
Mid-Year Population Estimates Scotland, Mid-2016

Population estimates by sex, age and area

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A National Statistics publication for Scotland

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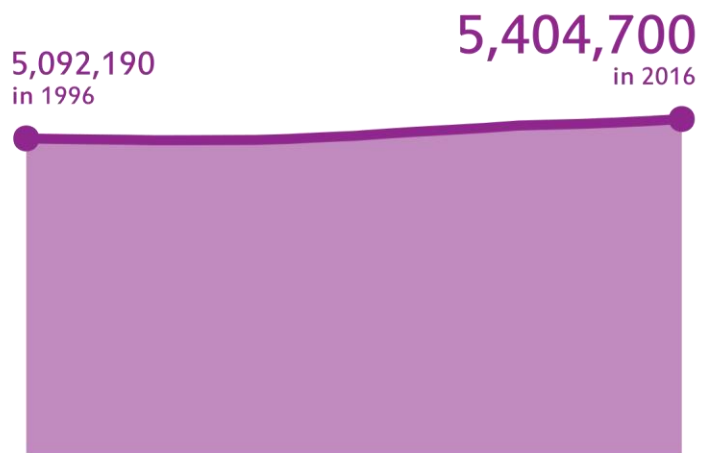
Key findings

Scotland's population has increased in recent years

The latest estimate of Scotland's population (on 30 June 2016) is 5,404,700 – the highest ever and an increase of 31,700 people (0.6%) over the last year.

Since 1996, Scotland's population has increased by 6%.

Number of people



The increase in Scotland's population has been driven by migration

In the year to 30 June 2016 there was a net gain of 22,900 from overseas and 8,800 people from the rest of the UK.

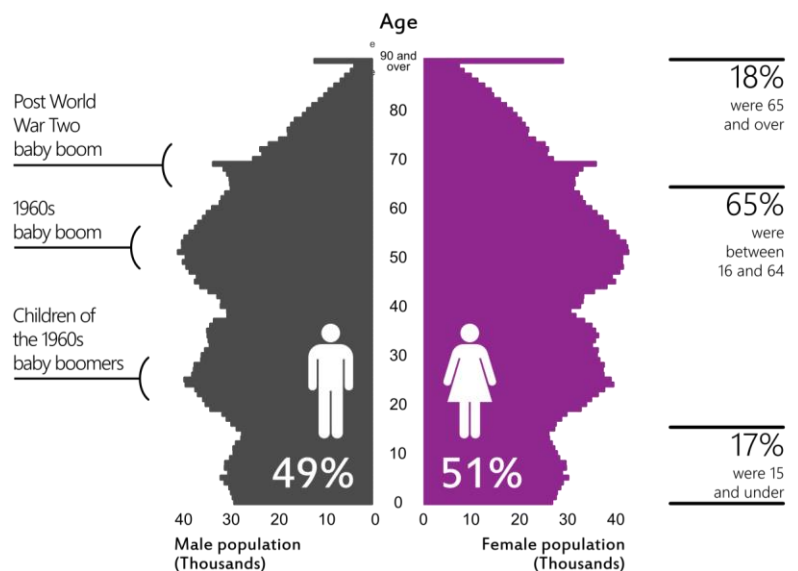
There were 800 more deaths than births and other changes (such as in the number of armed forces and prisoners) resulted in an increase of 800 people.



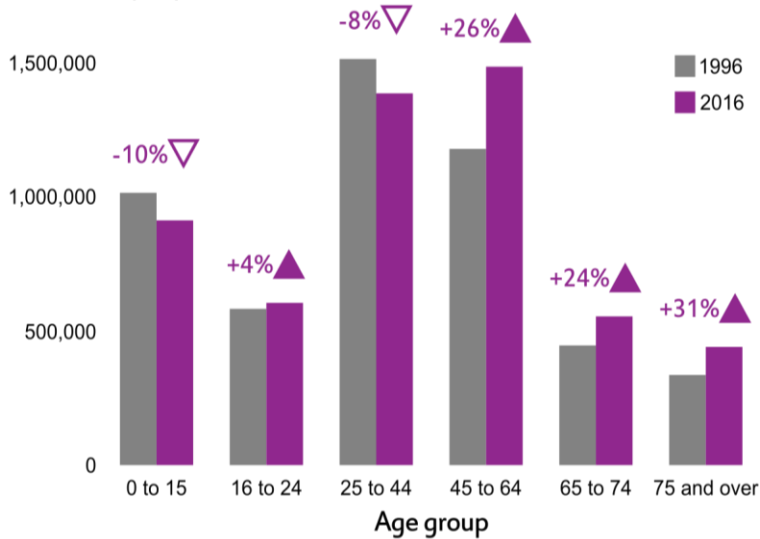
In 2016, 18% of the Scottish population were aged 65 and over

People aged under 16 made up 17% of the population and 65% of people were aged 16 to 64.

There were more females than males - especially amongst people aged over 75 due to the longer life expectancy of females.



Number of people

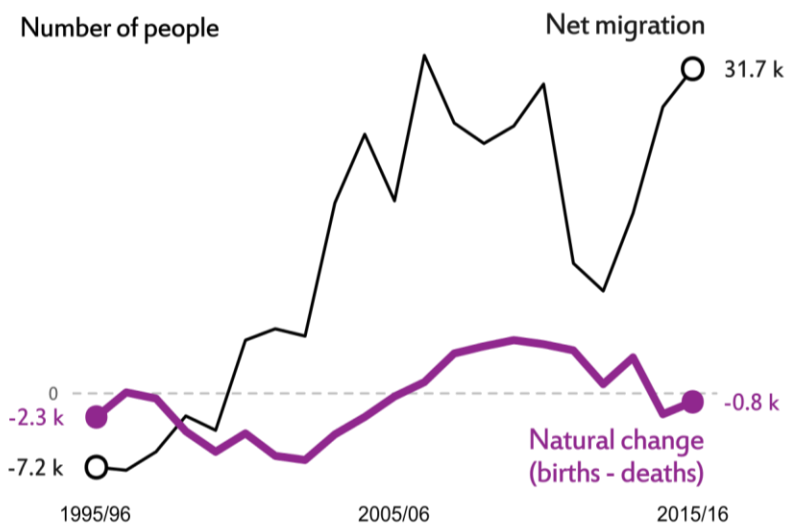


Scotland's population is ageing

The increase in the population of older age groups has been much higher than younger age groups over the last 20 years.

The largest increase has been in the 75 and over age group (+31%) whereas the 0 to 15 age group has decreased in population the most (-10%).

Number of people



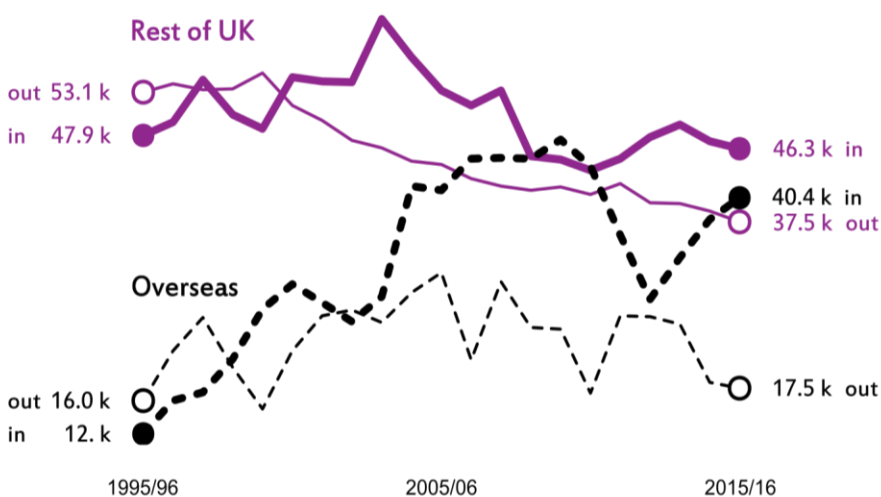
The recent population increase in Scotland has mostly been due to net in-migration

Since mid-2000, Scotland's population has increased mostly due to net migration.

In the year to 30 June 2016:

- 31,700 more people came to Scotland than left (net migration)
- There were 800 more deaths than births (natural change)

Number of people



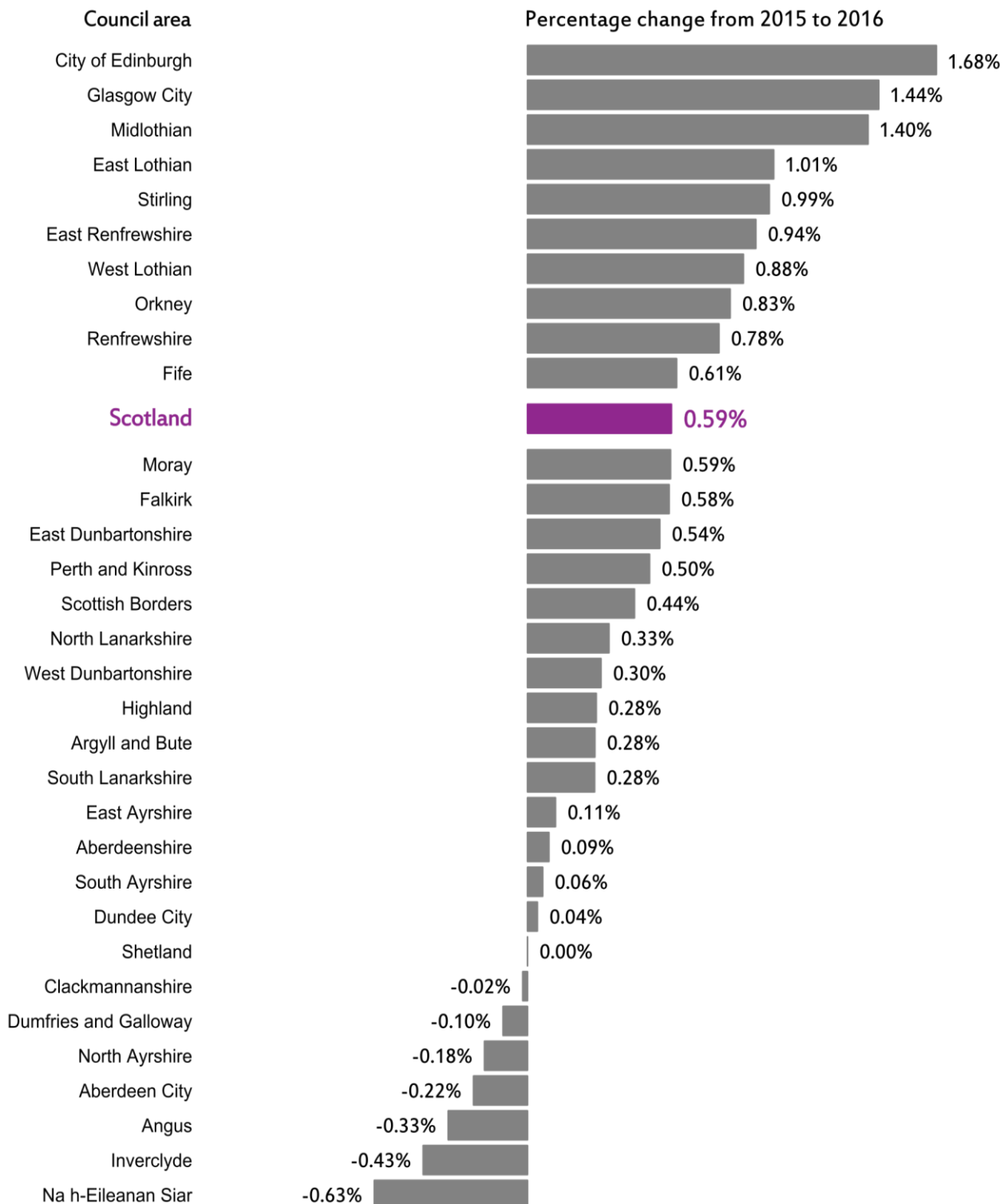
More migrants came to Scotland from the rest of the UK than from overseas

Migration to Scotland from the rest of the UK has been higher than migration from overseas in every year except for the two years to mid-2010 and mid-2011.

46,300 people came to Scotland from the rest of the UK and 40,400 arrived from overseas in the year to mid-2016.

The level of population change varies across Scotland's council areas

While the population of Scotland has increased by 0.59% over the last year, there have been variations in the level of population change across Scotland's council areas.



