

User needs from 2022-based national, subnational and household projections

Projections
Office for National Statistics
30 January 2024



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# General information

#### Why we are engaging

Understanding user needs from 2022-based national, subnational and household projections.

To clarify user needs for our upcoming projections releases in late 2024 to mid-2025, we are seeking feedback from users, particularly on the following areas.

* Do you need new datasets or information from the release?
* Are there additional variants that you would like and why?
* Are there particular areas you would like to see covered in 2022-based projections statistical bulletins?
* With our household projections, are there requirements for different household types?
* Are there other items which should be included, or which could be removed from our prospective releases?
* Do you have any feedback on the data and methodology used to develop projections?

#### Engagement details

**Issued:** 30 January 2024

**Respond by:** 23:59 on 12 March 2024

#### Enquiries to:

Population and Household Projections user engagement

Population Statistics Directorate

Room 4200

Office for National Statistics

Segensworth Road

Titchfield

Fareham

Hampshire

PO15 5RR

**Email:** projections@ons.gov.uk

# How to respond

We welcome contributions from all users of population and household projections. This includes, but is not limited to:

* government and government agencies
* local authorities
* research groups
* integrated care systems
* policy think tanks
* charities
* civil society organisations
* academia
* business and industry

You can respond by completing the online questionnaire [on our consultation and engagement platform.](https://consultations.ons.gov.uk/external-affairs/2022-based-population-projections)

You can also respond by email or post, using the downloadable version of this questionnaire.

Postal address:

Population and Household Projections user engagement

Population Statistics Directorate

Room 4200

Office for National Statistics

Segensworth Road

Titchfield

Fareham

Hampshire

PO15 5RR

When responding, please state whether you are responding as an individual or representing the views of an organisation. Your response will be most useful if it is framed in direct response to the questions posed, though further comments and evidence are also welcome.

#### Accessibility

If you prefer a different format, or you would like to discuss your feedback, please email projections@ons.gov.uk.

# Confidentiality and data protection

The Office for National Statistics (ONS) needs your name and email address to receive your response. We may contact you about your response to this engagement questionnaire.

Within 12 weeks of the user engagement questionnaire closing, we will aim to provide respondents with a link to a summary of anonymised responses and a response to the findings on consultations.ons.gov.uk.

Please be aware that, as a public authority, we are subject to the [Freedom of Information Act](https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2000/36/contents) and can never completely guarantee that names and responses will not be published.  We will not publish personal contact details, such as email addresses. To find out more, [read our Privacy Policy.](https://consultations.ons.gov.uk/privacy_policy/)

#### Quality assurance

If you have any complaints about the way this engagement has been conducted, please email: external.affairs@ons.gov.uk.

# Overview

Population and household projections produced by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) serve a wide range of users across government and beyond. The primary purpose of projections is to provide information on potential future population and household numbers. These are used as a common framework for planning and policymaking. We produce national population projections for the UK and constituent countries, subnational population projections for England and household projections for England. Wherever possible, we base these projections on the latest mid-year population estimates, together with assumptions of future levels of fertility, migration, and mortality. For household projections these are based on household representative rates.

Following the conclusion of Census 2021, we are now moving into a new cycle of projections releases using census data. The reconciliation and rebasing process was completed in 2023 and provides rebased estimates for the decade to mid-2021. These, along with final components of change, are available for us to use in the assumption-setting process for our projection outputs.

We will soon start working on producing 2022-based national population projections (NPPs), subnational population projections (SNPPs) and household projections (HHPs). The next NPPs following National population projections: 2021-based interim have a provisional release date of October or November 2024, and the SNPPs and HHPs are scheduled to follow in 2025. For updates, please see the ONS or subscribe to our [Population Statistics](https://www.ons.gov.uk/aboutus/whatwedo/engagingwithourusers/emailupdates) or subscribe to our [Population Statistics Newsletter](https://www.ons.gov.uk/aboutus/whatwedo/engagingwithourusers/emailupdates).

