

Correction Notice

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A production error in Table 3 of the report entitled *Divorces in England and Wales during 2007* has been corrected in this publication. Numbers of divorces shown by age group within the report were correct. However, divorce rates by age group for 1997 to 2004 were produced using incorrect estimates of the marital status of the population. A corrected version of the table is available below.

ONS apologises for any inconvenience caused.

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Home births in the UK, 1955 to 2006

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This article presents data on trends in the percentage of maternities taking place at home in the UK. As well as the national trend, the article examines how home maternity levels vary according to mother's age, number of previous live births within marriage, country of birth, region, local authority and NHS Trust. Examination of trends and variations in home maternity levels provides a context for debates regarding factors that may influence where women give birth.

Introduction

Giving birth at home used to be the norm. In 1927, just 15 per cent of live births in England and Wales took place in institutions¹. Nowadays, giving birth in hospital is the norm. Maternal and perinatal mortality rates decreased markedly in the UK at the same time as the proportion of births taking place in hospital was increasing, and it was generally assumed that increased rates of hospitalisation caused the improvements in mortality rates². In the late 1980s, however, evidence began to be presented to suggest that for women with low-risk pregnancies, home birth was as least as safe as hospital birth³. Evidence also began to be presented indicating that women giving birth at home tended to have fewer obstetric interventions and feel more positive about the experience than those giving birth in hospital^{4,5}.

Since the early 1990s⁶, and most recently in 2007⁷, government policy in England has been that women should be provided with a choice about where to give birth, and the information they need in order to make the best choice for them. In 2002, the Welsh Assembly set a target for 10 per cent of births to take place at home by 2007⁸. In light of this, this paper examines trends in home birth in the UK.

National trends

In 1955, there were 683,640 maternities in England and Wales, of which 33.4 per cent took place at home. In 2006 there were 662,915 maternities, of which 18,100 (2.7 per cent) took place at home. **Figure 1** illustrates that the shift away from home maternity took place largely in the years 1963 to 1974, during which time the percentage of maternities taking place at home fell from 30.0 per cent to 4.2 per cent, at a rate of two to three percentage points each year.

Box one

Data sources

The home maternity figures for England and Wales are derived from birth registration data, and are mostly taken from ONS Series FM1 (the overall, age-specific and marital status/previous live births figures are from Table 8.1, and the regional figures from Table 8.2). Data for the years 1955–63 and 1974–79 are from a summary volume, data for the years 1980–97 are from printed volumes and data for the years 1998–2006 are from the ONS website⁹. Home maternity figures for the years 1964–73 are taken from Macfarlane et al (2000)¹⁰. Data on home maternity by mother's country of birth and local authority of residence were taken from special tabulations produced by ONS.

The figures for Scotland and Northern Ireland are taken from special tabulations provided by General Register Office Scotland (GROS) and Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency (NISRA), which were derived from birth registration data.

Figure 1 also shows that the percentage of maternities taking place at home reached an all-time low in 1985 to 1988, when it stood at 0.9 per cent. Since 1988, there has been a slight upward trend, with year-on-year growth typically of 0.1 to 0.2 percentage points, except for a plateau between 1997 and 2001.

In England and Wales, the general fertility rate (GFR)¹⁶ has recently been fairly stable following the increased fertility in the 1950s and 60s and subsequent decrease in the late 1960s and early 1970s¹⁷. The major shift away from home birth between 1963 and 1974 coincided with a sharp fall in the GFR (down from 92.9 in 1964 to 67.2 in 1974), which reduced the pressure on hospital beds in maternity units¹⁸.

Box two

Definitions

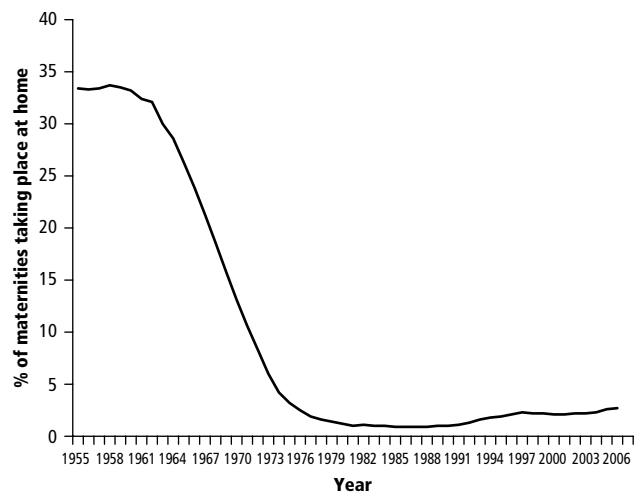
In the figures for England and Wales, a maternity is a pregnancy resulting in the birth of one or more children, including stillbirths. Pregnancies resulting in multiple births are counted only once. A maternity is counted as taking place at home if it takes place at the mother's usual residence.

The figures for Scotland and Northern Ireland represent live births, so babies from multiple births are each counted separately, and stillbirths are excluded. Unlike England and Wales, the figures include all live births outside a maternity unit. According to NISRA, births in transit made up 8 per cent of out-of-hospital births in 2005–06. GROS does not publish the equivalent figure but estimates that in 2006 it was about 8 per cent. Most out-of-hospital births in Scotland and Northern Ireland can therefore be assumed to have taken place at home¹¹.

Birth registration data do not distinguish between births that were planned to take place at home and those taking place at home unintentionally. It is possible that the time trends for these two types of home birth are different, but this cannot be established from birth registration data. Estimates of the proportion of home births that were not intended to take place at home vary between studies, from 23 per cent to 51 per cent^{5,12,13}. The time frames of these studies were very different, so we might expect estimates to vary if (as is likely) unintended home births make up a fairly constant proportion of all births. Furthermore, these studies used varying methods and had various flaws¹⁴.

Figure 1

Percentage of maternities¹⁵ taking place at home, England and Wales, 1955–2006



Source: Years 1955–1963 and 1974–2006: FM1 Table 8.1. Years 1964–1973: Macfarlane et al (2000)¹⁰.

Figure 2 shows the national trends for out-of-hospital births in Scotland and Northern Ireland since 1988. Despite the figures not being directly comparable (see Box 2), it is clear that in both countries the home birth rate is much lower than in England and Wales. In Northern Ireland, the percentage of live births taking place out of hospital increased from 0.1 per cent in 1988 to 0.4 per cent in 2006. Note, however, that actual numbers in Northern Ireland are very small (just 30 out-of-hospital births in 2006).

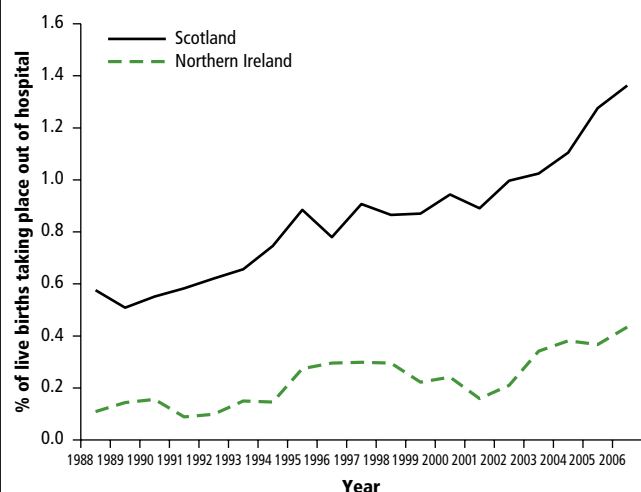
In Scotland, there has been a small increase in the percentage of live births taking place out of hospital (up from 0.6 per cent in 1988 to 1.4 per cent in 2006), but the increase began slightly later than in England and Wales. In 2006 there were 759 out-of-hospital births in Scotland.

Trends by age of mother at birth

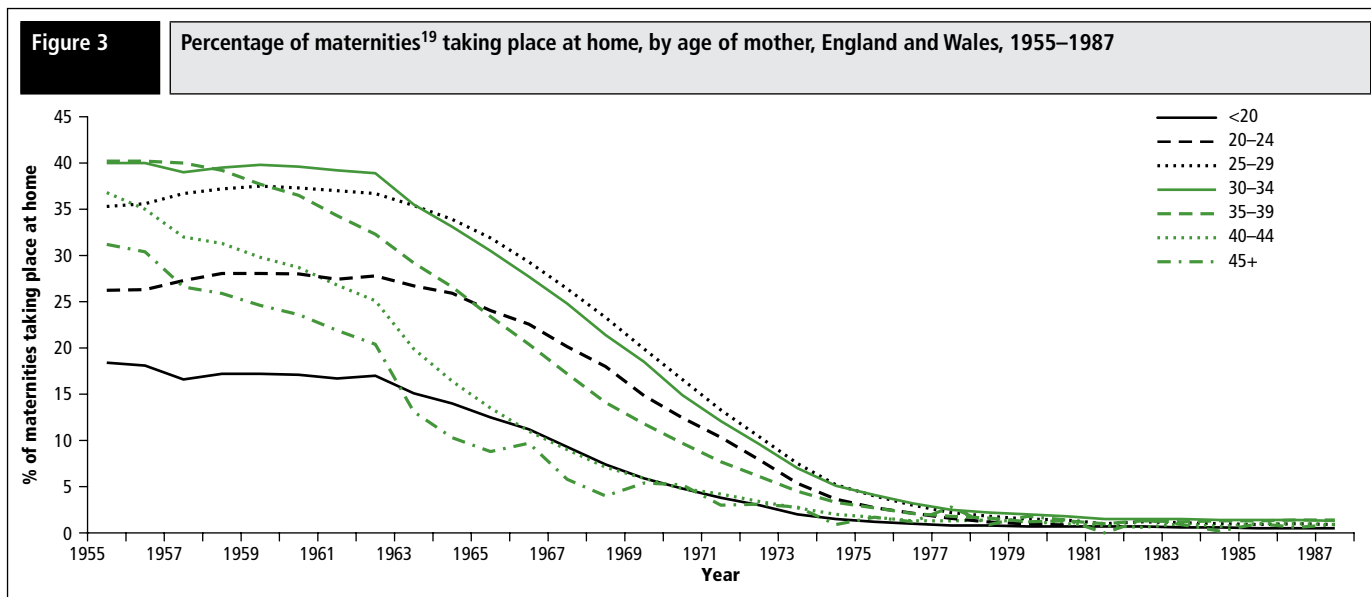
Figure 3 shows how the home maternity rate in England and Wales varied by mother's age between 1955 and 1987 (later years are shown separately in Figure 4).

Figure 2

Percentage of live births taking place out of hospital, Scotland and Northern Ireland, 1988–2006



Source: GRO-Scotland / NISRA special tabulations.



Source: FM1 Table 8.1

In 1955, incidence of home maternity varied considerably according to mother’s age. Home maternity was least common among women aged under 20 (18 per cent of maternities in this age group), and most common among women aged 30–39 (40 per cent).

The decline in incidence of home maternity started earlier among women aged 40 and over, for whom the major decline had already begun by 1955. Women aged 35–39 were the next age group to experience the major fall in incidence, beginning in 1959. Incidence of home maternity among women aged under 35 did not begin to fall sharply until 1962. By the early 1980s, levels of home maternity were low in all age groups.

For women in the 20–34 age groups, between 1955 and 1964, age-specific fertility rates²⁰ (ASFRs) were rising while the home maternity rate was fairly stable. Over the same period, for women aged 35 and over, ASFRs were fairly stable while the home maternity rate was falling. Between 1965 and 1977, both ASFRs and the home maternity rate fell in all age groups except the under-20s. In this age group, the ASFR continued to rise until 1971¹⁷.

As noted earlier, the home maternity rate began to rise slowly in England and Wales in 1988. Figure 4 shows how the rise since then has varied by mother’s age. Again, women in the older age groups (35 and over) led the trend, with relatively sharp increases between 1988 and 1997. Women aged 30–34 show a similar trend to those aged 35 and over, but with the growth starting a little later, in 1991.

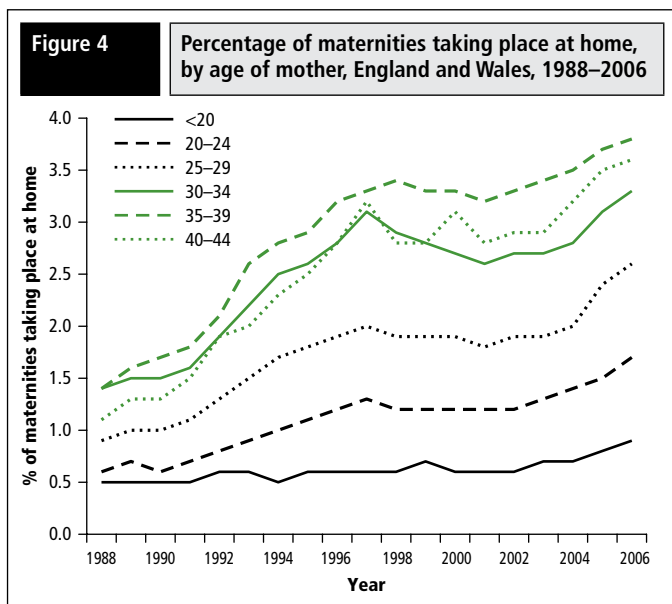
The rise in incidence among women aged 20–29 has been slower, but began to rise more sharply in 2003. Among women aged under 20, the percentage of maternities taking place at home barely changed until 2003, at which point it started to rise slowly.

All age groups experienced a levelling-off in the home maternity rate between 1997 and 2001 (in the 25 and over age groups the rate actually dropped slightly in this period).

These changes mean that the disparity between younger and older women has become more marked since 1988. In 2006, the older the mother, the more likely she was to have a home maternity, except that women aged 40–44 were slightly less likely than those aged 35–39 to give birth at home (0.9 per cent of maternities to women aged under 20 were at home, compared with 3.8 per cent among 35–39 year-olds).

For women aged under 30, age-specific fertility rates (ASFRs) have decreased steadily since 1988, while the home maternity rate has increased slightly. For women in the 30 and over age groups, the ASFR has increased slightly, while the home maternity rate has increased relatively sharply¹⁷.

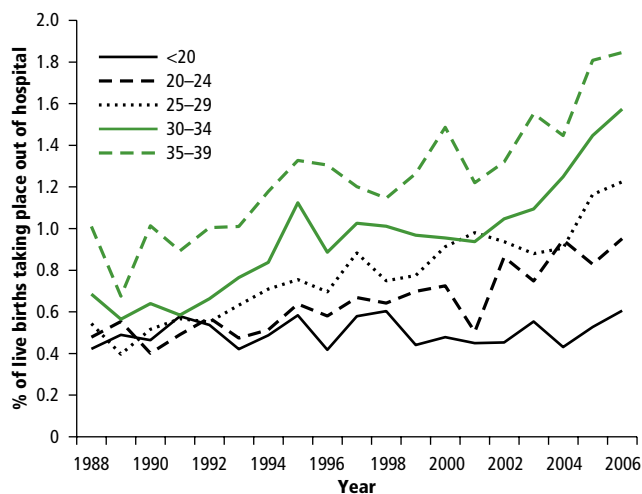
The average age of women giving birth is increasing (28 per cent of women giving birth in England and Wales in 1988 were aged 30 and over; in 2006 the figure was 48 per cent). Because older mothers have a greater tendency to give birth at home, some of the observed increase in the national home maternity rate may be due to the increasing average age of women giving birth. However, the fact that home maternity rates have increased in all age groups since 1988 indicates that the overall increase is not entirely due to changes in the age profile. If the 2006 home maternity rate in England and Wales is age-standardised to the 1988 age profile²¹, it decreases from 2.7 per cent to 2.3 per cent. In other words, less than one-fifth of the increase since 1988 can be explained by changes in the age profile of women giving birth.



Source: FM1 Table 8.1. Data for the 45+ age group are excluded because numbers were too small for a reliable trend to be discernible

Figure 5 shows how the percentage of births in Scotland taking place out of hospital since 1988 has varied by mother’s age, and shows a similar

Figure 5 Percentage of live births taking place out of hospital, by age of mother, Scotland, 1988–2006



Source: GRO-Scotland. Data for the 40+ age group are excluded because numbers were too small for a reliable trend to be discernible

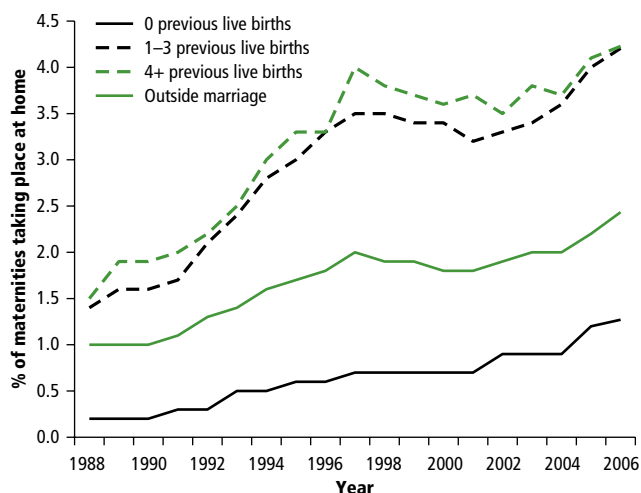
pattern to England and Wales. Women in the older age groups led the trend, and the 'age gap' has widened over time. In 2006, just 0.6 per cent of births to women aged under 20 took place out of hospital, compared with 1.8 per cent among 35–39 year-olds.

The number of home births in Northern Ireland was too small to be broken down by mother's age.

Trends by marital status and number of previous live births

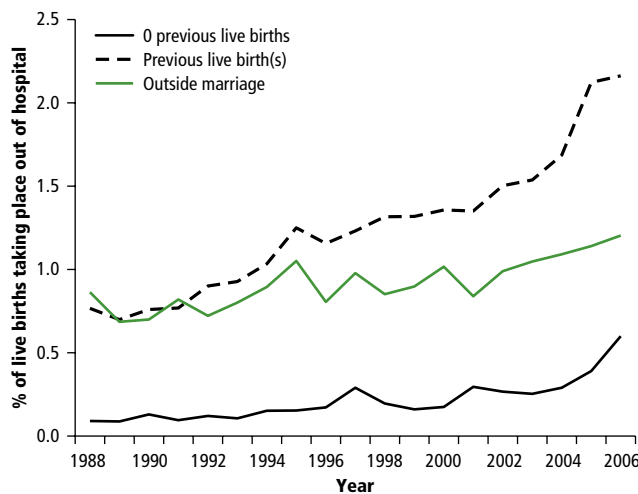
Figure 6 shows how the rise in incidence of home maternity since 1988 in England and Wales has varied by marital status and number of previous live births. Data on previous live births are only collected for maternities within marriage²² (56.4 per cent of maternities in 2006), so only a partial analysis is possible. The increase since 1988 in the percentage of home maternities has been mainly driven by married

Figure 6 Percentage of maternities taking place at home, by number of previous live births (births inside marriage only), England and Wales, 1988–2006



Source: FM1 Table 8.1

Figure 7 Percentage of live births taking place out of hospital, by number of previous live births (births inside marriage only), Scotland, 1988–2006



Source: GRO-Scotland

women who have had one or more previous live births with their current or a previous husband; an increase from 1.5 per cent in 1988 to 4.2 per cent in 2006.

The home maternity rate has also increased among married women having their first child with their current or a previous husband and women giving birth outside marriage, but in these groups the rate of increase has been slower. Among women with no previous registered live births within marriage, the percentage increased from 0.2 per cent in 1988 to 1.3 per cent in 2006, and among those giving birth outside of marriage, it increased from 1.0 per cent to 2.4 per cent.

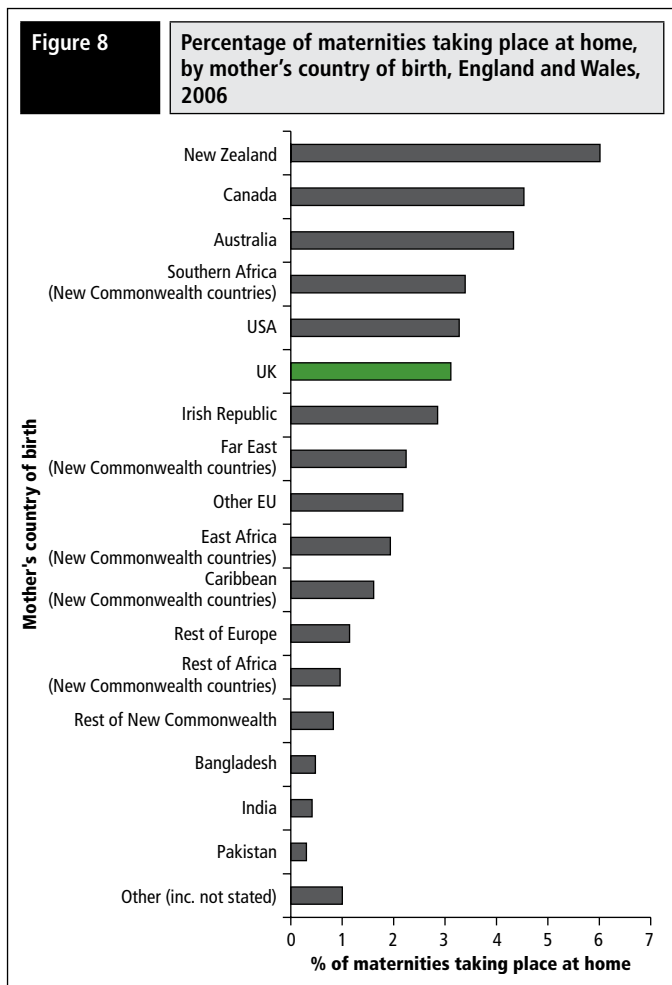
The tendency towards women having fewer children means that the proportion of maternities that are to first-time mothers is higher than it used to be. Because women having their first child have a greater tendency to give birth in hospital, this may have contributed to the slow growth in home maternity rates. However, the fact that the rate has grown even among those having their first maternity and those giving birth outside marriage indicates that any contribution is likely to be small. It is interesting to note that this demographic change appears to be holding the home birth rate down, whereas the trend towards women giving birth at older ages appears to be having the opposite effect (see earlier).

Figure 7 shows how the Scottish data vary by number of previous live births. As in England and Wales, married women giving birth to their second or subsequent child within marriage were mainly responsible for the rise in the percentage of births taking place out of hospital since 1993; the percentage of this group having an out-of-hospital birth rose from 0.9 per cent to 2.2 per cent between 1993 and 2006.

The number of home births in Northern Ireland was too small to be broken down by number of previous live births.

Variation by mother's country of birth

Figure 8 shows how the incidence of home maternity in England and Wales in 2006 varied by mother's country of birth. Maternities to women born in New Zealand were most likely to take place at home (6 per cent). This is perhaps a reflection of the situation in New Zealand, where the home birth rate is estimated to be about 7 per cent²³. However, home maternity is also relatively common among women born in Canada, Australia and the USA, countries with very low home birth rates^{24,25,26},



Source: ONS special tabulation

indicating that place of birth among women born overseas does not necessarily reflect the practice in their country of birth.

Women born in New Commonwealth countries in Southern Africa²⁷ also recorded a relatively high home maternity rate (3.4 per cent). Women

born in Pakistan, India or Bangladesh were least likely to give birth at home (0.3, 0.4 and 0.5 per cent respectively).

In 2006, women born outside the UK accounted for 22 per cent of live births in England and Wales²⁸, but women born in the five countries at the top of Figure 8 (that is, those with the highest home maternity rate) were responsible for just 1.8 per cent of births, compared to 5.3 per cent for women born in the bottom three countries. It is therefore unlikely that women born overseas are contributing much to the recent rise in the home maternity rate.

Regional trends

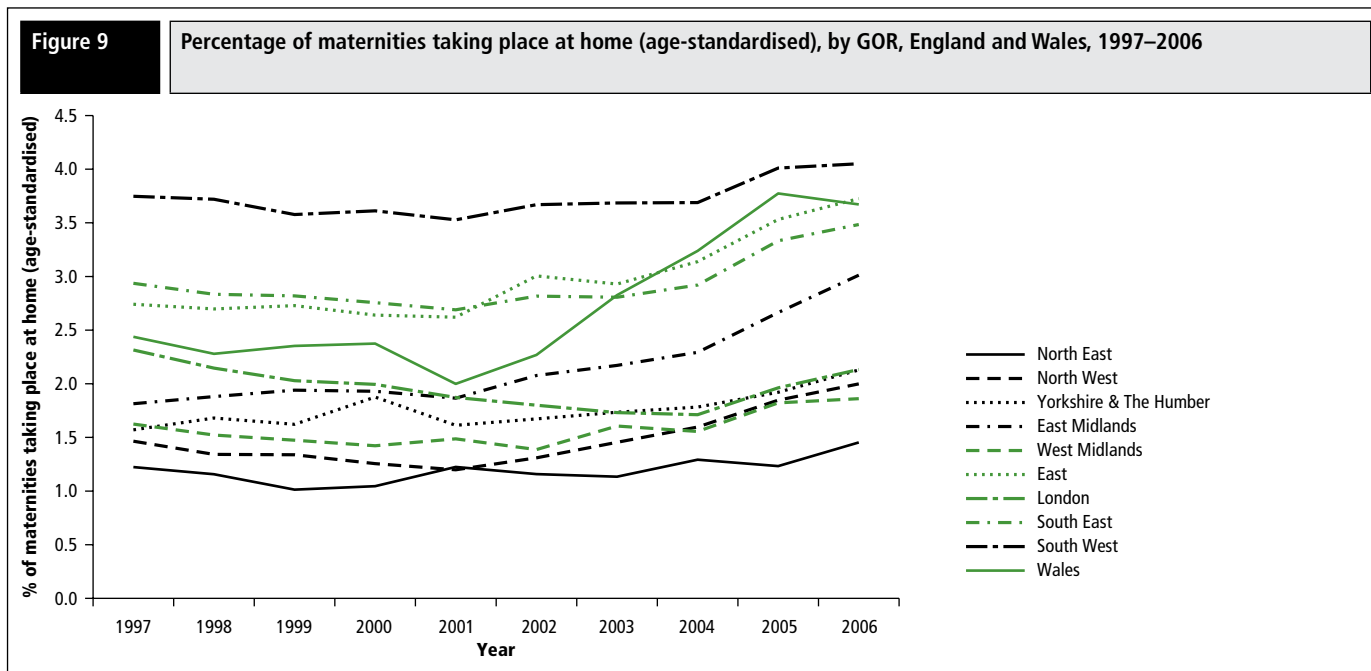
Figure 9 illustrates trends in home maternity rates in England and Wales by government office region (GOR). GORs came into being in 1996, so data from years before 1997 are not shown. Much of the recent increase in the home maternity rate took place between 1988 and 1997 (see Figure 1), so relatively little change is evident in Figure 9. Because the age profile of women giving birth varied slightly by GOR, the data have been age-standardised²⁹.

In 2006, the South West had the highest percentage of home maternities (4.1 per cent), followed by East (3.8 per cent), South East (3.6 per cent) and Wales (3.5 per cent). The North East had the lowest percentage (1.4 per cent)³⁰.

Wales has seen the most change since 1997, with the home maternity rate falling from 2.3 per cent in 1997 to 1.9 per cent in 2001, then rising to 3.6 per cent in 2005. Slight growth has been evident in most regions of England since 1997, the main exception being London where the rate fell from 2.5 per cent in 1997 to 1.8 per cent in 2004 before starting to rise again.

Local variations

In 2006, even within GORs with relatively high overall home maternity rates, there were local authority (LA) areas with low rates (see Table 1). For example, in the South West there were six LAs with fewer than 2 per cent of maternities taking place at home and three LAs with 10 per cent or more: West Somerset, Teignbridge and Penwith. Only two other LAs in England and Wales had a home maternity rate above



Source: ONS special tabulation

Table 1

Variation in LA-level home maternity rates between and within English regions and Wales, 2006

GOR / Country	Overall regional rate	Highest LA within region	Lowest LA within region
South West	4.1%	14.2%	1.1%
East	3.8%	11.6%	1.0%
South East	3.6%	6.8%	0.9%
East Midlands	3.0%	7.3%	0.7%
London	2.2%	6.6%	0.6%
Yorkshire and The Humber	2.0%	3.7%	1.0%
North West	1.9%	3.9%	0.5%
West Midlands	1.8%	4.7%	0.8%
North East	1.4%	2.5%	0.4%
Wales	3.5%	10.7%	0.9%

Source: ONS special tabulation. Three LAs were excluded: two because they had fewer than three home maternities and one because there was a very small number of births which, if included, would have distorted the figures

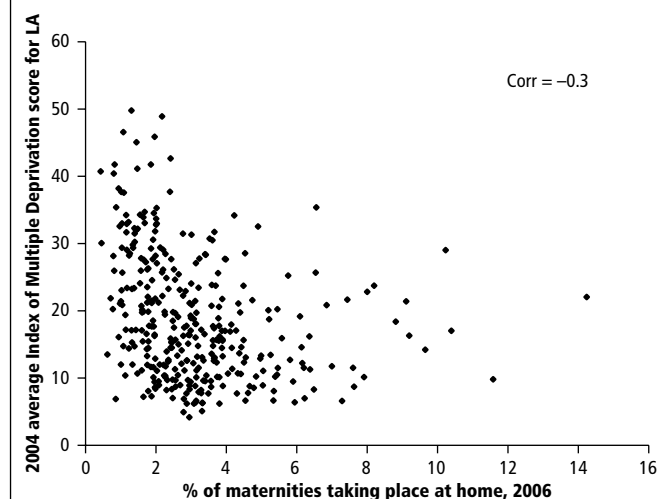
10 per cent (Mid Suffolk and Powys). These variations indicate that local, rather than national/regional, factors have the stronger link with women's propensity to give birth at home.

