

## Demography newsletter Welsh Government, September 2020

### 2018-based national population projections

On Monday 18 May 2020, the Office for National Statistics (ONS) issued a notice on its website informing users that they had identified an error affecting the 2018-based national population projections.

The ONS published [corrected national population projections for Wales](#) on Thursday 11 June. The corrected projections are showing a different longer-term trend for Wales compared with the projections published originally. The original projections were showing a projected decrease in Wales' population from 2025 onwards.

- The population of Wales is projected to increase by 2.7% to 3.22 million by 2028, and by 3.7% to 3.26 million by 2043
- The number of children aged under 16 is projected to decrease by 4.7% to 536,300 between 2018 and 2028
- The number of people aged 16-64 is projected to increase by 0.2% to 1,927,700 between 2018 and 2028
- The number of people aged 65 and over is projected to increase by 16.3% to 758,600 between 2018 and 2028
- The number of people aged 75 and over is projected to increase by 29.3% to 378,100 between 2018 and 2028

### Revised 2018-based local authority population projections

The [revised 2018-based local authority population projections](#) were published on 4 August 2020. The release revises the projections originally published on 27 February 2020. This is due to an error in the [ONS' 2018-based national population projections](#) for Wales. You can find further information about the revision in the release.

The projections provide an indication of the possible size and age structure of the population in the future for local authorities in Wales for the period 2018 to 2043.

The release includes the 2018-based projections for local authorities, including variant population projections, and gives a broad overview of the key results.

During the period 2018 to 2028:

- the population is projected to increase in the majority of local authorities

- the local authorities whose populations are projected to increase the most are Newport (by 7.2%), the Vale of Glamorgan (by 6.0%) and Bridgend (by 4.6%)
- the population is projected to decrease in four of the 22 local authorities
- the local authorities whose populations are projected to decrease the most are Ceredigion (by 3.3%), Wrexham (by 1.5%) Blaenau Gwent (by 0.7%) and the Isle of Anglesey (by 0.4%)

We will be publishing 2018-based national parks population projections separately. We will also be publishing additional variants for the projections as soon as possible.

## **Revised 2018-based local authority household projections**

The [revised 2018-based local authority household projections](#) were published on 4 August 2020. The release also revises the projections originally published on 27 February 2020, following the error in the [ONS' 2018-based national population projections](#) for Wales. You can find further information about the revision in the release.

The projections provide an indication of the future number of households and their composition in Wales.

The release includes the 2018-based projections for local authorities, including variant household projections, and gives a broad overview of the key results.

During the period 2018 to 2028:

- the total number of households in Wales is projected to be around 1.42 million by 2028, an increase of 4.4% during the period
- the number of households is projected to increase in each of the 22 local authorities, other than Ceredigion
- the largest percentage increases in the number of households are projected to be in the Vale of Glamorgan (up 8.6%), Newport (up 8.6%) and Bridgend (up 6.3%)
- the number of households in Ceredigion is projected to decrease by 1.6%

We will be publishing 2018-based national parks household projections separately. We will also be publishing additional variants for the projections as soon as possible.

## **Population estimates for the UK, England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland: Mid-2019**

On 24 June 2020 the ONS published the remaining population information on the components (drivers) of population change in each local area.

This [release](#) followed the provisional release of mid-2019 estimates published on 6 May 2020. No revisions were made to the mid-2019 population estimates.

## Household estimates

The mid-2019 household estimates are due to be published in September

## Long-term international migration

On 27 August, the ONS published its latest [migration statistics quarterly report](#) (MSQR), for the year ending March 2020. It brings together statistics on migration that are published by the Home Office, the Department for Work and Pensions, the Higher Education Statistics Agency and the ONS.

- In the year ending March 2020, around 313,000 more people moved to the UK, intending to stay for 12 months or more than left the UK (net migration, the balance between immigration and emigration)
- Over the year, around 715,000 people moved to the UK (immigration) and around 403,000 people left the UK (emigration)
- The increase in immigration and net migration is being driven by an increase in non-EU nationals arriving in the UK for study reasons
- Of those coming to the UK, 257,000 were arriving for formal study, with 458,000 arriving for work, family or other reasons.

The period in which data were collected from the International Passenger Survey (IPS) covers up to 16 March 2020. The IPS was suspended on this date because of COVID-19.

International migration estimates for April 2020 onwards will no longer be measured using the IPS, following the pausing of the IPS as a result of the coronavirus. From November 2020 onwards, the ONS plans to move away from the IPS and use administrative data to deliver new measures of migration.

## The Census (Wales) Regulations 2020

[The Census \(Wales\) Regulations 2020](#) were laid before Senedd Cymru by the Minister for Finance and Trefnydd, Rebecca Evans MS, on 1 June 2020. The Regulations set out the operational procedures and arrangements necessary to conduct the 2021 Census.

The Regulations also include specimen copies of the 2021 Census paper questionnaires as well as descriptions of the questions and response options for the online questionnaire.

The Regulations came into force on 26 June 2020.

## Welsh language

On 25 June, the [Annual Population Survey \(APS\) results on the Welsh language for the year from April 2019 to March 2020](#) were published.

On 14 July, the [National Survey for Wales headline results](#) for interviews conducted between April 2019 and March 2020 were published. These contained results about people's ability in Welsh as well as their use of Welsh with local services and local authorities.

## **Contact**

Tel: 0300 025 0373

E-mail: [stats.popcensus@gov.wales](mailto:stats.popcensus@gov.wales)