



## APPENDIX A.

### CHAPTER I. POPULATION

#### ***A. INTRODUCTION***

The changes in the population and demographic characteristics will have profound impacts on the economic, social and physical environment of the County. Population increases generate demands for additional facilities and services. The different needs of age and income segments of the population shape demands for housing, services and infrastructure. Elderly population groups create demands for communal housing types, medical services, passive recreational opportunities and public transportation. Families and individuals between 50 and 65 require a greater mix of housing types and more urban settings. Families with young children generate demands for day care facilities, schools, athletic recreational opportunities and a mix of transportation options.

This Chapter summarizes the various demographic indicators used to develop the County's Comprehensive Plan. A detailed demographic analysis is contained in the Carroll County Demographic & Economic Analysis report prepared by *Market Street Services, Inc.* as part of the "Carroll Tomorrow" process.

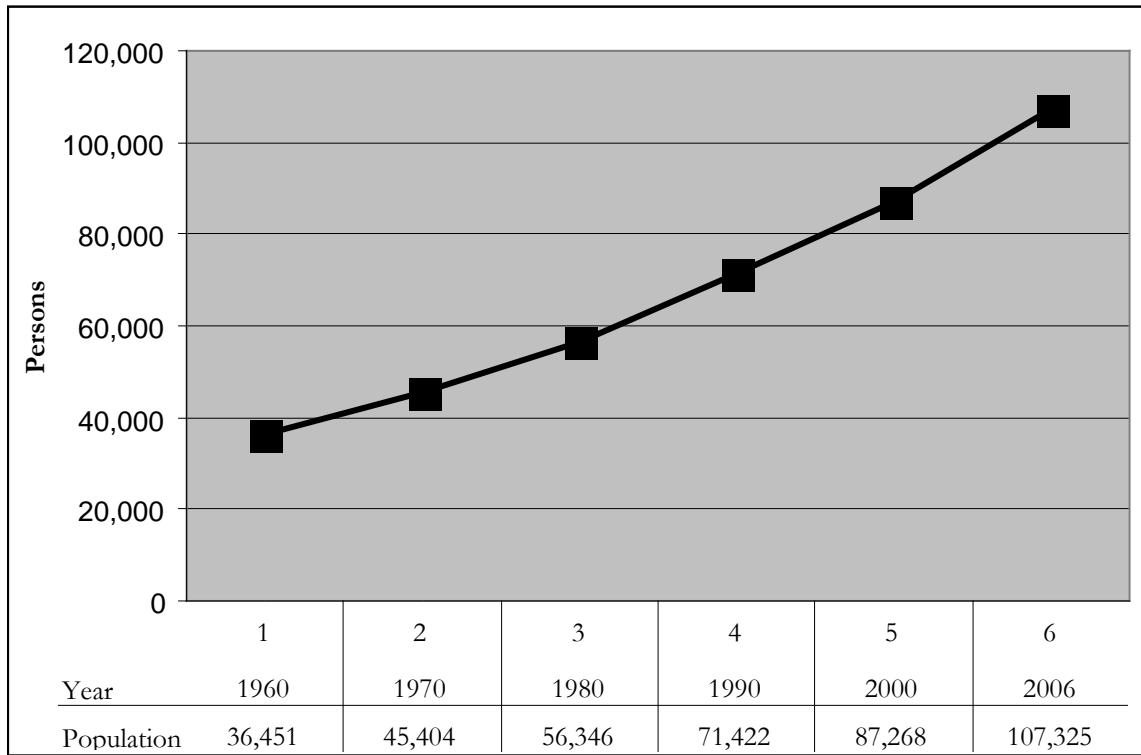
#### ***B. TOTAL POPULATION***

**Exhibit 1** illustrates the steady population increases experienced since 1960, which have averaged 10,163 persons per decade or 1,016 people per year. During the period of 1985-1990, Carroll County's population grew by 11.8%, which surpassed the State's population growth rates of 8.6% during the same time period (**Exhibit 2**). While the County's growth rate lagged behind the State's between 1990 and 2000, the County's population increased by 22.2%. From 2000 to 2006, the county has experienced a 23% growth rate.

Analysis of population distribution from 1990–2000 depicts a primary growth corridor in Carroll County that is located in the northeast area of the County along Interstate 20 (I-20). During the 1990's, population growth was concentrated in the northeast part of the County as shown in **Map 1** in **Appendix B**. Due to proximity and transportation access to Atlanta, Villa Rica has experienced rapid population and employment growth. This trend will likely continue, necessitating effective city-county planning to accommodate growth without straining fiscal, infrastructure, social and land resources.



**Exhibit 1: Total Population (1960-2000)**



Source: U.S. Census

**Exhibit 2: Population Growth Trends (1985-2006)**

Year	Carroll County		Georgia	
	Number	Percent Change	Number	Percent Change
1985	63,884		5,967,891	
1990	71,422	11.8%	6,478,216	8.6%
1995	79,345	11.1%	7,332,335	13.2%
2000	87,268	10.0%	8,186,453	11.6%
2006	107,325	23.0%	9,363,941	14.4%

