



# Population Ageing in Cambridgeshire

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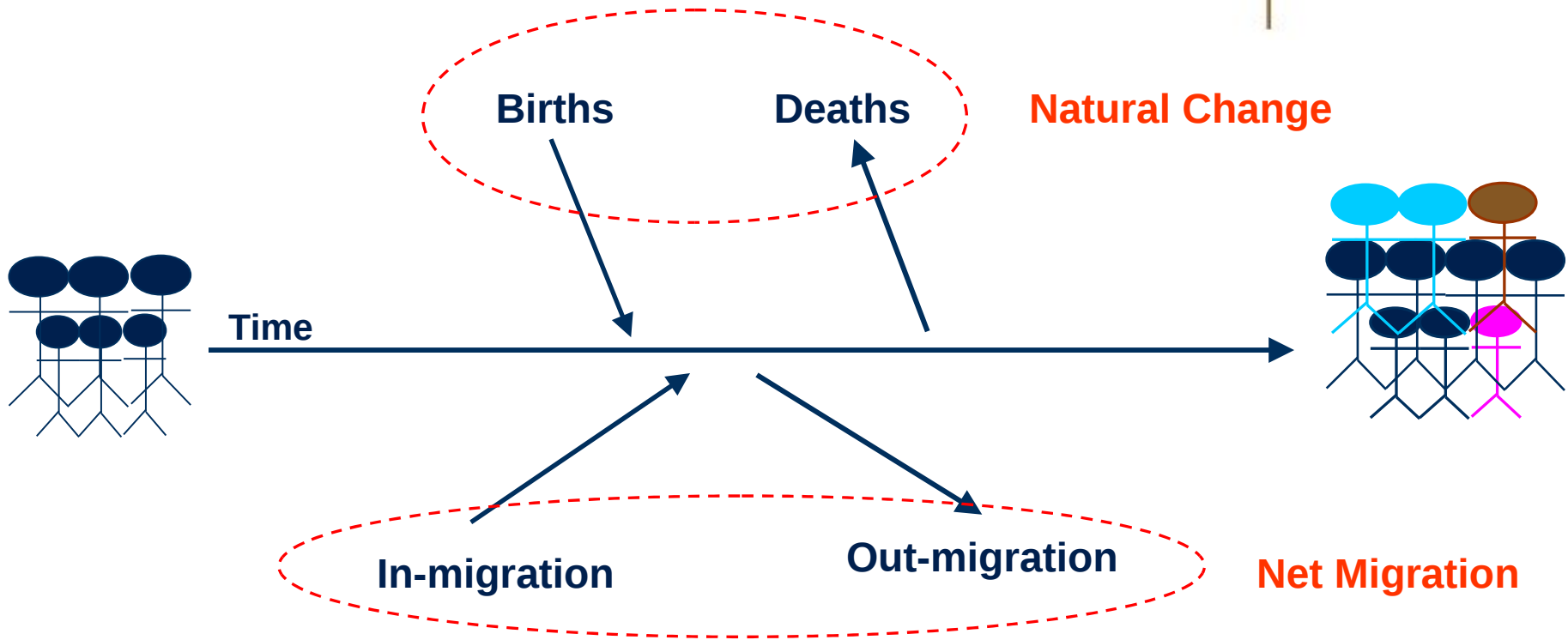
**Cambridgeshire County Council Research Group**

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# Outline

- ◆ Overview of population trends in Cambridgeshire
  - ◆ How do populations change?
  - ◆ How has our population changed in the past?
  - ◆ How might our population change in the future?
    - ◆ Population forecasts
    - ◆ Impact of different scenarios
    - ◆ Household size
  - ◆ New developments

