

# Projected Population of Scotland 2018-based



Published on 21 October 2019

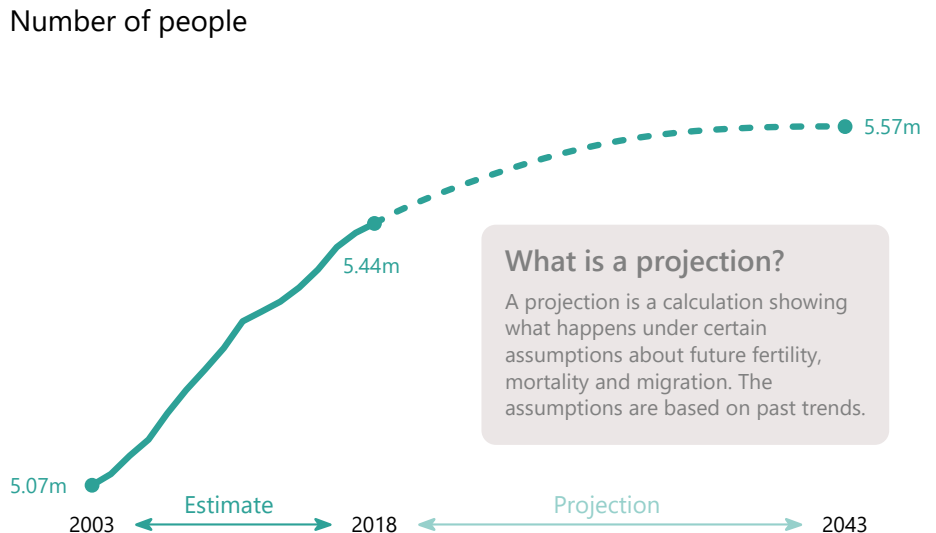
This statistical report provides national population projections for Scotland based on the mid-2018 population estimates.

## **Correction Notice – 11 June 2020**

An error was found involving the incorrect processing of cross-border flows between Wales and England. There is no change to the projections for Scotland, Northern Ireland or the UK as a whole. More information on the error can be found on the [ONS website](#). Whilst there are no changes to Scotland's projected population, this correction has affected the cross-UK and European comparisons. Corrections have been made to the infographic (page 4), section 3 (pages 15-17) and section 5 (pages 20-21) of this publication.

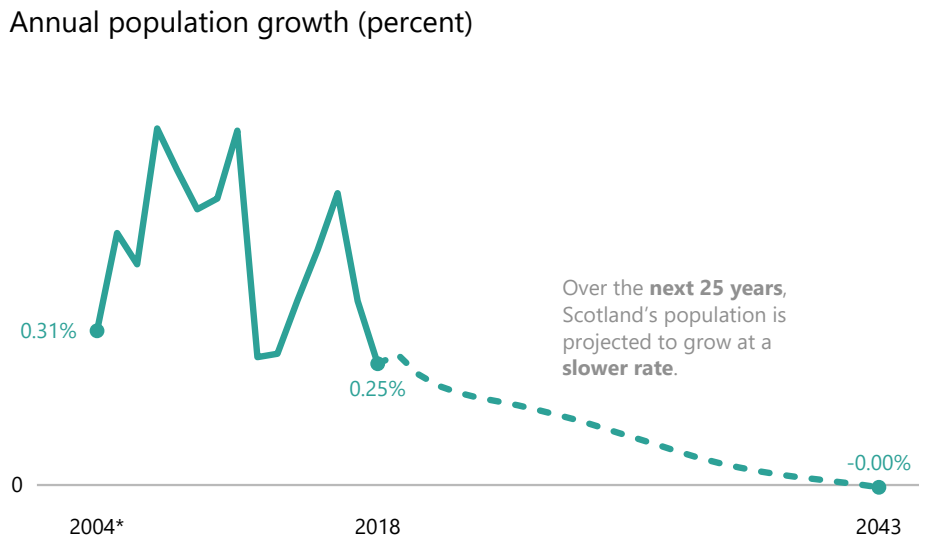
**Scotland's population is projected to continue increasing**

In the 25 years to mid-2043, Scotland's population is projected to grow by 2.5% to 5.57 million. The rate at which the population increases over the period is projected to slow, and is slower than has been seen in recent years.



**The rate of population increase is projected to slow**

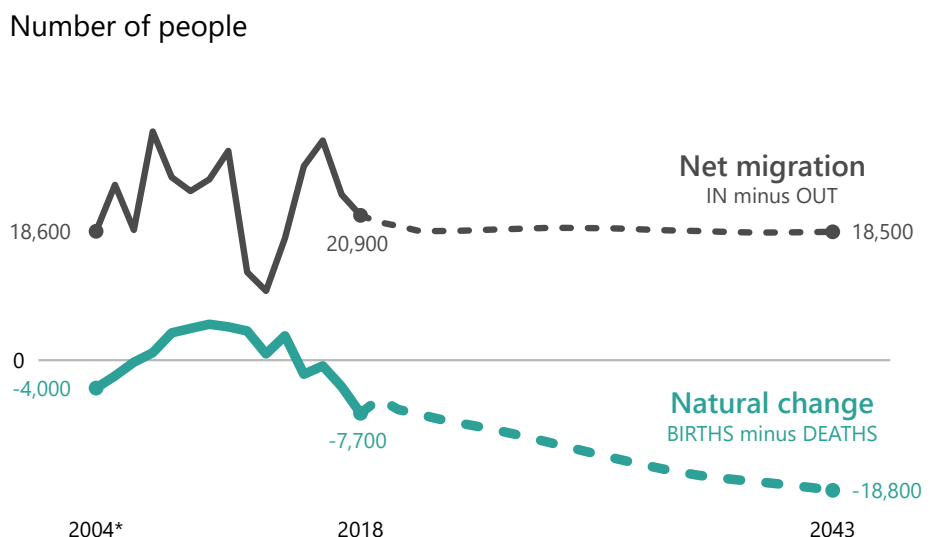
The rate of population increase has slowed recently, and is projected to continue doing so. If the projections are realised, growth could stall by mid-2043.



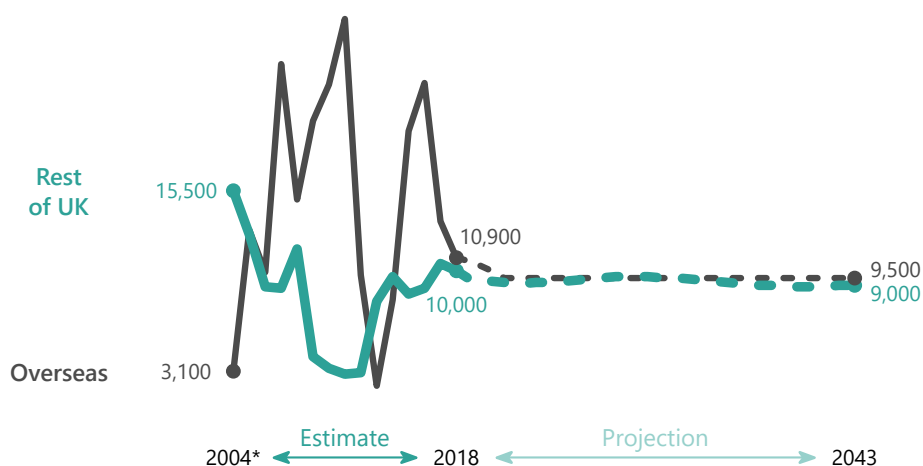
\* Each data point is a year from July to June. So 2004 means July 2003 to June 2004.

**All population growth is projected to come from migration**

Natural change (births minus deaths) is projected to fall to lower levels than have ever previously been recorded. Inward migration is projected to be the only source of population growth.



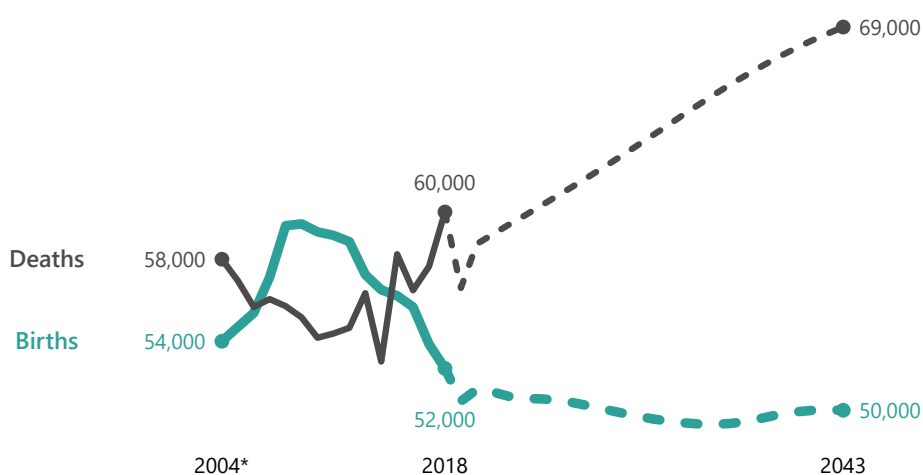
## Net migration (IN minus OUT)



## More people projected to move to Scotland than leave

Net migration is projected to be positive with more people moving to Scotland than leaving. In the 25 years to mid-2043, 51% of net migration is projected to come from overseas and 49% from the rest of the UK.

