



Shropshire
Council

Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) for Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) for 0-25 year olds

2025/2026

Chapter: Wider Determinants & Context

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Key Findings

This chapter explores socio-economic factors and accessibility of services, which influence outcomes for children and young people with SEND in Shropshire.

- **Rurality:** 57% of Shropshire's population lives rurally, with 26% of those aged 0–25. Rural living presents challenges in accessing services, education, and healthcare. 9,134 people aged 0-25 live in the most rural parts of Shropshire, meaning that they cannot access a major town or city (75,000 people or above) with a 30-minute travel time by road.
- **Deprivation:** Shropshire has become slightly more deprived since 2015. The average deprivation score rose to 17.6 in 2025 (17.2 in 2019 and 16.7 in 2015) with Shropshire ranking as the 154th most deprived LA in England (out of 296).
- **Barriers to Housing:** Barriers to housing and services pronounced in rural areas – almost all rural LSOAs in Shropshire are in the 20% most deprived areas nationally (IMD 2025 domain)
- **Homelessness:** 1,515 households were owed homelessness prevention or relief duties, with 10% having SEND-related support needs.
- **Housing development:** the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF, 2024) outlines significant implications for Shropshire, including increasing the minimum amount of housing to be planned for to around 2,000 dwellings per annum. The Council will commence the process for the next Local Plan in January 2026, which will include the sites that have been proposed to be allocated for housing, employment or for mixed use development.
- **Housing need for people with learning disabilities and/or Autistic people aged 18+:** The need for residential care is expected to decrease from 2024 to 2039. Conversely, the percentage of the population of people with learning disabilities living in supported housing is expected to increase due to the overall population growth, a reduction in the need for residential care, and the inability of older carers to continue providing care. The need for mainstream housing with a care/support package is also expected to rise. The percentage of people with learning disabilities living with family carers, particularly older
- **Child poverty** is increasing in Shropshire over time. Whilst the rate is lower than the national average, there are increasing numbers of children living in relative low-income families (9,786 children in 2022/23).
- **Population aged 0-25:** In 2023, there were 82,700 people aged 0-25 year olds, equating to 25.1% of Shropshire's total population. Shropshire's population aged 0 to 24 is expected to fall by 8% (+1,972 children and young people) by 2047. Largest fall will be among 20-24s by 12%, followed by 10-14s with an 11% reduction (ONS population projections).
- **School Forecasts:** The number of primary school pupils in Shropshire is expected to see a 2% increase between 2024/25 and 2028/29 and the number of secondary school pupils in Shropshire is expected to see a 4% increase between 2024-25 and 2030-31.
- **Specialist School and Resourced Provision:** there is a clear unequal distribution of schools across the county, with majority of special schools and schools with resource provision mostly located in Shrewsbury and in the northern parts of the county, with no specialist schools and only four of the 13 mainstream schools with RP located in the south. 50% of Shropshire residents (164,000) cannot access one of the three specialist schools in Shropshire within 20 minutes by car and 17% of residents who cannot access these schools within 30 minutes by car.

Access to services

- **Travel times to school:** Travel times to schools are longer in Shropshire compared to national averages, especially for those relying on walking or public transport. In Shropshire, it takes on average 8 minutes to travel to a primary school by car, similar to national (7 minutes). However, walking or travelling via public transport to school is less accessible compared to nationally, with an average journey time of 13 vs 9 minutes to primary schools and 28 vs 18 minutes to secondary schools.
- **Mental health support in schools:** concentrated in the Shrewsbury area and north parts of the county, with Mental Health Leads being more prevalent in the south.
- **Neurodiversity Practitioners (NDPs) and Partnership for Inclusion of Neurodiversity Schools (PINS):** evident gaps in NDP and PINS provision in schools in the south west of the county and north west of the county, where evidence shows there are schools with high proportions of their pupils requiring SEN support or having an EHCP.
- **GP practice associated autism referral-** Highest numbers of children on autism referral waiting lists are registered with GPs located in Ellesmere, Market Drayton, Bridgnorth and Shrewsbury where rural deprivation for health scores are high.
- **Early Intervention and Prevention:** 60% of the Shropshire 0 - 25 Population are within a 15-minute drive and only 10% are within a 15 minute walk to a community and family hub, which offers early support for SEND children and young people.

See Special Educational Needs Population Chapter for forecasting of the SEN population aged 0-25.

Wider determinants of health

The wider determinants of health are a diverse range of social, economic and environmental factors which influence people's mental and physical health. Systematic variation in these factors constitutes social inequality, an important driver of the health inequalities.

Health inequalities are avoidable and unfair differences in health status between groups of people or communities.

The below presents the [Wider Determinants of Health profile](#) for Shropshire:

Natural and built environment

Indicator	Period	Shropshire			England			
		Recent Trend	Count	Value	Value	Worst	Range	Best
Transport								
Killed and seriously injured (KSI) casualties on England's roads	2023	→	147	68.8	91.9*	588.8		21.9
Neighbourhood design								
The rate of complaints about noise	2023/24	→	818	2.5*	5.9*	68.1		0.7
The percentage of the population exposed to road, rail and air transport noise of 65dB(A) or more, during the daytime	2021	-	9,190	2.8%*	4.3%*	19.0%		0.9%
The percentage of the population exposed to road, rail and air transport noise of 55 dB(A) or more during the night-time	2021	-	21,610	6.6%*	8.4%*	27.8%		1.5%
Access to Healthy Assets & Hazards Index	2024	-	5,072	1.6%	20.9%*	99.3%		1.3%
Fast food outlets per 100,000 population	2024	-	283	86.0	115.9	417.4		39.2
Number of premises licensed to sell alcohol per square kilometre	2023/24	-	1,382	0.4	1.3*	181.0		0.3
Air pollution: fine particulate matter (new method - concentrations of total PM2.5)	2023	-	-	5.1	7.0	9.2		4.4
Natural and sustainable environments								
Affordability of home ownership	2023	-	265,000	7.8	8.3	25.4		4.0
Housing								
Fuel poverty (low income, low energy efficiency methodology)	2022	-	27,262	18.9%	13.1%	24.7%		6.0%

Work and Labour Market

Indicator	Period	Shropshire			England			
		Recent Trend	Count	Value	Value	Worst	Range	Best
Percentage of people in employment	2023/24	→	146,800	80.7%	75.7%	61.6%		87.6%
Gap in the employment rate between those with a physical or mental long term health condition (aged 16 to 64) and the overall employment rate	2022/23	-	-	10.4	10.4	20.1		1.0
The percentage of the population with a physical or mental long term health condition in employment (aged 16 to 64)	2022/23	-	-	66.9%	65.3%	43.4%		87.3%
Gap in the employment rate between those who are in receipt of long term support for a learning disability (aged 18 to 64) and the overall employment rate	2022/23	-	-	70.1	70.9	84.2		50.6
The percentage of the population who are in receipt of long term support for a learning disability that are in paid employment (aged 18 to 64)	2022/23	→	50	7.2%	4.8%	0.4%		21.1%
Gap in the employment rate for those who are in contact with secondary mental health services and the overall employment rate	2021/22	-	-	70.2	69.4	79.8		50.9
Gap in the employment rate for those who are in contact with secondary mental health services (aged 18 to 69) and on the Care Plan Approach, and the overall employment rate	2020/21	-	-	67.4	66.1	76.0		47.7
The percentage of the population who are in contact with secondary mental health services that are in paid employment	2021/22	-	159	6.0%	6.0%	1.0%		20.0%
The percentage of the population who are in contact with secondary mental health services and on the Care Plan Approach, that are in paid employment (aged 18 to 69)	2020/21	-	60	9.0%	9.0%	1.0%		29.0%
Unemployment (model-based)	2023	-	5,200	3.3%*	3.7%	7.2%		2.2%
Long term claimants of Jobseeker's Allowance	2023	↓	129	0.7	0.9	3.3		0.1
Economic inactivity rate	2023/24	→	29,700	16.3%	21.2%	33.5%		10.1%
Sickness absence: the percentage of employees who had at least one day off in the previous week	2021 - 23	-	-	2.6%	2.2%	4.5%		0.3%

Income and vulnerability

Indicator	Period	Shropshire					England		
		Recent Trend	Count	Value	Value	Worst	Range		Best
Income									
Children in absolute low income families (under 16s)	2022/23	↑	7,464	14.4%	15.6%	35.7%			4.2%
Children in relative low income families (under 16s)	2022/23	↑	9,786	18.9%	19.8%	42.2%			5.2%
Fuel poverty (low income, low energy efficiency methodology)	2022	–	27,262	18.9%	13.1%	24.7%			6.0%
Average weekly earnings	2023	–	–	£524.4	£565.7	£449.9			£843.9
Gender pay gap (by workplace location)	2023	–	–	12.4%	15.5%	41.2%			1.8%
Vulnerability									
Homelessness: households owed a duty under the Homelessness Reduction Act	2023/24	↑	1,515	10.1	13.4	30.6			3.6
Homelessness - households with dependent children owed a duty under the Homelessness Reduction Act	2022/23	–	401	11.9	16.1	35.8			7.5
Homelessness - households owed a duty under the Homelessness Reduction Act (main applicant aged 16 to 24)	2021/22	–	207	1.4	2.4	7.2			0.7
Homelessness - households owed a duty under the Homelessness Reduction Act (main applicant aged 55 and over)	2021/22	–	141	1.8	2.8	12.5			1.0
Homelessness: households in temporary accommodation	2023/24	–	243	1.6	4.6	51.9			0.2
Mortgage home repossessions: rate per 100,000 dwellings	2023	–	69	188.9	231.7	632.6			108.7
Landlord home repossessions: rate per 100,000 dwellings	2023	–	241	567	1,036	2,895			434
Food Insecurity (INDIRECT measure) – percentage of local authority population living in areas at highest risk of food insecurity	2022	–	22,433	6.9%	–	–			–

Crime

Indicator	Period	Shropshire					England		
		Recent Trend	Count	Value	Value	Worst/ Lowest	Range		Best/ Highest
First time entrants to the youth justice system	2023	↓	15	53.4	143.4	340.0			42.0
First time offenders	2022	↓	310	106	166	74			349
Domestic abuse related incidents and crimes	2023/24	–	–	23.8*	27.1	9.9			43.2
Violent crime - hospital admissions for violence (including sexual violence)	2021/22 - 23/24	–	165	18.8	34.2	170.5			12.0
Violent crime - violence offences per 1,000 population	2023/24	↑	7,143	21.8	32.7	15.3			69.8
Violent crime - sexual offences per 1,000 population	2023/24	→	710	2.2	2.9	1.3			6.7

Marmot indicators

Indicator	Period	Shropshire					England		
		Recent Trend	Count	Value	Value	Worst	Range		Best
School readiness: percentage of children achieving a good level of development at the end of Reception	2023/24	–	1,908	68.0%	67.7%	59.6%			77.1%
School Readiness: percentage of children with free school meal status achieving a good level of development at the end of Reception	2023/24	–	168	47.1%	51.5%	29.4%			66.8%
Average Attainment 8 score	2022/23	–	–	44.3	46.2	36.1			58.4
16 to 17 year olds not in education, employment or training (NEET) or whose activity is not known New data	2023/24	↓	363	6.3%	5.4%	22.0%			0.9%
19 to 24 year olds not in education, employment or training	2020	–	–	–	14.0%	–	<i>Insufficient number of values for a spine chart</i>		–
Unemployment (model-based)	2023	–	5,200	3.3%*	3.7%	7.2%			2.2%
Long term claimants of Jobseeker's Allowance	2023	↓	129	0.7	0.9	3.3			0.1
Individuals not reaching the Minimum Income Standard	2017/18 - 19/20	–	–	–	29.0%	–	<i>Insufficient number of values for a spine chart</i>		–
Work-related illness	2018/19 - 20/21	–	–	–	4,680	–	<i>Insufficient number of values for a spine chart</i>		–
Fuel poverty (low income, low energy efficiency methodology)	2022	–	27,262	18.9%	13.1%	24.7%			6.0%

For more detailed information on Shropshire's overall population, children population and the factors that can affect health or impact on health inequalities, such as deprivation, poverty, drugs and alcohol and rurality, see the [Population and Context JNSA](#) on Shropshire Council's website.

Rurality

Given the rural nature of Shropshire, the ease with which people can access services such as work, healthcare, education and shopping is an important and challenging issue.

The Rural/Urban classification (RUC) 2021 classifies local authorities according to eight classifications:

- Urban: Majority nearer to a major town or city
- Urban: Majority further from a major town or city
- Intermediate urban: Majority nearer to a major town or city
- Intermediate urban: Majority further from a major town or city
- Intermediate rural: Majority nearer to a major town or city
- Intermediate rural: Majority further from a major town or city
- Majority rural: Majority nearer to a major town or city
- Majority rural: Majority further from a major town or city

Over half (57.4%) of Shropshire’s population live in rural locations. Therefore, Shropshire is classified as “Rural: Majority nearer to a major town or city”.

42.6% of the population live in urban areas, mostly living in “Urban: Nearer to a major town or city”.

More Shropshire residents live in the most rural areas (“Smaller Rural”) than in the more densely populated rural areas (“Larger Rural”), and 60% of all those living rurally are classed as living “nearer to a major town or city”.

In this context, with a population of more than 75,000, Shrewsbury is classified as a major town. Other than Shrewsbury, the other main urban centres in the county are Oswestry, Market Drayton, Broseley, Bridgnorth and Ludlow¹.

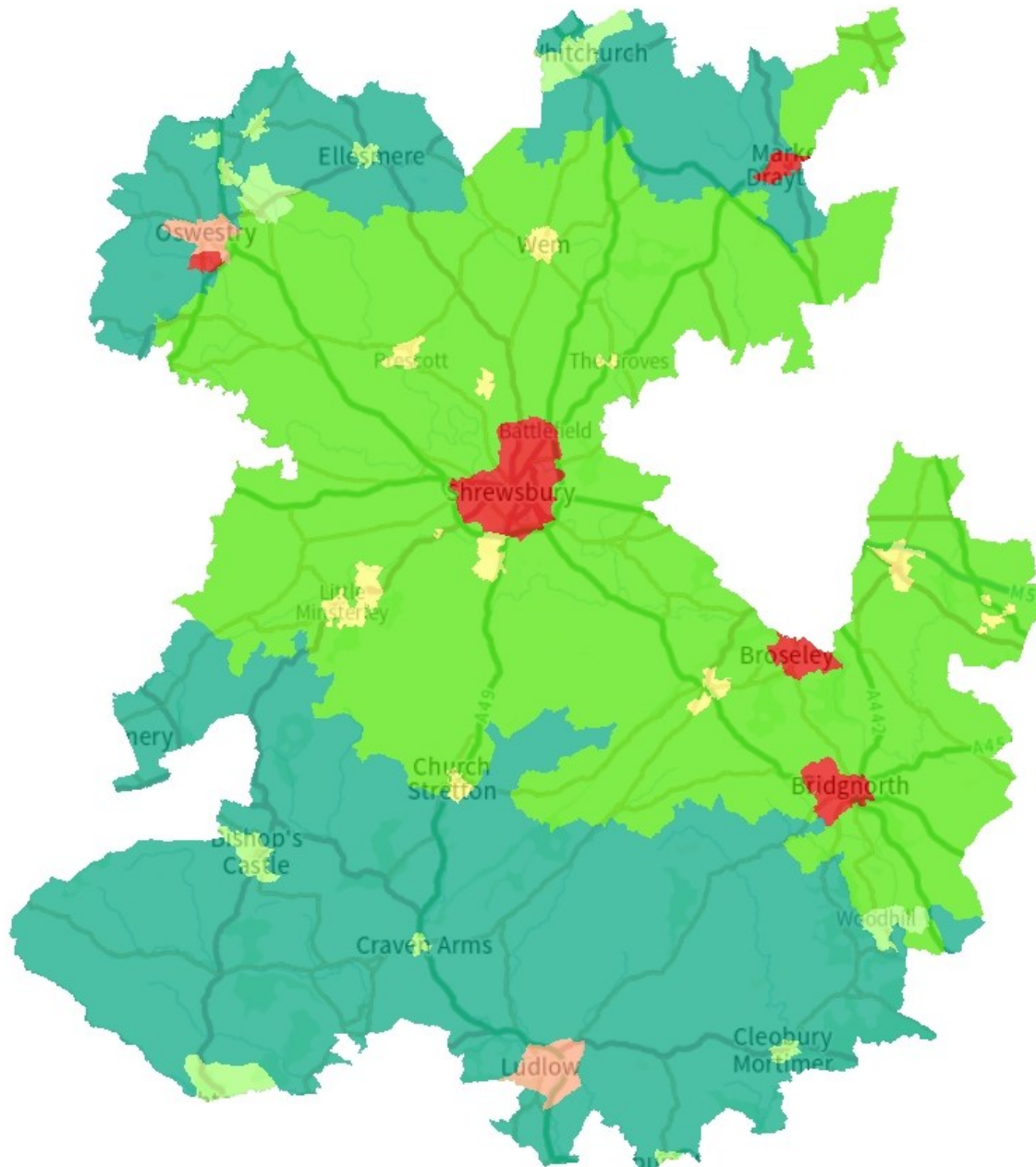
Ludlow and parts of Oswestry are classed as “further from a major town or city” as they are not within a 30-minute journey by road of either Shrewsbury or an alternative non-Shropshire major town or city.