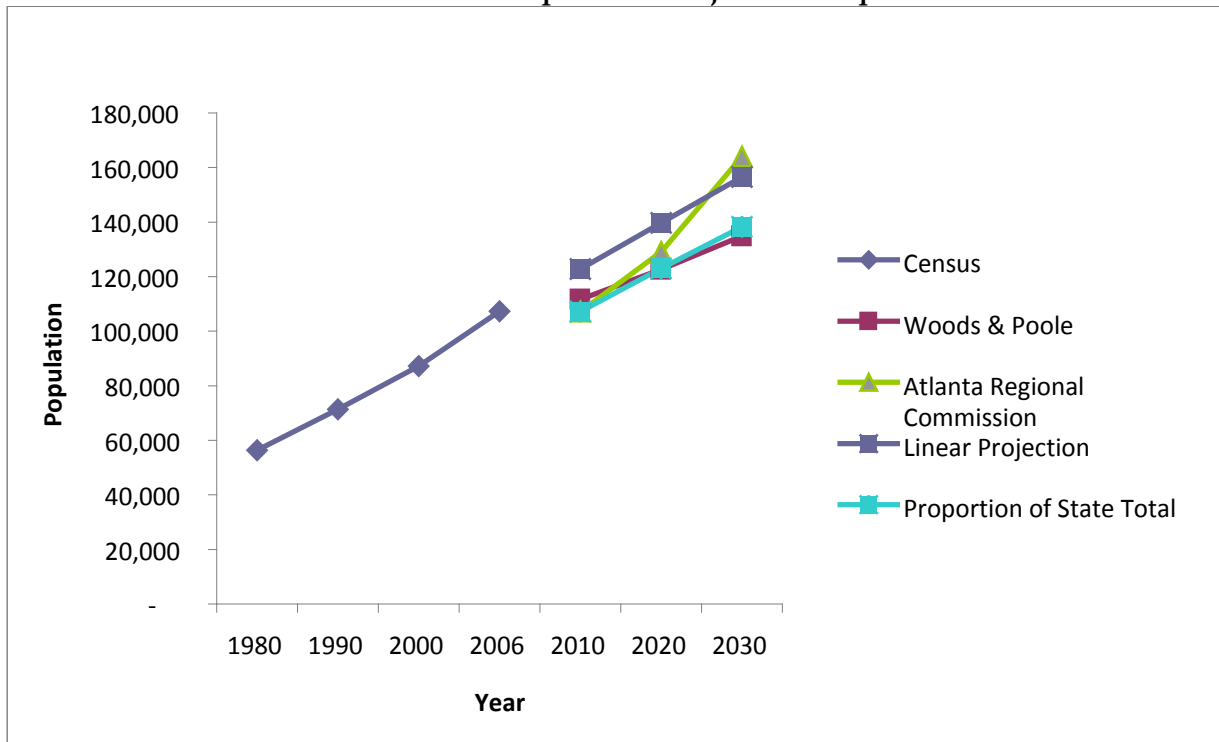
Source: Georgia Department of Community Affairs, [www.georgiaplanning.com](http://www.georgiaplanning.com)

### ***C. POPULATION PROJECTIONS***

Between 1990 and 2000, the population of Carroll County increased 22%. Located on the urban fringe of the Atlanta metropolitan region, it is estimated that this population growth trend will accelerate for the foreseeable future. **Exhibits 3 and 4** project Carroll County's population growth according to the cited sources. These projections range from a low of 134,848 to a high of 163,979.



Exhibit 3: Population Projection Graph



Source: U.S. Census, Woods & Poole Economics, Inc. & Atlanta Regional Commission

The Woods and Poole projection suggests a population increase of 47,580 by 2030, while a proportion of state population would allow for 51,045 additional residents. Linear regression based on 1980-2000 U.S. Census data projects a population increase of 69,275 by 2030. The Atlanta Regional Commission projected the largest increase in population over this period with 76,711.

The range of projections by different sources highlights the uncertainties of the range of growth. While the County must anticipate and be prepared to meet demands created by the high range of growth projections, it also must be prepared for economic shifts that result in slower growth through periods of recession. To accomplish this, the Plan anticipates rapid long-term growth, but recommends that facility investment and development phasing should be tied to shorter-term growth as determined by close monitoring of development activity throughout the County.



**Exhibit 4: Population Projection Table**

Year	Census	Woods & Poole	Atlanta Regional Commission	Linear Projection	Proportion of State Total
1980	56,346				
1990	71,422				
2000	87,268				
2006	107,325				
2010		111,663	107,172	122,786	107,142
2020		122,624	129,120	139,664	122,980
2030		134,848	163,979	156,543	138,313

*Source: U.S. Census, Woods & Poole Economics, Inc. & Atlanta Regional Commission*

The Census Bureau estimates that the County’s population reached 107,325 in July 2006. Since each of the remaining projections was derived through statistical projection methods, selecting the midpoint projection (148,421) provides a reasonable projection on which to base future demands. Long-term projections (2005-2030) should primarily be used for analysis of ongoing service obligations and development capacity. Short-term projections (2010-2020) should be used for capital facility planning. Projections should be compared with annual estimated population figures based on development activity to refine both short and long-term projections.

**Exhibit 5** provides annual projections from the years 2005 to 2015. The Plan is based upon a total population in 2015 of 120,114.

**Exhibit 5: Annual Population Projections (2005-2015)**

Year	Population
2005	104,386
2006	107,325
2007	108,521
2008	109,731
2009	110,954
2010	112,191
2011	113,732
2012	115,295
2013	116,880
2014	118,486
2015	120,114

*Source: U.S. Census, Calculations by PRISM Associates*

**Exhibit 6** reflects the long-term population based on the midpoint of the range of projections in **Exhibit 4**. The midpoint results in a 2020 population of 128,597 and a 2025 projection of 148,421. This annual growth rate is consistent with the trends in Carroll County and other areas in the urban fringe of Atlanta.



**Exhibit 6: Midpoint Population Projection**

Year	Population
2005	104,386
2010	112,191
2015	120,114
2020	128,597
2025	138,154
2030	148,421

Source: Calculations by PRISM Associates

**D. URBAN VS. RURAL**

Carroll County’s rural population is increasing faster than the population of its cities, reflecting substantial sprawl development and lowering of land densities. As earlier noted, the County-wide population grew by nearly 22.2% in the 1990’s, while the population living in unincorporated Carroll County increased by 31% (**Exhibit 7 and 8**). In the 1990’s, adjusting for the de-annexation of approximately 2,300 residents from Villa Rica, over 70% of the new County residents located in unincorporated areas. Since 2000, the percentage of new unincorporated population growth has increased at a lower percentage that the cities of Mt. Zion, Temple and Villa Rica.

