



Research activity and highlights 2009 – 2013



Contents

4. Director's introduction
5. Highlights
6. Fertility and family formation
10. Living arrangements across the life course
14. National and transnational migration
18. Modelling population growth and enhancing the evidence base for policy
20. International research
22. New developments

ESRC Research Centre for Population Change

The ESRC Research Centre for Population Change (CPC) aims to improve our understanding of the key drivers and implications of population change within the UK. CPC is a joint initiative between the University of Southampton and a consortium of Scottish universities including St Andrews, Edinburgh, Strathclyde and Stirling, in partnership with the Office for National Statistics (ONS) and the National Records of Scotland (NRS). It is directed by Professor Jane Falkingham, with co-Directors Professor Maria Evandrou and Professor Elspeth Graham.

Work formally started on 1 January 2009 bringing together over 40 academics and associates drawn from anthropology, demography, economics, geography, gerontology, sociology, social policy and social statistics.

The research agenda has been developed in consultation with ONS and NRS, and is based around four research themes:

- Fertility and family formation
- Living arrangements across the life course
- National and transnational migration
- Modelling population growth and enhancing the evidence base for policy

Underpinning the work is the belief that to develop appropriate policy responses, it is essential to understand the extent, drivers and implications of changing patterns in these research areas.

The ESRC Research Centre for Population Change is a five year investment funded by the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC).

Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC)



ESRC is delighted to be supporting the work of CPC. The research undertaken at the Centre embodies ESRC's strategic priorities: *Economic Performance and Sustainable Growth; Influencing Behaviour and Informing Interventions; and A Vibrant and Fair Society.*

CPC exists to examine the causes and consequences of population change, resulting from the combined effects of fertility, mortality and migration and, as such, it contributes directly to our understanding of a constantly changing society. CPC's projects to date, many of which have been inter-disciplinary, have provided invaluable information for policy and practice during these difficult economic times. In addition, focussing on the implications of behaviour for the wellbeing of individuals and families has been, and I hope will continue to be, central to the work of CPC.

I am pleased that secondary analysis of some of the major ESRC investments, including the 1958 and 1970 birth cohort studies and *Understanding Society*, lies at the heart of CPC's research agenda, and that many members of CPC are involved in user groups for ESRC investments. It is also heartening to see how CPC is active in training the next generation of researchers.

We are pleased to be funding a Centre that can provide advice on, disseminate knowledge about, and promote public understanding of, the causes and consequences of population change. We look forward to seeing how CPC continues to develop and contribute to ESRC's economic and social aims.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading 'P Boyle'.

Professor Paul Boyle, Chief Executive, ESRC

Director's introduction

As the first nationally funded research centre devoted to understanding the drivers and consequences of the changing population of the UK, CPC is unique in a number of ways; not least in its multi-institutional structure, its multi-disciplinary and multi-national approach to investigating scientific questions of key policy importance, but also its close working relationship with users in both national and local government, especially the Office for National Statistics and the National Records of Scotland.



Professor Jane Falkingham
Director, CPC

CPC's scientific programme has been organised around four themes, and we have already achieved significant advances in each area.

Within the fertility theme, we have generated new insights into the underlying factors behind the postponement of childbearing – rising educational enrolment of women – as well as the role of local cultures of fertility.

Similarly, under the household dynamics theme, our work on transitions into adulthood has highlighted the importance of the family setting and the complex relationships between leaving and returning home, and other transitions in education, work and partnership.

Under the migration theme, our research on A8 migrants (Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia) and their employers has shed light on both the lived experiences of migrants themselves and how migrant labour is perceived and represented by employers. The research has strengthened our knowledge of the complex nature of A8 migration, but also raised new questions.

Finally, our work within the modelling theme on statistical modelling and methods for population and migration estimation and projection has attracted international attention, with team members being invited to visit Statistics New Zealand.

Further extending our research internationally, we have worked on projects in Kenya, South Africa, China, India and North Africa, framing our work within a global context.

Although our research so far has generated significant new knowledge that has improved our understanding of population dynamics and change, the agenda is far from complete. Our society continues to change and our work will evolve to address these new challenges.

Several significant changes have occurred since we opened the Centre that demand attention; overall, there is a need for greater understanding of how demographic behaviours have been influenced by, and responded to, the economic downturn since 2008.

The increase in fertility since 2001 has been sustained and there is need for a better understanding of the drivers of this change. Increases in longevity, combined with changes in living arrangements and economic and social roles across the life-cycle, also need further attention, especially around public debates on intergenerational solidarity and justice.

Although A8 migration had started when we opened the Centre, its scale and nature was poorly understood. Moreover, little or no attention has been given to return migration and how this might be influenced by other demographic processes such as partnership and fertility, or how migration might affect flows of intergenerational support.

There are also new datasets, especially the 2011 Censuses and the Longitudinal Study (LS) / Scottish Longitudinal Study (SLS), as well as Understanding Society (USoc), new waves of the UK birth cohort datasets and the English Longitudinal Study of Ageing (ELSA). There are comparative European datasets such as the Survey of Health, Ageing and Retirement in Europe (SHARE) and the Generations and Gender Programme (GGP).

Since our work started in 2009, the world has reached the landmark of a population of 7 billion citizens, and it is likely that India will soon overtake China as the most populous country in the world.

The work we are undertaking, and planning to undertake in the future, will address these emerging issues. We have already begun to use newly available data, and we will continue to make a positive contribution to the ESRC's mission of producing world class social science research that supports improving the lives of individuals, families and communities, not just in the UK, but also internationally.

