

Life in the UK 2024

Scotland



Creating the Life in the UK Index

Carnegie UK's Life in the UK wellbeing index measures collective wellbeing across the UK. It is based on what people in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland tell us about their lives. The purpose of this index is to help governments across the UK focus their attention on the things that really matter to people, and to help us understand whether we are collectively living better or worse over time. The index will also help identify where progress is being made and the areas of our lives that require policy intervention.

The evidence for the 2024 index was collected via a 26-question survey of 6,774 respondents using [Ipsos' KnowledgePanel](#), a random probability survey panel with selection based on a random sample of UK households. The fieldwork was carried out between 9th and 15th May 2024, ahead of the announcement of the 2024 General Election.

This report provides an overview of findings based on the 1,109 respondents living in Scotland. It is worth noting that shortly before the fieldwork was undertaken, Humza Yousaf had announced his intention to resign as First Minister, ending the Bute House Agreement¹. John Swinney was appointed as the new First Minister of Scotland the day before the Life in the UK survey went into the field.

- The overall collective wellbeing index score and the wellbeing domain scores have a value of between 0 and 100.
- The collective wellbeing scores, domain scores, and individual questions were all analysed to compare aspects of life for different groups of people in different parts of the UK.
- Factor analysis was used to construct the index scores, and regression analysis was used to help understand which demographic characteristics are most associated with collective wellbeing overall, and with social, economic, environmental and democratic wellbeing specifically. We have used this analysis to structure the discussion of the demographic characteristics impacting on wellbeing throughout this report.

Carnegie UK and Ipsos designed, developed and analysed the Life in the UK index in partnership. More information on the methodology used to create the index and the full technical report are available [here](#).

Carnegie UK is committed to following the principles of the [Code of Practice for Statistics](#) in the production of our Life in the UK index. We outline how we adhere to these principles in our [Voluntary Statement of Compliance](#).

Carnegie UK works to put wellbeing at the heart of decision making. This report provides an independent and authoritative overview of collective wellbeing in Scotland in 2024. We hope it makes the case for better measures of social progress and highlights where policy intervention is urgently required.

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Introduction: Life in the UK - Scotland 2024

The Life in the UK index now provides two years of robust evidence about what life is like for people in Scotland. **Out of a possible score of 100, Scotland's collective wellbeing in 2024 was just 62.**

This year's index findings tell us that the **collective wellbeing of people in Scotland is stagnant**. This stasis in living standards is driven by persistent and entrenched inequality across the four core domains of social, economic, environmental and democratic wellbeing.

It is of significant concern that in this landmark year for democracy, which marks a quarter century of devolution in Scotland as well as a UK general election, it is our democratic wellbeing that once again attracts the lowest scores. Scotland has a democratic wellbeing score of just 39, shaped by depleting levels of trust in MSPs and MPs, and a growing sense that people are unable to influence decision-making.

In nearly all areas that we measured, **income inequality is the single biggest driver of poor wellbeing via its influence on issues such as housing tenure, household income and area deprivation**. Our data also highlights the importance of key factors such as age and disability as having an impact on people's wellbeing score.

It's clear from this evidence that the current approach to public policy in Scotland is not working as well as it could or should². As we near the end of the current parliamentary term and in the middle of a challenging fiscal environment³, the Scottish Government must take action if it wants to deliver meaningful improvements to the living standards of communities across the country. **This should include the effective delivery of an outcomes-based approach to policymaking, alongside coherent political and administrative leadership that we know is critical to improving the collective wellbeing of people in Scotland.**

Despite these worrying insights, there is cause for hope. The new UK Government has stated its commitment to strengthening its work with Scottish ministers. Similarly, all parties in Scotland will want to develop policies that have a positive impact on people's lives in the run-up to the 2026 Holyrood election. **This must start with an improved approach to measuring what really matters to people.**

At Carnegie UK we have worked for more than 100 years to help improve the wellbeing of people across the UK and Ireland. We believe in the power of evidence based public policy to improve people's lives. We hope that this report can provide inspiration and ideas for UK policy makers as we continue our efforts to ensure we can all live well together now and into the future.

