



## Learning Disability Statistics Scotland, 2018 Provisional Statistics

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A National Statistics Publication for Scotland

### Key Findings

Data users should note that this Statistics Release does not include information on adults with learning disabilities who are **not known** to local authorities. Users should also be aware there is a possibility individuals could be known to local authorities but **not reported** to the Learning Disability Statistics Scotland (LDSS) team. LDSS changed collection methodology in the 2017 collection to align with that of other national social care datasets. The data reported in this release relate to a single year reporting period from April 2017 to March 2018.

Glasgow City Council did not to return any data about adults with learning disabilities for the 2018 collection. This is due to the necessary Information Governance not being in place between Glasgow City Council and the Scottish Government in time to following the introduction of GDPR. To maintain national relevance, the data provided by this authority for 2017 has been included in this report. Because of this, the data presented in this publication are **provisional**. Final data for LDSS 2018 will be published when Glasgow City Council submits its data for the 2018 collection.

For more information, please see the 'Background' and 'Methodology' sections of the Statistics Release and the accompanying quality documents to this release<sup>1</sup>.

## **Adults with learning disabilities known to Scottish local authorities<sup>2</sup>**

- In 2018, there were 23,446 adults known to local authorities across Scotland.<sup>3</sup> This equates to 5.2 people with learning disabilities per 1000 people in the general population.<sup>4</sup>

## **Adults on the autism spectrum**

- There were 4,382 adults identified as being on the autism spectrum. Of these individuals, 3,063 (69.9%) were known to have a learning disability.
- Of those identified as being on the autism spectrum, 1,016 (23.2%) were reported as not having a learning disability.

## **Where people live**

- Just under a third of adults with learning disabilities (7,109; 30.3%) known to local authorities live with a family carer.
- There were 9,861 adults (42.1% of **all adults**) known to local authorities did not live with a family carer.

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<sup>1</sup> 'Annex C Data Quality Statement on Statistics Release: Learning Disability Statistics Scotland 2018', and 'LDSS Statement of Administrative Sources 2018' are available here: <https://www.sclld.org.uk/what-we-do/population-statistics/codes-practice/>

<sup>2</sup> Some adults are recorded as being on the autism spectrum but with no associated learning disability. This is discussed in more detail in section two of this report. For ease this report uses the term 'adults with learning disabilities' to include those adults with learning disabilities and/or autism spectrum diagnoses.

<sup>3</sup> Glasgow City Council did not to return any data about adults with learning disabilities for 2018. To maintain national relevance, the data provided by this authority for 2017 has been included in the analysis. More information on this can be found in the Methodology section of this report.

<sup>4</sup> Calculated using 2017 mid-year population estimates (General Register Office for Scotland). <https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/statistics-and-data/statistics/statistics-by-theme/population/population-estimates/mid-year-population-estimates/mid-2017> It should be noted that the figure for the general population includes all adults aged 16-17, whereas LDSS only collects information on adults 16-17 who are not in full time education.

- Just over half of adults with learning disabilities (12,787; 54.5%) known to local authorities are the only person with learning disabilities living in their accommodation.
- Just under a fifth of adults with learning disabilities (4,408 people; 18.8%) live with **at least** one other person with learning disabilities.
- Almost two thirds of adults with learning disabilities (13,923 people; 59.4%) known to local authorities live in mainstream accommodation.

### Local Area Co-ordination (LAC)

- Nationally, 2,822 adults with a learning disability known to local authorities used LAC services during 2018. This is 17.7% of adults who we know **had an LAC service available to them**.

### Personal Life Plan

- In 2018, 15,159 (64.7%) adults known to local authorities had a personal life plan.

### Employment

- There were 993 (4.2%) adults with learning disabilities known to local authorities in employment in 2018.
- There were 585 (2.5%) adults with learning disabilities known to local authorities training for employment in 2018.
- In 2018, 811 (3.5%) adults with learning disabilities known to local authorities were volunteering: of **these adults**, 89 (11%) were also in employment.
- There were 11,110 (47.4%) adults with learning disabilities known to local authorities who were not in employment in 2018.
- There were 308 (1.3%) adults known to local authorities in non-open employment.
- There were 426 (1.8%) adults known to local authorities recorded as being in open employment in 2018.

### Day centre and alternative opportunities

- There were 4,050 (17.3%) adults known to local authorities who attended a day centre in 2018.

- There were 6,923 (29.5%) adults known to local authorities recorded as having alternative opportunities in 2018.

### **Further education**

- There were 1,029 adults known to local authorities (4.4%) enrolled in further education in 2018.
- The number of adults with learning disabilities known to local authorities attending further education for 2.5 days per week or fewer was 508 (2.2% of **all adults**) in 2018.
- The number of adults with learning disabilities known to local authorities attending further education for 3 days a week or more was 414 (1.8% of **all adults**) in 2018.

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## Introduction

This Statistics Release is based on the fourteenth set of national and local authority level figures provided by local authorities in Scotland for adults with learning disabilities. Data is requested from all Scottish local authorities, on adults with learning disabilities and adults on the autism spectrum who are known to them.<sup>5</sup> Individual level information is collected on people:

- aged 16 and 17 who are not in full time education;
- aged 18 and over;
- who have had contact with the local authority in the last year.

All adults who match these criteria and who are known to local authorities, regardless of the services they are currently receiving (if any) are included in the data collection. The data reported in this release relate to a single year reporting period from April 2017 to March 2018.

In 2018, 31 local authorities returned data to Learning Disability Statistics Scotland. Glasgow City Council did not to return any data for this collection. To maintain national relevance, the data provided by this authority in 2017 has been used across this report and its annexes.

Final data for LDSS 2018 will be published when Glasgow City Council submits its data for the 2018 collection.

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<sup>5</sup> Some adults are recorded as being on the autism spectrum but with no associated learning disability. This is discussed in more detail in section two of this report. For ease this report uses the term 'adults with learning disabilities' to include those adults with learning disabilities and/or autism spectrum diagnoses.

## Information on the quality of the data

### Development of LDSS

In June 2013, the Scottish Government launched its current strategy for people with learning disabilities in Scotland, 'The keys to life: Improving quality of life for people with learning disabilities'.<sup>6</sup> The implementation framework for 'The keys to life' was launched in 2015.<sup>7</sup> The implementation framework is currently undergoing a refresh, with the new framework expected to be launched in early 2019.

SCLD recognises that with the changing policy context, data users, data suppliers and other stakeholders will want to ensure that the data provided in this publication continues to meet their needs and measure relevant outcomes. To this end, a commitment to merge LDSS into Source<sup>8</sup> has been agreed at a strategic level. This will eliminate current duplication in data collection, reduce the burden on local data providers and ensure that learning disability data is captured within routine collection.

During 2018, SCLD and Information Services Division (ISD) held a number of discussions to plan for this, with a view to LDSS data items being included with Source from the collection beginning in September 2019. As part of this process, SCLD is working with Scottish Government learning disability colleagues to update the LDSS data items to more closely align them with current policy and the new implementation framework for 'The keys to life.' SCLD and ISD expect that there will be a process of engagement with data collectors on the LDSS data items to be incorporated into Source in February/March 2019.

Methodological changes were introduced in advance of the 2017 LDSS collection. The data collection period for LDSS changed to mirror that of other social care datasets; the data reporting period was changed from three years to one year and the data collection period was April to July

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<sup>6</sup> Scottish Government, 2013, 'The keys to life: Improving quality of life for people with learning disabilities' <https://www2.gov.scot/Resource/0042/00424389.pdf>

<sup>7</sup> <https://keystolife.info/wp-content/uploads/2015/06/The-Keys-to-Life-Implementation-Framework-and-Priorities.pdf>

<sup>8</sup> Formerly the Social Care Survey.

as opposed to September to December, as it historically had been. Owing to these methodological changes, users should exercise caution when attempting to compare data prior to 2017 to that of subsequent years.

For the 2018 collection, the variables collected remained the same as in 2017. LDSS asked for the records of people with whom local authorities had contact with in the last 12 months. Full date of birth was required. Postcode was a mandatory field. Social Care ID Number was requested, to allow for data linkage between LDSS and Source. CHI was also requested, in order to support future data linkage across health and social care data.

The collection of LDSS is carried out by the ScotXed Team within Scottish Government using their ProcXed system. The ProcXed system increases standardisation, and has in-built data validation checks that allow each local authority to ensure the data is valid before they submit. Local authorities cannot submit data without it being approved by the LDSS team. The 2018 LDSS Statistics Release is the third to be published under this system of collection. Responsibility for the development of the dataset and analysis and publication of data remains with SCLD.

In early 2016, a national approach to scope a weighting methodology to reduce the impact of non-response bias on the data was undertaken by the Methodology Advisory Service from the Office for National Statistics funded by the Quality Improvement Fund. This study found that the use of a weighting schema to tackle non-response bias and differential missingness would not be appropriate for short-term time series analysis.

Further information on the operational and administrative data context can be found in the accompanying quality documents 'Annex C Data Quality Statement on Statistics Release: Learning Disability Statistics Scotland 2018', and 'LDSS Statement of Administrative Sources 2018'.



## **Data Quality and Data Limitations**

This statistics release contains information on adults with learning disabilities known to local authorities in Scotland and which are then reported to the LDSS collection. Data users must be aware that this statistics release does not include adults with learning disabilities who are not known to local authorities. Individual local authority areas endeavour to provide as complete a dataset as is possible, however it is possible some individuals known to local authorities may not be reported to LDSS.

Glasgow City Council (in 2017) and North Lanarkshire Council only returned information on adults with learning disabilities who are in receipt of a service funded by the local authority, rather than those who are known to the local authority, as this is the information which can be extracted from their Management Information Systems. Data users should be aware that the number of adults with learning disabilities in these local authorities and the total number recorded nationally are therefore likely to be an under-estimate.

By the nature of administrative data recording, it is likely that the sample of adults with learning disabilities known to local authorities is biased towards those who require some formal support services and away from those who have no, or few, support needs. However, the statistics return does include individuals who have relatively little formal support or contact with their local authority but are known to the local authority, for example because they may use a supported employment service, local area co-ordinator or attend further education. It also includes a number of adults (2,657) who are not currently in receipt of a service.

On the whole, data completeness has been gradually improving since 2008 across all of the data items collected, however, there has been a rise in non-reporting across a number of data items in 2018, as compared with 2017. The 2018 data collection was impacted by the introduction of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) in May. This was true particularly in relation to information that is not collected routinely by local authorities through their Management Information Systems, such as employment and further education data.

Given the rise in non-reporting between 2017 and 2018, data users should use caution when comparing across the two LDSS collections. Data users should be aware that there is incomplete data, within individual data items, for example employment. They should also be aware that some individual level records only hold limited data, for example, we may know only year of birth and gender for the person in question. Incomplete data within a data item, can arise because a whole local authority may not have submitted any data on that item; there may be barriers to the local authority collecting the data or matching it to the relevant individual.

Where local authorities do not submit data for specific data items, this has an effect on policy monitoring and evaluation at national level, as only a partial picture of progress can be supplied. It may prevent people with learning disabilities, family carers and local organisations from building an accurate picture of the situation in their local authority. It may impact on local third sector organisations' ability to provide evidence for funding applications.

For a more comprehensive assessment of data quality within the Statistics Release, please see 'Annex C Data Quality Statement on Statistics Release: Learning Disability Statistics Scotland 2018' and 'LDSS Statement of Administrative Sources 2018'.<sup>9</sup>

The table below shows where local authorities have not submitted data for a given data item for the 2018 data collection.

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<sup>9</sup> <https://www.sclد.org.uk/what-we-do/population-statistics/codes-practice/>

## Local authorities which have not returned specific data items (2018)

Data items	Local Authorities who did not return data for this item
Person service status	Glasgow City
Learning disability status	Glasgow City
Autism Spectrum Diagnosis	Glasgow City, Midlothian
Local Authority and NHS Healthboard codes	Glasgow City
Gender	Glasgow City
Year of birth	Glasgow City
Ethnic group	Glasgow City
Adults in the same accommodation	Aberdeenshire, East Renfrewshire, Glasgow City, North Lanarkshire
Lives with family carer	Aberdeenshire, East Renfrewshire, Glasgow City, North Lanarkshire
Day centre attendance	Clackmannanshire, East Renfrewshire, Glasgow City, North Lanarkshire
Alternative opportunities	Aberdeenshire, Clackmannanshire, Dumfries and Galloway, East Renfrewshire, Glasgow City, North Ayrshire
Autism Spectrum Diagnosis	Glasgow City, Midlothian
Accommodation type	East Renfrewshire, Glasgow City
Advocacy	City of Edinburgh, Clackmannanshire, East Renfrewshire, Glasgow City, Midlothian, North Lanarkshire, Orkney, Shetland
Personal Life Plan	Clackmannanshire, Glasgow City
Employment opportunities	Aberdeenshire, Clackmannanshire, City of Edinburgh, East Lothian, East Renfrewshire, Glasgow City, Midlothian
Local Area Co-ordination	East Renfrewshire, Glasgow City
Further Education	Aberdeenshire, City of Edinburgh, Clackmannanshire, Dumfries and Galloway, East Renfrewshire, Glasgow City, Inverclyde, Midlothian, Moray, South Ayrshire, West Dunbartonshire

Note: In 2018, 31 authorities returned data to LDSS.

Glasgow City Council did not to return any data for this collection. To maintain national relevance, the data provided by this authority in 2017 was used in this report and its annexes. In the table below, Glasgow is counted as a returning authority, to allow for meaningful comparability on data completeness across individual items.

The table below shows the main changes in the data items that were requested between 2008 and 2018, and the completeness of data reporting for each item. Reporting at a national level has increased since 2017 for the following item:

- Autism Spectrum Diagnosis.

Data completeness remained the same for:

- Gender,
- Year of Birth,
- Learning Disability.

Data completeness has decreased for:

- Adults in the same accommodation,
- Ethnic group,
- Family carer,
- Day centre attendance,
- Alternative opportunities,
- Accommodation type,
- Personal Life Plan,
- Local Area Coordination,
- Further education.

## Completeness of data reporting (2008 - 2018)<sup>10</sup>

Data items	Number of reporting LAs	Total adults for which item reported	Total missing values	% of all adults in Scotland for which item known									
				2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2017	2018
Gender	32	23,441	5	100	100	100	100	100	100	99	100	100	100
Year of birth	32	23,431	15	99	99	99	100	100	100	99	100	100	100
Learning disability	32	23,081	365	99	99	99	99	100	100	98	99	98	98
Adults in the same accommodation	29	17,195	6,251	58	69	77	81	80	77	77	78	76	73
Ethnic group	32	21,155	2,291	68	79	85	90	89	90	89	89	91	90
Lives with family carer	29	16,970	6,476	64	73	78	82	78	81	80	78	74	72
Day centre attendance	29	17,285	6,161	-	-	-	-	86	73	75	65	80	74
Alternative opportunities	27	15,577	7,869	-	-	-	-	64	59	59	59	75	66
Autism Spectrum Diagnosis	31	19,868	3,578	53	57	74	80	83	83	82	85	83	85
Accommodation type	31	20,558	2,888	-	81	89	90	91	89	89	90	91	88
Personal Life Plan	31	18,417	5,029	49	55	61	73	75	74	72	75	82	79
Employment opportunities	26	12,103	11,343	45	53	55	61	68	65	67	59	61	52
Local Area Co-ordination	31	23,204	242	45	57	68	79	81	80	99	100	100	99
Further Education	21	10,612	12,834	n/a	44	45	55	55	55	57	54	55	45

Notes: Glasgow City Council did not to return any data for this collection. To allow for meaningful comparability on data completeness across individual items, it is counted as a reporting local authority in the table above.

