



Population Estimates

A Short Guide to Population Estimates

A Short Guide to Population Estimates

The Office for National Statistics (ONS) produces estimates of the resident population. The most authoritative population estimates are produced every ten years in the United Kingdom, and come from the Census of Population and Housing. These are updated to produce mid-year population estimates in the intercensal period. The population estimates tell us how many people live in each local authority and health authority area and what the composition of the population is in these areas by age and sex. Further population statistics, including migration estimates, vital events (covering births, deaths, marriages and divorces), and population projections are also available.

This guide is mainly about the population estimates that are produced in the years when there is no Census. For mid-2001, when there was a Census, a slightly different approach was necessary. The 2001 Census data were used as a base, and the change between Census day and the mid-year point (62 days) was estimated in order to produce the mid-2001 population estimate. More information about the data and method used is available in Population Trends no. 109, which is available at

http://www.statistics.gov.uk/downloads/theme_population/PT109.pdf in an article entitled "Rebasing the Annual Mid-year Population Estimates for England and Wales". For the benefit of completeness, an overview of other population statistics and sources is given at the end of this guide (*see page 9*).

How to estimate a resident population

The population estimates are made by the cohort component method. In summary, this is how it works:

- Take the previous mid-year resident population, age-on one year, and estimate the population change between 1 July and 30 June by:
- Adding births occurring during the year
- Removing deaths occurring during the year
- Allowing for migration to and from the population

The estimate is made for population resident as at 30 June of the reference year. The starting point for the estimate is the previous mid-year population, and we age-on this population (ie advance the single year of age population by one year) then add on those who have been born during the year. We then remove all those who have died during the estimate year according to their age, sex, and their normal place of residence.

The other factor to be taken into account in preparing a population estimate is the movement of people in and out of the United Kingdom (international migration), and movements within the UK (internal migration). Internal migration includes cross-border moves between the four constituent countries of the UK. An international migrant is someone who intends to stay here (or go abroad) for a period of at least a year. Migration is the most difficult part of the population estimate process, as migratory moves are not registered in the UK, either at the national or local level. The best proxy data that are available on a nationally-consistent basis are used to estimate migration. ONS is continually researching ways of ensuring and improving the quality of the population estimates. This research includes analysis of possible new data sources which may become available.

The cohort component method used for calculating the population estimates is a standard demographic method also used by several other national statistics institutions who have access to high quality data sources for the components of population change: for example, it is used by the Australian Bureau of Statistics and by the US Bureau of the Census.

What detail is available for Population Estimates?

The Population Estimates Unit at the Office for National Statistics can provide the estimated size of the resident population by age (single years or five-year age-groups, age at last birthday), sex and location for England and for Wales. Population estimates by marital status are also available for England and Wales combined, and for Scotland, although not Northern Ireland. Intercensal estimates are published and available on the following geographies:

for England -

- Government Office Regions (GORs)
- County
- Metropolitan Districts
- London Boroughs
- County District and Unitary Authority
- Health Authority

and for Wales –

- Unitary Authority
- Health Authority

Where do the data for the components of population change come from?

The compulsory registration of births and deaths ensures that we receive very high quality data for these from the Registrar General's office.

A number of factors contribute to the migration data. We allow for movements within England and Wales, in and out of England and Wales from across other UK borders (ie from/to Northern Ireland and Scotland) and also to and from England and Wales from other parts of the world. Some of those who come into England and Wales come with the specific intention of applying for asylum. The data for these asylum seekers come from the Home Office, and are provided to us by the area or country they have come from, together with information about age and sex. We use a distribution based on country of birth information drawn from the latest Census to allocate them to the parts of the country where the Census indicated they were most likely to settle. Of the total number of applications in a year that are made for asylum within the UK, 85% are currently allocated to Greater London. Not everyone who applies for asylum is granted leave to remain in the UK; outflows of those who are refused asylum are captured by the International Passenger Survey.

Visitor Switchers are people who have arrived in England and Wales as visitors, and have subsequently applied to the Home Office for extended leave to remain in the country for a period that would make them resident for at least a year. As for asylum seekers, we use a Census distribution of country of birth to allocate them to England, Scotland and Wales.

