

FOCUS ON

People and Migration

The UK population: past, present and future

Julie Jefferies

Chapter 1

Introduction

The United Kingdom consists of England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland. In 2004, it was home to over 59.8 million people.¹

This chapter provides an overview of the UK population, from its early origins to the present. It explores some of the characteristics of the people living in the UK at the start of the 21st century and describes briefly how the population of the UK is projected to change in the near future.

The UK population in the past

This section provides a very brief review of a complex topic: the way in which the population of the UK has changed over the centuries. The history of the UK population is not easy to explain for two main reasons.

First, the UK has only existed in its present form (England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland) since 1922. Prior to the Act of Union 1800, Great Britain and Ireland were separate kingdoms but in 1801 the United Kingdom of Britain and Ireland came into existence. The United Kingdom (of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) as we know it today came about when the Irish Free State (now the Republic of Ireland) gained independence in 1922 following the Anglo-Irish war. To understand the population history of the UK prior to 1922, it is necessary to look at the populations of England, Wales, Scotland and Ireland.

Second is the scarcity of data sources, particularly before 1800. More is known about the population history of England before the 19th century than about Scotland, Wales or Ireland, due to the amount of research carried out and the availability of data sources.² Data from parish registers and historic tax records exist in many areas of the UK. As historic sources, these data are useful but imperfect: they may refer to localised areas or selected population groups only and thus conflicting conclusions may be drawn from the available data.³

A population can change in size via two main mechanisms: natural change (the difference between the numbers of births and deaths) and net migration (the difference between in-migration and out-migration). A larger number of births than deaths or a higher number of in-migrants than out-migrants in a particular year will add people to a population. Similarly, a greater number of deaths than births or more people migrating out of than into the population will reduce the number of people in a population.

In practice the combination of natural change and net migration will determine whether a population increases or decreases in size. The following sections track the changes in the size of the UK population over time and the reasons for these changes, a task that has become much easier in recent decades as data sources have improved.

Early history of the UK population

One of the earliest population data sources for the UK is the Gaelic document 'Senchus fer n'Alba' (an account of the men of Scotland). Attributed to the 7th century, it listed the numbers of men available for naval service and paying taxes.⁴ Better known is the Domesday Book of 1086, which surveyed land and resources in England. From this source, England's population in 1086 is estimated to have been between 1.4 and 1.9 million. The exact number is uncertain as the estimated population depends on the assumptions made about the average number of people living in each household and the number of people not recorded in the Domesday Book.⁵

Between 1086 and 1750, the population of England experienced some periods of faster growth and some periods of stagnation and even decline. It is believed that the population grew quickly in the 12th and 13th centuries and reached between four and six million by the end of the 13th century.⁶ However, the 14th century was a period where disease and the struggle to produce an adequate food supply prevented further population growth. A sustained agricultural crisis from 1315 to 1322 leading to famine was later dwarfed by the plague epidemic of 1348 to 1350. Commonly known as the Black Death, the latter probably caused the death of over one-third of the English population and was followed by other major epidemics, which kept population growth low.⁷

In 1377 King Edward III levied a poll tax on all people aged 14 or over in order to fund the Hundred Years War with France. The records from this tax collection were sufficiently robust to provide an estimate of the population of England in 1377. Depending on the proportion of the population assumed to be aged under 14, the total population is estimated to have been between 2.2 and 3.1 million, considerably lower than it had been at the start of the 14th century.⁸

Between 1377 and 1750 the English population grew slowly and unsteadily, with faster growth in the 16th century than in the 15th or 17th centuries. Long periods of civil war during the 15th century (the Wars of the Roses) and the mid-17th century (the Civil War) disrupted food supplies. These periods of political instability were characterised by relatively high mortality, late marriage and low marriage rates keeping fertility

relatively low⁹ and net out-migration of English people.¹⁰ In contrast, the 16th century was a period of political stability under the Tudors, hence there were fewer socio-economic barriers to population growth.¹¹ By 1750 the English population is estimated to have been 5.74 million,¹² probably similar to the level prior to the mortality crises of the 14th century.

Other parts of what is now the UK are likely to have had slightly differing population histories, although further research is needed. For example, Scotland and Ireland experienced civil wars and mortality crises at different times from England¹³ and were vulnerable to famine for longer, probably due to lower agricultural productivity and inadequate poor relief. In Scotland, population growth was relatively low in the late 17th and early 18th centuries. This is thought to be due to lower standards of living and thus higher mortality, particularly for infants, plus later marriage and childbearing than in England. In contrast, Ireland may have had higher fertility rates and hence higher growth rates than England or Scotland in the 17th century due to earlier marriage and higher fertility within marriage.¹⁴

Migration between areas also affected their total populations. The movement of an estimated 100,000 Scots to Ireland in the 17th century was a particularly notable outflow given that Scotland's population was estimated to be 1.23 million in 1691.¹⁵ Significant emigration from the Scottish Highlands also occurred following the Second Jacobite rebellion in 1745.

The era of the census

Towards the end of the 18th century concerns were raised that the British population might be growing faster than the food supply. Thomas Malthus's 'Essay on the Principle of Population', published in 1798, articulated these concerns. By the end of the 18th century, the British Government began to see the need for reliable data to confirm the number of people living in the country.¹⁶ The impetus for data collection was reinforced by the ongoing wars between Britain and France: both countries made plans to carry out their first census at the start of the 19th century¹⁷ to ascertain their manpower and tax base.

The Census Act of 1800 paved the way for the first British census, which took place in March 1801 in England, Wales and Scotland.¹⁸ The 1801 Census showed that England's population had grown to 8.3 million, while there were nearly 0.6 million people living in Wales and 1.6 million in Scotland, giving a total of 10.5 million people in Great Britain.¹⁹

Since 1801, a census has been taken in Great Britain every 10 years, except in 1941 during the Second World War.²⁰ In Ireland, the first census was taken in 1821, but the 1841

Census was the first where a complete enumeration of the population of Ireland was achieved.²¹ In 1841 the population of Ireland stood at nearly 8.2 million.²² As in Great Britain, the Irish census was taken every 10 years between 1841 and 1911. From the 1920s onwards censuses were taken in slightly different years in Great Britain, Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland, with five-yearly censuses taken in the Republic of Ireland since the 1950s.²³ The collection of census data has made it far easier to identify the changes taking place in the UK's population.

Figures 1.1 to 1.4 show how the populations of England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland have changed between 1801 and 2001 according to the ten-yearly census. The population of England had more than doubled from 8.3 million in 1801 to 16.8 million in 1851 and, by 1901, had nearly doubled again to 30.5 million (Figure 1.1). The pace of growth slowed a little in the 20th century, with the English population reaching 41.2 million in 1951 and 49.1 million in 2001. However, England's population in 2001 was still nearly six times higher than the population 200 years earlier.

