

Joint Strategic Needs Assessment



The Isle of Wight is a Better Place to Live – Equality & Diversity

Last updated: September 2015

Introduction

What is 'diversity'? A range of definitions exist but all cover the same basic range of issues. These include the recognition of differences; respecting those differences and appreciating that different perspectives are valuable and can bring real benefits to an organisation or society in general.

Recognition and acceptance of these differences will help to improve equality between those people who share a particular characteristic and those who do not. There are currently nine 'protected characteristics' for diversity as defined in The Equality Act 2010:

- Age
- Gender
- Race (ethnicity, colour, nationality)
- Religion and belief
- Disability
- Gender Reassignment (transgender status)
- Marriage and Civil Partnership
- Sexual Orientation
- Pregnancy and Maternity

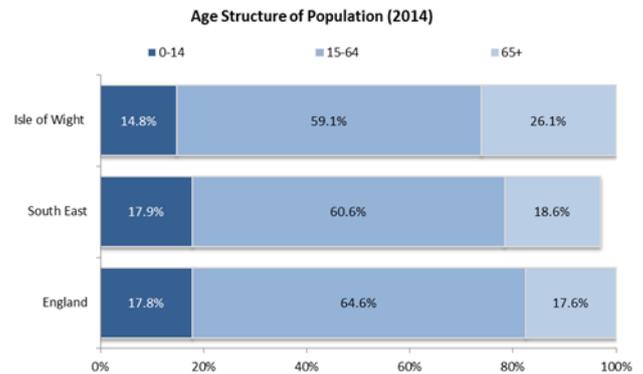
Source: Equality Act 2010 <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2010/15/part/2>

Each of these characteristics is considered below in order to provide an overview of the nature and range of diversity of the Isle of Wight's resident population.

Age

The Isle of Wight has a significantly higher proportion of people aged 65 years and older (26.1%) than both the rest of England (17.6%) and the South East region (18.6%), and a smaller proportion of individuals aged 0 to 14 and 15 to 64.

The following graph illustrates the breakdown of population for the Isle of Wight compared to England and the South East region.

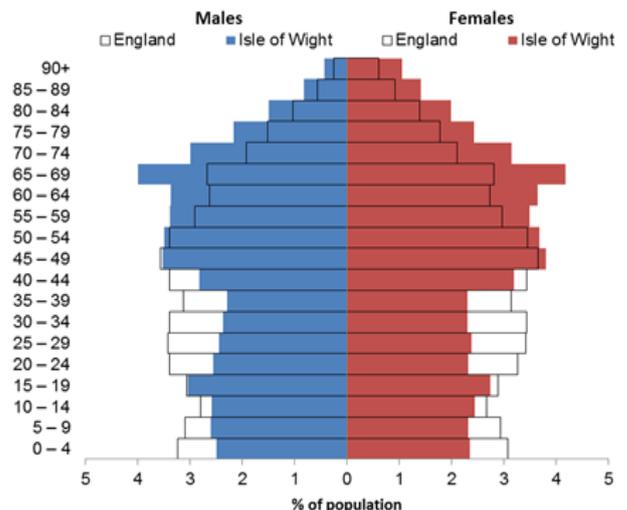


Source: Office for National Statistics (ONS) Mid-2014 Population Estimates

The population pyramid below helps illustrate the Isle of Wight's ageing population when compared with England as a whole. There are particular peaks in the over 45s especially in the 65 to 69 age group reflecting the popularity of the Isle of Wight as a retirement destination.

Although the Isle of Wight has a lower proportion of 0 to 14 year olds and 20 to 44 year olds than England as a whole, the level of 15 to 19 year olds is in line with the England average. This may link to the elevated levels seen in the 45 and over age range with families relocating to the Isle of Wight with older children.

