

2022-based population projections from the Office of National Statistics –

Summary for Hull

Public Health Intelligence

July 2025

Background

The Office for National Statistics (ONS) published the 2022 based sub-national population projections on 24th June 2025. These projections give an indication of future population trends over the next 25 years, from 2022 to 2047. These projections are developed using the latest available mid-year population estimates and a set of demographic assumptions about future fertility, mortality and migration, based on analysis of recent trends and expert advice.

The sub-national population projections provide the population size and age structure that would result if the underlying assumptions about future fertility, mortality and migration prove to accurately reflect demographic changes.

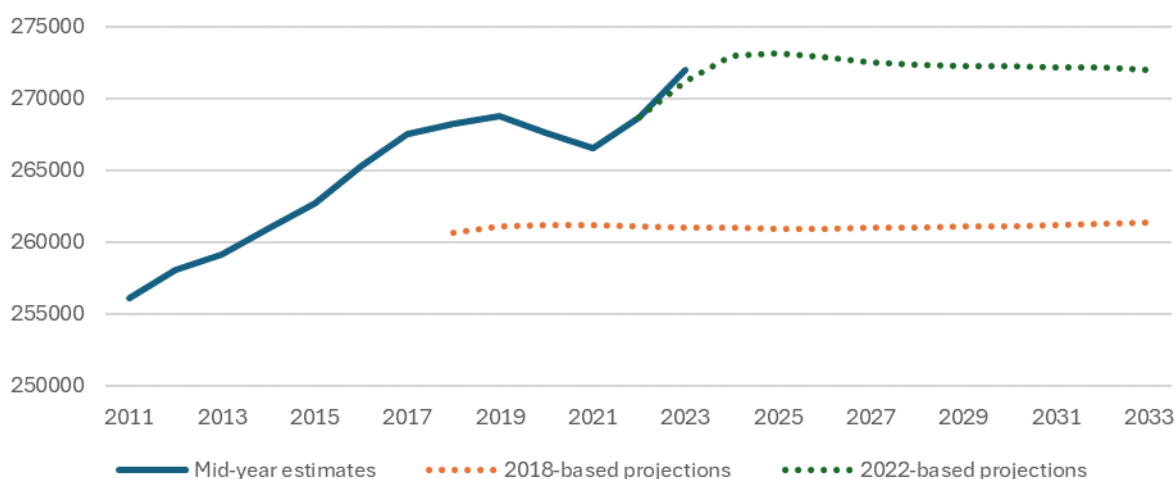
The projections are simply that, they are not forecasts of what will happen, just a projection forward of what has happened in the recent past. They do not attempt to predict the impact of future national and local government policies, the capacity to accommodate population growth, changing economic circumstances or other factors. For this reason, population projections tend to be more accurate in the short term, with greater uncertainty around longer-term projections. For this reason, this brief summary focuses mostly on trends up to 2032.

Population projections for Hull

From the 2022 sub-national population projections, Hull's population is projected to increase from 268,677 in 2022 to 271,185 in 2023, however, this is 0.3% lower than the 2023 mid-year estimate for Hull produced by ONS (271,942). Nevertheless, the Hull population is projected to increase further to peak at 273,119 in 2025 (an increase of 1.7% compared with 2022 or 0.4% higher than the 2023 mid-year estimate). Hull's population is then projected to fall slightly each year until 2047.

