

POPULATION

SUMMARY

The following statements summarize the findings within the population element:

- Boone County's rapid growth since 1940 is anticipated to continue through the year 2030 when an estimated 188,652 people will live in Boone County, compared to the estimated 102,197 residents in 2005.
- Florence has experienced rapid growth since 1940. However, its growth is anticipated to be modest unless the City continues to annex residential areas.
- Boone County's population is increasingly being characterized as suburban in nature.
- Boone County is defined by a high proportion of young and middle aged persons. Boone County's median (average) population is projected to grow older as these young and middle aged persons move into older age groups.
- The percentage of Boone County's households comprised of married couples is anticipated to continue to decrease as a percentage of total households.
- Boone County's greatest areas of future population growth are anticipated to occur along KY 237 north of I-275, east of Camp Ernst Road and west of U.S. 42 through the Union and Richwood west areas. The western areas of Boone County are anticipated to experience modest population growth in the form of non-subdivision single family residences and small, low density subdivisions.
- Boone County's population will become more diverse, including racial mix, as is typical of urbanizing areas.

The socio-economic data available at the time of this writing is a conglomeration of data provided by the Kentucky State Data Center, OKI Regional Council of Governments, 2000 U.S. Census data and 2003 U.S. Census estimate as well as the Boone County Planning Commission.

Impact on Future Land Use

The overall need for greater population densities in the eastern portion of Boone County and lower densities in the western portions will affect where the population growth is to occur. During the last decade, development has occurred at a lower density than was recommended in the 1995 Comprehensive Plan, however it has occurred at a higher density than development prior to 1995. This trend continues today. Staff had estimated in 1995 that the developable land would hold approximately 190,000 people at the developed area density of 1.66 people per acre. Based on 1999 existing land use and population statistics, the development density increased to 1.95 people per developed acre. This figure increased to 1.98 in 2004. Projecting this out to include all developable land (not including Developmentally Sensitive Land) yields a simple population projection of 238,780 (estimated). This build-out estimate includes only the land suitable for development and excludes the areas primarily in the western portion of the county that are not suitable for development (i.e. hillsides and bodies of water), which are identified in other elements in this plan.

The continuing low-density development in Boone County does not match some of the higher density residential land use areas recommended on the 2020 Future Land Use Map during the 1995 or the 2025 Future Land Use Map during the 2000 Comprehensive Plan updates. The result in 2000 was that additional land outside the 2020 recommended urban land uses was planned for suburban or urban development for the 2025 Land Use Plan. This may need to be considered again during the 2005 update for the 2030 Future Land Use Map, as long as it can be supported by existing and planned infrastructure. Timing of development is critical. The ultimate population figure based on current density trends and amount of developable acreage is greater than official population forecasts show for the 25 year planning horizon. This indicates that Boone County population growth can be accommodated beyond 2030, but that relatively level land will be at a premium if current development densities continue. These conclusions have been drawn in order to assist in the drafting of other elements in this plan including the Land Use element.

HISTORY

Boone County was established in 1798 and inhabited by 1,500 persons. From the early 1800's until the 1850's Boone County experienced relatively steady population growth. This population growth was related to the County's position on the Ohio River and the dominant form of travel at the time, the steamboat. The steamboat era resulted in the growth and prosperity of Boone County's river towns, such as Belleview, Petersburg, and Taylorsport. The inland crossroad towns of Burlington, Florence, Walton, Union, and Verona were dominated by farming activities and the harvesting of hardwood forests.

In the mid to late 1800's, Boone County's population growth began to stagnate and experience losses. The dominant form of travel was shifting from the steamboat to the locomotive. The rail lines that traversed Boone County only

passed through Florence, Walton, and Verona. Accordingly those areas and towns that were served by the railroads prospered and gained population, while the unserved areas stagnated and lost population.

The 1940's marked the beginning of the automobile era, and Boone County subsequently reversed its decline in population into positive population growth. Boone County's population has increased dramatically since the early 1960's to the present due in large part to the readily available automobile access provided by the interstates and related roadways, as well as from the airport. Unincorporated Boone County has experienced the greatest population growth, while the City of Florence is the Boone County city that has experienced the greatest level of population growth. Most of this growth is due to in-migration rather than natural population growth. **Table 2.1** describes Boone County's population by municipality since 1950.

TABLE 2.1 - BOONE COUNTY POPULATION BY MUNICIPALITY, 1960-2003

	1960		1970		1980		1990		2000		2003	
	Persons	% Total	Persons	% Total	Persons	% Total	Persons	% Total	Persons	% Total	Persons	% Total
Florence	5,837	26.6%	11,457	34.9%	15,586	34.0%	18,624	32.4%	23,551	27.4%	24,689	25.4%
Walton	1,530	7.0%	1,801	5.5%	1,651	3.6%	2,034	3.5%	2,450	2.8%	2,598	2.7%
Union	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	601	1.3%	1,001	1.7%	2,893	3.4%	3,135	3.2%
Unincorporated	14,573	66.4%	19,554	59.6%	28,004	61.1%	35,930	62.4%	57,097	66.4%	66,726	68.7%
Boone County Total	21,940		32,812		45,842		57,589		85,991		97,148	

Source: US Census Bureau, Kentucky State Data Center

POPULATION TRENDS

Population Trends, 1960-2000

Since 1960, the population of Boone County increased from 21,940 persons to an estimated year 2005 population of 102,197 persons. Boone County's population represents a continuance of phenomenal growth. The sharpest increase, in terms of a recent decade growth rate, occurred between 1960 and 1970 when the population increased by 49.6%. The sharpest increase, in terms of absolute increase in the number of persons over a decade, occurred in the 1990-2000 time period when the population increased by an estimated 27,483 persons. Boone County's population increased by 47.7% from 1990 to 2000 and a total of 343% from 1960 to 2000.

The three incorporated municipalities in Boone County - Florence, Walton, & Union have demonstrated steady population growth since 1960. Florence, the largest municipality, has experienced the greatest increases in number of persons. Florence's population size is a reflection of its proximity to the Interstate and related roadways. Its population has continued to increase through infill housing and annexations.

