

# General Information

*According to the most recent Census, in 2001 there were approximately 100,000 BME people in Scotland, making up just over 2% of the population.*



## General Information

**Population size:** According to the most recent Census, in 2001 there were 101,677 BME people in Scotland, making up just over 2% of the population. This was an increase from 60,000 in 1991, which represents a 62.3% growth, relative to a 1.3% growth of the total Scottish population. 70% of ethnic minority people living in Scotland were of Asian backgrounds, the largest group being of Pakistani origin.

The BME population is increasing at a faster rate than the general population. The total population increase between 1991 and 2001 was 1.3% while as the BME population increased by 62.3%.

### Population Size by Ethnic Group

Ethnic group	% of total population	% of Minority Ethnic population	Base
White Scottish	88.09	-	4,459,071
Other White British	7.38	-	373,685
White Irish	0.98	-	49,428
Other White	1.54	-	78,150
Indian	0.3	14.79	15,037
Pakistani	0.63	31.27	31,793
Bangladeshi	0.04	1.95	1,981
Chinese	0.32	16.04	16,310
Other South Asian	0.12	6.09	6,196
Caribbean	0.04	1.75	1,778
African	0.1	5.03	5,118
Black Scottish or Other Black	0.02	1.11	1,129
Any Mixed Background	0.25	12.55	12,764
Other Ethnic Group	0.19	9.41	9,571
All Minority Ethnic Population	2.01	100.00	
<b>All Population</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>na</b>	<b>5,062,011</b>

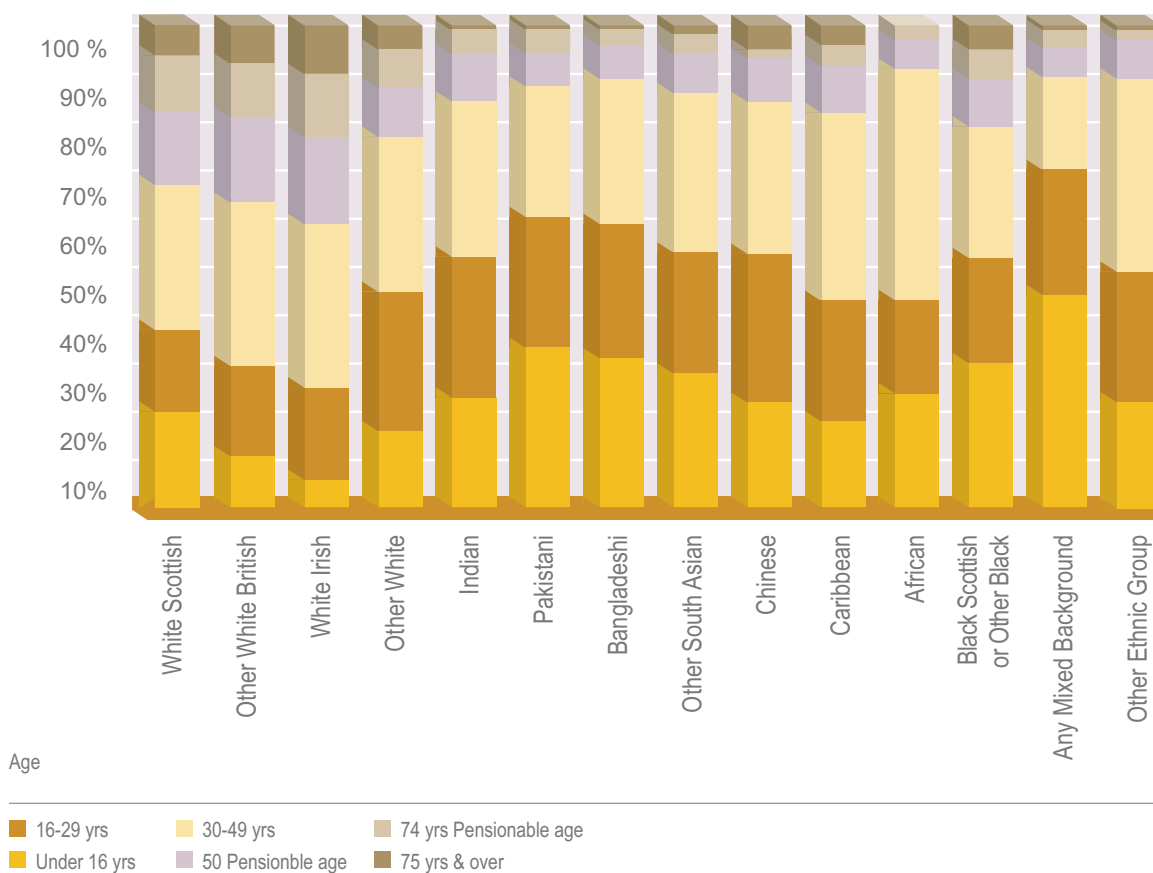
[Source: General Register Office for Scotland - 2001 Census: <http://www.gro-scotland.gov.uk/>]

The BME population is significantly more likely to live in urban areas: 39% of the general population lives in urban areas compared to 74% of people of Indian origin, 80% of people of Pakistani origin, 76% of people of Bangladeshi origin, 75% of people of other South Asian origin and 74% of people of African origin. 31% of Scotland's BME community lives in Glasgow and 18% in Edinburgh.

