



**Michael Anderson and Graeme Roy on
Scotland's Populations**

Scotland's populations:
Using the past to inform the present
- and maybe the future??

Michael Anderson
(m.anderson@ed.ac.uk)

Where we are now?

Scotland's 2018 population about 5.44 million –
up from a 2000 population of 5.06 million

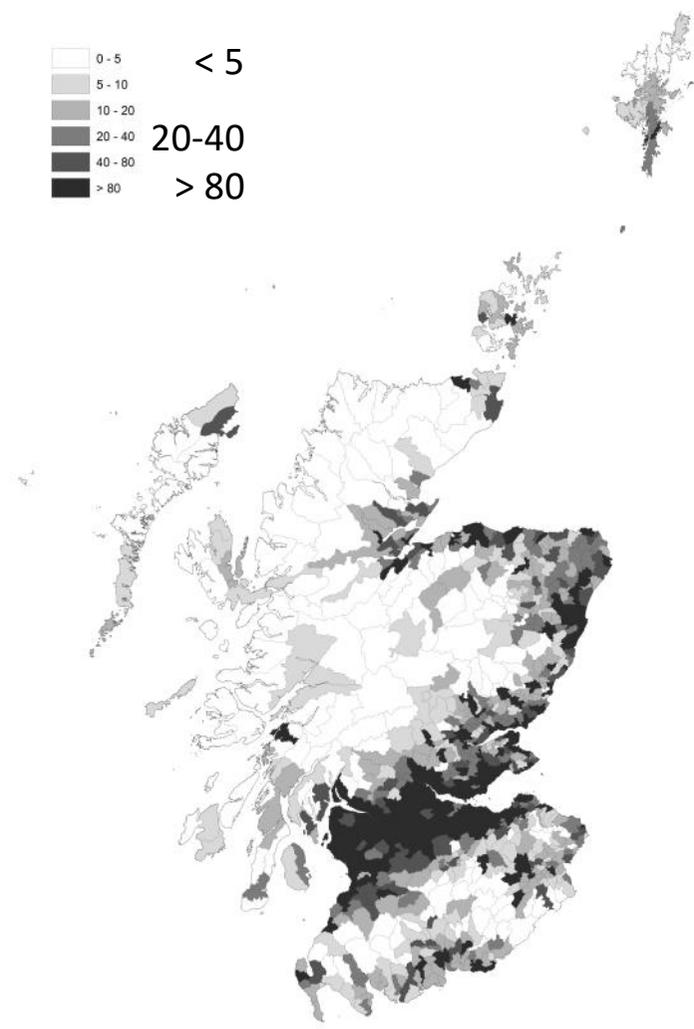
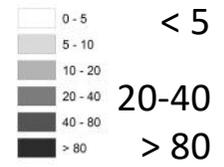
Where we are now?

Scotland's 2018 population about 5.44 million –
up from a 2000 population of 5.06 million

But we have a very uneven spatial distribution:

One strand in our pervasive and perduring
'Multiple Scotlands'.

**Population density, persons per square kilometre
2001**



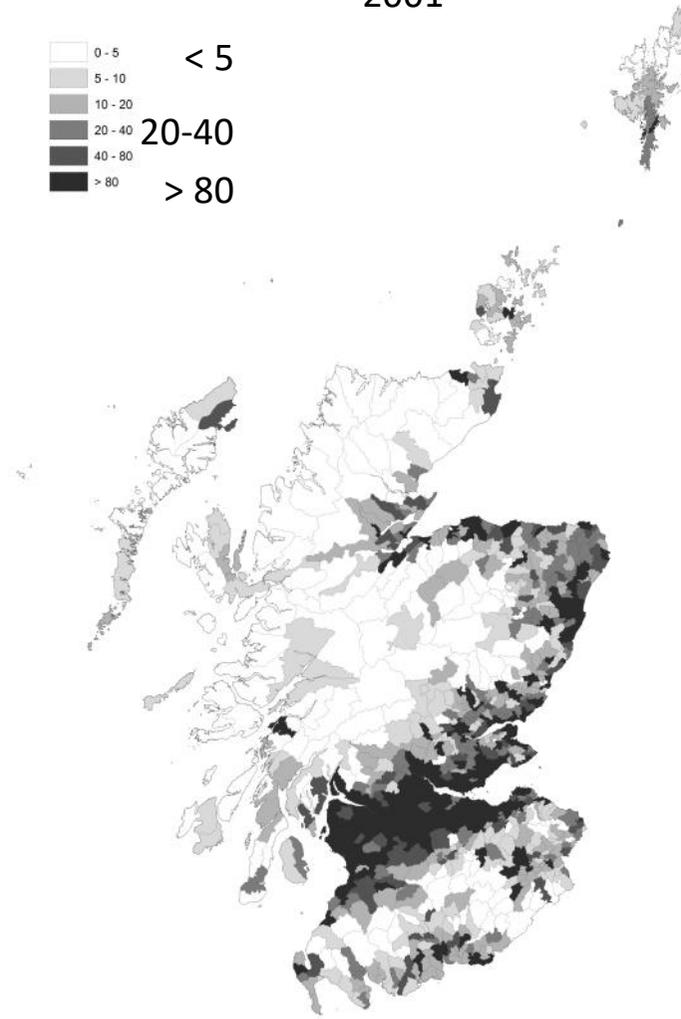
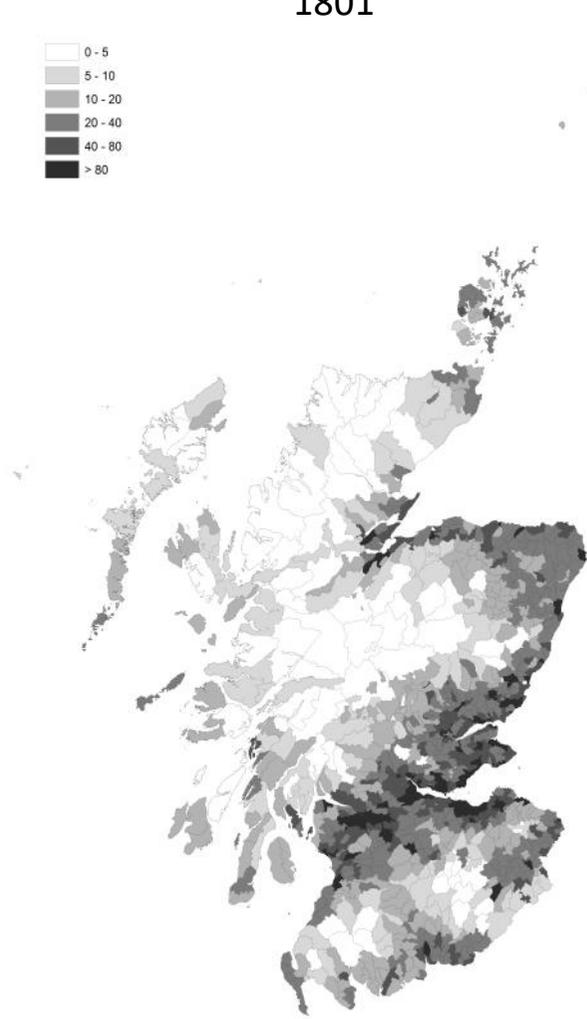
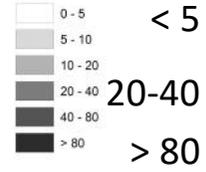
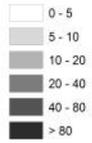
Population density, persons per square kilometre

