

**Scotland's Census 2011  
People with a learning disability or  
developmental disorder – council areas and  
health boards**

7 January 2016

A National Statistics publication for Scotland

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## Introduction

In collaboration with National Records of Scotland, the Scottish Learning Disabilities Observatory (SLDO)<sup>1</sup> aims to investigate demographic characteristics of the populations of people with learning disabilities and developmental disorders living in Scotland and identified through Scotland's Census 2011. The objective is to make comparisons with trends observed in the general population and identify any patterns of vulnerabilities or inequalities for people with learning disabilities and developmental disorders.

Data collected on people with learning disabilities and developmental disorders will be analysed at Scotland, Council Area and Health Board geographies. Amongst many other variables of interest, SLDO is analysing data on long-term health conditions, general health, age, sex, ethnic group, country of birth, employment and housing. Data will be tabulated separately for each Council Area and Health Board and will be presented graphically on the SLDO website in due course.

A previous [analytical note](#) presented summary data at Scotland level. This section of analysis presents data at council area and health board area and focuses on the following variables (click for link to variable metadata):

[Nature of Health Condition](#)

[General Health](#)

[Long-term illness, health problem or disability](#)

[Long-term health condition: number of conditions](#)

[Age](#)

[Sex](#)

The supporting tables for this analysis (AT\_320\_2011 to AT\_355\_2011) are available in the Data Warehouse of the [Scotland's Census](#) website.

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<sup>1</sup> The Scottish Learning Disabilities Observatory is part of the Institute of Health and Wellbeing at the University of Glasgow.

<http://www.gla.ac.uk/researchinstitutes/healthwellbeing/research/sldo/>

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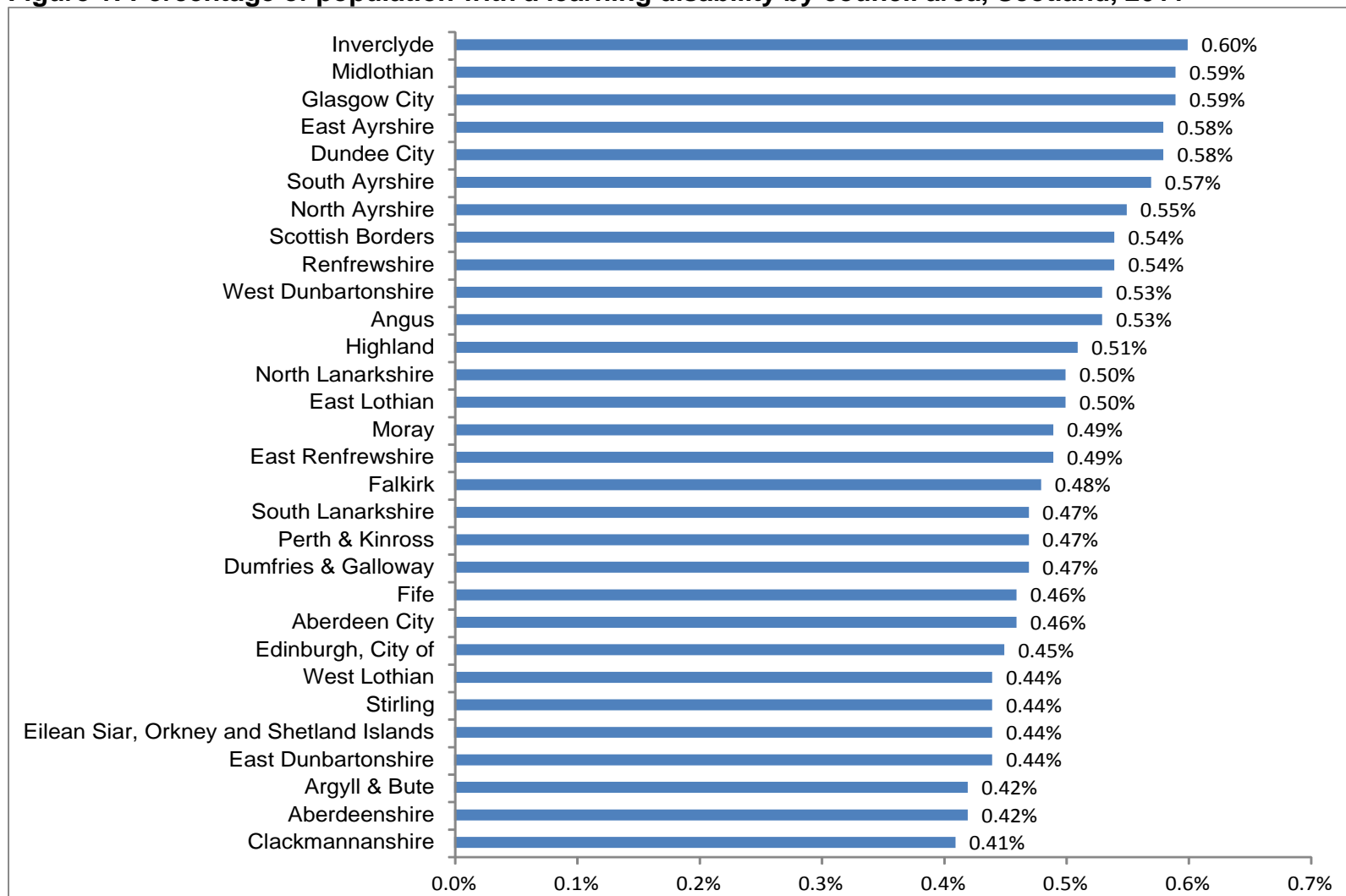
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## Key Points

