

Updated: Oct 2015
Checked: Nov 2017

2,372 Somali born residents in Sheffield

1,263 Somali pupils attending Sheffield schools

3,000 - 10,000 There is no official figure on the number of Somali people in Sheffield and estimates vary considerably. This would represent around 1-2% of the population.

The only available statistics show the number of people born in Somalia, which does not show people born in Sheffield who are of Somali descent, and the number of school children. Whilst this will cover a proportion of the community, there will be a number who are not represented in the figures, such as second generation Somali adults.

Source: Census 2011

1800s

Somali mariners settle in port areas of the UK, such as London, Cardiff and Bristol

1900s

Britain's need for more workers after WWII led to an influx of workers from many nations, including Somalis, who gravitated towards Sheffield to work in the steel industry

2000s

More recently, there has been a pattern of internal migration in Britain, family reunions from Somalia, and the arrival of European Somalis, who have migrated mainly from The Netherlands and Scandinavia during the last few years

The 1930s sees the first Somali settlers in Sheffield

Industrial decline in the 1970's and 1980's saw the Somali community fall to as few as 100 people

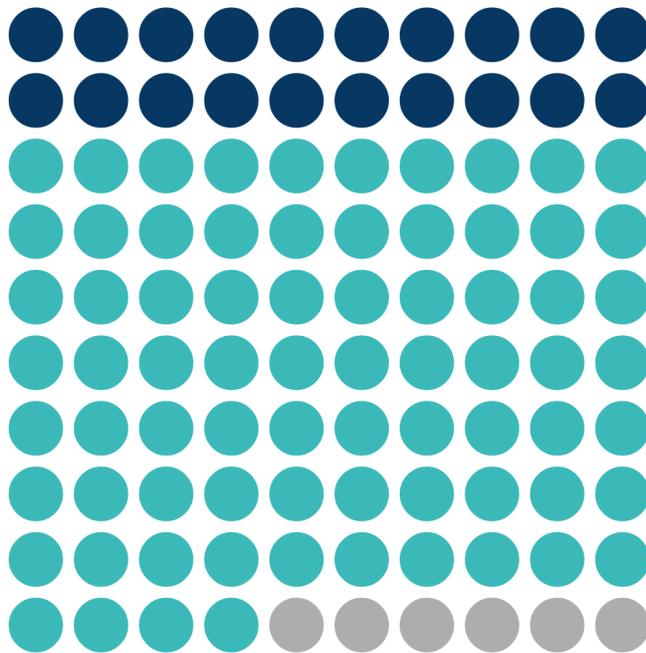
Civil war breaks out in Somalia in 1988, leading to many leaving the country as refugees. The UK government's 'family re-union arrangements' led to many moving to Sheffield to live with existing Somali families in the city

Source: Runnymede 2012

DEMOGRAPHICS

2,372

Sheffield residents born in Somalia



20%
18% all persons

Under 16s

0.4%

Proportion of all residents who were born in Somalia

74%
66% all persons

Working age



Growth since 2001, proportional growth by 0.2 percentage points

6%
16% all persons

65 and over

Source: Census 2011



38%

62%



Source: Census 2011

LABOUR MARKET

The Census doesn't give information about economic activity or employment in the Somali community. A study of migrant communities, conducted by IPPR in 2007, does provide some insight into this at a national level, which is a useful indicator. However, when considering this, it is important to note that this research was published before the recession, and so these findings are likely to have been affected by the current economic climate as they have nationwide.

The study found that:

Source: IPPR 2007

Nationally, 71% of Somali born people were economically inactive, compared with 18% of those born in the UK

10% of the country's Somali born population in England are unemployed

19% of Somali born people in England were in employment

The average hourly pay for Somali-born workers was significantly below the national level at the time

