

About this publication	Description
Publication title	Electoral Statistics for Scotland as at 1 st December 2016
Description	Annual summary data on the number of people registered to vote in Parliamentary and Local Government elections as recorded on the Electoral Register - available for various electoral geographies and voter eligibilities.
Theme	Population and Migration
Topic	Population and Migration
Format	Excel workbooks, Comma Separated Value (CSV) and Adobe Acrobat Portable Document Format (PDF) files
Data source(s)	Local Electoral Registration Officers
Date that data is acquired	Dec 2016/Jan 2017
Publication Release date	16 March 2017
Frequency	Annual. The reference date for this publication is 1 st December, with the exception of two years when the reference date was in March (2014 and 2015). This change was made to facilitate the introduction of Individual Electoral Registration (IER). The publication has reverted back to the usual reference date of 1 st December from 2015.
Timeframe of data and timeliness	Data as at 1 st December 2016. Updated annually. Released to coincide with publication of UK data by Office for National Statistics (ONS).
Continuity of data	Data available on the National Records of Scotland (NRS) website going back to 1996. However, relevant geographies for Westminster Constituencies and Local Government Electoral Wards have changed substantially since then. Therefore, continuity is limited to national and council area totals.
Revisions statement	Electoral statistics are collected by the 15 Electoral Registration Offices as a result of the annual canvass. Whilst the Register is dynamic through a process called 'rolling registration' throughout the year, the data we publish shows the state of the register at a point in time. 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 which is available on the Scottish Government website.

Concepts and definitions	Further information on the National Records of Scotland's Electoral Statistics can be found in the Background information , available on the NRS website.
Relevance and key uses of the statistics	The Electoral Register is a key element of the maintenance of democracy in the UK. The vast majority of the population are recorded on the Register, and for that reason it provides an important comparator for inter-censal population estimates.
Accuracy	Responsibility for maintenance of the Electoral Register lies with local authorities, and much effort is put into ensuring that the register is as accurate as possible. However, it should be noted that these statistics summarise those included on the register, and not necessarily the entitlement to vote.
Completeness	The published statistics are a summary of the complete Electoral Register as at 1 st December 2016.
Comparability	Electoral Statistics for Scotland are published to allow comparison with the other constituent countries of the UK where possible.
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	The statistics are provided in Excel, PDF and CSV formats. They are designed to be consistent and incorporate comparable historical data where appropriate.
Value type and unit of measure	All electoral statistics are provided on the basis of the count of eligible people on the Electoral Register.
Official Statistics designation	National Statistics
UK Statistics Authority Assessment	Assessed by the UK Statistics Authority in 2011. More information can be found within the UK Statistic Authority – Assessments section on the NRS website.
Contact us	statisticscustomerservices@nrscotland.gov.uk
Date this form was published	16 March 2017