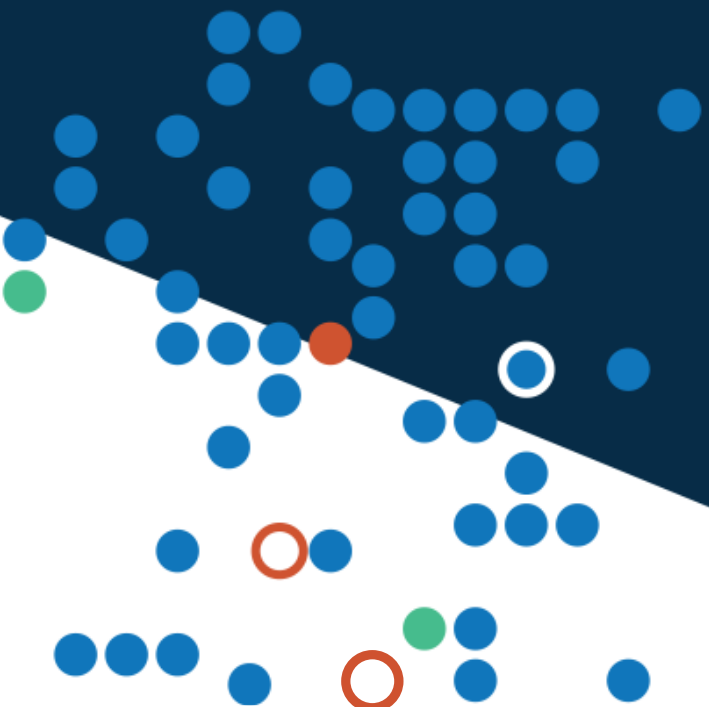




Australian Government  
Centre for Population

# Population Statement

December 2020



## *Acknowledgement of Country*

*I acknowledge the Traditional  
Owners of the Land  
on which we are meeting.  
I pay my respects to their Elders,  
past and present, and the Elders  
from other communities  
who may be here today.*

# The Centre for Population

Our vision

Strong evidence. Deep Insights. Collaborative Approach.

Our objectives

Enrich the evidence base 

Support the Minister for Population 

Influence strategic policy-making 

Proactively engage with stakeholders 

How we work

Identify and address data gaps.

Develop a prioritised research agenda.

Undertake and commission research pieces.

The Centre will engage with state, territory and local governments, academics, business and the general public with the purpose of both enriching the evidence base and informing policy.

Inform national population policy.

Identify emerging policy priorities.

Develop relevant communications material and publications.

What we deliver

**Publications and data insights to inform policy**

This includes targeted research outputs for publication (including on our website), and data projections provided for Budgets, Mid-Year Economic and Fiscal Outlook (MYEFO) documents, and inter-generational reports.

**Population Statement**

The Statement will be an annual overarching document capturing the population landscape in Australia including composition, distribution, and broader demographic trends.

**Population Plan**

The Government will plan for the effects of population change by assessing the costs and benefits of change, incorporating state, territory and local government plans and mapping and analysing existing population data.

**National Population and Planning Framework**

The Framework sets out how all levels of government will work together to better plan for Australia's future population.

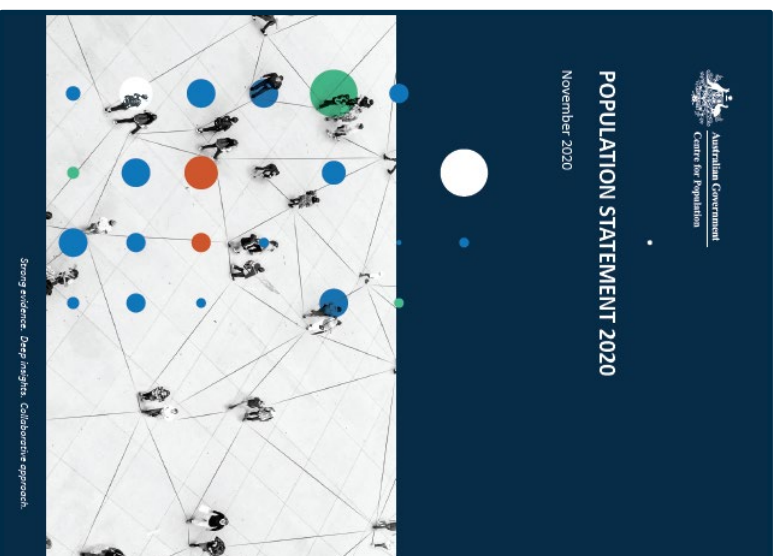
**Collaborating with other jurisdictions on population policy**

This includes supporting Ministers through the National Cabinet Reform Committee on Population and Migration, and working with states, territories and local government in officials' working groups.

**Identify other collaboration opportunities outside Government**

Engaging with academics, think tanks, large corporates, regional development bodies, and industry organisations on collaboration opportunities.

