

# CITY OF ORRVILLE

## APPENDIX E—SOCIOECONOMICS

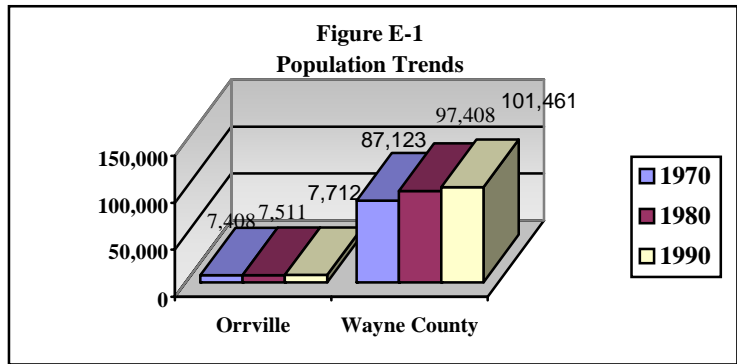
Understanding the existing population trends, employment conditions, education attainment levels, and household status helps to determine Orrville's growth potential as well as gain a clear perspective of the demographic composition of the community. These socioeconomic trends of Orrville are interconnected to all other aspects of the community—including land use, community facilities, economic development, and utilities—because the growth and decline in the population and economy can greatly influence the future development of the area. An accurate understanding of Orrville's socioeconomic will help determine how to responsibly allocate land and plan for future demands on City services, and act as a form of a measuring tool for determining the validity of existing policies and ordinances. The following is a socioeconomic summary and analysis of Orrville, including historical and projected demographic trends.

### Population Trends

#### U.S. Census

Orrville's population trends have been tracked through the US Census Bureau over the past decades. The 1970 US Census reported a population for Orrville of 7,408 persons. In 1980 the population grew to 7,511 persons, a total population increase of only 1½ percent during the 1970s. According to the US Census Bureau, Orrville continued to grow during the 1980's, reaching a population high in 1990 of 7,712 persons. This was a population increase of 2½ percent during the decade between 1980 and 1990.

The population trend between 1970 and 1990 in Orrville reported by the US Census Bureau was consistent with growth trends reported for Wayne County and the State of Ohio over the same period of time. Census reports showed that Wayne County also grew steadily over the entire century, increasing in population by over 16 percent between 1970 and 1990. The State's population has also been reported to have continuously increased over the years. The state increase was not as substantial as that of Wayne County, only increasing by only a total of around two-percent during the 20-year period. Figure E-1 depicts the historical population trends of Orrville as compared to Wayne County.



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## U.S. Census Bureau Population Estimates

The U.S. Census Bureau has prepared population estimates for Orrville. The “Annual Time Series of Population Estimates—Census Population for Places” reflect estimates based on special and test censuses conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau, and account for annexation and changes in the number of housing units reported to the Census Bureau. The annexation activities that occurred in Orrville in February 1993 are reflected in these U.S. Census estimates. Table E-1 depicts U.S. Census Bureau population estimates for Orrville.

