

## 2 Population

This section describes the changing size and profile of Oxfordshire's population.

### 2.1 Population – key findings

This section highlights the key messages from the review of data on population (data sources and research references are provided with the detailed data in the remainder of this chapter).

- As of mid-2016, the estimated total population of Oxfordshire was 683,200.
- Over the ten-year period, 2006 and 2016, there was an overall growth in the population of Oxfordshire of 52,100 people (+8.3%), similar to the increase across England (+8.4%).
- The five-year age band with the greatest increase over this period was the newly retired age group 65 to 69 (+41%). There was a decline in the population aged 35 to 44.
- District Councils' plans for new housing in existing (adopted) and draft local plans set out an ambition for new housing in Oxfordshire of 34,300 by the end of March 2022 and a further 47,200 homes by end March 2031, a total of 81,500 new homes in the next 15 years.
- Oxfordshire County Council population forecasts, based on these plans for housing growth, predict an increase in the number of Oxfordshire residents of +187,500 people (+27%) between 2016 and 2031, taking the total population of the county from 687,900 to 874,400.
- By 2031, the number of people aged 85 and over is expected to have increased by 55% in Oxfordshire overall, with the highest growth predicted in South Oxfordshire (+64%) and Vale of White Horse (+66%).
- Life expectancy is increasing. Between 2001-03 and 2014-16, the gap between male and female Life Expectancy in Oxfordshire decreased from 4.1 years to 3.2 years.
- Life expectancy by ward data for Oxford City shows the gap in male life expectancy between the more affluent North ward and the relatively deprived ward of Northfield Brook has increased from 4 years in 2003-07 to 15 years in 2011-15. Female life expectancy in these wards has remained at similar levels with a gap of just over 10 years.
- Data for the combined years 2009 to 2013 shows that for males there was a 10-year gap in Disability Free Life Expectancy between the most and least deprived areas of Oxfordshire. For females, the gap was just under 10 years.




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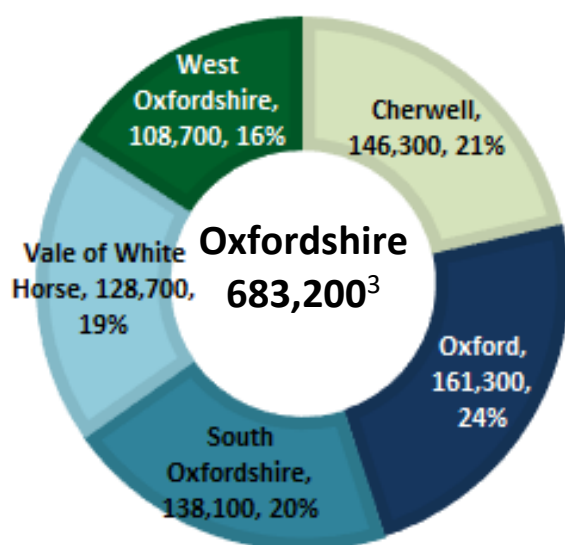
## 2.2 Population

### Mid-2016 population estimate

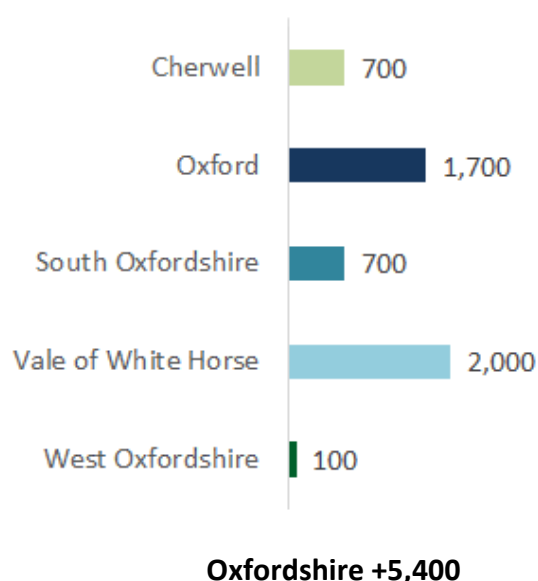
 As of mid-2016, the ONS estimated total population of Oxfordshire was **683,200** residents<sup>1</sup> (including students and armed forces). This was an increase of 5,400 (+0.8%) compared with the previous year (mid-2015).

**Figure 1 Population of Oxfordshire and districts, mid-2016 and change 2015 to 2016**

#### Mid-2016 population<sup>3</sup> (ONS)



#### mid-2015 to mid-2016 change in population<sup>3</sup>



Source: ONS mid-year population estimates released June 2017

<sup>1</sup> NOTE the Office for National Statistics revised the local authority 2016 mid-year population estimates on 23 March 2018. These have not yet been included in this JSNA publication as Oxford City Council and Oxfordshire County Council (as well as other Local Authorities outside Oxfordshire) have significant concerns about the revisions, which are being discussed with ONS. The revised estimates give Oxfordshire's population as 678,500, a reduction of 4,700.



