UK international migration statistics - driving towards a transformed population statistics and migration system
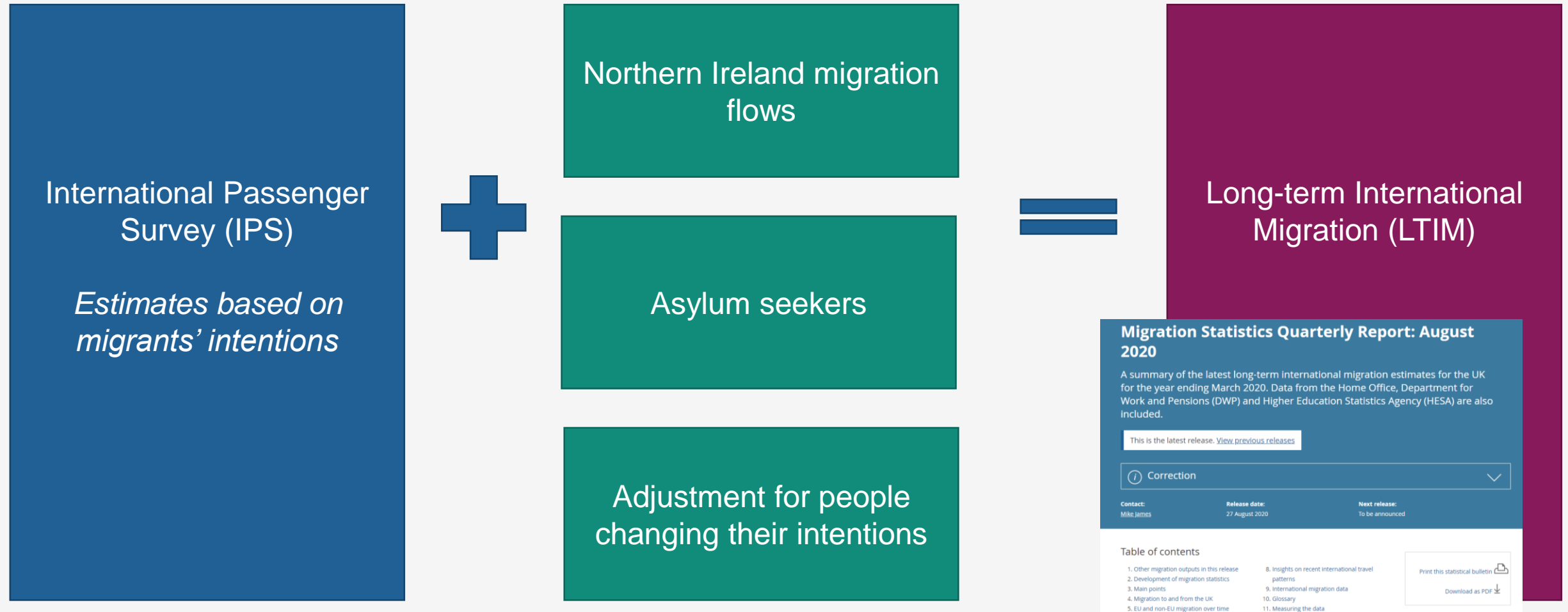
Jay Lindop

Head of the UK centre for international migration at Office for National Statistics

Plenary session: 26 January 2023, 11am

Office for National Statistics

Historic approach to migration estimates

International Passenger Survey (IPS)

Estimates based on migrants' intentions

+

Northern Ireland migration flows

Asylum seekers

Adjustment for people changing their intentions

=

Long-term International Migration (LTIM)

Migration Statistics Quarterly Report: August 2020

A summary of the latest long-term international migration estimates for the UK for the year ending March 2020. Data from the Home Office, Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) and Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA) are also included.

This is the latest release. View previous releases

Contact:	Release date:	Next release:
Mike James	27 August 2020	To be announced

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Achieving our vision for transformed migration and population statistics

"To use the best information to produce more frequent, timely and inclusive statistics that are coherent and flexible to evolving user needs"

