

This note provides a summary of the 2010-based subnational population projections for England published by the Office of National statistics (ONS) in March 2012. Subnational population projections are produced every two years. These projections replace the 2008-based projections published in May 2010 and relate to the period 2010 to 2035.

Long-term subnational population projections are an indication of the future trends in population by age and sex over the next 25 years. They are trend-based projections, which means assumptions for future levels of births, deaths and migration are based on observed levels mainly over the previous five years. They show what the population will be if recent trends continue.

### Bradford current population facts:

According to the mid-2010 population estimates for Bradford district:

- At 512,600 Bradford has the 4<sup>th</sup> biggest population in England (behind Birmingham, Leeds and Sheffield)
- Bradford has the 3<sup>rd</sup> highest number of 0-15 year olds in England (behind Birmingham and Leeds) - 115,800
- Bradford is the youngest English city outside London – with 22.6% of its population under 16.

### Population projections - key points:

- Between 2012 and 2035 Bradford's population is forecast to grow by 89,900 people to reach 604,000<sup>1</sup>.
- Bradford's population is predicted to grow faster than the regional and national average.
- Between 2012 and 2035 Bradford's population is expected to increase by 17.5% compared to a growth rate of 12.8% across the Yorkshire & Humber region and 16.9% in England as a whole.
- The average rate of population growth is projected to be around 4,000 a year to 2035 and this will be due to natural change (more births than deaths), rather than through migration.
- Bradford's older population will increase at a faster rate than other age groups. The district's population aged 65+ is expected to increase by more than 50% by 2035.
- Leeds is the largest district in the Leeds city region and is forecast to undergo the greatest growth in population, with Bradford set to experience the second highest increase in numbers. In terms of percentage growth, Bradford will have the third highest rate of growth in the city region, behind Leeds and Selby. Bradford will be the fifth fastest growing major city outside London.

Population projections Leeds City Region districts				
	Population 2012	Population 2035	Change 2012-2035	
			Number	%
Barnsley	231,000	263,700	32,700	14.2
<b>Bradford</b>	<b>514,100</b>	<b>604,000</b>	<b>89,900</b>	<b>17.5</b>
Calderdale	204,600	236,000	31,400	15.3
Craven	55,000	59,300	4,300	7.8
Harrogate	157,900	173,100	15,200	9.6
Kirklees	412,600	469,800	57,200	13.9
Leeds	796,500	939,200	142,700	17.9
Selby	85,000	103,400	18,400	21.6
Wakefield	332,400	378,300	45,900	13.8
York	200,200	227,100	26,900	13.4
<b>Yorkshire &amp; Humber</b>	<b>5,314,000</b>	<b>5,996,400</b>	<b>682,400</b>	<b>12.8</b>
<b>England</b>	<b>53,106,500</b>	<b>62,078,400</b>	<b>8,971,900</b>	<b>16.9</b>

Source: 2010-based sub-national population projections, ONS

<sup>1</sup> These projections are based on indicative mid-year population estimates not the published mid-year estimates series.

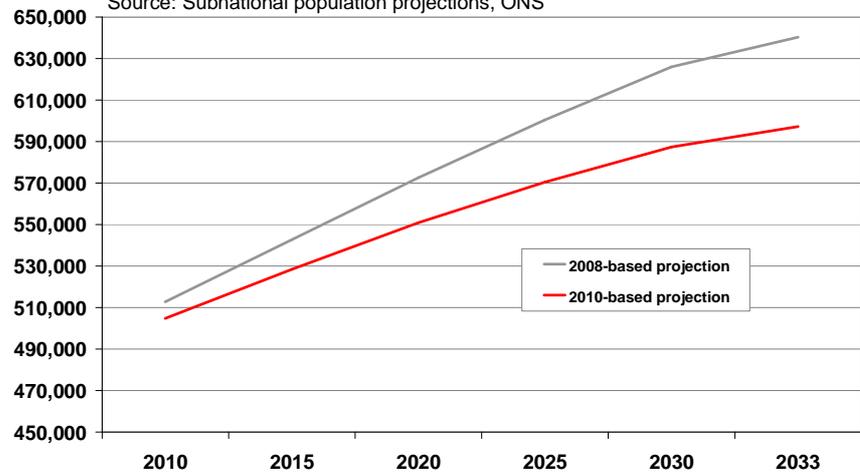
## Comparison with previous projections

ONS publish sub-national population projections every two years. The 2008-based projections previously released showed a faster rate of population growth than the latest set of projections. This is because the latest figures incorporate more recent trends where a lower net migration from outside the UK is assumed.

The previous projection data gave an average population growth of 5,500 a year to 2033. The current data projects an average rise of 4,000 a year.

### Comparison of 2008 and 2010-based population projections Bradford district

Source: Subnational population projections, ONS



## Components of change

Population change happens as a result of natural change (the difference between the number of births and deaths) and net migration (the difference between people moving into and out of an area). The projection data includes estimates of these components of population change each year to 2035 based on past trends.

The latest projections show that Bradford's population is expected to grow as a result of natural change rather than a combination of both natural change and international inward migration as was assumed in earlier projections.

In 2011 there were 8,900 births in the district and 4,300 deaths leading to a natural increase in the population of +4,600. Over the next 23 years, the average natural increase is projected to be +4,700 a year.

International migration is projected to contribute an average of +2,400 a year to the total population. This is a lower number than has been previously projected (the 2008-based projections assumed around +3,900 a year growth through net international migration) and this explains why Bradford's population growth is projected to be smaller than previously anticipated.

