

London's population and the pandemic

Migration Statistics User Forum 2021

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Content

- Challenges
- Population denominators
- Monitoring impacts on population trends
- Updating population projections



Challenges

- Impacts on data collection
- Lag in official statistics
- Disruption to established patterns and behaviours
- New demands on population data

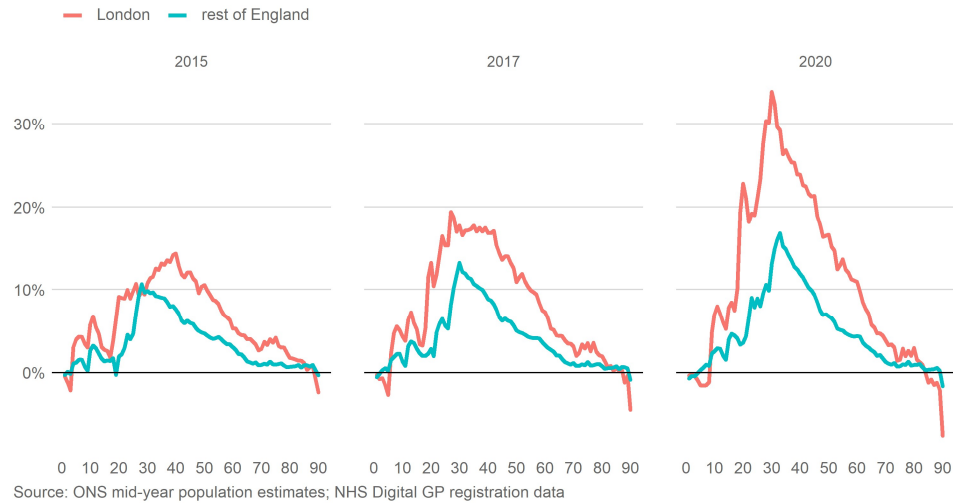
Population denominators

- New urgent need for rates – cases, deaths, vaccinations...
- Standard denominator sources
 - ONS mid-year population estimates
 - National Immunisation Management System (NIMS)
- Pandemic highlighted limitations of existing data

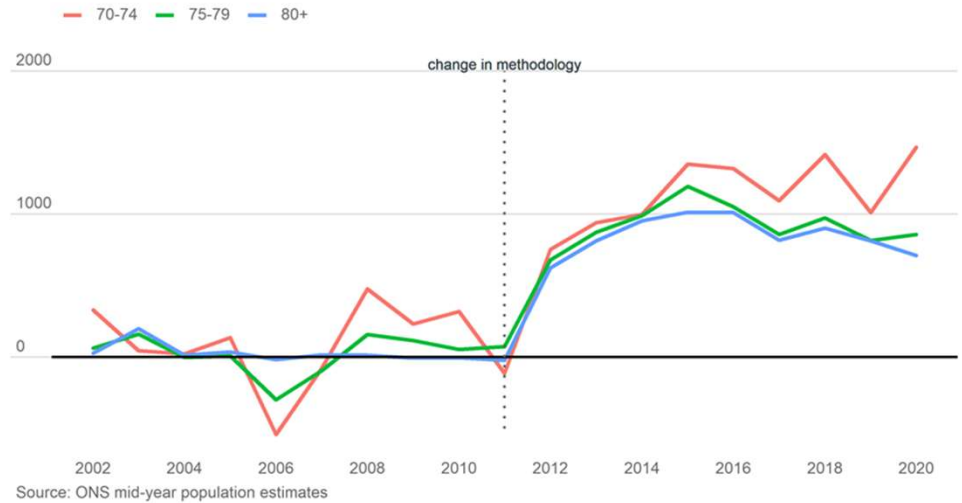
Population denominators

Migration-related issues

Proportional differences by age between GP register and population estimates
 (positive values indicate that GP register count is larger)



