

This resource sets out a baseline of key housing and homelessness inequalities in Scotland, and where they intersect with inequalities in health and care. We hope this will support you to work in an integrated way with a key focus on inequalities.

Age: Children and Young People

The condition and stability of a childhood home affects lifelong health. It also impacts how much people use health and social care services throughout their life.



Age: Older People

As people age, their lifestyles and needs change. Health-related home adaptations help older people to live in their own home for as long as possible.

Disability



Disabled people have a right to suitable and accessible housing, close to their community. This supports self-reliance, lowers risk of physical injury and improves mental health.

1.5% of social housing is accessible for wheelchairs

3.6% of Scottish households include a wheelchair user

Marriage or Civil Partnership

35% of Scottish homeless applications were caused by domestic abuse in 2021/22

People going through domestic abuse from a spouse or civil partner are vulnerable to being homeless. Health and care staff are well placed for disclosure of domestic abuse, and can signpost them to temporary accommodation.



Socio-Economic Status



Inadequate heating in the home is linked to poor health outcomes.

Island Communities

Costs for fuel, home improvements and energy efficiency are high for island communities.



Fuel poverty affects 1 in 4 people in Scotland

Care Experience



Many children and young people with care experience went through abuse, neglect or loss in the lead-up to entering care. This has long term effects for mental health and wellbeing, and is linked to housing instability and homelessness in adulthood.

