

## Regional Population & Household Changes 2000-2030

### Continued increases in population and decreases in household size for the WILMAPCO region between 2000 and 2030

Data Report #4 builds on the findings of previous reports, and paints a picture of what the WILMAPCO region might become between 2000 and 2030. Prior reports show the populations of New Castle County and Cecil County having increased between 1980 and the present, while average household size decreased. Projections have these two trends continuing in the WILMAPCO region. From 2000 to 2030, Cecil County can expect population growth in every municipality, and could add 73,999 new residents by 2030, while New Castle County could add as many as 99,487 new residents during this same time period. However, New Castle County is not projected to see population increases in every one of its planning districts.

Table 1: Projected Increase in the Number of Households for Cecil and New Castle County, 2000 to 2030

- New Castle County is projected to add 46,978 new households between 2000 and 2030, while Cecil County is projected to add 15,490.

- Both Cecil and New Castle County can expect a combined population of 761,293 people by 2030.

- Cecil County is projected to grow at a faster rate than New Castle County between 2000 and 2030, 38.6% compared to 19.8%, respectively.

- As of 2000, New Castle County had more than 6x the number of households of Cecil County. By 2030, New Castle County is projected to have 5x the number of households.

- Both Cecil and New Castle County are projected to see a drop in the number of persons per household from 2000 to 2030. They are projected to have almost the exact amount of persons per household by 2030 with Cecil County having 2.61 persons per household and New Castle, 2.54.

| Households               | 2000    | 2010    | 2020    | 2030    | 00-30 Chg. |
|--------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|------------|
| <b>Cecil County</b>      | 31,223  | 40,225  | 50,925  | 61,175  | 29,952     |
| <b>New Castle County</b> | 189,852 | 206,484 | 223,799 | 236,830 | 46,978     |
| <b>Regional Total</b>    | 221,075 | 246,709 | 274,724 | 298,005 | 76,930     |

Table 2: Projected Population Increase for Cecil and New Castle County, 2000 to 2030

| Population               | 2000    | 2010    | 2020    | 2030    | 00-30 Chg. |
|--------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|------------|
| <b>Cecil County</b>      | 85,951  | 109,100 | 134,500 | 159,950 | 73,999     |
| <b>New Castle County</b> | 501,856 | 542,818 | 576,679 | 601,343 | 99,487     |
| <b>Regional Total</b>    | 587,807 | 651,918 | 711,179 | 761,293 | 173,486    |

Table 3: Projected Decrease in Persons per Household, 2000 to 2030

| Persons per Household    | 2000 | 2010 | 2020 | 2030 | 00-30 Chg. |
|--------------------------|------|------|------|------|------------|
| <b>Cecil County</b>      | 2.75 | 2.71 | 2.64 | 2.61 | -0.14      |
| <b>New Castle County</b> | 2.64 | 2.63 | 2.58 | 2.54 | -0.10      |
| <b>Regional Total</b>    | 2.66 | 2.64 | 2.59 | 2.55 |            |

## Regional Comparisons of Population Change in the 16 County Region Including and Surrounding Cecil and New Castle County

Table 4: Projected Population Growth of 16 County Region with Comparison to the entire United States, 2000-2030

| State                          | County       | 2000               | 2010               | 2020               | 2030               | Absolute Change 2000-2030 | % Change 2000-2030 |
|--------------------------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|
| Delaware                       | New Castle   | 501,856            | 542,818            | 576,679            | 601,343            | 99,487                    | 19.8%              |
|                                | Kent         | 127,103            | 157,503            | 175,816            | 189,536            | 62,433                    | 49.1%              |
|                                | Sussex       | 157,459            | 194,422            | 226,758            | 253,226            | 95,767                    | 60.8%              |
| Maryland                       | Cecil        | 85,951             | 109,100            | 134,500            | 159,950            | 73,999                    | 86.1%              |
|                                | Harford      | 218,590            | 257,000            | 277,100            | 284,050            | 65,460                    | 29.9%              |
|                                | Kent         | 19,197             | 20,650             | 22,250             | 23,400             | 4,203                     | 21.9%              |
| New Jersey                     | Burlington   | 423,394            | 470,427            | 497,960            | 532,850            | 109,456                   | 25.9%              |
|                                | Camden       | 508,932            | 512,710            | 514,760            | 515,425            | 6,493                     | 1.3%               |
|                                | Gloucester   | 254,673            | 278,960            | 308,330            | 337,090*           | 82,417 *                  | 32.4% *            |
|                                | Salem        | 64,285             | n/a                | 68,400             | n/a                | 5,315                     | 8.3%               |
| Pennsylvania                   | Bucks        | 597,635            | 652,800            | 709,150            | 762,455            | 164,820                   | 27.6%              |
|                                | Chester      | 433,501            | 483,500            | 528,000            | 571,800            | 138,299                   | 31.9%              |
|                                | Delaware     | 551,864            | 550,970            | 546,972            | 547,890            | -3,974                    | -0.7%              |
|                                | Montgomery   | 750,097            | 797,990            | 838,700            | 878,440            | 128,343                   | 17.1%              |
|                                | Lancaster    | 470,658            | 509,720            | 548,979            | 585,489            | 114,831                   | 24.4%              |
|                                | Philadelphia | 1,517,550          | 1,484,990          | 1,515,010          | 1,505,000          | -12,550                   | -0.8%              |
| <b>Total- 16 County Region</b> |              | <b>6,682,745</b>   | <b>7,023,560</b>   | <b>7,489,364</b>   | <b>7,747,944</b>   | <b>1,065,199</b>          | <b>15.9%</b>       |
| <b>Total- WILMAPCO Region</b>  |              | <b>587,807</b>     | <b>651,918</b>     | <b>711,179</b>     | <b>761,293</b>     | <b>173,486</b>            | <b>29.5%</b>       |
| <b>Total- United States</b>    |              | <b>282,125,000</b> | <b>308,936,000</b> | <b>335,805,000</b> | <b>363,584,000</b> | <b>81,459,000</b>         | <b>28.9%</b>       |

Source: Delaware Population Consortium, Delaware Center for Applied Demography and Survey Research, DVRPC, SJTPO, and Maryland Department of Planning.

\* Calculated using 2025 Projection (2030 data unavailable)

- The projected growth rate of the 16 County Region (15.9%) is lower than the growth rate of 29.5% for the WILMAPCO Region.
- The WILMAPCO Region is projected to grow at a rate of 29.5% between 2000 and 2030, a rate higher than what's projected for the entire United States, which is 28.9%.
- The projected growth rate of 15.8% between 2000 and 2030 for the entire 16 county region is lower than the growth rate the entire United States.
- By 2030, New Castle County is projected to become the 4th most populous County in the 16 County Region, behind Philadelphia, Bucks, and Montgomery Counties. As of 2000, New Castle County was 6th.
- In the 16 County Region, 6 counties outpace the United States growth rate of 28.9%. They are Cecil at 86.1%, Sussex at 60.8%, Harford at 29.9%, Kent (DE) at 49.1%, Gloucester at 32.4%, and Chester at 31.9%.

