

Halifax press release

London boroughs see the biggest population rises over the past decade

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- **The four local authorities with the biggest percentage population growth between 1997 and 2007 are all in Greater London; City of London (40%), followed by Westminster (29%), Kensington and Chelsea (26%) and Camden (25%)**
- **74 areas (17% of all local authorities) recorded a population increase of 10% or more between 1997 and 2007. 46 of these are in southern England with only four in northern England – Richmondshire, Ribblesdale, York and Manchester**
- **The areas experiencing the largest percentage declines in population are Belfast (-7%), Inverclyde, Dundee City and the Western Isles (all falling by -6%)**
- **44 areas (10% of the total) saw a fall in population over the decade. All these areas are outside southern England with the exceptions of Poole, Forest Heath and Southend-on-Sea**
- **The population of Greater London is estimated to have grown by 542,000 to 7.56 million; an increase of 8% - above the UK growth rate of 5%**
- **The North East is the only region to have seen its population marginally decline in the last ten years with a marginal fall of 3,300**
- **UK population grew by 2.66 million (5%) between mid-1997 and mid-2007, from 58.31 million to 60.97 million**

Martin Ellis, Group Economist at Halifax Financial Services, said:

"Population changes are important to the development of the UK economy, determining the size of the working population and providing the backbone to the consumer economy."

Increases in the number of births, decreases in the number of deaths and changes in the pattern of international migration into and out of the UK have all contributed to population growth in the decade to 2007."

Shifts in local populations are also important to planners and developers. One of the key trends in the last decade has been the growth of inner city areas in Greater London coupled with declining populations in some of the UK's largest cities outside the capital such as Belfast, Dundee and Liverpool."

KEY FINDINGS

Local Authorities with Largest Population Growth 1997-2007 (Table 1)

The four local authorities with the largest population growth between 1997 and 2007 are all in Greater London; population of City of London rose by 40%, followed by Westminster (29%), Kensington and Chelsea (26%) and Camden (25%). At just 3 km², the City of London is Britain's smallest local authority with an estimated population of 8,000.

Three areas outside London recorded population increases of 20% or more during the decade: North Kesteven (21%), East Northamptonshire (20%) and Banbridge in Northern Ireland (20%).

74 local authorities – 17% of the total - recorded population growth of 10% or more over the 10 years. More than half of these areas (46) are in southern England. Only four

local authorities recording double digit growth population are in northern England; Ribble Valley (12%) and Manchester (10%) in the North West (12%), and Richmondshire (17%) and York (10%) - both in Yorkshire and the Humber.

Local Authorities with Falling Populations 1997-2007 (Table 2)

44 local authorities saw population declines, with 10 in the North East, 10 in the North West and 12 in Scotland. Apart from Forest Heath and Southend on Sea in the East of England and Poole in the South West, all other areas with a contraction in population during the decade are outside Southern England.

Five local authorities experienced a fall in population of 5% or more between 1997 and 2007. These were Belfast (-7%), Dundee City, Inverclyde, Western Isles (all -6%) and Liverpool (-5%).

The largest absolute declines in population were in Liverpool (21,000) and Belfast (20,000). The fall in Liverpool's population was mainly a result of outward migration (i.e. more people leaving Liverpool than moving into it) in every year since 1997. In the case of Belfast, several of the adjoining local authorities, such as North Down, Antrim, Newtownabbey and Lisburn, have all seen populations rise during period. This suggests more people have been moving from the city to nearby areas.

UK Regional Population Changes (Table 3)

In the decade to 2007, five regions recorded faster population growth rate than the UK average (5%); Greater London (8%), East of England (7%), South West (7%), East Midlands (7%) and South East (6%).

A fifth (20%) of the increase in UK's population in the period 1997-2007 was in Greater London (542,000 out of 2.66 million). The next biggest increase, in terms of numbers, was in the South East (456,000) followed by the East of England (394,000).

The North East population marginally declined (3,300) to 2.56 million during the 10 year period – the only region to experience a fall. After the North East, the smallest growth rates were in Scotland and North West (both 1%).