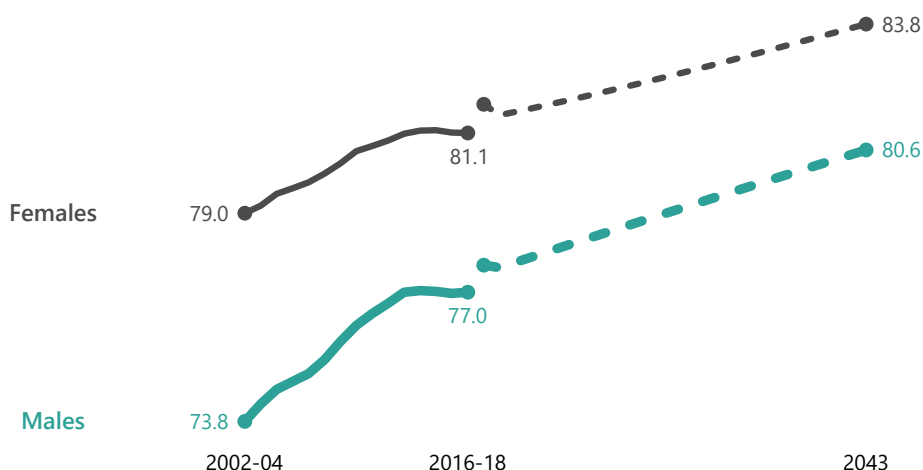
## Number of births and deaths



## More deaths than births are projected

The number of deaths is projected to rise as the 'baby boomer' generation reaches end of life. The number of births is projected to fall slightly. As deaths exceed births each year, there is no natural population growth.

## Life expectancy



## Life expectancy projected to increase for men and women

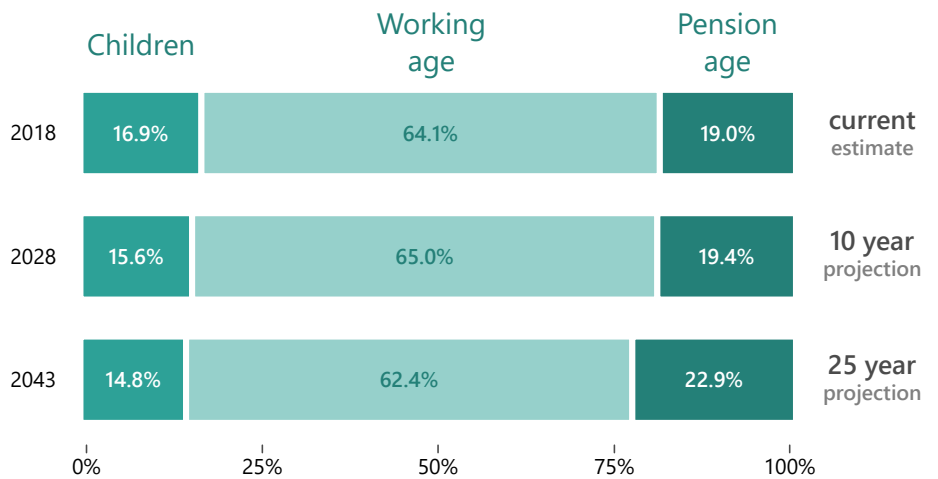
Life expectancy at birth is projected to increase to 83.8 years for females and 80.6 years for males by 2043. The projections for life expectancy increase at a slower rate than previous projections, due to the recent stall.

## Scotland's population is ageing

The proportion of the population who are of pensionable age is projected to increase, reaching 22.9% by mid-2043. The proportion who are working age is projected to decrease.

\* State Pension Age is scheduled to change during the projection, and this has been taken into account.

Projected population by age group



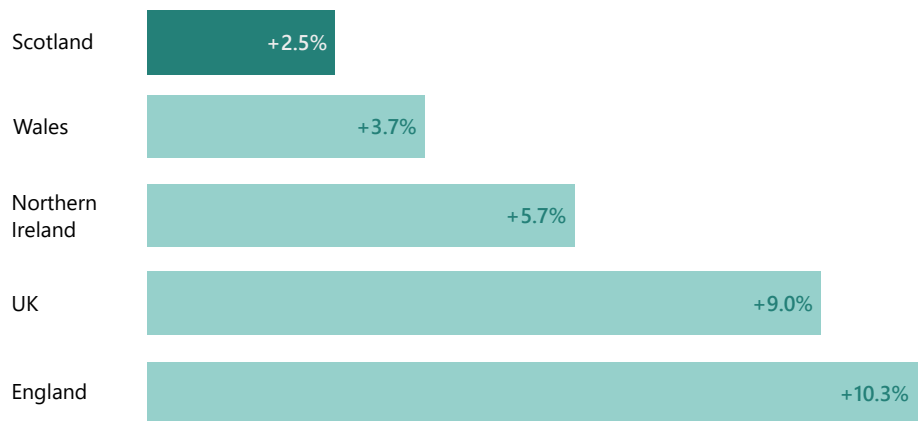
## UK projected to grow faster than Scotland

The UK population is projected to grow to 72.4 million by mid-2043 (increase of 9.0%).

If these projections were realised, Scotland will have the lowest population growth in the UK.

Scotland's share of the UK population could fall from 8.2% to 7.7%.

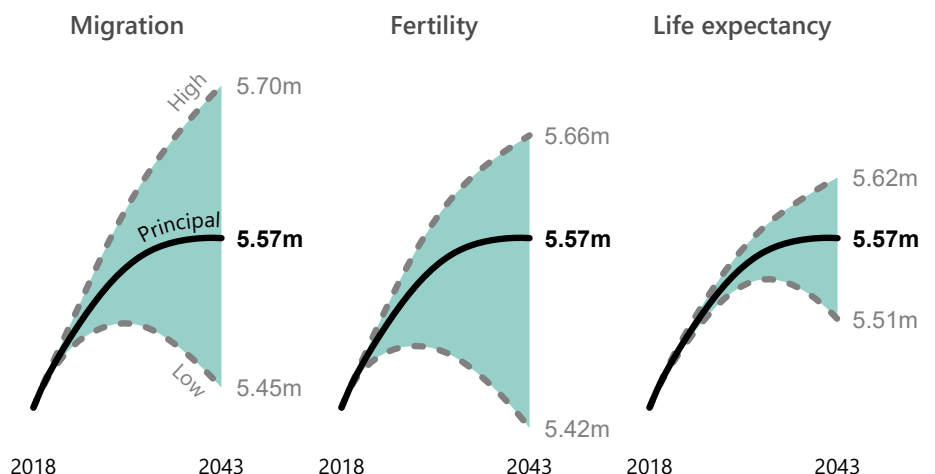
Projected population change



## Projected change varies under different assumptions

Variant projections show what the effects on the population could be under different plausible assumptions about fertility, mortality and migration.

Projected population under different assumptions



## Contents

<b>Key Findings .....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>1. What are population projections? .....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>2. How is Scotland’s population projected to change? .....</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>3. Comparisons with the United Kingdom .....</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>4. Variant projections.....</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>5. Comparisons with the rest of Europe .....</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>6. Methodology and assumptions used .....</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>7. Comparisons with previous projections .....</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>8. Future plans for projections.....</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>9. Links to related statistics .....</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>10. Notes on statistical publications .....</b>	<b>26</b>

## Key Findings

- The population of Scotland is projected to continue increasing, from 5.44 million in mid-2018 to 5.54 million in mid-2028, an increase of 1.8% over the 10 year period. By mid-2043, the population is projected to reach 5.57 million, an increase of 2.5% over the 25 year period.
- All of the projected population increase comes from inward migration to Scotland. The projections suggest Scotland's population will not experience natural growth, with more deaths than births projected each year going forward.
- Although Scotland's population is projected to grow in the period up until mid-2043, growth could stall by this point as the levels of migration are outweighed by natural decline in the population. By mid-2043, there are projected to be 18,800 more deaths than births which would be the largest natural decrease on record. Net migration is projected to be positive in mid-2043 with an estimated 18,500 more people coming to Scotland than leaving.
- Scotland's population growth is slower than in the previous 2016-based projections. There are projected to be just under 125,000 people less in mid-2043, compared to what was previously projected.
- The population of the UK as a whole is projected to grow at a faster rate than Scotland, to 69.4 million by mid-2028 (up by 4.5%) and to 72.4 million by mid-2043 (up by 9.0%). If these changes were realised, Scotland's share of the UK population could fall from 8.2% to 7.7% by mid-2043.
- Scotland is projected to have slower population growth than other UK countries: 2.5% between mid-2018 and mid-2043, compared with 3.7% for Wales, 5.7% for Northern Ireland and 10.3% for England.
- Scotland's population is projected to age. Over the 10 years to mid-2028 there are projected to be 38,100 more people of pensionable age in Scotland with the number projected to increase by 240,300 in the 25 years to mid-2043.
- After initial increases due to changes to state pension age, the population of working age is projected to be slightly smaller in mid-2043 than in mid-2018. In mid-2018 there were approximately 3.484 million working age people in Scotland, making up 64% of the population. In mid-2043, the working age population is projected to be 3.477 million, making up 62% of the population.
- Life expectancy in Scotland is projected to increase by mid-2043. A baby girl born in mid-2043 could expect to live 83.8 years with a baby boy born in mid-2043 being expected to live 80.6 years. The gap between male and female life expectancy is projected to decrease slightly.

# 1. What are population projections?

## Overview









This publication looks at the projected future population of Scotland, concentrating on the results over the ten years to 2028 and over the next twenty-five years to 2043.

The Office for National Statistics (ONS), on behalf of the National Records of Scotland (NRS), prepares population projections for the United Kingdom and its constituent countries every two years. The projections are based on the most recently available mid-year population estimates and a set of underlying demographic assumptions regarding future fertility, mortality and migration. More information on the method and assumptions can be found in [Section 6](#) of this publication.

## Uses and limitations

The national population projections are produced on a consistent basis across the UK and are commonly used for planning and providing public services, fiscal forecasting and developing policy for the future. When making use of these projections, it is helpful to know what they are and what they are not.