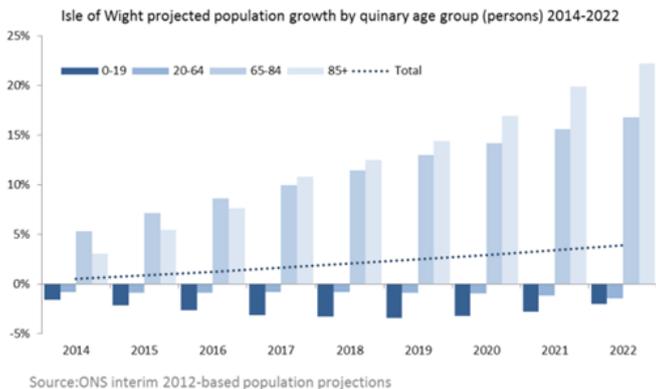
Population pyramid of the Isle of Wight and England (Mid-Year Estimates 2014)



Source: Office for National Statistics (ONS) Mid-2014 Population Estimates

According to 2014 data, Newport West and Ryde South have the lowest number of people aged 65 to 84, while Brading, St Helens and Bembridge, Cowes West and Gurnard and Lake South have the highest numbers. The average number of people over 65 years in each ward was 907. Ryde South, Cowes Medina and Brading, St Helens and Bembridge have the highest numbers of 0 to 15 while Nettlestone and Seaview, Freshwater North and Lake South have the lowest numbers. The average number of 0 to 15 year olds in each ward is 507, almost half that of the over 65's.

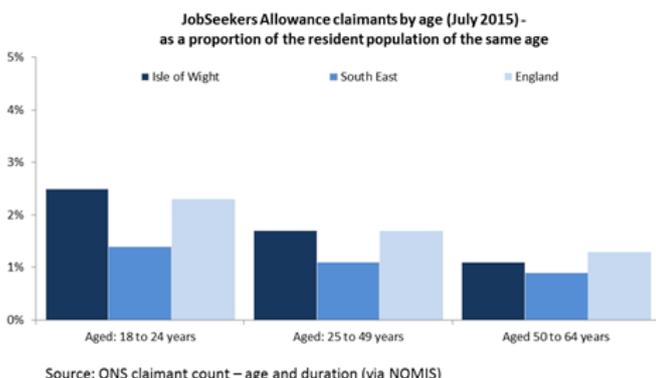
Population projections to 2022 illustrated in the graph below, suggest a continuing increase in the number of residents aged 65 and over (especially among the 85 and over age group) which will continue to have a significant impact on the demand for public services locally.



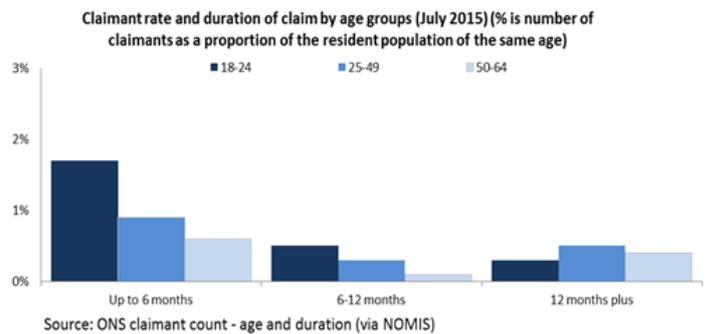
Age of JSA Claimants

Historically, rates for the number of people claiming Job Seekers Allowance (JSA) on the Isle of Wight have a seasonal pattern due to the additional job opportunities associated with tourism, falling during the summer season before rising again over the winter months.

The chart below shows a snapshot of the overall rates by age group for individuals claiming JSA in July 2015 (shown as a proportion of the resident population in the same age group).



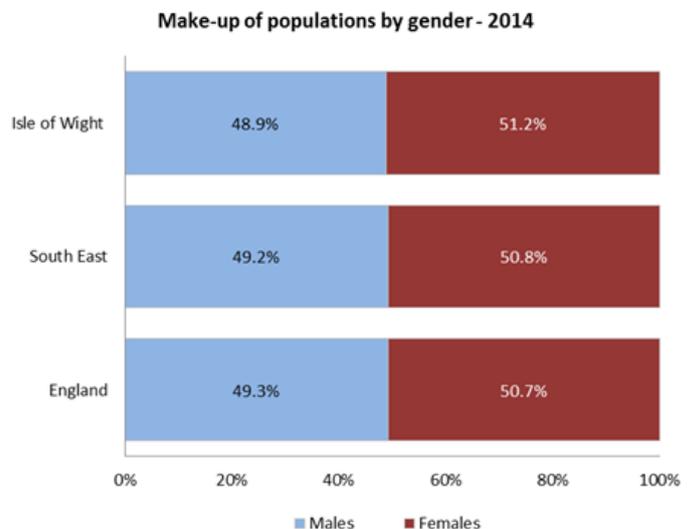
The largest proportion of JSA claimants in July 2015 were Isle of Wight residents aged between 18 and 24 years of age. This was 1.1 percentage points higher (worse) than the South East and 0.2 percentage points above (worse) the national average. The 18 to 24 age group locally have the highest claimant rates for both short (up to 6 months) and longer term (6 to 12 months) receipt of JSA. For claims over 12 months the 18 to 24 age range now has the lowest rate of claims with the 25 to 49 age group forming the largest group for claims over a year.



