

Argyll and the Islands Key statistics

November 2019



Highlands and Islands Enterprise
Iomairt na Gàidhealtachd's nan Eilean

Argyll and the Islands

- Total population was **66,295** in 2018, a decrease of 3.2% from 2011.
- Population density (**10 people per sq. km**) is lower than both the Highlands and Islands (**12 people per sq. km**) and Scottish averages (**70 people per sq. km**).
- An older age profile than the Highlands and Islands and Scotland.
- An Economic Activity rate (**76.4%**) lower than that of the Highlands and Islands (**80.9%**) and Scotland (**77.9%**).
- A greater percentage who are self-employed (**16.2%**) compared to the Highlands and Islands (**11.0%**) and Scotland (**8.7%**).
- An Employment rate (**73.6%**) lower than the Highlands and Islands (**78.6%**) and Scotland (**74.7%**).
- Unemployment rate lower than Scotland and higher than the Highlands and Islands. In September 2019, the Argyll and the Islands rate was **2.9%**, compared to **2.3%** for the Highlands and Islands and **3.2%** for Scotland.
- School leaver positive destinations rates (i.e. not into unemployment) above the Scottish average.
- Productivity in the Nuts 3 area of Lochaber, Skye and Lochalsh, Arran and Cumbrae and Argyll and Bute **99.1%** of the UK level.

TOTAL POPULATION	2011	2018	% CHANGE
Argyll and the Islands	68,493	66,295	-3.2%
Highlands and Islands	467,043	469,365	+0.5%
Scotland	5,299,900	5,438,100	+2.6%