### Learning Disabilities

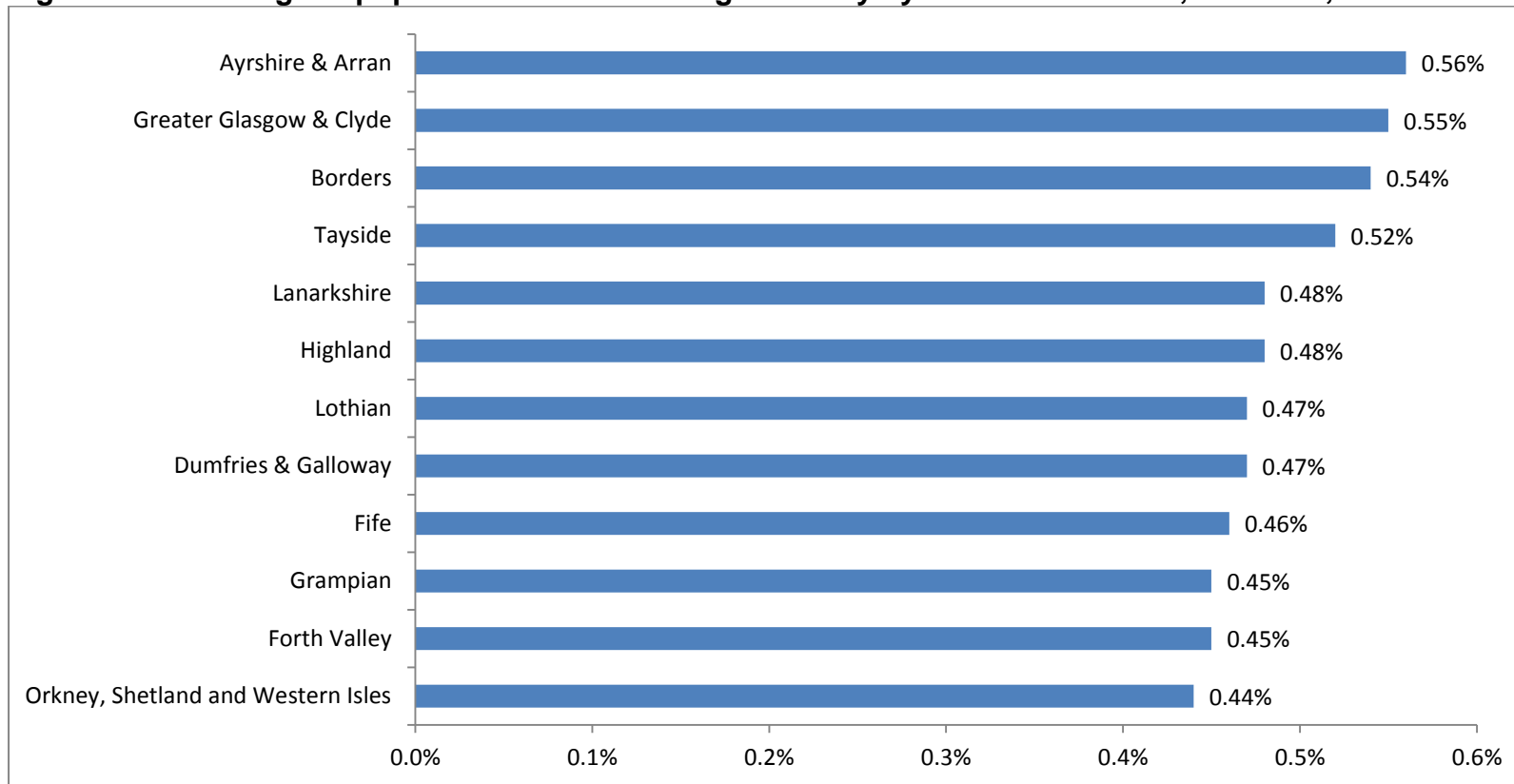
- In Scotland's Census 2011, a total of 26,300 people reported that they had a learning disability, 0.50 per cent of the population.
- Across all council areas, the prevalence of learning disability ranged from 0.41 per cent in Clackmannanshire up to 0.60 per cent in Inverclyde.
- Across all health boards, the prevalence of learning disability was lowest for the grouping of Orkney, Shetland and Western Isles health boards (0.44 per cent) and the highest reported was for Ayrshire and Arran (0.56 per cent).
- Figures 1 and 2 show the prevalence of learning disability across all council areas and health boards.

