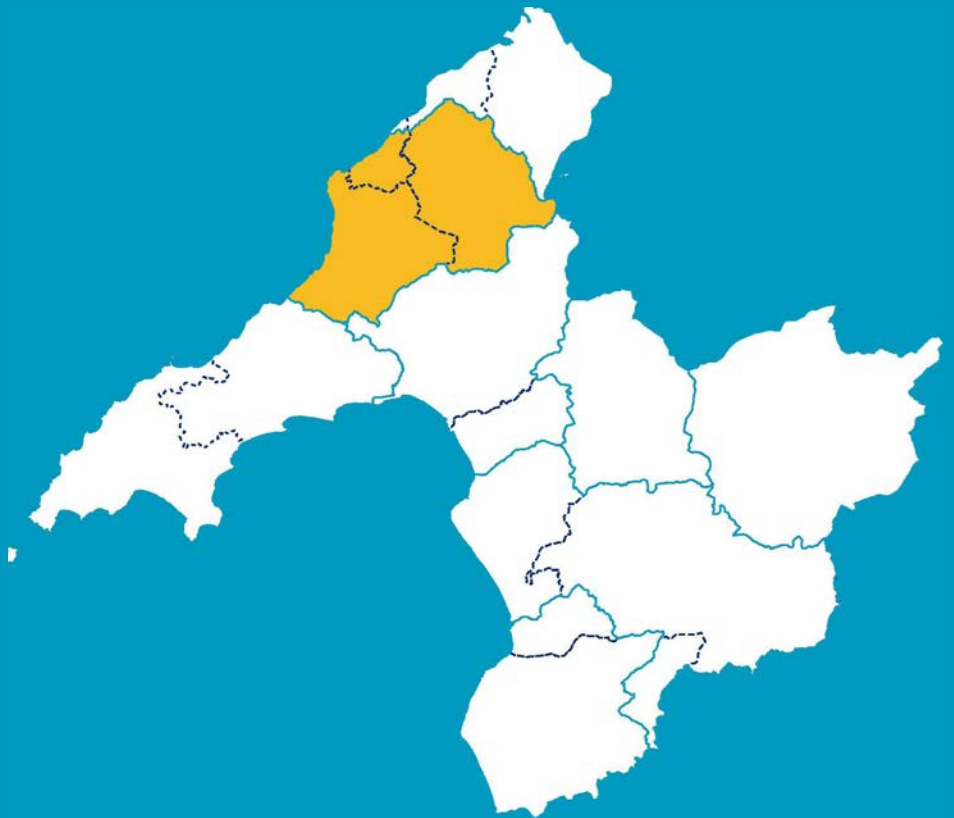


IT'S YOUR AREA WHAT'S IMPORTANT?

CAERNARFON AREA



The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act came into force on 1 April 2016. The aim of the Act is to improve the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales.

The Act has established a Public Services Board (the Board) for every local authority area in order to ensure that public bodies work together to create a better future for the people of Wales.

For Gwynedd and Anglesey, the two Boards have come together to collaborate, and it is a partnership that includes the county councils, the fire and rescue service, the health service, Natural Resources Wales and other partners from the public and third sector.

The Gwynedd and Anglesey Public Services Board has divided the whole area into 14 smaller areas. Research has been undertaken on behalf of the Board on each of the 14 areas in order to understand and learn more about the well-being of those areas. In addition to the available data, partners of the Public Services Board have engaged extensively with our communities in recent months. In Gwynedd, the main piece of engagement work was the 'Our Area 2035' exercise. The aim of this project is to engage and work with residents, groups and organisations to help communities identify those priorities that will need to be addressed over the next 10-15 years and create and realise local regeneration plans. In order to work with smaller communities, the Caernarfon well-being area has been split in three, namely the Caernarfon Catchment Area, Bro Peris and Bro Lleu and Nantlle.

It is also important to note that the research has highlighted some data gaps and that some figures are based on 2011 Census data, which is now over 10 years old. Our intention is to regularly update the data contained in this booklet in order to capture the key messages that have been conveyed about the wellbeing of the county, and thus led to the formulation of a Well-being Plan, which will guide the Board's work over the coming years.