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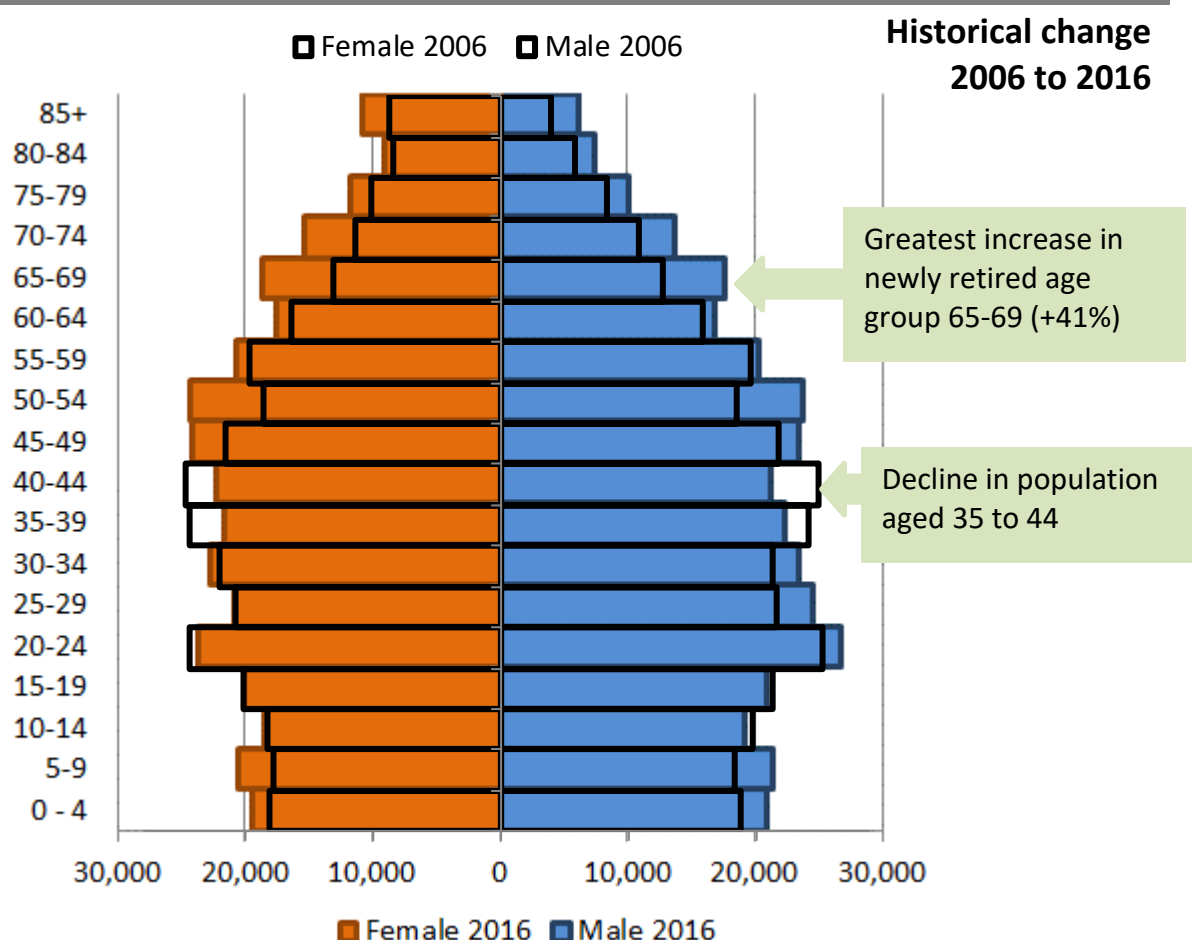
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## ➔ Historical change in population by age

Over the ten-year period, 2006 and 2016, there was an overall growth in the population of Oxfordshire of 52,100 people (+8.3%), similar to the increase across England (+8.4%).

The five-year age band with the greatest increase over this period was the newly retired age group 65 to 69 (+41%). There was a decline in the population aged 35 to 44.

Figure 2 Oxfordshire's population by age 2006 and 2016<sup>2</sup>



Source: ONS mid-year population estimates (2016 estimates released June 2017)

➔ **Children and young people** aged 0 to 17 made up 21% of Oxfordshire's population as of mid-2016, a similar proportion to that in 2006. As shown in the population pyramid above and the chart below, the greatest increases were in the age groups 0-4 and 5-9.

<sup>2</sup> NOTE the Office for National Statistics revised the local authority 2016 mid-year population estimates on 23 March 2018. These have not yet been included in this JSNA publication as Oxford City Council and Oxfordshire County Council (as well as other Local Authorities outside Oxfordshire) have significant concerns about the revisions, which are being discussed with ONS. The revised estimates give Oxfordshire's population as 678,500, a reduction of 4,700.

