

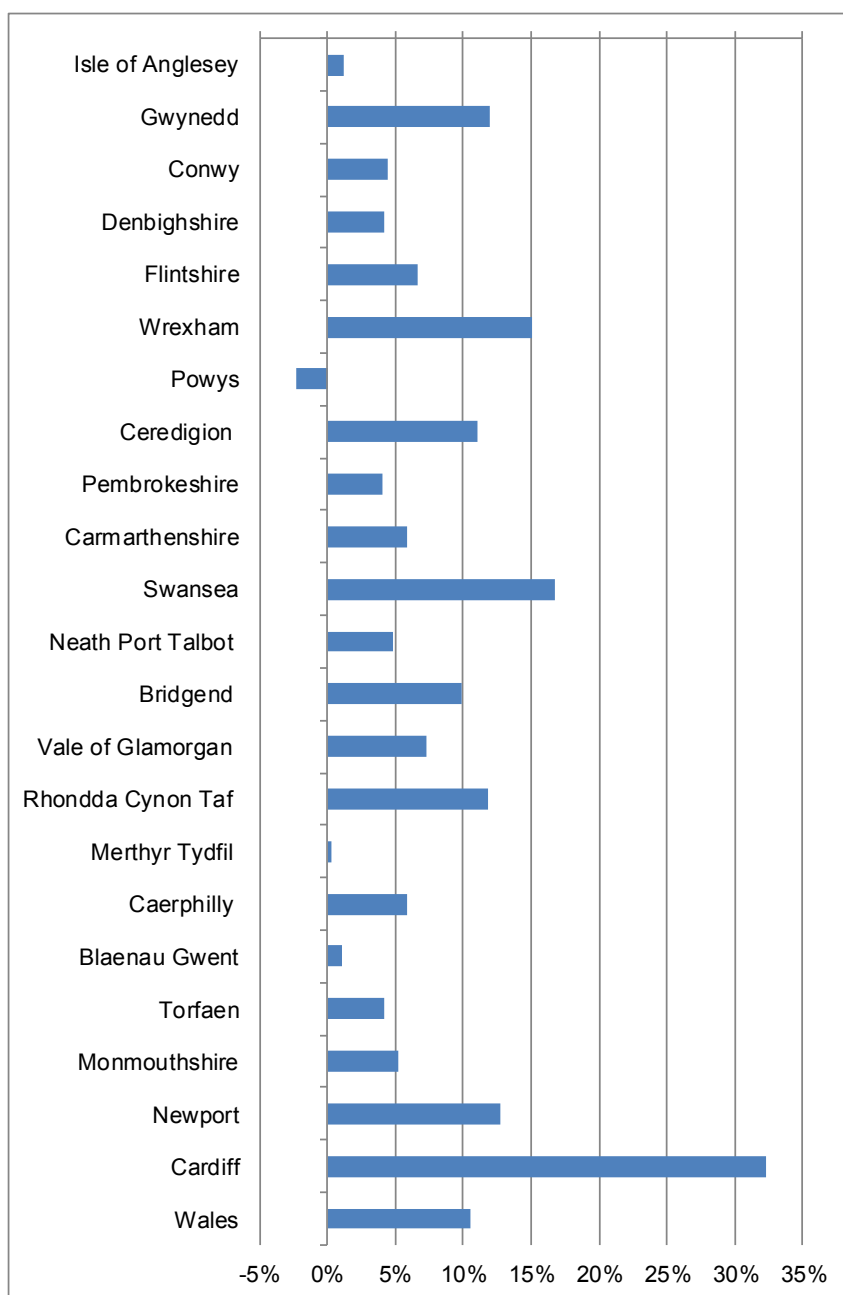


Local Authority Household Projections (2014-based)

23 March 2017
SFR 30/2017

The number of households in Wales between 2014 and 2039 is projected to increase by 10 per cent. Cardiff is projected to increase the most, up 32 per cent with Swansea the next largest (at 17 per cent). Powys is the only local authority where there is projected to be a fall in the number of households (down 2 per cent). The projections presented here are the principal projections. A range of other scenarios are also produced to show the possible variation in the projections.

Chart 1: Projected percentage change in households between 2014 and 2039



About this release

This release presents the results of the 2014-based local authority household projections for Wales for the 25-year period from 2014 to 2039.

They are based on the 2014-based population projections produced by Welsh Government on 29 September 2016.

Household projections provide estimates of the number of households and household types.

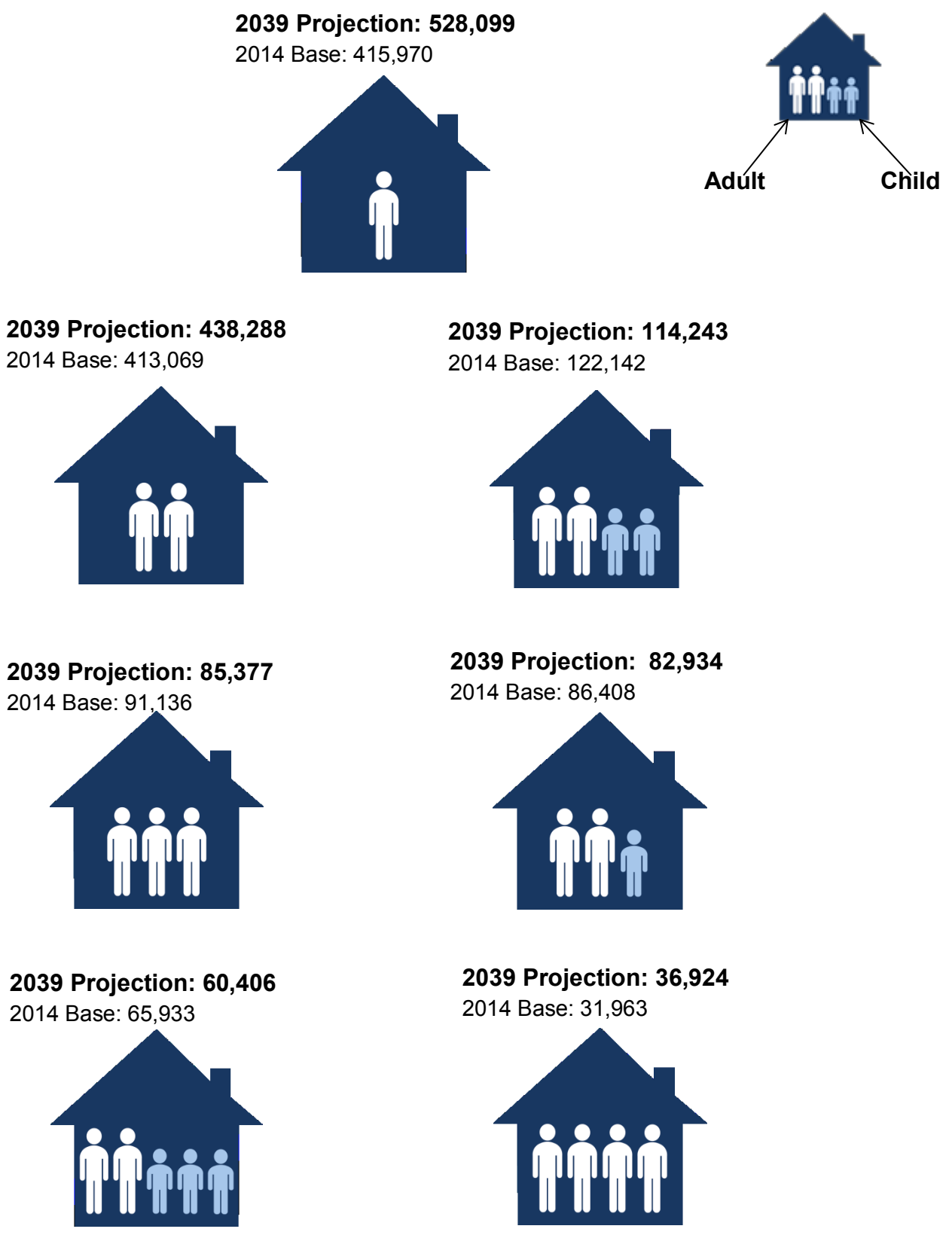
They are based on assumptions about housing outlined in the Censuses.

