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Information on the quality assurance arrangements for administrative data used in population estimates

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Summary

This paper provides information on the quality assurance arrangements for administrative data used to produce the population estimates. The paper describes the processes and quality assurance that takes place for each source, along with a statement as to the suitability of its use to produce population estimates. Overall the administrative sources used to produce population estimates are the best sources currently available. Regular quality assurance and checking of the data, understanding how it is collected and processed, being aware of the strengths and limitations of the data and good regular contact with data suppliers are all essential in creating robust population estimates. Work to continuously improve population estimates is on-going, particularly exploring the potential of Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA) data to better capture the movements of students and exploring the potential of other administrative sources.

1. Introduction

The National Records of Scotland (NRS), formerly the General Register Office for Scotland (GROS), produces detailed annual estimates of the resident population of Scotland as at 30 June each year.

This paper provides information on the quality assurance arrangements for administrative data used to produce the population estimates. Information about the method used to produce the population estimates can be found in the [Mid-Year Population Estimates for Scotland: Methodology Guide](#) on the NRS website.

2. Background

Official statistics published by the National Records of Scotland (NRS) are based on two main types of data sources – data gathered from statistical censuses and surveys, and data extracted from our own and from other organisations’ administrative or management systems.

By using data which is already available within administrative or management systems, rather than collecting data afresh, we are able to limit the overall burden placed on data providers, and also avoid the costs of mounting dedicated data collection exercises. In addition, the information we extract from such systems often has the advantage of being more timely than statistical data and, when compared with data from surveys (and particularly sample surveys), can also deliver data with a greater breadth of coverage.

The UK Statistics Authority actively encourages public bodies to exploit administrative and management sources for statistical purposes. However the Authority recognises that the statistical advantages of such arrangements can only be fully realised if statisticians have appropriate access to such systems; if statistical purposes are reflected in the design, management, and development of such systems; and if adequate safeguards are put in place to ensure the professional integrity of any official statistics derived from them.

The Authority’s main requirements are set out in the third Protocol attached to their *Code of Practice for Official Statistics*. Amongst other things, this Protocol requires all producers of official statistics to publish, in consultation with the National Statistician, a ‘Statement of Administrative Sources’ which lists:

- a) The administrative systems currently used in the production of official statistics.
- b) Procedures to be followed within the organisation to ensure that full account is taken of the implications for official statistics when changes to administrative systems are contemplated.
- c) Information on other administrative sources that are not currently used in the production of official statistics but have potential to be so used.
- d) Arrangements for providing statistical staff, whether inside the producer body or elsewhere, with access to administrative data for statistical purposes.
- e) Arrangements for auditing the quality of administrative data used for statistical purposes.
- f) Arrangements for ensuring the security of statistical processes that draw on administrative data.

The NRS’ own ‘[Statement of Administrative Sources](#)’ is contained in an Excel workbook on the NRS website.

The UK Statistics Authority have also published an ‘Administrative Data Quality Assurance Toolkit’ which is intended to help statistical assessors review the quality assurance arrangements for administrative data used to produce official statistics, and also for producers of official statistics to support

their judgements that administrative data continues to be suitable to be used to produce statistics.

The UK Statistics Authority assessed population estimates and projections produced by NRS in 2015 and one of the requirements from the assessment was to “Reference, or link to, relevant information about data assurance arrangements for administrative data from all population estimates and projections reports and the population statistics section of its website, taking into consideration the Authority’s Administrative Data Quality Assurance Toolkit, including:

- a) vital events documentation about the quality assurance of births and deaths data
- b) quality assurance procedures between NRS and NHS Central Register
- c) 2021 Census research documentation about the quality of the administrative data sources used in the production of the population estimates.”

Relevant papers have been linked to from the latest mid-year estimates publication, other population publications and the latest population projection publication. This paper completes this requirement by bringing together information about the quality assurance process for the administrative data used in the production of the population estimates into one place on the NRS website. This paper is linked to from the population estimates page and also the population projections page.

The remainder of the paper describes the quality assurance processes for the administrative sources used in the production of the [population estimates](#), [population projections](#) and [migration estimates](#) which are available on the NRS website.

3. Patient registers

Two patient registers are used to create population estimates; the National Health Service Central Register (NHSCR) and the Community Health Index (CHI). The NHSCR has been used in the creation of population estimates from around 1951 and the CHI since 2001.

