

## V. DEMOGRAPHICS

### *a. Population*

The South County area grew by 14.5% from 14,001<sup>1</sup> persons in 1980 to 16,035 in 1990, and increased by 7.7% from 16,035 in 1990 to an estimated 17,267 in 2000. Permits for new homes between 1990 and 1998 total 808 units or 2.8% of the total for the County. Based on current projections, the population of the South County Small Area will increase by 1,561 people to 18,828 by the year 2020. This represents an increase of 9.0% in population between 2000 and 2020. The Office of Planning and Zoning Enforcement intends to revise these forecasts based on the results of the 2000 Census. By comparison, Anne Arundel County is projected to grow by less than 10% during the same time period.

The population in South County is just slightly older than the County's overall population, but with a very similar age distribution. The pre-school ages (under five years) constitute 6.0% compared with 6.6% for the County. The school age (5-17 years) constitutes 17.8% in South County, but 18.1% for the County, and the college and career building ages (18 through 44 years) constitute 36.2% in South County, and 41.2% for the County. The peak earning years (age 45 through 64) constitute 29.3% of South County population, and 24.6% of the County's. Seniors aged 65 to 84 comprise 9.9% in South County versus 8.6% in the County, and the older seniors 85 and over constitute 0.8% in South County, and 0.8% for the County.

South County does not have a significant portion of group quartered population, which is population in prisons, nursing homes, barracks, college dormitories and similar places. The last Census (1990) counted no people in group quarters and current estimates indicate 76 persons. The 2000 Census will provide better counts of this population.

Females outnumber males in South County as with the United States. The percent of males in South County is 49.9%, while in the County 50.3% and in the nation 48.9%. South County is very similar to the County in cultural diversity with 83.1% White (County: 81.3%), 15.6% African-American (County: 14.9%), 0.4% American Indian (County: 0.4%), 0.7% Asian (County: 2.6%), 0.2% "Other" (County: 0.8%), and 1.3% Hispanic of any race (County: 2.9%).

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<sup>1</sup> All demographic information used in this Plan, unless otherwise specified, is taken from the Draft County Demographics Report, dated January 1, 2000. The full demographic report is available in the Office of Planning and Zoning.

2. Note that data from the 2000 census, to be taken as of April 1, 2000, will not be released until the end of the year 2000 and the socioeconomic data will not be released until much later.

***b. Housing***

There are an estimated 6,217 households in the South County Small Area in 2000. Projected household growth to 2020 indicates an increase of 1,224 households. This projected household growth rate is 19.7%, the County household growth rate during this same time period is just over 20%. Census data from 1990 indicates that 88.0% of households in the South County Small Area are owner occupied with the median value (\$188,253) which is higher than the County median value of \$127,900. Median rents, however, at \$446, are lower than those County-wide at \$534.

The average household size in this area, as well as County wide, is declining. The estimated household size for the South County Small Area in 2000 is 2.77 persons, compared to the estimated County household size of 2.66. It is anticipated that the average household size will decrease to 2.50 persons in South County by the year 2020.

***c. Employment***

Data on resident employment for the South County are based on 1990 Census figures, which is the most recent information available. In 1990, there were 8,976 civilian and 81 military employed persons living in this area. The unemployment rate was 1.74% while the County's was 3.13%. The South County area has a typical labor force participation rate with 73.6% of the population age 16 and over in the labor force compared with 73.7% for the County. Male participation rates at 83.2% were also very close to the County rate of 82.2%. Female participation rates, were 64.2% again just slightly lower than the County rate of 65.2%.

The percentage of people who drove alone to work from South County was 64.4% which was lower than the County rate of 72.3%. 12.8% of workers carpoled to work, not significantly higher than the countywide figure of 12.7%. Only 0.8% used public transportation, which is lower than the County figure of 1.6%. Travel time to work, however was 33 minutes, while the County mean was 26 minutes.

The median household income in 1999 is estimated at \$63,754 compared with a County median of \$66,140. Major employers include: Herrington Harbour (North and South), Auto Auction, and Contractor's Precast Corporation.