

Chapter 4

Results

This section presents the results of the 2001-base family and household projections. The subsection on families includes projections of family types and families with dependent children. The subsection on households includes projections of household types and household size. The subsection on people includes projections of the population by living arrangement type.

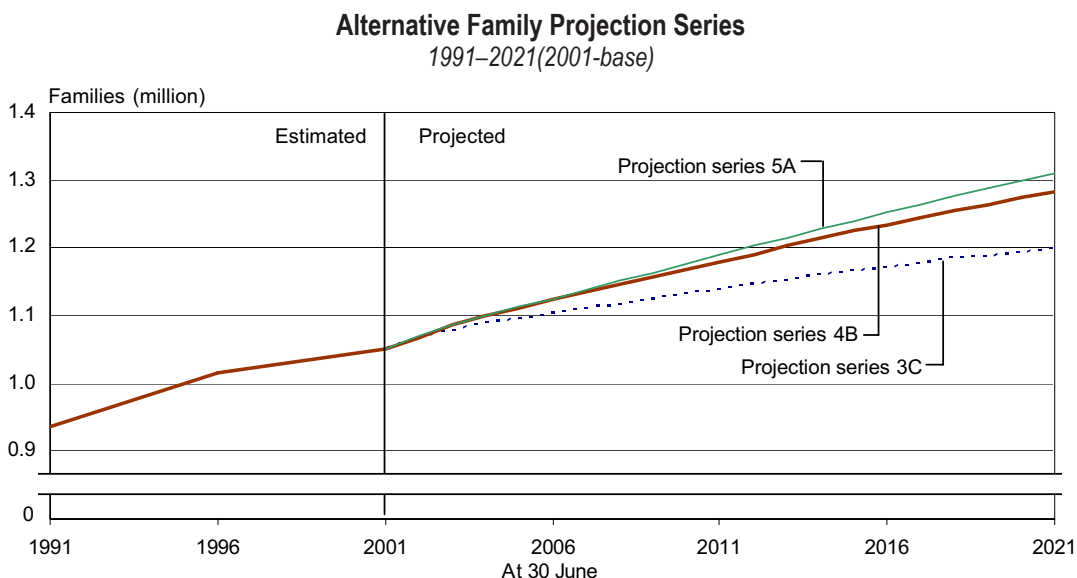
The results included in this section are based on projection series 4B unless otherwise stated. At the time of production, series 4B is considered the most suitable for assessing future family and household changes. Moreover, only series 4B has been formulated to produce demographically plausible results by assessing both observed trends between 1986 and 2001, and likely future trends to 2021. However, the projections are neither predictions nor forecasts. They merely indicate the likely changes in the numbers of families and households, and changes in the population by living arrangement type that would occur if certain assumptions about future living arrangement types were realised.

4.1 Families

A family is defined as a couple, with or without children, or one parent with children, usually living together in a household. The number of families is projected to increase by 230,000 or 22 percent between 2001 and 2021, from 1.05 million to 1.28 million (figure 4.01). This compares with population growth of 16 percent over the same period, according to population projection series 4. The slightly higher growth in the number of families, compared with the number of people, mainly reflects the projected increase in the number of couple without children families associated with the ageing of the large birth cohorts of the 1950s to 1970s.

By comparison, projection series 5A, which assumes long-term annual net migration of 10,000 and living arrangement type rates (LATRs) remaining constant at 2001 levels, yields the highest number of families in 2021 at 1.31 million. This is an increase of 260,000 or 25 percent on the 2001 figure. Projection series 3C, which assumes long-term annual net migration of zero and LATRs changing linearly according to the linear trend between 1986 and 2001, projects the lowest number of families in 2021 at 1.20 million.

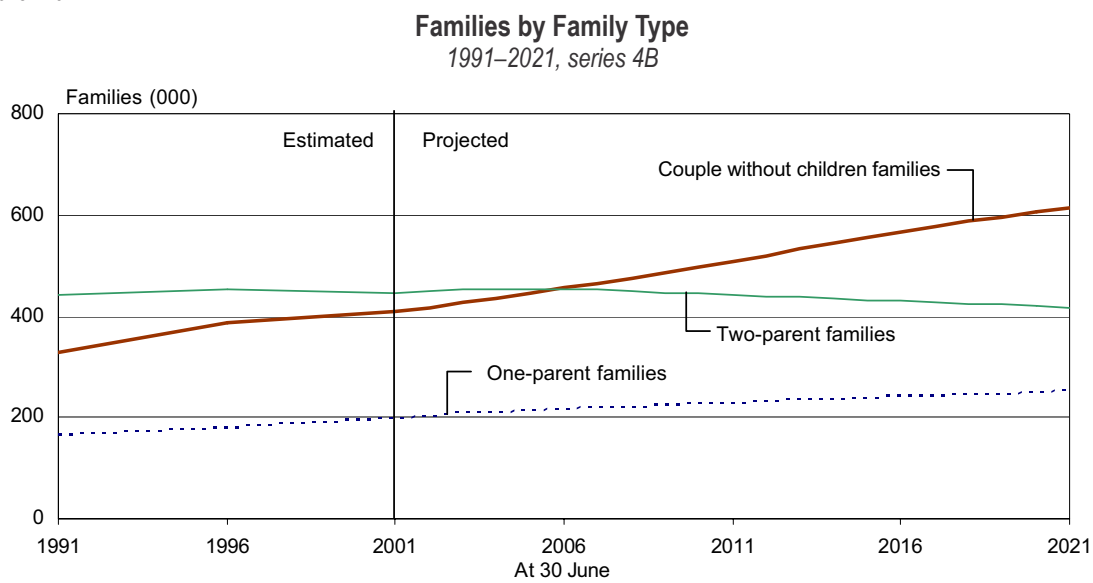
Figure 4.01



Families, as defined in these projections, include three broad types depending on the presence or absence of partners and children: couple without children families; two-parent families; and one-parent families. In these projections, couples consist of two people usually living together in a consensual union or registered marriage, and include both opposite-sex and same-sex couples.

By 2006, couple without children families are expected to be the most common family type (figure 4.02), surpassing two-parent families. This crossover is expected to occur for all series, although its timing is affected by the different assumptions. For projection series using variant A, couple without children families become the most common family type in 2009, whereas this occurs for projection series using variant C in 2004.

Figure 4.02

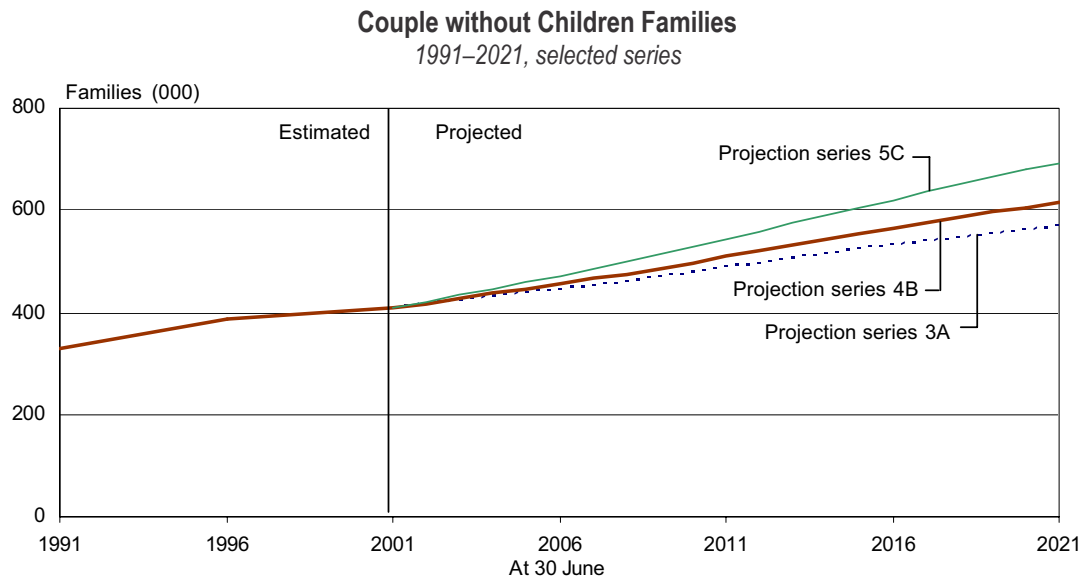


4.1.1 Couple without children families

The number of couple without children families is expected to grow faster than other family types over the projection period. Series 4B projects an increase of 51 percent from 407,000 in 2001 to 614,000 in 2021. This continues the recent growth of 24 percent from 329,000 between 1991 and 2001. Couple without children families include couples who will never have children, couples who will have children in the future, and couples whose children have left the parental home.

Couple without children families are projected to increase substantially between 2001 and 2021 in all nine projection series. The smallest projected increase is 39 percent, or 567,000 couple without children families, under series 3A. Series 5C gives the largest increase of 70 percent, or 693,000 couple without children families.

Figure 4.03



The increasing significance of couple without children families reflects several interrelated factors:

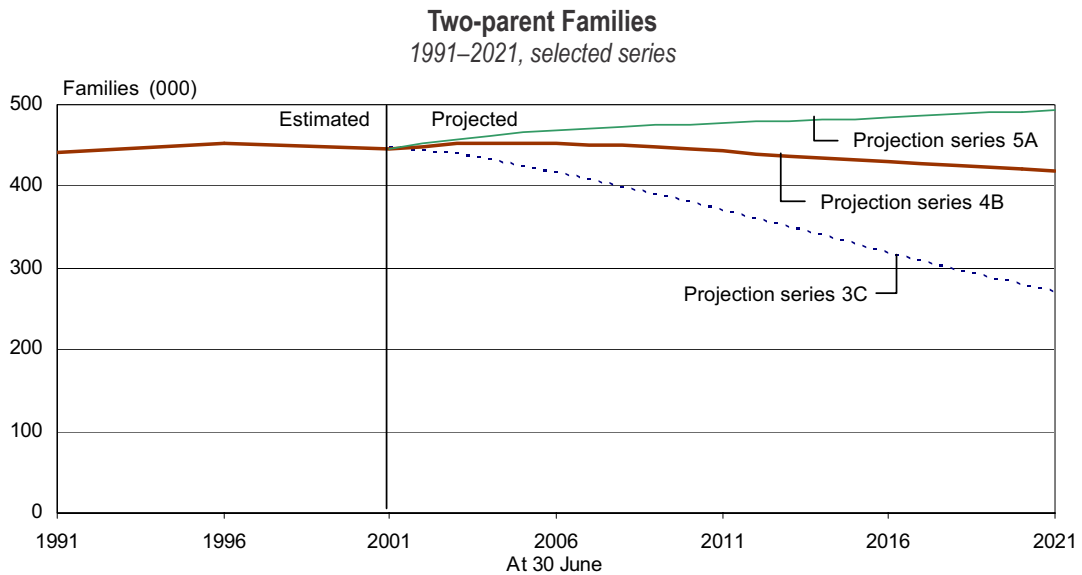
- Firstly, the ageing of the large birth cohorts of the 1950s to 1970s means that the population in the prime ages for living in couple without children families (50–84 years) is projected to increase by 58 percent between 2001 and 2021. By comparison, the projected population increase of other ages combined is about 1 percent.
- Secondly, an increasing proportion of couples is remaining childless either voluntarily or involuntarily. Furthermore, those women who are having children are generally having fewer children and starting families later in life, as evidenced by declining fertility rates and the rising median age of childbearing.
- Thirdly, the trend to delayed childbearing tends to compress both *childbearing* and *childrearing* into fewer years.
- Finally, the increasing acceptance, identification and measurement of same-sex couples in data collections may also have contributed to the observed increases from 1986 to 2001 in rates of people to live in couple without children families.

4.1.2 Two-parent families

The number of two-parent families is projected to decline 6 percent from 446,000 in 2001 to 418,000 in 2021 (figure 4.04). Over the same period, the average number of children per two-parent family is expected to decrease from about 2.0 to 1.9.

Between 2001 and 2021, projection series using variant A show small increases in the number of two-parent families of 4 percent for series 3A, 8 percent for series 4A and 11 percent for series 5A. Conversely, projection series using variant C suggest the number of two-parent families will decline by as much as 39 percent to 270,000 (series 3C).

Figure 4.04



The projected decline in the number of two-parent families is driven mainly by the interrelated assumptions of continued fertility decline, the trend away from parenting, and the increasing propensity for parents to be unpartnered or between partners. In other cases, a child may have two parents with equally important caregiver responsibilities but, because the parents live in separate households, the child is identified as usually living in a one-parent family. The number of two-parent families is also influenced by the ageing of the large birth cohorts of the 1950s to 1970s. As a result, the population in the principal ages for living in two-parent families, 30–54 years, is projected to increase only 2 percent between 2001 and 2021. By comparison, the projected population increase of other ages combined is about 24 percent.

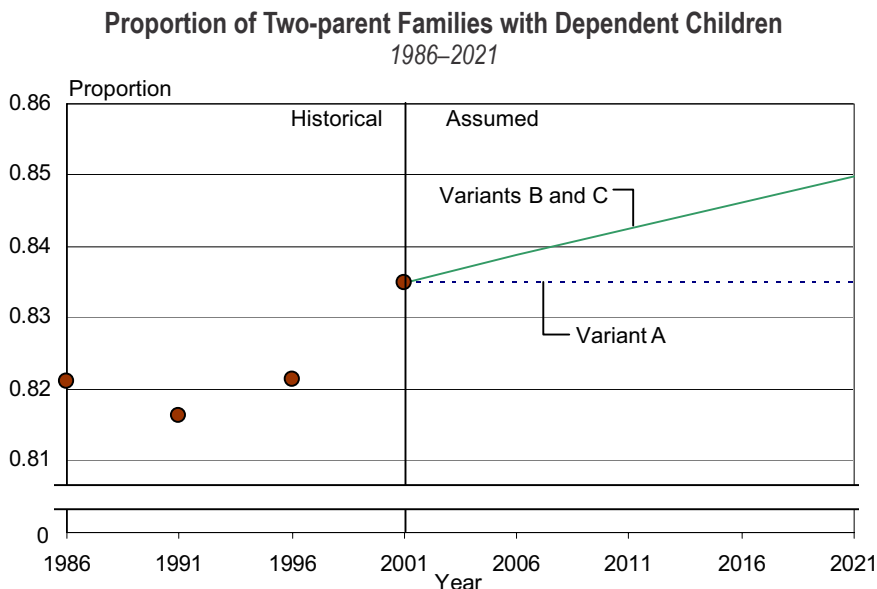
The two-parent family is projected to remain the most common family type where children are involved. However, it will account for 72 percent of families with children in 2021 compared with 78 percent in 2001.

