

A guide to finding local area data using the UK Census (Scotland)

This guide will walk you through how to find information about your local area using Scotland’s Census and how to compare this to the results from the Making Music Census Comparison Survey.

You can find information about your local area on the [Scotland’s Census website](#). This holds all the data from the 2022 census, as well as 2011 and 2001.

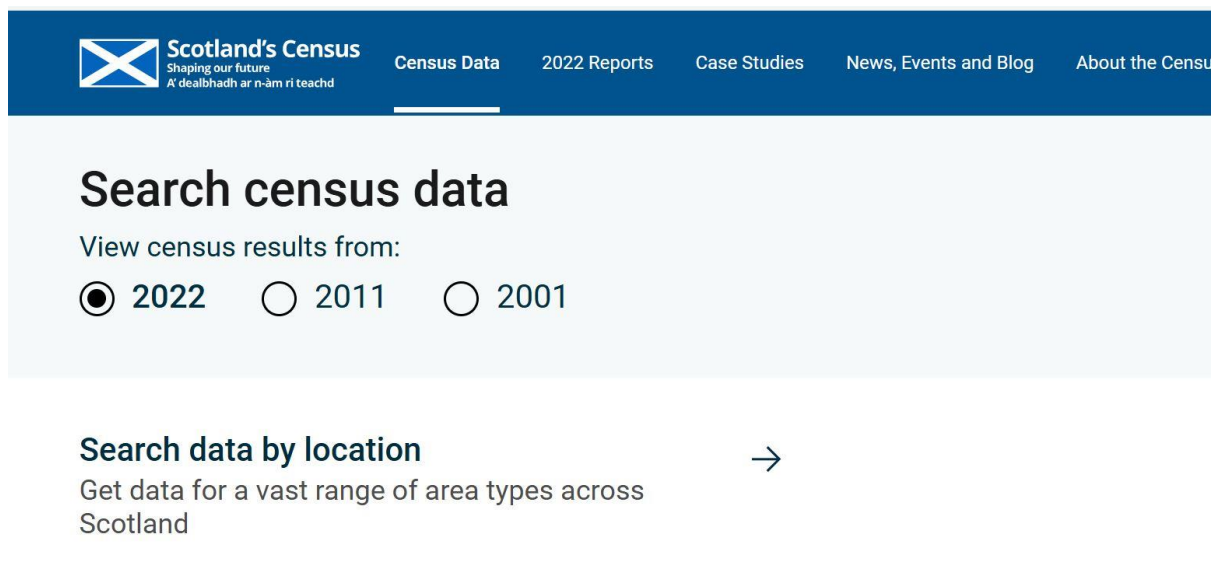
Scotland’s Census 2022

At time of writing (August 2024), the data from the 2022 Scotland Census has not been collated into Area Overviews on their website. This will be the last stage of publication, scheduled for Winter 2024/25. Currently, you will have to look at each topic heading individually, in table form. Tables present the data in real terms i.e. as numbers rather than percentages. This will make it more challenging to compare to the data you have collected from your census comparison survey. If you want to give it a go, guidance follows. Otherwise, skip to the 2011 section of this resource for guidance on how to pull easier to use data reports, or wait until early 2025 until the 2022 data is collated this way.

To get started, find the reports for your local authority area.

<https://www.scotlandscensus.gov.uk/search-the-census#/search-by>

Select data for 2022 and Search data by location



The screenshot shows the Scotland's Census website navigation bar with links for Census Data, 2022 Reports, Case Studies, News, Events and Blog, and About the Census. Below the navigation bar is a search section titled "Search census data" with a sub-heading "View census results from:" and three radio button options: 2022 (selected), 2011, and 2001. Below the radio buttons is a button labeled "Search data by location" with a right-pointing arrow. Underneath the button is the text "Get data for a vast range of area types across Scotland".

You can select which type of area to compare to: we would suggest Local authority. From here, you can click Search and select the Local Authority you operate in - or more than one if you cover a wider geography.

The data is then presented by Topic and in table form. Here are the routes to find the data to compare to the Survey questions:

How old are you? >> Demography and migration >> Age by single year

What is your gender? >> Demography and migration >> Age by sex (All People)

Is your gender the same as the sex you were assigned at birth? >> Sexual orientation and trans status or history >> Trans status or history

Which of the following best describes your sexual orientation? >> Sexual orientation and trans status or history >> Sexual orientation

What is your ethnic group? >> Ethnic group, national identity, language and religion >> Ethnic group

Were you born in the UK? >> Ethnic group, national identity, language and religion >> Country of birth

Do you have any physical or mental health conditions or illnesses lasting or expected to last 12 months or more? If yes, do any of your conditions or illnesses reduce your ability to carry out day-to-day activities? >> (Scheduled for publication October 2024)

What is your employment status? >> (Scheduled for publication September 2024)

What is your highest level of qualification? >> (Scheduled for publication September 2024)

In each table there is an ‘All People’ figure on the far left. Use this to create a percentage figure with your survey data.