Estimated annual net international migration
 London, selected age bands



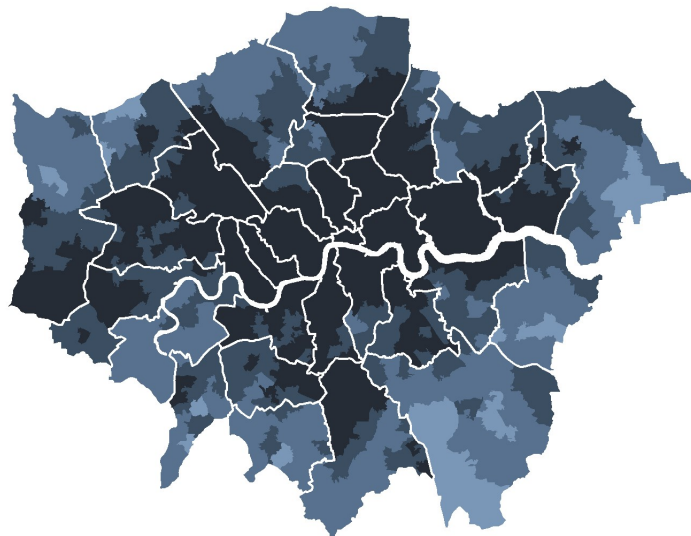
Population denominators Vaccination rates – under 70

Proportion population age under 70 not vaccinated

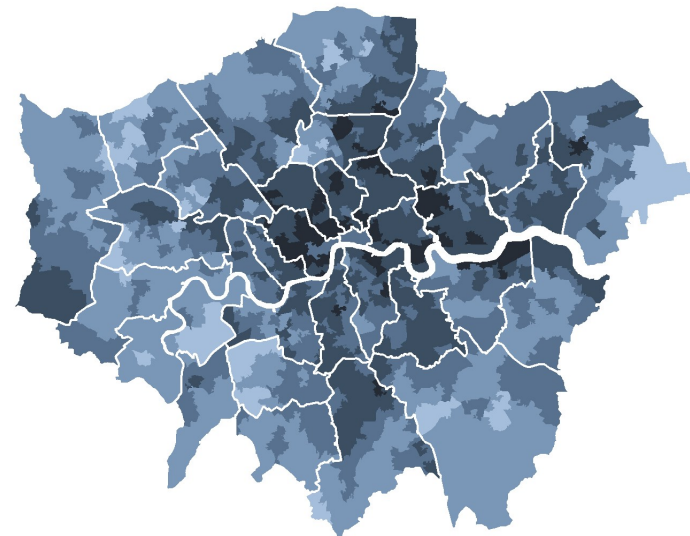
First doses as at 17 June 2021



NIMS (2021)



ONS mid-year estimates (2019)



Source: NHS COVID vaccination statistics; ONS 2019 mid-year estimates

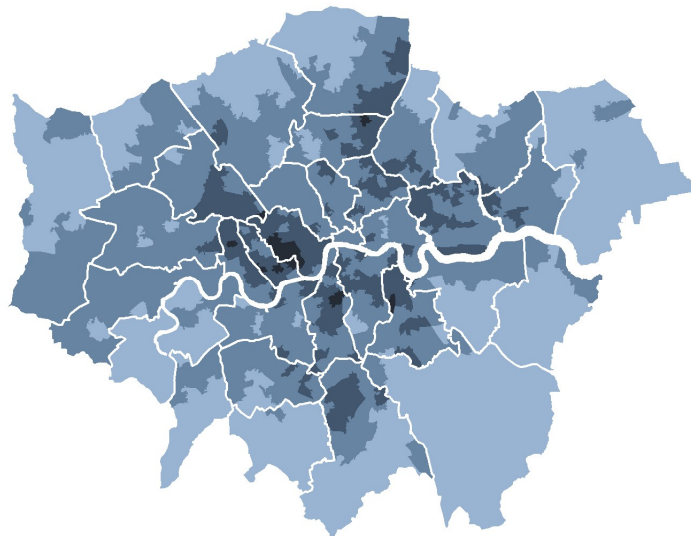
Population denominators Vaccination rates – over 70