Sarah Davidson
CEO, Carnegie UK



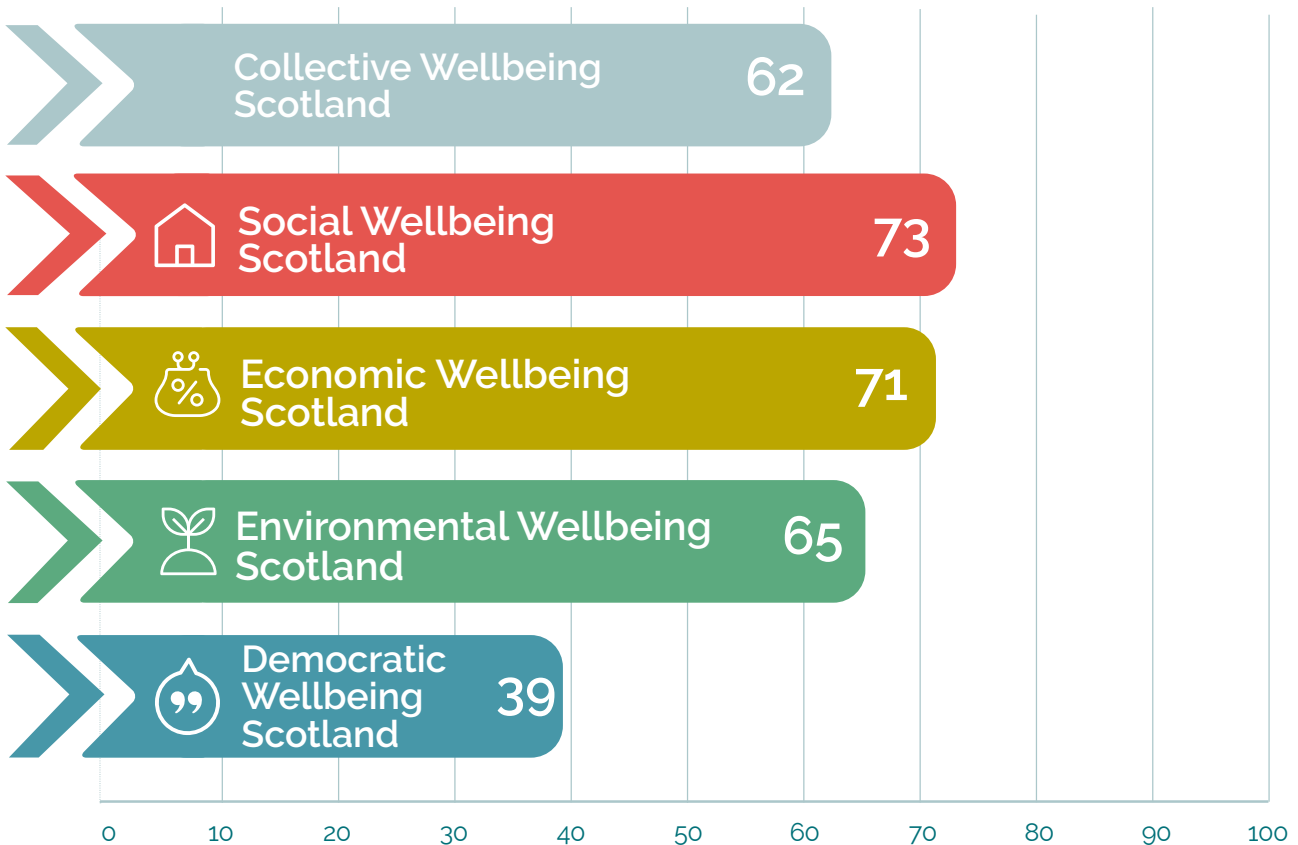
Collective wellbeing in Scotland 2024

Like the overall UK picture, the story of life in Scotland in 2024 is one of stagnant wellbeing⁴. There was a time when Scotland could have been considered a rising star in terms of embedding an outcomes-based approach in policy⁵ – critical to the realisation of collective wellbeing. However, the collective wellbeing scores, which remain largely unchanged from those reported in 2023⁶, expose the fact that we are not yet seeing a consistent, comprehensive and effective outcomes-based approach in practice. This is stalling progress towards achieving the National Outcomes⁷.

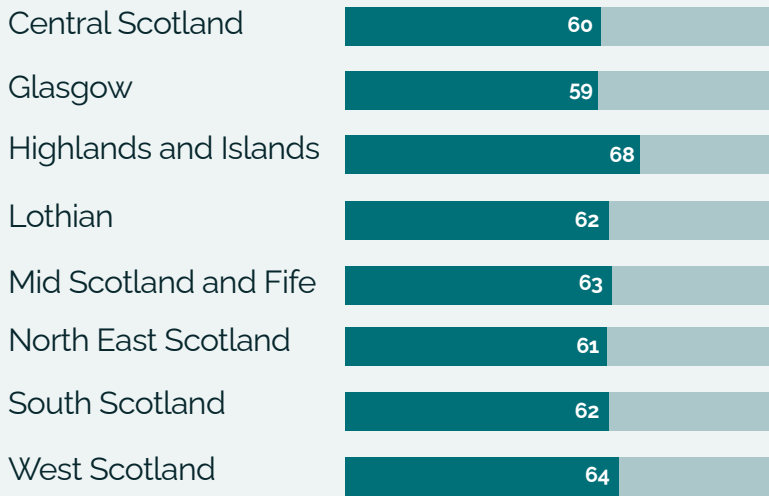
People living in Scotland are struggling with rising inequality and deepening poverty. They are also experiencing democratic alienation – with an increasing sense that they are unable to influence UK decision making, as well as the decisions made about their lives in Scotland.

Overview of scores

The overall score for collective wellbeing in Scotland in 2024 is **62** out of a possible 100.



Collective wellbeing scores by region



Understanding what influences collective wellbeing in Scotland

People's experiences of life in Scotland vary substantially according to a range of important factors which highlight the inequality between people and within communities in Scotland.

The following three factors stand out as particularly significant in predicting a lower or higher collective wellbeing score >

- **Household income** is strongly associated with overall collective wellbeing in Scotland. People with an annual household income under £26,000 have a collective wellbeing score of 54. This is 13 points lower than the score (67) of people with a household income between £52,000 and £99,999.
- **Disabled people** have an average collective wellbeing score of 55, which is ten points lower than for people without a disability (65).
- **People aged over 55** have a collective wellbeing score of 66. This is seven points higher than the collective wellbeing score of 16 to 34 year-olds (59).

The following also notably influence people's collective wellbeing scores >

- **Location** - Where people live and the associated area deprivation has a significant impact on collective wellbeing in Scotland. People living in Scotland's most deprived areas (IMD1) have an average collective wellbeing score of 54, which is 14 points lower than people living in the most affluent areas (IMD5) (68).
- **Housing tenure** - Type and status of housing is another influence on collective wellbeing in Scotland. People living in social housing have an average collective wellbeing score of 50, which is 15 points lower than for homeowners (65).
- **Rural versus urban living** - People living in urban areas have an average collective wellbeing score of 61, a six-point gap when compared to people in rural areas (67).

