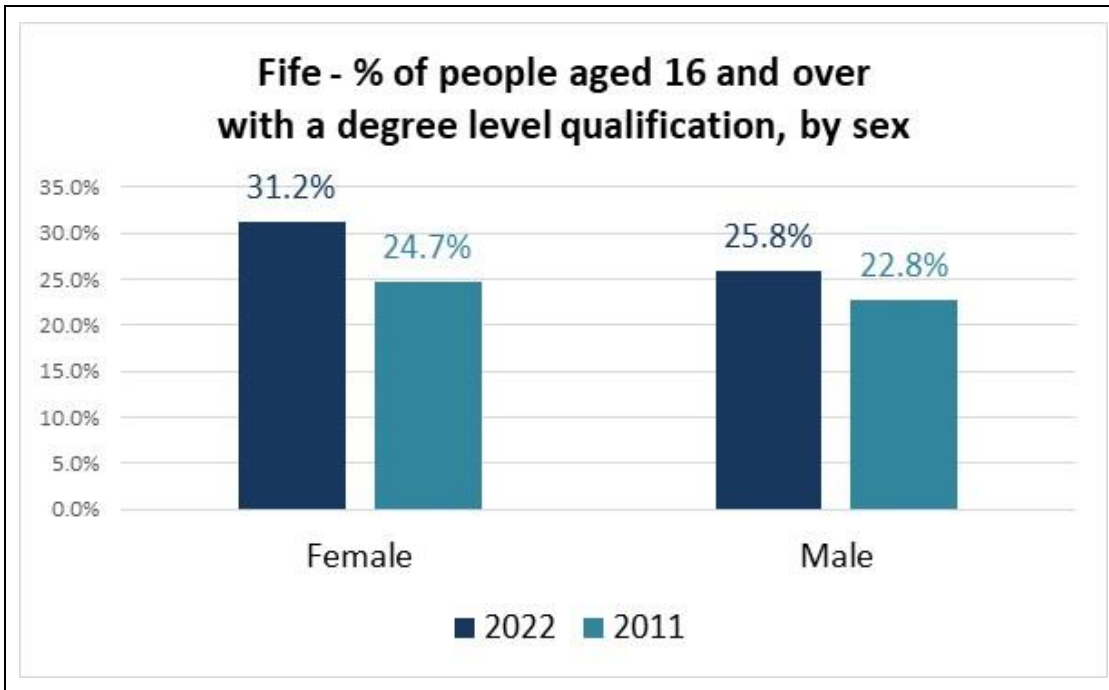


Figure 13.1 - % of people aged 16 and over in Fife that have a degree level qualification, by sex (Census 2022, 2011)

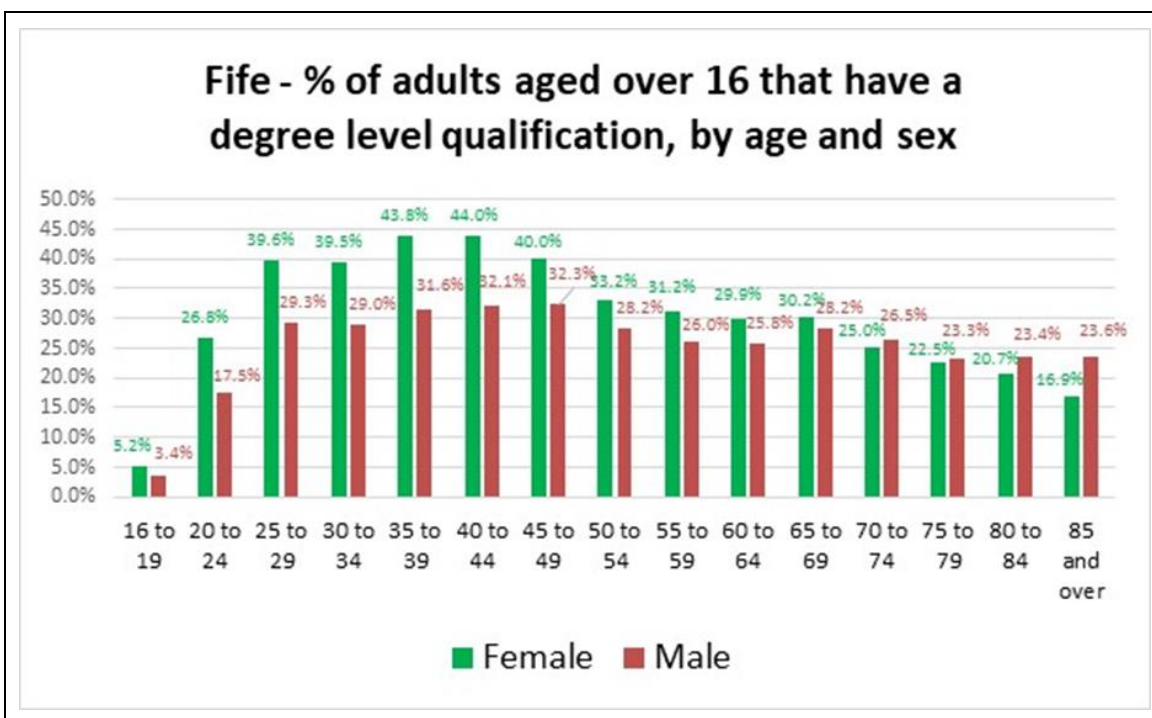


Figure 13.2 - Fife - % of those aged 16 and over with a degree, by sex and five year age band (Census 2022)

No Qualifications

For those people in Fife with No Qualifications, while the proportions of both females and males have improved over the last decade for all age groups, there is variation within the age groups for females and males.

In the younger age groups (under 50), females have seen a larger reduction in the proportion with no qualifications compared with males, while for the over 50 age group, and particularly those over 65, males have significantly reduced the number with no qualifications compared with females over the last ten years. Overall, females continue to have lower levels with no qualifications.

Figure 13.3 shows the percentage of people with no qualifications by age and sex.

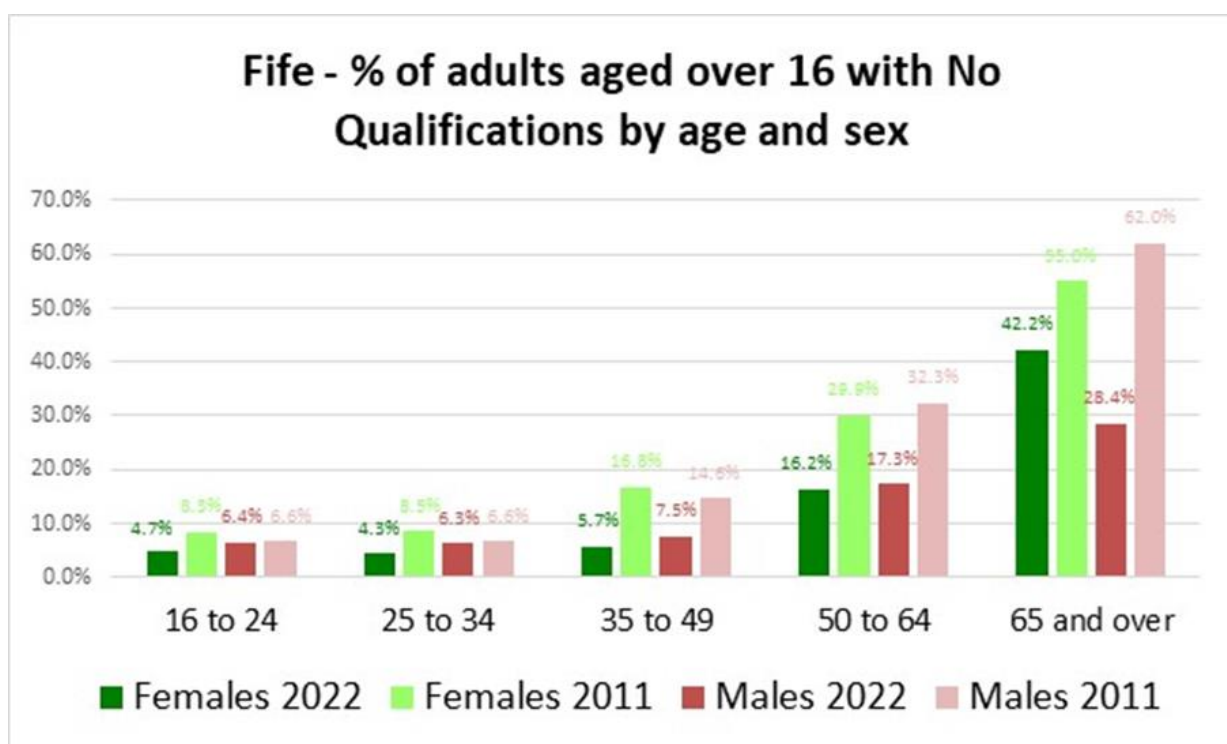


Figure 13.3. Percentage of adults (aged over 16) with No Qualifications by age and sex (Census 2022, 2011)