Net migration between Bradford and the rest of the UK is negative – each year an average of 3,200 more people will move out of Bradford to elsewhere in the UK than will move in. This figure is similar to previous projections.

Overall, net migration will account for a loss in population of -17,100 over the next 23 years – starting off at around -200 a year and increasing to -1,100 a year in 2034-35 (an average loss of -730 a year to 2035).

## Change in Bradford's age structure

All broad age groups will see an increase in numbers in the district over future years, but it is the older section of the population that is forecast to undergo the fastest rate of growth. This will lead to a significant shift in the age structure of Bradford's population.

The number of older people aged 65+ in Bradford is set to increase by 36,200 to 107,600 in 2035 representing a 50.7% increase in this age group.

This means that older people will form a much larger proportion of the district's population over the coming years - rising from 13.9% of the population in 2012 to 17.8% in 2035.

The number of children in the district is also set to rise but at a slower rate than for older people leading to a slight decrease in the proportion of children in the district's population from 23.1% in 2012 to 22.3% in 2035. The number of children is set to increase from 118,900 in 2012 to 134,600 in 2035 a rise of 13.2% over the period. Although within this overall trend ONS project a slight decline in the number of children towards the end of the forecast period of around 1,500 between 2029 and 2035.

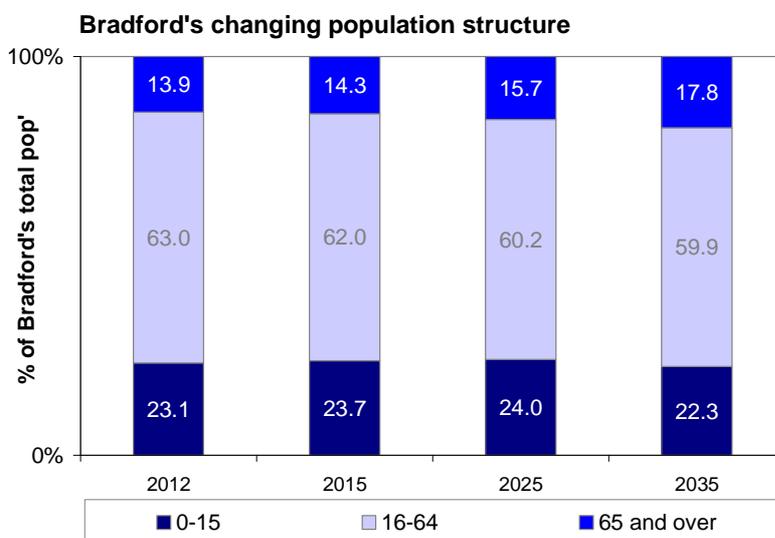
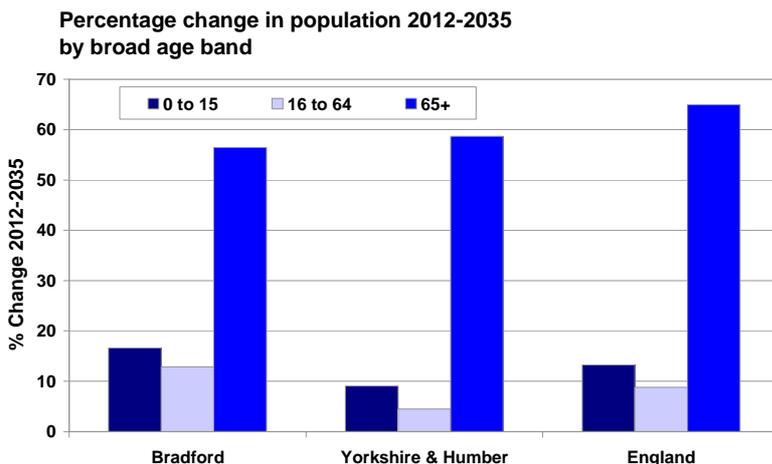
The district's working age population (16 to 64) is projected to increase by 38,000 to 361,800 in 2035. This represents growth of 11.7% over the period, slower than the rate of growth for younger and older age groups and therefore the working age population will form a smaller proportion of the total population (from 63.0% in 2012 to 59.9% in 2035).

## Local implications

In the period 2012 to 2035, the population within the Bradford district is projected to grow by nearly 90,000. This level of growth will undoubtedly have an impact on the services provided by Bradford Council and the other public sector organisations in the district.

The main feature of this growth will be the ageing population. By 2035, people aged 65 years and over will account for 17.8% of the district's population. This change in the city's age structure could have a range of consequences for how Council services are delivered in future. For example, there will be a growing demand for housing for older people, and demand for social care services will be affected by the rise in the elderly population and the growth in lone pensioner households.

The rise in the number of children in the district forecast for the period 2012 to 2035 of approximately 16,000 (13.2% rise over the period) will also have implications for Council services particularly education, but also other services such as housing and social services.



## Data limitations

As with all projected data, the figures should be used with some caution. The projections do not take into account any policy changes that have not yet occurred, or those that have not yet had an impact on observed trends. They are constrained at the national level to the national projections published on 26 October 2011.

## Data source:

<http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/publications/re-reference-tables.html?edition=tcm%3A77-246448>

2010-based subnational population projections for England -

[http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/dcp171778\\_259219.pdf](http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/dcp171778_259219.pdf)

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