

Neighbourhood Health Profile: North Southport

Contextual data for the North Southport Health Neighbourhood.

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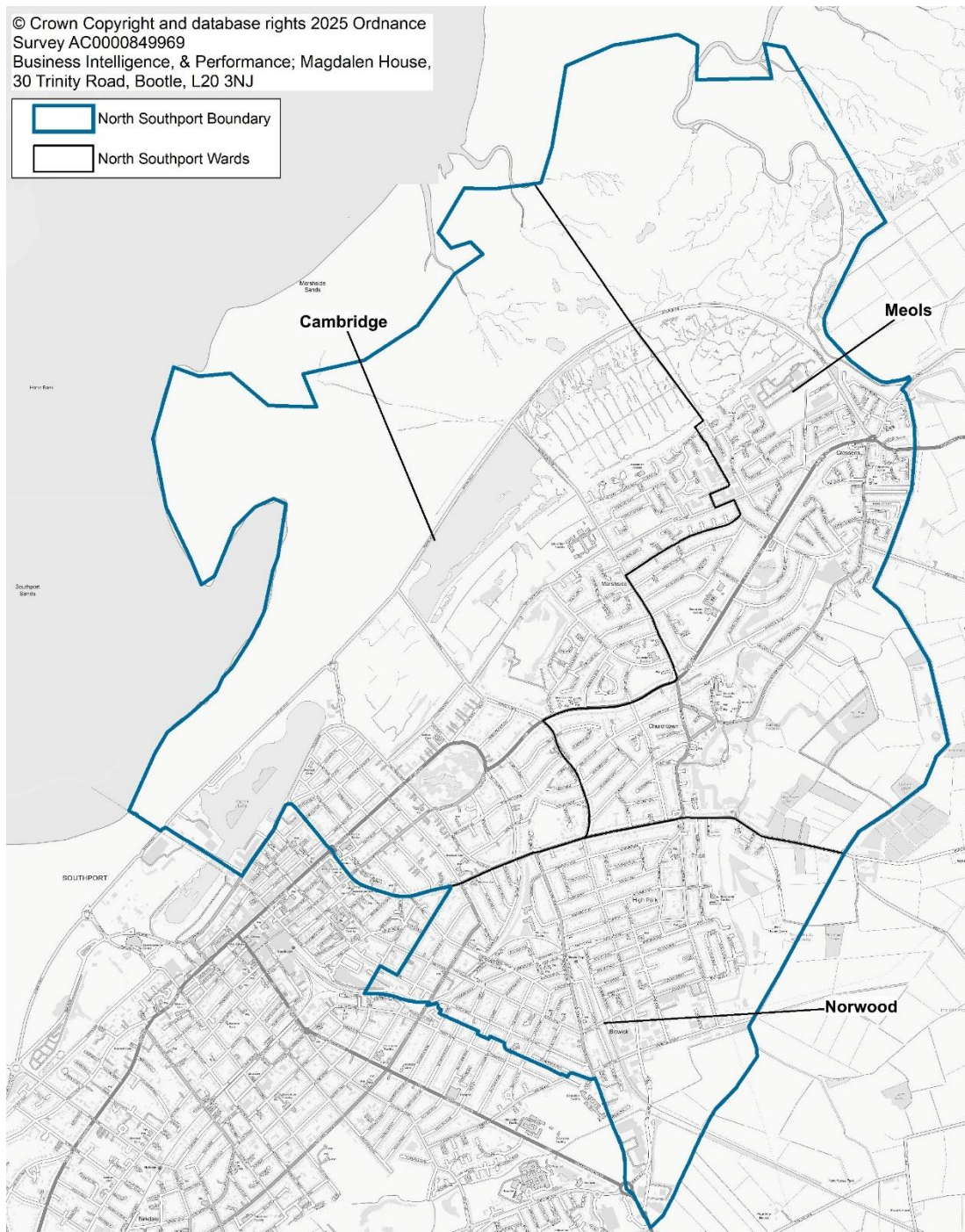
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North Southport Neighbourhood Health Area



The North Southport Neighbourhood Health area is located in northern Sefton and is made up of three wards: Cambridge, Meols and Norwood.