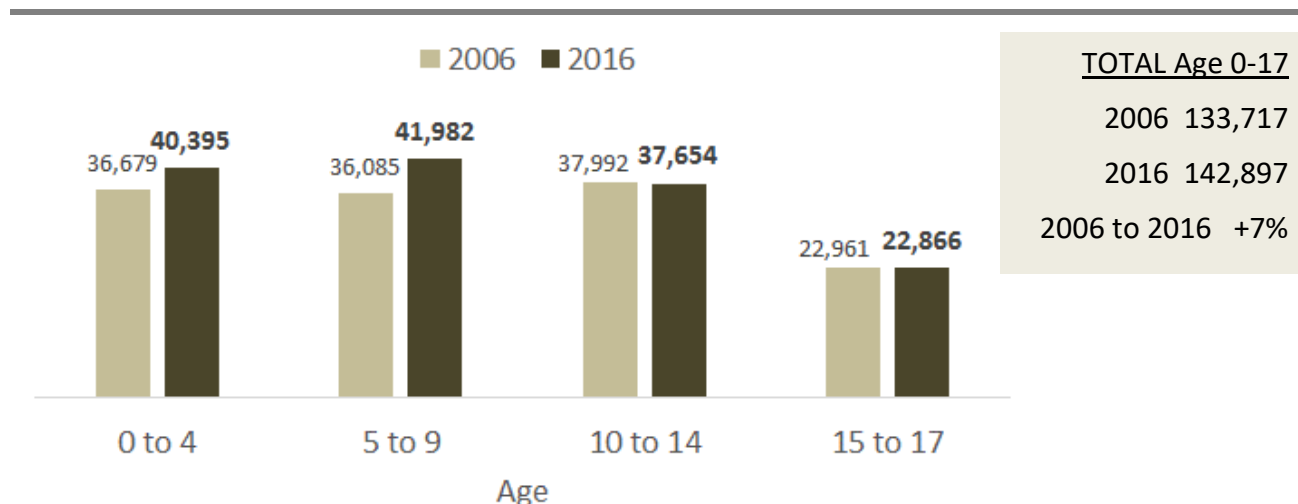


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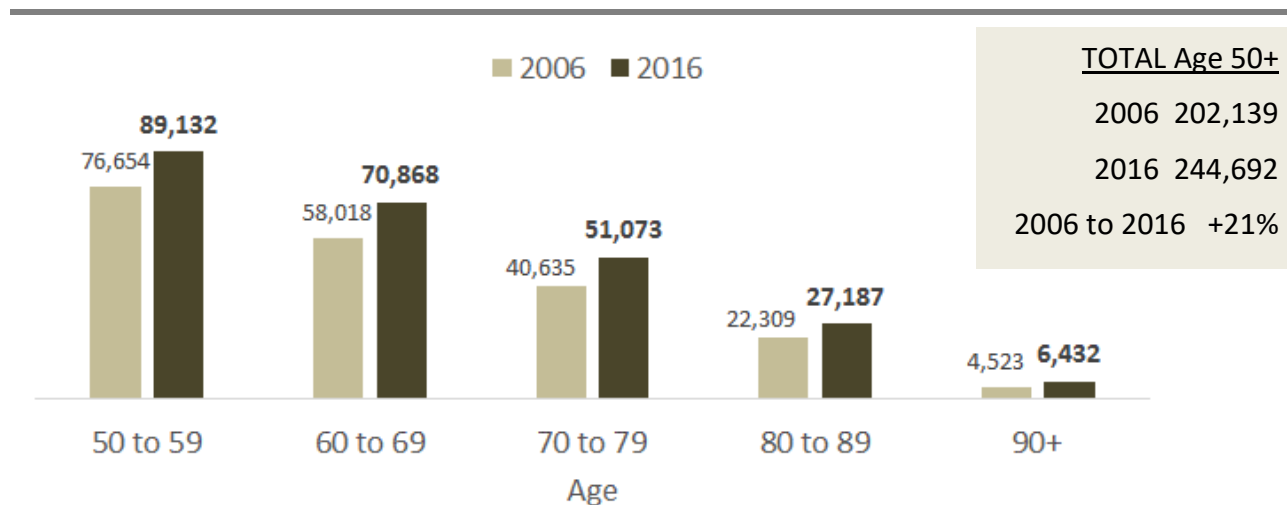
Figure 3 Number of children and young people in Oxfordshire, 2006 and 2016



Source: ONS mid-year population estimates released June 2017

**Older people** aged 50 and over, made up 36% of Oxfordshire's population as of mid-2016, up from 32% in 2006. The greatest increase over this time was in the number of people aged 60-69.

Figure 4 Number of older people in Oxfordshire, 2006 and 2016



Source: ONS mid-year population estimates released June 2017

The change in population by age varies by district in Oxfordshire with rural districts seeing an increase in the retirement aged population and Oxford seeing a growth in the younger age groups.



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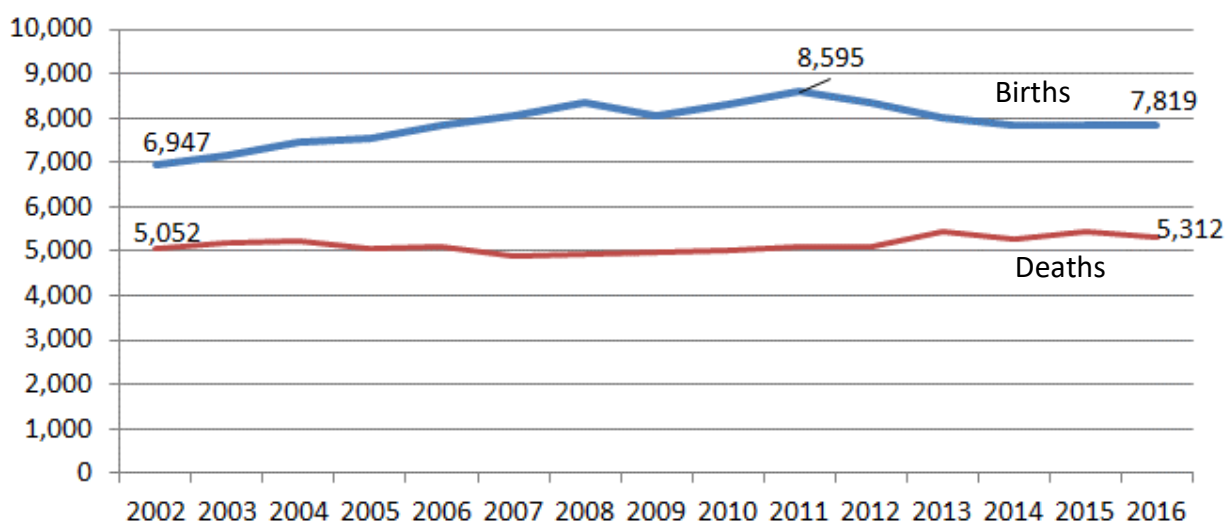
## Natural change vs migration



The number of births in Oxfordshire reached a peak in mid-2011 and has since declined. In mid-2016 there were **7,819** births in Oxfordshire, very close to the number as of mid-2015 (7,828).

The number of deaths in Oxfordshire fell slightly to **5,312** by mid-2016, down from 5,462 in mid-2015 (-3%).

**Figure 5 Oxfordshire: total number of births and deaths (mid-year estimates)**



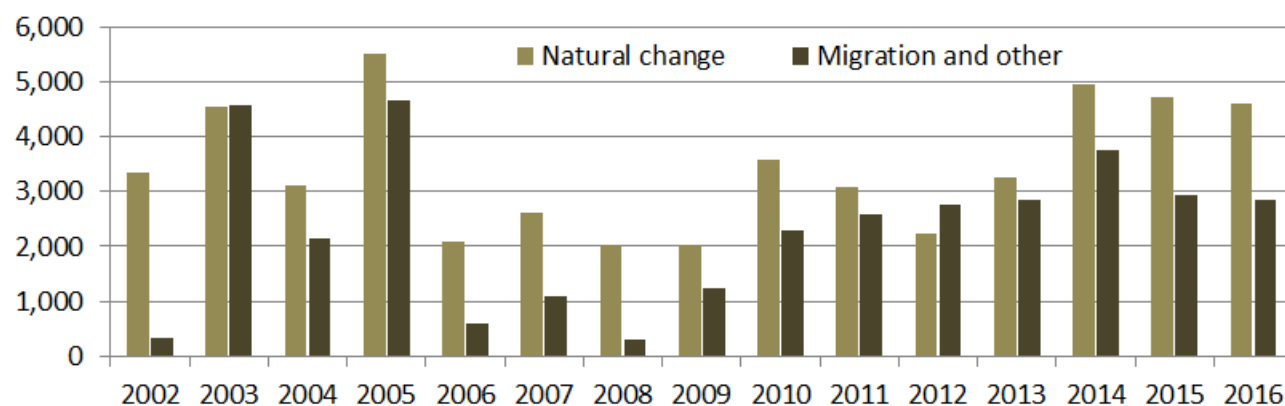
Source: ONS mid-year population estimates; NOTE: this data mid-year to mid-year (1 July to 30 June) in each year and not the calendar year



Natural change (rather than migration) has been the main driver of historical population growth in Oxfordshire.