## Projections...

...are	...are not
 statistics on the potential future size and age structure of Scotland's population	 exact as real population change will inevitably differ by some extent
 based on past-trends and assumptions of future levels of fertility, mortality and migration	 forecasts based on predictions about future political and economic changes*.
 uncertain, and a degree of uncertainty already exists in the base-year data	 as accurate when you look at years in the distant future. This report focusses on the first twenty-five years.
 available for Scotland, the UK and the other constituent countries	 available yet for areas within Scotland for mid-2018; these will be released in March 2020.

\* Note: National population projections do not attempt to predict the impact of political circumstances such as Brexit. If recent changes have not yet affected population estimates or trend data that the projections are based on, they will not affect the projections.

## How to find data

### What are you looking for?

The data used in this publication

Datasets by single year of age and sex

Open data

Create your own projections charts

### Where is it?

[Summary tables](#) / [All figures](#)

[Detailed tables](#)

[statistics.gov.scot](https://statistics.gov.scot)

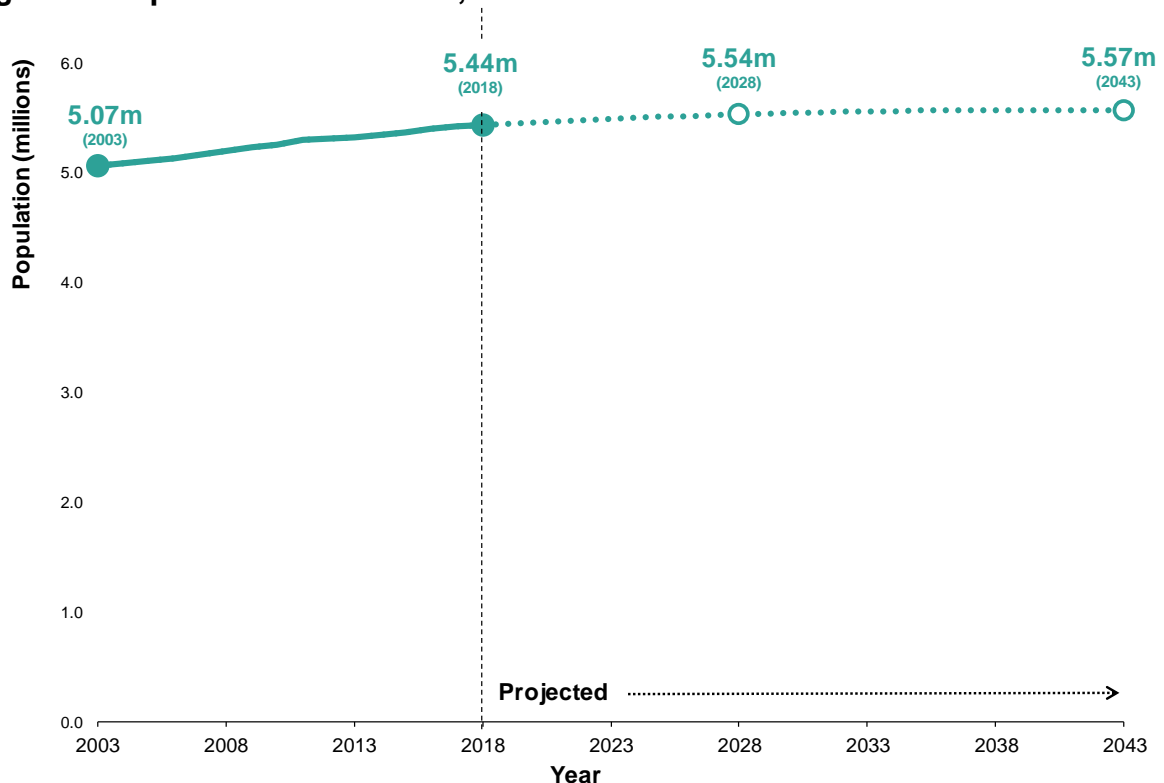
[Interactive data visualisation](#)

## 2. How is Scotland's population projected to change?

### The population of Scotland is projected to increase

Scotland's population is projected to continue increasing, but at a slower rate than in recent years. In the ten years to mid-2028, the population is projected to increase by 1.8% to 5.54 million and in the 25 years to mid-2043, it is projected to increase by 2.5% to 5.57 million (Figure 1).

Figure 1: Population of Scotland, mid-2003 to mid-2043

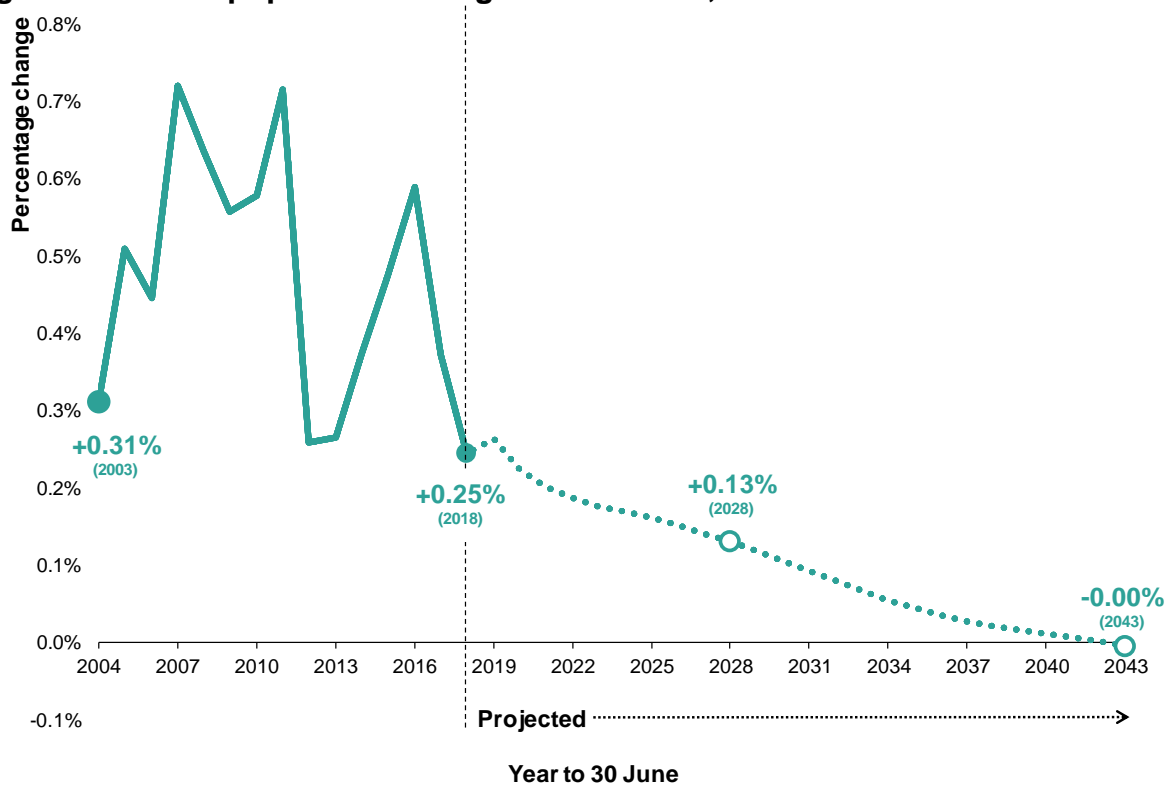


In the last fifteen years, Scotland's population has increased from 5.07 million at mid-2003 to 5.44 million at mid-2018, the largest population ever recorded. The rate at which the population has increased has been changing, with growth slowing in



recent years (Figure 2). Over the latest year, between mid-2017 and mid-2018, Scotland's population grew by +0.25%. Annual population change is projected to slow further in the coming years, reaching a point where population growth may stall in mid-2043. The rate of population change is projected to be +0.13% in the year to mid-2028 before stalling in the year to mid-2043.

**Figure 2: Annual population change for Scotland, 2003-04 to 2042-43**



**Why is the population projected to increase?**

The population increases through in-migration and births, and decreases through out-migration and deaths. The difference between the number of births and deaths is called natural change, and the difference between in and out migration is called net migration.

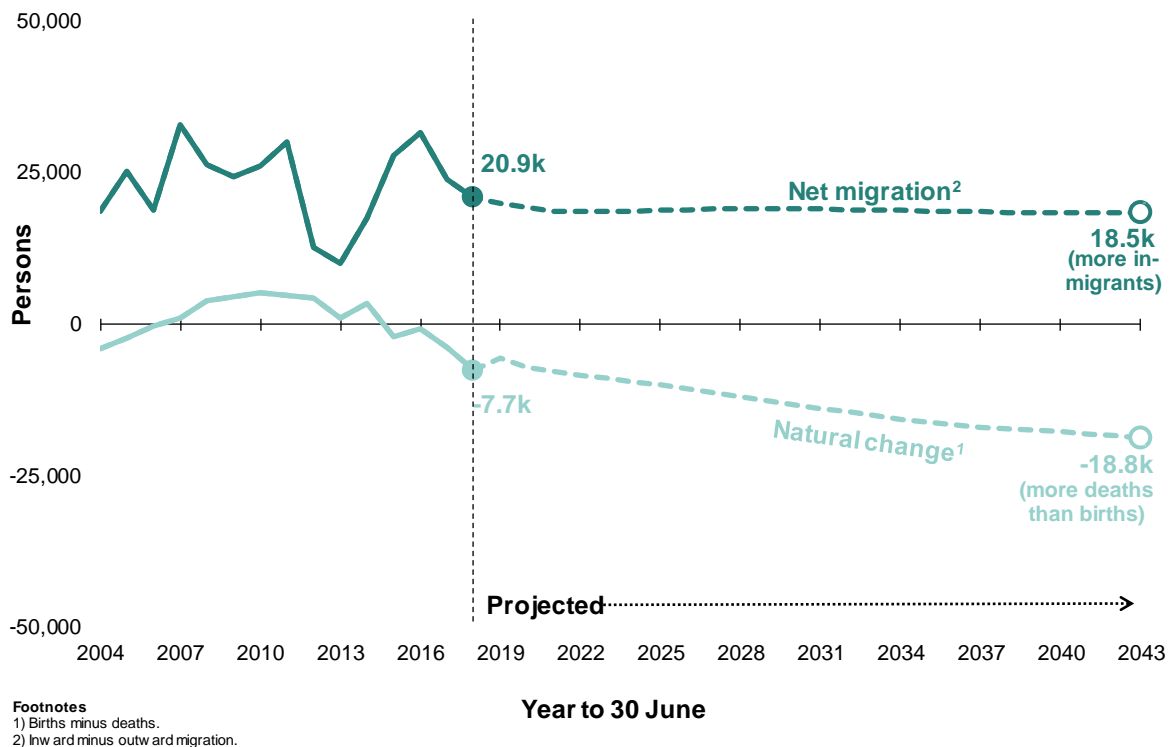
In the twenty-five years between mid-2018 and mid-2043, the projections for Scotland suggest that:

- 1.26 million babies will be born
- 1.59 million people will die
- 1.98 million people will immigrate long-term to Scotland
- 1.51 million people will emigrate long-term from Scotland

All of the projected future growth in Scotland's population is from positive net migration (Figure 3). In contrast, natural change is projected to fall to record negative levels, with 18,800 more deaths than births in the year to mid-2043. Overall, net

migration is projected to add more people to the population than natural change will subtract, causing the population to increase up until mid-2043.

