

Age UK Manifesto 2019: Footnotes and references

November 2019

This document includes references and footnotes for all statistics cited in Age UK's Manifesto for the 2019 General Election.

There are more than 10 million people aged 65 and above in England, nearly one in five of the population.

ONS 'Estimates of the population for the UK, England and Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland, mid 2018' published 26th June 2019 and accessed here:

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/populationestimates/datasets/populationestimatesforukenglandandwalesscotlandandnorthernireland>

The number of older people will increase substantially in the coming years.

ONS 'Principal projections – England population in age groups' published 21st October 2019 and accessed here:

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/populationprojections/datasets/tablea24principalprojectionenglandpopulationinagegroups>

Six million over 65s have some degree of need while 800,000 have three or more needs.

Age UK 'Estimating Needs of Older People', forthcoming

4.1 million people aged 65+ in England have poor health (41%)

Age UK 'Estimating Needs of Older People', forthcoming

1.5 million people aged 65+ in England have an unmet need for care (15%)

Age UK 'Estimating Needs of Older People', forthcoming

1.6 million people aged 65+ in England are in poverty (16%)

Age UK 'Estimating Needs of Older People', forthcoming

1.1 million people aged 65+ in England live in poor housing (11%)

Age UK 'Estimating Needs of Older People', forthcoming

0.8 million people aged 65+ in England are lonely (8%) and 0.6 million people aged 65+ are socially isolated (6%)

Age UK 'Estimating Needs of Older People', forthcoming

Government spending on social care per person over the age of 65 fell by nearly 25% between 2010 and 2018.

BBC News (2018). 'The NHS turned its back on mum – and it cost us £250,000'.
www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-46378353

1.5 million older people in England have some unmet need for care.

Age UK 'Estimating Needs of Older People', forthcoming

There are more than 100,000 vacancies in the care workforce in England.

Skills for Care 'The state of the adult social care sector and workforce' published October 2019 and accessed here: <https://www.skillsforcare.org.uk/adult-social-care-workforce-data/Workforce-intelligence/publications/The-state-of-the-adult-social-care-sector-and-workforce-in-England.aspx>

On average, a person funding their own care in a care home now pays 40% more than someone whose care is funded by their council, for the same service

Age UK 'Health and care of older people in England 2019' published July 2019 and accessed here: https://www.ageuk.org.uk/globalassets/age-uk/documents/reports-and-publications/reports-and-briefings/health--wellbeing/age_uk_briefing_state_of_health_and_care_of_older_people_july2019.pdf

The care system needs major investment of around £8 billion to stabilise it.

House of Lords Select Committee 'Social care funding: time to end a national scandal' published 4th July 2019 and accessed here: <https://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/lords-select/economic-affairs-committee/news-parliament-2017/social-care-report-launch/>

3.4 million over 65s have never used the internet. A further half a million have used it in the past but no longer do so, and by the age of 75 the majority are not online.

ONS 'Internet users 2019' published 24th May 2019 and accessed here: <https://www.ons.gov.uk/businessindustryandtrade/itandinternetindustry/datasets/internetusers>

One in three local bank branches have closed in the past five years.

Which 'Revealed: a third of bank branches closed in less than five years' published 24th September 2019 and accessed here: <https://www.which.co.uk/news/2019/09/revealed-a-third-of-bank-branches-closed-in-less-than-five-years/>

118,000 older EU citizens living in the UK must apply for settled status.

Age UK estimates there are 118,000 EU nationals (not Irish or UK) aged 65 and over living in the UK. This is based on analysis of the 2018 Annual Population Survey, scaled up to the UK population using the Office for National Statistics mid-year population estimates for 2018.

Pensioner poverty has risen: 1.6 million pensioners in England and 2 million in the UK were in poverty in 2017/18 and a further million in the UK were just above the threshold.

DWP 'Households below average income: 1994/95 to 2017/18' published 28th March 2019 and accessed here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/households-below-average-income-199495-to-201718>

18% of people aged 60-64 in the UK were in poverty in 2017/18.

Data extracted from DWP Stat-Xplore shows that 640,751 people aged 60-64 in the UK in 2017/18 were in poverty, of a total of 3,553,475 people in this age group. This is 18%.

Changes to Pension Credit rules for 'mixed age couples' (pensioners with a partner under State Pension age) mean that some couples with an age gap of five years or more could lose £35,000 by the time the younger partner reaches SPA.

Age UK has estimated that 31% of couples have an age gap of five years or greater, using data on the ages of partners in 10,941 co-resident opposite sex couples aged 16+ living across the UK, who were surveyed in wave 8 of Understanding Society, the UK Household Longitudinal Study in 2016-18. The difference between standard Universal Credit (£115 per week) and standard Pension Credit (£255.25 per week) for couples is £140.25 each week. If rates were to stay the same, over five years this difference would accumulate to £36,465.

An older person is the victim of fraud every 40 seconds, equivalent to 800,000 older people a year.

