

Throughout this document ‘Devon’ refers to the administrative area of Devon County Council and ‘Torbay’ refers to the administrative area of Torbay Council.

## Economic Prosperity, Health and Wellbeing

An increasing population has the potential to impact significantly, both positively and negatively, on economic prosperity and health and wellbeing. There is a need to accommodate and provide for an increasing population through new housing, employment and infrastructure, as well as improved

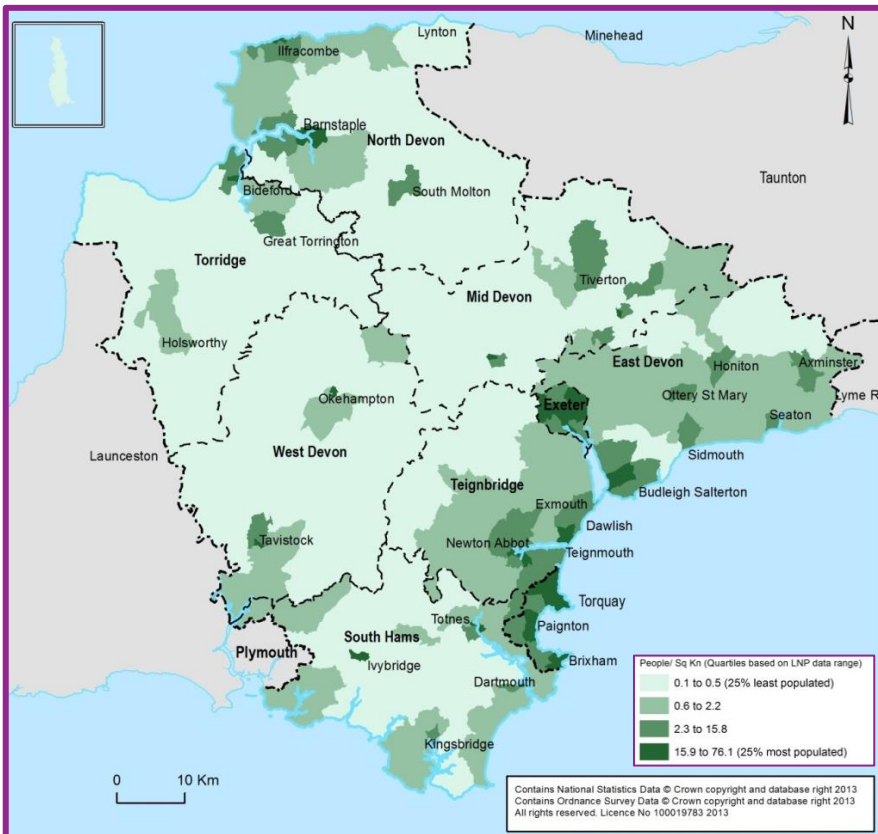


In March 2007 Totnes was the first town in Britain to introduce its own local currency, the Totnes pound, to support the local economy.

social and healthcare services. Moreover, the proportion of single person households in the UK has increased dramatically in the past few decades, from 12% in 1961 to nearly 30% in 2011<sup>1</sup>. This trend is likely to continue, leading to pressure to convert more land to housing and increasing per capita demand for water and energy. In

turn, this has the potential to result in negative health and wellbeing impacts for residents through associated externalities such as air pollution and reduced access to tranquil, open spaces. In addition, Devon and Torbay’s economies have significant tourism sectors that employ around 46,000 people and are worth over £2.1 billion annually. Like all economic sectors, these are reliant on the natural environment. A greater population could negatively affect the natural assets enjoyed by residents and visitors through development and urban sprawl if anticipated growth is not managed appropriately.

