



# The Oxfam Humankind Index for Scotland

## Appendix 1 – Prosperity in Scotland's 32 Local Authorities

**The Fraser of Allander Institute with Oxfam**

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## About the Authors

The Fraser of Allander Institute is based at the University of Strathclyde. The lead author for this report was Stewart Dunlop, with the assistance of Professor Kim Swales.  
[fraser@strath.ac.uk](mailto:fraser@strath.ac.uk)

Dr Katherine Trebeck is Research and Policy Advisor for Oxfam's UK Poverty Project in Scotland.  
[ktrebeck@oxfam.org.uk](mailto:ktrebeck@oxfam.org.uk)

[www.oxfam.org.uk](http://www.oxfam.org.uk)



# The Oxfam Humankind Index by Area

## Highest areas

Table 1 details the Oxfam Humankind Index for all Scottish Local Authorities. What is immediately obvious is the extent to which island and rural areas tend to have a higher score – of the 32 local authority areas in Scotland, the first three are island authorities and the first seven are predominantly non-urban,<sup>1</sup> while the highest urban area is Edinburgh which ranks eighth.

Scottish Local Authorities	Score
Shetland Islands	6,232
Eilean Siar	6,205
Orkney Islands	6,120
East Lothian	6,081
Aberdeenshire	6,007
Scottish Borders	6,000
Argyll and Bute	5,901
Perth and Kinross	5,892
Midlothian	5,845
City of Edinburgh	5,827
Highland	5,822
Moray	5,800
Aberdeen City	5,800
South Ayrshire	5,758
East Dunbartonshire	5,749
East Renfrewshire	5,740
Stirling	5,671
Angus	5,614
Fife	5,570
North Ayrshire	5,513
Inverclyde	5,500
Dumfries and Galloway	5,421
West Dunbartonshire	5,420
South Lanarkshire	5,418
Falkirk	5,402
Clackmannanshire	5,397
Renfrewshire	5,388
Dundee City	5,379
West Lothian	5,340
North Lanarkshire	5,327
Glasgow City	5,196
East Ayrshire	5,152

This strongly suggests that a key reason why non-urban areas tend to perform so well is due to the quality of the local environment, and the results in Table 2 appear to confirm that this is one important reason why these areas score so highly.

<b>Table 2 – Oxfam Humankind Index</b>	Shetland Islands	Eilean Siar	Orkney
Key differences, Highest 3 Scottish LAs (% of positive difference)			
Housing	-	9	19
Neighbourhood/Environment	26	27	14
Safety	35	27	21
Green Spaces	6	16	-
Having enough money	10	-	-
Local Facilities	2	9	11
Community Spirit	10	8	10
Good Transport	-	-	-
Good Services	-	2	-
Feeling Good	1	0	2

The table details the major positive differences between the highest three areas (Shetland Islands, Eilean Siar and Orkney) and the Scottish average for the relevant sub-domains. These differences are presented in Table 2 as a percentage of all positive differences in all three areas (for example, Shetland scores above the Scottish average for safety, and this accounts for 35% of Shetland's of the total positive difference between Shetland and the Scottish average score for safety).

Three sub-domains appear to stand out:

- Environment does play an important role (see below), but the biggest difference is due to is safety – all three highest scoring areas show that people in these areas are considerably more likely to report that they lived in a safe environment.<sup>2</sup> 68% of respondents in Shetland felt that they lived in a safe environment, while 52% reported this in Eilean Siar and 46% in Orkney. These figures compare to a Scottish average of around 20% of respondents feeling that they live in a safe environment.
- The visual appeal of these areas also appears to contribute to enhanced prosperity, given that the second major difference is the extent to which respondents reported feeling that they lived in a pleasant environment. All three areas scored highly in this respect – for example, 82% of respondents in Shetland felt that they lived in a pleasant environment, and the figures for Eilean Siar and Orkney were 79% and 70% respectively, compared to a Scottish average of 59%.
- Finally, all three areas report a higher incidence of community spirit – 93% of people in Shetland felt that the area possessed a community spirit, while 88% did so in Eilean Siar and 91% in Orkney, compared to a Scottish average of 72%. There also appears to be a positive, but smaller, influence from 'feeling good', which may be related to the positives score on the above sub-domains. Greater satisfaction with housing also plays a role in two areas, although not in Shetland, where satisfaction with housing was below the Scottish average.<sup>3</sup>

Financial sub-domains do not appear to make a very significant contribution to prosperity across local authorities, with only Shetland scoring above the Scottish average for having enough money to manage. With the exception of transport in Eilean Siar, the three areas perform below Scotland in terms of public services.

## Lowest areas

Table 3 details those sub-domains for which the three lowest performing areas (North Lanarkshire, Glasgow and East Ayrshire) perform better than Scotland – the major inference is that there are very few sub-domains for which they actually do so. At most, they do so only on three sub-domains in North Lanarkshire, while Glasgow and East Ayrshire outperform on only two. In addition, in both North Lanarkshire and Glasgow, much of the outperformance is due to better financial security which, as discussed in the main report, is due to recent unemployment in Scotland approaching the average in deprived areas.

<b>Table 3 – Oxfam Humankind Index, Key differences, Lowest Local Authorities (% of positive difference)</b>	North Lanarkshire	Glasgow	East Ayrshire
Secure/Suitable Work	-	-	12.3
Financial Security	80.9	59.4	-
Skills and Education	6.8	-	87.7
Good	12.3	-	-
Transport Good	-	40.6	-
Services			

The three areas all performed worse than Scotland on Housing, Health, Neighbourhood/Environment, Safety, Green Spaces, Having enough money and Community Spirit. The key conclusion, as in our earlier discussion of deprivation, is that these areas perform poorly for a wide range of reasons and there is no single reason, or set of reasons why these areas do so badly. They are being dragged down by a range of factors.

## Notes

<sup>1</sup> The recently declared city of Perth is obviously included in Perth & Kinross.

<sup>2</sup> This is the area response reported in Table 4.3 of the SHS, 'Aspects of neighbourhood particularly liked'. 68% of respondents in Shetland reported that they lived in a safe environment.

<sup>3</sup> However, the actual difference here is relatively minor – 54% of people in Scotland were satisfied with the quality of housing compared to 51.6% in Shetland.

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