Employment opportunities methodology differs from 2015 onward, meaning the figures from 2015 onward are not comparable to previous returns.

A methodological change was implemented between 2015 and 2017 to reduce the data reporting period from three years to one year. This means the data from 2017 onwards is not directly comparable to previous years.

<sup>10</sup> Percentages represent the percentage of the learning disability population in reporting authorities (please see first column in table) and are calculated from the total learning disability population in Scotland each year (23,446 in 2018; 23,186 in 2017; 27,218 in 2015; 26,786 in 2014; 26,236 in 2013; 26,117 in 2012; 26,036 in 2011; 27,391 in 2010; 27,671 in 2009 and 25,252 in 2008).

Data users should, therefore, be aware that the totals presented within this report are likely to be an underestimation of the true numbers of adults with learning disabilities in a given situation or accessing a given service. For ease, each section of the report begins with information about the data completeness for that item to assist data users to make an assessment around data accuracy.

Data users include local authorities, the Scottish Government, academics, inspection bodies, third sector organisations, people with learning disabilities and family carers. Information on use comes from responses to a survey of users undertaken in 2014, from the stated purposes of the statistics collection by the Scottish Government and from the knowledge and experience of the statistics producer team.

Uses of the data include:

- Informing the general public's choices:
  - about the state of the economy, society and the environment,
  - about the performance of government and public bodies.
- Government decision making about policies, and associated decisions about related programmes and projects to inform:
  - policy making,
  - policy monitoring.
- Resource allocation – typically by central and local government.
- Supporting third sector activity, for example lobbying and funding applications.
- Facilitating academic research.

The collection period for LDSS 2018 was between April and July 2018. The data in this collection relates to those adults known to local authorities over the previous year (April 2017 to March 2018). The Statistics Release on adults with learning disabilities known to local authorities was previously published on an annual basis in August, and related to those adults known to local authorities over the previous three years. This timeframe was agreed with local authority data suppliers

when the collection of individual level data first began, in order that the statistics could inform local authority budget decisions, usually made in autumn. In 2017, the decision to change the collection methodology was taken, in order to align with that of other national social care datasets, published annually in autumn. This is the second time LDSS has been published in December.

Data users should be aware that before 2008, information on adults with learning disabilities was collected at aggregate level by the Scottish Government. The statistics collected before 2008 are not directly comparable with those collected from 2009 onwards. Detailed data item definitions were developed for the individual level collection which may not be directly comparable with those used for the aggregate collection by the Scottish Government. Data users should compare data from before 2008 with data after 2008 with caution.

Due to the change in reporting period from three years to one year in 2017, data users should also be cautious in comparing data from before 2017 and data after 2017. More information on the background of this data collection and the methodology can be found in Section 12 of this release.

Information on other relevant sources of data from across the United Kingdom on adults with learning disabilities and their comparability with these statistics is provided in Section 14 of this Statistics Release.

## **National Statistics Assessment**

National Statistics status means that official statistics meet the highest standards of trustworthiness, quality and public value.

All official statistics should comply with all aspects of the Code of Practice for Official Statistics. They are awarded National Statistics status following an assessment by the Authority's regulatory arm. The Authority considers whether the statistics meet the highest standards of Code compliance, including the value they add to public decisions and debate.

It is a producer's responsibility to maintain compliance with the standards expected of National Statistics, and to improve its statistics on

a continuous basis. If a producer becomes concerned about whether its statistics are still meeting the appropriate standards, it should discuss its concerns with the Authority promptly. National Statistics status can be removed at any point when the highest standards are not maintained, and reinstated when standards are restored.

The UK Statistics Authority designated these statistics as National Statistics in 2015 on the basis of a clear description of the current limitations of the learning disability statistics, and subject to the proposed data collection and methods improvements being implemented from 2016.

A specific condition of the LDSS National Statistics designation was to explore the feasibility of a weighting schema that would tackle non-response bias and differential missingness within the dataset. As discussed in the earlier section 'Development of LDSS', a study conducted by the Methodology Advisory Service from the Office for National Statistics funded by the Quality Improvement Fund found that use of a weighting schema to tackle non-response bias and differential missingness would not be appropriate.<sup>11</sup>

Further information on the impact of non-response bias and differential missingness on this dataset and the steps we undertook to reduce them can be found in the accompanying quality documents: 'Annex C Data Quality Statement on Statistics Release: Learning Disability Statistics Scotland 2018' and 'LDSS Statement of Administrative Sources 2018'.

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<sup>11</sup> <https://www.sclد.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/05/LDSS-QIF-report.pdf>



## 1: Adults known to local authorities

Local authorities reported on the number of adults with learning disabilities known to services within their area. In 2018, 31 local authorities provided information on 21,256 adults across Scotland. Glasgow City Council did not provide any data on adults with learning disabilities for the 2018 collection. To present as accurate a national picture as possible, the data provided by this authority in 2017 (2,190 adults) has been used across this report and its annexes. On this basis, the total numbers of adults known to local authorities in Scotland in 2018 was 23,446.

The number of adults included in LDSS are those adults with learning disabilities known to local authorities and reported to the LDSS team. There will be adults with learning disabilities not known to local authorities and possibly some who are known but not reported. These adults are not included in the reported figures.

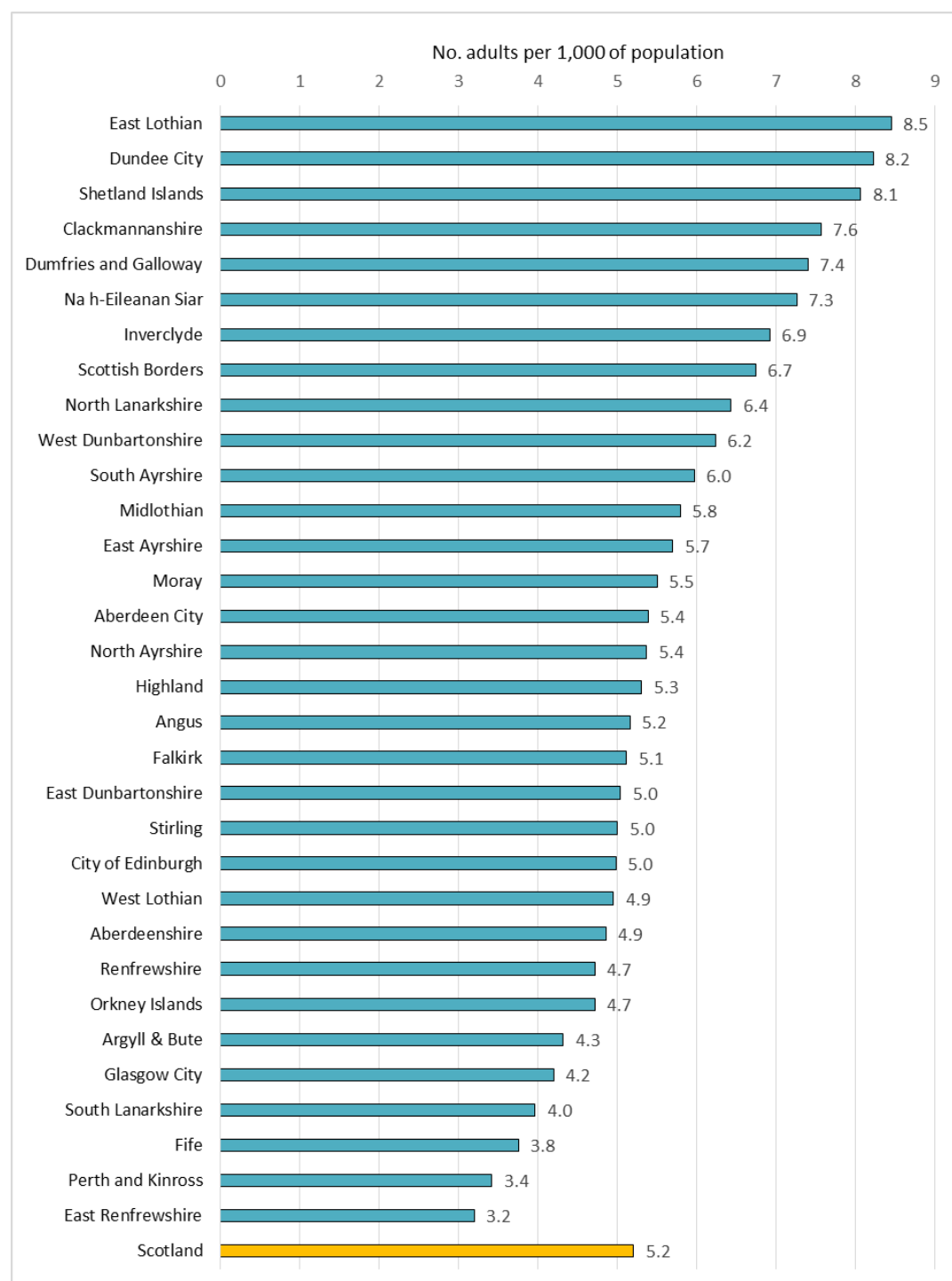
Figure 1 below shows that at a national level, the number of adults with learning disabilities known to authorities per 1,000 of the population was 5.2.<sup>12</sup>

In 2018, East Lothian Council was the local authority with the most adults with learning disabilities per 1,000 of the population (8.5). East Renfrewshire Council was lowest with 3.2 per 1,000.

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<sup>12</sup> Calculated using 2017 mid-year population estimates (General Register Office for Scotland) <https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/statistics-and-data/statistics/statistics-by-theme/population/population-estimates/mid-year-population-estimates/mid-2017> It should be noted that the figure for the general population includes all adults aged 16-17, whereas LDSS only collects information on adults 16-17 who are not in full time education.

**Figure 1: Number of adults with learning disabilities known to local authorities per 1,000 population (2018)<sup>13</sup>**



<sup>13</sup>Calculated using 2017 mid-year population estimates (General Register Office for Scotland) <https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/statistics-and-data/statistics/statistics-by-theme/population/population-estimates/mid-year-population-estimates/mid-2017>

**Table 1: Adults with learning disabilities known to local authorities (2018)\*\***

	Male	Female	Other	Not Specified	Not Recorded	Total	Rate per 1,000 population*
16-17	335	140	0	0	1	479	4.2
18-20	1,196	580	0	0	0	1,779	9.2
21-34	4,683	2,819	0	0	1	7,505	7.3
35-44	1,979	1,472	0	0	0	3,451	5.2
45-54	2,333	1,792	0	0	0	4,125	5.2
55-64	1,963	1,619	0	0	0	3,582	5.1
65 and over	1,294	1,216	0	0	0	2,510	2.5
Not known	7	5	0	0	3	15	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>13,790</b>	<b>9,647</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>23,446</b>	<b>5.2</b>

\*Calculated using 2017 mid-year population estimates (General Register Office for Scotland)

\*\*Values smaller than 5 have been disclosure controlled. This means that any value under 5 is rounded to either 0 or 5 and another value in the same row has been rounded to the nearest 5 to prevent differencing (calculating the suppressed value by subtracting from the total). Published zeros may or may not be true zeroes

## **In receipt of an out of area placement**

This data collection requests information from local authorities on adults with learning disabilities for whom they fund services. This includes adults who are funded by one local authority, but live in another local authority area. We refer to these adults as being in receipt of an out of area placement. This will include, but is not necessarily, those adults in residential placements.

The 2018 data shows that there are 1,029 (4.4% of **all adults**) adults with learning disabilities who are in receipt of an out of area placement.

## **Age and gender structure**

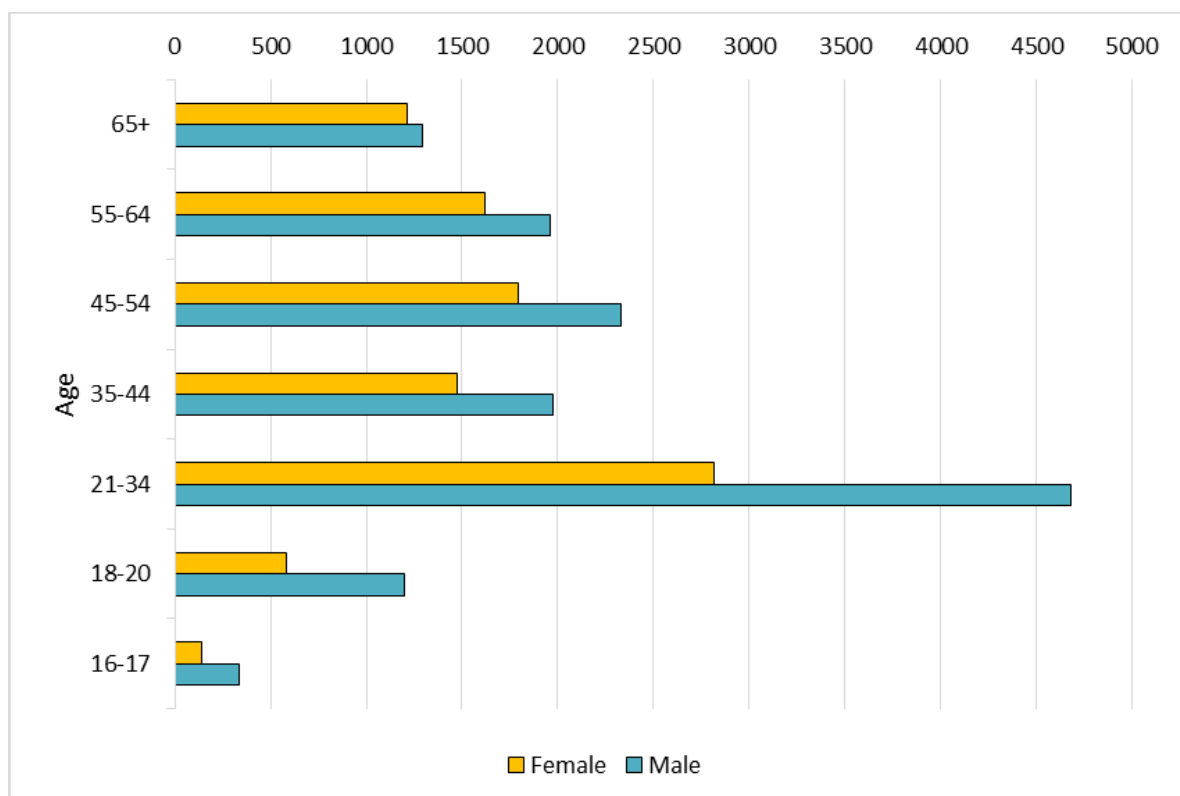
The majority of adults with learning disabilities who are known to local authorities are men (13,790 adults, 58.8%). There are 9,647 women (41.1%) with learning disabilities known to local authorities.

