



Stornoway, Isle of Lewis

## Outer Hebrides Facts

### *Fiosrachadh mu Innse Gall*

**April 2012**

More than 100 islands and 97 named beaches spread throughout the chain...

The islands of St Kilda are the only world heritage site in the UK to have dual status of both natural & cultural significance ...

0.02 million increase in visitor numbers from 2009 to 2010

Increase in households and dwellings

**More facts available under the following topics:**

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Sports Festival Event

## Population/Àireamh-sluaigh

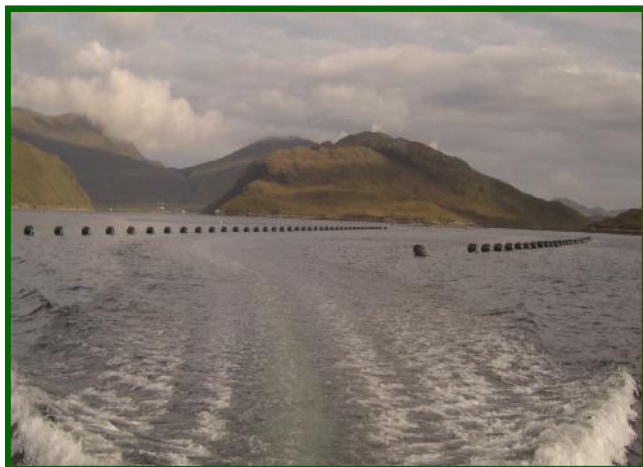
Population By:	Census Results				
	1861	1901	1981	1991	2001
Outer Hebrides	36,319	46,172	30,702	29,600	26,502
Births	-	-	378	326	222
Deaths	-	-	498	432	340
Net Migration	-	-	62	-304	-162
Age Group (%)	-	-	-	-	-
0-4 yrs	-	-	7	6	5
5-19 yrs	-	-	25	21	18
20-44 yrs	-	-	29	32	30
45-64 yrs	-	-	21	22	27
65-84 yrs	-	-	17	16	17
Aged 85+	-	-	1	2	3
Island Areas	-	-	-	-	-
Lewis	-	-	20,720	20,159	18,489
Harris	-	-	2,489	2,222	1,984
North Uist	-	-	1,803	1,815	1,657
Benbecula	-	-	1,887	1,803	1,249
South Uist	-	-	2,432	2,285	1,951
Barra & Vatersay	-	-	1,371	1,316	1,172

Source: National Records of Scotland : [www.gro-scotland.gov.uk](http://www.gro-scotland.gov.uk) Note: Figures may not exactly add due to rounding.

Population By:	Mid Year Estimates					Projections	
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2020	2035
Outer Hebrides	26,350	26,300	26,200	26,180	26,190	25,600	23,200
Births	245	279	250	252	217	195	124
Deaths*	375	368	349	333	372	354	384
Net Migration	110	39	-1	61	165	50	50
Age Group (%)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
0-4 yrs	5	5	5	5	5	4	3
5-19 yrs	17	17	17	17	17	15	13
20-44 yrs	28	28	28	27	27	23	19
45-64 yrs	29	29	29	30	30	31	27
65-84 yrs	18	18	18	19	19	23	30
Aged 85+	2	2	3	3	3	4	7
Island Areas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lewis	18,565	18,579	18,554	18,557	18,619	-	-
Harris	1,953	1,921	1,884	1,882	1,881	-	-
North Uist	1,551	1,548	1,542	1,548	1,556	-	-
Benbecula	1,237	1,223	1,189	1,159	1,152	-	-
South Uist	1,892	1,865	1,883	1,875	1,844	-	-
Barra & Vatersay	1,152	1,164	1,148	1,159	1,138	-	-

Source: National Records of Scotland [www.gro-scotland.gov.uk](http://www.gro-scotland.gov.uk) Note: Figures may not exactly add due to rounding.

\* not published during the projection process as adjustments are occasionally made to the deaths figures so that the national population totals can be met for each year of the projection period.