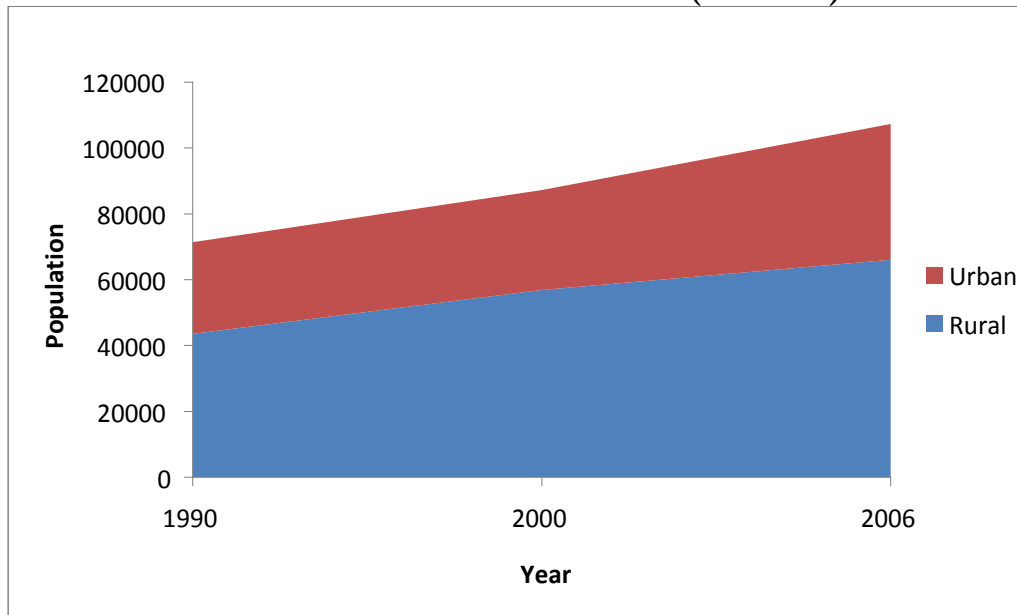
**Exhibit 7: City & Unincorporated Population (1990-2006)**

	1990	2000	Percent Change (1990 - 2000)	2006	Percent Change (2000 - 2006)
Unincorporated	43,598	56,901	30.51%	66,069	16.11%
Bowdon	1,981	1,959	-1.11%	1,986	1.38%
Carrollton	16,029	19,843	23.79%	21,878	10.26%
Mt. Zion	511	1,275	149.51%	1,513	18.67%
Roopville	248	177	-28.63%	198	11.86%
Temple	1,870	2,383	27.43%	4,050	69.95%
Villa Rica	6,542	4,134	-36.81%	11,045	167.17%
Whitesburg	643	596	-7.31%	586	-1.68%
Total Population	71,422	87,268	22.19%	107,325	22.98%

Source: U.S. Census, [www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov)



Exhibit 8: Urban & Rural Growth (1990-2006)



Source: U.S. Census, [www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov)

### *E. AGE DISTRIBUTION*

**Exhibit 9** illustrates the age distribution and growth trends of the past two decades. Due to immigration, the working age group between 25 and 34 has continuously exceeded 14% of the total population and contributing to the increase in school age children. Population over age 65 has grown in absolute numbers from 5,940 in 1980 to 10,113 in 2005. This population cohort has slowly declined as a percent of the total population from 10.5% in 1980 to 9.7% in 2005. The population age distribution in Carroll County mirrors that of the State of Georgia and only slightly differs from the United States as a whole (**Exhibit 10**).



Exhibit 9: Carroll County Age Distribution (1980-2005)

Age Cohort	1980		1985		1990		1995		2000		2005	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Under 5 years	4,117	7.27%	4,751	7.47%	5,378	7.48%	5,655	7.24%	6,220	7.06%	7,818	7.49%
5 to 9 years	4,688	8.27%	4,812	7.56%	5,405	7.52%	5,731	7.34%	6,507	7.39%	6,907	6.62%
10 to 14 years	4,926	8.69%	4,847	7.62%	5,286	7.35%	6,011	7.70%	6,363	7.23%	7,158	6.86%
15 to 19 years	6,084	10.74%	6,056	9.52%	6,588	9.17%	6,429	8.23%	7,512	8.53%	8,118	7.78%
20 to 24 years	5,631	9.94%	6,541	10.28%	6,901	9.60%	7,048	9.02%	7,619	8.65%	9,211	8.82%
25 to 29 years	4,586	8.09%	5,530	8.69%	5,915	8.23%	5,757	7.37%	6,487	7.37%	9,500	9.10%
30 to 34 years	4,284	7.56%	5,122	8.05%	5,944	8.27%	6,431	8.23%	6,498	7.38%	8,545	8.19%
35 to 39 years	3,644	6.43%	4,651	7.31%	5,426	7.55%	6,291	8.06%	6,754	7.67%	7,710	7.39%
40 to 44 years	3,039	5.36%	3,787	5.95%	4,944	6.88%	5,329	6.82%	6,557	7.45%	7,403	7.09%
45 to 49 years	2,603	4.59%	3,110	4.89%	4,102	5.71%	5,039	6.45%	5,694	6.47%	6,913	6.62%
50 to 54 years	2,422	4.27%	2,727	4.29%	3,412	4.75%	4,388	5.62%	5,319	6.04%	5,731	5.49%
55 to 59 years	2,353	4.15%	2,608	4.10%	2,814	3.92%	3,335	4.27%	4,284	4.87%	5,225	5.01%
60 to 64 years	2,349	4.15%	2,506	3.94%	2,466	3.43%	2,720	3.48%	3,462	3.93%	4,034	3.86%
65 years and over	5,940	10.48%	6,561	10.31%	7,294	10.15%	7,933	10.16%	8,767	9.96%	10,113	9.69%
<b>Total Population</b>	<b>56,666</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>63,609</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>71,875</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>78,097</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>88,043</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>104,386</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