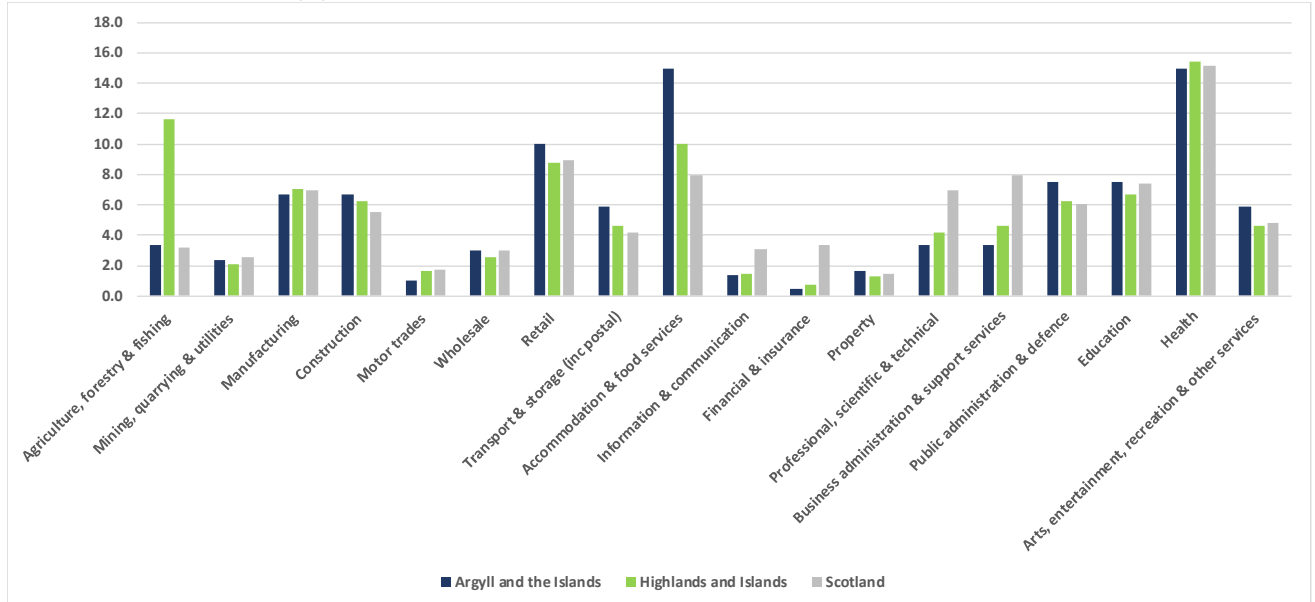
Source: NRS Mid-year estimates 2018

By age breakdown, Argyll and the Islands had an older age profile than both the Highlands and Islands and Scotland. In 2018, some **27.4%** of the Argyll and the Islands population was aged over 65 years, compared to **22.8%** in the Highlands and Islands and **18.9%** in Scotland. Almost a quarter (**23.2%**) of the Argyll and the Islands population was aged 0-24 years, compared to **25.6%** of the Highlands and Islands and **27.6%** of Scotland's population.

Employment

In 2018, compared with the Highlands and Islands and Scotland, Argyll and the Islands had a higher share of employment by industry in construction; retail; transport and storage; accommodation and food services; public administration and defence; education and arts, entertainment, recreation and other services.

EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY (%), 2018



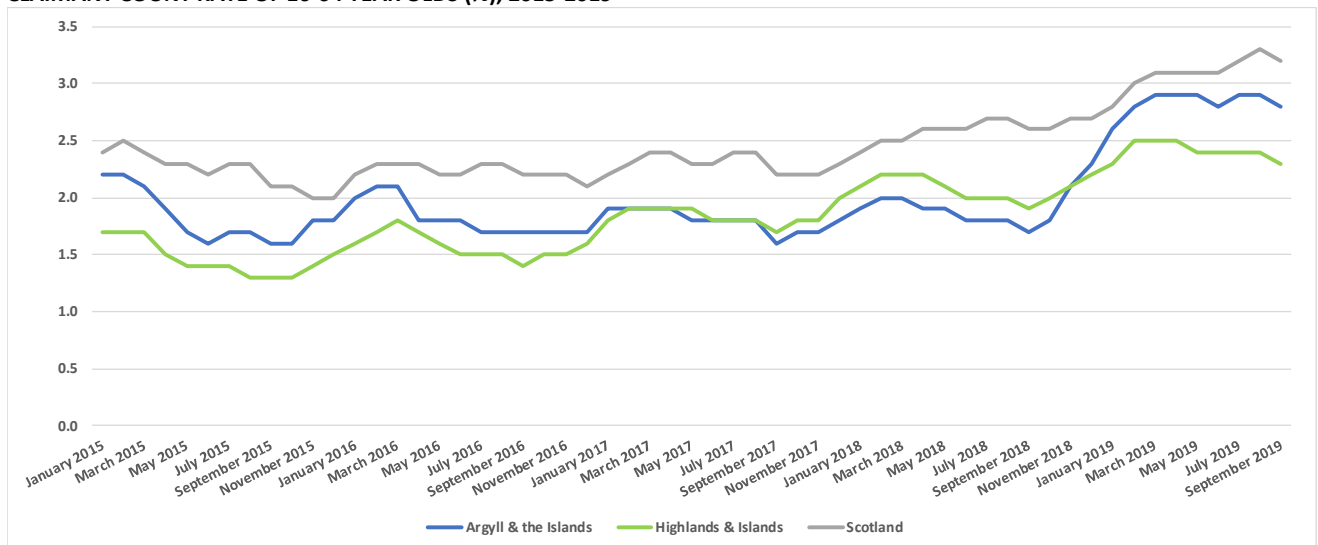
Source: BRES (Nomis)

Argyll and the Islands had a higher share of employment by occupation in managers, directors and senior officials; skilled trades and elementary occupations than the Highlands and Islands and Scotland.

Unemployment

The unemployment rate for Argyll and the Islands has been below that for Scotland over the period 2015-19. The latest figures for September 2019 show that Argyll and the Islands had a rate of **2.9%**, compared to the Highlands and Islands at **2.3%** and Scotland at **3.2%**.

CLAIMANT COUNT RATE OF 16-64 YEAR OLDS (%), 2015-2019



Source: Claimant Count (NOMIS)