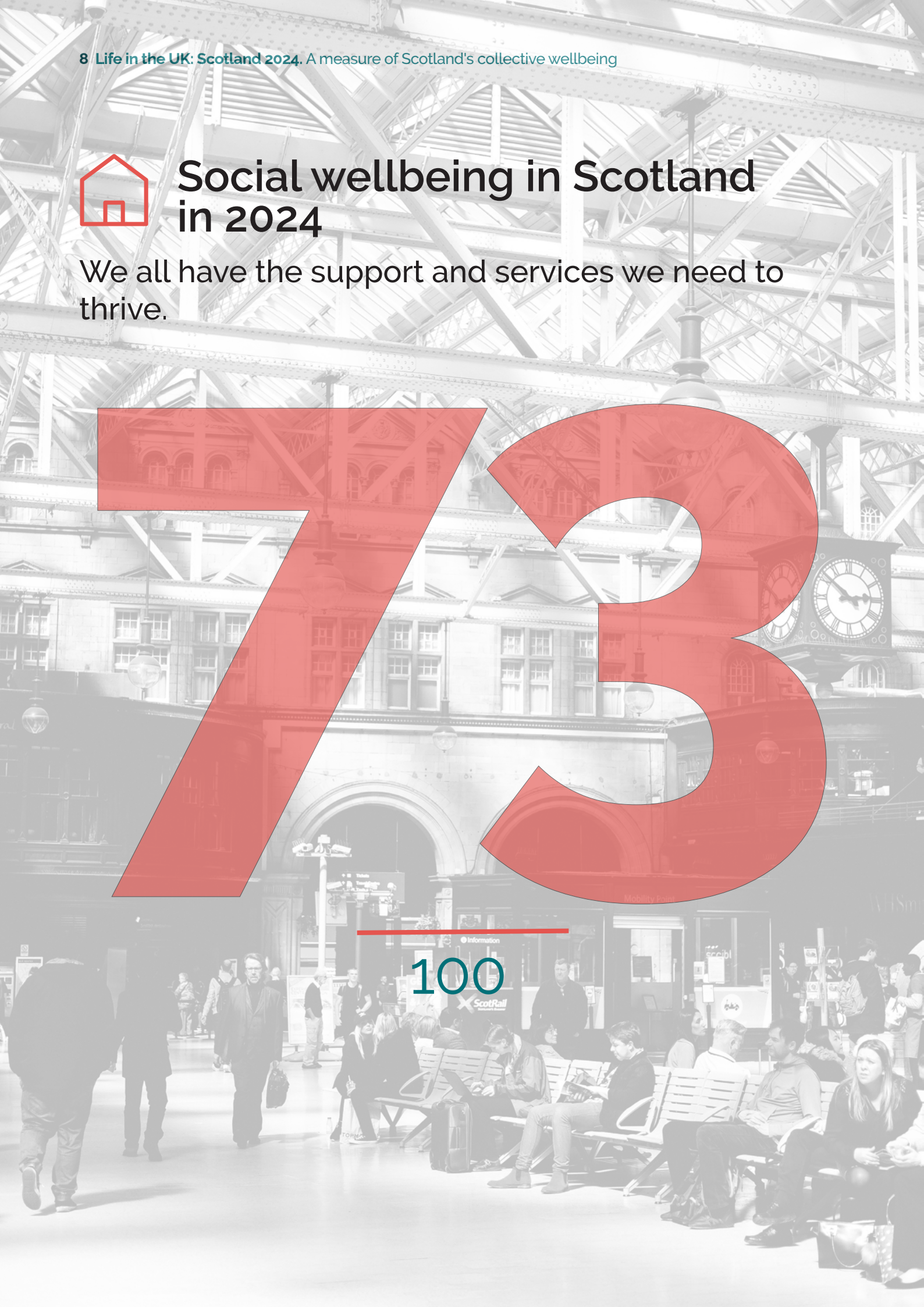


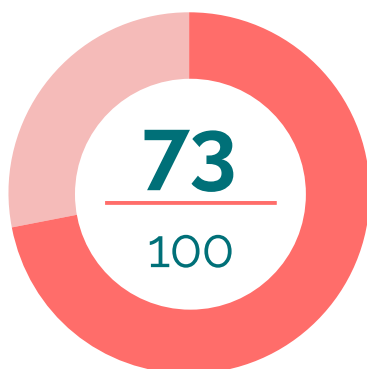
Social wellbeing in Scotland in 2024

We all have the support and services we need to thrive.

73

100



Scotland scores 73 out of a possible 100 for social wellbeing.

Social wellbeing is about everyone being able to achieve their potential and contribute to society because they have their basic needs met. Our basic needs include having access to health and social care, education, housing, transport, digital resources and childcare.

To determine trends in social wellbeing across Scotland, we asked questions about access to public services, community relationships, safety and community cohesion, and self-reported health and mental health.

The group most likely to experience high levels of social wellbeing in Scotland in 2024 is >

- **People aged over 55**, who have a social wellbeing score of 77. This is seven points higher than the social wellbeing score of 16 to 34 year-olds (70).

The groups most likely to experience low levels of social wellbeing in Scotland in 2024 are >

- **Disabled people**, who have an average social wellbeing score of 63, 14 points lower than the average score of people without a disability (77).
- **People with a lower household income**. Income was the next most influential factor associated with social wellbeing in Scotland. People with an annual household income under £26,000 have a social wellbeing score of 65, 13 points lower than the score (78) of people with an income between £52,000 and £99,999.
- **People living in deprived areas** - Where people live and the associated area deprivation has a significant impact on social wellbeing in Scotland. People living in Scotland's most deprived areas (IMD1*) have an average social wellbeing score of 64, which is 15 points lower than people living in the most affluent areas (IMD5) (79).
- **Social housing tenants** - Type and status of housing is another strong influence on social wellbeing in Scotland. People living in social housing have an average social wellbeing score of 59, 18 points lower than for homeowners (77).

