



Paper Title: Household Estimates and Projections update

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Security marking	Not sensitive
Can this be shared wider than PAMS?	Yes
Aims for discussion	To update PAMS members on developments in Household Estimates and Projections, and seek feedback.
Key questions for PAMS members	Any feedback on technical or other barriers to collecting additional detail on long-term empty properties. Any suggestions for potential analysis of interest of 2022 Census data on households.
What is required from PAMS members	Comments/feedback on the paper, in particular the key questions noted above

Population And Migration Statistics (PAMS) Committee

Household estimates and projections update

1. Household and dwelling estimates

The [Estimates of Households and Dwellings in Scotland, 2020](#) publication came out on 25 June. As with the previous publication in this series, this included statistics on occupied dwellings, vacant dwellings (split into unoccupied exemptions and long-term empty properties), second homes and trends in household types. The publication also included an analysis using the latest versions of the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation and Scottish Government Urban Rural classifications. An updated infographic (to illustrate the key findings) and an interactive data visualisations (to enable viewing of key charts of data for selectable choice of councils and years) were also released.

Discussions continue between NRS and the Scottish Assessors to conclude a Data Sharing Agreement (DSA) that will enable us to access and publish summaries of data on dwellings by dwelling type and number of rooms. Progress on this remains slow, but we are hopeful that a DSA will be signed off before too long. For the mid-2020 estimates publication, a breakdown of dwellings by council tax band at council and data zone level was included, as this is information that is effectively already in the public domain via the Assessors Portal.

We are currently working on adding household estimates (2014 to 2020) and dwelling estimates (2005 to 2020) for a range of additional geographies on the NRS website, based on aggregations of 2011 Data Zones. This will provide consistency with the range of geographies for which population estimates are published. The additional geographies are:

- Electoral wards
- Scottish parliamentary constituencies
- UK parliamentary constituencies
- 2016 Urban/Rural classification (6-fold and 8-fold classes)
- 2020 SIMD deciles, for Scotland overall and broken down by councils and NHS health boards.

2. Small area household and dwelling estimates

The small area (2011 Data Zone) household and dwelling estimates data for 2020 were released on 25 June, both on the [NRS website](#) and on [statistics.gov.scot](#). This data included updated information on unoccupied exemptions (eg dwellings that are new builds not yet occupied, undergoing repair or awaiting demolition) and long-term empty properties. An updated version of the [app](#) to enable visualisation of the small area data through an interactive map was also made available.

Following completion of work on compiling a back series of dwellings estimates for 2011 Data Zones, a time series of these small area estimates covering the period 2005 to 2020 was made available on the NRS website on 23 September.

The data for 2021 required as input for the next set of small area household estimates has all now been returned and is undergoing quality assurance. We are grateful to local authorities for their help with this data collection. This year we also asked for an additional split (empty <1 year/ >= 1 year) of long-term empty properties. Around two thirds of local authorities were able to provide this additional information for small areas. We have been following up with those local authorities unable to readily provide this additional information at this geographical level to check what technical or other barriers they faced. **We would also welcome any feedback that PAMS members may have on this issue.**

3. Household projections

The [2018-based household projections](#) published on 29 September 2020 remain the most recent set of projections available. These provided projections of household numbers by household type and age of household reference person over a 25-year projection period, to 2043. Separate projections were made for Scotland, council areas and National Park and Strategic Development Plan areas. In addition to the principal (or main) projection additional variant household projections were produced to illustrate the impact of different assumptions, for example on the levels of future migration. Detailed data from the projections are also available through statistics.gov.scot.

The timing of the next set of household projections is dependent on when the underlying population projections are next updated. A set of interim (2020-based) national population projections is due to be published on 6 December. No sub-national (council level) projections will be published, nor will variant projections. We do not therefore plan to publish updated household projections until the next full (2021-based) set of population projections are available, likely to be in spring 2023.

4. Office for Statistics Regulation

In the summer, as part of its rolling programme of work, the Office for Statistics Regulation (OSR) carried out a compliance check against the Code of Practice for Statistics on the household estimates and projections for Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. This compliance check confirmed the continued designation of these as National Statistics. The OSR made a number of recommendations for the producers of these statistics to take forward, for example in relation to the sharing of future plans and best practice. The Office for National Statistics has now established a group comprising ONS, NRS, Welsh Government and the Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency to address these recommendations. The group is due to have its first meeting in November.

5 Cross-government housing statistics group

The [Cross-Government Housing Statistics Group](#) (CGHSG) continues its work to review the quality, coherence and accessibility of official housing statistics across the UK. The Group meets online every few months; its next meeting is on 29 November.

6. Census 2022 data

Data from Scotland's Census 2022 is expected to become available in phases from around the middle of 2023. In preparation for this we have been giving some initial thought as to the range of analysis of census data that would be useful and relevant on the topic of households. As a starting point we are likely to look at updating the analysis on [household composition and living arrangements](#) published by NRS after the 2011 Census. We have started the process of consulting colleagues in Scottish Government, and plan also to get views from others, including the Household Analysis Review Group (HARG). **We would be interested to get feedback from PAMS members on any specific pieces of analysis of census data on households they would want to suggest.**

7. Electoral Register statistics

The latest (as at 1 December 2020) [summary statistics](#) of electoral register data were published on 30 March.

Preparations for the December 2021 collection for these statistics are well advanced, with the data request due to go out to Electoral Registration Offices in the next couple of weeks. An overhaul of the data collection form to reflect legislative and other changes to the electoral franchise in the last year or so is planned for next year's data collection.

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