There is more information on Scotland's council areas in the interactive data visualisation accompanying the 2016 population estimates which is available from the NRS website (<https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/statistics-and-data/statistics/stats-at-a-glance/infographics-and-visualisations#data>)

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1. Main points

- The latest estimate of Scotland's population (on 30 June 2016) is 5,404,700 – the highest ever and an increase of 31,700 people (0.6%) over the last year.
- The increase in Scotland's population over the last year has been driven by migration, with a net gain of 22,900 from overseas and 8,800 people from the rest of the UK.
- There were 800 more deaths than births and other changes (such as in the number of armed forces and prisoners) resulted in an increase of 800 people.
- 40,400 people came to Scotland from overseas and 17,500 people left Scotland in the opposite direction. This resulted in an increase in net migration to Scotland from overseas in the year to mid-2016, with a net gain of 22,900 compared with 19,600 in the previous year.
- Net migration to Scotland from the rest of the UK has increased from approximately 8,400 in the year to mid-2015 to 8,800 in the year to mid-2016. The net gain of 8,800 in the year to mid-2016 came from an inflow of 46,300 and an outflow of 37,500.
- In-migration from the rest of the UK has been higher than in-migration from overseas in every year except for the two years to mid-2010 and mid-2011.
- 18% of Scotland's population were aged 65 and over in 2016, compared with 17% aged under 16. There were more females than males - especially amongst people aged over 75 due to the longer life expectancy of females.
- The increase in the population of older age groups has been higher than younger age groups over the last 20 years. The largest increase has been in the 75 and over age group (+31%), while the number of people aged 15 and under has decreased the most of any age group (-10% since 1996).
- While the population of Scotland has increased by 0.6% over the last year, there have been variations in the level of population change across Scotland's council areas.
- City of Edinburgh (+1.7%), Glasgow City (+1.4%) and Midlothian (+1.4%) increased the most in population over the last year, whereas Na h-Eileanan Siar (-0.6%), Inverclyde (-0.4%) and Angus (-0.3%) saw the largest decreases.

2. Introduction

This publication summarises the National Records of Scotland's (NRS) estimates of the population of Scotland and council and health board areas within Scotland as at 30 June 2016.

These estimates are based on the census and are updated annually to account for population change in the period from 1 July to 30 June. Therefore, the period covered by these statistics is prior to the referendum on European Union membership (apart from one week).

The two main contributors to population change are natural change (births minus deaths) and net migration (the difference between long-term moves into and out of the UK or local areas).

More information about the methodology and quality, including strengths and weaknesses, of the estimates published in this release is available in the [notes and definitions](#) section of this document and more detailed information in the [Mid-year Estimates for Scotland Methodology Guide](#).

Population estimates are used for a variety of purposes including resource allocation and planning of services such as education and health. They are also used for calculating rates and performance measures, informing local and national policy, weighting surveys and in modeling the economy.

The Scottish Government has set a target to match average European Union (EU15) population growth over the period from 2007 to 2017. The population estimates in this publication are used to measure progress towards this target. More details can be found on the [Scotland Performs](#) section of the Scottish Government website.

The UK Statistics Authority (UKSA) has designated this publication as National Statistics, in line with the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007 and signifying compliance with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics. The UKSA reassessed our population estimates and projections in 2016 and published an [assessment report](#), available on their website. Further information can be found in the [UK Statistics Authority-Assessments](#) section on the NRS website.

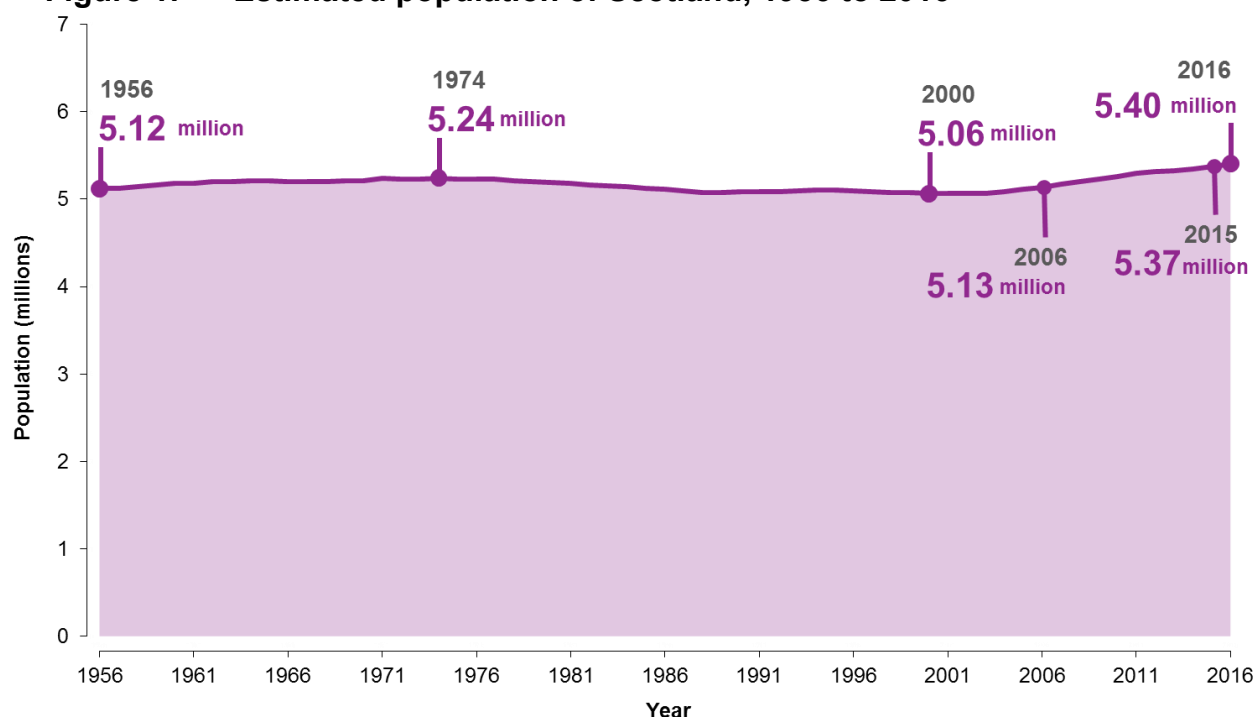
3. The population of Scotland

Scotland's population is increasing

The latest estimate of Scotland's population (on 30 June 2016) is 5,404,700 – the highest ever and an increase of 31,700 people (0.6%) since 30 June 2015. Over the last ten years, the population has increased by 271,600 (5.3%) (Figure 1).

Figure 1 also shows that over the last 60 years, the population of Scotland increased from 5.12 million in 1956 to 5.24 million in 1974, before declining to a recent low of 5.06 million in 2000. Since then, the population has increased each year to the current level of 5.40 million.

Figure 1: Estimated population of Scotland, 1956 to 2016



Why is the population increasing?

The increase in Scotland's population between mid-2015 and mid-2016 has been driven by migration. In the year to mid-2016, in-migration exceeded out-migration by approximately 31,700 people. This included a net gain of around 22,900 from overseas and a net gain of around 8,800 people from the rest of the UK.

In the year to mid-2016, there were 800 more deaths than births. In the previous year to mid-2015, deaths exceeded births by 2,000. The year-on-year change was driven by approximately 1,800 fewer deaths, partially offset by around 600 fewer births.

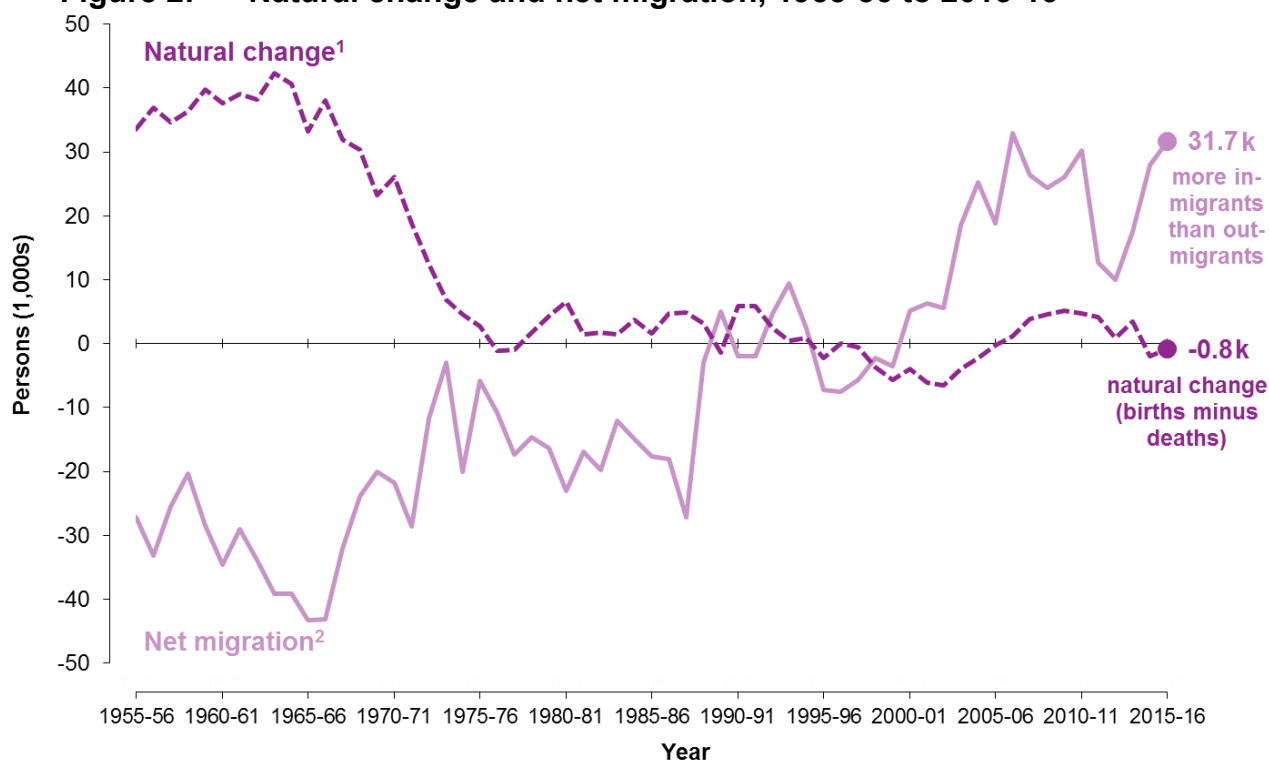
Other changes between mid-2015 and mid-2016 (including changes in the prison population, changes in the number of armed forces stationed in Scotland and any rounding adjustments) resulted in an increase of approximately 800 people.

How do the latest figures compare with past trends?

Figure 2 shows the trends in natural change (births minus deaths) and net migration. Between the mid-1960s and mid-1970s, both natural change and net out-migration fell dramatically, although natural change generally remained higher than net out-migration. This resulted in the growth of the population up to 1974. From

that point on, through the late 1970s and the 1980s, net out-migration was higher than the natural increase, causing the population to decline. In recent years, Scotland has experienced record levels of net in-migration resulting in small increases in the population in each of the last 15 years.

Figure 2: Natural change and net migration, 1955-56 to 2015-16



Footnotes
 1 Births minus deaths.
 2 Inward minus outward migration.

Where are migrants coming from and going to?

40,400 people came to Scotland from overseas and 17,500 people left Scotland to go overseas. This resulted in an increase in net migration to Scotland from overseas in the year to mid-2016, with a net gain of 22,900 compared with 19,600 in the previous year. This is due to 2,600 more migrants arriving in Scotland from overseas (40,400 compared with 37,800 in the previous year) and 700 fewer migrants leaving Scotland to go overseas (17,500 compared with 18,200 in the previous year).

The data sources used by NRS to estimate migration at council area level do not allow the country or group of countries that overseas migrants come from to be identified. More information is available in the [Mid-year Estimates for Scotland Methodology Guide](#).

