Moray

- Total population was **95,520** in 2018, an increase of 2.2% from 2011.
- Population density (**43 people per sq. km**) is significantly higher than that for the Highlands and Islands (**12 people per sq. km**) but lower than the Scottish average (**70 people per sq. km**).
- Has a younger age profile than the Highlands and Islands but older than Scotland.
- An Economic Activity rate (**78.6%**) higher than Scotland (**77.9%**) but lower than the Highlands and Islands (**80.9%**).
- A self-employment rate (**12.2%**) higher than that for the Highlands and Islands (**11.0%**) and Scotland (**8.7%**).
- An employment rate (**74.9%**) in line with that of Scotland (**74.7%**) but lower than that of the Highlands and Islands (**78.6%**).
- An unemployment rate in line with the Highlands and Islands and lower than Scotland. In September 2019, Moray’s rate was **2.4%**, the Highlands and Islands was **2.3%** and Scotland, **3.2%**.
- School leaver positive destinations rates (i.e. not into unemployment) just below the Scottish average.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TOTAL POPULATION</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>% CHANGE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Moray</td>
<td>93,470</td>
<td>95,520</td>
<td>+2.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Highlands and Islands</td>
<td>467,043</td>
<td>469,365</td>
<td>+0.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scotland</td>
<td>5,299,900</td>
<td>5,438,100</td>
<td>+2.6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: NRS Mid-year estimates 2018

By age breakdown, Moray has a younger age profile than the Highlands and Islands overall but older than Scotland. In 2018, **50.2%** of the Moray population was aged over 45 years, compared to the Highlands and Islands (**52.5%** and Scotland (**46.5%**), 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%** of Scotland’s population.
Employment
Compared with the Highlands and Islands and Scotland, Moray had a higher share of employment by industry in manufacturing; construction; motor trades; retail; education and health. The manufacturing sector is particularly important to the Moray economy, employing over 15 per cent of the working population, more than double the percentage for the Highlands and Islands and Scotland.

Moray had a higher share of employment by occupation in skilled trades and process, plant and machine operatives compared to the Highlands and Islands and Scotland in 2018.

Unemployment
The Moray unemployment rate has been below that of Scotland over the period 2015-2019. The latest figures for September 2019 show that Moray had a rate of 2.4%, in line with that for the Highlands and Islands (2.3%) and lower than that for Scotland (3.2%).