

PAMS Seminar: Developments in Household Information

Martin Macfie, GROS: Household
Estimates and Projections

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General Register Office
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SCOTLAND
information about Scotland's people

Outline of presentation

1. Statistics currently published

- Estimates of Households and Dwellings
- Household projections

2. Implications of the possible abolition of Council Tax on our statistics

3. Investigation of alternative sources such as the Electoral Register

4. Next steps



1. Statistics currently published:

Estimates of Households and Dwellings

- New combined publication- contains LA and small-area statistics on households and dwellings
- What is a dwelling and what is a household?



Dwellings

Based on Assessors' Portal

- Numbers of dwellings
- Dwelling density per hectare
- Council Tax Bands
- Type of Dwelling (e.g. flats)
- Number of Rooms



Household Estimates

Based on Council Tax Systems

- Occupied Dwellings
- Vacant Dwellings
- Second Homes
- Single Adult Discounts
- “Occupied Exemptions” (e.g. all student households, armed forces accommodation)



2. Implications of the abolition of Council Tax on our statistics

- Currently, we base most of our statistics on Council Tax records
- Council Tax likely to be abolished- we will lose most of our household data
- Investigations of replacement sources of household statistics



Two main approaches to producing household statistics

- **Housing data** - find a source of information on all dwellings
(Households \approx All dwellings – vacant dwellings)
- **Population data** – find a source of data on all people in the country, along with their address or Unique Property Reference Number (UPRN)



Housing Data

- **National Gazetteer**- made up of LA Corporate Address Gazetteer (CAG)
- Policy on taxing **vacant/second properties**



Population Data

- **The NHS Central Register (NHS-CR)**
- **The Electoral Register**



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3. Investigations of the Electoral Register

- Adults registered to vote in election with their home address
- *Address \approx Household*
- Possible number of adults in a household



Who is eligible to vote in the UK?

Those resident in the United Kingdom

AND

Aged 18+

AND

either a

UK National, a member of Commonwealth
Country or be from Republic of Ireland



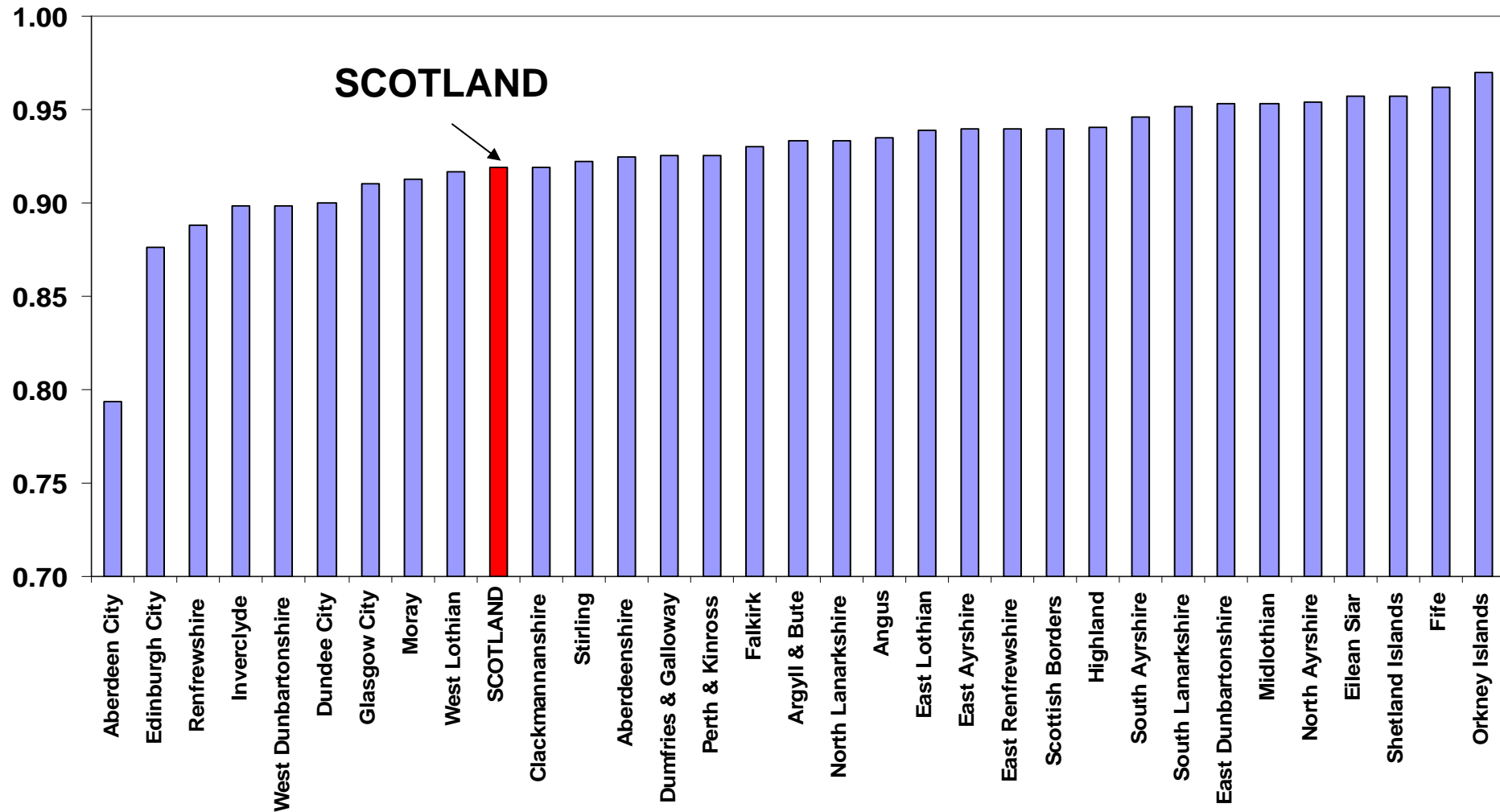
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Characteristics of the electoral register