Map 1 – Population Density by Ward

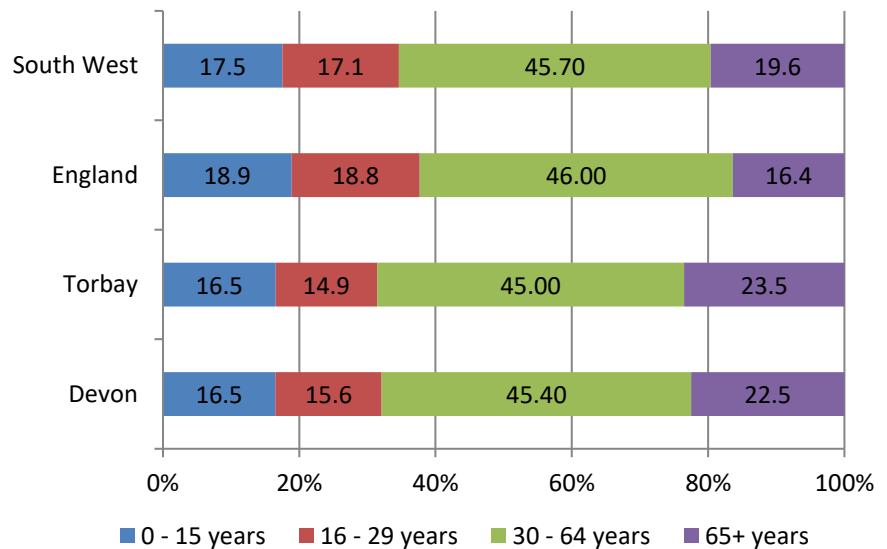


## Population

The population of Devon and Torbay is growing. The 2011 census shows a growth rate of 5.9% in Devon and 0.7% in Torbay over ten years between 2001 and 2011. Whilst these figures are lower than rates within the wider region and nationally within the same timeframe, this trend has the potential to impact negatively on the state of the environment; every additional person needs food, water and energy and produces more waste and pollution. Furthermore, projected population growth to 2031 shows continued growth in both Devon and Torbay which are at a similar rate to the South West but slower than England as a whole (Table 1). It should be noted that locally generated population projections for Devon, based on numbers of planned new dwellings, suggest a population increase of 17.7% between 2011 and 2031<sup>ii</sup>.

**Table 1 - Recorded / Projected Population (2001 – 2031)**

	2001	2011	2031	change '01 – '11	change '11 – '31
<b>Devon</b>	705,600	746,900	824,800	5.9%	10.4%
<b>Torbay</b>	130,000	130,900	142,700	0.7%	9.01%
<b>South West</b>	4,943,400	5,291,800	5,903,700	7.0%	11.6%
<b>England</b>	49,449,700	53,013,500	60,751,700	7.2%	14.6%



**Figure 1 - Structure of the Population by Age Group, 2013**

**Table 2 - Projected Percentage Change in Population by Age in Devon by 2031 (2010 baseline)**

Age Group	Devon	Torbay
0-14	4.6%	5.4%
15 – 24	1.1%	-4.6%
25 – 39	-1.7%	2.0%
40 – 64	-7.4%	-12.8%
65 – 74	36.5%	26.4%
75 – 84	59.0%	50.9%
85 +	102.4%	94.3%

Alongside population growth, population density illustrates where pressures may be greatest on the natural and built environment. Density by ward in Devon and Torbay in 2011 is illustrated in Map 1<sup>iii</sup>.

Across Devon, average densities are 1.1 people per hectare, although in the district of Exeter densities rise sharply to 25 people per hectare (the highest of the districts in Devon). In Torbay, densities are 20.8 people per hectare; a marked difference compared to the Devon average. The regional and national average population densities are 2.2 and 4.1 respectively. This demonstrates how rural Devon is, excluding Exeter and Torbay.

**Table 3 - Ecological Footprint (ha per person)**

East Devon	5.47
Exeter	5.08
Mid Devon	5.42
North Devon	5.34
South Hams	5.77
Teignbridge	5.43
Torrige	5.44
West Devon	5.60
Torbay	5.10
South West	5.42
UK	5.3
Global Average	2.2

The average age of the population in Devon is 43.7 while in Torbay it is 44.2. This is above the average recorded in the South West (41.6) and England as a whole (39.3)<sup>iv</sup>. Figure 1<sup>v</sup> shows a higher than average proportion of the population above the age of 65 in both Devon and Torbay, reflecting in-migration, with proportions of those aged 0-15 and 16-29 below averages for both the South West and England.

