Last updated **March 2012** by David Jenks and Bryan Moulding with data from **projections to 2035**

Population projections 2010 to 2035

Summary

The latest population projections cover the period from 2010 to 2035 and are available by 19 age-groups for each local authority in Lancashire.

For the 14-authority Lancashire area, a 12.4% increase is projected over the 25-year period, resulting in an expected population total of 1.645 million by 2035. For the smaller county council area, the percentage increase is projected to be slightly higher at 12.8%, with the number expected to reach 1.332 million. The estimated increases for both areas are slightly lower that the North West as a whole, but are noticeably below the projected national rate of change.

At the district level, Burnley, Hyndburn, Blackpool and West Lancashire are predicted to see population growth rates of below 10%. In contrast, rates of above 15% are expected in Lancaster, Rossendale and South Ribble.

Analysis by age not surprisingly highlights the dramatic increases projected in the 85-89 and 90+ age-groups. The figures present a vivid indication of the future ageing of the population, which is a subject that has received a good deal of press attention over recent years.

Introduction

The Office for National Statistics (ONS) has released yearly population projections up to 2035, down to the district authority level for each area of England. The full data sets can be downloaded from the Office for National Statistics website. This report uses a selection of the statistics available for the Lancashire area to provide a broad overview of the results.

The purpose of the projections is to provide an estimate of future trends in population by age and sex for the 25-year period from 2010 to 2035. They are used as a common framework for national planning in a number of different fields. The projections are trend-based and therefore show what the population will be if recent trends in fertility, mortality and migration continue. The projections are produced on a consistent basis across all local authorities in England and do not reflect the impact of any future policy changes or local development policies on the population of an area.

Please note that care must be taken when interpreting the figures especially for local district authorities. These are less robust than the projections for the more populous geographical areas. Further information on the methodology used to derive the figures, and for the figures for other authority areas in England not detailed in this short report, can be found on the Office for National Statistics website.

Incompatibilities with the mid-year population estimates

Please note that these population projections start from a 2010 base-year that gives different Lancashire authority results from the 2010 mid-year population estimates released in June 2011. The population projections are different because they use, as their starting point, the indicative mid-2010 estimates that were released in November 2011. These more updated results are said to incorporate improvements to the method for the distribution of migration estimates for local authorities. The office for national statistics decided not to revise the 2010 mid-year estimates that remain an officially correct set of results.

The 2010 projections have higher population numbers for all Lancashire authorities (excluding Wyre which recorded a very small reduction) that together result in a 1.0% increase in the population for the Lancashire County Council area. The 2010 mid-year estimates gave a figure of 1,169,300 people , whilst the 2010 projection is 1,180,400 for the county council area.

National perspective

Table 1 draws attention to the percentage changes expected at the regional level between 2010 and 2035. The 14.3% increase for the North West is below the England average (18.9%) and well below the projected increases of above 20% in the East Midlands, East and London.

Table 1 **Population projections, 2010 to 2035**

	Projected population (thousands)		% change 2010-2035
	2010	2035	
North West	**6,939.0**	**7,931.4**	**14.3**
North East	2,587.1	2,777.9	7.4
Yorkshire and the Humber	5,246.5	5,996.4	14.3
East Midlands	4,489.5	5,546.4	23.5
West Midlands	5,479.4	6,475.2	18.2
East	5,770.8	7,127.5	23.5
London	7,950.3	10,320.6	29.8
South East	8,498.4	9,899.5	16.5
South West	5,252.3	6003.5	14.3
England	**52,213.4**	**62,078.4**	**18.9**

Source Office for National Statistics

The Lancashire perspective

Table 2 includes Lancashire figures for both the broader Lancashire area and the 12 districts in the Lancashire County Council area. The former includes Blackburn with Darwen and Blackpool unitary authorities whilst the latter excludes these two areas. For the broader Lancashire area, a 12.4% increase is projected over the 25-year period, resulting in an expected population total of 1.645 million by 2035. For the county council area the percentage increase is projected to be slightly higher at 12.8%, with the number expected to reach 1.332 million. This is an additional 151,600 people. The estimated increases for both areas are slightly lower that the North West as a whole, but are noticeably below the projected national rate of change.

