

*Lecture to the Polson Institute, Cornell University,
21 October 2005*

The 'counterurbanization cascade'

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The ‘counterurbanization cascade’ in the UK since 1991: The evidence of a new data set

- Migration is a central policy issue, including within-UK movement
- Paper uses the first three years of Patient Register migration data
- Testing for a continued urban-rural gradient in internal migration
- More detailed analysis based on the ‘counterurbanisation cascade’ framework



Introduction to Patient Register migration data

- Provides annual estimates of migration between LA districts of England & Wales
- Starting year ending June 1999, this paper based on three years ending June 2001
- Matrix of migration flows between each LA area and the 375 others, unrounded totals
- Includes student moves to and from place of study, excludes moves of military personnel



Urban-rural gradient - I

- 13 classes of the 376 LA districts arranged by metro/urban status. See Table 1.
- 4 categories of Metro England lost 300k net to Rest of UK in 3 years 1998-2001, i.e. 100k pa; especially Inner London (-34k pa).
- Large NonMetro Cities -14k pa net, Small NonMetro Cities -1.6k pa,
- New Towns -1.3k pa.



Urban-rural gradient - II

- 6 of 9 non-metro categories have net gains, especially Resort, Port & Retirement (+33k pa) and Remoter Rural (+34.1k pa)
- Quite strong negative relationship between metro/urban status and net migration rate, except RPR type out of line.
- Pattern very similar to original (1990-91) results. Main differences are for RPR; also Small Nonmetro Cities and New Towns).

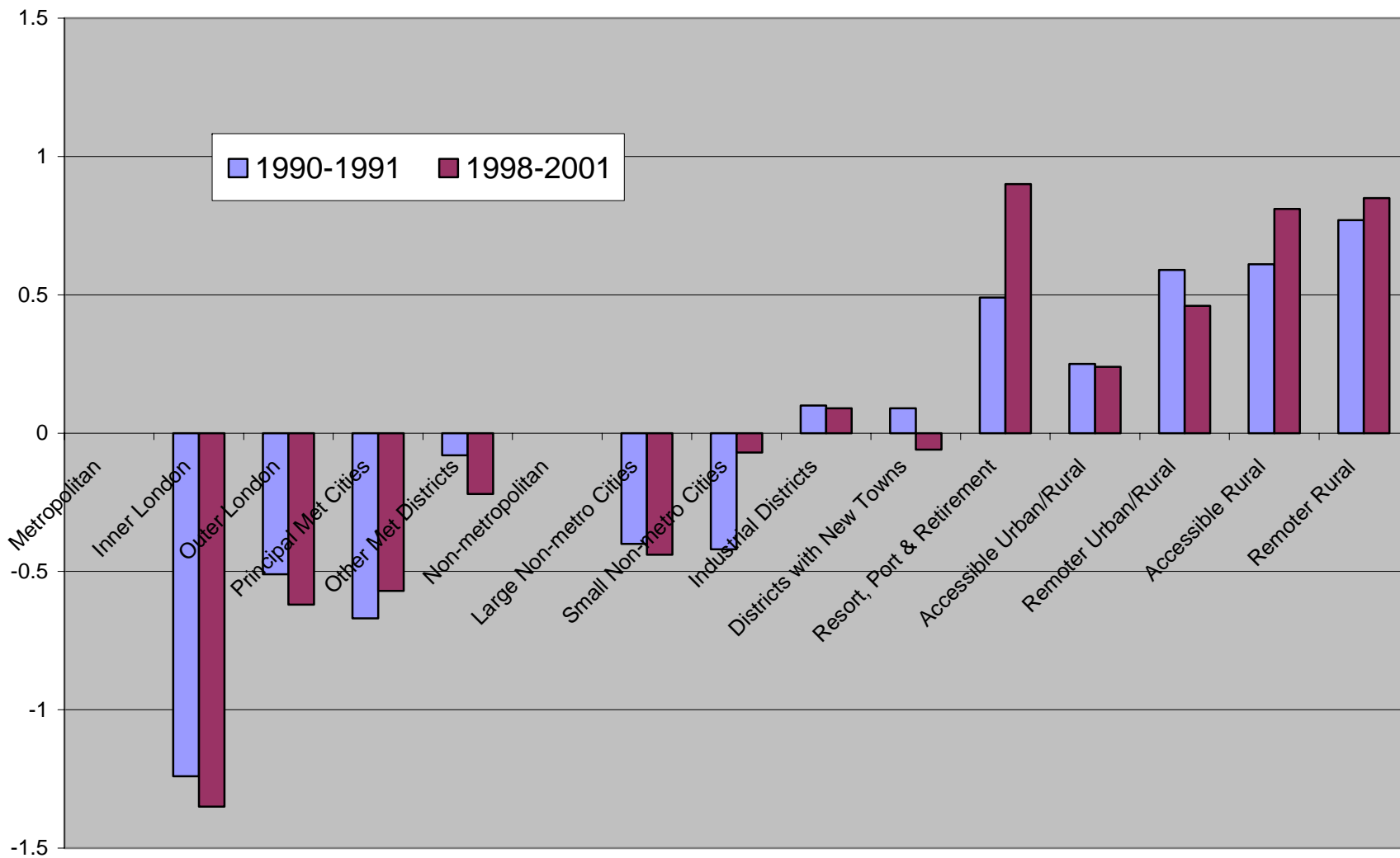


Table 1. Migration between 13 types of local authority districts, England and Wales, 1998-2001 and comparison with 1990-91