Table 13.2 – Table showing number of people with No Qualifications in Fife by sex and age (Census 2022, 2011)

	Females		Males	
	2022	2011	2022	2011
16 to 24	937	1,725	1,286	1,426
25 to 34	934	1,738	1,266	1,394
35 to 49	1,942	6,411	2,398	5,874
50 to 64	6,848	10,885	6,861	12,215
65 and over	18,398	15,479	10,339	22,274
Total	29,059	36,238	22,151	43,183

14. Economy

Economic Activity

In 2022 in Fife, there were 180,192 people that were classified as Economically Active. This is lower than for 2011, when there were 184,453, a decrease of 4,262. This is despite an increase in Fife’s population over the decade.

In contrast, in 2022, there were 129,741 people that were classified as Economically Inactive. This is higher than the figure in 2011 of 116,348, and an increase of 13,393 people.

In 2022, there were more males (61.9%) economically active compared to females (54.7%), and this was lower than in 2011, when there were 67.2% of males and 56% of females economically active.

Table 14.1 – Table showing Economic activity/inactivity in Fife by sex (Census 2022)

	Number of people	% of people	Number of Males	% of Males	Number of Females	% of Females
Economically active	180,192	58.1%	91,725	61.9%	88,469	54.7%
Economically inactive	129,741	41.9%	56,511	38.1%	73,231	45.3%
Population (aged 16 and over)	309,936	100.0%	148,232	100.0%	161,704	100.0%

Figure 14.1 shows the number of people in Fife that are Economically Active by sex.

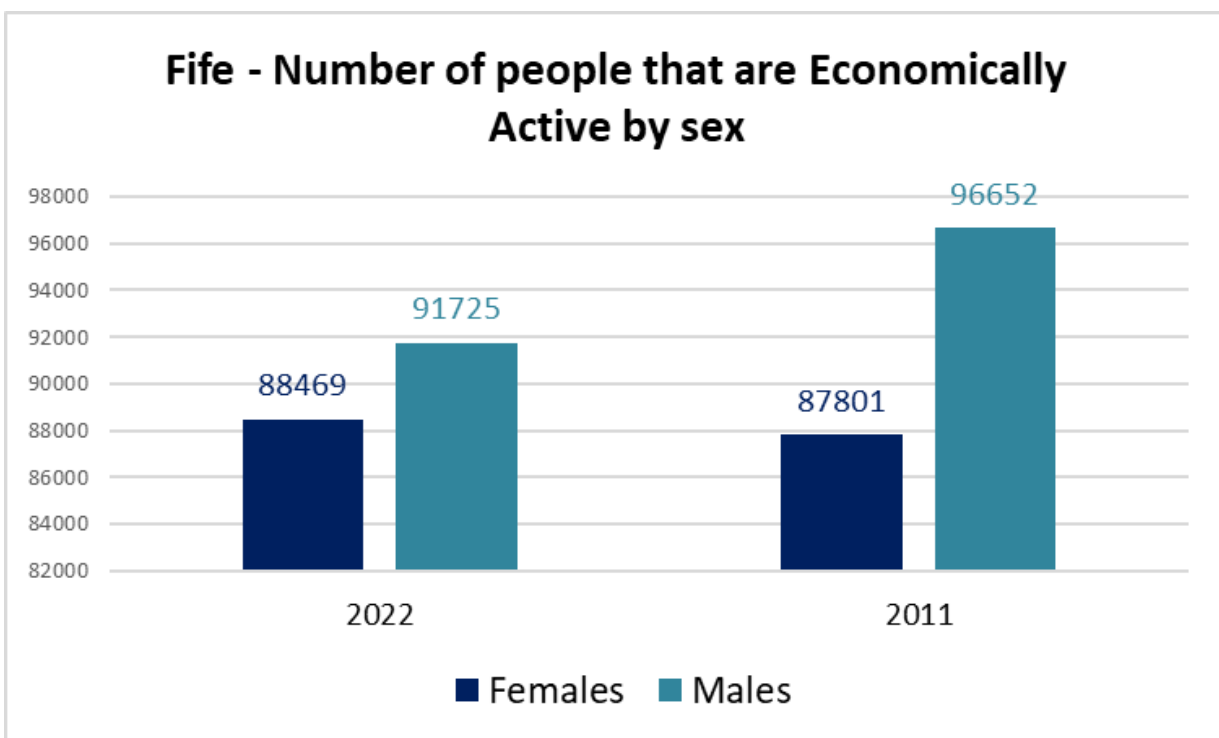


Figure 14.1 - Number of people in Fife that are Economically Active by sex (Census 2022, 2011)

Figure 14.2 shows the number of people in Fife that are Economically Inactive by sex.

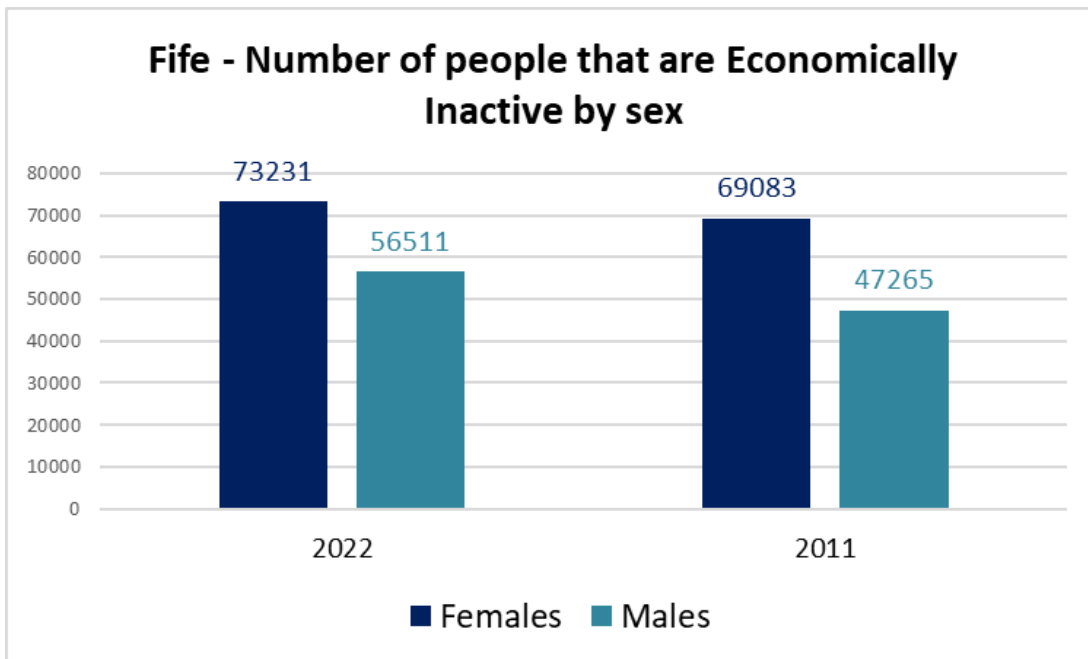


Figure 14.2 - Number of people in Fife that are Economically Inactive by sex (Census 2022, 2011)

For age, and the extent to which people are economically active, there has been notable change over the last decade. Generally, those aged 16 to 50 have become less economically active, while those over 50 have become more economically active, even for those in post-retirement age groups (65 and over). In 2022, the highest levels of economic activity can be seen in the 50 to 59 age group, whereas in 2011, the highest levels were in the 40-49 age group.