The projected percentage change in population by age reflects an increasing life expectancy (Table 2<sup>vi</sup>). By 2031, 31% of Devon's and 32% of Torbay's populations are forecast to be aged 65 or above<sup>vii</sup>.

The 'ecological footprint' is a proxy measure of the impact society has on the natural environment, based on an assessment of the area of land needed to supply the resources consumed by an individual and process their waste. The average footprint of Torbay's and Devon's population is over twice the global average (Table 3<sup>viii</sup>).

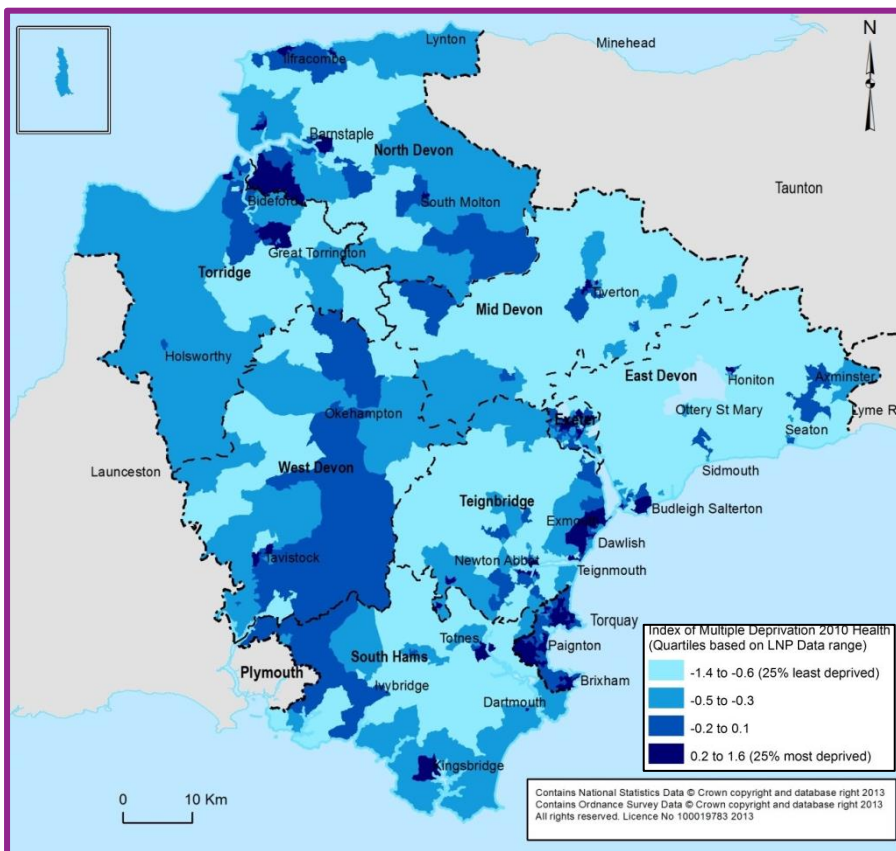
The ecological footprint of people in rural Devon is generally higher than those in Torbay and Exeter, most likely reflecting the higher dependence on car travel and electricity and oil for heating homes and businesses. The

averages in Devon align to those for the South West but are above the UK average while those in Torbay and Exeter are below the South West and UK averages. The footprint is well above the defined sustainable productive area of 1.8 hectares per person<sup>ix</sup>.

### Health

General health data for Devon shows trends similar to those for the region and England, whilst Torbay has a lower proportion of people with very good health and a higher proportion of people with bad/very bad health (Table 4<sup>x</sup>). Map 2<sup>xi</sup> illustrates health deprivation in Devon and Torbay.