Greater Glasgow has the largest BME community in Scotland with 39,318 people (4.5% of the population of Glasgow) recorded as living in the area in the 2001 Census, compared with 2.01% for Scotland overall. Nearly half of the BME community is of Pakistani origin (45.7%, or 17,964 people) with the other major communities being of Indian origin, Chinese, other South Asian and African and Caribbean origin.

**Age:** With the exception of people of Caribbean backgrounds, according to the 2001 Census all BME groups had a younger age profile than White groups, with 20% of the non-Caribbean ethnic minority population being under 16. Possibly as a result of this, people of mixed, Caribbean, African, Chinese and other Black backgrounds are more likely to be single than people of other backgrounds.

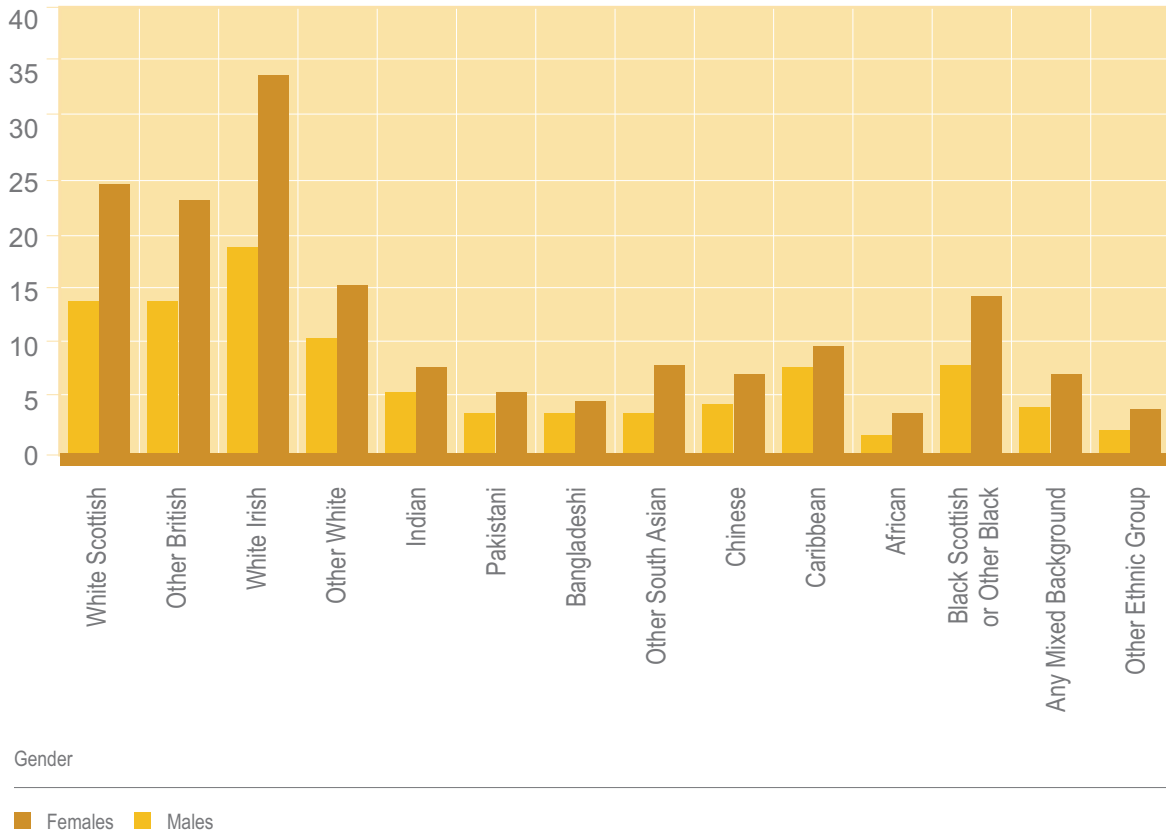
Age Profile by Ethnic Group, Scotland 2001 - All People



[Source: GROS – 2001 Census: <http://www.gro-scotland.gov.uk/>]



Persons of Pensionable Age and over by Ethnic Group Proportion of Total Scottish Population



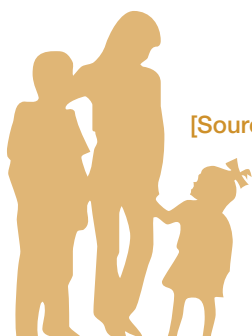
[Source: Labour Force Survey 2004: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2005/07/2891541/15419>]

**Marriage:** According to Census data, almost all married couples with at least one White partner are White/White marriages. 68.9% of couples with at least one partner of Indian origin are Indian/Indian marriages, but 25.6% are Indian/White marriages. There are twice as many men of Indian origin married to White women than White men married to women of Indian origin. 43.3% of marriages with at least one partner of Other South Asian origin are Other South Asian/White marriages. 60% of these marriages are men of South Asian origin married to White women. More than 50% of marriages with at least one partner of African origin are African/White marriages. Again, 60% of these marriages are men of African origin married to White women.