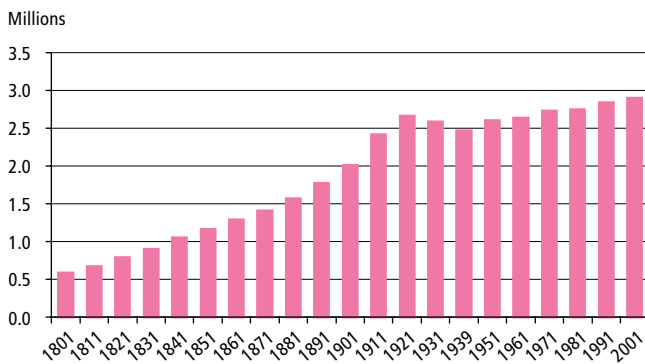
Figure 1.1
Population on Census day, England, 1801 to 2001



Source: Census – Office for National Statistics

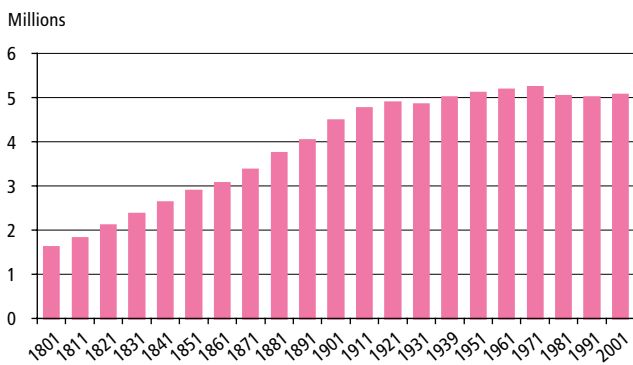
Census data show that the populations of Wales and Scotland also grew substantially during the 19th century (Figures 1.2 and 1.3) though not quite so fast as England's population. The Welsh population grew from 0.6 million in 1801 to 2.0 million in 1901, while the number of people living in Scotland increased from 1.6 million to 4.5 million over the same period. The 20th century has seen more fluctuation in these populations, with some periods of slight decline. Overall the Welsh population increased by 0.9 million between 1901 and 2001, an increase of 44 per cent. The Scottish population grew by 13 per cent (0.6 million) over the same period.

Figure 1.2
Population on Census day, Wales, 1801 to 2001



Source: Census – Office for National Statistics

Figure 1.3
Population on Census day, Scotland, 1801 to 2001



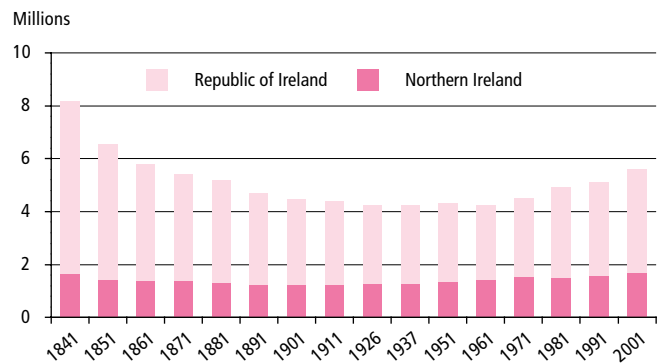
Source: Census – General Register Office for Scotland

In contrast, census data for the area that is now Northern Ireland (Figure 1.4) show a population falling from 1.6 million in 1841 to 1.2 million by 1901. During the 20th century the population of Northern Ireland started to increase slowly and by 2001 had reached nearly 1.7 million, only slightly higher than in 1841.

The population of what is now the Republic of Ireland also fell considerably, from 6.5 million in 1841 to 3.2 million at the start of the 20th century (Figure 1.4). However, unlike Northern Ireland’s population, which began to increase slowly, the population of the Republic continued to fall during the 20th century to a low of 2.8 million in 1961. After 1961 it increased gradually, apart from a slight decline in the late 1980s, but, at 3.9 million in 2002, the population of the Irish Republic had still not recovered to anywhere near its size in 1841 (6.5 million).

The next two sections outline briefly some of the underlying reasons for the population trends shown by the censuses and the differences between the constituent countries of the UK.

Figure 1.4
Population on Census day, Northern Ireland¹ and Republic of Ireland², 1841 to 2001



- 1 Data for 1841 to 1911 refer to the populations of areas currently defined as Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland.
- 2 For the Republic of Ireland, census data refer to 1936 rather than 1937 and 2002 rather than 2001; all other census years are identical to those for Northern Ireland.

Source: Census – Central Statistics Office Ireland; Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency

1750 to 1950: population growth and the demographic transition

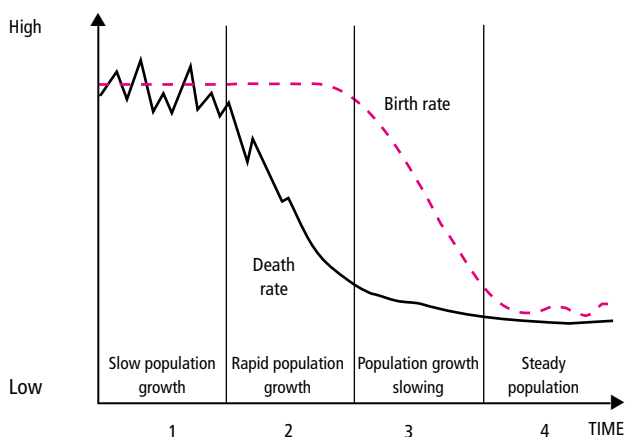
The demographic transition model describes the stages a population goes through as it moves from a pre-industrial population with high fertility and mortality to a modern industrial country with low fertility and mortality.²⁴ The model is based on the experiences of Western European countries and a simplified version is shown in Figure 1.5.

In stage one (pre-transition) both birth and death rates are high so the population grows only slowly. In stage two, social and economic changes, most notably improvements in the quality and quantity of the food supply, lead to a fall in death rates. This in turn causes rapid population growth. By stage three, birth rates also start to fall and as a result population growth slows. Stage four represents the stable situation following the demographic transition, where both birth and death rates are low and the population size fairly constant. The model assumes that net migration is zero.

Census data are consistent with England’s population moving from stage one to stage four of the demographic transition model during the period from 1750 to 1950. In the mid-18th century, England’s population entered a period of sustained population growth, increasing rapidly from less than six million in 1750, to almost 17 million by 1851 and more than 41 million by the time of the 1951 Census (Figure 1.1).

The transition from low and intermittent population growth before 1750 to the period of high population growth after 1750 represents England entering stage two of the

Figure 1.5
The demographic transition model



demographic transition. In the late 18th and early 19th centuries, improvements in agricultural productivity, and therefore a more reliable food supply, enabled this growth in population. However, the lack of reliable data sources for the early part of the period makes it difficult to be certain about why this population growth occurred.

It is generally agreed that mortality was an important factor. As well as a general fall in death rates, of particular note was the fact that mortality crises such as those caused by plague or famine had mostly been eliminated, especially in Scotland and Ireland.²⁵ An increasing birth rate may also have been an important factor contributing to population growth during this period, with increased agricultural productivity meaning that people could afford to marry earlier and begin having children at younger ages.²⁶

After 1850 adult mortality rates began to fall more dramatically (as would be expected in stage two of the demographic transition model). The possible reasons for the fall in death rates in the 19th century are disputed but may include improved nutrition, rising standards of living, such as improved sanitation, and the introduction of the smallpox vaccination. Infant mortality in England remained high until 1900 but fell during the first half of the 20th century, probably due to improved public health and changing child-care practices.²⁷

The decline in birth rates, identified as stage three of the demographic transition, took place in England from around 1870 to 1920. In 1871 the average woman was having 5.5 children but by 1921 this had fallen to 2.4 children.²⁸ Whereas previously, delayed marriage and non-marriage were the only factors reducing the number of children borne by each woman, by the late 19th and early 20th centuries the use of traditional methods of birth control (abstinence and withdrawal) within

marriage had become more widespread. The third stage of the demographic transition was therefore achieved almost totally without modern contraceptive methods and with no support for family planning from the major social institutions. By the 1930s an increased acceptance of birth control by medical and some religious institutions, plus the availability of modern methods such as condoms from around time of the First World War, enabled this decline in birth rates to continue.²⁹

England's population would have grown even more rapidly during the demographic transition had it not been for increasingly large numbers of out-migrants leaving for countries including the United States, Canada, Australia and New Zealand. Although this was partly balanced by in-migration from other countries, there was net out-migration from England in every decade from 1840 to 1930.³⁰

During the first half of the 20th century, England was moving into stage four of the demographic transition, with low birth rates, decreasing death rates and slower population growth. There were, however, some exceptions to these trends. For example, during the First World War, 723,000 British servicemen (mainly aged between 20 and 40) are estimated to have lost their lives.³¹ Following the First World War, an influenza pandemic caused 152,000 deaths in England and Wales between June 1918 and May 1919.³² Although Figure 1.1 shows the English population steadily increasing after 1901, the rate of growth as a percentage of the total population had slowed considerably.

