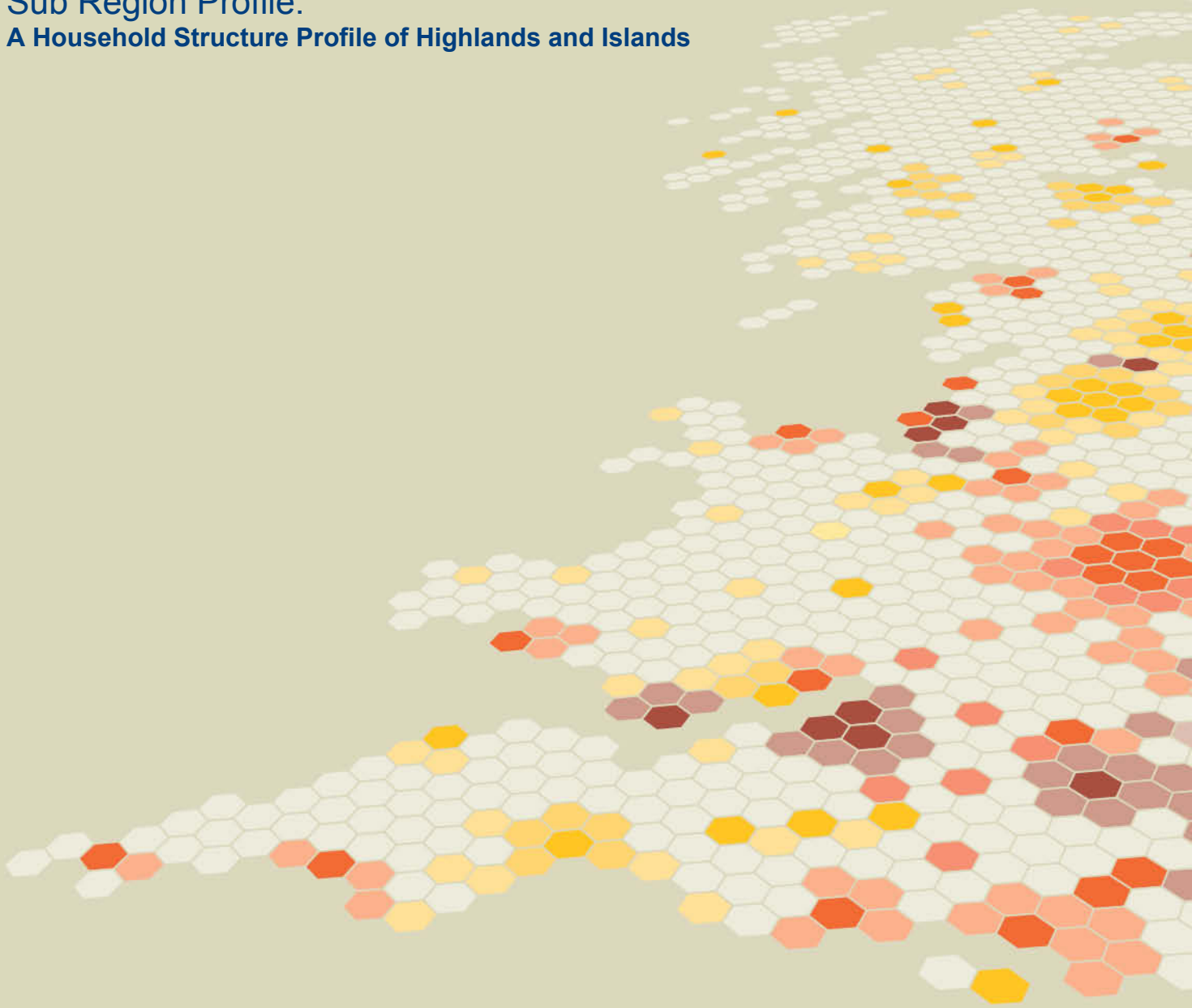


February 2009

## Sub Region Profile: A Household Structure Profile of Highlands and Islands



# Household Structure Profile

Highlands and Islands  
February 2009



## About Place Profiles

Place Profiles are a series of reports available from the Local Futures Group that provide an assessment of local conditions. Using the latest data at the time of creation, they are available for a range of economic, social and environmental themes at sub-region through to neighbourhood level. The reports present a range of graphical outputs, together with a summary analysis of performance that is set within a regional and national context.

More information about the profiles and how to purchase further copies is available at the end of this report.

## About the Local Futures Group

The Local Futures Group comprises a team of researchers and consultants with academic, corporate and policy backgrounds. We provide a geographical perspective on economic, social and environmental change. We introduce this perspective into public policy and corporate strategies, both in the UK and internationally. Our services include:

- **Benchmarking:** a family of benchmarking services that ensure future strategies are underpinned by a clear and shared understanding of current conditions. These provide a comprehensive analysis set within a regional and national context.
- **Strategy:** research and support services to identify future drivers of change and develop long-term strategies.
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## Household Structure Profile: Highlands and Islands

### Introduction

Demographic characteristics have a fundamental influence on the social and economic development of an area. The size and structure of households has implications for planning, housing demand and entitlement to benefits. This household structure profile assesses Highlands and Islands according to household composition; overall average household size; and projections of change in the number of households.