Ethnicity of Partner/Spouse (percent)

		White	Indian	Pakistani	Bangladeshi	Other South Asian	Chinese	Caribbean	African	Black Scottish or Other Black	Any Mixed Background	Other Ethnic Group
		<b>At Least One Partner Is...</b>										
Ethnicity Of Other Partner	White	99.2	25.6	9.8	18.4	43.3	26.9	87.9	54.5	84.6	88.4	71.3
	Indian	0.1	68.9	1.1	1.9	4.5	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.0	0.9	0.5
	Pakistani	0.1	1.9	85.9	1.7	7.5	0.4	0.6	1.5	3.3	1.4	0.6
	Bangladeshi	0.0	0.2	0.1	73.5	0.8	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.1
	Other South Asian	0.1	1.9	1.8	2.8	37.7	0.5	0.2	0.4	1.5	1.1	1.5
	Chinese	0.1	0.5	0.2	0.5	1.1	70.4	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.6	1.0
	Caribbean	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	7.8	0.6	0.7	0.3	0.0
	African	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.3	0.1	1.2	40.2	2.2	0.2	0.4
	Black Scottish or Other Black	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.4	0.6	4.4	0.2	0.2
	Any Mixed Background	0.2	0.4	0.4	0.7	1.3	0.3	1.2	0.4	1.1	5.5	0.8
	Other Ethnic Group	0.2	0.4	0.3	0.5	3.2	0.9	0.2	1.2	1.8	1.3	23.7
	Base	985,473	3,606	6,370	346	1,509	3,526	512	1,034	272	1,840	3,141

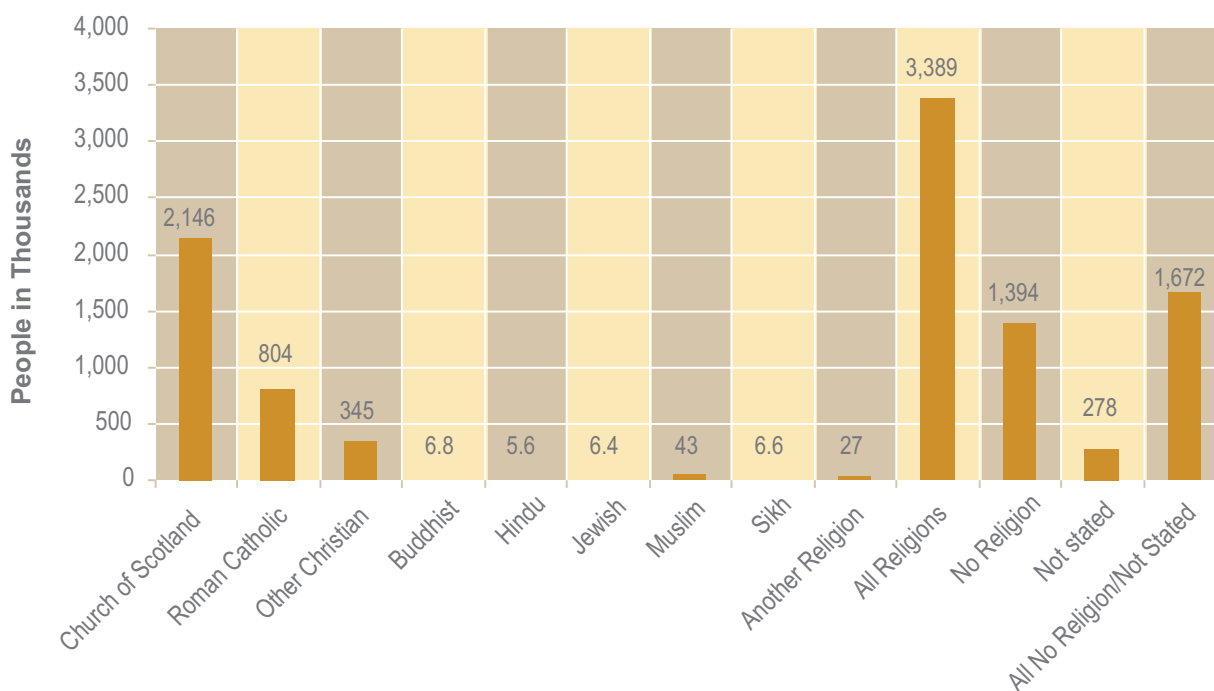
[Source: GROS: <http://www.gro-scotland.gov.uk/> 2001]





**Religion:** Just over two-thirds (67%) of the Scottish population reported having a religion. The most common faith was Christianity: 65.1% of the population are members of the Church of Scotland, Roman Catholic Church or Other Christian churches, and over 98% of these are White (though Christianity is also the dominant religion for people from African, Caribbean and other Black backgrounds). The next most common faith was Islam (0.84%, two thirds of which are from Pakistani backgrounds) followed by Other religions (0.53%), Buddhism (0.13%), Jewish (0.13%, predominantly White), Sikhism (0.13%, largely of Indian origin) and Hinduism (0.11%, again largely of Indian origin).

