NRS - Shaping Scotland’s Future

How is Scotland’s population changing?

Plans for Scotland’s Census 2021
National Records of Scotland: Telling the Story of Scotland

Preserving the past

Recording the present

Informing the future
National Records of Scotland

Statistics about Scotland’s population

Population statistics incorporating the census and other sources
  – Population, migration, births, deaths, life expectancy, housing, households, projections

Scotland’s census every 10 years (next = 2021)
  – Population, housing, health, ethnicity, languages, religion, education, labour market, transport
Why are population statistics important for the Third Sector?

• Identifying need
• Identifying best ways of targeting help
• Understanding user groups better
• Providing evidence to support funding applications
Overview of how Scotland’s population is changing
Scotland’s population was the **highest ever** in 2017, and is **projected to rise**.
Births exceeded deaths in the 1950s-60s, but more recent figures are lower.

Natural change (births minus deaths):
- 28.6K in 1952
- 3.8K in 2017
- 10.8K in projections for 2041

Estimates

Projections ----->
Since ~2000, Scotland’s population has increased mostly due to **migration**.

- Natural change (births minus deaths)
  - 28.6K
  - 23.9K
  - -3.8K
- Net migration
  - -29.1K
  - 14.6K
  - -10.8K

Estimates vs. Projections
Population projections under different migration assumptions

Millions of people

- **5.96m** High migration
- **5.78m** 50% more EU migration
- **5.69m** Principal projection
- **5.60m** 50% less EU migration
- **5.52m** Zero EU migration
- **5.43m** Low migration
- **5.17m** Zero net migration

2016

2041
Population is increasing overall, but projected to decline in one quarter of Scottish council areas.

Projected population change, 2016 to 2026

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Ordnance Survey (OS Licence number 100020542)
Most migration is among young adults

Moves to/from the rest of UK

Moves to/from overseas

Date: 2016-2017

Age

0-15 16-24 25-34 35-44 45-54 55-64 65-74 75-84 85+

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Implications – overall population change

- Need and demand for services
- Tax revenues to fund services
- Local workforce / skills
Age profiles
Age structure of Scotland’s population, 1911-2041

1911

2017

1951

2041

Age

85+

300,000 200,000 100,000 0 100,000 200,000 300,000

Male

Female

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Most population growth is among pensioners.

Projected population change, 2016-2041

- Main projection
- Zero EU migration variant

- Total population: 5% (5% growth) vs. 2% (2% growth)
- Children: -2% vs. -7%
- Working age: 1% vs. -3%
- Pensionable age: 25% vs. 25%
Implications – ageing population

• Opportunities (capacity to contribute longer)
• Challenges (greater demand for public and voluntary services)
• Relatively smaller working age population
Births, deaths and life expectancy
People in Scotland have **fewer children** than in other parts of the UK.
Life expectancy was steadily increasing, but has now fallen slightly.

**Life expectancy at birth**

- Female: 75.3 in 1980-82, 81.1 in 2015-17
- Male: 69.1 in 1980-82, 77.0 in 2015-17
Life expectancy in Scotland is lower than in most EU countries
Life expectancy varies across Scotland

Life expectancy at birth by council area, 2015-2017

Scotland: 77.0
Scotland: 81.1

Males
Females

East Renfrewshire
East Dunbartonshire
Orkney Islands
Perth and Kinross
Aberdeenshire
Scottish Borders
Stirling
Moray
Shetland Islands
East Lothian
Angus
West Lothian
City of Edinburgh
Midlothian
Dumfries and Galloway
Highland
Argyll and Bute
Falkirk
Fife
South Ayrshire
Aberdeen City
Na h-Eileanan Siar
South Lanarkshire
Clackmannanshire
East Ayrshire
Renfrewshire
North Ayrshire
North Lanarkshire
Inverclyde
West Dunbartonshire
Dundee City
Glasgow City

Life expectancy in years

72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85

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Deaths from **circulatory diseases** are decreasing, while deaths from **dementia** and **Alzheimer’s** are increasing.
Deaths from **cancer**
Deaths from **alcohol, drugs and probable suicides**

- **Alcohol-specific deaths, 1,120**
- **Drug-related deaths, 934**
- **Probable suicides, 664**

2000 - 2017
Housing
More people are living alone or in smaller households

Number of households, by household size

Source: NRS household estimates and Scottish Household Survey
Large increases in people renting

Age structure of private rented sector

Source: Scottish Household Survey
Implications - Housing

• Support needs of people living alone, particularly older people
• Growth of Private Rented Sector
Key messages

• Population
  – Population is at its **highest** ever at 5,404,700
  – Overall population is **increasing**, mostly due to **migration**
  – Population is **ageing**, with most growth among pensioners
  – Number of **children** is projected to fall slightly

• Births and deaths
  – **Birth rates** are **lower** in Scotland than in the rest of the UK
  – **Life expectancy has increased** over the past 3 decades, but has stalled in recent years.
  – **Life expectancy** is lower than in the rest of the UK, and western Europe

• Housing
  – More people **living along**
  – Large growth in people **renting**
Why is population change important?