# Australia's first Population Statement



- Annual document
- Aims to improve understanding of:
  - Australia's population
  - how it is changing and is expected to change in the future, and
  - the implications of those changes.
- Resource to support policy, planning and research

# Population forecasts and projections

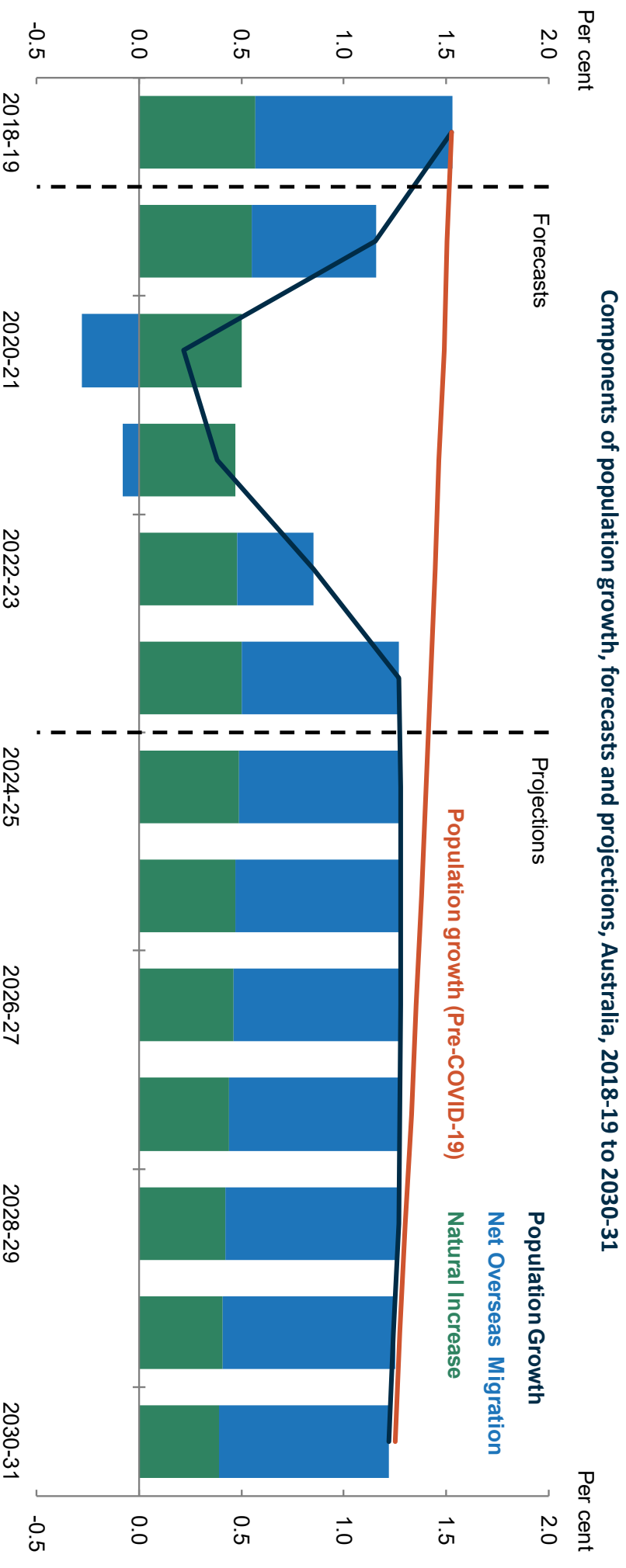


- Scenarios
  - Pre-COVID-19
  - Central case
  - Extended restrictions
- Assumptions

# KEY MESSAGES

# 1. Population growth

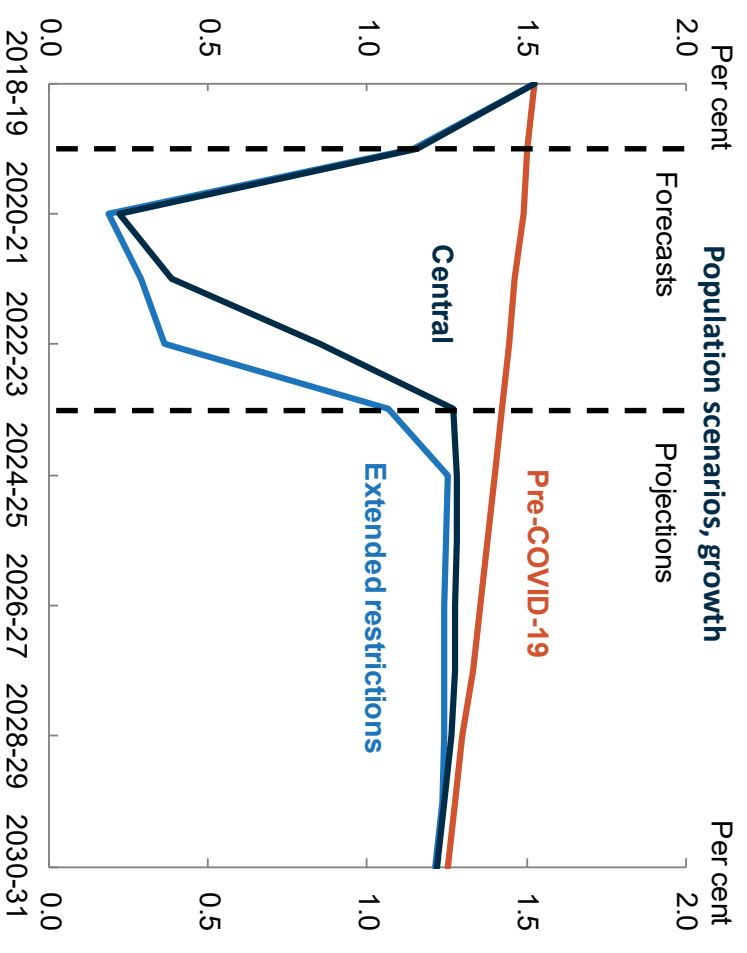
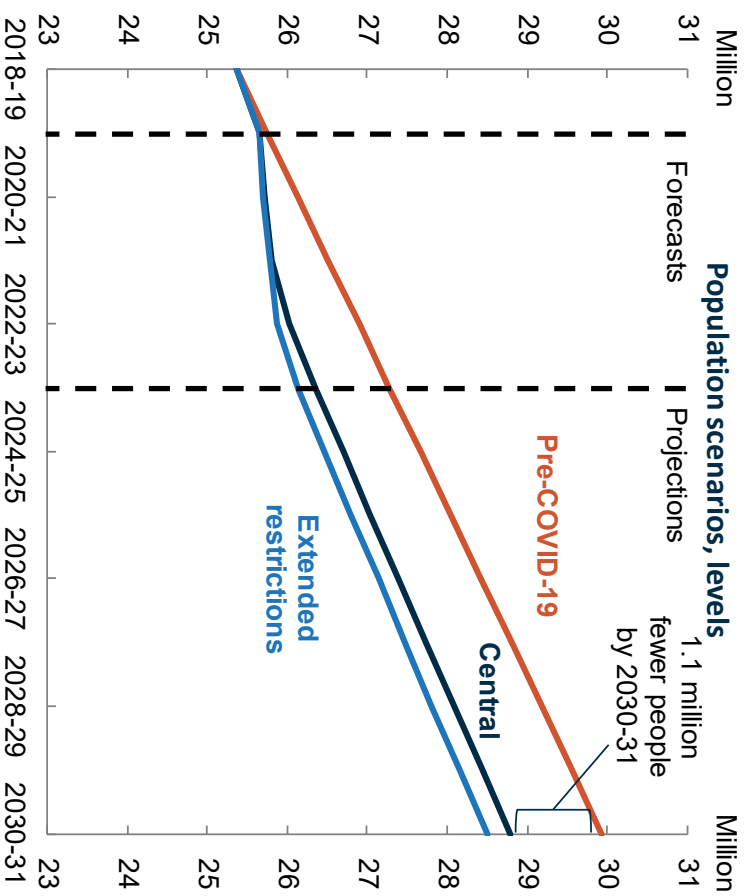
COVID-19 will make our population smaller and older than was projected before the pandemic



