

Issues and Opportunities

Compiling an inventory of a town's resources and attributes is an essential component of effective land use planning. The inventory provides the basis for determining which resources and attributes are valued and which resources can be enhanced for effective preservation and growth management plans. Each of the elements contained within this plan inventory related resources. This section provides the inventory and analysis of the community profile and a summary of the education opportunities and levels, income levels and employment characteristics and forecasts, as well as the overall planning issues and opportunities.

Community Profile

A look at the Town of Sumpter's community profile will aid with the needs assessment and decision making processes. As part of the community profile, several historical patterns in the Town of Sumpter are considered, including: population characteristics, trends and predictions.

Population Characteristics

Population features that affect community dynamics and the planning process are population trends, age distribution, population per household (average household size), number of housing units, rate of occupancy, and age, gender and race.

Population Trend

The population in the Town of Sumpter has fluctuated while the population in Sauk County has steadily increased over the past thirty years. The recent Sauk County 20/20 Development Plan shows the population projection for the year 2000 (calculated by the State of Wisconsin's Department of Administration (DOA) as 761 for the Town of Sumpter and 52,655 for Sauk County. This projection fell short of the actual growth for both the Town of Sumpter and Sauk County, as the Town actually experienced a population growth of almost 37% from 1990 to 2000, versus the 2% projected.

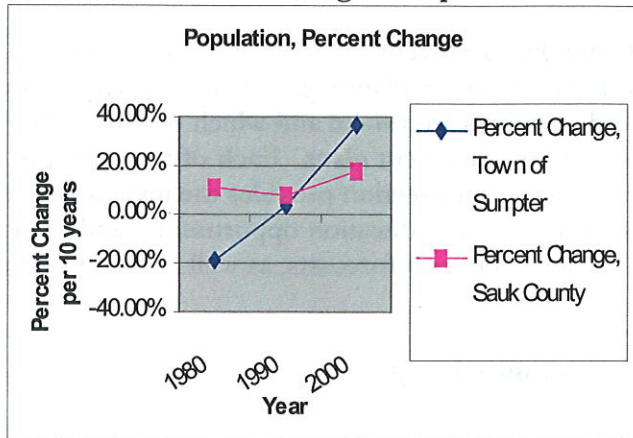
Table CP1: Population Trends

	1970	1980	1990	2000	2000 as projected in 20/20 Plan	Average increase per ten year increment
Town of Sumpter	883	720	747	1,021	761	46
Percent change Town of Sumpter		-18.46%	3.75%	36.68%	1.87%	7.32%
Sauk County	39,057	43,469	46,965	55,225	52,655	5,389
Percent change Sauk County		11.30%	8.04%	17.59%	12.11%	12.31%

Source: US Census, 200, Sauk County 20/20 Development Plan, Volume IV: The County Profile, June 1998

From 1970 to 1980, the Town of Sumpter experienced a decline of 18.5% in population growth. From 1980 to 1990, the growth rate rose to approximately 8%. Sauk County experienced a relatively constant growth through this same time, with an approximate 11% change from 1970 to 1980, and 8% from 1980 to 1990. From 1990 to 2000, the growth rate in Sauk County was approximately 17.5%, again higher than the 12% predicted by the DOA.

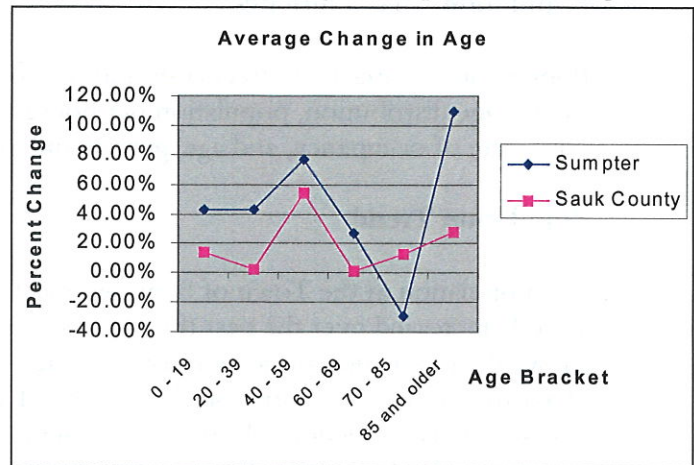
Chart CP1: Percent Change in Population Growth



Age Distribution

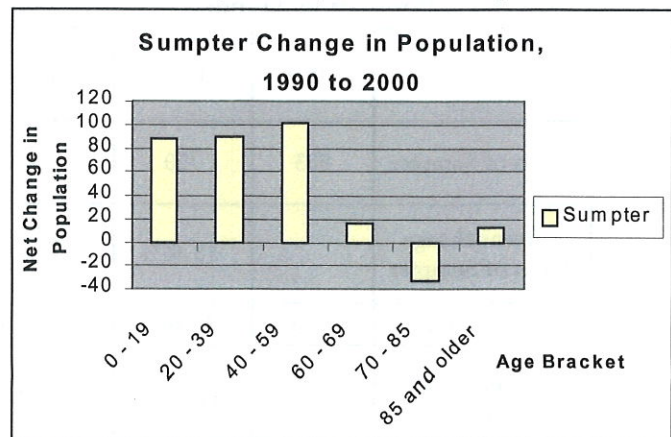
From 1990 to 2000, the general population in the Town of Sumpter became younger. This is evident by looking at the age distribution for this same time period. From 1990 to 2000, the following age brackets: 70 - 74, 75 - 79 and 80 - 84 saw an average decline of 33 persons, or 29.68%. At the same time, an average increase of 87 persons or 42.71% was experienced for the age brackets of 0 - 4, 5 - 9, 10 - 14 and 15 - 19. The average increase for the age brackets of 20 - 24, 25 - 29, 30 - 34 and 35 - 39 is 90 persons, or 43.15%. The average increase for the age bracket of 40 - 44, 45 - 49, 50 - 54 and 55 - 59 is 102 persons or 76.76% and the average increase for age brackets 60 - 64, 65 - 69 is 16 persons or 26.34%.

Chart CP2: Percent Change in Population Per Age Bracket



Source: US Census Bureau 1990 and 2000

Chart CP3 Change in Population Per Age Bracket



Source: US Census Bureau 1990 and 2000

Table CP4 shows the specific breakdown for each age bracket for both the Town of Sumpter and Sauk County. The population projection, as predicted for Sauk County by the Department of Administration (DOA) and as shown in the Sauk County 20/20 Development Plan Volume IV: *The County Profile, June 1998*, fell short by 2,571 or 32%.