

Using the KnowFife Dataset to understand the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD)

What this is about?

An overview of how the KnowFife Dataset can and can't be used to look at concentrations of multiple deprivation in Fife as shown through the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD).

Who is it for?

Anyone with an interest in understanding a local area or neighbourhood, particular in relation to concentrations of deprivation within and between areas in Fife.

What do you need to know?

Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation

The Scottish Government published the latest Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD09) on 18 December 2012. It ranks datazones (some 700 people on average) across Scotland from 1 (most deprived) to 6505 (least deprived). As an index, it measures relative not absolute deprivation (i.e. how multiple deprivation compares between datazones, rather than how much deprivation is in each). Its uses include: understanding the concentration of multiple deprivation, informing policy and allocating resources. The SIMD12 methodology is broadly comparable to SIMD09 with 38 indicators in six thematic domain indices: income, employment, education, health, crime, geographic access and housing, and one overall multiple deprivation index.

KnowFife Dataset

The KnowFife Dataset is a shared information resource for partners in the public in Fife, which uses datazones as its basic building block. Data loaded at datazone level is usually aggregated up to other higher level geographies.

As the SIMD is a relative index, ranking areas across Scotland, the SIMD ranks and scores are not suitable for aggregation to higher geographic areas. However, the SIMD domains of Income and Employment are based on counts and rates of people who are experiencing deprivation, which can be aggregated, and these domains together account for 56% of the overall index. Annual updates have been published in relation to the Income and Employment Domain, which help us look at change in these indicators between indices. Note: methodological changes to the Income domain mean that the 2012 figure is not directly comparable with previous years.

The KnowFife Dataset can be used to

- Give a **general profile** of levels of deprivation in an area, and how it compares with Fife and Scotland.
- Produce interactive **thematic maps**, at a range of geographies, showing how income and employment deprivation have varied across Fife between 2004 and 2012 (caveat: 2012 income figure not directly comparable)
- Look at the percentage of the population who are income and employment deprived for any given area(s), alongside other indicators of interest through **Pick and Mix**
- Export tables of the numbers of income and employment deprived people in any given area(s).
- Explore some of the individual indicators used in the calculation of an index score for other domains, where that data is available.
- Frame enquiries about the gap between most and least deprived areas across a range of indicators through use of SIMD related geographies.

It cannot be used to

- Directly look at the overall SIMD or the education, health, crime, geographic access, or housing domains.
- Produce maps of SIMD areas. However, a number of published maps can be accessed through **Resources**

To sum up

As the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation is a relative index based on ranks, it cannot be directly replicated through the KnowFife Dataset. However, the KnowFife Dataset can be used to look at concentrations of income and employment deprivation at higher geographic areas.

Where can you get more information?

Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Statistics/SIMD/>

Fife analysis of the Scottish Index of Deprivation

www.fifedirect.org.uk/deprivation

KnowFife Dataset

www.fifedirect.org.uk/knowfifedataset

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