1801

2001

1801

2001



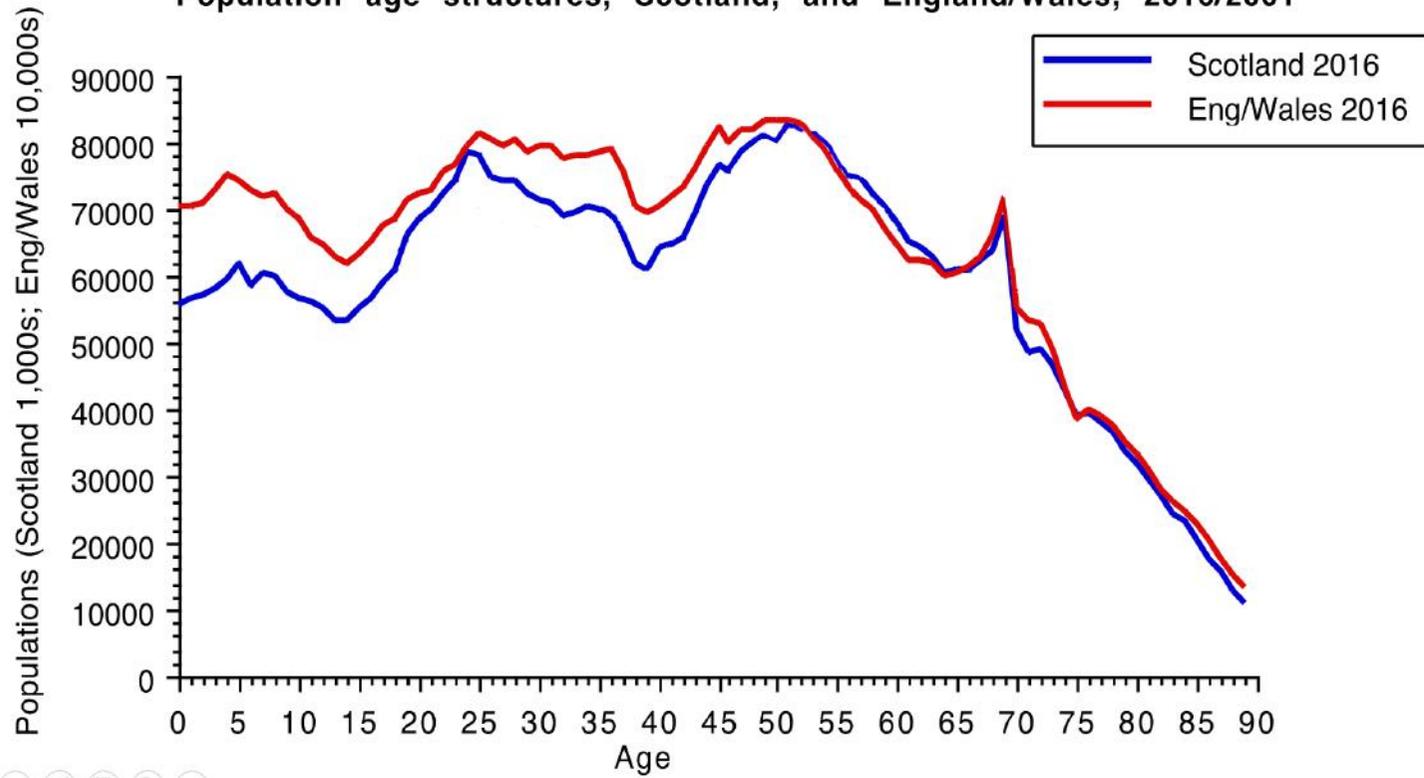
Where we are now?

Scotland's 2018 population about 5.44 million –
up from a 2000 population of 5.06 million

But with a very uneven (and longstanding) spatial
distribution,

And, crucially, with a very unbalanced age structure.

Population age structures, Scotland, and England/Wales, 2016/2001



Where we are now?

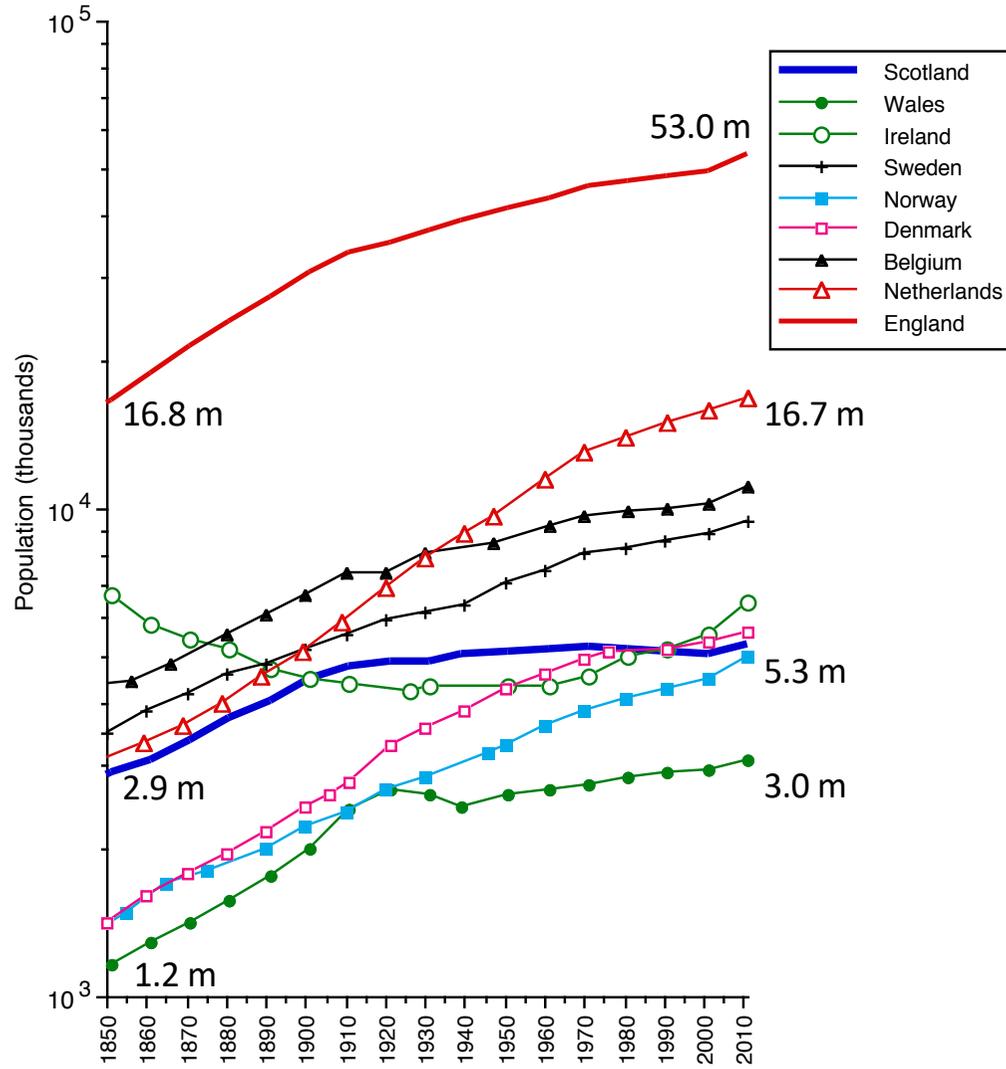
Scotland's 2018 population about 5.44 million –
up from a 2000 population of 5.06 million

But with a very uneven (and longstanding) spatial
distribution,

And with a very unbalanced age structure.

