

MEASURING CHANGE IN RURAL COMMUNITIES

**A Workbook for Determining
Demographic, Economic, and Fiscal Trends**

by

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Sonoran Institute

About the Sonoran Institute

The Sonoran Institute promotes community-based strategies that preserve the integrity of protected lands, and at the same time meet the economic aspirations of adjoining landowners and communities. Underlying the Institute's mission is the conviction that community-driven and inclusive approaches to conservation produce the most effective results.

The Sonoran Institute works throughout the western public land states, from the Sonoran desert of Mexico and the Southwestern U.S. to the Greater Yellowstone region, the Northern Rockies, and Alaska.

Cover Photo: Dennis Glick

Measuring Change in Rural Communities:
A Workbook for Determining Demographic, Economic, and Fiscal Trends
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PREFACE

The economic history of many rural communities is closely linked with natural resources: soils and water for crop and livestock production; hardrock minerals, coal, oil, and natural gas; and forested lands for timber. Some national park gateway communities -- such as West Yellowstone, Montana; Jackson, Wyoming; and Estes Park, Colorado -- have carved out niches for themselves in the tourism industry. But for the most part, many people assume that rural economies are still largely dependent on resource extraction industries.

Extracting natural resources continues to be a part of rural economies. However, new technologies coupled with globalization of labor and the economy are changing where and how Americans work. New applications in resource extraction industries, such as the development of wood composite materials in the construction industry, and growth in "service" occupations, such as financial planning, mechanical engineering, architecture, medicine, pharmaceuticals, education, computer software designing, and telecommunications, are helping to diversify many rural economies.

Such diversification offers opportunities for rural communities. It often brings about additional types of economic activity that can provide employment for local residents. It may increase the capacity of existing businesses to compete and create new markets for local products and services. But the economic growth that accompanies economic diversification can also present challenges for local communities. If the economy and population are growing, the demand for public services may outstrip the tax base. Competition for housing and jobs may put local residents at a disadvantage. Pressure for housing and the subdivision of agricultural land may lead to a loss of open space and wildlife habitat.

Residents who understand the changing make-up of their economies stand a better chance of capitalizing on both the new opportunities and potential problems associated with economic change and growth. This workbook is designed to help interested citizens in rural areas determine where their communities have been and where they are today. Through a series of exercises, it teaches users how to conduct trend analysis of basic demographic, economic, and tax structure data that can be useful in reaching decisions about local economic development and needed services.

This is the second edition of *Measuring Change in Rural Communities*, which was first published in 1994. Little has changed since the first version. We have updated the phone numbers and addresses, and we have provided suggestions for sites on the world wide web where users can obtain demographic and economic data. We decided to not make significant changes because the current version has worked well so far, and it is worth waiting for the release of the 2000 Census before making major revisions.

The authors thank the following for their time and effort in reviewing drafts of first version of this work-book: Cam McIntosh, information specialist with the U.S. Bureau of the Census; Jim Wood with the University of Utah's Bureau of Economic and Business Research; Robert Dettman, rural development specialist with the U.S. Forest Service; Dr. Ernie Dietrich, Department of Economics, St. Johns University; Dr. Thomas Power, chairman of the University of Montana's Economics Department; Michael Kinsley with the Rocky Mountain Institute; Dr. Michael Martin with the University of Minnesota's College of Agriculture; Dr. Walt Hecox, Department of Economics and Business, Colorado College; Luther Propst with the Sonoran Institute; Dr. Matthew McKinney with the Montana Consensus Council; John E. Tubbs, bureau chief for resource development with the Montana State Department of Natural Resources and Conservation; Charlie Cahill, research assistant, Montana State University, and Barbara Cestero, research assistant at the Northwest office of the Sonoran Institute..

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INTRODUCTION

Rural communities are constantly in flux. People move in and out of town, some industries decline and others prosper, people change jobs -- all in response to many different factors, including global competition, the application of new technologies to manufacturing, changes in consumer demand, the depletion of resources, or the development of substitutes. Those factors also affect the revenues and expenditures of local government, and they influence land-management patterns. Newcomers moving into town may want land for real estate development. Local governments may feel pressured to provide new services, such as schools and roads. Perhaps the Chamber of Commerce is interested in expanding downtown businesses or attracting new firms.

The purpose of this workbook is to help rural residents gather and understand information about the make-up of their communities and how the communities may have changed over time. Exercises in the workbook are designed to assist users in working through social, demographic, and economic data. We also suggest ways of interpreting and presenting the information so that it is useful in discussions of basic issues confronting many rural communities today, particularly the challenges of providing long-term economic stability and needed services.

The workbook is intended for a cross section of people who are interested in participating in the shaping of their communities. Many users will not be experts in data interpretation or planning, and we have attempted to avoid technical jargon. But sometimes, certain aspects of data gathering and interpretation require a basic knowledge of the terminology that is common to practitioners in relevant fields. We use such terms -- with explanation -- where necessary.

TREND ANALYSIS

Our focus is on demographic, economic, and fiscal trends because trend analysis can show you how the local population, economy, and tax base have changed over the past few decades, and it can tell you where you are today. Government officials, businesses, and citizens will likely do a better job of community planning if they have a solid understanding of local economic, demographic, and fiscal trends and how these compare to state, national, and global trends. Knowing about certain trends can stimulate informed discussions on the causes and consequences of changes in the community. As examples: What are the forces behind job increases in one industry and job losses in another? How much of the expansion (or decline) in business is due to tax structure, infrastructure, the labor force, or availability of raw materials? How much is due to other variables, such as social, cultural, and environmental amenities? How are changes in population affecting private land development?

We emphasize that while trend analysis can give you a factual basis for reviewing different options, it cannot tell you the best direction for the future of your community. A number of guides to help you accomplish that objective exist; two are described below.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GUIDEBOOKS

There is a large amount of information about rural community development. We recommend you begin with:

- Ayres, J., R. Cole, C. Hein, S. Huntington, W. Kobberdahl, W. Leonard, and D. Zetocha. 1990. *Take Charge: Economic Development in Small Communities*. North Central Regional Center for Rural Development, Ames, IA. (\$14.00)

The book is designed for use by development specialists working with rural communities. It contains detailed instructions on how to conduct an educational program, following exercises divided into three units: "Where Are We Now," "Where Do We Want To Be," and "How Do We Get There"?

Order from: North Central Center for Rural Development
108 Curtiss Hall
Iowa State University
Ames, Iowa 50011-1050
515-294-8321
<http://www.ag.iastate.edu/centers/rdev/ruraldev.html>

- Fosum, H. 1993. *Communities in the Lead: The Northwest Rural Development Sourcebook*. Northwest Policy Center, Seattle, WA. (\$30.00)

The guide contains numerous sources aimed at empowering people in community revitalization initiatives. Each source – from agencies, private companies, university programs, and individuals – is described in detail. It offers an excellent overview of changes facing rural communities in the Northwest, and most of the findings and sources listed are applicable throughout the country. Use as a starting point and a source book for other community assistance manuals.

Order from: Northwest Policy Center
P.O. Box 353060
University of Washington
Seattle, Washington 98195-3060
206-543-7900
<http://weber.u.washington.edu/~npcweb>

HOW THIS WORKBOOK IS ORGANIZED

The workbook is divided into three sections:

CHAPTER 1 DEMOGRAPHICS – PEOPLE AND HOW THEY LIVE

CHAPTER 2 ECONOMICS – WHERE PEOPLE WORK

CHAPTER 3 TAXES – PEOPLE AND THEIR GOVERNMENT

The chapters contain a series of exercises and fill-in-the-blank worksheets relating to topics in the chapters. The worksheets are located at the end of each chapter; we recommend that you make photocopies of the blank worksheets before you begin the exercises so that you will have extra copies. The exercises show you how to gather published demographic, economic, and tax-related information from a variety of government documents and how to organize the data into usable form. Several appendices contain information referenced in the chapters.

A number of questions at the beginning of each chapter set the stage for the exercises. The questions relate to information that is helpful in trend analysis and therefore is comparable from year to year or, in the case of the census, from decade to decade.

The format of the exercises changes slightly among chapters, but generally is as follows:

- STEP ONE** *Gather information.* Data sources are described and detailed instructions are given about how to gather the information.
- STEP TWO** *Identify data needed for the exercise.* We give instructions about what information from the data sources is relevant and which items to ignore.
- STEP THREE** *Enter the data onto the worksheets.* For each exercise, worksheets are provided. It will be necessary to make certain calculations (again, instructions are given) to understand local trends and how they compare to state and regional trends.
- STEP FOUR** *Make figures to accompany the worksheets.* Suggestions for different types of figures are offered in Appendix F.
- STEP FIVE** *Answer the questions.* After completing steps one through four, you will have enough information to answer the questions.

At the end of each chapter, suggestions are offered to help you summarize your findings and identify further research needs.

DATA SOURCES AND TYPES OF DATA

We chose data from reliable sources that are relatively easy to obtain and use. The primary sources for each chapter are listed in the box below. Whenever appropriate, we note alter-native sources. The data sources needed to complete the exercises in the workbook are available at a nominal price in a variety of formats.

Details on how to obtain each source are given in the chapters and are also summarized as a checklist in Appendix I. We recommend you first identify a library that has the publications you will need (Appendix A contains a list of state data centers and affiliates). Then, send the library a copy of Appendix I to verify that the sources you need are available. If they are not, you may need to choose a different library (using the inter-library loan system) or you may have to order the data directly from the U.S. Department of Commerce.

After completing the exercises in this workbook, you may want to do additional research. Contact state agencies, such as state departments of commerce and employment or state security commissions, or community sources, such as chambers of commerce and individual employers to get the information you need. You may also find it helpful to gather primary data through surveys of local residents and businesses.

Each source of data tends to have strengths and weaknesses, the most complete picture of a local area comes from a variety of sources. For example, the Bureau of Economic Analysis is a good source for county-level data on long-term employment and income trends. The Bureau of the Census is a better source for community-level information, although it is less detailed in describing individual industries. Using both sources will give you more information than if you rely on only one.

DATA SOURCES FOR EACH CHAPTER		
Chapter 1:	People and how They Live (demographics)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Decennial Census of Population and Housing</i>, Bureau of the Census, U.S. Department of Commerce.
Chapter 2:	Where People Work (economics)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Regional Economic Information System, Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Department of Commerce.• <i>County Business Patterns</i>, Bureau of the Census, U.S. Department of Commerce.
Chapter 3:	People and Their Government (taxes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Census of Governments</i>, Bureau of the Census, U.S. Department of Commerce.

