

Building society operational information

Year	Number of authorised societies	Number of branches	Number of investors 000s	Number of depositors 000s	Number of borrowers 000s	Number of full time staff	Number of part time staff	Deposits from shares £m	Deposits and loan balances £m	Mortgage assets £m	Total assets £m
1910	1,723	-	626	-	-	-	-	-	-	60	76
1920	1,271	-	748	-	-	-	-	64	19	69	87
1930	1,026	-	1,449	428	720	-	-	303	45	316	371
1940	952	-	2,088	771	1,503	-	-	552	142	678	756
1950	819	-	2,256	654	1,508	-	-	962	205	1,060	1,256
1960	726	-	3,910	571	2,349	-	-	2,721	222	2,647	3,166
1970	481	2,016	10,265	618	3,655	24,116	1,050	9,788	382	8,752	10,819
1975	382	3,375	17,916	677	4,397	32,485	2,464	22,134	762	18,802	24,204
1980	273	5,684	30,636	915	5,383	46,418	6,309	48,915	1,762	42,437	53,793
1985	167	6,926	39,996	2,150	6,657	53,172	12,519	102,332	10,752	96,765	120,763
1990	101	6,051	36,948	4,299	6,724	61,254	15,128	160,538	40,695	175,745	216,848
1991	94	5,921	37,925	4,698	6,998	63,997	15,183	177,519	49,517	196,946	243,980
1992	88	5,765	37,533	3,879	7,055	62,191	17,212	187,108	57,068	210,998	262,515
1993	84	5,654	37,809	5,486	7,229	83,003	23,904	194,975	64,861	224,168	281,152
1994	82	5,566	38,150	5,509	7,370	79,639	24,419	201,812	71,898	236,655	300,998
1995	¹ 80	5,141	38,998	6,307	7,178	75,701	23,434	200,826	69,220	233,358	299,921
1996	¹ 77	4,613	37,768	6,889	6,859	75,480	25,034	196,546	76,231	236,930	318,392
1996	² 72	2,571	17,033	756	2,774	29,266	8,681	82,202	28,516	96,164	124,869
1997	² 71	2,537	19,234	964	2,872	30,632	8,953	90,093	31,207	105,803	137,864
1998	71	2,502	21,195	909	3,136	33,155	9,996	103,290	33,433	116,285	156,014
1999	69	2,384	21,774	722	3,044	32,722	10,379	109,138	34,579	120,410	157,141
2000	67	2,361	22,237	740	3,107	32,334	10,823	119,299	43,579	134,100	177,747
2001	³ 65	2,126	20,310	568	2,750	28,200	9,150	119,815	37,985	128,322	171,375
2002	65	2,103	20,724	511	2,688	28,982	9,257	132,373	37,651	138,884	184,453
2003	63	2,081	20,897	520	2,679	32,502	11,440	142,457	49,204	156,396	207,735
2004	63	2,074	20,734	525	2,749	34,335	11,571	153,844	63,798	180,172	236,146
2005	63	2,148	22,090	449	2,822	35,615	12,203	171,935	71,704	203,260	265,226
2006	60	2,105	22,396	472	2,857	37,112	12,893	188,943	82,760	228,096	294,419
2007	59	2,016	23,038	460	2,941	38,652	12,926	206,783	98,365	257,810	330,272
2008	55	1,916	24,990	n/a	2,926	35,331	12,043	230,879	104,302	265,554	358,956
2009	⁴ 52	1,685	n/a	n/a	2,714	41,336	222,271	83,360	243,638	331,274	
2010	⁵ 49	1,672	c.20,000	n/a	c.2,569	39,285	210,760	73,509	238,698	309,451	
2011	47	c.1,652	c.20,500	n/a	c.2,800	37,996	215,016	68,901	238,607	308,143	
2012	47	c.1,546	c.19,320	n/a	c.3,116	39,392	221,415	72,834	252,041	319,803	
2013	45	c.1,548	c.19,213	n/a	c.3,149	39,390	222,795	69,428	258,362	317,322	
2014	44	c.1,563	c.21,098	n/a	c.3,499	40,255	232,598	66,071	274,192	325,488	
2015	44	c.1,551	c.21,349	n/a	c.3,623	40,566	238,359	70,087	285,151	338,197	
2016	44	c.1,519	c.21,887	n/a	c.3,656	42,550	259,095	85,127	300,578	379,187	
2017	44	c.1,469	c.22,302	n/a	c.3,708	42,429	269,061	93,696	315,954	397,397	
2018	43	c.1,394	c.22,380	n/a	c.3,748	43,204	251,330	98,206	333,476	415,440	
2019	43	c.1,383	c.22,872	n/a	c.3,552	43,015	294,758	101,341	345,013	436,348	
2020	43	c.1,345	c.22,900	n/a	c.3,618	c.43,000	313,657	99,294	352,154	453,663	
2021	43	c.1,288	c.22,898	n/a	c.3,482	51,513	327,703	112,352	368,832	483,180	
2022	43	c.1,264	c.23,363	n/a	c.3,548	c.51,500	352,395	104,259	379,815	502,399	
2023	42	c.1,264	c.22,431	n/a	c.2,798	c.52,273	380,446	89,445	397,305	518,650	
2024	42	c.1,367	c.22,694	n/a	c.2,902	c.52,300	413,008	170,928	433,435	631,247	

Notes:

- Includes societies demutualised by 31/12/97. 2. Excludes societies demutualised by 31/12/97. 3. Excludes Bradford & Bingley. 4. Excludes Britannia. 5. Excludes Kent Reliance. Years are financial years ending from 1 February in that year to 31 January in the following year. The figures are based on the annual returns provided by all building societies in Great Britain. From 1986 figures include societies based in Northern Ireland. Prior to 1989 the figures for the number of societies are the number registered. From 1989 onwards the figures are the number of societies authorised to accept funds from the public (ie inactive societies still on the register were excluded). Before 1930 borrowers who were not also shareholders were included in the number of shareholders. Figures from 1993 onwards are on a group basis. Prior years are on a society-only basis.
- Source: The Financial Conduct Authority, BSA.
- In 2021 Skipton Building Society's subsidiary Connells acquired Countrywide plc resulting in a significant increase in their Group employees numbers.
- Manchester merged with Newcastle 1 July 2023.
- Nationwide acquired Virgin Money on 1 October 2024.
- Coventry Building Society acquired The Co-operative Bank on 1 January 2025. Therefore The Co-Operative Bank data is not included in these figures.

The BSA cannot verify the completeness or accuracy of all returns made to it. The BSA accepts no liability in relation to the data presented here, and those relying on the data do so at their own risk.

Data as at year ends 2024/25.