

About this publication	Description
Publication title	Household and Dwelling Estimates by Urban Rural Classification
Description	Estimates of the number of households and dwellings at 6-fold and 8-fold classifications
Theme	Household Estimates and Projections
Topic	Special areas household and dwellings estimates
Format	Excel workbooks
Data source(s)	Scottish Government Urban Rural Classification for 6- and 8-fold, and 2011 Data Zone Small area Household and Dwellings Estimates
Date that data is acquired	Data were already published, future updates will be done on finalisation of the Household and Dwelling Estimates in Scotland, normally in June.
Release date	23 June 2022
Frequency	Annual
Timeframe of data and timeliness	Data on households (from Council Tax billing systems) – first Monday of September Data on dwellings (from Assessors' Portal) – early January.
Continuity of data	Urban Rural household estimates are available for each year from 2014 onwards. Urban Rural dwelling estimates are available for each year from 2005 onwards. The latest information on number of dwellings by attachment type and number of rooms relates to 2017. Number of dwellings by attachment type and number of rooms for 2015 was estimated from data obtained for the 2014 and 2016 publication, as data were not available for the 2015 publication.
Revisions statement	Revisions and corrections to previously published estimates 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.
Concepts and definitions	Background information on Urban Rural Classification can be found on the Scottish Government Urban Rural Classification 2020 page. Further information on data zone household and dwelling estimates can be found in the 'Metadata' document within the latest Estimates of Household and Dwelling in Scotland publication on the National Records of Scotland (NRS) website.
Relevance and key uses of the statistics	The Urban Rural Classification aids in developing the Scottish Government's understanding of the issues facing urban, rural and remote Scotland. More information on how household and dwelling statistics are used can be found in the Methodology Guide .

Accuracy	<p>Household and dwelling estimates at 6-fold and 8-fold classifications are based on small area household and dwelling estimates which are used to assign the 2011 Data Zone household and dwelling estimates to a particular Urban Rural class. Each Data Zone has been assigned to an urban rural category based upon the location of its population weighted centroid. Data Zones were not designed to nest within the urban rural classification and as a result some Data Zones do straddle the classification boundaries. Therefore, it may be possible to have postcodes and Output Areas that belong to one urban rural category when classified based on the locations of their centroids, but belong to another class when the Data Zone in which they are located is used to classify them.</p> <p>Household figures (derived from Council Tax billing systems) give information on the number of 'occupied dwellings'. An occupied dwelling is roughly equivalent to a household. However, there will be differences between the number of occupied dwellings and the number of households recorded in the census. One reason for the differences is that some occupied dwellings may be shared by more than one household; each household would be counted by the census but only the dwelling itself would be counted in Council Tax data. Another reason is that certain communal establishments (e.g. student halls of residence, barracks or prisons) will be included in the count of occupied dwellings from Council Tax systems but would not be classified as households in the census.</p> <p>Data on occupied and vacant dwellings are obtained from Council Tax billing systems. Different types of properties are entitled to different Council Tax discounts and exemptions. There are inconsistencies between the ways in which some councils record these discounts and exemptions. There can also be differences between results from the councils' data collection from Council Tax billing systems and the data zone level data collection.</p> <p>Data on Council Tax band, type of dwelling and number of rooms are obtained from the Assessors' Portal. There may be some differences between different Assessors' areas in the way in which information on the number of rooms in a dwelling is recorded. For example, differences could arise in the treatment of open plan areas, dining rooms, kitchens and kitchenettes.</p> <p>It is possible that not all information held on Council Tax billing systems and the Assessors' Portal is up-to-date. For example, councils may not be notified immediately of a change in the circumstances of a household which affects eligibility for a Council Tax discount or exemption. It may also take time for changes as a result of new building or demolition to be recorded.</p> <p>More information is available in the Methodology Guide.</p>
Completeness:	<p>In 2014, few councils were unable to provide separate information on second homes or long-term empty. This information were estimated using the total at council level and past information. More information in the 'Metadata' section of the Small area Household Estimates by 2011 Data Zone.</p> <p>Latest information on dwellings by type and number of rooms is on 2017. It is planned to publish updated data on these dwelling characteristics as soon as this becomes available.</p>

Comparability	Changes over time can occur not only as a result of new building activity and demolition but also because of changes related to the postcodes of dwellings. Postcode changes can occur due to improvements made to administrative systems or NRS data cleaning, re-locating postcodes which were previously allocated to an incorrect neighbourhood. Differences can also occur due to postcodes being allocated to a different neighbourhood because the distribution of their population has changed. These differences are likely to be minimal and have only a small effect on change over time except when looking at small numbers of data zones.
Accessibility	It is the policy of the National Records of Scotland (NRS) to make its website and products accessible according to published guidelines. More information is available in the Accessibility section of the NRS website.
Coherence and clarity	The statistics are provided in Excel format. They are designed to be consistent, and incorporate comparable historical data where appropriate.
Value type and unit of measure	Counts of household and dwelling. Figures are presented as total numbers and as percentages of the total number.
Official Statistics designation	National Statistics
UK Statistics Authority Assessment	Assessed by UK Statistics Authority, report can be found within the UK Statistics Authority – Assessments section on the National Records of Scotland website.
Contact us	Please use the following email for any enquiries and/or to provide feedback: statisticscustomerservices@nrscotland.gov.uk
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