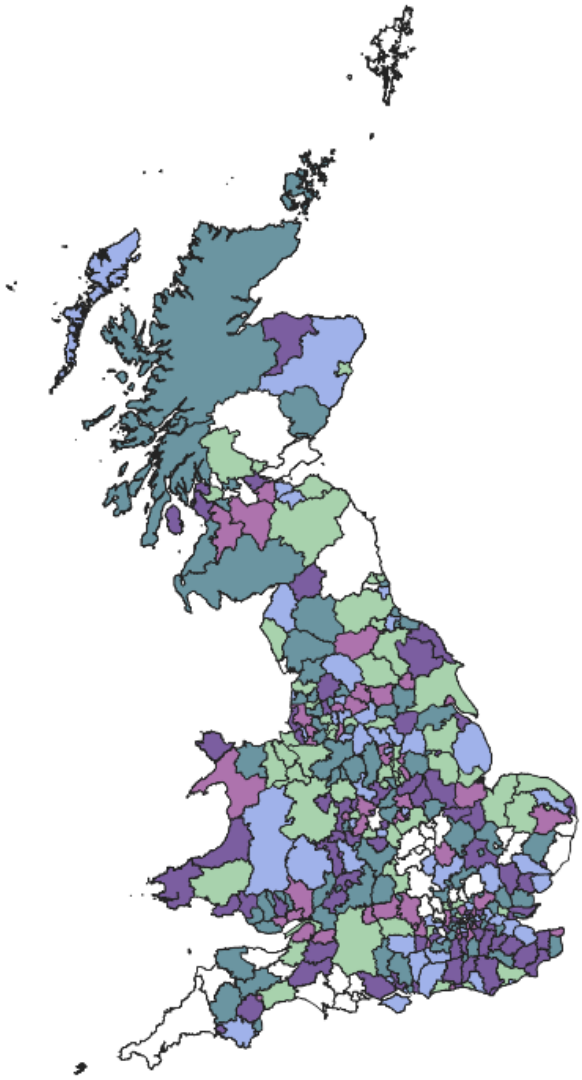
ISPA
Intersectional Stigma of Place-based Ageing



Mapping age and disability discrimination

Insights into the Quantitative analysis in Year 2 of the Intersectional Stigma of Place-Based Ageing (ISPA) Project

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In Partnership with

University of Stirling

University of St Andrews

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INTERSECTIONAL STIGMA
OF PLACE-BASED AGEING (ISPA)

YEAR 2 QUANTITATIVE ANALYSIS

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Mapping age and disability discrimination

In the second year of the ISPA Project, the quantitative analysis within Work Package 1 (WP1) has focused on analysis of UK-based survey data, including the UK Household Longitudinal Study (UKHLS or Understanding Society) and the Scottish Household Survey (SHS). Below we report on some of our descriptive findings across Scotland and our results from the regression analysis using UK Data.

Which areas of the UK have higher, or lower, than expected discrimination?

Using UKHLS data, a longitudinal panel survey of individuals of all ages across the UK, we examined individuals' experiences of age and disability discrimination in relation to sociodemographic and socioeconomic characteristics. These include age, sex, ethnicity, education and tenure, as well as place-based characteristics, such as whether individuals live in an area of multiple deprivation.

Wave Eleven (2019/2021) and Wave Twelve (2021/2023) data were selected due to the availability of discrimination variables and their being the most recent wave of data at the time of starting the analysis. In Wave Eleven, respondents were asked a binary yes/no question: 'Would you describe yourself as being a member of a group that is discriminated against in this country?'. All respondents who answered yes were asked a follow-up question of 'On what grounds is your group discriminated against?' with ten options: colour or race, nationality, religion, language, ethnic group, age, gender, sexuality, disability, and other. Initial analysis was carried out examining all types of discrimination. We then focussed specifically on age and disability discrimination which will be reported below.

The analysis was carried out using a sample of 22,283 respondents aged 30 years and older; 56% of whom were female. Within the sample, disability was prevalent, with 38% of the overall sample reporting a long-standing illness or disability. Descriptive analyses revealed that discrimination occurred frequently among disabled individuals, with 76% of those reporting age/disability discrimination also reporting having a disability or long-standing illness. Additionally, age/disability discrimination was more common in more deprived areas, 25% of individuals in the areas with the highest levels

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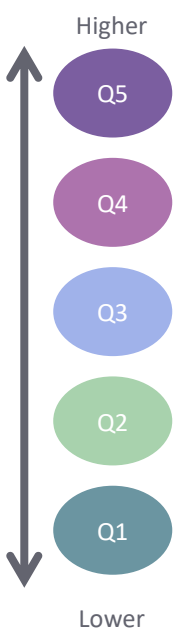
of multiple deprivation reported age/disability discrimination, compared to 16% in the least deprived areas.

