

# LERWICK PROFILE

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May 2014



## INTRODUCTION

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The Lerwick profile uses 2011 Census data and other available data sources to present an up-to-date analysis of its population and labour market.

The analysis is structured under the thematic headings of:

- Population.
- Labour market.
- Education and qualifications.
- Health and wellbeing.
- Ethnicity and migration.

To help contextualise the 2011 findings, the area profile includes corresponding figures where available for:

- Shetland, the Highlands and Islands area and Scotland as a whole.
- The 2001 Census, to show how Lerwick has changed over the last 10 years.

The profile has been constructed using best fit data zones – and a map illustrating the specific datazones used is provided at the end of the profile.

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## HEADLINE FINDINGS

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The headline findings for Lerwick are:

- Total population was 7,326 in 2011, a decrease of 0.7 per cent from 2001.
  - By industry of employment, a higher share of employment in construction, transport and storage, and health and social work than the Highlands and Islands and Scotland.
  - By occupation, a higher share of employment in caring, leisure and other services, and elementary occupations than the Highlands and Islands and Scotland.
  - Unemployment rates above the Shetland rate but below the Highlands and Islands and Scotland rates. The annualised Jobseekers Allowance claimant count rate in 2013 was 1.8 per cent in Lerwick, 1.1 per cent in Shetland, 2.4 per cent in Highlands and Islands and 3.7 per cent across Scotland.
  - Like Shetland, Lerwick had a smaller proportion of the adult population with no qualifications compared to the Highlands and Islands and Scotland.
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# POPULATION

In 2011, Lerwick had a total population of 7,326. This was a small decrease of 0.7 per cent from 2001, which contrasts with the population increases across Shetland (5.3 per cent), the Highlands and Islands (7.5 per cent) and Scotland (4.6 per cent) (see Figure 1).

**FIGURE 1: TOTAL POPULATION**

	2001	2011	% CHANGE
Lerwick	7,378	7,326	-0.7
Shetland	21,988	23,167	+5.3
Highlands and Islands	433,524	466,112	+7.5
Scotland	5,062,011	5,295,403	+4.6

Source: Census 2001 and 2011



By age breakdown, Lerwick and Shetland as a whole have marginally younger age profiles than the Highlands and Islands.

- In 2011, some 55.4 per cent of the Lerwick population and 55.2 per cent of the Shetland population was aged 0-44 years old, compared with 50.8 per cent across the Highlands and Islands. The Scotland proportion was 55.7 per cent.
- Between 2001 and 2011, there has been an ageing of the population across Scotland. For example the Lerwick 65 years and over population increased from 14.9 per cent in 2001 to 17.6 per cent in 2011, while the population aged 45-64 years old increased from 25.2 per cent to 26.9 per cent.

**FIGURE 2: AGE BREAKDOWN OF 2001 AND 2011 POPULATION**

		<b>0-14</b>	<b>15-24</b>	<b>25-44</b>	<b>45-64</b>	<b>65+</b>
Lerwick	2001	19.0	12.6	28.4	25.2	14.9
	2011	15.9	13.9	25.6	26.9	17.6
Shetland	2001	20.5	11.4	28.3	25.8	14.0
	2011	18.0	11.9	25.3	28.6	16.3
Highlands and Islands	2001	18.3	10.3	27.4	26.7	17.2
	2011	16.3	10.8	23.7	29.7	19.4
Scotland	2001	17.9	12.5	29.2	24.5	15.9
	2011	16.1	13.1	26.5	27.5	16.8

Source: Census 2001 and 2011

By gender, some 50.7 per cent of Lerwick's population was male in 2011, which is the same as for Shetland, but less than the proportions across the Highlands and Islands (49.0 per cent) and Scotland (48.5 per cent).

