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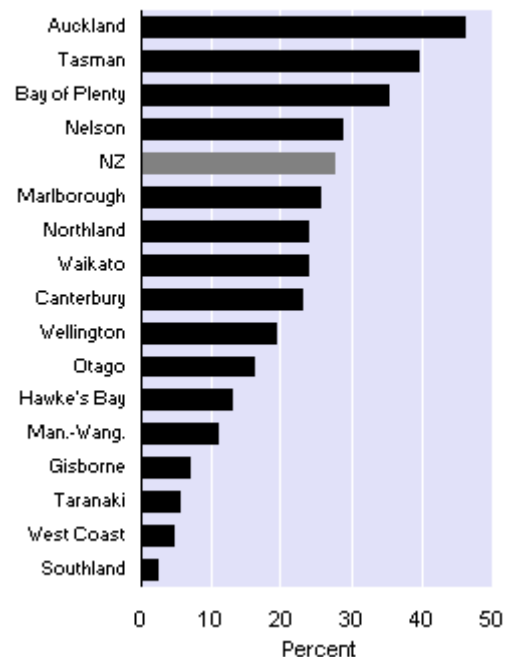
Subnational Family and Household Projections: 2001(base) – 2021 update

Highlights

The following highlights are based on the medium series for each area:

- All 16 of New Zealand's regions are projected to have more households in 2021 than in 2001.
- Auckland region is projected to account for half of the national growth in the number of households.
- Eleven territorial authorities are projected to have fewer households in 2021 than in 2001. In comparison, 33 territorial authorities are projected to decrease in population over the same period.
- A continued decline in average household size is projected for all territorial authorities between 2001 and 2021.
- More 'couple without children' families and one-person households are projected in all territorial authorities.

Projected Household Growth
Regional council areas
2001–2021



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Commentary

Subnational family and household projections

This release contains updated 2001-base family and household projections for the 16 regional council and 74 territorial authority areas of New Zealand. These supersede the 2001-base subnational family and household projections released in August 2004. The projections have as a base the estimated resident population, estimated families and estimated households of each area at 30 June 2001, and cover the period to 2021 at five-year intervals.

The projections are neither predictions nor forecasts. They provide an indication of possible future changes in the number and composition of families and households in subnational areas. Statistics New Zealand makes no judgement on the relative merits of the projected changes. Household numbers should not be confused with building activity or dwelling numbers. Households refer to private dwellings that are usually occupied by a person or group of people. Households therefore exclude non-private dwellings, unoccupied dwellings and dwellings which are not the usual residence of people (eg holiday homes, second homes).

Which projection series should I use?

Three alternative series (designated low, medium and high) have been produced for each area using different combinations of fertility, mortality, migration and living arrangement type assumptions. Users can make their own judgement as to which projection series is/are most suitable for their purposes. However, at the time of release, Statistics New Zealand considers the medium projection series the most suitable for assessing future family and household change. This series is consistent with series 5B of the national family and household projections (released 1 June 2005) and the medium series of the subnational population projections (released 28 February 2005).

The following analysis is based on the medium family and household projection series.

What has changed from the previous 2001-base projections?

Subnational family and household projections are updated every two to three years on average. These projections have been updated to incorporate the latest national family and household projections (released 1 June 2005) and the latest subnational population projections (released 28 February 2005). In turn, these are consistent with the latest national population projections (released 16 December 2004). Compared with the previous national population projections (series 4, released 24 October 2002), mid-range series 5 of the latest national population projections assumes:

1. Net migration of 104,000 in the five years to 30 June 2006, 38,000 in the five years to 30 June 2011, and 50,000 in each subsequent five-year period. By comparison, the previous national population projections assumed net migration of 100,000 in the five years to 30 June 2006 and 25,000 in each subsequent five-year period. An average net migration level of 10,000 rather than 5,000 a year in the long-term better reflects recent and likely future migration trends, with changes in immigration policy during the last 20 years being a key factor behind the increase in average annual net migration.
2. A slightly older net migration profile, with lower net inflow among the student ages (around 18 years).

3. A rise in the total fertility rate from 1.97 in 2001 to 2.01 in 2004–2005, then dropping to 2.00 in 2006, 1.92 in 2011 and 1.85 from 2016. By comparison, the previous national population projections assumed the total fertility rate dropped to 1.89 in 2006 and 1.85 from 2011.
4. Life expectancy at birth will increase to 80.7 years for males and 84.8 years for females in 2021. By comparison, the previous national population projections assumed life expectancy at birth of 80.3 years for males and 84.8 years for females in 2021.

The combined effect of these changes is that the New Zealand population is expected to reach 4.13 million in 2006, 4.29 million in 2011, 4.45 million in 2016 and 4.59 million in 2021 (series 5, 2004-base national population projections). By comparison, under series 4 of the 2001-base national population projections, the New Zealand population was expected to reach 4.11 million in 2006, 4.25 million in 2011, 4.38 million in 2016 and 4.51 million in 2021.

Differences in the projected size and age-sex structure of the population contribute to differences between the previous and latest family and household projections in the number, size and type of families and households. Series 5B of the latest national family and household projections indicates that the number of households will reach 1.55 million in 2006, 1.65 million in 2011, 1.75 million in 2016 and 1.84 million in 2021. By comparison, series 4B of previous national family and household projections (released 30 June 2003) indicated that the number of households would reach 1.55 million in 2006, 1.64 million in 2011, 1.73 million in 2016 and 1.82 million in 2021.

