

# Shetland in Statistics 2025



**SHETLAND**  
ISLANDS COUNCIL

# Shetland in Statistics 2025

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## Welcome to the 45th edition of Shetland in Statistics

First published in 1972, as a guide to record facts and figures about Shetland, the publication has grown and changed over the years, reflecting changes in the islands.

Shetland in Statistics now provides a body of work with statistics on Shetland's economy, climate, population and much more over many decades.

Whilst every care is taken in the production of this publication, Shetland Islands Council cannot accept responsibility for any errors or omissions therein.

Anyone wishing to use these statistics for anything but general interest should refer to the original source data, quoted throughout this booklet.

We hope you find the publication useful. If you have any comments or amendments please contact Shetland Islands Council Economic Development Department.

## 1 People

### Population

After decades of decline the population of Shetland, which had fallen to nearly 17,000 in the mid 1960s, rose by 31% between 1971 and 1981 as a direct result of oil related activity. Since the 1980s, the population has been fairly stable around 22,000 - 23,000.

| Annual Mid-Year Population Estimates |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |
|--------------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
|                                      | 2016   | 2017   | 2018   | 2019   | 2020   | 2021   | 2022   | 2023   | 2024   |
| Shetland                             | 23,200 | 23,080 | 22,990 | 22,920 | 22,870 | 22,940 | 23,020 | 23,000 | 23,190 |

Source: National Records of Scotland: [Population, migration and households - National Records of Scotland \(NRS\)](#)

| Population of Shetland By Area (based on Census) |        |        |        |                    |                 |                 |        |        |
|--------------------------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------------------|-----------------|-----------------|--------|--------|
| Area                                             | 1931   | 1961   | 1971   | 1981               | 1991            | 2001            | 2011   | 2022   |
| Brae*                                            | n/a    | n/a    | n/a    | n/a                | 756             | 660             | 856    | 871    |
| Bressay                                          | 452    | 269    | 251    | 334                | 352             | 384             | 368    | 348    |
| Burra                                            | 767    | 648    | 565    | 850 <sup>e</sup>   | 929             | 850             | 852    | 877    |
| Cunningsburgh**                                  | n/a    | 411    | 410    | n/a                | n/a             | 658             | 694    | 730    |
| Delting                                          | 958    | 598    | 580    | 2,110              | 1,105           | 970             | 931    | 874    |
| Dunrossness                                      | 1,089  | 857    | 848    | 1,591              | 1,502           | 1,471           | 1,484  | 1,445  |
| Fair Isle                                        | 108    | 64     | 65     | 69 <sup>e</sup>    | 67              | 69              | 68     | 44     |
| Fetlar                                           | 217    | 127    | 88     | 101                | 90              | 86 <sup>e</sup> | 61     | 66     |
| Foula                                            | 118    | 54     | 33     | 45 <sup>e</sup>    | 42              | 32              | 38     | 17     |
| Gulberwick/Quarff                                | 1,518  | 385    | 171    | 579 <sup>e</sup>   | 398             | 662             | 827    | 764    |
| Lerwick                                          | 4,221  | 5,913  | 6,127  | 6,899              | 7,336           | 6,833           | 6,928  | 6,554  |
| Muckle Roe                                       | n/a    | 103    | 94     | 101                | 115             | 104             | 130    | 128    |
| Nesting                                          | 822    | 434    | 380    | 506                | 512             | 570             | 624    | 692    |
| Northmavine                                      | 1,343  | 816    | 696    | 898                | 878             | 841             | 741    | 754    |
| Papa Stour                                       | 100    | 55     | 24     | 35 <sup>e</sup>    | 35 <sup>e</sup> | 24              | 15     | 7      |
| Sandsting                                        | 1,552  | 957    | 873    | 1,002              | 891             | 945             | 831    | 834    |
| Sandwick                                         | 1,507  | 761    | 710    | 1,303 <sup>e</sup> | 1,352           | 774             | 970    | 1,104  |
| Scalloway***                                     | n/a    | n/a    | n/a    | 1,160              | 802             | 1,129           | 1,479  | 1,199  |
| Skerries                                         | 110    | 108    | 101    | 88 <sup>e</sup>    | 87              | 76              | 74     | 37     |
| Tingwall                                         | 1,440  | 1,603  | 1,671  | 1,080              | 1,431           | 1,405           | 1,477  | 1,866  |
| Trondra                                          | 91     | 20     | 17     | 88                 | 117             | 133             | 135    | 152    |
| Unst                                             | 1,341  | 1,151  | 1,127  | 1,140              | 1,055           | 720             | 632    | 639    |
| Vaila                                            | -      | -      | -      | -                  | -               | -               | 2      | 3      |
| Walls & Sandness                                 | 884    | 561    | 483    | 573                | 554             | 601             | 923    | 860    |
| Whalsay                                          | 900    | 764    | 870    | 1,025              | 1,041           | 1,034           | 1,061  | 974    |
| Yell                                             | 1,883  | 1,155  | 1,143  | 1,191              | 1,075           | 957             | 966    | 942    |
| Total                                            | 21,421 | 17,814 | 17,327 | 22,768             | 22,522          | 21,988          | 23,167 | 22,781 |

<sup>e</sup> Estimated

\* From 1931 to 1981 the figures for Brae are included in the figures for Delting

\*\* In 1931, 1981 and 1991 the figures for Cunningsburgh are included in the figures for Sandwick

\*\*\* From 1931 to 1971 the figures for Scalloway are included in the figures for Tingwall

Populations enumerated on a different basis to 1981 and after 1991 and therefore are not strictly comparable.

1981 Census: Resident population **excluding** absent households; 1991 - 2022 Census: Resident population **including** absent households.

2022 Data: majority based on Postcode groupings, data at such a low level is affected by statistical disclosure control measures, meaning the total population figure does not match that reported for Shetland as a whole.

| Shetland Population Breakdown By Age & Sex |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |                     |        |        |        |        |        |
|--------------------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|---------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Age Group                                  | 1991   |        |        | 2001   |        |        | 2011   |        |        | 2022                |        |        | 2024   |        |        |
|                                            | M      | F      | Total  | M      | F      | Total  | M      | F      | Total  | M                   | F      | Total  | M      | F      | Total  |
| 0-4                                        | 830    | 797    | 1,627  | 669    | 659    | 1,328  | 741    | 648    | 1,389  | 534                 | 513    | 1,048  | 517    | 467    | 984    |
| 5-9                                        | 815    | 743    | 1,558  | 813    | 721    | 1,534  | 712    | 614    | 1,326  | 698                 | 655    | 1,353  | 630    | 619    | 1,249  |
| 10-14                                      | 903    | 837    | 1,740  | 820    | 822    | 1,642  | 711    | 739    | 1,450  | 761                 | 703    | 1,460  | 774    | 699    | 1,473  |
| 15-19                                      | 831    | 790    | 1,621  | 700    | 605    | 1,305  | 792    | 659    | 1,451  | 689                 | 593    | 1,290  | 724    | 667    | 1,391  |
| 20-24                                      | 838    | 757    | 1,595  | 645    | 546    | 1,191  | 671    | 624    | 1,295  | 528                 | 499    | 1,027  | 545    | 409    | 954    |
| 25-29                                      | 883    | 785    | 1,668  | 695    | 656    | 1,351  | 653    | 600    | 1,253  | 634                 | 583    | 1,221  | 583    | 588    | 1,171  |
| 30-34                                      | 857    | 792    | 1,649  | 792    | 778    | 1,570  | 707    | 696    | 1,403  | 692                 | 673    | 1,365  | 746    | 722    | 1,468  |
| 35-39                                      | 917    | 795    | 1,712  | 883    | 843    | 1,726  | 782    | 751    | 1,533  | 661                 | 671    | 1,329  | 750    | 722    | 1,472  |
| 40-44                                      | 933    | 787    | 1,720  | 802    | 772    | 1,574  | 836    | 834    | 1,670  | 673                 | 701    | 1,379  | 687    | 745    | 1,432  |
| 45-49                                      | 767    | 713    | 1,480  | 862    | 767    | 1,629  | 952    | 889    | 1,841  | 758                 | 765    | 1,517  | 709    | 731    | 1,440  |
| 50-54                                      | 614    | 556    | 1,170  | 888    | 737    | 1,625  | 833    | 796    | 1,629  | 828                 | 881    | 1,702  | 784    | 833    | 1,617  |
| 55-59                                      | 500    | 491    | 991    | 715    | 660    | 1,375  | 824    | 769    | 1,593  | 886                 | 848    | 1,734  | 862    | 843    | 1,705  |
| 60-64                                      | 439    | 454    | 893    | 537    | 516    | 1,053  | 842    | 715    | 1,557  | 790                 | 777    | 1,563  | 821    | 826    | 1,647  |
| 65-69                                      | 415    | 474    | 889    | 420    | 448    | 868    | 601    | 629    | 1,230  | 679                 | 701    | 1,378  | 706    | 724    | 1,430  |
| 70-74                                      | 295    | 439    | 734    | 335    | 406    | 741    | 450    | 463    | 913    | 664                 | 660    | 1,318  | 607    | 637    | 1,244  |
| 75-79                                      | 261    | 396    | 657    | 260    | 407    | 667    | 304    | 383    | 687    | 511                 | 533    | 1,044  | 569    | 551    | 1,120  |
| 80-84                                      | 165    | 314    | 479    | 139    | 277    | 416    | 204    | 287    | 491    | 307                 | 386    | 698    | 358    | 411    | 769    |
| 85-89                                      | 72     | 182    | 254    | 78     | 188    | 266    | 102    | 194    | 296    | 227                 | 336    | 563    | 185    | 245    | 430    |
| 90+                                        | 24     | 61     | 85     | 18     | 109    | 127    | 44     | 116    | 160    | Above figure is 85+ |        |        | 64     | 130    | 194    |
| Total                                      | 11,359 | 11,163 | 22,522 | 11,071 | 10,917 | 21,988 | 11,761 | 11,406 | 23,167 | 11,521              | 11,462 | 22,986 | 11,621 | 11,569 | 23,190 |

2022 data affected by statistical disclosure control measures, therefore totals do not sum and highest age group 85+

Sources: 1991, 2001, 2011 and 2022 figures from population census. 2024 figures from mid-year estimates

National Records of Scotland: [Population, migration and households - National Records of Scotland \(NRS\)](#)

Census Data: [Scotland's Census](#).

## Births & Deaths

While there was a decline in the number of births in Shetland in 2024, in relation to the Scottish standardised birth rate, Shetland's rate is consistently higher.

| Number of Births and Standardised Birth Rates per 1,000 Population |                                  |        |       |                         |          |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------|-------|-------------------------|----------|
| Year                                                               | Shetland Number of Births by Sex |        |       | Standardised Birth Rate |          |
|                                                                    | Male                             | Female | Total | Shetland                | Scotland |
| 1991                                                               | 172                              | 152    | 324   | 16.3                    | 13.2     |
| 2001                                                               | 132                              | 115    | 247   | 12.6                    | 10.4     |
| 2011                                                               | 131                              | 111    | 242   | 11.7                    | 11.1     |
| 2020                                                               | 90                               | 86     | 176   | 9.1                     | 8.6      |
| 2021                                                               | 106                              | 94     | 200   | 10.3                    | 8.8      |
| 2022                                                               | 117                              | 90     | 207   | 10.7                    | 8.6      |
| 2023                                                               | 96                               | 81     | 177   | 9.0                     | 8.3      |
| 2024                                                               | 78                               | 88     | 166   | 8.4                     | 8.3      |

Source: National Records of Scotland: [Births Time Series Data, 2024 - National Records of Scotland \(NRS\)](#)

Of the 32 Scottish council areas, Shetland has one of the lowest standardised death rates. Life expectancy at birth is consistently higher for females than males, both of which are higher than the Scottish level.

| Number of Deaths and Standardised Death Rates per 1,000 Population |                                  |        |       |                         |          |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------|-------|-------------------------|----------|
| Year                                                               | Shetland Number of Deaths by Sex |        |       | Standardised Death Rate |          |
|                                                                    | Male                             | Female | Total | Shetland                | Scotland |
| 1991                                                               | 124                              | 110    | 234   | 10.7                    | 12.0     |
| 2001                                                               | 106                              | 118    | 224   | 10.7                    | 11.3     |
| 2011                                                               | 103                              | 128    | 231   | 10.2                    | 10.1     |
| 2020                                                               | 106                              | 102    | 208   | 8.6                     | 11.8     |
| 2021                                                               | 148                              | 109    | 257   | 10.6                    | 11.7     |
| 2022                                                               | 121                              | 109    | 230   | 9.3                     | 11.6     |
| 2023                                                               | 140                              | 112    | 252   | 10.1                    | 11.5     |
| 2024                                                               | 114                              | 111    | 225   | 8.8                     | 11.2     |

| Life Expectancy at Birth (years) |          |         |          |         |
|----------------------------------|----------|---------|----------|---------|
| Year                             | Shetland |         | Scotland |         |
|                                  | Males    | Females | Males    | Females |
| 1991-93                          | 72.1     | 78.4    | 71.47    | 77.12   |
| 2001-03                          | 73.5     | 80.7    | 73.51    | 78.87   |
| 2011-13                          | 77.8     | 82.6    | 76.78    | 80.89   |
| 2021-23                          | 78.8     | 83.9    | 76.78    | 80.80   |
| 2022-24                          | 79.5     | 83.9    | 77.12    | 81.06   |

Source: National Records of Scotland: [Deaths Time Series Data, 2024 - National Records of Scotland \(NRS\)](#); [Life Expectancy in Scotland, 2022-2024 - National Records of Scotland \(NRS\)](#)

## Migration

| Migration by Type (count) and Net Migration Rates (per 1,000 People)* |                            |     |     |                                |          |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|-----|-----|--------------------------------|----------|
| Year                                                                  | Shetland Migration by Type |     |     | Net Migration Rate (per 1,000) |          |
|                                                                       | In                         | Out | Net | Shetland                       | Scotland |
| 2003/04                                                               | 820                        | 740 | 70  | 3.64                           | 3.68     |
| 2011/12                                                               | 690                        | 760 | -70 | -2.9                           | 2.4      |
| 2019/20                                                               | 640                        | 640 | 0   | 0.00                           | 2.98     |
| 2020/21                                                               | 860                        | 710 | 150 | 6.55                           | 4.10     |
| 2021/22                                                               | 810                        | 710 | 100 | 4.36                           | 10.18    |
| 2022/23                                                               | 810                        | 640 | 170 | 7.38                           | 14.23    |
| 2023/24                                                               | 790                        | 640 | 150 | 6.49                           | 10.24    |

\*Migration by type rounded to the nearest 10 at council level and nearest 100 at national level; Migration estimates include asylum seekers and refugees, but exclude movements of prisoners and armed forces personnel

| Shetland Total Net Migration Breakdown by Age (count) |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |
|-------------------------------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Age Group                                             | 2003/04 | 2011/12 | 2019/20 | 2020/21 | 2021/22 | 2022/23 | 2023/24 |
| 0-15                                                  | 63      | -26     | 35      | 47      | 30      | 32      | 35      |
| 16-64                                                 | -11     | -60     | -27     | 105     | 77      | 158     | 111     |
| 65+                                                   | 20      | 21      | -8      | -2      | -7      | -18     | 0       |
| Total                                                 | 72      | -65     | 0       | 150     | 100     | 172     | 146     |

| Shetland Population by Country of Birth – based on Census |       |          |         |       |                  |                     |                       |                 |        |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|-------|----------|---------|-------|------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|--------|
|                                                           |       | Scotland | England | Wales | Northern Ireland | Republic of Ireland | EU Member & accession | Other Countries | Total  |
| 2011                                                      | Count | 18,691   | 3,057   | 151   | 72               | 158                 | 538                   | 500             | 23,167 |
|                                                           | %     | 80.7     | 13.2    | 0.7   | 0.3              | 0.7                 | 2.3                   | 2.2             |        |
| 2022                                                      | Count | 18,470   | 3,101   | 149   | 65               | 57                  | 589                   | 555             | 22,986 |
|                                                           | %     | 80.4     | 13.5    | 0.6   | 0.3              | 0.2                 | 2.6                   | 2.4             |        |

Source: National Records of Scotland: [Local Area Migration, 2004 to 2024 - National Records of Scotland \(NRS\)](#)

## 2 Economy

### Employment & Economic Activity

| Employee Jobs in Shetland, excluding self-employed, government-supported trainees and HM Forces |        |        |        |        |            |            |      |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|------------|------------|------|
|                                                                                                 | 2021   | 2022   | 2023   | 2024   | Shetland % | Scotland % | GB % |
| Total Jobs                                                                                      | 14,000 | 13,000 | 14,000 | 13,000 | -          | -          | -    |
| Full-time                                                                                       | 9,000  | 8,000  | 8,000  | 8,000  | 61.5       | 67.1       | 69.2 |
| Part-time*                                                                                      | 5,000  | 5,000  | 6,000  | 5,000  | 38.5       | 32.9       | 30.8 |

\*Part-time posts are 30 or fewer hours per week

Source: ONS [Labour Market Profile - Nomis - Official Census and Labour Market Statistics](#)

| Shetland Employee Jobs by Industry*                                    | 2021  | 2022  | 2023  | 2024  | Shetland % | Scotland % | GB % |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|------------|------------|------|
| B: Mining & quarrying                                                  | 75    | 75    | 75    | 75    | 0.6        | 1.0        | 0.2  |
| C: Manufacturing                                                       | 1,250 | 900   | 800   | 1,000 | 7.7        | 7.1        | 7.3  |
| D: Electricity, gas, steam & air conditioning supply                   | 150   | 125   | 75    | 225   | 1.7        | 0.8        | 0.4  |
| E: Water supply, sewerage, waste management and remediation activities | 100   | 100   | 100   | 100   | 0.8        | 0.8        | 0.7  |
| F: Construction                                                        | 1,250 | 1,250 | 1,250 | 1,250 | 9.6        | 5.9        | 5.0  |
| G: Wholesale & retail trade, repair of motor vehicles/cycles           | 1,750 | 1,500 | 1,500 | 1,500 | 11.5       | 12.7       | 13.7 |
| H: Transportation and storage                                          | 900   | 900   | 900   | 900   | 6.9        | 4.2        | 5.0  |
| I: Accommodation and food service activities                           | 800   | 800   | 1,000 | 900   | 6.9        | 8.3        | 7.8  |
| J: Information and communication                                       | 175   | 200   | 200   | 150   | 1.2        | 2.8        | 4.5  |
| K: Financial and insurance activities                                  | 35    | 35    | 35    | 30    | 0.2        | 3.5        | 3.4  |
| L: Real estate activities                                              | 75    | 75    | 100   | 100   | 0.8        | 1.6        | 1.9  |
| M: Professional, scientific and technical activities                   | 450   | 500   | 450   | 450   | 3.5        | 7.2        | 9.3  |
| N: Admin & support service activities                                  | 700   | 500   | 500   | 400   | 3.1        | 6.6        | 8.6  |
| O: Public admin & defence; compulsory social security                  | 1,000 | 900   | 900   | 900   | 6.9        | 6.7        | 4.9  |
| P: Education                                                           | 1,250 | 1,250 | 1,250 | 1,250 | 9.6        | 8.6        | 8.6  |
| Q: Human Health and Social Work                                        | 2,500 | 2,000 | 2,000 | 2,000 | 15.4       | 16.7       | 14.2 |
| R: Arts, entertainment and recreation                                  | 300   | 450   | 400   | 400   | 3.1        | 3.1        | 2.5  |
| S: Other service activities                                            | 450   | 500   | 500   | 400   | 3.1        | 1.9        | 1.9  |

\* Data excludes farm-based agriculture, self-employed, government-supported trainees and HM Forces

Source: ONS [Labour Market Profile - Nomis - Official Census and Labour Market Statistics](#)

| Unemployment* - ONS model-based estimates, January - December |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
|                                                               | 1971 | 1981 | 1991 | 2001 | 2011 | 2021 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 |
| Shetland %                                                    | 3.8  | 5.3  | 3.6  | 1.4  | 3.6  | 2.5  | 2.2  | 1.8  | 1.9  |
| Eilean Siar %                                                 | 18.0 | 20.1 | 14.5 | 4.9  | 7.6  | 3.0  | 2.3  | 2.1  | 2.7  |
| Highland %                                                    | -    | -    | -    | 3.1  | 5.3  | 3.5  | 2.5  | 2.2  | 3.0  |
| Orkney %                                                      | 3.9  | 9.0  | 5.5  | 2.2  | 4.3  | 3.2  | 1.7  | 3.0  | 5.4  |
| Scotland %                                                    | 5.5  | 13.5 | 9.0  | 4.2  | 8.2  | 3.9  | 3.5  | 3.2  | 3.7  |
| Great Britain %                                               | -    | -    | -    | 2.5  | 8.0  | 4.4  | 3.7  | 3.8  | 4.5  |

\* % figures are a proportion of economically active, aged 16-64

Source: ONS [Labour Market Profile - Nomis - Official Census and Labour Market Statistics](#)

| Economic Activity, January - December |      |      |      |      |      |      |
|---------------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
|                                       | 2004 | 2011 | 2021 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 |
| Shetland (%) *                        |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| Economically Active                   | 86.3 | 82.0 | 73.7 | 84.3 | 85.9 | 84.4 |
| In Employment                         | 85.1 | 81.1 | 73.7 | 84.3 | 85.9 | 84.4 |
| Employees                             | 72.2 | 69.9 | 73.7 | 80.1 | 84.5 | 69.5 |
| Self Employed                         | 10.8 | 11.0 | #    | #    | #    | #    |
| In Employment (%) *                   |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| Eilean Siar                           | 77.8 | 63.5 | 80.5 | 77.8 | 76.6 | 69.2 |
| Highland                              | 81.0 | 78.3 | 71.7 | 76.0 | 80.5 | 74.4 |
| Orkney                                | 83.4 | 79.3 | 72.9 | 88.3 | 86.3 | 80.6 |
| Shetland                              | 85.1 | 81.1 | 73.7 | 84.3 | 85.9 | 84.4 |
| Scotland                              | 72.6 | 70.5 | 73.2 | 74.7 | 74.5 | 74.7 |
| Great Britain                         | 72.6 | 69.9 | 74.9 | 75.8 | 75.5 | 75.5 |

# Sample size too small for reliable estimate

\* % figures are a proportion of economically active, aged 16-64

Source: ONS [Labour Market Profile - Nomis - Official Census and Labour Market Statistics](#)

| Business Births – By date of registration with Companies House |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
|                                                                | 2011 | 2016 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 |
| Shetland                                                       | 96   | 90   | 108  | 137  | 126  | 124  | 122  |

Source: [Advanced company search results - Find and update company information - GOV.UK](#)

| Business Births* - Count of VAT and/or PAYE Enterprises                                                       |        |        |        |        |        |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
|                                                                                                               | 2016   | 2021   | 2022   | 2023   | 2024   |
| Highland                                                                                                      | 910    | 820    | 810    | 910    | 865    |
| Eilean Siar                                                                                                   | 80     | 50     | 70     | 80     | 75     |
| Orkney                                                                                                        | 80     | 50     | 60     | 60     | 55     |
| Shetland                                                                                                      | 85     | 75     | 75     | 75     | 65     |
| Total Above                                                                                                   | 9,245  | 7,930  | 8,070  | 7,745  | 8,020  |
| All Scottish Local Authorities                                                                                | 21,440 | 18,910 | 18,870 | 18,275 | 18,420 |
| Business Birth Rate* - Birth of VAT and/or PAYE enterprises as a proportion of the active business population |        |        |        |        |        |
| Shetland                                                                                                      | 9.0%   | 8.0%   | 7.8%   | 7.9%   | 6.8%   |
| Scotland                                                                                                      | 12.3%  | 10.7%  | 10.8%  | 10.6%  | 10.7%  |
| Business Death Rate* - Death of VAT and/or PAYE enterprises as a proportion of the active business population |        |        |        |        |        |
| Shetland                                                                                                      | 6.9%   | 4.8%   | 6.8%   | 6.8%   | 5.7%   |
| Scotland                                                                                                      | 10.2%  | 11.2%  | 11.4%  | 10.1%  | 9.4%   |

| Business Registrations*: VAT and/or PAYE Registered Private Sector Businesses - Shetland |       |       |       |       |       |       |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
|                                                                                          | 2011  | 2021  | 2022  | 2023  | 2024  | 2025  |
| No. business registrations                                                               | 1,365 | 1,625 | 1,655 | 1,665 | 1,650 | 1,660 |
| Of which small businesses (0-49 employees)                                               | 94%   | 95%   | 95%   | 95%   | 95%   | 95%   |

\*These figures do not represent a complete picture of business activity as only businesses registered for VAT and/ or operate a PAYE scheme are included. The figures consequently exclude around half of all firms in Scotland, which contribute an estimated 2% of economic activity.