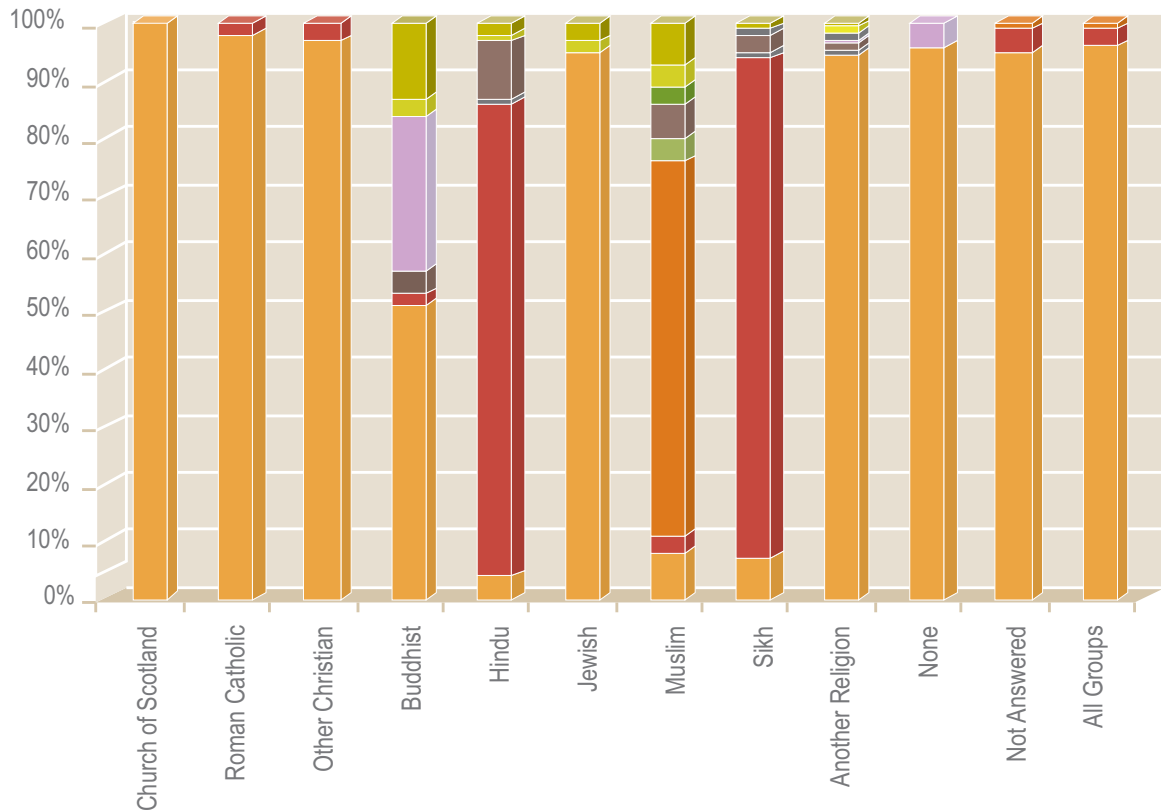
Religion in Scotland



[Source: GROS: <http://www.gro-scotland.gov.uk/> 2001]



Current Religion By Ethnic Group, All People, Scotland, 2001



Ethnic Group

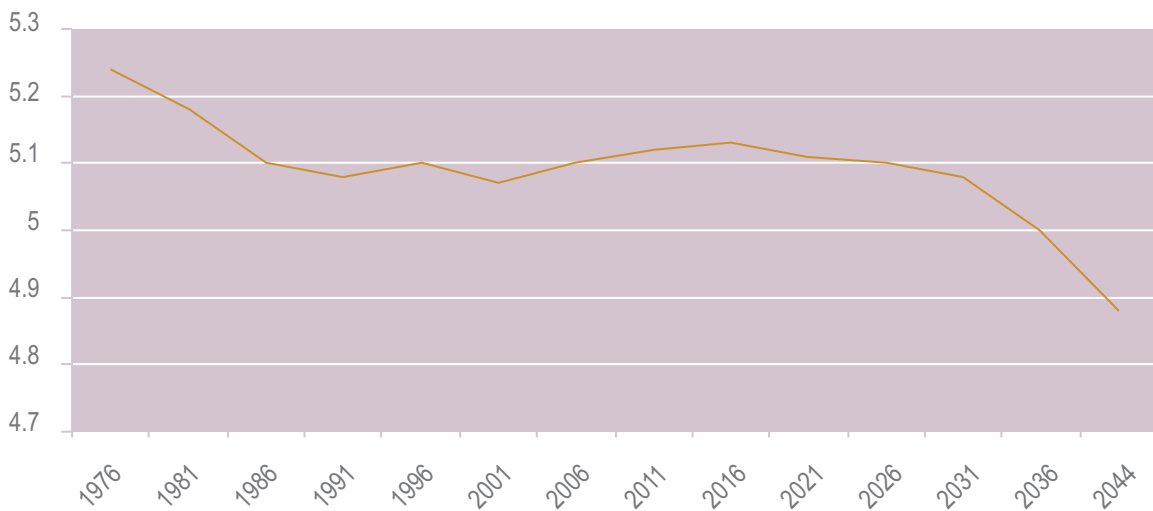
Base: 12,764

- Indian
- Pakistani
- Other South Asian
- African
- Other Ethnic Group
- Black Scottish or Other Black
- White
- Bangladeshi
- Chinese
- Caribbean
- Any Mixed Background

