

About this publication	Description
Publication title	Small Area Population Estimates 2014
Description	Annual publication of population estimates at 2001 Data Zone level, by age and sex. This is the last publication of 2001 Data Zone based population estimates. Going forwards small area population estimates will be produced on the new 2011 Data Zone boundaries.
Theme	Population and Migration
Topic	Population
Format	Excel workbooks 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, and child benefit data).
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	03 December 2015
Frequency	Annual - but this is the last publication at 2001 Data Zone level.
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	2001 Data Zone population estimates are available for the period 1996 – 2014.
Revisions statement	<p>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. These estimates are based on the 2011 Census.</p> <p>Revisions will also be carried out in accordance with the Revisions policy for population, migration and life events statistics available on the Office for National Statistics (ONS) website.</p>

Concepts and definitions	Background information on data zones is available on the Scottish Neighbourhood Statistics 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. There are no plans to correct the population estimates based on 2001 data zone boundaries.</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 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	The statistics are provided in Excel and Comma Separated Value (CSV) format. They are designed to be consistent, and incorporate comparable historical data where appropriate. The small area estimates are consistent with the higher level mid-year estimates for council areas and for Scotland.
Value type and unit of measure	Counts of persons, males and females by 5-year age groups.

Official Statistics designation	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
UK Statistics Authority Assessment	These statistics were assessed by UK Statistics Authority (UKSA) in July 2015. The report can be found within the UK Statistic Authority - Assessments section on the UKSA website.
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Date this form was published	03 December 2015