Types of Data

Generally, analysts employ two types of data -- quantitative and qualitative. Quantitative data are published, factual information on topics such as population, education levels, business development, income and employment levels, and local taxes. Gathering quantitative information constitutes the "desk work" phase of trend analysis.

Qualitative data are most often gathered through surveys, interviews, focus groups, and community meetings -- the "field work" phase of analysis. The data may include information on the role of amenities in business location and retention decisions or on public opinion about what the community values and what is threatening those values. Do people believe that historic buildings, wild rivers, and spectacular mountains make their community special? Do they think special events, such as rodeos, dance festivals, and county fairs attract people to their community?

This workbook makes use of quantitative information from the appropriate federal agencies. The sources listed in the box on the next page are helpful in learning how to gather qualitative data.

GEOGRAPHIC LEVEL OF DETAIL

The exercises in each chapter are designed to use information primarily for counties, often the smallest geographic units for which data are available. The exception is census data; since 1990, census information is available for small and unincorporated areas within counties so that demographic trends can be determined at the community level. However, lack of detailed economic and fiscal data at the community level means that economic and fiscal trends must be determined at the county level for the most part.

Another reason for using county-level information is that a community rarely functions as an economic unit by itself. Sometimes, a multi-county level of analysis is most appropriate. For example, people may commute to work or to shop between towns -- some of which may be in different counties -- on a regular basis. Information in Chapters 1 and 2 will help you decide if county-level or multi-county-level analysis best meets your needs.

The Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) publishes a book that may be helpful in determining boundaries for your study area. Titled *BEA Economic Areas*, it divides the country into "functional economic areas delineated to facilitate regional economic analysis." Each area consists of an economic "node," most often a standard metropolitan statistical area (SMSA) and the surrounding counties related to it. In rural areas without SMSAs, cities with a population of 25,000 are used as the nodes. The last delineation, made in 1977, was based on three sets of data: (1) journey-to-work data from the 1970 Census of Population, (2) newspaper-circulation data for 1972, and (3) 1975 county-commuting data developed from Social Security Administration and Internal Revenue Service records. The BEA is now re-estimating the economic areas, and new figures are expected in late 1994.

Determining the appropriate geographic level of analysis is also influenced by the nature of the research question. If the purpose of analyzing local trends is to determine how one community is competing against neighboring communities in capturing retail trade, then specific community-level information is required. That level of information is generally not available from government sources, and the techniques are beyond the scope of this workbook. For guidance, see Hustedde *et al.* in Appendix E.

SOURCES FOR QUALITATIVE ANALYSIS

- Stokes, N.S., A.E. Watson, G.P. Keller, and J.T. Keller. 1989. *Saving America's Countryside: A Guide to Rural Conservation*. The Johns Hopkins University Press, Baltimore, MD. (\$16.95)

The book describes how to conduct an inventory of a local community, particularly with regard to issues such as natural features, cultural and historic resources, and other "quantitative" variables. Many case studies illustrate different conservation techniques.

Order from: The Johns Hopkins University Press
P.O. Box 50370
Baltimore, Maryland 21211
410-516-6900

- Sargent, F.O., P. Lusk, J.A. Rivera, and M. Varela. 1991. *Rural Environmental Planning for Sustainable Communities*. Island Press, Washington, DC. (\$25.95)

Chapters such as "Discovering Public Goods," "Inventorying the Resource Base," and "Planning for Rural Quality, Recreation, and Historic Preservation" help readers understand local communities beyond the quantitative analysis described in this workbook.

Order from: Island Press
P.O. Box 7
Covelo, California 95428
1-800-828-1302
<http://www.islandpress.org>

- Lake, C.C. 1987. *Public Opinion Polling: A Handbook for Public Interest and Citizen Advocacy Groups*. Island Press, Washington, DC. (\$19.95)

This "user friendly" guide describes how to design and implement a poll and takes the reader through the complexities of sampling and analysis of poll results. A sample questionnaire is included.

Order from Island Press (address above).

CHAPTER 1

DEMOGRAPHICS—PEOPLE AND HOW THEY LIVE

Demographic statistics relate to the population -- its size, sex, age composition, household characteristics (including income), and geographical distribution. The demographic make-up of an area influences demand for services, guides allocation of government funds, and affects social and economic behavior. Thus, it is important to understand the demographics of a community.

EXAMPLE: PITKIN COUNTY, COLORADO

The 1990 census indicates that growth is occurring in western Colorado's Pitkin County; the population has doubled since 1970, and the number of housing units has tripled. Hispanics now comprise 15 percent of the county's population. For ten percent of the county's residents, English is not their native tongue. The census also shows that the median annual family income for the county is \$52,976 and that the median rent is \$732 a month. This bears out the stereotype of Aspen, the county's best known community, as a relatively wealthy resort town and expensive place to live. Aspen is also the dominant economic center in the area, and many people who cannot afford to live in Aspen commute to jobs there from other towns.

Understanding such statistics and how they are different from the demographics before the 1990 census helps determine trends and assists in answering questions such as: What are the impacts of a changing population on housing, day care, transportation, and other public services? What are the impacts on the quality of life? What new services might be needed?

CHAPTER OBJECTIVES AND ORGANIZATION

This chapter focuses on Bureau of the Census data, on census geography, and on different census products and formats. It describes how to gather, analyze, and present demographic data in three categories: 1) population, 2) housing, and 3) education/work/income/poverty/migration. We chose those categories because they are key to analysis of change in communities. In addition, the data are comparable from one census period to another, enabling a study of characteristics over time and aiding in determining trends.

Keep in mind that the Bureau of the Census collects a good deal more data than discussed in the workbook; you may want to examine other tables within the three categories. A close look may reveal detailed items, not all of which are comparable from one census to the next.

Following the discussion of census data, we present several exercises that will help you answer the questions below.

EXERCISE ONE: POPULATION

- What is the age distribution of the local population and how is it changing?
- Are any specific groups of people increasing or decreasing in number?
- Is the population of the county increasingly urban or rural?
- How do community trends compare to those of the county and the rest of the state?

EXERCISE TWO: HOUSING

- What is the median value of a home? How has it changed over the last few decades?
- What is the median rent?
- Are the number of vacant housing units increasing or decreasing?

EXERCISE THREE: EDUCATION/WORK/INCOME/POVERTY/MIGRATION

- How has the labor force changed? Which occupations are growing and which are declining?
- What is the median household income?
- What percent of families are below the poverty level?
- How many families are headed by a single mother?
- What percentage of the population holds college degrees or higher?
- Are people moving in (or out) of the county?

OBTAINING INFORMATION

The primary source of demographic statistics for many researchers and planners is the *Decennial Census of Population and Housing*. The data, collected and published every ten years, describe current characteristics and provide essential information for determining community needs and the impacts of development. The information is available in a variety of formats: CD-ROM (computer disk-read only memory), computer diskette, on-line computer connection, printed publications, or microfiche. It is found in most public libraries, federal depository libraries, and state data centers (see Appendix A for a list of state data centers).

To order printed reports from *Decennial Census of Population and Housing*, write or call:

Superintendent of Documents
Government Printing Office
P.O. Box 371954
Pittsburgh, PA 15250-7954

Customer Service: 202-512-1800

Give the customer-service representative the name of the printed report you want to order, and you will have to prepay by check or credit card.

You can purchase the information on CD-ROM. Order forms are available by writing or calling:

Customer Services
Data User Services Division
U.S. Bureau of the Census
Washington, D.C. 20233-8300
301-457-4100
<http://www.census.gov>

Census information is also available from this easy-to-use site: <http://govinfo.kerr.orst.edu>

CENSUS METHODOLOGY

How Census Data Are Collected

The Bureau of the Census classifies census data in two categories: 100 percent data and sample data.

100 Percent Data: The 100 percent data are obtained from questionnaires sent to individuals and households in the United States during the official census (in April of the census year). Two different forms -- the long form and the short form -- are circulated. All individuals and households are supposed to fill out whichever form they receive. The 100 percent data items are those that appear on both the short and long forms and therefore represent (ideally) 100 percent of the population.

Sample Data: About 17 percent of the population, or one in six randomly selected housing units, receives the long-form questionnaire used to derive the sample data. This data set is referred to as a sample because only a proportion of the population is "sampled" through responses to the long form.

Table 1 shows the subject items for the *Decennial Census of Population and Housing* that are included in the 100 percent and sample census forms. Economic characteristics are limited in the decennial census information, but some of the economic information that is included can be used to complement more comprehensive sources of economic data from the publication *County Business Patterns* or from the Bureau of Economic Analysis (see Chapter 2).

How Census Data Are Published

Census information is published in a series of printed reports and electronic formats. Electronic formats include diskettes, computer tapes, and on-line access. In addition, data from the 1990

census are available on CD-ROM, a new format for publishing census data. There are two major advantages to the new format. First, CD-ROMs contain an immense amount of data; one CD-ROM holds the equivalent of 200,000 printed pages or 1,600 floppy disks. Thus, they are an ideal medium for the vast amount of data generated by the decennial census. Second, CD-ROMs allow data to be downloaded to disk and imported into a spreadsheet or report program on your personal computer. Many libraries have mounted census data for their states on local area networks, so modem access is possible and a CD-ROM is not required.

TABLE 1. Subject Items Included in the 1990 Decennial Census of Population and Housing

POPULATION	HOUSING
<p>100 Percent Component Household relationships Sex Race Age Marital status Hispanic origin</p>	<p>Number of units in structure Number of rooms in unit Tenure (owned or rented) Value of home or monthly rent paid Congregate housing (meals included in rent) Vacancy characteristics</p>
<p>Sample Component <i>Social Characteristics:</i> Place of birth, citizenship, and year of entry to U.S. Education (enrollment and attainment) Ancestry Migration (residence in 1985) Language spoken at home Veteran status Disability Fertility</p> <p><i>Economic characteristics:</i> Labor force Place of work and journey to work Year last worked Occupation, industry, and class of worker Work experience in 1989 Income in 1989</p>	<p>Year moved into residence Number of bedrooms Plumbing and kitchen facilities Vehicles Heating fuel Source of water, method of sewage disposal Year structure built Condominium status Farm residence Shelter costs, including utilities</p>

Most data from the 1990 census are now available in the various formats; some are available only on CD-ROM. Fewer printed reports were issued in 1990, so that for block-level data and certain special compilations, CD-ROMs are essential. See Appendix H for details on computer requirements for using the census on CD-ROM.