Following from 100 years of stuttering growth,
with big contrasts between different parts of the
country

Population, selected north-western European countries, c1850-2011



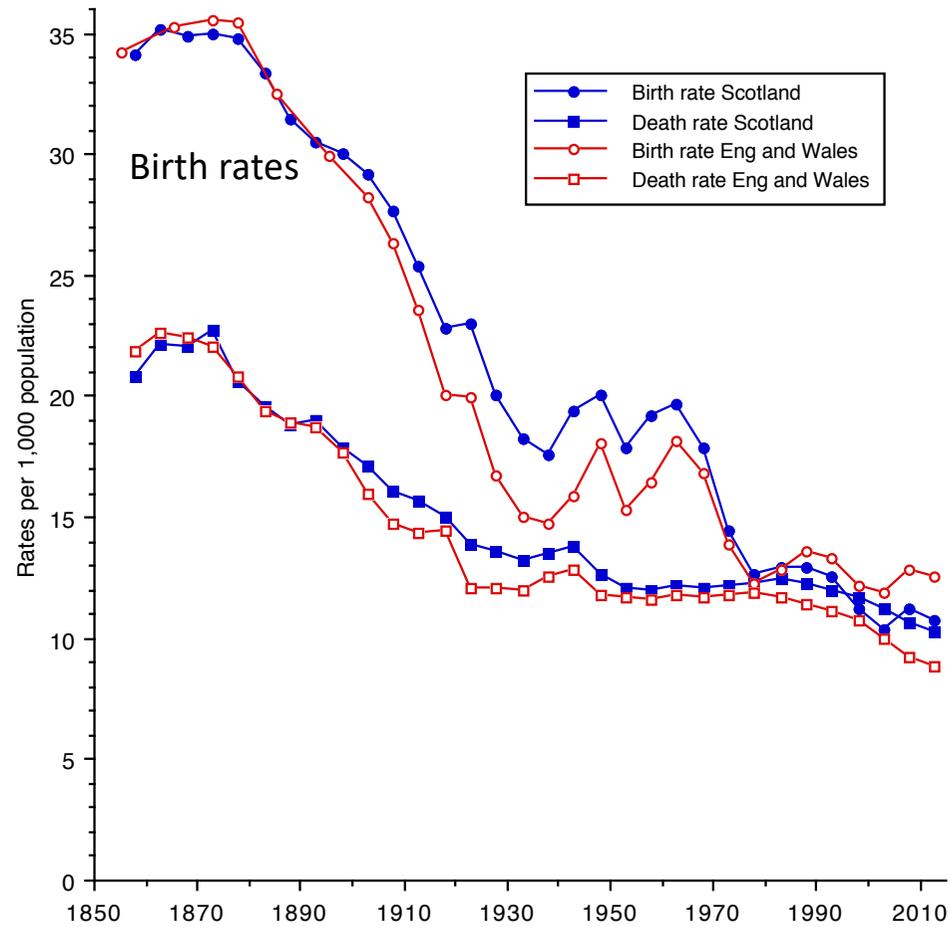
Components of population change, Scotland and England and Wales, 1861-2011

Birth rates:

Internationally high until the 1960s, but falling below England and Wales since the 1970s, and a big gap since c2000

Birth and death rates, per 1000 population, Scotland and England and Wales, 1855 to 2016 (5 year means)

Crude birth and death rates, Scotland and England and Wales, 1855-2015 (five year means)



Components of population change, Scotland and England and Wales, 1861-2011

Birth rates:

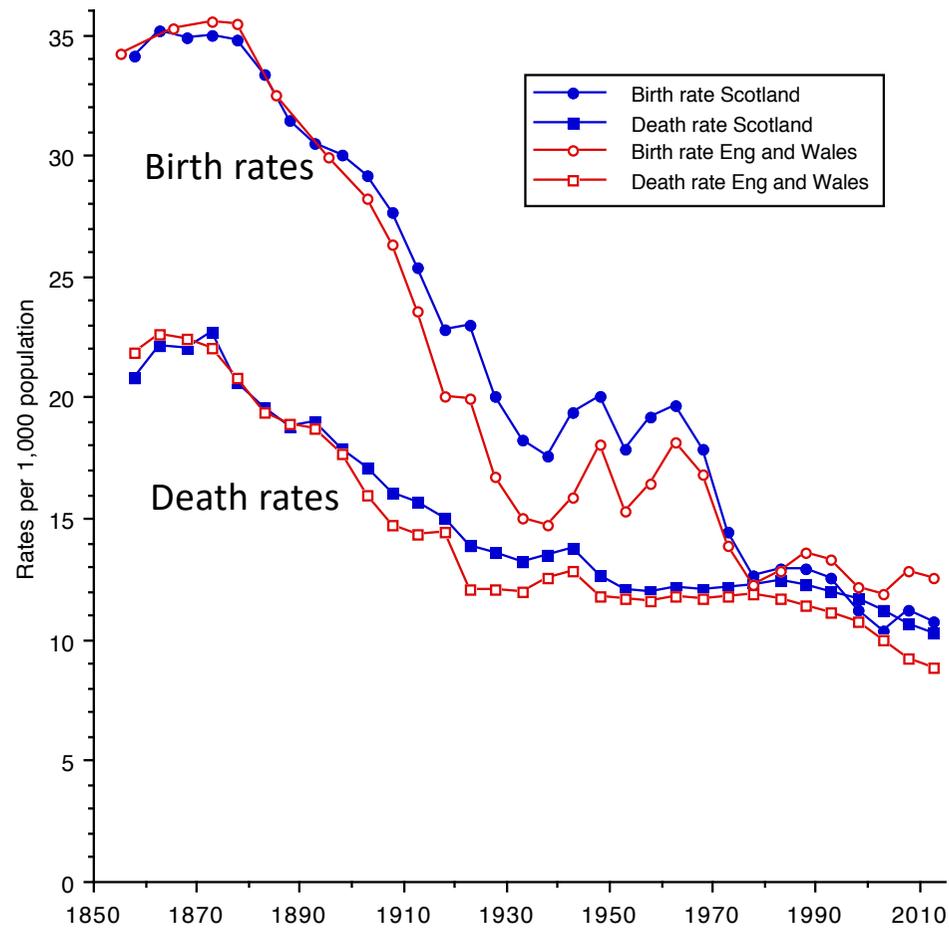
Internationally high until the 1960s, but falling below England and Wales since the 1970s, and a big gap since c2000

Death rates,

Internationally Scotland's high since at least the 1870s but a big gap above England and Wales since c2000

Birth and death rates, per 1000 population, Scotland and England and Wales, 1855 to 2016 (5 year means)

Crude birth and death rates, Scotland and England and Wales, 1855-2015 (five year means)



Components of population change, Scotland and England and Wales, 1861-2011

Birth rates:

Internationally high until the 1960s, but falling below England and Wales since the 1970s, and a big gap since c2000