Figure 2 below shows the number of men and women with learning disabilities known to local authorities by age. There are more men than women across all age categories, though the difference is less pronounced in the 65 and over category.

Figure 2 also illustrates that people aged 16-17 make up a small proportion of the individuals included in this report. This is because this data collection does not record information about those adults aged 16-17 who are in full time education.

Data users should be aware that the true number of young people with learning disabilities aged 16-17 years old is likely to be significantly higher than the number recorded here.

**Figure 2: Age and gender structure of adults with learning disabilities known to authorities (2018)**



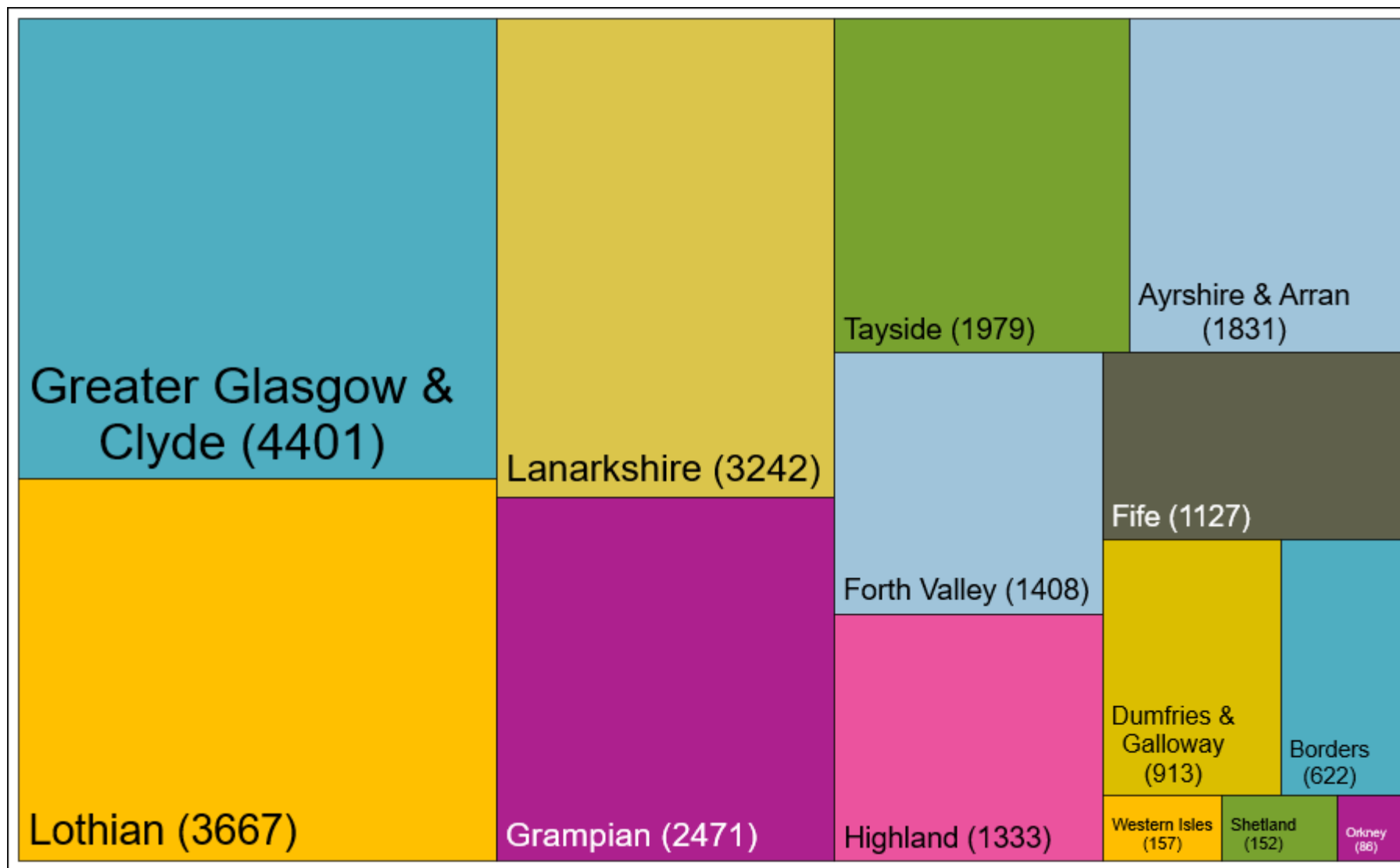
## **Number of adults within NHS boards**

This data collection records the number of adults with learning disabilities in Scotland by the 14 geographical NHS boards. The numbers of adults included in LDSS are those adults with learning disabilities known to local authorities and reported to the LDSS team. There will be adults with learning disabilities not known to local authorities and possibly some who are known but not reported. These adults are not included in the reported figures.

Data users should be aware that some adults with learning disabilities who are resident in NHS funded facilities, may be living outwith both the local authority which records the information and the health board which would normally be responsible for the provision of healthcare.

Figure 3 below shows the number of adults with learning disabilities known to local authorities by NHS board.

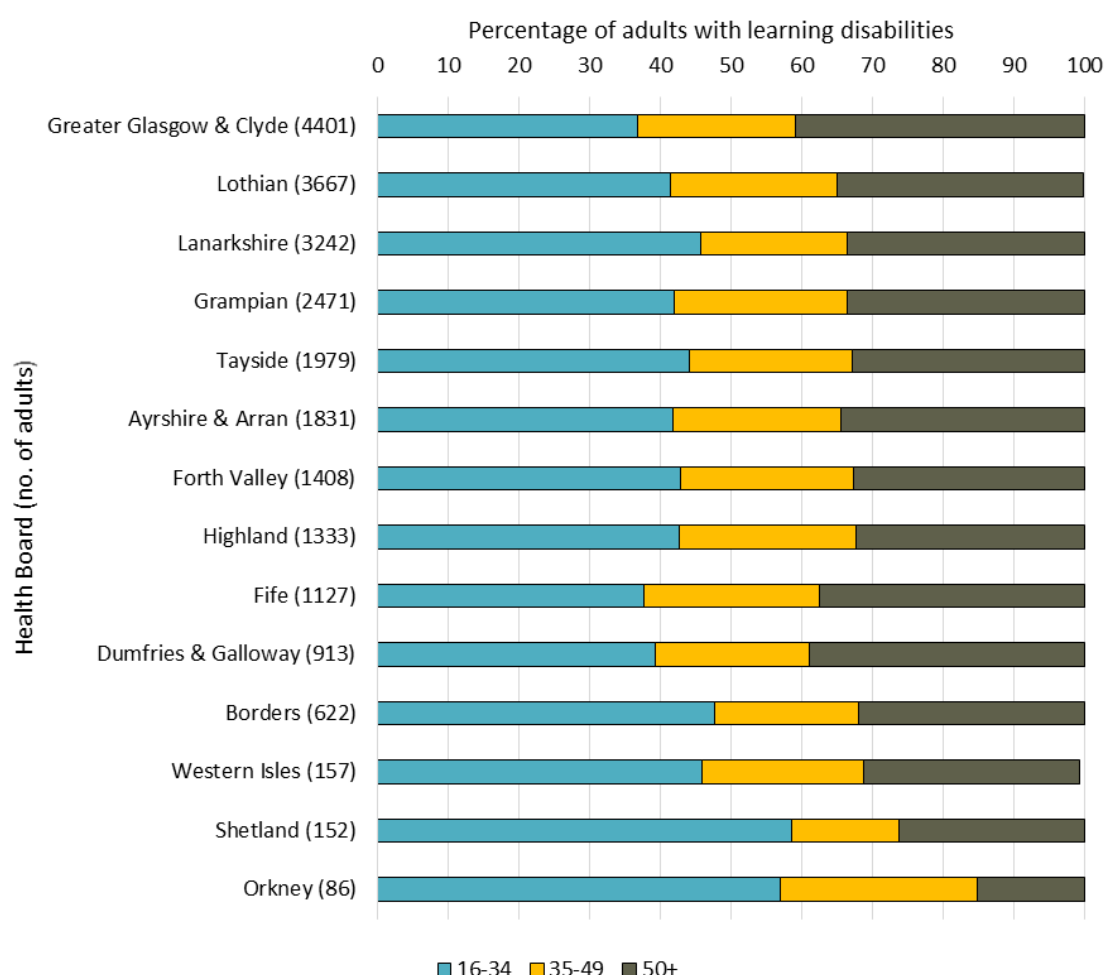
**Figure 3: Number of adults within NHS boards in Scotland (2018)\***



\*57 adults are resident in an area covered by a health authority elsewhere in the UK.

The chart below shows the proportions of adults with learning disabilities aged 16-34, 35-49 and 50 and over in each NHS board.

**Figure 4: Age structure of adults with learning disabilities known to local authorities in NHS board areas (2018)**



Overall, the highest proportion of adults who are aged 16-34 years old are in Shetland NHS Board who reported over 58.6% of their population comprising of adults aged 16-34 years old. Orkney NHS Board had the highest proportion of adults who are aged 35-49 years old (27.9%). Greater Glasgow & Clyde NHS Board had the highest proportion of adults aged 50 and over (40.9%).

## Ethnicity

Ethnicity was recorded for 21,155 adults with learning disabilities (90.2%) known to local authorities. This figure includes those who opted not to disclose their ethnicity.

Of all adults with learning disabilities known to local authorities in 2018, the majority (86.4%) were recorded as 'white'. Only 1.8% (431 people) were recorded as being from a black/minority ethnic background. Of these, 256 people were classified as being of 'Asian, Asian Scottish, Asian British' ethnicity; 73 people as of mixed ethnicity; 44 people as of 'Black, Black British, Black Scottish' ethnicity; and 58 as 'other ethnic group'. A further 1.9% (455 people) did not disclose their ethnicity to their local authority, while the ethnicity for 9.8% (2,291) was not known. There is likely to be an undercount of ethnic groups other than white.

**Table 2: Ethnicity of adults with learning disabilities known to local authorities (2018)**

	<b>Total</b>	<b>% of all adults</b>
White	20,269	86.4
Asian, Asian Scottish, Asian British ethnicity	256	1.1
Mixed ethnicity	73	0.3
Other ethnicity	58	0.2
Black, Black Scottish, Black British ethnicity	44	0.2
Not disclosed	455	1.9
Not known/recorded	2,291	9.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>23,446</b>	<b>100</b>

Notes: 'White' comprises Scottish, English, Welsh, Northern Irish, British, Irish, Traveller, Polish and other.

Asian, Black, Mixed Race or other ethnic group comprises Pakistani, Indian, Bangladeshi, Chinese, African, Caribbean, Arab and any other groups.

Further information on the age structure, gender and ethnicity of people with learning disabilities is available at national level in Annex A and at local authority level in Annex B.



## 2: Adults on the autism spectrum<sup>14</sup>

LDSS collects information on adults with learning disabilities and adults on the autism spectrum who are known to local authorities. Some adults are recorded as having learning disabilities and as being on the autism spectrum, whereas a small number are recorded as being on the autism spectrum but with no associated learning disability. The numbers of adults included in LDSS are those adults with learning disabilities known to local authorities and reported to the LDSS team. There will be adults with learning disabilities not known to local authorities and possibly some who are known but not reported. These adults are not included in the reported figures.

Local authorities reported on the number of adults on the autism spectrum known to services within their area. In 2018, 30<sup>15</sup> local authorities provided information on 17,805 adults across Scotland. Glasgow City Council did not provide any data on adults with learning disabilities for the 2018 collection. To present as accurate a national picture as possible, the autism spectrum diagnosis data provided by this authority in 2017 (on 2,063 adults) has been used across this report and its annexes. On this basis, the number of adults for whom autism spectrum diagnoses is known to local authorities in Scotland in 2018 was 19,868.

There were 4,382 adults known to local authorities who were identified as being on the autism spectrum. This is 18.7% of **all adults** known to local authorities.

Of the individuals recorded as being on the autism spectrum, 3,063 (69.9%) also have a learning disability. There are 1,016 adults on the autism spectrum (23.2%) known to local authorities who do not have learning disabilities. There are also 322 adults (7.3%) on the autism spectrum whose learning disability status is not recorded.

It is likely that this data represents a significant underestimate of the number of adults who are on the autism spectrum but have no

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<sup>14</sup> It is recognised that there are a number of different terms used to refer to people on the autism spectrum. For consistency reasons, this release uses the term 'adults on the autism spectrum' and abbreviates this to AS where appropriate.

<sup>15</sup> Midlothian Council did not provide any data for this item.

associated learning disability. This is partly due to the fact that the data is collected directly from local authority learning disability services, with which adults on the autism spectrum may not have had direct contact, because they may not be receiving formal support, or this may be available from other sources, such as the NHS.

**Figure 5: Autism status for adults with learning disabilities known to local authorities (2018)**

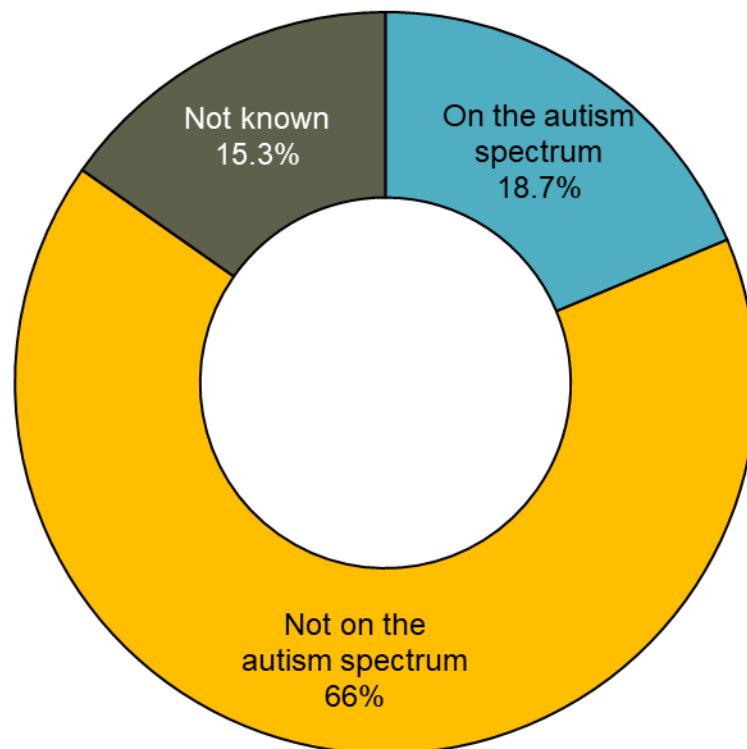
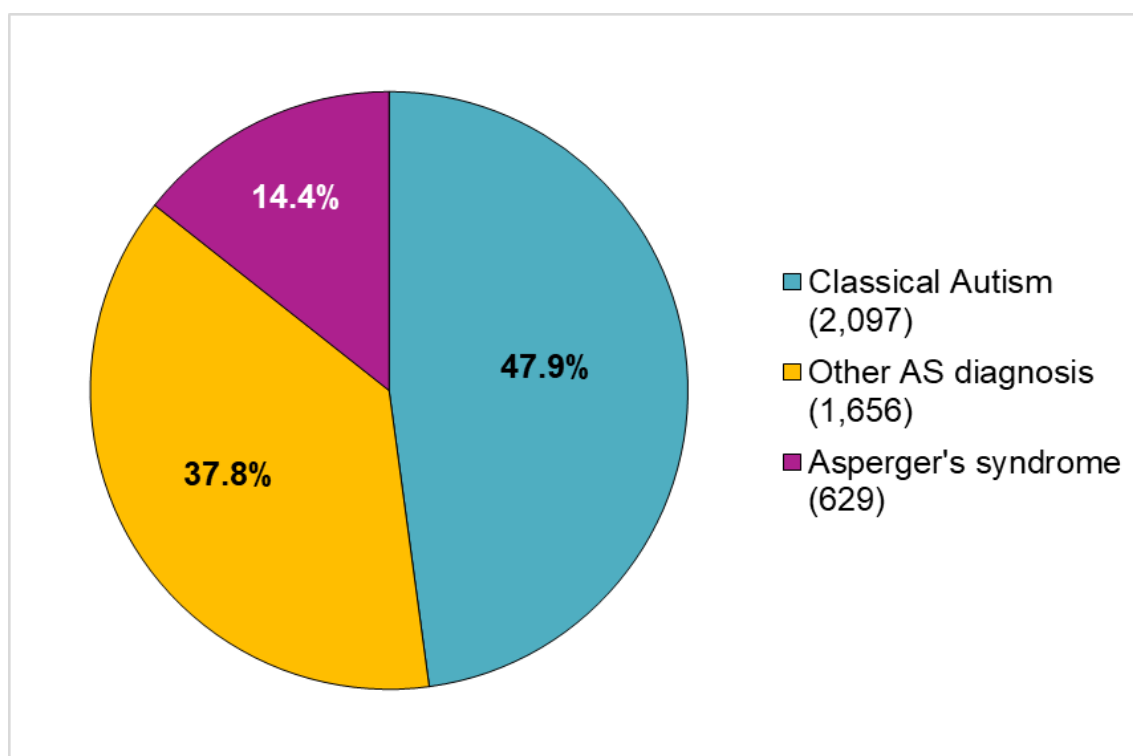


