East Lothian by Numbers: Summary

Table of Contents
Population & Demography ............................................................................................................................................ 1
Deprivation & Inequalities ........................................................................................................................................... 2
Economy & Income ......................................................................................................................................................... 3
Education & Lifelong Learning ................................................................................................................................. 4
Health & Social Care ...................................................................................................................................................... 5
Housing .......................................................................................................................................................................... 6
Community Safety ........................................................................................................................................................... 7
Travel & Transport .......................................................................................................................................................... 8
Environment ..................................................................................................................................................................... 9
Neighbourhood & Place ................................................................................................................................................ 10
Council Services ............................................................................................................................................................ 11
Sources ............................................................................................................................................................................ 12
Population & Demography

In 2017, East Lothian had the 21st highest population, out of 32 council areas in Scotland. Between 1997 and 2017, the population of East Lothian increased by 19.5%, the highest percentage change in Scotland. Between 2016 and 2026, East Lothian’s population is projected to increase by 8.6% from 104,090 (2016) to 113,048 (2026), the 2nd highest percentage change in Scotland. Between 2016 and 2026, the 16 to 24 age group is projected to decrease by -5.1%, and the 75 and over will increase by 34.6%.

Did you know?

East Lothian is projected to have the 2nd highest percentage population increase in Scotland between 2016 and 2026 (National Records of Scotland).

Summary:

- In 2017 The population of East Lothian was estimated to be 104,840, the 21st highest population out of the 32 Scottish local authorities.
- The 45 to 64 age group was the biggest population in 2017, accounting for 29.3% of the overall population.
- In 2017, 52.1% of the population were female and 47.9% were male. 51.3% of the 0-15 age group were males, the only one of 6 age groups with more males than females.
- In East Lothian the birth rate decreased from 11.4 per 1,000 population in 2016 to 10.6 per 1,000 in 2017.
- In East Lothian the death rate increased from 9.1 per 1,000 population in 2016 to 10.2 in 2017.
- In 2016/17, 4,157 people migrated into East Lothian, with 3,357 migrating out, giving a net migration of 800 people. Less than the 960 net migration for the previous year.
- Between 2016 and 2026, East Lothian’s population is projected to increase by 8.6% to 113,048, the 2nd highest percentage population change in Scotland.
- Between 2016 and 2026, the 16 to 24 age group is projected to see the largest percentage decrease (-5.1%) and the 75 and over age group the highest increase (+34.6%). The 0-15 age group is projected to rise by 5.6%.
Deprivation

The principal measure of deprivation in Scotland is the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD). The Index consists of measures of income, employment, education, health, housing, crime and geographic access to services. The Index identifies small area concentrations of multiple deprivation across all of Scotland in a consistent way. East Lothian has lower levels of deprivation than most local authorities in Scotland. There are however, small areas in Prestonpans, Tranent and Musselburgh that fall within the most deprived 20% of areas in Scotland.

The SIMD is not the only measure of deprivation. Child Poverty measured by the campaign group End Child Poverty showed that 18.9% of children in East Lothian were living in poverty in 2017 after housing costs. There were 3,285 Crisis Grant applications in East Lothian during 2017/18.

Did you know?
16.5% of children in East Lothian were living in poverty when housing costs were included (End Child Poverty 2019).

Deprivation:

- In 2016, 6 of the 132 data zones in East Lothian (located in Prestonpans, Tranent and Elphinstone) were within the SIMD most deprived 20% of areas in the whole of Scotland.
- In 2016, 3.7% of East Lothian’s population resided in the most deprived SIMD quintile, less than the 4.9% in 2012.
- Higher levels of deprivation are concentrated in the western part of East Lothian (around Musselburgh, Wallyford, Tranent and Prestonpans), although there are also pockets of deprivation in Haddington and Dunbar.
- In 2017/18, 16.5% of children were identified as living in poverty after housing costs, less than the 18.9% in 2017.
- There were 3,285 Crisis Grants applications in East Lothian during 2017/18, a decrease of 0.5% from 2016/17. Scotland as a whole increased by 5.5%.
- In East Lothian, the percentage of Crisis Grants applications accepted in 2017/18 was 49%, less than the 52% for 2016/17. Scotland as a whole decreased from 71% to 68%.
- In 2017/18 East Lothian paid the 7th highest average Crisis Grant award in Scotland at £90, higher than the Scottish average of £77.
- The 2017 Residents Survey showed that 70% of East Lothian residents think that their household is managing very/quite well financially, higher than the 53% in the 2011 Residents Survey.
- In 2014-2016, 27% of East Lothian households were in fuel poverty (fuel cost > 10% of income), less than the 31% for Scotland.
Economy & Income

Although East Lothian is generally considered to be an area of high employment and general affluence there is considerable variation in economic activity, unemployment and the financial position of households between and within East Lothian’s wards.

Generally East Lothian is an area that is more affluent than the Scottish average. However, many people commute out of the area for employment.

Did you know?
Residents that commute to work outside of East Lothian earn more, on average, than those who work here (NOMIS 2018).

Summary:
- In 2018, East Lothian had the 5th highest gross weekly earnings as a place of residence in Scotland (out of 32 local authorities), however earnings for those that actually work in East Lothian are lower than the Scottish average.
- In 2017 East Lothian had a smaller % of full time employees, and a greater % of part time workers when compared to Scotland.
- In terms of jobs by industry, in 2017 East Lothian had a larger % in Education and Accommodation/Food Services, when compared to Scotland.
- In 2018, 78.9% of people in East Lothian aged 16-64 are in employment, compared to 74.5% across Scotland.
- In 2016, 3 of East Lothian’s 132 data zones were within the 10% most income deprived areas in Scotland, 10 data zones were within the 20% most income deprived in Scotland.
- East Lothian has no data zones in the 10% most employment deprived in Scotland, 6 data zones are within the 20% most employment deprived in Scotland.
- In November 2018, 2.8% of people in East Lothian claimed out-of-work benefits (JSA & searching for work Universal Credit claimants) compared to 1.8% of people in Scotland as a whole. Under Universal Credit a broader span of claimants are required to seek work. Universal Credit has been implemented in East Lothian, but is still being rolled out throughout Scotland, when completed the East Lothian figure will likely fall below the Scottish average.
Education & Lifelong Learning

Overall, school attainment is good across East Lothian and the working age population are more highly qualified than the Scottish average. The percentage of school leavers in positive destinations is higher than the Scottish average. One of the key priorities for East Lothian is early intervention, ensuring that all young people entering school equipped to learn and receive the support they need to reach their potential.

A high proportion of East Lothian people continue their education at further and higher education institutes. Modern apprenticeships have also proven to be a popular route into training and employment adding to an increasingly educated and skilled population.

Did you know?

94.2% of East Lothian school leavers were in follow up positive destinations in March 2018 (2016/17 cohort).

Summary:

- In the SIMD 2016, 5 out of the 132 datazones in East Lothian were within the 10%, and 17 data zones were within the 20% most education deprived areas in Scotland.
- In 2017/18, 4.3% of pupils were recorded as living in the 20% most deprived areas, and 21.6% in the 20% least deprived.
- In 2016/17, the % of pupils achieving the CfE level for their stage was highest for listening & talking at all stages, and lowest for writing across the primary stages and lowest for numeracy at S3. This is reflected across Scotland as a whole.
- In 2017/18, 79.1% of East Lothian pupils passed higher courses, above the national rate of 76.8%, and 2.4% higher than the previous year.
- In March 2018, 94.2% of school leavers from the 2016/17 cohort were in follow up positive destinations, higher than the 92.9% for Scotland as a whole.
- Attainment and Positive Destinations for Looked After Children in East Lothian is lower than their counterparts that are not looked after.
- The 2011 census showed that 35.6% of working age people in East Lothian had qualifications at SVQ level 4 or above.
- Queen Margaret University’s student roll has increased from 5,892 in 2010 to 8,036 in 2017, 76.6% of students are female.
- At 98.2% Queen Margaret University had the highest graduate employment rate of any university in Scotland in 2017.
Health & Social Care

Across East Lothian male and female life expectancy is significantly higher than the Scottish average, and has been rising steadily over time, leading to a growing older population in the area. However life expectancy varies by ten and a half years between communities across the county for males, and almost eight years for females: an indicator of the significant health inequalities that persist across East Lothian.