Proportion population age 70+ not vaccinated

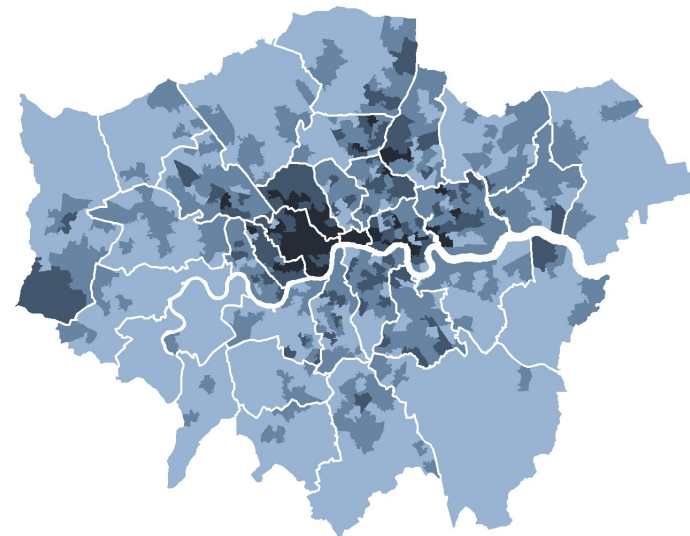
First doses as at 17 June 2021



NIMS (2021)



ONS mid-year estimates (2019)



Source: NHS COVID vaccination statistics; ONS 2019 mid-year estimates

Population denominators

Conclusions

- MYE better than NIMS for working age population
- NIMS more consistent than MYE for older population
- Small denominator errors → large errors in unvaccinated rates



Monitoring impacts

Inform stakeholders and head-off speculation

Assess possible impacts against available evidence

- Baby bust (or boom)
- Exodus of foreign-born population
- Mass relocation out of cities due to remote working



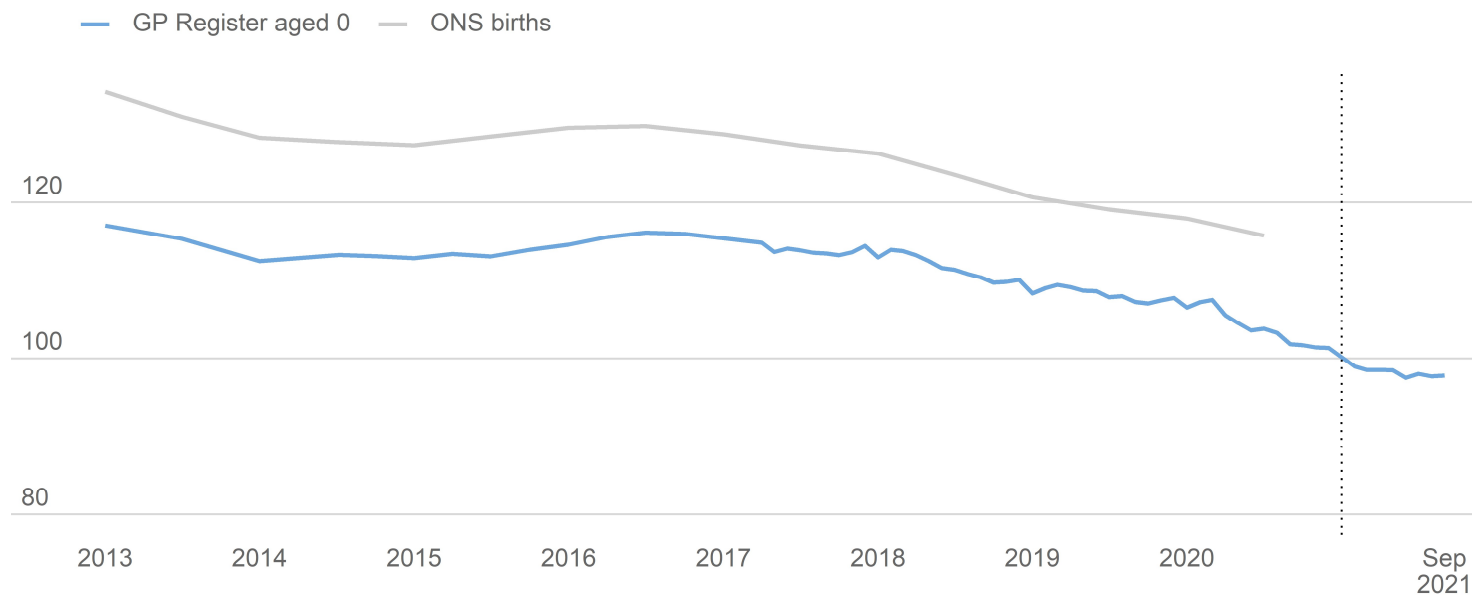
Evidence

- Official statistics
- ONS modelled migration estimates
- Labour Force/Annual Population Surveys
- PAYE Real Time Information System
- Patients registered with a GP
- School applications and pupils on roll
- House sales and rental prices

Monitoring impacts: Baby boom or bust?