Table showing a breakdown of the Shropshire Population based on Rural Urban Classification. Source: Rural Urban Classification 2021, ONS Mid-year population estimates 2022

	% of Population
Urban: Nearer to a major town or city	33.90%
Urban: Further from a major town or city	8.71%
Total Urban	42.61%
Larger Rural: Nearer to a major town or city	11.55%
Larger Rural: Further from a major town or city	10.69%
Smaller Rural: Nearer to a major town or city	22.94%
Smaller Rural: Further from a major town or city	12.21%
Total Rural	57.39%

Note: Major town or city defined as a built-up area with at least 75,000 usual residents. “Nearer to a major town or city” – residents of an Output Area can access within 30 minutes of travel by road. “Further from a major town or city” – residents of an Output Area cannot access within 30 minutes of travel by road

Shropshire Rural Urban Classification (2021)



Rural Urban Classification 2021

- Smaller rural: Further from a major town or city
- Smaller rural: Nearer to a major town or city
- Larger rural: Further from a major town or city
- Larger rural: Nearer to a major town or city
- Urban: Further from a major town or city
- Urban: Nearer to a major town or city

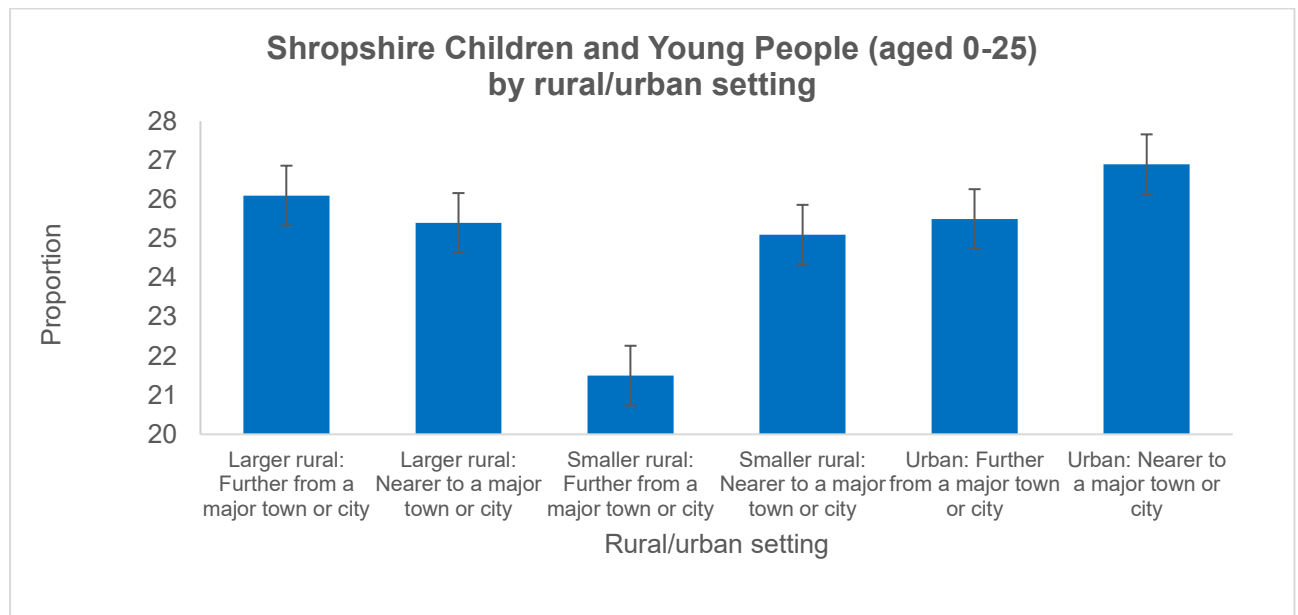
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Source: Rural Urban Classification 2021 ONS Census Map based on Output Areas

0-25 year olds living in rural areas

Over a quarter of the “larger rural: Further from a major town or city” population are aged 0-25 years. People living here cannot access a major town or city within a 30-minute travel time by road. People aged 0-25 make up 26.1% (9,134) of the total population living in this most rural category in Shropshire.

Chart showing the proportion of children and young people aged 0-25 in areas of Shropshire by rural/urban setting. Source: Rural Urban Classification 2021, ONS Mid-year population estimates 2022



Note: Major town or city defined as a built-up area with at least 75,000 usual residents

“Nearer to a major town or city” – residents of an Output Area can access within 30 minutes of travel by road

“Further from a major town or city” – residents of an Output Area cannot access within 30 minutes of travel by road

Deprivation (IMD)

The Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IMD, 2025) combine a range of economic, social and housing indicators to provide a measure of relative deprivation, i.e., they measure the position of areas against each other within different domains. A rank of 1 indicates highest deprivation.

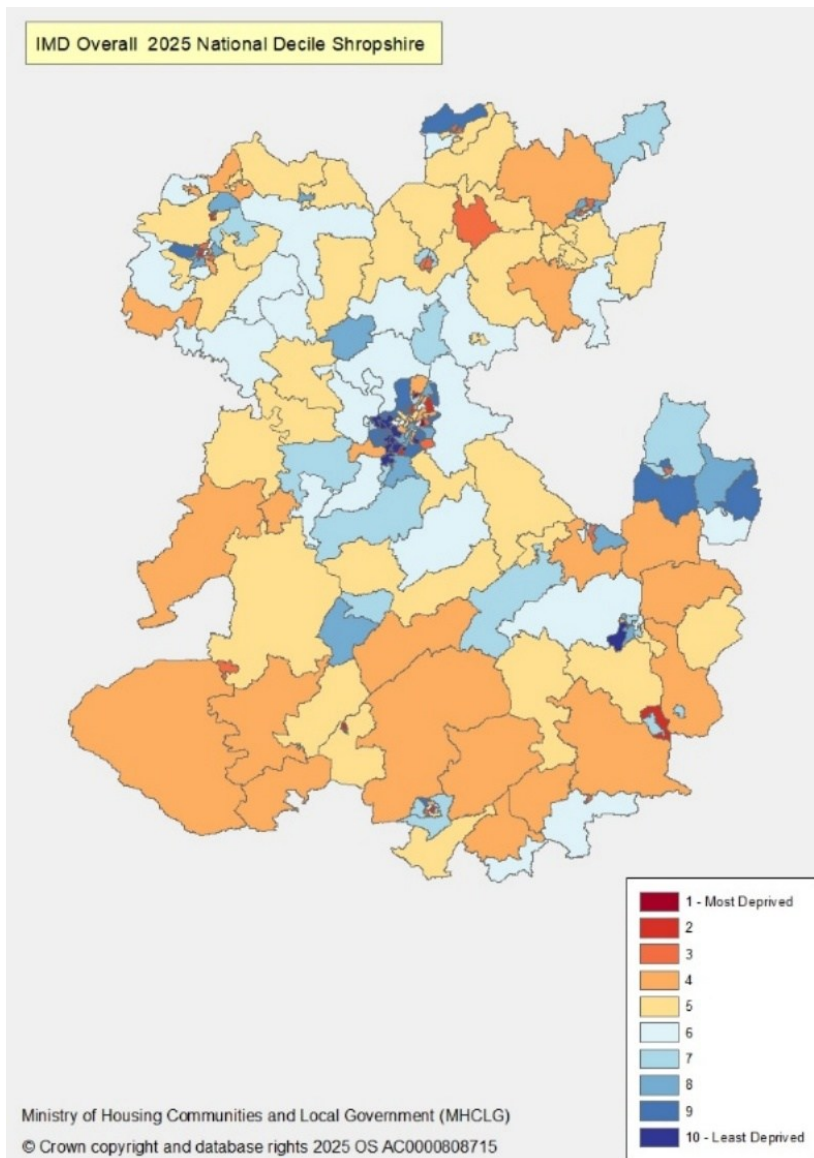
Shropshire has become slightly more deprived since 2015 with an increase in the average score from 16.7 in 2015 to 17.2 in 2019 and to 17.6 in 2025. However, directly comparing IMD results from different years should be treated with caution due to changes in populations, geographies and metrics used to make up the indices.

Shropshire is the 154th most deprived local authority in England out of a total of 296 lower tier authorities (rank of average rank). This means that it is less deprived than 52% of local authorities in England.

The IMD measures deprivation at a local neighbourhood area level: in Shropshire there are 198 of these areas called lower level super output areas (LSOA).

In 2025, two LSOAs in Shropshire were in the 10% of most deprived LSOAs in the country, including one area in Harlescott (Shrewsbury) and another in Monkmoor (also Shrewsbury). Nine additional LSOAs were in the most 20% of most deprived in the country – three in Shrewsbury (areas in Meole, Castlefields and Ditherington and Sundorne), two in Oswestry (areas in Oswestry South and Oswestry North) as well as areas in Ludlow East, Highley and Craven Arms.

Map showing index of multiple deprivation by LSOA, Shropshire, 2025



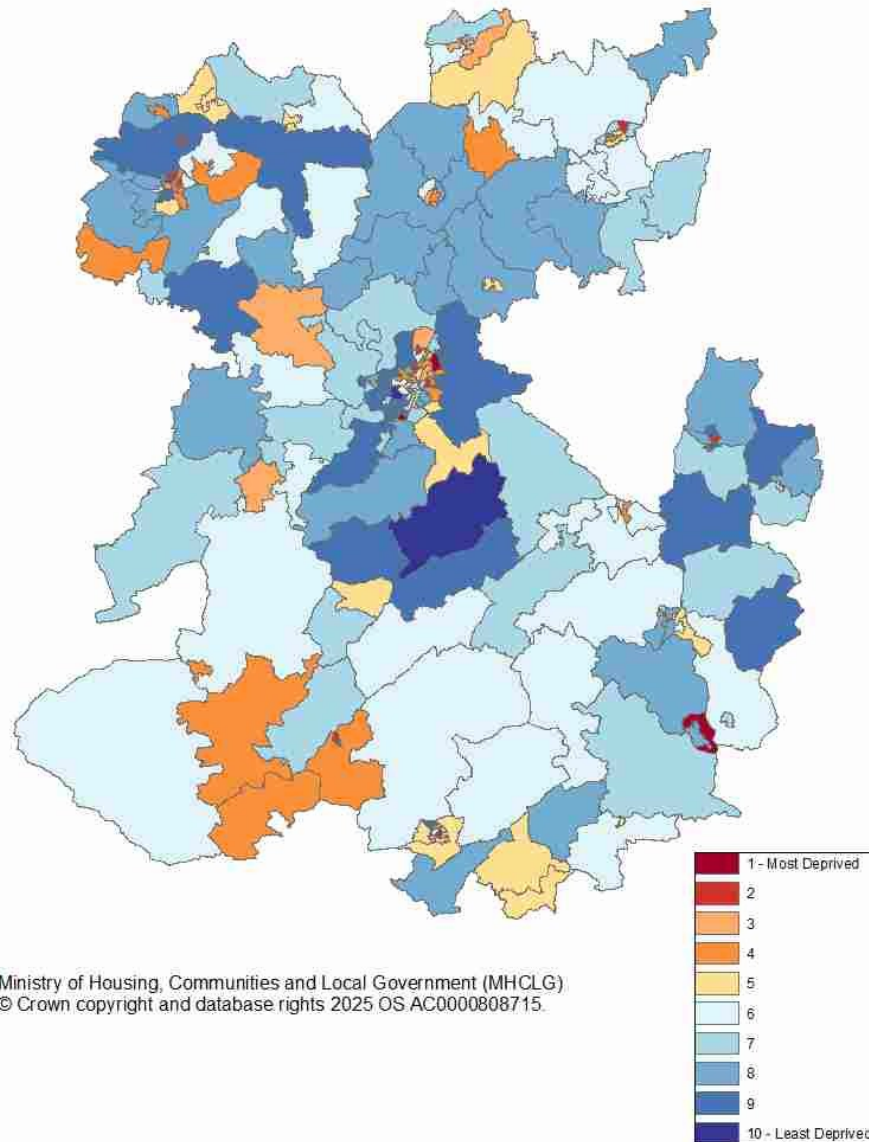
Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI)

The Marmot Review (2010) suggests that childhood poverty leads to premature mortality and poor health outcomes in adult life¹. The Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI) measure is the part of IMD 2025 which looks at the percentage of children aged under-16 years old living in income deprived households. This is based on families receiving one of the following means tested benefits - Income Support, Income Based Job Seekers Allowance, Income based Employment and Support Allowance, UC “out of work” conditionality groups (“Searching for work”, “No work requirements”, “Planning for work” and “Preparing for Work”) and Pension Credit (Guarantee).

Shropshire has an Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI) score of 0.29 (2025). This measures the proportion of all children aged 0 to 15 living in income deprived families at 29%. Although lower than the national and regional scores (0.4267 for the West Midlands and 0.3625 for England). It represents a significant increase since 2019, when Shropshire’s score was 0.120).

Map showing IDACI score for child poverty by LSOA, 2025

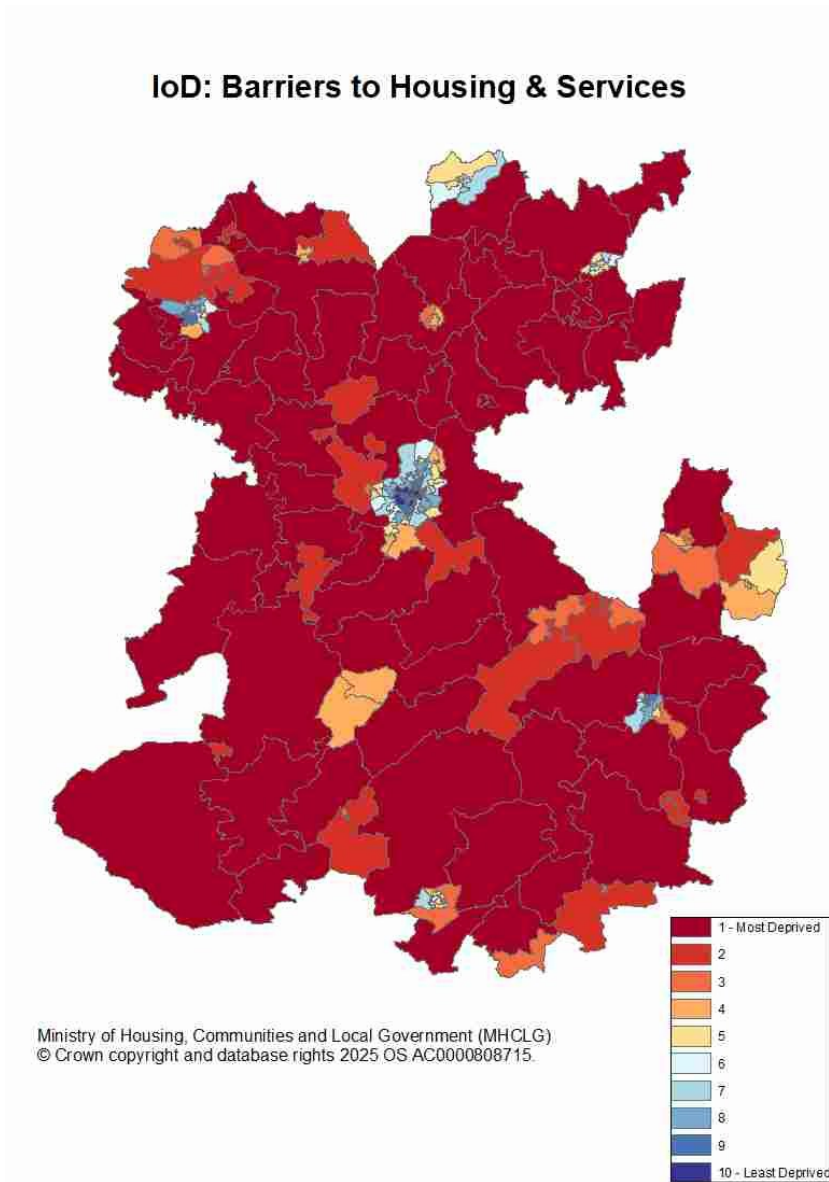
IoD IDACI - Deprivation Affecting Children



Deprivation (IoD) Barriers to housing and services domain

Shropshire is a rural county, which poses its own challenges around access to services for its population. Consequently, Shropshire displays relatively high levels of deprivation in the Barriers to Housing and Services domain of the IMD. In this respect it is more deprived than 77% of local authorities. 63 Shropshire LSOAs are within the 10% most deprived areas of England.