The assumptions are generally based on membership rates within the different household types.

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Figure 1: The infographic below shows the projected change in household types between 2014 and 2039



Introduction

This release presents the results of the 2014-based Household Projections for Wales. Household projections provide estimates of the future numbers of households and are based on population projections and a range of assumptions about household composition and characteristics. The assumptions are based on past trends.

The projections estimate the number and size of households; and assume that past trends in births, deaths, and migration (that is, people moving into and out of an area) continue. Projections produced in this way do not make allowances for the effects of local or central government policies on future population levels and household composition, or for changes in the lifestyles of the population. That is, these local authority household projections are not policy-based forecasts; they indicate what is expected to happen if current trends continue.

These 2014-based projections are trend-based projections for the 25-year period from 2014 to 2039. As they are trend-based they become less certain the further they are carried forward. They are based on mid-year population estimates for 2014. Most of this release is based on the principal projections (that is, the main projections). In order to illustrate the uncertainty associated with the local authority projections variant projections can also be produced as well as the principal projection. These variant projections show how possible variations in the fertility, mortality, and migration assumptions could affect the projections. Variant projections are shown in Tables 5 and 6.

The projections use a similar methodology to the one used for the 2011-based local authority household projections for Wales (details of which are given in the Quality Information section at the end of the release). Household projections are used for planning the supply of services, to estimate the future need for services, and to identify population trends that contribute to the context for future policy developments; and particularly for the planning of housing.

A household is defined as:

- One person living alone, or
- A group of people (not necessarily related) living at the same address who share cooking facilities and share a living room or sitting room or dining area.

This includes:

- Sheltered accommodation units in an establishment where 50 per cent or more have their own kitchens (irrespective of whether there are other communal facilities),
- All people living in caravans on any type of site that is their usual residence.
This will include anyone who has no other usual residence elsewhere in the UK.

Summary

Figure 2: Shows the change of household numbers and average household size between the base year and the final year of the projection

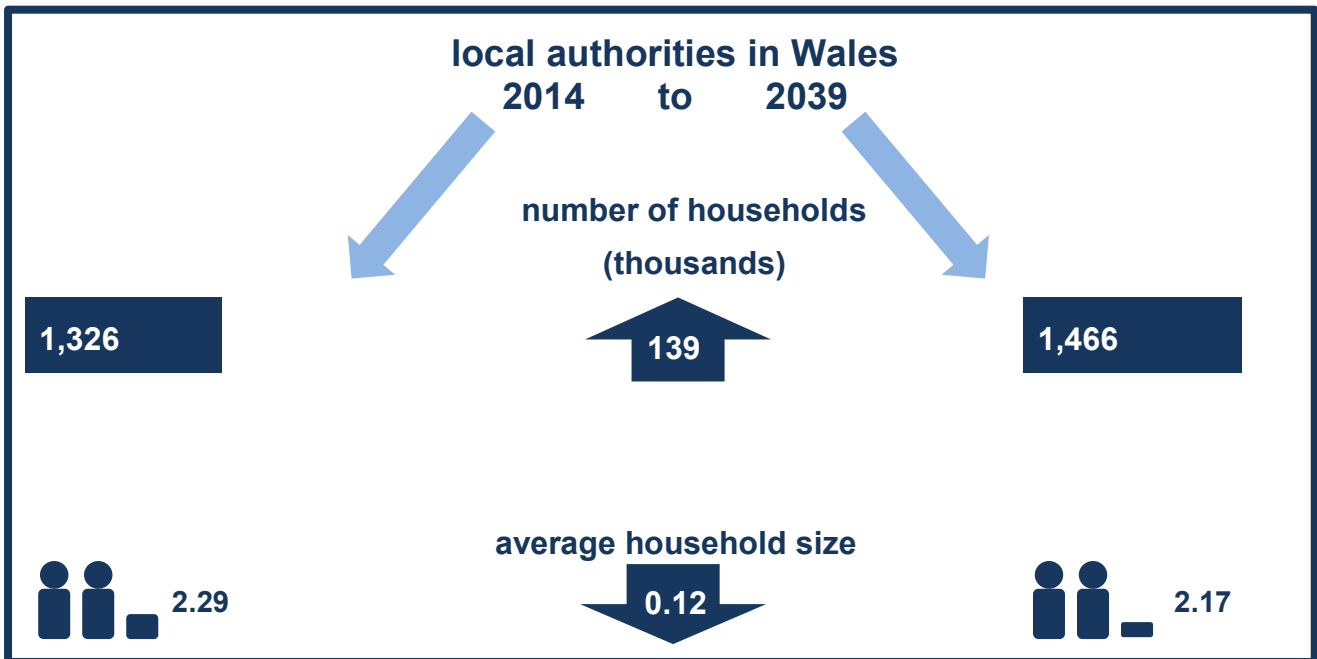
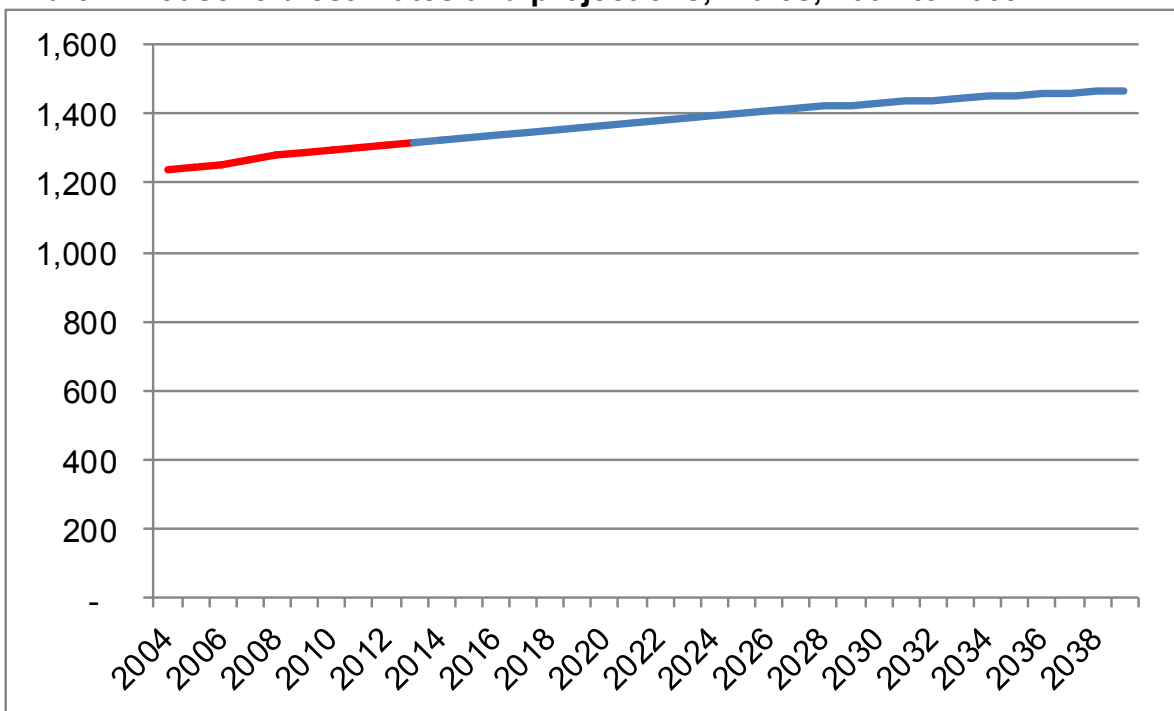


