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Population

Total Population

A comprehensive understanding of a community's past, present and future population characteristics and trends provides a basic and essential foundation for the planning process. The population element offers an overview of the socio-economic composition of Harris County while supplying a basis of the formulation of additional elements of their Comprehensive Plan. This population analysis includes data relating to total population, age, race, income, poverty and education.

Population Trends

Harris County has experienced a population growth of 53 percent or 8,231 persons from 1980 to 2000, with the last ten years (1990-2000) posting a population growth rate of 33 percent or 5,907 persons. Population growth has not been as substantial in any of the incorporated areas over the last twenty year period. Hamilton experienced a population loss of 60 persons or (11.85%) from 1980 to 2000; Pine Mountain and Shiloh showed twenty year gains of 16 percent and 8 percent respectively; while Waverly Hall showed a loss of 204 persons (-22.34%). In comparison the population of the State of Georgia grew by 50 percent from 1980 to 2000.

**Table 1
Total Population
1980-2000**

County/City	YEAR					Percent Change 1980-1990	Percent Change 1990-2000
	1980	1985	1990	1995	2000		
Harris	15,464	16,507	17,788	20,781	23,695	15.02	33.21
Hamilton	506	478	454	447	446	-10.28	-1.76
Pine Mountain	984	933	875	1,104	1,141	-11.08	30.40
Shiloh	392	363	329	388	423	-16.07	28.57
Waverly Hall	913	844	769	744	709	-15.77	-7.80
State of Georgia	5,463,105	5,962,720	6,478,216	7,323,980	8,186,453	18.58	26.37

Source: County, U.S. Census Bureau, and Woods & Poole, Cities, U.S. Census Bureau

Population Projections

Population projections are difficult to make, especially for smaller places such as Harris County. The addition or loss of a major employer in the region could dramatically alter estimates of the County's population. The fluctuations in economic, physical and social factors can produce major changes in growth over a decade or more.

Tables 2 and 3 show the predicted population of Harris County, Hamilton, Pine Mountain, Shiloh and Waverly Hall over the next twenty years and a detailed population prediction for the next five years. As shown, each local government is expected to experience population growth. Harris County is expected to grow by an average of 4.32 percent per year over the next 20 years. Hamilton is expected to double over the next twenty years. The unincorporated areas of Harris County are expected to get the "lions share" of the population growth.

**Table 2
Population Projections
2008-2013**

County/City	YEAR					
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Harris County	28,727	29,433	30,155	31,242	32,366	33,531
Hamilton	532	544	556	567	578	589
Pine Mountain	1,252	1,267	1,282	1,307	1,333	1,359
Shiloh	444	447	450	456	461	466
Waverly Hall	815	833	853	868	885	903

Source: Lower Chattahoochee RDC

**Table 3
Population Projections
2010 to 2030
Base Year 2000**

County/City	YEAR						
	2000	2005	2010	2015	2020	2025	2030
Harris County	23,695	26,925	30,155	35,226	40,302	48,263	56,227
Hamilton	446	501	556	611	668	723	1,112
Pine Mountain	1,141	1,212	1,282	1,409	1,537	1,766	1,995
Shiloh	423	437	450	475	500	542	585
Waverly Hall	709	780	853	952	1,052	1,192	1,332
State of Georgia	8,186,453	8,868,675	9,550,897	10,223,118	10,915,340	11,597,562	12,279,784

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Lower Chattahoochee RDC, The Georgia County Guide, 2008

Growth Patterns

Table 4 compares the rate of growth of Harris County, Hamilton, Pine Mountain, Shiloh and Waverly Hall with that of the State of Georgia over the past twenty years, as well as the projected growth rate for the subsequent twenty years. The rate of growth for Harris County matched the State of Georgia growth rate (approximately 50 percent) from 1980 to 2000. The municipalities lagged behind Harris County and the State from 1980 to 2000. It is estimated that the rate of growth for Harris County and its municipalities will exceed the State rate of growth over the next 20 years. Harris County's population is projected to increase by as many as 27,500 residents over the next twenty years. Hamilton, Pine Mountain, Shiloh and Waverly Hall's population is projected to increase by 25 to 50+ percent over the next twenty year period.

