



Socio Economic Update No 41

December 2019

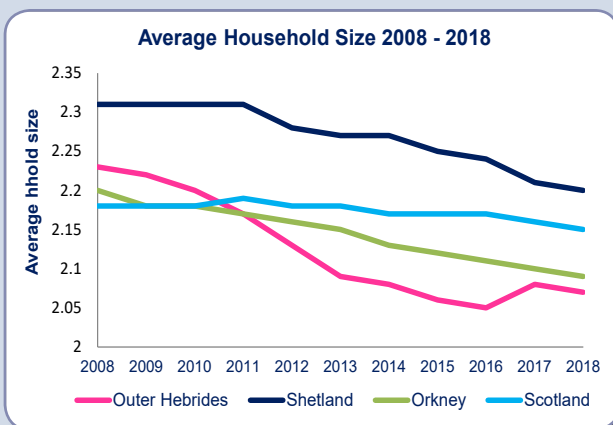


National Records of Scotland published Estimates of Households and Dwellings in Scotland, 2018 in June 2018. These estimates are published yearly and are used mainly for informing Council decisions about housing need and the provision of services.

Nationally there has been an increase of 283,000 households (13%) over the last 17 years. The growth is due to the increase in population and decreasing household size leading to an increased number of dwellings. The number of dwellings increased in all areas between 2017 and 2018, apart from the Outer Hebrides.

One person households are the most common type of household, representing 36% of households in Scotland. Census records show that in 1961 only 14% of households consisted of one person, however, by the time of the 2011 Census 35% of households were 1 person households.

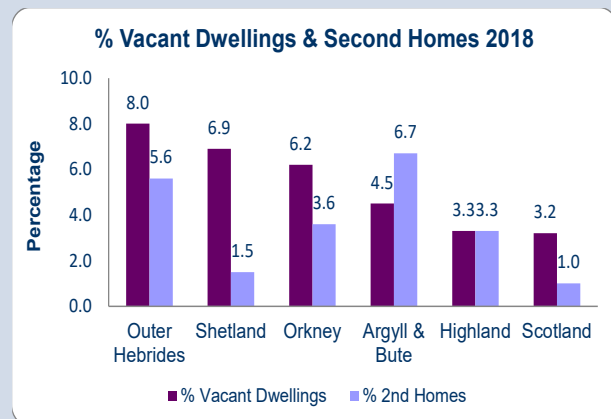
The average household size in the Outer Hebrides has decreased from 2.23 in 2008 to 2.07 in 2018, the largest decrease (-7.0%) in Scotland. The chart below shows the decline in average household size for island areas and Scotland over the decade.



In the Outer Hebrides the 2018 Household Estimates identified a decrease of 33 households (-0.3%) from 2017 to 2018, while the Scottish average was a 0.6% increase. The number of households has increased in every local authority area except the Outer Hebrides.

In the long term the 2018 Household Estimates identified an increase of 697 households (5.8%) from 2008 to 2018. This is in line with the national average, a 6.0% increase.

Of all 32 Scottish Local Authorities areas, the Outer Hebrides is estimated to have: the highest % of vacant dwellings at 8.0% (nat avg 3.2%); the second highest % of second homes at 5.6%, Argyll & Bute have the highest at 6.7% (nat avg 1.0%), as illustrated in the chart below.



There has been a 4% decrease in the number of second homes in the Outer Hebrides from 2008 to 2018 (a 25% decrease nationally). There has been an 18% increase in the number of vacant homes over the decade (a 21% increase nationally). The Outer Hebrides has the highest percentage of unoccupied exemptions at 4.5% (nat.avg. 1.7%).

The Outer Hebrides has the highest percentage of detached dwellings at 64%, while Glasgow City has the lowest at 4%. The Outer Hebrides also has the lowest percentage of properties in the highest Council Tax band (F-H) at 2%, while East Renfrewshire has the highest at 34%.