Chart 1: Household estimates and projections, Wales, 2004 to 2039



In Wales:

- The number of households is projected to increase by around 140,000 to 1.47 million by 2039 (that is, by 10.5 per cent).
- Nearly 2 in 3 households are projected to consist of one or two persons with no children.
- 1-person households are the most common household type over the whole projection period, with a projected 27 per cent increase by 2039.
- 1-person households are projected to increase from 31 per cent of all households to 36 per cent.
- There is projected to be a 17 per cent increase in the number of lone-parent households.
- The largest projected percentage increase is for households containing 5 or more persons without children, although they would still make up only 1 in 100 of all households.
- The largest local authority percentage increase in the number of households is in Cardiff (a 32 per cent increase).
- There are projected to be increases of 17 per cent in the number of households in Swansea and 15 per cent in Wrexham.
- There is projected to be a 2 per cent decrease in the number of households in Powys, however the projections show a rise to 2026 and then a fall to 2039.
- Average household size is projected to decrease from 2.29 persons per household to 2.17.
- Average household size is projected to be highest in Merthyr Tydfil with an average of 2.34. Average household size is projected to be lowest in Powys with an average of 2.07 and Swansea with an average of 2.08.

Projections by household type

Table 1 and Chart 2 show that the number of households for Wales is projected to increase by around 140,000 (that is, 10.5 per cent) to 1.47 million by 2039. The average annual increase is projected to be 0.4 per cent. Most of this increase is expected to come from growth in the numbers of 1-person households, and households formed of 2 persons without children. Nearly 2 in 3 households are projected to consist of 1 or 2 persons with no children.

1-person households are the most common household type over the whole projection period, with a projected 27 per cent increase by 2039. They are projected to increase from 31 per cent of all households to 36 per cent.

The largest projected percentage increase is for households containing 5 or more persons without children, although they would still make up only 1 in 100 of all households. The total of 5-person households is projected to make up 1 in 20 of all households (slightly higher than in 2014).

There are projected to be large percentage increases for households made up of 1 adult and 1 child (30.7 per cent), and for 4-person households without children (15.5 per cent).

There is projected to be a 17 per cent increase in the number of lone-parent households. Although there is not much change in lone parent households as a percentage of all households: they are projected to make up 7.1 per cent in 2039, slightly higher than in 2014 (6.7 per cent).

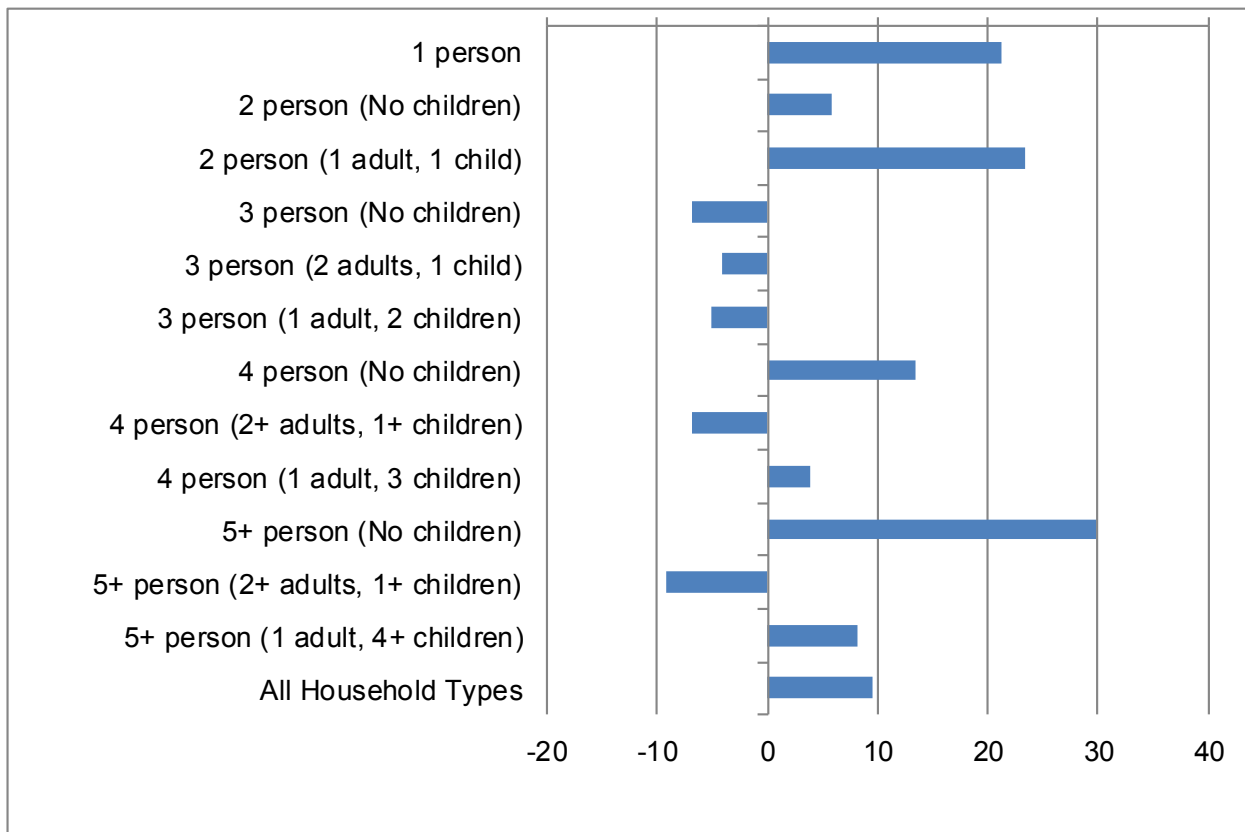
There are small projected falls for all 3-person households and for 4- and 5-person households consisting of 2 or more adults with children.

