

SCOTTISH INDEX OF MULTIPLE DEPRIVATION 2012

December 2012

SUMMARY

In the latest 2012 release of the Scottish Index of multiple Deprivation (SIMD) published by the Scottish Government in December 2012:

- Highland has 17 datazones in the most deprived 15% in Scotland, an increase of one from SIMD09.
- 3 datazones have moved in and 2 have moved out since SIMD09.
- Deprivation continues to be concentrated in areas identified in earlier releases, but one datazone in Dingwall is now classed as deprived.
- 85% of income and employment deprived people in Highland live outwith areas recognised as containing concentrations of deprivation.

Background

The Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) was first produced by the Scottish Executive in 2004, and updated in 2006 and 2009. The information published on Tuesday 18th December 2012 was the fourth release of the Index, the third for datazones at a detailed local level.

SIMD has been designed to identify the most deprived areas across Scotland. It uses statistical information across a range of domains which are combined to indicate deprivation at household level. Information gathered includes:

- Income data
- Employment data
- Health data
- Education data
- Housing data
- Geographical access to services data
- Crime data

The SIMD measures deprivation at small area level called datazones. These are areas which have a standard population of between roughly 500 and 1,000 people and cover a wide range of geographical areas – e.g. the smallest zone in Highland is Culloden Walker Crescent with an area of 0.7sq kms and a population of 478, and the largest datazone in Scotland is Garve, Achnasheen and Kinlochewe with an area of 1,159 sq kms and a population of 718. There are 6,505 datazones in Scotland and 292 in Highland

The data is collated to show deprivation within each of the above topic areas and then weighted and combined to indicate multiple deprivation for each datazone across Scotland. The datazones are then ranked to highlight those areas with the highest deprivation levels, where 1 is the most deprived in Scotland and 6,505 is the least deprived. It is important to note that **the deprivation of each datazone is relative to all others and not absolute**, although some of the data that was assembled to build up the domains –such as unemployment and benefit claim rates - can be used to show absolute levels.

Supporting Information

Further information on SIMD12 is available on the Council's website [here](#). It includes:

- Some general observations on changes through time for all Highland datazones (irrespective of their level of deprivation).

- Changes through time in the Highland datazones in the most deprived 15% in Scotland.
- Changes through time in the 15% most deprived datazones in Highland.
- Maps showing datazones in Highland and their level of deprivation.
- Domain information for each datazone.

Additional information on SIMD including detailed technical notes, guidance, and frequently asked questions is available on the Scottish Government website [here](#).

Analysing the Results – the “Most Deprived 15%”

When SIMD was published first for datazones in 2006, the Scottish Executive adopted a standard that datazones ranked in the 15% most deprived in Scotland would be classed as multiply deprived and therefore eligible for some of the regeneration funding streams available at the time. The figure of 15% was decided by a mixture of pragmatic judgement and science: it captured the areas generally regarded as deprived and was also the point on a graph at which the actual deprivation score began to increase sharply. At the time, funding was expected to be targeted specifically at the 15% but the move to Single Outcome Agreements has meant that we can use it to benefit natural communities as long as we can demonstrate a positive outcome. There is no longer an imperative to look just at the 15%, but this has become a de facto standard that makes comparison easy, and it is used as a benchmark in the rest of this report. Other analysis is available on request.

It is important to note that the SIMD was designed to measure **concentrations of deprivation**. It is good at achieving this. However, it doesn't identify rural deprivation where deprivation is **spatially dispersed** with the very rich living alongside those who are very poor. In Highland, 85% of people who are income deprived and 85% of people who are employment deprived live outwith the areas identified through the SIMD as being in the 15% most deprived in Scotland.

