

# Statistic Cards

# Statement of intent

The purpose of these cards is to represent '**what is known**' about Sheffield.

It synthesises the **public knowledge** held in research and evidence, captured in a set of statistics that are not comprehensive but are instead representative of the data available.

These data points are organised in terms of '**Social**', '**Technological**', '**Environmental**', '**Economic**' and '**Political**' trends.

# Social trends

*Sheffield's population is projected to rise to 608,867(+8%) by 2035, a 62,000 increase, representing growth that lags behind other cities in the UK. By 2034, projections suggest that nearly 1 in 5 people living in Sheffield will be over 65.*

*Local Growth 2035, Sheffield  
Trends, DLUHC 2023*

*#Population #Ageing*

*2 million over-50s are expected to experience loneliness in the UK by 2025/6. This compares to around 1.4 million in 2016/7 – a 49% increase in 10 years. In Sheffield, 32% of the population live in one person households, 12.9% are over 65. Over the next two decades, it is expected that there will be more people living alone who are aged 65 years and over than those who are less than 65 years old.*

*Local Growth 2035, Sheffield  
Trends, DLUHC 2023*

*#Loneliness #Ageing*

*In some parts of Sheffield, rates of depression are 40% higher than the national and Core City averages. The South East and North East LACs have the highest prevalence of depression (16.5% and 15.2%, respectively). These figures are significantly above the averages for both Sheffield (12.0%) and overall England (11.7%).*

*Sheffield Economic Evidence  
Base, 2022*

*#Geographical Disparity #Mental Health*

*23.8% of the city's LSOAs (local areas) feature in the most deprived 10% nationwide. The North East LAC performs particularly poorly in terms of Income, with 73.6% of the LSOAs in the most deprived 10%, Education, Skills and Training, with 69.8% of the LSOAs in the most deprived 10%, and Employment, with 73.6% of the LSOAs in the most deprived 10%.*

*Sheffield Economic Evidence  
Base, 2022*

*#Geographical Disparity #Inequality #Deprivation*

*Spending on services for young people in Sheffield is down 32% when comparing 2021-2022 to 2015-16. At least two in five 25-34-year-olds say that rising living costs have increased their fear of becoming homeless and almost half say that worries over rent is making them anxious or depressed.*

*Local Growth 2035, Sheffield  
Trends, DLUHC 2023*

*#Young people #Public Services #Cost Of Living*



*By 2019/2020 Child Poverty in Sheffield had risen compared to 2014/15, with the additional 6,865 children in poverty representing a 22.4% increase.*

*21.7% of Sheffield's population are in the most deprived 10% nationally for child poverty. In terms of the proportion of children living in households with a median income below 60% after housing costs, the percentage has increased by 5.6% since 2014/15, which is above the growth across England (+2.2%).*

*Sheffield Economic Evidence  
Base, 2022*

*#Children #Poverty #Deprivation*

*In addition to austerity in the UK, Brexit as a precursor to Black Lives Matter precipitated increases in hate crime and xenophobia in Sheffield. The South Yorkshire Police has seen a 17% increase in reported incidents of hate crime in the 12 months before the [Race Equality] Commission. 70% of reported hate crimes stipulated race as a major factor.*

*Race Equality Commission  
report, 2022*

*#Discrimination #Inequality #Crime*

*The Police and Crime Commissioner for South Yorkshire reported that those who were Other than White were searched 2.7 times more than those who self-defined as White. Within this, disproportionality was highest for people who self-defined as Black, they were 3.7 times more likely to be searched in the period April 2020 to March 2021.*

*Race Equality Commission  
report, 2022*

*#Discrimination #Inequality #Crime*

*In Sheffield, the estimated in-year financial impact of Covid-19 on the City Council is around £80m in 2020/21, largely due to increased cost of service provision, income loss, and loss of Council Tax and Business Rate incomes. In Sheffield, over 60% reported their mental health had got worse [during the pandemic]; however, most people reported that they had not sought mental health support.*

