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6 Future population changes and housing growth

Key messages

Over the coming years, the pan-Lancashire population is expected to grow, but not substantially. Several large-scale housing developments are in progress and several factors may influence the potential need for additional pharmaceutical service providers.

Between 2025 and 2032, the rate of population growth in Blackpool and Lancashire County Council is below the projected national rate of change of 2.6%. Blackburn with Darwen's population growth is projected to decline by 0.2% between 2025 and 2032. Between 2025 and 2042, Blackburn with Darwen, Blackpool and Lancashire County Council's population growth rate is expected to increase by 0.7%, 1.7% and 4.9%, respectively, all below the national growth rate of 6.0%.

To ensure that pharmaceutical services are commissioned in line with population need, the health and wellbeing board partners will monitor the development of major housing sites and, if necessary, provide supplementary statements in accordance with regulations.

Please note that the 2022-based sub-national population projections are due to be released in 2025. At the time of writing, this data was not available so 2018-based projections have been used.

6.1 Population changes across pan-Lancashire

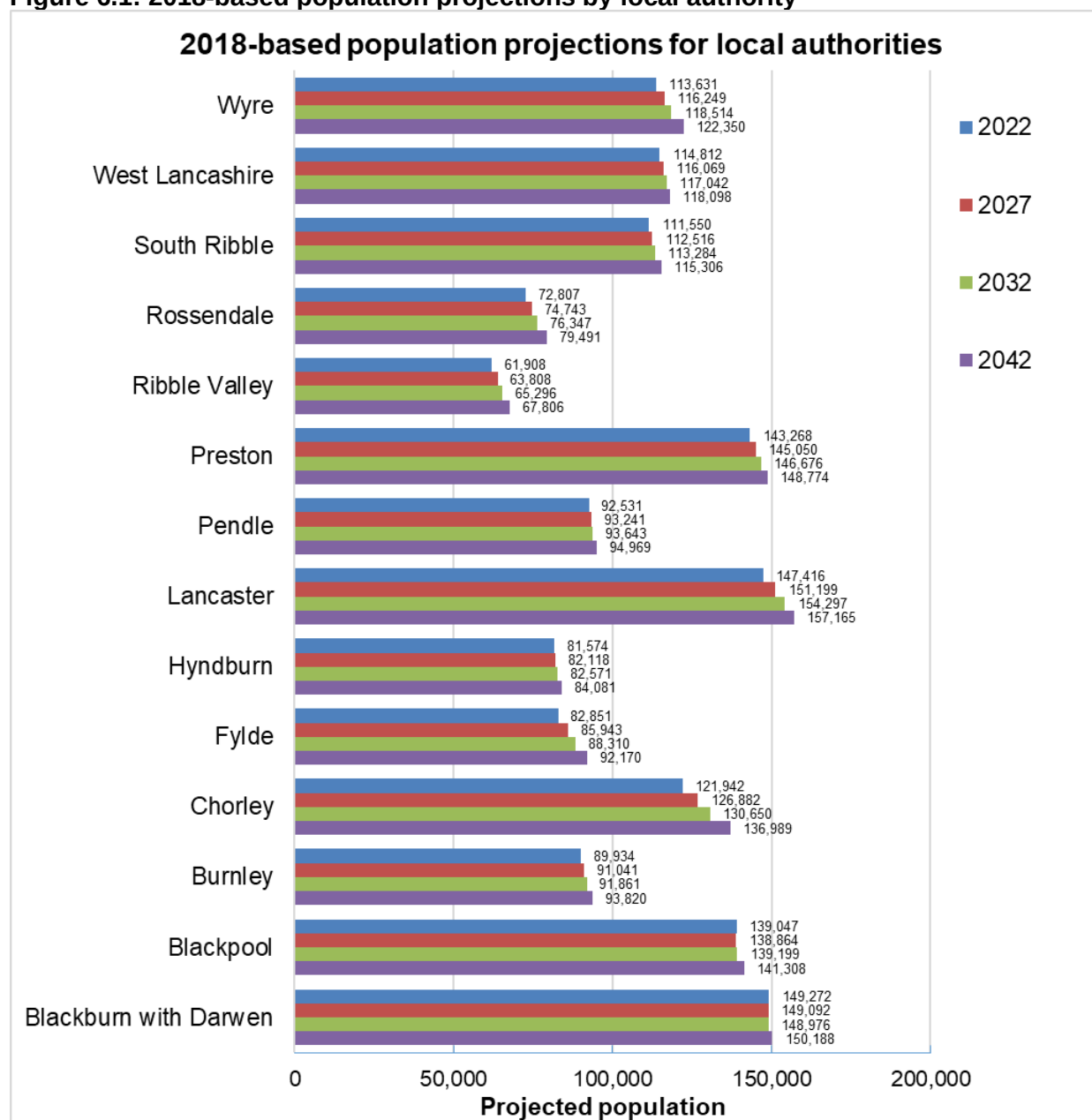
The pan-Lancashire population was projected to be 1,537,652 in 2025 and is expected to increase by approximately 1.9% to 1,566,666 by 2032.