Two-parent families with dependent children

Children in families can be of any age. For some purposes it is useful to focus on dependent children (children in a family, aged under 18 years and not in full-time employment).

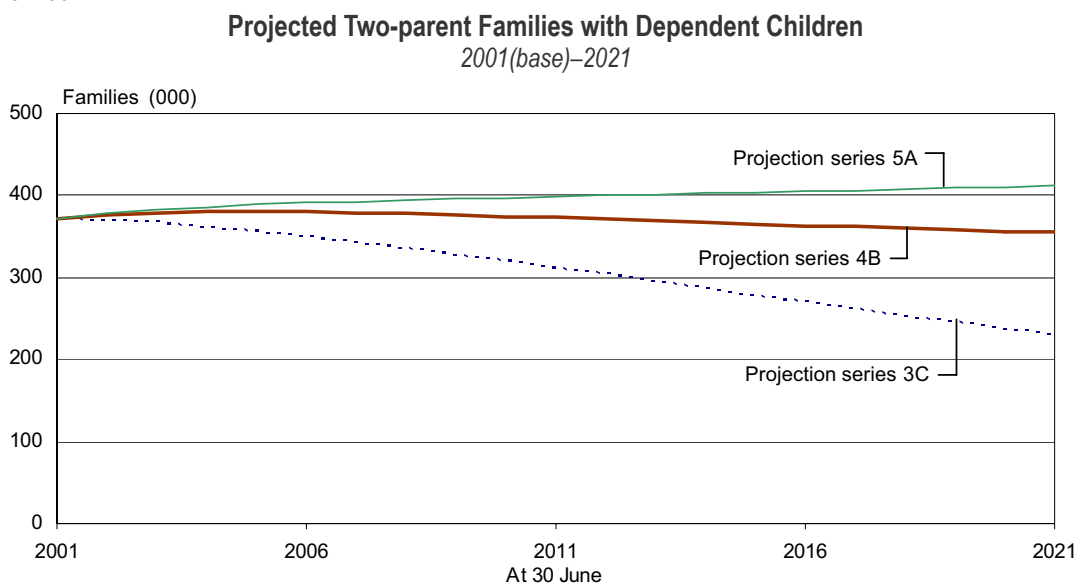
During the 1986–2001 period, there was a general trend for the proportion of families with dependent children to increase, as the age of childbearing increased and average family size decreased. Over the projection period, the percentage of two-parent families with at least one dependent child is assumed to increase from 83.5 percent in 2001 to 85.0 percent in 2021 (figure 4.05).

Figure 4.05



The number of two-parent families with at least one dependent child is projected to initially increase from 372,000 in 2001 to 380,000 in 2005 under series 4B. By 2021, however, the number will have dropped to 355,000, which is 5 percent lower than the estimated number in 2001 (figure 4.06). The three variant A series project increases in two-parent families with dependent children, the largest being to 413,000 in 2021 for series 5A. The largest decrease (38 percent) is projected in series 3C, to 230,000 two-parent families containing dependent children in 2021.

Figure 4.06

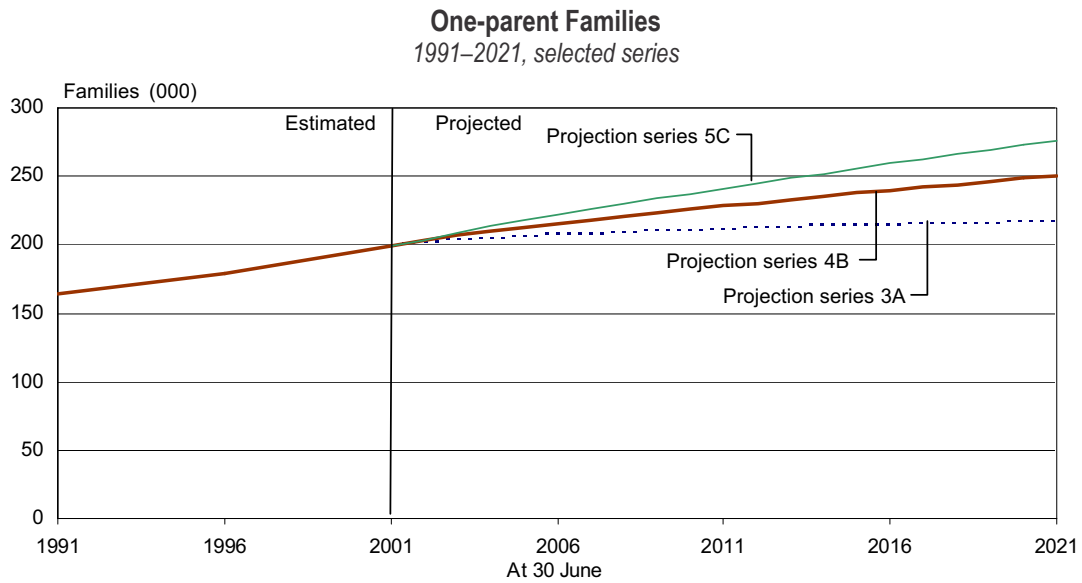


4.1.3 One-parent families

The number of one-parent families is projected to increase 26 percent from 198,000 in 2001 to 251,000 in 2021 (figure 4.07). They are projected to account for 20 percent of all families in 2021, up slightly from 19 percent in 2001. One-parent families tend to be smaller on average than two-parent families. The average number of children per one-parent family is expected to decline over the projection period from about 1.7 to about 1.5.

Between 2001 and 2021, projection series using variant A give small increases in the number of one-parent families, of 9 percent for series 3A, 13 percent for series 4A and 16 percent for 5A. In contrast, projection series using variant C suggest the number of one-parent families will increase by as much as 36 percent to 276,000 (series 5C). Although this is higher than the number of two-parent families projected in series 5C, none of the projection series suggest that the number of one-parent families will overtake the number of two-parent families within the projection period.

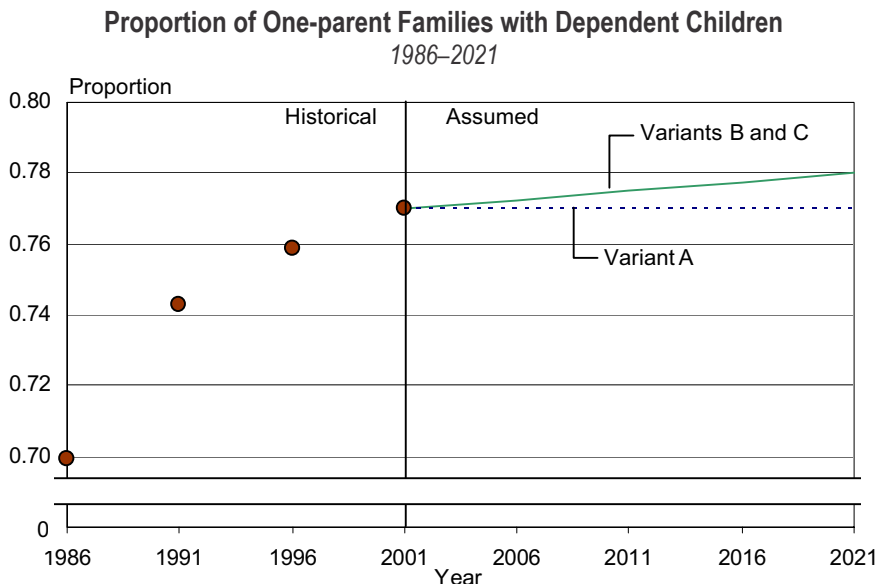
Figure 4.07



One-parent families with dependent children

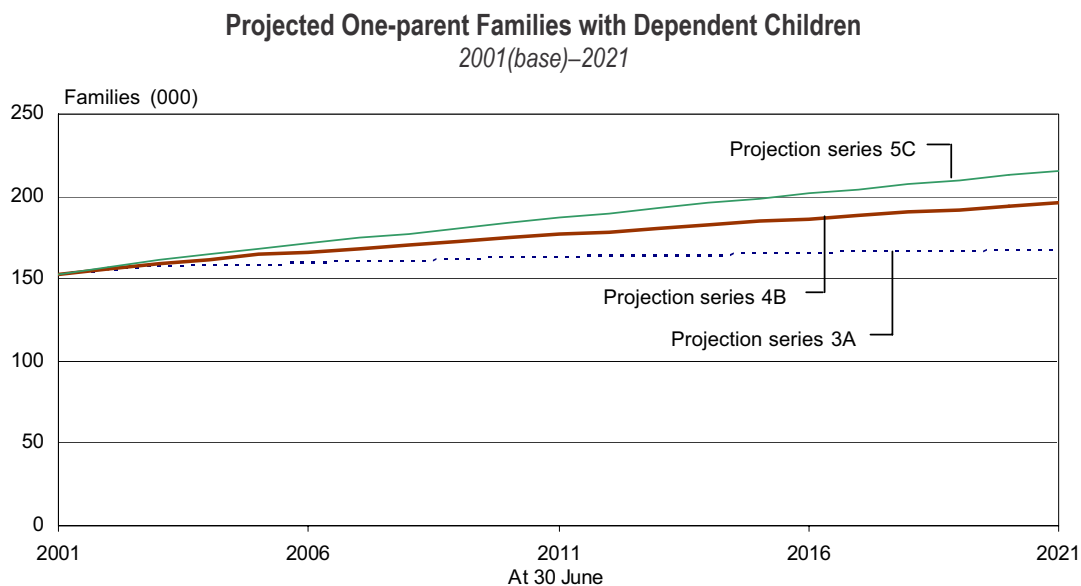
The proportion of one-parent families with dependent children increased during the period 1986–2001, and is similar to the trend for two-parent families. For one-parent families the proportion is smaller than for two-parent families, reflecting the greater likelihood that one-parent families will include a child providing care to an older parent. Children in one-parent families also tend to remain in the parental home longer than do children in two-parent families. For one-parent families, the percentage with at least one dependent child is projected to increase from 77 percent in 2001 to 78 percent in 2021 (figure 4.08).

Figure 4.08



The number of one-parent families with at least one dependent child is projected to increase 28 percent, from 153,000 in 2001 to 196,000 in 2021 for series 4B (figure 4.09). One-parent families are projected to account for 36 percent of families with dependent children in 2021, up from 29 percent in 2001. In 2021, alternative series project an increase in the number of one-parent families with dependent children to as many as 215,000 (series 5C) or as few as 167,000 (series 3A).

Figure 4.09



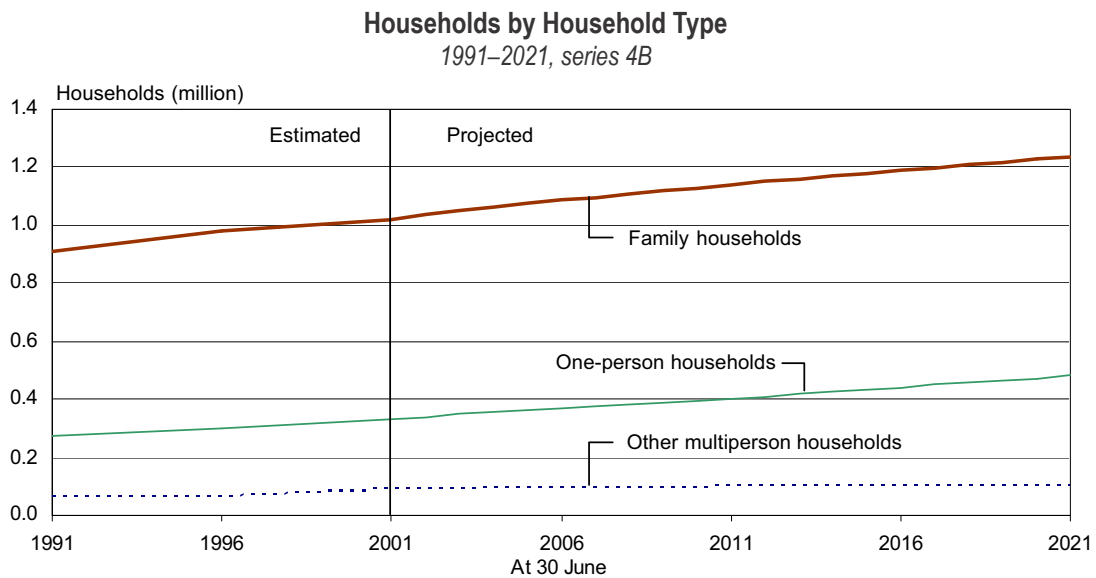
4.2 Households

A household is defined as one person usually living alone, or two or more people usually living together and sharing facilities, in a private dwelling. Households include family households and non-family households. Family households contain at least one family, with an estimated average of 1.04 families per household in 2001. Non-family households include other multiperson households as well as one-person households.

Family households and non-family households are not entirely independent of each other because of transitions between them. For example, when the children of a one-parent family leave the parental home, that family household becomes either a one-person household or, if there are other people living with the family, an ‘other multiperson household’. Similarly, a couple-only household may become one or more non-family households if the partners dissolve their relationship. Conversely, non-family households can become family households if, for example, two members of an ‘other multiperson household’ become a couple.