**Figure 3: Net migration and natural change, 2003-04 to 2042-43**



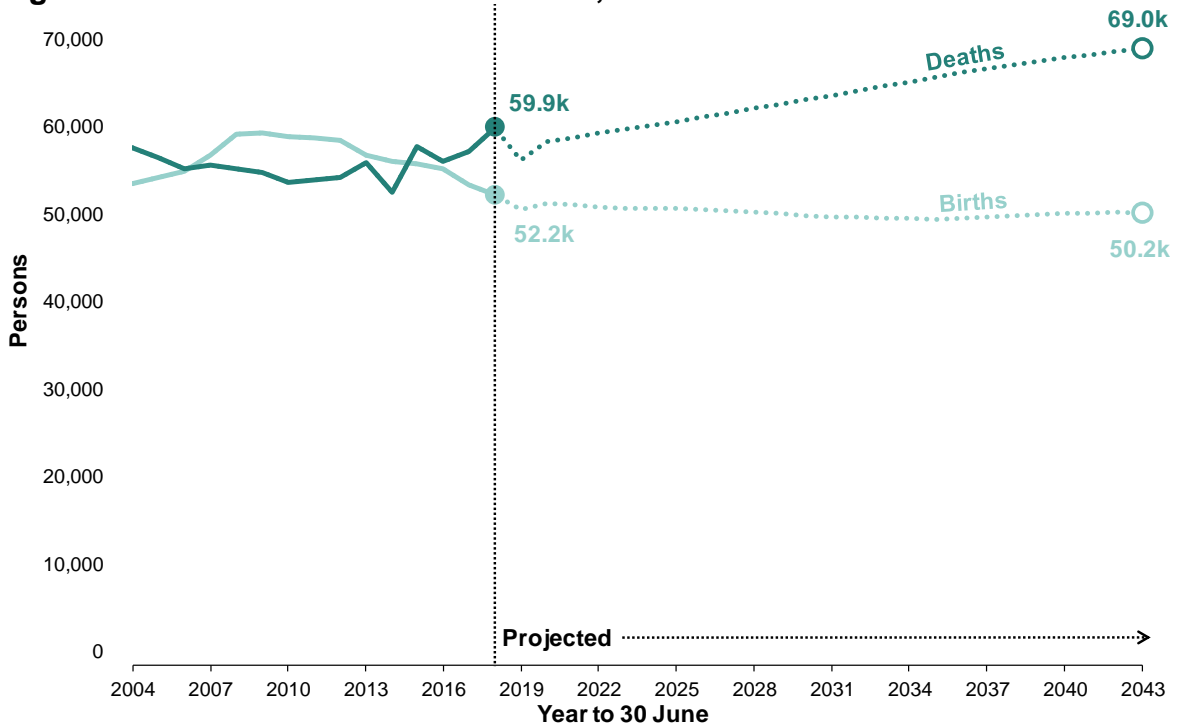
### Why is the growth in Scotland's population slowing?

As shown in [Figure 3](#), natural change is projected to continue to fall over the projection period, with the number of deaths exceeding births each year. As natural population decline is projected to become more negative year on year, this offsets the projected increase in the population due to positive net migration and leads to slower population growth.

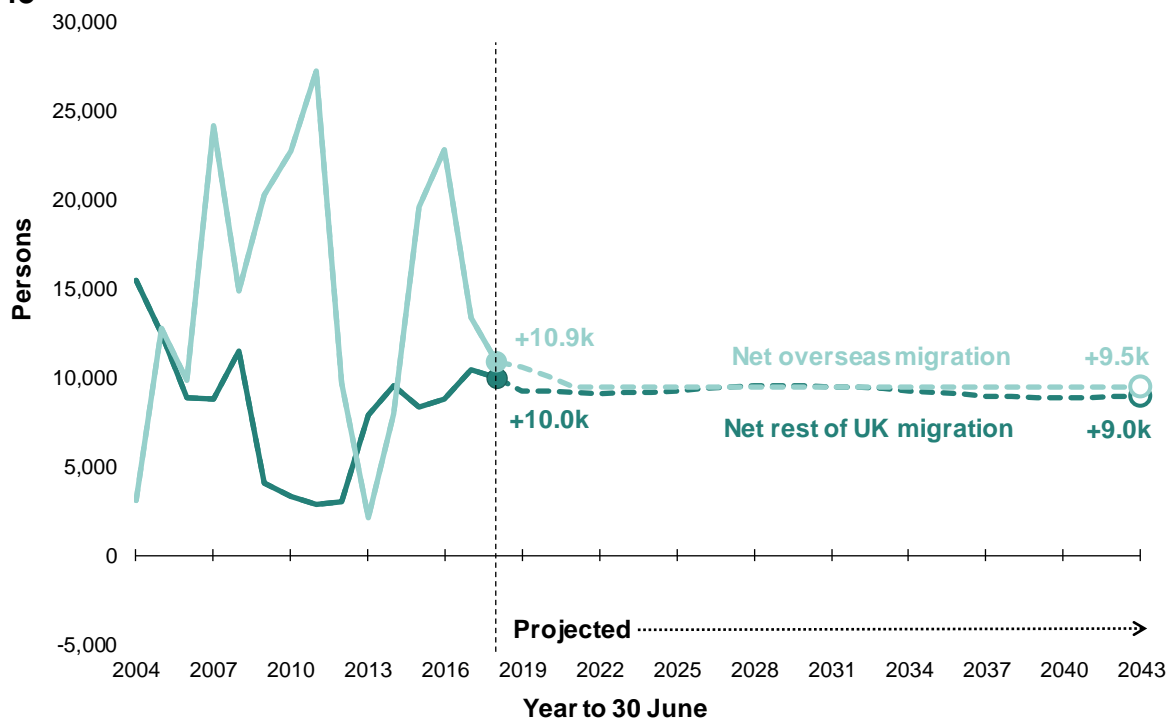
The natural decline in Scotland's population is driven mainly by the projected increase in deaths, due to the large numbers of people born in the post-war baby boom who will die in the projection period ([Figure 4](#)). In the year to mid-2018 there were 59,900 deaths in Scotland, but this is projected to rise to around 69,000 by the year to mid-2043. The number of births is projected to fall slightly from current levels, from 52,200 in the year to mid-2018 to 50,200 in the year to mid-2043.

Although Scotland's population is projected to grow in the period up until mid-2043, **growth could stall** by this point as the levels of migration are outweighed by natural decline in the population. By mid-2043, there are projected to be 18,800 more deaths than births which would be the largest natural decrease on record. Net migration is projected to be positive in mid-2043 with an estimated 18,500 more people coming to Scotland than leaving

**Figure 4: Births and deaths in Scotland, 2003-04 to 2042-43**



**Figure 5: Net migration from the rest of the UK and overseas, 2003-04 to 2042-43**



### Where is migration to Scotland projected to come from?

Figure 5 shows that in recent years, net migration from both overseas and the rest of the UK have added to the population with more people coming to Scotland than leaving. This trend is projected to continue in future. Over the 25 years to mid-2043, 51% of net in-migration is projected to come from overseas over the twenty-five years between mid-2018 and mid-2043, and 49% from the rest of the UK.

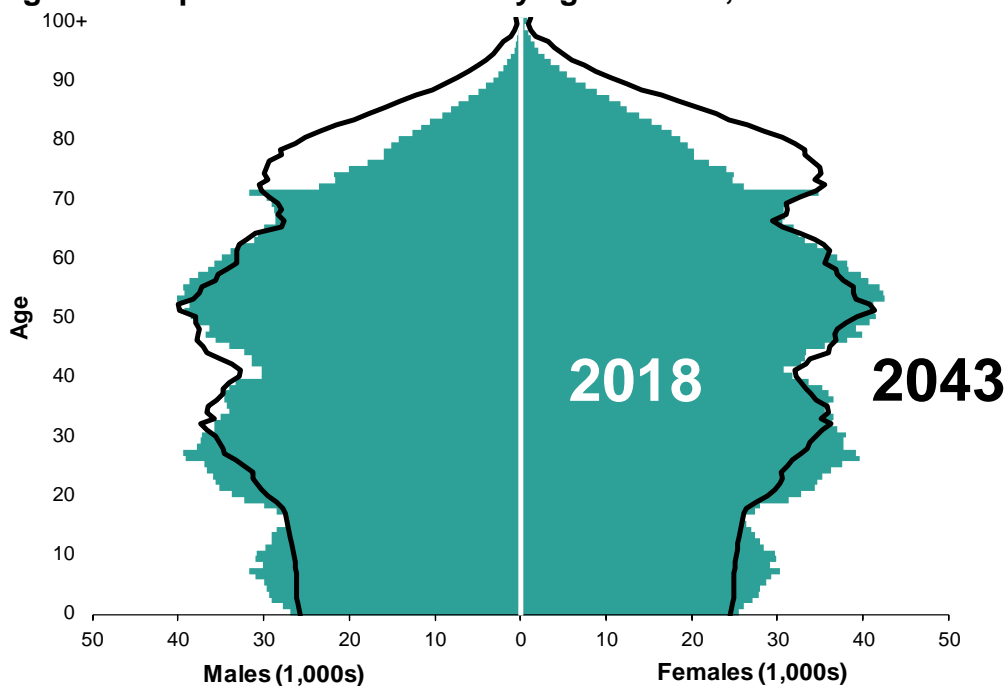
### How is the age and sex structure of the population projected to change?