In considering what these local factors might be, it is important to take into account variations in socio-demographic profile. Figure 4 shows that older women were more likely than younger women to have a home maternity; can some or all of the local variation be explained by some areas containing a higher proportion of younger mothers? If this were the main reason for geographical variation, regional differences would diminish once different age profiles are taken into account. However, the age-standardised data in Figure 9 were very similar to the observed figures, indicating that regional variations were not due to age³¹.

A 1994 UK study⁴ found that women giving birth at home tended to be from higher socio-economic groups than women giving birth in hospital. If this were the main explanation for geographical variation, there would be a strong correlation between an area's home maternity rate and its level of deprivation. Figure 10 plots the percentage of maternities taking place at home in 2006 against the 2004 Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD)³² average score for 343 of the 346 LAs in England³³, with each point representing one LA.

Figure 10

2006 percentage of home maternities against 2004 average Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) score, LAs in England



Source: Department of Communities and Local Government (DCLG), ONS special tabulation

If home maternity rate and deprivation were strongly negatively correlated, the points on the plot would appear in a diagonal line going from top left to bottom right (a high IMD score indicates a high level of deprivation). There is some evidence of a correlation (correlation coefficient = -0.3), indicating that socio-economic profile may explain some of the geographical variations in the observed data³⁴. It is not, however, a clear-cut relationship; numerous LAs had both a low IMD score (that is, little deprivation) and a low home maternity rate. One would not expect a totally clear-cut relationship at LA level, because many LAs contain areas of both high and low deprivation. The preponderance of points in the bottom left corner of the plot (low home maternity rate, little deprivation) does, however, suggest that, in some areas at least, factors other than socio-economic profile may also be related to local home maternity rates.

Given the lack of a totally clear pattern in Figure 10, it is instructive to look at the situation in some individual LAs. Table 2 lists the 20 most deprived LAs in England (according to the 2004 average IMD score) and the 20 least deprived LAs, and shows the percentage of maternities taking place at home in each in 2006. The median percentage of home maternities in the twenty most deprived LAs in England was 1.4 per cent, compared with 3.1 per cent for the 20 least deprived LAs, and 19 of the 20 most deprived LAs had home maternity rates lower than the national average of 2.7 per cent. This indicates an aggregate link between deprivation and incidence of home maternity at LA level.

However, there were some notable exceptions to this general rule. At 6.6 per cent, the home maternity rate in Southwark was 2.4 times the national average, despite Southwark being the 17th most deprived LA in England. Only 19 English LAs recorded a higher home maternity rate than Southwark in 2006. Similarly, three LAs among the 20 least deprived recorded home maternity rates well below the national average, most notably Epsom and Ewell (0.9 per cent – only nine LAs recorded a

Table 2

Percentage of home maternities in 2006 in the most and least deprived LAs in England

20 most deprived LAs in England (according to 2004 Index of Multiple Deprivation average score)		20 least deprived LAs in England (according to 2004 Index of Multiple Deprivation average score)	
Local authority	per cent home maternities	Local authority	per cent home maternities
1. Liverpool	1.3	1. Hart	2.9
2. Manchester	2.2	2. Surrey Heath	2.8
3. Knowsley	1.1	3. Wokingham	3.3
4. Tower Hamlets	2.0	4. Mole Valley	2.9
5. Hackney	1.4	5. Waverley	3.8
6. Islington	2.4	6. Chiltern	3.1
7. Nottingham	1.9	7. East Hertfordshire	3.3
8. Easington	0.8	8. West Oxfordshire	3.3
9. Kingston upon Hull	1.5	9. Mid Sussex	3.1
10. Middlesbrough	0.4	10. South Cambridgeshire	5.9
11. Newham	0.8	11. South Northamptonshire	7.3
12. Salford	0.9	12. Rutland	3.1
13. Haringey	2.4	13. Horsham	4.5
14. Hartlepool	1.0	14. Uttlesford	5.3
15. Birmingham	1.1	15. Epsom and Ewell	0.9
16. Sandwell	0.9	16. Vale of White Horse	2.8
17. Southwark	6.6	17. Winchester	6.2
18. Stoke on Trent	2.0	18. Elmbridge	2.5
19. Camden	1.7	19. Harborough	1.6
20. Newcastle upon Tyne	1.9	20. Woking	1.9
Median value	1.4	Median value	3.1

Source: DCLG, ONS

Table 3

Age- and parity-standardised home maternity rates at NHS trust level, 'top 20', England, 2007

NHS Trust	Number of responses	per cent of maternities taking place at home (standardised)
South Devon Healthcare	133	17.9
King's College Hospital (London)	128	17.0
Ipswich Hospital	179	8.4
East and North Hertfordshire	199	7.9
Stockport	148	7.4
Southend University Hospital	165	7.3
Medway (Kent)	198	6.7
Taunton and Somerset	168	6.7
Royal Cornwall Hospitals	190	6.4
Royal Devon and Exeter	136	6.3
West Suffolk Hospitals	135	6.3
Northern Devon Healthcare	128	5.7
Buckinghamshire Hospitals	214	5.5
Winchester and Eastleigh Healthcare	143	5.5
Dorset County Hospital	125	5.5
Northumbria Healthcare	160	5.3
East Sussex Hospitals	164	5.3
The Princess Alexandra Hospital (Harlow, Essex)	117	5.3
Basingstoke and North Hampshire	124	5.0
West Middlesex University Hospital	111	5.0

Source: Healthcare Commission

lower home maternity rate than this). Furthermore, none of the four LAs in England with a home maternity rate above 10 per cent (West Somerset, Mid Suffolk, Teignbridge and Penwith) appeared very high on the 'least deprived' list.

These exceptions to the general rule suggest that factors other than the socio-economic profile of the local population can also have a part to play in determining LA-level variations in home maternity rates. The results of a 2007 Healthcare Commission survey³⁵ of women who had had a live birth indicated that local NHS trust policy may be one of these factors. The sample was administered by NHS trusts, so it was possible to analyse the results separately according to which NHS trust provided the maternity services. Nearly all NHS trusts in England that provided maternity services were included in the survey³⁶.

Among other things, the survey asked women to state the place of birth. The results were standardised by mother's age and parity³⁷, so are not comparable with statistics from birth registration, but they did reveal a high level of variability between trusts. **Table 3** shows the 'top 20' NHS trusts in terms of the percentage of maternities taking place at home.

Two NHS trusts recorded exceptionally high home birth rates: South Devon Healthcare (which covers part of the Teignbridge LA area) and King's College Hospital (which covers part of the Southwark LA area). In both of these trusts, active steps have been taken to promote home birth as a safe and viable option for women at low risk of complications^{38,39}. The figures from these two trusts indicate that, where home birth is offered as a realistic option, take-up is far higher than the national average. Neither trust represents women from especially affluent areas, suggesting that local variation in home maternity rates is more strongly influenced by factors relating to the local NHS than by the socio-economic profile of the women giving birth in the area, and perhaps that the bias towards middle-class women having home births is less pronounced when home birth is actively supported by the local health services.

Key findings

- Over the past 50 years, there has been a major shift away from giving birth at home towards giving birth in hospital. In England and Wales in 2006, just 2.7 per cent of maternities took place at home
- The percentage of maternities taking place at home has, however, been slowly increasing since 1988 in England and Wales. In Scotland and in Northern Ireland, the increase in the percentage of home births began later, and in Northern Ireland it has been much slower than in most other parts of the UK
- Home birth is more common among women aged 30 and over, and those having their second or subsequent live birth within marriage
- Three government office regions had home maternity rates of above 3.5 per cent in 2006: South West, South East and East. Wales also had a high rate at 3.5 per cent, while Northern Ireland, Scotland and the North East had the lowest rates in the UK
- At the aggregate level, the home maternity rate tends to be higher in more affluent local authority areas in England and Wales, but a number of local authority areas bucked this trend
- A 2007 Healthcare Commission survey found a high level of variability in home maternity rates at NHS trust level in England. The two NHS trusts with the highest home maternity rates were ones in which active steps had been taken to promote home birth as a safe and viable option. Neither was in a particularly affluent area.

Acknowledgements

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- 11 Some out-of-hospital births will have taken place in homes other than the mother's usual residence.
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- 14 For example, there will have been response bias in the Redshaw et al study, and in the Mori et al study, the data from a single English region was assumed to apply to the whole of England and Wales.
- 15 Percentages for the years 1955 to 1963 inclusive refer to live births plus stillbirths, rather than maternities, because the only available published data are based on births.
- 16 The GFR is the number of live births per 1,000 women aged 15–44.
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- 18 Declercq E, DeVries R, Viisainen K, Salvesen H B & Wrede S (2001) Where to Give Birth? Politics and the Place of Birth. In DeVries et al (eds) *Birth by Design: Pregnancy, Maternity Care, and Midwifery in North America and Europe*, New York, Routledge.
- 19 Percentages for the years 1955 to 1973 inclusive refer to live births plus stillbirths, rather than maternities, because the only available published data are based on births.
- 20 ASFRs are calculated by dividing the number of live births to mothers of each age group by the number of women in the population of that age and then expressed per 1,000 women in the age group.
- 21 2006 age-specific home maternity rates were calculated for each of six age groups (<20, 20–24, 25–29, 30–34, 35–39, 40+) From these, the number of home maternities that would have been expected was calculated, had women giving birth in 2006 had the same age profile as women giving birth in 1988. The expected number of home maternities was divided by the total number of women giving birth in 1988, then multiplied by 100.
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- 29 For each GOR in each year, age-specific home maternity rates were calculated for each of six age groups (<20, 20–24, 25–29, 30–34, 35–39, 40+). From these, the number of home maternities that would have been expected in that GOR in that year was calculated, had women giving birth in that GOR had the same age profile as women giving birth in England and Wales as a whole. The expected number of home maternities was divided by the total number of women giving birth in England and Wales, then multiplied by 100 to indicate the percentage of home maternities that would have occurred in that GOR in that year if women giving birth in the GOR had had the same age structure as England and Wales as a whole in that year.
- 30 The figures in the text are the observed figures, not the age-standardised ones that are shown in Figure 9.
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- 34 Even though the association between deprivation and the home birth rate is not strong at the aggregate level, it is still possible that, within a given LA area, it is mainly middle-class women who have (planned) home births.
- 35 Healthcare Commission (2007) *Women's Experiences of Maternity Care in the NHS in England: Key Findings from a Survey of NHS Trusts carried out in 2007*, London, Healthcare Commission.
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The development of a 'Postcode Best Fit' methodology for producing Population Estimates for different geographies

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A 'Postcode Best Fit' methodology has been developed by the Office for National Statistics to produce population estimates for a range of different geographies which are entirely consistent with each other, regardless of whether or not the estimates for one geography can be aggregated to produce estimates for another geography. This article describes the Postcode Best Fit methodology, its evaluation, limitations with some of the data sources used with the method, the application of the method for producing population estimates and case studies describing how the method has been used to produce bespoke population estimates to meet specific user requirements.

Introduction

In addition to the population estimates published by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) at national and local authority level, ONS is now publishing population estimates for a wider range of different geographies to meet user requirements, covering Super Output Areas, Wards, Primary Care Organisations, National Parks and Parliamentary Constituencies.

With the published ONS population estimates there is a hierarchy of estimates for different geographies, all consistent with each other. Lower Layer Super Output Area (LSOA) estimates are consistent with Middle Layer Super Output Area (MSOA) estimates; these in turn are consistent with the local authority estimates, which in turn are consistent with the national (England and Wales) estimate. The requirements for additional population estimates for other geographies transcend this hierarchy and cannot therefore always be attained by simply aggregating existing outputs.

Although ONS has previously developed and evaluated different demographic methods for producing population estimates at small area level¹, the limited geographical availability of some administrative data sources has made it necessary to develop a different method to produce population estimates for geographies which do not fit within the boundaries of existing outputs.

In order to meet the requirements for population estimates for a wider range of geographies, a best fitting method, labelled a 'Postcode Best Fit' (PBF) method has been developed. This Postcode Best Fit method provides a mechanism for producing population estimates for different geographical levels which are all entirely consistent. The method is versatile and easy to implement so will help to overcome the difficulty of producing annual population estimates when boundaries are

subject to periodic review and change (as for wards and parliamentary constituencies for example). This method is also capable of producing population estimates for both small areas and large areas.

Description of the Postcode Best Fit methodology

In essence the PBF method is an ‘apportionment’ method, apportioning population estimates from the smallest small area geography for which population estimates are published by ONS at LSOA level, to unit postcode level based on age and sex information from patient register postcode level data.

This PBF method uses the population estimates for the 34,378 LSOAs in England and Wales by age and sex (average population 1,560) and apportions these to around 1.32 million residential and communal establishment postcodes in England and Wales (with an average population of around 40) based on the counts of persons by age and sex included on the patient registers².

A special allowance is made for population sub-groups not included on the patient registers, covering prisoners, UK armed forces, and foreign armed forces and dependants². The LSOA counts for this special population are removed from the apportioning process and then added back in at unit postcode level, based on postcode information for the special population.

These postcode level population estimates can then be aggregated (or ‘best fitted’) to a range of higher geographies if required using a suitable postcode look-up file, for example the National Statistics Postcode Directory³ (NSPD) or Geographical Information System (GIS) (Figure 1). Population estimates for some areas for higher geographies may be derivable from existing outputs, and therefore PBF-derived estimates would not necessarily be required for these areas – for example wards which can be derived from aggregation of whole LSOAs.

The assumption is made that any patient register list inflation, whereby patient register counts exceed the mid-year population estimates, is consistent within a LSOA, and so when the LSOA estimates (less special

population) are apportioned to unit postcode level, this is done on the basis that the patient register counts by age and sex will closely reflect the actual population distribution (though not necessarily the actual numbers).

It is not intended that derived unit postcode estimates are themselves published or released due to the uncertainty over their accuracy at this fine level of geographical detail. Instead the purpose of these postcode estimates is that they are aggregated to other higher geographies using the NSPD or GIS.

Evaluation of PBF derived population estimates

In order to assess whether the PBF method is capable of producing population estimates which are deemed to be sufficiently reliable and accurate, an evaluation of PBF derived population estimates was undertaken.

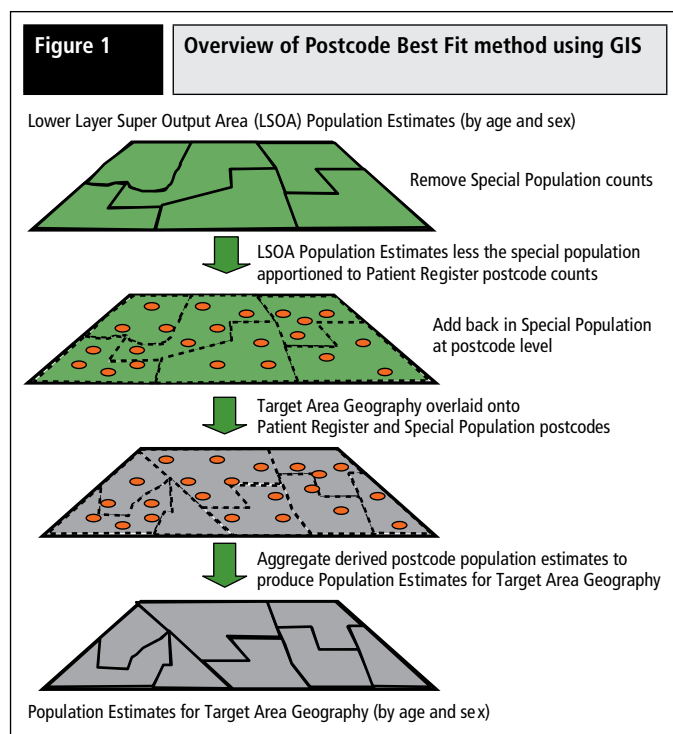
It was initially proposed that an evaluation of PBF derived estimates could be done by comparing mid-2002 estimates for Census Area Statistics (CAS) wards from the PBF method with the previously published mid-2002 CAS ward estimates. However because of the way in which CAS wards were created from Census Output Areas, for 98.8 per cent of the 8,850 CAS wards, population estimates for these wards could in fact be derived from aggregations of LSOA estimates. In order to make a better judgement of the PBF method, the evaluation later covered the comparison of population estimates for Primary Care Organisations (PCOs, also known as Primary Care Trusts) in England, and because of associated problems with this geography, later extended to cover postcode sectors for the whole of England and Wales.

The key elements to the evaluation of population estimates for wards, PCOs and postcode sectors was a statistical analysis, including for example looking at the maximum and average absolute change and absolute percentage change in the estimates by age and sex, and the correlation of the estimates on a scatter plot.

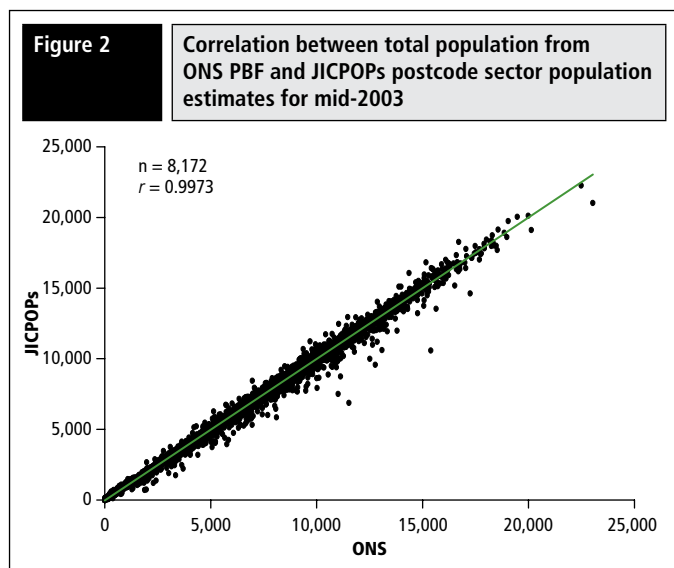
There are 102 CAS wards where the ward boundaries are non-coterminous with the LSOA boundaries (excluding both the City of London and Isles of Scilly which were each treated as single CAS wards). When comparing the original mid-2003 population estimates for these wards with estimates derived from PBF, for the total population counts, there was a mean absolute percentage difference of 1 per cent, with no wards having an absolute percentage difference of more than 10 per cent, and just 7 wards with an absolute percentage difference between 5 and 10 per cent.

At the time of the evaluation there were 303 PCOs in England for which mid-2002 population estimates had previously been published (as a result of reorganisation there are currently 152 PCOs). 139 PCOs (45.9 per cent) were omitted from the evaluation as estimates for them could be derived by aggregation of the estimates for the component local authorities (as they are coterminous), or were subject to boundary change since 2002. Thus the mid-2002 published estimates for just 164 PCOs were considered alongside mid-2002 estimates generated by PBF for evaluation purposes. The vast majority of the PBF estimates were very close to the published estimates, with only 14 per cent of the quinary age estimates having an absolute percentage difference greater than 1 per cent and only 2 per cent having an absolute percentage difference of more than 3 per cent. There was an extremely high correlation ($r = 0.9999$) between the respective total population counts.

In theory, population estimates for many of the 164 PCOs considered as part of this evaluation could alternatively have been derived by aggregating the estimates for LSOAs where the geographies were coterminous. A more rigorous evaluation would therefore require independent population estimates for a geography where estimates could



Note: Postcodes are symbolised by red circles



Excludes postcode sector counts with nil population (189)

not be derived from existing estimates and which ideally had a national coverage.

At the time, ONS was aware of the availability of population estimates by quinary age and sex for postcode sectors within England and Wales produced for the Joint Industry Committee for Population Standards (JICPOPs) by two companies working together, CACI and Experian. JICPOPs kindly agreed to provide mid-2003 population estimates at postcode sector level⁴ to assist with the evaluation of the PBF method. These were compared to mid-2003 postcode sector population estimates derived from PBF.

Whilst some ONS data are used in the creation of the JICPOPs postcode sector estimates such as the local authority mid-year population estimates and projections, and 2001 Census data, non-ONS data are also used (for example, estimates of residents in households). The methodology used to produce the estimates is different from that used by ONS. Consequently the JICPOPs estimates are considered to be independent population estimates. Population estimates for postcode sectors spanning both England and Scotland were excluded from the evaluation.

Comparisons were made between the respective mid-2003 JICPOPs and ONS PBF derived postcode sector total population estimates (Figure 2). This indicated a very high correlation ($r = 0.9973$) between the two sets of estimates, though some outliers are noticeable and tend to occur where the ONS estimate is greater than the JICPOPs estimate. The outliers with the greatest absolute differences are shown in Table 1.

These outliers were investigated. Findings of ONS research which reviewed evidence on the 2001 Census estimates indicated that, whilst no single piece of evidence on its own was conclusive, the weight of evidence suggested that the 2001 Census did not cover all people in England and Wales, particularly young adult men. Accordingly the 2001 local authority mid-year estimates, most recently revised in September 2004, reflect this evidence; these include adjustments for missing Census forms, Longitudinal Study adjustments, the Manchester and Westminster Matching Studies and 2004 Local Authority Studies.

We can attribute the biggest differences between the two sets of estimates to revisions to ONS annual population estimates for mid-2001 onwards that were released in September 2004. These have been incorporated in the ONS PBF method, but were not included in the JICPOPs mid-2003 estimates that were released before this date.

It was apparent that for the majority of postcode sectors there were relatively small differences between the PBF and JICPOPs estimates (Figure 3). For over half of the postcode sectors the differences are within ± 100 , 83 per cent within ± 250 , and 95 per cent within ± 500 . Consequently only around 5 per cent are outside the range ± 500 .

From the evaluation of population estimates produced using the PBF method for CAS wards, PCOs and postcode sectors with other estimates for these areas, the comparisons indicated little difference between the respective PBF and non-PBF derived estimates. Where there were noticeable differences, these could usually be accounted for. For example, adjustments to the mid-2001 estimates for Westminster resulted in noticeable differences between these estimates and the 2001 Census count, contributing to differences between PBF and JICPOPs population estimates for mid-2003 for postcode sectors covering Westminster. As a result of this evaluation no serious concerns associated with the method and the estimates were identified, though it is recognised that there are some limitations with population estimates produced from PBF.

Limitations with population estimates produced from PBF

The known limitations can be categorised as follows:

1. Issues with the patient register postcode data
2. Issues with the population estimates for LSOAs and local authorities
3. Issues with the accuracy of the NSPD and postcode changes

1. Patient Register postcode data

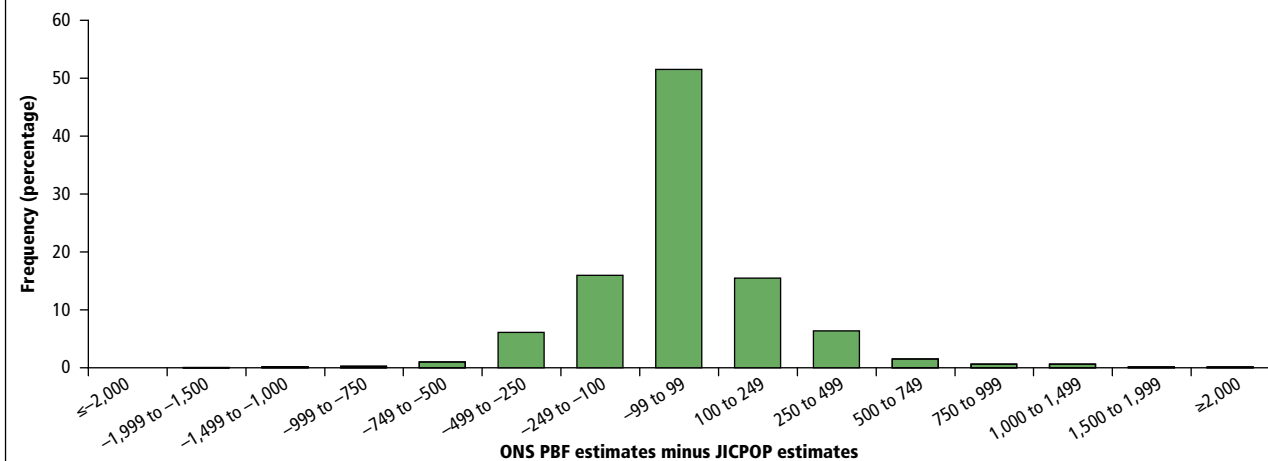
Through the use of patient register postcode data within the Ratio Change methodology⁵ used to produce small area population estimates, we are aware of limitations in the use of patient registers as a proxy indicator

Table 1 Postcode Sectors with largest absolute differences between ONS PBF and JICPOPs population estimates mid-2003

Postcode sector	Local Authority	JICPOPs total	Difference (ONS-JICPOPs)	% Difference (ONS-JICPOPs)
W9 3	Westminster	10,580	4,810	45.5
NW8 8	Westminster	6,870	4,660	67.8
W10 4	Westminster	7,511	3,502	46.6
W2 5	Kensington & Chelsea/Westminster	9,572	3,201	33.4
DE23 8	Derby	14,618	2,629	18.0
W11 1	Kensington & Chelsea	9,996	2,514	25.2
W10 6	Kensington & Chelsea	10,612	2,471	23.3
RM16 6	Thurrock	8,738	2,389	27.3
M14 4	Manchester	5,850	2,257	38.6
W10 5	Kensington & Chelsea	13,529	2,112	15.6

Figure 3

Differences between total population from ONS PBF and JICPOPs postcode sector population estimates for mid-2003



of population size. Nationally the count of persons recorded on the patient registers exceeds the national population estimate. The mid-2006 count on the patient registers exceeded the mid-year estimate by 2.9 m (5.4 per cent). The excess of persons on the patient registers compared to population estimates, often referred to as list inflation, may occur when some patients have more than one NHS number and are double counted, and patients may be on doctors' lists after having left the country. List inflation may also be localised, for example in student areas where students do not quickly re-register after finishing their course of study and moving away from an area.

We are also aware of inconsistencies in patient register postcode data over time which could negate the accuracy of any PBF estimates in some areas. An investigation has been undertaken for individual postcodes where there are large patient register counts and instances where the patient register counts fluctuate significantly over time. It emerged that a significant number of these postcodes related to halls of residence at universities. Using student count information from universities and the 2001 Census, for some postcodes a year-specific adjusted patient register postcode count was created to more closely reflect actual numbers of resident students. As patient register data are used in the production of small area population estimates, unless there was information to suggest otherwise, these adjusted patient register postcode counts by age and sex are invariably kept constant over time.

We now have year-specific population-adjusted counts of patient register data to more closely reflect the likely age and sex characteristics of the population usually resident within an area. The fact that in some areas there is significant patient register list inflation should not be an issue as long as this occurs consistently within each LSOA and across all postcodes, as the effect of apportioning the LSOA estimates to the patient register counts at postcode level where widespread list inflation occurs is that all counts by unit postcode would be reduced. The extent to which there is list inflation (or an under recording) which is not consistent within a LSOA (that is, is very localised) could, however, impact on the effectiveness of this PBF method when the constrained postcodes counts are aggregated to an alternative geography (for example, statistical wards) which may not be coterminous with the LSOA geography, that is, 'cut across' the LSOA.

2. Issues with the Population estimates for LSOAs and local authorities

The postcode population estimates are consistent if aggregated to the population estimates for LSOAs, which in turn are consistent with estimates for higher geographies such as the local authority and national population estimates.

Whilst the local authority mid-year estimates have National Statistics status, meeting standards for quality and relevance, it is recognised that some areas can be more difficult to estimate accurately than others. For example areas with high levels of migration could be expected to be more difficult to estimate accurately than areas with very low levels of migration. For this reason any inaccuracies in the local authority mid-year estimates will also be reflected in the LSOA estimates, and in turn in the postcode unit estimates.

It also needs to be recognised that the individual addresses for some postcodes may straddle the target geography (and in some cases the LSOA itself). For this reason some error may result when the unit postcode estimates are aggregated to higher geographies as this will be done on the NSPD grid reference for the postcode. All persons associated with addresses with the same postcode will therefore all be allocated to the same area within target geography, even though some addresses may physically be within a different area of the target geography.

3. Issues with the NSPD and postcode changes

Postcodes with PO Box numbers

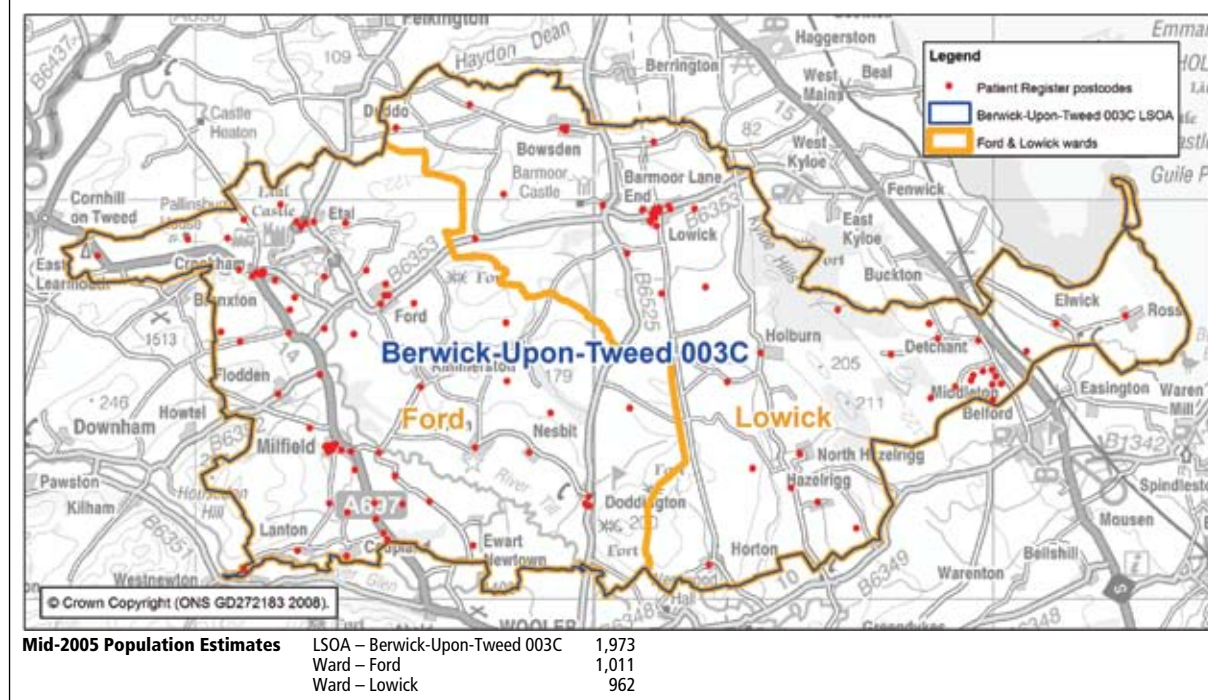
Non-geographic postcodes can either be special postcodes assigned to some large users of the postal service or PO Boxes that lie within a (pseudo) postcode sector. These PO Box postcodes will all have been assigned a grid reference, usually the local Royal Mail sorting office.