- Natural change (births minus deaths) has been above net migration (internal and international, in-migration minus out-migration) for each year since mid-2002 with the two exceptions of 2003 and 2012.

**Figure 6 Oxfordshire: Natural change and Net Migration**



Source: ONS mid-year population estimates



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## Forecast growth in population

District Councils' local plans setting out planned housing development are at various stages of development.

- Cherwell has an existing (adopted) plan for Bicester, Banbury and Upper Heyford. An additional plan for Woodstock, A44 corridor, south and south east Kidlington and north Oxford sites will be examined in 2018.
- Oxford has development in progress in Barton and Northern Gateway and a new local plan is in early stages of development.
- South Oxfordshire has an existing plan covering housing in Didcot and Wallingford and a plan for new housing in Culham, Berinsfield, Chalgrove and Wheatley will be examined in 2018.
- Vale of White Horse has an existing plan for housing outside Didcot, in Wantage-Grove and north Abingdon. A plan with development at Harwell, Dalton Barracks and other sites will be examined in 2018.
- West Oxfordshire's local plan is in the later stages of the public examination and covers housing growth at Witney, Carterton, Eynsham and other sites.

The adopted and draft plans together set out housing growth in Oxfordshire of 34,300 by the end of March 2022 and a further 47,200 homes by end March 2031, a total of 81,500 new homes in the next 15 years.

**Table 1 Total homes planned (adopted and draft local plans) for Oxfordshire to March 2031**

	<b>Apr17 to Mar22</b>	<b>Apr22 to Mar31</b>
Cherwell	10,082	13,214
Oxford City	3,156	3,849
South Oxfordshire	7,021	10,628
Vale of White Horse	9,357	10,455
West Oxfordshire	4,687	9,037
<b>Oxfordshire total</b>	<b>34,302</b>	<b>47,183</b>

Based on Oxfordshire Infrastructure Strategy housing site completions and trajectories reviewed January 2018