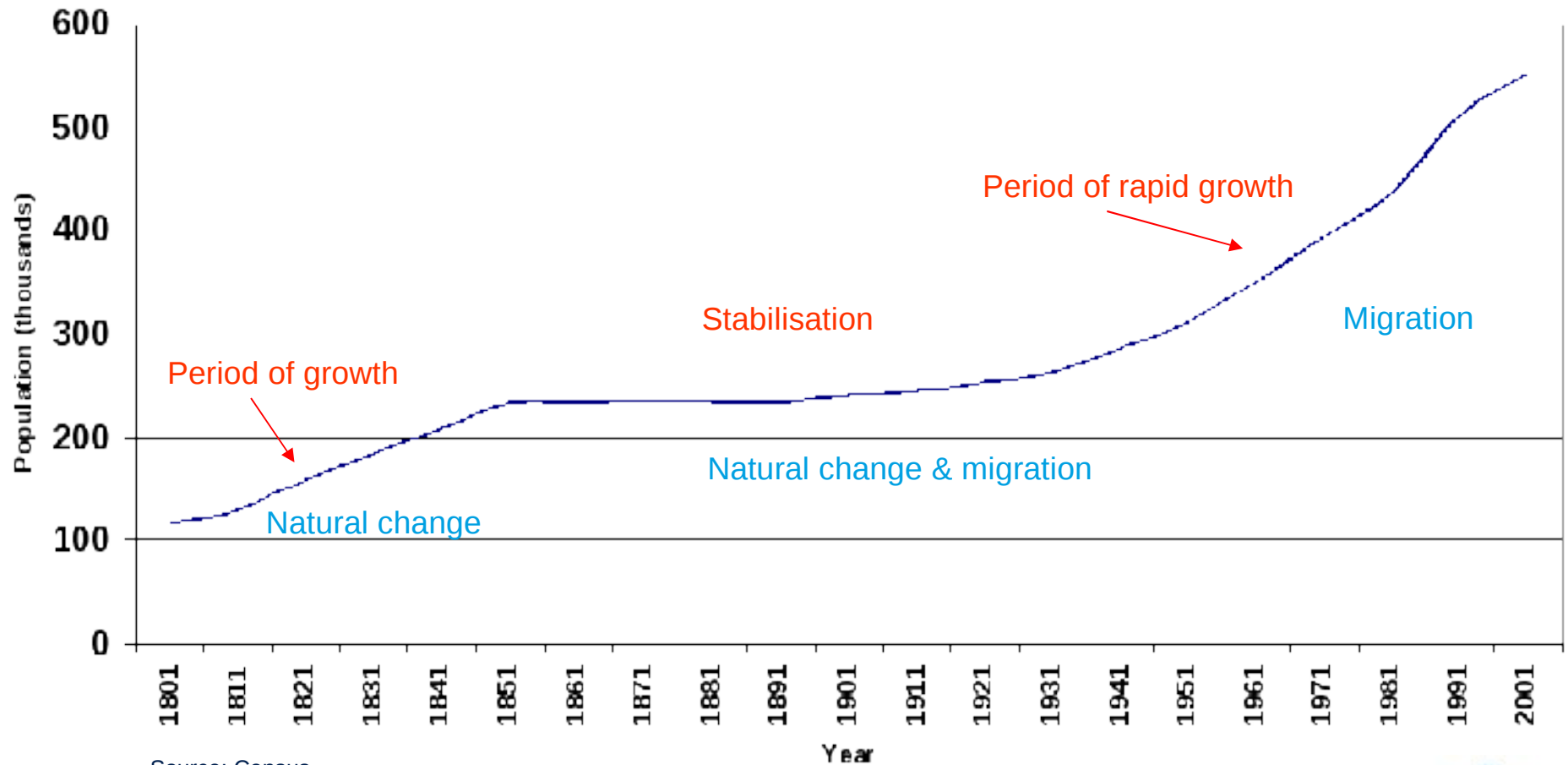
# How do populations change?