We are aware that some of the postcodes recorded on the patient registers do, in fact, relate to PO Box postcodes and therefore have an associated population, for example some relate to student halls of residences. Where these patient register PO Box postcodes can be identified as belonging to a particular establishment, they may be allocated on the NSPD to the 'wrong' LSOA as the allocation is done on the grid reference (usually the Royal Mail sorting office) rather than the physical location of the establishment. For example the postcode NP18 3YG for PO Box 179 which relates to Caerlon Campus, University of Wales, Newport is allocated on the NSPD to an LSOA some 4 km away from the actual campus, and in a different LSOA. Without a specific grid reference and LSOA adjustment this could result in postcodes within some LSOAs with too low or too high estimated population counts (in this example our LSOA estimates do reflect the actual location of the university campus).

With the mid-2006 patient register adjusted counts, 10,000 people were associated with 4,300 PO Box number postcodes, with 104 people associated with both a PO Box number and a non-geographic postcode (40 postcodes).

Figure 4

Postcode Best Fit example



There were only seven occurrences of patient register PO Box number postcodes where the counts of persons associated with such postcodes were 50 or greater. In fact, 98 per cent of patient registers PO Box postcode usage related to fewer than 10 persons. Special consideration may need to be given to PO Box postcodes and the allocation of these postcodes to other geographies when applying the PBF method, though nationally this will have very little impact on any PBF derived estimates.

Postcode changes and terminated postcodes

The Royal Mail periodically make changes to postcodes, terminating old postcodes, creating new postcodes (generally when new residential properties or industrial/commercial premises are built) and changing postcodes in particular localities as part of postcode reorganisation. Such changes will impact on the PBF. There may be a time lag between the period when new residential properties are built and occupied, and the time people are included on the patient register. In addition it may take some time for terminated postcodes to be removed from the patient registers and some may remain indefinitely.

Some terminated postcodes will have been renamed and so, for PBF purposes, it is not a problem that counts relate to these terminated postcodes as long as the people (GP patients) to which they relate still exist and reside at the address previously associated with the terminated postcode. There are however procedures in place for individual PCTs to update on a quarterly basis patient register postcode information when new postcodes are introduced as part of a Royal Mail postcode reorganisation.

On the mid-2006 patient registers, there were 382 postcodes which had been terminated which had counts of over 100 persons; of these, however, only two postcodes (0.5 per cent) were terminated before 2000. This suggests that generally postcodes which have been terminated on the patient register are removed (if appropriate) or renamed (if a postcode change is involved).

Given the overall number of patient register counts relating to terminated postcodes (just 0.2 per cent), this is not considered to be a big problem,

though it may impact locally on the quality of any PBF-derived estimates produced.

For the PBF method to work as intended, accuracy on the NSPD is essential. It needs to include valid postcodes, but importantly to have accurate grid reference information for these postcodes. Typically there will be around 40 people with the same postcode, grid references in the NSPD are available in one or 100 metre resolution, and the majority are derived from the Ordnance Survey product ADDRESS-POINT⁶ containing grid references for each address to 0.1 metre resolution. The addresses for a single postcode may straddle geographies, for example LSOAs or wards, but as these geographies are based on aggregations of Census Output Areas which were themselves based around unit postcodes, this will generally not be the case.

For the majority of postcodes on the NSPD, the grid reference will reflect the mean of matched addresses on ADDRESS-POINT with the same postcode, but allocated to the nearest address (property) of this mean.

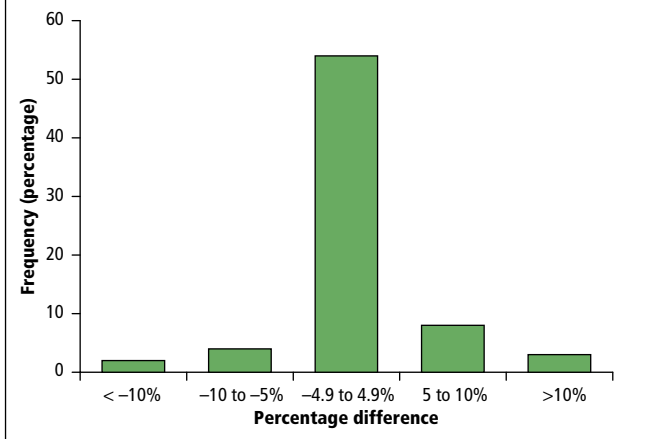
Figure 4 gives a visualisation of how ward population estimates can be derived from LSOA population estimates using the PBF method and GIS. The LSOA of Berwick-Upon-Tweed 003C in Northumberland covers the area of two wards, Ford and Lowick. Within the LSOA there are 115 postcodes with associated population estimates for mid-2005, the average population per postcode is 17. Ford ward has 66 postcodes with population estimates, whilst Lowick ward has 49 postcodes with population estimates. These postcode population estimates can be aggregated to their respective wards, this gives mid-2005 population estimates of 1,011 for Ford and 962 for Lowick.

Case Studies highlighting application of PBF

In October 2006 ONS had communication from South Tyneside Council who enquired about the feasibility of ONS producing population estimates by age and sex for their 71 defined Neighbourhood areas covering most of South Tyneside, to assist in the validation of their own population estimates for these neighbourhoods. At the time the PBF

Figure 5

Differences between total population from South Tyneside Council and ONS PBF mid-2005 population estimates for South Tyneside neighbourhoods



Positive difference = South Tyneside population > ONS PBF estimate.
Negative difference = South Tyneside population < ONS PBF estimate.

method was still at a development stage and, as South Tyneside Council was able to offer digitised GIS boundaries for their 71 neighbourhoods, this was identified as being a good test of the PBF method, requiring GIS to identify the postcodes and associated estimates to be aggregated for each of the 71 neighbourhoods.

For most of these 71 neighbourhoods there was a broad consistency between the respective population estimates, however there are a few areas where there are differences of >10 per cent (Figure 5). Most of these differences can be explained by local circumstances.

In July 2007 ONS had contact from The Centre for Environment, Fisheries & Aquaculture Science (Cefas) which is an agency of the UK Government's Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra). Cefas undertakes scientific research, advisory and consultancy work. Cefas approached ONS to enquire about the availability of population estimates for river catchment areas covering England and Wales to assess the impact of human-derived sewage on fisheries in England and Wales⁷, undertaken on behalf of the Food Standards Agency.

No postcode to river catchment area lookup file existed, so GIS was used to overlay the river catchment boundaries onto our postcode population estimates based on their grid reference. In this way the postcodes within each river catchment area could be identified, and the postcode population estimates within them aggregated. In this manner population estimates for all 903 river catchment areas were produced.

Other examples where PBF has been used to produce bespoke population estimates to meet specific requests include the production of updated population estimates for 2001 Census-defined urban areas in England and Wales, and population estimates for parishes and postcode sectors.

ONS is willing to undertake work to produce bespoke population estimates where these areas can be readily defined, either in terms of existing geographies, a postcode lookup file or customer supplied digitised boundary file. Potential customers are reminded that there are some limitations with the estimates produced using the PBF method and that any work undertaken may be chargeable.

Conclusion

The use of a PBF methodology as developed by ONS can go a long way to meet previously unmet demand for population estimates, such as for wards and parishes. The finer the level of geographical detail with any

such estimates, the greater the uncertainty of accuracy – as is the case with the standard outputs for population estimates for local authorities, MSOAs and LSOAs.

In addition to producing population estimates for 'non-standard' small areas, the method has also been used to produce population estimates for larger areas, such as National Parks and Parliamentary Constituencies, published as experimental statistics⁸. In fact population estimates can be produced for any geography where a postcode to geography lookup or a suitable GIS digitised boundary exists. Greater confidence can be associated with large area estimates derived by PBF because of the greater likelihood that the estimates will contain whole local authorities, MSOAs or LSOAs and, in such cases, only relatively small slither areas may actually have population estimates generated solely from the PBF methodology.

As PBF derived population estimates are a by-product of LSOA population estimates, a population base does not have to be generated for each geography for which estimates are required: the only inputs required are a year-specific patient register file, the associated LSOA and special population counts and, optionally, the NSPD. To generate estimates from PBF for different geographies is not resource (staff) intensive, whereas alternative methods for producing such estimates may be.

From the evaluation undertaken, no serious limitations with the PBF methodology have been identified, but it is recognised that the accuracy of any such estimates is largely dependent upon the accuracy of not only the patient registers, but also the NSPD, and the LSOA and local authority population estimates.

Whilst there are particular limitations with the patient register counts, with appropriate checking and adjustments, the quality of any estimates derived from PBF in this way can be improved. Such checks and adjustments are currently done with the Ratio Change method for producing the LSOA and MSOA estimates.

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- 1 Bates A (2007) Methodology used for producing ONS's Small Area Population Estimates. *Population Trends* **125**, 30–36
- 2 Bates A (2004) Small Area Population Estimates project: data quality of administrative datasets. *Population Trends* **116**, 11–17
- 3 The National Statistics Postcode Directory (NSPD) is produced by ONS and lists all unit postcodes in the United Kingdom and assigns them to a range of administrative, health, electoral and other geographies. Postcode grid references are provided and counts of the number of addresses, delivery points and small businesses in each postcode are also available. The product contains both live and terminated postcodes.
- 4 The postcode sector comprises the first half of a postcode (the outcode) and the first digit of the second half of the postcode (the incode) eg EC1A 1 and WR10 3. There are around 9,000 postcode sectors wholly within England and Wales with an average population of around 5,900, with a very small number in excess of 20,000.
- 5 Methodology Note on production of Super Output Area Population Estimates (Experimental Statistics), May 2008 accessed from www.statistics.gov.uk/statbase/Product.asp?vlnk=14357
- 6 The Ordnance Survey product ADDRESS-POINT is a dataset that uniquely defines and locates residential, business and public postal addresses in Great Britain. It is created by matching information from Ordnance Survey digital map databases with more than 27 million addresses recorded by the Royal Mail.
- 7 Campos C, Kershaw S and Lee R (2007) Sanitary surveys in shellfish production areas in England and Wales. *Shellfish News* **24**, 28–30, available at www.cefas.co.uk/publications/shellfishnews/shellnews24.pdf

- 8 The label 'Experimental Statistics' basically refers to statistics which are being consciously 'groomed' for National Statistics status when, and if, circumstances permit. The label from 1 April 2008 now has no significance in the context of the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007 or the new UK Statistics Authority's 'assessment and designation' function (unless the UK Statistics Authority decides otherwise).

Tables

Table*		Page
Population		
1.1 (1)	International	36
1.2 (2)	National	39
1.3 (4)	Subnational	40
1.4 (6)	Age and sex	41
1.5 (7)	Age, sex and legal marital status	44
1.6 (5)	Components of population change	46
Vital statistics		
2.1 (8)	Summary	47
2.2 (new)	Key demographic and health indicators	49
Live births		
3.1 (9)	Age of mother	50
3.2 (10)	Outside marriage: age of mother and type of registration	51
3.3 (11)	Within marriage, within marriage to remarried women, age of mother and birth order	52
Conceptions and abortions		
4.1 (12)	Age of women at conception	53
Expectation of life		
5.1 (13)	(In years) at birth and selected age	54
Deaths		
6.1 (14)	Age and sex	55
6.2 (15)	Subnational	56
International migration		
7.1 (18)	Age and sex	57
7.2 (19)	Country of last residence	58
7.3 (20)	Citizenship	59
Internal migration		
8.1 (21)	Movements within the United Kingdom	60
Marriage and divorce		
9.1 (22)	Age and sex	61
9.2 (23)	Remarriages: age, sex and previous marital status	62
9.3 (24)	Divorces: age and sex	63

*Numbers in brackets indicate former table numbers in editions of *Population Trends* prior to spring 1999 (No 95). Former tables 16 and 17 (Deaths by selected causes, and Abortions) now appear in *Health Statistics Quarterly*.

Population Trends tables are also available in XLS or CSV formats via our website www.statistics.gov.uk

Symbols

..	not available	-	nil or less than half the final digit shown
:	not applicable	p	provisional

Table 1.1 Population and vital rates: international

Selected countries													Numbers (thousands)/Rates per thousand	
Year	United Kingdom	Austria	Belgium	Bulgaria	Cyprus ¹	Czech Republic	Denmark	Estonia	Finland	France	Germany ²	Greece ³	Hungary	
Population (thousands)														
1971	55,928	7,501	9,673	8,540	610	9,810	4,963	1,369	4,612	51,251	78,313	8,831	10,370	
1976	56,216	7,566	9,818	8,760	498	10,094	5,073	1,435	4,726	52,909	78,337	9,167	10,590	
1981	56,357	7,569	9,859	8,891	515	10,293	5,121	1,482	4,800	54,182	78,408	9,729	10,712	
1986	56,684	7,588	9,862	8,958	545	10,340	5,120	1,534	4,918	55,547	77,720	9,967	10,631	
1991	57,439	7,813	9,979	8,982	587	10,309	5,154	1,566	5,014	57,055	79,984	10,247	10,346	
1996	58,164	7,959	10,137	8,363	661 ¹²	10,315	5,262	1,416	5,125	58,026	81,896	10,709	10,193	
2001	59,113	8,043	10,287	7,910	701 ¹²	10,224	5,359	1,364	5,188	59,322	82,340	10,950	10,188	
2002	59,323	8,084	10,333	7,869	710 ¹²	10,201	5,374	1,359	5,201	59,678	82,482	10,988	10,159	
2003	59,557	8,118	10,376	7,824	721 ¹²	10,202	5,387	1,354	5,213	60,028	82,520	11,024	10,130	
2004	59,846	8,175	10,421	7,781	737 ¹²	10,207	5,401	1,349	5,228	60,381	82,501	11,062	10,107	
2005	60,238	8,233	10,479	7,740	758 ¹²	10,234	5,416	1,346	5,246	60,996	82,464	11,104	10,087	
2006	60,587	8,280 ^p	10,511 ^p	7,680 ^p	766 ¹²	10,280 ^p	5,427 ^p	1,345	5,270	61,350 ^p	82,370 ^p	11,150 ^p	10,077 ^p	
2007	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,340 ^p	5,290 ^p	..	82,260 ^p	..	..
Population changes (per 1,000 per annum)														
1971-76	1.0	1.7	3.0	5.2	-36.7	5.8	4.4	9.6	4.9	6.5	0.1	7.6	4.2	
1976-81	0.5	0.1	0.8	3.0	6.8	3.9	1.9	6.6	3.1	4.8	0.2	12.3	2.3	
1981-86	1.2	0.5	0.1	1.5	11.7	0.9	0.0	7.0	4.9	5.0	-1.8	4.9	-1.5	
1986-91	2.7	5.9	2.4	0.5	15.4	-0.6	1.3	4.2	3.9	5.4	5.8	5.6	-5.4	
1991-96	2.5	3.7	3.6	-13.8	25.2	0.1	4.2	-12.4	3.8	3.4	4.8	9.0	-3.0	
1996-01	3.3	2.1	2.6	-10.8	12.1	-1.8	3.7	-7.3	2.5	4.5	1.1	4.5	-0.1	
2001-02	3.5	5.1	4.5	-5.2	12.8	-2.2	2.8	-3.7	2.5	6.0	1.7	4.4	-2.8	
2002-03	3.9	4.2	4.2	-5.7	15.5	0.1	2.4	-3.7	2.3	5.9	0.5	2.4	-2.9	
2003-04	4.8	7.0	4.3	-5.5	22.2	0.5	2.6	-3.7	2.9	5.9	-0.2	3.4	-2.3	
2004-05	6.6	7.1	5.6	-5.3	28.5	2.6	2.8	-2.2	3.4	10.2	-0.4	3.8	-2.0	
2005-06	5.8	5.7 ^p	3.1 ^p	-7.8 ^p	10.6	4.5 ^p	2.0 ^p	-0.7	4.6	5.8 ^p	-1.1 ^p	4.1 ^p	-1.0 ^p	
2006-07	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-3.7 ^p	3.8 ^p	..	-1.3 ^p	..	..
Live birth rate (per 1,000 population per annum)														
1971-75	14.1	13.3	13.4	13.2	17.7	17.8	14.6	15.4	13.1	16.0	10.5	15.8	16.1	
1976-80	12.5	11.5	12.5	15.1	19.0	17.1	12.0	15.0	13.6	14.1	10.5	15.6	15.8	
1981-85	12.9	12.0	12.0	13.7	20.2	13.5	10.2	15.6	13.4	14.2	10.7	13.3	12.3	
1986-90	13.7	11.6	12.1	12.7	18.8	12.7	11.5	15.5	12.7	13.8	9.8	10.6	11.8	
1991-95	13.2	11.8	12.0	9.8	16.9	11.1	13.1	10.7	12.9	12.7	10.9	9.9	11.7	
1996-00	12.0	10.2	11.2	8.3	13.2	8.8	12.6	8.9	11.3	12.7	9.6	10.2	9.8	
2001	11.3	9.4	11.1	8.6	11.6	8.9	12.2	9.3	10.8	13.0	8.9	9.3	9.5	
2002	11.3	9.7	10.8	8.5	11.1	9.6	11.9	9.6	10.7	12.7	8.7	9.5	9.5	
2003	11.7	9.5	10.9	8.6	11.2	9.2	12.0	9.6	10.9	12.7	8.6	9.5	9.3	
2004	12.0	9.7	11.1	9.0	11.3	9.6	11.9	10.4	11.0	12.7	8.6	9.6	9.4	
2005	12.0	9.5	11.2	9.2	10.9	10.0	11.9	10.7	11.0	12.7	8.3	9.7	9.7	
2006	12.4	9.3	11.5	9.6	11.3	10.3	12.0	11.1	11.2	13.0	8.2	10.0	9.9	
2007	12.7 ^p	9.1	11.4	9.8	10.8	11.1	11.7	11.7	11.1	12.8	8.3	9.8	9.7	
Death rate (per 1,000 population per annum)														
1971-75	11.8	12.6	12.1	9.8	9.9	12.4	10.1	11.1	9.5	10.7	12.3	8.6	11.9	
1976-80	11.9	12.3	11.6	12.9	10.4	12.5	10.5	12.1	9.3	10.2	12.2	8.8	12.9	
1981-85	11.7	12.0	11.4	11.3	10.0	12.8	11.1	12.3	9.3	10.1	12.0	9.0	13.7	
1986-90	11.4	11.1	10.8	11.9	10.2	12.4	11.5	11.9	9.8	9.5	11.6	9.3	13.5	
1991-95	11.1	10.4	10.4	12.9	9.0	11.6	11.9	13.9	9.8	9.1	10.8	9.5	14.3	
1996-00	10.6	9.7	10.3	14.0	7.7	10.8	11.2	13.1	9.6	9.2	10.4	9.7	13.9	
2001	10.2	9.3	10.1	14.2	6.9	10.5	10.9	13.6	9.4	8.9	10.1	9.4	13.0	
2002	10.2	9.4	10.2	14.3	7.3	10.6	10.9	13.5	9.5	9.2	10.2	9.5	13.1	
2003	10.3	9.5	10.4	14.3	7.2	10.9	10.7	13.4	9.4	9.2	10.3	9.6	13.4	
2004	9.7	9.1	9.8	14.2	7.1	10.5	10.3	13.2	9.1	8.4	10.0	9.5	13.1	
2005	9.7	9.1	9.8	14.6	7.2	10.6	10.2	12.9	9.1	8.6	10.1	9.5	13.5	
2006	9.4	8.9	..	14.8	6.7	10.2	10.2	12.9	9.1	..	9.9	9.5	13.1	
2007	9.4 ^p	8.9	..	..	..	..	10.2	..	9.2	..	10.0	..	13.0

Note:

Estimated population (mid-year), live birth and death rates up to the latest available data, as given in the *United Nations Monthly Bulletin of Statistics* (June 2008), the *United Nations Demographic Yearbook* (May 2008), and the Eurostat website (June 2008). Rates for 2007 (United Kingdom) are based on 2006 based populations projections for 2007.

- 1 Republic of Cyprus - Greek Cypriot controlled area only
- 2 Including former GDR throughout.
- 3 Greece - mid-year population excludes armed forces stationed outside the country but includes alien forces stationed in the area.
- 4 Malta - including work and resident permit holders and foreigners residing in Malta.
- 5 Poland - excluding civilian aliens within the country but including civilian nationals temporarily outside the country. Average year data for 2000 and 2001 contain revised data according to the final results of the population census 2002.
- 6 Portugal - including the Azores and Madeira islands.
- 7 Spain - including the Balearic and Canary Islands.
- 8 For 1971 the European Union consisted of the 6 original member countries. This has since been expanded to include: 9 countries (1976-EU15); 10 countries (2004-EU25); 2 countries (2007-EU27). In this table, all totals include the EU27.
- 9 Including the Indian held part of Jammu and Kashmir, the final status of which has not yet been determined.
- 10 Japan - excluding diplomatic personnel outside the country and foreign military and civilian personnel and their dependants stationed in the area. Rates are based on births to or deaths of Japanese nationals only.
- 11 USA - excluding armed forces overseas and civilian citizens absent from the country for extended periods.
- 12 Indicates population estimates of uncertain reliability.
- 13 Data refer to 15 April.
- 14 Figures were updated taking into account the results of the 2002 All Russian Population Census.
- 15 Mid-year estimates have been adjusted for under-enumeration.
- 16 For statistical purposes the data for China do not include those for the Hong Kong SAR, Macao SAR and Taiwan province of China. Data for the period 1996 to 2000 have been adjusted on the basis of the Population Census of 2000. Data from 2001 to 2004 have been estimated on the basis of the annual national sample surveys of Population Changes. Estimate of uncertain reliability. Death rates for 1999-2003 and birth rates for 2000-2003 were obtained by the Sample Survey of Population Change 2003 in China.
- 17 Rate is for 1990-1995.
- p provisional.

Table 1.1
continued

Population and vital rates: international

Selected countries														Numbers (thousands)/Rates per thousand	
Year	Irish Republic	Italy	Latvia	Lithuania	Luxembourg	Malta ^a	Netherlands	Poland ^b	Portugal ^c	Romania	Slovakia	Slovenia	Spain ^d	Sweden	
Population (thousands)															
1971	2,992	54,073	2,366	3,160	342	330	13,194	32,800	8,644	20,470	4,540	1,732	34,216	8,098	
1976	3,238	55,718	2,465	3,315	361	330	13,774	34,360	9,356	21,450	4,764	1,809	36,118	8,222	
1981	3,443	56,502	2,515	3,422	365	322	14,247	35,902	9,851	22,353	4,996	1,910	37,741	8,320	
1986	3,543	56,596	2,588	3,560	368	344	14,572	37,456	10,011	22,823	5,179	1,975	38,536	8,370	
1991	3,526	56,751	2,662	3,742	387	358	15,070	38,245	9,871	23,185	5,283	2,002	38,920	8,617	
1996	3,626 ¹³	56,860	2,457	3,602	414	380	15,530	38,618	10,058	22,608	5,374	1,991	39,479	8,841	
2001	3,839 ¹³	56,978	2,355	3,481	442	393	16,046	38,251	10,293	22,408	5,380	1,992	40,721	8,896	
2002	3,917 ¹³	57,157	2,339	3,469	446	396	16,149	38,232	10,368	21,795	5,379	1,996	41,314	8,925	
2003	3,996 ¹³	57,605	2,325	3,454	450	399	16,225	38,195	10,441	21,734	5,379	1,997	42,005	8,958	
2004	4,044 ¹³	58,175	2,313	3,436	453	401	16,282	38,180	10,502	21,673	5,382	1,997	42,692	8,994	
2005	4,131 ¹³	58,607	2,301	3,414	457	404	16,320	38,161	10,549	21,624	5,387	2,001	43,398	9,030	
2006	4,230 ¹³	58,940	2,295	3,390 ^p	470 ^p	410 ^p	16,350 ^p	38,130	10,580	21,580 ^p	5,400 ^p	2,010	44,100	9,090 ^p	
2007	4,340 ^p	59,420 ^p	2,270 ^p	3,370 ^p	..	410 ^p	16,370 ^p	..	..	21,540 ^p	5,390 ^p	2,020 ^p	44,850 ^p	9,140 ^p
Population changes (per 1,000 per annum)															
1971-76	16.4	6.1	8.4	9.8	10.7	0.0	8.8	9.5	16.5	9.6	9.9	8.9	11.1	3.1	
1976-81	12.7	2.8	4.1	6.5	2.5	-4.8	6.9	9.0	10.6	8.4	9.7	11.2	9.0	2.4	
1981-86	5.8	0.3	5.8	8.1	1.8	13.7	4.6	8.7	3.2	4.2	7.3	6.8	4.2	1.2	
1986-91	-1.0	0.5	5.7	10.2	10.2	8.1	6.8	4.2	-2.8	3.2	4.0	2.7	2.0	5.9	
1991-96	4.3	0.4	-12.8	-1.7	13.9	8.4	6.1	2.0	3.8	-5.0	3.4	-1.1	2.9	5.1	
1996-01	11.7	0.4	-8.3	-6.7	13.5	6.8	6.6	-1.9	4.7	-1.8	0.2	0.1	6.3	1.2	
2001-02	20.3	3.1	-6.8	-3.4	9.0	7.6	6.4	-0.5	7.3	-27.4	-0.2	2.0	14.6	3.3	
2002-03	20.2	7.8	-6.0	-4.3	9.0	7.6	4.7	-1.0	7.0	-2.8	0.0	0.5	16.7	3.7	
2003-04	12.0	9.9	-5.2	-5.2	6.7	5.0	3.5	-0.4	5.8	-2.8	0.6	0.0	16.4	4.0	
2004-05	21.5	7.4	-5.2	-6.4	8.8	7.5	2.3	-0.5	4.5	-2.3	0.9	2.0	16.5	4.0	
2005-06	24.0	5.7	-2.6	-7.0 ^p	28.4 ^p	14.9 ^p	1.8 ^p	-0.8	2.9	-2.0 ^p	2.4 ^p	4.5	16.2	6.6 ^p	
2006-07	26.0 ^p	8.1 ^p	-10.9 ^p	-5.9 ^p	..	0.0 ^p	1.2 ^p	..	..	-1.9 ^p	-1.9 ^p	5.0 ^p	17.0 ^p	5.5 ^p
Live birth rate (per 1,000 population per annum)															
1971-75	22.2	16.0	14.4	16.4	11.6	17.5	14.9	17.9	20.3	19.3	19.7	16.4	19.2	13.5	
1976-80	21.3	12.6	13.9	15.4	11.2	17.0	12.6	19.3	17.9	18.9	20.3	16.3	17.1	11.6	
1981-85	19.2	10.6	15.2	16.0	11.6	15.3	12.2	19.0	14.5	15.6	18.0	14.2	12.8	11.3	
1986-90	15.8	9.8	15.3	15.8	12.2	16.0	12.8	15.5	11.9	15.8	15.8	12.3	10.8	13.2	
1991-95	14.0	9.6	10.8	13.1	13.3	14.0	12.8	12.9	11.4	11.1	13.3	10.0	9.8	13.3	
1996-00	14.2	9.2	8.0	10.4	13.1	12.0	12.6	10.4	11.3	10.4	10.7	9.1	9.5	10.2	
2001	15.1	9.2	8.3	9.1	12.4	10.0	12.6	9.6	11.0	9.8	9.5	8.8	10.0	10.3	
2002	15.5	9.4	8.6	8.7	12.0	9.6	12.5	9.3	11.0	9.7	9.5	8.8	10.2	10.7	
2003	15.4	9.4	9.0	8.9	11.8	10.1	12.3	9.2	10.8	9.8	9.6	8.7	10.5	11.1	
2004	15.3	9.7	8.8	8.9	11.8	9.7	11.9	9.3	10.4	10.0	10.0	9.0	10.6	11.2	
2005	14.8	9.5	9.4	9.0	11.8	9.6	11.5	9.6	10.4	10.2	9.3	9.1	10.7	11.2	
2006	15.2	9.5	9.7	9.2	11.7	9.6	11.3	9.8	10.0	10.1	10.0	9.4	10.9	11.7	
2007	16.2	9.5	10.1	9.5	11.4	9.5	11.0	10.2	10.0	9.9	10.1	9.7	10.8	11.7	
Death rate (per 1,000 population per annum)															
1971-75	11.0	9.8	11.6	9.0	12.2	9.0	8.3	8.4	11.0	9.4	9.4	10.0	8.5	10.5	
1976-80	10.2	9.7	12.6	10.1	11.5	9.0	8.1	9.2	10.1	9.8	9.8	9.8	8.0	10.9	
1981-85	9.4	9.5	12.8	10.6	11.2	8.2	8.3	9.6	9.6	10.3	10.1	10.3	7.7	11.0	
1986-90	9.1	9.4	12.4	10.3	10.5	7.4	8.5	10.0	9.6	10.8	10.1	9.6	8.2	11.1	
1991-95	8.8	9.7	14.8	12.0	9.8	7.6	8.8	10.2	10.4	11.5	9.9	9.7	8.7	10.9	
1996-00	8.5	9.8	13.9	11.5	9.0	7.7	8.8	9.8	10.5	12.0	9.7	9.5	9.1	10.6	
2001	7.9	9.6	14.0	11.6	8.4	7.6	8.7	9.5	10.2	11.6	9.7	9.3	8.9	10.5	
2002	7.5	9.8	13.9	11.8	8.4	7.8	8.8	9.4	10.2	12.4	9.6	9.4	8.9	10.6	
2003	7.2	10.2	13.9	11.9	9.0	7.7	8.7	9.6	10.4	12.3	9.7	9.7	9.2	10.4	
2004	7.0	9.4	13.9	12.0	7.6	7.2	8.4	9.5	9.7	11.9	9.6	9.3	8.7	10.1	
2005	6.6	9.7	14.2	12.8	8.0	7.8	8.4	9.7	10.2	12.1	9.9	9.4	8.9	10.2	
2006	6.5	9.5	14.5	13.2	8.0	..	8.3	9.7	9.7	11.9	9.9	9.1	8.4	10.0	
2007	..	..	14.5	13.5	..	..	..	..	..	11.7	9.9	..	..	10.0

See notes on first page of table.

