

## **CHAPTER 1**

### **Issues and Opportunities for Planning**

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The purpose of a comprehensive planning program is to promote orderly and beneficial development, helping to create a community that offers residents an attractive, efficient, and “resident-friendly” environment in which to live. Such an environment can be realized in part by creating a financially sound governmental structure, supporting good schools, a variety of community facilities and services, efficient land use and transportation systems, and encouraging sufficient employment opportunities and adequate, affordable housing.

The planning process involves understanding the various physical, economic, and social issues within the County. It examines where the County has been, where it is now, what goals or targets the community hopes to achieve, and what actions are necessary to reach these goals. A successful planning program can provide the direction needed to manage future growth by offering guidelines to government leaders, private enterprise, and individuals so that the County development-related decisions are sound, practical, and consistent.

#### **Section 1.1 Brief History of the Planning Area**

The first inhabitants of present-day Ogle County were native Americans. Research indicates that a Paleo-Native American culture existed in the region at least 10,000 years before the first French fur traders and trappers arrived. The first white men in the region may have encountered Native-Americans belonging to the Chippewa, Fox, Kickapoo, Ottawa, Potawatomi, Sauk and Winnebago tribes, as well as others. Native Americans were driven from the area by the 1880's.

The northern part of Illinois, as part of the Northwest Territory, was not included within a county organization until 1801 when it was placed in Saint Clair County as part of the Indiana Territory. Later, Saint Clair County became part of the Illinois Territory and remained so until 1812 when the name was changed to Madison County. Subsequently, the name of the northern portion of Illinois was changed from Madison County to Edwards County, to Bond and Crawford Counties; to Pike County, then Fulton County; in 1825 to Putnam County. In 1827 parts of what is now Ogle County was named Jo Daviess County. On January 16, 1836, the legislature formed, from a part of Jo Daviess County, the County of Ogle which at that time embraced the territory of the present county of Lee, and all of present-day Ogle County except what is now Eagle Point, Brookville and part of Forrester Townships. In 1839 it was partitioned into Lee County and Ogle County. Eagle Point and Brookville Townships were added from Carroll County and the Forrester strip was added from Jo Daviess County.

The name of Ogle County was suggested by Judge Thomas Ford, a resident of Ogle County who later became Governor of Illinois, in memory of Captain Joseph Ogle, a revolutionary war officer who distinguished himself for his courage and coolness in the siege of Fort Henry in the early days of the country's history.

The first settlers in Ogle County arrived around 1829, drawn to Ogle County by the fertile soils, numerous streams and abundant natural resources. Settlers selected claims around the edges of groves, or woods. The trees supplied logs for cabins, fire wood, rails for fences, and a certain amount of protection from wind. There were also springs and streams in the groves for their water supply.

The prairie soils which covered 58 percent of the area of present-day Ogle County were at first considered being useless because no plow could bust through the dense prairie vegetation. Ogle County resident John Deere of Grand Detour opened up the prairies to agriculture with his development of the self-scouring plow. Over the years, Ogle County has become both a state and national leader in agricultural production. Agriculture has been, and will continue to be a key component of the County economy.

Industrial development originating in the 19th century has also played an important role in the history of the County. Industry throughout the county has helped diversify the economy of the region.

The era between 1940 and 1979 saw County economic trends typical of those felt throughout the nation. War-time growth and post-war slowdowns influenced gradual growth in the County's population and a steady diversification of the regional industrial base. However, the decades of the 1970's and early 1980's were a time when growth slowed and development leveled off. The 1990's were a time of growth in the County, primarily residential, as the national and regional economy recovered from the recessionary times of the 1980's. The 1990's growth trends continued into the twenty-first century, as the County continued to grow in population, and the County's commercial and industrial base continued to expand. However, County growth has slowed during the recent recessionary period and economic crisis beginning in 2007, which parallels regional and national trends of slow to stagnant growth.