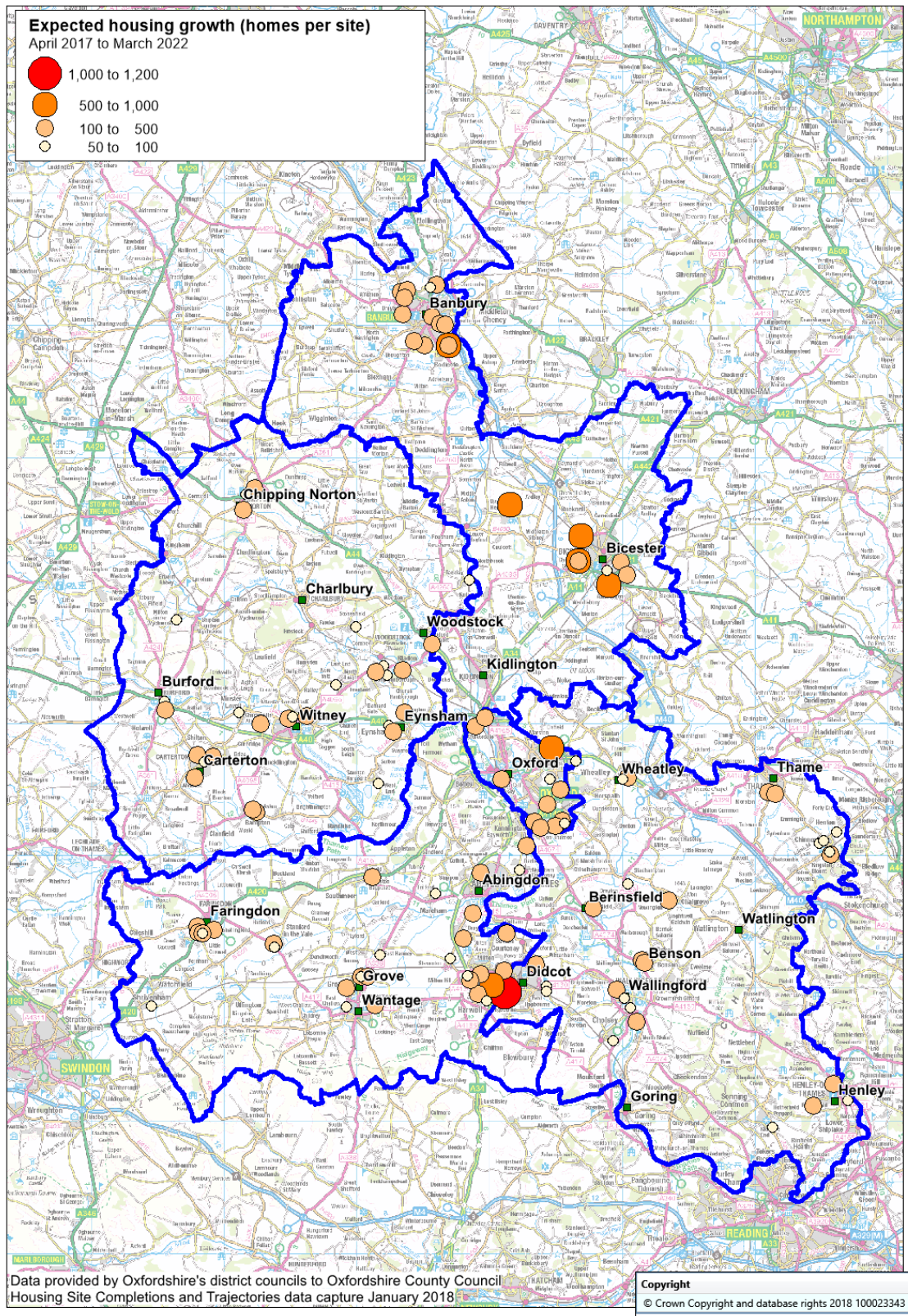


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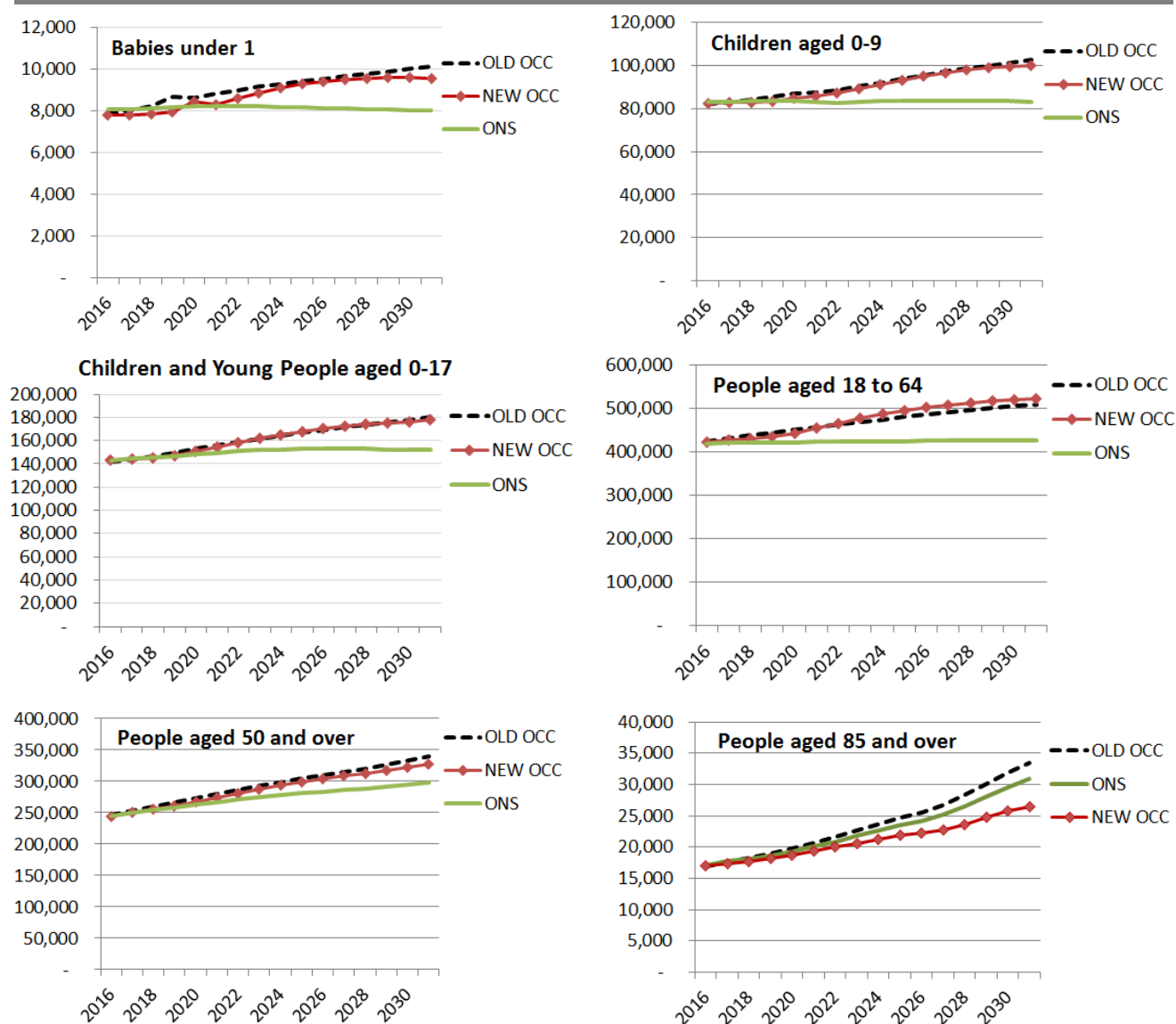
Oxfordshire County Council's updated local population forecasts include the expected housing growth in adopted and draft district local plans.

The new forecasts are also based on an improved set of assumptions from ONS, especially in the upper age bands where deaths data is now available by single year of age.

The following charts show the differences by age group between the new County Council forecasts (Apr18), the old County Council forecasts (Nov 2016, as reported in the 2017 JSNA) and the trend-based Office for National Statistics 2014-based sub national population projections.

The comparisons show a similar trend in the total population and younger age groups and a lower predicted growth in the number of older people than the previous set of forecasts.

 **Figure 7 Comparison of Oxfordshire County Council population forecasts based on housing growth (Nov16 and Apr18) and ONS projections based on past trends**



Sources: Oxfordshire County Council population forecasts (Nov16 and revised Apr 2018) and ONS 2014-based subnational population projections



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The latest Oxfordshire County Council population forecasts, predict an increase in the number of Oxfordshire residents of +186,500 people (+27%) between 2016 and 2031.

