

InformGloucestershire

Population Projections for Gloucestershire 2016-2041

An Overview

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Projected Population Change

Assuming current population trends continue, ONS projections suggest that the population in Gloucestershire will rise by 44,300 between 2016 to 2026, rising from 623,100 to 667,400. This increase of 7.1% of the 2016 population is equivalent to an average annual increase of 0.7% per annum. Between 2026 and 2041, the population is projected to rise to 715,300 an increase of 7.2% of the 2026 population.

Over the full 25 year period of the ONS projections, the Gloucestershire population is projected to increase by 14.8%, with an annual average growth rate of 0.6%. These projections are slightly higher than those for England.

Within the county, Tewkesbury and Gloucester are projected to have the largest percentage increases in population over the next 25 years (21.0% and 17.5% respectively) whilst the Cheltenham is projected to have the smallest increase (9.2%).

Table 1: Projected population changes in Gloucestershire by district 2016 to 2041

	Number of people			Projected population growth (%)	
	2016	2026	2041	2016 to 2026	2026 to 2041
Gloucestershire	623,100	667,400	715,300	7.1	7.2
Cheltenham	117,200	121,600	128,000	3.8	5.3
Cotswold	86,100	91,500	96,500	6.3	5.5
Forest of Dean	85,400	90,900	96,900	6.4	6.6
Gloucester	128,400	139,100	150,900	8.3	8.5
Stroud	117,500	126,200	136,000	7.4	7.8
Tewkesbury	88,500	98,200	107,100	11.0	9.1
England	55,268,100	58,505,600	61,952,100	5.9	5.9

Projected Changes in Age Structure

Tables 2 and 3 show the projected changes in the age structure of the Gloucestershire population. The dominating feature of the projections is the sharp increase in population in the age group 65 or over, which is projected to increase from 129,700 in 2016 to 206,700 in 2041. This increase is sharper than the national trend for England and means that by 2041 the proportion of people in Gloucestershire who are aged 65 or over will have risen from 20.8% of the population to 28.9%

The population of children and young people (those aged 0-19) is projected to rise by only 8.1% over the twenty-five year period. By comparison, the working age population (those aged 20-64) is projected to rise by only 1.0% over the same period. This increase is lower than the national trend for this group and means that by 2041 the working population in Gloucestershire will have fallen from 56.7% of the population to 49.9% of the population.

Table 2: Projected population change by age group, 2016 to 2041

Age	Number of people in Gloucestershire			% increase 2016-2026		% increase 2026-2041	
	2016	2026	2041	Gloucestershire	England	Gloucestershire	England
All Ages	623,100	667,400	715,300	7.1	5.9	7.2	5.9
0-19	140,600	150,900	152,000	7.3	6.0	0.7	-1.6
20-64	353,000	356,200	356,700	0.9	1.7	0.1	1.4
65+	129,700	160,200	206,700	23.5	19.4	29.0	27.1

Table 3: Age Structure of Gloucestershire population, 2016 to 2041 (%)

Age	Percentage of Population (%)					
	2016		2026		2041	
	Gloucestershire	England	Gloucestershire	England	Gloucestershire	England
0-19	22.6	23.7	22.6	23.7	21.2	22.1
20-64	56.7	58.4	53.4	56.1	49.9	53.7
65+	20.8	17.9	24.0	20.2	28.9	24.2

Table 4 shows in greater detail the predicted growth in the older people population from 2016 to 2041. From 2016 to 2026, growth is predicted to be sharpest in the age group 75-84 (an increase of 46.3%), whilst from 2026 to 2041, growth is predicted to be sharpest in the age group 85 or over (an increase of 77.5%). These changes mean that by 2041, the proportion of people in the county who are aged 65 or over will have risen from 20.8% to 28.9% and the proportion of people aged 85 or over will have risen from 2.9% to 5.5%.