The population of both Florence and Walton increased by 23.7% from 1990 to 2000. However, the greatest increase in Boone County's population has occurred in the unincorporated areas of the County. It is estimated that the unincorporated areas have grown to 66,726 persons. Union has more than tripled its population since 1990.

Although Boone County only makes up a small percentage of the OKI Regional population, it has been growing faster than any other county in the region, except Warren County in Ohio (**Table 2.2**). Neighboring Kenton County and Campbell County and the overall State of Kentucky have grown at a lower rate. The Cincinnati region as a whole grew at an 8.1% rate from 1990 to 2000.

Boone County is the second fastest growing county by percentage in the Commonwealth of Kentucky and has had the largest total population increase within the last fifteen years. **Table 2.3** describes the population growth in some of the surrounding counties including Campbell, Kenton, Gallatin and Grant, the counties which contain the two largest cities in Kentucky; Fayette and Jefferson, and two of the fastest growing counties in the State located near Louisville; Oldham and Spencer.

The majority of the population growth in the county has occurred in the Florence, Oakbrook, Burlington, Richwood, Hebron and Union areas. **Figure 2.1** is the official 2000 Census Tract Map showing tract boundaries, some of which have been split since 1990. **Table 2.4** examines the population growth Boone County experienced from 1980 to 2000 in each census tract, including total population for some tracts that have been split for 2000 in parenthesis. In addition, new statistical areas have been added by the US Census, including Census County Divisions (CCD) and Census Designated Places (CDP). These are shown in **Figure 2.2** and **Figure 2.3**.

TABLE 2.2 - POPULATION CHANGE IN OKI REGION, 1960-2000

COUNTY	1960		1970		1980		1990		2000	
	Population	Change	Change		Population	Change	Population	Change	Population	Change
Boone	21,940	N/A	32,812	49.6%	45,842	39.7%	57,589	25.6%	85,991	49.3%
Campbell	86,803	N/A	88,704	2.2%	83,317	-6.1%	83,866	0.7%	88,616	5.7%
Kenton	120,700	N/A	129,440	7.2%	137,058	5.9%	142,031	3.6%	151,464	6.6%
Butler	199,076	N/A	226,207	13.6%	258,787	14.4%	291,479	12.6%	332,705	14.1%
Clermont	80,530	N/A	95,372	18.4%	128,483	34.7%	150,187	16.9%	177,977	18.5%
Hamilton	864,121	N/A	924,017	6.9%	873,224	-5.5%	866,228	-0.8%	845,303	-2.4%
Warren	65,711	N/A	85,505	30.1%	99,276	16.1%	113,909	14.7%	158,486	39.1%
Dearborn	28,674	N/A	29,430	2.6%	34,291	16.5%	38,835	13.3%	46,130	18.8%
Total	1,467,555	N/A	1,611,487	9.8%	1,660,778	3.0%	1,744,124	5.1%	1,886,672	8.2%

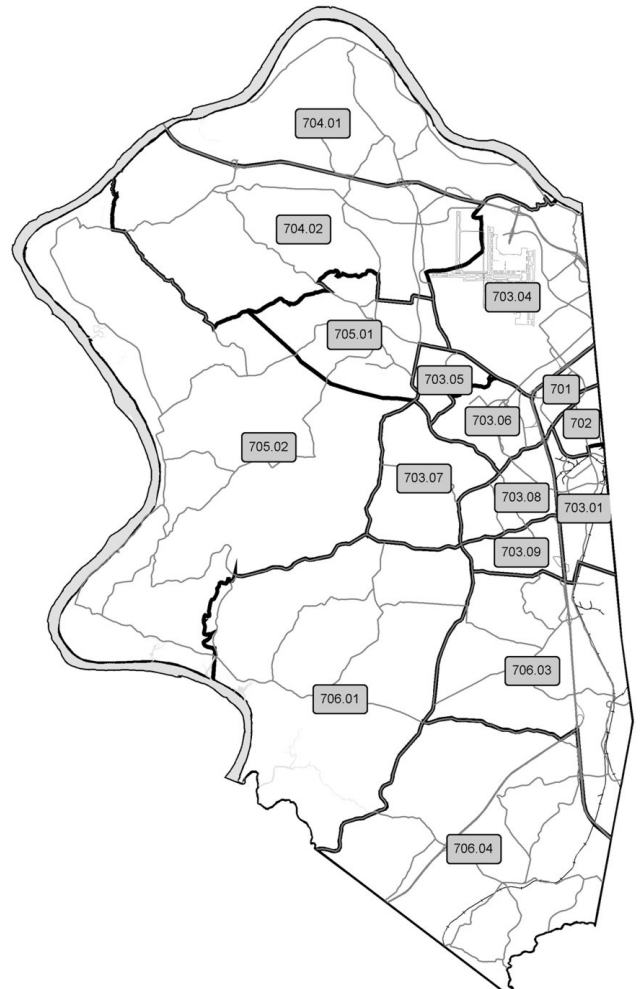
Source: OKI Regional Council of Governments

TABLE 2.3 - POPULATION CHANGE IN KENTUCKY COUNTIES, 1990-2000

COUNTY	1990	2000	
	Population	Population	Increase
Boone	57,589	85,991	27,830
Campbell	83,866	88,616	4,750
Fayette	225,366	260,512	35,146
Gallatin	5,737	7,870	2,133
Grant	15,913	22,384	6,471
Jefferson	664,937	693,604	28,667
Kenton	142,031	151,464	9,433
Oldham	33,263	46,178	12,915
Spencer	6,801	11,766	4,965
Kentucky	3,686,892	4,041,769	354,877

Source: US Census

Figure 2.1 - 2000 Census Tracts



OKI Traffic Analysis Zones (TAZ's) are also used to track population growth. These zones produced by the Ohio, Kentucky and Indiana Regional Council of Governments provide a more detailed look at where the population growth has occurred (Figure 2.4, Figure 2.5, and Table 2.5). In calculating the population for each traffic zone, OKI's information was used in conjunction with zoning permit and site plan data. OKI also maintains a more detailed set of TAZ's that are useful for corridor studies. However, for the purposes of comprehensive planning and for tracking over time, this Comprehensive Plan uses the more general zones. In general, all of the airport zones have lost population between 1990-2000 due to airport buyouts and the development of manufacturing and industrial parks. Sections of Florence have also experienced population decline where commercial and industrial growth have replaced residential neighborhoods. Older sections of Florence and Walton have experienced a very slow growth rate. The rural areas of Big Bone and Rabbit Hash have also seen slow growth. The most significant growth areas are the West Florence, Union, Richwood, Burlington, and North areas. Parts of the Union area have increased over 300% between 1990 and 2000. Likewise, part of the North area along North Bend Road has increased over 150%.