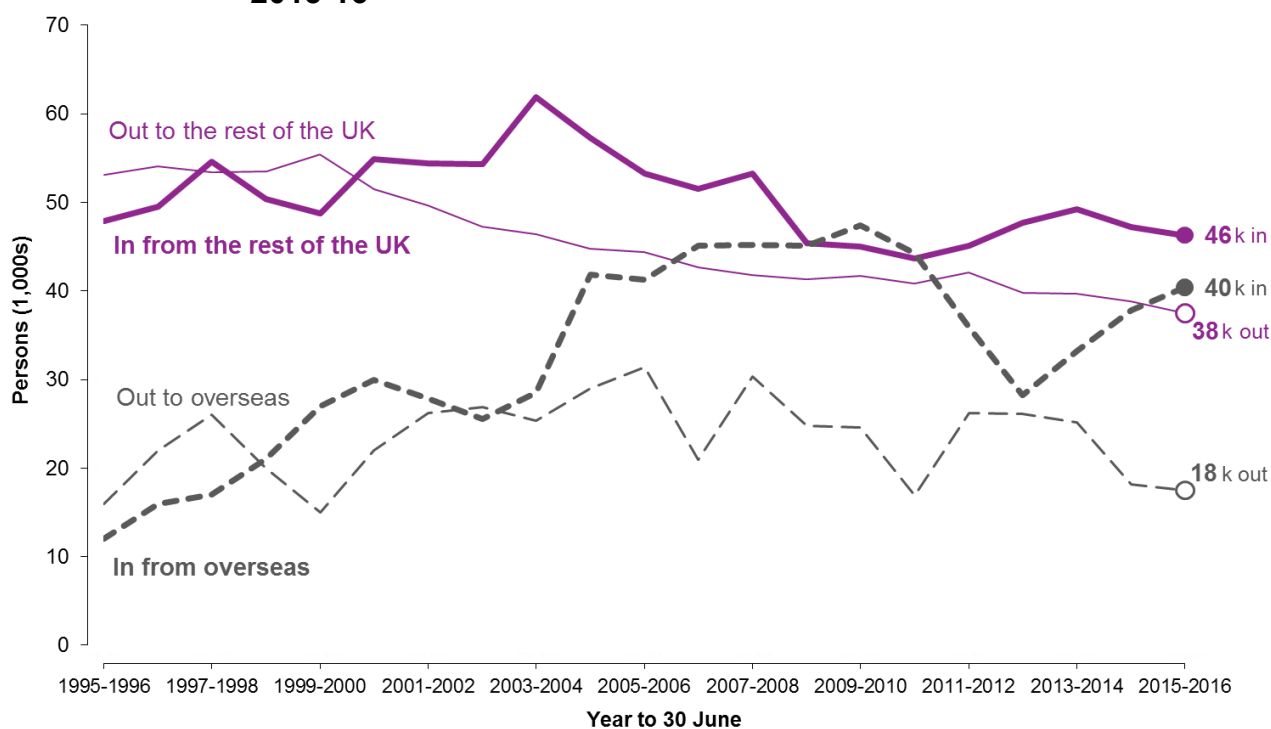
Net migration to Scotland from the rest of the UK has increased from approximately 8,400 in the year to mid-2015 to 8,800 in the year to mid-2016. The net gain of 8,800 in the year to mid-2016 came from an inflow of 46,300 (a decrease of around 800 from the previous year) and an outflow of 37,500 (a decrease of around 1,300 from the previous year), meaning that the increase in net migration to Scotland from the rest of the UK is being driven by a lower level of out-migration partially offset by fewer in-migrants.

Figure 3 illustrates the trend in flows of people to and from the rest of the UK and overseas since 1995-1996. A peak of 61,900 in-migrants to Scotland from the rest of the UK was estimated in 2003-2004. The small reduction in out-migration to the rest of

the UK in the latest year is in line with the longer term trend which has seen a slow decrease of outward migration from a peak of 55,400 in the year to mid-2000.

Over the past two years there have been increases of in-migration from overseas, up to this year's level of 40,400. This remains lower than the peak of 47,400 in-migrants from overseas estimated in the year to mid-2010. In the latest year out-migration to overseas dropped by 5% to 17,500 people following last year when there was a larger decrease in out-migration to overseas of 28%.

Figure 3: Movements to/from the rest of the UK and overseas, 1995-96 to 2015-16



How old are migrants coming to and leaving Scotland?

Migrants to Scotland tend to be younger than the general population. Of in-migrants to Scotland, 49% from the rest of the UK and 67% of those from overseas were aged 16-34 years, yet in the resident population only 25% were in this age group. Only 7% of people coming to Scotland from the rest of the UK and 1% of people entering from overseas were aged 65 and over.

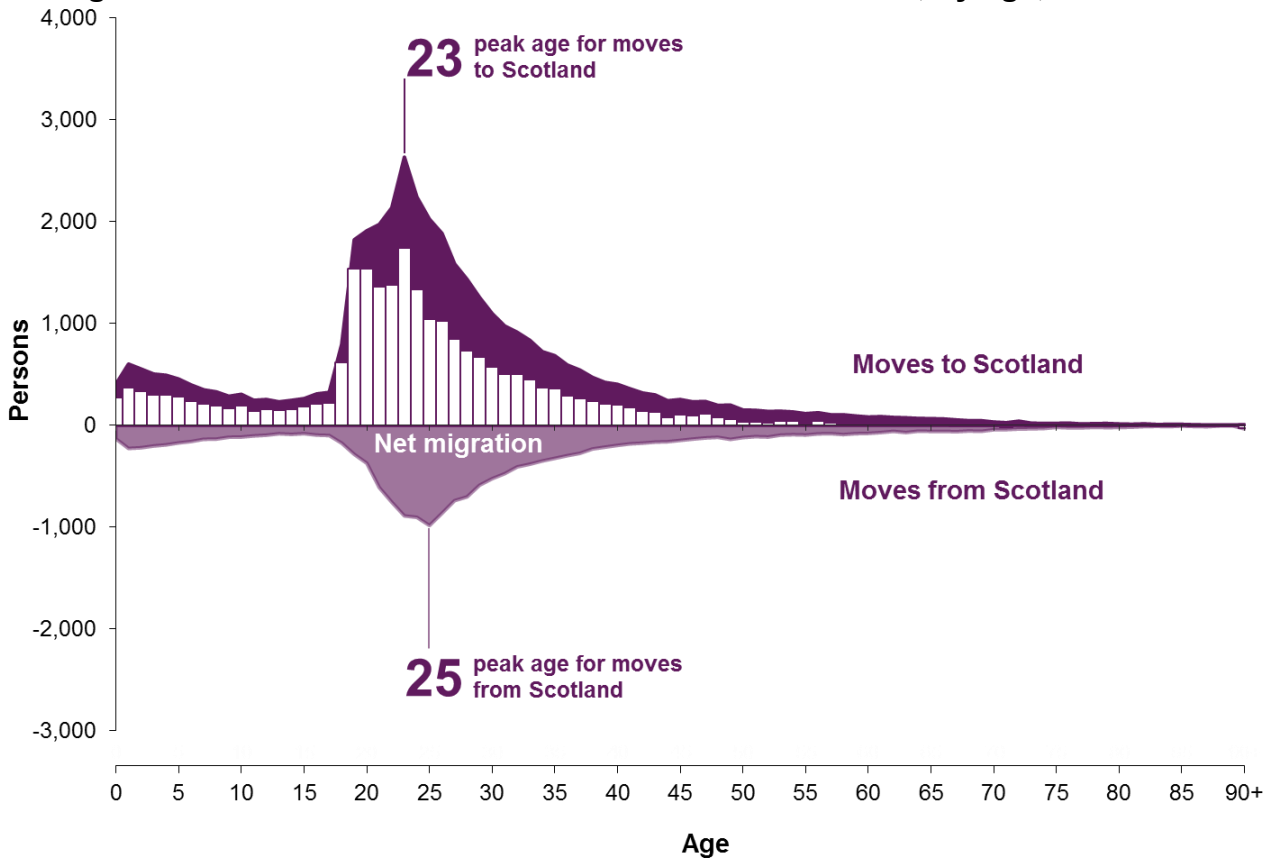
Figure 4 shows movements to and from the UK between mid-2015 and mid-2016 by age. The peak age for migration into Scotland is 19 and there is a pronounced net migration gain at this age, while the peak age for migration out of Scotland is 23. These large in- and out-flows are the result of an influx of students from outside Scotland starting higher education in Scotland, followed by moves out of Scotland after graduation.

Figure 5 shows the age of migrants moving between Scotland and overseas. The peak age for migration into Scotland from overseas is 23. There are also high numbers of in-migrants (500 or more) for each age from 18 to 37. The peak ages for migration out of Scotland to overseas are between 23 and 26 and there are high numbers of out-migrants (500 or more) from age 21 to 30. However, there are more in-migrants than out-migrants for all ages across this range, resulting in net in-migration for all ages through to age 66.

Figure 4: Movements between Scotland and the rest of the UK, by age, 2015-2016



Figure 5: Movements between Scotland and overseas, by age, 2015-2016



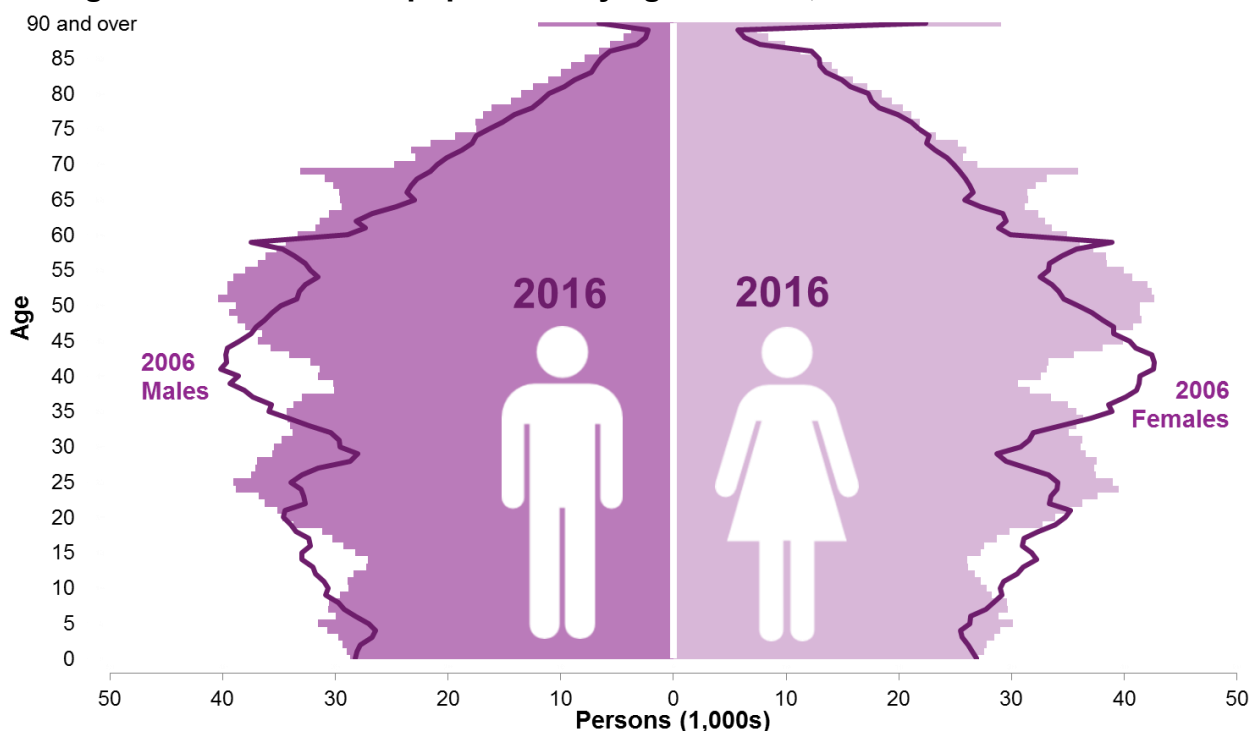
4. The age and sex structure of the population

The population of Scotland is ageing

Scotland's estimated population in mid-2016 is shown by age and sex in the population pyramid in Figure 6.

The age and sex composition is one of the most important aspects of the population. Changes in different age groups will have different social and economic impacts. For example, increases in the elderly population are likely to place a greater demand on health and social services.