Table 1: Household projections by type of household, based on the Principal Local Authority Population Projections for Wales, 2014-2039

	2014	2019	2024	2029	2034	2039	Change 2014 to 2039	Thousands Percentage change 2014 to 2039
1 person	416.0	440.5	466.9	489.1	510.2	528.1	112.1	27.0
2 person (No children)	413.1	424.8	433.3	439.8	440.5	438.3	25.2	6.1
2 person (1 adult, 1 child)	51.4	54.3	57.9	61.1	64.1	67.1	15.8	30.7
3 person (No children)	91.1	91.2	89.5	87.9	86.3	85.4	-5.8	-6.3
3 person (2 adults, 1 child)	86.4	84.9	84.5	83.8	83.2	82.9	-3.5	-4.0
3 person (1 adult, 2 children)	25.5	25.1	25.1	24.7	24.5	24.3	-1.2	-4.8
4 person (No children)	32.0	33.3	33.6	34.5	35.6	36.9	5.0	15.5
4 person (2+ adults, 1+ children)	122.1	119.1	118.0	116.9	115.7	114.2	-7.9	-6.5
4 person (1 adult, 3 children)	9.1	9.1	9.3	9.4	9.4	9.4	0.4	4.0
5+ person (No children)	10.5	11.5	12.0	13.1	14.1	14.9	4.5	42.6
5+ person (2+ adults, 1+ children)	65.9	64.3	63.3	62.3	61.3	60.4	-5.5	-8.4
5+ person (1 adult, 4+ children)	3.4	3.5	3.6	3.6	3.7	3.7	0.3	8.9
All Household Types	1,326.4	1,361.7	1,397.2	1,426.3	1,448.7	1,465.7	139.3	10.5

Note: Figures may not sum exactly due to rounding.

Chart 2: Percentage change for household types in Wales between 2014 and 2039



Projections by local authority

Table 2 shows that the largest percentage increase in the number of households is in Cardiff (a 32 per cent increase). In 2014 Cardiff households made up 11 per cent of all households in Wales: the figure is projected to be 13 per cent in 2039.

There are projected to be increases of 17 per cent in the number of households in Swansea, 15 per cent in Wrexham, and between 11 and 13 per cent in Newport, Gwynedd, Rhondda Cynon Taf, and Ceredigion.

There are projected to be increases in the number of households of between 5 and 10 per cent for Bridgend, the Vale of Glamorgan, Flintshire, Carmarthenshire, Caerphilly, and Monmouthshire.

There are projected to be increases in the number of households of around 4 per cent for Neath Port Talbot, Conwy, Torfaen, Denbighshire, and Pembrokeshire.

There are projected to be small increases in the number of households for the Isle of Anglesey, Blaenau Gwent, and Merthyr Tydfil.

There is projected to be a 2 per cent decrease in the number of households in Powys, however there is projected to be an increase to 2026 and then a fall to 2039.

Table 2: Projected Households based on Principal Local Authority Population Projections for Wales, 2011-2036

	<i>Thousands</i>							
	2014	2019	2024	2029	2034	2039	Change 2014 to 2039	Percentage change 2014 to 2039
Isle of Anglesey	31.0	31.3	31.5	31.6	31.5	31.3	0.4	1.2
Gwynedd	53.1	54.5	56.0	57.3	58.4	59.4	6.3	11.9
Conwy	52.0	52.7	53.5	54.1	54.3	54.3	2.3	4.5
Denbighshire	41.2	41.8	42.4	42.8	43.0	42.9	1.7	4.1
Flintshire	64.9	66.4	67.9	68.8	69.2	69.2	4.3	6.6
Wrexham	58.3	60.3	62.3	64.2	65.8	67.1	8.8	15.0
Powys	59.0	59.7	60.0	59.8	58.9	57.6	-1.37	-2.33
Ceredigion	31.6	32.5	33.4	34.1	34.6	35.1	3.5	11.0
Pembrokeshire	54.2	55.3	56.2	56.7	56.7	56.4	2.2	4.0
Carmarthenshire	79.9	81.3	82.7	83.8	84.3	84.5	4.7	5.8
Swansea	105.6	109.4	113.4	117.0	120.2	123.2	17.6	16.7
Neath Port Talbot	60.9	61.8	62.8	63.5	63.8	63.9	2.9	4.8
Bridgend	59.8	61.4	63.0	64.2	65.1	65.7	5.9	9.9
Vale of Glamorgan	54.7	56.0	57.2	58.1	58.6	58.7	4.0	7.3
Rhondda Cynon Taf	101.9	104.7	107.6	110.1	112.3	114.0	12.1	11.9
Merthyr Tydfil	24.4	24.6	24.8	24.8	24.7	24.5	0.1	0.3
Caerphilly	75.5	77.0	78.4	79.3	79.8	79.9	4.4	5.8
Blaenau Gwent	30.7	31.0	31.3	31.4	31.2	31.0	0.3	1.0
Torfaen	39.1	39.7	40.3	40.7	40.8	40.7	1.6	4.2
Monmouthshire	39.0	39.9	40.7	41.2	41.3	41.0	2.0	5.2
Newport	62.1	63.8	65.7	67.3	68.7	70.0	7.9	12.7
Cardiff	147.6	156.3	165.9	175.5	185.4	195.3	47.7	32.3
Wales	1,326.4	1,361.7	1,397.2	1,426.3	1,448.7	1,465.7	139.3	10.5

Note: Figures may not sum exactly due to rounding.

Projected Private Household Population

Table 3 shows the projected private household populations by local authority between 2014 and 2039. At a Wales level the private household population is projected to increase by around 148,000 (or 5 per cent) to 3.19 million between 2014 and 2039. By local authority there are expected to be decreases for Blaenau Gwent and Powys from 2014 onwards, for the Isle of Anglesey from 2024 onwards; and for Pembrokeshire, Merthyr Tydfil and Torfaen from 2029 onwards. Gwynedd, Wrexham, Swansea, Bridgend, Rhondda Cynon Taf, Newport and Cardiff show a steady increase throughout the projection period. Between 2034 and 2039 the private household population is projected to decrease slightly for 2 out of 3 local authorities in Wales. Percentage increases in private household population by local authority are projected to be 9 per cent or less (or negative) for all local authorities except Cardiff (26 per cent rise) between 2014 and 2039. Where percentage increases are higher they tend to represent increases of 10-17,000 in the private household population.

Table 3: Private household population projections for Wales, 2014-2039

	2014	2019	2024	2029	2034	2039	Percentage change, 2014 to 2039
Isle of Anglesey	69.3	69.3	69.1	68.6	67.8	67.0	-3.4
Gwynedd	118.3	120.0	122.0	124.1	126.1	127.9	8.1
Conwy	113.5	114.2	114.8	115.2	114.9	114.3	0.7
Denbighshire	93.5	94.4	95.3	95.8	95.7	95.6	2.2
Flintshire	152.9	154.2	155.2	155.5	155.0	154.0	0.7
Wrexham	135.1	138.0	140.8	143.3	145.4	147.3	9.0
Powys	130.7	129.6	128.2	126.1	123.0	119.2	-8.8
Ceredigion	70.9	72.0	73.3	74.6	75.9	77.1	8.7
Pembrokeshire	121.7	122.1	122.2	121.9	120.8	119.2	-2.0
Carmarthenshire	182.3	183.7	185.0	185.8	185.6	185.0	1.5
Swansea	236.6	240.9	245.5	249.9	253.6	256.9	8.6
Neath Port Talbot	139.3	140.3	141.1	141.5	141.3	140.8	1.0
Bridgend	138.9	140.8	142.7	144.0	144.8	145.1	4.5
Vale of Glamorgan	125.6	126.2	126.7	126.8	126.1	125.1	-0.4
Rhondda Cynon Taf	234.3	236.3	238.6	240.5	241.8	242.7	3.6
Merthyr Tydfil	58.6	58.7	58.8	58.5	58.0	57.3	-2.3
Caerphilly	178.9	180.1	181.1	181.5	181.0	179.9	0.6
Blaenau Gwent	69.1	68.8	68.3	67.6	66.6	65.3	-5.4
Torfaen	90.9	91.3	91.6	91.4	90.8	89.9	-1.1
Monmouthshire	90.7	91.3	91.8	91.9	91.3	90.0	-0.7
Newport	145.2	147.5	150.1	152.5	154.5	156.3	7.6
Cardiff	342.7	358.6	376.2	394.8	413.2	431.6	25.9
Wales	3,039.0	3,078.1	3,118.3	3,151.8	3,173.2	3,187.4	4.9