**Table 4
Rate of Growth
1980-2030**

County/City	YEAR									
	1980-1985	1985-1990	1990-1995	1995-2000	2000-2005	2005-2010	2010-2015	2015-2020	2020-2025	2025-2030
Harris County	6.74%	7.76%	16.83%	14.02%	13.63%	12.00%	16.82%	14.41%	19.75%	16.50%
Hamilton	-5.53%	-5.02%	-1.54%	-.22%	12.33%	10.98%	9.89%	9.33%	8.23%	53.80%
Pine Mountain	-5.18%	-6.22%	26.17%	3.35%	6.22%	5.78%	9.91%	9.08%	14.90%	12.97%
Shiloh	-7.40%	-9.37%	17.93%	9.02%	3.31%	2.97%	5.56%	5.26%	8.40%	7.93%
Waverly Hall	-7.56%	-8.89%	-3.25%	-4.70%	10.01%	9.36%	11.61%	10.50%	13.30%	11.74%
State of Georgia	9.15%	8.65%	13.05%	11.78%	8.33%	7.69%	7.14%	6.66%	6.25%	5.88%

Source: Lower Chattahoochee RDC

Future population growth for Harris County largely depends on four factors:

1. Fort Benning Military Reservation - Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC);
2. spill-over effect from metropolitan regions;
3. new residents due to the Kia Plant; and
4. continued development of the Harris County School System.

Based on the factors listed above Harris County, Hamilton, Pine Mountain, Shiloh and Waverly Hall continue to expect and prepare for rapid growth over the next twenty years. Furthermore, the City of Hamilton's housing market is expected to expand with the completion of Sweet Bay, a mixed-use development, which is under construction.

Population by Age

From 1980 to 2000 Harris County's age composition remained relatively consistent. The pre-school population (0-4) dropped from 6.8 percent (1980) to 5.9 percent (2000) of the total population. The school age population (5 to 19) dropped from 25 percent (1980) to 22 percent (2000) of the total population. The working age population (20 to 64) increased from 56 percent (1980) to 60 percent (2000) of the total population. The retirement age population remained the same from 1980 to 2000 at 12 percent of the total population.

From 2000 to 2030 Harris County's pre-school children is projected to be the same at 6 percent of total population; school-aged children is projected to be 22 percent from 2000 to 2030; the working age population is projected to drop from 60 percent in 2000 to 58 percent in 2030; and the retirement age population is projected to be the same at 12 percent of total population.

**Table 5
Population by Age
Harris County Age Distribution**

Age Group	YEAR										
	1980	1985	1990	1995	2000	2005	2010	2015	2020	2025	2030
0 to 4	1,055	1,109	1,131	1,368	1,406	1,588	1,780	2,078	2,378	2,903	3,315
5 to 9	1,190	1,182	1,262	1,467	1,809	2,044	2,289	2,675	3,059	3,734	4,265
10 to 14	1,216	1,216	1,289	1,533	1,783	2,015	2,256	2,636	3,016	3,680	4,204
15 to 19	1,465	1,339	1,341	1,306	1,664	1,880	2,106	2,459	2,814	3,435	3,923
20 to 24	1,116	1,123	1,022	1,088	950	1,073	1,202	1,404	1,607	1,960	2,240
25 to 29	1,071	1,242	1,277	1,307	1,159	1,385	1,551	1,812	2,073	2,531	2,891
30 to 34	1,185	1,304	1,408	1,635	1,635	1,847	2,069	2,417	2,766	3,375	3,855
35 to 39	971	1,247	1,440	1,762	2,071	2,340	2,621	3,062	3,503	4,275	4,883
40 to 44	748	1,045	1,445	1,788	2,046	2,312	2,589	3,024	3,460	4,224	4,824
45 to 49	826	919	1,130	1,703	2,025	2,289	2,563	2,994	3,425	4,180	4,775
50 to 54	919	855	924	1,256	1,811	2,122	2,377	2,776	3,176	3,876	4,429
55 to 59	962	920	846	979	1,476	1,668	1,868	2,182	2,496	2,122	3,481
60 to 64	813	890	909	948	1,028	1,162	1,301	1,520	1,739	1,758	2,424
65 to 69	684	749	843	903	852	963	1,078	1,259	1,441	2,122	2,009
70 to 74	520	582	650	735	788	890	997	1,165	1,332	1,627	1,858
75 to 79	352	381	406	458	576	651	729	852	974	1,189	1,358
80 to 84	211	229	272	310	351	397	444	519	594	725	827
85+	160	175	193	235	265	299	335	392	449	547	666
Total	15,464	16,507	17,788	20,781	23,695	26,925	30,155	35,226	40,302	48,263	56,227

Source: Lower Chattahoochee RDC, U.S. Census Bureau, Woods & Poole, Inc.

