



Paper Title: Vital Events Updates

Presented by: Riya Atanasova

Security marking	Not sensitive
Can this be shared wider than PAMS?	Yes
Actions for PAMS members ahead of meeting	Paper is for information
Aims for discussion	To update PAMS on the latest activities of our unit.
Key questions for PAMS members	What improvements would you like to see in how we present and communicate our outputs?
What is required from PAMS members	Whilst the paper is for information, comments are invited from PAMS members.

**NRS:
May 2024**

Population And Migration Statistics (PAMS) Committee (Scotland)

Vital Events Statistics – update

Releases since the last meeting

- The following have been published since the last meeting:
 - Homeless Deaths 2022 (28 November 2023)
 - Births, deaths and other vital events Q4 2023 (12 March 2024)
 - Babies First Names and Most Common Surnames (28 March 2024)

Upcoming publications

- The following publications are due to be published this summer, subject to us receiving final deaths data from the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service:
 - Vital events reference tables 2023
 - Alcohol-Specific Deaths, 2023
 - Age Standardised Mortality Rates, 2023
 - Alzheimer's and other Dementia Deaths, 2023
 - COVID-19 Deaths, 2023
 - Drug Related Deaths, 2023
 - Life Expectancy in Scotland, 2021-23
 - Probable Suicides, 2023

Weekly/Monthly releases

- We continue to publish weekly and monthly tables on births and deaths. As a result of changes to the excess deaths methodology (see below), we are no longer producing as many breakdowns of excess deaths as we previously did. The number of monthly mortality tables have been reduced and we no longer produce a monthly report with these statistics. Detailed deaths data continues to be published in our weekly deaths.
- We continue to publish quarterly Births, Deaths and Other Vital Events tables. Next publication will be released on 11 June with numbers for Q1 2024.

Excess deaths

- NRS, and other statistical producers across the UK, adopted a new method for estimating excess deaths in our mortality publications in February 2024. This is the result of a UK-wide excess mortality technical working group with representatives from a range of government departments and members of the actuarial profession who worked to develop the new approach.
- The previous excess deaths methodology had some weaknesses; for example it did not take into account the growing population and the growing proportion of people in older age groups.
- ONS published a [full methodology paper](#), including a comparison of estimates from the new and old methods, as well as an accompanying [blog post](#) which provides more contextual information on excess mortality and the development of the new methodology.

Avoidable Mortality

- Avoidable Mortality for 2022, which had been pre-announced for November 2023, has been delayed until the rebased mid-year population estimates are available.

Life Expectancy and Healthy Life Expectancy

- Provisional Life Expectancy figures for 2021-2023 are to be published in September 2024, subject to the release of rebased population estimates from census 2022.
- Healthy Life Expectancy 2020-2022 has been delayed until the rebased mid-year population estimates are available. Healthy Life Expectancy will be published once the information on general health from the census becomes available. An update to Healthy Life Expectancy statistics is provisionally scheduled for publication in December 2024.

NRS Vital Events

May 2024