

Population changes

Drivers of household increases to 2031

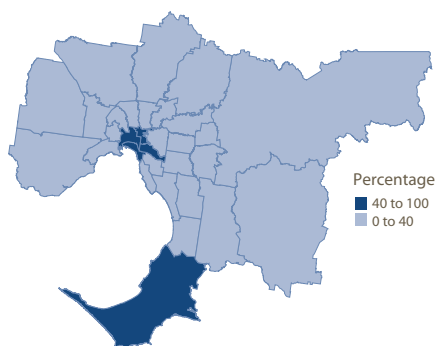
Age pyramids show the ageing of Melbourne's population. This trend is projected to create an extra 134,000 households over the next 30 years. Ageing generally leads to a reduction in average household size as younger family members leave home, leaving parents in smaller (two or one person) households. Couples without children already make up more than 40% of households in most areas within five kilometres of the CBD and on the Mornington Peninsula. By 2031, one and two person households without children will outnumber families with children.

Changing lifestyles are also leading to smaller households, as more adults remain childless and more live alone through various life stages. These changing preferences are forecast to account for an extra 88,000 households between 2001 and 2031.

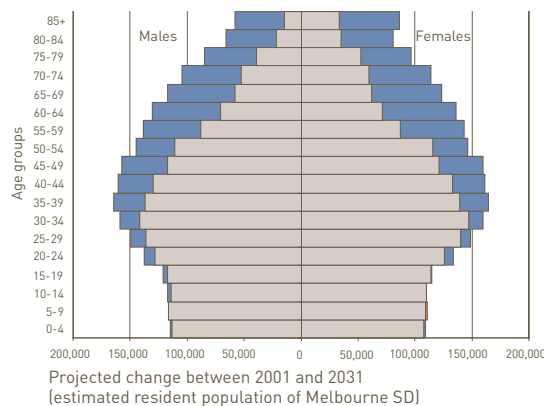
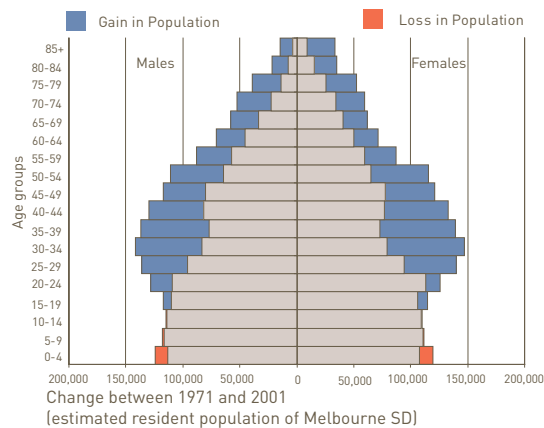
Melbourne's overall projected growth of 630,000 households between 2001 and 2031 will be driven by population growth through natural increase and net migration and structural changes such as ageing and lifestyle choices for smaller households.

1 Percentage of households which are couples without children

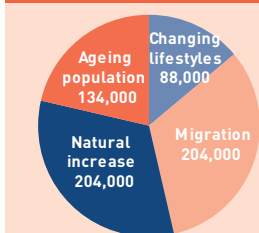
Local Government Areas, 2001



2 Change in age structure between 1971 and 2031 Melbourne Statistical Division



3 Factors adding to Melbourne's household numbers between 2001 to 2031



Australian capital city populations compared

Other Australian capitals also have ageing populations and smaller households, with over 60% of households in Adelaide and Hobart in 2001 already comprising one or two people. These are also the Australian capitals with the highest percentage of people aged 60 years and over in the population.

4 Capital city households and ages compared Statistical Divisions, 2001

