

# North Western Melbourne Population growth

Population growth is a key issue for north western Melbourne

Nearly one-third of Victoria's projected population growth to 2031 is expected to occur in the North Western Melbourne Primary Health Network (NWMPHN) region. The region includes the high-growth Local Government Areas of Hume in the north and Melton and Wyndham in the west.

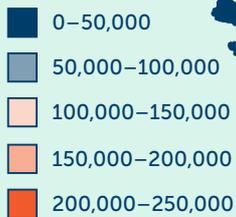
The combined Melton and Wyndham area is the fastest growing part of Melbourne with an additional 70,000 people residing there from 2011 to 2016. The area is projected to have a further 268,000 residents by 2031.

## Population of NWMPHN region, 2016–2031

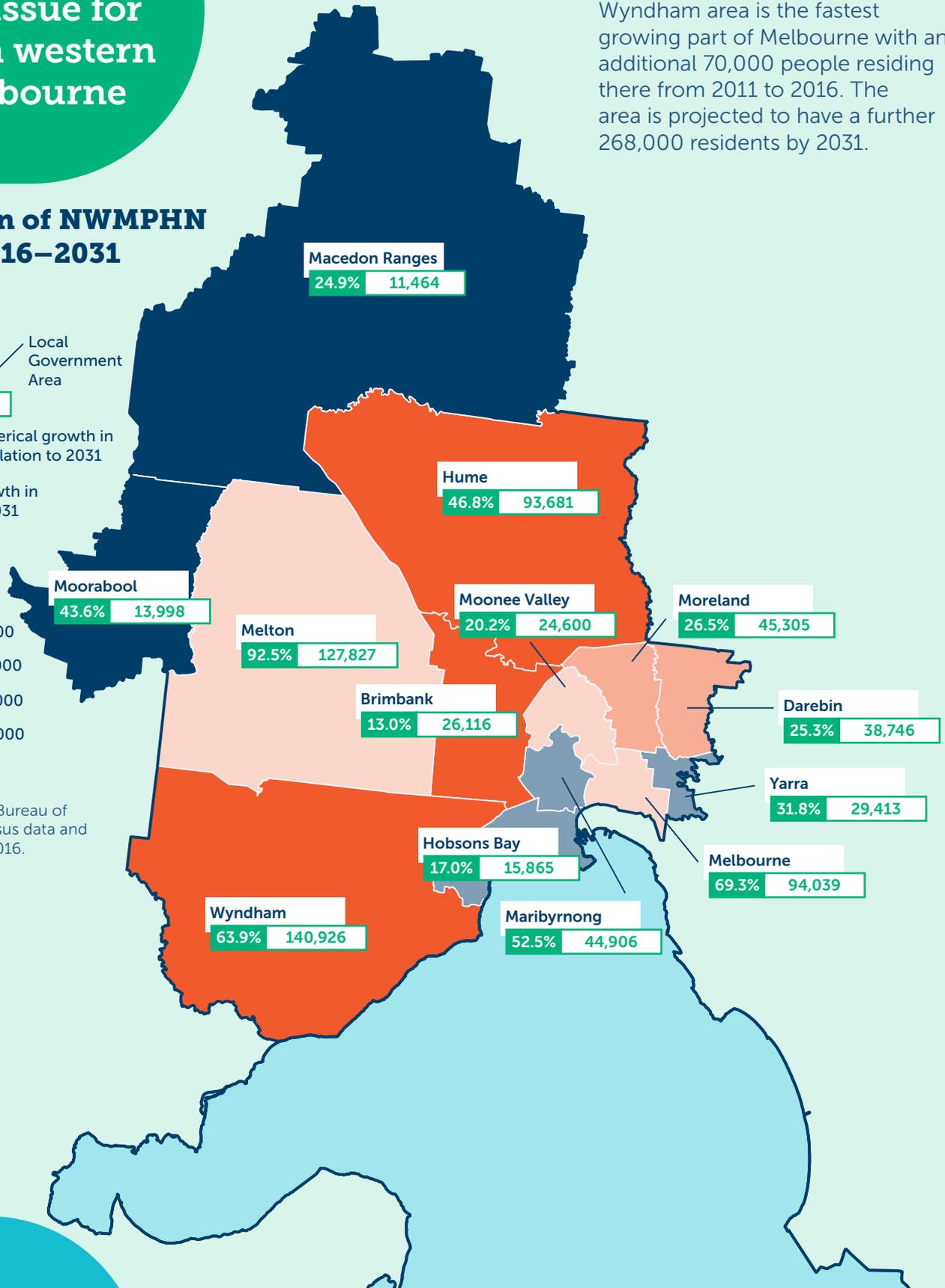
### Legend



### 2016 population



Sources: Australia Bureau of Statistics 2016 Census data and Victoria in Future 2016.