Gender

Based on ONS mid-year population estimates for 2014, the Isle of Wight has a slightly higher number of females than males (approx. 105 females per 100 males) this is also the case across the rest of the region and nationally.

Males actually outnumber females on the Isle of Wight up to the age of 34, after which numbers for females increase and outweigh those for males. The increased proportion of older females on the Isle of Wight is potentially due to the greater life expectancy among females (83.4 years for females and 80.4 years for males) and the proportion of older residents on the Island.



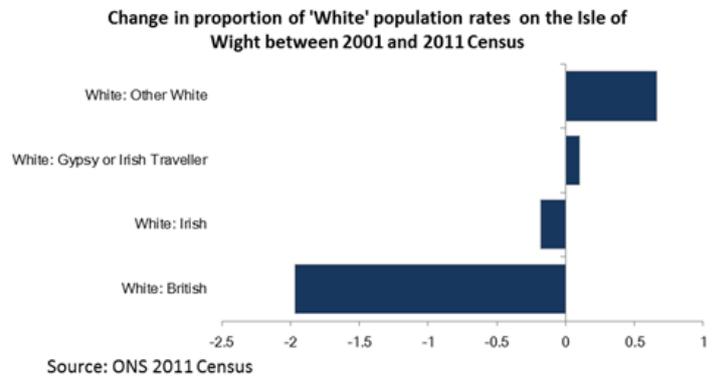
Source: Office for National Statistics (ONS) Mid-2014 Population

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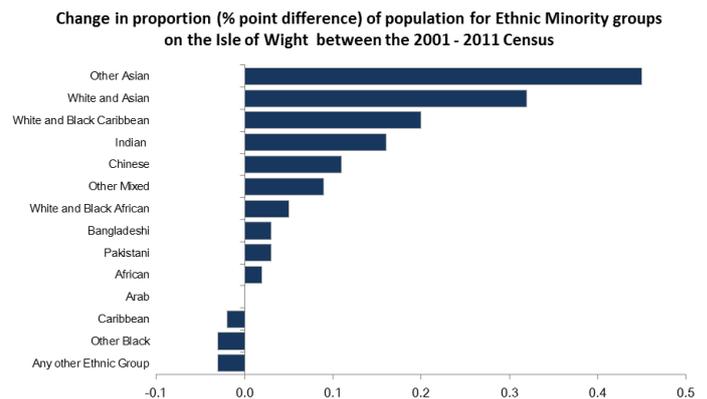
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In the period April 2014 to March 2015 on the Isle of Wight, 73.3% of males (16 to 64) are in employment with 9.9% unemployed. 66.3% of females (16 to 64) are in employment with 5.2% unemployed. Of those in employment, a similar numbers of males and females are employed as employees. This differs from the national trend which tends to see higher figures of male employees. This may reflect the higher than average rates of employment in accommodation and food services and public admin, education and health on the Isle of Wight which have traditionally seen higher levels of female employees. In contrast, figures for self-employment see much higher levels for males with 14.8% self-employed as opposed to 7.4% of women.

There has been a reduction of approximately 2 percentage points in the number of people identifying as 'White British' on the Isle of Wight (from 96.8% in 2001 to 94.8% in 2011)



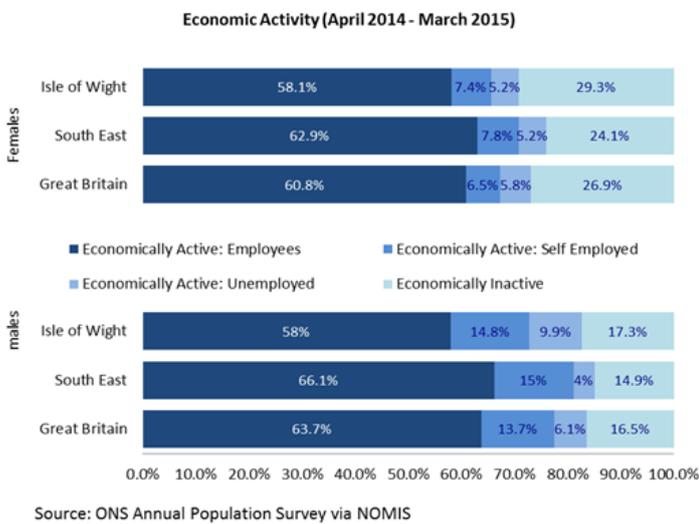
The biggest increases have been in the number of 'Other Asian' and 'White and Asian' although these have both increased by less than half a percentage point in the ten year period.