We used regression analysis to predict the likelihood of age/disability discrimination, using a range of sociodemographic and socioeconomic characteristics. Model 1 controlled for age and disability, Model 2 for deprivation and tenure, and Model 3 for sex, ethnicity and education. In the final Model, some significant predictors of discrimination were age, disability, tenure, in particular renting from a housing association or local authority, and ethnicity. Using the data from the regression models, we mapped the actual values of reported discrimination (Fig 1) and compared them with what we expected to happen as a result of the model (Fig 2), along with the residuals as a measure of how well the model manages to capture the actual values (Fig 3). The data were averaged by local authority, then divided into 5 equal groups (quintiles).



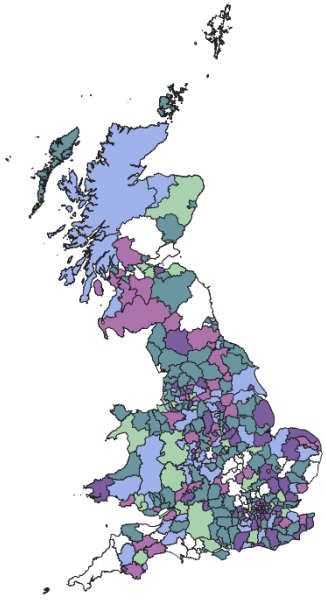


FIGURE 1: ACTUAL VALUES OF REPORTED AGE/DISABILITY STIGMA MAPPED IN QUINTILES

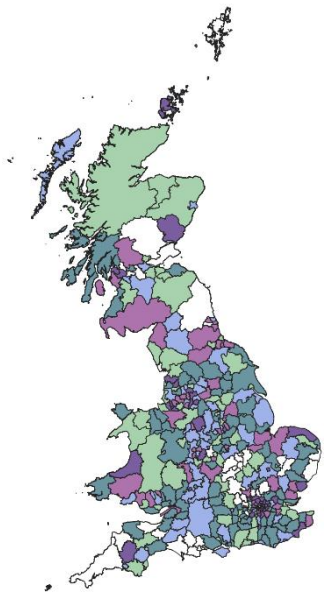


FIGURE 2: PREDICTED VALUES OF AGE/DISABILITY STIGMA MAPPED IN QUINTILES

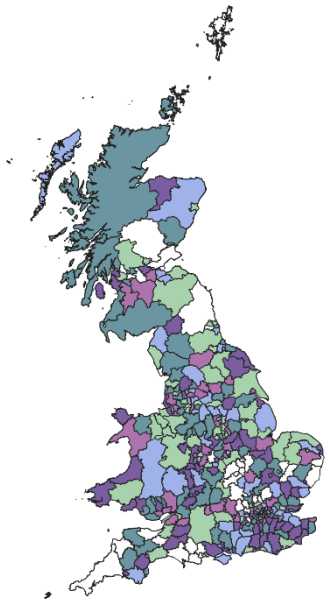


FIGURE 3: RESIDUAL VALUES FROM AGE/DISABILITY STIGMA REGRESSION ANALYSIS MAPPED IN QUINTILES

For Figure 1, those areas in Q5 – the quintile with the most discrimination reported – exhibit the greatest number of people reporting discrimination. It is notable that they are not uniformly in the urban areas, although there is undoubtedly an element of age here, with more peripheral areas in Great Britian being home to older populations. The modelled predictions in Figure 2 highlight some of this discordance: for instance, in the coastal areas of Wales, there appears to be an overestimation of discrimination (see also Figure 3). This suggests that many of the predictive characteristics are present but that there are additional factors at play not captured by the modelling exercise. It highlights the need to develop qualitative insights into the experiences in such places. By contrast, The Midlands

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and North of England appear to have some Local Authorities where there is an overprediction of discrimination – that is, the actual values are lower than we would expect – and, as such, understanding what provides a more positive experience here would be insightful.

Disability, ageing and deprivation across Scotland

Examining 33,918 households from four waves of Scottish Household Survey data (2018-2021), we identified the prevalence of disabled and/or older adults across each of the 32 local authorities in relation to deprivation. This analysis will be used to form a document that will be shared among our Inclusive Living Alliance and other stakeholders across Scotland, to give an overview of deprivation, disability and ageing in their local authorities. Figure 4 shows an overview of the proportions of households with older and/or disabled adults in the most deprived areas (Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation).