Annual births and the number aged 0 on the GP register

Persons (thousands)



Source: NHS Digital, ONS mid-year estimates, ONS calendar year. Chart: GLA demography.

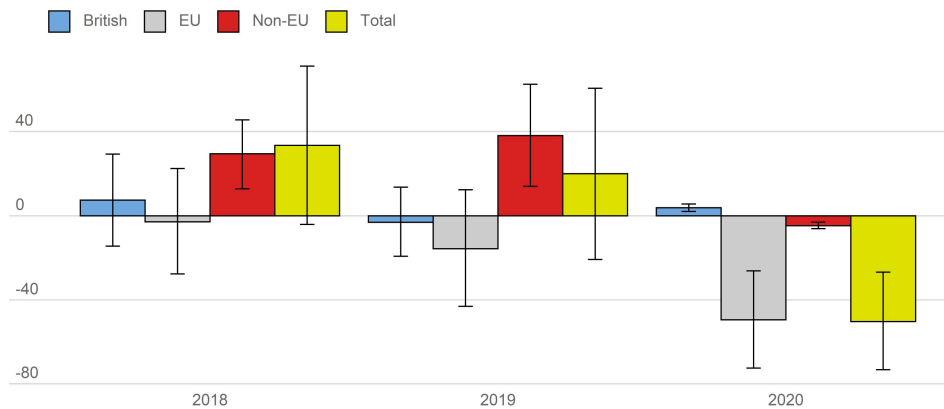
Note: ONS births includes data points for mid-year and calendar year

Dotted line at 1 January 2021 (9 months after the start of the pandemic)

Monitoring impacts: International migration

UK Net flows by nationality

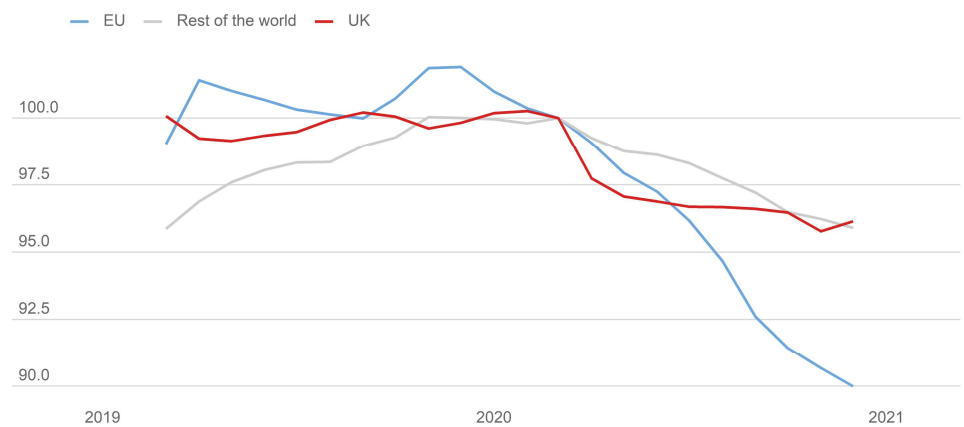
thousands



Source: ONS modelled migration estimates. Chart: GLA demography.
Note: Data for April-June of reference year