## Why we are seeking your views

To help us prepare for the set of 2022-based projections, we are inviting you to feed back on your output needs from the projections to understand what you would like to see in these releases, such as new variant projections or new datasets. We are conducting this engagement earlier in our production processes than in the past to enable enough time for us to consider and meet your needs. This engagement replaces separate engagements, which may have taken place in the past for each projection output and covers all planned 2022-based population and household projections outputs from ONS. This is the primary way for you to feed back to us on your output and variant projection needs ahead of us publishing our 2022-based projections.

From June 2023 to October 2023, the ONS ran a [consultation](https://consultations.ons.gov.uk/ons/futureofpopulationandmigrationstatistics/) on the future of population and migration statistics in England and Wales which outlined the ONS’s proposals to create a sustainable system for producing essential, up-to-date statistics about the population. Responses to this consultation will inform a recommendation to Government from the UK Statistics Authority, on the advice of the National Statistician which will be published in 2024. This is a separate engagement exercise focussing on user needs for population projections.

## Event

We are holding an online event on 20 February 2024 at 2:30pm. This is an opportunity to further discuss the questions in the engagement questionnaire, our plans for 2022-based projections and for you to ask any questions you may have. Further details can be found at the bottom of this page, and you can register to attend on [Eventbrite](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/understanding-user-needs-from-2022-based-population-projections-tickets-808868666957?aff=oddtdtcreator).

Your contribution is very much welcomed. Thank you for taking part.

# Introduction to projections and this engagement

Before asking for your output needs from our projections, this section outlines what each release provides and the areas on which we are seeking feedback.

## Projections outputs

### National population projections (UK and constituent countries)

National population projections (NPPs) provide statistics on potential future population levels of the UK and its constituent countries. NPPs are broken down by age and sex and cover up to 100 years from the base year, although our statistical bulletins tend to focus on the first 25 years due to increasing uncertainty the further into the future that projections go.

We produce three types of datasets.

* **Components of change summary tables** – contain the projected population by broad age group, components of change (births, deaths, migration) and summary statistics (including mean and median age) by sex and year.
* **Population by 5-year age groups** – contain population totals by five-year age group (up to age 100+) by sex and year. These show projected populations at mid-years by age last birthday in five-year age groups.
* **Machine readable tables (Open XML datasets)** – contain the underlying input data and projected population data by single year of age and sex.

In addition to a principal projection, we also typically produce a number of [variant projections](https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/populationprojections/methodologies/nationalpopulationprojectionsvariantprojections2018based) to help users understand outcomes from a range of alternative scenarios concerning alternative potential future levels of mortality, fertility and migration. There is more information on variant projections in our [2018-based release](https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/populationprojections/methodologies/nationalpopulationprojectionsvariantprojections2018based) and in our variant projections [user guide](https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/populationprojections/methodologies/variantnationalpopulationprojectionsfortheukandsubnationalpopulationprojectionsandhouseholdprojectionsforenglanduserguide).

Statistical bulletins present our findings to users, and these are accompanied by datasets. The release also usually includes a [quality and methodology document (QMI)](https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/populationprojections/methodologies/nationalpopulationprojectionsqmi) and individual methodological articles covering assumptions used for [mortality](https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/populationprojections/methodologies/nationalpopulationprojectionsmortalityassumptions2020basedinterim), [fertility](https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/populationprojections/methodologies/nationalpopulationprojectionsfertilityassumptions2020basedinterim) and [migration](https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/populationprojections/methodologies/nationalpopulationprojectionsmigrationassumptions2020basedinterim).

At the same time as launching this engagement (30 January 2024), we have released our latest set of national population projections which are the [2021-based interim national population projections](https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/populationprojections/bulletins/nationalpopulationprojections/2021basedinterim). We recommend the use of these instead of the 2020-based interim national population projections: year ending June 2022 estimated international migration variant which were released in January 2023. Full details of our projections releases (all articles, datasets and bulletins) can be accessed from National population projections table of contents.

### Subnational population projections (England)

Subnational population projections (SNPPs) provide statistics for England at local authority level by age and sex, and project 25 years into the future. SNPPs are widely used in planning, for example labour market, housing, health and education.

