

Chapter 3 – Population/Socio Economic Conditions

Taylor Comprehensive Plan Update - 2004

Taylor is an ethnically diverse city with a current population of over 14,000. Growth over the last century has come through various boom periods, but has become very gradual during the last decades. Williamson County has experienced very rapid growth from the expanding Austin urban area. This Population/Socio-Economic Conditions chapter provides demographic information on the City and provides the basis for land use needs for the future.

Population

Past and current population characteristics are important in understanding a community and in planning for its future. The following section examines population characteristics including historical population, population density, population projections, age and gender distribution, income, and racial composition.

Table 3-1 Historical Population Taylor and Williamson County displays the historical population from 1920 to 2000. The City experienced the most growth in past decade. Williamson County experienced a loss in population between 1940 and 1960, but then rapidly experienced growth between 1970 and 1980, more than doubling its population. The county has continued to experience significant growth, even in the last decade.

**TABLE 3.1
TAYLOR AND WILLIAMSON COUNTY
POPULATION BY DECADES**

Year	Taylor	Percent change	Williamson County	Percent change	Taylor's Percent of County
1920			42,934		
1930			44,146	2.8%	
1940	7,875		41,698	-5.5%	18.9%
1950	9,071	15.2%	38,853	-6.8%	23.3%
1960	9,434	4.0%	35,044	-9.8%	26.9%
1970	9,616	1.9%	37,305	6.5%	25.8%
1980	10,619	9.4%	76,521	105.1%	13.9%
1990	11,472	8.0%	139,551	82.4%	8.2%
2000	13,575	18.3%	249,967	79.1%	5.4%

Source U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000, Real Estate Center-Texas A&M University

Population Density

The Census Bureau, as part of the 2000 Census, calculated population density for Taylor and Williamson County. **Table 3.2 – Population Density** displays the area, population density, housing unit density and population rank in Texas for both Taylor and Williamson County.

**TABLE 3.2
 POPULATION DENSITY
 2000**

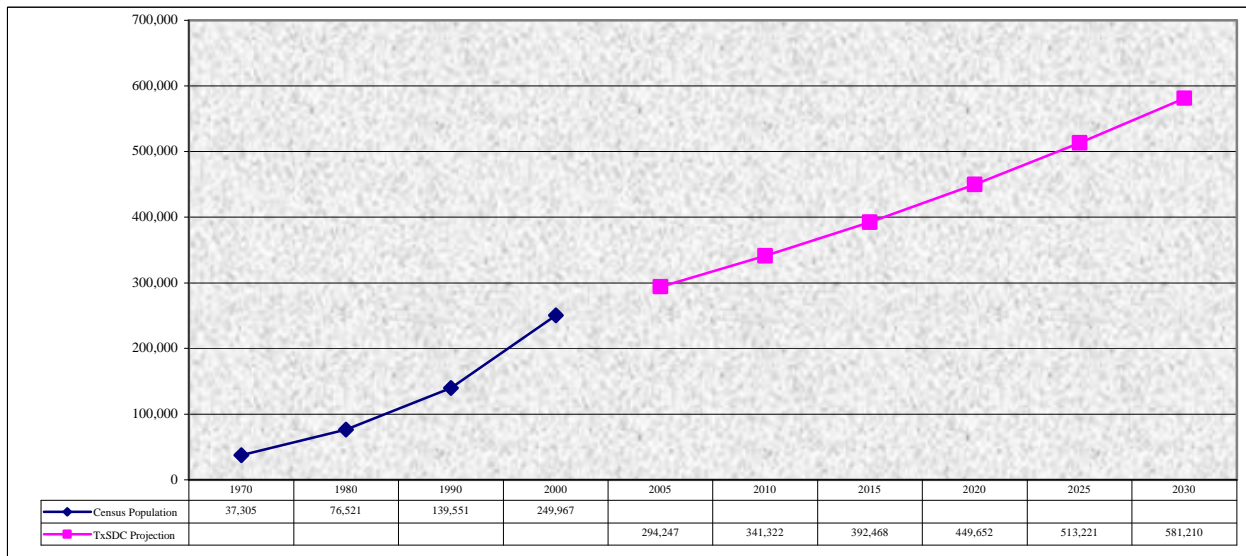
	Area (in Square Miles)	Population Density/Square Mile	Number of Housing Units/Square Mile	Rank (Texas)
Taylor	13.56	1,003.2	375.2	170
Williamson County	1,134.74	222.6	80.4	16

Source: US Census Bureau 2000

Population Projections

The Texas State Data Center (TxSDC) at Texas A&M University is one of many public and private entities that prepare population projections for counties using statistical models. **Figure 3.1 - Historical and Projected Population - Williamson County** displays data through 2030. The TxSDC has projected Williamson County’s 2030 population at 581,210.