London employees by nationality, seasonally adjusted

Indexed: March 2020 = 100

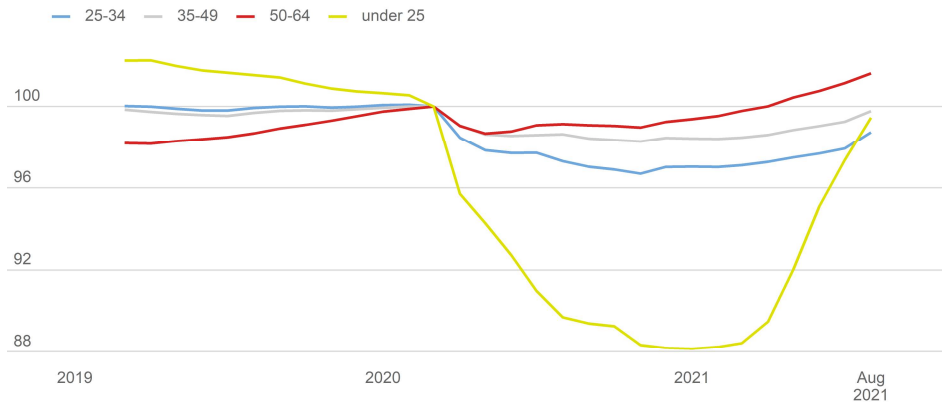


Source: ONS, Earnings & Employment PAYE Real Time Information. Chart: GLA demography.

Monitoring impacts: Employment and rental prices

Change in number of UK payrolled employees by age

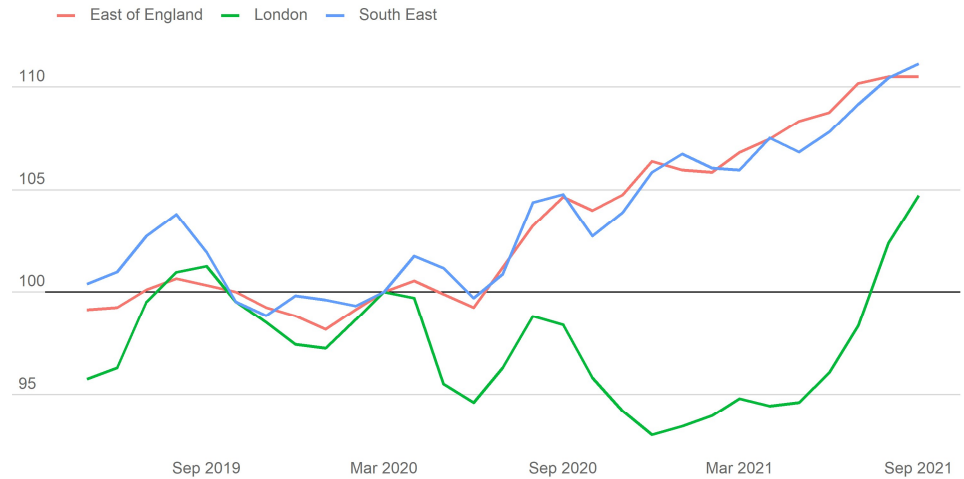
Indexed: March 2020 = 100



Source: ONS, Earnings & Employment PAYE Real Time Information. Chart: GLA demography.
Notes: Data refers to region of residence of employee. Final data point is an early estimate liable to revision.

Rents paid for new tenancies

Indexed: March 2020 = 100

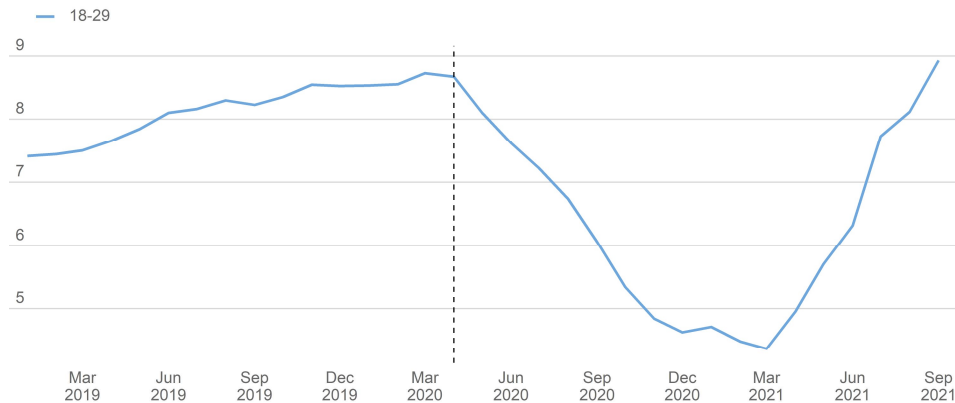


Source: Homelet. Chart: GLA Demography

Monitoring impacts: Patients registered with a GP

Proportional annual within-cohort change in GP register count (aged 18-29)