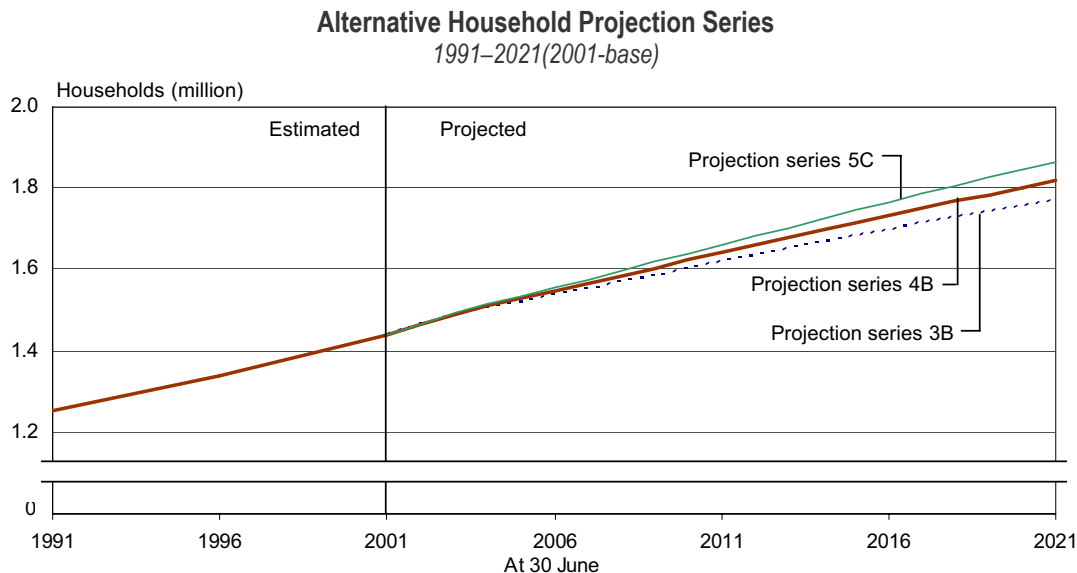
The number of households is projected to increase by 380,000 or 26 percent between 2001 and 2021, from 1.44 million to 1.82 million. This compares with population growth of 16 percent and family growth of 22 percent over the same period, according to projection series 4B. The higher growth in the number of households mainly reflects the trend towards smaller average household size, including more one-person households (figure 4.10).

Figure 4.10



By comparison, projection series 5C, which assumes long-term annual net migration of 10,000 and LATRs changing linearly according to the linear trend between 1986 and 2001, yields the highest number of households in 2021 at 1.87 million. This is an increase of 420,000 or 29 percent on the 2001 figure (figure 4.11). Projection series 3B, which assumes long-term annual net migration of zero and LATRs changing linearly, based on an assessment of trends between 1986 and 2001 and likely future trends, gives the lowest number of households in 2021 at 1.77 million.

Figure 4.11

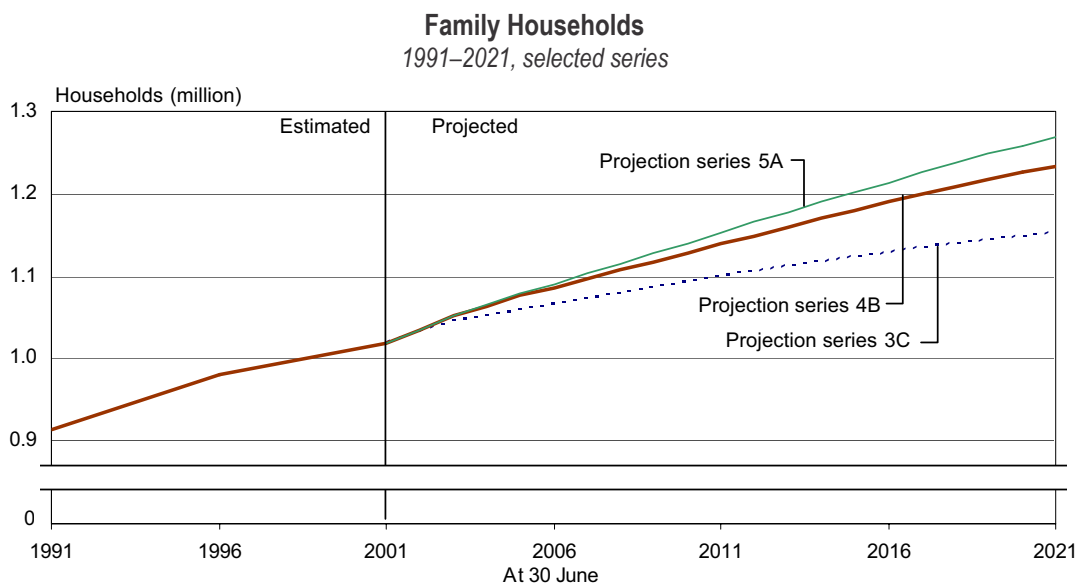


4.2.1 Family households

Family households are projected to increase by 210,000 or 21 percent, from 1.02 million in 2001 to 1.23 million in 2021 (figure 4.12). However, family households will account for a smaller share of all households in 2021 (68 percent) compared with 2001 (71 percent).

Projection series 5A, which assumes long-term annual net migration of 10,000 and LATRs remaining constant at 2001 levels, gives the highest number of family households in 2021 at 1.27 million, an increase of 250,000 or 25 percent from 2001. Projection series 3C, which assumes long-term annual net migration of zero and LATRs changing linearly according to the linear trend between 1986 and 2001, gives the lowest number of family households in 2021 at 1.20 million.

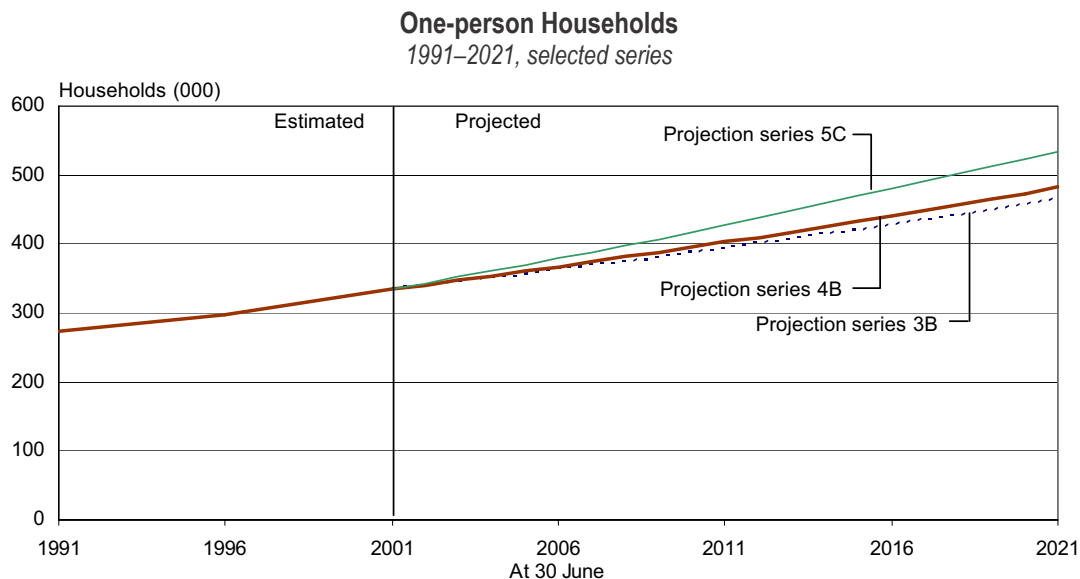
Figure 4.12



4.2.2 One-person households

One-person households are expected to increase by 149,000 or 45 percent, from 333,000 in 2001 to 482,000 in 2021 (series 4B). Other series indicate similarly significant increases in the number of one-person households, with the number in 2021 ranging between 464,000 for series 3A to 523,000 for series 5C (figure 4.13). Under series 4B, one-person households are expected to account for 27 percent of households in 2021, compared with 23 percent in 2001.

Figure 4.13



The increasing population at older ages is the main reason for the increase in one-person households. Between 2001 and 2021, people aged 45 years and over will account for 90 percent of the growth in one-person households.

In 2001, 71 percent of people in one-person households were aged 45 years and over, and 42 percent were aged 65 years and over. In 2021, the respective proportions are projected to be 77 and 47 percent. Females are projected to still account for the majority of one-person households: 54 percent in 2021 compared with 57 percent in 2001.

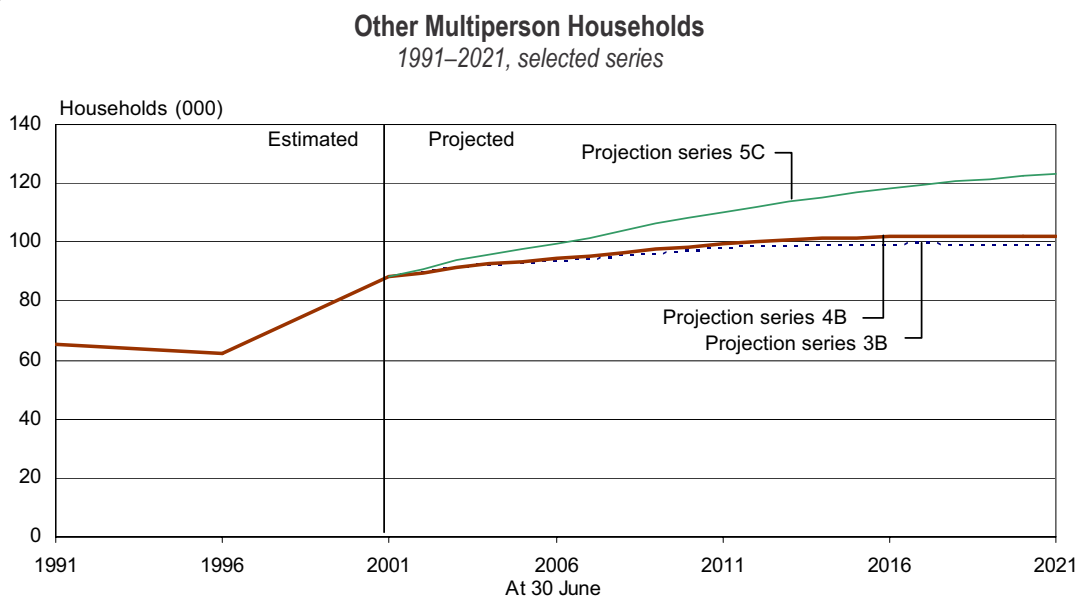
4.2.3 Other multiperson households

Other multiperson households (households containing more than one person, but not containing a family) are expected to increase by 16 percent between 2001 and 2021, from 88,000 to 102,000. They will continue to account for about 6 percent of all households.

The projected growth of other multiperson households is slower than that of total households for two reasons. Firstly, two-thirds of the population in other multiperson households was aged 15–34 years in 2001. The population aged 15–34 years is projected to increase about 11 percent between 2001 and 2021, compared with a projected increase of 18 percent for other ages combined. Secondly, series 4B assumes an increase in the average size of other multiperson households (see section 2.5.2).

Alternative projection series suggest the number of other multiperson households will range from 99,000 (series 3B) to 123,000 (series 5C) in 2021. Series using variant C project much greater increases than other series because of the magnitude of the observed changes in this LATR between 1986 and 2001. By comparison, variant B assumes that LATR will increase only slightly at most ages between 2001 and 2021.

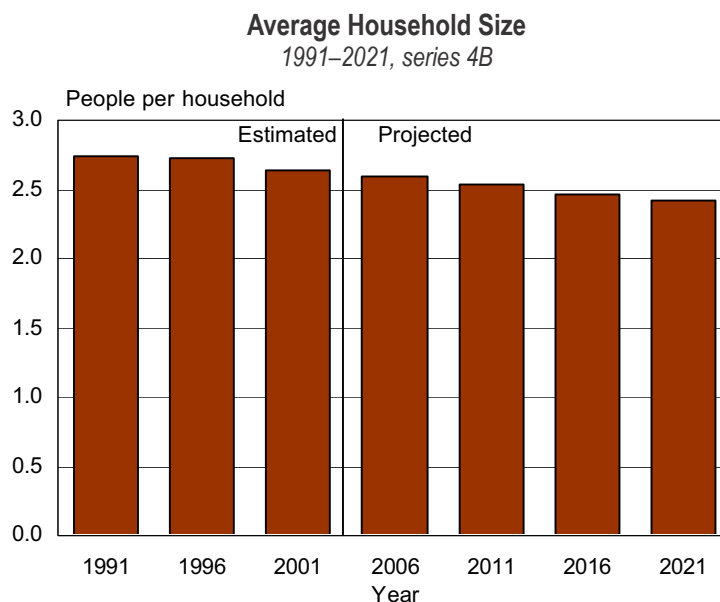
Figure 4.14



4.2.4 Average household size

The average size of households is projected to decrease from 2.6 people in 2001 to 2.4 people in 2021 (figure 4.15). This continues the steady decline of recent decades. In 1951, there were 3.7 people per household, but by 1981 this had fallen to 3.0 people per household.

Figure 4.15



The trend towards smaller average household size is due to an increase in the number of one-person households and a decrease in the average size of family households. The latter is projected to decline from 3.2 people in 2001 to 2.9 people in 2021, reflecting changes in both the type and size of families. In 2021, there are expected to be more couple without children families and one-parent families, but fewer two-parent families. Couple without children families, by definition, contain two people. One-parent families contained an average of 2.7 people in 2001 – by 2021, the average is projected to be about 2.5 people. Two-parent families are generally larger, averaging 4.0 people in 2001 – by 2021, the average is projected to be about 3.9 people per family.

4.2.5 Household size distribution

Average household size provides a broad indication of the trend towards smaller households. The distribution of households by the number of usual occupants can also be modelled using the family and household projections. The projections give a direct measure of the number of households of size 1 (one-person households). The number of households of other sizes can be derived from the projections using assumptions about the household size distribution of:

- Single-family households containing couple without children families
- Single-family households containing two-parent families
- Single-family households containing one-parent families
- Multi-family households
- Other multiperson households.

A distinction is therefore made between single- and multi-family households. The estimated (1991–2001) household size distribution of these household types is based on census data but constrained to the number of people in each type (which includes people living with, but not in, families). For example, the estimated household size distribution of other multiperson households is constrained by the estimated 234,000 people in other multiperson households in 2001 (Table 4.01).

The projected 2021 household size distributions for the household types are based on historical trends and patterns adjusted to meet the population constraints. Distributions for 2006, 2011 and 2016 were derived by linearly interpolating between 2001 and 2021, and satisfied the population constraints without requiring further adjustment.

