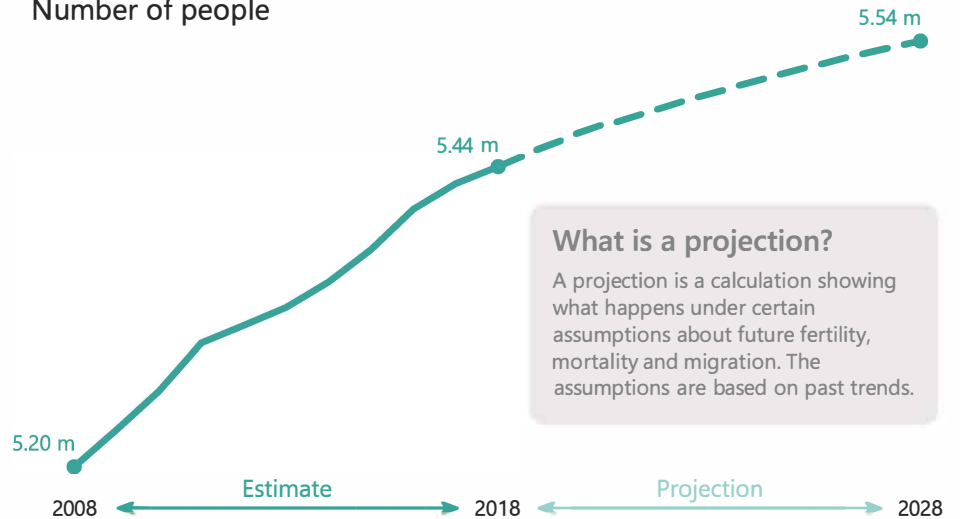


Scotland's population is projected to increase but at a slower rate

The population of Scotland is projected to increase by 1.8% over the next 10 years (about 99,000 people between mid-2018 to mid-2028).

However, population growth is projected to be slower than that seen in the last 10 years.

Number of people



What is a projection?

A projection is a calculation showing what happens under certain assumptions about future fertility, mortality and migration. The assumptions are based on past trends.

Projected population change varies across Scotland

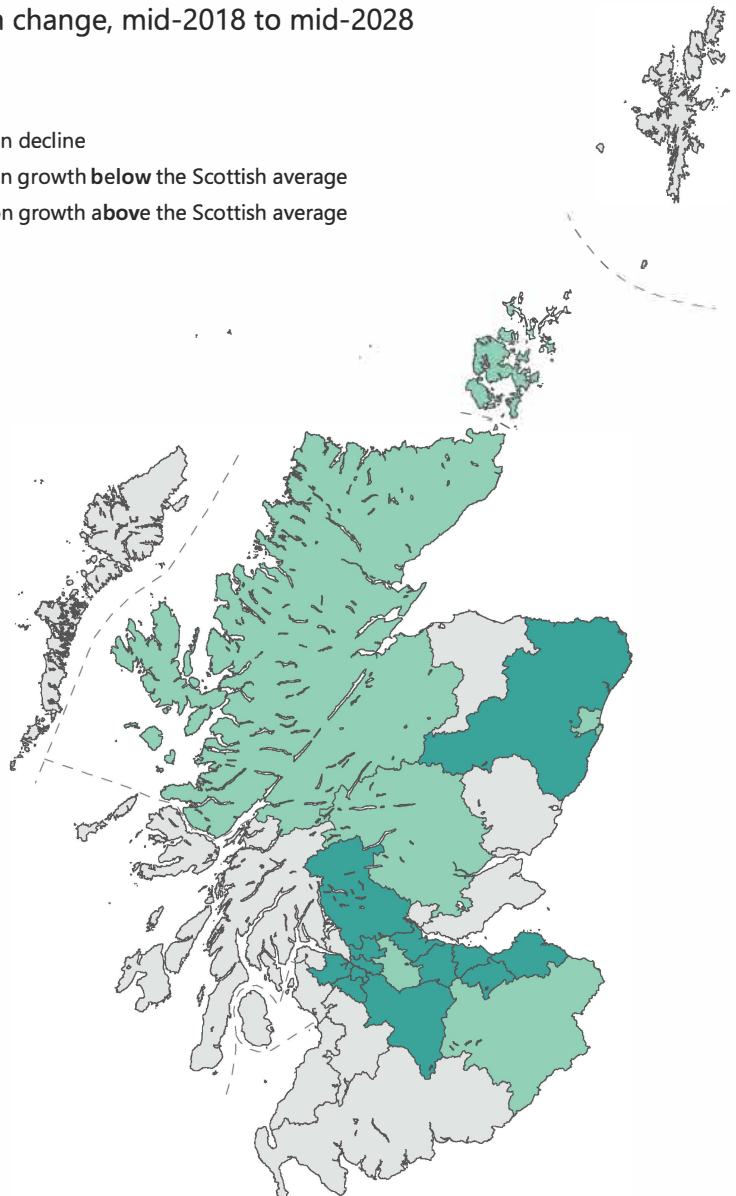
Most council areas are projected to increase in population by mid-2028 (18 out of 32 areas). More councils are projected to decline than in previous projections (14 councils now, compared to 8 previously).