Figure 6: Estimated population by age and sex, mid-2006 and mid-2016



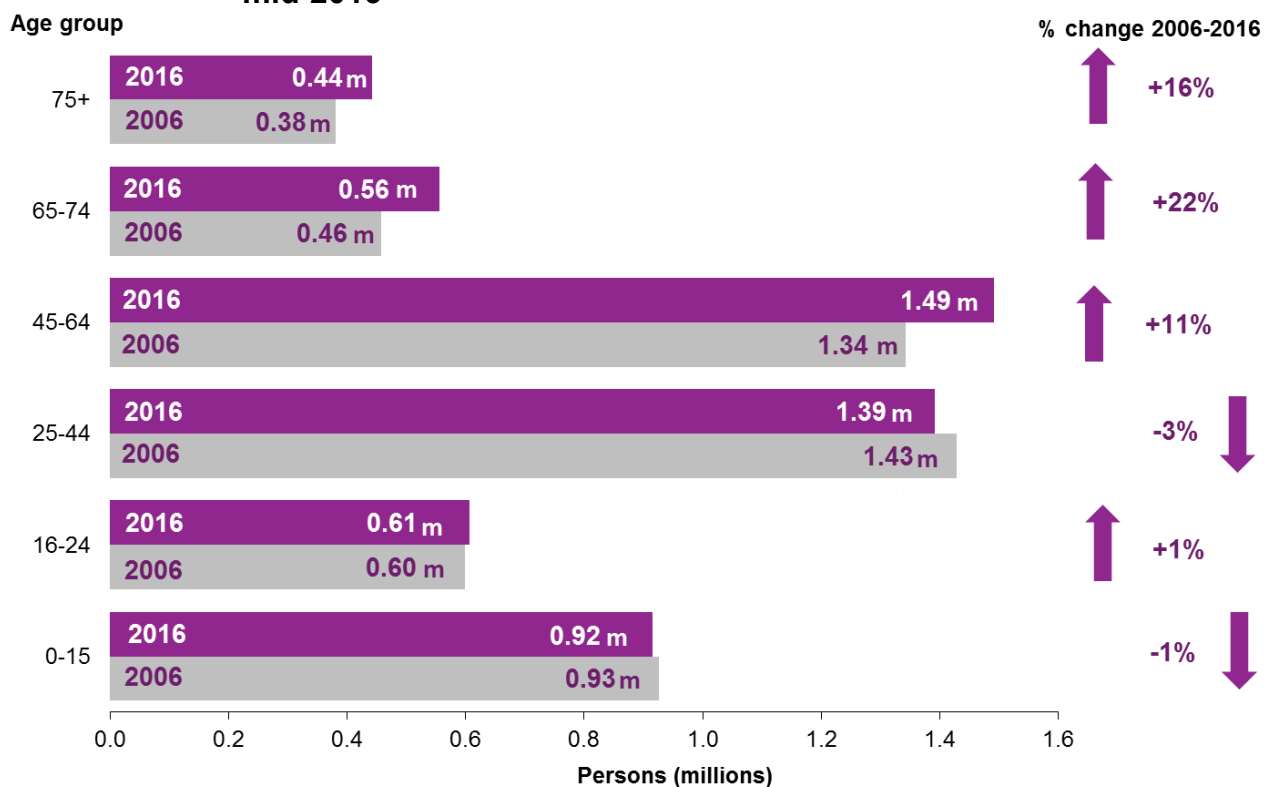
Among older people, particularly those aged over 75, the higher number of females reflects the longer expectation of life for women. Additionally for those aged over 90 this is partly a result of higher rates of male mortality during the Second World War. The two baby booms of 1947 and the 1960s can also be seen with a sharp peak at age 69 and another peak around 50. These baby boomers, along with relatively low fertility rates since the 1960s, are the main reasons why Scotland's population is likely to age in the future.

The effects of immigration to Scotland that has happened since mid-2006 are clear to see. For most ages the peaks and troughs present in the pyramid in mid-2006 are visible in the mid-2016 data shifted by 10 years, demonstrating the ageing of cohorts in the population. The mid-2016 pyramid, however, shows some difference in this pattern: the profile of the pyramid for the age group 10-50, and especially for ages 19 to 28 is wider than in the mid-2006 pyramid. There were 17% more 19 to 28 year olds in 2016 than there were 9 to 18 year olds in 2006. Such a change can only be generated by new population being added through immigration.

How is the age structure of the population changing?

Further details of the changing age structure of the population since 2006 is illustrated in Figure 7. The ageing of the population is evident in the rises in the older age groups (+11% in the 45-64 age group, +22% in the 65-74 age group and +16% in the 75 and over age group), while some of the younger age groups have seen a much smaller increase (+1% for the 16-24 age group) or have even decreased (-3% for the 25-44 age group and -1% for the 0-15 age group).

Figure 7: The changing age structure of Scotland's population, mid-2006 to mid-2016



5. Population estimates for areas within Scotland

How has the population changed across areas in Scotland?

Table A shows the changes in population for each council area from mid-2015 to mid-2016. Overall, 24 councils increased in population over the last year. The largest percentage population increases occurred in City of Edinburgh (+1.68%) and Glasgow City (+1.44%) and Midlothian (+1.40%).

Seven council areas experienced a decrease in population. The largest percentage decrease occurred in Na h-Eileanan Siar (-0.63%), followed by Inverclyde (-0.43%) and Angus (-0.33%).

Table A: Components of population change for council areas: mid-2015 to mid-2016

	Estimated population 30 June 2016	Natural change	Net civilian migration and other changes	Percentage population change ¹
Scotland	5,404,700	-0.02	0.61	0.59
Council areas				
Na h-Eileanan Siar	26,900	-0.40	-0.23	-0.63
Inverclyde	79,160	-0.37	-0.05	-0.43
Angus	116,520	-0.29	-0.03	-0.33
Aberdeen City	229,840	0.19	-0.41	-0.22
North Ayrshire	135,890	-0.23	0.06	-0.18
Dumfries and Galloway	149,520	-0.36	0.26	-0.10
Clackmannanshire	51,350	-0.03	0.01	-0.02
Shetland Islands	23,200	0.02	-0.02	0.00
Dundee City	148,270	-0.10	0.15	0.04
South Ayrshire	112,470	-0.41	0.47	0.06
Aberdeenshire	262,190	0.20	-0.11	0.09
East Ayrshire	122,200	-0.01	0.13	0.11
South Lanarkshire	317,100	-0.08	0.36	0.28
Argyll and Bute	87,130	-0.45	0.73	0.28
Highland	234,770	-0.10	0.38	0.28
West Dunbartonshire	89,860	-0.04	0.34	0.30
North Lanarkshire	339,390	0.04	0.29	0.33
Scottish Borders	114,530	-0.17	0.61	0.44
Perth and Kinross	150,680	-0.19	0.69	0.50
East Dunbartonshire	107,540	-0.12	0.66	0.54
Falkirk	159,380	-0.03	0.61	0.58
Moray	96,070	-0.05	0.64	0.59
Fife	370,330	-0.06	0.68	0.61
Renfrewshire	175,930	-0.14	0.92	0.78
Orkney Islands	21,850	-0.24	1.07	0.83
West Lothian	180,130	0.26	0.63	0.88
East Renfrewshire	93,810	0.05	0.89	0.94
Stirling	93,750	-0.09	1.08	0.99
East Lothian	104,090	0.06	0.95	1.01
Midlothian	88,610	0.28	1.11	1.40
Glasgow City	615,070	0.13	1.31	1.44
City of Edinburgh	507,170	0.19	1.48	1.68

Footnotes

1) Ordered by percentage population change.

Similarly, Table B shows the changes in population for NHS Board areas. Lothian had the largest percentage population increase (+1.41%), followed by Greater Glasgow and Clyde (+1.00%) and Orkney (+0.83%). Three NHS Board areas experienced a decline in population with Western Isles having the largest decrease (-0.63%), followed by Dumfries & Galloway (-0.10%) and Ayrshire and Arran (-0.01%).

More detail on the components of population change (births, deaths, net migration and other changes) for the period mid-2015 to mid-2016, are available from the NRS website in [Table 4](#).

Table B: Components of population change for NHS Board areas: mid-2015 to mid-2016

	Estimated population 30 June 2016	Natural change	Net civilian migration and other changes	Percentage population change ¹
Scotland	5,404,700	-0.02	0.61	0.59
NHS Board Areas²				
Western Isles	26,900	-0.40	-0.23	-0.63
Dumfries and Galloway	149,520	-0.36	0.26	-0.10
Ayrshire and Arran	370,560	-0.21	0.21	-0.01
Shetland	23,200	0.02	-0.02	0.00
Grampian	588,100	0.15	-0.11	0.05
Tayside	415,470	-0.19	0.29	0.10
Highland	321,900	-0.19	0.47	0.28
Lanarkshire	656,490	-0.02	0.32	0.31
Borders	114,530	-0.17	0.61	0.44
Forth Valley	304,480	-0.05	0.65	0.60
Fife	370,330	-0.06	0.68	0.61
Orkney	21,850	-0.24	1.07	0.83
Greater Glasgow and Clyde	1,161,370	0.01	0.99	1.00
Lothian	880,000	0.20	1.21	1.41

Footnotes

- 1) Ordered by percentage population change.
- 2) April 2014 NHS Board areas.

Why has the population increased or decreased?

For most areas, the main cause of population change from mid-2015 to mid-2016 was migration. This includes migration from other areas within Scotland, the rest of the UK and overseas.

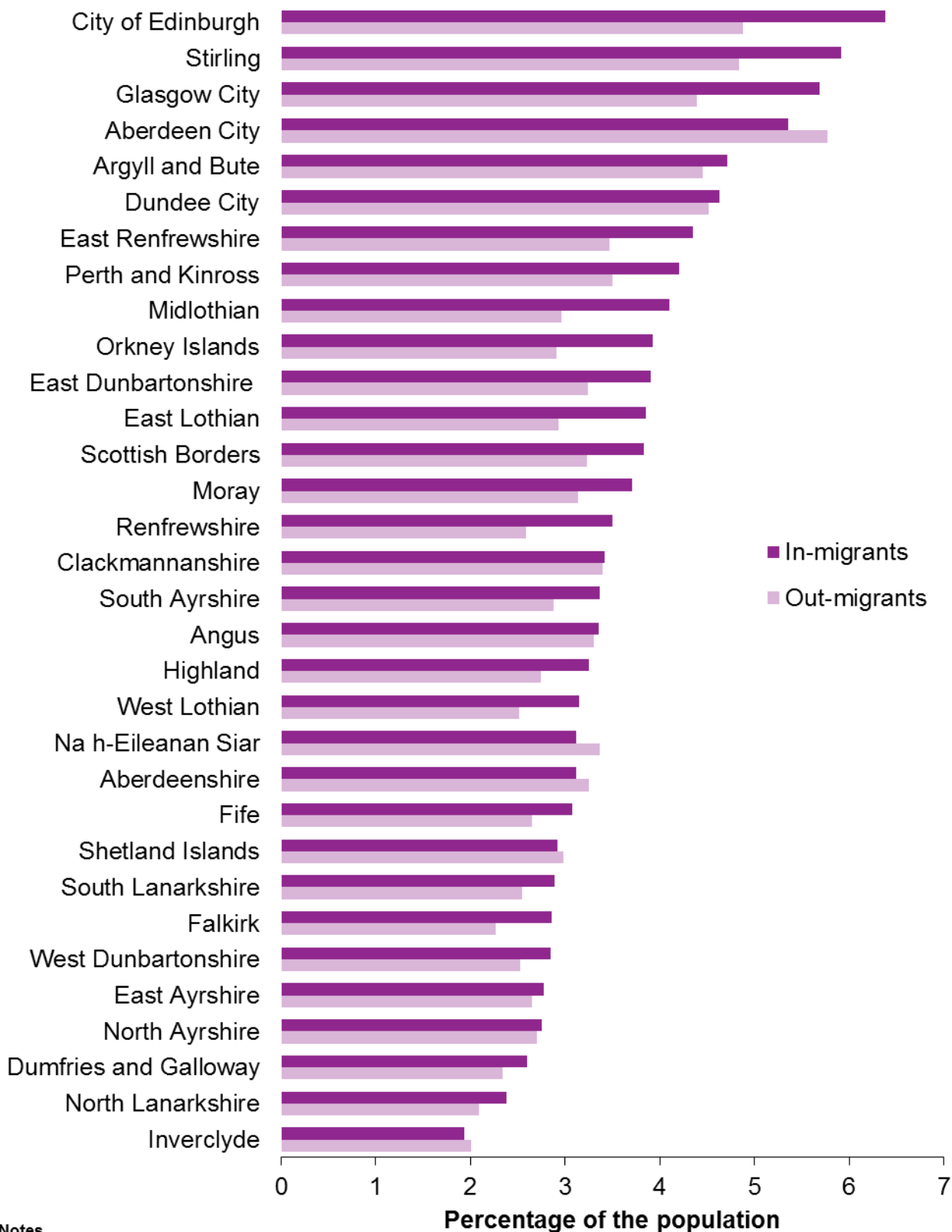
[Figure 8](#) shows in-migration is greater than out-migration in the majority of council areas contributing to positive net migration. Council areas with the largest percentage of in-migrants in their population such as City of Edinburgh (6.4%), Stirling (5.9%) and Glasgow City (5.7%) also tend to have a high percentage of out-migrants.

[Table A](#) shows that from mid-2015 to mid-2016, the councils that experienced the biggest population increase due to net migration were City of Edinburgh (+1.5%), Glasgow City (+1.3%) and Midlothian, Stirling and Orkney (all +1.1%).