We gain information about other international migrants from the International Passenger Survey (IPS), which is conducted at the main ports and airports by the Social Survey team. This is a sample survey, and provides us with information about those coming into England and Wales from outside the UK. The survey is also used as the basis for calculating numbers of people emigrating from England and Wales. Data from the Irish Labour Force Survey and the Country of Residence Survey are used currently to estimate migration to and from the Republic of Ireland. These data are agreed with the Irish Central Statistical Office.

The age and sex distribution for migration beyond the UK and the Republic of Ireland has been a national distribution applied to each local authority based on information from the Census. In the mid-2000 population estimates the national distribution by age and sex was based on information from the IPS for broad age groups and Census data were used to produce a more detailed age breakdown.

Flows to and from the Republic of Ireland are apportioned to local authorities within the Health Authority (HA) using information about numbers of Irish-born persons enumerated in the

Census. The age and sex distribution for migration to and from the Republic of Ireland is a national distribution applied to each local authority using information from the Census .

From the mid-1999 population estimate onwards, a new data source was used to estimate migration between local authorities within England and Wales. This source comprises of extracts of the patient registers held by each of the Health Authorities (HAs). The variables that are available to ONS are National Health Service (NHS) number, the patient's date of birth, sex, and postcode of resident address, but for reasons of confidentiality not the address itself. These data are extracted as a snapshot from the registers at 31 July each year. This reference date is based on the assumption that it takes about a month to register with a General Practitioner (GP) and hence appear on the patient register after moving to a new area. This is consistent with the assumption used in the migration estimates derived from the National Health Service Centralised Register (NHSCR).

Following the removal of duplicate records and any temporary records from the extracts, all patient registers from all health authorities are combined to give a total register for the whole of England and Wales. Comparing individual records in one year with those of the previous year by linking on National Health Service number enables identification of people who change their postcode. A migrant is defined as a person who between one year and the next changes their area of residence. This final step leads to an estimate of the number of people who have moved during the year, from the number who have changed their postcodes following a move.

Before 1999, gross internal migration changes were first determined at the HA level and then changes in the electoral registers were used to distribute these migration data amongst the component UAs and LAs.

How are the data processed?

When the various data sets are received at ONS, they are checked against previous years' data to gauge consistency and completeness of coverage. They are then processed electronically to produce the mid-year estimate, and at each stage they are quality-assured. Where appropriate we also compute demographic ratios to help check the plausibility of the data e.g. sex ratios of births.

How do we define "resident population"?

The Registrar General's current series of sub-national population estimates are based on the 1991 Census and relate to the **resident** population. The resident population is defined as follows:

'The estimated population of an area includes all those usually resident in the area, whatever their nationality. Members of Her Majesty's armed forces stationed in England and Wales are included at their place of residence but those stationed outside England and Wales are not included. Members of the US armed forces stationed in England and Wales are included at their place of residence. Students are taken to be resident at their term-time address. Prisoners are regarded as usually resident at an institution if they have served six months or more of a custodial sentence'.

The usual residence base from the 1991 Census underpins the mid-year population estimates resident base. It is important therefore, that the definition of a resident is readily understood by members of the general public. For most people the concept of usual residence is quite straightforward although no legal definition is used. There is generally no requirement to have lived for a minimum period in a locality to be considered usually resident there. For a minority, however, the concept of 'usual residence' is not so easy and it is difficult to apply a general rule. Groups included in this category are:

- students
- armed forces

- prisoners
- seasonal workers
- contract workers and other frequent movers
- some people in institutions
- people on working holidays
- vagrants
- people with frequently used second homes
- foreign students and au pairs.
- people who live and work away from a family home for part of the week

The first three groups are specifically referred to in the definition of resident population for population estimates given above. For other groups, the definitions used in the 1991 Census of Population are carried through into the population estimates. For example, institutions are regarded as being the usual residences of people who have been within them for six months or more.

The definition of the usually resident population for the 1981 and 1991 Censuses is given in the 1991 Census Definitions Volume, chapter 2 page 8.

In practice, when compiling a population estimate, a number of data sources have to be used, each with its own definition of usual residence. For instance, in the Census, individuals are left to provide their own interpretation of their usual residence whereas from the International Passenger Survey (IPS), used to estimate international migration, a more precise definition is used. It is impracticable to reconcile these differences in definition and the working assumption is that they have a negligible effect upon estimates.

