

Incorporating changes to the 2001 base population in the GLA Demographic model

In *Demography Update 2006/1*, the methodology used to adjust the 2001 base population for use in the GLA models was described. Following the adjustments, the GLA Central projection (ie trend-based) model was run using the new base. This *Update* describes the key differences in the projections, focussing on London with some borough examples. The primary reason for this work was to improve the data informing the GLA School Rolls Projections Service, therefore the main comparisons have been made for ages up to 5 and only in the period 2001-06. In this *Update* the data based on the new base will be referred to *2006 Round*.

The adjustments to the base population were only made to children aged 0 to 4 years old, and the total population was constrained to the total population from the ONS mid-year estimates, in order to retain consistency with previous Rounds.

As Chart 1 shows, in 2001 the adjustments to the number of 0-4s produced an increase in the 0-2s and a decrease in the number of 3 and 4 year olds. In 2002, 2003, etc this resulted in increases, between 2005 Round and 2006 Round, for the relevant cohorts ie 1-3s in 2002.

Chart 1: Difference in numbers of 0-4 year olds at 2001, by single years of age

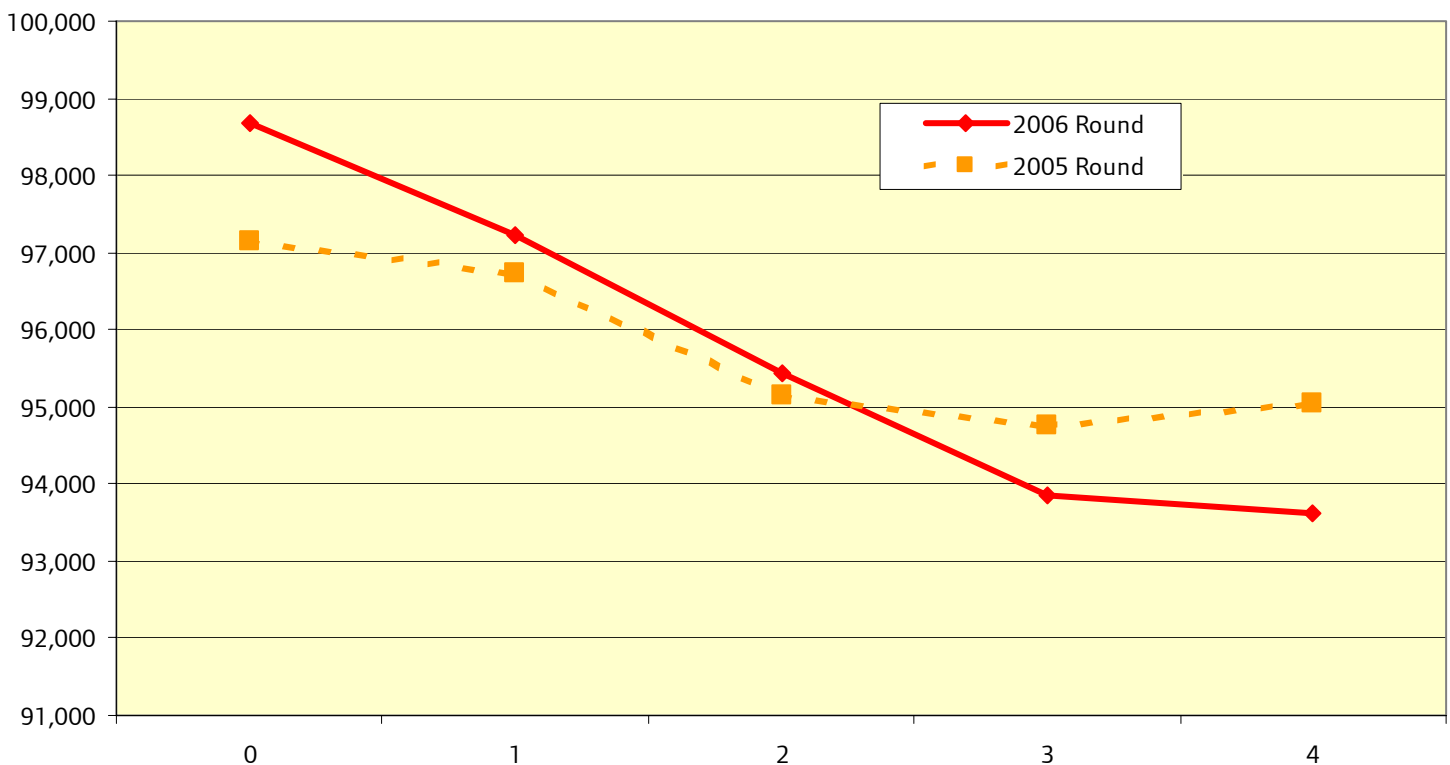
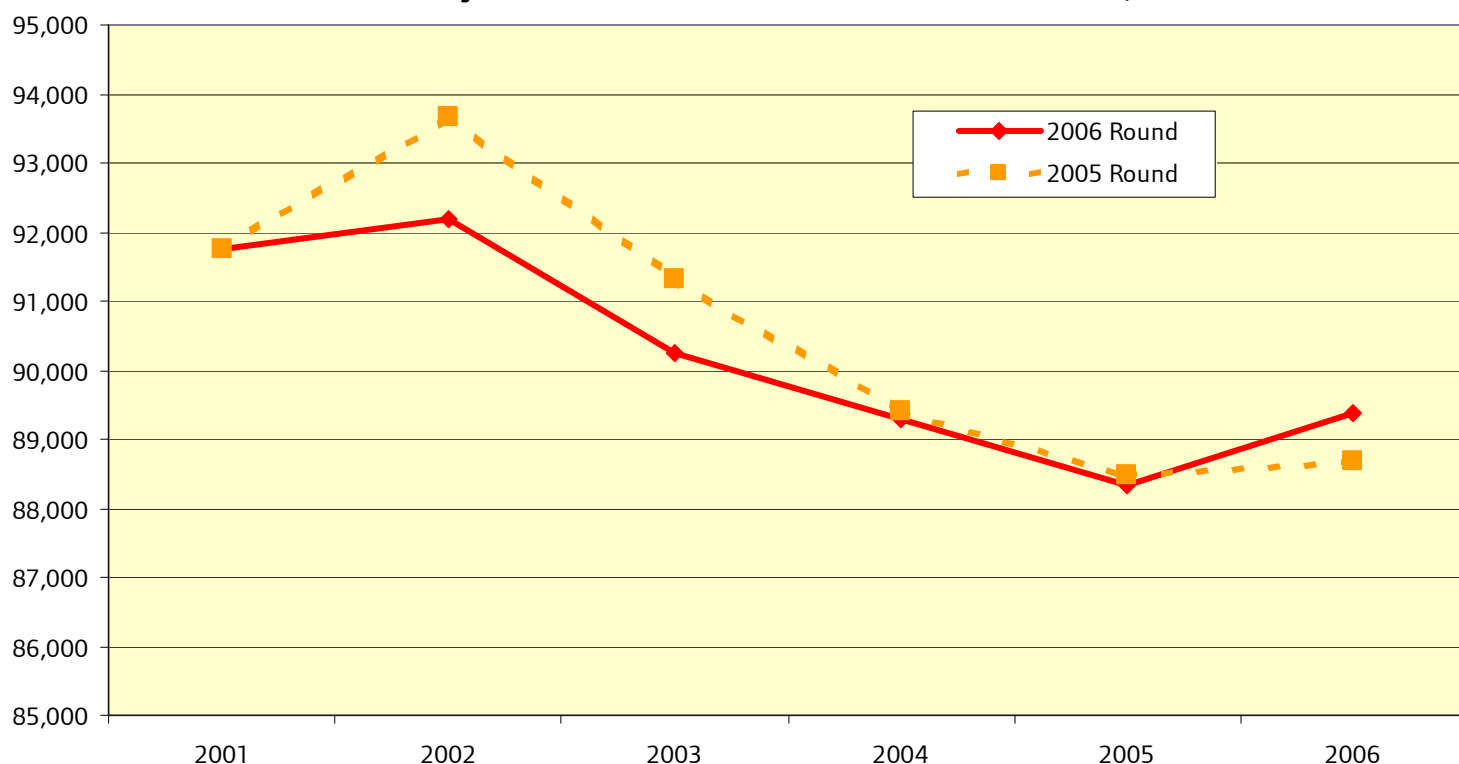


Chart 2: Difference in 5 year olds between 2006 Round and 2005 Round, 2001-2006



As Chart 2 shows the impact on the number of 5-year olds by 2006 (ie when all the adjusted 2001 age cohorts will have reached the age of 5) is that there is a smoother trend from year to year, reflecting better the past changes in the annual numbers of births in London. Overall, the impact on Outer London is less than Inner London, reflecting the fact that a smaller adjustment was required in most Outer London boroughs than the Inner London boroughs. The differences are small though; at most, the 2006 Round is around 2% lower than the 2005 Round for any of the 5-year age groups in any borough. The boroughs affected most are Camden, Hammersmith & Fulham, Haringey, Islington, Kensington & Chelsea and Westminster.

This exercise was carried out to check the output once the new adjustments were incorporated, however these data will not be released until the final 2006 Round of projections is produced in Autumn 2006; they will also take account of the ONS 2005 mid-year estimates and new births, deaths and migration data.

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