

CHAPTER 1

Issues and Opportunities for Planning

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 Bureau 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 first Europeans to travel through present-day Bureau County were likely explorers Father Jacques Marquette and Louis Joliet, commissioned by Governor Frontenac of New France (now Canada) to search for a route to the Pacific Ocean (i.e. the fabled Northwest Passage). After coming up the St. Lawrence River, in May of 1673, Marquette, Joliet and five other Frenchmen paddled canoes across Lake Michigan to present-day Green Bay, Wisconsin, then up the Fox River to what is now Portage, Wisconsin. From there, they carried (portaged) their canoes across land to the Wisconsin River, where their Indian guides deserted them for fear of what lay ahead. The expedition went down the Wisconsin River until, on June 17, 1673, they entered the Mississippi River. They went down the Mississippi River to the mouth of the Arkansas River. Due to Spanish occupation further downstream, Marquette and Joliet decided to end their expedition and return to Canada by way of the Illinois River and passed the land of Bureau County on the “Great Bend” of the Illinois River in the southeast corner of present-day Bureau County. The Marquette-Joliet expedition proved that the Mississippi River flowed into the Gulf of Mexico, and claimed the vast American interior for the King of France as New France, an area that at its peak in 1712 extended from Newfoundland to the Rocky Mountains and from Hudson Bay to the Gulf of Mexico.

The area comprising present-day Bureau County remained under French control as a part of New France until 1763, when France ceded the territory comprising New France to Great Britain under the Treaty of Paris (1763), which ended the French and Indian War. As a result, Great Britain established the Province of Quebec, which existed from 1763 to 1791. Under the Treaty of Paris (1783), which ended the American Revolution, a portion of the Province of Quebec was assigned to the United States of America. This area (territory) was comprised of the present-day states of Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, Illinois, Wisconsin and a portion of present-day Minnesota, and in 1787 would become an official territory of the United States of America upon the passage of the Northwest Ordinance, which was established to provide for the administration of the Northwest Territory and set rules for admission as a state.

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. In 1818, Illinois was granted statehood as the 21st State in the Union. 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 the northern portion of what is now Bureau County was placed in Jo Daviess County, and the southern part of what is now Bureau County was placed in Putnam County. In 1831 all of what is now Bureau County was placed in Putnam County.

On February 28, 1837, the legislature formed the County of Bureau from a part of Putnam County. The act was signed thereafter by Governor Joseph Duncan, but the act was not to take effect until an election was held in Putnam County to determine if a majority of the voters favored the division of Putnam County into a new county. Although residents east of the Illinois River strongly objected to the division, the election was won by those on the west side of the Illinois River. Princeton was chosen as the county seat by a body of three commissioners that were appointed by the legislature, and were not residents of the newly-created county. The commissioners selected Princeton due its central location within Bureau County and its location on the Peoria and Galena Road, a main highway running from Peoria to the Galena lead mines in Jo Daviess County.

Bureau County received its name from Pierre Buero, a pioneer French trader who circulated among the Indians of the Illinois country and maintained a cabin and trading post on the Illinois River a short distance above the mouth of Bureau Creek prior to 1821 (History of Bureau County, 1885).

The first settlers in Bureau County arrived around 1828, drawn to Bureau 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. Henry Thomas is credited as the first settler in Bureau County. In 1828 he built a cabin along West Bureau Creek about 4 miles north of the present town of Wyanet.

Coal mining in eastern Bureau County was a major reason for an influx of immigrants in the 1880s. Spoil piles from underground mining remain at Cherry, Dalzell, Ladd and Seatonville. The last active strip mine was closed in 1964. The area that was mined is west of Sheffield.

The Illinois-Michigan Canal serviced barge traffic from the Illinois River to the Mississippi River between 1907 and 1951. Soon after completion, however, it was considered too shallow for many of the larger barges. Today, it serves as a recreational facility. It has been renamed the Hennepin Canal Parkway.

Bureau County was founded on its agricultural and natural resources, and today agriculture remains the most important enterprise in the County. Grain farming is the dominant agricultural activity, including corn, soybeans, oat, wheat and hay. The raising of livestock also contributes to the agricultural base, including beef cattle, hogs, dairy cattle, chickens, sheep and horses.