Loch Seaforth Mussel Lines, Isle of Lewis



Reef, Uig, Isle of Lewis

### Economy/Eaconamaidh Outer Hebrides GDP/GRDP, 2003

Region	Source	Year of Data	GRDP/GRVA (£m)	GRDP/GRVA per head £	GDP/GRDP per head indices (UK=100)
Outer Hebrides	2003 Regional SAM	2003	263	10,078	66
Scotland	ONS, 2004	2003	77,929	15,409	96
UK	ONS, 2004	2003	976,148	16,383	100

### Sectoral Contributions to the Outer Hebrides Economy, 2003

Sector	% employment		% value added	
	1997	2003	1997	2003
Agriculture, fishing and fish farming	16.8	8.0	12.5	9.0
Electricity, gas, water	1.2	1.1	1.0	0.7
Extraction (of ores, etc)	1.3	1.2	1.8	1.1
Textiles, pottery and jewellery	4.7	3.5	1.8	1.5
Food and fish processing	2.9	2.9	3.6	4.8
Other manufacturing	3.4	3.4	2.0	1.8
Construction	8.9	11.9	8.2	7.1
Distribution	11.6	11.0	11.7	12.5
Hotels and Catering	6.5	5.1	3.7	4.4
Transport	3.6	6.7	7.4	10.8
Banking and insurance	1.8	1.4	1.6	1.3
Private services	9.1	14.6	8.9	11.5
Public services	28.2	29.1	35.8	29.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Total (Real Terms)</b>	<b>9777 FTE*</b>	<b>9908 FTE*</b>	<b>£221,024,000</b>	<b>£263,127,000</b>

Note: Figures may not exactly add to totals due to rounding \*FTE = Full Time Equivalent Jobs  
Source: Western Isles Regional Accounts 1997 and 2003 [www.cne-siar.gov.uk](http://www.cne-siar.gov.uk)



Barra Ferry



Craigston, Barra

## Commerce and Transport/Malairt agus Còmhdail

### Commerce

Indicator	Outer Hebrides	Scotland
Business Start Ups, 2010 per 1,000 of the population <sup>1</sup>	2.5	3.0
Residents estimated spend on imported goods, 2003 <sup>2</sup>	£100.10m	-
Variance in price of goods & services to urban areas, 2001-03 <sup>3</sup>	3.70%	-
Tourism— visits to Outer Hebrides in 2010 <sup>4</sup>	0.1 million	-
Economic migrant national insurance no. applications 2005-11 <sup>5</sup>	480	269,800
Average house price December 2011 <sup>6</sup>	£112,389	£154,854

Source:<sup>1</sup>Committee of Scottish Clearing Bankers using GROS 2009 estimates <sup>2</sup>2003 Regional Accounts <sup>3</sup> 2003 Rural Price Survey <sup>4</sup>Visit Scotland Regional Statistics <sup>5</sup>Workers Registration Scheme <sup>6</sup>Registers of Scotland

### Aircraft Movements

Airport (Daily inter-island connections)	Total Flights <sup>^</sup>			Passengers <sup>*</sup>			Number of Direct Daily Flights to: (summer week day—mainland connections)			
	2000	2005	2010	2000	2005	2010	Glasgow	Inverness	Edinburgh	Aberdeen
Barra	1,349	1,323	1,252	8,000	9,000	10,000	1	-	-	-
Benbecula	4,257	4,466	4,402	34,000	31,000	30,000	2	-	-	-
Stornoway	8,115	7,943	10,952	88,000	115,000	112,000	4	5	2	1

Source: Scottish Transport Statistics No. 30 2011 Edition (<sup>^</sup>Total flights include both commercial and non commercial)

### Ferry Transport

Route	2000	2005	2010
Oban-Castlebay/Lochboisdale	Thousand		
passengers	45.7	43.3	58.2
cars	11.9	12.6	18.0
commercial & bus	2.3	1.0	1.3
Uig-Tarbert/Lochmaddy			
passengers	127.9	159.4	181.8
cars	37.9	53.0	67.9
commercial & bus	7.1	7.6	7.7
Ullapool-Stornoway			
passengers	172.5	183.2	227.7
cars	35.7	46.9	67.6
commercial & bus	13.0	12.5	14.1
Otternish/Berneray-Leverburgh <sup>*</sup>			
passengers	40.1	52.2	58.0
cars	12.6	19.2	23.7
commercial & bus	2.0	1.6	1.9