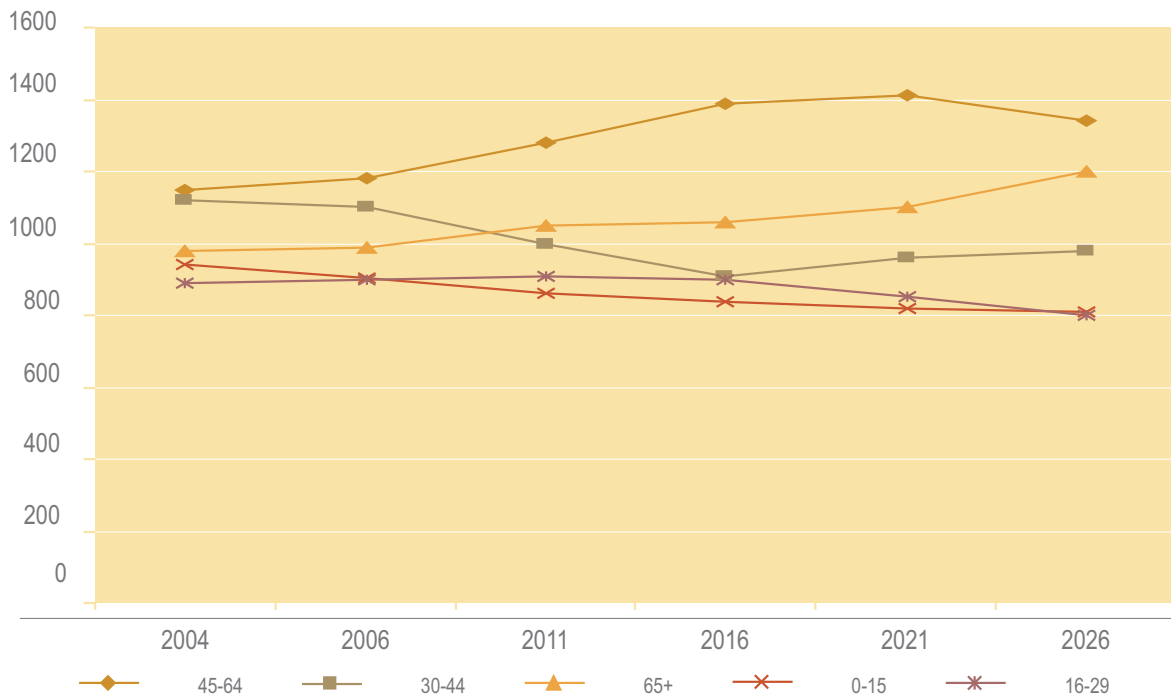
[Source: GROS: <http://www.gro-scotland.gov.uk/> 2001]

**Population projection:** While the population of Scotland is predicted to continue growing until 2015, the General Register Office for Scotland estimates that by 2025 the population will start to fall, and by 2035 it will be under 5 million. Scotland also has an aging population, with the working age population decreasing relative to the size of the population as a whole over the next 30 years.

Population Projection for Scotland, in Millions



Age Distribution of Scottish Population, by Thousands

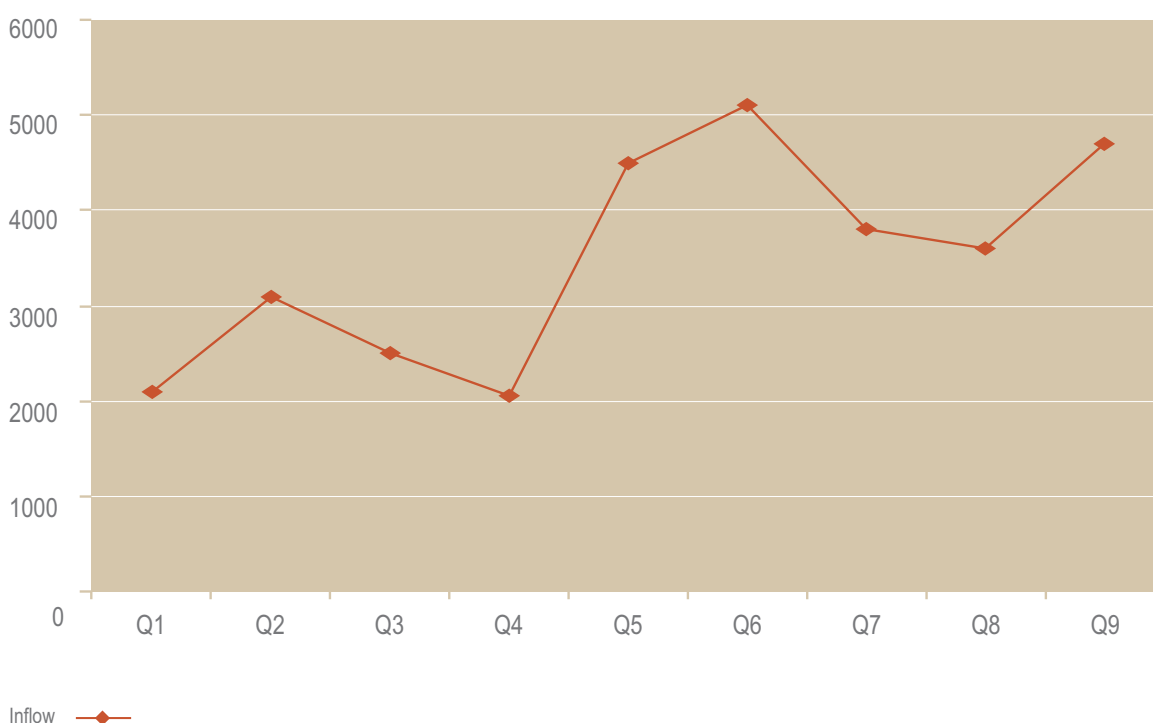


[Source: GROS: <http://www.gros-scotland.gov.uk/> 2001]



