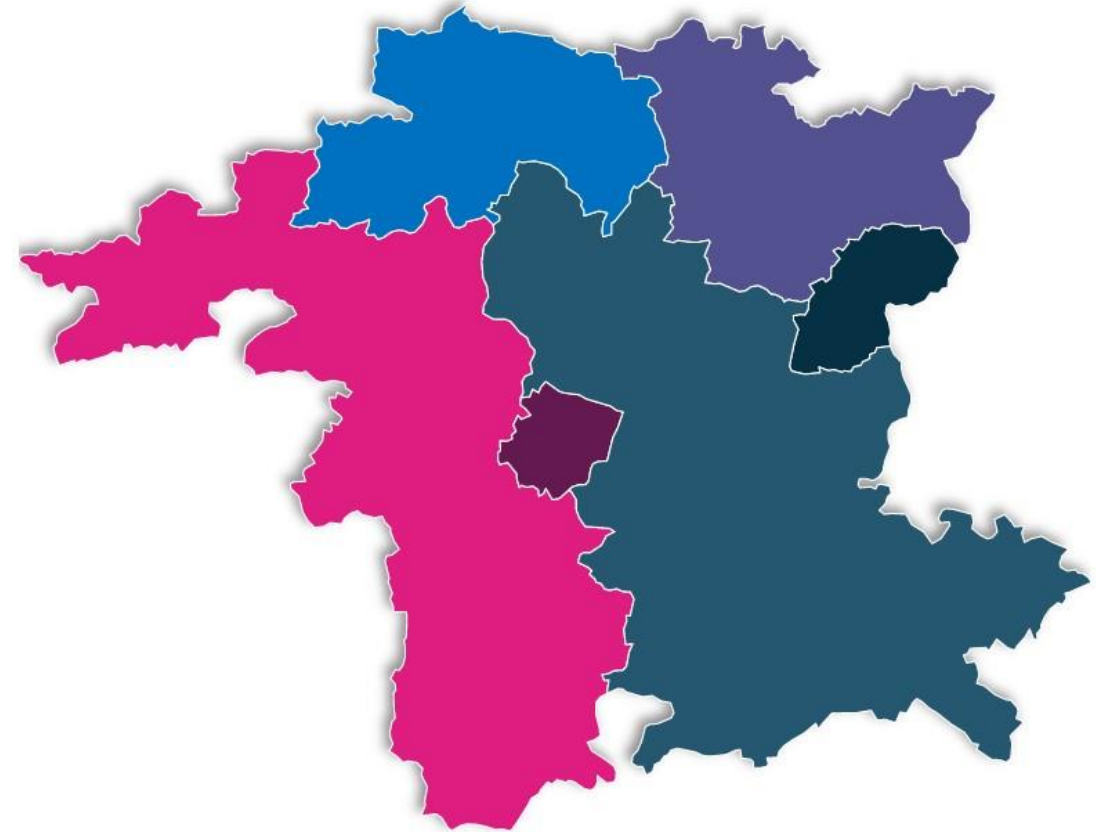


WORCESTER

Population projection

ONS population projection

Released: 2025, based on 2022 projections



ONS population projections: Introduction

- This presentation summarises the latest ONS population projections based on 2022 data for Worcester. These are widely used for local planning of health, education and other service provisions. They are also sometimes used in the assessment of local authority needs and the funding formula. Projections are available from [Subnational population projections for England - Office for National Statistics](#)
- These projections give an understanding of the potential future size of the population, based on current and past trends. They are **not** forecasts or predictions. They don't take into account potential future policy changes.
- Demographic behaviour used to develop assumptions for projections is inherently uncertain and so projections become increasingly uncertain the further they are carried forward. This is particularly so for smaller geographical areas and detailed age and sex breakdowns.
- A range of scenarios, or variants, are presented so decision makers can use the right projection for their needs.
- Projected figures for the 'migration category variant' projection is seen as best fit for overall UK population as it fits closest with international migration estimates published in May.

Worcester: 2032 projected figures

Worcester in 2032:

Projected population

105,107

people

up from 104,119 people in 2022.

Population change since 2022

+0.9%

compared to +6.4% across England.

Net international migration

+4,644

people

projected to be the largest factor in the population increase between 2022 and 2032.