These subnational family and household projections also incorporate recent information at the subnational level, including *subnational population estimates* at 30 June 2004, and *birth and death registrations* to December 2004.

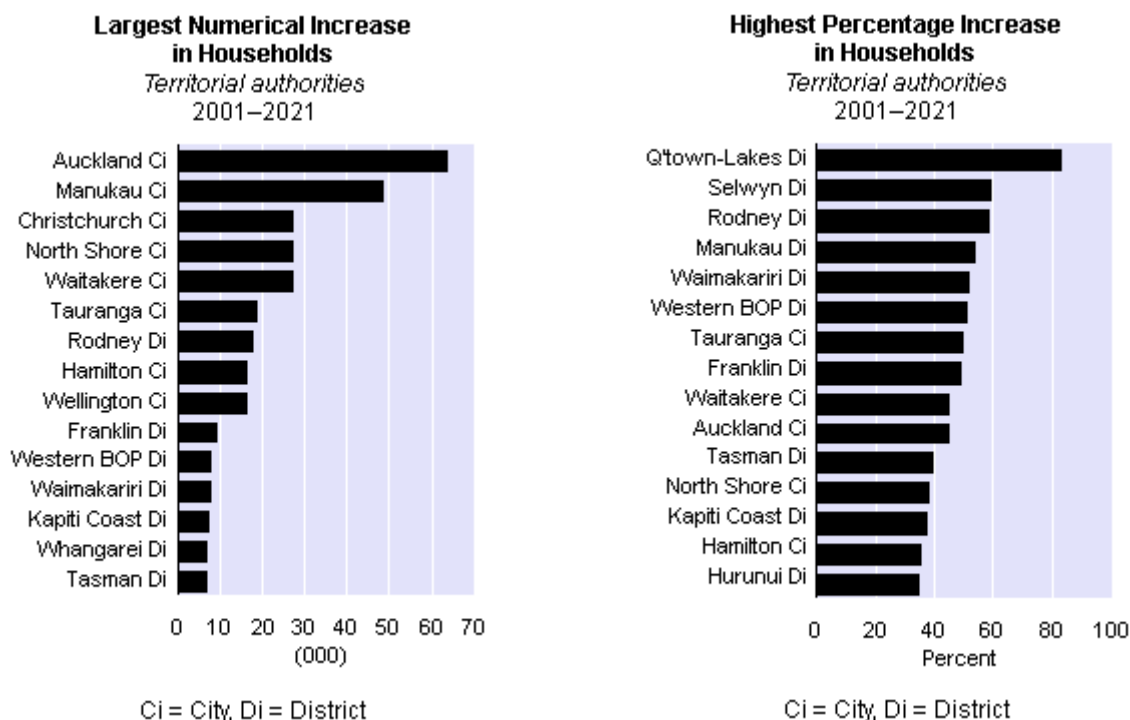
Households

The number of households in New Zealand is projected to increase by 400,000 (28 percent), from 1.44 million in 2001 to 1.84 million in 2021. A household is defined as one person usually living alone, or two or more people usually living together and sharing facilities (eg eating facilities, cooking facilities, bathroom and toilet facilities, a living area), in a private dwelling.

All 16 regions are projected to have more households in 2021 than in 2001. The largest increase is projected in the Auckland region, up 46 percent from 419,000 in 2001 to 614,000 in 2021. This accounts for half of the national growth in the number of households projected over this period. In comparison, the Auckland region is projected to account for 63 percent of New Zealand's population growth between 2001 and 2021. By 2021, 33 percent of all households in New Zealand will be in the Auckland region, up from 29 percent in 2001. The Tasman (40 percent), Bay of Plenty (35 percent) and Nelson (29 percent) regions are also projected to experience growth in the number of households exceeding the national average.

Among the 74 territorial authorities in New Zealand, 63 are projected to have more households in 2021 than in 2001. Six are projected to experience increases of over 50 percent: Queenstown-Lakes District (82 percent), Selwyn District (59 percent), Rodney District (58 percent), Manukau City (54 percent), Waimakariri District (52 percent) and Western Bay of Plenty District (51 percent). These areas are also projected to have the highest rates of population growth.

The greatest numerical growth in households over the 2001–2021 period is projected in the four cities in the Auckland region – Auckland City (63,000), Manukau City (48,000), North Shore City (27,000) and Waitakere City (27,000) – as well as in Christchurch City (27,000).



Household type

In 2001, there were 1.02 million family households in New Zealand. This number is projected to increase by 230,000 (23 percent), to reach 1.25 million in 2021. The number of households containing a family (or families) is projected to increase in 51 territorial authorities and decline in the remaining 23 areas. Changes in the number of family households are closely related to changes in the number of families in each area (nationally there was an average of 1.03 families per family household in 2001).

The family household is by far the most common household type, accounting for 71 percent of all New Zealand households in 2001. However, its share of all households nationally is projected to decline to 68 percent by 2021. A decline in share is projected for all territorial authorities, except Auckland City and Queenstown-Lakes District, where the family household share will remain stable.

The number of one-person households in New Zealand is projected to increase substantially from 333,000 in 2001 to 488,000 in 2021, up 154,000 (46 percent). The relatively large increase in this type of household is mainly due to the increasing population in the older ages, with 80 percent of the growth in one-person households occurring at ages 55 years and over. All territorial authorities are projected to have more one-person households in 2021 than in 2001, with numbers in Selwyn District and Queenstown-Lakes District doubling over the 20-year period. Increases of greater than 75 percent are also projected for Franklin District, Manukau City, Rodney District, Waimakariri District, Western Bay of Plenty District and Waitakere City.