**Figure 1: Percentage of population with a learning disability by council area, Scotland, 2011**



Source: Table AT\_320\_2011

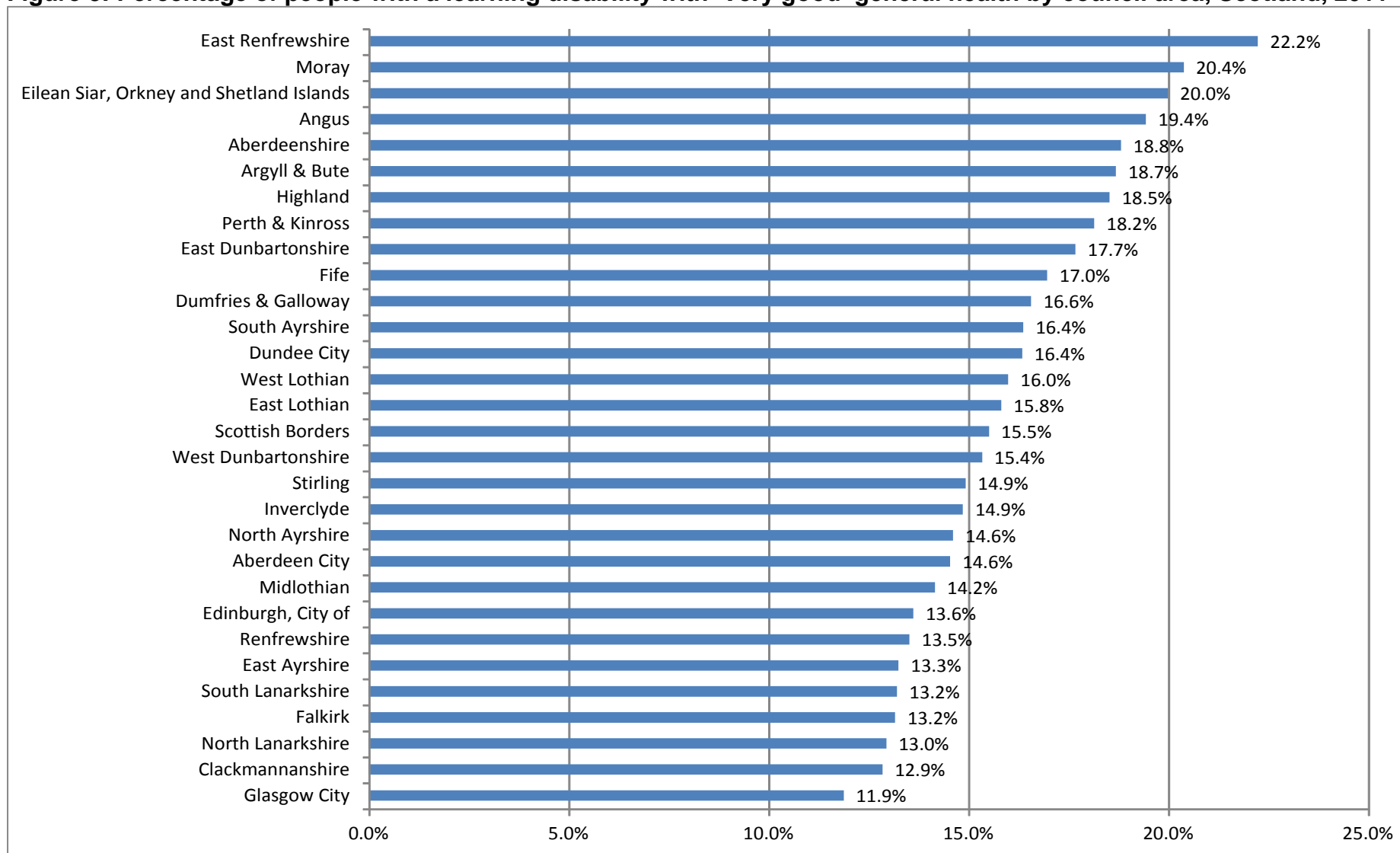
**Figure 2: Percentage of population with a learning disability by health board area, Scotland, 2011**