In our SNPP release, we produce population projections for England for three geographies: regions, local authorities and clinical commissioning groups (now known as integrated care systems). For these geographies, we produce five [standard tables](https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/populationprojections/bulletins/subnationalpopulationprojectionsforengland/2018based/relateddata) which contain projections over a 25-year period by 5-year age groups and sex. We also produce seven [‘open data’ (‘Z’)](https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/populationprojections/bulletins/subnationalpopulationprojectionsforengland/2018based/relateddata) datasets or tables which contain projections over a 25-year period for components of change (births, deaths and migration) by single year of age and sex.

Alongside a principal projection, we have also produced a number of [variant projections](https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/populationprojections/bulletins/subnationalpopulationprojectionsforengland/2018based#variant-population-projections) detailing outcomes of different scenarios of migration.

The datasets accompany a [statistical bulletin](https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/populationprojections/bulletins/subnationalpopulationprojectionsforengland/2018based) and related supporting documents on [methodology](https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/populationprojections/methodologies/methodologyusedtoproducethe2018basedsubnationalpopulationprojectionsforengland) and quality ([QMI](https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/populationprojections/methodologies/subnationalpopulationprojectionsqmi)). We have also produced a [user guide](https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/populationprojections/methodologies/householdprojectionsacrosstheukuserguide), [Subnational population projections across the UK: a comparison of data sources and methods](https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/populationprojections/methodologies/subnationalpopulationprojectionsacrosstheukacomparisonofdatasourcesandmethods).

The latest SNPPs are the [2018-based subnational population projections](https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/populationprojections/bulletins/subnationalpopulationprojectionsforengland/2018based/relateddata).

### Household projections (England)

Household projections (HHPs) provide data on projected numbers of households and household population for England up to 25 years into the future. As with the SNPPs, these are produced at local authority level by age and sex. They are also used for planning in sectors such as housing and social care.

These projections consist of several [main datasets or tables](https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/populationprojections/datasets/householdprojectionsforengland) which show projections of numbers of households as well as household population from 2001 to 25 years beyond the base year. They are produced for local authorities, counties and regions of England plus a country total. [Detailed datasets](https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/populationprojections/datasets/householdprojectionsforenglanddetaileddataformodellingandanalysis) are also available which show projections for household representative rates as well as headship rates by household type. They also show projected institutional population, numbers of households and household population by age and sex. In the 2018-based HPPs the household types projected were:

* one-person households: male
* one-person households: female
* households with one dependent child
* households with two dependent children
* households with three or more dependent children
* households with two or more unrelated adults

Alongside a principal projection, we also produce a number of detailing different scenarios of migration and a variant projection using a projected household representative rate. These datasets accompany a [statistical bulletin](https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/populationprojections/bulletins/householdprojectionsforengland/2018based) as well as related supporting documents on [methodology and quality](https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/populationprojections/methodologies/householdprojectionsinenglandqmi) ([QMI](https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/populationprojections/methodologies/householdprojectionsinenglandqmi)). We have also produced a ﷟[user guide](https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/populationprojections/methodologies/householdprojectionsacrosstheukuserguide) ﷟which compares household projections methodology in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland with our household projections and Northern Ireland with our household projections.

The latest HHPs are the [2018-based household projections](https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/populationprojections/bulletins/householdprojectionsforengland/2018based).

# Questions

## Your name, email and organisation

We are asking for your name and email address, as we may contact you in relation to your response.

We treat the data we hold with respect, keeping it secure and confidential. To find out more, read our [Privacy Policy](https://consultations.ons.gov.uk/privacy_policy/).

**1. What is your name?**

(Required)

Click or tap here to enter text.

**2. What is your email address?**

You will automatically receive an acknowledgement email when you submit your response.

(Required)

Click or tap here to enter text.