**Map 2 – Health Deprivation by Lower Super Output Area**



**Table 4 - General Health (Percentage of resident Population)**

	Very Good	Good	Fair	Bad	Very Bad
<b>Devon</b>	46.1	34.7	14	4	1.2
<b>Torbay</b>	41.7	34.4	16.3	5.8	1.7
<b>South West</b>	46.9	34.6	13.4	4	1.1
<b>England</b>	47.2	34.2	13.1	4.2	1.2

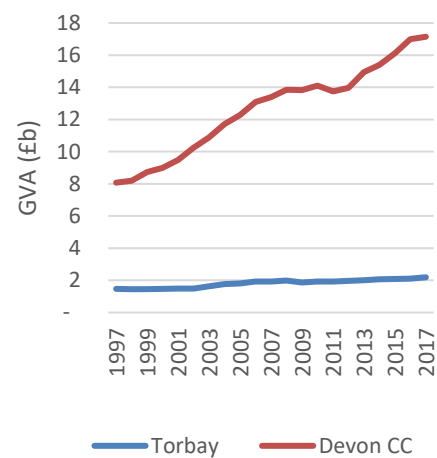
## Economy

Economic information from the English Indices of Multiple Deprivation is illustrated in Map 3 and shows the general geographic spread of economic deprivation across the study area.

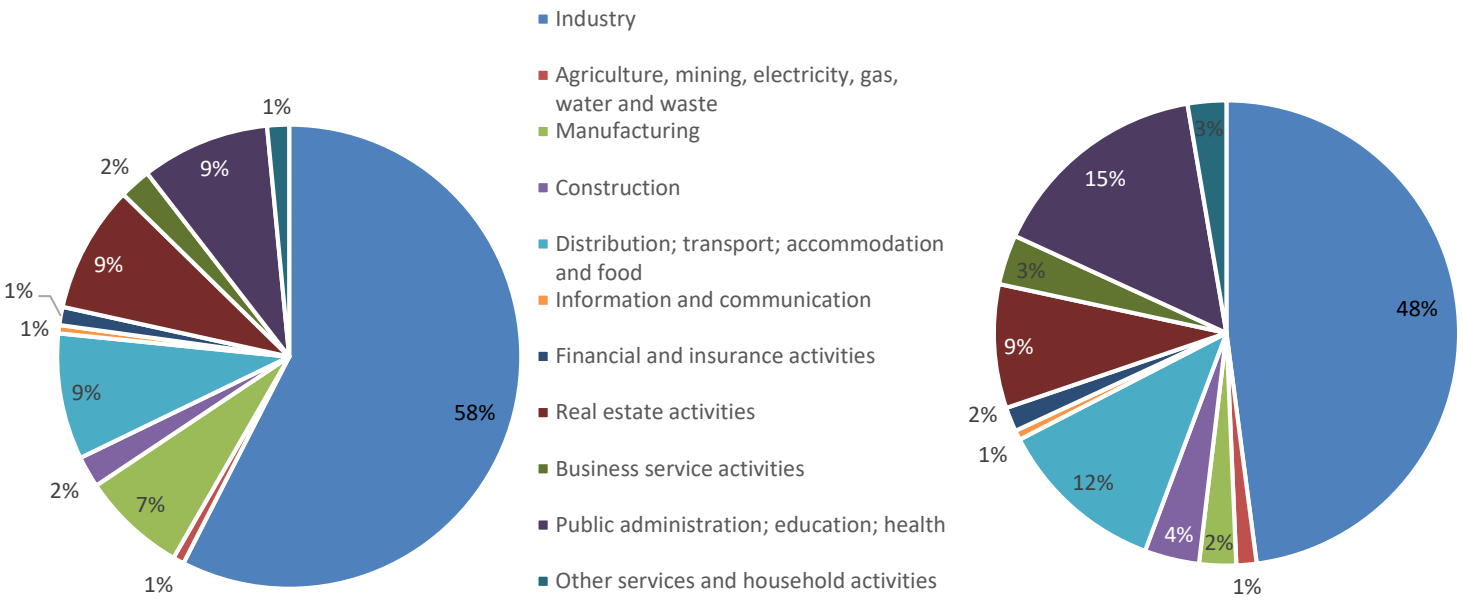
The general condition of the Devon and Torbay economies can be shown through analysis of Gross Value Added (GVA)<sup>xii</sup> data as shown in Figure 2<sup>xiii</sup>. As the trend suggests, the Devon economy has witnessed steady growth since 1997 (an increase of 102% between 1997 and 2015), whereas in Torbay GVA has increased by 45% over the same period.