These findings are consistent with the 2023 Life in the UK: Scotland Index scores.

Ethnicity, urbanity, gender and having children are not associated with any significant differences in social wellbeing in Scotland.

* The Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) measures relative deprivation across the UK. Areas are ranked from the most deprived area (rank 1) to the least deprived area (rank 5).

People most likely to experience high and low levels of social wellbeing in Scotland



Social wellbeing - standout statistics

- **40%** have experienced discrimination over the past year.
- **19%** feel unsafe or very unsafe walking alone in their neighbourhood after dark.
- **15%** can't afford to keep their home adequately warm.
- **16%** don't have anyone to rely on in their neighbourhood.
- **11%** have bad or very bad mental health.





Carnegie UK observations

Wellbeing cannot flourish when there is inequality between people and communities.

The differences in social wellbeing scores based on protected characteristics such as age and disability demonstrate that there is still a long way to go to make equality a reality in Scotland.

To participate in society, people must have accessible opportunities and networks, particularly important for more vulnerable groups whose wellbeing is at risk due to isolation or segregation⁸.

The social wellbeing index findings are consistent with the Scottish Government's National Performance Framework (NPF) tracker⁹, which indicates that loneliness and social capital are worsening in Scotland. The Scottish Government's data also shows that those with a limiting long term physical or mental health condition are over twice as likely (40%) to experience loneliness than those without (17%).

Our relationships, and more specifically the quality of our relationships – between individuals and communities and across generations – have a significant influence on collective wellbeing. Personal connections, for example in education, employment and health, can influence a range of different outcomes across the wellbeing domains.

Evidence tells us that facilitating conversations and interactions between diverse communities, sectors and professions promotes tolerance and understanding¹⁰.

The Scottish Government, its agencies, local government, and their third sector partners should focus on addressing the wellbeing gaps between demographics as a matter of urgency. This is particularly important in meeting the requirements of the Equality Act 2010 which legally protects people from discrimination in wider society.

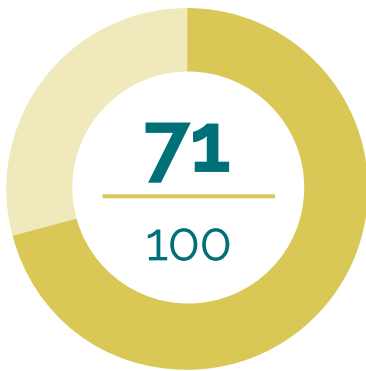


Economic wellbeing in Scotland in 2024

We all have a decent minimum living standard.

71

100



Scotland scores 71 out of a possible 100 for economic wellbeing.

Economic wellbeing means that everyone has a decent minimum living standard and can absorb financial shocks. This includes access to a decent income, affordability, financial resilience, job opportunities and skills.

To determine trends in economic wellbeing across the UK, we asked questions about skills and job availability, and the affordability of essential items like food and fuel.

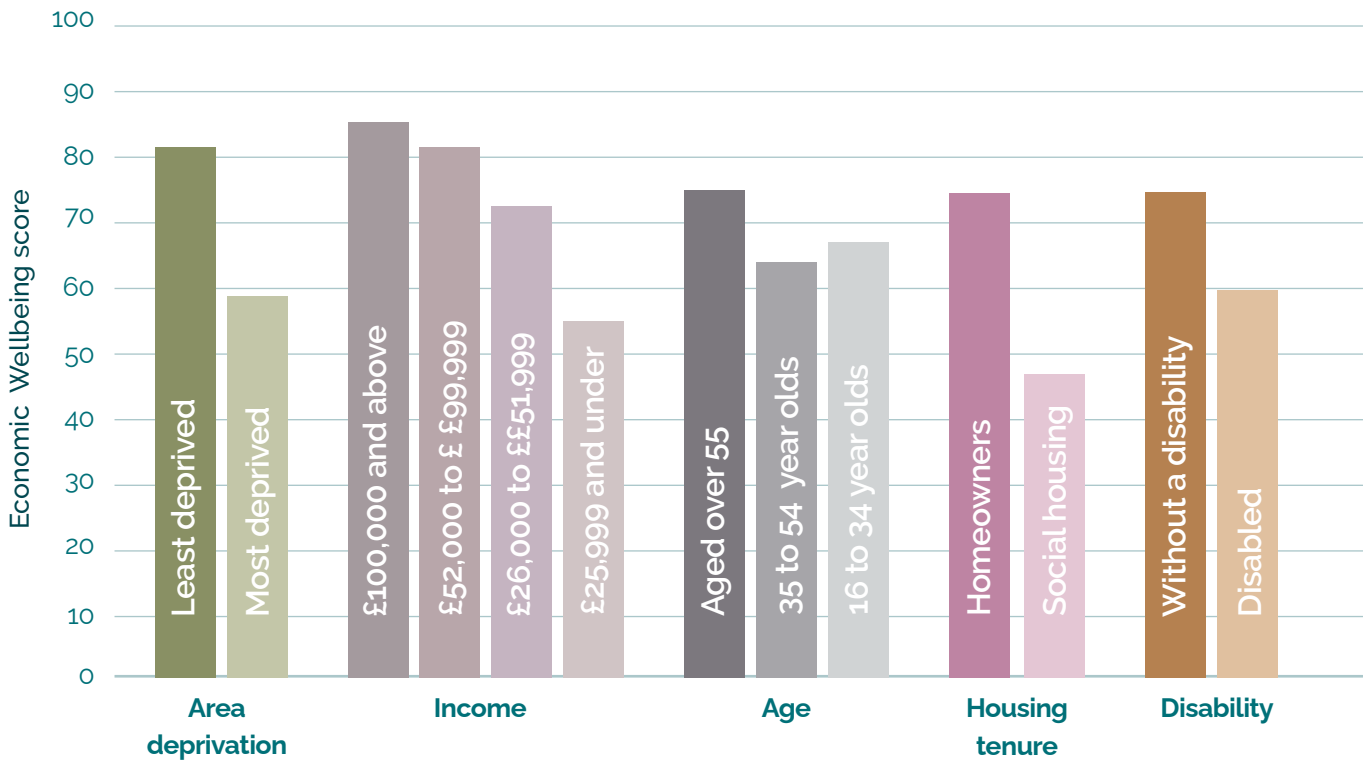
The people most likely to experience **high** levels of economic wellbeing in Scotland in 2024 are >