Table 2 **Population projections, 2010 to 2035**

	Projected population (thousands)						**% change 2010-2035**
	2010	**2015**	**2020**	**2025**	**2030**	**2035**	
Burnley	85.7	86.1	86.7	87.3	87.9	88.6	3.4%
Chorley	106.3	110.0	113.9	117.3	120.1	122.4	15.1%
Fylde	76.9	79.1	81.7	84.5	86.8	88.7	15.3%
Hyndburn	81.7	82.9	84.4	85.8	86.9	87.9	7.6%
Lancaster	144.2	148.9	153.0	157.8	162.8	167.0	15.8%
Pendle	90.2	93.1	96.0	98.4	100.2	101.8	12.9%
Preston	137.4	142.6	146.8	150.7	154.5	158.2	15.1%
Ribble Valley	58.3	59.5	60.9	62.5	63.8	64.8	11.1%
Rossendale	67.7	70.1	72.7	75.2	77.2	78.9	16.5%
South Ribble	109.0	113.1	117.5	121.3	124.4	127.0	16.5%
West Lancashire	111.8	114.1	116.4	118.6	120.5	122.0	9.1%
Wyre	111.3	113.7	116.7	119.7	122.4	124.7	12.0%
Lancashire (12 districts)	**1,180.4**	**1,213.2**	**1,246.7**	**1,279.1**	**1,307.4**	**1,332.0**	**12.8%**
Blackburn with Darwen	141.7	145.9	150.1	153.6	156.4	159.2	12.4%
Blackpool	141.5	143.8	146.3	149.0	151.6	154.3	9.0%

Table 2 **Population projections, 2010 to 2035**

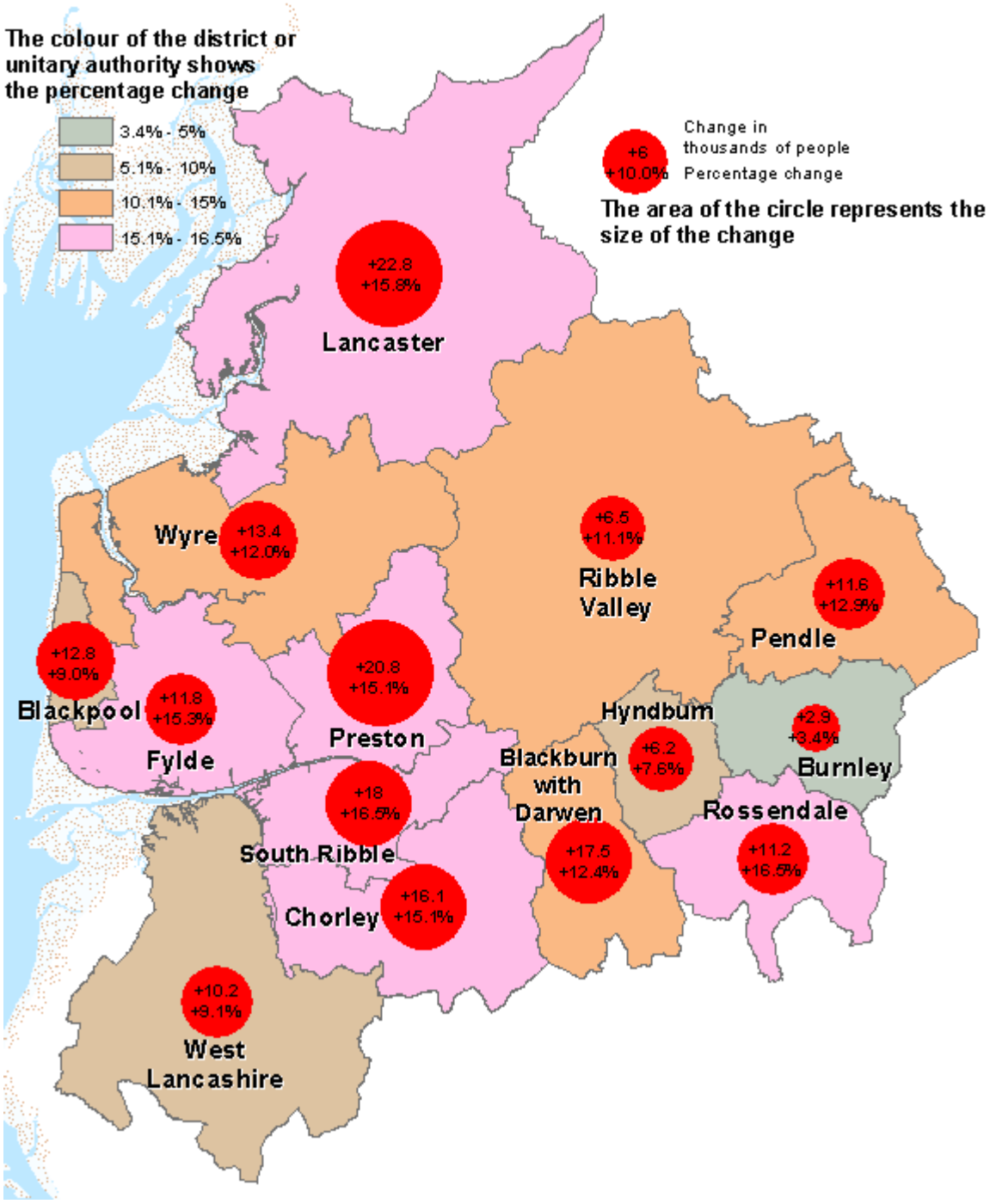
	Projected population (thousands)						% change 2010-2035
	2010	2015	2020	2025	2030	2035	
Lancashire (14 authorities)	**1,463.6**	**1,502.9**	**1,543.1**	**1,581.7**	**1,615.4**	**1,645.5**	**12.4%**