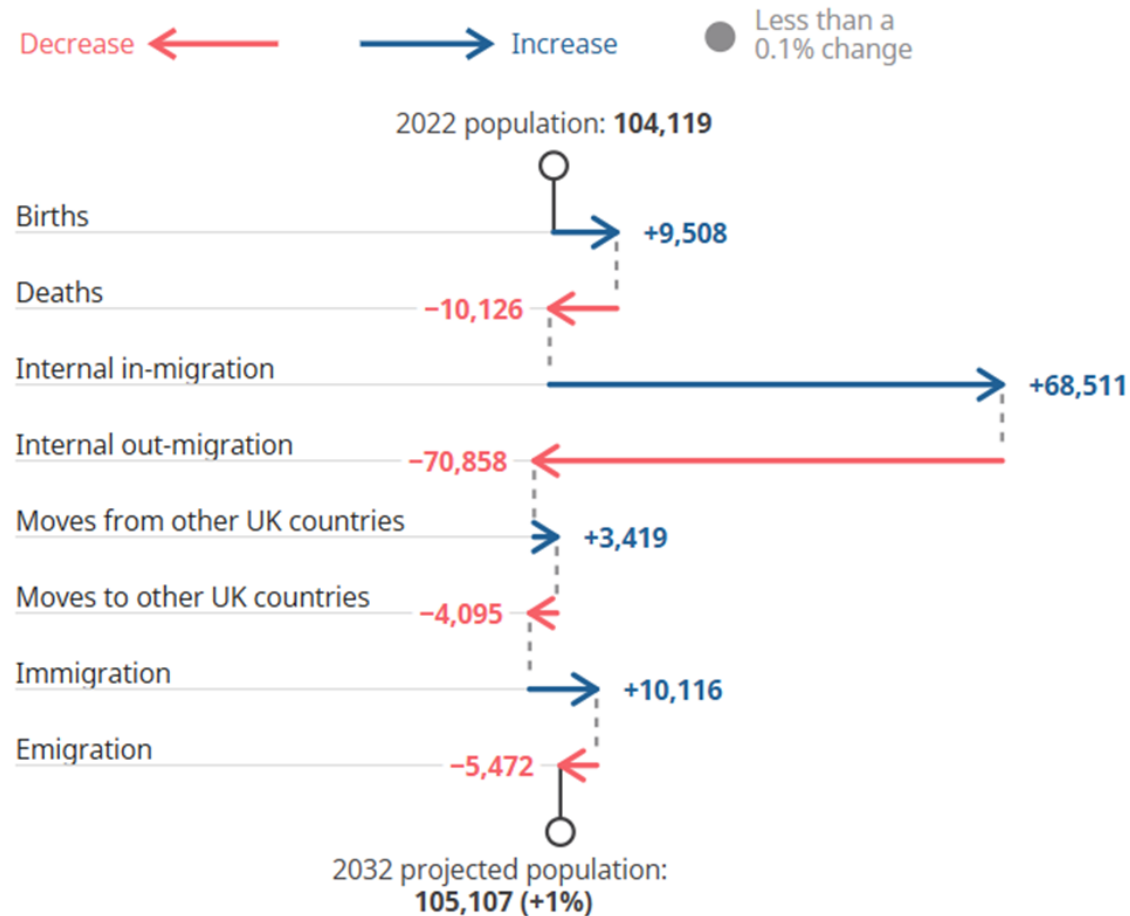
Projected median age

42 years

up from 40 years in 2022.



Worcester: Contributors to population change



In Worcester, a large population churn is present due to Internal migration with large numbers moving in and out.

This is skewed primarily due to people of student age (19-20) moving into Worcester to access the University of Worcester, and young adults aged 21-23 moving out of the city, which will include students returning home or moving on to access employment.

