People born in the European Economic Area (EEA) living in ORKNEY ISLANDS

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, 1.5% (320 people) of Orkney’s population was born in a country in the EEA.

- Net migration to Orkney from overseas has been negative for most of the last 12 years.

- In 2011, a higher proportion of the EEA-born population in Orkney was of working age (16-64 years) (81%; 260 people), compared with 63% of its overall population.

- Orkney is projected to have an ageing population over the next 25 years, with a projected increase of 48% for those aged 65 or over. In contrast, the working age population (aged 16-64 years) is projected to fall by 11% between 2014 and 2039.

- In 2011, a higher proportion of EEA-born residents in Orkney aged 16 and over were in employment (81%; 230 people) than in the total population aged 16 and over of the council area (64%).

- The proportion of EEA-born residents in Orkney aged 16-74 with a degree level qualification in 2011 was 55% (150 people). The proportion of all people aged 16-74 Orkney with a degree level qualification was lower at 28%.
Number of EEA-born residents

According to the 2011 Census, 1.5% (320 people) of Orkney’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, Orkney, 2011

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

Age profile of EEA-born residents

In 2011, 81% of EEA–born residents (260 people) were aged 16-64 years, compared with 63% of the whole Orkney population. Only 7% of EEA-born residents (22 people) were aged 65 years or over, compared with 20% of the whole population of Orkney.

Figure 2: Percentage of the population in each age group by country of birth, Orkney, 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.

Over the past 12 years, Orkney has experienced positive net migration from the rest of the UK although this has declined over the years. In 2015/16, there was a net gain of 200 people from the rest of the UK, compared to 300 in 2003/04.

Net migration from overseas has been mostly negative over the last 12 years. Levels of overseas net migration are low with latest estimates for 2015/16 showing a net gain of less than 10 people from overseas, compared to a peak of 20 in 2010/11.

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

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

Population projections

These are trend-based using mid-year estimates 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>Orkney Islands</th>
<th>Scotland</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>+2.4%</td>
<td>+6.6%</td>
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</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)
The projected increase in Orkney’s population over the next 25 years is attributable to gains from migration alone, from the rest of the UK.

**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.*

Orkney Islands is projected to experience a 48% increase in the population aged 65 or over between 2014 and 2039, with an increase of 1,300 (59%) for males and 1,000 (40%) for females.

In contrast, the working age population (aged 16-64) in Orkney is projected to decline by 11% over the next 25 years to 2039, with the biggest decline expected in those aged 16-24 years (down 20%) and 50-64 years (down 17%).

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

**Figure 6: Population projections by age from 2014 - 2039**
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>Orkney Islands</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Poland, Ireland, Hungary, Italy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scotland</td>
<td>129</td>
<td>Poland, Romania, Spain, Italy, Bulgaria</td>
</tr>
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Economic activity

According to the 2011 Census, a higher proportion of Orkney’s EEA-born residents aged 16 and over were in employment (81%; 230 people) compared with the total population aged 16 and over of the council area (64%). A smaller proportion of EEA-born residents were economically inactive\(^1\) (17%; 50 people) compared with the total population (33%).

Figure 7: Percentage of people aged 16 and over in each category of economic activity by country of birth, Orkney, 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 230 EEA-born residents of Orkney aged 16-74 were in employment at the time of the 2011 Census. The largest numbers by industrial sector were: Public administration, education and health (60 people) and Distribution, hotels and restaurants (50 people).

In 2011, EEA-born people made up 2% of all residents of Orkney aged 16-74 in employment. The industrial sector in which this proportion was the highest was manufacturing (6%).

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, Orkney, 2011

Source: Scotland’s Census 2011, National Records of Scotland (NRS)
In 2011, the proportion of EEA-born residents of Orkney aged 16-74 who held a degree level qualification (55%; 150 people) was higher than for people in the council area born in Scotland (22%) or the rest of UK (42%). This qualification gap tended to be greater for people working in 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, Orkney, 2011

Please note that there are small numbers in some categories

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.