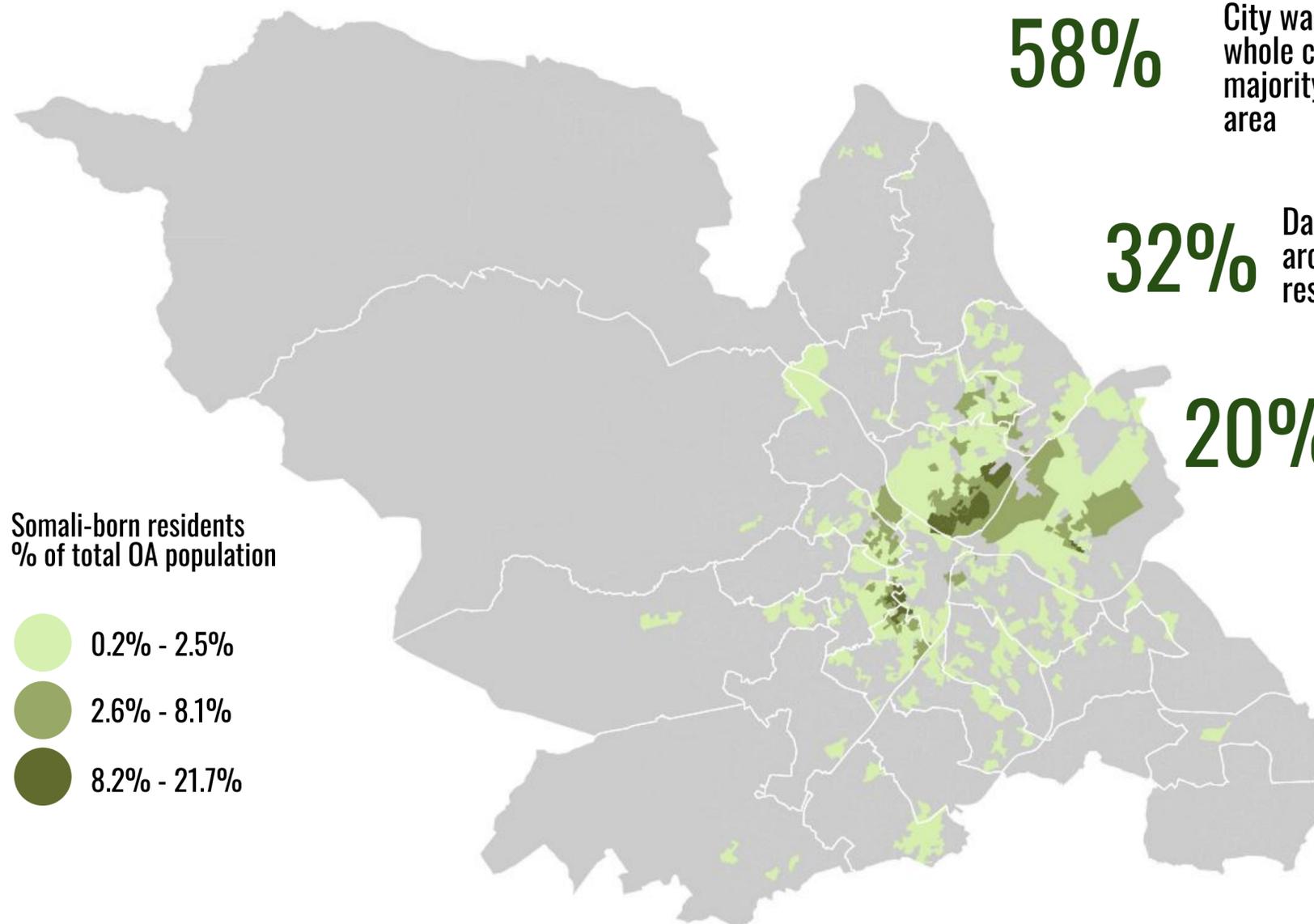
0.1% of Sheffield City Council's workforce are Somali

Source: SCC 2015

WHERE DOES THE COMMUNITY LIVE?

Somali Born Population in Sheffield

Source: Census 2011



58%

513 Somalia-born people live in City ward, more than half of the whole community, with the majority living in the Broomhall area

