The growth of urban Oxford

1750 population: unknown



In 1750 Oxford consisted largely of the medieval city; outlying villages such as Headington were still separate entities.

1830 population: 24,000



In 1830 there were 24,000 people living inside the modern Oxford boundary. The period saw housing built to the north of the city.

1900 population: 57,000



Between 1830 and 1900 there were major urban extensions into St Clement's and North Oxford.

1939 population: 94,000



The interwar years saw large numbers of houses built in what are now the suburbs of Cowley, Headington and Marston.

OXFORD CITY COUNCIL

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1970 population: 125,000



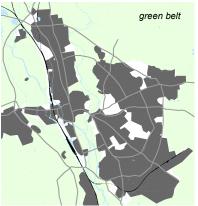
Council housing estates including Blackbird Leys were built in the postwar period. The green belt was introduced from the 1950s.

2001 population: 134,000



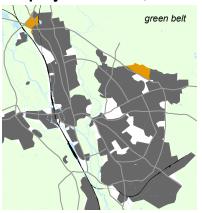
The urban footprint of Oxford has changed little since the 1970s. The most recent urban extension at Greater Leys was built in the 1990s.

2011 population: 152,000



The rapidly growing population since 2001 has been accommodated by increased housing density within the existing urban footprint.

2021 projection: 165,000



With the city still growing but confined by the green belt, developments are planned at Northern Gateway and Barton.