Six printed reports will provide much of the summary data for counties and places, although not the detail found on CD-ROMs:

1990 CPH-1
(100%) *Summary Population and Housing Characteristics.* Provides total population and housing unit counts, summary statistics on age, sex, race, Hispanic origin, household relationship, units in structure, value and rent, number of rooms, tenure and vacancy characteristics.

1990 CPH-5
(sample) *Summary Social, Economic, and Housing Characteristics.* As a companion volume to CPH-1, provides data on sample subjects.

1990 CP-1
(100%) *General Population Characteristics.* Provides detailed statistics on age, sex, race, Hispanic origin, marital status, and household relationship characteristics.

1990 CH-1
(100%) *General Housing Characteristics.* Provides detailed statistics on units in structure, tenure, value and rent, number of rooms, and vacancy characteristics.

1990 CP-2
(sample) *Social and Economic Characteristics.* Provides data on population subjects such as income, education, and occupation.

1990 CH-2
(sample) *Detailed Housing Characteristics.* Provides data on subjects such as year the structure was built, number of bedrooms, plumbing and kitchen facilities, telephone, vehicles, source of water, sewage disposal, and shelter costs.

The three reports used in this chapter are General Population Characteristics, General Housing Characteristics, and Social and Economic Characteristics. We chose them because they compare most closely with 1980 census publications.

Census Geography

In 1990, the Bureau of the Census "blocked" the entire country, making available for the first time data for small and unincorporated areas within counties. It is important to understand census geography when you are using census data because, as noted in the Introduction to this workbook, not all data are available at all geographic levels. Only 100 percent data items are

available down to the block level, while sample items are available only to the block group level (see Figure 1 and Table 2).

One advantage of the census over other sources is that the census allows you to obtain information for finer levels of geographic detail. For example, "place" (incorporated areas of more than 2,500 population) can be used if you want information about a particular city or town within a county. Most state data centers and federal depository libraries maintain county block maps that can help you identify the most appropriate geographic level.

In addition, the Bureau of the Census collects data between decennial censuses that are published in the series Current Population Reports. Those data are collected from a much smaller segment of the population than the decennial census, however, so they are not available for geographic levels smaller than the state level (Figure 1 and Table 2).

USING CENSUS DATA FOR TREND ANALYSIS

Because of changes in definitions and presentation of the data from one census to another, you need to be careful that the data items you use to measure trends are comparable. The exercises below are designed to help you gather and report comparable data. Where applicable, changes between the 1980 and 1990 census are noted. Because only a portion of the information is consistent from one census to another, fewer data items can be used for trend analysis than if you were to analyze your area at one point in time.

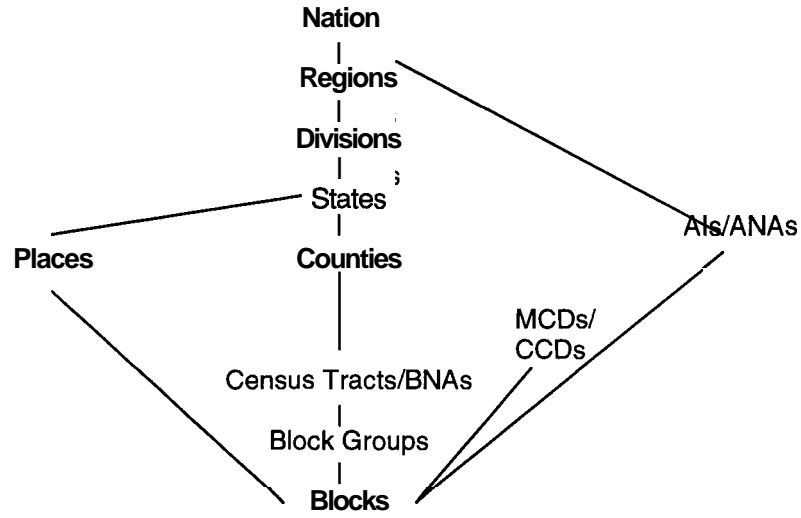
DETERMINING THE APPROPRIATE GEOGRAPHIC LEVEL OF ANALYSIS

The first step is to decide on the geographic unit you wish to analyze. For the reasons listed in the Introduction, we recommend you start at the county level. If you have reason to believe that people commute on a regular basis in and out of your county to other counties for work, shopping, medical treatment, entertainment, and other reasons, you may wish to expand your study to include those other counties.

One method of determining the study area is to use the Mean Travel Time to Work statistics from the census, data that tell you the average time it takes for residents to get to work. Coupled with local employment records and personal knowledge, those data can help you assess the likelihood that people cross county lines to work. If it appears that significant earnings in your county are associated with out-of-county employment, consider expanding the study area.

Sources for Mean Travel Time to Work statistics include Social and Economic Characteristics, 1990 CP-2, PC80-1-C (printed report) and CD-ROM STF3A, General Profiles (computer report - disk name; choose submenu item "Labor Force and Commuting"). You can also obtain

Figure 1. Basic 1990 Census Geographic Hierarchy



AIs/ANAs = American Indian reservation; ANAs = Alaska Native Village Statistical Areas
 Places = (incorporated places) concentrations of populations that have legally prescribed boundaries, powers, and functions.
 MCDs/CCDs = Minor Civil Divisions/Census County Divisions (county subdivisions such as townships and towns).
 Census Tracts = small, locally delineated statistical areas within counties.
 BNAs = Block Numbering Areas (areas delineated to group or number blocks in counties without census tracts).
 Block Groups = a collection of census blocks within a census tract or block numbering area.

Table 2. Geographic Availability of Census Data Products

Geographic Level	Information Source		
	100 Percent	Sample	Current Population Reports
United States	X	X	X
Region	X	X	X
Division	X	X	X
State	X	X	X
County	X	X	
Minor Civil Division/Census County Division	X	X	
Census Tract/Block Numbering Area	X	X	
Block Group	X	X	
Block	X		
Indian Reservation	X	X	
Metropolitan Area	X	X	
Urbanized Area	X	X	
Congressional District	X	X	

information on commuting flows to and from counties from the Bureau of Economic Analysis (see the table "Journey to Work" in Appendix B).

An alternative is to use income information from the Bureau of Economic Analysis to estimate the extent to which BEA makes "residence adjustments" to account for across-county money flows (see page 54).

NOTE: The Bureau of the Census has created a new computer-readable map and geographic database for the United States – the TIGER (Topographically Integrated Geographic Encoding and Referencing) System. TIGER/Line files provide information on streets, rivers, railroads, and other line features in a form that can be processed by a computer. The data are available by state on CD-ROM and come with software called Landview. It is recommended that TIGER/Line data be imported into a geographic information system (GIS) where they can be used to perform geographic analysis of census data, a sophisticated undertaking that requires experience with GIS. TIGER/Line files can be ordered from the Bureau of the Census (call 301-457-4100) or are found at many depository libraries or state data centers (see Appendix A).

EXERCISES

Worksheets are provided at the end of the chapter for each of the following exercises. We recommend you make extra copies before beginning the exercises.

EXERCISE ONE: POPULATION

Many activities in the community or county may be affected by the numbers, characteristics, and location of its people. Whether locating a business, planning a library or health care facility, or assessing housing needs, population statistics enable you to better understand the needs of the community.

Questions

- What is the age distribution of the local population and how is it changing?
- Are any specific groups of people increasing or decreasing in number?
- Is the population of the county increasingly urban or rural?
- How do community trends compare to that of the county and the rest of the state?

To complete this section you will need the reports listed at the top of the following page. The source you choose depends on whether you will be using printed reports or computer CD-ROM (or on-line) data.

Computer (see Figure 2)

Disk name -- CD-ROM STF1A, General Profile

Because the 1990 census was the first to use CD-ROM, you must use the printed reports for the previous years.

The CD-ROM comes with a menu-driven program. You can get all the information needed to fill in the 1990 column under the heading General Profile, which you can print or save for later use. Select the age breakdowns shown in the table or select AGE for a more detailed breakdown.

Printed (see Figure 3)

General Housing Characteristics

1990 CH-1 (1990 data)

HC80-1-A (1980 data)

Once you have located the printed reports, use the table on the next page to help identify the worksheet items. Although the reports have changed, this basic volume is included in each decennial census. Age group breakdowns changed in 1990, so you will need to add age groupings to produce comparable data.

STEP ONE From the printed reports or CD-ROM, obtain county-level data for 1980 and 1990 for the items listed on the worksheet (end of chapter) titled Population Trends. Enter the data in the "1980" and "1990" columns ("Latest Year Available" is optional).

STEP TWO Make the calculations indicated in the "% of Total" columns.

STEP THREE (optional) If you are interested in a finer level of geographic detail, follow STEPS ONE and TWO using community level census data to fill in the worksheet titled Population Trends: State, County, and Community.

STEP FOUR Create figures to display the information in your completed tables (Appendix F). Suggestions include a bar chart showing age distributions for each year reported or a line graph showing population change over time.

NOTE: Throughout the workbook, we suggest using figures to complement the worksheets because figures can depict the data in ways that facilitate better understanding. The figures can be created using computer software programs like Microsoft Excel, Lotus 123, or Quattro Pro. Therefore, it is helpful to include people who are skilled in these techniques in your planning group. (See Appendix F for sample figures for each exercise).

