

Population by Country of Birth and Nationality, Scotland, July 2019 to June 2020



14 January 2021

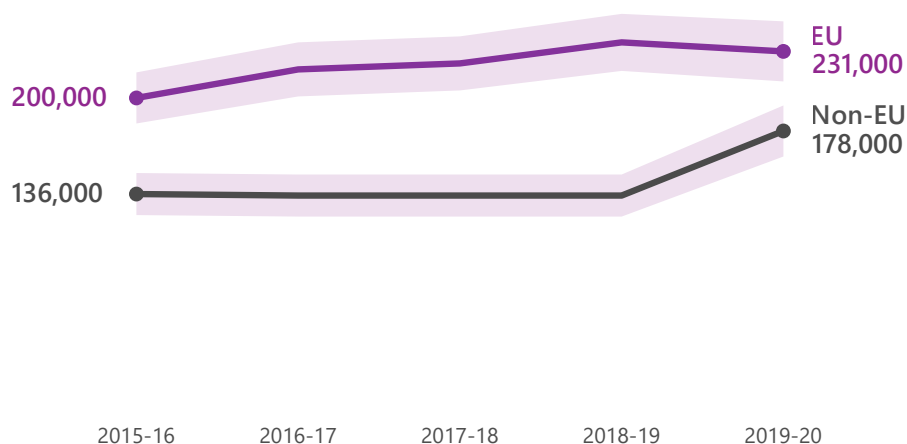
This report provides statistics on the number of non-UK born and non-British nationals living in Scotland and each council area, using data from the Annual Population Survey.

In the year ending June 2020, there were around 409,000 non-British nationals living in Scotland

This was an increase of 36,000 people over the latest year and was mainly driven by the increase in non-EU nationals.

Number of non-British nationals

Estimate (—) and 95% confidence interval (■)

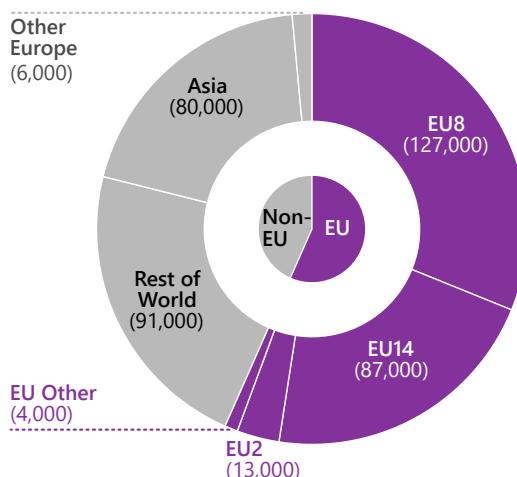


EU nationals made up 56% of Scotland's non-British population

In the year ending June 2020, there were 231,000 EU nationals living in Scotland. Over half of these people were from EU8 countries.

There were 178,000 non-EU nationals. This was 44% of the non-British population.

Number of non-British nationals, 2019-20



- EU14**
Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Portugal, Republic of Ireland, Spain and Sweden.
- EU8**
Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia.
- EU2**
Bulgaria and Romania.
- EU Other**
Croatia, Cyprus and Malta.

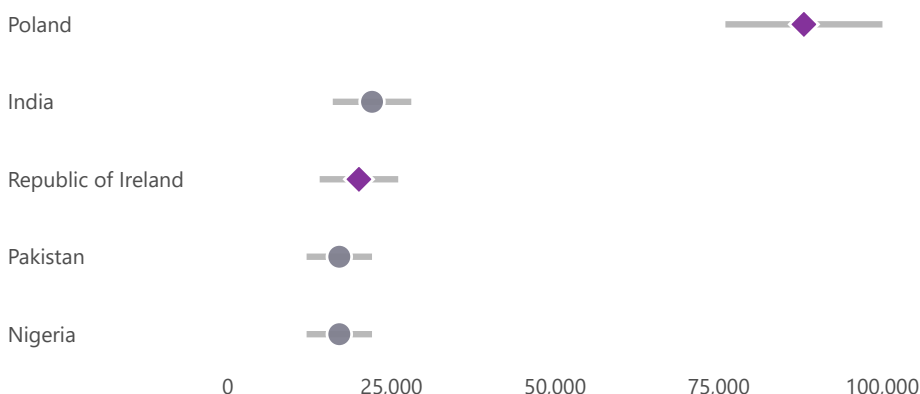
Polish remained the most common non-British nationality

Polish was the most common non-British nationality, with 88,000 people in the year to June 2020.

