

### Geography of Scotland

Scotland is one of the four countries that make up the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. It is bordered by the North Atlantic Ocean to the west, the North Sea to the east and England and the Irish Sea to the south.

### Historical background<sup>i</sup>

One of the first significant periods of migration from Scotland to Australia was in the 1830s. Most of the Scots who immigrated during the nineteenth century were from overcrowded industrial cities in central Scotland and Lowland agricultural areas. Many who migrated to South Australia at this time became prominent pastoral pioneers, with key pastoral settlement areas Strathalbyn, Mount Barker, Naracoorte and Penola.

In the 1850s, approximately 6,300 Scottish people settled in South Australia, migrating in response to worsening conditions in Scotland; problems caused by Highland clearances were compounded by an increasing population and by the famine that resulted from failed potato crops during the 1840s. Low wages and the decline of Scotland's coal industry maintained the flow of Scottish immigrants to Australia until the Australian economic depression of the 1890s.

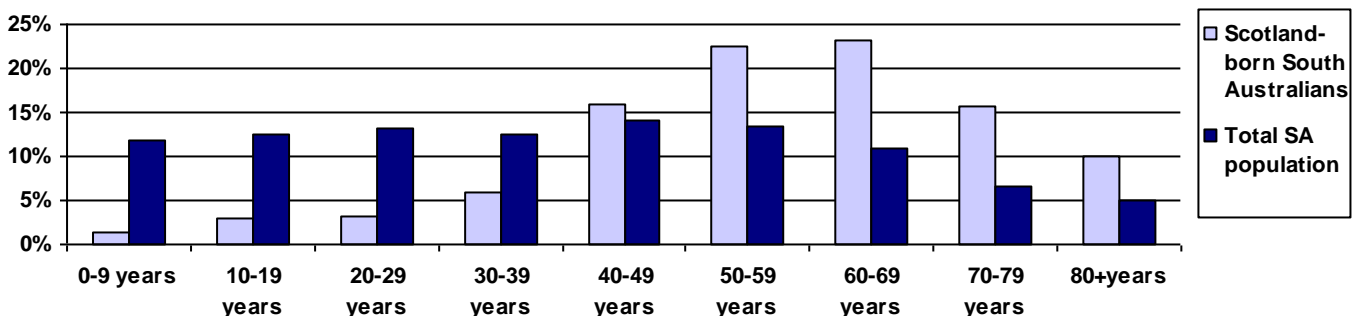
The number of Scottish immigrants to South Australia declined during the early 20<sup>th</sup> Century. Then, between World War II and the mid-1960s, approximately 15,000 Scots migrated to South Australia. Many settled in Whyalla, Elizabeth, Salisbury, Christies Beach and Noarlunga. In 1966 there were 17,566 Scottish South Australians. Although migration peaked in the 1960s, it has continued since this time.

### The Scottish population in South Australia<sup>ii</sup>

At the 2011 Australian Census, 13,902 people who were born in Scotland were living in South Australia, fewer than in 2006 when there were 14,291 Scottish South Australians. In 2011, 128,047 South Australians (8.0%) reported having Scottish ancestry.

This community represents 0.9% of the South Australian population, and 3.9% of overseas-born South Australians. As shown in Figure 1, the Scottish South Australian population is older than the total South Australian population.

Figure 1: Age distribution (%) of South Australians born in Scotland and the total South Australian population, 2011

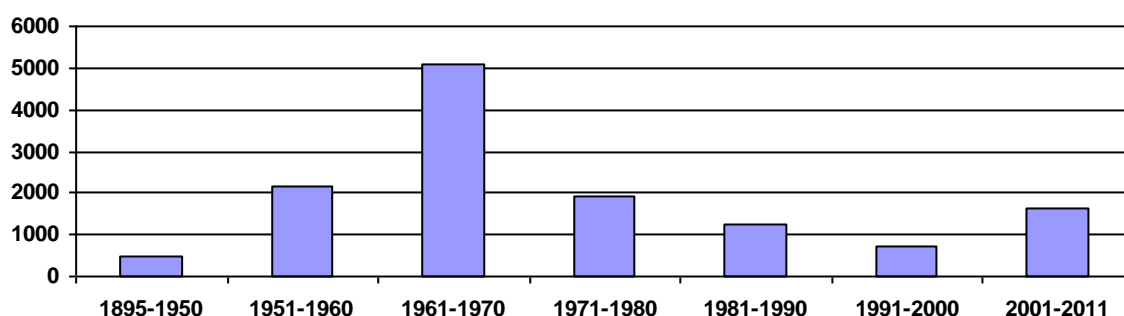


(Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics (2011) Census of Population and Housing. Accessible at <http://www.abs.gov.au/census>)

## Year of migration<sup>ii</sup>

Figure 2 shows the year in which Scottish South Australians migrated to Australia. Among those born in Scotland and living in South Australia in 2011, migration peaked in the 1960s.

Figure 2: Year of migration to Australia, among Scotland-born people and living in South Australia in 2011



(Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics (2011) Census of Population and Housing. Accessible at <http://www.abs.gov.au/census>)

## Languages<sup>ii</sup>

Of South Australians born in Scotland, 98.1% reported that English was the main language they spoke at home. The remaining people reported speaking a breadth of 20 different languages other than English at home, some of which were French (15 people), Greek (14 people) and Italian (12 people). Of 187 Scottish people who reported speaking a language other than English, 82.9% reported that they were able to speak English 'well' or 'very well', and 15.5% reported that they spoke English 'not well' or 'not at all'.