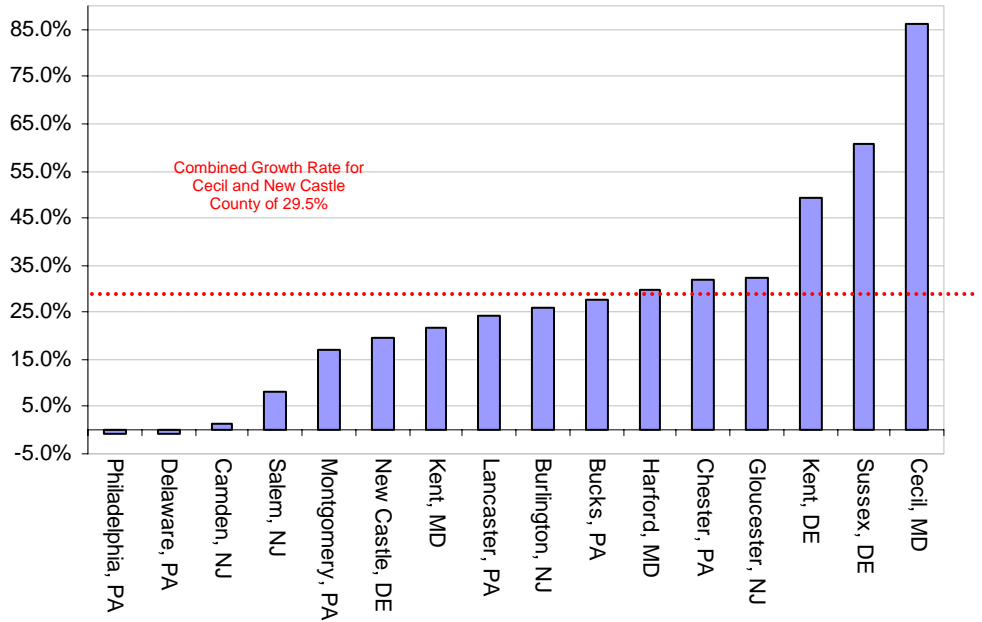


### Population Comparison of Counties In and Around the WILMAPCO Region

Six counties surrounding the WILMAPCO Region are projected to grow at a faster rate than the Region, the combined growth rate for Cecil and New Castle County. Suburban counties in Pennsylvania around Philadelphia are projected to see the most new residents between 2000 and 2030. Those in Delaware and Maryland may not see as many new residents, but have higher projected growth rates. Growth is projected within and around Cecil and New Castle County.

- The top four counties in terms of growth rates between 2000 and 2030 are located in Delaware, Maryland, and New Jersey. They are Cecil, MD; Sussex, DE; Kent, DE; and Gloucester, NJ.
- In terms of the number of new residents moving into them between 2000 and 2030, the top four counties are in Pennsylvania. They are Bucks, Chester, Montgomery, and Lancaster.
- Bucks County is projected to add the most new residents in the 16 County region with 164,820 by 2030. Chester County is projected to add the second greatest number with 138,299 new residents.

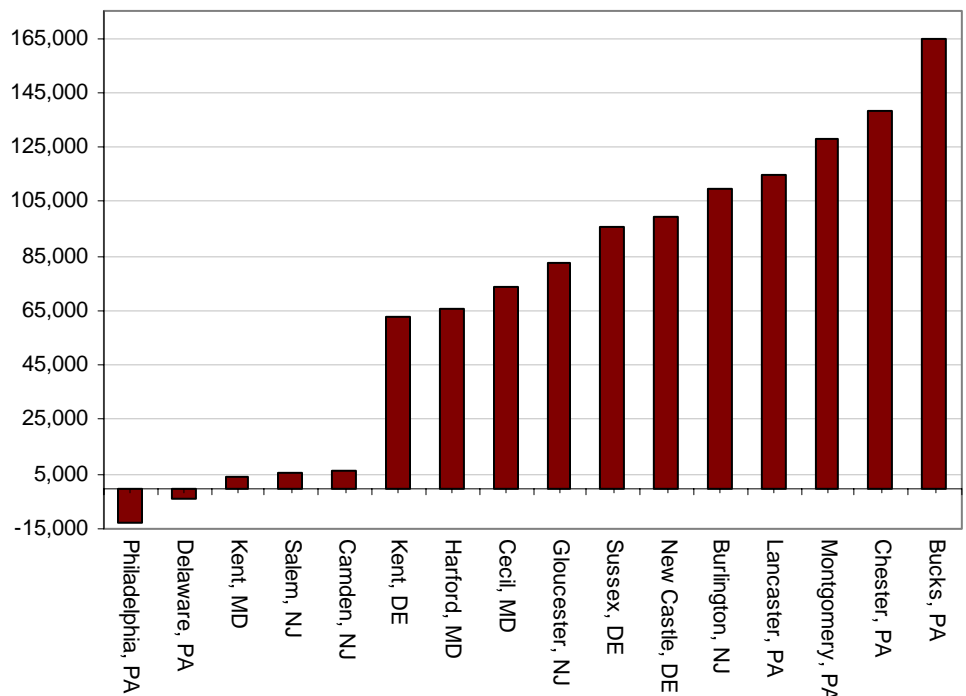
Figure 1: Projected Population Growth Rates for Cecil, New Castle, and Surrounding Counties from 2000 to 2030



Source: Delaware Population Consortium, Delaware Center for Applied Demography and Survey Research, DVRPC, SJTPO, and Maryland Department of Planning.

- Cecil County is projected to grow the fastest in the 16 County region at a rate of 86.1% between 2000 and 2030. Sussex County is second at 60.8%.

Figure 2: Projected Number of New Residents for Cecil, New Castle, and Surrounding Counties from 2000 to 2030



Source: Delaware Population Consortium, Delaware Center for Applied Demography and Survey Research, DVRPC, SJTPO, and Maryland Department of Planning.

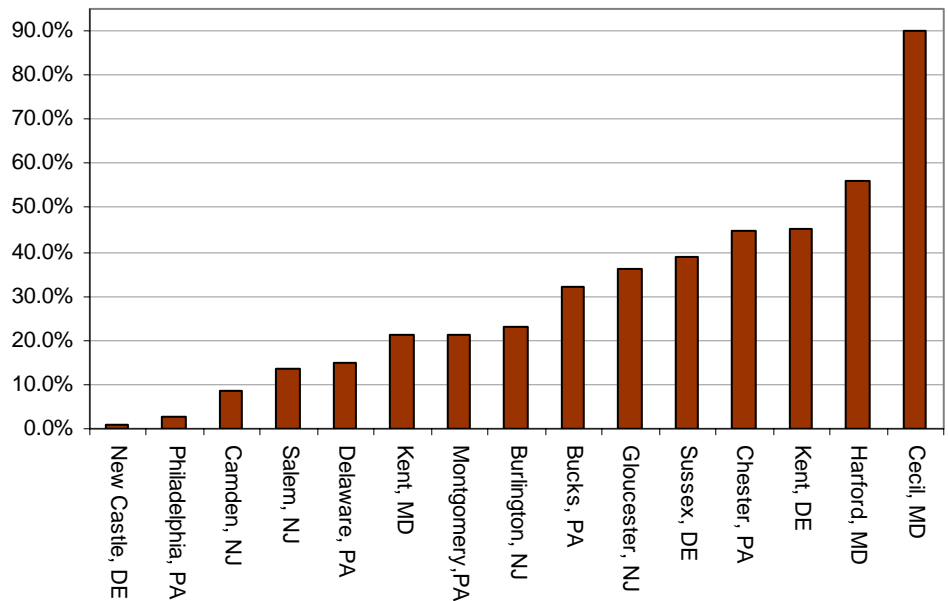
- With a projected figure of 95,767 by 2030, Sussex County is projected to add almost as many new residents as New Castle County, which is projected to add 99,487 new residents by 2030.
- Delaware County and Philadelphia are projected to lose population between 2000 and 2030, with a loss of 3,974 and 12,550, respectively. Also, Camden County is projected to grow at 1.3%.
- Sussex, Cecil, Kent (DE), Harford, Gloucester, and Chester County are projected to grow faster than the 28.9% projected for the United States.

