

Homefinder Somerset Equalities Report – April 2026

Introduction

This report provides the latest equalities information from Homefinder Somerset.

The data presented in this report is correct as of 17 April 2026 and unless stated relates to the main applicant for households with a Live application and those who are being considered for a property (with the status of 'Offered').

Age

Over half (51%) of households registered with Homefinder Somerset have a main applicant aged between 18 and 39 years old (Table 1 and Chart 1). This is significantly higher than the proportion of the Somerset population aged between 20 and 39 (21% - 2021 Census). This is perhaps not surprising as people in this age will include those most likely to be: moving to their first home, forming a relationship and seeking a place to live together, or having children and so needing a bigger home.

18% of households registered with Homefinder Somerset are headed by people over 60, which is significantly lower than the proportion seen across the general Somerset population (32%) at the 2021 Census.

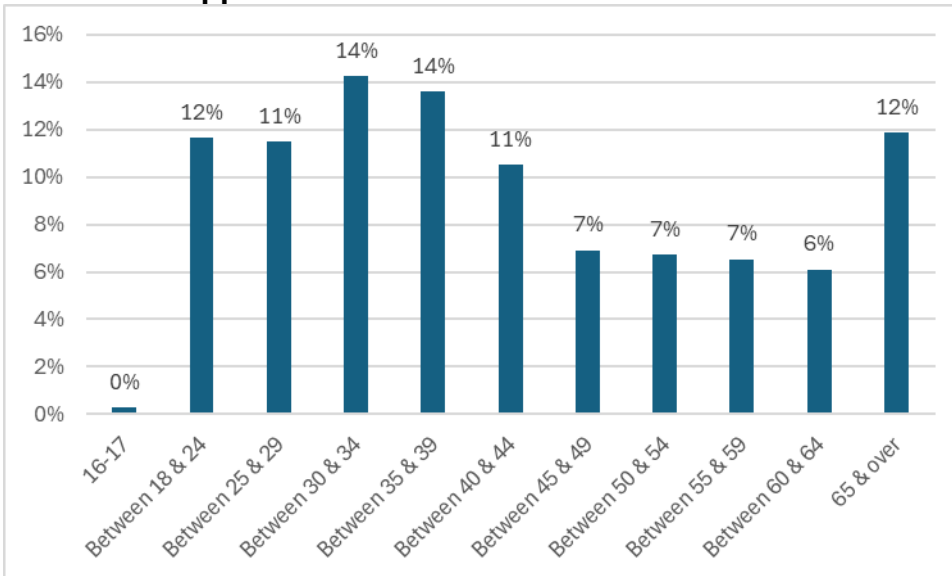
Table 1: Age profile of households registered with Homefinder Somerset. Data uses the age of the main applicant.

	No.	%
16 - 17	36	0
Between 18 & 24	1536	12
Between 25 & 29	1514	11
Between 30 & 34	1881	14
Between 35 & 39	1795	14
Between 40 & 44	1389	11
Between 45 & 49	912	7
Between 50 & 54	888	7
Between 55 & 59	862	7
Between 60 & 64	805	6
65 & over	1567	12
Total	13,185	100%

Note: The percentages refer to the proportion of households registered that have a main applicant in that Age Band (e.g. 14% of households registered have a main applicant in the 30 – 34 year old Age Band).

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Chart 1: Age profile of households registered with Homefinder Somerset. Data uses the age of the main applicant.



Sex

Just under two thirds (65%) of households registered with Homefinder Somerset have a woman identified as the main applicant (Table 2).

The proportion of households headed by a woman is significantly different to the profile of the Somerset population, where 51% of the population are female (2021 Census). The reasons for this are not clear.

Table 2: Sex of main applicant of households registered with Homefinder Somerset

	No.	%
Female	8,612	65%
Male	4,543	34%
Other	30	0%
Total	13,185	100%

Gender reassignment

The majority of main applicants (97%) reported that their gender was the same as the sex they were registered at birth. 3% of main applicants reported that their gender was not the same as the sex they were registered at birth (Table 3).

Table 3: Is your gender the same as the sex you were registered at birth?

	No.	%
No	336	3%
Yes	13,149	97%
Total		100%

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Marriage and Civil Partnership

Just over a quarter (26%) of households included a joint applicant reported as 'partner' to the main applicant.