Table 4.01

Household Type	Household Size					
	1	2	3	4	5+	Total
2001 (percent)						
Single-family households containing:						
Couple without children families	0	94	5	1	0	100
Two-parent families	0	0	33	39	28	100
One-parent families	0	42	34	16	9	100
Multi-family households	0	0	0	24	76	100
Other multiperson households	0	60	24	10	0	100
One-person households	100	0	0	0	0	100
2021 (percent)						
Single-family households containing:						
Couple without children families	0	95	4	1	0	100
Two-parent families	0	0	34	39	26	100
One-parent families	0	52	30	12	6	100
Multi-family households	0	0	0	24	76	100
Other multiperson households	0	50	24	17	9	100
One-person households	100	0	0	0	0	100

Note: Owing to rounding, individual figures may not sum to give the stated totals.

Households containing three, four or five or more people are projected to remain stable in number between 2001 and 2021, although the share for each of these sizes is expected to drop because of significant growth in the numbers of one- and two-person households (Table 4.02). One-person households are expected to increase by 149,000 or 45 percent between 2001 and 2021, and increase in share from 23 percent to 27 percent of all households. Over the same period, two-person households are expected to increase by 221,000 or 45 percent, with their share of all households increasing from 34 percent to 39 percent. The main factors behind the increase in two-person households are increases in the numbers of couple without children families and one-parent families, and a decrease in the average size of one-parent families (related to women having fewer children).

Table 4.02

Year at 30 June	Household Size					
	1	2	3	4	5+	Total
Number (000)						
1991	274	401	211	205	161	1,253
1996	298	438	221	210	173	1,340
2001 (base)	333	489	240	213	165	1,441
2006	367	544	250	219	169	1,548
2011	403	601	252	217	167	1,641
2016	441	660	253	214	165	1,733
2021	482	710	252	211	162	1,818
Percent						
1991	22	32	17	16	13	100
1996	22	33	17	16	13	100
2001 (base)	23	34	17	15	11	100
2006	24	35	16	14	11	100
2011	25	37	15	13	10	100
2016	25	38	15	12	10	100
2021	27	39	14	12	9	100

Note: Owing to rounding, individual figures may not sum to give the stated totals.

4.3 People

Between 2001 and 2021, the estimated resident population is expected to grow from 3.88 million to 4.51 million. Over the same period, the median age is projected to increase from 35 to 40 years. The largest change in living arrangement types will occur among partners in couple without children families, associated with the transition to an older age profile (figures 4.16 and 4.18).

Figure 4.16

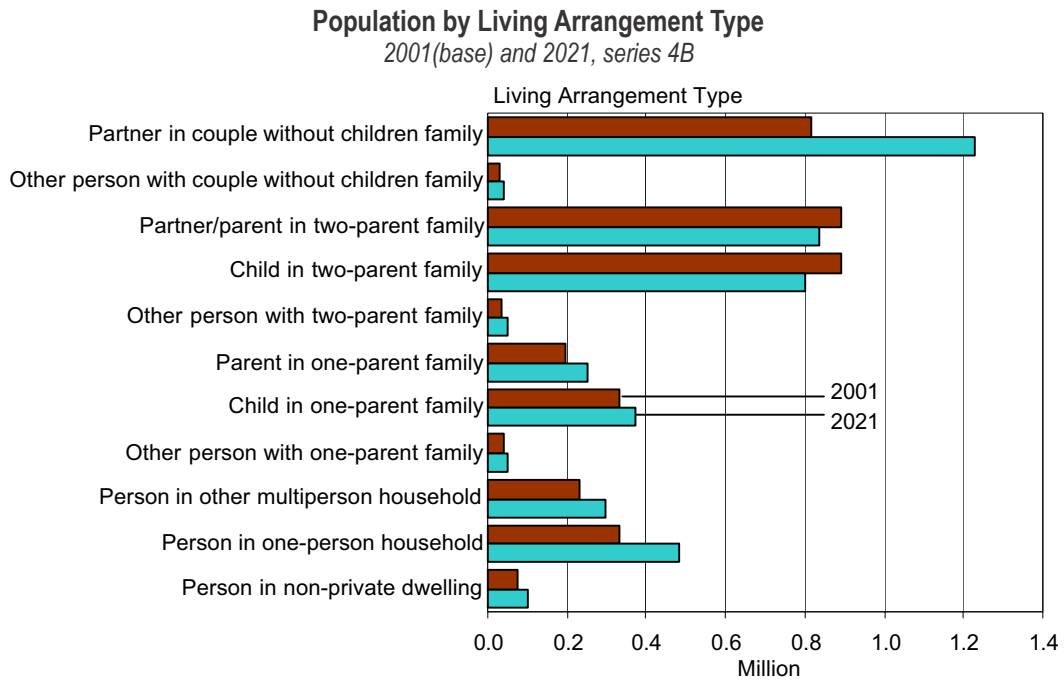


Figure 4.17

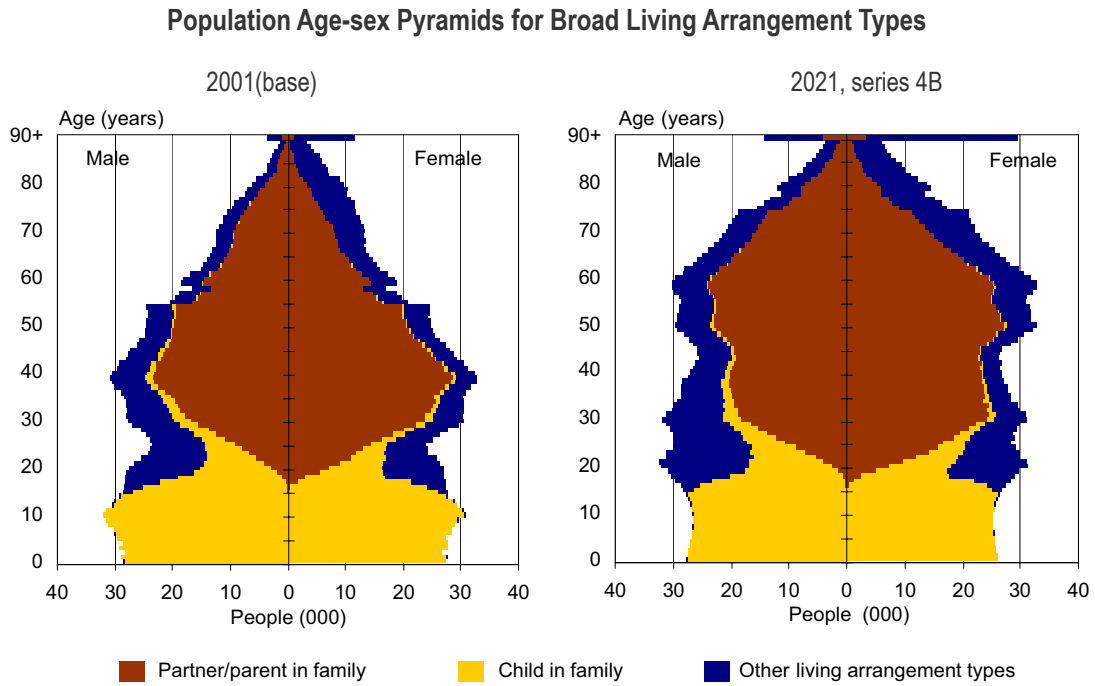
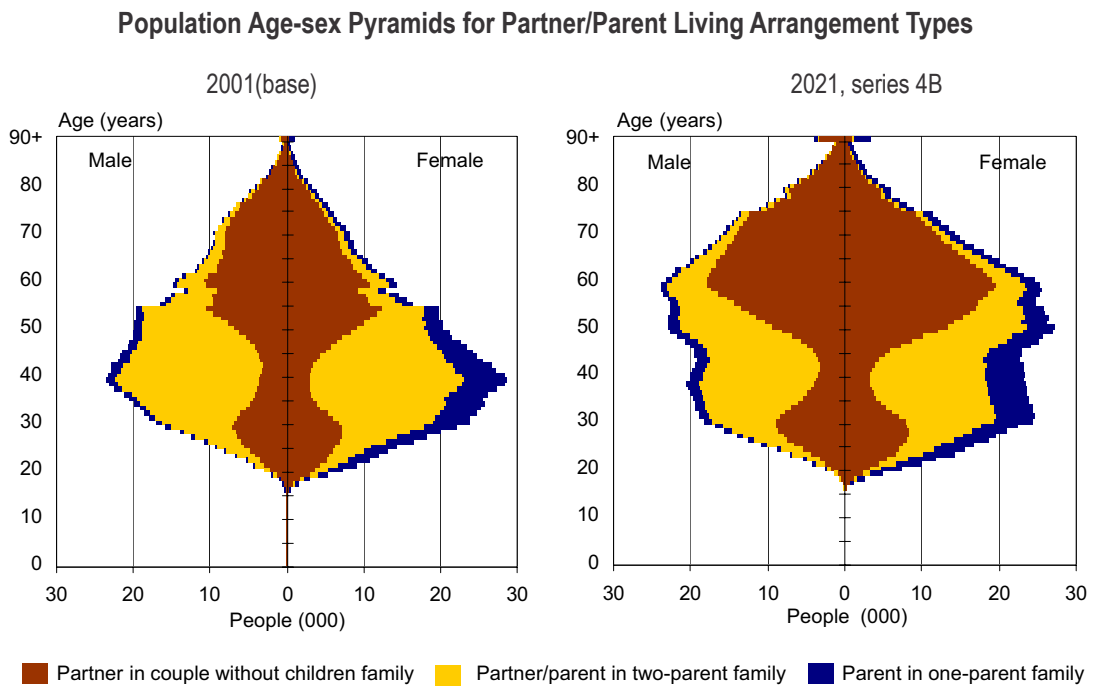


Figure 4.18



4.3.1 Partners and parents in families

Partners in couple without children families

At 30 June 2001, there were an estimated 815,000 people living as partners in couple without children families, consisting of 409,000 males and 406,000 females. By 2021, there are expected to be 1,229,000 partners in couple without children families, including 616,000 males and 613,000 females, an increase of 51 percent from 2001. The growth is mainly driven by the ageing of the large birth cohorts of the 1950s to 1970s into ages 50–84 years, with less growth among the younger age group 25–34 years (figures 4.21 and 4.22).

While the relative numbers of males and females in this living arrangement type may imply that there were approximately 3,000 more males living in same-sex couple without children families than females in both 2001 and 2021, it should be noted that this is primarily an artefact of the estimation process. The projections do not disaggregate couples into same-sex and opposite-sex couples.

In 2001, the median age of partners in couple without children families was 57 years for males and 54 years for females. By 2021, the median age is projected to increase to 60 years for males and 58 years for females. This reflects the projected growth in the older ages, with the proportion of partners in couple without children families aged 50–84 years expected to increase from 62 percent in 2001 to 70 percent in 2021. Over the same period, the proportion aged 65 years and over is expected to increase from 27 percent to 32 percent.

Figure 4.21

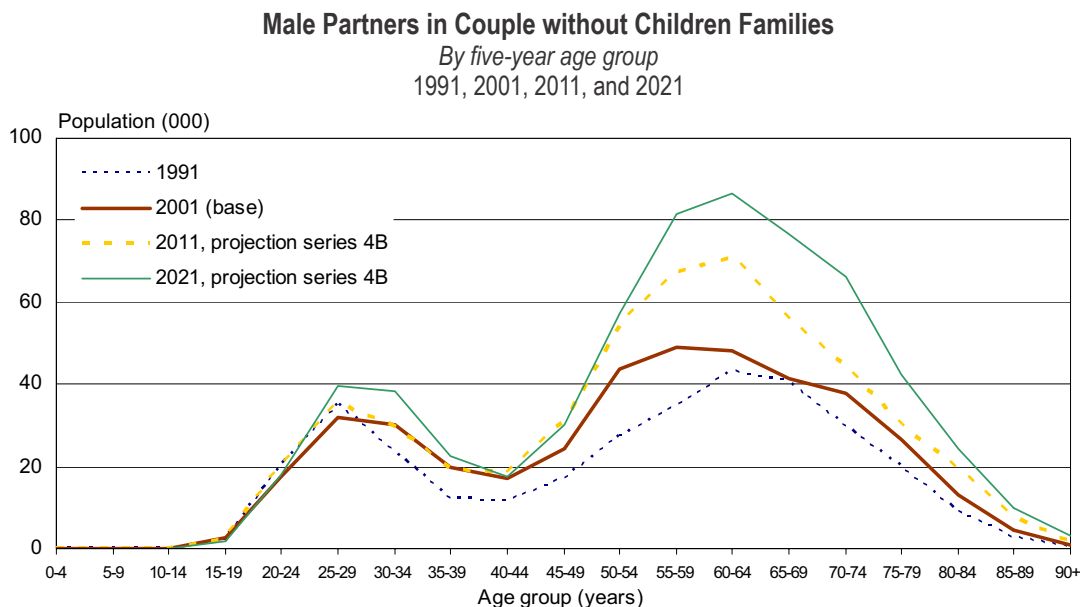
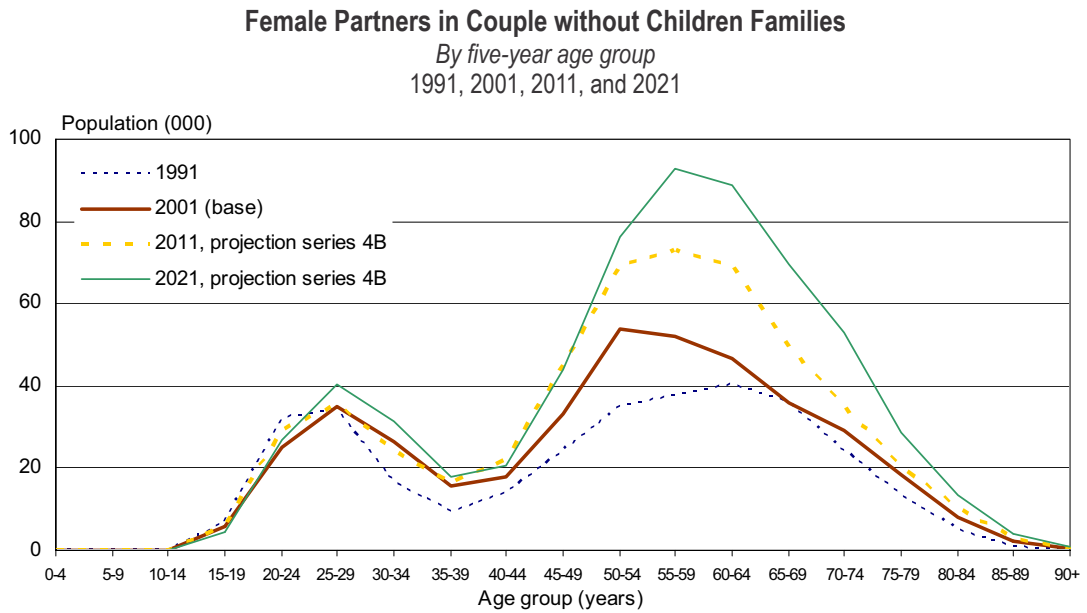


Figure 4.22



Partners/parents in two-parent families

In 2001, there were an estimated 892,000 partners/parents in two-parent families, consisting of 446,000 males and 446,000 females. As different sized birth cohorts move through the main ages (25–59 years), the number of partners/parents in two-parent families is projected to increase to 907,000 in 2004–2005, before declining to 836,000 in 2021. This is a decrease of 6 percent over the 20-year period.