## Regional Comparisons of Employment Change in the 16 County Region Including and Surrounding Cecil and New Castle County

Table 5: Projected Employment Growth of 16 County Region with Comparison to the entire United States, 2000-2030

| State                          | County       | 2000             | 2010             | 2020             | 2030             | Absolute Change 2000-2030 | % Change 2000-2030 |
|--------------------------------|--------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|
| Delaware                       | New Castle   | 290,145          | 290,237          | 292,804          | 292,879          | 2,734                     | 0.94%              |
|                                | Kent         | 51,666           | 66,611           | 71,302           | 75,111           | 23,445                    | 45.38%             |
|                                | Sussex       | 64,539           | 75,132           | 82,322           | 89,733           | 25,194                    | 39.04%             |
| Maryland                       | Cecil        | 31,988           | 45,300           | 57,100           | 60,800           | 28,812                    | 90.07%             |
|                                | Harford      | 97,806           | 122,700          | 147,000          | 152,700          | 54,894                    | 56.13%             |
|                                | Kent         | 11,731           | 13,300           | 13,700           | 14,200           | 2,469                     | 21.05%             |
| New Jersey                     | Burlington   | 202,535          | 216,940          | 230,375          | 249,653          | 47,118                    | 23.26%             |
|                                | Camden       | 216,931          | 220,339          | 230,586          | 235,453          | 18,522                    | 8.54%              |
|                                | Gloucester   | 99,467           | 114,452          | 123,485          | 135,627          | 36,160                    | 36.35%             |
|                                | Salem        | 28,622           | n/a              | 32,600           | n/a              | 3,878                     | 13.55%             |
| Pennsylvania                   | Bucks        | 267,124          | 292,453          | 320,280          | 352,772          | 85,648                    | 32.06%             |
|                                | Chester      | 238,641          | 270,523          | 305,086          | 345,062          | 106,421                   | 44.59%             |
|                                | Delaware     | 238,164          | 251,901          | 265,787          | 273,411          | 35,247                    | 14.80%             |
|                                | Montgomery   | 492,677          | 531,225          | 563,029          | 597,300          | 104,623                   | 21.24%             |
|                                | Lancaster    |                  | n/a              | n/a              | n/a              | n/a                       | n/a                |
|                                | Philadelphia | 741,397          | 726,205          | 748,136          | 763,176          | 21,779                    | 2.94%              |
| <b>Total- 16 County Region</b> |              | <b>3,073,433</b> | <b>3,237,318</b> | <b>3,483,592</b> | <b>3,637,877</b> | <b>564,444</b>            | <b>18.37%</b>      |
| <b>Total- WILMAPCO Region</b>  |              | <b>322,133</b>   | <b>335,537</b>   | <b>349,904</b>   | <b>353,679</b>   | <b>31,546</b>             | <b>9.79%</b>       |

Figure 3: Forecasted Employment Growth Rates for Cecil, New Castle, and Surrounding Counties from 2000 to 2030



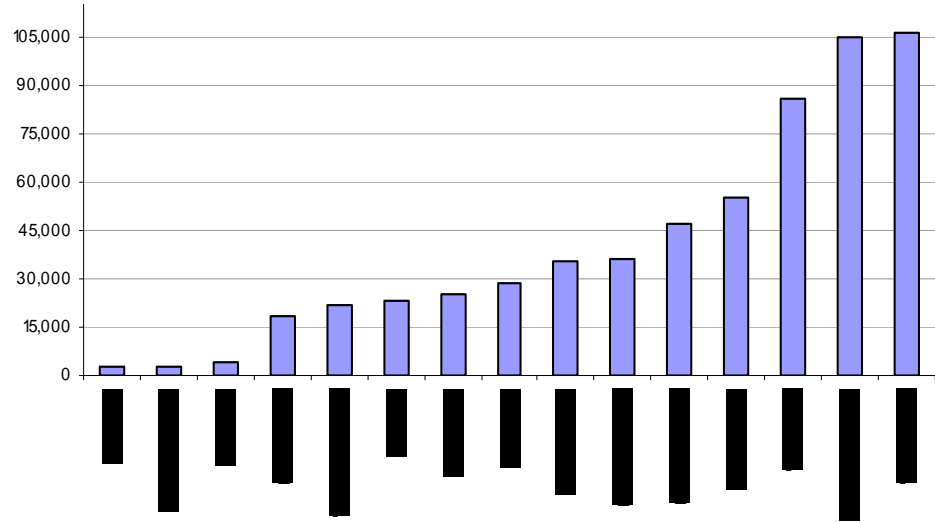
- The top four counties in terms of job growth rates between 2000 and 2030 are Cecil, MD; Harford, MD; Kent, DE; and Chester, PA.
- The WILMAPCO region's job growth rate is 9.79%, which is lower than the 16 County Region total of 18.37%.
- Cecil County, however, is projected to increase its employment by 90.07%.

Source: Delaware Population Consortium, Delaware Center for Applied Demography and Survey Research, DVRPC, SJTPO, and Maryland Department of Planning.

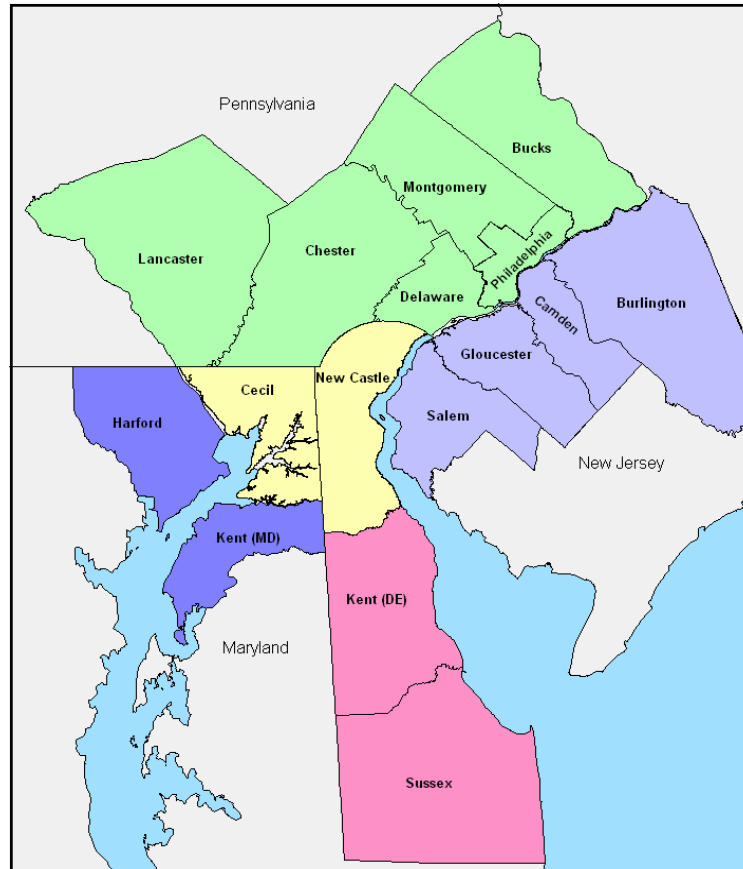
## Employment Comparison of Counties In and Around the WILMAPCO Region

- In terms of absolute job creation between 2000 and 2030 the top four counties in the region are Chester, PA; Montgomery, PA; Bucks, PA ; and Hartford, MD
- The WILMAPCO region is forecasted to add 31,546 more jobs by 2030, while the 16 County Region total for 2030 is predicted to be 564,444.
- New Castle County is projected to add only about 2,734 jobs between 2000 and 2030.

Figure 4: Absolute Employment Change for Cecil, New Castle, and Surrounding Counties from 2000 to 2030



Source: Delaware Population Consortium, Delaware Center for Applied Demography and Survey Research, DVRPC, SJTPO, and Maryland Department of Planning.