Note: Figures may not sum exactly due to rounding.

Average household size

Average Household Size, measured in terms of persons per household provides a headline measure of household composition and is useful for comparisons over time and between different geographic areas. It is calculated by dividing the private household population by the number of households.

Table 4 shows that average household size in Wales is projected to decrease from 2.29 persons per household to 2.17.

Average household size is projected to be highest in Merthyr Tydfil with an average of 2.34; Merthyr Tydfil also had the highest average in 2014.

Average household size is projected to be the lowest in Powys with an average of 2.07 and Swansea with an average of 2.08.

Most local authorities show a decrease in average household size of between 0.1 and 0.2. The exceptions are Merthyr Tydfil, Ceredigion, and Denbighshire with decreases of around 0.05.

Table 4: Projected Average Household Size based on the Principal Local Authority Projections for Wales, 2014-2039

	<i>Persons per household</i>					
	2014	2019	2024	2029	2034	2039
Isle of Anglesey	2.24	2.22	2.19	2.17	2.15	2.14
Gwynedd	2.23	2.20	2.18	2.16	2.16	2.15
Conwy	2.19	2.16	2.15	2.13	2.12	2.11
Denbighshire	2.27	2.26	2.25	2.24	2.23	2.23
Flintshire	2.36	2.32	2.29	2.26	2.24	2.23
Wrexham	2.32	2.29	2.26	2.23	2.21	2.19
Powys	2.22	2.17	2.13	2.11	2.09	2.07
Ceredigion	2.24	2.22	2.19	2.19	2.19	2.19
Pembrokeshire	2.24	2.21	2.17	2.15	2.13	2.11
Carmarthenshire	2.28	2.26	2.24	2.22	2.20	2.19
Swansea	2.24	2.20	2.17	2.14	2.11	2.08
Neath Port Talbot	2.29	2.27	2.25	2.23	2.22	2.20
Bridgend	2.32	2.29	2.27	2.24	2.22	2.21
Vale of Glamorgan	2.30	2.25	2.21	2.18	2.15	2.13
Rhondda Cynon Taf	2.30	2.26	2.22	2.18	2.15	2.13
Merthyr Tydfil	2.40	2.39	2.37	2.36	2.35	2.34
Caerphilly	2.37	2.34	2.31	2.29	2.27	2.25
Blaenau Gwent	2.25	2.21	2.18	2.16	2.13	2.11
Torfaen	2.33	2.30	2.27	2.25	2.23	2.21
Monmouthshire	2.33	2.29	2.26	2.23	2.21	2.20
Newport	2.34	2.31	2.29	2.27	2.25	2.23
Cardiff	2.32	2.29	2.27	2.25	2.23	2.21
Wales	2.29	2.26	2.23	2.21	2.19	2.17

Household projections: Variants

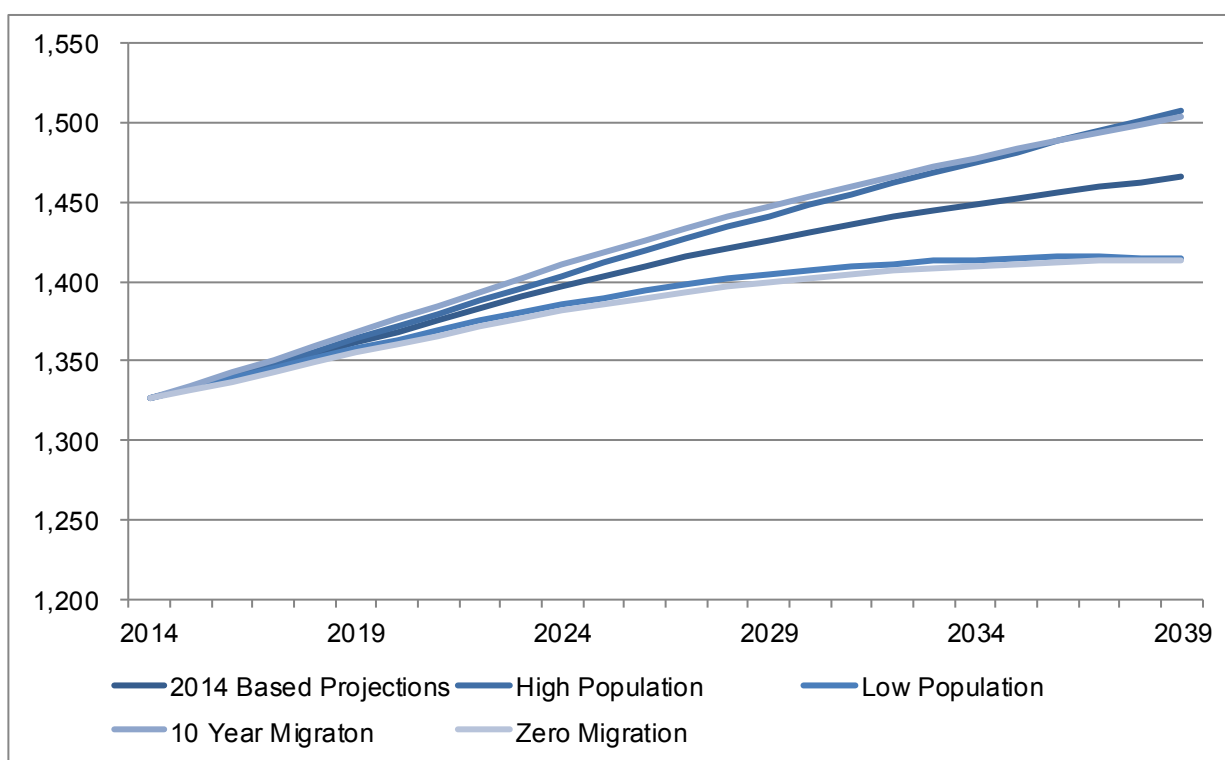
Table 5 and Chart 3 shows projected numbers of household for the 15-year period 2014 to 2029 using the principal projection, and the variants based on the high population, low population, ten-year average migration, and zero migration assumption.

Using the lower and higher variants the number of households in Wales is projected to grow to between 1.40 and 1.44 million by 2029, a difference of 37,000 households.