Death rates,

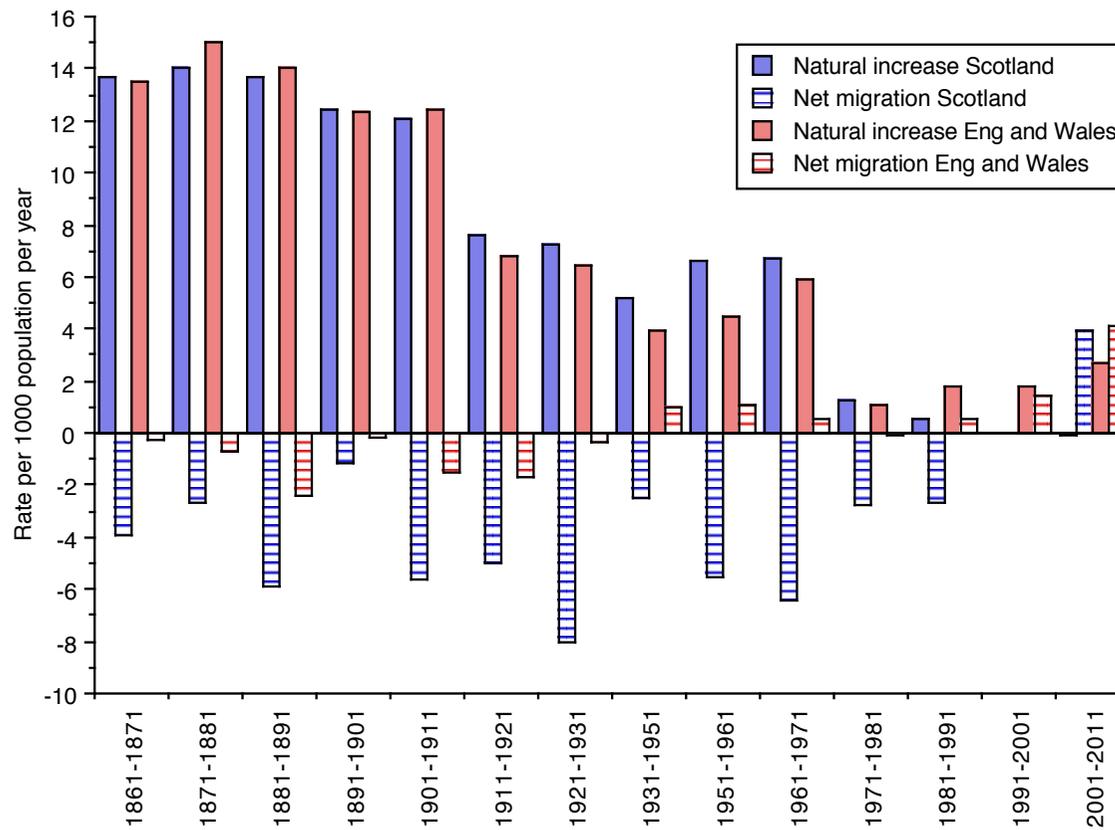
Internationally Scotland's high since at least the 1870s but a big gap above England and Wales since c2000

So: natural increase, having been very high, declined and even went negative in the 1990s

Components of change

Natural increase and net migration 1861-2011

Natural increase and net migration, per 1000 population, 1861-2011,
Scotland and England and Wales



Components of population change, Scotland
and England and Wales, 1861-2011

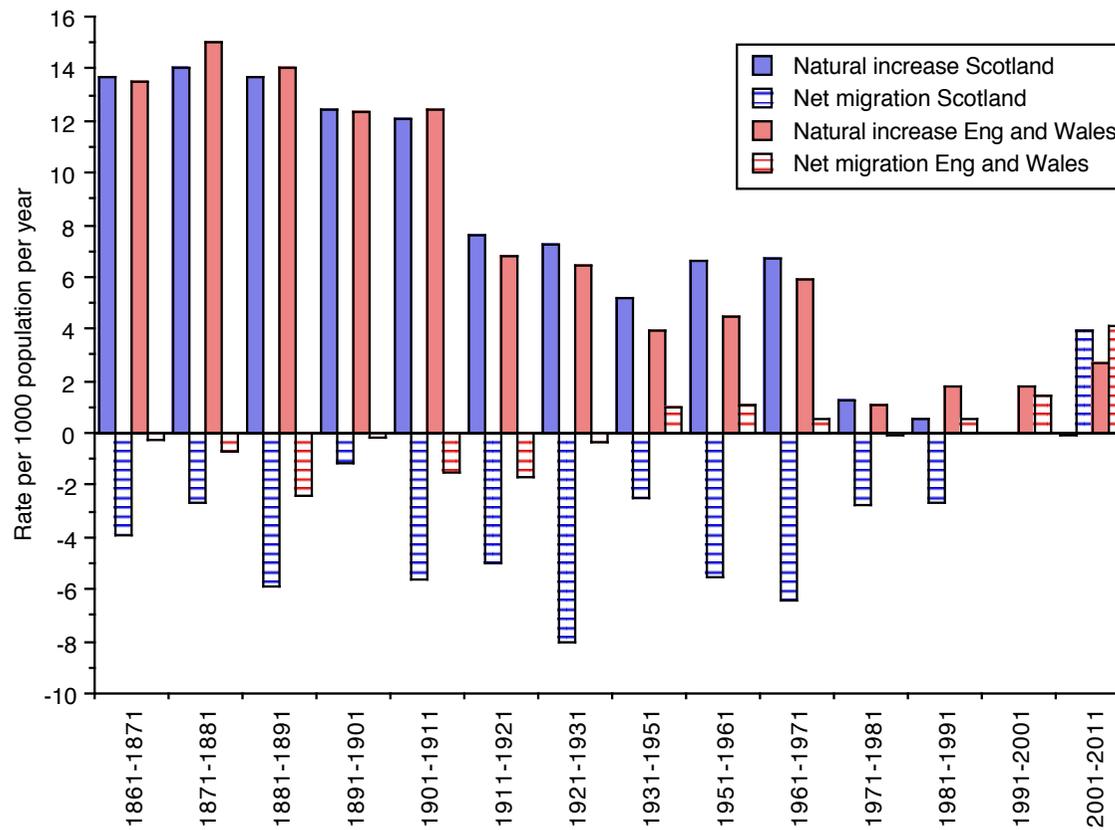
But the key factor in variations and change in
population growth and fluctuations has been:

Net migration: with a fluctuating but persistently high
net out-flow, only going positive since c2000

Components of change

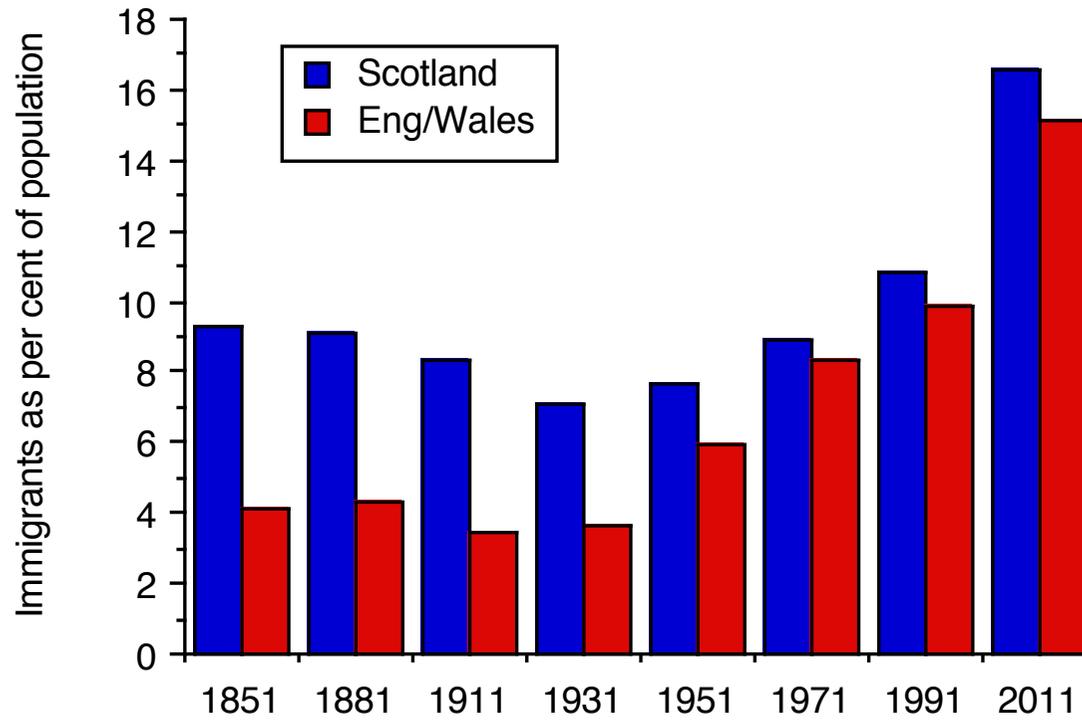
Natural increase and net migration 1861-2011

Natural increase and net migration, per 1000 population, 1861-2011, Scotland and England and Wales



