

Household Analysis Review Group: Use of Communal Establishment data in Household Projections

Purpose

1. To discuss different approaches that could be adopted to remove the population living in Communal Establishments (CE) from the total population in order to produce the household projections.

Motivation

2. Table 1 below shows the change in the number of CE residents between 1991 and 2001 Censuses:

Table 1: CE residents in 1991 and 2001 Censuses

Age group	CE Population 1991	CE Population 2001	Change	% Change	% of 91 Total Population	% of 2001 Total Population
0-15	2,700	3,500	800	29%	0.3%	0.4%
16-24	10,900	23,200	12,400	114%	1.6%	4.1%
25-29	4,800	4,600	-200	-4%	1.2%	1.5%
30-34	3,100	3,100	0	1%	0.8%	0.8%
35-44	5,100	4,700	-400	-8%	0.7%	0.6%
45-54	4,500	3,600	-900	-21%	0.8%	0.5%
55-59	2,000	1,700	-300	-14%	0.7%	0.6%
60-64	2,500	1,800	-700	-27%	0.9%	0.7%
65-74	7,600	5,900	-1,600	-22%	1.7%	1.3%
75-84	18,000	14,400	-3,600	-20%	6.9%	5.3%
85+	17,900	19,400	1,400	8%	25.5%	21.8%
Total	79,100	86,000	6,900	9%	1.6%	1.7%

3. This shows a large increase in the number of 16-24 years olds in CE, presumably due to the expansion of higher education leading to more students living in halls of residence. There was also an increase in the number of people aged 85 and over in CE, as increasing life expectancy has led to an increase in the overall number of people in this age group. In most age groups, there was a decline in the number of people living in CE, even when the overall population had increased. This could partly be explained by the result of policies aimed at supporting people living in the community rather than in hospitals or care homes. These trends show the value of work to provide up-to-date CE figures, rather than relying on the results of the last Census.

4. In producing the household projections, the simplest approach would be to assume that the same proportion of people will be living in CE for each projections year – this is the approach used in the past. This is somewhat simplistic, as it is likely that there will be further changes as observed in the past. However, it is difficult to predict what these changes may be. One option, for example, would be to assume that the number of people living in care homes and hospitals is likely to continue to decrease by a certain percentage.

5. In the future, when we have more years' data for each CE type, it may be easier to predict future trends. However, GROS is proposing that for the 2004-based household projections, regardless of which of the three options presented in HARG Paper 2006(1) is agreed, we assume that the same proportion of the population will be living in CE, as at 2004 (or 2001). **HARG members are asked whether they agree with this approach of using constant CE proportions, or to suggest alternatives.**

GROS: Household estimates branch
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