Source: [Sub-Scotland Economic Statistics Database - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](#)

| <b>Share of Private Sector Jobs (%)</b> |             |             |             |             |             |
|-----------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| <b>Small business (0-49 employees)</b>  | <b>2011</b> | <b>2021</b> | <b>2023</b> | <b>2024</b> | <b>2025</b> |
| Shetland                                | 61.9        | 62.6        | 64.5        | 64.8        | 65.1        |
| Scotland                                | 35.2        | 36.5        | 36.8        | 36.2        | 36.1        |
| Island & remote rural areas             | 62.4        | 60.5        | 60.8        | 61.2        | 61.5        |
| Mainly rural areas                      | 50.3        | 50.0        | 50.1        | 50.0        | 49.6        |
| Urban and substantial rural areas       | 34.6        | 36.7        | 37.1        | 36.5        | 36.8        |
| Larger cities                           | 24.6        | 26.5        | 26.8        | 26.2        | 26.0        |
| <b>Abroad-owned businesses</b>          |             |             |             |             |             |
| Shetland                                | 10.2        | 13.6        | 11.4        | 10.7        | 10.3        |
| Scotland                                | 15.7        | 18.9        | 19.4        | 20.3        | 21.0        |
| Island & remote rural areas             | 6.6         | 10.6        | 10.1        | 9.6         | 9.6         |
| Mainly rural areas                      | 11.3        | 13.3        | 13.4        | 14.5        | 15.4        |
| Urban and substantial rural areas       | 17.9        | 20.8        | 21.3        | 22.2        | 22.7        |
| Larger cities                           | 17.1        | 21.3        | 22.2        | 22.8        | 23.7        |
| <b>EU abroad-owned businesses</b>       |             |             |             |             |             |
| Shetland                                | 6.3         | 7.8         | 4.1         | 5.0         | 4.3         |
| Scotland                                | 5.8         | 6.7         | 6.9         | 7.0         | 7.4         |
| Island & remote rural areas             | 2.0         | 3.3         | 2.9         | 2.5         | 2.7         |
| Mainly rural areas                      | 3.5         | 4.2         | 4.2         | 4.4         | 4.9         |
| Urban and substantial rural areas       | 7.1         | 7.1         | 7.6         | 7.3         | 7.6         |
| Larger cities                           | 6.4         | 8.2         | 8.4         | 8.6         | 9.1         |

c = disclosive figure

Source: [Sub-Scotland Economic Statistics Database - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](https://www.gov.scot)

| <b>Gross Value Added (balanced) per head of population at current basic prices (£)</b> |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
|                                                                                        | 1998   | 2001   | 2011   | 2019   | 2020   | 2021   | 2022   | 2023   |
| Shetland                                                                               | 16,740 | 18,625 | 29,776 | 35,384 | 32,707 | 33,391 | 34,101 | 37,174 |
| Highlands & Islands                                                                    | 12,291 | 14,007 | 20,770 | u      | u      | u      | 28,613 | u      |
| Scotland                                                                               | 13,785 | 15,454 | 21,823 | 27,319 | 25,869 | 27,722 | 30,634 | 33,419 |
| United Kingdom                                                                         | 15,388 | 17,443 | 23,455 | 29,930 | 28,402 | 30,546 | 33,521 | 36,103 |
| <b>Gross Domestic Product per head of population at current market prices (£)</b>      |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |
|                                                                                        | 1998   | 2001   | 2011   | 2019   | 2020   | 2021   | 2022   | 2023   |
| Shetland                                                                               | 18,275 | 20,465 | 32,523 | 38,901 | 35,643 | 36,582 | 37,815 | 40,844 |
| Highlands & Islands                                                                    | 13,752 | 15,785 | 23,431 | u      | u      | u      | 32,036 | u      |
| Scotland                                                                               | 15,406 | 17,370 | 24,713 | 30,932 | 28,996 | 31,330 | 34,560 | 37,192 |
| United Kingdom                                                                         | 17,076 | 19,389 | 26,271 | 33,502 | 31,491 | 34,088 | 37,372 | 39,845 |

u = figure has been suppressed due to uncertainty

Sources: GVA: [Regional gross value added \(balanced\) per head and income components - Office for National Statistics \(ons.gov.uk\)](https://ons.gov.uk); GDP: [Regional gross domestic product: all ITL regions - Office for National Statistics](https://ons.gov.uk); Shetland data: [Regional gross domestic product: local authorities - Office for National Statistics](https://ons.gov.uk)

| Gross Weekly Pay - Fulltime Workers (£) (Median) |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |
|--------------------------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
|                                                  | 2002   | 2011   | 2021   | 2022   | 2023   | 2024   | 2025   |
| Eilean Siar                                      | 383.00 | 436.10 | 670.70 | 562.30 | 748.20 | 743.10 | 780.30 |
| Highland                                         | 339.70 | 458.00 | 605.70 | 666.50 | 711.10 | 737.20 | 775.10 |
| Orkney                                           | #      | 427.40 | 563.00 | 662.30 | 767.50 | 775.50 | 786.00 |
| Shetland                                         | 367.30 | 545.20 | 670.80 | 671.60 | 916.40 | 782.10 | 863.60 |
| Scotland                                         | 369.30 | 487.20 | 619.90 | 641.30 | 709.40 | 740.10 | 775.60 |
| Great Britain                                    | 392.70 | 500.20 | 612.20 | 644.70 | 689.70 | 730.60 | 766.60 |

# Sample size too small for reliable estimate

Source: ONS [Labour Market Profile - Nomis - Official Census and Labour Market Statistics](#)

| Gross Weekly Pay - Fulltime and Parttime Workers (£) (Median) |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
|                                                               | 2009 | 2011 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 |
| Eilean Siar                                                   | 395  | 336  | 545  | 521  | 587  | 567  | 644  |
| Highland                                                      | 358  | 378  | 495  | 508  | 577  | 591  | 612  |
| Orkney                                                        | 358  | 334  | 438  | 475  | 507  | 558  | 585  |
| Shetland                                                      | 397  | 449  | 574  | 553  | -    | 568  | 677  |
| Scotland                                                      | 386  | 393  | 505  | 529  | 592  | 614  | 643  |
| Great Britain                                                 | 397  | 400  | 505  | 534  | 575  | 614  | 643  |

- Data not available

Source: ONS [Gross median weekly pay - ONS](#)

## Fish Catching

| Fish Landings in Shetland*                                                                    |           |        |           |        |         |        |          |        |               |        |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|--------|-----------|--------|---------|--------|----------|--------|---------------|--------|
|                                                                                               | Whitefish |        | Shellfish |        | Herring |        | Mackerel |        | Other Pelagic |        |
|                                                                                               | Tonnes    | £ '000 | Tonnes    | £ '000 | Tonnes  | £ '000 | Tonnes   | £ '000 | Tonnes        | £ '000 |
| 1971                                                                                          | 17,688    | 1,058  | 770       | 159    | 22,453  | 584    | 190      | 3.3    | 114           | 2.1    |
| 1981                                                                                          | 52,175    | 4,386  | 695       | 328    | 871     | 57.2   | 826      | 49.6   | 0             | 0      |
| 1991                                                                                          | 18,858    | 12,261 | 1,005     | 1,402  | 41,961  | 3,991  | 38,092   | 4,784  | 4,908         | 273    |
| 2001                                                                                          | 12,481    | 12,777 | 1,234     | 1,634  | 12,087  | 2,977  | 23,895   | 10,312 | 10,373        | 500    |
| Change in data collection method – from UK only vessels to landings by UK and Foreign vessels |           |        |           |        |         |        |          |        |               |        |
| 2011                                                                                          | 13,480    | 24,676 | 1,965     | 4,647  | 9,440   | 4,608  | 44,136   | 56,113 | 2,146         | 1,120  |
| 2021                                                                                          | 16,555    | 35,219 | 2,457     | 5,634  | 10,713  | 7,018  | 19,116   | 22,606 | 6             | 2      |
| 2023                                                                                          | 19,620    | 44,987 | 2,391     | 6,573  | 9,523   | 6,460  | 32,552   | 41,088 | 7             | 4      |
| 2024                                                                                          | 17,370    | 42,631 | 2,218     | 5,693  | 19,435  | 13,345 | 35,027   | 50,645 | 5             | 4      |

\*1971-2001 figures: total landings by UK vessels only; 2011 and on figures: total landings by UK and foreign vessels

| Included in Whitefish Total*                                                                  |        |        |         |        |          |        |          |        |         |        |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|--------|---------|--------|----------|--------|----------|--------|---------|--------|
|                                                                                               | Cod    |        | Haddock |        | Monkfish |        | Sandeels |        | Whiting |        |
|                                                                                               | Tonnes | £ '000 | Tonnes  | £ '000 | Tonnes   | £ '000 | Tonnes   | £ '000 | Tonnes  | £ '000 |
| 1971                                                                                          | 498    | 35.3   | 13,834  | 856    | 40.6     | 2.3    | 0        | 0      | 3,646   | 190    |
| 1981                                                                                          | 915    | 309    | 5,089   | 1,396  | 134      | 78.2   | 40,733   | 1,174  | 4,839   | 1,308  |
| 1991                                                                                          | 2,220  | 2,740  | 2,132   | 2,447  | 1,544    | 3,545  | 8,248    | 393    | 2,365   | 1,437  |
| 2001                                                                                          | 2,313  | 3,106  | 3,340   | 2,768  | 1,696    | 3,753  | 1,264    | 55     | 1,362   | 1,001  |
| Change in data collection method – from UK only vessels to landings by UK and Foreign vessels |        |        |         |        |          |        |          |        |         |        |
| 2011                                                                                          | 2,631  | 5,743  | 2,728   | 3,425  | 1,846    | 6,210  | 0        | 0      | 1,794   | 2,149  |
| 2021                                                                                          | 1,922  | 6,625  | 2,795   | 4,751  | 2,390    | 6,845  | 0        | 0      | 2,816   | 4,117  |
| 2023                                                                                          | 3,386  | 11,266 | 5,749   | 8,125  | 2,323    | 7,965  | 0        | 0      | 2,271   | 2,925  |
| 2024                                                                                          | 3,474  | 11,535 | 5,328   | 8,432  | 1,850    | 6,701  | 0        | 0      | 1,671   | 2,187  |

\*1971-2001 figures: total landings by UK vessels only; 2011 and on figures: total landings by UK and foreign vessels

Source: [Sea fisheries statistics - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](https://www.gov.scot/data/sea-fisheries-statistics)

| Weight and Value of Catch by Species for 2024 (UK and Foreign Vessels) |                 |                |                    |                 |                |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|----------------|--------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Species                                                                | Weight (Tonnes) | Value (£ '000) | Species            | Weight (Tonnes) | Value (£ '000) |
| Cod                                                                    | 3,474           | 11,535         | Herring            | 19,435          | 13,345         |
| Gurnard                                                                | 34              | 19             | Mackerel           | 35,027          | 50,645         |
| Haddock                                                                | 5,328           | 8,423          | Other Pelagic      | 5               | 4              |
| Hake                                                                   | 318             | 1,162          |                    |                 |                |
| Lemon Sole                                                             | 192             | 1,398          | Edible Crab        | 263             | 605            |
| Ling                                                                   | 1,040           | 1,783          | Velvet Crab        | 148             | 540            |
| Megrim                                                                 | 752             | 3,862          | Scallops           | 1,234           | 2,857          |
| Monkfish                                                               | 1,850           | 6,701          | Squid              | 217             | 897            |
| Plaice                                                                 | 369             | 898            | Whelks             | 293             | 297            |
| Pollack                                                                | 98              | 321            | Other Shellfish    | 63              | 495            |
| Saithe                                                                 | 1,612           | 1,659          |                    |                 |                |
| Skates & Rays                                                          | 206             | 239            | Total Demersal     | 17,370          | 42,631         |
| Whiting                                                                | 1,671           | 2,187          | Total Pelagic      | 54,468          | 63,994         |
| Other demersal                                                         | 425             | 2,444          | Total Shellfish    | 2,218           | 5,693          |
|                                                                        |                 |                | <b>Grand Total</b> | <b>74,056</b>   | <b>112,317</b> |

Source: [Supporting documents - Scottish Sea Fisheries Statistics 2024 - gov.scot](https://www.gov.scot/data/sea-fisheries-statistics)

| All Fish Landed in Shetland by Month 2024 |          |            |         |            |           |           |
|-------------------------------------------|----------|------------|---------|------------|-----------|-----------|
|                                           | Demersal |            | Pelagic |            | Shellfish |           |
| Month                                     | Tonnes   | £          | Tonnes  | £          | Tonnes    | £         |
| Jan                                       | 1,424    | 3,034,474  | 12,950  | 17,143,245 | 113       | 361,788   |
| Feb                                       | 1,391    | 2,863,227  | 1,664   | 2,144,385  | 191       | 474,031   |
| Mar                                       | 1,562    | 3,564,901  | 1       | 3,430      | 219       | 515,361   |
| Apr                                       | 1,043    | 2,884,290  | 0       | 95         | 191       | 468,490   |
| May                                       | 1,631    | 4,088,235  | 3       | 11,867     | 282       | 670,509   |
| June                                      | 1,529    | 4,086,719  | 34      | 98,404     | 184       | 429,189   |
| Jul                                       | 1,301    | 3,638,605  | 168     | 286,188    | 133       | 302,164   |
| Aug                                       | 1,474    | 4,296,550  | 13,188  | 9,442,098  | 171       | 396,520   |
| Sept                                      | 1,595    | 3,805,854  | 6,659   | 4,701,370  | 187       | 484,757   |
| Oct                                       | 1,452    | 3,571,592  | 11,932  | 18,800,703 | 140       | 416,394   |
| Nov                                       | 1,355    | 3,405,963  | 6,027   | 9,641,369  | 240       | 643,729   |
| Dec                                       | 1,208    | 3,189,237  |         |            | 162       | 520,561   |
| Month not known                           | 405      | 200,999    | 1,842   | 1,720,702  | 4         | 9,447     |
| Total                                     | 17,370   | 42,630,645 | 54,468  | 63,993,855 | 2,218     | 5,692,939 |

Source: Marine Analytical Unit, Marine Directorate, Scottish Government

| Average Quay Price per Tonne (£) - Shetland |        |          |          |          |          |          |          |
|---------------------------------------------|--------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
|                                             | 1981   | 1991     | 2001     | 2011     | 2021     | 2023     | 2024     |
| Cod                                         | 337.31 | 1,236.31 | 1,570.87 | 2,181.88 | 3,447.59 | 3,327.53 | 3,320.61 |
| Haddock                                     | 274.25 | 1,143.52 | 961.40   | 1,247.73 | 1,699.92 | 1,413.35 | 1,580.82 |
| Whiting                                     | 270.31 | 583.52   | 830.47   | 1,207.85 | 1,462.03 | 1,287.99 | 1,308.79 |
| Monkfish                                    | 584.69 | 2,487.35 | 2,833.34 | 3,379.73 | 2,864.11 | 3,428.76 | 3,622.48 |

Source: Marine Analytical Unit, Marine Directorate, Scottish Government

| Total Wetfish Landed in Shetland* |           |           |            |            |            |            |            |             |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|-----------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|-------------|
|                                   | 1971      | 1981      | 1991       | 2001       | 2011       | 2021       | 2023       | 2024        |
| Tonnes                            | 40,445    | 53,872    | 103,819    | 58,836     | 69,202     | 48,847     | 64,092     | 74,056      |
| Value (£)                         | 1,647,400 | 4,492,453 | 21,308,400 | 26,566,000 | 86,517,000 | 70,479,635 | 99,113,394 | 112,317,439 |

\*1971-2001 figures: total landings by UK vessels only; 2011 and on figures: total landings by UK and foreign vessels

Source: [Sea fisheries statistics - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](https://www.gov.scot)

| Landings by Shetland Vessels Outwith Shetland |         |           |           |            |            |            |            |             |
|-----------------------------------------------|---------|-----------|-----------|------------|------------|------------|------------|-------------|
|                                               | 1971    | 1981      | 1991      | 2001       | 2011       | 2021       | 2023       | 2024        |
| Tonnes                                        | 3,322   | 28,805    | 38,953    | 61,210     | 51,171     | 93,120     | 101,498    | 106,807     |
| Value (£)                                     | 382,056 | 2,741,617 | 8,077,129 | 23,075,860 | 48,525,688 | 87,099,339 | 98,404,968 | 106,916,340 |

Source: Marine Analytical Unit, Marine Directorate, Scottish Government

| Total Fish Landings by Scottish Port* |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |
|---------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
|                                       | 1991           |                | 2001           |                | 2011           |                | 2021           |                | 2024           |                |
|                                       | Tonnes         | £ '000         | Tonnes         | £ '000         | Tonnes         | £ '000         | Tonnes         | £ '000         | Tonnes         | £ '000         |
| Shetland                              | 104,824        | 22,710         | 60,070         | 28,201         | 71,167         | 91,165         | 48,847         | 70,480         | 74,056         | 112,317        |
| Peterhead                             | 119,256        | 81,130         | 76,501         | 57,994         | 128,295        | 154,549        | 152,300        | 174,398        | 215,536        | 248,402        |
| Scrabster                             | -              | -              | -              | -              | 15,761         | 32,281         | 17,509         | 36,274         | 13,456         | 34,642         |
| Fraserburgh                           | 25,051         | 20,697         | 40,395         | 31,529         | 25,907         | 50,122         | 14,155         | 30,200         | 15,506         | 33,904         |
| Lochinver                             | 6,133          | 8,211          | 8,609          | 12,044         | 19,533         | 33,921         | 9,085          | 12,863         | 7,049          | 16,029         |
| Ullapool                              | 62,089         | 9,818          | 9,025          | 10,279         | 6,738          | 15,959         | 11,242         | 22,770         | 7,363          | 21,112         |
| Ayr                                   | 17,022         | 12,558         | 7,990          | 6,881          | 13,554         | 13,000         | 4,897          | 11,577         | 6,951          | 11,387         |
| Kinlochbervie                         | 10,483         | 11,944         | 8,655          | 10,372         | 6,534          | 12,487         | 5,671          | 9,681          | 8,136          | 17,071         |
| Campbeltown                           | 5,478          | 7,887          | 5,505          | 8,768          | 6,044          | 15,139         | 4,089          | 12,647         | 3,475          | 14,742         |
| Stornoway                             | 5,984          | 9,569          | 4,368          | 9,518          | 3,108          | 9,445          | 2,880          | 12,446         | 3,472          | 16,018         |
| Orkney                                | 1,086          | 1,942          | 3,063          | 4,166          | 3,945          | 7,580          | 2,634          | 8,664          | 2,226          | 9,447          |
| Eyemouth                              | 5,385          | 7,603          | 2,737          | 3,893          | 2,213          | 6,944          | 1,850          | 7,085          | 1,536          | 6,933          |
| Oban                                  | 4,685          | 7,391          | 5,161          | 8,846          | 3,160          | 7,836          | 2,337          | 10,150         | 2,234          | 10,394         |
| Anstruther                            | 2,346          | 3,178          | 1,137          | 1,884          | 1,401          | 4,589          | 1,444          | 5,389          | 1,413          | 6,665          |
| Mallaig                               | 9,792          | 14,005         | 8,251          | 10,937         | 4,421          | 10,127         | 1,391          | 4,804          | 1,807          | 7,206          |
| Portree                               | -              | -              | 2,841          | 7,756          | 1,968          | 7,887          | 1,109          | 8,152          | 1,183          | 8,708          |
| Buckie                                | 2,658          | 3,601          | 2,563          | 3,695          | 1,014          | 3,273          | 1,144          | 3,338          | 1,025          | 3,766          |
| Aberdeen                              | 32,996         | 26,427         | 22,532         | 16,049         | 1,269          | 3,990          | 1,023          | 4,564          | 714            | 3,943          |
| <b>Total</b>                          | <b>415,268</b> | <b>248,671</b> | <b>269,403</b> | <b>232,812</b> | <b>316,032</b> | <b>480,294</b> | <b>283,607</b> | <b>445,482</b> | <b>367,138</b> | <b>582,686</b> |

\*1971-2001 figures: total landings by UK vessels only; 2011-2023 figures: total landings by UK and foreign vessels

Source: [Sea fisheries statistics - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](https://www.gov.scot/publications/sea-fisheries-statistics/pages/2.aspx)

| Distribution of Licensed Vessels by Shetland District |            |            |           |            |            |            |            |            |
|-------------------------------------------------------|------------|------------|-----------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
|                                                       | 1971       | 1981       | 1991      | 2001       | 2011       | 2021       | 2023       | 2024       |
| Creek 1 – South Mainland                              | 13         | 11         | 3         | 17         | 18         | 14         | 15         | 15         |
| Creek 2 – Lerwick/Bressay                             | 13         | 17         | 7         | 40         | 41         | 92         | 101        | 106        |
| Creek 3 – Whalsay                                     | 49         | 33         | 21        | 42         | 30         | 42         | 43         | 42         |
| Creek 4 – Out Skerries                                |            |            | 4         | 9          | 6          | 5          | 4          | 4          |
| Creek 5 – Yell/Fetlar/Unst                            | 29         | 14         | 5         | 23         | 14         | 12         | 13         | 12         |
| Creek 6 – Northmavine                                 | 14         | 7          | 4         | 9          | 5          | 5          | 4          | 5          |
| Creek 7 – Central Mainland                            | -          | -          | 5         | 14         | 11         | 22         | 24         | 26         |
| Creek 8 - West Mainland                               | 30         | 28         | 10        | 26         | 22         | 25         | 24         | 24         |
| Creek 9 – Scalloway/Burra/Trondra                     | 68         | 45         | 32        | 55         | 28         | 30         | 28         | 28         |
| <b>Total</b>                                          | <b>216</b> | <b>155</b> | <b>91</b> | <b>235</b> | <b>175</b> | <b>247</b> | <b>256</b> | <b>262</b> |

Source: Marine Analytical Unit, Marine Directorate, Scottish Government

| Shetland Licensed Vessel Size - as at 31 <sup>st</sup> December |               |              |               |       |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|-------|
|                                                                 | 80ft and over | 40-79.9ft    | Under 40ft    | Total |
| 1971                                                            | 0             | 64           | 152           | 216   |
| 1981                                                            | 8             | 52           | 95            | 155   |
|                                                                 | Over 24m      | Over 10m-24m | 10m and Under | Total |
| 1991                                                            | 10            | 49           | 30            | 89    |
| 2001                                                            | 27            | 31           | 177           | 235   |
| 2011                                                            | 17            | 26           | 132           | 175   |
| 2021                                                            | 23            | 22           | 202           | 247   |
| 2023                                                            | 23            | 20           | 213           | 256   |
| 2024                                                            | 23            | 21           | 218           | 262   |

Source: [Sea fisheries statistics - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](https://www.gov.scot/publications/sea-fisheries-statistics/pages/2.aspx)

| Employment in the Shetland Fishing Industry – Total number of posts, regularly and irregularly employed |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
|                                                                                                         | 1971 | 1981 | 1991 | 2001 | 2011 | 2021 | 2023 | 2024 |
| Catching                                                                                                | 636  | 542  | 486  | 598  | 433  | 469  | 431  | 415  |

Source: [Sea fisheries statistics - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](https://www.gov.scot/publications/sea-fisheries-statistics/pages/2.aspx)

## Marine Protection

The Marine Directorate is responsible for marine and fisheries compliance in Scottish waters. It operates 3 Marine Protection Vessels, 2 inshore boats and 18 coastal offices, which carry out vessel inspections. These inspections can take place whilst vessels are in port, in coastal waters, territorial waters (inside 12nm) or ex territorial waters (12-200nm).

| Boardings of Vessels in Scottish Waters 2024 - By vessel nationality and location of boarding |         |         |                    |                       |       |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|---------|--------------------|-----------------------|-------|
|                                                                                               | In Port | Coastal | Territorial waters | Ex territorial waters | Total |
| Belgium                                                                                       | -       | 4       | -                  | -                     | 4     |
| Denmark                                                                                       | -       | 1       | 11                 | 10                    | 22    |
| Faroe                                                                                         | -       | 5       | 7                  | 2                     | 14    |
| France                                                                                        | 24      | 52      | 10                 | 9                     | 95    |
| Germany                                                                                       | 2       | 2       | 4                  | 3                     | 11    |
| United Kingdom                                                                                | 378     | 1,661   | 554                | 113                   | 2,706 |
| Ireland                                                                                       | -       | 4       | 10                 | 8                     | 22    |
| Lithuania                                                                                     | -       | -       | -                  | -                     | 0     |
| Netherlands                                                                                   | -       | 5       | 5                  | 15                    | 25    |
| Norway                                                                                        | 1       | 68      | 59                 | 36                    | 164   |
| Spain                                                                                         | 22      | 33      | 3                  | 3                     | 61    |
| Sweden                                                                                        | -       | -       | 5                  | 5                     | 10    |
| Unlicensed/recreational                                                                       | -       | -       | -                  | -                     | 0     |
| Total                                                                                         | 427     | 1,835   | 668                | 204                   | 3,134 |

Source: [Marine and fisheries compliance: boardings of vessels in Scottish waters - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](https://www.gov.scot/publications/marine-and-fisheries-compliance-boardings-of-vessels-in-scottish-waters/pages/2.aspx)

## Shellfish Aquaculture

The annual Scottish Shellfish Farm Production Survey collates regional data on the production of Mussels, Pacific oyster, Native Oyster, Queens and Scallops. Of these species, Shetland produced Mussels and a very small amount of Pacific Oyster (around 20,000 shells) in 2024. With data showing that historically Shetland does not produce any significant volume of other species, only data on mussel production is presented for the tonnage and value produced per year.

| Mussel Production by Scottish Marine Region |         |            |         |            |         |            |         |            |
|---------------------------------------------|---------|------------|---------|------------|---------|------------|---------|------------|
|                                             | 2015    |            | 2021    |            | 2023    |            | 2024    |            |
| Marine Region                               | Tonnage | Value (£)* | Tonnage | Value (£)* | Tonnage | Value (£)* | Tonnage | Value (£)  |
| Argyll & Clyde                              | 491     | 777,744    | 497     | 514,395    | 433     | 512,672    | 483     | 506,184    |
| Outer Hebrides                              | 718     | 1,137,312  | 389     | 402,615    | 383     | 453,472    | 323     | 338,504    |
| West Highlands, Moray Firth & North Coast   | 496     | 785,664    | 854     | 883,890    | 801     | 948,384    | 650     | 681,200    |
| Shetland                                    | 5,565   | 8,814,960  | 6,850   | 7,089,750  | 8,694   | 10,293,696 | 10,234  | 10,725,232 |
| Scotland                                    | 7,270   | 11,515,680 | 8,590   | 8,890,650  | 10,311  | 12,208,224 | 11,690  | 12,251,120 |

\*Average prices (real) have been adjusted for inflation based on 2024 price estimates

Figures for Argyll & Clyde and the West Highlands, Moray Firth & the North Coast have been merged for commercial confidentiality