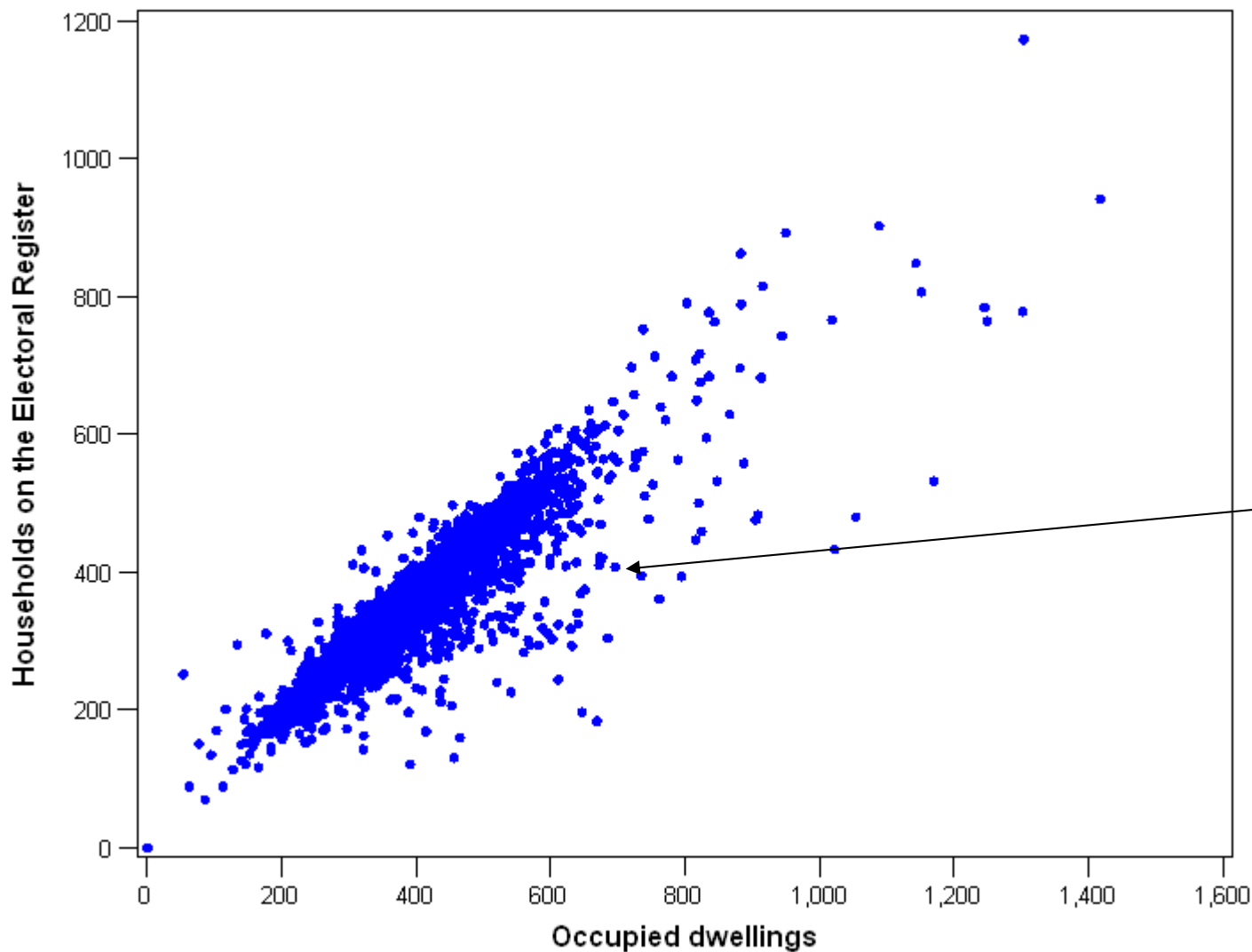
- Updated on a monthly basis
- Annual canvass of electors
- We have a snapshot of the data from July 2007
- *People who are turning 18 in the next year can appear on the Electoral Register*
- *This analysis covers addresses which contain at least one person aged 18+*