One-person households will account for a greater share of households in all territorial authorities in 2021 compared with 2001. In 2021, the Buller (39 percent), Westland (37 percent) and

Mackenzie (35 percent) districts are projected to have the highest shares of one-person households. These figures represent increases from 32, 29 and 28 percent, respectively, in 2001. The lowest shares of one-person households will be in Manukau City (17 percent), Selwyn District (20 percent) and Porirua City (20 percent). These shares are higher than the 2001 estimates for these areas of 15, 15 and 16 percent, respectively.

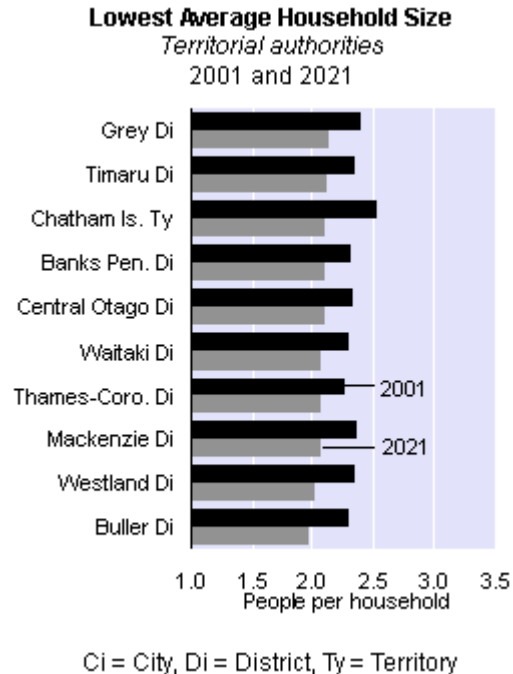
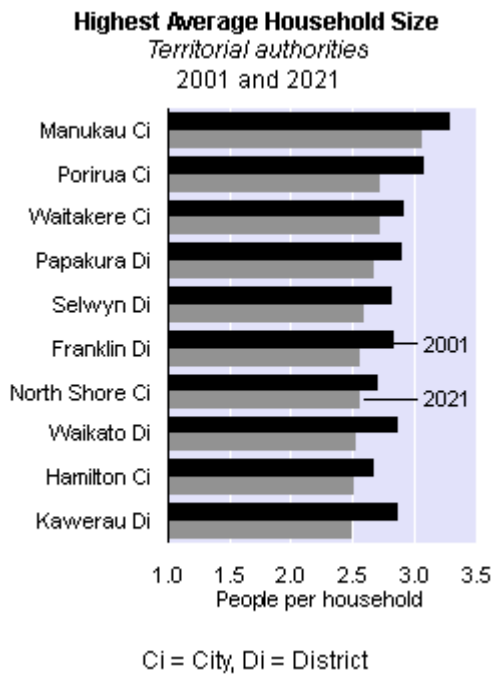
Other multiperson households (households containing more than one person, but not containing a family) are projected to increase nationally from 88,000 in 2001 to 102,000 in 2021. Growth in this household type is projected to slow between 2001 and 2021, with 70 percent of growth occurring in the first half of the period (2001–2011). The largest increases in the number of other multiperson households between 2001 and 2021 are projected in Auckland City (3,800), Manukau City (2,200) and Waitakere City (1,300). Increases of between 200 and 1,000 are projected in another nine territorial authorities, with little numerical change in the remaining areas.

Average household size

The average size of New Zealand households is projected to decrease from 2.6 people in 2001 to 2.4 people in 2021. Declining average household size is projected for all territorial authorities, and reflects an increasing proportion of one-person households and a decrease in the average size of family households. Average family size is projected to decline largely because of an increase in the proportion of 'couple without children' families (which contain two people) and a decrease in the proportion of 'two-parent' families (which contain about four people, on average). These trends are driven mainly by the general ageing of the population. The population aged 50 years and over is projected to increase by over 60 percent between 2001 and 2021, compared with almost zero growth for the population aged under 50 years.

Differences in average household size between territorial authorities reflect differences in family and household type, and to a lesser extent family size. In 2021, average household size is projected to be highest in Manukau City (3.1 people), and Porirua City, Waitakere City and Papakura District (all 2.7 people). These territorial authorities also had the highest average household sizes in 2001, of 3.3, 3.1, 2.9 and 2.9 people, respectively. These areas have relatively low proportions of one-person households and relatively high proportions of family households with children.

In contrast, the smallest average household size in 2021 is projected to be 2.0 people in the Buller and Westland districts. In 2001, the smallest average household size was 2.3 people in the Thames-Coromandel, Waitaki and Buller districts. These areas have relatively high proportions of one-person households and relatively low proportions of family households with children.



Household change compared with population change

The projections indicate that household growth is likely in all regions and most territorial authorities, including some areas projected to experience population decline. At the national level, the projected increase in the number of households (28 percent) between 2001 and 2021 is greater than the projected growth of both families (24 percent) and population (18 percent), reflecting the trend towards smaller average household size. The household growth rate is projected to exceed the population growth rate in all regions and territorial authorities.