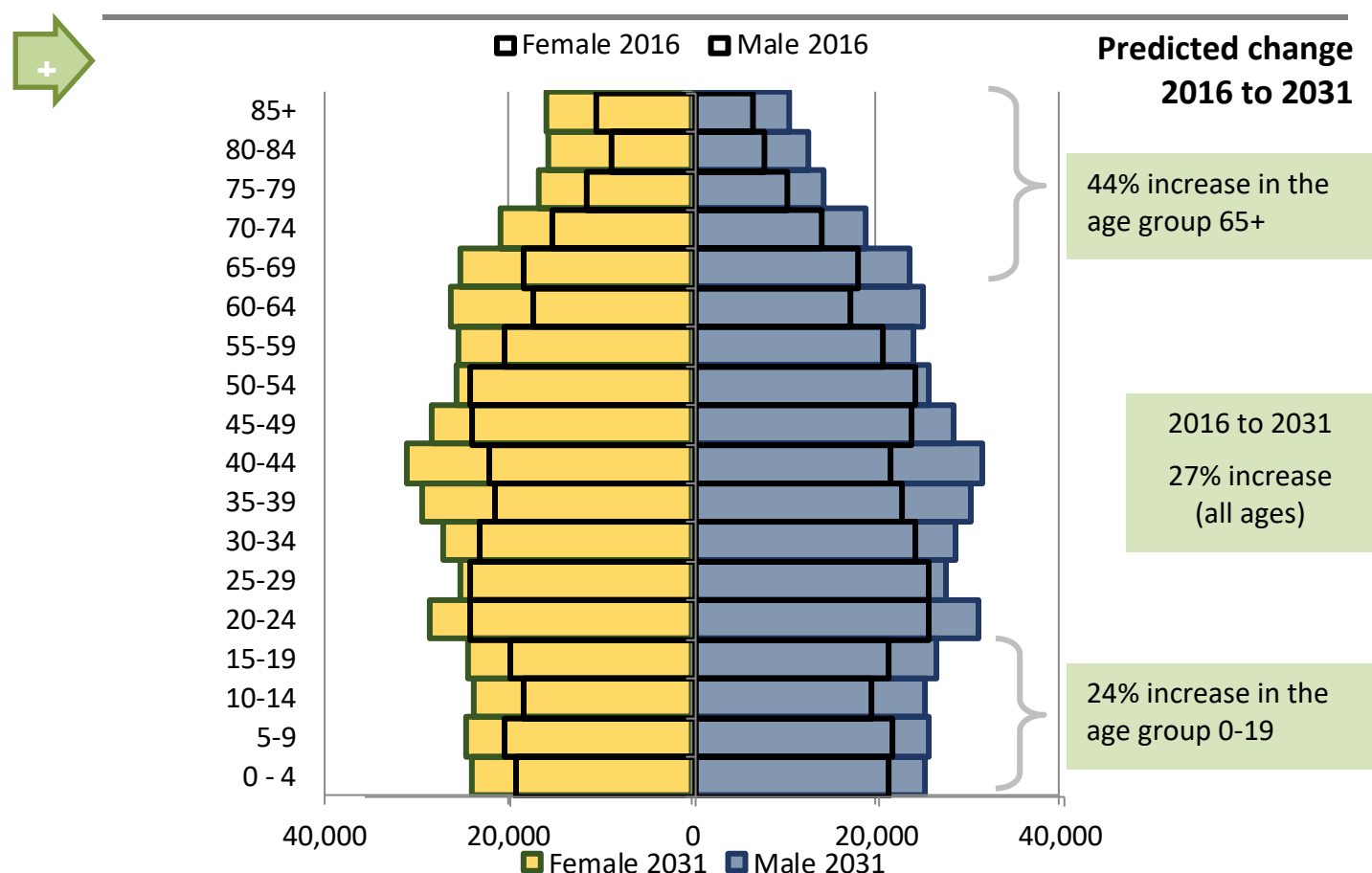
**Table 2 Projected growth in total resident population 2016 to 2031**

	2016	2031	Change 2016 to 2031	
Cherwell	148,200	203,900	55,800	38%
Oxford	161,400	172,000	10,500	7%
South	139,600	181,500	41,800	30%
Vale	129,400	178,900	49,600	38%
West	109,300	138,100	28,800	26%
<b>OXFORDSHIRE</b>	<b>687,900</b>	<b>874,400</b>	<b>186,500</b>	<b>27%</b>

Source: Oxfordshire County Council population forecasts (revised Apr18)

The older age group 65+ in Oxfordshire is expected to increase by +44%, well above the predicted growth in the number of children and young people aged 0-19 (24%).

**Figure 8 Oxfordshire population by age 2016 and 2031**



Source: Oxfordshire County Council population forecasts (revised Apr18)



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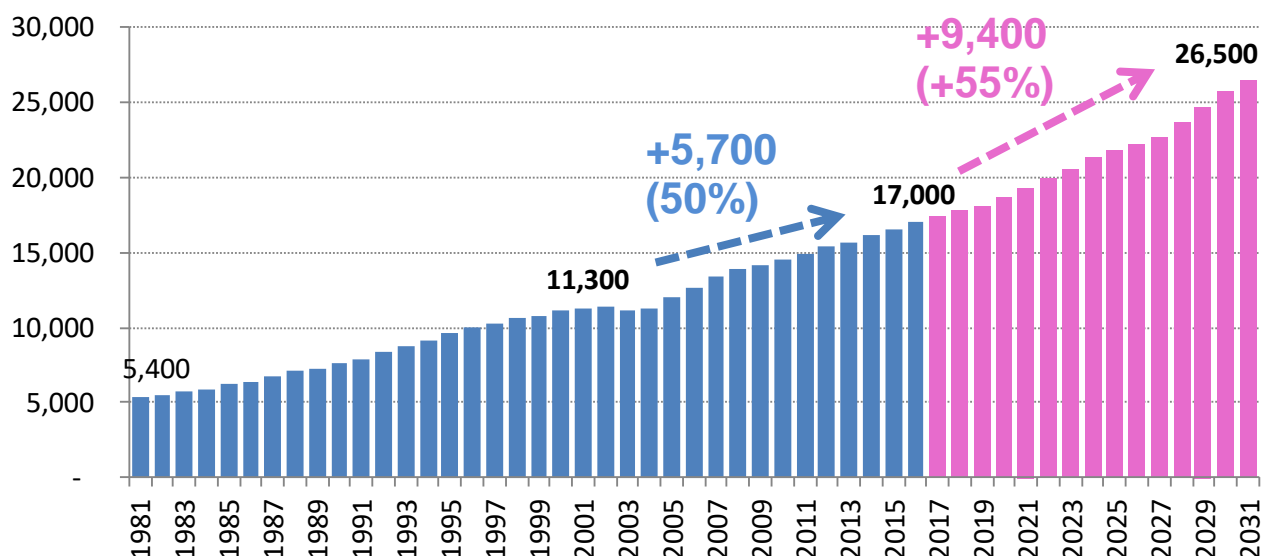
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### Predicted growth of the oldest age group (85+)

➔ Between 2001 and 2016 the number of people aged 85 and over, living in Oxfordshire, increased from 11,300 to 17,000, a growth of 50%.

Between 2016 and 2031, Oxfordshire County Council predicts this age group will increase by a further 9,400 people to 26,500 (+55%).