Demographics

The Office of National Statistics (ONS) mid-year 2022(30 June) population estimates by ward were used to calculate the population totals for North Southport, Sefton, the North West (region) and England (national):

- Children aged 0–15 made up 15.9% of North Southport's population (equating to 6,242 residents), compared to 16.9% in Sefton overall, 18.7% in the North West and 18.5% in England.
- Those aged 16–64 accounted for 56.6% (22,260 residents) of North Southport residents, versus 59.7% in Sefton, 62.5% regionally and 62.9% nationally.
- The proportion of residents aged 65 and over was higher in North Southport (27.5% - 10,836 residents) than in the Borough as a whole (23.4%), the North West (18.8%) and England (18.6%).
- North Southport also had a higher rate of residents aged 85 over (4.6% - 1,803) than seen in the Borough (3.4%), regionally (2.4%) and nationally (2.5%)

Deprivation

The **Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD)** is part of the UK Government's Indices of Deprivation and is used to measure and rank relative deprivation across small geographic areas known as Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs, based on 2011 boundaries). It assesses disadvantage using 37 indicators grouped into seven domains. The most recent IMD was published by the Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government on 26 September 2019. In this report, topic-level averages have been calculated using best-fit LSOAs.

- North Southport's average IMD score (21.61) was lower than Sefton (27.04), the North West (27.91) and similar to the English average (21.67).
 - Two of the 27 LSOAs in North Southport fell within the 10% most deprived areas nationally. In comparison two of North Southport's LSOAs were in the least deprived 20% areas nationally.

The **Income Deprivation Affecting Older People Index (IDAOPI)** is a subdomain of the Income Deprivation domain. It measures the proportion of people aged 60 and over experiencing income deprivation. This is based on the percentage of the population in this age group receiving income support, income-based Jobseeker's Allowance, Pension Credit, or Child Tax Credit (where both the claimant and their partner are aged 60 or over).

- The IDAOPI score in North Southport was 0.16, lower than the Borough (0.17), regional (0.19) and national (0.17) averages, demonstrating a slightly lower level of income deprivation among older residents in North Southport than compared to the three comparator areas.
 - Three of the 27 LSOAs in North Southport fell within the 20% most deprived areas nationally, one of which was in the most deprived 10%. With one area falling in the bottom 20% of deprived areas nationally.

The **Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI)** is a subdomain of the Income Deprivation domain. It measures the proportion of children aged 0–15 living in income-deprived families (i.e. those receiving certain benefits or with low household income).

- The average IDACI score in North Southport (0.14) was lower than in Sefton (0.19), the North West (0.18), and England (0.16), indicating that income-related deprivation among children is less in North Southport than seen locally, regionally and nationally.
 - Two of the 27 LSOAs in North Southport fell within the 20% most deprived areas nationally, with another two areas falling in the least deprived 20% areas in England.

Relative low-income is defined as a family in low income Before Housing Costs (BHC) in the reference year. A family must have claimed Child Benefit and at least one other household benefit (Universal Credit, tax credits, or Housing Benefit) at any point in the year to be classed as low income in these statistics. Gross income measure is Before Housing Costs (BHC) and includes contributions from earnings, state support and pensions.' Department for Work and Pensions.

- In 2023/24, 24.2% of children aged 0–15 in North Southport lived in relative low-income families, compared to 22.3% in Sefton and England, and 28.0% in the North West. This indicates slightly higher levels of child poverty in North Southport compared to the Borough and national averages.
- There were a total of 1,511 children living in low income families (relative) in North Southport in 2023/24.

Fuel poverty in England is measured using the Low Income Low Energy Efficiency (LILEE) indicator. There are three important elements in determining whether a household is fuel poor: household income, household energy requirements and fuel prices. According to the 2024 English sub-regional fuel poverty statistics (based on 2022 data):

- 15.0% of households in North Southport (approximately 2,743 households) were living in fuel poverty. This compares to 13.9% across Sefton, 14.1% in the North West, and 13.1% across England overall.