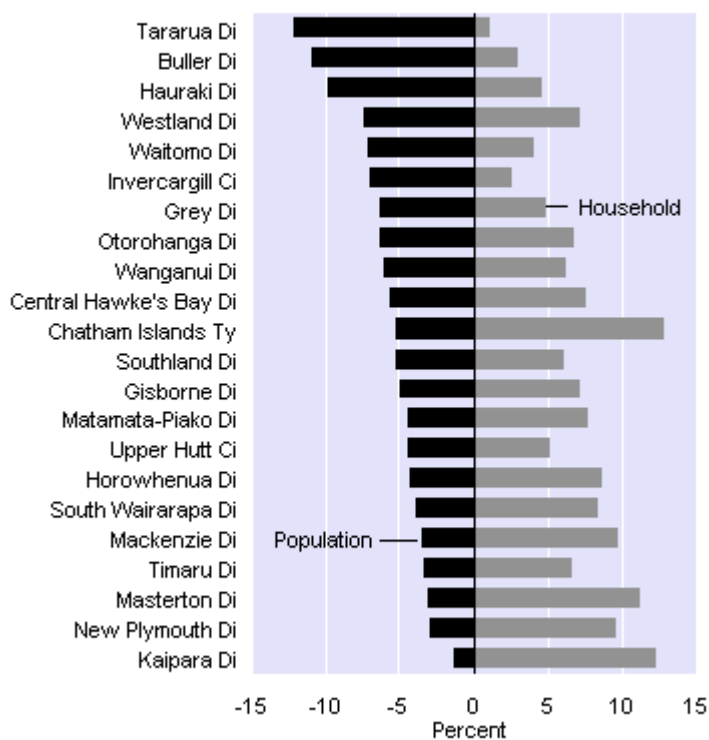
The medium series of the 2001-base subnational population projections (released in February 2005) indicates that five regions – Gisborne, Taranaki, Manawatu-Wanganui, West Coast and Southland – are projected to have fewer people in 2021 than in 2001. However, all of these regions are projected to experience an increase in the number of households. Similarly, 33 territorial authorities are projected to have fewer people in 2021 than in 2001, but 22 of these are projected to have more households.

These trends are a further reflection of changes in the age structure of the population, with all territorial authorities projected to have more older people (65 years and over) in 2021. In contrast, the majority of areas are projected to have fewer children (0–14 years) in 2021.

Projected Household Increase but Population Decrease

Territorial authorities

2001–2021



Ci = City, Di = District, Ty = Territory

Families

The number of families in New Zealand is projected to increase by 250,000 (24 percent) between 2001 and 2021, from 1.05 million to 1.30 million. A family refers to a couple, with or without child(ren), or one parent with child(ren), usually living together in a household.

Thirteen of the 16 regions in New Zealand are projected to have more families in 2021 than in 2001. The largest increase in the number of families is projected in the Auckland region, up 45 percent from 322,000 to 466,000. This accounts for 57 percent of the projected increase in the number of families at the national level. By 2021, 36 percent of all families in New Zealand are projected to live in the Auckland region, compared with 31 percent in 2001. The Tasman (33 percent), Bay of Plenty (29 percent) and Nelson (25 percent) regions are also projected to experience growth in the number of families above the national average. Fewer families are projected in the Southland, West Coast and Taranaki regions by 2021.

Among territorial authorities, 51 are projected to have more families in 2021 than in 2001, while the remaining 23 areas will have fewer families. Growth in the number of families is projected to slow at the national level over the projection period, and a similar pattern is likely for most subnational areas. This trend reflects the slowing of population growth and the changing age structure of the population. While 18 territorial authorities are projected to record a decrease in the number of families between 2001 and 2011, 29 are projected to record a decrease between 2011 and 2021.

The four areas projected to experience the highest percentage growth in the number of families between 2001 and 2021 are Queenstown-Lakes District (84 percent), Rodney District (52 percent), Manukau City (52 percent) and Selwyn District (51 percent). These are also the areas projected to have the highest percentage growth in population and households. The largest numerical increases in families between 2001 and 2021 are projected in Auckland City (45,000) and Manukau City (40,000), followed by Waitakere City (19,000), North Shore City (19,000) and Christchurch City (15,000).

