Last updated **October 2012** by David Jenks and Bryan Moulding with data from **interim projections to 2021**

Interim population projections 2011 to 2021

Summary

The interim population projections cover the period from 2011 to 2021 and are supplied as unrounded single year of age counts for females, males and persons.

For the 14-authority Lancashire area, a 4.3% increase is projected over the 10-year period, resulting in an expected population total of 1.525 million by 2021. For the smaller county council area, the percentage increase is projected to be slightly higher at 4.9%, with the number expected to reach 1.229 million. The estimated rates straddle that of the North West as a whole, but are noticeably below the projected national rate of change.

At the district level, Burnley, Blackpool, Blackburn with Darwen, Hyndburn, West Lancashire and Preston are predicted to see population growth rates of below 4%. In contrast, rates of above 6% are expected in Lancaster, Pendle, Rossendale and South Ribble.

Analysis by age not surprisingly highlights the dramatic increases projected in the 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

These projections update the 2010-based projections published by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) in March 2012 and project the population for 10 years to 2021. They are based on the 2011 mid-year population estimates published on 25 September 2012, which are rolled forward from the 2011 Census. Projected population figures are usually released every 2 years, but the publication of the 2011 census and mid-year estimates have provided a more reliable baseline on which to build the projections. The same estimated trends from the 2010 projections have been applied here. Unlike the format of standard projections the data are unrounded and presented by single year of age to enable users to aggregate to the age groups they require, which may be different from the common five-year age groups, for modelling and analysis. A table (3) derived from the 2010 projections for Lancashire districts has been included in this article for comparison.

National perspective

Table 1 draws attention to the percentage changes expected at the regional level between 2011 and 2021. The 4.4% increase for the North West, being the lowest, is just over half of the England average (8.6%) and well below the projected increases of above 9% in the South East, East and London.

Table 1 **Interim population projections: England and English regions**

Area	2011	2021	% change 2011-2021
North West	**7,056**	**7,364**	**4.4**
North East	2,596	2,724	4.9
Yorkshire and The Humber	5,288	5,657	7.0
East Midlands	4,537	4,928	8.6
West Midlands	5,609	5,989	6.8
East	5,862	6,458	10.2
London	8,204	9,371	14.2

Table 1 Interim population projections: England and English regions			
Area	**2011**	**2021**	**% change 2011-2021**
South East	8,653	9,454	9.3
South West	5,301	5,743	8.3
England	**53,107**	**57,688**	**8.6**

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 4.3% increase is projected over the 10-year period, resulting in an expected population total of 1.525 million by 2021. For the county council area the percentage increase is projected to be higher at 4.9%, with the number expected to reach 1.229 million. This is an additional 57,015 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 Interim 2011 based population projections				
	Projected population			
Area	**2011**	**2016**	**2021**	**% change 2011-2021**
Burnley	87,032	86,896	86,938	-0.1%
Chorley	107,591	110,764	113,926	5.9%
Fylde	76,098	77,894	80,083	5.2%
Hyndburn	80,549	81,946	83,301	3.4%
Lancaster	137,823	142,931	146,323	6.2%
Pendle	89,576	92,518	95,138	6.2%
Preston	140,054	143,206	145,169	3.7%
Ribble Valley	57,292	58,530	59,951	4.6%
Rossendale	68,053	70,417	72,859	7.1%
South Ribble	109,181	113,136	116,964	7.1%
West Lancashire	110,617	112,750	114,487	3.5%
Wyre	107,692	110,463	113,434	5.3%
Lancashire (12 authorities)	**1,171,558**	**1,201,450**	**1,228,573**	**4.9%**
Blackburn with Darwen	147,657	150,199	152,416	3.2%
Blackpool	142,080	142,734	143,769	1.2%
Lancashire (14 authorities)	**1,461,295**	**1,494,383**	**1,524,757**	**4.3%**

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 10-year period, Burnley district is expected to record a population decrease of just -0.1%. This is the only projected decrease in the County, but the rate is so small that it shows that the district population is expected to remain fairly static. Other areas with rates of increase below 4% are Preston (3.7%), Hyndburn (3.4%), Blackburn with Darwen (3.2%), Blackpool (1.2%) and West Lancashire (3.5%). The highest population growth rates are predicted in Rossendale and South Ribble (both with 7.1%).

Table 3 is derived from the 2010 based population projections published last year. It is included here to demonstrate how far some of the district rates have been amended to take into account the 2011 Census counts. It is superseded in the years until 2021 but, as the previous projections continued as far as 2035, later years will not be available until the normal cycle is resumed in 2013.