3.1 NHSCR – National Health Service Central Register

The NHSCR contains basic demographic details of everyone who was born, or have died, in Scotland plus anyone else who is (or has been) on the list of a general medical practitioner in Scotland. The Register exists mainly to allow the smooth transfer of patients who move between NHS Board areas (or across borders within the UK). It also provides to Scottish local authorities a unique reference number which is used to identify people on the database of local authority customers. The NHSCR operates under Section 57 of the Local Electoral Administration and Registration Services (Scotland) Act 2006. More information about the register can be found in the [NHSCR](#) section of the National Records of Scotland (NRS) website.

The NHS Central Register (NHSCR) Governance Board was set up to implement one of the recommendations of a review of the NHSCR. The review was chaired by Andrew Fraser.

The recommendation was that 'The NHSCR with its host organisation, should establish governance arrangements that link with representation from the key service users and offer strategic advice on its external relations, governance and effective policy developments.'

The NHSCR Governance Board, provides strategic advice on the operation, future development and external relations of the NHSCR in support of the NHS in Scotland, medical researchers and other users. Issues which relate to the protection of patient information held by the NHSCR are referred to the Public Benefits Privacy Panel, which advises the Registrar General on all applications to use NHSCR data for research purposes.

The papers from the [NHSCR Governance Board](#) are available on the NRS website.

The Population and Migration Statistics team receive an anonymised extract of the NHSCR every month. When the data is received various basic checks are carried out, including checking the frequencies of the variables, number of records, comparing the migration flows with previous months and years by area, etc. NHSCR migration flows are also compared with the migration flows derived separately from the Community Health Index (CHI). The Population and Migration Statistics team also have regular meetings with the NHSCR team as well as other statisticians in NRS using other extracts of the NHSCR, to find out about any system or

data flow changes that might affect how we use the NHSCR to produce migration and population estimates. In the past this checking process has highlighted GP list cleaning exercises which we have had to account for when creating migration estimates. As well as carrying out basic checks and speaking to the data suppliers we have also carried out various comparisons with other data sources, including linking the NHSCR to other sources such as the 2011 Census, to learn more about the differences between the sources and to give insights into the quality of the data and its suitability to be used to produce migration and population estimates.

3.2 CHI – Community Health Index

The Community Health Index (CHI) is a database in wide use throughout NHS Scotland. It contains data on patient demographics and some clinical information on aspects of healthcare screening and surveillance. CHI consists of a series of (eight) regional databases linked by a search index. It is also linked to, or exchanges data with, a number of other systems including the Community & Prevention Care (CPC) systems, and the National Health Service Central Registrar (NHSCR). NRS has a Data Access Agreement in place to get an annual anonymised extract of the CHI. Access to the CHI is strictly controlled and is granted through the [CHI Advisory Group](#) and the papers from this group are available on the Scottish Health Service Centre website.

When the extract is received it is checked by running frequency and cross checks on the data received, comparing with previous years and also comparing with the NHSCR. Any queries are then followed up with NHS ISD as are any known changes in the system or issues that they are aware of. As well as carrying out basic checks and speaking to the data suppliers we have also carried out various comparisons with other data sources, including linking the CHI to the 2011 Census to learn more about the differences between the sources and to give insights into the quality of the data and its suitability to be used to produce migration and population estimates.

Before the CHI started to be used in population estimates a working group called the ‘CHI Working Group’ was set up with representatives from the then General Register Office for Scotland, the Scottish Government and NHS Information Services Division (ISD). The group met for a few years around the late 1990s and early 2000s. The papers from this working group are held on a paper file at NRS. They contain the initial investigations into the suitability of the CHI to be used in producing population estimates.

The Population and Migration Statistics team in NRS liaise closely with those supplying the CHI data from NHS Scotland (NHSS) ISD. The data is extracted from the NHS ISD CHI monthly download database. Once received the CHI extract is checked by running frequency and consistency checks on the data, comparing with previous extracts and comparing the aggregate results are compared with results from the NHSCR and also,

when appropriate, with census and other administrative information for example School Census.

3.3 Analysis and research into the quality of patient registers to produce population estimates

There are known statistical quality issues with using patient registers for migration and population estimates and these are discussed in the following papers on the NRS website.

