

Population and Migration Statistics Committee (PAMS) (Scotland)

Population and Migration Statistics Update

Introduction

This paper summarises the recent work on population statistics. PAMS is asked to note the paper and other comments. Written comments will also be welcome to 'Customer Services – Statistics' using our [Contact Form](#).

Staffing

Since the last PAMS meeting Harvey Snowling has been working full-time in Census division and we expect him to return at the end of April. Alasdair Anthony has also been working three days a week in Census and two days a week with us but has just returned to working full time in Population and Migration Statistics.

Publications

Publications since the last PAMS meeting are:-

- Quarterly migration release (24 November 2011);
- Quarterly migration release (23 February 2012);
- Sub-National Population Projections for Administrative Areas – including all additional variants (29 February 2012).

Future publications:-

- Settlement and Locality Population Estimates, mid 2010 (24 May 2012);
- Quarterly migration release (24 May 2012);
- Mid-2011 Population Estimates, rolled forward from 2001 Census (31 May 2012);
- Migration Tables update for mid-2011 (July 2012);
- Population Projections for Strategic Development Plan areas and National Parks (July 2012);
- 3 chapters for the Annual Report (August 2012);
- Quarterly migration release (August 2012);
- Local Area Migration 2011 (August 2012);
- Quarterly migration release (November 2012);
- Mid-2011 Population Estimates, based on the 2011 Census and reconciliation report (Spring 2013).

PAMS views on the need for the following publications would be welcome:-

- SAPE and Special Area Population Estimates for mid-2011, rolled forward from 2001 (August 2012);
- Centenarians, 2002-2011 (September 2012);
- Life Expectancy, 2009-2011 (November 2012).

Population Projections (2010 based)

The 2010-based Sub-national Population Projections for Scottish Areas were published on 29 February. Any comments are welcome.

As Census data is delayed there will not be a 2011 Census based set of interim population projections. The next set of national and sub-national projections will hopefully be 2012-based.

POPGROUP User Group

The POPGROUP user group met on 25 January and the agenda and minutes from this meeting will be placed on the National Records of Scotland (NRS) website soon.

Internal Migration and Country of Birth and Nationality Quarterly Releases

The Office for National Statistics (ONS) have just consulted on moving to publishing internal migration on an annual basis and are just about to consult on moving to publishing information on country of birth and nationality from the Annual Population Survey (APS) also on an annual basis. NRS also publish this information on a quarterly basis and it can be found on the NRS website at the following links:

[Cross-border migration quarterly update](#)

[Country of Birth and Nationality quarterly update, tables 3 and 4](#)

PAMS members are invited to give views on whether there is still a need for NRS to publish this information on a quarterly basis.

Update on MSIP Programme

The MSIP (Migration Statistics Improvement Programme) is now drawing to a close. ONS have developed a new methodology for distributing migrants to Local Authorities (LAs) in England and Wales and have also published other research from this programme. More details can be found on the [ONS website](#).

UK Statistics Authority Assessment

The UK Statistics Authority (UKSA) have now designated our statistics as National Statistics and the [letter of designation](#) and our [assessment report](#) can be found on the UKSA website.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the process.

The UK Statistics Authority have also published a [Monitoring Brief](#) in which they highlighted the way in which the PAMS group operated as an example of good practice in user engagement.

Other work and knock-on effects of Census delays

If we have the resource we will:-

- Continue to help our colleagues in Census division with the quality assurance of the 2011 Census.
- Develop revision methodologies for rebasing the population estimates when the Census results become available.
- Progress development work looking at the use of the NHSCR and other sources to improve migration estimates.
- Look at developing quality indicators and plausibility ranges for population estimates.

Views from PAMS on any of the above points are welcome.

NRS: Population & Migration Statistics Branch
20 March 2011