

 **Spotlight report: school age (secondary)** 

### Attainment

As of 2022/23, the attainment 8 measure of average achievement was similar in North Somerset (46.5) to regional averages (46.1) and slightly higher than the national average (46.2). Due to the pandemic, this is not comparable with previous years.

In terms of progress between KS2 and KS4 (progress 8 score) North Somerset children show a worse gap than regional averages and this has been true since 2016.

### Free school meals

In 2023, 15.9% of secondary school children received free school meals. This is lower than regional (20%) and national averages (23.8%).

However, levels of attainment for children who have free school meals are lower than for their peers.

### Absence and exclusions

In 2021/22, 31.4% of secondary school children were persistent absentees, similar to regional and national averages and doubled from the previous year.

The fixed term exclusion rate per 100 pupils for primary aged children in North Somerset was 6.3% in 2016/17 compared to 9.4% regionally and 9.4% nationally.

### **Hospital admissions**

As of 2021/22, North Somerset has a rate of 67.2 per 10,000 for hospital admissions caused by unintentional and deliberate injuries in children ([aged 0-14](#)). This has remained fairly steady over the last few years but has dipped in the latest year and is now below the regional (90.8) and national (84.3) rates. The rate for those [aged 15-24](#) was 126.8 per 10,000 compared to 140.8 regionally and 118.4 nationally.

Hospital admissions due to substance misuse for those [aged 15-24](#) is higher in North Somerset than regionally or nationally at 86 per 100,000 compared to 75.6 regionally and 58.3 nationally based on the latest data (2020/21-22/23).

Hospital admissions due to alcohol specific conditions for those [under 18](#) are also higher in North Somerset than nationally at 42 per 100,000 compared to 29.3 per 100,000 nationally based on latest data (2018/19- 20/21).

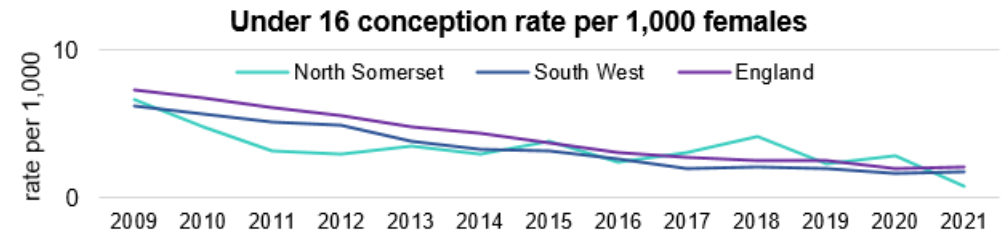
Hospital admissions as a result of self-harm for those [aged 10-14 years](#) have increased over the last decade with a rate of 451.7 per 100,000 in 2022/23 compared to 104.2 in 2011/12. There has been a similar increase regionally. For those [aged 15-19 years](#) the rate in 2022/23 was 893.7 per 100,000 compared to 270 per 100,000 in 2011/12, significantly higher than the national average.

### **HPV**

North Somerset has maintained a high population vaccination coverage of the [HPV vaccination](#) for one dose (females aged 12-13 years old) at 77.2% in 2021/22. This compares to 68.5% regionally and 69.6% nationally. Coverage is below previous years which has averaged around 90%.

### Sexual health

The under 16 conception rate in North Somerset has been decreasing over the last decade with a rate as of 2021 of 0.8 per 1,000, equivalent to 3 conceptions. This is lower than regional and national averages.



### Children in care

As of 2023, North Somerset has a rate of 51 per 10,000 for children in care (all ages). This has remained fairly steady over the last few years and is lower than regional and national averages.