Source: Table AT\_321\_2011

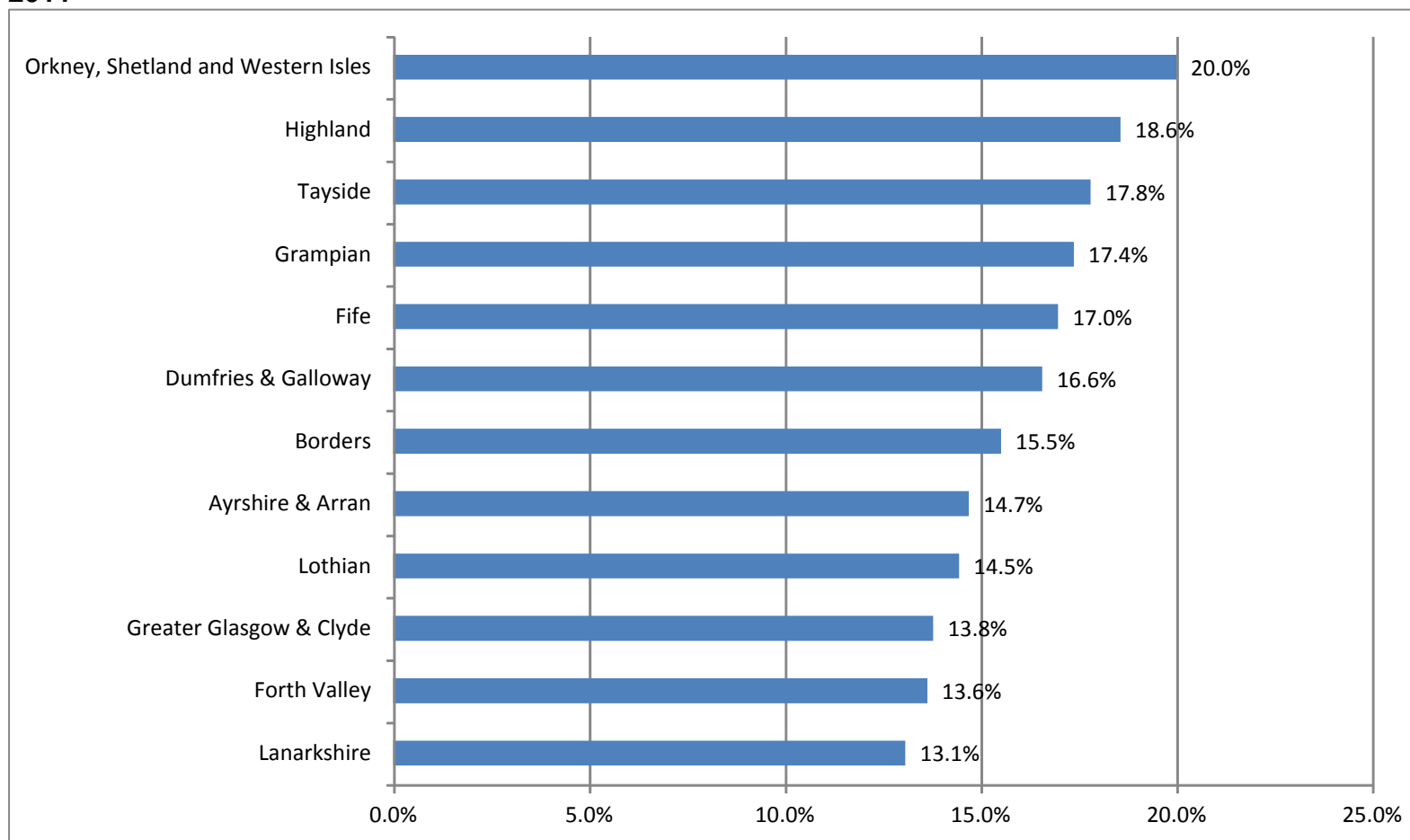
- Across council areas, the proportion of people with a learning disability who reported their general health as being 'Very good' ranged from 11.9 per cent in Glasgow City to 22.2 per cent in East Renfrewshire.
- Across health boards, the proportion of people with a learning disability who rated their general health as being 'Very good' was lowest in Lanarkshire (13.1 per cent) and highest for the grouping of Orkney, Shetland and Western Isles health boards (20.0 per cent).
- Figures 3 and 4 show how the proportion of people with a learning disability who reported their general health as being 'Very good' varied across all council areas and health boards.

**Figure 3: Percentage of people with a learning disability with 'Very good' general health by council area, Scotland, 2011**



Source: Table AT\_332\_2011

**Figure 4: Percentage of people with a learning disability with 'Very good' general health by health board area, Scotland, 2011**



