

Demography newsletter Welsh Government, June 2019

Electoral roll statistics 2018

The release [Electoral Statistics for the UK: 2018](#) was published by the ONS on 22 March 2019. It gives data on people registered to vote in parliamentary and local government elections as recorded in the electoral registers published on 1 December 2018 (England, Wales, Scotland, and Northern Ireland).

The total number of parliamentary electors in Wales is 2,230,100; a decrease of 1.4% between 2017 and 2018. This is the first percentage decrease seen since the year to December 2015 when the number of electors decreased by 2%.

Long-term international migration

In May the Office for National Statistics (ONS) published the [Migration Statistics Quarterly Report](#) (MSQR). The MSQR series brings together statistics on migration that are published by the Home Office, the Department for Work and Pensions and the ONS.

The [International Passenger Survey](#) estimates for long-term (that is, over 12 months) international migration show that for Wales in 2017 there were around 5,000 in-migrants from the EU and around 16,000 in-migrants from non-EU countries; and around 3,000 out-migrants to the EU and around 4,000 out-migrants to non-EU countries.

[Short-term international migration estimates](#) for Wales show that the number of short-term migrants to Wales has been steadily increasing since mid-2011, from around 2,200 in mid-2011 to around 5,400 by mid-2017 (provisional), with around 1,400 moving to Wales for employment and around 4,000 moving for study.

2017-based subnational population projections for Wales

The 2017-based sub-national population projections, due to be published in April 2019, have now been postponed due to an on-going staffing vacancy in the team and the need to support other priorities short term. They will now be published on 29 August 2019.

2017-based subnational household projections for Wales

The 2017-based sub-national household projections are due to be published in October 2019. The report will show results at a local authority and national park level.

Mid-2018 population estimates

The mid-2018 population estimates are due to be published on 26th June

Household estimates: mid-2018

The household estimates for mid-2018 are due to be published in October 2019.

Welsh language data from the Annual Population Survey

At the end of March the [Annual Population Survey \(APS\)](#) results on the Welsh language for the year up to December 2018 were published on our [StatsWales](#) website.

To accompany these results, the Chief Statistician published a [blog](#) explaining the background of the data, what they are showing, and discussing how they should be interpreted.

On 29 May a [statistical bulletin](#) was published which presented these APS findings in more detail, and also explored why the results differ from the Census (the key source used to measure the number of Welsh speakers).

Census (Return Particulars and Removal of Penalties) Bill

The [Census \(Return Particulars and Removal of Penalties\) Bill](#) was introduced in the House of Lords on 1 May 2019. The Bill will amend the [Census Act 1920](#) and the [Census Act \(Northern Ireland\) 1969](#) to remove the penalty for not responding to new census questions on sexual orientation and gender identity.

This means that the 2021 Census in England and Wales, and Northern Ireland, may include questions on sexual orientation and gender identity, which can be answered on a voluntary basis.

This Bill delivers on the proposals set out in the December 2018 White Paper, [Help Shape our Future: The 2021 Census of Population and Housing in England and Wales](#), which sets out the UK Statistics Authority's recommendations that these new questions be included in the 2021 Census in England and Wales, on a voluntary basis.

The Minister for Finance and Trefnydd laid a [legislative consent memorandum](#) for the Census (Return Particulars and Removal of Penalties) Bill in the National Assembly for Wales on 15 May 2019. This is because the Bill makes provision in relation to Wales for any purpose within the legislative competence of the National Assembly.

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