

POPULATION AND MIGRATION STATISTICS COMMITTEE (SCOTLAND)**Household estimates and projections branch update.****Staff changes**

1. Lisa McNeill left the branch in July 2009 to study for an MSc in Applied Social Statistics at Lancaster University. Alan Sloan replaced her in September 2009 and is a new permanent member of our branch. He previously worked in the Public Service Reform Directorate of the Scottish Government.
2. Esther Roughsedge will be starting maternity leave in February. She will return to this post after her maternity leave, and the post will be covered on a temporary basis while she is away.

Household Projections

3. The 2006-Based Household Projections as well as the Population and Household Projections for Scotland's Strategic Development Planning Areas have been revised slightly. This was necessary because small errors were discovered in the communal establishment rates for Fife.
4. For the 2006-based Household Projections the revisions have resulted in changes to figures for Scotland and Fife. Total figures for Scotland and Fife differ by at most 20 households, when compared to original figures. However, the figures for Fife do vary more for individual age groups. There are reductions in the number of households headed by those in younger age groups, up to age 29. In contrast there are increases in households headed by those in older age groups. Figures for all other local authority areas are not affected.
5. Only household projections for SESplan and TAYplan Strategic Development Planning (SDP) areas have been revised in the Population and Household Projections for Scotland's Strategic Development Planning Areas. This has resulted in fewer households in the SESplan SDP area and correspondingly more in the TAYplan SDP area. For 2006 the total number of households in each of these SDP areas has changed by approximately 60-70 households. This difference increases to approximately 140-150 households by 2031.
6. 2008-based household projections are due to be published by May.

Communal Establishments

7. Communal establishment data are currently being updated in preparation for the 2008-based household projections. Residential School and Prison data have been received from the Scottish Government. Children's Care Home data have been provided by the Care Commission. Information on long stay

residents in hospitals has been collated from various sources of data provided by the Information Services Division of the NHS. Armed Forces data have also been collected. The only outstanding data are those for Adult Care Homes. We expect to receive these soon from Scottish Government (SG): Health.

8. For the first time, we have been able to access data on student accommodation from the Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA). This has provided us with information on the gender and age profile for students in halls of residence, by location.
9. We have no suitable administrative sources to update data for hotels, boarding houses, hostels, civilian ships, barges and boats. Therefore 2001 census data will still be used to provide the details for these types of communal establishments.
10. Once all communal establishment data have been collated they will be aggregated by council area. We then plan to send this aggregated data to Population and Migration Statistics (PAMS) council contacts for their feedback and approval.

Estimates of households and dwellings

11. We are currently working on validating the 2009 small area statistics on occupied and vacant dwellings. We will copy in the PAMS Local Authority member for each council when we send summaries of the data to the Finance Departments for quality assurance. We plan to publish these figures next year.

Replacement household estimates and address matching

12. Martin Macfie is continuing with his work to identify potential replacement sources of small area statistics on households and dwellings, which we could use if Council Tax is replaced with a Local Income Tax after the next election. This follows on from his work last year on the Electoral Register as a possible replacement source of household statistics. After a meeting between GROS, CoSLA and the City of Edinburgh Council to discuss administrative data sources, he has obtained a version of their local authority Corporate Address Gazetteer (CAG). He has done an interesting comparison of information on residential properties on the CAG with currently published GROS statistics on dwellings. He presented some of his findings at the British Society for Population Studies (BSPS) conference in September and at the recent PAMS seminar on 30 October, his slides will be available on the GROS website shortly.
13. GROS is interested in ways of matching addresses from different sources. Martin has undertaken some matching of different address lists using SAS, but he plans to look at other software packages when we can access them.

This will complement the work being done by GROS: Alternative Sources Branch.

New household formation

14. Councils need to be able to estimate the number of newly formed households, in order to work out the number of these households which are likely to be in housing need, as part of their Housing Need and Demand Assessments (HNDAs). Currently, it is not easy to do this, and the GROS household projections do not include these figures, they just show the overall change in the number of households, not the actual number that were newly formed.
15. Esther Roughsedge has been developing estimates of the number of newly formed households in each council area. The method is based on an approach used in the past by Glen Bramley, and also Department for Communities and Local Government's (DCLG's) recommendations. It involves comparing the 'headship rate' (the proportion of people of a particular age who 'head' a particular household type), at different age groups. There are a number of possible variations to this approach, which are being considered. Esther presented a paper describing her approach and initial results at the last meeting of the Centre for Housing Market Analysis (CHMA) Steering Group in September. She received very positive feedback and helpful suggestions on this from the group members, particularly Glen Bramley and Tony O'Sullivan. She plans to finish this work and consult on it before she starts maternity leave in February, and the results will be published.

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Household estimates and projections branch
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