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Title:

Experiments in projecting the population of Australia's regions

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Abstract

In this paper we present the results of three different ways of projecting the population of Australia's subnational areas. We begin with a brief review of existing subnational population projection methods in Australia before discussing the methods we used to carry out our projections. We model the population using a cohort-component approach but experiment with different ways of incorporating internal migration, namely through (i) net migration, (ii) a reduced multiregional pool model, and (iii) a state of the art hierarchical partitioned multiregional model which consists of different levels for Australia, the states/territories and sub-state geographical units. The three methods are then contrasted empirically and conceptually. The principal conclusions and pointers for further research form the final section of the paper.