A range of indicators can be used to measure the health and wellbeing of a community, and the support needed to enable people to maintain independent lives is a key issue. Cognitive health (e.g. dementia) is a growing issue in East Lothian and Scotland, particularly as the population ages, presenting an expanding health and social care concern.

Did you know?

In 2017, 1,932 people in East Lothian had dementia, which is 1.8% of the population (Alzheimer Scotland)

Summary

- The 2017 East Lothian Residents Survey showed that 82% of people in East Lothian report having very good/good health, compared to 89% in 2011.
- At 78.3 years for males and 82.7 years for females, life expectancy in East Lothian is significantly higher than in Scotland.
- In 2016/17, 15.6% of East Lothian’s Primary 1 children were considered to be overweight, obese or severely obese (Scotland 15.9%), higher than the 15.3% in 2015/16.
- East Lothian has significantly better health rates when compared to Scotland for, emergency hospitalisations, alcohol, drug and psychiatric related hospital stays, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, coronary heart disease, babies exclusively breastfed and child dental health.
- At March 2018, 10.7 per 1,000 East Lothian children aged 17 years and under, were Looked After, lower than the 15.1 for Scotland.
- At 31 March 2018 in East Lothian, 3.3 children per 1,000 aged 0-15 years were on the Child Protection Register, higher than the Scottish rate of 3.0.
- 1,932 people in in East Lothian had dementia in 2017, which is 1.8% of the population. 96.4% of dementia sufferers are over the age of 65.
- In 2018, 8.5 per 1,000 adults in East Lothian had learning disabilities, the highest rate in Scotland (Scotland 5.2).
- 12.1% of people aged 25 or over in East Lothian were unpaid carers, similar to the 12.5% for Scotland as whole.
Housing

Housing is a basic requirement for all, at the heart of our everyday lives. As East Lothian’s population grows and changes in characteristics, new housing requirements will be needed to accommodate increasing demand. Homelessness issues are key for authorities to tackle. Changing issues around how housing benefit is provided also creates different demands and pressures on East Lothian’s housing situation and the population.

Homes tend to be more expensive in East Lothian than the Scottish average, and also have more rooms on average. North Berwick has a relatively high proportion of dwellings that are used as second homes. By contrast, Musselburgh has relatively high proportion of student housing.

Summary:

- East Lothian has a higher proportion of terraced and detached houses and lower proportion of flats and semi-detached homes than Scotland.
- In 2017, 61.6% of dwellings in East Lothian were owner-occupied, 18.4% were Council owned, 12.6% privately rented and 4.7% were with a housing association.
- In Quarter 3 2018/19, the median house price in East Lothian was £209,498, the 3rd highest in Scotland.
- The ratio of median house prices to median income is higher than in most other parts of Scotland.
- In 2018/19 Local Authority housing rent in East Lothian was £62.85, the second lowest in Scotland.
- In East Lothian, there were 1,941 private new builds completed between 2013-2017, 75% higher than the 1,111 built between 2008-2012.
- In East Lothian there were 64 local authority new builds completed in 2017, similar to the 2016 level of 67.
- In 2017/18, the number of homeless applications in East Lothian increased to 794 (the highest figure since the abolition of the priority needs test in 2012), an increase of 3.1%, higher than the national increase of 2.4%.
Community Safety

A high proportion of East Lothian residents feel safe in their local neighbourhood, although a smaller proportion feel safe after dark than in the daytime.