Source: [Scottish shellfish farm production surveys - gov.scot](https://gov.scot/shellfish-farm-production-surveys)

| Mussel Production (Tonnes) & Shetland Production as a Percentage of Total Scottish Production |       |            |       |            |       |            |        |            |        |            |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|------------|-------|------------|-------|------------|--------|------------|--------|------------|
|                                                                                               | 2001  |            | 2011  |            | 2021  |            | 2023   |            | 2024   |            |
|                                                                                               | Table | On-growing | Table | On-growing | Table | On-growing | Table  | On-growing | Table  | On-growing |
| Shetland                                                                                      | 822   | 0          | 4,567 | 178        | 6,850 | 2,302      | 8,694  | 2,085      | 10,234 | 2,274      |
| Scotland                                                                                      | 2,988 | 4          | 6,996 | 282        | 8,590 | 3,253      | 10,311 | 2,526      | 11,690 | 2,503      |
| Percent                                                                                       | 27.5% | 0%         | 65.3% | 63.1%      | 79.7% | 70.8%      | 84.3%  | 82.5%      | 90.9%  | 87.5%      |

| Active and Producing Shellfish Farm Sites 2024 (all species) |          |        |          |             |               |              |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|----------|--------|----------|-------------|---------------|--------------|
| Region                                                       | Highland | Orkney | Shetland | Strathclyde | Western Isles | All Scotland |
| Active                                                       | 52       | 2      | 146      | 46          | 37            | 283          |
| Producing                                                    | 26       | 2      | 106      | 26          | 18            | 178          |

| Shetland - No of Shellfish Businesses / Employment (all species) |      |      |      |      |      |      |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
|                                                                  | 2001 | 2011 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 |
| No, of Businesses                                                | 37   | 29   | 24   | 23   | 20   | 21   |
| Full-time Staff                                                  | 21   | 61   | 55   | 59   | 58   | 60   |
| Part-time Staff                                                  | 37   | 46   | 26   | 22   | 21   | 20   |
| Casual Staff                                                     | 27   | 15   | 20   | 13   | 12   | 15   |
| Total Staff                                                      | 85   | 122  | 101  | 94   | 91   | 95   |

Source: [Scottish shellfish farm production surveys - gov.scot](https://gov.scot/shellfish-farm-production-surveys) ([www.gov.scot](https://www.gov.scot))

## Finfish Aquaculture

| Manpower and Production by Region |      |       |     |                       |               |        |               |            |               |        |               |
|-----------------------------------|------|-------|-----|-----------------------|---------------|--------|---------------|------------|---------------|--------|---------------|
| Region                            | Year | Staff |     | Annual Prod. (Tonnes) | Prod. (T/man) | Grilse |               | Pre-salmon |               | Salmon |               |
|                                   |      | F/T   | P/T |                       |               | Tonnes | Mean Wt. (kg) | Tonnes     | Mean Wt. (kg) | Tonnes | Mean Wt. (kg) |
| Shetland                          | 1991 | 202   | 102 | 10,614                | 35            | 826    | 2.9           | 4,322      | 3.1           | 5,466  | 3.9           |
|                                   | 2001 | 227   | 52  | 39,745                | 142           | 4,905  | 3.7           | 16,441     | 4.3           | 18,269 | 4.4           |
|                                   | 2011 | 189   | 22  | 35,493                | 168           | 4,611  | 4.7           | 16,071     | 5.1           | 14,693 | 4.5           |
|                                   | 2021 | 276   | 10  | 43,770                | 148           | 15,644 | 5.7           | 14,074     | 5.6           | 14,052 | 6.4           |
|                                   | 2023 | 294   | 18  | 33,414                | 107           | 9,991  | 4.8           | 9,974      | 5             | 13,359 | 5.8           |
|                                   | 2024 | 262   | 5   | 42,533                | 159           | 16,587 | 5.9           | 7,996      | 5.3           | 17,950 | 6.0           |
| Scotland                          | 1991 | 1,014 | 272 | 40,593                | 32            | 7,449  | 2.1           | 13,577     | 2.6           | 19,567 | 3.2           |
|                                   | 2001 | 1,066 | 191 | 138,520               | 110           | 42,066 | 3.8           | 54,473     | 4.7           | 40,754 | 4.5           |
|                                   | 2011 | 923   | 90  | 158,018               | 156           | 35,146 | 4.6           | 55,959     | 5.0           | 66,606 | 4.8           |
|                                   | 2021 | 1,441 | 54  | 205,393               | 137           | 93,346 | 5.0           | 51,349     | 4.6           | 60,664 | 5.7           |
|                                   | 2023 | 1,418 | 62  | 150,949               | 102           | 64,854 | 4.7           | 31,073     | 4.6           | 54,932 | 5.9           |
|                                   | 2024 | 1,330 | 32  | 192,000               | 141           | 66,995 | 5.3           | 46,144     | 5.2           | 78,687 | 5.9           |

| Survival and Production in Smolt Year Classes |                       |                     |                   |      |                   |      |                   |      |               |      |
|-----------------------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|-------------------|------|-------------------|------|-------------------|------|---------------|------|
| Region                                        | Yr. Smolts put to Sea | Smolt Input (000's) | Harvest in Year 0 |      | Harvest in Year 1 |      | Harvest in Year 2 |      | Total Harvest |      |
|                                               |                       |                     | No. (000's)       | %    | No. (000's)       | %    | No. (000's)       | %    | No. (000's)   | %    |
| Shetland                                      | 1991                  | 4,013               | 0                 | 0    | 2,012             | 50.1 | 1,135             | 28.3 | 3,147         | 78.4 |
|                                               | 2001                  | 17,398              | 123               | 0.7  | 6,465             | 37.2 | 7,973             | 45.8 | 14,561        | 83.7 |
|                                               | 2011                  | 11,206              | 49                | 0.4  | 4,911             | 43.8 | 2,709             | 24.2 | 7,669         | 68.4 |
|                                               | 2021                  | 10,090              | 0                 | 0    | 4,850             | 48.1 | 2,303             | 22.8 | 7,153         | 70.9 |
|                                               | 2022                  | 10,571              | 0                 | 0    | 4,042             | 40.1 | 2,990             | 28.3 | 7,032         | 66.5 |
|                                               | 2023                  | 8,938               | 30                | 0.3  | 4,311             | 48.2 |                   |      |               |      |
|                                               | 2024                  | 6,660               | 0                 | 0    |                   |      |                   |      |               |      |
| Scotland                                      | 1991                  | 20,227              | 0                 | 0    | 8,864             | 43.8 | 4,675             | 23.1 | 13,539        | 66.9 |
|                                               | 2001                  | 48,643              | 557               | 1.1  | 23,528            | 48.4 | 15,619            | 32.1 | 39,704        | 81.6 |
|                                               | 2011                  | 42,733              | 109               | 0.3  | 21,502            | 50.3 | 11,283            | 26.4 | 32,894        | 77.0 |
|                                               | 2021                  | 51,131              | 16                | 0.03 | 25,777            | 50.4 | 9,382             | 18.3 | 35,175        | 68.7 |
|                                               | 2022                  | 55,261              | 79                | 0.1  | 20,734            | 37.5 | 13,356            | 24.2 | 34,169        | 61.8 |
|                                               | 2023                  | 48,845              | 30                | 0.06 | 21,511            | 44.0 |                   |      |               |      |
|                                               | 2024                  | 45,757              | 52                | 0.1  |                   |      |                   |      |               |      |

| Salmon Production by Scottish Marine Region |         |               |         |               |         |               |         |               |
|---------------------------------------------|---------|---------------|---------|---------------|---------|---------------|---------|---------------|
| Marine Region                               | 2015    |               | 2021    |               | 2023    |               | 2024    |               |
|                                             | Tonnage | Value* £ '000 | Tonnage | Value* £ '000 | Tonnage | Value* £ '000 | Tonnage | Value* £ '000 |
| Argyll & Clyde                              | 35,911  | 173,414       | 36,085  | 207,092       | 28,997  | 232,005       | 35,151  | 242,190       |
| Orkney                                      | 11,074  | 53,476        | 24,407  | 140,072       | 17,265  | 138,137       | 22,395  | 154,302       |
| Outer Hebrides                              | 27,210  | 131,397       | 31,069  | 178,305       | 24,036  | 192,312       | 40,126  | 276,468       |
| North Coast & West Highlands                | 54,741  | 264,344       | 70,062  | 402,086       | 47,237  | 377,943       | 51,795  | 356,868       |
| Shetland                                    | 42,786  | 206,614       | 43,770  | 251,196       | 33,414  | 267,345       | 42,533  | 293,052       |
| Scotland                                    | 171,722 | 829,246       | 205,393 | 1,178,750     | 150,949 | 1,207,743     | 192,000 | 1,322,880     |

\*Average prices (real) have been adjusted for inflation based on 2024 price estimates

Source: [Scottish fish farm production surveys - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](https://www.gov.scot/publications/scottish-fish-farm-production-surveys/pages/2.aspx)

## Fish & Shellfish Processing

| Food Standards Agency Approved Fish and Shellfish Establishments, Shetland (December 2025) |                                |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Activities approved                                                                        | No. of approved establishments |
| Fisheries products processing plant – Auction Hall                                         | 2                              |
| Fisheries products processing plant (caught fish or aquaculture)                           | 10                             |
| Live bivalve molluscs purification centre                                                  | 1                              |
| Live bivalve molluscs dispatch centre                                                      | 7                              |

Source: [Approved Establishments Register](#) | [Food Standards Scotland](#)

## Agriculture

| Main and Minor Holdings - Shetland                                          |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
|                                                                             | 1971    | 1981    | 1991    | 2001    | 2011    | 2021    | 2025    |
| <b>Land Use (ha):</b>                                                       |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |
| Tillage                                                                     | 1,410   | 1,062   | 740     | 437     | 257     | 344     | 284     |
| Grassland & Crops                                                           | 8,407   | 8,400   | 14,304  | 22,016  | 26,789  | 28,854  | 30,448  |
| Rough/Common grazing                                                        | 129,019 | 133,160 | 130,943 | 124,021 | 121,934 | 117,506 | 110,355 |
| Total area rented                                                           | 38,130  | 36,046  | 36,781  | 43,060  | 42,479  | 40,930  | 44,448  |
| Total area owned                                                            | 28,161  | 30,368  | 33,840  | 35,622  | 38,432  | 41,027  | 42,397  |
| No of holdings                                                              | 2,439   | 2,240   | 2,311   | 2,076   | 2,035   | 1,750   | 1,706   |
| No of common grazings                                                       | 93      | 93      | 100     | 141     | 160     | 155     | 163     |
| <b>Area Under Crops (ha):</b>                                               |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |
| Grass (Ex. Rough grazing)                                                   | 6,998   | 7,338   | 13,563  | 21,580  | 26,531  | 28,510  | 30,164  |
| Barley & oats                                                               | 857     | 511     | 214     | 50      | 108     | 68      | 64      |
| Turnips & swedes                                                            | 134     | 103     | 106     | 40      | 11      | 11      | 8       |
| Kale & cabbage                                                              | 73      | 34      | 30      | 15      | 6       | 3       | 2       |
| Potatoes                                                                    | 256     | 232     | 144     | 53      | 17      | 12      | 9       |
| Vegetables for human consumption                                            | x       | x       | 20      | 17      | 5       | 7       | 6       |
| Stockfeeding Crops                                                          | x       | x       | 94      | 89      | 65      | 115     | 91      |
| All other crops                                                             | 17      | 25      | 11      | 41      | 20      | 16      | 43      |
| <b>Livestock</b>                                                            |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |
| Beef cows & heifers                                                         | 2,492   | 1,896   | 2,129   | 2,172   | 2,440   | 2,298   | 2,044   |
| Dairy cows & heifers                                                        | 791     | 593     | 655     | 617     | 602     | 389     | 313     |
| Total cattle                                                                | 6,945   | 5,103   | 5,701   | 5,756   | 5,245   | 4,792   | 4,123   |
| Breeding ewes & gimmers                                                     | x       | x       | 210,630 | 215,480 | 150,847 | 147,650 | 148,197 |
| Total sheep                                                                 | 264,779 | 297,558 | 387,468 | 393,686 | 280,364 | 289,566 | 296,073 |
| Pigs                                                                        | 9       | 83      | 28      | 112     | 135     | 116     | 129     |
| Poultry                                                                     | 12,950  | 8,672   | 4,428   | 4,972   | 5,426   | 4,868   | 3,500   |
| Goats & kids                                                                | x       | x       | 82      | 47      | 58      | 69      | 81      |
| Horses & ponies                                                             | x       | x       | 564     | 829     | 1,328   | 1,023   | 1,135   |
| <b>Employment</b>                                                           |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |
| F/T & P/T employees                                                         | 222     | 205     | 244     | 336     | 240     | 344     | 261     |
| F/T & P/T occupiers                                                         | 439     | 763     | 864     | 781     | 531     | 563     | 552     |
| Others (including occupiers less than half time and casual/seasonal labour) | 584     | 412     | 1,364   | 1,473   | 1,355   | 1,196   | 1,030   |
| Total workforce                                                             | 1,245   | 1,380   | 2,472   | 2,590   | 2,126   | 2,103   | 1,843   |

x - data not available

Source: Scottish Government Rural Payments and Inspections Division (SGRPID)

| Scottish Government & EU Assistance (£) - Shetland |                                        |           |                                                              |           |                            |            |            |
|----------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|-----------|--------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|----------------------------|------------|------------|
|                                                    | 1986                                   | 1991      | 2001                                                         | 2011      | 2021                       | 2024       | 2025       |
| Less Favoured Area                                 | Old schemes, not comparable to current |           | 1,920,000                                                    | 2,560,000 | 2,571,513                  | 2,576,682  | 2,671,856  |
| Basic Payment                                      |                                        |           | Apart from LFA above, old schemes, not comparable to current |           | 6,754,814                  | 6,856,292  | 6,579,699  |
| Beef Support                                       |                                        |           |                                                              |           | 229,410                    | 218,592    | 240,807    |
| Sheep Upland Support                               |                                        |           |                                                              |           | 187,107                    | 184,377    | 175,219    |
| Crofting Agricultural                              |                                        |           |                                                              |           | 451,160                    | 334,969    | 345,838    |
| Agri-environment climate                           |                                        |           |                                                              |           | 250,493                    | 388,608    | 2,485,477  |
| Sustainable Farming                                |                                        |           |                                                              |           | Old schemes not comparable | 91,374     | 248,163    |
| Future Farming Investment                          |                                        |           |                                                              |           |                            | n/a        | 471,699    |
| Total                                              | 2,220,000                              | 4,900,000 | 6,970,000                                                    | 9,130,000 | 10,642,347                 | 10,641,894 | 13,218,758 |

Source: Scottish Government Rural Payments and Inspections Division (SGRPID)

| Livestock Imports & Exports - Shetland |        |        |        |         |        |        |         |         |
|----------------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|---------|--------|--------|---------|---------|
|                                        | 1971   | 1981   | 1991   | 2001    | 2011   | 2021   | 2024    | 2025    |
| Imports                                |        |        |        |         |        |        |         |         |
| Cattle                                 | n/a    | n/a    | n/a    | n/a     | 75     | 143    | 66      | 38      |
| Horses                                 | n/a    | n/a    | n/a    | n/a     | 92     | 31     | 50      | 37      |
| Pigs                                   | n/a    | n/a    | n/a    | n/a     | 6      | 114    | 72      | 130     |
| Sheep                                  | n/a    | n/a    | n/a    | n/a     | 648    | 666    | 549     | 627     |
| Exports                                |        |        |        |         |        |        |         |         |
| Cattle                                 | 1,974  | 2,066  | 2,117  | 1,031   | 1,983  | 1,338  | 1498    | 1428    |
| Horses                                 | 417    | 407    | 239    | 232     | 200    | 133    | 109     | 97      |
| Pigs                                   | 0      | 0      | 0      | 0       | 2      | 0      | 0       | 44      |
| Sheep                                  | 43,464 | 60,542 | 99,404 | 114,251 | 92,569 | 55,109 | 100,103 | 101,527 |

Source: Lerwick Port Authority

| Animal Produce                       | 1971      | 1981      | 1991      | 2001      | 2011    | 2021      | 2024      | 2025      |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|---------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Registered slaughterhouses/abattoirs | 9         | 8         | 4         | 3         | 1       | 1         | 1         | 1         |
| Sheep slaughtered                    | 8,417     | 9,592     | 8,712     | 3,520     | n/a     | 3,497     | 3,015     | 2,926     |
| Cattle slaughtered                   | 485       | 278       | 339       | 76        | n/a     | 367       | 258       | 218       |
| Pigs slaughtered                     | 0         | 0         | 33        | 167       | n/a     | 211       | 60        | 121       |
| Wool production (est. kg)            | 218,000   | 245,000   | 337,000   | 323,220   | 300,487 | 322,437   | 298,265   | 286,049   |
| Milk - No. of Dairy units            | 23        | 23        | 16        | 7         | n/a     | 2         | 2         | 2         |
| Milk production (litres)             | 1,428,975 | 2,069,550 | 2,584,564 | 2,410,045 | n/a     | 1,410,540 | 1,171,589 | 1,081,558 |

Sources: Shetland Livestock Marketing Group (SLMG); Wool production: Shetland Wool Brokers & Jamiesons of Shetland; Milk: Shetland Farm Dairies

| Animal Sales - No. of Animals Sold Through SLMG Auction Ring |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
|                                                              | 2019   | 2020   | 2021   | 2022   | 2023   | 2024   | 2025   |
| Cattle Throughput                                            | 525    | 545    | 757    | 737    | 654    | 690    | 832    |
| Sheep Throughput                                             | 44,973 | 52,549 | 67,858 | 74,816 | 76,579 | 80,373 | 84,156 |
| Ponies Throughput                                            | 70     | 41     | 64     | 78     | 58     | 57     | 47     |

Source: Shetland Livestock Marketing Group (SLMG)

| Food Standards Agency Approved Meat and Animal Produce Establishments, Shetland (December 2025) |                                |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Activities approved                                                                             | No. of approved establishments |
| Egg packing centres                                                                             | 2                              |
| Dairy products processing plant                                                                 | 1                              |
| Slaughterhouse, cutting, meat preparation and processing plant                                  | 1                              |

Source: [Approved Establishments Register](#) | [Food Standards Scotland](#)

## Visitors/Tourism

Shetland visitor surveys were carried out in 2017, 2019 and 2024. These surveys captured independent visitors, travelling through Holmsgarth Ferry Terminal or Sumburgh Airport, and did not include cruise ship passengers. While the 2017 and 2019 interviews were undertaken over 12 months (Jan – Dec) the 2024 interviews took place over the peak months of April to October only. The data below is mainly from the 2024 report, which adjusted some 2017 and 2019 data to show Apr - Oct visits only for comparison.

Note, figures detail number of 'visits' rather than number of 'visitors' as some visitors may make more than one trip over the course of the year.

| Visits* - Number of Visits, Full Year and Peak Months |                                    |        |                   |                           |        |        |
|-------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------|-------------------|---------------------------|--------|--------|
| Purpose of Visit                                      | Total Full Year Visits (Jan - Dec) |        |                   | Apr - Oct Visit Breakdown |        |        |
|                                                       | 2017                               | 2019   | 2024 <sup>#</sup> | 2017                      | 2019   | 2024   |
| Leisure                                               | 38,096                             | 40,865 | 45,025            | 58%                       | 53%    | 56%    |
| VFR**                                                 | 8,791                              | 16,827 | 18,743            | 10%                       | 18%    | 18%    |
| Business                                              | 26,374                             | 22,436 | 25,199            | 30%                       | 27%    | 24%    |
| All visits                                            | 73,262                             | 80,128 | 88,967            | 57,738                    | 50,134 | 70,576 |

<sup>#</sup>2024 total visits (Jan-Dec) based on total departing passenger numbers provided by travel operators with visit type based on the 2024 calibration survey for peak months and 2019 data for off-peak months

| On Island Total Visit Spend* (excludes Travel to and from Scottish Mainland and package holiday costs) |                           |    |                |    |                  |    |                            |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|----|----------------|----|------------------|----|----------------------------|
| Purpose of Visit                                                                                       | 2017 and 2019 Visit Spend |    |                |    | 2024 Visit Spend |    |                            |
|                                                                                                        | 2017 Full Year            |    | 2019 Full year |    | 2024 April - Oct |    | 2024 Off peak <sup>#</sup> |
|                                                                                                        | £(M)                      | %  | £(M)           | %  | £(M)             | %  | £(M)                       |
| Leisure                                                                                                | 13.08                     | 56 | 21.27          | 60 | 28.18            | 69 | -                          |
| VFR**                                                                                                  | 1.68                      | 7  | 5.50           | 15 | 5.83             | 14 | -                          |
| Business                                                                                               | 8.45                      | 37 | 9.02           | 25 | 6.59             | 16 | -                          |
| Peak/off peak total                                                                                    | -                         | -  | -              | -  | 40.59            | -  | 9.71                       |
| Full year total                                                                                        | £23,212,893               |    | £35,788,072    |    | £50,309,650      |    |                            |

<sup>#</sup>2024 off peak spend was estimated by applying the 2024 peak average spend per person to the ratio of off peak average send per person in 2019.

| Visits* - Average Number of Nights Stay and Average On Island Spend <sup>#</sup> |                       |      |      |                    |        |        |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|------|------|--------------------|--------|--------|
| Purpose of Visit                                                                 | Stay - Av. No. Nights |      |      | Av. Spend/trip - £ |        |        |
|                                                                                  | 2017                  | 2019 | 2024 | 2017               | 2019   | 2024   |
| Leisure                                                                          | 6.6                   | 5.6  | 5.9  | 343.32             | 520.52 | 706.62 |
| VFR**                                                                            | 6.8                   | 6.9  | 7.8  | 191.48             | 326.66 | 434.54 |
| Business                                                                         | 9.3                   | 5.1  | 8.2  | 320.40             | 402.04 | 381.22 |
| All visits                                                                       | 7.3                   | 5.8  | 6.9  | 316.99             | 448.28 | 590.00 |

<sup>#</sup> 2024 data is based on April - Oct only and 2017/2019 data is full year.

| Number of Times Visited Shetland* (%) (Apr - Oct visits) |            |      |      |                             |       |          |
|----------------------------------------------------------|------------|------|------|-----------------------------|-------|----------|
|                                                          | All Visits |      |      | 2024 – Visit type breakdown |       |          |
|                                                          | 2017       | 2019 | 2024 | Leisure                     | VFR** | Business |
| First Time                                               | 48         | 54   | 55   | 73                          | 24    | 32       |
| Repeat                                                   | 52         | 46   | 45   | 27                          | 76    | 68       |

| Origin of Visits to Shetland* (%) (Apr - Oct visits) |            |      |      |                             |       |          |
|------------------------------------------------------|------------|------|------|-----------------------------|-------|----------|
| Place of Residence                                   | All visits |      |      | 2024 – Visit type breakdown |       |          |
|                                                      | 2017       | 2019 | 2024 | Leisure                     | VFR** | Business |
| Scotland                                             | 41         | 39   | 42   | 21                          | 63    | 73       |
| Rest of UK                                           | 33         | 32   | 28   | 34                          | 22    | 19       |
| Europe                                               | 15         | 16   | 15   | 22                          | 4     | 7        |
| North America                                        | 5          | 7    | 9    | 14                          | 3     | 1        |
| Other Overseas                                       | 5          | 7    | 7    | 9                           | 8     | 1        |

| Likelihood to Recommend/Overall Satisfaction/Return Visit* (Mean Score out of 10) |           |      |      |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|------|------|
|                                                                                   | 2017      | 2019 | 2024 |
| Would recommend Shetland as a holiday or short break destination                  | 9.1       | 9.2  | 9.4  |
| Overall satisfaction with your visit to Shetland                                  | Not asked | 9.1  | 9.2  |
| Would return to Shetland for a leisure visit in the next 5 years                  | 7.9       | 7.8  | 8.0  |

The inspiration for 2024 leisure visits were broadly the same as 2017 and 2019, as were the top leisure visit attractions and activities.

| 2024 Leisure Visits - Motivation / Inspiration* (Apr - Oct visits) |    |                          |    |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|----|--------------------------|----|
| Key reasons to visit                                               | %  | Inspiration for visiting | %  |
| The scenery and landscape                                          | 67 | TV, Literature and Film  | 51 |
| Shetland is a place I always wanted to visit                       | 65 | Digital                  | 51 |
| The wildlife (e.g. wild birds, otters and orcas)                   | 59 | Recommendations          | 44 |
| The history, culture and heritage                                  | 47 | Printed Information      | 17 |

| 2024 Leisure Visits - Top Five Attractions Visited and Leisure Activities Undertaken* (Apr - Oct visits) |    |                     |    |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|---------------------|----|
| Attraction Visited                                                                                       | %  | Activity Undertaken | %  |
| Sumburgh Head                                                                                            | 67 | Walking             | 93 |
| Shetland Museum and Archives                                                                             | 62 | Scenery             | 83 |
| St Ninian's Isle and Beach                                                                               | 58 | Nature              | 79 |
| Iconic location from Shetland TV series                                                                  | 52 | Shopping            | 71 |
| Jarlshof                                                                                                 | 51 | Sports              | 17 |

\*Excludes cruise ship passengers

\*\*VFR = Visiting Friends and Relatives

Sources: [Shetland Visitor Survey – Shetland Islands Council](#)

## Cruise Visitors

| Cruise Ship Visits to Lerwick Harbour |       |       |        |        |        |        |       |         |         |         |
|---------------------------------------|-------|-------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-------|---------|---------|---------|
|                                       | 1981  | 1991  | 2001   | 2011   | 2018   | 2019   | 2021  | 2023    | 2024    | 2025    |
| Cruise Ship Arrivals                  | x     | 21    | 42     | 50     | 91     | 99     | 18    | 129     | 139     | 127     |
| Cruise Ship Passengers                | 3,564 | 5,240 | 11,601 | 30,747 | 90,336 | 76,233 | 8,642 | 123,903 | 138,533 | 129,954 |

x - data not available; \*2021 figures impacted by Covid pandemic

| Cruise Ship Passenger Nationality - Lerwick Harbour visits |        |        |       |        |         |         |         |
|------------------------------------------------------------|--------|--------|-------|--------|---------|---------|---------|
|                                                            | 2018   | 2019   | 2021* | 2022   | 2023    | 2024    | 2025    |
| American                                                   | 30,198 | 21,763 | 4     | 20,618 | 40,529  | 45,742  | 47,203  |
| Australian                                                 | 3,256  | 2,619  | 1     | 640    | 3,945   | 3,581   | 3,703   |
| British                                                    | 22,623 | 18,495 | 8,582 | 14,222 | 15,510  | 20,762  | 20,649  |
| Canadian                                                   | 4,241  | 2,607  | 2     | 1,446  | 5,845   | 6,335   | 6,043   |
| Dutch                                                      | 1,605  | 1,476  | 0     | 541    | 4,433   | 6,788   | 5,990   |
| French                                                     | 1,143  | 848    | 1     | 577    | 2,302   | 2,264   | 3,126   |
| German                                                     | 14,773 | 16,922 | 6     | 15,851 | 37,537  | 37,463  | 26,642  |
| Italian                                                    | 1,266  | 1,132  | 5     | 969    | 3,009   | 3,182   | 3,484   |
| Spanish                                                    | 1,059  | 1,329  | 0     | 441    | 1,602   | 1,485   | 2,098   |
| Other                                                      | 10,172 | 9,042  | 41    | 3,145  | 9,191   | 10,931  | 11,016  |
| Total                                                      | 90,336 | 76,233 | 8,642 | 58,450 | 123,903 | 138,533 | 129,954 |