Between April 2014 and March 2015 a total of 44 people attended Citizenship Ceremonies organised by IWC Registrars. This was lower than previous years which saw figures between 70 and 80.

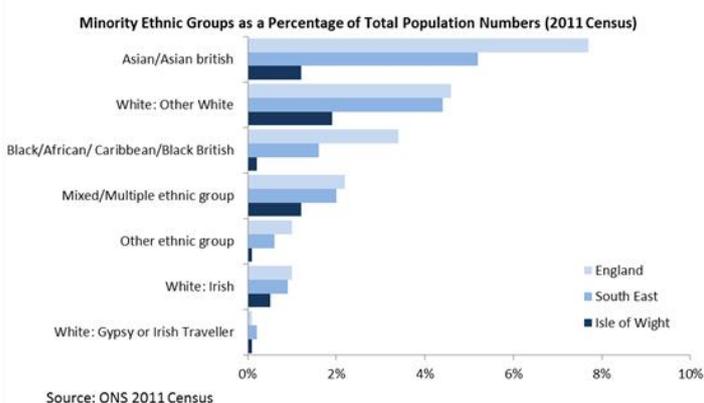
Religion or Belief

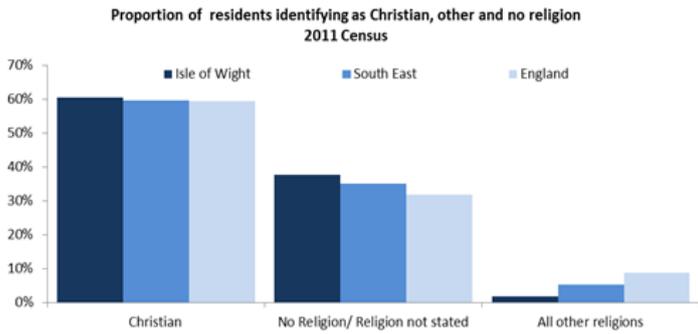
At the 2011 Census, a total of around 138,300 people gave an indication of their 'religious faith', with a total of around 83,900 people (60.5%) indicating that they were Christians. This is a reduction of 13.2 percentage points since the 2001 Census. The proportion is broadly in-line with the South East and the rest of England.



Ethnicity

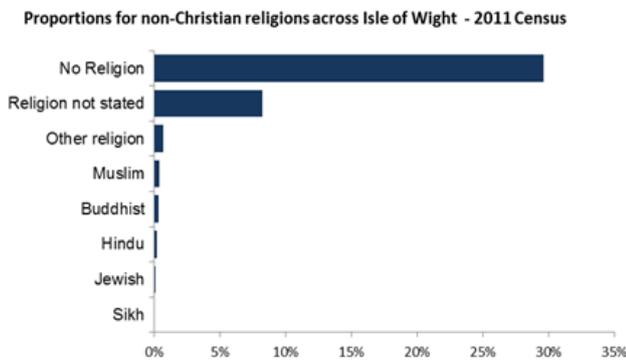
According to the 2011 Census, the majority of residents on the Isle of Wight identify themselves as 'White British' (94.8%) with 5.2% of residents from another ethnic background (an increase from 3.4% in the 2001 Census) There are people from a wide range of backgrounds, in particular there are increasing numbers of 'White - Other White' (1.9%), and also 'Asian/Asian British' residents (1.1%)





Source: ONS 2011 Census

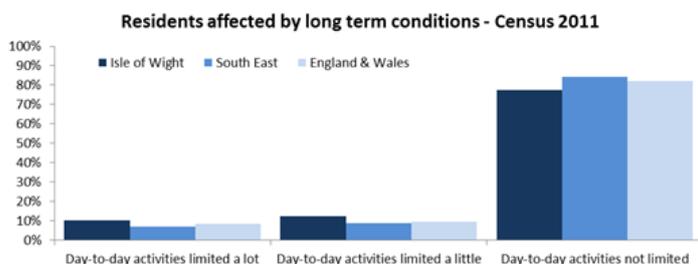
A further 54,600 people (39.5%) responded that they: held no religious belief, did not disclose their religious faith or indicated that they practiced another religious faith. The graph below shows a breakdown of the proportions for each of these responses to religious belief other than Christian