Since the previous assessment in 2016, our communities have faced substantial changes in light of Brexit and more recently the Covid-19 pandemic. Dealing with the crisis has highlighted the importance of services provided by the voluntary and public sector to our communities, and the importance of the joint-working between them. Also, the crisis has highlighted issues that already existed in our communities, for example, poverty and employment, mental health, second homes and loneliness.

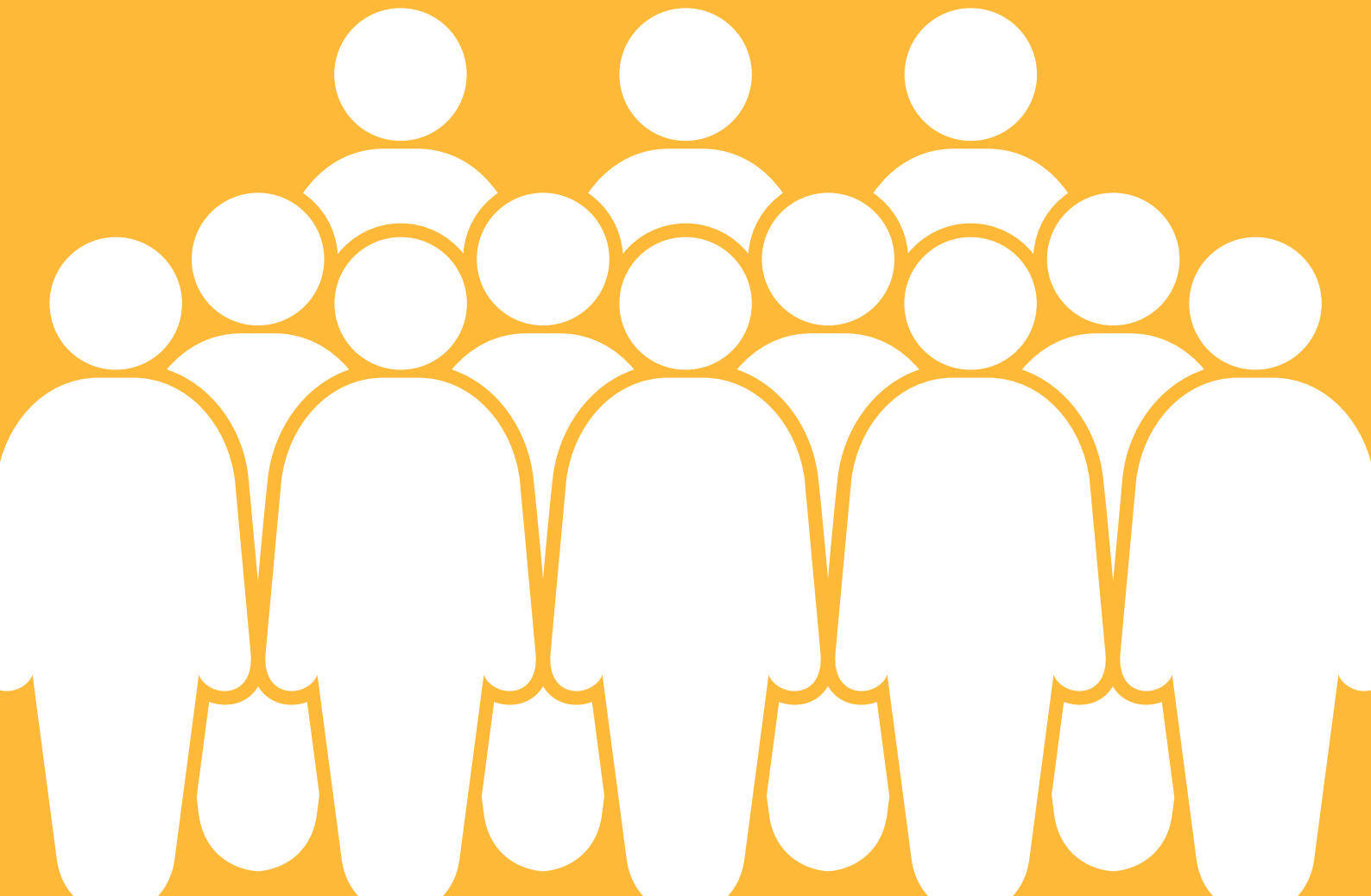
The period has also highlighted the importance of our environment which is central to the health and well-being of our residents and our local economy, attracting visitors to the area. As we look towards a greener path out of the Covid-19 pandemic, it is an opportunity for us to revisit how we use our natural assets to tackle the threats of the climate and nature crises.

