

Census 2021: Health, Disability, and Unpaid Care Topic Summary

The source of all the data presented is the 2021 Census. Age-standardised proportions are used throughout this document. They enable comparisons between populations over time and across geographies, as they account for differences in the population size and age structure.

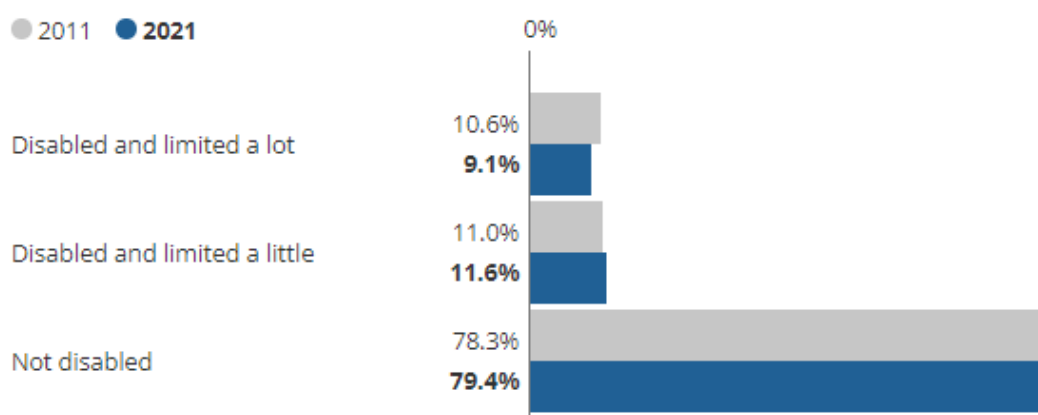
Key points

- The percentage of people who were identified as being disabled and limited a lot in Sheffield decreased by 1.5 percentage points between 2011 and 2021.
- The percentage of people in Sheffield who reported themselves as being in very good health increased by 1.5 percentage points, and in good health by 0.3 percentage points.
- The percentage of people who do not provide unpaid care has increased by 2.3 percentage points, from 87.8% to 90.1%.

Disability

Between 2011 and 2021, the proportion of people in Sheffield who were disabled and limited a lot in their activities fell from 10.6% to 9.1%, while the proportion of people who were disabled and limited a little increased slightly, from 11.0% to 11.6%

Age standardised disability of Sheffield residents, 2011 and 2021



Across England, the proportion of disabled people decreased between censuses from 19.3% in 2011 to 17.7% in 2021.

Please note that comparisons between 2011 and 2021 cannot be made exactly due to slight changes in the wording of the census question.

64.2% of Sheffield households had no disabled person in them. 28.1% of households had one disabled person, and 7.7% had two or more disabled people living in them. (Note that data relating to household numbers are not age standardised).

General Health

There has been an overall improvement in the self-reported health of people aged 16 years and over in Sheffield since 2011, with increases in the proportion of people reporting themselves to be in good or very good health and decreases in the proportions of people considering themselves to be in fair, bad and very bad health.

	2021 Percentage	Change since 2011 (percentage point)
Very good health	44.5	+1.5
Good health	34.4	+0.3
Fair health	14.5	-1.2
Bad health	5.1	-0.5
Very bad health	1.5	-0.1

The increase of 1.5 percentage points in the proportion of people reporting very good health was lower than that for all of England, which increased by 2.5 percentage points, from 45.0% to 47.5%. However, the percentage of people in England in good health fell by 0.6 percentage points, from 34.8% to 34.2%.

Unpaid Care

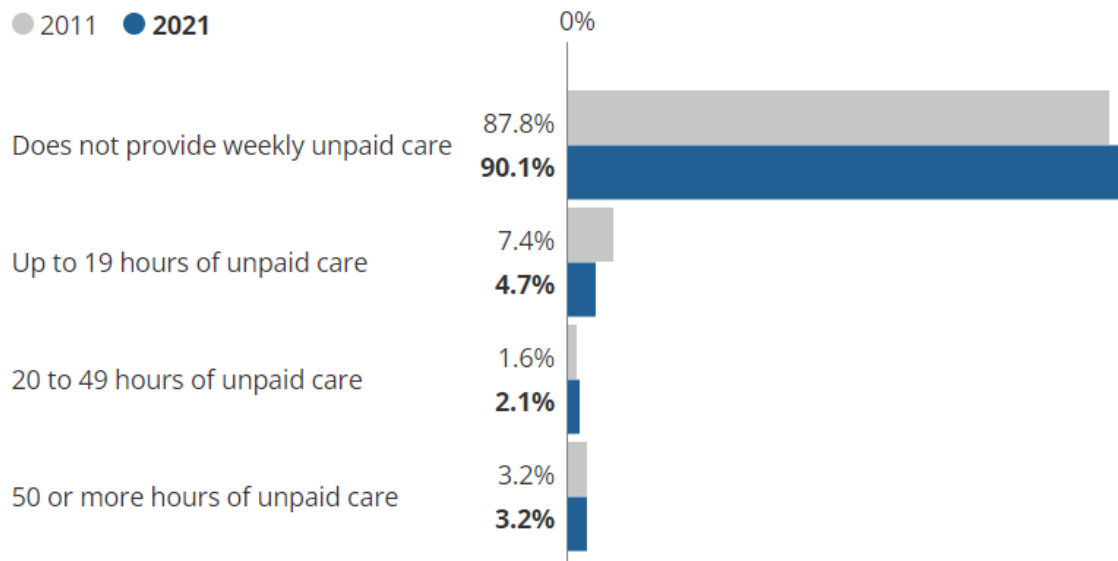
Census 2021 asked "Do you look after, or give any help or support to, anyone because they have long-term physical or mental health conditions or illnesses, or problems related to old age?". People were asked to exclude anything they did as part of their paid employment.

The wording of the question differs from the 2011 Census question, which began "Do you look after, or give any help or support to family members, friends, neighbours or others". Caution should therefore be taken when making comparisons between 2011 and 2021 because of changes in the wording and response options

In 2021, 4.7% of Sheffield residents (aged five years and over) reported providing up to 19 hours of unpaid care each week. This figure decreased from 7.4% in 2011.

The decrease in the proportion of people providing up to 19 hours of weekly unpaid care in Sheffield (2.7 percentage points) was similar to the decrease across Yorkshire and The Humber (2.7 percentage points, from 7.1% to 4.4%). Across England, the proportion fell by 2.8 percentage points, from 7.2% to 4.4%.

Proportion of usual Sheffield residents (aged five years and over) by hours per week of unpaid care provision



There was a smaller increase in the proportion of people providing 20 to 49 hours of unpaid care, while proportion of people providing 50 or more hours of unpaid care has stayed around the same.