The English experience shows that the conventional demographic transition model is a useful starting point for explaining the change in a population. However, a major limitation is that it does not take account of migration. According to the model, towards the end of stage four, birth rates will be equal to or lower than death rates, hence population growth will be very low. In practice, England's population has continued to grow due to net international in-migration, as described later in this chapter, and the population momentum built into the age structure (see Chapter 5 for an explanation of population momentum).

Individual countries and regions also vary in how closely they adhere to the process described in the model. Figures 1.2 and 1.3 show that the populations of Wales and Scotland also grew considerably during the period 1801 to 1901, although the pace of growth was slower in Scotland than in England. Scotland's growth may have been slower due to higher emigration³³ and episodes of high mortality, for example the typhus epidemics of 1837 and 1847.³⁴

In line with the demographic transition model, decreasing mortality rates were the most likely cause of Ireland's rapid population growth after 1750, given that Ireland was producing enough food for its own population plus a surplus for export.³⁵ Ireland's population grew from an estimated 2.4 million in 1750 to over five million by 1800³⁶ and over eight million by the 1841 Census.

However, after 1841, the demographic transition model does not describe Ireland's experience well. As Figure 1.4 shows, the population of Ireland charted a very different course from that of England during the 19th century, falling sharply between 1841 and 1851 and continuing to decrease for the rest of the century. The failure of the potato crop through blight in 1845, 1846 and 1848 had serious consequences. The population was dependent on the crop, with most people unable to afford the limited alternative food that was available. Over the course of the resulting famine over one million people died and a further million emigrated from Ireland, mainly to Canada and the United States but also to Britain, swelling the population there.³⁷ These figures relate to Ireland as a whole but the area that is now Northern Ireland was affected to a lesser extent than other parts of the country, with the industrial areas centred around Belfast less susceptible to agricultural crises. Northern Ireland's population began to recover in the first half of the 20th century, increasing by 13 per cent between 1901 and 1951.

The UK population, 1950 to 2001

By the end of the Second World War, the UK had moved into the fourth stage of the demographic transition and was one of the first European countries to do so. In post-war England, birth rates were low (but fluctuating), death rates fairly low and population growth beginning to slow, particularly by the 1970s. During the second half of the 20th century death rates continued to fall (see Chapter 5), with the majority of deaths due to degenerative diseases such as heart disease, cancers and stroke. The population also began to age noticeably due to the improved chances of survival and low birth rates (see Chapter 4).

Other significant social changes took place during this period. The use of modern contraceptive methods became more widespread, particularly with the availability of the pill in Britain from the early 1960s and the legalisation of abortion in 1967 (in Great Britain but not Northern Ireland). The implementation of the 1969 Divorce Reform Act led to a large rise in the number of divorces in England and Wales from the 1970s onwards and similar increases in the number of divorces were seen in Scotland and Northern Ireland. The 1980s witnessed

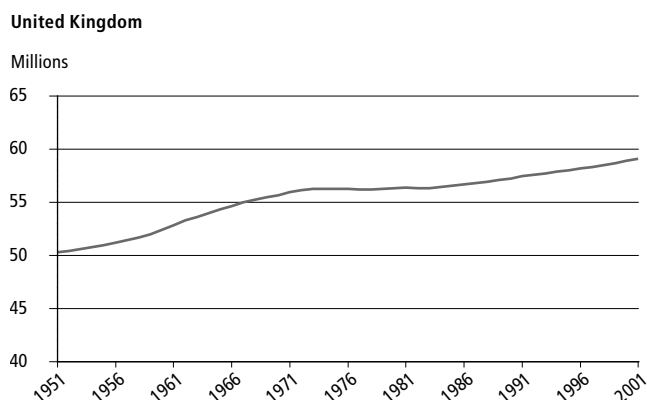
large increases in the prevalence of cohabitation and the proportion of births taking place outside marriage in all parts of the UK.³⁸ These and other changes in society, that have resulted from a new emphasis on personal freedom of choice, are sometimes considered to represent a 'second demographic transition'.³⁹

Figure 1.6 shows how the UK population grew over the five decades from 1951 to 2001. It rose from 50.3 million in mid-1951 to 59.1 million in mid-2001,⁴⁰ an increase of nearly nine million people. Although this might appear to be a large increase in absolute terms, the rate of growth is much slower than in the 19th century when the population was smaller and was doubling or nearly doubling every 50 years.

The UK's population growth from 1951 to 2001 did not occur at a steady pace. Between 1951 and 1961, the population increased by 5.0 per cent over the decade, with an even higher growth of 5.9 per cent in the following ten years from 1961 to 1971. However, the 1970s showed a different trend. Between 1974 and 1978 the population declined slightly, leading to overall growth of only 0.8 per cent in the period 1971 to 1981. In subsequent decades, the UK population continued to grow at an increasing pace, by 1.9 per cent between 1981 and 1991 and by 2.9 per cent between 1991 and 2001.

Between 1951 and 2001 the main cause of UK population growth was natural increase. The number of births in the UK exceeded the number of deaths every year during this period, except in 1976.⁴¹ The number of births during the mid-1970s was particularly low (see Chapter 5) and this led to the slight population decline noted in the 1970s (Figure 1.6).

Figure 1.6
Population estimates¹, 1951 to 2001



Source: Population estimates – Office for National Statistics; General Register Office for Scotland; Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency

During the early and mid-1990s the number of births generally exceeded the number of deaths by over 100,000 per year (Figure 1.7). A lower level of natural increase was seen towards the end of the decade (in 1995–96 and from 1998 to 2001), when the number of births each year exceeded the number of deaths by between 62,000 and 77,000 per year. Although the annual numbers of both births and deaths decreased between 1991 and 2001, the decline in the number of births was faster, hence the lower level of natural increase in the more recent period.

In the early 1990s net international migration into the UK from abroad was making an increasingly important contribution to population growth. By 1998, net migration⁴² had overtaken natural increase as the main driver of growth (Figure 1.7). During the late 1990s the UK experienced higher levels of both in-migration and out-migration than in previous years. The level of in-migration increased to a greater extent than the level of out-migration, resulting in an increase in net international migration to the UK during this period (see Chapter 7). In the year ending mid-2001, net international migration contributed approximately two-thirds of the UK's annual population increase.

The populations of Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland grew at different rates from the populations of England and the UK as a whole in recent decades (Table 1.8). Between 1971 and

1981, the population of Wales grew the fastest of the constituent countries of the UK, with a 2.7 per cent increase over the decade, compared with 0.8 per cent for the UK as a whole. However, during the 1980s and 1990s, the population of Northern Ireland grew much faster than the rest of the UK (at over 5 per cent during the decade from 1991 to 2001, compared with less than 3 per cent for the UK as a whole). In contrast, Scotland's population decreased slightly, from over 5.2 million in 1971 to less than 5.1 million in 2001.