Aberdeen City (-0.4%) and Na h-Eileanan Siar (-0.2%) saw the largest population decreases from net migration. The three other council areas with negative net migration were Aberdeenshire, Inverclyde and Shetland Islands.

The other main component of population change is natural change (births minus deaths). Overall, 22 council areas experienced negative natural change (more deaths than births) over the last year (Table A). However, for most councils natural change played a smaller role in population change than net migration.

Figure 8: In and out migration from mid-2015 to mid-2016 as a percentage of population by council area



Notes

Ranked by decreasing proportion of in-migrants

This chart shows the proportion of the total population of each council area who have moved into or out of that area since mid-2015 (including those who moved within Scotland, to and from the rest of the UK, and to and from overseas).

Where do an area's migrants come from and go to?

As [Figure 9a](#) shows, different council areas attract migrants from different areas. In all but five council areas (namely the City of Edinburgh, Dumfries and Galloway, Shetland Islands, Glasgow City and Orkney Islands), most of the migrants came from other council areas within Scotland.

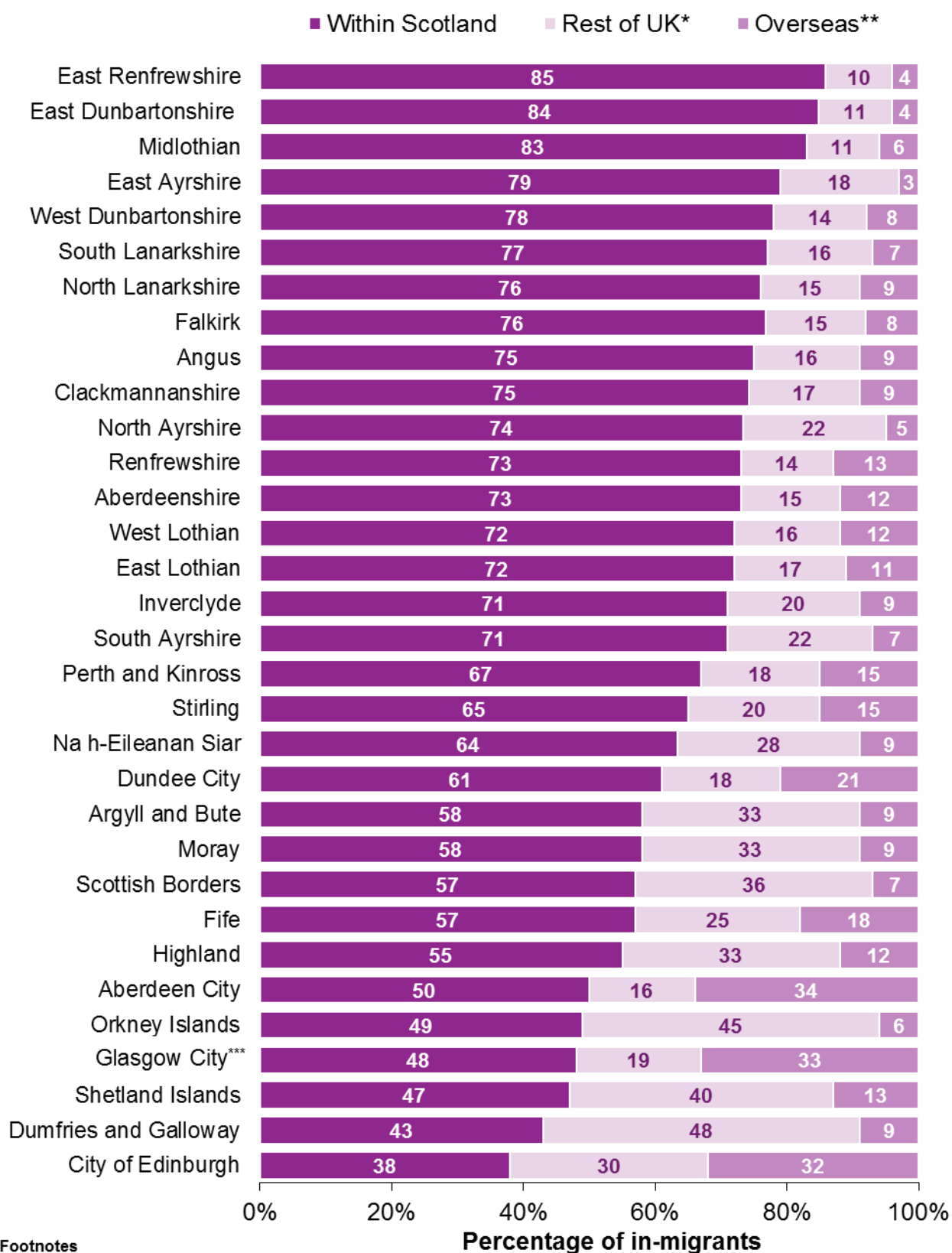
East Renfrewshire, East Dunbartonshire and Midlothian had the highest percentage of in-migrants from within Scotland, accounting for more than four in every five migrants moving to these areas.

The number of in-migrants from overseas exceeded the number of in-migrants from the rest of the UK in the four city council areas of Glasgow, Aberdeen, Edinburgh and Dundee.

[Figure 9b](#) shows there are also differences in the destinations of people migrating out of council areas. Often the region to which most out-migrants moved was the same region from which most in-migrants had arrived. For example most of the migrants leaving East Renfrewshire moved elsewhere in Scotland and, as already described, most of the migrants arriving there came from elsewhere in Scotland.

More detail on components of migration is available from the [NRS website](#) in Table 5.

Figure 9a: Origin of in-migrants by council areas, mid-2015 to mid-2016



Footnotes

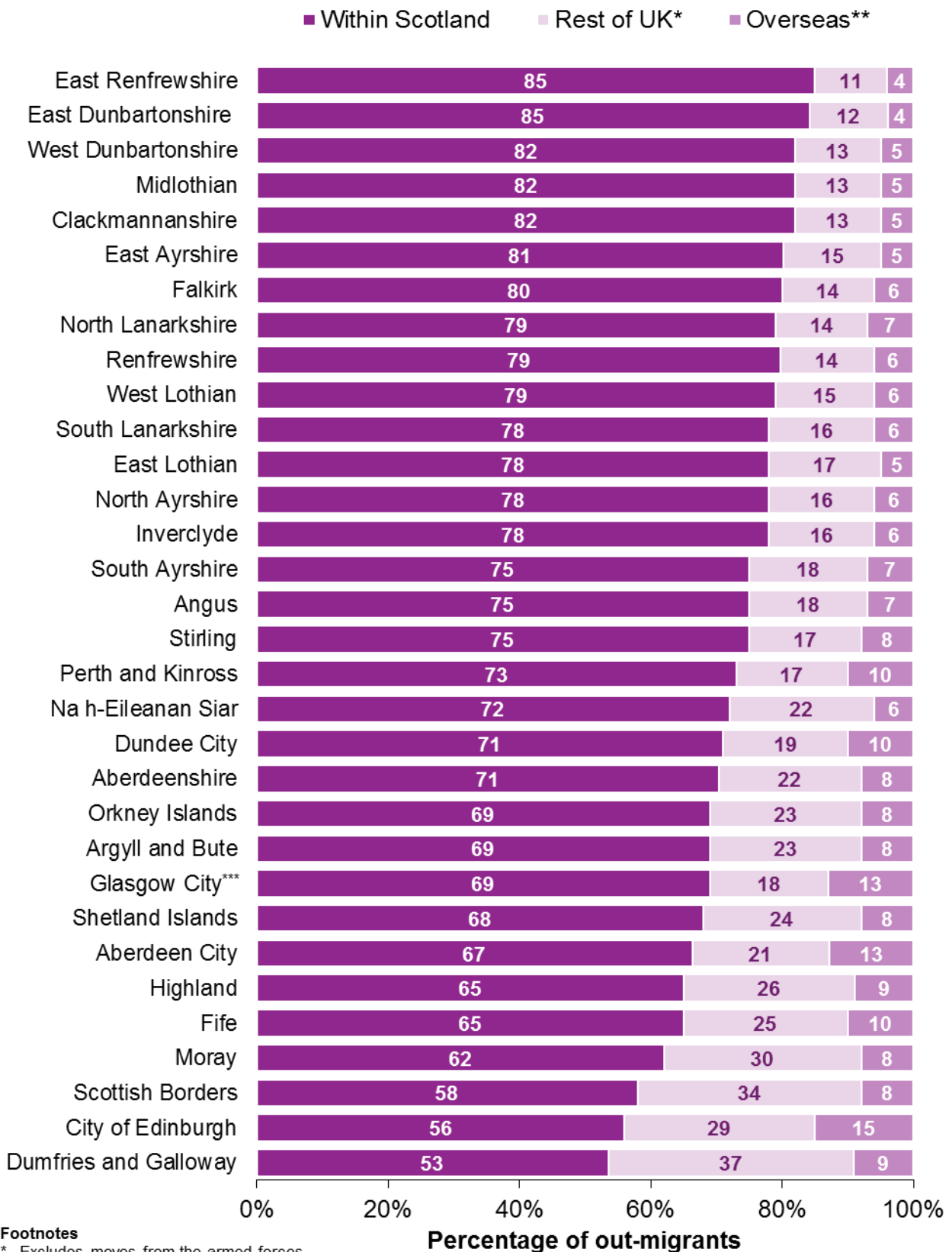
* Excludes moves from the armed forces.

** Includes refugees.

*** Includes asylum seekers.

Rounded figures are used and may not add up to 100%
Ranked by increasing percentage of migrants from within Scotland

Figure 9b: Destination of out-migrants by council area, mid-2015 to mid-2016



Footnotes

* Excludes moves from the armed forces.

** Includes refugees.

*** Includes asylum seekers.

Rounded figures are used and may not add up to 100%
Ranked by increasing percentage of migrants to within Scotland

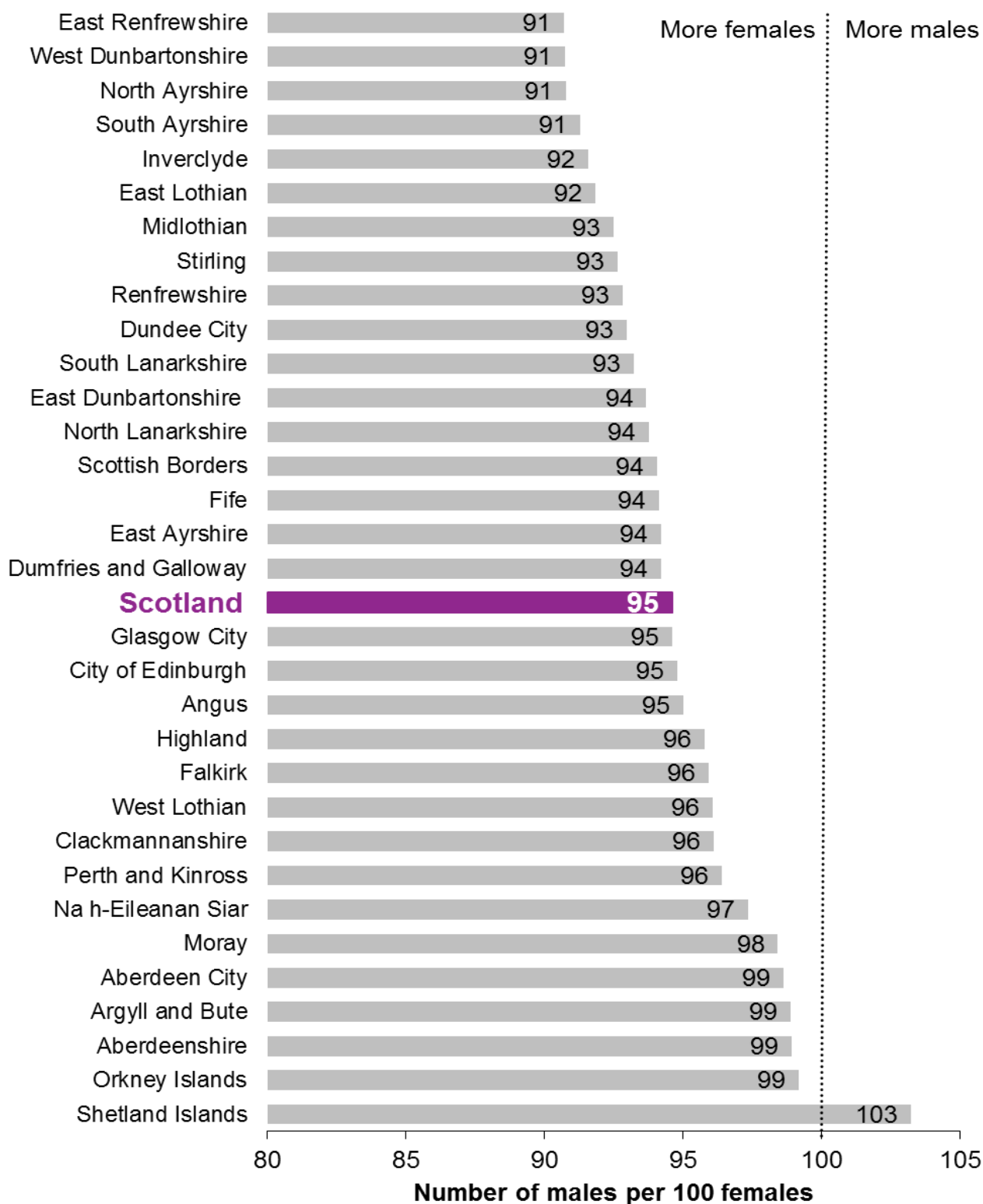
What is the age and sex structure of the population in Scotland's areas?