32%

Darnall ward is home to around a further third of residents born in Somalia

20%

Another fifth of Somalia-born people live in Walkley ward

Source: Census 2011

Somali-born residents
% of total OA population

- 0.2% - 2.5%
- 2.6% - 8.1%
- 8.2% - 21.7%

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66% Poverty and Deprivation

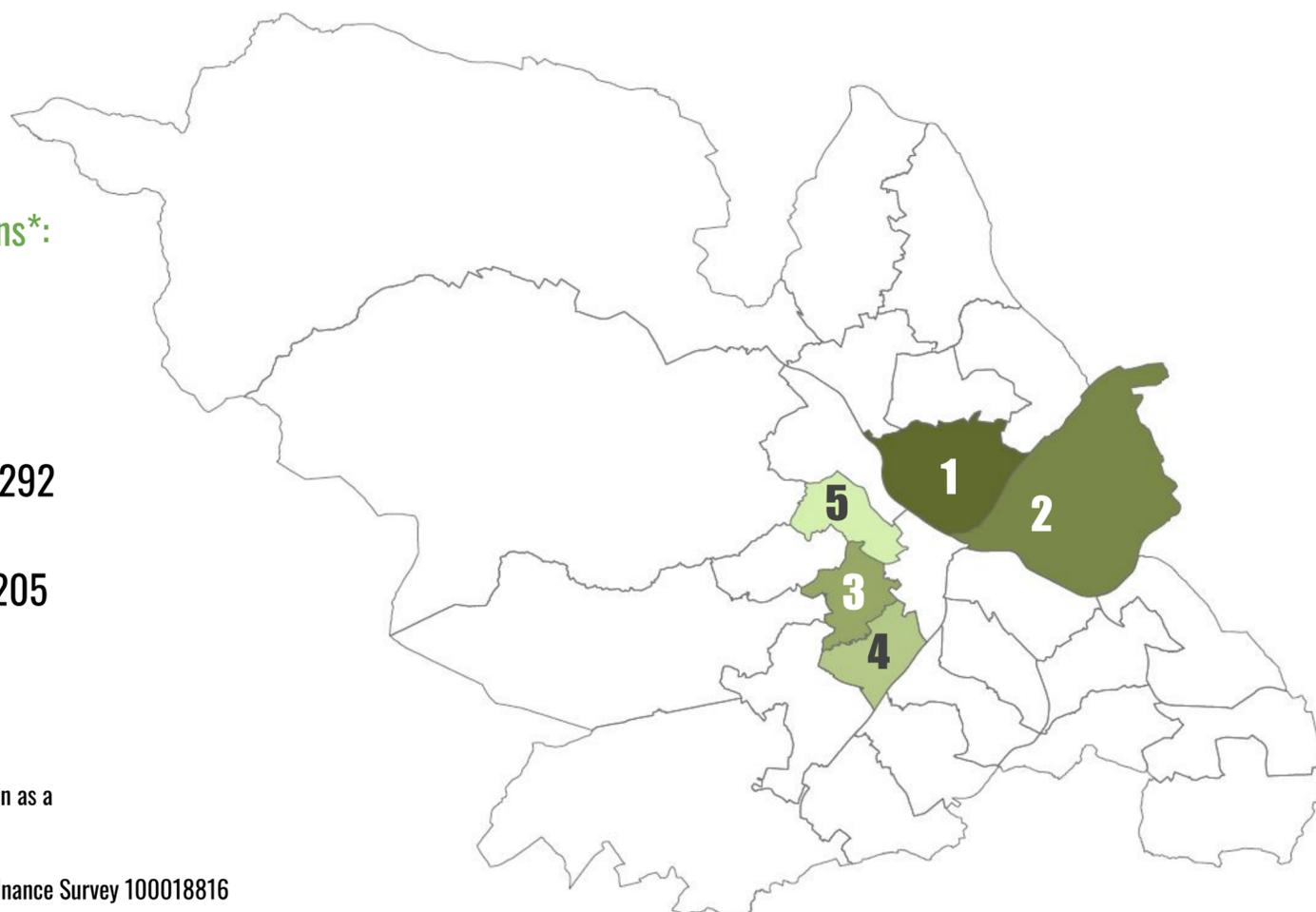
Two thirds of residents born in Somalia live in areas that are amongst the 10% most deprived in the country. This is well above the citywide average of 23%.

Source: DCLG 2015

Top 5 Somali-born ward populations*:

- 1** Burngreave: 880 (3.3%)
- 2** Darnall: 282 (1.4%)
- 3** Broomhill and Sharrovale: 292 (1.3%)
- 4** Nether Edge and Sharrow: 205 (0.9%)
- 5** Walkley: 184 (0.8%)

* percentage represents community population as a proportion of the total ward population



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LANGUAGE AND NATIONALITY

Somali

The official language of Somalia is Somali. In Sheffield, 2,074 people speak Somali as their main language. Nationally, 31% of those who speak Somali as a main language cannot speak English, or don't speak it very well.