Age composition is one of the most important aspects of the population since changes in different age groups will have varied social and economic impacts. For example, increases in the elderly population are likely to place a greater demand on health and social services.

Scotland is projected to have more older people and fewer younger people in mid-2043 than in mid-2018 (Figure 6).

The current (mid-2018) population structure includes a sharp peak at around age 71 (post-war baby boomers), and a large bulge with people in their mid-50s (children of baby boomers). As these generations age, with higher life expectancy than in previous generations, they are projected to make up a growing proportion of the population. Also as female life expectancy is higher than for males, more females are projected to live into older age.

**Figure 6: Population of Scotland by age and sex, mid-2018 and mid-2043**

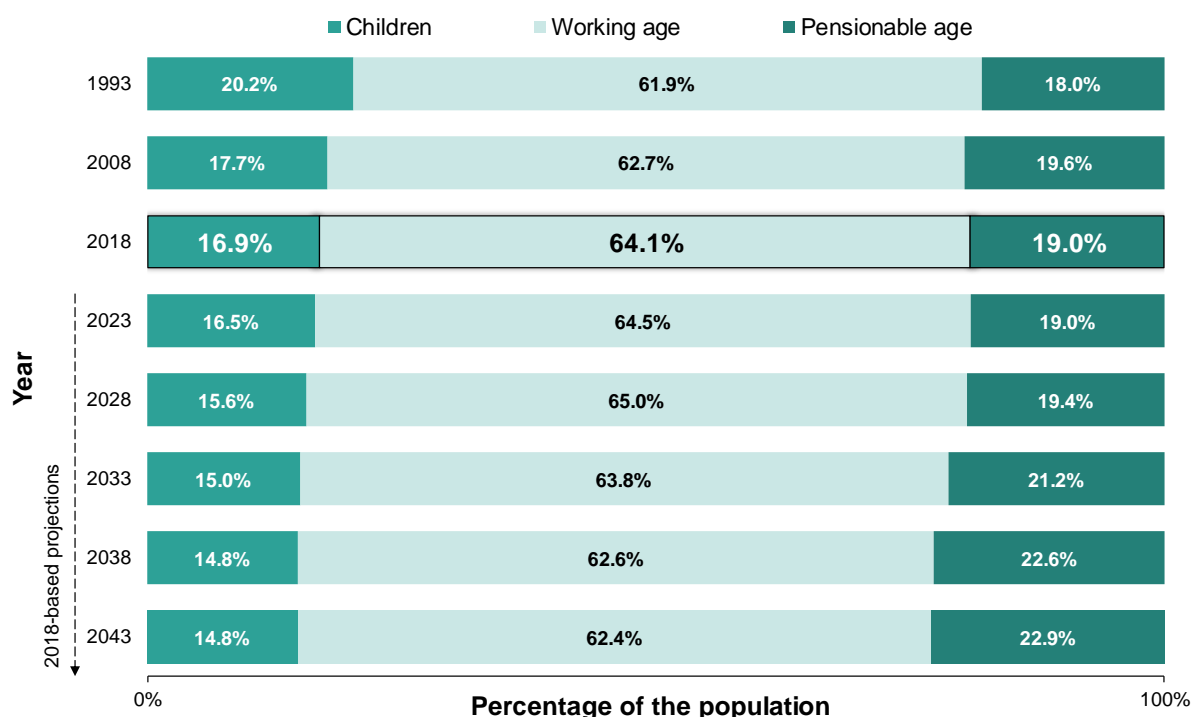


The projections also indicate that the number of children in Scotland could be lower than current levels. This is because the number of women of child bearing age is projected to be lower, with minor projected improvements to the already low fertility rate.

## How are the number of working and pensionable age people projected to change?

Planned increases to the state pension age<sup>1</sup> are projected to increase the working age population in Scotland between mid-2018 and mid-2028. However the working age population is then projected to decrease back to a similar level to mid-2008 in the next twenty-five years to mid-2043. At mid-2018, there were 3.484 million people of working age (from age 16 to state pension age) in Scotland, and this is projected to increase through changes to state pension age by 3% to 3.60 million by mid-2028. After this point, the working age population is projected to decrease gradually to 3.477 million by mid-2043. Currently at mid-2018, the working age population accounted for 64.1% of all people living in Scotland, but this is projected to decline to 62.4% by mid-2043 (Figure 7).

**Figure 7: Population by age group in Scotland, mid-1993 to mid-2043**



The proportion of the population of pensionable age is projected to increase. This projected increase is initially slower due to changes to state pension age, but increases more quickly after 2028. By mid-2043, it is projected that 22.9% of the population will be of pensionable age, compared to 19.0% in mid-2018.

<sup>1</sup> Until April 2010, state pension age (SPA) was 65 for men and 60 for women. After this point, SPA was increased gradually for women each year until it reached age 65 in 2018. SPA is scheduled to increase further for both men and women to age 67 by 2028.

## How is life expectancy projected to change in the future?

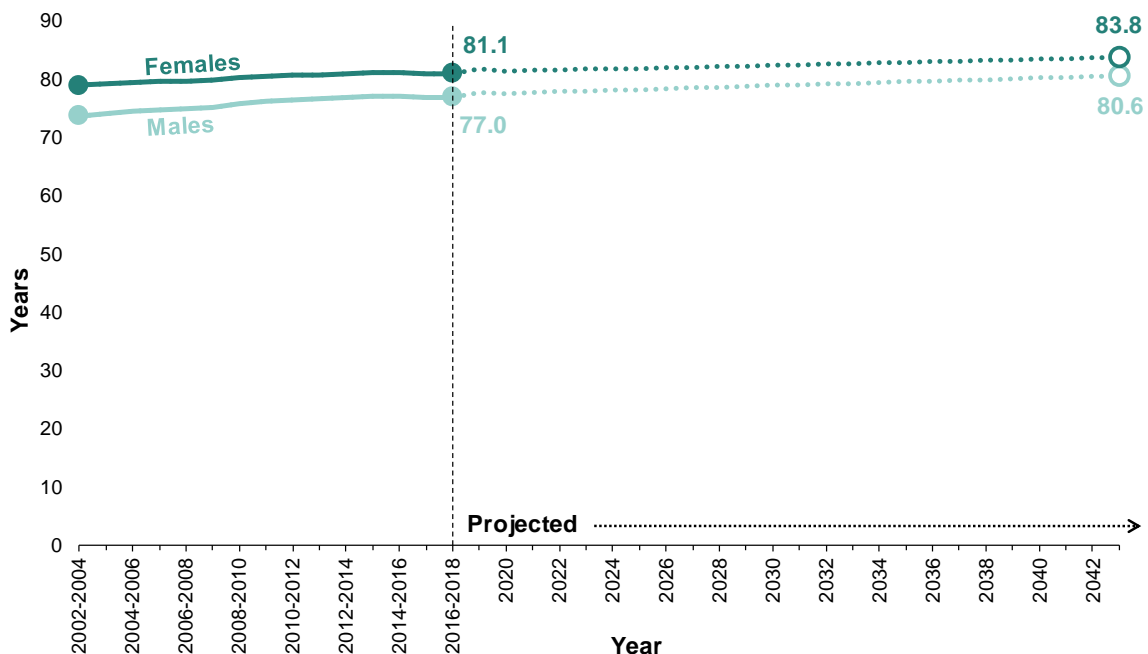
Life expectancy is projected to increase from current levels (Figure 8), and the gap between life expectancy for males and females is projected to decrease slightly. The most recent statistics show that life expectancy improvements have stalled in Scotland, with virtually no change between the 2012-2014 estimates and the latest 2016-2018 estimates.

The latest **life expectancy** figures for Scotland were published on the [NRS website](#) recently. Explore the publication to learn more about the latest trends.

Life expectancy for Scottish areas will be published in December 2019.

Life expectancy at birth is projected to increase to 83.8 years for females and to 80.6 years for males by 2043. However life expectancy improvements are lower than compared with the previous set of projections.