Source Office for National Statistics

Table 2 also has the district population projections and tracks the changes over five-year periods. It contains the projected growth rates at the district level over the 25-year period, whilst Figure 2 presents the estimated growth rates between 2010 and 2035 in a more visually striking format.

Burnley district is expected to record a population increase of just 3.4% or 2,900 people. Other areas with rates of increase below 10% are Hyndburn (7.6%), Blackpool (9.0%) and West Lancashire (9.1%). The highest population growth rates are predicted in Lancaster (15.8%), and Rossendale and South Ribble (both with 16.5%).

Figure 1 **Population increases by local authority, 2010-2035**

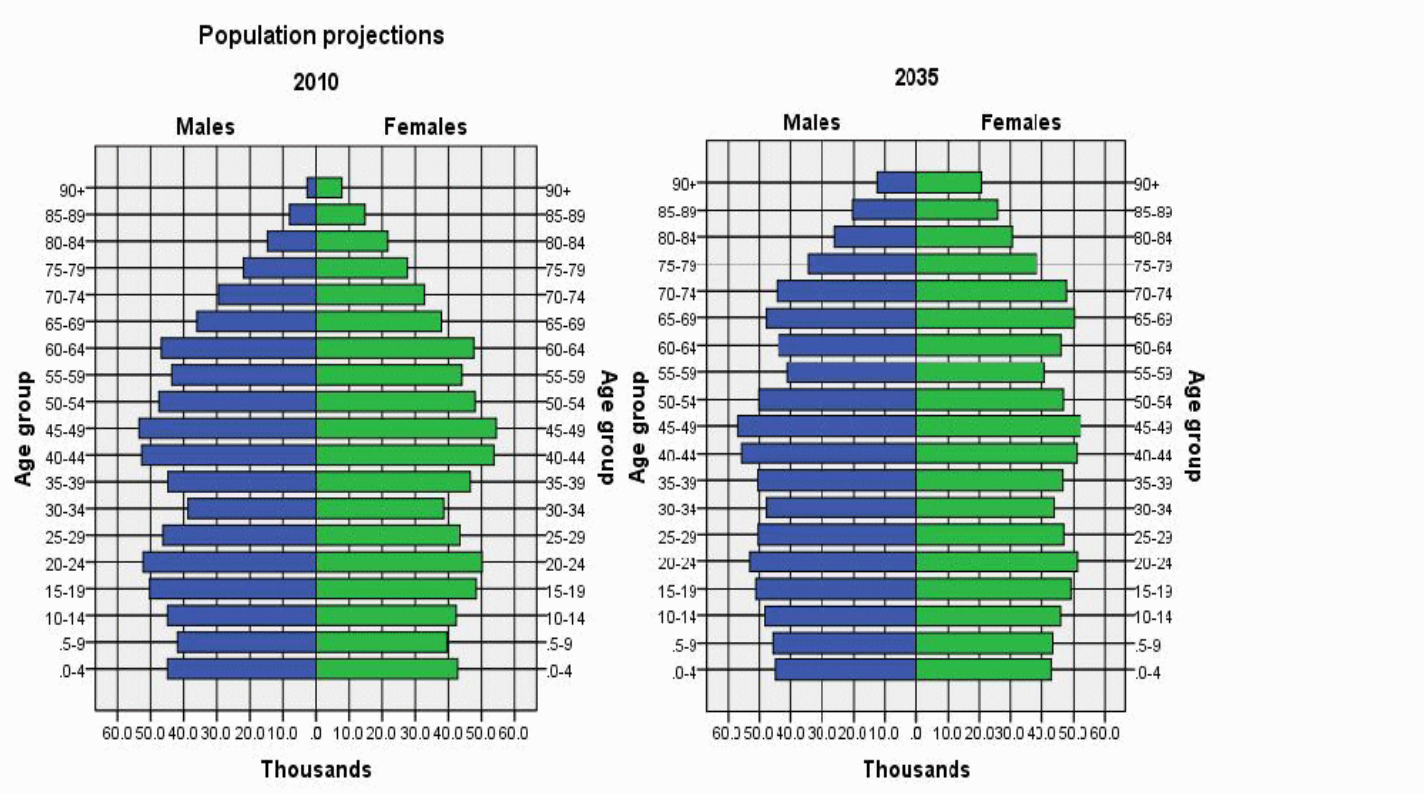


Source Office for National Statistics

Population pyramids

Examples of population pyramids for the Lancashire (14 authorities) area are presented in Figure 2. The results are for both 2010 and 2035 and clearly emphasise the dynamics of population changes by age and sex in the county council area over the 25-year period.

Figure 2 **Population Pyramids, Lancashire (14 Authorities), 2010-2035**



Source Office for National Statistics

Projections by age group

Table 3 details the population projections (both genders combined) by the available age-groups for the Lancashire County Council area. Increases are recorded in 17 of the 19 age groups. The 55-59, and 60-64 age-groups are the only two that are projected to see a decline in their overall population totals.