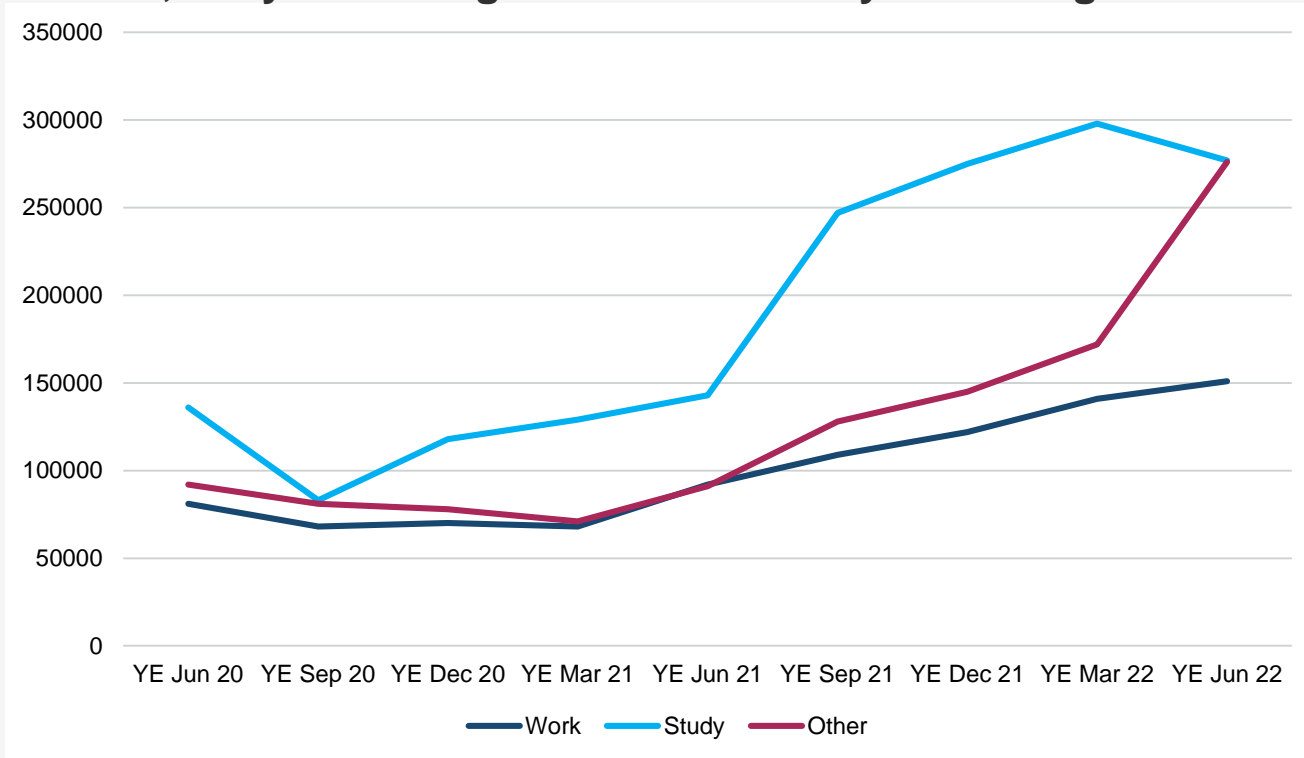| Reinforcing methods with new sources | Timeliness | Coherence | Reason for migration | Alternative definitions |

Delivering transformed migration statistics

Non-EU = Home Office visa data

+

EU = RAPID (DWP taxes and benefits)

+

UK nationals = Previous (IPS-based) Modelled estimates

=

Immigration Emigration Net Migration EU, Non-EU and GB

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Immigration by reason

Total number of non-EU nationals who immigrated long term into the UK, the year ending June 2020 to the year ending June 2022

Source: Office for National Statistics, Home Office

Study visas and "Other" contributed the most to immigration in the year ending June 2022

Office for **National Statistics**

International Migration Statistics

Current State (November 2022)

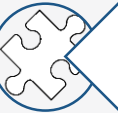- Tactical & experimental LTIM, with different methods and sources across EU/non-EU/GB
- Headline estimates disaggregated by nationality and reason at the top level
- Estimates within six months of reference period
- Measures follow UN definition
- Data supplies are incomplete, and irregular
- No quantified measures of quality
- Migration statistics are not built using methods and systems designed for reproducibility or transparency
- No single place for GSS migration stats

Target State

- National Statistic LTIM, coherent with stocks
- Headline estimates disaggregated by local authority, age, sex, nationality, country of birth, and reason for migration.
- Nowcast estimates within one month of reference period
- Suite of alternative definitions adopted
- Supplies underpinned with Service Level Agreements
- We measure and report quality of estimates
- Migration estimates are created through a fully automated system fed by a data pipeline
- Estimates of international migration published as part of a coherent set of GSS population and migration stock and flow estimates, with a single point of dissemination

