

About this publication	Description
Publication title	Mid-2020 Small Area Population Estimates for 2011 Data Zones
Description	Annual publication of population estimates at 2011 Data Zone level, by age and sex
Theme	Population and Migration
Topic	Population Estimates
Format	Excel workbooks, Comma Separated Value (CSV) and Adobe Acrobat Portable Document Format (PDF)
Data source(s)	Data on migration, births, deaths, armed forces, asylum seekers and prisoners at data zone level are obtained or derived from the corresponding data collected for the mid-year estimates for Scotland and local authority areas. No separate data collection is done for small area population estimates, although administrative data is obtained for quality assurance purposes (for example, communal establishment data, dwelling and household counts).
Date that data is acquired	On completion of the mid-year population estimates for Scotland and local authority areas – April each year.
Publication Release date	24 August 2021
Frequency	Annual
Timeframe of data and timeliness	The estimates refer to the population as at 30 June each year. The small area population estimates are published fourteen months after this date.
Continuity of data	2011 Data Zone population estimates are available for the years 2001 to 2019.
Revisions statement	Revisions and corrections to previously published statistics are dealt with in accordance with the Scottish Government Statistician Group corporate policy statement on revisions and corrections - a copy of which is available on the Scottish Government website.
Concepts and definitions	Background information on 2011 Data Zones is available on the Scottish Government website.

Relevance and key uses of the statistics	Small area population estimates are used in a variety of applications. For example, in the calculation of the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation.
Accuracy	<p>Population estimates are based on the 2011 Census and updated annually by 'ageing on' the population and applying information on births, deaths and migration. Births and deaths are estimated using data from the civil registration system, which is considered to be virtually complete.</p> <p>Migration is more difficult to estimate because there is no comprehensive registration system in the UK. Migration is derived from the National Health Service Central Register (NHSCR) and Community Health Index (CHI) for migration within the UK, and from the International Passenger Survey (IPS) for international migration. The sample size for Scotland for the IPS is small, so estimates derived from this survey are subject to large sampling and non-sampling errors.</p> <p>National Records of Scotland (NRS) is conducting an on-going exercise to improve the quality of data zone population estimates. Areas where estimates are less reliable tend to be those with high levels of migration - for example, student areas.</p> <p>Errors mainly affecting the age distribution of the population estimates were found, more information can be found on the NRS website in the Population section.</p>
Completeness:	The estimated population of an area includes all those usually resident there, whatever their nationality. Students are treated as being resident at their term-time address. Members of UK and non-UK armed forces stationed in Scotland are included; UK forces stationed outside Scotland are excluded. Short-term international migrants are excluded.
Comparability	Time-series comparisons are appropriate.
Accessibility	It is the policy of the National Records of Scotland (NRS) to make its website and products accessible according to published guidelines. More information is available in the Accessibility section of the NRS website.

Coherence and clarity	<p>The statistics are provided in Excel, CSV and PDF format. They are designed to be consistent, and incorporate comparable historical data where appropriate.</p> <p>The small area estimates are consistent with the higher level mid-year estimates for council areas and for Scotland.</p>
Value type and unit of measure	Counts of persons, males and females by single year of age.
Official Statistics designation	<p>These statistics are designated as National Statistics by the UK Statistics Authority. The Letter of Confirmation as National Statistics can be found on the UK Statistics Authority website</p>
UK Statistics Authority Assessment	<p>The UK Statistics Authority (UKSA) has designated this publication as National Statistics, in line with the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007, signifying compliance with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics. Further information can be found in the UK Statistics Authority - Assessments section on the NRS website.</p> <p>These statistics were assessed by UK Statistics Authority in July 2015. The report can be found within the UK Statistic Authority - Assessments section on the NRS website.</p>
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