2019 Population Projections for Muswellbrook help us understand the future size of the population and composition of households in the Shire.

The 2019 Population Projections indicate that the population of Muswellbrook is estimated to increase by 1,900 people between 2016 and 2041, from 16,450 to 18,350. Muswellbrook’s population growth will be driven largely by natural increase.

The working age population (aged 15-64) is estimated to remain stable, moving from 10,650 in 2016 to 10,600 in 2041 – a change of 50.

The number of children aged 14 and under is estimated to change by 300 children, from 3,800 in 2016 to 3,500 in 2041.

The number of people aged 65 and over is estimated to increase from 2,000 in 2016 to 4,300 by 2041 - a change of 2,300.

Supporting communities in Muswellbrook

The NSW, Federal and local governments are delivering infrastructure and capital works that may change future population patterns and growth beyond what is shown in the projections. For example:

- Investing in roads such as the $7.79m Upper Hunter regional mine-affected roads program
- Investing $4.6m in Muswellbrook Shire and surrounds mine-affected roads
- Growing the local economy by investing in projects such as the $4.6m Hunter Pilot Biorefinery

What are the NSW Population Projections?

The NSW Population Projections estimate the future NSW population based on assumptions for fertility, life expectancy and migration. They represent possible demographic futures based on the best assessment of how the NSW population may change over time, including population size, age profile and residential location. These projections are based on assumptions known at the time of publication. These projections are a tool used by the Government in the planning of services and infrastructure such as schools, hospitals, transport and community services.

Future decisions, such as infrastructure investments and land use plans, will change future population patterns including growth and distribution. These projections do not change the vision set out in Regional Plans or affect local plans and strategies such as the Local Strategic Planning Statements and Local Housing Strategies.

Muswellbrook Shire Council
2019 NSW Population Projections

Key Indicators: Projected Population, Households and Dwellings - all data at 30th June

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2021</th>
<th>2026</th>
<th>2031</th>
<th>2036</th>
<th>2041</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Population</td>
<td>16,450</td>
<td>17,100</td>
<td>17,600</td>
<td>17,950</td>
<td>18,200</td>
<td>18,350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016 Population Projection</td>
<td>17,150</td>
<td>18,000</td>
<td>18,800</td>
<td>19,550</td>
<td>20,300</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Households</td>
<td>6,450</td>
<td>6,900</td>
<td>7,250</td>
<td>7,550</td>
<td>7,800</td>
<td>7,950</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Household Size*</td>
<td>2.47</td>
<td>2.40</td>
<td>2.35</td>
<td>2.28</td>
<td>2.25</td>
<td>2.22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Implied Dwelling Projection**</td>
<td>7,250</td>
<td>8,100</td>
<td>8,500</td>
<td>8,850</td>
<td>9,150</td>
<td>9,350</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Average persons resident per occupied private dwelling
**Dwells required if the population forms households in the same ways as in 2016

Information is rounded to the nearest 50, which can introduce discrepancies in totals and differences.