East Lothian is a relatively safe place to live, with levels of serious crime and disorder that are significantly below the Scottish average. However crimes of dishonesty have risen in East Lothian, with shoplifting in particular showing an increase. Domestic housebreakings have been decreasing.

Did you know?

In 2017, 85% of East Lothian residents felt safe in their neighbourhood after dark, higher than the 78% in 2011.

Summary:

- Over the last 3 years East Lothian crimes and offences have increased by 4.1%, compared to a national decrease of 14%, although fewer crimes and offences are recorded per 10,000 population in East Lothian than the Scottish average.
- Shoplifting crimes in East Lothian increased by 45% in 2017/18 to 66 per 10,000 population, when compared to the previous year, higher than the overall Scottish rate of 58.
- In East Lothian, Racially Aggravated Conduct crimes increased from 14 in 2016/17 to 24 in 2017/18. All of the 2017/18 crimes were solved.
- In 2017/18 the number of domestic abuse incidents in East Lothian stayed at a similar level to the previous year. Domestic Abuse cases are more prevalent among the lower socio economic deciles.
- In East Lothian the number of anti-social behaviour calls to the police increased from 5,306 in 2016/17 to 5,419 in 2017/18. The largest rise was due to “communication” related incidents.
- In 2017, 85% of East Lothian Residents felt safe in their neighbourhoods after dark, higher than the 78% in 2011.
- 34 people were seriously injured on East Lothian’s roads in 2017 and 3 were killed. The number of killed/serious injuries has reduced from an average of 36 in 2004-2008 to 31 in 2013-2017.
- In 2013 the imprisonment rate among East Lothian residents was 97 per 100,000 residents, compared to a Scottish figure of 179.
- In 2017/18 there were 56.3 deliberate primary fires per 100,000 population in East Lothian, higher than the Scottish rate of 50.2.
Transport & Travel

Access to transport is fundamental to maintaining today’s lifestyles, whether it is for work, education, leisure or to attain the goods and services people rely on in their daily lives. The dispersed, rural nature of many of East Lothian’s settlements also increases the need for travel, with 24 of the 132 datazones in East Lothian falling within the 20% most access deprived in Scotland.

One of the key ways for East Lothian to reduce its carbon footprint would be to improve connections between communities; encourage the use of more sustainable modes of transport (where practical) including walking, cycling and public transport. As a rural area, congestion in East Lothian is relatively low, apart from a small number of areas.

Did you know?

85% of East Lothian residents commute to work by car (East Lothian Residents Survey 2017).

Summary:

- SIMD 2016 showed that, 11 out of the 132 datazones in East Lothian fall within the 10% most deprived areas of Scotland with regard to access to services. 24 datazones are among the 20% most deprived areas in relation to access to services.
- In 2017, 77% of East Lothian residents were satisfied with public transport, compared to 69% for Scotland.
- In East Lothian, in 2017, 30% of households chief earners worked outside of East Lothian.
- In 2017, in East Lothian, 599 cars were registered per 1,000 people aged 17 and over, compared to 553 for Scotland as whole.
- In 2017, 85% of East Lothian residents commuted by car, 7% by bus and 2% by train.
- In 2017, in East Lothian, 67% of primary school and 61.1% of secondary school pupils walked, cycled or scooted to school (Scotland 53.1% and 42.7% respectively).
- In 2017/18, rail station usage in East Lothian increased by 4.5% from the previous year to 2,451,450.
- Road Maintenance:- In 2017, 4% of local authority roads in East Lothian were classed as being condition red, 28% were classed as amber, compared to 7% and 29% respectively for Scotland.
East Lothian by Number: Summary

The Environment

The quality of the natural environment is one of East Lothian`s greatest assets. Across the county communities have access to a wide range of public open/green spaces including coastal and countryside sites, woodlands, parks, amenity open spaces, green corridors, village greens, play areas, school grounds and civic spaces which offer positive benefits to the health and well-being of local communities.