It is important to remember that the usually resident population does not always coincide with the number of persons to be found in an area at a particular time of the day or year. The daytime populations of city centres, and the summertime populations of holiday resorts, will be larger than the corresponding usually-resident populations. The starting point for the 1991 series of population estimates was the 1991 Census, increased to take account of the under-enumeration in the Census. The number of 0-year-olds in the mid-1991 population estimates were calculated from birth registrations and infant deaths in the preceding year, and the Census counts for local areas at other ages were adjusted to take account of the differences between definitions of usual residence for students used in the Census and those used for population estimates. Data from the Department of Social Security (DSS) and the Defence Analytical Services Agency (DASA) was used to allocate shortfalls in the elderly and members of the armed forces respectively across local authorities. It was also necessary to advance the estimates from 6 April to 30 June 1991 because all annual estimates of population relate to mid-year. Components of change were measured over 12 weeks for this purpose.

The availability of rebased estimates following a new Census provides an opportunity to examine the quality of the intercensal updating procedures. Occasional Paper 44, Accuracy of rolled-forward population estimates in England and Wales, 1981-91, ONS (1995) describes the comparisons made between the Registrar General's 1991 population estimates rolled-forward from the 1981 census for areas within England and Wales, with final revised estimates rebased using 1991 Census results.

Special "Mobile" Population Groups

Some population groups need to be treated separately, eg school boarders, prisoners, armed forces (both home and foreign), and foreign armed forces' dependants living in this country.

These are not covered by the migration data sources we use, and they have their own age structure which differs from the rest of the population. Therefore, we need to estimate these groups outside of the ageing-on process.

Because the numbers within these groups can change from year to year (for instance, we do not always have the same number of prisoners each year) we estimate them separately each year using data collected from the sources listed below. From the base population (ie the population resident at the end of the previous mid-year), we take out the school boarders, prisoners, home and foreign armed forces and foreign armed forces' dependants for that year, and add back in the total number of each group at the end of the following mid-year. In this way we can allow for any increase or decrease in resident populations within these groups. We are also able to maintain their age structure. For instance, if we aged-on school boarders we would have some aged 27 by the end of the intercensal period!

Data for home armed forces are supplied to us by the Defence Analytical Services Agency (DASA), who tells us where these England and Wales troops are stationed. In order to check the figures for the number of armed forces personnel stationed in local authority areas, we write to each LA/UA and ask them, with their specialist knowledge of the local area, to tell us whether they agree with the figures for the number of armed forces stationed in their area. This consultation process takes place each year, and it provides a valuable quality assurance of input data used to estimate the armed forces component of population estimates.

For UK armed forces, we know that not all armed forces personnel live on the base where they are stationed. As our mid-year estimates are by residence, we attempt to place them in their home area, not their base area. We do this using a "base to residence" matrix which helps us to allocate these people to the areas where they are likely to be living. Sometimes this means that personnel are based in one LA/UA area but they are living in another LA/UA.

For foreign armed forces we currently receive data on US troops stationed in England and Wales by country or district of residence. Included in the data supplied is an allowance for dependants (children under the age of 18, and wives in this case).

Boarding schools data for boarders are provided to us by the Department for Education and Skills (DfES) in England, and the National Assembly for Wales.

For prisoners, we use figures for individual prisons, provided by the Home Office, of all those who have been convicted and spent at least six months in prison. Those who are awaiting trial, or who have shorter sentences, are included in the population estimates at their usual residence address rather than at the prison.

Revisions policy

It is not our usual policy to revise the mid-year estimates during the intercensal period. The only time the accuracy of a population estimate can be assessed is when authoritative, independent estimates of the population become available on a nationally consistent basis. This will next happen when the results of the 2001 Census become available. After that, the estimates for the intercensal series will be revised to produce a series that is consistent with both the 1991 and 2001 Censuses.

Who uses the estimates – and what are they used for?