Highlands and Islands is ranked 44 out of 53 sub regions on the average household size, placing the area in the lowest 20% of sub regions nationally.

With an average household size of 2.34 people, Highlands and Islands is well below the national median. This is shown in the map, where areas with darker shadings have higher average household sizes and those with lighter shadings have lower averages.

The proportion of one person households in Highlands and Islands was 31.86% in 2001. By comparison, the Scotland figure was 32.88% and the national figure was 30.28%.

A glossary of the terms and definitions used in this profile are included at the end of the report.

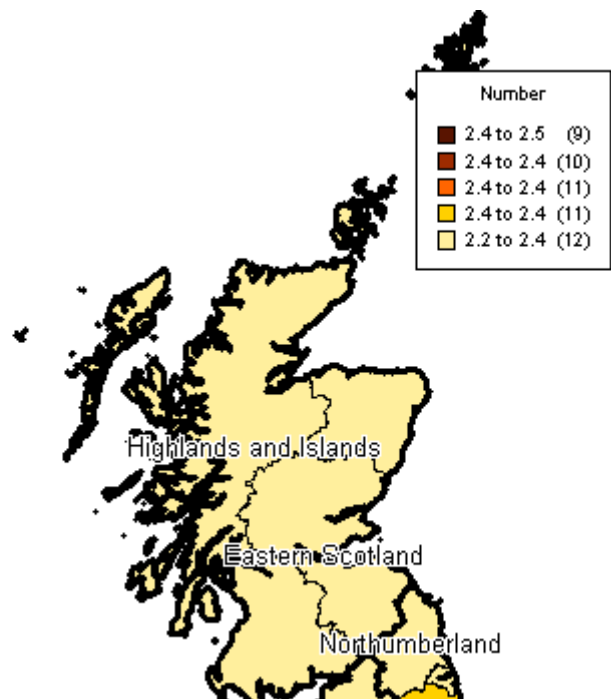
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## Average Household Size

The map shows the average household size in sub regions within Scotland. The areas with very dark shading have higher averages and those with very light shading have lower averages.

With an average household size of 2.34 people, Highlands and Islands is in the lowest 20% of sub regions nationally.

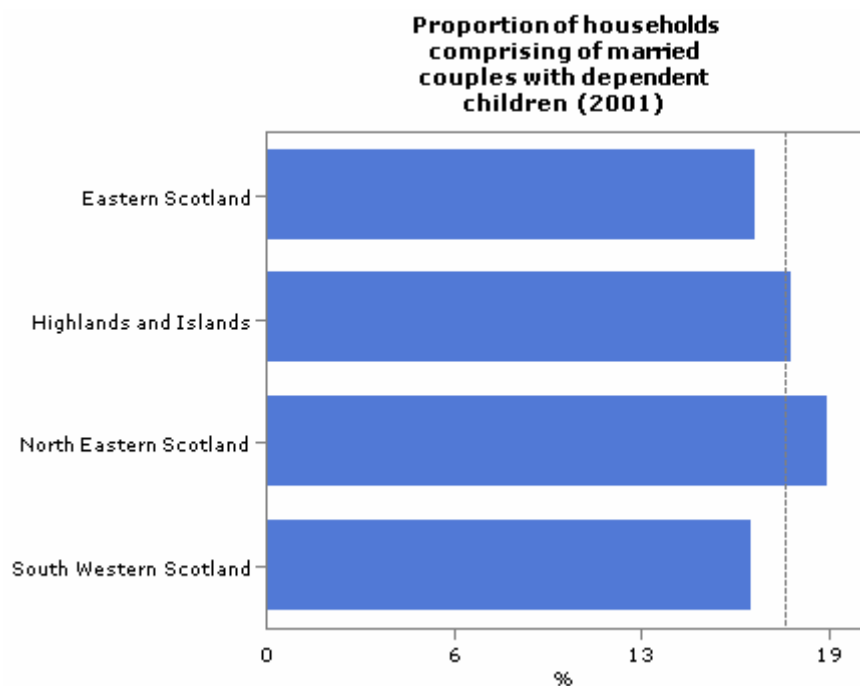


Source: Census 2001

## Proportion Of Households Comprising Of Married Couples With Dependent Children

The bar chart shows the proportion of households with married couples and dependent children in 2001, for sub regions in Scotland.

The chart shows that at 17.72%, Highlands and Islands has an average proportion of households with married couples and dependent children. By comparison, the Great Britain average, shown by the dashed line, is 17.48%.