Figure 14.3 shows the number of people in Fife that are Economically Active by age.

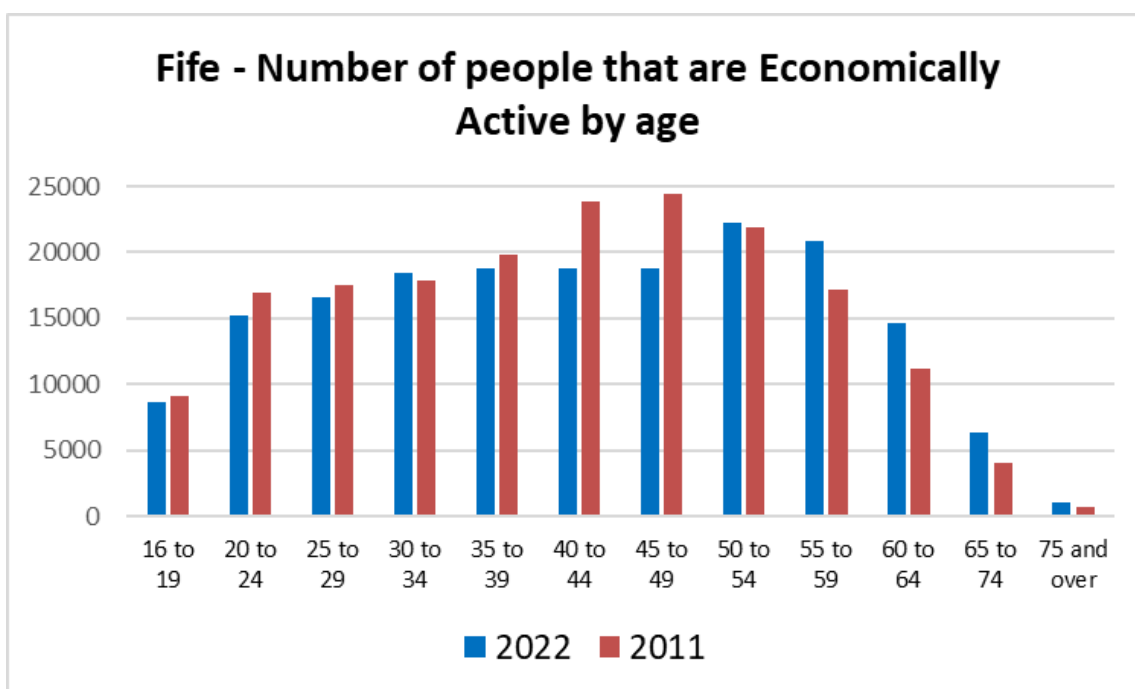


Figure 14.3 - Number of people in Fife that are economically active by age (Census 2022, 2011)

For people that are classified as economically inactive in Fife, with the exception of the youngest age group (16 to 19), and the 40 to 49 and 60 to 64 age groups, all other age groups have seen an increase in economic inactivity over the last decade. The highest levels of inactivity are in the over 65 age groups, which have seen a significant increase in numbers since 2011. Figure 14.4 shows the breakdown of economic inactivity across Fife by age group.

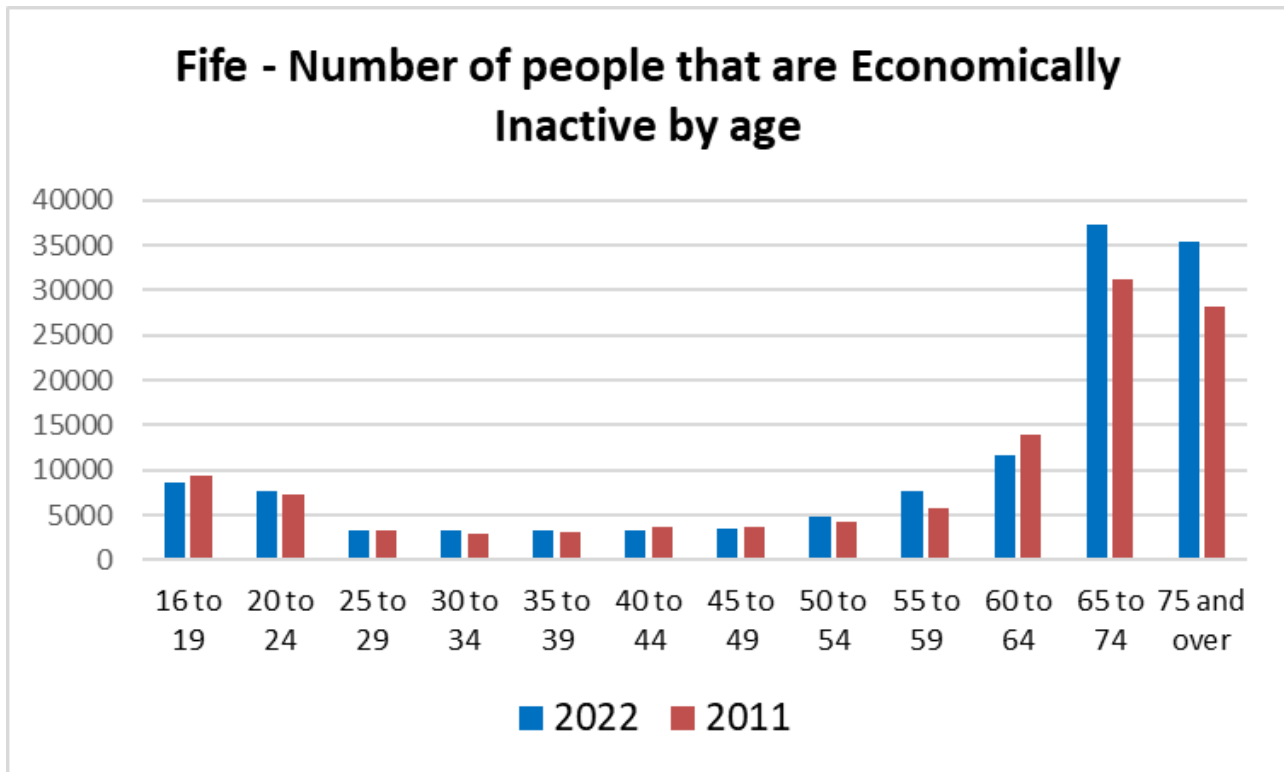


Figure 14.4 Number of people in Fife that are economically inactive by age (Census 2022, 2011)

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 14.5 shows the number of jobs by occupation type in Fife.

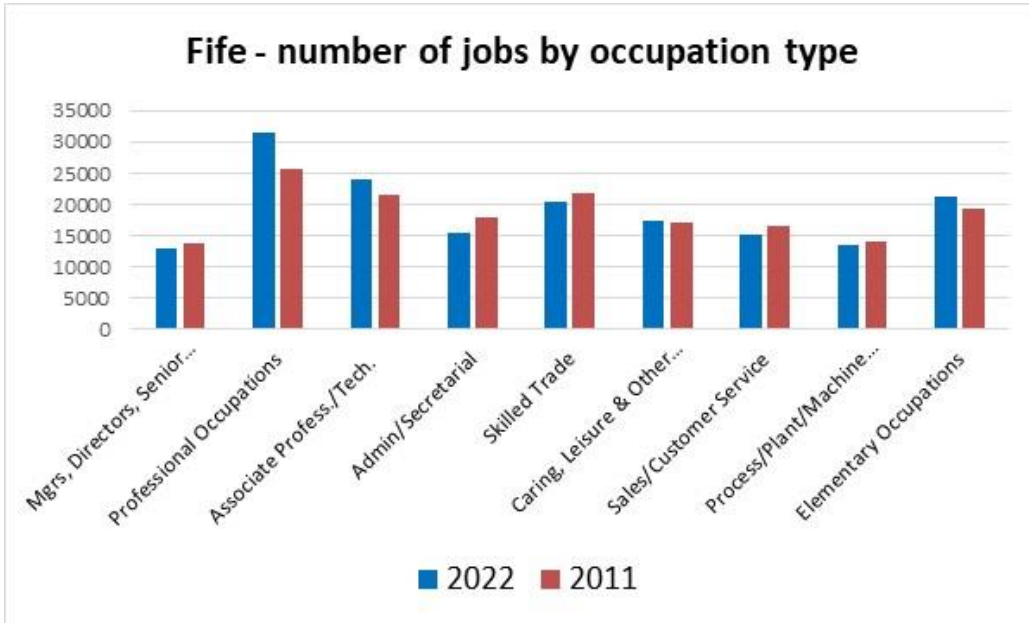


Figure 14.5 - Number of jobs in Fife by occupation type (Census 2022, 2011)

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%).