The median age of partners/parents in two-parent families was 42 years for males and 40 years for females in 2001. Again reflecting cohort effects, the median age is expected to increase by two years by 2015, before dropping slightly to 44 years for males and 41 years for females in 2021.

Figure 4.23

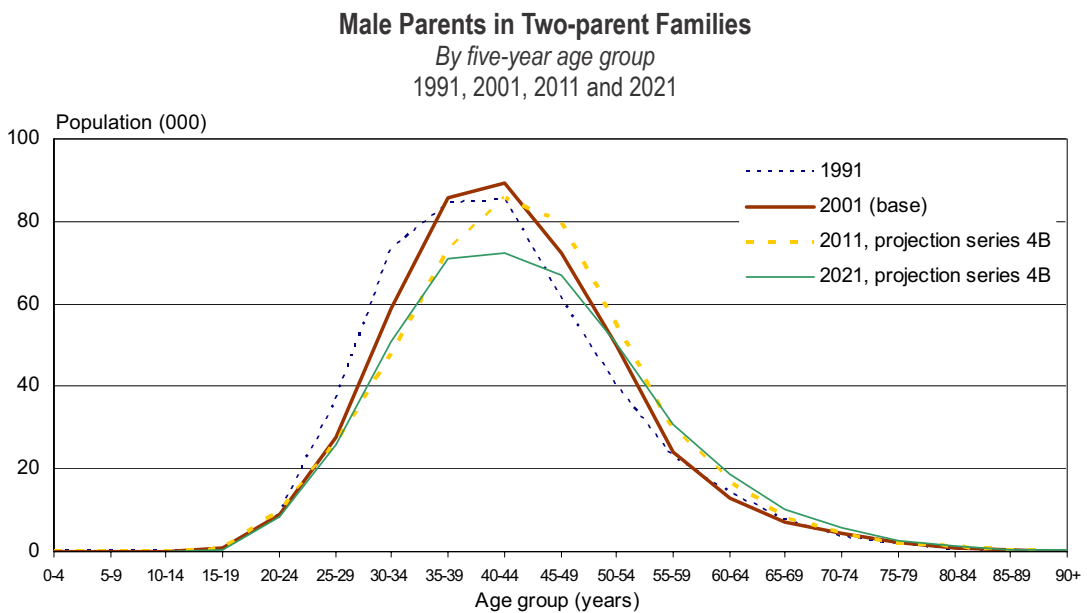
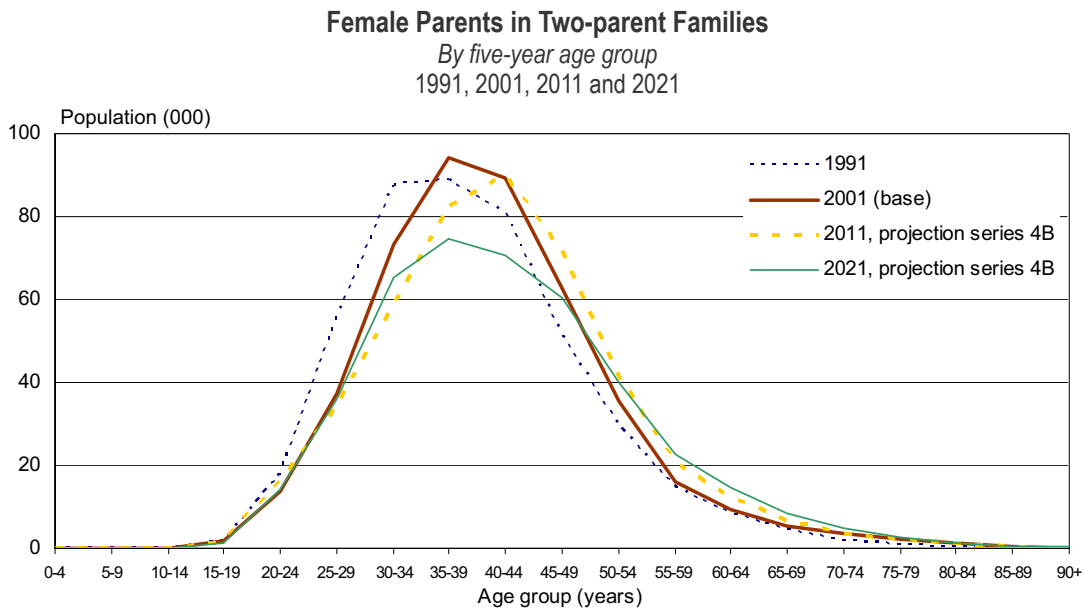


Figure 4.24



Parents in one-parent families

In contrast to parents in two-parent families, parents in one-parent families are increasing in number. In 2001, there were 37,000 men and 162,000 women living as parents in one-parent families. By 2021, this group is projected to contain 55,000 men, an increase over the projection period of 48 percent, and 196,000 women, an increase of 21 percent. Males made up 19 percent of the parents in one-parent families in 2001. In 2021, males are projected to represent 22 percent of this group.

The median age of male parents in one-parent families is projected to remain at about 45 years between 2001 and 2021, while the median age for women is projected to increase slightly from 39 years to 41 years.

Not all parents in one-parent families are caring for young and dependent children. The number of parents aged 60 years and over is projected to increase from 23,000 in 2001 to 42,000 in 2021, or from 12 percent of all parents in one-parent families to 17 percent. In many of these families, a non-dependent child is likely to be providing care and support to the parent.

Figure 4.25

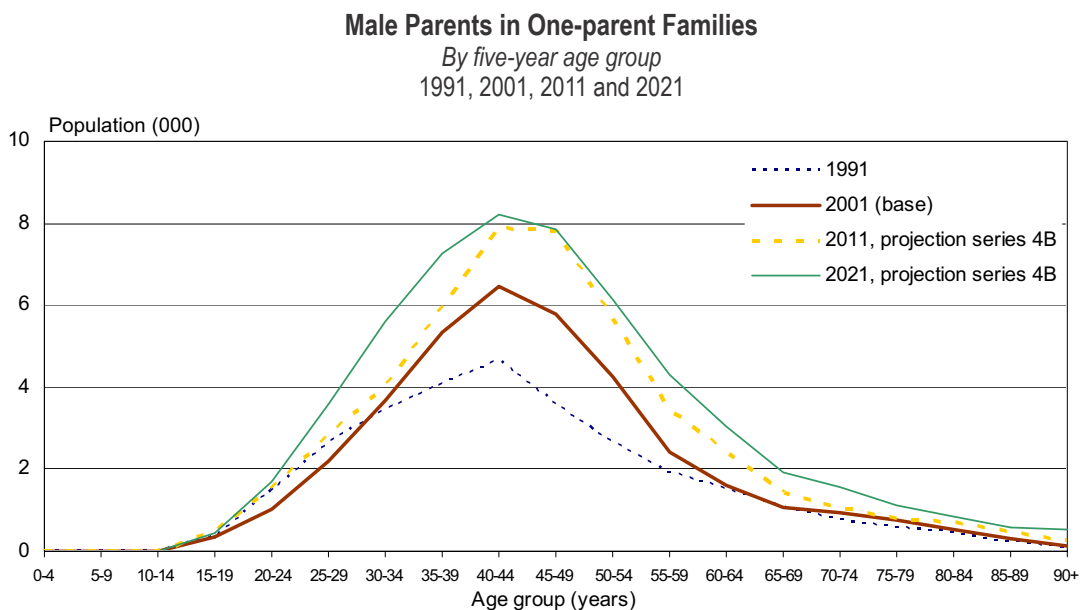
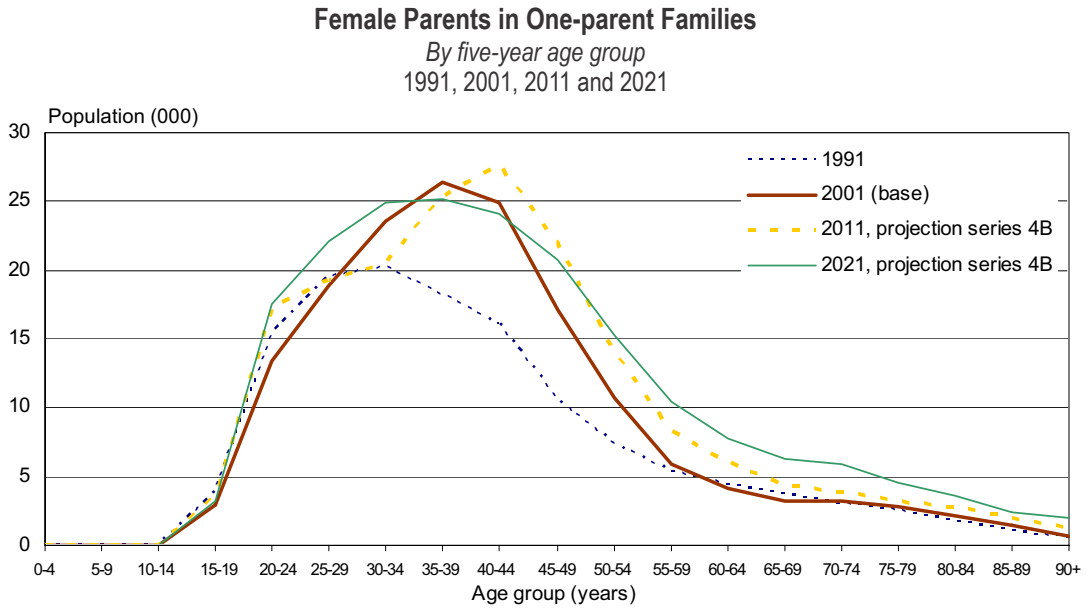


Figure 4.26

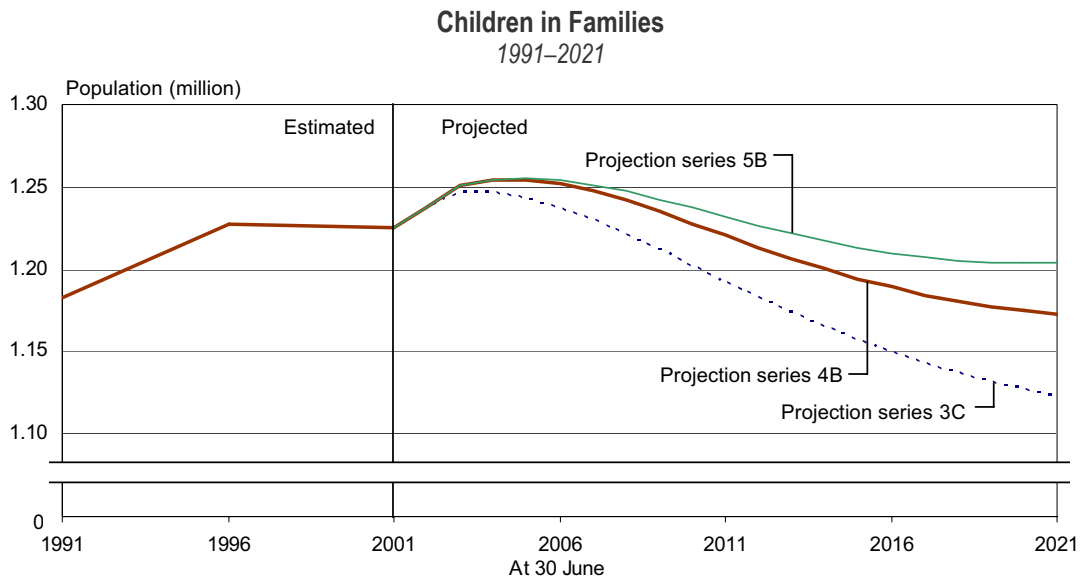


4.3.2 Children in families

The number of children in families is projected to increase from 1.22 million in 2001 to 1.25 million in 2005, then decrease for the remainder of the projection period to 1.17 million in 2021 (figure 4.27). The projected decline in the number of children in families is driven by a decrease in children in two-parent families, partly offset by an increase in children in one-parent families.

A decrease in the number of children in families is expected under all nine projection series. The smallest decline is projected under series 5B, to 1.20 million children in families by 2021. The largest decline occurs under series 3C, from a peak at 1.25 million children in 2003 to 1.12 million children in 2021.

Figure 4.27



Children in two-parent families

In 2001, there were 890,000 children in two-parent families, comprising 469,000 males and 421,000 females. The higher number of male children reflects the sex ratio at birth (roughly 105 males per 100 females), and the tendency for males to leave the parental home later than females. Despite a small projected increase in number to 903,000 in 2003–2004, the number of children is projected to fall 10 percent to 801,000 (426,000 males and 375,000 females) by 2021. The declining number of children in this living arrangement type is a combined result of declining fertility rates, fewer women in the childbearing ages and a smaller proportion of children living in two-parent families.