Benefit Claimants

The Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) publishes benefit claimant data across various categories and time intervals:

Universal Credit (UC) is a single monthly payment designed to support individuals and households with low income or those who are unemployed. It replaces six legacy benefits: Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance, Income-related Employment and Support Allowance, Income Support, Working Tax Credit, Child Tax Credit, and Housing Benefit. As of August 2025:

- In North Southport, 4,246 residents (19.1% of those aged 16–64) were claiming Universal Credit, comparable to the national average (19.2%) and below the rates in Sefton (21.3%) and the North West (22.0%).
 - Among North Southport claimants, 65.5% were unemployed, compared to 69.2% across Sefton, 68.6% regionally, and 66.4% nationally.
- In May 2025, 20.1% of households in North Southport (approximately 3,566 households) were receiving Universal Credit, lower than the rates in Sefton (24.7%), the North West (27.1%) and England (24.2%).
 - 11.0% of households in North Southport were claiming the housing element of Universal Credit, compared to 14.7% in Sefton, 16.3% in the North West, and 15.3% nationally.

Personal Independence Payment (PIP) is a non-means-tested benefit that supports individuals with long-term physical or mental health conditions or disabilities that impact daily living or mobility. As of July 2025:

- In North Southport, 2,449 residents aged 16 to 64 were claiming Personal Independence Payment (PIP), representing 11.0% of the population in that age group. This is lower than the rates in Sefton (12.1%), yet higher than the North West (10.3%) and England overall (8.0%).

Disability Living Allowance (DLA) is a benefit for individuals under 16 and those aged 65 and over who require support with personal care or mobility due to a disability. It consists of two components, care and mobility, which may be awarded separately or together. As of February 2025:

- 562 children in North Southport received Disability Living Allowance (DLA), representing approximately 9.0% of the local population aged 0–15. This rate is lower than Borough average (10.4%), yet higher than the regional average (8.0%), and the national average (7.2%).
- Among residents aged 65 and over, 398 individuals (3.7%) in North Southport received DLA payments. This is below the rates in Sefton and the North West (both 4.5%), but slightly above the national average (3.1%).

Attendance Allowance is a non-means-tested benefit for individuals of State Pension age and above who have a disability or health condition severe enough to require regular care or supervision. It is intended to help cover the additional costs associated with personal care needs. As of February 2025:

- In North Southport, 1,653 residents aged 65+ were claiming Attendance Allowance, representing 15.3% of that age group. This is below the Borough average (16.4%), similar to the North West (15.1%), and above the national rate (13.7%).

Pension Credits is a means-tested benefit for individuals over State Pension age who are on a low income. It provides additional financial support to help with living and housing costs. Pension Credit is distinct from the State Pension and is intended to ensure older people have a minimum guaranteed income. In February 2025:

- In North Southport, 1,304 residents aged 65+ were claiming Pension Credit, accounting for 12.0% of that age group. Lower than the rates in Sefton (13.0%) and the North West (12.6%), yet higher than England (11.1%).

Unemployment estimates reflect the number of individuals aged 16 and over who are claiming unemployment-related benefits. While this measure provides insight into benefit claimants primarily due to unemployment, it does not align with the International Labour Organisation (ILO) definition, which includes all individuals who are out of work, actively seeking employment, and available to start work. Despite this distinction, benefit claimant data remains a useful indicator for tracking unemployment trends across areas and over time. As of September 2025:

- Approximately 700 residents in North Southport were claiming unemployment-related benefits, representing 2.1% of the population aged 16 and over. Slightly lower than Sefton (2.7%), the North West (3.3%) and England (3.2%).