E.g. White Scottish + White British / All People in Aberdeen City

$$151,844 + 16,680 / 224,021$$

= 75% of all people in Aberdeen City are White Scottish/White British

	All People	White: Total	White: White Scottish	White: Other White British	White: White Irish	White: White Gypsy/ Traveller	White: White Polish	Other White
Ethnic Group ⓘ ⋮								
Council Area 2019 ⓘ ⋮								
Aberdeen City	224,021	193,921	151,844	16,680	1,963	234	9,876	13,330

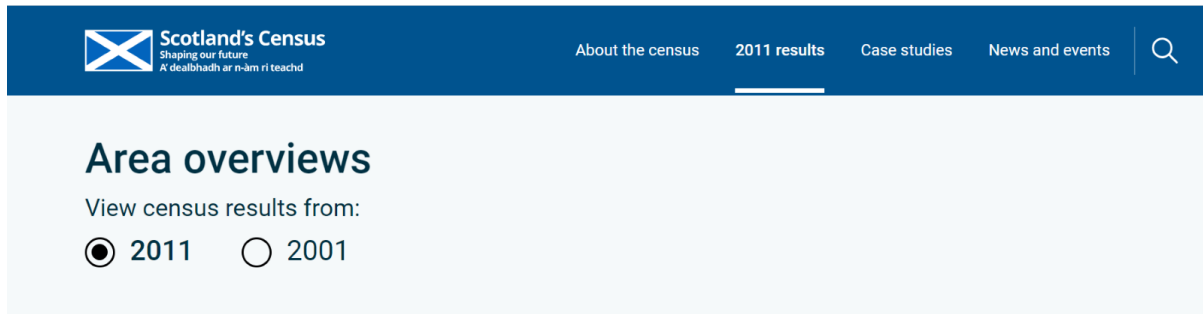
Scotland's Census 2011

The publication of the 2011 Census Data is available as an Area overview for your community. This will be possible for the 2022 data, but not until early 2025.

This link will take you to the Area overviews search:

<https://www.scotlandscensus.gov.uk/search-the-census/#/explore>

Enter your town name or council area into the search bar and click on the correct option to generate an area overview.



The screenshot shows the top navigation bar of the Scotland's Census website. It includes the Scotland's Census logo with the tagline 'Shaping our future' and 'A' dealbhadh ar n-àrn ri teachd'. The navigation menu contains 'About the census', '2011 results' (which is underlined), 'Case studies', and 'News and events'. A search icon is visible on the right. Below the navigation bar, the main heading is 'Area overviews'. Underneath, it says 'View census results from:' followed by two radio buttons: '2011' (which is selected) and '2001'.

Search by postcode, town name or council area

For example, 'IV1 1HY' or 'Dumfries and Galloway'

The area overview displays statistics for certain demographics. You can navigate between the topics in the tabs at the top ('Population', 'Household', 'Identity' etc.).

This website only displays the statistics as percentages of the total number of people in an area. Comparing percentages is the easiest way to compare this data to your group. You can click the 'view as chart' button at the side of each topic to view the results as a chart if you would prefer.



The screenshot shows the 'Edinburgh, City of: 2011 overview' page. At the top, there are two options: 'Compare census years' (with a '2001 +' button) and 'Compare an area' (with a '+ Add an area' button). Below this is a horizontal tab menu with 'Population', 'Household', 'Identity', 'Health', 'Education', and 'Labour Market'. The 'Population' tab is selected. Underneath, the section is titled 'Sex' and 'All people'. The total population is shown as '476,626'. Below this, the data is split into 'Males' (48.8%) and 'Females' (51.2%). A 'View as chart' link is visible next to the 'Sex' label.

Guidance for comparing data from the 2011 census to the Making Music survey (Scotland)

We selected questions for the Census Comparison Survey based on the information that is available on Scotland’s Census website. This section of the guide will show you where to find the comparative data for each question.

How old are you?

Age data is available under the ‘Population’ tab. The age bands used in Scotland are slightly different to those used in the Making Music survey, so you might have to combine some of the sections to be able to compare, or just get a rough idea of where your group sits. Alternatively, pull the 2022 data, which is broken down by single year - see above.

Age			
View as chart	All people		
	476,626		
0 to 4 years old	5 to 15 years old	16 to 29 years old	
5.5 %	9.7 %	24.6 %	
30 to 44 years old	45 to 59 years old	60 to 74 years old	
22.1 %	18.5 %	12.4 %	
75 years old and over	All people	Under 16 years old	
7.2 %	476,626	15.1 %	
16 to 64 years old	65 years old and over		
70.5 %	14.4 %		

What is your gender?