Most population growth is projected to be in the central belt and urban areas. Population decline is projected to mainly be in the West and South West of Scotland.

Explore the data for each area on the population projection section of the NRS website.

Population change, mid-2018 to mid-2028

- Population decline
- Population growth below the Scottish average
- Population growth above the Scottish average



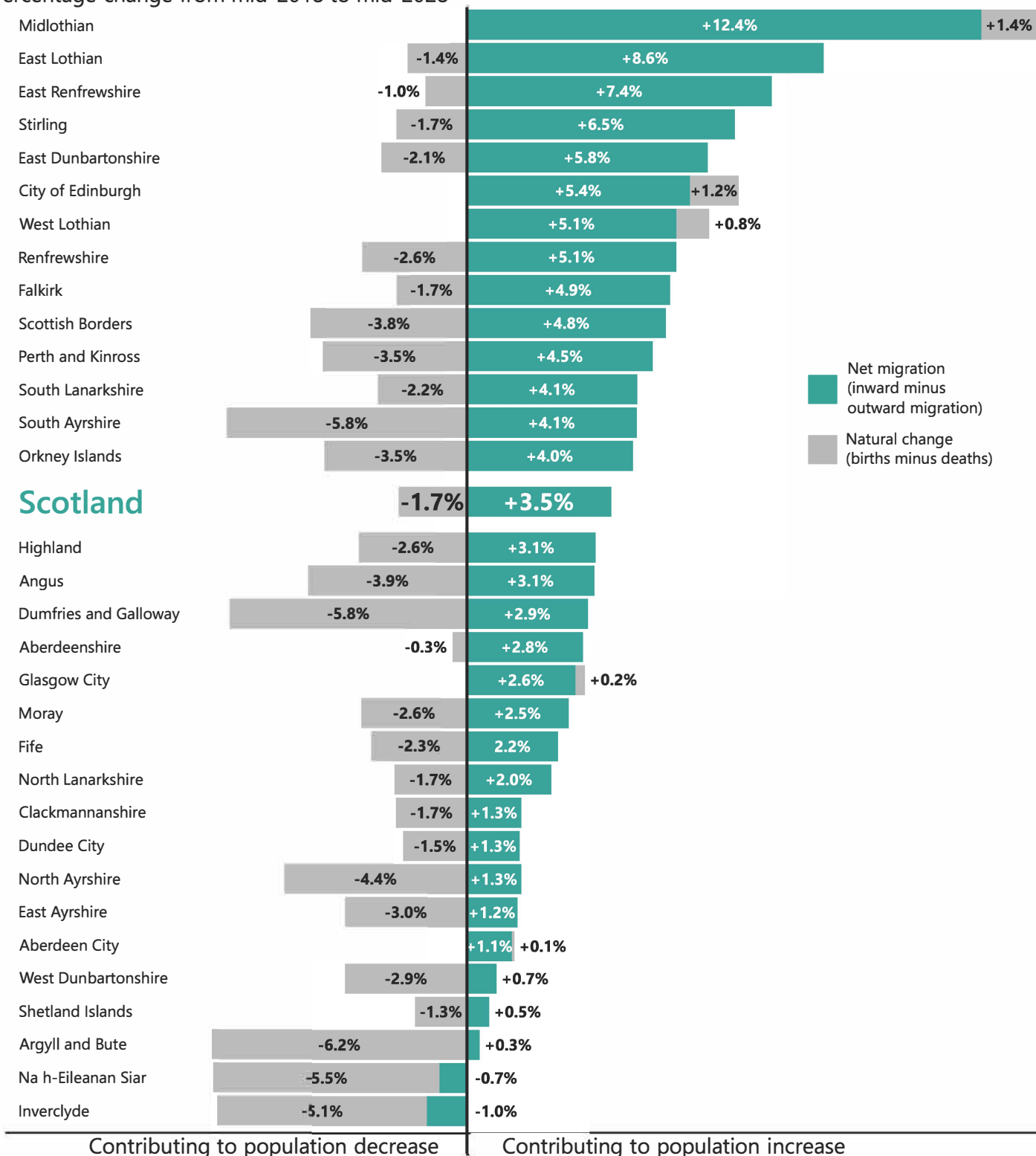
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Migration is driving population increases in most areas

In most councils, population increase is the result of migration, with more people arriving than leaving. Inverclyde and Na h-Eileanan Siar are the only councils projected to have more people leaving than arriving.

In most councils, there are projected to be more deaths than births, contributing to population decline.