Source: Scottish Transport Statistics No: 30, 2011 Edition

<sup>\*</sup>Note: Berneray-Leverburgh replaced the Otternish-Leverburgh service and started in 2002 (Figures in '000's)





Stornoway Outdoor Market



Repairing Lews Castle walls

## Labour Market/Margaidh Obrach

### Labour Market Summary Tables

Indicator		Outer Hebrides	Scotland
Model based unemployment rate*	2010	6.7%	7.7%
	2009	6.2%	7.0%
	2008	4.4%	4.9%
	2007	4.2%	4.7%
	2006	5.5%	5.2%
All people aged 16-64 (2010)	Number of persons	16,100	-
	% of total population	61.4%	65.7%
	% of total female population	59%	64.7%
	% of total male population	63.8%	66.7%
Qualifications#			
% popn. 2009 with qualification NVQ4 and above		35.4%	33.9%
No qualifications		10.4%	13.3%
Benefits			
Employment Support Allowance & Incapacity Benefit May 2011 % of popn 16-64 yrs)		6.9%	8.1%
Total population income deprived 2009/10		15	16
Economically active 2010/11 (all persons)*		68.9%	77%
Economically inactive 2010/11 (all persons)*		31.1%	23%
Median gross weekly pay for all employees 2011 (full time)		£446.60	£488.80

Sources: National Statistics [www.nomisweb.co.uk](http://www.nomisweb.co.uk) and [www.sns.gov.uk](http://www.sns.gov.uk) and [www.statistics.gov.uk](http://www.statistics.gov.uk)

\*Rates cover those aged 16 and over # aged 16 to 64^

### Percentage of Daytime Residents by "Daytime" Location, 2001

Island Group	On the island group which they live in	On a different island group	On the Scottish Mainland, or an offshore installation or outwith Scotland
Barra	90.7	3.6	5.7
Benbecula	88.3	9.0	2.6
Berneray	72.1	24.3	3.7
Eriskay	85.7	13.5	0.8
Great Bernera	76.0	21.0	3.0
Grimsay (North)	51.7	44.3	4.0
Lewis & Harris	95.9	1.0	3.1
North Uist	74.4	22.9	2.7
Scalpay (Harris)	85.1	13.0	1.9
South Uist	72.7	23.8	3.5

Source: 2001 Scottish Census Results [www.scot.gov.uk](http://www.scot.gov.uk)

Note: A residents 'daytime' location is where they travel to for their place of work / or study. People who do not work or study are classed as having their daytime location at home.

Note: There are causeways / bridges linking: Barra to Vatersay; South Uist to Eriskay; Benbecula to Grimsay and North Uist; North Uist to Berneray; Scalpay to Harris; Lewis to Bernera



Stornoway, Isle of Lewis

### Households/Taighean Households in the Outer Hebrides

Outer Hebrides	Census	Household Estimates			Change	Projections	
	2001	2006	2008	2010	2005-2010	2018	2033
No. of households	11,283	11,597	11,816	12,018	4.6	12,590	13,400
All Dwellings	13,462	13,759	14,006	14,258	4.3	-	-
Vacant Dwellings & 2nd Homes	1,865	1,838	1,850	1,895	1.6	-	-
Occupied Dwellings	11,597	11,921	12,156	12,363	5.4	-	-
Mean Household Size	2.26	2.3	2.25	2.18	-0.7	2.02	1.84

Source: NRS Household Estimates 2010 and 2008 Based Household Projections [www.gro-scotland.gov.uk](http://www.gro-scotland.gov.uk)

Note: All figures are estimates and should be used with caution

### Household Composition

Household Composition	Projections			Change	Projections	
	2004	2006	2008	2008-2033	2018	2033
One adult	3940	4090	4,310	41%	5,070	6,060
One adult plus children	470	510	530	33%	600	710
Two adults plus children	2340	2270	2,180	-50%	1,630	1,100
Two or more adults	4590	4680	4,790	15%	5,290	5,530

Source: NRS 2008 Based Household Projections [www.gro-scotland.gov.uk](http://www.gro-scotland.gov.uk)

