

About this publication	Description
Publication title	Mid-2015 Population Estimates Scotland, and Corrected Estimates for Mid-2012, Mid-2013 and Mid-2014
Description	Population estimates by age, sex and administrative areas, Scotland, 2015 and corrected estimates for 2012, 2013 and 2014
Theme	Population and Migration
Topic	Population Estimates
Format	Excel workbooks, Adobe Acrobat Portable Document Format (PDF) and Comma Separated Value (CSV)
Data source(s)	<p>Births and deaths from the civil registration system.</p> <p>International migration from Long Term International Migration (LTIM) provided by the Office for National Statistics (ONS).</p> <p>International Passenger Survey (IPS) data is allocated to Scotland using the Labour Force Survey (LFS) and also includes data on asylum seekers.</p> <p>Migration within the UK and distribution of international migrants within Scotland uses the National Health Service Central Register (NHSCR) and the Community Health Index (CHI).</p> <p>Armed forces data from the 2011 Census and our data collection of armed forces numbers in Scotland.</p> <p>Prisoner data is obtained from Scottish Government prison statistics.</p> <p>Quality assurance uses electoral statistics, school census, dwelling counts and household size, national insurance number allocations to overseas nationals and the Pension Age Claimant database from Department for Work and Pensions (DWP).</p>
Date that data is acquired	<p>On-going through the year:-</p> <p>Armed Forces estimate June Births and deaths February The last of the migration data is finalised in January Prisoners estimate February</p>

Publication Release date	28 April 2016
Frequency	Annual
Timeframe of data and timeliness	The estimates refer to the population as at 30 June each year. The mid-year population estimates are usually published 10 months after this date.
Continuity of data	<p>Scotland level mid-year estimates are available back to 1855. Council and NHS Board area mid-year population estimates are available for the period from 1981 based on the council area boundaries introduced in 1995.</p> <p>However, during this period NHS Board area boundaries have changed twice.</p> <p>The dissolution of NHS Argyll & Clyde occurred in April 2006, reducing the number of NHS Board areas from 15 to 14. Argyll & Bute (Council area) was allocated to NHS Highland and the rest of NHS Argyll & Clyde was used to create NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde by combining it with NHS Greater Glasgow.</p> <p>Boundary changes, effective from 1 April 2014, mean that the boundaries for all 14 NHS Board areas are now aligned with council area boundaries. In most NHS Board areas the impact of the boundary changes on the population estimates are small. However, NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde and NHS Lanarkshire are exceptions. Based on unpublished National Records of Scotland mid-2012 population estimates, had the boundary changes taken effect on the 30 June 2012 NHS Greater Glasgow would have lost approximately 6.5 per cent of its population to NHS Lanarkshire and NHS Lanarkshire would have lost 0.3 per cent of its population to NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde.</p> <p>Other small changes to council and NHS Board area boundaries have taken place over this time.</p>
Revisions statement	<p>In October 2015, we became aware of errors mainly affecting the age distribution of the mid-year population estimates for 2002 to 2014.</p> <p>The population estimates have been corrected for the years to mid-2012, mid-2013 and mid-2014 and have been published alongside the new mid-2015 population estimates.</p> <p>The errors had no effect on the total population of Scotland and the 2011 mid-year population estimates are not affected. The errors in the 2002 to 2010 population estimates are partly</p>

	<p>resolved by the retrospective revisions made to these estimates as a result of the 2011 Census. More information on the revisions made to the population estimates as a result of the 2011 Census can be found on our website.</p> <p>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.</p>
Concepts and definitions	The notes and definitions for this publication can be found at the end of the Mid-Year Population Estimates Scotland, Mid-2015 and Corrected Population Estimates for Mid-2012, Mid-2013 and Mid-2014 document on the NRS website.
Relevance and key uses of the statistics	These statistics are used for the allocation of government funds to Scotland, council and NHS Board areas. They are used for a wide range of things. They are a main component of many other statistics such as population projections and are used as the denominator for per capita statistics. They are also used to measure progress towards the Scottish Government's Population Purpose Target. More information is available from the Scotland Performs section of the Scottish Government website.
Accuracy	<p>Population estimates are based on the 2011 Census and updated annually by 'ageing on' the population and applying information on births, deaths and migration. Births and deaths are estimated using data from the civil registration system, which is considered to be virtually complete. Migration is more difficult to estimate because there is no comprehensive registration system in the UK. Migration is derived from the National Health Service Central Register (NHSCR) and Community Health Index (CHI) for migration within the UK, and from the International Passenger Survey (IPS) for international migration.</p> <p>The sample size for Scotland for the IPS is small, so estimates derived from this survey are subject to large sampling and non-sampling errors. National Records of Scotland (NRS) is conducting an on-going exercise to improve the quality of population estimates and also their key component migration. NRS contributed to the Office for National Statistics (ONS) Improving Migration and Population Statistics programme.</p>

Completeness:	The estimated population of an area includes all those usually resident there, whatever their nationality. Students are treated as being resident at their term-time address. Members of UK and non-UK armed forces stationed in Scotland are included; UK forces stationed outside Scotland are excluded. Short-term international migrants are excluded.
Comparability	Population estimates for Scotland are comparable with population estimates from the rest of the UK and most countries around the world.
Accessibility	It is the policy of the National Records of Scotland 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	<p>The statistics are provided in Excel, PDF and CSV format. They are designed to be consistent and incorporate comparable historical data where appropriate.</p> <p>The spreadsheets have been designed to make it easier to use the estimates in the way users want, e.g. current year files as well as time-series files.</p> <p>The methodology is that used by many countries across the world with small changes to account for different data inputs.</p>
Value type and unit of measure	Counts of males and females by single-year of age.
Official Statistics designation	National Statistics.
UK Statistics Authority Assessment	<p>The UK Statistics Authority 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 in 2011. The UK Statistics Authority reassessed our population estimates and projections in 2014 and published an assessment report, available on their website.</p> <p>Further information can be found in the UK Statistics Authority-Assessments section on the NRS website.</p>
Help email	<p>statisticscustomerservices@nrscotland.gov.uk</p> <p>There is also a contact form on the NRS website.</p>
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