**Figure 8: Life expectancy for males and females in Scotland, 2002-2004 to 2043**



**Footnotes**

- 1) Figures to 2016-2018 are based on three years of data. Projected data starts at mid-2019
- 2) The latest data (2016-2018) was not available during the creation of these projections, and is included for illustration only

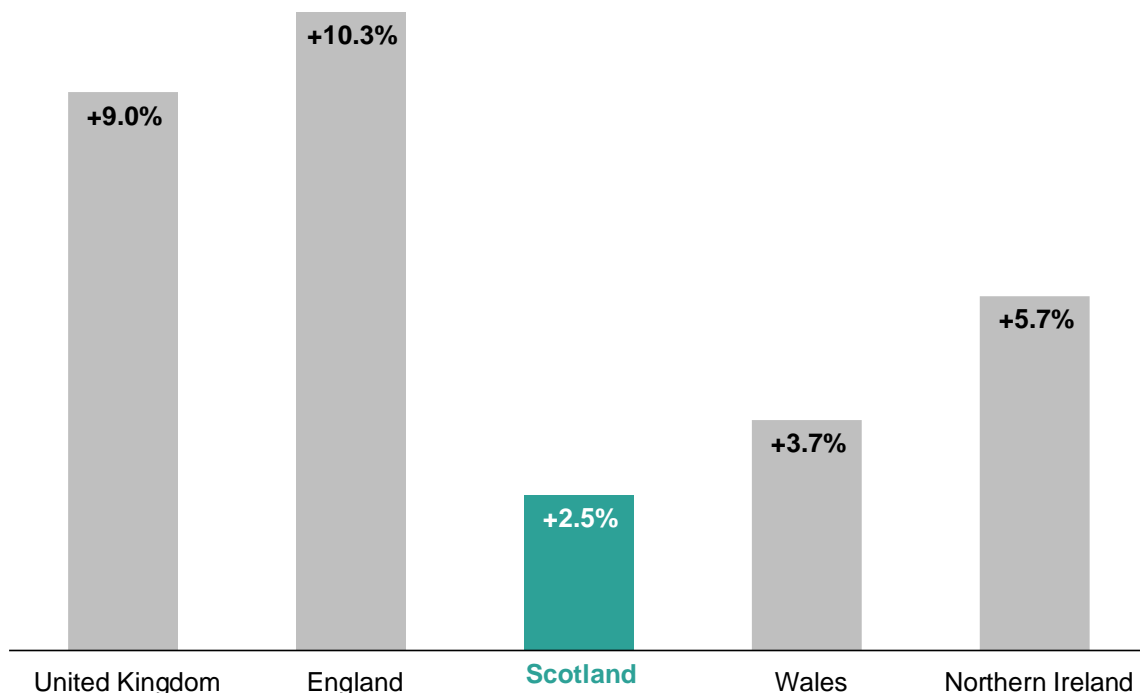
For the 2018-based projections, the principal annual rate of mortality improvement was set at 1.2%. This is the same rate that was used in the 2016-based projections. Despite the recent stall to improvements in life expectancy, it was decided that the principal projection should not be disproportionately influenced by this, as projections consider long-term trends rather than recent changes. More information about the assumptions behind these projections can be found in [Section 6](#).

### 3. Comparisons with the United Kingdom

#### Changes across the constituent countries

The UK population is projected to increase from 66.4 million in mid-2018 to 69.4 million in mid-2028, up by 4.5% in the first ten years of the projections. It is then projected to increase to 72.4 million in mid-2043, an increase of 9.0% over the twenty-five year period. Scotland's projected population growth is slower than the other constituent countries in the UK (Figure 9), growing by 2.5% between mid-2018 and mid-2043. The growth in the UK population is driven largely by England which is projected to grow by 10.3% over the same period.

**Figure 9: Projected population change in constituent countries, mid-2018 to mid-2043**



Scotland's population (5.44 million) made up 8.2% of the total UK population (55.98 million) in mid-2018, but this share is projected to decrease due to projected growth rates being slower in Scotland. In the future, Scotland's population is projected to make up 8.0% of the UK population at mid-2028, and 7.7% by mid-2043.

#### Changes by age group

All areas of the UK are projected to see increases to the number of people of pensionable age, and decreases to the number of children between mid-2018 and mid-2043. Figure 10 shows the breakdown of projected population change across the UK by age group.

**Figure 10: Projected population change by age group across the UK, mid-2018 to mid-2043**





Comparing Scotland’s projected trends to the UK as a whole, and the other constituent countries, between mid-2018 and mid-2043:

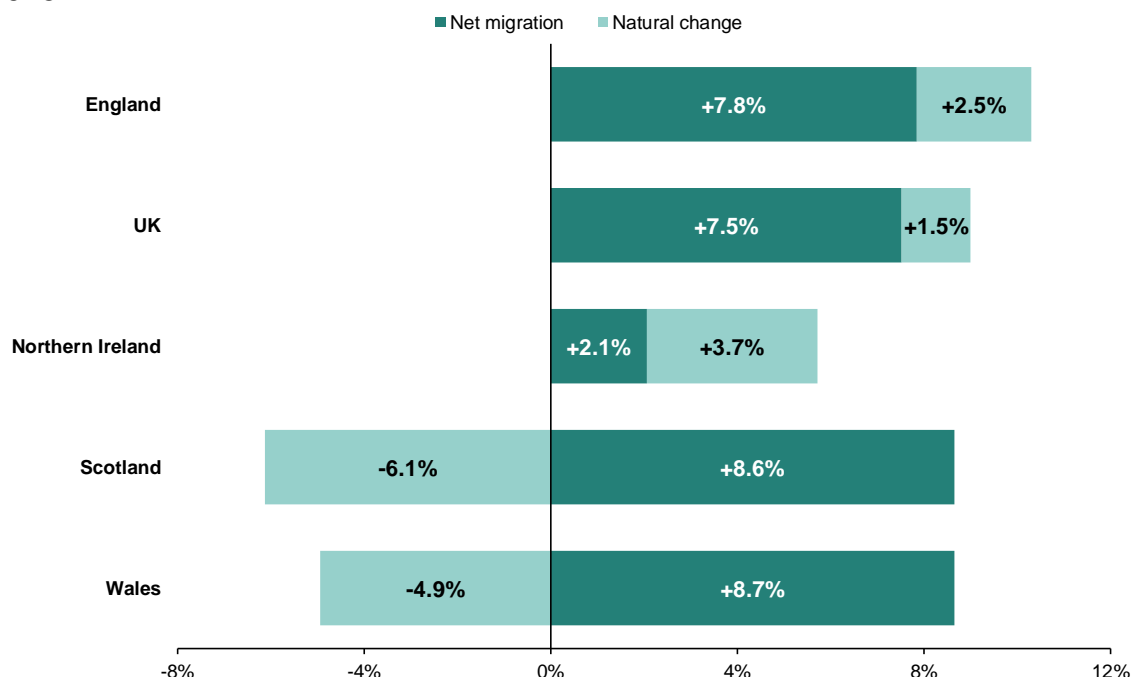
- the number of children in Scotland is projected to decrease at a faster rate than the UK average, but is similar to Northern Ireland.
- the working age population in Scotland is projected to stall (with a very slight decline), whereas all other countries in the UK are projected to see an increase to their working age population.
- the number of pensioners in Scotland is projected to increase but at a slower rate than the UK average. Northern Ireland is projected to have the highest percentage increase in people of pensionable age.

### Components of population change

As seen in [Figure 11](#), the factors driving population change are projected to be different across the UK. Between mid-2018 and mid-2043, Scotland is projected to have the greatest decrease in population due to natural change (more deaths than births). As a result, Scotland is the most reliant on migration for population growth of all constituent countries, with an increase of 8.6% projected due to more people coming to Scotland than leaving.

For the UK as a whole, more births are projected than deaths, which would cause the population to increase. Net migration is also projected to be positive, with more people moving to the UK than leaving.

**Figure 11: Components of population change across the UK, mid-2018 to mid-2043**

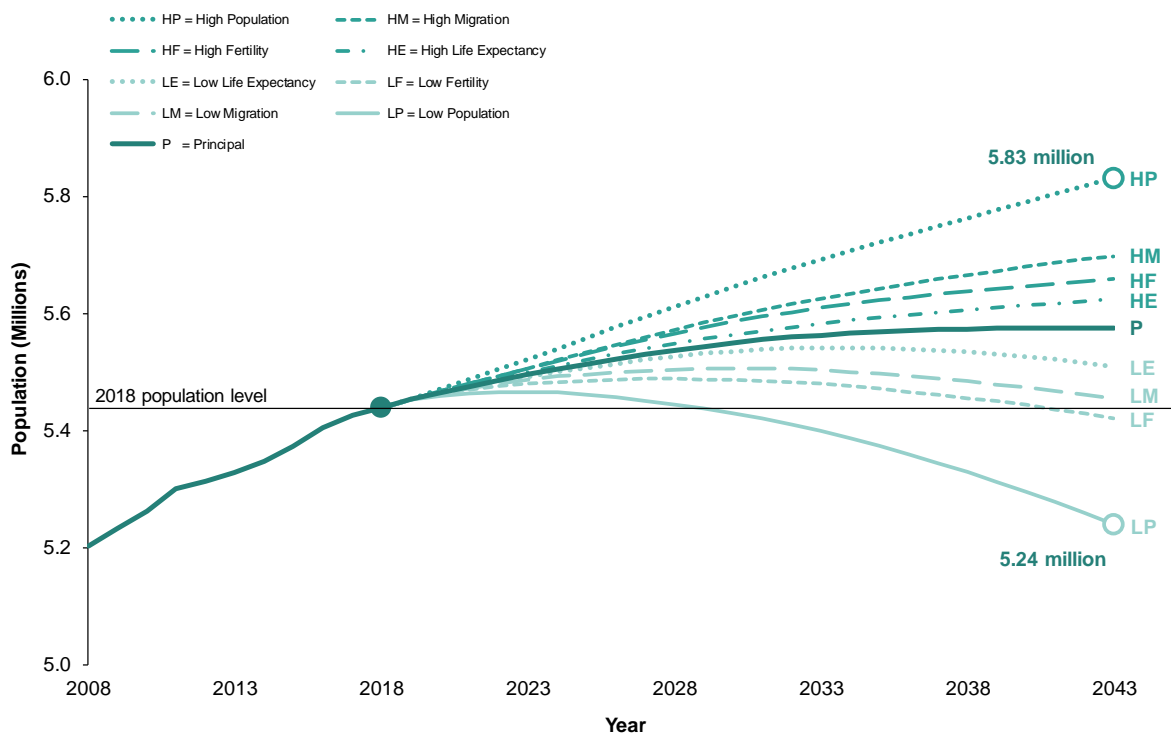


## 4. Variant projections

As well as the principal population projections, a number of variant projections are also available. These are based on alternative assumptions of future fertility, mortality and migration. The variants are useful for illustrating plausible alternative scenarios and are not intended to represent upper or lower limits for future demographic behaviour. These projections are simply scenarios (the outcome of a given set of assumptions), rather than forecasts of the most likely course of future events.

