

# Inner Moray Firth Key statistics

November 2019



Highlands and Islands Enterprise  
Iomairt na Gàidhealtachd's nan Eilean

## Inner Moray Firth

- Total population was **157,934** in 2018, an increase of 2.7% from 2011.
- Population density (**20 people per sq. km**) is higher than that for the Highlands and Islands (**12 people per sq. km**) but lower than the Scottish average (**70 people per sq. km**).
- The Inner Moray Firth has a younger age profile than the Highlands and Islands but older than Scotland.
- An Economic Activity rate (**80.8%**) in line with the Highlands and Islands (**80.9%**) but higher than Scotland (**77.9%**).
- A percentage of self-employed (**8.5%**) in line with Scotland (**8.7%**) but lower than the Highlands and Islands (**11.0%**).
- An employment rate (**78.5%**) in line with the Highlands and Islands (**78.6%**) and higher than Scotland (**74.7%**).
- Unemployment rate (**2.2%**) in September 2019 in line with the Highlands and Islands (**2.3%**) but lower than Scotland (**3.2%**).

TOTAL POPULATION	2011	2018	% CHANGE
Inner Moray Firth	153,776	157,934	+2.7%
Highlands and Islands	467,043	469,365	+0.5%
Scotland	5,299,900	5,438,100	+2.6%

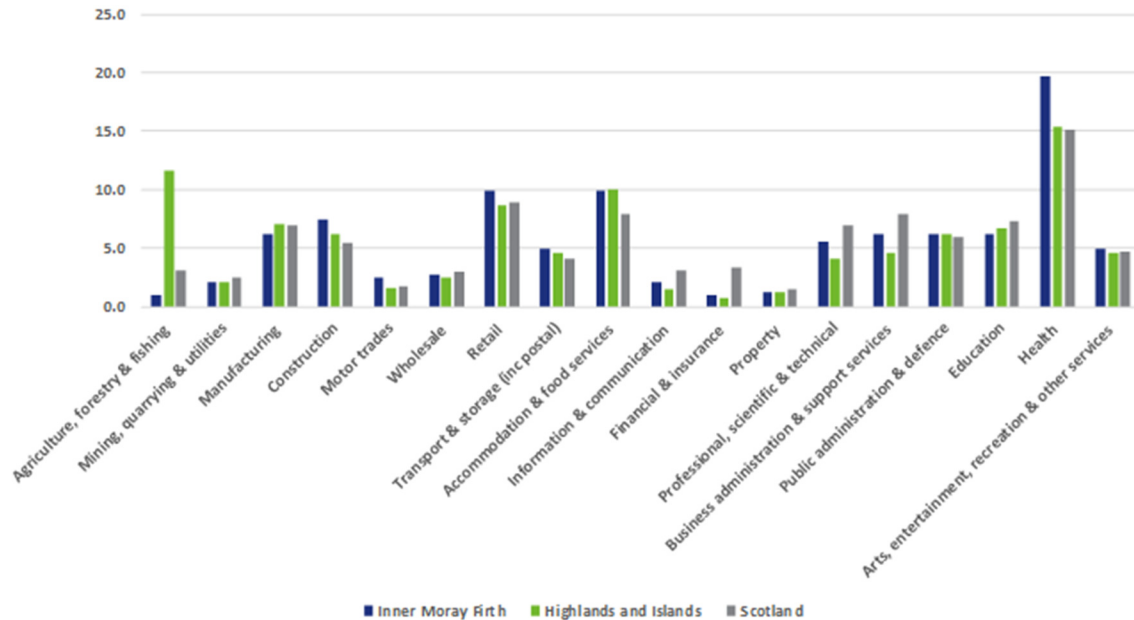
Source: NRS Mid-year estimates 2018, Census 2011

By age breakdown, the Inner Moray Firth had a younger age profile than the Highlands and Islands but older than Scotland. In 2018, **49.7%** of the Inner Moray Firth population was aged over 45 years, compared to **52.5%** of the Highlands and Islands and **46.5%** of Scotland's population, while **26.7%** of the area's population was aged 0-24 years, compared to **25.6%** of the Highlands and Islands and **27.6%** cent of Scotland's population.

## Employment

Compared with the Highlands and Islands and Scotland, the Inner Moray Firth had a higher share of employment by industry in construction; motor trades; retail; transport and storage; health and arts, entertainment, recreation and other services.

EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY (%), 2018

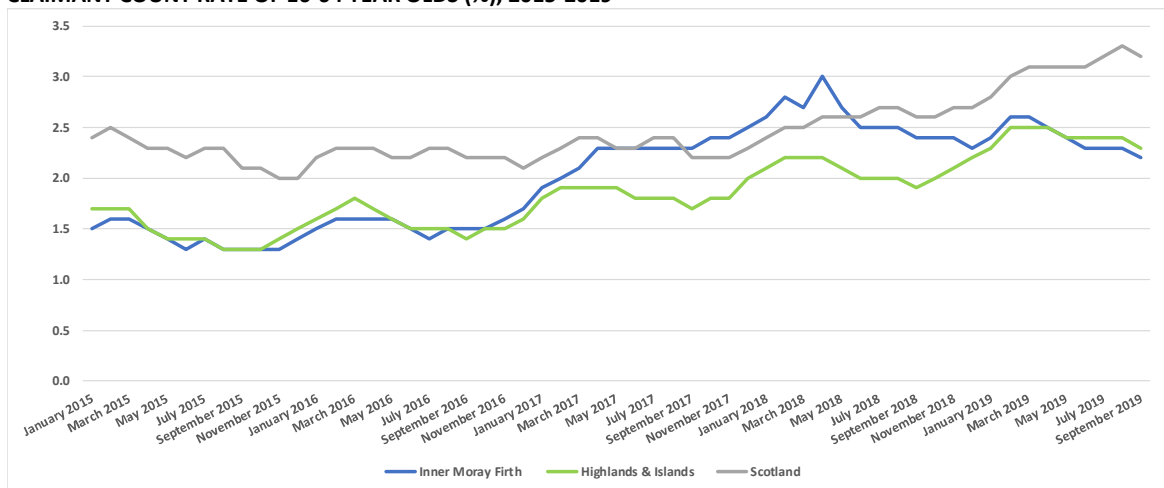


Source: BRES (Nomis)

## Unemployment

The Inner Moray Firth unemployment rate has seen a decrease in its unemployment rate in recent months, after increasing following the introduction of Universal Credit. The latest figures for September 2019 show that the Inner Moray Firth had a rate of **2.2%** which was in line with that of the Highlands and Islands (**2.3%**) but lower than Scotland (**3.2%**).

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



Source: Claimant Count (NOMIS)