Planning research

People in Bolton Factfile no. 3.5

Household Projections

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People in Bolton

Household Projections Factfile - Updated December 2018

People in Bolton factfiles provide key facts and figures about people who live or work in the borough of Bolton, and bring together information from a variety of sources. They are an evolving resource which are regularly updated to include more recent information as it becomes available.

Other related publications, including more detailed information on a range of topics can be accessed at: www.bolton.gov.uk/researchandinformation

This factfile describes the trends in household growth for Bolton using the 2016 based Household Projections, which are based primarily on Census 2011 data and other household estimates. A comparison is made with the previous releases and across Greater Manchester districts. Further analysis includes breakdowns by household type, dependent children and age of 'Household Representative Person'

The factfile is set out in the following sections:

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1.1 Executive Summary

- Bolton's households are projected to increase from **118,500** in 2016 to **130,700** in 2041, making an extra **12,200** households. This is an increase of **10%**, with an average gain of **487** households per year.
- This is a large decrease from previously published projections, which in 2014 projected a **17,300** increase, and in 2012 **22,300**.
- Bolton's increase is significantly below regional & national projections (15% and 17% respectively).
- 7,300 of these additional households are predicted to consist of just **one-person**. Further significant changes include a growth in '**other**' multi-person households.
- The average household size is due to decrease from **2.38** to **2.29**.
- The majority of the increase in households is projected for households headed by someone of **pensionable age** (i.e. 65 or over). This means that by 2041, 35% of households will be headed by those aged 65+, compared to 27% in 2016.
- Much household change is driven by projected changes in the age structure, (in particular Bolton's **ageing population**). Changes in **economic & social structures** also have an impact.

1.2 Introduction

This report provides a description of the results of the new projections of households for Bolton. This is based on new projections, published in September 2018 by the Office for National Statistics (ONS). They project forward the number of households to give an indication of future trends for districts for the 25 years from 2016 to 2041. They replace the previous 2014-based projections.
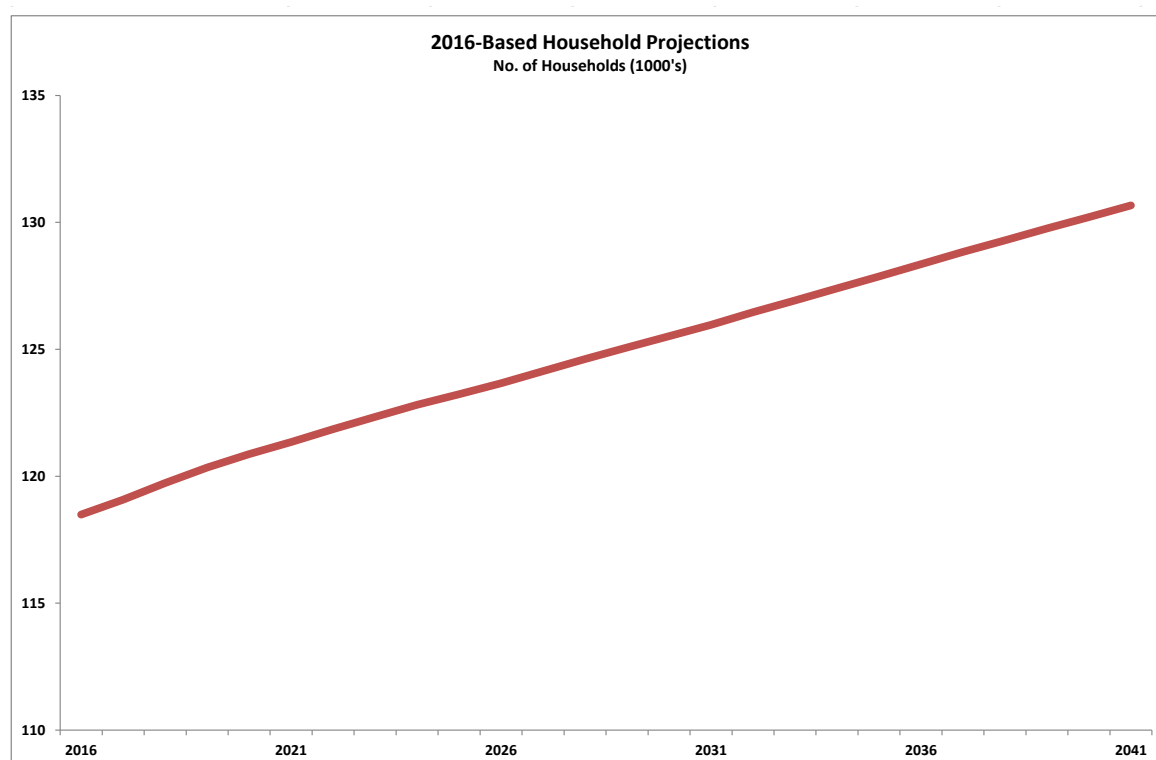
The 2011 Census defines a 'household' as **one person living alone, or a group of people (not necessarily related) living at the same address who share cooking facilities and share a living room, sitting room or dining area.**