TABLE 2.4 - CENSUS POPULATION 1980-2000

2000 Census Designation	1980	1990	2000	Growth 1990-2000
Boone County	45,842	57,589	85,991	47.7%
Florence	15,553	18,624	23,551	26.50%
Union	634	1,001	2,893	189.0%
Walton	1,651	2,034	2,450	20.5%
701.00	6,622	6,707	6,751	0.7%
702.00	6,798	7,138	6,173	-13.5%
703.01	2,583	3,035	5,012	65.1%
703.97 (703.02 in 1980)	3,570	5,207	(14,064)	(170.1%)
703.07 (703.97 in 1990)	N/A	N/A	4,521	N/A
703.08 (703.97 in 1990)	N/A	N/A	4,811	N/A
703.09 (703.97 in 1990)	N/A	N/A	4,735	N/A
703.98 (703.03 in 1980)	4,506	9,070	(14,535)	(60.3%)
703.05 (703.98 in 1990)	N/A	N/A	5,175	N/A
703.06 (703.98 in 1990)	N/A	N/A	9,360	N/A
703.04	2,356	2,972	2,769	-6.8%
704.00	4,750	5,589	(10,066)	(80.1%)
704.01	N/A	N/A	3,464	N/A
704.02	N/A	N/A	6,602	N/A
705.00	6,951	(8,758)	(13,560)	(54.8%)
705.01 (part of 705 in 1980)	N/A	5,123	9,297	81.5%
705.02 (part of 705 in 1980)	N/A	3,635	4,263	17.3%
706.01	1,666	1,813	2330	28.5%
706.02	6,040	7,300	(10,728)	(47.0%)
706.03 (706.02 in 1990)	N/A	N/A	8,170	N/A
706.04 (706.02 in 1990)	N/A	N/A	2,558	N/A
Burlington CCD			13,500	N/A
Florence CCD			49,307	N/A
Hebron CCD			10,066	N/A
Walton CCD			13,058	N/A
Burlington CDP			10,779	N/A
Oakbrook CDP			7,726	N/A

POPULATION DENSITY, 1950-2000

Population density refers to the number of persons per square mile of land area. The level of population density serves as an indicator of the degree of settlement in an area. Boone County's population density has steadily increased since 1950. **Table 2.6** lists the population densities for Boone, Kenton, and Campbell counties and the state of Kentucky since 1950. In 1950, the population density of Kentucky exceeded that of Boone County and continued to do so until 1960 when Boone County's population density surpassed the population density of the state. The increase in Boone County's population density is directly correlated with the tremendous growth in the County's total population.

Figure 2.2 - Census County Divisions

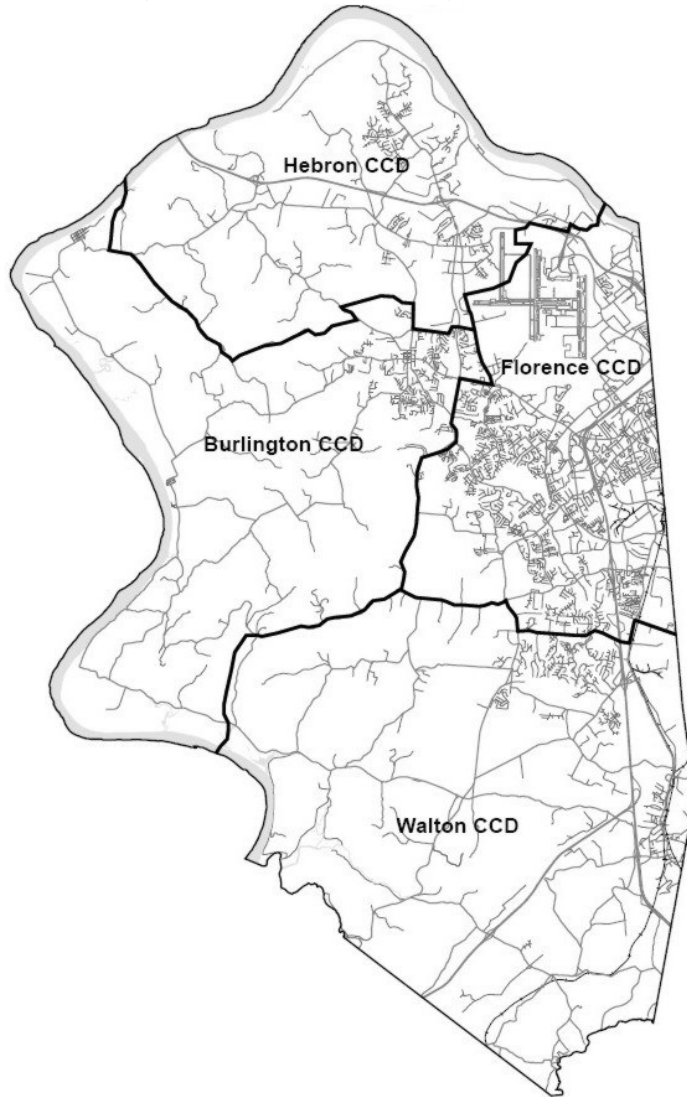
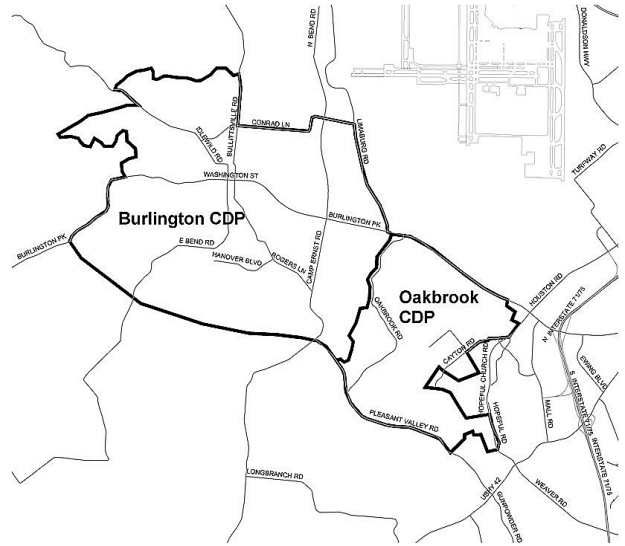