WORKSHEET ITEM		1980	1990
Total Population	Community	Table 14	Table 1
	County	Table 14	Table 1
	State	Table 14	Table 1
Urban/Rural	Community	not applicable	not applicable
	County	Table 52 (subtract from total population)	Table 12
	State	Table 14	Table 1 or 12
Population by Age Group	Community	Table to use depends on size of community: begin by looking at table 30.	Table 61 (pop. 6000+) Table 74 (1000 - 2000) Table 68 (2500 - 10,000)
	County	Tables 45 & 46	Table 54
	State	Tables 18 & 19	Tables 16 & 17
Median Age	Community	Table 14	Table 1
	County	Table 14	Table 1
	State	Table 14	Table 1
Total Households	Community	Table 14	Table 2
	County	Table 14	Table 2
	State	Table 14	Table 2
Persons/Household	Community	Table 14	Table 68
	County	Table 14	Table 57
	State	Table 14	Table 51

Figure 2. Sample Computer Printout from the 1990 Census CD-ROM (STF1A)

1990 Census of Population and Housing		Page
1		
046 Colorado		
050 Pitkin County		
Total population.....		12,661
SEX		
Male.....		6,648
Female.....		6,813
AGE		
Under 5 years.....		708
5 to 17 years.....		1,424
18 to 20 years.....		252
21 to 24 years.....		875
25 to 44 years.....		6,434
45 to 54 years.....		1,647
55 to 59 years.....		429
60 to 64 years.....		335
65 to 74 years.....		398
75 to 84 years.....		143
85 years and over.....		24
Median age.....		34.8
Under 18 years.....		2,132
Percent of total population.....		16.8
65 years and over.....		557
Percent of total population.....		4.4
HOUSEHOLDS BY TYPE		
Total households.....		5,877
Family households (families).....		2,687
Married-couple families.....		2,222
Percent of total households.....		37.8
Other family, male householder.....		148
Other family, female householder.....		317
Nonfamily households.....		3,196
Percent of total households.....		54.3
Householder living alone.....		2,081
Householder 65 years and over.....		126
Persons living in households.....		12,541
Persons per household.....		2.13
GROUP QUARTERS		
Persons living in group quarters.....		126
Institutionalized persons.....		22
Other persons in group quarters.....		98
RACE AND HISPANIC ORIGIN		
White.....		12,328
Black.....		41
Percent of total population.....		6.3
American Indian, Eskimo, or Aleut.....		48
Percent of total population.....		8.4
Asian or Pacific Islander.....		142
Percent of total population.....		1.1
Other race.....		102
Hispanic origin (of any race).....		475
Percent of total population.....		3.8

Figure 3. Sample Page from 1990 Census Printed Report (General Population Characteristics)

Table 54. Age and Sex by Race and Hispanic Origin: 1990—Con.
(Threshold and complementary threshold are 400 persons. For definitions of terms and meanings of symbols, see text)

County	Fremont County—Con.			Garfield County				Gilpin County	Grand County	Gunnison County
	Black	Hispanic origin (of any race)	White, mt of Hispanic origin	All persons	White	Hispanic origin (of any race)	White, mt of Hispanic origin	All persons	All persons	All persons
All persons	141	2 759	11 771	29 974	29 148	1 111	17 908	3 070	7 966	10 017
Under 5 years	8	184	1 563	2 434	2 344	217	2 184	191	524	666
Under 1 year.....	2	23	247	388	374	34	352	33	97	114
1 year.....		54	338	491	464	55	426	39	110	140
2 years.....	2	42	289	493	475	44	442	48	111	140
3 years.....		28	344	546	530	42	497	48	109	123
4 years.....	2	37	346	516	500	42	467	29	97	149
5 to 9 years	8	266	1 884	2 612	2 547	178	2 404	226	599	631
5 years.....		41	371	572	559	39	527	45	107	112
6 years.....	1	40	363	521	500	35	477	45	125	125
7 years.....		40	373	520	510	43	474	41	116	143
8 years.....	1	31	361	487	474	35	445	45	132	136
9 years.....		54	418	512	504	26	481	50	119	115
10 to 14 years	5	202	1 401	2 149	2 086	127	1 989	186	582	566
10 years.....		32	411	505	495	30	470	45	138	129
11 years.....		44	397	449	435	27	416	34	114	119
12 years.....	2	46	371	367	358	18	344	28	111	103
13 years.....		39	371	452	435	25	417	42	114	118
14 years.....	2	41	349	376	363	27	344	37	105	97
15 to 19 years	17	201	1 731	1 843	1 773	143	1 672	189	478	1 135
15 years.....		38	382	358	349	20	335	54	103	93
16 years.....	3	42	392	375	359	26	340	39	100	107
17 years.....	2	44	350	342	323	30	305	39	107	101
18 years.....		36	332	428	396	38	364	36	97	306
19 years.....	7	41	275	360	346	29	328	21	71	560
20 to 24 years	120	238	1 351	1 772	1 679	185	1 541	88	502	1 546
20 years.....	15	40	256	399	378	45	345	19	76	510
21 years.....	23	45	265	333	321	36	292	22	67	336
22 years.....				2 445	2 345	205	2 196	220	769	919
23 years.....	198	319	1 766	3 083	2 999	194	2 848	335	896	917
24 years.....	217	299	2 123	3 106	3 012	131	2 927	435	894	968
25 to 29 years	130	262	2 189	3 106	3 012	131	2 927	435	894	968
25 years.....	72	211	2 008	2 504	2 447	105	2 372	371	678	773
26 years.....	45	131	1 574	1 671	1 627	54	1 590	235	421	508
27 years.....	14	117	1 379	1 205	1 182	43	1 150	104	304	373
28 years.....	1	97	1 428	1 061	1 051	30	1 027	88	361	323
29 years.....	4	93	1 570	1 109	1 100	18	1 085	117	347	291
30 to 34 years	4	69	1 436	997	988	17	975	88	246	242
30 years.....		55	739	1 216	1 182	11	1 161	53	162	152
31 years.....	2	32	277	557	554	548	722	40	98	126
32 years.....		27	851	851	851					
33 years.....		16	665	299	299					
35 to 39 years	821	2 543	21 818	21 704	21 704					
35 years.....		255	6 724	6 724	6 724					
36 years.....	8	199	5 823	2 980	2 980					
37 years.....										
38 years.....										
39 years.....										
40 to 44 years	31.5	30.4	39.2	32.7	32.7					
40 years.....										
41 years.....										
42 years.....										
43 years.....										
44 years.....										
45 to 49 years										
45 years.....										
46 years.....										
47 years.....										
48 years.....										
49 years.....										
50 to 54 years										
50 years.....										
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78 years.....										
79 years.....										
80 to 84 years										
80 years.....										
81 years.....										
82 years.....										
83 years.....										
84 years.....										
85 years and over										
85 years.....										
86 years.....										
87 years.....										
88 years.....										
89 years.....										
90 years.....										
18 years and over	103	716	11 019	10 733	10 733					
62 years and over.....	3	108	3 299	3 299	3 299					
65 years and over.....										
Median age	30.9	29.3	40.7	33.2	33.2					
Male		1 674	14 182	15 264	15 264					
Median age	31.6	31.0	37.6	32.3	32.3					
Males per 100 females	657.1	154.3	100.1	103.8	103.8					

U.S. Department of Commerce
 Economic and Statistics Administration
 BUREAU OF THE CENSUS

1990 CP-1-7

1990 Census of Population
 General population characteristics
Colorado

**STEP
FIVE**

Using the worksheets, answer the following questions.

- What is the age distribution of the local population and how is it changing?

- Are any specific groups of people increasing or decreasing in number?

- Is the population of the county increasingly urban or rural?

- (optional) Are community trends different from those of the county and state?

EXERCISE TWO: HOUSING

Housing has come to be a major investment for most individuals. The average family now spends 21 percent of its income on shelter. Information on the cost of housing and types of housing available can say much about a community's situation in relation to affordable housing. Coupled with population data, housing information helps communities better understand housing needs and home ownership and rental trends.

Questions

- What is the median value of a home? How has it changed over the last few decades?
- What is the median rent?
- Is the number of vacant housing units increasing or decreasing?

To complete this exercise, you will need the following reports:

Computer (see Figure 4)

Disk name -- CD-ROM STF1A, General Profile

Use printed reports for the years before 1990.

Printed (see Figure 5)

General Housing Characteristics

1990 CH-1 (1990 data)

HC80-1-A (1980 data)

Once you locate the reports, use the table on the next page to identify the worksheet items. Note that in 1990, housing stock was defined as "all units"; in 1980, it was "year-round units."

STEP ONE From the printed reports or CD-ROM, obtain county-level data for 1980 and 1990 and fill out the worksheet titled Housing Trends in the "1980" and "1990" columns ("Latest Year Available" is optional).

STEP TWO Make the calculations indicated in the "% of Total" columns.

STEP THREE Adjust "Median Value" and "Contract Rent" data so that they are expressed in constant dollars (see pages 39-40 for instructions).

WORKSHEET ITEM		1980	1990
Total Housing Units	Community	Table 1	Table 1
	County	Table 1	Table 1
	State	Table 1	Table 1
Occupied Housing Units			
Occupied Housing Units	Community	Table 1	Table 1 (reported as %; you must calculate #)
	County	Table 1	Table 1
	State	Table 1	Table 1
Vacant Housing Units			
Vacant Housing Units	Community	Table 1	Table 1 (subtract Total Occupied from Total Housing Units)
	County	Table 1	Table 1 (subtract Total Occupied from Total Housing Units)
	State	Table 1	Table 1 (subtract Total Occupied from Total Housing Units)

STEP FOUR (optional) If you are interested in a finer level of geographic detail, follow STEPS ONE through THREE using the worksheet titled Housing Trends: State, County, Community.

STEP FIVE Create figures to complement the worksheets (Appendix F). One suggestion is a bar graph showing the change in housing and rental prices over time.

Figure 4. Sample Computer Printout from the 1990 Census CD-ROM (STF1A)

1990 Census of Population and Housing	Page
2	
040 Colorado	
050 Pitkin County	
Total housing units.....	9,837
OCCUPRNCY RND TENURE	
Occupied housing units.....	5,877
Owner occupied.....	3,082
Percent owner occupied.....	52.4
Renter occupied.....	2,795
Vacant housing units.....	3,964
For seasonal, recreational, or occasional use.....	3,065
Homeowner vacancy rate (percent).....	3.6
Rental vacancy rate (percent).....	13.4
Persons per owner-occupied unit.....	2.31
Persons per renter-occupied unit.....	1.94
Units with over 1 person per room.....	249
UNITS IN STRUCTURE	
1-unit, detached.....	3,492
1-unit, attached.....	807
2 to 4 units.....	923
5 to 9 units.....	1,093
10 or more units.....	2,695
Mobile home, trailer, other.....	827
VRBLUE	
Specified owner-occupied units.....	1,532
Less than \$50,000.....	=
\$50,000 to \$99,000.....	78
\$100,000 to \$149,000.....	143
\$150,000 to \$199,999.....	124
\$200,000 to \$299,999.....	186
\$300,000 or more.....	996
Median (dollars).....	452,800
CONTRACT RENT	
Specified renter-occupied units paying cash rent.....	2,324
Less than \$250.....	116
\$250 to \$499.....	578
\$500 to \$749.....	712
\$750 to \$999.....	415
\$1,000 or more.....	503
Median (dollars).....	663
RACE AND HISPANIC ORIGIN OF HOUSEHOLDER	
Occupied housing units.....	5,877
White.....	5,769
Black.....	13
Percent of occupied units.....	0.2
American Indian, Eskimo, or Aleut.....	24
Percent of occupied units.....	0.4
Asian or Pacific Islander.....	49
Percent of occupied units.....	0.8
Other race.....	22
Hispanic origin (of any race).....	161
Percent of occupied units.....	2.7