Map showing Barriers to Housing & Services domain of the IMD, 2025

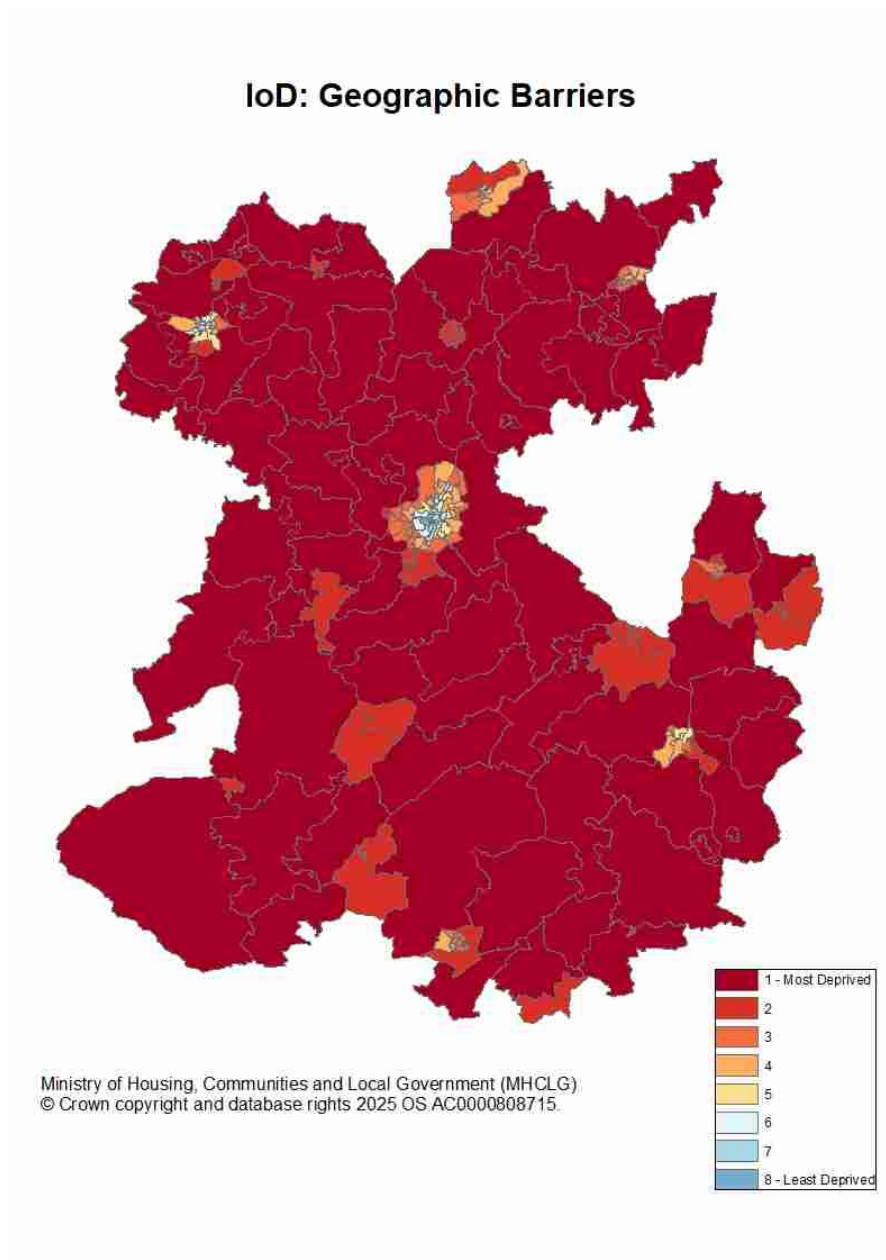


Deprivation (IoD) Geographical Barriers sub-domain

The geographical barriers is a sub-domain from the Indices of Deprivation, where a lower rank corresponds to a more deprived area. This sub-domain relates to the physical proximity of local services where the score is derived from travel times to retail, education, health, employment and leisure/entertainment by walking, cycling and public transport.

Shropshire Local Authority Area has a rank of 6,651 on the 2025 Geographical Barriers Sub-Domain. This means that Shropshire Local Authority Area has greater levels of challenges in accessing key services relative to West Midlands (16,561) and England (17,061).

Map showing geographic barriers sub-domain of the IMD, 2025



Access to healthcare

Access to GPs

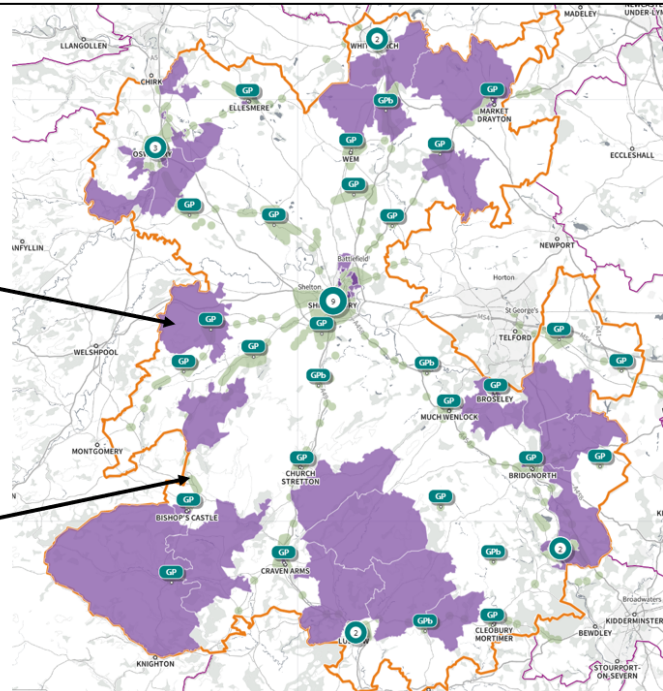
E.g. access to GP practices among for our most deprived communities

63% (236,422) residents in Shropshire can access a GP practice within 15 mins using public transport

37% (88,993) of residents in Shropshire cannot access a GP practice within 15 mins using public transport

Purple areas are the most deprived areas across the county

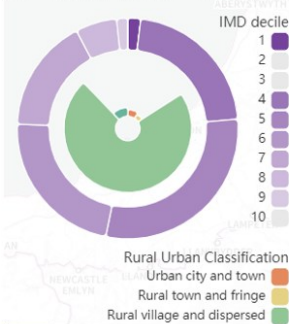
Green shaded areas show the population who can get to a GP practice within 15 minutes on public transport (included pop)



Access to GPs

Some of our most deprived areas cannot access a GP within 15 mins on public transport e.g. West Oswestry, Bishops Castle SE, Market Drayton N and Wem N.

Excluded population: 88,993

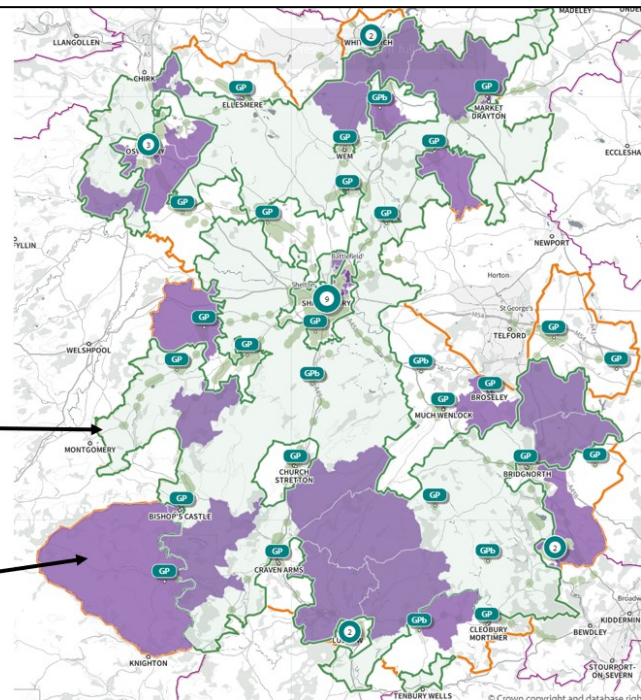


1.6% (1,691) residents cannot access a GP in 15 mins on public transport live in the most deprived IMD decile 1.

22% (19,347) residents live in IMD decile 4 and cannot access a GP in 15 mins on public transport

Green bordered and shaded areas show the population who can't get to a GP practice within 15 minutes on public transport (excluded pop)

Purple areas are the most deprived areas across the county



Child poverty

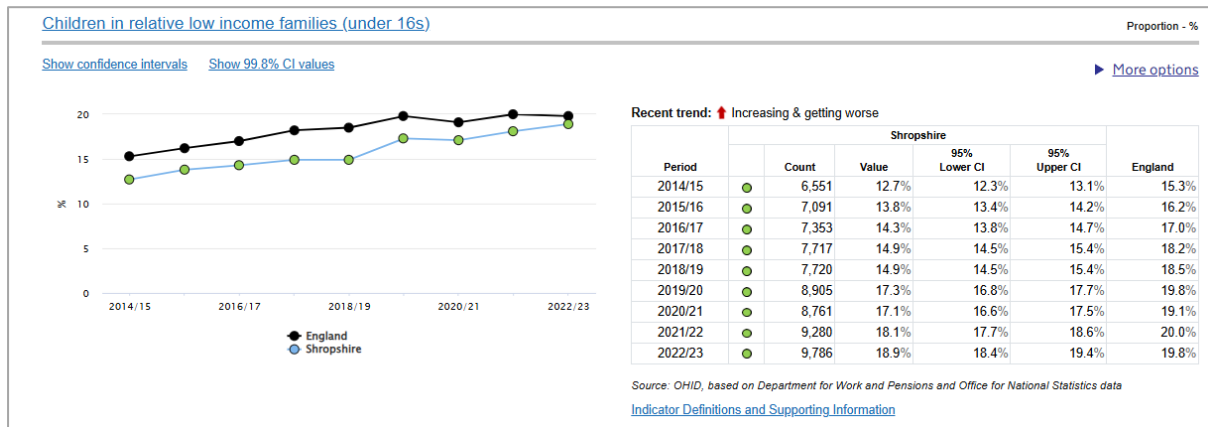
Childhood poverty is a significant predictor of poor health outcomes in adulthood, including serious mental health risks, and premature mortality. Children in Shropshire are less likely to experience poverty compared to the national average.

Children in relative low income families (under 16s)

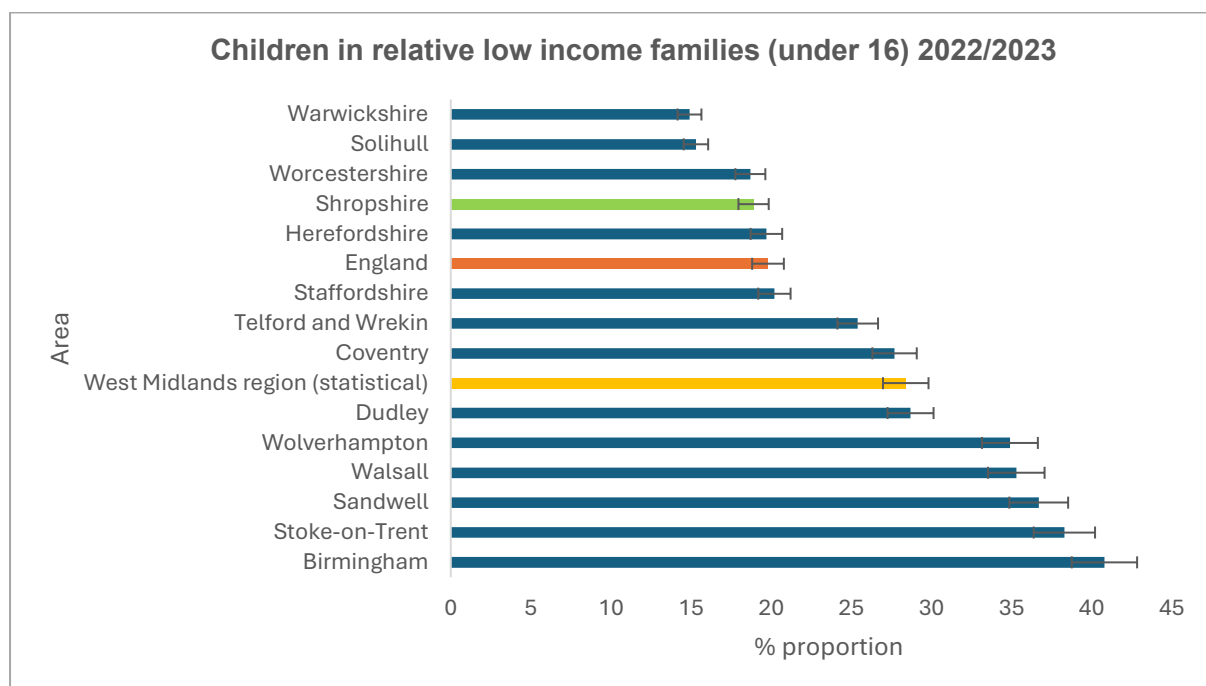
In Shropshire in 2022-23, 18.9% of children and young people aged under 16 were estimated to be living in relative low income families, equating to 9,786 children. This places Shropshire 4th lowest in the West Midlands region and below the regional and national average.

However, the rate in Shropshire is increasing, and is higher than the 2021/22 figure of 18.0%, with more children living in poverty in 22/23.

Chart and table showing the proportion of children (under 16 years) in relative low income families, 2014/15 to 2022/23, Shropshire and England comparison. Source: OHID



The chart below is showing the percentage of children aged 0-15 in relative low income families in Shropshire, and its regional neighbours, 2022-23. Source: Child and Maternal Health Profile, Fingertips, OHID



Housing & supported living

The Housing Learning & Improvement Network (Housing LIN) has been commissioned by Shropshire Council to conduct a needs assessment to understand the number and types of homes needed for people that require care and support, including those with SEND over the next 10-20 years (2029, 2034, 2039 and 2044).

To project the population of people with learning disabilities and/or Autistic people aged 18+ to 2039, the baseline population was calculated using the NHS SALT dataset. The average annual number of children likely to become eligible for adult social care at 18 years is based on the council's caseload. The average annual number of deaths among the population is estimated from the LeDeR data. The projected growth of the population is calculated by adding transitions into adult social care eligibility and subtracting deaths from the baseline population. The population is projected to increase from 787 people in 2024/2025 to 1067 people by 2039/40.

Current supply of supported housing for people with a learning disability/Autism

The research by the Housing LIN projected accommodation status for people aged 18+ with learning disabilities, based on SALT 2021/22 data. This indicates that 48% of those aged 18+ with learning disabilities are either living with family and friends or in mainstream housing with 39% living in supported housing.

Table showing the types of accommodation/housing provision by the number and percentage of people accommodated. Source: Source: SALT 2021/22 & Shropshire (2023/24)

Type of accommodation/housing provision	Number of people accommodated	Percentage of people accommodated
For the population of adults with learning disabilities/Autistic people ² , the accommodation/housing provision and types:	787 adults with learning disabilities/autistic people	
Residential/nursing care	73	9%
Shared Lives (adult placement)	37	5%
Supported housing (supported living)	305*	39%
Living with family / friends / informal carers	296	38%
Mainstream housing	76	10%

* Does not include the 7 units that will replace the decommissioned Kempsfield LD residential Home by 2026/27

There are 178 properties commissioned for supported housing (supported living) for people with learning disabilities and/or Autism, with 305 current occupants and 17 void units, totaling 312 units. Of these properties, 3% (5 properties) are located out of county, housing 5 occupants.

