

HERITAGE INDICATORS 2018



HERITAGE COUNTS

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HERITAGE INDICATORS 2018

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A vital element of valuing and appreciating the historic environment is understanding the scale, scope and breadth of the historic environment. Since 2002, Heritage Counts has collected and presented indicators about the state of the historic environment. In this document, a summary of the main indicators is presented. The detailed heritage indicator datasets can be found on the [Heritage Counts website](#).

The [Heritage Counts website](#) also has online Local Authority Profiles allowing users to compare indicators across Local Authorities.

The Heritage Indicators are presented according to the five strategic priorities of Heritage 2020:

- **Discovery, identification & understanding** – Provides indicators on the scale and scope of the historic environment and assets (p.5);
- **Constructive conservation and sustainable management** – Includes indicators on the overall condition of the historic environment with indicators from the Heritage at Risk programme and data on managing the historic environment, including planning statistics (p.10);
- **Public engagement** – Presents data on participation in heritage, heritage membership and volunteering in the sector (p.14);
- **Capacity building** – Includes indicators of heritage investments from private, public and voluntary sectors as well as the skills and capacity of the sector (p.18);
- **Helping things to happen** – Provides data from Building Preservation Trusts and the local authority Heritage Champions initiative (p.24).



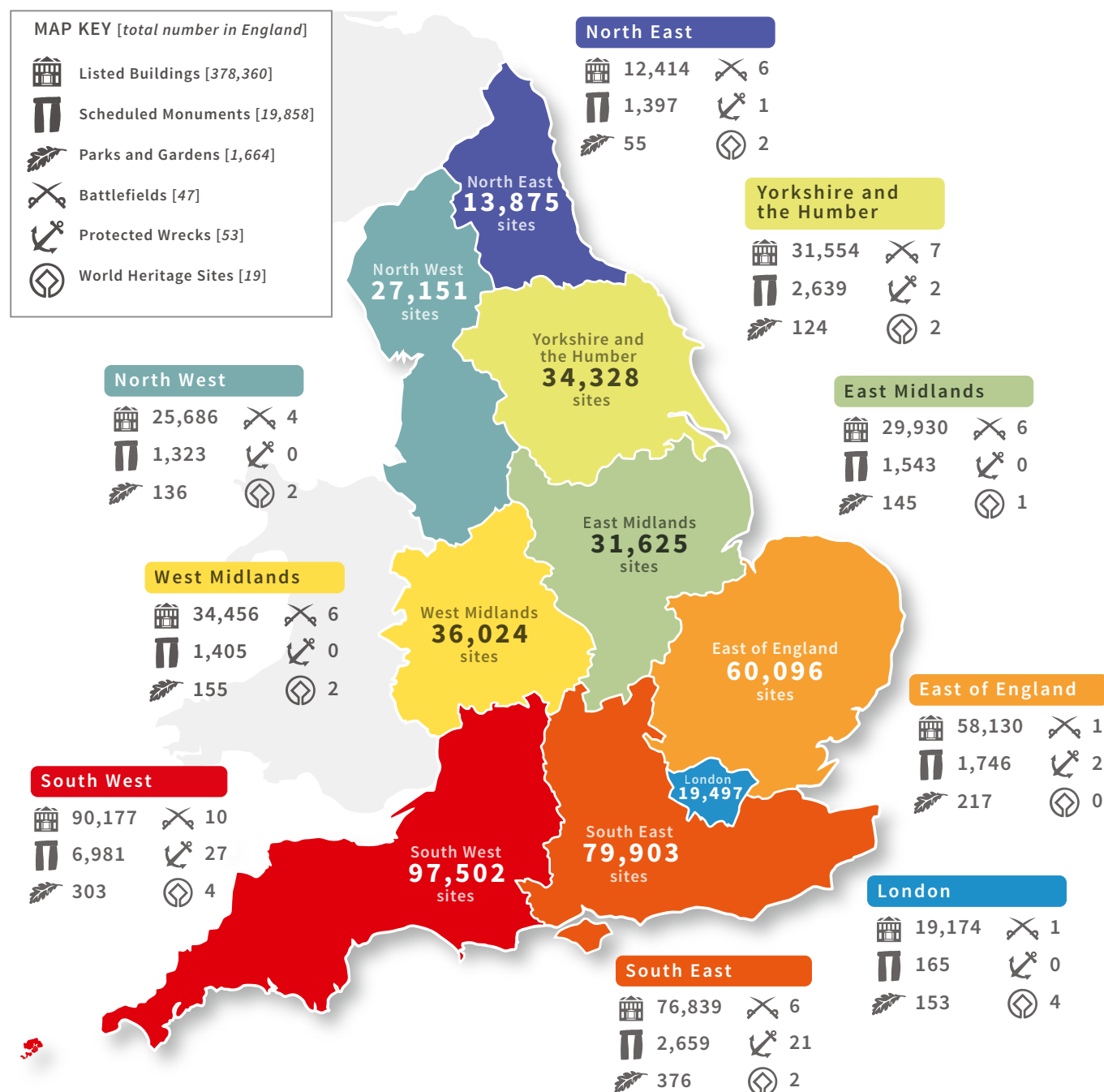
1. Discovery, identification & understanding

Our heritage assets

- The [National Heritage List for England](#) (NHLE) provides the official record of nationally designated heritage assets.

In 2018, [the National Heritage List reached 400,000](#), with the landmark Raleigh Cycle Company former head office in Nottingham listed at Grade II.

