

**Population And Migration Statistics (PAMS) Committee
(Scotland)**

**Promoting use of Census 2011 data – a role for
National records of Scotland (NRS)**

Introduction

This paper sets out the activities which National Records of Scotland (NRS) is involved in to promote analysis of Census 2011 data. The work includes analysis carried out within National Records of Scotland as part of the dissemination of Census statistics and also collaboration with analysts in Scottish Government; activities to promote the use of census analysis by others; awareness raising by publicising analysis carried out by a range of stakeholders; and making available commissioned tables.

Note

PAMS members are invited to comment on which areas of work are priorities for them, to identify gaps and to highlight work they are aware of which uses Census data.

Analysis programme

To date, a statistical bulletin has been published by NRS to accompany Release 1 and each of four Releases 2 publications (2A to 2D). For subsequent releases of the more complex tables from Release 3A onwards, these sets of tables have been accompanied by a news releases highlighting the main findings, but no other analytical reporting.

As part of the initial consultation on Census outputs, users were asked about their needs for analytical reports. These consultation responses were reported on at the time (available on [Scotland's Census](#) website), but we are conscious that was some time ago and priorities and ideas are likely to have changed.

NRS are now planning to produce a number of topic reports which will be published following the release 3 tables on these areas. These topics are linked to the main sets of tables which are due to be published in the next six months, although we will not be covering topics which we are aware will be analysed extensively by others.

- Living arrangements and concealed households
- Migration – characteristics of recent migrant groups
- Internal migration patterns
- Overview of health statistics in Census
- Characteristics of the private rented sector
- Travel to work

In addition, NRS are working in partnership with analysts in Scottish Government to encourage them to analyse the available Census data, and also to contribute to the

production of descriptive analytical reports on the following areas. The topics have been identified thus far reflect the willingness and enthusiasm of the individual analysts. The reports which are planned through these partnerships include: (in some cases these will be accompanied by additional tables)

- Analysis of ethnicity
- Analysis of religion
- Analysis of disability
- Analysis of Gaelic language

National Records of Scotland are also in discussion with other policy areas to identify their interests in and uses of Census data including:

- children and young people
- health and care
- labour market
- qualifications

We are also aware that the 2001 report on Inhabited Islands was well received and would be interested to hear about potential demand for this again from PAMS members.

Known plans for Census analysis by others

Rural Analytical Services Division plan to publish a census focused publication on rural areas later in summer.

Office for National Statistics(ONS) have been running a census analysis programme since. The reports which have been published to date can be found within the [Census Analysis Work Programme](#) section of their website. We are planning to collaborate with ONS on UK reports, although this is likely to be in 2015 given the resource.

Internal migration patterns

Following discussions with members of the Centre for Population Change in St Andrews, we are considering putting in a bid for resources to carry out analysis of the internal migration patterns using the data on address one year ago. The rationale for choosing this topic is that it is an area which is relatively poorly researched in Scotland, and would use the origin destination data which is not so easy to us. We are particularly interested to know what aspects of internal migration trends and patterns are of interest to local authority users.

Awareness raising through events, training courses and conferences

We have been supporting a range of activities in the past few months and expect this to continue throughout the year. As further and more detailed data becomes available, we must now look to find good and powerful examples of the use of the census. This is not only concerned with realising the benefits of the 2011 Census but will also feed into activity looking towards the future of census statistics.

Examples of the events we have supported this year include:

- AQMeN sessions
- Community Planning Partnership project sessions
- Scottish Parliament Information Centre training event
- SG Equality group meetings
- Transport Scotland meeting
- Training of student teachers at Edinburgh University
- Royal Statistical Society seminars
- Presentation at Scottish maths council conference
- Edinburgh Open Knowledge group

Looking ahead we want to continue and expand our input to events and sessions, so please get in touch if we can help or get involved in any events you know are taking place. In particular, we have our NRS/ British Society for Population Studies (BSPS) Census Conference on 25 June 2014 whilst we will also be present at the Royal Geographic Society annual conference in August and the BSPS conference in September.

Sharing the uses

We are making changes to our website with a view to providing a section devoted to showcasing examples of use of the data. In addition, we are considering a refresh and merger of two existing Knowledge Hub 'groups' to widen their scope to cover and promote the sharing of good examples of census data use. Moving forward we are also keen to find and highlight examples of census data being combined with other data sources to add value. Again, please get in touch if you have examples you want to share.