Regarding specific locations, the majority of supported housing is in Shrewsbury (51%), with Oswestry having the second greatest prevalence of supported housing (11%). The localities with the fewest units of provision include Broseley, Ellesmere, Irlam, Llanegryn, Prees, St Martins, and Weston Rhyn, each with just one unit of provision.

As part of the qualitative needs assessment, local stakeholders provided insights into current housing provision and the changing needs of individuals with learning disabilities and autism across the county. Key themes from their feedback include:

Changing Needs and Trends:

- **Increasing Complexity of Needs**
- **Solo Provision & shifts in Housing Preferences:** There is a growing need for single-occupancy or self-contained housing due to triggers that occur when individuals with autism or learning disabilities live with others. Many require personalized care to accommodate sensory and behavioural needs. There is a trend toward preferring self-contained flats for independent living, especially among younger people transitioning out of their family homes
- **Potential to Grow Supported Housing Providers:** gap in the availability of appropriate accommodation that can cater to the growing demand.
- **Older Parents as Caregivers:** Many adults with learning disabilities and autism continue to live with their parents due to the lack of supported living options. This situation is unsustainable as parents age, leading to concerns about who will care for these individuals when their parents are no longer able to.
- **Pressure on Families:** The lack of supported housing options is causing tension within families, particularly when young people with disabilities wish to move out like their siblings but are unable to due to inadequate accommodations and support.
- **Growing Autism and ADHD Diagnoses:** There has been a dramatic increase in diagnoses of autism, ADHD, and other neurodiverse conditions, partly due to greater awareness among the public. For example, there has been a 767% increase in autism assessment requests in the region.
- **Impact of COVID-19:** The pandemic may have contributed to delays in development in children, sometimes leading to misinterpretations as autism until they are properly assessed.
- **Challenges in Transition:** Both young and older individuals with learning disabilities and autism face difficulties transitioning to supported housing later in life, especially after years of living with their parents.
- **Inconsistencies in Data and Service Provision:** The current systems for recording autism data and linking it to housing needs are inconsistent across the county. There is also a lack of integration between health, social care, and housing services, impacting the delivery of appropriate care and support.
- **Challenges in Care Provision Models:** Existing care models, such as the core and cluster approach, offer flexibility but are challenging to resource, especially in remote
- **Changing Population Needs:** While the needs of people with learning disabilities and autism are growing, they are increasing at a smaller rate compared to the ageing population in the area. However, there is a shift in the profile of these needs, with

younger people seeking more independent living arrangements and personalized support.

- **Rural Challenges and Accessibility:** Shropshire's rural nature makes access to supported housing and services difficult, especially in remote areas like the south and north of the county. While county hubs offer some support, transport remains a significant barrier. There is a need for more diverse and localized housing options to ensure that individuals can stay connected to their communities, networks, and family roots rather than relocating to central areas like Shrewsbury for amenities.
- **Lack of Necessary Physical Adaptations:** Current housing stock lacks the necessary physical adaptations, such as walk-in showers, wide doorways, and accessible features, essential for individuals with both physical and learning

Estimated need for supported accommodation by 2039

The estimate of need for supported housing and accommodation for people with learning disabilities and/or Autistic people is based on several key assumptions and considerations. Projections indicate that the population of people with learning disabilities in Shropshire is expected to increase from 787 in 2024/25 to approximately 1,067 by 2039/40.

The need for residential care is expected to decrease from around 15% of the population in 2024 to about 10% by 2039. Conversely, the percentage of the population living in supported housing is expected to increase due to the overall population growth, a reduction in the need for residential care, and the inability of older carers to continue providing care.

The need for mainstream housing with a care/support package is also expected to rise. The percentage of people living with family carers, particularly older carers, is projected to decrease by around 5% by 2039. Growth is anticipated for the Shared Lives program, which is expected to expand and include a wider range of individuals.

Additional supported housing requirements are based on these assumptions and adjusted for population changes over the period to 2039. The estimated need for accommodation and supported housing is detailed in Table 33, showing the number of additional homes required to meet the projected unmet needs by 2029, 2034, and 2039.

Table showing the estimated need for supported housing and accommodation for people with learning disabilities and/or Autistic people to 2039.

	Current provision and population (2024)	Existing supply of housing & accomm. types (%)	Adult pop. 2029 and estimated need for housing & accomm.	Estimated need for housing & accomm. types (%)	Adult pop. 2034 and estimated need for housing & accomm.	Estimated need for housing & accomm. types (%)	Adult pop. 2039 and estimated need for housing & accomm.	Estimated need for housing & accomm. types (%)
Population	787		881		974		1,067	
Housing & accommodation types								
Residential/nursing care	73	9%	84	10%	95	10%	107	10.0%
Shared Lives (adult placement)	37	5%	44	5%	51	5%	59	5.5%
Supported housing	305	39%	348	39%	392	40%	437	41.0%
Living with family / friends	296	38%	312	35%	323	33%	331	31.0%
Mainstream housing	76	10%	93	11%	112	12%	133	12.5%
Totals	787	100%	881	100%	974	100%	1,067	100%
Net supported housing and accommodation requirements			49		101		154	
Net need: Shared Lives			7		14		22	
Net need: Supported housing			43		87		132	

Stakeholders suggest a pathway of diverse housing and supported housing options.

Supported housing: Young people (care leavers)

This section covers the need for supported housing that is designated for young people who are primarily care leavers for whom the Council has corporate parenting responsibilities. Projected over the next five years, the number of care leavers in Shropshire is estimated to reach 323 by 2028, assuming the current annual growth rate continues. This projection suggests a likely increase in need for supported accommodation.

There are currently 80 commissioned units for care leavers, with nearly half (48%) provided through the supported lodgings scheme. In Ludlow, there are 29 units of accommodation through the Foyer and Grain Loft schemes, and 13 units located in New Century Court in Oswestry. Nominations into these services are managed via a panel system, with support delivered onsite by a commissioned service provider. The Foyer and New Century Court have 24/7 onsite staffing, while the Grain Loft provides support during office hours. For the supported lodgings service, support and housing are provided by the live-in carer.

Table showing the number of supported accommodation units by number and location.

Supported accommodation type	Units of supported housing	% of total units by location
Ludlow: Foyer & Grain Loft	29	36%
Oswestry: New Century Ct	13	16%
Supported lodgings (various locations across Shropshire and Telford)	38	48%
Total	80	100%

Estimated future need for supported housing and move-on housing

To project the future need for supported housing for young people, particularly care leavers, in Shropshire, data from commissioners for supported housing has been utilized. The estimates are based on both contextual and qualitative evidence.

It is assumed that approximately 70% of young people leaving supported housing will require move-on housing, with the majority needing single-person self-contained one-bedroom accommodation. Currently, there are no dedicated housing units available for move-on from supported housing for those aged 18 and older.

The need for additional move-on housing has been calculated, identifying a requirement for approximately 25 units of mainstream move-on housing per year. This indicates a need to review move-on housing arrangements with existing housing partners.

Table providing an estimate of need for move-on housing for young people leaving supported housing (2023/24)

Baseline assumptions	
Units of supported housing available	80 units
Average length of stay in supported housing	24 months
Percentage of young people leaving supported housing assumed to require move-on housing	70%
Number of young people requiring move-on housing	56 young people (56 x 70%) over 24-month period
Number of young people requiring move-on housing (per annum)	Estimated need is equivalent to 2 young people requiring move-on housing per month (56/24 months) Estimated need equivalent to 24 young people requiring move-on housing per annum (2 x 12 months)
Estimated need for move on housing	Overall need: 24 units of move-on housing required per annum

The estimated need for supported housing for care leavers is based on several assumptions. The population of care leavers is expected to increase by 16 young persons per year for the next five years to 2028.

The average length of stay in supported housing settings is 24 months. It is assumed that approximately 70% of young people waiting for access to supported housing will require this type of accommodation, resulting in an unmet need for supported housing for 11 young people per year. There are assumed to be three voids in the 80 supported housing units, which might be due to the service's inability to accommodate young people with high support needs and the effectiveness of identifying new residents in a timely manner.

To meet the demand for supported housing, an additional eight units of supported housing per year are required, totalling 32 units by 2028/29. It is assumed that there is a need for a minimum of 20 additional units of supported housing with 24/7 support to meet the needs of young people with higher/complex support needs. The remaining 10 units will depend on the level of residents' needs, other services in the locality, and the strategy to keep rents/service charges as low as possible to make housing costs affordable and encourage young people into work.

Based on discussions with stakeholders, the identified additional need could be met by providing an additional foyer service in Shrewsbury (approximately 20 units) and a further 10 units in locations prioritized by the Council based on further data analysis from Children's Services teams. There is work underway in Shrewsbury to potentially develop Weston Court (a five-bed shared house) and three separate houses each comprising two bedrooms (11 units in total), so the Council is recommended to incorporate the additional one unit into this work to achieve the 12 units required.

It is important to note that the need for short-term supported housing is affected by the level of move-on or throughput. If the average length of stay in young people's supported housing is reduced from 24 months to 18 months, the estimated additional supported housing capacity required would decrease from approximately 30 units to 25 units.

Housing development

Shropshire Council had prepared a draft Local Plan which is currently the subject of examination. This draft Local Plan was to cover the period from 2016-2038 and proposed to deliver around 1,400 dwellings and 14.5ha of employment land per annum.

The draft Local Plan stated that new development was to be focused in urban areas, specifically:

- Shrewsbury
- Principal (Bridgnorth, Ludlow, Market Drayton, Oswestry, Whitchurch) and Key Centres (Albrighton, Bishop's castle, Broseley, Church Stretton, Cleobury Mortimer, Craven Arms, Ellesmere, Highley, Much Wenlock, Shifnal, Wem)
- Strategic Settlements (Clive Barracks, Tern Hill and Former Ironbridge power Station)

Unfortunately, in March 2025 the Inspectors concluded in their correspondence (ID48) that due to the amount of additional work required to address their soundness concerns, they were *“unable to apply our discretion in this case to allow the examination to continue.”* As such, they recommended the withdrawal of the draft Shropshire Local Plan or they would prepare their Examiners Report finding the draft Shropshire Local Plan unsound. Officers have indicated that they are minded to recommend withdrawal of the draft Local Plan, with a decision to be made by Council in July 2025.

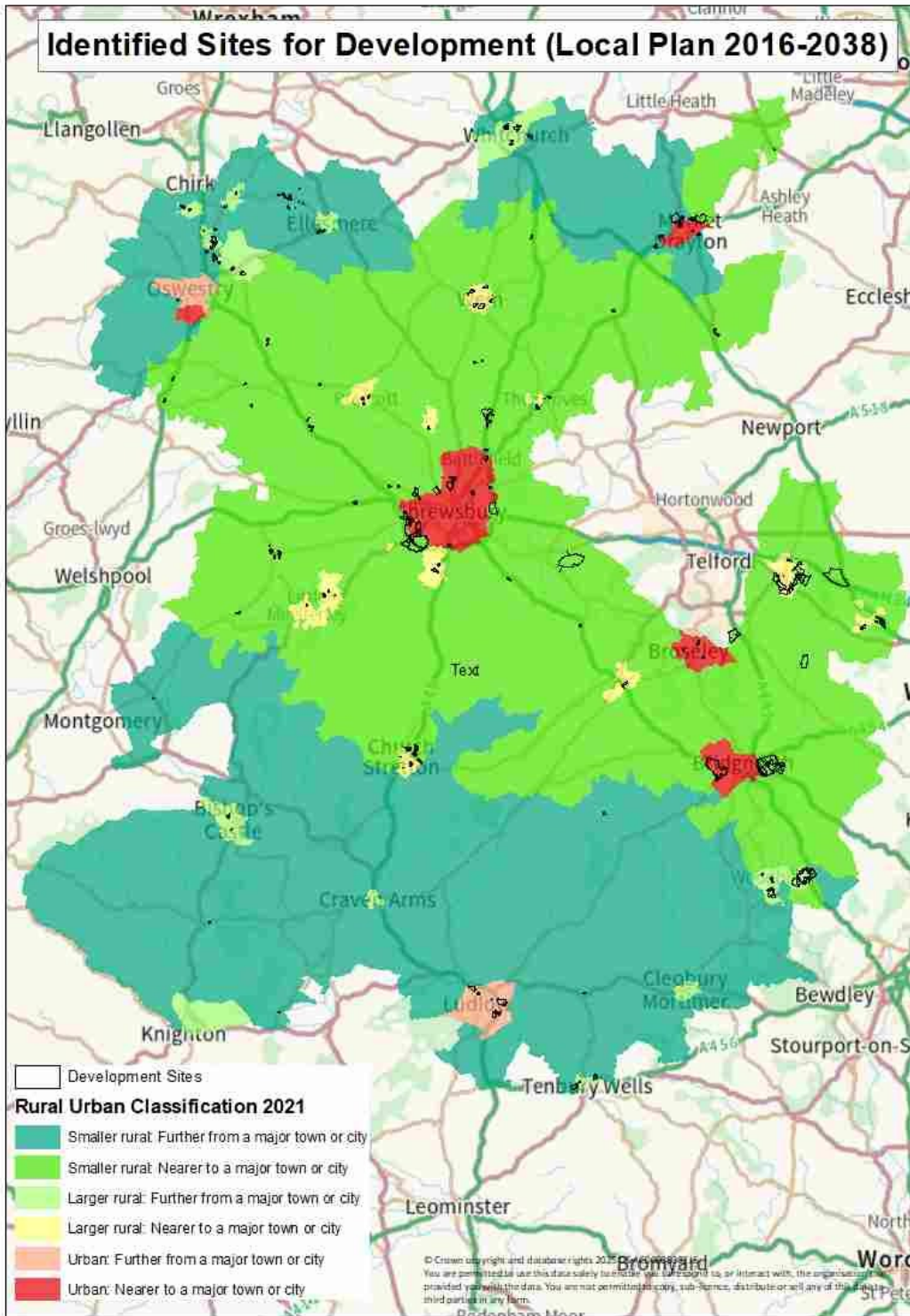
However, Shropshire Council has recognised the extensive evidence prepared to inform the draft Local Plan, including the site assessment process undertaken, constitute material considerations to be given weight in the planning application decision making process.

In December 2024, Government introduced significant updates to the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and the 'standard methodology' for assessing Local Housing Need.

These changes have significant implications for Shropshire, including increasing the minimum amount of housing to be planned for to around 2,000 dwellings per annum. They also mean that irrespective of the outcome of the examination of the draft Local Plan, the Council will be required to commence a further Local Plan later in 2025.

The Council has therefore indicated an intention to progress the next Local Plan, which will need to respond to changes to the NPPF and 'standard methodology' for assessing Local Housing Need. Initial preparatory work is ongoing, with formal commencement of this process scheduled for January 2026.

The following map shows the sites that had been proposed to be allocated for housing, employment or for mixed use development in the draft Local Plan (the evidence which informed these proposed allocations is a material consideration in decision making) including those both with and without planning permission or prior approval in conjunction with the Rural Urban Classification 2021.