**Table 6
Population By Age
Hamilton Age Distribution**

Age Group	YEAR										
	1980	1985	1990	1995	2000	2005	2010	2015	2020	2025	2030
0-4	37	35	33	31	32	36	41	44	48	52	80
5-13	71	67	64	63	62	70	77	85	95	101	154
14-24	81	77	73	72	71	80	89	97	106	115	177
25-34	72	68	65	64	63	71	79	86	94	102	157
35-44	56	53	50	49	49	55	61	67	73	79	123
45-54	47	44	42	42	43	48	54	59	64	70	107
55-64	66	62	59	59	59	66	74	81	88	95	147
65+	76	72	68	67	67	75	81	92	100	109	167
Total	506	478	454	447	446	501	556	611	668	723	1,112

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Lower Chattahoochee RDC

**Table 7
Population By Age
Pine Mountain Age Distribution**

Age Group	YEAR										
	1980	1985	1990	1995	2000	2005	2010	2015	2020	2025	2030
0-4	71	70	68	87	106	113	118	131	138	161	185
5-13	105	109	112	152	180	190	204	222	242	279	315
14-24	187	158	127	139	137	145	153	171	188	215	240
25-34	147	137	127	139	160	171	180	197	215	251	279
35-44	111	106	100	131	147	157	167	181	198	227	257
45-54	104	97	89	100	121	129	136	150	167	188	213
55-64	85	90	94	108	85	90	95	105	114	130	149
65+	174	166	158	158	205	217	229	252	275	315	357
Total	984	933	875	1,014	1,141	1,212	1,282	1,409	1,537	1,766	1,995

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Lower Chattahoochee RDC

**Table 8
Population By Age
Shiloh By Age Distribution**

Age Group	YEAR										
	1980	1985	1990	1995	2000	2005	2010	2015	2020	2025	2030
0-4	32	27	22	25	28	29	30	31	32	35	39
5-13	83	69	54	70	67	65	71	76	77	86	94
14-24	56	56	54	60	66	70	67	76	78	87	90
25-34	82	66	49	48	53	57	59	61	65	69	73
35-44	36	49	62	40	68	70	72	76	80	85	93
45-54	27	22	17	42	62	65	67	66	75	80	87
55-64	34	30	25	39	33	34	35	37	39	42	45
65+	42	44	46	64	46	47	49	52	54	58	64
Total	392	363	329	388	423	437	450	475	500	542	585

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Lower Chattahoochee RDC

**Table 9
Population By Age
Waverly Hall By Age Distribution**

Age Group	YEAR										
	1980	1985	1990	1995	2000	2005	2010	2015	2020	2025	2030
0-4	52	44	35	29	31	34	37	42	45	52	60
5-13	114	111	107	95	104	104	111	125	136	157	176
14-24	160	119	76	84	59	77	83	93	103	118	131
25-34	110	108	106	96	82	90	101	110	122	139	154
35-44	86	94	102	69	63	69	75	84	93	104	117
45-54	103	89	74	105	116	127	141	157	175	195	218
55-64	119	102	85	128	85	94	102	115	127	143	159
65+	169	177	184	138	169	185	203	226	251	284	317
Total	913	844	769	744	709	780	853	952	1,052	1,192	1,332

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Lower Chattahoochee RDC

From 1980 to 2000 Hamilton's age composition remained relatively consistent. The pre-school population (0-4) dropped from 7.31 percent (1980) to 7.17 percent (2000) of the total population. The school age population (5 to 18) dropped from 20 percent (1980) to 18 percent (2000) of the total population. The working age population (19 to 64) increased from 57 percent (1980) to 60 percent (2000) of the total population. The retirement age population remained the same from 1980 to 2000 at 15 percent of the total population.

