

POPULATION AND MIGRATION STATISTICS COMMITTEE (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 eileen.crichton@gro-scotland.gsi.gov.uk.

Staffing

Alasdair Anthony has joined the team through the recent statistician recruitment wave. He has just completed a PhD in Genetics.

Publications

Publications since the last PAMS meeting are

Mid-2006 population estimates for settlements and localities	10 July
Mid-2007 population estimates	24 July
Small area population estimates	6 November
Population projections for National Parks	21 October
Estimates of population over 90 years old	19 November
Life expectancy estimates for administrative areas	25 September
Population estimates by country of birth quarterly update	19 November

Future publications

Community Health Partnership level life expectancy for 1996-1998 to 2003-2005 will be published soon

Population estimates by Marital Status will be published in December.

Population Projections Working group

A meeting of the Population Projections Working Group was held on 26 June. This meeting demonstrated that POPGROUP can be used to provide local area projections. Following this GROS have secured funding for a new statistician post. This post will be develop the in-house capacity in using POPGROUP to produce population projections and in the longer term will work with councils to develop their skills and expertise in this area.

The report on the review of the National Population Projections has been delayed and so no progress can be provided on this activity.

Dissemination and User Engagement

Cecilia Macintyre and Martin Macfie presented evidence to a Scrutiny Board in the Scottish Borders council and gave a presentation to the research group.

Cecilia Macintyre and Harvey Snowling visited Clackmannanshire to discuss methodology used in deriving settlement populations.

The PAMS seminar was well attended and useful feedback was provided through workshops

GROS were represented at the British Irish Council summit in Sep 2008. The workplan was endorsed with a suggestion that early indicators of migration should be a priority for development. There was a British Irish council debate held in Parliament .

Cecilia Macintyre attended an event in Dundee organised by the Scottish Government to discuss the impact of migration on services in the Tayside area. This took the form of a series of discussions and GROS provided briefing on the availability of information on migration. Following this meeting, a project is being undertaken to consider how to improve access to migration data both at the national and local level. This will include adding additional web pages on the GROS website and investigating options for presenting local level information.

Research into improving Migration and Population Statistics

The following work is progressing linked to **IMPS working groups** (local population estimates and analysis and indicators)

- Production of short term migrant estimates from IPS data – ONS have agreed that we can receive the relevant data. No firm date but data expected before end Nov
- Development of early indicators of international migration – discussing the possibility of receiving IPS estimates on a 6 monthly basis
- Work on indicators of migration at an early stage in ONS, and current discussions taking place to identify contribution which could be made by the New Migrant databank (part of ESRC project into estimating population projection by ethnic group.) We are developing similar products as part of the Tayside migration project. Initial draft complete by end Nov.
- ONS are developing a new approach to allocating international in-migrants at the local authority level. They are also considering changing their method for allocating international out-migrants to reflect research carried out by Southampton University. We are considering the implications of this work for Scotland, although this is unlikely to be completed in time to be implemented for the MYE 2008
- Attended ONS/LGA workshop in London where local authorities discussed their priorities. This information will be used when the Tayside group meets to discuss work to date

NHSCR

A database of NHSCR cross-border flows for the UK, quarterly/yearly since 1991 has been compiled and agreed with Migration Statistics Unit in ONS and with NISRA. This will be made available on the new migration pages (still in the planning stages) of our website.

GROS: Population & Migration Statistics Branch

November 2008