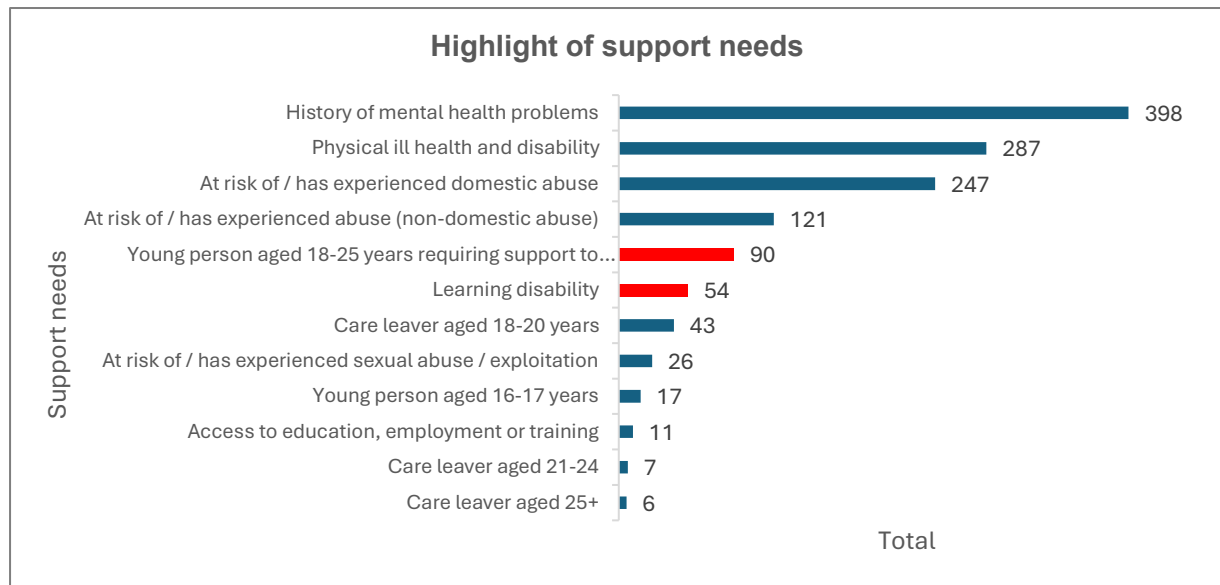
Homelessness

In 2023/24, there were 1,515 households in Shropshire that were owed a homelessness prevention or relief duty, meaning they were assessed as homeless. 68% of these households had support needs, with some households having more than one support need.

The overall total number of support needs identified was 1,832. There is a very large variety of needs, with a history of mental health being the most common at 22% (398 households) of the overall total. 9.5% had support needs relating to SEN, similar to the national picture:

- 3.6% learning disability (54 households)
- 5.9% Young person aged 18-25 years requiring support to manage independently (90 households)

Chart showing the support needs of households assessed as homeless, 2023/24 in Shropshire. Source: [Tables on homelessness - GOV.UK](#)



Between April and June 2024, history of mental health problems was the most prominent need at 20% of the 448 total needs for that period (271 households). 15.1% had needs relating to SEN:

- 3.2% Learning disability (12 households)
- 7.7% Young person aged 18-25 years requiring support to manage independently (29 households)

Source: [Tables on homelessness - GOV.UK](#)

Population and Demographics

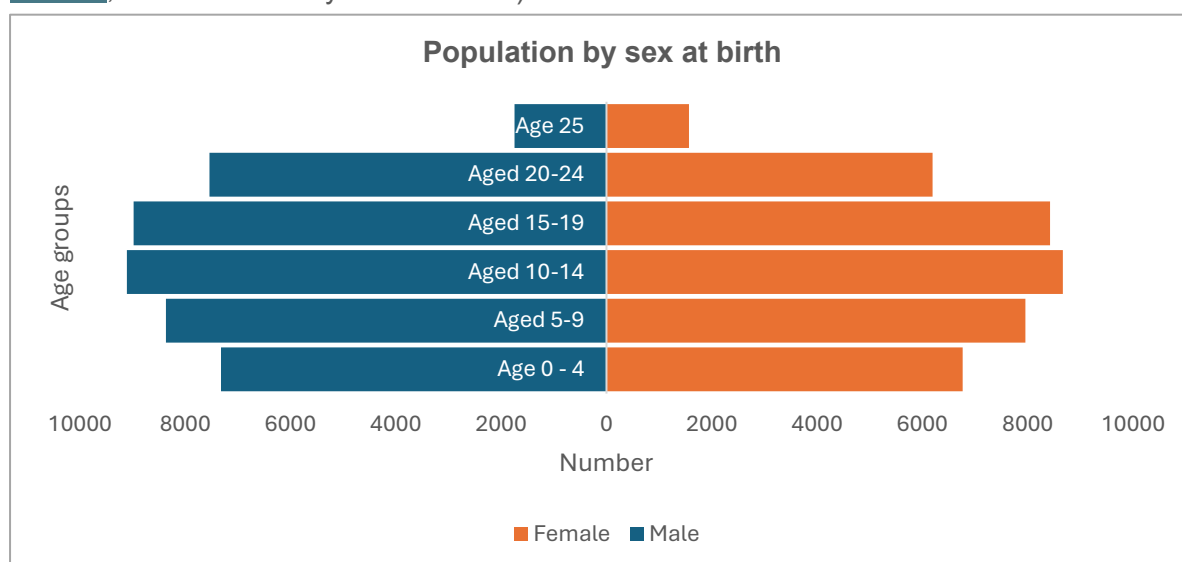
Our Population Aged 0-25

In 2023 in Shropshire, there were 82,700 people aged 0-25 year olds, of which 43,100 (52.1%) were males and 39,600 (47.9%) were females³. This equates to 25.1% of Shropshire's total population.

The number of people aged 0 to 25 in Shropshire decreased by 4.5%, from 86,500 in 2013 to 82,700 in 2023. The number of people aged 20-24 saw the largest decrease (15.6% decrease) from 16,300 (2013 Mid-year estimates) to 13,700 (2023 Mid-year estimates).

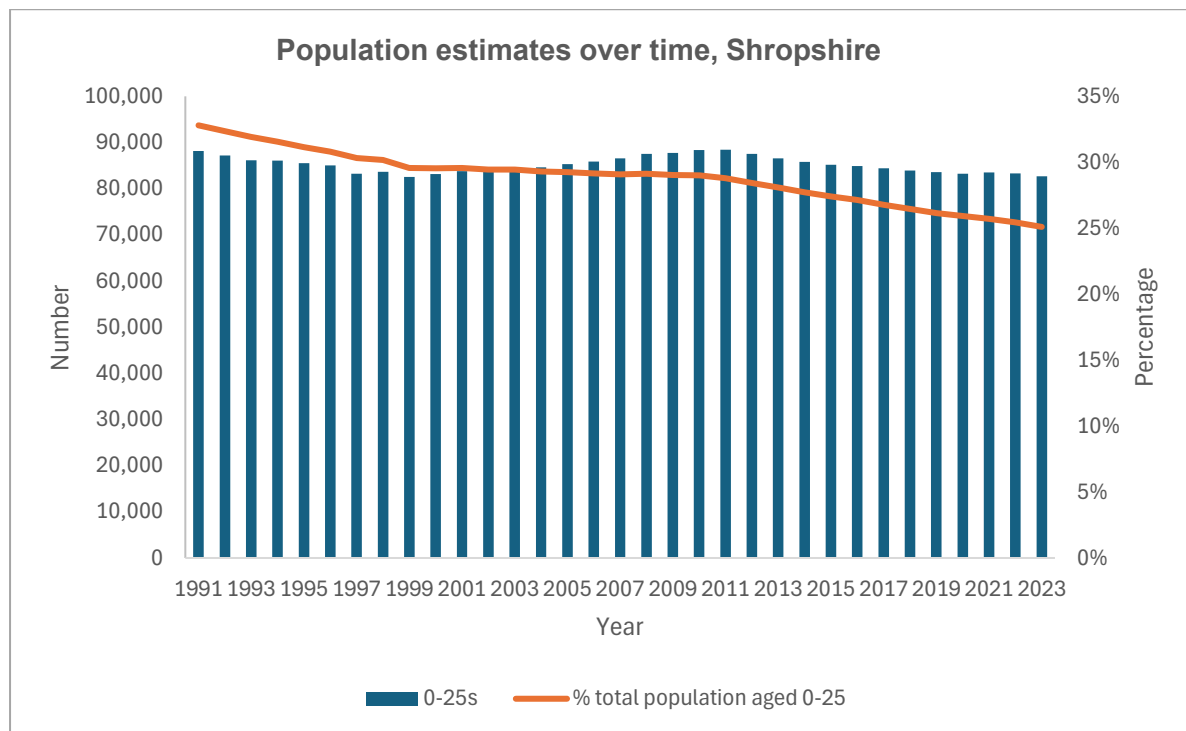
The proportion of the population aged 0-25 has also been falling over the last 10 years, down from 28.1% in 2013 to 25.1% in 2023.

Chart showing the number of 0 to 25 year olds living in Shropshire by sex at birth. Source: [NOMIS](#), 2023 ONS Mid-year estimates)

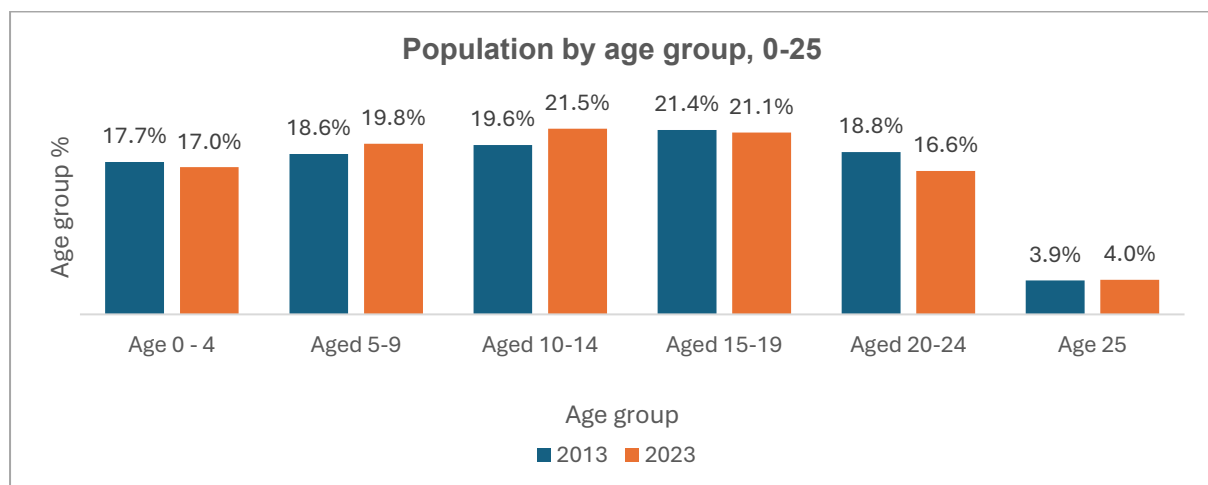


³ [Nomis - Official Census and Labour Market Statistics \(nomisweb.co.uk\)](#)

Chart showing the number of 0 to 25 year olds living in Shropshire and the proportion of the population aged 0 to 25 over time. Source: [NOMIS](#), 2023 ONS Mid-year estimates)



Proportion of 0-25 year olds living in Shropshire by age groups. Source: [NOMIS](#), ONS Mid-year estimates 2023



In 2023 in Shropshire, there were 23,300 children aged 5-11 year olds. This equates to 7.1% of Shropshire’s total population.

- 11,900 (51.0%) were male
- 11,400 (49.0%) were female

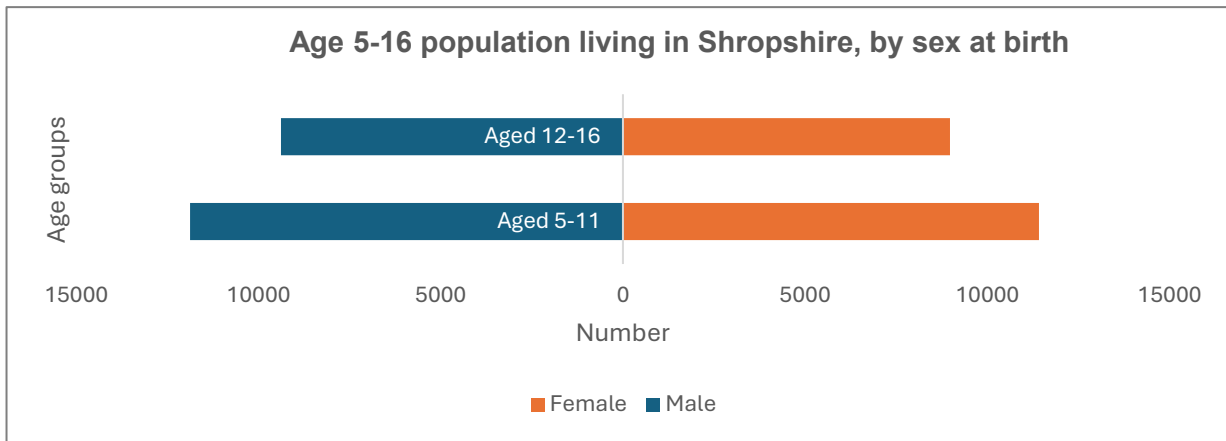
In the same period, there were 18,400 children aged 12-16 year olds in Shropshire (which equates to 5.6% of Shropshire’s total population)

- 9,400 (51.1%) were male
- 9,000 (48.9%) were female

The number of children aged 5-11 in Shropshire increased by 3.1%, from 22,600 in 2013 to 23,300 in 2023.

Children aged 12-16 saw a 1.0% increase between 2013 (18,200) and 2023 (18,400).

Chart showing number of 5-16 year olds living in Shropshire by sex at birth. Source: [NOMIS](#), ONS Mid-year estimates 2023



Future trends

The Office for National Statistics (ONS) 2022 based population projections expect that the 0 to 24 years population in Shropshire will decrease by 8.4% (from 79,976 to 73,269) between 2022 and 2047.⁴ When split by gender, both show a decrease in population between 2022 and 2047 (9.0% decrease in males, from 41,619 to 37,861 and 7.7% decrease in females, from 38,357 to 35,408).

All age groups within the 0-24 age band are projected to decline, most notably amongst the 20-24 age group (-11.8% between 2022 and 2047) and those aged 10-14 (-10.7%).

Nationally, the 0-24 population is also expected to decline between 2022 and 2047 but more modestly at -5.2%.

⁴ [Population projections - Office for National Statistics](#)

Chart showing ONS population projections for 0 to 24 year olds and by gender in Shropshire over time. Source: [ONS](#)