- **Older people** - People aged over 55 have an economic wellbeing score of 77. This is eight points higher than the economic wellbeing score of 16 to 34 year-olds (69).

The groups most likely to experience **low** levels of economic wellbeing in Scotland in 2024 are >

- **People on lower incomes** - Unsurprisingly, household income has the strongest association with economic wellbeing. People with an annual household income under £26,000 have an economic wellbeing score of 55. This is 26 points lower than the score (81) of those with a household income between £52,000 and £99,999.
- **Social housing tenants** - Type and status of housing is another strong influence on economic wellbeing in Scotland. People living in social housing in Scotland have an average economic wellbeing score of 48, which is 29 points lower than for homeowners (77).
- **People living in more deprived areas** - Where people live and the associated area deprivation has a significant impact on economic wellbeing in Scotland. People living in Scotland's most deprived areas (IMD1) have an average economic wellbeing score (59) which is 22 points lower than people living in the most affluent areas (IMD5) (81).
- **People living in Scotland's urban areas**, who have an economic wellbeing score of 70, This is 5 points lower than the score of people living in rural areas (75).
- **Disabled people**, who have an average economic wellbeing score of 60, 15 points lower than for people without a disability (75).

People most likely to experience high and low levels of economic wellbeing in Scotland



Economic wellbeing - standout statistics

- **30%** can't afford an unexpected expense of £850.
- **30%** are dissatisfied with the job opportunities in their local area.
- **22%** can't afford to go on holiday away from home.
- **15%** can't afford to keep their home warm, a four-point improvement on experiences reported in 2023 (19%).
- **11%** can't afford to socialise with friends or family outside of the home once a month if desired.
- **9%** are dissatisfied with their education and skills.
- **7%** can't afford enough food for their household.





Carnegie UK observations

There are large, significant and unacceptable gaps in economic wellbeing between different people and groups. These sizeable gaps underline the scale of economic inequality in Scotland.

The economic wellbeing scores highlight that the impact of rising living costs is not a short-term problem but rather a long-term structural emergency influencing multiple aspects of people's lives¹¹. It is concerning, for example, that 43% of social housing tenants cannot afford to keep their home adequately warm in winter, compared to 7% of those who own their own home.

Our 2024 economic wellbeing index findings are consistent with progress reported in the Scottish Government's National Performance Framework (NPF) tracker, where the indicators that measure poverty in Scotland (such as the cost of living, food insecurity, and satisfaction with housing) have largely shown very little positive change over time. It is significant that the indicator for wealth inequality meets the NPF criteria for worsening performance.

We know that people need to have their basic needs met before they can improve other aspects of their wellbeing. At Carnegie UK, we are also concerned about the impact of entrenched poverty on children and young people. One in four children in Scotland today is living in poverty¹². Despite several high-profile commitments and a legal duty to reduce the proportion of children in poverty by 2030, the latest official statistics indicate that on current trends, this is very unlikely to be met¹³.

As the Scottish Government moves to prioritise economic growth in the months ahead, this must be done in a way that ensures that everyone can access good quality jobs and improved financial resilience.

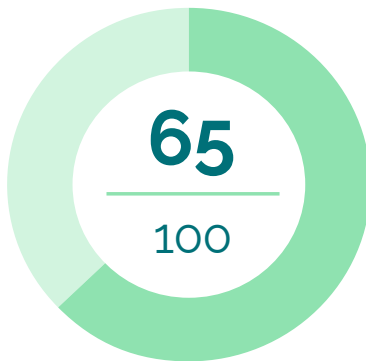


Environmental wellbeing in Scotland in 2024

We all live within the planet's natural resources.

65

100



Scotland scores 65 out of a possible 100 for environmental wellbeing.

This is the same score as reported in 2023. Scotland scored marginally higher in terms of environmental wellbeing when compared with the UK overall.

Environmental wellbeing means that everyone has access to green and blue spaces, and that collectively we live within the planet's natural resources, protecting the environment for future generations.

To determine trends in environmental wellbeing across Scotland, we asked questions about litter, noise and air pollution, as well as access to and the quality of local parks, rivers and other green and blue spaces. We also asked about levels of satisfaction with efforts to preserve the environment.