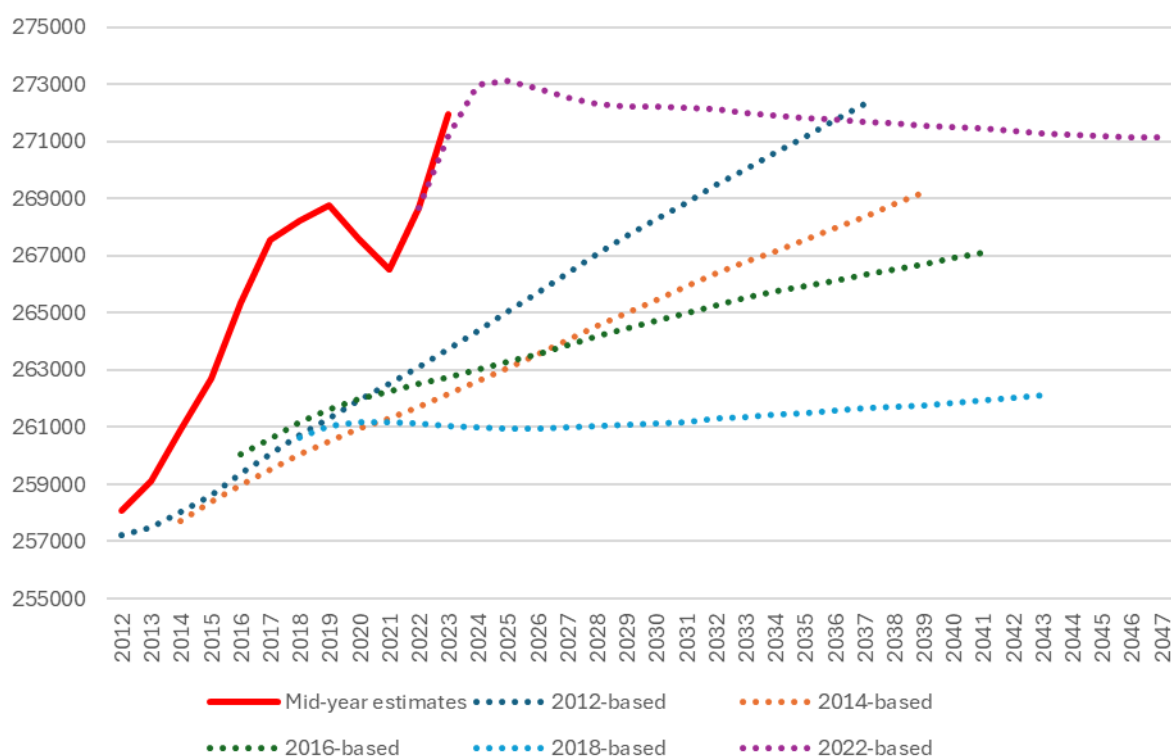
Trends in mid-year population estimates for Hull are shown in **Figure 1**, together with projections until 2033. From the 2022-based population projections, Hull's population growth is projected to be fairly flat, with some initial small growth, followed by even smaller year-on-year decreases. This is similar to the earlier 2018-based projections. However, Hull's population has continued to increase in all but one year since 2011.

Figure 1: Recent trends in mid-year population estimates for Hull with projections to 2033



Previous population projections have under-estimated the growth in Hull's population, as illustrated in **Figure 2**, and it is likely that the 2022-based projections will also under-estimate population growth in the city. The current mid-year estimated population for Hull is 271,942, which is higher than the projections produced in 2014, 2016 or 2018 suggested. It is also higher than the 2023 projection from the 2022-based projections. Only the 2012-based projections had Hull's population reaching its current level, but not until 2037.

Figure 2: Mid-year estimated population for Hull, with 2012-based, 2014-based, 2016-based, 2018-based, 2018-based and 2022-based projections



