

About this publication	Description
Publication title	Mid-2010 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 2010 publication this included the following data sources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Armed Forces data collection • Looked After Children Statistics • Continuing Care Census • General/Acute Inpatient and Day Case data (SMR01) • Mental Health Inpatient and Day Case data (SMR04) • Scottish Government (SG) Education Analytical Services data • Adult Care Home Census • Scottish Prison Statistics • 2001 Census.
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-2010 estimates were based on Royal Mail data available from August 2010, SAPE data from August 2010 and communal establishment data collected from June 2006 till June 2010.</p>
Publication Release date	24 May 2012
Frequency	Biennial
Timeframe of data and timeliness	The estimates refer to the population as at 30 June 2010. The mid-year population estimates for Settlements and Localities are currently published 23 months after this date.

Continuity of data	Mid-year Population Estimates for Settlements and Localities in Scotland are available for 2003, 2004, 2006 and 2008. Currently, it is a Biennial publication.
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.
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	These statistics are used by both local authorities and central government for various purposes. These include: <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 is heavily reliant on data from the SAPE publication which in turn is based on the Mid-Year Population Estimates.</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 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:	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	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).
Accessibility	It is the policy of NRS to make its website and products accessible according to published guidelines.

Coherence and clarity	The statistics are provided in Excel, CSV, PDF and shapefile formats. They are designed to be consistent, and incorporate comparable historical data where appropriate.
Value type and unit of measure	Count of people estimated to be in a settlement or locality.
Official Statistics designation	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.
UK Statistics Authority Assessment	These statistics were assessed in May 2011 using the UK Statistics Authority Assessment of Compliance with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics .
Help email	customer@gro-scotland.gsi.gov.uk There is also a contact form on the NRS website.
Date this form was published	24 May 2012