

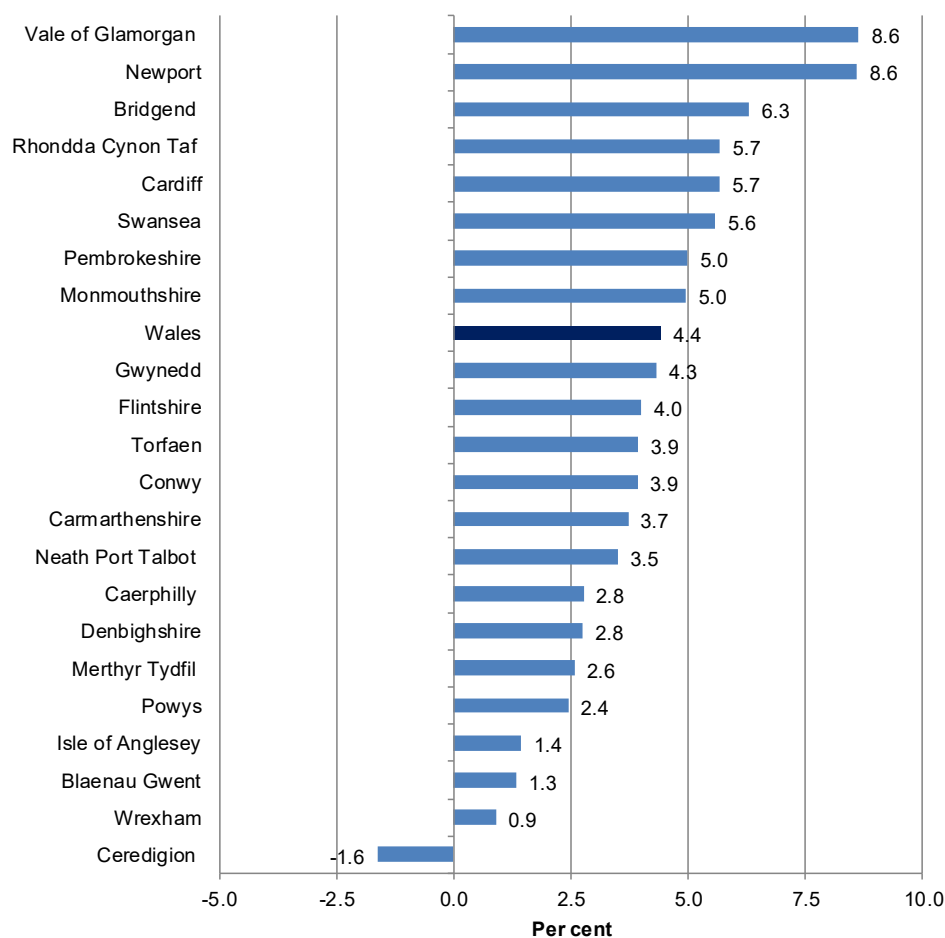


## Local authority household projections for Wales: 2018-based (revised)

4 August 2020  
SFR 13/2020(R)

These projections revise those originally published on 27 February 2020. You can find further information about the revision in the section [About these projections](#).

**Chart 1: Percentage change in the principal household projections by local authority, 2018 to 2028**



During the period 2018 to 2028:

- the total number of households at a Wales level is projected to increase by 4.4%
- the number of households is projected to increase in all local authorities, other than in Ceredigion (down 1.6%)
- the largest percentage increases in the number of households are projected to be in the Vale of Glamorgan (8.6%), Newport (8.6%) and Bridgend (6.3%)

### About this release

This release presents the results of the revised 2018-based local authority household projections for Wales for the 25-year period from 2018 to 2043.

They are based on the revised 2018-based population projections, published by the Welsh Government on 4 August 2020.

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

They are based on assumptions about households from the 2001 and 2011 Censuses.

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## About these projections

The Welsh Government's local authority household projections are based on the Welsh Government's local authority population projections. The local authority population projections are based on the Office for National Statistics' (ONS) 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 error was caused by incorrect processing of cross-border flows](#) between Wales and England, resulting in the projected mid-2028 population for Wales being approximately 65,000 too low, and that for England being approximately 65,000 too high.

Having consulted with our expert group about the implications for our statistical products that were based on the ONS' 2018-based national population projections, we decided to withdraw the 2018-based local authority population projections and household projections.

The ONS published corrected 2018-based national population projections for Wales on Thursday 11 June. The Welsh Government published [corrected 2018-based local authority population projections](#) on Tuesday 4 August. These local authority household projections are based on the corrected 2018-based local authority population projections. Further information about the corrections can be found in the [Annex](#), as well as an analysis of how these corrected projections compare with the previously published projections.

## 2018-based local authority household projections

The 2018-based local authority household projections provide an indication of the future number of households and their composition in Wales for the period 2018 to 2043.

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.

The 'principal' projection is the main projection, and is based on assumptions about future fertility, mortality, migration and household composition considered to best reflect demographic patterns at that time. It can be considered to be a 'central' projection.

Two other projections, or 'variant' projections, are also available alongside the principal projection. They are based on alternative future scenarios of fertility, mortality and migration compared with the principal projection. Variant projections include a 'high population' variant (based on high

fertility, life expectancy and migration assumptions), and a 'low population' variant (based on low fertility, life expectancy and migration assumptions). These provide an indication of uncertainty, but do not represent upper or lower limits of future demographic behaviour.

We are also planning to make variants based on alternative migration assumptions available in the future. This includes a variant based on zero migration (i.e. no international or internal migration, only natural change in the population as a result of births and deaths), and a variant based on 10-year migration patterns (i.e. using 10 years of data for both international and internal migration, rather than 5 years of data).

Projections are available for the 25-year period, from 2018 to 2043. However, this report focusses on the first 10 years of the projection period as projections tend to become increasingly uncertain in the longer-term, as much may change over that timescale.

It is important to note that these projections are not forecasts, and do not attempt to predict the impact that future government policies, changing economic circumstances, or other factors such as the coronavirus pandemic, or the number of houses built, might have on household growth.