**3. Are you responding to this survey in a personal or a professional capacity?**

(Required)

 ☐ Personal

 ☐ Professional

**4. Are you answering this survey on behalf of an organisation or a group?**

(Required)

 ☐ No, I am responding as an individual

 ☐ Yes, I am responding on behalf of an organisation

 ☐ Yes, I am responding on behalf of an informal group, such as a community or social media group

If you selected “Yes”, please provide the name of the organisation or group.

Click or tap here to enter text.

**5. If you are responding in a professional capacity, what sector do you work in?**

(Required)

 ☐ Academia and research

 ☐ Business

 ☐ Government, including local government and public bodies

 ☐ Think tanks

 ☐ Voluntary, community and social enterprise

 ☐ Not applicable, I am responding in a personal capacity

 ☐ Other

If you selected “Other”, please state the sector that you work in.

Click or tap here to enter text.

## Your use of our statistics

The following questionnaire is split into three sections, and you will be asked whether you wish to provide feedback on our projections outputs in the following order: National population projections, Subnational population projections, and Household projections.

Please select the outputs you use, or are interested in.

**6. Do you wish to provide feedback on our national population projections outputs?**

☐ Yes [IF YES THEN ROUTE TO Q9]

☐ No [IF NO THEN ROUTE TO Q7]

**7. Do you wish to provide feedback on our subnational population projections outputs?**

☐ Yes [IF YES THEN ROUTE TO Q22]

☐ No [IF NO THEN ROUTE TO Q8]

**8. Do you wish to provide feedback on our household projections outputs?**

☐ Yes [IF YES THEN ROUTE TO Q35]

☐ No [IF NO THEN ROUTE TO Q50]

## National population projections

**9. In our 2020-based national population projections we published a range of** [**datasets**](https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/populationprojections/bulletins/nationalpopulationprojections/2020basedinterim/relateddata) **and a statistical** [**bulletin**](https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/populationprojections/bulletins/nationalpopulationprojections/2020basedinterim)**. Is there anything in addition to these that you would like to see included in our upcoming 2022-based release?**

Click or tap here to enter text.

**10.** **Are there any items that you think could be excluded from the next release?**

Click or tap here to enter text.

**11. Do you have any feedback on the data and methods we use to develop the projections for this release?**

Click or tap here to enter text.

**12. Please provide comments on the quality of articles we publish on methods and assumptions as part of the release.**

Click or tap here to enter text.

**13. In our upcoming 2022-based statistical bulletin, is there any new content you would like to see presented alongside our commentary?**

Click or tap here to enter text.

**14. Are there new datasets you require from the 2022-based national population projections release?**

☐ Yes [IF YES THEN ROUTE TO Q15]

☐ No [IF NO THEN ROUTE TO Q16]

**15. What new datasets do you require from the 2022-based national population projections release and how do you plan to use these?**

Click or tap here to enter text.

**16. Are there new data formats you require from the 2022-based national population projections release?**

☐ Yes [IF YES THEN ROUTE TO Q17]

☐ No [IF NO THEN ROUTE TO Q18]

**17. What new data formats do you require from the 2022-based national population projections release?**

Click or tap here to enter text.

**18. Which of the current variant projections do you use and how do you use these?**

Click or tap here to enter text.

**19. Do you require additional variant projections from our 2022-based national population projections release?**

☐ Yes [IF YES THEN ROUTE TO Q20]

☐ No [IF NO THEN ROUTE TO Q7]

**20. What variant projections would be useful for you from our next release (if data allows)?**

Click or tap here to enter text.

**21. How would you plan to use these variant projections?**

Click or tap here to enter text.

##  Subnational population projections (England)

**22. In our 2018-based subnational population projections we published a range of** [**datasets**](https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/populationprojections/bulletins/subnationalpopulationprojectionsforengland/2018based/relateddata) **and a statistical** [**bulletin.**](https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/populationprojections/bulletins/subnationalpopulationprojectionsforengland/2018based) **Is there anything in addition to these that you would like to see in our upcoming 2022-based release?**

Click or tap here to enter text.

**23.** **Are there any items that you think could be excluded from the next release?**

Click or tap here to enter text.

**24. Do you have any feedback on the data and methods we use to develop the projections for this release?**

Click or tap here to enter text.

