

Bristol: The Big Picture

Bristol Ageing Better (BAB) is a partnership of individuals and organisations working together to reduce isolation and loneliness amongst older people in Bristol.



We've put together some facts and stats to help you to understand the local landscape.

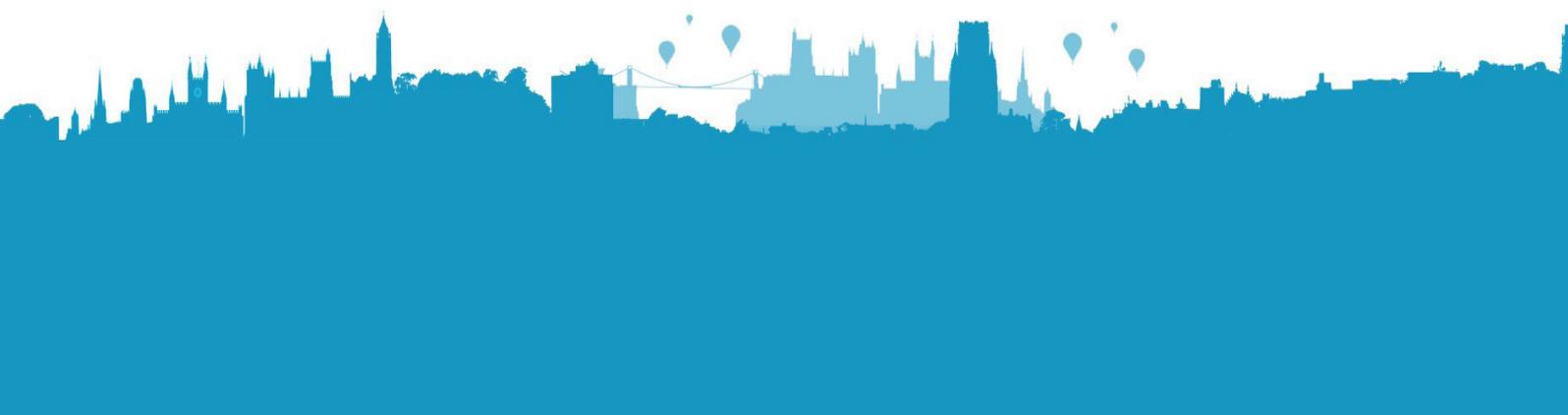
Bristol, broadly

- As of 2016, 454,200 people live in Bristol. It is the 8th largest city and the 10th largest local authority in England and Wales.⁽¹⁾

People living in Bristol come from at least 187 countries of birth. 91 main languages are spoken and the most common are Polish and Somali.⁽¹⁾



- 1.5% (6,089 people) either cannot speak English at all or cannot speak it well.⁽¹⁾ Approximately 200 people use British Sign Language as their main language.⁽²⁾
- There are now at least 45 religions represented in Bristol. The largest religion is Christianity (47% or 200,254 people), while 37% of people have no religion. The second largest religion in Bristol is Islam (5% of the population or 22,016 people).⁽¹⁾
- 16% of Bristol residents are from an ethnic minority background⁽¹⁾ - around 68,642 people. This is higher than the national average of 14%.⁽²⁾
- Between 5-7% of people in Bristol identify their sexuality as lesbian, gay, bisexual or other. This places Bristol within the top 10 of local authorities with the highest proportion of LGB residents.⁽³⁾



Older people in Bristol

- 27.7% of people in Bristol are over 50 years old (125,700 people), 17.2% of people are over 60 (78,300 people), 9.17% of people are over 70 (41,700 people) and 3.8% of people are over 80 (17,386 people).⁽⁴⁾
- 64% of Bristol residents aged 80 and over are female. Amongst those aged 90 and over, 74% are female.⁽⁵⁾
- 6.6% (7,935 people) of people aged over 50 are from BME backgrounds.⁽⁵⁾
- 4,121 people in Bristol are living with dementia, of whom 3,000 have received a formal diagnosis.⁽⁶⁾ 78% of these are aged 80 and over.⁽⁷⁾
- 1,845 people in Bristol aged 65 and over live in a care home. This is predicted to increase by 51% in the next 20 years.⁽⁷⁾
- 11,270 people in Bristol are living with some degree of sight loss, of whom 76% (8,610 people) are aged 65 and over.⁽⁸⁾ 65,791 adults in Bristol have some form of hearing loss, of whom 63% (41,525 people) are aged 65 and over.⁽⁷⁾

Over 21,000 people aged 50 and over (18%) provide unpaid care on a weekly basis in Bristol. Of these, 8,261 are aged 65 and over.⁽⁵⁾



How BAB helps

Bristol is one of 14 Ageing Better areas funded through the Big Lottery Fund's Fulfilling Lives: Ageing Better Programme.

The Big Lottery Fund has provided BAB with £5.9 million over 5 years (2015-2020) to reduce social isolation and loneliness among older people and help them to live fulfilling lives.

Our work is spread across 16 projects within 4 work themes:

- o Creating the conditions to reduce and prevent loneliness
- o Identifying and informing older people at risk of loneliness
- o Working with communities to increase services and activities available
- o Supporting individuals to live fulfilling lives

References:

- ⁽¹⁾ Bristol City Council: The Population of Bristol (September 2017)
- ⁽²⁾ Bristol City Council: Key Statistics About Equalities Communities in Bristol 2011
- ⁽³⁾ Bristol City Council: Profile: Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual - LGB (January 2011)
- ⁽⁴⁾ ONS 2016 Mid-Year Population Estimate
- ⁽⁵⁾ 2011 Census
- ⁽⁶⁾ Bristol Health Partners: Successes of the Dementia HIT in 2016-17 (May 2017)
- ⁽⁷⁾ Projecting Older People Population Information System
- ⁽⁸⁾ RNIB Sight Loss Data Tool v3.6