

Area Profile for Nelson



Population

The population of the Nelson area, based on 2009 Office for National Statistics estimates, is 28,405. Of the 6 wards in Nelson, Bradley has the biggest population with 6,508 people and Marsden has the smallest with 3,591 people. There are generally more young people in the area than older people. 24.7% of the Nelson population is made up of 0 to 15 year olds, compared to 15.8% comprising of 60/65 year olds (female/male) and over. The ward with the highest young population is Whitefield with 29.5% of the population aged 15 or under. Only Marsden has an elderly population that is higher than the national average.

The marital status breakdown of residents in Nelson is very similar to the Pendle averages. 26.8% of the Nelson population are single (never married) compared to 26.1% across Pendle and 43.9% are married compared to 43.5% across Pendle. The standout statistic for marital status in the area comes in Whitefield where 52.5% of residents are married. This is 9% higher than the national average.

Nelson has a significant Pakistani population in comparison to the Pendle and national averages. 29.2% of the area population are Pakistani, compared to 13.4% in Pendle and 1.4% nationally. The greatest proportion of Pakistani residents comes in Whitefield where 66.9% of the population are of Pakistani ethnicity. Although most wards in the area have a Pakistani population greater than the Pendle average, the Marsden population is made up of mainly white residents. Only 2.3% of the ward are of Pakistani ethnicity, which although greater than the national average is well below the Pendle and Nelson averages.

Labour Market

62.2% of the Nelson population are classified as economically active. This is below the Pendle and national averages of 70.7% and 74% respectively. Within the 6 wards in the area the percentage of economically active residents ranges from a high of 71.4% in Marsden to a low of 50% in Whitefield. In Nelson 9.4% of residents have never worked, which is more than double the Pendle average and over three times the national average. Nearly 20% of the Whitefield population have never worked.

In terms of the occupation breakdown in the area, 9.8% of the population are in managerial or senior official positions. This is below the Pendle and Great Britain averages of 13.4% and 14.8% respectively. At the other end of the scale, 15% of the Nelson population are in elementary occupations. This is above the Pendle average of 12.1% and the national average of 11.9%.

In November 2010, 4.4% of the Nelson population were claiming Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA). This is above the Pendle and national averages of 3.1% and 3.5% respectively. The highest JSA figure in the area comes in Southfield where 5.1% of residents claim JSA.

Health

The proportion of residents in the Nelson area with a limiting long-term illness is 22.7%, which is above the Pendle and national averages of 20.95% and 17.93% respectively. In Bradley nearly 25% of the population have a limiting long-term illness, and all the wards in Nelson have a proportion greater than 20%.

The under 18 conception rate in 2006-2008 in Nelson was 46.6 per 1,000 population. This is above both the Pendle and national averages. However, there is some variance between the wards in the area. In Southfield the rate is 72.9, whereas in Walverden the rate is 33.3 (below the comparative averages).

Crime

The total recorded crime rate in the Nelson area was 83.3 per 1,000 population between April 2010 and March 2011. This is higher than the Pendle and Lancashire averages of 64 and 70.5 respectively. The ward with the highest rate in Nelson is Whitefield with 127.2 crimes occurring per 1,000 population. The lowest rate in Nelson is in the Marsden ward.

Anti-social behaviour (ASB) is perceived to be a problem across the country. In Nelson there are 112.4 calls to the police about ASB per 1,000 population, which is above the Pendle average of 86 and the Lancashire average of 87.1. Southfield has the highest rate in the area with 128.8 calls to the police about ASB per 1,000 population.

The rate of burglaries occurring in Nelson is 25.8 per 1,000 households, which is above the Pendle and Lancashire averages. The rate varies across the wards in the area, with a rate of 10.4 in Clover Hill and 40.4 in Whitefield.

Calls to the police about domestic violence occur at a rate of 30.9 per 1,000 population in Nelson, which is higher than the Pendle and Lancashire averages. In Southfield the rate is more than double the comparative averages of Pendle and Lancashire. The rates for each of the 6 wards are all higher than the borough and county averages.

Housing

69.3% of all households in the Nelson area are terraced houses, which is above the Pendle and national averages of 58.6% and 25.8% respectively. In all 6 of the wards in Nelson the proportion of terraced houses is at least 50%. In Whitefield 90% of all households are terraced houses. Conversely, all the wards in Nelson have a proportion of detached houses that is less than 10%. Indeed, the average proportion of detached houses out of all households in Nelson is 4.9%, which is more than half the Pendle average and over 4 times lower than the national average.

Education

The proportion of adults in the Nelson area with no qualifications is 51.4%, which is higher than the Pendle and Great Britain averages of 44.1% and 35.8% respectively. The ward with the highest proportion in Nelson is Whitefield, closely followed by Bradley. By contrast, the percentage of Nelson adults with higher level qualifications is below the comparative averages. The figure of 9.5% for Nelson is over half the Great Britain average of 20.4%. In Bradley, just 6.8% of adult residents have higher level qualifications.