The Well-being Assessment will further address those matters that were brought to our attention during the pandemic.

THIS IS THE INFORMATION WE HAVE GATHERED ABOUT THE CAERNARFON AREA, WHICH INCLUDES DYFFRYN NANTLLE, LLANBERIS AND BETHEL DO YOU THINK THIS IS A FAIR REFLECTION OF YOUR AREA'S STATE OF WELL-BEING?



POPULATION



Who are the people of Caernarfon?

33,793 people live in the Caernarfon area, which is approximately 27% of Gwynedd's population.

The population of Caernarfon is expected to grow over the coming years. **Figures suggest that approximately 39,660 will live in Caernarfon by 2043, an increase of 18% since 2019.** A slightly lower increase of 6% is anticipated in Gwynedd.



The largest percentage increase in the population in Caernarfon is expected in the 75 and over age group. This is similar to Gwynedd's estimates, where it is expected that there will be about 42% more people over 75 years old living in the county by 2043.

Language

According to the results of the 2011 Census, **80% of people in the Caernarfon area can speak Welsh**, which is higher than the Gwynedd percentage of 65%, and Wales at 19%. It's also one of the highest percentage of Gwynedd's well-being areas.

The figure has decreased over the last decades compared to 85% in 1981. Reduction can also be seen in the Gwynedd percentage, which has reduced from 76% to 65% over the same period.

According to a 2019 questionnaire, 84% of Caernarfon's primary school children speak Welsh always or often on the yard. This is higher than the Gwynedd percentage of 64%. The percentage of secondary school children who speak Welsh always or often on the yard is slightly lower at 78%, and again this is higher than Gwynedd's figure, namely 42%.

According to groups and organisations in Caernarfon, Bro Peris and Lleu and Nantlle, the Welsh language and culture is one of the main features that make the area a good place to live. (Our Area 2035)



“Welsh is still spoken daily and naturally, even though more non-Welsh speakers are moving into the area.”
(Deiniolen Village Committee, Our Area 2035)

ENVIRONMENTAL



How green is the area?

Fly-tipping is lower in Gwynedd than the rest of Wales – with 5.1 fly-tipping cases to every 1,000 of the population compared to 10.6. There has been an increase in the number of fly-tipping cases recorded in Gwynedd from 529 in 2014/15 to 633 in 2019/20.

In Gwynedd, an increase has been seen in the **percentage of municipal waste sent to be reused, recycled or composted from 59% in 2014/15 to 67% in 2020/21**. In 2014/15, the percentage was slightly lower than the Wales percentage but by 2020/21 the Gwynedd and Wales percentages were very similar.



How clean are our streets?

Street cleanliness is inspected annually by Keep Wales Tidy. In 2019/20 142 streets in Gwynedd were inspected, and 95% were of a high or acceptable standard of cleanliness, that is a Grade B or higher. This percentage is similar to what it was in 2015/16.

Within the Caernarfon area 35 streets were inspected, 91% of which received a Grade B or higher in 2019/20. This percentage is slightly less than the percentage awarded Grade B or higher in 2015 (95% of 42 streets).

In a 2020, dog fouling consultation, 88% of respondents from Caernarfon felt that it was a problem in their area, which is higher than the 81% with the same view in Gwynedd.

During discussions with groups and organisations, litter, clutter and the general appearance of the area was identified as one of the main problems that affected the way people felt about Caernarfon. (Our Area 2035)

“Lack of community pride - littering, irresponsible dog owners, low level vandalism, fly tipping and wild camping.”

(Nebo and Nasareth Committee, Our Area 2035)

Natural environment

Yr Wyddfa

Yr Wyddfa is the highest peak of the mountains of Snowdonia, at 1085m (3,560ft). Most of Yr Wyddfa is a National Nature Reserve.