Household projections are not a prediction or forecast of how many houses should be built in the future. Instead, they show how many additional households would form if the population of Wales continues to change as it did between 2014 and 2018, and keeps forming households as it did between 2001 and 2011. The Welsh Government publishes separate [estimates of housing need and demand](#), which take into account newly arising need (from household projections) as well as existing unmet need. These projections will be used to produce updated estimates of housing need, and will be published on 13 August 2020.

The 2018-based local authority household projections are based on the 2018-based local authority population projections. Unlike the original local authority population projections published in February, the revised local authority population projections are no longer constrained to the [2018-based national population projections](#), produced by the ONS. This is similar to the method used for calculating the 2014-based local authority population projections, and previous projections. Further information can be found in the [2018-based local authority population projections](#) release.

The household projections are also based on data about 'household formation'. Assumptions about the formations, or different types, of households are based on 2001 and 2011 Census data, produced by the ONS.

## **Principal projection**

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 in Wales, other than in Ceredigion
- the largest percentage increases in the number of households are projected to be in the Vale of Glamorgan (8.6%), Newport (8.6%) and Bridgend (6.3%)

- the number of households in Ceredigion is projected to decrease by 1.6%

The projected trends seen here broadly reflect those seen in the most recent [household estimates](#). The local authorities that have seen the greatest percentage increases in the estimated number of households between 2014 and 2018 are Newport, the Vale of Glamorgan, Cardiff and Bridgend. Conversely, the only local authority that has seen a decrease in the estimated number of households during the same period is Ceredigion.

The projected trends in the numbers of households are broadly similar to the 2018-based local authority population projections. The local authorities whose populations are projected to see the largest percentage increases during the period 2018 to 2028 are Newport, the Vale of Glamorgan and Bridgend. Conversely, the local authorities whose populations are projected to decrease are Ceredigion, Wrexham, Blaenau Gwent and Isle of Anglesey. In regards to Wrexham, Blaenau Gwent and the Isle of Anglesey, the population is projected to decrease during the period 2018 to 2028, however, the number of households is projected to increase during the same period. These differences are likely due to an ageing population and the formation of one-person households.

**Chart 2: Projected number of households by local authority, 2028**

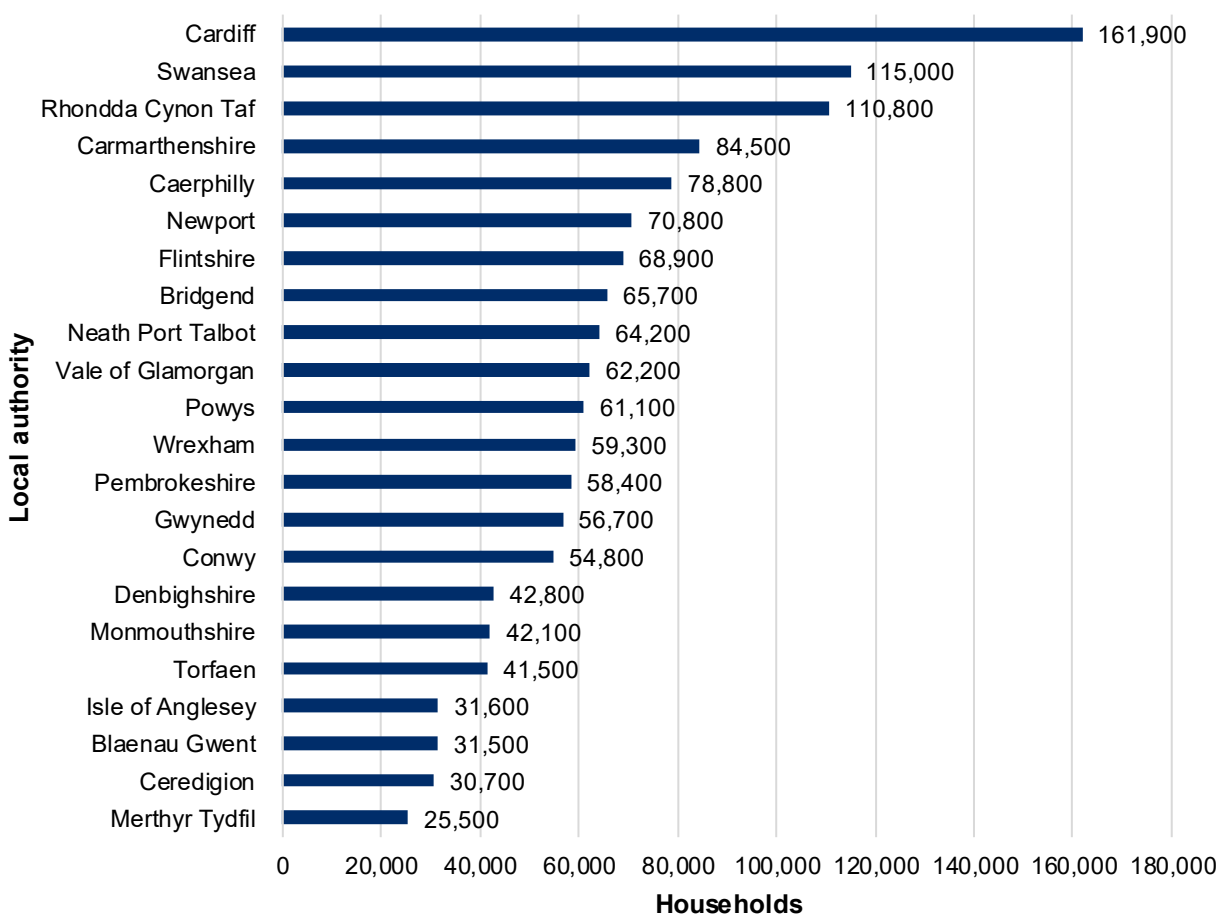


Chart 2 shows the projected number of households for each of the 22 local authorities in Wales by 2028. Cardiff is projected to continue to have the most number of households of all local authorities in Wales by 2028, at around 161,900 households. This is over 46,900 more households than in Swansea, the local authority with the second highest projected number of households in 2028. The

projected number of households in Cardiff in 2028 accounts for over 11% of all households in Wales.

Just over a half of all local authorities in Wales are projected to have between around 50,000 and around 100,000 households by 2028. The local authorities projected to have the least number of households continue to be Merthyr Tydfil (around 25,500), Ceredigion (around 30,700) and Blaenau Gwent (around 31,500).