Age UK analysis of the Crime Survey for England and Wales 2017/18 indicates that 7.8% of people aged 65+ in England and Wales reported that they had been a victim of fraud in the 12 months prior to being interviewed. When 7.8% is projected onto the 10,384,697 sample-adjusted population of people aged 65+ in England and Wales, as provided by CSEW, it gives an estimate of 813,000 older victims of fraud, equivalent to an average of one every 38.8 seconds.

1.1 million older people in England live in unfit housing characterised by problems such as damp, rot, infestations, electrical and plumbing problems.

Age UK 'Estimating Needs of Older People', forthcoming

750,000 older people are renting from private landlords

Age UK analysis of the English Housing Survey 2017-18. 5.6% of people aged 60 and over in England are estimated to be living in the private rented sector, equivalent to 745,000 people. In this estimate, households with members aged both below 60 and above 60 are assumed to only have one person aged 60 and over living in them; this leads to a small underestimation of the number of people aged 60 or over living in the private rented sector, for instance in cases where a household of three or more includes one person aged under 60 and more than one of the remaining household members are aged over 60.

One in three older private renters are living in poverty

Age UK analysis of the English Housing Survey 2017-18. The percentage of people aged 60 or over living in the private rented sector who have a household income below 60% of the median household income (after housing costs) is estimated to be 34%.

Two in five older private renters are in poor health.

Age UK analysis of wave 8 of the English Longitudinal Study of Ageing, collected 2016-17. The proportion of people aged 60 or over living in the private rented sector that have a long-standing illness that limits their day to day activities is estimated to be 43%.

Around 1 million people aged 60+ in England live in a fuel-poor household.

BEIS 'Fuel poverty detailed tables 2017 data' published 13th June 2019 and accessed here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/fuel-poverty-detailed-tables-2019>. Statistics on the numbers of older people living in fuel poverty are not published, however BEIS publishes estimates of the number of households in fuel poverty, by both the age of the youngest member of the household and the age of the oldest member of the household. There are 509,000 households in fuel poverty in which the youngest person is aged 60+ and 716,000 households in fuel poverty in which the oldest person is aged 60+. Age UK estimate that around 1 million older people are likely to be living in households in fuel poverty.

Loneliness affects 0.8 million people aged 65+ and social isolation impacts 0.6 million: 8% and 6% of the 65+ population in England respectively

Age UK 'Estimating Needs of Older People', forthcoming

TV is the main form of companionship for two in five (38%) people aged 75 and over and nine out of 10 in this age group watch TV every day.

TNS polling for Age UK, 2016

Two in every five older people who are entitled to Pension Credit do not receive it.

DWP 'Income-related benefits: estimates of take-up: financial year 2016 to 2017' published 15th November 2018 and accessed here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/income-related-benefits-estimates-of-take-up-financial-year-2016-to-2017> 40% of all those entitled to Pension Credit in Great Britain are estimated by DWP to not be in receipt. 41% of those aged 75 and over and entitled to Pension Credit are estimated to not be in receipt.

31% of over-75s live in poverty or just above the poverty line.

Data extracted from DWP's Stat-Xplore shows that 1,577,985 pensioners aged 75 and over in the UK had incomes of less than 70% of the median income after housing costs in 2017/18, of a total of 5,057,955 people in this age group. This is 31%.

Over 4 million older people live with one or more serious long-term health conditions, like diabetes and heart disease.

Age UK 'Health and care of older people in England 2019' published July 2019 and accessed here: https://www.ageuk.org.uk/globalassets/age-uk/documents/reports-and-publications/reports-and-briefings/health--wellbeing/age_uk_briefing_state_of_health_and_care_of_older_people_july2019.pdf

Around one in 10 older people live with frailty.

Age UK 'Health and care of older people in England 2019' published July 2019 and accessed here: https://www.ageuk.org.uk/globalassets/age-uk/documents/reports-and-publications/reports-and-briefings/health--wellbeing/age_uk_briefing_state_of_health_and_care_of_older_people_july2019.pdf

By age 65 more than 3 in 10 people are no longer in good health.

ONS 'Health and disability free census prevalence' published 12th December 2018 and accessed here: <https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/healthandsocialcare/healthandlifeexpectancies/datasets/healthanddisabilityfreecensusprevalence>

Improvements in healthy life expectancy have plateaued in recent years

ONS 'Health state life expectancies, UK: 2015 to 2017' published 12th December 2018 and accessed here: <https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/healthandsocialcare/healthandlifeexpectancies/bulletins/healthstatelifeexpectanciesuk/2015to2017>

At age 65 people living in the most deprived areas can expect 7 fewer years in good health than people in the most advantaged areas.

ONS 'Health state life expectancies by national deprivation deciles, England and Wales: 2015 to 2017' published 27th March 2019 and accessed here: <https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/healthandsocialcare/healthinequalities/bulletins/healthstatelifeexpectanciesbyindexofmultipledeprivationimd/2015to2017#comparing-inequalities-in-life-expectancy-and-healthy-life-expectancy-between-2012-to-2014-and-2015-to-2017-england>