Table 4: Projected older people population change, 2016 to 2041

Age	Number of people in Gloucestershire			% increase 2016 to 2026		% increase 2026 to 2041	
	2016	2026	2041	Gloucestershire	England	Gloucestershire	England
65-74	71,100	78,300	89,900	10.1	7.7	14.8	15.6
75-84	40,800	59,700	77,400	46.3	37.4	29.6	27.3
85+	17,800	22,200	39,400	24.7	24.1	77.5	67.5

Projected Population in the Districts

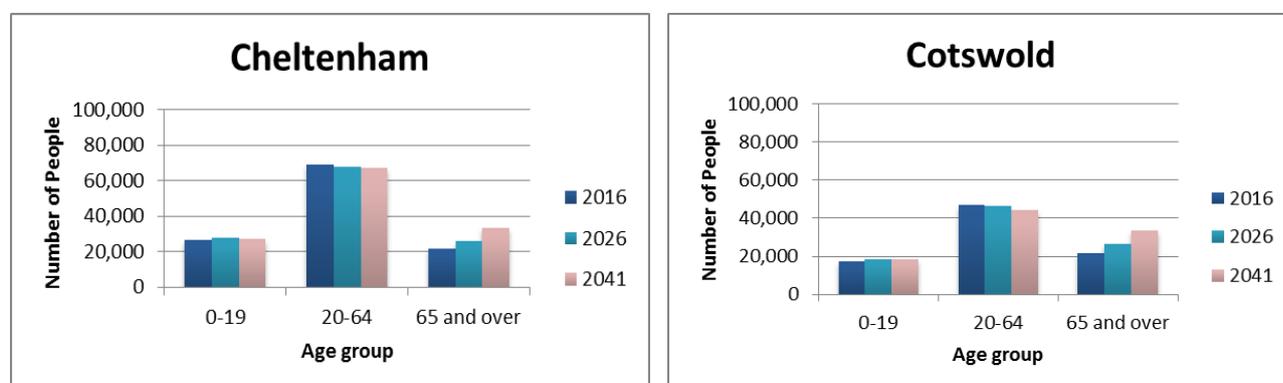
Table 5 shows the projected percentage population changes for each Gloucestershire district for the period 2016 to 2041 whilst Figure 1 shows the projected population changes by number of people for each district for the same period.

