Three projection series have been produced – low, medium and high – to represent the likely range of future population growth.

Each series reflects alternative future trends in fertility, net overseas migration and net interstate migration.

The medium series is considered to be the likely outcome based on past trends.

South Australia’s population is ageing. Although all age groups will grow over the next 30 years, the baby boomers born between 1946 and 1961, and those born in the early 1970s, will result in significant increases in the number of elderly in the population.

Over the next 30 years, net migration is projected to contribute 62% of South Australia’s growth. The ageing of the population will lead to an increase in the number of deaths and decreases in natural increase - births minus deaths. Actual growth will therefore decline over the 30 year period with net migration becoming even more important for future growth.