

Appendix 1: Population trends 2001 - 2026

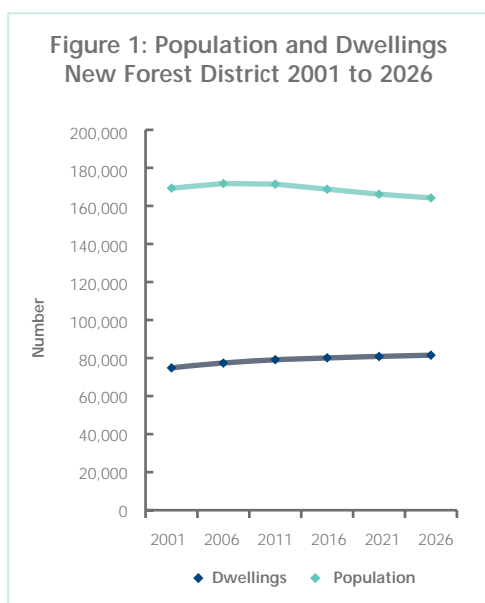
The Population

Parish	Population (est.) 2005	Parish	Population (est.) 2005
Totton	28,300	Marchwood	5,800
New Milton and Barton-on-Sea	24,200	Milford on Sea	4,600
Hythe and Dibden	20,400	Bransgore	4,200
Lymington	14,600	Brockenhurst	3,400
Fawley (incl. Blackfield and Holbury)	14,300	Sway	3,400
Ringwood	13,600	Lyndhurst	3,000
Fordingbridge	6,000	Ashurst	2,000

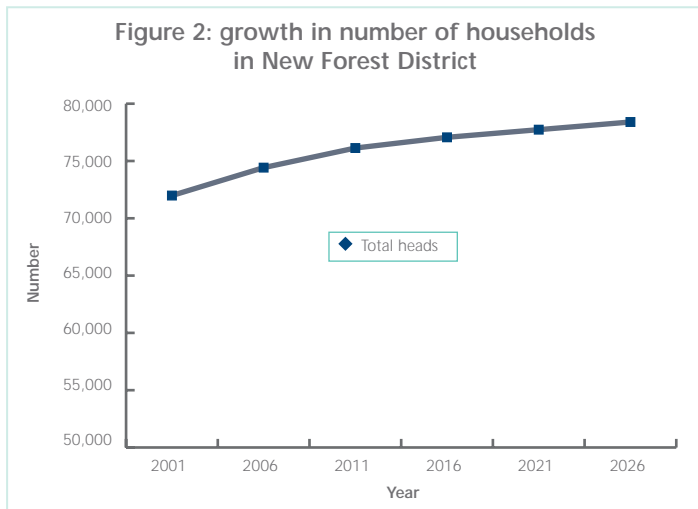
Source: Hampshire County Council's 2005-based Small Area Population Forecasts for Parishes

Demographic information is not available for the combined areas of New Forest District and the National Park. The information in this section relates to New Forest District (including the part within the National Park). However, the demographic patterns and trends shown in this data give a good indication of what is happening in the whole area.

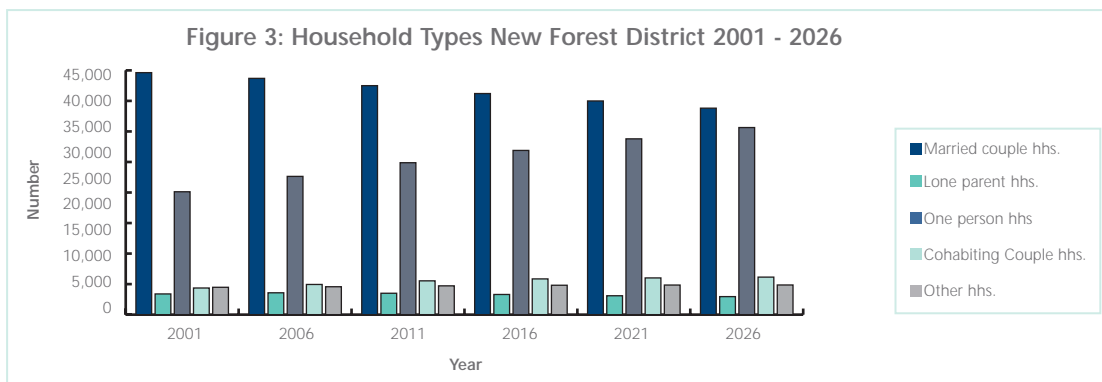
Recent population projections for New Forest District indicate that the district's population numbers will peak in 2006. If the future level of development in the district is as proposed in the submitted South East Plan, despite over 4,000 new dwellings being built, by 2026 there would be 7,500 fewer people living here. (See Figure 1)



However, despite the decline in population numbers there is predicted to be an additional 6,400 households within the district. (See Figure 2.) These extra households are the result of demographic changes in the resident population – divorce, separations, and living longer.