**Table E-1**  
**U.S. Census Bureau Population Estimates for Orrville**

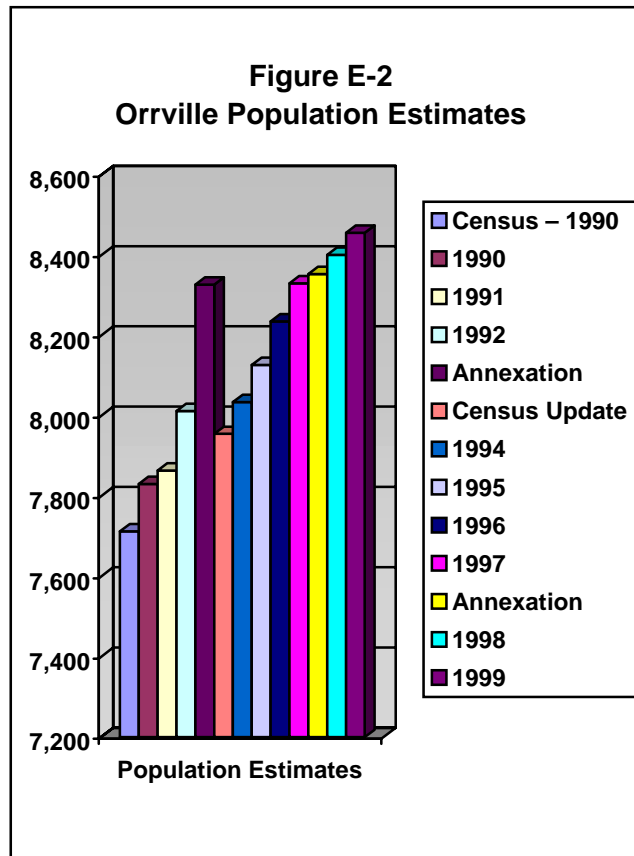
	1990 (Actual)	1994 (Estimate)	1995 (Estimate)	1996 (Estimate)	1997 (Estimate)	1998 (Estimate)
Orrville	7,712	8,206	8,229	8,278	8,281	8,227
<b>Source:</b> U.S. Census Bureau—Annual Time Series of Population Estimates.						

These estimates show that Orrville has grown over the last decade, experiencing only a slight decline between 1997 and 1998. The total growth between 1990 and 1998 was projected to be nearly seven percent. This growth trend reflects the annexation activities as well as other situational changes that have occurred in the community such as the housing boom. The estimated growth trend is also consistent with the trends projected for Wayne County and the State by the U.S. Census Bureau. Wayne County was projected to grow by over eight percent between the same years, and the state was projected to grow by nearly four percent.

## Orrville Population Projections

The City of Orrville has conducted its own population estimates since 1990. These estimates are based on local population indicators such as number of dwelling units, housing starts, and annexation. It is believed that these estimates more accurately depict the existing situation in Orrville. The estimates show that Orrville has grown since 1990, reaching a population of 8,456 persons in 1999. This is an increase of approximately 10 percent between 1990 and 1999, and appears to be more realistic than the U.S. Census estimates based on the local environment and building trends in the community. The Figure E-2 illustrates the growth trends in the community, as calculated by the city, since 1990.

As shown in Figure E-2, the update from the census Bureau in 1993 differed from the city’s estimate. After



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the adjustment, the population decreased by nearly 400 persons before entering into a steady climb, reaching an estimated 1999 population of 8,456. *(Until the 2000 U.S. Census data is released, it is important to recognize that all of the population information since 1990 is an estimate. The Census 2000 will provide accurate demographic data that can then be used to update population projections.)*

Table E-2 represents the residential building permit activity over the years in Orrville. The building permit activity supports the positive population growth patterns as projected by the city over the last ten years. A net gain in number of dwelling units (single family, duplexes, and apartments) has occurred since 1990, with a total of 374 additional housing units being constructed in the community since 1990.

**Table E-2  
Residential Building Permit Activity in Orrville**

Year	Single-Family Unit	Duplex	Multi-Family Unit	Gain	Demos	Net Gain (Dwelling Units)
1990	24	—	—	26	18	8
1991	21	6	—	27	14	13
1992	27	16	16	59	2	57
1993	20	11	12	43	1	42
1994	21	10	—	31	1	30
1995	29	—	9	38	4	34
1996	21	8	18	47	5	42
1997	26	—	14	40	4	36
1998	25	8	4	37	6	31
1999	14	4	8	26	5	21
Total	228	63	81	374	60	314
<b>Source:</b> City of Orrville, 2000.						

## Population Characteristics

The existing population information was further analyzed to understand the age distribution, racial/ethnic composition, and educational attainment levels within the community. This information is strictly based on U.S. Census reports and estimates, and does not account for the adjustments in population based on the City's estimates. However, the percentage breakdowns are believed to be typical of the existing environment. When this information is combined with other socioeconomic data, it can be used to evaluate the typical characteristics of the residents and consumers within the community.

