People born in the European Economic Area (EEA) living in ABERDEENSHIRE

Demographic and Census Analysis

This analysis focuses on residents based on their country of birth as the 2011 Census did not include a question on nationality. It should be noted that people born abroad may later acquire British nationality.

EEA countries include EU member countries at March 2011 (excluding the UK in this data) and Norway, Iceland and Liechtenstein. Within the EEA area there is free movement of people, goods, services and capital in the European Single Market.

Key points

- In the 2011 Census, 3.2% (8,100 people) of Aberdeenshire's population was born in a country in the EEA.

- Net migration to Aberdeenshire from overseas has been positive for all of the last 12 years. Most recently in 2015/16, there was net gain of 300 people from overseas.

- In 2011, a higher proportion of the EEA-born population in Aberdeenshire was of working age (16-64 years) (81%; 6,600 people), compared with 65% of its overall population.

- Aberdeenshire is projected to have an ageing population over the next 25 years, including a projected increase of 64% for those aged 65 or over. In contrast, the working age population (16-64 years) is projected to increase by only 9% between 2014 and 2039.

- In 2011, a higher proportion of EEA-born residents in Aberdeenshire aged 16 and over were employed (78%; 5,500 people) compared with the total population aged 16 and over of the council area (66%).

- The proportion of EEA-born residents in Aberdeenshire aged 16-74 with a degree level qualification in 2011 was 39% (2,700 people). The proportion of all people aged 16-74 in the council area with a degree level qualification was lower at 28%.
Number of EEA-born residents

According to the 2011 Census, 3.2% (8,100 people) of Aberdeenshire’s population was born in the EEA. The corresponding proportion for the whole of Scotland was 3.0%.

Figure 1: Number of residents by country of birth, Aberdeenshire, 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country of Birth</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Born in Scotland</td>
<td>203,656</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Born in Rest of UK</td>
<td>34,270</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Born in EEA</td>
<td>8,140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Born elsewhere</td>
<td>6,907</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>252,973</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Scotland’s Census 2011, National Records of Scotland (NRS)

Age profile of EEA-born residents

In 2011, 81% of EEA–born residents (6,600 people) of Aberdeenshire were aged 16-64 years, compared with 65% of the whole population of the council area. Only 5% of EEA-born residents (410 people) were aged 65 years or over, compared with 16% of the whole population.

Figure 2: Percentage of the population in each age group by country of birth, Aberdeenshire, 2011

Source: Scotland’s Census 2011, National Records of Scotland (NRS)
Migration trends

The migration estimates at local level do not allow the overseas component of migration to be broken down into individual countries or groups of countries. The charts start from 2003/04 as the Treaty of Accession came into force in 2003 followed by an enlargement of the EU in 2004.

Aberdeenshire has experienced mostly positive net migration from within Scotland, although this has fallen sharply from a net gain of 1,600 people in 2013/14 to a net loss of 70 people in 2015/16. Net migration from the rest of the UK has also declined over the last 12 years, with latest estimates for 2015/16 showing a net loss of 600 people to the rest of the UK, compared to a net gain of 1,800 in 2003/04. Net migration to Aberdeenshire from overseas has been positive for all of the last 12 years, with a net gain of 300 people most recently in 2015/16.

Figure 3: Components of population change, Aberdeenshire, 2003/04 - 2015/16

![Graph showing components of population change](image)

Source: Mid-Year Population Estimates, National Records of Scotland (NRS)

Population projections

These are trend-based and do not take into account shifts in government policy and other social and economic factors that influence population change, including the UK’s decision to leave the EU.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Projected population change over the next 25 years</th>
<th>Aberdeenshire</th>
<th>Scotland</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>+19.7%</td>
<td>+6.6%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Population Projections for Scottish Areas, National Records of Scotland (NRS)

Figure 4: Components of projected population change over next 25 years (2014 – 2039)

![Diagram showing components of population change](image)

Source: Population Projections for Scottish areas, National Records of Scotland (NRS)
The largest drivers of the projected increase in Aberdeenshire’s population over the next 25 years are positive net migration from within Scotland, migration from overseas and positive natural change (more births than deaths).