UK Population Changes (Table 4)

In the ten years to 2007, the population of the UK rose from 58.31 million to 60.98 million; an increase of just over 2.66 million, or 5%. Most of this growth has taken place between 2002 and 2007, when the UK's population rose by 1.65 million.

Population growth of 3% across the UK between 2002 and 2007 was the fastest during any five year period since 1982.

UK Population Change: The Drivers (Table 5)

Increases in the number of births, decreases in the number of deaths and changes in the pattern of international migration into and out of the UK have all contributed to population growth in the decade to 2007.

Net international migration¹ is the largest factor in population growth in the decade to 2007, contributing to 61% of the change.

The contribution of a natural change in population² to total change has increased over the period 1997 to 2007 - from an annual average of 37% in 1997-2002 to 40% in the second half of the decade (2002-2007).

Number of births exceeded the number of deaths by 103,000 per year, on average, in the decade to 2007. The total fertility rate ³ has increased from just over of 1.70 in 1997 to 1.90 children per woman in 2007; the highest since 1980.

Number of deaths registered has continued to fall during the decade; on average, there were 619,000 deaths per year during 1997 to 2002 falling to 606,000 in the period 2002-2007. In 2007 there 571,000 registered deaths representing a decline in registered deaths of 6% in the past 5 years.

¹ *Net international migration is the difference between the long term, i.e. at least a year, migration into and out of the UK.*

² *Natural change is the difference between live births and registered deaths during any given period.*

³*Total fertility rate (TFR): the average number of children a group of women would have if they experienced the age-specific fertility rates for a particular year throughout their child bearing life. For example, a TFR of 1.90 in 2007 means that a group of women would have an average of 1.90 children each during their lifetime based solely on 2007's age-specific fertility rates.*

EDITORS' NOTES

This research has been compiled using population data from the Office of National Statistics; the local authority population estimates have been sourced from the ONS's NOMIS database.

Changes in local authority boundaries during the period 1997-2007 can also affect local area population estimates. However, any changes that may have taken place were not known during the compilation of this research.

Table 1: Local Authorities with Largest Population Increases 1997-2007

Local authority: district / unitary	Region	Mid-1997	Mid-2007	Population growth 1997-2007 (%)	Population growth 1997-2007
City of London	London	5,700	8,000	40%	2,300
Westminster	London	181,800	234,100	29%	52,300
Kensington and Chelsea	London	142,100	178,600	26%	36,500
Camden	London	186,200	231,900	25%	45,700
North Kesteven	East Midlands	86,500	104,800	21%	18,300
East Northamptonshire	East Midlands	70,900	85,400	20%	14,500
Banbridge	Northern Ireland	38,700	46,400	20%	7,700
South Northamptonshire	East Midlands	75,800	90,300	19%	14,500
East Cambridgeshire	East of England	68,500	81,000	18%	12,500
Daventry	East Midlands	66,900	79,100	18%	12,200
Torridge	South West	55,100	65,000	18%	9,900
South Derbyshire	East Midlands	77,800	91,200	17%	13,400
Rutland	East Midlands	32,900	38,400	17%	5,500
Richmondshire	Yorkshire and The Humber	44,100	51,400	17%	7,300
Tower Hamlets	London	184,800	215,300	17%	30,500
Ballymoney	Northern Ireland	25,500	29,700	16%	4,200

Dungannon	Northern Ireland	46,900	54,300	16%	7,400
Mid Bedfordshire	East of England	116,000	133,900	15%	17,900
Ashford	South East	97,500	112,500	15%	15,000
Southwark	London	239,000	274,400	15%	35,400
Oswestry	West Midlands	35,200	40,400	15%	5,200
North Dorset	South West	59,000	67,600	15%	8,600
Mid Devon	South West	66,300	75,900	14%	9,600
Milton Keynes	South East	199,700	228,400	14%	28,700
South Holland	East Midlands	72,300	82,600	14%	10,300

