



# Country Report Scotland

2010

Research  
Centre

Fact Sheet

- Scotland has a population of just under 5.2 million. This has grown by only 2.2% in the five year period from 2003 to 2008.
- Proportionally the region has more people of pension age than the UK average, and a smaller than average population of under 5s.
- Average house prices are the sixth lowest in the UK, at £160,249.
- Scotland contributes nearly 7% of all UK exports with machinery and transport exports accounting for 38% of the region's total foreign sales.
- Regional output per head is 6% less than the UK average, at £19,267.

Scotland covers an area of 77,925 sq km, which is equivalent to 32% of the total land mass of the United Kingdom. The area stretches from the Scottish Borders and Dumfries and Galloway in the South, to the Orkney and Shetland Islands in the north.

## Population trends

Scotland's population has increased by over 2% since 2003, while the UK's population increased by over 3% over the same period. In 2008, Scotland had a population of just under 5.2 million, which is equivalent to over 8% of the total population of the UK. The region ranks eighth out of all the regions in terms of population.

Within Scotland, the population of Inverclyde recorded the biggest decrease of 2.7%, while Perth and Kinross's population has increased by 6.1% and Clackmannanshire's population has grown by 5.9%. Scotland has a population density of 66 people per sq km which is the lowest of all regions in the UK. Glasgow is the most densely populated city in the region, with 3,329 people per sq km.

## Age profiles

In 2008, almost 20% of the population was of pensionable age, slightly more than the national average of just over 19%. The region has a slightly smaller proportion of under 5s than the UK

average, at 5.5% compared to a UK average of 6%. Dumfries and Galloway has the 'oldest' population, with just over 25% being of pensionable age, while West Lothian has the largest percentage of under 5s at just under 7%. Across the region, almost 63% of the population is of working age, above the UK average of 62%, while almost 18% of residents in Scotland are under 16, below the UK average of almost 19%.

## Households

The most recent figures available estimate there are almost 2.3 million households in Scotland, an increase of over 12% since the early 1990s. Of these households, 65% are owner occupied compared to a UK average of 70%, while 14% are rented from the local authority, above the UK average of 10%. Average weekly earnings were £472 in the period up to April 2009, which is below the UK average of £489. This is the fourth highest average earnings recorded across the whole of the UK. Average weekly household spending is estimated at £433, which is less than the UK average of £460. The Department for Communities and Local Government estimated that the average house price in the region was £160,249 at the end of 2009, implying that Scotland is the sixth cheapest region in the UK. The average house price for the UK as a whole was £200,307.

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## Regional Income

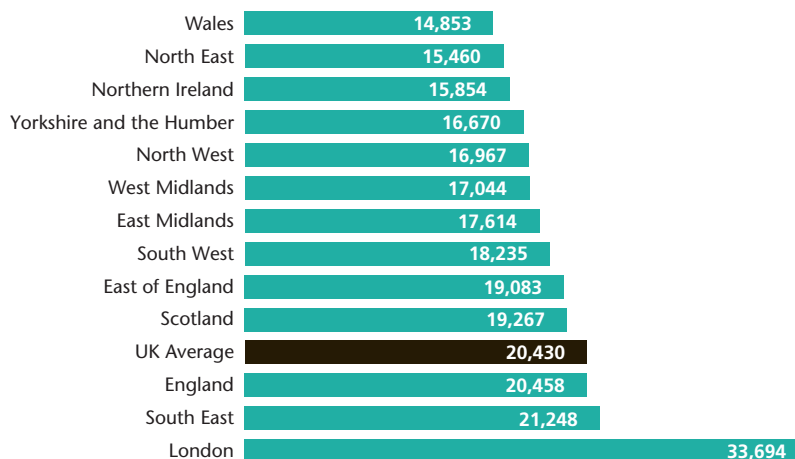
Regional output is commonly measured in terms of gross value added (GVA). Total GVA for the UK increased 6% in 2007 to £1,246bn. Scotland produced output worth £99.1bn, which is equivalent to 8% of national output, ranking it fifth out of the 12 UK regions. Since 1997, output has increased by 61%. Within the region, Inverness & Nairn and Moray, Badenoch & Strathspey has grown fastest, by 92%, while Inverclyde, East Renfrewshire and Renfrewshire reported the smallest gain, of only 24%. Inverclyde, East Renfrewshire and Renfrewshire's growth is the smallest of any region in the UK. South Western Scotland, which includes Glasgow City, is responsible for 41% of the region's total output.

Regional output can also be compared on a per head basis by dividing GVA by the region's population. In 2007, the national average for GVA per head was £20,430, while for Scotland this was £19,267, 94% of the UK average. Scotland's GVA per head has increased by 59% since 1997, which is slower than the UK's average growth in GVA per head of 61%. Across the region, GVA per head ranges from just £12,094 in East and West Dunbartonshire and Helensburgh & Lomond to £32,697 in the City of Edinburgh. Over the last 10 years the largest increase in GVA per head was recorded in Inverness & Nairn and Moray, Badenoch & Strathspey, at almost 85%, whilst Inverclyde, East Renfrewshire and Renfrewshire reported the slowest growth, at just 28%.

## Major Regional Industries (% of output)



## Regional output per head in 2007 (£)



## Major Industries

The largest contributor to the area's output is real estate, renting and business activities, which produces 20% of output. This is followed by manufacturing, which accounts for 14%, and wholesale & retail, which accounts for a further 10% of output. These three industries produce around 44% of regional output. Public administration & defence, construction and health & social work all account for a larger share of Scottish output than is the case across the UK as a whole. Financial intermediation, at just under 8%, accounts for less of the region's output than the UK average.

## Exports

Exports from Scotland amounted to almost £15bn in 2009, which is equivalent to nearly 7% of all UK exports. Machinery and transport exports account for 38% of the region's total foreign sales. The other main export sectors are

mineral fuels, manufactured goods and beverages & tobacco. At present, 44% of Scotland's exports go to Europe, 21% to North America and 18% to Asia.

## Workforce

Scotland has the fifth most active population in terms of economic activity. Economic activity measures the number of people either in work or actively seeking work. The economic activity ratio for the region currently stands at 80%, higher than the national average of 79%.

At the end of 2009, 2.5 million people were employed within Scotland. The service sector accounted for around 83% of total employment. Within that, distribution, transport, finance and business, accounted for 46% of jobs, while public administration, education, and health employed a further 37% of people in work. Manufacturing employed 9% of the total workforce, which is slightly lower than the national average of the UK. Construction related jobs were also slightly lower than the national average at 5%.

At the end of 2009, Scotland had an unemployment rate of 7.6%, slightly below the UK average of 7.8%. In Scotland 4% of all employees have a second job to supplement income which is slightly higher than the UK average. Almost 5% of women have a second job compared to only 3% of men.

Sources: ONS Regional Trends 2010 Edition, ONS Labour Market Statistics, Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG)