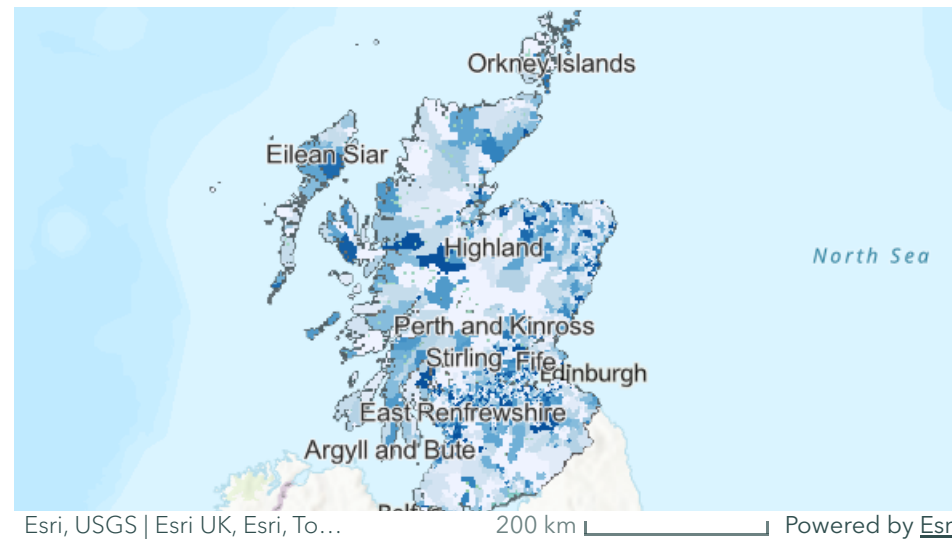# Unemployment across Scotland

A spacial analysis of
umemployment at Data Zone level

Code Division

February 10, 2026

Unemployment (Scotland)

This map reflects the distribution of unemployed economically active individuals across Scotland at Data Zone level using Census 2022 data.
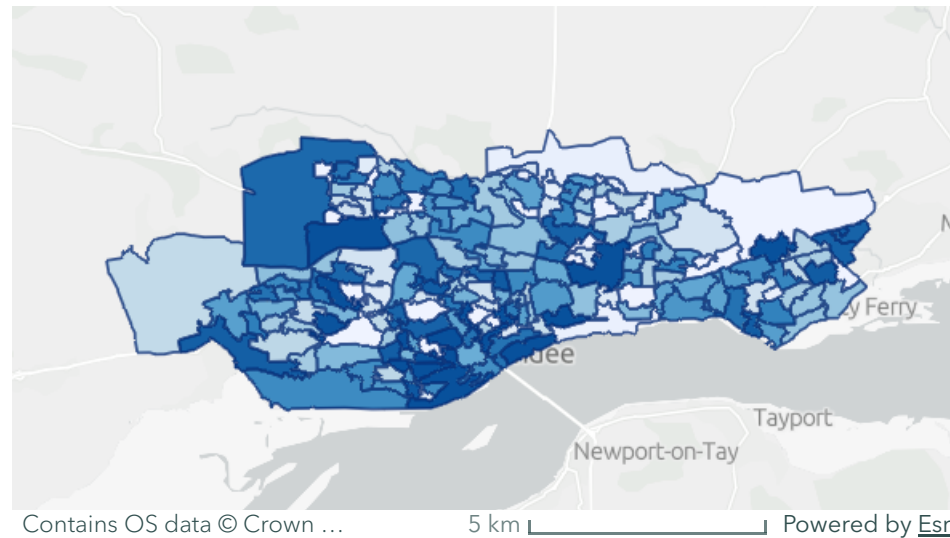
Higher concentrations of unemployment are visible in urban and post-industrial areas, particularly across the Central Belt, while rural and island areas generally display lower values.

The map presents unemployment rates calculated as a percentage of the economically active population.

Population in Dundee

Population distribution across Dundee shown at Data Zone level. Variations in population density provide local context for

*understanding unemployment patterns observed in the wider
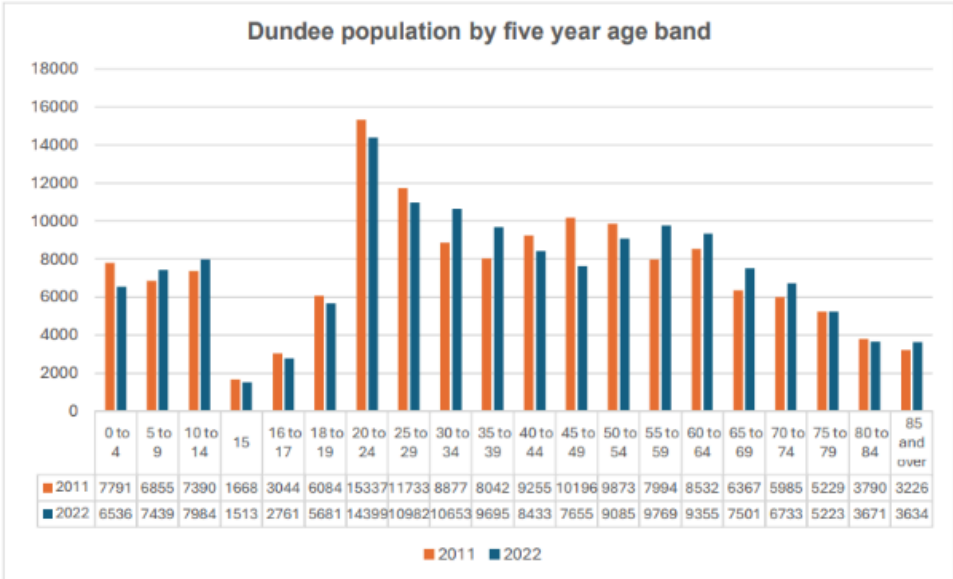Scotland analysis.*