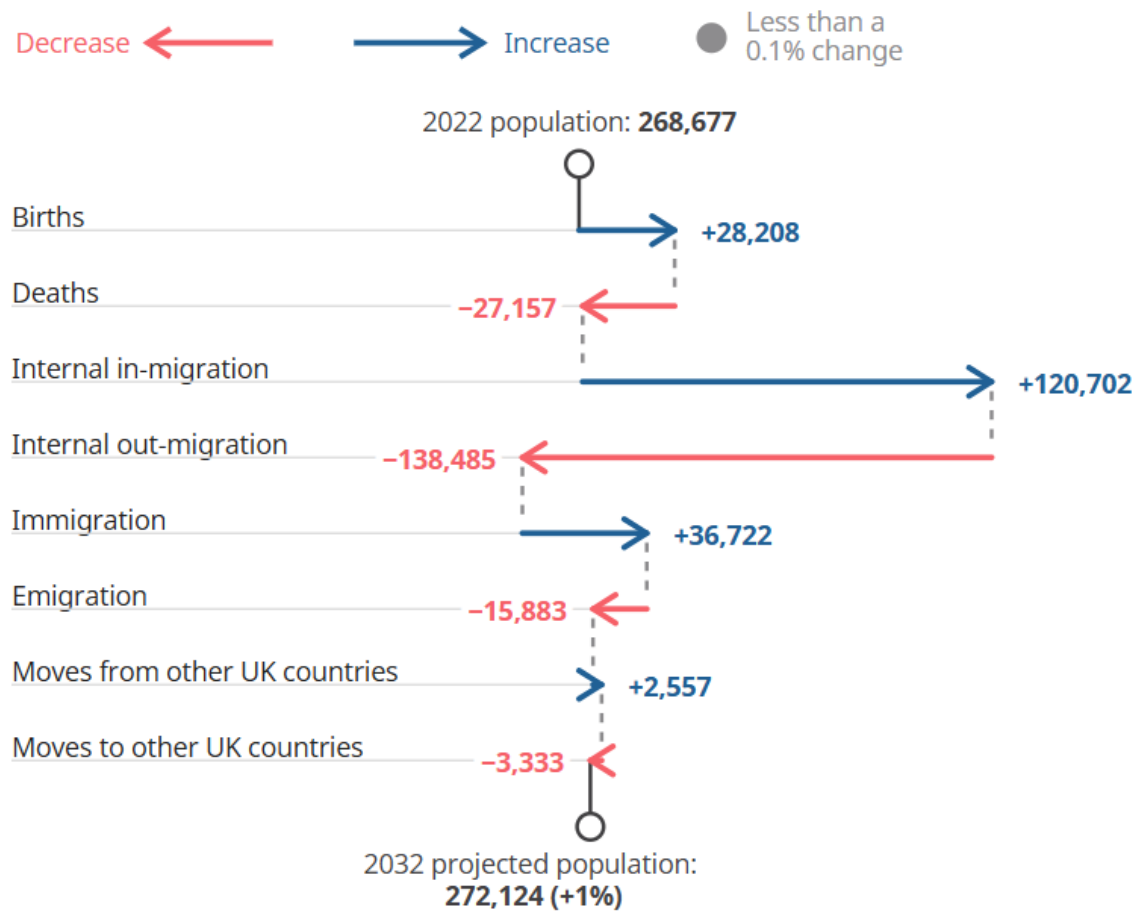
Components of population change

ONS reports the components of change in projected populations between 2022 and 2032. This analysis shows that migration is the largest driver of anticipated population change for Hull over this 10-year period.

- Natural change, that is the number of births minus the number of deaths, would increase Hull's population by 1,051, or 0.4%.
- Net internal migration (people moving to or from other local authority areas in England) is projected to decrease Hull's population by 17,784, or 6.6%.
- Net cross-border migration between UK nations is projected to decrease Hull's population by 777, or 0.3%.
- Net international migration is projected to increase Hull's population by 20,839, or 7.8%.

A more detailed breakdown is shown in **Figure 3**.

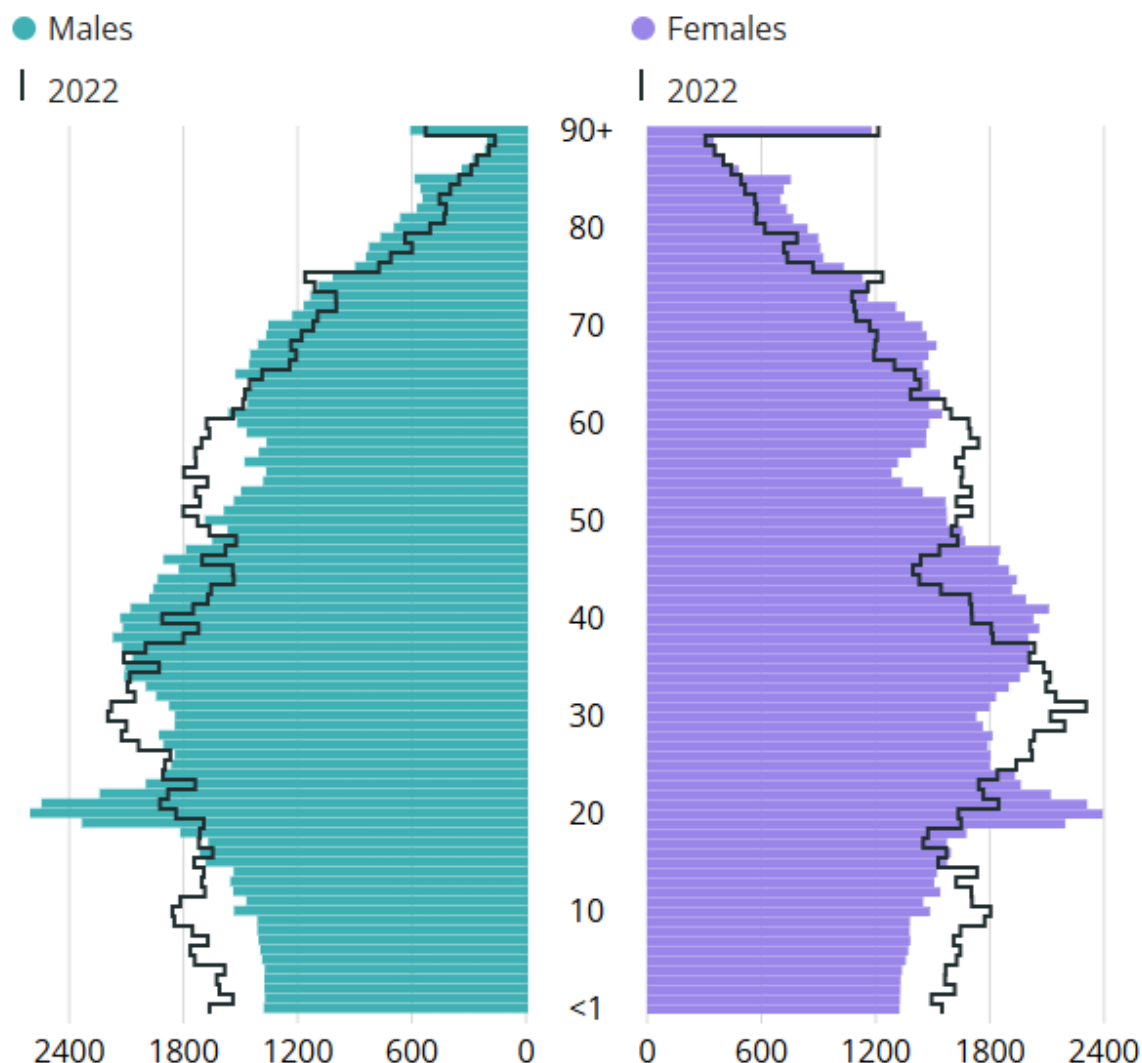
Figure 3: Projected components of change in Hull's population between 2022 and 2032