*State of Sheffield report, 2020*

*#Public Services #Mental Health #Crime*

*Average life satisfaction in Sheffield is consistently lower than the national average and the average amongst the Core Cities. The average happiness level in Sheffield fell from 7.4 in 2019/20 to 6.9 in 2020/21. This compares to a decline from 7.5 to 7.3 in England and from 7.3 to 7.1 in the Core Cities.*

*Sheffield Economic Evidence  
Base, 2022*

*#Wellbeing #Happiness*

*In Sheffield, the 10% of residents earning the least have a gross weekly median pay of under £167.20. In contrast, the 10% of residents with the highest pay earn over £992.70 per week. The pay differential between the lowest and highest 10% of earners grew from £718.50 in 2017 to £825.50 in 2021.*

*Sheffield Economic Evidence  
Base, 2022*

*#Inequality #Poverty*

*In Sheffield, there is an 8.8-year difference in life expectancy for men and an 11.4-year difference for women between areas considered more affluent and those deemed more deprived.*

*Sheffield Economic Evidence  
Base, 2022*

*#Gender #Health #Geographical Disparity*

*145,000 new affordable homes a year are needed in England, including 90,000 for social rent, to match demand. More than 20,800 people are currently on Sheffield Council's housing register, 8,474, are actively bidding for available properties. Council has a backlog of 6,085 overdue repair jobs – but repair service is due to be cut by £5 million.*

*Local Growth 2035, Sheffield  
Trends, DLUHC 2023*

*#Housing #Public Services #Cost of Living*



*In Sheffield, a relatively high proportion of schools are rated 'good' or 'outstanding'. However, there is a growing attainment gap for students eligible for free-school-meals in GCSE/Key Stage 4. The gap between the average KS4 Attainment 8 scores of FSM pupils and their peers has grown to 17.2 points, the second-largest gap of all the Core Cities since 2015. Meanwhile, the number of 16- to 17-year-olds not in education or training is falling but it is higher than the core city average.*

*Local Growth 2035, Sheffield  
Trends, DLUHC 2023*

*#Education #Inequality #Skills #Qualifications*

*Among Sheffield's 16-64 years old population, 47% have a qualification at NVQ4+ level, compared to 44% in the Core Cities. Sheffield has 29,800 more residents with NVQ4+ qualifications than there are employees.*

*Sheffield Economic Evidence  
Base, 2022*

*#Education #Skills #Qualifications #Jobs*

*Sheffield is one of the 20% most deprived Local Authorities in the UK, whilst also containing some of the most affluent 1% of areas. 1 in 4 children live in poverty. Health outcomes match these extremes.*

*Local Growth 2035, Sheffield  
Trends, DLUHC 2023*

*#Health #Inequality #Poverty #Young People*

*The numbers of children looked after in Sheffield has increased (but still low compared to Core Cities). New referrals have increased beyond pre-Covid levels and there has been an increase in child protection places to similar level to comparators. With a full establishment Sheffield can hold 3,400 cases but in the last few months, the system is running at full capacity / beyond (av. 22 case per social workers).*

*Our Sheffield Delivery Plan  
2022/23*

*#Care #Children #Public Services*

# Technological trends

*Around 7% of existing UK jobs could face a high (over 70%) probability of automation over the next 5 years, rising to around 18% after 10 years and just under 30% after 20 years. Many predict that AI will change the nature of work, creating new opportunities rather than replace work entirely. It calls for new skills and adaptation, requiring investment in education, training, and upskilling to ensure that the workforce is prepared for the changes that will come with increased use of AI.*

*Local Growth 2035, Sheffield  
Trends, DLUHC 2023*

*#Automation #Jobs #National Economy*

*Digital industry is growing faster in Sheffield than any other sector, creating new jobs and new wealth for the city. Sheffield's tech industry turnover grew by £82m in 2016-17 to £745m, an increase of more 12% - the largest increase of all major UK cities.*