Households on Electoral Register as a proportion of the number of occupied dwellings, by local authority (2007)



Data zone analysis: Occupied dwellings V Households from Electoral Register for data zones in 28 LAs



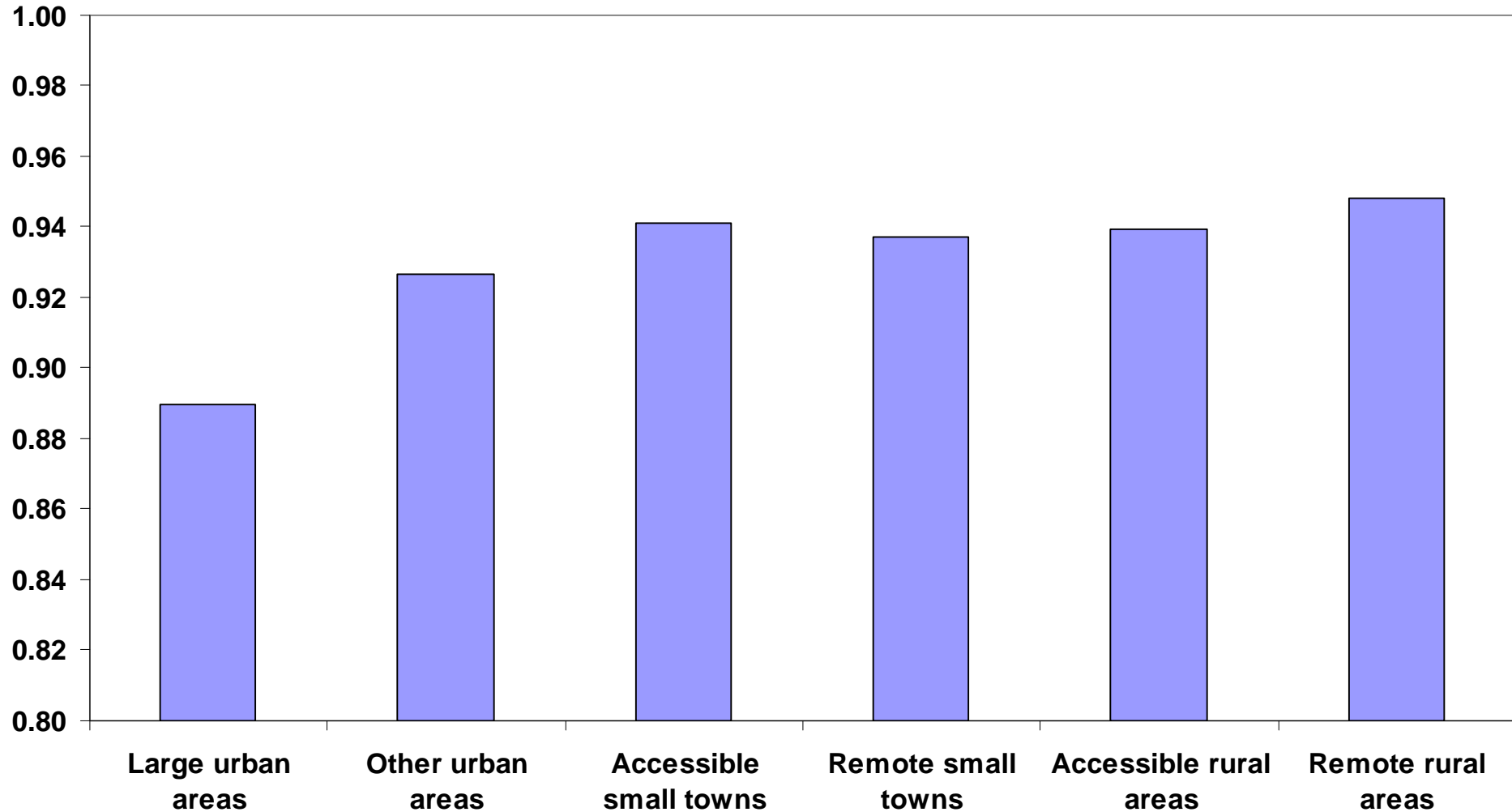
Correlation
= 0.914

