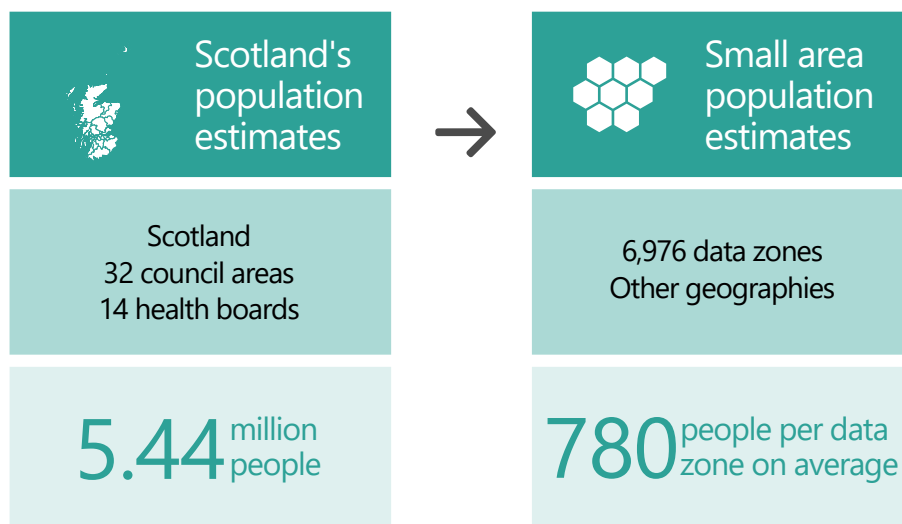


Scotland's national population estimates can be broken down into small areas, known as data zones

Data zones are a small area geography used to provide statistics at local level. There are 6,976 data zones covering the whole of Scotland and they nest within council areas.

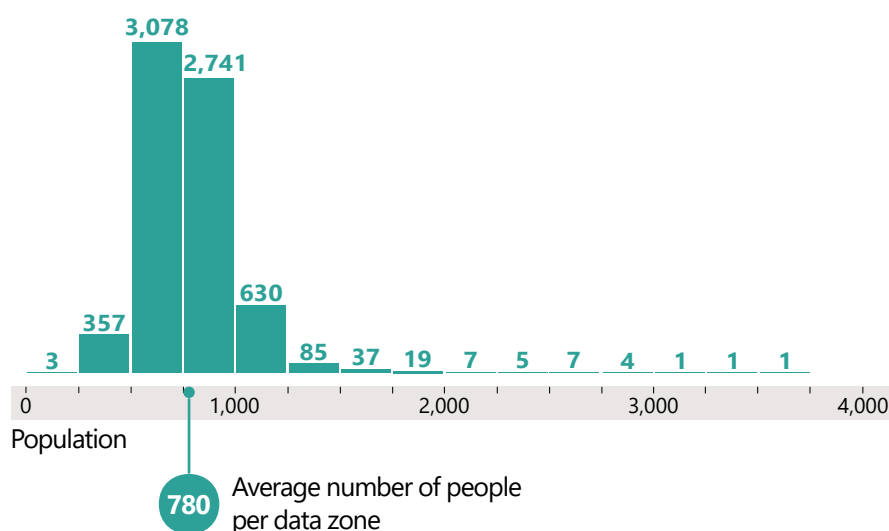


Data zone populations

Data zones are designed to have a population of approximately 500 to 1,000 household residents. However, data zone populations change over time.

In mid-2018, there were on average 780 people per data zone.

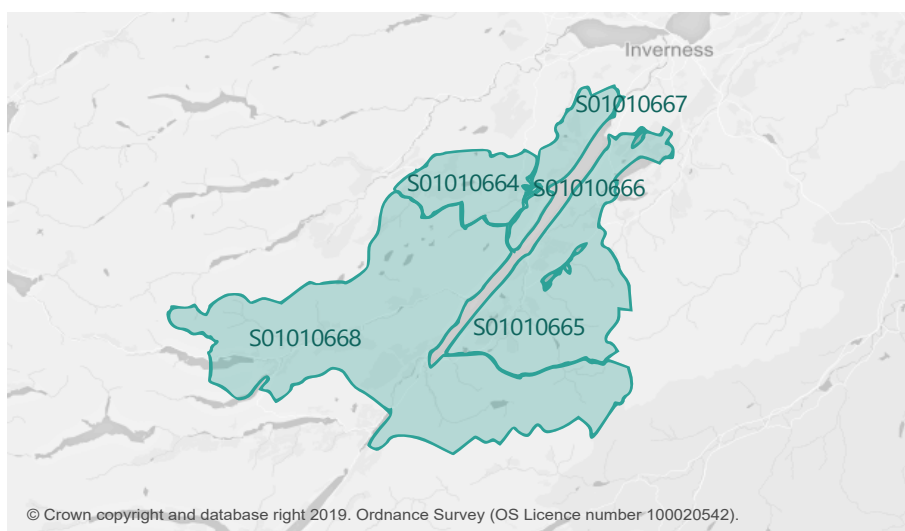
Number of data zones



Find out about the data zone you live in

Search for a postcode on scotland.shinyapps.io/nrs-small-area-population-estimates to see the map of the data zone it is in, and to access a summary of the latest population estimates.

Detailed data tables with the latest population estimates by data zone and other geographies are available on nrscotland.gov.uk.



Data zone population change by council area

Data zone populations vary across Scotland and they will change over time due to migration into or out of an area, as well as births and deaths. Between mid-2011 and mid-2018, council areas which have seen a large proportion of data zones decrease in population are mainly rural and island areas, as well as areas in the West of Scotland. In contrast, four of the six council areas which had the largest proportion of data zones that increased in population were cities.