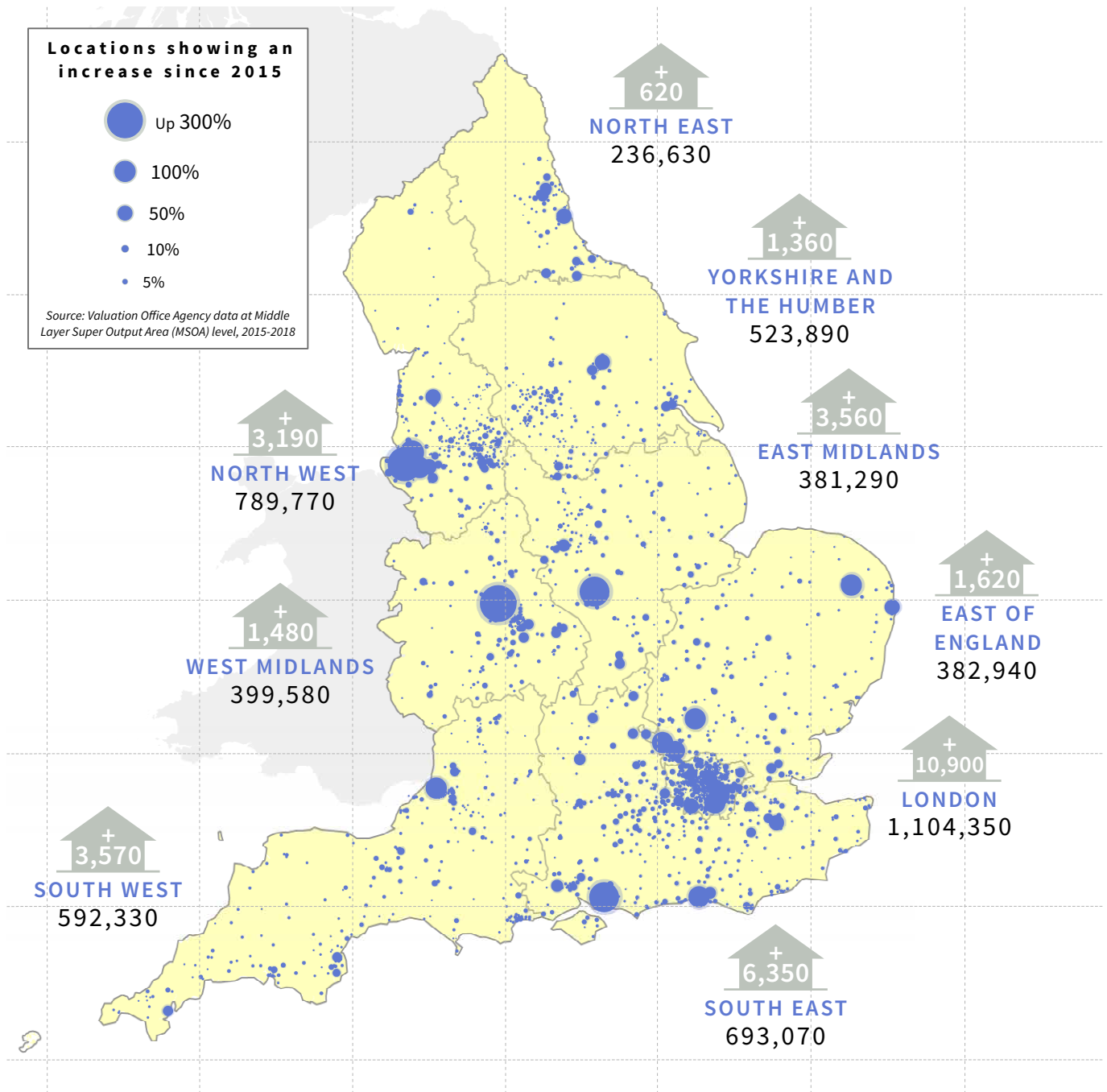
Numbers of designated sites by region



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Source: Historic England

Increase in numbers of pre-1919 dwellings, 2015-18



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Source: Valuation Office Agency



CLC (Cheshire Lines) Warehouse, Warrington, Cheshire. Now converted into residential apartments, this former warehouse was originally built in 1873 for a railway company. © Historic England Archive

The stock of traditionally-built (pre-1919) dwellings

- Working with traditional (pre-1919) buildings in England requires particular skills and expertise. It provides a useful definition for the broader historic environment beyond listed and designated assets. The Valuation Office Agency (VOA) collects information on the age of dwellings in the UK for council tax valuation purposes, allowing for trends in the stock of built heritage to be understood.
 - The number of pre-1919 dwellings in England has increased by 51,110 since 2012.
 - Pre-1919 dwellings is the only age grouping to show an increase since 2012, barring brand new dwellings built since 2010.
- The location of these new builds corresponds with historic towns and cities such as Brighton, Norwich and Bristol where larger homes are potentially being subdivided into flats and smaller dwellings.
- Other locations include former industrial cities such as Birmingham, Liverpool and Manchester where ex-industrial warehouses, factories and mills are being converted into multiple dwellings.



End, 133-137 Grainger St, Newcastle, Tyne and Wear. © Historic England Archive

Local Lists

- In 2018, 49% of all district councils and unitary authorities in England had a local list. Local lists can be used to identify significant local heritage assets which are not nationally listed to support the development of Local Plans. The uptake of local lists is not uniform across the country. For instance, in London, 91% had a local list, while only 21% had in East Midlands.

Historic Areas and Open Spaces

National Parks, Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Ancient woodland

- National Parks and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONBs) are statutory designations which protect our countryside. There are currently 1,265,000 hectares of National Parks and 1,927,000 hectares of AONBs.
- The figures for 2018 indicate that there are also 364,000 hectares of ancient woodland which is land continuously wooded since AD 1600, and 164,000 hectares of heritage coast which are non-statutory landscape definitions of our most beautiful, undeveloped coastline.

Conservation Areas

- There were approximately 9,866 conservation areas recorded in 2018, an increase from 9,200 in 2003. The greatest proportion of conservation areas are located in the South East (21%), followed by the South West with 16%. The North East region has the fewest conservation areas (3%) and the number has increased by only 1% since 2003.

Historic Environment Records

- [Historic Environment Records](#) (HER) provide access to resources relating to the historic environment of a particular locality. There are 84 HERs in England which are maintained and managed by local authorities. 69% of HERs are available online through the [Heritage Gateway](#) where the public can search several national as well as local datasets on the historic environment. In 2018, there were 69 online HERs, up by 12 since 2012.

Historic Landscape Characterisation

- [Historic Landscape characterisation](#) is a tool for describing the historic character of places. It maps physical changes in the landscape over time. 99% of England's historic landscape has been mapped. All (100%) of the landscape in 7 of the 9 Government regions have been mapped, with only the South West remaining at 99% (there is no formal historic landscape characterisation in London).