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

Projected change in age structure

The population pyramid for the projected 2032 population for Hull is shown in **Figure 4**, with a comparison to the 2022 population (line). As can be seen the average age of the population of Hull is projected to increase, with the median age projected to increase from 37 years in 2022 to 38 years in 2032.

Figure 4: Population pyramid for Hull, 2032 projected compared to 2022¹

Population growth is projected to be seen in the most age bands between 2022 and 2032, with only the numbers aged 0-9 years, 10-19 years, 30-39 years and 50-59 years projected to see decreases over that time.

These changing trends can be seen in **Figure 5** and in **Figure 6**. The largest percentage-point change in population by 10-year age group is projected among young people aged 0-9 years, projected to make up 10.1% of Hull's population in 2032, compared with 12.2% in 2022. Smaller decreases are projected for the 10-19-, 30-39- and 50-59-year age groups. Increases are projected to occur for each other 10-year age group, with the largest percentage-point increase projected for those aged 40-49 years. Each 10-year age group from 60-69 years onwards is projected to see an increase in the share of the overall Hull population in 2032.

¹ Source: Subnational population projections for England from Office for National Statistics – Migration category variant ([Subnational population projections for England - Office for National Statistics](#))

Figure 5: 2022-based population projections for Hull to 2032 by 10-year age band

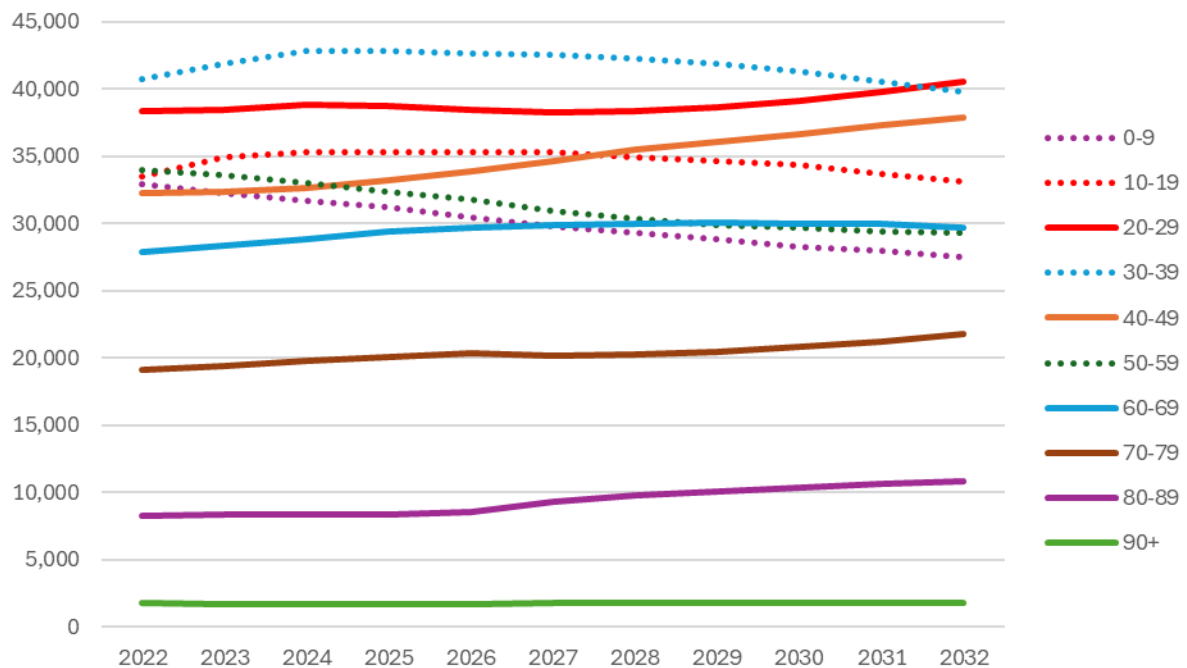
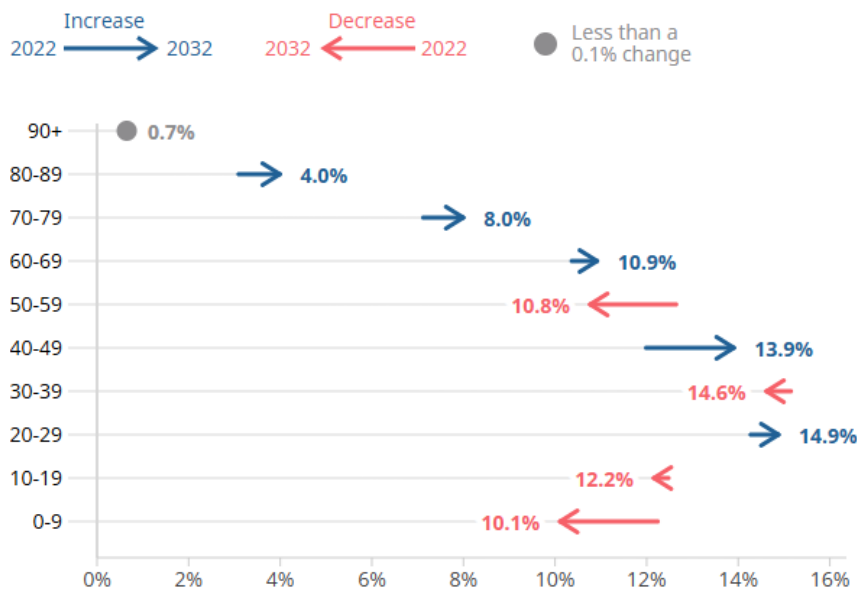


Figure 6: Projected percentage of population of Hull by 10-year age bands, 2022 and 2032



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

The projected numbers in 2032 by five-year age bands are shown **Table 1**. Under 15 year olds are projected to decrease by around one sixth by 2032, with a small amount of growth seen for 15-39 year olds and 40-64 year olds, but with those aged 65 years and over projected to increase by almost 18% by 2032.

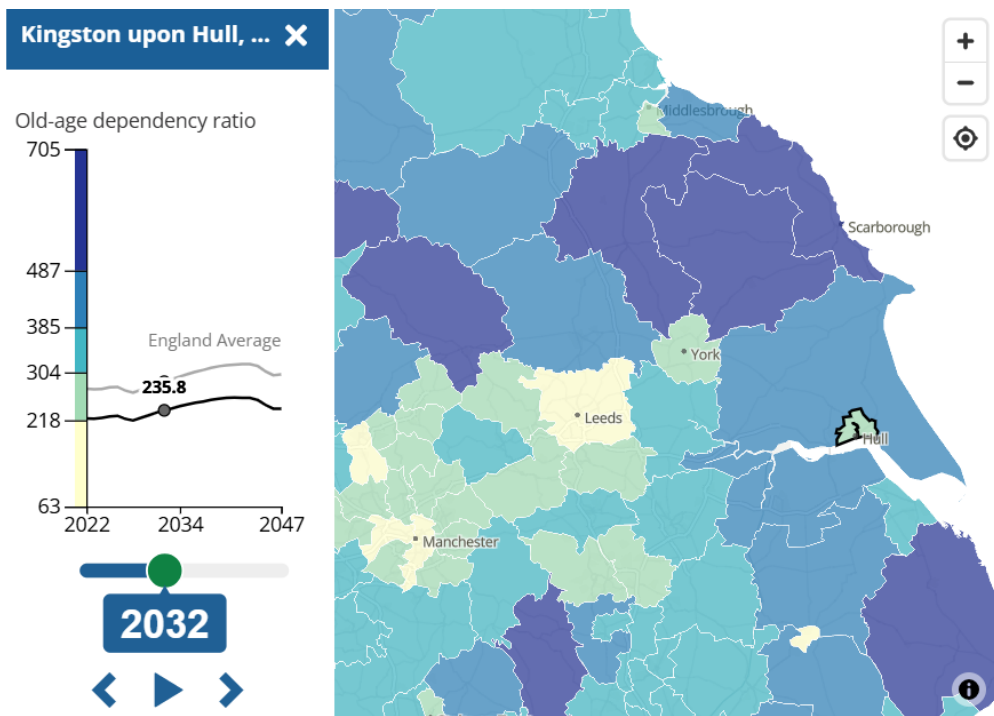
Table 1: Change in Hull's projected population by 2032, by 5-year and broad age bands