**Changing age structure**

The demographic resilience of local areas is affected by the changing age structure of the population and levels of migration. Working age migrants can play an important role in addressing the ageing population.

Over the next 25 years, Aberdeenshire’s population is projected to experience increases in population across all age groups. The largest increase is in the population aged 65 or over which is projected to increase by 64% with an increase of 14,600 (+68%) for males and 14,600 (+60%) for females.

There is a projected increase of 14% in the population aged under 16 which is in keeping with Aberdeenshire’s positive rate of natural change (there are more births than deaths predicted in the population.)

**Figure 5: Estimated population by age and sex, 2014 and 2039**

Scotland, 2014 (solid) and 2039 (line) Aberdeenshire, 2014 (solid) and 2039 (line)

Source: Population Projections for Scottish Areas, National Records of Scotland (NRS)

**Figure 6: Population projections by age from 2014 - 2039**

Source: Population Projections for Scottish Areas, National Records of Scotland (NRS)
Nationalities of National Insurance Number (NINo) allocations to overseas nationals in 2015

A NINo is generally required by any overseas national looking to work or claim benefits / tax credits in the UK, including the self-employed or students working part time.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nationality</th>
<th>Number of nationalities</th>
<th>Top five nationalities (NINo allocations)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aberdeen</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Poland, Lithuania, Romania, Portugal, Latvia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scotland</td>
<td>129</td>
<td>Poland, Romania, Spain, Italy, Bulgaria</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Local area migration tables, National Records of Scotland (NRS)

Economic activity

According to the 2011 Census, a higher proportion of Aberdeenshire’s EEA-born residents aged 16 and over were in employment (78%; 5,500 people) compared with the total population aged 16 and over of the council area (66%). A smaller proportion of EEA-born residents were economically inactive¹ (18%; 1,300 people) compared with the total population (31%).

Figure 7: Percentage of people aged 16 and over in each category of economic activity by country of birth, Aberdeenshire, 2011

¹ Economic inactive people include: students not seeking employment, people who are retired, and other people not seeking employment (such as those who are long-term sick or disabled or who are looking after a home or family).
Industry of employment

A total of 5,500 EEA-born residents of Aberdeenshire aged 16-74 were in employment at the time of the 2011 Census. The largest numbers by industrial sector were: Manufacturing (1,800 people), Distribution, hotels and restaurants (950) and Public administration, education and health (850).

EEA-born people made up 4% of all residents of Aberdeenshire aged 16-74 in employment in 2011. The industrial sector in which this proportion was highest was manufacturing (13%).

Figure 8: Number of people aged 16-74 born in the EEA who work in each industrial sector and percentage of that sector's workforce, Aberdeenshire, 2011

Source: Scotland’s Census 2011, National Records of Scotland (NRS)
National Statistics Socio-economic classification (NS-SeC) and education

In 2011, the proportion of EEA-born residents of Aberdeenshire who held a degree level qualification (39%; 2,700 people) was higher than for people born in Scotland (22%) or in the rest of the UK (28%). This qualification gap tended to be greater at lower level occupation categories.

Figure 9: Percentage of people aged 16-74 with a degree level qualification\(^2\) in each NS-SeC\(^3\) category by country of birth, Aberdeenshire, 2011

Source: Scotland’s Census 2011, National Records of Scotland (NRS)

2 In the 2011 Census, this is defined as Level 4 and above and includes: Degree, Postgraduate qualifications, Masters, PhD, SVQ level 5 or equivalent; Professional qualifications (for example, teaching, nursing, accountancy); Other Higher Education qualifications not already mentioned (including foreign qualifications).

3 The National Statistics Socio-economic Classification (NS-SeC) provides an indication of socio-economic position based on occupation. It is an Office for National Statistics standard classification.