Source: Data from Woods & Poole, Calculations by PRISM Associates



Exhibit 10: 2000 Population by Age

Age Cohort	Carroll County		Georgia		United States	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Under 5 years	8,161	7.60%	698,935	7.46%	20,359,097	6.80%
5 to 9 years	7,074	6.59%	671,546	7.17%	19,760,300	6.60%
10 to 14 years	7,150	6.66%	668,385	7.14%	20,658,495	6.90%
15 to 19 years	8,176	7.62%	705,103	7.53%	21,556,691	7.20%
20 to 24 years	9,440	8.80%	651,722	6.96%	20,957,894	7.00%
25 to 34 years	17,346	16.16%	1,338,667	14.30%	39,819,999	13.30%
35 to 44 years	15,586	14.52%	1,472,645	15.73%	44,011,577	14.70%
45 to 54 years	13,936	12.98%	1,316,787	14.06%	43,113,382	14.40%
55 to 59 years	6,013	5.60%	538,098	5.75%	17,963,909	6.00%
60 to 64 years	3,974	3.70%	395,174	4.22%	13,472,932	4.50%
65 to 74 years	5,905	5.50%	505,861	5.40%	19,161,503	6.40%
75 to 84 years	3,345	3.12%	294,712	3.15%	13,173,533	4.40%
85 years and over	1,219	1.14%	106,306	1.14%	5,089,774	1.70%
Total Population	107,325	100.00%	9,363,941	100.00%	299,099,087	100%*

Source: 2006 Population Estimates, U.S. Census, [www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov), Calculations by PRISM Associates. \* Minor discrepancies may occur due to rounding.

**Exhibit 11** provides youth dependency and aged dependency ratios that reflect the number of people in the working age population for every young person and older person not in prime wage earning years. These ratios reflect a better ratio between the workforce and those dependent on the workforce for goods and services than in the nation as a whole. This factor together with other economic indicators, reflect a strong healthy work force population. In terms of the youth dependency ratio there is only a 0.01 person variation between Carroll County and Nation which is currently at 2.18 and a .09 percent variation between Carroll County and the State, which is 2.08. The aged dependency ratio shows a wider variation. Consistent with its high percentage of residents over age 64 compared to Georgia and Carroll County, the United States had 4.79 people in the working age range for every aged person. Georgia and Carroll County had 6.30 and 6.33 respectively, which reflects the strong in-migration of working age residents in recent years.

Over the next few decades the trends indicate that the working age population will continue to show positive increases due to the community's location at the fringe of Atlanta's metropolitan area, the relative affordability of housing, the job market and the overall quality of life.



Exhibit 11: 2000 Dependency Ratios

Age Group	Carroll County		Georgia		United States	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Youth (0-19)	30,561	28.48%	2,743,969	29.30%	82,334,583	27.50%
Working (20-64)	66,295	61.77%	5,713,093	61.01%	179,339,693	59.90%
Aged 65+	10,469	9.75%	906,879	9.68%	37,424,811	12.50%
Total Population	107,325	100.00%	9,363,941	100.00%	299,099,087	100.00%
Youth Dependency	2.17		2.08		2.18	
Aged Dependency	6.33		6.30		4.79	

Source: 2006 Population Estimates, U.S. Census, [www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov), Calculations by PRISM Associates. \* Minor discrepancies may occur due to rounding.

*Woods & Poole Economics, Inc.*, in a somewhat contradictory manner, projects that by the year 2030, individuals aged over 65 will make up an increasing portion of the population while youth will remain relatively constant as a percentage of total population (**Exhibit 12**).

Exhibit 12: Carroll County Projected Population Age Distribution by Percent (2010-2030)

Age Cohort	2010	2015	2020	2025	2030
Age 0 to 4	7.4%	7.5%	7.3%	6.9%	6.7%
Age 5 to 9	7.3%	7.2%	7.4%	7.2%	6.9%
Age 10 to 14	6.2%	6.9%	6.9%	7.1%	7.0%
Age 15 to 19	7.5%	6.7%	7.5%	7.5%	7.8%
Age 20 to 24	8.1%	7.8%	7.1%	8.0%	8.0%
Age 25 to 29	7.4%	6.6%	6.3%	5.7%	6.5%
Age 30 to 34	9.0%	7.4%	6.6%	6.3%	5.8%
Age 35 to 39	7.8%	8.6%	7.2%	6.4%	6.2%
Age 40 to 44	6.8%	7.3%	8.1%	6.8%	6.1%
Age 45 to 49	6.5%	6.3%	6.9%	7.6%	6.4%
Age 50 to 54	6.1%	6.1%	6.0%	6.6%	7.3%
Age 55 to 59	5.0%	5.5%	5.6%	5.5%	6.1%
Age 60 to 64	4.4%	4.5%	5.0%	5.1%	5.0%
Age 65 to 69	3.4%	3.9%	3.9%	4.4%	4.5%
Age 70 to 74	2.8%	3.0%	3.5%	3.5%	3.9%
Age 75 to 79	1.8%	2.1%	2.2%	2.6%	2.6%
Age 80 to 84	1.2%	1.3%	1.5%	1.6%	1.8%
Age 85 & Over	1.2%	1.3%	1.2%	1.2%	1.3%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Source: *Woods & Poole Economics, Inc.*

The continued growth in working/child bearing age individuals will increase demands for schools and affordable starter housing stock. The number of retirees and “empty nesters” will grow at a slower rate than the working age group. With growth in all population groups, the County will experience demands for a mix of recreational opportunities, housing types and personal services.



**F. RACE AND ETHNICITY**

Racial diversity within Carroll County has fluctuated between 1985 and 2006. Between 1985 and 1990, the proportion of the population categorized by the Census Bureau as “white” remained constant, but decreased between 1990 and 2006 from 82.8% to 76.9% of the total population. This is partially due to the option for Hispanics to identify their race as “other”<sup>7</sup>. The African American population increased from 16.2% and 16.9% of the total population between 1985 and 2006, with a slight decline during the 1990s. Other racial categories increased as a percent of the total population with the most significant increase occurring among those of Hispanic origin, 0.8% to 4.3%. Native Americans decreased from .30% to .08% as of the 2006 Population Estimate.