Arabic

Arabic is also an official language of Somalia, spoken by many people. In Sheffield Arabic is the most commonly spoken main language other than English, with more than 5,000 speakers. However, as it is a language that is widely spoken throughout the world, it is hard to identify the proportion of these speakers who may be Somali.

Source: Census 2011

Somali was the 5th most requested language from Sheffield Council's Translation and Interpretation service in 2012/13 with 333 written and face-to-face reinterpretations. Arabic was the 2nd most requested language.

Source: SCC Customer Services 2015

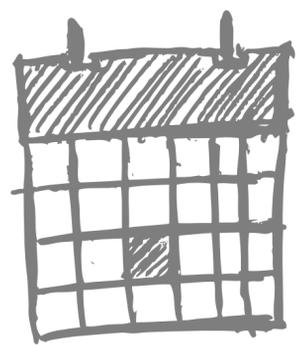


CULTURE AND RELIGION

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



RELIGION IN THE SOMALI COMMUNITY

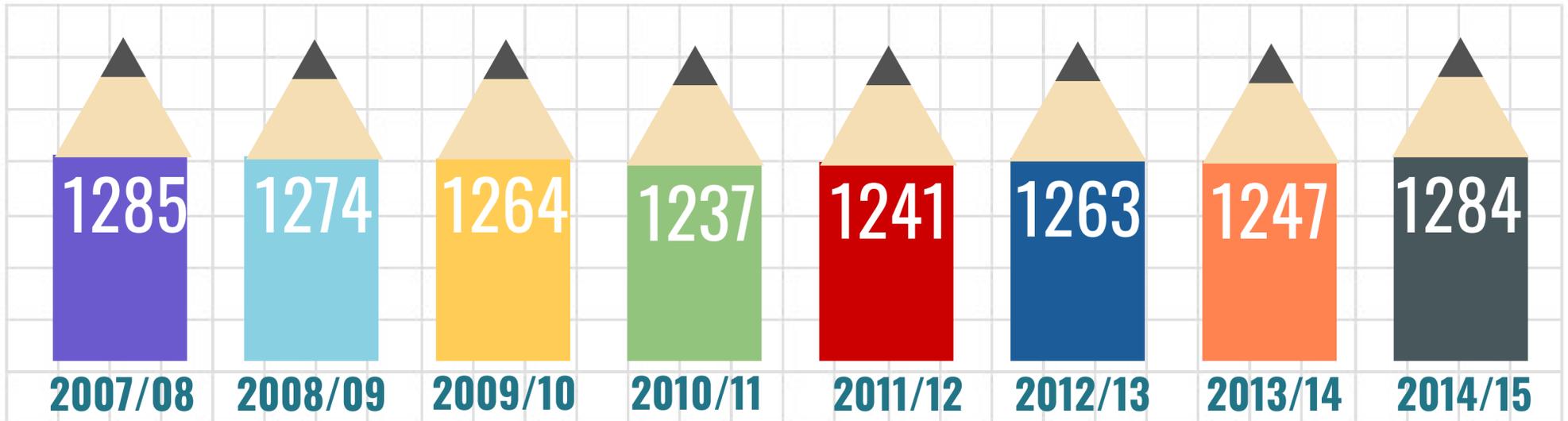


An estimated 98.8% of people in Somalia are Muslim, with the majority belonging to the Sunni branch of Islam.