Table 1.1
continued
Population and vital rates: international

Selected countries										
										Numbers (thousands)/Rates per thousand
Year	EU ⁸	Russian Federation	Australia	Canada	New Zealand	China	India ⁹	Japan ¹⁰	USA ¹¹	Year
Population (thousands)										
1971	438,728	130,934	13,067	22,026	2,899	852,290 ¹⁶	551,311	105,145	207,661	1971
1976	450,468	135,027	14,033	23,517	3,163	937,170 ¹⁶	617,248	113,094	218,035	1976
1981	459,807	139,225	14,923	24,900	3,195	1,008,460 ¹⁶	675,185	117,902	229,958	1981
1986	465,336	144,154	16,018	26,204	3,317	1,086,733 ¹⁶	767,199	121,672	240,680	1986
1991	473,094	148,245	17,284	28,031	3,477	1,170,100 ¹⁶	851,897	123,964	252,639	1991
1996	478,084	148,160 ¹⁴	18,311 ¹⁵	29,611 ¹⁵	3,732	1,217,550 ¹⁶	942,157 ¹²	125,757	269,394	1996
2001	482,464	145,976 ¹⁴	19,413 ¹⁵	31,021 ¹⁵	3,880	1,271,850 ¹⁶	1,035,066 ¹²	127,130	285,108	2001
2002	483,643	145,306 ¹⁴	19,641 ¹⁵	31,373 ¹⁵	3,939	1,280,400 ¹⁶	1,050,640 ¹²	127,400	287,985	2002
2003	485,617	144,566 ¹⁴	19,873 ¹⁵	31,669 ¹⁵	4,009	1,288,400 ¹⁶	1,068,214 ¹²	127,650	290,850	2003
2004	487,720	143,821 ¹⁴	20,111 ¹⁵	31,974 ¹⁵	4,061	1,296,075 ¹⁶	1,085,600 ¹²	127,670	293,623	2004
2005	490,125	143,150 ¹⁴	20,409 ¹⁵	32,312 ¹⁵	4,099	1,303,720 ¹⁶	1,101,000 ¹²	127,773	296,410	2005
2006	492,068 ^p	142,490 ¹⁴	20,700 ¹⁵	32,650 ¹⁵	4,180	1,311,020 ¹⁶	1,117,730 ¹²	127,760	299,400	2006
2007	..	..	21,020 ^{15,p}	32,980 ^{15,p}	4,230 ^p	..	1,134,000 ¹²	127,770	..	2007
Population changes (per 1,000 per annum)										
1971-76	5.4	6.3	14.8	13.5	18.2	19.9	23.9	15.1	10.0	1971-76
1976-81	4.1	6.2	12.7	11.8	2.0	15.2	18.8	8.5	10.9	1976-81
1981-86	2.4	7.1	14.7	10.5	7.6	15.5	27.3	6.4	9.3	1981-86
1986-91	3.3	5.7	15.8	13.9	9.6	15.3	22.1	3.8	9.9	1986-91
1991-96	2.1	-1.7	11.9	11.3	14.7	10.3	21.1	2.9	12.1	1991-96
1996-01	1.8	-2.9	12.0	9.5	7.9	8.9	19.7	2.2	11.7	1996-01
2001-02	2.4	-4.6	11.7	11.3	15.2	6.7	15.0	2.1	10.1	2001-02
2002-03	4.1	-5.1	11.8	9.4	17.8	6.2	16.7	2.0	9.9	2002-03
2003-04	4.3	-5.2	12.0	9.6	13.0	6.0	16.3	0.2	9.5	2003-04
2004-05	4.9	-4.7	14.8	10.6	9.4	5.9	14.2	0.8	9.5	2004-05
2005-06	3.8 ^p	-4.6	14.3	10.5	19.8	5.6	15.2	-0.1	10.1	2005-06
2006-07	..	..	15.5 ^p	10.1 ^p	12.0 ^p	..	14.6	0.1	..	2006-07
Live birth rate (per 1,000 population per annum)										
1971-75	..	..	18.8	15.9	20.4	27.2	35.6	18.6	15.3	1971-75
1976-80	..	..	15.7	15.5	16.8	18.6	33.4	14.9	15.2	1976-80
1981-85	..	..	15.6	15.1	15.8	19.2	..	12.6	15.7	1981-85
1986-90	..	..	15.1	14.8	17.1	..	..	10.6	16.0	1986-90
1991-95	11.4	10.2	14.7	13.6	16.9	18.5 ¹⁷	..	9.7	13.1	1991-95
1996-00	10.6	8.6	13.4	11.4	14.9	..	..	9.5	14.3	1996-00
2001	10.1	9.0	12.7	10.8	14.4	13.4 ¹⁶	25.4	9.2	14.1	2001
2002	10.3	9.6	12.8	10.5	13.7	12.9 ¹⁶	25.0	9.1	14.0	2002
2003	10.3	10.2	12.6	10.6	14.0	12.4 ¹⁶	24.8	8.8	14.1	2003
2004	10.4	10.5	12.7	10.5	14.3	12.3 ¹⁶	24.1	8.7	14.0	2004
2005	10.4	10.2	12.9	10.6	14.1	12.4 ¹⁶	23.8	8.3	14.0	2005
2006	10.6	10.4	12.9	..	14.1	..	..	8.6	..	2006
2007	10.6	10.9	..	..	15.2	..	..	..	..	2007
Death rate (per 1,000 population per annum)										
1971-75	..	..	8.2	7.4	8.4	7.3	15.5	6.4	9.1	1971-75
1976-80	..	..	7.6	7.2	8.2	6.6	13.8	6.1	8.7	1976-80
1981-85	..	..	7.3	7.0	8.1	6.7	..	6.1	8.6	1981-85
1986-90	..	..	7.2	7.3	8.2	..	..	6.4	8.7	1986-90
1991-95	10.4	13.7	7.0	7.8	7.8	..	..	7.0	8.7	1991-95
1996-00	10.2	14.3	6.9	7.2	7.2	..	..	7.4	8.5	1996-00
2001	9.9	15.4	6.6	7.1	7.2	6.4 ¹⁶	8.4	7.6	8.5	2001
2002	9.9	16.1	6.8	7.1	7.1	6.4 ¹⁶	8.1	7.7	8.5	2002
2003	10.1	16.4	6.7	7.1	7.0	6.4 ¹⁶	8.0	8.0	8.4	2003
2004	9.7	16.0	6.6	7.1	7.0	6.4 ¹⁶	7.5	8.1	8.2	2004
2005	9.8	15.2	6.4	7.2	6.6	6.5 ¹⁶	7.6	8.5	..	2005
2006	..	15.0	6.5	..	6.7	..	..	8.5	..	2006
2007	..	..	..	..	6.8	..	..	..	..	2007

See notes on first page of table.

Table 1.2 Population: national

Constituent countries of the United Kingdom								Numbers (thousands) and percentage age distribution							
Mid-year	United Kingdom	Great Britain	England and Wales	England	Wales	Scotland	Northern Ireland								
Estimates															
1971	55,928	54,388	49,152	46,412	2,740	5,236	1,540								
1976	56,216	54,693	49,459	46,660	2,799	5,233	1,524								
1981	56,357	54,815	49,634	46,821	2,813	5,180	1,543								
1986	56,684	55,110	49,999	47,188	2,811	5,112	1,574								
1991	57,439	55,831	50,748	47,875	2,873	5,083	1,607								
1993	57,714	56,078	50,986	48,102	2,884	5,092	1,636								
1994	57,862	56,218	51,116	48,229	2,887	5,102	1,644								
1995	58,025	56,376	51,272	48,383	2,889	5,104	1,649								
1996	58,164	56,503	51,410	48,519	2,891	5,092	1,662								
1997	58,314	56,643	51,560	48,665	2,895	5,083	1,671								
1998	58,475	56,797	51,720	48,821	2,900	5,077	1,678								
1999	58,684	57,005	51,933	49,033	2,901	5,072	1,679								
2000	58,886	57,203	52,140	49,233	2,907	5,063	1,683								
2001	59,113	57,424	52,360	49,450	2,910	5,064	1,689								
2002 ¹	59,323	57,627	52,572	49,652	2,920	5,055	1,697								
2003 ¹	59,557	57,855	52,797	49,866	2,931	5,057	1,703								
2004 ¹	59,846	58,136	53,057	50,111	2,946	5,078	1,710								
2005 ¹	60,238	58,514	53,419	50,466	2,954	5,095	1,724								
2006	60,587	58,846	53,729	50,763	2,966	5,117	1,742								
2007	..	..	..	..	..	5,144	..						
<i>2007 by age group (percentages)</i>															
0-4	5.8	5.8	5.8	5.8	5.4	5.3	6.4								
5-15	13.3	13.2	13.3	13.2	13.5	12.5	15.4								
16-44	40.2	40.2	40.3	40.4	37.5	39.2	41.3								
45-64M/59F	22.0	22.0	21.9	21.9	22.9	23.4	20.6								
65M/60F-74	11.0	11.1	11.0	10.9	12.2	11.9	10.0								
75 and over	7.7	7.7	7.8	7.7	8.5	7.5	6.3								
Projections²															
2006	60,587	58,846	53,729	50,763	2,966	5,117	1,742								
2011	62,761	60,950	55,744	52,706	3,038	5,206	1,812								
2016	64,975	63,107	57,837	54,724	3,113	5,270	1,868								
2021	67,191	65,269	59,943	56,757	3,186	5,326	1,922								
2026	69,260	67,294	61,931	58,682	3,248	5,363	1,966								
2031	71,100	69,101	63,727	60,432	3,296	5,374	1,999								
<i>2031 by age group (percentages)</i>															
0-4	5.5	5.5	5.6	5.6	5.1	4.7	5.7								
5-15	12.4	12.4	12.5	12.5	12.1	11.2	13.4								
16-44	36.4	36.4	36.6	36.8	33.7	34.3	35.5								
45-64 ³	23.4	23.4	23.3	23.3	23.5	24.4	23.9								
65-74 ³	10.6	10.6	10.5	10.4	12.0	12.4	10.7								
75 and over	11.6	11.6	11.5	11.4	13.7	12.9	10.9								

Note: Figures may not add exactly due to rounding.

1 2002 to 2005 mid-year population estimates for England and Wales and the United Kingdom have been updated to include the latest revised estimates that take into account improved estimates of international migration.

2 National projections based on mid-2006 population estimates.

3 Between 2010 and 2020, state pension age will change from 65 years for men and 60 years for women to 65 years for both sexes. Between 2024 and 2026, state pension age will increase from 65 years to 66 years for both men and women.

Table 1.3 Population: subnational

Government Office Regions of England									
Mid-year	Numbers (thousands) and percentage age distribution								
	North East	North West	Yorkshire and The Humber	East Midlands	West Midlands	East	London	South East	South West
Estimates									
1971	2,679	7,108	4,902	3,652	5,146	4,454	7,529	6,830	4,112
1976	2,671	7,043	4,924	3,774	5,178	4,672	7,089	7,029	4,280
1981	2,636	6,940	4,918	3,853	5,187	4,854	6,806	7,245	4,381
1986	2,594	6,833	4,884	3,908	5,180	4,999	6,774	7,468	4,548
1991	2,587	6,843	4,936	4,011	5,230	5,121	6,829	7,629	4,688
1993	2,594	6,847	4,954	4,056	5,246	5,154	6,844	7,673	4,734
1994	2,589	6,839	4,960	4,072	5,249	5,178	6,874	7,712	4,757
1995	2,583	6,828	4,961	4,092	5,257	5,206	6,913	7,763	4,782
1996	2,576	6,810	4,961	4,108	5,263	5,233	6,974	7,800	4,793
1997	2,568	6,794	4,958	4,120	5,262	5,267	7,015	7,853	4,827
1998	2,561	6,792	4,958	4,133	5,271	5,302	7,065	7,889	4,849
1999	2,550	6,773	4,956	4,152	5,272	5,339	7,154	7,955	4,881
2000	2,543	6,774	4,959	4,168	5,270	5,375	7,237	7,991	4,917
2001	2,540	6,773	4,977	4,190	5,281	5,400	7,322	8,023	4,943
2002 ¹	2,541	6,778	5,002	4,222	5,295	5,433	7,362	8,047	4,973
2003 ¹	2,541	6,800	5,028	4,254	5,312	5,475	7,364	8,087	5,005
2004 ¹	2,542	6,820	5,064	4,291	5,327	5,511	7,389	8,125	5,042
2005 ¹	2,550	6,840	5,108	4,328	5,351	5,563	7,456	8,185	5,087
2006	2,556	6,853	5,142	4,364	5,367	5,607	7,512	8,238	5,124
2006 by age group (percentages)									
0–4	5.4	5.7	5.7	5.5	6.0	5.8	6.8	5.7	5.2
5–15	13.0	13.6	13.3	13.3	13.7	13.5	12.4	13.5	12.8
16–44	39.0	39.5	40.2	39.5	39.2	38.7	48.5	39.0	37.1
45–64M/59F	23.0	22.3	22.0	22.6	21.9	22.5	18.5	22.5	23.0
65M/60F–74	11.7	11.3	11.1	11.3	11.4	11.4	8.1	11.1	12.4
75 and over	7.9	7.6	7.6	7.8	7.8	8.1	5.7	8.2	9.4
Projections²									
2006	2,556	6,853	5,142	4,364	5,367	5,607	7,512	8,238	5,124
2011	2,594	7,014	5,377	4,591	5,506	5,890	7,817	8,550	5,368
2016	2,638	7,193	5,621	4,825	5,662	6,179	8,114	8,871	5,620
2021	2,685	7,377	5,866	5,060	5,824	6,471	8,390	9,202	5,882
2026	2,730	7,546	6,101	5,286	5,977	6,747	8,633	9,523	6,139
2029	2,754	7,638	6,234	5,412	6,061	6,901	8,768	9,702	6,283
2031	2,769	7,696	6,319	5,491	6,114	6,997	8,858	9,814	6,374
2031 by age group (percentages)									
0–4	5.2	5.5	5.6	5.3	5.9	5.5	6.7	5.5	5.0
5–15	12.1	12.6	12.5	12.3	13.2	12.6	12.6	12.7	11.8
16–44	35.6	36.3	37.7	35.6	35.7	34.9	43.7	35.1	33.9
45–64 ³	23.0	23.2	23.0	23.8	22.8	23.7	22.9	23.6	23.7
65–74 ³	11.7	10.9	10.2	11.0	10.5	10.9	7.4	10.8	11.8
75 and over	12.4	11.5	10.9	12.0	11.9	12.4	6.7	12.4	13.9

Note: Figures may not add exactly due to rounding.

- 2002 to 2005 mid-year population estimates for England and Wales and the United Kingdom have been updated to include the latest revised estimates that take into account improved estimates of international migration.
- These projections are based on the 2006 population estimates and are consistent with the 2006-based national projections produced by the Office for National Statistics.
- Between 2010 and 2020, state pension age will change from 65 years for men and 60 years for women to 65 years for both sexes. Between 2024 and 2026, state pension age will increase from 65 years to 66 years for both men and women.

Table 1.5 Population: age, sex and legal marital status

England and Wales		Numbers (thousands)									
Mid-year	Total population	Males					Females				
		Single	Married	Divorced	Widowed	Total	Single	Married	Divorced	Widowed	Total
Aged											
16 and over											
1971	36,818	4,173	12,522	187	682	17,563	3,583	12,566	296	2,810	19,255
1976	37,486	4,369	12,511	376	686	17,941	3,597	12,538	533	2,877	19,545
1981	38,724	5,013	12,238	611	698	18,559	4,114	12,284	828	2,939	20,165
1986	39,837	5,625	11,867	917	695	19,103	4,617	12,000	1,165	2,953	20,734
1991	40,501	5,891	11,636	1,187	727	19,441	4,817	11,833	1,459	2,951	21,060
1996	40,827	6,225	11,310	1,346	733	19,614	5,168	11,433	1,730	2,881	21,212
1999	41,325	6,582	11,143	1,433	732	19,890	5,526	11,235	1,875	2,800	21,435
2000	41,569	6,721	11,113	1,456	731	20,022	5,650	11,199	1,927	2,772	21,547
2001	41,865	6,894	11,090	1,482	733	20,198	5,798	11,150	1,975	2,745	21,667
2002 ¹	42,135	7,086	11,008	1,534	730	20,358	5,957	11,075	2,036	2,710	21,777
2003 ¹	42,409	7,272	10,929	1,589	727	20,517	6,126	11,000	2,096	2,669	21,892
2004 ¹	42,731	7,483	10,851	1,642	724	20,700	6,311	10,935	2,156	2,629	22,031
2005 ¹	43,141	7,708	10,801	1,696	722	20,927	6,529	10,882	2,215	2,589	22,214
2006	43,494	7,944	10,723	1,739	720	21,126	6,740	10,812	2,266	2,549	22,367
16-19											
1971	2,666	1,327	34	0	0	1,362	1,163	142	0	0	1,305
1976	2,901	1,454	28	0	0	1,482	1,289	129	0	0	1,419
1981	3,310	1,675	20	0	0	1,694	1,523	93	0	0	1,616
1986	3,131	1,587	10	0	0	1,596	1,484	49	1	0	1,535
1991	2,665	1,358	8	0	0	1,366	1,267	32	0	0	1,300
1996	2,402	1,209	6	0	0	1,216	1,164	21	0	0	1,186
1999	2,543	1,280	6	1	1	1,288	1,234	20	1	1	1,255
2000	2,523	1,276	6	1	1	1,283	1,221	18	1	1	1,240
2001	2,567	1,304	5	1	1	1,312	1,237	16	1	1	1,255
2002 ¹	2,630	1,352	4	1	1	1,357	1,259	13	1	1	1,273
2003 ¹	2,703	1,392	4	1	1	1,397	1,293	12	0	1	1,306
2004 ¹	2,771	1,424	3	0	0	1,428	1,332	11	0	0	1,343
2005 ¹	2,801	1,434	2	0	0	1,436	1,355	9	0	0	1,365
2006	2,829	1,457	2	0	0	1,459	1,364	7	0	0	1,370
20-24											
1971	3,773	1,211	689	3	0	1,904	745	1,113	9	2	1,869
1976	3,395	1,167	557	4	0	1,728	725	925	16	2	1,667
1981	3,744	1,420	466	10	1	1,896	1,007	811	27	2	1,847
1986	4,171	1,768	317	14	0	2,099	1,383	657	32	1	2,072
1991	3,911	1,717	242	12	0	1,971	1,421	490	29	1	1,941
1996	3,291	1,538	117	3	0	1,658	1,361	260	11	1	1,633
1999	3,047	1,449	78	2	0	1,530	1,320	188	8	1	1,517
2000	3,088	1,470	74	3	0	1,548	1,352	180	8	1	1,540
2001	3,157	1,501	74	3	1	1,579	1,390	178	8	1	1,578
2002 ¹	3,212	1,533	69	3	1	1,606	1,430	167	8	1	1,606
2003 ¹	3,281	1,573	68	3	1	1,645	1,465	161	8	1	1,636
2004 ¹	3,376	1,639	69	3	1	1,712	1,497	157	8	2	1,664
2005 ¹	3,477	1,700	66	3	1	1,771	1,547	150	8	2	1,706
2006	3,558	1,749	59	3	1	1,812	1,599	138	7	1	1,746
25-29											
1971	3,267	431	1,206	16	1	1,654	215	1,367	29	4	1,614
1976	3,758	533	1,326	39	2	1,900	267	1,522	65	5	1,859
1981	3,372	588	1,057	54	1	1,700	331	1,247	89	4	1,671
1986	3,713	835	949	79	1	1,863	527	1,207	113	4	1,850
1991	4,154	1,132	856	82	1	2,071	800	1,158	123	2	2,083
1996	3,950	1,273	650	46	1	1,970	977	906	93	3	1,980
1999	3,687	1,304	497	34	1	1,836	1,051	725	72	3	1,851
2000	3,605	1,305	459	31	1	1,796	1,065	677	65	3	1,810
2001	3,487	1,293	420	28	1	1,742	1,059	625	58	3	1,745
2002 ¹	3,365	1,286	375	26	1	1,688	1,054	568	52	3	1,676
2003 ¹	3,284	1,281	340	25	1	1,647	1,060	527	49	2	1,638
2004 ¹	3,280	1,297	319	24	1	1,641	1,089	501	47	2	1,639
2005 ¹	3,354	1,344	307	23	1	1,675	1,143	488	46	2	1,679
2006	3,434	1,400	295	23	1	1,718	1,198	471	46	2	1,716

1 2002 to 2005 mid-year population estimates for England and Wales have been updated to include the latest revised estimates that take into account improved estimates of international migration.

**Table 1.5
continued****Population: age, sex and legal marital status**

England and Wales

Numbers (thousands)

Mid-year	Total population	Males					Females				
		Single	Married	Divorced	Widowed	Total	Single	Married	Divorced	Widowed	Total
30-34											
1971	2,897	206	1,244	23	3	1,475	111	1,269	34	8	1,422
1976	3,220	236	1,338	55	3	1,632	118	1,388	75	8	1,588
1981	3,715	318	1,451	97	3	1,869	165	1,544	129	9	1,846
1986	3,338	355	1,197	124	2	1,679	206	1,293	154	6	1,660
1991	3,708	520	1,172	155	2	1,849	335	1,330	189	5	1,859
1996	4,126	776	1,135	138	2	2,050	551	1,316	201	7	2,076
1999	4,113	877	1,043	121	3	2,044	651	1,223	188	7	2,069
2000	4,076	904	1,007	114	2	2,027	679	1,182	181	7	2,049
2001	4,050	934	971	108	2	2,016	711	1,142	174	7	2,033
2002 ¹	3,992	959	918	105	2	1,984	742	1,093	167	6	2,009
2003 ¹	3,919	979	864	102	2	1,947	766	1,041	159	6	1,972
2004 ¹	3,810	988	810	97	2	1,897	777	982	149	5	1,913
2005 ¹	3,724	1,002	761	92	2	1,856	791	933	139	5	1,868
2006	3,606	1,010	703	84	2	1,799	800	876	127	5	1,808
35-44											
1971	5,736	317	2,513	48	13	2,891	201	2,529	66	48	2,845
1976	5,608	286	2,442	104	12	2,843	167	2,427	129	42	2,765
1981	5,996	316	2,519	178	12	3,024	170	2,540	222	41	2,972
1986	6,856	396	2,738	293	12	3,438	213	2,815	350	39	3,418
1991	7,022	477	2,632	384	11	3,504	280	2,760	444	34	3,517
1996	7,017	653	2,426	398	12	3,489	427	2,568	497	36	3,528
1999	7,475	832	2,459	408	13	3,711	577	2,617	533	37	3,763
2000	7,661	899	2,481	410	12	3,802	635	2,640	547	37	3,859
2001	7,816	963	2,494	411	12	3,881	692	2,649	558	36	3,935
2002 ¹	7,964	1,031	2,490	424	12	3,957	751	2,650	572	35	4,007
2003 ¹	8,058	1,089	2,471	435	12	4,007	804	2,631	583	34	4,051
2004 ¹	8,133	1,141	2,441	443	11	4,036	858	2,613	593	32	4,097
2005 ¹	8,194	1,195	2,417	450	11	4,073	910	2,583	597	31	4,121
2006	8,213	1,249	2,371	448	11	4,080	965	2,543	595	30	4,134
45-64											
1971	11,887	502	4,995	81	173	5,751	569	4,709	125	733	6,136
1976	11,484	496	4,787	141	160	5,583	462	4,568	188	683	5,901
1981	11,040	480	4,560	218	147	5,405	386	4,358	271	620	5,635
1986	10,860	461	4,422	331	141	5,355	327	4,220	388	570	5,505
1991	10,960	456	4,394	456	127	5,433	292	4,211	521	503	5,527
1996	11,820	528	4,587	628	121	5,864	318	4,466	732	440	5,956
1999	12,198	589	4,627	706	121	6,043	355	4,541	844	415	6,155
2000	12,328	615	4,638	727	121	6,101	372	4,564	881	410	6,227
2001	12,447	644	4,647	747	121	6,159	391	4,578	918	401	6,289
2002 ¹	12,573	670	4,642	779	120	6,211	413	4,597	960	391	6,362
2003 ¹	12,710	702	4,643	814	119	6,278	437	4,612	1,002	381	6,432
2004 ¹	12,852	736	4,643	850	117	6,347	465	4,625	1,045	371	6,505
2005 ¹	13,021	774	4,652	888	117	6,431	497	4,642	1,090	362	6,590
2006	13,243	818	4,676	926	117	6,537	535	4,677	1,138	356	6,706
65 and over											
1971	6,592	179	1,840	17	492	2,527	580	1,437	32	2,016	4,065
1976	7,119	197	2,033	33	510	2,773	569	1,579	60	2,138	4,347
1981	7,548	216	2,167	54	534	2,971	533	1,692	90	2,263	4,578
1986	7,768	223	2,234	76	539	3,072	477	1,759	127	2,333	4,696
1991	8,080	231	2,332	99	586	3,248	422	1,853	152	2,405	4,832
1996	8,221	247	2,390	134	597	3,367	369	1,897	196	2,393	4,854
1999	8,262	251	2,431	161	594	3,437	338	1,922	230	2,336	4,825
2000	8,287	252	2,449	171	593	3,466	327	1,938	243	2,313	4,821
2001	8,342	254	2,478	183	595	3,510	318	1,960	259	2,295	4,832
2002 ¹	8,398	255	2,508	196	594	3,554	309	1,987	276	2,272	4,844
2003 ¹	8,454	257	2,538	210	593	3,597	301	2,017	295	2,245	4,857
2004 ¹	8,510	258	2,566	224	592	3,640	293	2,046	314	2,216	4,870
2005 ¹	8,571	260	2,596	239	590	3,685	286	2,077	335	2,187	4,885
2006	8,611	261	2,618	254	589	3,722	279	2,101	353	2,155	4,889

See notes on first page of table.