Highlights

1. **The Centre** - CPC has brought together an inter-disciplinary group of academic staff and postdoctoral research fellows from diverse disciplines including demography, economics, geography, gerontology, sociology, social policy and social statistics, and has encouraged cross-discipline working, successfully mixing quantitative and qualitative methods.
2. **Partnership working** - our partnerships with the Office for National Statistics and National Records of Scotland have improved demographic statistics through several commissioned research projects, strengthening the evidence base for policy-making.
3. **Seminars** - our seminar series has seen over 50 seminars take place with researchers visiting from around the world to present, including a public lecture by the Rt Hon David Willetts MP in April 2012 on his research into intergenerational equity.
4. **Publications** - we have contributed over 300 conference papers and invited seminars on core CPC research, over 75 refereed journal articles, 30 CPC working papers, 37 book chapters, seven books and 14 major reports.
5. **Briefing paper series** - through our briefing papers we have translated CPC research into a relevant, convenient and useable format for policy makers and practitioners, available in print and online.
6. **CPC in the news** - there have been over 100 references to our research in local, national and international media, including written contributions from our members, as well as television and radio interviews.
7. **The World at 7 billion** - we used the landmark of global population reaching 7 billion to organise a highly successful programme of events as part of the ESRC Festival of Social Science in 2011, engaging schools, members of the public and policy makers, as well as collaborating with artists from the Winchester School of Art.
8. **Engaging policy makers** - workshops and seminars held at the Government Office for Science, Scottish Government, DFID headquarters and the Local Government Association, alongside having CPC researcher Professor Jackie Wahba on the UK Border Agency's Migration Advisory Committee, has taken our research directly to the decision makers.
9. **Collaboration with other research centres and organisations** - the Centre has forged collaborative relationships with, for example, the ESRC Centre on Migration, Policy and Society (COMPAS) and the Joseph Rowntree Foundation (JRF) to extend the impact of our research.
10. **International work** - we have extended our work beyond the UK, with projects underway in China and South Africa and new projects due to start in India, Kenya, South Africa and North Africa. This also includes an international Cyberseminar 'Exploring Family Change and Intergenerational Relationships', as well as a major bid with partners in Population Europe to the European Commission.

Don't forget to sign up online to our newsletter (www.cpc.ac.uk) and follow us on Twitter (@CPC_population) and Facebook (www.facebook.com/CPCpopulation) to keep up to date with our latest research, news and activities

Fertility and family formation

This theme is led by Dr Ann Berrington and Professor Elspeth Graham, focussing on understanding recent fertility trends and their drivers.



Research highlights

The research has seen the development of an improved database on fertility and partnership, examined trends towards later childbearing and uncertainty in expectations around future childbearing.

It has uncovered new insights into the factors which allow for the 'catching-up' of fertility in older ages, and examined how local values

around fertility influence how and when people choose to have children.

The research has also considered whether there is an economic rationale for pro-natalist policies, the role of fertility in marital prospects, and how the current economic crisis and global threats affect young people's thoughts about future partnering and parenting.

“The data we have examined shows that in the past several decades young people have been starting their full adult lives around two years later, on average, than in the recent past, and this has meant family life starting later too. If we start the clock when young women leave full-time education or training, the delay to motherhood, compared across the decades, is much less than looking purely at the differences in their ages at their first birth.”

Professor Maire Ní Bhrolcháin

Why research fertility and family formation?

“Following the 1960s baby boom and 1970s bust, fertility in the UK fell to a post-war low by the early 2000s. Despite some recent increases, it remains below replacement level. In the UK replacement level fertility - the level of fertility at which a population exactly replaces itself from one generation to the next - is approximately 2.1 children per woman. All constituent countries of the UK currently have fertility below that level and, in Scotland, there are signs that fertility may be falling again. Below replacement level fertility contributes to population ageing - an increase in the proportion of older people in the population - and thus has implications for economic growth, labour markets, and pension and health care provision.” Professor Elspeth Graham, Theme Leader

Research projects

The development of an improved data resource on fertility and partnership

This research saw the development of a data tool to be used in population studies by generating a database from the General Household Survey (GHS), allowing investigation of fertility and partnership trends over several decades in Britain. The CPC-GHS time-series dataset has been used for a variety of papers on fertility and partnership.

Measuring and accounting for fertility trends

Here, the trend towards later childbearing in Britain and France was measured and accounted for, and results showed that a rise in the take-up of education and training has substantially contributed to people choosing to start families later.

Uncertainty in fertility intentions in Britain, 1979-2007

Examining several aspects of uncertainty in expectations around future childbearing, this study has shown that four in five women under 25, and three in five women under 35, are unsure about their fertility intentions. The research team have since been working towards a new theoretical approach to fertility preferences and intentions which takes into account individuals' interactions and experiences throughout their lives.

Factors facilitating fertility recuperation

This study looked at the reasons behind delays to starting a family, identified the impact of the delays on future childbearing and examined the factors that allow for fertility recuperation (catching up) at older age. Results have shown how fertility intentions and behaviour develop from adolescence, through early adulthood and into mid-life, and how fertility intentions in early adulthood are changed by later life experiences, particularly partnerships, economic uncertainty (especially for men), and commitment to full time work (especially for women).

Spreading the word

Making sure research findings reach policy makers, practitioners, the research community and members of the public.

Through academic publications, including:

Demography, Urban Studies, the International Economic Review, the Vienna Yearbook of Population Research, Population Trends, and Population Studies.

Through media coverage, including:

The Daily Mail, The Independent, and The Telegraph.

By attending conferences and events, including:

The Annual Conference of the Population Association of America; The European Population Conference; The British Sociological Association Annual Conference; The Royal Economic Society Conference; and a Population Europe symposium on policy responses on family and fertility dynamics in Europe.

Through the CPC seminar series researchers have presented and hosted leading academics from institutions around the world

including: the Vienna Institute of Demography; the University of Groningen; the University of California Los Angeles; the University of Liverpool; Institut National Etudes Demographiques (INED); Macquarie University; the University of Oxford; the University of Antwerp; and the Australian National University.

How has the research made a difference?

Construction of a General Household Survey (GHS) time-series dataset of fertility and partnership histories - a key contribution to the wider scientific community.

Changed the way ONS collects its data on live births in the GHS questionnaire.

The CPC-GHS time-series dataset has provided new knowledge about the role that women's education has on delaying childbearing.

It has demonstrated that a substantial minority of women are uncertain in their expectations about future childbearing.

A new theoretical approach to measuring fertility intentions has been created, with implications across the research community, highlighting shortcomings with current approaches.

Twenty+ Futures: Recession, global threats and young people's anticipated futures as partners and parents

Exploring perceptions of global threats concerning the economy, security or the environment, this project considered how these issues may be affecting young adults' views about their futures, including being a partner and becoming a parent. Uncertainty and lack of economic security brought on by the recession are important factors in how those in their twenties see their futures, with concerns being particularly focussed on employment, career prospects, and housing. In many cases, plans and planning are summed up as a sense of 'delayed future'.