Figure 5 above shows that of all adults known to local authorities, 66% (15,486) are not on the autism spectrum; 18.7% (4,382) were on the autism spectrum; and a further 15.3% (3,578) did not have an autism status recorded.

In 2018, of the adults recorded as being on the autism spectrum:

- 47.9% (2,097 adults) had classical autism;
- 37.8% (1,656 adults) had an 'other autism spectrum diagnosis'; and
- 14.4% (629 adults) had Asperger's Syndrome.<sup>16</sup>

**Figure 6: Adults on the autism spectrum who are known to local authorities (2018)\***



\*This does not include adults who are not on the autism spectrum (15,486) or for whom this information has not been recorded (3,758).

<sup>16</sup> Asperger's syndrome is no longer a recognised diagnosis, but has been collected historically. The most recent classification according to the World Health Organisation can be found here: <https://icd.who.int/browse11/l-m/en>

### 3: Lives with a family carer

Local authorities were asked to provide information on whether adults with learning disabilities were living with family carers. The numbers of adults included in LDSS are those adults with learning disabilities known to local authorities and reported to the LDSS team. There will be adults with learning disabilities not known to local authorities and possibly some who are known but not reported. These adults are not included in the reported figures.

In 2018, 28 local authorities<sup>17</sup> provided information on whether 14,421 adults across Scotland lived with a family carer. Glasgow City Council did not provide any data on adults with learning disabilities for the 2018 collection. To present as accurate a national picture as possible, the family carer data provided by this authority in 2017 (on 2,127 adults) has been used across this report and its annexes. On this basis, the number of adults for whom family carer information is known to local authorities in Scotland in 2018 was 16,970. This is 72.3% of all adults.

In 2018, there were 7,109 adults with learning disabilities known to local authorities who live with a family carer. This is 30.3% of **all adults** known to local authorities.

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<sup>17</sup> Aberdeenshire, East Renfrewshire and North Lanarkshire did not return data for this item.

**Figure 7: Number of adults with learning disabilities known to local authorities who do/do not live with a family carer (2018)**

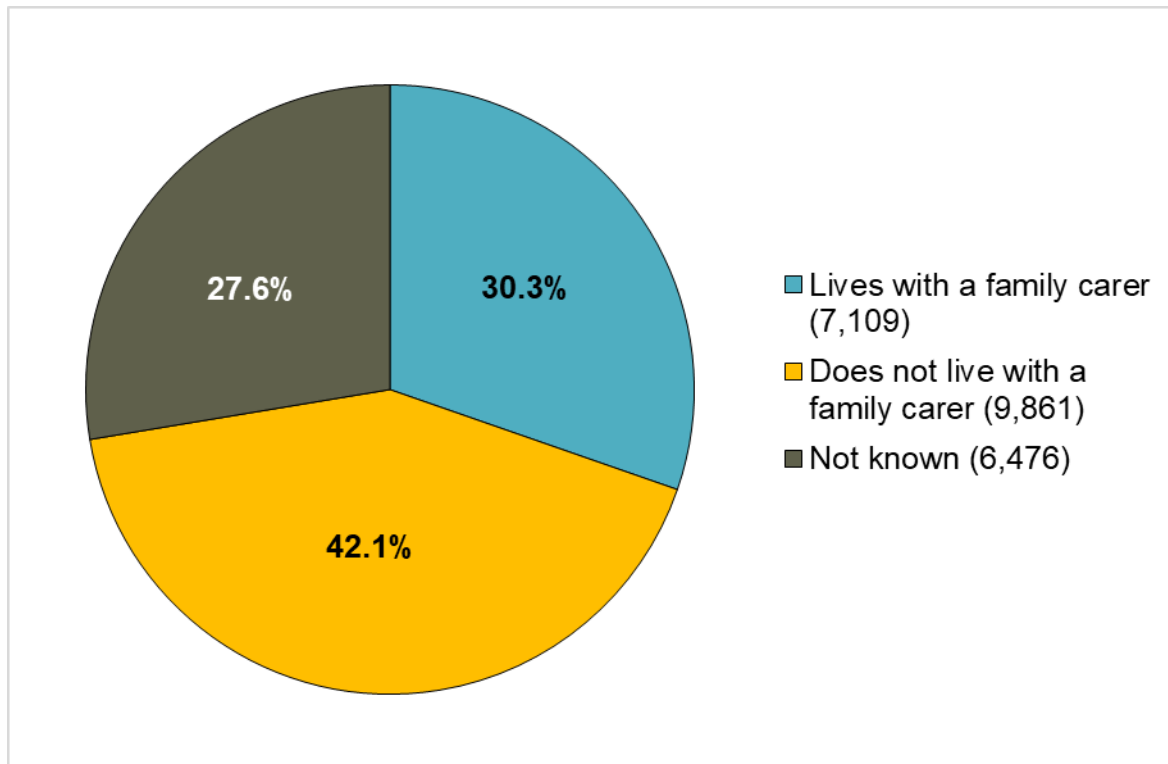
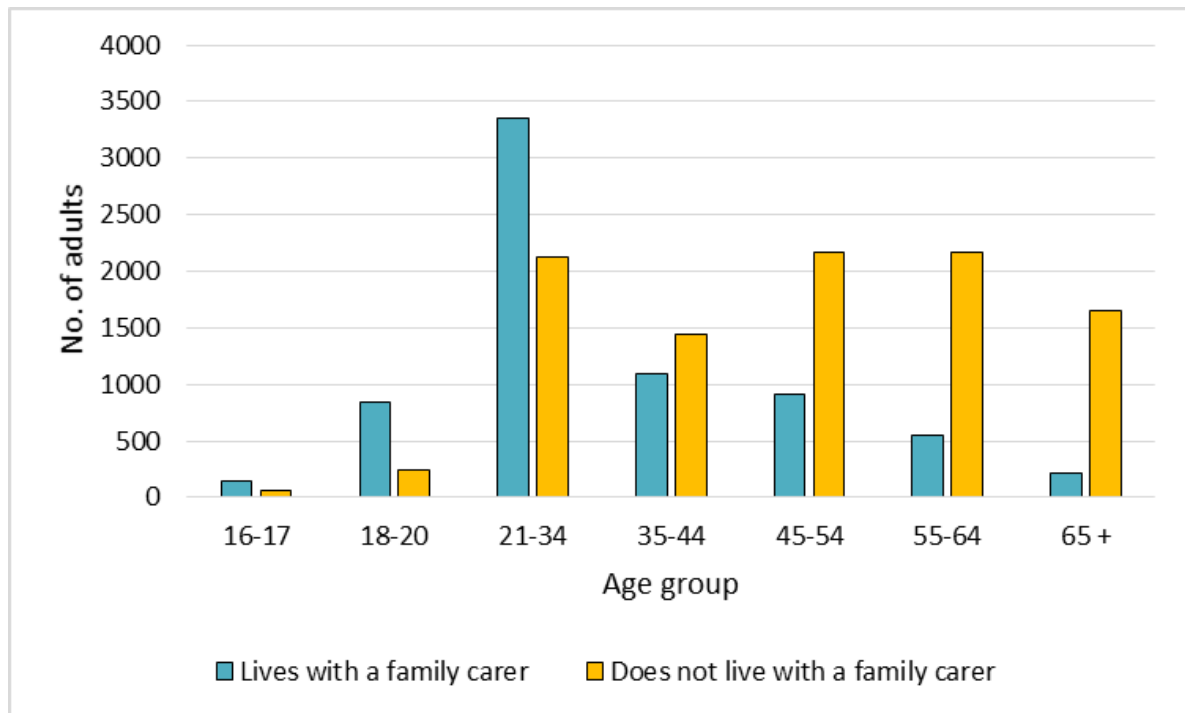


Figure 7 above shows that the majority - over two fifths - of all adults with learning disabilities known to local authorities did not live with a family carer.

As shown by Figure 8 below, those aged 34 and under tended to live with a family carer, whereas the reverse is true for those aged 35 and over.

**Figure 8: Adults with learning disabilities known to local authorities who do/do not live with a family carer by age (2018)**



**Table 3: Adults with learning disabilities known to local authorities who do/do not live with a family carer by age (2018)**

	Lives with a parent carer	Lives with other family carer	Lives with a family carer, not specified	All adults who live with a family carer	Does not live with a family carer	Not recorded
16-17	105	24	11	140	58	281
18-20	655	62	128	845	244	690
21-34	2,690	270	400	3,360	2,119	2,030
35-44	843	122	123	1,088	1,442	921
45-54	574	232	106	912	2,173	1,040
55-64	259	225	70	554	2,166	862
65 and over	42	127	41	210	1,656	644
Not recorded	1	1	2	0	3	8
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,168</b>	<b>1,060</b>	<b>881</b>	<b>7,109</b>	<b>9,861</b>	<b>6,476</b>

Of those adults **who lived with a family carer** in 2018:

- 5,168 lived with a parent carer (72.7%);
- 881 lived with a family carer that was not specified (12.4%);
- 464 lived with a sibling (6.5%);
- 233 lived with another relative (3.3%);
- 130 lived with a family carer they are not related to (1.8%);<sup>18</sup>
- 125 lived with a partner/spouse (1.8%);
- 108 lived with a son/daughter (1.5%).

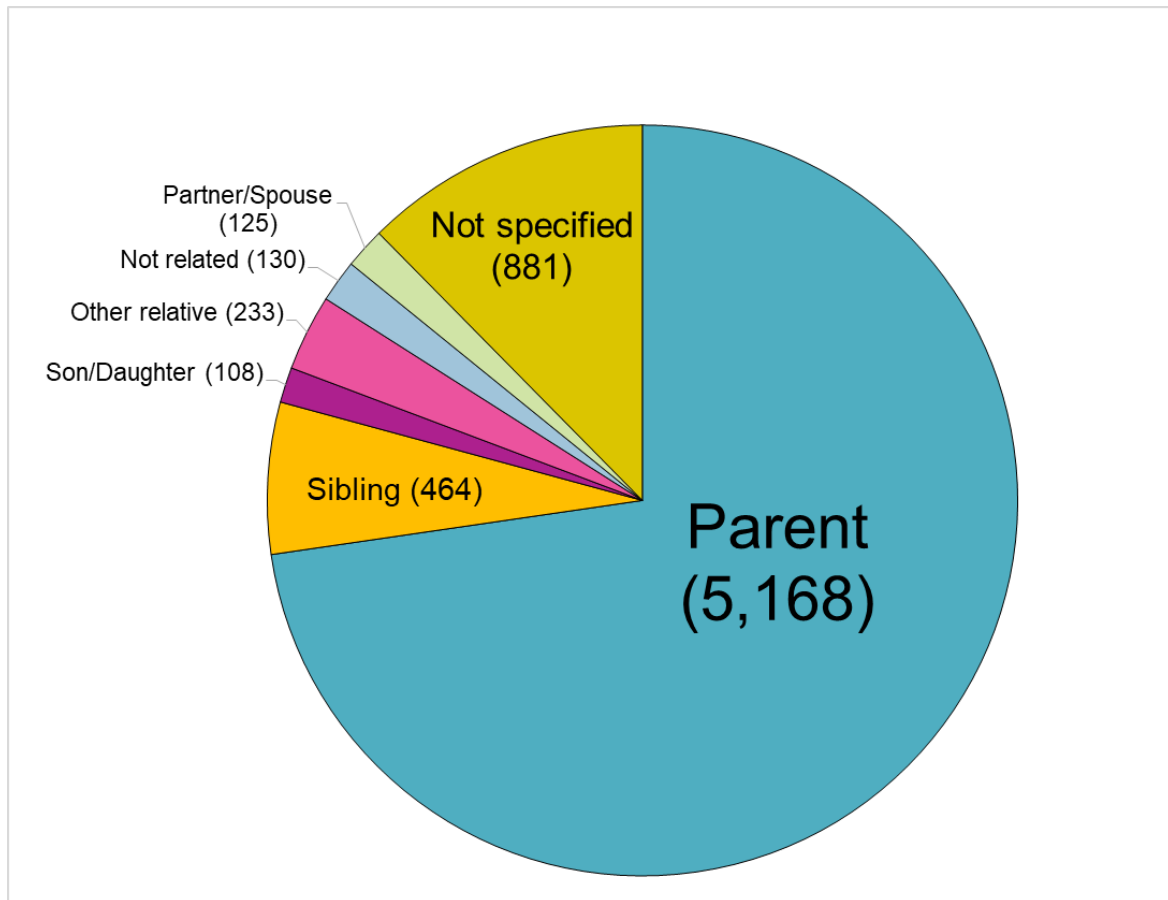
In 2018, there were 4,345 adults with learning disabilities aged 34 and under living with a family carer.

Table 3 above shows that there are also 875 adults with learning disabilities aged 45 and over who are living with a parent carer. This is just over half (52.2%) of those adults aged 45 and over, who we know live with a family carer, and 8.6% of all adults with learning disabilities in that age group known to local authorities.