1. [Beyond 2011 and Census 2021 research papers on NHSCR and Community Health Index \(CHI\) data](#)

This section on the website contains various research papers which were produced as part of the Beyond 2011 programme which has now been incorporated in to the research into how administrative sources will help Scotland's Census 2021. The overview paper from this research compared population estimates with other administrative sources and concluded that health service-based data tend to overestimate the size of the resident population in comparison to our usual population statistics. Counts derived from employment and benefit records display closer agreement with population estimates on average, but there are substantial variations which are not well understood. Discrepancies are most manifested with respect to the working age population, while alternative counts of children and people of pensionable age demonstrate closer agreement. From these results it is evident that the population of the bigger cities in Scotland would be harder to estimate from administrative data alone, as different sources sometimes provide conflicting information.

The movement of patients is currently used to estimate migration which feeds into the population estimates. From linking the NHSCR to the 2011 Census we know that young men are less likely to register with a GP and young people in general are less likely to tell their GP that they have moved. We also know that when people move abroad they do not tell their GP that they have left. Which is why the international outflow data on the NHSCR is not used to produce migration estimates. The international inflow data will also include short-term migrants, rather than long-term migrants therefore only the share amongst NHS Boards and the age sex information is used to give an age sex distribution to the Long Term International Migration (LTIM) estimates based primarily on the International Passenger Survey. An adjustment is made to the sex ratio using the LTIM data to correct for the fact that females are more likely to register with a GP than males.

2. Reconciliation reports, reconciling the mid-year estimates rolled forward from the 2001 Census with estimates rolled forward from the 2011 Census:

- a) [2011 Census Reconciliation Report - Population](#)
- b) [2011 Census Reconciliation Report – Small Area Population](#)

These reports compared the mid-2011 population estimates rolled forward from the 2001 Census with the mid-2011 population estimates rolled forward from the 2011 Census. The 2011 Census estimated the population of Scotland to be 5,295,400, which was 49,400 higher than the 5,246,000 given by the rolled-forward estimates based on the previous census. The difference of 49,400 was 0.9 per cent of the census estimate of the population and was made up of 26,000 males and 23,400 females. These reports noted that the majority of migration at sub-national level is between council areas or between Scotland and the rest of the UK rather than to or from overseas. Migration within Scotland and within the UK is estimated based on General Practitioner (GP) registrations and will therefore only pick up migrants who register with a GP at their new address.

In nine council areas, differences between the two estimates accounted for less than one per cent of the population as measured by the census, and there were only eight council areas where the difference was greater than three per cent. The 2011 Census estimated a higher population than the rolled-forward estimates in 27 council areas. The greatest differences were found in North Lanarkshire, Highland and Aberdeenshire. The rolled-forward estimates gave a higher population than that estimated by the census in five council areas, including Glasgow and Edinburgh.

For smaller areas such as data zones the differences between the Scottish mid-2011 Small Area Population Estimates (SAPE) rolled-forward from 2011 Census and the Scottish mid-2011 SAPE rolled-forward from the 2001 Census showed that:

- For about two-thirds of data zones the differences between the SAPE were small at fewer than 50 people.
- Just over half of data zones had a higher population estimate in the SAPE rolled-forward from the 2011 Census compared with SAPE rolled forward from the 2001 Census to mid-2011.
- The most deprived data zones are most likely to have a population estimate that is higher in the SAPE rolled-forward from the 2011 Census than the SAPE rolled-forward from the 2001 Census. Conversely, the least deprived data zones are most likely to have a population estimate that is lower in the SAPE rolled-forward from the 2011 Census than the SAPE rolled-forward from the 2001 Census.
- In general the differences for males is larger than for females. This is particularly apparent among those aged 20-29.
- Reasons for the differences between the mid-2011 SAPE rolled-forward from 2011 Census and the mid-2011 SAPE rolled-forward from the 2001 Census were:

- Data zones where large numbers of households have been built between 2001 and 2011 are often considerably higher in the SAPE rolled-forward from the 2011 Census as migration into the area has not yet been captured completely due to a lag between people moving house and registering with a General Practitioner (GP).
- Conversely, data zones where there was demolition of a high number of households are often considerably lower in the SAPE rolled-forward from the 2011 Census as the migration out of these areas has not been picked up completely, again due to GP registration lags.
- The migration of young adults is difficult to capture as they are a demographic group that is less likely to update administrative data sources when they move. In data zones with a large number of young adults, such as data zones containing student accommodation, this frequently results in larger differences between the estimates.