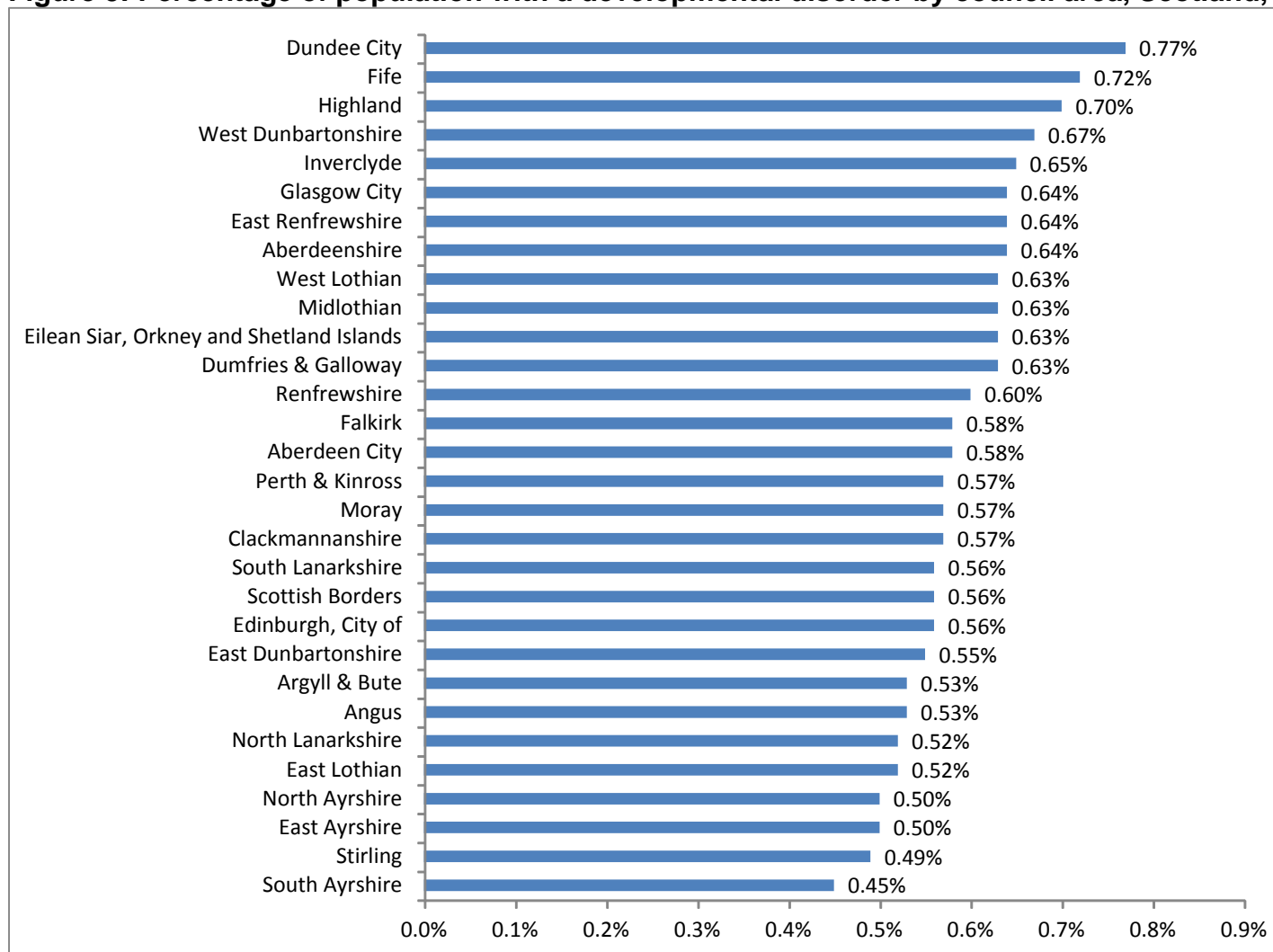
Source: Table AT\_333\_2011



## **Developmental Disorders**

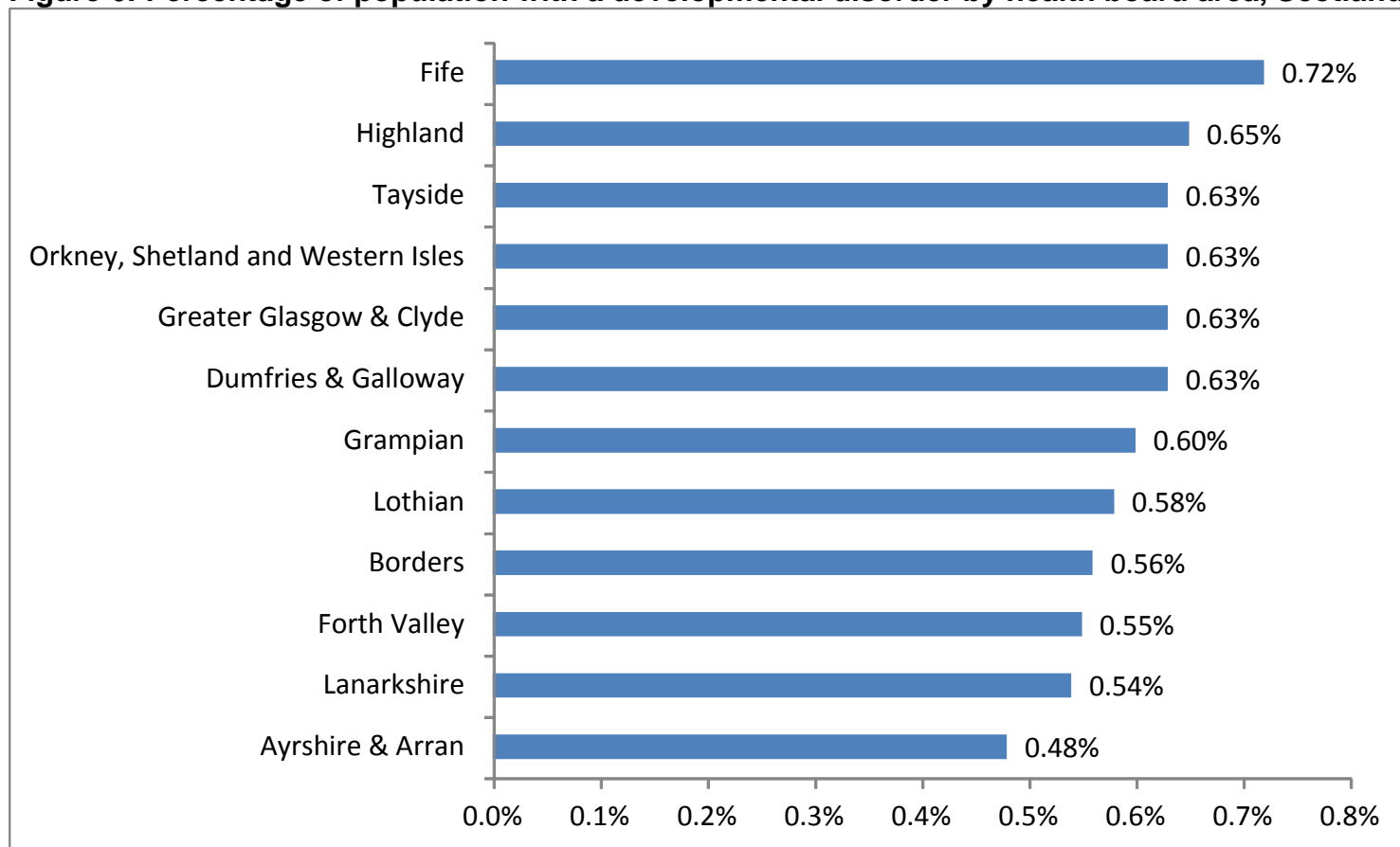
- In the 2011 Census, a total of 31,700 of people in Scotland reported that they had a developmental disorder, 0.60 per cent of the population.
- Across all council areas, the prevalence of developmental disorder ranged from 0.45 per cent in South Ayrshire up to 0.77 per cent in Dundee City.
- Across all health boards, the prevalence of developmental disorder was lowest in Ayrshire and Arran (0.48 per cent) and highest in Fife (0.72 per cent).
- Figures 5 and 6 show the prevalence of developmental disorder across all council areas and health boards.

