

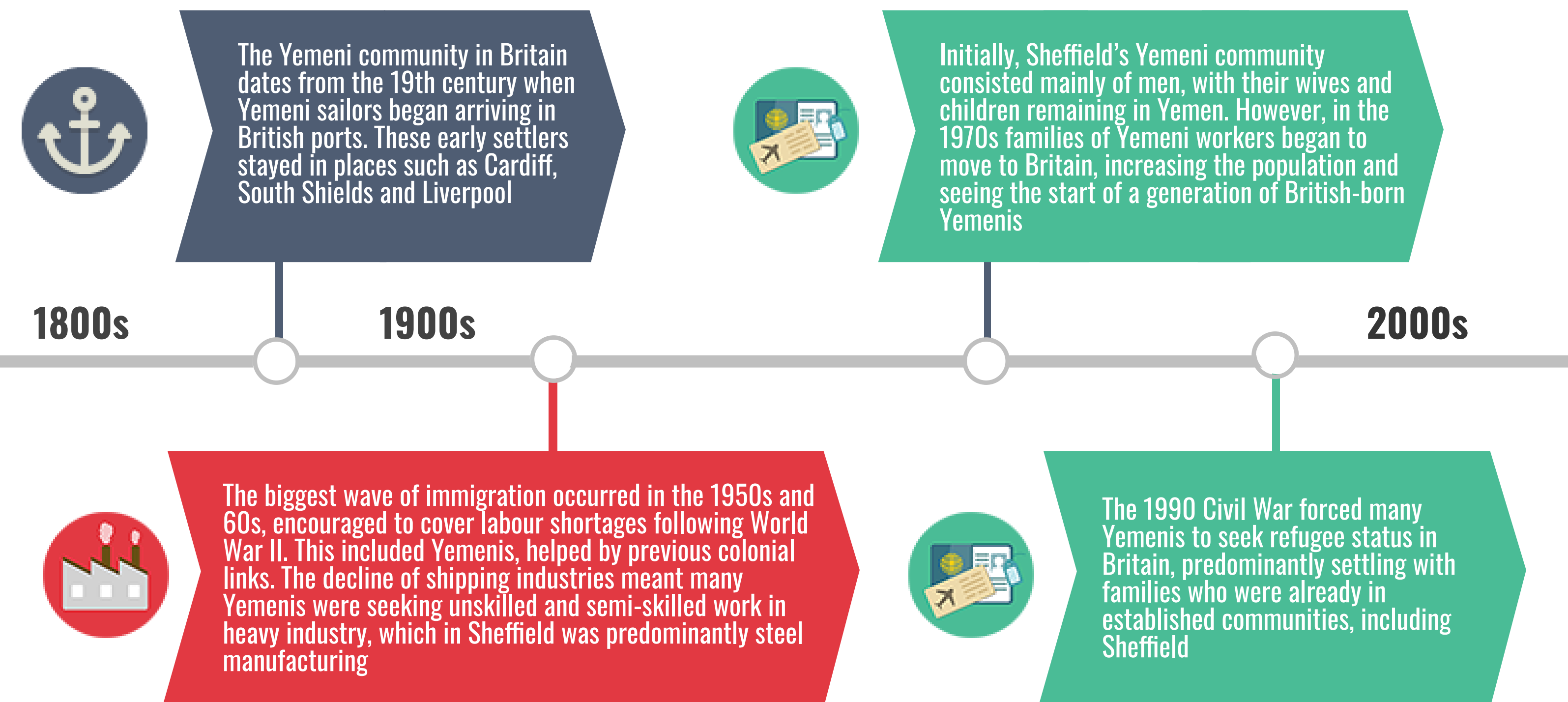
Updated: Oct 2015  
Checked: Nov 2017

# 3,500 - 5,500

There is no official figure for the number of Yemeni people in Sheffield, with estimates varying considerably. Yemen is not included amongst the countries of birth highlighted in the 2011 Census.