Sefton's Emergency Limited Assistance Scheme (ELAS) provides short-term support to local residents aged 16 and over who are experiencing severe hardship, a disaster, or an emergency. The scheme is designed to meet one-off essential needs, rather than ongoing expenses. Support may include help with the cost of food, gas/electricity, and, in certain circumstances, furniture or domestic appliances. Between April 2024 and March 2025:

- In North Southport, there were 515 applications for ELAS support, equating to 16 applications per 1,000 residents aged 16 and over. Lower than the Sefton average of 36 applications per 1,000 residents.
 - Of those who applied in North Southport, 57.5% were approved, below the Sefton-wide approval rate of 64.2%.

Children Social Care

Sefton Children's Social Care (CSC) supports families and helps keep children and young people safe from harm by providing a range of services—from early help for families with children to protection for those at risk of abuse or neglect. Please note that some of the children supported by Sefton may not currently reside within the Borough.

Early Help provides support to children, young people, and families at the first signs of difficulty, aiming to prevent issues from escalating and to help them reach their full potential. As of 23 October 2025:

- In North Southport, 80 children and young people had an open Early Help episode, equating to a rate of 115 per 10,000 residents aged 0 to 17. Lower than the overall rate for Sefton, which stood at 135 per 10,000.

Child Exploitation - a multi-agency partnership approach is used to safeguard children and young people under 18 from sexual and criminal exploitation. This includes involvement from social workers, police officers, housing officers, education and healthcare professionals, charity staff, and others. Exploitation can take various forms, and perpetrators may subject children to multiple types of abuse simultaneously. As of 31 March 2025, there were. Between October 2024 and September 2025:

- 25 out of every 10,000 children and young people aged between 10 and 17 residing in North Southport had an open Child Exploitation case. Lower than the Borough-wide rate of 40 per 10,000.

A **Child in Need plan** is a formal, multi-agency support plan developed following a Children and Family Assessment. It is designed for children identified as needing coordinated input from education, health, and social care services to meet their needs and prevent significant harm. As of 27 October 2025, there were:

- A total of 111 children and young people aged 0 to 17 had a Child in Need plan in North Southport, representing a rate of 159 per 10,000 in that age group. This was below the Borough-wide rate of 168 per 10,000.

A **Child Protection plan** is a formal, multi-agency strategy designed to safeguard a child identified as being at risk of significant harm. It involves assessing the likelihood of harm, identifying protective measures, reducing risk, and promoting the child's welfare. The plan also outlines specific actions for those involved and includes methods for monitoring and evaluating progress. As of 27 October 2025:

- Child Protection plan rates in North Southport stood at 47 per 10,000 residents under the age of 18, which was lower than the Sefton-wide rate of 67 per 10,000. In total, 33 children and young people in North Southport had an active Child Protection Plan.

Cared for children are those whose birth parents are unable to provide ongoing care, and as a result, the local authority assumes responsibility for their wellbeing. These children may live with foster carers, in children's homes, or sometimes remain at home while receiving support from the local authority. Care arrangements can be either temporary or permanent, and each child is assigned a social worker to ensure their needs are met and their welfare is safeguarded. As of 27 October 2025:

- There were 30 children and young people originally residing in North Southport that were cared for by the local authority. This equated to a rate of 43 per 10,000 residents aged 0 to 17, which was markedly lower than the Borough-wide rate of 94 per 10,000.

Youth Justice Service (YJS) works with children and families who have had some involvement with law and order. To support children and families to prevent repeat incidences.

- As of 22 October 2025, the Youth Justice Service (YJS) in Sefton was had 13 children and young people with active cases in North Southport. This represents a rate of 46 per 10,000 residents aged 12 to 18, considerably higher than the Borough-wide rate of 37 per 10,000.
- Between July 2024 and June 2025, North Southport had a YJS first time entrants rate of 21 per 10,000 residents aged 12 to 17, this is much higher than the Sefton rate of 12 per 10,000 residents (aged 12 to 17).

Adult Social Care

Sefton received 13,722 unique client contacts to adult social care between November 2024 and October 2025.

- Residents of North Southport accounted for 16.4% (2,248) of the unique client contacts to Sefton Adult Social Care, equating to a rate of 69 contacts per 1,000 residents aged 18 and over, higher than the Sefton-wide rate of 60 per 1,000.

