INTRODUCTION

The Oban profile uses 2011 Census data and other available data sources to present an up-to-date analysis of its population and labour market.

The analysis is structured under the thematic headings of:

- Population.
- Labour market.
- Education and qualifications.
- Health and wellbeing.
- Ethnicity and migration.

To help contextualise the 2011 findings, the area profile includes corresponding figures where available for:

- Argyll and the Islands, the Highlands and Islands area and Scotland as a whole.
- The 2001 Census, to show how Oban has changed over the last 10 years.

The profile has been constructed using best fit data zones – and a map illustrating the specific data zones used is provided at the end of the profile.

HEADLINE FINDINGS

The headline findings for Oban are:

- Total population was 9,974 in 2011, an increase of 5.6 per cent from 2001.
- By industry of employment, a higher share of employment in wholesale and retail, transport and storage, and accommodation and food services than the Highlands and Islands and Scotland.
- By occupation, a higher share of employment in managers, directors and senior officials, and elementary occupations than the Highlands and Islands and Scotland.
- Unemployment rates below the Argyll and the Islands and Scotland rates, but above the Highlands and Islands rate. The annualised Jobseekers Allowance claimant count rate in 2013 was 3.0 per cent in Oban, 3.2 per cent in Argyll and the Islands, 2.4 per cent in Highlands and Islands and 3.7 per cent across Scotland.
- A larger proportion of the adult population with Level 1 or 2 qualifications than Argyll and the Islands, the Highlands and Islands and Scotland.
In 2011, Oban had a total population of 9,974. This was an increase of 5.6 per cent from 2001, which was between the population increases across the Highlands and Islands (7.5 per cent) and Scotland (4.6 per cent), and in contrast to the 2.1 per cent population decrease across Argyll and the Islands (see Figure 1).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2001</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>% CHANGE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oban</td>
<td>9,448</td>
<td>9,974</td>
<td>+5.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Argyll and the Islands</td>
<td>69,935</td>
<td>68,485</td>
<td>-2.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Highlands and Islands</td>
<td>433,524</td>
<td>466,112</td>
<td>+7.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scotland</td>
<td>5,062,011</td>
<td>5,295,403</td>
<td>+4.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Census 2001 and 2011

By age breakdown, Oban has a younger age profile than Argyll and the Islands and the Highlands and Islands.

- In 2011, some 28.9 per cent of the Oban population was aged 0-24 years old, compared with 24.5 per cent across Argyll and the Islands. The Highlands and Islands and Scotland proportions were 27.1 per cent and 29.2 per cent respectively.
- Between 2001 and 2011, there has been an ageing of the population across Scotland. For example the Oban 65 years and over population increased from 15.8 per cent in 2001 to 16.8 per cent in 2011, while the population aged 45-64 years old increased from 24.8 per cent to 28.5 per cent.
By gender, some 48.9 per cent of Oban’s population was male in 2011, which was in line with the proportions across Argyll and the Islands (48.4 per cent), Highlands and Islands (49.0 per cent) and Scotland (48.5 per cent).

Source: Census 2001 and 2011

By gender, some 48.9 per cent of Oban’s population was male in 2011, which was in line with the proportions across Argyll and the Islands (48.4 per cent), Highlands and Islands (49.0 per cent) and Scotland (48.5 per cent).

Source: Census 2001 and 2011
LABOUR MARKET

The labour market data available at the settlement level provides an analysis of the resident population. It has been structured under the sub-headings of:

- Economically active
- In employment
- Unemployment
- Economically inactive

ECONOMICALLY ACTIVE

In 2011, some 74.9 per cent of the Oban population aged 16 to 74 were economically active. This was above the rates for Argyll and the Islands (67.9 per cent), the Highlands and Islands (71.3 per cent) and Scotland rate (69.0 per cent).

Figure 4 provides a breakdown of the economically active population in terms of their employment status. Compared to Argyll and the Islands, Oban had proportionately:

- More in full-time and part-time employment.
- Fewer in self-employment.