Sources: Sheffield Telegraph 2008

## TIMELINE



Source: Runnymede 2012

## MIDDLE EAST

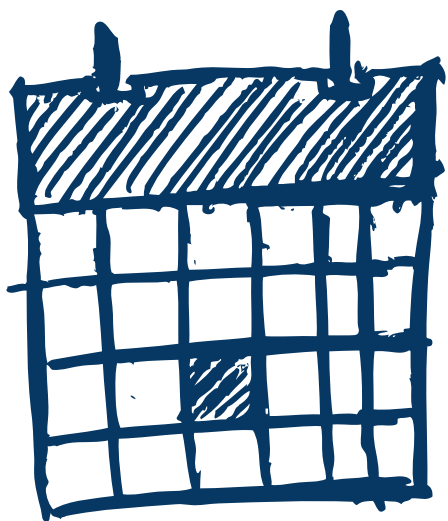
7,017 Sheffield residents were born in the Middle East, according to the 2011 Census. 1,255 of these residents were born in Iran, with a further 5,762 born in 'Other Middle East' countries. Whilst not being specifically identified, it is likely many of these people will have been born in Yemen, due to the fact there is a long established community within the city.

Source: Census 2011

This profile is part of a series of profiles about different communities in Sheffield:  
[www.sheffield.gov.uk](http://www.sheffield.gov.uk)

Produced by Performance and Research Team, Sheffield City Council

# YEMENI COMMUNITY

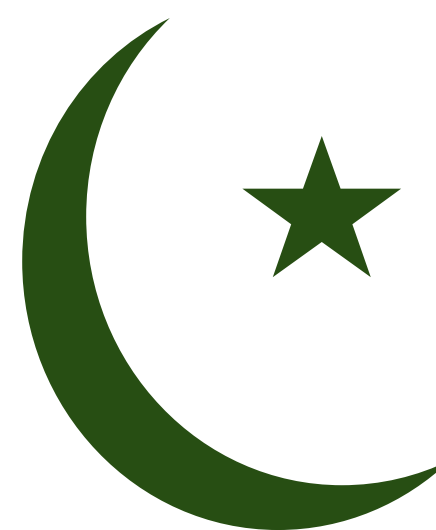


## CALENDAR

A list of equality awareness events are available on the Sheffield City Council website:

[www.sheffield.gov.uk/content/sheffield/home/your-city-council/equality-events.html](http://www.sheffield.gov.uk/content/sheffield/home/your-city-council/equality-events.html)

## RELIGION



An estimated 99% of people in Yemen are Muslim, with the majority belonging to the Shafii school of Sunni Islam.

## LANGUAGE

Modern Standard Arabic is the official language of Yemen.

In Sheffield, 5,043 people speak Arabic as their main language. Nationally, 18% of those who speak Arabic as a main language cannot speak English, or don't speak it very well.

However, it is not possible to derive from the data what percentage of Arabic speakers are from the Yemeni community.



Source: Census 2011

Arabic was the 2nd most requested language from Sheffield Council's Translation and Interpretation service in 2012/13. Again, the data does not describe the proportion of these requests made by the Yemeni community.

Source: Sheffield City Council 2015



## LABOUR MARKET

The 1960s saw hundreds of Yemeni men emigrate to the UK to work in the steel industry to cover the shortfall of labour after the Second World War. It is estimated that as many as 1,000 Yemenis came to Sheffield during this time.

The decline of the steel industry in the 1970s and 1980s saw many Yemenis return home, but some stayed to set up their own businesses. It is estimated that economic problems around this time left around 72% of Yemeni men out of work. There is no reliable up to date information that can verify how the situation has changed for the Yemeni community in recent years.