Section 1.2 Regional Setting

Bureau County is located in north-central Illinois and is bordered by Whiteside and Lee Counties to the north, LaSalle County to the east, Henry County to the west, and Stark, Marshall and Putnam Counties to the south. The Illinois River forms a portion of the border between Bureau and Putnam Counties in part of the southeast corner of Bureau County. Bureau County is the tenth (10th) largest county in Illinois, comprising twenty-five (25) townships totaling approximately 866 square miles. Bureau County extends approximately 36 miles from east to west, and approximately 30 miles north to south.

Bureau County is one of three counties (along with LaSalle and Putnam Counties) that comprise the Ottawa-Streator Micropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) as designated by the United States Census Bureau. An "MSA" is defined as one or more adjacent counties or county equivalents that have at least one urban core area of at least 10,000 population but less than 50,000, plus adjacent territory that has a high degree of social and economic integration with the core as measured by commuting ties. The Ottawa-Streator MSA is anchored by the cities of Ottawa and Streator, and with a population of 154,908 (U.S. Census Bureau, July 1, 2011 estimate), it is the eleventh-largest MSA in the United States.

Figure 1.1: Bureau County in Regional Context

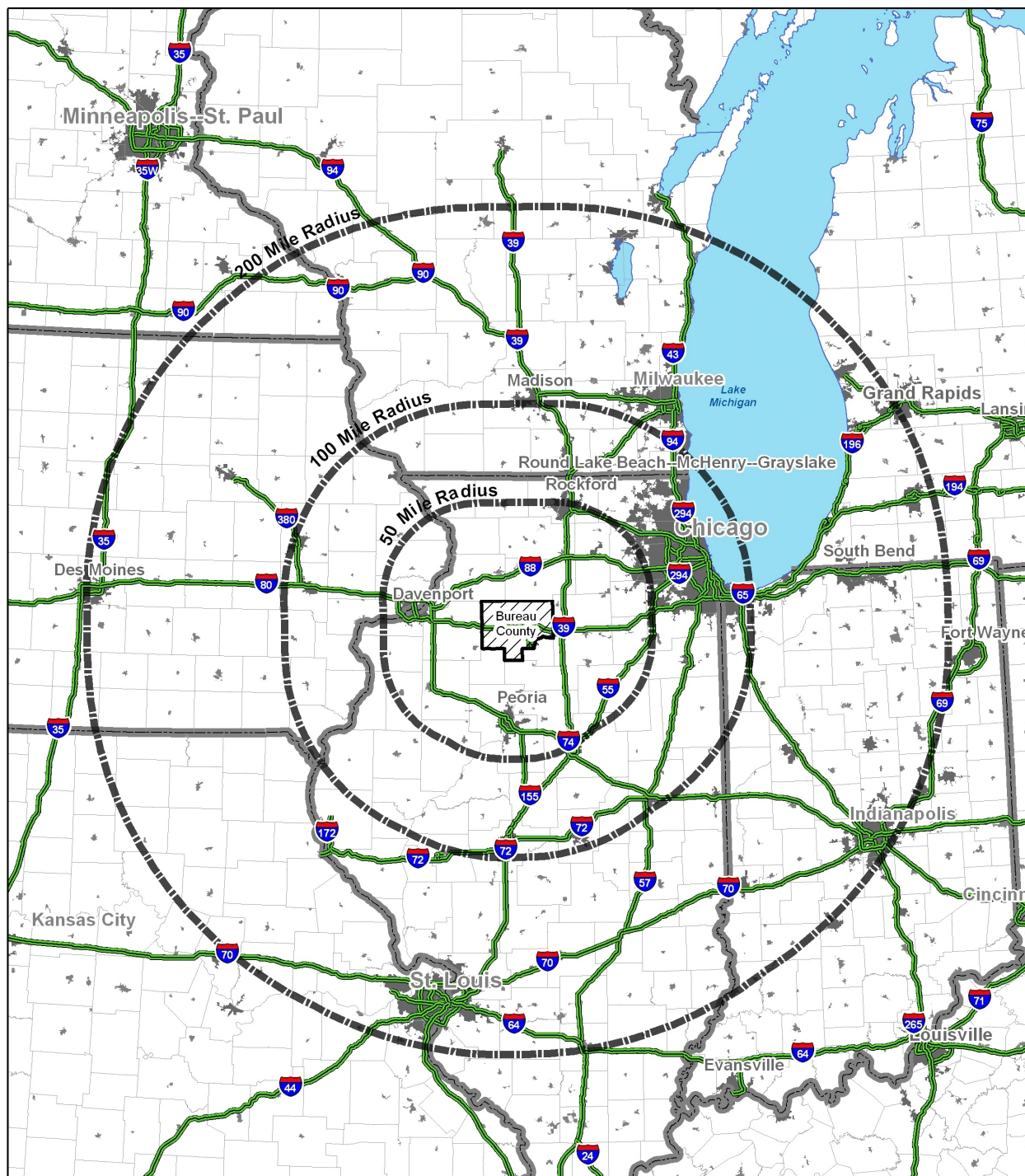
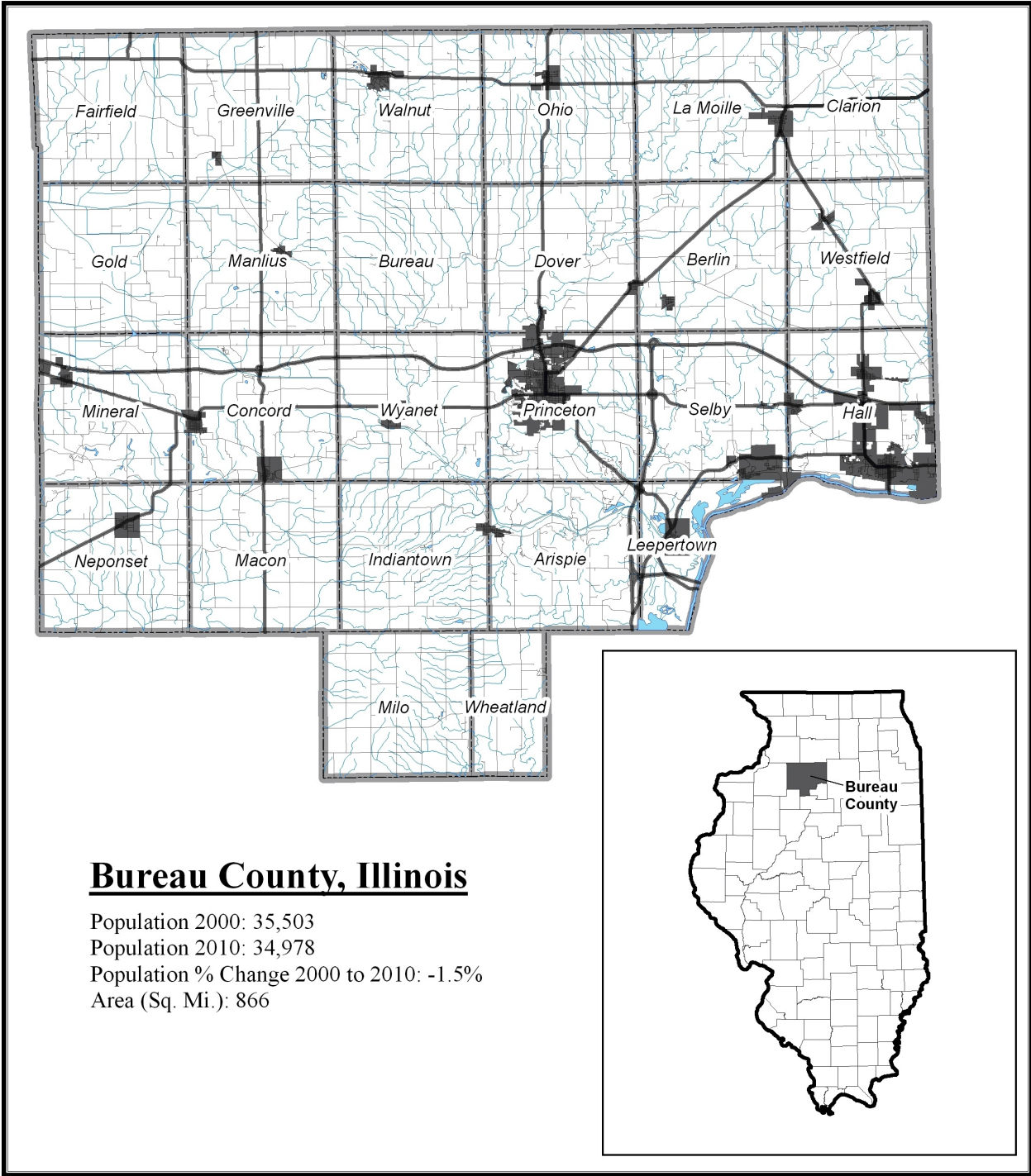


Figure 1.2: Bureau County, Illinois



Bureau County, Illinois

Population 2000: 35,503
Population 2010: 34,978
Population % Change 2000 to 2010: -1.5%
Area (Sq. Mi.): 866

Section 1.3 Past Planning In Bureau County

The Bureau County Board adopted a County comprehensive planning document (*Bureau County, IL Comprehensive Plan*) in 1969, which has not been updated.

