

CHAPTER 2:

POPULATION

2.0 Introduction

This chapter is intended to provide basic demographic information necessary for future land use policy decisions in Storey County.

2.1 Population Trends

U.S. Bureau of the Census data illustrate the volatile changes in population growth experienced by Storey County during this century (Table 2.1). During the decades of the 1920's and the 1940's the county lost approximately one-half of its population, so that by 1960 the population had decreased to 568 people. However, since 1960 the county has shown strong growth with the population increasing to 2,560 by 1990.

Storey County experienced a 78% increase during the 1980's and is expected to maintain the same growth rate during the 1990's (Tables 2.2 and 2.3). However due to the low population base, any changes in business related activity effecting Storey County would significantly impact population figures.

2.2 Population Demographics

For the past twenty years in-migration has been the major population growth factor. Given the county's proximity to the growing Reno/Sparks and Carson City areas this trend is expected to continue. However, due to land development constraints, such as water quality and availability, the county is not expected to exhibit major urban population growth. The U.S. Bureau of Census classification of Storey County as rural can be expected to continue.

Age and Ethnic Distribution

Storey County has a slightly greater proportion of males to females and is predominately White (Table 2.4). 1990 estimates show that 23% of the population was under the age of 20, 65% was between the ages of 20 and 64, and 11% was 65 or older. As is occurring nationally, a general aging of the population is predicted through 1995 (Table 2.5).

2.3 Geographic Distribution

Previous estimates of the geographic distribution of Storey County's population was based on factors such as: utility hookups, school enrollment, registered voters, etc. In 1990, the U.S. Bureau of the Census counted 2,526 individuals and 1,085 housing units in the county. Breakdown of distribution is as follows:

Virginia City/Gold Hill - 899 people, which represents over 35% of Storey County's total population, reside in this area.

River District - With 700 residents mostly located in or around Lockwood, this district is the second most populated area of the county. With a large amount of developable land and its proximity to the growing Reno/Sparks metropolitan area, the River District is expected to be the fastest growing section of the county and will probably have a greater population than the Virginia City/Gold Hill area by the end of the century.

Virginia Highlands - This subdivided residential area is also increasing in population and is expected to continue to grow throughout the decade. With a 1990 population of 492 residents, this area had almost 20% of the county's population.

Mark Twain - This subdivided residential area had a population of 435 in 1990. The population is expected to increase considerably during the next decade due to the fact that 55% of the subdivided lots are vacant.