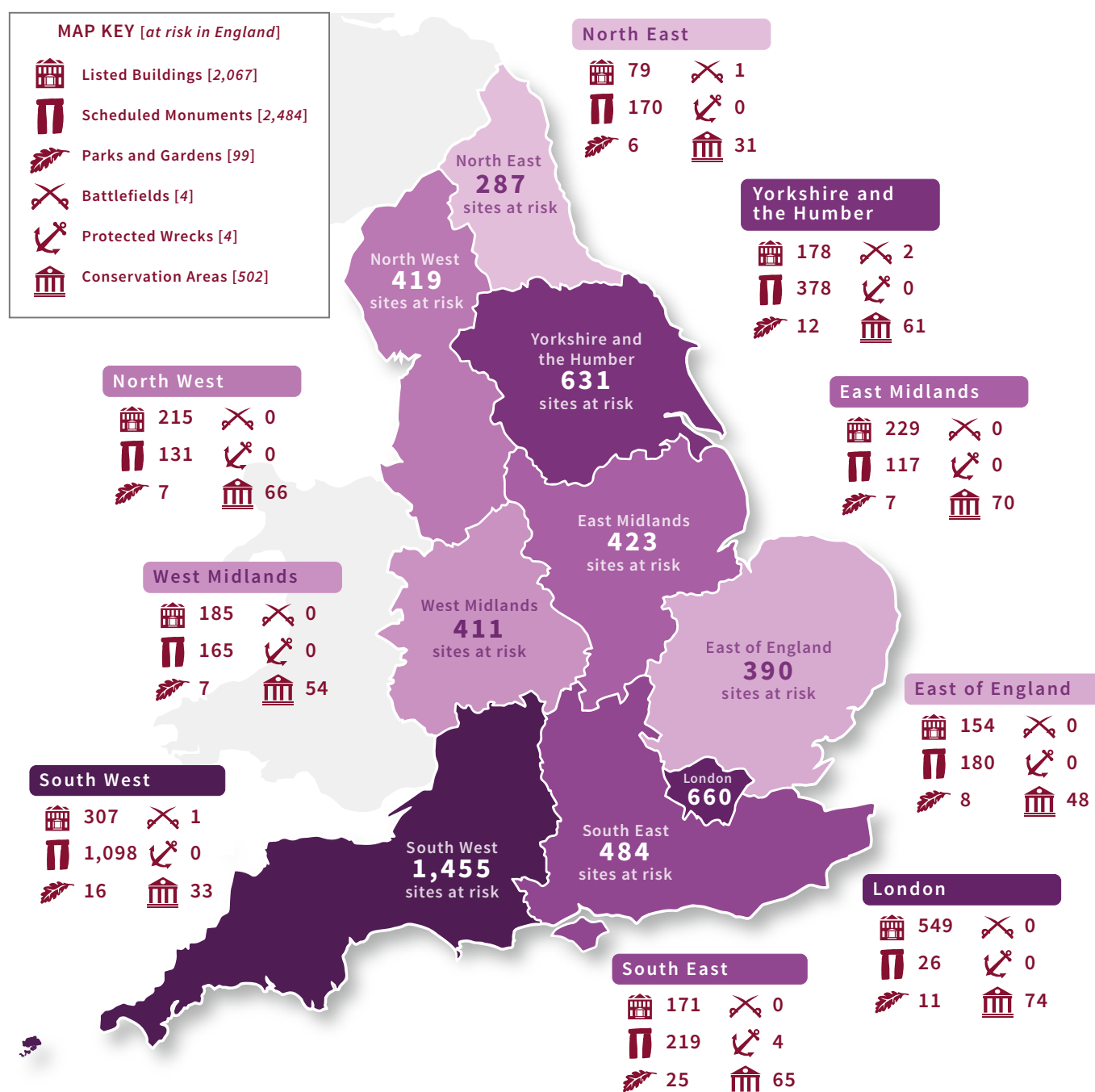
2. Constructive conservation and sustainable management

Heritage at Risk

Launched in 2008, the Heritage at Risk (HAR) Programme identifies sites that are most at risk of being lost as a result of neglect, decay or inappropriate development.

- 2018 saw an overall decline in the number of entries present on the Historic England Heritage at Risk (HAR) Register, dropping from last year's total of 5,290 to 5,160.

Numbers of heritage sites at risk by region



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Source: Historic England



Mixed use redevelopment in Gibb Street, Digbeth, Birmingham, West Midlands. © Historic England Archive

Planning applications

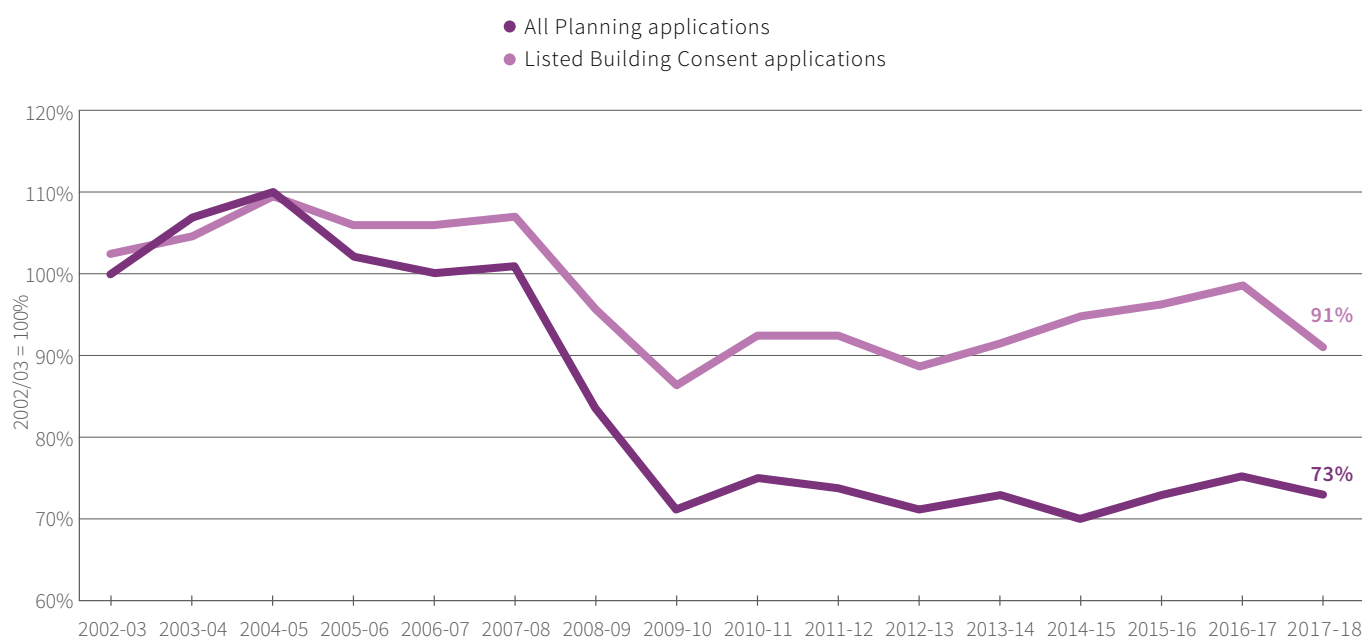
- Planning statistics from the Ministry for Housing Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) show that planning applications were heavily affected by the 2008 recession, reaching a 10 year low in 2014/15. Despite a slight recovery throughout 2015 and 2016, there was a 3% decrease between 2016/17 and 2017/18 to 426,352 planning application decisions across England..

Listed Building Consent applications

- A similar trend is also found in the Listed Building Consent application (LBCs) statistics with a significant decline following the 2008 financial crisis. While the number of Listed Building Consents had been consistently growing between 2012/13 and 2016/2017, increasing by 12% in that period, there was a 6% decline in 2017/18.
- The result is a proportionate increase in LBCs relative to all planning decisions. In 2017/18 LBCs accounted for 6.9% of all planning permissions compared to 5.7% in 2007/08. This trend is problematic given the dramatic 31% decline in numbers of Local Authority historic environment (conservation and archaeological) staff in the same time period.