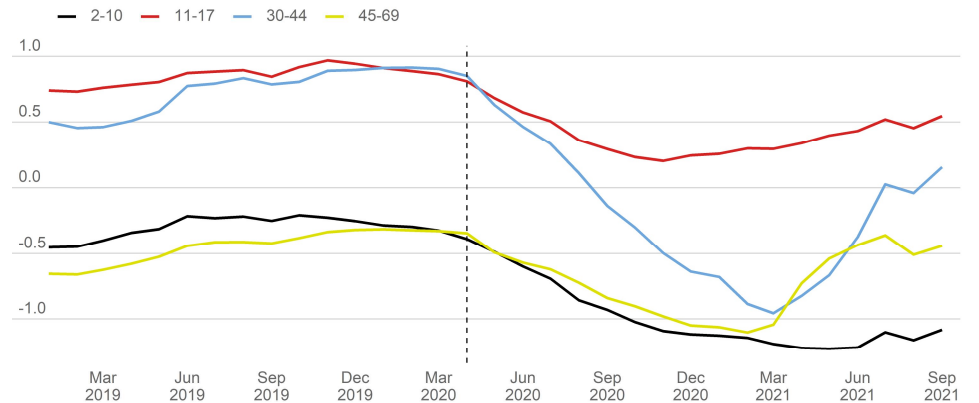
% change from one year before, London



Source: NHS Digital. Chart: GLA demography.
Note: Dotted line at 1 April 2020. Cohort age at end of period.

Proportional annual within-cohort change in GP register count (other ages)

% change from one year before, London



Source: NHS Digital. Chart: GLA demography.
Note: Dotted line at 1 April 2020. Cohort age at end of period.

Conclusions: (probable) Impacts of Covid

- No baby boom or bust (more of a whimper)
- Drop in number of young adults (appears temporary)
- Increased net outflow of families (more persistent)
- Fall in number of EU citizens (unclear whether temporary)