From 2000 to 2030 Hamilton's pre-school children is projected to remain the same at 7 percent of total population; school-aged children is projected to increase from 18 percent in 2000 to 20 percent in 2030; the working age population is projected to drop from 60 percent in 2000 to 57 percent in 2030; and the retirement age population is projected to be the same at 15 percent of total population.

From 1980 to 2000 Pine Mountain's age composition remained relatively consistent. The pre-school population (0-4) increased from 7.21 percent (1980) to 9.29 percent (2000) of the total population. The school-age population (5 to 18) increased from 20 percent (1980) to 21 percent (2000) of the total population. The working age population (19 to 64) decreased from 55 percent (1980) to 51 percent (2000) of the total population. The retirement age population remained the same from 1980 to 2000 at 17 percent of the total population.

From 2000 to 2030 Pine Mountain's pre-school children is projected to remain the same at 9 percent of total population; school-aged children is projected to remain the same at 21 percent of the total population for 2000 and 2030; the working age population is projected to decrease from 62 percent in 2000 to 51 percent in 2030; and the retirement age population is projected to be the same at 17 percent of total population.

From 1980 to 2000 Shiloh's age composition remains relatively consistent. The pre-school population (0-4) decreased from 8.16 percent (1980) to 6.16 percent (2000) of the total population. The school age population (5 to 18) decreased from 28 percent (1980) to 24 percent (2000) of the total population. The working age population (19 to 64) increased from 53 percent (1980) to 59 percent (2000) of the total population. The retirement age population remained the same from 1980 to 2000 at 11 percent of the total population.

From 2000 to 2030 Shiloh's pre-school children will remain the same at 7 percent of total population; the school-aged children will increase from 24 percent (1980) to 25 percent in 2030; the working class age will remain the same at 59 percent from 2000 to 2030; and the retirement age population will remain around 11 percent of total population.

From 1980 to 2000 Waverly Hall's age composition also remained relatively consistent. The pre-school population (0-4) decreased from 6 percent (1980) to 4 percent (2000) of the total population. The school age population (5 to 18) decreased from 21 percent (1980) to 19 percent (2000) of the total population. The working age population (19 to 64) decreased from 55 percent (1980) to 53 percent (2000) of the total population. The retirement age population increased from 19 percent (1980) to 24 percent (2000) of the total population.

From 2000 to 2030 Waverly Hall's pre-school children will remain the same at 4 percent of the total population; the school aged children will decrease from 19 percent (1980) to 18 percent in 2030; the working class age will increase from 53 percent (2000) to 54 percent (2030); and the retirement age population will remain around 24 percent of total population.

Population by Race

Harris County Population by Race

The following table shows the racial make-up of Harris County, Hamilton, Pine Mountain, Shiloh and Waverly Hall. Harris County's white population has increased by 84 percent from 1980 to 2000 while a 13 percent reduction in the black/African American population occurred. The Indian Eskimo or Aleut population increased by 227 percent, the Asian or Pacific Islander population increased by 279 percent and the "other" population category increased by 1,694 percent during the same time period.

As a percentage of total growth, the white population grew from 65 percent of total population in 1980 to 78 percent of the total population in 2000. The black/African American population decreased from 34 percent (1980) to 19 percent (2000) of the total population. As a percentage of the total growth the minority population showed a 15 percent decrease from 1980 (34%) to 2000 (19%) and a 7 percent decrease from 1990 (26%) to 2000 (19%).

In 1980, 63 percent of Hamilton's population was white, with black/African Americans accounting for 36 percent and American Indian/Alaskan Native and Asian or Pacific Islander accounted for less than 1 percent of the total population. In 1990, 50 percent of Hamilton's population was white, and 44 percent was black/African American. Hamilton's population by race does not reflect the Census total population adjusted numbers for the city; therefore a comparison of the racial makeup is unavailable for the year 2000.