SIMD12 – Highland Datazones in the Most Deprived 15% in Scotland

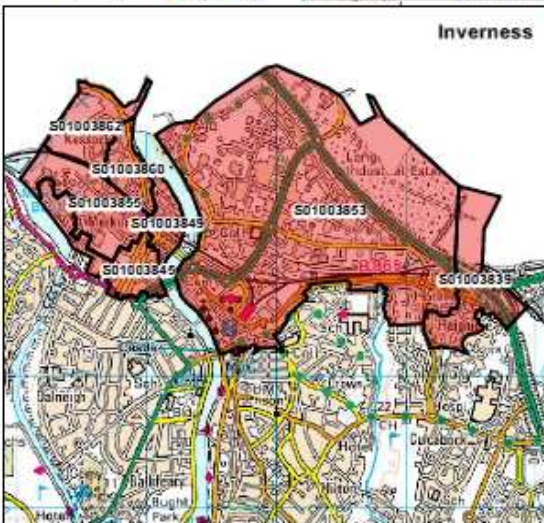
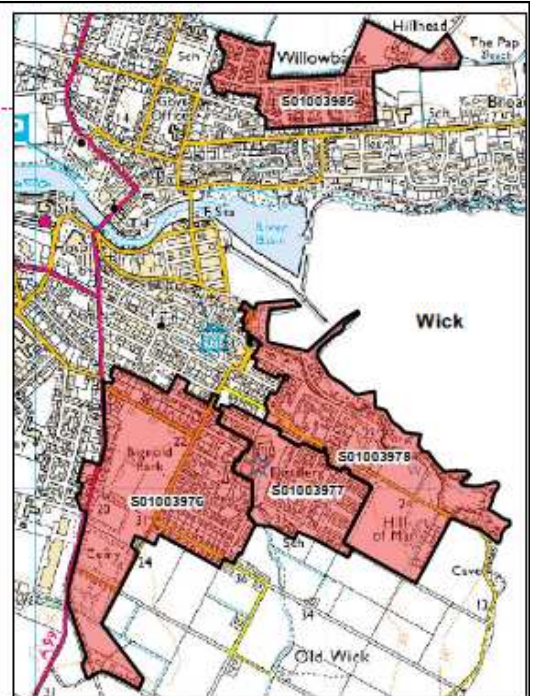
Highland has 17 datazones in the most deprived 15% in Scotland, an increase of one from SIMD09: this means that 5.8% of Highland datazones are classed as multiply deprived. The highest proportions of deprived datazones are in Glasgow City and Inverclyde with 42% and 40% respectively, and the mixed rural communities of the island authorities and Moray mean that they have no deprived datazones. 2% of Scotland's deprived datazones are in Highland, with 30% in Glasgow City and 10% in North Lanarkshire, and 13 authorities have more deprived datazones than Highland.

Highland's deprived datazones are given in the table below and also the map that follows. Three datazones have moved into the most deprived 15% since 2009: Inverness Merkinch Telford, Dingwall Central and Inverness Raigmore North. Inverness Merkinch Telford and Raigmore North were each ranked in the most deprived 15% in Scotland in 2006 and the change for 2012 is driven to some extent by the employment domain and, in the case of Raigmore North, also by the crime domain. The ranking in Scotland of Dingwall Central has fallen steadily from 1319 in 2006 to 1088 in 2009 and 867 in 2012 with the main changes in the health, crime and income domains (in that order). Two datazones have moved out, Alness Firhill and Inverness Central North West, with the change driven mainly by the education and employment domains, and also the crime domain in the case of Inverness central North West.

It should not be a surprise that some datazones have moved in and out of the most deprived 15%. The deprivation scores cluster quite closely together at the 15% boundary, and small changes in local circumstances can cause a marked change in the rank.

Of the 17 deprived datazones, 13 have been ranked as deprived for all three releases of SIMD at datazone level. Three – Inverness Merkinch North, Inverness South Kessock and Inverness Merkinch East - have been in the most deprived 5% in Scotland throughout the period and a further three – Invergordon Strath Avenue, Inverness Merkinch South and Wick South – have been in the 10% most deprived. Wick Pulteneytown South has moved from the 10% in Scotland to the 5%.