While females have continued to attain greater proportions of degree level qualifications over the last decade, across all working age groups, they still lag behind males for the proportion that work in occupations classified as, Managers, Directors or Senior Officials. In 2022, 6.5% of females work in these higher-level occupations, virtually unchanged from 2011. For males, 8.9% work in these types of occupations, a slight decrease from 9.8% in 2011.

Figure 14.6 shows the percentage of occupations in Fife by sex.

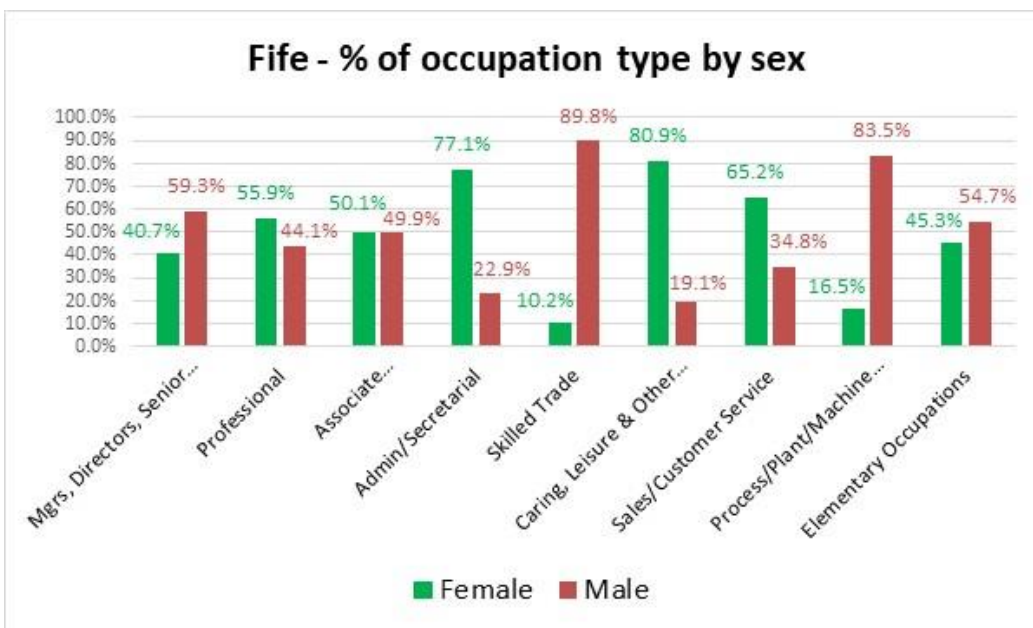


Figure 14.6 - Percentage of occupation type by sex (Census 2022)

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%).

Table 14.2 – Table showing number of people in work in Fife by industry type (Census 2022, and change since 2011)

Year	%	Number	Change
All people 16 and over in employment	100%	171,809	-4,483
A. Agriculture, Forestry; Fishing	1.3%	2,219	-227
B. Mining & Quarrying	1.1%	1,942	-604
C. Manufacturing	9.4%	16,161	+1,253
D. Elec, Gas, Steam/Air Conditioning	0.5%	942	148
E. Water Supply; Sewage; Waste Mgt.	0.7%	1,280	-76
F. Construction	7.6%	13,117	+555
G. Wholesale & Retail trade; Motor Vehicles	11.8%	20,297	+3,986
H. Transport & Storage	4.6%	7,878	-976
I. Accommodation & Food Services	6.5%	11,187	-1,741
J. Information & Communications	2.5%	4,299	+723
K. Finance & Insurance	4.4%	7,579	+536
L. Real Estate	0.9%	1,581	+24
M. Professional, Scientific & Technology	4.9%	8,504	-1,787
N. Admin & Support Services	4.4%	7,474	-662
O. Public Admin & Defence; Social Security	9.4%	16,120	-3,061
P. Education	8.6%	14,716	+353
Q. Human Health & Social Work	14.6%	25,080	-269
R,S,T,U Arts, Entertainment. Recreation, Other	6.7%	11,433	-2,658

Figure 14.7 shows the number of people in work by industry category in Fife.

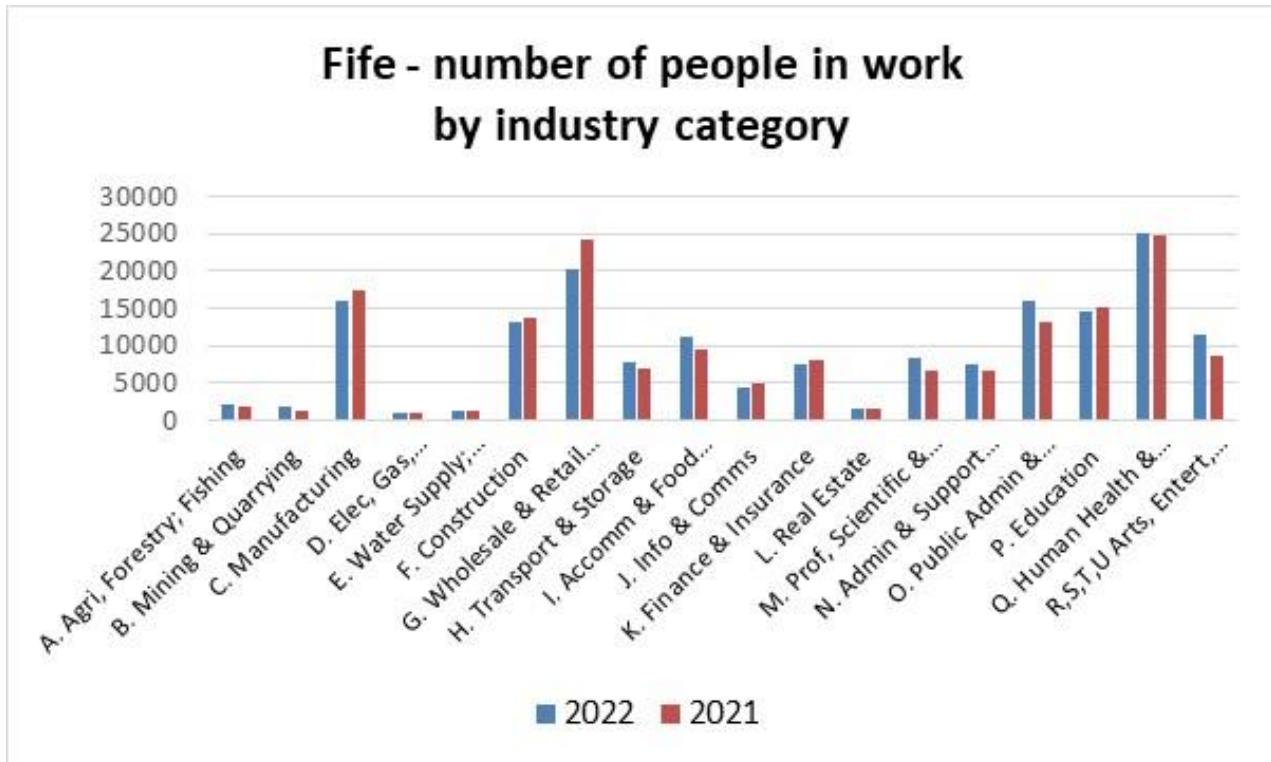


Figure 14.7 - Number of people in work in Fife by industry category (Census 2022, 2011)

Depending on the industry sector, the age profile of the 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.

Like occupation, the type of industry that females and males tend to work in varies across Fife. For females the highest proportion work in Human Health and Social Work Activities (23.9%), slightly lower than the 2011 figure of 25.1%, whereas only 5% of males work in this industry. Females also dominate the Education industry with around 13% working in here compared with 5% for males. For males, the two most popular industries are Manufacturing and Construction each with 13.5% of the Fife male workforce, compared with 5% for Manufacturing for females and 1.5% for Construction.