The reserve is managed in partnership by Natural Resources Wales, the National Trust, Snowdonia National Park Authority and local landowners. Yr Wyddfa is now visited by around 700,000 people every year, compared to about 500,000 in 2018.

Tourism related issues and the pressure on local services were a concern among groups and organisations in Caernarfon, and was highlighted particularly in the Bro Peris area (Our Area 2035). During the Cynllun Eryri consultation (Snowdonia National Park) the need to strengthen the tourism infrastructure and provide suitable public transport for visitors and locals were very important to residents.

“Better management of tourism and its consequences such as parking and litter is needed.”
(Llanberis Community Council, Our Area 2035)

Bathing water

Llyn Padarn in Llanberis is now designated as the only freshwater bathing lake in Wales and the results of samples taken in 2021 have reached the highest “excellent” standard.

Dinas Dinlle Site of Special Scientific Interest is to the south of the bathing area, and the Morfa Dinlle Area of Special Scientific Interest and Abermenai SAC to the Aberffraw Dunes, to the north of the site.

The sea

The Menai Strait is a designated Special Area of Conservation (SAC), and it's known for its richness and complexity of habitats and marine biodiversity.

These include reefs and submerged sandbanks, tidal mud and sandflats, intertidal rocky shores, rare rocky islands and sessile oak woodland clocking the steep coastal slopes down to the water's edge.

Feeding to the south west of the SAC is the estuary of the River Gwyrfai at Y Foryd. This site is valued for its marine biological features, including nationally important seagrass beds and wigeon populations. Large flocks of hawthorn, oyster, lapwing, curlew and reds are also found in the bay.



Ecosystem resilience



Snowdonia is the only place in the United Kingdom where the delicate flower, lily yr Wyddfa, grows. It grows on the rock face and in the rocky outcrops, and thrives in an arctic alpine environment - cold, with ice and snow. However, they are under serious threat by climate change, and with mild winters the plants could face extinction.

Wales' wildlife is in decline, with latest findings showing that one in six species in Wales is at risk of extinction. In 2021, the Welsh Government announced a nature crisis and called for targets to be set to halt and reverse the decline in biodiversity.

Climate change and flooding

The climate and nature crises are major challenges facing future generations. Over the past century, temperatures have increased, sea levels have risen, and weather patterns have changed significantly.

With a much higher proportion of coastline compared to other Welsh counties, climate change has a distinct impact on communities.

In Gwynedd, 11,285 properties are currently at risk of flooding. As the climate changes, communities across Wales are predicted to experience more frequent storms and heavy rainfall, as well as the sea level rising.



11,285

Gwynedd homes are at risk of flooding



Fresh air

NO₂ concentration is one way of measuring air quality and it is conveyed as average micrograms (μg) per m³. In 2019, there was an average of 4.8 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ NO₂ in residential dwelling locations in Gwynedd. This was much lower than the Wales average measurement of 9.2 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$.

SOCIAL



Good health?

In the Caernarfon area in 2020-2021 ambulance response times for a 'red' call, which is the most serious type, averaged 08:21 minutes. Caernarfon's average time has risen in recent years from 07:04 in 2018-2019 and 07:17 in 2019-2020.



Ambulance response time:

8:21 minutes

Two-way public and private travel time to a *GP surgery* is higher in Gwynedd than Wales, with an average time of 54 minutes and 11 minutes compared to 40 minutes and 7 minutes respectively. This is also true for travelling to a *pharmacy* where the average two-way public travel takes 53 minutes and 11 minutes

Further population health figures are available for Gwynedd to provide an indication of the county's health conditions and patterns.

According to latest figures, the life expectancy of males in Gwynedd is 79.5 years, while the life expectancy of females is 83.1 years. This is slightly higher than Wales figures where the life expectancy of males is 78.3 years and the life expectancy of females is 82.1 years.



According to 2017/18-2019/20 figures, 38% of adults aged 16-64 have a healthy weight in Gwynedd. This is more or less the same as the figure for the whole of Wales. This figure increases to 41% in adults aged 65 and over in Gwynedd, which is higher than the Wales percentage of 38%.