Blackburn with Darwen's population was projected to be 149,212 in 2025 and is expected to decrease by approximately 0.2% to 148,976 by 2032; and increase by 0.7% between 2025 and 2042.

Blackpool's population was projected to be 138,878 in 2025 and is expected to increase by approximately 0.2% to 139,199 by 2032.

Lancashire County Council's population was projected to be 1,249,562 in 2025 and is expected to increase by approximately 2.3% to 1,278,491 by 2032.

An overview of the population growth across pan-Lancashire local authorities in the coming decades is shown in figures 6.1 and 6.2. The estimated increases for Blackpool and Lancashire County Council, between 2025 and 2032, are below the projected national rate of change of 2.6%.

Figure 6.1: 2018-based population projections by local authority

Source:

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/populationprojections/datasets/localauthoritiesinenglandz1>

For the projected growth rates at the district level over the period 2025 to 2032, Blackburn with Darwen is expected to record population decrease of 0.2% (figure 6.2). Other areas with a predicted population growth of less than 3% are Blackpool, Burnley, Hyndburn, Pendle, Preston, South Ribble, West Lancashire and Wyre. The highest population growth rates are predicted for Chorley followed by Fylde. Figure 6.3 presents the count of 2018-based projections by age group between 2025 and 2042. Between 2025 and 2042 in Blackburn with Darwen, Blackpool and Lancashire, the 65+ population is projected to increase by 20.9%, 19.3% and 24.8%, respectively (figure 6.4).

Figure 6.2: 2018-based population projections by district 2025-2042

Local authority	2025	2032	2042	2025-32 % change	2025-42 % change
Blackburn with Darwen	149,212	148,976	150,188	-0.2	0.7
Blackpool	138,878	139,199	141,308	0.2	1.7
Burnley	90,665	91,861	93,820	1.3	3.5
Chorley	125,057	130,650	136,989	4.5	9.5
Fylde	84,812	88,310	92,170	4.1	8.7
Hyndburn	81,932	82,571	84,081	0.8	2.6
Lancaster	149,619	154,297	157,165	3.1	5.0
Pendle	93,027	93,643	94,969	0.7	2.1
Preston	144,299	146,676	148,774	1.6	3.1
Ribble Valley	63,124	65,296	67,806	3.4	7.4
Rossendale	74,035	76,347	79,491	3.1	7.4
South Ribble	112,176	113,284	115,306	1.0	2.8
West Lancashire	115,553	117,042	118,098	1.3	2.2
Wyre	115,263	118,514	122,350	2.8	6.1
Lancashire County Council	1,249,562	1,278,491	1,311,019	2.3	4.9
Pan-Lancashire	1,537,652	1,566,666	1,602,515	1.9	4.2