## **Section 1.2 Regional Setting**

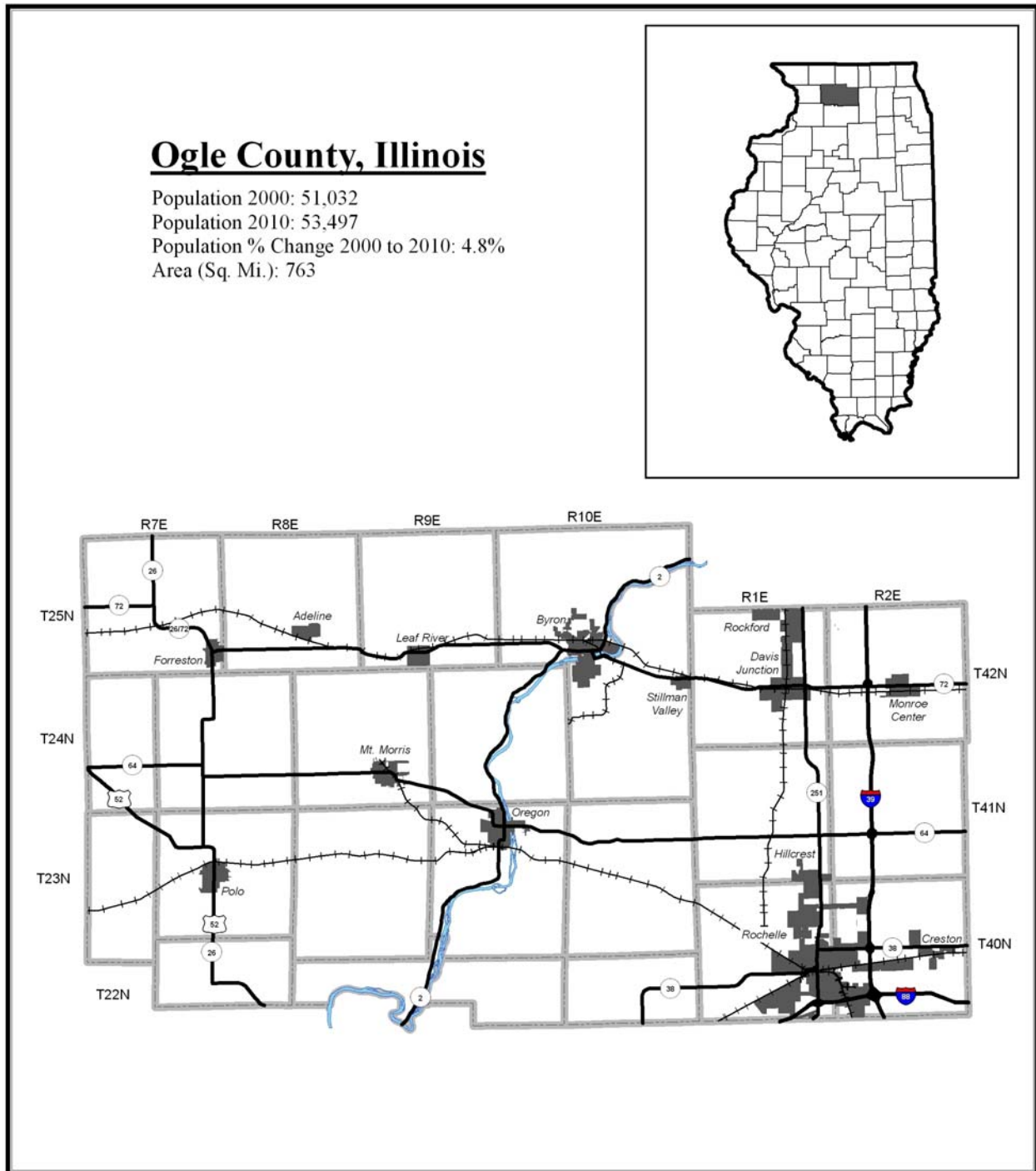
Ogle County is located in north-central Illinois and is bordered by DeKalb County to the east, Winnebago and Stephenson Counties to the north, Carroll County to the west, and Whiteside and Lee Counties to the southwest and south, respectively. Ogle County is the seventeenth (17th) largest county in Illinois, comprising twenty-four (24) townships totaling approximately 763 square miles (488,390 acres). Ogle County extends approximately 42.5 miles from east to west, and approximately 23.5 miles north to south.

Due to Ogle County's large land area (approximately 42.5 miles wide east-west, 23.5 miles long north-south), different portions of Ogle County are influenced by areas outside the County border due to geographic proximity and economic ties. Ogle County, at its nearest proximity in the north-central part of the County, is approximately 1.2 miles from the City of Rockford. The City of Rockford exerts a great degree of influence on the northern, eastern and central portions of the county; the City of Freeport (approximately 6 miles from the County border) exerts some influence on the northwest portion of the County; the cities of Sterling and Dixon exert some influence on the southwest and south-central portions of the County (approximately 7 miles and 4 miles from the County border, respectively).

Ogle County is also feeling some influence from the Chicago metropolitan area. The eastern border of Ogle County is approximately 68 miles from the Lake Michigan shore, and suburban Chicago is spreading west. The availability of east-west interstates and highways makes Ogle County an option for commuters who wish to live in Ogle County and work in Chicago, suburban Chicago or the Chicago "collar counties." The rate of growth of the Chicago metropolitan area will affect the degree of impact on Ogle County. Residential, commercial and industrial development has been occurring in Winnebago, Boone, DeKalb, McHenry and Kane Counties and the Fox River Valley area, including Aurora, St.Charles and Elgin, which are within 40 miles of the Ogle County line.



Figure 1.2: Ogle County, Illinois



### **Section 1.3 Past Planning In Ogle County**

The Ogle County Board adopted the first County comprehensive plan document in 1979. The 1979 Comprehensive Plan was preceded and supported by several planning documents: *Physical Factors for Planning Volume I* (1973), *Physical Factors for Planning Volume II* (1974), *Physical Factors for Planning Volume III* (1975), *Interim Comprehensive Plan Report Volume IV* (1978).

Comprehensive Plan updates have been completed and adopted in 1992, 1996, 2000, 2004 and 2008, indicating an active County planning program.

### **Section 1.4 The Comprehensive Planning Process**

The comprehensive planning process involves several basic phases. The first phase involves research. Activities include acquiring a thorough knowledge of the existing community setting, identifying problems that require solutions, analyzing critical factors that need to be changed before progress can be made toward community goals, and establishing goals and objectives for growth and development.