Age (years)	Hull population (numbers)			Change 2022-2032		Change 2023-2032	
	Mid-year estimates		Projected 2032	Number	%	Number	%
	2022	2023					
0-4	15,814	16,168	13,576	-2,238	-14.2	-2,592	-16.0
5-9	17,078	17,036	13,935	-3,143	-18.4	-3,101	-18.2
10-14	17,328	17,747	15,191	-2,137	-12.3	-2,556	-14.4
Under 15	50,220	50,951	42,702	-7,518	-15.0	-8,249	-16.2
15-19	16,192	17,178	17,892	1,700	10.5	714	4.2
20-24	18,118	17,437	22,078	3,960	21.9	4,641	26.6
25-29	20,227	20,261	18,412	-1,815	-9.0	-1,849	-9.1
30-34	21,390	22,077	19,043	-2,347	-11.0	-3,034	-13.7
35-39	19,313	20,329	20,729	1,416	7.3	400	2.0
15-39	95,240	97,282	98,155	2,915	3.1	873	0.9
40-44	16,603	17,269	20,125	3,522	21.2	2,856	16.5
45-49	15,607	15,185	17,714	2,107	13.5	2,529	16.7
50-54	16,957	16,774	15,243	-1,714	-10.1	-1,531	-9.1
55-59	17,015	16,714	14,053	-2,962	-17.4	-2,661	-15.9
60-64	15,297	15,463	15,053	-244	-1.6	-410	-2.7
40-64	81,479	81,405	82,188	709	0.9	783	1.0
65-69	12,554	12,772	14,655	2,101	16.7	1,883	14.7
70-74	10,908	10,742	12,468	1,560	14.3	1,726	16.1
75-79	8,228	8,686	9,295	1,067	13.0	609	7.0
80-84	5,053	5,206	6,842	1,789	35.4	1,636	31.4
85-89	3,252	3,202	4,021	769	23.7	819	25.6
90+	1,743	1,696	1,799	56	3.2	103	6.0
65 plus	41,738	42,304	49,080	7,342	17.6	6,776	16.0
All ages	268,677	271,942	272,124	3,447	1.3	182	0.1

Figure 7 shows the projected old-age dependency ratio (OADR) for Hull and other local authorities in the Yorkshire and Humber region. The OADR is the number of people of pensionable age per 1,000 people of working age. Hull is projected to have an OADR of 235.8 in 2032 (an increase of 14.8 since 2022), the third lowest projected OADR in the Yorkshire and Humber region, after Leeds (215.5) and Sheffield (232.5).