### Projections by type of household

While the total number of households in Wales is projected to increase during the period 2018 to 2028, this is not true for all types of households.

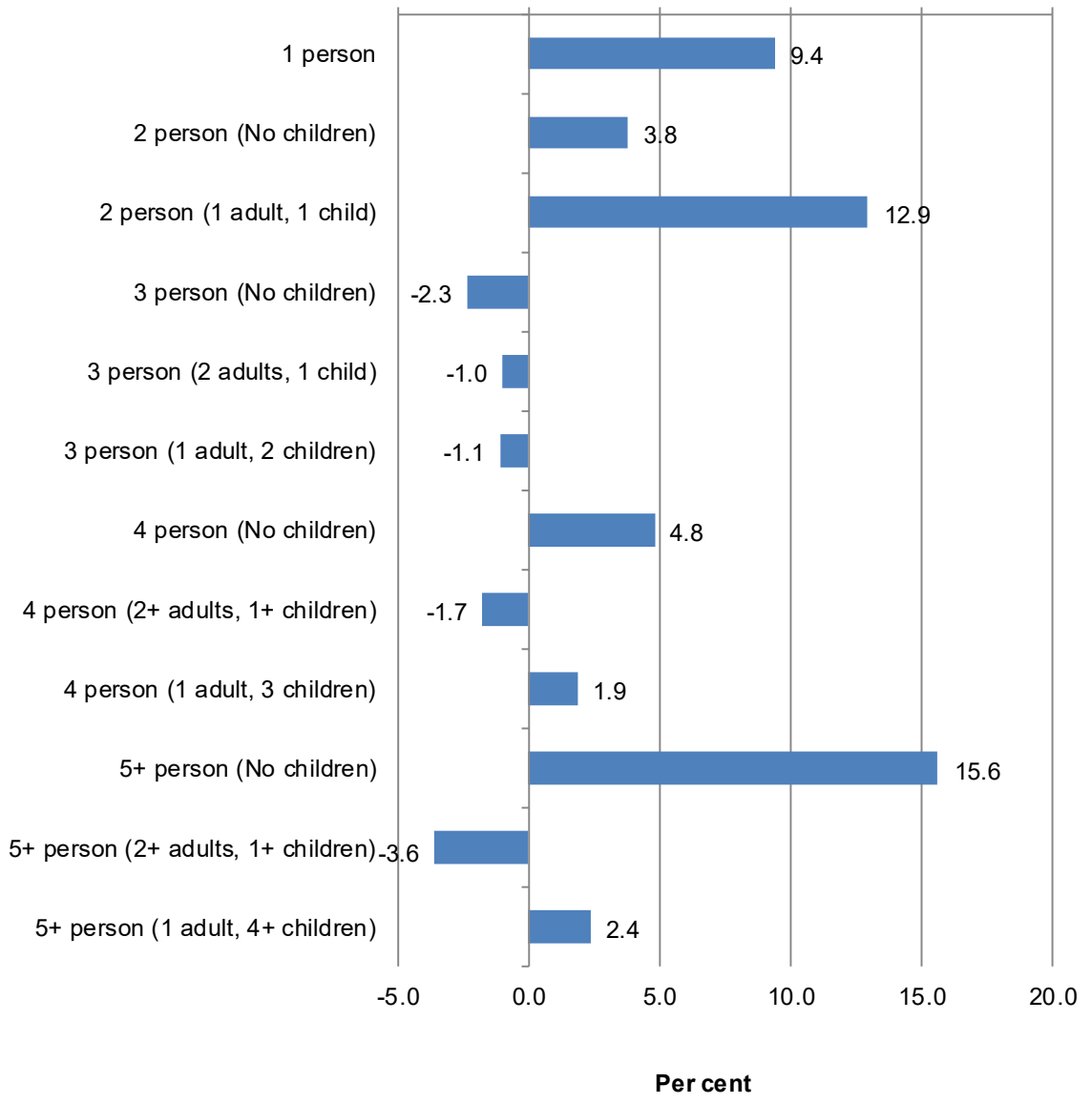
**Table 1: Principal household projections by type of household, 2018, 2028 and 2043**

	<i>thousands</i>		
	<u>2018</u>	<u>2028</u>	<u>2043</u>
<b>1-person households</b>	<b>434.6</b>	<b>475.5</b>	<b>526.1</b>
<b>2-person households</b>	<b>478.3</b>	<b>501.5</b>	<b>518.9</b>
2 person (No children)	424.1	440.4	447.9
2 person (1 adult, 1 child)	54.1	61.1	70.9
<b>3-person households</b>	<b>203.0</b>	<b>199.7</b>	<b>198.2</b>
3 person (No children)	91.7	89.6	88.9
3 person (2 adults, 1 child)	85.9	85.0	84.9
3 person (1 adult, 2 children)	25.4	25.1	24.5
<b>4-person households</b>	<b>163.1</b>	<b>162.8</b>	<b>163.7</b>
4 person (No children)	33.2	34.8	39.4
4 person (2+ adults, 1+ children)	120.7	118.6	114.8
4 person (1 adult, 3 children)	9.2	9.4	9.5
<b>5+-person households</b>	<b>79.8</b>	<b>79.3</b>	<b>79.5</b>
5+ person (No children)	11.2	13.0	15.6
5+ person (2+ adults, 1+ children)	65.1	62.7	60.1
5+ person (1 adult, 4+ children)	3.5	3.6	3.8
<b>All household types</b>	<b>1,358.8</b>	<b>1,418.8</b>	<b>1,486.2</b>

During the period 2018 to 2028:

- it is projected that the number of one-person households, and the number of two-person households will increase
- it is projected that one-person households and two-person households with no children will continue to be the most common household type, accounting for 33.5% and 31.0% of all households in 2028 respectively
- it is projected that the number of households with children will increase slightly, from around 363,900 households in 2018, to around 365,600 households in 2028, an increase of 0.5%
- the [2018-based national population projections](#) showed that the number of children aged 0 to 15 years old in Wales is projected to decrease during this period (down 4.7%)
- it is projected that the number of households with no children will increase by 5.9% during the same period, from around 994,900 households in 2018 to around 1,053,200 households in 2028