Figure 5. Sample Page from the 1990 Census Printed Report (General Housing Characteristics)

State Urban and Rural and Size of Place Inside and Outside Metropolitan Area County Place and [In Selected States] County Subdivision [1,000 or More Persons]	All housing units					Occupied housing units										Vacancy rate		
	All persons	Total	Median rooms	Percent		Total	Median persons in unit	Mean number of persons per room	Percent				Specified owner, median value (dollars)	Specified renter		Homeowner	Rental	
				1 unit, detached or attached	In buildings with 10 or more units				Owner	With 1.01 or more persons per room	With householder 65 years and over	1-person households		Specified owner, median value (dollars)	Median contract rent (dollars)			Percent with meals included in rent
The State	3 294 394	1 477 349	3.3	65.8	16.9	1 282 489	2.21	.44	62.2	3.0	16.6	26.6	81 700	361	1.0	3.3	11.4	
URBAN AND RURAL AND SIZE OF PLACE																		
Urban	2 715 517	1 179 718	5.3	64.0	19.7	1 070 052	2.18	.43	59.9	2.9	16.4	28.0	81 600	364	1.0	3.2	11.2	
Inside urbanized area	2 377 820	1 033 410	5.3	63.4	21.1	943 760	2.17	.43	59.3	2.9	15.8	28.4	82 800	368	1.1	3.3	11.2	
Central place	1 159 235	534 586	4.9	58.5	24.7	483 403	2.01	.43	52.5	3.5	18.9	33.4	77 900	350	1.2	3.4	11.2	
Urban fringe	1 218 585	498 824	5.8	68.6	17.2	460 357	2.32	.43	66.4	2.4	12.6	23.1	86 200	394	.8	3.2	11.2	
Outside urbanized area	337 697	146 308	5.2	68.1	9.8	126 292	2.25	.45	64.5	3.0	20.5	25.1	71 300	309	.5	2.9	10.5	
Place of 10,000 or more	113 943	45 909	5.4	72.1	6.7	42 804	2.25	.45	65.5	2.6	21.0	24.8	73 900	342	.8	2.7	8.9	
Place of 2,500 to 9,999	223 754	100 399	5.1	66.2	11.3	83 488	2.25	.46	63.9	3.2	20.3	25.2	68 900	290	.3	3.0	11.3	
Rural	578 877	297 631	5.3	73.0	5.7	212 437	2.34	.45	74.2	3.1	17.7	19.6	83 000	314	.5	3.4	13.1	
Place of 1,000 to 2,499	96 637	49 166	4.9	60.6	13.2	36 977	2.26	.48	66.2	3.6	21.6	24.3	58 900	307	.3	4.4	13.3	
Place of less than 1,000	55 034	32 440	4.8	65.9	8.9	21 728	2.17	.48	67.6	4.1	24.9	28.1	44 200	249	.2	5.3	25.0	
Other rural	427 206	216 025	5.4	76.9	3.5	153 732	2.38	.45	77.0	2.8	15.8	17.2	97 700	346	.7	3.0	10.2	
INSIDE AND OUTSIDE METROPOLITAN AREA																		
Inside metropolitan area	2 686 341	1 155 648	5.4	65.8	18.9	1 049 770	2.20	.43	61.3	2.9	15.4	27.0	84 600	371	1.0	3.2	11.1	
In central city	1 167 903	535 749	4.9	58.9	24.4	484 774	2.03	.43	52.9	3.4	18.7	33.0	78 100	352	1.2	3.4	11.3	
Not in central city	1 518 438	619 899	5.8	71.7	14.2	564 996	2.35	.43	68.5	2.4	12.6	21.9	88 700	395	.8	3.1	10.8	
Urban	1 290 127	524 562	5.8	69.3	16.6	483 630	2.34	.43	66.6	2.4	12.4	22.9	87 300	397	.8	3.2	11.2	
Inside urbanized area	1 175 681	482 261	5.8	68.4	17.7	444 601	2.32	.43	66.2	2.4	12.3	23.3	86 800	396	.8	3.2	11.3	
Outside urbanized area	114 446	42 301	6.0	79.6	4.3	39 029	2.49	.44	72.1	2.6	12.6	17.9	93 800	406	1.0	2.8	9.2	
Rural	228 311	95 337	6.0	84.9	.6	81 366	2.45	.43	79.8	2.4	14.0	15.9	106 200	359	.3	2.9	7.1	
Outside metropolitan area	608 053	321 701	5.0	65.8	9.5	232 719	2.21	.47	66.5	3.3	22.0	24.8	61 200	281	.4	3.4	12.9	
Urban	257 837	119 557	4.9	63.1	11.8	101 780	2.13	.46	61.1	3.1	24.5	28.5	57 000	272	.4	2.8	10.3	
Inside urbanized area	71 938	30 261	5.2	67.3	8.3	28 566	2.16	.45	62.7	2.3	23.8	25.9	42 500	275	.3	1.9	5.5	
Outside urbanized area	185 899	89 296	4.9	61.6	13.0	73 214	2.11	.46	60.5	3.4	24.7	29.5	54 300	271	.4	3.2	11.9	
Place of 10,000 or more	35 479	15 317	4.9	67.9	8.2	13 972	2.02	.44	60.5	2.4	29.3	32.0	57 900	284	.3	3.3	9.3	
Place of 2,500 to 9,999	150 420	73 979	4.8	60.3	14.0	59 242	2.14	.47	60.5	3.7	23.7	28.9	53 600	268	.4	3.1	12.5	
Rural	350 216	202 144	5.0	67.5	8.1	130 939	2.28	.47	70.7	3.5	20.0	21.8	65 900	300	.6	3.8	15.4	
COUNTY																		
Adams County	265 038	106 947	5.3	63.7	16.5	96 353	2.41	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	
Alamogosa County	13 617	5 254	4.9	64.6	3.3	4 721	2.33	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	
Arapahoe County	391 511	168 665	5.7	66.1	23.2	154 710	2.23	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	
Archuleto County	5 345	3 951	4.9	74.3	1.1	2 010	2.31	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	
Baca County	4 556	2 434	5.1	77.5	.7	1 872	2.08	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	
Benet County	5 048	2 332	5.2	80.9	.1	1 865	2.15	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	
Boulder County	225 339	94 621	5.4	65.8	16.8	88 402	2.18	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	
Chaffee County	1 684	6 547	5.1	71.4	2.0	4 848	2.08	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	
Cheyenne County	2 397	1 083	5.4	69.0	.4	904	2.20	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	
Clear Creek County	7 619	4 811	5.1	79.6	4.0	3 153	2.13	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	
Conejos County	7 453	3 574	4.9	77.7	.7	2 492	2.50	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	
Costilla County	3 190	1 743	4.9	75.7	-.	1 192	2.32	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	
Crowley County	3 946	1 415	4.9	76.6	-.	1 165	2.15	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	
Custer County	1 926	2 216	4.8	80.1	.7	770	2.17	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	
Delta County	20 980	10 082	5.1	75.8	.8	8 372	2.12	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	
Denver County	467 610	239 636	4.6	54.1	32.0	210 952	2.18	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	
Dolores County	1 504	947	4.7	73.2	-.	581	2.21	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	
Douglas County	60 391	22 291	7.0	91.6	3.1	20 844	2.67	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	
Eagle County	21 928	15 226	4.5	40.0	25.5	8 354	2.36	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	
Elbert County	9 646	3 997	6.1	85.8	-.	3 377	2.51	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	
El Paso County	397 014	165 056	5.5	66.1	16.1	146 965	2.31	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	
Fremont County	32 273	13 683	5.1	68.8	2.9	11 713	2.12	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	
Garfield County	29 974	12 517	5.0	54.9	11.3	11 266	2.31	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	
Gipin County	3 070	2 438	4.6	91.7	-.	1 308	2.10	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	
Grand County	7 966	9 985	4.4	53.5	17.5	3 168	2.21	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	
Gunnison County	10 273	7 294	4.5	61.2	11.2	3 855	2.13	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	
Hinsdale County	467	1 254	4.0	81.9	-.	214	1.97	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	
Huerfano County	6 009	3 913	4.8	77.2	1.9	2 446	2.07	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	
Jackson County	1 605	1 326	4.3	73.8	-.	632	2.20	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	
Jefferson County	438 430	178 611	6.1	75.3	14.4	166 545	2.32	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	
Kiowa County	1 688	878	5.3	79.5	.9	657	2.16	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	
Kit Carson County	7 140	3 224	5.6	76.4	3.1	2 785	2.18	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	
Lake County	6 007	3 527	5.1	70.8	6.5	2 382	2.22	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	
La Plata County	32 284	15 412	4.9	61.4	8.1	11 976	2.25	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	
Larimer County	186 136	77 811	5.5	68.7	10.1	70 472	2.25	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	
Las Animas County	13 745	6 975	4.9	73.4	4.0	5 421	2.13	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	
Lincoln County	4 529	2 204	5.3	74.3	.6	1 817	2.10	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	
Logan County	17 567	7 824	5.3	77.3	3.9	6 978	2.14	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	
Mesa County	93 145	39 208	5.2	68.5	7.0	36 250	2.19	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	
Mineral County	558	1 201	4.0	80.3	-.	247	2.00	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	
Moffat County	11 357	5 235	5.1	59.5	10.0	4 178	2.38	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	-.	
Montezuma County	18 672	8 050	5.0	67.7	1.1	6 762	2.36	-.	-.	-.	-.							

**STEP
SIX**

Using your completed worksheets, answer the following questions.

- What is the median value of a home and how has it changed over time?

- What is the median rent and how has it changed?

- Is the number of vacant housing units increasing or decreasing?

EXERCISE THREE: EDUCATION/WORK/INCOME/POVERTY/MIGRATION

The Bureau of the Census gathers information on education, employment, income, poverty, and migration. The data can be used in determining eligibility for government programs, planning public services, and understanding which types of jobs are on the increase or decrease. Migration trends can help determine the stability of the community.

Questions

- How has the labor force changed? Which occupations are growing and which are declining?
- What is the median household income?
- What percent of families are below the poverty level?
- How many families are headed by a single mother?
- What percentage of the population holds college degrees or higher?
- Are people moving in (or out) of the county?

To complete the exercise, you will need:

Computer (see Figure 6)

Disk name -- CD-ROM STF3A, General Profile

Use printed reports for the years before 1990.