The second phase of the comprehensive planning process involves the formation of planning policy. Planning policies recommend a course of action that will accommodate expected change, produce desired change, or prevent undesirable change.

The next phase involves the selection of a preferred alternative for guiding future growth. The Land Use Element relates how the County is expected to grow, identifying in general terms how development should proceed in the future to achieve community goals.

The final phase involves implementation of the plan and programs that will influence the day-to-day decisions made by government officials, private enterprise, and individuals. Plan implementation provides the means by which community goals can be achieved. Three major tools of implementation are the zoning ordinance, subdivision regulations, and capital improvements program. Zoning regulations act to control growth and development so that it is harmonious with the proposals and recommendations set forth in the Comprehensive Plan. They promote sound, orderly development directed toward the preservation of property values and the improvement of the overall appearance of the community. Subdivision regulations assure that new land divisions are designed in an orderly and efficient manner and are in accordance with the Comprehensive Plan. The capital improvements program is a long-range financial plan for major public improvements. It proposes the best means for utilizing available financial resources to provide residents with necessary facilities and services.

The Comprehensive Plan is the primary link between the past, the present, and the future, making it perhaps the best resource for achieving continuity over a period of time. It is to be used as a guide by those making decisions with regard to the development of the community. The Comprehensive Plan must also remain flexible so that it can be modified to reflect the processes of actual development and the changing attitudes and priorities of the community. To maintain an updated Comprehensive Plan, new information must be continually gathered and studied to determine trends and re-evaluate projections, forecasts, and plans. Even policy recommendations, which are relatively permanent statements, may require periodic review to determine their appropriateness and suitability in relation to the direction and character of community development at that time. A well thought-out and updated Comprehensive Plan, with a solid base of public involvement, is one of the most fruitful investments a County can make. As a collection of policies and plans designed to guide future growth and development, it will help ensure continuity over time as changes occur within Ogle County.

## Section 1.5 Demographic Trends

### A. Population Growth

Every 10 years the Federal government performs the National Census, and these Census results are the main source of the information used to understand how communities change over time. As indicated in Table 1.1 below, Ogle County has, with the exception of the 1980-1990 Census period, shown an upward trend in population since 1920. The County registered its most significant growth in terms of percentage increase between 1950 and 1960, growing by 14% during this 10-year period. The County registered its most significant growth in terms of population increase between 1990 and 2000, growing by 5,075 persons (11.0% increase).

The population trends between Census periods seen in Ogle County since 1930 are similar to those of the State of Illinois as a whole, which has seen an increase in population during each Census period since 1900. However, Ogle County population percentage increases in the Census periods since 1960 have been greater compared to the State as a whole.

**Table 1.1**  
**1900 - 2006 Population, Population Change and Population % Change**  
**Ogle County and State of Illinois**

Year	Ogle Co.			Illinois		
	Population	Change	% Change	Population	Change	% Change
1900	29,129	---	---	4,821,550	---	---
1910	27,864	(1,265)	-4.3%	5,638,591	817,041	16.9%
1920	26,830	(1,034)	-3.7%	6,485,280	846,689	15.0%
1930	28,118	1,288	4.8%	7,630,654	1,145,374	17.7%
1940	29,869	1,751	6.2%	7,897,241	266,587	3.5%
1950	33,429	3,560	11.9%	8,712,176	814,935	10.3%
1960	38,106	4,677	14.0%	10,081,158	1,368,982	15.7%
1970	42,867	4,761	12.5%	11,113,976	1,029,127	10.2%
1980	46,338	3,471	8.1%	11,426,518	317,129	2.9%
1990	45,957	(381)	-0.8%	11,430,602	3,188	0.0%
2000	51,032	5,075	11.0%	12,419,293	415,942	3.6%
2010	53,497	2,465	4.8%	12,830,632	411,339	3.3%

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census

As seen in Table 1.2 below, the six-county area of Carroll, Jo Daviess, Lee, Ogle, Stephenson and Whiteside Counties (Northwest Illinois) grew by 3.7% between 1990 and 2000. During this period, Ogle County registered the greatest growth in terms of total population increase (5,075) and percentage increase (11.0%). Between 2000 and 2010 the growth of Northwest Illinois decreased by 0.8%, with Ogle and Jo Daviess Counties being the only two counties in the six-county area to register population increases.

**Table 1.2**  
**2000 - 2010 Population, Population Change and Population % Change**  
**Northwest Illinois Counties**

	Carroll County	Jo Daviess County	Lee County	Ogle County	Stephenson County	Whiteside County	NW IL Counties
1990 Pop.	16,805	21,821	34,392	45,957	48,052	60,186	227,213
2000 Pop.	16,674	22,289	36,062	51,032	48,979	60,653	235,689
Pop. Ch.	(131)	468	1,670	5,075	927	467	8,476
Pop. % Ch.	-0.8	2.1	4.9	11.0	1.9	0.8	3.7
2010 Pop.	15,387	22,678	36,031	53,497	47,711	58,494	233,798
Pop. Ch.	(1,287)	389	(31)	2,465	(1,268)	(2,159)	(1,891)
Pop. % Ch.	-7.7	1.7	-0.1	4.8	-2.6	-3.6	-0.8