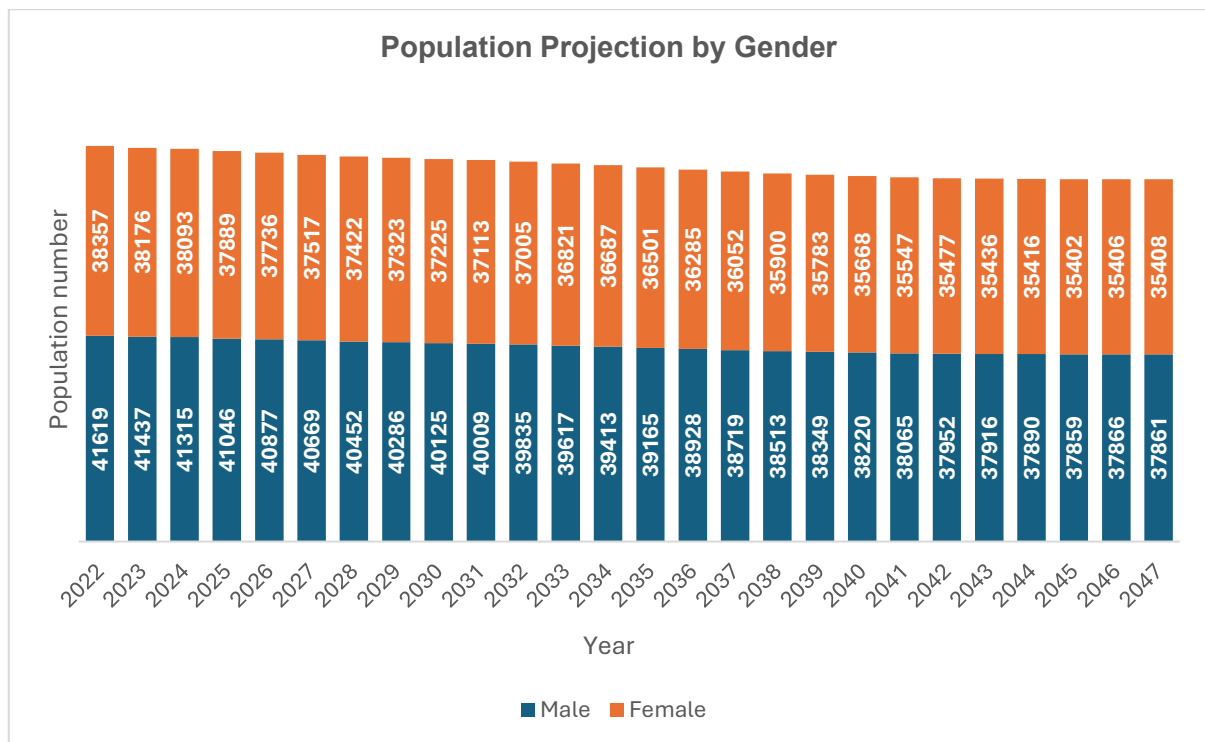
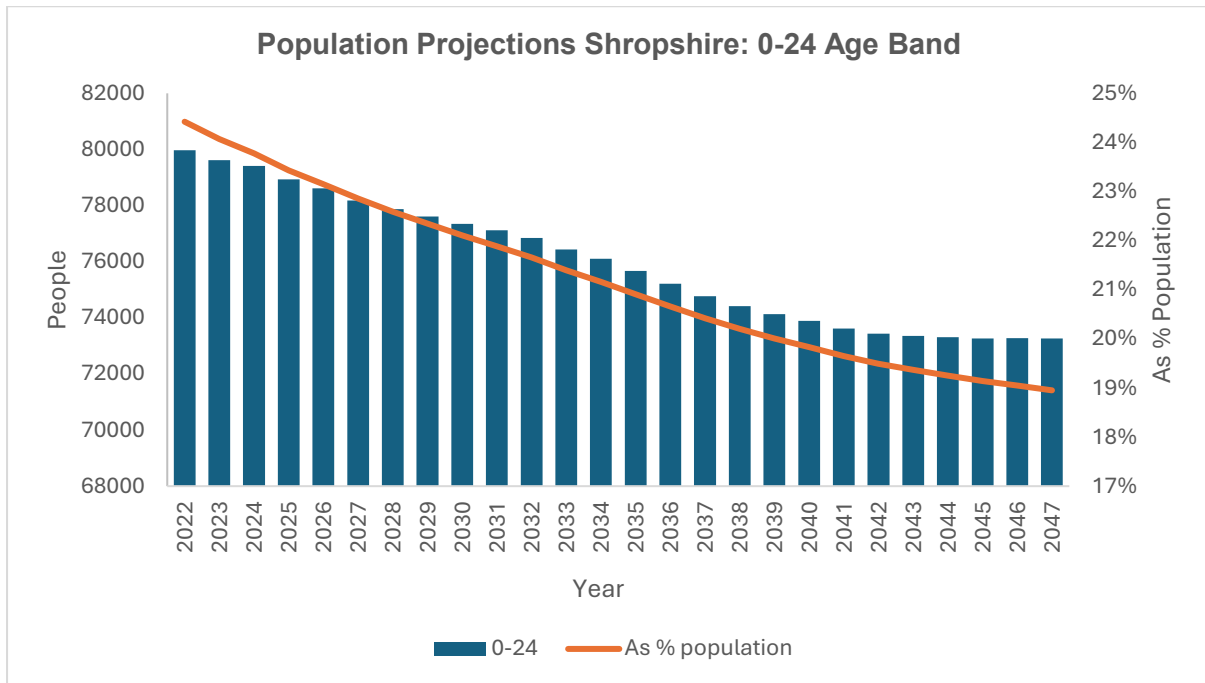


Table showing projected change in population size by age group between 2022 and 2047, 2018 based Population projections, ONS.

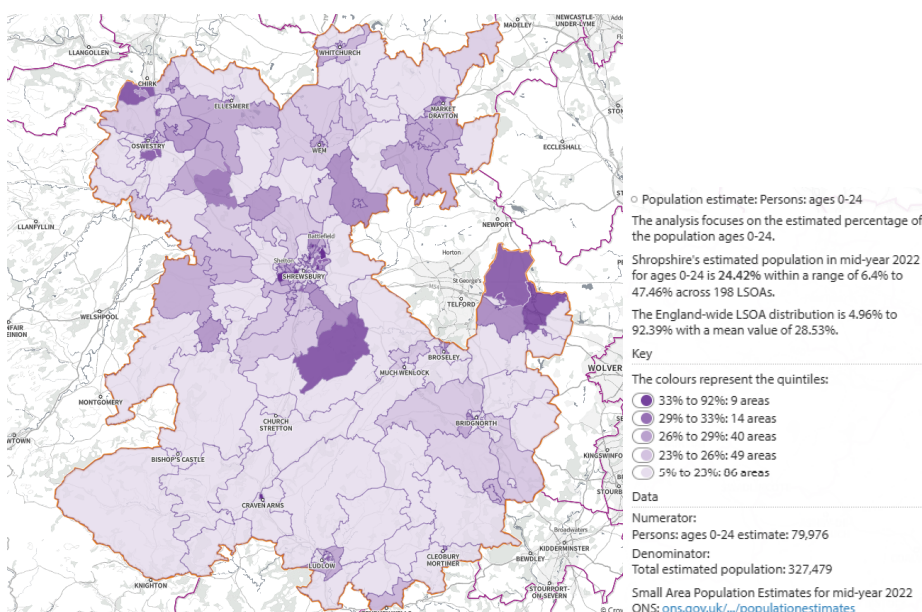
Age Group	2022	2035	2047	Change between 2022 and 2047	% projected change 2022 to 2047
0-4	14,213	13,252	13,792	-421	-3.0%
5-9	16,341	14,455	14,859	-1,482	-9.1%
10-14	17,747	16,116	15,857	-1,890	-10.7%
15-19	16,935	17,265	15,765	-1,170	-6.9%
20-24	14,740	14,577	12,995	-1,745	-11.8%
Total (0-24)	79,976	75,665	73,269	-6,708	-8.4%

Where do 0-24 year olds live?

The 9 areas with the highest proportion of their population aged 0-24 between 33.2% and 47.5% (based on 2022 mid year population estimates) are:

- Porthill (47.5% aged 0-24)
- Shifnal/ Cosford area
- Harlescott
- Ditherington
- Radbrook
- Oswestry East
- Monkmoor
- Craven arms
- Sundorne (33.2%)

Map showing where population aged 0-24 years old live (%) by Ward, Shropshire. Source: OHID SHAPE Tool



School population forecast

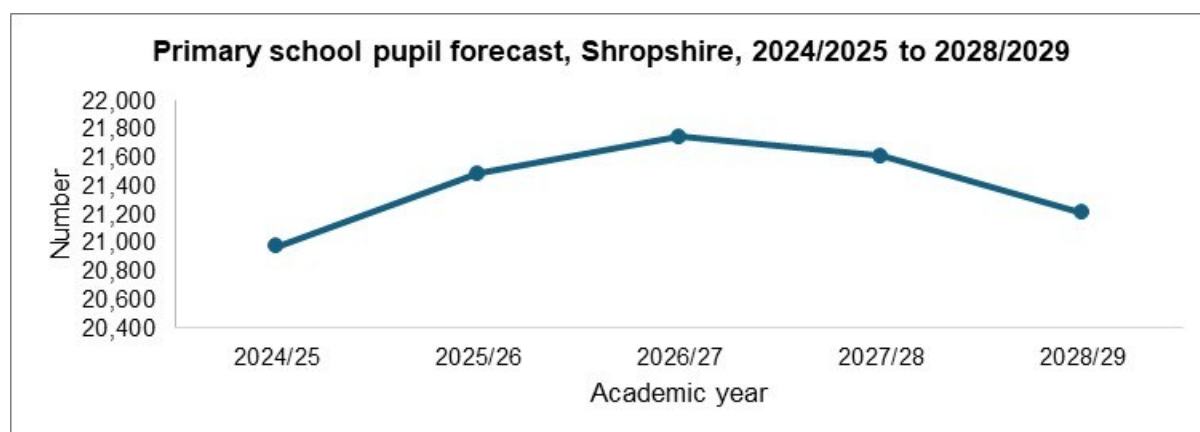
The School Census is a statutory requirement for all schools and provides information on the school, students, and their characteristics. Data is collected and reported for each of the three terms (autumn, spring, summer) and can be used to inform local needs and requirements. Based on the Spring 2025 school census, there are 151 schools in Shropshire which comprises of 128 primary schools, 20 secondary schools, 4 special schools and 1 all-through (3-16 years) schools.

Primary school pupil forecast

There are 20,508 primary school pupils in Shropshire, with 128 primary mainstream schools in Shropshire. This has remained constant since 2020. Primary school pupil numbers have fallen by 2.3% in the same period. Shrewsbury has the highest number of primary school pupils in Shropshire.

Generally, the number of primary school pupils in Shropshire is expected to see a 1.9% increase between 2024-25 and 2028-29. Though, an increase will be observed between 2024-25 and 2026-27, after which a decrease in primary school pupils is expected.

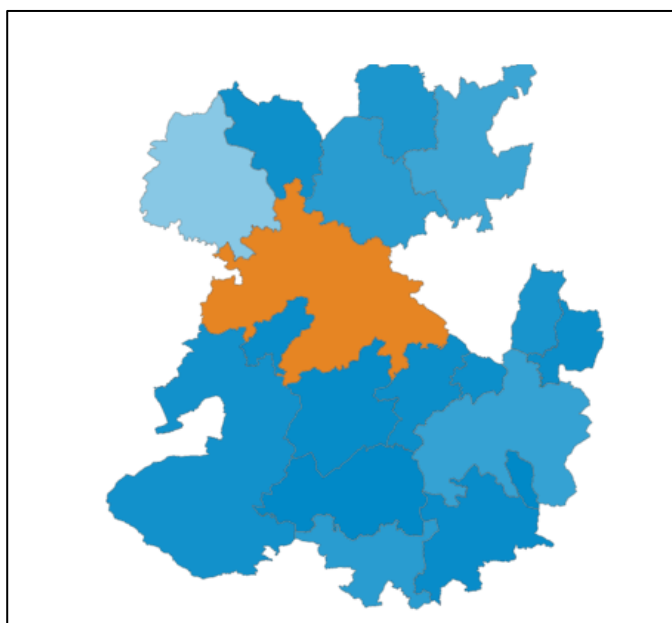
Forecast of primary school pupils in Shropshire. Source: January 2024 based primary and secondary school forecasts



The map below is highlighting Shrewsbury, which is the area with the highest amount of Primary School pupils at 32.13%, at 6,808 pupils.

Number of primary school pupils in Shropshire by Place Plan Areas. Source: [Shropshire School Years Dashboard](#)

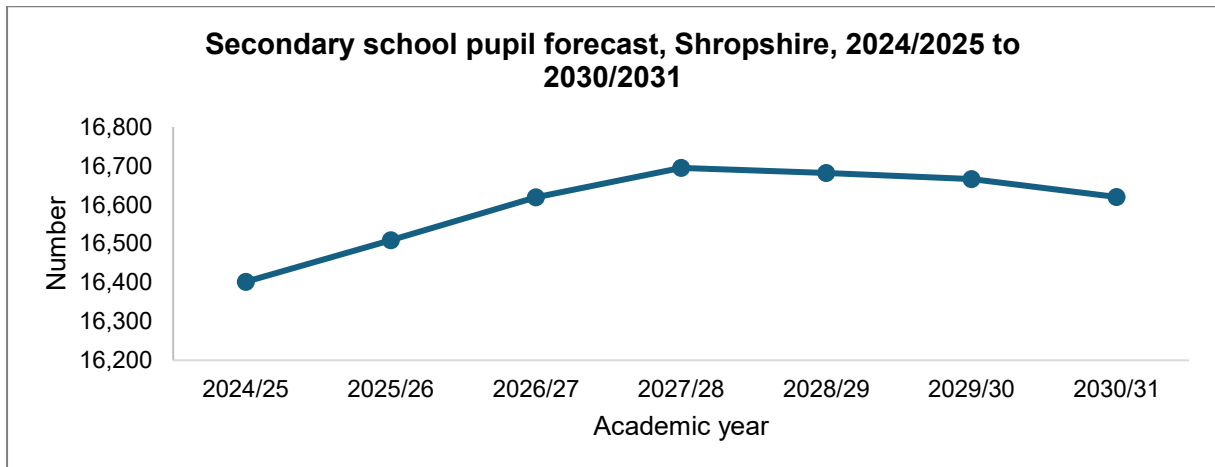
Primary	
Place Plan area	Number on Roll
Shrewsbury	6808
Oswestry	2679
Market Drayton	1530
Bridgnorth	1340
Wem	1112
Ludlow	1105
Whitchurch	853
Shifnal	811
Bishop's Castle	637
Ellesmere	548
Albrighton	507
Broseley	474
Pontesbury and Minsterley	431
Much Wenlock	420
Cleobury Mortimer	395
Church Stretton	348
Craven Arms	263
Highley	247
Total	20,508



Secondary school pupil forecast

There are 16,135 secondary school pupils in Shropshire, with 20 secondary mainstream schools in Shropshire. This has remained constant since 2020. Generally, the number of secondary school pupils in Shropshire is expected to see a 3.6% increase between 2024-25 and 2030-31. Though, an increase will be observed between 2024-25 and 2027-28, after which a decrease in secondary school pupils is expected.

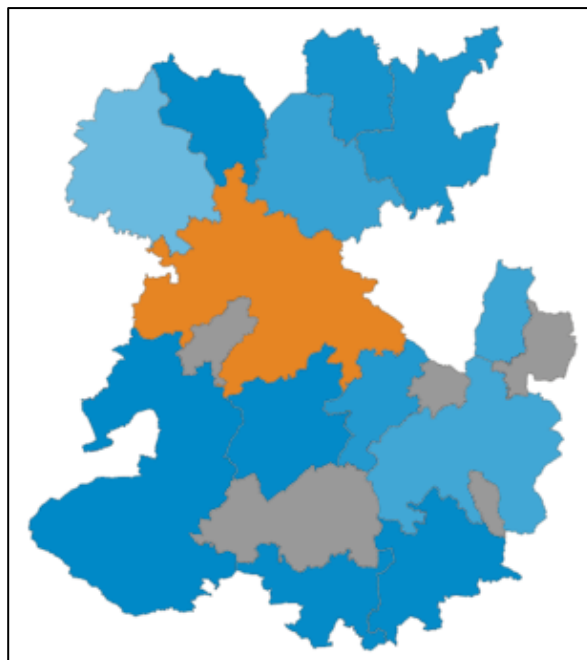
Forecast of secondary school pupils in Shropshire. Source: January 2024 based primary and secondary school forecasts



Shrewsbury has the highest number of secondary school pupils in Shropshire, with 4,558 pupils on roll. This is highlighted on the map below.