Using the menu-driven program on CD-ROM, select General Profile. Then, choose among several items: Social Characteristics, Labor Force and Commuting, Income and Poverty, and Housing Characteristics. The information you need for the 1990 column of the worksheet is contained in all of these menu items. If you prefer to save the information on diskette for later use, copy all of the menu items, each as a separate file.

Printed (see Figure 7)

Social and Economic Characteristics

1990 CP-2 (1990 data)

Detailed Population Characteristics

PC80-1-C (1980 data)

Once you have located the reports, use the table on the next page to identify the worksheet items.

STEP ONE Gather data from the printed reports or CD-ROM reports to fill out the work sheets titled Education, Work, Income, and Poverty Trends and Migration for the "1970," "1980," and "1990" columns on the trends worksheet ("Latest Year Available" is optional) and the "1975" and "1985" columns on the migration worksheet.

STEP TWO Make the calculations indicated in the "% of Total" columns.

STEP THREE Adjust all items that are expressed dollar amounts to constant dollars (see pages 39-40 for instructions).

STEP FOUR (optional) Follow steps one through three using community-level census data to fill out the worksheet titled Education, Work, Income, and Poverty: State, County, and Community.

WORKSHEET ITEM		1980	1990
Families Below Poverty	Community	Table 168 (pop. 2500 - 10,000) Table 161 (pop. 10,000 - 50,000)	Table 3
	County	Table 180	Table 3
	State	Table 71	Table 3
Female Householder	Community	Table 166 (pop. 2500 - 10,000) Table 157 (pop. 10,000 - 50,000)	Table 196 (pop. 6500 - 9999) Table 170 (pop. 10,000 +)
	County	Table 173	Table 141
	State	Table 64	Table 21
Median Household Income	Community	Table 168 (pop. 2500 - 10,000) Table 161 (pop. 10,000 - 50,000)	Table 3
	County	Table 180	Table 3
	State	Table 71	Table 3
Total Civilian Labor Force	Community	Table 167 (pop. 2500 - 10,000) Table 158 (pop. 10,000 - 50,000)	Table 199 (pop. 2500 - 10,000) Table 173 (pop. 10,000 +)
	County	Table 176	Table 144
	State	Table 61	Table 24
Educational Attainment	Community	Table 167 (pop. 2500 - 10,000) Table 157 (pop. 10,000 to 50,000)	Table 1
	County	Table 175	Table 1
	State	Table 66	Table 1
Occupation by Category	Community	Table 167 (pop. 2500 - 10,000) Table 159 (pop. 2500 - 10,000)	Table 201 (pop. 2500 - 9999) Table 174 (pop. 10,000 +)
	County	Table 177	Table 145
	State	Table 68	Table 25
Migration (Residence)	Community	Table 174	Table 198 (pop. 2500 - 9999) Table 172 (pop. 10,000)
	County	Table 174	Table 143 (in #)
	State	Table 174	Table 23 (in #)

Figure 6. Sample Computer Printout from the 1990 Census CD-ROM (STF3A)

1990 Census of Population and Housing		Page 1
040 Colorado		
050 Pitkin County		
INCOME IN 1989		
Households.....		5,881
Less than \$5,000.....		177
\$5,000 to \$9,999.....		162
\$10,000 to \$14,999.....		304
\$15,000 to \$24,999.....		997
\$25,000 to \$34,999.....		948
\$35,000 to \$49,999.....		1,100
\$50,000 to \$74,999.....		1,129
\$75,000 to \$99,999.....		321
\$100,000 to \$149,999.....		354
\$150,000 or more.....		389
Median household income (dollars).....		39,991
 Families.....		 2,704
Less than \$5,000.....		39
\$5,000 to \$9,999.....		45
\$10,000 to \$14,999.....		84
\$15,000 to \$24,999.....		276
\$25,000 to \$34,999.....		301
\$35,000 to \$49,999.....		488
\$50,000 to \$74,999.....		713
\$75,000 to \$99,999.....		240
\$100,000 to \$149,999.....		234
\$150,000 or more.....		284
Median family income (dollars).....		52,976
 Nonfamily households.....		 3,177
Less than \$5,000.....		145
\$5,000 to \$9,999.....		125
\$10,000 to \$14,999.....		236
\$15,000 to \$24,999.....		747
\$25,000 to \$34,999.....		658
\$35,000 to \$49,999.....		592
\$50,000 to \$74,999.....		411
\$75,000 to \$99,999.....		79
\$100,000 to \$149,999.....		85
\$150,000 or more.....		99
Median nonfamily household income (dollars).....		29,548
 Per capita income (dollars).....		 26,755

Figure 7. Sample Page from the 1990 Census Printed Report (Summary Social, Economic, and Housing Characteristics)

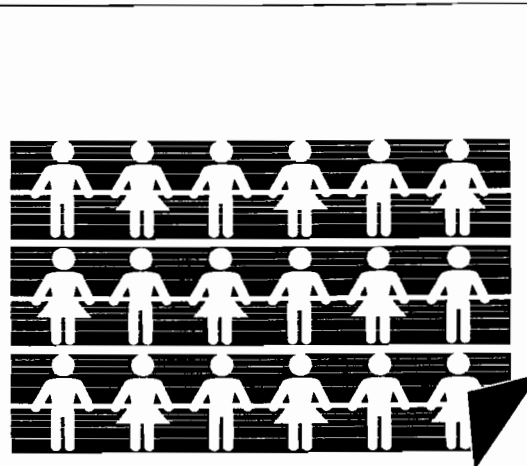
State Urban and Rural and Size of Place Inside and Outside Metropolitan Area County Place and [In Selected States] County Subdivision [2,500 or More Persons]	Percent of employed persons 16 years and over						Median income in 1989 (dollars)		Median income in 1989 of year-round full-time workers (dol- lars)		Income in 1989 below poverty level				
	Managerial and professional specialty occupations	Technical, sales, and adminis- trative support occupations	Service occupations	Farming, forestry, and fish- ing occu- pations	Precision produc- tion, craft, and repair occu- pations	Opera- tors, fab- ricators, and labor- ers	House- holds	Families	Per capita income in 1989 (dollars)	Male	Female	Percent of persons for whom poverty status is determined			Percent of families
												All ages	Related children under 18 years	65 years and over	
The State	29.9	33.2	13.6	2.4	9.8	11.1	30 140	35 930	14 821	29 285	20 001	11.7	15.0	11.0	8.6
URBAN AND RURAL AND SIZE OF PLACE															
Urban	30.6	34.4	13.7	1.0	9.3	10.9	30 231	36 514	14 989	29 656	20 283	11.7	15.1	10.5	8.5
Inside urbanized area	30.9	35.0	13.3	.9	9.1	10.8	30 507	36 983	15 220	29 931	20 489	11.5	14.9	9.7	8.3
Central place	31.6	33.3	15.1	1.0	8.1	10.8	25 925	32 701	14 378	27 252	19 696	15.9	21.4	11.5	11.4
Urban fringe	30.4	36.5	11.7	.8	9.9	10.7	35 186	40 559	16 021	31 271	21 049	7.4	9.7	7.2	5.7
Outside urbanized area	28.5	30.1	16.1	2.0	11.4	11.9	27 645	33 046	13 365	27 492	18 151	13.1	16.1	14.8	9.8
Place of 10,000 or more	26.9	31.7	14.8	1.5	11.7	13.5	28 522	34 026	12 996	28 103	18 669	11.3	13.4	13.9	8.3
Place of 2,500 to 9,999	29.2	29.4	16.8	2.3	11.2	11.1	27 247	32 460	13 553	27 288	17 788	14.0	17.5	15.3	10.6
Rural	26.4	27.1	13.2	9.1	12.1	12.2	29 600	33 133	14 028	27 591	17 805	11.6	14.5	13.4	8.8
Place of 1,000 to 2,499	23.1	27.4	18.1	3.6	13.6	14.2	25 304	29 302	11 785	25 485	16 660	12.9	16.0	15.4	10.0
Place of less than 1,000	20.8	24.7	18.7	5.4	13.9	16.5	20 394	24 566	10 179	21 870	14 435	18.3	23.4	19.5	13.8
Other rural	27.8	27.3	11.5	10.7	11.5	11.2	31 969	35 706	15 028	29 267	18 703	10.4	12.9	11.5	7.9
Rural farm	15.8	19.3	7.3	42.4	6.4	8.7	31 156	33 354	15 142	24 437	15 977	10.3	13.9	6.8	8.3
INSIDE AND OUTSIDE METROPOLITAN AREA															
Inside metropolitan area	31.1	34.4	12.9	1.4	9.4	10.9	31 431	37 883	15 467	30 307	20 580	10.8	13.9	9.7	7.8
In central city	31.5	33.3	15.0	1.0	8.3	10.9	26 280	33 097	14 412	27 383	19 757	15.5	20.7	11.4	11.0
Not in central city	30.8	35.2	11.4	1.6	10.1	10.8	35 969	41 134	16 278	31 516	21 079	7.3	9.5	7.8	5.6
Urban	30.8	36.3	11.6	.8	9.9	10.7	35 720	41 055	16 158	31 374	21 160	7.2	9.5	7.4	5.6
Inside urbanized area	30.5	36.6	11.6	.7	9.8	10.7	35 466	40 937	16 161	31 368	21 177	7.3	9.5	7.1	5.6
Outside urbanized area	34.0	32.8	11.4	1.2	10.2	10.3	39 019	42 050	16 129	31 433	20 942	7.1	9.1	9.8	5.8
Rural	31.1	28.7	10.0	6.6	11.7	11.8	37 677	41 616	16 957	32 311	20 468	7.6	9.4	9.8	5.5
Outside metropolitan area	24.2	27.3	16.9	7.3	12.0	12.4	24 143	28 158	11 967	24 867	16 107	15.4	19.5	15.1	11.8
Urban	25.7	29.2	19.2	2.4	11.4	12.3	22 463	27 483	11 763	25 442	16 035	17.1	21.9	15.3	12.8
Inside urbanized area	25.7	27.9	20.1	1.7	11.6	12.0	22 030	26 625	11 230	24 413	16 035	17.1	21.9	15.3	12.8
Place of 10,000 or more	24.1	30.0	22.4	2.5	9.9	11.0	20 413	24 413	11 230	22 438	16 035	17.1	21.9	15.3	12.8
Place of 2,500 to 9,999	26.0	27.4	19.6	2.8	11.9	12.3	22 438	25 313	11 230	22 438	16 035	17.1	21.9	15.3	12.8
Rural	23.1	26.0	15.4	10.8	12.3	12.4	25 313								
COUNTY															
Adams County	19.7	34.4	13.6	1.2	13.4	17.7	30 522								
Alamosa County	27.6	29.1	17.4	6.4	8.3	11.2	20 265								
Arapahoe County	34.6	38.7	10.8	.7	7.4	7.8	37 234								
Archuleta County	23.6	29.2	17.3	6.6	11.4	11.9	22 894								
Baca County	17.6	19.7	12.2	28.4	6.8	15.2	18 662								
Bent County	25.7	25.0	14.8	7.4	7.7	18 977									
Boulder County	38.2	33.3	10.7	1.1	8.1	8.6	35 322								
Chaffee County	23.6	25.0	25.4	3.1	11.1	11.9	21 174								
Cheyenne County	14.6	21.1	14.9	24.6	12.1	12.7	24 341								
Clear Creek County	30.9	30.1	15.9	1.0	12.9	9.2	33 149								
Conejos County	18.5	18.6	14.1	17.7	11.2	19.8	14 188								
Costilla County	12.6	26.1	15.3	13.9	14.0	18.0	13 057								
Crowley County	15.7	25.3	20.2	16.7	7.7	14.3	16 088								
Custer County	21.4	26.5	16.7	13.7	12.6	9.1	20 000								
Delta County	21.4	23.8	16.9	11.8	13.0	13.2	18 532								
Denver County	31.3	33.5	15.6	1.0	7.2	11.3	25 106								
Dolores County	14.9	23.1	15.2	11.6	18.9	16.2	19 952								
Douglas County	40.3	35.2	9.2	1.8	7.7	5.8	51 718								
Eagle County	27.4	28.4	21.1	2.0	12.8	8.3	36 931								
Elbert County	23.1	31.3	10.3	8.6	15.0	11.7	36 273								
El Paso County	30.4	33.3	14.8	1.1	10.0	10.4	29 604								
Fremont County	23.9	27.8	21.4	3.4	11.6	11.9	19 988								
Garfield County	25.3	25.8	15.8	4.5	15.9	12.6	29 176								
Gilpin County	30.6	30.1	14.7	1.1	10.9	12.6	31 898								
Grand County	26.6	27.5	19.4	4.2	11.7	10.6	29 991								
Gunnison County	30.7	28.9	19.4	4.1	8.8	8.1	23 013								
Hinsdale County	30.3	21.2	17.2	7.7	12.4	11.3	26 250								
Huerfano County	19.1	25.4	23.3	8.7	9.6	14.0	14 730								
Jackson County	20.1	13.1	11.9	31.7	6.5	16.6	20 938								
Jefferson County	33.8	36.0	10.6	.8	9.9	9.0	39 084								
Kiowa County	13.6	19.9	16.0	31.1	7.9	11.5	21 417								
Kit Carson County	18.1	22.3	15.3	21.3	8.7	14.1	13 025								
Lake County	24.0	19.4	24.8	1.2	18.4	12.3	24 708								
La Plata County	26.8	29.4	17.6	4.2	11.5	10.6	25 759								
Lamar County	31.3	31.6	13.5	2.0	10.4	11.1	29 686								
Las Animas County	22.6	23.0	19.2	8.4	11.0	15.8	16 286								
Lincoln County	16.8	23.7	19.1	21.8	9.9	8.8	20 595								
Logan County	18.2	27.6	15.8	12.1	10.1	16.1	22 065								
Mesa County	24.8	31.2	15.6	3.1	11.5	13.9	23 698								
Mineral County	27.1	21.5	12.1	4.9	22.7	11.7	19 830								
Moffat County	19.9	23.3	16.2	5.6	19.7	15.2	31 615								
Montezuma County	25.2	24.4	14.1	6.5	11.1	16.0	22 491								
Montrose County	25.2	24.4	14.6	9.6	11.1	16.0	22 491								
Morgan County	25.2	24.4	14.6	9.6	11.1	16.0	22 491								
Otero County	25.2	24.4	14.6	9.6	11.1	16.0	22 491								

U.S. Department of Commerce
Economics and Statistics Administration
BUREAU OF THE CENSUS

1990 CP-2-7

1990 Census of Population
Social and Economic
Characteristics
Colorado

CENSUS '90



STEP FIVE

Create figures to display the data in the worksheets (Appendix F)—perhaps a bar graph showing the distribution of the labor force by occupation type or a pie chart showing the percent of families below the poverty level at different points in time.

STEP SIX

Using the worksheets, answer the following questions.

- How has the labor force changed? Which occupations are growing and declining?

- What is the median household income (in constant dollars) and how has it changed?

- What percent of families are below the poverty level? Has the number changed?

- How many families are headed by a single mother and how has the number changed?

- What percent of the population holds college degrees or higher? Has the number changed?

- Are people leaving the community in greater numbers than they are entering? How have the numbers changed?

SUMMARY FINDINGS

In the space below, briefly describe how the local population, housing characteristics, and work force have changed over the last few decades. Some questions you might consider are: What changes occurred in relation to age distribution and educational level? Is the area losing or gaining population? At a rate higher or lower than a decade ago? What occupations are most common? Compared to a decade ago? How does your community compare to the rest of the county and the state? What needs for future public and private service do you anticipate based on the data you have collected?

FURTHER RESEARCH

You may want to do more research to answer other questions, such as:

- Is the population segregated with respect to demographic traits? For example, are there separate areas in the county or community where low- and high-paid workers live? If so, what needs do each have for basic infrastructure and services?
- Has the quality of housing changed? Can a typical worker in the study area afford to purchase a home in town?
- Has the number of non-resident homeowners risen? If so, what might that mean?
- Is homelessness an issue in your area?
- What needs do you anticipate for the older population?
- Is it likely that the population and housing situation has changed significantly in the years since the 1990 census? If so, you may need to contact state sources of local county authorities for more recent information (see Appendix A for a list of state data centers).

Begin a list of additional questions for future research.

ADDITIONAL SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Bureau of the Census. 1993. *Census, CD-ROM and You: New Horizons for Microcomputer Users of Census Bureau Data*. U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, D.C.

Bureau of the Census. 1989. *1990 Census of Population and Housing Tabulation and Publication Program*. U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C.

Bureau of the Census. 1992. *Do You Know Which 1990 Report Is Similar to Your Favorite 1980 Report?* (1990 CPH-I-1). U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, D.C.

Bureau of the Census. 1992. *What Do I Need to Map Out 1990 Census Data?* (1990 CPH-I-15). U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, D.C.

Census 90 Basics. Available from the Bureau of the Census, Customer Services. Call 301-763-4100.

Free Data Bonanza. 1994. *American Demographics* 16(4): 6. April.

Myers, D. 1992. The 1990 Census: A Whole New Ball Game. *Planning* 58(2): 238-40.

GLOSSARY

A complete index, definitions of census terms, and descriptions of comparability between censuses are provided in the Bureau of the Census publication *Guide, Part B. Glossary* (1990 - CPH-R-1B).

Female Householder: Single mother head of household.

Household: A household includes all persons who occupy a housing unit.

Housing Unit: An apartment, a mobile home, a group of rooms, or a single room that is occupied as separate living quarters.

Industry and Occupation: The industry and occupation categories for the 1990 census are based on the Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) Manual and the Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) Manual, published by the U.S. Department of Commerce.

Median Income: The median divides income distribution into two equal segments, one representing households with incomes above the median and the other representing households with incomes below the median.

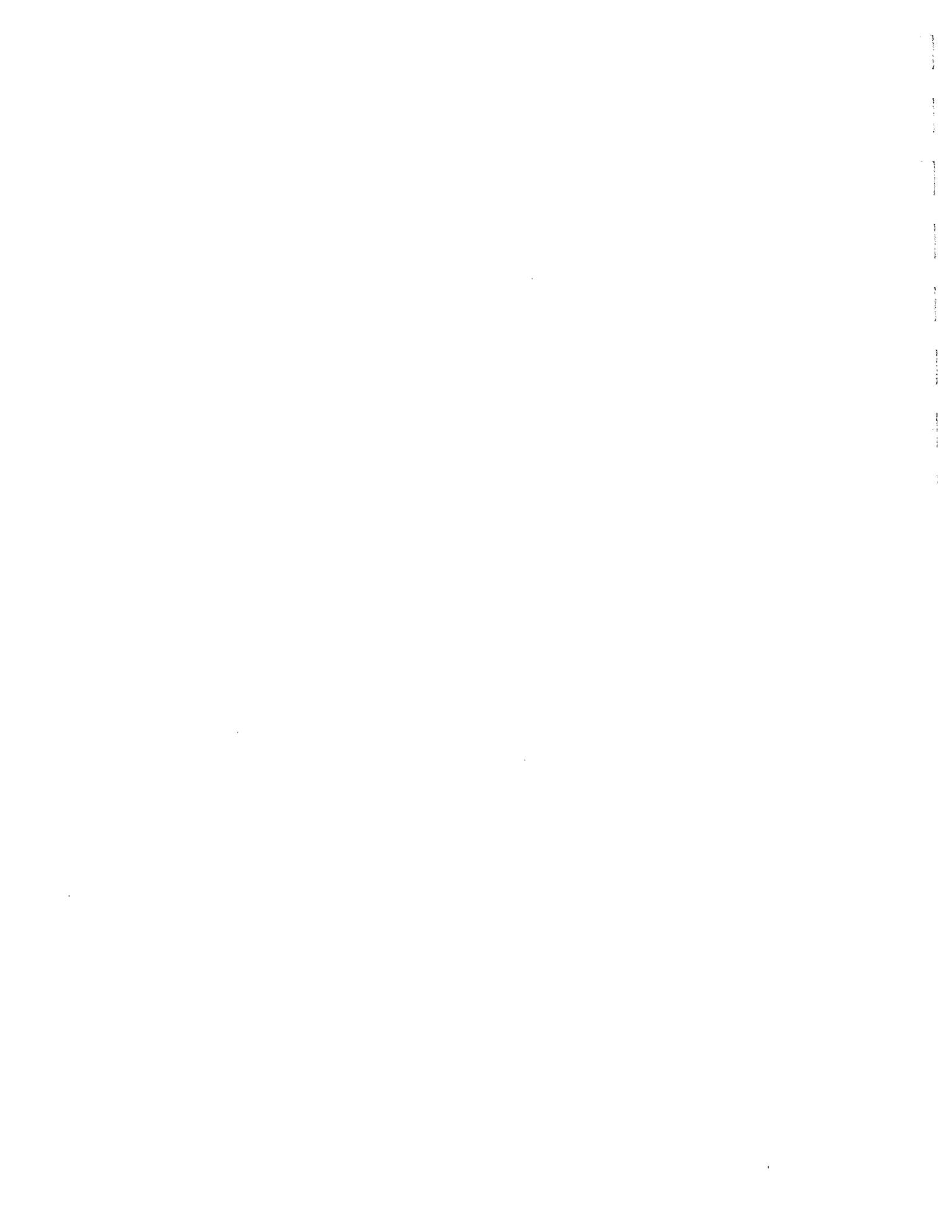
Poverty Status: The poverty thresholds are revised annually to allow for changes in the cost of living as reflected in the Consumer Price Index. The average poverty threshold or level for a family of four persons was \$12,674 in 1989, the year for which data appear in the 1990 census.