Fertility and the distribution of income and wealth

Investigating fertility choices within and across groups of households, this study looked at fertility and factors related to the economy such as productivity growth and fluctuations, wages, wealth, uncertainty and financial markets. It also considered other factors related to policies (parental leave; child benefits; child care; pensions) and society (working women; education; family composition). Findings have suggested a justification for pro-natalist policies by concluding that, to provide incentives for childbearing, government allocations need to be tied to a person's fertility choices.

Do marital prospects dissuade unmarried fertility?

Fertility rates of unmarried women were much lower in the 1970s than in the 1990s. This research assessed how important a 'marriage market penalty' in the 1970s was in keeping unmarried fertility low. The results show that in the 1970s premarital fertility acted as a barrier to marriage and this greater importance of marital prospects may be enough to account for the lower birth rates of unmarried women at the time. This suggests that the importance of the marriage market penalty has declined over time, which accounts for the dramatic rise of unmarried women's share of births between 1970 and 1995.

Family formation and local cultures of fertility

Does where a woman lives influence the likelihood of her starting a family? This study confirms that differences in fertility exist by area size and type in Britain, with lower fertility found in cities and higher fertility found in less dense populations. In areas with lower fertility rates, on average women across all age groups are older when they give birth and have fewer children compared to those in areas with higher fertility rates. These local 'fertility cultures' could potentially influence the fertility choices of individuals who live in, or move into, these areas through social interactions, so where people live may be playing an important role in shaping individual fertility choices.

Further information on the research projects in the fertility theme can be found at: <http://tiny.cc/cpcfertility>



Making the headlines

"Women having fewer children and later"

The Telegraph

"Fertility gap revealed" *The Independent*

"Statistics show women have fewer children than they planned" *Ask a Mum website*

"Falling divorce rates are 'a result of couples living together before marriage'" *Mail Online*

"Marriage: a survey of surveys" *The Telegraph online*

"Cohabitation tends to be a short term union, ONS research shows" *Family Law Week website*

"Average age of woman having first child continues to rise due to 'spending more time in education'" *Daily Mail*

Living arrangements across the life course


This theme, overseen by theme leader Professor Maria Evandrou, explores people's living arrangements throughout their lives, looking at the reasons why people live in certain ways and how it relates to wider society.



Research highlights

The research in this theme has examined the factors influencing young people leaving and returning to the parental home, and has revealed that family plays a key role in the move to home ownership for single adults aged 25-34 through financial support. In addition, it has begun to look at the migration trajectories, housing pathways and living arrangements of graduates after leaving university.

It has uncovered new insights into the timing of parental divorce within a 'child's' life, and how this can influence the obligations they feel to care for their parents later in life. It has highlighted how the living arrangements of those aged 35-64 have changed over the last three decades, as well as looking at living alone in later life and older people's mental well-being.



How has the research made a difference?

Informed the work of the Population Statistics Division (PSD) of ONS; on CPC's recommendation, ONS used the Labour Force Survey as the basis for their release on families and households in April 2012.

Informs the Research Councils' Comprehensive Spending Review submissions to the Department of Business, Innovation and Skills (DBIS) – CPC provides information, through their work on post-student migration, on the employment trajectories (5-10 years after graduation) of Doctoral and Masters graduates who received RCUK funding, and so can evidence the impact of these funding streams.

Why research household dynamics and living arrangements?

"The past few decades have seen changes in the patterns of living arrangements among people in the UK. In particular, more people now live alone and living in a 'nuclear family' is becoming less common. In practical terms, this move towards living alone combined with people living longer could have important implications for the provision of social care. These trends may also be related to changes in the nature of family, friendship and other types of relationships, with the boundaries of what makes a 'family' in today's society becoming blurred. Therefore the work in this theme is not limited to relationships within the household but also includes social networks and relationships beyond the household. Given that these changes may also reflect changing patterns of events across people's lifetimes, we take a life course approach and have included three sub-themes focussing on young adults, mid-life and later life." Professor Maria Evandrou, Theme Leader

Research projects

Single young adults and their housing pathways

This research has looked at whether financial and material support from parents and other relatives, as well as between friends, is essential for young people to be able to live independently. The research has found that it is common for parents and older relatives to help out financially so that young adults can live independently. Alongside this, the parental home provides an important fallback option for many single young adults.

Leaving and returning home in the UK

Here, changes over the past two decades in young adults' living arrangements were documented and explained, with the research showing that living in the parental home has become particularly common for those in their mid-twenties and early thirties. This rise has been caused by an increase in those completing higher education, as well as higher immigration of young adults into the UK, increasing house prices and high levels of youth unemployment.

The patterns, processes and impacts of post-student migration

Aiming to fill a 'data gap' in patterns of post-student migration in the UK, this project has examined the importance of living arrangements, social networks, culture and location to students' lives after they leave university. Findings so far have suggested that post-student life is complex, with around a quarter of graduates moving around a lot in the five years after graduating, and support from parents being crucial to graduates being able to live independently.

Spreading the word

Making sure research findings reach policy makers, practitioners, the research community and members of the public.

Through academic publications, including: *Population Trends, Sociology, Demography, and Demographic Research.*

Through media coverage, including: *The Economist, The Guardian, and The Times.*

By attending conferences and events, including: The British Society of Gerontology Conference; The British Society of Population Studies Conference; The Shelter Cymru Conference; a UNECE Ministerial Conference on Ageing; and a Population Europe symposium on new policy challenges and opportunities of population ageing and decline in Europe.

Through the CPC seminar series researchers have presented and hosted leading academics from institutions around the world including: The International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis Austria; the University of Manchester; the University of California; the University of Stirling; and the Office for National Statistics (ONS). The Rt.Hon. David Willetts MP also took part in the series with a talk about the baby boomer generation.

Making the headlines

“The boomerang generation: Young adults have become reluctant to fly the family nest” *The Economist*

“Student debt creates generation of mummy’s boys” *The Independent*

“One in five of ‘boomerang generation’ graduates now living at home” *The Telegraph*

“Meet the kippers –the boomerang offspring who refuse to go it alone” *The Guardian*

“Indian kids prefer staying with parents” *Times of India*

“Young adults’ living arrangements” *BBC Local Radio – London, Wiltshire, Scotland, Tees, Lancaster, Derby, Northampton, Lincolnshire, Solent and Kent*

“More and more twenty-somethings are living with their parents” *Southern Daily Echo*

“The Information: Numbers of young people who still live at home” *FT magazine*

“Midlifers caught between worlds” *The Times*

“The rise of the single (middle-aged) generation” *The Telegraph*

“Family splits leave millions to face their old age alone” *Daily Mail*



Living arrangements in mid-life

Here, changes in living arrangements of middle aged British men and women (aged 45 – 64) were examined, finding that living alone in mid-life is on the rise, especially among men. There is also a significant minority of men living alone who have no living parent and no children. Fewer men and women have a child or grandchild, while more have a parent or grandparent, than ten years ago. For those in early mid-life who have children, more are living with dependent children today compared to 25 years ago.

