

BACKGROUND

In May 1999, new ward boundaries for Cumbria's districts became effective. It will be some time before official statistics become available for these new areas. In the interim, all of the information in this profile has been estimated for the new wards.

This profile details the 'make up' of the people living within the Lakes Grasmere ward.

This ward is in the South Lakeland district.

POPULATION BREAKDOWN

In 1999, 0.3% of Cumbria's 491,800 residents lived in Lakes Grasmere.

POPULATION

Population in 1991	1665
Population in 1999	1539
Numeric change 1991-1999	-126
Percentage change 1991-1999	-7.6

Source: Office for National Statistics, Policy & Research Unit, 2000

The table below illustrates the age breakdown of those living within the ward.

AGE STRUCTURE (2000)*

	Number	Percentage
Aged 0-14	235	15.3
Aged 15-29	384	24.9
Aged 30-44	302	19.6
Aged 45-59	237	15.4
Aged 60-74	234	15.2
Aged 75-84	115	7.5
Aged 85+	34	2.2

Source: Office for National Statistics, Policy & Research Unit, 2000

*Derived from 1991 Census Data, Crown Copyright

POPULATION DENSITY

Despite the long term growth in population, Cumbria remains one of the most sparsely populated counties in England.

Within the County, there are substantial variations in population density. For example, Lakes Grasmere has a population density of 0.2 persons per hectare, lower than the county average of 0.7. Its population density places the ward in the Super-sparse category.

N.B. There are 3 sparsity categories, defined as: urban (more than 4 persons per hectare); sparse (between 0.5 and 4 persons per hectare); and super-sparse (under 0.5 persons per hectare.)

BIRTHS AND DEATHS (1999)

VITAL STATISTICS

Number of births	9
Number of deaths	14
Natural replacement index [#]	0.6

Source: Office for National Statistics

[#] N.B. an index of less than one indicates fewer births than deaths -

Although an area may have a negative natural replacement index it does not necessarily mean the size of local population is in decline – migration, both in and out of the area, will also have a bearing.

Changes in marriage, cohabitation and divorce patterns, as well as socio-economic factors have had a significant effect on birthing trends. The most noticeable result of these factors is the decline in the average number of children born to women.

Most children are born to married couples, although the proportion has declined over the past few decades. During 1996, in England and Wales over a third of all live births were outside of marriage. Despite this increase in births outside of marriage, there is evidence to suggest:

- most of these births occurred to mothers who had partners – around four fifths were jointly registered, of which the large majority were living at the same address; and
- births outside of marriage were particularly common to mothers in the younger age group – in 1996, four fifths of solely registered births were to women aged under 30.

HOUSING TENURE AND TYPE

In 1998, there were a total of 603 households in Lakes Grasmere. The breakdown in terms of household tenure and type of dwelling are shown in the tables below.

HOUSEHOLD TENURE (1998)*

	Number	Percentage
Owned out right	208	34.5
Buying	136	22.6
Local Authority rented	53	8.8
Housing Authority rented	48	8.0
Privately rented	100	16.6
Other	58	9.6

Source: Office for National Statistics, Policy & Research Unit, 2000

* Derived from 1991 Census Data, Crown Copyright

HOUSEHOLD SIZE

On average 2.38 people live in each household in Cumbria (1994).

Between 1981 and 1994 the County's average household size declined by 12%. Similar 'drops' were recorded more locally.

In this ward the average household size is higher than than the county average, standing at 2.6.

SOCIAL DISADVANTAGE

Cumbria is not often associated in people's minds with high levels of poverty and deprivation. To many this is a preserve for the large inner city areas. This view fails to recognise the fact there are many other parts of both urban and rural landscapes where genuine hardship exists

The incidence of disadvantage is an important factor in determining the demand for local services. Deprived or disadvantaged people tend to suffer more from poor health and are likely to require more support.

Information about the distribution of such groups is a key element in service planning. But, how can disadvantage be measured - especially since the term can mean many things to different people?

CACI Ltd have used information from the 1991 Census to categorise households into one of the following groups:

- A - Thriving
- B - Expanding
- C - Rising
- D - Settling
- E - Aspiring
- F - Striving

The tables below illustrate the proportion of households in this ward matching each group.

A THRIVING

The people established at the top of the social ladder - healthy, wealthy and confident consumers

	Local	Cumbria
As a group in total	100.0	25%
Wealthy, Achievers, Suburban Areas	0.0	8%
Affluent Greys, Rural communities	100.0	14%
Prosperous Pensioners, Retirement Areas	0.0	3%

B EXPANDING

Business people in better-off families - paying of mortgages and bring up children

	Local	Cumbria
As a group in total	0.0	6%
Affluent Executive Family Areas	0.0	0%
Well of Workers, Family Areas	0.0	6%

C RISING

The young professionals and executives in towns and cities - working and studying to make their way up the career ladder

	Local	Cumbria
As a group in total	0.0	1%
Affluent Urbanites	0.0	1%
Prosperous Professionals	0.0	0%
Better-Off Executives	0.0	1%

D SETTLING

The workers in the middle of the social spectrum - they have their homes and lead a steady lifestyle