EDUCATION

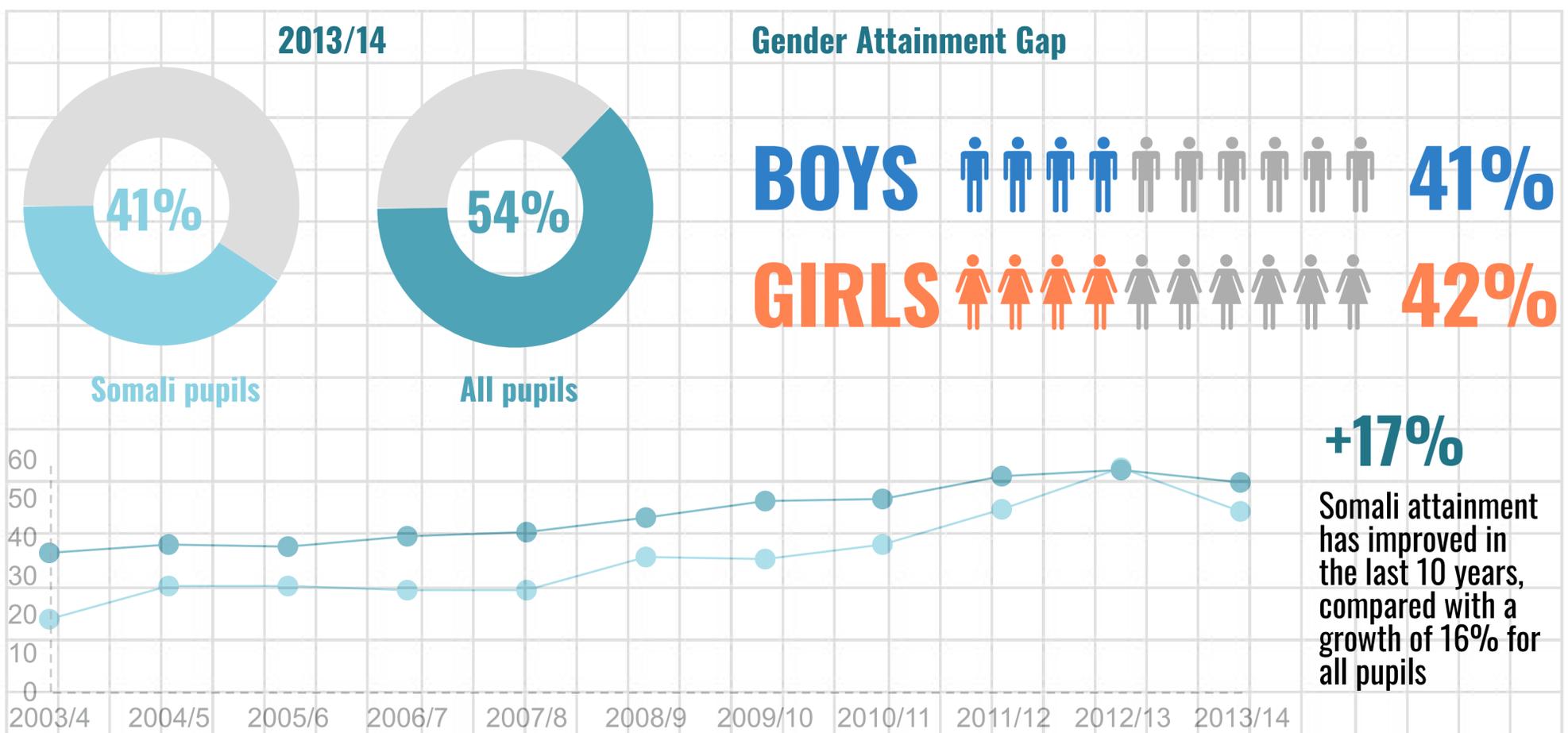
1,284 The number of Somali pupils (years 0-14). The number has remained consistent over the last 8 years having no significant change, with numbers fluctuating up and down from year to year.

NUMBER OF PUPILS



GCSE ATTAINMENT

Proportion of pupils achieving 5 or more GCSEs at A* - C including maths and English



-3.4% Persistent absences have fallen at a faster rate than citywide since 2009/10, although the total figure is still higher than average