Improvements were made to the method to produce the migration estimates that feed in to the population estimates after this reconciliation work was carried out, particularly to improve how international migration was estimated. More details are available in the [Mid-Year Population Estimates for Scotland: Methodology Guide](#) on the NRS website.

3. A project was set up to look into the suitability of the NHSCR and CHI to be used in producing population estimates with reference to their use in health funding allocations. The project was called the 'Population Estimates Comparison Project'. More information about the project, investigations and audits of patient register data and its conclusion that the NRS Mid-Year Population Estimates were the best source for health funding allocations can be found in the papers of the [Technical Advisory Group on Resource Allocation](#) (TAGRA) on their website.

The project looked at various aspects of the quality of the NHSCR and also the CHI by comparing them and other sources with the mid-year population estimates. In terms of the suitability of using patient registers for population estimates the analysis showed that:

- the difference between the CHI currently registered population (CRP) and census and mid-year population estimates are more pronounced for males in Glasgow than in other parts of Scotland.
- the overall number of records for males in the NHSCR which were not linked to the Census was substantially higher than those of females.
- the evidence showed that students and young people are being successively added to the GP list each year. However, there appeared to be a lag between people leaving the area and their de-registration with the local health services with an accumulation building up over the last 20-25 years. The evidence also suggested that there could also be a discontinuity between

de-registration from Scottish lists and re-registration to lists elsewhere in the UK .

- linking the NHSCR with the Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA) data suggested that there appeared to be limited scope for using HESA information to accurately update location at postcode level. However, by analysing HESA data at council area level, we may be able to generate an approximate location for students.

The conclusion of the project confirmed that NRS's methodology was robust and the best available at present.

4. Other information about the quality of the NHSCR and CHI for use in population estimates is available in the papers of the [Population and Migration Statistics Committee](#) and also in the statistical publications themselves.

These papers include examples of where improvements have been made to how we use the NHSCR and CHI to estimate migration estimates used in the mid-year population estimates. For example, [Paper 10 PAMS \(15\) 10](#) contains the details of the change to using a record based extract from the NHSCR to improve migration estimates.

3.4 Conclusion on the use of patient registers for creating population estimates

Patient registers are large administrative systems with millions of records and as such it is expected that they will not capture absolutely everyone living in Scotland. There are known issues with using patient registers for estimating migration, mostly with capturing the movements of young people, in particular young men.

However, work continues within NRS to continuously improve the quality of the migration estimates that feed into the mid-year population estimates. All the research carried out so far suggests that while improvements can be made to better capture migration, the NHSCR and the CHI as sources are the best proxy sources of internal and rest of UK migration available. In order to better capture the movements of young people we currently have an on-going project to investigate the use of Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA) data to try and better capture student moves.

There are also very strong links between the NRS NHSCR team and providers of the CHI, with the head of the NHSCR sitting on the CHI Advisory Group and other CHI working groups. The Population Migration Statistics team also meet with the data suppliers and discuss any changes of issues that might affect the data. These close working relationships ensure that issues and planned changes to data collection can be considered before the data is used to produce population estimates.

Further steps are also being taken forward by National Services Scotland (NSS) Practitioner Services Division to continuously improve the quality of

the CHI data and the NHSCR team also continually work to improve the quality of the NHSCR. These improvements to the system mean that we need to know what the impact of these improvements will be on the data and the implications for how we use the data. Therefore the on-going process of quality assuring the information we use from patient registers is vital as well as one off pieces of analysis and research that add to our understanding of the data and also show the differences between different sources.

4. Vital events - birth and death registrations

Information about the quality of the birth and death information used for population estimates is available in the [Vital Events section](#) of the National Records of Scotland (NRS) website.

The papers on the NRS website cover the quality of the data obtained from the registration system and the processes used to collect the data and check it, as well as the processes and checks in place to quality assure the statistical databases that are used to create the counts of births and deaths used in the population estimates.

There are well established processes in place for registering vital events and various checks have been built into the registration process and system. For example, a registrar must be satisfied that a birth has taken place before registering it, and use a card that is issued by the hospital or attending midwife as evidence of the birth taking place in Scotland. It is thought that the vital events registration system captures nearly all events taking place in Scotland, however, it is not possible to guarantee that all events are captured, for example, if someone were to murder someone and dispose of their body so it could not be found. The numbers that are missed will be very small and therefore will not have an effect on the population estimates. There are also checks in place to check the quality of the information captured on registration certificates.

