

Population by Country of Birth and Nationality, 2017



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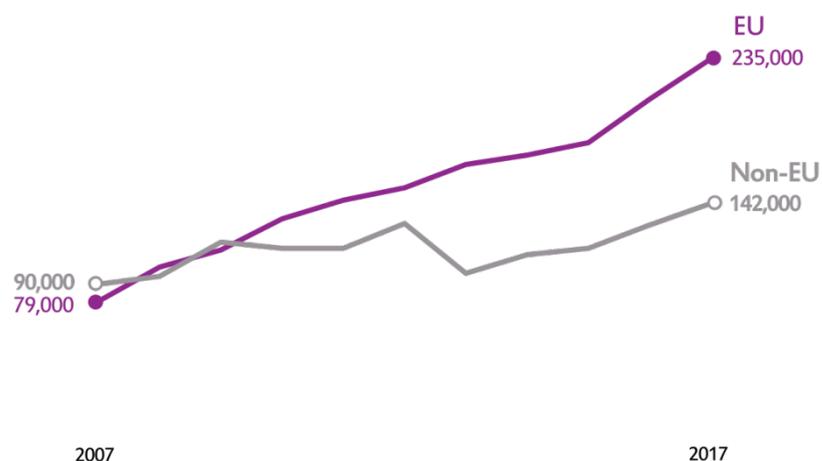
This statistical report describes the population of Scotland and its council areas by country of birth and nationality, using data from the Annual Population Survey.

Number of people living in Scotland with non-British nationality continues to increase

Overall, 7% of the resident population of Scotland have non-British nationality.

Of those people resident in Scotland with non-British nationality, 235,000 people are EU nationals and 142,000 are non-EU nationals.

Number of non-British nationals

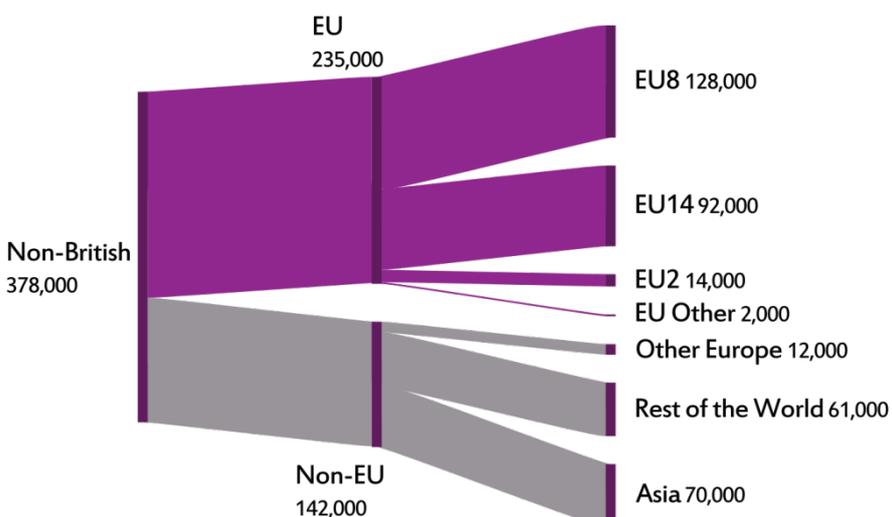


There are 235,000 EU nationals living in Scotland, representing 4% of the resident population

In 2017, 62% (235,000) of the non-British population were EU nationals. More than half of the EU population in Scotland held EU8 nationality.

Non-EU nationals (142,000) accounted for 38% of the non-British population of Scotland in 2017, with the largest group within non-EU nationals being Asia (70,000).

Number of non-British nationals



Polish is the most common non-British nationality

In 2017, there were 99,000 Polish nationals living in Scotland, accounting for 26% of the total non-British population.

Three of the top five most common nationalities were from the EU, with India being the most common non-EU nationality.

Number of non-British nationals



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Key Findings

Population by Nationality

- In 2017, there were estimated to be 378,000 people living in Scotland who had non-British nationality, accounting for 7% of the usually resident population. This is a statistically significant increase from 337,000 in 2016.
- Of those who had non-British nationality, 235,000 (62%) were EU nationals and 142,000 (38%) were non-EU nationals.
- The increase to the total non-British national population was driven by a statistically significant increase in the number of EU nationals, which rose by 26,000 people between 2016 and 2017.
- The most common non-British nationality in Scotland in 2017 was Polish, with an estimated 99,000 residents (26% of the total non-British population).
- The council area with the highest proportion of residents who are non-British nationals was Aberdeen City, with 21% of residents (48,000 persons) holding non-British nationality.