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 plan 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 Bureau 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, Bureau County has shown a general downward trend in population since 1910. Since 1900, the County population was at its peak in 1910, and is currently at its lowest. The County population has decreased in each of the past three Census periods.

The population trends between Census periods seen in Bureau County are contrary to those of the State of Illinois as a whole, which has seen an increase in population during each Census period since 1900.

**Table 1.1
1900 - 2010 Population, Population Change and Population % Change
Bureau County and State of Illinois**

Year	Bureau Co.			Illinois		
	Population	Change	% Change	Population	Change	% Change
1900	41,112	---	---	4,821,550	---	---
1910	43,975	2,863	7.0%	5,638,591	817,041	16.9%
1920	42,648	(1,327)	-3.0%	6,485,280	846,689	15.0%
1930	38,854	(3,794)	-8.9%	7,630,654	1,145,374	17.7%
1940	37,600	(1,254)	-3.2%	7,897,241	266,587	3.5%
1950	37,711	111	0.3%	8,712,176	814,935	10.3%
1960	37,594	(117)	-0.3%	10,081,158	1,368,982	15.7%
1970	38,541	947	2.5%	11,113,976	1,029,127	10.2%
1980	39,114	573	1.5%	11,426,518	317,129	2.9%
1990	35,688	(3,426)	-8.8%	11,430,602	3,188	0.0%
2000	35,503	(185)	-0.5%	12,419,293	415,942	3.6%
2010	34,978	(525)	-1.5%	12,830,632	411,339	3.3%

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census

As seen in Table 1.2, the three-county area of Bureau, LaSalle and Putnam Counties, designated by the U.S. Census Bureau as the Ottawa-Streator Micropolitan Statistical Area (MiSA), grew by 3.2% between 1990 and 2000. During this period, Bureau County decreased in population by 0.5% (compared to population increases of 4.3% and 6.2% in LaSalle County and Putnam County, respectively). Between 2000 and 2010 the population of the Ottawa-Streator MiSA increased by 1.2%, Bureau County population decreased by 1.5%, LaSalle County population increased by 2.2%, and Putnam County population decreased by 1.3%.

Table 1.2
1990 - 2010 Population, Population Change and Population % Change
Bureau County, LaSalle County, Putnam County and Ottawa-Streator Micropolitan Statistical Area (MiSA)*

	Bureau County	LaSalle County	Putnam County	Ottawa-Streator MSA
1990 Pop.	35,688	106,913	5,730	148,331
2000 Pop.	35,503	111,509	6,086	153,098
Pop. Ch.	(185)	4,596	356	4,767
Pop. % Ch.	-0.5	4.3	6.2	3.2
2010 Pop.	34,978	113,924	6,006	154,908
Pop. Ch.	(525)	2,415	(80)	1,810
Pop. % Ch.	-1.5	2.2	-1.3	1.2

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census

*The Ottawa-Streator MiSA is comprised of Bureau, LaSalle and Putnam Counties

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, population within the unincorporated (not within the boundaries of an incorporated municipality) has steadily declined since 1970, and population within incorporated municipalities has remained fairly constant. Since 1970, the ratio of population within unincorporated Bureau County compared to population within municipalities has steadily grown in favor of municipalities to a ratio of 25.5% of the County population in unincorporated areas versus 74.5% within municipalities in the year 2010.

Table 1.3
1970 - 2010 Population, Population Change and Population % Change
Bureau County Unincorporated Area Population and Bureau County Population Within Municipalities

Year	Bureau County Unincorp.			% Ratio Uninc. Pop. / Municipal Population	Bureau County Municipal		
	Population	Change	% Change		Population	Change	% Change
1970	12,526	---	---	32.5 / 67.5	26,015	---	---
1980	11,657	(869)	-6.9%	29.8 / 70.2	27,457	1,442	5.5%
1990	10,667	(990)	-8.5%	29.9 / 70.1	25,021	(2,436)	-8.9%
2000	9,368	(1,299)	-12.2%	26.4 / 73.6	26,135	1,114	4.5%
2010	8,902	(466)	-5.0%	25.5 / 74.5	26,076	(59)	-0.2%

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census

As seen in Table 1.4, of the twenty-three (23) municipalities within Bureau County, six (6) municipalities registered an increase in population between 2000 and 2010: Malden (5.5%), Manlius (1.1%), Princeton (2.1%), Seatonville (3.6%), Spring Valley (3.0%), and Tiskilwa (5.3%). Of the remaining municipalities, sixteen (16) decreased in population and one municipality, Dalzell, registered a 0.0% population change between 2000 and 2010.