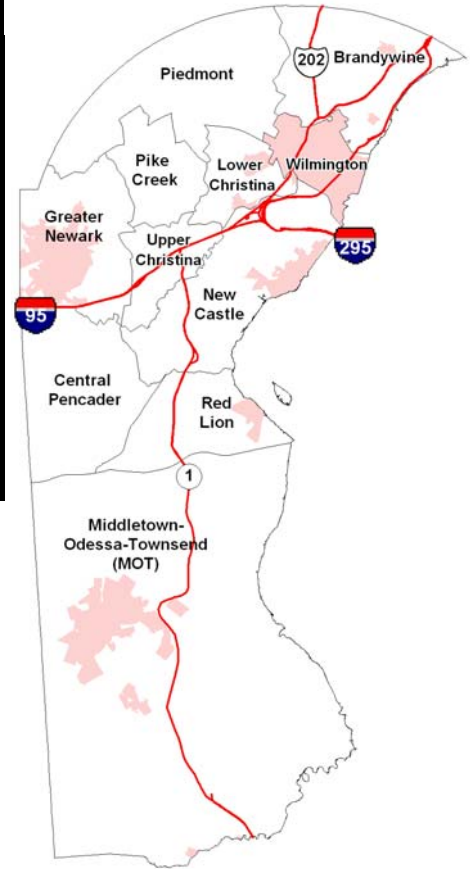


## New Castle County Planning Districts: Population Growth and Decline

Table 6: Projected Population Changes for New Castle County Planning Districts, 2000-2030

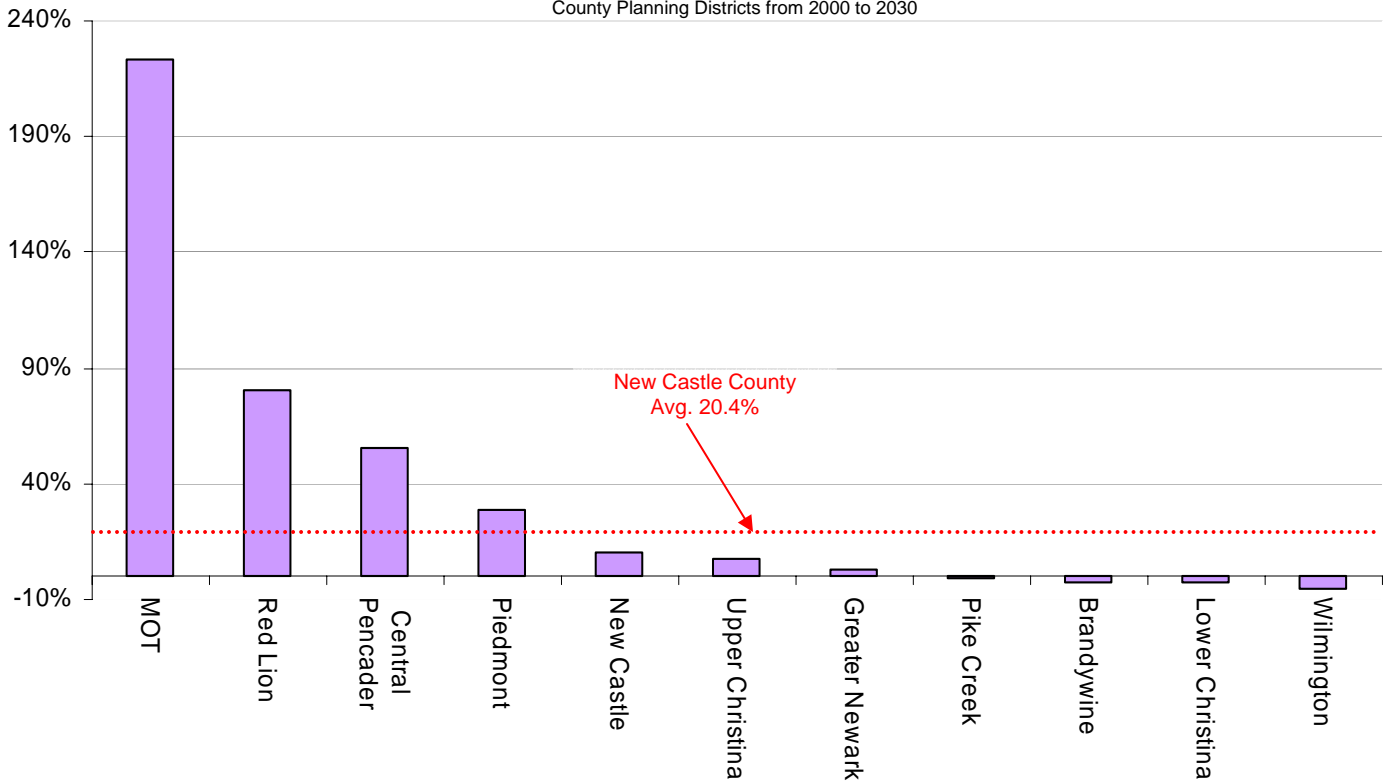
| Population CCD           | 2000           | 2010           | 2020           | 2030           | 00-30 Chg.     | % Change     |
|--------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|
| MOT                      | 29,682         | 53,060         | 79,501         | 95,996         | 66,314         | 223.4%       |
| Central Pencader         | 32,096         | 40,905         | 46,717         | 49,872         | 17,776         | 55.4%        |
| Piedmont                 | 29,388         | 32,798         | 35,495         | 37,873         | 8,485          | 28.9%        |
| New Castle               | 82,021         | 85,491         | 87,366         | 90,407         | 8,386          | 10.2%        |
| Red Lion                 | 5,589          | 7,895          | 9,125          | 10,062         | 4,473          | 80.0%        |
| Upper Christina          | 24,529         | 25,723         | 26,089         | 26,267         | 1,738          | 7.1%         |
| Greater Newark           | 67,114         | 68,756         | 68,665         | 68,713         | 1,599          | 2.4%         |
| Pike Creek               | 42,312         | 42,553         | 41,959         | 41,895         | -417           | -1.0%        |
| Lower Christina          | 36,250         | 36,269         | 35,579         | 35,341         | -909           | -2.5%        |
| Brandywine               | 78,620         | 78,731         | 77,302         | 76,854         | -1,766         | -2.2%        |
| Wilmington               | 72,664         | 71,727         | 70,445         | 69,097         | -3,567         | -4.9%        |
| <b>New Castle County</b> | <b>500,265</b> | <b>543,907</b> | <b>578,242</b> | <b>602,377</b> | <b>102,112</b> | <b>20.4%</b> |

Source: Delaware Population Consortium; Center for Applied Demography and Survey Research, 2005.



- Population growth is projected for many of New Castle County's planning districts, especially in the Middletown-Odessa-Townsend (MOT) Planning District.
- The MOT Planning District is projected to more than double its population between 2000 and 2030.
- The MOT Planning District is projected to become the most populous district in New Castle County by 2030.
- MOT's immediate neighbors, Central Pencader and Red Lion, are also projected to see growth upwards of 50% from 2000 to 2030.

Figure 5: Projected Population Growth Rates for New Castle County Planning Districts from 2000 to 2030



Source: Delaware Population Consortium; Center for Applied Demography and Survey Research, 2005.