Community Safety

Crime and anti-social behaviour incident data is downloaded monthly from the Police.UK website. Between 1 August 2024 and 31 July 2025, the following were recorded:

- Merseyside Police recorded 2,165 crimes in North Southport, equating to 55 per 1,000 residents, considerably lower than the Sefton-wide rate of 77 per 1,000.
 - 51.3% (1,106) of crimes reported were violent or sexual offences, representing a rate of 28 per 1,000 residents, compared to 36 per 1,000 across the Borough.
- Reports of anti-social behaviour were also lower in North Southport, with 4 incidents per 1,000 residents, compared to 9 per 1,000 across the Borough. There was a total of 165 reports of anti-social behaviour in the North Southport area during the time period.

Deliberate fires data is received monthly from Merseyside Fire and Rescue (MFRAS). 'Fires where the motive for the fire was 'thought to be' or 'suspected to be' deliberate. This includes fires to an individual's own property, others' property or property of an unknown owner. Despite deliberate fire records including arson, deliberate fires are not the same as arson. Arson is defined under the Criminal Damage Act of 1971 as 'an act of attempting to destroy or damage property, and/or in doing so, to endanger life' Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government. Between 1 August 2024 and 31 July 2025:

- There were 12 deliberate fires reported in North Southport, equating to a rate of 3 deliberate fires per 100,000 residents, much lower than the 14 per 100,000 residents seen in Sefton.

Sefton Street Services receives reports of **environmental issues**, such as fly-tipping, street sweeping, and dog fouling, via online platforms and Sefton's contact centre. Between 1 August 2024 and 31 July 2025, the following were reported:

- Sefton Council received 696 reports of environmental issues from the North Southport area, representing 18 reports per 1,000 residents, lower than the Sefton-wide rate of 27 per 1,000.
 - Fly-tipping accounted for 64.9% of all environmental reports in North Southport, with a rate of 11 per 1,000 residents, lower than the Borough-wide rate of 14 per 1,000.

Housing

The Census is conducted every 10 years by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) to provide a detailed snapshot of the population and household composition across England and Wales. Census 2021 took place on 21 March 2021. As part of the survey, participants were asked about the tenure of the property they lived in.

- In North Southport, 12,530 households were owner-occupied, accounting for 70.6% of all households, above the averages for Sefton (66.6%), the North West (62.3%), and England (61.3%).
- In contrast, 28.8% of households (5,117) were rented, lower than the rates seen across Sefton (32.7%), the North West (36.9%), and England (37.6%).
 - Of the rented households, 26.7% were let by registered social landlords, considerably lower than the Borough-wide rate of 44.1%, the regional rate of 47.8%, and the national rate of 45.5%.

- Meanwhile, 73.3% of rented households were privately rented, exceeding the proportions in Sefton (55.9 %), the North West (52.2%), and England (54.5%).

Students

The School Census is a mandatory data collection carried out each term, gathering detailed information on pupils and schools. For Sefton, the most recent available School Census data is from January 2025 and covers all students attending maintained schools or academies within the Borough. This report includes data on primary, secondary, special and post-16 students only. Please note that some pupils may live outside the Sefton boundary but attend a school or academy located within it.

- In North Southport, 4,453 pupils were attending a Sefton maintained school or academy (including primary, secondary, special, and post-16 settings), accounting 12.7% of the total student population across Sefton maintained schools and academies.
- Primary school pupils (Reception to Year 6) made up 55.8% (2,487 pupils) of North Southport's total, similar to the Sefton average of 55.7%.
- Secondary school pupils (Years 7 to 11) accounted for 43.3% (1,927 pupils), higher than the Borough average of 40.6%.
- Post-16 students (Years 12 to 14) represented a smaller proportion in North Southport at 0.9% (39 pupils), compared to 3.7% across Sefton.