The timing of parental divorce and filial obligations to care for parents later in life

This research explores how parental divorce, and the timing of it within a ‘child’s’ life, can influence the obligations they feel to care for their parents in later life. Early findings have challenged the typical idea that if a divorce happens earlier in a child’s life it will have the most damaging effect on their relationships with their parents in later years, and also on their obligations to provide care as they grow old. In fact, those who were in middle age when they experienced their parents divorcing tend to feel less obliged to care for their parents in later life.

“Leaving home and establishing independent living can be a precarious and unpredictable transition for young adults. Recently this has been compounded by increased labour market insecurity and reductions in welfare support, along with declining access to home ownership and increased competition in the private rented sector.”

Dr Ann Berrington



Understanding pathways into institutional care

Factors associated with older people moving into two kinds of accommodation - residential care and sheltered accommodation - have been examined to understand the effects on quality of life and for providing social care for older people during the latter part of their lives. The study, in collaboration with the EPSRC Care Life Cycle Programme, highlighted that age, health and marital status were the factors most strongly associated with a person's move into residential care. By contrast, the move into sheltered accommodation was associated more strongly with a person's socio-economic situation than their health status.

The transition to living alone and mental health in later life

This study considered the effect of living alone in later life on mental health. The findings suggest that living alone in later life is not in itself a risk factor for psychological distress, and the effects of a move to living alone on mental health tend to be transient, for example, neither socioeconomic status nor social support seem to be a major factor. Future planning needs to take into account the situation that has led up to the move to living alone to be able to assess how it can affect a person's mental health.

Further information on the research projects in the living arrangements theme can be found at: <http://tiny.cc/cpchousehold>

Spreading the word

CPC hosted an event on young adults' housing and independent living for a policy and third sector audience. CPC researchers gave presentations and a panel discussion was held with policy experts from the Department for Communities and Local Government, the Chartered Institute of Housing, and the Joseph Rowntree Foundation.

Researchers under this theme have also collaborated with the Centre for Research on Ageing, the 'Fevered Sleep' production company and the Young Vic Theatre Company on a theatre production called *On Ageing*, exploring ageing over the life course.

National and transnational migration

Using a mixture of qualitative and quantitative approaches overseen by theme leaders Professor Jackie Wahba and Professor Allan Findlay, this is the largest thematic area of CPC work. It sheds light on migration and mobility patterns and processes in a range of settings.



“How well immigration policies and welfare systems are integrated will have consequences on the important issues which are at the core of current debate about immigration, such as the sustainability of the welfare systems versus the potential of immigration to alleviate labour shortages and counteract the effects of an ageing population.”

Professor Jackie Wahba

Research highlights

Two linked projects have examined A8 migration (from the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia), from the perspective of the migrant and the employer.

Other research in this theme has investigated the role that social networks play in the migrant labour market, unemployment and return migration, immigration and welfare systems, and the non-labour market implications of family migration. It has also looked at migration and pensions, as well as rural ageing, migration and care.

Why research migration?

“Migration is a crucial element of population change. With low fertility rates in most European countries, migration has become a major influence on net national population growth and local population age structures. Migration issues also intersect those of ageing and fertility. For example, older people and their families may move closer together to facilitate caring or migration might impact on the decision whether to have a/another child or not.” Professor Allan Findlay, Theme Leader

How has the research made a difference?

Attracted considerable interest - presented to the Scottish Executive, the Scottish Parliament's Finance Committee, and at COMPAS Breakfast Briefings, as well as at numerous scientific conferences, including two organised by the World Bank.

Close involvement and interest of the Scottish Government - may help inform Scotland's distinctive approach to immigration.

Strengthened the understanding of the complex nature of A8 migration - the research has highlighted gaps in knowledge and has generated new research questions.

Research projects

Improving our understanding of the role social networks play in labour market outcomes

Does relying on personal contacts, as opposed to other formal job search methods, help individuals to find employment, and are those jobs obtained through friends and family well-paid? This study has found that personal contacts are as good as formal job search methods in finding employment for immigrants. However, immigrants who get their jobs through social networks tend to have lower wages as a consequence, suggesting that immigrants might be valuing other non-monetary benefits such as working or living with people from the same ethnic group over the wage benefits from a more formal job search.

Does unemployment cause return migration?

This project looked at the relationship between unemployment and whether it causes migrants to return to their home country, using unique government records on recent immigrants to the Netherlands (1999-2007). The research found that across all immigrant groups, there is evidence that unemployment leads to return migration.

International labour mobility and its impact on family and household formation among East and Central Europeans living in England and Scotland

This research examined the impact, challenges and opportunities facing A8 (mainly Polish) migrants living in urban and rural areas in England and Scotland. It has challenged the myth of A8 circular migration; highlighted the restricted networks and, as a consequence, restricted social mobility opportunities for less educated migrants who cannot speak

English; and also exposed issues surrounding the differences between the Polish and UK education system for migrant families. In addition, the research found that the ability to afford to live outside extended family households (for low-income families) and the increased standard of living migrants enjoyed in the UK made their return to Poland increasingly unlikely.

International labour mobility - the changing patterns of recruitment and employment of Central and East European migrants working in England and Scotland

This project explored labour migration from East-Central Europe to the UK, specifically A8 recruitment and employment patterns and how these changed between 2004 and the recession of 2008 onwards. Most A8 migrants work in the hospitality and agriculture sectors, through recruitment agencies. Migrant labour is particularly important to the agribusiness industry, where demand for A8 workers has remained steady, and migrant labour has become necessary for the high levels of production that takes place. This study has provided evidence that idealised images on the 'good worker' influence who is recruited for employment in the UK through labour providers, the state and informal social networks, but also that migrants themselves reinforce this image of the 'ideal' migrant worker.