### New Castle County Planning Districts: Household Size Decreases

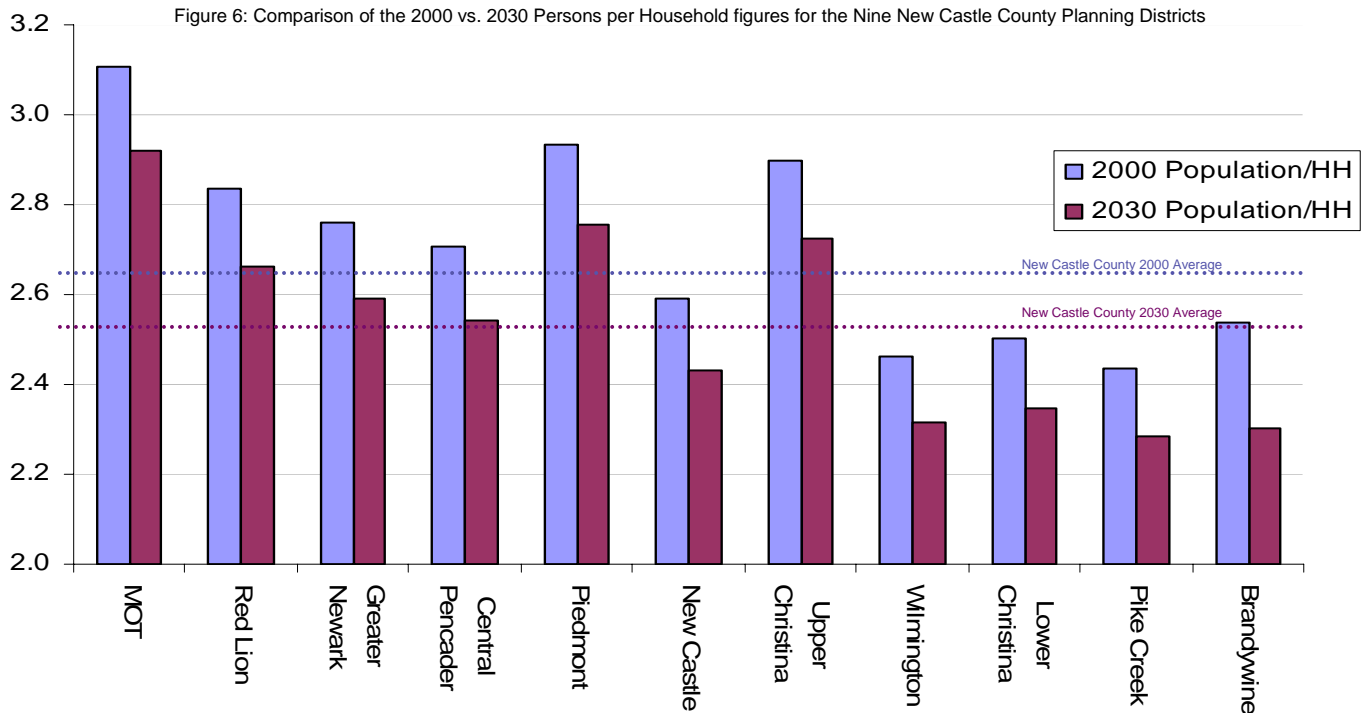
The average number of persons per household is projected to drop for each planning district in New Castle County. This is a decrease projected for much of the United States. Demographers attribute this decrease to a growing elderly population, and because of people deciding to have fewer children, declining birth rates. (See Page 9 for more information on the elderly population.) Some observations about declining household size in New Castle County include:

- Many of the largest households have been and are projected to remain in the MOT Planning District.
- Pike Creek currently has the lowest number of persons per household, which is projected to continue to 2030.
- Brandywine is projected to have the largest decrease in the average number of persons per household.
- Lower Christiana, Pike Creek, and Wilmington are projected to have the smallest decreases in household size.
- By 2020, no planning district is projected to have an average number of persons per household above 3.

Table 7: Projected Decreases in the Average Number of Persons per Household for New Castle County Planning Districts, 2000-2030

| Population/HH            | 2000        | 2010        | 2020        | 2030        | 00-30 Chg.   |
|--------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|
| MOT                      | 3.11        | 3.07        | 2.98        | 2.92        | -0.19        |
| Red Lion                 | 2.84        | 2.80        | 2.72        | 2.66        | -0.17        |
| Greater Newark           | 2.76        | 2.73        | 2.64        | 2.59        | -0.17        |
| Central Pencader         | 2.71        | 2.67        | 2.59        | 2.54        | -0.16        |
| Piedmont                 | 2.93        | 2.90        | 2           | 2.75        | -0.18        |
| New Castle               | 2.59        | 2.56        | 2.48        | 2.43        | -0.16        |
| Upper Christiana         | 2.90        | 2.86        | 2.78        | 2.72        | -0.18        |
| Wilmington               | 2.46        | 2.43        | 2.36        | 2.31        | -0.15        |
| Lower Christiana         | 2.50        | 2.47        | 2.40        | 2.35        | -0.15        |
| Pike Creek               | 2.43        | 2.41        | 2.33        | 2.29        | -0.15        |
| Brandywine               | 2.54        | 2.46        | 2.37        | 2.30        | -0.24        |
| <b>New Castle County</b> | <b>2.65</b> | <b>2.63</b> | <b>2.57</b> | <b>2.53</b> | <b>-0.12</b> |

Source: Delaware Population Consortium; Center for Applied Demography and Survey Research, 2005. Includes population living in group quarters



Source: Delaware Population Consortium Center for Applied Demography and Survey Research, 2005.

### Cecil County Planning Districts: Considerable Population Growth

Table 8: Projected Population Growth per Household for Cecil County Planning Districts, 2000-2030

