Contents

Population
5 Population estimates, 1951-2016
6 Natural change and net migration, 1951-2016
7 Population profile, 2016
8 Population projections, 2039
9 European population projections, 2014-2039

Births
11 Births, 1975-2016
12 Births by parents’ marital status, 1975-2016
13 Births by mother’s place of birth, 2016

Deaths
15 Deaths, 1994-2016
16 Main cause of death, 2000-2016
17 Stillbirths and infant deaths, 1975-2016

Life expectancy
19 Life expectancy, 1981-2014
20 Life expectancy by deprivation, 2014
21 European life expectancy, 1981-2014
This infographic report is a summary of the publication Scotland’s Population — Registrar General’s Annual Review of Demographic Trends 2016 (SG/2017/74) published by the National Records of Scotland on 2 August 2017.
Population
Scotland's population was at its highest ever level in 2016 for the 7th year running.

The estimated population of Scotland on 30 June 2016 was 5,404,700 — the highest ever.

Scotland's population increased by 0.6% between 2015 and 2016, and it has increased by 6.8% since the estimated recent low of 5,062,900 in 2000.
Since mid-2000, Scotland's population has increased mostly due to migration.

**Natural change**
- 28.6k
- 31.7k

**Net migration**
- -29.1k
- -0.8k

From the 1950s to 1970s, Scotland had more births than deaths and net out-migration. More recently Scotland’s population has been increasing mostly due to net in-migration.

In the year to 30 June 2016:

- 31,700 more people came to Scotland than left (positive net migration).
- there were 800 more deaths than births (negative natural change).
18% of the population were aged 65 and over on 30 June 2016 in Scotland

In mid-2016 there were more people aged 65 and over than aged under 16.

The baby booms of 1947 and the 1960s can be seen by the sharp peak at age 69 and the bulge around age 50.

The higher number of females aged 75 and over reflects their longer life expectancy.

* Only people aged 89 and under are shown for illustration purposes.
Scotland’s population is projected to rise and to age

If current trends continue Scotland’s population is projected to rise from 5.4 million in 2016 to 5.7 million in 2039.

Scotland’s population is also projected to age. The number of people of pensionable age and over per 1,000 people of working age is projected to increase from 310 in 2016 to 397 in 2039.

2014-based projections.
The populations of most European countries are projected to increase over the next few years.

Scotland’s population is projected to rise by 7% between 2014 and 2039 compared with 15% for the UK as a whole.

* For illustration purposes only selected countries are shown.
The number of births in Scotland continued to fall in 2016

There were 54,488 births registered in Scotland in 2016, which represents 610 (1%) fewer births than in 2015 and 13,455 (20%) fewer births than in 1975.

Since 1975 the average age of parents increased by more than 4 years for both fathers (4.5) and mothers (4.3).
In 2016, 51% of births were to unmarried parents (27,727 births), compared to 9% in 1975 (6,314 births).

This increase largely occurred in births to unmarried partners who were in a relationship rather than in births registered solely in the mother’s name.
Most births in Scotland in 2016 were to mothers who were born in the UK

Number of births by mother’s place of birth

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Place of Birth</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scotland</td>
<td>40,024</td>
<td>73%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rest of UK</td>
<td>5,168</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joined EU 2004 onwards</td>
<td>3,393</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commonwealth</td>
<td>2,518</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>2,142</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EU pre-2004</td>
<td>1,243</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In 2016, 83% of births were to mothers who were born in the UK, including 73% who were born in Scotland.

Mothers born elsewhere in the European Union (EU) represented 8%, including 6% who were born in countries which joined the EU in 2004 or later.
The number of deaths registered in Scotland decreased in 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Number of deaths</th>
<th>Age-standardised mortality rate*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1994</td>
<td>59,328</td>
<td>1,560</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>56,728</td>
<td>1,136 (-27%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

There were 56,728 deaths in 2016 — 4% fewer than in 1994.

Over the same period, the age-standardised mortality rate decreased by 27%.

This offers a more accurate picture of the trend in deaths as it takes account of changes in the population structure and shows what the trend would be if the population structure had remained the same over time.

* European Age-standardised rate (EASR) per 100,000 population using the 2013 European Standard Population. For comparison the two lines start at the same point.
The number of deaths from cancer has risen over time — by 6% between 2000 and 2016.

Deaths from circulatory diseases have declined, in particular coronary heart disease (CHD) and cerebrovascular disease — which fell by 46% and 39% respectively.

 Deaths from dementia and Alzheimer’s disease have more than doubled since 2000 and have overtaken deaths from cerebrovascular disease.

For illustration purposes not all causes of death are shown.
In 2016 stillbirth and infant deaths rates rose, but remained considerably lower than a decade earlier in Scotland.

There were 236 stillbirths and 181 infant deaths in Scotland in 2016. The number of stillbirths rose by 12% and infant deaths by 3% compared to 2015, although both are at least 20% lower than a decade earlier.