Table 10
Population By Race
1980

	Harris County	Hamilton	Pine Mountain	Shiloh	Waverly Hall
White Alone	10,086	320	618	251	430
Black/African American Alone	5,303	183	362	141	482
American Indian/ Alaskan Native Alone	26	1	4	0	1
Asian or Pacific Islander	33	2	0	0	0
Other	16	0	0	0	0

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1980

Table 11
Population By Race
1990

	Harris County	Hamilton	Pine Mountain	Shiloh	Waverly Hall
White Alone	13,103	254	542	215	359
Black/African American Alone	4,571	198	331	114	409
American Indian/ Alaskan Native Alone	52	1	1	0	1
Asian or Pacific Islander	39	1	0	0	0
Other	23	0	1	0	0

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1990

**Table 12
Population By Race
2000**

	Harris County	Hamilton **	Pine Mountain	Shiloh	Waverly Hall
White Alone	18,584	208	638	291	361
Black/African American Alone	4,614	92	472	126	337
American Indian/Alaskan Native Alone	85	0	3	2	1
Asian or Pacific Islander	125	5	2	0	4
Other	287	2	26	4	6

Source: U.S. Census Bureau 2000

** Hamilton's 2000 Population by Race numbers do not reflect Census total population adjusted numbers

Pine Mountain's racial makeup has changed slightly from 63 percent white, 37 percent black/African American, and less than 1 percent all other categories in 1980 to 56 percent white, 41 percent black/African American and 3 percent all other categories in 2000.

Shiloh showed an increase in the white population from 64 percent in 1980 to 69 percent, a decrease in the black/African American population from 36 percent in 1980 to 30 percent in 2000. The other population categories remained about 1 percent of total population.

Waverly Hall's changes in racial composition went from 47 percent white in 1980 to 51 percent in 2000 and the black/African American population went from 53 percent in 1980 to 48 percent in 2000. All other population categories in Waverly Hall remained at approximately 1.5 percent.

Income

Per Capita Income

The following table shows the per capita income for Harris County, Hamilton, Pine Mountain, Shiloh, Waverly Hall and the State of Georgia for 2000. The table also shows historical per capita information for Harris County and the State for 1980 and 1990.

Table 13
Per Capita Income
1980-2000

	1980	1990	2000
Harris County	6,206	13,135	21,680
Hamilton	N/A	N/A	18,292
Pine Mountain	N/A	N/A	16,486
Shiloh	N/A	N/A	13,983
Waverly Hall	N/A	N/A	13,388
Georgia	6,402	13,631	21,154

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Dollars

*N/A – Not Available

Harris County's per capita income figures have historically lagged behind the State of Georgia. However in 2000, Harris County's per capital income of 21,680 exceeded the State of Georgia's. All of Harris County's municipalities reported having lower per capita incomes than the State in 2000. Hamilton's per capita income was \$18,292, Pine Mountain's was \$16,486, Shiloh's was \$13,983, and Waverly Hall's was \$13,388. Georgia's per capita income in 2000 was \$21,154.

Average Household Income

The following table shows the historical median household median income for Harris County, the counties' municipalities and the State of Georgia for 1980, 1990 and 2000

Table 14
Median Household Income
1980-2000

	1980	1990	2000
Harris County	15,253	27,616	47,763
Hamilton	N/A	N/A	32,143
Pine Mountain	N/A	N/A	31,685
Shiloh	N/A	N/A	31,563
Waverly Hall	N/A	N/A	30,250
Georgia	15,033	29,021	42,433

Source: U. S. Census Bureau, Current Dollars 1980, 1990, 2000

The trend is the same as per capita income for Harris County. The figures indicate that Harris County has remained close to the State of Georgia in median household income. In 2000 Harris County exceeds the State in median household income for the first time by over \$5,000. Hamilton, Pine Mountain, Shiloh, and Waverly Hall lag behind State and the County average in 2000. In 2000, the median family income of Hamilton, Pine Mountain, Shiloh, and Waverly Hall on average is \$10,000 to \$12,000 less than the State of Georgia and \$15,000 to \$17,500 less than Harris County.