There were more women than men in Scotland in mid-2016. This was the case for all council areas other than Shetland Islands (103 males per 100 females) and for all NHS Board areas other than Shetland.

Figure 10 shows that East Renfrewshire, West Dunbartonshire, North Ayrshire and South Ayrshire had 91 males per 100 females, which was the fewest in Scotland.

The main reason for there being more women than men in Scotland is due to the longer life expectancy of women. Other reasons for differences in the proportions of men and women in areas of Scotland may relate to migration and employment, for example in areas with armed forces bases or oil industry work.

Figure 10: Proportion of males and females by council area, mid-2016



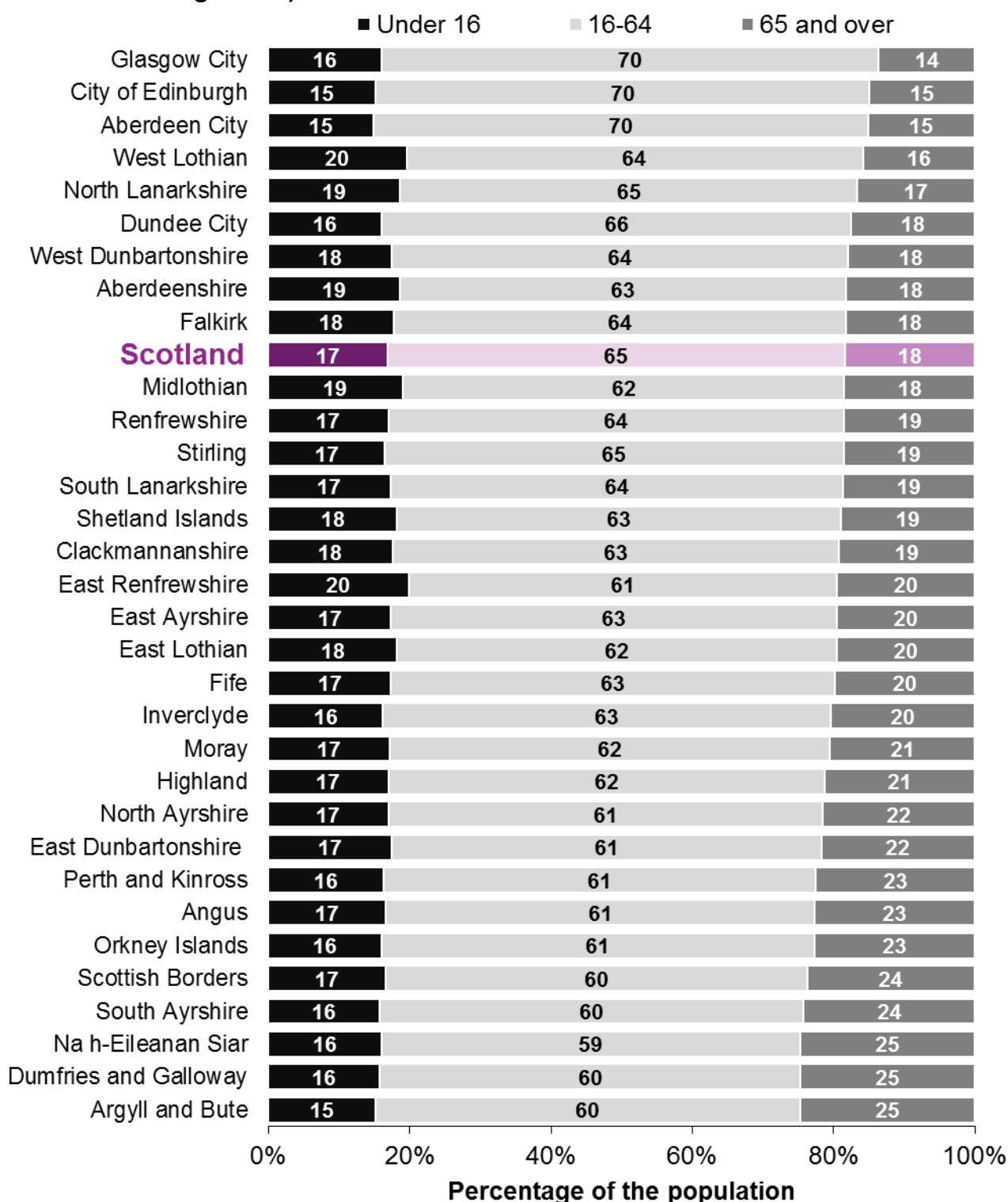
Although the pattern of age distribution is complex, some general themes can be observed. [Figure 11](#) shows the proportion of the population aged under 16, 16-64, and 65 and over for council areas. The highest proportion of population aged 16-64 is found in the city council areas of Glasgow, Edinburgh and Aberdeen at 70%. These areas also have the lowest proportion of population aged 65 and over.

More rural council areas tend to have an older age profile. Na h-Eileanan Siar (59%), Argyll and Bute, Dumfries and Galloway, South Ayrshire and Scottish Borders (all 60%) have the lowest proportion of population aged 16-64. These are also the areas with highest proportion of people aged 65 and over.

For NHS Board areas a similar pattern can be seen ([Figure 12](#)). Areas that contain large urban centres, such as Lothian and Greater Glasgow, tend to have a high proportion of population aged 16-64 and a low proportion aged 65 and over.

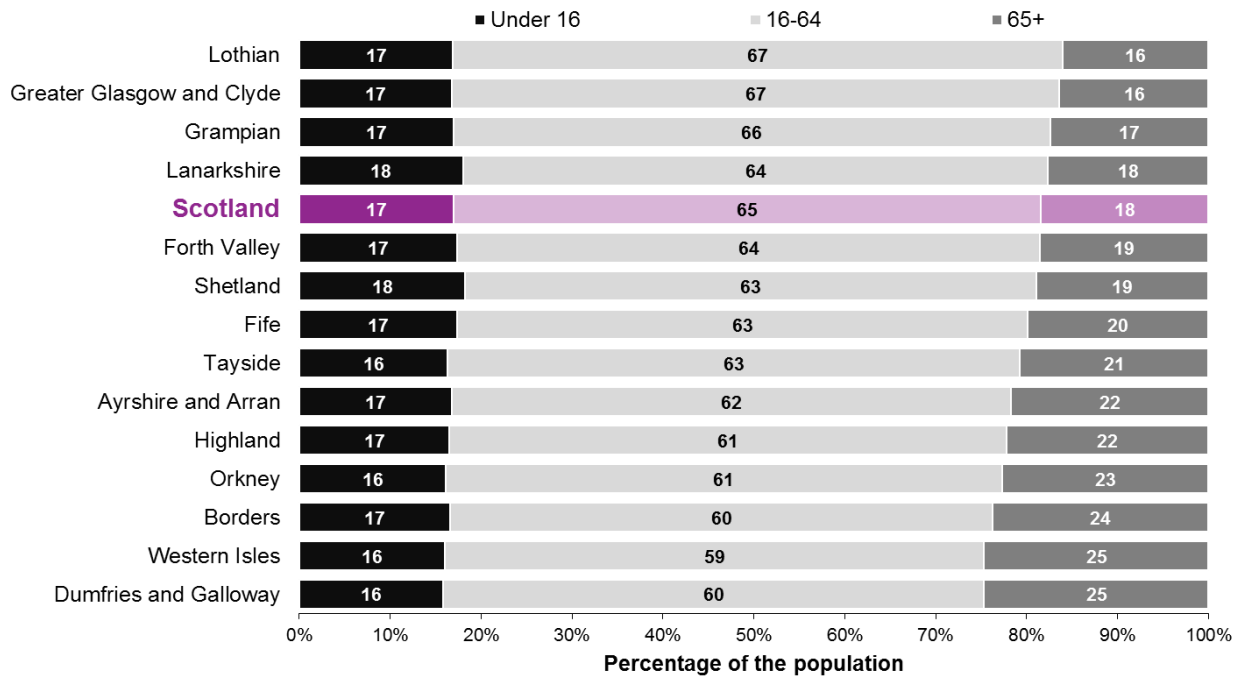
More detail on the age and sex structure of areas is available from the [NRS website](#) in Table 7.

Figure 11: Age structure of council areas, mid-2016 (ranked by percentage aged 65+)



Note
Rounded figures are used and so may not add up to 100%.

Figure 12: Age structure of NHS Board areas¹, mid-2016 (ranked by percentage aged 65+)



Footnote
1 April 2014 NHS Board areas.

Rounded figures are used and may not add up to 100%.

Where is the population located within Scotland?

The mid-2016 population density for Scotland was 69 people per square kilometre and ranged from 9 people per square kilometre in Na h-Eileanan Siar to 3,521 people per square kilometre in Glasgow City (Figure 13a). In Figure 13b you can see that the population of Scotland is concentrated around the central belt, with most of the highest-density council areas being located there.

More detail on land areas and population densities for mid-2016 are shown in Table 9, available from the [NRS website](#).