Using the ten-year average migration assumption the number of households is projected to increase to 1.45 by 2029; using the zero migration assumption the number is projected to decrease to 1.40 million.

Using the principal projection the number of households is expected to grow to just under 1.43 million by 2029.

Chart 3: Principal projection and the four variant projections (thousands)



Growth in household numbers is projected to be higher using the ten-year migration variant than with the principal projection for most local authorities; the exceptions are Conwy, Ceredigion, Rhondda Cynon Taf, and Monmouthshire.

Growth in household numbers is projected to be lower by 2,000 with the high population variant when compared with the ten-year migration variant for Cardiff, Carmarthenshire, and Powys. The variants are much closer for the other local authorities.

Table 5: Projected Households at mid-2014 and mid-2029 by Local Authority for Wales by Variant

Area	Households at mid-2014	Households as at mid-2029 based on:				
		Principal Projection	High population	Low population	Ten-year average migration	Zero Migration
Isle of Anglesey	31.0	31.6	31.9	31.1	32.1	31.3
Gwynedd	53.1	57.3	57.9	56.5	57.4	56.2
Conwy	52.0	54.1	54.6	53.2	54.0	50.5
Denbighshire	41.2	42.8	43.3	42.1	43.9	41.1
Flintshire	64.9	68.8	69.6	67.8	69.2	69.2
Wrexham	58.3	64.2	64.9	63.2	66.0	62.0
Powys	59.0	59.8	60.4	58.9	62.4	59.3
Ceredigion	31.6	34.1	34.4	33.6	33.4	33.5
Pembrokeshire	54.2	56.7	57.3	55.8	57.9	55.1
Carmarthenshire	79.9	83.8	84.7	82.5	86.7	80.4
Swansea	105.6	117.0	118.1	115.3	118.1	113.8
Neath Port Talbot	60.9	63.5	64.1	62.5	64.0	62.1
Bridgend	59.8	64.2	64.9	63.2	65.2	61.9
Vale of Glamorgan	54.7	58.1	58.7	57.3	59.7	58.1
Rhondda Cynon Taf	101.9	110.1	111.4	108.3	110.0	109.5
Merthyr Tydfil	24.4	24.8	25.1	24.4	25.3	25.0
Caerphilly	75.5	79.3	80.2	78.0	79.9	79.8
Blaenau Gwent	30.7	31.4	31.7	30.8	31.8	32.0
Torfaen	39.1	40.7	41.1	40.0	40.9	41.0
Monmouthshire	39.0	41.2	41.6	40.6	41.0	39.3
Newport	62.1	67.3	68.1	66.2	68.3	67.4
Cardiff	147.6	175.5	177.2	172.9	179.8	171.1
Wales	1,326.4	1,426.3	1,441.3	1,404.4	1,447.2	1,399.6

Note: Figures may not sum exactly due to rounding.

Table 6: Projected average household size at mid-2014 and mid-2029 by local authority for Wales by variant

Area	Average household size at mid-2014	Average household size as at mid-2029 based on:				
		Principal Projection	High population	Low population	Ten-year average migration	Zero Migration
Isle of Anglesey	2.24	2.17	2.18	2.16	2.18	2.19
Gwynedd	2.23	2.16	2.17	2.16	2.16	2.14
Conwy	2.19	2.13	2.13	2.12	2.13	2.15
Denbighshire	2.27	2.24	2.24	2.23	2.24	2.27
Flintshire	2.36	2.26	2.26	2.25	2.26	2.26
Wrexham	2.32	2.23	2.23	2.22	2.24	2.22
Powys	2.22	2.11	2.11	2.10	2.12	2.14
Ceredigion	2.24	2.19	2.19	2.18	2.17	2.19
Pembrokeshire	2.24	2.15	2.15	2.14	2.16	2.17
Carmarthenshire	2.28	2.22	2.22	2.21	2.23	2.23
Swansea	2.24	2.14	2.14	2.13	2.14	2.11
Neath Port Talbot	2.29	2.23	2.23	2.22	2.23	2.23
Bridgend	2.32	2.24	2.25	2.24	2.25	2.25
Vale of Glamorgan	2.30	2.18	2.18	2.17	2.19	2.18
Rhondda Cynon Taf	2.30	2.18	2.19	2.18	2.18	2.17
Merthyr Tydfil	2.40	2.36	2.36	2.35	2.37	2.37
Caerphilly	2.37	2.29	2.29	2.28	2.29	2.29
Blaenau Gwent	2.25	2.16	2.16	2.15	2.16	2.17
Torfaen	2.33	2.25	2.25	2.24	2.26	2.26
Monmouthshire	2.33	2.23	2.23	2.22	2.24	2.25
Newport	2.34	2.27	2.27	2.26	2.28	2.25
Cardiff	2.32	2.25	2.26	2.24	2.25	2.20
Wales	2.29	2.21	2.21	2.20	2.21	2.21

Note: Figures may not sum exactly due to rounding.

Table 6 shows the impact of the variant population projections on projected average household size by local authority at 2029, shown to two decimal places for clarity. As may be expected this indicates that for all local authorities average household size is projected to be higher when based on the high fertility and life expectancy variant than based on the principal projection and relatively lower when based on the low fertility and life expectancy variant.

For the ten-year average migration variant average household size is projected to be slightly higher at a Wales level than based on the principal projection at 2029. For most authorities average household size is projected to be higher based on the ten-year average migration variant; in particular, Isle of Anglesey, Powys, Pembrokeshire, Vale of Glamorgan, Merthyr Tydfil, Torfaen, and Newport. For others, including Ceredigion, Rhondda Cynon Taf, Gwynedd, and Cardiff average household size is projected to be lower based on the ten-year average migration variant; with the biggest decrease occurring with Ceredigion.

For the zero migration variant average household size is projected to be similar at a Wales level at 2029 to that for the high population variant. For most Local Authorities though, average household size would be higher based on the zero migration variant. For others, in particular Cardiff, Swansea, Gwynedd, Newport and Wrexham, Ceredigion, Neath Port Talbot and Rhondda Cynon Taf average household size would be lower at 2029 based on the zero migration variant.

Comparisons with previous household projections

Table 7 shows the 2014-based projections and the earlier ones. After the 2008-based projections the later projections are lower, although the differences between the 2011-based and 2014-based projections are small (the 2014-based projections are less than 2 per cent lower than the 2011-based projections).

Table 7: Household projections for Wales

	thousands			
	2014	2019	2024	2029 ^(r)
2003-based projections	1,368	1,423	1,465 ^(r)	-
2006-based projections	1,387	1,457	1,519 ^(r)	1,571 ^(r)
2008-based projections	1,381	1,455	1,522 ^(r)	1,579 ^(r)
2011-based projections	1,331 ^(r)	1,377	1,420 ^(r)	1,455 ^(r)
2014-based projections	1,326	1,362	1,397 ^(r)	1,426 ^(r)

source: StatsWales, national household projections

(r) Revised 24 January 2018

Key quality information

In addition to the information below, further information can be found in the [Population and Household Statistics Quality Report](#) which is available on the Welsh Government website.

Household projections provide estimates of the future numbers of households and of the numbers of people who live in them, and are based on population projections and a range of assumptions about household composition and characteristics. The assumptions are based on past trends.