**POPULATION CHANGE =**

**NATURAL CHANGE + NET MIGRATION + "OTHER" CHANGE**

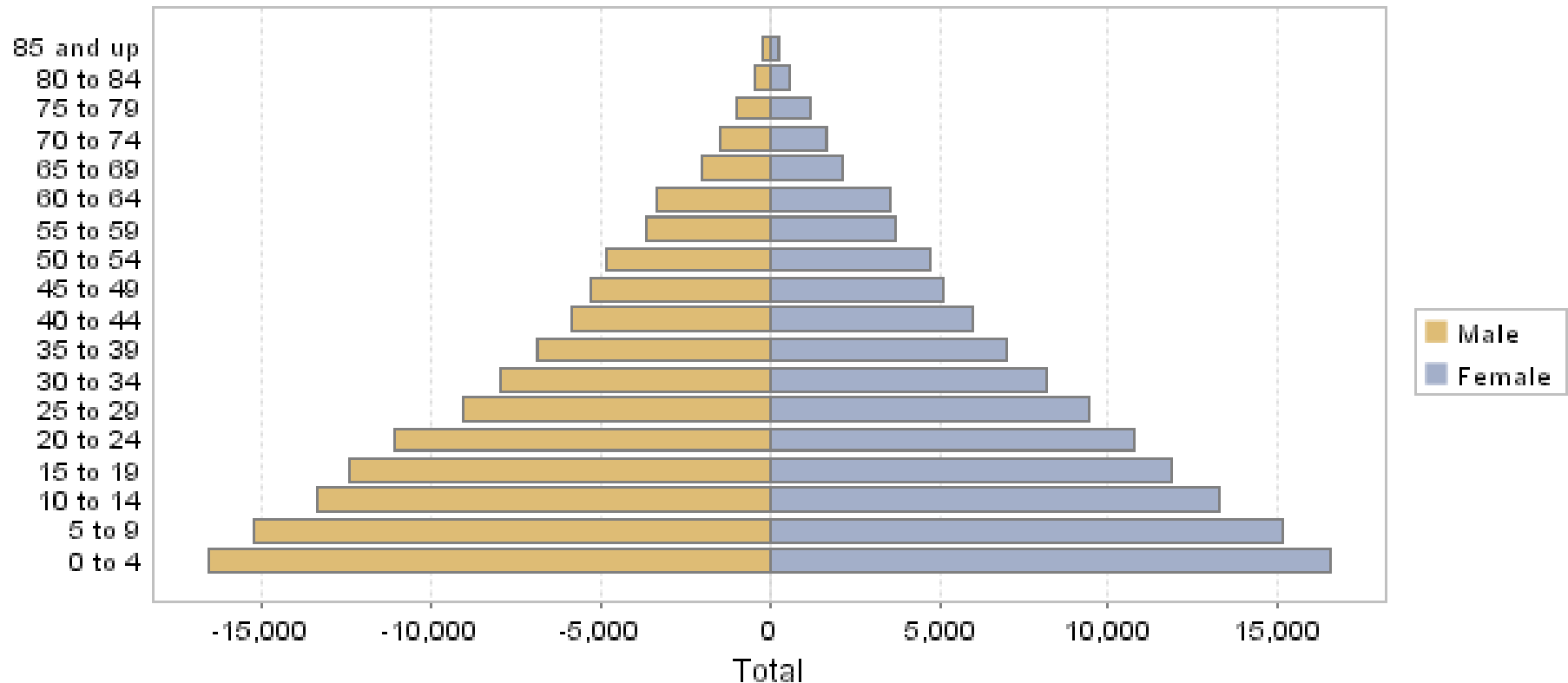
# Cambridgeshire Historical change: 1801-2001