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census

It is interesting and revealing to examine the differences in population change between the municipalities and the unincorporated area of the County. As seen in Table 1.3 below, between 2000 and 2010 the population in the unincorporated area of the County decreased by 569 persons or 2.4%, its greatest decrease since 1960. The population within incorporated municipalities increased by 3,034 persons (11.1%) during this period, offsetting the population decrease in the unincorporated area and resulting in a population increase for the County as a whole (see Table 1.1 above). The ratio between County unincorporated area population and population within municipalities has remained fairly constant during the Census periods from 1960 to 2010, averaging 45% unincorporated area / 54.8% incorporated municipalities; however, in 2010 the percentage of the County population within incorporated municipalities is higher than at any Census period since 1960 at 56.7%.

**Table 1.3**  
**2000 - 2010 Population, Population Change and Population % Change**  
**Ogle County Unincorporated Area Population and Ogle County Population Within Municipalities**

Year	Ogle County Unincorp.			% Ratio Uninc. Pop. / Municipal Population	Ogle County Municipal		
	Population	Change	% Change		Population	Change	% Change
1960	17,057	---	---	44.8 / 55.2	21,049	---	---
1970	19,158	2,101	12.3%	44.7 / 55.3	23,709	2,660	12.6%
1980	21,351	2,193	11.4%	46.1 / 53.9	24,987	1,278	5.4%
1990	21,075	(276)	-1.3%	45.9 / 54.1	24,882	(105)	-0.4%
2000	23,738	2,663	12.6%	46.5 / 53.5	27,294	2,412	9.7%
2010	23,169	(569)	-2.4%	43.3 / 56.7	30,328	3,034	11.1%

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census

As seen in Table 1.4 below, Byron, Creston, Davis Junction, Hillcrest, Rochelle and Stillman Valley all increased in population between 2000 and 2010, whereas Adeline, Forreston, Leaf River, Mt. Morris, Oregon and Polo decreased

in population during the same period. It is worthy to note that the municipalities with decreases in population between 2000 and 2010 are all in western Ogle County, while the municipalities with increases in population are all in eastern Ogle County.

Davis Junction demonstrated the most dramatic increase in population between 2000 and 2010, growing by 1,881 persons or 383.1%, followed by Byron (growing by 836 persons or 28.7%) and Creston (growing by 119 persons or 21.9%). Adeline demonstrated the most dramatic decrease in population between 2000 and 2010, losing 54 persons or 38.8% of its population, followed by Leaf River (decrease of 112 persons or -20.2%) and Oregon (losing 339 persons or -8.3%).

In early 2012, the City of Rockford annexed land in Scott Township, joining the ranks of municipalities located within the boundaries of Ogle County. There are currently no residents within the land area annexed by the City of Rockford.

**Table 1.4  
1990 - 2010 Population, Population Change and Population % Change  
Ogle County Municipalities**

	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010
Adeline Pop.	130	156	163	141	139	85
Pop. Change	---	26	7	(22)	(2)	(54)
Pop. % Change	---	20.0%	4.5%	-13.5%	-1.4%	-38.8%
Byron Pop.	1,578	1,749	2,035	2,284	2,917	3,753
Pop. Change	---	171	286	249	633	836
Pop. % Change	---	10.8%	16.4%	12.2%	27.7%	28.7%
Creston Pop.	454	595	527	535	543	662
Pop. Change	---	141	(68)	8	8	119
Pop. % Change	---	31.0%	-11.4%	1.5%	1.5%	21.9%
Davis Junction Pop.	---	---	289	246	491	2,372
Pop. Change	---	---	---	(43)	245	1,881
Pop. % Change	---	---	---	-14.9%	99.6%	383.1%
Forreston Pop.	1,153	1,227	1,384	1,361	1,469	1,448
Pop. Change	---	74	157	(23)	108	(21)
Pop. % Change	---	6.4%	12.8%	-1.7%	7.9%	-1.4%
Hillcrest Pop.	224	630	818	828	1,158	1,326
Pop. Change	---	406	188	10	330	168
Pop. % Change	---	181.3%	29.8%	1.2%	39.9%	14.5%
Leaf River Pop.	546	633	637	546	555	443
Pop. Change	---	87	4	(91)	9	(112)
Pop. % Change	---	15.9%	0.6%	-14.3%	1.6%	-20.2%
Monroe Center Pop.	---	---	---	---	---	471
Pop. Change	---	---	---	---	---	---
Pop. % Change	---	---	---	---	---	---
Mt. Morris Pop.	3,075	3,173	2,989	2,919	3,013	2,998
Pop. Change	---	98	(184)	(70)	94	(15)
Pop. % Change	---	3.2%	-5.8%	-2.3%	3.2%	-0.5%