**Chart 3: Change in the principal household projections by type of household, 2018 to 2028**



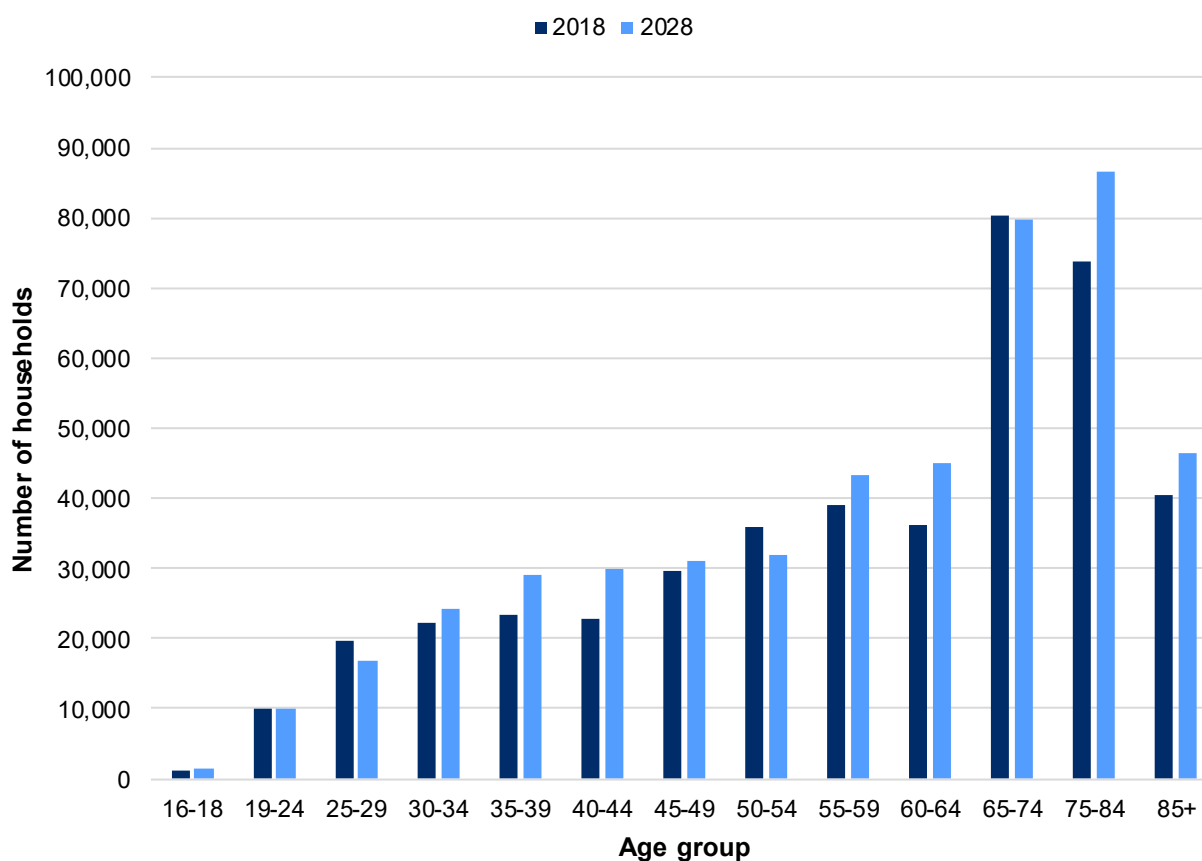
## One-person households

During the period 2018 to 2028:

- it is projected that the number of one-person households will increase, and that they will continue to be the most common household type, accounting for 33.5% of all households in 2028
- the number of one-person households is projected to increase in all local authorities
- the largest percentage increases in the number of one-person households are projected to be seen in the Vale of Glamorgan (up 16.9%), Newport (up 15.5%) and Rhondda Cynon Taf (up 13.3%)

Chart 4 shows how the number of one-person households by age is projected to change during the period 2018 to 2028.

**Chart 4: Projected number of one-person households by age group, 2018 and 2028**



The number of one-person households is projected to increase for the majority of age groups by 2028. Some of the largest projected growth can be seen for 35-39 year olds and 40-44 year olds (up 25.1% and 31.2% respectively). There is also large projected growth for 16-18 year olds, however these are based on relatively small numbers.

For 35-39 year olds during 2018 to 2028:

- the number of one-person households is projected to increase in every local authority

- the largest percentage increases in one-person households are projected to be in Newport (up 42.2%), Rhondda Cynon Taf (up 35.9%) and Swansea (up 35.2%)

For 40-44 year olds during 2018 to 2028:

- the number of one-person households for 40-44 year olds is projected to increase in every local authority, other than in Ceredigion (down 1.9%)
- the largest percentage increases in one-person households are projected to be in Newport (up 52.7%), Rhondda Cynon Taf (up 44.2%) and Torfaen (up 39.8%)

The number of one-person households is also projected to increase substantially for the oldest age groups, with households consisting of a person aged 65 or older accounting for nearly 45% of all one-person households by 2028.

For 75-84 year olds during 2018 to 2028:

- the number of one-person households is projected to increase in every local authority
- the largest percentage increases in one-person households are projected to be in Pembrokeshire (up 30.2%), the Vale of Glamorgan (up 26.3%) and Gwynedd (up 23.0%)

For 85+ year olds during 2018 to 2028:

- the number of one-person households is projected to increase in every local authority
- the largest percentage increases in one-person households are projected to be in Caerphilly (up 30.9%), Flintshire (up 30.4%) and Monmouthshire (up 24.9%)

### **Private household population**

The private household population is the number of people living in private households. This is calculated by subtracting the population living in communal establishments from the population. Communal establishments include residential care homes, university halls of residence, boarding schools and prisons. As population estimates for people living in communal establishments are not available on an annual basis, assumed numbers are calculated based on census data.

The chart below shows the projected change in the private household population by local authority between 2018 and 2028.