**FIGURE 3.1
 HISTORICAL AND PROJECTED POPULATION
 WILLIAMSON COUNTY - 1970-2030**

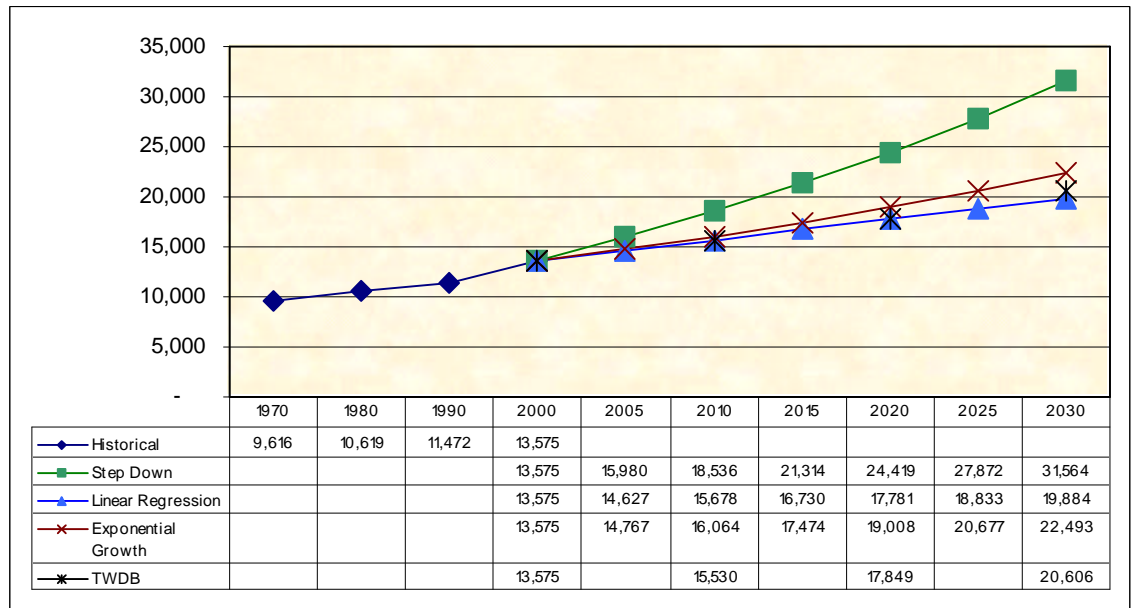


Population projections are not available below the County level, however population forecasts can be developed for the City through a variety of methods and techniques. **Figure 3.2 – Population Projections Taylor**, displays alternative projections for the City based on differing methods and techniques. The alternative projections are as follows:

1. **Step down method** is a ratio-share technique, where a ratio is established between the County’s population and the City’s. Through maintaining the City’s proportional relationship to the County from the 2000 Census (5.4%) the population of Taylor would equal 31,564 in 2030.
2. **Linear regression** is a trend extrapolation technique that aggregates data from the past to project future values. This technique produced a projection of 19,884 in 2030, and suggests that the City’s share of the County’s population will gradually decline.
3. **Exponential Growth** is a trend extrapolation technique that produced the projection, 22,493 in the year 2030.

As to which projection is the most appropriate and reasonable forecast for the future, consideration must be given to factors that will influence future population trends in the Taylor area including economic forecasts, employment, build-out capacities, and possible annexations of developed areas. Based on the historic and current trends, the most likely scenario is one derived using the “step down” method.

**FIGURE 3.2
POPULATION PROJECTIONS - TAYLOR**



Source: U.S. Census Bureau; Wilbur Smith Associates Consultant Team

Racial and Ethnic Composition

Taylor's racial and ethnic characteristics are displayed in **Table 3.3 - Racial Composition Taylor 1990 - 2000**. As displayed in the table, Taylor is a racially diverse city. In 2000, slightly over half the population (67.9 percent) was white, similar to 68.7% of the population in 1990. The Black population has slightly decreased from 16.7% of the total in 1990 to 14.2% in 2000. There has been an increase in the percentage of Hispanics in the City from 28.6 percent in 1990 to 34.1 percent in 2000.

TABLE 3.3
RACIAL COMPOSITION TAYLOR
1990 - 2000

Category	1990	% of Total	2000	% of Total
White	7,881	68.7%	9,212	67.9%
Black	1,918	16.7%	1,929	14.2%
American Indian	19	0.2%	70	0.5%
Asian or Pacific Islander	45	0.4%	53	0.4%
Other Race	1,609	14.0%	2,032	15.0%
Two or More Races	NA	NA	279	2.1%
Total	11,472	100%	13,582	100%
Hispanic (included in all races)	3,277	28.6%	4,626	34.1%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau 2000, North Central Texas Council of Governments

Note: The 1990 Census did not include categories "Two or More Races" and "Hispanic".