Source: Census

# Structure of the population

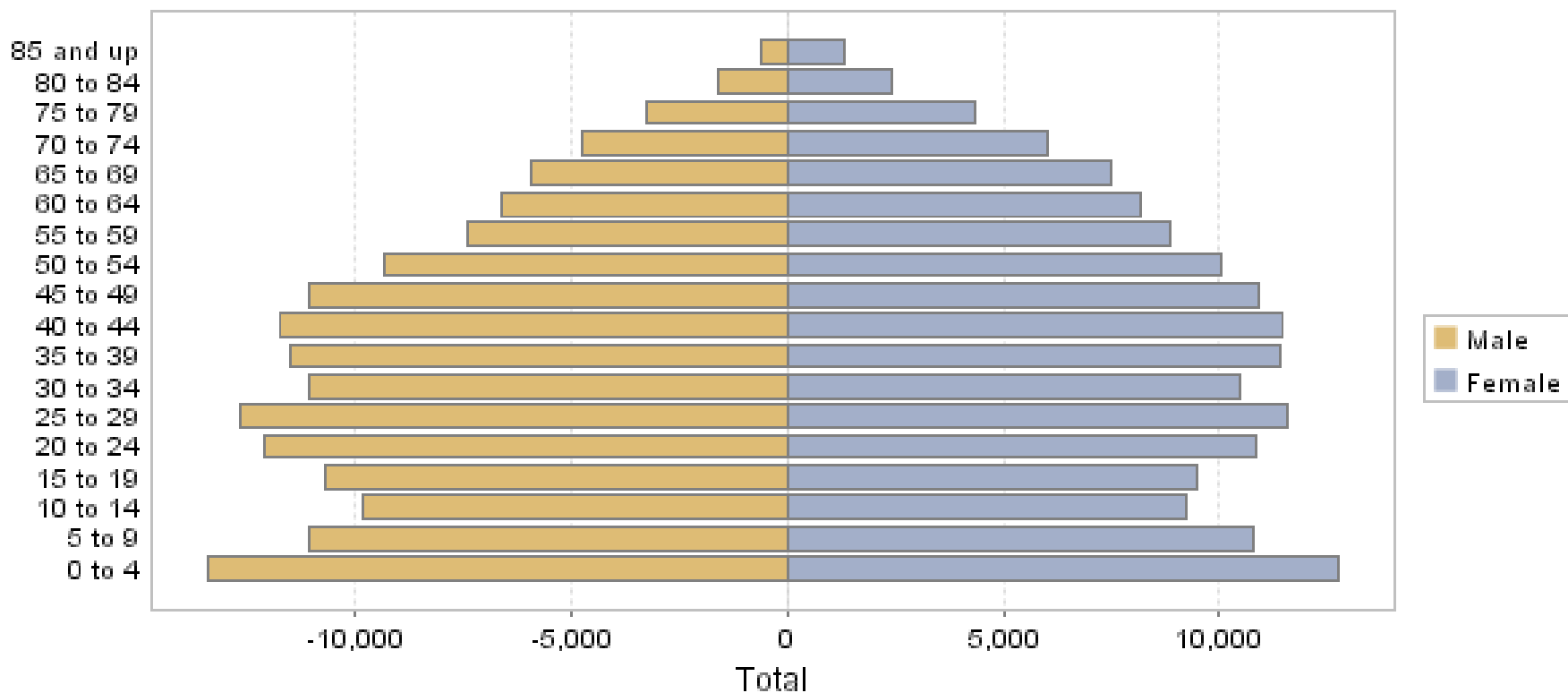
## 1851



Source: Vision of Britain

# Structure of the population

## 1951

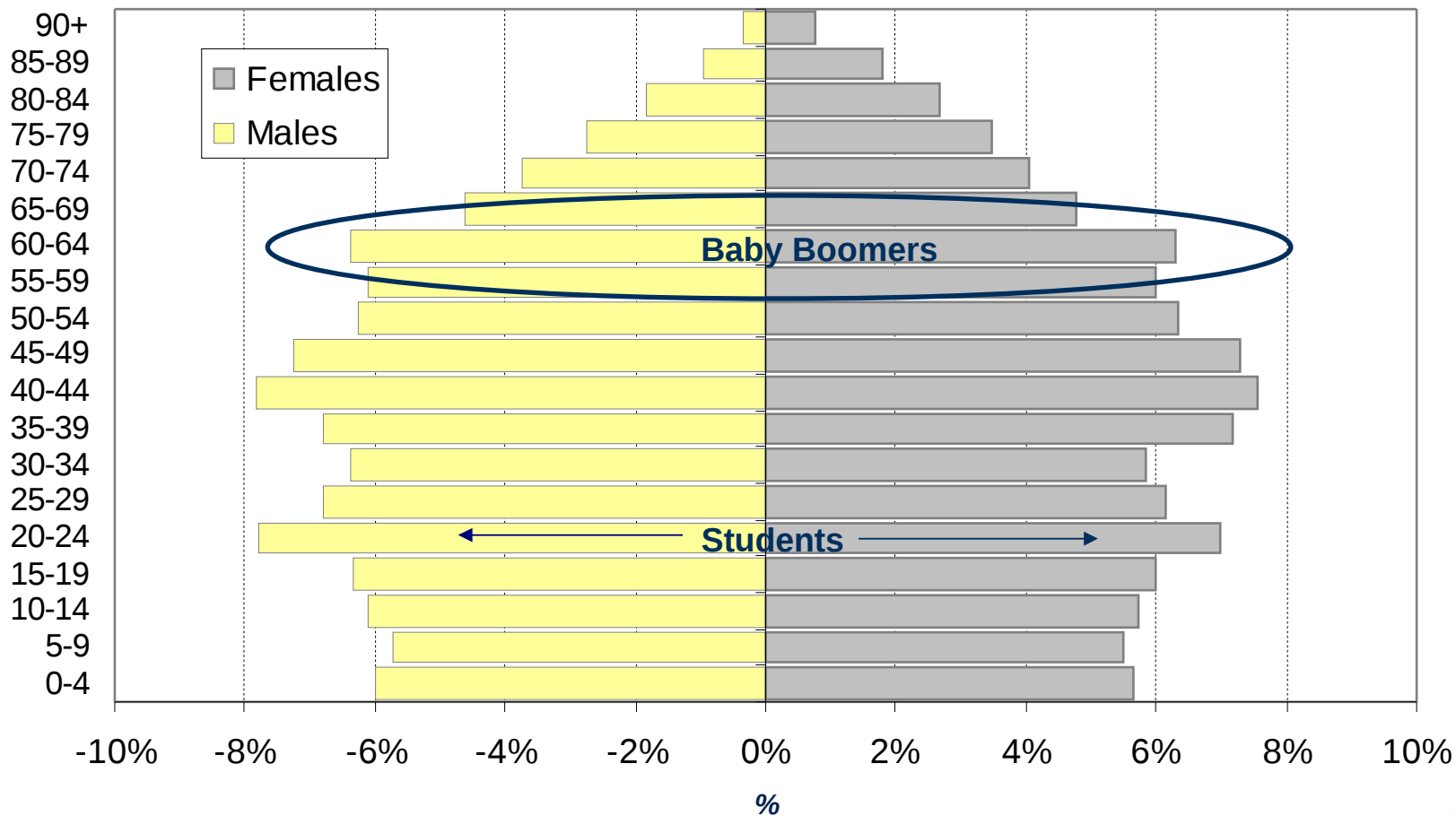


**Post war baby boom**

Source: Vision of Britain

# Structure of the population

2009



Source: Cambridgeshire County Council Research Group indicative 2009-based forecasts



# Forecasting change

- ◆ Factors to consider
  - ◆ Today's population ageing through
  - ◆ Fertility and mortality - national assumptions with local adjustment
  - ◆ Future levels of in- and out-migration?
- ◆ “Policy-led” forecasts, linked to house building