[Small area household estimates](#) contain information on the number of dwellings in each data zone area, along with the numbers and percentages that are occupied, vacant, second homes, occupied and exempt from paying council tax and that are receiving 'single adult discount'.

The chart below gives some of the information available at data zone geography for 2018. The data shows that the percentage of vacant dwellings

in data zone areas varies greatly from 14% in Loch Roag to 3% in North Manor Park.

The highest percentage of second homes is found in North Barra and South Harris at 15% while Goathill has 0%. North Manor Park has the highest percentage of occupied dwellings at 96% while North Barra, Eriskay to South Boisdale and South Harris have the lowest occupancy at 75%.

Data Zone	Total Dwellings	% Occupied	% Vacant	% 2nd Homes
Vatersay to Castlebay	360	81%	9%	10%
North Barra	420	75%	10%	15%
Eriskay to South Boisdale	322	75%	13%	12%
Loch Boisdale	333	83%	11%	6%
Loch Eynort to lochdar	413	83%	11%	6%
South Benbecula	244	89%	6%	5%
North Benbecula	412	90%	7%	2%
West North Uist to Baleshare	443	81%	7%	12%
Grimsay, East North Uist to Berneray	545	82%	11%	7%
South Harris	583	75%	10%	15%
North Harris and Scalpay	586	83%	8%	9%
Pairc and Kinloch	543	78%	12%	10%
North Lochs	460	88%	8%	3%
Uig and Bernera	493	77%	10%	12%
Loch Roag	281	80%	14%	5%
Carloway to Shawbost	343	82%	9%	10%
Bragar to Brue	375	88%	8%	4%
Barvas to Borve	384	89%	7%	4%
Galson to Swainbost	352	85%	10%	5%
Habost to Port of Ness	432	82%	11%	7%
Gress to Tolsta	329	89%	5%	5%
Coll to Back	410	91%	5%	3%
Tong to Upper Coll	480	93%	6%	2%
Newmarket	431	94%	4%	1%
Marybank to Newvalley	468	94%	5%	1%
North Manor Park	344	96%	3%	1%
North Bayhead (Stornoway)	389	92%	7%	2%
Central Stornoway	584	90%	8%	2%
Newton to Plasterfield	404	94%	5%	1%
Springfield	303	94%	4%	2%
Goathill	418	94%	5%	0%
Coulegrain to Stenish	307	94%	5%	1%
Melbost to Braighe	472	93%	6%	1%
Garrabost	364	90%	6%	3%
Knock to Bayble	373	88%	9%	3%
Sheshader to Tiumpnan Head	306	86%	8%	6%

(Highest % highlighted in green, lowest % in pink, figures may not add up due to rounding)

The percentage of vacant and second homes in 2018 by island area are shown below:

Island Area	Total Dwellings	% Vacant	% 2nd Homes
Barra & Vatersay	780	9	13
South Uist	1,068	12	8
Benbecula	656	7	3
North Uist	988	9	9
Harris	1,169	9	12
Lewis	10,045	7	4
Stornoway HMA*	6,053	6	2
Rural Lewis HMA*	3,992	9	7

* Housing Market Area

Barra & Vatersay and Harris continue to have the highest percentage of second homes, while South Uist has the highest percentage of vacant homes.

Registrar General's Annual Review

The [Registrar General's Annual Review](#) was published in August 2019. The Review is a compendium of statistics published throughout the year which shows what is happening in all areas of life: population, migration, births, deaths, life expectancy etc in Scotland's population in 2018.

Key findings for the Outer Hebrides:

- Estimated population decrease of -0.45%, 120 persons, (9th consecutive population increase for Scotland)
- Marriages - 111, no civil partnerships. Average age of males marrying 38, females marrying 36
- 24 Tourism marriages (where neither partner were resident in Scotland).
- Births - 206, 109 males and 97 females
- Deaths - 356, 179 males and 177 females
- Leading cause of death for both sexes - heart disease at 14% (Scot.avg. 11%)
- Leading cause of death for men - heart disease at 16% (Scot.avg. 14%)
- Leading cause of death for women - dementia and Alzheimer's disease at 17% (Scot.avg. 14%)

If cancers were grouped together, cancer would be the leading cause of death.