Source: ONS 2011 Census

Disability

There is currently no single best source of data on the numbers of people living with disabilities. The 2011 Census asked a question about whether day-to-day activities were limited by a health problem or disability which has lasted or is expected to last 12 months or more. There is a higher percentage of people living on the Isle of Wight (22.6%) who say that their day-to-day activities are limited a lot or a little by long term health conditions than in the South East (15.7%) or England & Wales as a whole (17.9%). These figures have all increased since the 2001 Census which is likely to be reflective of the increased life expectancy since then.



Source: ONS 2011 Census

Disability related benefits have undergone a recent change with the introduction of Personal Independence Payments (PIP) due to replace Disability Living Allowance in a phased introduction. As of April 2015, the Isle of Wight has 870 PIP claims in payment. This is 0.6% of population and slightly higher than the South East region as a whole (0.4%). Disability living allowance cases still remain high at 6.1% of population nearly double that for the South East region (3.7%) and reflects the findings from the 2011 census. Both figures are slightly lower than previous years due to the phasing in of PIPs. Attendance Allowance rates (benefit for those over 65 with a physical or mental illness that is severe enough to warrant caring support) continue to increase both locally and throughout the South East region with 3.0% and 2.1% claiming this respectively. Rates for the Isle of Wight are higher than those for the South East and reflect the aging population on the Island.

Pregnancy and Maternity

Most recent data shows an increase in live births on the Isle of Wight from 1,287 in 2013 to 1,316 in 2014. This is contrary to the national trend which decreased by 0.5% from 2013 figures which in turn had decreased 4.3% from 2012 figures.

More detailed figures at local level are available from 2013 which indicate that on the Isle of Wight, again contrary to the national picture, an increasing number of babies are born to non-married couples (59.1% as opposed to 46.8% in England).

Live births, usual area of residence, 2013- numbers and rates occurring within/outside of marriage/civil partnerships

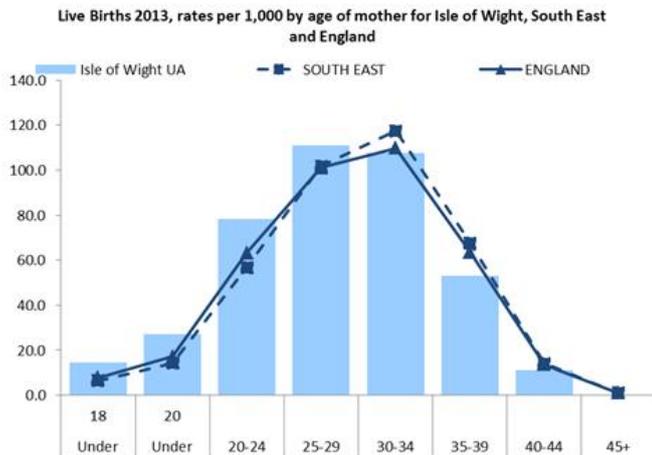
| Area of usual residence | Total numbers of births 2013 Number | Within marriage/civil partnership | | Outside marriage / civil partnership | | | |
|-------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|-------|--------------------------------------|-------------|-------|-------|
| | | 2013 Number | 2013% | 2012% | 2013 Number | 2013% | 2012% |
| Isle of Wight | 1,287 | 526 | 40.9% | 42.1% | 761 | 59.1% | 57.9% |
| South East | 102,190 | 58,380 | 57.1% | 57.1% | 43,810 | 42.9% | 42.9% |
| England | 664,517 | 353,580 | 53.2% | 53.1% | 310,937 | 46.8% | 46.9% |

Source: Office for National Statistics, Live births by Usual Residence of Mother UK, 2014

The majority of these babies are born to mothers aged 20 to 34, in line with the national trend. The average age of mothers moved into the 30s for the first time in 2013 and has increased to 30.2 years in 2014.