Of children in families in 2001, 72 percent of males and 73 percent of females were usually living with two parents. In 2021, 68 percent of both males and females living as children in families are projected to be in two-parent families.

Although children in two-parent families can be of any age, 95 percent were aged under 25 years and half were aged under 10 years in 2001 (figures 4.28 and 4.29). These proportions are estimated to fluctuate only slightly during the projection period, reflecting changes in the relative size of new birth cohorts.

Figure 4.28

Male Children in Two-parent Families

By five-year age group
1991, 2001, 2011 and 2021

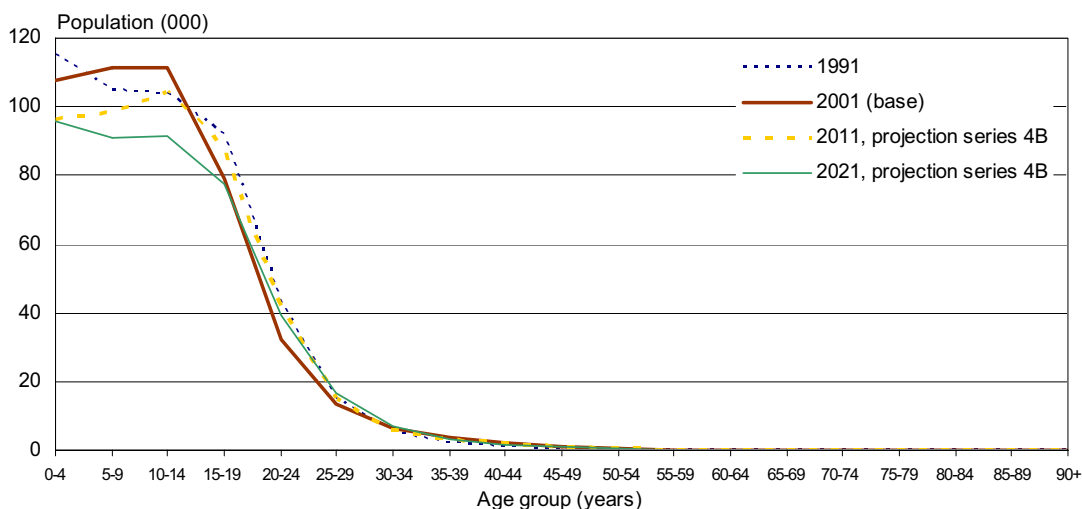
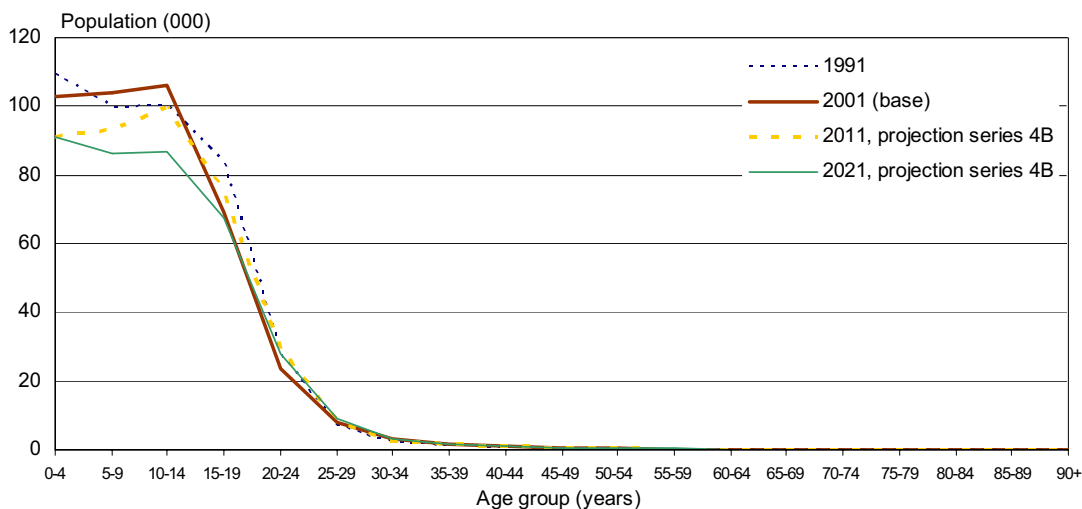


Figure 4.29

Female Children in Two-parent Families

By five-year age group
1991, 2001, 2011 and 2021



Children in one-parent families

In 2001, there were 335,000 children in one-parent families, comprising 178,000 males and 157,000 females. The number is expected to increase by 11 percent to 372,000 in 2021, comprising 198,000 males and 174,000 females.

Of children in families, 28 percent of males and 27 percent of females were usually living with one parent in 2001. Children in one-parent families are projected to constitute around 32 percent of all children in families in 2021.

Although children in one-parent families can be of any age, 90 percent were aged under 25 years and half were aged under 11 years in 2001 (figures 4.30 and 4.31). These proportions are estimated to fluctuate only slightly during the projection period, reflecting changes in the relative size of new birth cohorts.

Figure 4.30

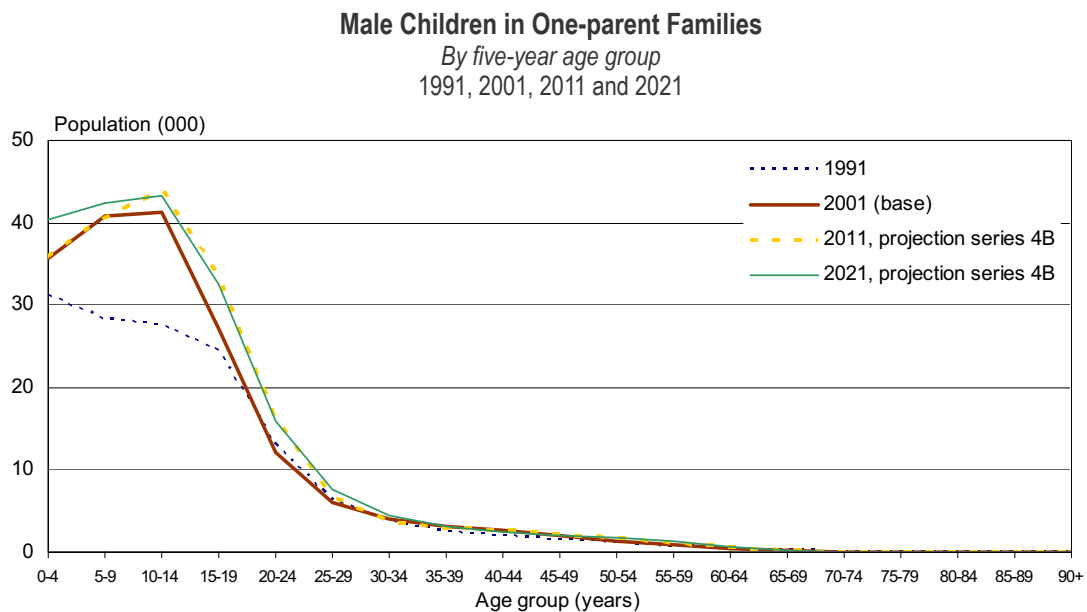
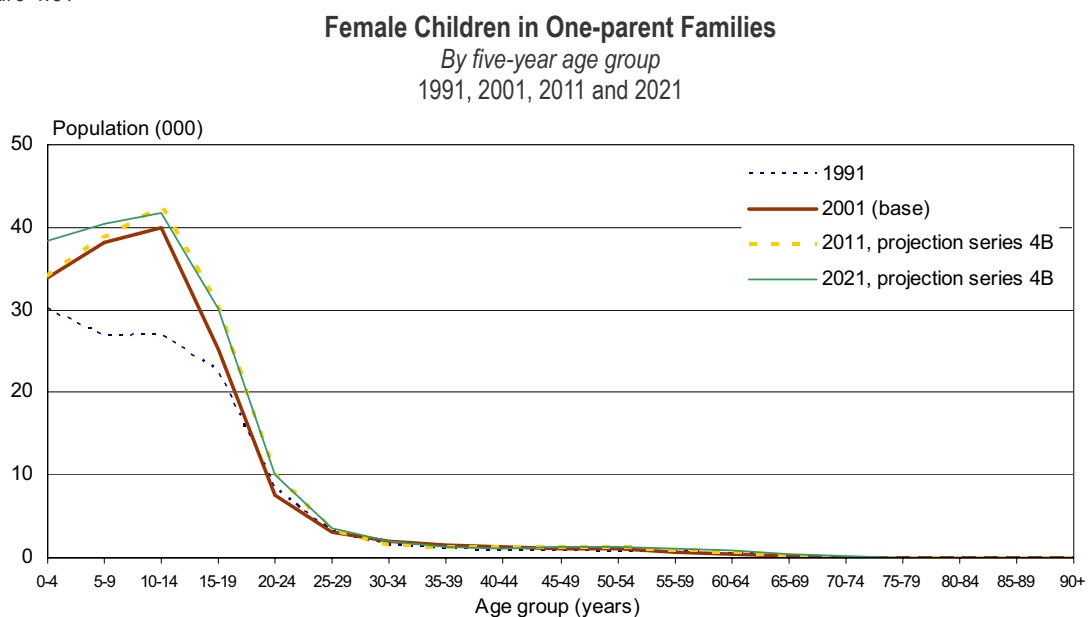


Figure 4.31



4.3.3 Other people living with families

Other people living with families are a small and diverse population. They include people related to the family such as a parent of a child, where that child is living with their own partner or child, or siblings and other family relatives (not in partner, parent or child roles). Also included are people unrelated to the family, such as boarders. The projections do not differentiate between related and unrelated people, partly because the distinction is somewhat arbitrary, and partly because these people may provide significant emotional and/or financial support to a family regardless of whether they are identified as 'related' or 'non-related' to that family.

Other people with couple without children families

There were an estimated 30,000 people who were not family members but were living in households with couple without children families in 2001. Their number is projected to reach 39,000 in 2021.

This living arrangement type is minor and transitory for most people, rather than a long-term life-style option. Young adults predominate, with 70 percent of the population in this living arrangement type projected to be aged 15–34 years in 2001–2021 (figures 4.32 and 4.33). Males also outnumber females throughout the projection period, with five males for every four females.

Figure 4.32

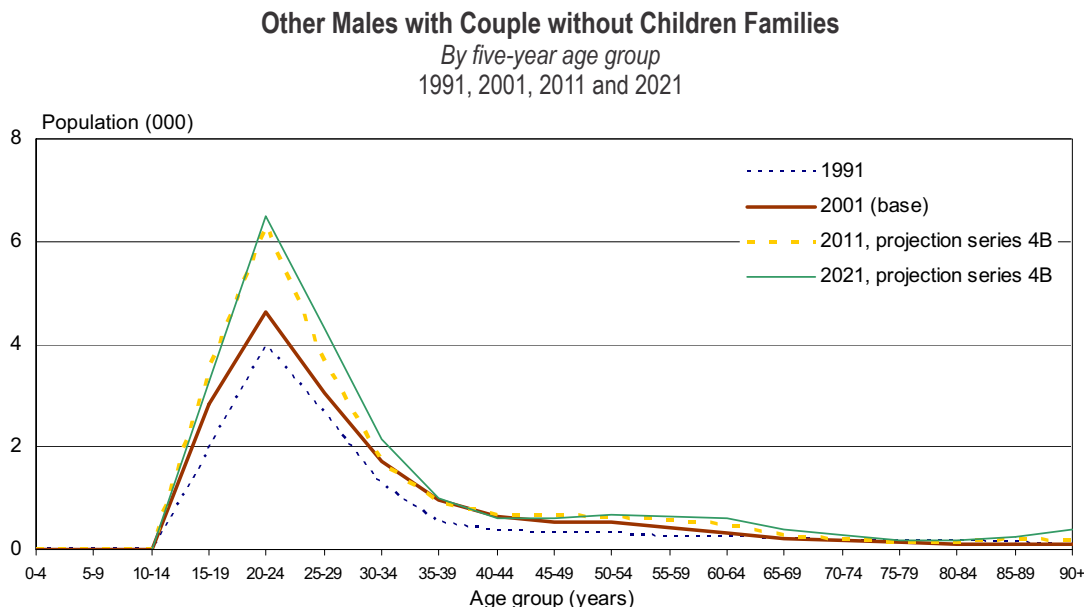
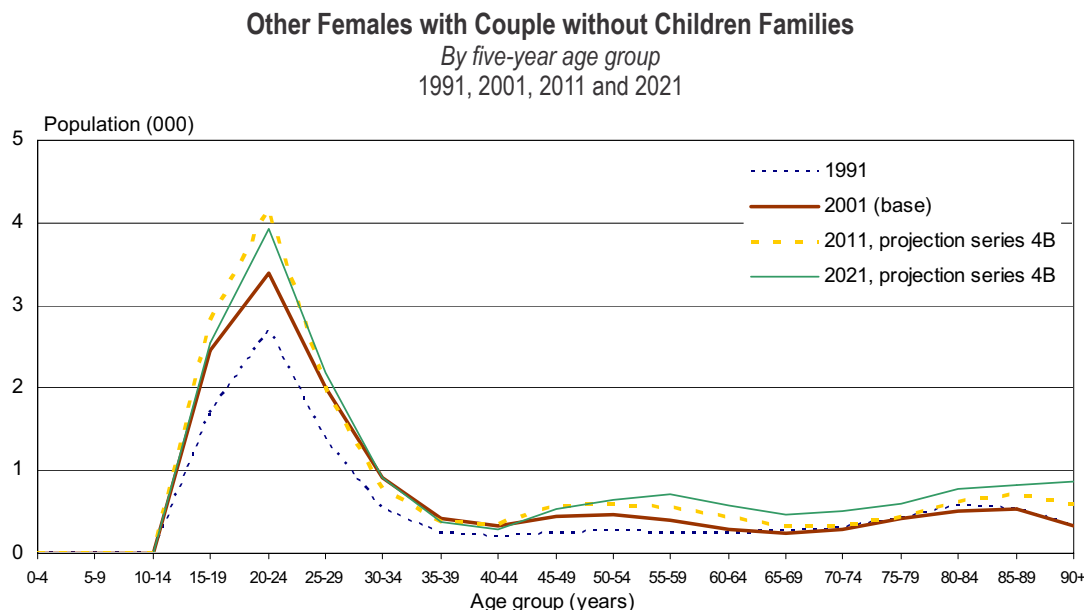


Figure 4.33



Other people with two-parent families

There were an estimated 38,000 people who were not family members but were living in households with two-parent families in 2001. Their number is projected to reach 50,000 in 2021.