Sex data is found in the ‘Population’ tab.

Is your gender the same as the sex you were assigned at birth? Which of the

Sex		
View as chart	All people	
	476,626	
Males	Females	
48.8 %	51.2 %	

following best describes your sexual orientation?

Unfortunately, data on gender identity and data on sexual orientation is not available in the area profiles. You can find this in the 2022 census survey results see above.

What is your ethnic group?

Data on ethnicity is available in the ‘identity’ tab. The way this is reported in Scotland is slightly different to how the data is collected in the Making Music survey. E.g. You will need to combine the local percentages for ‘White - Scottish’ and ‘White - Other British’ to get a result that can be compared to ‘White - English/Welsh/Scottish/Northern Irish’.

Were you born in the UK?

Data on country of birth is available under the ‘Identity tab’. To calculate the percentage of people born in the UK, combine the percentages for Scotland, England, Wales, and Northern Ireland. In the example below this would be 84%. The others can be combined to determine the percentage of people not born in the UK.

Country of birth

[View as chart](#)

All people

476,626

Scotland

70.2 %

England

12.1 %

Wales

0.4 %

Northern Ireland

1.3 %

Republic of Ireland

1 %

Other EU countries (inc UK part not specified)

5.9 %

Other countries

9 %

Do you have any physical or mental health conditions or illnesses lasting or expected to last 12 months or more? If yes, do any of your conditions or illnesses reduce your ability to carry out day-to-day activities?

These two questions provide information about disabilities. In the census, people who assess their day-to-day activity as limited by long-term physical or mental health conditions or illnesses are considered disabled. To calculate the number of disabled people from your survey results, combine the results for ‘Yes, a lot’ and ‘Yes, a little’ for the second question. To calculate the number of non-disabled people, combine the results for ‘No’ in the first question, and ‘Not at all’ in the second question.

Data for ‘Long-term health problem or disability’ can be found under the ‘Health’ tab. Compare your answers for ‘Yes a lot’, ‘Yes a little’, and ‘No condition/not at all’.

To see the percentage of people who have no long-term health condition, scroll down to look at the ‘Long-term’ health condition section. This shows you the percentage of people with ‘no condition’ and those ‘with one or more long-term health condition’.

Long-term health problem or disability

[View as chart](#)

All people

476,626

Limited a lot

7.2 %

Limited a little

8.9 %

Not limited

83.9 %

Long-term health condition All people
476,626

[View as chart](#)

With no condition
73.3 %

With one or more long-term health conditions
26.7 %

With deafness or partial hearing loss
5.4 %

With blindness or partial sight loss
2.1 %

With learning disability (for example, Down's Syndrome)
0.4 %

With learning difficulty (for example, dyslexia)
2.6 %

With developmental disorder (for example, Autistic Spectrum Disorder, Asperger's Syndrome)
0.6 %

With physical disability
5.1 %

With mental health condition
4.2 %

With other condition
16.1 %

What is your employment status?

This data is available under the 'Labour Market' tab and is titled 'Economic Activity'. To get an Employed percentage to compare to the survey question, use the 'Economically active' percentage and take away 'Unemployed' and 'Full-time student - unemployed'. You can match the other survey questions directly to the census percentage.

Economic activity

All persons 16 to 74

370,018

[View as chart](#)

Economically active
69 %

Employees - part-time
11.4 %

Employees - full-time
40.3 %

Self-employed
7.9 %

Unemployed
3.9 %

Full-time student - employed
4.4 %

Full-time student - unemployed
1.1 %

Economically inactive
31 %

Retired
11.6 %

Student
10.3 %

Looking after home or family
3.5 %

Long-term sick or disabled
3.7 %

What is your highest level of qualification?

Data on qualifications is available under the 'Education' tab. Scotland does not capture or report data on apprenticeships so you will not be able to compare this statistic.

Highest qualification

All persons aged 16 and over

[View as chart](#)

404,424

With no qualifications

17.1 %

Highest qualification attained - Level 1

18.5 %

Highest qualification attained - Level 2

15.3 %

Highest qualification attained - Level 3

7.6 %

Highest qualification attained - Level 4 and above

41.4 %

This is how the Levels match the MM survey questions:

Level 1: **SCHOOL AND PRE-HIGHER EDUCATION LEVEL**

Level 2: **SCHOOL AND PRE-HIGHER EDUCATION LEVEL / APPRENTICESHIP**

Level 3: **SCHOOL AND PRE-HIGHER EDUCATION LEVEL / APPRENTICESHIP**

Level 4: **DEGREE-LEVEL AND ABOVE**