

Socioeconomic Appendix – Year 2000

Census Data

Since completion of the Background Profiles for the Northern York County Region Comprehensive Plan in 2001, additional census data have become available for the year 2000. These data are presented on the Appendix Socioeconomic Profile Table. The following statements reflect changes which occurred in the region during the 1990s.

- ❑ The residents of the region had significant increases in incomes over the past decade. From 1989 to 1999, all three indicators of income (calculated as the regional average) increased by more than 35%: median per capita income increased by 46.6%, median household income reflected a gain of 38.5%, and median family income gained 42.6%. In 1999, Monaghan Township had the highest median incomes in the region. The two Boroughs continued to have lower median incomes than the region's Townships.
- ❑ The methodology for several of the poverty level statistics was changed with the 2000 census. For comparative purposes, the summary examines the poverty levels of families, persons 65 and over and children under 18 years. Even though incomes rose over the last decade, it appears that in some communities higher percentages were living in poverty in 1999 than in 1989. Dillsburg Borough, Franklin Township and Franklintown Borough had a higher poverty level for families in 2000 compared to 1990. Franklin Township and Franklintown Borough had higher levels of poverty for children. Franklintown Borough went from 2.0% in 1989 to 19.7% in 1999. Carroll Township and Franklin Township experienced an increase in the poverty level of persons 65 years and over. This increase may be due in part to the presence of personal and nursing care facilities.
- ❑ The hope would be that over the previous decade greater percentages of the region's residents would have attained a college education and fewer would have dropped out of school before receiving a high school diploma. By the year 2000, the percentage of persons 25 and over without a high school diploma was lower than the percentage in 1990; however, the percentage of persons with a college diploma also decreased from 26.0% in 1990 to 23.3% in 2000.¹
- ❑ From an industry perspective for employed persons 16 years and older, the region appears to have continued to decrease its reliance on manufacturing. In 1990, 12.9% of employed individuals had jobs in the manufacturing industry. By the year 2000, this percentage was down to 9.8%. From an occupation perspective, four occupation categories are compared: managerial, sales, service and farming. Higher percentages of individuals worked in managerial, sales, and service occupations in the year 2000 than in 1990. The greatest increase occurred in managerial occupations.

A special note must be made regarding farm occupations. Over the past decade, the region has seen the loss of working farms. The number of persons working in farm

¹ The 1990 Profile combined high school and college graduates for the high school graduate column. The 2000 Profile considered the highest level of education attained.

occupations may be an indicator of the magnitude of this loss; although, in general farms are producing more with fewer farm workers due to advances in technology and equipment. In 1990 each municipality had individuals working in farm occupations (includes fishing and forestry occupations). A total of 142 individuals made their livelihood in farming. The highest concentrations were in the Townships (i.e., Carroll – 44 farmers, Franklin – 40 farmers, Monaghan – 43 farmers), although even the Boroughs had farmers (i.e., Dillsburg – 11 and Franklinton – 4). By 2000, the number of farmers was more than cut in half with 92 fewer farmers. The majority of the remaining 50 farmers resided in Franklin Township, which only recorded one less farmer in 2000 than in 1990. Neither of the two Boroughs recorded any individuals working as farmers in 2000. Carroll Township went from 44 farmers in 1990 to 7 in 2000 and Monaghan Township lost nearly all of its farmers going from 43 farmers in 1990 to 4 in 2000. This loss of a significant body of individuals who are large property owners and stewards of the land may have a dramatic impact on the future of the region.