Figure 2.3 - Census Designated Places



Boone County's population density increased from 53.0 persons per square mile in 1950 to 343.0 persons per square mile in 2000. Although this is a substantial increase in population density, Boone County's population density is still considerably less than that of the more heavily urbanized Kenton and Campbell counties. In 2000, Kenton and Campbell counties had population densities of 904.6 and 586.6 persons per square mile, respectively.

TABLE 2.5 - POPULATION BY TRAFFIC ZONE, 1980-2000

Traffic Zone	1980	1990	2000	% Change 1990-2000	Traffic Zone	1980	1990	2000	% Change 1990-2000		
Airport	811	359	341	323	-5.3%	Richwood	883	2,732	3,040	4,349	43.1%
	812	232	266	0	-100.0%		887	1,872	3,560	5,973	67.8%
	825	653	531	522	-1.7%		888	1,151	2,723	4,150	52.4%
	826	570	600	639	6.5%	Walton	884	1,606	1,857	2,107	13.5%
	827	333	261	189	-27.6%		885	785	791	797	0.8%
	906	867	1,249	2,554	104.5%		886	996	1,204	1,211	0.6%
Latonia/Turfway	813	732	905	1,078	19.1%	Big Bone	890	501	851	1,201	41.1%
	814	104	216	432	100.0%		891	611	633	654	3.3%
	815	850	1,106	1,162	5.1%		892	641	689	711	3.2%
Florence	816	2,086	2,495	2,525	1.2%	Union	822	2,844	4,028	7,611	89.0%
	817	6,943	7,113	7,141	0.4%		823	1,774	2,721	6,305	131.7%
	818	421	672	602	-10.4%		889	796	1,301	5,229	301.9%
	819	3,648	4,057	4,161	2.6%	Rabbit Hash	893	1,014	1,061	1,108	4.4%
Mall	60	434	407	390	-4.4%		894	1,125	1,275	1,426	11.8%
	820	1,628	1,756	1,991	13.4%		897	1,024	1,084	1,144	5.5%
	821	1,836	3,169	6,465	104.0%	North	824	1,490	1,901	4,116	116.5%
Total					895		1,758	2,193	2,867	30.7%	
					896		1,426	1,533	3,939	156.9%	
						45,842	57,589	85,072	47.7%		

Source: OKI Regional Council of Governments, Boone County Planning Commission, 1996 Boone County Transportation Plan.