Oregon Pop.	3,732	3,539	3,559	3,891	4,060	3,721
Pop. Change	---	(193)	20	332	169	(339)
Pop. % Change	---	-5.2%	0.6%	9.3%	4.3%	-8.3%
Polo Pop.	2,551	2,542	2,643	2,514	2,477	2,355
Pop. Change	---	(9)	101	(129)	(37)	(122)
Pop. % Change	---	-0.4%	4.0%	-4.9%	-1.5%	-4.9%
Rochelle Pop.	7,008	8,594	8,982	8,769	9,424	9,574
Pop. Change	---	1,586	388	(213)	655	150
Pop. % Change	---	22.6%	4.5%	-2.4%	7.5%	1.6%
Stillman Valley Pop.	598	871	961	848	1,048	1,120
Pop. Change	---	273	90	(113)	200	72
Pop. % Change	---	45.7%	10.3%	-11.8%	23.6%	6.9%

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census

### B. Age Distribution

Table 1.5 below details the number of Ogle County residents that occupied specific age groups in the past two Census years. Insight into the nature of the County population's change over time can be gained through examining how these age groups change as they move through their life cycles. The age groups (or "cohorts" as they are called when tracking a group of same-aged people) have been displayed within Table 1.5 in ten-year increments to more easily see how their numbers increase or decline over different Census years. The diagonal series of gray or white boxes within Table 1.5 indicate the path of each age cohort through the two Census periods.

**Table 1.5**  
**Distribution of Population by Ten-Year Age Groups (Cohorts)**  
**Ogle County, Illinois**

	<b>2000</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>Cohort Change 2000-2010</b>	<b>Cohort % Change 2000-2010</b>	<b>Class Change 2000-2010</b>	<b>Class % Change</b>
Under 5-9 years	7,210	6,770	654	9.1%	(440)	-6.1%
10-19 years	8,095	7,864	(2,670)	-33.0%	(231)	-2.9%
20-29 years	5,190	5,425	996	19.2%	235	4.5%
30-39 years	7,509	6,186	641	8.5%	(1,323)	-17.6%
40-49 years	8,121	8,150	(183)	-2.3%	29	0.4%
50-59 years	5,895	7,938	(334)	-5.7%	2,043	34.7%
60-69 years	3,980	5,561	(581)	-14.6%	1,581	39.7%
70-79 years	3,127	3,399	(923)	-29.5%	272	8.7%
80-85 years and over	1,905	2,204	---	---	299	15.7%
Median Age (Ogle County)	37.2	40.7	---	---	3.5	9.4%
Median Age (Illinois)	34.7	36.6	---	---	1.9	5.5%

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census

An examination of Table 1.5 above reveals a County population that has grown older between 2000 and 2010. In the cohorts below 40 years of age, three out of the four cohorts (the 10-19 being the exception) increased between 2000 and 2010; however, in examining the age classes, three of the four age classes below 40 years of age decreased between 2000 and 2010 (the 20-29 age class being the exception). All of the cohorts above 39 years of age declined between 2000 and 2010, but every age class increased in population.

In 2000, 54.9% of the County population was under 40 years of age; in 2010, 49.1% of the County population was under 40 years of age. This is reflected in the increasing median age as indicated in the above Table 1.5, which increased from 37.2 in 2000 to 40.7 in 2010. The “median age” is the point where ½ of the population lies above and ½ lies below; the older this age is, the older the overall population for a place is becoming. For comparison, Ogle County’s 2010 median age of 40.7 is 11.2% higher than the 2010 median age of the State of Illinois.

### C. Education Levels

Table 1.6 below compares the educational attainment information for Ogle County. Between 2000 and 2010 the County population has become more educated. The population with high school education or less has decreased by 100 persons, or 0.6%, and in 2010 accounted for 48.9% of the population 25 years of age and over compared to 53.3% in the 2000 census year. The number of persons with at least some college education up to a graduate or professional degree has increased by 2,896 persons, or 18.6%. Persons with at least some college education but no degree, an associate’s degree, a bachelor’s degree or a graduate or professional degree accounted for 51.1% of the population of the County over 25 years of age in 2010, compared to 46.7% in the 2000 census year. For comparison, in the State of Illinois as a whole in 2010, 40.7% of the population 25 years of age and over had a high school education or less, and 59.2% of the population 25 years of age and over had at least some college education but no degree, an associate’s degree, a bachelor’s degree or a graduate or professional degree.

**Table 1.6**  
**Educational Attainment of Persons 25 Years and Over**  
**Ogle County, Illinois**

	<b>2000</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>Change (+/-)</b>	<b>% Change</b>
Less than 9 <sup>th</sup> Grade	1,867 5.6%	1,589 4.4%	(278)	-14.9%
9 <sup>th</sup> - 12 <sup>th</sup> Gr., no diploma	3,778 11.3%	2,853 7.9%	(925)	-24.5%
High School Graduate	12,114 36.4%	13,217 36.6%	1,103	9.1%
Some college, no degree	7,706 23.1%	8,848 24.5%	1,142	14.8%
Associate’s degree	2,192 6.6%	3,214 8.9%	1,022	46.6%
Bachelor’s degree	3,732 11.2%	4,153 11.5%	421	11.3%
Graduate or professional degree	1,928 5.8%	2,239 6.2%	311	16.1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>33,317</b>	<b>36,113</b>	<b>2,796</b>	<b>8.4%</b>

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census; 2010 American Community Survey

#### D. Households and Income

The Ogle County residential community is made up of different types of households. Table 1.7, below, details the changes in the make-up of County households between 2000 and 2010. Family households have seen their number increase, although the percentage of total households has decreased between 2000 and 2010. Non-family households have increased from 2000 to 2010 in both number (from 5,110 to 6,145) and percentage of total households (from 26.5% to 29.5%). Married-couple households have seen both their number and percentage of family households decrease between 2000 and 2010. Single-mother family households have increased from 11.3% of family households in 2000 to 13.7% in 2010. Both Average Household Size and Average Family Size have decreased slightly.