Source: 2018-based mid-year population estimates www.nomisweb.co.uk

Figure 6.3: 2018-based projections by age group 2025-2042

Blackburn with Darwen			
Age group	2025	2032	2042
0 to 15	32,945	30,766	31,305
0 to 19	41,302	39,096	38,614
16 to 64	92,938	92,232	90,675
65+	23,328	25,977	28,208
75+	10,707	11,781	14,024
85+	2,567	3,114	3,808
Blackpool			
Age group	2025	2032	2042
0 to 15	25,905	24,661	25,176
0 to 19	32,159	31,362	31,198
16 to 64	82,937	80,872	80,297
65+	30,037	33,665	35,840
75+	14,830	15,674	19,322
85+	3,785	4,590	5,408
Lancashire County Council			
Age group	2025	2032	2042
0 to 15	224,883	215,301	220,290
0 to 19	286,835	280,064	279,323
16 to 64	746,477	744,833	743,420
65+	278,198	318,358	347,299
75+	139,545	155,380	190,766
85+	35,849	46,800	57,344
Pan-Lancashire			
Age group	2025	2032	2042
0 to 15	283,733	270,728	276,771
0 to 19	360,296	350,522	349,135
16 to 64	922,352	917,937	914,392
65+	331,563	378,000	411,347
75+	165,082	182,835	224,112
85+	42,201	54,504	66,560

Source: 2018-based mid-year population estimates www.nomisweb.co.uk

Figure 6.4: 2018-based projections by age group 2025-2042, percentage change

Age group	Blackburn with Darwen		Blackpool		Lancashire County Council		Pan-Lancashire	
	% change between 2025 and 2032	% change between 2025 and 2042	% change between 2025 and 2032	% change between 2025 and 2042	% change between 2025 and 2032	% change between 2025 and 2042	% change between 2025 and 2032	% change between 2025 and 2042
0 to 15	-6.6	-5.0	-4.8	-2.8	-4.3	-2.0	-4.6	-2.5
0 to 19	-5.3	-6.5	-2.5	-3.0	-2.4	-2.6	-2.7	-3.1
16 to 64	-0.8	-2.4	-2.5	-3.2	-0.2	-0.4	-0.5	-0.9
65+	11.4	20.9	12.1	19.3	14.4	24.8	14.0	24.1
75+	10.0	31.0	5.7	30.3	11.3	36.7	10.8	35.8
85+	21.3	48.3	21.3	42.9	30.5	60.0	29.2	57.7

Source: 2018-based mid-year population estimates www.nomisweb.co.uk

6.2 Housing growth 2019-2032

Several major developments are expected to progress significantly in the future. There are developments across pan-Lancashire that are underway, and several other major developments are expected to begin. To ensure that pharmaceutical services are commissioned in line with population need, the health and wellbeing boards and their partners will monitor the development of major housing sites and will provide supplementary statements, if necessary, in accordance with regulations.

The information on house dwellings forecast across pan-Lancashire has been compiled using adopted local plans provided by Lancashire County Council's Planning and Environment team. These figures can change with time and any current information can be obtained from the local authorities' planning teams. Figure 6.4 shows a forecast of pan-Lancashire's house dwellings.

Figure 6.4: Delivery forecast of pan-Lancashire house dwellings

	2025 -	2026 -	2027 -	2028 -	2029 -	2030 -	2031 -
Local authority	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032
Burnley	194	194	194	194	194	194	194
Chorley	417	417	417	417	417	417	417
Fylde	305	305	305	305	305	305	305
Hyndburn	213	213	213	213	213	213	213
Lancaster	685	685	685	685	695	695	695
Pendle	298	298	298	298	298	298	298
Preston	507	507	507	507	507	507	507
Ribble Valley	280	280	280	280	280	280	280
Rossendale	247	247	247	247	247	247	247
South Ribble	417	417	417	417	417	417	417
West Lancashire	324	324	324	324	324	324	324
Wyre	460	460	460	460	460	460	460
Blackpool	280	280	280	280	280	280	280
Blackburn	447	447	447	447	447	447	447
Total Housing Completions	5074	5074	5074	5074	5084	5084	5084

Source: Adopted Local Plans, LCC Planning and Environment team. BwD draft Local Plan data, BwD Strategic Planning team.

