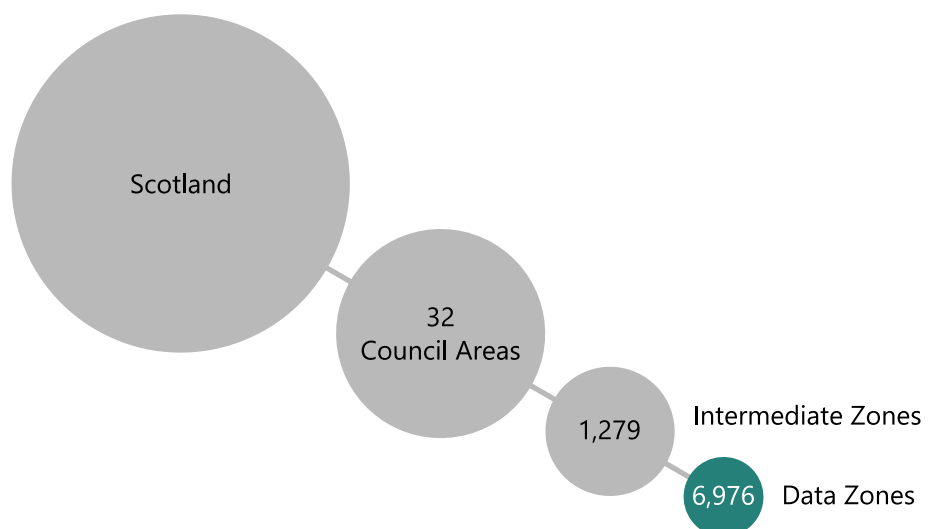


Scotland is split into about 7,000 small areas called data zones

Data zones are a small area geography used to provide statistics at local level.

There are 6,976 data zones covering the whole of Scotland and they nest within council areas.



Most data zones contain between 500 and 1,000 people

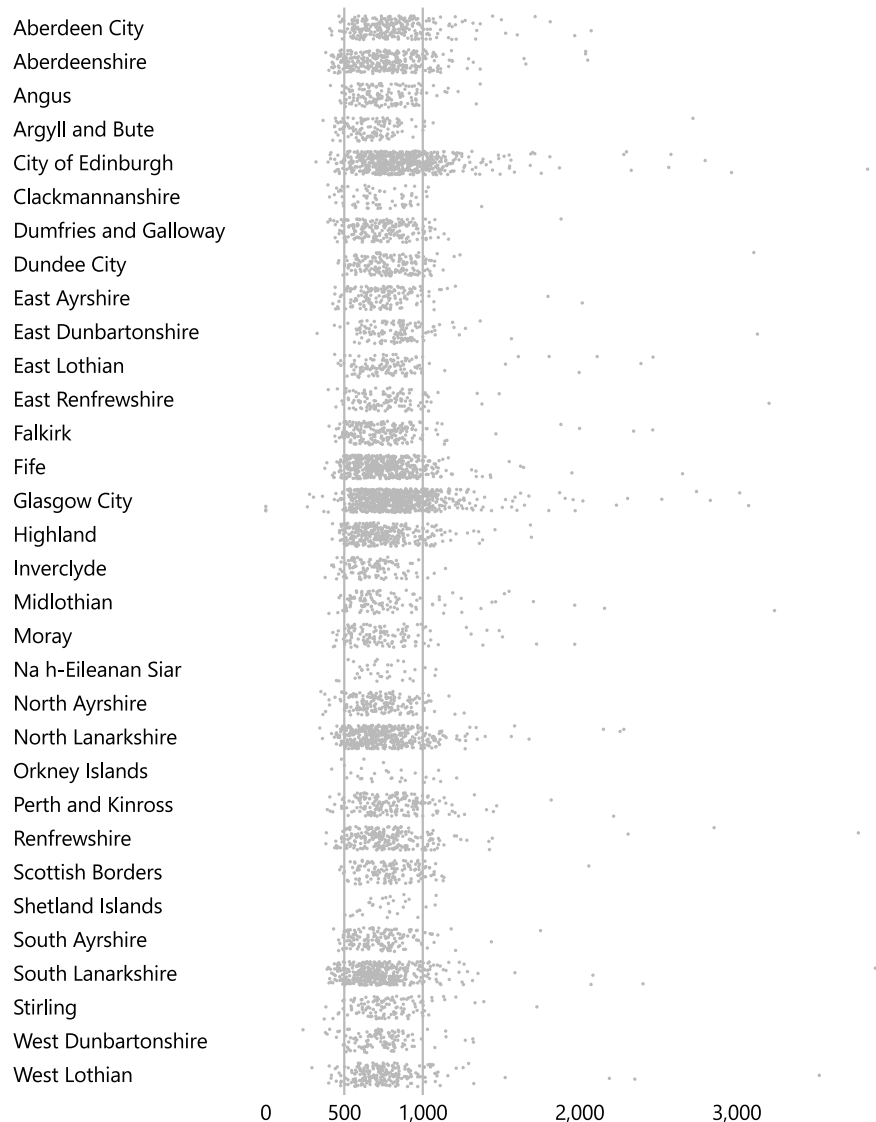
Data zones are designed to have a population of around 500 to 1,000 household residents. In mid-2020, the average data zone population was 784.

Most data zones change in population over time. This can be for many reasons. For example:

- Births
- Deaths
- Migration
- Larger changes may be due to housing demolitions or new housing development

Find out about the data zone you live in at www.nrscotland.gov.uk/interactive/small-area-population-estimates

Population of each data zone, mid-2020



Every council area has pockets of population growth and depopulation

In the last decade, mainly rural councils, as well as those in the west of Scotland have seen a higher proportion of their areas decrease in population. In contrast, the cities have seen more areas increase in population.

Percentage of data zones that increased, stayed the same (in white), or decreased population by council area mid-2010 to mid-2020