**Table 1.7**  
**Households, Average Household Size and Household Type**  
**Ogle County, Illinois**

	<b>2000</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>Change (+/-)</b>	<b>% Change</b>
<b>Households</b>	19,278	20,856	1,578	8.2%
<b>Average Household Size</b>	2.62	2.54	(0.08)	-3.1%
<b>Average Family Size</b>	3.07	3.01	(0.06)	-2.0%
<b>Households by Type:</b>				
Family Households [1] <i>(% of Total Households)</i>	14,168 <i>(73.5%)</i>	14,711 <i>(70.5%)</i>	543	3.8%
Husband-wife families [3] <i>(% of Family Households)</i>	11,811 <i>(83.4%)</i>	11,693 <i>(79.5%)</i>	-118	-1.0%
Female householder, no husband present <i>(% of Family Households)</i>	1,608 <i>(11.3%)</i>	2,022 <i>(13.7%)</i>	414	25.7%
Non-Family Households [2] <i>(% of Total Households)</i>	5,110 <i>(26.5%)</i>	6,145 <i>(29.5%)</i>	1035	20.3%
Male householder <i>(% of Total Non-Family Households)</i>	2,461 <i>(48.2%)</i>	3,158 <i>(51.4%)</i>	697	28.3%
Female householder <i>(% of Total Non-Family Households)</i>	2,649 <i>(51.8%)</i>	2,987 <i>(48.6%)</i>	338	12.8%

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census

[1] A household that has at least one member of the household related to the householder by birth, marriage, or adoption is a "Family household." Same-sex couple households are included in the family households category if there is at least one additional person related to the householder by birth or adoption. Same-sex couple households with no relatives of the householder present are tabulated in nonfamily households. Responses of "same-sex spouse" were edited during processing to "unmarried partner."

[2] "Nonfamily households" consist of people living alone and households which do not have any members related to the householder.

[3] "Families" consist of a householder and one or more other people related to the householder by birth, marriage, or adoption. They do not include same-sex married couples even if the marriage was performed in a state issuing marriage certificates for same-sex couples. Same-sex couples are included in the families category if there is at least one additional person related to the householder by birth or adoption. Responses of "same-sex spouse" were edited during processing to "unmarried partner." Same-sex couple households with no relatives of the householder present are tabulated in nonfamily households.

Another instructive piece of information on the state of households within the County is the level of income that each household achieves. Again the Census provides insight into the range of incomes present within Ogle County.

**Table 1.8**  
**Household Income 1999 - 2010**  
**Ogle County, Illinois**

<b>Household Income (\$)</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>Change (+/-)</b>	<b>% Change</b>
Less than 10,000	1,212 (6.3%)	761 (3.7%)	(451)	-37.2%
10,000 - 14,999	1,300 (6.8%)	1,141 (5.5%)	(159)	-12.2%
15,000 - 24,999	1,945 (10.1%)	1,887 (9.1%)	(58)	-3.0%
25,000 - 34,999	2,577 (13.4%)	2,217 (10.7%)	(360)	-14.0%
35,000 - 49,999	3,605 (18.7%)	2,870 (13.8%)	(735)	-20.4%
50,000 - 74,999	4,425 (23.0%)	5,167 (24.8%)	742	16.8%
75,000 - 99,999	2,247 (11.7%)	3,213 (15.4%)	966	43.0%
100,000 - 149,999	1,452 (7.6%)	2,580 (12.4%)	1,128	77.7%
150,000 - 199,999	250 (1.3%)	609 (2.9%)	359	143.6%
200,000 or more	216 (1.1%)	370 (1.8%)	154	71.3%
<b>Total Households</b>	<b>19,229</b> <b>(100%)</b>	<b>20,815</b> <b>(100%)</b>	<b>1,586</b>	<b>8.2%</b>
<b>Ogle County Median Household Income (\$)</b>	<b>45,448</b>	<b>55,925</b>	<b>10,477</b>	<b>23.1%</b>
<b>State of Illinois Median Household Income (\$)</b>	<b>46,590</b>	<b>52,972</b>	<b>6,382</b>	<b>13.7%</b>

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census; American Community Survey

Table 1.8 above describes how household incomes have changed between 1999 and 2010. It is a testimony to both the inflation of wages and the increased earning power of the residents of the Ogle County that the percentage of households making greater than \$50,000 per year has increased from 44.7% in 1999 to 57.4% in 2010. Median household income has increased from \$45,448 to \$55,925 over the same period, a 23.1% increase. This percentage increase in median household income is greater than the State of Illinois as a whole (13.7%) over the same time period. The median household income for Illinois was 2.5% higher than Ogle County in 1999 (\$46,590), but 5.3% less than Ogle County in 2010 (\$52,972), an indication that median household income is increasing at more rapid pace in Ogle County compared to the State of Illinois as a whole.

