

Demographics

Population

The 2005 population for the regional community surrounding Wetzel State Recreation Area is 118,740 people. (SEMCOG RFD December 2003). As shown by Table A-1, the population is projected to increase for individual communities and, with the exception of Wayne County, the region over the next twenty years. Moreover, the expectation is for the region to capture 62% - nearly 60,000 people - of the population increase projected for the whole of Macomb County between 2005 and 2025.

Table A-1: Population Trends for Lenox Township and Surrounding Communities

Community	2005	2015	2005-2015 Percent Change	2025	2015-2025 Percent Change
Surrounding Townships and Villages					
Lenox Twp	5,892	7,015	19%	8,174	17%
Chesterfield Twp	42,496	48,736	15%	57,278	18%
Macomb Twp	63,242	84,588	34%	103,548	22%
New Haven (Village)	3,166	3,415	8%	3,745	10%
Ray Twp	3,944	4,806	22%	5,763	20%
Surrounding Area Subtotal	118,740	148,560	25%	178,508	20%
Macomb County and Surrounding Counties					
Macomb County	810,096	858,335	6%	907,554	6%
Lapeer County	87,904	NA	NA	NA	NA
St. Clair County	170,702	184,427	8%	197,433	7%
Oakland County	1,225,336	1,281,557	5%	1,318,551	3%
Wayne County	2,047,417	2,024,274	-1%	2,009,924	-1%

Source: SEMCOG Regional Development Forecast, December 2003.

Family Size

The average household size in Lenox Township decreased from 3.1 persons in 1990 to 2.76 persons in 2005. The projected trend for the Township, surrounding communities, and Macomb County is for continued household decline. This is consistent with the national pattern. In general, Americans are delaying marriage, resulting in more single-person dwellings, and having fewer children when married. The high incidence of divorce and prevalence of empty-nesters are also contributing factors to the decreasing household size.

Age

Age projections indicate that those 35 to 64 years of age, and those over 65 years of age, will comprise the greatest percent increases of the regional population. This is consistent with the national aging trend led by the Baby Boomer generation. Table A-2 presents an overview of age group projections over the next ten years for the region and Macomb County.

Table A-2: Age Trends for the Region and Macomb County, 2005 and 2015

Age Group	Region*			Macomb County		
	2005	2015	% Change	2005	2015	% Change
< 5 Years	9,611	11,119	16%	51,246	53,969	5%
5-17 Years	23,790	27,135	14%	136,993	133,184	-3%
18-34 Years	27,033	33,233	23%	177,439	185,057	4%
35-64 Years	49,581	61,653	24%	331,302	338,761	2%
66+ Years	8,725	15,420	77%	113,116	147,364	30%
Total	118,740	148,560	25%	810,096	858,335	6%

* Region: Chesterfield, Lenox, Macomb and Ray Townships and Village of New Haven

Source: SEMCOG Regional Development Forecast, December 2003.

Employment

Approximately 20,000 jobs are provided within the region as of 2005 (SEMCOG Regional Development Forecast, December 2003). As shown by Table A-3, For communities around Wetzel SRA, manufacturing was the leading industry in 2005. While this sector is projected to decrease in the next 10 years within Macomb County, it is expected to increase regionally. Services and Retail Trade are also prominent job sectors, both expecting to increase by 2015. Services, Manufacturing and Retail jobs are also prevalent in Macomb County. The job sectors with the greatest percent increases in the region are Retail, Services and Wholesale Trade.

Table A-3: Employment Trends for Lenox Township and Macomb County, 2005—2015

Employment Sector	Region*			Macomb County		
	2005	2015	% Change	2005	2015	% Change
Ag, Min, Nat Res	503	570	13.3%	3,923	4,470	13.9%
Manufacturing	7,366	8,021	8.9%	105,787	105,518	-0.3%
TCU	830	1,017	22.5%	12,230	12,841	5.0%
Wholesale Trade	928	1,230	32.5%	18,725	20,223	8.0%
Retail Trade	2,863	4,374	52.8%	69,592	72,654	4.4%
FIRE	596	717	20.3%	22,755	24,037	5.6%
Services	5,541	7,896	42.5%	149,338	165,974	11.1%
Public Administration	874	1,027	17.5%	11,967	12,300	2.8%
Total	19,501	24,852	27.4%	394,317	418,017	6.0%

* Region: Chesterfield, Lenox, Macomb and Ray Townships and Village of New Haven

** Ag, Min, Nat Res: Agriculture, Mining and Natural Resource industries; TCU: Transportation, Communication and Utilities; FIRE: Finance, Insurance and Real Estate

Source: US Census and SEMCOG Regional Development Forecast, December 2003.

Racial Composition

The majority of the population surrounding Wetzel SRA is White (Table A-4). In Lenox Township, of the 19 percent that are members of minority groups, 15 percent are Black, two percent belong to more than one racial group, and one percent are American Indian or another race. In terms of ethnicity, two percent of Lenox Township residents identified themselves as being of Hispanic background. The population of Macomb County and surrounding counties is also primarily White. In 1990, the racial composition of Macomb County was 93% White; the trend from 1990 to 2000 indicates increasing minority populations in the region - particularly Black and Asian racial groups - and a decrease in the White racial group.

Table A-4: 2000 Racial Composition for Surrounding Local Governments and Counties

Race	Chesterfield Township	Lenox Township	Macomb Township	Ray Township	New					
					Haven Village	Macomb County	Lapeer County	Oakland County	St. Clair County	Wayne County
White	34,948 (93%)	4,363 (81%)	48,518 (96%)	3,657 (98%)	2307 (74%)	730,270 (93%)	84,779 (96%)	998,697 (83%)	155,861 (95%)	1,064,497 (52%)
Black	1,110 (3%)	813 (15%)	426 (1%)	6 (0%)	593 (19%)	21,326 (3%)	654 (1%)	119,393 (10%)	3,665 (2%)	886,622 (42%)
American Indian	149 (0%)	40 (1%)	95 (0%)	11 (0%)	37 (1%)	2,478 (0%)	444 (1%)	3,114 (0%)	886 (1%)	8,231 (0%)
Asian	284 (1%)	19 (0%)	713 (1%)	14 (0%)	26 (1%)	16,843 (2%)	180 (0%)	48,378 (4%)	424 (0%)	35,273 (2%)
Pacific Islander	6 (0%)	1 (0%)	4 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	178 (0%)	2 (0%)	288 (0%)	43 (0%)	495 (0%)
Other Race	324 (1%)	27 (1%)	157 (0%)	17 (0%)	37 (1%)	3,106 (0%)	781 (1%)	10,480 (1%)	1,151 (1%)	32,873 (2%)
Multi-Racial	584 (2%)	99 (2%)	565 (1%)	35 (1%)	137 (4%)	13,948 (2%)	1064 (1%)	23,806 (2%)	2,205 (1%)	53,171 (3%)
Total Population	37,405	5,362	50,478	3,740	3,137	788,149	87,904	1,194,156	164,235	2,061,162
Hispanic Origin	941 (3%)	122 (2%)	735 (1%)	44 (1%)	130 (4%)	12,510 (2%)	2,538 (3%)	29,327 (2%)	3,643 (2%)	77,501 (4%)
Not of Hispanic Origin	36,464 (97%)	5,240 (98%)	49,743 (99%)	3,696 (99%)	3,007 (96%)	775,639 (98%)	85,366 (97%)	1,164,829 (98%)	160,592 (98%)	1,983,661 (96%)

Source: 2000 US Census