This short paper summarises research commissioned by the Equality and Human Rights Commission (EHRC) and conducted by Dr Marina Shapira and Dr Monika Wilinska of the School of Applied Social Science, University of Stirling. This research was compiled from an analysis of tables produced by the National Records of Scotland and some specially commissioned tables.

This paper focuses on EU8 migrants living in Scotland and provides an overview of their demography, socio economic status, housing, education and health. Although dated, the 2011 Census remains the most authoritative source of information on EU8 migrants.

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Terminology

This paper focuses on the experiences of EU8 migrants who entered Scotland after the enlargement of the European Union (EU) in 2004. It should be noted that this paper does not look at migrants who entered Scotland after the 2011 Census, such as migrants from Bulgaria and Romania. The EU8 countries are:

- Estonia
- Latvia
- Lithuania
- Poland
- Czech Republic
- Slovakia
- Slovenia, and
- Hungary.

Further, the EU8 migrants are divided into two sub-groups based on the length of residence: more than 10 years and less than 10 years. Throughout this paper, those migrants who have lived in Scotland less than 10 years are referred to in this report as new migrants.

EU8 migrants joined migrants from the original EU15 member states who were already allowed to live and work freely in Scotland. The EU15 countries are:

- Austria
- Belgium
- Denmark
- Finland
- France
- Germany
- Greece
- Ireland
- Italy
- Luxembourg
- The Netherlands
- Portugal
- Spain
- Sweden, and
- The United Kingdom (UK).
European Economic Area (EEA) migrants are also referred to in this paper. The EEA contains all EU members plus Iceland, Norway and Liechtenstein.

Further explanation of these terms can be found on Gov.uk’s Countries in the EU and EEA page.

Demographic Characteristics of EU8 Migrants

Country of Birth

On Census day 2011, 27th March, there were 78,254 EU8 migrants in Scotland, comprising 1.47% of the total population of Scotland (5,295,403).

People born in Poland were by far the largest group comprising 70.6% (55,231 people) of all EU8 migrants. The next most common countries of birth recorded in order of size, were – Latvia (4,475 people), Lithuania (4,287), Hungary (2,943), and Slovakia (2,549).

Length of stay in Scotland

Taken as a group, around 70% of new EU8 migrants have lived in Scotland for less than five years. Within that, slightly more than two thirds lived in Scotland for between two to five years. Only 5% of all EU8 migrants had lived in Scotland for more than ten years.

Nearly three quarters (72.3%) of people born in Poland had been resident in Scotland for less than 10 years. Czechs and Hungarians were most likely to have lived in Scotland for more than 10 years, Latvians, Lithuanians and Slovaks less so.

Language Skills

The dominance of Poles amongst new migrants is also reflected in the main language spoken at home. Amongst those who arrived in Scotland less than 10 years ago, 46% declared Polish as their main language spoken at home. However, for those who arrived over ten years ago, English is the main language spoken at home.

Only 0.3% of those from EU8 countries who had arrived more than 10 years ago had no skills in English, compared to 3.5% who had arrived less than 10 years ago. However 23% of this group reported having lower English skills in that they may speak but not read English.
Generally those EU8 migrants who arrived as children had better English skills with only 5% reported as having no English skills. This drops to 2% of those who arrived aged 16-34. English skills then drop as the age at arrival increases to 9% of those arriving aged 35-49 and 23% of those who arrived aged 50 years or older.

**Religion**

Two thirds (65%) of EU8 migrants who arrived less than ten years ago declared their religion as Roman Catholic. Two in five (39%) of those who had been resident in Scotland for more than ten years reported their religion as Roman Catholic.

Other Christian faiths accounted for 9% of new EU8 arrivals and 12% of those resident for more than ten years. Only 1% of new EU8 migrants declared their religion as Church of Scotland compared to 11% of those who had been resident here for more than ten years. Of new migrants, 17% declared as having no religion compared with 28% of those resident for more than ten years. Around 8% of both groups did not answer this question.

**Gender**

There is an even gender split between EU8 migrants who arrived less than 10 years ago. For those who have been resident in Scotland for more than 10 years there is slight gender imbalance with 55% of this group being women. This imbalance increases slightly with age.

**Employment & Education**

**Employment**

EU8 migrants are the most economically active group of all European migrants in Scotland with 86% reported as being economically active. EU8 migrants who have lived in Scotland for more than ten years have a lower economic activity rate of less than 60%.