Rural: Places of less than 2,500 population.

Urban: Places of 2,500 or more population.

WORKSHEET
Exercise One: Population Trends

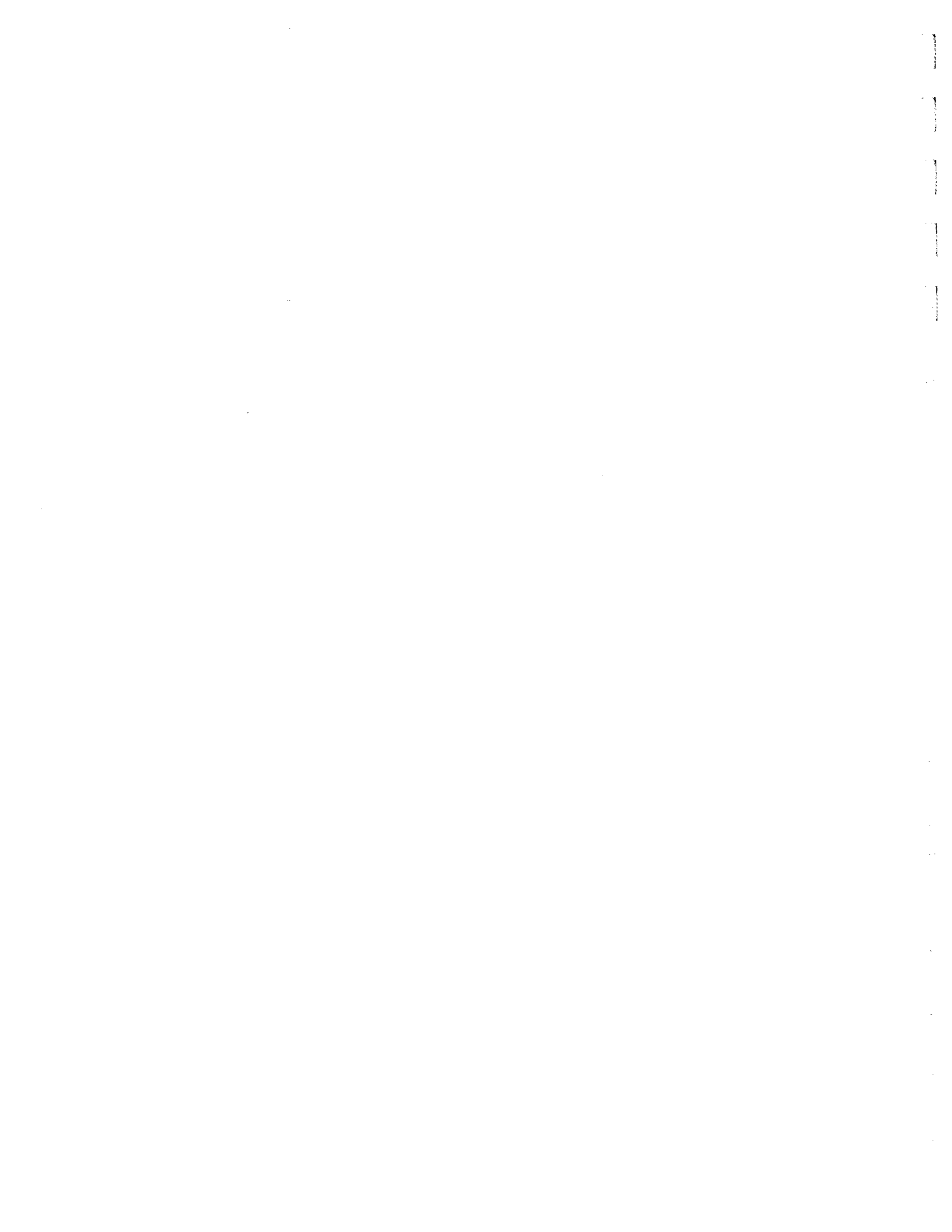
	1980	% of 1980 Total	1990	% of 1990 Total	Latest Year Available ()	% of () Total
Total Population		-		-		-
Urban Population						
Rural Population						
Population by Age Group:						
Under 5 years						
10-14						
15-19						
20-24						
25-29						
30-34						
35-39						
40-44						
45-49						
50-54						
55-59						
60-64						
65-69						
70-74						
75-79						
80-84						
85+						
Median Age						
Total Households						
Persons per Household						



WORKSHEET

Exercise Two: Housing Trends

(Dollar units in constant \$)	1980	% of 1980 Total	1990	% of 1990 Total	Latest Year Available ()	% of (Total
Total Housing Units		-		-		-
Occupied Housing Units						
Owner Occupied						
Renter Occupied						
Vacant Housing Units						
Seasonal, recreational or occasional use						
Median Value (\$)		-		-		-
Median Contract Rent (\$)		-		-		-

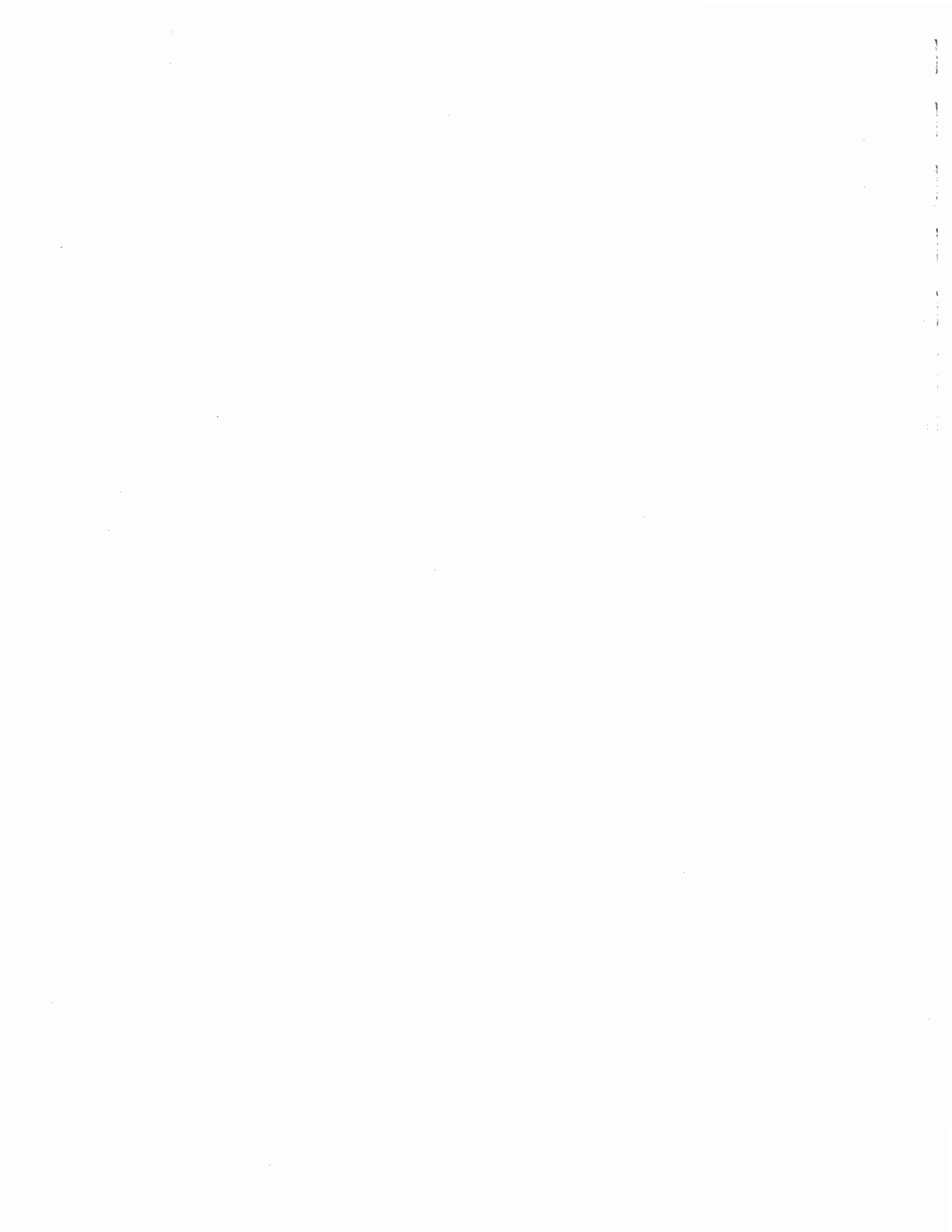


WORKSHEET

Exercise Three: Education, Work, Income and Poverty Trends

(Dollar units in constant \$)	1980	% of 1980 Total	1990	% of 1990 Total	Latest Year Available ()	% of () Total
Families Below the Poverty Line						
Female Householder						
Median Household Income (\$)						
Total Civilian Labor Force						
Percent Unemployed	%	-	%	-	%	-
Total Employed Persons 16 and Over						
Educational Attainment: % with Bachelors or more		-		-		-
Occupation By Selected Categories * (number of employees)						
Executive, Administrative and Managerial						
Professional Specialty Occupations						
Technicians and Related Support						
Sales						
Clerical						
Private Household						
Protective Services						
Service Occupations						
Farming, Forestry and Fishing						
Precision Production, Craft						
Machine Operators						
Transportation and Material						
Laborers						

* Use Total of Employed Persons 16 and Over as the total for calculating the percentage of totals



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Exercise Three: Migration (county)

	Residence in:			
	1975		1985	
	# People	%	# People	%
Different house				
Different county				
Different state				

Migration (state)

	Residence in:			
	1975		1985	
	# People	%	# People	%
Different house				
Different state				