**Exhibit 13: Carroll County Racial & Ethnic Composition by Percent (1985-2006)**

Race Category	1985	1990	1995	2000	2006
White	82.40%	82.80%	80.90%	79.40%	76.89%
Black & African American	16.20%	15.60%	15.90%	16.10%	16.89%
Hispanic Origin	0.80%	0.80%	1.80%	2.50%	4.26%
Indian & Alaska Native	0.20%	0.20%	0.20%	0.30%	0.08%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.20%	0.30%	0.50%	0.60%	0.72%
Other	0.20%	0.20%	0.70%	1.10%	1.15%
Total Population	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

Source: 2004 Carroll County Comprehensive Plan, U. S. Census, www.census.gov, Calculations for 2006 Percentages by PRISM Associates

The Hispanic and Latino populations increased by 253% during the 1990’s. Despite this increase, Carroll County remains less diverse racially and ethnically than Georgia and the United States as a whole (**Exhibit 14**).

**Exhibit 14: 2000 Race and Hispanic & Latino Origin Population by Percent**

Race Category	Carroll County	Georgia	United States
White	78.43%	62.30%	74.04%
Black & African American	17.10%	30.04%	12.80%
Indian & Alaska Native	Suppressed	0.56%	1.42%
Asian & Pacific Islander	0.95%	3.07%	5.06%
Other	3.52%	4.03%	6.69%
Totals	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%
Hispanic & Latino (all races)	4.24%	7.34%	14.46%

Source: 2000 U.S. Census, www.census.gov, Calculations for 2006 Percentages by PRISM Associates

Racial composition projections issued by *Woods & Poole Economics, Inc.*, suggest a slow diversification pattern (**Exhibit 15**). Minority races are projected to comprise only a small percentage of the population. Overtime this trend will only marginally increase the number of different cultural activities conducted within the community and diversification of the consumer preferences of Carroll County citizens.

<sup>7</sup> The term “Hispanic” refers to a broad range of ethnic groups who may be considered members of the white, black, or other races.

**Exhibit 15: Carroll County Projected Racial & Ethnic Composition (2010-2030)**

Race Category	2010	2015	2020	2025	2030
White	77.78%	77.61%	77.54%	77.37%	76.99%
Black & African American	16.98%	16.94%	16.80%	16.69%	16.61%
Indian & Alaska Native	0.29%	0.30%	0.31%	0.32%	0.32%
Asian & Pacific Islander	1.03%	1.26%	1.47%	1.69%	1.93%
Hispanic, any Race	3.92%	3.88%	3.87%	3.93%	4.14%
Total	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

Source: Woods & Poole Economics, Inc., Calculations by PRISM Associates

### G. MIGRATION & MOBILITY

Carroll County has experienced a net in-migration of residents over the past decade. Of the total population growth during the 1990's, 42% was natural increase,<sup>8</sup> 56% was in-migration from domestic locations and 2.8% was migration from other countries. The large in-migration rate is typical for areas adjacent to metropolitan areas. The natural population increase produces youth while in-migration includes a mixture of age groups.

In many metropolitan fringe communities, those who in-migrate often work outside of the community, closer to the metropolitan core. Although Carroll County does attract workers from neighboring counties, a significant number of Carroll County residents work outside the County. According to Census data, as of 1990, nearly 31% of the County's residents were employed outside the County. The percentage of residents working outside the County increased to 38% by 2000. This means that 17,138 of the 45,100 residents in the civilian labor force in the year 2000 commuted to jobs outside Carroll County. The percentage of Carroll County commuters driving alone increased from 79.0% of all commuters in 2000 to nearly 80% in 2006 (**Exhibit 16**), while the percentage carpooling or taking public transportation decreased by 0.4%. Mean commuting time was 28 minutes in 2000.

**Exhibit 16: Commuting to Work**

	2000		2006	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Commuting workers 16 years and over	39,730	100.00%	49711	100.00%
Drove alone	31,384	78.99%	39747	79.96%
In carpools	6,168	15.52%	7314	14.71%
Using public transportation	111	0.28%	348	0.70%
Using other means	418	1.05%	1211	2.44%
Walked or worked at home	1,649	4.15%	921	1.85%

Source: U.S. Census 2000 & 2006 Population Estimate, www.census.gov, Calculations by PRISM Associates

<sup>8</sup> Natural increases account for expected population changes after accounting for births and deaths.



## H. EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

**Exhibits 17** shows that, although the overall educational attainment of Carroll County is low relative to the state and nation, the disparity lessened during the from 2000 to 2006. In 2000, nearly 30% of all people over the age of 25 in Carroll County had not graduated from high school, however, by 2006 this figured decreased to 23%. Despite significant gains in educational attainment during the 2000s, the County's population in this area still lags behind the State and nation.