Table 1.6 Components of population change

Constituent countries of the United Kingdom											Numbers (thousands)
Mid-year to mid-year	Population at start of period	Total annual change	Components of change (mid-year to mid-year or annual averages)							Population at end of period	
			Live births	Deaths	Natural change (Live births – deaths)	Net civilian migration					Other changes
						Total ¹	To/from rest of UK	To/from Irish Republic	To/from rest of the world		
United Kingdom²											
1971–76	55,928	+ 58	766	670	+ 96	- 55	-	- 55	-	+ 16	56,216
1976–81	56,216	+ 27	705	662	+ 42	- 33	-	- 33	-	+ 18	56,357
1981–86	56,357	+ 65	733	662	+ 70	- 5	-	-	-	-	56,684
1986–91	56,684	+148	782	647	+135	+ 13	-	-	-	-	57,439
1991–96	57,439	+145	756	639	+117	+ 29	-	-	-	-	58,164
1996–01	58,164	+190	706	623	+83	+107	-	-	-	-	59,113
2001–02	59,113	+210	663	601	+62	+148	-	-	-	-	59,323
2002–03	59,323	+234	682	605	+77	+157	-	-	-	-	59,557
2003–04	59,557	+289	707	603	+104	+185	-	-	-	-	59,846
2004–05	59,846	+393	717	591	+127	+266	-	-	-	-	60,238
2005–06	60,238	+349	734	575	+159	+190	-	-	-	-	60,587
England and Wales²											
1971–76	49,152	+ 61	644	588	+ 76	- 28	+ 10	- 9	- 29	+ 13	49,459
1976–81	49,459	+ 35	612	582	+ 30	- 9	+ 11	- 3	- 17	+ 14	49,634
1981–86	49,634	+ 73	639	582	+ 57	+ 16	-	-	-	-	49,999
1986–91	49,999	+150	689	569	+120	+ 30	-	-	-	-	50,748
1991–96	50,748	+132	668	563	+106	+ 27	-	-	-	-	51,410
1996–01	51,410	+190	626	548	+ 78	+112	-	-	-	-	52,360
2001–02	52,360	+212	591	530	+ 61	+151	-	-	-	-	52,572
2002–03	52,572	+225	608	532	+ 76	+149	-	-	-	-	52,797
2003–04	52,797	+260	631	531	+101	+159	-	-	-	-	53,057
2004–05	53,057	+362	641	520	+121	+241	-	-	-	-	53,419
2005–06	53,419	+310	657	506	+151	+159	-	-	-	-	53,729
England²											
1971–76	46,412	+ 50	627	552	+ 75	- 35	+ 1	- 9	- 27	+ 10	46,660
1976–81	46,660	+ 32	577	546	+ 31	- 11	+ 6	- 3	- 15	+ 12	46,821
1981–86	46,821	+ 73	603	547	+ 56	+ 18	-	-	-	-	47,188
1986–91	47,188	+137	651	535	+116	+ 21	-	-	-	-	47,875
1991–96	47,875	+129	632	528	+104	+ 24	-	-	-	-	48,519
1996–01	48,519	+186	593	514	+ 79	+107	-	-	-	-	49,450
2001–02	49,450	+203	560	497	+ 63	+139	-	-	-	-	49,652
2002–03	49,652	+214	578	498	+ 79	+135	-	-	-	-	49,866
2003–04	49,866	+245	600	498	+102	+143	-	-	-	-	50,111
2004–05	50,111	+355	608	487	+121	+234	-	-	-	-	50,466
2005–06	50,466	+297	623	474	+149	+148	-	-	-	-	50,763
Wales²											
1971–76	2,740	+ 12	37	36	+ 1	+ 7	+10	-	- 2	+ 3	2,799
1976–81	2,799	+ 3	35	36	- 1	+ 2	+ 5	-	- 2	+ 2	2,813
1981–86	2,813	- 1	36	35	+ 1	- 1	-	-	-	-	2,811
1986–91	2,811	+ 12	38	34	+ 4	+ 8	-	-	-	-	2,873
1991–96	2,873	+ 4	36	35	+ 1	+ 2	-	-	-	-	2,891
1996–01	2,891	+ 4	33	34	- 1	+ 5	-	-	-	-	2,910
2001–02	2,910	+ 10	30	33	- 3	+ 12	-	-	-	-	2,920
2002–03	2,920	+ 11	31	33	- 3	+ 14	-	-	-	-	2,931
2003–04	2,931	+ 15	32	33	- 1	+ 17	-	-	-	-	2,946
2004–05	2,946	+ 7	33	33	0	+ 7	-	-	-	-	2,954
2005–06	2,954	+ 12	33	31	+ 2	+ 10	-	-	-	-	2,966
Scotland											
1971–76	5,236	-	73	64	+ 9	- 14	- 4	- 10	-	+ 4	5,233
1976–81	5,233	- 11	66	64	+ 2	- 16	- 7	- 10	-	+ 4	5,180
1981–86	5,180	- 14	66	64	+ 2	- 16	- 7	- 7	-	+ 1	5,112
1986–91	5,112	- 6	66	62	+ 3	- 9	-	-	-	-	5,083
1991–96	5,083	+ 2	63	61	+ 1	- 0	-	-	-	-	5,092
1996–01	5,092	- 6	56	59	- 3	- 3	-	-	-	-	5,064
2001–02	5,064	- 9	51	57	- 6	- 3	-	-	-	-	5,055
2002–03	5,055	+ 3	52	58	- 7	+ 9	-	-	-	-	5,057
2003–04	5,057	+ 21	54	58	- 4	+ 25	-	-	-	-	5,078
2004–05	5,078	+ 16	54	57	- 2	+ 19	-	-	-	-	5,095
2005–06	5,095	+ 22	55	55	0	+ 22	-	-	-	-	5,117
Northern Ireland											
1971–76	1,540	- 3	28	17	+ 11	- 14	- 7	- 7	-	- 1	1,524
1976–81	1,524	+ 3	27	17	+ 10	- 8	- 4	- 3	-	+ 17	1,543
1981–86	1,543	+ 6	28	16	+ 12	- 5	- 3	- 1	-	-	1,574
1986–91	1,574	+ 7	27	16	+ 12	- 5	- 3	- 1	-	-	1,607
1991–96	1,607	+ 11	25	15	+ 9	+ 2	-	-	-	-	1,662
1996–01	1,662	+ 6	23	15	+ 8	- 3	-	-	-	-	1,689
2001–02	1,689	+ 7	21	14	+ 7	0	-	-	-	-	1,697
2002–03	1,697	+ 6	21	15	+ 7	- 1	-	-	-	-	1,703
2003–04	1,703	+ 8	22	15	+ 7	0	-	-	-	-	1,710
2004–05	1,710	+ 14	22	14	+ 8	+ 6	-	-	-	-	1,724
2005–06	1,724	+ 17	23	14	+ 8	+ 9	-	-	-	-	1,742

1 For UK, England, Wales and Scotland from 1981 onwards, this column is not an estimate of net civilian migration; it also includes "other" changes. It has been derived by subtraction using revised population estimates and natural change.

2 Data for Mid 2002–Mid 2005 for United Kingdom, England and for Wales, have been updated to include the latest revised population estimates that take into account improved estimates of international migration.

Table 2.2 Key demographic and health indicators

Constituent countries of the United Kingdom

Numbers (thousands), rates, percentages, mean age

	Population	Live births	Deaths	Dependency ratio		Live births				Age-standardised mortality rate ⁶	Period expectation of life (in years) at birth ⁷		Infant mortality rate ⁸
				Children ¹	Elderly ²	TFR ³	Standardised mean age of mother at birth (years) ⁴	Unstandardised mean age of mother at birth (years) ⁵	Outside marriage as percentage of total live births		Males	Females	
United Kingdom													
1976	56,216.1	675.5	680.8	42.1	29.5	1.74	26.7	26.4	9.0	10,486	..	..	14.5
1981	56,357.5	730.7	658.0	37.1	29.7	1.82	27.0	26.8	12.5	9,506	70.8	76.8	11.2
1986	56,683.8	754.8	660.7	33.5	29.7	1.78	27.4	27.0	20.4	8,914	71.9	77.7	9.5
1991	57,438.7	792.3	646.2	33.2	30.0	1.82	27.7	27.7	29.8	8,168	73.2	78.7	7.4
1996	58,164.4	733.2	636.0	33.9	30.0	1.73	28.2	28.6	35.5	7,584	74.2	79.4	6.1
England													
1976	46,659.9	550.4	560.3	41.4	29.7	1.70	26.5	26.4	9.2	10,271	..	..	14.2
1981	46,820.8	598.2	541.0	36.4	29.9	1.79	27.0	26.8	12.9	9,298	71.1	77.0	10.9
1986	47,187.6	623.6	544.5	33.1	29.8	1.76	27.4	27.0	21.4	8,725	72.2	77.9	9.5
1991	47,875.0	660.8	534.0	32.9	30.0	1.81	27.7	27.7	30.1	8,017	73.4	78.9	7.3
1996	48,519.1	614.2	524.0	33.7	30.0	1.73	28.2	28.7	35.5	7,414	74.5	79.6	6.1
2001	49,449.7	563.7	496.1	32.5	29.7	1.63	28.6	29.3	39.6	6,650	75.9	80.6	5.4
2002	49,652.3	565.7	499.1	32.1	29.7	1.65	28.7	29.4	40.1	6,603	76.1	80.7	5.2
2003	49,866.2	589.9	503.4	31.8	29.8	1.73	28.9	29.4	40.9	6,602	76.5	80.9	5.3
2004	50,110.7	607.2	479.2	31.4	29.8	1.78	29.0	29.5	41.7	6,232	76.8	81.1	5.0
2005	50,465.6	613.0	479.4	30.9	29.9	1.79	29.1	29.5	42.3	6,110	77.2	81.5	5.0
2006	50,762.9	635.7	470.3	30.6	29.9	1.86	29.2	29.5	43.0	5,916	..	..	5.0
2007	..	655.4	470.7	..	..	1.91 ^p	29.3 ^p	29.5	43.8	5,796 ^p	..	..	4.8
Wales													
1976	2,799.3	33.4	36.3	42.0	30.9	1.78	26.2	26.0	8.6	10,858	..	..	13.7
1981	2,813.5	35.8	35.0	37.6	31.6	1.87	26.7	26.6	11.2	9,846	70.4	76.4	12.6
1986	2,810.9	37.0	34.7	34.3	32.5	1.86	26.9	26.5	21.1	9,043	71.6	77.5	9.5
1991	2,873.0	38.1	34.1	34.4	33.5	1.88	27.1	27.0	32.3	8,149	73.1	78.8	6.6
1996	2,891.3	34.9	34.6	34.9	33.7	1.81	27.5	27.8	41.2	7,758	73.8	79.1	5.6
2001	2,910.2	30.6	33.0	33.7	33.6	1.66	27.8	28.3	48.3	7,017	75.3	80.0	5.4
2002	2,919.8	30.2	33.2	33.3	33.7	1.64	28.0	28.4	49.7	6,953	75.5	80.1	4.5
2003	2,931.1	31.4	33.7	32.8	33.8	1.73	28.1	28.5	50.3	6,984	75.8	80.3	4.3
2004	2,946.4	32.3	32.1	32.3	33.9	1.78	28.2	28.5	51.3	6,588	76.1	80.6	4.9
2005	2,953.6	32.6	32.1	31.8	34.1	1.81	28.4	28.5	52.4	6,442	76.6	80.9	4.1
2006	2,965.9	33.6	31.1	31.4	34.3	1.86	28.5	28.6	53.0	6,190	..	..	4.1
2007	..	34.4	32.1	..	..	1.90 ^p	28.6	28.6	53.8	6,302 ^p	..	..	5.3
Scotland													
1976	5,233.4	64.9	65.3	44.7	28.4	1.79	26.4	26.0	9.3	11,675	..	..	14.8
1981	5,180.2	69.1	63.8	38.2	28.4	1.84	26.8	26.3	12.2	10,849	69.1	75.3	11.3
1986	5,111.8	65.8	63.5	33.6	28.1	1.67	27.1	26.6	20.6	10,120	70.2	76.2	8.8
1991	5,083.3	67.0	61.0	32.4	28.9	1.69	27.5	27.4	29.1	9,216	71.4	77.1	7.1
1996	5,092.2	59.3	60.7	32.3	29.2	1.56	28.0	28.5	36.0	8,791	72.2	77.9	6.2
2001	5,064.2	52.5	57.4	30.8	30.0	1.49	28.5	29.2	43.3	7,930	73.3	78.8	5.5
2002	5,054.8	51.3	58.1	30.3	30.2	1.48	28.6	29.2	44.0	7,955	73.5	78.9	5.3
2003	5,057.4	52.4	58.5	29.9	30.3	1.54	28.7	29.3	45.5	7,921	73.8	79.1	5.1
2004	5,078.4	54.0	56.2	29.5	30.5	1.60	28.9	29.4	46.7	7,536	74.2	79.3	4.9
2005	5,094.8	54.4	55.7	29.1	30.6	1.62	29.0	29.5	47.1	7,349	74.6	79.6	5.2
2006	5,116.9	55.7	55.1	28.7	30.6	1.67	29.1	29.5	47.7	7,161	..	..	4.5
2007	..	57.8	56.0	..	..	1.73 ^p	29.2 ^p	29.4	49.1	7,148 ^p	..	..	4.7
Northern Ireland													
1976	1,523.5	26.4	17.0	56.1	25.3	2.68	27.8	27.4	5.0	11,746	..	..	18.3
1981	1,543.0	27.2	16.3	50.6	25.3	2.59	28.1	27.5	7.0	10,567	69.2	75.5	13.2
1986	1,573.5	28.0	16.1	46.1	25.5	2.45	28.1	27.5	12.8	10,071	70.9	77.1	13.2
1991	1,607.3	26.0	15.1	44.1	26.1	2.16	28.3	28.0	20.3	8,303	72.6	78.4	7.4
1996	1,661.8	24.4	15.2	41.8	25.5	1.95	28.7	28.8	26.0	7,742	73.8	79.2	5.8
2001	1,689.3	22.0	14.5	38.6	25.5	1.80	29.1	29.4	32.5	6,976	75.2	80.1	6.1
2002	1,696.6	21.4	14.6	37.9	25.7	1.77	29.2	29.5	33.5	6,930	75.6	80.4	4.7
2003	1,702.6	21.6	14.5	37.2	25.9	1.81	29.2	29.5	34.4	6,743	75.8	80.6	5.3
2004	1,710.3	22.3	14.4	36.4	26.2	1.87	29.4	29.7	34.5	6,609	76.0	80.8	5.5
2005	1,724.4	22.3	14.2	35.8	26.3	1.87	29.5	29.7	36.3	6,418	76.1	81.0	6.3
2006	1,741.6	23.3	14.5	35.3	26.4	1.94	29.6	29.7	38.0	6,397	..	..	5.1
2007	..	24.5 ^p	14.6 ^p	..	..	2.01 ^p	29.8 ^p	29.8 ^p	37.9 ^p	6,306 ^p	..	..	4.9 ^p

Note: Death figures for England and Wales represent the number of deaths registered in each year up to 1992, and the number of deaths occurring in each year from 1993 to 2005. Death figures for 2006 onwards relate to registrations. Birth and death figures for England and also for Wales each exclude events for persons usually resident outside England and Wales. These events are, however, included in the total for the United Kingdom. From 1981 births to non-resident mothers in Northern Ireland are excluded from the figures for Northern Ireland, and for the United Kingdom. Period expectation of life data for the United Kingdom, England and for Wales for 2001 to 2005 is based on death registrations and revised population estimates for 2002 to 2005. Rates for 2007 are based on 2006-based population projections for 2007.

3 TFR (total fertility rate) is the number of children that would be born to a woman if current patterns of fertility persisted throughout her childbearing life. It is sometimes called the TFR (total period fertility rate).

4 Standardised to take account of the age structure of the population.

5 Unstandardised and therefore takes no account of the age structure of the population.

6 Per million population. The age-standardised mortality rate makes allowances for changes in the age structure of the population. See Notes to tables.

7 All countries: figures for all years based on registered deaths.

8 Deaths at age under one year per 1,000 live births.

p provisional

1 Percentage of children under 16 to working-age population (males 16–64 and females 16–59).

2 Percentage of males 65 and over and females 60 and over to working-age population (males 16–64 and females 16–59).

Table 3.1

Live births: age of mother

England and Wales

Numbers (thousands), rates, mean age and TFRs

Year and quarter	Age of mother at birth							Mean age ¹ (years)	Age of mother at birth							Mean age ² (years)	TFR ³
	All ages	Under 20	20–24	25–29	30–34	35–39	40 and over		All ages	Under 20	20–24	25–29	30–34	35–39	40 and over		
	Total live births (numbers)								Age-specific fertility rates ⁴								
1961	811.3	59.8	249.8	248.5	152.3	77.5	23.3	27.6	89.2	37.3	172.6	176.9	103.1	48.1	15.0	27.4	2.77
1964(max)	876.0	76.7	276.1	270.7	153.5	75.4	23.6	27.2	92.9	42.5	181.6	187.3	107.7	49.8	13.7	27.3	2.93
1966	849.8	86.7	285.8	253.7	136.4	67.0	20.1	26.8	90.5	47.7	176.0	174.0	97.3	45.3	12.5	27.1	2.75
1971	783.2	82.6	285.7	247.2	109.6	45.2	12.7	26.2	83.5	50.6	152.9	153.2	77.1	32.8	8.7	26.6	2.37
1976	584.3	57.9	182.2	220.7	90.8	26.1	6.5	26.4	60.4	32.2	109.3	118.7	57.2	18.6	4.8	26.5	1.71
1977(min)	569.3	54.5	174.5	207.9	100.8	25.5	6.0	26.5	58.1	29.4	103.7	117.5	58.6	18.2	4.4	26.6	1.66
1981	634.5	56.6	194.5	215.8	126.6	34.2	6.9	26.8	61.3	28.1	105.3	129.1	68.6	21.7	4.9	27.0	1.79
1986	661.0	57.4	192.1	229.0	129.5	45.5	7.6	27.0	60.6	30.1	92.7	123.8	78.0	24.6	4.8	27.4	1.77
1991	699.2	52.4	173.4	248.7	161.3	53.6	9.8	27.7	63.6	33.0	89.3	119.4	86.7	32.1	5.3	27.7	1.82
1992	689.7	47.9	163.3	244.8	166.8	56.7	10.2	27.9	63.6	31.7	86.1	117.6	87.4	33.4	5.8	27.8	1.80
1993	673.5	45.1	152.0	236.0	171.1	58.8	10.5	28.1	62.7	30.9	82.5	114.4	87.4	34.1	6.2	27.9	1.76
1994	664.7	42.0	140.2	229.1	179.6	63.1	10.7	28.4	62.0	28.9	79.0	112.2	89.4	35.8	6.4	28.1	1.75
1995	648.1	41.9	130.7	217.4	181.2	65.5	11.3	28.5	60.5	28.5	76.4	108.4	88.3	36.3	6.8	28.2	1.72
1996	649.5	44.7	125.7	211.1	186.4	69.5	12.1	28.6	60.6	29.7	77.0	106.6	89.8	37.5	7.2	28.2	1.74
1997	643.1	46.4	118.6	202.8	187.5	74.9	12.9	28.8	60.0	30.2	76.0	104.3	89.8	39.4	7.6	28.3	1.73
1998	635.9	48.3	113.5	193.1	188.5	78.9	13.6	28.9	59.2	30.9	74.9	101.5	90.6	40.4	7.9	28.3	1.72
1999	621.9	48.4	110.7	181.9	185.3	81.3	14.3	29.0	57.8	30.9	73.0	98.3	89.6	40.6	8.1	28.4	1.70
2000	604.4	45.8	107.7	170.7	180.1	85.0	15.1	29.1	55.9	29.3	70.0	94.3	87.9	41.4	8.3	28.5	1.65
2001	594.6	44.2	108.8	159.9	178.9	86.5	16.3	29.2	54.7	28.0	69.0	91.7	88.0	41.5	8.8	28.6	1.63
2002	596.1	43.5	110.9	153.4	180.5	90.5	17.3	29.3	54.7	27.1	69.1	91.5	89.9	43.0	9.1	28.7	1.65
2003	621.5	44.2	116.6	156.9	187.2	97.4	19.1	29.4	56.8	26.9	71.3	95.8	94.9	46.4	9.8	28.8	1.73
2004	639.7	45.1	121.1	160.0	190.6	102.2	20.8	29.4	58.2	26.9	72.8	97.6	99.6	48.8	10.4	28.9	1.78
2005	645.8	44.8	122.1	164.3	188.2	104.1	22.2	29.5	58.3	26.3	71.6	97.9	100.7	50.3	10.8	29.1	1.79
2006	669.6	45.5	127.8	172.6	189.4	110.5	23.7	29.5	60.2	26.6	73.2	100.6	104.8	53.8	11.4	29.1	1.86
2007	690.0	44.8	130.8	182.6	191.1	115.4	25.4	29.5	61.9 ^p	26.0 ^p	73.3 ^p	103.5 ^p	109.5 ^p	57.0 ^p	12.1 ^p	29.3 ^p	1.91 ^p
2003 March	147.4	10.9	27.9	37.5	44.0	22.6	4.6	29.3	54.7	26.8	69.1	92.8	90.5	43.7	9.6	28.8	1.66
June	155.1	10.7	28.5	39.3	47.4	24.5	4.7	29.5	56.9	26.0	70.0	96.4	96.4	46.9	9.6	28.9	1.73
Sept	162.8	11.5	30.5	41.0	49.3	25.6	5.0	29.4	59.1	27.7	74.0	99.4	99.2	48.3	10.1	28.9	1.79
Dec	156.0	11.2	29.7	39.1	46.5	24.6	4.8	29.4	56.6	27.1	72.1	94.6	93.6	46.5	9.8	28.8	1.72
2004 March	155.2	11.0	29.3	38.7	46.6	24.7	4.9	29.4	56.8	26.5	70.8	95.0	97.9	47.4	9.8	28.9	1.74
June	157.4	10.7	29.3	39.4	47.7	25.2	5.0	29.5	57.6	25.7	70.9	96.6	100.4	48.5	10.1	29.0	1.76
Sept	165.4	11.7	31.4	41.6	49.0	26.3	5.4	29.4	59.9	27.7	75.0	101.0	102.0	50.1	10.7	28.9	1.83
Dec	161.7	11.6	31.1	40.3	47.2	26.0	5.5	29.4	58.5	27.6	74.3	97.7	98.2	49.4	10.9	28.9	1.79
2005 March	154.3	10.9	29.3	38.9	45.0	24.7	5.4	29.4	56.5	26.0	69.6	94.0	97.6	48.5	10.7	29.0	1.74
June	159.8	10.7	29.6	40.3	47.5	26.2	5.4	29.5	57.8	25.3	69.7	96.2	101.9	50.8	10.6	29.1	1.78
Sept	170.2	11.9	32.5	43.7	49.4	26.9	5.7	29.4	60.9	27.6	75.7	103.2	104.9	51.6	11.1	29.0	1.88
Dec	161.7	11.3	30.7	41.4	46.3	26.3	5.7	29.4	57.9	26.3	71.3	97.9	98.3	50.4	11.0	29.0	1.78
2006 March	159.5	11.1	30.5	40.7	45.3	26.3	5.6	29.5	58.2	26.3	70.9	96.1	101.6	52.0	11.0	29.1	1.79
June	166.2	11.4	31.2	42.9	47.6	27.1	5.9	29.5	60.0	26.6	71.8	100.4	105.7	53.0	11.3	29.1	1.85
Sept	174.9	12.0	33.5	45.6	49.0	28.9	6.0	29.4	62.4	27.7	76.1	105.4	107.5	55.9	11.4	29.1	1.93
Dec	169.0	11.1	32.6	43.5	47.5	28.1	6.2	29.5	60.3	25.7	74.0	100.5	104.3	54.4	11.8	29.2	1.86
2007 ⁵ March	164.0	10.9	31.1	42.7	45.7	27.4	6.2	29.5	59.7 ^p	25.6 ^p	70.8 ^p	98.2 ^p	106.2 ^p	54.9 ^p	12.0 ^p	29.3 ^p	1.84 ^p
June	169.5	10.7	31.4	44.6	47.8	28.9	6.2	29.6	61.1 ^p	25.0 ^p	70.6 ^p	101.5 ^p	109.7 ^p	57.1 ^p	11.8 ^p	29.4 ^p	1.88 ^p
Sept	181.4	11.9	34.6	48.6	50.0	29.9	6.4	29.5	64.6 ^p	27.4 ^p	76.9 ^p	109.4 ^p	113.7 ^p	58.6 ^p	12.0 ^p	29.2 ^p	1.99 ^p
Dec	175.0	11.3	33.7	46.6	47.6	29.2	6.6	29.5	62.3 ^p	26.1 ^p	74.9 ^p	104.9 ^p	108.2 ^p	57.2 ^p	12.5 ^p	29.3 ^p	1.92 ^p
2008 March	173.3 ^p	11.1 ^p	33.4 ^p	46.6 ^p	47.2 ^p	28.7 ^p	6.4 ^p	29.5 ^p	62.5 ^p	26.1 ^p	73.3 ^p	103.1 ^p	110.8 ^p	58.0 ^p	12.3 ^p	29.3 ^p	1.92 ^p

Note: The rates for women of all ages, under 20, and 40 and over are based upon the populations of women aged 15–44, 15–19, and 40–44 respectively.

1 Unstandardised and therefore takes no account of the age structure of the population.

2 Standardised to take account of the age structure of the population. This measure is more appropriate for use when analysing trends or making comparisons between different geographies.

3 TFR (total fertility rate) is the number of children that would be born to a woman if current patterns of fertility persisted throughout her childbearing life. It is sometimes called the TPFR (total period fertility rate).

4 Births per 1,000 women in the age-group; all quarterly age-specific fertility rates are adjusted for days in the quarter. They are not adjusted for seasonality.

5 Birth rates for 2007 are based on the 2006-based population projections for 2007.

p provisional.

Table 3.2 Live births outside marriage: age of mother and type of registration

England and Wales

Numbers (thousands), mean age and percentages

Year and quarter	Age of mother at birth								Mean age ¹ (years)	Age of mother at birth								Registration ²		
	All ages	Under 20	20–24	25–29	30–34	35–39	40 and over	All ages		Under 20	20–24	25–29	30–34	35–39	40 and over	Joint		Sole		
	Live births outside marriage (numbers)									Percentage of total live births in age group									Same ³ address	Different ³ addresses	As a percentage of all births outside marriage
1971	65.7	21.6	22.0	11.5	6.2	3.2	1.1	23.7	8.4	26.1	7.7	4.7	5.7	7.0	9.0	45.5	54.5	54.5		
1976	53.8	19.8	16.6	9.7	4.7	2.3	0.7	23.3	9.2	34.2	9.1	4.4	5.2	8.6	10.1	51.0	49.0	51.0		
1981	81.0	26.4	28.8	14.3	7.9	1.3	0.9	23.4	12.8	46.7	14.8	6.6	6.2	3.9	12.5	58.2	41.8	58.2		
1986	141.3	39.6	54.1	27.7	13.1	5.7	1.1	23.8	21.4	69.0	28.2	12.1	10.1	12.6	14.7	46.6	19.6	33.8		
1991	211.3	43.4	77.8	52.4	25.7	9.8	2.1	24.8	30.2	82.9	44.9	21.1	16.0	18.3	21.3	54.6	19.8	25.6		
1992	215.2	40.1	77.1	55.9	28.9	10.9	2.3	25.2	31.2	83.7	47.2	22.8	17.3	19.3	22.9	55.4	20.7	23.9		
1993	216.5	38.2	75.0	57.5	31.4	11.9	2.5	25.5	32.2	84.8	49.4	24.4	18.4	20.2	23.5	54.8	22.0	23.2		
1994	215.5	35.9	71.0	58.5	34.0	13.4	2.7	25.8	32.4	85.5	50.6	25.5	18.9	21.2	25.2	57.5	19.8	22.7		
1995	219.9	36.3	69.7	59.6	37.0	14.4	3.0	26.0	33.9	86.6	53.3	27.4	20.4	22.0	26.2	58.1	20.1	21.8		
1996	232.7	39.3	71.1	62.3	40.5	16.2	3.2	26.1	35.8	88.0	56.5	29.5	21.7	23.4	26.7	58.1	19.9	21.9		
1997	238.2	41.1	69.5	63.4	42.2	18.2	3.7	26.2	37.0	88.7	58.6	31.3	22.5	24.3	28.6	59.5	19.3	21.2		
1998	240.6	43.0	67.8	62.4	43.9	19.6	3.9	26.3	37.8	89.1	59.7	32.3	23.3	24.8	29.0	60.9	18.3	20.8		
1999	241.9	43.0	67.5	61.2	45.0	20.8	4.3	26.4	38.9	89.0	61.0	33.6	24.3	25.6	30.2	61.8	18.2	19.9		
2000	238.6	41.1	67.5	59.1	43.9	22.3	4.7	26.5	39.5	89.7	62.6	34.6	24.4	26.2	31.0	62.7	18.2	19.2		
2001	238.1	39.5	68.1	56.8	45.2	23.3	5.1	26.7	40.0	89.5	62.6	35.5	25.3	26.9	31.6	63.2	18.4	18.4		
2002	242.0	38.9	70.2	55.8	46.4	25.1	5.6	26.8	40.6	89.5	63.3	36.4	25.7	27.7	32.2	63.7	18.5	17.8		
2003	257.2	39.9	75.7	58.2	49.2	27.8	6.4	26.9	41.4	90.2	64.9	37.1	26.3	28.5	33.3	63.5	19.0	17.4		
2004	269.7	41.0	79.8	61.4	50.7	29.7	7.1	27.0	42.2	91.0	65.9	38.4	26.6	29.0	34.0	63.6	19.6	16.8		
2005	276.5	41.2	82.1	64.4	50.8	30.3	7.7	27.0	42.8	91.8	67.2	39.2	27.0	29.1	34.8	63.5	20.2	16.3		
2006	291.4	42.3	87.7	69.3	51.4	32.2	8.4	27.0	43.5	93.0	68.6	40.1	27.1	29.2	35.5	63.7	20.8	15.6		
2007	305.6	41.7	91.9	76.0	53.0	34.0	9.0	27.1	44.3	93.1	70.3	41.6	27.7	29.5	35.5	65.0	20.1	15.0		
2002 March	58.0	9.4	16.7	13.6	10.9	6.0	1.3	26.8	40.5	89.4	63.0	36.4	25.4	27.7	31.5	63.2	18.5	18.3		
2002 June	58.3	9.3	16.6	13.5	11.4	6.1	1.4	26.8	39.6	89.4	62.2	35.6	25.0	27.2	31.7	64.2	18.2	17.7		
2002 Sept	63.4	10.2	18.4	14.6	12.3	6.5	1.5	26.8	40.9	89.3	63.8	36.6	26.1	27.9	32.7	63.9	18.5	17.5		
2002 Dec	62.3	10.0	18.4	14.1	11.9	6.5	1.5	26.8	41.4	89.7	64.1	36.9	26.4	28.0	32.8	63.3	18.9	17.8		
2003 March	61.0	9.8	18.0	13.9	11.6	6.3	1.5	26.8	41.4	90.1	64.5	37.0	26.9	29.1	33.3	63.0	18.9	18.1		
2003 June	62.8	9.6	18.3	14.2	12.2	6.9	1.6	27.0	40.5	90.0	64.0	36.2	25.7	28.3	33.7	64.0	18.5	17.4		
2003 Sept	67.6	10.3	20.0	15.3	13.0	7.3	1.7	26.9	41.5	90.2	65.6	38.3	26.4	28.6	33.3	63.7	19.3	18.0		
2003 Dec	65.8	10.2	19.5	14.9	12.5	7.3	1.6	26.9	42.2	90.4	65.6	38.0	27.7	29.5	32.9	63.3	19.4	17.4		
2004 March	65.2	10.1	19.3	14.8	12.5	7.0	1.7	26.9	42.0	91.2	65.8	38.2	26.8	28.2	34.3	63.1	19.4	17.4		
2004 June	65.2	9.8	19.1	14.9	12.5	7.3	1.7	27.0	41.4	91.0	65.1	37.7	26.2	28.8	34.5	63.9	19.5	16.6		
2004 Sept	70.2	10.7	20.7	16.1	13.0	7.9	1.8	27.0	42.4	91.2	66.1	38.6	26.5	30.0	33.5	63.7	19.7	16.6		
2004 Dec	69.1	10.6	20.7	15.7	12.7	7.5	1.9	26.9	42.7	90.6	66.6	39.0	27.0	29.0	33.9	63.6	19.8	16.6		
2005 March	66.3	10.1	19.6	15.2	12.2	7.3	1.9	27.0	43.0	92.0	67.0	39.0	27.1	29.6	35.2	63.1	20.3	16.6		
2005 June	66.6	9.8	19.7	15.4	12.5	7.4	1.8	27.0	41.7	91.2	66.5	38.2	26.4	28.1	33.5	63.7	19.8	16.5		
2005 Sept	73.7	10.9	22.1	17.3	13.4	7.9	2.1	26.9	43.3	92.0	68.0	39.6	27.2	29.3	35.7	63.7	20.3	16.0		
2005 Dec	69.9	10.4	20.7	16.5	12.6	7.7	2.0	27.0	43.2	92.1	67.4	39.8	27.3	29.5	34.8	63.5	20.3	16.2		
2006 March	68.7	10.3	20.8	16.0	12.0	7.6	1.9	26.9	43.1	93.1	68.1	39.4	26.5	28.9	34.4	63.1	20.9	16.0		
2006 June	71.4	10.5	21.2	16.9	12.8	7.8	2.1	27.0	43.0	92.6	68.0	39.4	26.9	28.8	35.0	63.7	20.6	15.6		
2006 Sept	76.8	11.1	23.1	18.6	13.4	8.4	2.2	27.0	43.9	92.8	69.0	40.7	27.3	29.2	36.9	64.1	20.5	15.4		
2006 Dec	74.5	10.3	22.6	17.8	13.2	8.4	2.2	27.1	44.1	93.3	69.2	40.9	27.8	29.8	35.7	63.6	21.0	15.4		
2007 March	72.5	10.2	21.7	17.6	12.6	8.2	2.2	27.1	44.2	93.5	69.8	41.3	27.5	29.8	35.1	64.0	20.5	15.5		
2007 June	73.5	9.9	21.8	18.3	13.0	8.3	2.2	27.1	43.4	92.6	69.5	41.0	27.2	28.8	35.2	65.1	19.9	14.9		
2007 Sept	80.8	11.1	24.4	20.4	13.9	8.8	2.2	27.0	44.5	93.2	70.5	41.9	27.8	29.6	35.0	65.2	20.1	14.7		
2007 Dec	78.7	10.6	24.0	19.7	13.5	8.7	2.4	27.1	45.0	93.1	71.3	42.2	28.3	29.6	36.5	65.3	19.9	14.8		
2008 March	78.3 ^p	10.4 ^p	23.7 ^p	20.0 ^p	13.4 ^p	8.6 ^p	2.3 ^p	27.1 ^p	45.2 ^p	94.2 ^p	71.1 ^p	42.8 ^p	28.3 ^p	29.9 ^p	35.7 ^p	65.3 ^p	20.0 ^p	14.7 ^p		