\*2021 figures impacted by Covid pandemic

Source: Lerwick Port Authority

| Cruise Ship Visits to Shetland Islands Council Ports |           |           |       |            |            |        |       |
|------------------------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-------|------------|------------|--------|-------|
|                                                      | Fair Isle | Scalloway | Foula | Papa Stour | Baltasound | Fetlar | Total |
| 2022                                                 | 2         | 1         | 0     | 2          | 1          | 2      | 8     |
| 2023                                                 | 24        | 0         | 6     | 4          | 12         | 3      | 49    |
| 2024                                                 | 17        | 1         | 8     | 6          | 8          | 6      | 46    |
| 2025                                                 | 23        | 2         | 6     | 5          | 4          | 3      | 43    |

Source: SIC Marine and Air Operations

| Economic Impact of Tourism Visitors - Indexed to 2025 prices (£'000) |        |        |        |        |        |        |         |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|---------|
| Visitor Type                                                         | 2014   | 2020*  | 2021*  | 2022   | 2023   | 2024   | 2025    |
| Staying visitor                                                      | 56,270 | 23,860 | 37,170 | 57,680 | 63,250 | 89,160 | 105,900 |
| Day visitor                                                          | 1,855  | 138    | 500    | 2,578  | 5,250  | 6,344  | 5,805   |
| All Visitor Types (£'000)                                            | 58,125 | 23,998 | 37,670 | 60,258 | 68,500 | 95,504 | 111,705 |

Source: Global Tourism Solutions (UK) Ltd STEAM Report; \* 2020 & 2021 figures impacted by Covid pandemic

| Paid Accommodation Supply |       |       |       |      |       |      |       |      |       |      |       |      |       |
|---------------------------|-------|-------|-------|------|-------|------|-------|------|-------|------|-------|------|-------|
|                           | 1981  | 1991  | 2001  | 2011 |       | 2021 |       | 2023 |       | 2024 |       | 2025 |       |
| Accom. Type               | Beds  | Beds  | Beds  | No.  | Beds  | No.  | Beds  | No.  | Beds  | No.  | Beds  | No.  | Beds  |
| Hotels                    | 573   | 595   | 544   | 37   | 776   | 48   | 853   | 35   | 756   | 27   | 750   | 27   | 750   |
| Guest houses/B&B          | 306   | 429   | 369   | 50   | 382   | 18   | 205   | 14   | 139   | 14   | 180   | 14   | 180   |
| Self-Catering             | 271   | 538   | 322   | 168  | 1,034 | 205  | 1,306 | 197  | 1,211 | 284  | 1,625 | 463  | 2,495 |
| Touring/camping           | 81    | 217   | 390   | 8    | 501   | 13   | 547   | 13   | 591   | 17   | 669   | 21   | 653   |
| Total                     | 1,231 | 1,779 | 1,625 | 263  | 2,693 | 284  | 2,911 | 259  | 2,697 | 342  | 3,224 | 525  | 4,078 |

No. = No. of Establishments; Beds = No. of bed spaces; Touring/Camping includes hostels, caravan and campsites

Sources: 1981-2001: VisitShetland; 2011-2025: Global Tourism Solutions (UK) Ltd STEAM Report

| Annual Visitor Numbers for Shetland Visitor Attractions |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |
|---------------------------------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Visitor Attraction                                      | 2001   | 2011   | 2019   | 2021   | 2023   | 2024   | 2025   |
| Bressay Heritage Centre                                 | [x]    | 1,200  | 651    | 532    | 1,104  | 1,373  | 1,771  |
| Fair Isle**                                             | [x]    | [x]    | 1,233  | 936    | 563    | 1,226  | 3,874  |
| Fetlar Interpretive Centre                              | [x]    | 1,022  | 1,732  | 1,227  | --     | 1,313  | 1,287  |
| Hermaness NNR                                           | 1,600  | 6,000  | 8,160  | 6,432  | 11,970 | 13,237 | 14,263 |
| Hoswick Visitor Centre                                  | 6,500  | 11,404 | 20,096 | 11,263 | 20,078 | 18,800 | 24,490 |
| Island of Noss                                          | 757    | 1,655  | 2,239  | 851    | 1,597  | 1,739  | 1,971  |
| Jarlshof*                                               | 10,790 | 13,761 | 22,439 | 0      | 27,176 | 28,535 | 28,679 |
| Old Haa                                                 | 2,000  | 3,631  | 5,456  | 2,238  | 4,695  | 6,133  | 6,983  |
| Quendale Water Mill                                     | 1,744  | 3,681  | 3,512  | 1,476  | 2,981  | 3,371  | 2,866  |
| Scalloway Museum                                        | [x]    | 9,182  | 23,826 | 2,093  | 15,399 | 14,910 | 13,861 |
| Shetland Croft House Museum                             | 3,969  | 4,305  | 3,905  | 0      | 3,718  | 5,385  | 4,710  |
| Shetland Museum and Archives                            | 34,367 | 87,403 | 65,832 | 10,887 | 4,804  | 4,157  | 43,780 |
| Shetland Textile Museum                                 | [x]    | [x]    | 3,727  | 1,574  | 6,585  | 9,769  | 3,796  |
| Tangwick Haa Museum                                     | 2,823  | 4,792  | 11,626 | 0      | 3,596  | 3,070  | 10,694 |
| Unst Boat Haven                                         | 3,553  | 4,161  | 4,143  | 2,424  | 4,394  | 4,643  | 2,863  |
| Unst Heritage Centre                                    | 2,980  | 3,262  | 4,921  | 2,322  | 2023   | 2024   | 4,403  |

Note: 2020 - 2022 figures were impacted by Covid restrictions and the cost of living crisis

[x] No data; \* Jarlshof was a seasonal site until 2022, after which it opened year round

\*\* After being destroyed by a fire in 2019, and completely rebuilt, the Fair Isle Bird Observatory reopened in 2025

Source: Visitor Attractions

## Oil & Gas

### Sullom Voe Terminal

The Sullom Voe Terminal is situated at Calback Ness on a site of approximately 400 hectares (1,000 acres) on the shores of Sullom Voe, 46km (29 miles) north of Lerwick. Historically operated by BP Exploration Operating Company on behalf of companies participating in the regional pipeline groups, the terminal's operation was passed to mature asset specialist EnQuest in late 2017.

The terminal has a throughput design capacity of 1.2 million barrels of crude oil per day and reached a peak in 1984 with a total receipt of 439,434,656 barrels (58,328,785 tonnes). From 1982 - 2010, gas also came through the terminal from the Brent and Ninian pipelines. The total Propane throughput reached a peak in 1984, at 886,426 tonnes, and Butane in 1985 at 630,262 tonnes.

Although throughput has declined in recent years, the terminal remains strategically important for the UK energy sector, with the capacity to handle output from oilfields to the west and East of Shetland and reconfigure parts of the terminal to develop renewable energy and decarbonisation opportunities.

### UK Port Traffic

While the tonnage of port traffic has decreased since the peak of the oil industry, Sullom Voe Terminal still handles millions of tonnes of cargo every year. In 2024, it ranked 19<sup>th</sup> on a list of UK ports for total tonnage, 11<sup>th</sup> for Oil and Gas traffic and 8<sup>th</sup> for Crude Oil shipments. In a Scottish ports context, Sullom Voe was 4<sup>th</sup> for total tonnage and 3<sup>rd</sup> for oil and gas traffic.

| UK Total Port Traffic 2024 (Foreign & Domestic) |              |             | UK Bulk Fuel & Crude Oil Ports 2024 |              |             |
|-------------------------------------------------|--------------|-------------|-------------------------------------|--------------|-------------|
| Port                                            | '000 Tonnes  | %UK Traffic | Port                                | '000 Tonnes  | %UK Traffic |
| London                                          | 51,869       | 12.1        | Milford Haven                       | 32,113       | 19.7        |
| Grimsby & Immingham                             | 43,718       | 10.2        | Southampton                         | 19,887       | 12.2        |
| Southampton                                     | 33,259       | 7.7         | Grimsby & Immingham                 | 15,597       | 9.6         |
| Milford Haven                                   | 32,875       | 7.7         | Tees & Hartlepool                   | 15,181       | 9.3         |
| Liverpool                                       | 31,284       | 7.3         | Forth                               | 13,795       | 8.5         |
| Tees & Hartlepool                               | 24,242       | 5.6         | London                              | 13,467       | 8.3         |
| Felixstowe                                      | 23,101       | 5.4         | Liverpool                           | 11,176       | 6.9         |
| Dover                                           | 19,402       | 4.5         | Rivers Hull & Humber                | 9,568        | 5.9         |
| Belfast                                         | 18,121       | 4.2         | Clyde                               | 5,710        | 3.5         |
| Forth                                           | 17,184       | 4.0         | Manchester                          | 4,865        | 3.0         |
| Rivers Hull and Humber                          | 10,480       | 2.4         | <b>Sullom Voe</b>                   | <b>4,501</b> | 2.8         |
| Hull                                            | 9,124        | 2.1         | UK Total                            | 163,100      |             |
| Bristol                                         | 8,608        | 2.0         | UK Crude Oil Tonnage Only 2024      |              |             |
| Medway                                          | 8,537        | 2.0         | Southampton                         | 12,404       | 17.6        |
| Clyde                                           | 7,176        | 1.7         | Tees & Hartlepool                   | 10,486       | 14.9        |
| Glensanda                                       | 6,155        | 1.4         | Rivers Hull & Humber                | 9,568        | 13.6        |
| Manchester                                      | 6,045        | 1.4         | Liverpool                           | 9,084        | 12.9        |
| Heysham                                         | 5,511        | 1.3         | Milford Haven                       | 7,948        | 11.3        |
| <b>Sullom Voe (SV)</b>                          | <b>4,504</b> | <b>1.0</b>  | Forth                               | 7,240        | 10.3        |
| All UK Ports                                    | 429,726      |             | Clyde                               | 4,579        | 6.5         |
| All Scottish Ports                              | 52,470       |             | <b>Sullom Voe</b>                   | <b>4,501</b> | 6.4         |
| <b>% Scottish Traffic</b>                       | <b>8.6%</b>  |             | UK Total (Crude Oil only)           | 70,293       |             |

Source: [Port and domestic waterborne freight statistics: data tables \(PORT\) - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/port-and-domestic-waterborne-freight-statistics-data-tables-port)

| Sullom Voe Terminal - Oil Throughput (Tonnes) |         |            |            |            |            |           |           |           |
|-----------------------------------------------|---------|------------|------------|------------|------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
|                                               | 1978    | 1981       | 1986       | 1991       | 2001       | 2013      | 2022      | 2024      |
| Brent Pipeline                                | 856,991 | 23,116,490 | 38,692,099 | 20,263,701 | 13,368,931 | 4,085,132 | 1,211,549 | 74,080    |
| Ninian Pipeline                               | 92,186  | 15,545,240 | 16,875,047 | 15,576,512 | 5,994,252  | 1,258,300 | 962,812   | 1,377,411 |
| Schiehallion                                  | -       | -          | -          | -          | 5,441,468  | 162,741   | 0         | 0         |
| Clair                                         | -       | -          | -          | -          | -          | 551,364   | 3,506,589 | 2,963,113 |
| SGP (Laggan)                                  | -       | -          | -          | -          | -          | -         | 59,291    | 31,646    |
| Total                                         | 949,177 | 38,661,730 | 55,567,146 | 35,840,213 | 24,804,651 | 6,057,537 | 5,740,241 | 4,446,251 |

| Sullom Voe Terminal - Average Barrels Per Day |         |         |           |         |         |         |         |        |
|-----------------------------------------------|---------|---------|-----------|---------|---------|---------|---------|--------|
|                                               | 1978    | 1981    | 1986      | 1991    | 2001    | 2013    | 2022    | 2024   |
| Brent Pipeline                                | 177,526 | 478,094 | 800,134   | 419,864 | 277,732 | 84,327  | 25,011  | 1,277  |
| Ninian Pipeline                               | 23,439  | 317,083 | 346,513   | 322,592 | 124,520 | 25,979  | 19,927  | 23,748 |
| Schiehallion                                  | -       | -       | -         | -       | 110,966 | 3,110   | 0       | 0      |
| Clair                                         | -       | -       | -         | -       | -       | 10,427  | 66,193  | 51,087 |
| SGP (Laggan)                                  | -       | -       | -         | -       | -       | -       | 1,227   | 546    |
| Total                                         | 200,965 | 795,177 | 1,146,647 | 742,456 | 513,218 | 123,843 | 112,358 | 76,658 |

| Sullom Voe Terminal - Total Barrels ('000s) |         |           |           |           |           |          |          |        |
|---------------------------------------------|---------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|----------|--------|
|                                             | 1978    | 1981      | 1986      | 1996      | 2001      | 2013     | 2022     | 2024   |
| Brent Pipeline                              | 6,391.0 | 174,504.3 | 292,048.8 | 176,442.3 | 101,372.2 | 30,779.2 | 9,129.1  | 466    |
| Ninian Pipeline                             | 679.7   | 155,735.5 | 110,640.2 | 108,654.8 | 45,450.0  | 9,482.4  | 7,273.2  | 8,668  |
| Schiehallion                                | -       | -         | -         | -         | 40,502.6  | 1,135.3  | 0        | 0      |
| Clair                                       | -       | -         | -         | -         | -         | 3,806.0  | 24,160.3 | 18,647 |
| SGP (Laggan)                                | -       | -         | -         | -         | -         | -        | 447.7    | 199    |
| Total                                       | 7,070.7 | 330,239.8 | 402,689.0 | 285,097.1 | 187,324.8 | 45,202.9 | 41,010.3 | 27,980 |

| Sullom Voe Terminal - Tankers Using Port |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
|------------------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
|                                          | 1979 | 1981 | 1986 | 1991 | 2001 | 2006 | 2013 | 2022 | 2024 |
| Oil                                      | 270  | 432  | 654  | 423  | 295  | 199  | 87   | 68   | 51   |
| Gas                                      | 0    | 0    | 112  | 45   | 12   | 11   | 0    | 0    | 0    |

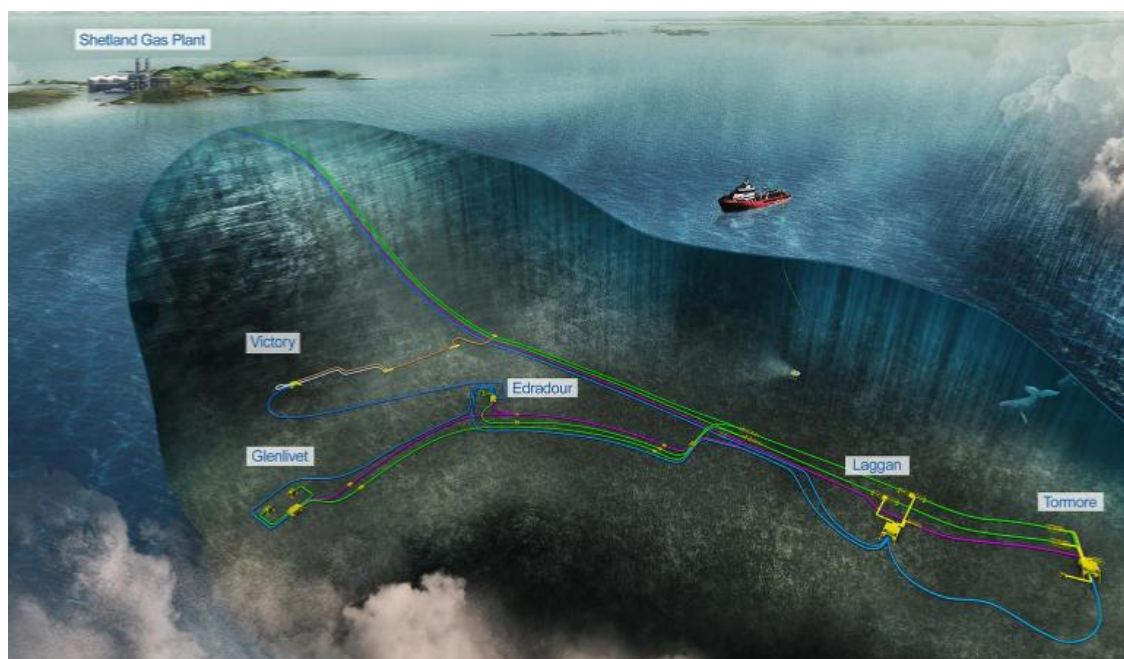
Source: Enquest – Sullom Voe Terminal

## Shetland Gas Plant, operated by TotalEnergies

TotalEnergies' West of Shetland gas development encompasses the Laggan, Tormore, Edradour, Glenlivet, and now Victory offshore fields and the onshore Shetland Gas Plant. Designed to withstand harsh weather conditions, the development of the subsea facilities involved the drilling of subsea wells in deep waters west of Shetland and the installation of the longest subsea pipeline network ever seen on the UK continental shelf.

The gas from the wells is processed at the Shetland Gas Plant (SGP), an onshore facility located next to the Sullom Voe Oil Terminal. This facility first produced gas from West of Shetland in February 2016. In 2024, SGP embarked on its first step as a third-party host when Shell took its Final Investment Decision to develop the Victory gas field. In September 2025, gas from Victory began flowing in, via the subsea GLA infrastructure, marking the first time a third-party field has tied back to the SGP. Gas from Victory processed at SGP is sent through the SIRGE pipeline network to St Fergus, where it enters the UK's domestic supply.

Victory is expected to reach peak production of around 150 million cubic feet of gas per day (approximately 25kBOEpd) at full capacity.



| SAFETY                           | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 |
|----------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Lost-time injury*                | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    |
| Total Recordable Incident Rate** | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    |
| First Aid Cases                  | 0    | 1    | 0    | 1    | 2    |

\*Accident that has caused physical injury that prevents the person from returning to work the following day.

\*\*Number of recordable injuries per million Man hours worked

| OPERATIONS                                | 2021    | 2022    | 2023    | 2024    | 2025    |
|-------------------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Delivered Production (kBOEpd)+            | 37.1    | 29      | 18.8    | 16.2    | 19.9    |
| Site Manhours                             | 366,364 | 390,113 | 378,917 | 394,545 | 379,042 |
| Average number of persons on site per day | 95      | 90      | 98      | 86      | 88      |
| Local Personnel                           | 49%     | 51%     | 50%     | 51%     | 45%     |

+ Gas production expressed as *thousands of barrels of oil equivalent per day*

Source: Total Energies E&P UK

### Third Sector

There is a strong tradition of volunteering in the isles, and almost all community and social activity in the rural areas relies on volunteers. 699 third sector organisations are registered with Voluntary Action Shetland (VAS), Shetland's third sector interface, of which 276\* are charities registered with OSCR. However, VAS are also aware of voluntary and community organisations not registered with them, which means that the total number of third sector organisations in Shetland will be more than those registered.

\*Source: [OSCR | Register Search](#) for Shetland based charities as at May 2026

The third sector is important to Shetland, socially and economically. The Shetland Partnership reflects this, including third sector, community, local and national government organisations. This partnership is responsible for the design and delivery of The Shetland Partnership Plan. [Shetland Partnership – Shetland Partnership](#).

The scale, and vast range, of the third sector and volunteering in Shetland makes it impossible to present a full picture of all organisations/the sector. The data in this section presents just a flavour of the scale of this sector.

### Volunteering Rates

The Scottish Household Survey records formal volunteering rates (unpaid help to organisations or groups) annually and informal volunteering rates (unpaid help, not via an organisation or group, to other people or places, excluding relatives) every two years. Due to methodological changes during Covid, there is no informal volunteering dataset for 2020.

| Volunteering Rates (volunteers aged 16 or over) - volunteered in last 12 months |      |      |      |      |      |                                             |      |      |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|---------------------------------------------|------|------|
| Formal volunteering                                                             |      |      |      |      |      | Any volunteering – formal, informal or both |      |      |
|                                                                                 | 2012 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 2018                                        | 2022 | 2024 |
| Eilean Siar                                                                     | 57%  | 40%  | 22%  | 30%  | 39%  | 46%                                         | 31%  | 61%  |
| Highland                                                                        | 44%  | 31%  | 29%  | 20%  | 24%  | 58%                                         | 53%  | 49%  |
| Orkney                                                                          | 46%  | 42%  | 22%  | 26%  | 34%  | 60%                                         | 63%  | 57%  |
| Shetland                                                                        | 44%  | 48%  | 44%  | 36%  | 36%  | 71%                                         | 75%  | 56%  |
| Scotland                                                                        | 29%  | 27%  | 22%  | 18%  | 25%  | 48%                                         | 46%  | 48%  |

Source: Scottish Household Survey, [Scottish Household Survey: publications - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](#)

### Saltire Awards

Saltire awards are national awards designed to recognise and reward those aged 12-25 years volunteering in their community. Awards are presented annually to individuals who complete 10 to over 500 hours volunteering. Both the volunteer and the organisation they are volunteering with need to be registered with Saltire to gain awards, therefore the numbers below do not represent all young volunteers in Shetland, just those registered with Saltire.

| Saltire Awards (Awarded to young volunteers registered with Saltire) |                       |                             |                                                 |                                                 |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                      | Volunteers Registered | No. achieving Saltire Award | Total voluntary hours completed by all Awardees | No. of Groups, schools and organisations helped |
| 2018                                                                 | 954                   | 136                         | 17,765                                          | 56                                              |
| 2019                                                                 | 1098                  | 127                         | 20,730                                          | 50                                              |
| 2020                                                                 | 999                   | 141                         | 14,940                                          | 50                                              |
| 2021                                                                 | 963                   | 128                         | 2,910                                           | 24                                              |
| 2022                                                                 | 859                   | 67                          | 10,500                                          | 25                                              |
| 2023                                                                 | 835                   | 118                         | 11,000                                          | 43                                              |
| 2024                                                                 | 814                   | 164                         | 17,000                                          | 45                                              |
| 2025                                                                 | 928                   | 185                         | 22,500                                          | 70                                              |

Source: Voluntary Action Shetland - [Saltire Awards | Voluntary Action Shetland](#)

## Grant Funding Secured

Third sector organisations in Shetland attract grant funding from many local, national and international sources, with hundreds of funding organisations. The table below outlines some of the larger local and national funding organisations, along with a few other funding organisations for which data is easily accessible online.

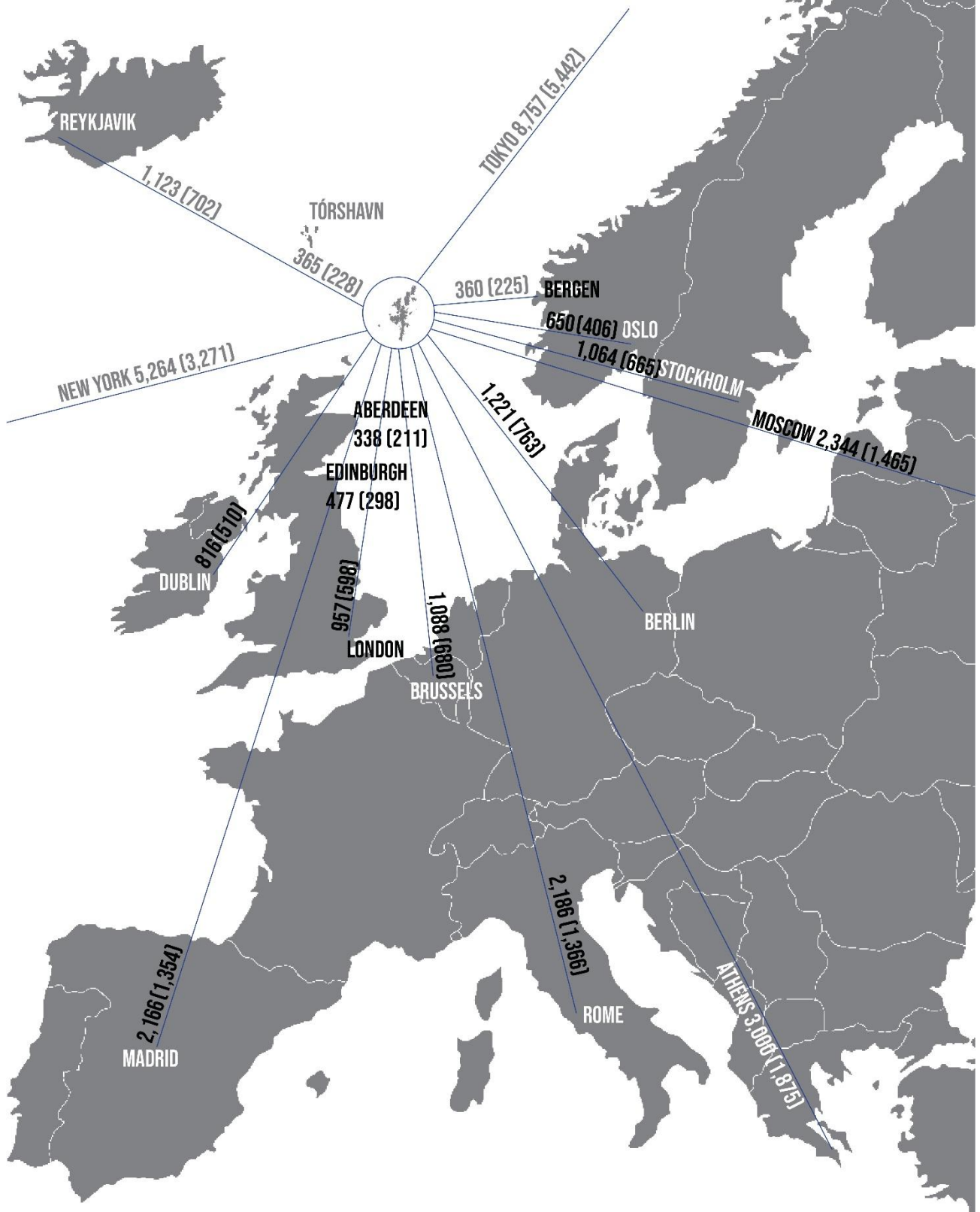
| Grant Awards to Third Sector Organisations in Shetland                                                                                                                                      |             |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| Funding Body                                                                                                                                                                                | 2024/25 (£) |
| Shetland Charitable Trust                                                                                                                                                                   | 7,439,442   |
| Shetland Community Benefit Fund                                                                                                                                                             | 527,291     |
| Shetland Islands Council - Coastal Communities Fund                                                                                                                                         | 1,159,601   |
| Shetland Islands Council - Community Grant Schemes                                                                                                                                          | 589,432     |
| Shetland Islands Council – Economic Development Grant Schemes                                                                                                                               | 149,575     |
| Scottish Gov. - Community Led Local Development                                                                                                                                             | 271,142     |
| Scottish Gov. - Islands Programme                                                                                                                                                           | 621,552     |
| Scottish Gov. - Mental Health and Wellbeing Fund for Adults: <a href="#">Communities Mental Health and Wellbeing Fund for Adults - Year 4 - Monitoring and reporting summary - gov.scot</a> | 71,994      |
| Highlands & Islands Enterprise                                                                                                                                                              | 709,883     |
| Architectural Heritage Fund*                                                                                                                                                                | 4,000       |
| Co-operative Group*                                                                                                                                                                         | 16,428      |
| Creative Scotland: <a href="#">Awards Listings   Creative Scotland</a>                                                                                                                      | 43,566      |
| Historic Environment Scotland                                                                                                                                                               | 23,719      |
| National Lottery - Community Fund*                                                                                                                                                          | 234,243     |
| NatureScot - Peatland Action (Shetland)                                                                                                                                                     | 105,995     |
| R S Macdonald Charitable Trust*                                                                                                                                                             | 57,000      |
| Shared Care Scotland: <a href="#">Funded projects   Shared Care Scotland</a>                                                                                                                | 48,557      |
| The Robertson Trust: <a href="#">Funding   The Robertson Trust</a>                                                                                                                          | 85,000      |
| The Goldsmiths Foundation*                                                                                                                                                                  | 15,000      |
| Three Guineas Trust*                                                                                                                                                                        | 15,000      |
| VisitScotland                                                                                                                                                                               | 1,000       |
| Total**                                                                                                                                                                                     | 12,189,420  |

Sources: Online (links provided),\* [360Giving GrantNav - Search](#), SIC, and individual funding orgs

\*\* Accounting for a fraction of the total organisations supporting local third sector groups, this total only gives an indication of the scale of annual grant income generated by this sector. The actual annual total will be higher.