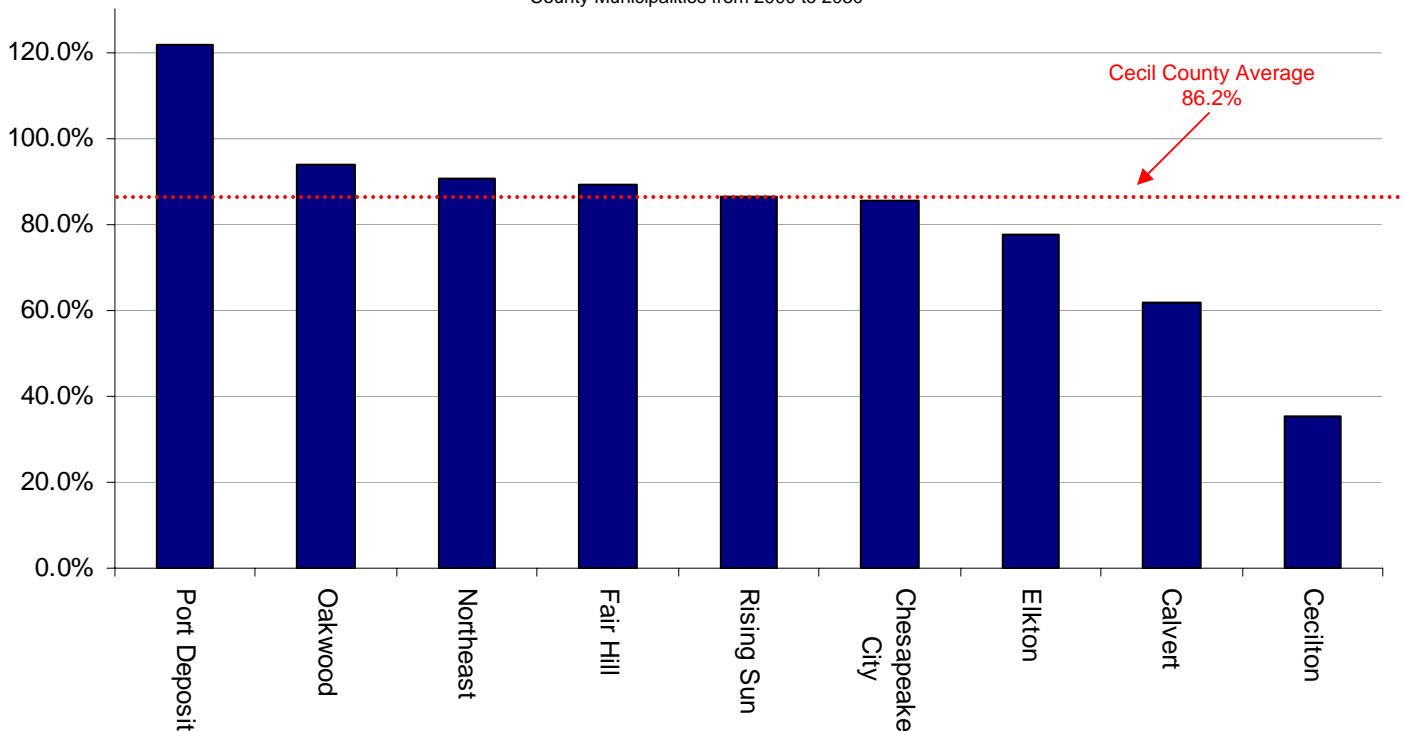
| District            | POP2000       | POP2010        | POP2020        | POP2030        | 00-30 Chg.    | % Change     |
|---------------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|--------------|
| Port Deposit        | 10,325        | 12,114         | 17,682         | 22,894         | 12,569        | 121.7%       |
| Oakwood             | 3,667         | 5,306          | 6,165          | 7,098          | 3,431         | 93.6%        |
| Northeast           | 18,673        | 22,293         | 28,880         | 35,580         | 16,907        | 90.5%        |
| Fair Hill           | 8,082         | 10,255         | 12,845         | 15,284         | 7,202         | 89.1%        |
| Rising Sun          | 9,102         | 11,579         | 14,282         | 16,978         | 7,876         | 86.5%        |
| Chesapeake City     | 5,351         | 6,741          | 8,413          | 9,909          | 4,558         | 85.2%        |
| Elkton              | 22,523        | 30,565         | 35,063         | 39,977         | 17,454        | 77.5%        |
| Calvert             | 4,295         | 5,461          | 6,166          | 6,951          | 2,656         | 61.8%        |
| Cecilton            | 3,933         | 4,845          | 5,043          | 5,330          | 1,397         | 35.5%        |
| <b>Cecil County</b> | <b>85,951</b> | <b>109,160</b> | <b>134,539</b> | <b>160,000</b> | <b>33,199</b> | <b>86.2%</b> |

Source: Center for Applied Demography and Survey Research, WILMAPCO, and Maryland Department of Planning.

- Each planning district in Cecil County is projected to see major increases in population. Port Deposit is projected to more than double its population by 2030. Most planning districts are projected to grow at rates between 60% and 90%.
- Cecil County's proximity to Philadelphia and Wilmington, and to a lesser extent Baltimore, along with its relatively low housing prices has made it an increasingly popular place to take up residence.
- The U.S. Census has recently recognized Chester and Lancaster, PA as urbanized areas. Also, growth is projected for Baltimore County, MD and neighboring Harford County. As these areas grow, they could add to Cecil County's development pressures in the same way Philadelphia and Wilmington currently do.



Figure 7: Projected Population Growth Rates for Cecil County Municipalities from 2000 to 2030



Source: Center for Applied Demography and Survey Research, WILMAPCO, and Maryland Department of Planning.

### Cecil County Planning Districts: Household Size Decreases

A decrease in the number of persons per household is projected across Cecil County between 2000 and 2030. As mentioned earlier in the discussion of household size in New Castle County on page 5, areas across the U.S. are experiencing a decrease in the average number of persons per household, because of a growing elderly population and declining birth rates. Despite Cecil County's rural character, it's subject to some of the same demographic trends of New Castle County, its more urbanized neighbor.

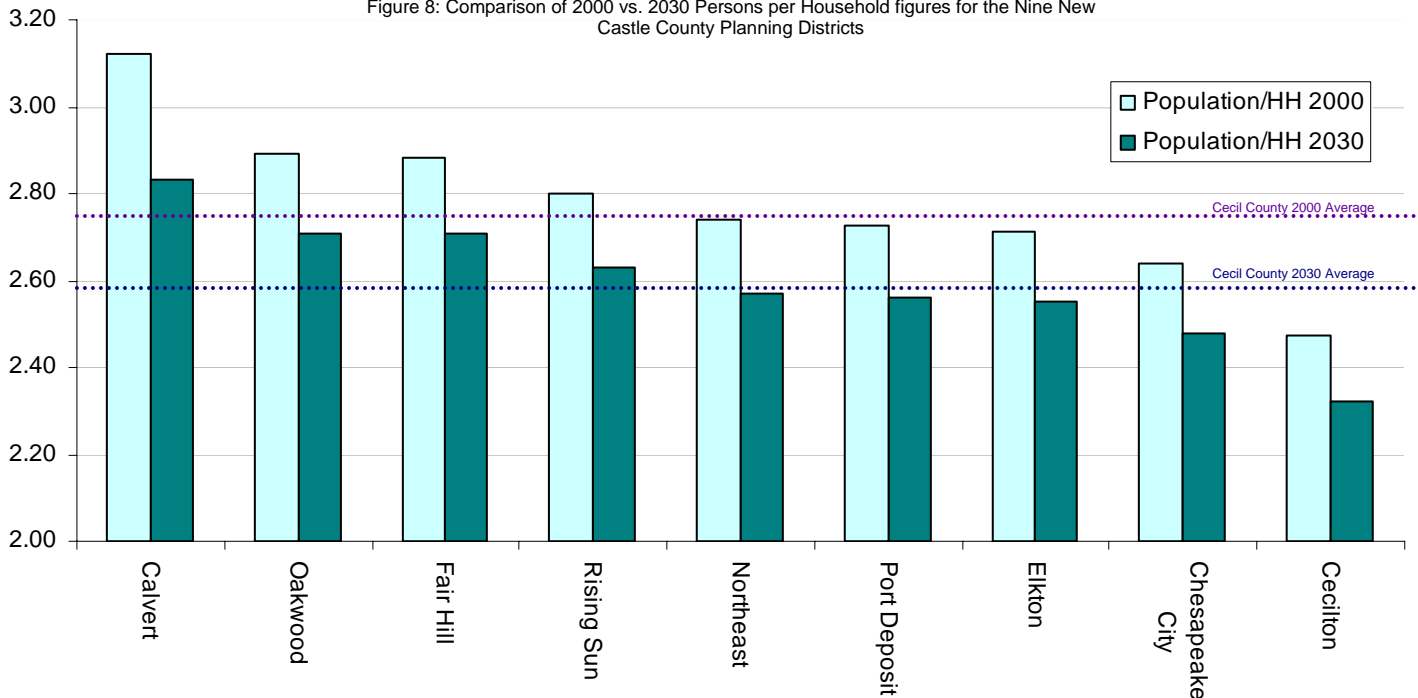
Table 9: Projected Decreases in the Number of Persons per Household for Cecil County Planning Districts, 2000-2030

| Population/HH       | 2000        | 2010        | 2020        | 2030        | 00-30 Chg.   |
|---------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|
| Cecilton            | 2.47        | 2.42        | 2.35        | 2.32        | -0.15        |
| Chesapeake City     | 2.64        | 2.58        | 2.51        | 2.48        | -0.16        |
| Elkton              | 2.71        | 2.65        | 2.58        | 2.55        | -0.16        |
| Fair Hill           | 2.88        | 2.82        | 2.73        | 2.71        | -0.17        |
| Northeast           | 2.74        | 2.68        | 2.60        | 2.57        | -0.17        |
| Rising Sun          | 2.80        | 2.74        | 2.66        | 2.63        | -0.17        |
| Port Deposit        | 2.72        | 2.66        | 2.59        | 2.56        | -0.16        |
| Oakwood             | 2.89        | 2.83        | 2.74        | 2.71        | -0.18        |
| Calvert             | 3.12        | 3.05        | 2.96        | 2.93        | -0.19        |
| <b>Cecil County</b> | <b>2.75</b> | <b>2.69</b> | <b>2.61</b> | <b>2.59</b> | <b>-0.16</b> |

Source: Center for Applied Demography and Survey Research, WILMAPCO, and Maryland Department of Planning.