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Source: Office for National Statistics, Live Birth by Age of Mother, 2013

The Isle of Wight still sees increasing levels of under 20s giving birth with the rate per 1,000 of under 18s almost double that of England and over double that of the South East. Although under-18 conception rates on the Isle of Wight have reduced by 20.1% since 1998, rates nationally have reduced by 47.9%. The Isle of Wight is currently at odds with the national trend and whilst this should not be ignored it is important to note that there are fewer women of child-bearing age (15 to 44 years) on the Isle of Wight which means that the overall percentage of births to under-18s is increased. 2013 figures indicate that the Isle of Wight also has a lower percentage of conceptions leading to termination of pregnancy at 42.9% when compared to England (51.1%) and the South East (52.9%)

Source: ONS conception statistics, England and Wales 2013 see: <http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/publications/re-reference-tables.html?edition=tcm%3A77-348338>

Under-18 conception rates remain a priority for the children's workforce as findings show that teenage parents and their children can have poorer outcomes with 22 per cent of teenage mothers more likely to be living in poverty at the age of 30 and a 60 per cent higher rate of infant mortality for babies born to teenage mothers.

Source: Tackling teenage pregnancy, Local Government's new public health role, Local Government Association, April 2013 see: http://www.local.gov.uk/c/document_library/get_file?uuid=9f5ef790-eee2-422d-851c-6eb5c3562990&groupId=10180

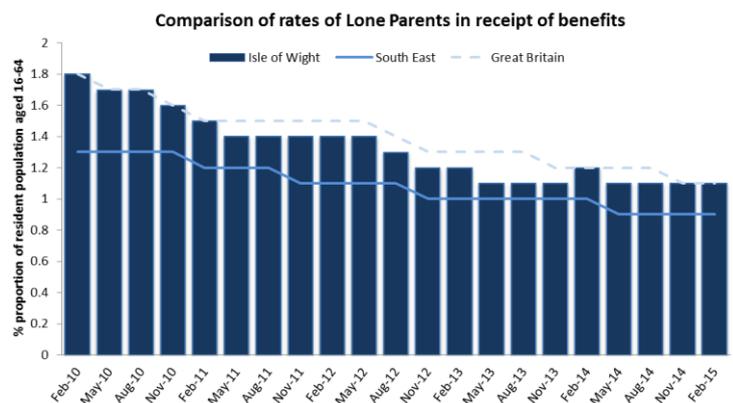
The Isle of Wight Council's Public Health team are working with a wide range of partners from the Children's Trust to improve outcomes for children and young people including the NHS trust, schools, children's centres, youth services and others to deliver a teenage pregnancy plan.

The number of lone parents receiving benefits has generally fallen over the past five years, from 1.8% in February 2010 to 1.1% in February 2015. This reduction may be due to a number of reasons including the reduction in the eligibility for

income support to lone parents on low income with a child under five. After this, parents are expected to find work and if unemployed would receive Job Seekers Allowance. The decrease may also be related to the Government's extension of childcare incentives to help encourage lone parents into work as well as the use of sanctions.

Sources: Exploring the impacts of the UK government's welfare reforms on lone parents moving into work, Literature review, May 2014, Dr H. Graham, Prof R McQuaid, Employment Research Institute, Edinburgh Napier University, University of Stirling http://www.gcph.co.uk/assets/0000/4284/Lone_parents_Literature_Review_web.pdf

The rise of sanctioning in Great Britain, June 2015, A. Tinson, New Policy Institute http://npi.org.uk/files/1314/3444/4908/Sanction_report_1606.pdf



Source: ONS Mid-2014 population estimates and DWP benefit claimants – working age client group

Evidence on the benefits of breastfeeding for both mother and baby is well-established; lowering the risk of obesity, diabetes, gastroenteritis and respiratory infections in babies, supporting bonding and increasing protection against breast and ovarian cancers for mothers. It is a focus of public health to promote breastfeeding and support all women especially those from more deprived areas to breastfeed due to the positive benefits of breastfeeding. The Isle of Wight Council, NHS Trust, Health Visitors and the Children's Centres are leading the way in making the Isle of Wight Baby Friendly.

Source: UNICEF, Baby Friendly Initiative see: <http://www.unicef.org.uk/BabyFriendly/About-Baby-Friendly/Breastfeeding-in-the-UK/Health-benefits/>

The Isle of Wight breastfeeding initiation rate is 75.9% compared to 73.8% for England as a whole. Breastfeeding levels decrease at 6-8 weeks with the Isle of Wight slipping below the England average of 45.8% to 44.4%. Across the Isle of Wight, those living in the 20% most deprived areas have a significantly lower breastfeeding rates (37.8%) compared to those living in the less deprived areas (52.2%).

