

Source: Office of National Statistics

National population projections: 2018-based.

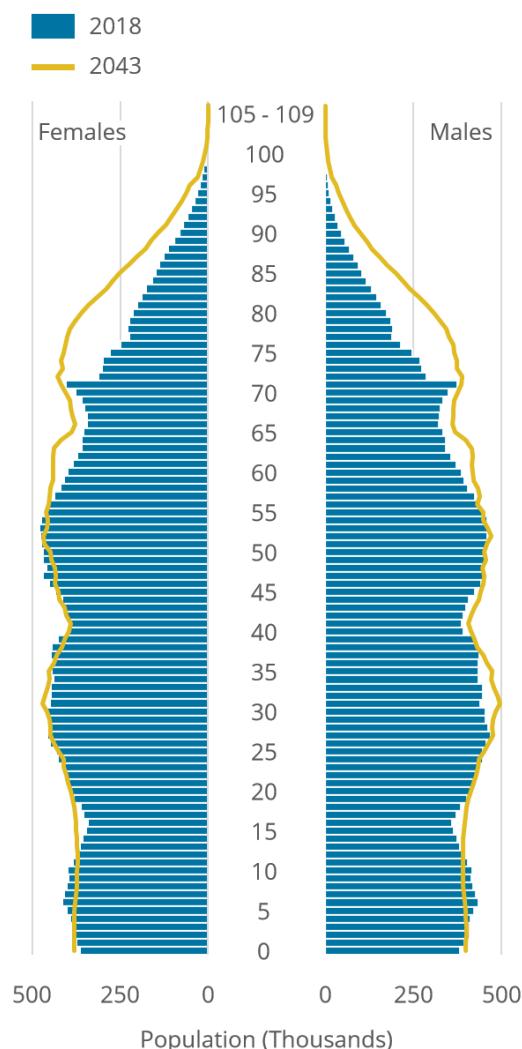
<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/populationprojections/bulletins/nationalpopulationprojections/2018based>

Access date: 20 December 2022

4. Changing age structure

Figure 3: There is a growing number of older people in the UK

Age structure of the UK population, mid 2018 and mid 2043



Source: Office for National Statistics – National population projections

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The population pyramid in Figure 3 compares the age structure of the population in mid 2018 with the projected age structure in mid 2043.

In mid 2018, there are more females than males at older ages, reflecting their higher life expectancy. The spike at age 71 years reflects the baby boom after World War Two and the wider area peaking at age 53 years reflects the baby boom of the 1960s. The narrowing in the teenage years corresponds with the low birth rates around the turn of the millennium.

By mid 2043, all these features are still present in the pyramid, with the peaks and troughs now located 25 years higher up the age scale. The changes to the numbers at each age are constantly evolving as a result of births, deaths, migration and everyone getting older. We will now consider each life stage.

More people at older ages

In mid 2043, there are projected to be many more people at older ages. This partly reflects the 1960s baby boomers now being aged around 80 years but also general increases in life expectancy. In mid 2018, there were 1.6 million people aged 85 years and over; by mid 2043, this is projected to nearly double to 3.0 million.

Excel spreadsheet dataset contained in this section

age group	age label	male2018	female2018	male2043	female2043
0	0	382332	362931	399351	380466
1	1	395273	375341	399778	380909
2	2	408684	387630	400401	381598
3	3	408882	388301	400234	381544
4	4	412553	392101	399315	380748
5	5	421934	401270	397664	379226
6	6	434333	414348	395651	377358
7	7	427809	408199	393691	375489
8	8	419161	400663	392116	373939
9	9	414994	395813	391038	372775
10	10	418348	398640	390293	371903
11	11	405604	384526	389887	371431
12	12	396531	377837	390016	371531
13	13	381466	363458	390629	372106
14	14	375311	357173	391757	372958
15	15	365807	346926	393580	374230
16	16	360771	341812	395927	375946
17	17	371195	353628	398786	378055
18	18	384777	362219	402314	380922
19	19	401688	380427	407247	385548
20	20	411122	388931	413365	391359
21	21	426309	402450	420259	397112
22	22	432658	405362	427463	403368
23	23	433554	411037	433791	409657
24	24	447422	425730	435181	411255
25	25	447101	431409	451108	424935
26	26	457870	450115	463881	437181
27	27	470965	456180	475587	448284
28	28	462696	447914	474099	447923
29	29	454070	448855	476356	450869
30	30	455376	455763	484367	459175
31	31	439884	448522	495397	471168
32	32	448165	447555	487844	464078
33	33	447012	447937	477844	455790
34	34	433650	439493	472022	450192
35	35	435220	443562	473586	452146
36	36	433790	444015	459153	437219
37	37	438225	446006	448282	429645
38	38	438053	445383	431646	414288
39	39	422038	425942	423830	407175
40	40	393518	397469	412467	396385

41	41	387736	390564	405507	390734
42	42	393134	400468	413684	401655
43	43	400211	407912	424415	408619
44	44	407039	415341	436762	422793
45	45	425447	433399	440069	425722
46	46	443536	452204	449079	434846
47	47	454593	470036	449975	433749
48	48	444402	458544	445818	434628
49	49	455038	470201	455401	445482
50	50	455264	470090	452169	448682
51	51	463020	474274	459864	464865
52	52	459687	476094	470205	468455
53	53	463433	479358	460256	458058
54	54	458773	474242	449784	456652
55	55	449077	463241	448890	461248
56	56	439605	451605	432046	452634
57	57	424184	436233	437719	450276
58	58	405958	418441	434595	449024
59	59	395941	409535	420008	439301
60	60	386958	400174	419493	441631
61	61	371615	385286	416051	440159
62	62	357493	370916	417892	439999
63	63	342516	357872	415262	437443
64	64	341152	359127	397866	417044
65	65	335697	352953	369104	387934
66	66	323224	343286	360904	378936
67	67	323633	345174	362294	385360
68	68	327472	351835	364581	389180
69	69	334709	358452	366000	392737
70	70	349268	376645	376749	405349
71	71	375924	405199	386431	417808
72	72	286543	312740	389232	428666
73	73	273933	302019	373683	413001
74	74	270187	299138	374596	416954
75	75	246316	278921	366274	410013
76	76	215728	249132	363115	406092
77	77	189863	223746	350581	399386
78	78	192839	228622	342293	392953
79	79	186251	224153	327190	379013
80	80	175626	214793	308017	359837
81	81	160475	202210	288678	339627
82	82	146314	189402	265231	316130
83	83	132941	175985	240157	290666
84	84	116050	159667	219894	270770
85	85	103669	147771	199945	249995
86	86	93155	138433	176871	225519

87	87	81174	126713	155026	201346
88	88	68110	113032	133618	178065
89	89	55652	96759	117938	161496
90	90	45687	81716	101286	141297
91	91	37278	70021	83594	120338
92	92	29255	59023	70254	103846
93	93	21902	48185	58331	88942
94	94	16179	38797	47720	74346
95	95	11602	30533	38812	62524
96	96	8270	23691	31613	52325
97	97	5757	18119	17706	30546
98	98	3779	13409	11969	21482
99	99	1553	6103	8006	14892
100	100	888	3926	4748	9317
101	101	557	2781	2587	5341
102	102	352	1801	1351	2934
103	103	199	1113	775	1743
104	104	100	631	400	939
105	105 - 109	117	671	325	822
106	110 and over	11	18	1	5

Analysis completed by the County Council

	male2018	female2018	male2043	female2043
The number of people over the age of 65	5212542	6264365	7688776	8940538
2018 and 2043 totals		11476907		16629314
Percentage change between 2018 and 2043				45%