Figure 12 details how the population could change under different variant assumptions.

**Figure 12: Scotland’s population with variant assumptions, mid-2008 to mid-2043**



Two of the variants shown in Figure 12 indicate scenarios in which Scotland’s population may lower by mid-2043 than in mid-2018. These assume lower levels of fertility (LF) and low population (low fertility, low life expectancy, and low migration) (LP).

Other variant projections are available on the NRS website, and in our [interactive data visualisation](#). These include special case scenarios such as no mortality improvement, constant fertility, replacement fertility, old age structure and young age structure.

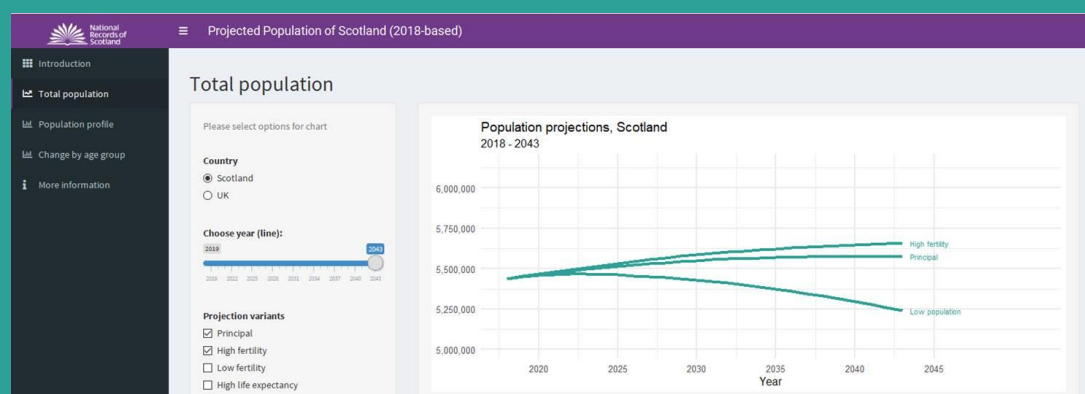
## Assumptions for variant projections

The assumptions for the principal projection and the selected variants (in [Figure 12](#)) are shown in [Table 1](#) below. The assumptions for the long term total fertility rate vary from a low of 1.30 to a high of 1.60. For life expectancy, the differing mortality assumptions result in a range of 78.8 years to 81.9 years for males in 2043, and 82.3 years to 84.9 years for females in 2043. The low and high assumptions for net overseas migration vary from 5,000 to 14,000 in mid-2043. More detail on the assumptions can be found in [Section 6](#).

**Table 1: Long-term assumptions for variant population projections**

Variant	Long-term Total Fertility rate (TFR)	Life Expectancy		Net Migration (rounded to the nearest 100)		
		Males (2043)	Females (2043)	From the Rest of the UK (2043)	From overseas (2043)	Total (2043)
<b>Principal projection</b>	<b>1.50</b>	<b>80.6</b>	<b>83.8</b>	<b>9,000</b>	<b>9,500</b>	<b>18,500</b>
High population	1.60	81.9	84.9	9,600	14,000	23,600
High Migration	1.50	80.6	83.8	9,200	14,000	23,200
High Fertility	1.60	80.6	83.8	9,300	9,500	18,800
High Life expectancy	1.50	81.9	84.9	9,100	9,500	18,600
Low Life expectancy	1.50	78.8	82.3	9,000	9,500	18,500
Low Fertility	1.30	80.6	83.8	8,500	9,500	18,000
Low Migration	1.50	80.6	83.8	8,800	5,000	13,800
Low population	1.30	78.8	82.3	8,300	5,000	13,300

Explore the population projections yourself on our [interactive data visualisation](#).



The interactive visualisation allows you to see different variant projections for Scotland and the UK, look at custom population pyramids, and at changes by age group.

### **Additional variant projections**

Additional variants using alternative assumptions about future EU migration have also been published. These provide illustrations of the possible effect on Scotland and the UK's populations of changes in levels of EU migration. They are presented separately as they do not have National Statistics status and have been prepared for illustrative purposes only. [Summary analysis](#) of these variants is available on the NRS website.

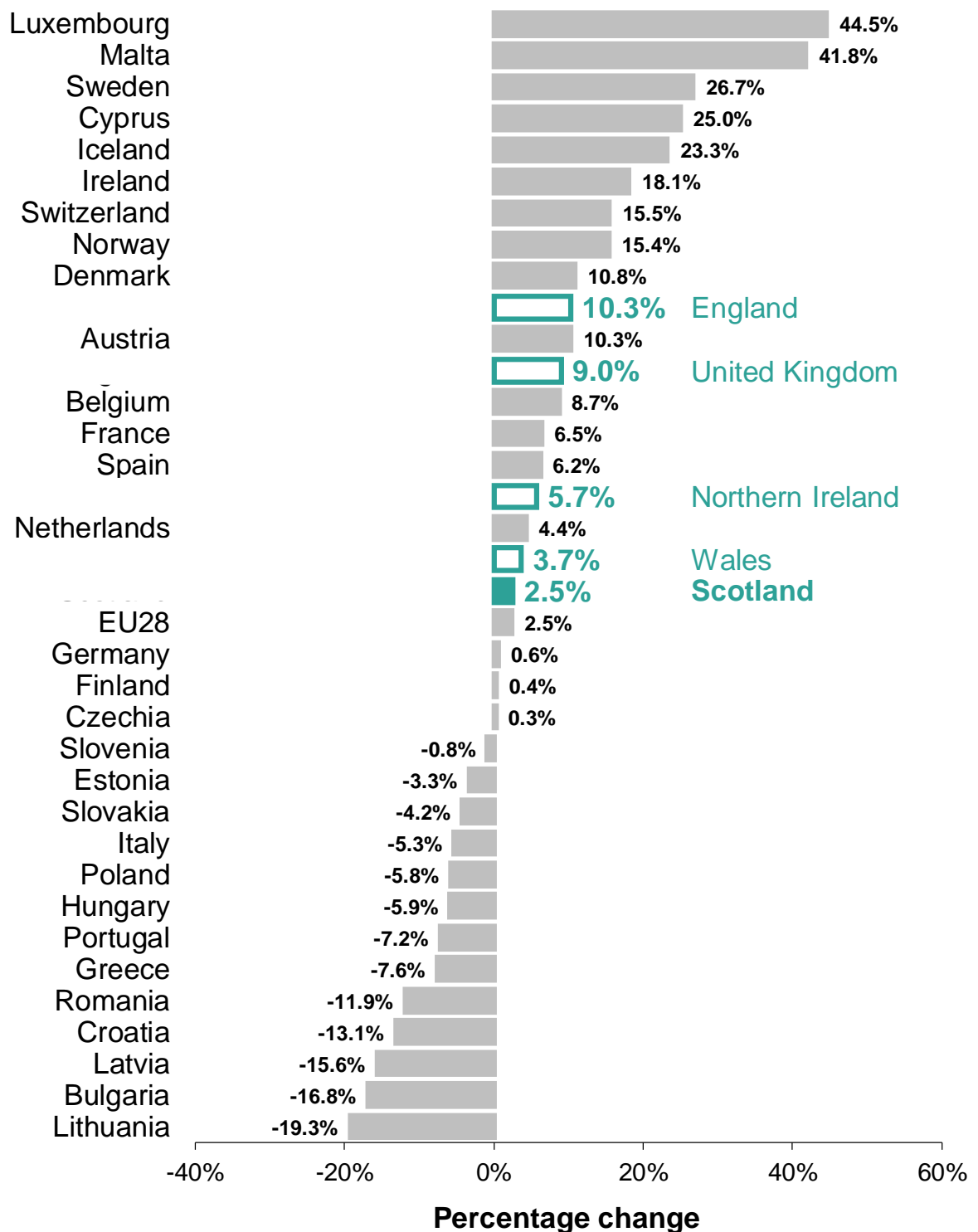
## **5. Comparisons with the rest of Europe**

Scotland's projected population increase of 2.5% between mid-2018 and mid-2043 is similar to the average projected change for all EU28 member states ([Figure 13](#)).

The largest projected increase in Europe is for Luxembourg, which is projected to increase by 44.5% between 2018 and 2043. Many of the countries projected to decrease are in Eastern Europe, with the largest projected decrease for Lithuania (-19.3%).

Statistics for non-UK countries are published by Eurostat, and are not directly comparable to the Office for National Statistics (ONS) projections for UK countries. The Eurostat projections are based on estimates of the population at 1 January 2018 to 1 January 2100 while the ONS projections are based on estimates of the population at 30 June 2018 to 30 June 2118. The methodologies in determining the underlying fertility, mortality and migration assumptions may also differ.

**Figure 13: Projected population change across Europe, 2018-2043**



Source: Office for National Statistics (ONS) (UK and constituent countries) and Eurostat.

## 6. Methodology and assumptions used

### Methodology

The 2018-based national population projections are based on the estimated population at 30 June 2018 and a set of demographic assumptions about future fertility, mortality and migration based on analysis of past trends and expert advice. Given the uncertainty in demographic behaviour, additional variant projections are also produced. These variants are produced in the same way as the principal projection but use alternative plausible assumptions.

The assumptions underlying the 2018-based national population projections are compared with those used for the 2016-based projections in [Table 2](#). This release supersedes the 2016-based projections.

The National Population Projections are produced by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) on behalf of National Records of Scotland. This ensures that the projections for Scotland are consistent and comparable with those for the other constituent countries of the United Kingdom.