*Digital Connectivity Strategy:  
2019-2021, Sheffield City  
Council*

*#Tech Sector #Jobs #Skills #Regional Economy*

*Sheffield now employs 14,750 tech workers across 1,135 tech companies and is attracting high investment in the tech industry. However already, Yorkshire and the Humber has the lowest proportion of LinkedIn members with tech skills and lower numbers of startups than other regions, including in the technology sector.*

*Local Growth 2035, Sheffield  
Trends, DLUHC 2023*

*#Tech Sector #Jobs #Skills #Regional Economy*



*In Sheffield, the recent £115m CityFibre project aimed to future-proof the city, ensuring digital infrastructure supports residents', businesses' and services' growing data consumption needs. However, access to the internet remains an issue for most disadvantaged, with broadband and mobile prices predicted to rise by up to 17% in Spring 2023. For example, during the pandemic, the attainment gap between the most and least disadvantaged Sheffield pupils grew, with the most deprived students less likely to have access to digital devices, the internet, and a quiet place to work at home.*

*Local Growth 2035, Sheffield  
Trends, DLUHC 2023*

*#Digital Infrastructure #Inequality #Deprivation*

*By 2050, almost half of the emission reductions required to reach global net zero may need to come from technologies that are currently at the demonstration or prototype stage, according to the International Energy Agency.*

*Local Growth 2035, Sheffield  
Trends, DLUHC 2023*

*#Tech Sector #Entrepreneurship #Startups #Net Zero*

# Economic trends

*Although Sheffield is strongly associated with its manufacturing and industrial heritage, only 20,500 are employed in this area overall, accounting for 8% of all jobs in the city, in line with the national average. More than 1/3 of jobs are in the public sector. The private sector is comparatively under-represented. Employment in satellite telecommunications activities is more than 10 times the national average.*

*Sheffield Economic Evidence  
Base, 2022*

*#Local Economy #Jobs #Public Services*

*The Sheffield City Region has the tenth highest economic inactivity rate across all LEPs, with 23% of people aged 16 to 64 being economically inactive. This equates to around 266,500 individuals. The economic inactivity rate for the City Region has remained higher than the level for the UK since 2004 and the difference has been stable.*

*Local Growth 2035, Sheffield  
Trends, DLUHC 2023*

*#Local Economy #Jobs #Unemployment*

*There is a £23.1bn productivity gap between major UK and European cities. 75% of employers in Sheffield already struggle to find the right technical and practical skills. Currently across Sheffield, there is a relatively high demand for high and middle skilled occupations. In craft trades and plant & machine operators there is a higher share of green-job vacancies compared to England average.*

*Local Growth 2035, Sheffield  
Trends, DLUHC 2023*

*#Local Economy #Productivity #Green Economy #Skills*

*87.2% of Sheffield's businesses are micro enterprises with less than 10 employees. 81% of businesses in Sheffield has a turnover of less than £500,000 / year in 2021. Sheffield has a lower rate of business startups, lower business density, and fewer high-growth businesses than stronger-performing Core Cities. The lower business density affects Sheffield's economic resilience and its ability to seize new growth opportunities.*

*Sheffield Economic Evidence  
Base, 2022*

*#Local Economy #Entrepreneurship*

*There are almost 20,000 businesses currently within the net zero economy which contributed £71 billion (3.7%) in Gross Value Added to the UK economy in a year. This is more than twice of the energy sector. In Yorkshire and the Humber, it is estimated that the new circular-economy jobs could represent over 40% of the currently unemployed workforce by 2035 if an ambitious and transformational policy is pursued. Around two-thirds of these jobs would be in the remanufacturing sector, with the remainder in rental and leasing, repair, and recycling.*

*Mapping the Net Zero  
Economy, 2023 / Sheffield  
Economic Evidence Base,  
2022*

*#Green Economy #Jobs #Net Zero*



*Nearly 8,000 green jobs are needed within Sheffield to support net zero targets by 2030 and over 13,100 by 2050. These will be distributed across all elements of the green economy, primarily in alternative fuels (33%, or 2,657 jobs), low-carbon heat (21%, 1,625 jobs), and energy efficiency (19%, 1,487 jobs).*