Quality assurance is also carried out on the vital events statistical database. The overall total numbers are obtained from NRS's Forward Electronic Register (FER) system, which holds the official record for each event (as entered by the local Registrar). Any differences between the statistical database's numbers of events and the figures from FER are investigated, in order to identify any events for which (a) records are missing from the statistical database or (b) records should be deleted from the statistical database. National Records of Scotland Vital Events then resolves any discrepancies: for example, by obtaining the data for any events which were found to be missing from its statistical database.

There is the potential for unreliability of vital events figures for small areas, for short periods or for particular sub-groups. Several examples of this can be found in a section of the NRS website on fluctuations in death statistics, particularly when the numbers involved are small. Vital Events figures for, say, a small area or a small sub-group of the population may be subject to large percentage fluctuations from (e.g.) year to year, due simply to the inevitable variability of natural events. Similarly, even the total number of deaths registered across Scotland as a whole may be subject to large percentage fluctuations if it relates to a short period (such as a week), due to both natural variation and factors (such as public holidays) which affect the arrangements for registering deaths.

For population estimates fluctuations from year to year are not an issue, we just need counts of births and deaths to feed into the estimates process. Analysing trends in births and deaths means that we need to be aware of these fluctuations and how we use the death data in our life expectancy calculations, particularly for smaller areas.

The Population and Migration Statistics team have close links with the Vital Events statistics team who in turn have close links with the NRS Registration team, who in turn have close links with registration offices across Scotland. These close working relationships mean that any data quality issues, or planned changes in data collection, are considered in advance and any issues can be considered before the data is used in the population estimates. A new senior post has been created within NRS to head up the registration, statistical futures and demographic statistics areas which brings together oversight of the Population and Migration statistics team, the Vital Events team and the Registration team under one person which will help improve the already good links between all the areas.

Given the various checking processes and the working relationships between the teams collecting and processing the data we have high confidence in the suitability of using vital events information on births and deaths to create population estimates.

5. Armed forces data collected from bases within Scotland

Information is collected from Armed Forces bases in Scotland every year and they provide information about the number of personnel stationed in their units on 30 June. The NRS Population and Migration Statistics team compare the returns against those from previous years and against information from the 2011 Census and also information published by Defence Analytical Services and Advice (DASA). Any discrepancies are followed up with bases in question. In order to estimate the location, age and sex of the armed forces different data sources are combined together. The change in the population of armed forces personnel obtained through the annual data collection is applied to the 2011 Census information.

While there are known issues about the quality of the information collected, for example a particular unit may not respond one year, the reconciliation of the population estimates based on the 2001 Census and based on the 2011 Census showed that in general the information used in the mid-year estimates helped to count the populations in these areas reasonably well and improved the age sex structure of the populations especially for small areas for example data zones that contained an armed forces base.

6. Prison statistics

The National Records of Scotland (NRS) receive estimates of the number of prisoners in Scotland once a year from the Scottish Government (SG) Prison Statistics team. While the SG Prison Statistics Team have experienced some technical difficulties in processing the data in recent years, discussions with the statisticians who produce the numbers supplied for use in producing the population estimates has ensured that the figures used in the population estimates are fit for purpose. More information about [Prison Statistics](#) and their quality can be found on the Scottish Government website.

Data on the number of prisoners are drawn from an administrative IT system. Although care is taken when processing and analysing the data, they are subject to the inaccuracies inherent in any large scale recording system. While the figures have been checked as far as practicable, they should be regarded as approximate and not necessarily accurate to the last whole number shown in the tables. They are also updated and quality assured on an on-going basis.

The reason for using prison numbers in the mid-year population estimates is to improve the age sex structure of areas that contain prisons. Therefore good estimates are all that is required rather than precise exact counts of the numbers.

7. Asylum seekers

The National Records of Scotland (NRS) use information published on the Home Office website on National Asylum Seeker Support Service (NASSS) supported asylum seekers. This information comes from an administrative system and is quality assured by statisticians in the Home Office who check the quality of the information before it is published and highlight any issues in their publication. Information on the Home Office website describes the quality of the data it publishes in the [User Guide to Home Office Immigration Statistics](#).

Data relating to asylum support are extracted from a database specifically for the processing and provision of asylum support (ASYS). Asylum support was set up to provide for asylum seekers while they await a decision on their asylum application. Asylum seekers who apply for asylum support under Section 95 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999 can receive: accommodation only (where they are allocated accommodation in a dispersal area and must otherwise support themselves); or subsistence only (where they receive cash to support themselves but must find their own accommodation); or accommodation and subsistence (where they are allocated accommodation in a dispersal area and cash to support themselves).

