

What are settlements and localities?

Settlements and the localities within them are designed to represent the populated, built-up areas of Scotland.

Over 90% of people in Scotland live within a settlement.

Settlements account for just over 2% of Scotland's area.

Distribution of settlements across Scotland



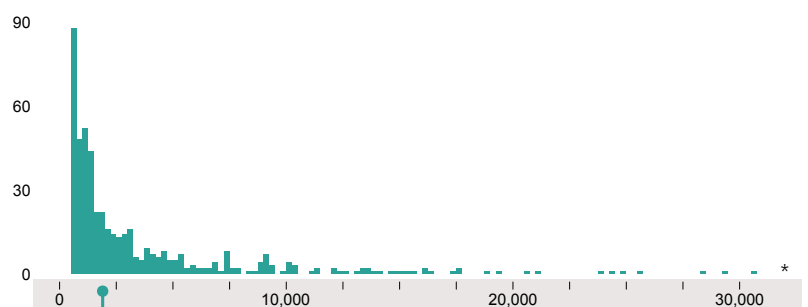
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Settlement population distribution

A settlement is defined to be a group of high density postcodes whose combined population rounds to 500 people or more. They are separated by low density postcodes.

The population in each settlement varies as areas change over time. In 2016, there were on average 1,900 people per settlement.

Number of settlements



1,900

Average number of people per settlement

Population

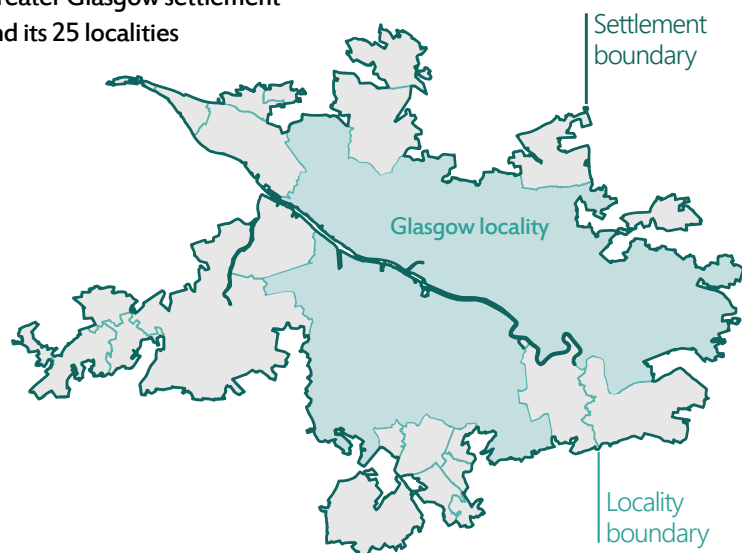
* There were 25 settlements with an estimated population higher than 30,000

Find the latest population estimates for Scotland's settlements and localities

Detailed tables containing the latest population estimates by sex and age are available at the settlements and localities section of nrscotland.gov.uk.

Geographic shape files which display the settlement and locality boundaries using GIS software are also available in the same area.

Greater Glasgow settlement and its 25 localities



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