Note: All figures are estimates and should be used with caution



Ruigarry, Berneray



Isle of Scalpay



Harris Golf Course



Western Isles  
Womens  
Football  
Team



## Health/Slàinte

### Life Events Summary Table

	Outer Hebrides	Scotland
Life Expectancy at Birth		
Males (2008-2010)	74.0	75.8
Females (2008-10)	82.0	80.4
% Change for Males (1998/00-2008/10)	3.1	4.1
% Change for Females (1998/00-2008/10)	2.1	2.6
Vital Events Statistics		
live births, per 1,000 population (2011)	9.0	11.2
deaths, per 1,000 population (2011)	13.9	10.3
fertility, births per 1,000 women aged 15-44	56.2	56.5

Source: NRS Vital Events (2008-10 and 2011 Preliminary Returns)

### Patient Activity (1 April 2010—31 March 2011)

Patient Activity	Outer Hebrides
Admissions 2010/11 in Western Isles Hospitals	6485
Admissions to mainland hospitals—Western Isles Residents 2010/11	2395
No. new outpatient clinic attendances 2010/11	7555
Total Operations Performed 2010/11 in Western Isles Hospital (Stornoway)	5667
Total Operations Performed 2010/11 in Uist & Barra Hospitals	682

Notes: Admissions data from SMR01. Outpatient Clinic Appointments from SMR00 – for Western Isles Clinics only - figure includes DNAs and CNWs (patients that Did Not Attend and did not give prior notice, and patients that attended but Could Not Wait to be seen)

Procedures - note that several procedures may be carried out within one episode/theatre visit – the figures above count each individual procedure carried out.

### Health Services (GP/Consultant Data as at January 2012)

Service	Location	GPs/Consultants
Western Isles Hospital	Lewis	17 WTE*
Uist and Barra Hospital	Benbecula	GP led
St Brendans Hospital	Barra	GP led
The Group Practice	Lewis	7
Broadbay Medical Practice	Lewis	5
Langabhat Medical Practice	Lewis	4
Westside Medical Practice	Lewis	4
North Harris Medical Practice	Harris	3
South Harris Medical Practice	Harris	2
North Uist Medical Practice	North Uist	3
Benbecula Medical Practice	Benbecula	4
South Uist Medical Practice	South Uist	2
Barra Medical Practice	Barra	2

Consultant WTE – “Whole Time Equivalents” (figure also includes locum consultant posts)  
GP numbers from Primary Care also include locums - NHS Western Isles [www.show.scot.nhs.uk/wihb/](http://www.show.scot.nhs.uk/wihb/)





Enjoying Archery



Exploring Stornoway Castle Grounds for Biodiversity week

## Community and Education/Coimhearsnachd agus Foghlam

### School Rolls in the Outer Hebrides

Island Area	No. of primary schools		No. of secondary schools with at least 1st and 2nd year		Primary Roll		Secondary Roll	
	2001	2011	2001	2011	2001	2011	2001	2011
Barra	3	2	1	1	125	94	117	85
Benbecula	1	1	1	1	92	100	382	314
Harris	5	4	1	1	147	98	147	115
Lewis	22	19	7	5	1513	1347	1246	1166
North Uist	5	3	1	0	138	74	51	0
South Uist	4	3	1	0	203	159	14	0
Totals	40	32	12	8	2218	1872	1957	1680

Source: Comhairle nan Eilean Siar Education Department  
As at September of the year stated

### Lews Castle College Enrolment

Session	Higher Education Full Time	Higher Education Part Time	Further Education Full Time	Further Education Part Time
2011/12	222 students	287 students	222 students	1,015 students
2010/11	201 students	387 students	238 students	1,018 students

Source: Lews Castle College as at February 2012  
Further education includes enrolment for short courses and evening classes

### Crimes and Offences 2010/11

Crimes (rate per 10,000 population)	Outer Hebrides	Shetland	Scotland
All Crimes	288	324	619
Serious Assault	7	7	9
Offensive Weapons	3	3	12
Domestic Housebreaking	4	8	34
Vandalism	78	71	143
Percentage Cleared Up (%)	70%	68%	49%

Source: Scottish Government Statistics [www.scotland.gov.uk](http://www.scotland.gov.uk)