The Home Office assumed responsibility for supporting asylum seekers from April 2000 when the National Asylum Support Service (NASS), a directorate of the Immigration and Nationality Directorate (IND), was created. NASS was set up to provide accommodation and/or subsistence payments to asylum seekers so that they could support themselves while they were awaiting a decision on their asylum application. Any person applying for asylum in the UK after 3 April 2000 would only be eligible to apply for support through NASS (apart from some in-country cases that were part of the roll-out). Before 3 April 2000, asylum seekers, depending on the location of their application for asylum, could apply for support from the Department of Social Security (now part of the Department for Work and Pensions) or local authorities. NASS was disbanded in 2006. This service is now delivered by Asylum Support teams (part of the International and Immigration Asylum Group) based in various regional locations, but managed centrally. The legislation in respect of eligibility for asylum support, and the categories of support available, have not changed.

Immigration statistics, including asylum seeker statistics were assessed by the UK Statistics Authority in 2012 and after the assessment were confirmed as National Statistics. The [letter of designation](#) and the [assessment report](#) are available on the UK Statistics Authority website.

Asylum seeker statistics have also been audited in the past by the National Audit Office, a copy of their report is available on their website as well as a more recent report into the performance of the Home Office: -

1) [Asylum and migration – a review of Home Office Statistics by the National Audit Office \(May 2004\)](#)

2) [The Performance of the Home Office 2013-14](#) – page 20 mentions asylum seeker data specifically.

Long Term International Migration estimates produced by ONS include an asylum seeker component. The asylum seeker information published by the Home Office is used to more accurately allocate international migrants to council areas within Scotland alongside patient registers in the mid-year population estimates. Although there were concerns in the most recent NAO report raised about reviewing supported asylum cases to establish whether recipients were still eligible for support this should not affect the use of the data published by the Home Office for population estimates. This is because we are only using the information to help allocate a proportion of the asylum seeker component of the Long Term International Migration estimate produced by ONS to Glasgow City council area. The source and method is not perfect but it is the best currently possible with the sources we have available. Also, given the designation by the UK Statistics Authority as National Statistics and the conclusion by the National Audit Office in their 2004 report that ‘data on applications for NASS support are generally reliable’ we are confident that the asylum seeker data is of sufficient quality to be used to produce population estimates.

8. Contact us

This paper is designed to provide the user with information about the quality assurance processes National Records of Scotland (NRS) use for the administrative sources used in producing population estimates. If you would like further information please contact us using the information below.

The Scottish population

For more information on the National Records of Scotland (NRS) and the population of Scotland please visit our website:

For information on NRS:

<http://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/>

For information on population statistics:

<http://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/statistics-and-data/statistics/statistics-by-theme/population>

For information on the Census in Scotland:

<http://www.scotlandscensus.gov.uk/en/>

or contact us by telephone on:

0131 314 4299

or email to:

statisticscustomerservices@nrscotland.gov.uk

The Northern Ireland population

For more information on the Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency (NISRA) and the population of Northern Ireland please visit their website:

For information on NISRA:

<http://www.nisra.gov.uk/index.html>

For information on the population of Northern Ireland:

<http://www.nisra.gov.uk/publications/default.asp10.htm>

For information on the Census in Northern Ireland:

<http://www.nisra.gov.uk/Census.html>

or contact them by telephone on:

(028) 9034 8160

or email to:

census.nisra@dfpni.gov.uk

The England & Wales population

For more information on the Office for National Statistics (ONS) and the population of England & Wales please visit the website:

For information on ONS:

<http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/index.html>

For information on population statistics:

<http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/taxonomy/index.html?nscl=Population>

For information on the Census of England & Wales:

<http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/guide-method/census/2011/index.html>

or contact them by telephone:

For general enquiries regarding ONS:

0845 601 3034

For enquiries about the Census in England & Wales:

01329 444972

or email:

For general enquiries regarding ONS:

info@ons.gsi.gov.uk

For enquiries regarding the Census in England & Wales:

census.customerservices@ons.gsi.gov.uk

The UK population

Statistics regarding the UK population are compiled by ONS using the statistics produced by NRS and NISRA in conjunction with their own data on England & Wales.

For information on the population of the UK please use the details provided above in regards to England & Wales.