Planning Applications and Listed Building Consents

Change over time, 2002/03 to 2017/18



Source: Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government

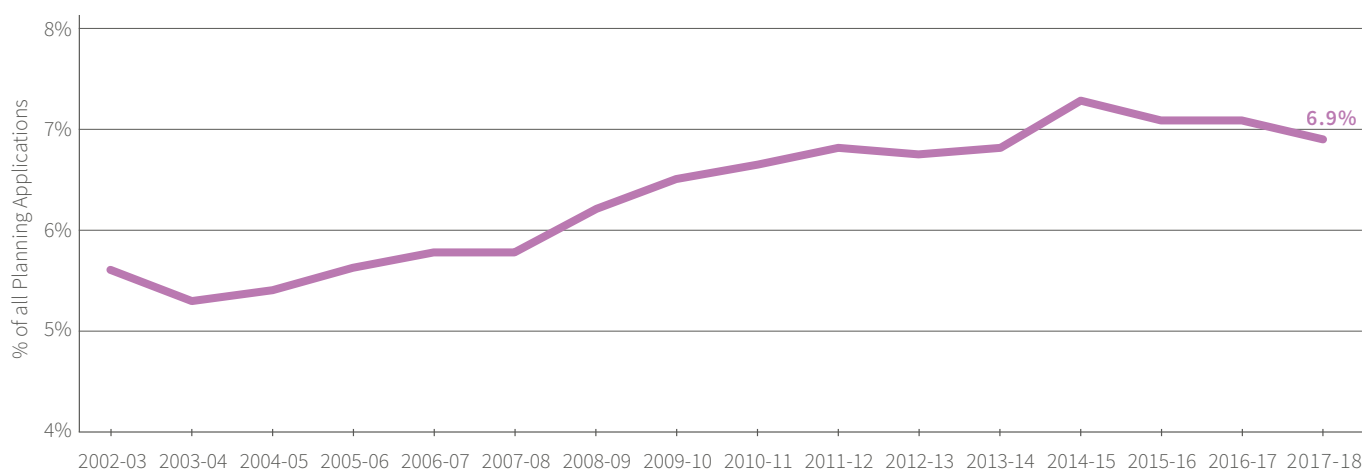
Scheduled Monument Consent

- Scheduled Monument Consent (SMC) is required for alterations to any scheduled monument. In 2017/18 there were 1,171 SMC decisions, a 1.8% decrease since 2016/17 and a 35% increase since 2002/03.
- The East Midlands region has had the greatest percentage increase in SMCs since 2002/3, increasing by 130%.

Registered Parks and Garden planning applications

- All planning applications affecting registered parks and gardens must be sent to the Garden Trust. In 2017/18 there were 1,020 planning applications affecting registered parks and gardens – a 36% increase since 2003/04.
- The South East (22%) has the greatest proportion of planning applications affecting registered parks and gardens, followed by the South West (18%) and East of England (15%).

Proportion of Planning Application decisions that are Listed Building Consents



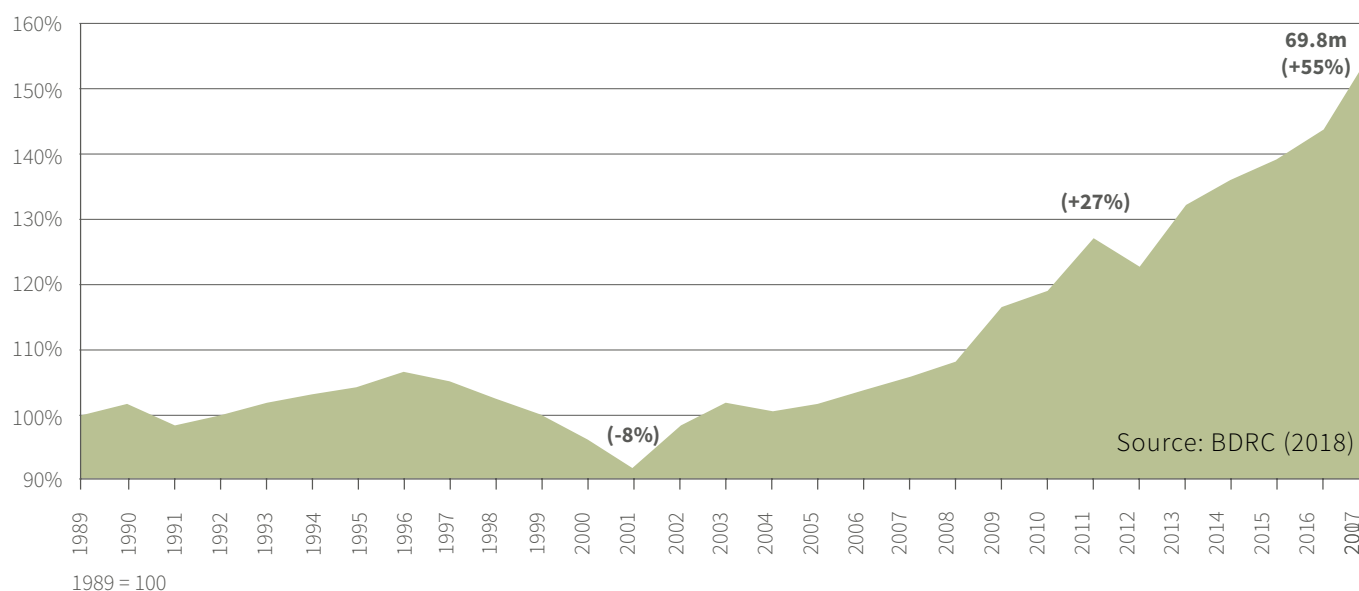
Source: Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government

3. Public Engagement

Heritage visitor trends

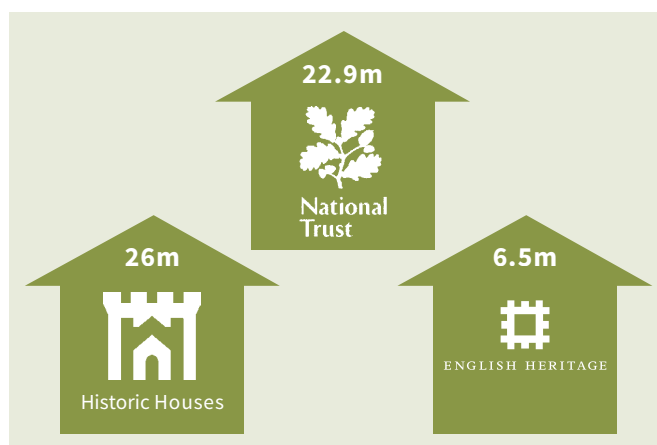
- Each year, VisitEngland conducts a survey of visitor attractions in England, including historic properties. In 2018, 645 historic properties responded to the survey indicating that there were 69.8 million visits to historic properties in 2017. On average, visits to responding historic properties increased by 4% between 2016 and 2017 which is an increase of up to 55% since the survey began in 1989.
- Full findings can be found in the [BDRC \(2017\) document](#).
- The most popular types of historic attractions according to the VisitEngland survey are historic houses (43% of all heritage visits) and historic gardens (16% of all heritage visits). In the past year, visits to historic monuments have increased the most, by 9%.
- Of all visitors to historic attractions, 27% are from overseas, 49% are from local/day trips and 24% are other UK visitors.