- As of 2000, Calvert was the only planning district in Cecil County that had an average number of persons per household above 3. Calvert is projected to have an average number of persons per household above 3 through 2010.
- Cecilton has the lowest number of persons per household in Cecil County, and is projected to remain the planning district with the lowest number by 2030.
- All the planning districts are projected to decrease at or near the rate for Cecil County as a whole.

Figure 8: Comparison of 2000 vs. 2030 Persons per Household figures for the Nine New Castle County Planning Districts



Source: Center for Applied Demography and Survey Research, WILMAPCO, and Maryland Department of Planning.

### Population Pyramids for the WILMAPCO Region

“ A population pyramid is two back-to-back bar graphs, one showing the number of males and one showing females in a particular population in five-year age groups. Males are conventionally shown on the left and females on the right, and they may be measured by raw number or as a percentage of the total population” (definition from <http://en.wikipedia.org>). Note the increase in the percentage of persons 65 and older and the decrease of persons 40 to 44 from 2000 to 2030.

Figure 9: 2005 Population Pyramid for the WILMAPCO Region

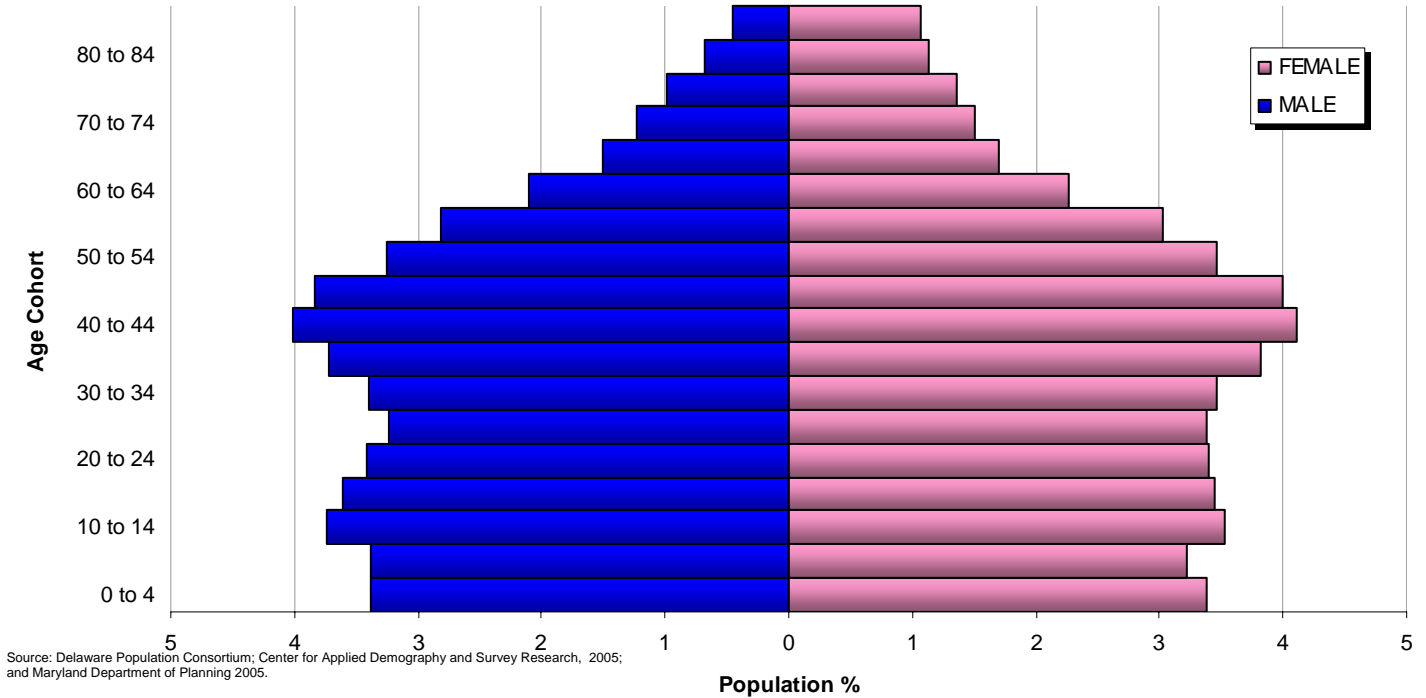
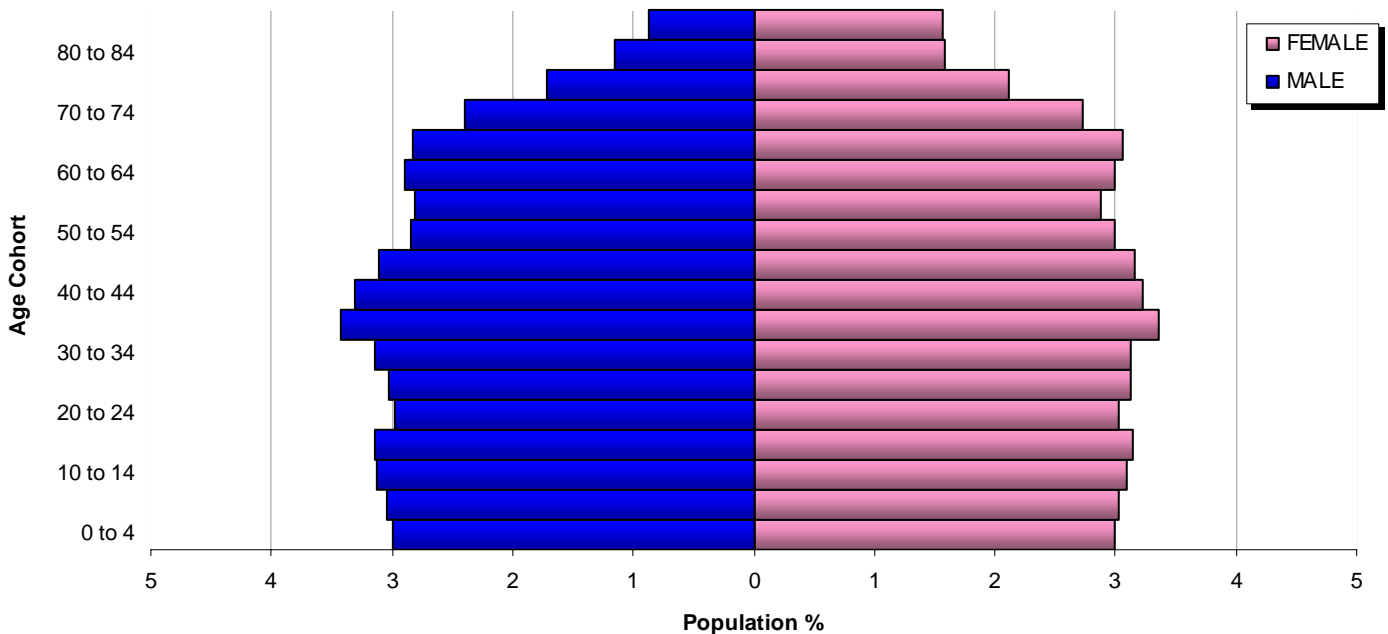