Mid-year population estimates currently have a wide variety of uses within central government, as well as being used by local and health authorities, other public bodies, commercial companies, and individuals in the private and academic sector. These uses can be categorised into two broad groups:

- Those where the absolute numbers are of key importance, eg in terms of allocating financial resources from central government, planning services and grossing up survey results. Some of the main central government uses are concerned with resource allocation. These are

carried out by the Department for Transport, Local Government and Regions for England, and by the National Assembly for Wales.

- Those where the population figures are used as denominators in the calculation of rates, indicators and ratios.

The above requirements are met by annual population estimates for all local authority districts, unitary authorities and London boroughs (which can be aggregated to counties and Government Office Regions), for all health authorities, and, by aggregation, for Regional Offices. Local authorities and health authorities make use of these estimates for their own planning and resource allocation procedures, but frequently they require information for smaller areas. The Census of Population provides basic information once every ten years, which can be aggregated to desired area levels subject to constraints imposed by the need to preserve the confidentiality of individuals. Some local authorities also conduct surveys of their own - enhancements to the administrative procedure for electoral registration - to obtain more detailed information about the level and attributes of population in their areas between Censuses.

Small Area Estimates

Procedures have also been developed commercially for updating 1991 Census populations at ward level, using ONS mid-year population estimates for local authority districts, unitary authorities and London boroughs, in later years, as control figures. Research at Oxford University has produced some small area estimates, and these are available as Neighbourhood Statistics on the National Statistics website (<http://www.statistics.gov.uk/>).

ONS has set up a research project to investigate the production of intercensal population estimates for geographical areas smaller than Local Authorities in England and Wales. This is in response to the increasing demand for small area statistics identified by initiatives such as New Deal for Communities, Best Value, the National Strategy for Neighbourhood Renewal (encompassing Neighbourhood Statistics) and a review of customer needs for population statistics carried out by ONS.

The Census of Population is the best source of population statistics for small areas, however Censuses are only carried out every ten years. In the years between Censuses, the smallest geographic area for which ONS produces annual population estimates is at local authority level in England and Wales. Various organisations have produced sets of small area estimates e.g. University of Oxford mid-1998 ward population estimates for England, however users are keen that ONS take the lead in producing small area population estimates, which will be available to all on a nationally consistent basis. Results from the 2001 Census provide will provide ONS with the ideal opportunity to evaluate possible data sources and methods which might be suitable for producing small area population estimates.

The project is being advised by a Steering Group which includes experts in demography and methodology from central and local government, and the academic sector.

Details of this work can be found at <http://www.statistics.gov.uk/sape/default.asp>

Assessing the Accuracy of Intercensal Population Estimates

Following the 2001 Census, an assessment of accuracy will be made by comparing the expected population, as predicted from the cohort component method based on the 1991 Census, with the 2001 Census-based population for mid-2001.

There is a perpetual programme of research at ONS aimed at ensuring that the best methods and data sources continue to be used in compiling the mid-year population estimates. The purpose of the assessment of accuracy of the population estimates is to help target this research work in the future to those areas where there is the most to be gained from making improvements.

This work will start as soon as the mid-2001 population estimates are available on both bases (the rolled-forward estimate and the 2001 Census-based estimate).

Following the assessment of accuracy exercise, a report will be published by ONS which will give percentage errors in the rolled-forward estimates for standard regions, counties, and local authority districts, and for health authorities. Discrepancies will be investigated and reported by age and sex for local and health authority areas and population sub-groups in England and Wales. The final publication date for this report will depend on the availability of the 2001 Census data.

For more information or specific questions about population estimates:

Pop.info@ons.gov.uk

Office for National Statistics

Segensworth Road

Titchfield

Hampshire

PO15 5RR

Tel: (01329) 813 281

Fax:(01329) 813 295

An Overview of Population Statistics produced for the United Kingdom

Within the UK, population statistics are produced by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) for England and Wales, and by the General Register Office for Scotland (GROS), and the Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency (NISRA). ONS also collates UK population statistics.

Population statistics are used extensively: there is a wide range of applications for these statistics and there is a diverse customer base. The data are used for planning purposes, for allocating resources, for monitoring demographic change, and for forecasting future needs, eg for school places. In addition, population estimates are used as denominators in calculating rates which are used for monitoring purposes, eg monitoring service provision or sustainable development. Rates may also be useful in developing policies, in deriving performance indicators and comparing performance between areas, or in analysing trends in public health. Clearly there is a wide customer base for the population statistics which includes central and local government in a wide range of social applications, health services, academia, the business sector, and the general public.

