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**Demographic and Population Study
for
Regional and Statewide Water Planning**

*Population Projections for 16 Regions
July 1, 2000 to July 1, 2060*

by

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specifications using a variety of maps such as road and topographical maps in conjunction with a hard copy of the Census 2000 block and tract map. The methodology used in establishing the population trends at the regional level is detailed in Appendix 1.

The decade of the 1970s was a period of very strong economic growth in New Mexico. Federal spending increased as the United States intensified its involvement in the Vietnam War. The Vietnam War ended in 1975, but the United States was still locked in a race with the Soviet Union in research and development of nuclear arms and in space exploration. New Mexico politicians pushed aggressively for additional spending at White Sands Missile Range, Kirtland, Holloman, and Cannon air force bases and at the Los Alamos and Sandia National Laboratories. At the same time, New Mexico increased its exploration and production of oil and gas as the OPEC countries plunged the world into an energy crisis. The counties that house the research laboratories and military bases and those that have rich deposits of oil and gas experienced rapid population growth as they became major migrant destinations. Population growth accelerated and the state population increased at an average rate of 2.5 percent annually. This resulted in an increase of approximately 286 thousand people between 1970 and 1980, more than four times the number of people added between 1960 and 1970.

The economic boom of the 1970s peaked out by 1981 and New Mexico's economy went on a downward spiral. Oil prices plummeted. Uranium mining closed down. Coal and potash mining declined. Defense spending stagnated. Workers were laid-off and they left the state in large numbers. The biggest losers were the energy-rich regions, in particular, Cibola County, Eddy County, Lea County, and McKinley County. During the 1980 decade, the state grew at an average rate of 1.5 percent per year down from 2.5 percent the previous decade. The 1990 Census counted 1.5 million New Mexico residents.

In the 1990s, the Cold War ended. The federal government retrenched defense-related programs and initiated across-the-board-cost-cutting. BBER estimated that between FY 1991 and FY 1997, the state lost as many as 8,500 defense-related jobs¹. The effect of this reduction in the state economy was further exacerbated by sharp fluctuations in the extractive industries. The prices of oil and natural gas went up and down during the decade. The MolyCorp molybdenum mine in Taos County opened and closed a number of times. The copper industry had large layoffs and by the end of the decade was in danger of closing permanently. Nevertheless, the state economy enjoyed a moderate growth (2.51%)² during the 1990s. Telephone call centers and other "back-office" facilities expanded in the Albuquerque and Las Cruces metropolitan areas, bringing to the state thousands of jobs. Moreover, the signing of the gaming compact between the state and American Indian reservations intensified casino-type gambling and increased employment in this sector. Manufacturing, primarily in the electronic industry, also experienced strong growth during the latter part of the decade. Employment in the local government sector increased while employment in the federal sector decreased as a result of spending reductions mandated by the US Congress and the scaling back of the Strategic Defense Initiative (Star Wars). Population growth in the state was higher in the 1990s than in the 1980s. The Census 2000 counted 1.8 million New Mexico residents. This is 304 thousand people or 20 percent more than the Census counted in 1990. The metropolitan areas of Albuquerque, Santa Fe, and Las Cruces and some non-metropolitan and smaller counties such as Lincoln, Luna, McKinley, San Juan, Sierra, and Catron experienced higher than average population growth.

BBER economists observed that in the beginning of the 21st century, the New Mexico economy is "surprisingly strong."³ Both local and state government posted strong growth. Employment in the service sectors, particularly in home health care providers, has expanded as a result of grants from the Medicare program. Manufacturing, mining and construction continued to be weak but the service and government sectors compensated for this slack. Statewide, population growth was slightly lower than in the last decade. In general, population growth in New Mexico is closely associated with the boom and bust cycle in the economy. Low economic growth brings about slower population growth. More people leave than come to New Mexico when the economy is not doing very well. Combine this migration pattern with declining fertility and increasing mortality due to an aging population, the result is a slower population growth, overall.

The population growth trends and the demographic structure of the last 40 years serve as the baseline for the 60-year population projections that is covered in this report. While economic

factors are known to influence population movements, the population projection models used in this study are based purely on past and current demographic trends. The assumption is that the future is an extrapolation of the past and present, barring catastrophes, epidemics, war, and other unforeseen circumstances.

A two step-projection process was used in deriving the future regional populations. At the county level, a cohort-component method was used while at the regional level, a linear regression technique was used. Details of these methodologies are presented in Appendix 1.

The remainder of the report is organized as follows: Chapter 2, Historical Population Levels and Trends; Chapter 3, Future Population Levels and Trends; Chapter 4, Comparative Population and Growth; Appendix 1, Methodology; Appendix 2, Projected County Population: July 1, 2000 to July 1, 2060; Appendix 3, Projected Water Region Population in the County: July 1, 2000 to July 1, 2060.

CHAPTER 2

HISTORICAL POPULATION LEVELS AND TRENDS

This chapter presents the population in each water planning region from 1970 to 2000. The population figures are Decennial Census counts as published by the Bureau of the Census. Adjusted population counts are not reliable at the block level thus no adjustments were made for differential undercount in establishing the historical populations of the water planning regions.

COLFAX WATER PLANNING REGION

The Colfax Water Planning Region consists solely of Colfax County. Bordering Colorado, Colfax County has altitudes ranging from 5,800 to over 12,000 feet. As in most regions in the state, Colfax's population has been influenced by the boom and bust cycle in the economy. Until recently, this region's population growth was tied to the rise and fall of coal mining.