1 Unstandardised and therefore takes no account of the age structure of the population.

2 Births outside marriage can be registered by both the mother and father (joint) or by the mother alone (sole).

3 Usual address(es) of parents.

p provisional

Table 4.1 Conceptions: age of woman at conception

England and Wales (residents) Numbers (thousands) and rates; and percentage terminated by abortion

Year and quarter	Age of woman at conception								
	All ages	Under 16	Under 18	Under 20	20–24	25–29	30–34	35–39	40 and over
(a) numbers (thousands)									
1991	853.7	7.5	40.1	101.6	233.3	281.5	167.5	57.6	12.1
1996	816.9	8.9	43.5	94.9	179.8	252.6	200.0	75.5	14.1
1999	774.0	7.9	42.0	98.8	157.6	218.5	197.1	86.0	16.0
2000	767.0	8.1	41.3	97.7	159.0	209.3	195.3	88.7	17.0
2001	763.7	7.9	41.0	96.0	161.6	199.3	196.7	92.2	17.8
2002	787.0	7.9	42.0	97.1	167.8	199.4	204.3	98.9	19.6
2003	806.8	8.0	42.2	98.6	175.3	199.8	209.0	103.1	20.9
2004	826.8	7.6	42.2	101.3	181.3	205.1	209.6	106.8	22.8
2005	841.8	7.9	42.3	102.3	185.5	211.3	209.2	110.0	23.6
2006	870.0	7.8	41.8	103.1	191.2	222.2	212.4	115.4	25.5
2004 March	207.9	2.0	10.9	26.2	45.9	51.1	52.6	26.6	5.6
2004 June	200.1	1.9	10.6	25.0	43.7	49.3	50.4	25.9	5.7
2004 Sept	203.6	1.8	10.0	24.0	44.1	50.7	52.7	26.6	5.6
2004 Dec	215.2	1.9	10.8	26.1	47.7	54.0	54.0	27.6	5.8
2005 March	204.6	1.9	10.4	25.1	45.4	50.8	51.0	26.6	5.7
2005 June	204.7	2.0	10.5	25.1	45.2	51.0	50.7	26.9	5.8
2005 Sept	210.9	2.0	10.4	25.3	45.6	53.3	53.1	27.5	6.0
2005 Dec	221.7	2.0	11.0	26.8	49.3	56.2	54.3	29.1	6.0
2006 March	214.0	1.8	10.2	25.4	47.5	54.2	52.4	28.3	6.2
2006 June	212.6	2.1	10.6	25.7	46.9	53.8	51.4	28.3	6.5
2006 Sept	215.1	2.0	10.0	24.7	46.3	55.3	53.6	28.9	6.4
2006 Dec	228.2	2.0	11.0	27.3	50.6	58.9	55.1	29.9	6.5
2007 March ^{1,p}	220.6	2.0	10.7	26.4	48.8	56.3	52.0	28.9	6.4
2007 June ^{1,p}	220.1	2.1	10.9	26.7	48.9	56.9	51.5	28.7	6.5
(b) rates (conceptions per thousand women in age group)									
1991	77.7	8.9	44.6	64.1	120.2	135.1	90.1	34.4	6.6
1996	76.2	9.5	46.3	63.2	110.1	127.6	96.3	40.7	8.4
1999	71.9	8.3	45.1	63.1	103.9	118.0	95.3	42.9	9.1
2000	70.9	8.3	43.9	62.5	103.2	115.7	95.3	43.2	9.4
2001	70.3	8.0	42.7	60.8	102.5	114.2	96.7	44.3	9.6
2002	72.2	7.9	42.9	60.6	104.4	119.0	101.7	47.0	10.3
2003	73.7	7.9	42.4	60.0	107.2	122.0	106.0	49.1	10.7
2004	75.2	7.5	41.8	60.3	109.0	125.1	109.6	51.0	11.4
2005	76.0	7.8	41.4	60.1	108.7	125.8	112.0	53.2	11.5
2006	78.3	7.8	40.9	60.2	109.5	129.5	117.5	56.3	12.3
2004 March	76.2	7.8	43.5	63.2	111.5	125.4	109.3	51.1	11.4
2004 June	73.2	7.7	42.2	60.1	105.9	121.1	105.5	49.7	11.5
2004 Sept	73.6	7.1	39.2	56.8	105.0	122.6	109.9	50.6	11.1
2004 Dec	77.7	7.4	42.4	61.5	112.9	129.9	113.2	52.8	11.4
2005 March	75.1	7.6	41.5	60.0	108.9	123.8	109.8	51.8	11.4
2005 June	74.2	8.0	41.1	59.1	106.7	122.1	108.5	52.0	11.4
2005 Sept	75.5	7.8	40.5	59.0	105.7	125.6	113.3	52.8	11.7
2005 Dec	79.3	7.9	42.8	62.4	113.6	131.7	116.7	55.9	11.5
2006 March	78.2	7.1	40.4	60.3	111.2	129.2	116.2	55.7	12.2
2006 June	76.7	8.2	41.4	60.3	108.1	126.1	113.6	55.3	12.5
2006 Sept	76.8	7.7	38.8	57.2	104.8	127.4	118.1	56.0	12.1
2006 Dec	81.4	8.1	42.8	63.0	114.1	134.9	122.4	58.2	12.3
2007 March ^{1,p}	80.4	8.0	42.6	62.4	111.9	130.7	119.1	57.6	12.5
2007 June ^{1,p}	79.3	8.7	42.7	62.4	110.2	129.8	117.8	56.7	12.4
(c) percentage terminated by abortion									
1991	19.4	51.1	39.9	34.5	22.2	13.4	13.7	22.0	41.6
1996	20.8	49.2	40.0	36.2	25.7	15.6	14.1	21.2	37.6
1999	22.6	52.6	43.0	38.6	28.5	17.5	14.7	21.2	37.0
2000	22.7	54.0	44.2	39.3	29.2	17.7	14.5	20.5	35.4
2001	23.2	55.8	45.7	40.4	29.7	18.4	14.6	20.4	34.6
2002	22.5	55.6	45.3	39.9	28.8	17.9	13.9	19.5	34.6
2003	22.5	57.4	45.7	40.2	29.0	17.9	13.6	18.9	34.7
2004	22.4	57.2	45.6	40.1	28.9	18.2	13.2	18.3	33.0
2005	22.2	57.1	46.3	40.3	28.6	18.0	13.2	17.7	32.8
2006	22.3	59.8	48.4	41.9	28.7	18.0	13.1	17.1	31.8
2004 March	22.7	58.2	45.7	40.2	29.4	18.5	13.4	18.2	32.9
2004 June	23.0	57.2	46.3	40.8	29.2	18.6	13.7	19.2	33.5
2004 Sept	21.9	56.8	45.8	40.0	28.4	17.9	12.8	17.8	33.0
2004 Dec	22.0	56.3	44.5	39.3	28.6	17.8	13.0	18.2	32.5
2005 March	22.5	57.5	47.3	41.1	29.2	18.1	13.1	18.0	32.6
2005 June	22.7	57.0	45.8	40.3	28.9	18.6	13.9	17.8	33.8
2005 Sept	21.4	56.2	45.3	39.0	27.5	17.5	12.6	17.2	32.1
2005 Dec	22.2	57.5	46.9	40.6	28.7	17.8	13.1	17.7	32.7
2006 March	22.5	59.0	47.7	41.6	29.1	18.4	13.0	17.5	31.1
2006 June	23.1	59.5	49.0	42.5	29.6	18.8	13.9	17.8	31.6
2006 Sept	21.5	60.4	48.0	41.3	27.7	17.5	12.7	16.3	32.8
2006 Dec	22.0	60.2	49.1	42.0	28.3	17.4	12.8	16.9	31.7
2007 March ^{1,p}	22.7	62.7	50.9	43.4	29.7	18.5	13.1	17.0	31.4
2007 June ^{1,p}	22.6	62.1	50.5	43.4	28.8	18.2	12.9	17.1	31.9

Note: Conception figures are estimates derived from birth registrations and abortion notifications.

Rates for women of all ages, under 16, under 18, under 20 and 40 and over are based on the population of women aged 15–44, 13–15, 15–17, 15–19 and 40–44 respectively.

For a quarterly analysis of conceptions to women under 18 for local authority areas see the National Statistics website, www.statistics.gov.uk

1 Figures for conceptions by age for the March and June quarters of 2007 exclude maternities where the mother's age was not recorded.

p provisional

Table 6.2 Deaths: subnational

Government Office Regions of England										Rates
Year and quarter	North East	North West	Yorkshire and The Humber	East Midlands	West Midlands	East	London	South East	South West	
Total deaths (deaths per 1,000 population of all ages)										
1996	11.7	11.7	11.2	10.7	10.7	10.3	9.4	10.7	11.7	
1997	11.6	11.6	11.1	10.5	10.6	10.2	9.0	10.6	11.7	
1998	11.9	11.7	11.2	10.8	10.6	10.2	8.8	10.4	11.4	
1999	11.6	11.5	10.9	10.7	10.7	10.3	8.7	10.5	11.6	
2000	10.8	10.7	10.3	10.0	10.3	9.9	8.2	9.8	11.3	
2001	11.1	11.0	10.4	10.1	10.2	9.9	7.9	9.9	11.0	
2002	11.2	11.0	10.5	10.2	10.3	10.0	7.8	10.0	11.1	
2003	11.3	11.0	10.5	10.3	10.5	9.9	7.9	9.9	11.2	
2004	11.0	10.5	10.1	9.7	9.9	9.5	7.3	9.4	10.4	
2005	10.8	10.4	9.9	9.7	9.9	9.4	7.1	9.4	10.4	
2006 ¹	10.5	10.2	9.6	9.6	9.7	9.2	6.8	9.2	10.1	
2007 ^p	10.5	10.3	9.8	9.5	9.7	9.2	6.7	9.1	10.3	
2006 ¹ March	11.6	11.4	10.7	10.8	11.1	10.6	7.8	10.8	11.6	
June	10.6	10.2	9.5	9.5	9.6	9.2	6.7	8.9	9.9	
Sept	9.4	9.3	8.8	8.7	8.8	8.3	6.2	8.1	9.1	
Dec	10.6	9.9	9.5	9.5	9.4	9.0	6.5	8.8	9.9	
2007 ¹ March ^p	11.9	11.7	11.0	10.7	11.0	10.3	7.4	10.1	11.6	
June ^p	9.9	9.9	9.5	9.1	9.4	8.8	6.5	8.8	9.8	
Sept ^p	9.4	9.2	8.8	8.5	8.5	8.3	6.1	8.2	9.2	
Dec ^p	10.7	10.4	10.0	9.7	9.8	9.4	6.8	9.5	10.5	
2008 March ^p	11.4	10.9	10.3	10.0	10.4	9.9	7.2	9.7	10.8	
Infant mortality (deaths under 1 year per 1,000 live births)										
1996	6.2	6.3	6.5	6.3	6.8	5.3	6.3	5.3	5.5	
1997	5.8	6.7	6.5	5.7	7.0	4.8	5.8	5.0	5.8	
1998	5.0	6.3	6.9	5.6	6.5	5.0	6.0	4.4	4.8	
1999	5.6	6.5	6.3	6.0	6.9	4.6	6.0	4.8	4.7	
2000	6.5	6.2	7.3	5.4	6.8	4.4	5.4	4.4	4.7	
2001	5.4	5.8	5.5	4.9	6.4	4.5	6.1	4.2	5.4	
2002	4.8	5.4	6.1	5.6	6.6	4.3	5.5	4.5	4.3	
2003	4.9	5.9	5.7	5.9	7.4	4.5	5.4	4.2	4.1	
2004	4.6	5.4	5.8	4.9	6.3	4.2	5.2	3.9	4.5	
2005	4.7	5.6	6.0	4.8	6.6	4.0	5.2	3.9	4.5	
2006	5.4	5.6	5.7	5.4	6.4	4.1	4.9	4.1	4.0	
2007	4.7	5.0	5.7	5.3	5.9	4.3	4.5	3.9	4.2	
2006 March	5.4	6.0	5.4	5.9	6.6	3.8	5.5	4.3	4.2	
June	6.4	5.5	6.1	5.0	7.0	4.3	4.6	4.2	3.7	
Sept	5.4	5.2	4.8	5.3	6.7	3.6	4.8	4.2	3.6	
Dec	4.5	5.7	6.6	5.5	5.3	4.6	4.7	3.9	4.7	
2007 March	5.1	5.1	4.5	5.3	6.4	4.2	4.5	3.9	4.4	
June	4.5	5.5	7.2	6.5	6.1	3.9	5.1	4.3	3.9	
Sept	4.0	4.3	5.2	5.1	5.5	4.7	4.7	3.9	4.1	
Dec	5.3	5.2	5.7	4.3	5.7	4.4	4.0	3.5	4.2	
2008 March ^p	4.3	4.9	5.8	4.7	7.7	4.4	4.0	4.5	4.9	
Neonatal mortality (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 live births)										
1996	4.1	4.0	4.2	4.2	4.9	3.5	4.4	3.5	3.8	
1997	3.7	4.3	4.4	3.7	5.0	3.3	3.7	3.4	3.9	
1998	3.1	4.1	4.5	3.7	4.8	3.4	4.1	2.9	3.3	
1999	4.1	4.4	4.1	4.3	4.8	3.0	4.1	3.2	3.2	
2000	4.4	4.3	5.0	4.1	5.0	3.0	3.7	3.1	3.0	
2001	3.5	3.8	3.2	3.4	4.4	2.9	4.1	2.9	3.7	
2002	3.2	3.6	4.0	4.0	4.8	2.9	3.6	2.9	3.1	
2003	3.2	4.1	4.0	4.2	5.1	3.0	3.7	2.8	2.9	
2004	2.8	3.6	3.8	3.5	4.7	2.9	3.6	2.8	3.2	
2005	2.9	3.8	4.0	3.5	4.9	2.6	3.4	2.7	3.2	
2006	3.8	3.8	4.0	4.0	4.6	2.9	3.4	2.8	2.9	
2007	3.0	3.3	4.0	3.6	4.5	3.0	3.1	2.6	2.8	
2006 March	4.1	3.8	4.0	4.2	4.6	2.7	3.4	2.9	3.2	
June	4.0	3.8	4.2	3.9	5.1	3.2	3.3	2.7	2.4	
Sept	3.4	3.5	3.3	3.9	5.4	2.5	3.5	2.9	2.6	
Dec	3.7	4.1	4.7	4.0	3.2	3.1	3.6	2.5	3.6	
2007 March	4.0	3.8	3.3	3.4	4.8	2.9	3.0	2.6	3.0	
June	1.8	3.7	5.2	4.5	4.6	2.6	3.5	3.0	2.5	
Sept	2.6	2.7	3.5	3.5	4.2	3.1	3.1	2.5	3.1	
Dec	3.7	2.9	3.8	2.8	4.6	3.6	2.7	2.4	2.7	
2008 March ^p	3.3	3.3	4.0	3.6	5.8	3.0	2.8	2.9	3.1	
Perinatal mortality (stillbirths and deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total births)										
1996	9.2	8.6	8.3	8.7	10.2	7.5	9.6	7.8	7.5	
1997	8.0	8.9	8.3	7.7	9.6	7.3	9.0	7.3	8.7	
1998	8.2	8.7	9.2	8.0	9.3	7.4	9.0	6.8	7.3	
1999	8.2	8.7	8.3	7.8	9.9	7.0	9.0	6.9	7.8	
2000	8.5	8.6	9.6	7.8	9.6	7.1	9.0	6.6	6.6	
2001	7.8	8.7	7.5	7.9	9.1	7.1	8.9	6.9	7.2	
2002	8.1	8.5	9.0	8.5	10.0	7.5	9.3	6.9	6.8	
2003	7.8	9.0	9.1	9.5	10.2	7.3	9.6	7.0	7.0	
2004	7.9	8.4	9.4	8.1	9.6	7.6	9.3	7.0	7.2	
2005	7.8	8.2	9.4	7.6	9.9	6.4	8.5	6.8	6.8	
2006	8.0	8.3	8.5	8.4	9.2	6.7	8.8	7.0	6.6	
2007 ^p	7.3	7.9	8.8	7.3	9.1	7.0	8.4	6.6	6.4	
2006 March	8.2	9.0	7.6	8.7	9.6	7.4	9.1	7.6	6.5	
June	8.7	8.3	9.2	9.1	10.1	7.0	8.7	6.8	6.8	
Sept	7.5	8.0	8.4	8.4	9.6	6.6	8.7	6.6	6.2	
Dec	7.8	7.8	8.7	7.6	7.4	6.0	8.9	7.0	7.0	
2007 March ^p	7.8	8.5	7.8	6.8	9.5	7.6	8.3	6.6	6.8	
June ^p	6.8	7.4	9.2	8.6	9.8	6.7	9.1	7.1	6.5	
Sept ^p	7.4	7.2	8.9	7.1	7.7	7.0	8.6	6.1	6.5	
Dec ^p	7.1	8.5	9.0	6.7	9.5	6.8	7.6	6.6	6.0	
2008 March ^p	6.5	8.2	9.2	7.9	11.5	6.1	7.7	6.6	6.3	

Note: Figures represent the numbers of deaths occurring in each year with the exception of 2006 figures and provisional 2007 figures which relate to registrations.

Death rates from 2002 to 2005 have been updated to include the latest revised mid-year population estimates that take into account improved estimates of international migration.

1 Total deaths rates for 2006 and 2007 have been calculated using the mid-2006 population estimates published on 22 August 2007. In editions 36, 37 and 38 of *Health Statistics Quarterly*, 2006 total death rates were calculated using mid-2005 population estimates.

p provisional.

Table 7.1 International migration: age and sex

United Kingdom		Numbers (thousands)														
		All ages			0–14			15–24			25–44			45 and over		
Year and quarter		Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females
Inflow																
1991		329	157	172	53	23	30	107	47	59	139	73	66	30	14	16
1996		318	157	161	33	14	19	115	50	65	142	77	65	28	16	12
1998		391	207	184	37	18	19	135	65	69	194	110	84	25	14	11
1999		454	250	204	42	24	18	158	78	79	224	130	95	30	18	12
2000		479	272	207	35	18	17	158	79	79	245	150	95	40	25	15
2001		479	260	219	46	26	20	158	77	81	239	135	103	37	22	14
2002		513	284	229	38	20	17	185	100	85	255	148	108	35	16	19
2003		508	260	248	41	23	18	207	99	108	218	118	100	43	21	22
2004		586	300	286	37	25	12	227	107	120	277	148	129	45	20	25
2005		563	310	253	26	13	13	229	118	110	271	156	115	38	23	15
2006		591	315	276	46	22	25	222	111	111	283	161	122	39	22	17
2005 Jan-June		239	126	113	14	8	6	83	38	45	123	70	53	19	10	9
2005 July-Dec		324	184	139	12	5	7	146	80	65	148	86	61	19	13	6
2006 Jan-June		231	121	109	16	8	8	77	34	43	113	64	49	24	15	9
2006 July-Dec		360	194	166	30	14	17	145	76	69	170	97	73	15	7	8
Outflow																
1991		285	145	139	44	20	25	76	38	38	131	69	62	33	18	15
1996		264	134	130	38	16	22	63	24	39	139	79	60	24	15	9
1998		251	131	121	24	15	10	70	31	39	130	71	59	27	14	12
1999		291	158	133	27	19	8	87	42	45	143	79	64	34	18	16
2000		321	178	142	26	11	15	84	45	39	175	102	73	36	20	16
2001		306	172	135	25	14	11	84	41	43	153	88	65	45	29	16
2002		358	194	164	25	15	10	92	44	48	185	106	79	56	28	28
2003		361	192	169	35	19	16	84	37	47	188	105	82	55	31	24
2004		342	172	170	28	13	15	79	36	43	172	95	77	63	28	35
2005		359	206	153	28	15	13	81	45	36	190	113	77	60	33	27
2006		400	228	173	30	17	13	87	41	46	215	131	84	68	39	29
2005 Jan-June		137	79	58	10	6	4	25	13	12	78	49	29	24	11	13
2005 July-Dec		222	127	95	18	9	9	56	33	24	112	64	48	35	21	14
2006 Jan-June		165	93	72	12	7	5	35	17	19	86	51	35	32	18	13
2006 July-Dec		235	135	101	18	10	8	51	24	27	129	79	50	37	21	16
Balance																
1991		+ 44	+ 12	+ 32	+ 8	+ 3	+ 5	+ 31	+ 9	+ 22	+ 8	+ 4	+ 4	- 3	- 4	+ 2
1996		+ 55	+ 23	+ 31	- 5	- 2	- 3	+ 52	+ 26	+ 27	+ 3	- 2	+ 5	+ 5	+ 2	+ 3
1998		+140	+ 76	+ 63	+13	+ 3	+10	+ 65	+ 34	+ 30	+ 64	+ 39	+ 25	- 2	-	- 2
1999		+163	+ 92	+ 71	+15	+ 5	+10	+ 71	+ 36	+ 34	+ 81	+ 51	+ 30	- 4	- 1	- 3
2000		+158	+ 94	+ 64	+ 9	+ 7	+ 3	+ 75	+ 34	+ 40	+ 70	+ 48	+ 23	+ 4	+ 5	- 1
2001		+173	+ 89	+ 85	+ 21	+ 12	+ 10	+ 74	+ 36	+ 38	+ 86	+ 47	+ 39	- 8	- 6	- 2
2002		+154	+ 90	+ 65	+13	+ 5	+ 8	+ 93	+ 56	+ 37	+ 70	+ 42	+ 28	- 21	- 12	- 9
2003		+147	+ 68	+ 79	+ 6	+ 4	+ 2	+122	+ 62	+ 60	+ 30	+ 12	+ 18	- 12	- 10	- 2
2004		+244	+128	+116	+ 9	+ 13	- 4	+148	+ 71	+ 78	+105	+ 52	+ 52	- 18	- 8	- 10
2005		+204	+104	+ 99	- 2	- 2	-	+148	+ 73	+ 75	+ 81	+ 43	+ 37	- 22	- 10	- 12
2006		+191	+ 88	+103	+ 16	+ 4	+ 11	+135	+ 70	+ 66	+ 68	+ 30	+ 38	- 29	- 17	- 12
2005 Jan-June		+102	+ 47	+ 55	+ 4	+ 2	+ 2	+ 59	+ 25	+ 33	+ 45	+ 21	+ 24	- 6	- 2	- 4
2005 July-Dec		+102	+ 57	+ 44	- 6	- 4	- 2	+ 89	+ 48	+ 42	+ 35	+ 22	+ 13	- 16	- 8	- 8
2006 Jan-June		+ 65	+ 28	+ 37	+ 4	+ 1	+ 3	+ 42	+ 18	+ 24	+ 27	+ 13	+ 15	- 7	- 3	- 4
2006 July-Dec		+125	+ 60	+ 66	+ 12	+ 4	+ 9	+ 94	+ 52	+ 42	+ 41	+ 18	+ 23	- 22	- 14	- 8

Note: These data have been revised following changes to the TIM methodology. Therefore they may not agree with estimates that have been published previously.

Table 7.2 International migration: country of last or next residence

Year and quarter		Numbers (thousands)										
		All countries	European Union	Commonwealth countries					Other foreign countries			
				Australia, New Zealand, Canada	South Africa	India, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka	Pakistan	Caribbean	Other	USA	Middle East	Other
Inflow												
1991		329	95	44	7	17	16	4	42	24	11	69
1996		318	98	37	11	15	11	4	33	32	14	63
1998		391	109	64	20	18	10	6	31	37	13	84
1999		454	96	63	29	26	13	7	37	31	15	138
2000		479	89	63	22	34	16	6	48	24	30	146
2001		479	83	76	23	32	19	4	46	25	31	142
2002		513	87	59	28	36	11	5	50	29	33	176
2003		508	98	64	28	45	13	4	51	30	26	150
2004		586	150	59	37	62	28	6	56	27	29	131
2005		563	182	61	29	62	24	2	41	25	19	118
2006		591	205	60	21	69	32	3	34	23	21	122
2005 Jan-June		239	78	30	19	27	7	1	18	8	7	44
2005 July-Dec		324	104	31	9	35	17	1	24	17	12	74
2006 Jan-June		231	72	28	13	26	13	1	14	9	8	46
2006 July-Dec		360	133	32	7	43	19	2	20	14	14	76
Outflow												
1991		285	95	61	7	6	4	2	21	35	14	40
1996		264	94	58	5	5	1	1	23	26	8	42
1998		251	85	54	6	5	2	2	14	27	9	48
1999		291	103	73	7	4	1	3	14	33	10	44
2000		321	103	79	7	5	3	3	15	33	15	58
2001		306	92	80	8	8	3	2	13	28	9	63
2002		358	124	84	10	7	4	2	16	37	12	62
2003		361	121	90	14	7	4	1	15	27	7	75
2004		342	123	86	9	5	4	3	19	25	11	57
2005		359	136	86	13	9	7	2	11	24	11	60
2006		400	145	100	14	14	2	2	15	29	16	61
2005 Jan-June		137	54	38	6	4	2	1	4	6	4	18
2005 July-Dec		222	82	48	7	5	4	1	7	18	8	42
2006 Jan-June		165	60	44	6	5	1	1	5	11	6	27
2006 July-Dec		235	85	56	8	9	1	1	10	19	10	35
Balance												
1991		+44	-	-18	+1	+11	+12	+2	+21	-10	-3	+29
1996		+55	+5	-21	+5	+10	+10	+3	+10	+7	+5	+21
1998		+140	+24	+10	+15	+12	+8	+4	+17	+10	+4	+36
1999		+163	-7	-10	+22	+22	+12	+4	+23	-2	+5	+94
2000		+158	-14	-16	+15	+29	+13	+4	+33	-10	+15	+88
2001		+173	-9	-4	+14	+24	+16	+1	+33	-3	+21	+79
2002		+154	-37	-25	+17	+29	+7	+3	+34	-9	+21	+114
2003		+147	-23	-26	+14	+38	+9	+3	+36	+3	+19	+75
2004		+244	+27	-26	+28	+56	+25	+3	+38	+2	+18	+74
2005		+204	+46	-25	+15	+53	+18	-	+30	+1	+8	+58
2006		+191	+60	-41	+7	+55	+30	+1	+19	-6	+5	+61
2005 Jan-June		+102	+25	-8	+13	+23	+5	-	+13	+1	+3	+26
2005 July-Dec		+102	+21	-17	+2	+29	+13	-	+17	-1	+5	+32
2006 Jan-June		+65	+13	-16	+7	+21	+13	+1	+9	-2	+1	+19
2006 July-Dec		+125	+47	-25	-1	+34	+18	-	+10	-4	+4	+42

Note: These data have been revised following changes to the TIM methodology. Therefore they may not agree with estimates that have been published previously.