6.2.1 Monitoring of housing developments

Every lower-tier local authority across pan-Lancashire has a plan for community growth and development and these plans are under regular review.

Links to local plans

Blackburn with Darwen

<https://www.blackburn.gov.uk/planning/planning-policies-strategies-and-guides/local-plan-2021-2037>

Blackpool

For recent housing development in Blackpool see:

<https://www.blackpool.gov.uk/Residents/Planning-environment-and-community/Planning/Planning-policy/Blackpool-local-plan/New-local-plan-to-2042/New-local-plan-to-2045.aspx>

Housing developments in Lancashire County Council's localities are listed in the links below.

Burnley

<http://www.burnley.gov.uk/residents/planning/planning-policies/burnleys-emerging-local-plan>

Chorley

[Central Lancashire local Plan 2023-2041](#)

Fylde

<https://new.fylde.gov.uk/resident/planning/planning-policy-local-plan/adopted-local-plan-to-2032/local-plan-to-2032-submission/>

Hyndburn

<https://www.hyndburnbc.gov.uk/localplan/>

Lancaster

<https://www.lancaster.gov.uk/planning/planning-policy/local-plan-examination>

Pendle

http://www.pendle.gov.uk/info/20072/planning_policies/273/local_plan

Preston

[Central Lancashire local Plan 2023-2041](#)

Ribble Valley

<https://www.ribblevalley.gov.uk/local-development-framework/local-development-framework-ldf>

Rossendale

https://www.rossendale.gov.uk/homepage/10095/local_plan

South Ribble

[Central Lancashire local Plan 2023-2041](#)

West Lancashire

<http://www.westlancs.gov.uk/planning/planning-policy/the-local-plan.aspx>

Wyre

<https://www.wyre.gov.uk/local-plan/local-plan-2011-2031/1>

In addition to monitoring individual housing sites, it may be necessary to monitor cumulative developments across several sites, ie if several smaller developments are built in an area then future completions may be worth monitoring by town/village/vicinity to pharmacies, as well as just by

individual housing developments. This might be particularly relevant where the ratio of pharmacies to people is already above or below average.

6.2.2 Factors to consider in relation to needs for pharmaceutical services

The HWBs are not aware of any measure of the extent to which existing local pharmaceutical service providers can accommodate the increase in need for pharmaceutical services created by an increase in local population size. An increase in population size will likely generate an increased need for pharmaceutical services, but, on a local level, changes in population size may not necessarily be directly proportionate to changes in the number of pharmaceutical service providers required to meet local pharmaceutical needs, due to the range of other factors influencing such needs.

Considerations when assessing needs for local pharmaceutical service providers should be based on a range of local factors specific to each development site. Such factors may include the following.

- Average household size of new builds on the site.
- Demographics – people moving to new housing developments are often young and expanding families, but some housing developments are expected to have an older population with different needs for health and social care services.
- Tenure mix, ie the proportion of affordable housing at the development.
- Existing pharmaceutical service provision in nearby areas and elsewhere in the area and opportunities to optimise existing local pharmaceutical service provision.
- Access to delivery services, distance selling pharmacies, and dispensing appliance contractors that can supply services.
- Developments in pharmaceutical supply models (eg delivery services, robotic dispensing, and electronic transmission of prescriptions) that could affect the volume of services a pharmaceutical service provider can deliver.
- Skill mix and the number of pharmacists working in local pharmacies.
- Considerations of health inequalities and strategic priorities for pan-Lancashire.

In conclusion, over the coming years the population across each of the three upper-tier local authorities across pan-Lancashire is expected to age substantially and grow moderately in numbers. Several housing developments are in progress. The HWBs will monitor the development of major housing sites and produce supplementary statements to the PNA if deemed necessary, in accordance with regulations.