**Figure 9 Historical and forecast number of people aged 85 and over living in Oxfordshire**



Sources: ONS mid-year population estimates; Oxfordshire County Council population forecasts (revised Apr18); totals may not sum due to rounding

Each district in Oxfordshire is predicted an increase in the number of people aged 85 and over. The district expected to see the greatest percentage increase (+66%) is Vale of White Horse, followed by South Oxfordshire (+64%).

**Table 3 Historical and projected number of people aged 85 and over, Oxfordshire districts (2001 to 2016 and 2016 to 2031)**

	ONS mid-year estimates			OCC projection		
	2001	2016	2001 to 2016	2031	2016 to 2031	
Cherwell	2,200	3,400	1,300	5,400	1,900	56%
Oxford	2,500	2,900	400	3,600	700	26%
South Oxfordshire	2,600	3,900	1,300	6,300	2,500	64%
Vale of White Horse	2,100	3,600	1,500	6,000	2,400	66%
West Oxfordshire	2,000	3,300	1,200	5,200	1,900	59%
Oxfordshire	11,300	17,100	5,800	26,500	9,400	55%

Sources: ONS mid-year population estimates; Oxfordshire County Council population forecasts (revised Apr18); totals may not sum due to rounding




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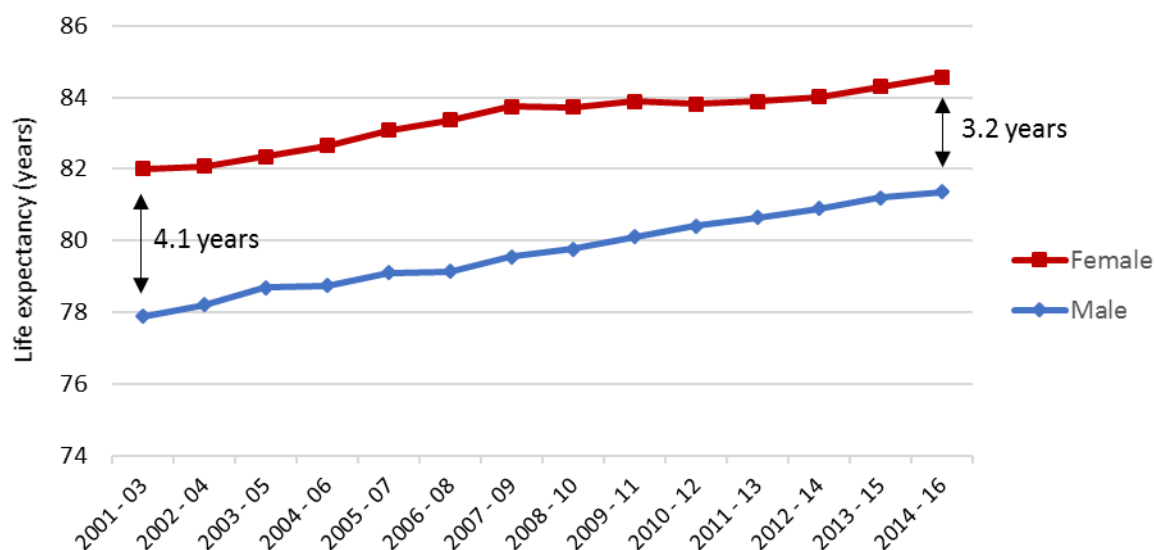
## 2.3 Life Expectancy

 The most recent set of 3-year Life Expectancy data shows that, between 2013-15 and 2014-16, Life Expectancy for males and females in Oxfordshire each increased.

- Male Life Expectancy increased from 81.2 to 81.4 (+0.2 years)
- Female Life Expectancy increased from 84.3 to 84.6 (+0.3 years)

Between 2001-03 and 2014-16, the gap between male and female Life Expectancy decreased from 4.1 years to 3.2 years.

**Figure 10 Change in Life Expectancy in Oxfordshire – males and females to 2014-16**



Source: ONS Figures are based on the number of deaths registered and mid-year population estimates, aggregated over 3 consecutive years. Note that scale does not start at 0

ONS data on changes in life expectancy by socio-economic group<sup>3</sup> (national data) shows a significant increase in life expectancy of professional males – above the gains for all groups of females and most of the other male socio-economic groups.

Life expectancy by ward data for Oxford shows a significant increase in **male life expectancy** in the more affluent North ward and no change in male life expectancy in the more deprived ward of Northfield Brook. The gap in male life expectancy between these two wards has increased from 4 years in 2003-07 to 15 years in 2011-15.

**Female life expectancy** in these wards has remained at similar levels with a gap of just over 10 years.

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<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/birthsdeathsandmarriages/lifeexpectancies/bulletins/trenniallifeexpectancyatbirthandage65bysocioeconomicpositionbasedonthenationalstatistics socioeconomic classification england and wales/2015-10-21>