**Chart 5: Projected change in the private household population by local authority, 2018 and 2028**

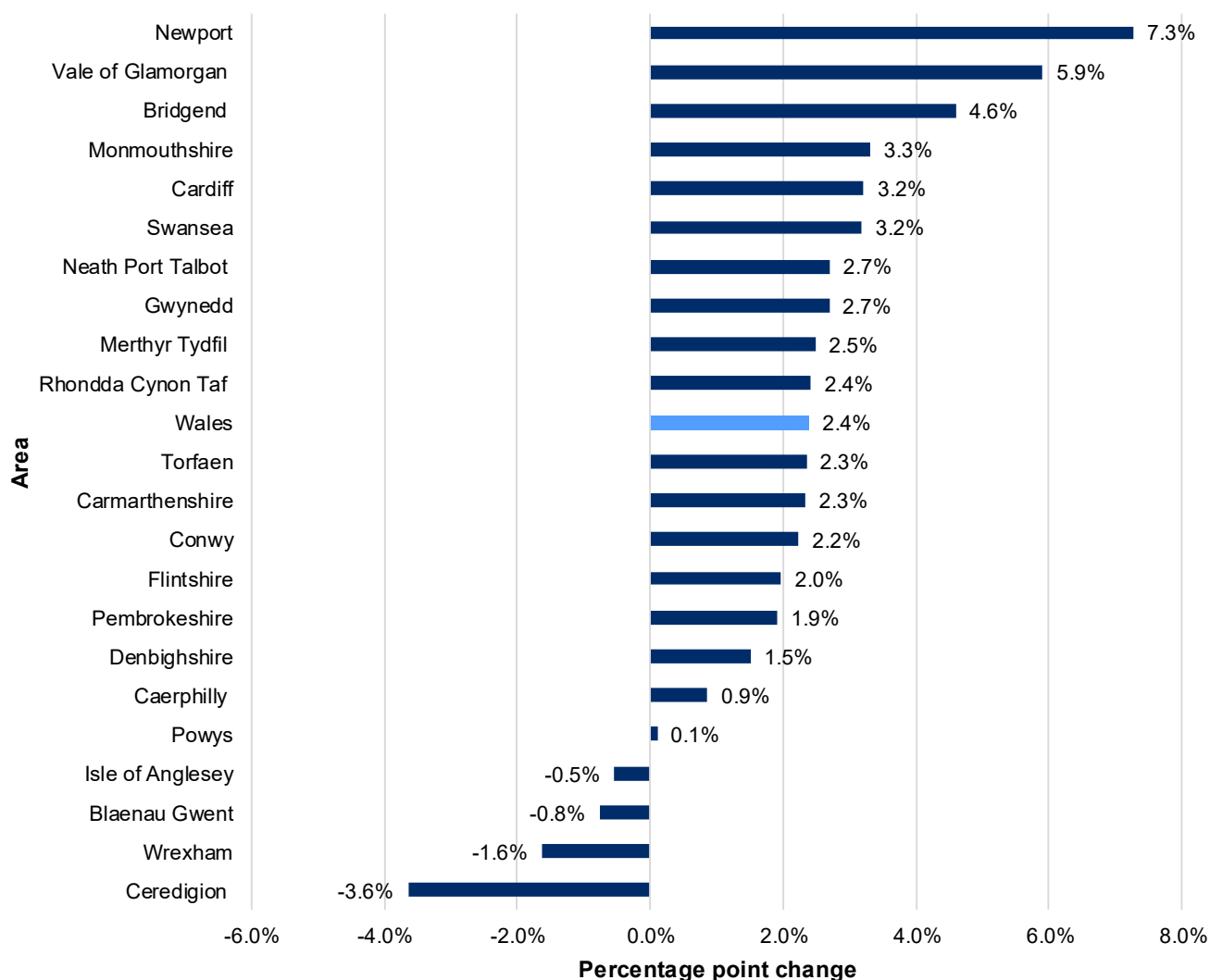


Chart 5 shows that the private household population is projected to increase in the majority of local authorities in Wales between 2018 and 2028.

The local authorities whose private household populations are projected to see the largest percentage increase are Newport (by 7.3%), the Vale of Glamorgan (by 5.9%) and Bridgend (by 4.6%). The four local authorities whose populations are projected to decrease are Ceredigion (by 3.6%), Wrexham (by 1.6%), Blaenau Gwent (by 0.8%) and the Isle of Anglesey (by 0.5%).

This broadly reflects the projected change in the population in the 2018-based local authority population projections.

Average household size, measured in terms of persons per household, is calculated by dividing the private household population by the number of households. The average household size in Wales is projected to decrease from 2.27 persons per household in 2018 to 2.23 persons per household in 2028. It is projected to decrease in every local authority during this period, with the smallest average household size projected to be 2.13 persons per household in Conwy, and the largest average household size projected to be 2.40 persons per household in Merthyr Tydfil by 2028.