HIGHLAND DATAZONES RANKED IN THE 15% MOST DEPRIVED IN SCOTLAND					
Data Zone Name	Data Zone Reference	Rank in Highland 2012	Rank in Scotland 2012	% in Highland 2012	% in Scotland 2012
Inverness Merkinch North	S01003860	1	32	5%	5%
Inverness South Kessock	S01003862	2	107		
Wick Pultneytown South	S01003977	3	288		
Inverness Merkinch East	S01003849	4	298		
Invergordon Strath Avenue	S01003924	5	375		10%
Wick Hillhead North	S01003985	6	404		
Inverness Central & Longman	S01003853	7	479		
Inverness Merkinch South	S01003855	8	519		
Wick South	S01003976	9	578		15%
Alness Kirkside	S01003926	10	686		
Inverness Hilton West	S01003796	11	796		
Seaboard South	S01003937	12	797		
Inverness Merkinch Telford	S01003845	13	821		
Dingwall Central	S01003907	14	867		
Wick South Head	S01003978	15	918		
Inverness Raigmore North	S01003839	16	949	10%	
Alness Teaninich	S01003922	17	970		



**Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation 2012
Highland Datazones Ranked in
the 15% Most Deprived in Scotland**

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Domains

The ranking for individual domains gives a useful overview of the issues that are contributing to multiple deprivation in Highland. One simple approach is to compare the number of datazones in the most deprived 15% in Scotland for each domain with the number for the overall index (17): a higher figure indicates that the domain is relatively more deprived than we might expect, and that there may be particular issues to address. Using this approach:

- **Income:** Highland has 12 datazones in the 15% in Scotland (income contributes 28% of the overall deprivation score).
- **Employment:** Highland has 15 in the 15% in Scotland (employment contributes 28% of the overall deprivation score).
- **Health:** Highland has 25 in the 15% in Scotland (health contributes 14% of the overall deprivation score).
- **Education:** Highland has 24 in the 15% in Scotland (education contributes 14% of the overall deprivation score).
- **Access:** Unsurprisingly, 122 of Highland's datazones are in the 15% in Scotland, with Ardnamurchan & the Small Isles and Ullapool Rural & Dundonnell ranks 1 and 3 respectively in Scotland (access contributes 9% of the overall deprivation score).
- **Crime:** Highland has 36 in the 15% in Scotland, with Inverness Central and Longman ranked 3 in Scotland (crime contributes 5% of the overall deprivation score).
- **Housing:** Highland has 2 in the 15% in Scotland. The rankings for Highland mask significant local issues such as poor quality housing stock in some rural areas and high levels of fuel poverty but relevant, up to date indicators are not available at a local level hence the housing domain contributes only 2% of the overall deprivation score.

There are three domains for which Highland has more datazones ranked in the most deprived 15% in Scotland than we might expect – health, education and crime – and these are all areas where the experience in Highland is usually regarded as better than the Scotland average. This may well indicate that – at this simplistic level of analysis – these domains indicate a high level of inequality in Highland.

The 15% Most Deprived Datazones in Highland

The 44 datazones that make up the 15% most deprived in Highland are given in the table and map below, together with their rank in Scotland. Some key features of this expanded list are:

- It continues the general pattern that concentrations of deprivation tend to be found in urban areas, and that remote small towns often have deprived areas (a trend that is consistent across Scotland).
- It includes datazones such as Alness Obsdale and Conon North where our operational experience is that there is significant deprivation in part of the datazones (Milnafua and Windsor Place respectively), but it is masked in statistical terms when averaged over the larger area.
- It picks up rural deprivation in areas such as Milton & Kildary (in the 15% in Scotland in 2006), Dunbeath & Lybster and North East Skye.