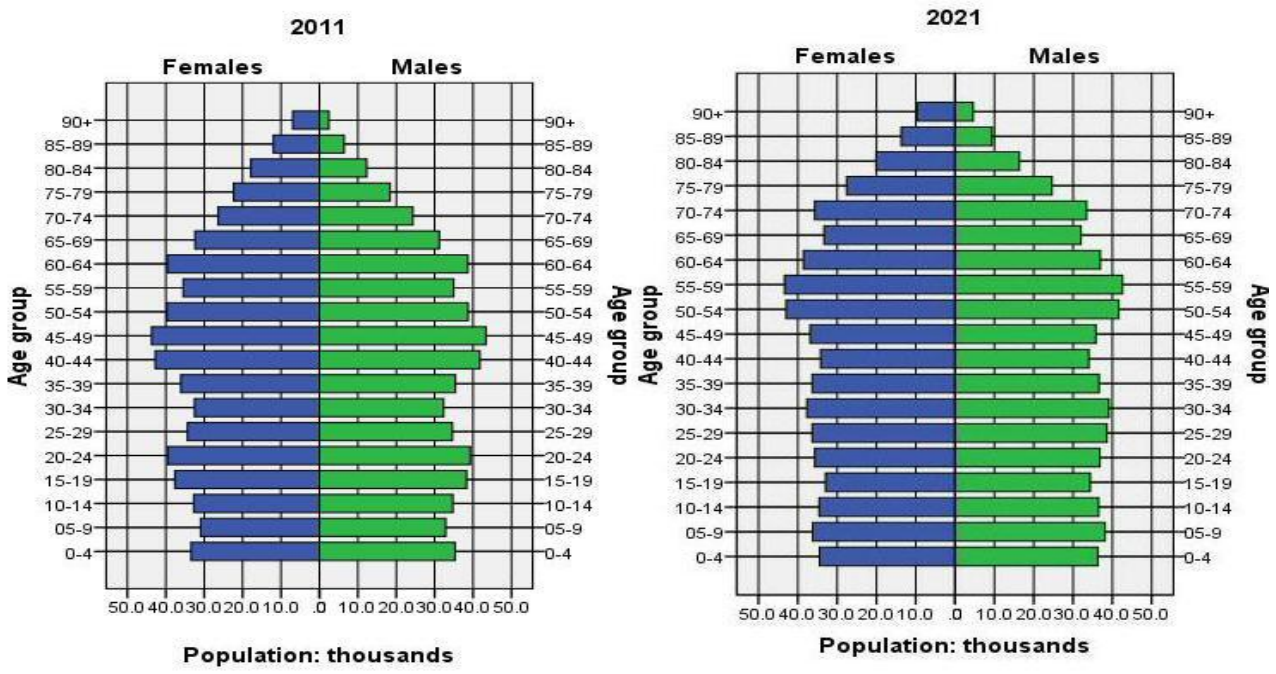
Table 3 2010 based population projections (superseded)				
	Projected population (thousands)			
Area	**2011**	**2016**	**2021**	**% change 2011-2021**
Burnley	85.7	86.2	86.9	1.4%
Chorley	107.0	110.8	114.6	7.1%
Fylde	77.3	79.6	82.3	6.5%
Hyndburn	81.9	83.2	84.7	3.4%
Lancaster	145.1	149.7	153.8	6.0%
Pendle	90.7	93.7	96.5	6.4%
Preston	138.5	143.5	147.5	6.5%
Ribble Valley	58.5	59.7	61.2	4.6%
Rossendale	68.2	70.6	73.3	7.5%
South Ribble	109.8	114.0	118.3	7.7%
West Lancashire	112.3	114.6	116.9	4.1%
Wyre	111.7	114.3	117.3	5.0%
Lancashire (12 authorities)	**1186.6**	**1220.0**	**1253.3**	**5.6%**
Blackburn with Darwen	142.4	146.8	150.9	6.0%
Blackpool	141.9	144.3	146.9	3.5%
Lancashire (14 authorities)	**1470.9**	**1511.1**	**1551.1**	**5.5%**

Source Office for National Statistics

Population pyramids

Examples of population pyramids for the Lancashire (12 authorities) area are presented in Figure 1. The results are for both 2011 and 2021 and clearly emphasise the dynamics of population changes by age and sex in the county council area over the 10-year period.

Figure 1 **Population Pyramids, Lancashire (12 Authorities), 2011-2021**



Source Office for National Statistics

Projections by age group

Table 4 details the population projections (both genders combined) by the available age-groups for the Lancashire County Council area. Increases are recorded in 14 of the 19 age groups. The 15-24, 40-49 and 60-64 age-groups are the clusters that are projected to see a decline in their overall population totals. This is actually in line with the previous 2010 projections when measured over the same 2011-2021 time period

From 70 years onwards, there are some quite dramatic increases. For example, the 90+ age group is projected to grow by 52% to reach almost 15,000 by 2021. 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 and10-14yr olds.

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

Table 4 **Interim population projections by age group, Lancashire County Council area, 2011-2021**

Age group	2011	2016	2021	Change 2011-2021	% change rate
0-4	68,679	72,867	70,766	2,087	3.0
5-9	63,834	69,826	74,384	10,550	16.5
10-14	67,442	64,982	71,097	3,655	5.4
15-19	75,949	69,846	67,309	-8,640	-11.4
20-24	78,758	78,473	72,519	-6,239	-7.9
25-29	68,953	75,572	74,983	6,030	8.7
30-34	64,780	70,973	76,861	12,081	18.6
35-39	71,474	66,935	72,967	1,493	2.1
40-44	84,566	72,509	68,179	-16,387	-19.4
45-49	87,064	84,769	72,724	-14,340	-16.5
50-54	78,444	86,861	84,679	6,235	7.9
55-59	70,450	77,448	85,923	15,473	22.0
60-64	78,233	68,435	75,506	-2,727	-3.5
65-69	63,637	74,423	65,373	1,736	2.7
70-74	50,668	58,716	69,142	18,474	36.5
75-79	40,728	44,487	52,224	11,496	28.2
80-84	30,156	32,555	36,473	6,317	20.9
85-89	18,357	20,231	23,164	4,807	26.2
90+	9,386	11,541	14,298	4,912	52.3
All ages	1,171,558	1,201,450	1,228,573	57,015	4.9

Source Office for National Statistics