Figure 10: 2030 Population Pyramid for the WILMAPCO Region



## Population of Persons 65 and Older

Table 10: Projected Increases in the Number of Persons 65 and Older for New Castle County, 2000-

|                       | 2000    | 2010    | 2020    | 2030    |
|-----------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| 65 & Older Population | 59,086  | 69,665  | 95,892  | 127,735 |
| Total Population      | 501,856 | 542,818 | 576,679 | 601,343 |
| Senior Percentage     | 11.77%  | 12.83%  | 16.63%  | 21.24%  |

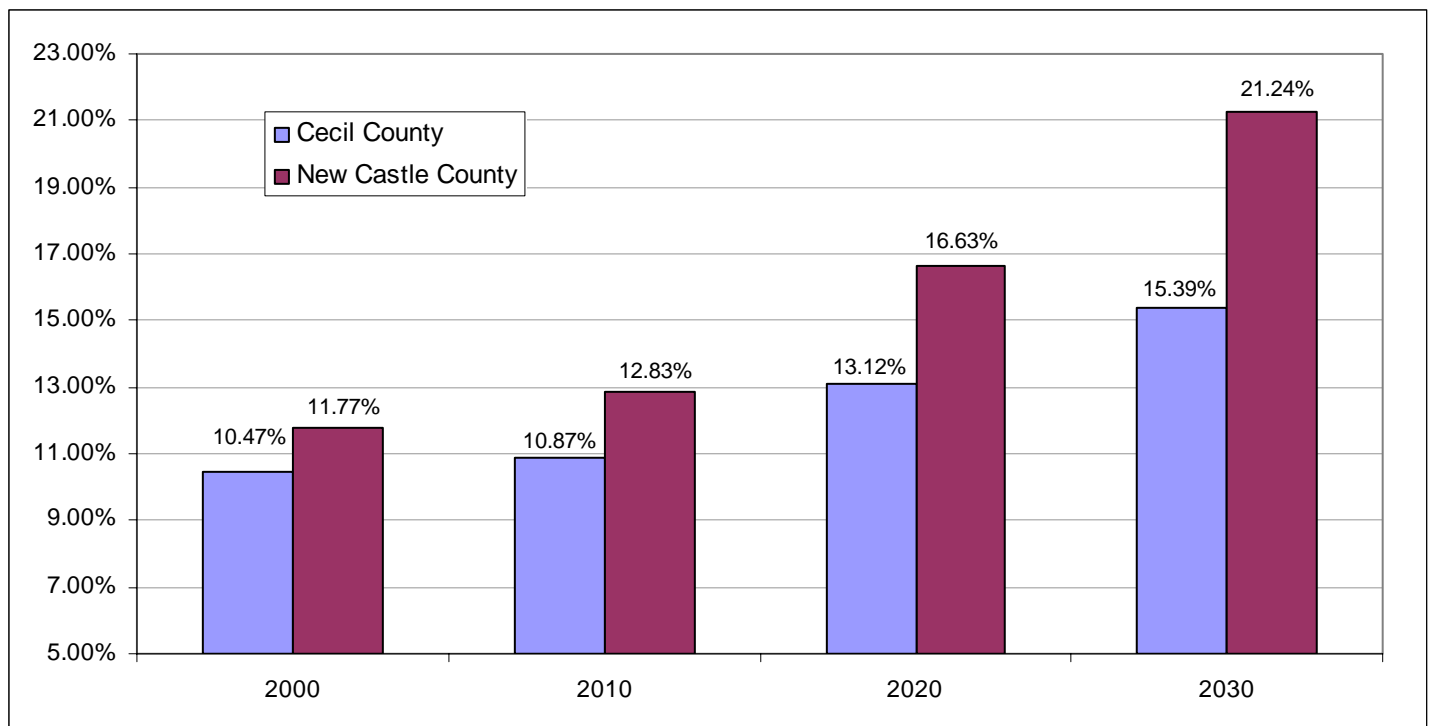
Table 10: Projected Increases in the Number of Persons 65 and Older for Cecil County, 2000-2030

|                       | 2000   | 2010    | 2020    | 2030    |
|-----------------------|--------|---------|---------|---------|
| 65 & Older Population | 8,995  | 11,860  | 17,640  | 24,610  |
| Total Population      | 85,951 | 109,100 | 134,500 | 159,950 |
| Senior Percentage     | 10.47% | 10.87%  | 13.12%  | 15.39%  |

Source: Delaware Population Consortium; Center for Applied Demography and Survey Research, 2006; and Maryland Department of Planning

- As the “Baby Boom” generation grows older, both Cecil and New Castle County are projected to see a nationwide trend of persons 65 and older becoming a larger part of the total population.
- By 2030, persons 65 and older are projected to comprise 15.39% of the population for Cecil and 21.24% for New Castle County. Currently, seniors comprise around 10% of the population for both counties.
- Cecil and New Castle County are projected to more than double their population of seniors between 2000 and 2030.
- The projected decreases in household size for both counties is due in large part to the projected increase in the population of seniors.

Figure 9: Projected Percentage Increases in the Population of Persons 65 and Older from 2000 to 2030



Source: Delaware Population Consortium; Center for Applied Demography and Survey Research, 2006; and Maryland Department of Planning

## Population Projections for Newark and Wilmington

In addition to state and countywide projections, the Delaware Population Consortium also estimates population for all cities over 20,000 in Delaware. **Table 11** shows the current projections for New Castle County's two largest cities.

Table 11: Projected Changes in the Populations of Newark and Wilmington, 2000 - 2030

|                   | 2000   | 2010   | 2020   | 2030   | 00-30 Chg. | % Change |
|-------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|------------|----------|
| <b>Newark</b>     | 29,298 | 31,478 | 31,864 | 32,740 | 3,442      | 11.75%   |
| <b>Wilmington</b> | 72,664 | 71,727 | 70,445 | 69,097 | -3,567     | -4.91%   |

Source: Delaware Population Consortium, 2005

### Some Observations Include:

- Newark is projected to see a gain in its population with 3,442 new residents, an 11.75% increase.
- Wilmington is projected to see a decrease in its population with 3,567 fewer residents in 2030 as there was in 2000, a 4.91% decrease.
- Population growth in both cities is tied to the health of the regional economy. In an economy where companies not only stay, but come from elsewhere or start locally, Newark and Wilmington would attract workers from overseas and from other parts of the United States. As the two biggest urban centers in New Castle County, these workers would settle in these two cities given their amenities, housing stocks, and availability to transportation. A downturn in the regional economy would have the opposite effect, where Newark would see smaller increases in population growth if at all, and Wilmington, an even bigger decrease than currently projected.

## May 2007 – WILMAPCO DATA REPORT #4

The Wilmington Area Planning Council (WILMAPCO) is a Metropolitan Planning Organization serving New Castle County, DE and Cecil County, MD. Our mission is to serve the citizens and stakeholders of the region by carrying out a comprehensive, continuing and cooperative regional transportation planning process consistent with federal transportation legislation. This series of data reports is designed to summarize various data and information about our region to allow decision makers and members of the public to better understand the changes within our region. This document was created by the WILMAPCO Demographics and Data Subcommittee. For more information on this and other data reports, please visit our website at <http://www.wilmapco.org/data/index.htm>



### Other WILMAPCO Data Reports

Report #1: Regional Population Changes 1980-2000, September 2004

Report #2: Changes in Regional Population & Household Characteristics 1980-2000, December 2004

Report #3: Analysis of Commuter Flows to and from the WILMAPCO Region 1990-2000, July 2005

Report #5 Employment 1990 – 2004, July 2006

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