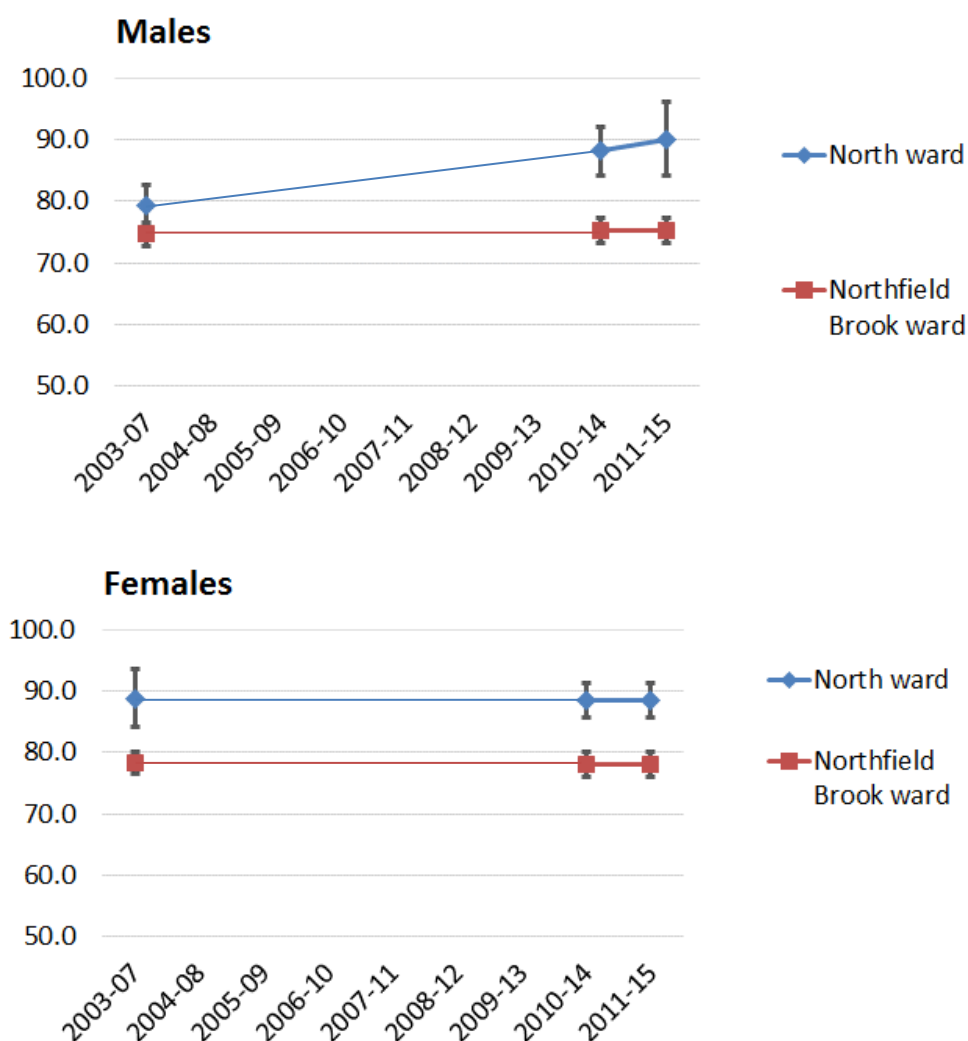


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**Figure 11 Trend in life expectancy by ward (showing confidence intervals), 5 year rolling average**



Source: 2011-15 life expectancy by ward data available from Local Health; LE data for previous years from Oxfordshire County Council archive. Note that trend data is not available for wards outside Oxford City as a result of changes in ward boundaries in 2015 and 2016. Note scale does not start at 0.



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## 2.4 Inequality in Disability Free Life Expectancy

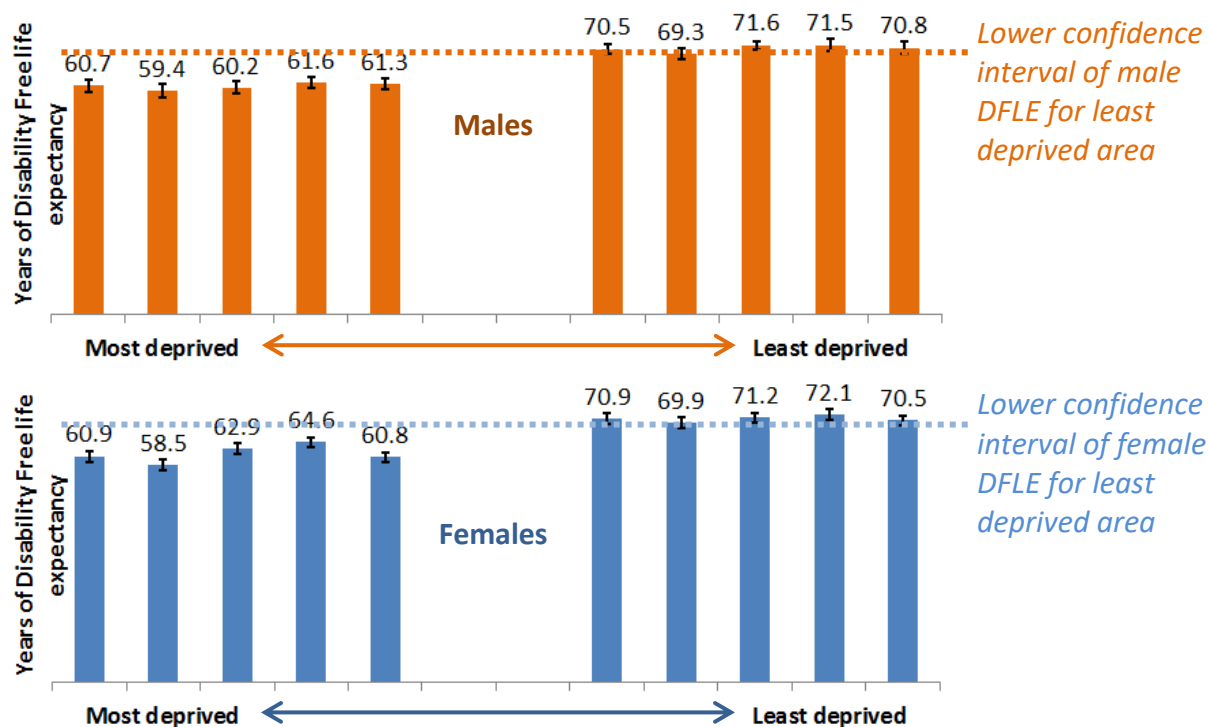
Disability Free Life Expectancy (DFLE) is the average number of years an individual is expected to live free of disability if current patterns of mortality and disability continue to apply.

There are clear inequalities in DFLE across Oxfordshire, with people in the most deprived areas having significantly lower Disability Free Life Expectancy compared with the least deprived.

- Data for the combined years 2009 to 2013 shows that for males there was a 10-year gap between the most and least deprived areas. For females, the gap was just under 10 years.

The following charts shows DFLE in years for the 5 most deprived Middle Layer Super Output areas in Oxfordshire compared with the 5 least deprived MSOAs.

**Figure 12 Disability Free Life Expectancy: most deprived vs least deprived MSOAs in Oxfordshire, 2009-2013**



Sources: ONS Disability Free Life Expectancy at birth by MSOA. IMD 2015 ranks and average scores for English Middle Layer Super Output Areas created by Public Health England from population weighted averages of their constituent Lower Super Output Area scores.

**Next update to this data will be following the 2021 Census**



Data has been updated in this version



Data has been reviewed and is unchanged