

**Population and Migration Statistics Committee (PAMS)
(Scotland)**

Household estimates and projections branch update – March 2012

Publications

1. We are aiming to publish 'Estimates of Households and Dwellings in Scotland, 2011' and 2010-based household projections in June 2012. We will aim to produce household projections for National Parks and Strategic Development Plan Areas in September.

UK Statistics Authority of Assessment

2. The UK Statistics Authority (UKSA) published their [assessment of household statistics](#) on 12 May. The report, which was largely positive, is available on the UKSA website. It has now been confirmed that our publications have achieved National Statistics designation. This [letter](#) is also available on the UKSA website.
3. Thank you to everyone who contributed to the process.
4. In response to one of their requirements, we produced a paper about how the household estimates for Scotland compare with the equivalent statistics for the other countries in the UK. We have discussed this with our colleagues in other parts of the UK, and the paper, [Household and Dwelling Estimates Across the UK](#), is now available on the National Records of Scotland (NRS) website.

PhD on household projections

5. Our PhD student, Ashley McCormick, has now been awarded his PhD. His thesis is titled 'A dynamic microsimulation of Scotland's household composition, 2001-2035'. His work has included the production of a full, dynamic microsimulation of Scotland's household composition.
6. We are meeting his main PhD supervisor on March 29th, and we are planning to meet again in July for a formal handover of the model and necessary inputs and documentation. This will be too late to include any microsimulation results in the upcoming household projections publication; instead, we are planning to publish a separate paper, later in the year, discussing the results and how they compare to our household projections and what this means.

Household Analysis Review Group (HARG)

7. The next meeting of HARG will take place on 4th April 2012. The papers that will be presented at this meeting will cover:
 - Household estimates quality assurance.
 - Household projections – provisional results.
 - Household projections variants – provisional results.

- Household projections – incorporating survey data into the projections as an additional variant.
- Communal establishment figures, and changes we are considering to the definition for adult care home residents based on length of stay.
- Household projections – how best to incorporate the 2011 census results, when they become available.
- Household estimates – Scottish Government consultation on council tax charges for long-term empty properties and potential impact on household estimates data.

Estimation of the numbers long term residents in adult care communal establishments in Scotland

8. We would like to hear the views of PAMS members regarding one issue on the HARG agenda, the estimation of the numbers long term residents in adult care communal establishments in Scotland. As part of the quality assurance of the household projections we sent our communal establishment estimates to Local Authority (LA) PAMS representatives, and several LAs expressed concern that our estimates of the number of long term residents in adult care homes were low compared to the capacities of the homes, given that the majority of residents entering a care home will intend to stay there permanently
9. For the communal establishment estimates we have previously defined long term residents as those who have been resident for 6 months or longer in all accommodation types except for students, where all school and university students in communal establishments are defined as long-stay residents. These definitions were chosen to align with the census definition of usual residence, however the full census definition indicates that individuals 'staying, **or expecting to stay**, in a residential establishment for 6 months or more' should be counted at their communal establishment. This means that the data we have used to date differs from the census definition in that it effectively excludes those who are expecting to stay more than 6 months, but who have only recently moved in, and there is concern that for adult care, in particular, this might be a relatively large number of individuals.
10. We have looked into the Care Home Census (CHC), run by Information Services Division (ISD) and which is the source of the adult care data, and found that the CHC itself has a definition of long-stay residents, that is "those whose intention when they entered the home was to stay as a permanent resident, regardless of how long they stayed" although they go on to specify "It may be that some residents enter the home with the intention of only staying for a short time. If you have any residents whose intention was only to stay for a short time but have been resident for more than six weeks, then these residents should be counted as long-stay residents for the purposes of this [care home] census." Their definition of long-stay, therefore, specifically excludes individuals whose intention is for a short stay only (6 weeks or under) or who are resident for respite care only, but may include individuals who intend to stay longer than 6 weeks, but less than 6 months, who would not be counted as usually resident by the [national] census. The CHC only collects individual information on residents who are long-stay (according to their definition), therefore the data they have been sending us up to now is effectively "long-stay residents who have actually been resident for over 6 months"
11. After discussion with ISD we would like to move to including all the residents that ISD define as long-stay in our estimate of long term residents in adult care, although the possibility of including only those residents defined as long-stay by ISD who have actually

stayed for more than 6 weeks also exists. Data to revise the adult care estimates is due to be received by NRS by the end of March 2012. **We would welcome PAMS members' views on this change in methodology.**

NRS: Household estimates and projections branch
June 2012