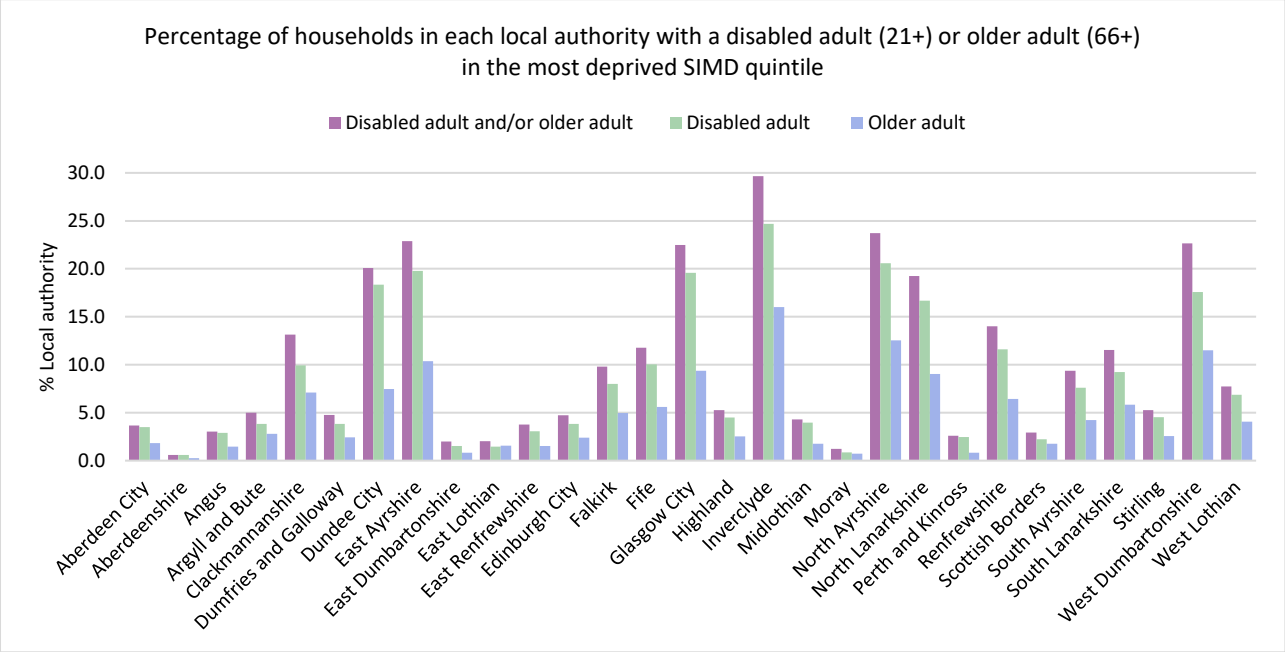

FIGURE 4: PERCENTAGE OF HOUSEHOLDS IN EACH SCOTTISH LOCAL AUTHORITY WITH DISABLED AND/OR OLDER ADULTS IN THE MOST DEPRIVED AREAS

Next steps

Using the modelling from our analysis with Understanding Society and the English Longitudinal Study of Ageing (Year 1), we will continue to explore other available datasets, such as the British Cohort Studies. England, Scotland, and Wales Census data will then be examined, identifying areas at higher risk of stigma and discrimination to give a more representative picture of stigma across the UK.

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Intersectional Stigma of Place-Based Ageing (ISPA) Project

The ISPA project is an ambitious, 5-year participatory and mixed method study that will explore and understand how the stigma attached to where people live can intersect with experiences of disability and ageing. This will provide nuanced insights into the structures and systems that drive exclusion and allow us to tackle the inequalities experienced by older disabled adults. Do visit https://www.youtube.com/@ispaproject for an audio and visual overview.

We aim to develop interventions related to home and environmental modifications, which encourage interventions for inclusive approaches within housing, health and social care delivery. This in turn supports people to age well within homes and communities across England, Scotland, and Wales. The project is funded by the Economic and Social Research Council (Ref: ES/W012677/1) and runs from September 2022 to September 2027.

The Intersectional Stigma of Place-Based Ageing (ISPA) Project is a collaboration between the University of Stirling and the University of St Andrews, Newcastle University and University of Bristol. We are also partnered with the Housing Learning and Improvement Network (Housing LIN) and Scottish Federation of Housing Associations (SFHA).

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