### Age

Orrville's population has been aging over the years. This information is important because the age of residents helps determine community needs, and an aging population requires

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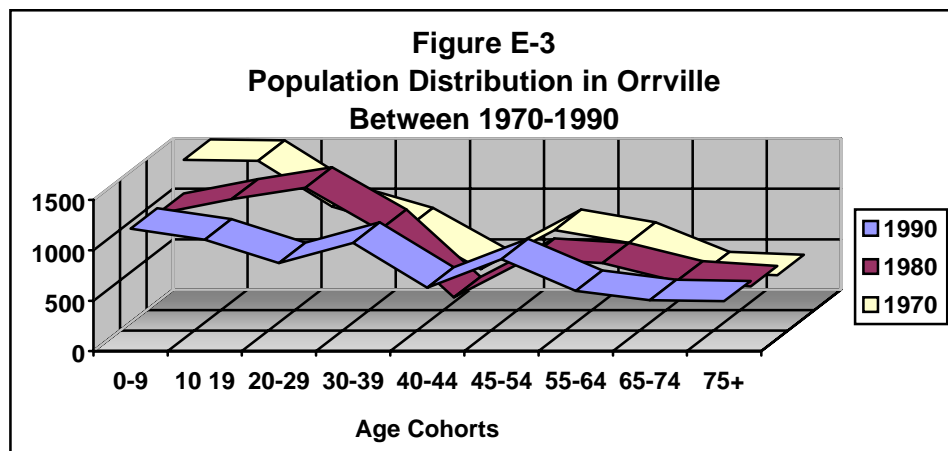
different community facilities than a young population would need.

The 1989 Orrville Comprehensive Plan indicated that the population structure for the community was experiencing decreasing birth rates and an increase in population over the age of 60. For the most part, the 1990 population breakdown (based on the U.S. Census data) supports the aging population trends for Orrville. When compared to previous population distributions, the number of children in Orrville decreased between 1970 to 1980 but has since increased again, although not reaching the high of 1970 as shown in Table E-3 and Figure E-3. The current distribution also shows that today there are fewer persons in the 20 to 24 age group who live in Orrville (400 persons versus 722 in 1980), and greater numbers of residents in the 25 to 44 and 65 and over age groups. The decrease in persons age 20 to 24 indicates that young adults are leaving the area, possibly to pursue higher education or due to lack of job opportunities. With this segment of the population leaving Orrville, birth rates will potentially decrease, which would further increase the average age of Orrville's residents.

**Table E-3  
Population Distribution in Orrville Between 1970-1990**

	Under 5	5-19	20-24	25-44	45-54	55-59	60-64	65-74	75+
1970	711	2,260	533	1,718	796	373	294	376	347
1980	579	1,879	722	1,692	1,042	346	323	488	440
1990	653	1,795	400	2,457	738	336	320	540	473

**Source:** 1989 Orrville Comprehensive Plan, 1990, U.S. Census Bureau data.



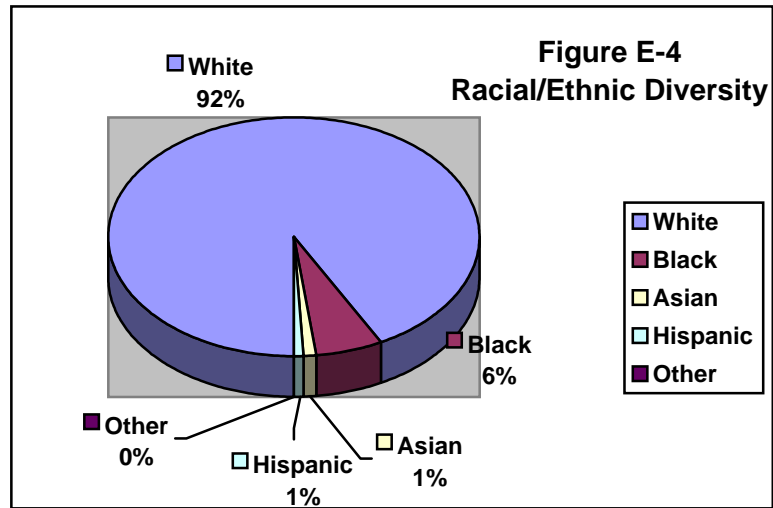
In 1990, there were nearly 2,500 Orrville residents in the 25 to 44 age category (less than 1,700 in 1980) and over 1,000 residents in the 65 and older age categories, as compared to approximately 900 in 1980. The increase in the older population groups is comparable to national trends, and the surge in the 25 to 44 age category is consistent with the high work force population trend that has been reported in the community. The surge in elderly and aging population is predicted to continue into the future as the baby-boomer