Not in Employment Education or Training

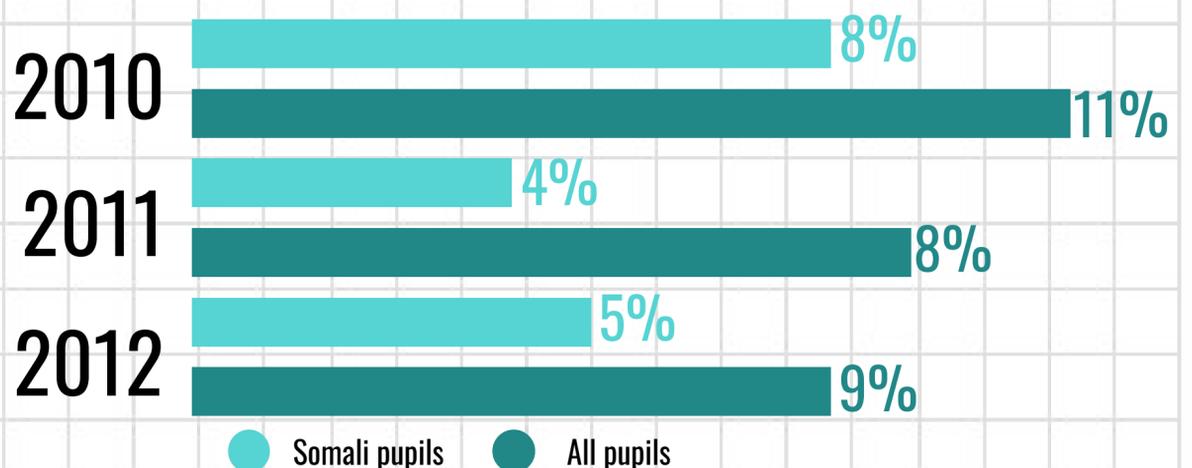
5%

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

2%

The fixed term exclusion rate for Somali pupils is slightly below the citywide average of 3%

A 2005 study found 50% of working age Somali people had no qualifications at all. A lack of training and UK recognition of qualifications gained in Somalia mean some Somali adults struggle to access the local employment market



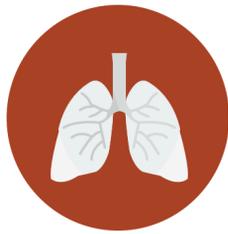


HEALTH AND WELLBEING



A&E ADMISSIONS

Somali community has one of the highest A&E admission rates



COPD

Persistently high Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD)



DIABETES

Higher than average diabetes diagnosis

Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)

According to the World Health Organisation FSM is estimated to be prevalent in around 98% of women and girls in Somalia. In 2001 in the UK, more than 65,000 women had undergone FGM with the largest numbers from Kenya and Somalia. Numbers are likely to have increased since then.

Health risks can include severe pain, haemorrhage, tetanus and other infections, septicaemia and even death. In the longer term, girls and women can also experience problems with their sexual, reproductive and general health.

Source: British Medical Association, 2011

Khat

Khat (qat, kat) is a plant that has been chewed as a social custom dating back thousands of years, including in Somali 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 Somali 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

FGM is a mental, as well as physical, health issue for some Somali girls and women

Many Somalis are living with the after-effects of civil war, and the resulting refugee experience. A 2009 study of Somali refugees found around 1 in 3 suffered from long-term illnesses, including mental health conditions

Source: Evans & Page 2010



The concept of depression is not understood in the Somali language

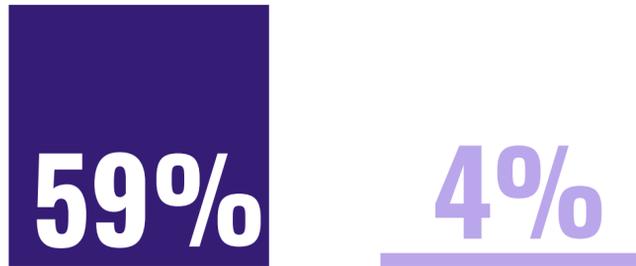
Chewing Khat acts as a stimulant, but studies have found it can lead to psychosis and make pre-existing mental disorders worse. This is in addition to the adverse affects on physical health

Source: Patel et al 2005

TENURE

Estimates for Somali residents in the private rented sector were unavailable from this source

Estimated percentage of Somali people who owned or are buying a home, in England



Estimated percentage of Somali people living in Local Authority or Housing Association Housing, in England



● Somali pupils ● All pupils

Source: IPPR 2007

3.8 The average household size, compared to the UK average of 3.0

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

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 Census 2001 – 2011, Office of National Statistics
 DCLG 2015, Indices of Deprivation
 Evans & Page 2010, 'Somali' refugees, mental health and employability in the Southwest: Exploring the barriers to inclusion, Centre for Employment Studies Research, UWE, Bristol
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 Runnymede 2012, Sheffield Migration Stories Runnymede, London