'Special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) can affect a child or young person's ability to learn. They can affect their: behaviour or ability to socialise, for example they struggle to make friends / reading and writing, for example because they have dyslexia / ability to understand things / concentration levels, for example because they have attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) / physical ability' Department of Education

- 246 pupils in North Southport had an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP), representing 5.5% of all students in the area, similar to the Borough average of 6.3%.
- 14.9% of North Southport pupils (662 students) were receiving School SEN Support, compared to 16.2% across Sefton.

'Free school meals are available to pupils whose parents or guardians receive one or more qualifying benefits. These include means-tested Universal Credit, Income Support, income-based Jobseeker's Allowance, income-related Employment and Support Allowance, support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999, the guaranteed element of Pension Credit, means-tested Child Tax Credit, or Working Tax Credit.' Department of Education

- Nearly a quarter (24.0%, or 1,068) of students living in North Southport and attending Sefton-maintained schools or academies, from Reception to Year 14, received free school meals. This is lower than the Sefton average of 27.3%.

There are three types of Early Years (EY) provision in Sefton; Childminders, Private, Voluntary, and Independent (PVI) settings, School/Maintained Nursery Schools. As of October 2025, the distribution of these settings are as follows:

- In North Southport there were a total of 12 EY setting; three child minders, six PVIs and three School/Maintained Nursery Schools.

'Elective home education is a term used to describe a choice by parents to provide education for their children at home or in some other way they desire, instead of sending them to school full-time.' Department of Education As of the 22 October 2025:

- A total of 74 children were electively home educated in North Southport, representing a rate of 15 per 1,000 residents aged 5–16. Similar to the Sefton average of 14 per 1,000.

Health

‘Life expectancy at birth reflects the overall mortality level of a population. It summarizes the mortality pattern that prevails across all age groups - children and adolescents, adults and the elderly.’ World Health Organization (WHO). The Life Expectancy at Birth 2022-2024 shows:

- Female life expectancy in North Southport is 81.7 years, similar to the Sefton average of 81.5 years.
- Males in North Southport have a similar life expectancy (78.3 years), to those across Sefton (78.5 years).

Low birth weight, defined by the World Health Organization as less than 2,500 grams (5.5 pounds), may result from prematurity, fetal growth restriction, or both. It is a major public health concern linked to higher risks of infant mortality, developmental delays, and long-term health issues.

- According to the 2024 birth registration data, 6.0% of births in North Southport were classified as low birth weight, lower than the Sefton average of 6.8%, though not significantly.

The National Oral Health Survey, conducted every two years, assesses the dental health of five-year-olds. Due to small sample sizes the ability to detect statistically significant differences below local authority level is limited. The most recent survey, carried out in 2023/24, reported the following findings:

- 59.0% of children aged five living in North and Central Southport included in the survey had visually obvious tooth decay, significantly higher than the 33.3% seen in the Borough. (Please note North and Central Southport data has been combined due to small sample size).

The National Child Measurement Programme (NCMP) is an annual initiative that records the height and weight of children in Reception (ages 4–5) and Year 6 (ages 10–11) to monitor overweight and obesity levels in primary schools. Aggregated data from 2021/22 to 2023/24 revealed the following trends:

- In North Southport, 9.4% of Reception-aged children were classified as obese, a lower proportion to Sefton’s average of 10.9%, though not significantly.
- 25.0% of reception age children in North Southport were classified at overweight or obese similar to Sefton at 24.9%.
- Among Year 6 children in North Southport, 23.3% were classified as obese, similar to the Sefton Borough average of 23.8%.
- The proportion of Year 6 pupils classified as overweight or obese in North Southport was 36.1%, lower than the Sefton average 37.6% (though it is not significantly lower).

Injuries are a leading cause of hospitalisation and represent a major cause of premature mortality for children and young people. They are also a source of long term health issues, including mental health related to experience(s). Public Health Fingertips Crude rate of hospital admissions caused by unintentional and deliberate injuries between 2016 and 2020 show:

- North Southport recorded a hospital admission rate of 93.7 per 100,000 for under-15s due to unintentional and deliberate injuries, lower than the Sefton’s rate of 103.7 (though it is not significantly lower).
- Hospital admission rates for unintentional and deliberate injuries among 15–24-year-olds are higher in North Southport (224.4 per 100,000) compared to Sefton overall (215.4 per 100,000), though it is not significantly higher.