Calendar Year Residential Market Review 2018

Registers of Scotland produced a [review](#) in March 2019. Some key findings:

- The average property price in Scotland increased by 3.7%, from £172,796 to £179,121.
- The volume of residential sales in Scotland decreased by 2.3%.
- The lowest average prices were in the Outer Hebrides and North Ayrshire, at £112,044 and £121,826 respectively.
- The highest average price was in Edinburgh City at £266,118.
- The Outer Hebrides had a decrease of 19% in the volume of sales.
- The smallest market value is in the Outer Hebrides at £36 million, 0.2% of the Scottish total

School Estates 2019

The [School Estates Dataset](#) for 2019 was updated in September 2019. Some key findings for the Outer Hebrides were:

- 2 schools were substantially refurbished in 2018-19
- Primary capacity: 9 with roll less than 50%, 7 with roll between 50 and 75%, 4 with roll between 75 & 90% and 2 with roll between 90 and 100%
- Secondary capacity: 2 with roll less than 50%, 1 with roll between 50 & 75% and 1 with roll between 90 and 100%
- 100% of primary schools and 100% of S1-S3 pupils and 50% of S4 pupils meeting PE target provision of at least 120 mins per week in primary and 100 mins per week in secondary timetabled periods.

On 22 August [National Records of Scotland](#) published Small Area Population Estimates for mid-2018.

They provide important information on the population at neighbourhood level and are used as building blocks to provide population estimates for a variety of geographies, including wards, parliamentary constituencies, urban/rural and deprived areas.

The adjacent table shows the percentage population change in descending order, from mid 2011 to mid 2018. The population has increased in only seven of the 36 data zones.

Over the period 2011 to 2018 the largest decrease in numbers was in the Newton to Plasterfield data zone which decreased by 103 people while the largest increase was in the Melbost to the Braighe data zone which increased by 111 people.

Over the last year from 2017 to 2018, the 3 data zones with the highest estimated percentage population decrease were:

Loch Roag	-3.3%
Eriskay to South Boisdale	-3.0%
Newmarket	-2.5%

The data zone area with the largest decrease in population numbers over the year was Newmarket with a decrease of 23 persons.

The 3 data zones with the highest estimated population increase over the year 2017 to 2018 were:

Vatersay to Castlebay	4.1%
Uig and Bernera	4.1%
Springfield	3.8%

The data zone area with the largest increase in population numbers was Uig and Bernera with an increase of 29 people.

Population Change 2011 to 2018

Datazone	% Change 2011 to 2018	Estimated total pop. 2018
Eriskay to South Boisdale	-15.1	451
Galson to Swainbost	-13.6	560
Newton to Plasterfield	-12.2	739
Loch Roag	-10.5	444
Habost to Port of Ness	-9.3	716
Goathill	-7.5	807
Loch Boisdale	-5.9	588
Uig and Bernera	-5.8	735
Coulegrain to Stenish	-5.5	624
Sheshader to Tiumpan Head	-5.4	575
Bragar to Brue	-4.9	693
South Harris	-4.8	869
Loch Eynort to lochdar	-4.6	712
West North Uist to Baleshare	-4.4	691
North Bayhead (Stornoway)	-4.3	624
Knock to Bayble	-3.7	812
Pairston and Kinloch	-3.6	892
Barvas to Borge	-3.5	727
Carloway to Shawbost	-3.2	605
Vatersay to Castlebay	-3.0	605
Grimsay, East North Uist to Berneray	-2.3	883
North Manor Park	-2.3	647
Coll to Back	-2.3	912
North Benbecula	-2.0	800
Tong to Upper Coll	-1.7	1,072
North Harris and Scalpay	-1.5	967
Marybank to Newvalley	-1.3	1,067
Garrabost	-0.7	796
Central Stornoway	-0.3	875
South Benbecula	1.0	522
Springfield	1.0	623
Newmarket	1.2	911
Gress to Tolsta	1.7	725
North Barra	2.1	670
North Lochs	2.8	905
Melbost to Braighe	12.7	986