Given that many adults aged 45 and over are being cared for by a parent carer, this indicates that there are a considerable number of adults with learning disabilities who are being cared for by a person who is elderly.

<sup>18</sup> The 'family carer not related' sub code refers to people who have support to live with a family, which is not their own.

**Figure 9: Types of family carer with whom adults with learning disabilities known to local authorities live (2018)**





#### 4: Number of people with learning disabilities in the same accommodation

Local authorities were asked to provide information on how many people with learning disabilities were living in the same household. Other people with learning disabilities in a given household include people who are aged under 16 and/or are in full-time education. The numbers of adults included in LDSS are those adults with learning disabilities known to local authorities and reported to the LDSS team. There will be adults with learning disabilities not known to local authorities and possibly some who are known but not reported. These adults are not included in the reported figures.

In 2018, 28<sup>19</sup> local authorities provided information on the number of adults living in the same household for 15,179 adults across Scotland. Glasgow City Council did not provide any data on adults with learning disabilities for the 2018 collection. To present as accurate a national picture as possible, the household data provided by this authority in 2017 (on 2,016 adults) has been used across this report and its annexes. On this basis, the number of adults for whom household information is known to local authorities in Scotland in 2018 was 17,195. This is 73.3% of all adults.

Figure 10 below shows that just over half (12,787 adults, 54.5%) of **all adults** known to local authorities are the only person with learning disabilities in their household. A further 2,989 (12.7%) of **all adults** live with one to three other people with learning disabilities and 1,419 adults (6.1%) live with four or more other people with learning disabilities.

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<sup>19</sup> Aberdeenshire East Renfrewshire and North Lanarkshire did not return data for this item.

**Figure 10: Number of adults with learning disabilities known to local authorities living in the same household (2018)**

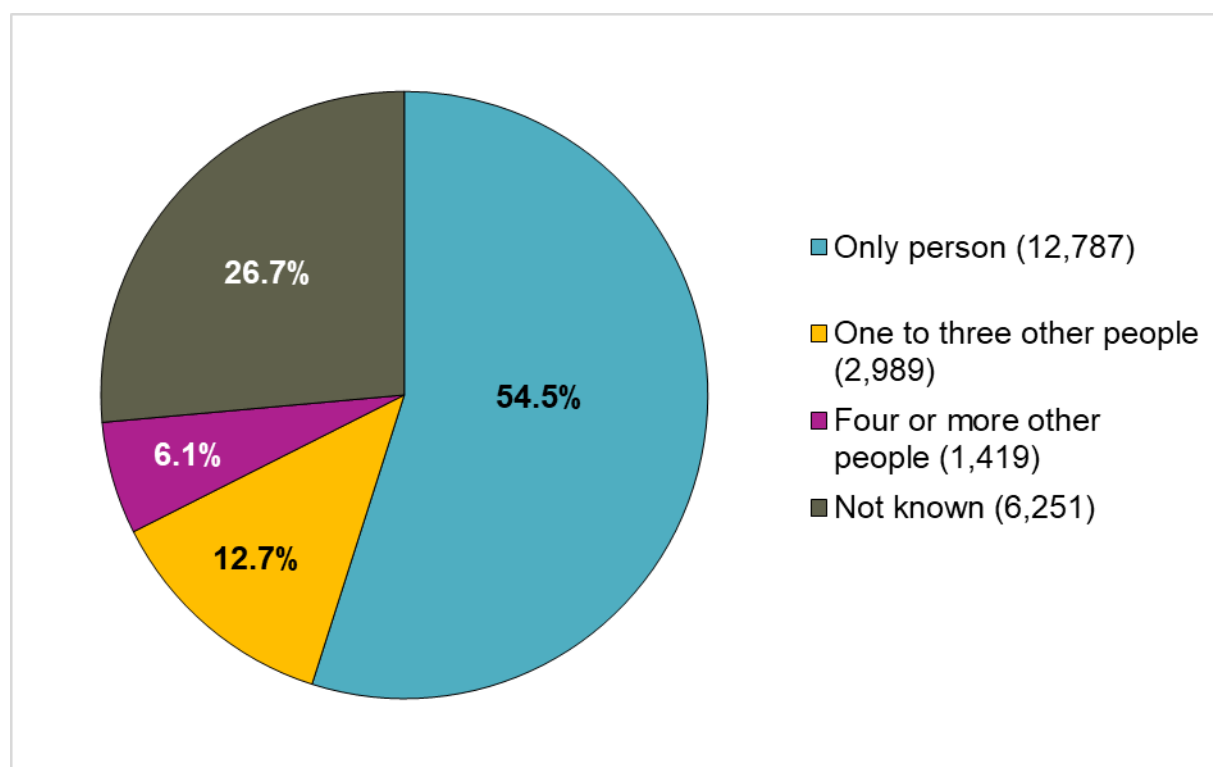


Table 4 below shows that of **the adults who were the only person with learning disabilities in their household**, 43.8% were living with a family carer.

There were also 715 adults living with a family carer who lived with one or more people with learning disabilities. This is 16.2% of **adults who live with more than one other person with learning disabilities**.

**Table 4: Number of adults living in the same accommodation by family carer status (2018)**

	Adults who live with a family carer	Adults who do not live with a family carer	Not recorded	All adults
Only person	5,598	5,851	1,338	12,787
1-3 other people	668	2,079	242	2,989
4 or more people	47	1,248	124	1,419
Not recorded	796	683	4,772	6,251
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,109</b>	<b>9,861</b>	<b>6,476</b>	<b>23,446</b>

## 5: Accommodation type

Information is collected on the types of accommodation in which people with learning disabilities live. There are a variety of types of accommodation recorded under this data item. Definitions can be found in the 2018 guidance notes.<sup>20</sup> The numbers of adults included in LDSS are those adults with learning disabilities known to local authorities and reported to the LDSS team. There will be adults with learning disabilities not known to local authorities and possibly some who are known but not reported. These adults are not included in the reported figures.

In 2018, 30<sup>21</sup> local authorities provided information on the types of accommodation 18,595 adults were living in. Glasgow City Council did not to provide any data on adults with learning disabilities for the 2018 collection. To present as accurate a national picture as possible, the accommodation data provided by this authority in 2017 (on 1,963 adults) has been used across this report and its annexes. On this basis, the number of adults for whom accommodation type is known to local authorities in Scotland in 2018 was 20,558. This is 87.7% of all adults.

In 2018, 59.4% (13,923) of **all adults** with learning disabilities lived in mainstream accommodation, 16.5% (3,863) lived in supported accommodation and 7.6% (1,774) lived in registered adult care homes. 998 (4.3%) lived in 'other' accommodation.

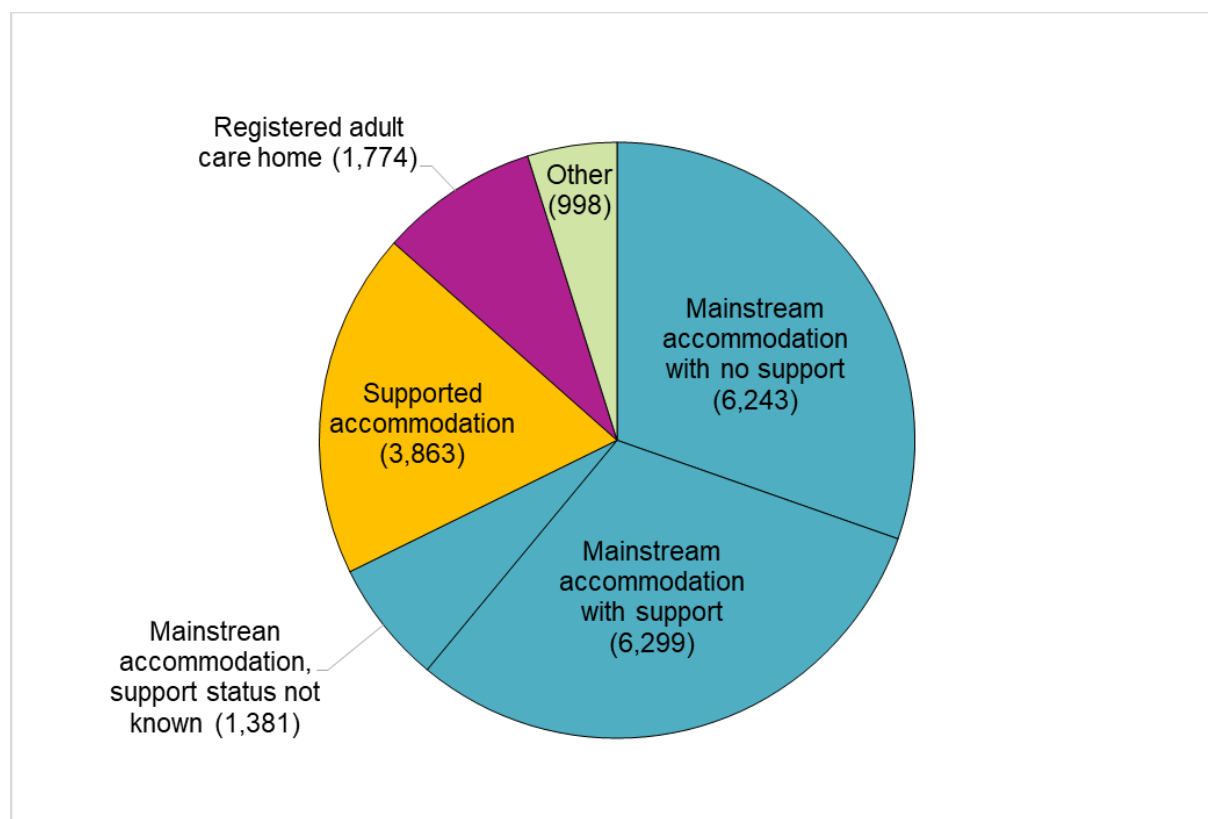
Figure 11 below shows that in 2018, over a quarter (6,299) of **all adults** with learning disabilities lived in mainstream accommodation with support. A similar number (6,243) lived in mainstream accommodation without support and 1,381 lived in mainstream accommodation but their support status was not known.

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<sup>20</sup> <https://www.sclld.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/Guidance-Notes-2018.pdf>

<sup>21</sup> East Renfrewshire Council did not provide any data on this item.

**Figure 11: Accommodation type for adults with learning disabilities known to local authorities (2018)**

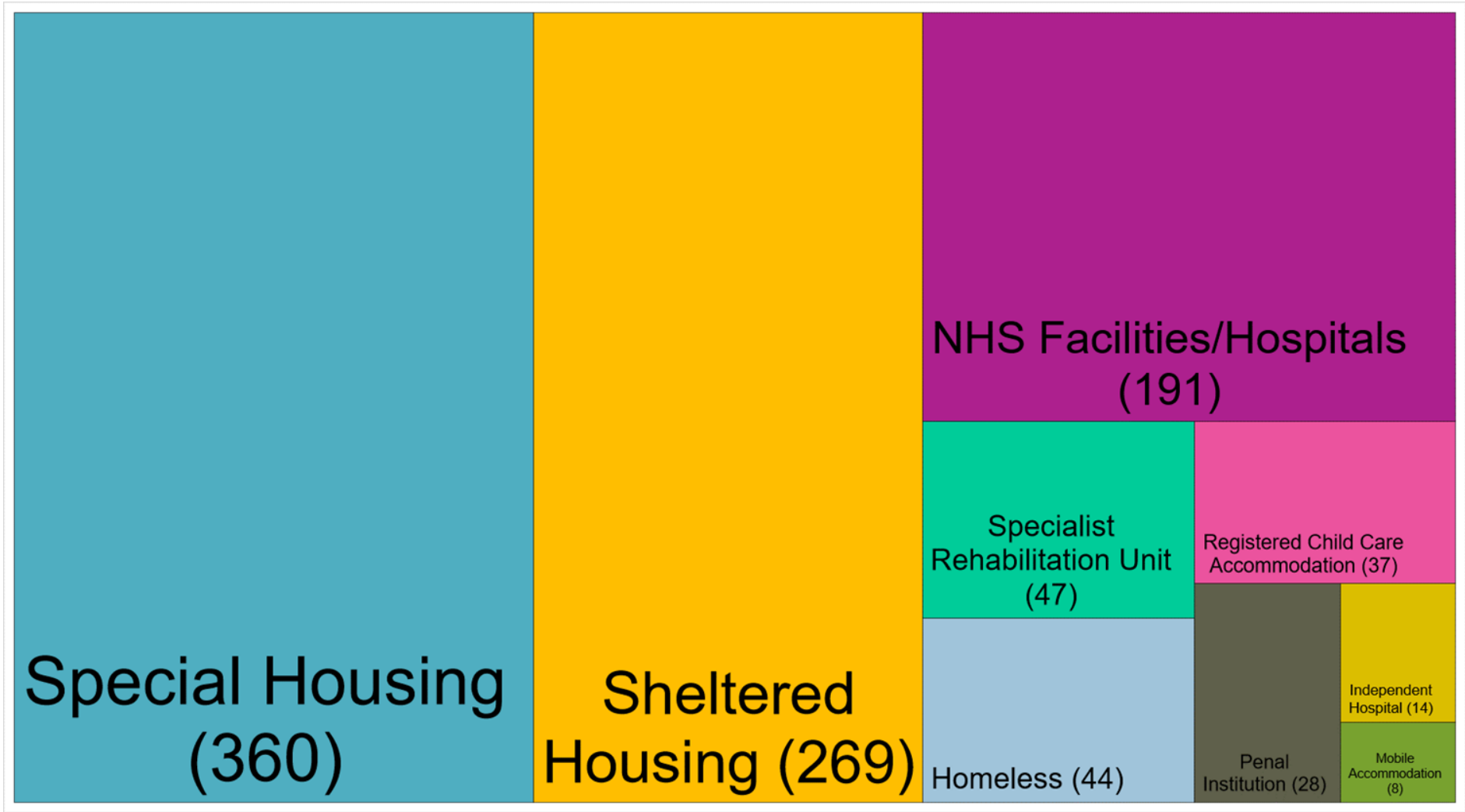


### **‘Other’ accommodation**

**Of the 998 adults with learning disabilities who live in ‘other’ accommodation:**

- 360 adults live in special accommodation (36.1%);
- 269 adults live in sheltered housing (27%);
- 191 adults live in NHS facilities/hospitals (19.1%);
- 44 adults are homeless (4.4%);
- 28 adults live in penal institutions (2.8%);
- 37 adults live in registered child care accommodation (3.7%);
- 47 adults in specialist rehabilitation units (4.7%);
- 8 adults live in mobile accommodation (0.8%);
- 14 adults live in independent hospitals (1.4%).

Figure 12: Adults with learning disabilities known to local authorities who live in ‘Other’ accommodation types (2018)



Adults who are the only person with learning disabilities living in their accommodation tend to live in mainstream accommodation, meaning that they live in their own home, or in the family home.

Table 5 below shows that of **all the adults who are recorded as the only person with learning disabilities in their accommodation**, 9,655 adults (75.5%) live in mainstream accommodation.

Table 5 below also shows that in 2018, only 9.6% of **adults in mainstream accommodation** lived with at least one other person with learning disabilities.

