

About this publication	Description
Publication title	Population Projections for Scottish Areas (2016-based)
Description	Principal and variant population projections by age and sex for council, NHS Health Board, Strategic Development Plan and National Park areas
Theme	Population and Migration
Topic	Projections
Format	Excel workbooks, CSV, and PDF files
Data source(s)	<p>Base year population data from mid-year population estimates. 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.</p> <p>National population projections data.</p>
Date that data is acquired	October 2017
Publication Release date	28 March 2018
Frequency	Biennial
Timeframe of data and timeliness	The 2016 mid-year estimate is used as the base year for the projections. Sub-national projections are published following the national population projections in October or November.
Continuity of data	<p>Data is available on the National Records of Scotland (NRS) website going back to the 2000-based sub-national population projections (SNPP), and limited, revised data is available for 1994-based projections, for council and NHS Board areas. The boundaries of the NHS Board areas changed between the 2012-based and 2010-based projections, a change to NHS Board areas also occurred between the 2004-based and the 2006-based projections.</p> <p>Population projections for Strategic Development Plan and National Park areas are available for the base years 2006, 2008, 2010, 2012 and 2014.</p> <p>The 2012-based and earlier projections do not take account of revisions to the population estimates after we became aware of errors mainly affecting the age distribution of the mid-year population estimates for 2002-2014. The 2010-based and earlier projections do not take account of revisions to the population estimates after the 2011 Census. More information on changes to the NHS area boundaries can be found in the background notes to the publication.</p>
Revisions statement	<p>Projections are not subject to scheduled revision.</p> <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>Where applicable, revisions will also be carried out in accordance with the revisions policy for population.</p>

	migration and life events statistics available on the Office for National Statistics website.
Concepts and definitions	Further information on the Population Projections for Scottish Areas can be found in the methodology section on the National Records for Scotland website.
Relevance and key uses of the statistics	The primary purpose of the SNPP is to provide estimates of the future population of areas in Scotland as a common framework for use in resource allocation and local planning in a number of different fields such as education and health, for environmental scanning and for land-use and transport models. These projections are used as inputs to Grant Aided Expenditure (GAE) funding allocations and looking at the implications of an ageing population. They are also used for making comparisons between areas, as inputs to the National Records of Scotland household projections, and as controls for small area population projections.
Accuracy	<p>The sub-national projections are trend-based, not policy-based. Many social and economic factors influence population change including policies adopted by both central and local government.</p> <p>Population projections are based on population estimates and national population projections. There is limited accuracy of migration estimates as there is no comprehensive registration system in the UK.</p>
Completeness	The published statistics are population projections for each council, NHS Board, Strategic Development Plan and National Park area in Scotland.
Comparability	Population projections are also produced for similar small areas in England , by the Office for National Statistics, Wales , by the Welsh Government, and Northern Ireland , by the Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency. However, it should be noted that these projections are not directly comparable due to differences in methodology and base years. More information on the similarities and differences in these projections is available in the subnational population projections across the UK page on the ONS website.
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, PDF and CSV format. They are designed to be consistent, and incorporate comparable historical data where appropriate.
Value type and unit of measure	Counts of males and females by single-year of age
Official Statistics designation	National Statistics
UK Statistics Authority Assessment	The UK Statistics Authority (UKSA) has designated NRS population projections for Scottish areas as National Statistics, in line with the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007 and signifying compliance with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics. The UKSA reassessed NRS

	population estimates and projections in 2016 and published a letter of confirmation as National Statistics , available on their website. Further information can be found in the UK Statistics Authority-Assessments section on the NRS website.
Help email	statisticscustomerservices@nrscotland.gov.uk
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