Figure 2.4 - Traffic Zone Pop 1990

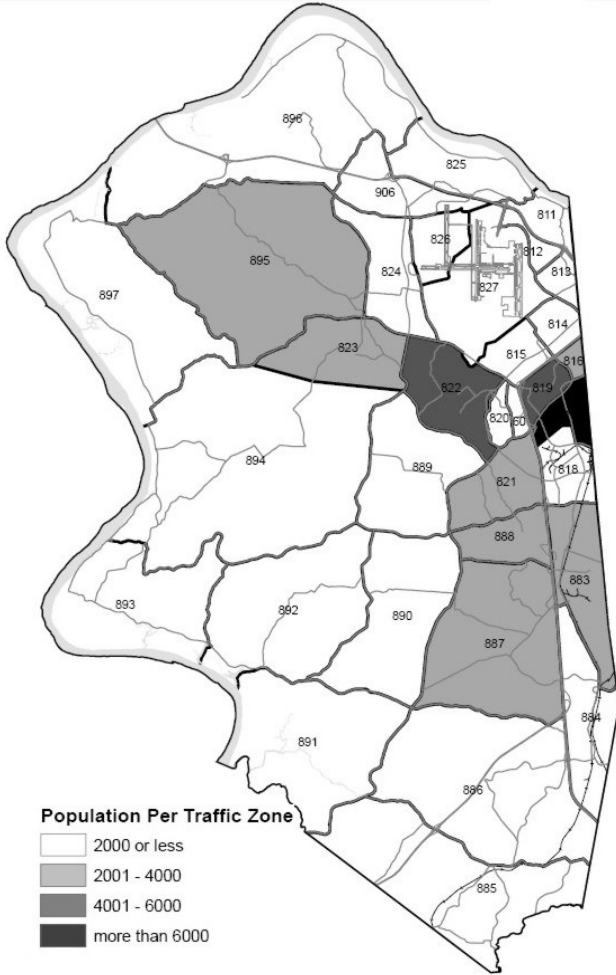


Figure 2.5 - Traffic Zone Pop 2000

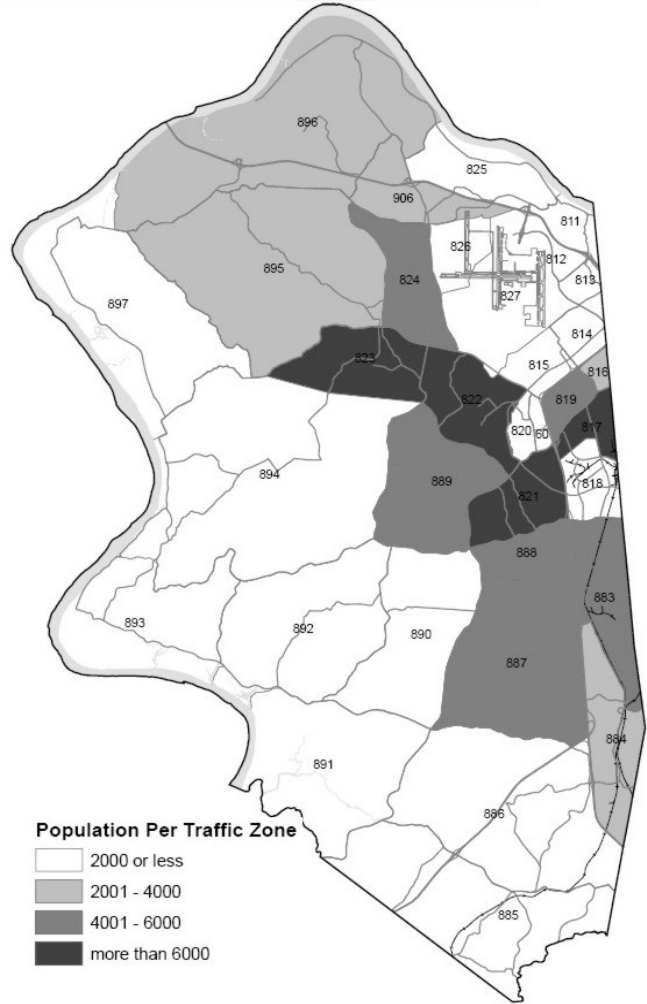


TABLE 2.6 - POPULATION DENSITY BY COUNTIES, 1950-2000

	Population Per Square Mile					
	1950	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000
Boone	53.0	89.2	133.4	186.3	233.8	343.0
Kenton	639.5	740.5	794.1	840.8	873.5	904.6
Campbell	501.3	571.1	582.2	548.1	553.2	586.6
Kentucky	74.2	76.6	81.1	92.3	92.8	NA

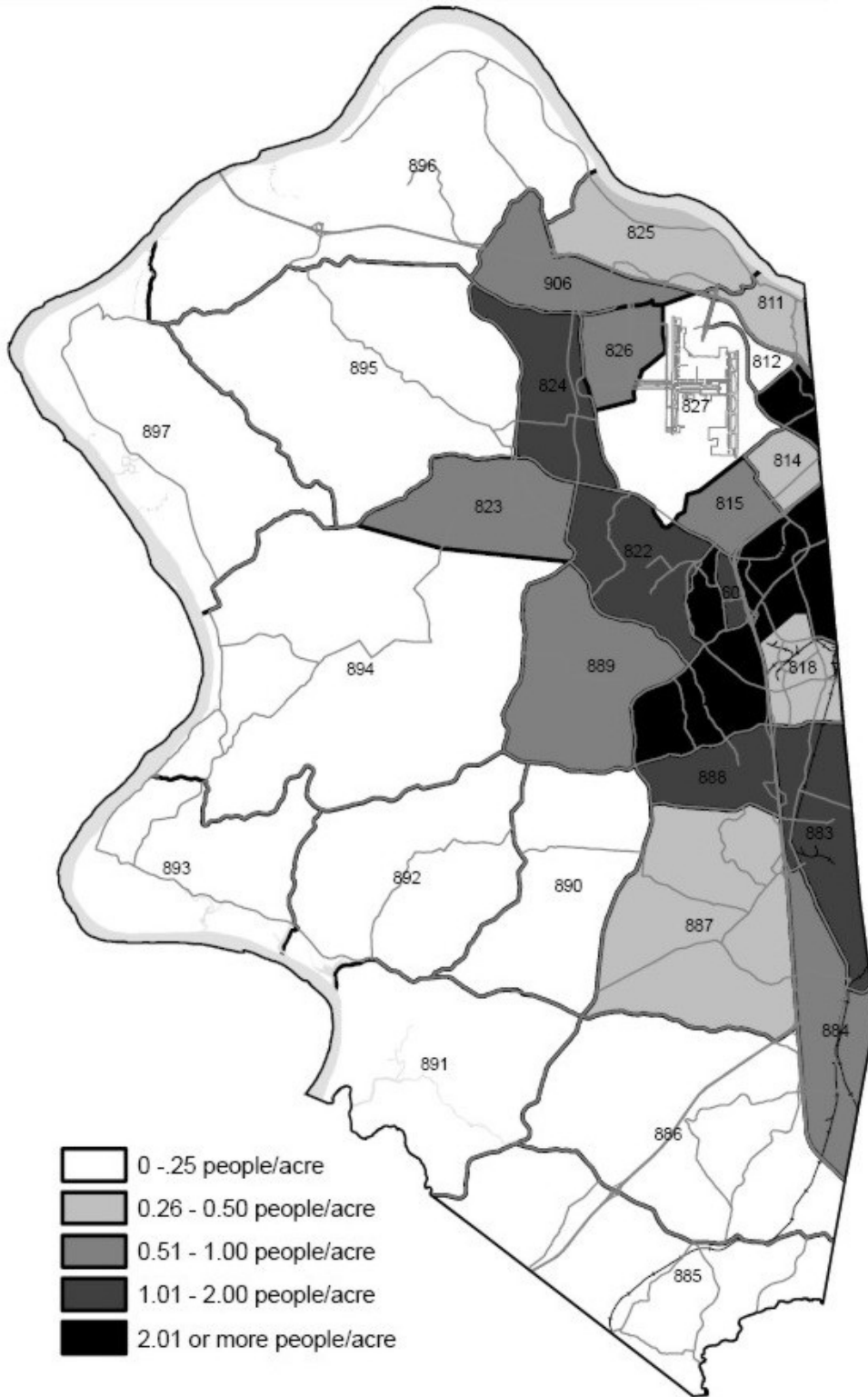
Source: Kentucky State Data Center; U.S. Census

Figure 2.6 shows that the majority of the higher density population in Boone County is located in the eastern portion of the County near the I-71/75 corridor. The established sections of Florence contain the highest population density up to 7.8 persons per acre. Most recent residential subdivisions have been developing at about 3 dwelling units per acre, which yields a density over 8 persons per acre. The lowest density areas are located in western Boone County. Most of these areas have less than one person per ten acres.