Number of secondary school pupils in Shropshire by Place Plan Areas. Source: [Shropshire School Years Dashboard](#)

Secondary	
Place Plan area	Number on Roll
Shrewsbury	4558
Oswestry	1894
Market Drayton	815
Bridgnorth	1338
Wem	1207
Ludlow	623
Whitchurch	873
Shifnal	1170
Bishop's Castle	526
Ellesmere	581
Pontesbury and Minsterley	654
Much Wenlock	820
Cleobury Mortimer	538
Church Stretton	538
Total	16,135



Service Mapping and Provision

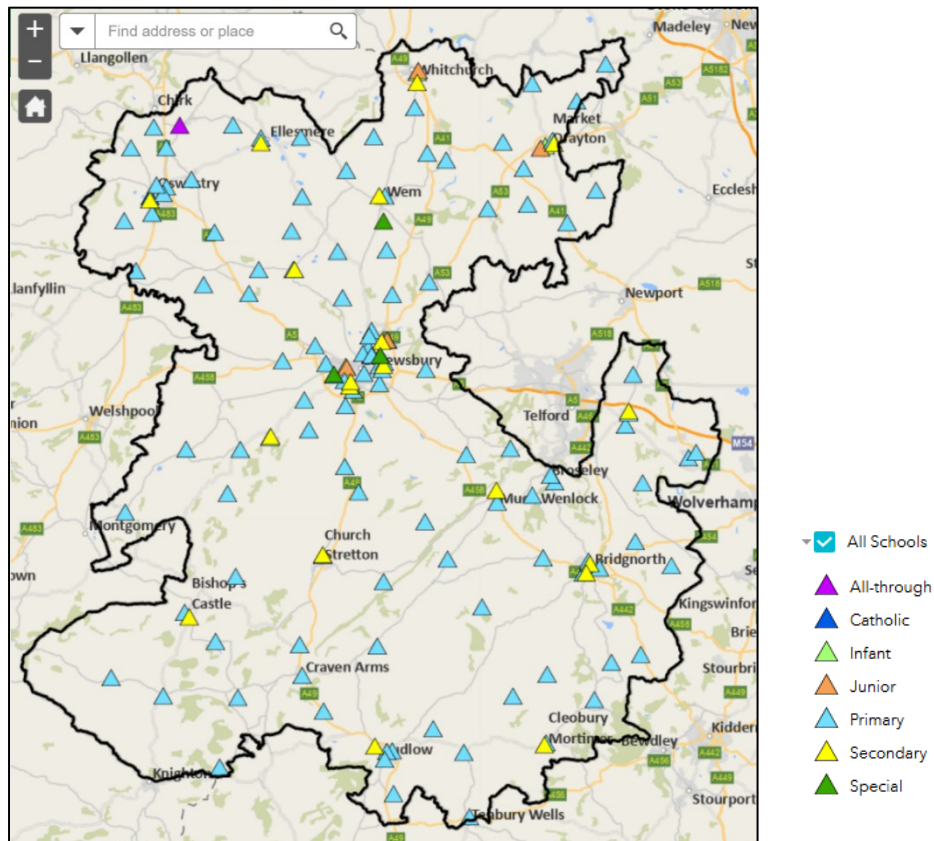
- **Education:** Mainstream schools, special schools, alternative provision
- **Health:** GP practice waiting lists

- **Early Intervention and Prevention:** Community and Family Hubs, Short breaks - respite, family support

Education

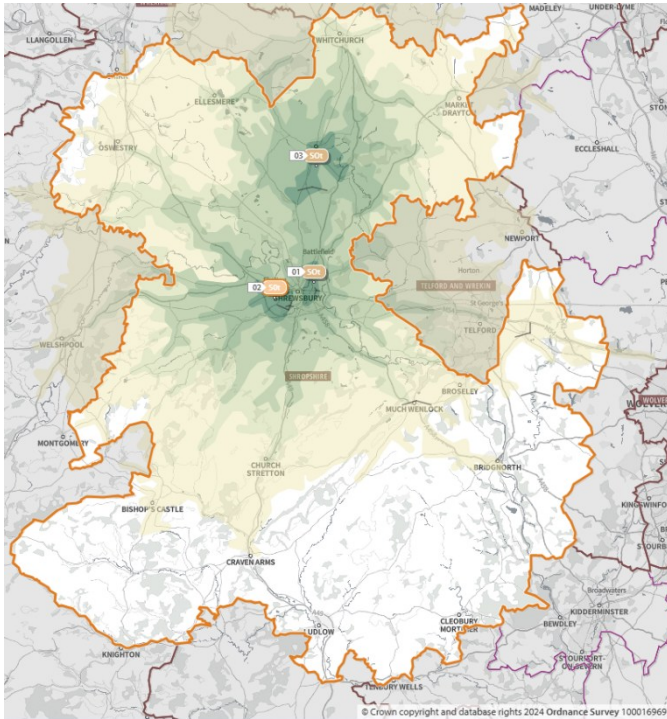
Schools in Shropshire

The below map shows the location of all schools in Shropshire. There are 151 Local Authority maintained schools and Academy schools in Shropshire.



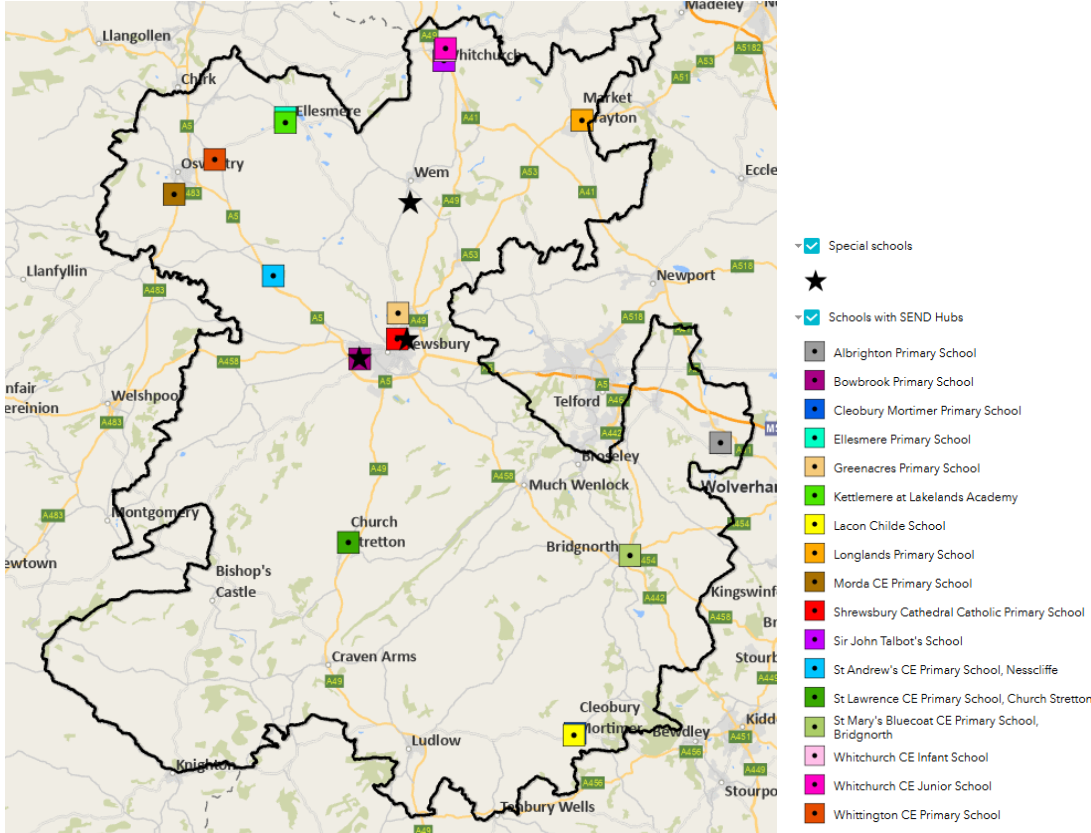
Specialist Schools and Resourced Provision

In Shropshire, there are currently 3 specialist schools and 13 mainstream schools that have a Resourced Provision. The below map shows the distribution of specialist schools and mainstream schools that have a Resourced Provision (RP) across the county. There is a clear unequal distribution of schools, with majority of special schools and schools with resource provision mostly located in Shrewsbury and in the northern parts of the county, with no specialist schools and only four of the 13 mainstream schools with RP located in the south. Of particular note is the south west corner of the county near and south of Bishops Castle, which has no mainstream schools with RP locally and several schools with children with EHCPs.



Map showing the location of the three specialist schools in Shropshire, 2025:

Map showing the location of the mainstream schools that have a Resourced Provision in Shropshire, 2025

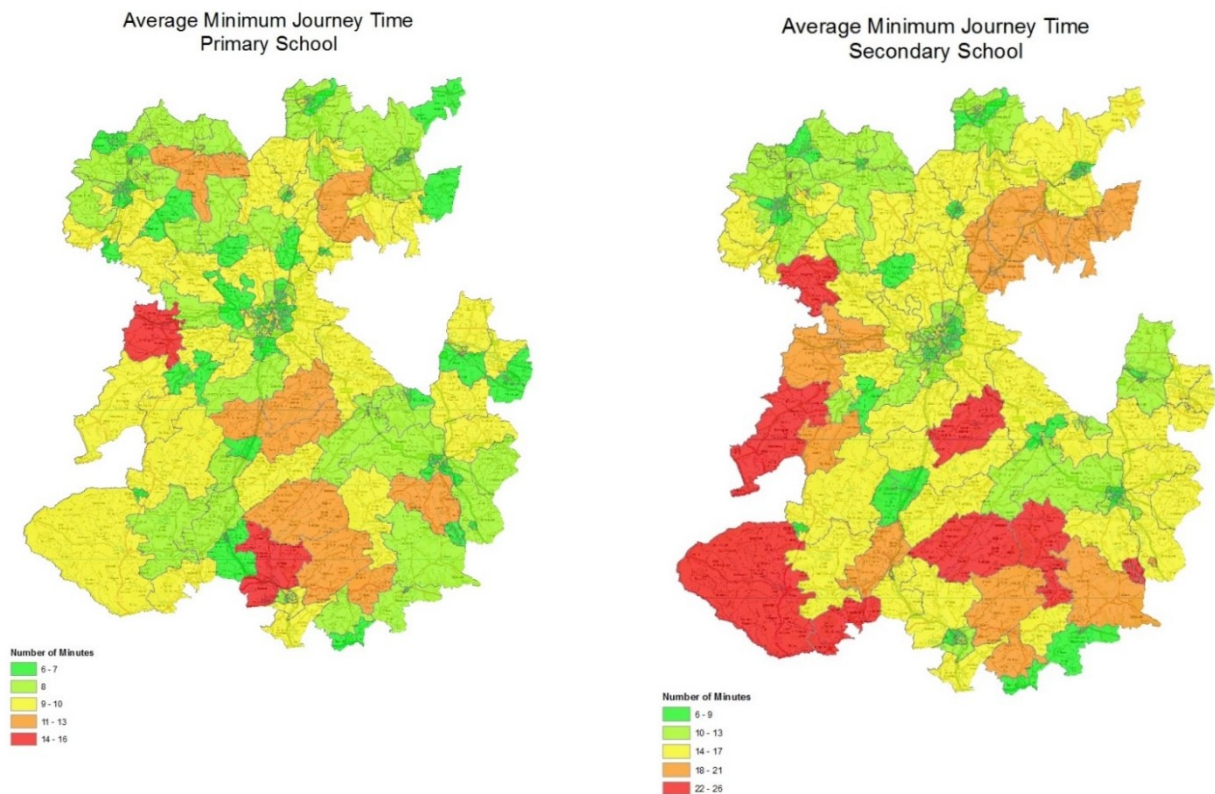


Shropshire Council currently commission 165 Resourced Provision places across the 13 sites catering for reception through to year 11 for children with a wide range of special educational needs such as ASD, speech language and communication needs, social emotional and mental health. Shropshire Council also commission 630 places in state maintained special schools.

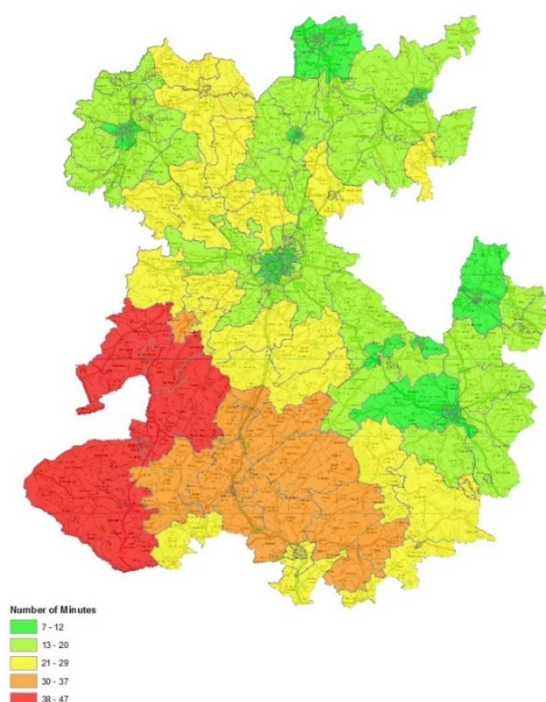
Over the last 12 months, approximately 100 new places have been created in Resourced Provision Hubs attached to mainstream schools, with a vision to decentralise specialist provision and establish a special school in southern Shropshire. These hubs aim to provide proximity between primary and secondary provision, reducing transport costs, and focus on supporting children in mainstream schools using capital funds to create sensory/nurture rooms, install ramps/hoists, and make other adaptations to ensure children can stay in their local mainstream schools rather than being educated elsewhere.

Access to mainstream schools

The maps below show how long it takes by car for Shropshire residents to access a primary school, a secondary school and further education. It is evident that those living in central Shropshire, especially those in Shrewsbury and immediate environments, have much easier access to educational facilities than their more rural counterparts. Access is particularly challenging in the south west of the county with regard to access to secondary and further education.



Average Minimum Journey Time Further Education



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In Shropshire, walking or travelling via public transport to school takes significantly longer compared to regionally and nationally, with an average journey time of 13 vs 9 minutes to primary schools and 28 vs 18 minutes to secondary schools.

This data (Journey Time Statistics) has been produced by the Department for Transport (the latest dataset relating to 2019). It has now been discontinued and is to be replaced by the new DfT Connectivity tool, which is due for release in June/July 2025. However, journey times are unlikely to have changed significantly since 2019, although access by public transport may have become more challenging.

Access to specialist schools

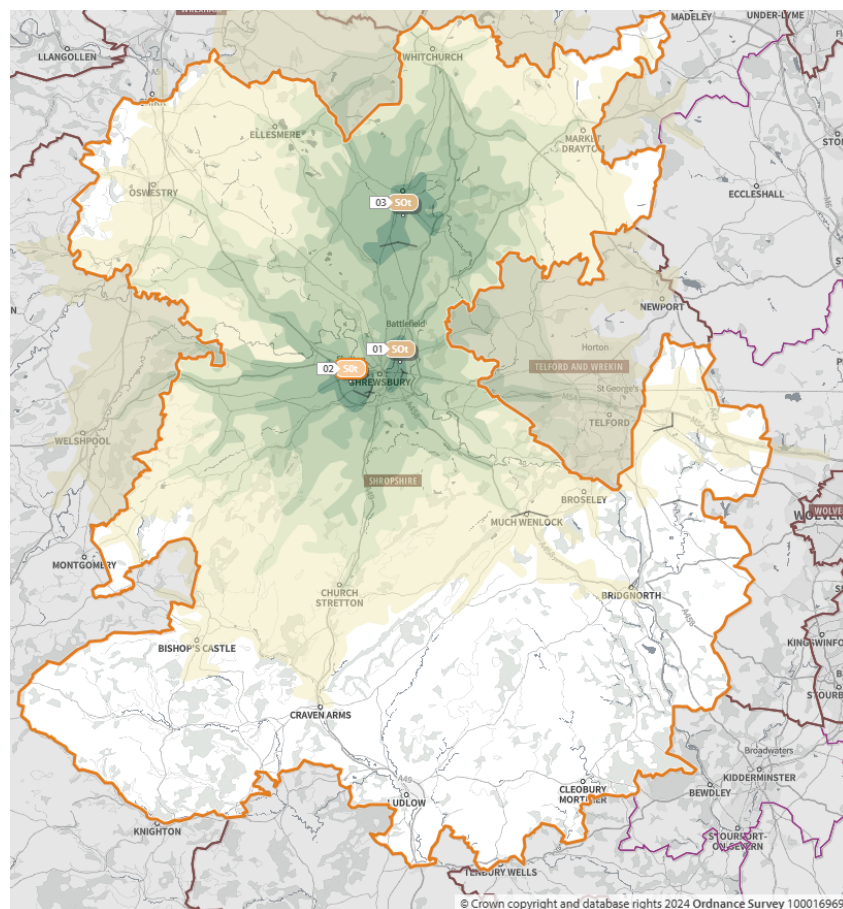
The map below shows the location of the 3 main specialist schools in Shropshire and the areas of the county that can access these schools by car in different journey times. The darkest green areas show those areas that can access within 5 minutes, the very light green areas can access one of these schools in 30 minutes, while those in white can't access within 30 mins.

In total, 50% of Shropshire residents (164,000) cannot access one of the three specialist schools in Shropshire within 20 minutes by car, with travel by car.

There is also a substantial proportion (17%) of residents who cannot access these schools within 30 minutes by car, of note is the south west areas of the county which only has one mainstream school Resources Provision located in Church Stretton.

Table and map showing the number and percentage of Shropshire residents that can or cannot access a specialist school (Severndale, The Keystone Academy and Woodlands School) by time period (in minutes).