**Exhibit 17: Educational Attainment (2000-2006)**

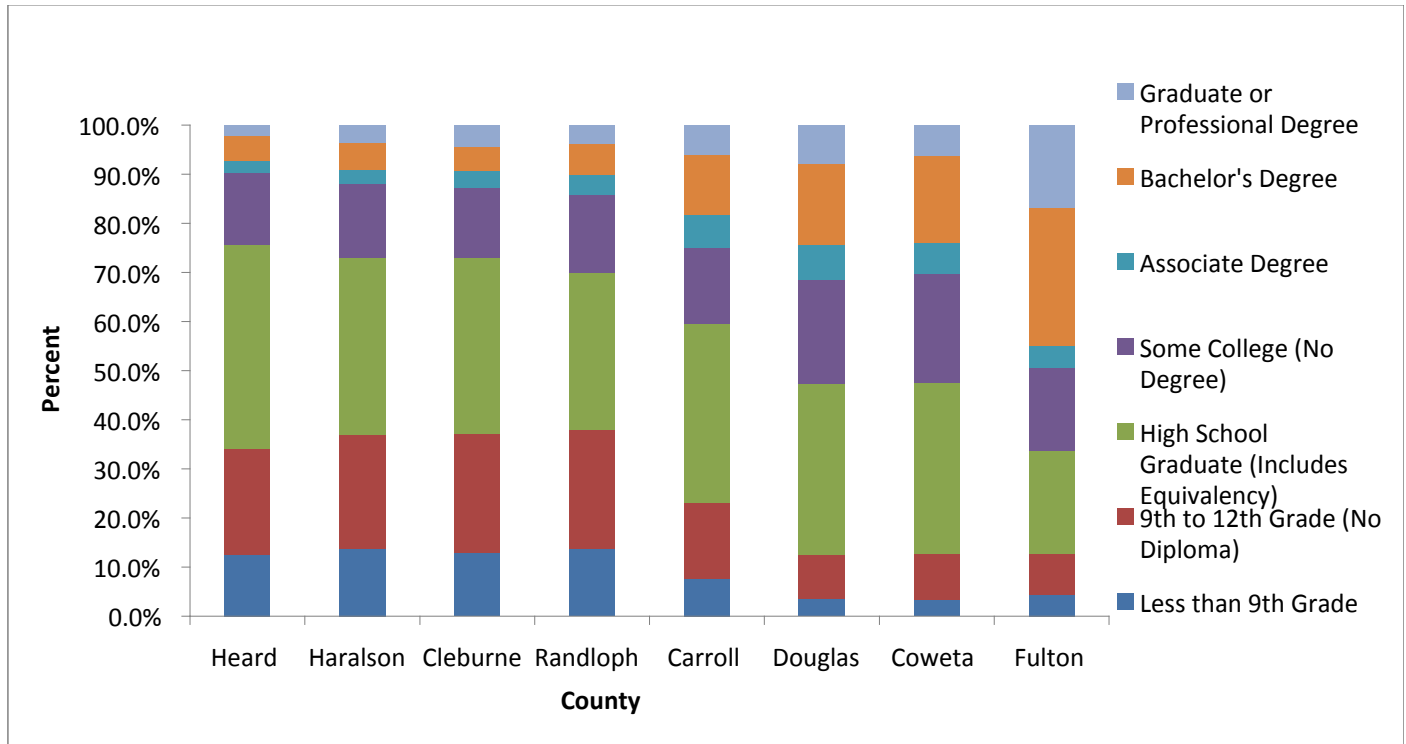
Education Level	2000			2006		
	Carroll County	Georgia	United States	Carroll County	Georgia	United States
Less than 9th Grade	10.10%	7.60%	6.90%	7.56%	6.38%	6.50%
9th to 12th Grade (No Diploma)	18.90%	13.90%	11.50%	15.46%	11.43%	9.44%
High School Graduate (Includes Equivalency)	34.20%	28.70%	29.60%	36.51%	30.35%	30.18%
Some College (No Degree)	16.80%	20.40%	20.60%	15.57%	2.01%	19.49%
Associate Degree	3.50%	5.20%	6.50%	6.67%	6.49%	7.39%
Bachelor's Degree	9.80%	16.00%	16.10%	12.29%	17.35%	17.10%
Graduate or Professional Degree	6.70%	8.30%	9.00%	5.94%	9.24%	9.90%
Total for Adult Population 25 & Over	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%
Percent high school graduate or higher	71.10%	78.60%	81.70%	77.00%	82.20%	84.10%
Percent bachelor's degree or higher	16.50%	24.30%	25.10%	18.20%	26.60%	27.00%

Source: 2000 U.S. Census, [www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov), Calculations by PRISM Associates

Carroll County's level of educational attainment compares favorably to other rural counties (Cleburne, Haralson, Heard and Randolph), but lags behind levels in the urbanized counties (Coweta, Douglas and Fulton). **Exhibit 18** shows the education level attained in neighboring counties as a percent of population over the age of 25. Rural counties have a higher number of people without post secondary education while urban counties exhibit a higher percent of college attendees.



**Exhibit 18: Educational Attainment for Neighboring Counties by Percent (2000)**



Source: 2000 U.S. Census, www.census.gov

**Exhibit 19** summarizes various educational statistics for students within Carroll County. Over the past 5 years, annual high school graduation test scores have decreased. High school drop out rates between 2002 and 2006 ranged between 6.1% and 7.8%. Approximately one-third of Carroll County high school graduates attend state public colleges. Public technical school attendance by high school graduates has ranged between 10.4% (2004) and 17.8% (2006).

**Exhibit 19: Educational Statistics (2002-2006)**

Statistic	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
H.S. Graduation Test Scores					
English/Language Arts	93.0%	95.0%	92.0%	91.0%	92.0%
Mathematics	89.0%	88.0%	87.0%	86.0%	86.0%
Social Studies	80.0%	77.0%	74.0%	76.0%	76.0%
Science	65.0%	63.0%	58.0%	58.0%	64.0%
H.S. Dropout Rate	6.1%	7.8%	6.5%	5.8%	6.5%
Grads Attending Georgia Public Colleges	34.5%	28.8%	27.1%	26.2%	30.6%
Grads Attending Georgia Public Technical Schools	15.3%	11.3%	10.4%	12.5%	17.8%

Source: Georgia Department of Education



Pre-secondary student achievement is measured by the Criterion-Referenced Competency Test (CRCT), administered annually to students in grades 1 to 8. The Legislature mandated CRCT testing system by the Georgia Department of Education to:

- Diagnose individual student strength and weaknesses as it related to the federal Department of Education’s Quality Core Curriculum; and
- To evaluate the quality of education being provided by districts and the state as a whole.

The CRCT tests all students in the academic areas of reading, English/language arts and mathematics.

**Exhibit 20** shows the CRCT test results for 4<sup>th</sup> graders in the Carroll County, Carrollton and Bremen school districts. Between 2005 and 2007, 4<sup>th</sup> graders in the Carroll County School District demonstrated marked improvement in all academic areas, with the greatest improvement occurring in English/Language arts and mathematics. The Carrollton City School District improved in reading and mathematics. Fourth graders in the Bremen School District improved significantly in reading and slightly in English/Language arts, while scores in mathematics remained relatively steady. Overall, 4<sup>th</sup> graders in the Bremen School District exhibit a higher level of competency than those in the Carroll County and Carrollton School Districts.