These new results follow an exercise to update projections of household formation taking account of the 2011 Census of Population, and are based on the Office for National Statistics (ONS) population projections. Household projections are produced by projecting household formation rates (based on information gained from the 2001 and 2011 Censuses) and applying these to population projections by age & sex. **These projections are not an assessment of housing need, nor do they take account of future policies or developments**. Instead they provide an indication of the likely increase in households given the continuation of recent demographic trends. As such they are driven by assumptions on future levels of fertility, mortality and migration, as well as expectations of household formation behaviour.

1.3 Number of Households

According to the 2016-based household projections, Bolton's households are projected to increase by **10%** over 25 years, from **118,500** in 2016 to **130,700** in 2041. This is a total increase of around **12,200** households, with an average gain of **487** households per year.
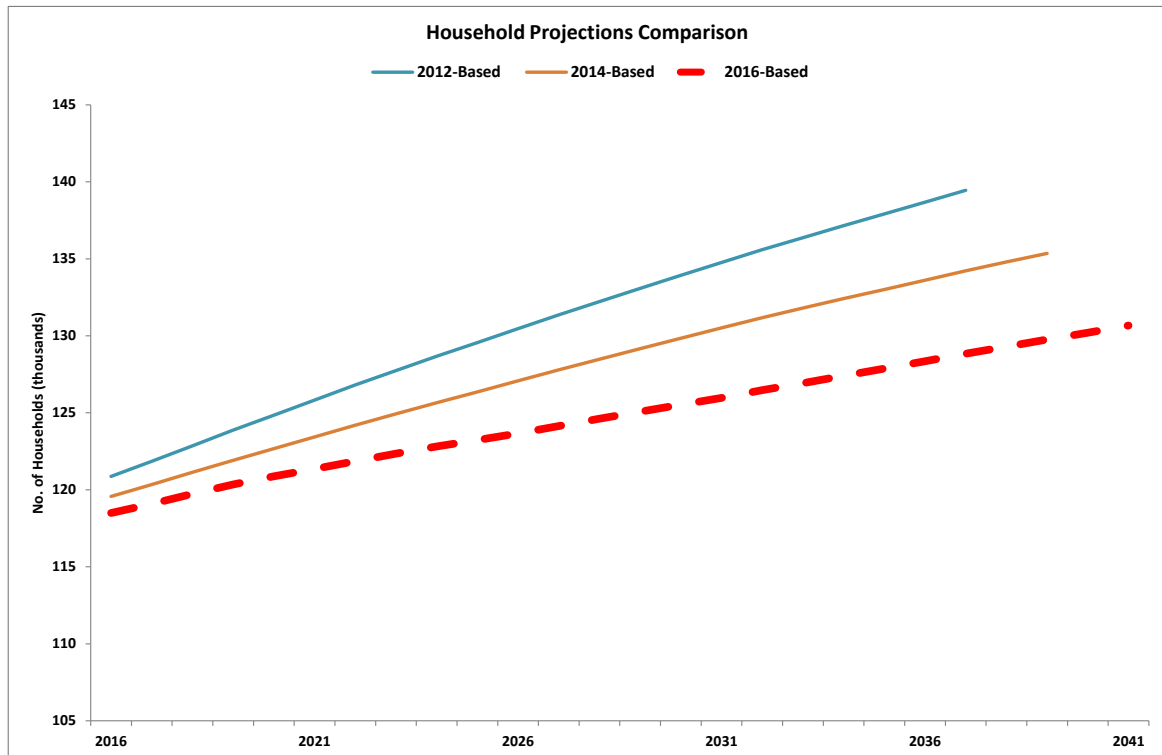
	Number of households *(thousands)*					
	2016	**2021**	**2026**	**2031**	**2036**	**2041**
Bolton	118.5	121.4	123.7	126.0	128.4	130.7
Greater Manchester	1,161	1,198	1,232	1,265	1,298	1,330
England	22,885	23,684	24,537	25,354	26,131	26,855