FIGURE 4: BREAKDOWN OF ECONOMICALLY ACTIVE 16 TO 74 POPULATION (%), 2011

Source: Census 2011
IN EMPLOYMENT

For those in employment, the Census provides information on the industry of employment, type of occupation and the number of hours worked per week.

By industry of employment in 2011, Figure 5 shows that compared to the Highlands and Islands and Scotland, Oban had:

- A higher share of employment in wholesale and retail, transport and storage, and accommodation and food services.
- A lower share of employment in manufacturing, public administration and defence, and education.

FIGURE 5: EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY (%), 2011

Source: Census 2011
By occupation of employment, Figure 6 presents the share of 2011 employment by occupation and shows that, relative to the Highlands and Islands and Scotland, Oban had:

- A higher share of employment in managers, directors and senior officials, and elementary occupations.
- A lower share of employment in professionals, and associate professional and technical occupations.

HOURS WORKED

By hours worked, the 2011 Census finds that working more than 49 hours per week was more common in Oban (15.4 per cent) than Scotland as a whole (11.7 per cent), but below the rates for Argyll and the Islands (17.0 per cent) and the Highlands and Islands (16.1 per cent).
UNEMPLOYMENT

Jobseekers Allowance (JSA) Claimant Count data has been used to analyse unemployment levels. Figure 7 shows the annualised Claimant Count rate from 2005 to 2013.

- Prior to 2010 Oban had a low Claimant Count rate that was in line with the Highlands and Islands rate, but below the Argyll and the Islands and Scotland rates. However, since 2010, Oban’s rate of increase has been greater than the other areas.
- In 2013, the Oban Claimant Count rate was 3.0 per cent; Argyll and the Islands 3.2 per cent; the Highlands and Islands 2.4 per cent; and Scotland 3.7 per cent.

Figure 8 presents annualised Claimant Count data by gender, age and duration of claim for 2013. It shows:

- The male Claimant Count rate in Oban (4.0 per cent) was double the female rate (2.0 per cent), which was in line with the Highlands and Islands and Scotland differential. For Argyll and the Islands the male rate was around three times higher.
- The 16-24 year old Claimant Count in Oban (3.4 per cent) was below the Argyll and the Islands and Scotland rates, and in line with the Highlands and Islands rate.
- Amongst 25-64 year olds the Oban Claimant Count rate (3.7 per cent) was above the comparator area rates.

| FIGURE 8: BREAKDOWN OF JOBSEEKERS ALLOWANCE CLAIMANTS, 2013 |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
|                                | Oban No. | Oban Rate | Argyll and the Islands No. | Argyll and the Islands Rate | Highlands and Islands No. | Highlands and Islands Rate | Scotland No. | Scotland Rate |
| Male                           | 126      | 4.0       | 910                          | 4.1                           | 4,580                       | 3.2                           | 87,410       | 5.1           |
| Female                         | 58       | 2.0       | 420                          | 1.4                           | 2,170                       | 1.5                           | 41,250       | 2.3           |
| 16-24                          | 37       | 3.4       | 310                          | 5.2                           | 1,570                       | 3.5                           | 34,350       | 5.4           |
| 25-64                          | 147      | 3.7       | 1,010                        | 2.9                           | 5,160                       | 2.1                           | 93,980       | 3.3           |
| Up to 6 months                 | 110      | -         | 700                          | -                             | 3,980                       | -                             | 69,570       | -             |
| 6-12 months                    | 26       | -         | 230                          | -                             | 1,040                       | -                             | 22,000       | -             |
| 1-2 years                      | 22       | -         | 200                          | -                             | 890                         | -                             | 18,700       | -             |
| 2 years +                      | 25       | -         | 200                          | -                             | 820                         | -                             | 18,060       | -             |
| Total                          | 184      | 3.0       | 1,330                        | 3.2                           | 6,750                       | 2.4                           | 128,670      | 3.7           |

Source: NOMIS Claimant Count data
Note: Annualised data
ECONOMICALLY INACTIVE

In 2011, some 25.1 per cent of Oban 16 to 74 year olds were economically inactive, compared with 32.1 per cent across Argyll and the Islands, 28.7 per cent across the Highlands and Islands and 31.0 per cent across Scotland.