The table above highlights the difference in population change within data zone areas. While Melbost to the Braighe is estimated to have increased greatly since 2011, from a population of 875 to 986 (+111), Eriskay to South Boisdale has decreased greatly from a population of 531 to 451 (-80). There is also a large difference in the size of some of the data zone areas, with Tong to Upper Coll the largest with a population of 1,072 and Loch Roag the smallest with a population of 444.

Broad Age Groups by Data Zone 2018

	All People	% under 15	% 16-64	% 65+
Vatersay to Castlebay	605	20	57	23
North Barra	670	18	54	28
Eriskay to South Boisdale	451	12	53	34
Loch Boisdale	588	17	58	25
Loch Eynort to lochdar	712	19	58	23
South Benbecula	522	19	57	23
North Benbecula	800	24	60	16
West North Uist to Baleshare	691	16	54	30
Grimsay, East North Uist to Berneray	883	12	58	30
South Harris	869	14	53	33
North Harris and Scalpay	967	13	56	30
Pairc and Kinloch	892	15	58	27
North Lochs	905	15	58	27
Uig and Bernera	735	10	59	31
Loch Roag	444	13	56	31
Carloway to Shawbost	605	11	62	27
Bragar to Brue	693	14	61	24
Barvas to Borve	727	15	59	26
Galson to Swainbost	560	10	56	34
Habost to Port of Ness	716	14	54	31
Gress to Tolsta	725	16	56	28
Coll to Back	912	18	61	21
Tong to Upper Coll	1,072	24	58	19
Newmarket	911	20	66	14
Marybank to Newvalley	1,067	18	63	19
North Manor Park	647	21	62	17
North Bayhead (Stornoway)	624	11	62	28
Central Stornoway	875	14	61	25
Newton to Plasterfield	739	12	61	28
Springfield	623	16	59	25
Goathill	807	14	50	36
Coulegrain to Stenish	624	15	57	28
Melbost to Braighe	986	21	61	18
Garrabost	796	19	62	19
Knock to Bayble	812	17	58	25
Sheshader to Tiumpan Head	575	16	55	29
Outer Hebrides	26,830	16	58	25

* (Highest % highlighted in green, lowest % in pink, figures may not add up due to rounding)

The adjacent chart shows the broad age groups in all the data zone areas in the Outer Hebrides.

There are large variations within the Outer Hebrides with some data zones having a much younger population while other data zones have an older population.

North Benbecula and Tong to Upper Coll have the highest percentage of persons under 15 at 24%. This is much higher than the Outer Hebrides average of 16%, while Galson to Swainbost and Uig and Bernera have the lowest at 10%.

Goathill has the highest percentage of those aged 65 and over at 36%, while Newmarket has the lowest at 14%.

Newmarket has the highest percentage of working age at 66% while Goathill has the lowest at 50%.

The adjacent chart shows the age structure within island areas.

The age structure differs greatly in island areas. Benbecula has the highest percentage of those aged 0-15 while North Uist has the lowest. Benbecula has the lowest percentage of those aged 65+ while Harris has the highest at 32%, well above the Outer Hebrides average of 25% and the Scottish average of 19%.

Island Area	Age structure (%)		
	0-15	16-64	65+
Barra & Vatersay	19	55	26
South Uist	17	57	27
Benbecula	22	59	19
North Uist	13	56	30
Harris	14	55	32
Lewis	16	59	25