15. Ethnic Group

The majority of Fife people identified their ethnic group or background as “White” (96.0%), although this has fallen from 97.6% in 2011. “White Scottish” is the predominant group making up 84.6% of the white population, again falling from 87.8% in the previous census.

Table 15.1 - Number and percentage of people by ethnic group (Census 2022, 2011)

Census Year		2022	2011	Change
White	Number	356,885	356,550	335
	%	96.0%	97.6%	-1.6%
Mixed or multiple ethnic group	Number	3,312	1,257	2,055
	%	0.9%	0.3%	0.6%
Asian	Number	8,014	5,748	2,266
	%	2.2%	1.60%	0.6%
African	Number	1,355	704	651
	%	0.4%	0.2%	0.2%
Caribbean or Black	Number	316	422	-106
	%	0.1%	0.1%	0.0%
Other ethnic group	Number	1,899	517	1,382
	%	0.5%	0.1%	0.4%
Total Population	Number	371,781	365,198	6,583

The percentage of people in Fife with a minority ethnic background increased from 2.3% in 2011 to 3.9% in 2022. This is lower than the Scottish average of 12.9%. “Asian” remains the largest ‘Minority ethnic group’ accounting for 2.2% of the population and increasing from 1.6% in 2011. Minority ethnic groups tend to have higher proportions in younger age groups, with Mixed and Multiple groups, and Asian groups, showing the highest levels, particularly in those aged under 25. Similar levels are seen across males and females.

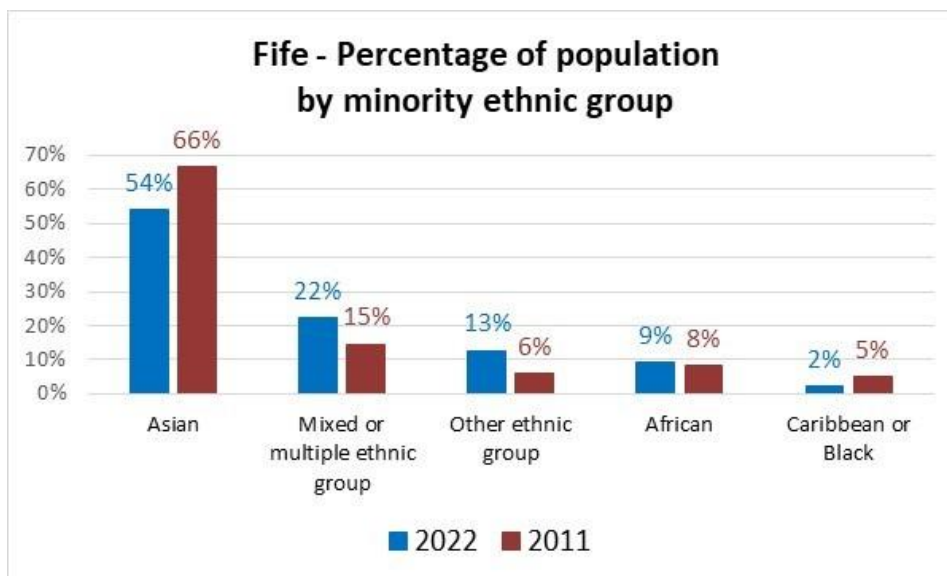


Figure 15.1 - Percentage of Fife’s population by minority ethnic group (Census 2022 and 2011)

16. Country of birth

Population change is driven by births, deaths and migration (people moving into or out of Fife). The increase in Fife's minority ethnic population is partly explained by people moving to Scotland from overseas between 2011 and 2022.

The percentage of people living in Fife that were born outside the UK increased from 2.8% to 4.2% between 2011 and 2022. The largest increases were from European Union (EU) Accession countries (0.8%), other EU countries (0.5%), the Middle East and Asian countries (0.4%), and the Americas and Caribbean countries (0.3%).

Table 16.1 - Number and percent of people by country of birth (Census 2022, 2011)

Census Year	2022	2011	Change
UK: Scotland	301,485	305,206	-3,721
	81.1%	83.6%	-2.5%
UK: England	36,858	35,531	1,327
	9.9%	9.7%	0.2%
UK: Northern Ireland	2,262	2,233	29
	0.6%	0.6%	0.0%
UK: Wales	1,411	1,499	-88
	0.4%	0.4%	0.0%
UK: UK part not specified	113	36	77
	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Europe: EU: Rep. Ireland	1,109	1,032	77
	0.3%	0.3%	0.0%
Europe: EU: Other member countries	5,914	4,110	1,804
	1.6%	1.1%	0.5%
Europe: EU: Accession countries	6,919	3,919	3,000
	1.9%	1.1%	0.8%
Europe: Non EU countries	1,032	885	147
	0.3%	0.2%	0.1%
Africa	2,836	2,067	769
	0.8%	0.6%	0.2%
Middle East and Asia	6,495	4,760	1,735
	1.7%	1.3%	0.4%
Americas and Caribbean	4,259	3,085	1,174
	1.10%	0.80%	0.30%
Antarctica and Oceania	936	716	220
	0.30%	0.20%	0.10%

17. Pregnancy and Maternity

While the Census does not ask questions in relation to pregnancy and maternity, the National Records of Scotland do collect and report annually in relation to this through their Vital Events tables.

The trend over time for Fife has seen a reduction in the number of children born each year. Compared with Scotland (45.4%), Fife (37.6%) has a lower proportion of births to parents that are married.

Fife's (44.8) fertility rate is also lower than Scotland's (45.5), which is a driver of the trend of reducing household size.

Table 17.1 shows how Fife compares with Scotland for live births.

Table 17.1 – Comparison of live births in Fife and Scotland (National Records of Scotland, Vital Events, 2022)

	All live births	General Fertility Rate *	% of live births to married parents	% of live births to unmarried parents	% of live births registered solely or jointly but with different parental addresses
Fife	2,990	44.8	37.6%	62.4%	15.4%
Scotland	46,959	45.5	45.4%	54.6%	14.9%

* all live births per 1,000 women aged 15-44

Source: National Records of Scotland - Vital Events Reference Tables 2022, Section 3. Births, Table 3.08: Live births, numbers and fertility rates by marital status of parents, type of registration and administrative area

18. National identity

The percentage of people who said “Scottish” was their only national identity increased from 63.8% in 2011 to 68.5% in 2022, slightly higher than the Scottish average of 65.5%. School aged children (4-17) had the highest levels of Scottish identity, followed by those aged 25-34, with males and females showing similar levels for Scottish identity.

Those who said that their only national identity was British also increased from 7.9% in 2011 to 13.3% in 2022, similar to the Scottish average of 13.9%. Pensioner age groups (65 and over) had the highest levels of British identity, and males and females had similar identities.

Those that felt Scottish and British, decreased from 18.2% in 2011 to 7.7% in 2022, slightly lower than the Scottish average of 8.2%).