  - ◆ County Council produces forecasts based on latest house-building policy position – *but given the abolition of Regional Spatial Strategies, there are currently no housing targets*
  - ◆ For the purposes of this presentation, we have run indicative forecasts based on the Draft East of England Plan Review to 2031
  - ◆ This is the latest view from the districts of possible housing targets, but has no policy status

# Indicative forecasts to 2031

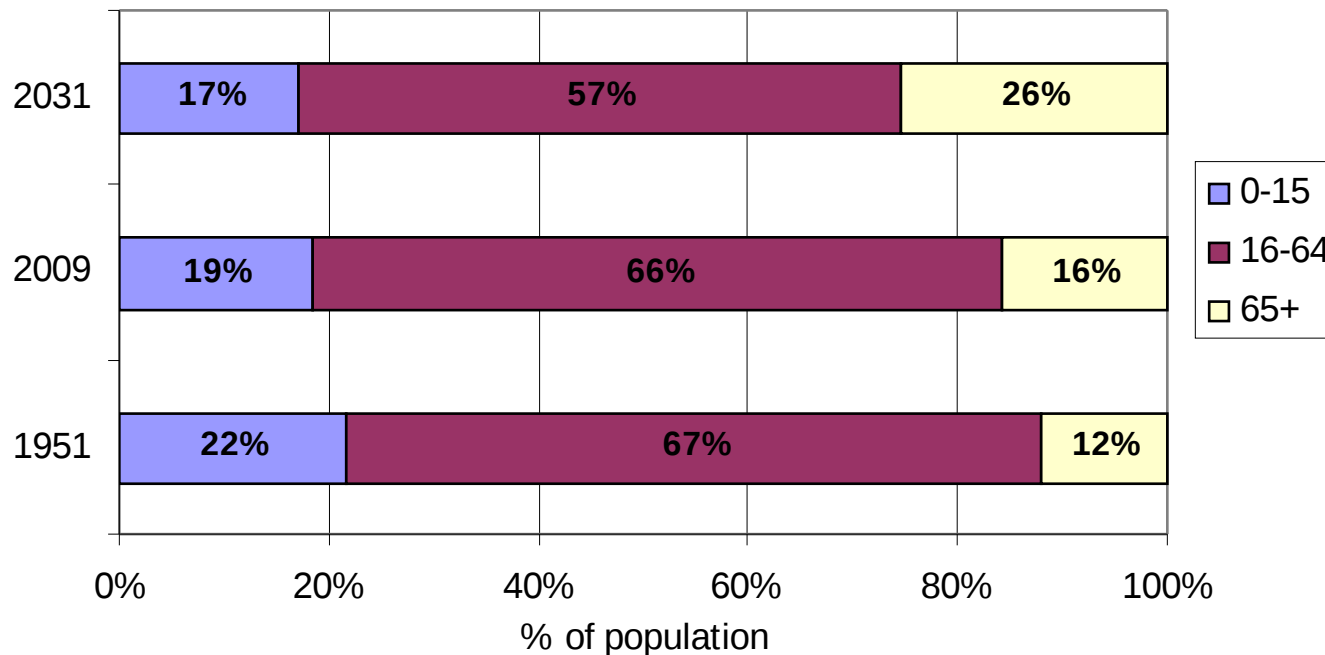
- ◆ The targets proposed by the Cambridgeshire districts amount to 68,000 homes between 2011 and 2031
- ◆ Annual build rate of 3,400 per year
- ◆ Average build rate 2001-2009 was around 3,200
- ◆ Forecasts run on this scenario show:

Dwelling % change	Change 2009-2031					
	Total	0-15	16-64	65-74	75-84	85+
<b>29%</b>	<b>20%</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>5%</b>	<b>70%</b>	<b>103%</b>	<b>161%</b>
<b>England comparison</b>	<b>16%</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>43%</b>	<b>54%</b>	<b>115%</b>

Sources: Cambridgeshire County Council Research Group indicative 2009-based forecasts;  
ONS 2008-based sub-national population projections

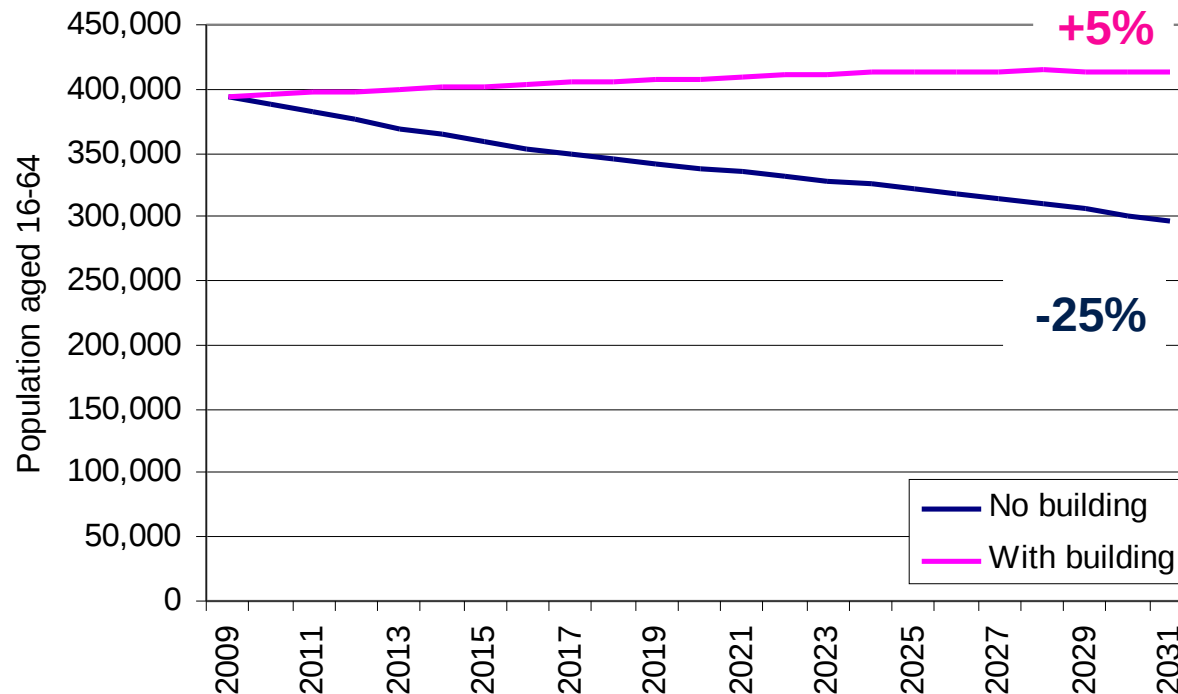
# Changing population structure

- ◆ Proportion of Cambridgeshire's population made up of different age groups is forecast to change:



# What if we built no houses?

- ◆ Comparing our forecasts with a theoretical “no house-building” scenario
- ◆ Population aged 16-64:

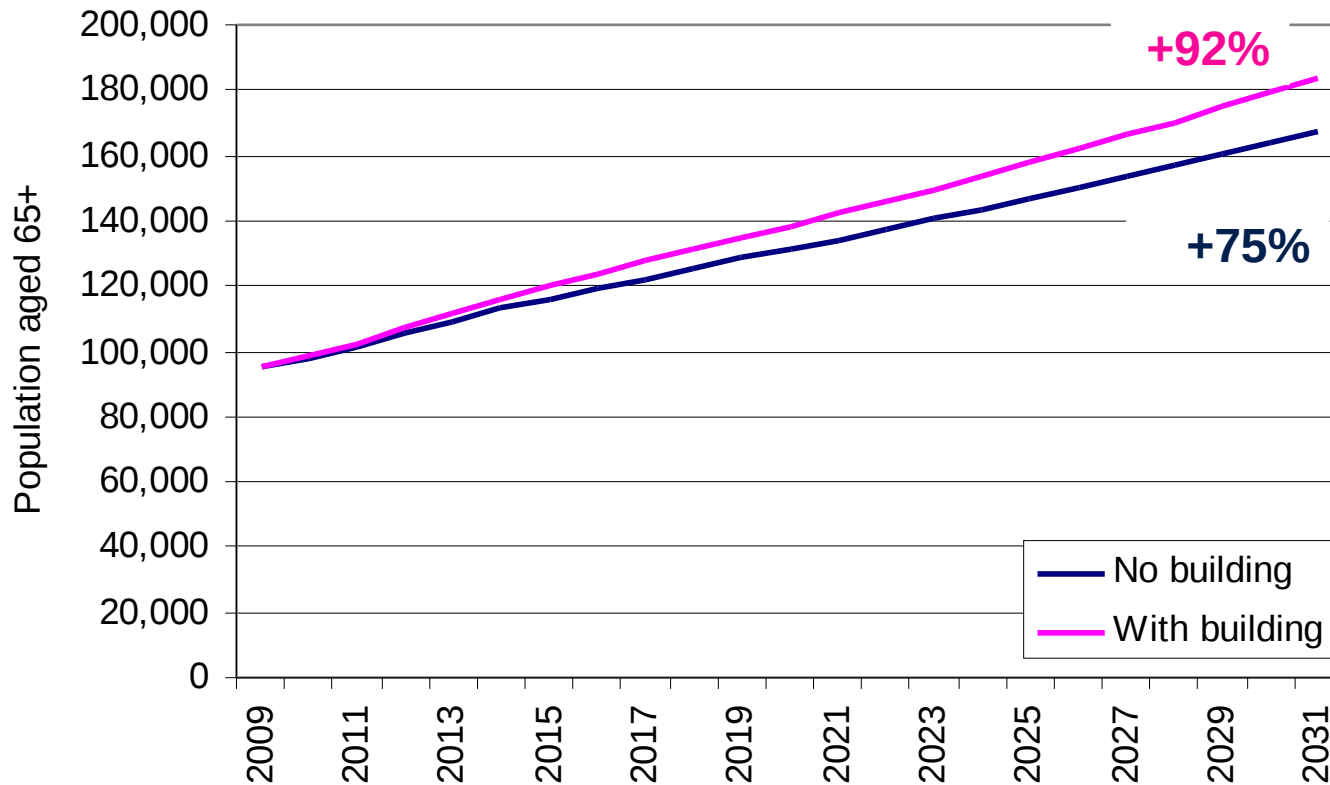


With no house-building, working age population would fall by 25% by 2031; total population would fall by 10%

Source: Cambridgeshire County Council Research Group indicative 2009-based forecasts

# What if we built no houses?

## ◆ Population aged 65+:



Amount of house-building has relatively modest impact on growth among over 65s

Source: Cambridgeshire County Council Research Group indicative 2009-based forecasts