Table 1.9 shows population change and its components over the past decade for the four constituent countries of the UK, revealing the underlying causes of these different rates of growth. England's population growth between 1991 and 2001 was due to both natural increase and net migration.⁴³ In Northern Ireland, net migration made little difference to the population over the decade, but the population continued to grow due to natural increase (see Chapter 5).

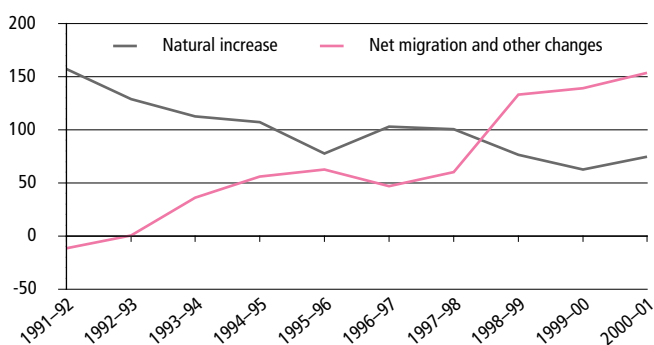
In contrast, Scotland experienced a generally decreasing population, with more deaths than births each year from mid-1997 onwards, and net out-migration during the late 1990s. However, this trend changed in 2000, when the population began to increase slightly due to net in-migration. The Welsh population also saw natural decrease from mid-1998 onwards but this was outweighed by net in-migration, in particular from the rest of the UK,⁴⁴ leading to an increasing population between 1998 and 2001. Chapter 6 discusses in more detail the migration flows between different parts of the UK.

Figure 1.7

Natural increase¹ and net migration² as components of population change, 1991 to 2001

United Kingdom

Thousands



- 1 Natural increase refers to the excess of births over deaths in that year.
2 'Net migration and other changes' refers mainly to international migration. Other small changes include changes in the numbers of armed forces.

Source: Population estimates – Office for National Statistics; General Register Office for Scotland; Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency

Table 1.8

Population of the UK and constituent countries, 1971 to 2001

Thousands

	1971	1981	1991	2001
UK	55,928.0	56,357.5	57,438.7	59,113.5
England	46,411.7	46,820.8	47,875.0	49,449.7
Wales	2,740.3	2,813.5	2,873.0	2,910.2
Scotland	5,235.6	5,180.2	5,083.3	5,064.2
Northern Ireland	1,540.4	1,543.0	1,607.3	1,689.3

Source: Population estimates – Office for National Statistics; General Register Office for Scotland; Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency

Table 1.9
Population change and its components, 1991 to 2001

United Kingdom and constituent countries

Thousands

Mid-year to mid-year	Population at start of period	Components of change (mid-year to mid-year)					Population at end of period
		Total change	Births	Deaths	Natural change ¹	Net migration and other changes ²	
United Kingdom							
1991–92	57,438.7	+145.9	792.7	635.4	+157.3	–11.4	57,584.5
1992–93	57,584.5	+129.4	762.4	633.6	+128.8	+0.5	57,713.9
1993–94	57,713.9	+148.3	763.1	650.8	+112.3	+36.0	57,862.1
1994–95	57,862.1	+162.7	737.2	630.4	+106.9	+55.8	58,024.8
1995–96	58,024.8	+139.6	722.3	645.0	+77.3	+62.2	58,164.4
1996–97	58,164.4	+149.9	739.9	637.1	+102.8	+47.0	58,314.2
1997–98	58,314.2	+160.7	717.5	617.1	+100.4	+60.3	58,474.9
1998–99	58,474.9	+209.5	710.5	633.9	+76.6	+132.8	58,684.4
1999–2000	58,684.4	+201.6	688.0	625.7	+62.3	+139.3	58,886.1
2000–01	58,886.1	+227.4	673.5	599.2	+74.3	+153.2	59,113.5
England							
1991–92	47,875.0	+122.9	661.7	526.0	+135.7	–12.8	47,998.0
1992–93	47,998.0	+104.3	636.7	522.5	+114.2	–9.9	48,102.3
1993–94	48,102.3	+126.5	639.3	536.9	+102.4	+24.1	48,228.8
1994–95	48,228.8	+154.7	617.8	521.1	+96.8	+57.9	48,383.5
1995–96	48,383.5	+135.7	605.9	533.2	+72.6	+63.0	48,519.1
1996–97	48,519.1	+145.6	619.7	526.8	+92.9	+52.8	48,664.8
1997–98	48,664.8	+155.8	601.8	509.9	+92.0	+63.8	48,820.6
1998–99	48,820.6	+212.3	597.5	523.1	+74.5	+137.8	49,032.9
1999–2000	49,032.9	+200.4	580.1	516.1	+64.0	+136.4	49,233.3
2000–01	49,233.3	+216.4	568.2	495.3	+72.9	+143.6	49,449.7
Wales							
1991–92	2,873.0	+4.7	38.1	33.6	+4.5	+0.1	2,877.7
1992–93	2,877.7	+5.9	36.7	34.1	+2.6	+3.3	2,883.6
1993–94	2,883.6	+3.9	36.2	35.6	+0.6	+3.3	2,887.4
1994–95	2,887.4	+1.1	34.8	34.4	+0.5	+0.6	2,888.5
1995–96	2,888.5	+2.8	34.0	35.3	–1.3	+4.1	2,891.3
1996–97	2,891.3	+3.6	35.5	35.1	+0.3	+3.2	2,894.9
1997–98	2,894.9	+4.7	33.9	33.7	+0.2	+4.4	2,899.5
1998–99	2,899.5	+1.1	32.9	35.0	–2.0	+3.1	2,900.6
1999–2000	2,900.6	+6.3	31.5	34.3	–2.8	+9.1	2,906.9
2000–01	2,906.9	+3.4	31.0	33.0	–1.9	+5.3	2,910.2

Table 1.9 - continued
Population change and its components, 1991 to 2001

United Kingdom and constituent countries

Thousands

Mid-year to mid-year	Population at start of period	Components of change (mid-year to mid-year)					Population at end of period
		Total change	Births	Deaths	Natural change ¹	Net migration and other changes ²	
Scotland							
1991–92	5,083.3	+2.3	67.0	61.1	+5.9	–3.6	5,085.6
1992–93	5,085.6	+6.8	64.3	61.9	+2.4	+4.4	5,092.5
1993–94	5,092.5	+9.8	63.1	62.6	+0.5	+9.2	5,102.2
1994–95	5,102.2	+1.5	60.6	59.6	+0.9	+0.5	5,103.7
1995–96	5,103.7	–11.5	58.9	61.2	–2.3	–9.2	5,092.2
1996–97	5,092.2	–8.9	60.2	60.1	+0.1	–8.9	5,083.3
1997–98	5,083.3	–6.3	58.0	58.5	–0.5	–5.8	5,077.1
1998–99	5,077.1	–5.1	56.6	60.3	–3.7	–1.4	5,072.0
1999–2000	5,072.0	–9.0	54.1	59.7	–5.7	–3.4	5,062.9
2000–01	5,062.9	+1.3	52.7	56.6	–3.9	+5.2	5,064.2
Northern Ireland							
1991–92	1,607.3	+16.0	25.9	14.7	+11.2	+4.8	1,623.3
1992–93	1,623.3	+12.3	24.7	15.1	+9.7	+2.6	1,635.6
1993–94	1,635.6	+8.2	24.5	15.7	+8.8	–0.7	1,643.7
1994–95	1,643.7	+5.4	24.0	15.3	+8.7	–3.3	1,649.1
1995–96	1,649.1	+12.6	23.6	15.2	+8.4	+4.2	1,661.8
1996–97	1,661.8	+9.5	24.6	15.0	+9.6	–0.1	1,671.3
1997–98	1,671.3	+6.5	23.8	15.1	+8.7	–2.2	1,677.8
1998–99	1,677.8	+1.2	23.4	15.5	+7.9	–6.7	1,679.0
1999–2000	1,679.0	+3.9	22.3	15.5	+6.8	–2.8	1,682.9
2000–01	1,682.9	+6.4	21.6	14.3	+7.2	–0.9	1,689.3

1. Natural increase refers to the excess of births over deaths in that year. Natural decrease refers to the excess of deaths over births.

