In 2019, there were 388,000 non-British nationals in Scotland

Until recently, the population of EU nationals had been growing at a faster rate than the non-EU population. However, over the latest year there was a statistically significant increase in non-EU nationals, whereas EU nationals remained broadly stable over the past two years.

EU nationals made up 60% of Scotland's non-British population

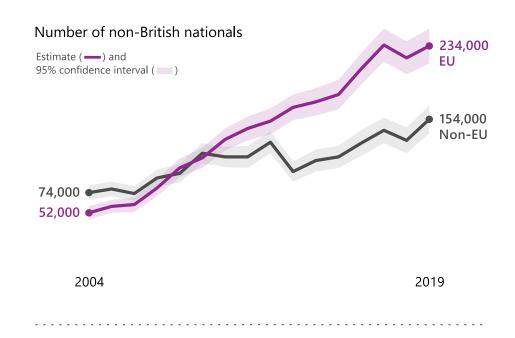
In 2019, there were 234,000 EU nationals living in Scotland, and over half of those people were from EU8 countries.

There were 154,000 non-EU nationals, accounting for 40% of the non-British population.

Polish remained the most common non-British nationality

For the thirteenth consecutive year, Polish was the most common non-British nationality, with 91,000 people in 2019.

Polish nationals accounted for almost one quarter (23%) of all non-British nationals living in Scotland.



Number of non-British nationals, 2019



Most common non-British nationalities in Scotland, 2019

Poland		91,000
Republic of Ireland	17,000	
Lithuania	15,000	
India	13,000	
Romania	13,000	
Germany	13,000	





Population who are non-British nationals (percentage)



Population of non-British nationals varies across council areas

In 2019, cities had the largest proportion of non-British residents – highest in Aberdeen City (18%), City of Edinburgh (16%) and Glasgow City (14%). This compares to the Scottish average of 7%.

Estimates of EU and non-EU nationals living in council areas are available on the NRS website.

Confidence intervals are reported to the nearest thousand. For Na h-Eileanan Siar they round to zero; for Shetland Islands the lower limit rounds to zero.

Non-British nationals are more likely to live in larger cities

This groups areas according to their level of rurality using four different groups: larger cities, urban with substantial rural areas, mainly rural, and islands and remote.





* Estimates for Orkney Islands are not available due to disclosure control.