## Variant projections

**Chart 6: Household estimates and variant household projections, 2008 to 2028**

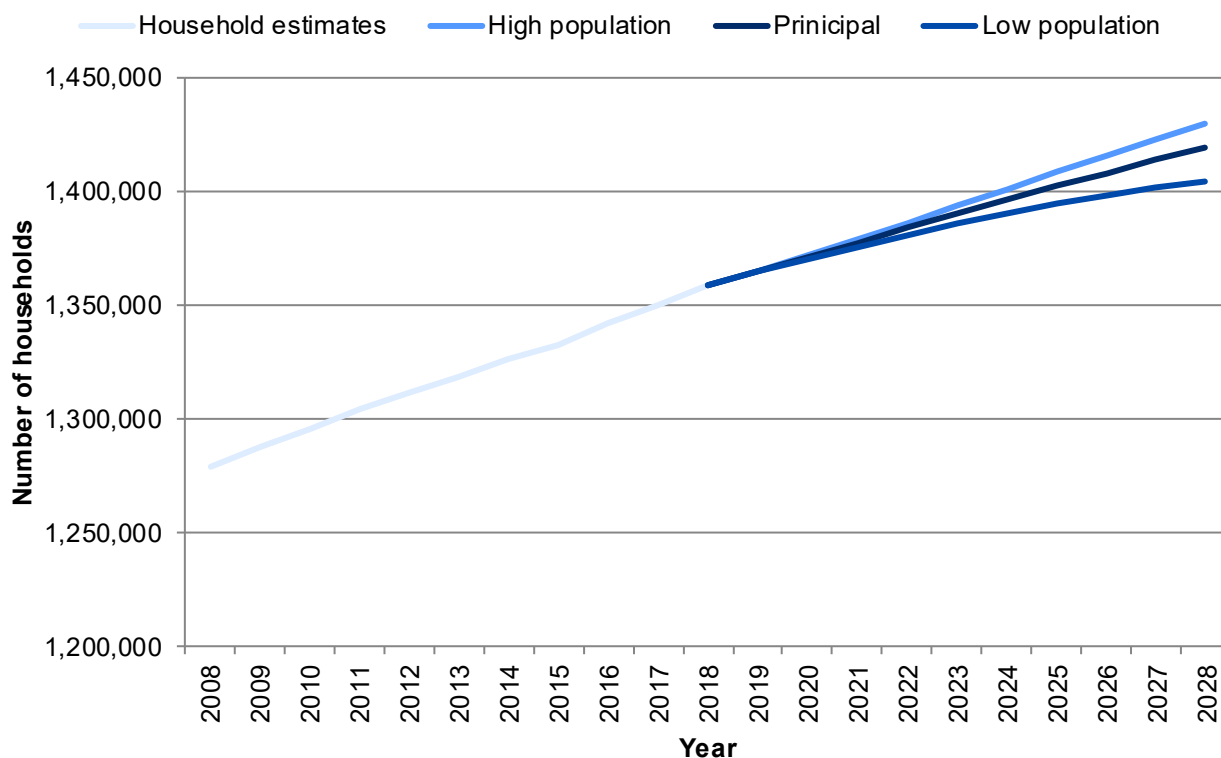


Chart 6 shows the differences in the projected number of households for Wales for the principal projection, and under the high population and low population variant scenarios for the period 2018 to 2028. It also shows the household estimates for Wales for the period 2008 to 2018. Note that the chart does not start at zero.

Under the high population variant, during the period 2018 to 2028 the number of households in Wales is projected to increase by 5.2% (compared with 4.4% for the principal projection). Under the low population variant, during the period 2018 to 2028 the number of households in Wales is projected to increase by 3.4%.

Table 2 shows how the projected number of households varies between the principal projection, the low population variant projections and the high population variant projections during the period 2018 to 2028.

**Table 2: Variant household projections by local authority, 2018 and 2028**

	2018	2028		
		Principal	Low population	High population
Isle of Anglesey	31,200	31,600	31,300	31,900
Gwynedd	54,300	56,700	56,200	57,100
Conwy	52,800	54,800	54,300	55,200
Denbighshire	41,600	42,800	42,400	43,100
Flintshire	66,200	68,900	68,200	69,400
Wrexham	58,700	59,300	58,700	59,700
Powys	59,700	61,100	60,600	61,600
Ceredigion	31,200	30,700	30,400	30,900
Pembrokeshire	55,600	58,400	57,900	58,800
Carmarthenshire	81,500	84,500	83,700	85,200
Swansea	108,900	115,000	113,800	115,800
Neath Port Talbot	62,100	64,200	63,600	64,700
Bridgend	61,800	65,700	65,100	66,200
Vale of Glamorgan	57,200	62,200	61,500	62,700
Cardiff	153,200	161,900	160,200	163,200
Rhondda Cynon Taf	104,900	110,800	109,700	111,700
Merthyr Tydfil	24,900	25,500	25,200	25,700
Caerphilly	76,700	78,800	78,000	79,400
Blaenau Gwent	31,100	31,500	31,200	31,700
Torfaen	40,000	41,500	41,100	41,900
Monmouthshire	40,100	42,100	41,700	42,400
Newport	65,200	70,800	70,000	71,400
<b>Wales</b>	<b>1,358,800</b>	<b>1,418,800</b>	<b>1,404,700</b>	<b>1,429,700</b>

During the period 2018 to 2028, under the principal projection:

- the number of households is projected to increase in all local authorities, other than in Ceredigion
- projected growth in the number of households varies between 8.6% in the Vale of Glamorgan and -1.6% in Ceredigion

During the period 2018 to 2028, under the low population projection:

- the number of households is projected to increase in all local authorities, other than in Ceredigion and Wrexham
- projected growth in the number of households varies between 7.5% in the Vale of Glamorgan and -2.5% in Ceredigion
- projected growth in the number of households is around 1 percentage points lower than the principal projection for all local authorities

During the period 2018 to 2028, under the high population projection:

- the number of households is projected to increase in all local authorities, other than in Ceredigion (down 0.9%)
- projected growth in the number of households varies between 9.5% in Newport and -0.9% in Ceredigion
- projected growth in the number of households is around 1 percentage points higher than the principal projection for all local authorities

## Comparisons with the 2014-based local authority household projections

The Chief Statistician published an [update](#) in February 2020, giving an overview of the methodological changes that had been made to the local authority projections since the [2014-based local authority projections](#). This included:

- changing the assumptions for internal migration in the population projections, so that they were based on migration rates rather than fixed numbers
- constraining the sum of the local authority population projections, and some of the component parts, for the 22 local authorities in Wales to the 2018-based national population projections published by the ONS

Another [update](#) was issued in July 2020, announcing the publication date for the revised local authority population and household projections, and the decision to revert to not constraining the local authority population projections.

Following discussions with the Wales Subnational Projections (WaSP) group, we made the decision to revert, in part, to the previous methodology for calculating local authority population projections by removing the constraining to the national population projections. The decision to constrain to the national population projections initially was made as a result of the incorrect national population projections showing a different trend to the local authority population projections. However, as this is no longer the case, we have reverted to the original methodology of not constraining in order to provide better continuity with previous local authority population projections, so that they are mainly driven by local trends for births, deaths and migration.