However, net out-migration has never meant that Scotland did not have immigration

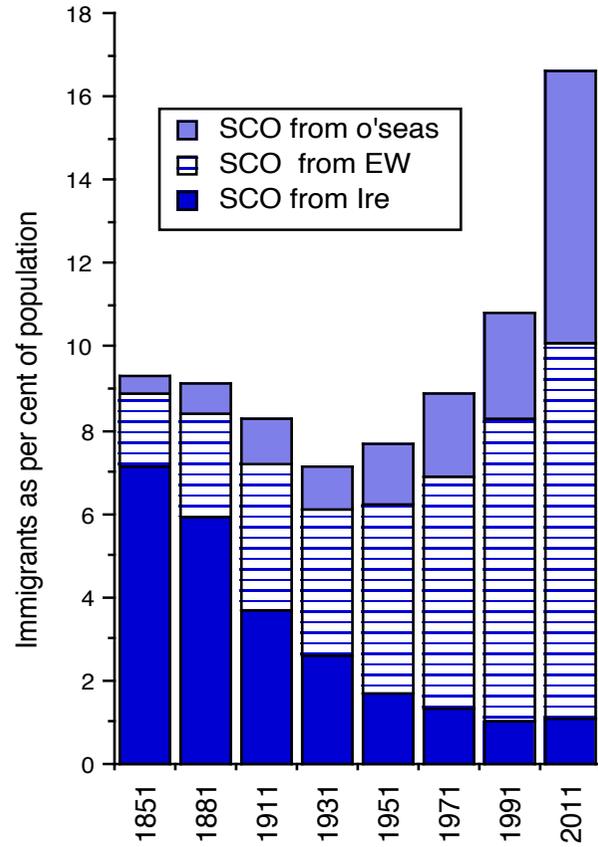
Immigrants as per cent of the population, Scotland and England and Wales, 1851 to 2011



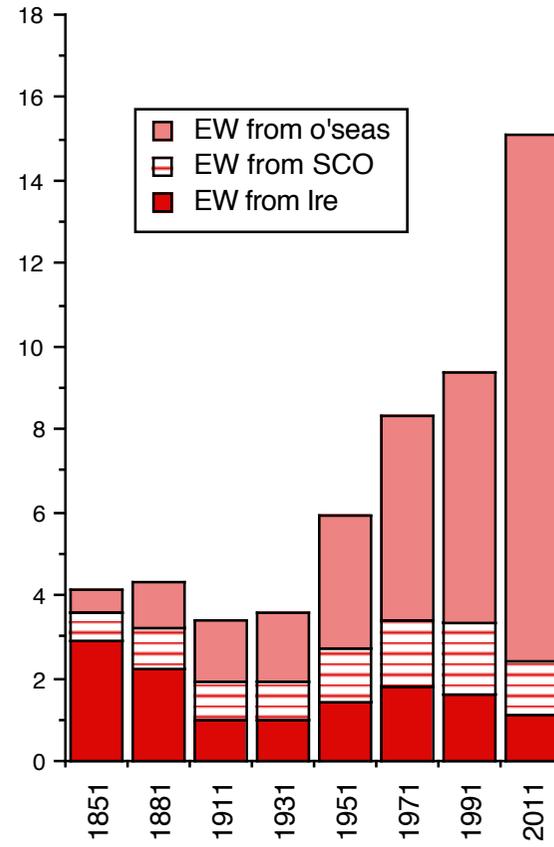
However, net out-migration has never meant that Scotland had no immigration

But: a different balance from England and Wales
(more from RUK, fewer from overseas – but note recent surge)

**Immigrants per cent of population,
Scotland, 1851-2011**



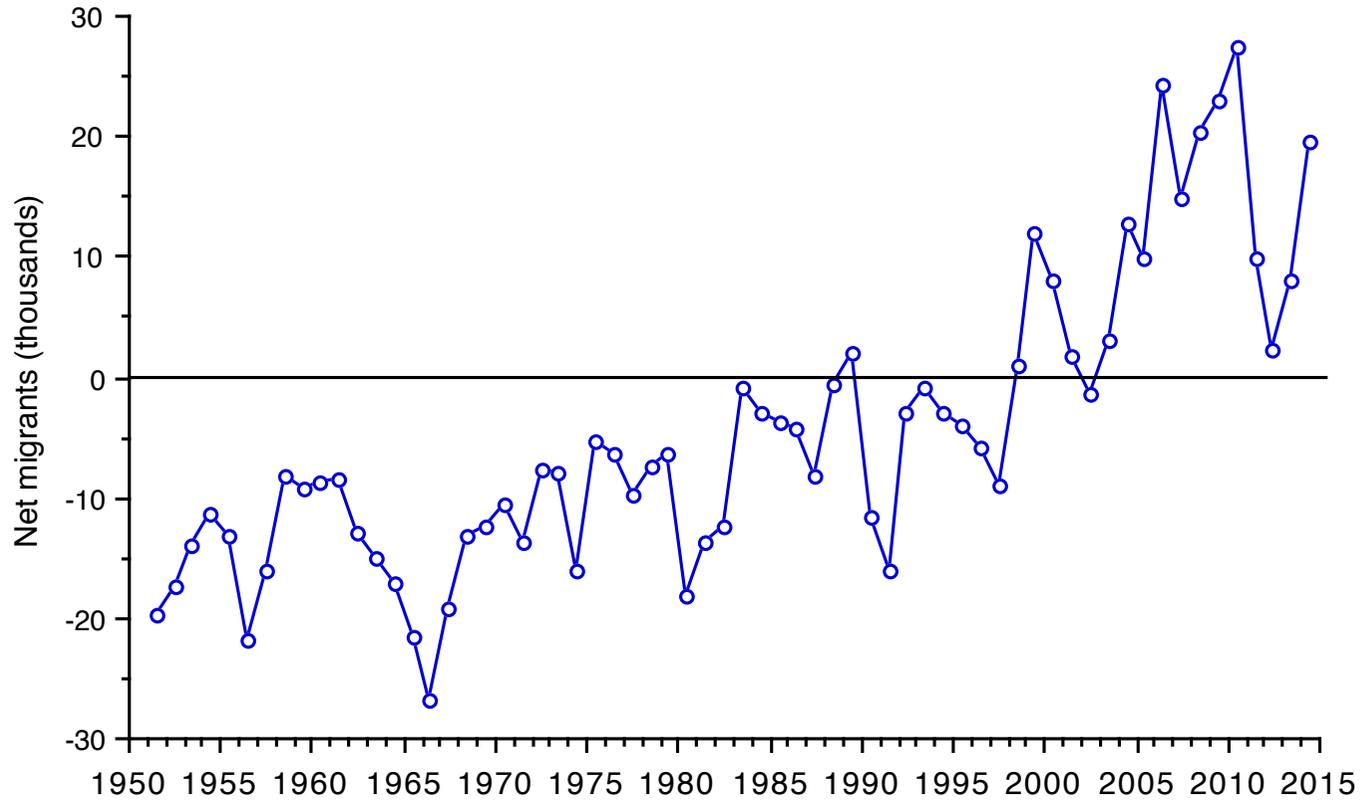
**Immigrants per cent of population,
England/Wales, 1851-2011**



But note:

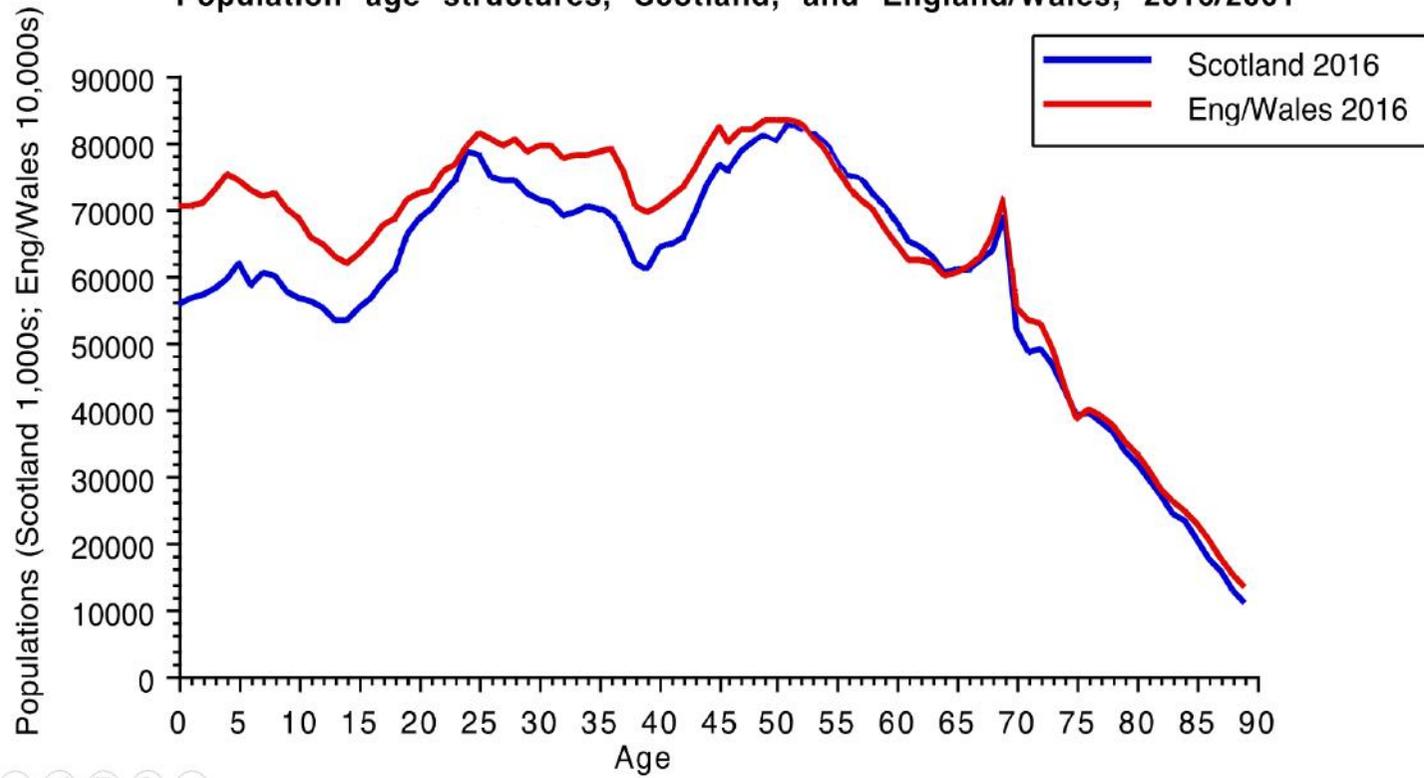
Net overseas migration is a very unstable component,
always very vulnerable to sudden rapid change

Net overseas migration, Scotland, 1951 to 2015

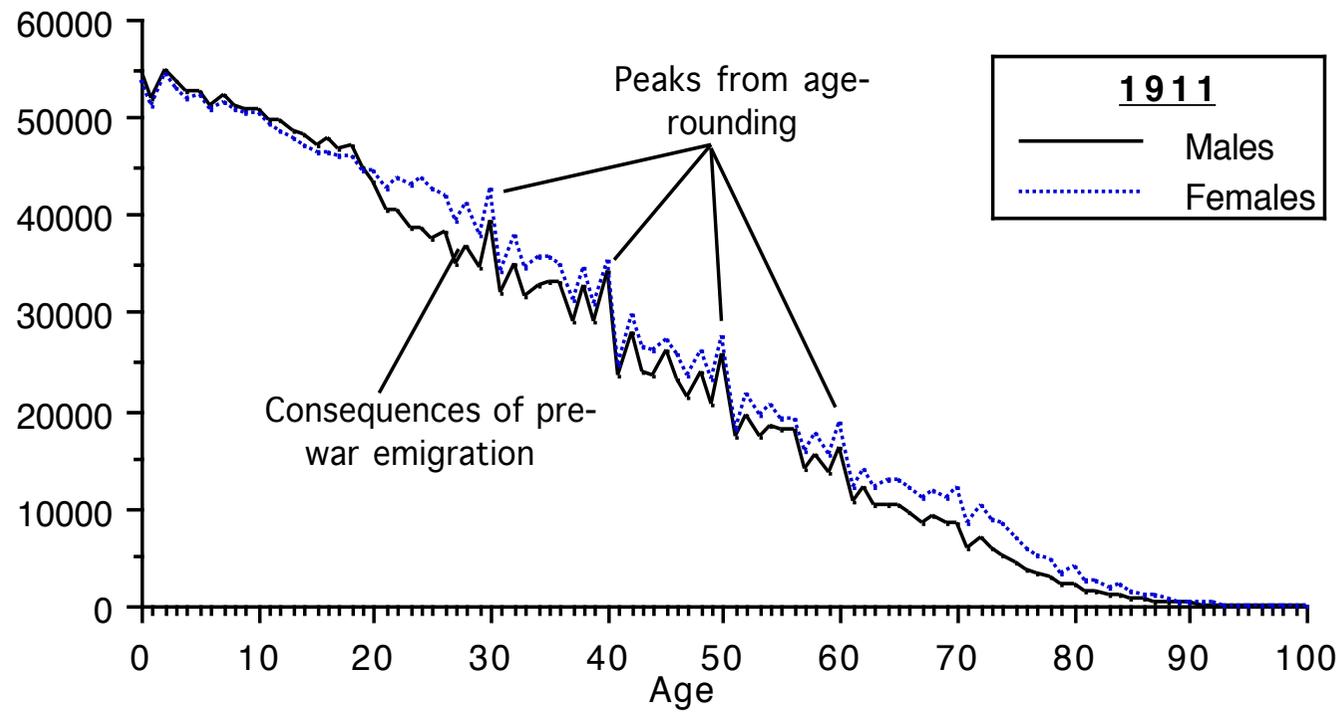


Each of these trends has contributed to the present highly unbalanced age structure