Car journey time to get to a specialist school	Shropshire residents who can access school in time period	Shropshire residents who cannot access school in time period	% of Shropshire residents that can access school in time period
5 minutes	47,767	279,712	14.6%
10 minutes	108,859	218,620	33.2%
15 minutes	132,096	195,383	40.3%
20 minutes	163,455	164,024	49.9%
30 minutes	271,080	56,399	82.8%



5 10 15 20 30 minutes

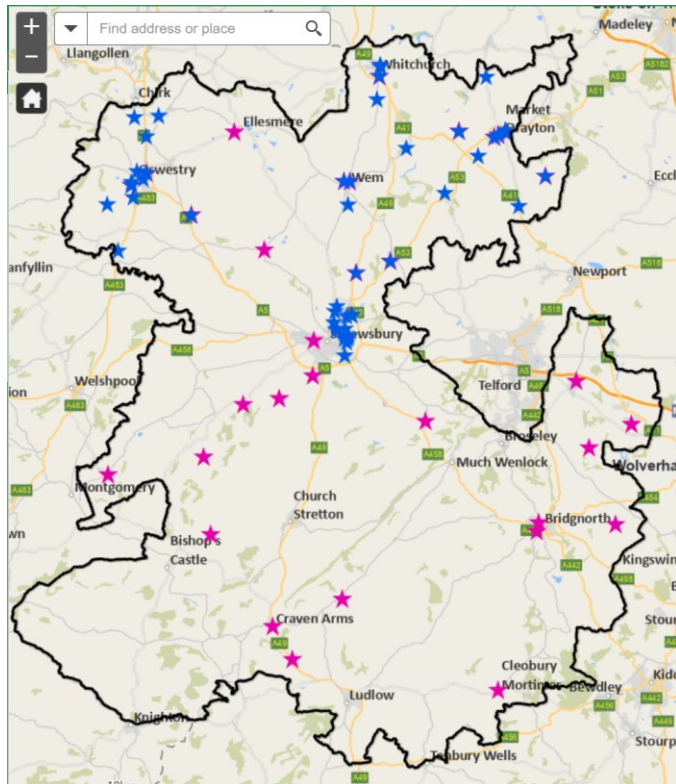
1 = Severndale Academy	2 = The Keystone Academy	3 = Woodlands School
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Mental health Provision in schools

There is a government ambition that by 2029, primary, secondary and colleges across the county will be equipped with dedicated mental health practitioners on site in all schools through The Mental Health Support Team in schools (MHST).

In 2024, Mental Health support in schools was concentrated in the Shrewsbury area and north parts of the county, whereas Mental Health Leads were more prevalent in the south.

Map showing mental health support in schools in Shropshire, 2024, Year 1 of NDP and PINS project.



Map Key:

- Mental Health Support – blue stars
- Mental Health Lead – pink stars

Neurodiversity Practitioners (NDPs) and Partnership for Inclusion of Neurodiversity Schools (PINS)

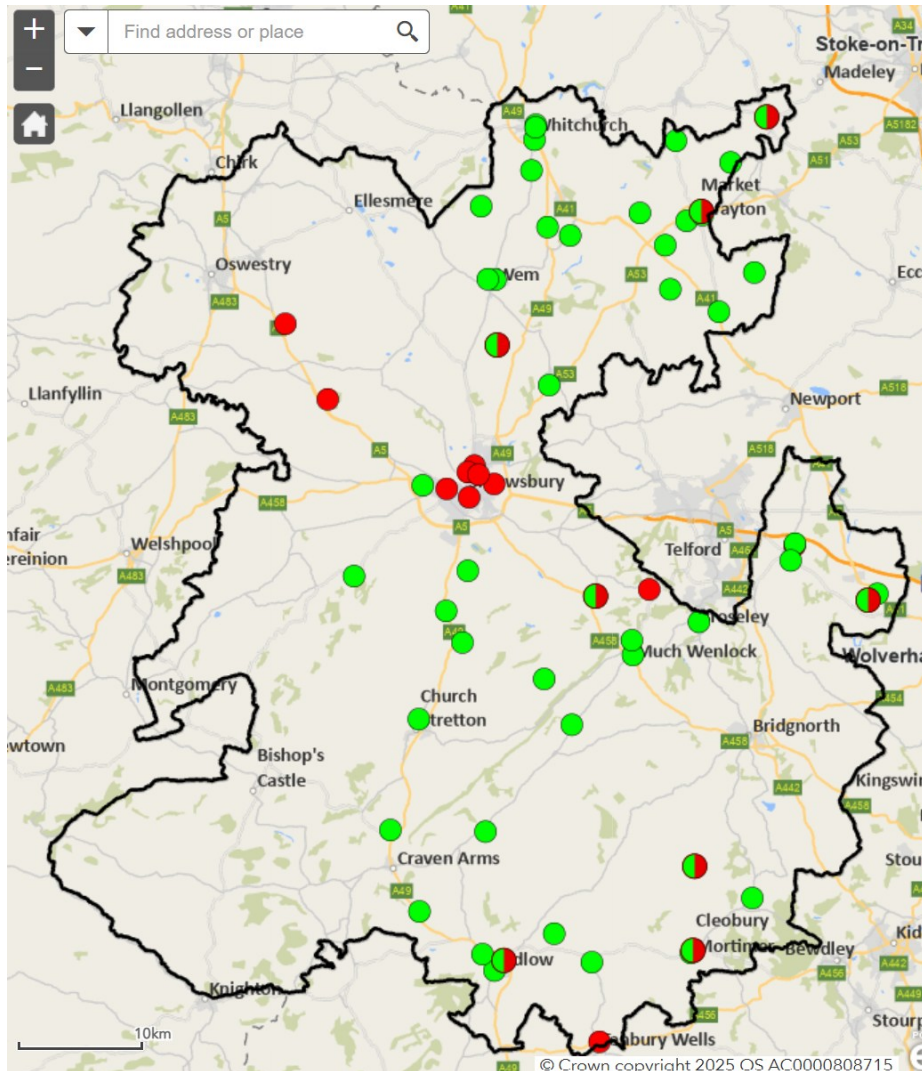
NDPs were a pilot project launched in 2024 involving a team of three staff who focussed on systemic neurodiversity support in schools, auditing school environments, supporting teaching staff, parents and children in ensuring the school environment supported a positive experience in school for that child. The team worked in 49 of Shropshire's 151 schools in the first year; the project was made permanent from 1st April 2025 and collaborative work in schools continues to build on neurodiversity awareness, understanding & support in our schools.

From the map below, there were evident gaps in NDP and PINS provision in schools in the south west of the county and north west of the county, where evidence shows there are schools with high proportions of their pupils requiring SEN support or on an EHCP.

PINS also piloted in 2024 working with primary schools only. This is a national project funded by the Department of Education with 20 schools selected for the initial pilot, a further 15 schools are now involved for 2025. PINS is a national programme funded by the Shared

Outcomes Fund and delivered between the Department for Education (DfE), NHS England (NHSE) and the Department for Health and Social Care (DHSC).

Map showing Neurodiversity Practitioners (NDPs) and Partnership for Inclusion of Neurodiversity Schools (PINS) provision in schools in Shropshire, 2024 Year 1 of project.



Key:

NDPs and PINS – half green and red circle

NDP Team Involvement (Yes) – green circle

PINS School – red circle (Partnership for Inclusion of Neurodiversity in Schools)

Transport for SEND children

Shropshire Council transports just under 1,100 child and young people with SEND to school/college daily as of May 2025. This number is just travel to school assistance and does not include transport commissioned for DCT, LAC, court teams and adult services.

Distances travelled are not recorded. However, collective approximate mileage data is held for each school/college. For example, for Severndale Specialist Academy, Shropshire

Council provides travel assistance for 298 passengers and covers around 1,200 miles per day.

SEND children travel outside of their local community to attend the provision that best meets their needs, being a large rural county means we are often travelling large distances to enable children to attend school.

Health services

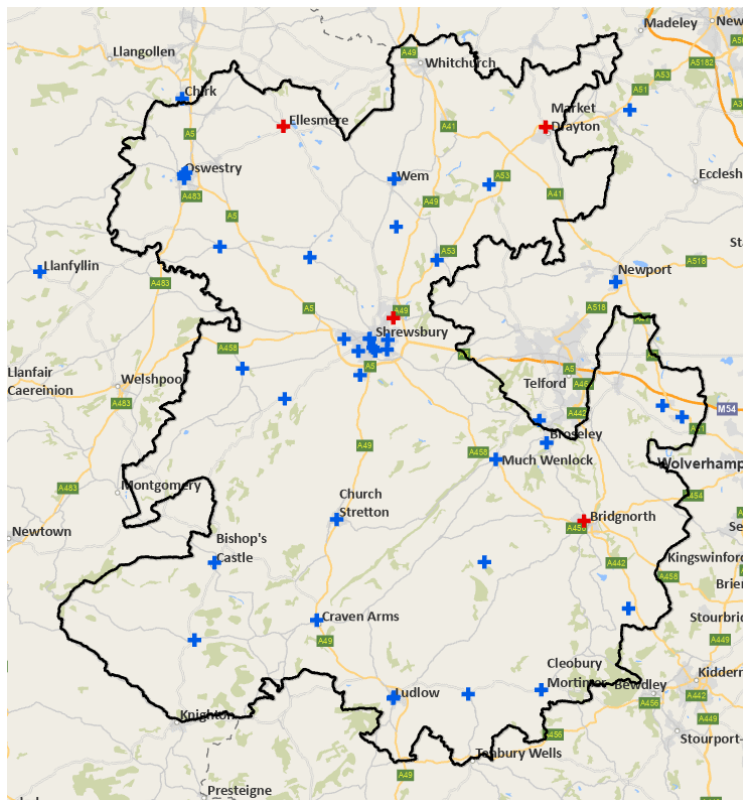
GP practice - awaiting autism assessment

Referrals for assessment are mostly made by schools, however, due to GDPR this dataset could not be accessed. The data below relates to the GP associated with the referral. Some referrals for assessment are made by GP's, for example parents of home-schooled children.

The highest numbers of children on autism referral waiting lists are registered with GPs located in Ellesmere, Market Drayton, Bridgnorth and Shrewsbury

Looking at these areas rural deprivation for health scores (made up of household deprivation, income, education, geographic, rurality and population metrics), Market Drayton, Bridgnorth and northeast Shrewsbury have some of the worst scores (i.e. most disadvantaged) in the county, identifying an area of need for support for these children whilst they are on the waiting list.

The map below shows the GP practices that currently have children and young people on a waiting list for an Autism referral. The red & blue crosses represent referral numbers, which are individuals who are awaiting assessment, 2025.



Map Key:

Blue crosses - GP surgeries that have 0 - 40 children and young people awaiting assessment

Red crosses - GP surgeries that have 41 - 72 children and young people awaiting assessment. The red crosses are the areas that are termed a "hot spot".

Early Intervention and Prevention

Community and family hubs

SEND meet and chat drop-in sessions, are held across the county in the Community & Family hubs. They offer an opportunity for families of children (0-25 yrs) with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) to get support with general SEND enquires and support. For example: Coffee and Chat & Stay and Play sessions, delivered by the Early help team, for families with children aged 0-19 years (up to 25 years for young people with special educational needs and disabilities).

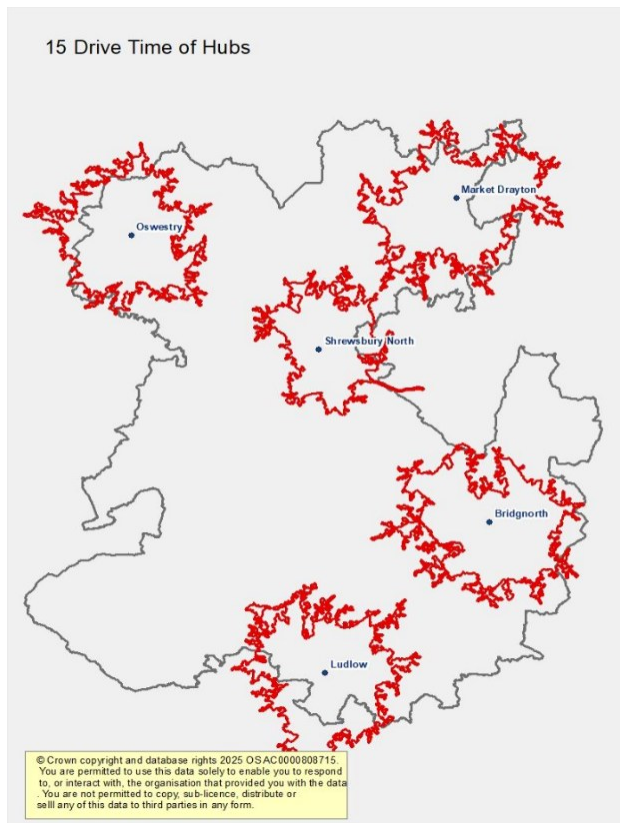
Population within a 15-minute drive time of a hub centre

192,855 (58.9%) of the Shropshire Population (approximately)

49,826 (59.8%) of the Shropshire 0 - 25 Population (approximately)

Table and map showing total population and 0-25 population within a 15 minute drive time to a hub centre.

Hub Area	Total Population within 15-minute drive	% of total Hub Area population	0-25 Population within 15-minute drive	% of total population 0-25 Hub Area
Central North	31,049	52%	8,685	53%
Central South	39,692	77%	10,498	78%
North East	30,703	52%	8,103	53%
North West	40,490	77%	10,869	79%
South East	33,490	49%	7,643	46%
South West	17,431	48%	4,028	53%
Total Shropshire	192,855	59%	49,826	60%

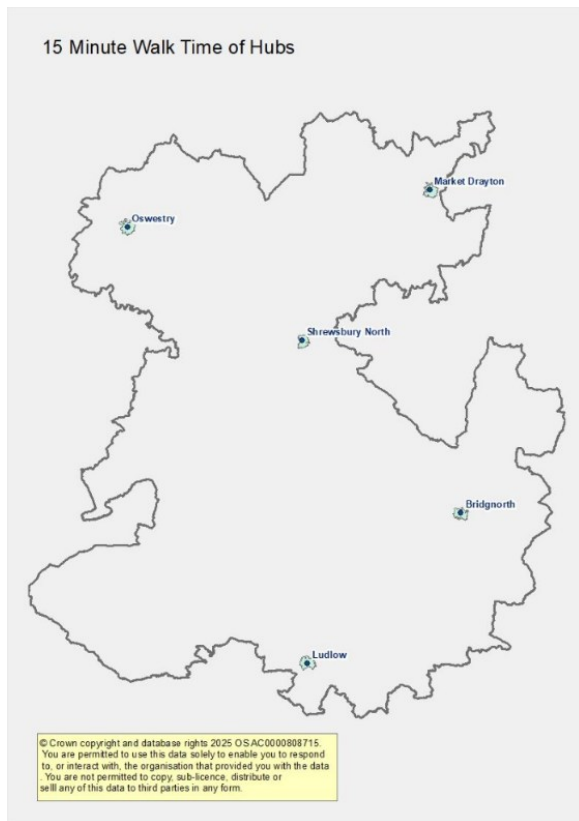


Population within a 15 Minute Walk of a hub centre

31,515 (9.6%) of the total Shropshire Population live within a 15-minute walk of a hub centre.
 8,135 (9.8%) of the 0 - 25 population live within a 15-minute walk of a hub centre.

Table and map showing total population and 0-25 population within a 15 minute walk time to a hub centre.

Hub Area	Total Population within 15-minute walk	% of total Hub Area population	0-25 Population within a 15-minute walk	% of total population 0-25 Hub Area
Central North	1,328	2.2%	489	3.0%
Central South	3,393	6.6%	1,046	7.7%
North East	5,992	10.2%	1,812	11.8%
North West	8,344	15.8%	2,110	15.2%
South East	5,833	8.5%	1,218	7.3%
South West	6,625	18.3%	1,460	19.2%
Total Shropshire	31,515	9.6%	8,135	9.8%



Source: Estimates of population based on using ONS Population Weighted Centroids 2021, ONS Mid-Year Population Estimates 2022.

Note: These are estimates of the population only, based on Population Weighted Centroid (PWC): the location of the point is defined based on the underlying population distribution within the polygon (drive time) using GIS. If the majority of the population is located within the drive time, then that whole (Output Area) and its population are included and vice versa.

Note: Hub Areas are calculated by the estimated number of people living within drive time/walk time as a proportion of the estimated total population of the hub area. There is one exception in the North East where a geographical area and population could access more than one hub in 15 mins drive. This area is around Shawbury/Myddle and Hadnall. So in reality the proportion for the North East will be slightly higher. Accuracy of population estimates declines at lower level geographies.