Source: Mohamed 1995

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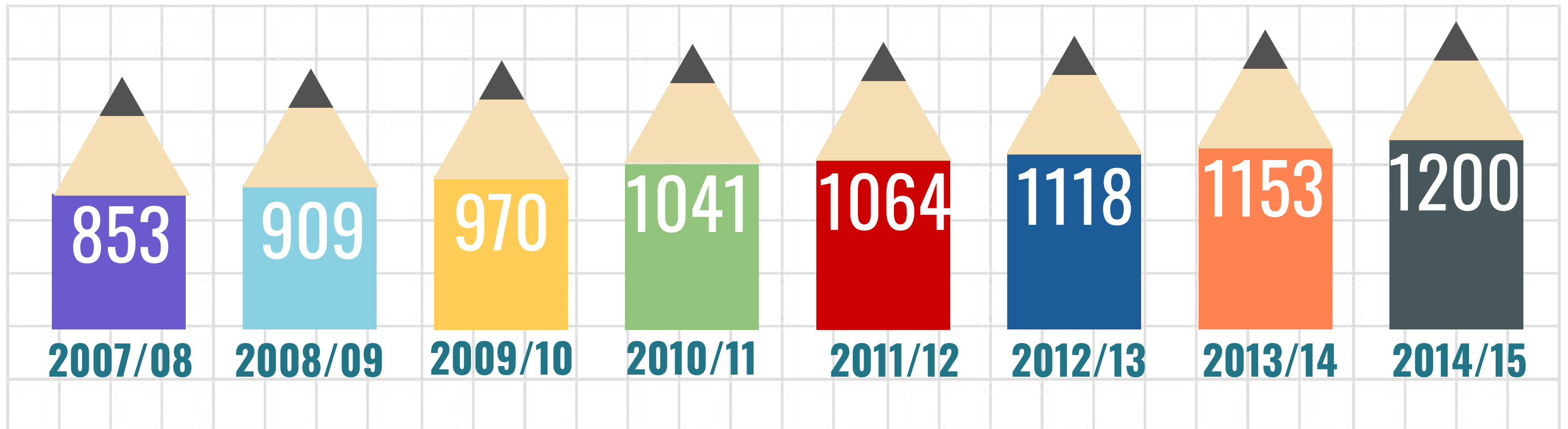
Approximately **0.2%** of employees at Sheffield City Council are Yemeni,

Source: SCC 2015

# EDUCATION

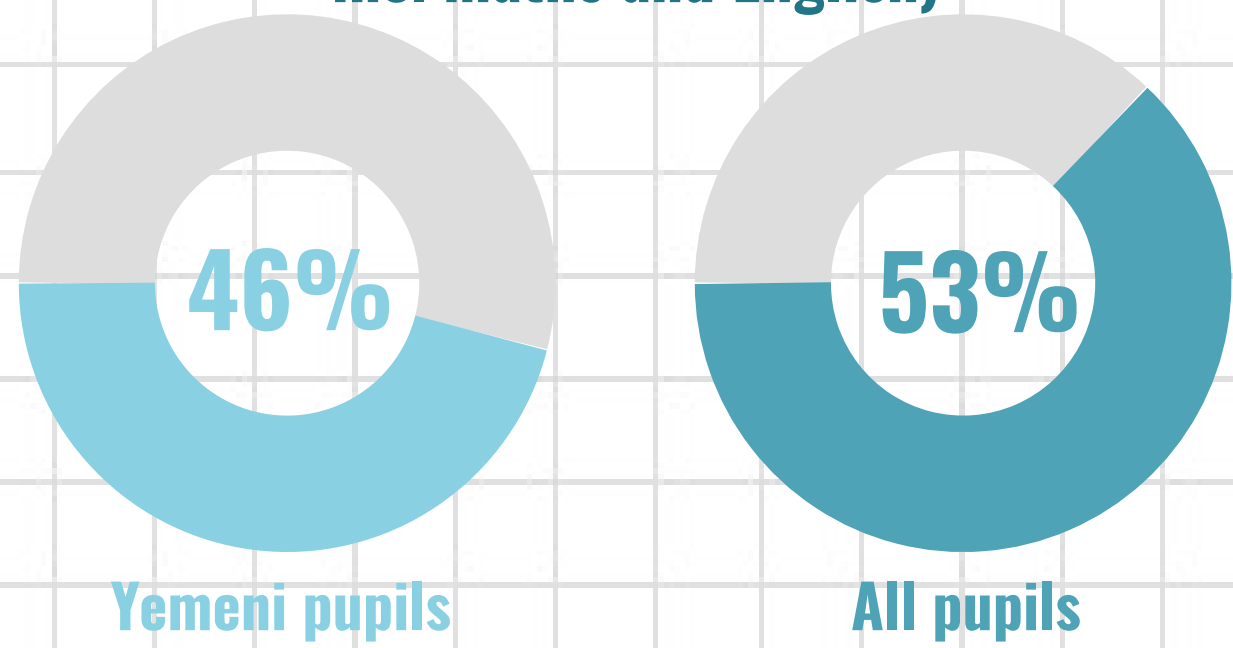
**1,200** The number of Yemeni pupils (years 0-14). This figure has fallen by 18% in the last 8 years.