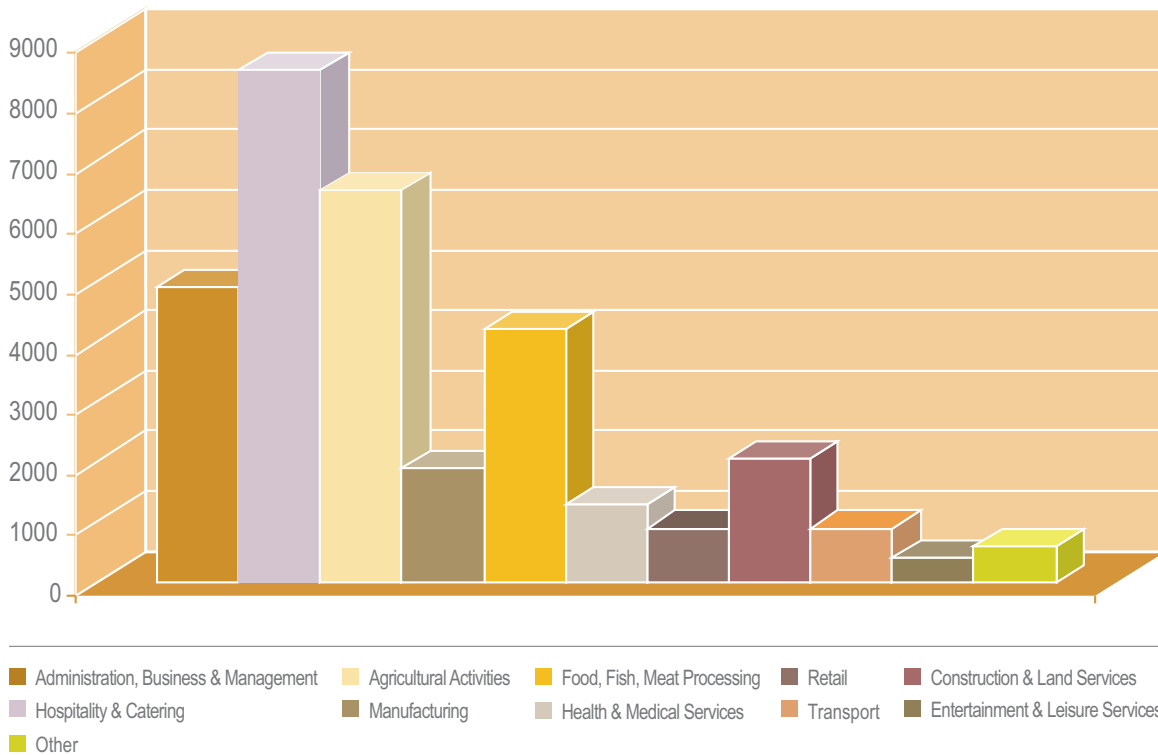
**A8 Migration:** Migration to Scotland is difficult to monitor and to predict, owing to the lack of compulsory migrant registration, and the impact of illegal migration. However, the Workers Registration Scheme (WRS, with which it is compulsory to register if planning to work in the UK for over a month.) showed a registration of 31,135 migrants from the eight Accession Countries (A8) between 2004 and 2006, and 34,931 A8 migrants registered for National Insurance numbers during the same period. Of those A8 migrants registered on the WRS, 87% of them are in the 18-34 age bracket, 97% of them are working full-time, but 78% are earning under £6 an hour. A8 nationals are predominantly working in hospitality and catering, agriculture and construction. The largest nationality—by far—is Poles, constituting 23,140 people in 2006-07.

No. A8 Nationals registering in Scotland

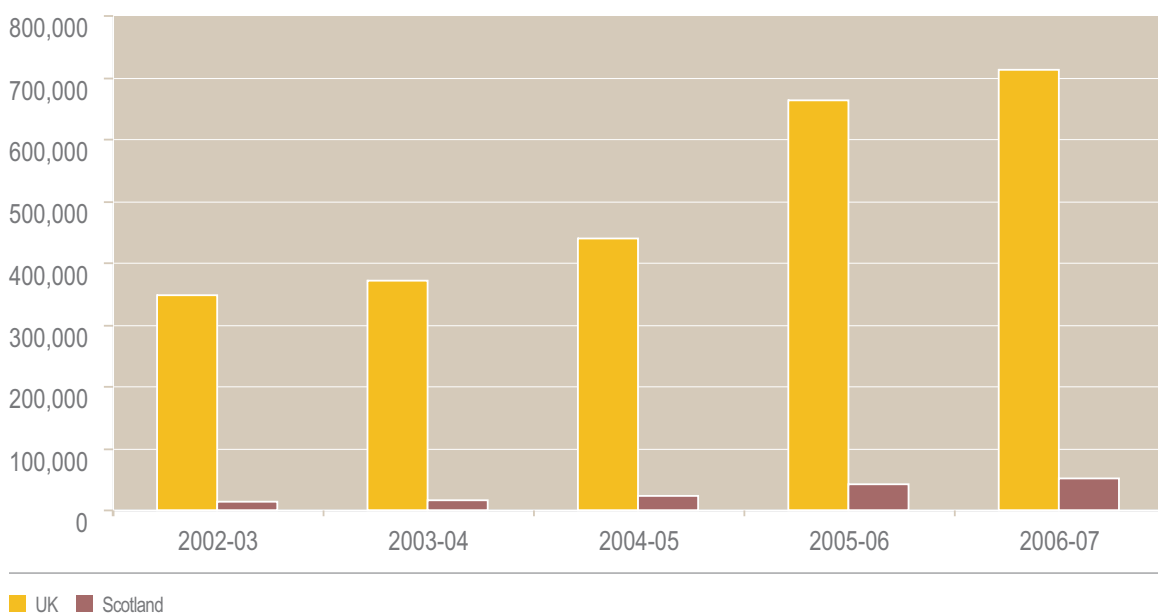


[Source: Worker Registration Scheme; COSLA: <http://www.asylumscotland.org.uk/asylumstatistics.php>, April 2007]