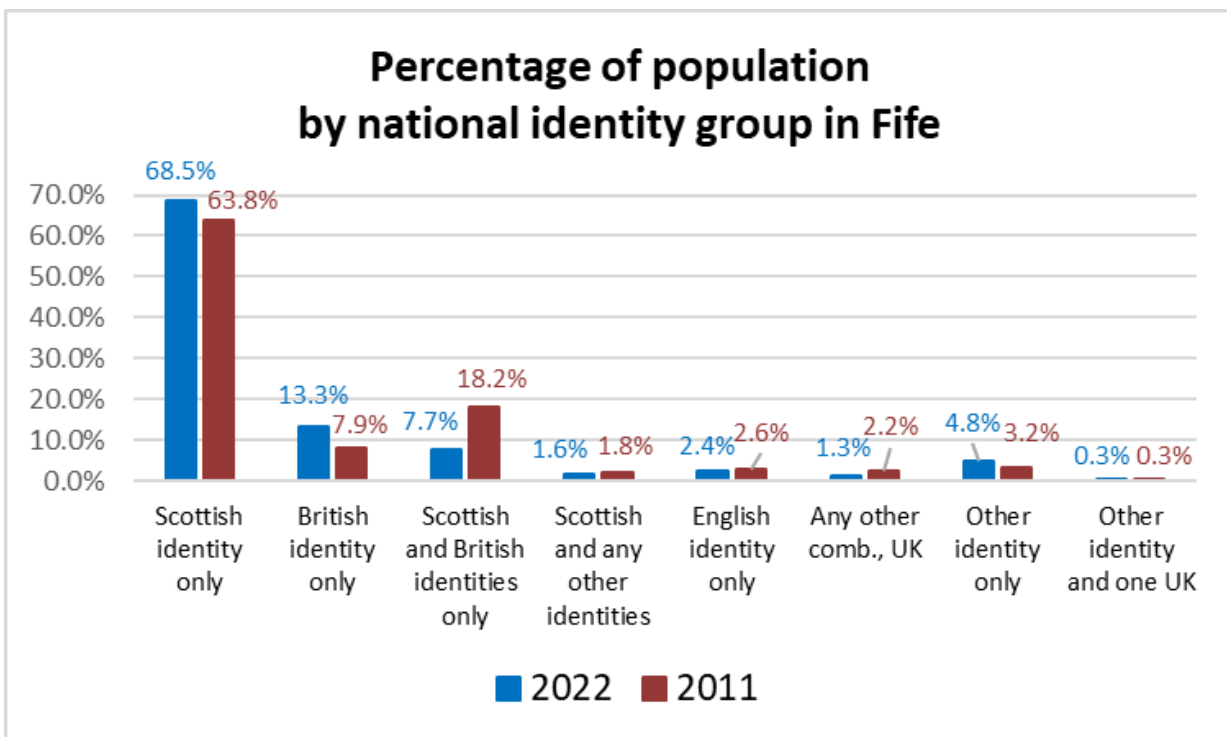


Figure 18.1 - Percentage of Fife’s population by national identity group (Census 2022 and 2011)

19. Language

British Sign Language (BSL)

The 2022 Census included a new question on the use of BSL. Therefore, no comparable data is available for the previous censuses.

For those aged 3 and over in the Fife population, 7,947 (2.2%) use British Sign Language (BSL), similar to the Scottish average. People in the 30 to 60 age groups have the highest levels of use of BSL, and twice as many females use BSL compared with males.

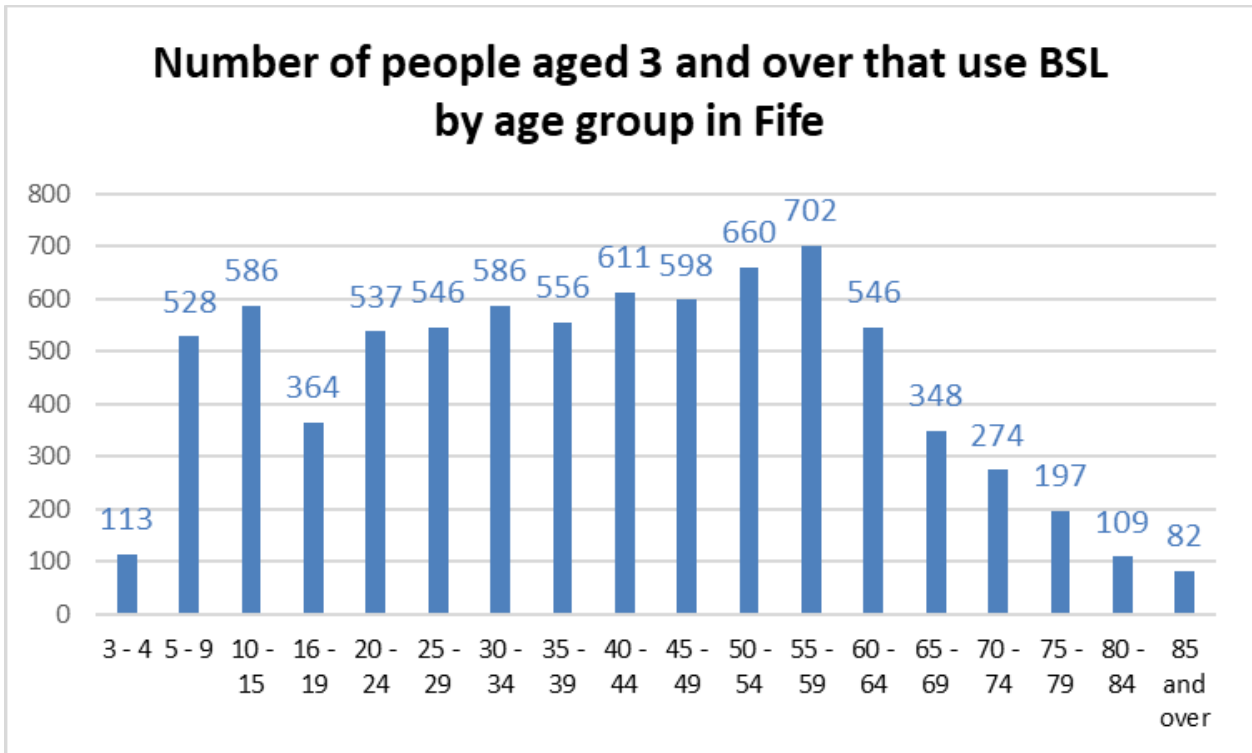


Figure 19.1 - Number of people aged 3 and over that use British Sign Language in Fife (Census 2022)

English

In 2022 94.6% of people in Fife said they speak, read and write English, compared to 94.2% in 2011.

For people that understand, speak, read and write English, the number born outside the UK has increased since 2011, while the overall percentage of people that have good English language skills remains largely unchanged over the decade.

Gaelic and Scots

Of the people in Fife aged 3 and over, 98.7% had no skills in Gaelic in 2022, a decrease from 99.3% in 2011. This is higher than the Scottish average of 97.5%. There is little variation in age or sex for skills in Gaelic.

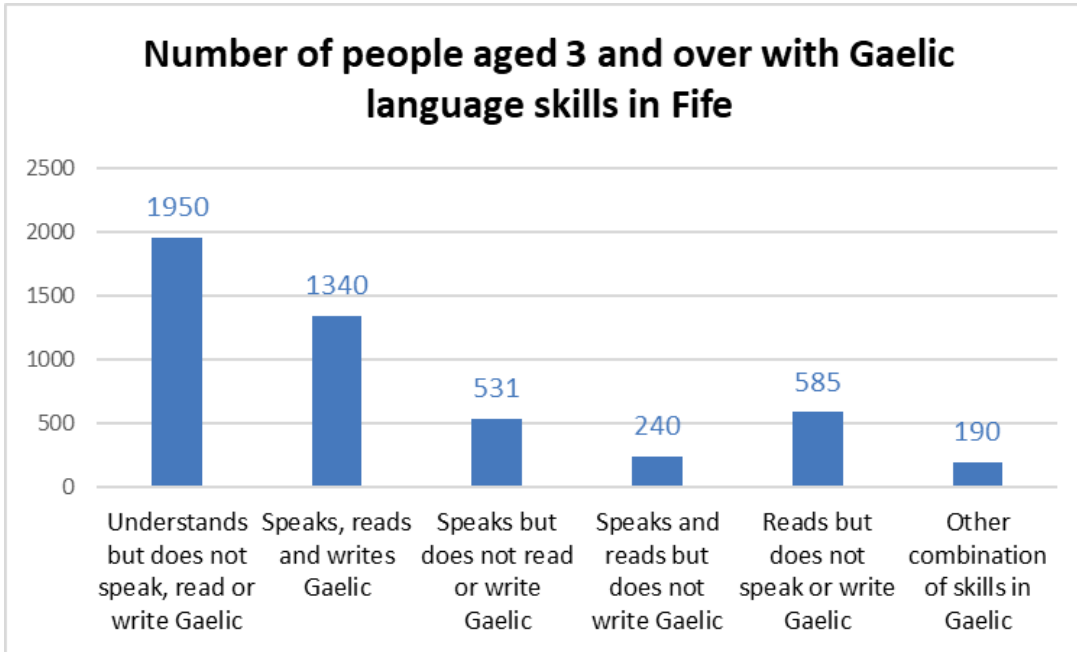


Figure 19.2 - Number of people aged 3 and over that have Gaelic language skills in Fife (Census 2022)

With the exception of Na h-Eileanan Siar (57.2%), Highland (8.1%) and Argyll and Bute Councils (6.2%), all other council areas have less than 3% of people aged 3 and over that have some Gaelic skills.