The second most common non-British nationality was Indian, with 22,000 people.

Most common non-British nationalities in Scotland, 2019-20

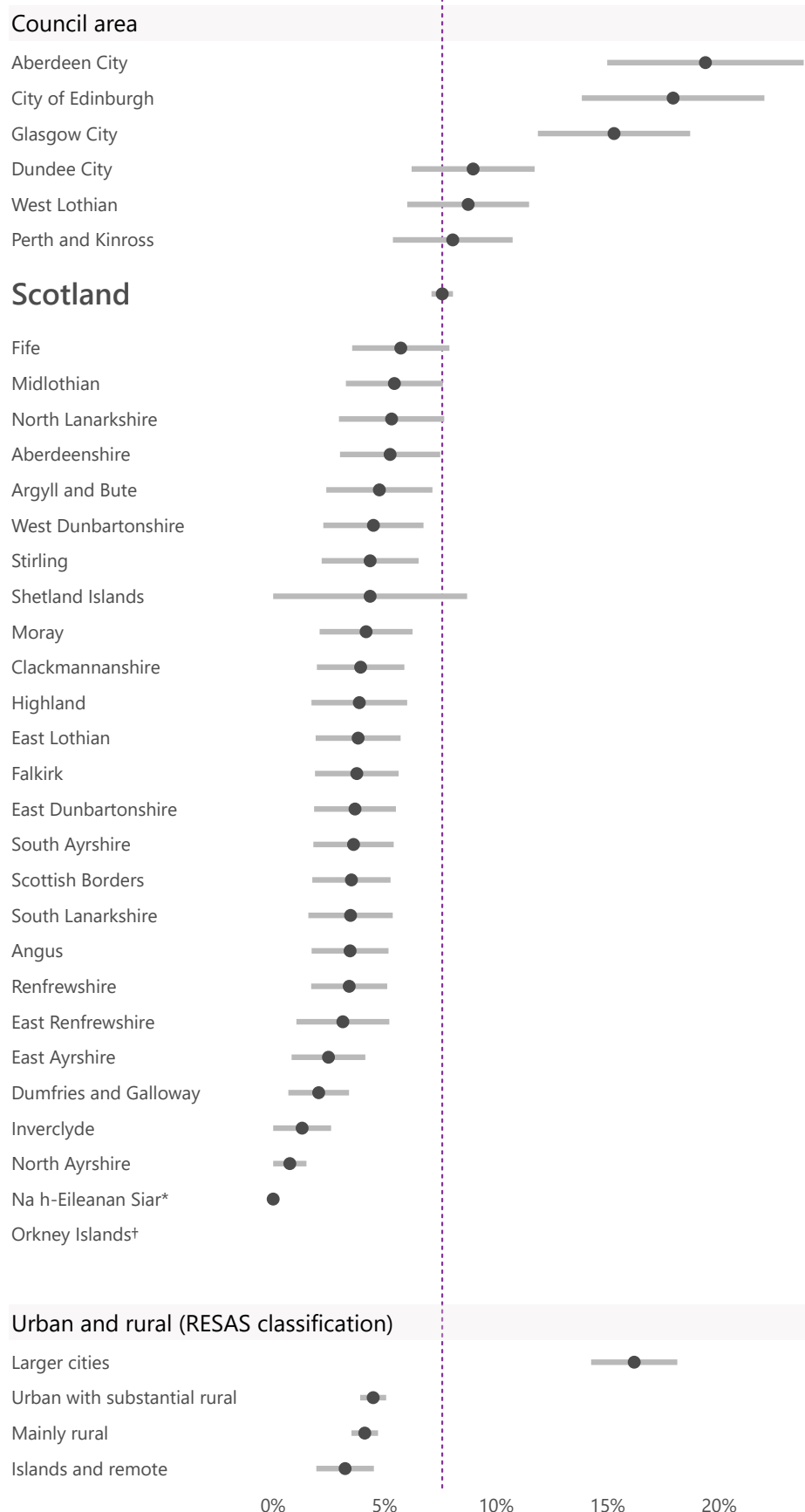
Estimate for EU (◆) and non-EU (●) and 95% confidence interval (—)