Between 1990 and 2000, sixteen (16) municipalities increased in population compared to seven (7) that decreased in population; between 1980 and 1990, one (1) municipality increased in population compared to twenty-two (22) municipalities that decreased in population; and, between 1970 and 1980, sixteen (16) municipalities increased in compared to six (6) municipalities that decreased in population and one (1) that maintained a 0.0% population change.

In 2010, six (6) of the twenty-three (23) municipalities had a population that was greater than its population in 1970 (Dalzell, La Moille, Malden, Ohio, Princeton and Walnut).

Table 1.4
1970 - 2010 Population, Population Change and Population % Change
Bureau County Municipalities

	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010
Arlington Pop.	250	236	200	211	193
Pop. Change	---	(14)	(36)	11	(18)
Pop. % Change	---	-5.6%	-15.3%	5.5%	-8.5%
Buda Pop.	675	668	563	592	538
Pop. Change	---	(7)	(105)	29	(54)
Pop. % Change	---	-1.0%	-15.7%	5.2%	-9.1%
Bureau Junction Pop.	466	455	350	368	322
Pop. Change	---	(11)	(105)	18	(46)
Pop. % Change	---	-2.4%	-23.1%	5.1%	-12.5%
Cherry Pop.	551	541	487	509	482
Pop. Change	---	(10)	(54)	22	(27)
Pop. % Change	---	-1.8%	-10.0%	4.5%	-5.3%
Dalzell Pop.	579	679	587	717	717
Pop. Change	---	100	(92)	130	0
Pop. % Change	---	17.3%	-13.5%	22.1%	0.0%
De Pue Pop.	1,919	1,837	1,729	1,842	1,838
Pop. Change	---	(82)	(108)	113	(4)
Pop. % Change	---	-4.3%	-5.9%	6.5%	-0.2%
Dover Pop.	176	213	163	172	168
Pop. Change	---	37	(50)	9	(4)
Pop. % Change	---	21.0%	-23.5%	0.6%	-2.3%
Hollowayville Pop.	94	92	37	90	84
Pop. Change	---	(2)	(55)	53	(6)
Pop. % Change	---	-2.1%	-59.8%	143.2%	-6.7%
Ladd Pop.	1,328	1,337	1,283	1,313	1,295
Pop. Change	---	9	(54)	30	(18)
Pop. % Change	---	0.7%	-4.0%	2.3%	-1.4%
La Moille Pop.	669	734	654	773	726
Pop. Change	---	65	(80)	119	(47)
Pop. % Change	---	9.7%	-10.9%	18.2%	-6.1%

	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010
Malden Pop.	262	359	370	343	362
Pop. Change	---	97	11	(27)	19
Pop. % Change	---	37.0%	3.1%	-7.3%	5.5%
Manlius Pop.	402	439	365	355	359
Pop. Change	---	37	(74)	(10)	4
Pop. % Change	---	9.2%	-16.9%	-2.7%	1.1%
Mineral Pop.	286	325	250	272	237
Pop. Change	---	39	(75)	(50)	(35)
Pop. % Change	---	13.6%	-23.1%	-20.0%	-12.9%
Neponset Pop.	507	575	529	519	473
Pop. Change	---	68	(46)	(10)	(46)
Pop. % Change	---	13.4%	-8.0%	-1.9%	-8.9%
New Bedford Pop.	152	152	65	95	75
Pop. Change	---	0	(87)	30	(20)
Pop. % Change	---	0.0%	-57.2%	46.2%	-21.1%
Ohio Pop.	506	544	426	540	513
Pop. Change	---	38	(118)	114	(27)
Pop. % Change	---	7.5%	-21.7%	26.8%	-5.0%
Princeton Pop.	6,959	7,342	7,197	7,501	7,660
Pop. Change	---	383	(145)	304	159
Pop. % Change	---	5.5%	-2.0%	4.2%	2.1%
Seatonville Pop.	318	369	259	303	314
Pop. Change	---	51	(110)	44	11
Pop. % Change	---	16.0%	-29.8%	17.0%	3.6%
Sheffield Pop.	1,038	1,130	951	946	926
Pop. Change	---	92	(179)	(5)	(20)
Pop. % Change	---	8.9%	-15.8%	-0.5%	-2.1%
Spring Valley Pop.	5,605	5,822	5,246	5,398	5,558
Pop. Change	---	217	(576)	152	160
Pop. % Change	---	3.9%	-9.9%	2.9%	3.0%
Tiskilwa Pop.	973	990	830	787	829
Pop. Change	---	17	(160)	(43)	42
Pop. % Change	---	1.7%	-16.2%	-5.2%	5.3%
Walnut Pop.	1,295	1,513	1,463	1,461	1,416
Pop. Change	---	218	(50)	(2)	(45)
Pop. % Change	---	16.8%	-3.3%	-0.1%	-3.1%
Wyanet Pop.	1,005	1,069	1,017	1,028	991
Pop. Change	---	64	(52)	11	(37)
Pop. % Change	---	6.4%	-4.9%	0.1%	-3.6%