**FIGURE 3: GENDER BREAKDOWN OF 2001 AND 2011 POPULATION**

		<b>Male</b>	<b>Female</b>
Lerwick	2001	49.1	50.9
	2011	50.7	49.3
Shetland	2001	50.4	49.6
	2011	50.8	49.2
Highlands and Islands	2001	49.1	50.9
	2011	49.0	51.0
Scotland	2001	48.1	51.9
	2011	48.5	51.5

Source: Census 2001 and 2011

## LABOUR MARKET

The labour market data available at the settlement level provides an analysis of the resident population. It has been structured under the sub-headings of:

- Economically active
- In employment
- Unemployment
- Economically inactive

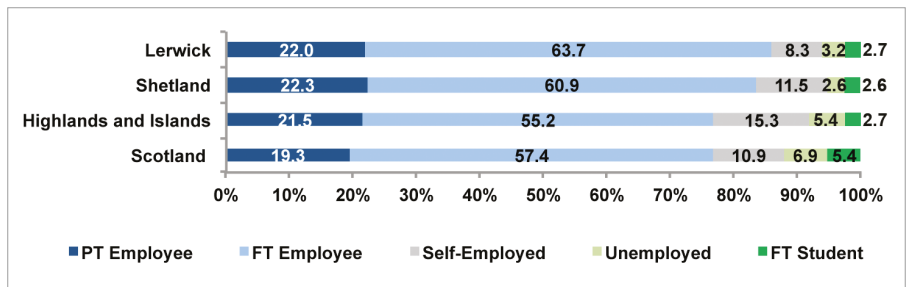
## ECONOMICALLY ACTIVE

In 2011, some 78.6 per cent of the Lerwick population aged 16 to 74 years old were economically active. This was above the rates for Shetland (78.1 per cent), the Highlands and Islands (71.3 per cent) and Scotland (69.0 per cent).

Figure 4 provides a breakdown of the economically active population in terms of their employment status. Compared to Shetland, Lerwick had proportionately:

- More in full-time employment.
- Fewer in self-employment.

**FIGURE 4: BREAKDOWN OF ECONOMICALLY ACTIVE 16 TO 74 POPULATION (%), 2011**



Source: Census 2011

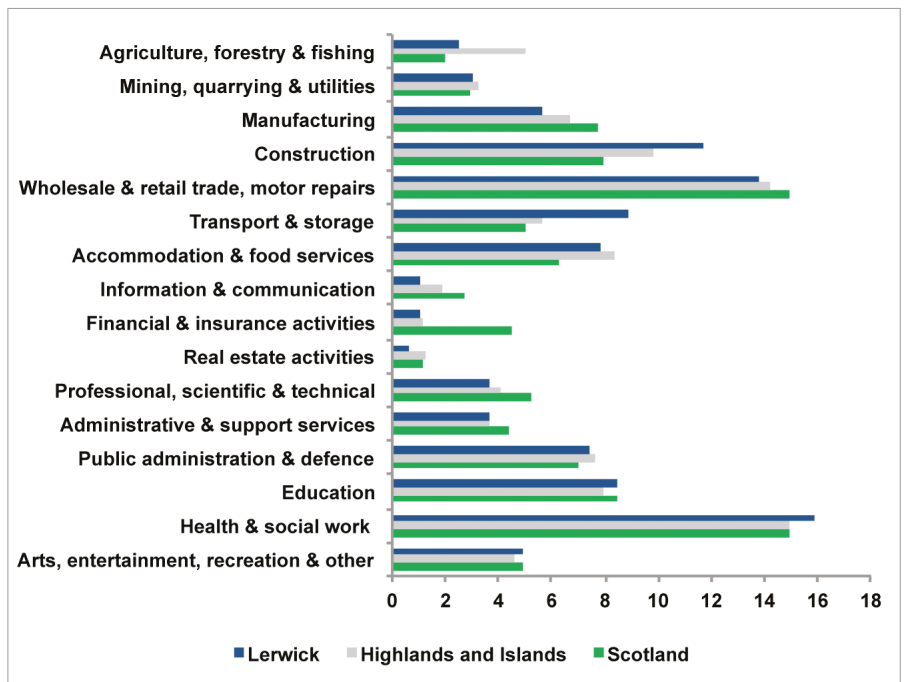
**IN EMPLOYMENT**

For those in employment, the Census provides information on the industry of employment, type of occupation and the number of hours worked per week.