Visits to historic properties in England, 2017



Visits to historic properties

- Visitor numbers to historic properties continue to prosper.
 - In 2017/18, visits to National Trust sites totalled over 22.9m
 - Visits to Historic Houses member properties totalled 26m in 2017
 - Visits to English Heritage sites totalled over 6.5m in 2017/18

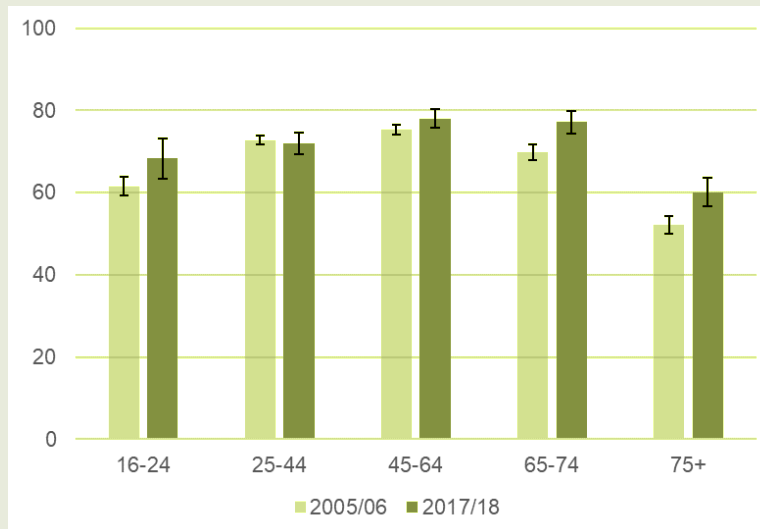




DCMS Taking Part Survey

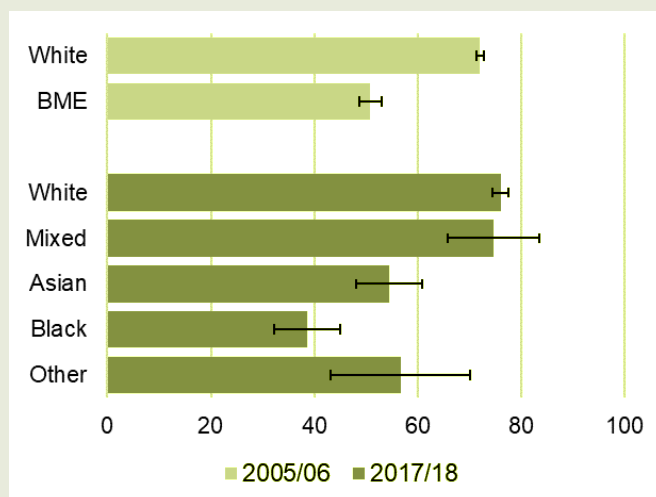
- According to the 2017/18 [Taking Part Survey](#), 72.8% of all adults in England had visited a heritage site at least once during the past 12 months – up from 70% in 2005/6.
- The Taking Part survey shows that there is still a heritage participation gap:
 - The results for 2017/18 show that in the year prior to interview, **engagement with heritage was lowest for those aged 75+** (60.1%).
 - There is a participation gap between people from White (76.0%) and Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) (54.2%) groups. For 2017/18, DCMS have provided a more detailed ethnicity breakdown than for previous years, showing variance in participation within the BME group itself.
 - There is a significant and persistent heritage engagement gap of around 20 percentage points between adults in the upper and lower socioeconomic groups. 81.3% of adults in the upper socio-economic group had visited a heritage site in the last 12 months, a third more than adults in the lower socio-economic group (61.0%).
 - Adults with a long-standing illness or disability remain less likely to participate in heritage. However, participation has increased from 63.9% in 2005/06 to 68.5% in 2017/18. Consequently the participation gap has decreased from 8.4 pp in 2005/06 to 6.0 pp in 2017/18.
 - There is no participation gap between men and women. Although this was the first year in which recorded engagement rates were higher for women (73.0%) than men (72.6%), the difference was not statistically significant.
 - Heritage participation varies across the regions, with the lowest participation rates in London.

