# Tennessee Population Projections and Underlying Influential Trends 

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## Demographic Data - Sources

- Decennial Census
- American Community Survey
- Census Bureau Population Estimates
- Population Projections


## Decennial Census

- Mandated by Article 1, Section 2 of U.S. Constitution
- Based on actual counts of persons
- Used to determine number of members in House of Representatives from each state
- Provides the base population for the annual population estimates series


## Population Estimates

- Calculated number of people living in an area at a specific point in time.
- Derived using models that account for changes in:
- Births
- Deaths
- Net Migration
- Used to control/inform ACS, CPS, etc.
- Used for denominators by state/local government agencies and non-profits as denominators in rate calculations and program fund allocations.


## Population Projections

- Estimates of the population for future dates
- Relies on assumptions about future births, deaths, and net migration.
- Big one - that future data will follow some version of prior trends.
- Used by government, business, and nonprofits for planning purposes and demand forecasts.


## Where are we now?



## What We Did (starting 2017)

- A 'cohort-component’ model
- 5-year Age - Sex - Race/Ethnicity - County
- Birth: county-age-race specific birth rates
- Death: Statewide death rates, augmented by SSA tables for changing lifeexpectancy.
- Net Migration - About that . . .


## Invisible Forces

- Net Migration is Unobservable
- Birth and death are documented in vital statistics ‘Tennessee Department of Health'
- Net migration is the 'residual'
- Population is known
- Births are known
- Deaths are known
- Net Migration makes up the difference
- Most volatile component of population change
- Most critical component of short-term population change.
- Also is the main reason why taking population dynamics is important for a good forecast.
- It's not just about if people are moving to a county, but who is moving to a county that affects future pop.


## Nitty Gritty on Net Migration

- Use race, age, 5-year age band population estimates by county from 2000-2018.
- Use SSA life tables to project the number of survivors for each.
- Add the births from TDH/VSS to the 0-4 group.
- Use decennial census info on distributions of withinage bands to determine the proportion of each band to age into the 'next band.'
- The difference between the actual and observed population in ' $t+1$ ' is the net migration. The average net migration from 2000-2018 is used as the baseline expectation of net migration going forward.


## TN Doing What TN Does

- From a population standpoint:
- Grow at about 1.0\% per year on average
- Noisily
- 1930's - 11.4\% Growth
- 1940's - 12.9\% Growth
- 1950's - 8.4\% Growth
- 1960's - 10.0\% Growth
- 1970's - 17.0\% Growth
- 1980's - 6.2\% Growth
- 1990's - 16.7\% Growth
- 2000's - 11.5\% Growth
- 2010's - 8.3\% Growth (at current pace)


# The Impact of Five Counties (or, Marcia, Marcia, Marcia) 

Population

| Year | Tennessee | Share of State | TOTAL | Davidson | Rutherford | Williamson Wilson | Sumner |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2016 | $6,770,010$ | 0.2330 | $1,576,980$ | 692,587 | 324,890 | 231,729 | 140,625 | 187,149 |
| 2010 | $6,346,105$ | 0.2123 | $1,347,105$ | 626,681 | 262,604 | 183,182 | 113,993 | 160,645 |
| 2000 | $5,689,283$ | 0.1930 | $1,097,810$ | 569,891 | 182,023 | 126,638 | 88,809 | 130,449 |
| 1990 | $4,877,185$ | 0.1807 | 881,331 | 510,784 | 118,570 | 81,021 | 67,675 | 103,281 |

Change
2018-
2010
20102000 20001990
423,005
656822
812,098
0.5430

229,875
65,906
62,286
$48,587 \quad 26,632 \quad 26,504$
$\underline{0.2666}$
216,479
59,107
63
63,45

THASLAM

## Cohort Component Model

- We model population growth as a pure population process.
- Births
- Deaths
- Historical Net Migration
- We do NOT include structural economic factors:
- Structural Economic Changes
- Planned Development
- Infrastructure Changes


## Why we exclude economic data

- To include economic data in a model, you need:
- Consistent variables and consistent impact.
- An issued commercial development permit has to mean the same thing in County X as it does in County Y .
- Accurate forecasts of all economic variables included.
- When accurate, including economic variables may be helpful.
- Forecast error in economic variables may (and often does) make overall population forecasts less accurate.
- Most economic variables are even noisier than net migration.
- Incorporating them ALSO requires an understanding of who those variables bring in to a given county.
- Population growth is actually a pretty stable process.