The projections estimate the number of households and assume that past trends in births, deaths, and migration (that is, people moving into or out of an area) continue. Projections produced in this way do not make allowances for the effects of local or central government policies on future population levels and household composition, or for changes in the lifestyles of the population. That is, these local authority household projections are not policy-based forecasts; they indicate what is expected to happen if current trends continue.

The projections use a similar methodology to the one used for the 2011-based local authority household projections for Wales (details of which are given later in this section).

The components of household and population change on which projections are based can be affected by changes in the economy and in the lifestyle of the population. The uncertainty associated with the local authority projections is modelled by producing variant projections together with the main household projection. These variant projections show how possible variations in the fertility, mortality, and migration assumptions could affect the projections.

Relevance

Household projections are important for policy development, planning, and the provision of public services. There is a high demand for household projections for a range of uses. These include:

- planning services and estimating future need at national and local level, (for example, housing, health, and social services) including the preparation of Local Development Plans
- policy development
- advice to Ministers
- informing debate in the National Assembly for Wales and beyond
- geographic profiling, comparisons, and benchmarking
- analysis of population cohorts and migration trends
- supporting well-being assessments required under the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.

There are a wide range of users of household data from national and local government, charities and voluntary sector organisations, other government departments, students, researchers, universities, individual citizens, and private companies. In particular, there is a high level of interest in projections at the local authority level. Those who plan for the future to deliver services and to help frame sustainable policies need to consider the population and the households they live in. Household projections can identify trends that shape the context for future policy development.

The Planning (Wales) Act 2015 gained royal assent in July 2015. A key element of the Act is to enable local planning authorities to come together and prepare a Strategic Development Plan which transcends local authority boundaries, covering a wider geographical area and dealing with not just local issues. Evidence to support plan preparation will include demographic statistics and population and household projections which will need to be considered in a strategic context. Future iterations of projections will play a role in shaping strategic plans.

All local planning authorities with adopted Local Development Plans (LDPs) have to prepare an Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) which measures how policies have performed and what corrective action may be required. AMRs play a critical role in ensuring that the LDP is kept up-to-date. The progress demonstrated within the AMRs can have a bearing on future population levels and distribution, demographic profiles, and house prices. These outcomes and their relationship to the key objectives of the plan will form part of the AMR.

Accuracy

The Welsh Government consultation on [Statistical Outputs on Population and Household Estimates and Projections](#) ran from February to May 2016.

The UK Statistics Authority (UKSA) proposed that the Welsh Government should work with ONS and other UK administrations to align the base year for sub-national and national projections where possible. Consultation respondents were asked if they agreed with this approach. Everyone agreed with the UKSA approach. However it is noted that following the consultation and in accordance with user needs, the projections in Wales would be done every three years, whilst ONS would undertake national projections every two years.

The local authority projections use ONS administrative data. Population estimates are produced using a well established demographic approach called the cohort component method. This involves combining information from a number of data sources including the previous census, survey data, and administrative registers. The data sources used are the best that are available on a nationally consistent basis down to local authority level, but the estimates are subject to the coverage and error associated with these sources. Information from administrative registers such as the numbers of births and deaths is considered to be highly reliable.

[ONS quality and methodology information reports for the population theme](#).

The reports contain information on the methods used to compile the data for the named output and on the quality of that data. They are designed to give information on the strengths and limitations of the data so that decisions can be made on the appropriate uses of the data. ONS has the responsibility for assuring the quality of administrative data for use in official statistics. However, as a key user and producer of statistics the Welsh Government will ensure that the processes are appropriate to address any quality issues relevant to these projections, and the Welsh Government will work with ONS to consider how any improvements could be made in the future.

The administrative data used in the projections has been subject to internal checks for consistency and plausibility by the Welsh Government.

Birth statistics are based on the number of births occurring in a given year. They present data on births that occur and are then registered in England and Wales. Statistics are based on information collected at birth registration. Annual data are released in a series of theme-specific packages, usually between July and December. Annual birth statistics for the UK and its constituent countries are published in the 'vital statistics: population and health reference tables'.

ONS birth statistics are based on registrations provided by the General Register Office (GRO). The data represent a legal record, making it the best and most complete data source.

As part of the birth registration process, before data are submitted through the Registration Online system for births and deaths (RON), the registrar asks the informant to verify that all data entered are accurate. The registrar is then able to correct any errors. There are some validation checks built into RON to help the registrar with this process. Information supplied at birth registration is generally believed to be correct since wilfully supplying false information may render the informant liable to prosecution.

When ONS receive birth registrations, a number of checks are carried out on records to ensure that they are valid. Checks are more frequent on those records with extreme values for main variables (such as age of mother and age of father) as these have a greater impact on published tables. Any birth records which appear questionable are raised with the GRO on a monthly basis for further investigation. Any proposed changes to the recording and collection of birth registration data are carefully managed and involve ONS, GRO, and other stakeholders. This ensures that any implications on birth statistics are taken into full consideration.

Changes made to the Population (Statistics) Act 1938 mean that improved data on previous children has been collected since May 2012. The changes will improve the accuracy of birth statistics by birth order and feed into estimates for family size and measures of fertility. ONS carry out quarterly checks on the births dataset.

The Births and Deaths Registration Act (1836) made it a legal requirement for all deaths to be registered from 1 July 1837. Mortality statistics for England and Wales are based on the information collected when a death occurs and is then registered. Published figures represent the number of deaths registered in a reference period.

The annual mortality statistics cover England and Wales. The Annual Time Series Data table in the "vital statistics: population and health reference tables" provides a range of mortality statistics for the UK and its constituent countries, with some measures available back to 1838.

Daily extracts of death registrations from RON are received by ONS and then pass through a series of automatic validation processes which highlight any inconsistencies. The Mortality Metadata provides detailed information on the collection, processing, and quality of mortality data for England and Wales.

Internal consistency checks are then conducted to eliminate any errors made during the recording of deaths, and to ensure the annual dataset is complete. Before becoming usable for analysis the data pass through more validation checks and processes, these include running frequency counts on a range of variables, checking the plausibility of combinations of fields, and checking

inconsistencies. Suspect records are referred back to register offices. Any concerns relating to cause of death are referred to a Medical Advisor or Medical Epidemiologist.

Long-term international and internal migration estimates at local authority level for England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland are produced by ONS, NRS, and NISRA for the purpose of producing a range of population estimates. The data are presented as:

- Long-term international immigration and emigration volumes - representing the number of people arriving in the UK or leaving the UK for a period of at least 12 months.
- Internal in-migration and out-migration volumes - an estimate of migration within the UK (crossborder flows between each of the constituent countries, as well as migration between local authorities).
- Long-term international and internal migration turnover rates (such as volume of movement between in- and out-migration) per 1,000 (of the total population)
- Long-term international inflow and outflow rates per 1,000 (of the total population)
- Total volume of migration per 1,000 (the sum of internal and international migration). This indicates more clearly the areas with high levels of population turnover

Short-term international migration estimates at local authority level for England and Wales are produced by ONS. The data consists of short-term international immigration volumes, representing the number of people who stayed in England and Wales for a period between 3 and 12 months.

The coverage of international migrants joining an administrative source will depend on the purpose of the particular administrative system and will invariably differ between sources.