2. 'Net migration and other changes' refers mainly to international migration. Other small changes include changes in the numbers of armed forces.

Source: Population estimates – Office for National Statistics; General Register Office for Scotland; Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency

The UK population at the start of the 21st century

In 2004 the UK was home to over 59.8 million people. This makes it one of the largest countries in the European Union in terms of population size (see Chapter 10). The present size and characteristics of the UK population reflect many of the changes that have occurred in the population over the past 50 years. The following section explores some of the characteristics of the UK population at the start of the 21st century.

Geographical distribution and growth

In 2004 83.7 per cent of the UK's population was resident in England (Table 1.10). Between 2001 and 2004 England's population increased by 644,000 to 50.1 million. Two-thirds of this increase was due to net in-migration,⁴⁵ with the remainder a result of natural increase.

Scotland was home to 8.5 per cent of the UK's population in 2004. Despite a decreasing population during the 1990s, there is some evidence that the Scottish population is beginning to increase: between 2002 and 2004, the population grew by 23,600.⁴⁶ This growth is due to an increase in net in-migration, which has begun to outweigh Scotland's natural decrease.

Table 1.10
Population size and density, 2004

United Kingdom and constituent countries				
	Resident population (thousands)	Percentage of UK population	Land area (km ²)	Population per km ²
United Kingdom	59,834.9	100.0	242,495	247
England	50,093.8	83.7	130,279	385
Wales	2,952.5	4.9	20,733	142
Scotland	5,078.4	8.5	77,907	65
Northern Ireland	1,710.3	2.9	13,576	126

Source: Population estimates – Office for National Statistics; General Register Office for Scotland; Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency

Five per cent of the UK population lived in Wales in 2004. As is the case in Scotland, the Welsh population is increasing, despite the number of deaths exceeding the number of births each year. This is due to net in-migration, mainly from the rest of the UK, outweighing the population’s natural decrease. Between 2001 and 2004, Wales has been in percentage terms the fastest growing constituent country of the UK.

Northern Ireland’s 1.7 million residents made up 2.9 per cent of the UK population in 2004. This population has continued to grow into the 21st century due to natural increase; in contrast to the other UK countries, net migration did not make a large contribution to population change in Northern Ireland between 2001 and 2004.

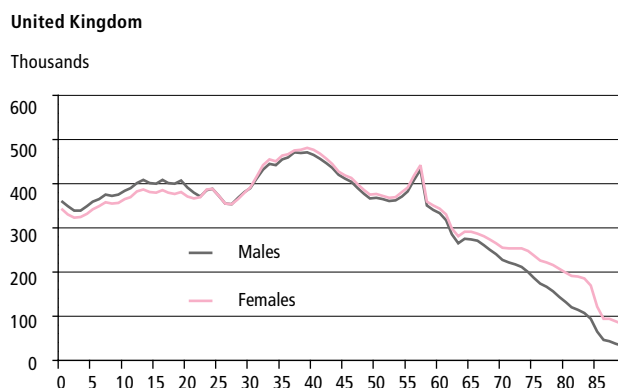
The UK had an average population density of 247 people per km² of land in 2004 (Table 1.10). However the population is not evenly spread over the UK’s land area of 242,495km². Scotland was by far the least densely populated, with 65 people per km². Northern Ireland and Wales had 126 and 142 people per km² respectively. England had the highest population density of 385 people per km², nearly six times higher than in Scotland. And, despite having over 80 per cent of the UK population, England makes up only 54 per cent of the land area.

Chapters 2 and 3 examine in more depth where people are living in the UK and focus on the characteristics of the UK’s major towns and cities.

Age-sex structure

There are slightly more females than males living in the UK. In 2004 there were 30.6 million females and 29.3 million males, or 96 males for every 100 females.

Figure 1.11
Population by age and sex, 2004

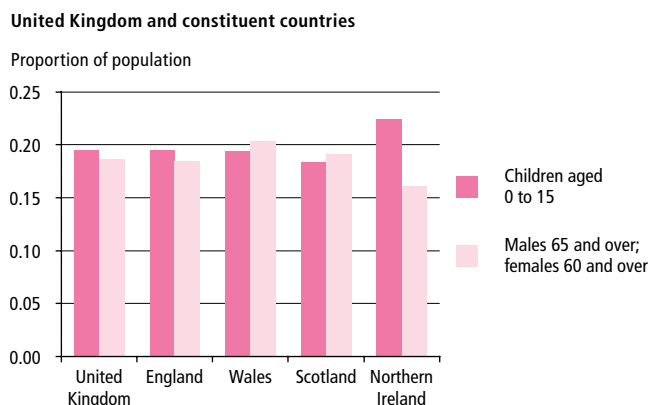


Source: Population estimates – Office for National Statistics; General Register Office for Scotland; Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency

Figure 1.11 shows that this pattern varies significantly by age. Normally more boys are born than girls, for example in 2004 there were 105 boys born for each 100 girls in England and Wales.⁴⁷ As a result, boys outnumber girls throughout childhood and the teenage years. The number of males relative to females decreases rapidly from around age 21 onwards due to differences in migration patterns and mortality rates.⁴⁸ At all ages above 30, women outnumbered men in 2004. At older ages, sex differentials in mortality lead to an increasingly female population. At age 65 there were 94 men for each 100 women, while at age 75 there were only 79 men per 100 women. At age 85 the contrast is even greater, with only 53 men per 100 women.

The average (median) age of the UK population in 2004 was 38.6 years. Figure 1.12 shows that there were slightly more

Figure 1.12
Proportion of population in selected age groups, 2004



Source: Population estimates – Office for National Statistics; General Register Office for Scotland; Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency

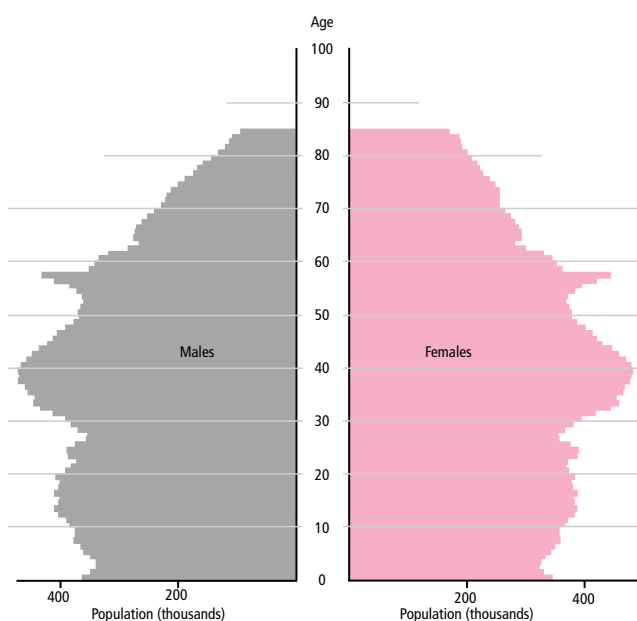
children aged under 16 in the UK in 2004 than people of retirement age (men aged 65 and above and women aged 60 and above). Almost one-fifth of the UK population (19.5 per cent) was aged below 16 while 18.6 per cent were in the retirement ages. Chapter 4 discusses in more detail how the proportion of children and older people in the UK has changed over time and is likely to change in the near future.