Households on the Electoral Register at data zone level

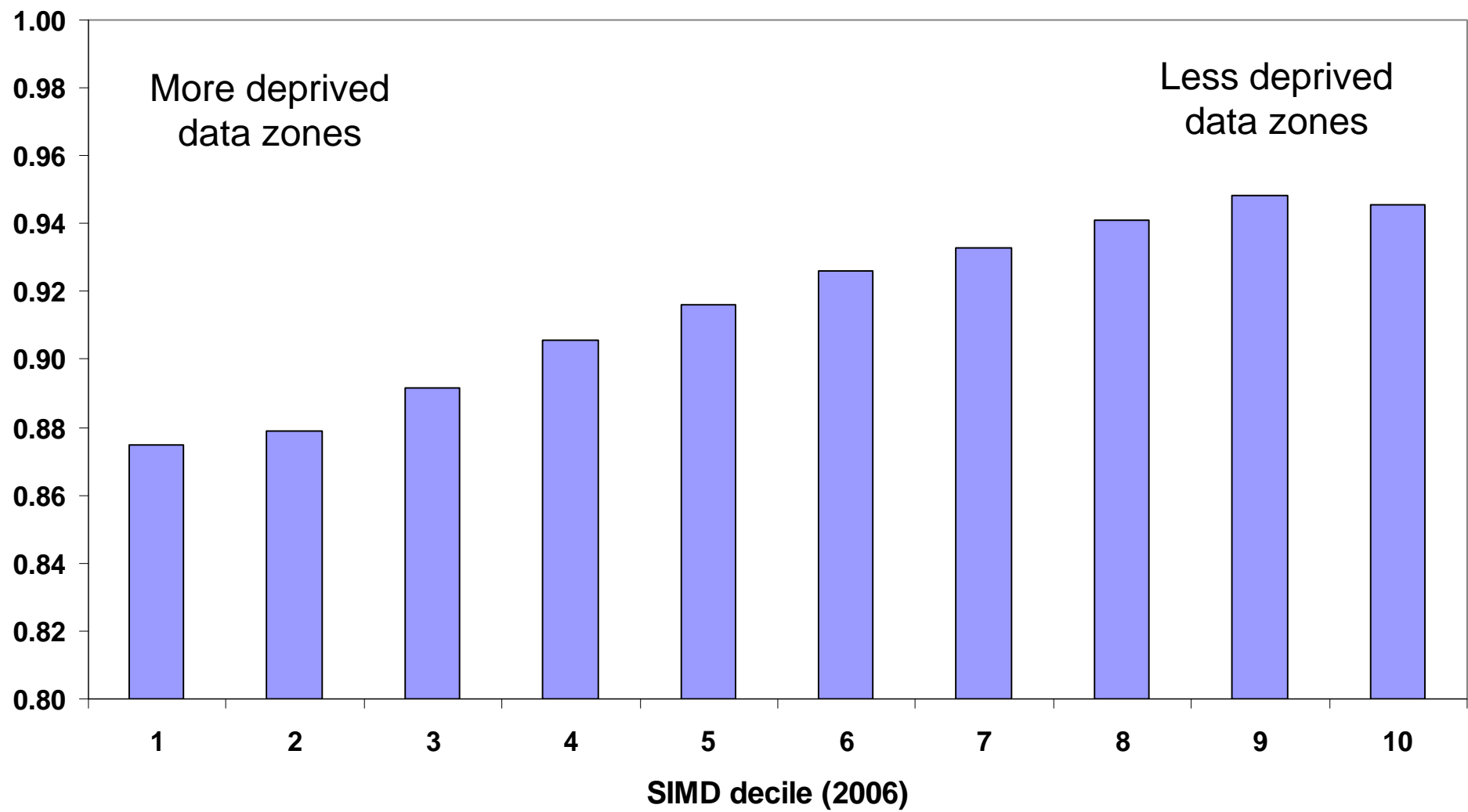
- Considerable variation in relative number of households on the electoral register at data zone level
- A few data zones with overcounts of households on the electoral register - high proportions of vacant dwellings in these areas