Source: ONS Mid year 2007 estimates and Nomis

Table 2: Local Authorities with Biggest Population Falls 1997-2007

Local authority: district / unitary	Region	Mid-1997	Mid-2007	Population growth 1997-2007 (%)	Population growth 1997-2007
Belfast	Northern Ireland	287,700	267,500	-7%	-20,200
Inverclyde	Scotland	86,500	81,100	-6%	-5,400
Dundee City	Scotland	151,400	142,200	-6%	-9,200
Western Isles	Scotland	27,900	26,300	-6%	-1,600
Liverpool	North West	456,400	435,500	-5%	-20,900
West Dunbartonshire	Scotland	95,200	91,100	-4%	-4,100
East Dunbartonshire	Scotland	109,300	104,900	-4%	-4,400
Middlesbrough	North East	144,500	138,700	-4%	-5,800
Blaenau Gwent	Wales	72,000	69,200	-4%	-2,800
Burnley	North West	91,000	87,500	-4%	-3,500
Aberdeen City	Scotland	217,300	209,300	-4%	-8,000
Sunderland	North East	290,800	280,300	-4%	-10,500
Sefton	North West	286,500	276,200	-4%	-10,300
Renfrewshire	Scotland	175,800	169,600	-4%	-6,200
Shetland Islands	Scotland	22,800	22,000	-4%	-800
Stoke on Trent	West Midlands	247,400	239,000	-3%	-8,400
Wirral	North West	320,400	310,200	-3%	-10,200
Merthyr Tydfil	Wales	57,400	55,600	-3%	-1,800
Wolverhampton	West Midlands	242,900	236,000	-3%	-6,900
Gateshead	North East	195,900	190,500	-3%	-5,400
South Tyneside	North East	155,100	151,000	-3%	-4,100
Chester-le-Street	North East	54,500	53,200	-2%	-1,300
Newcastle upon Tyne	North East	278,200	271,600	-2%	-6,600
Salford	North West	223,900	219,200	-2%	-4,700
Blackpool	North West	145,500	142,500	-2%	-3,000

Source: ONS Mid year 2007 estimates and Nomis

Table 3: UK regions population estimates: mid-1997 mid-2002 and mid-2007

Region	Mid-1997	Mid-2002	Mid-2007	Population growth 1997-2002(%)	Population growth 1997-2007 (%)
North East	2,567,900	2,540,900	2,564,600	-1%	0%
North West	6,794,100	6,777,700	6,864,500	0%	1%
Yorkshire and The Humber	4,957,600	5,001,700	5,177,300	1%	4%
West Midlands	5,262,400	5,295,000	5,382,100	1%	2%
East Midlands	4,120,300	4,221,600	4,399,400	2%	7%
East of England	5,267,000	5,432,400	5,660,900	3%	7%
Greater London	7,014,500	7,361,600	7,556,600	5%	8%
South East	7,853,300	8,047,300	8,308,900	2%	6%
South West	4,827,000	4,973,700	5,177,800	3%	7%
Wales	2,894,700	2,919,600	2,979,900	1%	3%
Scotland	5,083,500	5,054,900	5,144,600	-1%	1%
Northern Ireland	1,671,200	1,696,500	1,758,800	2%	5%
UK Total	58,313,500	59,322,900	60,975,400	2%	5%

Source: ONS Mid year 2007 estimates and Nomis

Table 4: UK population estimates: mid-1997 mid-2002 and mid-2007

Country	Mid-1997	Mid-2002	Mid-2007	Population growth 1997-2002(%)	Population growth 1997-2007 (%)
England	48,664,100	49,651,900	51,092,100	2,428,000	5%
Wales	2,894,700	2,919,600	2,979,900	85,200	3%
Scotland	5,083,500	5,054,900	5,144,600	61,100	1%
Northern Ireland	1,671,200	1,696,500	1,758,800	87,600	5%
UK Total	58,313,500	59,322,900	60,975,400	2,661,900	5%

Source: ONS Mid year 2007 estimates and Nomis

Table 5: Components of Population Change

Components of change	Annual average (000's)			Mid year to mid year (000's)				
	1997-2002	2002-2007	1997-2007	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
Total change	202	331	266	234	289	393	349	388
Births	697	716	707	682	707	717	734	758
Deaths	619	593	606	605	603	591	575	571
Natural change	75	131	103	77	104	127	159	187
Net migration	127	200	163	157	185	266	190	201

Source: ONS Mid year 1997-2007 estimates

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