Sources: Australian Bureau of Statistics, National, state and territory population, March 2020, 2020), Centre for Population projections



## COVID-19 will decrease Australia's population growth



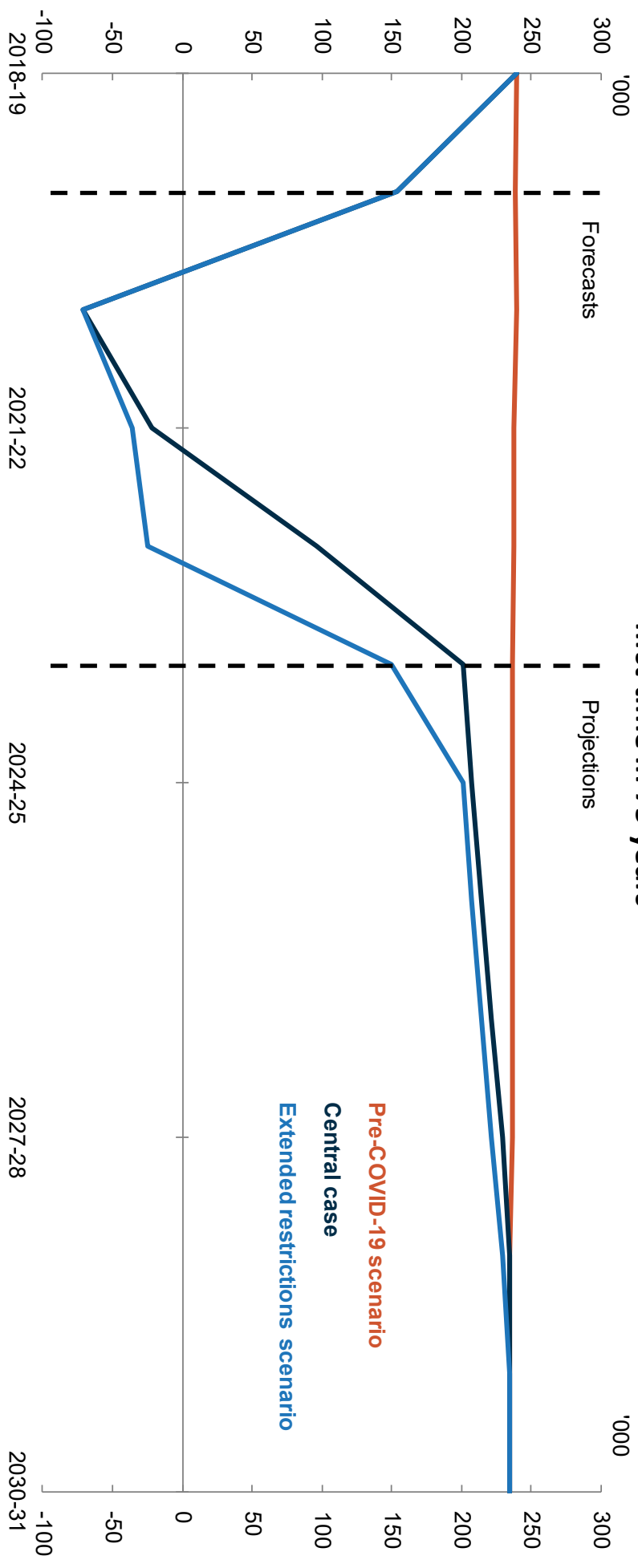
Source: Centre for Population projections (Initial figures)

Source: Centre for Population projections (Initial figures)



