


SCALE OF VULNERABILITY IN THE UK



AGE

3.2 million people aged 80+. ¹⁵

The age 85+ age group is the fastest growing. ⁷



DEMENTIA

1 in 11 people over the age of 65 have dementia in the UK. ⁴

Projected to be over 1.4 million people by 2040. ³



DIGITAL⁶

11.9m people (22% of the population) do not have the digital skills needed for everyday life in the UK.

People with a disability are 35% less likely to have essential digital skills for life.



CARERS¹⁰

There are around 10.6 million carers in the UK, 1 in 5 people.

Over the next 30 years, the number of carers will increase by 3.4 million.




CANCER⁵

Every 90 seconds someone in the UK is diagnosed with cancer.

Smoking is the largest cause of cancer in the UK, accounting for 15% of all cancer cases.

An estimated 3 million people were living with cancer in 2021, rising to 3.5 million by 2025 and again rising to 5.3 million in 2040.



LITERACY AND NUMERACY

1 in 7 adults have literacy levels equivalent to a nine to 11 year old. ¹


17 million adults have the numeracy level of primary school children. ²



COST OF LIVING

Up to 1.2 million people were already living below the poverty line before the current cost of living crisis. ⁴

Nearly 1 million pensioners in the UK live in poverty. ¹¹



SAVINGS

The average age for a first-time buyer in England was 34 in 2021/22. ¹²

The average person in the UK has £17,365 in their savings. ¹³

Up to a third (34%) of UK adults had either no savings, or less than £1,000 in a savings account. ¹³



DISABILITY⁸

23% of working age adults are disabled.

45% of pension age adults are disabled.

Disabled people are almost twice as likely to be unemployed as non-disabled people.



MENTAL HEALTH⁹

1 in 4 people will experience a mental health problem of some kind every year in England.

SOURCES

- | | |
|---------------------------|----------------|
| 1 National Literacy Trust | 9 MIND |
| 2 National Numeracy | 10 Carers UK |
| 3 Alzheimer's UK | 11 DWP |
| 4 NHS | 12 USwitch |
| 5 Macmillan | 13 money.co.uk |
| 6 Ofcom | 14 FCA |
| 7 Age UK | 15 MHA |
| 8 Scope | |