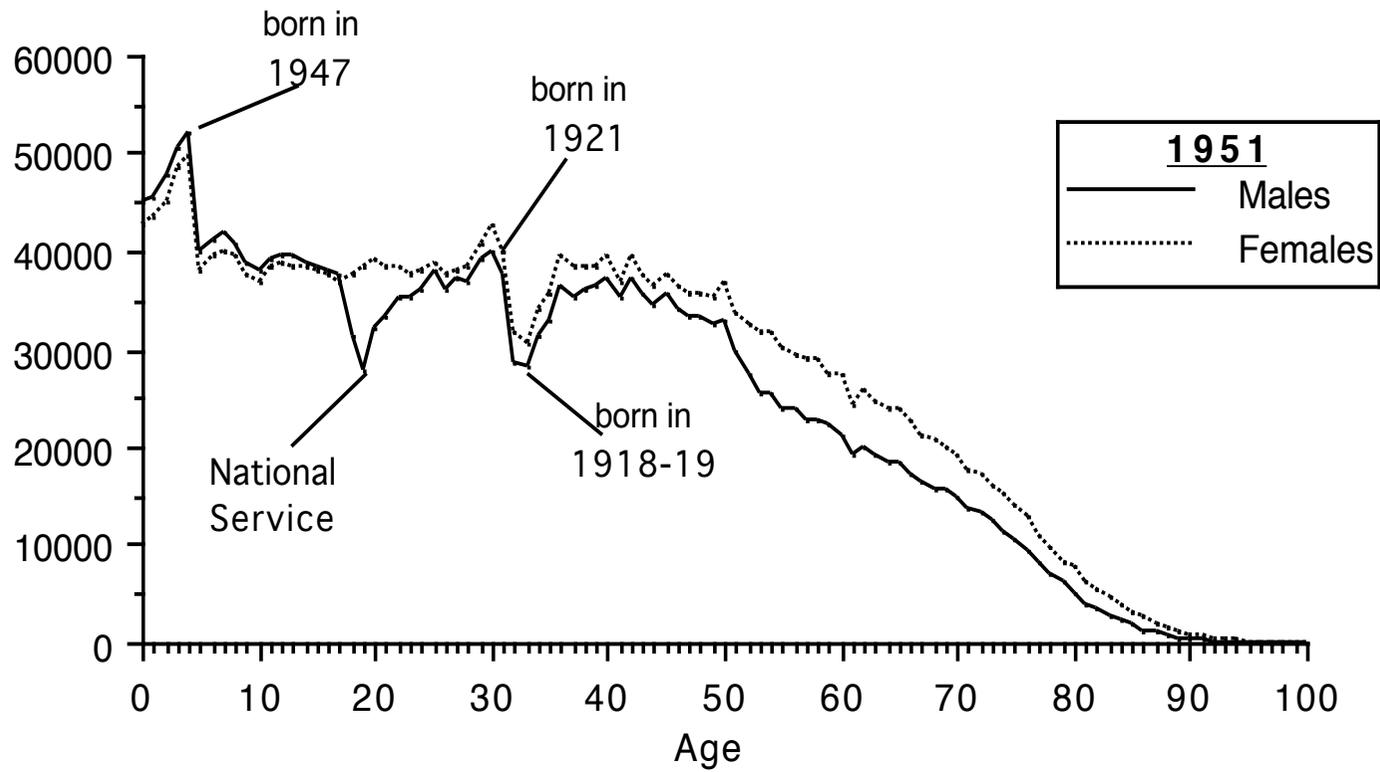
Population age structures, Scotland, and England/Wales, 2016/2001



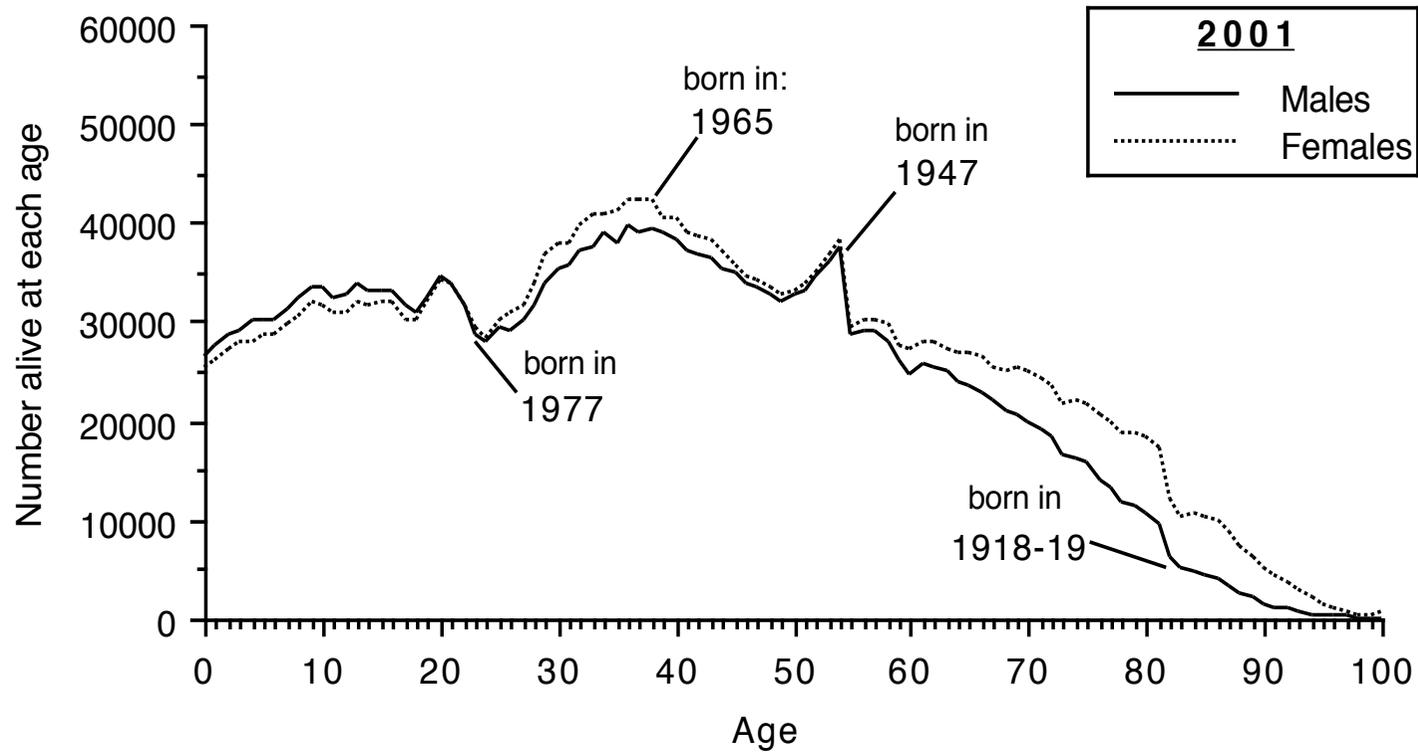
Population age structure, males and females, 1911



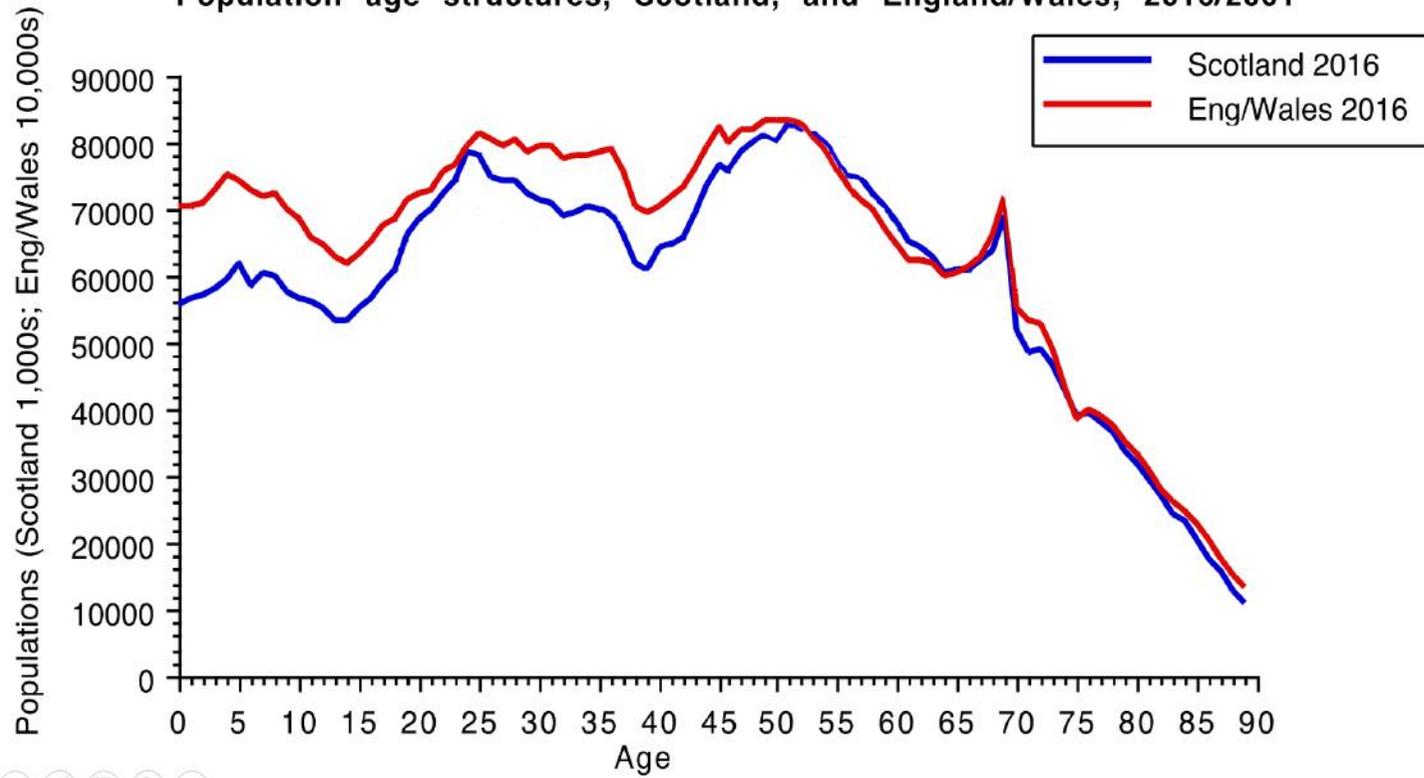
Population age structure, males and females, 1951



