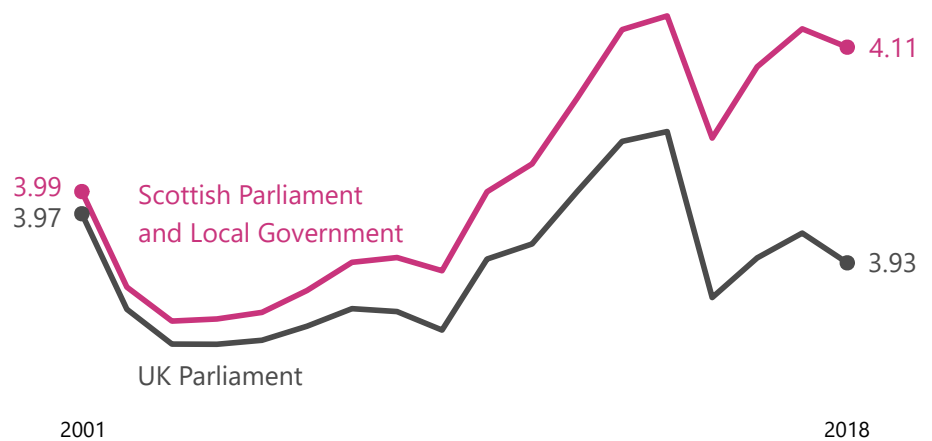


**Electorates in Scotland have decreased in 2018**

The decrease in electorate compared with 2017 is 0.6% for the UK Parliament electorate in Scotland and 0.4% for the Scottish Parliament and Local Government electorate. The decrease in 2015 was caused by the introduction of Individual Electoral Registration (IER).

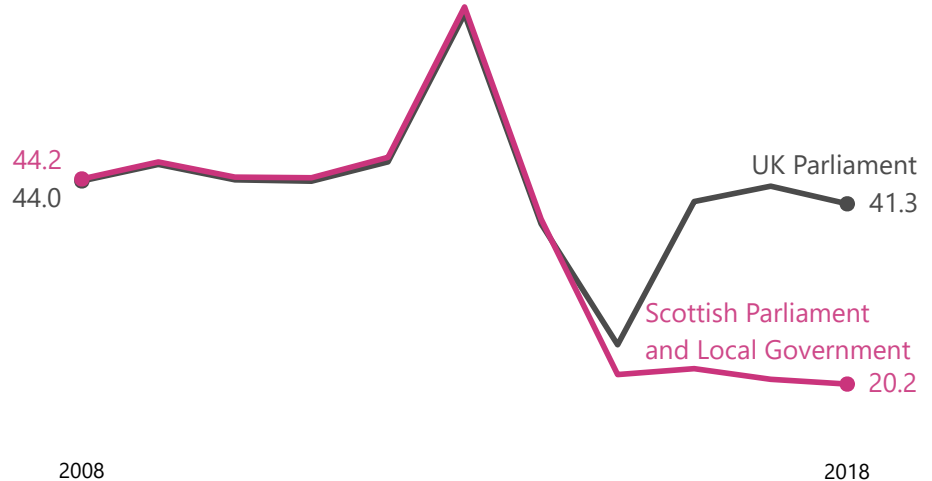
Number of people registered to vote (millions)



**Number of attainers remains similar to the previous year**

Attainers are people who will become old enough to vote (18 for UK Parliament, or 16 for Scottish Parliament and Local Government elections) before December 2019. Since the voting age was lowered in Scotland, there have been more attainers for UK Parliament elections than for Scottish Parliament and Local Government elections.

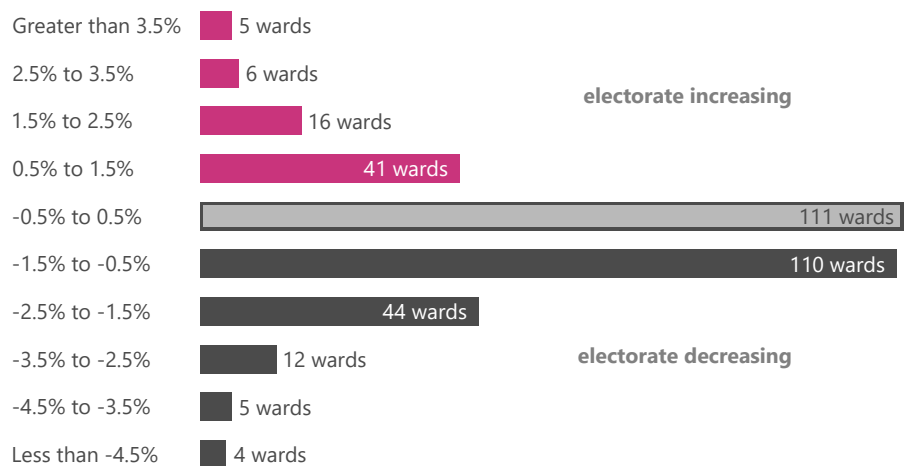
Number of attainers (thousands)



**Most electoral wards see a decrease compared to their electorate in 2017**

Electoral wards are the sub-council level areas that are used to elect councillors for Local Government elections. There are a total of 354 electoral wards across Scotland. Between December 2017 and December 2018, the electorate for 65% of electoral wards (231 wards) decreased.

Change in electorate over previous year



## Summary of main points

### Between December 2017 and December 2018:

- The total number of **UK Parliamentary electors** in Scotland fell to **3,925,800**. This is a decrease of 24,800 (0.6%) on the previous year, and followed increases in the previous two years.
- The number of registered **Scottish Parliament and Local Government electors** also fell slightly, to **4,105,800**. This is a decrease of 15,300 (0.4%) on the previous year.
- At 1 December 2018, there were **78,400 young people aged 16 or 17** registered to vote at Scottish Parliament and Local Government elections, accounting for 1.9% of the total electorate. This is a decrease of 5,200 (6.2%) on the previous year.
- Over a sixth of the Scottish electorate was registered for postal voting at 1 December 2018. This proportion has generally increased over the period since 2008 when it was about a tenth.
- At 1 December 2018, there were **132,800 (non-UK) EU citizens** registered to vote in Scottish Parliament and Local Government elections, an increase of 7,800 (6.2%) on the previous year and nearly three times higher than the figure of 45,800 recorded for 2008. This represents 3.2% of the total electorate in 2018 and is the highest recorded number of EU citizens registered to vote in Scotland, but the latest year-on-year increase is smaller compared with the increases recorded between 2015 and 2016 (18.0%) and 2016 and 2017 (10.4%).