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census

B. Age Distribution

Table 1.5 details the number of Bureau 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 decrease 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)
Bureau County, Illinois**

	2000	2010	Cohort Change 2000-2010	Cohort % Change 2000-2010	Class Change 2000-2010	Class % Change
Under 5-9 years	4,501	4,365	112	2.5%	(136)	-3.0%
10-19 years	5,250	4,613	(1,730)	-33.0%	(637)	-12.1%
20-29 years	3,510	3,520	373	10.6%	10	0.3%
30-39 years	4,731	3,883	68	1.4%	(848)	-17.9%
40-49 years	5,343	4,799	(53)	-1.0%	(544)	-10.2%
50-59 years	4,201	5,290	(330)	-7.9%	1,089	25.9%
60-69 years	3,103	3,871	(530)	-17.1%	768	24.8%
70-79 years	2,861	2,573	(797)	-27.9%	(288)	-10.1%
80-85 years and over	2,003	2,064	---	---	61	3.0%
Median Age (Bureau County)	39.6	42.5	---	---	2.9	7.3%
Median Age (Illinois)	34.7	36.6	---	---	1.9	5.5%

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census

An examination of Table 1.5 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. The 40-49 years and 70-79 years age classes decreased in population between 2000 and 2010; however, the 50-59 years, 60-69 years and 80-85 years age classes all increased in population.

In 2000, 50.7% of the County population was under 40 years of age; in 2010, 46.8% 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 39.6 in 2000 to 42.5 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, Bureau County’s 2010 median age of 42.5 is 16.1% higher than the 2010 median age of the State of Illinois.

C. Education Levels

Table 1.6 compares the educational attainment information for Bureau County. Between 2000 and 2010 the County population has become more educated. The population with high school education or less has decreased by 481 persons, or 3.6%, and in 2010 accounted for 52.3% of the population 25 years of age and over compared to 54.9% 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 756 persons, or 7.0%. Persons with at least some college education but no degree and persons with an associate's degree, a bachelor's degree or a graduate or professional degree accounted for 47.7% of the population of the County over 25 years of age in 2010, compared to 45.1% 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
Bureau County, Illinois**

	2000	2010	Change (+/-)	% Change
Less than 9 th Grade	1,457 6.0%	1,047 4.3%	(410)	-28.1%
9 th - 12 th Gr., no diploma	2,370 9.8%	1,754 7.2%	(616)	-26.0%
High School Graduate	9,394 39.0%	9,939 40.8%	545	5.8%
Some college, no degree	5,366 22.3%	5,554 22.8%	188	3.5%
Associate's degree	1,726 7.2%	2,095 8.6%	369	21.4%
Bachelor's degree	2,573 10.7%	2,631 10.8%	58	2.3%
Graduate or professional degree	1,199 5.0%	1,340 5.5%	141	11.8%
Total Population 25 Years and Over	24,085	24,360	275	1.1%

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census; 2007-2011 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates

D. Households and Income

The Bureau County residential community is made up of different types of households. Table 1.7 details the changes in the make-up of County households between 2000 and 2010. Family households have decreased in both number (from 9,890 to 9,605) and percentage of total households (from 69.7% to 67.3%) between 2000 and 2010. Non-family households have increased from 2000 to 2010 in both number (from 4,292 to 4,657) and percentage of total households (from 30.3% to 32.7%). Married-couple (husband-wife) households have seen both their number and percentage of family households decrease between 2000 and 2010. Single-mother family households have increased from 11.4% of family households in 2000 to 13.6% in 2010. Both Average Household Size and Average Family Size have decreased slightly between 2000 and 2010.