Population who are non-British nationals (percent)

Estimate (●) and 95% confidence interval (—)

7.6% of the population are non-British



Population of non-British nationals varies across council areas

In the year to June 2020, cities had the largest proportion of non-British residents. The highest were in Aberdeen City (19.4%), City of Edinburgh (17.9%) and Glasgow City (15.3%).

Estimates of EU and non-EU nationals living in council areas are available in our publication: **Population by Country of Birth and Nationality, Scotland, 2019-20**.

* Confidence intervals are reported to the nearest thousand. For Na h-Eileanan Siar they round to zero.

† Estimates for Orkney Islands have been removed to minimise the risk of disclosing personal information.

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

The RESAS classification groups areas of Scotland into four levels of rurality.

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Do these statistics take into account the effect of the coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19) on our population?

The numbers in this release come from the Annual Population Survey (APS) and cover the year ending June 2020; they therefore only cover part of the period of the coronavirus pandemic. However, the APS data collection has been impacted by COVID-19. More information on this can be found in the [Background Information](#) section.

It is important to note that the APS estimates the number of non-British nationals and non-UK born living in the UK at a particular point in time, regardless of when they moved to the UK.

1. Population by nationality

- In the year to June 2020, there were estimated to be **409,000 non-British nationals** living in Scotland. This accounted for about 1 in 13 people living in Scotland, and was a statistically significant increase of 36,000 people from the previous year.
- The increase in non-British nationals living in Scotland was mainly due to the increase in nationals of the Rest of the World (The Americas, Africa, and Oceania) and Asia. A breakdown by nationality group is shown below in [Table 1](#); **significant changes** are marked with an asterisk.

The population of non-British nationals living in Scotland increased over the latest year

Table 1: Population by nationality in Scotland, year ending June 2020

Nationality	2018-19	2019-20	Change over year	Percentage of non-British population (2019-20)
All	5,374,000	5,395,000	21,000	-
British	5,000,000	4,982,000	-18,000	-
Non-British	373,000	409,000	36,000*	-
EU (total)	237,000	231,000	-6,000	56%
EU14	78,000	87,000	9,000	21%
EU8	135,000	127,000	-8,000	31%
EU2	22,000	13,000	-9,000*	3%
EU Other	2,000	4,000	2,000	1%
Non-EU (total)	135,000	178,000	43,000*	44%
Other Europe	9,000	6,000	-3,000	1%
Asia	64,000	80,000	16,000*	20%
Rest of the World	63,000	91,000	28,000*	22%

Source: Annual Population Survey (APS), Office for National Statistics (ONS)

Notes: All estimates rounded to the nearest thousand. Totals may not add exactly due to this rounding.

More information on which countries are part of each EU group can be found in the [Background Information](#) section.

* Statistically significant change at the 95% level

- Of all **non-British nationals** over half (56%) were EU nationals (231,000), and 44% were non-EU nationals (178,000).
- **Polish** remained the most common non-British nationality in Scotland in the year to June 2020 with 88,000 nationals (22% of the total non-British population), followed by **Indian** with 22,000 nationals.
- The council areas with the largest proportion of residents with a non-British nationality were Aberdeen City (19%), City of Edinburgh (18%) and Glasgow City (15%).

2. Population by country of birth

- In the year to June 2020, there were estimated to be **528,000 people living in Scotland who were born outside the UK**. This was about 10% of the population. The number of people born outside of the UK living in Scotland increased by 45,000 over the year. This was a statistically significant increase driven by the increase in people born outside the EU. A breakdown of the non-UK born population by country groupings is shown in [Table 2](#).