Pregnancy and Maternity

As stated above, (65%) of households registered with Homefinder Somerset have a woman identified as the main applicant. 3% of these women reported that they are pregnant with a due date on or after the date of creation of this report.

Please note that data is not collected on maternity (the period of 26 weeks after the birth, which reflects the period of a woman's ordinary maternity leave entitlement from employment)

Disability

38% of households registered with Homefinder Somerset reported that at least 1 member of their household has a disability. This is nearly twice the rate seen for the general Somerset population (19% - 2021 Census).

The most common disability reported was mental health issues, followed by physical disability (Table 4). It should be noted that the data relates to the main applicant. In many cases someone will have more than 1 disability. This explains the difference between 5,042 households stating that the main applicant has a disability, and the 8,947 disabilities reported in Table 3 below. It should also be noted that many households include more than 1 person with a disability.

Table 4: Type of disability of main applicant

	No.	%
Autism spectrum condition	1327	10%
Cognitive impairment	258	2%
Hearing or sight loss	396	3%
Learning Disability	939	8%
Mental health issues	2534	19%
Physical Disability	2501	19%
Other	992	8%
Total	8947	69% (of 13,185)

Military Status

143 households registered with Homefinder Somerset reported that the main or joint applicant (or both) had served in the regular British Armed Forces (Army, Navy or RAF) or British Reserve Forces. This accounted for 1% of all households. Such applicants are exempt from the local connection requirement to register with Homefinder Somerset.

30 of these households reported that they are currently serving in the regular British Armed Forces (Army, Navy or RAF) or left in the last 5 years.

20 households reported that they need to move because of a serious injury, medical condition (including mental health) or disability sustained as a result of their service. 5 of these applicants reported that they are currently serving or left in the last 5 years.

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Ethnic Origin

Most households (89.2%) are headed by main applicants who describe their ethnic origin as White British (Table 5). This is lower than the proportion of the Somerset population (91% - 2021 Census).

The next most common ethnic group is White Other at 4.9%. Overall, 93.7% of main applicants described their ethnic origin as White.

Table 5: Ethnicity of main applicant

	No.	%
Asian / Asian British	100	1%
Asian / Asian British: Bangladeshi	29	0.2%
Asian / Asian British: Chinese	7	0
Asian / Asian British: Indian	13	0.1%
Asian / Asian British: Pakistani	6	0
Asian / Asian British: Other	45	0.3%
Black / African / Caribbean / Black British	85	1%
Black / African / Caribbean / Black British: African	53	0.4%
Black / African / Caribbean / Black British: Caribbean	16	0.1%
Black / African / Caribbean / Black British: Other	16	0.1%
Gypsy or Irish Traveller	41	0%
Mixed / Multiple ethnic groups	184	1.4%
Mixed / Multiple ethnic groups: White & Asian	36	0.2%
Mixed / Multiple ethnic groups: White & Black African	33	0.2%
Mixed / Multiple ethnic groups: White & Black Caribbean	77	0.6%
Mixed / Multiple ethnic groups: Other	48	0.4%
White	12,353	93.7%
White: English / Welsh / Scottish / Northern Irish / British	11,759	89.2%
White: Irish	51	0.4%
White: Other	643	4.9%
Any other ethnic group	47	0.4%
Prefer not to say	266	1.8%
Total	13,185	100%

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Religion or Belief

Most applicants (63%) stated that they had no religion. This is a much higher proportion than for the general Somerset population (44% - 2021 Census). 29% of applicants described themselves as Christian, whilst 5% preferred not to answer this question.

Table 6: Religion of main applicant

	No.	%
Buddhist	44	0
Christian	3782	29%
Hindu	3	0
Jewish	8	0
Muslim	121	1%
No religion	8247	63%
Other	346	3%
Prefer not to say	633	5%
Sikh	1	0
Total	13,185	100%

Sexual Orientation

Most applicants (88%) described themselves as heterosexual. This proportion is slightly lower than the 90% for the county population as a whole (2021 Census).

Table 7: Sexual Orientation of main applicant

	No.	%
Bisexual	459	3%
Gay man	147	1%
Gay woman/lesbian	165	1%
Heterosexual/straight	11545	88%
Other	102	1%
Prefer not to say	767	6%
Total	13,185	100%