**Figure 5: Percentage of population with a developmental disorder by council area, Scotland, 2011**



Source: Table AT\_338\_2011

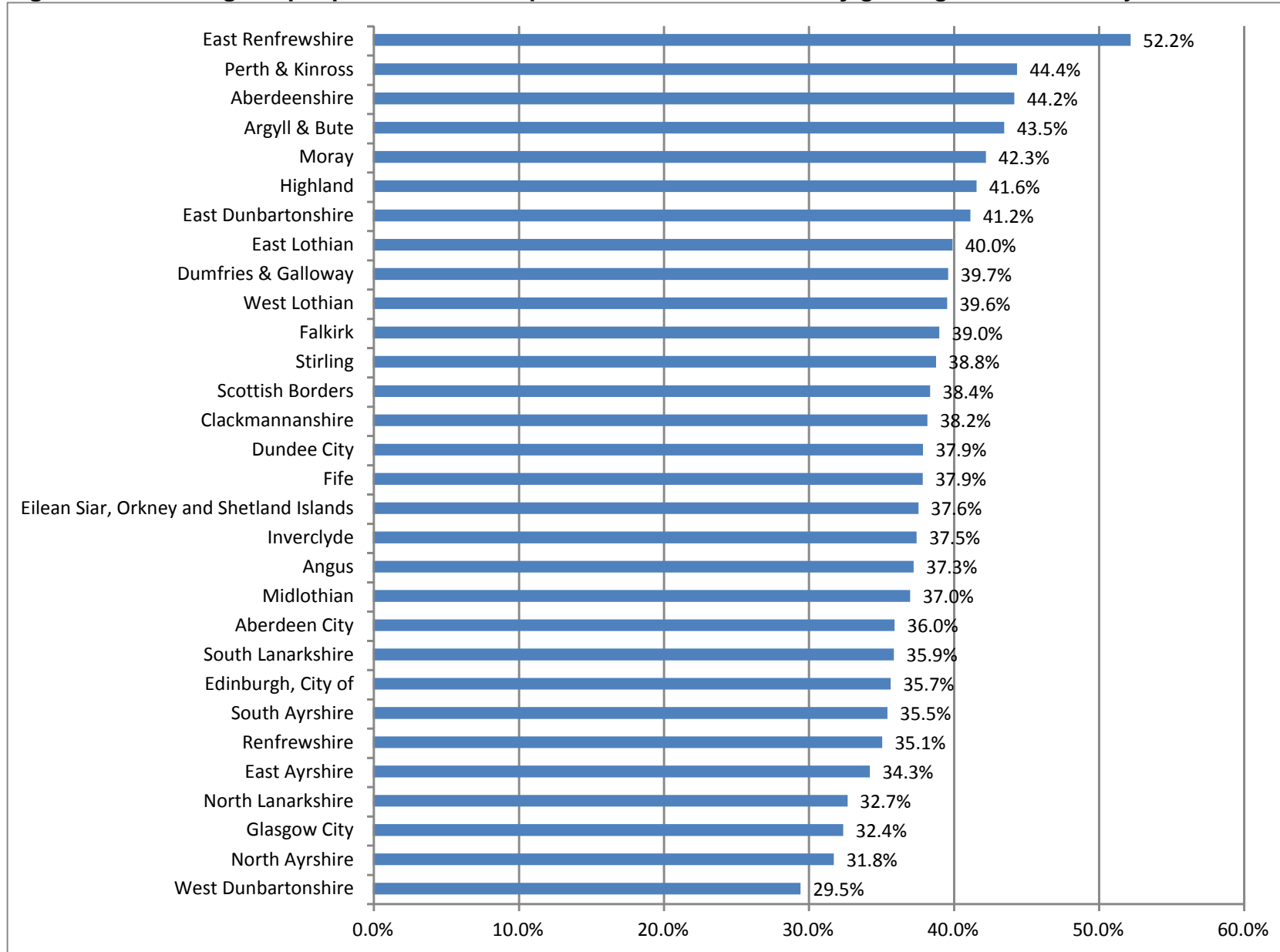
**Figure 6: Percentage of population with a developmental disorder by health board area, Scotland, 2011**



Source: Table AT\_339\_2011

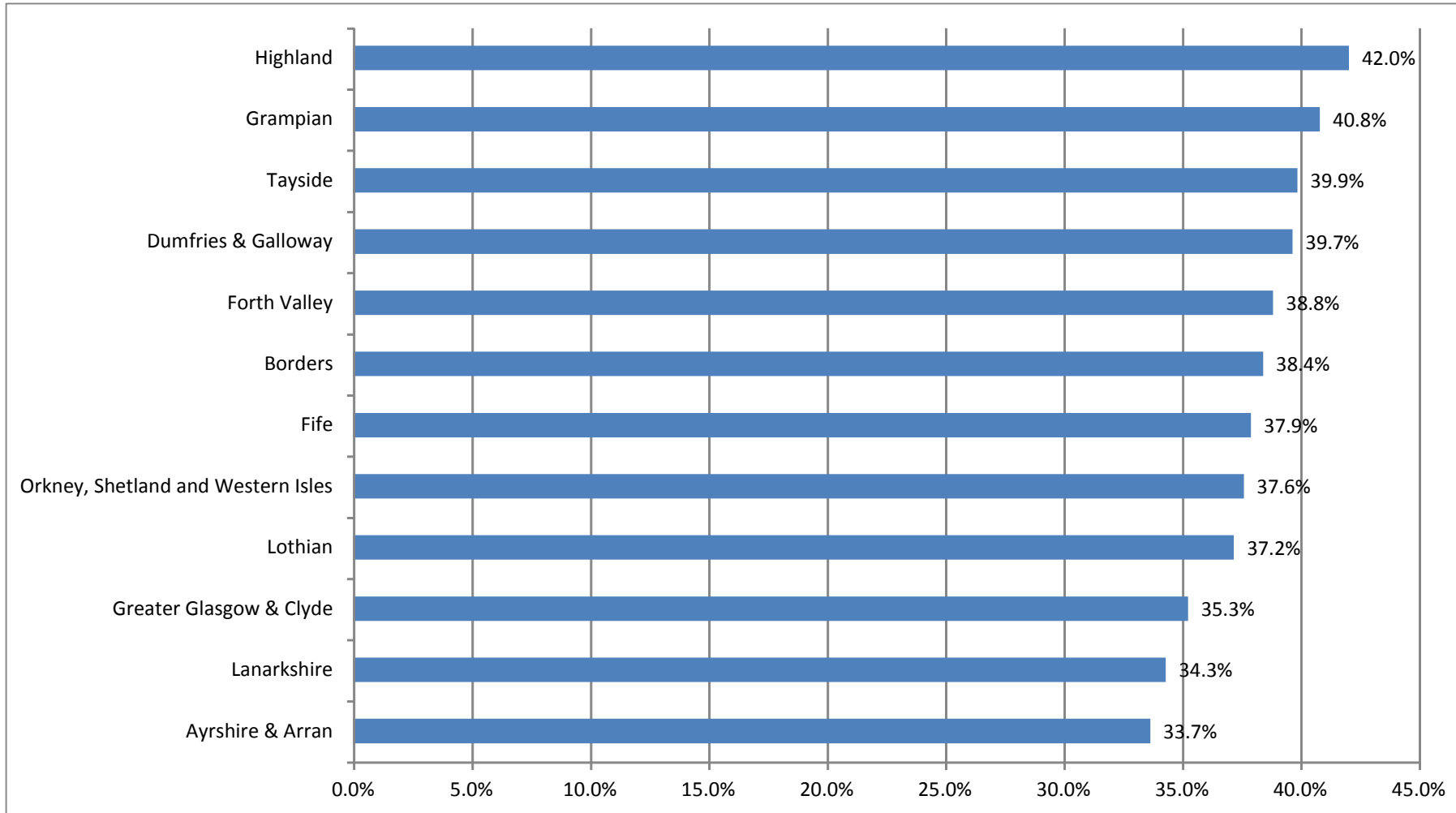
- Across council areas, the proportion of people with a developmental disorder who rated their general health as being 'Very good' ranged from 29.5 per cent in West Dunbartonshire up to 52.2 per cent in East Renfrewshire.
- Across health boards, the proportion of people with a developmental disorder who rated their general health as being 'Very good' was lowest in Ayrshire and Arran (33.7 per cent) and highest in Highland (42.0 per cent).
- Figures 7 and 8 show how the proportion of people with a developmental disorder who reported their general health as being 'Very good' varied across all council areas and health boards.