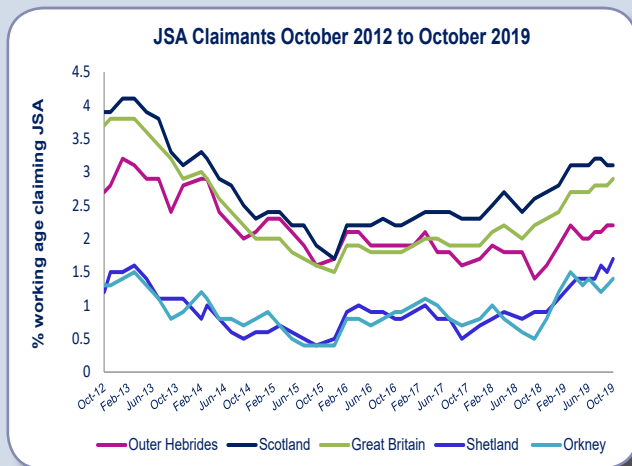
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Labour Market

The latest [NOMIS](#) (Office for National Statistics Service) update shows that employment rates in the Outer Hebrides remain stable. The employment rate in the Outer Hebrides from July 2018 to June 2019 was 80.3%, greater than the national average of 77.9%, while Great Britain was 78.9%. Self employment in the islands has decreased by 1.8 percentage points to 10.6% and was 8.7% in Scotland and 10.7% in Great Britain. Unemployment in the Outer Hebrides was at 2.7%, which was lower than than the national and UK average of 4.1%.

Although the Job Seeker Allowance (JSA) rate (shown in the chart below) remains low it varies greatly between men and women. The rate for men has increased to 2.8% while the rate for women has increased to 1.5%.

The economic inactivity rate has risen again and is now at 19.7% (Scot.avg. 22.1). The percentage of those who are retired is at 21.2%, while Scotland is 15.5% and Great Britain is 12.9%. The percentage of those who want a job is more than double that of Scotland, at 42.8%, Scotland 20.9% and Great Britain is 20.7%.



The latest update from [NOMIS](#) gives the following JSA claimant rates for October 2019 :

Outer Hebrides	2.2%
Scotland	3.1%
Great Britain	2.9%
Shetland Island	1.7%
Orkney Islands	1.4%

Orkney continues to have the lowest rate in Scotland, while the Outer Hebrides is the 9th lowest. In October, Shetland had 235 claimants, Orkney 185, while the Outer Hebrides had 345.

Nomis - Gross Weekly Pay

Official labour market statistics show that Gross Weekly Pay in the Outer Hebrides has increased by 8.7% over the last year. The information comes from the ONS annual survey of hours and earnings (ASHE).

The table below highlights pay in island areas, Scotland and Great Britain.

Earnings by residence 2019

Gross weekly pay

All full time workers

	£
Outer Hebrides	518.00
Scotland	577.70
Great Britain	587.00
Shetland	591.70
Orkney	598.00

Source: NOMIS

Although pay in the Outer Hebrides has increased over the year, the Outer Hebrides has the second lowest pay in Scotland. Dumfries & Galloway has the lowest at £480.80, while East Renfrewshire has the highest at £787.90.

Pay in Orkney and Shetland has decreased over the year (6.1% and 11.3% respectively) and Shetland has moved from 3rd highest to 12th highest in Scotland, while Orkney has moved from 4th highest to 10th highest.

The gap between the islands has decreased with pay in Shetland now 14.2% higher than that of the Outer Hebrides and pay in Orkney 15.4% higher than the Outer Hebrides. This is in comparison to 40% and 33.6% higher respectively last year.

The Scottish average gross weekly pay is 11.5% higher than that of the Outer Hebrides and has increased by 2.7% over the year.

Once again, pay in East Renfrewshire continues to be the highest in Scotland and has increased by 5.9% from 2018 to 2019.

Gross Disposable Household Income

The latest release on Regional Gross Disposable Household Income (GDHI) was published in May 2019 by the [Office for National Statistics](#).

In 2017, the growth in GDHI per head in the UK compared with 2016 was 1.0%, the same for all countries except Scotland, which grew by 0.9%.

As in previous years, out of the 179 Nomenclature of Units for Territorial Statistics (NUTS)3 areas, Kensington & Chelsea and Hammersmith & Fulham was the NUTS3 area with the highest GDHI per head at £60,343.