## NUMBER OF PUPILS

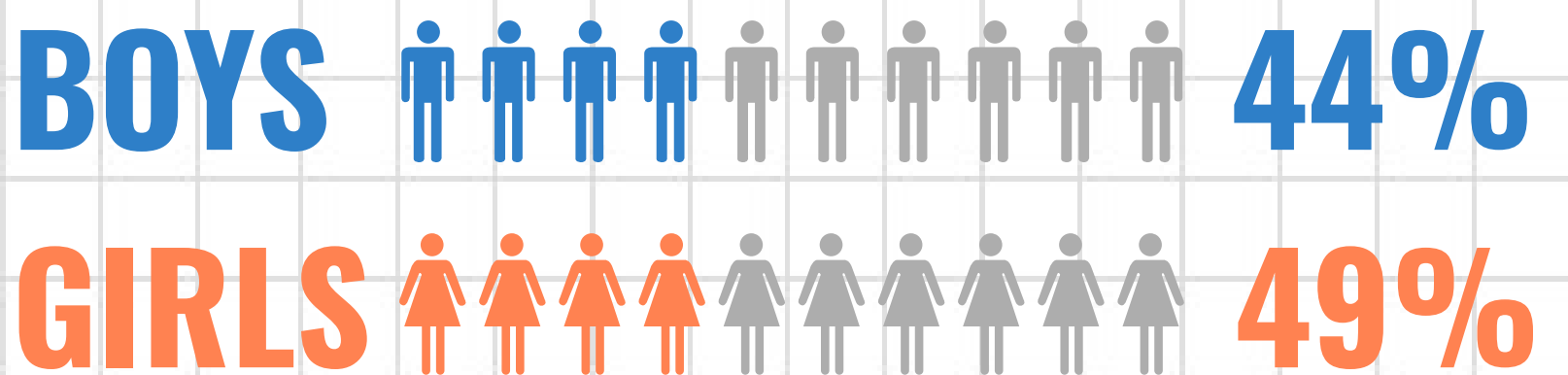


## GCSE ATTAINMENT

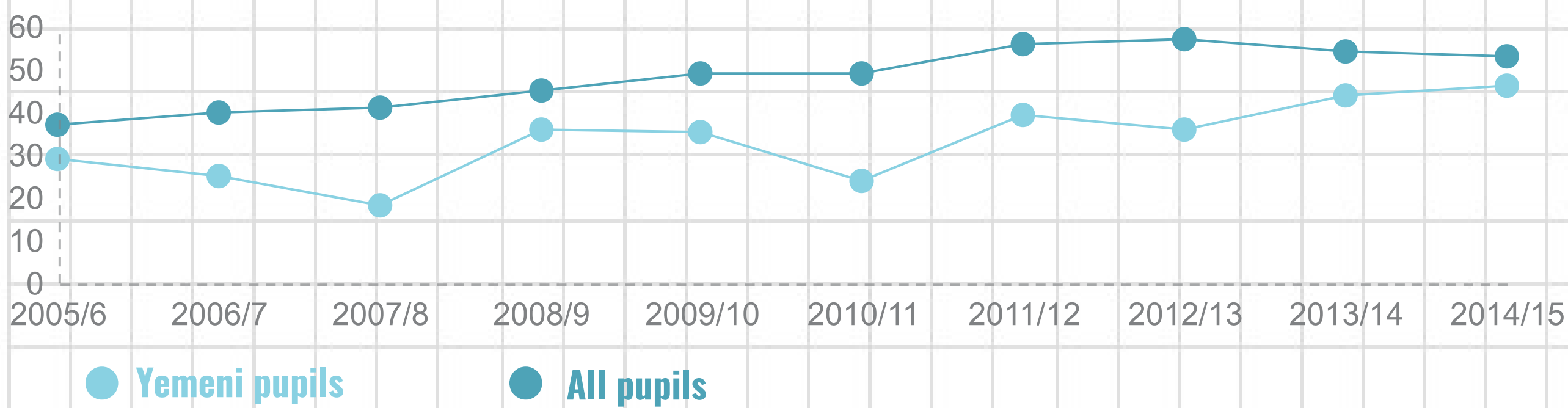
Proportion of pupils achieving 5+ GCSEs (A\* - C inc. maths and English)



GCSE Gender Attainment Gap



GCSE Attainment 2005/06 - 2014/15



**+17%**  
Yemeni attainment has improved in the last 10 years, compared with a growth of 16% for all pupils

## ABSENCES / EXCLUSIONS

**3%**

Persistent absences are lower than the city average (5%). They have also fallen by 6% in the last five years, compared with a fall of 4 percentage points in Sheffield as a whole.