There are significant differences between the economically active rates of those who arrived recently and those who arrived more than ten years ago. Of those who arrived ten years or more ago, 30% are now retired. None of the newer migrants reported being retired and newer migrants were more likely than those who arrived over ten years ago to be in full time employment – 56% compared with 34%. Part time employment was more common amongst newer migrants than those who arrived more than ten years ago – 18% compared with 12%.
Unemployment in both groups was low – 5% for newer migrants, 3% for those who had arrived more than ten years ago.

For both groups those people reporting being economically inactive due to looking after a home or family was 4%. Self-employment was also largely similar at around 8% of both communities.

Newer migrants are more likely than those who arrived over ten years ago to be students – 7% versus 2%.

**Occupation**

The most common forms of occupation for EU8 migrants who arrived more than ten years ago were professional occupations (24%), elementary occupations (12%) and as managers or in skilled trades (both 10%). In contrast, newer migrants were heavily concentrated in elementary occupations (37%), or as plant and processing operatives (16%) or in skilled trades (also 16%). Newer migrants were least likely to report being employed in managerial roles (3%) and only 6% reported being in professional occupations.

**Industry**

Newer migrants were particularly concentrated in manufacturing and food services (both 20%) with a further 10% being employed in both administrative or wholesale and retail sectors. Fewer than 3% of newer EU8 migrants were employed in professional and scientific occupations or in public administration or defence.

EU8 migrants who have been in Scotland for more than 10 years have more diverse occupations with the largest concentrations being in health and social work (16%), education (12%) and manufacturing (9%).

**Educational Qualifications**

EU8 migrants who have been in Scotland for more than 10 years are more likely to hold a ‘level 4’ educational qualification (i.e. a degree or higher) than newer migrants – 48% compared with 41%.

**Household composition, tenure and health**

**Household Composition**

Amongst newer migrants just over a third (35%) of households comprise of a couple with dependent children compared to 22% of those who have been in Scotland for
more than ten years. Couples without dependent children are more common amongst those who have lived in Scotland for more than ten years (26%) than amongst newer migrants (19%). In both groups lone parent families were uncommon (4 and 5%).

Just under a quarter (24%) of EU8 migrants who have lived in Scotland for more than ten years live alone compared with only 6% of newer migrants. In both groups there is a large concentration of people living in “other households” (one in three newer migrants live in such accommodation compared to one in five of those who arrived more than ten years ago).

**Tenure**

The most common form of tenure for newer migrants who arrived less than five years ago was renting in the private sector. The second largest group of new EU8 migrants were living in the socially rented sector. As the length of residence in Scotland increases, so does private ownership – 30% of newer migrants now own their house.

**Health**

The distributions of health status patterns vary according to length of residence in Scotland. The self-reported health status of newer migrants was predominately “good” with 96% reporting that their day-to-day activities were not limited. Self-reported poor health increases amongst those who have been resident in Scotland for more than ten years as does the reporting of limitations in day to day activities.

**Spatial Distribution & Deprivation**

**Distribution**

All EU8 migrants are most likely to live in 11 local authority areas in Scotland. These are Aberdeen, Aberdeenshire, Dundee, Edinburgh, Fife, Glasgow, Highland, North Lanarkshire, Perth and Kinross, South Lanarkshire and West Lothian. Those who have been in Scotland the longest have a wider spatial distribution with 28% living in areas other than those above compared with 19% of newer migrants.

However, within these locations there are significant variations by length of residence in Scotland. Newer migrants were clustered in Edinburgh (19%), Glasgow (14%) and Aberdeen (13%) with further concentrations in adjoining areas such as Aberdeenshire (7%) and West Lothian (5%). In contrast, amongst those EU8 migrants who have lived in Scotland for more than ten years spatial distribution
shows less clustering, although Edinburgh (18%) and Fife (10%) are popular localities. Longer resident EU8 migrants are much less likely to be living in Glasgow (8%) and Aberdeen (5%) than new migrants.

Both groups are least likely to be living in remote rural areas.

**Deprivation**

Newer migrants are particularly concentrated in Scotland’s most deprived areas.

Of those who most recently arrived (with 2 years or less residency), 39% live in Scotland’s three most deprived deciles of the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD). In contrast, this group is least likely to live in Scotland’s three least deprived deciles (22%).

More settled EU8 migrants with between two to five years residency in Scotland are still significantly concentrated in the these three lowest deciles at 38%, but are even less likely to be living in the least deprived deciles – 15%.

A similar pattern emerges for those EU8 migrants who have been resident in Scotland for between five to ten years – 44% living in the most deprived areas and 17% in the least deprived.

This pattern is only reversed amongst those EU8 migrants who have lived in Scotland for more than 10 years. Amongst this group 23% live in the most deprived areas, and 36% live in the three least deprived areas.