

Migration Estimates

Summary Statistics

East Dunbartonshire	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21
Total net migration (number of people)	549	706	688	370	420	610	490

Background

National Records of Scotland publish migration data on an annual basis. Migration is the movement of people from one place to another. Internal migration is when people migrate within the same country or region and international migration is when people migrate from one country to another.

Migration is the most difficult component of population change to estimate as, unlike births and deaths, there is no comprehensive system for the registration of moves to or from the rest of the world, nor for moves within the UK. Official estimates of migration are therefore based on survey data and the best proxy data available.

Key sources of migration data used by National Records of Scotland:

- The National Health Service Central Register (NHSCR) is used to calculate moves between NHS Board areas within the UK. It is also used to distribute estimates of international migration to NHS Board areas in Scotland.
- Community Health Index (CHI) is used to estimate migration at Council area and below.
- Other administrative data provide information on moves into and out of Scotland with an origin or destination of outside the UK

Overseas migration was previously estimated using the IPS as the main source of data for measuring overseas migration at Scotland level. However, in March 2020 the IPS was suspended due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Office for National Statistics (ONS) led research into alternative data sources including using statistical modelling to estimate UK international migration over this period.

It should be noted that due to changes in the methods for producing international migration statistics in the years ending mid-2020 and mid-2021, direct comparisons with previous years should be treated with caution.

Total migration includes all migration to or from an area. For Scotland, this would include moves to and from the rest of the UK and moves to and from overseas whilst for a Council or NHS Board areas it would also include moves to and from other such areas in Scotland.

Have moves within the UK been affected by COVID-19?

Migration within Scotland, and between Scotland and the rest of the UK, is estimated based on GP registrations. The higher figures seen for moves between Scotland and other parts of the UK, and between different parts of Scotland, may be due to a combination of:

- People being more likely to make long-term moves, such as moving from cities to rural areas.
- People making short-term moves, such as students moving from their term-time address to their parents' address.
- People registering a change of address with their GP, when the move itself could have taken place in the past. For example, people may have wanted to check that their GP had details of their correct address to ensure that they received details of their COVID-19 vaccination appointments.

Scotland Migration

During 2020 and 2021, the COVID-19 pandemic caused travel restrictions and may have also affected where people chose to live. For the last two decades, net migration has been driving population growth in Scotland. Over the latest year to mid-2021, 27,800 more people moved to Scotland than left.

In the year to mid-2021:

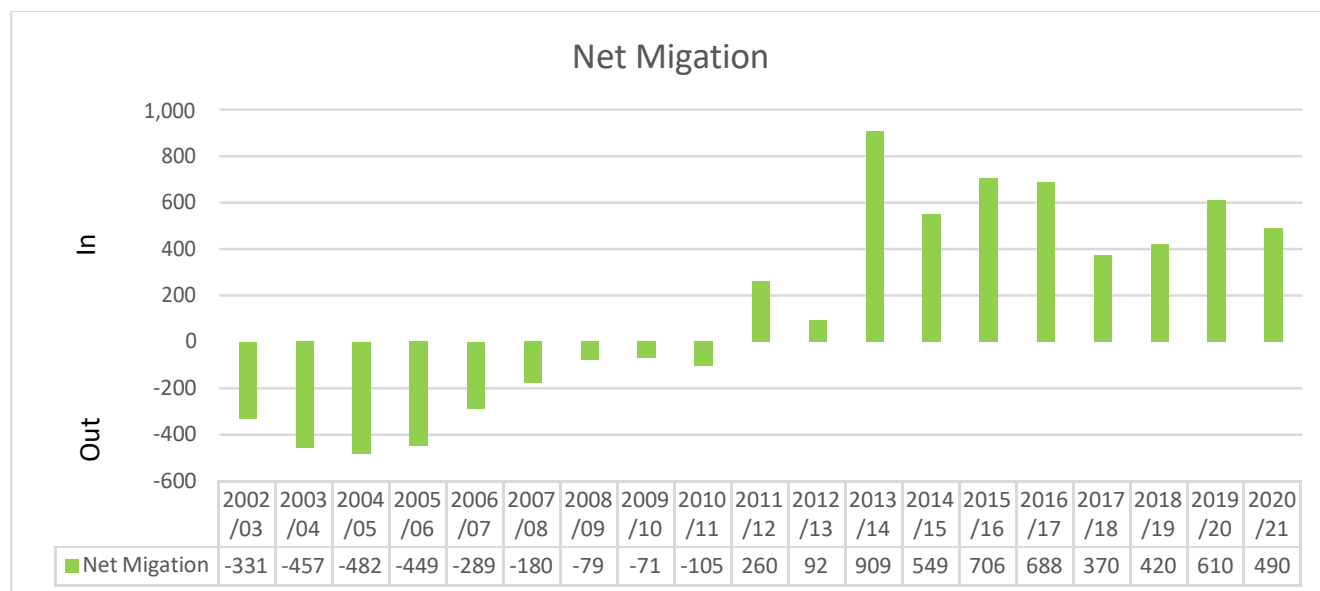
- 97,200 people moved to Scotland; and
- 69,400 people left Scotland

International migration was higher than emigration in the year to mid-2021. This continues a pattern over the last two decades of more international moves into Scotland than out.

More people moved between Scotland and the rest of the UK in the year to mid-2021 than the previous year. However, both moves to and from the rest of the UK increased by similar amounts, so net migration was similar to previous years.

East Dunbartonshire Migration

The chart below shows the net migration to and from East Dunbartonshire from 2002/03 to 2020/21. There was a negative net migration for East Dunbartonshire from 1995/96 to 2010/11. The first positive total net migration since 1994/95 was seen in 2011/12. During 2020/21, there was an estimated total net migration into East Dunbartonshire of 4,500 people and a total net out migration of 4,010 people resulting in a positive net migration of 490 people.



Further Information

Further information can be found by visiting the National Records of Scotland website (www.nrscotland.gov.uk).