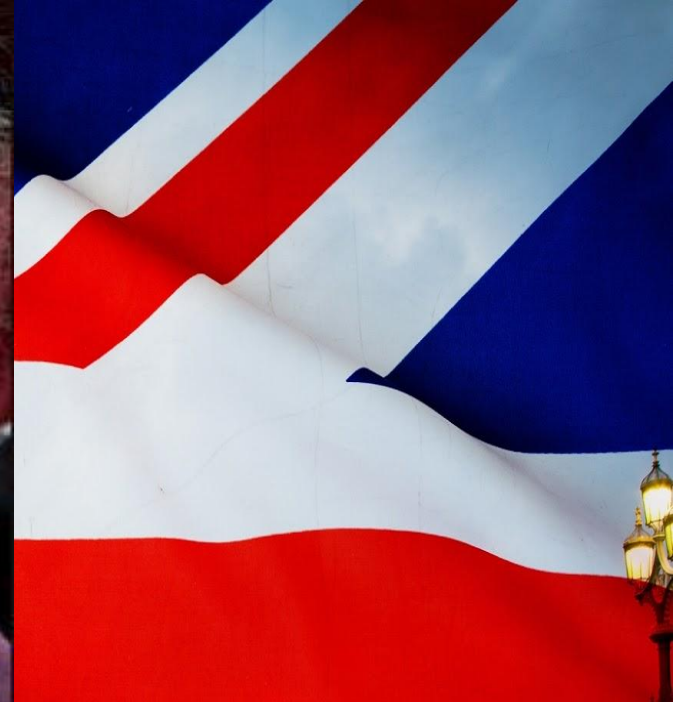


Population of the UK





The total population of the UK is over 59 million (59554000) people. The UK is in-habited by the English – 49856 million, who constitute about 83% of the total population, the Scots – 5057 million (8, 5%), the Welsh – 2938 million (about 5%), the Irish – 1703 million, constituting 2, 9% of the total population.

- Population of Wales – 3.139.000
- Population of England – 54 million
- Population of Scotland – 5.290.000
- Population of Northern Ireland – 1.8 million





Among other nationalities inhabiting the UK there are Gaels, Jews, Poles, Germans, Italians, Chinese as well as migrants from India, Pakistan, Bangladesh and African countries.



- **English is the language predominantly spoken in all four parts of the UK. For about 550000 people welsh is the first language, many others speak it fluently as English. French is still the official language of Jersey (the Channel Isles) and on the Isle of Man. It is used for ceremonial and official procedure. Both French and English are used in courts.**

- **There is a paradox about religion in Britain. On the hand this is officially a Christian country, where Church and state are linked. On the other, Hindus, Muslims and Sikhs form quite a large part of the population. In England only 13% of the adult population is members of the church, in Wales – 23%, in Scotland – 37% and in Northern Ireland no fewer than 80%. There are also recently established religious groups: Hindus (1 million), Buddhism, Muslims (1, 5 million) and Sikhs.**





- There are over 1000 mosques and prayer centers, of which the most important the London Central Mosque at Regent's Park. About 900000 Muslims regularly attend these mosques. Generally speaking, 45% of the British people are Anglican; 9% - Catholic; 4% - Presbyterian; 3% - Muslim; 2% - Methodist; 1% - Hindu, other and non-religious make 36%.





AGES YOU CAN LEGALLY DO THINGS

- *A Leave school* 16
- *Ride a small motorbike* 16
- *Buy cigarettes* 16
- *Get married (with parents' consent)* 16
- *Drive a car* 17
- *Buy alcohol* 18
- *Vote* 18
- *Get married (without parents' consent)* 18