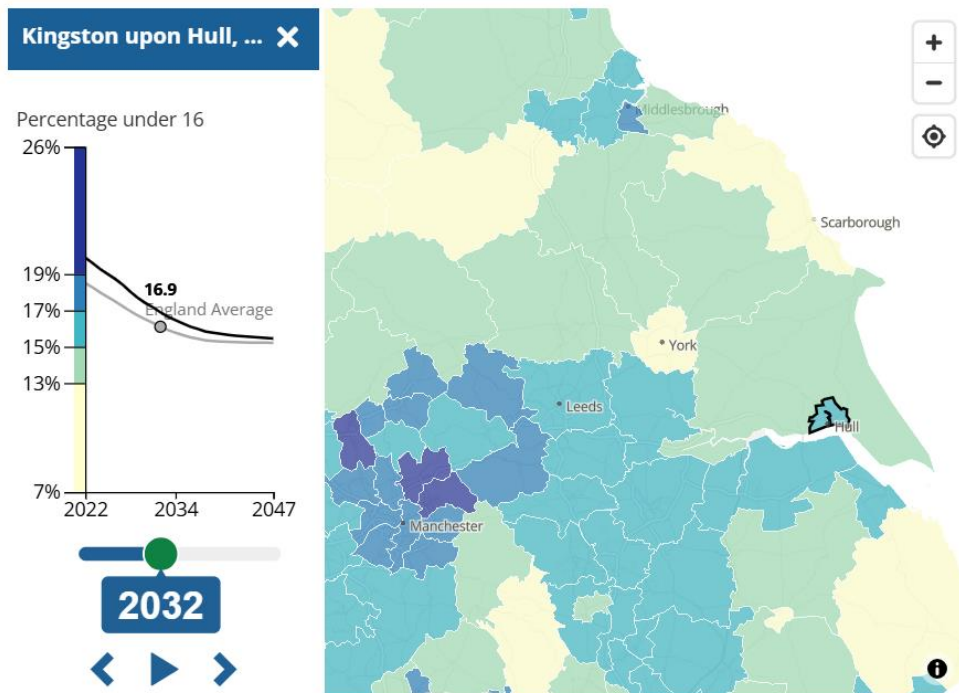
Figure 8 shows the projected proportion of children in 2032 for Hull and other Humber and Yorkshire local authorities. Hull is projected to have the joint third highest proportion of children in 2022 across all Humber and Yorkshire local authorities at 16.9%, matched by Rotherham, but with the highest proportions seen for Bradford (19.0%) and Kirklees (17.2%). The projected proportion of children in Hull in 2032 is 3.0 percentage points lower than in 2022, when it also had the third highest proportion (again following Bradford and Kirklees).

Figure 7: Projected changes in the old-age dependency ratios for Hull and other Yorkshire and Humber local authorities, 2022-2032



Source: Subnational population projections for England from the Office for National Statistics

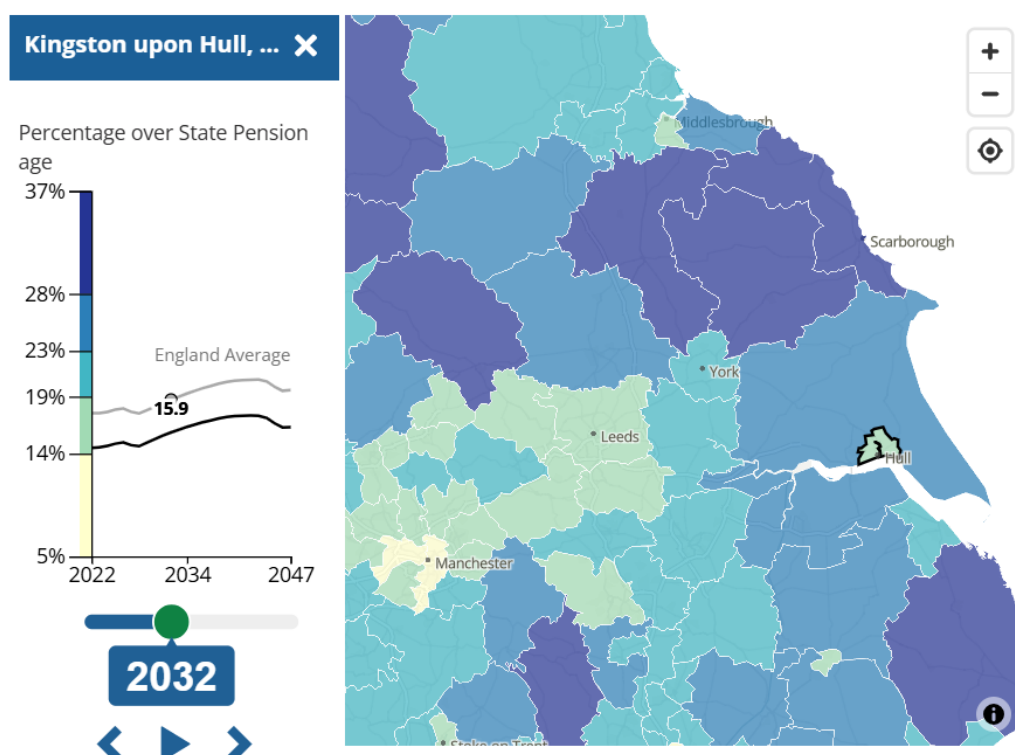
Figure 8: Projected changes in the proportion of children for Hull and other Yorkshire and Humber local authorities, 2022-2032



Source: Subnational population projections for England from the Office for National Statistics

At 15.9%, Hull is projected to have the fourth lowest proportion of residents of State Pension age in 2032 across all local authorities in Yorkshire and Humber, as shown in **Figure 9**. Only Leeds (14.8%), Bradford (15.6%) and Sheffield (15.8%) are projected to have a lower proportion of residents of State Pension age. For Hull, this represents a relative increase of 9.5% in the proportion of residents of State Pension age by 2032. In 2022, at 14.5%, Hull had the second lowest proportion of residents of State Pension age in the Yorkshire and Humber region, after Bradford (14.4%).