Employment of Foreign Workers Broken Down by Occupation



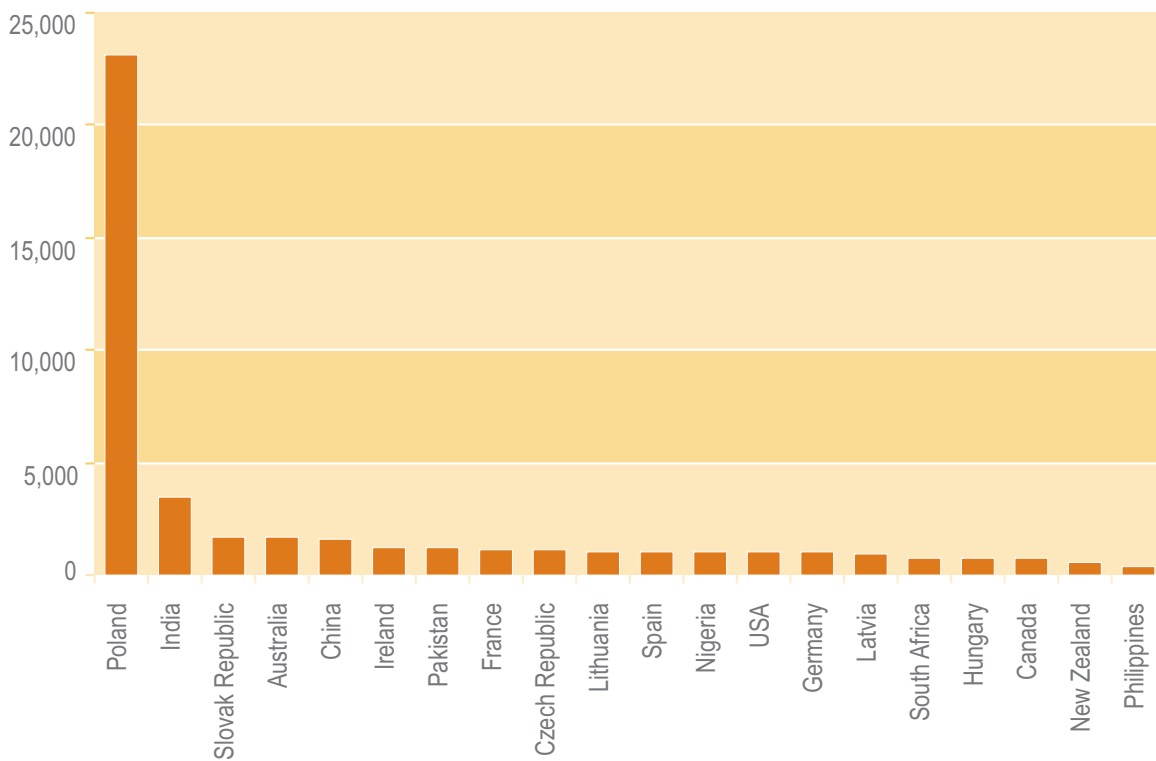
National Insurance Registrations of Foreign Workers, UK and Scotland



[Source: National Insurance Registrations, April 2007]



New National Insurance Registrations in Scotland by Country of Origin



[Source: National Insurance Registrations, April 2007]

As of January 2008, there were 1975 asylum seeking households in Glasgow (which remains the only part of Scotland receiving dispersed asylum seekers), comprising 4486 individuals. However, as January 2008 was during the process of case resolution for asylum seekers, these figures are lower than normal for Glasgow, given that around 1000 families were granted Leave to Remain between September 2007 and March 2008; these families initially remained in their NASS accommodation as new refugees, which impacted on the number of accommodation units available for newly arrived asylum seekers. It is expected that numbers will rise during 2008 to the former level of around 6000 individuals.

The majority of Glasgow's asylum seekers are accommodated in the Community Planning Areas of Springburn and Govan & Craigton.

Community Planning Area	Households	Individuals
Drumchapel / Anniesland & Garscadden / Scotstounhill	246	700
East Centre & Calton	290	463
Govan & Craigton	300	644
Greater Pollok & Newlands / Auldburn	141	409
Langside & Linn	53	103
Maryhill / Kelvin & Canal	94	161
Partick West / Hillhead / Anderston & City Centre	53	158
Pollokshields East & Southside Central	242	487
Shettleston & Baillieston & Part of Glasgow N.E.	161	247
Springburn & Part of Glasgow N.E.	395	1114
<b>Total</b>	<b>1975</b>	<b>4486</b>

More than sixty nationalities are represented among Glasgow's asylum seekers, with the largest groups coming from Afghanistan, the Democratic Republic of Congo, China, Eritrea, Iran, Iraq, Pakistan, Somalia, Turkey, Zimbabwe and Sudan.