## 2. Overseas Migration

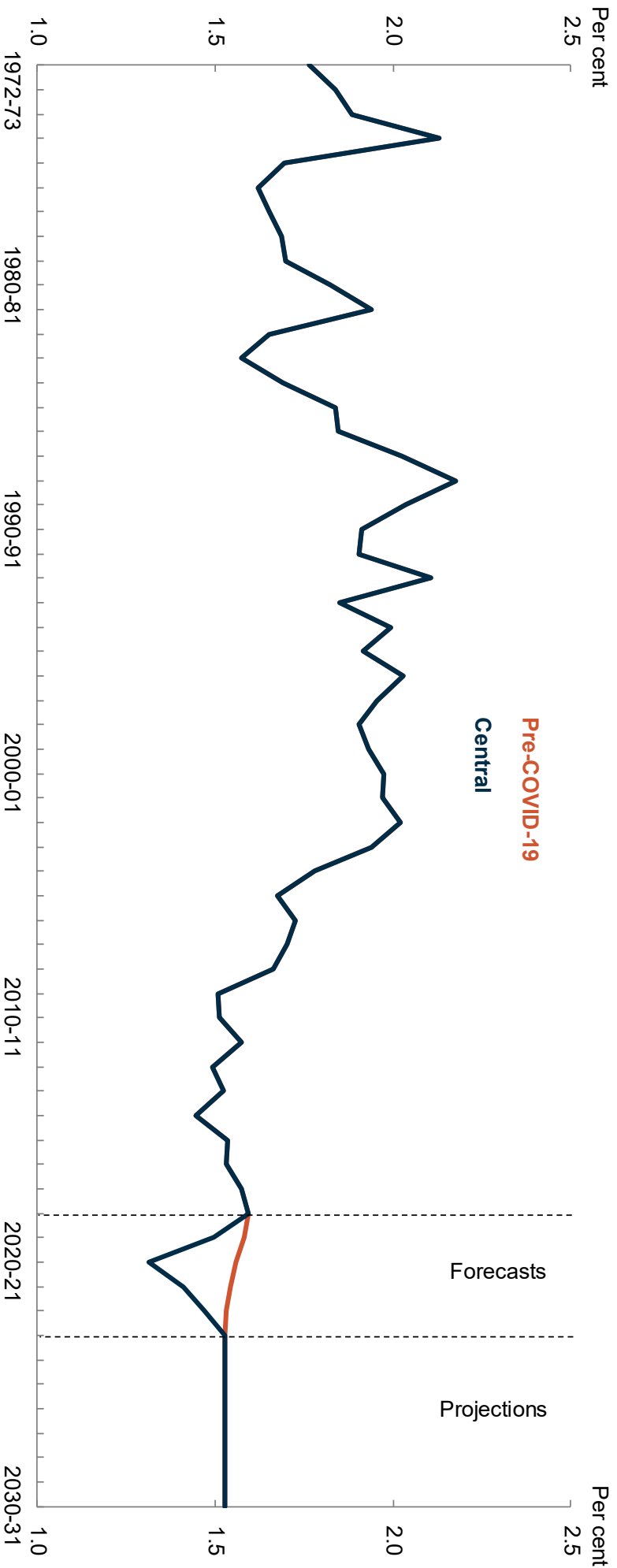
**COVID-19 is causing a sharp decline in NOM which is forecast to be negative for the first time in 75 years**



Source: Centre for Population projections

### 3. Internal Migration

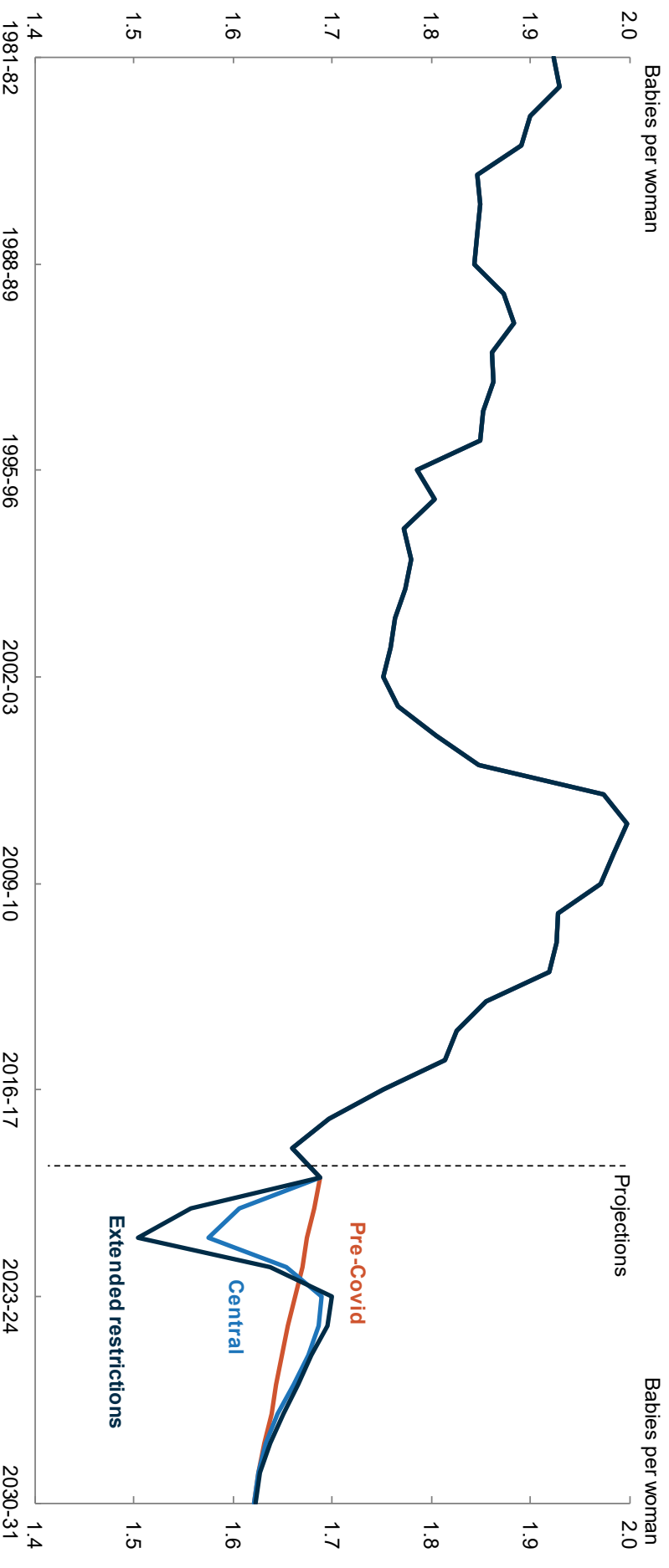
Fewer people will move interstate during the COVID-19 recession