Age Distribution

Table 3.4 – Population by Age 1990 - 2000 displays Taylor's 1990 and 2000 population by age. Comparing the 1990 and 2000 data, the age distribution has been fairly constant over the decade. The largest group falls in the 25-34 and 35-44 age cohorts. The percentage of the population in these two cohorts is almost identical, varying only by one tenth of a percent. In comparing the 1990 data to the 2000 data, it can be seen that up to age 34, the two years are similar with only slight fluctuations. The 35-44 age group increased in number, however, from 8.5 percent in 1990 to 11.9 percent in 2000. The age groups following, from 55 to 84 have decreased in population from 1990 to 2000. The 85+ cohort has remained same.

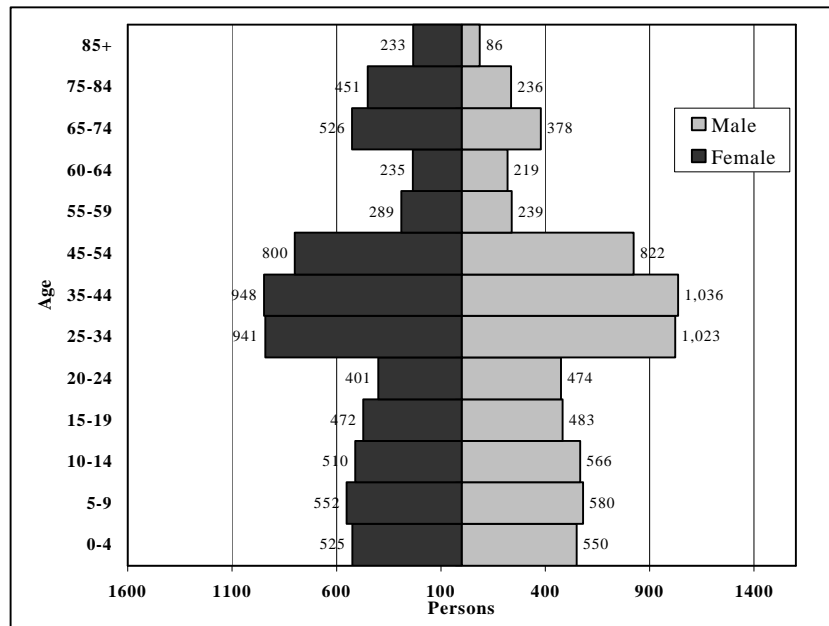
TABLE 3.4
POPULATION BY AGE TAYLOR 1990 - 2000

Age	1990		2000	
0-4	970	8.5%	1,075	7.9%
5-9	985	8.5%	1,132	8.3%
10-14	875	7.6%	1,076	7.9%
15-19	867	7.6%	955	7.0%
20-24	726	6.3%	875	6.4%
25-34	1,693	14.8%	1,964	14.5%
35-44	1,477	12.9%	1,984	14.6%
45-54	971	8.5%	1,622	11.9%
55-59	468	4.1%	528	3.9%
60-64	498	4.3%	454	3.3%
65-74	910	7.9%	904	6.7%
75-84	763	6.6%	687	5.1%
85+	269	2.3%	319	2.3%
Total	11,472	100.0%	13,575	100.0%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau 1990 and 2000

The distribution by age and gender is displayed in **Figure 3.3 - Age and Gender Population Pyramid 2000**. Taylor's population in 2000 was concentrated in the 25-54 age cohort as is represented in the above table as well.

FIGURE 3.3
AGE AND GENDER POPULATION PYRAMID
TAYLOR - 2000



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

Household Composition

According to the 2000 Census, approximately 53 percent of households consisted of family households either with a married couple or a single head of household with or without children, and almost 28 percent consisted of non-family households. Composition of households in Taylor is displayed in **Table 2.5 – Household Composition 2000**.

**TABLE 3.5
HOUSEHOLD COMPOSITION 2000**

Household Type	Number of Households	Percentage of Households
Family Households:		
Married Couple, With Children	1,192	25.2%
Married Couple, No Children	1,294	27.4%
Female Householder, With Children	420	8.9%
Female Householder, No Children	261	5.5%
Non-Family Households	1,301	27.5
TOTAL	4730	100%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

Although family households accounted for the majority of households in the City with 2,486, or 52.6 percent, approximately half of these, 25.2 percent, included the traditional family of married couples with children. Non-family households, (all households with two or more persons, not related), and traditional family households are almost equal in number at 27.5 percent and 25.2 percent respectively.