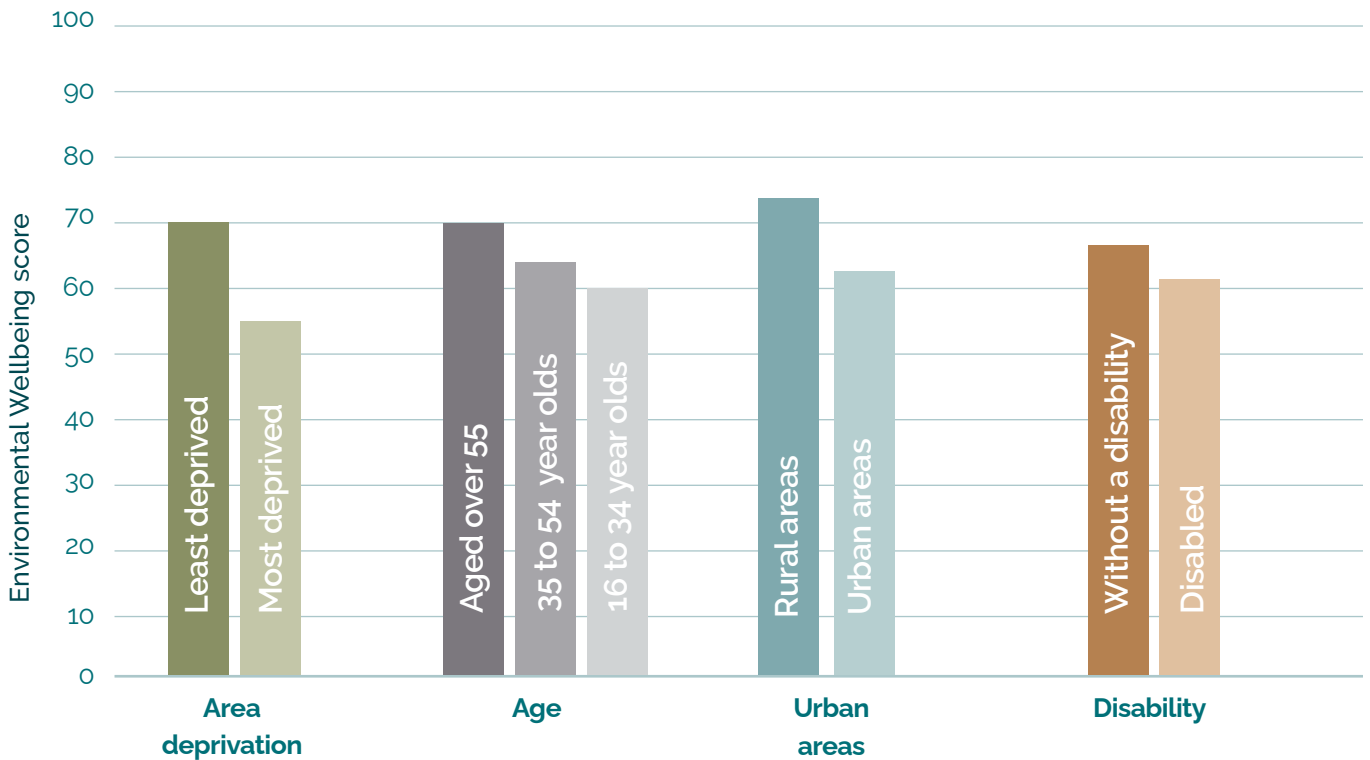
The people most likely to experience high levels of environmental wellbeing in Scotland in 2024 are >

- **People aged over 55**, who have an average environmental wellbeing score of 70. This is ten points higher than the environmental wellbeing score of 16 to 34 year-olds (60).

The group most likely to experience low levels of environmental wellbeing in Scotland in 2024 are >

- **People living in deprived areas** - Where people live and the associated area deprivation has the strongest association with environmental wellbeing in Scotland. People living in Scotland's most deprived areas (IMD1) have an average environmental wellbeing score of 56, which is 14 points lower than people living in the most affluent areas (IMD5) (70).
- **Residents of urban areas** - People living in urban areas have an environmental wellbeing score of 63, an 11 point gap when compared to people in rural areas (74).
- **Disabled people** - People in Scotland with a disability have an average environmental wellbeing score of 61, which is six points lower than for people without a disability (67).

People most likely to experience high and low levels of environmental wellbeing in Scotland



Environmental wellbeing - standout statistics

- Most people experience issues with litter (**81%**), noise (**52%**) and air quality (**40%**) in their local neighbourhood.
- **43%** are dissatisfied with current efforts to preserve the environment.
- **14%** are dissatisfied with the quality of the local green or open space nearest their home.



Carnegie UK observations

The need to take action to tackle climate change is now more urgent than ever¹⁴. Yet, progress has stalled, and the country is in danger of losing its lead on the rest of the UK¹⁵. Notably, in 2024 the Scottish Government announced its intention to scrap Scotland's legally binding climate target to reduce emissions by 75% by 2030, replacing this with policies to help achieve net zero carbon emissions by 2045 instead (five years ahead of the rest of the UK)¹⁶. The Scottish Government also moved forward with its commitment to establish at least one new National Park by 2026¹⁷.

However, the index scores demonstrate environmental wellbeing is stagnant. There has been no significant improvement from last year and a significant proportion of the population (43%) still believes that not enough is being done to preserve the environment. This is particularly the case for people aged 25-34 (54%), disabled people (50%) and people living in the most deprived areas (45%).

This pattern holds true for the index scores for the quality of the local environment and problems with air quality, noise and litter for these groups of people.

The disproportionate exposure to pollutants and noise and inadequate access to green and blue spaces like parks, woodlands and rivers - environmental injustice - is a threat to collective wellbeing. It further entrenches inequality between people and within communities in the UK.