Source: ABS Historical population; ABS National, state and territory population, Centre for Population projections

## 4. Total Fertility Rate

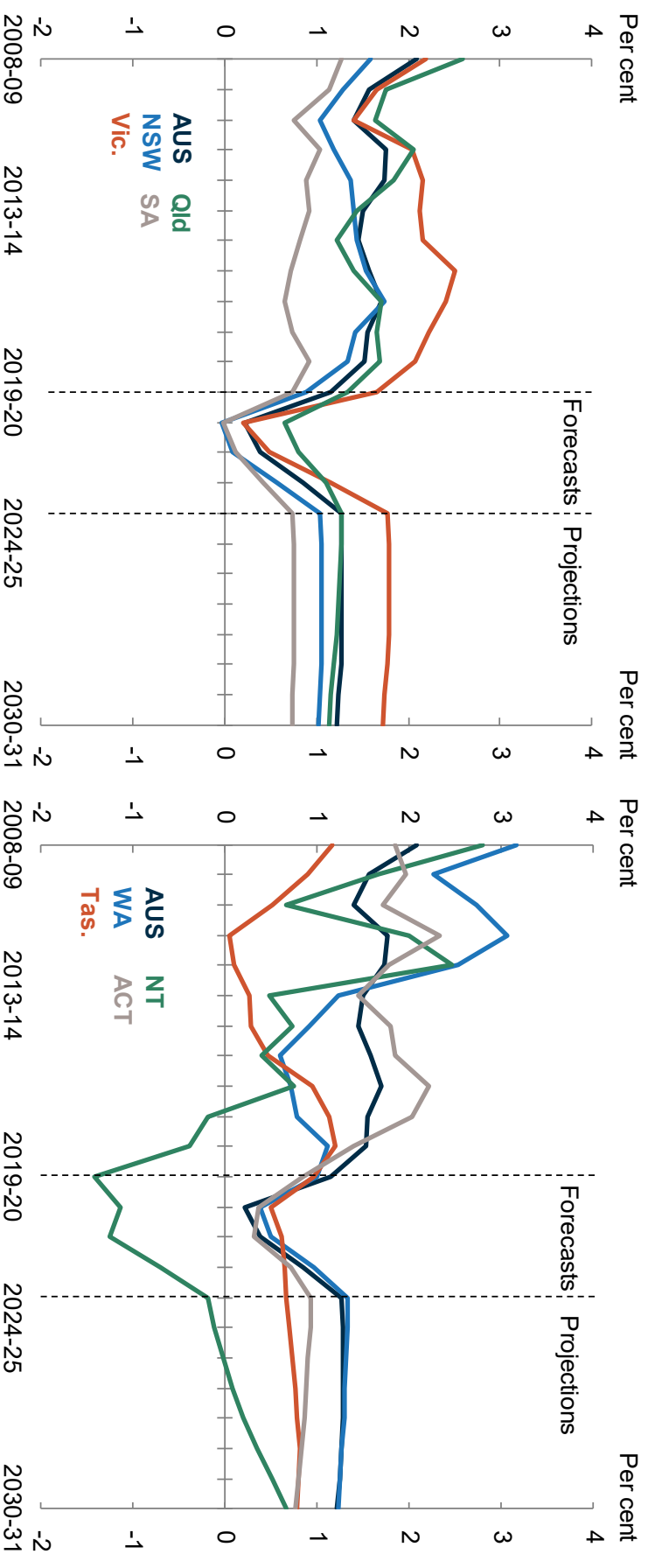
COVID-19 will delay some Australians having children but the fertility rate was projected to decline even before COVID-19



Source: ABS National, state and territory population, McDonald A Projection of Australia's Future Fertility Rates

