

"Migrants bring with them a wide variety of new ideas, beliefs, customs and skills"

DONALD WILSON

by 93 per cent between 2001 and 2011 – a bigger proportional increase than England, at 61 per cent, Wales, at 82 per cent or Northern Ireland at 72 per cent.

The sharp growth in Scotland's migrant population has been fuelled by a twenty-fold 2105 per cent – increase in the Polish population of Scotland, which increased from 2505 in 2001 to 55,231 in 2011.

Polish-born people now represent Scotland's largest migrant group, outnumbering the second, those born in India, by more than two to one.

The figures put Edinburgh's



DIVERSE: Edinburgh's population statistics prove that the Capital is a multi-cultural city.

Picture: JOEY KELLY

Polish population at 11,651 or just over 15 per cent of our non-UK born citizens, followed by Indian migrants with 4888 or 6.4 per cent, Irish with 4743 people making 6.2 per cent, 8596 Germans making up 4.6 per cent, then 2472 Pakistani migrants with 3.2 per cent.

The profile is from the Migration Observatory project, which is funded by the Economic

and Social Research Council (ESRC) as part of the ESRC's Future of the UK and Scotland programme to inform the referendum debate.

Dr Carlos Vargas-Silva, the senior researcher leading the census project at the Migration Observatory at Oxford University, said: "This is the last census before the referendum on independence, and population is an important part of the

discussion. While Scotland still has a much smaller foreign-born population than England, it has almost doubled in a decade. But because Scotland started with a much smaller migrant population than England, smaller numerical growth can be considerably bigger growth in percentage terms."

The profile also shows the proportion of foreign-born people in Scotland's population,

Royal Society aids Wiki in painting true picture of women in science

THE Royal Society of Edinburgh is to host Scotland's first women in science "edit-a-thon" for Wikipedia.

Organised by Wikimedia UK and the Medical Research Council, the event will see 20 editors learn how to create and

improve articles about female scientists.

Women scientists and engineers tend to be under-represented on Wikipedia, the online reference site which is written collaboratively by volunteers and regularly attracts more

than 470 million visitors every month.

Drawing on resources from each of the organisers, the event will have access to a trove of printed and electronic sources about women in science, including biographies.

And Wikipedia experts will be in attendance to explain more about the collections and provide guidance on finding sources.

Professor Lesley J Yellowlees, head of college at Edinburgh University's school of science

and engineering, who will take part, said: "I think everybody would agree that one of our first ports of call when we look for information is Wikipedia."

"I would want that port of call to reflect the work that the whole population is doing."

and lawful way.

"The discussions on pay in the higher education sector are being conducted at a UK-wide level, with ongoing dialogue between unions and the Universities and Colleges Employers Association."

Advice shop ABE out of top drawer

AN advice shop specialising in literacy and numeracy help for people aged over 16 has won plaudits for the high standard set by volunteers.

West Lothian Council's Advice Shop and Adult Basic Education (ABE) services have been awarded a quality standard in volunteering.

The ABE team also runs workshops, short courses and individual learning sessions for those with hearing loss and for people whose first language is not English.

Twenty-five new volunteers were trained in 2012-13, with the entire team completing 1542 hours of voluntary work. Six people were last year employed or promoted after volunteering with ABE thanks to the programme's success.