

About this publication	Description
Publication title	Local Area Migration
Description	<p>This interactive spreadsheet is designed to allow users to compare various migration-related indicators for local areas (council areas and health boards). It contains official migration statistics published by NRS, as well as data from other organisations such as Scottish Government, Office for National Statistics (ONS), Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) and the Home Office. All of the statistics published in this spreadsheet have been published already; the purpose of this release is to bring all of these indicators together and give users the ability to compare across areas and also compare trends across indicators.</p>
Theme	Population and Migration
Topic	Migration
Format	Excel workbook
Data source(s)	<p>National Health Service Central Register (NHSCR), Community Health Index (CHI), International Passenger Survey (IPS), Labour Force Survey (LFS), Long Term International Migration (LTIM), Home Office statistics on exit checks, DWP Registration and Population Interaction Database (RAPID), Home Office asylum seeker and refugee data, Home Office citizenship data, Pupil Census, Vital Events Reference Tables, DWP's National Insurance Number (NINo) data, Annual Population Survey (APS), Scottish Census, EU Settlement Scheme (EUSS) data.</p>
Date that data is acquired	Continuously
Publication release date	29 August 2024
Frequency	Annual
Timeframe of data and timeliness	<p>Time series data is included up to 2022.</p> <p>The specific time period covered and timeliness of the data varies for each indicator. More information is available in the excel workbook.</p>
Continuity of data	<p>Migration estimates for 2002 to 2011 were revised in February 2014 to take account of information from the 2011 Census. These revisions took into account the methodological changes introduced in mid-2012 data.</p> <p>Migration estimates for 2012 to 2021 were revised in July 2024 to take account of information from the 2022 Census. These revisions took into account the methodological changes introduced in mid-2022 data.</p> <p>New NHS Board areas came into force in April 2014. These new NHS Board areas have been used for 2011/12</p>

	<p>data onwards, with the pre-2006 NHS Board areas being used for data up to and including 2010/11.</p> <p>A minor boundary change was made in February 2018 which affected Fife and Perth and Kinross (as well as the Fife Health Board and the Tayside Health Board). The change did not affect population or migration estimates.</p> <p>A further boundary change was made in April 2019 which affected Glasgow City and North Lanarkshire council (as well as Greater Glasgow and Clyde, and Lanarkshire Health Board). The boundary change resulted in people transferring from Glasgow City to North Lanarkshire (NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde to NHS Lanarkshire); these moves have been accounted for as migration within Scotland.</p> <p>Population estimates by country of birth and nationality for 2020 use a new weighting methodology introduced by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) in July 2021. Caution should therefore be taken when making comparisons with these data. More information can be found on the ONS website.</p> <p>Methods to produce international migration estimates changed for mid-2012 onwards. This means that these figures on international migration may not be comparable with previous estimates produced from the IPS.</p>
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>Revisions will also be carried out in accordance with the Revisions policy for population and international migration statistics available on the Office for National Statistics (ONS) website.</p>
Concepts and definitions	<p>Further information on the National Records of Scotland Migration Statistics can be found on the `Methodology` page within the most recent Mid-Year Population Estimates.</p>
Relevance and key uses of the statistics	<p>Migration is a key component of population change, so these estimates have a wide range of users including National and Local Government, health service providers, the third sector and commercial organisations.</p> <p>The Local Area Migration spreadsheet provides users with access to a range of migration data from different sources in a single interactive tool. This enables users to compare migration patterns for councils or NHS board areas, and to compare different sources of migration data.</p>

