

3.3 Socioeconomics and Community Impacts

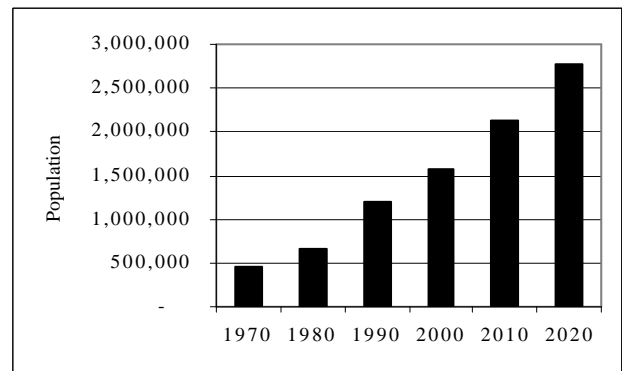
This description of the affected environment is based on data from the U.S. Census Bureau, and from state and county sources. Some county and tract level data from the 2000 census are available, primarily population and race; other data are from earlier years, as identified. This section describes demographic characteristics of all of Riverside County, or when detailed data is available, the smaller "study area" illustrated previously in Figure 2.1.

The U.S. Census Bureau 2000 data are being released periodically by topic (total population, age, ethnicity, income, etc.) and by geographic extent (by state, county, census tract, or block group, etc.). As a result of the timing of when portions of the 2000 data have been released, a mix of both 1990 and 2000 census data is used herein. Several sources of data are used, including the State of California Department of Finance. The state information was more complete and more current than the federal data with regard to certain topics, such as historic and future local demographic trends. In all cases, efforts have been made to provide the most accurate and most current information available.

3.3.1 Population and Demographics

3.3.1.1 Population

The California Department of Finance provides both historic demographic information and demographic forecasts, indicating existing and future trends in Riverside County. The California Department of Finance reports that Riverside County's population totaled 461,600 in 1970, as shown in the graph at right. In the 30 years that followed, the population more than tripled, to 1,571,000.

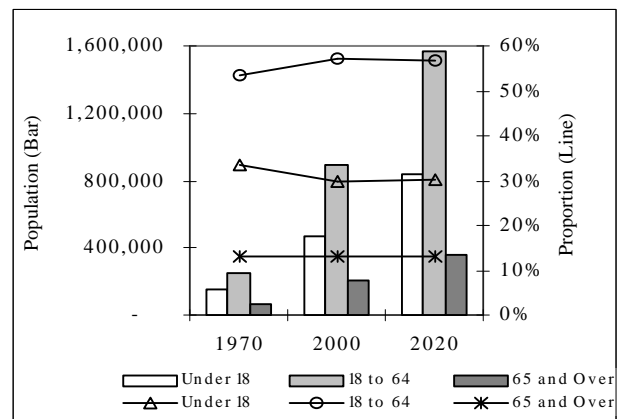


Source: California Department of Finance, www.dof.ca.gov/newdr/riverside.txt

The state agency forecasts this growth to continue for the next two decades, and that population in the County will rise 75 percent to 2,773,000 by 2020.

3.3.1.2 Age

The California Department of Finance forecast for age categories reports that the number of residents in Riverside County aged 65 years or older



Source: State of California Department of Finance, www.dof.ca.gov/newdr/riverside.txt