Young adults tend to be the most mobile in terms of migration, moving for education and work purposes

Source: Subnational population projections for England from Office for National Statistics – Migration category variant

Worcester: Contributors to population change

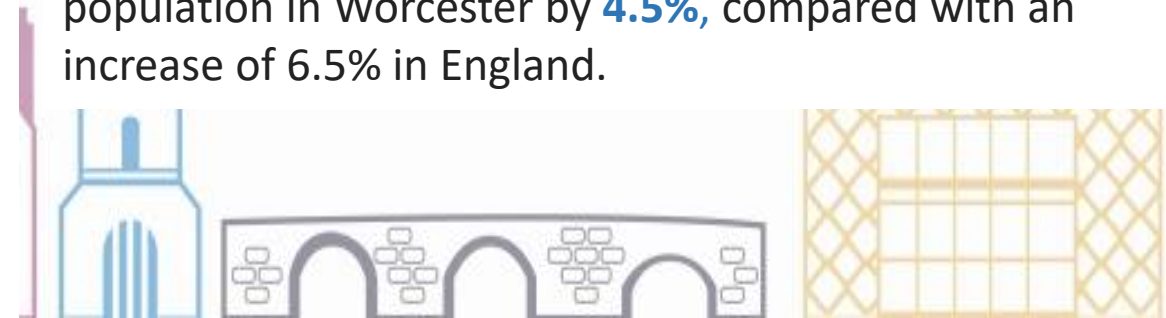
Population change is projected by looking at births and deaths (natural change) and people moving in and out of areas. In Worcester, our projections show that between 2022 and 2032:

- **More deaths than births** mean that the population is projected to **decrease by 618**, with **9,508** births and **10,126** deaths in Worcester between 2022 and 2032. This means natural change would decrease the population in Worcester by **0.6%**, compared with an increase of 0.2% in England.

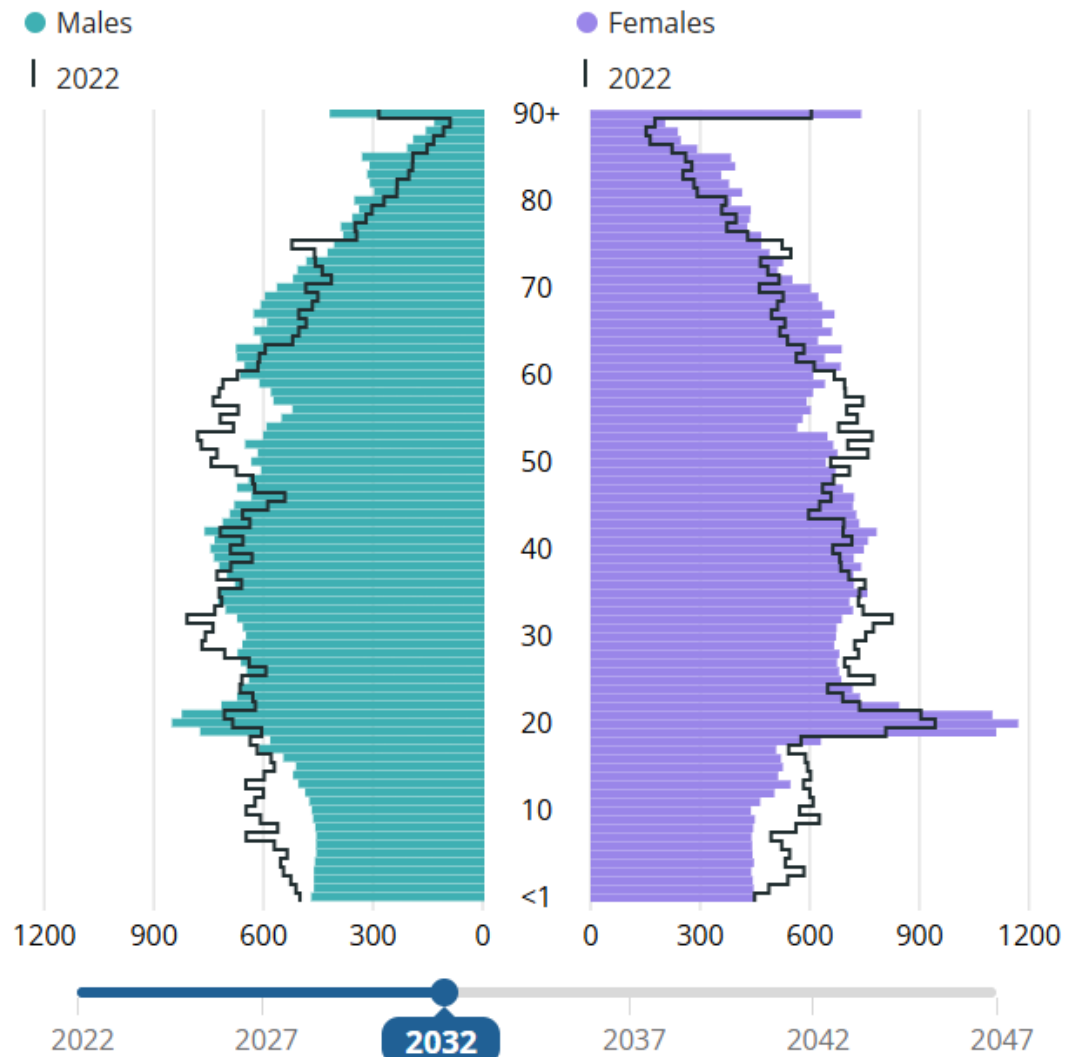
- **Net internal migration (people moving to and from other local authorities in England)** is projected to **reduce the population by 2,347**, with **68,511** people moving to the area and **70,858** people moving from the area between 2022 and 2032. This would decrease the population in Worcester by **2.3%**.