District type	in-migration	out-migration	net migration	% net 3 years	% net pa	1990-91 %
<i>Metropolitan</i>						
Inner London (IL)	347515	459614	-112099	-4.05	-1.35	-1.24
Outer London (OL)	479084	561508	-82424	-1.87	-0.62	-0.51
Principal Metro Cities (PMC)	355699	412089	-56390	-1.71	-0.57	-0.67
Other Metro Districts (OMD)	455500	504759	-49259	-0.65	-0.22	-0.08
<i>Non-metropolitan</i>						
Large Non-metro Cities (LNC)	368508	405745	-37237	-1.33	-0.44	-0.40
Small Non-metro Cities (SNC)	358122	362836	-4714	-0.22	-0.07	-0.42
Industrial Districts (ID)	582467	562766	19701	0.28	0.09	0.10
Districts with New Towns (NT)	274624	278612	-3988	-0.17	-0.06	0.09
Resort, Port & Retirement (RPR)	460524	361499	99025	2.69	0.90	0.49
Accessible Urban/Rural (AUR)	978723	919204	59519	0.71	0.24	0.25
Remoter Urban/Rural (RUR)	284504	253446	31058	1.39	0.46	0.59
Accessible Rural (AR)	208034	173583	34451	2.42	0.81	0.61
Remoter Rural (RR)	485861	383504	102357	2.55	0.85	0.77



Net migration between 13 types of local authority districts, 1990-1991 and 1998-2001, % per year



Testing for persistence of the 'counterurbanisation cascade'

- Cascade as set out by Champion and Atkins
- Analysis of net flows between all possible pairs of the 13 district types (N=78) to see what proportion involve down-hierarchy net population movement
- 66 out of 78 net flows were 'counterurban' in 1990-91. For 1998-2001, it is 61/78.
- 17 up-hierarchy (22% of 78). Table 2.