DAYTIME POPULATION

In 1996, Boone County had a day-time estimated population of 143,855 persons. Daytime Population is defined as the total number of people coming into the county (including those who do not leave the county) minus the number of people who leave the county. Of the 88,719 non-resident people who came into the County daily in 1996, 34% came to work, 29% were airport travelers, 25% were retail customers, 9% were restaurant patrons, 2% were Turfway Racetrack patrons, 1% stayed in hotels and .5% were movie theater patrons (see Table 2.7). This information is outdated because of the growth in Boone County over the last eight years. However, it is included here in order to

Figure 2.6 - Population Density by Traffic Zone, 2000



compare with the resident population of Boone County. The detailed study that produced these statistics needs to be updated to reflect growth that has occurred since 1996.

Rural to Rural Non-Farm & Urban Shift, 1940 - 2000

The United States Bureau Of The Census classifies a county's population as either urban, rural farm, or rural non-farm (suburban). This classification is based on the location of an individual's home and the amount of an income that is earned from agricultural activities.

In 1940 Boone County's population was classified as completely rural. However a distinction was made between rural farm and rural non-farm (or suburban). The suburban portion comprised 40.8% of the county's population, while 59.2% of the population was rural farm. Therefore, in 1940 Boone County was considered primarily agricultural in nature. By 1950 the suburban nature of the population surpassed the rural farm population, providing an indication of Boone County's changing character.

In 1960 Boone County's population was characterized as both urban and rural. The urban portion comprised 26.4% of the population, the suburban portion comprised 47.4% of the population, and the rural farm portion comprised 26.2% of the population. The shift in the

rural farm portion of Boone County's population was completely characterized by urbanization and suburbanization. In 1990, the urban portion comprised 61.3% of the population, the suburban portion comprised 36.4% of the population, and the rural farm portion comprised only 2.3% of the population. **Table 2.8** provides 1990 population composition data for Boone County.

In a regional context, Boone County is less urban than neighboring Kenton and Campbell Counties but more so than the Commonwealth of Kentucky. Boone County is characterized by a population that is more rural non-farm than both Kenton and Campbell Counties. **Table 2.8** provides 1990 urban, rural farm, and non-farm (suburban) composition data for the three counties, and Kentucky.

TABLE 2.7 DAYTIME POPULATION*, 1996

Category	Average Daily Pop
Population Less Residents Employed Outside the County	55,136
1995 Non-Residents Working in Boone County	29,929
1994 Airport Travelers	25,873
Non-Resident Florence Mall Customers	19,329
Non-Resident Fast Food Restaurant Customers	6,589
Non-Resident Major Retail Customers	2,448
Non-Resident Turfway Racetrack Patrons	1,514
Non-Resident Major Destination Restaurant Customers	1,300
Hotels (Daily Occupancy Load)	1,214
Non-Resident Movie Theater Patrons	523
Total Daytime Population	143,855

Source: Daytime Population Study, Boone County Planning Commission; *

Table 2.8 Urban, Rural Farm, and Non-Farm Composition, 1990

	Total Population	Urban		Rural Farm		Rural Non-Farm	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Boone County	57,589	35,302	61.3	1,350	2.3	20,937	36.4
Kenton County	142,031	131,549	92.6	688	.5	9,794	6.9
Campbell County	83,866	69,137	82.4	967	1.2	13,762	16.4
Kentucky	3,685,296	1,910,028	51.8	174,204	4.7	1,601,064	43.55

Source: U.S. Census

Migration, 1950-2000

Migration is a basic indicator of the economic situation within an area. Generally, if the local economic climate is poor, a negative migration is experienced as local residents immigrate to areas with brighter economic situations. If the local economic climate is good, a positive migration is experienced as outside residents immigrate to the area to take advantage of the promising economic situation. Boone County experienced a period of stagnated and negative growth, or out-migration, from the late 1800's to the mid 1900's because the lack of rail line service and the consolidation of farms enabled by machinery. However, from 1950 through 2000, Boone County experienced a significant positive migration rate due to the County's bright economic situation, the airport, interstate highways, desired residential amenities, its proximity to downtown Cincinnati, and the subsequent suburban growth patterns.

In a regional context, Boone County's positive migration rates are different than Kenton and Campbell Counties and the overall state, as these areas have generally experienced negative migration rates. It should be noted that an area can experience negative migration but still have increases in population due to birth rates that compensate for the out-migration. A detailed look at recent migration (**Table 2.9**) reveals that about half of Boone County's in-migration population is coming from Kentucky. In 1995 it was estimated that over 42% of new residents came from Kenton County.

POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS

Age and Sex Distribution

The relative youthfulness of Boone County's median age is evident in the breakdown of its age groups. However, the effects of an aging population are evident as the older age groups increase their proportion of the total population at the expense of the younger age groups. Since 1980 the 0-24 age bracket showed a significant decrease in the percentage of the total population. Conversely, the 25 and older age bracket all showed a significant increase in the percentage of the total population. In general, people are having fewer children while living longer.

Table 2.9 - Migration Characteristics for Boone County, 1995-2000

Migration Category	persons
Total In migrants	25,232
In migrants from Kentucky	12,936
In migrants from outside Kentucky, inside U.S.	12,296
Migration from outside U.S.	1,304
Total Out migrants	16,896
Out migrants to Kentucky	9,964
Out migrants to outside Kentucky	6,932
Movers within Boone County	14,584
Total movers	41,120

Source: Urban Studies Institute, U. Of Louisville

Due to the strong presence of the 19-64 age group, the dependency ratio for Boone County is relatively low. The dependency ratio measures the number of dependent persons, defined as those that fall into the age groups of 0-18 and 65 and older, against the number of productive persons, defined as those who fall into the age group of 19-64. The closer the dependency ratio approaches 100, the greater the tax burden on the area's economy to provide necessary community facilities and services. The proportion of Boone County's male population to female population is essentially even.

