

QUICK BRIEFING
2011 CENSUS: FIRST RESULTS ON POPULATION AND
HOUSEHOLD ESTIMATES FOR HIGHLAND (release 1B)

In December 2012, National Records of Scotland (NRS) announced the first results from the Census held in Scotland on 27th March 2011. They showed that the population of Highland had risen to 232,000, an increase of around 23,000 (11.1%) from the 2001 figure of 208,914. Highland had the second highest percentage growth in population: the highest was Aberdeenshire (11.5%).

The second release 1B on 21st March provides rounded estimates of the usually resident population of Scotland and each council area on Census day, broken down by five-year age bands and gender, together with estimates of the number of households in each council area. This note gives a summary of these results for Highland and focuses mainly on the change between 2001 and 2011.

Population Change by Age

With a significant increase in the overall population, we might hope for a relatively uniform increase across all age groups. As expected, the figures below show a continuing increase in the older age groups. There is also an increase in the number of people of working age, as well as an increase in the overall number between 0 – 15 years. The only decrease is in the range from 5 – 15 years.

Children and Young People

- The number of people aged under 5 has increased from 11,400 to 12,700 (11.7%). Five council areas in Scotland had a higher percentage increase with the highest in the City of Edinburgh (18.0%).
- Every area in Scotland has shown a fall in the 5 to 14 age group. The number in Highland fell from 26,900 to 25,800 (-3.8%) with three areas showing a lower fall; the lowest was in Stirling and Angus (each -2.6%).
- Taking the 0 to 15 age group as a whole, the population increased from 38,200 to 38,500 (0.9%). Highland was one of only three areas showing an increase in this age group; the highest was in West Lothian (1.3%).

Working Age Population

- The number of people in the 15 to 39 age group increased from 63,600 to 64,100 (0.8%). Highland was one of eight areas showing an increase with the highest in Aberdeen City (8.4).
- The number of people in the 40 to 64 age group increased from 72,400 to 86,400 (19.4%). All areas in Scotland showed an increase with 5 having a higher percentage increase than Highland and the highest in East Lothian (23.4%).
- The 15 to 64 age group overall is a close approximation to the important 16 to 64 working age group. The number in Highland increased from 136,000 to 150,600 (10.7%), the fourth highest percentage increase (with the highest in East Lothian, 13.6%) although the earlier breakdown shows that the growth is clearly biased towards older age bands.