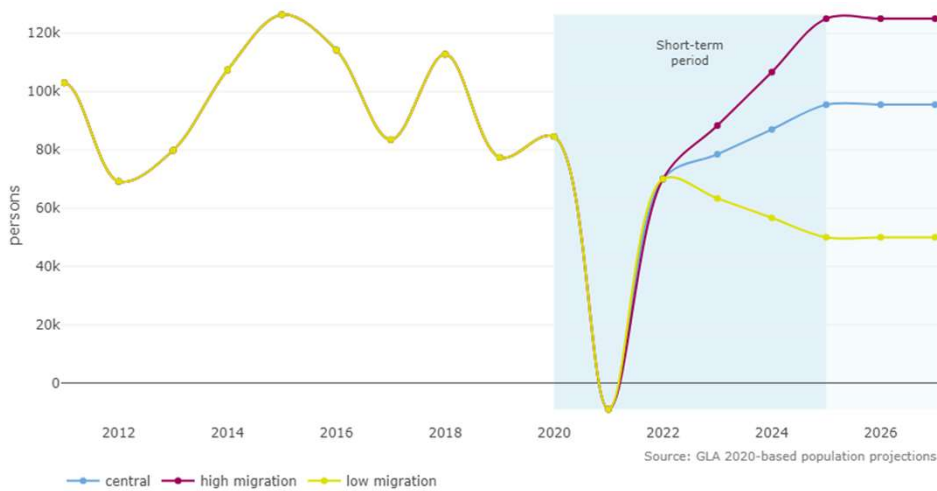


GLA projections

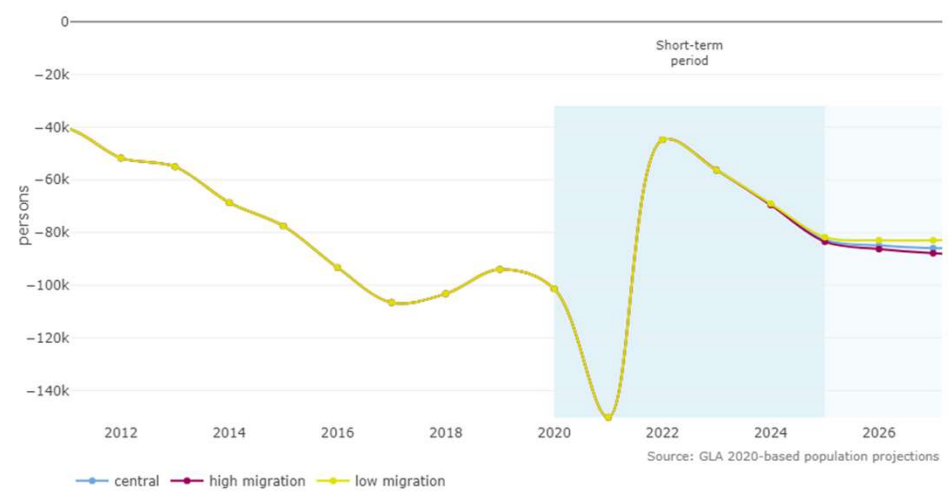
- Annually updated
- Inform strategic planning and local service delivery
- Short term assumptions about pandemic impacts
- Variants reflect long-term uncertainty

GLA projections London migration assumptions

Net international



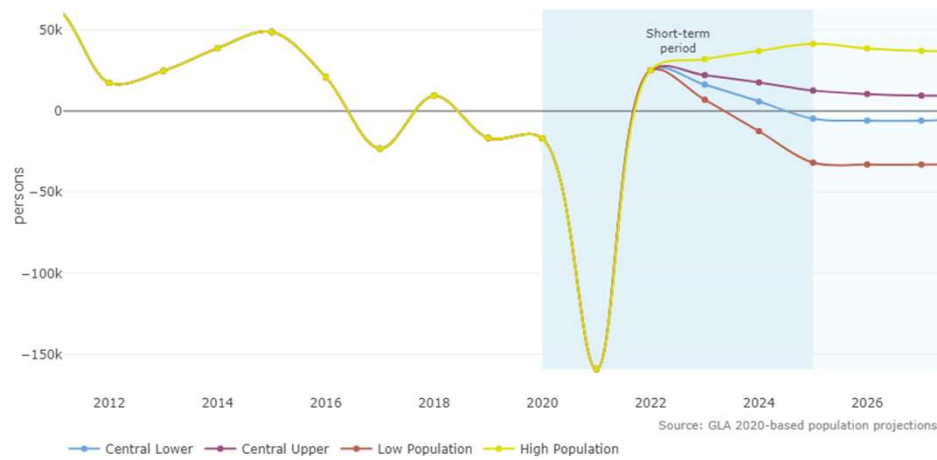
Net domestic



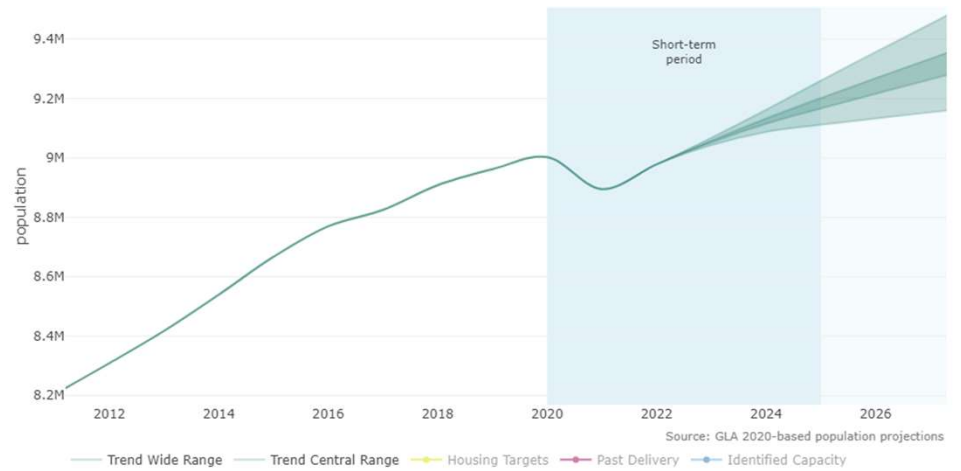
GLA projections

Net migration and population

Total net migration



Total population





Contact and links

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Report on population change during pandemic:

<https://data.london.gov.uk/dataset/population-change-in-london-during-the-pandemic>

GLA 2020-based demographic projections:

<https://data.london.gov.uk/demography/population-and-household-projections/>