Welfare migration

This study considered whether immigrants are more likely to move to countries with generous welfare systems, finding that fears about immigrants abusing welfare systems are often exaggerated and unfounded. Welfare is one of the many pull factors of immigration and should be looked at in the wider context of immigrants' skill levels and immigration policies.

Spreading the word

Making sure research findings reach policy makers, practitioners, the research community and members of the public.

Through academic publications, including:

Environment and Planning, Population, Space and Place, Social and Cultural Geography, Sociological Research On-Line, Population Trends, the Journal of Marriage and the Family, the Scottish Journal of Political Economy, the Review of Economics and Statistics, the Journal of Public Economics as well as the NORFACE and IZA Discussion Paper series'.

Through media coverage, including:

Reporting Scotland, The Scotsman, and Newsnight Scotland.

By presenting at conferences and events, including:

The International Conference on Migration and Development; the Royal Geographical Society with the Institute of British Geographers Annual Conference; the Pacific Worlds in Motion IV Conference; the Migration, Economic Change, Social Challenge Conference; the International Conference on Population Geographies; the ESRC network on Rethinking Retirement; the Scottish Government and the Government Office for Science (GOS).

Through the CPC seminar series researchers have hosted leading academics from institutions around the world including: Cornell University, Tel Aviv University, the Centre for International Studies and Research Paris, University College London, Trinity College Dublin, the University of Groningen.

“Through our research, we have highlighted the challenges of planning for older age for many people, including location, housing and care. Networks of care and support, including both family and friends, play a vital role. We have shown the difficult decisions families face around informal care, particularly when families are increasingly further apart.”

Professor David Bell

How has the research made a difference?

Reinforced the need for research on pension costs faced by migrant workers in the EU.

Highlighted the importance of informal support in older age – families face difficult decisions, particularly when they are further apart.

Collaborative work with the modelling theme has highlighted the need to use migration forecasts in a different way to plan for uncertain migration futures - this has attracted attention from both the scientific and practitioner community. For more on this project, see the ‘Modelling’ section, page 18.

Research projects

Non-labour market implications of family migration

This study looked at whether people who migrate within the UK are happier after they move than they were before, finding that there are significant changes in well-being associated with moving. These changes are strongest in the year after they have moved, with people tending to be happier just after they move than they were just before. Migration can be seen as a potentially positive process, and the project findings have made an original contribution to research by also revealing changes in happiness over the longer run.

Rural ageing, migration and care

Looking to understand how individual households plan to manage the challenges of care for older people in rural areas, this study has shown the importance of considering informal support in older age as a care network, rather than as one-to-one care.



“Little attention has been paid to how EU enlargement has increased the importance of labour mobility issues, and few studies have tested EU regulations designed to ensure migrant workers do not lose out in relation to public pension provision. Even less is known about migrant workers’ entitlement to non-state provision, which is regulated at member state level. Our work aims to fill these gaps.”

Dr Paul Bridgen

Moving on and moving up: the implications of socio-spatial mobility for partnership and fertility

Here, family migration against the backdrop of household change from a 'breadwinner' to a 'dual-earner' model was investigated. The study found that when a family moves, it generally has a negative impact on the woman's employment status, particularly when moving for the man's job. Women who were not previously employed only benefited slightly from a family move. The study found, however, that moving a long distance is not associated with a more unstable relationship, and in fact some short distance moves, for example to improve housing, have a positive effect on relationships.

Free movement, pension costs: the projected pension outcomes of European Union migrants to Britain in comparative perspective

This study is developing a simulation model to assess the impact of migration on future pension rights for migrant workers. Using Eurostat and Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) data, the project has uncovered the scale of the pension mobility problem posed by migrant labour, and it has identified migration from Eastern Europe to the West following the expansion of the EU as a major new challenge. The researchers are compiling a database of standard practice on non-state pension mobility, establishing which regulations, if any, are in place to ensure that non-state pension rights are preserved when citizens leave a country either temporarily or permanently.

Further information on the research projects in the migration theme can be found at: <http://tiny.cc/cpcmigration>

Spreading the word

Making sure research findings reach policy makers, practitioners, the research community and members of the public.

To showcase the work in this theme, CPC organised a conference in collaboration with the Population Geography Research Group, with a special edition of the journal *Population, Space and Place* commissioned to publish papers from the conference.

Researchers under this theme have carried out consultancy work for the Migration Taskforce at the European Policy Centre, and undertaken advisory work with the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (DBIS). They have taken part in numerous joint events with the ESRC Centre on Migration, Policy and Society (COMPAS) to explore international labour mobility, the impact of climate change on migration and to facilitate research synergies between the two centres. They have also presented seminars at the Centre d'Estudis Demogràfics (CED) in Barcelona, at the University of Iceland in Reykjavik, as well as in the CPC seminar series.