## Religions<sup>ii</sup>

As shown in Table 1, 64.3% of Scottish South Australians reported being affiliated with Christianity, followed by 27.5% who reported having no religious affiliation. Among Christians in this population, common denominations were Presbyterian and reformed (36.8%), Catholicism (24.8%), Anglicanism (13.0%) and members of the Uniting Church (12.6%).

Table 1: Religious affiliations of South Australians born in Scotland, 2011

Religion	Number	%
Christianity	8,944	64.3%
No religion	3,818	27.5%
Other religions	240	1.7%
Not stated	900	6.5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>13,902</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

(Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics (2011) Census of Population and Housing. Accessible at <http://www.abs.gov.au/census>)

## Employment<sup>ii</sup>

At the 2011 Australian Census, 47.8% of Scottish South Australians aged 15 years and over reported being employed and 47.4% reported that they were looking for work or not in the labour force.

Of Scottish South Australians who were employed, the most common industry in which to be employed was health care and social assistance (18.3%), followed by manufacturing (12.9%), public administration and safety (9.3%), retail (8.6%), construction (8.1%) and education and training (8.0%). The most common occupations were professionals (21.5%), clerical and administrative workers (16.6%) and technicians and trade workers (15.0%).

## Studying in South Australia<sup>iii</sup>

Overseas student data is available for the United Kingdom only, and not specifically for Scotland. In 2012 there were 177 new United Kingdom student enrolments at institutions across South Australia and a total of 346 United Kingdom student enrolments in South Australia in total (new and continuing enrolments). The majority of these were Vocational Education and Training (VET) enrolments.

## Place of residence<sup>ii</sup>

As shown in Table 2, the majority of Scottish South Australians live in metropolitan areas, particularly in Adelaide's northern and southern suburbs.

Table 2: Areas of residence of Scottish South Australians, 2011

Adelaide - Central and Hills	1,754	12.6%
Adelaide - North	4,133	29.7%
Adelaide - South	4,014	28.9%
Adelaide - West	1,571	11.3%
Barossa - Yorke - Mid North	574	4.1%
South Australia - Outback	851	6.1%
South Australia - South East	971	7.0%
No Usual Address (SA)	34	0.2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>13,902</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

(Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics (2011) *Census of Population and Housing*. Accessible at <http://www.abs.gov.au/census>)

Areas where more than 200 Scottish people live include Craigmare/Blakeview, Elizabeth East, Salisbury East and Modbury Heights, all in Adelaide's northern suburbs, and Glenelg, Hallett Cove, Christies Beach and Seaford, in Adelaide's southern suburbs. Regionally, there is a large population of Scottish people living in Whyalla, where 658 Scottish people (4.7% of Scottish South Australians) comprising 3% of the area's population.

## Special holidays and events

Traditional cultural heritage is displayed with the celebrations of the birth date of Scotland's Bard, Robert Burns, on January 25 1759. Each year, on this day, a march led by a pipe band, leaves the Torrens Parade Grounds and proceeds via King William Street to the statue of Robert Burns on North Terrace where ceremonial ritual is performed followed by a *ceiliidh* (Gaelic social gathering).

Celtic Halloween celebrates the ancient Celtic festival of *Samhiunn*, traditionally held on the old New Year's Eve, to give thanks for the safe return of the cattle and to ask for the renewal of the food supply in the coming year. Today the celebration is held on a day as near as possible to 31 October and takes the form of children dressing up to ward off evil spirits.

The first celebration honouring the Patron Saint of Scotland, St. Andrew, was held in South Australia on 30 November 1838. A church service to mark the anniversary is held, as is a dinner with speeches and toasts. At the dinner a ceremonial haggis is piped in, and entertainment includes Highland dancing and pipers.

*Hogmanay* is a truly Scottish custom of the farewell to the old year and a happy welcome to the New Year. Entertainment, dancing, pipers and bands feature, until at midnight Robert Burns' *For Auld Lang Syne* is sung with dance steps and the joining of hands in friendship.

## Community organisations and clubs<sup>iv</sup>

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There are two generalist groups for Scottish South Australians:

- Scottish Associations of South Australia
- The Clan MacLeod Society of South Australia

In addition there are several specialist Scottish groups including; three pipes and drums and bands, one radio, one highland dancing group and regional clubs in Mount Barker and Port Adelaide.

## References

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<sup>i</sup> South Australian Migration Museum (2006) *From Many Places: The History and Cultural Traditions of South Australian People*. (CD-Rom).

<sup>ii</sup> Australian Bureau of Statistics (2011) *Census of Population and Housing*. Accessible at <http://www.abs.gov.au/census>

<sup>iii</sup> Australian Education International (2013) *International Student Data 2012: 2012 Pivot Tables*. Accessible at <https://aei.gov.au/research/International-Student-Data/Pages/InternationalStudentData2012.aspx#3>

<sup>iv</sup> Details of South Australian community organisations were informed by Multicultural SA's Contacts Database of cultural organisations and clubs throughout South Australia.