# APPROXIMATE DISTANCES FROM SHETLAND

In kilometres (statute miles)



## Shetland: Physical Characteristics

Distance by road in kilometres (miles) from Lerwick:

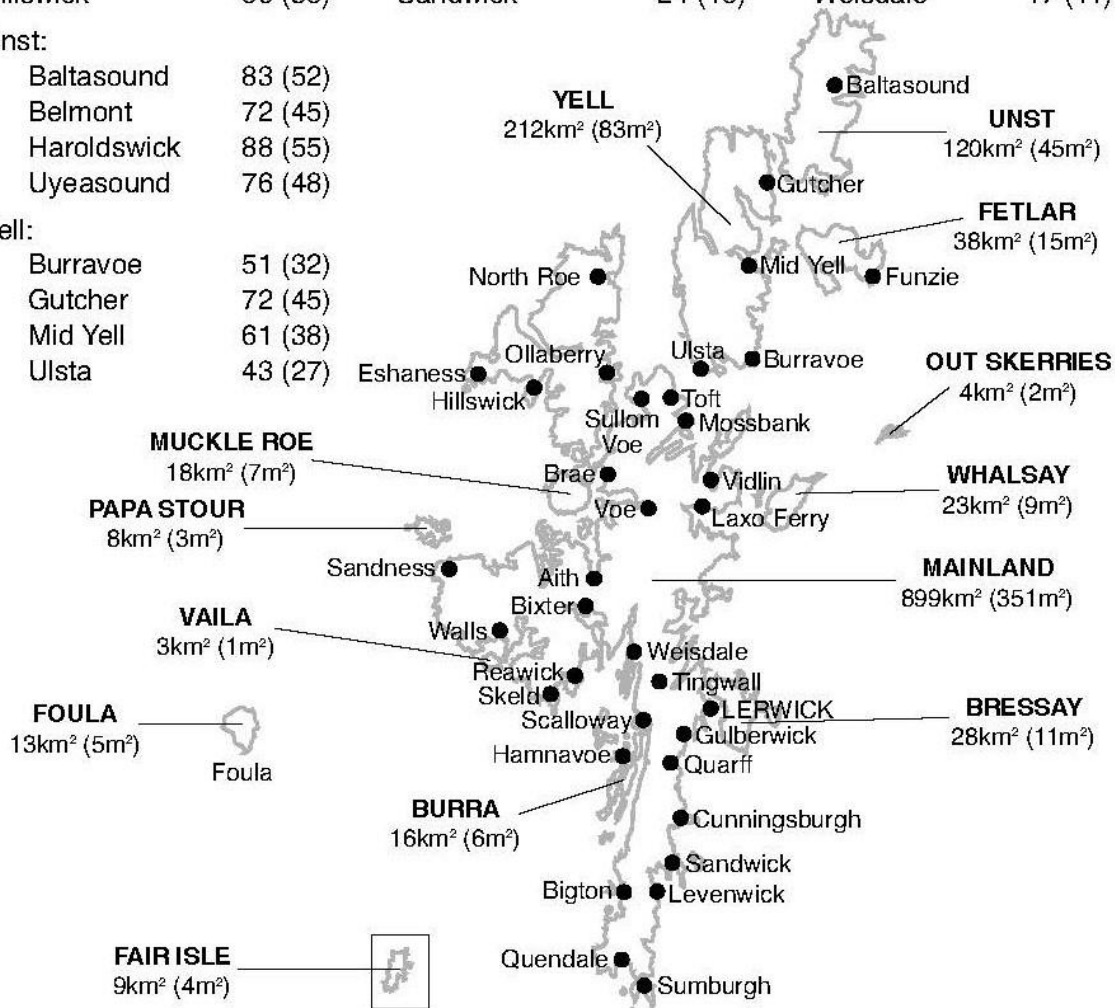
|                 |         |            |         |            |         |
|-----------------|---------|------------|---------|------------|---------|
| Aith            | 34 (21) | Laxo Ferry | 35 (22) | Scalloway  | 13 (8)  |
| Bigton          | 30 (19) | Levenwick  | 28 (18) | Skeld      | 40 (25) |
| Bixter          | 27 (17) | Mossbank   | 43 (27) | Sullom Voe | 46 (29) |
| Brae            | 35 (22) | North Roe  | 61 (38) | Sumburgh   | 40 (25) |
| Cunningsburgh   | 18 (11) | Ollaberry  | 53 (33) | Tingwall   | 10 (6)  |
| Eshaness        | 62 (39) | Quarff     | 11 (7)  | Toft Ferry | 43 (27) |
| Girlsta         | 16 (10) | Quendale   | 38 (24) | Vidlin     | 38 (24) |
| Gulberwick      | 6 (4)   | Reawick    | 38 (24) | Voe        | 29 (18) |
| Hamnavoe, Burra | 16 (10) | Sandness   | 46 (29) | Walls      | 40 (25) |
| Hillswick       | 56 (35) | Sandwick   | 24 (15) | Weisdale   | 17 (11) |

Unst:

|             |         |
|-------------|---------|
| Baltasound  | 83 (52) |
| Belmont     | 72 (45) |
| Haroldswick | 88 (55) |
| Uyeasound   | 76 (48) |

Yell:

|          |         |
|----------|---------|
| Burravoe | 51 (32) |
| Gutcher  | 72 (45) |
| Mid Yell | 61 (38) |
| Ulsta    | 43 (27) |



Total Area of Shetland: 1,468 square kilometres (567 square miles)\*

Total Length of coastline: approx 2,702 kilometres (1,697 miles)\*\*

\* Ordnance Survey, 1988

\*\* Dr Lorraine Gray, 2007

Number of islands: 100+

Number of inhabited islands: 15

#### 4 Weather/Climate

Observations are recorded in Shetland by staff employed by the Meteorological Office in Lerwick. There are also Auxiliary Synoptic Stations in Fair Isle and Foula. Observations from the Lerwick Observatory began in 1921, although the first full year of recordings were 1922. The following data was recorded at the Lerwick Observatory (60°08'N, 01°11'W; Wind vane 93m above sea level).

| Temperature (°C) |                      |      |      |      |           |     |                           |      |      |           |
|------------------|----------------------|------|------|------|-----------|-----|---------------------------|------|------|-----------|
| Measure          | Monthly Average (°C) |      |      |      | Mean (°C) |     | Extreme Daily Values (°C) |      |      |           |
| Year(s)          | 2024                 |      | 2025 |      | 1931-2025 |     | 1922-2025                 |      |      |           |
| Month            | Max                  | Min  | Max  | Min  | Max       | Min | Max                       | Year | Min  | Year(s)   |
| Jan              | 5.5                  | 1.8  | 5.9  | 2.2  | 5.5       | 1.5 | 12.8                      | 1947 | -8.9 | 1952 & 59 |
| Feb              | 6.4                  | 2.1  | 7.3  | 3.4  | 5.4       | 1.3 | 11.7                      | 1945 | -7.4 | 2010      |
| Mar              | 7.2                  | 3.5  | 8.1  | 4.1  | 6.4       | 2.0 | 13.3                      | 1961 | -8.3 | 1947      |
| Apr              | 8.4                  | 3.8  | 10.1 | 5.9  | 8.1       | 3.1 | 16.1                      | 1942 | -5.7 | 1968      |
| May              | 13.3                 | 8.6  | 12   | 6.7  | 10.4      | 5.3 | 20.7                      | 1992 | -2.9 | 2023      |
| Jun              | 12.5                 | 8.3  | 13.9 | 9.1  | 12.7      | 7.7 | 23.3                      | 1958 | -0.6 | 1951      |
| Jul              | 14.3                 | 10   | 17.2 | 12.2 | 14.2      | 9.7 | 23.4                      | 1991 | 3.5  | 1965      |
| Aug              | 15                   | 10.5 | 15.5 | 11.1 | 14.4      | 9.9 | 22.1                      | 1997 | 2.3  | 1928      |
| Sept             | 12.9                 | 8.4  | 14.8 | 10.1 | 12.8      | 8.6 | 19.4                      | 1953 | -0.6 | 1954      |
| Oct              | 11.1                 | 7    | 11.4 | 7.8  | 10.3      | 6.4 | 17.2                      | 1955 | -3.3 | 1948      |
| Nov              | 8.4                  | 4.7  | 8.3  | 4.7  | 7.8       | 3.8 | 14.0                      | 2022 | -5.7 | 1962      |
| Dec              | 7.8                  | 3.7  | 8.4  | 5.2  | 6.3       | 2.3 | 12.8                      | 2013 | -8.2 | 1961      |
| Year             | 10.2                 | 6.0  | 11.1 | 6.9  | 9.5       | 5.1 | 23.4                      | 1991 | -8.9 | 1952 & 59 |

| Wind Speed (Knots) |      |      |           |                       |      |           |      |              |      |           |      |
|--------------------|------|------|-----------|-----------------------|------|-----------|------|--------------|------|-----------|------|
|                    | Mean |      |           | Max hourly mean speed |      |           |      | Highest Gust |      |           |      |
|                    | 2024 | 2025 | 1922-2025 | 2024                  | 2025 | 1922-2025 |      | 2024         | 2025 | 1922-2025 |      |
|                    |      |      |           |                       |      | Knots     | Year |              |      | Knots     | Year |
| Jan                | 19.4 | 16.1 | 17.5      | 45                    | 41   | 66        | 2000 | 69           | 62   | 95        | 1961 |
| Feb                | 17.4 | 16.6 | 16.5      | 43                    | 37   | 56        | 1957 | 61           | 53   | 83        | 1957 |
| Mar                | 16.2 | 17.6 | 16.2      | 39                    | 46   | 51        | 1996 | 62           | 62   | 75        | 1967 |
| Apr                | 16.2 | 11.7 | 13.7      | 36                    | 29   | 55        | 1957 | 51           | 41   | 78        | 1957 |
| May                | 9.3  | 13.8 | 12.3      | 26                    | 32   | 46        | 2009 | 38           | 46   | 65        | 1982 |
| Jun                | 15.0 | 15.3 | 12        | 35                    | 35   | 50        | 2000 | 49           | 48   | 75        | 2000 |
| Jul                | 11.3 | 10.3 | 11.2      | 33                    | 22   | 39        | 1964 | 47           | 32   | 61        | 1964 |
| Aug                | 14.9 | 12.7 | 11.2      | 32                    | 36   | 45        | 2005 | 49           | 51   | 68        | 2005 |
| Sept               | 11.4 | 14.3 | 13.5      | 32                    | 30   | 59        | 1968 | 45           | 48   | 87        | 1963 |
| Oct                | 16.3 | 17.7 | 15.4      | 38                    | 44   | 58        | 1965 | 55           | 61   | 90        | 1980 |
| Nov                | 15.8 | 14.1 | 15.9      | 40                    | 45   | 51        | 1973 | 63           | 64   | 78        | 1998 |
| Dec                | 17.7 | 16.0 | 16.7      | 44                    | 46   | 58        | 2011 | 68           | 66   | 87        | 1966 |

Source: The Met Office, Lerwick

| Sunshine (Total hours/month) |        |        |                     | Sunshine (Total hours/month) - Extremes 1922 - 2025 |                  |         |                  |
|------------------------------|--------|--------|---------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|------------------|---------|------------------|
| Month                        | 2024   | 2025   | Mean<br>(1931-2025) | Maximum                                             | Year<br>recorded | Minimum | Year<br>recorded |
| Jan                          | 23.8   | 22.4   | 24.7                | 57.7                                                | 1998             | 8.1     | 1954             |
| Feb                          | 64.9   | 95.4   | 53                  | 90.7                                                | 1975             | 23.2    | 1983             |
| Mar                          | 74     | 76.1   | 89.4                | 135.7                                               | 1931             | 52.9    | 1980             |
| Apr                          | 142.4  | 140    | 133.7               | 194.1                                               | 1966             | 64.2    | 1944             |
| May                          | 172.5  | 231.2  | 164.5               | 271.5                                               | 1948             | 74.5    | 1933             |
| Jun                          | 96.6   | 156.1  | 148.9               | 239.5                                               | 1955             | 80.5    | 2014             |
| Jul                          | 108.3  | 186.9  | 122.3               | 228.0                                               | 1947             | 75.5    | 1957             |
| Aug                          | 146.9  | 135.3  | 121.5               | 228.5                                               | 1938             | 74.3    | 1970             |
| Sept                         | 121.1  | 160.6  | 98.9                | 136.7                                               | 2004             | 63.1    | 1998             |
| Oct                          | 74.6   | 47.1   | 66.2                | 136.2                                               | 2016             | 40.7    | 1982             |
| Nov                          | 28.2   | 32.4   | 33.4                | 59.2                                                | 2000             | 10.5    | 1983             |
| Dec                          | 11.2   | 12.2   | 15.6                | 34.3                                                | 2010             | 4.0     | 1982             |
| Year                         | 1064.5 | 1295.7 | 1072.1              | 271.5                                               | 1948             | 4.0     | 1982             |

| Rainfall (Total mm / Month) |        |        |                     | Rainfall (Total mm / Month) - Extremes 1922 - 2025 |                  |         |                  |
|-----------------------------|--------|--------|---------------------|----------------------------------------------------|------------------|---------|------------------|
| Month                       | 2024   | 2025   | Mean<br>(1931-2025) | Maximum                                            | Year<br>recorded | Minimum | Year<br>recorded |
| Jan                         | 192.4  | 101.8  | 130.6               | 302.4                                              | 2015             | 29.0    | 1941             |
| Feb                         | 150    | 53.4   | 101.3               | 249.9                                              | 1989             | 10.8    | 1986             |
| Mar                         | 97.2   | 144.8  | 97.5                | 206.0                                              | 1994             | 19.0    | 1931             |
| Apr                         | 101.6  | 35.4   | 68.6                | 146.5                                              | 1985             | 2.2     | 1974             |
| May                         | 50.6   | 65.6   | 57.2                | 131.2                                              | 2015             | 7.4     | 2008             |
| Jun                         | 86.2   | 91.4   | 58.9                | 134.0                                              | 1990             | 9.5     | 1982             |
| Jul                         | 64     | 35.2   | 67.4                | 156.1                                              | 1988             | 21.0    | 1955             |
| Aug                         | 105    | 94.8   | 80.3                | 184.2                                              | 2014             | 0.7     | 1947             |
| Sept                        | 110    | 39.8   | 103.2               | 181.3                                              | 1982             | 28.0    | 1931             |
| Oct                         | 140.4  | 167.8  | 124.3               | 247.8                                              | 1981             | 29.2    | 1946             |
| Nov                         | 109    | 125.6  | 133.4               | 236.3                                              | 1973             | 49.2    | 1968             |
| Dec                         | 172.5  | 122.2  | 136.9               | 274.2                                              | 1999             | 49.0    | 1933             |
| Year                        | 1378.9 | 1077.8 | 1159.6              | 302.4                                              | 2015             | 0.7     | 1947             |

| Extreme Values    | 2024         |                    | 2025         |                    |
|-------------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------|--------------------|
|                   | Date / Month | Measure            | Date / Month | Measure            |
| Max Temperature   | 29 Jul       | 18.4°C             | 21 Jul       | 21.1°C             |
| Min Temperature   | 17 Jan       | -7.0°C             | 3 Jan        | -3.8°C             |
| Sunniest day      | 16 May       | 15.7 hrs sunshine  | 14 May       | 15.7 hrs sunshine  |
| Sunniest month    | May          | 172.5 hrs sunshine | May          | 231.2 hrs sunshine |
| Wettest Day       | 10 Sep       | 44.6 mm rainfall   | 4 Aug        | 41.4 mm rainfall   |
| Wettest Month     | Jan          | 192.4 mm rainfall  | Oct          | 167.8 mm rainfall  |
| Driest Month      | May          | 50.6 mm rainfall   | Jul          | 35.2 mm rainfall   |
| Highest Wind Gust | 22 Jan       | 69 knots           | 25 Jan       | 62 knots           |
| Windiest Month    | Jan          | 10 gale days       | Dec          | 8 gale days        |

Source: The Met Office, Lerwick

| Climatic Conditions (days) 2024 & 2025 |      |      |                  |      |             |      |           |      |         |      |       |      |      |      |
|----------------------------------------|------|------|------------------|------|-------------|------|-----------|------|---------|------|-------|------|------|------|
|                                        | Rain |      | Hail/ice pellets |      | Snow/ sleet |      | Air frost |      | Thunder |      | Gales |      | Fog  |      |
|                                        | 2024 | 2025 | 2024             | 2025 | 2024        | 2025 | 2024      | 2025 | 2024    | 2025 | 2024  | 2025 | 2024 | 2025 |
| Jan                                    | 22   | 27   | 6                | 4    | 8           | 9    | 6         | 6    | 1       | 0    | 10    | 5    | 0    | 1    |
| Feb                                    | 28   | 17   | 7                | 1    | 9           | 0    | 4         | 0    | 0       | 0    | 8     | 4    | 0    | 0    |
| Mar                                    | 25   | 25   | 3                | 1    | 2           | 1    | 1         | 1    | 0       | 0    | 5     | 5    | 1    | 1    |
| Apr                                    | 23   | 12   | 1                | 0    | 2           | 0    | 1         | 0    | 0       | 0    | 2     | 0    | 0    | 0    |
| May                                    | 9    | 14   | 0                | 1    | 0           | 0    | 0         | 1    | 1       | 0    | 0     | 1    | 6    | 2    |
| Jun                                    | 23   | 21   | 0                | 0    | 0           | 0    | 0         | 0    | 0       | 1    | 0     | 3    | 1    | 2    |
| Jul                                    | 19   | 14   | 0                | 0    | 0           | 0    | 0         | 0    | 0       | 0    | 0     | 0    | 1    | 3    |
| Aug                                    | 24   | 22   | 0                | 0    | 0           | 0    | 0         | 0    | 1       | 2    | 3     | 1    | 3    | 1    |
| Sept                                   | 23   | 18   | 0                | 0    | 0           | 0    | 0         | 0    | 0       | 0    | 0     | 0    | 2    | 0    |
| Oct                                    | 25   | 29   | 0                | 0    | 0           | 0    | 0         | 0    | 0       | 0    | 4     | 4    | 0    | 0    |
| Nov                                    | 24   | 28   | 0                | 3    | 6           | 7    | 5         | 2    | 0       | 0    | 4     | 2    | 1    | 2    |
| Dec                                    | 28   | 23   | 2                | 2    | 3           | 1    | 2         | 0    | 0       | 0    | 1     | 8    | 9    | 0    |
| Total                                  | 273  | 250  | 19               | 12   | 30          | 18   | 19        | 10   | 3       | 3    | 37    | 33   | 24   | 12   |

Rain: Precipitation 0.2mm or more recorded in the 24 hour period commencing 0900hrs GMT

Hail/ice pellets: Solid precipitation, of which the outer parts are clear ice observed at any time of day

Snow/sleet: Snow or sleet observed at any time of day

Air frost: Minimum air temperature less than 0.0°C at any time of day

Thunder: Thunder heard at any time of day

Gales: Mean wind speed greater than or equal to 39.2mph (34knots) for at least 10 minutes

Fog: Visibility less than 1000 meters at 0900hrs GMT

Source: The Met Office, Lerwick

| Ozone Values (Dobson Units) |              |      |           |                    |      |                     |      |
|-----------------------------|--------------|------|-----------|--------------------|------|---------------------|------|
|                             | Monthly mean |      |           | Lowest Daily Value |      | Highest Daily Value |      |
|                             | 2024         | 2025 | 1979-2025 | 2024               | 2025 | 2024                | 2025 |
| Jan                         | 387          | 324  | 339       | 334                | 274  | 436                 | 388  |
| Feb                         | 384          | 340  | 359       | 314                | 245  | 459                 | 449  |
| Mar                         | 424          | 288  | 382       | 314                | 232  | 512                 | 381  |
| Apr                         | 423          | 370  | 386       | 361                | 278  | 475                 | 420  |
| May                         | 382          | 367  | 377       | 354                | 336  | 424                 | 403  |
| Jun                         | 391          | 356  | 358       | 330                | 286  | 457                 | 408  |
| Jul                         | 372          | 328  | 343       | 338                | 300  | 413                 | 367  |
| Aug                         | 350          | 306  | 323       | 307                | 271  | 385                 | 365  |
| Sept                        | 304          | 299  | 297       | 263                | 270  | 349                 | 340  |
| Oct                         | 295          | 276  | 288       | 244                | 225  | 365                 | 316  |
| Nov                         | 353          | 291  | 294       | 243                | 272  | 337                 | 319  |
| Dec                         | --           | --   | --        | --                 | --   | --                  | --   |
| Average                     | 370          | 323  | 341       | 309                | 272  | 419                 | 378  |

-- December values are not available due to low elevation of the sun in mid-winter

Sources: <https://uk-air.defra.gov.uk/data/ozone-data.php>; Historical monthly mean data: The Met Office, Lerwick

## 5 Transport

### Internal Transport Services

| Inter-Island Ferries |            |         |         |         |                                  |         |         |         |
|----------------------|------------|---------|---------|---------|----------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| Route                | Passengers |         |         |         | Vehicles – Domestic & Commercial |         |         |         |
|                      | 2020       | 2023    | 2024    | 2025    | 2020                             | 2023    | 2024    | 2025    |
| Bressay              | 123,151    | 182,284 | 184,134 | 189,887 | 53,357                           | 70,210  | 72,711  | 76,637  |
| Skerries             | 2,505      | 4,579   | 4,818   | 5,192   | 1,006                            | 2,177   | 2,220   | 2,362   |
| Unst/Fetlar          | 79,161     | 136,960 | 141,833 | 141,825 | 49,130                           | 76,236  | 78,801  | 77,680  |
| Whalsay              | 98,119     | 154,360 | 156,197 | 159,281 | 59,171                           | 80,561  | 83,836  | 86,568  |
| Yell                 | 162,438    | 259,072 | 260,553 | 260,304 | 99,980                           | 145,704 | 150,291 | 152,040 |
| Fair Isle            | 13         | 246     | 313     | 242     | 19                               | 39      | 48      | 23      |
| Papa Stour           | 2,006      | 3,700   | 4,655   | 5,128   | 990                              | 1,450   | 1,692   | 1,676   |
| Foula                | 83         | 112     | 118     | 195     | 4                                | 24      | 22      | 19      |
| Total                | 467,476    | 741,313 | 752,621 | 762,054 | 263,657                          | 376,401 | 389,621 | 397,005 |

Note: All ferry routes are operated by Shetland Islands Council apart from Foula, which is operated by BK Marine

Source: Shetland Islands Council, apart from Foula service which was BK Marine

| Inter-Island Flights        |        |        |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |
|-----------------------------|--------|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
|                             | 1981   | 1991   | 2001  | 2011  | 2021  | 2022  | 2023  | 2024  | 2025  |
| Tingwall Airport Traffic    |        |        |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |
| Passengers                  | 12,180 | 15,453 | 4,747 | 5,181 | 2,300 | 2,886 | 2,913 | 2,840 | 2,768 |
| Aircraft Movements          | 2,815  | 2,917  | 2,394 | 1,539 | 1,175 | 1,315 | 1,243 | 1,190 | 1,061 |
| Small Airfield - Passengers |        |        |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |
| Fair Isle                   | 841    | 2,048  | 2,030 | 3,316 | 1,442 | 1,921 | 1,910 | 1,905 | 2,560 |
| Foula                       | 1,175  | n/a    | 1,296 | 1,299 | 858   | 1,013 | 1,003 | 935   | 929   |
| Papa Stour                  | n/a    | n/a    | 238   | 127   | 0     | -     | -     | -     | -     |
| Skerries                    | 271    | 900    | 840   | 484   | -     | -     | -     | -     | -     |