Table 2: Population by country of birth in Scotland, year ending June 2020

Country of birth	2018-19	2019-20	Change over year	Percentage of non-UK born population (2019-20)
All	5,374,000	5,395,000	21,000	-
UK	4,890,000	4,863,000	-27,000	-
Non-UK	483,000	528,000	45,000*	-
EU (total)	238,000	240,000	2,000	45%
EU14	91,000	105,000	14,000	20%
EU8	123,000	114,000	-9,000	22%
EU2	20,000	14,000	-6,000	3%
EU Other	5,000	7,000	2,000	1%
Non-EU (total)	245,000	289,000	44,000*	55%
Other Europe	19,000	15,000	-4,000	3%
Asia	115,000	138,000	23,000*	26%
Rest of the World	111,000	136,000	25,000*	26%

Source: Annual Population Survey (APS), Office for National Statistics (ONS)

Note: All estimates rounded to the nearest thousand. Totals may not add exactly due to this rounding.

More information on which countries are part of each EU group can be found in the [Background Information](#) section.

* Statistically significant change at the 95% level

- Of those who were **born outside the UK**, 240,000 (45%) were born in an EU country, and 289,000 (55%) were born elsewhere in the world.
- Poland** remained the most common non-UK country of birth in Scotland, with around 1 in 7 people (77,000) born outside the UK being born there. The second most common non-UK country of birth was **India** (35,000).
- The council areas with the largest proportion of residents born outside of the UK were Aberdeen City (25%), City of Edinburgh (21%) and Glasgow City (18%).

The population estimates by country of birth and nationality are available for Scotland's council areas and can be accessed on the [National Records of Scotland \(NRS\) website](#).

3. Background information

All the latest statistics in this report come from the Annual Population Survey (APS), carried out by the Office for National Statistics (ONS), covering the period July 2019 to June 2020. The APS is the Labour Force Survey (LFS) plus a number of sample boosts. The boost for Scotland is funded by the Scottish Government. The APS had a sample size of around 244,000 respondents in the whole of the UK, and is the largest household survey in the UK (other than the Census and Census coverage survey). In the year to June 2020, the sample size for Scotland was around 31,000 people.

How has the APS been impacted by the coronavirus pandemic?

Due to the coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19), the APS data collection had to change rapidly from March 2020 as it was no longer possible to carry out face to face interviews at people's homes. All interviews therefore had to be done over the phone which affected the types of households responding. Compared to before the pandemic, more owner occupiers and fewer people renting responded. As a result, the APS datasets had to be reweighted to take into account the change in the mode of data collection and to ensure the types of people responding remained representative. To allow sufficient time for the reweighting exercise, this publication has been delayed from 26 November 2020.

More information on the impact of COVID-19 and the APS reweighting can be found in ONS' [blog post](#) as well as their [Population of the UK by country of birth and nationality: July 2019 to June 2020](#) release.

Why are the estimates from the APS different from the mid-year population estimates (MYE)?

- The APS is a household survey, so does not include most communal establishments (i.e., care homes, prisons and student halls of residence); this means that the population totals from the APS will be different from the official [mid-year population estimates](#), which cover the entire population.
- The MYE also provide estimates of the population by sex and age while the APS can be used to provide estimates by country of birth and nationality.

Can changes in migrant stocks be compared against changes in migration flows?

Changes in the number of people living in Scotland who are non-UK born/non-British nationals are not directly comparable with estimates of long-term international migration (such as the estimates of migration used in the mid-year population estimates). There are a few reasons for this:

- Non-UK born/non-British nationals could move to Scotland from other parts of the UK, and not be included in estimates of long-term international migration (but will instead be included in cross border migration).
- There are definitional differences between the International Passenger Survey (which is used to estimate long-term international migration) and the APS:
 - The APS is a survey of residential addresses and does not include most communal establishments, whereas the International Passenger Survey includes people who may live in communal establishments.
 - The APS measures the total resident population ('stock') so captures people who may have moved to Scotland many years ago, whereas the long-term international migration estimates ('flows') measure people moving over a specific period.

What is the difference between country of birth and nationality?