Lewis Chessmen



Loch Stiapabhat, Ness, Isle of Lewis

## Culture and Environment/Cultar agus Àrainneachd

### Gaelic Speaking - Outer Hebrides/Scotland (1991 & 2001)

Age	Population by age group speaking Gaelic (no.) Outer Hebrides		Population by age group speaking Gaelic (%) Outer Hebrides		Population by age group speaking Gaelic (%) Scotland	
	1991	2001	1991	2001	1991	2001
Outer Hebrides All ages 3+	19,546	15,723	68.4	61.1	1.4	1.2
Civil Parishes						
Barra	954	778	76.1	68.5	-	-
Barvas	3,024	2,281	86.6	74.7	-	-
Harris	1,861	1,447	81.7	69.9	-	-
Lochs	1,493	1,097	77.0	62.5	-	-
North Uist	1,211	1,022	75.8	68.6	-	-
South Uist	2,540	2,079	65.0	67.3	-	-
Stornoway	7,196	5,973	57.5	51.2	-	-
Uig	1,267	1,046	79.4	69.9	-	-

Source: GROS "Scotland's Census 2001 - Gaelic Report" [www.gro-scotland.gov.uk](http://www.gro-scotland.gov.uk)

### Environmental Designations

Environmental Designations	Number	Total Area Covered
World Heritage Site (dual natural & cultural status)	1	Islands of St Kilda, 25,270 ha
Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI's)	55	37,417 ha or 12.9%
National Nature Reserves (NNR's)	3	1,668ha or 0.58%
Special Protection Areas (SPA's)	15	90,475 ha or 31.2%
Special Areas of Conservation (SAC's) including 1cSAC and 1 pSAC	15	109,343 ha*
National Scenic Area (NSA's)	3	119,454 ha or*
Local Nature Reserve (LNR's)	1	Loch Stiapabhat (Lewis), 14 ha
Scheduled Ancient Monuments (SAM's)	465	throughout island chain
Listed Buildings (Historic Scotland)**	274	throughout island chain

\*\*some buildings have multiple listings

Source: Scottish Natural Heritage [www.snh.org.uk](http://www.snh.org.uk)

\*not possible to calculate this figure due to high proportion of marine area included  
Percentages based on total area of 289,798 ha, excluding freshwater and inter tidal areas



Sea Anemones & Starfish, St Kilda © SNH



Gearranan Blackhouse, Lewis

## Geographical Facts/Fiosrachadh Mun Àite

Geography	Measurement			
Number of islands	119 officially named islands (approximate)			
Number of inhabited islands: 11 islands	Barra 6,173 ha			
	Benbecula 8,498 ha			
	Berneray 1,056 ha			
	Eriskay 754 ha			
	Great Bernera 2,240 ha			
	Grimsay 1,146 ha			
	Lewis and Harris 217,820 ha			
	North Uist 35,479 ha			
	Scalpay 702 ha			
	South Uist 32,094 ha			
	Vatersay 953 ha			
Number of named beaches:	97 beaches (SNH Report No. 109, 1984)			
Length of island chain:	209 km (130 miles)			
Separated from mainland by:	The Minch, Little Minch, Sea of the Hebrides			
Length of Coastline at high water mark:	2,687 km (1669 miles)			
Land Area:	2,898 km <sup>2</sup> (excludes freshwater and intertidal)			
Percentage of Land in Crofting Tenure:	70% (approximately 6000 crofts)			
Distance in miles (as crow flies):	Stornoway	Tarbert	Balivanich	Castlebay
to Inverness:	94 m	99 m	117 m	127 m
to Glasgow:	180 m	171 m	164 m	145 m
to Edinburgh:	197 m	190 m	191 m	177 m
to Aberdeen:	174 m	182 m	199 m	202 m
Freshwater:	15% of UK's freshwater surface area			
Distance between St Kilda & Benbecula:	66 km (41 miles)			
Length of Public Roads 2010:				
A,B and C Roads	689 km (428 miles)			
Unclassified	502 km (312 miles)			
Total:	1,191 km (740 miles)			
Highest Point:	Clisham	799 m	Isle of Harris	

Note: these figures are approximate and subject to variation



# The Outer Hebrides Na h-Eileanan an Iar



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View from Taransay to Harris



Lochmaddy, North Uist