- **Net cross-border migration (between UK nations)** is projected to **reduce the population by 676**, with **3,419** people moving to the area and **4,095** people moving from the area between 2022 and 2032. This would decrease the population in Worcester by **0.6%**.

- **Net international migration** is projected to **increase the population by 4,644**, with **10,116** people moving to the area and **5,472** people moving from the area between 2022 and 2032. This would increase the population in Worcester by **4.5%**, compared with an increase of 6.5% in England.



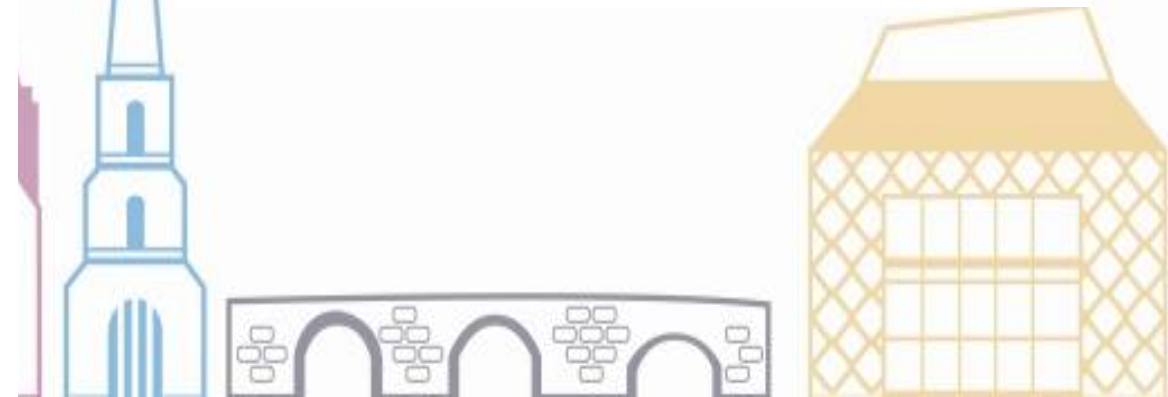
Worcester: Age profile



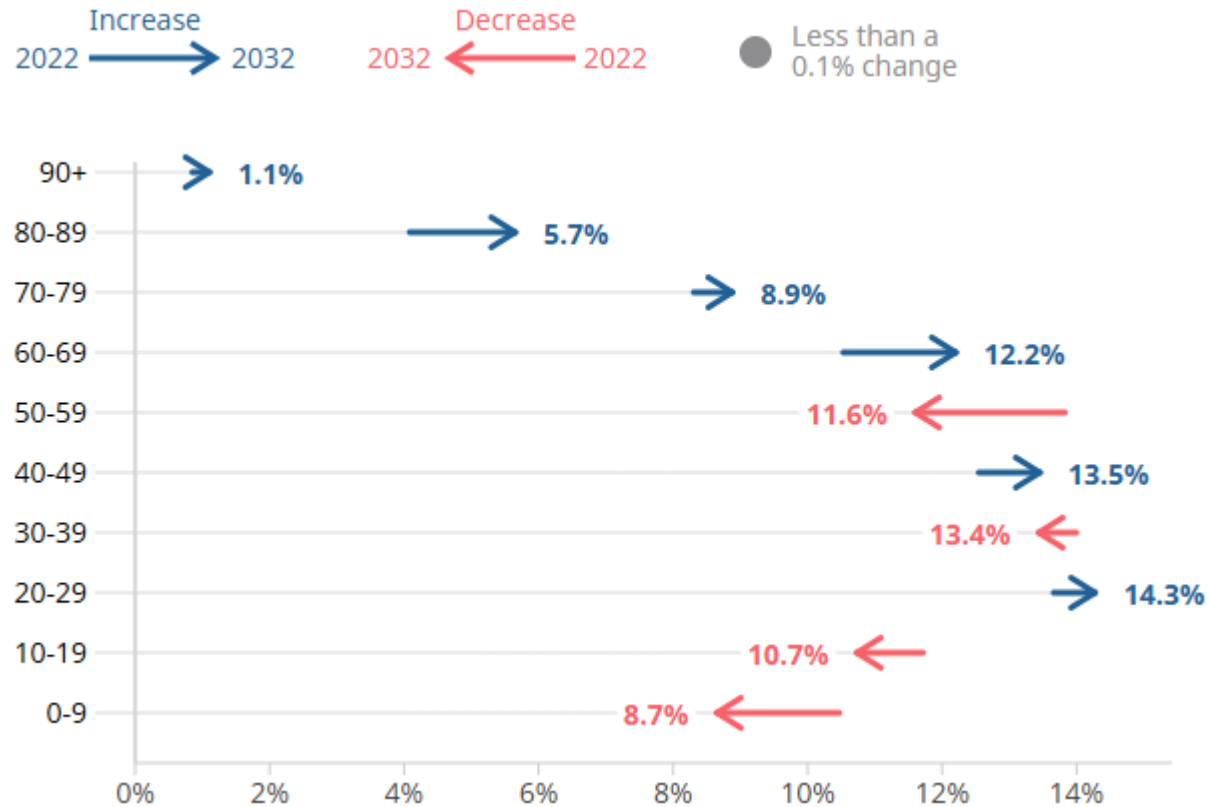
The median age in Worcester is projected to **rise** from 40 years in 2022 to **42 years** in 2032.

In England, the median age is projected to be 41 years in 2032.

In 2032, **20%** of the population in Worcester are projected to be aged 65 years or over, up from 17% in 2022.



Worcester: Percentages of total population by 10-year age bands, 2022 and 2032



The 50 to 59 age group are projected to see the largest change in Worcester between 2022 and 2032, from **13.8% to 11.6%**.

The largest positive change is in the 60-69 age group, from **10.5% to 12.2%**.

