A lone parent is:

“a parent or guardian with a dependent child under 16 who is not in a co-habiting relationship.”

16,760

Sheffield households headed by a lone parent with dependent(s)

7%

Proportion of households headed by a lone parent with dependent(s)

24%

The growth in the number of lone parent households, since 2001

89%

The percentage of lone parents who are female

11%

Percentage of lone parents who are male

Source: Census 2011

THE COST OF BRINGING UP A CHILD

£182,589

The average cost of raising a child for lone parents, nationally

Couples Lone Parents

Cost of first child over 18 years £149,028 £201,767

Average per year £8,279 £11,209

Average per week £159 £215

Source: CPAG 2016

Education* 32%

Childcare & Babysitting 29%

Food 9%

Holidays 7%

Clothing 5%

Hobbies & Toys 4%

Leisure & Recreation 3%

Pocket Money 2%

Furniture 2%

Personal 1%

Other ** 6%

75%

The cost of raising children has increased significantly in the Yorkshire & Humberside region since 2003.

Nationally, this figure has only grown by 62%

Source: LV= 2015

This profile is part of a series of profiles about different communities in Sheffield: www.sheffield.gov.uk

Produced by Performance and Research Team, Sheffield City Council
7% of Sheffield’s households are headed by a lone parent.

24% of lone parent households has increased by nearly a quarter since 2001.

89% of lone parents are female.

11% of lone parents are male.

The number of lone parent households will grow by nearly a quarter in the next ten years.

22% of lone parent households projected in Sheffield by 2021.

This makes up more than a tenth of the total number of households in the city.

The proportion of BME households headed by a lone parent with dependent children in comparison with 7% of all households.

Source: Census 2011
WHERE DO LONE PARENTS LIVE?
Lone Parents with Dependent Children in Sheffield

Top 5 Lone Parent ward populations:
1. Burngreave: 1,197 (8%)
2. Shiregreen & Brightside: 1,145 (7%)
3. Firth Park: 1,114 (7%)
4. Manor Park: 1,139 (7%)
5. Southey: 944 (6%)

Poverty and Deprivation
The percentage of lone parent households with dependent children amongst the 10% most deprived in the country is nearly double the citywide average of 23%.

Source: DCLG 2015

West Ecclesfield, Southey, Arbourthorne, Birley and Firth Park wards have the largest gender gap for lone parents in the city. 92% of lone parents in these wards are female, with only 8% being male.

On the other hand, Manor Castle ward has the smallest difference between genders. In this ward, 81% of lone parents are female and 19% are male.

Source: Census 2011
LABOUR MARKET

ECONOMIC ACTIVITY OF LONE PARENTS

**LONE PARENT FAMILIES**

- 67% Economically Active
- 33% Economically Inactive

**ALL FAMILIES**

- 83% Economically Active
- 17% Economically Inactive

Economically inactive lone parent families (33%)

- 2% Retired
- 3% Student (including full-time students)
- 16% Looking after the home or family
- 7% Long-term sick or disabled
- 4% Other

Source: Census 2011

DWP Benefits

- 4940 lone parents were claiming DWP benefits in August 2013
- 98% of claimants are female, 2% male
- The number of lone parents claiming benefits has fallen by 36% in the last 10 years, compared with a 6% increase in claimants citywide.

Source: DWP 2013
The proportion of adults in lone parent families with no formal qualifications is above the citywide average of 23%. This figure is slightly higher (30%) for male lone parents, than for females (28%), although the difference is marginal.

The percentage of adults in lone parent families qualified at level 4 and above, (including Higher Education Certificates and professional diplomas), compared with 27% in Sheffield as a whole.

One of the most significant health issues lone parents face relates to mental health. Research by Scoop Aid, the Sheffield-based advice and support service for lone parents, found 63% of respondents had low level mental health issues for which they were receiving medication.

These issues also affect children in lone parent households. The Centre for Social Justice cited evidence from the British Journal of Psychiatry, stating conditions such as epilepsy, autism and Attention-Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) could be more common in children who had experienced family breakdown.

A quarter of people in lone parent households have a long-term disability or illness. This is below the city average of 35%.

This could however be accounted for by the younger age demographic of lone parent households.

Nearly half of all lone parent households do not own a car, compared with only 33% citywide. This is likely to mean a greater reliance on public transport to access services.

Research conducted by the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) consulted lone parents on barriers to employment opportunities and found that the cost of public transport was of significant concern.

The report suggested that there is a danger many lone parents would be worse off in employment, when combining public transport with other costs like childcare, than they would be if they were in receipt of benefits. This suggests a potential lack of incentive for lone parents to try and access the labour market.
Housing

Tenure

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lone Parent Households</th>
<th>All persons</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>30% Owned</td>
<td>59% Owned</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>49% Social Rented</td>
<td>25% Social Rented</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21% Private Rented</td>
<td>16% Private Rented</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: DCLG 2015

Overcrowding

12% of Lone Parent households have at least one less bedroom than they require compared with 5% citywide. This is based on the Office of National Statistics occupancy rating.

Source: 2011 Census

Homelessness

Homeless applications data shows around 38% of all households found to be eligible for assistance, unintentionally homeless and in priority need were headed by a lone parent with dependent children, compared with 26% of couple households.

Source: DCLG 2015

Community Activity

A list of organisations, including contact details, is available from the Sheffield Directory website.

Sheffield Directory is 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

- DCLG 2015, Indices of Deprivation, Department for Communities and Local Government
- DCLG 2015, Homelessness statistics
- DWP 2013, Department for Work and Pensions statistics
- LV= 2015, Cost of a Child - from cradle to college