These population statistics include population estimates and projections, migration estimates, and vital event statistics of births, deaths, and marriages (based on registration data) and divorces (based on courts records). There are several ways of making a population estimate, the best and most direct of which is to take a population Census. In the UK, Censuses have traditionally been held every ten years, with a few exceptions (eg during the second world war, and between 1961 and 1971 when there was a five-year gap between Censuses with the 1966 10% sample Census). In the ten years between Censuses, population estimates are made annually by an updating procedure whereby allowance is made for births, deaths, migration, and ageing of the population since the previous population estimate.

The Census

By far the most comprehensive exercise in the collection of population statistics is a Census, which seeks to count every person in a given population. It provides a comprehensive count of everyone present at a 'snapshot' in time on Census night. As well as providing high quality direct information about the population, the data provide a base which can then be used to produce population estimates and projections during the years between Censuses.

A range of information is available from the Census at individual and household level. International requirements mean that certain questions are always included (eg age, sex, housing). The Census provides a unique opportunity to collect additional information on a broader range of socio-economic topics. For the 2001 Census the following information was collected:

- Usual home (place of residence)
- Age and sex
- Living arrangements (single, married, cohabiting, widowed, divorced)
- Migration during the past year (from usual address a year ago)
- Country of birth, ethnic group and religion (voluntary)
- Limiting long-term illnesses, general health, and provision of care
- Economic activity, occupation and industry
- Hours worked
- Information about students
- Academic and vocational qualifications

- Professional qualifications
- Distance and method of travel to work
- Travel to work patterns between areas
- Socio-economic classifications
- Housing type, tenure and landlord
- Composition of household (size, relationships within the household)
- Rooms, amenities, central heating, and floor level of home
- Possession of car or van

Population Estimates

During the ten years between Censuses (the intercensal period), population estimates are rolled forward annually within the UK, from 1 July in one year to 30 June in the next (mid-year estimates) and provide updated information about the resident population. These estimates are rolled forward annually from the Census base, allowing for natural change by removing those who have died during the estimate year and adding those who have been born. We also allow for migration between parts of the UK (internal migration) and regions beyond, and for the ageing of the population by one year. The population estimates are published on a number of geographic boundaries, including Unitary Authorities, Counties and County Districts, Government Office Regions, and Health Authorities.