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population ages, eventually resulting in an “eighteen year long surge in the number of elderly.” (American’s Demographic Tapestry, Baseline for the New Millennium—1999).

## Race/Ethnicity

Orrville is known for being a diverse community, and the racial/ethnic breakdown of the community is depicted in Figure E-4. In 1990 (U.S. Census), almost 93 percent of the Orrville population was classified as white. This is a lower percentage than that of Wayne County, which reported a 1994 population of over 97 percent white, and a slightly higher percentage than the state as a whole which was approximately 88 percent. The industrial climate and availability of job opportunities has enabled Orrville to attract a slightly larger minority population as compared to the county.



## Education

The 1990 Census revealed that Orrville is a highly educated community. Of the 1990 population over the age of 25, over 75 percent had obtained at least a high school education, with over 34 percent of the population completing some post high school education. The educational attainment levels reported for the county in 1990 were very similar, with 74 percent of the population obtaining at least a high school education, and 32 percent of the population completing some post high school education. The census reported a lower percentage of the state population completing high school (60 percent), although a slightly higher percentage of the state as a whole has received some post high school education (39 percent). Post high school education is easy for residents to obtain in the community and the county due to the diverse range of advanced educational opportunities in the area. The Wayne County Career Center located in Smithville offers a wide range of vocational programs, and the University of Akron-Wayne College, College of Wooster, and the Agricultural Technical Institute, in and around Orrville, have a wide selection of higher education options ranging from two-year to baccalaureate degrees.

## Households and Household Size

Typically the number of households and household size in the community reflect population growth trends. Between 1980 and 1990, the number of households in the community increased

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by over 100 to reach a total of 2,927 households. During the same time, the average household size decreased slightly.

In 1990 the average household size for Orrville was reported to be 2.6 persons. This household size was slightly smaller than the average household size throughout Wayne County of 2.76 persons, and approximately the same as the average size for the entire state (2.59 persons). It is projected that the household size in Orrville and in the county will further decrease in the future. The expected decrease mirrors nationwide trends that indicate the average household size is on the decline. National life-style patterns indicate that 25 years ago the typical American family was comprised of a married couple with children. Today, patterns show that there are more single-parent and single-person household types (America's Demographic Tapestry—Baseline for the New Millennium). If these trends continue, it is expected that the household size in Orrville will decrease to an average of 2.5 persons by the year 2004.

## Income and Employment

A substantial increase in per capita income and median household income has occurred between the years 1989 and 1999 throughout Orrville and Wayne County. The increases are representative of the good local economy and abundant job opportunities in and around Orrville. During the 10 year period, Orrville's per capita income increased nearly 50 percent, reaching \$18,812, and during the same 10 year period between 1989 and 1999, the median household income increased by over 30 percent to reach a high of \$37,467. The county experienced increases in per capita income of 47 percent, and a median household increase of 35 percent. The per capita income for Orrville is higher than that of Wayne County, although the Wayne County median household income remains slightly higher (\$39,621). The Orrville and Wayne County per capita and median household incomes are slightly lower than the statewide averages, which are \$20,437 and \$39,367 respectively.

