Census Data Quality Assurance

17 May 2010



Types of Quality Assurance (QA)

- Quality assurance of captured and coded data
- Quality assurance of downstream processes (including data security and integrity)
- Quality assurance of population counts, variable distributions and other checks on the final data set (e.g. mapping of population densities, quality of workplace addresses)







DownStream Processing (DSP)





QA Timetable

Dates	Tasks
August 2009 – April 2011	Testing and improvements on downstream processing system
May 2009 – October 2010	Detailed specification of functionality and checks of the Data Quality Management System (DQMS), including comparator data required
March 2010 – December 2010	Tolerance and diagnostic range methodology devised and built into DQMS
May 2009 – April 2011	Analysis of comparator sources and identification of data quality issues
January 2010 – April 2011	DQMS – IT development and testing
May 2011 – October 2011	Quality assurance of captured and coded data
January 2012 – May 2012	Quality assurance of population counts at local authority level during live running of DownStream Processing (DSP)
August 2012 – December 2012	Detailed demographic quality assurance (on coverage imputation at lower levels of Geography), quality assurance of variable distributions and other checks



QA plans

- Data Quality Management System (DQMS) with preplanned analyses to make maximum use of the time available
- Ability to drill down or carry out ad-hoc investigations as required
- Use of appropriate comparator data in the DQMS to highlight major differences



	Age group	Rehears al 09 Count	COMPA RATOR	Absolut e Differe nce	% differen ce	Lower Toleran ce %	Lower Bound	Upper Toleran ce %	Upper Bound	% diff from lower bound	% diff from upper bound
Pop. Count	0-4	24	11	13	118.2	10	9.9	10	12.1	142.4	98.3
SO1002348	5-9	24	42	-18	-42.9	10	37.8	10	46.2	-36.5	-48.1
	10-15	24	61	-37	-60.7	10	54.9	10	67.1	-56.3	-64.2
	16-19	31	33	-2	-6.1	10	29.7	10	36.3	4.4	-14.6
	20-24	25	36	-11	-30.6	10	32.4	10	39.6	-22.8	-36.9
	25-29	14	20	-6	-30.0	10	18	10	22	-22.2	-36.4
	30-34	18	16	2	12.5	10	14.4	10	17.6	25.0	2.3
	35-39	39	50	-11	-22.0	10	45	10	55	-13.3	-29.1
	40-44	51	60	-9	-15.0	10	54	10	66	-5.6	-22.7
	45-49	45	64	-19	-29.7	10	57.6	10	70.4	-21.9	-36.1
	50-54	65	66	-1	-1.5	10	59.4	10	72.6	9.4	-10.5
	55-59	90	64	26	40.6	10	57.6	10	70.4	56.3	27.8
	60-64	84	83	1	1.2	10	74.7	10	91.3	12.4	-8.0
	65-69	112	72	40	55.6	10	64.8	10	79.2	72.8	41.4
	70-74	53	53	0	0.0	10	47.7	10	58.3	11.1	-9.1
	75-79	43	36	7	19.4	10	32.4	10	39.6	32.7	8.6
	80-84	45	38	7	18.4	10	34.2	10	41.8	31.6	7.7
	85-89	16	24	-8	-33.3	10	21.6	10	26.4	-25.9	-39.4
	90 & over	4	12	-8	-66.7	10	10.8	10	13.2	-63.0	-69.7
	Total	807	841	-34	-4.0		841		841	-4.0	-4.0



Current Progress

Use of Rehearsal Data

- Data has been used to test the DownStream Processing (DSP) stages that have been completed. Improvements have been made to the processes.
- Early QA stages were tested on rehearsal data (Load and Validation and variable distributions).
- Rehearsal data is currently being compared to other sources to assess their use in the QA process.



Current Progress

- Consultations with Analytical Service Divisions within Scottish Government to identify comparator sources and to agree involvement in providing topic knowledge should issues be discovered
- Close collaboration between General Register Office for Scotland (GROS), Office for National Statistics (ONS) and Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency (NISRA) to share knowledge



Ongoing Areas

- Detailing of checks to be carried out and building of the Data Quality Management System (DQMS)
- Further analysis of comparator data and preparation of estimates and tolerances to be used in the DQMS
- Continued testing of the DownStream Processing (DSP) steps when completed
- Local authority involvement



Local Authority Involvement

Aims

- To inform about data processing and quality assurance
- To consider other comparator data sets
- To gain knowledge of local issues in preparation for quality assurance and for investigation of data anomalies



Questions?