Population Projections

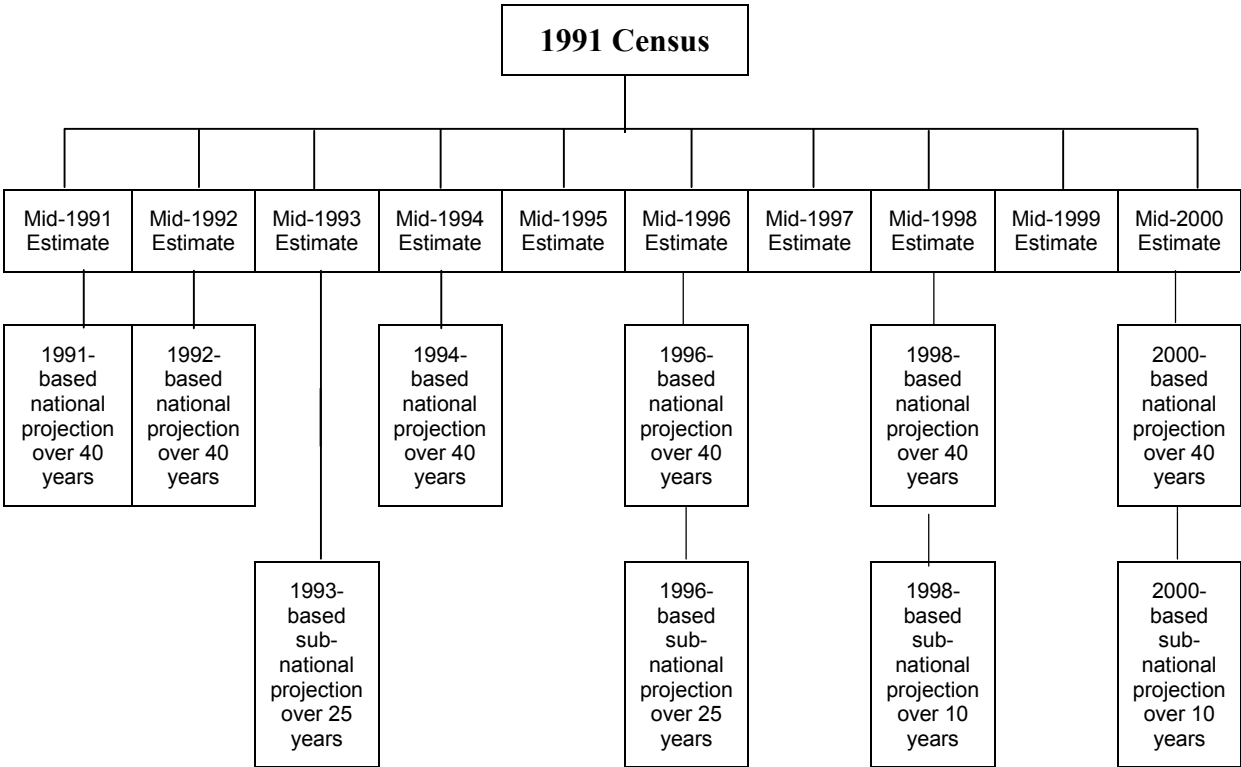
National population projections are produced every two years by the Government Actuary's Department (GAD) for the UK, England, Wales, Scotland, and Northern Ireland. They refer primarily to a 25-year period from the base year, although projections 40 years ahead for the UK as a whole are also available. Sub-national projections for England are published by ONS, for Scotland by the General Register Office for Scotland (GROS), for Wales by the National Assembly for Wales (NAW), and for Northern Ireland by the Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency (NISRA), and are consistent with the national projections for each country prepared by the Government Actuary's Department.

Sub-national projections for England are produced for local and health authority areas. Long-term projections are prepared roughly every 3-5 years and project 25 years into the future from the base year. Consultation is also carried out with local authorities and other users on the migration assumptions. Although the projections are produced by taking the base population for each area and then applying recent local trends for mortality, fertility and migration, they are also controlled so that their sum is consistent with the GAD national projections.

Short-term projections are generally produced every third year in which long-term projections are not produced, and project 10 years forward from the base year. These are produced for the Department of Health (DH) and are an update on the long-term projections.

They make use of more recent information on population, births and deaths and are consistent with the national projections. They do not update the local assumptions on migration as no consultation with local authorities is carried out.

Chart showing production of mid-year population estimates and population projections for England during the intercensal period from 1991 to 2001



Note: Mid-year population estimates are based on the 1991 Census; National and Sub-national Projections are based on mid-year population estimates

Household Estimates and Projections for England

Estimates of the number of households in England are produced by the Department for Transport, Local Government and the Regions (DTLR) annually as a complement to periodic household projections. The mid-year 1999 household estimates were produced using the 1996-based household projection and estimation model.

Household projections are currently produced by the Population and Housing Research Group at Anglia Polytechnic University under contract to the DTLR. The latest set projects to mid-2021, and details are available on the DTLR website. The DTLR points out that projections are less reliable the greater the degree of geographical disaggregation and the further into the future they are taken.

Registration of Births, Deaths and Marriages

A further essential set of population statistics comes from the compulsory registration of births, deaths and marriages. These registrations are required by law for any of these events occurring in the UK, and the data collected by Registrars are very reliable. Not only do they provide counts of the events themselves, but also information on the characteristics of the individuals concerned. In the case of births, information is collected on the baby itself, its mother, with her occupation and age, sometimes its father, with occupation and age, and, for births within marriage, the number of previous children the mother has had. Death registration provides information on, for example, age, marital status and occupation. Marriage registration gives details of the couple, including their ages, previous marital status, and occupations. Registration data are analysed in

their own right, as well as being used to estimate natural change, which is a component of population change. Divorces data come from court records. Information is available on the ages of the couple divorcing, their marital status prior to the marriage, the duration of the marriage, and the number and ages of any children they have.