Distribution of Households by Income Group

Table 15
Distribution of Households by Income Group
2000

	Harris County		Hamilton		Pine Mountain		Shiloh		Waverly Hall		GA	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
< \$5,000	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
\$5,000-\$9,999	700	7.90	26	23.21	71	15.01	23	14.65	44	21.57	304,816	10.13
\$10,000-\$14,999	455	5.14	3	2.68	47	9.94	5	3.18	20	9.80	176,059	5.85
\$15,000-\$19,999	480	5.42	7	6.25	32	6.77	22	14.01	17	8.33	177,676	5.91
\$20,000-\$29,999	942	10.63	14	12.50	71	15.01	26	16.56	20	9.80	383,222	12.74
\$30,000-\$34,999	400	4.52	10	8.93	36	7.61	6	3.82	11	5.39	187,070	6.22
\$35,000-\$39,999	484	5.46	11	9.82	43	9.09	11	7.01	15	2.35	176,616	5.87
\$40,000-\$49,999	1,147	12.95	16	14.29	50	10.57	17	10.83	19	9.31	326,345	10.85
\$50,000-\$59,999	943	10.65	7	6.25	43	9.09	14	8.92	19	9.31	278,017	9.24
\$60,000-\$74,999	899	10.15	3	2.68	25	5.29	15	9.55	12	5.88	315,186	10.48
\$75,000-\$99,999	1,156	13.05	5	4.46	29	6.13	8	5.10	7	3.43	311,651	10.36
\$100,000 >	1,252	14.13	10	8.93	26	5.50	10	6.37	20	9.80	371,020	12.34

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Forty-eight percent of households in Harris County have incomes above \$50,000 per year. Of the municipalities, Shiloh has the largest percentage of households above \$50,000 per year at 30 percent; Waverly Hall is second at 28.43 percent per year; Pine Mountain is third at 26.01 percent per year and Hamilton is fourth at 22.32 percent per year. The percentage of households making \$50,000 and above in the State of Georgia is 42.42 percent per year. Harris County exceeds the State by approximately 6 percentage points.

Poverty

Overall, the 2000 poverty level in Harris County was 8.2 percent which was well below the State of Georgia (13%) and the U.S. (12.4%) poverty levels for 2000. The poverty level of Harris County dropped from 17.2 percent in 1980 to 8.2 percent in 2000 or 9 percentage points. In 2000, the highest poverty level in Harris County was Waverly Hall at 26.7 percent; Pine Mountain was the second highest poverty level at 19.3 percent; Hamilton's was the third highest poverty level at 12.4 percent and Shiloh's poverty level was the lowest of the cities at 12.3 percent. The U.S. Census estimated Harris County's 2005-2007 poverty level to be 13.3 percent, the State of Georgia's estimate to be 14.5 percent and the U.S. to be 13.3 percent.

Table 16
Individuals And Percent Of Individuals Below Poverty Level
Harris County And The Cities Of Hamilton, Pine Mountain, Shiloh And Waverly Hall
1980, 1990 And 2000

	1980		1990		2000		2005 - 2007	
	Individuals	Percent	Individuals	Percent	Individuals	Percent	Individuals	Percent
Harris County	2,635	17.2%	2,407	13.68%	1,929	8.2%	NA	13.3%
Hamilton	NA	NA	63	15.71%	55	12.4%	NA	NA
Pine Mountain	NA	NA	118	13.39%	222	19.3%	NA	NA
Shiloh	NA	NA	82	23.42%	54	12.3%	NA	NA
Waverly Hall	NA	NA	178	26.37%	148	26.7%	NA	NA
GA	1,192,450	22.4%	923,085	14.65%	1,033,793	13.0%	NA	14.5%
US	-	-	-	13.11%	-	12.4%	-	13.3%

Source: U. S. Census Bureau
 NA: Not Available

Educational Attainment

The table below provides comparable data for Harris County, surrounding counties and the State of Georgia for educational attainment levels for the adult population 25 years of age and older. Educational attainment levels from 1980 to 2000 have improved for Harris County, neighboring counties and the State of Georgia. The percentage of high school graduates (including equivalency) increased for Harris, the State of Georgia and surrounding counties, with the exception of Muscogee. Harris increased from 24.70 percent (1980) to 29.41 percent (2000). In comparison the State of Georgia increased from 28.52 percent (1980) to 28.65 percent (2000).