Growth in the greater Melbourne region was concentrated in the north-east during the 1980s and the south-east during the 1990s. Since the new millennium, the growth corridors have shifted to the north and the west. Overall, the north western Melbourne region grew by almost 12% between 2011 and 2016, an extra 174,066 people. By 2031, an extra 650,000 people are projected to live in the NWMPHN area.

These growth areas in the north and west also include some of Victoria's most socioeconomically disadvantaged areas and have a higher burden of disease than the Victorian average.

### Percentage of 2016 population by age group and region



Data source: Australian Bureau of Statistics Census 2016

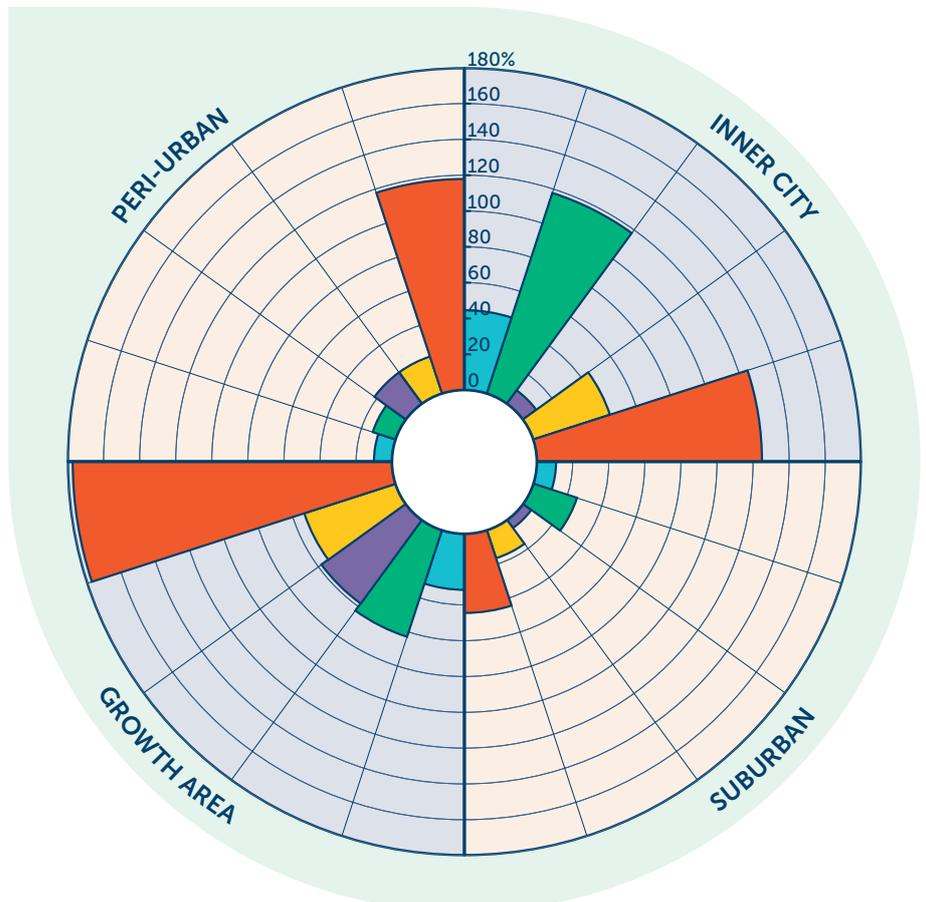
There is large variation in the age profile across the NWMPHN area. The inner city areas (Melbourne, Yarra and Maribyrnong LGAs) have a high proportion of people aged 20–34 and a lower proportion of children, whereas the peri-urban areas of Moorabool and Macedon Ranges have higher proportions of older adults. Understanding these differences in age profiles is important in targeting services for local communities.

### Projected population growth by age range and region, 2016 to 2031

- Infant (0–4)
- Child (5–14)
- Young (15–24)
- Adult (25–69)
- Older adult (70+)

Data sources: Australian Bureau of Statistics ERP 2016, Victoria in Future 2016

It is also important to understand changes within the age profiles. For example, although the inner city areas currently have a lower proportion of children, this age group is expected to grow significantly over the next 15 years. All regions are expected to see increases in the older adult age group, with the largest increase expected in the growth area locations.



More information on population growth can be found at [nwmpn.org.au/priority-area-topic/population-growth/](http://nwmpn.org.au/priority-area-topic/population-growth/)

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