More information on the method used to produce these projections is available from the [National Population Projections Quality and Methodology](#) report on the ONS Website.

### Assumptions

The assumptions used for Scotland and the UK in the principal (main) projections are shown below in [Table 2](#). For comparison, the assumptions from the 2016-based projections are also provided.

**Table 2: Assumptions for the 2018-based and 2016-based principal projections, Scotland and the UK**

	Scotland		United Kingdom	
	2016-based principal projection	2018-based principal projection	2016-based principal projection	2018-based principal projection
Long-term fertility (Total Fertility rate - TFR)	1.65	1.5	1.80	1.78
Life expectancy males (2043)	81.7	80.6	83.6	82.6
Life expectancy females (2043)	84.5	83.8	86.4	85.5
Net migration from the Rest of the UK (2043)	7,600	9,000	0	0
Net migration from overseas (2043)	7,000	9,500	165,000	190,000
Total Net migration (2043)	14,600	18,500	165,000	190,000

**Note**

Net migration figures have been rounded to the nearest 100.

### Fertility

In the projections, 'fertility' is taken to mean the total number of children a woman would have, on average, at the end of her child-bearing years. It is sometimes expressed as 'completed family size'. The long-term total fertility rate for Scotland is

assumed to be 1.50. The number of births is expected to decrease initially from its 2017-18 level of 52,200 to around 50,200 by 2027-28. It is projected to stay roughly around this level for the rest of the projection period.

### **Mortality**

The 2018-based mortality assumptions were based upon analysis of past rates and annual percentage changes in mortality rates by age and year. For the 2018-based projections, the principal annual rate of mortality improvement was set at 1.2%. This is the same rate that was used in the 2016-based assumptions. Despite the recent stall to improvements in life expectancy, it was decided that the principal projection should not be disproportionately influenced by this, as projections consider long-term trends rather than recent changes.

### **Migration**

Migration between Scotland and the rest of the UK is calculated using a rates based model based on trends in migration between the constituent countries of the UK over the last five years. Long-term net migration between Scotland and overseas is calculated using a 25 year average of migration trends. This methodology was also used in the 2016-based projections.

More details about the methodology and the decision making process behind the National Population Projections can be found in the paper [‘How are the assumptions set?’](#).

### **Strengths and limitations**

A summary of the strengths and limitations is provided on [page 7](#) and more information is available in the [uses and limitations of projections](#) section of the NRS website.

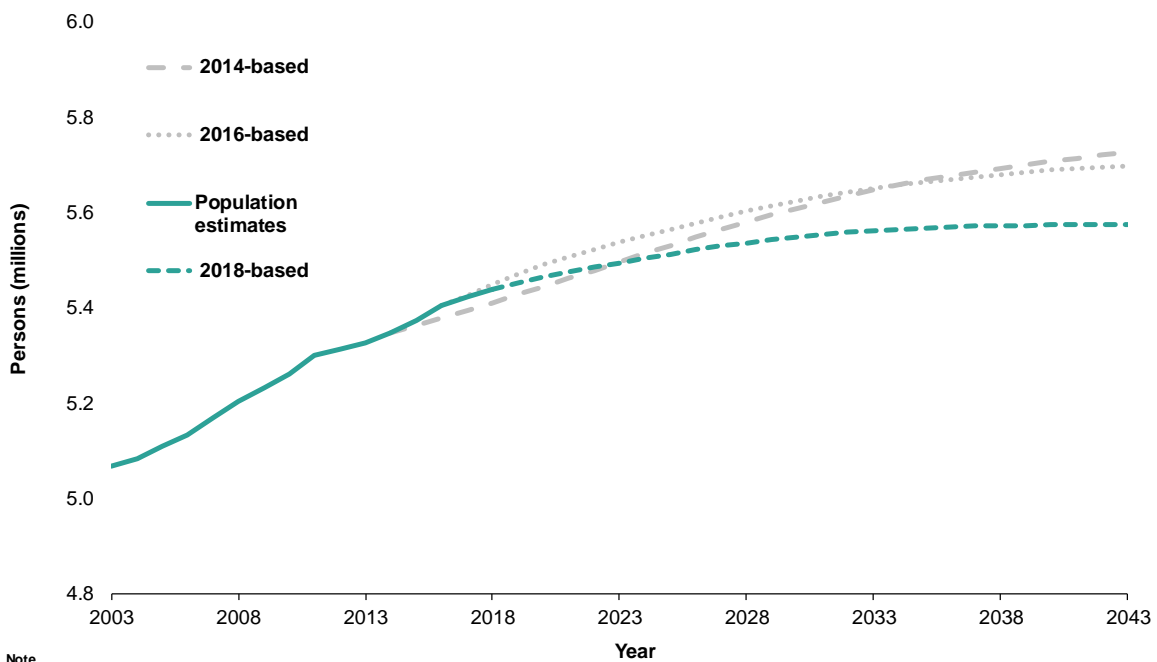
## 7. Comparisons with previous projections

The last set of projections were based on the mid-year population estimates for 2016. Previous projections were based on the mid-2014 population estimates.

Figure 14 compares the 2018-based projections with previous projections. These latest projections, based on the population estimates for mid-2018, vary from the last projections (based on mid-2016 data). A lower population is projected by the 2018-based projections compared with the 2016-based projections throughout the twenty-five year period.

There have been some underlying demographic changes to note in the intervening two years. The birth rate has fallen in each of these years, life expectancy improvements have stalled, and net migration has also fallen. These changes resulted in the population in mid-2018 being estimated at 5.44 million, 11,000 (0.2%) lower than was projected for mid-2018 by the 2016-based projections.

**Figure 14: Comparison of 2018-based population projections with previous projections**





## 8. Future plans for projections

Population projections are usually produced every two years, however the timing of the next set of national population projections may change to take into account the timescales for 2021 Census results.

NRS also publish projections for other areas including:

- Population Projections for Scottish Areas - the 2018-based projections for Scottish areas will be published in March 2020. This breaks down the national projections from this publication to council areas, health board areas, National Parks and Strategic Development Planning areas.
- Household projections - the 2018-based household projections for Scotland will be published in July 2020.

As well as national and subnational population projections, NRS have been supporting users interested in producing small area projections to inform planning and service delivery at local level. More information about this can be found on the [NRS website](#).

NRS will keep users updated on developments and future plans for projections. If interested, please register your interest on the [ScotStat website](#).

## 9. Links to related statistics

[Population projections for the UK](#) and its constituent countries are available from the Office for National Statistics website.

[Population estimates for Scotland as at mid-2018](#) are available on the NRS website. Estimates for mid-2019 will be released in April 2020. [Population estimates](#) for the UK are available on the Office for National Statistics Website.

[Statistics for life expectancy in Scotland](#) for 2016-2018 were published on 25 September 2019, and are available on the NRS website. Life expectancy for Scottish Areas for 2016-2018 will be published in December 2019.

[The latest statistics on births and deaths in Scotland](#) are available in the Vital Events section of the NRS website.

[Migration statistics for Scotland and Scottish areas](#) are also available on the NRS website, these are estimates of flow-based migration, as are the statistics used in this publication. Estimates of 'migrant stocks', the number of overseas nationals and people born overseas, can be found in our [Population by Country of Birth and Nationality publication](#).

## 10. Notes on statistical publications

### National Statistics

The United Kingdom Statistics Authority (UKSA) has designated these statistics as National Statistics, in line with the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007 and signifying compliance with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics (available on the [UKSA](#) website).

National Statistics status means that official statistics meet the highest standards of trustworthiness, quality and public value.

All official statistics should comply with all aspects of the Code of Practice for Official Statistics. They are awarded National Statistics status following an assessment by the Authority's regulatory arm. The Authority considers whether the statistics meet the highest standards of Code compliance, including the value they add to public decisions and debate.

It is National Records of Scotland's responsibility to maintain compliance with the standards expected of National Statistics. If we become concerned about whether these statistics are still meeting the appropriate standards, we will discuss any concerns with the Authority promptly. National Statistics status can be removed at any point when the highest standards are not maintained, and reinstated when standards are restored.

### Information on background and source data

Further details on data source(s), timeframe of data and timeliness, continuity of data, accuracy, etc can be found in the About this Publication document that is published alongside this publication on the NRS website.

### National Records of Scotland

We, the National Records of Scotland, are a non-ministerial department of the devolved Scottish Administration. Our aim is to provide relevant and reliable information, analysis and advice that meets the needs of government, business and the people of Scotland. We do this as follows:

Preserving the past – We look after Scotland's national archives so that they are available for current and future generations, and we make available important information for family history.

Recording the present – At our network of local offices, we register births, marriages, civil partnerships, deaths, divorces and adoptions in Scotland.

Informing the future – We are responsible for the Census of Population in Scotland which we use, with other sources of information, to produce statistics on the population and households.

You can get other detailed statistics that we have produced from the [Statistics](#) section of our website. Scottish Census statistics are available on the [Scotland's Census](#) website.

We also provide information about [future publications](#) on our website. If you would like us to tell you about future statistical publications, you can register your interest on the Scottish Government [ScotStat website](#).

You can also follow us on twitter [@NatRecordsScot](#)

### **Enquiries and suggestions**

Please contact our Statistics Customer Services if you need any further information.  
Email: [statisticscustomerservices@nrscotland.gov.uk](mailto:statisticscustomerservices@nrscotland.gov.uk)

If you have comments or suggestions that would help us improve our standards of service, please contact:

Alan Ferrier  
Senior Statistician  
National Records of Scotland  
Room 1/2/12  
Ladywell House  
Ladywell Road  
Edinburgh  
EH12 7TF

Phone: 0131 314 4530  
Email: [alan.ferrier@nrscotland.gov.uk](mailto:alan.ferrier@nrscotland.gov.uk)