10 of the 13 beaches in East Lothian monitored by SEPA received an excellent/good rating in 2018. Inland water bodies tend to have less favourable conditions due to high agricultural activity in the area.

Summary:

- East Lothian has 2,766 listed buildings, 30 conservation areas and 291 Scheduled Monuments. In 2018, 75 buildings were included on the historic buildings at risk register.
- East Lothian contains 25 Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs).
- Large areas of East Lothian are classified as Prime Quality Agricultural Land.
- 10 of the 13 beaches in East Lothian monitored by SEPA received an excellent/good rating in 2018.
- 36ha of land in East Lothian was classed as being vacant or derelict in 2017.
- In 2016 East Lothian had an estimated 10.6 tonnes of CO2 emissions per capita. The third highest rate in Scotland. However, the figure drops to 5.2 for industries that fall within the influence of the council, the same as the Scottish average.
- In 2017, 89% of East Lothian residents stated that they were satisfied with the waste & recycling services. Recycling of paper, cardboard, glass, cans and plastics ranged between 93% and 96% in East Lothian, higher than the 80%-86% for Scotland as a whole.
- In 2017, 82% of residents in East Lothian live a 6 minute or less walk from a green space, compared to 65% for Scotland as a whole.

Did you know?

East Lothian had an estimated 10.6 tonnes per capita of CO2 emissions in 2016, the third highest rate in Scotland. (UK Government 2018).
Neighbourhood & Place

The rural nature of much of East Lothian means that the majority of the population live in geographically distinct towns and villages – each with their own strengths and differing needs.

While each of the East Lothian wards is geographically clustered around one of six major towns it does mean that people across the county have different levels of access to local services and facilities. These variations not only impact on local quality of life and the opportunities available to local residents, but also on the strength and resilience of local communities. As to how people feel about their own neighbourhoods can also influence how much they choose to become involved.

Did you know?

There were 450 registered charities in East Lothian in March 2018. Half of these have a local outreach (OSCR 2015).

Summary:

- In 2017, 98% of East Lothian residents felt that their neighbourhood was a good place to live, and 88% felt they belonged very/fairly strongly to their neighbourhood.
- In 2017, road and pavement repairs was the service that most residents felt was in need of improvement.
- In 2017, 33% of people in East Lothian had volunteered in the last year, higher than the 28% for Scotland as a whole.
- In East Lothian, there were 590,000 library visitors in 2017/18. Overall, physical library visits, PC usage and wi-fi sessions remained at a similar level to 2016/17.
- The percentage of East Lothian residents with internet access in their homes has increased from 78% in 2013, to 85% in 2017.
- In 2017/18 there were 751,264 indoor sports facilities attendances and 487,823 pool attendances.
- Voter turnout in East Lothian remains higher than in Scotland, turnout increased for recent local and Scottish elections, although the 2017 general election showed a decrease when compared to 2015.
- 450 charities were registered with OSCR in East Lothian in 2018 compared to 429 in 2015.
Council Services

East Lothian Council is the principle service provider within the area and has a responsibility for providing many of the services and facilities that residents rely on in their daily lives. Overall, the perceptions of East Lothian Council tend to be fairly positive and satisfaction with council services remains consistently high, however satisfaction with schools is falling. With an increasing younger and older population, and differing demographic challenges across the area, the Council will have to provide for its service users in dynamic and innovative ways.

Did you know?

In 2017/18, East Lothian Council provided 21,930 hours care at home per week and 1.15 million school meals.