**Figure 7: Percentage of people with a developmental disorder with 'Very good' general health by council area, Scotland, 2011**



Source: Table AT\_350\_2011

**Figure 8: Percentage of people with a developmental disorder with 'Very good' general health by health board area, Scotland, 2011**



Source: Table AT\_351\_2011

## Background Notes

### *General*

1. National Records of Scotland<sup>2</sup> (NRS) is responsible for carrying out the 2011 Census in Scotland. Simultaneous but separate censuses took place in England & Wales and Northern Ireland. These were run by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) and the Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency (NISRA) respectively.
2. The census provides estimates of the characteristics of all people and households in Scotland on census day, 27 March 2011.
3. In Scotland, the aim of the 2011 Census was to achieve a full census return for all people who were usually resident in Scotland for six months or more. In 2011, a full census return was therefore required for people from outside the UK who had stayed or intended to stay in the UK for a total of six months or more. Anyone with a permanent UK address who was outside the UK on census day was also to be included in the census questionnaire for their UK address, if they intended to be outside the UK for less than 12 months. This is defined as the **population base for enumeration**. The **main outputs population base** for the 2011 Census statistics is defined to be usual residents of the UK, that is anyone who, on census day, was in the UK and had stayed or intended to stay in the UK for a period of 12 months or more, or had a permanent UK address and was outside the UK and intended to be outside the UK for less than 12 months. (NRS made no specific adjustment for the presence of 6-12 months migrants among the persons counted in the census – [link for further details.](#))
4. The coverage of the population in an area is those who are usually resident there. A person's place of usual residence is in most cases the address at which they stay the majority of the time. For many people this will be their permanent or family home. Students are treated as being resident at their term-time address. Members of the armed forces were largely recorded at their permanent or family address rather than their base address; determining where they are considered usually resident is not straightforward.
5. As in 2001, adjustments for census under- and over-enumeration were built into the census process and as such the 2011 Census statistics represent the full population. Similar adjustments were not made in the censuses prior to 2001. Further

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<sup>2</sup> National Records of Scotland (NRS) was created by the amalgamation in April 2011 of the General Register Office for Scotland (GROS) and the National Archives of Scotland (NAS).

information on the quality assurance processes for Scotland's Census 2011 are available [here](#).

#### *Designation as National Statistics*

6. The United Kingdom Statistics Authority has designated these statistics as National Statistics. This means they are produced to the high professional standards set out in the Code of Practice for Official Statistics. They are produced free from any political interference.

#### *Protecting personal census information*

7. Personal census information is kept confidential by NRS, and is protected by law. Census records are not released for 100 years.

8. The census results are provided in aggregate format; no attributes of individuals can be identified from the information published.

9. Information on the measures taken to protect the confidentiality of personal census information is published on the [Scotland's Census website](#).

#### **Further information**

Please contact our Customer Services if you need any further information. Email: [statisticscustomerservices@nrscotland.gov.uk](mailto:statisticscustomerservices@nrscotland.gov.uk)

If you have comments or suggestions that would help us improve our outputs or our standards of service, please contact:

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