

Population and Migration Statistics (PAMS) Committee (Scotland)

Population And Migration Statistics Update

Introduction

This paper summarises the recent work on population statistics. PAMS is asked to note the paper and other comments. Written comments will also be welcome. Please select "Customer Services – Statistics" from the drop-down menu on the General Register Office for Scotland (GROS) website [Contact Form](#).

Staffing

Laura McConnell has been promoted and will leave GROS on 14 May to move to Education Statistics in the Scottish Government. Alan Sloan (shared with Household Estimates and Projections) has also been promoted and will move to the Alternative Sources branch in GROS. David Campbell will replace Alan and will start at the beginning of June. A replacement for Laura has not yet been identified.

Publications

Publications since the last PAMS meeting are:-

- Sub-national population projections (3 February 2010);
- Population Estimates for Special Areas e.g. Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD), Urban/Rural (23 February 2010);
- Life expectancy in special areas (25 March 2010);
- Quarterly migration release with the Office for National Statistics (ONS) (25 March 2010);
- Settlements and Localities (30 March 2010);
- 2009 mid-year estimates (28 April 2010).

Future publications:-

- Quarterly migration release with ONS (27 May 2010);
- Population Projections for SDPA areas and National Parks (10 June 2010);
- Population Estimates by Ethnic Group ('Statistics in development') subject to resources;
- Migration tables update (8 July 2010);
- Registrar General's Annual report (August 2010);
- Local Area Migration Reports (late August 2010);
- Centenarians in Scotland, 2002-2009 (September 2010);
- Life Expectancy in Administrative Areas of Scotland, 2007-2009 (September 2010);
- 2009 Small Area Population Estimates (September 2010);
- Various life expectancy results (November/December 2010).

Population Projections (2008 based)

Sub-national population projections (2008-based) for council and NHS board areas were published on 3 February. The publication was delayed by 3 working days to allow high migration, and for the first time, low migration variants to be published. Thank you to all those that replied to our consultation. We replied with a summary of the changes we made to the

initial assumptions on 3 February. We welcome feedback on the statistics and the assumption setting process.

Population projections for Strategic Development Plan Areas (SDPA) and National Park areas (2008-based) have been preannounced for 10 June 2010 after consultation with PAMS members and other key stakeholders on whether there should be a joint publication with Household results. Household projections for these areas will be published in August 2010.

Small Area Population Estimates Quality Assurance

We have permission from data owners to share the QA work with local authority users, with the aim of drawing on local knowledge to identify factors influencing the Small Area Population Estimates (SAPE). Harvey Snowling is working on putting the data into a format to share with authorities. Thoughts on how long to give authorities to look at the work are welcome.

Life Expectancy (LE)

Various LE statistics have been published. We have been asked by Information Services Division (ISD) to produce locally defined LE estimates for their ScotPho website by the end of May. However due to staffing shortages we cannot take on this work just now but we hope to do so in the future. Revised Life Expectancy in Scottish Parliamentary Constituency Areas, 2005 – 2007 were published on 25 March with the correct lookup to these areas from datazones now used. The publication of the next special and small area life expectancy stats will be brought forward to November/December 2010 rather than March 2011, subject to resources.

Dissemination and User Engagement

- Presentations have been made at GROS roadshows at Glasgow City and Dumfries & Galloway Councils;
- A presentation on Scotland's projected population was given to Edinburgh University's M.Sc. In Public Health Research class;
- PAMS members and other users were asked about their views on whether a joint publication with household results or separate publications for Strategic Development Plan Areas and National Park projections would be preferable. The majority of respondents preferred separate publications;
- Answering queries on sub-national projections and mid-2009 population estimates from local authorities and from the media.

Research into improving Migration and Population Statistics

- Paper PAMS (10) 10 gives more details on 2001 mid-year estimates split by ethnic group. Comments on the method and future timetable are welcome by end May.
- Paper PAMS (10) 14 provides information on whether a student adjustment is currently feasible. Comments on the recommendation are welcome by end May.
- Paper PAMS (10) 12 provides an update on the project to provide data and user guidance for POPGROUP to help councils produce their own population projections. Comments on the papers and proposals are welcome by end May.
- Paper PAMS (10) 13 asked for users to feed back views on which outputs should be revised after the 2011 Census by end July.

Update on IPMS Programme

Current and historic updates on the ONS Improving Population and Migration Statistics Programme which GROS are involved in are available on the ONS website through the following link:-

<http://www.ons.gov.uk/about-statistics/methodology-and-quality/imps/updates-reports/index.html>

GROS: Population & Migration Statistics Branch

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