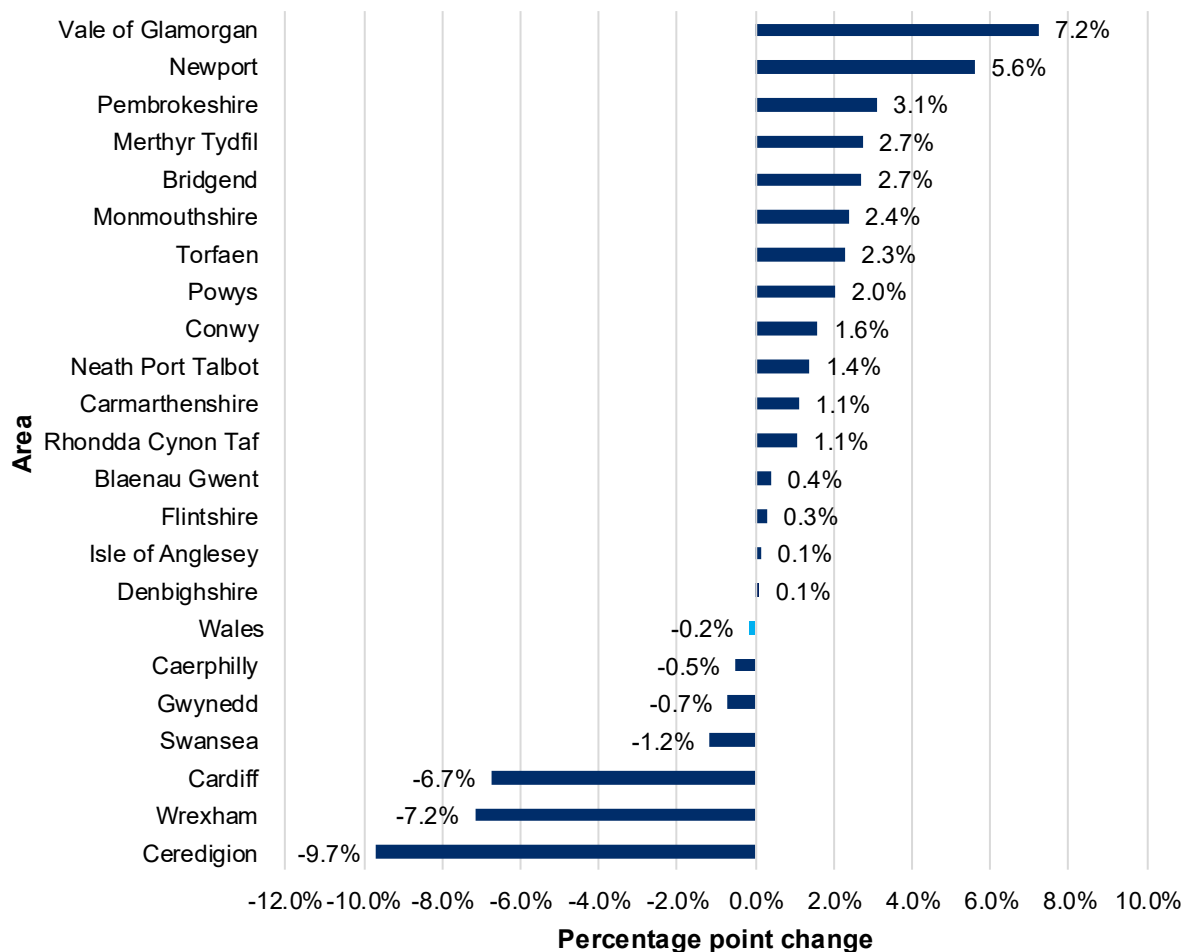
We have, however, retained the change made to the assumptions for internal migration so that they continue to be based on migration rates rather than fixed numbers. Further information can be found in the update.

The differences between the 2014-based and 2018-based local authority projections therefore reflect not only the change in demographic trends seen during this time period, but also the change in the methodology between the two sets of projections, as well as the change in the base year of the projection.

There have been some underlying demographic changes to note in the intervening four years. At a Wales level, the birth rate has continued to fall (with the total fertility rate falling from 1.78 in 2014 to 1.63 in 2018), and improvements in life expectancy have stalled, while migration patterns have been fluctuating. These changes resulted in Wales's population in 2018 being estimated at 3.14

million, 8,800 (0.3%) higher than was projected for 2018 by the 2014-based national population projections.

**Chart 7: Percentage difference between the projected number of households in 2028 using 2014-based and 2018-based projections, by local authority**



The projected number of households in Wales for 2028 is 0.2% lower in the 2018-based projections than in the 2014-based projections. It is also lower for six of the local authorities.

The projections for the Vale of Glamorgan and Newport in 2028 are higher in the 2018-based projections than in the 2014-based projections. These local authorities have seen the greatest increases in the household estimates between 2014 and 2018, therefore this is reflected in the 2018-based projections.

The projection for Ceredigion in 2028 is 9.7% lower in the 2018-based projections than in the 2014-based projections. Ceredigion is the only local authority that has seen a decrease in its household estimates between 2014 and 2018. In the 2014-based projections, the number of households in Ceredigion was projected to be 32,300 in 2018. This compares to 31,200 in the mid-2018 household estimates, which is 3.5% lower.

There are some local authorities whose numbers of households are projected to be lower in 2028 according to the 2018-based projections compared with the 2014-based projections. However, some of these areas are still projected to see an increase in the number of households from 2018

to 2028. A notable example is Cardiff, whose number of households in 2028 is projected to be 6.7% lower in the 2018-based projections compared with the 2014-based projections. However, the number of households is still projected to increase by 5.7% between 2018 and 2028 according to the 2018-based projections. In the 2014-based projections, the number of households in Cardiff was projected to be 154,500 in 2018. This compares with 153,200 in the mid-2018 household estimates, which is 0.9% lower.

## Annex: Comparisons with the original local authority household projections

### Revision to the local authority population projections

As has been mentioned previously, the ONS identified an error affecting the 2018-based national population projections for Wales. The error was caused by incorrect processing of cross-border flows between Wales and England, resulting in the projected mid-2028 population for Wales being approximately 65,000 too low, and that for England being approximately 65,000 too high. Further information can be found in the [revised 2018-based local authority population projections](#) statistical release.

The corrected projections show that the population of Wales is projected to increase by 2.7% by 2028, and increase by 3.7% by 2043. This compares with a projected increase of 0.6% and a projected decrease of 0.9% during the same periods in the incorrect projections.

Table 3 shows the impact of the revised 2018-based national population projections on the 2018-based local authority household projections, and the differences with the original household projections published on 27 February 2020.