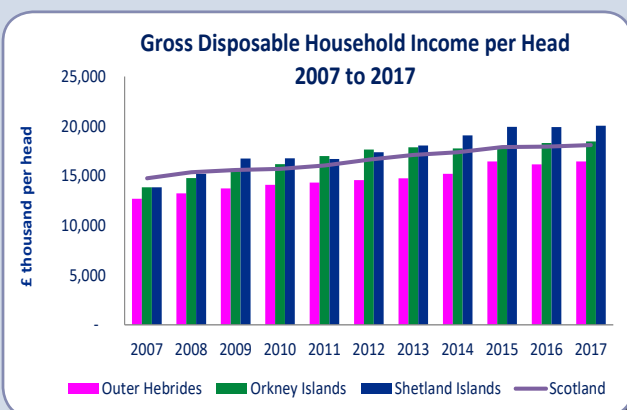
Nottingham had the lowest GDHI per head at £12,445. The highest disposable incomes local areas remain in London and the South East.

GDHI decreased in 45 areas. GDHI per head increased in the Outer Hebrides by 1.8% over the year. This is larger than the increase in Orkney (0.9%), Shetland (0.6%) and Scotland (0.9%). However, the Outer Hebrides remains the 5th lowest of the 23 NUTS3 areas in Scotland at £16,463.

Edinburgh is the highest in Scotland at £21,589, while the Scottish average is £18,099.

Over the period 2007 to 2017, as illustrated in the chart below, Shetland has increased the most by 44.6%, while the Outer Hebrides has increased by 29.6%, Orkney by 33.3% and Scotland by 22.7%.

Shetland's GDHI continues to be the highest and consistently higher than that of Scotland. Shetland has the 4th highest in Scotland at £20,049, while Orkney has the 8th highest at 18,481.



Coastal Communities: Earn Less

[BBC news analysis](#) found that residents in coastal communities earn on average £1,600 less per year than those living inland.

BBC news analysed income data collected by the Office for National Statistics for the 632 parliamentary constituencies in England, Scotland and Wales.

The research found that two-thirds of coastal areas had seen a real terms fall in wages since 2010.

Amongst the 10 parliamentary constituencies where wages have fallen the most, 3 were in Scotland:

- The Outer Hebrides
- Argyll and Bute
- Aberdeen South

Wirral West and Weston-Super-Mare in England have had the greatest fall, with a real term wages fall of around 25% since 2010.

End Child Poverty 2019

[End Child Poverty](#) published new figures in May 2019 on the levels of child poverty in constituencies, local authorities and wards in Britain.

Researchers from Loughborough University provided estimates of child poverty for 2017/18. Child poverty in the UK is rising. After falling between the late 1990s and 2010, it is now on the rise. Poplar and Limehouse, in Greater London, is the constituency with the highest levels of child poverty, after housing costs, at 58.5%, whereas the UK rate is 30%. Tower Hamlets in London is the local authority with the highest level (56.7%).

In Scotland, Glasgow Southside Parliamentary Constituency has the highest level at 46%. Shetland has the lowest levels at 11%. The Outer Hebrides has the 5th lowest levels at 14%.

Within the Na h-Eileanan and Iar Parliamentary Constituency, the Benbecula and North Uist multi ward has the highest level at 17%, while the Point Ward has the lowest level at 7%.

Levels in the Outer Hebrides have decreased by 6% percentage points since 2016/17.

Scottish Sea Fisheries Statistics 2018

The [Scottish Sea Fisheries Statistics 2018](#) publication was published on 26 September 2019. The figures show that in 2018 Scottish-registered fishing vessels landed 446 thousand tonnes of sea fish and shellfish with a value of £574 million. This is a 4% decrease in tonnage and a 1% increase in real terms value since 2017.

There were 2,089 Scottish registered fishing vessels in 2018, an increase of 24 from 2017. The number of fishers on these vessels was 4,860, up 1% on 2018.

