

Table 6: Vacant dwellings in each council area, September 2006 to 2016¹

Council area	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Percentage of dwellings in 2016
Scotland	63,410	65,198	68,829	70,480	69,972	71,130	72,853	71,946	75,692	78,475	79,052	3.1%
Aberdeen City	3,045	2,617	2,459	2,161	2,210	2,334	2,304	1,749	3,727	4,507	3,484	3.0%
Aberdeenshire	3,297	3,154	3,308	3,420	3,782	4,025	4,055	4,132	4,068	3,809	4,598	3.9%
Angus	2,224	2,248	2,392	2,418	2,489	2,569	2,071	2,045	2,200	2,292	2,440	4.4%
Argyll and Bute	1,409	1,303	1,401	1,407	1,447	1,563	1,719	2,385	2,360	2,359	2,374	5.0%
City of Edinburgh	5,984	4,945	5,508	5,484	5,151	4,693	4,300	4,669	6,139	7,413	7,662	3.1%
Clackmannanshire ²	789	748	702	667	711	786	726	753	544	557	601	2.5%
Dumfries and Galloway	1,955	2,003	2,064	2,136	2,175	2,353	2,393	2,420	2,579	2,346	3,111	4.2%
Dundee City	3,651	3,872	3,466	3,354	3,510	2,656	2,815	2,278	2,252	3,192	3,316	4.5%
East Ayrshire	989	1,135	1,249	1,210	1,227	1,337	1,542	1,482	1,805	1,892	1,945	3.4%
East Dunbartonshire	465	588	676	783	655	633	580	563	564	514	548	1.2%
East Lothian	1,111	1,083	1,206	1,231	937	920	873	903	925	868	870	1.9%
East Renfrewshire ³	908	658	782	709	690	692	433	418	406	437	456	1.2%
Falkirk	1,106	1,062	1,163	1,200	1,188	1,156	1,224	1,526	1,850	1,664	1,754	2.4%
Fife	3,887	3,185	4,343	4,431	4,271	4,252	4,220	4,520	5,240	5,678	5,488	3.1%
Glasgow City	9,106	10,774	11,201	10,507	9,380	9,684	11,006	10,966	9,804	9,423	8,457	2.8%
Highland	1,756	2,803	2,805	2,955	3,227	3,386	3,465	3,262	3,004	2,934	3,245	2.8%
Inverclyde	1,860	2,051	2,168	2,132	2,299	2,381	2,589	1,816	1,673	1,715	1,676	4.3%
Midlothian	378	409	491	540	661	728	878	857	878	963	810	2.1%
Moray	1,286	1,313	1,452	1,801	1,769	1,946	2,019	1,996	1,773	1,703	1,699	3.8%
Na h-Eileanan Siar	871	984	988	974	916	909	858	688	900	917	954	6.5%
North Ayrshire	1,264	1,728	1,900	1,950	2,087	2,190	2,375	2,482	2,394	2,302	2,157	3.2%
North Lanarkshire	1,904	1,793	2,008	2,488	2,308	2,331	2,102	2,546	2,226	2,536	2,428	1.6%
Orkney Islands	433	460	483	469	448	543	588	608	732	725	759	6.9%
Perth and Kinross	1,596	1,686	1,503	1,769	1,923	2,078	2,154	2,078	2,816	2,801	2,759	3.9%
Renfrewshire ⁴	2,667	2,747	2,506	2,907	3,019	3,164	3,371	2,693	2,631	2,475	2,547	3.0%
Scottish Borders	2,358	2,326	2,372	2,566	2,701	2,830	2,897	2,826	2,758	2,832	2,884	5.0%
Shetland Islands	601	649	656	630	625	632	608	617	675	674	716	6.4%
South Ayrshire	914	929	844	1,123	1,224	1,177	1,293	1,318	1,187	1,338	1,617	2.9%
South Lanarkshire	2,442	2,656	3,237	3,439	3,486	3,381	3,322	3,244	3,198	3,097	3,184	2.1%
Stirling	815	954	1,090	1,160	1,088	1,185	1,247	1,091	1,280	1,225	1,312	3.2%
West Dunbartonshire	1,158	1,114	1,065	1,163	1,137	1,356	1,528	1,597	1,367	1,479	1,484	3.3%
West Lothian	1,181	1,221	1,341	1,296	1,231	1,260	1,298	1,418	1,737	1,808	1,717	2.2%

Footnotes

1) Vacant dwellings are unoccupied properties which are not second homes, and include long term empty properties. The numbers can fluctuate a lot from year to year within a council area due to changes in the definition of empty and second homes, changes to the charges payable on these types of property, and reviews of vacant and second homes carried out by councils. In particular, in 2013 legislation was introduced to allow councils to increase the Council Tax payable on certain types of long term empty property. As a result, from 2013 onwards, many councils have carried out reviews of properties classed as vacant or second homes, with some being re-classified as occupied. The legislation also changed the definitions of such properties. In addition, there have been some issues with how properties affected by the new charges are recorded. Therefore any changes over time in the numbers and percentages of occupied dwellings, vacant dwellings and second homes should be treated with caution as they may be a result of the issues associated with the 2013 legislation rather than real differences.

2) Clackmannanshire was unable to provide separate data for second homes and long term empty homes from 2005 to 2013. The estimates for vacant dwellings in these years therefore also contain second homes.

3) East Renfrewshire was unable to provide separate data for second homes and long term empty homes from 2005 to 2011. The estimates for vacant dwellings in these years therefore also contain second homes.

4) Renfrewshire was unable to provide separate data for second homes and long term empty homes from 2005 to 2012. The estimates for vacant dwellings in these years therefore also contain second homes.

Source: Council Tax base return 2016 and National Records of Scotland 2016 neighbourhood level collection of Council Tax information.

Please go to the 'Background Information' section for more information. Please note that figures might not add up to 100 per cent exactly, due to rounding.