The figure for those living with at least one other person was 40.5% of those **adults living in supported accommodation** and 56.2% of those **adults who live in a registered adult care home**.

**Table 5: Accommodation type by number of adults with learning disabilities known to local authorities who are in the same accommodation (2018)**

		Only person	One other person	Two other people	Three other people	Four + other people	Not recorded	Total
Mainstream accommodation:	with no support	4,609	357	59	23	18	1,177	6,243
	with support	4,396	494	131	65	60	1,153	6,299
	support status not known	650	68	16	7	35	605	1,381
Supported accommodation		1,710	562	289	282	431	589	3,863
Registered adult care home		292	92	87	120	698	485	1,774
Other accommodation		573	76	28	34	118	169	998
Not recorded		557	155	34	10	59	2,073	2,888
<b>Total</b>		<b>12,787</b>	<b>1,804</b>	<b>644</b>	<b>541</b>	<b>1,419</b>	<b>6,251</b>	<b>23,446</b>

## 6: Local Area Co-ordination

Information is collected on the use of Local Area Co-ordination (LAC) services. LAC services are not available in every local authority area. In 2018, 13 local authorities reported to LDSS that there were no LAC services available in their area. The definition of LAC services can be found in the 2018 guidance notes.<sup>22</sup> The numbers of adults included in LDSS are those adults with learning disabilities known to local authorities and reported to the LDSS team. There will be adults with learning disabilities not known to local authorities and possibly some who are known but not reported. These adults are not included in the reported figures.

In 2018, 30<sup>23</sup> local authorities provided LAC usage information on 21,014 adults with learning disabilities known to local authorities. Glasgow City Council did not provide any data on adults with learning disabilities for the 2018 collection. To present as accurate a national picture as possible, the LAC usage data provided by this authority in 2017 (on 2,190 adults) has been used across this report and its annexes. On this basis, the number of adults for whom LAC usage information is known to local authorities in Scotland in 2018 was 23,204. This is 99% of all adults.

In 2018, 2,822 adults were recorded as having used an LAC service. This is 12% of **all adults** known to local authorities, and 17.7% of adults who we know **had an LAC service available to them**. There were 7,226 adults recorded as living in areas where there were no LAC services available to them

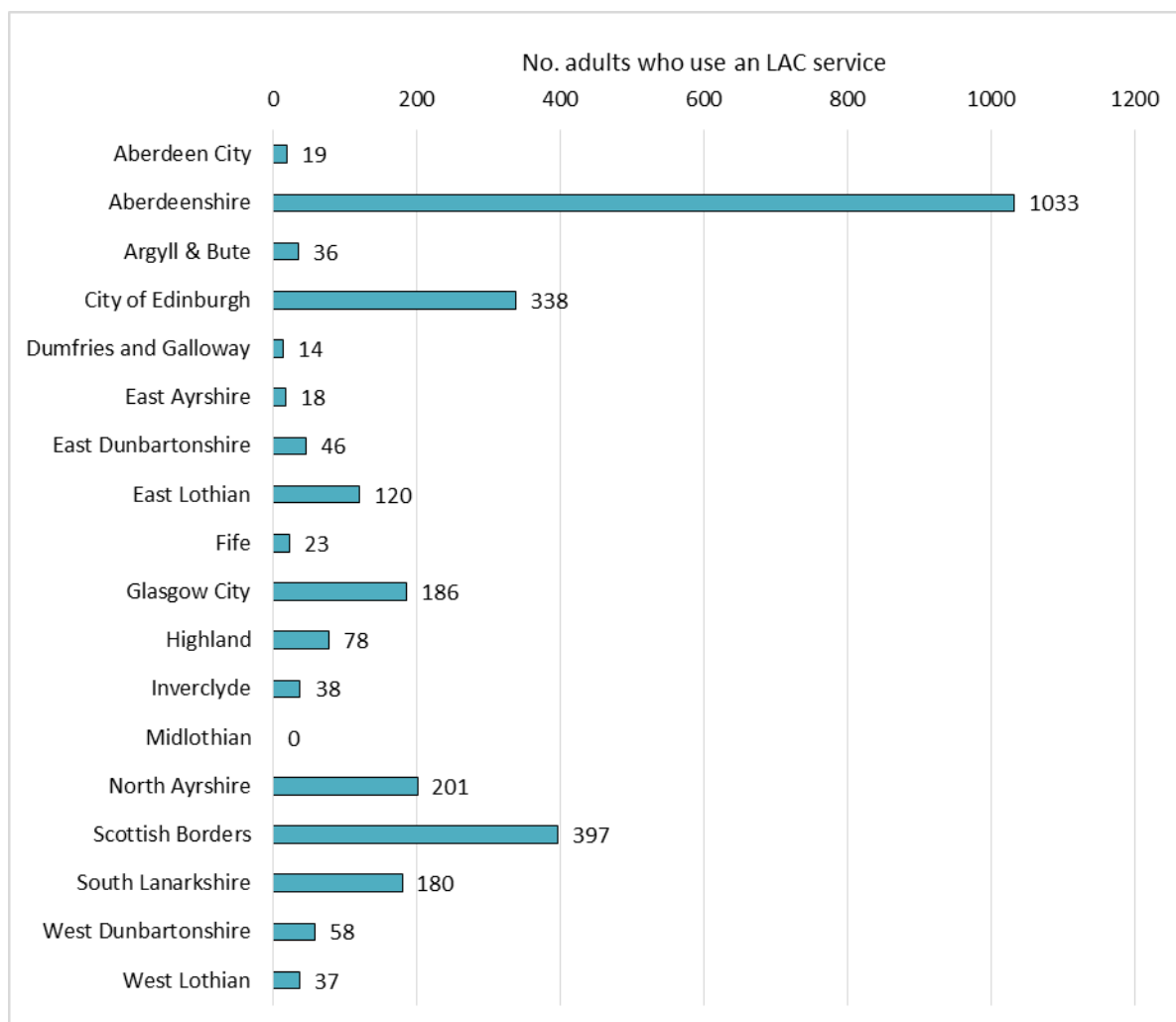
Figure 13 below shows the number of adults who use an LAC service within each local authority where these are available.

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<sup>22</sup> <https://www.sclld.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/Guidance-Notes-2018.pdf>

<sup>23</sup> East Renfrewshire Council did not provide any data on this item.

**Figure 13: Use of Local Area Co-ordination services (2018)<sup>24</sup>**



<sup>24</sup> South Lanarkshire Council does not have an LAC team but does offer locally defined services with comparable functions.



## 7: Personal Life Plans/Person Centred Plans

Information is collected on how many adults have Personal Life Plans (PLP)/Person Centred Plans. A PLP is an assessment and/or support plan for continual listening and learning, focused on what is important to someone now and for the future, and is implemented in alliance with family and friends. More information on PLPs, including a full definition and criteria can be found in the 2018 guidance notes.<sup>25</sup>

The numbers of adults included in LDSS are those adults with learning disabilities known to local authorities and reported to the LDSS team. There will be adults with learning disabilities not known to local authorities and possibly some who are known but not reported. These adults are not included in the reported figures.

In 2018, 30 local authorities<sup>26</sup> provided PLP information on 16,419 adults with learning disabilities known to local authorities across Scotland. Glasgow City Council did not to provide any data on adults with learning disabilities for the 2018 collection. To present as accurate a national picture as possible, the PLP data provided by this authority in 2017 (on 1,998 adults) has been used across this report and its annexes. On this basis, the number of adults for whom PLP information is known to local authorities in Scotland in 2018 was 18,417. This is 78.6% of all adults.

In 2018, there were 18,196 adults for whom a PLP was applicable. Of **those adults for whom a PLP was applicable**, 15,159 (83.3%) had one.

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<sup>25</sup> <https://www.sclld.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/Guidance-Notes-2018.pdf>

<sup>26</sup> Clackmannanshire Council did not provide any data on this item.

**Table 6: Personal Life Plan (PLP) uptake by adults with learning disabilities known to local authorities by age (2018)\***

	Has a PLP	Does not have a PLP	Not Applicable	Not recorded	Total
16-17	183	60	5	230	479
18-20	994	210	30	545	1,779
21-34	4,839	977	78	1,611	7,505
35-44	2,283	478	36	654	3,451
45-54	2,769	530	24	802	4,125
55-64	2,437	452	25	670	3,582
65 and over	1,654	323	26	507	2,510
Not recorded	0	5	0	10	15
<b>Total</b>	<b>15,159</b>	<b>3,037</b>	<b>221</b>	<b>5,029</b>	<b>23,446</b>

\*Values smaller than 5 have been disclosure controlled. This means any value under 5 is rounded to either 0 or 5 and another value in the same row has been rounded to the nearest 5 to prevent differencing (calculating a suppressed value by subtracting it from the total). Published zeroes may or may not be true zeroes.

## 8: Advocacy

Information is collected on how many adults access advocacy services. Advocacy services enable people to have a greater say in decisions which affect their lives. Improving access to services, is a recommendation in 'The keys to life.'<sup>27</sup> The provision of independent advocacy is a legal requirement of the Mental Health (Care and Treatment) (Scotland) Act 2003.<sup>28</sup> Every person with a mental disorder (as defined in section 328 of the Act) has a right to independent advocacy. This includes people with learning disabilities.

The Scottish Independent Advocacy Alliance<sup>29</sup> explains the different forms of advocacy which are available:

**Self-advocacy** – this is when a group of people, who have an experience of using services, decides collectively about issues they would like to campaign on.

**Citizen advocacy** – this is when ordinary people in the community work with someone who needs the support of an advocate. Citizen advocates may work with the same person for many years.

**Collective or group advocacy** – this happens when a particular group of people come together and support each other around a common cause.

**Peer advocacy** – this is when someone with very similar life experiences to the person who needs support acts as their advocate.

**Professional advocacy** – some professional advocates are paid and some are unpaid.

Advocacy is the only item within the data collection for which data are collected on both an individual and an aggregate level. This is due to the fact that it may not be appropriate for external advocacy agencies to share sensitive data with local authorities. As a result, local authorities primarily aimed to return individual level advocacy information but

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<sup>27</sup> 'The keys to life' recommendation 32:

<https://www2.gov.scot/Resource/0042/00424389.pdf>

<sup>28</sup> [http://www.opsi.gov.uk/legislation/scotland/acts2003/asp\\_20030013\\_em\\_1](http://www.opsi.gov.uk/legislation/scotland/acts2003/asp_20030013_em_1)

<sup>29</sup> <https://www.siaa.org.uk/us/independent-advocacy/need-advocate/>

provided aggregate advocacy figures when individual level information was not available.

In 2018, 19 local authorities returned individual level advocacy data and 8 local authorities returned aggregate data. Falkirk Council provided both individual and aggregate level data and is counted in both of these figures.

We know individual level information on whether 8,645 adults (36.9% of all adults) use advocacy services. There were 1,276 adults who were recorded as using an advocacy service in 2018. This is 5.4% of **all adults** with learning disabilities.

The full individual level and aggregate data are available in tables B8 and B9 of Annex B. The following is a discussion of the individual level data only.

Of those **adults for whom individual level advocacy information is known**, reported advocacy use falls into the following categories:

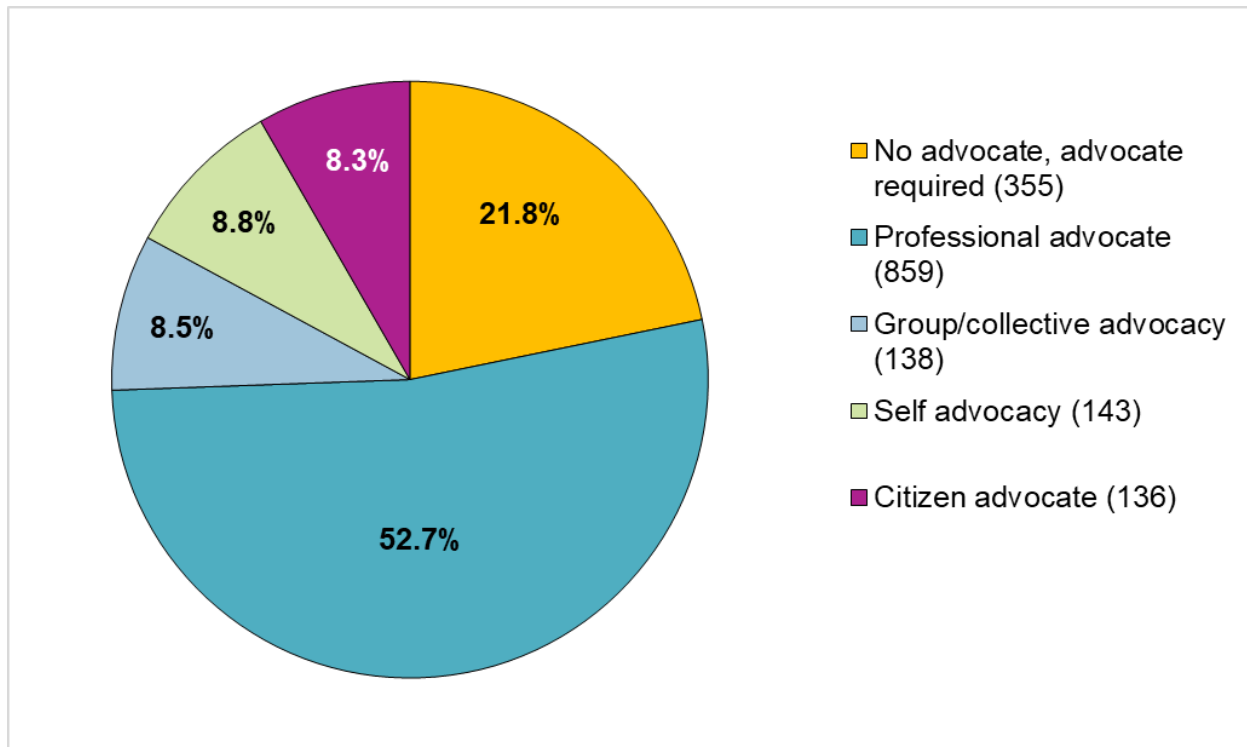
- 7,014 (81.1%) adults do not use an advocate and do not need one;
- 355 (4.1%) adults do not use an advocate but do require one;
- 859 (9.9%) adults use a professional advocate;
- 138 (1.6%) adults use group/collective advocacy;
- 143 (1.7%) adults exercise self-advocacy;
- 136 (1.6%) adults use a citizen advocate.

People First Scotland regularly report a membership of over 1,000 people.<sup>30</sup> This means the total number of adults with learning disabilities who exercise self-advocacy is an underestimate.

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<sup>30</sup> <http://peoplefirstscotland.org/membership/>

**Figure 14: Use of advocacy by adults with learning disabilities known to local authorities (2018)\***



\*These figures are for adults for whom this information is recorded at an individual level only. This does not include individuals whose data has been returned on an aggregate level, as no individual data match was possible. The chart does not include those who do not have an advocate, but do not require one, or those for whom this information is not known.

## 9: Employment opportunities

Local authorities were asked to provide information on the employment status of adults with learning disabilities. The numbers of adults included in LDSS are those adults with learning disabilities known to local authorities and reported to the LDSS team. There will be adults with learning disabilities not known to local authorities and possibly some who are known but not reported. These adults are not included in the reported figures.