In 1980, the male population comprised 49.2% of the total population, and the female population comprised 50.8% of the total population. The 1990 male population to female population remained essentially the same with females picking up a percent and males losing a percent. **Table 2.10** provides 1980-1998 age and sex distribution data for Boone County.

TABLE 2.10 - AGE AND SEX DISTRIBUTIONS, 1980 - 2000

Age	1980		1990		Age	2000	
	Number	%	Number	%		Number	%
0-4	4,090	8.9	4,675	8.1	0-4	6,849	8.0
5-17	10,998	24.2	12,238	21.3	5-19	20,011	23.3
18-24	5,658	12.4	5,437	9.4	20-24	5,081	5.9
25-44	14,026	30.6	20,151	35.0	25-44	28,791	33.5
45-64	7,944	17.3	10,338	18.0	45-64	18,318	21.3
65 +	3,125	6.8	4,750	8.2	65+	6,941	8.1
Male	22,557	49.2	28,007	48.6		42,499	49.4
Female	23,285	50.8	29,582	51.4		43,492	50.6

source: US Census; KY State Data Center

Racial Composition

Boone County's population is relatively homogeneous in racial composition with the majority of the population defined as white. Boone County's 1980 non-white population (Black, American Indian, Eskimo, Asian, etc.) comprised 1% of the total population. The non-white population is rising slightly as the percentage of non-white population in 2000 was 4.8%. The largest concentration of non-white persons, as a percentage of total population, in Boone County for 2000 existed in the City of Florence. Florence's non-white population comprised 7.6 percent of its total population. Walton's non-white population comprised 2.7% of its total population, and Union's total population contained 4.0% non-white residents. Unincorporated Boone County's non-white population comprised 3.9% of the total population of unincorporated Boone County. **Table 2.11** provides 1980 - 2000 racial composition data for Boone County.

In a regional context, Boone County's 2000 percentage of non-white population has grown to be larger than that of Kentucky, and Kenton (6.0 percent), and Campbell County (3.4 percent). Northern Kentucky as a whole has a relatively small non-white population.

TABLE 2.11 - RACIAL COMPOSITION OF BOONE COUNTY, 1980 - 2000

Race	1980	% Total	1990	% Total	1994	% Total	2000	% Total
White	45,392	99.0%	56,716	98.5%	66,502	97.9%	81,822	95.2%
African-American	219	0.5%	361	0.6%	443	0.7%	1,306	1.5%
Indian	31	0.1%	88	0.2%	96	0.1%	N/A	N/A
Asian	117	0.2%	355	0.6%	500	0.7%	1,108	1.3%
Hispanic	NA	NA	NA	NA	401	0.6%	1,702	2.0%
Other	83	0.2%	69	0.1%	NA	NA	53	0.1%
Total	45,842	100%	57,589	100%	67,942	100%	85,991	100%

Source: US Census Bureau

Educational Attainment

Educational attainment is primarily measured in terms of the percentage of high school graduates among persons who are 25 years old and older. Boone County's percent of high school graduates increased from 76.4 percent in 1990 to 85.1 percent in 2000. **Table 2.12** provides 2000 educational attainment data for Boone County. In a regional context, Boone County's percent of high school graduates for persons 25 years old and older was higher than in neighboring Kenton and Campbell counties and in the state of Kentucky as a whole.

TABLE 2.12 - EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT, 2000

	Persons 25+	High School	College (Assoc.)	College (Bachelor)
Boone County	54,166	17,771	3,077	8,564

Source: U.S. Census

Poverty

The level of poverty in an area reflects, to a certain degree, the degree of economic stress in an area. The U.S. Bureau of the Census defines the level of poverty by the cost of food consumption for a family of three or more. The poverty rate represents the percentage of the population that is living at or below the established poverty level. Boone County's poverty rate has decreased from 1990 to 2000, providing an indication of a strong economy. The highest poverty rate was 8.5 percent recorded in 1982, reflecting the presence of a national economic downturn. In a regional context, Boone County's poverty rate was lower than in neighboring Kenton and Campbell Counties, and significantly lower than in Kentucky as a whole. **Table 2.13** provides 1980-2000 poverty rate data for Boone, Kenton, and Campbell counties, and Kentucky.

TABLE 2.13 POVERTY RATES, 1980-2000 (PERCENT BELOW POVERTY LEVEL)

	1980	1990	2000
Boone County	7.8%	7.4%	5.6%
Kenton County	11.0%	9.9%	8.9%
Campbell County	10.5%	11.0%	9.1%
Kentucky	19.3%	19.0%	15.8%

Source: U.S. Census

Households and Family

The basic reporting unit, in terms of demographic data is the household. The household is also the most prevalent living arrangement in American society. A household can either be classified as a family household or a non-family household. A family household is comprised of two persons or more who are related by blood, legal adoption, or marriage. According to Census results, the average household size in 1990 was 2.85 persons and 2.73 in 2000.

In 1990, Boone County's total number of households equaled 20,127, which increased to 31,258 in 2000. Family households comprised 75.0 percent of the total number of households in 2000 (down from 1980's percentage of 83.7) and non-family households comprised 25.0 percent of the total number of households (up from 16.3 percent in 1980). Family households generally represent married persons who are more likely to remain in the area in which they are currently residing. Non-family households generally represent single persons who are relatively transitory and career mobile. Therefore, Boone County's population is relatively stable due in part to the high percentage of family households.

The 1980 total number of families in Boone County was 12,428, which increased to 23,435 in 2000. The percentage of those families who were married couples totaled 82.1 percent, comprised of 53.1 percent of married couples with children. The area with the greatest percentage of married couples was Union, followed by unincorporated Boone County, Florence, and Walton.