Population by Country of Birth

- In 2017, there were estimated to be 477,000 people living in Scotland who were born outside of the UK, accounting for 9% of the usually resident population. This is an increase from 457,000 in 2016, but this change was not statistically significant.
- Of those who were born outside of the UK, 239,000 (50%) were born in the EU and 238,000 (50%) were born outside of the EU.
- The increase to the population born outside of the UK was driven by a statistically significant increase to the EU14 population, increasing by 18,000 (20%) to 107,000 in 2017.
- The most common non-UK country of birth for those living in Scotland in 2017 was Poland, with an estimated 84,000 residents (18% of the total non-UK born population).
- The council area with the highest proportion of residents with non-UK country of birth was Aberdeen City, with 24% of residents (55,000 persons) being born overseas.

1. Introduction

This publication summarises the latest estimates of the Scottish population by country of birth and nationality, for the year ending December 2017. These estimates are produced using the Annual Population Survey (APS), which has a sample size of around 300,000 respondents in the whole of the UK, and is the largest household survey in the UK (other than the Census and Census coverage survey). In 2017, the sample size for Scotland was around 37,000 people.

The estimates from the APS differ from the official mid-year population estimates (MYE) as the APS is a household survey, so does not include most communal establishments. The mid-year estimates also refer to a mid-year period (as at June), rather than the calendar year period covered by this publication. The MYE provide estimates of the population by sex and age, whereas the APS can be used to provide estimates by country of birth and nationality.

Country of birth refers to the country that a person was born in and cannot change. Whereas, nationality refers to the nationality stated by the respondent when they were interviewed and can be subject to change.

The population estimates by country of birth and nationality are available for Scotland's council areas and can be accessed on the [NRS website](#). The statistics can be used to understand the profile of the population living in local areas, and are often used by central and local government for planning and monitoring service delivery.

2. Population by Nationality

In 2017, there were estimated to be 378,000 people living in Scotland who had non-British nationality, representing 7% of the population. The breakdown of the non-British population is shown in Table 1.

Table 1: Population by Nationality, Scotland, 2017

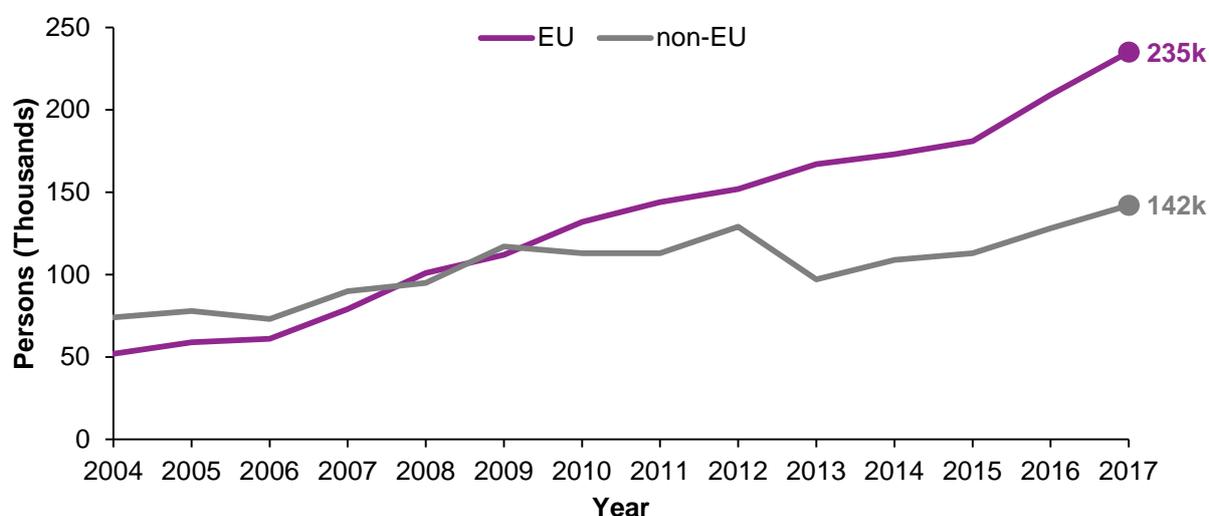
<u>Nationality</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>Change</u>	<u>Percentage of Non-British Population (2017)</u>
All	5,296,000	5,311,000	15,000	-
British	4,958,000	4,933,000	-25,000	-
Non-British	337,000	378,000	41,000*	-
EU (total)	209,000	235,000	26,000*	62%
EU14	72,000	92,000	20,000*	24%
EU8	124,000	128,000	4,000	34%
EU2	12,000	14,000	2,000	4%
EU Other	1,000	2,000	1,000	1%
Non-EU (total)	128,000	142,000	14,000	38%
Other Europe	9,000	12,000	3,000	3%
Asia	64,000	70,000	6,000	19%
Rest of the World	55,000	61,000	6,000	16%