Table 7.3 International migration: citizenship

United Kingdom		Citizenship (numbers)							Numbers (thousands)	
Year and quarter	All countries	British	Non-British	European Union	Commonwealth			Other foreign	British citizens as percentage of all citizens	
					All	Old	New			
Inflow										
1991	329	110	219	53	85	26	59	82	33	
1996	318	94	224	72	78	29	49	74	30	
1998	391	104	287	82	105	54	51	101	26	
1999	454	115	338	66	123	55	68	150	25	
2000	479	99	379	63	147	56	91	169	21	
2001	479	110	370	57	149	65	84	164	23	
2002	513	97	416	59	155	63	92	201	19	
2003	508	99	409	64	167	62	105	177	20	
2004	586	88	498	128	215	73	141	155	15	
2005	563	96	466	149	180	62	117	137	17	
2006	591	81	510	167	201	62	139	142	14	
2005 Jan-June	239	40	199	64	84	35	49	51	17	
July-Dec	324	56	267	85	96	27	69	87	17	
2006 Jan-June	231	33	197	61	85	31	54	51	15	
July-Dec	360	48	313	106	116	31	85	91	13	
Outflow										
1991	285	154	130	53	35	18	17	43	54	
1996	264	156	108	44	32	17	14	32	59	
1998	251	126	126	49	33	20	13	44	50	
1999	291	139	152	59	41	29	12	52	48	
2000	321	161	160	57	47	32	15	55	50	
2001	306	158	149	49	51	32	19	49	52	
2002	358	185	174	52	58	42	16	64	52	
2003	361	191	171	50	59	42	17	62	53	
2004	342	195	147	42	53	33	19	52	57	
2005	359	185	174	54	60	37	23	59	52	
2006	400	207	194	66	67	42	24	61	52	
2005 Jan-June	137	77	60	20	23	14	9	17	56	
July-Dec	222	108	114	34	37	23	14	42	49	
2006 Jan-June	165	90	75	28	24	15	9	24	54	
July-Dec	235	117	118	38	43	27	15	37	50	
Balance										
1991	+44	-44	+89	-1	+50	+8	+42	+39	:	
1996	+55	-62	+116	+28	+47	+12	+35	+41	:	
1998	+140	-22	+162	+33	+72	+34	+38	+57	:	
1999	+163	-24	+187	+8	+82	+26	+56	+98	:	
2000	+158	-62	+220	+6	+100	+24	+76	+114	:	
2001	+173	-48	+221	+8	+98	+33	+65	+115	:	
2002	+154	-87	+242	+7	+97	+21	+77	+137	:	
2003	+147	-91	+238	+14	+109	+20	+88	+115	:	
2004	+244	-107	+351	+85	+162	+40	+122	+104	:	
2005	+204	-89	+293	+95	+120	+25	+94	+78	:	
2006	+191	-126	+316	+100	+134	+20	+115	+81	:	
2005 Jan-June	+102	-37	+139	+44	+61	+22	+39	+34	:	
July-Dec	+102	-52	+154	+50	+59	+4	+55	+45	:	
2006 Jan-June	+65	-56	+122	+33	+61	+16	+45	+27	:	
July-Dec	+125	-69	+194	+67	+73	+4	+69	+54	:	

Note: These data have been revised following changes to the TIM methodology. Therefore they may not agree with estimates that have been published previously.

Notes to tables

Time Series

For most tables, years start at 1971 and then continue at five-year intervals until 1991. Individual years are shown thereafter.

United Kingdom

The United Kingdom comprises England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland. The Channel Islands and the Isle of Man are not part of the United Kingdom.

Population

The estimated and projected resident population of an area includes all people who usually live there, whatever their nationality. Members of HM and US Armed Forces in the United Kingdom are included on a residential basis wherever possible. HM Forces stationed outside the United Kingdom are not included. Students are taken to be resident at their term-time addresses.

Live births

For England and Wales, figures relate to the number of births occurring in a period; for Scotland and Northern Ireland, figures relate to births registered in a period. By law, births must be registered within 42 days in England and Wales, within 21 days in Scotland, and within 42 days in Northern Ireland. In England and Wales, where a birth is registered later than the legal time period, and too late to be included in the count for the year of occurrence, it will be included in the count for the following year.

Perinatal mortality

In October 1992 the legal definition of a stillbirth was changed, from baby born dead after 28 completed weeks of gestation or more, to one born dead after 24 completed weeks of gestation or more.

Period expectation of life

The life tables on which these expectations are based use death rates for the given period to describe mortality levels for each year. Each individual year shown is based on a three-year period, so that for instance 1986 represents 1985–87. More details can be found in at www.gad.gov.uk/life_tables/interim_life_tables.htm

Deaths

Figures for England and Wales represent the numbers of deaths registered in each year up to 1992, and the number of deaths occurring in each year from 1993, though provisional figures are registrations. Figures for both Scotland and Northern Ireland represent the number of deaths registered in each year.

Age-standardised mortality

Directly age-standardised rates make allowances for changes in the age structure of the population. The age-standardised rate for a particular condition is that which would have occurred if the observed age-specific rates for the condition had applied in a given standard population. Table 2.2 uses the European Standard Population. This is a hypothetical population standard which is the same for both males and females allowing standardised rates to be compared for each sex, and between males and females.

International Migration

The UN recommends the following definition of an international long-term migrant.

An *international long-term migrant* is defined as a person who moves to a country other than that of his or her usual residence for a period of at least a year (12 months), so that the country of destination effectively becomes his or her new country of usual residence.

Figures in Tables 7.1–7.3 are compiled from several main sources of migration data:

- The richest source of information on international migrants comes from the International Passenger Survey (IPS), which is a sample survey of passengers arriving at, and departing from, the main United Kingdom air and sea ports and Channel Tunnel. This survey provides migration estimates based on respondents' *intended* length of stay in the UK or abroad and excludes most persons seeking asylum and some dependents of such asylum seekers.
- Two adjustments are made to account for people who do not realise their intended length of stay on arrival. First, visitor data from the IPS are used to estimate 'visitor switchers': those people who initially come to or leave the UK for a short period but subsequently stay for a year or longer. (For years before 2001, estimates of non-European Economic Area (non-EEA) national visitor switcher inflows are made from the Home Office database of after-entry applications to remain in the UK). Second, people who intend to be migrants, but who in reality stay in the UK or abroad for less than a year ('migrant switchers'), are estimated from IPS migrant data.
- Home Office data on asylum seekers and their dependents.
- Estimates of migration between the UK and the Irish Republic estimated using information from the Irish Quarterly National Household Survey and the National Health Service Central Register, agreed between the Irish Central Statistics Office and the ONS.

For years prior to 1991, the figures in Tables 7.1–7.3 are based only on data from the IPS. After taking into account of those groups of migrants known not to be covered by the IPS, it is estimated that the adjustment needed to net migration ranges from about ten thousand in 1981 to just over twenty thousand in 1986. From 1991, the figures in Tables 7.1–7.3 are based on data from all sources and represent Total International Migration.

Old Commonwealth is defined as Australia, Canada, New Zealand and South Africa;

New Commonwealth is defined as all other Commonwealth countries.

Middle East is defined as Bahrain, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syria, the United Arab Emirates and Yemen.

Internal Migration

Figures in Table 8.1 are based on the movement of NHS doctors' patients between former Health Authorities (HAs) in England and Wales, and Area Health Boards in Scotland and Northern Ireland. Yearly and quarterly figures have been adjusted to take account of differences in recorded cross-border flows between England and Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland.

Prior to reorganisation of health authority databases from Family Health Service Authorities (FHSAs) to HAs some database boundaries were realigned. This included in a few cases transferring patients between databases to fit the new boundaries. For the most part, this movement was done outside the NHSCR system and therefore had no effect on migration data. However a small number were transferred within the system. As migration estimates derived from NHSCR are the product of an administrative system (when patients re-register with GPs) this had the effect of generating small numbers of spurious migrants where no actual change of address had taken place. We have been advised of adjustments required to data by the Department of Health and these have been made to migration data.

The NHS Central Register (NHSCR) at Southport was computerised in early 1991, prior to which a three month time lag was assumed between a person moving and their re-registration with an NHS doctor being processed onto the NHSCR. Since computerisation, estimates of internal migration are based on the date of acceptance of the new patient by the HA (not previously available), and a one month time lag assumed.

It has been established that NHSCR data under-report the migration of males aged between 16 and 36. Currently, however, there are no suitable sources of data available to enable adjustments or revisions to be made to the estimates. Further research is planned on this topic and new data sources may become available in the future. However, for the present time, historical estimates will not be revised and future estimates will not be adjusted.

Marriages and divorces

Marriages are tabulated according to date of solemnisation. Divorces are tabulated according to date of decree absolute. In Scotland a small number of late divorces from previous years are added to the current year. The term 'divorces' includes decrees of nullity. The fact that a marriage or divorce has taken place in England, Wales, Scotland or Northern Ireland does not mean either of the parties is resident there.

Civil Partnerships

The Civil Partnership Act 2004 came into force on 5 December 2005 in the UK, the first day couples could give notice of their intention to form a civil partnership. The first day that couples could normally form a partnership was 19 December 2005 in Northern Ireland, 20 December 2005 in Scotland and 21 December 2005 in England and Wales.

Civil partnerships are tabulated according to date of formation and area of occurrence. The fact that a civil partnership has taken place in England, Wales, Scotland or Northern Ireland does not necessarily mean either of the parties is resident there.

EU Enlargement

The coverage of European countries in Table 1.1 has been updated to reflect the enlargement of the EU to 25 member countries (EU25) on 1 May 2004. The new member countries are: Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia. The main data source for these countries is the *United Nations Monthly Bulletin of Statistics*.

Sources

Figures for Scotland and Northern Ireland have been provided by the General Register Office for Scotland and the Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency respectively. The International Passenger Survey (Tables 7.1–7.3) is conducted by the Surveys and Administrative Sources Directorate of ONS.

Rounding

All figures are rounded independently; constituent parts may not add to totals. Generally numbers and rates per 1,000 population are rounded to one decimal place (e.g. 123.4); where appropriate, for small figures (below 10.0), two decimal places are given (e.g. 7.62). Figures which are provisional or estimated are given in less detail (e.g. 123 or 7.6 respectively) if their reliability does not justify giving the standard amount of detail. Where figures need to be treated with particular caution, an explanation is given as a footnote.

Latest figures

Figures for the latest quarters and years may be provisional and will be updated in future issues when later information becomes available. Where figures are not yet available, cells are left blank.

Report:

Marriages abroad 2002–2007

Introduction

Some people who are residents of England and Wales go outside England and Wales to marry. Such marriages are not included in annual estimates of marriages occurring in England and Wales and this creates an issue for estimating and projecting the population by marital status. On the other hand, some people who are not usually resident in England and Wales marry in England and Wales – marriage tourists; however, there are likely to be fewer of these. It is therefore likely that published estimates of marriages underestimate the total number of marriages to, or between, England and Wales residents each year with a corresponding cumulative impact on estimates of the married population between censuses. This underestimation means that potentially there needs to be an adjustment to the marital status estimates¹ and projections² and the marriage and divorce rates³ produced by the Office for National Statistics.

This report summarises research carried out by ONS into the number of marriages that take place abroad each year to, or between, UK residents travelling abroad, and the number of marriages to, or between, overseas residents visiting the UK.

Key findings

- All sources point in the same direction, that some marriages are missing and this number is increasing over time.
- There are between 20,000 to 40,000 (more in latest years) marriages each year to UK residents that are not included in the marriages figures and the population estimates by marital status. This number is growing steadily over the years for which data are available. This results in an underestimate of the married UK resident population by approximately 0.3 per cent per annum.
- About 90 percent of marriages abroad to, or between, UK residents are to residents of England and Wales.
- There is a male/female imbalance in the International Passenger Survey (IPS) data, likely to be caused by more men going abroad to get married and returning with a wife (the spouse is then a migrant and included in the migration statistics) than vice versa.
- Analysis by sex and age group showed that people going abroad to get married was highest in the 25–34 year age group.

Background

ONS statistics on marriages in England and Wales cover only those that take place in England and Wales. As yet there are no reliable statistics of those marriages that take place abroad that involve residents in England and Wales. Conversely there are no estimates of marriages that take place in England and Wales to, or between, non-residents of England and Wales – marriage tourists.

The registration system for marriages does not collect information on nationality or country of birth. Even if this were introduced, this would not provide information on usual or intended country of residence. Non-residents wishing to marry in England and Wales simply require residence in a place for seven days prior to getting married, thus making them residents for the system of registration. This is different from Scotland, where no residential qualification is needed.

In 2000, ONS introduced a question on reason for travel into the International Passenger Survey⁴ (IPS) which it was hoped would yield reasonable data to allow this to be estimated. This asks the question of visitors from the UK who have been abroad and also the corresponding flow for those visiting the UK but who are usually resident abroad.

In addition to IPS data, the marketing research publisher Mintel⁵ produce data on the number of wedding packages, where both partners are UK residents. These figures exclude weddings not done through a tour operator or where only one partner is a UK resident. *Bride* magazine also collect information (from a survey) on the types of places that people go to get married.

If there are a significant number of marriages taking place abroad, and these are excluded from the marital status estimates and projections, then the married population between censuses will be underestimated, with other marital statuses being overestimated. There are however other sources of error in marital status estimates which might act in the same or opposite direction. For example, it may be that in the census more people may be recorded as married due to the desire, particularly amongst the older population, not to be seen as cohabiting.

Table 1

Estimates of the number of people going abroad to marry

	Number of interviews	Estimate (×1,000)	Standard error (×1,000)	Confidence interval (×1,000)	Confidence interval as a proportion of estimates
UK Residents Marrying Abroad					
2002	74	65.2	8.3	16.3	25%
2003	65	56.0	7.8	15.3	27%
2004	55	51.0	8.1	15.8	31%
2005	61	52.6	7.3	14.4	27%
2006	107	94.7	9.9	19.4	20%
2007	96	99.5	11.0	21.5	22%
2002–06	458	419.0	18.6	36.5	9%
Overseas Residents marrying in the UK					
2002	17	8.7	2.9	5.7	65%
2003	20	7.3	2.4	4.8	65%
2004	15	8.3	2.8	5.4	65%
2005	16	9.5	3.3	6.5	68%
2006	20	7.2	2.2	4.4	61%
2007	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
2002–06	88	41.0	6.1	12.0	29%

Source: International Passenger Survey
 Figures for 2007 are provisional

Currently no allowance is made for marriages abroad in the preparation of the marital status estimates. For the 2003-based marital status projections, a special ‘marriages abroad variant’ was produced to give a rough indication of how the future marital status composition of the population might differ if an allowance was made for these marriages abroad.

New data from the International Passenger Survey

Since 2000, marriage has been included as a reason for non-migratory travel in the IPS. This is a multipurpose survey carried out at UK air and sea ports and is widely used by ONS to produce estimates of travel, tourism and migration. UK residents going abroad and overseas visitors to the UK are asked ‘what is the main reason for your visit?’. ‘Getting married’ is given as an alternative to holiday or pleasure, visiting friends or relatives, business, work or study.

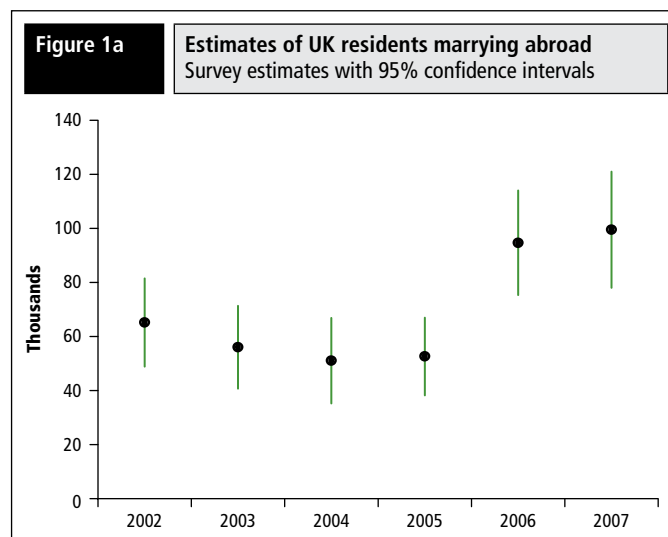
Table 1 shows the data for each year since 2002 (2007 data are provisional and subject to revision). The number of contacts or people interviewed each year is relatively small (often less than 100 in either direction) and so the standard errors on the estimates are correspondingly high – about 15 per cent for a single year’s data. The 95 per cent upper and lower confidence intervals are shown in **Figure 1**. By combining data across a number of years, the size of the confidence interval reduces accordingly. It should be noted that the confidence intervals for single year’s data are considerably lower for the other reasons for short travel such as holidays (about 2 per cent), business (2.2 per cent), and visiting friends and relatives (2 per cent).

On average over 60,000 people are recorded as going abroad to marry each year, with about 8,000 overseas residents visiting the UK each year in order to marry here. The estimate for 2006 was based on almost twice as many contacts and, at 95,000, was considerably higher than the previous year’s. Provisional data for 2007 show this trend continuing. It is important to remember that while a net estimate of over 50,000 people (men and women) go abroad to get married, this does not equate to 50,000 additional marriages. This number will be lower and is estimated, allowing for sampling error to be in the region 20,000 to 40,000.

The vast majority (about 90 per cent) of the marriages that are estimated as taking place abroad are for residents of England and Wales. However, only about half of people coming to the UK to get married do so in England and Wales.

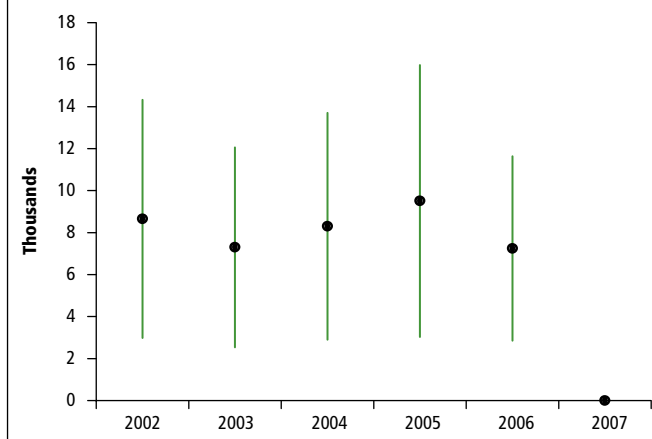
Overseas residents coming to the UK to get married are estimated as about 8,000 each year. This estimate has remained relatively stable over the five-year period although the standard errors and subsequent confidence intervals are much larger than those for estimates of UK residents marrying abroad. When looking at the issue of people going abroad to get married, it is important to consider it in ‘net’ terms. People coming to the UK to get married (but not then residing in the UK) will be included in the married population, in the same way that people going abroad to get married are excluded from the married population.

As these data are recorded using the IPS, other demographic information is collected and so the data can be analysed by age and gender and also by the countries visited.



Source: International Passenger Survey (IPS)
 Figures for 2007 are provisional.

Figure 1b Overseas residents marrying in the UK
Survey estimates with 95% confidence intervals



Source: International Passenger Survey (IPS)
Figures for 2007 are provisional.

Differences between men and women

Table 2 shows that there are consistently more men than women going abroad to get married. It is likely that this can be explained by more men going abroad to marry an overseas resident. When returning to the UK, the spouse becomes a migrant and is recorded in the international migration figures. Conversely, there are more women than men coming from overseas to get married. No allowance is made for gender in the way that the IPS data are grossed from the survey data to the population numbers, so it is possible that some bias is introduced.

It is possible to analyse these data by age group. Figure 2a shows the age distribution of those going abroad to get married. The data are averaged over the period 2002–06 to improve the reliability of the survey estimates.

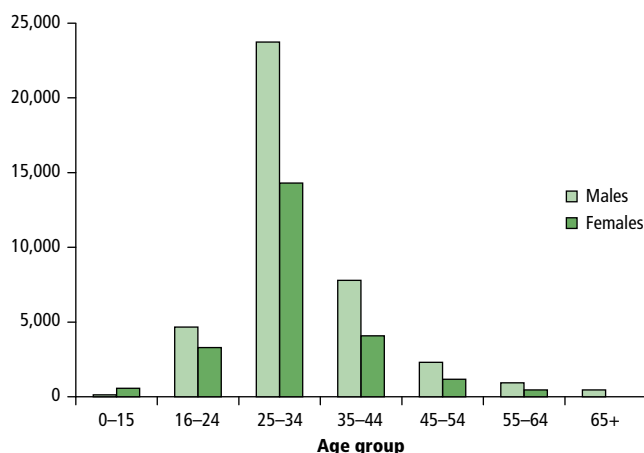
UK residents marrying abroad are most heavily concentrated in the 25–34 year old age group with a marked difference between the number of males and the number of females. For this age group there are two-thirds more men than women going abroad to get married.

Table 2 IPS estimates of people going abroad to marry by gender

	Males		Females		Male: Female ratio
	Contacts	Estimate (×1,000)	Contacts	Estimate (×1,000)	
UK Residents Marrying Abroad					
2002	46	37.9	28	27.3	1.39
2003	39	34.5	26	21.5	1.61
2004	35	34.2	20	16.9	2.02
2005	35	30.6	26	22.0	1.39
2006	70	62.9	37	31.8	1.98
2007	67	70.4	29	29.0	2.43
2002–06	225	200.1	137	119.4	1.68
Overseas Residents marrying in the UK					
2002	9	3.7	8	4.9	0.76
2003	6	4.3	14	3.0	1.43
2004	5	3.4	10	4.9	0.70
2005	6	4.3	10	5.2	0.83
2006	6	2.4	14	4.8	0.50
2007	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
2002–06	32	18.2	56	22.8	0.80

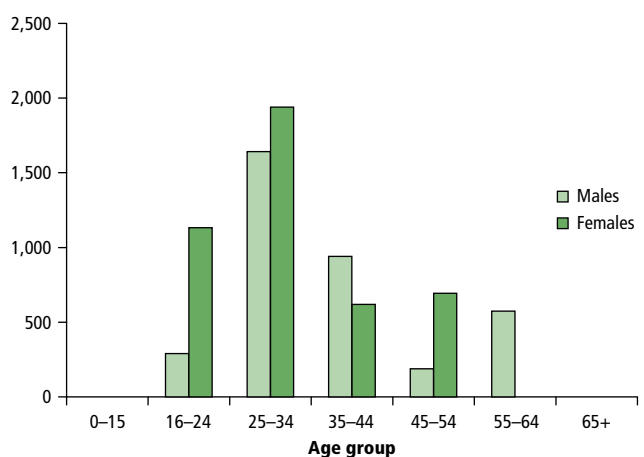
Source: International Passenger Survey
Figures for 2007 are provisional

Figure 2a Age distribution of people marrying abroad, years 2002–06



Source: International Passenger Survey (IPS)

Figure 2b Age distribution of overseas residents marrying in the UK, years 2002–06



Source: International Passenger Survey (IPS)

There are also a considerable number of marriages abroad (approximately 7,500 for males and 4,000 for females) within the 35–44 year old age group and very few amongst the oldest and youngest age groups. The only age group where there are more women than men is the 0–15 year olds, although the numbers in this category are very small and subject to large sampling errors. It is possible that these could be explained by data processing errors. A person under the age of 16 in England and Wales cannot contract a valid marriage in this or any other country.

Similar information is available for those residents from overseas that come to the UK to get married (Figure 2b). Again such marriages are concentrated in the 25–34 age group. This is the same for the general population of people getting married in the UK.

To try to understand the reasons why there is this differential between males and females going abroad to get married, it is possible to look at the country where the marriage takes place. Table 3 and Figure 3 show the countries where people are going abroad to get married. The male/female imbalance is not so marked for the USA/Canada and Mexico, indicating that couples go abroad together to get married. However, the difference is larger for countries like India, Bangladesh and Thailand where it is more likely for the man to travel abroad,

Table 3

Estimates of people going abroad to marry by country of origin/destination

UK residents marrying abroad (thousands)

	Average 2002–06		
	Males	Females	Total
Europe	11.2	7.4	18.6
Africa	2.0	2.6	4.6
Caribbean	6.3	3.3	9.6
USA/Canada	3.1	3.4	6.6
Mexico	0.6	0.7	1.3
Australia/NZ	1.3	1.0	2.4
Indian Ocean	2.6	1.1	3.7
<i>Total to holiday destinations</i>	<i>27.1</i>	<i>19.5</i>	<i>46.7</i>
Bangladesh	0.8	0.0	0.8
India	8.6	3.6	12.2
Thailand	1.2	0.0	1.2
Other	2.0	0.8	2.7
Total	39.8	23.9	63.7

Overseas residents marrying in the UK (thousands)

	Average 2002–06		
	Males	Females	Total
Europe	0.5	2.4	2.9
Africa	0.4	0.2	0.6
Caribbean	0.0	0.0	0.1
USA/Canada	0.6	1.0	1.6
Mexico	0.0	0.0	0.0
Australia/NZ	0.5	0.2	0.8
Indian Ocean	0.0	0.0	0.0
<i>Total from holiday destinations</i>	<i>2.1</i>	<i>3.8</i>	<i>5.9</i>
Bangladesh	0.0	0.0	0.0
India	0.6	0.1	0.8
Thailand	0.0	0.3	0.3
Other	0.8	0.3	1.1
Total	3.6	4.6	8.2

Source: International Passenger Survey (IPS)

marry and return with a spouse who is then a migrant. It is more difficult to explain the large imbalance for some holiday destinations, where it is expected that the number of men and women would be equal.

The most popular place to go abroad to marry over the five-year period for which there are data, is Europe, with Cyprus being a popular place to visit within Europe. This coincides with the data held by the Cypriot Government which has reported increases in marriages to UK nationals by 50 per cent between 2000 and 2004.

For marriages abroad, the IPS also provides information on the types of holiday that people are taking and their average expenditure. **Table 4** shows the split between males and females taking independent and non-independent (that is, package) holidays. While it might be expected that expenditure would be higher on package holidays, this is not the case. Average expenditure for all types of holiday for both men and women is about £1,000. The male/female imbalance is still present, even for the package holiday, indicating that this issue affects all kinds of marriages abroad.

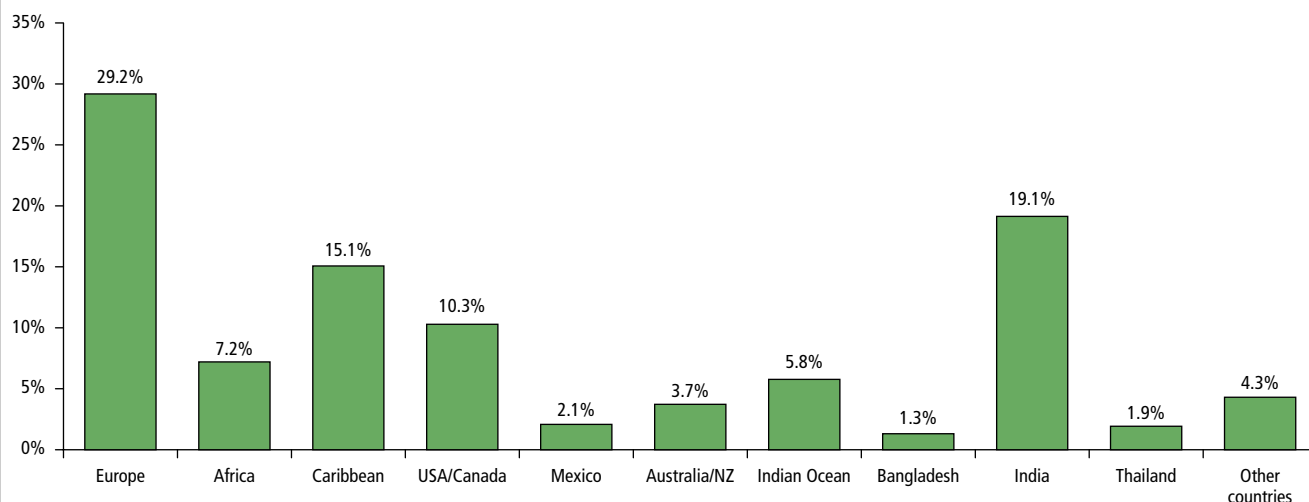
Comparison with other data sources

Mintel, the market research firm, have carried out several surveys of major tour operators offering wedding and honeymoon packages. Their estimates of the number of weddings that take place abroad can be seen in **Table 5**. Mintel estimate that this sector has grown by more than 50 per cent between 2001 and 2005. They also make a forecast of the levels for future years and are predicting an increase year on year to 2010. It is possible to compare the data collected by the IPS to that of Mintel. Clearly there are differences in definition, in that Mintel only collects those weddings that take place as part of a holiday package whereas the IPS collects information on all travellers. However the data are broadly comparable with the number of males going abroad recorded as 200,000 over the five-year period, compared with 202,000 estimated by Mintel. It is not clear that these should be the same order of magnitude. Mintel data exclude non-package weddings and single-resident weddings and so the IPS data would be expected to be higher, especially for males. One possible explanation is that the Mintel data are inflated by packages where there is some kind of ceremony abroad, but the actual registration has or will take place in the UK.