The Combined Intelligence for Population Health Action (CIPHA) uses GP register data, which includes information on patients' smoking status. As of 25 September 2025, the following figures were recorded:

- 13.8% of patients aged 15 and over who live in North Southport and are registered with a GP are current smokers, similar to the Borough average of 13.4%.

The Census is conducted every 10 years by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) to provide a detailed snapshot of the population and household composition across England and Wales. Census 2021 took place on 21 March 2021. As part of the survey, participants were asked about their health:

- 6.9% (2,738) of North Southport residents reported poor or very poor health, comparable to Sefton (7.0%) and the North West (6.2%), but above the national average of England (5.2%).
- 23.1% (9,088) of residents identified as disabled under the Equality Act, higher than Sefton (21.8%), the North West (19.4%), and England (17.3%).
- North Southport residents (11.0%, or 4,335 individuals) reported a disability under the Equality Act that limited their daily activities a lot. This rate exceeds those regionally (8.9%) and nationally (7.3%) but is broadly in line with the Borough (10.7%).

Sources

Demographics

Mid-Year Population Estimates 2022

[Ward-level population estimates \(official statistics in development\) - Office for National Statistics](#)

Deprivation

Index of Multiple Deprivation / Income Deprivation Affecting Older People Index / Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index

[English indices of deprivation 2019 - GOV.UK](#)

Children in Low Income Families (Relative)

[Developer tools - Data tool - Data | LG Inform Plus](#) (log in needed)

Fuel Poverty

[Sub-regional fuel poverty data 2024 \(2022 data\) - GOV.UK](#)

Benefit Claimants

Disability Living Allowance / Universal Credits / Personal Independence Payment / Attendance Allowance / Pension Credits

[Stat-Xplore - Log in](#) (log in needed)

Unemployment

[LG Inform Plus](#) (log in needed)

ELAS

Sefton MBC – Business Intelligence & Performance

Children Social Care

Sefton MBC – Business Intelligence & Performance

Adult Social Care

Sefton MBC – Business Intelligence & Performance

Community Safety

Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour

[Data downloads](#) | data.police.uk

Environmental Issues

Sefton MBC – Business Intelligence & Performance via Regulation & Compliance

Deliberate Fires

Merseyside Fire and Rescue (MFRAS)

[Fire statistics definitions - GOV.UK](#)

Housing

[TS054 - Tenure - Nomis - Official Census and Labour Market Statistics](#)

Students

School Census January 2025

Sefton MBC – Business Intelligence & Performance

[Children with special educational needs and disabilities \(SEND\): Overview - GOV.UK](#)

[Free school meals](#)

Early Years Provision

Sefton MBC – Education Excellence

Electively Home Educated

Sefton MBC – Business Intelligence & Performance

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/5ca21e22e5274a77d9d26feb/EHE_guidance_for_parentsafterconsultationv2.2.pdf

Health

Life Expectancy at Birth

Death registration data 2022-24 via Sefton MBC – Business Intelligence & Performance

[Life expectancy at birth \(years\)](#)

Low Birth Rate

Birth registration data 2024 via Sefton MBC – Business Intelligence & Performance

Tooth Decay

National Oral Health Survey 2023/24 via Sefton MBC – Business Intelligence & Performance

Overweight and Obesity

National Child Measurement Programme (NCMP) 2021/22 to 2023/24 via Sefton MBC – Business Intelligence & Performance

Hospital admission for unintentional and deliberate injuries

[Local health, public health data for small geographic areas | Fingertips | Department of Health and Social Care](#)

Smoking Prevalence

Combined Intelligence for Population Health Action (CIPHA) – GP Registrations via Sefton MBC – Business Intelligence & Performance

Census Health Data

[TS037 - General health - Nomis - Official Census and Labour Market Statistics](#)

[TS038 - Disability - Nomis - Official Census and Labour Market Statistics](#)