Nationality of asylum seekers in Glasgow as of January 2008

Nationality	No. of families	Nationality	No. of families
Afghanistan	89	Kosovo	6
Albania	10	Kuwait	10
Algeria	31	Kyrgyzstan	1
Angola	13	Lebanon	7
Armenia	2	Liberia	12
Azerbaijan	6	Libya (Arab Republic)	4
Bangladesh	2	Macedonia (former Yugoslav Republic of)	5
Bolivia	1	Malawi	2
Burkina Faso	1	Mali	1
Burma (Myanmar)	3	Moldova	2
Burundi	31	Mongolia	1
Cameroon	15	Montenegro	1
China (Peoples Republic of China)	129	Morocco	2
Congo	40	Nigeria	45
Congo Democratic Republic (Formerly Zaire)	115	North Korea (Democratic Peoples Republic of Korea)	16
Costa Rica	1	Pakistan	146
Egypt	3	Somalia	151
Eritrea	94	South Africa	19
Estonia	1	Sri Lanka	51
Ethiopia	17	Stateless Person (Article 1 of 1954 Convention)	1
Georgia	4	Sudan	72
Ghana	4	Syria	10
Guinea	5	Tajikistan	1
Guyana	1	Tanzania	1
Hong Kong SAR of China (Holder of Special Administrative Region Passport)	1	Togo	1
India	5	Turkey	63
Iran	240	Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (TRNC)	1
Iraq	251	Uganda	18
Israel	9	Ukraine	3
Ivory Coast (Cote D Ivoire)	15	Uzbekistan	1
Jamaica	3	Vietnam	1
Jordan	1	Yemen	5
Kenya	16	Yugoslavia	3
		Zambia	3
		Zimbabwe	104
		Total number of families	1929

NB: the number of asylum seekers in Glasgow changes very quickly, hence the different totals in the above two tables, which were compiled in different times in January 2008.

[Source: statistics received from COSLA's Strategic Migration Partnership]

### Asylum Seekers in Scotland

**Refugees:** There is a lack of robust information about the number of refugees living in Scotland. The Department of Work and Pensions reports that 2080 refugees in Glasgow were registered with Jobcentre Plus during 2005. In addition, there are 500 children with refugee status in Glasgow schools, suggesting that the total figure for refugees living in Glasgow is in the region of 3,000 to 4,000.

**Skills and Aspirations of Refugees and Asylum Seekers in Scotland;** Refugees and asylum seekers living in Scotland are, for the most part, well qualified and possess a broad range of technical and professional skills which could potentially be utilised by the Scottish labour market. Many have highly specialised skills in areas of medicine (for example, surgical skills and skills in midwifery, obstetrics and gynaecology), law and engineering; some also have management experience, have worked in social and economic development, have trades skills (such as carpentry and building) and IT experience. The Skills and Aspirations Audit identified 90 languages spoken with varying degrees of proficiency by respondents; 16% of respondents indicated that they could speak English "fluently" with a further third indicating that they could speak English "fairly well". Just over 95% of respondents indicated that they had experienced some kind of formal education, and over 55% of respondents indicated that they had completed a college education (or an equivalent) where they had studied subjects such as languages, business, mathematics, and IT. Approximately 21% of respondents indicated that they had completed university level education where they had studied subjects such as Business, Medicine, Social Sciences, Education and Law.

In terms of aspirations, 88% said they would like to remain in Scotland. 72% indicated a desire to improve their English language and literacy skills, and just over 66% indicated that they would like to access further training. Many expressed a desire to provide for themselves and to positively contribute to Scottish society and disliked being reliant on state benefits: over a third of respondents said that they would like to find any kind of work, while 58% said they would like to find work that matched their skills and experience. 34% of respondents said they would like to volunteer, and 46% said they would like to do work experience placements to improve their skills and experience. Lack of proficiency in English language and literacy was perceived by refugees and asylum seekers as a key barrier to obtaining employment in the UK. It may also impact upon respondents' capacity to access mainstream training and volunteering or work placement opportunities. However, 72% of participants in the Audit had been able to access English language training in Scotland. Lack of full refugee status and childcare issues were also raised as a barrier to accessing mainstream training courses.



Ten of the 147 refugee respondents, and 20 of the 218 asylum seeker respondents who potentially had permission to work were either self-employed or in paid employment in Scotland. Those who were employed were in posts that were not commensurate with their skills. 31% of respondents said they were not working because they did not have a work permit. Just under 25% of respondents specifically indicated that they felt improved skills in English language and/or literacy would significantly improve their employment prospects or help them access their preferred employment. Approximately 21% of respondents who had completed secondary school education; 28% who had completed college (or an equivalent) level of education, and 11% of those who had completed some kind of university education actually had their certification with them in Scotland. 36% of respondents felt that training, including university study, would significantly improve their employment prospects or help them access their preferred employment, and just over 7% indicated specific training needs in order to gain locally recognised certificates in various areas including engineering, plumbing, computing and electrical engineering. Almost 10% felt they needed more information about jobs.

[Source: Refugees and Asylum Seekers in Scotland: a Skills and Aspirations Audit:  
<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2004/03/19169/35276> 2004]