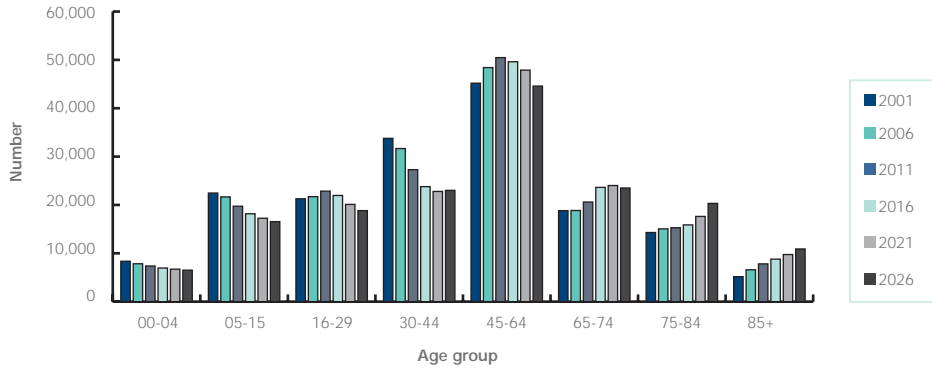


While the number of 'married couple households will decline, there will be an additional 8,000 single person households. Most single person households are middle aged or older people. (See Figure 3)



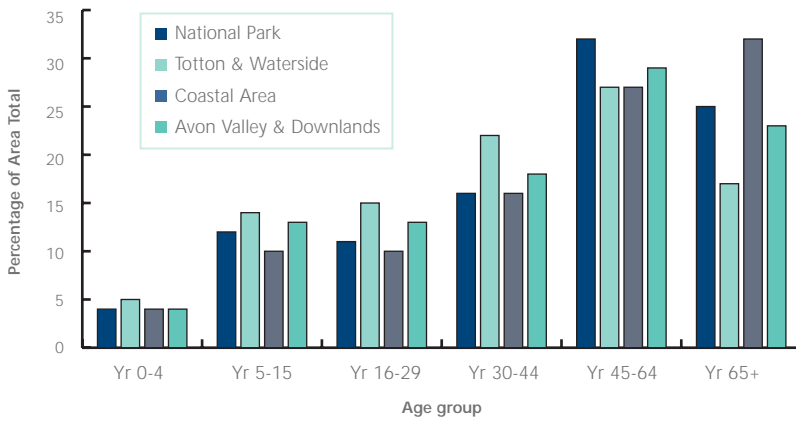
Over the next twenty years the age profile of the local population shows a trend towards an ageing population. (See Figure 4). By 2026 the school age population (5 to 15 years) is expected to fall by 5,000 to 16,500, while the number of residents over 65 will have risen by around 14,000 to over 54,700.

Figure 4: Population Age-Structure New Forest District 2001 - 2026



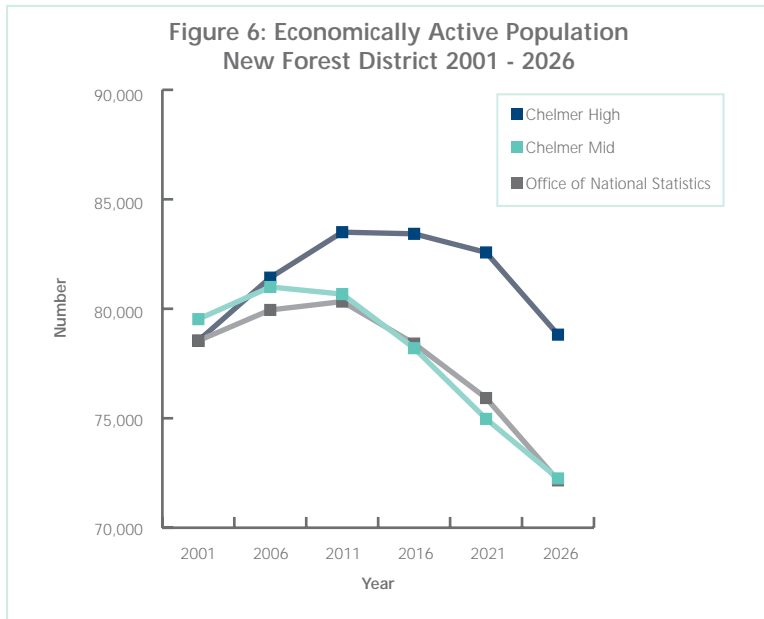
There are wide variations in population characteristics within the district. The age profile in Totton and the Waterside is similar to Hampshire as a whole, while the southern coastal area has a very high proportion of residents over retirement age. (See Figure 5.)

Figure 5: Population by Age Group and Area



Economic activity

Economic activity rates within New Forest District are lower than for Hampshire as a whole – with 47% of the District population economically active, compared with 52% for Hampshire. In the next twenty years, the economically active population in the district is predicted to fall (by nearly 9,000) – possibly to as low as 44% of the population, while in Hampshire it will remain above 50%. Figure 6 shows the range of estimates of how many economically active people there will be in the district over the period to 2026.



Source for all charts : Hampshire County Council 2006 : Long term Population and Housing Projections using the Chelmer Model.