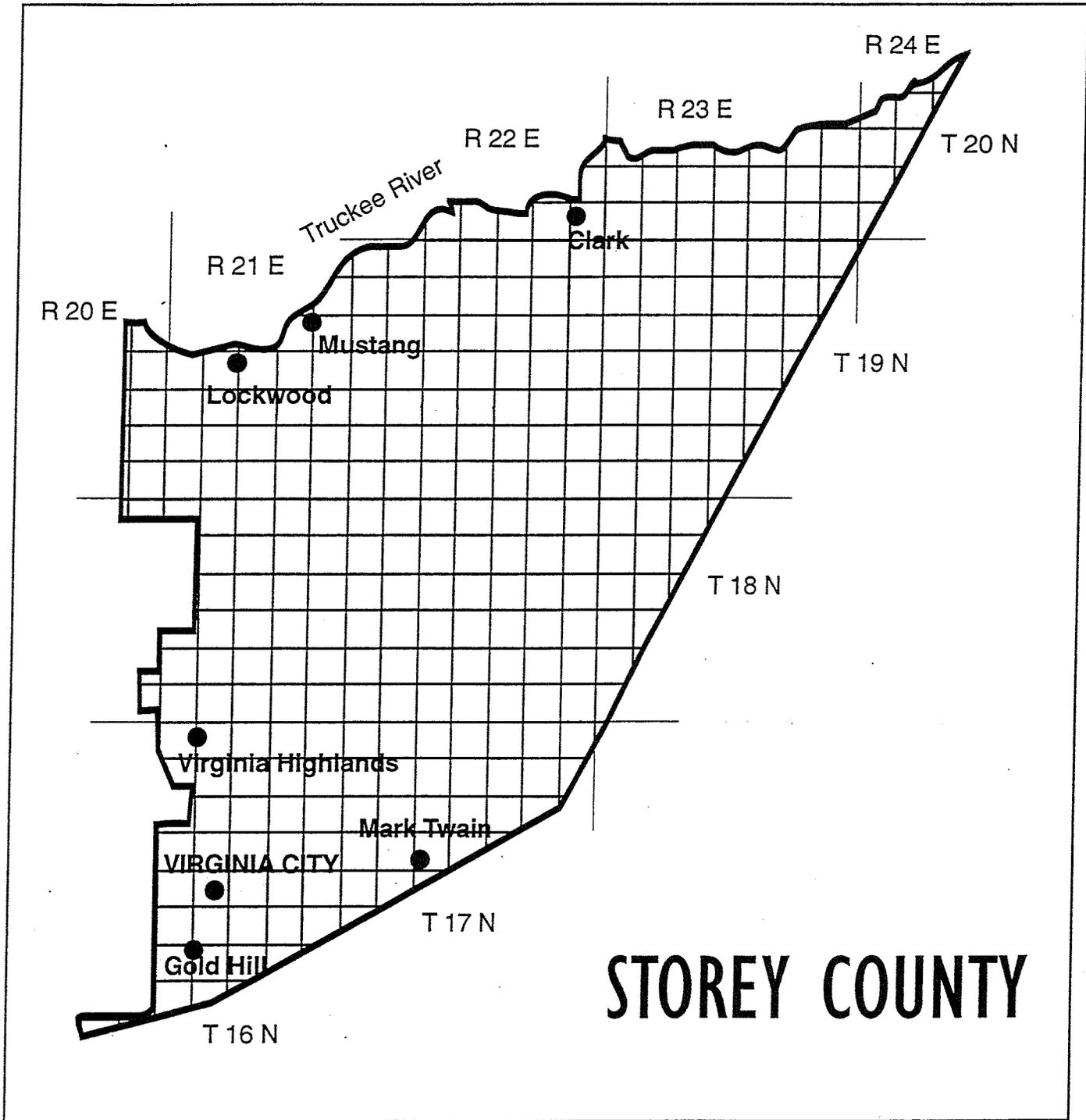
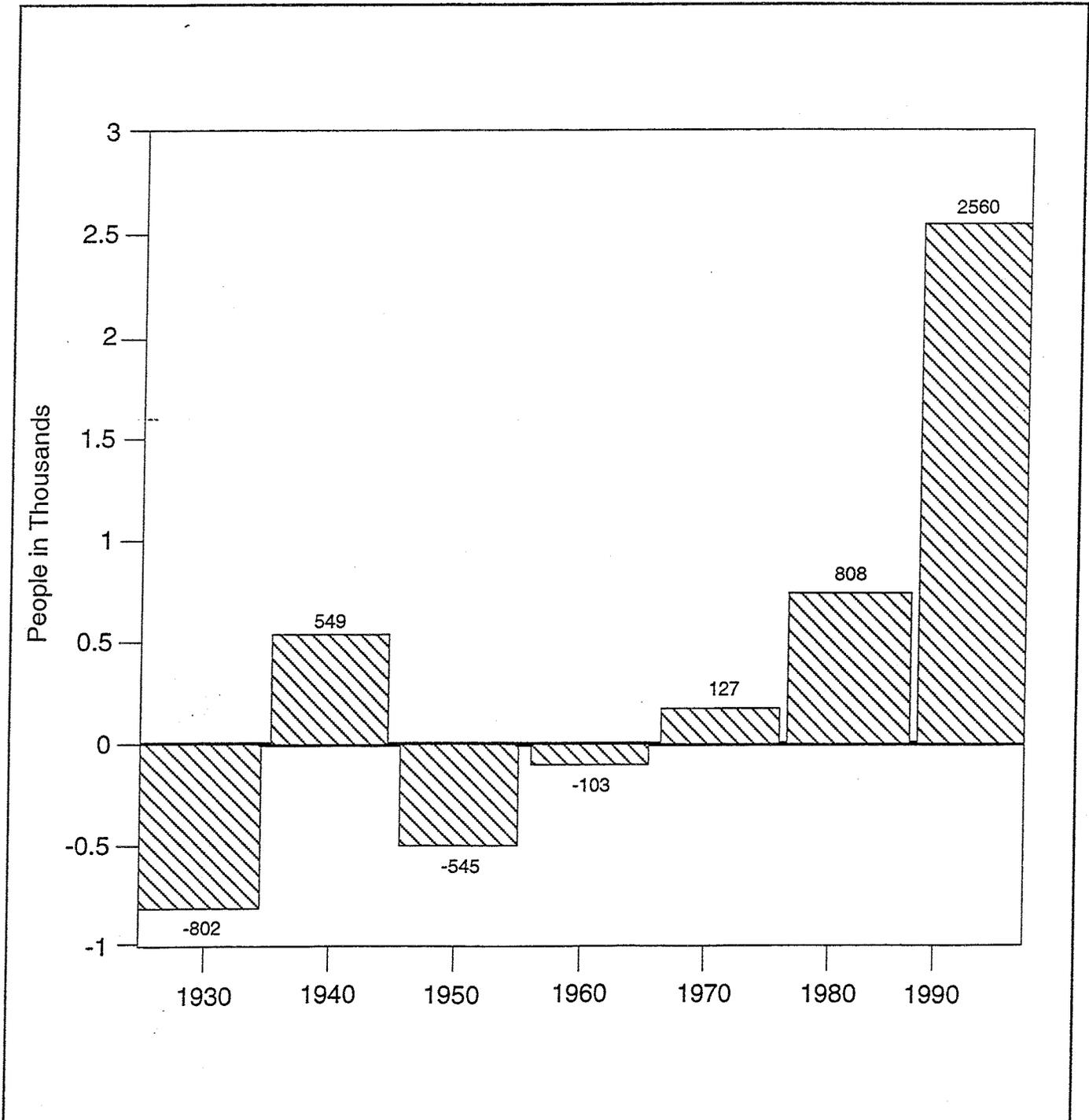