With the examination of income information, the County should also assess the poverty status of its residents. “Poverty” is generally defined as a set of money income thresholds that vary by family size and composition to determine who is poor. If a family’s total income is less than that family’s threshold, then that family, and every individual in it, is considered poor. The poverty thresholds do not vary geographically. That is, they are the same throughout the United States. However, the poverty thresholds are updated annually for inflation using the Consumer Price Index (CPI-U). The official poverty definition counts money income before taxes and does not include capital gains and non-cash benefits (such as public housing, food stamps, and Medicaid). Poverty is not defined for people in military barracks, institutional group quarters, or for unrelated children under age 15 (such as foster children). Table 1.8 below outlines poverty thresholds for years 1999 and 2010. Table 1.9 lists the Census and American Community Survey information on poverty for the total number of residents, children and adults 65 years of age and older within Ogle County.

**Table 1.9  
Weighted Average Poverty Thresholds - 1999 and 2010**

<b>Size of Family Unit</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>2010</b>
One Person	\$8,499	\$11,139
Two Persons	\$10,864	\$14,218
Three Persons	\$13,289	\$17,374
Four Persons	\$17,030	\$22,314
Five Persons	\$20,128	\$26,439
Six Persons	\$22,730	\$29,897
Seven Persons	\$25,918	\$34,009
Eight Persons	\$28,970	\$37,934
Nine Persons or more	\$34,436	\$45,220

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census

**Table 1.10  
Poverty Status - 1999 and 2010  
Ogle County, Illinois**

	<b>2000</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>Change (+/-) 2000-2010</b>	<b>% Change 2000-2010</b>
Individuals*	50,119	52,124		
Below Poverty Level	3,579	5,330	1,751	48.9%
<i>% Below Poverty Level</i>	<i>7.1</i>	<i>10.2</i>		
Children under 18 years	13,624	13,004		
Below Poverty Level	1,192	2,136	944	79.2%
<i>% Below Poverty Level</i>	<i>8.7</i>	<i>16.4</i>		
65 years and over	6,414	6,813		
Below Poverty Level	339	418	79	23.3%
<i>% Below Poverty Level</i>	<i>5.3</i>	<i>6.1</i>		

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census; American Community Survey

\*All individuals for whom poverty status is determined.

Poverty status increased within Ogle County between 1999 and 2010 among individuals (from 7.1% to 10.2% of the population), children (from 8.7% to 16.4%) and persons 65 years of age and older (from 5.3% to 6.1%). Compared to Illinois as a whole, poverty status increased between 1999 and 2010 among individuals (from 10.7% to 13.1% of the population), children (from 14.3% to 18.5%), and persons 65 years of age and older (8.3% to 8.7%).

E. Employment Characteristics

Table 1.11 below summarizes employment by industry data provided for the last two Census years. This information represents what type of industry that the working residents of the County were employed by, and is not a listing of the employment currently located within Ogle County. The discussion of the County economy will take place within the Economic Development Element of this Comprehensive Plan.

The “manufacturing” industry registered the greatest loss (-21.5%) between 2000 and 2010, followed by “agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, and mining” (-12.2%), “wholesale trade” (-8.6%) and “public administration” (-2.7%). All other industry classifications increased in number and percent, the greatest increases being registered in “professional, scientific, management, administrative, and waste management services” (56.4%), “arts, entertainment, recreation, accommodation and food services” (34.6%), “construction” (33.2%) and “finance, insurance, real estate, and rental and leasing” (28.7%).

**Table 1.11  
Summary of Employment by Industry  
Ogle County, Illinois**

<b>Industry</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>Change (+/-)</b>	<b>% Change</b>
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, and mining	779	684	(95)	-12.2%
Construction	1,657	2,207	550	33.2%
Manufacturing	5,729	4,498	(1,231)	-21.5%
Wholesale trade	1,034	945	(89)	-8.6%
Retail trade	2,709	2,970	261	9.6%
Transportation and warehousing, and utilities	1,929	2,191	262	13.6%
Information	449	490	41	---
Finance, insurance, real estate, and rental and leasing	1,174	1,511	337	28.7%
Professional, scientific, management, administrative, and waste management services	1,113	1,741	628	56.4%
Educational, health and social services	4,636	4,707	71	1.5%
Arts, entertainment, recreation, accommodation and food services	1,461	1,967	506	34.6%

Other services (except public administration)	1,299	1,339	40	3.1%
Public administration	843	820	(23)	-2.7%
<b>Total Employed Persons 16 Years and Over</b>	24,812	26,070	1,258	5.1%

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census; American Community Survey

## Section 1.6 Population Projections

*Projections* are estimates of future populations based on statistical models that extrapolate past and present trends into the future. Projections can be created through very simple or very complex calculations. The type of calculations used is based on the available data and desired use of the projection.

*Forecasts* are also estimate of a future population based on statistical models. Forecasts, however, include additional adjustments made to reflect assumptions of future changes.

*Targets* express desirable future populations based on policies and goals.