Figure 2. The counterurbanization cascade

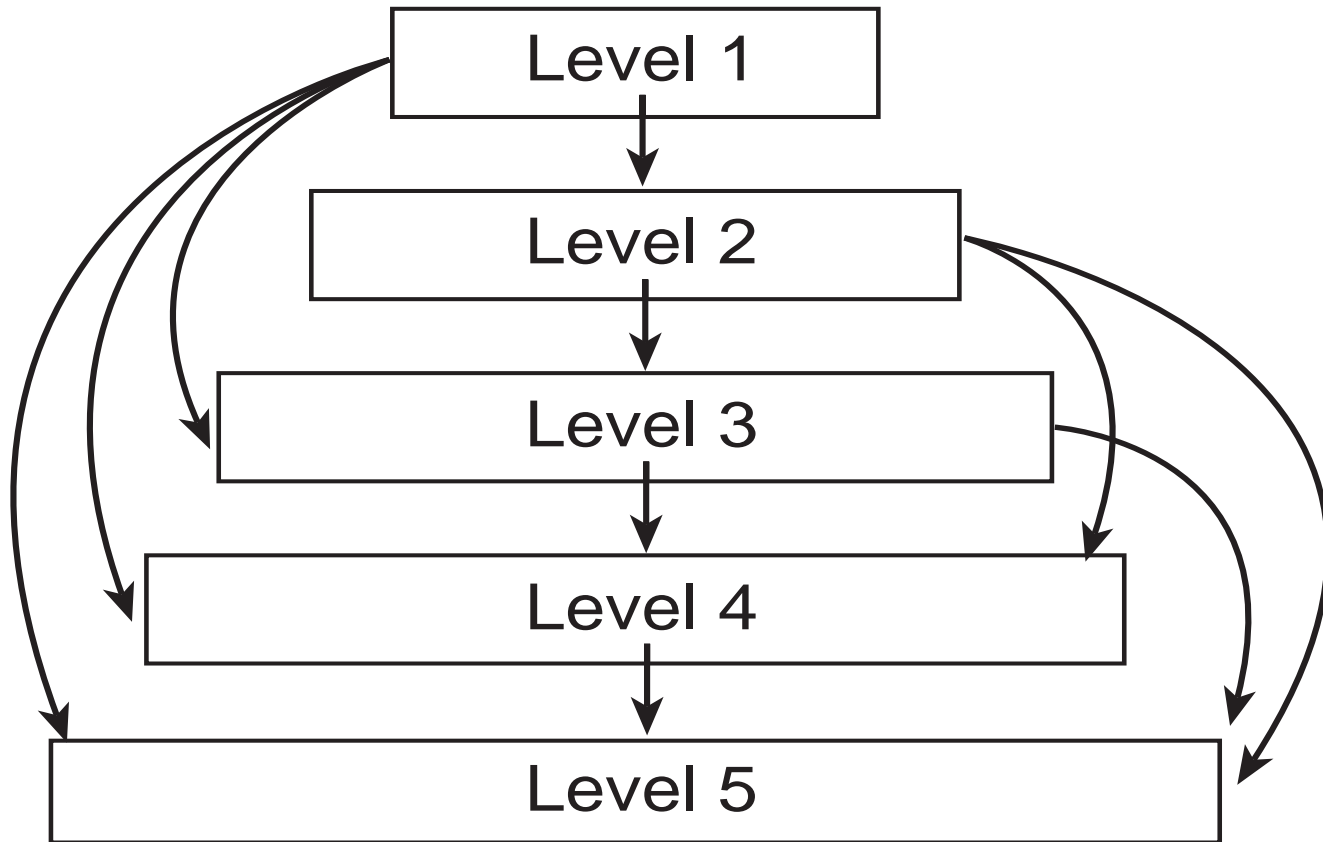


Table 2. Net migration between pairings of 13 district types, 1998-2001, England and Wales

District type	IL	OL	PMC	OMD	LNC	SNC	ID	NT	RPR	AUR	RUR	AR
OL	91146											
PMC	-7971	-2639										
OMD	-2759	-173	29731									
LNC	-6124	-1886	-778	1143								
SNC	-7052	2593	681	4967	1795							
ID	6454	15541	2502	14892	11692	-2486						
NT	4324	14061	1258	4429	-833	122	-2236					
RPR	9337	27931	1903	10042	-800	4173	9563	5597				
AUR	16101	87064	8267	23265	7508	2252	4819	4781	-28793			
RUR	1579	5988	142	1583	14298	1309	828	2715	-2290	13339		
AR	1681	6240	1283	6525	-765	714	4774	3600	-641	13776	446	
RR	5383	18850	791	9212	-3303	1614	11146	8420	445	38630	7987	3182



Table 3. Departures (X) from the ‘CU cascade’, 1998-2001 and 1990-91

Destination/origin pairing of net migration flow	1998-2001	1990-91
Inner London from Principal Metro Cities	X	X
Inner London from Other Metro Districts	X	
Inner London from Large Non-metro Cities	X	X
Inner London from Small Non-metro Cities	X	X
Outer London from Principal Metro Cities	X	X
Outer London from Other Metro Districts	X	
Outer London from Large Non-metro Cities	X	
Principal Metro Cities from Large Non-metro Cities	X	X
Other Metro Districts from Large Non-metro Cities		X
Large Non-metro Cities from New Towns	X	
Large Non-metro Cities from Resort, Port and Retirement	X	
Large Non-metro Cities from Accessible Rural	X	
Large Non-metro Cities from Remoter Rural	X	
Small Non-metro Cities from Industrial Districts	X	
Small Non-metro Cities from Accessible Rural		X
Industrial Districts from New Towns	X	X
Industrial Districts from Accessible Urban/Rural		X
Resort, Port and Retirement from Accessible Urban/Rural	X	X
Resort, Port and Retirement from Remoter Urban/Rural	X	
Resort, Port and Retirement from Accessible Rural	X	X
Remoter Urban/Rural from Accessible Rural		X



A 'diffuse' form of 'CU cascade'

- As in 1990-91, most levels of the settlement system receive net migration from all levels above, and lose population to all levels below - rather than most 'spilling' over from next level up.
- As an example, the lowest level (Remoter Rural) gains net migration from all levels above except one. See Table 4.



Table 4. Sources of gross and net in-migration to Remoter Rural districts of England and Wales, 1998-2001 and comparison with 1990-91

Origin district type	Gross in-migration to RR			Net in-migration to RR		
	Number	% total	1990-91	Number	% total	1990-91
Inner London	18627	3.8	3.6	5383	5.3	5.5
Outer London	32794	6.7	5.9	18850	18.4	12.7
Principal Metro Cities	16187	3.3	3.7	791	0.8	5.6
Other Metro Districts	29800	6.1	6.7	9212	9.0	10.4
Metropolitan England	97408	20.0	19.8	34236	33.4	34.2
Large Non-metro Cities	33346	6.9	11.4	-3303	-3.2	9.6
Small Non-metro Cities	43507	9.0	7.9	1614	1.6	4.1
Industrial Districts	59358	12.2	11.8	11146	10.9	13.2
Districts with New Towns	24459	5.0	5.4	8420	8.2	6.8
Resort, Port and Retirement	62645	12.9	10.4	445	0.4	2.6
Accessible Urban/Rural	100201	20.6	19.2	38630	37.7	24.9
Remoter Urban/Rural	43746	9.0	8.8	7987	7.8	1.6
Accessible Rural	21191	4.4	5.2	3182	3.1	3.0
Total to Remoter Rural	485861	100.0	100.0	102357	100.0	100.0



Comparison with 1990-91

- In sum, the patterns for 1998-2001 are very similar to 1990-91, including for sources of in-migration to Remoter Rural just shown.
- Where there are differences, the indicated changes may be spurious, because the data are on a different basis: England & Wales cf Great Britain; students treated at termtime address not with parents; Armed Forces excluded; differences in undercount.