Housing Characteristics

A preliminary step in determining housing needs is to analyze current conditions. As shown in **Table 3.6 – Housing Characteristics – 2000**, a total of 5,079 housing units were reported for the City in the 2000 Census. Most of the homes in Taylor were built between 1940 and 1959. Nearly 67 percent of the occupied housing units are owner occupied, and over 80 percent of all housing units in the City are single family detached residences.

**TABLE 3.6
HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS 2000**

	Taylor	Williamson County
Total Number of Housing Units	5,079	90,325
Year Most Structures Built	1940-1959	1980-1989
Total Occupied	4,730	86,766
Owner-Occupied	3,152	64,380
Renter-Occupied	1,578	22,386
Single-Family – Detached	4,127	70,786
Duplex	223	2,565
Triplex and Quadruplex	210	2,425
Apartment Units	348	9,876
Mobile Home	160	4,575
Median Value	\$78,700	\$125,800

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

Employment

Taylor’s employment characteristics are displayed in **Table 3.7 – Employment – 2000**. The sample of Taylor’s population used for employment data was 16 years of age and over. The labor force totaled 5,829 in 2000, which makes up approximately 43 percent of the City’s population. Of those that were employed, 27 percent were employed in professional occupations, 25.4 percent in sales, 19.4 percent in production, 14.4 percent in service, 13.5 percent in construction and 0.4 percent were employed in farming occupations. For comparison, Williamson County and Texas employment data are provided as well.

**TABLE 3.7
EMPLOYMENT- 2000**

Occupation	Taylor	Percent of Work Force	Williamson County	Percent of Work Force	Texas	Percent of Work Force
Professional	1,574	27.0%	54,842	42.4%	3,078,757	33.3%
Service	837	14.4%	12,916	10.0%	1,351,270	14.6%
Sales	1,479	25.4%	36,431	28.2%	2,515,596	27.2%
Farming	24	0.4%	293	0.2%	61,486	0.7%
Construction	787	13.5%	12,089	9.4%	1,008,353	10.9%
Production	1,128	19.4%	12,621	9.8%	1,218,910	13.2%
Total Labor Force	5,829	100.0%	129,192	100.0%	9,234,372	100.0%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

Income

According to the 2000 Census, Texas' median household income ranked 30th among the 50 states and the District of Columbia. The median household income for Taylor was lower than that of Williamson County, but comparable to that of Texas. The median household income for Taylor was \$38,549; Williamson County was \$60,642; Texas was \$39,927. The United States median household income was \$41,994.

Taylor's per capita personal income was also lower than both that of Texas and Williamson County. In 1999, Taylor's per capita personal income was \$16,683; Williamson County's was \$24,547 and Texas' was \$17,261.

In 1999, the median family income in Taylor was \$46,604. This is considerably lower than Williamson County, \$66,208 but only slightly higher than that of Texas, \$45,861. Income properties in Taylor are displayed in **Table 3.8 – Income - 2000**.

**TABLE 3.8
INCOME - 2000**

Category	Taylor	Williamson County	Texas
Median Household Income	\$38,549	\$60,642	\$39,927
Per Capita Personal Income	\$16,683	\$24,547	\$17,261
Median Family Income	\$46,604	\$66,208	\$45,861

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

Education

Public Schools

The City of Taylor is served by the Taylor Independent School District. **Table 3.9 – Education Statistics**, displays information about Taylor ISD and four nearby school districts, Thrall, Hutto, Bartlett and Granger ISD.

**TABLE 3.9
EDUCATION STATISTICS
2000-2001**

School District	Enrollment	Attendance Rate	Student/Teacher Ratio	Number of Graduates	SAT Mean Total Score	ACT Composite Score	% Passing TAAS
Taylor	3,122	95.6	14.1	174	986	20.0	94.6
Thrall	540	95.6	13.3	25	986	20.0	94.4
Hutto	1638	95.6	14.2	70	986	20.0	94.4
Bartlett	506	95.6	12.3	34	986	20.0	94.4
Granger	461	95.6	11.9	35	986	20.0	94.4

Source: Texas Education Agency

In 2000, 32 percent of persons twenty five years and older have at most a high school diploma in Taylor. At the County level, it is just over 22 percent and for the State, this figure is 24.8 percent. The percentage of the population twenty five years and older graduating with an associate, bachelor's or graduate degree in Texas and Taylor equaled 28.4 percent and 17.4 percent respectively, which were both considerably lower than the County average of 40.2 percent.

As Taylor continues to grow, this Population and Socio Economic Conditions chapter will be updated. Subsequent state and local studies will also be useful in understanding the changes that will occur in the population.