Wales and Scotland both have slightly more people of retirement age than children in their populations (Figure 1.12). Therefore, the average (median) age of their populations is higher than the UK average; 39.8 years in Scotland and 40.2 years in Wales compared with 38.6 years for the UK as a whole.

Northern Ireland stands out clearly from the rest of the UK as having the youngest population, with an average (median) age of only 35.8 years in 2004. This reflects the higher proportion of children aged under 16 in Northern Ireland (22.4 per cent compared with 19.5 per cent in the UK as whole). Northern Ireland’s relatively youthful population is a result of its higher total fertility rate than the rest of the UK in recent years (see Chapter 5). Correspondingly Northern Ireland also has a lower proportion of people in the retirement ages (16.1 per cent compared with 18.6 per cent in the UK as a whole).

The population pyramid (Figure 1.13) shows the age-sex structure of the UK population in 2004 in more detail. The

Figure 1.13
Population pyramid showing age¹ and sex structure of the UK, 2004



¹ People aged 85 and above are excluded from this pyramid.

Source: Population estimates – Office for National Statistics; General Register Office for Scotland; Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency

number of males and females of each age, and hence the shape of the UK pyramid, is determined by the numbers of births, deaths and migrants over the past century. The number of births each year over the past 90 years determines the initial size of each age group at birth, and the numbers surviving to each age are reduced by death, particularly at older ages. International migration also acts to increase or decrease the number of people of each age living in the UK.

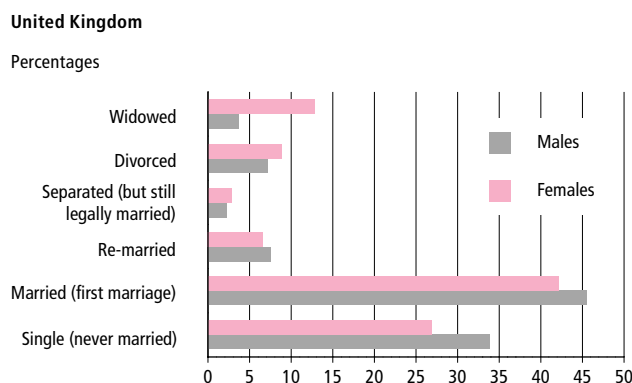
The indent in the UK pyramid at around age 63 represents those born during the first half of the Second World War when fewer births took place than usual. In contrast, the spike in the pyramid at ages 54 to 57 reflects the large number of births occurring in the late 1940s, often referred to as the post-war baby boom. The large bulge in population for those in their late 30s and early 40s is a result of the high number of births that occurred during the 1960s. Similarly, the smaller bulge around ages 10 to 20 represents the children of the large number of women born in the 1960s.

Although some of these features are specific to the UK, the pyramid does follow the general pattern for a developed country: a stable or declining base to the pyramid and a large number of persons aged over 65 (see Chapter 10 for a comparison with the EU population pyramid). The interactive population pyramid available on the National Statistics website shows how the age structure of the UK population has changed since 1971.⁴⁹

Marital status and living arrangements

According to the 2001 Census, over half (53.3 per cent) the adults in the UK were married at the time. This figure includes the 7.1 per cent of adults who were remarried and 2.5 per cent who were separated. A further 30.2 per cent of adults were single (never married), 8.0 per cent were divorced and 8.4 per

Figure 1.14
Population aged 16 and over by legal marital status, 2001



Source: 2001 Census – Office for National Statistics; General Register Office for Scotland; Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency

cent widowed. These figures refer to the legal marital status of people aged 16 and above on Census day.

The marital status composition of the population varies considerably by sex, as illustrated in Figure 1.14. In the UK in 2001, 34 per cent of men aged 16 and above were single compared with only 27 per cent of women. Men were also slightly more likely to be married or remarried at the time of the Census (53 per cent) than women (49 per cent): this percentage difference is due to the higher number of adult women than men in the population. However, 13 per cent of the female population was widowed at the time, compared with 4 per cent of the male population; this reflects the larger number of women than men in the population at older ages.

Women were also slightly more likely to be divorced or separated (12 per cent) at Census day than men (9 per cent), which may reflect differentials in remarriage patterns between the sexes. Chapter 4 describes in more detail how the legal marital status of the UK population varies by age and how it has changed over time.

Legal marital status does not always give a complete picture of people's living arrangements as many non-married people are actually cohabiting (living in a couple with a person they are not legally married to). Estimates of the extent of this cohabitation are available from the 2001 Census by combining information from the relationship matrix with a person's legal marital status. In April 2001 in the UK almost 4.4 million adults

aged 16 and over were cohabiting. This represents 10.0 per cent of men in households and 9.1 per cent of women in households.⁵⁰

Although a small proportion of people in the UK live in communal establishments (1.8 per cent in 2001, see Chapter 9), the majority lives in private households. In 2004 there were 24.7 million households in the UK.⁵¹

The number of households in the UK has increased fairly steadily over recent decades, from 16.7 million households in 1961 to 20.6 million in 1981 and 24.7 million in 2004.⁵² This reflects partly the increasing population over this period but also a decline in average household size over the past 40 years. In 1961 there were on average 3.0 people living in each household in Great Britain but, by 2004, this had fallen to 2.4.⁵³

Nearly three in ten UK households (29 per cent) were one-person households in 2004. The number of one-person households has increased dramatically in recent decades. For example, in Great Britain, 12 per cent of households contained only one person in 1961 but this had risen to 23 per cent by 1981 and 29 per cent by 2004.⁵⁴ This increase is predominantly seen in one-person households containing an adult of working age. This household type has become more common due to both the growth in divorce rates during the 1970s and 1980s and, more recently, the postponement of marriage and childbearing by young adults.

Table 1.15
Family type and presence of children, 2004

United Kingdom and constituent countries	Percentages ¹				
	England	Wales	Scotland	Northern Ireland	United Kingdom
Family type					
Married couple family	71	72	70	74	71
Cohabiting couple family	13	12	12	6	13
Lone-mother	13	14	16	18	14
Lone-father	2	2	2	2	2
All families	100	100	100	100	100
Presence of children					
With no children	43	43	42	31	42
With dependent children	43	43	41	50	43
With non-dependent children only	14	14	16	20	14
All families	100	100	100	100	100

¹ Percentages may not add exactly to 100 due to rounding.

Source: Labour Force Survey, Spring 2004 – Office for National Statistics

A further 3 per cent of UK households in 2004 contained two or more people who were unrelated. However the most common UK household type was a household containing one or more families (68 per cent).

Families headed by a married couple are the most common family type in the UK, making up 71 per cent of families in 2004 (Table 1.15). A further 14 per cent of families were headed by a lone mother, 13 per cent by a cohabiting couple and 2 per cent by a lone father. Northern Ireland stands out in Table 1.15 as having a lower proportion of cohabiting-couple families (6 per cent) and higher proportions of married-couple families and lone mothers than other parts of the UK. In recent decades the proportion of families headed by a married couple has been declining while the proportions of families headed by a cohabiting couple or a lone mother have been increasing.