**Table 3: Differences between the original 2018-based local authority household projections and the corrected 2018-based local authority household projections, 2028**

	2018	2028 (original)	2028 (corrected)	Percentage difference
Isle of Anglesey	31,200	31,000	31,600	2.1%
Gwynedd	54,300	55,800	56,700	1.7%
Conwy	52,800	53,400	54,800	2.6%
Denbighshire	41,600	41,500	42,800	3.2%
Flintshire	66,200	67,700	68,900	1.7%
Wrexham	58,700	58,400	59,300	1.6%
Powys	59,700	59,400	61,100	3.0%
Ceredigion	31,200	29,700	30,700	3.3%
Pembrokeshire	55,600	57,200	58,400	2.1%
Carmarthenshire	81,500	82,900	84,500	2.0%
Swansea	108,900	114,200	115,000	0.7%
Neath Port Talbot	62,100	63,300	64,200	1.5%
Bridgend	61,800	64,900	65,700	1.3%
Vale of Glamorgan	57,200	61,000	62,200	1.9%
Cardiff	153,200	160,900	161,900	0.6%
Rhondda Cynon Taf	104,900	109,900	110,800	0.8%
Merthyr Tydfil	24,900	25,200	25,500	1.2%
Caerphilly	76,700	77,900	78,800	1.1%
Blaenau Gwent	31,100	31,200	31,500	1.0%
Torfaen	40,000	41,000	41,500	1.2%
Monmouthshire	40,100	40,800	42,100	3.1%
Newport	65,200	69,600	70,800	1.6%

Table 3 shows that the corrected projections are higher than the original projections by 2028 for all local authorities, ranging from 0.6% higher to 3.3% higher. The largest differences are for Ceredigion (3.3% higher than the original projections), Denbighshire (3.2% higher) and Monmouthshire (3.1% higher). The smallest differences are for Cardiff (0.6% higher than the original projections), Swansea (0.7% higher), and Rhondda Cynon Taf (0.8% higher).



## Key quality information

### 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 and in the [National Development Framework](#)
- policy development
- advice to Ministers
- informing debate in the Senedd and beyond
- the calculation of further statistics (for example, estimates of housing need and demand)
- geographic profiling, comparisons, and benchmarking
- supporting well-being assessments required under the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015

There is a 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 number of households.

Household projections can identify trends that shape the context for future policy development.

The Planning (Wales) Act 2015 came into force 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. The Local Government Elections (Wales) Bill, when it comes into force, will replace the governance structure of preparing strategic development plans.

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

Household projections are based on population projections, and assumptions about households from the 2001 and 2011 Censuses. The population projections themselves are based on mid-year

population estimates (as at 30 June each year). The 2018-based local authority population projections are based on the mid-2018 population estimates for local authorities in Wales.

Mid-year population estimates for England and Wales are produced by the ONS. In order to produce the local authority projections, the population estimates are combined with assumptions about births, deaths, and migration. These assumptions are based on past trends.

The base data used to make the calculations is produced by ONS for the length of the projection period, usually twenty-five years. In order to produce population projections, assumptions need to be formed to project future levels of fertility, mortality, and migration for each local authority.

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 assumptions are generally based on trends during the most recent five years, and the projections indicate what may happen should these trends continue.

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.

The methodology for these projections has been developed in close collaboration with local authorities and key users in Wales through the Wales Subnational 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, and others 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).

Guidance on the detailed methodology used to produce the local authority household projections for Wales will be published in a technical report in due course, alongside the publication of national park projections. It will describe how the local authority population and household projections are calculated, and describe in detail the methodology used to derive assumptions on fertility, mortality, and migration, and on household formation.

### **Timeliness and punctuality**

The local authority household projections are usually calculated and published every three years, in response to user need in Wales.

The last set of local authority household projections were [2014-based projections](#), published in March 2017.

The Welsh Government's Chief Statistician announced in a [blog](#) in October 2019 that the 2017-based subnational population and household projections would be postponed. A [statistical article](#) was also published, setting out the challenges in producing the 2017-based subnational population projections in more detail, and announcing the planned update of the local authority projections to be 2018-based.

The [2018-based local authority household projections](#) were first published on 27 February 2020 and subsequently revised on 4 August 2020.

### **Proposed timing of next projections**

The ONS usually publishes national population projections every two years. However, they are currently proposing not to produce 2020-based projections, which would theoretically be published in autumn 2021. This is because the first 2021 Census results are expected in spring 2022. They are therefore proposing that the next round of projections will be based on the 2021 mid-year estimates, enabling them to use the updated base population that the 2021 Census results will offer.

We are therefore proposing that the next set of subnational household projections for Wales will also be based on 2021. We usually publish subnational projections once every three years, so the next set of projections for Wales would be 2021-based (alongside the subnational population projections).

We would welcome any feedback on this proposed approach via our mailbox [stats.popcensus@gov.wales](mailto:stats.popcensus@gov.wales).

### **Accessibility and clarity**

This statistical release is pre-announced and then published on the [Statistics and Research](#) section of the Welsh Government website. It is accompanied by more detailed tables on [StatsWales](#), a free to use service that allows visitors to view, manipulate, create and download data.

### **Comparability and coherence**

The ONS publishes [household projections for England](#).

The National Records of Scotland publishes [household projections for Scotland](#).

The Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency publishes [household projections for Northern Ireland](#).

User [guidance](#) is available on the comparison of data sources and methods for the subnational household projections across the UK.

## 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 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 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.

These statistics last underwent a [full assessment](#) against the Code of Practice in 2011.

Since the latest review by the Office for Statistics Regulation, we have continued to comply with the Code of Practice for Statistics, and have made the following improvements:

- worked with the Wales Subnational Projections (WaSP) working group to make and agree improvements to the methodology for calculating the projections and their variants
- made improvements to the presentation of the statistics, including publishing in html format to meet user needs
- enhanced trustworthiness by reducing pre-release access

## 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.

Information on the indicators, along with narratives for each of the well-being goals and associated technical information is available in the [Well-being of Wales 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.

## **Further details**

The document is available at: <https://gov.wales/subnational-household-projections-2018-based>

## **Next update**

To be confirmed

## **We want your feedback**

We welcome any feedback on any aspect of these statistics which can be provided by email to [stats.popcensus@gov.wales](mailto:stats.popcensus@gov.wales).

## **Open Government Licence**

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