Source: ONS, 2016-based Household Projections, (2018). Data rounded to nearest hundred.

The 2016- based households projections project a significant decrease from the previous 2014 & 2012-based projections (published by the CLG). For instance the 2014-based projections resulted in a total average increase of 691 households per year, whilst the 2012-based projections projected an average of 892. Furthermore the 2012-based projections predicted a total increase of 22,300 households, (equivalent to 19%), whereas the 2016-based were almost half that (12,200, or 10%).

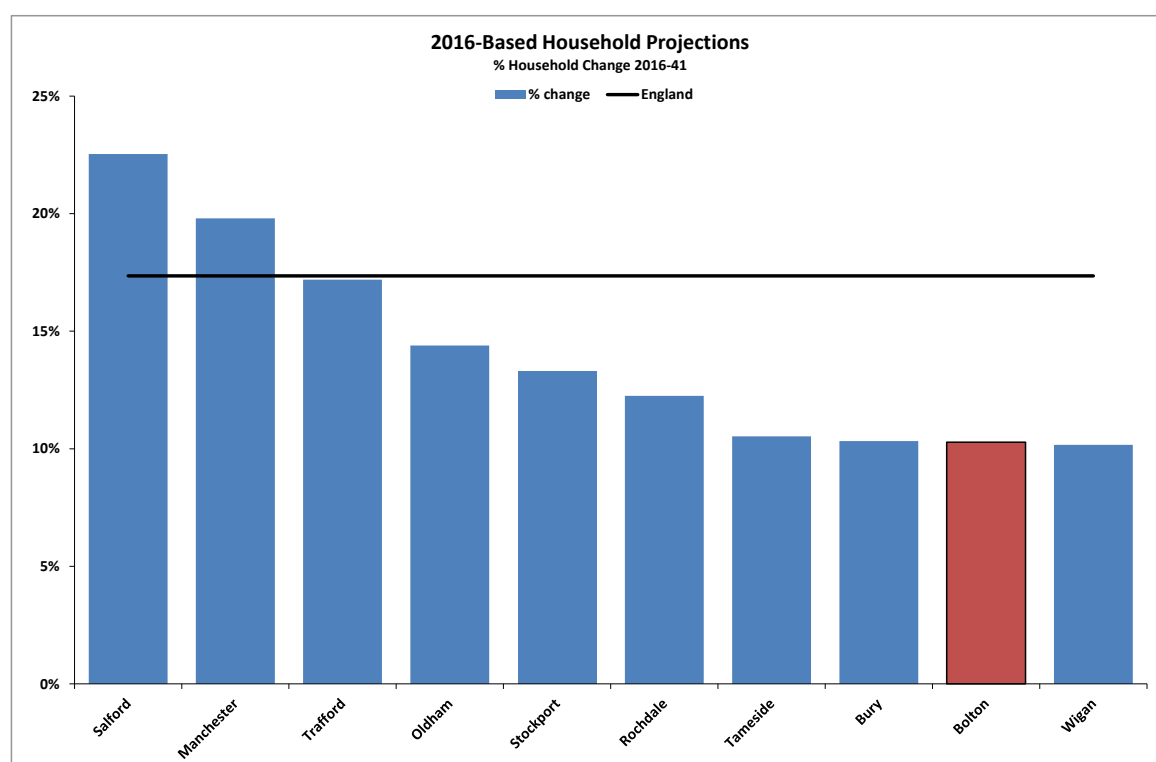|	2016 Based	2014 Based	2012 Based
Total Household Increase	12,200	17,300	22,300
Percentage Increase (%)	10.3%	14.6%	19.0%
Average per year	487	691	892

Source: ONS, 2016-based Household Projections, (2018). Data rounded to nearest hundred.