The percentage of the adult population over 25 with a bachelor's degree in Harris County increased from 11.83 percent (1980) to 13.84 percent (2000). In comparison, the percentage of those with a bachelor's degree in all surrounding counties decreased from 1980 to 2000, except for Troup County which increased from 10.9 percent (1980) to 12.01 percent (2000). The State of Georgia percentage increased from 14.61 percent (1980) to 16.00 percent (2000).

**Table 17
Educational Attainment**

Category	Harris County			Meriwether County			Muscogee County			Talbot County			Troup County			Georgia		
	1980	1990	2000	1980	1990	2000	1980	1990	2000	1980	1990	2000	1980	1990	2000	1980	1990	2000
TOTAL Adult Population 25 & Over	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Less than 9 th Grade	30.04%	15.32%	7.33%	34.93%	19.19%	11.96%	21.39%	11.26%	7.00%	37.61%	20.95%	12.97%	35.42%	18.58%	8.97%	23.72%	12.00%	7.58%
9 th to 12 th Grade (No Diploma)	20.28%	19.70%	13.71%	25.71%	29.18%	22.27%	17.77%	17.21%	14.08%	22.12%	22.86%	22.28%	22.79%	20.60%	18.05%	19.92%	17.04%	13.85%
High School Graduate Includes (Equivalency)	24.70%	32.07%	29.41%	25.01%	32.08%	35.65%	32.61%	29.85%	28.17%	25.94%	35.18%	40.27%	22.87%	32.35%	33.67%	28.52%	29.65%	28.65%
Some College (No Degree)	13.19%	15.12%	22.54%	7.35%	10.02%	15.97%	15.41%	19.28%	24.04%	6.39%	10.68%	13.35%	8.04%	11.67%	17.22%	13.35%	17.01%	20.41%
Associate Degree	N/A	4.19%	5.86%	N/A	2.86%	3.35%	N/A	5.78%	6.38%	N/A	3.23%	3.25%	N/A	3.16%	4.13%	N/A	4.96%	5.20%
Bachelor's Degree	11.83%	8.65%	13.84%	7.11%	4.05%	6.46%	12.90%	10.47%	12.35%	7.99%	4.61%	4.59%	10.90%	9.46%	12.01%	14.61%	12.92%	16.00%
Graduate or Professional Degree	N/A	4.95%	7.30%	N/A	2.62%	4.34%	N/A	6.14%	7.97%	N/A	2.48%	3.29%	N/A	4.17%	5.95%	N/A	6.41%	8.30%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau 1980, 1990, 2000

The table below provides comparative data for dropout rates, SAT scores and the percentage of graduates attending Georgia post secondary schools after graduation, for Harris County, surrounding counties and the State of Georgia.

From 1998 to 2006, students in Harris County improved their SAT scores. In 1998 Harris County's verbal score was 458 and the math score was 446. In 2006, Harris County's verbal score rose to 514 and the math score improved to 488. In comparison, the State of Georgia showed a verbal score of 491 (2006) and a math score of 494 (2006).

When looking at the 2006 numbers, Harris County had a lower dropout rate than neighboring counties and the State of Georgia. The dropout rate decreased from 5.3 percent (1998) to 3.6 percent (2006).

The percentage of graduates attending Georgia post secondary schools decreased slightly from 50.5 percent (1998) to 42.3 percent (2006) in Harris County. While the State of Georgia's and the neighboring counties of Muscogee, Meriwether, Troup and the State of Georgia increased. Talbot County's percentage of graduates attending Georgia's post secondary schools decreased dramatically from 1998-1999 to 2005-2006.

Table 18
Dropout Rate, Sat Scores,
Percent Of Graduates Attending Post Secondary Education Schools
Harris County Georgia

	2005-2006	2003-2004	2002-2001	2001-2000	2000-1999	1999-1998
Dropout Rates Grades 9-12	3.6	3.5	5.7	7	8.6	5.3
SAT Scores						
Verbal	514	506	491	491	478	458
Math	488	479	478	483	466	446
Percent of Graduates attending GA Post Secondary Schools	42.3	44	34.3	41.3	36.4	50.5

Source: Georgia Department of Education, The Georgia County Guide

Table 19
Dropout Rate, Sat Scores,
Percent Of Graduates Attending Post Secondary Education Schools
Meriwether County Georgia