*Sheffield Economic Evidence  
Base, 2022*

*#Green Economy #Jobs #Net Zero*

*Ethnicity, gender and place can have serious implications for how favourably entrepreneurs are viewed. Beyond market forces, there is no level playing field in entrepreneurship and there is systemic disadvantages for those from an ethnic minority background, which is exacerbated for females.*

*Race Equality Commission  
report, 2022*

*#Local Economy #Entrepreneurship #Discrimination*

*The 'real' unemployment figure for Sheffield is 6.1%. Unemployment rose in all the LACs as a result of COVID-19. The data shows that the existing inequalities between areas have been exacerbated, with greater increases in unemployment in areas that had already been experiencing the highest rates. Where once a 2% gap existed between the Central LAC and North LAC in 2017, there is now a 7% gap, highlighting the growth in inequality across the city.*

Sheffield Economic Evidence  
Base, 2022

*#Unemployment #Geographical Disparity #Inequality*

*The income gap is larger among the female population, with 26.8% of the ethnic minority female population in Sheffield unemployed, compared to 4.4% of the White female population, a gap of 22.4 percentage points (compared to 5.8 percentage points nationally).*

*Sheffield Economic Evidence  
Base, 2022*

*#Unemployment #Gender #Inequality*

*In Sheffield, the unemployment rate for the ethnic minority population aged 16 and over was 19.6%, as of the year ending September 2021. This is significantly above the population-wide unemployment rate of 6.5% and the unemployment rate for the White population of 4.7% (a gap of 14.9 percentage points). The employment rate in Sheffield for ethnic minorities is 61.2%, compared to the city average of 74.6%.*

*Sheffield Economic Evidence  
Base, 2022*

*#Unemployment #Inequality #Discrimination*

*Of Sheffield's economically inactive population, 27% are inactive due to sickness and disability. The percentage of unemployed people with such disabilities fell from 15.1% in 2015 to 9.4% in 2021, which is a positive step demonstrating that more people are finding that their disabilities are less likely to prevent them from accessing employment opportunities.*

*Sheffield Economic Evidence  
Base, 2022*

*#Unemployment #Inequality #Discrimination*

# Environmental trends

*Air pollution today remains the single biggest environmental threat to health in the UK, shortening tens of thousands of lives each year. Forecasts of air quality in Sheffield indicate that without action air quality in Sheffield would continue to be above legal limits.*

*Local Growth 2035, Sheffield  
Trends, DLUHC 2023*

*#Air Quality #Health*



*Parts of east Sheffield have seen a 50% increase in particulate matter since 2020. LSOAs in the east of the city already have higher levels of air quality deprivation.*

*Sheffield Economic Evidence  
Base, 2022*

*#Air Quality #Geographical Disparity #Inequality*

*In Sheffield air pollution is largely due to both road transport and industry, and to a lesser extent, other processes that burn fossil fuels, such as commercial or domestic heating systems (for example gas boilers).*

*40% of <1km journey are made by car in South Yorkshire, threatening the health of our population and further deterioration of the environment. The Transport Strategy in Sheffield aims to increase cycling trips by 350% and walking by 21% by 2025 from 2013 levels.*

*Local Growth 2035, Sheffield  
Trends, DLUHC 2023*

*#Air Quality #Health #Transport*

*Winter rainfall is predicted to increase in the Sheffield by 14% from 2009 to 2050. 6,040 properties are forecasted to be at risk from flooding in Sheffield in the Future, 102 of them listed buildings, with a potential risk of ~£344m cost in damages.*

*Local Growth 2035, Sheffield  
Trends, DLUHC 2023*

*#Flood Risk #Climate Adaptation #Resilience*

*In terms of public green space, Sheffield has 191 m<sup>2</sup> per person, far more green space per person than any other Core City. The Core Cities combined average is 47 m<sup>2</sup>. However, Sheffield residents live an average of 316m away - just above the Core City average of 277m and the fifth-greatest distance amongst the Core Cities.*