- Demand for services
- Education
- Health and social care provision
- Housing
- Workforce size/skills
- Tax revenues
- Pensions
- Funding allocations
- Impact on natural environment
What is the census?

• **Every 10 years** since 1801 (except 1941)
• Responsibility of the **Registrar General for Scotland** (NRS Chief Executive)
• In short, it is a **survey of everyone** – everywhere in Scotland
• It produces **anonymised statistical estimates** which offer a picture of the number of people and their characteristics (such as age, health, where and how we live, etc.)
• **Legal requirement** under the Census Act 1920
• Offers a level and range of **detail not available from other surveys**
What is the census?

- Content and operational aspects of Scotland’s Census **subject to Scottish Parliament approval**
- Therefore **separate but harmonised with other censuses** in the UK
- It’s a **huge exercise** e.g. currently estimating 3-4,000 ‘field force’ required in 2021
- It’s unique and we have **one chance to get it right**
- Our **promise of anonymity and security** is critically important
- The individual **returns are kept closed for 100 years** and then released
Users of the data

• **Wide variety of users:**
  – Councils (e.g. education, transport, housing and equality monitoring)
  – Health Boards
  – Charity/third sector
  – Commercial/private sector
  – Government
  – Parliament
  – Media
  – Public
Example: Marie Curie

Planning and commissioning of palliative and end of life care

• Use census data on age, health, caring, family structure, location, transport
• e.g. services designed around those who live on their own
• Transport data used to understand access to services in rural areas
scotland.datashine.org.uk: Census data on Polish people living in Edinburgh
The 2011 Census questionnaire

- Questions
  - Occupants
  - Type of accommodation
  - Heating
  - National identity
  - Number of vehicles
  - Employment
  - Education
  - Health
New Questions for 2021

- Trans status / history
- Sexual orientation
- Use of British Sign Language
- Passport held
- Veterans/ex-service status
Questions not included for 2021

- Number of rooms.
- Household income
- Volunteering
- Multilingualism
- Second address
- Intended length of stay
- Reason for Migration
- Same sex marital status
- Technology / digital
Census timeline

- 2016: Design
  - Establish the programme
  - Develop overall design
  - Engage with suppliers

- 2017: Procure, Build, Test
  - Refine questions
  - Contract with suppliers
  - Plan for Rehearsal

- 2018: Rehearsal
  - Conduct rehearsal
  - Test integration of all aspects

- 2019: Operational Readiness
  - Scale up for census
  - Legislative Approval

- 2020: Census & Processing
  - Collect census data
  - Census coverage survey
  - Process data

- 2021: Dissemination
Key dates

- **Census Day** is Sunday 21 March 2021

- **Census Rehearsal**
  - October 2019
  - Glasgow City, Dumfries and Galloway, Western Isles
  - Approx. 80,000 households
  - No legal obligation
Key Design Assumptions

- Predominantly **online**
- **Post-out of internet access codes** to households
- **High quality address list** will support post-out
- **Targeted follow-up** of non-responding households
- Get first set of **results out within a year**
Why maximise online participation?

- **Data quality higher** than from returns on paper
- **Quicker** to process than paper
- **Cheaper** than paper
- **Public expectations**
- But **digital exclusion** needs to be addressed
- And still a place for **paper**
Protect, and be seen to protect, confidential information

- Critically **important** given current and emerging threats
- Legally **bound**
- Ensure public confidence to achieve **high response rates**
- Need to be **transparent** about how we manage confidentiality
- The personal **data provided is NOT shared**
- There are various measures and controls to ensure **people cannot be recognised in the published figures**
- Confidentially maintained for 100 years
High level design
Public Assistance Objectives

- To provide support and advice to the public to enable them to complete their census questionnaire
  - ensure the support meets the needs of the public
  - encourage participation, particularly digital
  - minimise exclusion
Public Assistance Services

- Contact Centre
- Language support (including BSL)
- Web Chat
- Support Hubs network
- Support products, e.g. translated questionnaire guidance, large-print, Braille
How will we raise awareness and encourage participation?

- Publicity and Marketing campaign
- Communications activity
- Community Engagement
- Public Assistance
- Getting the questions right
- Getting the online system right
- Enumeration (standard, tailored, communal establishment)
How can you help?

- Inform our plans and designs
- Ensure we understand your needs for outputs/statistics
- Shape your understanding of the needs of those you represent and barriers to their participation
- Reduce/remove barriers and help us reach and engage everyone
- Shape our public assistance services
- Help us to raise awareness and encourage participation
- Case studies – tell us how you’ve used census data
How to find out more

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www.nrscotland.gov.uk
www.scotlandscensus.gov.uk

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??? (coming soon)