**25. Please provide comments on the quality of articles we publish on methods and assumptions as part of the release.**

Click or tap here to enter text.

**26. In our upcoming 2022-based statistical bulletin, is there any new content you would like to see presented alongside our commentary?**

Click or tap here to enter text.

**27. Are there new datasets you require from the 2022-based subnational population projections release?**

☐ Yes [IF YES THEN ROUTE TO Q28]

☐ No [IF NO THEN ROUTE TO Q29]

**28. What new datasets do you require from the 2022-based subnational population projections release and how do you plan to use these?**

Click or tap here to enter text.

**29. Are there new data formats you require from the 2022-based subnational population projections release?**

☐ Yes [IF YES THEN ROUTE TO Q30]

☐ No [IF NO THEN ROUTE TO Q31]

**30. What new data formats do you require from the 2022-based subnational population projections release?**

Click or tap here to enter text.

**31. Which of the current variant projections do you use and how do you use these?**

Click or tap here to enter text.

**32. Do you require additional variant projections from our 2022-based subnational population projections release?**

☐ Yes [IF YES THEN ROUTE TO Q35]

☐ No [IF NO THEN ROUTE TO Q8]

**33. What variant projections would be useful for you from our next release (if data allows)?**

Click or tap here to enter text.

**34. How would you plan to use these variant projections?**

Click or tap here to enter text.

## Household projections (England)

**35. In our 2018-based household projections, we published the following range of** [**datasets**](https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/populationprojections/datasets/householdprojectionsforengland) **and a statistical** [**bulletin.**](https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/populationprojections/bulletins/householdprojectionsforengland/2018based) **Is there anything in addition to these that you would like to see included in our upcoming 2022-based release?**

Click or tap here to enter text.

**36.** **Are there any items you think could be excluded from the next release?**

Click or tap here to enter text.

**37. Do you have any feedback on the data and methods we use to develop the projections for this release?**

Click or tap here to enter text.

**38. Please provide comments on the quality of articles we publish on methods and assumptions as part of the release.**

Click or tap here to enter text.

**39. In our upcoming 2022-based statistical bulletin, is there any new content you would like to see presented alongside our commentary?**

Click or tap here to enter text.

**40. Are there new datasets you require from the 2022-based household projections release?**

☐ Yes [IF YES THEN ROUTE TO Q41]

☐ No [IF NO THEN ROUTE TO Q42]

**41. What new datasets do you require from the 2022-based household projections release and how do you plan to use these?**

Click or tap here to enter text.

**42. Are there new data formats you require from the 2022-based household projections release?**

☐ Yes [IF YES THEN ROUTE TO Q43]

☐ No [IF NO THEN ROUTE TO Q44]

**43. What new data formats do you require from the 2022-based household projections release?**

Click or tap here to enter text.

**44. Do you require new or different household types from our household projections release?**

☐ Yes [IF YES THEN ROUTE TO Q45]

☐ No [IF NO THEN ROUTE TO Q46]

**45. What new or different household types do you require and how do you plan to use these?**

For details of our current household types please see the list in section 2.

Click or tap here to enter text.

**46. Which of the current variant projections do you use and how do you use these?**

Click or tap here to enter text.

**47. Do you require additional variant projections from our 2022-based household projections release?**

☐ Yes [IF YES THEN ROUTE TO Q48]

☐ No [IF NO THEN ROUTE TO Q50]

**48. What variant projections would be useful for you from our next release (if data allows)?**

Click or tap here to enter text.

**49. How would you plan to use these variant projections?**

Click or tap here to enter text.

## And finally...

**50. Do you have any other comments about population projections or other demographic statistics from the Office for National Statistics?**

Click or tap here to enter text.

**51. Do you have any other comments about this user engagement?**

Click or tap here to enter text.

**52. How did you, or the organisation or group that you are responding on behalf of, hear about this user engagement?**

Select all that apply

☐ ONS website

☐ ONS email

☐ Newsletter

☐ Social media

☐ Other

**If “Other”, please specify**

Click or tap here to enter text.



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