*Local Growth 2035, Sheffield  
Trends, DLUHC 2023*

*#Green Space #Wellbeing #Health*

*40% of people of B.A.M.E backgrounds live in England's most green-space-deprived neighbourhoods, compared to 14% of white people. Less than 50% of those with a household income of less than £15,000 live close to green space but 63% of those with a household income of more than £35,000 could find green space within five minutes' walk of their home.*

*Local Growth 2035, Sheffield  
Trends, DLUHC 2023*

*#Green Space #Inequality #Deprivation*

*Within the domestic sector, gas consumption constitutes approximately 71% of emissions and electricity consumption 25% coming from the 247,000 existing properties. The emissions from the commercial and industry sector contribute to 801ktCO<sub>2</sub>, equivalent to 35% of Sheffield's emissions. The commercial buildings accounts for 54% of these emissions, whilst industrial buildings account for 46%.*

*Pathways to Zero Carbon in  
Sheffield, Zero Carbon  
Commission 2022*

*#Carbon Emissions #Housing #Business*

*Recent data indicates that 60% of people trips in Sheffield are taken by car, 26% by public transport and 14% by active travel. Physical inactivity is responsible for 1 in 6 UK deaths whilst 20 minutes exercise a day cuts the risk of developing depression by 31%. The re-prioritisation of road space also results in a better street environment for leisure activities and allows local communities to thrive as more walkable areas are accessed more.*

*Pathways to Zero Carbon in  
Sheffield, Zero Carbon  
Commission 2022*

*#Transport #Health #Mental Health #Wellbeing*

*In just the past five years, the world's circularity has shrunk from 9.1% to 7.2% of total material inputs. This isn't simply because we're failing to recycle more—it's also due to increasing extraction from the natural world and the fact that we are putting more and more materials into stocks like roads, homes and durable goods. This means that the global economy cannot recycle enough to create a truly circular consumption pattern without significantly reducing material use.*

*The Circularity Gap Report,  
Circle Economy, 2023*

*#Circular Economy #Consumption #Material Footprint*



# Political trends

*35% of the UK population say they trust the national government, 6% lower than the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) average (41%). Currently, trust in public services is higher than trust in the national or local governments, with the NHS the most trusted public service (80%), followed by the courts and legal system (68%).*

*Local Growth 2035, Sheffield  
Trends, DLUHC 2023*

*#Public Trust #Public Services #Government*

*37% of 30 year olds born 1986-1990 are renting privately, compared to 7% of those born in 1956-60. 8% of Baby Boomers own a buy-to-let, while about 6% own a second home – in the next few years these difference could create wider social and political tension. In 2019, about a quarter of 18 to 24-year-olds believed that poverty and the high cost of living were among the most important issues compared with just 10% of those over 65.*

*Local Growth 2035, Sheffield  
Trends, DLUHC 2023*

*#Housing #Intergenerational Relations #Poverty #Inequality*

*By 2030, it is highly likely that 100% of UK citizens will reside within Mayoral Combined Authorities with higher devolved powers on where public funding in a local area should be spent. Fiscal Devolution will have a 0.37% positive impact on GDP per capita.*

*Local Growth 2035, Sheffield  
Trends, DLUHC 2023*

*#Government #Devolution #Local Power*

*At all levels of evidence, there was a chorus about Black Asian and minority ethnic VCF (voluntary, community & faith) sector felt neglected and voiced that they did not feel that Anchor / influential VCF organisations in the city represented them or reached their communities. The impact of this was considered to be unequal access to funding and relationships within the voluntary sector.*

*Race Equality Commission  
report, 2022*

*#Representation #Inequality*

*B.A.M.E people are significantly under-represented at senior leadership levels across public sector and VCF (voluntary, community & faith) organisations. For example, the Sheffield City Trust [leisure provision in the city] total workforce is made up of 11% ethnic minority people compared with 16% in the city's population. The Council recognises that its workforce is not wholly representative of the city either, and the picture around senior officers (those earning over £50,000 p.a.) is more challenging, with just 7.4% of those roles being filled by people of colour.*

*Race Equality Commission  
report, 2022*

*#Representation #Inequality*