Figure 9 provides a breakdown of the economically inactive population aged 16-74. Compared to Argyll and the Islands, Oban had proportionately:

- More who were students, looking after home or family and long term sick/disabled.
- Fewer who were retired.

OUT OF WORK BENEFITS

Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) out of work benefits claimant data provides more recent information on working age out-of-work benefits claimants, of which many are economically inactive. In May 2013:

- There were 660 people aged 16 to 64 years old in Oban claiming out-of-work benefits.
- This equates to 10.8 per cent of the working age population, which was below the Argyll and the Islands (11.3 per cent) and Scotland (12.9 per cent) rates, but above the Highlands and Islands rate (9.2 per cent).
- Figure 10 shows the breakdown of out-of-work benefit claimants by statistical group.
EDUCATION AND QUALIFICATIONS

The 2011 Census provides information on the highest qualification level held by people aged 16 and above. Figure 11 shows that Oban had proportionately:

- More of its adult population with Level 1 or 2 qualifications (41.7 per cent) than Argyll and the Islands (37.3 per cent), the Highlands and Islands (38.8 per cent) and Scotland (37.4 per cent).

FIGURE 11: HIGHEST QUALIFICATION HELD BY PEOPLE AGED 16 AND ABOVE, 2011

Source: Census 2011

Note: Level 1 = Standard Grade, SVQ Level 1 or 2, or equivalent.
Level 2 = Higher Grade, Advanced Higher Grade, SVQ Level 3 or equivalent.
Level 3 = HNC, HND, SVQ Level 4 or equivalent.
Level 4 = Degree, Postgraduate qualifications, SVQ Level 5 or equivalent.
HEALTH AND WELLBEING

Health and wellbeing are key contributors to an individual’s economic activity. The main health statistics from the 2011 Census are outlined below.

- On perception of general health, some 84.8 per cent of the Oban population stated that their health was ‘very good’ or ‘good’. This was above the rates for Argyll and the Islands (81.1 per cent), the Highlands and Islands (83.8 per cent) and Scotland (82.2 per cent).
- Some 17.1 per cent of the Oban population reported a limiting long-term illness or health problem that affected their day-to-day activities. This was below the rates for Argyll and the Islands (21.7 per cent), the Highlands and Islands (18.9 per cent) and Scotland (19.6 per cent).
- Some 8.0 per cent of the Oban population provided unpaid care on a weekly basis. This was below the rates for Argyll and the Islands (10.1 per cent), the Highlands and Islands (9.1 per cent) and Scotland (9.3 per cent).

ETHNICITY AND MIGRATION

The Oban profile concludes with the ethnicity and migration statistics from the 2011 Census. They show that:

- Some 98.3 per cent of the Oban population were ‘white’. This was in line with the proportions for Argyll and the Islands (98.9 per cent) and the Highlands and Islands (98.8 per cent) but above the Scotland proportion of 96.0 per cent.
- Of the ‘white’ population in Oban, some 84.8 per cent were ‘white Scottish’, which was higher than the Argyll and the Islands (81.8 per cent) and Highlands and Islands proportions (81.0 per cent). These wider geographic areas had 14.7 per cent and 15.4 per cent respectively defining themselves as ‘white British’.
- Some 6.5 per cent of the Oban population were born outside of the UK. This was above the proportions across Argyll and the Islands (4.9 per cent) and the Highlands and Islands (5.2 per cent), and close to the Scotland average (7.0 per cent).
FURTHER INFORMATION

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