**Exhibit 20: 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Criterion-Referenced Competency Test Scores (2005-2007)**

Test Categories	2005			2006			2007		
	Does Not Meet Standards	Meets Standards	Exceeds Standards	Does Not Meet Standards	Meets Standards	Exceeds Standards	Does Not Meet Standards	Meets Standards	Exceeds Standards
<b>Carroll County Schools</b>									
Reading	17%	41%	42%	17%	58%	25%	17%	53%	31%
English/Language Arts	22%	55%	23%	23%	55%	22%	17%	54%	29%
Mathematics	34%	55%	10%	24%	63%	13%	26%	53%	21%
Social Science	15%	68%	17%	10%	77%	13%	12%	66%	22%
Science	13%	66%	21%	10%	69%	21%	26%	50%	25%
<b>Carrollton City Schools</b>									
Reading	17%	35%	48%	23%	44%	33%	14%	48%	38%
English/Language Arts	21%	53%	26%	27%	47%	26%	16%	46%	38%
Mathematics	32%	50%	18%	26%	51%	23%	20%	46%	34%
Social Science	14%	72%	14%	15%	69%	16%	13%	66%	21%
Science	16%	60%	24%	16%	57%	27%	31%	47%	21%
<b>Bremen City Schools</b>									
Reading	7%	28%	65%	5%	44%	50%	4%	43%	54%
English/Language Arts	10%	53%	37%	11%	50%	40%	7%	35%	58%
Mathematics	12%	66%	22%	8%	55%	37%	7%	51%	42%
Social Science	6%	52%	42%	2%	59%	38%	3%	44%	53%
Science	6%	50%	44%	3%	49%	48%	10%	38%	52%

Source: Georgia Department of Education



**Exhibit 21** shows the CRCT results for 8<sup>th</sup> graders in the County's school districts. As with the 4<sup>th</sup> graders, the 8<sup>th</sup> graders in the Bremen School District have better achievement than those in the Carroll County and Carrollton districts. The Carroll County and Bremen School Districts improved in all subject areas between 2005 and 2007. The Carrollton School District 8<sup>th</sup> graders improved in reading and mathematics but remained steady in English/language arts.

**Exhibit 21: 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Criterion-Referenced Competency Test Scores (2005-2007)**

Test Categories	2005			2006			2007		
	Does Not Meet Standards	Meets Standards	Exceeds Standards	Does Not Meet Standards	Meets Standards	Exceeds Standards	Does Not Meet Standards	Meets Standards	Exceeds Standards
<b>Carroll County Schools</b>									
Reading	24%	31%	45%	15%	73%	12%	15%	71%	14%
English/Language Arts	29%	50%	21%	21%	56%	23%	17%	60%	24%
Mathematics	39%	47%	13%	35%	52%	13%	30%	52%	18%
Social Science	17%	60%	23%	18%	57%	25%	21%	53%	26%
Science	36%	60%	4%	34%	57%	10%	31%	56%	13%
<b>Carrollton City Schools</b>									
Reading	17%	25%	58%	10%	68%	22%	11%	64%	25%
English/Language Arts	16%	40%	44%	12%	40%	48%	13%	47%	39%
Mathematics	24%	45%	31%	17%	42%	41%	14%	52%	33%
Social Science	14%	57%	29%	12%	52%	37%	21%	40%	39%
Science	20%	65%	15%	19%	52%	29%	21%	54%	25%
<b>Bremen City Schools</b>									
Reading	3%	29%	67%	2%	80%	18%	3%	68%	28%
English/Language Arts	7%	39%	54%	5%	55%	40%	3%	57%	40%
Mathematics	11%	50%	39%	8%	42%	49%	4%	51%	45%
Social Science	5%	47%	47%	5%	52%	44%	7%	35%	59%
Science	7%	70%	23%	5%	46%	48%	7%	52%	41%

Source: Georgia Department of Education

Enrollment data for Carroll County, Carrollton and Bremen Schools and information on post-secondary education is provided in the Community Facilities and Services Element of this Plan (**Chapter VI**).



**I. HOUSEHOLDS**

Census data indicates that in the year 2000 there were 32,808 households in Carroll County with an average of 2.66 people per household. 39.3% of households included persons under the age of 18, slightly higher than the State figure. Carroll County exhibits a relatively high proportion of female heads of households (12.3% of all households). However, married couple families still comprise a majority of all households, with over 55% of the total. Householders living alone comprised 21.2%, with single persons over the age of 65 comprising 7.6% of total households. Non-family households comprise only 5.8% of all households. *Woods & Poole Economics, Inc.* projects that household size will decrease to 2.63 people per household by 2030. The total number of households projected in **Exhibit 21** is based on the mid-range population projection shown in **Exhibit 6**.

**Exhibit 22: Carroll County Projected People Per Household**

Year	Households	People Per Household
1985	23,231	2.75
1990	26,355	2.71
1995	29,496	2.69
2000	32,808	2.66
2005	39,540	2.64
2010	42,985	2.61
2015	46,376	2.59
2020	49,651	2.59
2025	53,136	2.60
2030	56,434	2.63

Source: \* U.S. Census, [www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov), *Woods & Poole Economics, Inc.*, and *PRISM Associates*

**Exhibit 23** shows the projected increase in households and the number of additional housing units required to accommodate the projected population growth, assuming a standard statistical 5% vacancy rate.

**Exhibit 23: Carroll County Projected New Households and Housing Needs**

Year	Total Households	New Households	Housing Units
2005	39,540	6,733	7,069
2010	42,985	3,445	3,617
2015	46,376	3,391	3,561
2020	49,651	3,275	3,439
2025	53,136	3,485	3,659
2030	56,434	3,298	3,462
Total		23,626	24,807

Source: *Woods & Poole Economics, Inc.*, *Calculations by PRISM Associates*



**J. INCOME & POVERTY**

The U.S. Census Bureau reports that the 1997 median household income in Carroll County was \$34,061 while the State figure was \$36,372. Per capita income in Carroll County was \$18,840. **Exhibit 24** shows that income levels in Carroll County are projected to lag behind the State. Children and adults in Carroll County experience relatively high poverty rates, with an estimated 14.7% of the population living in poverty and 23.4% of the County’s children living in households with incomes below the poverty limit.<sup>9</sup> The low levels of income reflect historically low education attainment, the high proportion of single parent households, and reliance on lower paying manufacturing jobs. If County residents continue the progress in educational attainment and local economic development initiatives are successful, the gap between Carroll County and the State as a whole should narrow. **Exhibit 25** indicates historical household income by range.