Table 2.0

Population of Storey County Decennial Change — 1920-1990

Table 2.1



Source: U.S. Bureau of Census, Census of Population

NEVADA POPULATION

By County: 1980, 1985 & 1990

Table 2.2

COUNTY	1980 (1)	1985 (2)	1990 (3)	% of Change 1980-1985	% of Change 1985-1990	% of Change 1980-1990
Carson City	33,022	35,400		10.6%	%	%
Churchill	13,917	15,450	17,938	11.2	16.1	28.9
Clark	463,087	572,140	741,459	23.6	29.6	60.1
Douglas	19,421	24,660	27,637	27.0	12.1	42.3
Elko	17,269	22,850	33,530	32.3	46.7	94.2
Esmeralda	777	1,380	1,344	77.6	-2.6	73.0
Eureka	1,198	1,450	1,547	21.0	6.7	29.1
Humboldt	9,449	11,880	12,844	25.7	8.1	35.9
Lander	4,076	4,500	6,266	10.4	39.2	53.7
Lincoln	3,732	4,200	3,755	12.5	-11.6	0.6
Lyon	13,594	17,170	20,001	26.3	16.5	47.1
Mineral	6,217	6,030	6,475	-3.0	7.4	4.1
Nye	9,048	14,850	17,781	64.1	19.7	96.5
Pershing	3,408	3,660	4,336	7.4	18.5	27.2
STOREY	1,503	1,850	2,526	23.1	36.5	68.1
Washoe	193,628	224,340	254,667	15.9	13.5	31.5
White Pine	8,167	7,560	9,264	-7.4	22.5	13.4
STATE	800,508	969,450		21.1%		

Sources: (1): U.S. Bureau of Census. (2): Office of the Nevada State Demographer. (3): U.S. Bureau of the Census ("The population counts set fourth herein are subject to possible correction for undercount or overcount. The United States Department of Commerce is considering whether to correct these counts and will publish corrected counts, if any, not later than July 15, 1991".)

NEVADA POPULATION ESTIMATES (1992) AND FORECASTS (1993-1997)