Other factors that affect our health is smoking and alcohol consumption. **11% of people aged 16 and over state that they smoke**, one of the lowest figures among Wales' counties, and 16% of people report that they consume more than 14 units of alcohol a week. These two percentages are lower than the figure for the whole of Wales, where 17% smoke and 19% consume more alcohol than the guidelines.

In a survey in 2018/19 and 2019/20, 31% of Gwynedd adults noted that they had eaten at least five portions of fruit and vegetables during the previous day, higher than the Wales figure of 24%.

Mental health is an important part of well-being and health. Public Health Wales data from 2018-19 identifies adult mental wellbeing (16 and over) in the form of age-standardised scores. Gwynedd's score is 52.9 which is slightly higher than the Wales score of 51.4.

Data from the National Survey for Wales for 2018/19-2019/20 indicates that 8% of Gwynedd adults have a mental disorder, a slightly lower percentage than the rest of Wales (10%).

Child and adolescent health

Specific health statistics for Gwynedd children are also available.

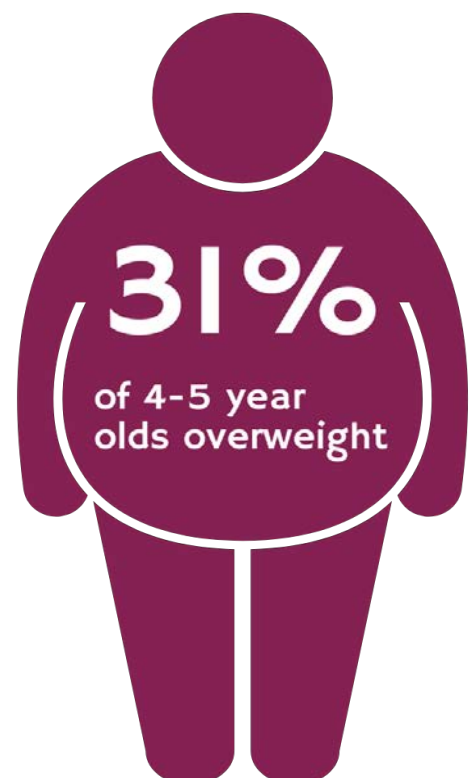
The percentage of individual live births with a low birth weight is slightly lower in Gwynedd than Wales, namely 5% compared to 6%.

In Gwynedd, the percentage of all children fully immunised on schedule by the time they are four years old has slightly increased from 88% in 2017 to 91% in 2019. This is higher than Wales figure, where 88% had been fully immunised in 2019.

31% of 4-5 year-old children are overweight or obese – which is higher than the Wales figure of 27%.

According to data from 2017/18, approximately 9% of Gwynedd children aged 11-16 consumed alcohol and 3% smoked.

In Gwynedd, the teenage pregnancy rate for girls under 18 years old is 16.6 per 1000 girls aged 15-17, and it has reduced since the previous well-being assessment. This is slightly lower than the all Wales figures, namely 18.9, which has also reduced since the previous well-being assessment.



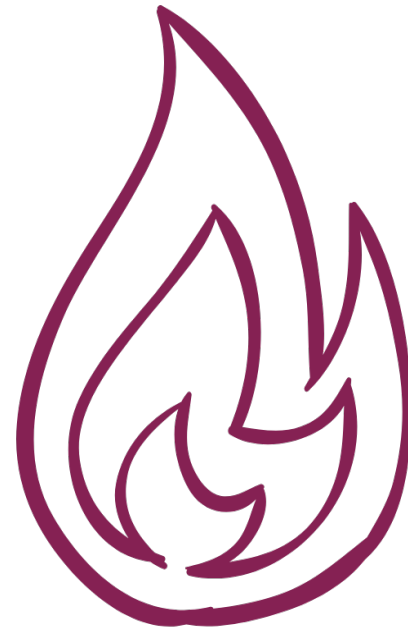
Keeping safe

Caernarfon offences per 1,000 of the 16 and over population have increased between 2018 and 2020, from 108 to 120. This is also higher than it was in the previous well-being assessment in 2015, when the figure was 99.

In Gwynedd, 55% feel very safe and 34% feel fairly safe in the local area after dark. Also, 89% feel very safe and 10% feel fairly safe in their home after dark in Gwynedd. More people feel very safe in their local area or home after dark in Gwynedd than the whole of Wales.