Source: Annual Population Survey (APS), Office for National Statistics

Note: Statistically significant changes are denoted by an asterisk

Of non-British nationals living in Scotland in 2017, 235,000 (62%) were EU nationals and 142,000 (38%) were non-EU nationals. Within the EU national population, the largest sub-group are those with EU8 nationality. In the past year, however, the largest increase within the EU sub-groups was for EU14 nationals, which saw a statistically significant increase from 72,000 in 2016 to 92,000 in 2017.

Figure 1: Non-British Population of Scotland, 2004-2017



Source: Annual Population Survey (APS), Office for National Statistics

Figure 1 shows the change in the number of non-British nationals living in Scotland since 2004, split by EU and non-EU nationals. From 2010 onwards, there have been more (non-UK) EU nationals living in Scotland than non-EU nationals. The gap between these two groups grew in 2017, with a statistically significant increase in the number of (non-UK) EU nationals living in Scotland, from 209,000 in 2015 to 235,000 in 2017 (an increase of 12%).

Table 2 provides information on the most common non-British nationalities for the usually resident population of Scotland; split into EU and non-EU countries.

Table 2: Most common non-British nationalities, Scotland, 2017

EU nationalities		Non-EU nationalities	
<u>Country</u>	<u>Persons</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>Persons</u>
Poland	99,000	India	16,000
Republic of Ireland	21,000	Pakistan	14,000
Italy	15,000	China	12,000
France	12,000	United States of America	10,000
Latvia	12,000	Nigeria	10,000

Source: Annual Population Survey (APS), Office for National Statistics

Within Scotland, the council area with the highest proportion of residents who are non-British nationals was Aberdeen City with 21% (48,000 people). The council area with the highest number of non-British residents was the City of Edinburgh, with 85,000.

3. Population by Country of Birth

In 2017, there were estimated to be 477,000 people living in Scotland who were born overseas, representing 9% of the population. The breakdown of the non-UK born population is shown in Table 3.

Table 3: Population by Country of Birth, Scotland, 2017

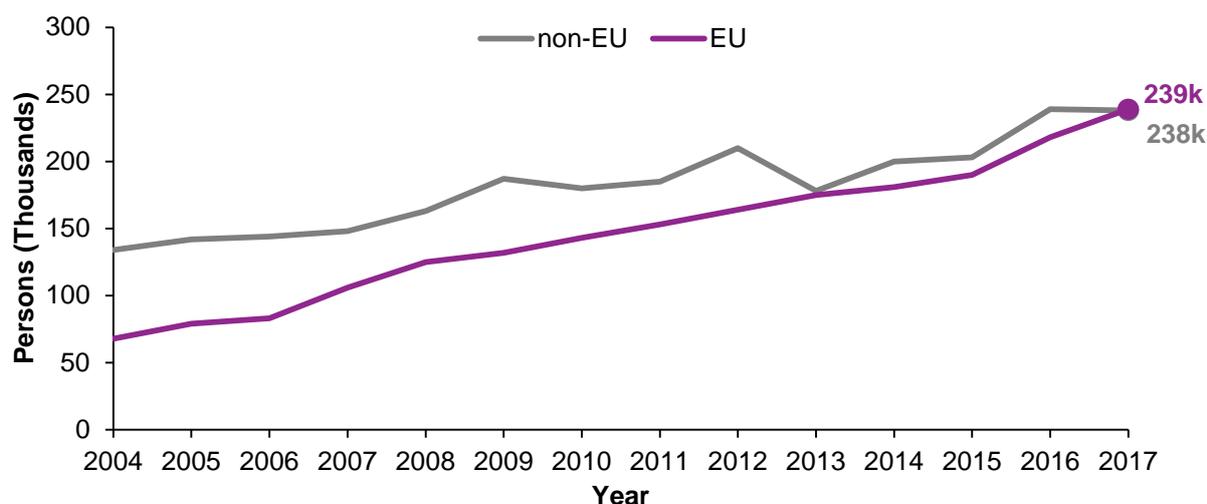
Country of Birth	2016	2017	Change	Percentage of Non-UK born Population (2017)
All	5,296,000	5,311,000	15,000	-
UK	4,838,000	4,834,000	-4,000	-
Non-UK	457,000	477,000	20,000	-
EU (total)	218,000	239,000	21,000	50%
EU14	89,000	107,000	18,000*	22%
EU8	113,000	113,000	0	24%
EU2	12,000	13,000	1,000	3%
EU Other	3,000	6,000	3,000	1%
Non-EU (total)	239,000	238,000	-1,000	50%
Other Europe	13,000	16,000	3,000	3%
Asia	119,000	120,000	1,000	25%
Rest of the World	107,000	103,000	-4,000	22%