By industry of employment in 2011, Figure 5 shows that compared to the Highlands and Islands and Scotland, Lerwick had:

- A higher share of employment in construction, transport and storage, and health and social work.
- A lower share of employment in manufacturing, and information and communications.

**FIGURE 5: EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY (%), 2011**



Source: Census 2011

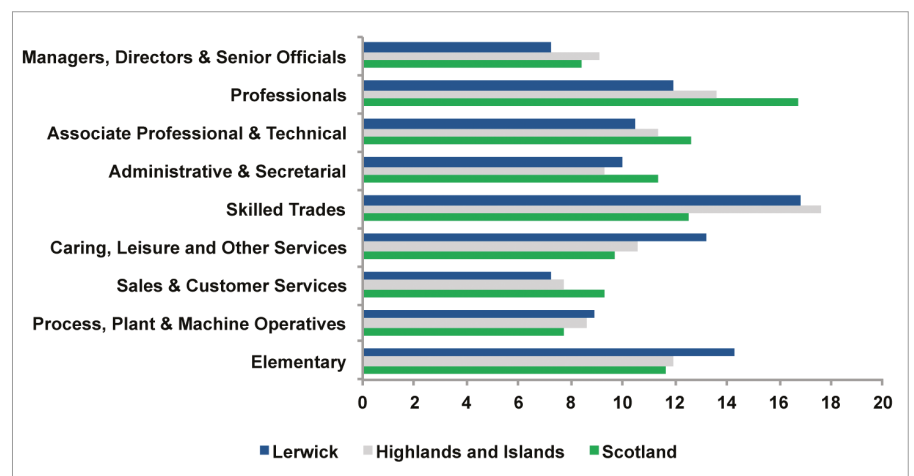
By occupation of employment, Figure 6 presents the share of 2011 employment by occupation and shows that, relative to the Highlands and Islands and Scotland, Lerwick had:

- A higher share of employment in caring, leisure and other service, and elementary occupations.
- A lower share of employment in managers and senior officials, professionals, associate professional and technical, and sales and customer service occupations.

#### HOURS WORKED

By hours worked, the 2011 Census finds that working more than 49 hours per week was less common in Lerwick (13.5 per cent) than Shetland (15.2 per cent) and the Highlands and Islands (16.1 per cent), but above the Scotland average (11.7 per cent).

**FIGURE 6: EMPLOYMENT BY OCCUPATION (%), 2011**



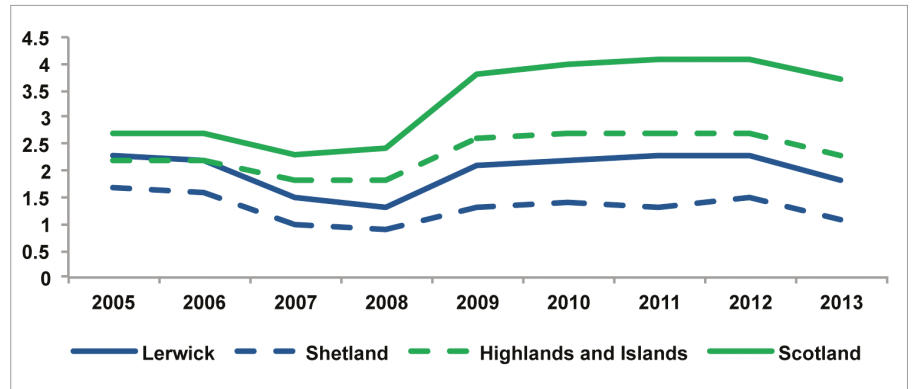
Source: Census 2011

## UNEMPLOYMENT

Jobseekers Allowance (JSA) Claimant Count data has been used to analyse unemployment levels. Figure 7 shows the annualised Claimant Count rate from 2005 to 2013.

- Lerwick's Claimant Count rate has consistently been above the Shetland rate but below the Scotland rate. Since 2006, the Lerwick rate has also been below the Highlands and Islands rate.
- In 2013, the Lerwick Claimant Count rate was 1.8 per cent; Shetland 1.1 per cent; the Highlands and Islands 2.4 per cent; and Scotland 3.7 per cent.