Not all families have dependant children living with them. In 2004, 43 per cent of UK families had dependent children, while in 14 per cent of families the only offspring living with the family were non-dependant children. The remaining 42 per

cent of families consisted of a married or cohabiting couple with no children living with them. Again, Northern Ireland stands out in Table 1.15 as having a lower proportion of families without children and higher proportions of families with dependent or non-dependent children. Further information on families in the UK can be found in *Focus on Families*.⁵⁵

Ethnicity

The majority (92.1 per cent) of the UK population described themselves as White in the 2001 Census. The remaining 4.6 million people (7.9 per cent) belonged to non-White ethnic groups.⁵⁶

Table 1.16 shows that the largest non-White ethnic group in 2001 was Indian, comprising 1.8 per cent of the UK population. Those of Pakistani origin were the second largest group (1.3 per cent), followed by 1.2 per cent of the population who described themselves as of mixed ethnic origin; for example, White and Black Caribbean or White and Asian.

Those from Black Caribbean and Black African backgrounds made up 1.0 per cent and 0.8 per cent of the UK population respectively. In addition, there were a large number of other ethnic minority groups represented in the census, accounting for the remaining 1.9 per cent of the UK population.

Of the four countries of the UK, England had the largest ethnic minority population in both absolute and percentage terms (Table 1.17), with nearly 4.5 million people or 9.1 per cent of its population being in an ethnic group other than White. This compares with 2.1 per cent of the population in Wales, 2.0 per cent in Scotland and 0.7 per cent in Northern Ireland.

In England, Wales and Scotland the largest generic ethnic minority population was Asian and Asian British (or Asian Scottish in Scotland). Within this category, those of Indian origin were the largest group in England with a population of over one million, while in Scotland the Pakistani population of 31,800 was the largest (although still much smaller than England's population of Pakistani origin). In Northern Ireland, the Chinese population of 4,100 made up nearly one-third of the small ethnic minority population (12,600). Further information on the geographical distribution of people in different ethnic groups is available in Chapter 2 or in *Focus on Ethnicity and Identity*.⁵⁷

Those identifying with a White ethnic group come from a variety of backgrounds. In Great Britain, 50.4 million people, the majority of the White population, described themselves as White British or White Scottish in 2001. A further 0.7 million identified themselves as White Irish and 1.4 million as Other White.

Table 1.16
Population by ethnic group, 2001

United Kingdom	Numbers and percentages	
	Total population	
	(Numbers)	(Per cent)
White	54,153,898	92.1
Mixed	677,117	1.2
Indian	1,053,411	1.8
Pakistani	747,285	1.3
Bangladeshi	283,063	0.5
Other Asian	247,664	0.4
All Asian or Asian British	2,331,423	4.0
Black Caribbean	565,876	1.0
Black African	485,277	0.8
Other Black	97,585	0.2
All Black or Black British	1,148,738	2.0
Chinese	247,403	0.4
Any other ethnic groups	230,615	0.4
All minority ethnic population	4,635,296	7.9
All ethnic groups	58,789,194	100.0

Source: 2001 Census – Office for National Statistics; General Register Office for Scotland; Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency

Table 1.17
Population by ethnic group, 2001¹

United Kingdom and constituent countries

Numbers and percentages

	England		Wales		Scotland		Northern Ireland		United Kingdom	
	Numbers	Per cent	Numbers	Per cent	Numbers	Per cent	Numbers	Per cent	Numbers	Per cent
White²	44,679,361	90.9	2,841,505	97.9	4,960,334	98.0	1,672,698	99.3	54,153,898	92.1
British	42,747,136	87.0	2,786,605	96.0	*	*	*	*	.	.
Scottish	*	*	*	*	4,459,071	88.1	*	*	.	.
Irish	624,115	1.3	17,689	0.6	49,428	1.0	*	*	.	.
Other British	*	*	*	*	373,685	7.4	*	*	.	.
Other White	1,308,110	2.7	37,211	1.3	78,150	1.5	*	*	.	.
Mixed	643,373	1.3	17,661	0.6	12,764	0.3	3,319	0.2	677,117	1.2
White and Black Caribbean	231,424	0.5	5,996	0.2	*	*	*	*	.	.
White and Black African	76,498	0.2	2,413	0.1	*	*	*	*	.	.
White and Asian	184,014	0.4	5,001	0.2	*	*	*	*	.	.
Other Mixed	151,437	0.3	4,251	0.2	*	*	*	*	.	.
Asian or Asian British/ Scottish	2,248,289	4.6	25,448	0.9	55,007	1.1	2,679	0.2	2,331,423	4.0
Indian	1,028,546	2.1	8,261	0.3	15,037	0.3	1,567	0.1	1,053,411	1.8
Pakistani	706,539	1.4	8,287	0.3	31,793	0.6	666	0.0	747,285	1.3
Bangladeshi	275,394	0.6	5,436	0.2	1,981	0.0	252	0.0	283,063	0.5
Other Asian	237,810	0.5	3,464	0.1	6,196	0.1	194	0.0	247,664	0.4
Black or Black British/ Scottish	1,132,508	2.3	7,069	0.2	8,025	0.2	1,136	0.1	1,148,738	2.0
Black Caribbean	561,246	1.1	2,597	0.1	1,778	0.0	255	0.0	565,876	1.0
Black African	475,938	1.0	3,727	0.1	5,118	0.1	494	0.0	485,277	0.8
Black Other	95,324	0.2	745	0.0	1,129	0.0	387	0.0	97,585	0.2
Chinese or other ethnic groups	435,300	0.9	11,402	0.4	25,881	0.5	5,435	0.3	478,018	0.8
Chinese	220,681	0.5	6,267	0.2	16,310	0.3	4,145	0.3	247,403	0.4
Any other ethnic group	214,619	0.4	5,135	0.2	9,571	0.2	1,290	0.1	230,615	0.4
All ethnic groups	49,138,831	100.0	2,903,085	100.0	5,062,011	100.0	1,685,267	100.0	58,789,194	100.0

1. Cells in this table have been randomly adjusted to avoid the release of confidential data.

2. In Northern Ireland, this category includes 1,170 people who ticked 'Irish Traveller' box.

* Answer category not provided as a tick-box option in this country.

.. not applicable.

Source: 2001 Census – Office for National Statistics; General Register Office for Scotland; Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency

The UK population in the future

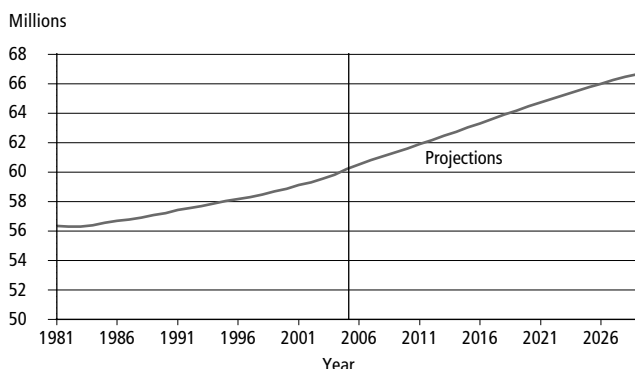
In the near future, the UK population is projected to continue the gradual increase seen since the mid-1980s. The Government Actuary's Department (GAD) produces future projections of the population for the UK and its constituent countries.⁵⁸ These projections are based on assumptions relating to fertility, mortality and migration that are agreed in

consultation with the statistical offices of England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland.⁵⁹

The UK population is projected to increase from 59.8 million in 2004 to an estimated 66.6 million by 2029⁶⁰ (Figure 1.18). Of this projected 6.8 million increase, 44 per cent (3.0 million) is projected to be natural increase (the excess of births over deaths), while 56 per cent (3.8 million) is the assumed total

Figure 1.18
Population estimates and projections, 1981 to 2028

United Kingdom



Source: *Population estimates (1981–2004) – Office for National Statistics; General Register Office for Scotland; Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency. Population projections (2005–2028) – Government Actuary’s Department*

number of net migrants. However, the projected numbers of future births and deaths are themselves partly dependent on the assumed level of net migration.⁶¹ In the longer-term the UK’s population is expected to continue rising until 2074, the end of the projection period.