## Unemployment

Unemployment rates have been consistently low for the community, as well as for Wayne County. Due to the low unemployment rates, concerns have been raised that there are more jobs in Orrville than people to fill them. The lack of available workforce is a concern in regards to economic development and the ability to attract new businesses and industries to the area. The U.S. Census reported the 1990 unemployment rate of Orrville as 6.3 percent, 5.1 percent for the county, and 6.6 percent for the state. More recent civilian labor force estimates from the State of Ohio's Bureau of Employment Services indicates that Wayne County's unemployment percentages have decreased since 1990, and in November 1999, had the second lowest unemployment rates in a six county area, second only to Holmes County. Wayne County unemployment trends are shown in Table E-4. While

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**Table E-4**  
**Wayne County's Unemployment Rate**

Wayne County	Unemployment Percentage
1990	4.9 (5.1—U.S. Census)
1991	5.8
1992	6.4
1993	4.8
1994	3.9
1995	3.5
1996	4.3
1997	4.2
1998	3.2
1999	3.5

**Source:** Ohio Bureau of Employment Services—Labor Market Information.

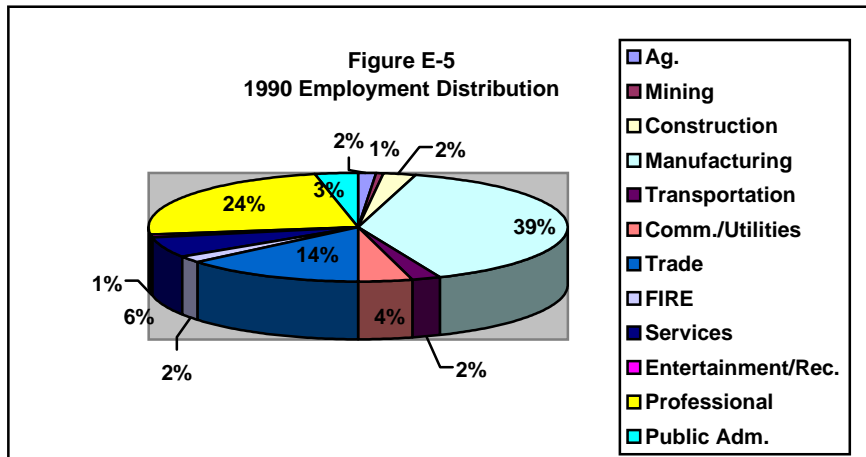
specific unemployment trends are not available for Orrville, it is predicted that the patterns are similar, with Orrville having a below average unemployment rate.

## Employment Base

There are numerous businesses that comprise the employment base for the Orrville community. Some of these businesses have been part of the fabric of the community for many years, while other businesses are new to the area. Some examples of old and new businesses include:

- **Quality Castings Co.**—Which has been producing gray and ductile iron castings in Orrville for nearly 70 years. The company employs approximately 325 people, and still operates from its original location on Main Street.
- **The J. M. Smucker Co.**—Has had a presence in Orrville for more than 100 years. Today the company makes and licenses hundreds of products and employees 650 persons in Orrville.
- **Gradall**—A new company is starting their operations in 2000 with approximately 100 employees.

The economy is also very diversified, something that Orrville prides itself on. Today, Orrville is known for its large industrial base, with nearly 40 percent of the labor force working in manufacturing. Figure E-5 is a breakdown of the 1990 industries and their share of the local labor force as reported by the U.S. Census Bureau.



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## Summary of Socioeconomics

The demographic analysis provides a snapshot of the composition of the community for a given point in time. The 1990 U.S. Census Bureau reports were used to gain an understanding of social, housing, and labor force status, and employment characteristics and trends. This information will be combined with other community information in order to plan for the population needs into the future. The following is a summary of demographic characteristics for Orrville:

- The population in the community has increased by nearly seven percent since 1990 (U.S. Census estimates) and has also increased in age. There are fewer youths and young adults in the community and an increase in the number of residents age 65 and older.
- The community is diverse, having a more diverse racial mixture than the county. This diversification can be attributed to the wide range of employment types and opportunities.
- Orrville's population is highly educated, with a large percentage of the community obtaining at least a high school education. In general, a greater percentage of Orrville residents have attained post high school education than the county, although a slightly lower percentage of residents than the state.
- The number of households increased in the community between 1980 and 1990. During this same period, the household size decreased. These tendencies mirror the nationwide household trends.
- Unemployment rates are low in the community and in Wayne County. This is representative of the good economy, and the concerns regarding the limited available workforce in the area.