From 65 years onwards, there are some quite dramatic increases. For example, the 85-89 age group is projected to grow by 112% to reach almost 40,000 by 2035. For people aged 90+ the increase is a substantial 230%. The figures present a vivid indication of the future ageing of the population, which is a subject that has received a good deal of press attention over recent years. At the other end of the age range only a very modest increases are projected for 0-4yr olds, 15-19yr olds and 20-24yr olds.

The full set of results for each district authority can be found in the spreadsheet that accompanies this article.

Table 3 **Population projections by age group, Lancashire County Council area, 2010 to 2035**

Age group	2010	2015	2020	2025	2030	2035	Change	% growth rate
0-4	68.0	73.7	73.6	71.0	68.1	68.2	0.2	0.3
5-9	63.8	69.4	75.2	75.1	72.5	69.7	5.9	9.2
10-14	68.8	64.9	70.8	76.7	76.7	74.1	5.3	7.7
15-19	79.0	70.9	67.1	73.4	79.5	79.5	0.5	0.6
20-24	83.0	81.1	73.8	71.0	77.7	83.7	0.7	0.8
25-29	71.8	80.9	78.9	72.4	69.9	76.4	4.6	6.4

Table 3 **Population projections by age group, Lancashire County Council area, 2010 to 2035**

Age group	2010	2015	2020	2025	2030	2035	Change	% growth rate
30-34	61.7	74.0	83.1	81.3	75.0	72.6	10.9	17.7
35-39	73.2	64.2	76.2	85.5	83.8	77.5	4.3	5.9
40-44	85.6	74.9	65.9	77.9	87.3	85.7	0.1	0.1
45-49	87.7	86.2	75.5	66.7	78.7	88.2	0.5	0.6
50-54	77.7	87.6	86.2	75.8	67.1	79.1	1.4	1.8
55-59	71.8	76.8	86.7	85.6	75.4	66.9	-4.9	-6.8
60-64	78.1	69.8	74.9	84.8	84.0	74.2	-3.9	-5.0
65-69	61.0	74.4	66.7	71.9	81.8	81.3	20.3	33.3
70-74	51.1	56.3	69.1	62.3	67.6	77.2	26.1	51.1
75-79	40.8	44.8	50.0	62.0	56.3	61.5	20.7	50.7
80-84	29.7	32.4	36.6	41.6	52.2	48.0	18.3	61.6
85-89	18.8	19.7	22.8	26.8	31.2	39.9	21.1	112.2
90+	8.6	11.2	13.6	17.4	22.5	28.4	19.8	230.2
All ages	1180.4	1213.2	1246.7	1279.1	1307.4	1332.0	151.6	12.8

Source Office for National Statistics