Table 1.7
Households, Average Household Size and Household Type
Bureau County, Illinois

	2000	2010	Change (+/-)	% Change
Households	14,182	14,262	80	0.6%
Average Household Size	2.46	2.42	(0.04)	-1.6%
Average Family Size	2.99	2.92	(0.07)	-2.3%
Households by Type:				
Family Households [1] <i>(% of Total Households)</i>	9,890 <i>(69.7%)</i>	9,605 <i>(67.3%)</i>	(285)	-2.9%
Husband-wife families [3] <i>(% of Family Households)</i>	8,242 <i>(83.3%)</i>	7,651 <i>(79.7%)</i>	(591)	-7.2%
Female householder, no husband present <i>(% of Family Households)</i>	1,129 <i>(11.4%)</i>	1,305 <i>(13.6%)</i>	176	15.6%
Non-Family Households [2] <i>(% of Total Households)</i>	4,292 <i>(30.3%)</i>	4,657 <i>(32.7%)</i>	365	8.5%
Male householder <i>(% of Total Non-Family Households)</i>	1,822 <i>(42.5%)</i>	2,177 <i>(46.7%)</i>	355	19.5%
Female householder <i>(% of Total Non-Family Households)</i>	2,470 <i>(57.5%)</i>	2,480 <i>(53.3%)</i>	10	0.4%

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 Bureau County.

Table 1.8
Household Income 1999 - 2011
Bureau County, Illinois

Household Income (\$)	1999	2011	Change (+/-)	% Change
Less than 10,000	978 <i>(6.3%)</i>	744 <i>(3.7%)</i>	(234)	-23.9%
10,000 - 14,999	990 <i>(6.8%)</i>	790 <i>(5.5%)</i>	(200)	-20.2%
15,000 - 24,999	1,988 <i>(10.1%)</i>	1,949 <i>(9.1%)</i>	(39)	-2.0%
25,000 - 34,999	2,132 <i>(13.4%)</i>	1,523 <i>(10.7%)</i>	(609)	-28.6%
35,000 - 49,999	2,563 <i>(18.7%)</i>	2,575 <i>(13.8%)</i>	12	0.5%
50,000 - 74,999	3,160 <i>(23.0%)</i>	2,900 <i>(24.8%)</i>	(260)	-8.2%
75,000 - 99,999	1,487 <i>(11.7%)</i>	1,929 <i>(15.4%)</i>	442	29.7%
100,000 - 149,999	591 <i>(7.6%)</i>	1,488 <i>(12.4%)</i>	897	151.8%
150,000 - 199,999	111 <i>(1.3%)</i>	259 <i>(2.9%)</i>	148	133.3%
200,000 or more	164 <i>(1.1%)</i>	247 <i>(1.8%)</i>	83	50.6%
Total Households	14,164 <i>(100%)</i>	14,404 <i>(100%)</i>	240	1.7%
Bureau County Median Household Income (\$)	40,233	48,046	7,813	19.4%
State of Illinois Median Household Income (\$)	46,590	56,576	9,986	21.4%

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

Table 1.8 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 Bureau County that the percentage of households making greater than \$50,000 per year has increased from 44.7% in 1999 to 57.3% in 2010. Median household income has increased from \$40,233 to \$48,046 over the same period, a 19.4% increase. This percentage increase in median household income is less than the State of Illinois as a whole (21.4%) over the same time period.

The median household income for Illinois was 15.8% higher than Bureau County in 1999 (\$46,590), but 17.8% higher in 2010 (\$56,576), an indication that median household income is increasing at a slower pace in Bureau 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 2011. Table 1.9 lists the Census and American Community Survey information on poverty for the total number of residents, children under 18 years, and adults 65 years of age and older within Bureau County.