In the 2016-based household projections Bolton had the joint lowest proportionate increase in Greater Manchester (around 10%, along with **Wigan** and **Bury**). This can be compared to an increase of around 17% in England, and 15% in Greater Manchester as a whole. The largest proportional increase in GM was Salford, with 23%.

However in terms of increases in total numbers, Bolton is only **fourth** from bottom, with a total increase of 12,200. In Greater Manchester numbers range from 42,400 in **Manchester**, to just 8,200 in **Bury.** Manchester's large increase means that it makes up around one quarter of all the projected household increase in Greater Manchester – by contrast Bolton's increase makes up around 7%.

	2016	2041	Total Change	Percent Change	Average Annual Increase
Salford	109,600	134,200	24,700	23%	988
Manchester	214,000	256,400	42,400	20%	1,695
Trafford	96,400	113,000	16,600	17%	663
Oldham	91,700	104,900	13,200	14%	528
Stockport	124,400	140,900	16,500	13%	662
Rochdale	89,500	100,500	11,000	12%	439
Tameside	96,700	106,900	10,200	11%	407
Bury	79,700	87,900	8,200	10%	329
Bolton	**118,500**	**130,700**	**12,200**	**10%**	**487**
Wigan	140,600	154,900	14,300	10%	572
Greater Manchester	1,161,100	1,330,300	169,200	15%	6,769
England	22,884,500	26,855,000	3,970,400	17%	158,818

Source: ONS, 2016-based Household Projections, (2018). Data rounded to nearest hundred.

1.4 Household Structure

Household structure classifies households according to the relationships between the household members. For the purposes of the 2016-based projections these are presented in five aggregate categories, which, unlike the 2014-based projections, are NOT based on the Census household structure categories. The new household types for the 2016-based projections are:

- **Households with one dependent child**: a household which contains one family and no others, comprising of either a married/cohabiting couple or a lone parent with one dependent child.
- **Households with two dependent children**: a household which contains one family and no others, comprising of either a married/cohabiting couple or a lone parent with two dependent children.
- **Households with three or more dependent children**: a household which contains one family and no others, comprising of either a married/cohabiting couple or a lone parent with three or more dependent children.
- **One person households (Male/Female)**: a person living alone who shares neither housekeeping nor a living room with anyone else.
- **Other households with two or more adults**: a multi person household with no dependent children. Examples include married or cohabiting couples with no dependent children, lone parents with only non-dependent children, brothers and sisters and unrelated (and non-cohabiting) adults sharing a house or flat.

It is important to note that the new household structure categories do not compare with ones used in previous projections. In particular there is now no separate information **on relationships *within* households** (i.e. whether households with dependent children consist of couples or lone parents etc.) and no further information on what the category of **'other' households** consists of. Further work on household type breakdown is ongoing, with the ONS stating:

> *"In the future, we are intending to carry out further research into what type breakdowns are the most feasible and helpful for users, with a view to updating the breakdowns used for the next set of household projections"*[1].

