

POPULATION AND MIGRATION STATISTICS COMMITTEE (SCOTLAND)

2001 Census: Progress Report

Action for committee

1. The Committee is asked to note progress and plans and comment as appropriate

Progress

2. Since the last meeting of the committee, the following products have been released:
 - a. Standard and Theme tables for the new Westminster Parliamentary Constituencies (2005) have been placed alongside the Key Statistics and Univariate tables on the main GROS website (<http://www.gro-scotland.gov.uk/statistics/census/censushm/scotcen/scotcen2/westminster-parliamentary-constituencies-2005/index.html>)
At the time of writing, CAS and CAST tables had still to be added.
 - b. After many technical difficulties the SCROL DVD has now been released. We regret the delays and are waiting for a full explanation from our suppliers. The SCROL DVD comprises 2 discs. Each volume contains the complete set of Standard Area Statistics. Volume 1 is in Comma Separated Value (CSV) format and volume 2 is in SuperTABLE (SCS) format.
 - c. Bulk Supply Version 2 has now been distributed to our customers who paid for Version 1 and is also available for new customers. Version 2 includes Travel and Migration tables.
 - d. *Scotland's Census 2001 : Gaelic Report* was published on 10th October 2005.
 - e. A more detailed version of the household SAR, which includes Scottish data, can be accessed in a 'microdata laboratory' from which only 'safe' aggregated results may be removed. This is in addition to the more detailed version of the individual SAR, which was already available in the same laboratory setting. Such SARs are similar to those made public but with more statistical detail in variables such as occupation, and with more geographic detail.
 - f. Customer Services continue to receive requests for commissioned output. In excess of 300 requests have been met with some including as many as 50 tables.

Plans

3. GROS plan the following:

- a. Supplementary items of bulk supply being considered or being developed are 'numbers' versions of Key Statistics Tables. Standard and Theme Restricted tables for 2005 Scottish Westminster Parliamentary Constituencies are also being considered as a supplementary to Bulk Supply.
- b. Tables for 2005 Scottish Westminster Parliamentary Constituencies will be put on the SCROL website to replace tables for the 1995 constituency areas. Work is in progress and the current estimated release for this project is Spring/Summer 2006. In the meantime tables have been added to the main website (see 2a above).
- c. The 5% Small Area Microdata SAR has been produced, along with ONS and NISRA, for the UK. This dataset has a sub-Scotland geography. Finishing touches are being put to the file before its likely release in late November.
- d. The Special License Household SAR has gone ahead without Scottish (and Northern Irish) data because the risk of disclosure of Scottish data is considered unacceptably high. The (England & Wales) data is likely to be released sometime this month. It is possible that, for some users of Scottish data, the gap will be filled by the creation of the Scottish Longitudinal Study or by access to a detailed UK household SAR in the microdata laboratory (see 2e above).
- e. The Census Offices are working towards providing access to the Controlled Access Microdata ("unsafe") SARs at GROS (Ladywell House) and at NISRA. GROS are discussing with ONS the practicalities of achieving this and the matter is ongoing.
- f. To continue to provide on the GROS website further material to help users to take a view on the quality of the Census results. GROS have produced individual analyses of each Census variable and have also produced a paper on the ethnic coding of people assigned in output to the "mixed" and "other" ethnic groups. GROS intend to make this information available on their Website in due course. A further paper on downstream processing, output production and data quality has been produced in draft – it is hoped to put a final version of this on the Web in the future.
- g. Work is still ongoing on the review of both the SCROL and the GROS Websites.
- h. To continue to provide tables commissioned by users. The list requires updating but due to a shortage of staff this may not be possible until early 2006.
- i. To publish further analyses from the 2001 Census. Work has been started on an occasional paper on travel to work/study, which it is hoped to publish in Spring 2006.