Making the headlines

"Immigration policy"
Good Morning Scotland

"Immigration and European Elections"
Newsnight Scotland

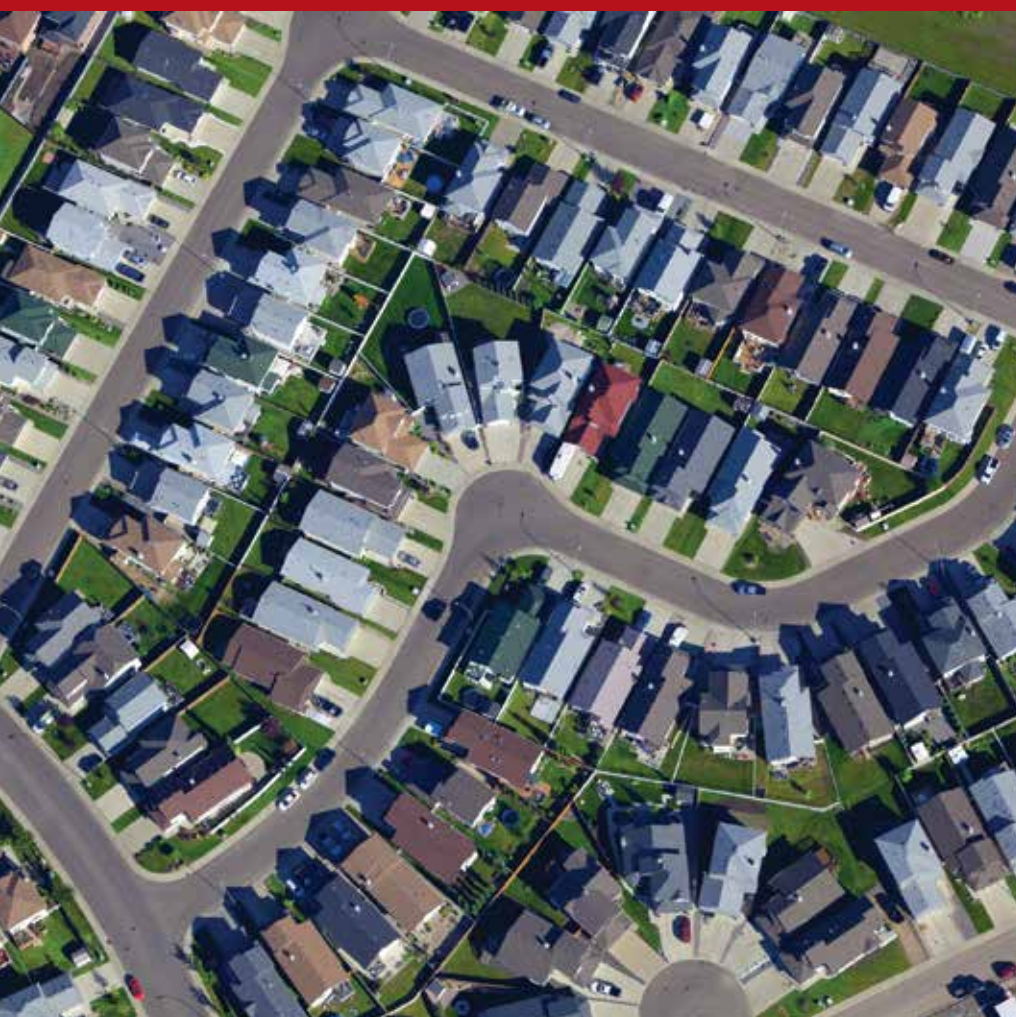
"Points-based immigration policy"
Reporting Scotland, Newsnight Scotland, BBC Scotland TV Newsdrive and BBC Radio Scotland

"Does Scotland need migrants?"
BBC Radio Scotland Call Kay programme

"Scots are on the move, following jobs from West to East"
The Scotsman

Modelling population growth and enhancing the evidence base for policy

Overseen by theme leaders, Professor James Raymer, Professor Peter Smith and Dr Jakub Bijak, the central activity of this theme is to develop methodology for the statistical modelling of population change over time.



Why model population growth?

“The work of CPC would be incomplete without this research which puts us at the cutting edge of developments in demographic modelling, and ensures our scientific programme of research remains relevant and useful within a changing policy framework. We have collaborated closely with ONS, NRS and other statistical agencies to further improve their methods for estimating population and migration, and so bettering the quality of the demographic statistics they publish. This is likely to have major long term economic and societal impact as the distribution of public expenditure to local authorities is in part dependent on population estimates and projections, and they form the basis for planning a range of public and private sector services, such as schools, nursing homes, and housing developments.” **Professor James Raymer, Theme Leader**

Research projects

The core activity of this theme has been the development of Bayesian methods (using the knowledge of prior events to predict future events) for the statistical modelling and forecasting of population change. This was started by building simple models for overall population growth rates before moving on to more complex ones that included demographic components, age and multiregional populations. The statistical modelling techniques have mainly focussed on time series methods for dealing with correlations both over time and across regions and components.

Research highlights

This research has seen the development of a dynamic population model for the UK.

Collaborating with the Office for National Statistics (ONS), it has explored Bayesian methods to improve population and migration estimation, alongside assessing the importance of model specification, expert opinion, model averaging and uncertainty.



How has the research made a difference?

Assessment of the importance of model specification, expert opinion, model averaging and uncertainty in population models.

Engaging with ONS; CPC has helped improve the ONS methods for population and migration estimation and helped the UK meet its obligations to Eurostat.

Collaboration with the CPC migration team to develop environmental migration forecasts for the UK.

Impacted international statistics - close collaborations with Statistics New Zealand.

Developed an overlapping generations computable general equilibrium (OLG CGE) model for Scotland.

Working with ONS and NRS to improve demographic statistics

CPC carried out an independent review for ONS of the methods for distributing international immigration estimates to regions. ONS has since revised its methodology as a result of the review.

The research has also introduced 'uncertainty' measures in UK population projections through the application of Bayesian techniques, and has provided ONS with independent advice on the estimation of migration flows, assisting in meeting statutory reporting obligations to Eurostat (the statistical office of the European Union).

Work in this theme also reviewed the methodology to be used in the 2011 Census to account for missing data and correct inconsistencies in the household grid respondent information.

The modelling team, in partnership with ONS, has developed a new conceptual framework for population statistics. The framework provides a structured way to link all the detail involved in translating requirements at a high level to a coherent set of outputs. It is also useful as a basis for deciding where to focus future improvements in population and migration statistics and will be used for the future work programme of the research unit within the Population Statistics Division (PSD) of ONS. Alongside this, CPC is working with ONS on a review of the methodology used to calculate the migration assumptions feeding into the National Population Projections.

“There are suggestions that climate change will result in high migration flows due to large populations living in environmentally-vulnerable areas. Our research argues that a suitable starting point is to focus on how current migration regimes operate and evolve, rather than estimating change by looking at the size of populations at risk. We highlight the need to use migration forecasts in a different way to plan for a range of uncertain futures.”

Dr Jakub Bijak

Investigating the impact of environmental change on migration flows to the UK, 2010-2060

This project investigated the likely impact of climate change on immigration to the UK in the next 50 years. It has found that any significant environmentally-linked migration to the UK in the next few decades is likely to be associated with intra-European migration of people moving away from eastern and southern Europe and towards northern Europe.

Further information on the modelling theme can be found at:
<http://tiny.cc/cpcmodelling>

Spreading the word

Making sure research findings reach policy makers, practitioners, the research community and members of the public.

Through academic publications, including: ONS reports, Government Office for Science reports and academic publications including *Population Trends*, *Demography* and the *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society*.

Through media coverage, including: BBC News

By attending conferences and events, including: The European Population Conference; a joint Eurostat/UNECE Work Session on Demographic Projections; the

British Society for Population Studies (BSPS) Annual Conference; and the Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers.