**4%**

Fixed term exclusions are slightly above the city average (3%). They have fallen by 1 percentage point in the last five years, compared with no change in Sheffield as a whole.

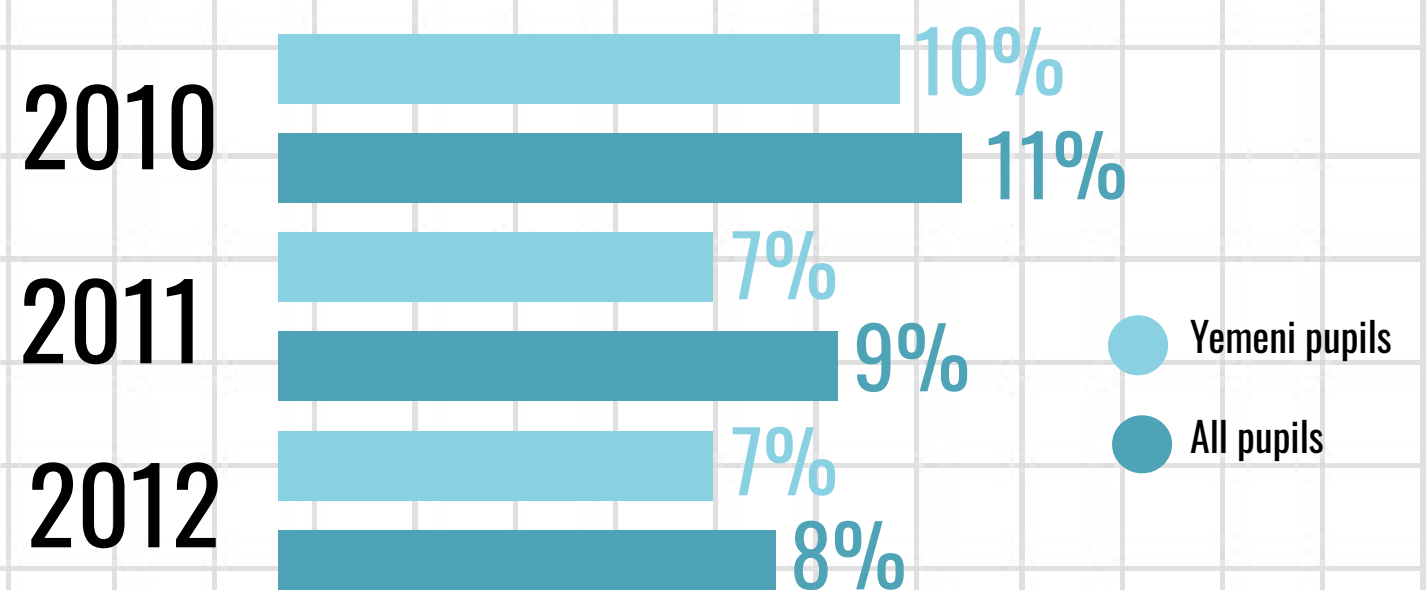
Source: SCC Children's Services 2015

## NEETS

Not in Employment Education or Training

**8%**

The proportion of Yemeni 16 to 19 year olds categorised as NEET



Source: SCC Children's Services 2015



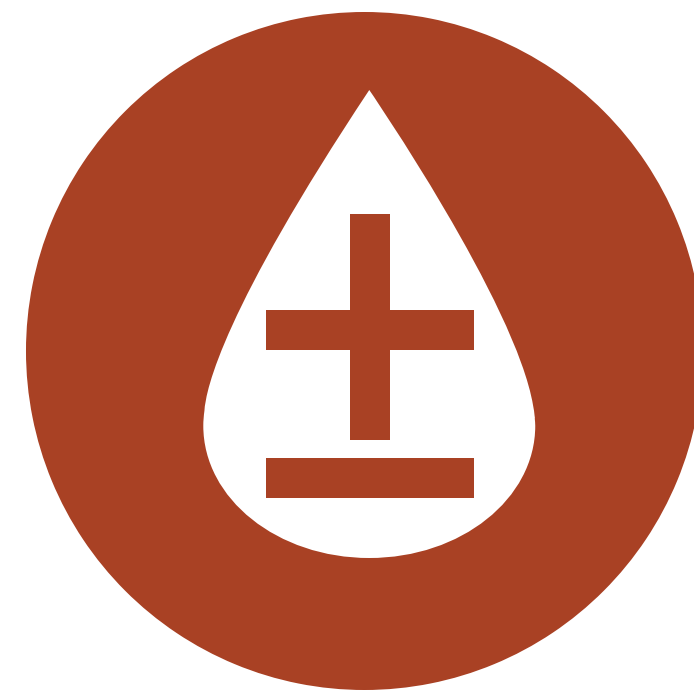
# HEALTH AND WELLBEING

The Yemeni community has one of the highest A&E admission rates

Over 65s were more likely to be admitted for types of respiratory infections

All ages are likely to be treated for coronary heart disease problems

Higher than average diabetes diagnosis



Source: Yemeni Community Profile 2006

## NEEDS AND SUPPORT

A study conducted for the 2006 Sheffield Yemeni profile looked at the health and support needs of the Yemeni community. It identified that only around half of young people were registered with a dentist and that Yemeni elders were concerned about access to medication, waiting times and the process of booking appointments.

In addition to this, the community as a whole felt that if families were helped with their English language proficiency, then they would be more likely to access health services and feel comfortable asking for help.

Source: Yemeni Community Profile 2006

## KHAT

Khat (qat, kat) is a plant that has been chewed as a social custom dating back thousands of years, including in Yemeni society, and until recently was legal in the UK. On the 24th June 2014 it was made an illegal Class C drug following opposition from within the Yemeni community. Being caught in possession of khat can result in a £60 fine, whilst supplying khat, including to friends and family, could mean up to 14 years imprisonment.

Further information, including where to go for support and advice about giving khat up is available from the [home office](#).

Khat has been linked to a number of health and social issues for men, women and young people, including:

MEN	WOMEN	YOUNG PEOPLE / CHILDREN
Wellbeing and togetherness	Relationship breakdown	Under achievement in education
Financial impact	Same issues as 'men' column	Unable to go to school
Unemployment/underemployment	Stress	Lack of parental support (using khat)
Relying on benefits	General decline in health	Care, growth and development suffers
Mental illness	Loneliness	Money/benefits go on khat before children
