

CITY OF BURLINGTON, VERMONT

2014 Municipal Development Plan

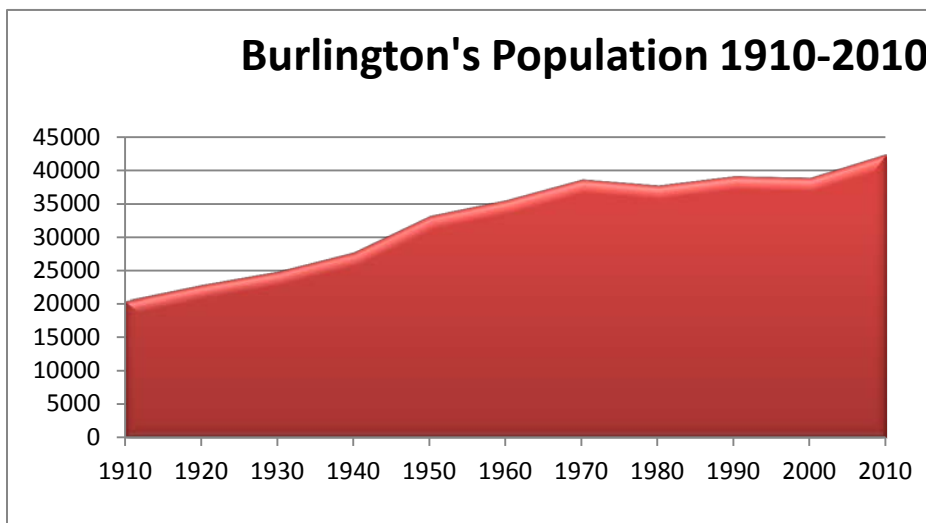
APPENDIX B: Burlington Demographic Profile

This section presents a basic overview of some of Burlington's socio-economic trends. More detailed information pertaining to economic and housing characteristics can be found in those respective sections of the Plan, or in an appendix developed for the *2008 Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development* prepared as part of the City's participation in the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and Home Investment Partnership Act (HOME) programs.

POPULATION

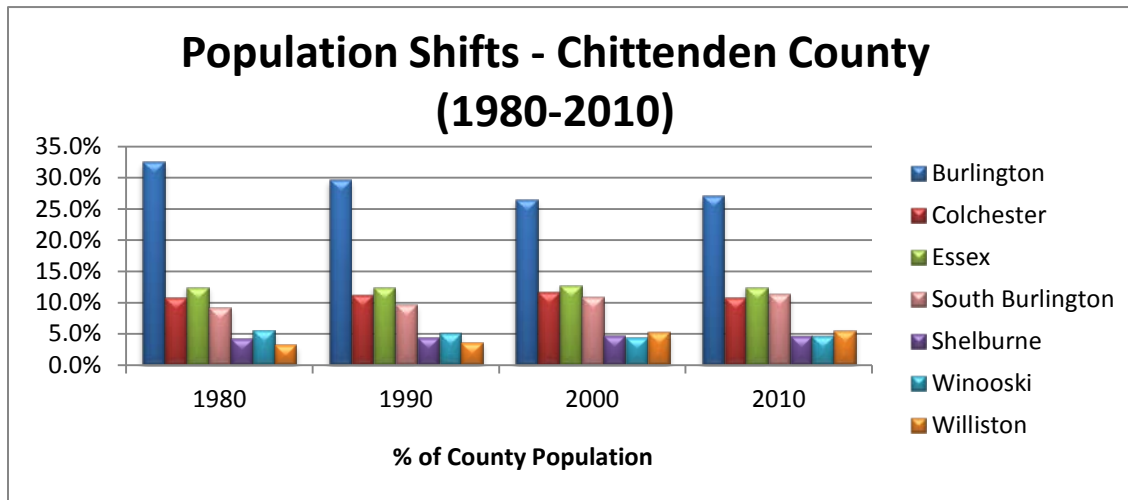
The City of Burlington remains Vermont's most populated community with a 2010 (US Census) population of 42,417. This accounts for just over 27% of Chittenden County's total population, and more than two times that of the state's next largest community – the Town of Essex.