Through organising and contributing to seminars including: A three day Integrated Modelling of European Migration (IMEM) workshop on *Overcoming measurement differences and missing data to estimate international migration flows in Europe*; the ONS Population, Health and Regional Directorate Seminar Series; the Working Group on Applied, Bayesian and Computational Statistics; a joint session with UPTAP (Understanding Population Trends and Processes) on population modelling at the 2010 ESRC Research Methods Festival; as well as hosting a seminar by Andrei Rogers from the University of Colorado.

Making the headlines

“Guernsey’s lack of census leaves demographics uncertainty”
BBC News Guernsey

International research

CPC strives to be an international centre of excellence, on a par with population studies centres across Europe. While our main research focuses on population change in the UK, to fully understand the changes that are occurring, we need to look at the broader international context.



CPC has hosted over 25 overseas visitors for collaborative working and to stimulate international interest and engagement. CPC researchers are active in attending and contributing to international conferences as well as being published in internationally renowned journals and research publications. CPC Director Professor Maria Evandrou also heads up the Centre for Research on Ageing, and CPC members are actively involved with the Centre for Global Health, Population, Poverty and Policy (GHP3), allowing close working, sharing of expertise, resources and knowledge across a variety of research projects, whilst keeping abreast of developments in similar research areas.

CPC plans to continue to apply for funding for international collaborative research, building on links with international demographers and social scientists. Since CPC opened, the world has reached 7 billion citizens. Soon India will overtake China as the most populous country in the world. The changing demographic composition of these countries and the interaction of population flows, alongside flows of economic resources and social support, will shape the 21st century. We hope that the infrastructure and vibrant research environment that has developed at CPC will

ensure that UK demographers and social scientists are at the heart of discussions and debates around that future.

Europe

It is essential that the work carried out by CPC extends more widely to consider population change in Europe, and in particular the European Union (EU). For example, CPC research has considered fertility trends using France's Family History Survey and census alongside UK data, and a recently funded project on fertility intentions will examine trends in fertility behaviour across Europe. The research has also used the Dutch immigrant register to consider whether unemployment causes return migration in the Netherlands, as well as exploring international labour mobility through A8 migrants' patterns of recruitment, employment and household formation. Data from Eurostat and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) have been used to measure migration, looking at projected pension outcomes of EU migrants to the UK. Another project, funded by NORFACE, developed a Bayesian model to estimate a consistent set of migration flows between countries in Europe.

Global reach

Extending CPC's reach outside Europe, we have established a strong collaboration with the Africa Population and Health Research Centre (APHRC) (Nairobi, Kenya) and the Wellcome Trust Africa Centre for Health and Population Studies at the University of KwaZulu-Natal (South Africa).

CPC is also collaborating with the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences and the China Population & Development Research Centre on two ESRC Pathfinders projects, as well as working with the Centre for Population Studies, Institute for Social and Economic Change (Bangalore, India), on a new project as part of the Indian-European Research Networking Programme in the Social Sciences.

There are new projects starting in India, Kenya, South Africa and North Africa, and CPC is also involved in an international cyber-seminar series on intergenerational relationships, funded by the ESRC.

The research in sub-Saharan Africa brings together researchers with experience in using longitudinal data in the study of family demography in the UK, with those with a track record in the study of child health in sub-Saharan Africa. This combination will potentially generate new knowledge to improve child survival in some of the poorest countries in the world.

Similarly, projects in India and the Nairobi slums will bring together researchers with developed and developing country expertise to look at the well-being of older people in areas with poor resources and welfare.

Although these activities are not funded under the core CPC grant, their place within the Centre means that the researchers both benefit from, and add to, CPC's vibrant research environment.

International projects

Temporary migration and economic development: the triple-win policy vision applied to North Africa

This project is considering whether return migrants can have a positive impact when they return to their home country and, in turn, how the country they are returning from can maximise the benefits of the temporary migration by supporting the returnee. It will focus on two North African countries, Egypt and Morocco, which share similar challenges, such as high youth unemployment and lack of jobs, but have different migration profiles in terms of gender, education and destination.

Inequalities in access to health care in Brazil and India: closing the gap for the poorest-poor

In recent years, there has been an unprecedented growth in the national economies of the most populous countries particularly China, India and Brazil. However, the excessive wealth created through this rapid economic growth has been disproportionate, affecting mostly the poorest-poor living in rural and urban areas including metropolitan cities.

The aim of this project is to develop a research network engaging demographers, social statisticians and economists from Brazil, India and the UK to investigate the extent of inequalities in access to health care, how these change over time and the associated determinants, with an emphasis on the poorest-poor of the population living in Brazil and India.

Coping with the urban environment? Gender disadvantage, social inequalities and wellbeing of economic migrants in China

In collaboration with the China Population and Development Research Centre, the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences and Nanjing University, this project aims to investigate social inequalities that determine the quality of life of economic migrants in China, emphasising the disadvantage to women in migration and living conditions in an urban environment.

Population Europe

CPC is immensely proud to have been a founding member of *Population Europe: the European Population Partnership* with the leading demographic institutes and universities in Europe, including the Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research (Germany), the Institut National d'Études Démographiques (France), Vienna Institute of Demography (Austria), Centro de Estudios Demográficos (Spain) and Netherlands Interdisciplinary Demographic Institute (NIDI), amongst others.

Population Europe was designed to establish a platform to share information and best practice across Europe. CPC's Director, Professor Jane Falkingham, is Chair of the European Population Information Center (EPIC) and a member of Population Europe's Governing Board. CPC played a leading role in drafting the successful funding bids from Population Europe partners to the European Commission in summer 2010 and again in 2012.

Assessing the impact of internal labour migration on intergenerational support, health and income: the cases of China and South Africa

In collaboration with the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, the Wellcome Trust Africa Centre and the University of Witwatersrand (South Africa), this project is assessing the availability and comparability of data sources in China and South Africa. It is looking at the impact of migration on the health and wellbeing of children and older people who are left behind in rural areas. The study is also strengthening the research capacity for early career researchers building on existing networks through knowledge exchange.

Exploring family change and intergenerational relationships: family demography and health in low and middle-income countries

In the global south, the diversity and amount of change in contemporary family and household contexts is much less well documented than in other regions.

This cyber-seminar series works to improve the measurement of the family and household environment in low and middle-income countries and understand the interrelationships between family processes, functioning, and health. The aim is to positively impact public health in these regions through designing health and welfare policies that are family-orientated and can be rigorously evaluated and implemented in places with limited resources.

