

FIELD CAPACITY FOR SCOTLAND'S LARGE SCALE SURVEYS

1. At the last SPSCC meeting, action 06/13 concerned the pulling together of field information for Scotland's main surveys for the next five years. Information was duly gathered on known field dates, estimated interviews per month, contractors and data capture methods. OCS thanks the survey managers for providing this information.
2. The Census 2011 rehearsal is scheduled for 2009 but no details are available on interview numbers.
3. For some surveys (SHS, SHeS, FRS), the information was supplied at person level and household level. For consistency, information has been charted at person level but it should be noted that some surveys conduct multiple interviews at each household.
4. Chart 1 shows the CAPI interviews per month for each survey between January 2007 and December 2011. LFS and FRS account for over 2,500 interviews per month - every month due to their continuous nature. The combined interviews of SHS, SHeS and SCJS amounts to more than 3,000 per month for the 2 ½ year period from October 2007 to April 2010. A peak is evident in January and February 2008 with over 7,000 interviews each month.
5. Total interviews per year are shown in chart 2. This shows a peak in 2008 with 87,000 interviews planned! For the 5 year period 2007-2011, 353,400 interviews are planned which is approximately 7% of the population of Scotland. **This further highlights the increasing need for survey harmonisation.**
6. Contractors share of the field for 2007-11 is shown in chart 3. Once SCJS and SHeS contracts have been awarded, OCS will revisit this chart to update it as well as drawing it up on a cost basis.
7. The charts make interesting viewing although caution, due to uncertainty, is advised and they are not intended for use in planning as they stand. **Members are asked for views on these charts.**

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Chart 2 - CAPI interviews per year in Scotland

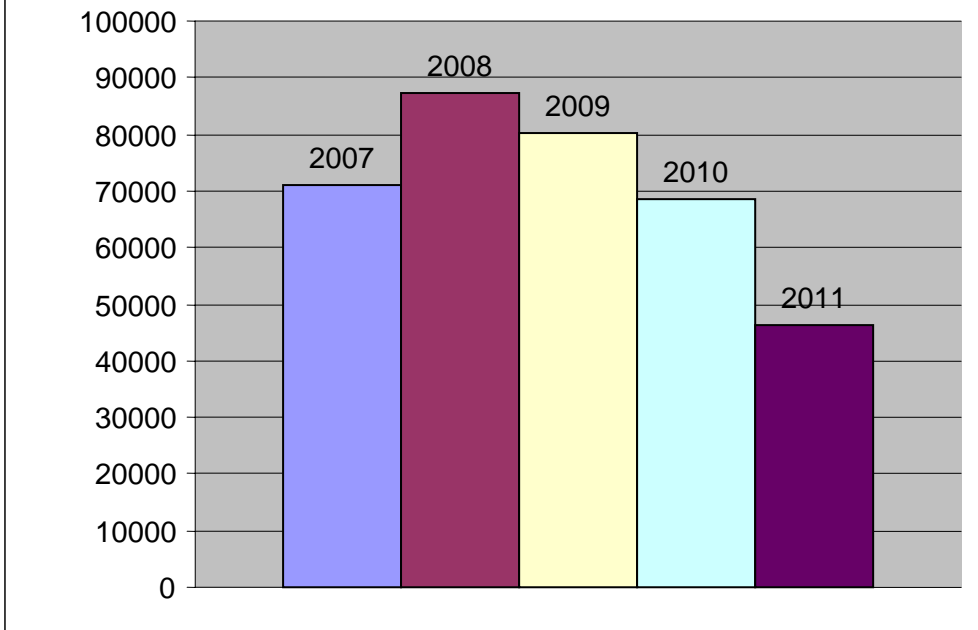


Chart 3 2007-11 Contractor Interview Share