Retirement Age Population

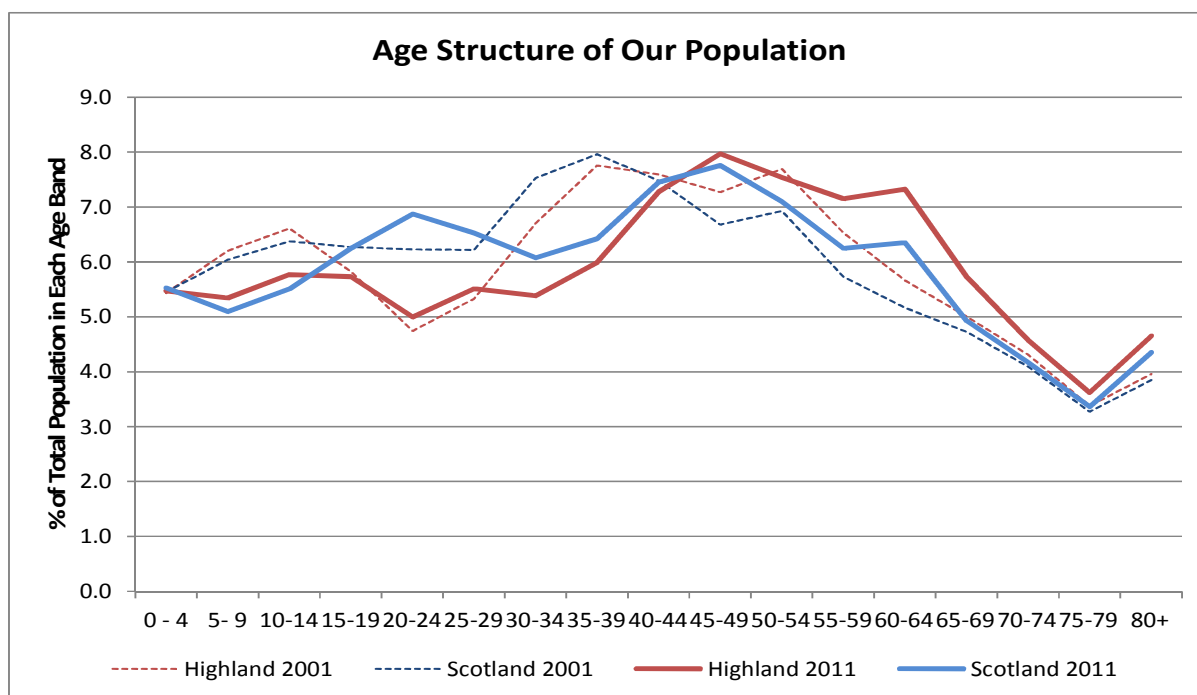
- The number of people aged between 65 and 79 increased from 26,500 to 32,200 (21.8%). Only five areas had a fall in this group (the biggest fall was in Glasgow City, -13.2%) and four areas had a higher percentage increase than Highland (the highest was West Lothian, 32.5%).
- All areas showed an increase in the 80 and over age group with an increase in Highland from 8,200 to 10,800 (31.7%). Only two areas had a higher increase, the highest was in East Dunbartonshire (44.4%).
- Overall, the number of people of retirement age (65+) increased from 34,700 to 43,000 (24.1%). Only three areas showed a reduction in this age group (the biggest fall was in Glasgow City, -9.4%) and only three had a higher percentage increase than Highland (the biggest increase was in Orkney, 31.1%).

Age Structure

One graphic way of showing how the age structure of our population is changing is to plot the percentage of the total population that is in each five year age band. The chart below shows that:

- Highland has a lower percentage of people in the 15 to 49 age group than Scotland overall (red and blue solid lines respectively). The most significant difference is in the 20 to 24 age band (a result of young people moving away mainly to higher and further education) with 5.0% in Highland compared with 6.9% in Scotland.
- Highland has a higher percentage in the 50+ age group, most notably Highland has 7.3% in the 60 to 64 age band compared with 6.4% in Scotland.

The dotted lines show the position in 2001 and the shift of the lines to the right shows the general trend towards an ageing population throughout Scotland.



Percentage of the Total Population in each Age Band, 2011		
Age Band	Highland	Scotland
0 - 4	5.5	5.5
5- 9	5.3	5.1
10-14	5.8	5.5
15-19	5.7	6.2
20-24	5.0	6.9
25-29	5.5	6.5
30-34	5.4	6.1
35-39	6.0	6.4
40-44	7.3	7.5
45-49	8.0	7.8
50-54	7.5	7.1
55-59	7.2	6.2
60-64	7.3	6.4
65-69	5.7	4.9
70-74	4.6	4.2
75-79	3.6	3.4
80+	4.7	4.4
All Ages (100%)	232,100	5,295,400

People Living in Communal Establishments

In 2001, 3,563 people lived in communal establishments and this rose to 3,800 in 2011: the percentage of people living in establishments is broadly the same given the rounding of the 2011 figure.