Developing population projections is a complex process. There is always a greater difficulty in deriving population projections for small geographic areas such as townships and small cities or villages. Projections for larger geographic areas are more reliable, since the large population base will be less likely to exhibit short term variations. Likewise, any projection results that extend for periods longer than ten years become statistically less reliable as inputs to the projection are based on calculations rather than actual numbers. In summary, the smaller the area and the longer the period, the less likely a projection will be accurate.

Ogle County has, with the exception of the 1980-1990 Census period, shown an upward trend in population since 1920. The County registered its most significant growth in terms of percentage increase between 1950 and 1960, growing by 14% during this 10-year period. The County registered is most significant growth in terms of population increase between 1990 and 2000, growing by 5,075 persons (11.0% increase). Between 2000 and 2010, the County population increased by 2,465 persons (4.8%). According to the Census data displayed in Table 1.7 above, in 2000 Ogle County averaged 2.62 persons per household (PPH) in 19,278 households. In 2010, the estimated number of PPH declined to 2.54 in 20,856 households. It is anticipated that this trend of a declining number of persons per household will continue into the future.

To estimate the Ogle County population for 2020, 2030 and 2040, two different methodologies were employed, as follows:

### Population Projection Methodology A:

The number of households and persons per household within the County was projected out to 2020, 2030 and 2040 using a simple mathematical progression projection assuming a 10.4% increase per 10-year period for housing units and a 2.09% decrease per 10-year period for persons per household. The projected number of housing units was multiplied by the projected number of persons per household to yield a projected population in households. Since an average (over the past three Census periods) of 1.2% of the population does not live in a household, the estimated population in households was then increased by 1.2% to yield the total projected population.

Population Projection Methodology B:

The 10-year growth rates from 1990-2000, and 2000-2010 were divided by the number of years per period to yield an annual growth rate. The annual growth rates per decade were averaged to yield an average annual growth rate between 1990 and 2010 of +0.79%. This average annual growth rate was then used to project the population for 2020, 2030 and 2040.

This population projection does not include any large-scale development of vacant land for residential uses within the planning period. Large-scale residential development could have a significant impact on the number of housing units, households and the County's population.

**Table 1.12A**  
**Methodology A Projected Population**  
**Ogle County, Illinois**

<b>Year</b>	2020	2030	2040
<b>Population</b>	58,020	62,769	67,878

**Table 1.12B**  
**Methodology B Projected Population**  
**Ogle County, Illinois**

<b>Year</b>	2020	2030	2040
<b>Population</b>	57,877	62,615	67,741

Calculating an average of the projected populations of the two methodologies yields somewhat of a hybrid result of the two population projection methodologies.

**Table 1.12C**  
**Projected Population**  
**Based on Average Projected Population of Methodology A and Methodology B**  
**Ogle County, Illinois**

<b>Year</b>	2020	2030	2040
<b>Population</b>	57,949	62,692	67,810

The Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (IDCEO) provides population projections for Illinois counties. The IDCEO population projections for Ogle County are below in Table 1.12D.

**Table 1.12D**  
**Projected Population by IL Dept. of Commerce and Economic Opportunity**  
**Ogle County, Illinois**

<b>Year</b>	2020	2030	2040
<b>Population</b>	59,230	63,765	<i>Not calculated</i>

Source: Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity



## **Section 1.7 Community Goals, Objectives and Policies**

The following goals, objectives and policies provide the framework for guiding future community development activities within Ogle County. Goals are stated as desirable conditions to strive for in the future. They are common ideals of the community that can be achieved through the actions of government leaders, private enterprise and individuals. Objectives are general targets to be achieved along the path of satisfying community goals. Policies are methods of action to accomplish these stated objectives. Together these three pieces express the uniqueness of the community while stating changes that will produce desirable patterns for growth and development.

### A. Goals:

Ogle County should pursue policies that preserve and enhance its current living environment. It is the goal of the County to maintain and enhance the overall aesthetic quality of its residential, recreational, commercial and industrial areas; and, to maintain a rate of growth and development that is manageable in light of the public resources.

### B. Objectives:

1. Promote the maintenance and improvement of existing development within Ogle County.
2. New development should be designed in a manner that allows urban services to be most efficiently and economically provided.
3. Ensure that newly developed or redeveloped areas are compatible with existing uses of land.
4. To improve long range fiscal planning for the County.
5. Manage balanced growth to insure that the County's population is adequately provided with public services and infrastructure.
6. Manage balanced growth to insure that the County's population is served by adequate and safe housing.
7. Manage balanced growth to insure economic development which supports the employment of local citizenry and provides appropriate wages for employees.
8. Manage balanced growth to maintain the small-town, rural character of Ogle County and promote rural community values.

### C. Policies:

1. Ogle County should implement the recommendations of the Comprehensive Plan to promote quality of life and economic vitality.
2. Current implementation tools, such as the zoning ordinance and subdivision regulations, and other County ordinances should continue to be used and enforced, and updated and/or modernized as necessary and desirable.
3. The County should encourage development which protects and enhances the County's tax base.
4. The Regional Planning Commission should maintain an active role in assessing County needs, evaluating development, and utilizing the planning process as a means of accomplishing the recommendations contained in the Comprehensive Plan.