## Key assumption 1

THIS HAS ALL HAPPENED BEFORE AND IT WILL HAPPEN AGAIN

## Key Assumption 2

What's going to happen in 2019-2020



# Challenge: knowing when/if there is a structural break 



Time

## Forecasting across a (possible) structural break



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 structural breakPo

Population



Time

## Well, how are we doing?

- Two years ago - projected pop was:
-6,769,368
- Most recent population estimate:
- 6,770,010
- Only 642 higher than expected.
- This is crazy close.
- We said the population would grow by118,174
- The population actually grew by 118,816
- Over a two year window, our projected population growth was right to within half a percent.


## How are long term projections changing?

|  | 2030 | 2040 | 2050 |
| ---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2017 | $7,390,535$ | $7,853,224$ | $8,341,055$ |
| 2019 | $7,393,069$ | $7,840,212$ | $8,306,294$ |
| Change | 2,534 | 13,012 | 34,761 |

These are small revisions. Even the 2015 number only implies 2.2\% lower population change, total, over the next 30 years, or about .07 pct lower per year growth.

W\&P’s 2050 TN number fell by 640K over the last two years.

## Births by Number

TN Live Births By Year


## Birth Rates

TN Birth Rates (per 1,000 pop) By Year


## Births are falling everywhere

- 77 counties had fewer births in 2015 than in 2007
- Only 9 counties had higher birth rates in 2015 compared to 2007.
- 50 counties had fewer births in 2018 than in 2015


## Birth Rates

## Tennessee Birth Rates



## Deeper into the Pattern

- Among the white non-Hispanic population, the drop is even more pronounced.
- Since White non-Hispanics are about $73.5 \%$ of the population...
- Falling birth rates are a national and global trend.
- Also, considerations for how births are classified - by race of mother or race of child.
- Leads to some strange 'net migration' patterns among children.


## Natural Change - big picture

- 2007:
- 86,661 Births
- 56,800 Deaths
- Natural Change: 29,861
- 2015:
- 81,374 Births
- 66,329 Deaths
- Natural Change: 15,045
- 2018:
- 80,735 Births
- 71,055 Deaths
- Natural Change: 9680


## How pervasive is shrinking NC?

- 2007: Births > Deaths in 70 counties
- 2015: Births > Deaths in 34 counties
- 2018: Births > Deaths in 24 counties
- From 2015-2018, Natural change decreased in 70 of 95 counties.
- In 89 of 95 counties, natural change is negative or decreasing.


## An aging domestic in-migrant population

- Number moved to TN from another state:
- 2011:171K
- 2015:196K
- 2018: 209K
- 2011 - 34,600 kids in-migrated; 23,271 individuals aged 55 \& up.
- 2018 - 39,254 kids inmigrated; 38,112 individluals aged 55 \& up.
- 2015-2018: Individuals aged 55+ account for $60 \%$ of the increase in inmigration.
- Since 2011, the number of individuals aged 55+ moving to TN has increased by 64\%.
- The number of 18-24 year olds has decreased by $8 \%$
- The number of 25-39 year olds has only increased by 29\%


## A few key numbers on race

- 2010:
- 75.6\% White Non-Hispanic
- 16.5\% Black Non-Hispanic
- 4.6\% Hispanic
- 3.2\% Non-Hispanic, NWoBA.
- 2050:
- 62.7\% White Non-Hispanic
- 16.7\% Black Non-Hispanic
- 12.8\% Hispanic
- 6.3\% Non-Hispanic, NWoBA


## Hispanic Population Growth

- 1990: 32,741
- 2000: 123,838
- 278\% Growth
- 2010: 290,059
- 234\% growth
- 2020: 409,704 (projected)
- 41.2\%growth
- 2030: 583,221 (projected)
- 42\% growth
- 2040: 801,894 (projected)
- 37.4\% growth


## Age Histogram, 2018



## Age Histogram, 2040



## A few key stats

- Right now, there are 2 persons aged 25-50 for each person aged 65+
- Five persons aged 25-50 for every person aged 75+
- By 2040, those ratios are expected to fall to $1.45: 1$ and 2.8:1 respectively.
- In 33 counties, we predict the ratio of $25-50$ s to $65+$ will be less than 1.
- Implications for labor force participation and provision of services.


## Continued Urbanization: Counties with Projected Largest Change 2018-2040

| County | Projected Population Change |
| :---: | :---: |
| Rutherford | 180505.5 |
| Williamson | 129832.9 |
| Davidson | 111901.3 |
| Montgomery | 95835.2 |
| Knox | 84510.5 |
| Wilson | 64668.1 |
| Sumner | 63300.5 |
| Hamilton | 50701.3 |
| Shelby | 39656.1 |
| Maury | 29383.9 |

These 10 counties are projected to account for about $80 \%$ of the TN's population growth. They currently account for $60 \%$ (ish) of the current population.

29 counties are expected to contract over the next 30 years.

## If I can be of assistance, please reach out mharris@utk.edu

