



Paper Title: Population and Migration Statistics update

Presented by: Denise Patrick, Head of Population and Migration statistics, NRS

Security marking	Not sensitive
Can this be shared wider than PAMS?	Yes
Aims	To update PAMS members on developments in population and migration statistics, and seek feedback.
Key questions for PAMS members	<p>Are you able to provide a case study on how sub-council area projections benefit your organisation?</p> <p>How can we best promote population projections, or other statistics, to your organisation?</p> <p>Do we still need to publish the local area migration excel spreadsheet or is the interactive tool (with data tables part of this) sufficient.</p>
What is required from PAMS members	Comments/feedback on the paper

Population And Migration Statistics (PAMS) Committee (Scotland)

Population and Migration Statistics update

Introduction

1. This paper provides an update on recent work and developments in population and migration statistics.

Publications

2. Publications since the last PAMS meeting:
 - [2018-based Population Projections for Scottish Areas](#) (24 March 2020)
 - [Mid-2019 Population Estimates](#) (30 April 2020)
 - [Mid-2019 Migration Statistics](#) (30 April 2020)
 - [Population by Country of Birth and Nationality, Jan-Dec 2019](#) (21 May 2020)
 - [Migration Statistics Quarterly Summary for Scotland](#) (22 May 2020)
3. Future publications:
 - Mid-2019 Small Area Population Estimates (August 2020)
 - Local Area Migration (August 2020)
 - Centenarians (and people aged 90 and over) Population Estimates (September 2020)

Population programme

4. The Scottish Government established a Ministerial Population Taskforce in June 2019 to consider Scotland's future population challenges. A population programme supports the taskforce by bringing together all strands of work on population across the Scottish Government. A number of outputs related to the population programme have recently been published including:
 - [Population Taskforce webpage](#) which hosts the taskforce terms of reference, as well as meeting minutes.
 - [National Performance Framework](#) (NPF) indicator on Scotland's population which measures the number of council areas experiencing population decline. This sits under the National Outcome "we are open, connected and make a positive contribution internationally".
 - [Population Programme dashboard](#) which has been developed to monitor the programme's progress and understand demographic challenges in Scotland.

The dashboard includes the NPF population indicator, as well as a number of other indicators relating to population structure and distribution.

5. Development work on the Population Programme dashboard is ongoing. We intend to develop an interactive dashboard which includes council level breakdowns later this year, subject to resource.

Mid-year Population Estimates

6. [Mid-2019 Population Estimates](#) were published on 30 April 2020. They showed that Scotland's population was at a record high of 5.46 million on 30 June 2019 and population growth over the latest year was higher than the two previous years. Population change varied across the country with three quarters of council areas increasing in population in the year to mid-2019, while one in four areas experienced depopulation.
7. A range of outputs related to this publication are available, including:
 - [Statistical publication](#)
 - [Infographic summary](#)
 - [Interactive visualisation](#)
 - [Detailed migration tables](#)
 - [Council area profiles](#)
8. A boundary review between Glasgow City and North Lanarkshire came into effect on 1 April 2019. This boundary change was taken into account in the latest mid-2019 population estimates. A paper explaining the adjustment methodology was shared with PAMS members via email on 22 January 2020. Please get in contact if you require a copy of the paper or would like further information about the adjustment methodology.

Small Area Population Estimates

9. Work to produce the Mid-2019 Small Area Population Estimates is ongoing. These will be published in August 2020, subject to resource.

National Population Projections

10. An error has been found in the [2018-based National Population Projections](#). This error was caused by the incorrect processing of cross-border flows between Wales and England and ONS plan to publish corrected projections for Wales by Thursday 11 June. More information can be found on the [ONS website](#). There will be no change to the projections for Scotland or the UK as a whole, but corrections will be made to cross-UK comparisons in the publication. We are working with ONS to replace these comparisons by the middle of June.

Sub-national Population Projections

11. The [2018-based Population Projections for Scottish Areas](#) were published on 24 March 2020. They showed that 18 (out of 32) councils are projected to increase in population by mid-2028. These are mostly urban areas, located in the central belt. Population decline is projected to mainly be in the West and South-West of the country. Alongside the main publication, we also published:

- [Infographic summary](#) – summarising key findings
 - [Interactive data visualisation](#) – allowing users to select their area(s)
 - [Detailed tables](#) – population by sex and single year of age for each area and year of the projection
 - New [summary tables](#) – summarising key statistics for each area
 - Updated [council area profiles](#) – showing latest demographic data for each council area
12. Population projections are usually produced every two years, however, the timing of the next set of projections may change to take into account the time scales of the 2021 Census. Waiting until Census data is available, would allow us to benefit from the revised population it will provide.
13. We are considering how to best to digitally promote the Population Projections for Scottish Areas and work on Sub-Council Area Projections. We would welcome any feedback on how we can best promote these to your organisation. Possible options include:
- Blog posts – these can be written to provide more information on certain components of the projections (for example, depopulation, migration, Scotland’s ageing population).
 - Webinars or presentations – these could be tailored to focus on population statistics for areas of interest.

Sub-council Population Projections

14. NRS has continued to fund work and collaborate with the Improvement Service and academics from the Universities of Edinburgh and Manchester to provide a package to support the production of sub-council area projections. We have now published a range of support and tools to help interested users to produce their own-sub-council area projections on our [website](#). This includes:
- A user guide - provides detailed, step-by-step, guidance on how to develop and produce your own projections using POPGROUP.
 - Instructional videos – information on key demographic concepts and tutorials on how to produce local area population projections in POPGROUP. See our [blog post](#).
 - A data utility tool – this will help users to aggregate official statistics to the sub-council areas of interest and to prepare POPGROUP input files using this data.

We would appreciate feedback on the utility tool and user guides.

15. Following on from the previous PAMS meeting, a survey was carried out to determine which geographies councils would like sub-council area projection produced for. The Improvement Service is in the process of producing sub-council area projections reflecting these preferences. An update on their work can be found in paper PAMS 20 (07).
16. Are you able to provide a case study on how sub-council area projections benefit your organisation? Providing a case study will help us further understand how POPGROUP

training has been used and encourage further use of the support package outlined above.

Migration Statistics

17. Updated [population estimates by country of birth and nationality](#) were published on 21 May. These provide information on the number of non-British nationals and non-UK born living in Scotland and each council area.
18. As part of ongoing work to improve understanding of the latest migration trends for Scotland, NRS now publish a [Migration Statistics Quarterly Summary for Scotland](#) (MSQS), shortly after publication of the ONS Migration Statistics Quarterly Report (MSQR) which is more UK-focused. The MSQS brings together data from a range of sources to give an overview of what's happening to migration in Scotland.
19. Local Area Migration statistics should be published in August 2020. Last year, we published a new [interactive tool](#) to explore the range of migration indicators, as well as the excel spreadsheet. Feedback is welcomed on whether we still need to publish the excel spreadsheet or is the interactive tool (with data tables part of this) sufficient.

Impact of covid-19 on population and migration statistics

20. The latest population and migration statistics outlined in this paper cover time periods prior to the outbreak of covid-19, so do not yet take into account the impact of the pandemic. In relation to future population and migration statistics, NRS will be working through a number of issues including:
 - Working with ONS to consider the impacts on future data availability. The International Passenger Survey (IPS), the key source for measuring international migration, has been stopped and work is now focused on delivering new measures of migration based on administrative data.
 - Working with SG policy colleagues as part of the Population Programme to consider future priorities, which may now focus around recovery from the crisis and reviewing the long-term impacts and opportunities for our population.

NRS: Population and Migration Statistics
June 2020