

Population by Country of Birth and Nationality in Scottish Borders, July 2019 to June 2020

A Scottish Borders Insight produced by Corporate Performance and Information R&I Team

National Records of Scotland released their key findings and supporting data in January 2021, taken from the mid-year 2019/20 Annual Population Survey. This insight presents the evidence for Scottish Borders.

Key Findings

- In the year to June 2020, the Annual Population Survey estimated that 96% of the population living and working in Scottish Borders in 2019/20 was of British nationality. This is higher than the Scottish average of 92%
- 75% of all non-British nationals in Scottish Borders were EU nationals, which is about 3,000 people. This is higher than the Scottish average of 56%. The remaining 25%, or around 1,000 people, were non-EU nationals.
- A third of EU nationals living and working in Scottish Borders between mid-2019 and mid-2020 were nationals from “EU14” countries: Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Portugal, Republic of Ireland, Spain and Sweden. This is lower than the Scottish average of 38%.
- 66% of EU nationals living and working in Scottish Borders between mid-2019 and mid-2020 were nationals from “EU8” countries: Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia. This is higher than the Scottish average of 56%. Polish, in particular, is the most common non-British nationality in Scotland.
- The council areas with the largest proportion of residents with a non-British nationality were Aberdeen City (19%), City of Edinburgh (18%) and Glasgow City (15%).

National context

It was estimated by the Annual Population Survey that 409,000 non-British nationals were living in Scotland in June 2020, an increase of 36,000 since June 2019. Of these, 56% were EU nationals and 44% were non-EU nationals.

City councils and urban areas had the largest proportion of non-British residents.

This update represents the final APS estimate before the UK fully left the European Union on 31st January 2020.

**Estimated Percentage of population who are non-British nationals,
Scotland, council areas and RESAS classification, July 2019 to June 2020.**

Data are based on numbers to the nearest thousand.

Source: NRS/ APS

