

About this publication	Description
Publication title	Mid-2012 Population Estimates for Settlements and Localities in Scotland
Description	Population estimates for Settlements and Localities in Scotland
Theme	Population and Migration
Topic	Population Estimates for Special Areas
Format	Excel workbooks, Comma Separated Value (CSV) files, Adobe Acrobat Portable Document Format (PDF) files and shapefiles.
Data source(s)	<p>Overall population estimates are based on data from the Small Area Population Estimates (SAPE) publication. Therefore, all data sources feeding into the SAPEs also feed into Settlements and Localities.</p> <p>Royal Mail delivery point information is used for allocating populations to postcodes.</p> <p>To improve the accuracy of the estimates, the most up-to-date communal establishment data are also used. For the 2012 publication this included the following data sources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2011 Census • Armed Forces data collection • Care Home Census • Care Inspectorate • Continuing Care Census • General/Acute Inpatient and Day Case data (SMR01) • Higher Education Statistics Authority • Mental Health Inpatient and Day Case data (SMR04) • National records of Scotland (NRS) Communal Establishment Address List • Scottish Government (SG): Directorate for Learning • SG Education Analytical Services • SG Looked After Children Statistics • Scottish Prison Statistics.
Date that data is acquired	<p>SAPE populations are acquired in August the following year. Communal Establishment data is collected from mid-year to three months before publication. Royal Mail delivery point information is collected and made available every summer.</p> <p>For example the mid-2012 estimates were based on Royal Mail data available from 2012, SAPE data from 2013 and communal establishment data collected from 2009 till 2012.</p>

Publication Release date	31 July 2014
Frequency	Biennial
Timeframe of data and timeliness	The estimates refer to the population as at 30 June 2012. The mid-year population estimates for Settlements and Localities are currently published 25 months after this date.
Continuity of data	Mid-year Population Estimates for Settlements and Localities in Scotland are available for 2003, 2004, 2006, 2008, and 2010. Currently, it is a Biennial publication.
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.</p> <p>The 2012 estimates are based on the 2011 Census. Estimates for previous years have not been revised and there are currently no plans to do so.</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	Further information on the National Records of Scotland's (NRS) Mid-2010 Population Estimates for Settlements and Localities in Scotland can be found on the NRS website.
Relevance and key uses of the statistics	<p>These statistics are used by both local authorities and central government for various purposes. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contributing to the 'Scottish Government Urban Rural Classification' biennial publication; • Helping to identify rural settlements in which properties may be eligible for non-domestic rate relief under the terms of the Local Government and Rating Act 1997; and • Helping to identify communities which may be entitled to purchase land under the terms of the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003.
Accuracy	<p>The publication relies on data from the SAPE publication which in turn is based on the Mid-Year Population Estimates both of which can be found on the NRS website.</p> <p>The main issue with accuracy is the quality of the postcode estimates that are produced for the publication. Data zone populations are aggregated down to postcode populations based on the number of residential dwellings obtained from the Royal Mail. Dwellings' populations can vary and some are vacant or used as second homes. This method assumes all</p>

	<p>dwellings have a proportionate share of the data zones population. In most cases, data zones are contained completely inside Settlements and Localities so the postcode breakdown is irrelevant. The accuracy is instead reliant on the quality of the SAPE publication (as detailed above).</p>
Completeness:	<p>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.</p>
Comparability	<p>It is recommended that users exercise caution when comparing the settlement or locality population estimates with previous years. Whilst an increase in population may be due to new build, it may also be due to the inclusion of existing housing which had previously been separated from the settlement by a low density postcode (and vice versa for a population decrease).</p>
Accessibility	<p>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.</p>
Coherence and clarity	<p>The statistics are provided in Excel, CSV, PDF and shapefile formats. They are designed to be consistent, and incorporate comparable historical data where appropriate.</p>
Value type and unit of measure	<p>Count of people estimated to be in a settlement or locality.</p>
Official Statistics designation	<p>These statistics were assessed by the UK Statistics Authority and are designated as National Statistics subject to meeting the requirements set out in the assessment report.</p>
UK Statistics Authority Assessment	<p>Assessed by UK Statistics Authority. Report can be found within the UK Statistics Authority – Assessments section on the National Records of Scotland website.</p>
Help email	<p>statisticscustomerservices@nrscotland.gov.uk</p>
Date this form was published	<p>31 July 2014</p>