Source: NHS England, Maternity and Breastfeeding data 2013/14 see: <http://www.england.nhs.uk/statistics/statistical-work-areas/maternity-and-breastfeeding/>

Transgender Status

Transgender status applies to: 'People whose gender identity and/or gender expression differs from their birth sex'. There are currently no official sources of equality information on transgender status. GIRES, a charity working in collaboration to empower and give voice to trans and gender non-conforming individuals and their families estimate 1% (650,000) of the UK population experience some degree of gender non-conformity. On the Isle of Wight this would see 1,391 individuals experiencing some degree of gender non-conformity.

GIRES also charts the growth rates of those seeking medical support in relation to transitioning. This has increased by 20% per annum among adults (who currently account for the majority cases) and 50% per annum among young people with about 26,000 individuals seeking medical care across the UK.

Source: <http://www.gires.org.uk/whatwedo>

Sexual Orientation

This means whether a person's sexual attraction is towards their own gender, the opposite gender, or to both genders.

Currently there is no best source of information on the numbers of Lesbian, Gay or Bisexual (LGB) people living in the local population.

The 2011 Census offered a picture of the number of couples living in same sex civil partnerships households, but this is an incomplete picture with only 65 households.

The Integrated Household Survey (IHS) is the largest social survey undertaken by the Office for National Statistics and asks a question on self perceived sexual identity of adults in the UK. In 2013 (the most recent data), the IHS found 1.6% of adults identified themselves as either lesbian, gay or bisexual (LGB). This compares with 1.5% in 2012 representing a small increase. Applying this estimate to the 2014 estimated local population would suggest an LGB population on the Isle of Wight of about 1,870 people (16yrs and above).

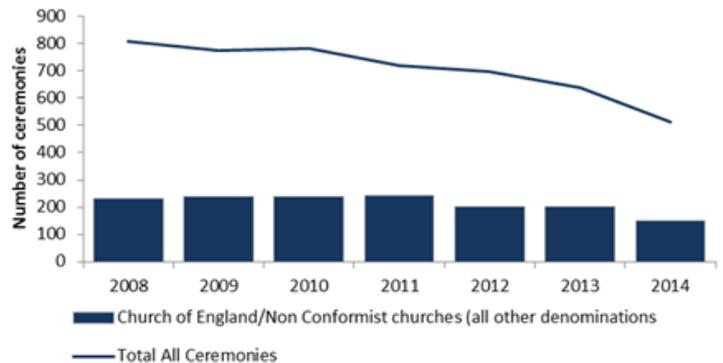
Stonewall, a leading equal rights charity recognise that LGB levels are under-reported and therefore a more likely figure is around 5-7% of the population. Stonewall estimate there are around 3.7 million gay people in Britain. On this basis, figures for the Isle of Wight would be nearer 8,000.

Source: <http://www.stonewall.org.uk/>

Marriage and Civil Partnership

There has been a steady decline over the past 7 years in the number of marriage ceremonies carried out on the Isle of Wight. Ceremonies had reduced by over a third from 2008 levels.

Marriage figures - IWC Registrars and Island churches 2008-2014



Source: Isle of Wight Council Registrars

The most recent figures for the national picture are from 2012 and indicate a slight rise in marriages (by 5.3% from 249,133 in 2011 to 262,240 in 2012). Overall, a long-term decline in the number of marriages was recorded between 1972 and 2009 possibly attributable to the increasing numbers of men and women delaying marriage, or not marrying at all and the increasing number of couples cohabiting rather than entering into marriage and could be applied to the decrease in marriages seen on the Isle of Wight. It is too early to say whether the national increase is an end to the long term decline.

Source: ONS marriage data

Between April 2014 and March 2015 on the Isle of Wight marriage figures have decreased over the last 6 years with numbers down from 637 in 2013 to 514 in 2014. Legislation passed in 2013 which came into effect in mid-2014 means that same sex marriages are now legal within the UK. There were 8 same sex marriages, 4 Civil Partnership Ceremonies and 12 conversions from Civil Partnerships to same sex marriages.

Source: Isle of Wight Council Registrars

Useful Links

Breastfeeding and Smoking in Pregnancy Factsheet at www.iwight.com/factsandfigures