Source: Annual Population Survey (APS), Office for National Statistics

Note: Statistically significant changes are denoted by an asterisk

Of those people living in Scotland in 2017 who were born overseas, 239,000 (50%) were born in the EU and 238,000 (50%) were born outside the EU. The only statistically significant change seen in the last year across all groups was for EU14, which increased by 18,000 to 107,000.

Figure 2: Non-UK born population of Scotland, 2004 to 2017



Source: Annual Population Survey (APS), Office for National Statistics

Figure 2 shows the number of people born abroad who were resident in Scotland each year. The split between EU born residents and non-EU born residents is now almost even, with the number of EU born residents increasing by 21,000 and the number of non-EU born residents decreasing by 1,000 in the past year. Neither of those changes were statistically significant.

Table 4 provides information on the most common non-UK countries of birth for the usually resident population of Scotland; split into EU and non-EU countries.

Table 4: Most common non-UK countries of birth, Scotland, 2017

EU countries of birth		Non-EU countries of birth	
Country	Persons	Country	Persons
Poland	84,000	Pakistan	28,000
Republic of Ireland	25,000	India	24,000
Germany	23,000	China	14,000
France	13,000	United States of America	13,000
Italy	12,000	Nigeria	12,000

Source: Annual Population Survey (APS), Office for National Statistics

Within Scotland, the council area with the highest proportion of residents who were born abroad was Aberdeen City with 24% (55,000 people). The council area with the highest number of residents born abroad was the City of Edinburgh, with 102,000.

4. Related Statistics

The Office for National Statistics (ONS) publish the data contained in this report for the whole of the United Kingdom, and also release a comparable UK-level publication on the Population of the UK by Country of Birth and Nationality which can be accessed on the [ONS website](#).

The Scottish Government produces a range of labour market statistics on EU and non-EU nationals from the Annual Population Survey. Information on topics including employment rates, industry of employment and level of skill is available on the [Scottish Government Labour Market Statistics webpage](#).

For statistics and commentary on the population as a whole, National Records of Scotland's [mid-year population estimates for mid-2017](#) were published on 19 April 2018, and contain information about all aspects of population change, including migration.

Whilst this publication provides estimates of the number of non-British nationals and the non-UK born population living in Scotland (often referred to as migrant stocks), they are not directly comparable with estimates of long-term international migration (migrant flows). For statistics relating to migrant flows (the number of migrants moving to or from Scotland over a period of time) please visit the [NRS migration tables](#).

For an in depth look at demographic statistics for each council area, National Records of Scotland's [council area profiles](#) are available for each of Scotland's 32 council areas. These contain information on a range of statistics, including population and migration.

5. Notes on statistical publications

National Statistics

The United Kingdom Statistics Authority (UKSA) has designated these statistics as National Statistics, in line with the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007 and signifying compliance with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics (available on the [UKSA](#) website).

National Statistics status means that official statistics meet the highest standards of trustworthiness, quality and public value.

All official statistics should comply with all aspects of the Code of Practice for Official Statistics. They are awarded National Statistics status following an assessment by the Authority's regulatory arm. The Authority considers whether the statistics meet the highest standards of Code compliance, including the value they add to public decisions and debate.

It is National Records of Scotland's responsibility to maintain compliance with the standards expected of National Statistics. If we become concerned about whether these statistics are still meeting the appropriate standards, we will discuss any concerns with the Authority promptly. National Statistics status can be removed at any point when the highest standards are not maintained, and reinstated when standards are restored.

Information on background and source data

Further details on data source(s), timeframe of data and timeliness, continuity of data, accuracy, etc can be found in the About this Publication document that is published alongside this publication on the NRS website.

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Recording the present – At our network of local offices, we register births, marriages, civil partnerships, deaths, divorces and adoptions in Scotland.

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