Dundee Population
(scotland_dz_2011_dundee_code, SIMD2020v2 data)

Dundee's more densely populated areas are largely
concentrated in the central and eastern parts of the city,
where housing density is higher and urban infrastructure is
more developed. These areas often correspond with
neighbourhoods that experience greater labour-market
pressure, including higher exposure to unemployment and
economic inactivity.

When considered alongside the Scotland-wide unemployment
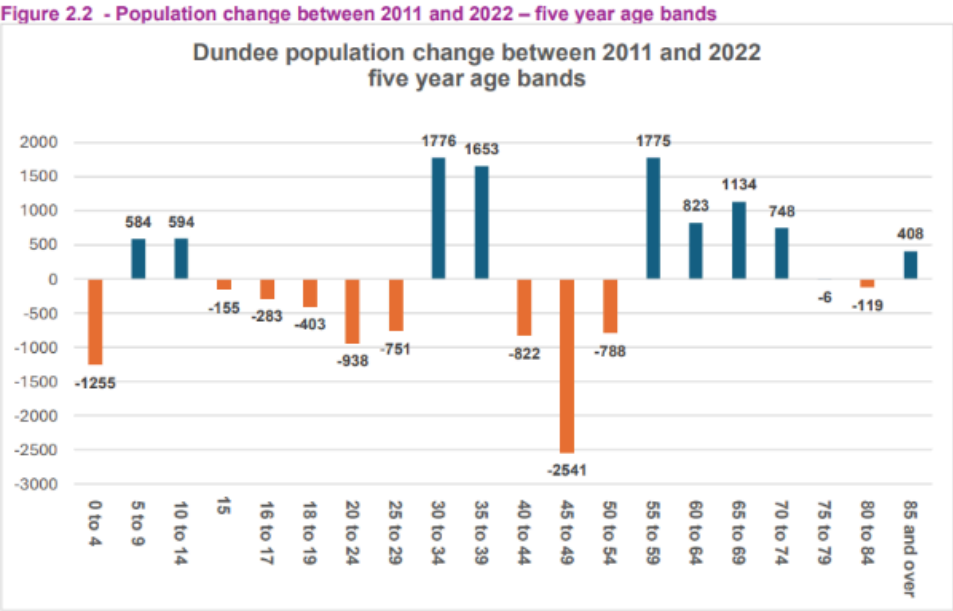map, Dundee illustrates how national unemployment patterns

manifest at the local level.

Figure 2.1 - Dundee population by five year age band (Census 2011,2022)

Dundee population by five year age band

	0 to 4	5 to 9	10 to 14	15	16 to 17	18 to 19	20 to 24	25 to 29	30 to 34	35 to 39	40 to 44	45 to 49	50 to 54	55 to 59	60 to 64	65 to 69	70 to 74	75 to 79	80 to 84	85 and over
2011	7791	6855	7390	1668	3044	6084	15337	11733	8877	8042	9255	10196	9873	7994	8532	6367	5985	5229	3790	3226
2022	6536	7439	7984	1513	2761	5681	14399	10982	10653	9695	8433	7655	9085	9769	9355	7501	6733	5223	3671	3634

■ 2011 ■ 2022

Source: *2022 Census Dundee City*

Figure 2.1 compares Dundee's population structure by five-year age bands between the 2011 and 2022 Censuses. The chart shows that Dundee has a relatively young population profile, with particularly large cohorts in the 20–24 and 25–29 age groups in both years. This reflects the city's strong student population and the presence of higher education institutions.

Figure 2.2 - Population change between 2011 and 2022 – five year age bands

Source: *2022 Census Dundee City*

Figure 2.2 highlights the net population change in Dundee between 2011 and 2022 for each five-year age band. The most significant population losses occurred among children (0–4) and young adults, particularly the 45–49 age group, which shows the largest decline. These decreases may reflect demographic ageing, migration patterns, and changing household structures.

Together, these figures provide essential demographic context for understanding unemployment patterns in Dundee, demonstrating how population change and age structure shape local labour-market outcomes and influence the spatial distribution of unemployment observed in the city.

Data sources: Census 2011 and Census 2022 (Office for National Statistics; National Records of Scotland).

Mapping and analysis: ArcGIS Online and ArcGIS StoryMaps.

Base map: Esri.