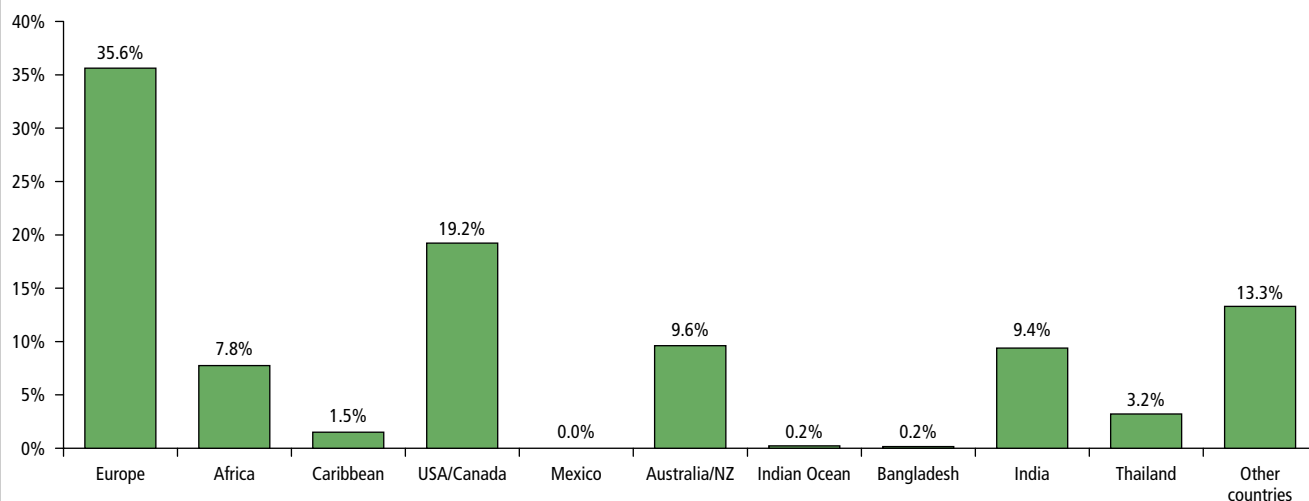
Additional information is also collected by *Bride* magazine who carry out surveys of their readers about marriages taking place abroad and where they are in the world. These estimates are broadly consistent with those recorded by the IPS. For example, they estimate that 36 per cent of weddings abroad take place in Europe. This can be compared with the data in **Figure 2a** which shows that IPS recorded about 30 per cent going to this destination, when the data are averaged over 2002–06.

Figure 3a

UK residents going abroad to marry by country of visit, average for 2002–06



Source: International Passenger Survey (IPS)

Figure 3b Overseas residents marrying in the UK by country of origin, average for 2002–06

Source: International Passenger Survey (IPS)

Table 4 UK residents going abroad, numbers and average expenditure by type of holiday

UK residents going abroad

		Independent		Non-independent		Total	
		People (×1,000)	Average expenditure (£)	People (×1,000)	Average expenditure (£)	People (×1,000)	Expenditure (£)
Males	2002	30.1	917	7.9	1084	37.9	952
	2003	18.5	976	16.1	1161	34.5	1062
	2004	21.6	1277	12.6	1498	34.2	1358
	2005	23.5	970	7.1	1376	30.6	1064
	2006	38.6	1000	20.9	1002	59.5	1000
	2002–06		132.2	1018	64.5	1190	196.7	1074
Females	2002	9.9	943	17.4	1367	27.3	2310
	2003	14.1	1344	7.3	715	21.5	2059
	2004	14.1	1135	2.8	991	16.9	2126
	2005	16.1	952	5.9	988	22.0	1940
	2006	25.2	1050	12.9	999	38.1	2049
	2002–06		79.3	1018	46.4	1190	125.7	1074

Source: International Passenger Survey
2006 data for this table are provisional**Table 5** Estimates of the number of weddings abroad (thousands)

2002	32.0
2003	35.8
2004	41.0
2005	45.0
2006	48.2
<i>2007</i>	<i>49.6</i>
<i>2008</i>	<i>51.3</i>
<i>2009</i>	<i>53.2</i>
<i>2010</i>	<i>55.1</i>
2002–2006	202.0

Source: Mintel
Figures in italics are forecasts

There is also a cross-border issue within the UK. There is no information from the registration system in England and Wales on marriages that take place to, or between, residents from Scotland or Northern Ireland. However Scotland do record the number of weddings that take place in Scotland to, or between, residents of England and Wales, half of which take place at Gretna Green. These are shown in **Table 6**. It is reasonable to assume that the number of Scotland and Northern Ireland residents marrying in England and Wales is smaller than vice versa. However, these numbers are very small in the context of estimating the married population.

Impacts on ONS products

Marital status estimates

Marital status estimates are produced within the ONS Centre for Demography. The figures provided above for marriages abroad would

Table 6

Marriages in Scotland that take place to, or between, residents of England and Wales

	Bride's country of residence				Groom's country of residence			
	All Registration Districts		Gretna Green		All Registration Districts		Gretna Green	
	England	Wales	England	Wales	England	Wales	England	Wales
2000	6,561	313	3,817	237	6,803	320	3,837	239
2001	6,821	314	3,714	234	7,042	320	3,739	231
2002	6,976	281	3,812	211	7,155	297	3,837	213
2003	7,059	314	3,688	231	7,273	321	3,716	232
2004	7,831	361	4,124	253	8,050	360	4,132	254
2005	7,243	302	3,740	214	7,419	318	3,743	215
2006	6,547	270	3,300	189	6,707	287	3,302	194

Source: GRO Scotland⁶

increase the married subcategory by approximately 0.3 per cent to 0.4 per cent for males and 0.2 per cent for females per year. Although only a small proportional increase, the shortfall is cumulative and could result in a substantial bias by the end of the decade. If this trend were extrapolated back to 1991, it would suggest a figure of around 150,000 overseas marriages in total between mid-1991 and mid-2001, where both partners were England and Wales residents. This figure is very broadly comparable to the discrepancies between ONS estimates of the married population rolled forward from the 1991 Census and estimates rebased on the 2001 Census. Furthermore, the discrepancy was considerably greater for married males than married females. This supports the finding from the IPS data that more men are going overseas and marrying a (previously) overseas resident than vice versa. But there are other possible sources of error in the estimation of the married population apart from marriages abroad. It is planned to research the impact of this and introduce an adjustment to the 2007 marital status estimates to be published in November 2008. Revisions will also be made to the historical estimates from 2002 to 2006. While it is possible to deposit a marriage certificate for a wedding that takes place abroad in some circumstances⁷, the marriage cannot be registered when the couple return to the UK. Therefore, introducing an adjustment for those marrying abroad is unlikely to introduce any double counting in the estimate of the married population.

Marital status projections

Marriages abroad present two main problems for the marital status projections. The first is that the base population of married people is underestimated (with other statuses overestimated) and the second is that marriage rates are underestimated because the numerator (marriages) is underestimated and the denominator (the non-married population) is overestimated. Divorce rates will also be overestimated because of denominator error. For the 2003-based marital status projections, a 'marriages abroad variant' was introduced making an indicative adjustment for these marriages that take place abroad. Details of this are described on the Government Actuary's Department website⁸. The problem would be greater for 2006-based projections if marital status estimates were not revised because the level of underestimation will grow cumulatively between censuses.

Marriage and divorce rates

ONS (Vital Statistics Output Branch) is responsible for primary release of marriage and divorce data (numbers and rates). The numerators for rates come from counts of marriages, divorces and deaths in England and Wales, while the denominators come from the population estimates by marital status. The current series of marital status estimates are used as denominators in a number of outputs. Many tables in the annual Marriages Divorces and Adoptions volume (FM2) use them, as well as summary tables in Population Trends. By increasing the married

denominator and decreasing the not married denominator such a change will increase marriage rates and decrease divorce rates. It could also potentially improve married mortality rates and worsen non-married mortality rates. However, it is unclear by how much overall levels and, more importantly, trends may change if denominators are changed.

Conclusions and next steps

It is clear that there are a number of marriages that will not be recorded by the civil registration systems in the UK. As recent trends are likely to continue, the numbers of marriages taking place abroad will increase over the next few years. The new information that has been collected by the IPS, while subject to some uncertainty due to sampling errors, provides a useful starting point for making adjustments to marital status estimates, projections and marriage and divorce rates. The exact way that these data can be incorporated into these products is currently being researched and will be reported at a later stage. However, the only true way of taking account of these complexities is to change the information collected at marriage in England and Wales such that usual residence can be determined, and have a register for marriages that take place abroad where either one or both of the parties are resident in England and Wales. The current basis for the deposit of an overseas marriage certificate (and the registration of an overseas birth or death) is nationality and not residence, which would be as difficult to define as it would be to administer. In any event, experience with the voluntary registration of births and deaths overseas suggests that the fee would be an obstacle.

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Report:

Divorces in England and Wales during 2007

This report provides provisional summary statistics of divorces granted in England and Wales during 2007, and compares them with the figures for previous years. Full details of divorces in 2007 are expected to be published in 2010 in the annual reference volume *Marriage, divorce and adoption statistics* (Series FM2 no. 35).

- In 2007, the provisional divorce rate in England and Wales decreased to 11.9 divorcing people per 1,000 married population in 2007, compared with 12.2 in 2006; a decrease of 2.5 per cent. The 2007 divorce rate is the lowest since 1981, when there were also 11.9 divorces per 1,000 married people
- The provisional number of divorces in England and Wales declined in 2007 to 128,534 compared with 132,562 in 2006; a decrease of 3.0 per cent. This is the fourth consecutive year that the number of divorces has decreased and is the lowest number since 1976 when there were 126,694 divorces. The number of divorces last peaked in 2003 when there were 153,490
- For the fifth consecutive year, the highest divorce rates occurred in the late-twenties age group for both men and women. In 2007, there were 26.6 divorces per 1,000 married men aged 25 to 29 and 26.9 divorces per 1,000 married women aged 25 to 29
- The average (mean) age at divorce increased for both men and women in 2007. For men, the average age was 43.7 years, an increase from 43.4 in 2006. For women, the average age was 41.2, an increase from 40.9 years in 2006. Since 1997, the average age at divorce for both men and women has increased three and a half years from 40.2 years for men and 37.7 years for women
- The average (median) duration of marriage at divorce granted in 2007 was 11.7 years, an increase from 11.6 in 2006 and 10.0 in 1997
- One in five men and women divorcing in 2007 had a previous marriage ending in divorce. This proportion has doubled in 27 years: in 1980 one in ten men and women divorcing had a previous

Table 1

Divorces: Petitions filed and decree granted, 1981, 1991, 1997, 2001–2007

England and Wales

	1981	1991	1997	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007 ^p
Petitions^{1,2} filed for:										
Nullity	1,050	619	485	492	443	463	495	441	406	352
Divorce (dissolution of marriage)	176,162	179,103	163,769	172,341	177,224	173,265	167,342	151,844	148,659	137,465
Decrees granted										
Decree of nullity	950	444	350	250	197	196	200	167	144	141
Decree absolute	144,763	158,301	146,339	143,568	147,538	153,294	153,199	141,583	132,418	128,393
of which:										
Granted to husband	42,085	43,961	43,739	44,378	44,694	46,915	47,651	44,583	41,702	40,928
Granted to wife	102,170	113,947	102,173	98,992	102,676	106,208	105,381	96,855	90,587	87,362
Granted to both	508	393	427	198	168	171	167	145	129	103

1 Source: Ministry of Justice (Table 5.5 Judicial and Court Statistics).

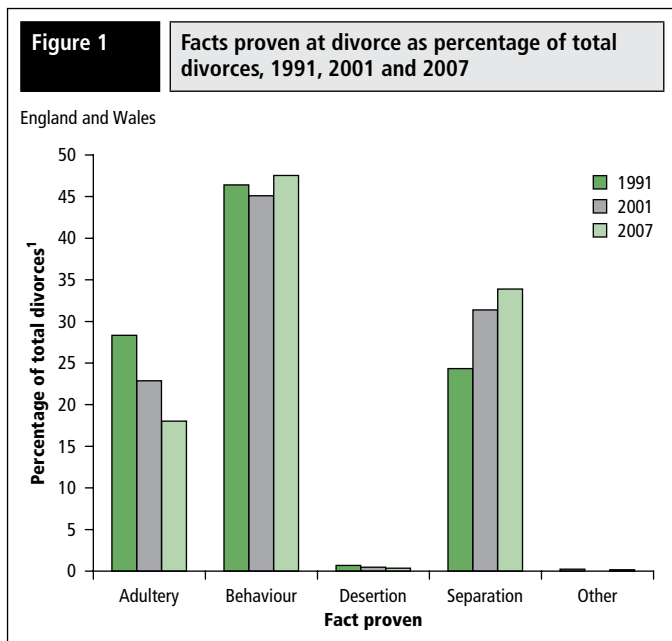
2 Information on petitions provided by Ministry of Justice has been produced using the Management Information System (MIS), a data warehousing facility drawing directly from court-based information systems. The facility, implemented in June 2002, enables the Ministry of Justice access to more complete data than were previously possible including late submitted data for previous years.

Notes: Petition figures supplied by Ministry of Justice may change due to late additions and amendments

Petition figures supplied by Ministry of Justice on 17 July 2008

p Figures for 2007 are provisional.

Source: FM2 Marriage, divorce and adoption statistics, Table 4.20



1 This excludes cases where divorces were granted to both parties and annulments. Source: FM2 Table 4.20

marriage ending in divorce. Sixty-nine per cent of divorces in 2007 were to couples where the marriage was the first for both parties

- In 2007, of all decrees awarded to one partner (rather than jointly to both), 68 per cent were awarded to the wife. In over half of these cases, the husband's behaviour was the fact proven. Of the divorces granted to the husband, the most common facts proven were the wife's behaviour (33 per cent of cases) and two years' separation with consent (33 per cent of cases)
- Over half (51 per cent) of couples divorcing in 2007 had at least one child aged under 16. One-fifth (20 per cent) of children were under five and 63 per cent were under eleven. The number of children in families where the parents divorced in 2007 totalled 117,193 – a decrease of 22 per cent from ten years earlier, in 1997, when there were 150,309 children. In 2007, there was an average of 1.77 children per divorcing couple (that had children aged under 16). Just over a third (34 per cent) of couples divorcing in 2007 had no children of any age recorded.
- It took less than a year from petition to decree absolute in almost three-quarters of all divorces awarded in 2007. Divorces which involved children aged under 16 generally took longer. In 2007, of those couples who had children aged under 16 years, 69 per cent took less than a year between petition and decree absolute compared with 78 per cent of those couples with no children aged under 16 years.

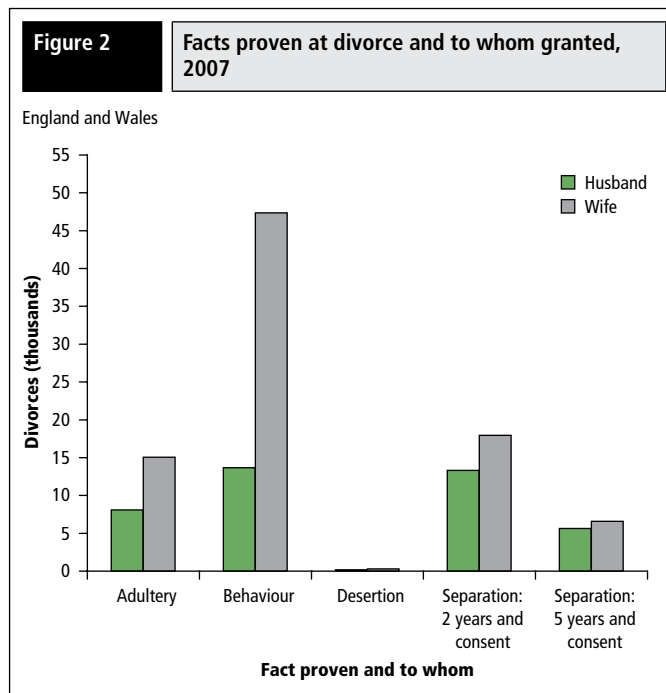
Explanatory Notes

Decrees absolute and decrees of nullity

A marriage may be either **dissolved**, following a petition for divorce and the granting of a decree absolute, or **annulled**, following a petition for nullity and the awarding of a decree of nullity. In this report the term divorce includes both decrees absolute and decrees of nullity, although, strictly speaking, it should refer only to dissolutions.

Divorce rates

All rates given here for 2007 are provisional as they were produced using the 2006 mid-year marital status estimates. These estimates are the latest



Source: FM2 Table 4.21

available and were published on 29 November 2007. The 2007 marital status estimates will be available in November 2008 and will be used to provide final rates to be published in the annual reference volume *Marriage, divorce and adoption statistics* (Series FM2 no. 35).

Mean ages

The mean ages presented in this report have not been standardised for age and therefore do not take account of the changing age structure of the population.

Median duration of marriage

The average duration of marriage at divorce in this report is represented by the median. The median is the middle value when the data are arranged in increasing order.

Children of divorcing couples

Table 4 shows children of divorcing couples. Children of the family are those as defined by the Matrimonial Causes Act 1973 (section 52). As well as children born to the divorcing couple, this includes children born outside marriage, children of previous marriages, adopted and step children, provided that they were treated by both partners as children of the family. Children are analysed by age at petition, not at divorce.

Divorces in England and Wales during 2006

Full details of divorces in 2006 are still to be published in the annual reference volume *Marriage, divorce and adoption statistics* (Series FM2 no. 34). Publication is planned for spring 2009.

Petitions filed

Information on petitions was provided by Ministry of Justice using the Management Information System (MIS): a data-warehousing facility drawing directly from court-based information systems. The facility, implemented in June 2002, enables the Ministry of Justice access to more complete data than were previously possible including late submitted data for previous years.

Table 2

Divorces¹: Previous marital status, 1981, 1991, 1997 and 2001–2007

England and Wales

Year of divorce	Males	Females							
		Total		Single women		Divorced women		Widows	
		Numbers	Percentages	Numbers	Percentages	Numbers	Percentages	Numbers	Percentages
1981	Total	145,713	100	127,685	88	15,853	11	2,175	2
	Single men	127,564	88	118,750	82	7,997	6	817	1
	Divorced men	16,220	11	8,378	6	7,096	5	746	1
	Widowers	1,929	1	557	0	760	1	612	0
1991	Total	158,745	100	130,897	83	26,226	17	1,622	1
	Single men	129,784	82	117,323	74	12,035	8	517	0
	Divorced men	27,554	17	13,295	8	13,487	9	772	1
	Widowers	1,407	1	370	0	704	0	333	0
1997	Total	146,689	100	118,329	81	27,066	18	1,294	1
	Single men	117,272	80	104,205	71	12,604	9	463	0
	Divorced men	28,175	19	13,763	9	13,794	9	618	0
	Widowers	1,242	1	361	0	668	0	213	0
2001	Total	143,818	100	114,631	80	28,056	20	1,131	1
	Single men	114,311	80	100,541	70	13,382	9	388	0
	Divorced men	28,450	20	13,790	10	14,100	10	560	0
	Widowers	1,057	1	300	0	574	0	183	0
2002	Total	147,735	100	117,533	80	29,056	20	1,146	1
	Single men	116,913	79	102,774	70	13,736	9	403	0
	Divorced men	29,709	20	14,445	10	14,688	10	576	0
	Widowers	1,113	1	314	0	632	0	167	0
2003	Total	153,490	100	121,896	79	30,391	20	1,203	1
	Single men	121,395	79	106,444	69	14,533	9	418	0
	Divorced men	31,121	20	15,193	10	15,266	10	642	0
	Widowers	995	1	259	0	592	0	143	0
2004	Total	153,399	100	121,756	79	30,487	20	1,156	1
	Single men	121,142	79	106,220	69	14,485	9	437	0
	Divorced men	31,173	20	15,218	10	15,379	10	576	0
	Widowers	1,084	1	318	0	623	0	143	0
2005	Total	141,750	100	112,014	79	28,708	20	1,028	1
	Single men	111,675	79	97,637	69	13,641	10	397	0
	Divorced men	29,136	21	14,100	10	14,516	10	520	0
	Widowers	939	1	277	0	551	0	111	0
2006	Total	132,562	100	104,824	79	26,718	20	1,020	1
	Single men	104,330	79	91,084	69	12,857	10	389	0
	Divorced men	27,330	21	13,455	10	13,356	10	519	0
	Widowers	902	1	285	0	505	0	112	0
2007p	Total	128,534	100	102,051	79	25,522	20	961	1
	Single men	101,680	79	89,043	69	12,285	10	352	0
	Divorced men	25,969	20	12,751	10	12,715	10	503	0
	Widowers	885	1	257	0	522	0	106	0

1 Includes both decrees absolute and decrees of nullity.

Notes: Single men and single women are those who have never married

Percentages may not sum due to rounding

p Figures for 2007 are provisional

Source: FM2 Marriage, divorce and adoption statistics, Table 4.16 and 4.17

Table 3

Divorces (numbers and rates)¹: Sex and age at divorce, 1981, 1991, 1997 and 2001–2007

England and Wales

	1981		1991		1997		2001		2002		2003		2004		2005		2006		2007 ^p	
	Husband	Wife	Husband	Wife	Husband	Wife	Husband	Wife	Husband	Wife	Husband	Wife	Husband	Wife	Husband	Wife	Husband	Wife	Husband	Wife
Numbers divorcing																				
All ages	145,713	145,713	158,745	158,745	146,689	146,689	143,818	143,818	147,735	147,735	153,490	153,490	153,399	153,399	141,750	141,750	132,562	132,562	128,534	128,534
Under 20	39	283	50	321	14	158	11	97	13	87	13	94	13	93	8	70	7	67	6	56
20–24	8,615	19,812	6,477	14,639	2,706	6,713	1,607	4,546	1,695	4,721	1,764	4,773	1,782	4,565	1,619	4,146	1,336	3,458	1,268	3,217
25–29	29,114	33,299	27,753	35,582	18,110	26,435	11,713	18,231	10,916	17,227	10,312	16,539	9,671	15,867	8,610	13,905	7,925	13,182	7,828	12,653
30–34	33,064	31,104	33,532	33,195	31,825	33,967	27,480	31,489	26,792	30,982	25,890	30,345	24,274	28,368	20,625	24,381	18,087	21,409	16,576	19,865
35–39	24,688	22,459	27,957	25,661	29,121	27,715	31,322	31,164	31,937	32,282	32,755	33,519	32,059	33,013	28,332	29,864	25,954	27,479	24,393	25,665
40–44	18,187	15,276	25,199	21,979	22,244	20,125	25,470	23,190	26,989	25,017	29,437	27,610	29,832	28,558	28,480	27,570	26,682	26,128	25,981	25,548
45–49	12,767	9,902	16,896	13,607	18,042	15,053	18,048	15,501	19,601	16,591	21,062	18,225	22,039	19,195	21,675	18,919	20,879	18,471	20,881	18,969
50–59	13,774	9,805	15,408	10,543	18,771	13,303	21,585	15,905	22,852	16,915	24,724	18,127	25,549	19,160	24,306	18,215	23,565	17,833	23,002	17,468
60 and over	5,440	3,748	5,454	3,199	5,844	3,208	6,580	3,693	6,940	3,913	7,531	4,256	8,180	4,580	8,086	4,671	8,114	4,522	8,592	5,086
Not known	25	25	19	19	12	12	2	2	0	0	2	2	0	0	9	9	13	13	7	7
Mean age at divorce (years)	37.7	35.2	38.6	36.0	40.2	37.7	41.5	39.1	41.9	39.4	42.3	39.8	42.7	40.2	43.1	40.6	43.4	40.9	43.7	41.2
Rate (divorces per thousand married men/women)																				
All ages	11.9		13.5		13.0		12.9		13.4		14.0		14.1		13.1		12.2		11.9	
Under 20	2.0	3.0	6.3	9.9	2.3	7.8	2.0	6.0	2.9	6.9	3.3	8.2	4.4	8.7	3.9	7.9	4.0	10.3	3.4	8.6
20–24	18.5	24.4	26.7	29.9	27.5	29.8	21.6	25.5	24.5	28.3	25.8	29.6	25.9	29.1	24.9	27.9	22.5	25.1	21.4	23.3
25–29	27.6	26.7	32.4	30.7	30.4	31.3	27.9	29.2	29.1	30.3	30.3	31.4	30.3	31.7	28.3	28.8	26.9	28.0	26.6	26.9
30–34	22.8	20.2	28.6	25.0	28.7	26.3	28.3	27.6	29.2	28.3	30.0	29.1	30.0	28.9	27.2	26.2	25.7	24.4	23.6	22.7
35–39	18.6	16.6	23.1	19.9	23.6	20.8	25.0	23.0	25.9	24.0	27.0	25.5	27.2	25.7	24.8	23.9	23.5	22.7	22.1	21.2
40–44	15.2	12.9	17.7	15.0	18.6	16.1	20.5	17.9	21.5	19.1	23.4	21.0	23.6	21.5	22.4	20.6	21.1	19.6	20.5	19.2
45–49	11.0	8.7	13.6	10.9	14.0	11.4	15.3	12.8	16.7	13.8	17.9	15.0	18.6	15.8	18.2	15.4	17.3	14.9	17.3	15.3
50–59	5.8	4.3	7.1	5.1	8.0	5.8	8.7	6.5	9.2	6.8	10.0	7.3	10.4	7.8	10.0	7.5	9.8	7.4	9.6	7.3
60 and over	1.7	1.4	1.6	1.2	1.7	1.2	1.9	1.3	2.0	1.4	2.1	1.4	2.3	1.5	2.2	1.5	2.2	1.4	2.3	1.6
Median duration of marriage at divorce (years)	10.1		9.8		10.0		10.9		11.1		11.3		11.5		11.6		11.6		11.7	

1 2007 rates are provisional as they were produced using the 2006 marital status estimates; the 2007 estimates were not available at the time of compilation of these data.

p Figures for 2007 are provisional.

Notes: Full details of divorces in 2006 are still to be published in the Annual Reference Volume *Marriage, divorce and adoption statistics* (series FM2 no. 34). Publication is planned for spring 2009.

Full details of divorces in 2007 are expected to be published in 2010.

Source: FM2 *Marriage, divorce and adoption statistics*, Tables 4.1, 4.9 and Population Trends Table 2.1

Table 4

Divorces¹: Couples and children of divorced couples, 1981, 1991, 1997 and 2001–2007

England and Wales

Year of divorce	Total number of couples divorced	Number of couples by number of children aged under 16						Number of children aged under 16 by age-group			
		Total	1	2	3	4	5 or more	Total	0–4	5–10	11–15
1981	145,713	86,838	34,576	36,765	11,699	3,018	780	159,403	40,281	67,582	51,540
1991	158,745	88,346	35,663	37,388	11,816	2,775	704	160,684	52,738	68,074	39,872
1997	146,689	80,670	31,339	33,996	11,482	3,018	835	150,309	41,524	67,085	41,700
2001	143,818	79,277	30,996	33,596	11,076	2,803	806	146,914	34,783	65,522	46,609
2002	147,735	80,997	31,941	34,381	11,111	2,750	814	149,335	33,682	66,351	49,302
2003	153,490	83,809	33,588	35,355	11,265	2,821	780	153,527	33,049	67,654	52,824
2004	153,399	82,017	33,211	34,651	10,833	2,577	745	149,275	30,868	65,273	53,134
2005	141,750	75,340	31,006	31,548	9,782	2,345	659	136,332	27,419	59,021	49,892
2006	132,562	69,895	29,513	29,069	8,642	2,077	594	125,030	25,334	53,640	46,056
2007 ^p	128,534	66,037	28,387	27,286	7,961	1,845	558	117,193	23,625	50,076	43,492

1 Includes both decrees absolute and decrees of nullity.

Notes: Children are those treated as children of the family, and can include children born outside marriage, children of previous marriages, adopted and step children. (See explanatory notes)

Ages are those at petition to divorce

p Figures for 2007 are provisional

Source: FM2 *Marriage, divorce and adoption statistics*, Table 4.11

Table 5

Divorces granted to a sole party: Party to whom granted and fact proven at divorce, 1981, 1991, 1997 and 2001–2007

England and Wales

Year of divorce	Party to whom granted	Fact proven							Fact proven						
		Total ¹	Adultery	Behaviour	Desertion	Separation (2 years and consent)	Separation (5 years)	Others ³	Total	Adultery	Behaviour	Desertion	Separation (2 years and consent)	Separation (5 years)	Others ³
		Numbers							Percentages by fact proven						
1981	Husband	42,073	18,262	4,343	873	13,399	5,072	124	100	43	10	2	32	12	0
	Wife	102,148	25,625	44,482	2,343	23,348	5,888	462	100	25	44	2	23	6	0
1991	Husband	43,959	18,353	9,937	348	11,006	4,209	106	100	42	23	1	25	10	0
	Wife	113,946	26,380	63,329	734	18,407	4,821	275	100	23	56	1	16	4	0
1997 ²	Husband	43,739	14,734	11,202	375	12,936	4,454	38	100	34	26	1	30	10	0
	Wife	102,173	22,858	53,845	537	19,702	5,138	92	100	22	53	1	19	5	0
2001	Husband	44,378	12,073	12,786	277	13,834	5,402	6	100	27	29	1	31	12	0
	Wife	98,992	20,766	51,982	412	19,869	5,953	10	100	21	53	0	20	6	0
2002	Husband	44,694	11,849	13,150	262	14,037	5,391	5	100	27	29	1	31	12	0
	Wife	102,676	20,980	53,330	419	21,439	6,505	3	100	20	52	0	21	6	0
2003	Husband	46,915	12,172	13,978	267	14,587	5,903	8	100	26	30	1	31	13	0
	Wife	106,208	21,159	54,966	398	22,344	7,336	5	100	20	52	0	21	7	0
2004	Husband	47,651	11,800	14,376	230	15,014	6,228	3	100	25	30	0	32	13	0
	Wife	105,381	20,235	54,483	424	22,529	7,705	5	100	19	52	0	21	7	0
2005	Husband	44,583	10,077	13,958	234	14,149	6,126	39	100	23	31	1	32	14	0
	Wife	96,855	17,915	51,211	359	20,239	7,070	61	100	18	53	0	21	7	0
2006	Husband	41,702	8,828	13,452	210	13,308	5,844	60	100	21	32	1	32	14	0
	Wife	90,587	16,108	48,782	289	18,486	6,784	138	100	18	54	0	20	7	0
2007 ^p	Husband	40,928	8,080	13,656	170	13,312	5,646	64	100	20	33	0	33	14	0
	Wife	87,362	15,045	47,348	281	17,956	6,574	158	100	17	54	0	21	8	0

1 Includes cases where the age of husband or wife was not stated.

2 In 1997, 1 divorce granted to the wife on petition filed prior to 1 January 1971 is included.

3 Cases which have a combination of facts proven.

Notes: This table excludes divorces which were granted to both parties jointly and annulment (244 in 2007)

Percentages may not sum due to rounding

p Figures for 2007 are provisional

Source: FM2 Marriage, divorce and adoption statistics, Table 4.21