Source: CAA [UK airport data](https://www.caa.co.uk/uk-airport-data) | Civil Aviation Authority ([caa.co.uk](https://www.caa.co.uk/))

| Bus Services - Number of Passengers             |         |         |         |         |
|-------------------------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Bus Route                                       | 2022*   | 2023    | 2024    | 2025    |
| Lerwick Town Service                            | 60,271  | 68,277  | 79,259  | 81,583  |
| Lerwick to Scalloway                            | 52,099  | 62,806  | 67,870  | 67,363  |
| Lerwick to North Mainland                       | 60,646  | 63,288  | 62,839  | 65,385  |
| Lerwick to South Mainland                       | 120,372 | 134,813 | 136,476 | 133,268 |
| Lerwick to West Mainland                        | 38,906  | 45,871  | 45,988  | 47,305  |
| Central Mainland and Bressay Feeders & Shoppers | 9,262   | 8,541   | 9,411   | 9,266   |
| North Mainland Feeders & Shoppers               | 4,425   | 4,355   | 5,536   | 3,732   |
| South Mainland Feeders & Shoppers               | 10,951  | 9,662   | 9,797   | 5,646   |
| West Mainland Feeders & Shoppers                | 10,303  | 12,685  | 10,371  | 9,703   |
| Yell Services                                   | 22,031  | 20,219  | 19,467  | 20,308  |
| Unst Services                                   | 19,170  | 14,722  | 16,663  | 16,519  |
| Fetlar Services                                 | 664     | 704     | 795     | 824     |
| Total                                           | 409,100 | 445,943 | 464,472 | 460,902 |

\*Notes: 2022 figures: Government scheme for free bus travel for under 22s introduced 31<sup>st</sup> January 2022, COVID travel restrictions only fully lifted April 2022

Source: SIC Transport Planning

## External Transport Services

### Ferry

| Northlink Ferries Carryings 2025 |                  |            |               |                                        |
|----------------------------------|------------------|------------|---------------|----------------------------------------|
| Route                            | Total Passengers | Total Cars | Total Coaches | Total commercial vehicle lane meterage |
| Aberdeen - Kirkwall              | 38,420           | 5,220      | 8             | 160,040                                |
| Aberdeen - Lerwick               | 143,755          | 25,874     | 126           | 354,173                                |
| Kirkwall - Lerwick               | 20,452           | 3,771      | 37            | 34,041                                 |
| Stromness - Scrabster            | 200,737          | 53,232     | 517           | 121,583                                |
| Total                            | 403,364          | 88,097     | 688           | 669,836                                |

Source: [NorthLink Statistics](#) | [NorthLink Ferries](#)

### Air

| Sumburgh Airport Traffic        |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |
|---------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
|                                 | 1981    | 1991    | 2001    | 2011    | 2021    | 2022    | 2023    | 2024    | 2025    |
| Passengers (Terminal & Transit) | 541,761 | 473,626 | 168,281 | 143,731 | 182,320 | 246,390 | 258,478 | 287,211 | 282,238 |
| Aircraft Movements              | 34,188  | 29,168  | 11,165  | 12,228  | 16,699  | 17,715  | 17,426  | 17,116  | 16,167  |
| Freight (Tonnes)                | 3,488   | 1,448   | 981     | 315     | 189     | 199     | 179     | 194     | 190     |

Source: Pre 2011, Highlands & Islands Airports Ltd. 2011 onwards CAA [UK airport data](#) | [Civil Aviation Authority \(caa.co.uk\)](#)

## Vehicle Ownership/Schedule of Roads

| Vehicles Licensed in Shetland on 31 <sup>st</sup> December |                                               |       |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |
|------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|-------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Type/Year                                                  | 1976                                          | 1981  | 1991   | 2001   | 2011   | 2021   | 2022   | 2023   | 2024   |
| Private & Light Goods                                      | 5,076                                         | 7,048 | 8,933  | 10,806 | 13,556 | 14,600 | 15,200 | 15,429 | 15,670 |
| Goods/Crown & Exempt*                                      | 640                                           | 801   | 310    | 251    | 1,481  | 1,800  | --     | --     | --     |
| Heavy Goods Vehicles                                       | Change to how goods vehicles recorded in 2022 |       |        |        |        |        | 300    | 309    | 292    |
| Public Transport                                           | 171                                           | 164   | 121    | 81     | 108    | 100    | 100    | 139    | 142    |
| Motorcycles**                                              | 397                                           | 545   | 287    | 271    | 495    | 500    | 600    | 624    | 619    |
| Other Vehicles                                             | 826                                           | 831   | 967    | 992    | 153    | 200    | 1,100  | 1,110  | 1,145  |
| Total                                                      | 7,110                                         | 9,389 | 10,618 | 12,401 | 15,793 | 17,200 | 17,300 | 17,611 | 17,868 |

\*Goods vehicles exclude heavy goods that are exempt from tax; Crown and Exempt include vehicles in the special concessionary group; \*\*Includes all two wheeled motor vehicles

Source: Transport Scotland - [Scottish Transport Statistics 2025](#) | [Transport Scotland](#)

| Schedule of County Roads - 31 March 2025 | Km     | Miles |
|------------------------------------------|--------|-------|
| A Class Roads                            | 223.9  | 139.1 |
| B Class Roads                            | 161.2  | 100.2 |
| C Class Roads                            | 193.0  | 119.9 |
| Unclassified Roads                       | 466.6  | 289.9 |
| Total                                    | 1044.7 | 649.1 |

Source: SIC Roads Service

## Lerwick Harbour

| Shipping in Lerwick Harbour |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |
|-----------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
|                             | 1971  | 1981  | 1991  | 2001  | 2011  | 2021  | 2023  | 2024  | 2025  |
| General                     | 316   | 418   | 738   | 796   | 763   | 592   | 622   | 609   | 631   |
| Oil Tankers                 | 51    | 140   | 114   | 105   | 78    | 62    | 67    | 65    | 66    |
| Oil Rig Tenders             | 79    | 1,556 | 888   | 319   | 571   | 240   | 256   | 291   | 287   |
| Other Vessels               | 489   | 430   | 522   | 1,277 | 1,246 | 1,006 | 1,353 | 1,593 | 1,472 |
| Yachts – Cruising           |       | 112   | 366   | 415   | 531   | 144   | 557   | 539   | 542   |
| Yachts – Racing             |       |       |       |       |       | 0     | 41    | 24    | 53    |
| British Fishing*            | 1,440 | 677   | 1,606 | 829   | 630   | 294   | 601   | 740   | 423   |
| Local Fishing               | -     | -     | -     | -     | -     | 1,777 | 1,340 | 1,439 | 1,617 |
| Foreign Fishing             | 1,580 | 246   | 216   | 103   | 207   | 53    | 165   | 542   | 555   |
| Total                       | 3,955 | 3,579 | 4,450 | 3,844 | 4,026 | 4,168 | 5,002 | 5,842 | 5,646 |

\*Excludes local fishing fleet

| Tonnage Handled in Lerwick Harbour |        |         |         |           |         |         |         |         |         |
|------------------------------------|--------|---------|---------|-----------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
|                                    | 1971   | 1981    | 1991    | 2001      | 2011    | 2021    | 2023    | 2024    | 2025    |
| General Cargo Imports              | 45,760 | 200,077 | 226,715 | 409,088   | 453,272 | 441,353 | 421,231 | 396,444 | 423,370 |
| General Cargo Exports              | 48,849 | 57,471  | 98,335  | 325,055   | 327,614 | 382,311 | 401,223 | 443,267 | 421,142 |
| Oil Related Imports                | 342    | 288,999 | 238,684 | 211,681   | 17,903  | 5,962   | 8,346   | 14,921  | 19,021  |
| Oil Related Exports                | 0      | 421,807 | 315,996 | 203,685   | 81,310  | 54,218  | 46,397  | 32,835  | 47,907  |
| Total                              | 94,951 | 968,354 | 879,730 | 1,149,509 | 880,099 | 883,844 | 877,197 | 887,467 | 911,440 |

Weight of containers excluded

| Foreign Fishing Vessels in Lerwick Harbour |       |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
|--------------------------------------------|-------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
|                                            | 1971  | 1981 | 1991 | 2001 | 2011 | 2021 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 |
| Denmark                                    | 374   | 117  | 66   | 23   | 22   | 26   | 7    | 4    | 2    |
| Faroe                                      | 242   | 14   | 19   | 6    | 0    | 0    | 0    | 7    | 4    |
| France                                     | 16    | 13   | 18   | 8    | 9    | 11   | 2    | 7    | 60   |
| Germany                                    | 3     | 1    | 22   | 8    | 1    | 1    | 0    | 0    | 2    |
| Iceland                                    | 215   | 2    | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    |
| Ireland                                    | 0     | 0    | 20   | 20   | 60   | 9    | 7    | 4    | 5    |
| Netherlands                                | 12    | 0    | 7    | 1    | 1    | 0    | 0    | 1    | 6    |
| Norway                                     | 551   | 96   | 50   | 30   | 105  | 4    | 148  | 518  | 476  |
| Russia                                     | 60    | 0    | 1    | 1    | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    |
| Sweden                                     | 100   | 1    | 7    | 5    | 9    | 2    | 1    | 1    | 0    |
| Other*                                     | 7     | 2    | 6    | 1    | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    |
| Total                                      | 1,580 | 246  | 216  | 103  | 207  | 53   | 165  | 542  | 555  |

\*Includes foreign vessels from Bulgaria, Finland, Greenland and Poland

| Lerwick Port Authority Revenue (£000) |       |       |       |       |        |        |        |        |        |
|---------------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 1971                                  | 1981  | 1991  | 2001  | 2011  | 2021   | 2022   | 2023   | 2024   | 2025   |
| 49                                    | 2,100 | 4,576 | 5,762 | 9,064 | 10,008 | 12,016 | 15,387 | 16,760 | 18,548 |

Source: Lerwick Port Authority

## Scalloway Harbour

| Shipping in Scalloway Harbour (No. of Vessels) |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
|------------------------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
|                                                | 1986 | 1991 | 2001 | 2011 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 |
| UK Commercial                                  | 11   | 0    | 61   | 13   | 149  | 127  | 145  | 69   | 81   |
| Foreign Commercial                             | 100  | 103  | 158  | 34   | 240  | 89   | 58   | 63   | 47   |
| Oil-related                                    | 5    | 1    | 37   | 71   | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    |
| UK Fishing                                     | 163  | 207  | 68   | 99   | 73   | 50   | 108  | 65   | 54   |
| Foreign Fishing                                | 17   | 28   | 12   | 20   | 0    | 2    | 3    | 3    | 0    |
| Yachts                                         | 9    | 33   | 1    | 5    | 0    | 2    | 2    | 0    | 2    |
| Salmon Cages                                   | 0    | 0    | 87   | 40   | 50   | 2    | 6    | 12   | 2    |
| SIC Vessels                                    | 0    | 0    | 15   | 6    | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    | 2    |
| Other                                          | 0    | 0    | 46   | 7    | 2    | 12   | 12   | 4    | 6    |
| Total                                          | 305  | 372  | 485  | 295  | 514  | 284  | 334  | 216  | 194  |

| Cargo Handling in Scalloway Harbour (Tonnes) |        |       |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |
|----------------------------------------------|--------|-------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
|                                              | 1986   | 1991  | 2001   | 2011   | 2021   | 2022   | 2023   | 2024   | 2025   |
| Imports                                      | 5,037  | 6,351 | 20,405 | 2,937  | 14,017 | 10,260 | 3,292  | 13,789 | 6,928  |
| Exports                                      | 16,120 | 893   | 25,616 | 19,695 | 8,509  | 9,840  | 16,122 | 6,339  | 5,379  |
| Total                                        | 21,157 | 7,244 | 46,021 | 22,632 | 22,526 | 20,100 | 19,414 | 20,128 | 12,307 |

| Scalloway Harbour Revenue (£) |         |         |         |           |           |           |         |         |
|-------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|-----------|-----------|-----------|---------|---------|
| 1986/87                       | 1991/92 | 2000/01 | 2011/12 | 2020/21   | 2021/22   | 2022/23   | 2023/24 | 2024/25 |
| 160,838                       | 202,598 | 218,086 | 592,325 | 1,093,666 | 1,389,490 | 1,280,813 | 882,288 | 708,519 |

Source: SIC Port Operations

## 6 Housing

### Total Domestic Properties (recorded annually 1<sup>st</sup> April)

| 1976  | 1981  | 1991  | 2001  | 2011   | 2020   | 2021   | 2022   | 2023   | 2024   | 2025   |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 7,287 | 8,612 | 9,156 | 9,877 | 10,674 | 11,366 | 11,432 | 11,492 | 11,567 | 11,672 | 11,687 |

Source: Assessor & Electoral Registration Office, Lerwick

### House Sales

| House Sales – Median Residential Property Price (£) |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |
|-----------------------------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
|                                                     | 2004    | 2011    | 2021    | 2022    | 2023    | 2024    | 2025    |
| Aberdeen City                                       | 75,000  | 155,000 | 160,525 | 150,000 | 140,000 | 145,586 | 140,000 |
| Aberdeenshire                                       | 95,000  | 190,000 | 200,000 | 215,000 | 210,161 | 212,000 | 205,000 |
| Eilean Siar                                         | 55,000  | 87,250  | 126,000 | 137,000 | 150,000 | 147,500 | 150,000 |
| City of Edinburgh                                   | 138,000 | 175,555 | 250,000 | 270,000 | 269,995 | 272,432 | 279,995 |
| Glasgow City                                        | 92,750  | 113,000 | 160,000 | 172,250 | 173,000 | 180,000 | 188,175 |
| Highland                                            | 89,500  | 140,000 | 186,000 | 200,000 | 203,000 | 210,000 | 212,000 |
| Orkney                                              | 63,375  | 110,000 | 171,533 | 195,750 | 185,000 | 192,500 | 190,000 |
| Shetland                                            | 60,000  | 115,025 | 165,000 | 177,500 | 182,250 | 185,000 | 190,000 |
| Scotland                                            | 86,000  | 129,950 | 171,497 | 183,333 | 185,000 | 190,000 | 197,000 |

| Number of House Sales |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
|-----------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
|                       | 2004 | 2011 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 |
| Shetland              | 313  | 302  | 301  | 275  | 230  | 270  | 280  |

Source: Registers for Scotland: [House price statistics - Registers of Scotland \(ros.gov.uk\)](https://ros.gov.uk/)

## Building Completions/Planning Applications

The following tables display information regarding homes that have been constructed (completed) and those that have been granted planning permission, as well as business and Industry planning applications approved.

Note: 2020/21 to 2022/23 figures were affected by the Covid-19 pandemic and subsequent economic conditions.

| House Build Completions |         |    |       |         |    |       |         |    |       |         |    |       |
|-------------------------|---------|----|-------|---------|----|-------|---------|----|-------|---------|----|-------|
|                         | 2011/12 |    |       | 2021/22 |    |       | 2022/23 |    |       | 2023/24 |    |       |
| Building Type           | A       | P  | Total | A       | P  | Total | A       | P  | Total | A       | P  | Total |
| South Mainland          | 0       | 22 | 22    | 12      | 10 | 22    | 0       | 10 | 10    | 0       | 8  | 8     |
| Lerwick & Bressay       | 20      | 6  | 26    | 0       | 3  | 3     | 6       | 1  | 7     | 0       | 6  | 6     |
| Central Mainland        | 0       | 12 | 12    | 0       | 7  | 7     | 0       | 6  | 6     | 40      | 5  | 45    |
| West Mainland           | 10      | 3  | 13    | 0       | 3  | 3     | 0       | 6  | 6     | 6       | 0  | 6     |
| North Mainland          | 2       | 14 | 16    | 0       | 9  | 9     | 0       | 3  | 3     | 2       | 3  | 5     |
| North Isles             | 6       | 10 | 16    | 0       | 3  | 3     | 0       | 5  | 5     | 0       | 2  | 2     |
| Total                   | 38      | 67 | 105   | 12      | 35 | 47    | 6       | 31 | 37    | 48      | 24 | 72    |

A = Affordable housing (constructed by Shetland Islands Council and Hjaltland Housing Association)

P = Private housing (constructed by private sector developers or individual house builders)

| Total Number of Housing Planning Permissions Approved |         |         |         |         |         |         |
|-------------------------------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
|                                                       | 2013/14 | 2019/20 | 2020/21 | 2021/22 | 2022/23 | 2023/24 |
| South Mainland                                        | 45      | 21      | 14      | 21      | 10      | 12      |
| Lerwick & Bressay                                     | 14      | 14      | 7       | 132     | 9       | 7       |
| Central Mainland                                      | 25      | 87      | 6       | 19      | 27      | 5       |
| West Mainland                                         | 6       | 11      | 13      | 2       | 15      | 2       |
| North Mainland                                        | 16      | 20      | 9       | 5       | 14      | 7       |
| North Isles                                           | 6       | 7       | 11      | 5       | 3       | 5       |
| Total                                                 | 112     | 160     | 60      | 184     | 78      | 38      |

| All Business & Industry Planning Applications Approved |         |         |         |         |         |         |
|--------------------------------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
|                                                        | 2013/14 | 2019/20 | 2020/21 | 2021/22 | 2022/23 | 2023/24 |
| Use Class 4 – Business                                 | 8       | 3       | 5       | 1       | 1       | 2       |
| Use Class 5 – General Industry                         | 7       | 4       | 0       | 3       | 2       | 3       |
| Use Class 6 – Storage & Distribution                   | 5       | 3       | 1       | 1       | 0       | 1       |
| Total                                                  | 20      | 10      | 6       | 5       | 3       | 6       |

Source: SIC Planning

## 7 Education

### School Rolls & Staffing

| Local Authority Nursery School Roll |                                                                         |      |      |      |             |      |      |      |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|------|------|-------------|------|------|------|
|                                     | 1981                                                                    | 1991 | 2001 | 2011 | 2021        | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 |
| Aith Junior High                    | 0                                                                       | 0    | 22   | 12   | 26          | 16   | 18   | 19   |
| Baltasound Junior High              | 0                                                                       | 0    | 15   | 14   | 13          | 12   | 10   | 11   |
| Bell's Brae                         | 0                                                                       | 64   | 44   | 49   | 33          | 37   | 36   | 33   |
| Brae High                           | 51                                                                      | 60   | 27   | 20   | 28          | 29   | 32   | 26   |
| Bressay                             | 0                                                                       | 0    | 8    | 4    | Closed 2014 |      |      |      |
| Cunningsburgh                       | -                                                                       | -    | -    | 22   | 21          | 19   | 20   | 25   |
| Dunrossness                         | 0                                                                       | 33   | 25   | 25   | 19          | 29   | 26   | 21   |
| Fair Isle                           | 0                                                                       | 0    | 0    | 1    | 1           | 0    | 0    | 1    |
| Fetlar                              | 0                                                                       | 0    | 1    | 0    | 0           | 0    | 0    | 0    |
| Foula                               | 0                                                                       | 0    | 1    | 1    | 1           | 0    | 1    | 1    |
| Happyhansel                         | 0                                                                       | 0    | 13   | 14   | 9           | 8    | 6    | 5    |
| Lerwick ELC                         | Formed in 2023, with amalgamation of Isles Haven and Lerwick Pre-School |      |      |      |             | 27   | 41   | 34   |
| Lunnasting                          | Opened 2009                                                             |      |      | 9    | 9           | 6    | 10   | 13   |
| Mid Yell                            | 0                                                                       | 0    | 16   | 22   | 8           | 10   | 10   | 10   |
| Mossbank                            | 0                                                                       | 23   | 17   | 12   | 12          | 16   | 14   | 15   |
| Papa Stour                          | 0                                                                       | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0           | 0    | 0    | 0    |
| Sandwick Junior High                | 0                                                                       | 38   | 26   | 24   | 17          | 20   | 17   | 19   |
| Scalloway                           | 0                                                                       | 0    | 18   | 20   | 32          | 26   | 23   | 36   |
| Skeld                               | 0                                                                       | 0    | 7    | 7    | 3           | 2    | 0    | 0    |
| Skerries                            | 0                                                                       | 0    | 1    | 0    | 0           | 0    | 0    | 0    |
| Sound                               | 60                                                                      | 60   | 40   | 38   | 35          | 41   | 37   | 40   |
| Tingwall                            | -                                                                       | -    | -    | -    | 26          | 16   | 15   | 14   |
| Urafirth                            | 0                                                                       | 0    | 8    | 6    | 14          | 4    | 7    | 11   |
| Whalsay Junior High                 | 0                                                                       | 0    | 19   | 12   | 17          | 19   | 16   | 13   |
| Whiteness                           | 0                                                                       | 0    | 17   | 19   | 17          | 16   | 13   | 22   |
| Total                               | 111                                                                     | 278  | 325  | 331  | 364         | 353  | 352  | 369  |

| Primary School Roll    |       |       |             |             |             |             |       |       |      |
|------------------------|-------|-------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------|-------|------|
|                        | 1976  | 1981  | 1991        | 2001        | 2012        | 2021        | 2023  | 2024  | 2025 |
| Aith Junior High       | 63    | 52    | 61          | 90          | 56          | 116         | 102   | 107   | 106  |
| Baltasound Junior High | 100   | 106   | 85          | 54          | 41          | 43          | 51    | 53    | 49   |
| Bell's Brae            | 790   | 501   | 357         | 376         | 308         | 295         | 269   | 254   | 259  |
| Brae High              | 68    | 171   | 139         | 105         | 102         | 153         | 137   | 125   | 120  |
| Bressay                | 38    | 20    | 28          | 42          | 10          | Closed 2014 |       |       |      |
| Burravoe               | 31    | 36    | 32          | 19          | 12          | 10          | 9     | 5     | 7    |
| Cullivoe               | 23    | 24    | 18          | 12          | 24          | 10          | 7     | 10    | 8    |
| Cunningsburgh          | 74    | 77    | 50          | 59          | 82          | 68          | 79    | 79    | 79   |
| Dunrossness            | 152   | 209   | 146         | 138         | 100         | 95          | 85    | 89    | 101  |
| Fair Isle              | 9     | 11    | 8           | 17          | 6           | 2           | 5     | 4     | 3    |
| Fetlar                 | 6     | 15    | 7           | 4           | 4           | 1           | 0     | 0     | 0    |
| Foula                  | 4     | 7     | 4           | 2           | 3           | 4           | 5     | 4     | 4    |
| Gruting                | 11    | 9     | Closed 1984 |             |             |             |       |       |      |
| Hamnavoe               | 65    | 107   | 96          | 63          | 44          | 86          | 74    | 70    | 67   |
| Happyhansel            | 40    | 48    | 57          | 48          | 40          | 37          | 30    | 27    | 21   |
| Haroldswick            | 33    | 21    | 25          | Closed 1997 |             |             |       |       |      |
| Lunnasting             | 22    | 38    | 21          | 31          | 20          | 24          | 33    | 36    | 34   |
| Mid Yell Junior High   | 76    | 65    | 48          | 49          | 46          | 33          | 30    | 32    | 26   |
| Mossbank               | -     | 136   | 70          | 73          | 31          | 42          | 45    | 46    | 43   |
| Nesting                | 14    | 26    | 11          | 29          | 16          | 21          | 16    | 15    | 15   |
| North Roe              | 16    | 23    | 20          | 12          | 7           | 14          | 16    | 16    | 15   |
| Ollaberry              | 12    | 16    | 36          | 22          | 14          | 22          | 18    | 18    | 14   |
| Olnafirth              | 30    | 46    | 31          | 28          | 13          | Closed 2014 |       |       |      |
| Papa Stour             | 0     | 5     | 4           | 2           | 0           | 0           | 0     | 0     | 0    |
| Quarff                 | 19    | 23    | 15          | 12          | Closed 2003 |             |       |       |      |
| Sandness               | 7     | 15    | 13          | 12          | 7           | 18          | 15    | 12    | 8    |
| Sandwick Junior High   | 81    | 96    | 69          | 86          | 97          | 99          | 82    | 84    | 79   |
| Scalloway              | 136   | 150   | 117         | 83          | 104         | 144         | 143   | 146   | 132  |
| Skeld                  | 26    | 36    | 14          | 18          | 23          | 14          | 7     | 0     | 0    |
| Skerries               | 12    | 11    | 9           | 4           | 3           | 0           | 0     | 0     | 0    |
| Sound                  | -     | 292   | 354         | 339         | 308         | 236         | 234   | 217   | 213  |
| Tingwall               | 43    | 52    | 50          | 62          | 68          | 82          | 86    | 72    | 53   |
| Urafirth               | 29    | 37    | 29          | 29          | 12          | 23          | 21    | 21    | 19   |
| Uyeasound              | 27    | 16    | 9           | 17          | Closed 2011 |             |       |       |      |
| Whalsay Junior High    | 149   | 146   | 125         | 98          | 83          | 99          | 94    | 87    | 78   |
| Whiteness              | 56    | 87    | 85          | 89          | 82          | 67          | 65    | 61    | 78   |
| Total                  | 2,262 | 2,730 | 2,243       | 2,124       | 1,766       | 1,858       | 1,758 | 1,690 | 1631 |

| Secondary School Roll* |       |       |       |       |             |             |       |       |      |
|------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------------|-------------|-------|-------|------|
|                        | 1976  | 1981  | 1991  | 2001  | 2011        | 2021        | 2023  | 2024  | 2025 |
| Aith Junior High       | 65    | 61    | 61    | 83    | 102         | 102         | 116   | 117   | 107  |
| Anderson High          | 770   | 915   | 878   | 820   | 899         | 972         | 989   | 1,012 | 978  |
| Baltasound Junior High | 58    | 75    | 33    | 37    | 26          | 29          | 26    | 26    | 29   |
| Brae High              | 68    | 164   | 211   | 265   | 220         | 148         | 164   | 175   | 182  |
| Mid Yell Junior High   | 58    | 48    | 44    | 47    | 37          | 49          | 42    | 38    | 40   |
| Sandwick Junior High   | 87    | 121   | 144   | 173   | 169         | 123         | 82    | 82    | 76   |
| Scalloway Junior High  | 129   | 132   | 179   | 129   | Closed 2011 |             |       |       |      |
| Skerries Junior High   | 6     | 5     | 2     | 7     | 4           | Closed 2014 |       |       |      |
| Whalsay Junior High    | 54    | 62    | 45    | 70    | 57          | 47          | 57    | 60    | 68   |
| Total                  | 1,295 | 1,583 | 1,597 | 1,631 | 1,514       | 1,470       | 1,476 | 1,510 | 1480 |