The percentage of people aged 3 and over in Fife with no skills in Scots language has decreased from 57.6% in 2011 to 49.1% in 2022. The highest percentage of people with Scots language was in the north east of Scotland. Younger age groups (under 30) tend to have fewer Scots skills than older age groups, and males and females have similar levels of Scots skills in Fife.

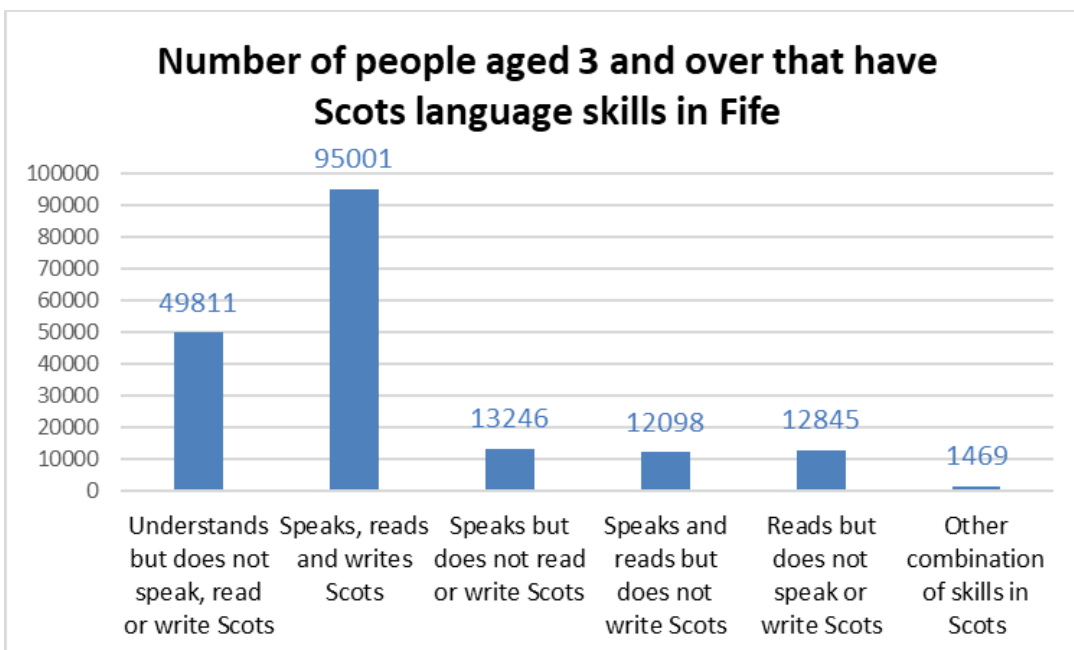


Figure 19.3 - Number of people aged 3 and over that have Scots language skills in Fife (Census 2022)

20. Religion or belief

For the first time, Census figures show that in 2022 the majority of people in Fife said that they had “No Religion” (61%), increasing from 46% in 2011. This is higher than the Scottish average of 51%.

The Church of Scotland remains the largest religious group in Fife, however it has seen the largest drop in numbers from 31% in 2011 to 19% in 2022. Other Christian religions have also seen a fall in their numbers since 2011. Buddhist, Hindu, Muslim, Jewish, and Sikh religions have all increased in numbers.

All age groups saw an increase in those saying they had no religion, with older people being more likely to have a religion, and younger age groups having no religion. Males (63%) were more likely to have no religion than females (58%).

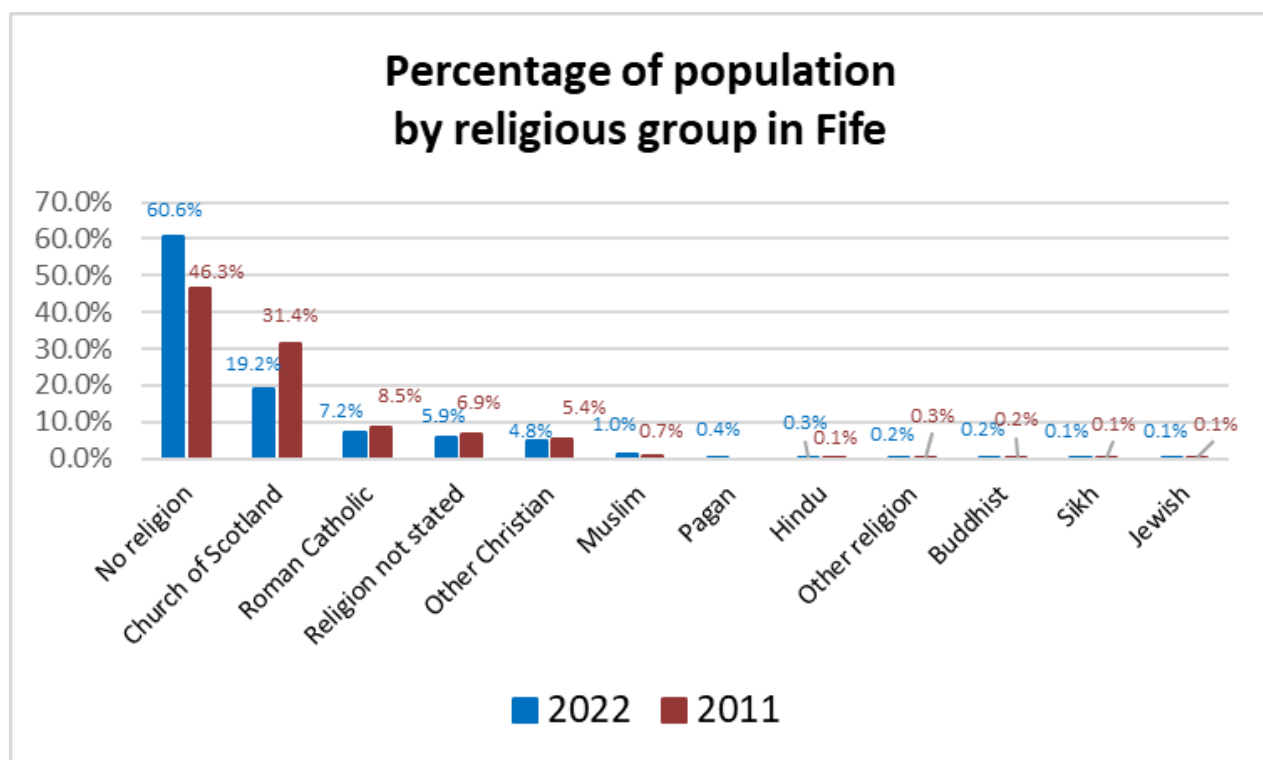


Figure 20.1 - Percentage of Fife’s population by religious group (Census 2022 and 2011)

Table 20.1 - Number and percentage of people in Fife by religious group (Census 2022, 2011)

Year	2022 (N)	2022 (%)	2011 (N)	2011 (%)
All people	371,781	100.0%	365,198	100.0%
No religion	225,123	60.6%	168,932	46.3%
Church of Scotland	71,475	19.2%	114,773	31.4%
Roman Catholic	26,655	7.2%	31,092	8.5%
Religion not stated	21,873	5.9%	25,069	6.9%
Other Christian	17,926	4.8%	19,757	5.4%
Muslim	3,813	1.0%	2,591	0.7%
Pagan	1,460	0.4%	-	-
Hindu	951	0.3%	489	0.1%
Other religion	904	0.2%	1,190	0.3%
Buddhist	866	0.2%	736	0.2%
Sikh	471	0.1%	324	0.1%
Jewish	259	0.1%	245	0.1%

21. Armed Forces Veterans

Scotland's Census 2022 gathered information on Armed Forces Veterans for the first time. As this is a new question set introduced for the 2022 Scottish Census, no previous data is available for comparison purposes. It includes the age profile of veterans, households with veterans, and regular or reserved Armed Forces service. Census data will help local service providers to understand more about the needs of UK Armed Forces veterans, and their families.