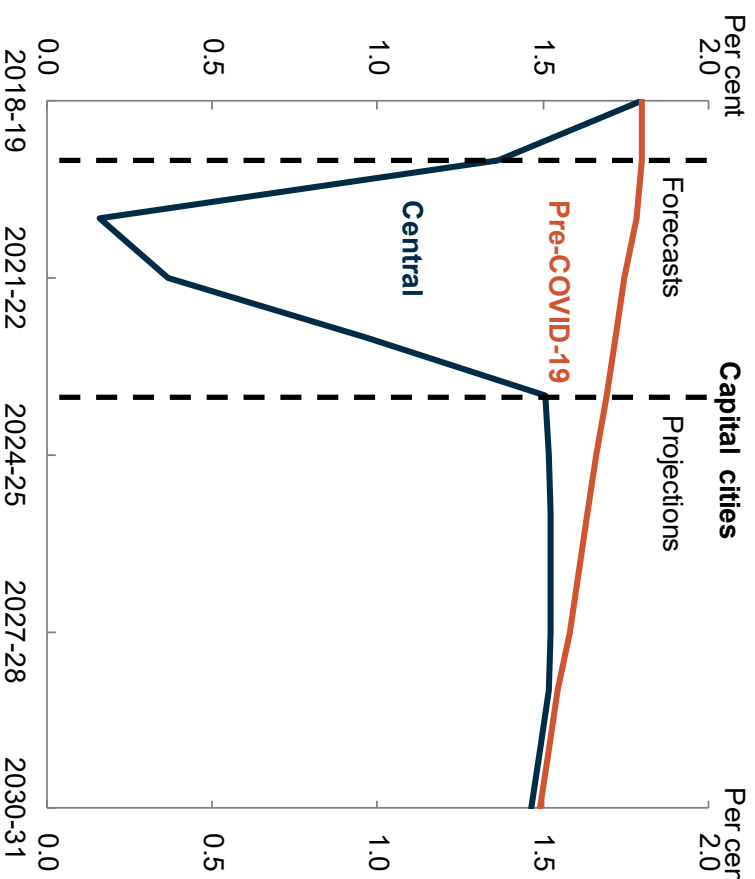
## 5. States and territories

**COVID-19 will immediately reduce population growth in all states and territories but the impacts won't be equal across the country**

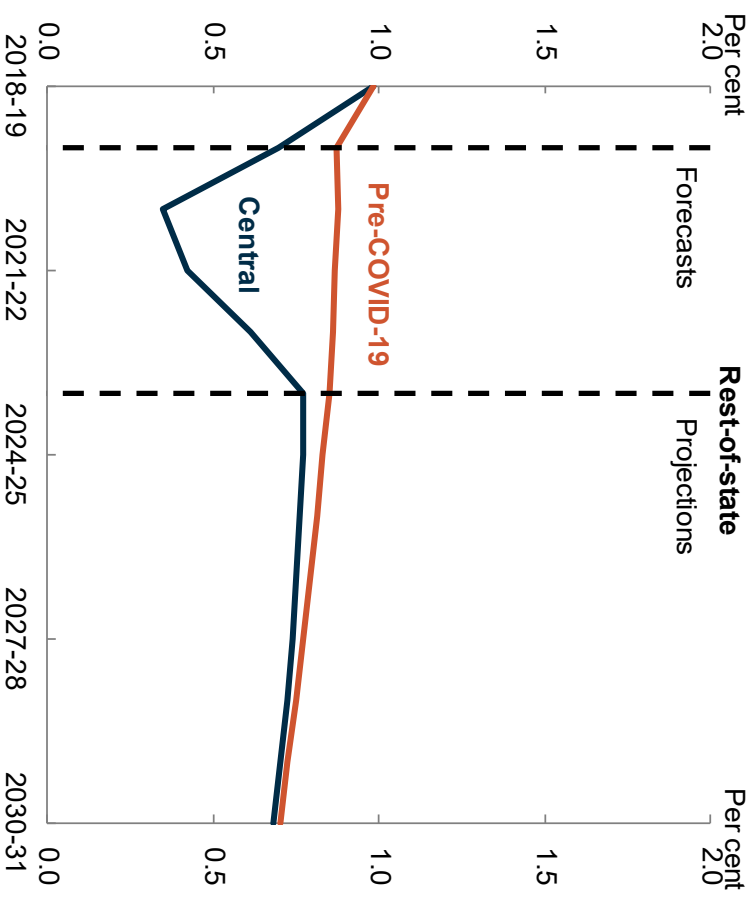


## 6. Cities and regions

### COVID-19 will slow population growth inside and outside capital cities



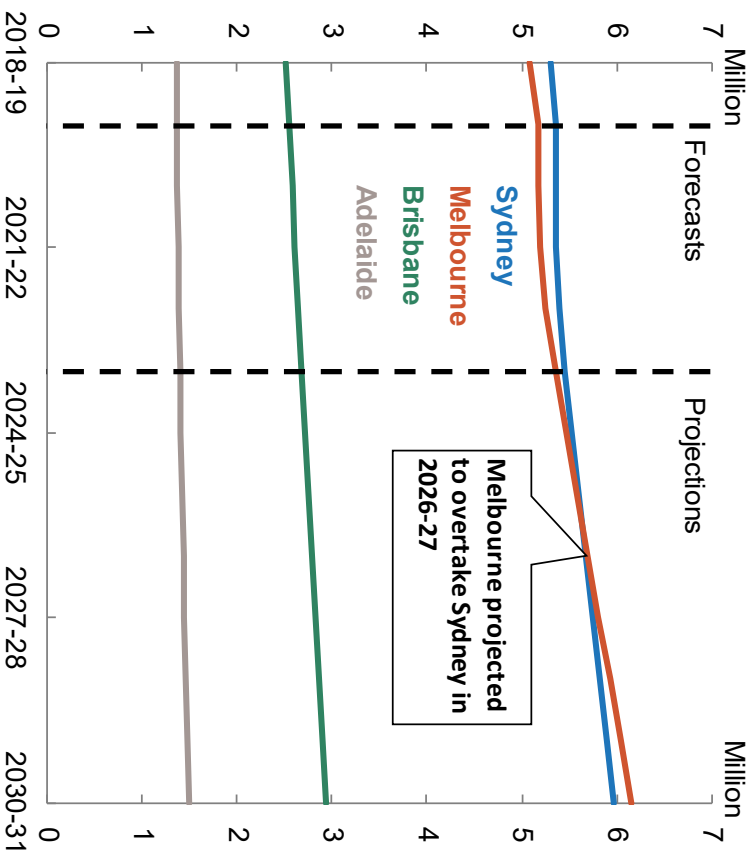
Source: Centre for Population projections