The legal definition of a stillbirth changed during 1992 to include losses from 24 weeks onwards. It had previously been 28 weeks onwards.
Life expectancy
Life expectancy at birth is increasing and the gap between males and females is decreasing in Scotland.

Since 1981 life expectancy in Scotland has increased, rising from 69.1 years for males and 75.3 for females born around 1981 to 77.1 for males and 81.1 for females born around 2014.

The gap in life expectancy between females and males decreased from 6.2 years for those born around 1981 to 4.0 years for those born around 2014.
Life expectancy at birth was lowest in the most deprived areas of Scotland for people born around 2014.

There was a difference between life expectancy in the most and least deprived areas of Scotland. This was more pronounced for men (12.2 years) than for women (8.6 years) for those born around 2014.

The gap in life expectancy between females and males was also larger in the most deprived areas (6.3 years) than in the least deprived areas (2.7 years).
Life expectancy in Scotland in a European context

Life expectancy in Scotland has been lower than the other UK constituent countries and lower than most countries in Western Europe for both males and females for more than 30 years.

Life expectancy for Scotland, the UK and for selected European countries. Only selected countries are shown for illustration purposes.
Migration
Scotland has become a country that has net in-migration rather than net out-migration. Scotland has historically been a country of net out-migration. However, since the year to mid-2001 Scotland has been in a period of net in-migration. In the year to mid-2016, Scotland had net in-migration of 31,700.
Migration to Scotland from the rest of the UK has been higher than migration from Scotland to the rest of the UK since the year to mid-2001.

In the year to mid-2016, migration from overseas to Scotland was the only migrant flow to rise since mid-2015.
In 2015-16 more than half the migrants to Scotland were between the ages of 18 and 32.

Of the migrants to Scotland in the year to mid-2016, 52% were aged 18 to 32 years.

Migrants from the rest of the UK peaked at age 19 while migrants to the rest of UK peaked at age 23. This is largely due to students starting higher education in Scotland, followed by them leaving after they graduate.
Marriages and civil partnerships
3.4% of marriages in Scotland in 2016 involved same sex couples

In 2016 there were 29,229 marriages registered in Scotland, of which 28,231 were opposite-sex couples and 998 were same-sex couples.

The number of civil partnerships was 70, the second lowest annual number since The Civil Partnership Act 2004 came into force.
In Scotland, the average age at first marriage has increased for both males and females by almost 10 years since 1975.

The average age at first marriage increased from 24.3 to 33.9 for males and from 22.4 to 32.2 for females.

The average age at first marriage in Scotland increased in 2016 for both males and females.
More than half of the marriages in Scotland in 2016 were civil ceremonies

Marriages by type of ceremony

Of all marriages celebrated in Scotland in 2016, 52% were civil ceremonies compared to 35% in 1975.

The number of religious and other belief system marriages has fallen by 44% since 1975. Most notably, there were declines in Church of Scotland and Roman Catholic ceremonies.

Since 2005 the number of marriages conducted by the Humanist Society of Scotland has increased considerably.

* Other religious and other beliefs systems including other Humanist organisations.
There were 523 adoptions in Scotland in 2016 — the highest since 1996

There were 523 adoptions recorded in 2016. This was 19 more than in 2015 and was the highest number recorded since 1996. This was around half the number recorded per year in the mid-1980s, and less than a third of the 1975 total.
Three-quarters of children adopted in 2016 in Scotland were adopted by non-relatives

Of the 523 children adopted in 2016, 75% were adopted by non-relatives of the child and 20% were adopted by a step-parent.
Adoptions by age of child in 2016 in Scotland

Children aged four and under accounted for 60% of the 523 children adopted in Scotland in 2016.

Adoptions of children aged five to eleven were 31% and children aged 12 and over were 9% of the total.
Households and housing
The number of households in Scotland is projected to increase.

In mid-2016, there were 2.45 million households in Scotland, which is an increase of around 157,000 over the past 10 years.

The number of households is projected to increase to 2.76 million by 2039, an average annual increase of approximately 13,800 households.
One person households are the most common type of household in Scotland.

In 2015 nearly 900,000 people lived alone. They represented over one third of households.

This is partly because Scotland’s population is ageing, as older people are more likely to live alone or in smaller households.

Two or more person households could contain adults, or both adults and children.
Overall in Scotland in 2016, 3% of homes were empty and 1% were second homes, though there were wide differences across the country. Remote rural areas had the highest percentage of homes that were empty or second homes.
This infographic report is a summary of the main statistics report, which has much more detail.

The sources used include Eurostat, Scotland’s Census 2011, Scottish Household Survey, administrative data, and data collected from council areas in Scotland.

The main report, this infographic report and more can be found via the following weblinks:

**Scotland’s Population — Registrar General’s Annual Review of Demographic Trends 2016**

**Scotland’s Population 2016 — Infographic report**

**More infographics by National Records of Scotland**