\*From 2004, figures are taken from the September school roll, prior to that figures were taken from the January school roll

| Local Authority Nursery & School Staffing* |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
|--------------------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
|                                            | 1971 | 1981 | 1991 | 2001 | 2012 | 2021 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 |
| Nursery Teachers                           | **   | **   | **   | 16   | 16   | 8    | 10   | 10   | 10   |
| Primary Teachers                           | 91   | 164  | 140  | 176  | 156  | 160  | 151  | 150  | 149  |
| Secondary Teachers                         | 88   | 142  | 189  | 206  | 176  | 159  | 159  | 156  | 155  |
| Total                                      | 179  | 306  | 329  | 398  | 348  | 327  | 320  | 316  | 314  |

\*Numbers are based on full time equivalent rather than head count, and have been rounded up

\*\* Information not available

Source: Schools, SIC

## Further Education/Modern Apprenticeships

Shetland UHI was founded in August 2021, from the merger of The North Atlantic Fisheries College, Shetland College and Train Shetland. The new college is a partner of the University of Highlands and Islands.

| Number of Students Enrolled |         |         |         |         |         |
|-----------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
|                             | 2019/20 | 2020/21 | 2021/22 | 2022/23 | 2023/24 |
| Full time courses           | 74      | 66      | 64      | 50      | 87      |
| Part time courses*          | 1,596   | 1,600   | 1,968   | 1,820   | 1,598   |
| Total                       | 1,699   | 1,701   | 2,056   | 1,884   | 1,685   |

\*Duration of part time courses range from under 10 hours to up to full time

| Student Outcomes (%) |                        |                 |          |                        |                 |          |
|----------------------|------------------------|-----------------|----------|------------------------|-----------------|----------|
|                      | Full time students     |                 |          | Part time students     |                 |          |
|                      | Completed successfully | Partial success | Withdrew | Completed successfully | Partial success | Withdrew |
| 2019/20              | 77                     | 12.2            | 10.8     | 94.6                   | 2.9             | 2.5      |
| 2020/21              | 63.6                   | 19.7            | 16.7     | 85.3                   | 11.6            | 3.2      |
| 2021/22              | 76.6                   | 14.1            | 9.4      | 90.4                   | 7.2             | 2.3      |
| 2022/23              | 78                     | 10              | 12       | 94.1                   | 4.1             | 1.8      |
| 2023/24              | 82.8                   | 9.2             | 8.0      | 95.5                   | 1.8             | 2.8      |

Source: UHI - [About us - Performance Indicators](#)

| Modern Apprenticeships in Shetland                     |         |         |         |         |         |         |
|--------------------------------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
|                                                        | 2019/20 | 2020/21 | 2021/22 | 2022/23 | 2023/24 | 2024/25 |
| New enrolments (starts)                                | 225     | 178     | 171     | 155     | 182     | 200     |
| Already in training                                    | 371     | 383     | 342     | 357     | 329     | 356     |
| Achievement rate, as a % of all leavers - Shetland     | 91%     | 79%     | 81%     | 81.1%   | 81.3%   | 84.5%   |
| Scottish average achievement rate, as % of all leavers | 77%     | 76%     | 72%     | 72.7%   | 76.0%   | 79.8%   |

Source: Skills Development Scotland - [Modern Apprenticeships statistics - Skills Development Scotland](#)

Shetland Skills Surveys gather information on skills, training and recruitment issues, and identify key areas where local training provision needs to be developed, strengthened or supported. The Shetland Islands Council has carried out two surveys, in 2017 and 2024: [Shetland Skills Survey – Shetland Islands Council](#).

## 8 Health and Social Care

Shetland has one hospital, located in Lerwick, and 10 GP surgeries throughout Shetland. There are also 4 NHS dental clinics in the islands.

### Staffing

| NHS Shetland Staffing       |      |      |      |      |          |       |          |       |          |       |          |       |
|-----------------------------|------|------|------|------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|
|                             | 1986 | 1991 | 2001 | 2011 | Dec 2016 |       | Dec 2021 |       | Dec 2024 |       | Dec 2025 |       |
|                             |      |      |      |      | HC       | WTE   | HC       | WTE   | HC       | WTE   | HC       | WTE   |
| Administrative Services     | 43   | 59   | 73   | 119  | 162      | 131.4 | 237      | 193.9 | 231      | 188.5 | 244      | 201.6 |
| Allied Health Professionals | -    | -    | -    | -    | 44       | 36.7  | 55       | 47.2  | 61       | 49.2  | 59       | 47.4  |
| Medical & Dental            | 36   | 42   | 49   | 24   | 39       | 34.4  | 70       | 51.1  | 76       | 52.2  | 78       | 56.2  |
| Medical & Dental Support    | -    | -    | -    | 55   | 54       | 43    | 53       | 42.7  | 48       | 37.8  | 48       | 38.3  |
| Nursing & Midwifery         | 194  | 251  | 212  | 186  | 238      | 189.7 | 272      | 222.9 | 275      | 224.0 | 284      | 230.2 |
| Support Services            | 139  | 147  | 86   | 131  | 96       | 77.4  | 97       | 76    | 92       | 69.4  | 99       | 76.7  |
| Other Services*             | -    | -    | -    | -    | 44       | 39.8  | 72       | 59.5  | 87       | 78.0  | 82       | 70.6  |
| Total**                     | 412  | 499  | 420  | 515  | 672      | 552.4 | 851      | 693.3 | 870      | 699.1 | 890      | 721.1 |

\*Includes Healthcare Science, Therapeutic Services and Personal & Social Care

\*\*HC totals may not add up as staff can have a job across two job groups, so are counted once in each group but only once in the total

HC = Headcount; WTE = Whole Time Equivalent

Source: [NHS Scotland Workforce Dashboards](#) | [Turas Data Intelligence](#)

| General Practice Staffing - Shetland |                       |          |                    |                     |        |      |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|----------|--------------------|---------------------|--------|------|
|                                      | General Practitioners |          |                    |                     | Nurses |      |
|                                      | HC                    | Est. WTE | HC/10,000 patients | WTE/10,000 patients | HC     | WTE  |
| 2019                                 | 28                    | 25       | 12.4               | 11.1                | 17     | 17   |
| 2023                                 | 26                    | 17.2     | 11.3               | 7.5                 | 40     | 18.0 |
| 2024                                 | 26                    | 10.4     | 11.4               | 4.5                 | 33     | 13.3 |
| 2025                                 | 24                    | 20.3     | 10.2               | 8.6                 | 40     | 28.2 |

| General Practice Staffing - March 2025 |                       |         |                    |                     |                          |                       |        |         |
|----------------------------------------|-----------------------|---------|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|--------|---------|
|                                        | General Practitioners |         |                    |                     |                          |                       | Nurses |         |
|                                        | GP HC                 | GP WTE  | HC/10,000 patients | WTE/10,000 patients | Locum WTE as % of GP WTE | Practices using locum | HC     | WTE     |
| Eilean Siar                            | 30                    | 24.3    | 11.1               | 9                   | 11.1                     | 100%                  | 23     | 17.3    |
| Highland                               | 379                   | 300     | 11.2               | 8.8                 | 7.2                      | 75.6%                 | 199    | 133.5   |
| Orkney                                 | 38                    | 33.6    | 17                 | 15.1                | 3.6                      | 100%                  | 30     | 21.9    |
| Shetland                               | 24                    | 20.3    | 10.2               | 8.6                 | 22.2                     | 100%                  | 40     | 28.2    |
| Scotland                               | 4,582                 | 3,591.5 | 7.6                | 5.9                 | 7.2                      | 87.2%                 | 2,464  | 1,735.7 |

HC = Headcount; WTE = Whole Time Equivalent

Source: [General Practice Workforce Dashboards](#) | [Turas Data Intelligence](#)

## Hospital Activity

| <b>Gilbert Bain Hospital (Board of Treatment - NHS Shetland)</b> |              |               |              |               |               |               |               |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
|                                                                  | 2012/13      | 2019/20       | 2020/21      | 2021/22       | 2022/23       | 2023/24       | 2024/25*      |
| Inpatient Episodes                                               |              |               |              |               |               |               |               |
| Day Cases                                                        | 2,071        | 2,467         | 1,326        | 1,981         | 2,148         | 2,165         | 2,090         |
| Elective Inpatients                                              | 309          | 290           | 194          | 307           | 200           | 186           | 155           |
| Emergency Inpatients                                             | 2,259        | 1,859         | 1,647        | 1,756         | 1,854         | 1,772         | 1,351         |
| Transfers                                                        | 90           | 257           | 310          | 244           | 280           | 281           | 247           |
| <b>All Inpatient Episodes</b>                                    | <b>4,729</b> | <b>4,873</b>  | <b>3,477</b> | <b>4,288</b>  | <b>4,485</b>  | <b>4,404</b>  | <b>3,843</b>  |
| Outpatients                                                      |              |               |              |               |               |               |               |
| <b>All Outpatient attendances</b>                                | <b>--</b>    | <b>12,859</b> | <b>8,918</b> | <b>11,515</b> | <b>10,718</b> | <b>10,801</b> | <b>10,901</b> |

\*Provisional Figures

Source: [Publications and data - Hospital care - Primary and secondary care - Our areas of work - Public Health Scotland](#)

## Social Care

| Services are provided by the SIC Social Care Service, except where stated |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
|                                                                           | 1984/5 | 1990/1 | 2001/2 | 2011/2 | 2021/2 | 2023/4 | 2024/5 |
| Local Authority beds for older people                                     | 44     | 54     | 56     | 130    | 131    | 131    | 131    |
| Voluntary Sector beds for older people*                                   | 56     | 56     | 86     | 16     | 16     | 16     | 16     |
| Day care places for older people**                                        | -      | -      | 26     | 95     | 98     | 98     | 98     |
| Shetland Welfare Trust day care places for older people                   | 25     | 25     | 66     | -      | -      | -      | -      |
| Day care places for adults with learning disabilities                     | -      | -      | -      | -      | 77     | 77     | 77     |
| Supported living for adults with learning disabilities                    | -      | -      | 20     | 32     | 39     | 40     | 40     |
| Places in Children & Young Peoples Residential Services                   | 10     | 10     | 5      | 8      | 12     | 12     | 12     |
| Places for mentally/physically disabled children – respite care           | 0      | 0      | 6      | 6      | 5      | 5      | 5      |
| Meals delivered                                                           | 45,107 | 54,800 | 40,585 | 38,116 | 25,334 | 29,460 | 29,787 |
| Care at home – clients receiving domestic tasks                           | 584    | 576    | 573    | 301    | 261    | 187    | 160    |
| Care at home – clients receiving personal care***                         |        |        |        | 264    | 398    | 290    | 314    |
| Homes connected to community alarm system                                 | 0      | 482    | 731    | 677    | 693    | 674    | 622    |

\*Voluntary sector beds: 16 are provided by Church of Scotland, and the remainder up to 2011/12 were provided by The Shetland Welfare Trust

\*\*The Church of Scotland provide 10 of the day care places for older people

\*\*\*Data from 2011 onwards - Food preparation classed as personal care by Scottish Government

## 9 Recreation

### Leisure Activities

Shetland.org has a range of information on outdoor: [Outdoors and adventure | Shetland.org](#), and indoor: [Leisure and things to do | Shetland.org](#), facilities/activities throughout the isles, as well as heritage sites: [History and heritage | Shetland.org](#).

### Leisure Centre & Swimming Pool Admissions\*

| Facility                      | 2022/3  | 2023/4  | 2024/25 |
|-------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| Clickimin Leisure Complex     | 207,615 | 215,828 | 256,851 |
| North Mainland Leisure Centre | 24,540  | 23,325  | 24,395  |
| Scalloway Pool                | 17,808  | 15,420  | 13,559  |
| South Mainland Pool           | 13,829  | 13,313  | 13,339  |
| Unst Leisure Centre           | 11,757  | 10,807  | 13,242  |
| West Mainland Leisure Centre  | 27,672  | 23,145  | 22,176  |
| Whalsay Leisure Centre        | 20,545  | 21,221  | 17,590  |
| Yell Leisure Centre           | 8,318   | 8,245   | 8,821   |
| Total Admissions              | 332,084 | 331,304 | 369,973 |

\*Admission figures do not include spectators or school PE activity

Source: Shetland Recreational Trust

### Community Halls & Centres

There is a network of community halls and centres located throughout the isles which act as hubs for local communities and are host to a wide range of activities through the year. In addition to the list below, there are also a number of clubs, church halls and other buildings used by local communities.

| Lerwick & Bressay           | West Mainland            | North & Outer Isles       | Central Mainland           |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| Bressay Hall                | Aith Hall                | Fetlar Hall               | Bridge End Hall - Burra    |
| Islesburgh Community Centre | Bixter Hall              | Skerries Hall             | Hamnavoe Hall - Burra      |
| Lerwick Town Hall           | Gruting Community Centre | Baltasound Hall - Unst    | Trondra Hall               |
| North Staney Hill Hall      | Sandness Hall            | Haroldswick Hall - Unst   | Scalloway Hall             |
| Sandveien Community Centre  | Skeld Hall               | Uyeasound Hall - Unst     | Whiteness & Weisdale Hall  |
| Sound Hall                  | Walls Hall               | Isbister Hall - Whalsay   | Tingwall Hall              |
|                             |                          | Symbister Hall - Whalsay  |                            |
| North Mainland              | South Mainland           | Burravoe Hall - Yell      | Outdoor Education Centres  |
| Brae Hall                   | Bigton Hall              | Cullivoe Hall - Yell      | Bridge End - Burra         |
| Eshaness Community Centre   | Boddam Hall              | East Yell Hall - Yell     | Voxter - Brae              |
| Hillswick Hall              | Carnegie Hall            | Mid Yell Hall - Yell      |                            |
| Lunnasting Hall             | Cunningsburgh Hall       | Sellafirth Hall - Yell    | Youth Centres              |
| Mossbank Hall               | Fair Isle Hall           | North Ness Hall - Yell    | Brae                       |
| Muckle Roe Hall             | Gulberwick Hall          | West Sandwick Hall - Yell | Cunningsburgh Village Club |
| North Nesting Hall          | Levenwick Hall           |                           | Livister - Whalsay         |
| North Roe & Lochend Hall    | Quarff Hall              |                           | Sandwick                   |
| Ollaberry Hall              |                          |                           | Scalloway                  |
| South Nesting Hall          |                          |                           | The Hub - Lerwick          |
| Sullom & Gunnister Hall     |                          |                           | Unst                       |
| Voe Hall                    |                          |                           |                            |

Source: Community Planning & Development, SIC

## 10 Services

### Fire Service

There are 14 retained fire stations located in Shetland, 2 multi-pump stations in Lerwick and Brae and 12 single pump stations in Bixter, Bressay, Fair Isle, Fetlar, Hillswick, Sandwick, Scalloway, Sumburgh, Unst, Walls, Whalsay and Yell.

At 31<sup>st</sup> December 2025, Fire Scotland had a core of 8.5 whole-time staff based in Lerwick and 118 on call staff throughout its 14 Shetland stations. As well as crewing, the whole-time staff deliver activities which support Shetland's Local Fire and Rescue plan and contribute to the wider Shetland Community Plan.

| Scottish Fire & Rescue Service - Incidents Attended, Shetland |                                 |         |         |         |         |         |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Incident Type                                                 |                                 | 2019/20 | 2021/22 | 2022/23 | 2023/24 | 2024/25 |
| Fire - Building                                               | Chimney Fire                    | 10      | 5       | 7       | 4       | 5       |
|                                                               | Derelict Building               | 1       | -       | -       | -       | -       |
|                                                               | Dwelling                        | 12      | 14      | 16      | 23      | 22      |
|                                                               | Non Residential                 | 6       | 6       | 2       | 3       | 4       |
|                                                               | Other Residential               | 1       | -       | 2       | 2       | 2       |
| Fire - Outdoor                                                | Grassland, woodland and crops   | 2       | 6       | 4       | 2       | 5       |
|                                                               | Other outdoors (including land) | -       | 4       | 1       | 1       | 4       |
|                                                               | Outdoor equipment and machinery | 4       | 6       | 4       | 2       | 5       |
|                                                               | Outdoor structures              | 3       | 2       | 6       | 2       | 3       |
|                                                               | Refuse                          | 4       | 2       | 2       | 3       | 1       |
| Fire - Vehicle                                                | Aircraft                        | -       | -       | -       | -       | -       |
|                                                               | Boats                           | 1       | 1       | 2       | -       | 1       |
|                                                               | Road Vehicle                    | 3       | 5       | 9       | 9       | 5       |
| Special Service                                               | Animal Assistance               | -       | 1       | 1       | -       | 2       |
|                                                               | Flooding / Water Rescue         | 2       | 2       | 3       | 4       | 3       |
|                                                               | Hazardous Materials             | -       | 1       | 3       | -       | 1       |
|                                                               | Humanitarian                    | 3       | 3       | 2       | 1       | 1       |
|                                                               | Inter-Agency                    | 10      | 4       | 23      | 8       | 18      |
|                                                               | Other Non-Fire                  | 6       | 1       | -       | 13      | 1       |
|                                                               | Securing Scene                  | -       | 2       | 1       | 4       | 1       |
|                                                               | Vehicle                         | 9       | 15      | 10      | 13      | 8       |
| False Alarm                                                   | Due to Apparatus                | 94      | 106     | 97      | 58      | 38      |
|                                                               | Good Intent                     | 31      | 27      | 30      | 52      | 41      |
|                                                               | Malicious                       | 5       | 5       | -       | 2       | 4       |
| Total Incidents - Shetland                                    |                                 | 207     | 218     | 225     | 206     | 175     |

Source: Fire Scotland

## Police Service

There are 3 police stations in Shetland, in Lerwick, Brae and Yell. In 2024/25 there were 180 crimes and 171 offences recorded per 10,000 population, which were the lowest in Scotland.

| Crimes and Offences Recorded by Police Scotland / Detection Rates - Shetland Islands |                                      |         |         |                    |         |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------|---------|--------------------|---------|
| Crime/Offence Group                                                                  | Number of crimes & offences recorded |         |         | Detection Rate (%) |         |
|                                                                                      | 2015/16                              | 2020/21 | 2024/25 | 2020/21            | 2024/25 |
| Group 1                                                                              | 209                                  | 119     | 121     | 98                 | 76      |
| Group 2                                                                              | 35                                   | 58      | 48      | 85                 | 88      |
| Group 3                                                                              | 189                                  | 74      | 69      | 60                 | 49      |
| Group 4                                                                              | 106                                  | 76      | 53      | 62                 | 38      |
| Group 5                                                                              | 270                                  | 172     | 123     | 100                | 83      |
| Group 6                                                                              | 229                                  | 65      | 59      | 99                 | 83      |
| Group 7                                                                              | 24                                   | 25      | 16      | 96                 | 69      |
| Group 8                                                                              | 741                                  | 353     | 318     | Not available      |         |
| Total                                                                                | 1,803                                | 942     | 807     |                    |         |

| Number of Crimes and offences recorded Per 10,000 Population |                 |                   |                 |                   |                 |                   |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
|                                                              | 2015/16         |                   | 2020/21         |                   | 2024/25         |                   |
|                                                              | Crimes (Gp 1-5) | Offences (Gp 6-8) | Crimes (Gp 1-5) | Offences (Gp 6-8) | Crimes (Gp 1-5) | Offences (Gp 6-8) |
| Aberdeen City                                                | 777             | 592               | 641             | 400               | 629             | 309               |
| Aberdeenshire                                                | 315             | 278               | 291             | 226               | 290             | 223               |
| Eilean Siar                                                  | 242             | 342               | 271             | 237               | 220             | 239               |
| Edinburgh                                                    | 786             | 324               | 641             | 255               | 728             | 281               |
| Glasgow                                                      | 887             | 969               | 850             | 504               | 829             | 499               |
| Highland                                                     | 429             | 704               | 399             | 384               | 434             | 356               |
| Orkney                                                       | 213             | 242               | 189             | 185               | 234             | 255               |
| Shetland                                                     | 346             | 425               | 243             | 194               | 180             | 171               |
| Scotland                                                     | 572             | 522               | 554             | 346               | 545             | 321               |

Gp 1 - Non sexual crimes of violence

Gp 4 - Damage and reckless behaviour

Gp 7 - Miscellaneous offences

Gp 2 - Sexual crimes

Gp 5 - Crimes against society

Gp 8 - Road traffic offences

Gp 3 - Crimes of dishonesty

Gp 6 - Antisocial offences

Source: [Supporting documents - Recorded Crime in Scotland, 2024-25 - gov.scot](https://www.gov.scot/publications/recorded-crime-in-scotland-2024-25/pages/2024-25-recorded-crime-in-scotland-2024-25.pdf)

## Water and Wastewater Services

| Water Supplied - Megalitres (1 Megalitre = 1,000,000 litres) |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
|                                                              | 1976  | 1981  | 1991  | 2001  | 2012  | 2021  | 2023  | 2024  | 2025  |
| Total supplied                                               | 2,627 | 4,964 | 4,691 | 4,104 | 3,914 | 4,395 | 4,184 | 4,383 | 4,580 |
| Av daily demand                                              | 7.19  | 13.60 | 12.85 | 11.24 | 10.72 | 12.04 | 11.46 | 12.01 | 12.55 |

| Microbiological Quality at Water Treatment Works |       |       |      |      |      |      |       |
|--------------------------------------------------|-------|-------|------|------|------|------|-------|
|                                                  | 1991  | 2001  | 2012 | 2021 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025  |
| Percentage compliance                            | 97.20 | 99.94 | 100  | 100  | 100  | 100  | 99.90 |

| Networks                   |               | 1999  | 2008  | 2012   | 2022   | 2025   |
|----------------------------|---------------|-------|-------|--------|--------|--------|
| Water connections          | Domestic      | 9,502 | 9,939 | 12,458 | 11,374 | 11,523 |
|                            | Non-domestic  | 1,119 | 1,187 | 1,387  | 1,268  | 1,253  |
| Sewer connections          | Domestic      | 6,701 | 6,938 | 10,841 | 8,204  | 8,318  |
|                            | Non-domestic  | 712   | 761   | 1,301  | 772    | 856    |
| Length of water mains (km) | In-use public | 1,005 | 1,017 | 1,080  | 1,071  | 1,070  |
| Length of sewers (km)      | In-use public | 365   | 372   | 309    | 312    | 313    |

| New (Replacement) Mains | 2020             | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 |
|-------------------------|------------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Water (km)              | 10.1             | 1.3  | 12.4 | 3.8  | 6.8  | 1.1  |
| Sewer (km)              | 4.1 (since 2019) |      |      | 0    | 1.0  | 0.1  |

| Treatment                                       | 1999 | 2002 | 2012 | 2021 | 2025 |
|-------------------------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Wastewater treatment plants (Inc. septic tanks) | 60   | 64   | 80   | 81   | 82   |
| Water treatment works                           | 18   | 18   | 10   | 10   | 10   |

Source: Scottish Water, Lerwick

## Digital Connectivity

To check broadband, 3G and 4G coverage across Shetland, follow the links below.

Broadband coverage: [View broadband availability - Ofcom Checker title](#)

3G and 4G coverage: [View mobile availability - Ofcom Checker](#)

Source: Ofcom

## 11 Energy

### Energy Sources

Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks are the electricity system operator on Shetland. 50% of Shetland's electricity is currently supplied by the diesel-fired Lerwick Power Station, 30% by the gas-fired Sullom Voe Terminal Power Station (SVTPS) and around 20% small independent and community based renewable generators. These renewable sources are mainly from wind power generation but also include a small but important mix of solar, tidal and micro hydro generators.

Note: The contribution by SVTPS excludes energy used within the Sullom Voe Terminal.

Source: Scottish & Southern Electricity Networks: [Shetland Energy - SSEN](#)

Since 1991, residual heat from Lerwick's Energy Recovery Plant has been sold to Shetland Heat Energy and Power for use in the Lerwick District Heating Scheme. The network currently serves around 1,280 properties across Lerwick with heating and hot water. This includes 1,140 homes and 140 commercial and public sector buildings, including the Gilbert Bain Hospital, Clickimin Leisure Complex, schools, libraries, Council offices and a range of local businesses. The district heating network has an installed capacity of approximately 15 MW, supplies around 40,000 MWh of heat each year, and has capacity to accommodate further expansion and additional customers.