Figure 13a: Population density by council area, mid-2016

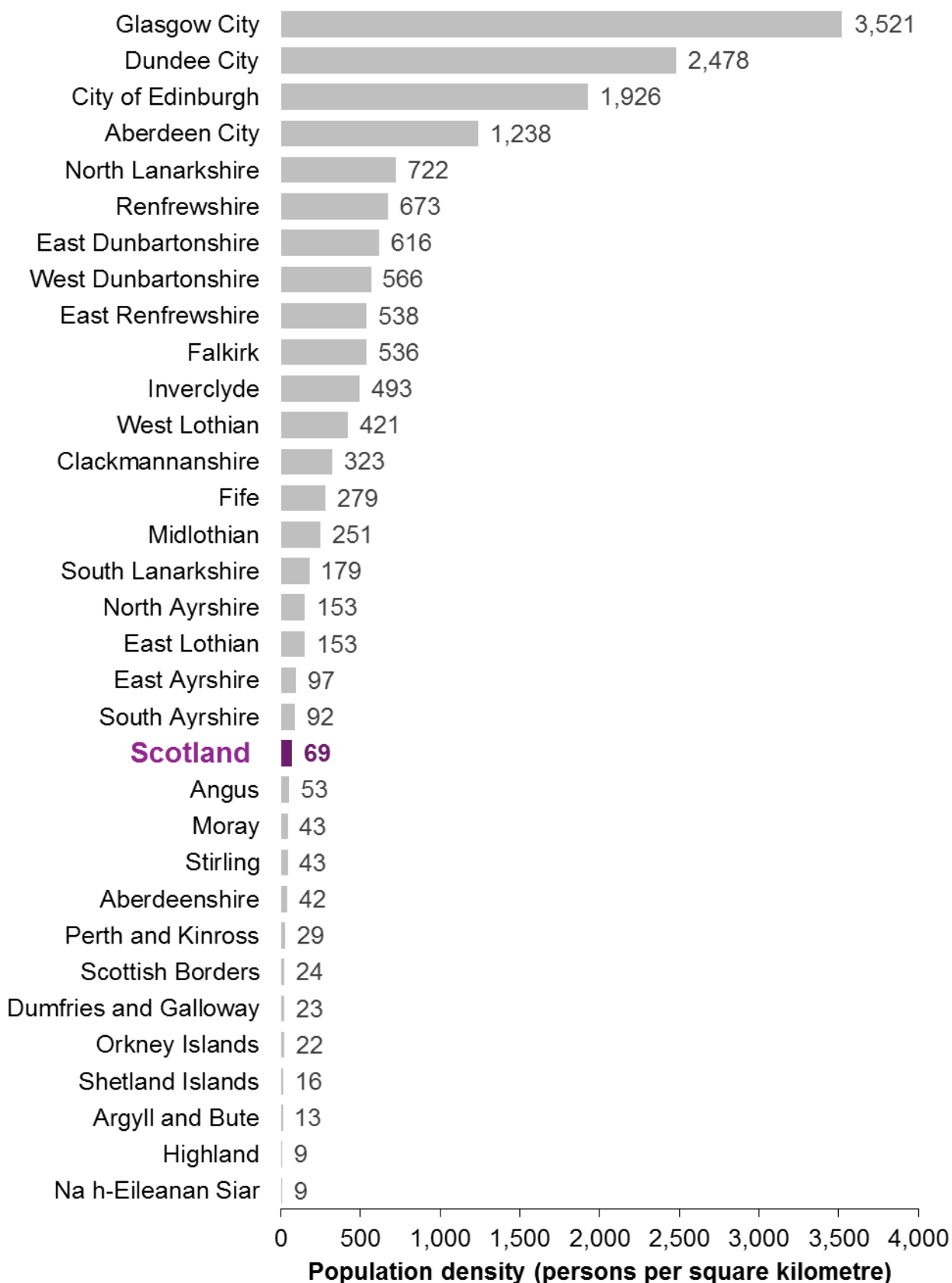
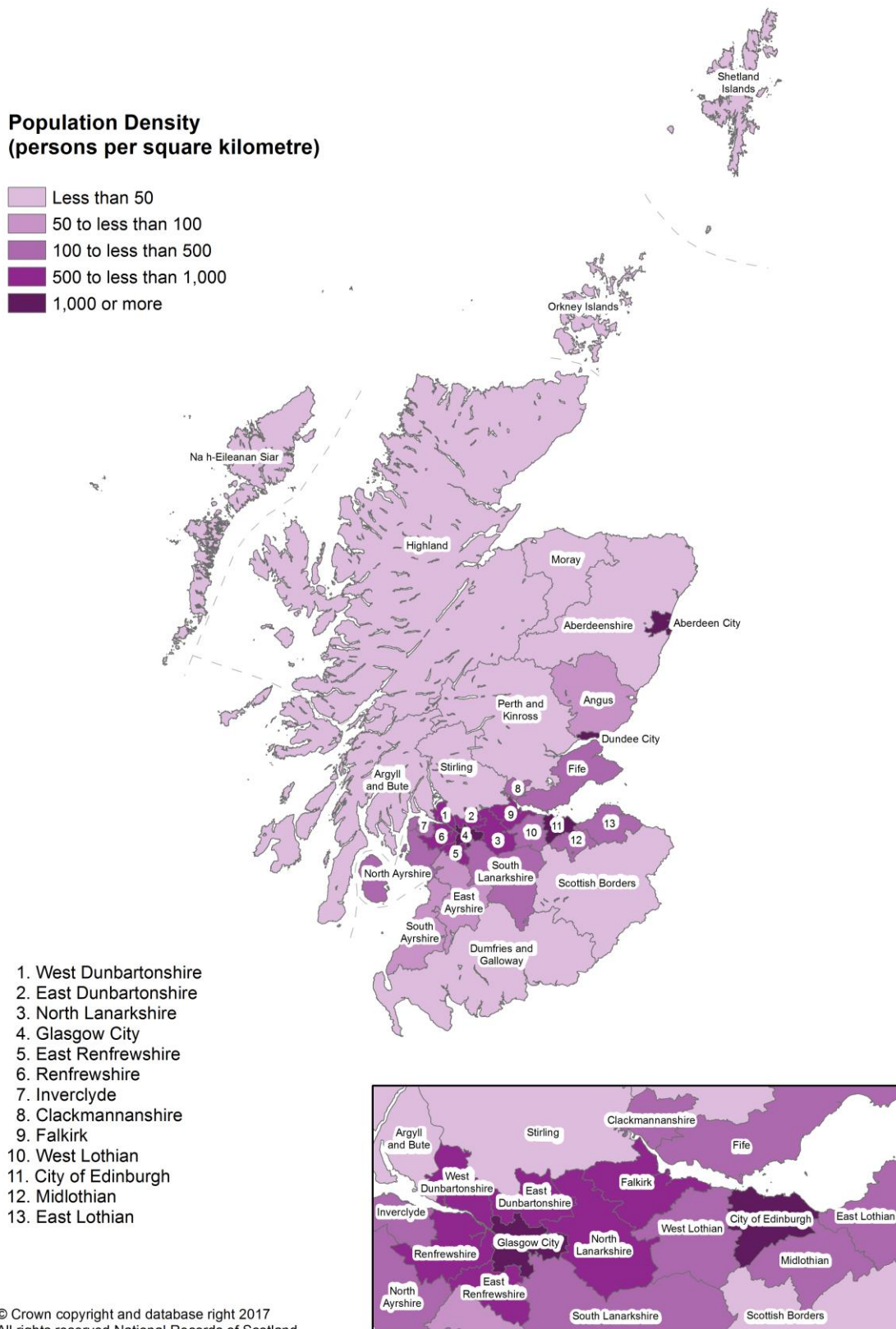


Figure 13b: Population density by council area, mid-2016



How has the population changed over the last decade?

Since mid-2006 Scotland's population has increased by 5.3%. In most council areas the population has increased as shown by the map in [Figure 14a](#) and chart in [Figure 14b](#).

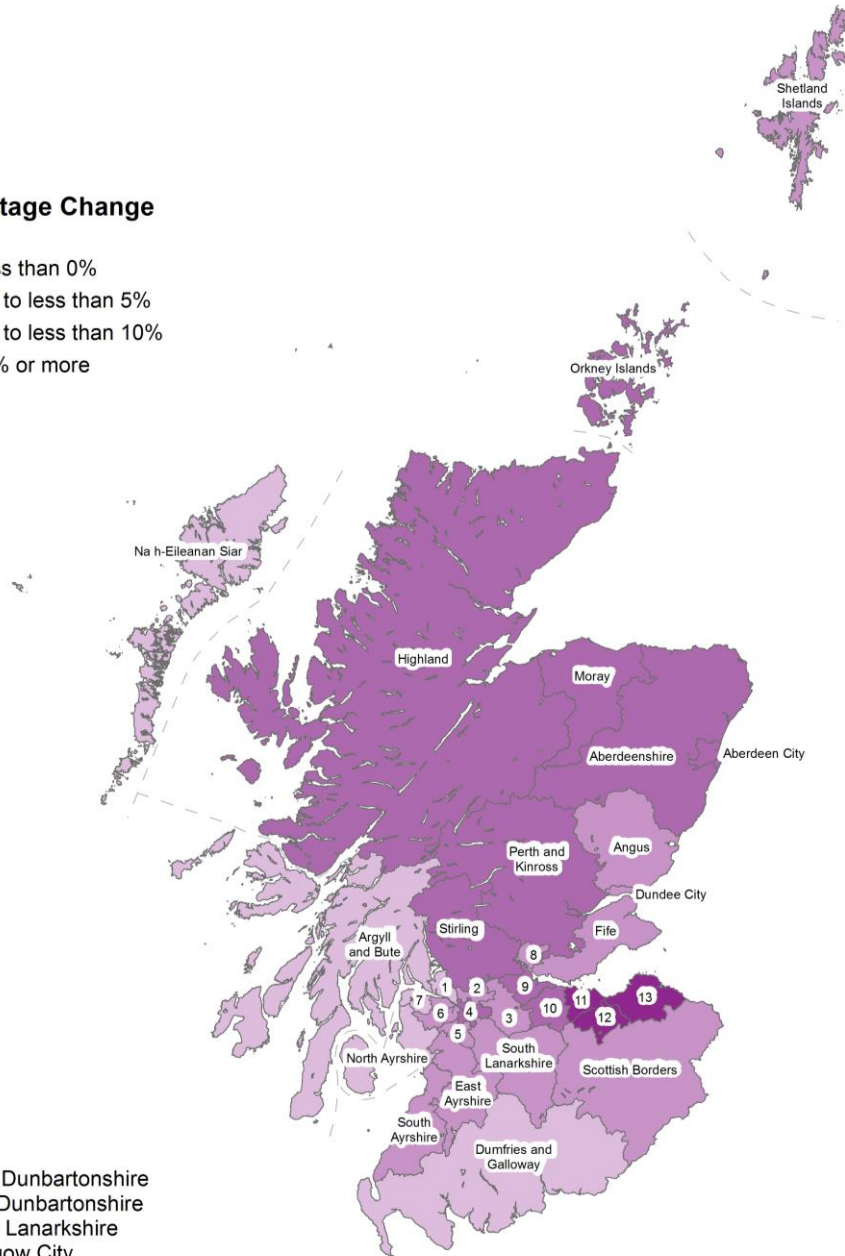
The largest percentage increases have occurred in City of Edinburgh (+12.2%), East Lothian (+10.9%) and Midlothian (+10.8%). In six council areas, Argyll and Bute (-4.1%), Inverclyde (-3.8%), West Dunbartonshire (-1.7%), North Ayrshire (-0.7%), Na h-Eileanan Siar (-0.6%) and Dumfries and Galloway (-0.2%), the population has decreased since mid-2006.

Amongst NHS Board areas, Lothian (+11.0%) and Grampian (+8.6%) increased the most in population as shown in [Figure 15](#). Western Isles (-0.6%) and Dumfries and Galloway (-0.2%) were the only two NHS Board areas to decrease in population over the last decade.

Figure 14a: Percentage change in population, council areas, mid-2006 to mid-2016

Percentage Change

- Less than 0%
- 0% to less than 5%
- 5% to less than 10%
- 10% or more



1. West Dunbartonshire
2. East Dunbartonshire
3. North Lanarkshire
4. Glasgow City
5. East Renfrewshire
6. Renfrewshire
7. Inverclyde
8. Clackmannanshire
9. Falkirk
10. West Lothian
11. City of Edinburgh
12. Midlothian
13. East Lothian



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Figure 14b: Percentage change in population, council areas, mid-2006 to mid-2016