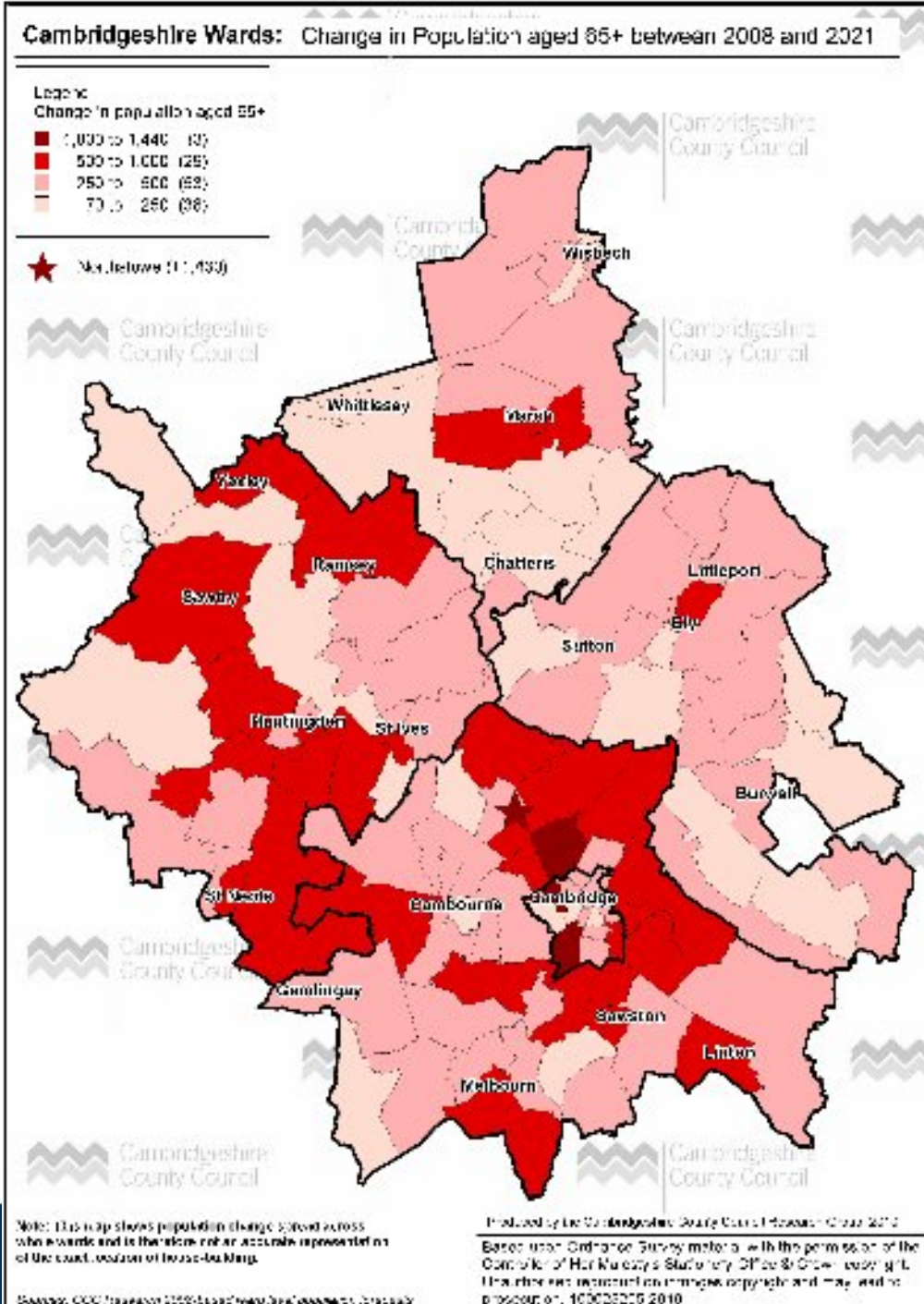


# Geography of population change in Cambridgeshire

Growth in the over 65s will occur in all areas

Source: Cambridgeshire County Council Research Group 2008-based forecasts

Map based on Ordnance Survey material © Crown Copyright. Unauthorised reproduction may lead to prosecution



Note: This map shows population change forecast across whole wards and is therefore not an accurate representation of the local location of house-building.  
 Source: CCC Research 2008-based forecasts population growth

# Impact on household size

- ◆ As the population ages, the average number of people per household falls.
  - ◆ More couple households without children
  - ◆ More single person households
- ◆ This means that the population housed by the existing housing stock will be lower in future.
- ◆ Average household size in Cambridgeshire:
  - ◆ 2001: 2.38
  - ◆ 2009: 2.31
  - ◆ 2031: 2.17
- ◆ Significant building is required even to maintain the population at its current size.



# New developments

- ◆ Our research on new developments shows they are generally most popular among young families, with few older residents (except for in specific retirement or sheltered properties).
- ◆ After 10 years, under 4% of Cambourne's population is aged 65 or over (South Cambs av. is 17%).
- ◆ Challenge to create balanced communities, both on and off new developments.
- ◆ How could new developments be more appealing to older people?

# Summary

- ◆ Growth in Cambridgeshire's child and working age population is mostly driven by house-building and migration;
- ◆ Growth in the 65+ population is mostly driven by the ageing of our current population and will occur irrespective of housing growth;
- ◆ Population ageing is associated with falling average household size, meaning the current housing stock will house fewer people in the future;
- ◆ At present, new developments are not popular choices for older households.