% Visits by age group to heritage site in last 12 months



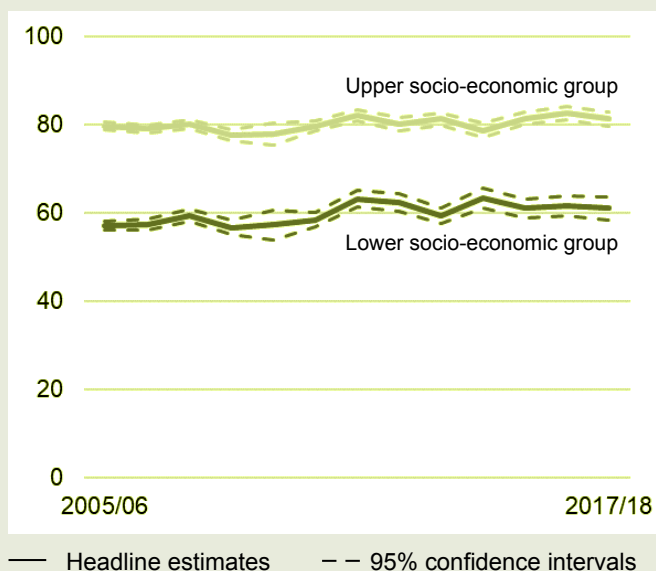
— 95% confidence interval

Heritage engagement by ethnicity



BME: Black and Minority Ethnic

Heritage engagement by socio-economic group

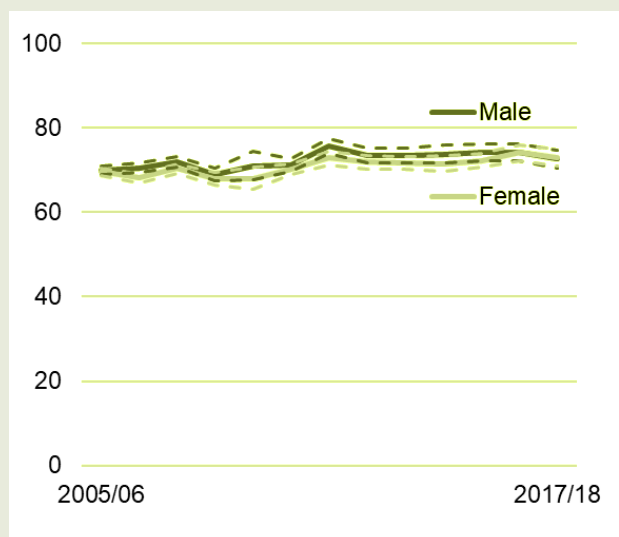


— Headline estimates — 95% confidence intervals

Heritage engagement by disability status

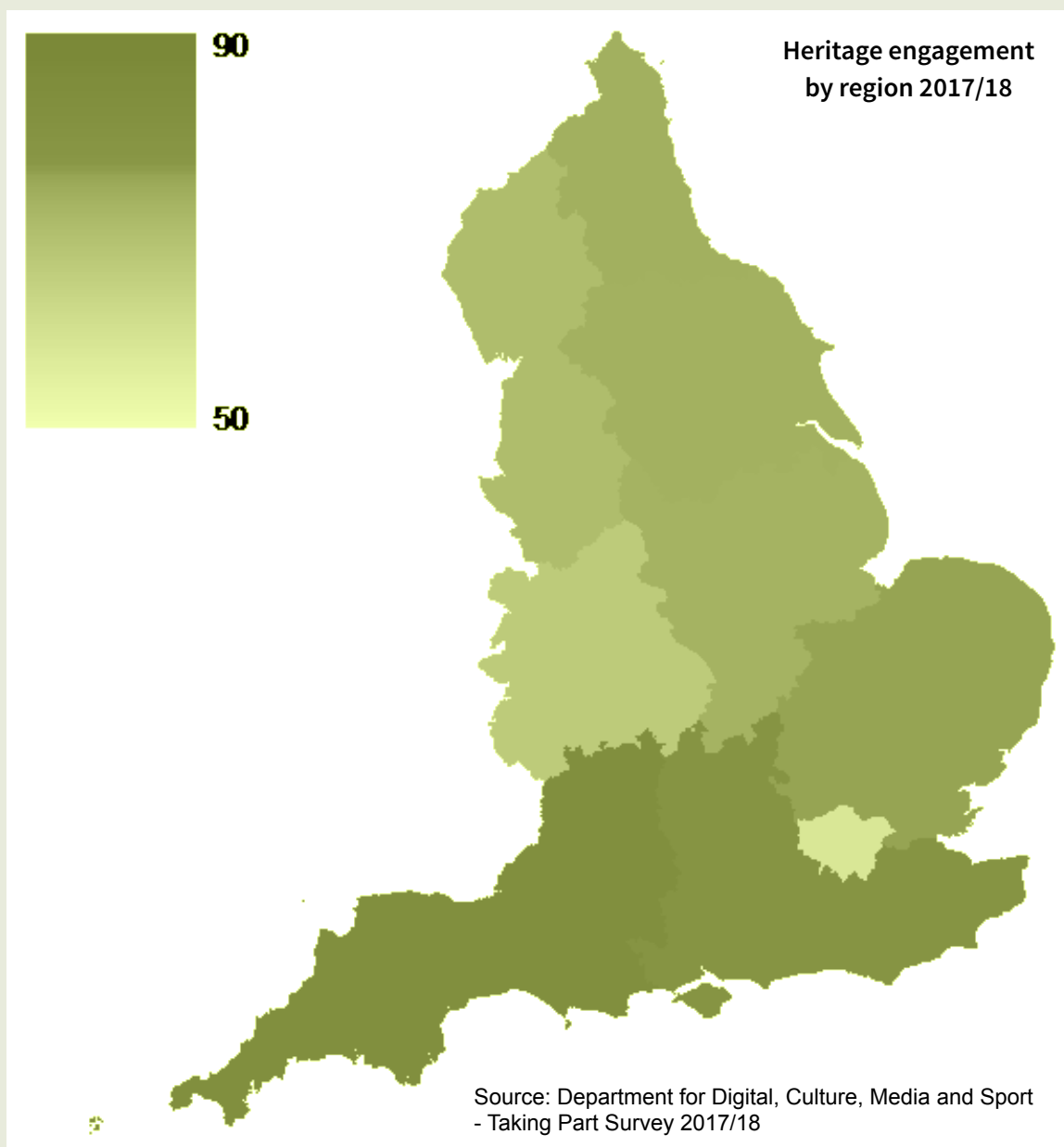


Heritage engagement by gender



Disabled: Those with a long-standing illness or disability

— Headline estimates — 95% confidence intervals



Heritage membership

Membership to heritage organisations has grown considerably over the past ten years.

- The National Trust currently has over 4.9 million members in England (an increase of 8% since the previous year). Including Northern Ireland and Wales, this total increases to 5.2 million.
- The English Heritage Trust membership exceeded 1 million for the first time in 2017. In 2018, there were 1,138,000 (an increase of 5% since the previous year). This figure increases to over 1.725 million when corporate members and members outside of England are included.
- Historic Houses membership increased by 2.5% between 2017 and 2018 to 51,990 members.

Volunteering

- The National Trust reports that in 2017/18 the organisation had 61,013 volunteers.
- English Heritage volunteers have increased markedly from 650 in 2010/11 to 3,148 in 2017/18.
- In 2017, nearly 46,400 people volunteered for Heritage Open Days – a heritage festival organised every September. Over 2,100 organisers were involved in 5,588 events which jointly attracted approximately 2.5 million visitors across the country.

Education and the Historic Environment

- According to the VisitEngland survey, there were almost 1.7 million school visits to historic properties in 2017, which is a 2% decline from the previous year and a 9% decline from 2001. However, VisitEngland note that the actual total number of school visits is likely to be significantly higher as the figures only apply to sites that reply to the survey.
- English Heritage reports there were 355,471 free educational visits to their sites during 2017/18, which is a 12% decline since 2001/02.
- A third of Historic Houses places work with primary schools, and a fifth work with secondary schools, universities and colleges.

There is evidence of increasing numbers of young adults engaging in heritage related qualifications.

- In 2017, 45% of all GCSE students undertook a history GCSE, compared to 32% in 2008.
- The proportion of 16-18 year olds taking History A-Level has also grown from 5.7% of all students in 2008 to 6.0% in 2017.
- 109,535 Higher Education students were enrolled in courses related to the historic environment in the UK, which equates to 4.7% of all students enrolled, slightly down from 4.8% in 2003.



An archaeological salvaging of the last-surviving motor launch from the First World War, undertaken by Museum of London Archaeology staff and volunteers. © Historic England Archive

4. Capacity building

Funding the Historic Environment

Heritage Lottery Fund

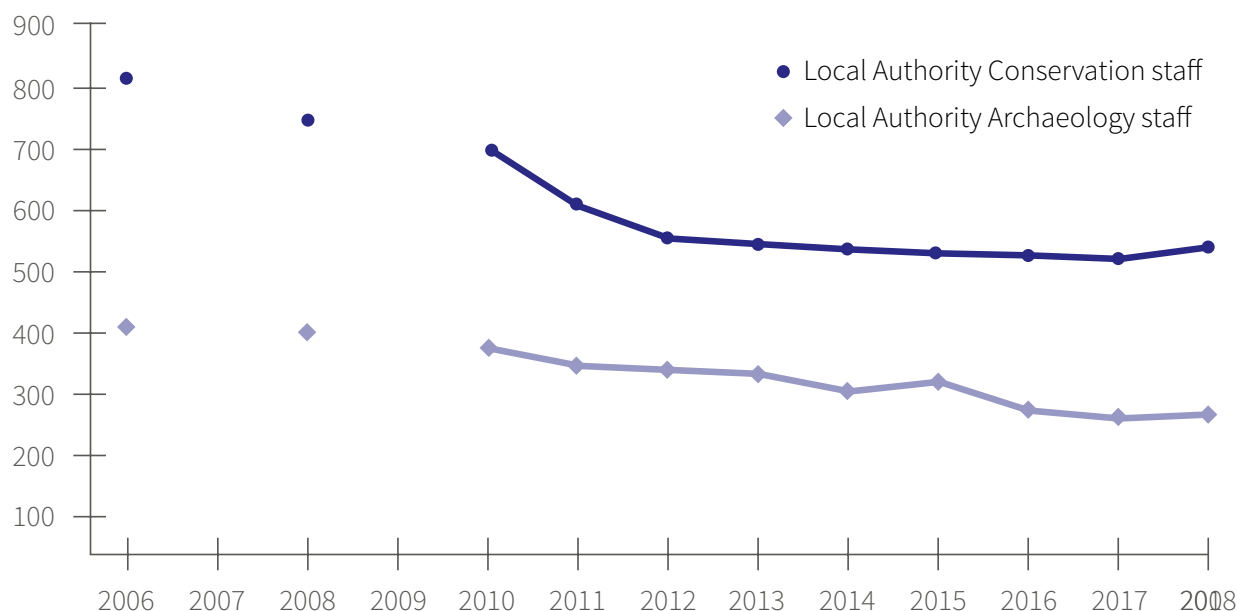
The Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) is the largest source of public funding for the historic environment in the UK.