Since 1960, Burlington's population has experienced a series of "ups and downs" with only small real increases over time. Between 1970 and 1980, Burlington witnessed a 2.4% population decline which was later offset by a 3.8% increase between 1980 and 1990. The Census 2010 population represents a 9.1% increase since 2000. . This sudden increase in population during the last decade follows the national trend of people migrating back to the inner cities. In fact, downtown Burlington has seen an even more significant increase in residents with 23% in the last decade.



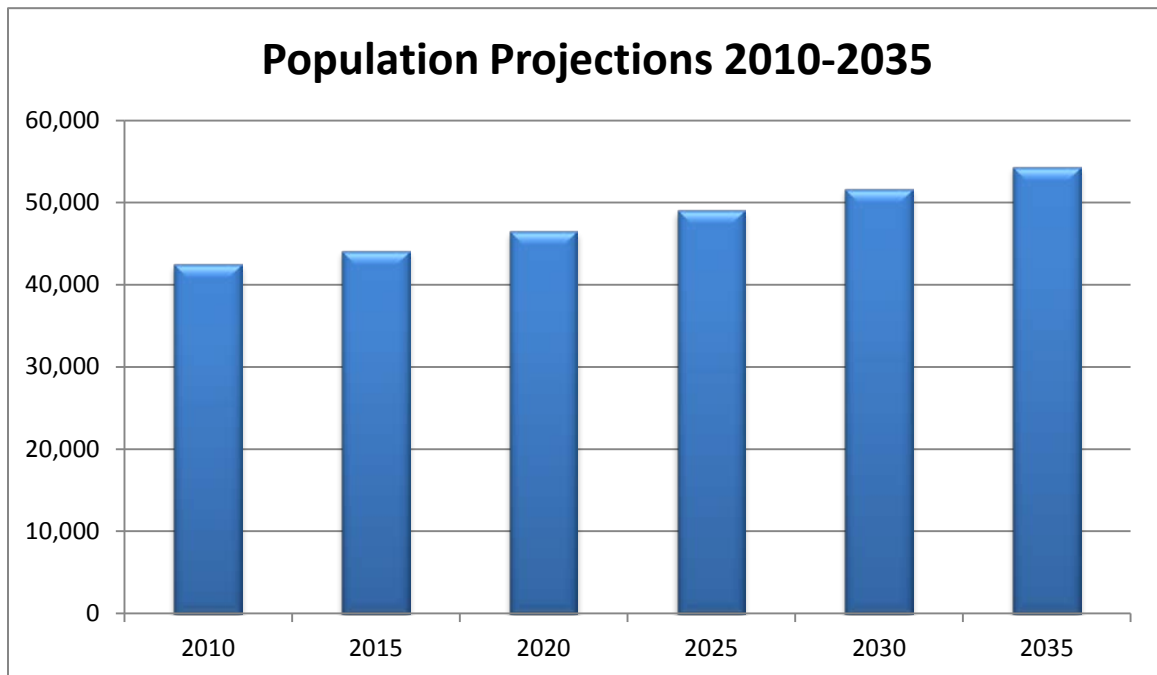
The actual population number is less important than the trends experienced within the larger region however. Burlington's marginal population fluctuations are in contrast to

population growth experienced by other communities in Chittenden County, and is indicative of continuing suburbanization within the region.



As illustrated here, Burlington’s population as a percentage of the County’s has experienced a steady decline between 1980 and 2000, but is now seeing a resurgence, beginning to see its share of the county’s population increase.

The Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission has recently collaborated on the creation of a new Economic and Demographic Forecast for the six northwestern counties of Vermont. This forecast projects future population growth, employment and housing demand through 2035.