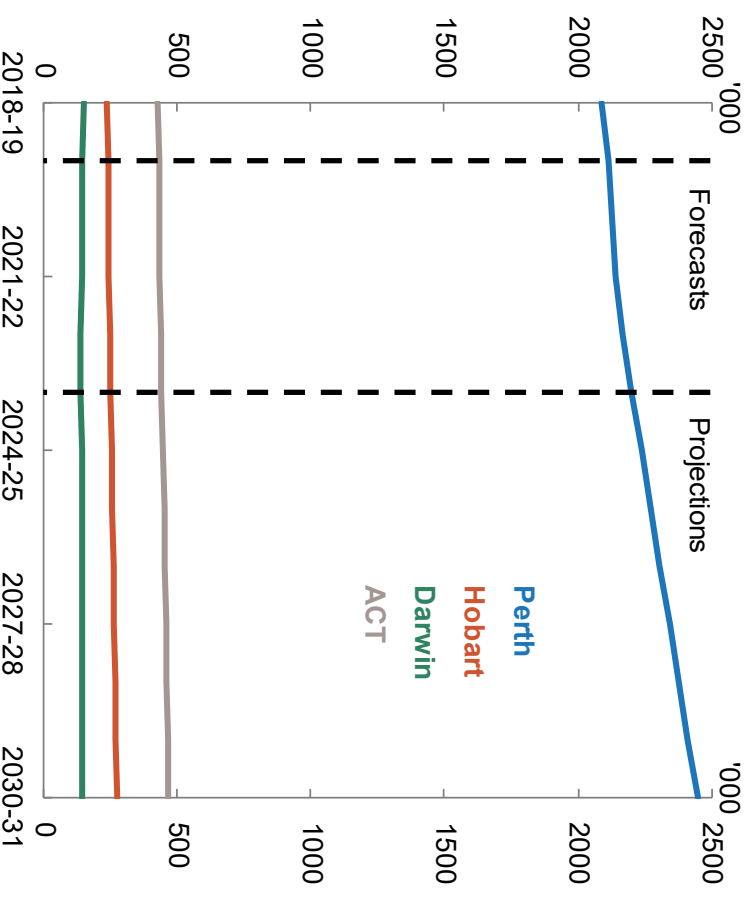
Source: Centre for Population projections

# 7. Capital Cities

Melbourne is projected to overtake Sydney to become the largest city 2031



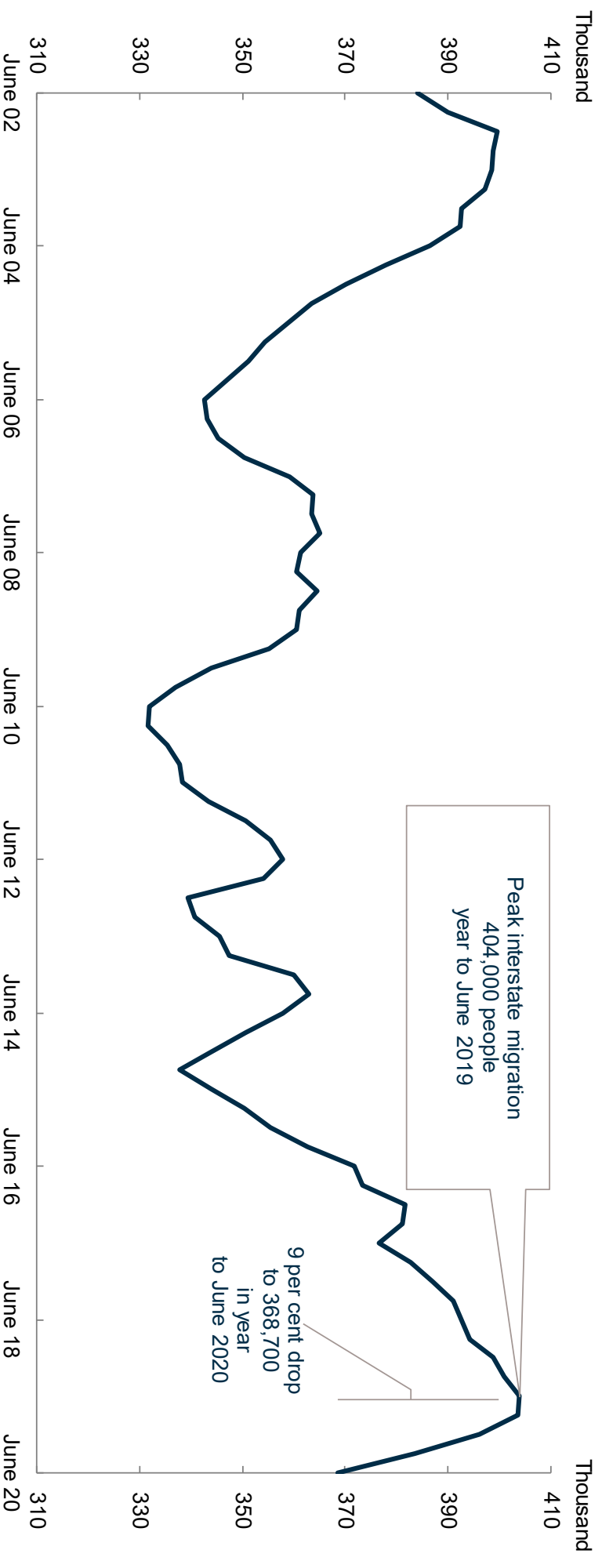
Source: Centre for Population projections