Timeliness and punctuality

As part of the Welsh Government consultation on [statistical outputs on population and household estimates and projections](#) a timetable was proposed for the projections for the 22 local authorities and the 3 national park authorities. Respondents were asked:

- Do you agree with this timetable?
- What are your future needs for projections?
- How frequently should they be produced?

Most respondents thought that sub-national population projections and household projections should be produced once every three years.

Accessibility and clarity

As part of the assessment of compliance with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics for Population Estimates and Projections for Wales produced by the Welsh Government carried out by the UKSA (Assessment Report 310 July 2015), requirement 7a asked for future reports on the projections to be written in a way to maximise accessibility for a wide range of users.

The text of the 2015 Projections Release had been assessed for accessibility by a member of staff with a Diploma in Plain English awarded by the Plain English Campaign, which means that they are qualified to assess whether a document would receive a Crystal Mark (the industry standard for accessibility). It was judged that the 2015 Release would receive a Crystal Mark.

Comparability and coherence

The household projections use a different approach from the approaches used to produce household projections for England, Scotland, and Northern Ireland. The projected total household numbers for Wales are based on the sum of the figures for each local authority.

Guidance on the differences between the household projections for the four countries of the UK are detailed in a [report](#).

Household Projections are based on the Local Authority Population Projections for Wales produced by the Welsh Government. These in turn are based on population, births, deaths and migration produced by ONS. Assumptions about future household formation are applied to the results of these population projections by age and sex. These assumptions are developed from past trends based on 2001 and 2011 census figures produced by ONS.

Standard definitions of household and communal establishment are used for the projections.

Household

A household is defined as one person living alone, or a group of people (not necessarily related) living at the same address with common housekeeping – that is, sharing either a living room or sitting room or at least one meal a day.

Communal Establishment

A communal establishment is defined as an establishment providing managed residential accommodation. Managed means full-time or part-time supervision of the accommodation. In most cases (for example, prisons, large hospitals, hotels) communal establishments can be easily identified. However, difficulties can arise with small hotels, guesthouses and sheltered accommodation. Special rules apply in these cases:

Small hotels and guesthouses are treated as communal establishments if they have the capacity to have 10 or more guests, excluding the owner/manager and his/her family.

Sheltered housing is treated as a communal establishment if less than half the residents possess their own facilities for cooking. If half or more possess their own facilities for cooking (regardless of use) the whole establishment is treated as separate households.

Methodology

These projections are based on a similar methodology to the 2011-based Local Authority household projections.

Local Authority Population Projections are produced using a well established demographic approach known as the cohort component method. That is:

- taking the most recent year's population estimate;
- taking out special population groups;
- ageing every person on one year;
- adding births and subtracting deaths;
- allowing for inward and outward migration;
- adding back in the special population groups.

The methodology for these projections has been developed in close collaboration with local authorities and key users in Wales through the Wales Sub-national Projections (WASP) working group. This group has met on a regular basis during the preparation of the projections and has been a forum for technical discussion on the methodology and the base data used. Members of WASP include local authority and National Park representatives with knowledge of and experience of demographic data and population projections.

Regular updates have also been provided at full meetings of the Welsh Statistical Liaison Committee (WSLC). [Further information on the WSLC, including membership.](#)

The assumptions are generally based on trends during the most recent 5 years, and the projections indicate what may happen should these trends continue. Adjustments have been made to the mortality assumptions at a five-year age group level, to take into account of future improvements in mortality rates. These adjustments have been taken from the ONS-produced national population projections. In recent years, there has been an improvement in mortality rates, and thus a longer life expectancy. This is assumed to continue into the future.

The fertility assumptions are based on trends in recent years; in which the general trend has been for slightly higher birth rates for women in their thirties indicating delayed motherhood. The projections indicate what may happen in the future should these trends continue.

Adjustments have been made to the fertility assumptions at a five-year age group level, to take into likely future patterns in terms of age of mother. These adjustments have been taken from the ONS produced national population projections.

All figures relating to working age and pensionable age populations are based on the state pension age for the given year. Between 2010 and 2020, state pension age will change from 65 years for men and 60 years for women, to 65 years for both sexes. Between 2024 and 2046, state pension age will increase in three stages from 65 years to 68 years for both sexes.

Guidance on the detailed methodology used to produce the Local Authority Population Projections has been published in a [technical report](#).

National Statistics status

The [United Kingdom Statistics Authority](#) has designated these statistics as National Statistics, in accordance with the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007 and signifying compliance with the [Code of Practice for Official Statistics](#).

National Statistics status means that official statistics meet the highest standards of trustworthiness, quality, and public value.

All official statistics should comply with all aspects of the Code of Practice for Official Statistics. They are awarded National Statistics status following an assessment by the UK Statistics Authority's regulatory arm. The Authority considers whether the statistics meet the highest standards of Code compliance, including the value they add to public decisions and debate.

It is Welsh Government's responsibility to maintain compliance with the standards expected of National Statistics. If we become concerned about whether these statistics are still meeting the appropriate standards, we will discuss any concerns with the Authority promptly. National Statistics status can be removed at any point when the highest standards are not maintained, and reinstated when standards are restored.

Well-being of Future Generations Act (WFG)

The Well-being of Future Generations Act 2015 is about improving the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales. The Act puts in place seven well-being goals for Wales. These are for a more equal, prosperous, resilient, healthier and globally responsible Wales, with cohesive communities and a vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language. Under section (10)(1) of the Act, the Welsh Ministers must (a) publish indicators ("national indicators") that must be applied for the purpose of measuring progress towards the achievement of the Well-being goals, and (b) lay a copy of the national indicators before the National Assembly. The 46 national indicators were laid in March 2016 and although there are no indicators directly related to the number or type of households, indicators 10, 18, 19, and 34 imply the use of households as a denominator (rather than population).

Information on indicators and associated technical information - [How do you measure a nation's progress? - National Indicators](#)

The Act implies a commitment for Welsh Government Ministers to publish a *Future Trends*

Report containing:

- a. predictions of likely future trends in social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales;
- b. Any related analytical data and information that the Welsh Ministers consider appropriate.

It is likely that household projections would be used as part of the *Future Trends* Report

Further information on the [Well-being of Future Generations \(Wales\) Act 2015](#).

The statistics included in this release could also provide supporting narrative to the national indicators and be used by public services boards in relation to their local well-being assessments and local well-being plans.

Related outputs

Further population data for Wales including [Local Authority Population Projections for Wales](#).

[Population estimates for England and Wales](#) are published by the Office for National Statistics.

[National Population Projections for the United Kingdom and constituent countries, including Wales](#), are published by the Office for National Statistics. The most recent projections are 2014-based.

Household projections for England, Scotland and Northern Ireland are published by the Office for National Statistics (it was the Department for Communities and Local Government), the General Register Office for Scotland and the Northern Ireland Statistics & Research Agency respectively. More information can be found at:

England

[Gov.UK: Household projections](#).

Scotland

[National Records of Scotland: Household projections](#)

Northern Ireland

[Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency: Homeless projections](#)

Further details

This statistical release is available at:

<http://gov.wales/statistics-and-research/household-projections/?lang=en>

Detailed household statistics by local authority and household type can be found on [StatsWales](#).

We want your feedback

We welcome any feedback on any aspect of these statistics which can be provided by email to stats.popcensus@wales.gsi.gov.uk

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