Employment in fishing as proportion of total employed in Scotland - the three island areas have the highest proportions in Scotland.



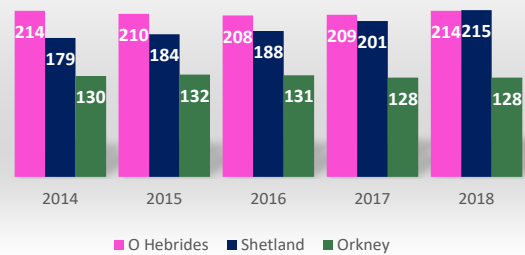
Between 2014 and 2018 the total number of fishers employed has decreased in the Outer Hebrides by 18.3%, a total of 68 fishermen. The number of crofters fishing has decreased by 70.6% over the period from 17 to 5.

The chart below details the number of fishermen in the Outer Hebrides in 2018.

Shetland had a total of 456 fishermen in 2018, while Orkney had a total of 291.

Outer Hebrides Fishermen- 2018	
Crofters	5
Irregular	42
Regular	256
Total	303

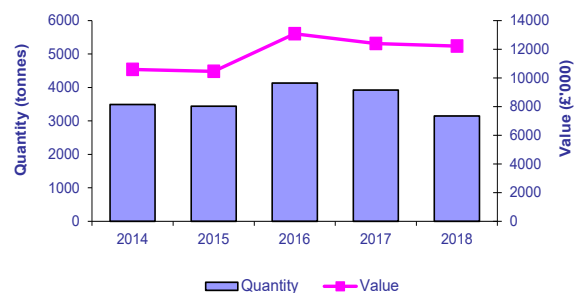
Number of vessels in Island areas
2014 to 2018



The number of vessels in the Outer Hebrides was the same in 2018 as in 2014. There has been little change over that period. Shetland had a 20% increase in vessels over the same period while Orkney had a 1.5% decrease in numbers.

In the Outer Hebrides the quantity of fish landed fell from 3,488 tonnes in 2014 to 3,147 tonnes in 2018, a decrease of 9.8%. However, the value of the landings increased by 15.3% over the same period, as highlighted below.

Quantity and Value of all landings in the Outer Hebrides 2014 to 2018



The number of voyages in the Outer Hebrides has increased by 5.8% from 5,040 in 2014 to 5,334 in 2018.

In Shetland there was a 23.9% increase in the number of voyages, while Orkney had an 18.8% increase. In Scotland as a whole there was a 1.5% increase in the number of voyages from 2014 to 2018.

13 of Scotland's best hikes

In May 2019 Wanderlust magazine voted for the [13 best hikes in Scotland](#). In 1st place was the Old Man of Hoy in Orkney. In 7th place was the Lover's Stone on St Kilda, where tradition was that young men had to prove themselves worthy of marriage by climbing the rocks and then balancing on one leg.

In 13th place is the Coffin Road in Harris. You can follow the route used by pall-bearers to carry the dead from the Bays district over to the west side of Harris for burial on the machair.

The best beaches in the UK

The [UK Evening Standard](#) has chosen the best beaches in the UK. Two of Harris's best beaches are named in the list with Scarista at number 13 and Luskentyre at number 21.

Top 9 Amazing Tennis Courts from around the world

In 2019 Wanderlust magazine voted for the [9 most amazing tennis courts from around the world](#). The tennis court in Bunavoneadar in Harris came in at 8th place. In 1st place was the Enchantment Resort in Arizona.

What's in a Name

Follow the [ONS blog](#) to discover how the annual baby names list is a reliable way of looking at the social and cultural changes underway in our population.

National Records of Scotland Podcast

[National Records of Scotland \(NRS\)](#) collects, preserves and produces information about Scotland's people and history and make it available to inform current and future generations.

The third episode of the Open Book podcast by NRS is about the island of St Kilda.

Check out the link to see a copy of the Petition for Evacuation on 10 May 1930.

If you have any queries or suggestions regarding this bulletin or would like to unsubscribe, please contact:

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