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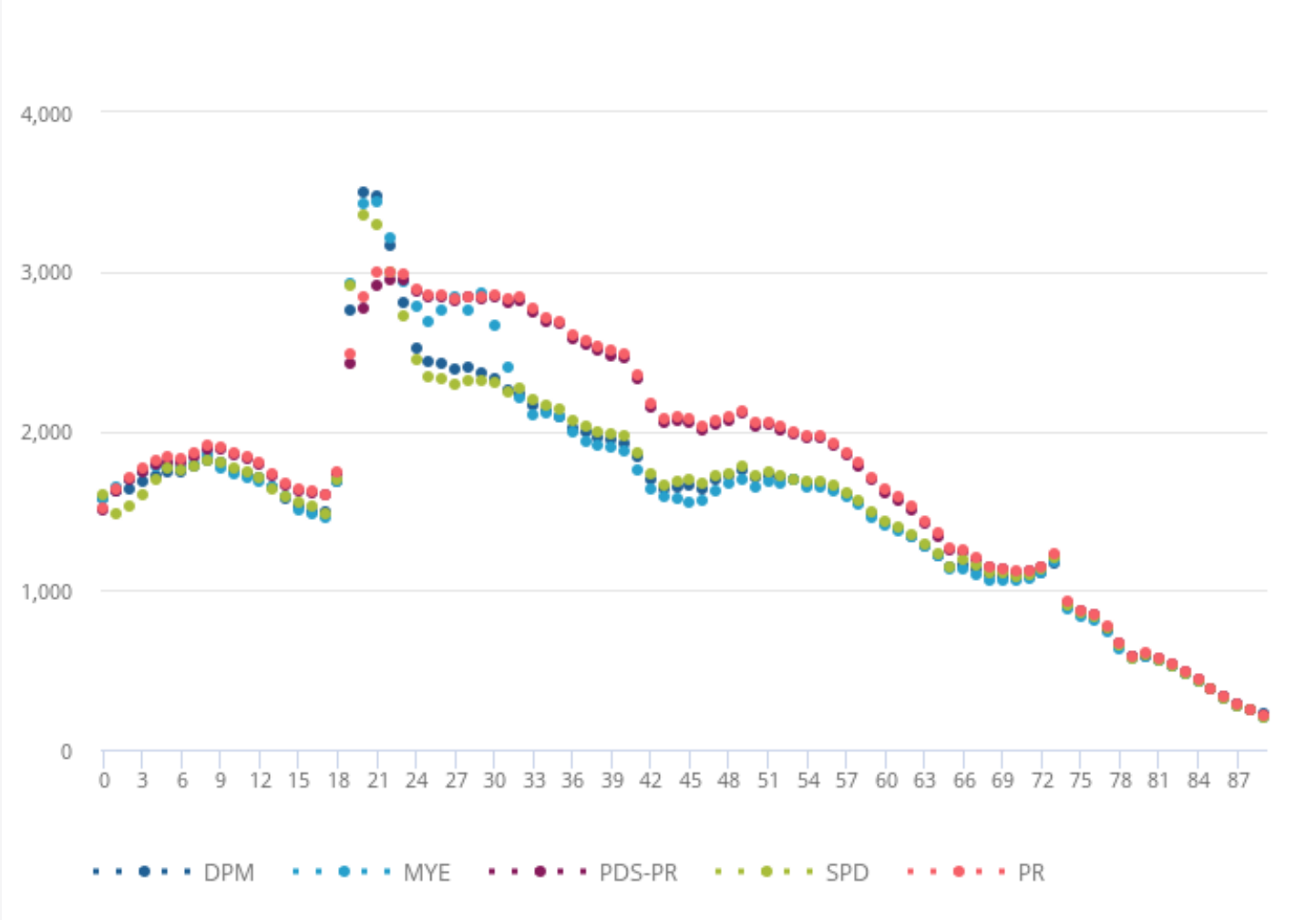
2. Dynamic Population Model

Survey Data
Individual admin sources
SPD
Internal migration
International migration
Demographic Indicators

Dynamic Population Model

Coherent population and migration outputs

Next steps for international migration estimates

- Asylum seekers
- Impact of different groups
- Long time-series
- May 2023: Year ending 2022
- Measuring uncertainty
- Coherence of stocks and flows