However, community safety, concerns about anti-social behaviour and a lack of CCTV cameras were all themes to emerge in the Caernarfon area during a 'doorstep talks' exercise held by Adra housing association.

On average between 2017/18-2019/20 there were 40 fires that were started deliberately a year in the Caernarfon area and 102 accidental fire incidents, these two figures are higher than the number noted in the last well-being assessment. In Gwynedd on average between 2017/18-2019/20 there were 113 fires that were started deliberately a year and 335 accidental fire incidents a year, the fires that were started deliberately figure is higher than the number noted in the last well-being assessment while the accidental fire incidents figure is lower.



142 fire incidents in Caernarfon

Keeping in touch

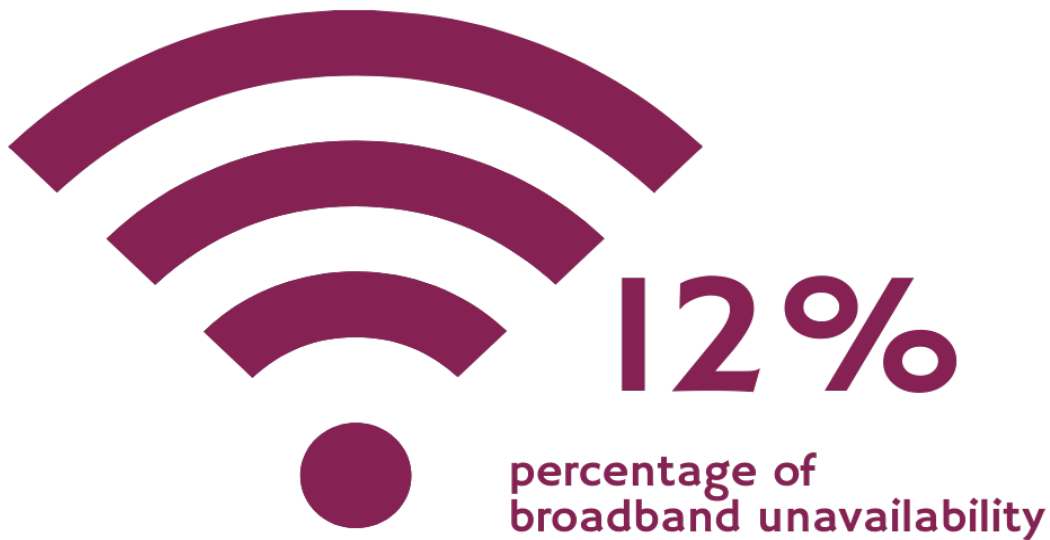


79% of homes have a car or van in Caernarfon

79% of homes in the Caernarfon area have a car or van, which is similar to the figure for Gwynedd. This is slightly higher than the Wales figure of 77%.

Return public and private travel time to a grocery store is higher in Gwynedd than the whole of Wales, with an average time of 40 minutes and 6 minutes compared to 32 minutes and 4 minutes.

There are a variety of travel times within the Caernarfon area. Areas including Llanllyfni and Clynnog, Talysarn and Llanwnda have much higher average public travel time than Gwynedd, while Llanrug and Peblig are some of the shortest in the county.



Figures from 2019 show that Gwynedd had a higher percentage of broadband unavailability at 30Mb/e than the whole of Wales, namely 12% compared to 7%.

16% of Gwynedd residents are lonely, compared with 15% who are lonely across the whole of Wales.

Helping each other

According to the Census in 2011, 11% of the population in the Caernarfon area provide at least one hour a week of unpaid care. This is similar to the Gwynedd percentage.

Pre-pandemic figures show that the percentage of people who volunteer in Gwynedd has increased a little from 31% in 2016 to 33% in 2019, which is higher than Wales' 26%. Covid-19 probably led to a further increase in this figure, however, there is no data by local area available to measure this.

According to the residents of Caernarfon, community spirit and kindness is one of the main features that makes the area a good place to live. (Our Area 2035)

“A community town with plenty of people ready to coordinate voluntary activities - this has become apparent over the pandemic period.”
(Caernarfon Town Council, Our Area 2035)



ECONOMY



Tourism

Including AirBnB there are 706 visitor accommodation businesses in Arfon, representing around 18% of the total for Gwynedd in 2019.

