

Age Cymru manifesto 2019: references

This document includes references for statistics cited in Age Cymru's manifesto for the 2019 General Election.

120,000 pensioners in Wales live in poverty.

JRF (2018) Poverty in Wales 2018 <https://41ydvd1cuyvlonsm03mpf21pub-wpengine.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/Wales-briefing.pdf>

It is estimated that there were 56,000 households in Wales inhabited by an older person that experienced fuel poverty in 2017-18.

Cited in the Older People's Commissioner for Wales' 'State of the Nation' report (2019) which references the following data sources: 'This estimate is based on figures provided in a number of official sources: Welsh Government, Office for National Statistics. (2019). National Survey for Wales, 2017-2018. [data collection]. UK Data Service. SN: 8390, <http://doi.org/10.5255/UKDA-SN-8390-1> AND Welsh Government, (2016), The Production of Estimated Levels of Fuel Poverty in Wales: 2012-2016, 11 July 2016. Available at: <https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/statistics-and-research/2018-12/160711-production-estimated-levels-fuel-poverty-wales-2012-2016-en.pdf>.'

43% of people aged 65 and over in Wales say their health is fair or poor.

Welsh Government, Stats Wales (2018-19) General health and illness by age and gender <https://statswales.gov.wales/Catalogue/National-Survey-for-Wales/Population-Health/Adult-general-health-and-illness/genhealthillness-by-age-gender>

220,000 older people in Wales report that they have felt lonely during later life.

Kantar F2F Omnibus Research polling for Age UK, July 2019

Less than 50% of people aged 75 or over in Wales were internet users in 2018-19.

Welsh Government (2019), National Survey for Wales 2018-19 Internet use and digital skills <https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/statistics-and-research/2019-09/internet-use-and-digital-skills-national-survey-wales-april-2018-march-2019-207.pdf>

43% of bank branches in Wales have closed since 2015.

BBC Wales news (2019) Wales tops table for UK bank branch closures. 24 September 2019.
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-wales-49807910>

Changes to Pension Credit rules for ‘mixed age couples’ (pensioners with a partner under State Pension Age) mean that some couples with an age gap of five years or more could lose £35,000 by the time the younger partner reaches SPA.

Age UK has estimated that 31% of couples have an age gap of five years or greater, using data on the ages of partners in 10,941 co-resident opposite sex couples aged 16+ living across the UK, who were surveyed in wave 8 of Understanding Society, the UK Household Longitudinal Study in 2016-18. The difference between standard Universal Credit (£115 per week) and standard Pension Credit (£255.25 per week) for couples is £140.25 each week. If rates were to stay the same, over five years this difference would accumulate to £36,465.

**220,000 older people in Wales report that they have felt lonely during later life.
100,000 people aged 65 and over in Wales speak to three or fewer people they know.
330,000 older people in Wales report that a few minutes of conversation would make a huge difference to their week.**

Kantar F2F Omnibus Research polling for Age UK, July 2019

It is estimated that 80,000 households in Wales that are eligible for Pension Credit are not claiming it.

Independent Age (2019) Credit where it's due: Ending the £3.5 billion Pension Credit scandal report: 26 June 2019 https://independent-age-assets.s3.eu-west-1.amazonaws.com/s3fs-public/2019-7/Credit%20where%20its%20due%20report_0.pdf