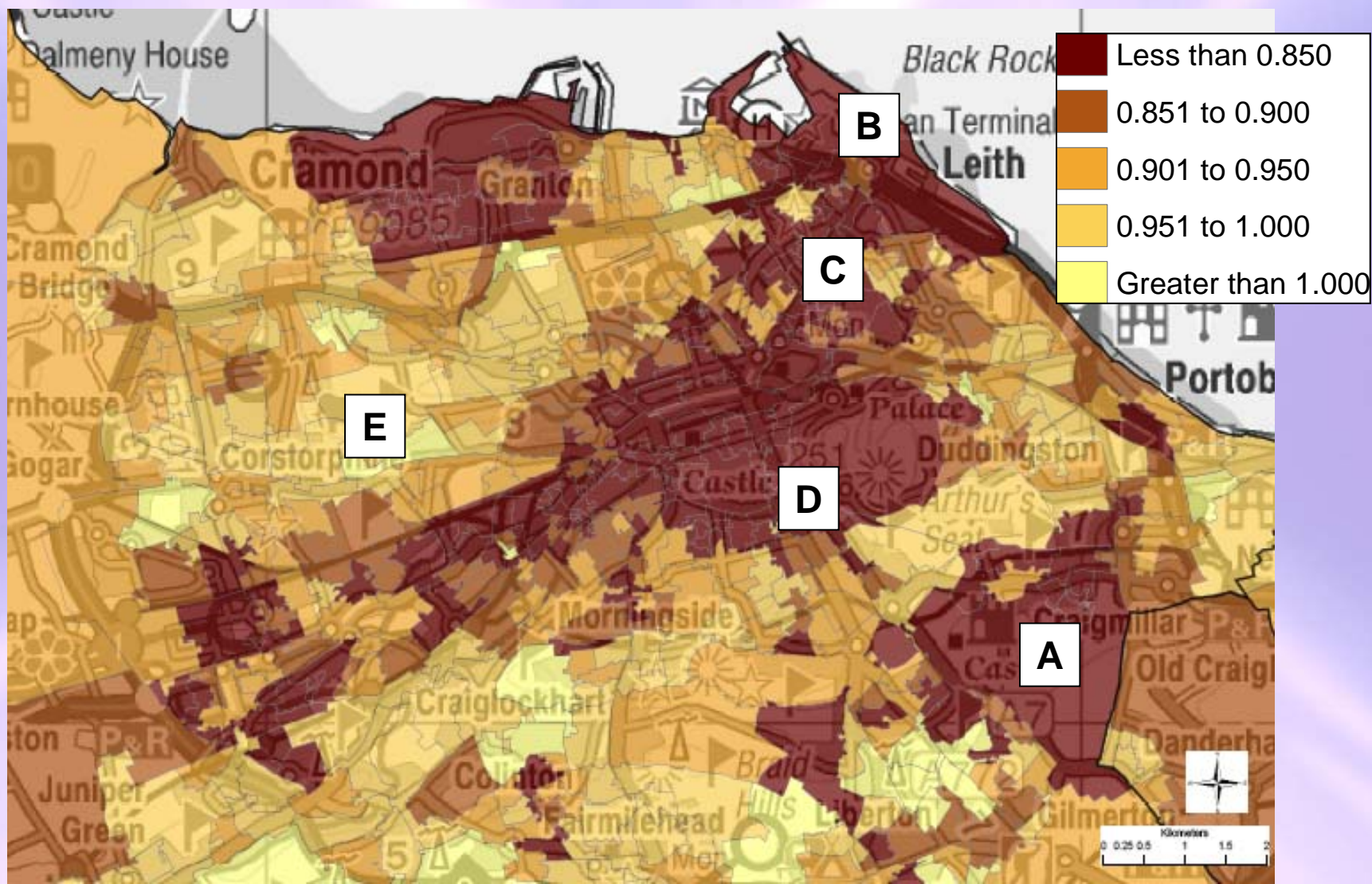
Proportions of the numbers of households on the Electoral Register to Occupied dwellings, by Urban-rural classification



Proportions of the numbers of households on the Electoral Register to Occupied dwellings, by Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) decile



Households on the Electoral Register as a proportion of the number of occupied dwellings in Edinburgh



Conclusions of Electoral Register case study...so far

- Broadly fine as a source of occupied dwellings, but with missing data in most data zones
- Best for towns and rural areas
- Worst for deprived data zones in large urban areas
- Issues with quality of data in some areas



4. Next steps

- Possible examination of “missing data”
- Comparison of addresses with those in Assessors’ Portal
- Investigation of Corporate Address Gazetteers



Any questions?

- We would welcome any comments or suggestions- please contact Martin at martin.macfie@gro-scotland.gsi.gov.uk
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