The most significant change projected in Bolton for household types in 2016-41 is the growth in **one person households** (both male and female). Female one-person households are projected to increase by almost 4,000, whilst male were around 3,400, making a total increase of **7,300**; an increase of around **one-fifth**. This makes up more than half (60%) of the 12,200 projected extra households created. This increase can be linked, in part, to Bolton's **ageing population**, and
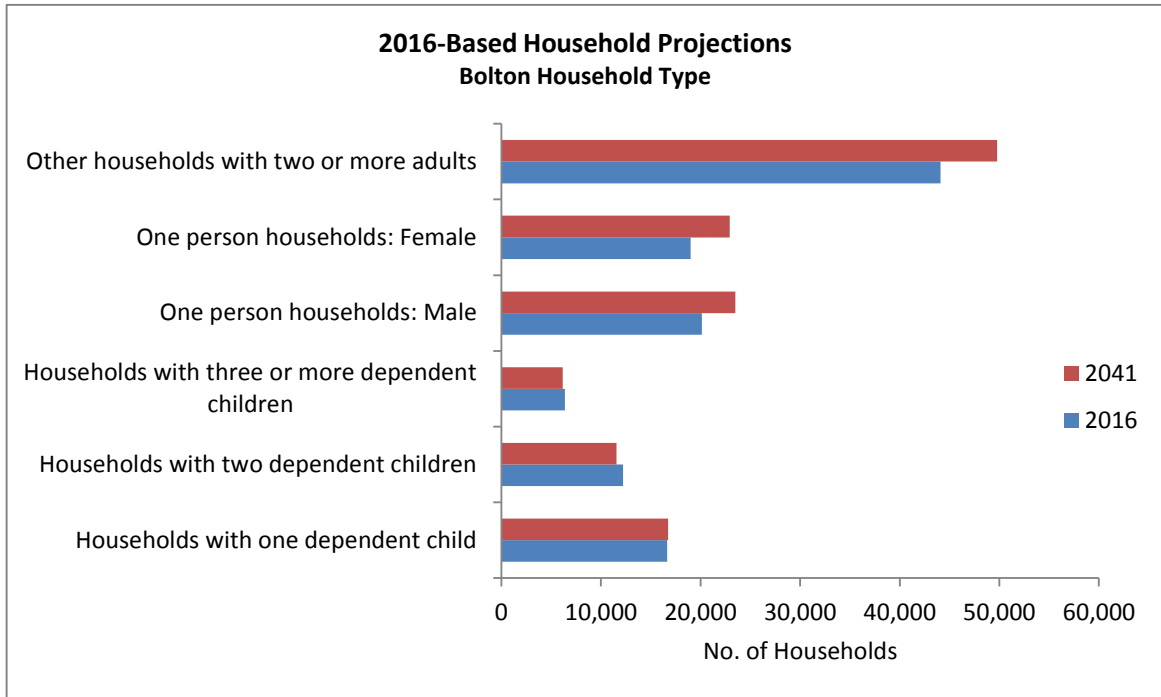
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[1]https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/populationprojections/methodologies/methodologyusedtoproducehouseholdprojectionsforengland2016based#household-type-breakdowns-stage-2-methodology

consequently accounts for the decrease in average household size from **2.38-2.29** during that time period.

The other significant change to note is the increase in **'other'** households consisting of two or more adults and no dependent children. (As stated previously this category has been merged since 2014, meaning it is unclear whether this increase is due to married/cohabiting couples with no dependent children or other multi-person households). This is projected to increase by around **5,700**, an increase of **13%.** This accounts for just less than half of the projected increase in households in 2016-41. Although the categories have altered since 2014, the growth in 'other' multi-person households can be seen as a reflection of **changing social structures** (e.g. more people living in multi-generational households due to economic/cultural reasons), as well as changes in Bolton's **age structure**; specifically the predicted upsurge in people in their late teens, twenties & early thirties (meaning more student houses/other adults sharing accommodation, etc.).

The main decline in households in Bolton is in **households with dependent children**. Households with one dependent child are projected to stay roughly the same, whilst households with two and three or more are projected to decrease by -600 and -200 respectively. This can be seen as a reflection of **declining birth rates**, and changing social norms to smaller family units.

Household types	No. of households		Change 2016-41	
	2016	**2041**	**No.**	**%**
Households with one dependent child	16,700	16,700	0	0%
Households with two dependent children	12,200	11,600	-600	-5%
Households with three or more dependent children	6,400	6,200	-200	-3%
One person households: Male	20,100	23,500	3,400	17%
One person households: Female	19,000	22,900	3,900	21%
Other households with two or more adults	44,100	49,800	5,700	13%
All households	**118,500**	**130,700**	**12,200**	**10%**
Average Household Size	2.38	2.29	-0.09	-3.8%

2016-Based Household Projections
Bolton Household Type

Source: ONS, 2016-based Household Projections, (2018). Data rounded to nearest hundred.