POPULATION PROJECTIONS

Population projections are derived from statistical analysis procedures that consider both recent and historical population trends. The population forecast for a political entity such as Boone County is generally considered realistic. Population forecasts for political entities such as Florence, Walton, or Union are generally considered more tentative due to the possibility that annexations may affect the population growth.

Population forecasts for Boone County are derived from two main sources. The first source of population forecast is the Kentucky State Data Center at the University of Louisville. The Kentucky State Data Center provides the official population forecasts for Kentucky. The second source of population forecast is the Ohio-Kentucky-Indiana Regional Council of Governments (OKI). In addition, the Boone County Planning Commission staff updates population data based on residential growth, and has on occasion generated its own forecasts.

Kentucky State Data Center Forecasts

The Kentucky State Data Center's population forecasts for Boone County were made by utilizing the age-sex cohort survival population forecasting methodology. This particular methodology generates population forecasts for County residents by sex and age groups through the examination of the three components of population change: births, deaths, and migration. The age-sex cohort survival population forecasting methodology is the most commonly utilized population forecasting model and is considered to be relatively accurate. The Urban Studies Center has forecasted Boone County's 2010, 2020, and 2030 populations at 121,119, 158,013, and 188,652 persons respectively. These forecasts are larger than those from the last comprehensive plan update where the Kentucky Data Center forecasted the 2020 Boone County population to be 139,000.

Boone County's population is forecasted to become more elderly in proportion, following a national population trend. The shift is due to a large proportion of individuals moving into the 45-64 years old age group and the 65+ years old age group. From 2000 to 2030 the 0-4 years old age group, the 5-19 years old age group, and the 20-44 years old age group are projected to gradually decline in their percentage of total population. Conversely the 45-64 age group and the 65 and older age group are projected to gradually increase in their percentage of the total population.

OKI Traffic Zones Forecast

The Ohio-Kentucky-Indiana Regional Council of Governments (OKI) divided Boone County into separate transportation analysis zones (due to transportation being OKI's main planning function) and generated population projections for each zone through the year 2020. **Table 2.14** shows OKI's population projections for each of the traffic zones through 2020. **Figure 2.7** indicates the projected population by traffic zone for the year 2020.

Traffic zones 811, 812, 825, 826 and 827 are expected to continue to decline due to the impact of the expanding airport. The western and southern portions of the county as well the established portions of Florence are expected to increase only slightly. The expected high growth areas are North Bend, Burlington, West Florence, Richwood West, and Union.

Over the next 25 years suburban growth of approximately eight persons per acre will continue to spread westward into western Boone County. Established sections of Florence will maintain their current densities. The northern section of the County and the middle section including the Burlington and Camp Ernst Road areas will also experience an increase in population density. The land in the western portions of the county should remain rural at less than one person per 5 acres and less than 1 person per 10 acres in some areas.

The majority of projected population growth percentages throughout the county are astounding. The northern and middle sections of the county are expected to increase by over 500 percent. The western portions of the county, as well as the established sections of Florence, are expected to only increase slightly. Areas around the airport are expected to decrease in population as the airport expands. All other areas of the county are expected to continue to grow significantly.

The OKI population forecasts for Boone County were made for each population analysis zone by considering three factors: (1) Housing changes for a given period of time in order to determine the proportion of individual population analysis zone growth relative to overall County growth; (2) The existing land uses; (3) The capability for future growth, based on location in the Cincinnati region, job growth, and infrastructure.

Determining the growth capability of a population analysis zone involved the physical constraints on available land and public facilities, Boone County planning studies, and local knowledge concerning the growth of Boone County. The population data compiled by the Boone County Planning Commission has been utilized in the Boone County Transportation Plan and other planning documents.

Table 2.14 - Population and Projections by Traffic Zone, 2000-2020

Traffic Zone		2000	2010	2020	Percent Change	
					2000-10	2000-20
Airport	811	323	269	293	-20.1%	-9.29%
	812	0	0	0	0.0%	0.00%
	825	522	513	504	-1.7%	-3.45%
	826	639	839	964	31.3%	50.86%
	827	189	143	1	-24.3%	-99.47%
	906	2,554	3,002	3,282	17.5%	25.50%
Turfway	813	1,078	1,263	1,425	17.6%	32.19%
	814	432	864	1,761	100.0%	307.64%
	815	1,162	1,218	1,275	4.8%	9.72%
Florence	816	2,525	2,555	2,616	1.2%	3.60%
	817	7,141	7,169	7,197	0.4%	0.78%
	818	602	542	460	-11.1%	-23.59%
	819	4,161	4,265	4,369	2.5%	5.00%
Florence Mall	60	390	368	387	-6.0%	-0.77%
	820	1,991	2,166	2,710	8.8%	36.11%
	821	6,465	7,584	8,435	17.3%	30.47%
Richwood	883	4,349	4,891	5,236	2.0%	20.40%
	887	5,973	8,402	9,459	40.7%	58.36%
	888	4,150	5,001	5,687	20.5%	37.04%
Walton	884	2,107	3,206	4,206	52.2%	99.62%
	885	797	799	1,399	0.3%	75.53%
	886	1,211	1,463	3,065	20.8%	153.10%
Big Bone	890	1,201	4,001	6,445	233.1%	436.64%
	891	654	650	944	-0.6%	44.34%
	892	711	733	921	3.1%	29.54%
Union	822	7611	9437	12788	24.0%	68.02%
	823	6305	8418	9436	33.5%	49.66%
	889	5229	9772	12455	86.9%	138.19%
Rabbit Hash	893	1108	1155	1203	4.2%	8.57%
	894	1426	3073	4388	115.5%	207.71%
	897	1144	1145	1145	0.1%	0.09%
North	824	4116	5789	7000	40.6%	70.07%
	895	2867	4483	6667	56.4%	132.54%
	896	3939	6822	10878	73.2%	176.16%
Total		85,072	112,000	139,000	31.7%	63.39%

Source: OKI Regional Council of Governments, Boone County Planning Commission, Boone County 1996 Transportation Plan.

Figure 2.7 - Population Density by Traffic Zone, 2020