**Exhibit 24: Income\* Characteristics (2000-2030)**

Year	Carroll County		Georgia	
	Per Capita	Mean Household	Per Capita	Mean Household
2000	\$23,413	\$62,819	\$30,331	\$80,719
2005	\$23,566	\$62,653	\$30,049	\$78,897
2010	\$23,750	\$62,394	\$31,751	\$82,305
2015	\$25,054	\$65,336	\$33,798	\$86,867
2020	\$26,472	\$68,995	\$36,033	\$92,435
2025	\$28,004	\$73,321	\$38,463	\$98,982
2030	\$29,625	\$78,327	\$41,063	\$106,556

\* Projected in 2004 dollars, Source: Woods & Poole Economics, Inc.

The influence of the white-collar metropolitan commuting population has significantly enhanced the overall income during the 1990’s. As shown in **Exhibit 26**, in 1990 31.3% of Carroll County households had an annual income above \$50,000. This increased to 41.8% by the year 2000, with a substantial percent (17.8%) earning over \$75,000. Although these figures aren’t adjusted for inflation, household incomes are clearly rising.

9 1997 Model Based Estimate, U.S. Census Bureau, www.census.gov.



**Exhibit 25: Carroll County Household Income Range (1980-1990)**

<b>Income Category</b>	<b>1990</b>	<b>1995</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>2005</b>
Less Than \$10,000 (2000 constant dollars)	14.3%	12.8%	11.6%	10.9%
\$10,000 - \$19,999	15.9%	15.0%	14.2%	13.4%
\$20,000 - \$29,999	16.5%	15.1%	13.9%	13.2%
\$30,000 - \$44,999	21.9%	20.0%	18.5%	18.2%
\$45,000 - \$59,999	14.9%	15.2%	15.4%	16.3%
\$60,000 - \$74,999	7.7%	9.0%	10.0%	10.6%
\$75,000 - \$99,999	4.5%	7.0%	9.0%	9.5%
\$100,000 - \$124,999	2.6%	3.0%	3.3%	3.5%
\$125,000 - \$149,999	0.6%	1.2%	1.6%	1.7%
\$150,000 - \$199,999	0.3%	0.7%	1.0%	1.1%
\$200,000 or more	0.7%	1.1%	1.5%	1.6%

Source: Georgia Department of Community Affairs, [www.dca.state.ga.us](http://www.dca.state.ga.us)

***K. CONCLUSIONS OF POPULATION ELEMENT***

Growth in Carroll County over the last three decades has altered the character of many parts of the County and promises dramatic change in the next two decades. The County’s annual growth rate of 2.3% mandates that local decision-makers plan for provision of vital public facilities and services. Limited funding will require the County to coordinate with local service providers to balance the provision of public facilities with the demands of new growth.

The primary implications of recent growth trends are the needs to:

- Designate sufficient areas to accommodate projected population growth and non-residential development areas to meet future residents’ employment shopping and service needs;
- Maintain a jobs/housing balance, so Carroll County does not exclusively become a bedroom community for commuters; and
- Provide for adequate public facilities to meet the needs of an increasing population.

The in-migration of professional workers will bring higher education levels, higher incomes and increased retail and service markets to the County. While these are positive characteristics, their increased politically active presence is likely to lead to higher demands for public facilities and services.

Many of the recent migrants to Carroll County live in rural estate development that has been created without regard to the cost of providing public facilities and services in rural areas. This pattern increases problems of sprawl in affecting decline in downtown and existing neighborhoods, environmental deterioration, rising usage of energy, loss of prime agricultural lands, fiscal imbalance in the provision of services, and loss of rural character. Allowing unmanaged rural estate housing will exacerbate existing inefficiencies in providing public facilities and services to rural areas, while altering the rural character and natural environment of the County. The Plan’s policy and regulatory shift towards somewhat more concentrated urban center/corridor growth, adequate public facility standards and other growth management techniques will reinforce the vitality of the County’s cities and neighborhoods and improve the efficiency of service provision.



The impact of this growth on the financing of public facilities and services is a critical concern of Carroll County and its municipalities due to the demands of a growing population and the significant cost of public infrastructure. Funding of public facilities constitutes a long-term investment in the health of the community and is a powerful economic development tool for all sectors of the economy. More efficient use of existing and new infrastructure will accommodate increased population growth while making best use of scarce tax dollars. The density, design, location and mix of uses create varied public facility and service costs, and these factors must be considered when reviewing zoning and subdivision regulations and approval of development.

Differing population groups also require a different mix of public and private facilities. During the decade of the 1990's, there was nearly 26% growth in the population under the age of 18 in Carroll County. The rate of growth in school age children is quite high though lower than growth in Georgia as a whole (26.4%) during the same period. The Carroll County School District has proposed approximately \$165,000,000 of school facilities improvements to accommodate increasing enrollment through the year 2009 and to enhance the learning environment intended to increase achievement. Projected population growth will further increase the District's capital facilities needs.

While overall education and income improvements have been made since 1990, the existing population includes significant numbers of people with low income, poorly educated, living in female-headed households and/or dependent on low-wage jobs. The wage earners in these households provide labor for service, retail and blue-collar manufacturing positions. This mix of attributes emphasizes the need to invest in schools, trade skills, diverse employment growth, together with increasing affordable housing.

In addition to increases in younger school age children, the college student population will continue to increase, primarily on the strength of the University of West Georgia's enrollment growth. Due to physical constraints at other public universities in the State, the Board of Regents project an enrollment increase of 50% to 15,000 students in the next 10 years. The college student population brings increased education levels, a part-time labor force and a demand for non-single family housing options. The increasing aged population also requires housing alternatives to the typical single-family subdivision. The creation of multi-family and accessory housing will occur primarily in the cities, but the County can take an active role in promoting urban housing and targeting housing options to defined unincorporated urban areas.