Family type

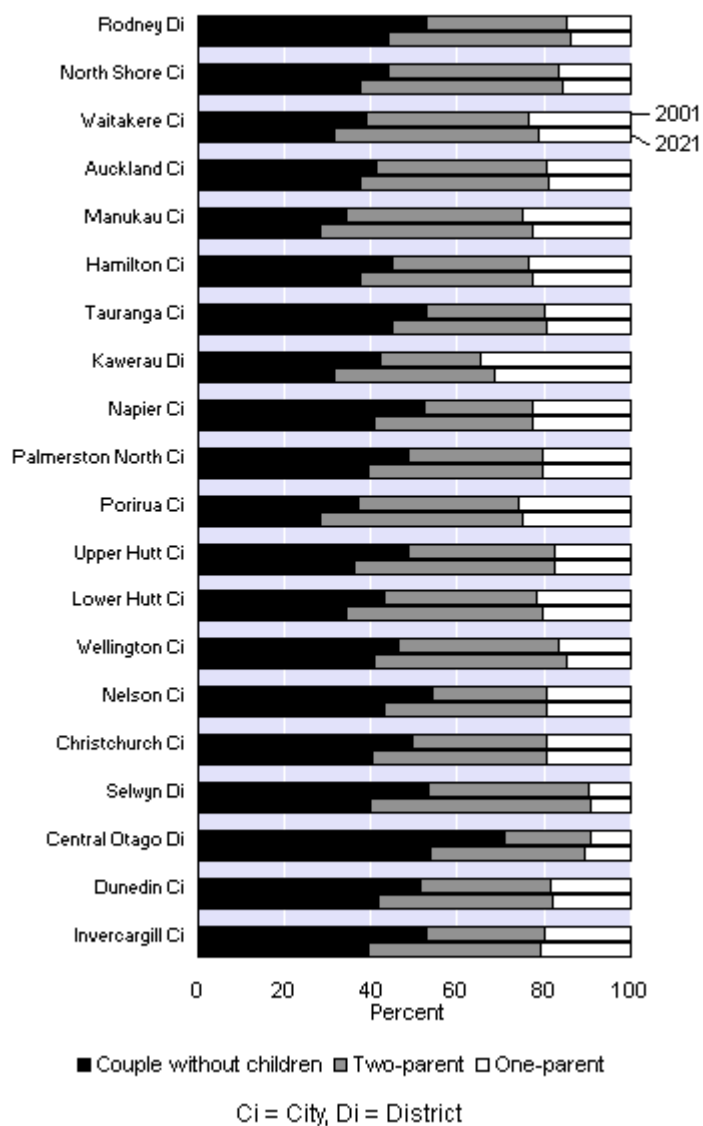
At the national level, the number of 'couple without children' families is projected to increase by 53 percent, from 407,000 in 2001 to 623,000 in 2021. 'Couple without children' families include couples who will never have children, couples who will have children in the future, and couples whose children have left the parental home. The main factor behind the growth is the increasing number of people aged 50–90 years, where living in a 'couple without children' family is the most common living arrangement type. All territorial authorities are projected to have at least 10 percent more 'couple without children' families in 2021 than in 2001. The number of 'couple without children' families is projected to more than double in Queenstown-Lakes District (from 2,400 to 5,200) and Selwyn District (from 3,200 to 6,400) over this period.

The number of 'two-parent' families in New Zealand is projected to decrease from 446,000 to 427,000 over the 2001–2021 period. This is due to a decreasing likelihood of being in this living arrangement type at most ages, reflecting continued trends towards single parenting and fewer couples having children. However, 12 territorial authorities are projected to have more 'two-parent' families in 2021 than in 2001. These are areas projected to have significant population growth. Despite the increase in the number of 'two-parent' families in these areas, the share of families in this family type is projected to decrease for all territorial authorities – due to faster growth in the numbers of 'couple without children' families and 'one-parent' families.

Nationally, the number of 'one-parent' families is projected to increase by 28 percent, from 198,000 in 2001 to 254,000 in 2021. Increases are projected for 47 territorial authorities, with the highest in Queenstown-Lakes District (92 percent), Manukau City (65 percent), Selwyn District (62 percent) and Rodney District (60 percent). As children in families can be of any age, one-parent families include mature children living with an older parent.

By 2021, 'couple without children' families are projected to be the most common family type in nearly all territorial authorities. The exceptions are Manukau City and Porirua City, where 'two-parent' families will remain the most common family type. In 2001, 'two-parent' families were the most common family type for 39 territorial authorities, while 'couple without children' families were the most common family type for the remaining 35 territorial authorities.

Share of Families by Family Type
Selected territorial authorities
 2001 and 2021



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Technical notes

Latest projections

This release contains 2001-base projections of families and households usually living in the 16 regional council areas and 74 territorial authority areas of New Zealand. The family and household projections have been updated using the 2001-base national family and household projections released on 1 June 2005 and the 2001-base subnational population projections released on 28 February 2005. The projections cover the period 2006–2021 at five-year intervals. The projection period is limited to 20 years because of the uncertainty of these projections, as discussed in the 'Nature of projections' section below.

As with the previous 2001-base subnational family and household projections (released 27 August 2004), a 'propensity' method has been used to produce the latest projections. The family and household projections are derived from estimates (for 2001) and projections (for 2006–2021) of the population for each area, by multiplying the population by the assumed living arrangement type rates for each age-sex group. The projections of population by living arrangement type are subsequently aggregated to give projections of families (by broad family type) and households (by broad household type). Prior to the 2001-base projections, household projections were produced using 'household head' method.

Family and household concepts

These projections are based on the definitions of family and household used in the 2001 Census of Population and Dwellings. A family is defined as a couple, with or without children, or one parent with children, usually living together in a household. A household is defined as one person usually living alone, or two or more people usually living together and sharing facilities (eg eating facilities, cooking facilities, bathroom and toilet facilities, a living area), in a private dwelling. No information is available from the census on families or households extending beyond a single dwelling, or on families defined using different concepts (eg whanau), and minimal information is available on families in non-private dwellings.

In these family and household projections, all people are allocated to one of 11 living arrangement types. The living arrangement type refers to the usual family and household role of a person, based on a combination of individual, family, household and dwelling information from the census. The projections are based on allocating people to one role from several broad roles they may have within each social structure. These roles vary by age and sex and are assumed to change over time with changes in social patterns.

The projections do not give a complete picture of the complexity of family and household structures, because people can and do have more than one living arrangement type role in any one entity, and families and households are not necessarily synonymous. Although people can have more than one residence, their living arrangement type role is generally based on the family and household structure of where they usually live, as self-identified by them in the census. Because households are defined as discrete units, the fluidity of living arrangements where people are associated with more than one household for study, work or shared-care purposes is not addressed.

Opposite-sex and same-sex couples are not projected separately, but are included in projections of 'couple without children' and 'two-parent' families.

It is also important to note that the definitions of parents and children are social, not biological. For example, parents include people aged 15 years or over usually living with at least one of their natural, step-, adopted or foster children (who is not usually living with a partner or child of their own). Similarly, a child is a person of any age usually living with one or two natural, step- or adopted parents (but not usually living with a partner or child of their own). There is no information available on the strength of identified parent-child relationships in terms of emotional and/or financial support.