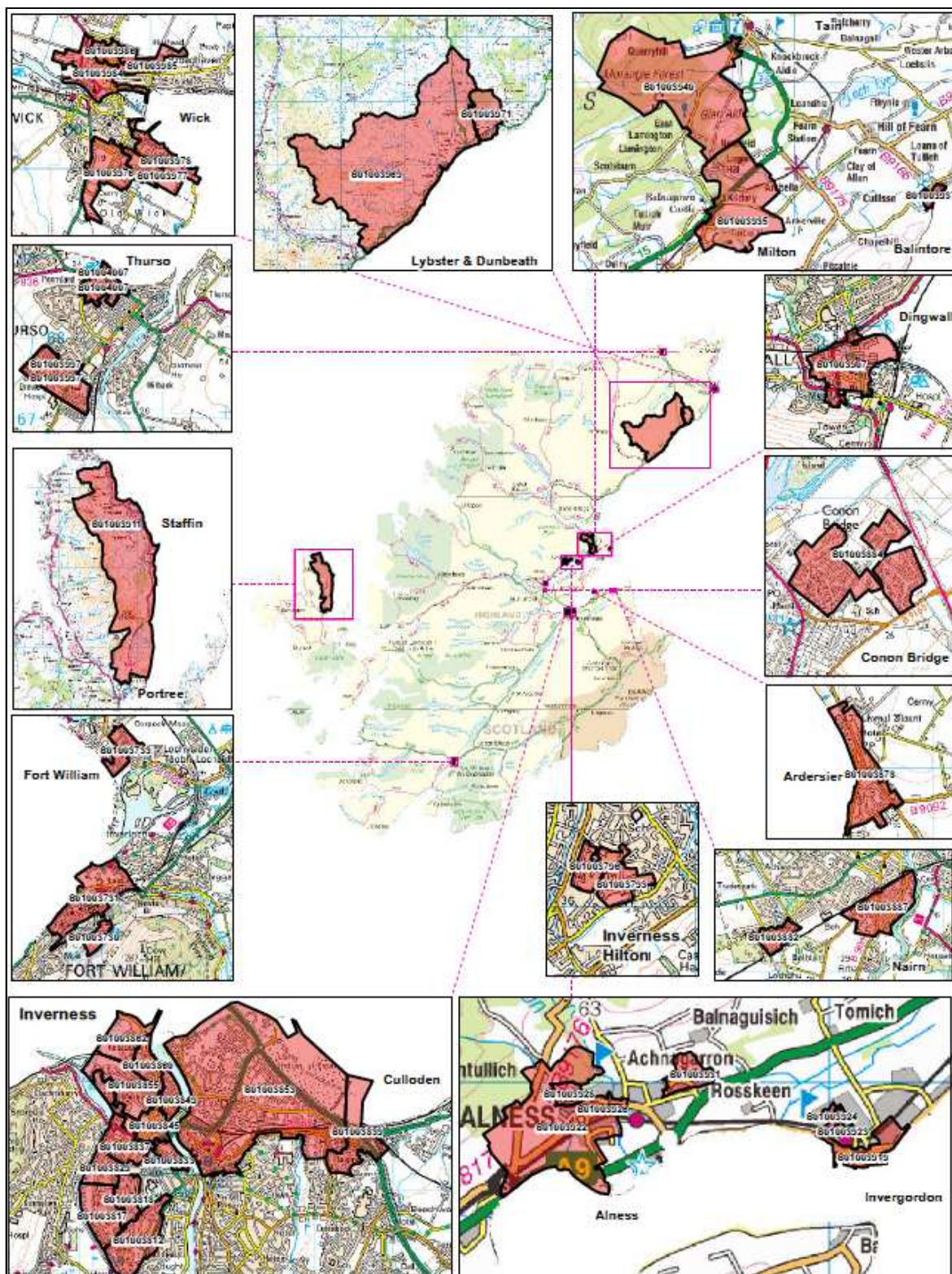
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Inverness Raigmore North	S01003839	16	949	10%	20%
Alness Teaninich	S01003922	17	970		
Fort William Plantation	S01003730	18	994		
Inverness Dalneigh South West	S01003817	19	1110		
Inverness Hilton South	S01003793	20	1127		
Alness Firhill	S01003928	21	1133		25%
Milton & Kildary	S01003935	22	1219		
Wick Central North	S01003984	23	1231		
Inverness Central North West	S01003833	24	1280		
Lybster	S01003971	25	1300		
Thurso High and Low Ormlie	S01003997	26	1339		30%
Nairn South	S01003887	27	1463		
Conon North	S01003884	28	1478		
Nairn Moss-side	S01003882	29	1482		
Invergordon Castle Avenue	S01003923	30	1486		15%
Alness Obsdale	S01003931	31	1517		
Inverness Dalneigh South	S01003812	32	1531		
Thurso North West	S01004007	33	1564		
Inverness Dalneigh North	S01003837	34	1580		
Fort William Central	S01003731	35	1623		
Wick North Primary School	S01003986	36	1668		
Ardersier	S01003878	37	1726		
Caol South East	S01003733	38	1735		
Dunbeath	S01003969	39	1799		
Inverness Dalneigh Central	S01003818	40	1831		
Invergordon Central	S01003919	41	1832		
Tain South Rural	S01003940	42	1854		
Inverness Dalneigh West	S01003829	43	1909		
Skye North East	S01003911	44	1987		35%