Projections for GVA commissioned by Devon County Council in 2011<sup>xiv</sup> expect GVA to grow at 3% per annum between 2015 and 2020. This is expected to be comparable with the wider south west.

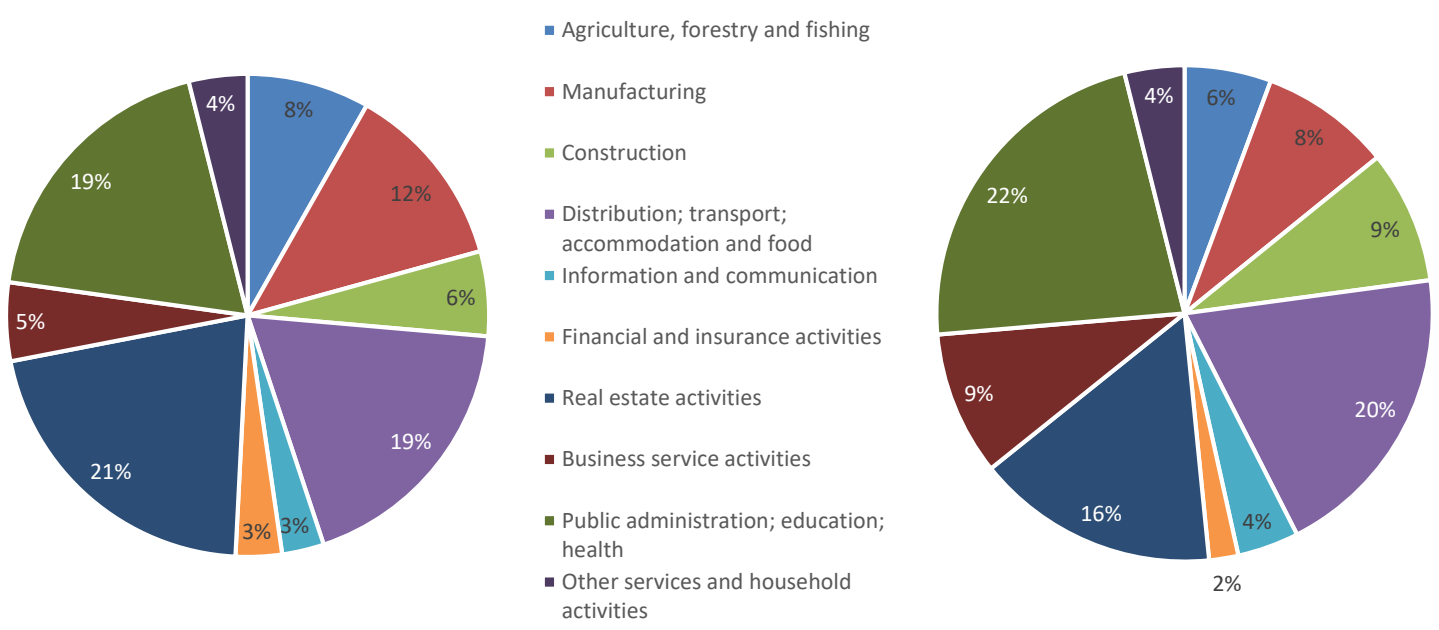
Figures 3 and 4<sup>xv</sup> show the composition of Torbay’s and Devon’s economies and offer a comparison between 1997 and 2015. Perhaps surprisingly, considering the rural character of Devon and Torbay and their strong maritime links, agriculture, forestry and fishing accounts for just 2% of the value of Devon’s economy in 2015 and 0.2% of Torbay’s; this has not changed significantly since 1997. Unsurprisingly, considering the Southwest’s reputation as a holiday destination, the distribution, transport, accommodation and food sector represents about 20 – 24% of both Devon’s and Torbay’s economies. During this time Torbay and Devon have experienced reductions in the value of the production and manufacturing sectors, which have been replaced with more dominant real estate and public administration, education and health sectors.