Report on Child Poverty in Lesotho 2011

This project, undertaken on behalf of UNICEF in conjunction with the University of Lesotho, looked at how child poverty can be reduced in the African country of Lesotho. The aim of the study was to describe child poverty, summarise measures taken to address it and suggest strategies for future planning. Alongside looking at data and policies, the research team used a Photovoice approach, providing children from Lesotho with a disposable camera and asking them to take photos of things that are important to them, to fully understand the issues facing the children.

Ageing and well-being in a globalizing world

This is a collaborative project between Research Councils in India, the Netherlands and the UK, which explores the wellbeing of older people in the context of an increasingly globalising world. The topics explored include migration, health, social networks and different types of wellbeing, using nationally representative datasets from the different countries.

Understanding resilience in later life in a low resource setting

This project, in collaboration with APHRC, explores the resilience of older people in slums in Nairobi, Kenya. The study seeks to better understand resilience among older people in coping with stresses and shocks, and how some people are able to adapt and to emerge with better health and socio-economic outcomes and overall wellbeing relative to other older people in these communities.

New developments

We hope that our multi-discipline, multi-site and multi-method Centre will continue to contribute to society's understanding of population change and respond to new challenges using our strong resource pool. One of our greatest achievements has been the vibrant dialogue and mutual learning that has taken place across disciplines and between qualitative and quantitative researchers, and this will continue with a set of research projects jointly developed by academics working across disciplines and institutions.

Since opening CPC new developments, such as the recession, now demand our research attention. Understanding responses to the economic crisis, and how this may vary across different socio-economic and ethnic groups and localities, is essential for policy-making.

Going forward, we are planning to extend our four research themes to five, to enhance our work so far and address the issues that have arisen since the Centre started.

Fertility and family change

Fertility has continued to rise and, in England and Wales, there are no signs of this levelling out; we urgently require a better understanding of what is causing this change to formulate policies and plan for services. Our work on fertility will therefore continue, but with new research questions building on our findings so far and reflecting current policy concerns.

Increasing longevity and the changing life course

Life expectancy has continued to improve. Living longer combined with changing resources, living arrangements, and economic and social roles across a person's life continue to demand research attention. For example, we need to consider how the labour market, the welfare state, health care institutions and the public-private systems of old age provision should adapt to a 'new' population structure, with an increasing share of older people and changing needs for social care.

Understanding intergenerational relations and exchange

As the large groups born after the Second World War begin to retire, and as the economic crisis squeezes welfare entitlements, solidarity between generations has been placed under pressure. Understanding life events, how they vary and how they both shape, and are shaped by, support between the generations, will therefore become a central part of the research agenda.

New mobilities and migration

Despite government attempts to reduce the number of international migrants to the UK, migration remains an important part of overall population growth and, along with internal migration (or mobility), it continues to play an important role in shaping local communities. How long migrants come for, where they choose to settle, what jobs they do, whether they integrate or return to their country of origin and how this might be influenced by other demographic processes, such as partnership and fertility, all remain poorly understood and require further research.

Integrated demographic estimation and forecasting

One of our most notable successes so far has been in the area of innovative methods and modelling. Our members are working at the cutting edge of developments in demographic modelling, working closely with ONS and other national statistical agencies, and this important work will continue.

Making use of investments in data

There are new data sets now available, especially the 2011 Censuses and the Longitudinal Study (LS)/Scottish Longitudinal Study (SLS) as well as Understanding Society (USoc). There are new waves of the UK birth cohort datasets, the Labour Force Survey, the English Longitudinal Study of Ageing (ELSA) and the Harmonized Histories dataset which brings together partnership and fertility histories for over 15 countries. Secondary analysis of quantitative data using advanced statistical and econometric modelling techniques will be complemented by in-depth qualitative studies of underlying processes of

individual demographic behaviour. It is also of note that the new research proposed on migration involves an economist working with a sociologist on a qualitative survey; a collaboration which would not have come about without the existence of CPC.

Addressing the needs of policy

CPC will be contributing to the ESRC's Future of Scotland Project, with funding secured for research that will show how immigration is viewed by employers, and how immigration is viewed differently in Scotland than in England. Funding has also been awarded to provide evidence on the 'Fiscal aspects of constitutional change' for the Scottish Independence referendum, due to be held in 2014. A joint CPC / COMPAS project will also see our research used by the Home Office, looking at the Role of NGOs in asylum seeker and irregular migrant voluntary returns.

International focus

Our research so far has shown us the importance of placing the UK within a European and global context. Although our future work will remain UK focussed, it will include international comparisons. For example, our fertility projects will include fieldwork in Spain and Italy, and our migration studies will look to Poland. We also plan to maximise the benefit of comparative European datasets such as the European Social Survey (ESS), the Survey of Health, Ageing and Retirement in Europe (SHARE), and the Harmonized Histories which incorporate part of the Generations and Gender Programme (GGP).

As mentioned in the International research section (page 20), we will also continue to build on our expanding links with demographers and social scientists in China, India, South Africa, Brazil and elsewhere to ensure that UK demographers and social scientists are central to research and discussions about global population change.

To keep up to date with our latest research, news, events and publications, sign up online to receive our newsletter and and follow us on Twitter (@CPC_population) and Facebook (www.facebook.com/CPCpopulation)

ESRC Centre for Population Change (CPC)
Building 58, Room 2043
Faculty of Social and Human Sciences
University of Southampton
SO17 1BJ

T: +44 (0)2380 592579

E: cpc@soton.ac.uk

www.cpc.ac.uk

To subscribe to the CPC newsletter and keep up-to-date
with research activity, news and events, please register
online: www.cpc.ac.uk/newsletter



You can also follow CPC on Twitter
and Facebook: @CPC_population
www.facebook.com/CPCpopulation

The ESRC Centre for Population Change (CPC) is a joint initiative between the University of Southampton
and a consortium of Scottish universities including St Andrews, Edinburgh, Stirling and Strathclyde, in
partnership with the Office for National Statistics and the National Records of Scotland.

UNIVERSITY OF
Southampton



THE UNIVERSITY
of EDINBURGH

University of
Strathclyde
Glasgow



UNIVERSITY OF
STIRLING



National
Records of
Scotland

Office for
National Statistics