The numbers of males and females are roughly equal, but 63 percent of males were aged 15–34 years in 2001 compared with 49 percent of females (figures 4.34 and 4.35). For females, 30 percent were aged 55–79 years in 2001. This is projected to increase to 40 percent in 2021, largely reflecting mothers living with a partnered child.

Figure 4.34

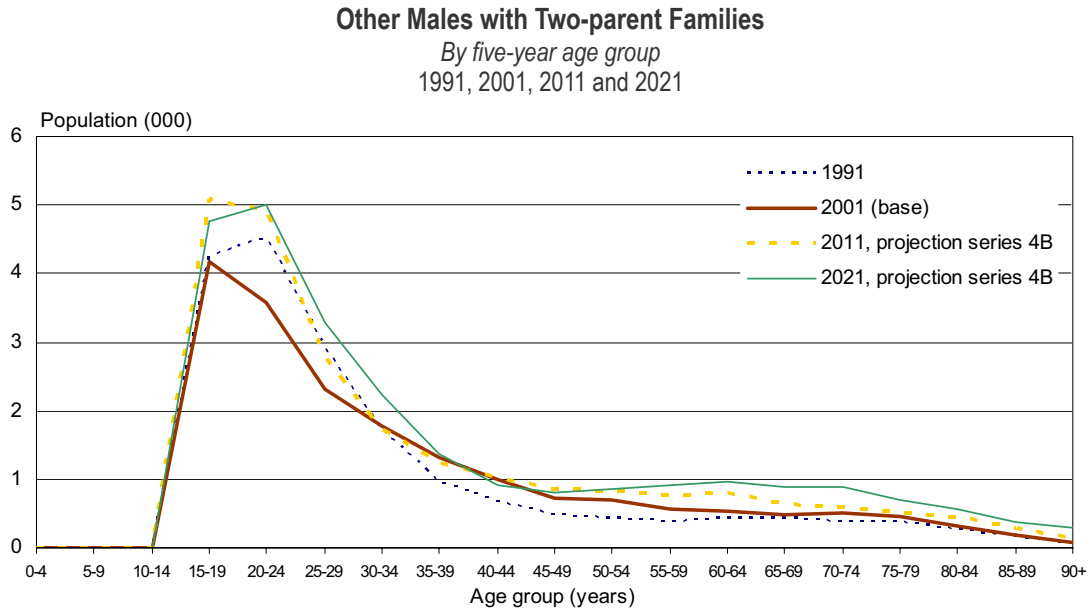
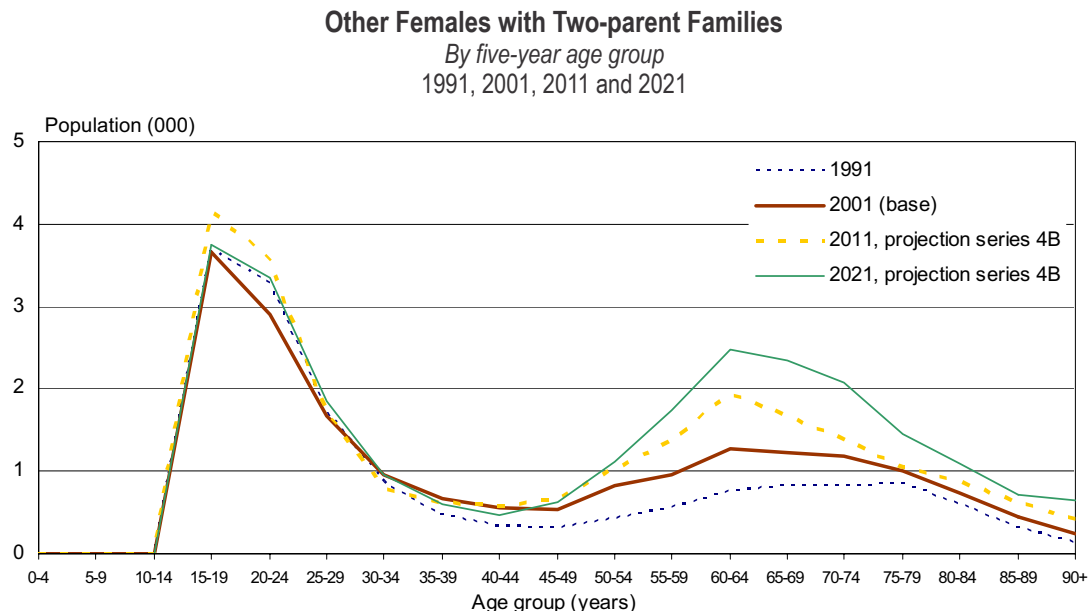


Figure 4.35



Other people with one-parent families

There were an estimated 40,000 people who were not family members but were living in households with one-parent families in 2001. Their number is projected to reach 51,000 in 2021.

About half of people in this living arrangement type are projected to be aged 15–34 years in the 2001–2021 period, and over 60 percent are projected to be male. This may partly reflect census coding practices, where males have not been identified as a parent, therefore resulting in a one-parent family with a female parent and male 'other person'. However, 29 percent of other people living with one-parent families were aged 50–79 years in 2021, indicative of multi-generational families (eg grandparents).

Figure 4.36

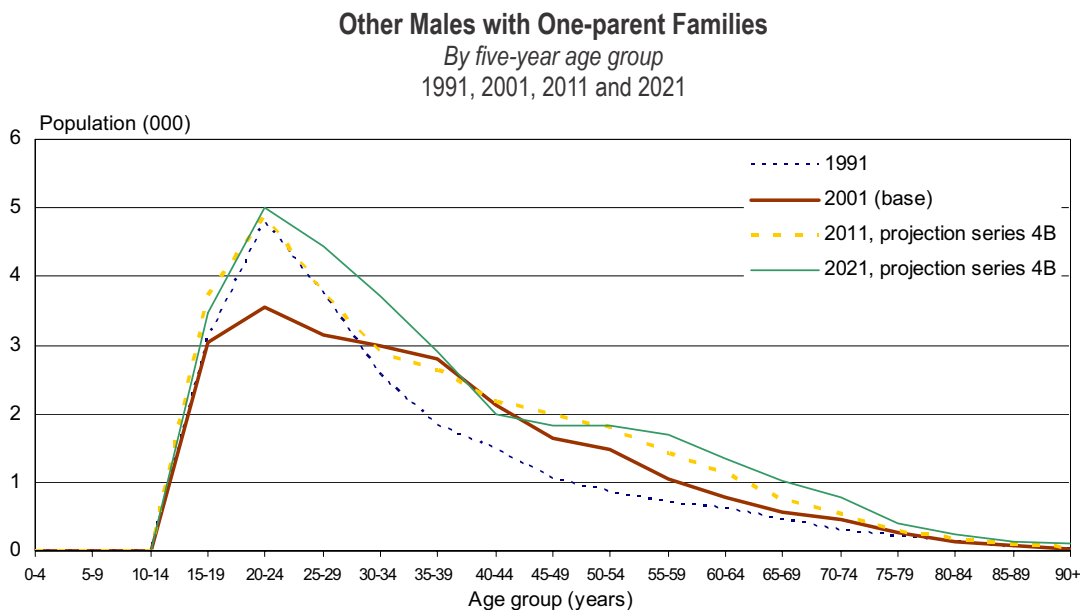
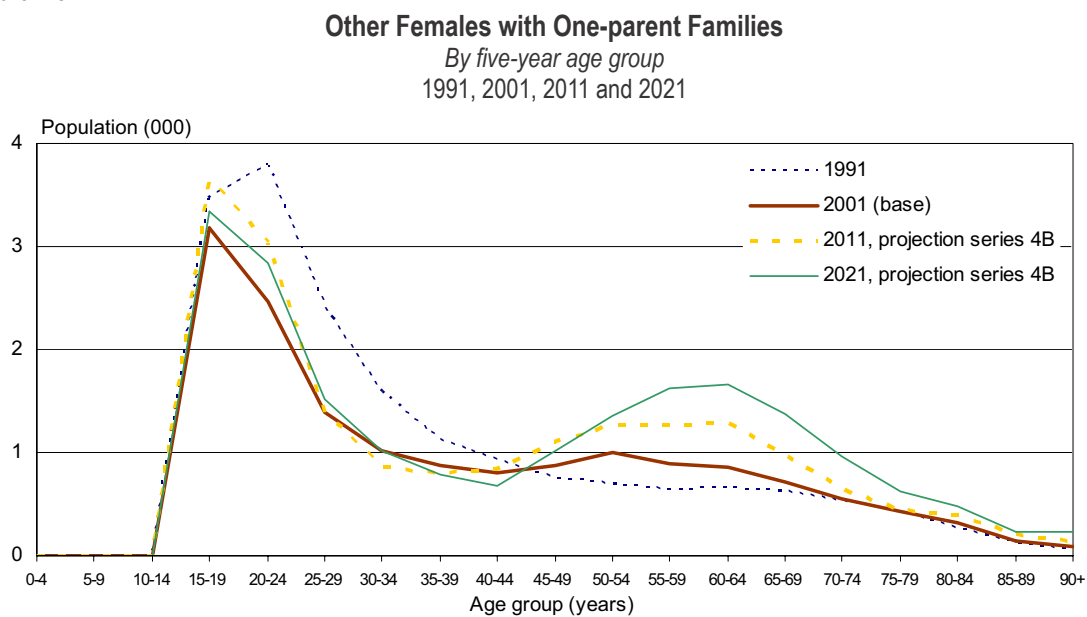


Figure 4.37



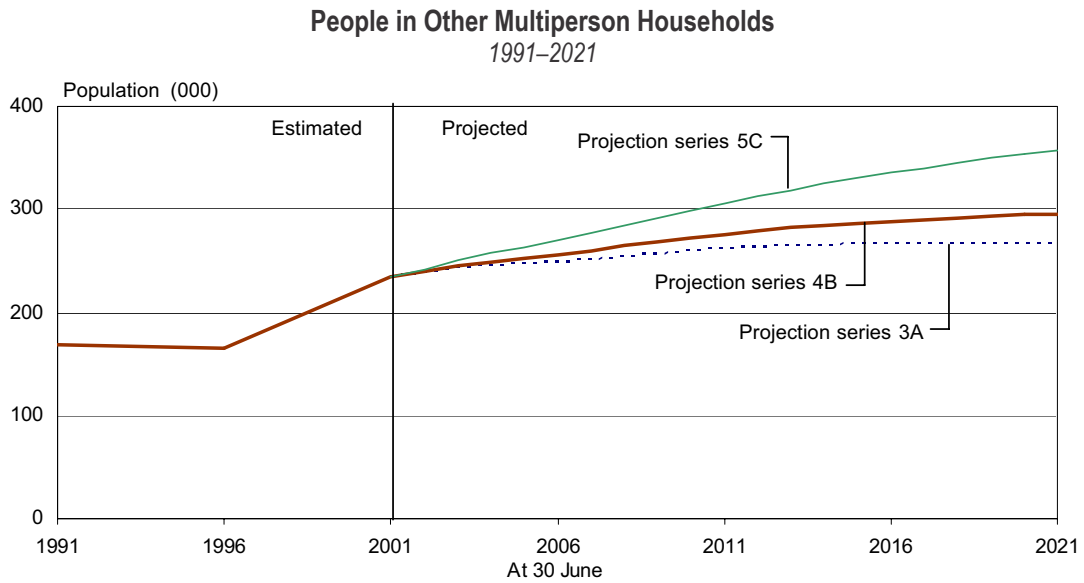
4.3.4 People in non-family households

In 2001, an estimated 567,000 people were living in non-family households (other multiperson or one-person households). By 2021, this number is projected to increase 37 percent to 778,000 (series 4B). Of those living in non-family households, the proportion aged 65 years and over is projected to increase from 27 percent in 2001 to 32 percent in 2021. The projections therefore suggest that by 2021 there will be more people living without partners and children, in both private and non-private dwellings.

People in other multiperson households

In 2001, there were an estimated 234,000 people in other multiperson households, comprising 123,000 males and 111,000 females. By 2021, there are projected to be 296,000 people in other multiperson households, made up of 160,000 males and 135,000 females, an overall increase of 26 percent from 2001.

Figure 4.38



Typically, other multiperson households contain flatmates or sibling groups. Two-thirds of people in this living arrangement type are aged 15–34 years.