**Table 1.9
Weighted Average Poverty Thresholds - 1999 and 2011**

Size of Family Unit	1999	2011
One Person	\$8,499	\$11,484
Two Persons	\$10,864	\$14,657
Three Persons	\$13,289	\$17,916
Four Persons	\$17,030	\$23,021
Five Persons	\$20,128	\$27,251
Six Persons	\$22,730	\$30,847
Seven Persons	\$25,918	\$35,085
Eight Persons	\$28,970	\$39,064
Nine Persons or more	\$34,436	\$46,572

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census

Table 1.10
Poverty Status in the Past 12 Months - 1999 and 2011
Bureau County, Illinois

	1999	2011	Change (+/-) 1999-2011	% Change 1999-2011
Individuals*	34,940	34,543		
Below Poverty Level	2,537	3,697	1,160	45.7%
<i>% Below Poverty Level</i>	<i>7.3</i>	<i>10.7</i>		
Children under 18 years	8,611	8,040		
Below Poverty Level	897	1,315	418	46.6%
<i>% Below Poverty Level</i>	<i>10.4</i>	<i>16.4</i>		
65 years and over	5,949	6,023		
Below Poverty Level	358	362	4	1.1%
<i>% Below Poverty Level</i>	<i>6.0</i>	<i>6.0</i>		

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

*All individuals for whom poverty status is determined.

Poverty status increased within Bureau County between 1999 and 2011 among individuals (from 7.3% to 10.7% of the population) and children (from 10.4% to 16.4%), but remained unchanged for persons 65 years of age and older (although the number of individuals below poverty level increased). Compared to Illinois as a whole, poverty status increased between 1999 and 2011 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 8.5%).

E. Employment Characteristics

Table 1.11 summarizes employment by industry data provided for the 2000 Census year and the 2007-2011 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates. 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 Bureau 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 (-24.7%) between 2000 and 2011, followed by “Finance, insurance, real estate, and rental and leasing” (-8.6%) and “Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, and mining” (-8.0%). Eight of the thirteen industry classifications decreased in the number of persons employed between 2000 and 2011.

Industries showing increases in employment between 2000 and 2011 were: “Retail trade” (18.9%), “Professional, scientific, management, administrative, and waste management services” (11.7%), “Transportation and warehousing, and utilities” (9.2%), “Other services [except public administration] (5.9%), and “Arts, entertainment, recreation, accommodation and food services” (3.2%).

The total number of employed persons 16 years and over decreased by 3.5% between 2000 and 2011.

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

Industry	2000	2011	Change (+/-)	% Change
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, and mining	1,043	960	(83)	-8.0%
Construction	1,100	1,036	(64)	-5.8%
Manufacturing	3,511	2,644	(867)	-24.7%
Wholesale trade	830	786	(44)	-5.3%
Retail trade	2,228	2,650	422	18.9%
Transportation and warehousing, and utilities	1,098	1,199	101	9.2%
Information	320	217	(103)	---
Finance, insurance, real estate, and rental and leasing	845	772	(73)	-8.6%
Professional, scientific, management, administrative, and waste management services	686	766	80	11.7%
Educational, health and social services	3,301	3,237	(64)	-1.9%
Arts, entertainment, recreation, accommodation and food services	1,191	1,229	38	3.2%
Other services (except public administration)	801	848	47	5.9%
Public administration	441	439	(2)	-0.5%
Total Employed Persons 16 Years and Over	17,395	16,783	(612)	-3.5%

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 estimates 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.

Bureau County has shown a general downward trend in population since 1910. Since 1900, the County population was at its peak in 1910, and is currently at its lowest. The County population has decreased in each of the past three Census periods.

To estimate the Bureau 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 1.7% increase per 10-year period for housing units and a 2.58% 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 1.5% of the population does not live in a household, the estimated population in households was then increased by 1.5% to yield the total projected population.

Population Projection Methodology B:

The population percentage change from 1990-2000, and 2000-2010 were averaged, yielding an average population change of -1.0% per decade. This average population change per decade 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
Bureau County, Illinois**

Year	2020	2030	2040
Population	34,743	34,436	34,109

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

Year	2020	2030	2040
Population	34,628	34,282	33,939

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
Bureau County, Illinois

Year	2020	2030	2040
Population	34,686	34,359	34,024

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

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

Year	2020	2030	2040
Population	38,631	40,820	<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 Bureau 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:

Bureau 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 agricultural, 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 Bureau 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 ensure that the County's population is adequately provided with public services and infrastructure.
6. Manage balanced growth to ensure that the County's population is served by adequate and safe housing.
7. Manage balanced growth to ensure 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 Bureau County and promote rural community values.

C. Policies:

1. Bureau 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.