	2005-2006	2003-2004	2002-2001	2001-2000	2000-1999	1999-1998
Dropout Rates Grades 9-12	7.1	5.0	6.2	8.8	8	5.8
SAT Scores						
Verbal	412	410	406	400	389	405
Math	423	397	404	396	369	389
Percent of Graduates attending GA Post Secondary Schools	19.2	15.2	16	21.3	26.6	16.4

Source: Georgia Department of Education, The Georgia County Guide

Table 20
Dropout Rate, Sat Scores,
Percent Of Graduates Attending Post Secondary Education Schools
Muscooke County Georgia

	2005-2006	2003-2004	2002-2001	2001-2000	2000-1999	1999-1998
Dropout Rates Grades 9-12	4.8	5.8	8.7	6.3	5.9	6.4
Sat Scores						
Verbal	482	483	466	463	467	469
Math	477	481	459	450	452	450
Percent Of Graduates Attending GA Post Secondary Schools	37.3	40.7	34.4	34.2	30.1	34.8

Source: Georgia Department of Education, The Georgia County Guide

Table 21
Dropout Rate, Sat Scores,
Percent Of Graduates Attending Post Secondary Education Schools
Talbot County Georgia

	2005-2006	2003-2004	2002-2001	2001-2000	2000-1999	1999-1998
Dropout Rates Grades 9-12	6.5	0.4	6.3	5.5	9.7	10.8
Sat Scores						
Verbal	384	361	364	377	386	379
Math	378	363	364	388	388	363
Percent Of Graduates Attending GA Post Secondary Schools	6.3	9.1	11.1	34.6	15.4	21.2

Source: Georgia Department of Education, The Georgia County Guide

Table 22
Dropout Rate, Sat Scores,
Percent Of Graduates Attending Post Secondary Education Schools
Troup County Georgia

	2005-2006	2003-2004	2002-2001	2001-2000	2000-1999	1999-1998
Dropout Rates Grades 9-12	5.3	7.8	6.2	5.8	5.5	5.5
Sat Scores						
Verbal	485	492	477	480	478	476
Math	485	488	481	482	476	461
Percent Of Graduates Attending GA Post Secondary Schools	26.1	29.2	26.8	22.9	23.4	25.5

Source: Georgia Department of Education, Georgia County Guide

Table 23
Dropout Rate, Sat Scores,
Percent Of Graduates Attending Post Secondary Education Schools
Georgia

	2005-2006	2003-2004	2002-2001	2001-2000	2000-1999	1999-1998
Dropout Rates Grades 9-12	4.7	5.1	5.8	6.4	6.5	6.5
Sat Scores						
Verbal	491	490	486	487	484	483
Math	494	491	489	486	483	479
Percent Of Graduates Attending GA Post Secondary Schools	38.2	38.7	36.1	36.1	35.96	36.79

Source: Georgia Department of Education, The Georgia County Guide

Assessment

In summary, Harris County is projected to continue to grow over the next 20 years and at a rate faster than the State of Georgia. The racial composition of Harris County will remain majority white with the rate of white growth exceeding the growth rate of the minority population. The Asian/Pacific Islander population will continue to become a larger percentage of the total population in years to come. It is also expected that Harris County residents will become better educated and more affluent over the next 20 years with per capita income rivaling the State of Georgia and median household income exceeding the State of Georgia levels. Finally, Harris County's populations will mirror national and State trends by living longer.

The make-up of the municipalities is similar to that of Harris County as a whole. Population increases are expected, with older citizens becoming a larger percent of total population and with the population of each community becoming better educated, wealthier and more affluent. The racial composition will not change much with whites representing the majority of each city's population. Hamilton and Pine Mountain should see an increase in the Asian/Pacific Islander population as well.

Overall, the rate of growth in Harris County and the municipalities depends on local development policies, the availability of infrastructure and the cost of housing. As mentioned before, Harris County and the municipalities are located in a region of the State where growth is happening at a never seen before pace. The question is not whether it will grow, but how fast and what type of development will occur. Fortunately, the County and municipalities have influence over future growth by controlling the placement and timing of infrastructure development and by implementing their respective land use policies.