**FIGURE 7: CLAIMANT COUNT RATE OF 16-64 YEAR OLDS (%), 2005-2013**



Source: NOMIS Claimant Count data  
Note: Annualised data.

Figure 8 presents annualised Claimant Count data by gender, age and duration of claim for 2013. It shows:

- The male Claimant Count rate in Lerwick (2.2 per cent) was less than double the female rate (1.3 per cent). The Shetland, Highlands and Islands and Scotland male rates were double the female rates.
- The 16-24 year old Claimant Count in Lerwick (2.0 per cent) was above the Shetland rate but below the Highlands and Islands and Scotland rates.
- Amongst 25-64 year olds the Lerwick Claimant Count rate (1.4 per cent) was again above the Shetland rate but below the Highlands and Islands and Scotland rates.

**FIGURE 8: BREAKDOWN OF JOBSEEKERS ALLOWANCE CLAIMANTS, 2013**

	Lerwick		Shetland		Highlands and Islands		Scotland	
	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate
Male	51	2.2	120	1.6	4,580	3.2	87,410	5.1
Female	24	1.3	60	0.8	2,170	1.5	41,250	2.3
16-24	19	2.0	40	1.6	1,570	3.5	34,350	5.4
25-64	55	1.4	130	1.0	5,160	2.1	93,980	3.3
Up to 6 months	54	-	110	-	3,980	-	69,570	-
6-12 months	10	-	20	-	1,040	-	22,000	-
1-2 years	8	-	20	-	890	-	18,700	-
2 years +	4	-	10	-	820	-	18,060	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>6,750</b>	<b>2.4</b>	<b>128,670</b>	<b>3.7</b>

Source: NOMIS Claimant Count data  
Note: Annualised data



### ECONOMICALLY INACTIVE

In 2011, some 21.4 per cent of Lerwick 16 to 74 year olds were economically inactive, compared with 21.9 per cent across Shetland, 28.7 per cent across the Highlands and Islands and 31.0 per cent across Scotland.

Figure 9 provides a breakdown of the economically inactive population aged 16-74 years old. Compared to Shetland, Lerwick had proportionately:

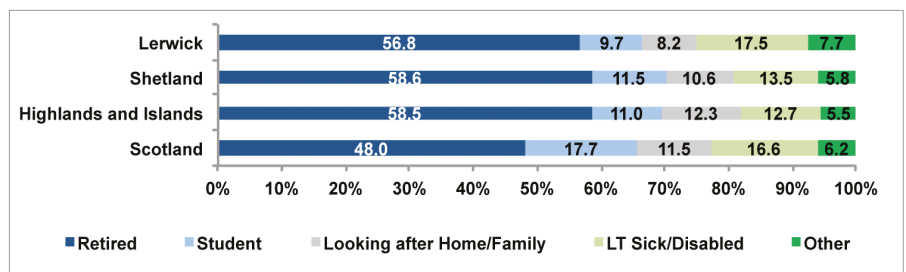
- More who were long-term sick or disabled.
- Fewer who were students and looking after home or family.

### OUT OF WORK BENEFITS

Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) out of work benefits claimant data provides more recent information on working age out-of-work benefits claimants, of which many are economically inactive. In May 2013:

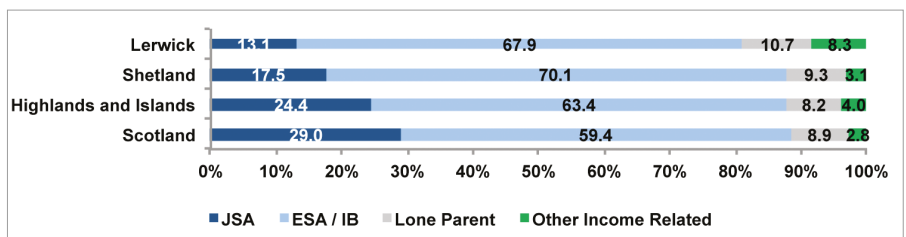
- There were 420 people aged 16 to 64 years old in Lerwick claiming out-of-work benefits.
- This equates to 9.8 per cent of the working age population, which was above the Shetland (6.5 per cent) and Highlands and Islands (9.2 per cent) rates, but below the Scotland rate (12.9 per cent).
- Figure 10 shows the breakdown of out-of-work benefit claimants by statistical group.