	Local	Cumbria
As a group in total	0.0	35%
Comfortable Middle-Agers, Mature Home Owning Areas	0.0	12%
Skilled Workers, Home Owning Areas	0.0	24%

E ASPIRING

The people who are running hard to better their lot - buying their council homes and pursuing their goals

	Local	Cumbria
As a group in total	0.0	16%
New Home Owners, Mature Communities	0.0	14%
White Collar Workers, Better Off Multi-Ethnic Areas	0.0	2%

F STRIVING

The people who find life toughest their lot - buying their council homes and pursuing their goals

	Local	Cumbria
As a group in total	0.0	16%
Older People, Less Prosperous Areas	0.0	5%
Council Estate Residents, Better Off Homes	0.0	8%
Council Estate Residents, High Unemployment	0.0	1%
Council Estate Residents, Greater Hardship	0.0	2%
People in Multi Ethnic, Low Income Areas	0.0	0%

Source: Acorn data, CACI Limited, Policy & Research Unit 1999

ACCESSING SERVICES – CAR OWNERSHIP

In 1998, 17.6% of households in the ward have **no** access to private transport, lower than than the corresponding county figure of 31%.

CAR OWNERSHIP (1998)*

Households:	Number	Percentage
With no car	106	17.6
With one car	313	51.9
With two or more cars	183	30.3

* Derived from 1991 Census Data, Crown Copyright

Source: Regional Trends, Office for National Statistics, Policy & Research Unit, 2000

It is useful to point out, areas of high car ownership are often seen as the most affluent and those with low car ownership rate amongst the poorest. Car ownership rates are used in this way by Central Government when allocating resources to local authorities for many services.

In Cumbria this explanation is too simplistic. For many people living in rural areas, owning a car is not a matter of choice, but a necessity. In areas where public transport is limited or non-existent, car ownership is a prerequisite for those who wish to work or have access to services.

GROSS ANNUAL FAMILY INCOME

The table below indicates proportions of this ward's households in different income bands.

GROSS FAMILY INCOME (1998)

Income Band (thousands)	Percentage	Income Band (thousands)	Percentage
0 - 5	10.6	55-60	0.5
5-10	17.1	60-65	0.3
10-15	19.7	65-70	0.2
15-20	17.2	70-75	0.1
20-25	12.7	75-80	0.1
25-30	8.5	80-85	0.1
30-35	5.4	85-90	0.0
35-40	3.4	90-95	0.0
40-45	2.1	95-100	0.0
45-50	1.3	100+	0.0
50-55	0.8		

Source: Acorn Data, CACI Limited

UNEMPLOYMENT

Examination of the unemployment trends over the last decade suggests that unemployment locally has moved broadly in line with the national trend.

The unemployment situation for both males and females living within the ward during July 2000 was as follows:

	Number Unemployed	Percentage Unemployed
Total	7	0.8
Male	6	1.2
Female	1	0.2

Source: Office for National Statistics, Policy & Research Unit, 2000

JOB SEEKERS' ALLOWANCE

In this ward during August 1998, 8 people were claiming Job Seekers' Allowance. The age break down of claimants was as follows:

AGE BREAKDOWN OF CLAIMANTS OF JOB SEEKERS' ALLOWANCE (AUGUST 1998)

	Numbers	Percentage
Under 20	0	0.0
20 – 24	6	75.0
25 – 49	2	25.0
50 – 54	0	0.0
Over 55	0	0.0

Source: Benefits Agency, I&DeA, Policy & Research Unit

Of the 8 claiming Job Seekers' Allowance 0 or 0.0% had children 16 or under living with them.

INCOME SUPPORT

During the same month, 36 local residents were claiming Income Support. Of these:

- 18 or 50.0% were pensioners claiming Income Support;
- 7 or 19.4% were lone parents claiming Income Support;
- 8 or 22.2% were disabled people claiming Income Support; while the remaining
- 3 or 8.3% were claiming support for another, (unspecified) reason.

In Lakes Grasmere during August 1998 13 dependant children were living in households claiming Income Support. The age profile of these children was as follows:

AGE BREAKDOWN OF CHILDREN LIVING IN HOUSEHOLDS CLAIMING INCOME SUPPORT (AUGUST 1998)

Age	Numbers	Percentage
0 - 4	5	13.9
5 - 8	4	11.1
9 - 10	1	2.8
11 - 13	1	2.8
14 - 15	1	2.8
16 or over	1	2.8

Source: Benefits Agency, I&DeA, Policy & Research Unit

FAMILY CREDIT

During November 1998, 16 households in the ward were claiming Family Credit. Of these:

- 9 or 56.3% were 'couple' families; and
- 7 or 43.8% were lone parent families.

28 dependant children were living in households claiming Family Credit. The age profile of these children was as follows:

AGE BREAKDOWN OF CHILDREN LIVING IN HOUSEHOLDS CLAIMING FAMILY CREDIT (NOVEMBER 1998)

Age	Numbers	Percentage
0 - 4	10	35.7
5 - 8	10	35.7
9 - 10	1	3.6
11 - 13	4	14.3
14 - 15	0	0
16 or over	3	10.7

Source: Benefits Agency, I&DeA, Policy & Research Unit