Base population

These projections have as a base the estimated resident population of each area at 30 June 2001. This population was based on the census usually resident population count of each area at 6 March 2001 with adjustments for:

- net census undercount
- residents temporarily overseas on census night
- births, deaths and net migration between census night (6 March 2001) and 30 June 2001
- reconciliation with demographic estimates at ages 0–9 years.

The estimated numbers of families and households at 30 June 2001 were derived indirectly from the estimated resident population and the estimated living arrangement type rates for each age-sex group. The estimated numbers of families and households of each area are equivalent to the census family count and census household count, respectively, at 6 March 2001 with adjustments for:

- net census undercount
- families and households temporarily overseas on census night
- change between census night and 30 June 2001
- families and households temporarily away from their usual residence, but in New Zealand, on census night.

The estimated and projected population, families and households are not directly comparable with census counts because of these adjustments. For more information about the base population, refer to the '[Information about the population estimates](#)' page on the Statistics New Zealand website (www.stats.govt.nz).

Alternative series

Three alternative subnational family and household projection series (designated low, medium and high) have been produced for each area using different population projection series (with different fertility, mortality and migration assumptions). One set of living arrangement type assumptions has been used for all three series.

At the time of release, the medium projection series is considered the most suitable for assessing future family and household changes. The medium projection series is derived from the medium series of the *2001-base Subnational Population Projections* (released 28 February 2005), which assumes medium fertility, medium mortality and medium net migration for each area. The medium subnational family and household projection series is also consistent with series 5B of the *2001-base National Family and Household Projections* (released 1 June 2005) and series 5 of the *2004-base National Population Projections* (released 16 December 2004).

The low and high projection series allow users to assess the impact on the number and type of families and households resulting from different population scenarios. The low and high series have been formulated to give plausible alternative scenarios for each area rather than at any collective geographical level. Neither series is consistent with the low and high series of the 2001-base Subnational Population Projections or any of the alternative series of the 2001-base National Family and Household Projections. The low projection series uses low fertility, high mortality and low net migration for each area. The high projection series uses high fertility, low mortality and high net migration for each area.

More detailed projection results are available on the Statistics New Zealand website (www.stats.govt.nz/people/population/populationprojections.htm) or on request. Special projections can also be produced for clients using their own assumptions. For more information and quotes, email demography@stats.govt.nz or phone toll-free 0508 525 525.

Method

The *cohort* component method has been used to derive the population projections. In this method, the base population is projected forward by calculating the effect of deaths and migration within each age-sex group according to specified mortality and migration assumptions. New birth cohorts are generated by applying specified fertility assumptions to the female population of childbearing age.

The *propensity* method has subsequently been used to derive the family and household projections. In this method, living arrangement type rates (or propensities) are applied to population projections to give projections of the population in different living arrangement types. These projections are subsequently aggregated to give projections of families (by broad family type) and households (by broad household type).

The number of couple without children families = (male partners in couple without children families + female partners in couple without children families) ÷ 2.

The number of two-parent families = (male partners/parents in two-parent families + female partners/parents in two-parent families) ÷ 2.

The number of one-parent families = male parents in one-parent families + female parents in one-parent families.

The number of family households = number of families ÷ average number of families per family household.

The number of one-person households = number of people in one-person households.

The number of other multiperson households = number of people in other multiperson households ÷ average number of people per other multiperson household.

Projection assumptions

Projection assumptions are formulated after analysis of short- and long-term historical trends, government policy, information provided by local planners and other relevant information. Tables containing the fertility, mortality and migration assumptions for each territorial authority and

regional council area are available in the *subnational population projections section of the 'Information about the demographic projections'* page on the Statistics New Zealand website (www.stats.govt.nz).

Fertility

The assumed fertility rates are based on the registered births for each area during the period 2002–2004 and change consistent with the medium fertility variant of the National Population Projections.

Under the medium fertility assumption, the total fertility rate at the national level is assumed to increase from 1.97 births per woman in 2001 to 2.01 in 2004–2005, decrease to 1.85 in 2016, and then remain constant. The assumed total fertility rate in 2002–2006 ranges from 3.04 births per woman for Kawerau District to 1.20 for Queenstown-Lakes District.

The high and low fertility assumptions for each area are for a total fertility rate for each five-year period ± 0.1 births per woman from the medium assumption.

A sex ratio at birth of 105.5 males per 100 females is assumed, based on the historical annual average at the national level.

Mortality

The assumed mortality rates for each area are based on the registered deaths for each area during the period 2002–2004 and change consistent with the medium mortality variant of the National Population Projections.

Under the medium mortality assumption, life expectancy at birth at the national level is assumed to increase from 76.1 years for males and 81.0 years for females in 2001, to 80.7 years for males and 84.8 years for females in 2021. The assumed life expectancy at birth in 2002–2006 ranges from 72.2 years for males and 77.2 years for females for Wairoa District to 81.5 years for males and 85.7 years for females for Queenstown-Lakes District.

The low and high mortality assumptions for each area are for a life expectancy at birth for each five-year period ± 0.5 years from the medium assumption.

Migration

Migration at the subnational level has both an internal (to/from other areas of New Zealand) and an external (to/from overseas) component, although these separate components are difficult to quantify. The assumed net migration for each area is based on a consideration of observed net migration during each five-year period from 1981 to 2001, the capacity of the area for further growth (for areas with net inflow), whether historical outflows can be sustained (for areas with net outflow), the desirability of the area to new migrants, and information available from and about local authorities relating to current and future developments which may affect population change.