Projected population trends differ between the constituent countries of the UK (Table 1.19) owing to differences in the assumptions made about future fertility and mortality (see Chapter 5) and expected net migration. The populations of England, Wales and Northern Ireland are expected to continue increasing up to 2031. Projections suggest that, during the early 2030s, the population of Northern Ireland will start to decline gradually in size, whereas the populations of England and Wales will continue rising slowly. In contrast, Scotland’s population is expected to peak around 2019 and then resume the decrease seen during much of the 1990s, falling by nearly 0.3 per cent overall between 2004 and 2031.

Table 1.19
Population estimates and projections, 2004 to 2031

United Kingdom and constituent countries	Thousands						
	2004	2006	2011	2016	2021	2026	2031
United Kingdom	59,835	60,533	61,892	63,304	64,727	66,002	67,013
England	50,094	50,714	51,967	53,276	54,605	55,823	56,832
Wales	2,952	2,977	3,037	3,102	3,165	3,219	3,256
Scotland	5,078	5,108	5,120	5,126	5,127	5,109	5,065
Northern Ireland	1,710	1,733	1,767	1,800	1,830	1,851	1,860

Source: *Population estimates (2004) – Office for National Statistics; General Register Office for Scotland; Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency. Population projections (2006–2031) – Government Actuary’s Department*

By 2031 there are projected to be 56.8 million people living in England, 3.3 million in Wales, 5.1 million in Scotland and 1.9 million in Northern Ireland. The proportion of UK residents living in England is, therefore, expected to be slightly higher than in 2004, while the proportions living in Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland will have fallen slightly by 2031.

Notes and references

- Population estimates for England and Wales are produced by the Office for National Statistics: www.statistics.gov.uk/statbase/Product.asp?vlnk=601&More=N
- Population estimates for Scotland are produced by the General Register Office for Scotland (GROS): www.gro-scotland.gov.uk
- Population estimates for Northern Ireland are produced by the Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency (NISRA): www.nisra.gov.uk/index.asp
- Houston R A (1996) *The Population History of Britain and Ireland 1500–1750*, in Anderson M (1996) *British Population History from the Black Death to the present day*, Cambridge University Press: Cambridge.
- For example, Hatcher J (1996) *Plague, population and the English economy, 1348–1530*, in Anderson M (1996) *British Population History from the Black Death to the present day*, Cambridge University Press: Cambridge. Hinde A (2003) *England’s Population: A History since the Domesday Survey*, Hodder Arnold: London.
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6. See reference 5.
7. See reference 5.
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9. Coleman D and Salt J (1992) *The British Population: Patterns, Trends and Processes*, Oxford University Press: Oxford. Hinde A (2003) *England's Population: A History since the Domesday Survey*, Hodder Arnold: London.
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15. See reference 14.
16. Office for National Statistics (2001) *200 Years of the Census*. On Census Bicentenary web pages: www.statistics.gov.uk/census2001/bicentenary/bicentenary.html
17. Clarke J I (1972) *Population Geography*, 2nd edn, Pergamon Press: Oxford.
18. See reference 16.
19. Office of Population Census and Surveys (1993) *1991 Census Historic Tables – Great Britain*, OPCS: London.
20. Office for National Statistics 2001 Census pages: www.statistics.gov.uk/census2001/cb_8.asp
21. Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency: www.nisra.gov.uk/census/censushistory/censusireland.html
22. Central Statistics Office Ireland (2004) *Irish Statistical Yearbook 2004*, Chapter 1 and Northern Ireland Appendix: www.cso.ie/releasespublications/statistical_yearbook_ireland_2004.htm
23. See reference 22. In Northern Ireland, censuses were taken in 1926, 1937, 1951, 1961, 1966, 1971, 1981, 1991 and 2001. In the Republic of Ireland, censuses were taken in 1926, 1936, 1946, 1951 and then every five years (with the exception of 1979 instead of 1976 and 2002 instead of 2001, due to foot and mouth disease).
24. The demographic transition model was initially proposed by Warren Thompson in 1929 and has since been documented and modified by Frank Notestein and others.
25. McKeown T (1976) *The Modern Rise of Population*, Edward Arnold: London. Hinde A (2003) *England's Population: A History since the Domesday Survey*, Hodder Arnold: London.
26. See reference 5.
27. See references 11 and 25.
28. Woods R I and Smith C W (1983) The decline of marital fertility in the late 19th century: the case of England and Wales. *Population Studies* **37**, 207–226.
29. See reference 11.
30. Baines D (1985) *Migration in a Mature Economy: Emigration and Internal Migration in England and Wales, 1861–1900*, Cambridge University Press: Cambridge, cited in Hinde A (2003) *England's Population: A History since the Domesday Survey*, Hodder Arnold: London.
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32. Griffiths C and Brock A (2003) Twentieth Century Mortality Trends in England and Wales. *Health Statistics Quarterly* **18**, 5–17.
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34. Anderson M (1996) Population Change in North-western Europe, 1750–1850, in Anderson M (1996) *British Population History from the Black Death to the present day*, Cambridge University Press: Cambridge.
35. See reference 34.
36. See reference 34.
37. See reference 34.

38. See reference 11. Plus Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency and General Register Office for Scotland (for data on births and divorces).
39. Van de Kaa D (1987) Europe's second demographic transition, in *Population Bulletin* **42(1)**.
40. All population estimates from 1951 onwards refer to mid-year estimates (population as at 30 June).
41. Figure refers to the calendar year 1976.
42. 'Net migration' in this context refers to 'net civilian migration and other changes'. 'Other changes' refers to changes in the numbers of armed forces resident in the UK plus any adjustments made to reconcile differences between estimated population change and the figures for natural change and net civilian migration.
43. See note 42.
44. See Office for National Statistics National Health Service Central Register (NHSCR) inter-regional migration movements data:
www.statistics.gov.uk/STATBASE/Product.asp?vlnk=10191
45. See note 42.
46. General Register Office for Scotland: www.gro-scotland.gov.uk
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48. Office for National Statistics (2004) *Focus on Gender*:
www.statistics.gov.uk/focuson/gender/
49. Office for National Statistics UK interactive population pyramid:
www.statistics.gov.uk/populationestimates/svg_pyramid/default.htm
50. 2001 Census data from Office for National Statistics, General Register Office for Scotland and Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency.
51. Labour Force Survey data – Office for National Statistics.
52. 1961 and 1981 estimates are Census data from the Office for National Statistics, General Register Office for Scotland, Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency. 2004 estimate is from the Labour Force Survey.
53. 1961 average household size is from Census data. 2004 average household size is from the Labour Force Survey.
54. 1961 and 1981 percentages are from Census data. 2004 estimates for household and family types are from the Labour Force Survey.
55. Office for National Statistics (2004) *Focus on Families*:
www.statistics.gov.uk/focuson/families/
56. In this context, ethnic minority groups include those of Mixed, Asian (or Asian British/Scottish), Black (or Black British/Scottish), Chinese and other non-White ethnic origins.
57. Office for National Statistics (2004) *Focus on Ethnicity*:
www.statistics.gov.uk/focuson/ethnicity/
58. For information on UK population projections, see Government Actuary's Department website: www.gad.gov.uk/
59. Responsibility for the production of national population projections is due to be transferred from the Government Actuary's Department to the Office for National Statistics in 2006.
60. Figures refer to the 2004-based projections: principal projection.
61. See note on *Migration and population growth* at www.gad.gov.uk/population/2003/methodology/mignote.htm