When the environmental wellbeing index findings are considered alongside the Scottish Government's National Performance Framework (NPF) tracker, it is notable that concerns about climate change are similarly greater amongst younger age groups¹⁸. However, the Scottish Government reports that adults with a disability are less likely to view climate change as an immediate and urgent problem than those without. Our findings may indicate otherwise, and perhaps reflect how mainstream concerns about climate change have become. This data was last updated in 2019, demonstrating why timely measurement is required.

In the months ahead, **Scotland must put its environmental ambitions back at the centre of a policy agenda that is ambitious enough to rise to one of the biggest challenges of our time.** We will also see if the UK Government's plan for Scotland to "be the powerhouse of a clean energy mission" through the delivery of Great British Energy positively influences the environmental wellbeing score, in Scotland and across the UK¹⁸.

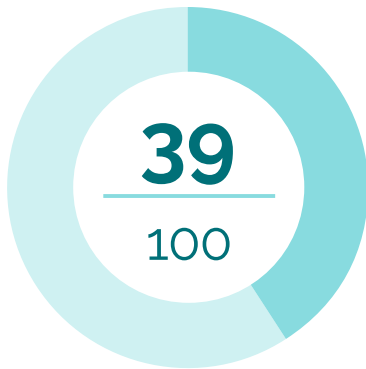


Democratic wellbeing in Scotland in 2024

We all have a voice in decisions that affect us.

39

100



Scotland scores 39 out of a possible 100 for democratic wellbeing.

Democratic wellbeing is about everyone having a voice in decisions made that affect them. This means having local and national leaders who support participation, foster trust, and encourage diversity.

To understand democratic wellbeing in Scotland in 2024, we asked questions about levels of trust in local, regional and national government(s), perceptions of personal ability to influence decisions, and experiences of discrimination.

By comparison to the social, economic and environmental wellbeing domains, demographic characteristics explained less than one-fifth of the variation in democratic wellbeing for people in Scotland. This indicates that demographic characteristics have relatively little association with the scores in this area. This finding reflects the fact that democratic wellbeing is a complex domain and that other factors beyond core demographic characteristics will be more influential (such as general trust levels and the political climate).

While markedly low across the board, the groups most likely to experience higher levels of democratic wellbeing in Scotland in 2024 are >

- **People aged 55 and over**, who have an average democratic wellbeing score of 40. This is three points higher than the democratic wellbeing score of 35 to 54 year-olds (37).

The people most likely to experience low levels of democratic wellbeing in Scotland in 2024 are >

- **Disabled people**, who have an average democratic wellbeing score of 35, which is 4 points lower than for people without a disability (39).

People most likely to experience high and low levels of democratic wellbeing in Scotland



 Democratic wellbeing - standout statistics

- **77%** disagree that they can influence decisions affecting the UK as a whole.
- **63%** disagree that they can influence decisions affecting Scotland.
- **51%** disagree that they are able to influence decisions affecting their local area.
- **52%** have low levels of trust in MPs, while 60% have low trust in the UK Government.
- **37%** have low levels of trust in the Scottish Government.
- **38%** have low levels of trust in Members of the Scottish Parliament (MSPs).
- **31%** have low levels of trust in local councils.





Carnegie UK observations

Wellbeing cannot be 'done to' people: it must be done by and with them. Giving people voice and choice, enhancing transparency, and promoting dialogue between people, sectors and communities, are all influential enablers of collective wellbeing.

It is concerning then that more than two-thirds of people in Scotland (77%) feel unable to influence UK decision making (five percentage points higher than the experiences of people in the UK as a whole). Similarly, over half of people in Scotland (63%) disagree that they can influence decisions affecting Scotland.

2024 marks 25 years of devolution, when significant policy powers in the UK were devolved to Scotland (as well as Wales and Northern Ireland). In this time, important progress has been made across multiple areas, such as enhanced social security; the introduction of proportional representation; modernised land ownership; and the application of innovative health measures like the UK's first smoking ban²⁰.

However, people feel disconnected from and unable to influence decisions that affect them. It is notable that the National Performance Framework does not include or measure outcomes that would enable the Scottish Government to better understand the democratic wellbeing of the country.

The Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 represented powerful enabling legislation for mainstreaming participation. Yet a structured approach to participation across the Scottish Government and the public sector is not evident today. Participatory processes – delivered correctly - can act as powerful tools for countering polarisation in our society and politics, and can help reconnect people to the decisions and issues that most impact their daily lives. A refreshed approach is now required.

2024 is a significant year for democracy. **A new UK Government and the marking of 25 years of devolution offer a moment in time to make headway in terms of increasing awareness of the systems, structures and processes of participatory and deliberative democracy.** This must be matched with the development of mechanisms to embed these approaches in policymaking and build a culture of participatory democracy within government.

Life in the UK: Scotland 2024 - Policy Recommendations

Scotland was once seen as a trailblazer with a new approach to government, framed around long-term outcomes for citizens²¹. **Unfortunately, the evidence in our Life in the UK: Scotland 2024 index demonstrates that collective wellbeing is stagnant, and the country is now far from experiencing the reality of a consistent, comprehensive and effective outcomes-based approach in practice.**

In the 2024 Programme for Government, the Scottish Government outlined its commitment to delivering the “people’s priorities” of ending child poverty; reaching net zero; delivering strong public services; and boosting the economy, regardless of the emergency budget controls required to balance the Scottish budget in 2024-25²². **These strategies must be delivered alongside coherent political and administrative leadership.**

The scores in this report provide stark evidence of the demographics of people who are being left behind in Scotland today. It is on these groups that the local, regional and national governments of the UK should be focusing their attention if they are to make progress on “initiating a decade of national renewal”²³.