Summary:

- In 2017, 72% of residents felt that the council provided high quality services.
- In 2017, 79% of residents felt that the council does the best it can with the money available.
- In 2017, 38% of residents felt that the council was good at listening to local people’s views before it takes decisions, lower than the 44% in 2011.
- In 2017, 38% of residents felt that they could influence decisions affecting their local area, higher than the 16% in 2011.
- Satisfaction with the local bus service has increased from 57% in 2011 to 77% in 2017.
- Satisfaction with local schools decreased from 83% in 2016, to 63% in 2017.
- 1.15 million school meals were provided in East Lothian during 2017/18.
- In 2017/18, 2,587 potholes were filled and 186 gritting treatments were undertaken.
- 6.7 million bins were collected in 2017/18, higher than the 6.3 million the previous year.
- 21,930 hours care at home per week were provided in East Lothian during 2017/18, similar to the previous year.
- In 2017/18, there were 761 stage 1 complaints, and 161 stage 2, compared to 621 and 254 respectively for 2016/17.
In preparing this profile every attempt has been made to use the most recent information publicly available for each theme. The information has come from a variety of external sources as well as internal council services. Sources include:

- Alzheimer Europe [www.alzheimer-europe.org](http://www.alzheimer-europe.org)
- Association of Leading Visitor Attractions [www.alva.org.uk](http://www.alva.org.uk)
- Association of Scottish Visitor Attractions [www.asva.org.uk](http://www.asva.org.uk)
- Belhaven Hill School [www.belhavenhill.com](http://www.belhavenhill.com)
- Census 2001 [www.gro-scotland.gov.uk](http://www.gro-scotland.gov.uk)
- Census 2011 [www.scotlandscensus.gov.uk](http://www.scotlandscensus.gov.uk)
- Citizens Advice Scotland [www.cas.org.uk](http://www.cas.org.uk)
- Citizens Panel [www.eastlothian.gov.uk](http://www.eastlothian.gov.uk)
- City of Edinburgh Council [www.edinburgh.gov.uk](http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk)
- Community Health and Well-Being Profiles [www.scotpho.org.uk](http://www.scotpho.org.uk)
- Early Development Instrument [www.eastlothian.gov.uk](http://www.eastlothian.gov.uk)
- East Lothian Council [www.eastlothian.gov.uk](http://www.eastlothian.gov.uk)
- Edinburgh College [www.edinburghcollege.ac.uk](http://www.edinburghcollege.ac.uk)
- Electoral Commission [www.electoralcommission.org.uk](http://www.electoralcommission.org.uk)
- End Child Poverty [www.endchildpoverty.org.uk](http://www.endchildpoverty.org.uk)
- Enjoy Leisure [www.enjoyleisure.com](http://www.enjoyleisure.com)
- General Register Office for Scotland [www.gro-scotland.gov.uk](http://www.gro-scotland.gov.uk)
- Green Tourism [www.green-tourism.com](http://www.green-tourism.com)
- Hands Up! Survey [www.sustrans.org.uk](http://www.sustrans.org.uk)
- HM Revenue and Customs [www.gov.uk/organisations/hm-revenue-customs](http://www.gov.uk/organisations/hm-revenue-customs)
- Higher Education Statistics Agency [www.hesa.ac.uk](http://www.hesa.ac.uk)
- Improvement Service [www.improvementservice.org.uk](http://www.improvementservice.org.uk)
- Information Services Division Scotland [www.isdscotland.org](http://www.isdscotland.org)
- James Hutton Institute [www.hutton.ac.uk](http://www.hutton.ac.uk)
- Keep Scotland Beautiful [www.keepscotlandbeautiful.org.uk](http://www.keepscotlandbeautiful.org.uk)
- Loretto School [www.lorettoschool.co.uk](http://www.lorettoschool.co.uk)
- Midlothian Council [www.midlothian.gov.uk](http://www.midlothian.gov.uk)
- National Records of Scotland [www.nrscotland.gov.uk](http://www.nrscotland.gov.uk)
- NHS Lothian [www.nhslothian.scot.nhs.uk](http://www.nhslothian.scot.nhs.uk)
East Lothian by Numbers
A Statistical Profile of East Lothian
Summary

Published March 2019
Find this document at: www.eastlothian.gov.uk/StatisticsAndData

versions of this document can be supplied in Braille, large print, on audiotape, or in your own language. Please phone Customer Services on 01620 827199.