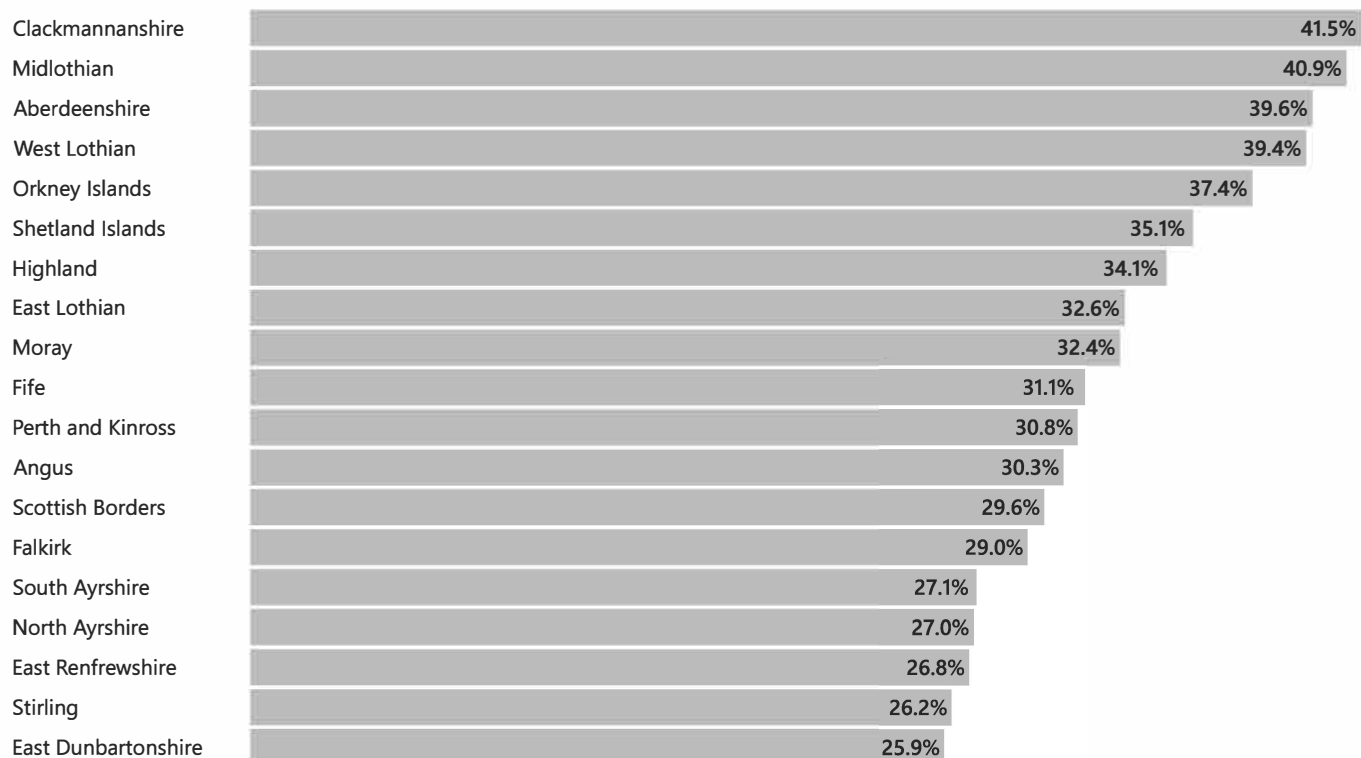
Percentage change from mid-2018 to mid-2028



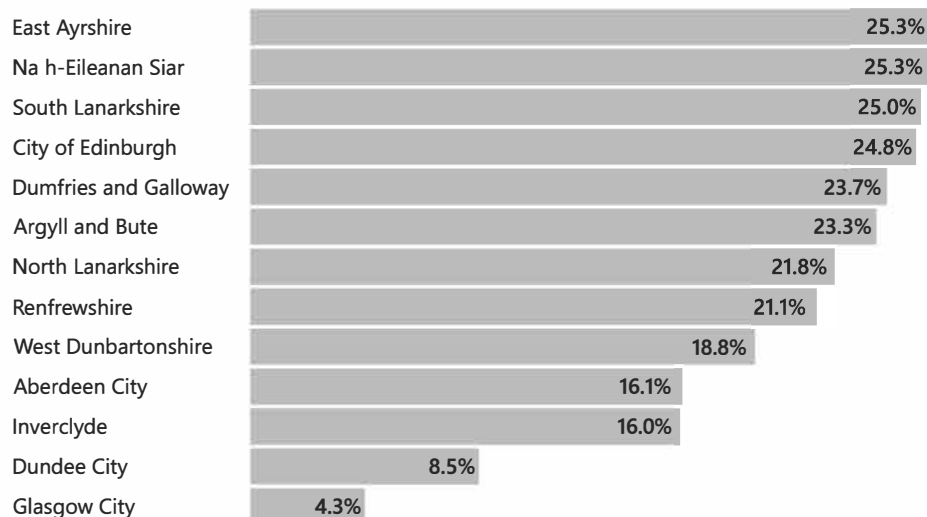
Scotland's population is projected to age

The population of people aged 75 and over is projected to increase in all areas of Scotland.

Percentage change in population aged 75 and over from mid-2018 to mid-2028



Scotland 25.4%



Explore the latest projections for Scotland's council areas and create your own projections charts using NRS' interactive data visualisation:

<https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/statistics-and-data/statistics/stats-at-a-glance/infographics-and-visualisations#pop-projections-areas>