In 2018, 25 local authorities<sup>31</sup> reported whether 11,172 adults had employment opportunities. Glasgow City Council did not provide any data on adults with learning disabilities for the 2018 collection. To present as accurate a national picture as possible, the employment opportunity data provided by this authority in 2017 (on 931 adults) has been used across this report and its annexes. On this basis, the number of adults for whom employment opportunity information is known to local authorities in Scotland in 2018 was 12,103. This is 51.6% of all adults.

In 2018, 993 adults were in employment. This means that 4.2% of **all adults** known to local authorities were in employment. In 2018, 11,110 of **all adults** known to local authorities were not in employment (47.4%).

These figures are in comparison to a Scottish employment rate of 75%.<sup>32</sup>

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<sup>31</sup> Aberdeenshire, Clackmannanshire, City of Edinburgh, East Lothian, East Renfrewshire and Midlothian councils did not provide any data on this item.

<sup>32</sup> ONS headline indicators Jul '18-Sep '18

[http://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/lor/2013265931/subreports/nrhi\\_time\\_series/report.aspx?](http://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/lor/2013265931/subreports/nrhi_time_series/report.aspx?)

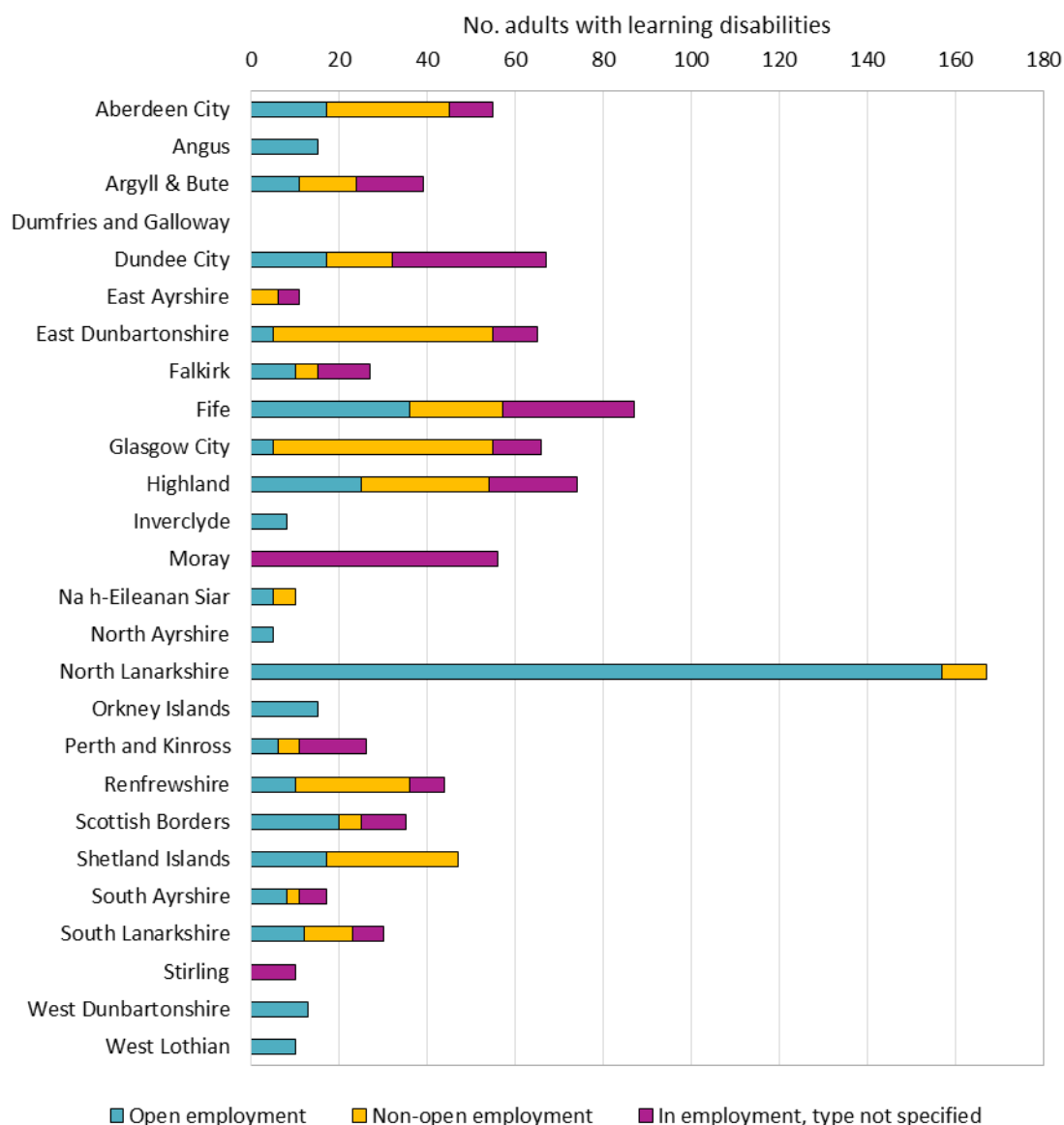
**Table 7: Employment opportunities for adults with learning disabilities known to local authorities (2018)**

Employment status	Number of adults	Total as a % of all adults
In employment	993	4.2
Not in employment	11,110	47.4
Not recorded	11,343	48.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>23,446</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Figure 15 below shows the numbers of adults in employment in each local authority area. Please see Annex B for detailed employment statistics at a local authority level.



**Figure 15: Number of adults with learning disabilities known to local authorities in employment by local authority area (2018)\***



\*Due to small data size, the number of adults who are in employment has been subjected to disclosure control (controlled rounding). This has meant that 6 adults who are self-employed do not appear in this table.



## Open and non-open employment opportunities

Information is also recorded on whether or not the employment opportunity is open or non-open. The definitions of open and non-open employment are:

- **Open employment** – employment in a workplace that is not specifically set up for people with learning disabilities. People with learning disabilities are paid the going rate for the job.
- **Non-open employment** – the workplace is specifically set up for people with learning disabilities. Non-open posts are not usually advertised.<sup>33</sup>

Of **those in employment**,<sup>34</sup> 42.9% (426 adults), were recorded as being in open employment and just under a third, 31% (308 adults) were in non-open employment. A further 25.5% (253 adults) were in employment but it was not specified whether it was open or non-open. The remaining 0.6% (6 adults) were self-employed.

**Table 8: Type of employment opportunities for adults with learning disabilities known to local authorities (2018)**

	Number of adults	Percent (%)
Open employment	426	42.9
Non-open employment	308	31.0
In employment - type not specified	253	25.5
Self employed	6	0.6
<b>Total in employment</b>	<b>993</b>	<b>100.0</b>

<sup>33</sup> More information can be found in the 2018 guidance notes:

<https://www.sclد.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/Guidance-Notes-2018.pdf>

<sup>34</sup> Adults in employment does not include those who are solely in training for employment.

## Time spent in employment

Information was also collected on the number of hours which adults with learning disabilities worked in 2018:

- 291 adults (29.3% of all adults with employment opportunities) worked **under 16 hours per week**.
- 356 adults (35.9% of all adults with employment opportunities) worked **16 hours per week or more**.

A further 346 adults (34.8% of **all adults with employment opportunities**) were in employment but the number of hours they worked is not known.

**Table 9: Time spent in employment by adults with learning disabilities (2018)**

	Number of adults	Percent (%)
Under 16 hours per week	291	29.3
16 hours per week and over	356	35.9
Hours not recorded	346	34.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>993</b>	<b>100</b>

## Employment and training for employment

In 2018, local authorities were asked to report on individuals who are training for employment (TFE). TFE may take place in a college or the workplace.

In 2018, 23 local authorities<sup>35</sup> provided TFE data on 9,649 adults with learning disabilities. Glasgow City Council did not provide any data on adults with learning disabilities for the 2018 collection. To present as accurate a national picture as possible, the TFE data provided by this authority in 2017 (on 921 adults) has been used across this report and its annexes. On this basis, the number of adults for whom TFE information is known to local authorities in Scotland in 2018 was 10,570. This is 45.1% of all adults.

There were 585 adults in TFE. This is 2.5% of **all adults** known to local authorities. A further 9,985 were not in TFE (42.6%). Information was not recorded for 12,876 adults (54.9%).

Of the 585 adults in TFE, 61 (10.4%) were also in employment, 369 (63.1%) were not in employment and 155 (26.5%) did not have an employment status recorded.

**Table 10: Adults with learning disabilities known to local authorities who were in training while in employment (2018)**

	Person in training for employment	Person not in training for employment	Not recorded	Total
In employment	61	522	410	993
Not in employment	369	9,360	1,381	11,110
Not specified	155	103	11,085	11,343
<b>Total</b>	<b>585</b>	<b>9,985</b>	<b>12,876</b>	<b>23,446</b>

<sup>35</sup> Aberdeenshire, City of Edinburgh, Clackmannanshire, Dumfries and Galloway, East Lothian, East Renfrewshire, Midlothian and Moray councils did not provide any data on this item.

## Employment and volunteering

In 2018, local authorities were asked to report on individuals who are volunteering.

In 2018, 23 local authorities<sup>36</sup> provided volunteering data on 8,877 adults with learning disabilities. Glasgow City Council did not provide any data on adults with learning disabilities for the 2018 collection. To present as accurate a national picture as possible, the volunteering data provided by this authority in 2017 (on 906 adults) has been used across this report and its annexes. On this basis, the number of adults for whom volunteering information is known to local authorities in Scotland in 2018 was 9,783. This is 41.7% of **all adults**.

There were 811 adults in volunteering. This is 3.5% of **all adults** known to local authorities. A further 8,972 (38.3%) were not volunteering.

Of the 811 who were volunteering, 11% (89) were also in employment. A further 650 (80.1%) were not in employment.

**Table 11: Adults with learning disabilities known to local authorities who were volunteering while in employment (2018)**

Employment Status	Person is volunteering	Person is not volunteering	Not recorded	Total
In employment	89	441	463	993
Not in employment	650	8,450	2,010	11,110
Not recorded	72	81	11,190	11,343
<b>Total</b>	<b>811</b>	<b>8,972</b>	<b>13,663</b>	<b>23,446</b>

<sup>36</sup> Aberdeenshire, City of Edinburgh, Clackmannanshire, Dumfries and Galloway, East Lothian, East Renfrewshire, Midlothian, Moray and North Lanarkshire councils did not provide any data on this item.

## 10: Day centres and alternative opportunities

Information is collected on whether or not adults with learning disabilities attend a day centre and the number of hours they attend each week. Information was also collected on whether or not adults with learning disabilities use alternative opportunities. A definition of alternative opportunities can be found in the 2018 guidance notes.<sup>37</sup> The numbers of adults included in LDSS are those adults with learning disabilities known to local authorities and reported to the LDSS team. There will be adults with learning disabilities not known to local authorities and possibly some who are known but not reported. These adults are not included in the reported figures.

In 2018, 28 local authorities<sup>38</sup> provided day centre information on 16,152 adults with learning disabilities. Glasgow City Council did not provide any data on adults with learning disabilities for the 2018 collection. To present as accurate a national picture as possible, the day centre data provided by this authority in 2017 (on 1,133 adults) has been used across this report and its annexes. On this basis, the number of adults for whom day centre information is known to local authorities in Scotland in 2018 was 17,285. This is 73.7% of all adults.

In 2018, 26 local authorities<sup>39</sup> provided alternative opportunity information on 14,552 adults with learning disabilities. To present as accurate a national picture as possible, the alternative opportunity data provided by this authority in 2017 (on 1,025 adults) has been used across this report and its annexes. On this basis, the number of adults for whom alternative opportunities information is known to local authorities in Scotland in 2018 was 15,577. This is 66.4% of all adults.

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<sup>37</sup> <https://www.sclld.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/Guidance-Notes-2018.pdf>

<sup>38</sup> Clackmannanshire, East Renfrewshire and North Lanarkshire councils did not provide any data for this item.

<sup>39</sup> Aberdeenshire, Clackmannanshire, Dumfries and Galloway, East Renfrewshire and North Ayrshire councils did not provide any data for this item.

In 2018, there were 4,050 adults with learning disabilities who attended a day centre. This is 17.3% of **all adults** with learning disabilities.

There were 6,923 adults who had alternative opportunities (regardless of whether or not they attended a day centre). This is 29.5% of **all adults**.

Just over half of **all adults** known to local authorities - 13,235 (56.4%) adults - did not attend a day centre in 2018.

There were 8,654 adults (36.9% of **all adults**) who did not use alternative opportunities.

In 2018, 7,162 adults (30.5% of **all adults**) neither attended a day centre, nor used alternative opportunities.

Table 12 below shows that:

- 1,081 adults (26.7% of **adults who attend a day centre**) attended fewer than 30 hours per week and used alternative opportunities;
- 257 adults (6.3% of **adults who attend a day centre**) attended 30 hours or more per week and used alternative opportunities;
- 871 adults (21.5% of **adults who attend a day centre**) attended fewer than 30 hours per week and **did not use** alternative opportunities;
- 364 adults (9% of **adults who attend a day centre**) attended more than 30 hours per week and **did not use** alternative opportunities.

**Table 12: Day centre attendance hours and alternative opportunity use by adults with learning disabilities known to local authorities (2018)**

	Uses alternative opportunities	Does not use alternative opportunities	Not recorded	Total
Attends a day centre fewer than 30 hours	1,081	871	445	2,397
Attends a day centre 30 hours or more	257	364	97	718
Attends day centre, time not specified	170	182	583	935
Does not attend day centre	4,834	7,162	1,239	13,235
Not recorded	581	75	5,505	6,161
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,923</b>	<b>8,654</b>	<b>7,869</b>	<b>23,446</b>

## Time spent attending day centres

Of those **adults who attended a day centre**, 711 (17.6%) attended fewer than 10 hours per week. 1,686 (41.6%) of adults who attended a day centre in 2018 did so for between 10 and 29.75 hours per week. A further 718 (17.7%) adults who attended a day centre did so for 30 hours or more per week.

**Table 13: Time spent by adults with learning disabilities known to local authorities attending a day centre (2018)**

		Number of adults	Percent (%)
Attends a day centre:	fewer than 10 hours	711	3.0
	10-19.75 hours	1,024	4.4
	20-29.75 hours	662	2.8
	30+ hours	718	3.1
	time not specified	935	4.0
Does not attend a day centre		13,235	56.5
Not recorded		6,161	26.3
<b>Total</b>		<b>23,446</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Table 14 below shows that on the whole, of those adults who attend a day centre, almost the same number use alternative opportunities as do not.

**Table 14: Time spent by adults with learning disabilities known to local authorities attending a day centre (hours per week) and whether or not they use alternative opportunities (2018)**

	Uses alternative opportunities	Does not use alternative opportunities	Total
Fewer than 10 hours	234	232	466
Attends 10-19.75 hours	530	342	872
Attends 20-29.75 hours	317	297	614
Attends 30+ hours	257	364	621
Attends day centre, time not specified	170	182	352
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,508</b>	<b>1,417</b>	<b>2,925</b>

## 11: Further education

Local authorities were asked to provide information on the number of adults with learning disabilities in further education. The numbers of adults included in LDSS are those adults with learning disabilities known to local authorities and reported to the LDSS team. There will be adults with learning disabilities not known to local authorities and possibly some who are known but not reported. These adults are not included in the reported figures.