Source: Shetland Heat Energy and Power

### Electricity Generation & Distribution

| Electricity Generation - Shetland |                                  |                            |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Year                              | Units generated (Kilowatt hours) | Maximum demand (Megawatts) |
| 1971/2                            | 32,319,000                       | 11.69                      |
| 1981/2                            | 143,539,222                      | 36.0                       |
| 1991/2                            | 170,023,850                      | 41.2                       |
| 2001/2                            | 230,600,000                      | 45.2                       |
| 2012/3                            | 214,185,500                      | 44.7                       |
| 2021/2                            | 185,054,300                      | 38.5                       |
| 2023/4                            | 176,768,700                      | 38.32                      |
| 2024/25                           | 177,379,700                      | 37.4                       |

Note: Units generated figures from 2021/2 onwards are the total of all commercial generation on Shetland, which includes Lerwick Power Station, SVTPS and 5 renewable projects. It does not include energy used within Sullom Voe Terminal or micro generation on private properties around the islands.

| Electricity Distribution (Km) - Shetland |       |       |       |       |       |        |       |       |
|------------------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------|-------|-------|
|                                          | 1971  | 1981  | 1991  | 2001  | 2012  | 2021   | 2024  | 2025  |
| 33,000 Volt overhead lines               | 24.7  | 98.0  | 128.3 | 167.3 | 175.7 | 172.7  | 162.7 | 162.4 |
| 33,000 Volt underground cables           | 0.0   | 3.7   | 11.6  | 10.7  | 12.0  | 23.5   | 33.5  | 33.8  |
| 11,000 Volt overhead lines               | 705.9 | 756.2 | 843.0 | 812.2 | 845.5 | 842.1  | 840.0 | 840.0 |
| 11,000 Volt underground cables           | 15.1  | 65.5  | 99.3  | 110.8 | 120.4 | 128.53 | 135.0 | 136.6 |
| Low Voltage overhead lines               | 340.1 | 345.6 | 324.5 | 227.4 | 227.4 | 226.1  | 226.1 | 226.1 |
| Low Voltage underground cables           | 18.9  | 65.6  | 122.7 | 219.0 | 242.0 | 264.0  | 280.0 | 286.5 |

Source: Scottish & Southern Electricity Networks, Lerwick Power Station

## Energy Consumption

| Electricity Consumption Rates - Shetland |                      |              |       |                         |              |       |                              |              |                   |
|------------------------------------------|----------------------|--------------|-------|-------------------------|--------------|-------|------------------------------|--------------|-------------------|
|                                          | No. of meters (000s) |              |       | Total consumption (GWh) |              |       | Mean consumption (kWh/meter) |              |                   |
|                                          | Domestic             | Non-Domestic | Total | Domestic                | Non-Domestic | Total | Domestic                     | Non-Domestic | Mean - All meters |
| 2005                                     | 16.3                 | 1.8          | 18.1  | 107                     | 102          | 210   | 6,608                        | 55,430       | 11,573            |
| 2011                                     | 17.1                 | 1.8          | 19.0  | 104                     | 93           | 196   | 6,064                        | 50,192       | 10,355            |
| 2021                                     | 16.7                 | 1.9          | 18.6  | 95.3                    | 82.4         | 177.6 | 5,697                        | 44,142       | 9,556             |
| 2024                                     | 16.7                 | 1.8          | 18.5  | 90.8                    | 85.7         | 176.5 | 5,436                        | 46,622       | 9,521             |

| Mean Domestic Consumption (kWh per household) |        |        |       |       | Domestic Electricity Smart Meters Installed |          |          |
|-----------------------------------------------|--------|--------|-------|-------|---------------------------------------------|----------|----------|
|                                               | 2007   | 2011   | 2021  | 2024  |                                             | 2024 (%) | 2025 (%) |
| Eilean Siar                                   | 8,283  | 7,527  | 6,619 | 6,251 | Eilean Siar                                 | 16       | 26       |
| Highland                                      | 7,782  | 6,952  | 5,637 | 5,332 | Highland                                    | 35       | 44       |
| Orkney                                        | 9,515  | 8,591  | 7,585 | 7,297 | Orkney                                      | 12       | 26       |
| Shetland                                      | 11,349 | 10,401 | 9,047 | 8,434 | Shetland                                    | 10       | 18       |
| Scotland                                      | 5,186  | 4,692  | 3,786 | 3,448 | Scotland                                    | 51       | 57       |
| Great Britain                                 | 4,662  | 4,339  | 3,723 | 3,463 | Great Britain                               | 63       | 68       |

Sources: [Regional and local authority electricity consumption statistics - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/regional-and-local-authority-electricity-consumption-statistics)  
[Smart meter statistics - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/smart-meter-statistics) – Q1 reports (March)

| Total Final Energy Consumption* |         |           |         |           |         |           |         |           |
|---------------------------------|---------|-----------|---------|-----------|---------|-----------|---------|-----------|
|                                 | 2005    |           | 2011    |           | 2021    |           | 2023    |           |
|                                 | ktoe    | GWh       | ktoe    | GWh       | ktoe    | GWh       | ktoe    | GWh       |
| Eilean Siar                     | 50.7    | 589.6     | 49.3    | 573.4     | 49.6    | 576.8     | 47.9    | 557.1     |
| Highland                        | 624.2   | 7,259.4   | 631.0   | 7,338.5   | 612.1   | 7,118.7   | 620.7   | 7,218.7   |
| Orkney                          | 47.8    | 555.9     | 40.5    | 471.0     | 40.3    | 468.7     | 39.1    | 454.7     |
| Shetland                        | 64.8    | 753.6     | 52.1    | 605.9     | 46.0    | 535.0     | 46.3    | 538.5     |
| Scotland                        | 15,134  | 176,012   | 13,420  | 156,075   | 12,106  | 140,793   | 11,657  | 135,573   |
| Great Britain                   | 152,852 | 1,777,673 | 131,199 | 1,525,844 | 121,226 | 1,409,856 | 116,413 | 1,353,886 |

\*Estimates produced from combining gas, electricity and transport consumption figures for local authority areas  
ktoe = Thousands of tonnes of oil equivalent      GWh = Gigawatt Hour

Source: [Sub-national total final energy consumption data - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/sub-national-total-final-energy-consumption-data)

| Carbon Dioxide Emissions from Shetland Based Energy Facilities (Tonnes) |             |         |         |         |         |         |         |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
|                                                                         | 2007        | 2011    | 2016    | 2021    | 2022    | 2023    | 2024    |
| Lerwick Energy Recovery Plant                                           | 30,170      | 20,850  | 14,190  | 12,558  | 19,085  | 26,060  | 22,020  |
| Lerwick Power Station                                                   | 80,020      | 79,040  | 79,710  | 72,934  | 59,858  | 71,021  | 74,280  |
| SVT Power Station                                                       | 260,000*    | 267,720 | 211,740 | 180,810 | 167,947 | 163,396 | 158,450 |
| SVT Refinery                                                            | 100,450     | 170,130 | 100,310 | 28,970  | 25,528  | 59,986  | 89,870  |
| Shetland Gas Plant                                                      | Opened 2016 |         | 235,230 | 127,788 | 122,989 | 115,669 | 107,230 |

\*SVT Power Station figure for 2008 as no 2007 data available

Source: SEPA Scottish Pollutant Release Inventory: [Scottish Pollution Release Inventory \(sepa.org.uk\)](https://sepa.org.uk/scottish-pollution-release-inventory)

## Renewable Energy

Shetland has a number of commercial, small independent and community owned renewable systems installed in domestic, public and community buildings - including wind, solar, tidal, hydro, biomass, heat pump and air source.

With the 103 turbine Viking windfarm becoming operational on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2024, the installed capacity of renewables in Shetland rose by 443,000 Megawatts.

| Renewable electricity - Shetland |      |          |            |      |         |            |      |         |            |      |         |            |
|----------------------------------|------|----------|------------|------|---------|------------|------|---------|------------|------|---------|------------|
|                                  | 2014 |          |            | 2021 |         |            | 2023 |         |            | 2024 |         |            |
|                                  | No   | IC (MWh) | Gen. (MWh) | No   | IC (MW) | Gen. (MWh) | No   | IC (MW) | Gen. (MWh) | No   | IC (MW) | Gen. (MWh) |
| Onshore wind                     | 166  | 5.7      | 20,474     | 244  | 13.9    | 35,104     | 247  | 14      | 19,993     | 251  | 457     | 382,468    |
| Photovoltaics                    | 40   | 0.2      | 145        | 103  | 0.6     | 327        | 230  | 1.2     | 956        | 327  | 1.5     | 1,073      |
| Tidal                            | 0    | 0        | 0          | 1    | 0.5     | X          | 2    | 0.5     | X          | 2    | 0.5     | X          |
| Hydro                            | 2    | 0        | 71         | 2    | 0       | X          | 2    | 0       | X          | 2    | 0       | X          |
| Total                            | 208  | 5.9      | 20,690     | 350  | 15      | 35,431     | 481  | 15.7    | 20,949     | 582  | 459     | 383,542    |

No: Number of installations

IC (MW): Installed capacity - Megawatts

GEN (MWh): Electricity Generation - Megawatt hours

X: Some generation, data suppressed

Source: [Regional Renewable Statistics - GOV.UK](#)

## Plug-in Vehicles

| Licensed Plug-in Vehicles Registered in Shetland* | 2009 | 2011 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 |
|---------------------------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Cars - Battery electric                           | 1    | 1    | 33   | 87   | 122  | 145  | 175  |
| Cars - Plug in hybrid                             | 0    | 0    | 34   | 49   | 58   | 77   | 102  |
| Cars - Range extended electric                    | 0    | 0    | 2    | 1    | 0    | 1    | 0    |
| Light Goods Vehicles - Battery electric           | 0    | 1    | 5    | 7    | 17   | 18   | 34   |
| Light Goods Vehicles - Plug in hybrid             | 0    | 0    | 0    | 1    | 1    | 1    | 1    |
| Motorcycles - Battery electric                    | 0    | 1    | 0    | 0    | 1    | 2    | 2    |
| Motorcycles - Plug in hybrid                      | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    |
| Total                                             | 1    | 3    | 74   | 145  | 199  | 244  | 314  |

\* All figures to 31<sup>st</sup> December. Vehicles allocated to a local authority according to the postcode of the registered keeper. This is the keeper's address for privately owned vehicles or the company's registered address for a company owned vehicle. The address does not necessarily reflect where the vehicle is located.

Source: [Vehicle licensing statistics data tables - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#) – Table VEH0142

| Number of Public Electric Vehicle Charge Stations Across Shetland |             |             |             |             |                                 |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|---------------------------------|
| 2020/21                                                           | 2021/22     | 2022/23     | 2023/24     | 2024/25     | 2025/26                         |
| 14 stations                                                       | 16 stations | 21 stations | 26 stations | 33 stations | 35 stations<br>85 charge points |

Source: [EV charging stations in Shetland Islands Area - ChargeFinder](#)

In 2020, Shetland Islands Council set up a Climate change Programme, you can find more about the work being done here: [What are we doing? – Shetland Islands Council](#)

## 12 Conservation

### Built Heritage

Shetland currently has two Historic Marine Protected Area - Out Skerries Historic MPA and the Queen of Sweden wreck off Lerwick. There are also 338 listed buildings, 391 scheduled monuments and 4 designated gardens and landscapes, detailed below.

|                  | Listed Buildings |            |            |       | Scheduled Monuments | Gardens & Landscapes |
|------------------|------------------|------------|------------|-------|---------------------|----------------------|
|                  | Category A       | Category B | Category C | Total |                     |                      |
| Bressay          | 1                | 10         | 3          | 14    | 8                   | 1                    |
| Delting          | 0                | 10         | 4          | 14    | 20                  |                      |
| Dunrossness      | 3                | 17         | 9          | 29    | 68                  |                      |
| Fetlar           | 1                | 2          | 4          | 7     | 13                  | 1                    |
| Lerwick          | 3                | 56         | 47         | 106   | 16                  |                      |
| Lerwick Landward | 0                | 1          | 1          | 2     | -                   |                      |
| Nesting          | 0                | 14         | 8          | 22    | 46                  | 1                    |
| Northmavine      | 0                | 10         | 8          | 18    | 38                  |                      |
| Sandsting        | 1                | 7          | 6          | 14    | 40                  |                      |
| Tingwall         | 2                | 7          | 29         | 38    | 25                  |                      |
| Unst             | 2                | 9          | 11         | 22    | 51                  | 1                    |
| Walls & Sandness | 1                | 12         | 10         | 23    | 52                  |                      |
| Yell             | 1                | 10         | 18         | 29    | 14                  |                      |
| Total            | 15               | 165        | 158        | 338   | 391                 | 4                    |

Source: Historic Environment Scotland [Search \(historicenvironment.scot\)](https://historicenvironment.scot/)

| Sites & Monuments                                                           |     |                  |      |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|------------------|------|
| The current number of records in the Historic Environment Record is: 10,575 |     |                  |      |
| Broch                                                                       | 148 | Longhouse        | 123  |
| Burnt Mound                                                                 | 382 | Military Remains | 1089 |
| Chambered cairn                                                             | 162 | Souterrain       | 31   |
| Fishing Station                                                             | 46  | Wheelhouse       | 20   |

Source: Shetland Islands Council

### Nature Conservation

| Statutory Conservation Sites in Shetland                                                                                                         |                                |                           |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 2 National Nature Reserves (NNR)                                                                                                                 | Hermaness (Seabird colony)     | 980.3ha                   |
|                                                                                                                                                  | Noss (Seabird colony)          | 313.0ha                   |
| 78 Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI):                                                                                                  |                                |                           |
| Geology: 33 sites                                                                                                                                | Marsh & Meadow: 7 sites        | Rare Plants: 9 sites      |
| Geomorphology: 7 sites                                                                                                                           | Limestone Grassland: 1 site    | Seabirds: 18 sites        |
| Montane Habitats: 1 site                                                                                                                         | Sand Dune Flora: 3 sites       | Moorland Birds: 15 sites  |
| Serpentine Vegetation: 4 sites                                                                                                                   | Trees & Woodland: 3 sites      | Wildfowl: 2 sites         |
| Other Heathland: 5 sites                                                                                                                         | Intertidal Habitats: 5 sites   | Cliff Vegetation: 2 sites |
| Peatland: 5 sites                                                                                                                                | Aquatic Flora & Fauna: 8 sites | Mammals: 4 sites          |
| Note: Some sites are notified for more than one feature of interest                                                                              |                                |                           |
| 12 Special Protection Areas, covering 17 of the ornithological SSSIs, have been designated under EC Birds Directive                              |                                |                           |
| 3 Special Protected Areas in Marine Environment and 2 Nature Conservation Marine Protected Areas                                                 |                                |                           |
| A further 12 sites comprising 11 SSSIs and 1 non-SSSI area have been designated as Special Areas of Conservation under the EC Habitats Directive |                                |                           |

Source: NatureScot: <https://sitelink.nature.scot/>

Shetland is also a designated UNESCO Global Geopark: [Geopark Shetland | Shetland.org](https://www.shetland.org/geopark); [Shetland | UNESCO in the UK](https://www.unesco.org/en/geomorphology/shetland)

|                                                                                                                              |      |                                        |      |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|----------------------------------------|------|
| Total area covered by statutory conservation sites is 19,843 Hectares, which represents 13.5% of the total area of Shetland. |      |                                        |      |
| Approximate area coverage:                                                                                                   |      |                                        |      |
| Foula: 2 sites                                                                                                               | 100% | Noss: 2 sites                          | 100% |
| Papa Stour: 1 site                                                                                                           | 79%  | Fetlar: 6 sites                        | 70%  |
| Fair Isle: 1 site                                                                                                            | 66%  | Unst: 15 sites                         | 21%  |
| Mainland & Uninhabited Islands: 43 sites (1 shared with Yell)                                                                | 9%   | Yell: 8 sites (1 shared with Mainland) | 4%   |
| Muckle Roe: 1 site                                                                                                           | 0.1% |                                        |      |

Source: NatureScot

## Wildlife

| Latest Population Estimates for Selected Species* |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                  |                                      |
|---------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Species                                           | Est. Population                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Est. Proportion of UK population | Year of count/Source                 |
| Whimbrel (Tang Whaup)                             | 396 Pairs                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 97%                              | 2021, RSPB                           |
| Red-Necked Phalarope                              | 69 Apparently Breeding Males                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 75%                              | 2021-25 average, RSPB                |
| Red-Throated Diver (Raingoose)                    | 400 Pairs                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 34%                              | 2006, RSPB                           |
| Great Skua (Bonxie) **                            | 1,020 - 1,360 Pairs                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 70%                              | 2020, <a href="#">Seabirds Count</a> |
| Fulmar (Maalie) **                                | 151,790 Pairs                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 43%                              | 2020, <a href="#">Seabirds Count</a> |
| Arctic Skua (Scootie Alan) **                     | 295 Pairs                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 41%                              | 2020, <a href="#">Seabirds Count</a> |
| Black Guillemot (Tystie) **                       | 12,295 Adults                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 31%                              | 2020, <a href="#">Seabirds Count</a> |
| Arctic Tern (Tirrick) **                          | 7,164 Pairs                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 22%                              | 2020, <a href="#">Seabirds Count</a> |
| Shag (Skarf) **                                   | 3,060 Pairs                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 12%                              | 2020, <a href="#">Seabirds Count</a> |
| Gannet (Solan)**                                  | 34,900 - 36,600 Pairs                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 12%                              | 2020, <a href="#">Seabirds Count</a> |
| Puffin (Tammie Norrie) **                         | 30,334 Pairs                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 10%                              | 2020, <a href="#">Seabirds Count</a> |
| Common Seal (Selkie)                              | 3,200 Adults                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 8%                               | 2019, NatureScot                     |
| Grey Seal (Selkie)                                | 3,000 – 3,500 Adults                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 2%                               | 2019, NatureScot                     |
| Otter (Dratsie)                                   | <i>Shetland is recognised as supporting exceptionally high densities of European otter, with coastal surveys indicating some of the highest densities Europe. However, a Shetland wide survey has not been carried out in many years, and so an est. population figure cannot be provided.</i> |                                  |                                      |

\*Figures based on the latest breeding estimates available and are estimates of the proportion of UK population.

\*\*Recent events such as Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (Bird Flu) may have negatively impacted seabird figures, especially Great Skua and Gannet populations.

## 13 Politics & Local Government

### 2024 General Election Results in the Orkney and Shetland UK Parliamentary Constituency

Percentage Turnout: 60.74%

Candidate Elected: Alistair Carmichael (Scottish Liberal Democrats)

Source: [UK Parliamentary Election - 4 July 2024 – Shetland Islands Council](#)

### 2021 Scottish Parliamentary Election Results in the Shetland Constituency

Percentage Turnout: 66.0%

Candidate Elected: Beatrice Wishart (Scottish Liberal Democrats)

Source: [Scottish Parliamentary Election 2021 – Shetland Islands Council](#)

### Shetland Islands Council Members/Wards 2022-2027

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Ward 1 - North Isles                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Ward 5 - Lerwick North & Bressay                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Turnout: Uncontested seat<br>Candidates Elected:<br>Duncan Simpson<br>Ryan James Andrew Thomson<br><br>By-election to fill vacant North Isles seat 04/08/2022:<br>Turnout: 46.2%<br>Candidate Elected: Robert William Thomson              | Turnout: 39.0%<br>Candidates Elected:<br>Stephen Leask<br>Gary Robinson<br>Arwed Wenger                                                                                                                             |
| Ward 2 - Shetland North                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Ward 6 - Lerwick South                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Turnout: Uncontested seat<br>Candidates Elected:<br>Emma Louise MacDonald<br>Andrea Isabel Manson<br>Tom Morton – Resigned 31/10/24<br><br>By-election to fill vacant seat 24/01/2025:<br>Turnout: 39.6%<br>Candidate Elected: Andrew Hall | Turnout: 44.8%<br>Candidates Elected:<br>John Finlay Sinclair Fraser<br>Dennis Leask<br>Neil Pearson<br>Cecil Laing Smith                                                                                           |
| Ward 3 - Shetland West                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Ward 7 - Shetland South                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Turnout: 56.5%<br>Candidates Elected:<br>Liz Boxwell<br>John Robert Leask – Resigned 29/08/2022<br><br>By-election to fill vacant seat 17/11/2022:<br>Turnout: 37%<br>Candidate Elected: Mark Robinson                                     | Turnout: 55.4%<br>Candidates Elected:<br>Alex Armitage<br>Allison Duncan<br>Robbie McGregor<br>Bryan Peterson                                                                                                       |
| Ward 4 - Shetland Central                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Turnout: 44.9%<br>Candidates Elected:<br>Catherine Hughson<br>Moraig Lyall<br>Davie Sandison<br>Ian Scott                                                                                                                                  | Further information on all elected members:<br><a href="#">Councillors – Shetland Islands Council</a><br><br>Maps detailing electoral wards:<br><a href="#">SIC Ward Maps [May 2022] – Shetland Islands Council</a> |

Source: [Local Council Elections 2022 – Shetland Islands Council](#)

### Shetland Islands Council Structure/Departments

Management Structure: [About Your Council – Shetland Islands Council](#)

Contact information: [Contact us – Shetland Islands Council](#)

## Community Councils

There are 18 community councils in Shetland, with a total of 163 seats. The most recent elections took place in November 2025, with no seats contested and 71% of seats filled.

| Shetland Community Council Seats as at 20 <sup>th</sup> November 2025 |             |        |           |                                |             |        |           |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|--------|-----------|--------------------------------|-------------|--------|-----------|
| Community Council                                                     | Total seats | Quorum | Vacancies | Community Council              | Total seats | Quorum | Vacancies |
| Bressay                                                               | 8           | 3      | 2         | Sandness & Walls               | 10          | 4      | 5         |
| Burra & Trondra                                                       | 8           | 3      | 1         | Sandsting & Aithsting          | 8           | 3      | 2         |
| Delting                                                               | 12          | 4      | 4         | Sandwick                       | 8           | 3      | 2         |
| Dunrossness                                                           | 12          | 4      | 5         | Scalloway                      | 9           | 3      | 3         |
| Fetlar                                                                | 6           | 3      | 1         | Skerries                       | 5           | 3      | 0         |
| Gulberwick, Quarff & Cunningsburgh                                    | 10          | 4      | 3         | Tingwall, Whiteness & Weisdale | 9           | 3      | 1         |
| Lerwick                                                               | 16          | 6      | 6         | Unst                           | 9           | 3      | 3         |
| Nesting & Lunnasting                                                  | 8           | 3      | 2         | Whalsay                        | 7           | 3      | 3         |
| Northmavine                                                           | 9           | 3      | 2         | Yell                           | 9           | 3      | 3         |

Source: [notice-of-uncontested-elections-2025](#)

## Shetland Islands Council Finance

| <b>Shetland Islands Council Service and General Fund Expenditure:</b> | <b>2020/21<br/>£'000</b> | <b>2021/22<br/>£'000</b> | <b>2022/23<br/>£'000</b> | <b>2023/24<br/>£'000</b> | <b>2024/25<br/>£'000</b> |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Corporate & Executive Services                                        | 12,189                   | 13,601                   | 14,389                   | 14,145                   | 13,169                   |
| Development Services                                                  | 11,909                   | 12,188                   | 16,646                   | 19,821                   | 18,454                   |
| Children's Services                                                   | 45,779                   | 48,735                   | 57,014                   | 59,936                   | 63,337                   |
| Community Health & Social Care                                        | 21,960                   | 21,648                   | 27,494                   | 32,306                   | 37,331                   |
| Infrastructure Services                                               | 25,252                   | 22,134                   | 33,846                   | 37,523                   | 37,781                   |
| <b>Total Services Net Expenditure</b>                                 | <b>117,089</b>           | <b>118,306</b>           | <b>149,389</b>           | <b>163,731</b>           | <b>170,072</b>           |
| Cost Pressures & Contingency                                          | 0                        | (2)                      | 24                       | (3)                      | 1                        |
| Covid-19                                                              | 2,039                    | 3,544                    | 914                      | 0                        | 0                        |
| Crown Estate Unallocated                                              | (1,360)                  | (1,572)                  | (1,608)                  | 0                        | (3,540)                  |
| Economic Development Investment Income (net)                          | (910)                    | (1,139)                  | (864)                    | (1,143)                  | (1,039)                  |
| Financing Costs                                                       | 1,354                    | 1,352                    | 1,375                    | 1,446                    | 1,412                    |
| Fund Manager Fees                                                     | 1,142                    | 1,596                    | 1,503                    | 1,212                    | 1,979                    |
| Interest in Revenue Balances                                          | (4)                      | (14)                     | (299)                    | (428)                    | (752)                    |
| Other Unallocated Funds                                               | 0                        | (125)                    | 0                        | 0                        | 0                        |
| Recharges to Other Funds                                              | (3,459)                  | (3,854)                  | (4,090)                  | (3,564)                  | (5,033)                  |
| Valuation Joint Board                                                 | 0                        | 0                        | 0                        | 526                      | 483                      |
| <b>Total Net General Fund Expenditure</b>                             | <b>115,891</b>           | <b>118,092</b>           | <b>146,344</b>           | <b>161,777</b>           | <b>163,583</b>           |
| <b>Financed by:</b>                                                   | <b>2020/21<br/>£'000</b> | <b>2021/22<br/>£'000</b> | <b>2022/23<br/>£'000</b> | <b>2023/24<br/>£'000</b> | <b>2024/25<br/>£'000</b> |
| Grant Funding (incl. Specific grants)                                 | (73,776)                 | (61,795)                 | (68,227)                 | (88,273)                 | (51,144)                 |
| NNDR                                                                  | (17,182)                 | (26,690)                 | (35,155)                 | (24,302)                 | (65,947)                 |
| Council Tax                                                           | (10,106)                 | (10,285)                 | (10,254)                 | (10,914)                 | (11,328)                 |
| Draws on Reserves (Sustainable)                                       | (14,562)                 | (20,725)                 | (28,803)                 | (29,036)                 | (22,935)                 |
| Draws on Reserves (Unsustainable)                                     | 0                        | 0                        | (4,135)                  | (12,433)                 | (17,284)                 |
| Other Specific Reserves                                               | (265)                    | 1,403                    | 230                      | 3,181                    | 5,055                    |
| <b>Total Funding</b>                                                  | <b>(115,891)</b>         | <b>(118,092)</b>         | <b>(146,344)</b>         | <b>(161,777)</b>         | <b>(163,583)</b>         |

Source: SIC Finance

Note: Information has been extracted from Draft Outturn report presented annually to SIC Committee

Details of SIC Council Tax charges and bands: [Council Tax – Shetland Islands Council](#)

## 14 The Shetland Partnership

The [Shetland Partnership](#) is made up of a wide range of partners and community bodies who work together to develop and deliver Shetland's Partnership Plan, which identifies a shared vision and priorities for everyone to work towards to improve the lives of everyone in Shetland.

The Shetland Partnership's shared vision is:

"Shetland is a place where everyone is able to thrive; living well in strong, resilient communities; and where people and communities are able to help plan and deliver solutions to future challenge"

A range of data is gathered in relation to this plan, which can be found online:

|                                                     |                                                             |
|-----------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| Shetland Partnership Plan annual reports            | <a href="#">Annual Reports – Shetland Partnership</a>       |
| Shetland Partnership Plan Latest data on indicators | <a href="#">Indicators – Shetland Partnership</a>           |
| Shetland Partnership Locality Profiles              | <a href="#">Locality Profiles – Shetland Partnership</a>    |
| NHS Shetland Population Health Survey (Nov21-Aug22) | <a href="#">Population Health Survey – Healthy Shetland</a> |