Source: Census 2001

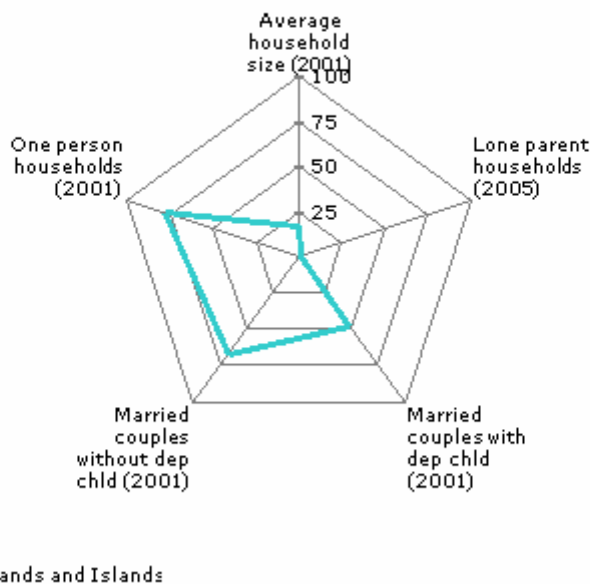
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## Household Structure Indicators

The spider chart is a way of showing how Highlands and Islands rates against the national median. Data for every sub region in is converted into a percentile score, with the highest ranking area scoring 100 and the bottom area zero. The national median is shown by the 50th percentile.

The chart shows that Highlands and Islands has an average household size well below the national median. The chart also shows a range of household structure indicators for Highlands and Islands.



Source: Census 2001

## Household Structure Indicators

Areas	One person households (%) 2001	Married couples without dep chld (%) 2001	Married couples with dep chld (%) 2001	Lone parent households (%) 2005	Average household size (Number) 2001	Rank
North Eastern Scotland	31.15	14.47	18.90	4.74	2.35	42/53
Highlands and Islands	31.86	14.83	17.72	3.97	2.34	44/53
South Western Scotland	33.57	11.44	16.35	9.16	2.31	50/53
Eastern Scotland	32.72	13.70	16.49	6.63	2.30	52/53
<b>Scotland</b>	<b>32.88</b>	<b>12.85</b>	<b>16.76</b>	<b>7.30</b>	<b>2.31</b>	<b>11/11</b>
<b>Great Britain Average</b>	<b>30.28</b>	<b>12.98</b>	<b>17.48</b>	<b>7.20</b>		

Source: Census 2001  
The rankings in the table are based on the "Average household size" indicator

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## Household Structure Indicators Summary

Looking at some of the indicators from the table we find that:

- The proportion of one person households was 31.86% in 2001, which is high by national standards, with Highlands and Islands ranking in the top 40% of sub regions. By comparison, the Scotland average was 32.88% and the national figure was 30.28%.
- The proportion of households with married couples but no dependent children was 14.83% in 2001, which is high by national standards, with Highlands and Islands ranking in the top 40% of sub regions. By comparison, the Scotland average was 12.85% and the national figure was 12.98%.
- The proportion of households with married couples and dependent children was 17.72% in 2001, which is average by national standards, with Highlands and Islands ranking in the middle 20% of sub regions. By comparison, the Scotland average was 16.76% and the national figure was 17.48%.
- The proportion of lone parent households was 3.97% in 2005, which is very low by national standards, with Highlands and Islands ranking in the bottom 20% of sub regions. By comparison, the Scotland average was 7.30% and the national figure was 7.20%.

Source: Census 2001

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## Nearest Neighbours

For the indicators in the spider chart shown earlier, the areas in the country with the most similar profiles are shown on the right. These are statistically the nearest neighbours to Highlands and Islands, with North Eastern Scotland in Scotland being the most similar on the household structure indicators.

Rank	Place Name	Region
1	North Eastern Scotland	Scotland
2	Cumbria	North West
3	Somerset	South West
4	Gloucestershire	South West
5	Suffolk	East of England
6	Norfolk	East of England
7	Bournemouth, Dorset & Poole	South West
8	Devon & Cornwall	South West
9	Northumberland	North East
10	Sussex	South East

Source: Census 2001

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## Glossary of terms

Average household size	The mean average number of people living within a household.
Projected total households	The likely change in the number of households over a twenty-five year period.
Proportion of households comprising of married couples with dependent children	The proportion of households with married couples with dependent children. Dependent children are those under 16, or are aged 16-18, studying full-time and living in a family.
Proportion of households comprising of married couples with no children	The proportion of households with married couples with no children, whether dependent or not.
Proportion of lone parent households	The proportion of households that contain lone parents with dependent children. A lone parent is defined as a parent with a dependent child living in a household with no other people (whether related to that dependent child or not).
Proportion of one person households	The proportion of households that are occupied by only one person.

## Data Sources and Definitions

Average household size	This indicator was supplied in this format by the source.
Projected total households	Household projections are calculated by the ODPM (now DCLG) and are based on population projections published by the ONS.
Proportion of households comprising of married couples with dependent children	The number of households containing married couples with dependent children as a proportion of all households.
Proportion of households comprising of married couples with no children	The number of households containing married couples with no children as a proportion of all households.
Proportion of lone parent households	This indicator was supplied in this format by the source.
Proportion of one person households	The number of households containing only one person as a proportion of all households.

Source: Local Knowledge; Census 2001; Regional Trends; Household Estimates and Projections.

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