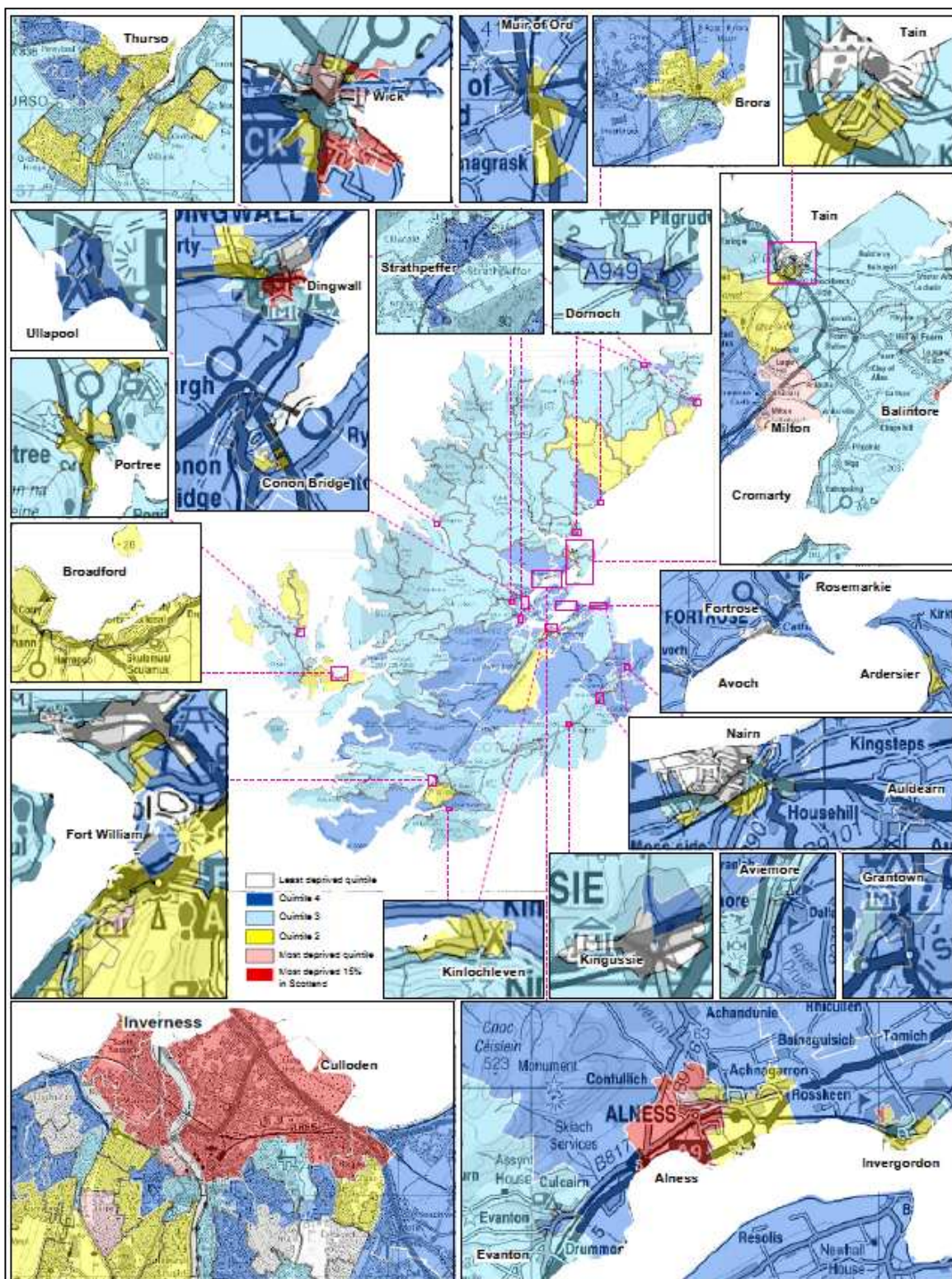


Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation 2012
Highland Datazones Showing the 44 which are in
the 15% Most Deprived in Highland Overall

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**Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation 2012
Highland Datazones Showing Rank in
Scotland For Overall Multiple Index**

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