- Over its lifetime HLF has awarded over £6.4 billion to 35,037 projects (1994/95 to 2017/18). Approximately 32% of the funding was allocated to projects in areas with high levels of deprivation.
- In 2017/18, 1,516 heritage projects were granted over £294.2 million of HLF funding.

Other public funding

- In 2017/18, Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport (DCMS) spent £32.3m on Listed Places of Worship Grants. Other heritage-related funding from DCMS includes: National Heritage Memorial Fund (£12.5m), Royal Households Funding (£0.5m) and Royal Parks Funding (£12.6m).
- DCMS are a key income source for the Churches Conservation Trust (CCT). Expenditure on conservation and church repair by the CCT was £4.6m in 2017/18.
- The Historic Royal Palaces spend on conservation of Royal Palaces has increased from £22.9m in 2016/17 to £27.1m in 2017/18.

Trend change in total Local Authority staff 2006-2018



Change in total Local Authority staff 2006-2018

Voluntary Funding

- The National Trust is the largest single voluntary organisation managing historic properties and landscapes across England, Wales and Northern Ireland. During 2017/18, £278.2m or 46% of the National Trust's total expenditure was for property operating costs and a further £138.4m or 23% for property projects.

Countryside Stewardship Scheme

- Under the new Rural Development Programme for England 2014-2020, the Environmental Stewardship scheme was replaced by Countryside Stewardship which commenced in January 2016. In 2018, £34,494,908 was taken up by the scheme, including 756 historic environment agreements.

Employment and Skills in the sector

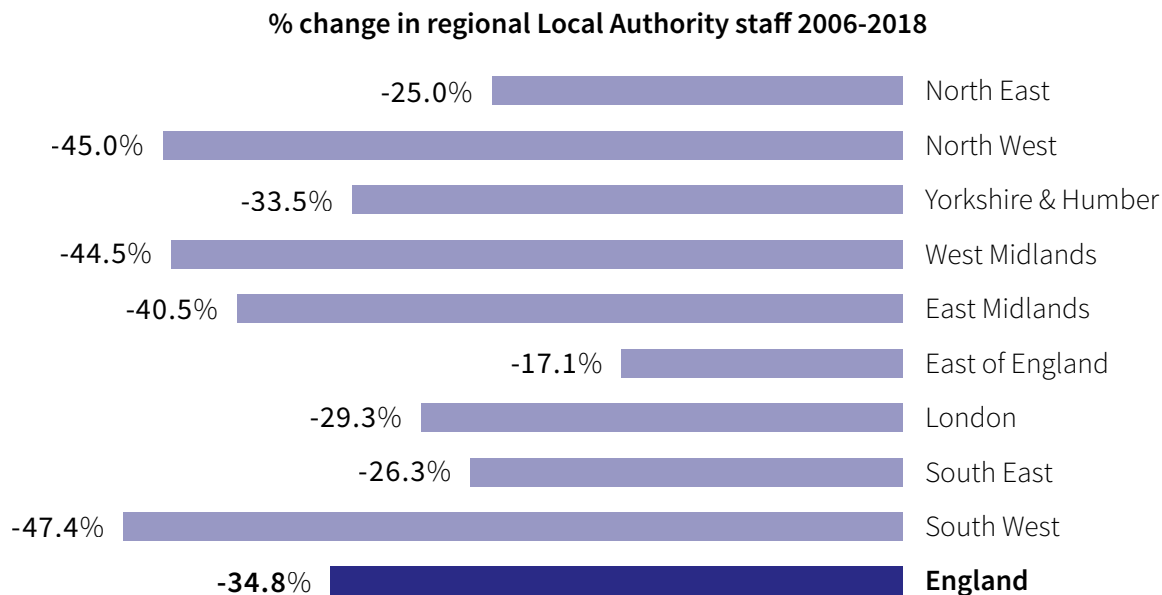
Employee Jobs

Using a method adapted from [DCMS' Creative Industries Estimates](#), employment in the heritage sector is able to be estimated.

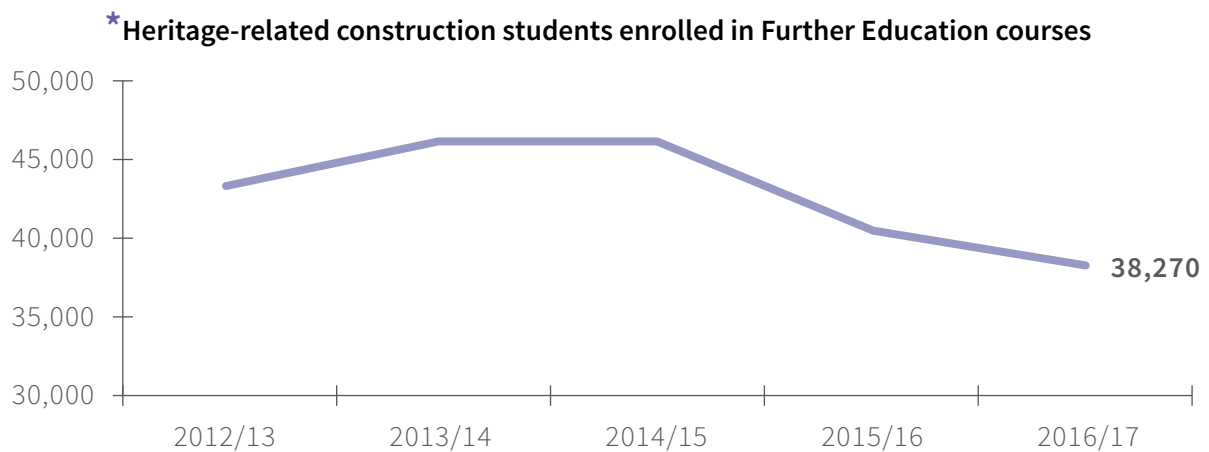
- In 2016, there were 196,000 direct heritage jobs in England. If indirect and induced heritage employment is included then this figure rises to 459,000 heritage jobs.

Local Authority Employment

- In 2018 there were 798 FTE jobs in the historic environment in Local Authorities. This included 265 Archaeology staff and 533 Conservation staff. The overall number of historic environment staff has increased by 2.2% since 2017 but represents a 34.8% decrease since 2006.