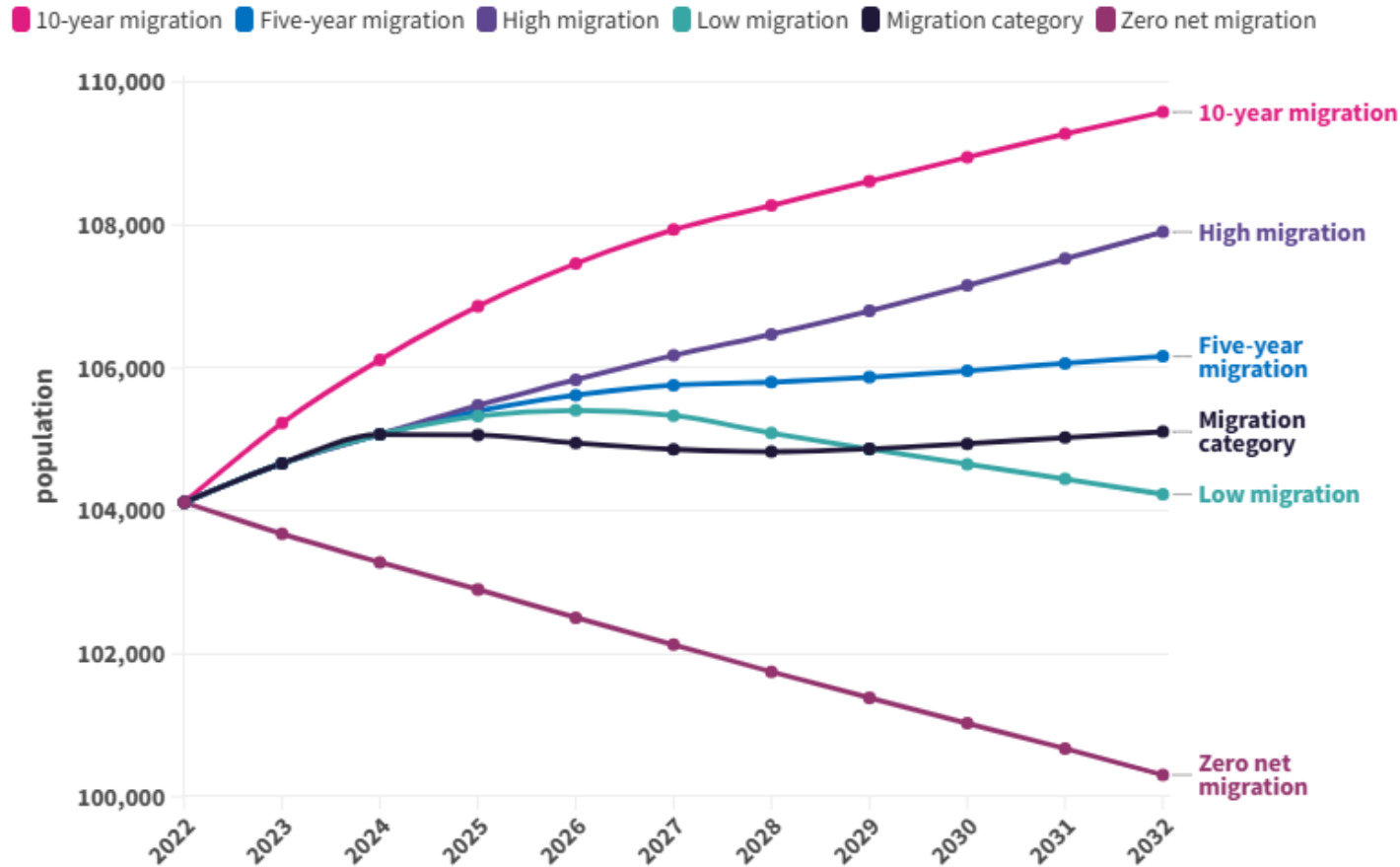
The 80-89 age group is also projected to **increase** notably.

Projections from the “migration category variant” presented

Age Group	2022	2032
90-over	0.90%	1.10%
80-89	4.10%	5.70%
70-79	8.30%	8.90%
60-69	10.50%	12.20%
50-59	13.80%	11.60%
40-49	12.50%	13.50%
30-39	14.00%	13.40%
20-29	13.70%	14.30%
10-19	11.70%	10.70%
0-9	10.50%	8.70%

Worcester: Variant population projections

Variant projected population change in Worcester, 2022-2032



ONS 2022-based population projections

The following variant projections are included in the projections release:-:

- a high international migration variant
- a low international migration variant
- a zero net migration variant
- a 10-year migration variant
- a five-year migration variant (consistent with the NPP principal projection)
- Results for variant projections vary from...
 - **5,500 (5.2%) increase** for 10-year migration variant;
 - **3,800 (3.7%) decrease** for zero net migration variant.

Please note that y axis starts at 100,000 persons for presentation purposes

Worcester projections: Summary

- **Population projections** - The projections presented are based on current and past trends. They are **not** forecasts or predictions and do not take into account potential future policy changes.
- **Total Population** – The population in Worcester is projected to **increase** by just under **1,000 (0.9%)** between 2022 and 2032.
- **Natural change** – between 2022 and 2032 more deaths than births is projected to **decrease** Worcester's population by **just over 600 persons (0.6%)**.
- **Migration impact** – Net internal and cross-border migration is projected to **reduce** the population whilst net international migration is projected to **increase** population. Overall impact of migration is projected to be an **increase of 1,600 persons**.
- **Age Profile** - Median age in Worcester is projected to rise from **40 to 42 years** by 2032. The **60-69 and 80-89 age groups are projected to increase notably**.
- **Variant projections** – different migration scenarios show projected population changes ranging from a **5.2% increase** (10-year migration variant) to a **3.7% decrease** (net zero migration).