Migration

When preparing the annual population estimates for England and Wales, we also need to estimate the number of people who have moved from one place to another – this is migration. The migration element of any population estimate needs to include in- and out-migration to and from a country, as well as moves within a country. Details of the migration data sources can be found on page 2. The main data sources used to estimate international migration are the International Passenger Survey, and Home Office data on applications for extended leave to remain in the UK. Internal migration estimates are based on changes to postcode information of resident address on the Health Authority patient registers.

Where to find data

If you would like to find out more about current and historical Censuses, Estimates and Projections in the UK, here are some suggestions:

The National Statistics Website at <http://www.statistics.gov.uk>. This website gives access to Statbase, a large searchable database with access to social survey data as well as Census and Estimate datasets.

For ad hoc information about the Census, e-mail Census.customerservice@ons.gov.uk

For ad hoc information about Population Estimates e-mail Pop.info@ons.gov.uk

For information about small area estimates, see <http://www.statistics.gov.uk/sape/default.asp>

National Population Projections are available at <http://www.gad.gov.uk/population/population.html>

For sub-national Population Projections for England, e-mail subnatproj@ons.gov.uk

For ad hoc information about Registration data, e-mail ysob@ons.gov.uk

For Household estimates and projections, go to <http://www.housing.dtlr.gov.uk/information/keyfigures/index.htm>

For small area statistics, a guide to making local population statistics can be ordered from the Local Authorities Research and Intelligence Association at <http://www.laria.gov.uk>

European Population statistics are available at <http://europa.eu.int/comm/eurostat/>

Global Population Statistics can be found at www.worldpop.org and at www.odci.gov/cia/publications/factbook.

References

Population Estimates Methodology Document: downloadable version available on line at <http://www.statistics.gov.uk/products/p575.asp>

“Can Patient Registers give an improved measure of internal migration in England and Wales?” in *Population Trends 96*, Summer 1999, ISBN 0 11 621116 4; also available on line at <http://www.statistics.gov.uk/products/p5774.asp>

“The use of Patient Registers to estimate migration”, in *Population Trends 101*, Autumn 2000, ISBN 0 11 621178 4; also available on line at <http://www.statistics.gov.uk/products/p5764.asp>

International Migration 1998, series MN 25, ISBN 0 11 621371 X; also available on line at <http://www.statistics.gov.uk/products/p3979.asp>

Useful Contacts for United Kingdom Population Statistics:

Office for National Statistics

Segensworth Road
Titchfield
Hampshire
PO15 5RR
www.ons.gov.uk

Migration and Sub-national Population Projections Unit

subnatproj@ons.gov.uk
Tel: (01329) 813 865
Fax:(01329) 813 295

The Stationery Office Publications Centre

Tel: (020) 7873 0011
PO Box 276
London
SW8 5DT
www.thestationeryoffice.com

Scotland

Customer Services
customer@gro-scotland.gov.uk
Tel: (028) 9034 8132
Population Statistics Branch
General Register Office for
Scotland
Ladywell House
Edinburgh
EH12 7TF

Northern Ireland

Northern Ireland Statistics
and Research Agency
Dmb.nisra@dfpni.gov.uk
Tel: (028) 9034 8132
McAuley House
2-14 Castle Street
Belfast
BT1 1SA
www.nisra.gov.uk

Wales

Stats.demographics@wales.gsi.gov.uk
Tel: (02920) 825 058
National Assembly for Wales
Cathays Park
Cardiff
CF10 3NQ

Index

A Rough Guide to Population Estimates	2
How to Estimate a Resident Population	2
What detail is available for Population Estimates?	2
Where do the data come from?.....	3
How are the data processed	4
How do we define “resident population”?.....	4
Special “Mobile” Population Groups (school boarders, prisoners, armed forces).....	6
Revisions Policy	6
Who uses the estimates – and what are they used for?.....	6
Small Area estimates	7
Assessing the Accuracy of intercensal Population Estimates	8
Contact us	8
An Overview of Population Statistics produced for the United Kingdom	9
The Census	9
Population Estimates	10
Population Projections.....	10
Household Estimates and Projections for England.....	11
Registration of Births, Deaths and Marriages	11
Migration	12
Where to find data	12
References	12
Useful Contacts for United Kingdom Population Statistics	13