**Figure 2 - Gross Value-Added Trend 1997 – 2017**



**Figure 3 - Composition of Torbay's Economy by Gross Value Added in 1997 (Left) and 2017 (Right)**



**Figure 4 - Composition of Devon's Economy by Gross Value Added in 1997 (Left) and 2017 (Right)**



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- <sup>i</sup> UK National Ecosystem Assessment (2011) *The UK National Ecosystem Assessment: Synthesis of the Key Findings*. UNEP-WCMC, Cambridge. Available at: <http://uknea.unep-wcmc.org/Default.aspx>
- <sup>ii</sup> Devon County Council (2013) *Devon County Council Population Projections (Local Model)*. Devon County Council., Strategic Planning Team
- <sup>iii</sup> Office for National Statistics (2013) *2011 Census data qs102 – Population Density*. Office for National Statistics. Download available at: <http://www.nomisweb.co.uk/> (Accessed 02/05/2013)
- <sup>iv</sup> Office for National Statistics (2013). *2011 census ks102ew – age structure*. Office for National Statistics. Download available at: <http://www.nomisweb.co.uk/> (Accessed 02/05/2013)
- <sup>v</sup> Office for National Statistics (2013). *2011 census ks102ew – age structure*. Office for National Statistics. Download available at: <http://www.nomisweb.co.uk/> (Accessed 02/05/2013)
- <sup>vi</sup> Office for National Statistics (2012). *2010-Based Subnational Population Projections by Sex and Quinary Age*. Office for National Statistics. Download available at <http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/rel/snpp/sub-national-population-projections/2010-based-projections/rft-table-2c-la-in-regions-quinary.xls>
- <sup>vii</sup> Office for National Statistics (2012). *2010-Based Subnational Population Projections by Sex and Quinary Age*. Office for National Statistics. Download available at <http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/rel/snpp/sub-national-population-projections/2010-based-projections/rft-table-2c-la-in-regions-quinary.xls>
- <sup>viii</sup> Stockholm Environment Institute (2008) *REAP v2 Experimental release 15-10-08*. Stockholm Environmental Institute. Available at: <http://www.resource-accounting.org.uk/downloads> (Accessed 01/05/2013).
- <sup>ix</sup> European Environment Agency (2005) *The Ecological Footprint: A resource accounting framework for measuring human demand on the biosphere*. EEA. Available at: <http://www.eea.europa.eu/highlights/Ann1132753060> (Accessed: 16/09/2013)
- <sup>x</sup> Office for National Statistics (2013). *2011 census qs302ew – general health*. Office for National Statistics. Download available at: <http://www.nomisweb.co.uk/> (Accessed 02/05/2013)
- <sup>xi</sup> Department for Communities and Local Government. (2011) *English indices of deprivation 2010; health deprivation and disability*. DCLG. Download available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/english-indices-of-deprivation-2010> (Accessed 01/05/2013)
- <sup>xii</sup> In this instance, GVA is a measure of economics of the value of goods and services produced in the area of Devon and Torbay. GVA is output minus intermediate consumption.
- <sup>xiii</sup> Office for National Statistics (2018) *Regional gross value added income approach, 1997 - 2017*. Office for National Statistics. Available at: <http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20160105160709/http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/publications/re-reference-tables.html?edition=tcM%3A77-388336>
- <sup>xiv</sup> Cambridge Econometrics (2011) *Assembling the evidence base for the Devon Local Economic Assessment*. Cambridge Econometrics. Available at: <http://www.bfmd.org.uk/assets/documents/1105-Devonomics-Baseline-Projections.pdf> (Accessed 02/05/2013)
- <sup>xv</sup> Office for National Statistics (2018) *Regional gross value added income approach, 1997 - 2017*. Office for National Statistics. Available at: <https://www.ons.gov.uk/economy/grossvalueaddedgva/datasets/regionalgrossvalueaddedincomeapproach>