**FIGURE 9: BREAKDOWN OF ECONOMICALLY INACTIVE 16 TO 74 POPULATION (%), 2011**



Source: Census 2011

**FIGURE 10: OUT-OF-WORK BENEFITS CLAIMANTS BY STATISTICAL GROUP (%), MAY 2013**



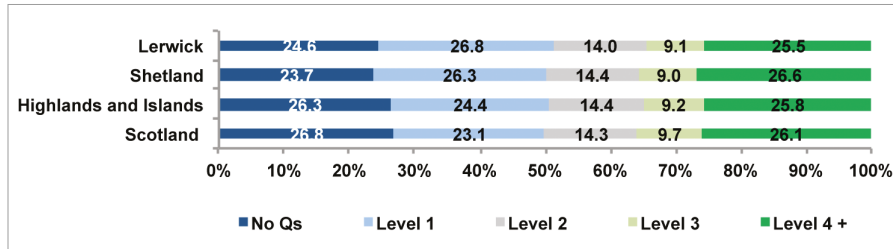
Source: NOMIS DWP WPLS data

**EDUCATION AND QUALIFICATIONS**

The 2011 Census provides information on the highest qualification level held by people aged 16 and above. Figure 11 shows that Lerwick had a very similar qualification profile to Shetland as a whole. Compared with the Highlands and Islands (26.3 per cent) and

Scotland (26.8 per cent), Lerwick (24.6 per cent) and Shetland (23.7 per cent) both had fewer of their adult populations with no qualifications.

**FIGURE 11: HIGHEST QUALIFICATION HELD BY PEOPLE AGED 16 AND ABOVE, 2011**



Source: Census 2011  
 Note: Level 1 = Standard Grade, SVQ Level 1 or 2, or equivalent.  
 Level 2 = Higher Grade, Advanced Higher Grade, SVQ Level 3 or equivalent.  
 Level 3 = HNC, HND, SVQ Level 4 or equivalent.  
 Level 4 = Degree, Postgraduate qualifications, SVQ Level 5 or equivalent.

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## HEALTH AND WELLBEING

Health and wellbeing are key contributors to an individual's economic activity. The main health statistics from the 2011 Census are outlined below.

- On perception of general health, some 84.0 per cent of the Lerwick population stated that their health was 'very good' or 'good'. This was below the rate for Shetland (85.6 per cent) and above the Highlands and Islands (83.8 per cent) and Scotland (82.2 per cent).
- Some 18.7 per cent of the Lerwick population reported a limiting long-term illness or health problem that affected their day-to-day activities. This was above the rate for Shetland (17.3 per cent) but below the Highlands and Islands (18.9 per cent) and Scotland (19.6 per cent).
- Some 8.1 per cent of the Lerwick population provided unpaid care on a weekly basis. This was below the rates for Shetland (8.8 per cent), the Highlands and Islands (9.1 per cent) and Scotland (9.3 per cent).

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## ETHNICITY AND MIGRATION

The Lerwick profile concludes with the ethnicity and migration statistics from the 2011 Census. They show that:

- Some 97.1 per cent of the Lerwick population were 'white'. This was below the proportions for Shetland (98.4 per cent) and the Highlands and Islands (98.8 per cent) but above the Scotland proportion of 96.0 per cent.
  - Of the 'white' population in Lerwick, some 85.3 per cent were 'white Scottish', which was above the Shetland (82.0 per cent) and Highlands and Islands proportions (81.0 per cent). These wider geographic areas had 14.3 per cent and 15.4 per cent respectively defining themselves as 'white British'.
- Some 7.1 per cent of the Lerwick population were born outside of the UK. This was above the proportions across Shetland (5.2 per cent) and the Highlands and Islands (5.2 per cent) and in line with the Scotland proportion (7.0 per cent).

## MAP OF LERWICK DATAZONES USED



## FURTHER INFORMATION

[www.hie.co.uk](http://www.hie.co.uk)

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