

About this publication	Description
Publication title	Small Area Population Estimates 2008
Description	Annual publication of population estimates at data zone level, by age and sex.
Theme	Population and Migration
Topic	Population
Format	Excel workbooks
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, 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	3 September 2009
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	Data zone population estimates are available for the period 1996 – 2008.
Revisions statement	<p>Revisions and corrections to previously published Scottish 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 via the following link: http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Statistics/About/NatStats</p> <p>Small area population estimates are subject to scheduled revision after the results of the 2011 Census are available.</p>
Concepts and definitions	Background information on data zones is available at: www.sns.gov.uk .
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	Population estimates are based on the 2001 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. 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. General Register Office for Scotland (GROS) 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.
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 General Register Office For Scotland (GROS) to make its website and products accessible according to published guidelines. More information is available at: www.nrscotland.gov.uk/accessibility
Coherence and clarity	The statistics are provided in Excel and 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 males and females by 5-year age groups.
Official Statistics designation	Official Statistics
UK Statistics Authority Assessment	Awaiting assessment by UK Statistics Authority.
Help email	customer@gro-scotland.gsi.gov.uk there is also a contact form on www.nrscotland.gov.uk/enquiries
Date this form was published	27 July 2010