Figure 4.39

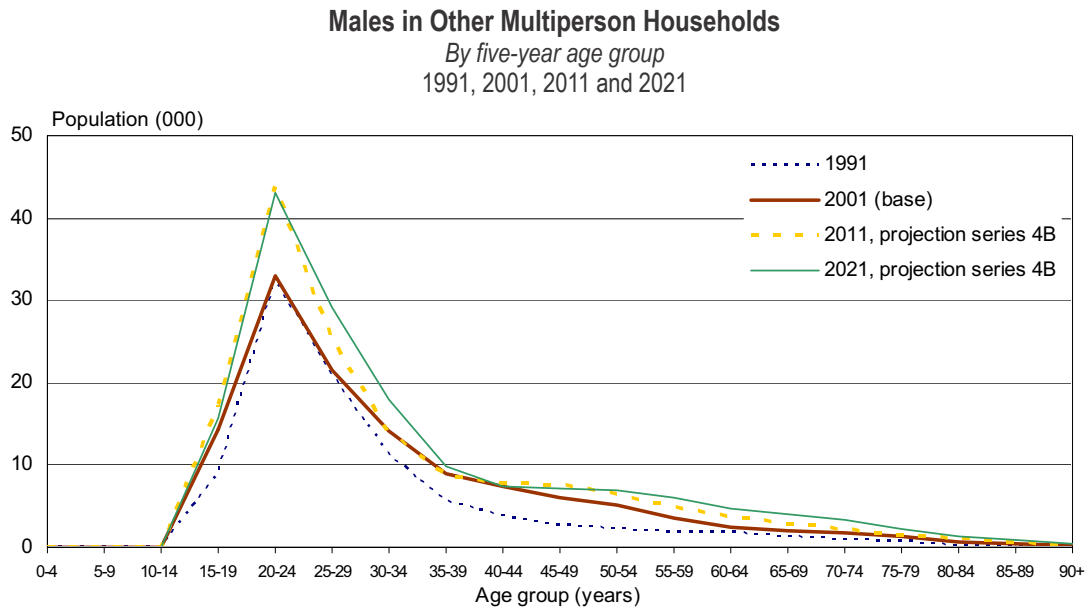
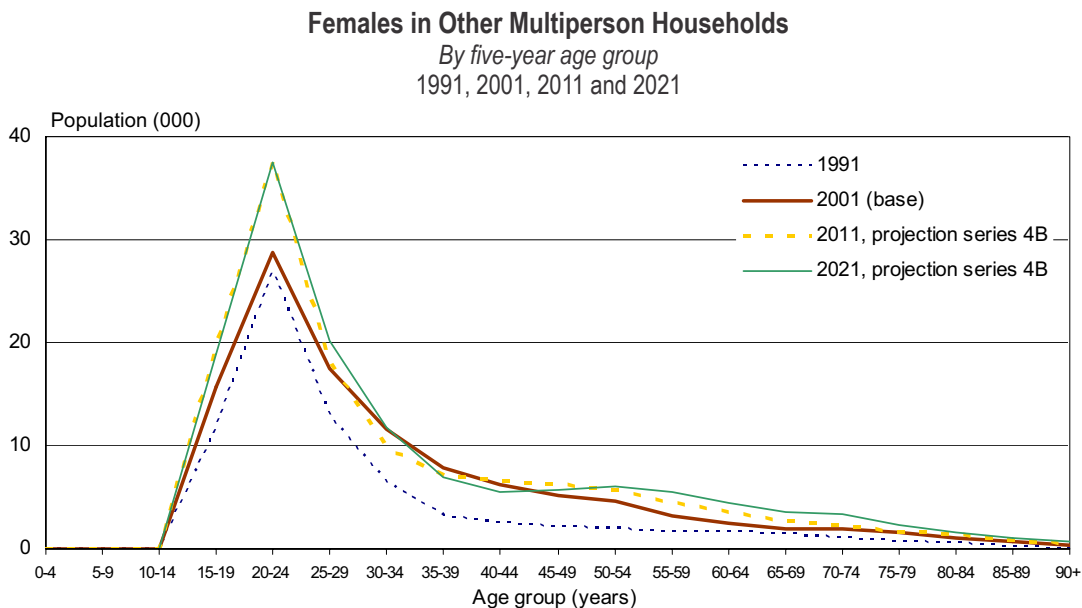


Figure 4.40



People in one-person households

People in one-person households represent one of the most diverse and fastest growing groups among those living in households. Over the projection period, the number of one-person households is expected to increase by 45 percent from 333,000 to 482,000.

In 2001, 143,000 men and 190,000 women lived in one-person households. Males had a much younger age structure, with 38 percent of men in one-person households aged 30–49 years, compared with 18 percent of women (figures 4.41 and 4.42). Conversely, only 27 percent of men in one-person households were aged 65 years and over compared with 53 percent of women. At ages 80 years and over, females outnumbered males three to one in one-person households, because of the greater longevity of women.

Population ageing is projected to be the main contributor to the growth of one-person households. The median age of people living alone is expected to increase by six years to 56 years in 2021 for men, and by two years to 69 years for women. In 2021, 34 percent of men in one-person households are expected to be aged 65 years and over, compared with 58 percent of women.

Figure 4.41

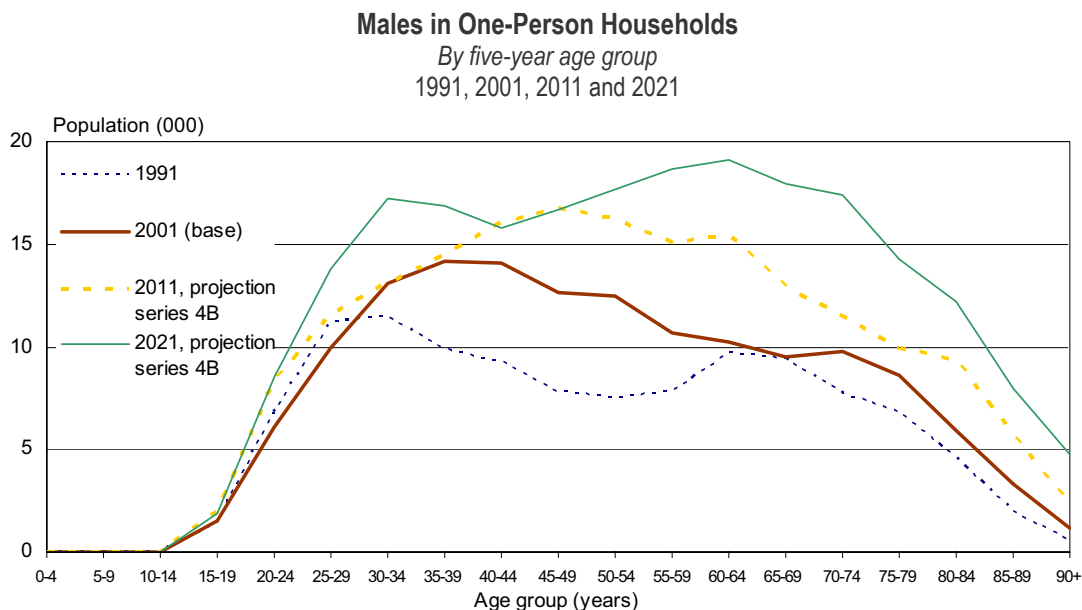
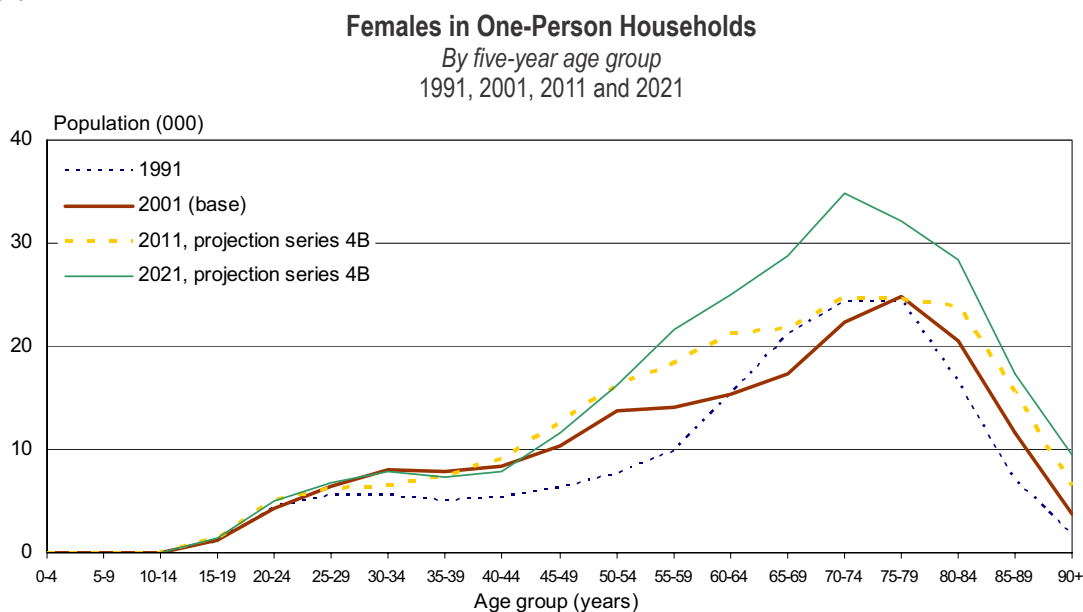


Figure 4.42



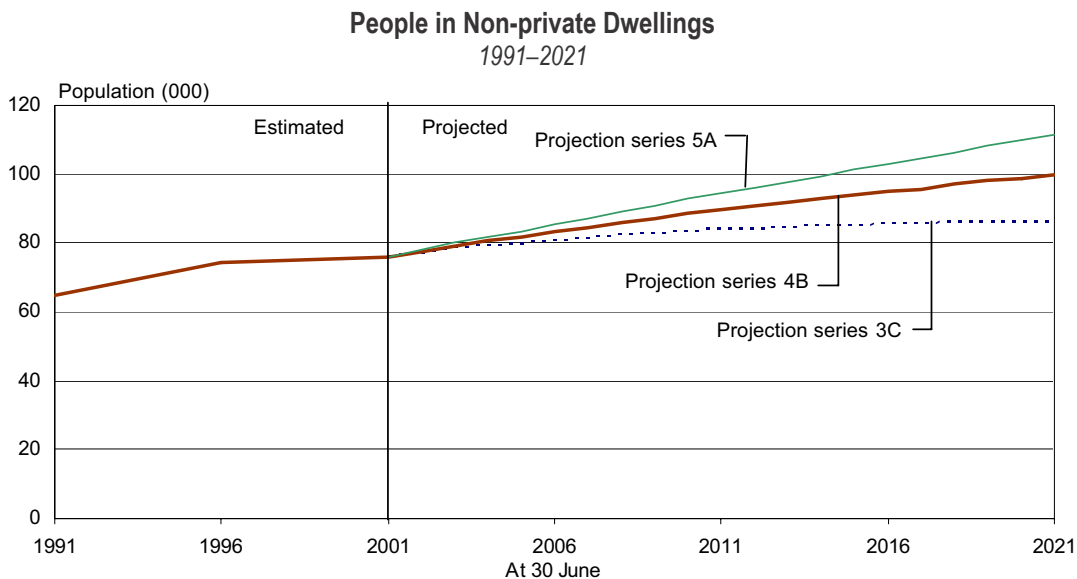
4.3.5 People in non-private dwellings

People live in many different types of non-private dwellings. According to the 2001 Census, aged-care facilities accommodate the most people, accounting for about 40 percent of people in non-private dwellings, and 86 percent of people aged 75 years and over in non-private dwellings. Hotels, motels, guesthouses, and boarding houses accommodate another 19 percent. Student accommodation is home to 8 percent of people in non-private dwellings, but to 35 percent of people aged 15–29 years in non-private dwellings. There are smaller numbers of people in other residential facilities such as prisons, hospitals, and military units. In these projections, people in non-private dwellings are treated as one group and no attempt has been made to further disaggregate them by dwelling type.

In 2001, there were an estimated 39,000 males and 37,000 females living in non-private dwellings. While males outnumbered females, this resulted from the much larger number of young adult males in non-private dwellings. Among males in non-private dwellings in 2001, 35 percent (14,000) were aged 15–29 years, compared with 22 percent (8,000) of females. People aged 75 years and over had a contrasting sex ratio, with only 7,000 men compared with 19,000 women.

The projections (series 4B) assume small declines in the LATRs throughout the projection period for people in non-private dwellings, especially at the older ages. However, the change in the size of birth cohorts moving through the key age groups results in a projected increase of 24,000 or 32 percent in the number of people living in non-private dwellings, from 76,000 in 2001 to 100,000 in 2021. If the proportion of people living in non-private dwellings by age and sex was to remain at 2001 levels (series 4A), people in non-private dwellings could number 110,000 in 2021, an increase of 34,000 or 45 percent compared with 2001.

Figure 4.43



According to series 4B, most of this increase is likely to occur at the older ages, with those aged 75 years and over increasing by 19,000 or 76 percent to 45,000 in 2021 (figures 4.44 and 4.45). Females will still account for over 70 percent of people aged 75 years and over in non-private dwellings.

In 2001, 17 percent of males and 51 percent of females living in non-private dwellings were aged 75 years and over. In 2021, population ageing is projected to result in 27 percent of males and 61 percent of females in this living arrangement type being aged 75 years and over.

Figure 4.44

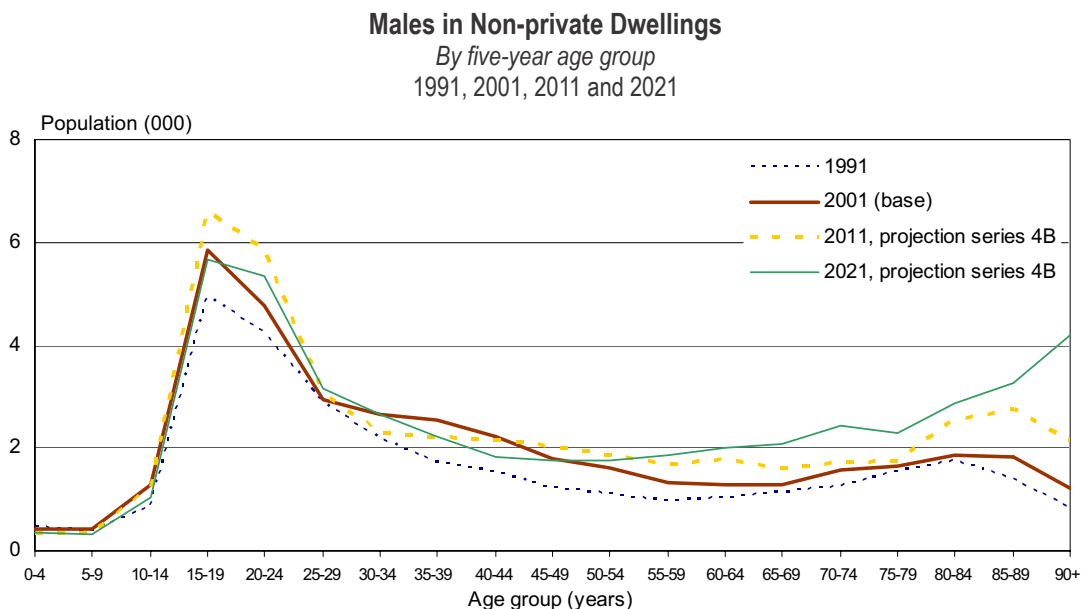


Figure 4.45

Females in Non-private Dwellings
By five-year age group
 1991, 2001, 2011 and 2021

