



Paper Title: Plans for census and population statistics outputs

Presented by:

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Security marking	None
Can this be shared wider than PAMS?	Yes
Actions for PAMS members ahead of meeting	To consider the proposed plans for census quality assurance and population outputs, and to provide feedback for NRS consideration.
Aims for discussion	
Key questions for PAMS members	
What is required from PAMS members	

Population And Migration Statistics (PAMS) Committee

Plans for census and population statistics outputs

The purpose of this paper is to help users understand what they can expect from population statistics over the next few years, as it will be a complex period, and a lot of things will be different to recent years. The aim is to give users an idea of when you can expect in terms of engagement, and access to new data.

NRS plans to share census estimates of the population and households with local authorities, prior to publication. The data will be shared for Quality Assurance (QA) purposes - to let you look at the data for your area and identify whether these estimates are inconsistent with other data you might hold. NRS will consider any evidence you provide on this and decide whether to take further action. The plan is to write out to local authority contacts next month to begin this process.

The timetable below shows the current plan for:

- Census QA work
- Key statistical outputs from the census
- Key population estimates and projections

October 2022	<p>Scotland's Census 2022 Outputs Consultation launched. This consultation covers a number of aspects of our plans for publishing census results following the data collection phases.</p> <p>We will keep the consultation open until we receive enough feedback to continue developing our plans. Once we have reached this point, we will add a closing date to the consultation and communicate this with users.</p>
July 2023	Local authority Census QA panels – early census estimates for the population and households shared for QA purposes with each LA
Second half of 2023	First census outputs – rounded population estimates by local authority and age group.
Second half of 2023	National 2021-based population projections for Scotland and other parts of the UK. For Scotland, these projections will be based on data rolled forward from the 2011 census.
Winter 2023/24	Mid-2022 population estimates, rolled forward from 2022 census data.

First half of 2024	Sub-national 2021-based population projections for Scotland. These projections will be based on data rolled forward from the 2011 census.
First half of 2024	Second census outputs. This release will include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Unrounded population estimates by single year of age and sex - Unrounded household counts by household size down to output area. Output areas contain at least 50 people and 20 households, and they are the building blocks for other census geographies. - Unrounded population estimates by whether living in a household or communal establishment down to Local Authority
Summer 2024	Mid-2023 population estimates, and rebased population estimates for 2012 to 2021.
Second half of 2024	National 2023-based population projections for Scotland and other parts of the UK. For Scotland, these projections will be based on data rolled forward from the 2022 census.
First half of 2025	Sub-national 2023-based population projections for Scotland. These projections will be based on data rolled forward from the 2022 census.

This is intended to give users and stakeholders an overview of expected timings for the key NRS population outputs over the coming years. There are other demographic statistics that NRS will continue to publish to the usual schedule. This includes the household estimates and most of the Vital Events publications. Household projections will follow the sub-national population projections, as usual. Some publications will be delayed to allow the new 2022 census results to be incorporated. This will include:

- mid-year population estimates
- small area population estimates
- estimates of the population aged 90+
- life expectancy statistics.

The current timings are provisional and are subject to change. But at this stage, NRS are keen to hear views from our users and stakeholders on these proposals, and gain further understanding of any implications.