Under the medium migration assumption, net migration at the national level is assumed to be 104,000 in 2002–2006, 38,000 in 2007–2011 and 50,000 in each subsequent five-year period. Of the 74 territorial authority areas, 16 are assumed to have the same net migration level in each five-

year period between 2001 and 2021. The remaining areas are assumed to have differing net migration levels during at least one of the five-year periods. Differing levels are generally assumed for areas susceptible to changes in external migration, such as university cities (which have attracted large numbers of overseas students in recent years), and areas where constant net outflows are considered unsustainable.

The low and high net migration assumptions are chosen to represent plausible alternative migration scenarios for each area rather than at the collective national level. The age-sex patterns of net migration for each area are based on observed intercensal net migration patterns during 1981–2001.

Living arrangement type rates (LATRs)

One LATR variant is used for all three subnational family and household projection series. This assumes that LATRs will change linearly between 2001 and 2021, based on an assessment of observed trends between 1986 and 2001, and likely future trends, by sex and five-year age group. The LATRs are constrained so that the medium series of the Subnational Family and Household Projections sums to series 5B of the National Family and Household Projections for population (by living arrangement type, five-year age group and sex), for families (by family type) and for households (by household type).

While assumed trends in living arrangement type rates do vary by area, they are generally consistent with assumed trends of LATR variant B at the national level. The main changes assumed at the national level between 2001 and 2021 for this variant are:

1. Partner in couple without children family: Increasing rates for males and females at most ages, especially at ages 30–54 years for males, and 30–44 and 85–94 years for females. This reflects lower fertility rates, with fewer couples having children, and a slight convergence of male life expectancy to female life expectancy, with more couples having both partners living to older ages.
2. Partner/parent in two-parent family: Decreasing rates for males and females at most ages, especially at ages 25–64 years for males and 25–54 years for females. This reflects lower fertility rates, with fewer couples having children.
3. Child in two-parent family: Decreasing rates at most ages, especially at ages 0–19 years. This reflects increased rates of single parenting from separation, divorce, childbearing outside of couple relationships, and more complex shared-care arrangements.
4. Parent in one-parent family: Increasing rates at most ages, especially at ages 25–39 years. This reflects increased rates of single parenting.
5. Child in one-parent family: Increasing rates at most ages, especially at ages 0–19 years. This reflects increased rates of single parenting.
6. Person in other multiperson household: Increasing rates at ages 15–24 years associated with higher numbers of students.
7. Person in one-person household: Increasing rates at most ages, especially 30–74 years for males and 35–44 years for females. These increases are associated with increased rates of marriage dissolution, decreasing rates of people forming partnerships, and lower fertility rates. The proportion of females aged 60–79 years living alone is assumed to drop slightly, given a slight convergence of male life expectancy to female life expectancy.
8. Person in non-private dwelling: Increasing rates at ages 15–24 years associated with higher numbers of students. Decreasing rates at ages 85+ years associated with increasing life expectancy and declines in morbidity rates.

Additionally, assumptions of the average number of families per family household were formulated from historical trends, and the average number of people per other multiperson household was assumed to increase at an equal rate for all areas. At the national level:

- the average number of families per family household is assumed to increase linearly from 1.032 in 2001 to 1.040 in 2021
- the average number of people per other multiperson household is assumed to increase linearly from 2.65 in 2001 to 2.90 in 2021.

Nature of projections

Demographic projections are designed to meet both short-term and long-term planning needs, but are not designed to be exact forecasts or to project specific annual variation. These family and household projections are based on assumptions made about future fertility, mortality, migration and living arrangement type patterns of the population. Although the assumptions are carefully formulated to represent future trends, they are subject to uncertainty. Therefore, the projections should be used as guidelines and an indication of the overall trend, rather than as exact forecasts.

Demographic projections should not be confused with economic forecasts. Changes in the number of people, families or households do not necessarily relate to the social and economic well-being of an area. The number of people, families and households may change independent of local economic factors.

Household numbers should not be confused with building activity or dwelling numbers. Households refer to private dwellings that are usually occupied by a person or group of people. Households therefore exclude non-private dwellings, unoccupied dwellings and dwellings which are not the usual residence of people (eg holiday homes, second homes).

The projections do not take into account non-demographic factors (eg war, catastrophes, major government and business decisions) which may invalidate the projections. Demographic trends are monitored regularly and, when it is necessary, the projections are revised to reflect new trends and to maintain their relevance and usefulness.

Although the living arrangement type rates are formulated to account for changing social patterns, there is uncertainty about how different social patterns will interrelate and vary by age-sex and/or birth cohort. Relevant social patterns include changes in:

- age of cohabitation and/or marriage
- fertility rates, timing of childbearing and average family size
- morbidity and mortality rates
- rates of partnership formation, including repartnering, and dissolution
- propensity of young adults to stay in the parental home
- propensity and ability of people to live alone
- presence of other relatives (eg extended family) and non-related individuals (eg boarders) in a household
- study, work and shared-care arrangements where people are associated with more than one household
- geographic location and mobility of the population
- external migration patterns, including students from overseas

- affordability of tertiary education, housing and healthcare
- ethnic mix of the New Zealand population.

For more information about the projections, refer to the '[Information about the demographic projections](http://www.stats.govt.nz)' page on the Statistics New Zealand website (www.stats.govt.nz.).