Source: Centre for Population projections

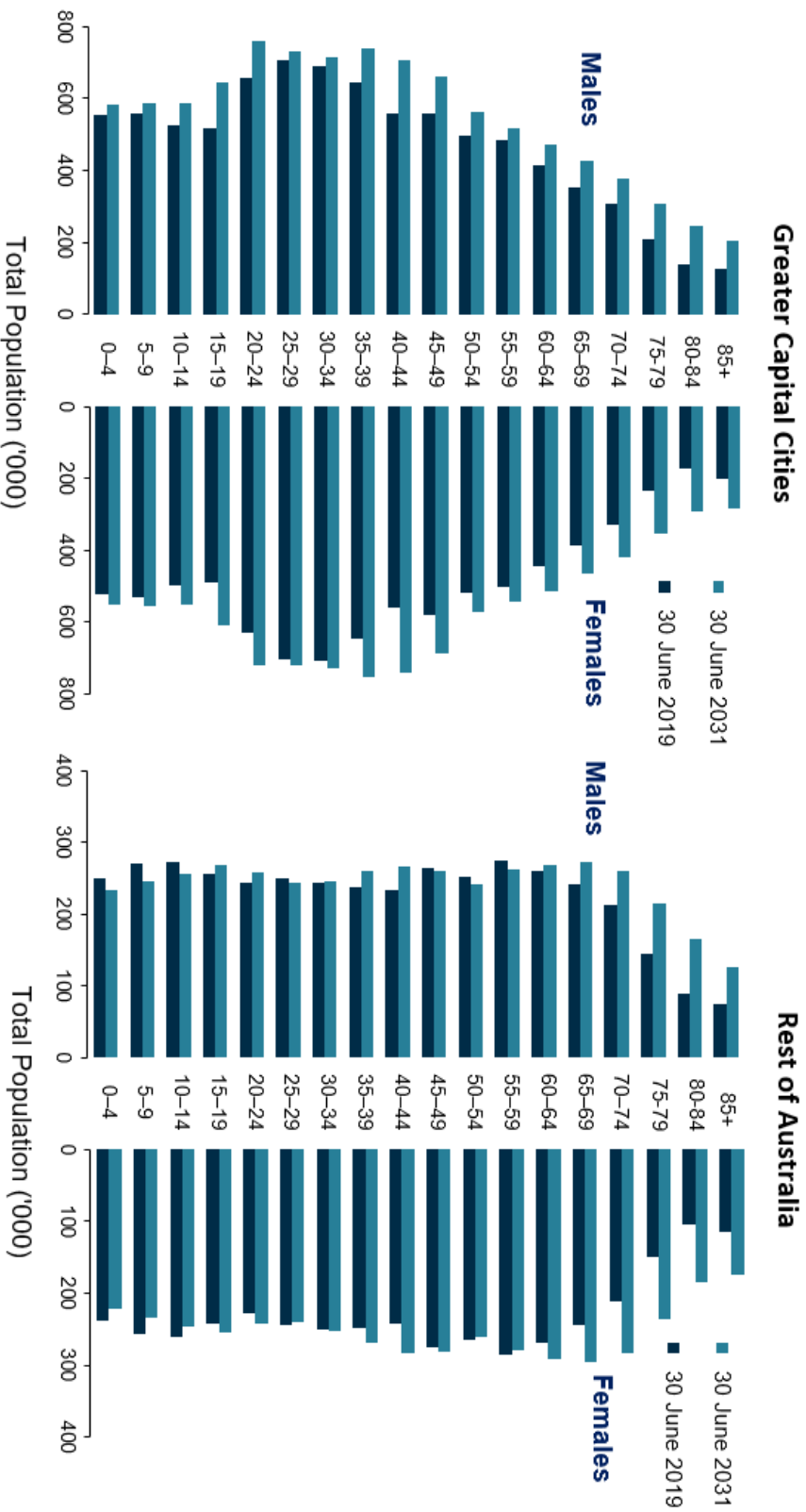
## 8. Regional movements

**Provisional Regional Internal Migration Estimates (PRIME) data shows that COVID-19 has reduced the number of people moving interstate by 9 per cent in the 12 months to June 2020**



# 9. Ageing

COVID-19 will contribute to the faster ageing of Australia's population



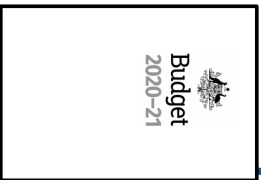
Source: ABS Regional population by age and sex (2020), Centre for Population projections



# Past



Creating the evidence base on population change



Impact of COVID-19 on Australia's population

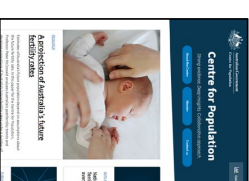


Defining Australia's population policy settings

# Present



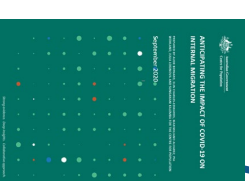
# Future



Regular new content on population.gov.au



Recent Impacts on Australia's Population



Impact of COVID-19 on Internal Migration

# Questions & Answers



**Australian Government**  
**Centre for Population**

***Strong evidence***

***Deep insights***

***Collaborative approach***

**[www.population.gov.au](http://www.population.gov.au)**