		Financial pressure leading to drugs selling
		Normalisation of drug use

Source: NDAREC 2009



# HOUSING

The majority of the Yemeni community currently live in social housing: either local authority or housing association owned. However, there are also some owner occupiers within the population.

One of the major issues facing Yemeni occupants of properties is overcrowding. This is firstly due to relatively large average family sizes. Secondly, there has been a historic trend of Yemeni men moving to Sheffield to work and finding accommodation in very overcrowded accommodation with others in a similar situation. Although some men in this situation might either return to Yemen or be reunited with their families and find their own accommodation, many remain in these conditions if they are either made unemployed or are unable to work through illness or disability. This can result in them being completely reliant on benefits and unable to move on.

Source: Mohamed 1995

Figures from January 2014 show that there were 585 Yemeni council house tenants, just over 1% of the total. Nearly three quarters of Yemeni tenants live in the east of the city.

Source: Sheffield City Council 2015

## COMMUNITY ACTIVITY

A list of organisations, including contact details, is available from the [Sheffield Directory](#) website.

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Sheffield Help Yourself and Sheffield Directory are managed by Sheffield City Council. Whilst every effort is made to ensure accuracy, Sheffield City Council cannot accept responsibility for, any errors or omissions. Please note that the inclusion of any group in this report does not mean they have been vetted or recommended by Sheffield City Council.

## SOURCES

Census 2001 – 2011, Office of National Statistics

Mohamed F 1995, Yemeni housing needs: a detailed report of research carried out into the housing needs of the Yemeni community in Sheffield, Yemeni Community Association, Sheffield

National Drugs & Race Equality Coalition (NDAREC) 2009, Khat: Current views from the community around the UK

Runnymede 2012, Sheffield Migration Stories

Sheffield Telegraph 2008, <http://www.sheffieldtelegraph.co.uk/news/yemenis-in-spotlight-1-442504>

Turning Point 2004, Khat use in Somali, Ethiopian and Yemeni communities in England: issues and solutions, Home Office

Yemeni Community Profile 2006, Community Profile: Yemeni Meridian Pure