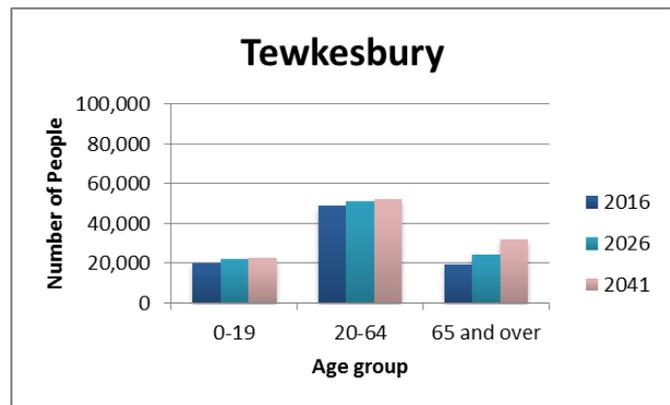
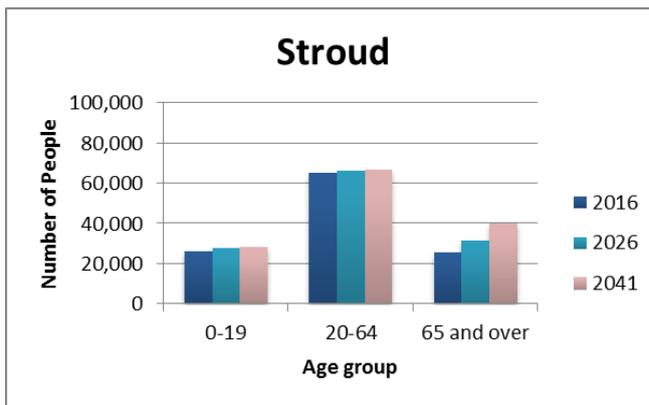
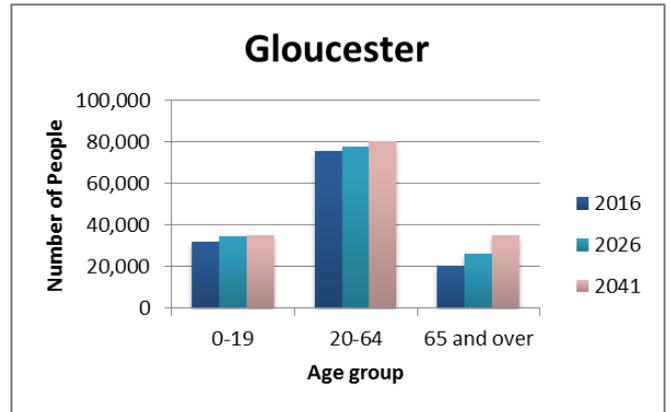
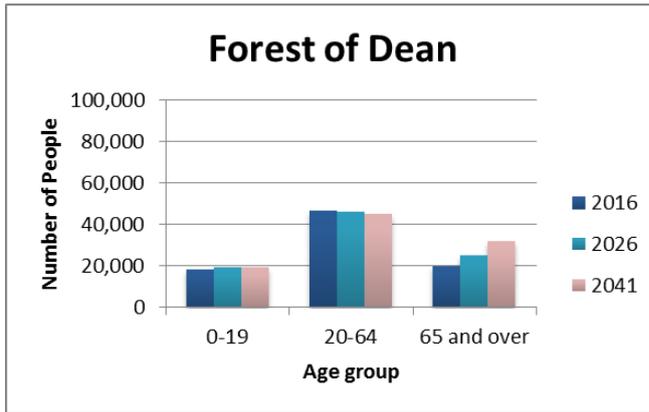
- In all three age groups, the projected percentage increases in overall population are greatest in Tewkesbury and Gloucester.
- Amongst the 0-19 age group, the projected percentage increase is greatest for Tewkesbury (15.2%) and smallest for Cheltenham (2.6%).
- In the districts Cotswold, Forest of Dean and Cheltenham, the working age group (those aged 20-64) is predicted to shrink by 5.3%, 3.2% and 2.7% respectively. By comparison, this age group is predicted to grow in Stroud, Tewkesbury and Gloucester by 2.6%, 5.7% and 6.6% respectively.
- Considerable growth in the older people age group (those aged 65+) is predicted in all districts. The increase is sharpest in Gloucester (69.7%) and lowest in Cheltenham (53.4%).

Tables 5: Projected population changes in the Gloucestershire districts by age group, 2016 to 2041

Age	Projected % increase (2016 to 2041)					
	Cheltenham	Cotswold	Forest of Dean	Gloucester	Stroud	Tewkesbury
0-19	2.6	4.5	7.1	9.7	9.2	15.2
20-64	-2.7	-5.3	-3.2	6.6	2.6	5.7
65 and over	53.4	55.8	58.9	69.7	56.6	64.6
All ages	9.2	12.1	13.5	17.5	15.7	21.0

Figure 1: Projected number of people in the Gloucestershire districts by age group, 2016 to 2041





About these projections

National population projections by age and sex are produced for the UK and its constituent countries every 2 years, by the Office of National Statistics. The projections are based on the most recently available mid-year population estimates (the mid-2016 estimates in this case) and a set of underlying assumptions regarding future fertility, mortality and migration. It is important to note that they do not attempt to predict the impact that future government policies, changing economic circumstances or other factors (for example, government policies on immigration or student fees), might have on demographic behaviour (however, the projections of people of pensionable age do take account of future changes in State Pension Age under existing legislation). Projections become increasingly uncertain the further they are carried forward.

Data Source: Office of National Statistics