- **Country of birth** refers to the country a person was born in. This cannot change.
- **Nationality** refers to the nationality the person stated when they were interviewed. This can change, for example, someone may later apply to become a British national.

What is 'statistical significance'?

All estimates produced from the Annual Population Survey (APS) are subject to sampling variability and depending on which sample we choose, the estimate can vary slightly. **Confidence intervals** are used as a measure of the precision of the estimate and to show the range in which the true data value is likely to fall. Most commonly, 95% confidence intervals are used.

When two estimates are very close, sometimes their confidence intervals overlap and it's hard to say if there is a real difference. For example, the difference may be due to sampling error or has occurred simply by chance. In this case, the difference between the numbers is **not statistically significant**. Statistical tests are also used to confirm this.

When the confidence intervals for two estimates do not overlap, the difference between these numbers is **statistically significant**. In other words, when a difference is said to be statistically significant it reflects a real difference and has not occurred simply by chance.

Which countries are in the EU and each country grouping?

<u>EU14</u>	Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Republic of Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Portugal, Spain, Sweden
<u>EU8</u>	Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia
<u>EU2</u>	Bulgaria, Romania
<u>EU Other</u>	Cyprus, Malta, Croatia

4. Links to related statistics

Other statistical publications that use the Annual Population Survey (APS), and other publications about population and migration in Scotland, can be found at the links below.

Population by country of birth and nationality, UK (ONS) – uses data from the APS to estimate the non-British national and non-UK born populations of the UK as a whole. This also includes individual country data for Scotland and the UK.

Non-UK nationals in Scotland's Workforce (Scottish Government) – uses data from the APS to provide insight into labour market characteristics of non-British nationals

Mid-Year Population Estimates, Scotland (NRS) – headline population and migration statistics for Scotland, as at mid-year (30 June)

Migration flows, Scotland (NRS) – measure the number of people moving to and from an area over a specific period of time

Migration Statistics Quarterly Summary (NRS) – a summary of the latest migration statistics for Scotland, bringing together data from a range of sources to give an overview of key migration trends in Scotland, presented alongside UK-level data for comparison

5. Notes on statistical publications

National Statistics

The United Kingdom Statistics Authority (UKSA) has designated these statistics as National Statistics, in line with the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007 and signifying compliance with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics (available on the [UKSA](#) website).

National Statistics status means that official statistics meet the highest standards of trustworthiness, quality and public value.

All official statistics should comply with all aspects of the Code of Practice for Official Statistics. They are awarded National Statistics status following an assessment by the Authority's regulatory arm. The Authority considers whether the statistics meet the highest standards of Code compliance, including the value they add to public decisions and debate.

It is National Records of Scotland's responsibility to maintain compliance with the standards expected of National Statistics. If we become concerned about whether these statistics are still meeting the appropriate standards, we will discuss any concerns with the Authority promptly. National Statistics status can be removed at any point when the highest standards are not maintained, and reinstated when standards are restored.

Information on background and source data

Further details on data source(s), timeframe of data and timeliness, continuity of data, accuracy, etc. can be found in the 'Metadata' document that is published alongside this publication on the [NRS website](#).

National Records of Scotland

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Preserving the past – We look after Scotland's national archives so that they are available for current and future generations, and we make available important information for family history.

Recording the present – At our network of local offices, we register births, marriages, civil partnerships, deaths, divorces and adoptions in Scotland.

Informing the future – We are responsible for the Census of Population in Scotland which we use, with other sources of information, to produce statistics on the population and households.

You can get other detailed statistics that we have produced from the [Statistics](#) section of our website. Scottish Census statistics are available on the [Scotland's Census](#) website.

We also provide information about [future publications](#) on our website. If you would like us to tell you about future statistical publications, you can register your interest on the Scottish Government [ScotStat website](#).

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Enquiries and suggestions

Please contact our Statistics Customer Services if you need any further information. Email: statisticscustomerservices@nrscotland.gov.uk

If you have comments or suggestions that would help us improve our standards of service, please contact:

Alan Ferrier
Senior Statistician, National Records of Scotland
Email: alan.ferrier@nrscotland.gov.uk