Table 2.3

COUNTY	92-93 1992 %-chg	93-94 1993 %-chg	94-95 1994 %-chg	95-96 1995 %-chg	96-97 1996 %-chg	97-98 1997 %-chg	1998
Carson City	42,510 1.3%	43,080 1.5%	43,730 1.3%	44,300 1.4%	44,920 1.2%	45,460 1.3%	46,050
Churchill	18,730 1.5	19,010 0.9	19,380 1.1	19,380 1.7	19,720 2.2	20,160 2.3	20,620
Clark	854,780 4.1	889,600 4.4	964,880 3.9	964,880 4.2	1,005,530 3.9	1,044,450 4.1	1,087,270
Douglas	29,740 2.4	30,460 2.3	31,810 2.1	31,810 2.0	32,450 1.8	33,050 1.9	33,680
Elko	37,740 3.3	39,000 3.9	41,480 2.5	4,480 1.7	42,190 1.6	42,870 1.8	43,640
Esmeralda	1,410 0.8	1,420 0.4	1,430 0.0	1,430 0.0	1,430 -0.4	1,420 0.0	1,420
Eureka	1,580 0.6	1,590 0.0	1,590 0.0	1,590 0.6	1,600 0.0	1,600 0.1	1,600
Humboldt	13,760 1.5	13,960 2.2	14,270 2.1	14,570 1.9	14,840 1.8	15,110 2.0	15,410
Lander	6,400 1.4	6,490 -0.1	6,480 -0.0	6,480 -0.0	6,480 -0.7	6,430 -0.3	6,410
Lincoln	4,000 0.3	3,930 1.0	3,980 0.3	3,980 0.3	3,980 0.3	4,000 0.2	4,010
Lyon	22,640 4.9	23,750 4.3	24,770 3.9	25,740 3.4	26,620 3.0	27,430 3.2	28,310
Mineral	6,670 0.5	6,700 -0.5	6,670 -0.8	6,620 -0.9	6,560 -0.9	6,500 -0.7	6,450
Nye	20,080 2.1	20,500 2.3	20,970 2.3	21,440 2.2	21,910 2.2	22,390 2.4	22,930
Pershing	4,810 2.2	4,920 2.1	5,020 2.2	5,130 9.7	4,530 8.9	6,130 7.6	6,600
STOREY	2,820 3.8	2,930 4.0	3,050 4.2	3,180 4.3	3,320 4.1	3,460 4.2	3,610
Washoe	266,500 1.9	271,650 2.0	277,200 2.1	282,970 2.1	288,870 2.1	294,860 2.2	301,350
White Pine	9,760 -1.2	10,240 6.2	10,240 4.9	10,740 1.7	10,920 0.4	10,960 0.6	11,030
NEVADA	1,343,930 3.3%	1,388,630 3.6%	1,438,560 3.3%	1,485,720 3.5%	1,536,980 3.2%	1,586,280 3.4%	1,640,390

**POPULATION BY SEX & ETHNIC STATUS
STOREY COUNTY, 1989
Table 2.4**

RACE	TOTAL	% OF C.T.	MALE	% OF MALE C.T.	FEMALE	% OF FEMALE C.T.
White (non-Hispanic)	2,280	95.0	1,200	96.8	1,080	93.1
Native American (non-Hispanic)	110	4.6	40	3.2	70	6.0
Hispanic	10	0.4	(*)	-	(*)	-
Black (non-Hispanic)	(*)	-	(*)	-	(*)	-
Other	(*)	-	(*)	-	(*)	-
County Total (C.T.)	2,400	100.0	1,240	100.0	1,160	100.0

Note: Sums of columns may not add to total due to rounding. (*): less than 10.
Source: Nevada Employment Security Dept. Nevada Affirmative Action 1989. Carson City.

**POPULATION BY AGE GROUP, PERCENT DISTRIBUTION
STOREY COUNTY
Table 2.5**

Age	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
-5 years	7.6%	7.7%	7.8%	8.0%	8.1%	8.2%	8.4%	8.7%	8.9%	9.0%	9.1%	9%	9%	9%	9%	9%
5-19	19.6	19.0	18.2	17.7	17.1	16.5	15.8	15.4	14	14.5	14.1	14	13	13	13	13
20-29	18.1	18.2	18.3	18.3	18.4	18.4	18.2	18.1	17	17.7	17.4	17	17	16	16	16
30-44	21.4	21.6	22.0	22.3	22.6	23.0	23.5	23.8	24	24.4	24.6	25	25	25	25	26
45-64	24.6	24.5	24.6	24.5	24.3	24.1	24.1	23.7	23	23.7	23.7	24	24	24	24	25
65 +	8.7	9.0	9.1	9.2	9.2	9.8	10.0	10.3	10	10.7	10.7	11	12	12	12	12

Source: Nevada Resources and Cost Review, Nevada State Demographer; and Bureau of Business and Economic Research, University of Nevada - Reno.