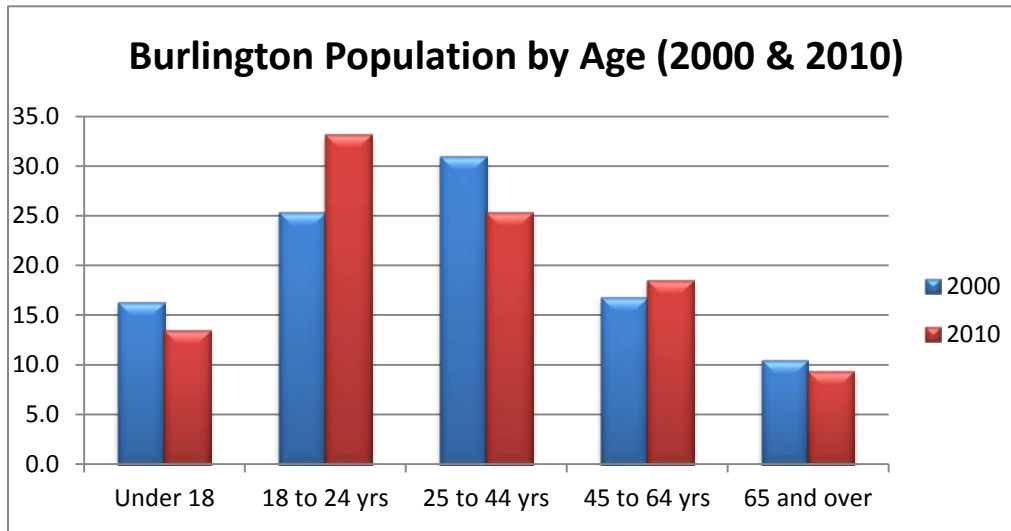
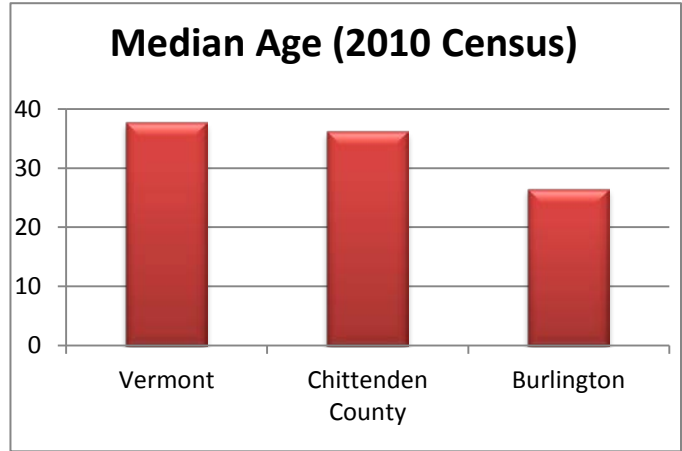


Population projections, by design and practice, are “best estimates” at a given point in time, of what the future may bring. They typically involve a complex array of assumptions, and combine relationships between employment trends, net migration and natural population increases. While they are an important planning tool, projections should be used with great caution – particularly the smaller the community and the longer the time horizon. The following chart illustrates a range of possible populations based on related trends.

However, Burlington’s population is not the whole growth story.

Burlington’s population is young.

The median age in Burlington is 26.5 years old as compared to the state median of 37.7. The graph below shows how younger kids under 18 are becoming a smaller part of the population, while the 18 to 24 years old (college student) have increased considerably as a proportion of the overall city residents.



With demographic trends towards smaller families, growth of housing must also be considered. Growth in housing has consistently exceeded population growth since 1960. The city continues to be an attractive place to live - especially as people are drawn to the many amenities the city has to offer including convenient access to shopping, services and employment opportunities.

Burlington’s population is diverse. 12.7 percent of Burlington’s residents identify themselves as non-white, and 2.6 percent of the population is of two or more races.