In the Caernarfon area, there are an estimated 18,873 visitor accommodation beds. This represents around 14% of the total number of visitor accommodation beds in Gwynedd.

Two of Gwynedd's 18 main tourism destinations identified by the Council are located in the Caernarfon area, namely Llanberis and Caernarfon.



706 visitor accommodation businesses in Arfon

Houses and second homes

In 2020, the median house price in the Caernarfon area is £157,500, an increase of £27,500 since the last assessment in 2015.



The median income of Caernarfon families is around £27,717, however at least £31,429 is needed to afford an entry level price on the housing to market. This means that 56% of Caernarfon's households have been priced out of the market. This percentage lower than the figure for Gwynedd, namely 59%, and similar to the percentage for Wales. It's likely, however, that the 2020 figures does not fully illustrate the impact of the pandemic on the area's house prices, and these will be updated as the data becomes available.

Concerns about housing matters are highlighted in conversations with groups and organisations, particularly in the Bro Lleu and Nantlle and Bro Peris area, with a lack of affordable and appropriate houses for local people appearing to be an issue that's having a negative impact on how they felt about their area. (Our Area 2035)

“House prices in the area high given the level of wages and financial ability of local young people to buy for the first time - (need) to reduce the stock of second / holiday homes in particular and give priority to the needs of local people.”
(Groeslon Memorial Hall, Our Area 2035)

What do the people of Caernarfon do?

Figures from the 2011 Census show that 29% of the population in work, but with no qualifications, work in the elementary occupations in the Caernarfon area e.g. cleaning and factory work, waste collection, farm work. This percentage is similar to that of Gwynedd as a whole and, in general, more people with no qualifications perform these types of job than any other kind of jobs across Gwynedd.



Only 7% of those with no qualifications work as managers or directors. The 38% of people with a degree or equivalent are working in the professional field. This is lower than the figure for Gwynedd, namely 45% and Wales, namely 43%. Reliable data on areas of work by local well-being area after 2011 is not available, and therefore a significant data gap is evident.



£421 median weekly wage

Salary

The median weekly wage in the Arfon constituency (of which Caernarfon is part) is around £421 a week, which is 9% higher than Gwynedd as a whole (£386 a week) and 16% lower than Wales (£469 a week).

Women's pay is 32% less than men's pay in the constituency. This gap is similar to the gap across Gwynedd.

42% of the over-50s population work in Gwynedd - higher than the figure for Wales of 40%.

Unemployment

75% of Gwynedd residents aged between 16 and 64 are in work or education, which is slightly lower than the Wales percentage of 76%.

The percentage of people aged 16-64 claiming Jobseeker's Allowance in the Caernarfon area is 4.9%. This is slightly higher than the percentage for Gwynedd, namely 4.5%.

The figure varies greatly month to month with the highest being February 2021 (5.9%) and the lowest in October 2021 (3.7%). This is probably due to the impact of the Covid-19 lockdown at the beginning of 2021.



4.9%

claiming Jobseeker's Allowance

Businesses

In 2020, a total of 4,380 businesses were registered in Gwynedd.

The rate of new business start-ups in Gwynedd is lower than Anglesey, North Wales and Wales.



61%
of companies
survive 3+
years

However, 61% of companies in Gwynedd stay in business for at least three years or more. This is higher than Wales at 54%. The rate of failing businesses is also lower in Gwynedd compared to Anglesey, North Wales and Wales.

Skills for life

From 2018/19 the Welsh Government has introduced a new set of performance measures which include literacy, numeracy and science points score. This makes it difficult to make year-on-year comparisons over recent years and there is no breakdown by county since 2018/19.

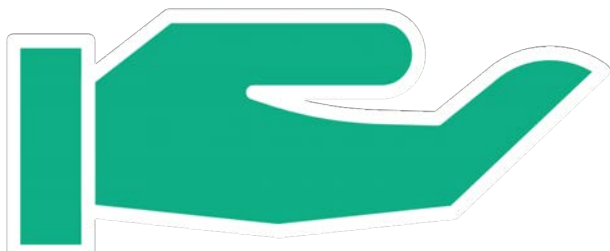
However, figures are available for the number of year 11 school leavers known not to be in education, employment or training (NEET). In Gwynedd the percentage for 2020 is 1.2%, which is lower than the Wales figure of 1.7%.