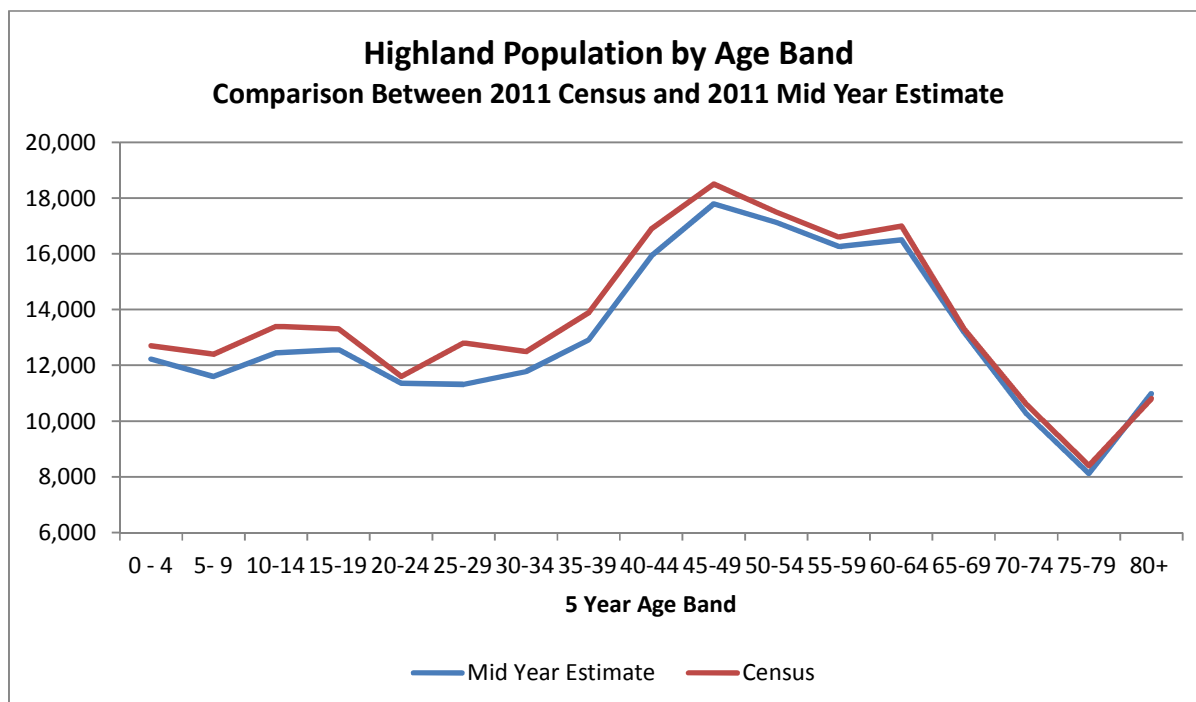
Households

In 2001 Highland had 205,400 people living in 89,530 households, giving an occupancy rate of 2.29 people per household. In 2011 there were 228,400 people living in 102,090 households giving an occupancy rate of 2.24 people per household. This is slightly higher than the average figure for Scotland of 2.19 but in line with the national trend towards smaller households. One-person households are now most common across Scotland, accounting for 34.8% of all household types, but in Highland our most common household type is a two-person household, 36.7% of all households.

Highland	Number of Households	1 person	2 people	3 people	4 people	5 or more people
2001	89,533	31.3	34.8	15.4	12.4	6.2
2011	102,090	31.7	36.7	14.8	11.5	5.3

Comparison with Mid Year Estimates of Population and Households

A previous note on the first release of 2011 Census data¹ showed that the Census day population was higher than expected when compared with the mid year estimates “rolled forward” from the 2001 Census. The chart below shows how this difference is distributed across the age bands. In general terms the 65+ retirement age is as expected and the extra people are distributed fairly evenly across the younger age bands. The number of households on census day 2011 was estimated to be 102,090 which is slightly lower than the rolled forward mid year estimate for 2011 of 102,726.



¹ <http://www.highland.gov.uk/NR/rdonlyres/DC0772AE-B5BC-43F2-B412-13F9032D5FA2/0/20121217quickbriefing.pdf>

Release Plan for Further Results

Release 1B (21 March 2013) this release – Population for Scotland and each council area. Household council area.

Release 1C (May 2013) – Population estimates Scotland and each council area.

Release 2 (from Summer 2013) - Key and Quick statistics; Census Profiles; postcode and geography products.

Release 3 (from Autumn 2013) - Local Characteristics and Local Themes.

Release 4 (from Winter 2013) - Detailed Characteristics and Themes.

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