Households with UK Armed Forces Veterans

There are currently 16,131 Fife households that contain at least one UK Armed Forces veteran. This accounts for nearly 10% of all Fife households and is higher than the Scottish average of 6.7%.

Profile of Armed Forces Veterans

Scotland's Census 2022 found that 17,217 people had previously served in the UK Armed Forces in Fife. This is 5.6% of people aged 16 and over and is higher than the Scottish average of 3.9%. Similar to Scotland, half of all Fife veterans (49.5%) were aged 65 and over. And just under one third (31.2%) were aged 50 to 64 (see Figure 21.1).

Looking at the percentage of the population that were veterans in each age group (Figure 2) shows that the number increases from younger to older age groups. This shows how the percentage of the population serving in the Armed Forces has varied over the last 90 or so years. The high percentage of veterans in the oldest age groups (80 and over) is due to the National Service policy being in place between 1939 to 1960 and War Service (to 1948). Twenty-one percent of people aged 80 and over had previously served in the UK Armed Forces in Fife, with those aged between 55 to 69 averaging around 11%.

Male Armed Forces Veterans make up a much higher proportion of the total population (9.4%) compared with females (1.3%), and 87% of those veterans are male. The majority of veterans in Fife (76%) served in the regular UK Armed Forces, a further 18% served in the reserve Armed Forces, and 6% served in both.

Council areas with the highest percentage of veterans in their population are mostly areas where there is a military base nearby. Fife (5.6%) is one of six areas in Scotland with a higher proportion of veterans, including Moray (9%), Angus (6.1%), Argyle and Bute (5.9%), Perth and Kinross (5.4%), and Highland (5.3%). City areas with higher levels of younger people tend to have lower levels of veterans, with some of the lowest in Glasgow (2.0%) and Edinburgh (2.6%).

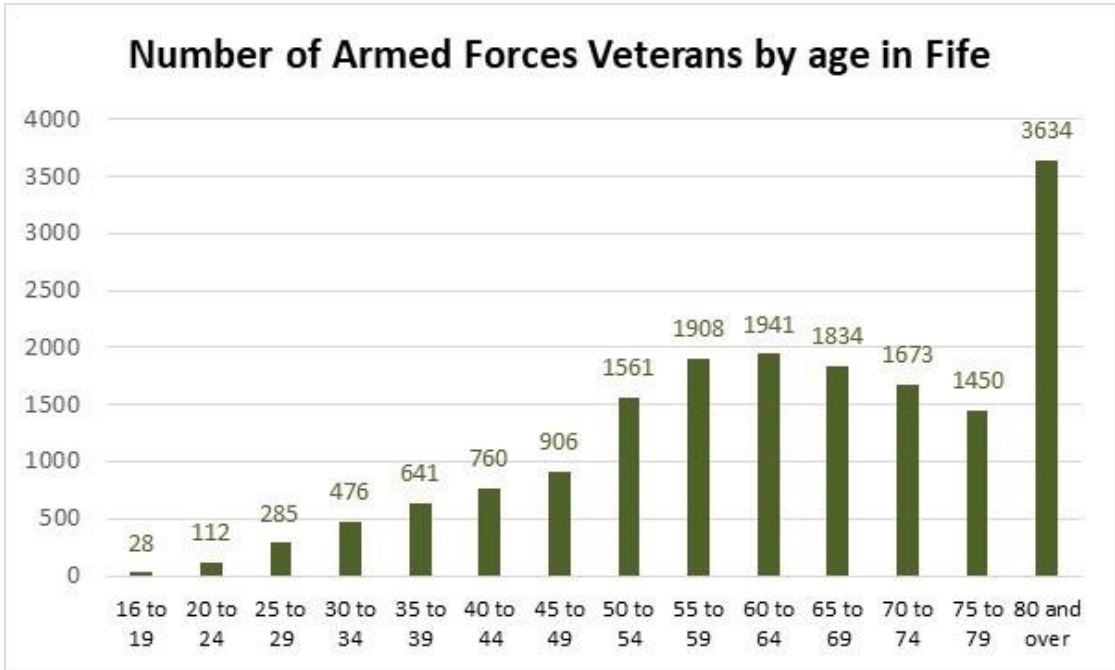


Figure 21.1 - Number of armed forces veterans in Fife by age group (Census 2022)

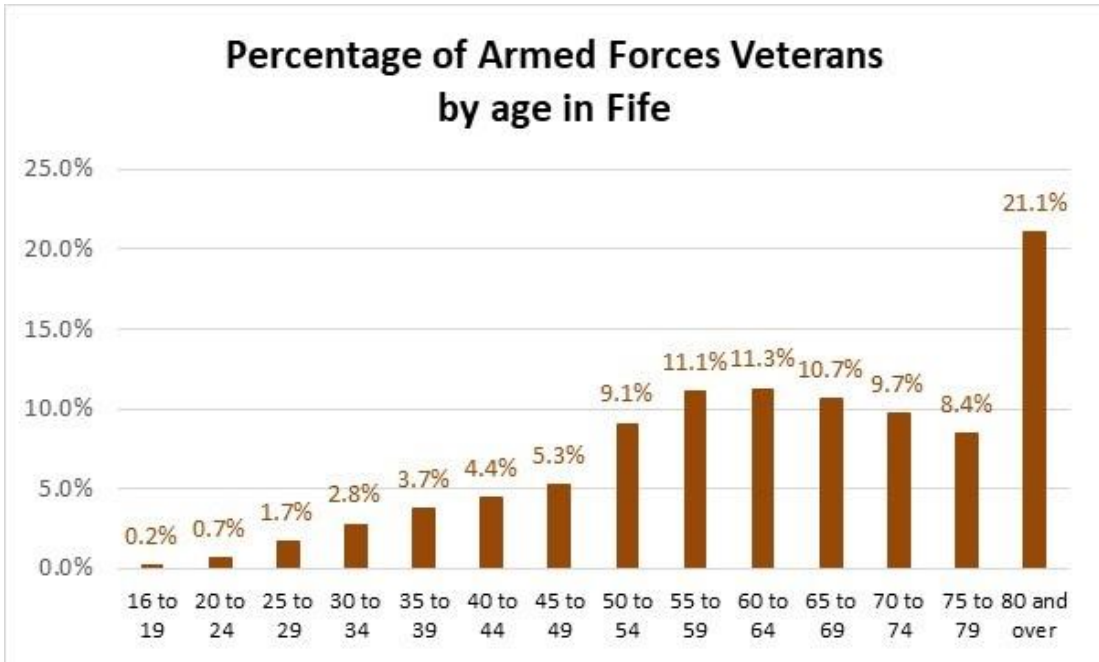


Figure 21.2 - Percentage of armed forces veterans in Fife by age group (Census 2022)

22. Useful Links

Scotland's Census 2022

Scotland's Census is the official count of every person and household in the country. 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.

[Home | Scotland's Census \(scotlandscensus.gov.uk\)](https://scotlandscensus.gov.uk)

Census Data

To access Census results, for 2022, 2011 and 2001, by topic, or by geographical area

[Scotland's Census \(scotlandscensus.gov.uk\)](https://scotlandscensus.gov.uk)

Flexible Table Builder

Create tables combining census variables

[Home | Scotland's Census](https://scotlandscensus.gov.uk)

Census Briefings

Fife Briefings are being produced on each of the topics as they become available dependent on the timetable for the release of data from Scotland's Census 2022.

These can be accessed via the KnowFife Hub: [Census | KnowFife](#)

Briefings that are now available include:

- [Ethnic Group, National Identity, Language and Religion](#)
- [Population and Household size](#)
- [Armed Forces Veterans](#)
- [Sexual orientation and trans status or history](#)
- [Demography and migration](#)
- [Housing](#)
- [Education, Labour Market and Travel to work](#)
- [Health, disability and unpaid care](#)

About this report

Fife Council Research and Insight Team works on prioritised projects to deliver strategic insight for the Council and community planning partners in Fife.

We aim to deliver engaging high-quality general insight for those involved in delivering public services across Fife.

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Important Notes on this Report

1. 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.
2. 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.
3. This briefing brings together headline findings from topic summaries relating to the protected characteristics in the Equalities Act (2010), and other special populations.
4. These statistics help to show how Fife's people have changed over the last decade to inform the setting of local equality outcomes.



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