The money in your pocket

£15,941

income available to
spend after home
and tax costs



The money available to spend by the people of Gwynedd, after paying taxes and household bills, is £15,941 per head per annum, which is £1,322 less than for Wales as a whole.

In the Caernarfon area, 16% of primary school pupils claim free school meals which is slightly higher than Gwynedd as a whole. By the time pupils reach secondary school, the figure drops to 12%, which is similar to Gwynedd as a whole.

According to pre-pandemic figures almost 20% of households in Caernarfon are in fuel poverty, which is similar to the figure for the whole of Gwynedd, but higher than the figure for Wales (14%).

However, with the recent fuel price increase this figure is likely to be much higher than estimated in 2018, but unfortunately sourcing reliable data in this field was problematic.

CULTURAL



Keeping fit

According to the latest School Sports Survey by Sport Wales, the number of Gwynedd children participating in sports three or more times per week is similar to the figure across Wales

In 2018, 49% of Gwynedd children participated in sport activities three or more times a week – this compared to 48% in Wales. 66% of Gwynedd pupils participate in community sports outside the school at least once a week, similar to the 65% in Wales.



49%

of children participating in sports 3+ times a week

In 2019, 33% of adults reported participating in sporting activities three or more times a week compared to 32% in Wales.

Return public and private travel time to a sports facility is higher in Gwynedd than Wales, with an average time of 71 minutes and 12 minutes compared to 55 minutes and 10 minutes respectively. Again there is variety within the area, with the average public travel time of the Talysarn and Waunfawr areas and the private travel time of Deiniolen and Llanberis being some of the longest in the county.

Leisure time

Return public and private average travel times to a public library is higher in Gwynedd than the whole of Wales, with an average time of 61 minutes and 15 minutes compared to 45 minutes and 10 minutes.

There is variation within the Caernarfon area, where Deiniolen and Llanwnda public travel times are some of the longest in the county, areas including Penygroes, Pablig, Menai and Cadnant are well below the Gwynedd average. Deiniolen and Llanberis average private travel time is some of the longest in the county while Penygroes is one of the shortest.





Leisure time figures are available for the run up to the pandemic. According to a survey from 2019/20, **65% of adults in Gwynedd stated they had attended an arts event during the year** and 38% had visited a museum.

Both of these figures have slightly increased since the previous well-being assessment. In 2016/17, 47% had visited historical places, a reduction since the previous assessment.

The effect of the pandemic on arts and culture is apparent, with theatre and cinemas having to close over the lock-up period and subsequent restrictions on the number who could attend an event. However, reliable figures to measure this effect per local area was not available.

Green spaces

There is a link between cultural well-being and spending time in green spaces and nature, and proximity to a natural green space is one form of assessing an area's physical environment.

The score for proximity to an Accessible Natural Green Space is the same for Gwynedd and the whole of Wales, namely 77%. Within the Caernarfon area there are a variety of scores, and the Seiont 1 area has one of the highest scores in Gwynedd at 100%. The scores of Menai, Pablig, Seiont 2 Llanberis and Llanrug are also very high.

World Heritage Site

The slate landscape of north-west Wales has been added to the UNESCO World Heritage List, making it the fourth World Heritage Site in Wales.

The new World Heritage Site includes the quarry landscapes of Penrhyn, Dinorwig, the Nantlle Valley and Ffestiniog. The National Slate Museum in Llanberis, Penrhyn Castle and Ffestiniog and Talyllyn Railways are also a part of the site.



SAFLE TREFTADAETH Y BYD
Llechi Cymru
Wales Slate
WORLD HERITAGE SITE

“The UNESCO nomination status has also brought a sense of local pride and offers many opportunities for regenerating the area and furthering our history and heritage.”

(Tŷ'n Llan enterprise in Llandwrog, Our Area 2035)

FOR MORE INFORMATION...

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