It is clear from the evidence that the current approach to public policy in Scotland is not working²⁴. However, we believe that there are three key areas of opportunity to get back on track and deliver an effective outcomes-based approach. The Scottish Government should:

- Deliver a Wellbeing and Sustainable Development Bill
- Use the National Performance Framework as a tool to navigate and deliver change
- Engage the people of Scotland in new methods of democracy

Deliver a Wellbeing and Sustainable Development Bill

Amidst a challenging financial environment, the delivery of a Wellbeing and Sustainable Development Bill is the pragmatic option. It would better equip the Scottish Government to deliver on its plans to focus on the “people’s priorities” detailed above. The Bill would place a legal duty on public bodies, holding them to account for the improvement of outcomes across the areas identified for the people of Scotland.

A key part of the Bill is a legal duty to deliver. **This duty to deliver must include the Scottish Government, otherwise it will be of limited impact.** It should also apply to every organisation accountable to them and include any private companies procured by the Scottish Government, its agencies and local government.



Use the National Performance Framework as a tool to navigate and deliver change

The National Performance Framework – Scotland's Wellbeing Framework - is being underused and is failing to shape government policy as it could and should²⁵. As policy goals become more complex, Scotland's near neighbours in Wales²⁶ and in Ireland have demonstrated the merits of considering social, economic, environmental and democratic issues together, rather than in isolation²⁷.

The National Performance Framework was intended to be a vision for social progress representative of Scotland's citizens and the organisations which serve them. **During a time of emergency spending controls and saving measures, there is an opportunity to make better use of the National Performance Framework as a tool to navigate and deliver change** by creating a galvanising agenda and mutual obligations for all Scotland's public bodies and recipients of public funds.



Engage the people of Scotland in new methods of democracy

It is essential that all those in power work to build trust with the people of Scotland: a failure to address the root causes of discontent will further threaten the foundations of democracy. **Scotland needs a bold agenda to re-engage people in our democracy and rebuild trust in those we elect to represent us. This must include new, deliberative methods of citizen engagement²⁸.**

Participatory democratic processes most usefully contribute to collective wellbeing if they are designed and delivered to high standards of inclusion and accountability.

If high standards are not achieved in the design, delivery and subsequent accountability mechanisms of a participatory or deliberative process, then there is a risk of increasing the disconnect between individuals and our democratic structures. Participants in these processes may be left with lower levels of trust than they started with if they are told that their views matter, but are not informed about how they are acted on or taken forward.



Collective wellbeing: standout statistics overview



Social wellbeing – standout statistics

- **40%** say they have experienced discrimination over the past year.
- **19%** say they feel unsafe or very unsafe walking alone in their neighbourhood after dark.
- **15%** can't afford to keep their home adequately warm.
- **16%** don't have anyone to rely on in their neighbourhood.
- **11%** have bad or very bad mental health.



Economic wellbeing - standout statistics

- **30%** can't afford an unexpected expense of £850.
- **30%** are dissatisfied with the job opportunities in their local area.
- **22%** can't afford to go on holiday away from home.
- **11%** can't afford to socialise with friends or family outside of the home once a month.
- **9%** are dissatisfied or very dissatisfied with their education and skills.
- **7%** can't afford enough food for their household.



Environmental wellbeing - standout statistics

- Most people experience issues with litter (**81%**), noise (**52%**) and air quality (**40%**) in their local neighbourhood.
- **43%** are dissatisfied with current efforts to preserve the environment.
- **14%** are dissatisfied with the quality of the local green or open space nearest their home.



Democratic wellbeing - standout statistics

- **77%** disagree that they can influence decisions affecting the UK as a whole.
- **63%** disagree that they can influence decisions affecting Scotland.
- **51%** disagree that they are able to influence decisions affecting their local area.
- **52%** have low levels of trust in MPs
- **60%** have low levels of trust in the UK Government.
- **37%** have low levels of trust in the Scottish Government.
- **38%** have low levels of trust in Members of the Scottish Parliament (MSPs).
- **31%** have low levels of trust in local councils.

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Appendix 1: Summary table of domain scores by key demographic characteristics

		Collective wellbeing	Social wellbeing	Economic wellbeing	Environmental wellbeing	Democratic wellbeing
Total		62	73	71	65	39
Disability	Not disabled	65	77	75	67	39
	Disabled	55	63	60	61	35
Age	16-34 years	59	70	69	60	38
	35-54 years	60	71	66	64	37
	55 years & over	66	77	77	70	40
Household Income	£25,999 and under	54	65	55	61	37
	£26,000 to £51,999	63	75	72	66	39
	£52,000 to £99,999	67	78	81	68	39
	£100,000 & above*	70	82	86	70	42
Area deprivation	1st quintile (highest deprivation)	54	64	59	56	37
	2nd quintile	61	72	69	63	38
	3rd quintile	63	75	71	68	39
	4th quintile	65	76	76	70	38
	5th quintile (lowest deprivation)	68	79	81	70	40
Housing tenure	Social rented	50	59	48	59	35
	Private rented**	58	70	64	62	35
	Homeowners	65	77	77	67	39
Gender	Women	62	72	69	66	39
	Men	63	75	74	65	38
Urban areas	Urban living	61	72	70	63	38
	Rural living	67	77	75	74	41

* Note that comparisons for this income group are indicative only due to small sample sizes (78).

** Note that comparisons for this group are indicative only due to small sample sizes (69).

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Find out more about the work of the Network here: <https://povertytruthnetwork.org/>.

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Collective Wellbeing in 2024 in Scotland summary



The Collective Wellbeing score for Scotland in 2024 is 62 out of a possible 100.

Life in the UK 2024

Scotland



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