Source: *Report on Local Authority Staff Resources*, produced by Historic England, the Association of Local Government Archaeological Officers and the Institute of Historic Building Conservation



Further Education and Training

- In 2016/17, there were 38,270 people enrolled on heritage-related construction courses*. This is a 6% decline since the previous year, and a 12% decline since 2012/13. The courses are for:

- Bricklayers
- Building envelope specialists
- Floorers
- Glaziers
- Painters and decorators
- Plasterers
- Roofers
- Specialist building operatives
- Wood trades and interior fit-out

The CITB Trainee Numbers Survey (TNS) from which this data was previously derived has now been discontinued. As a result the data reported for 2018 differs from that which has reported in previous Heritage Counts, and now includes the stats on all Further Education Courses for publically funded courses and apprenticeships in England, provided by the Skills Funding Agency, and is more representative of the full scope of activity. This will be kept under review to capture the most relevant and useful data and trends, particularly in light of the current developments of new apprenticeships standards and T levels.



Prince's Foundation placement. Shrewsbury Flaxmill Maltings, Shrewsbury, Shropshire. © Historic England Archive

5. Helping things to happen

Building Preservation Trusts

- Building Preservation Trusts (BPTs) are important organisations in taking on heritage assets and delivering solutions which provide social and economic benefits for communities. In 2015/16 there were 192 BPTs active in England with 105 live projects to rescue historic buildings – 44 of these projects or 42% are on the Heritage at Risk Register.

Heritage Champions

- A Heritage Champion is normally a local councillor who has been nominated by their authority to promote all aspects of the historic environment in their area <https://historicengland.org.uk/advice/planning/local-heritage/heritage-champions/>. In 2018, there were 254 Heritage Champions across England, covering 69% of Local Authorities.

Heritage Indicator Summary Tables. *More recent data was not available at the time of publication.*

Discovery, Identification & Understanding

Indicator	Measurement	Value	Change
Designated heritage assets	Number of listed building entries	378,360	Increase of 3,494 since 2010
	Number of scheduled monuments	19,858	Increase of 134 since 2010
	Number of registered parks and gardens	1,664	Increase of 58 since 2010
	Number of protected historic wreck sites	55	Increase of 9 since 2010
	Number of registered battlefields	47	Increase of 4 since 2010
	Number of world heritage sites	19	Increase of 1 since 2010
Historic areas and open spaces	Number of conservation areas (2018)	9,866	Increase of approximately 800 since 2002
	Area of land in England which is a national park	1,265,000 ha	Increase of 49,000 hectares since 2010
	Area of land which is an area of outstanding natural beauty (AONB)	1,927,000 ha	Increase of 30,000 hectares since 2010
	Extent of ancient woodland	364 ha	Increase of 9 hectares since 2010
Acquiring information	Number of on-line historic environment records	69	An increase of 12 since 2012
	Extent of historic landscape characterisation	99%	Increase of 27% since 2007

Constructive Conservation & Sustainable Management

Indicator	Measurement	Value	Change
Historic environment at risk	Archaeological entries on the Register	12% (2,431)	Decrease from 12.5% in 2017
	Listed places of worship on the Register	6.2% (913)	Decrease from 6.3% in 2017
	Grade I and II* secular buildings on the Register	3.7% (837)	Decrease from 3.8% in 2017
	Conservation Areas on the Register	5% (502)	Decrease of 10 since 2017
	Grade II secular buildings on the Register (London only)	2.4% (402)	Decrease from 2.5% in 2017
	Registered parks and gardens on the Register	6% (99)	Increase of 3 since 2017
	Protected wreck sites on the register	8% (4)	Same as 2017
	Registered Battlefields on the register	9% (4)	Same as 2017
Managing positively	Number of Planning applications decided 2017/18	426,352	Decrease of 27% since 2002/3
	Number of applications for Listed Building Consent application decided 2017/18	29,564	Decrease of 9% since 2002/3
	Number of scheduled monument consent decisions 2017/18	1,171	Increase of 35% since 2002/3
	Number of planning applications affecting registered parks and gardens 2017/18	1,020	Increase of 36% since 2003/4
	World heritage sites with management plans reviewed in last 5 years	15 out of 18	Increase of 2 since 2017

Public Engagement

Indicator	Measurement	Value	Change
Participation	Participation in the historic environment (2016/17)	72.8% of all adults visited at least one heritage site in the last 12 months	Statistically significant increase for all adults, lower socioeconomic groups, black and ethnic minority groups and those with a limiting disability or illness since the baseline of 2005/06
		54.2% BME groups	
		61.0% lower socioeconomic groups	
		68.5% limiting disability or illness	
		70.8% of all 11-15 year olds	
		71.0% of all 5-10 year olds	
	Number of members of historic environment organisations	National Trust: 5.2m (2017/18)	50% increase since 2006/07
		English Heritage (excl. corporate members): 1,138,000 (2017/18)	71% increase since 2007/08
		Historic Houses members: 51,990	112% increase since 2007
	Number of historic environment volunteers (2015/16)	615,500	7% increase since 2014/15
Visitor statistics	Number of visits to historic visitor attractions	69,783,000	Increase of 4% from 2016
Education and lifelong learning	Number of GCSE/A level history candidates (school year ending 2017)	229,580 GCSE candidates	Increase of 18% since school year ending 2002
		44,841 A level candidates	Increase of 26% since school year ending 2002
	Number of higher education students studying courses related to the historic environment (Academic Year ending 2017)	109,535	Increase of 5% since academic year ending 2003
	Number of school visits to historic sites	1,679,000	9% decrease since 2001

Capacity building

Indicator	Measurement	Value	Change
Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) grants	Number of projects funded	35,037 (1994/5-2017/8)	
	Total value of projects	£6,399,895,654 (1994/5-2017/8)	
Environmental Stewardship Scheme	Total value of uptake of projects	£34,494,908.32	*Scheme commenced in January 2016. Change in data collection means comparison is not possible
Capacity and resources	Numbers employed in the operation of historic sites and buildings (Business Register and Employment Survey)	Over 12,000 (2017)	Decrease of 8% since 2008
Developing training and skills	Number of new apprenticeships/trainees in heritage craft skills 2016/17	38,270	Decrease of 5,210 (12%) since 2012/13

Helping things to happen

Indicator	Measurement	Value	Change
Building Preservation Trusts (BPT)	Number of active BPTs (2015/16)	192	Increase from 144 in 2014/15
	Total projects (2015/16)	117	Increase from 116 in 2014/15
	Live Projects (2015/16)	105	Increase from 102 in 2014/15
	Projects completed (2015/16)	12	Decrease from 14 in 2014/15
Local Authority Heritage Champions	Number of local authorities with Heritage Champions	254 Local Authorities (LA) with Heritage Champions, 69% of all LAs	Increase from 253 in 2016

This document has been prepared as part of **Heritage Counts 2018**
by Historic England on behalf of the Historic Environment Forum.

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