Population age structure, males and females, 2001



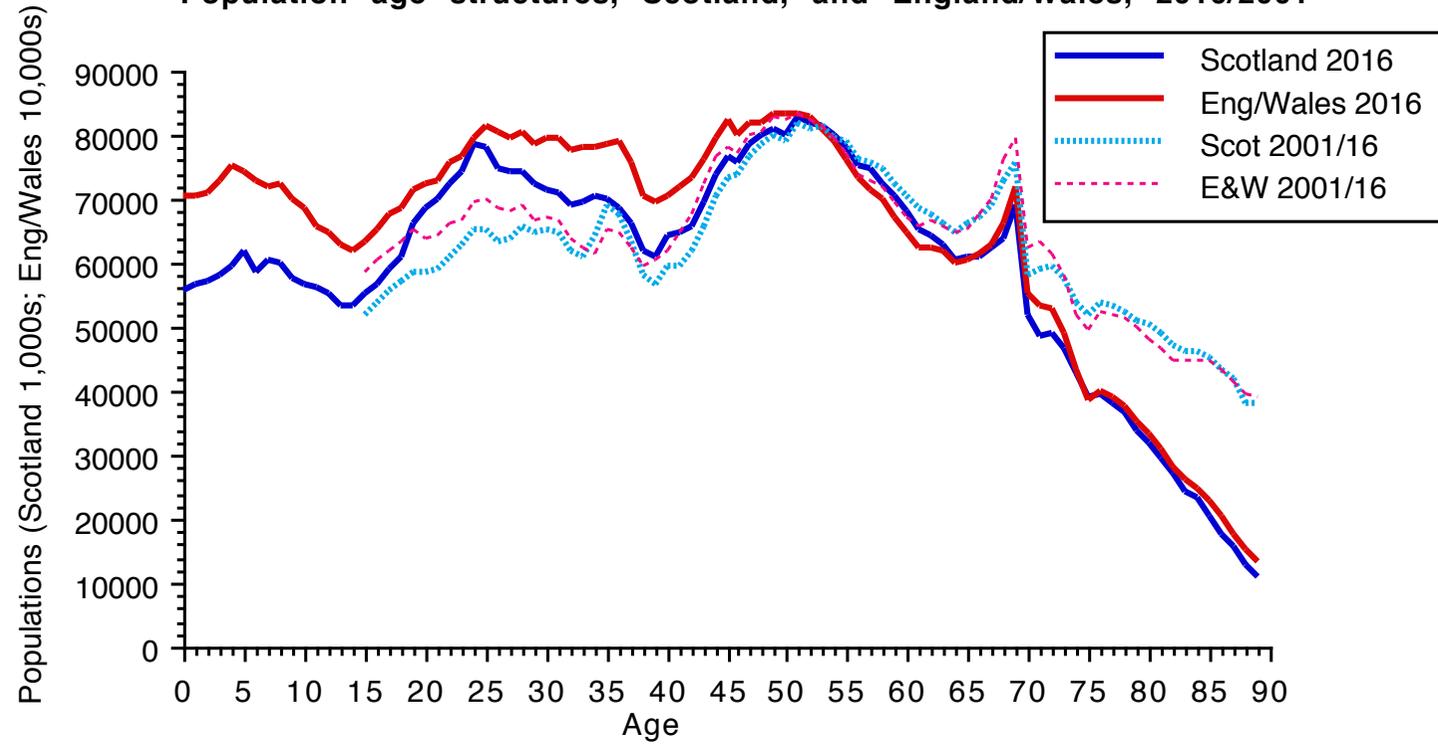
Population age structures, Scotland, and England/Wales, 2016/2001

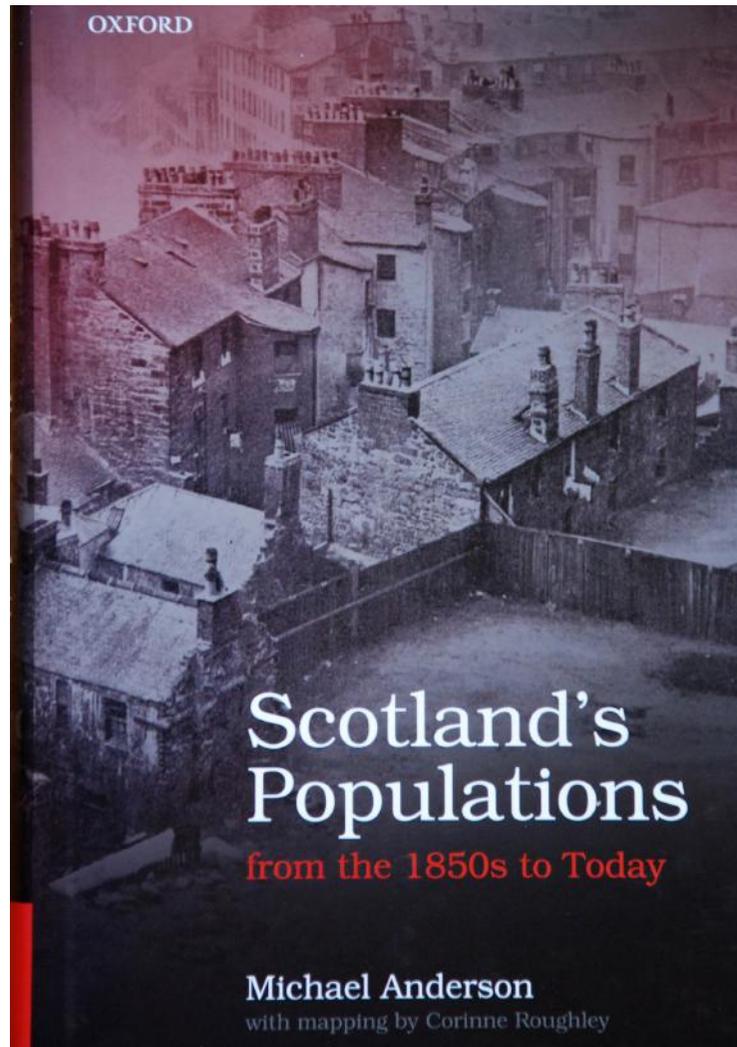


Each of these trends has contributed to the present
highly unbalanced age structure

It is the recent immigration that has had a
potentially misleading effect
(see projection of 2001 age profile forward to 2016)

Population age structures, Scotland, and England/Wales, 2016/2001





m.anderson@ed.ac.uk