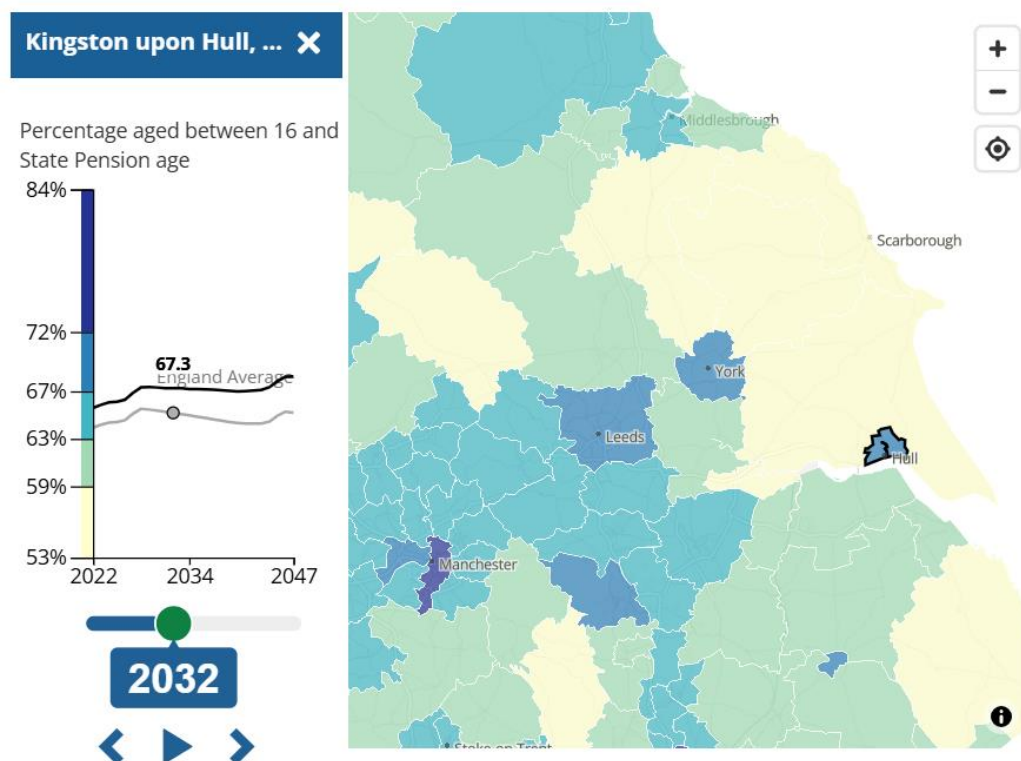
Figure 9: Projected changes in the proportion of people of State Pension age for Hull and other Yorkshire and Humber local authorities, 2022-2032



Source: Subnational population projections for England from the Office for National Statistics

As shown in **Figure 10**, the proportion of Hull's population of working age is projected to increase from 65.6% in 2022 - the fourth highest in the Yorkshire and Humber region behind York (66.8%), Leeds (66.4%) and Sheffield (66.0%) - to 67.3% in 2023, remaining the fourth highest proportion after Leeds (68.8%), Sheffield (68.1%) and York (67.9%).

Figure 10: Projected changes in the proportion of people of working age for Hull and other Yorkshire and Humber local authorities, 2022-2032



Source: Subnational population projections for England from the Office for National Statistics

Other 2022-based population projections

As in previous iterations, ONS have produced a range of 2022-based projections, which are all shown for 2022-2032 in **Figure 11**, together with the 2023 mid-year population estimate for Hull. While ONS has not defined any of the projections as the principal projection, it recommends using the 2022-based migration category variant projection, as this one is consistent with the latest long-term international migration data ([Long-term international migration, provisional - Office for National Statistics](#)). These different projections illustrate the impact on projections of different scenarios, but do not quantify the uncertainty of the projections. However, they do illustrate how projections are heavily influenced by the choice of assumptions, and how these differences exacerbate over time, which reinforces the view that shorter-term projections are more reliable than longer term projections, although these may also not fully reflect the reality of population changes.

Figure 11: Comparing different 2022-based population projections for Hull to 2032