Accuracy	<p>Internal (i.e. within UK) migration estimates are based on General Practitioner (GP) registrations and are considered reasonably accurate for most groups. They may be less accurate for some groups such as young men, as they tend not to register with a GP immediately on moving.</p> <p>Migration within Scotland is estimated based on GP registration data. This may have been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. During the pandemic, many people may have moved address without registering a change of address with their GP. In particular, students may have moved from their term-time address to their parents' address. There may also be people who registered a change of address with their GP during one mid-year period, when the move itself could have taken place in the past. For example, people may have wanted to check that their GP had details of their correct address to ensure that they received details of their COVID-19 vaccination appointments. NRS have not made any adjustments to the established method to estimate migration within Scotland.</p> <p>International migration was previously estimated using the IPS as the main source of data at the Scotland level. However, in March 2020 the IPS was suspended due to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. The ONS led research into alternative data sources including using statistical modelling to estimate UK international migration over this period.</p> <p>Long-term international migration estimates (LTIM) from 2012 to 2022 are based on administrative and survey data using a range of data sources, and are part of an ongoing programme of work to transform population and migration statistics. Published Office for National Statistics (ONS) revised LTIM estimates were used to replace and enhance our previous LTIM components which relied more heavily on the International Passenger Survey (IPS). This means that the 2012-2022 figures on international migration may not be comparable with previous estimates produced from the IPS (pre-2012).</p> <p>The NINo allocation process was disrupted as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. This has resulted in a significant reduction in the number of NINOs allocated since March 2020 and therefore estimates for 2020 and 2021 should be viewed with caution.</p> <p>The service for EU Nationals was more heavily disrupted than for Non-EU nationals. This was due to the closure of face-to-face services which at the time (prior to the end of the transition period, 31 December 2020) required EU nationals to attend an evidence of identity interview prior to a NINo being allocated. The majority of Non-EU Nationals were able to access the NINo service via a postal process as they would have had their identity verified by another government department, for example through the Home</p>
----------	---

	<p>Office visa process. The postal process was reinstated on 1 June 2020, after being suspended in March 2020. Further information about the latest NINo statistics can be found on the GOV.UK website.</p> <p>Between March and late June 2020, registration offices were closed to the registration of births. Significant work was undertaken to catch up with the backlog of birth registrations and most of the postponed registrations have now taken place; however, there may still be a very small number of birth registrations outstanding.</p> <p>For 2020, the LFS used a new weighting methodology to reflect the change in survey operations during the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic and caution should be taken when making comparisons, particularly for estimates that are broken down to smaller groups (i.e. by country, nationality, local authority). More information about the changes can be found in the ONS release.</p> <p>A summary of the strengths and weaknesses of each indicator can be found in the spreadsheet.</p>
Completeness	<p>The headline migration estimates are published for the total of all people moving from one area to another. The data in this publication does not split persons by sex, but does have indicators of migration by age (0-15, 16-64 and 65+).</p> <p>Some of the indicators in this publication do not include or sample specific parts of the population. The data from DWP on National Insurance Numbers is only applicable to persons aged 16 or over, and data from the Home Office on citizenships includes persons aged 18 or over. The Annual Population Survey (used for migrant stock estimates) population totals include only those living in private households and omits those living in most types of communal establishments. The EU Settlement Scheme is only open to eligible EU/EEA nationals and their family members.</p>
Comparability	<p>The internal and international migration estimates are comparable with those from the rest of the UK. The United Nations (UN) definition of an international migrant (someone that changes country of residence for 12 months or more) is used and so international migration estimates should be comparable with other countries.</p> <p>Due to the change in the LFS weighting methodology, the 2020 migrant stock estimates may not be comparable to earlier editions of these estimates.</p> <p>Long-term international migration (LTIM) from 2012 to 2022 estimates are based on administrative and survey data using a range of data sources. This means that these</p>

	figures on international migration may not be comparable with previous estimates produced from the IPS.
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 format, as all of these statistics have already been released in other formats, and the purpose of this release is to allow users to compare indicators and local areas directly. An interactive visualisation is also available.
Value type and unit of measure	Counts of people.
Official Statistics designation	Migration estimates between Scotland and the rest of the UK, and population estimates by country of birth and nationality are designated accredited official statistics. Other migration estimates are official statistics.
UK Statistics Authority Assessment	Assessed by UK Statistics Authority, the report can be found within the UK Statistics Authority – Assessments section on the National Records of Scotland website.
Help email	statisticscustomerservices@nrscotland.gov.uk
Date this form was published	29 August 2024