In 2018, 21<sup>40</sup> local authorities gave the further education information on 10,612 adults (45.3% of all adults). Glasgow City Council did not provide any data on adults with learning disabilities for the 2018 collection. This authority's 2017 data has been used across this report and its annexes, however, it did not provide any data on further education in 2017.

In 2018 there were 1,029 adults in further education. This represents 4.4% of **all adults** with learning disabilities.

**Of those adults for whom further education information** was known in 2018:

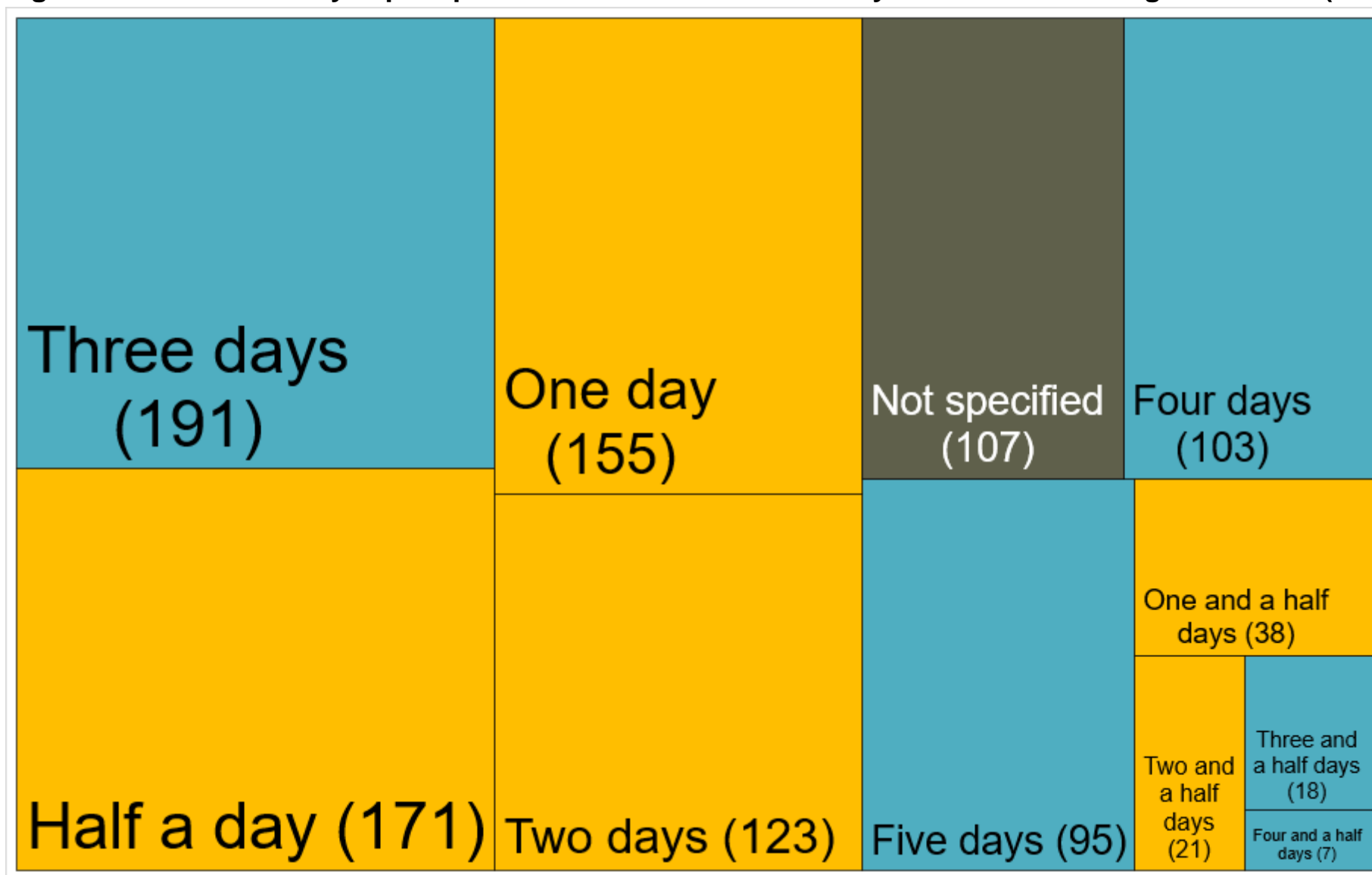
- 9,583 (90.3%) adults were not enrolled in further education;
- 508 (4.8%) adults attended a further education course 2.5 days per week or fewer;
- 414 (3.9%) adults attended a further education course 3 days per week or more;
- 107 (1%) adults attended a further education course for an unspecified amount of time.

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<sup>40</sup> Aberdeenshire, City of Edinburgh, Clackmannanshire, Dumfries and Galloway, East Renfrewshire, Glasgow City, Inverclyde, Midlothian, Moray, South Ayrshire and West Dunbartonshire did not provide information for this data item.



Figure 16: Number of days spent per week in further education by adults with learning disabilities (2018)



As shown by Table 15 below, 399 adults aged 16-34 made up the great majority (96.4%) of adults with learning disabilities who attended further education 3 days a week or more.

Of the **adults who attend a further education course 3 days or more per week:**

- 229 adults (55.3%) were aged 16-20;
- 170 adults (41.1%) were aged 21-34;
- 15 adults (3.6%) were aged 35 and over.

Of the **adults who attend a further education course 2.5 days or fewer per week:**

- 50 adults (9.8%) were aged 16-20;
- 250 adults (49.2%) were aged 21-34;
- 207 adults (40.7%) were aged 35 and over.

**Table 15: Further education status of adults with learning disabilities known to local authorities by age group (2018)\***

	In education, 2.5 days or fewer	In education, 3 or more days	In education, amount of time not specified	Not currently in education	Not recorded	Total
16-17	5	41	0	75	357	479
18-20	46	188	35	450	1,060	1,779
21-34	250	170	46	2,939	4,099	7,505
35-44	80	8	12	1,547	1,804	3,451
45-54	72	5	5	1,825	2,221	4,125
55-64	40	5	5	1,565	1,967	3,582
65 and over	15	0	5	1,180	1,313	2,510
Not recorded	0	0	0	2	13	15
<b>Total</b>	<b>508</b>	<b>414</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>9,583</b>	<b>12,834</b>	<b>23,446</b>

\*Values smaller than 5 have been disclosure controlled. This means that any value under 5 is rounded to either 0 or 5 and another value in the same row has been rounded to the nearest 5 to prevent differencing (calculating the suppressed value by subtracting from the total). Published zeros may or may not be true zeroes.

## 12: Further information on this release

The Statistics Release is available on the internet by accessing the SCLD website: <https://www.sclد.org.uk/what-we-do/population-statistics/>

Further information on adults with learning disabilities is available from the SCLD website: [www.sclد.org.uk](http://www.sclد.org.uk)

Independent Government Statisticians were involved in the quality assurance of this release.

This statistics release was published on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2018.

Previous Statistics Releases, including the aggregate collections published prior to 2008, are available at:  
<https://www2.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Health/Publications>

Further details on the data presented from previous Statistics Releases are available on request from the address given below:

*Health and Community Care Statistics*

*Basement Rear*

*St Andrew's House*

*Edinburgh*

*EH1 3DG*

Tel: 0131 244 3777

Email: [SWStat@gov.scot](mailto:SWStat@gov.scot)

### Background

The statistics in this publication are collected as a result of 'The same as you?' review of services for people with learning disabilities, published in May 2000.<sup>41</sup> The review proposed 29 recommendations for developing learning disability services and set out a programme for change over 10 years, including recommendation 9, which stated that local authorities should keep local records of the number of adults with learning disabilities in the area and the services they use in order to plan services to meet their needs. In 2001 the Scottish Government introduced an annual statistics return on adults with learning disabilities at both national and local authority level in order to monitor progress of 'The same as

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<sup>41</sup> The same as you?: <https://www2.gov.scot/Resource/Doc/1095/0001661.pdf>

you?’ policy. Between 2001 and 2007 the Scottish Government collected the data on adults with learning disabilities based on aggregate totals, with a view to monitoring the progress of ‘The same as you?’ policy. However, since 2008 the data has been collected on an individual basis by the Scottish Commission for Learning Disability (SCLD) on behalf of the Scottish Government. The 2018 collection was the tenth year statistics were collected on an individual level basis.<sup>42</sup>

## **Methodology**

In 2018, 31 local authorities provided data on adults with learning disabilities as per the data guidance. Glasgow City Council did not to return any data for this collection. To maintain national relevance, the data provided by this authority in 2017 has been used across this report and its annexes. LDSS changed collection methodology in 2017, to align with that of other social care datasets. The data reported in this release relate to a single year reporting period from April 2017 to March 2018.

In any given year, the LDSS team requests data from all 32 Scottish local authorities on adults with learning disabilities known to them in Scotland. Individual level information is collected on people aged 16 and 17 who are not in full-time education and on all those aged 18 and over. This information is collated directly from the authorities’ information management systems and is requested on an individual basis. These individuals’ records are provided to the dataset by the local authorities for each adult known to them, regardless of whether they are currently receiving a service. Strict guidelines are followed to ensure anonymity. For more information on the protection of confidentiality, please see the SCLD website<sup>43</sup>.

Annual data guidance<sup>44</sup> to support the collection is developed in conjunction with local authorities prior to the annual data collection and is issued to standardise the data collection process and manage avoidable error. Authorities collect data in line with the codes and definitions given in the data guidance provided by SCLD. The definitions applied in 2018 are taken from the National Data Standards. Where a person lives in one

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<sup>42</sup> With the exception of advocacy.

<sup>43</sup> <https://www.sclد.org.uk/what-we-do/population-statistics/codes-practice/>

<sup>44</sup> <https://www.sclد.org.uk/what-we-do/population-statistics/data-guidance/>

authority and is funded by another, the funding local authority is asked to provide the data to minimise the risk of duplication. Where a person is funded by more than one local authority, the guidance asks that local authorities decide between themselves, which local authority should include that person in their data return.

Local authorities submit their data via the ScotXed Team within the Scottish Government using their ProcXed system. The 2018 LDSS collection is the third to be published under this system of collection. The ProcXed system has in-built data validation checks that allows each local authority to ensure the data is valid before they submit it. Additionally the ProcXed system provides the local authorities with frequency tables and the opportunity to carry out their own analysis. Furthermore, the local authorities cannot submit data without it being approved by the LDSS team.

LDSS receive the data from the ScotXed team and it is then stored on a secure server and accessed only by the statistical team, all of whom ensure adherence to General Data Protection Regulations and Code of Practice confidentiality principles to maintain data security.

Data is again checked for errors and consistency, such as coding errors, in the first instance. A number of data checks are employed on received datasets to ensure the data contained within is as accurate as possible and all obvious errors, for example in data processing, are corrected. This analysis forms the basis for the content of the annual statistics release. The statistical team undertake all data analysis in Stata and Microsoft Excel.

While generally data completeness has been improving, there is missing data both within individual records and in discrete data items. This year in particular the introduction of the General Data Protection Regulations has seen reduction in data sourced from third parties.

At present, no weighting or imputation is undertaken on missing data. However, in July 2013, the Methodology Advisory Service from the Office for National Statistics carried out a feasibility study on the data to determine whether or not statistical imputation would be appropriate measures to improve the quality of the data. The study found that the data are currently not suitable for statistical weighting or imputation and

recommended that the quality of the data be improved at source. A further investigation into the feasibility of using a weighting schema was conducted by the Methodology Advisory Service from the Office for National Statistics in March 2016. This study found that the use of a weighting schema to tackle non-response bias and differential missingness would not be appropriate for short-term time series analysis. Further information can be found in the National Statistics Assessment section for further information of this report.

For more information on the methodology of the statistics collection, please see the methodology documents on the Scottish Commission for Learning Disability's website<sup>45</sup>.

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<sup>45</sup> <https://www.sclد.org.uk/what-we-do/population-statistics/>

## 13: Further analysis

Throughout the coming year, we will produce and publish a number of reports based on further analysis of the data presented in this statistics release.

We will also be producing briefing papers on the information we collect. We would be happy to discuss the statistics with you or to develop a briefing session based on the contents of this release for your organisation.

We also offer a further analysis service to anyone who has a question that has not been answered in the report or if a more detailed analysis of the data items is required.

Please contact:

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Tel: 0141 248 3733

Email:  
[lorne.b@scld.co.uk](mailto:lorne.b@scld.co.uk)  
[ruth.c@scld.co.uk](mailto:ruth.c@scld.co.uk)

## **14: Links to other data collections about people with learning disabilities in the UK**

Further information on the comparability of other statistical outputs can be found in the accompanying quality document 'Annex C'.

Quality Outcomes Framework Database, General Medical Services Contract Scotland Latest release: October, 2017

<https://www.gpcontract.co.uk/browse/UK/Learning%20Disabilities/17>

This database works to the definition provided in 'Valuing People Now: a new 3 year strategy for people with learning disabilities' (Department of Health, January 2009) which provided a similar definition to that used by Learning Disability Scotland Statistics. This collection includes adults aged 18 and over.

Local Authority Registers of People with Disabilities, The Welsh Government Latest release: 24th October, 2018

<https://gov.wales/docs/statistics/2018/181024-local-authority-registers-people-disabilities-31-march-2018-en.pdf>

This publication details people known to local authority registers however it is not clear which definition of learning disability is being used.

Northern Ireland Hospital Statistics: Mental Health and Learning Disability 2016/2017, Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety Latest release: 29<sup>th</sup> August, 2018

<https://www.health-ni.gov.uk/publications/mental-health-and-learning-disability-inpatients-201718>

It is not clear from this publication which definition of learning disability is being used. It appears that figures are based on the number of individuals who were admitted to hospital under the learning disability programme of care and would include individuals of all ages.

People with Learning Disabilities in England 2015, Improving Health and Lives Learning Disabilities Observatory, Public Health England Latest release: 29th November 2016



<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/people-with-learning-disabilities-in-england-2015>

This publication employs a set of indicators to determine whether a person has a learning disability or not. These indicators can be found here:

<https://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20160704152104/http://www.improvinghealthandlives.org.uk/about/definition/detail>

Scotland's Census 2011, National Records of Scotland

Latest release: 29<sup>th</sup> January 2015

The census included a question on the number of people who consider themselves to have a learning disability who live in the household for the first time in 2011.

<http://www.scotlandscensus.gov.uk/en/censusresults/>

This publication requested that respondents, or the person completing the form on their behalf, self-identify as having a learning disability or not. These results will include people of all ages.

Scottish Learning Disabilities Observatory

The Observatory has been set up to provide better information about the health and health care of people with learning disabilities and people with autism in Scotland. The Observatory will generate and translate information into knowledge designed to inform actions, practice and policy to benefit people with learning disabilities and people with autism

<https://www.sldo.ac.uk/>