Definitions

Average family size is the mean number of people per family. It is calculated by dividing the number of people in families by the number of families.

Average household size is the mean number of people per household. It is calculated by dividing the number of people in households by the number of households.

A **child** is a person of any age usually living with one or two natural, step- or adopted parents, but not usually living with a partner or child of their own.

A **couple** consists of two people aged 15 years and over usually living together in a registered marriage or consensual union. Couples can be opposite-sex or same-sex.

A **dwelling** is a structure, part of a structure, or group of structures that is used, or intended to be used, as a place where people reside.

- A **non-private dwelling** provides short- or long-term communal or transitory type accommodation. Non-private dwellings are generally available to the public by virtue of employment, study, special need, legal requirement or recreation. They include institutions and group-living quarters such as hotels, motels, hospitals, retirement homes, prisons, hostels, motor camps, boarding houses, defence barracks, ships and trains.
- A **private dwelling** accommodates a person or group of people and is generally unavailable for public use. The main purpose of a private dwelling is as a place of habitation for residents who usually live independently within the community.

The **estimated resident population** of each area is an estimate of all people who usually live in that area at a given date. This estimate includes all residents of that area present in New Zealand and counted by the census (census usually resident population count), residents who are temporarily overseas (who are not included in the census), and an adjustment for residents missed or counted more than once by the census (net census undercount). Visitors from elsewhere in New Zealand or from overseas are excluded.

A **family** consists of a couple, with or without child(ren), or one parent with child(ren), usually living together in a household. Related people, such as siblings, who are not in a couple or parent-child relationship, are therefore excluded from this definition.

- **Couple without children family:** A couple without child(ren), with or without other people, usually living together in a household.
- **Two-parent family:** A couple with child(ren), with or without other people, usually living together in a household. Any children are not usually living with a partner or child of their own.

- **One-parent family:** One parent with child(ren), with or without other people, usually living together in a household. Any children are not usually living with a partner or child of their own.

A **household** consists of either one person usually living alone, or two or more people usually living together and sharing facilities (eg eating facilities, cooking facilities, bathroom and toilet facilities, a living area), in a private dwelling.

- **Family household:** A household containing two or more people usually living together with at least one couple and/or parent-child relationship, with or without other people.
- **Other multiperson household:** A household containing two or more people usually living together, but not in couple or parent-child relationships with each other.
- **One-person household:** A household containing one person usually living alone.

Life expectancy is the average length of life remaining at a given age. As derived from a period life table, it assumes that a person experiences the age-specific mortality rates of a given period from the given age onwards. It represents the average longevity of the whole population and does not necessarily reflect the longevity of an individual.

Living arrangement type is the usual family and household role of a person based on a combination of individual, family, household and dwelling information. As used in these family and household projections, all people are allocated to one of 11 living arrangement types:

1. **Partner in couple without children family:** A person usually living in a partner role, but not in a parent role.
2. **Other person with couple without children family:** A person usually living with a couple without children family, but not in a partner, parent or child role.
3. **Partner/parent in two-parent family:** A person usually living in a partner and parent role.
4. **Child in two-parent family:** A person usually living in a child role with two parents, but not in a partner or parent role.
5. **Other person with two-parent family:** A person usually living with a two-parent family, but not in a partner, parent or child role.
6. **Parent in one-parent family:** A person usually living in a parent role, but not in a partner role.
7. **Child in one-parent family:** A person usually living in a child role with one parent, but not in a partner or parent role.
8. **Other person with one-parent family:** A person usually living with a one-parent family, but not in a partner, parent or child role.
9. **Person in other multiperson household:** A person usually living with one or more people not in partner, parent or child roles.
10. **Person in one-person household:** A person usually living alone.
11. **Person in non-private dwelling:** A person usually living in a non-private dwelling.

A **living arrangement type rate** is the proportion of the population in a living arrangement type, usually disaggregated by age and sex.

A **parent** is a person of any age usually living with at least one of their natural, step, adopted or foster children (not usually living with a partner or child of their own).

A **parent-child relationship** consists of a parent usually living with, and providing care for, at least one natural, step-, adopted or foster child.

A **partner** is a person aged 15 years and over usually living with another person aged 15 years and over in a registered marriage or consensual union.

Regional council areas (regions) were established in 1989. There are 16 regions, covering every territorial authority in New Zealand with the exception of Chatham Islands Territory. There are eight instances where territorial authority boundaries straddle regional boundaries.

The **resident population concept** is a statistical basis for a population in terms of those who usually live in a given area at a given time. The census usually resident population count is a census measure of the resident population concept, and the estimated resident population is a demographic measure of the resident population concept. In terms of vital statistics, the resident population concept refers to events that relate to residents of New Zealand only.

Territorial authority areas were established in 1989 and are the smallest local government entities. There are 74 territorial authorities, comprising 16 cities, 57 districts and one territory.

The **total fertility rate** is the average number of live births that a woman would have during her life if she experienced the age-specific fertility rates of a given period (usually a year).

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Tables

The following tables can be downloaded from the Statistics New Zealand website in Excel 97 format. If you do not have access to Excel 97 or higher, you may use the [*Excel file viewer*](#) to view, print and export the contents of the file.

List of tables

1. Projected households by regional council area, 1996–2021 (2001-base)
2. Projected households by territorial authority, 1996–2021 (2001-base)
3. Projected families and households by type and regional council area, medium series, 2001(base)–2021
4. Projected families and households by type and territorial authority, medium series, 2001(base)–2021