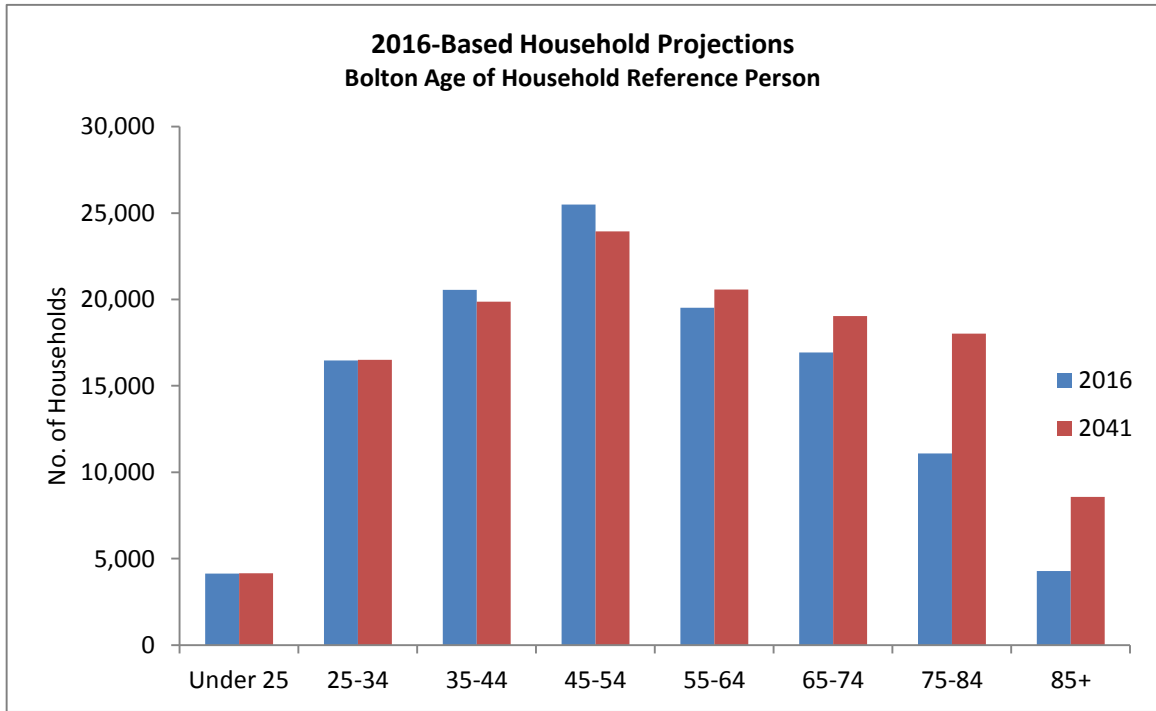## 1.5   Age of Household Reference Person (HRP)

The concept of a Household Reference Person (HRP) was introduced in the 2001 Census to replace the traditional concept of the 'head of the household'. HRPs provide an individual person within a household to act as a reference point for producing further derived statistics and for characterising a whole household according to characteristics of the chosen reference person, (for instance in this case 'age').

If a person lives alone, it follows that they are the HRP. If the household consists of more than one adult it is usually the **highest earning economically active person**. If more than one adult fits that description then the HRP is usually chosen by age. (Prior to the 2001 Census the 'head of the household' was usually simply the oldest male).

In Bolton the increase in the number of households headed by younger age groups is projected to be relatively lower than the increase in households headed by older people. For instance the number of households headed by someone aged **25 or under** and **25-34** are projected to remain the same, whilst the number of households headed by people aged **35-44** and **45-54** are projected to decline slightly (reflecting the changes in **age structure** & **migration** seen in the previous decade).

The highest increase in the number of households is projected to be for those headed by someone between **75-84** years old (6,900, or **62%** increase), and **85+** (6,800, or **100%** increase). **This means that by 2041, 35% of households will be headed by those aged 65+, compared to 27% in 2016**. This is related to the **ageing population**, as discussed in sections 1.3 & 1.4.

Age of HRP	No. of households		Change 2016-41	
	2016	**2041**	**No.**	**%**
Under 25	4,100	4,100	0	0%
25-34	16,500	16,500	0	0%
35-44	20,600	19,900	-700	-3%
45-54	25,500	23,900	-1,600	-6%
55-64	19,500	20,600	1,100	6%
65-74	16,900	19,000	2,100	12%
75-84	11,100	18,000	6,900	62%
85+	4,300	8,600	4,300	100%
All households	**118,500**	**130,600**	**12,100**	**10%**

2016-Based Household Projections
Bolton Age of Household Reference Person

Source: ONS, 2016-based Household Projections, (2018). Data rounded to nearest hundred.