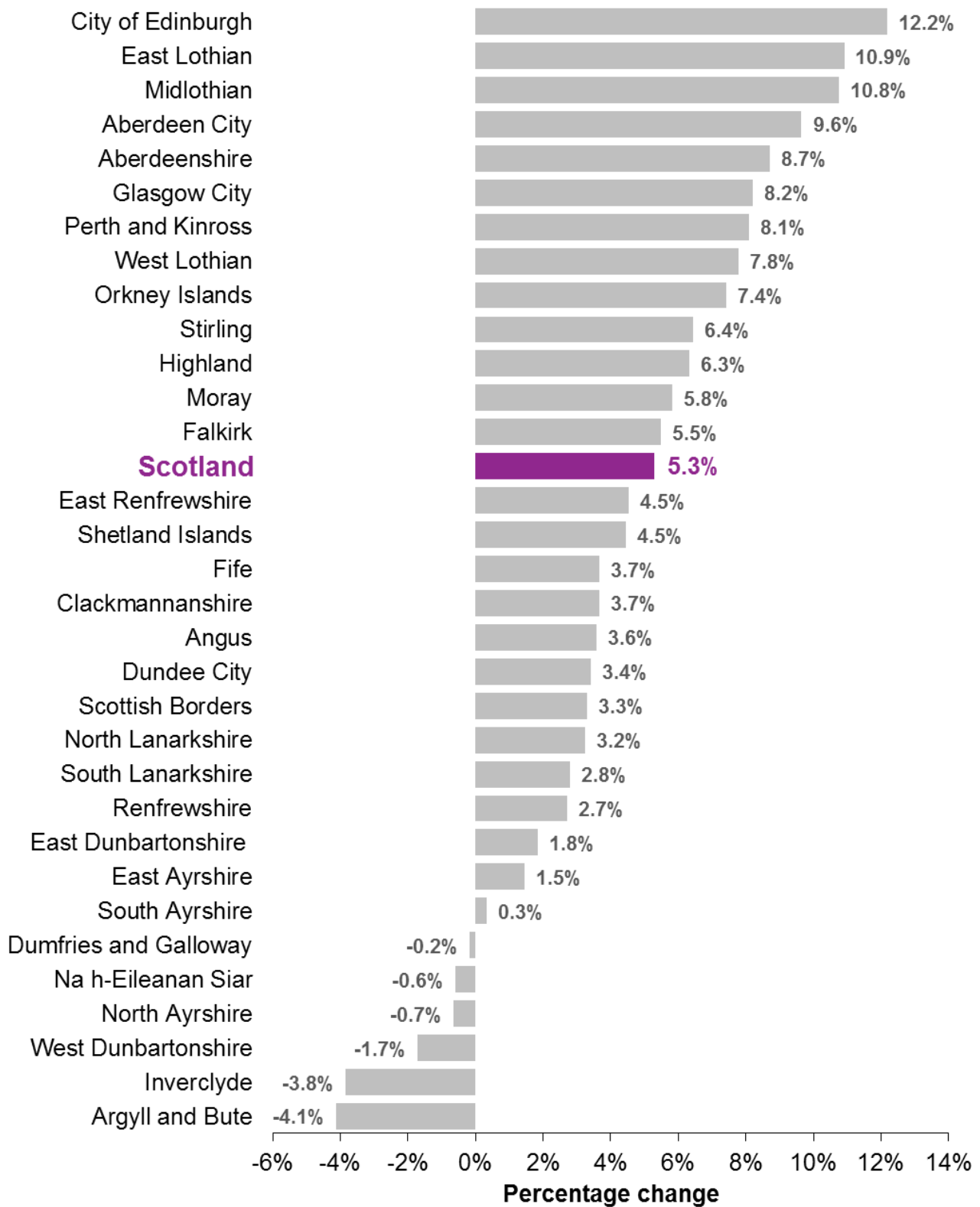
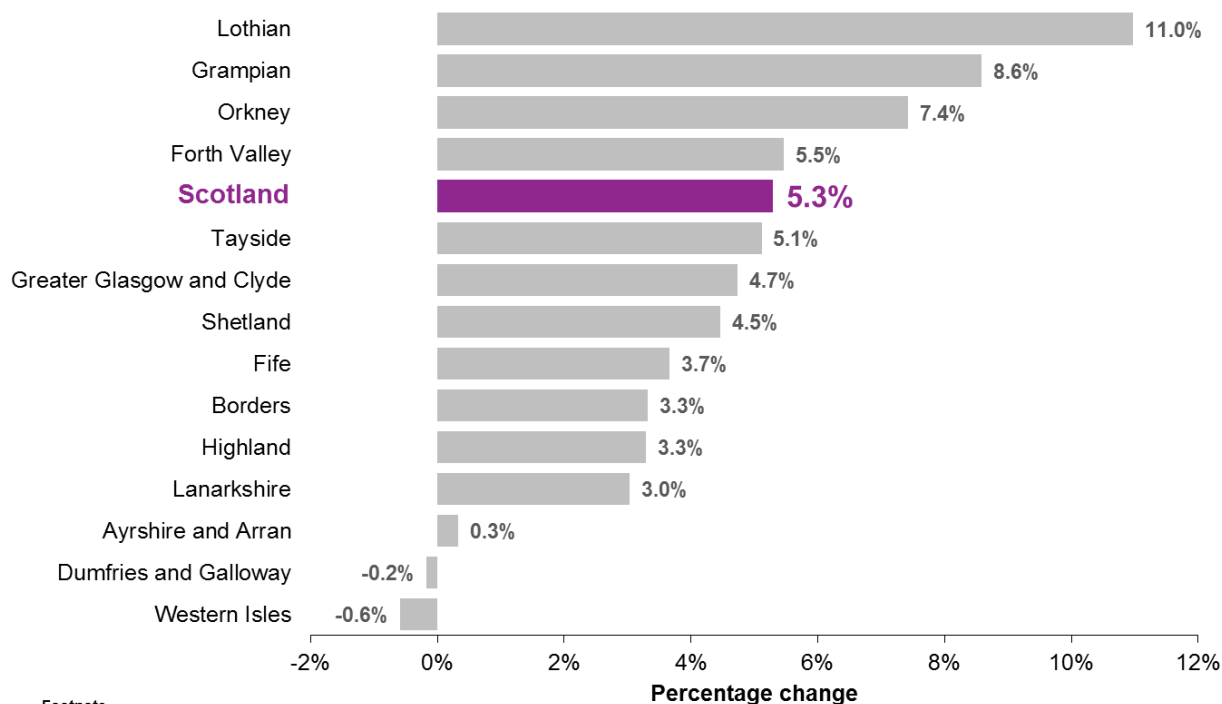


Figure 15: Percentage change in population, NHS Board areas¹, mid-2006 to mid-2016



Footnote
1 April 2014 NHS Board areas.

What has contributed to population change over the last decade?

Table C compares the percentage change in population due to natural change, migration and other changes across the council areas. The relative importance of migration and natural change differs between council areas. For ease of presentation other changes have been included with migration for the analysis in this section.

In some areas where the population has increased since mid-2006, such as North Lanarkshire, Clackmannanshire and West Lothian, the gain is attributable to both migration and natural increase (more births than deaths). East Lothian, Fife, South Lanarkshire and Dundee City have experienced a population increase because of in-migration combined with a relatively low (positive) natural change. In other areas, the population increase is due to in-migration, despite the number of deaths exceeding the number of births. These areas included East Ayrshire, East Dunbartonshire and Renfrewshire.

Argyll and Bute, Inverclyde and West Dunbartonshire have experienced population decreases both from migration and natural change. These were the only areas to experience net out-migration over the last decade. In North Ayrshire, Na h-Eileanan Siar and Dumfries and Galloway positive net in-migration was offset by more deaths than births.

Table C: Components of population change for council areas: mid-2006 to mid-2016

	Natural change	Net civilian migration and other changes	Percentage population change ¹
Scotland	0.49	4.80	5.29
Council areas			
Argyll and Bute	-3.64	-0.48	-4.12
Inverclyde	-2.44	-1.40	-3.84
West Dunbartonshire	-0.45	-1.26	-1.71
North Ayrshire	-1.41	0.75	-0.66
Na h-Eileanan Siar	-4.27	3.68	-0.59
Dumfries and Galloway	-2.87	2.69	-0.17
South Ayrshire	-3.40	3.73	0.33
East Ayrshire	-0.24	1.69	1.45
East Dunbartonshire	-0.63	2.48	1.85
Renfrewshire	-0.33	3.05	2.72
South Lanarkshire	0.24	2.56	2.80
North Lanarkshire	1.42	1.82	3.24
Scottish Borders	-1.47	4.78	3.31
Dundee City	0.17	3.25	3.42
Angus	-1.38	4.95	3.57
Clackmannanshire	1.63	2.03	3.65
Fife	0.58	3.08	3.66
Shetland Islands	1.81	2.65	4.46
East Renfrewshire	-0.01	4.54	4.52
Falkirk	1.38	4.11	5.49
Moray	-0.10	5.93	5.83
Highland	-0.18	6.52	6.34
Stirling	-0.19	6.62	6.43
Orkney Islands	-1.37	8.79	7.42
West Lothian	4.15	3.64	7.79
Perth and Kinross	-1.23	9.33	8.10
Glasgow City	1.39	6.81	8.20
Aberdeenshire	2.13	6.58	8.71
Aberdeen City	2.15	7.50	9.65
Midlothian	2.29	8.47	10.76
East Lothian	0.73	10.18	10.91
City of Edinburgh	2.58	9.61	12.19

Footnotes

1) Ordered by percentage population change.

6. Links to related statistics

- Population estimates for the UK and its constituent countries are available from the [Office for National Statistics website](#).
- Population estimates for various small area geographies within Scotland are also available from the [National Records of Scotland \(NRS\) website](#). These areas include 2011 Data Zones, parliamentary constituencies, Nomenclature of Units for Territorial Statistics, Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation deciles and Urban Rural Classification. The estimates for mid-2016 will be released in August 2017.
- Detailed information on migration for the period covering mid-2015 to mid-2016 and a compendium of figures on local area migration will be published in summer 2017. The latest figures up to mid-2015 are available from the [NRS website](#).
- Provisional data on annual births and deaths for 2016 are published on the [NRS website](#).
- Estimates of the population of settlements and localities within Scotland are also released by NRS on a biennial basis. The latest estimate for mid-2012 are available on the [NRS website](#). Updated estimates for mid-2015 will be released in Autumn 2017.
- Population estimates of centenarians and people aged 90 and over are available from the [NRS website](#), with updated estimates for mid-2016 due to be released in September 2017.

7. Notes and definitions

The Mid-year Estimates for Scotland Methodology Guide that accompanies this publication provides more detail on the method, quality of the data used, uses and users and is available from the [National Records of Scotland \(NRS\) website](#).

Population covered

The estimated population of an area includes all those usually resident there, whatever their nationality. Population figures relate to 30 June of the year shown and ages relate to age at last birthday.

Long-term international migrants are included, but short-term are excluded. A long-term migrant is defined by the United Nations (UN) as someone who changes country of residence for 12 months or more.

Other changes include changes in the armed forces and prison population and any rounding adjustments.

Methodology changes for the mid-2016 estimates

Refugees have been included in the population estimates for the first time. They have been included in the overseas migration figures, including the net migration estimate for overseas migration to Scotland.

There has also been an improvement made to the time period of one of the data sources used to calculate migration at council level, the Community Health Index (CHI). Previously we assumed a three month lag for migrants registering with a GP, but this has been changed to two months for these estimates. This harmonises the lag assumed for registering on the CHI with one of the other main data sources for estimating migration, the National Health Service Central Register.

More detail on these changes and their impact is available in the [Mid-year Estimates for Scotland Methodology Guide](#).

Revisions

Revisions and corrections to previously published statistics are dealt with in accordance with the Scottish Government Statistician Group corporate policy statement on revisions and corrections - a copy of which is available on the [Scottish Government](#) website.

Publication of future population estimates

Mid-year population estimates for 2017 will be published in Spring 2018.

8. Notes on statistical publications

National Statistics

The United Kingdom Statistics Authority (UKSA) has designated these statistics as National Statistics, in line with the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007 and signifying compliance with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics (available on the [UKSA](#) website).

National Statistics status means that official statistics meet the highest standards of trustworthiness, quality and public value.

All official statistics should comply with all aspects of the Code of Practice for Official Statistics. They are awarded National Statistics status following an assessment by the Authority's regulatory arm. The Authority considers whether the statistics meet the highest standards of Code compliance, including the value they add to public decisions and debate.

It is National Records of Scotland's responsibility to maintain compliance with the standards expected of National Statistics. If we become concerned about whether these statistics are still meeting the appropriate standards, we will discuss any concerns with the Authority promptly. National Statistics status can be removed at any point when the highest standards are not maintained, and reinstated when standards are restored.

Information on background and source data

Further details on data source(s), timeframe of data and timeliness, continuity of data, accuracy, etc can be found in the About this Publication document that is published alongside this publication on the NRS website.

National Records of Scotland

We, the National Records of Scotland, are a non-ministerial department of the devolved Scottish Administration. Our aim is to provide relevant and reliable information, analysis and advice that meets the needs of government, business and the people of Scotland. We do this as follows:

- Preserving the past – We look after Scotland's national archives so that they are available for current and future generations, and we make available important information for family history.
- Recording the present – At our network of local offices, we register births, marriages, civil partnerships, deaths, divorces and adoptions in Scotland.
- Informing the future – We are responsible for the Census of Population in Scotland which we use, with other sources of information, to produce statistics on the population and households.

You can get other detailed statistics that we have produced from the [Statistics](#) section of our website. Scottish Census statistics are available on the [Scotland's Census](#) website.

We also provide information about [future publications](#) on our website. If you would like us to tell you about future statistical publications, you can register your interest on the Scottish Government [ScotStat website](#).

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Enquiries and suggestions

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9. Related organisations

Organisation	Contact
<p>The Scottish Government (SG) forms the bulk of the devolved Scottish Administration. The aim of the statistical service in the SG is to provide relevant and reliable statistical information, analysis and advice that meets the needs of government, business and the people of Scotland.</p>	<p>Office of the Chief Statistician Scottish Government 2W, St Andrews House Edinburgh EH1 3DG</p> <p>Phone: 0131 244 0442</p> <p>Email: statistics.enquiries@scotland.gsi.gov.uk</p> <p>Website: http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics</p>
<p>The Office for National Statistics (ONS) is responsible for producing a wide range of economic and social statistics. It also carries out the Census of Population for England and Wales</p>	<p>Customer Contact Centre Office for National Statistics Room 1.101 Government Buildings Cardiff Road Newport NP10 8XG</p> <p>Phone: 0845 601 3034 Minicom: 01633 815044</p> <p>Email: info@statistics.gsi.gov.uk</p> <p>Website: www.ons.gov.uk/</p>
<p>The Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency (NISRA) is Northern Ireland's official statistics organisation. The agency is also responsible for registering births, marriages, adoptions and deaths in Northern Ireland, and the Census of Population.</p>	<p>Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency McAuley House 2-14 Castle Street Belfast BT1 1SA</p> <p>Phone: 028 9034 8100</p> <p>Email: info.nisra@dfpni.gov.uk</p> <p>Website: www.nisra.gov.uk</p>

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