Table 2.1 presents the up and down pattern of population growth in Colfax. By 1970 the Census population count for this region was 12 thousand, approximately 43 percent less than its 1920 population of 22 thousand people. In the 1970 decade as coal production increased, this region's population also increased. Its average annual population growth rate between 1970 and 1980 was estimated at over one percent (1.17%). In the 1980s as mining and other extractive industries declined so did the region's population. During this period, Colfax lost over 700 people, primarily due to out-migration of the workforce. The York Canyon Mine, an important county employer, closed down in 2002 creating a loss of many jobs for Raton, the most populated community and county seat. However, other sectors in the economy more than compensated for these job losses. Earnings from state and local government, services and retail trade surpassed earnings from mining. Cattle and hay production, manufacturing and tourist-related activities have increased their contributions to the local economy. Local tourist attractions include the Philmont Scout Ranch (located in the Sangre de Cristo range of the Rockies), the National Rifle

Table 2.1		
Distribution and Annual Average Growth Rate of		
Historical Population: April 1, 1970 to April 1, 2000		
Colfax Region		
Census Year	County Population in Region	
	Total Region Population	Colfax
1970	12,170	12,170
1980	13,677	13,677
1990	12,925	12,925
2000	14,189	14,189
Census Year	Growth Rate of Region	
	Total Region	Colfax
1970-1980	1.17	1.17
1980-1990	-0.57	-0.57
1990-2000	0.93	0.93

Source: New Mexico County Population Totals from the U.S. Census Bureau
Bureau of Business and Economic Research, University of New Mexico

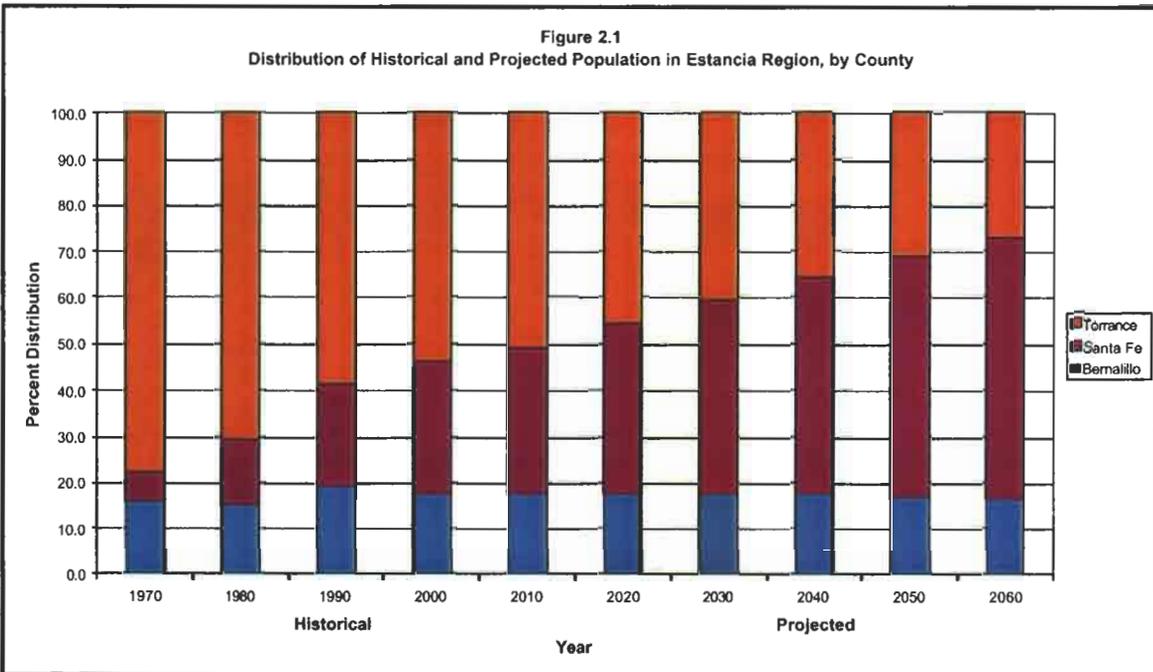
Association's Whittington Center for outdoor sports, and Angel Fire Ski Area. These shifts in the local economy helped to stabilize the region's population. In the 1990s, Colfax reversed its negative population growth trajectory. The Census 2000 counted close to 15 thousand Colfax residents.

ESTANCIA WATER PLANNING REGION

All of Torrance County, the southern part of Santa Fe County, and Bernalillo County East mountain area comprise the Estancia Region. Table 2.2 and Figure 2.1 show the county distribution of the region's population. In 2000, slightly over half of this region's population lived in Torrance County. Close to 30 percent lived in Santa Fe County and less than 20 percent resided in Bernalillo County.

The Estancia Water Planning Region had undergone some major changes during the last 30 years. Residential development accelerated as both affordable and high end housing became accessible in the Bernalillo County East mountain area, for example Cedar Crest, in Edgewood, Moriarty, and other parts of Torrance County. The Estancia region as a whole grew at an average annual population growth rate of 4.4 percent in the 1970-decade and 5.9 percent in the 1990-decade. In the region, the Santa Fe County portion had experienced the fastest growth. In the last 10 years, this area had an average annual growth rate above eight percent (8.49%) while Bernalillo County (5.05%) and Torrance County (4.97%) had growth rates that were close to five percent. The speed of growth in all areas had decelerated. Nevertheless, its proximity to the City of Santa Fe and Albuquerque, the presence of the Sandia Ski Resort and other recreational centers in the region and the availability of large acres of land for residential development are the best selling points to a diverse cross-section of people.

Table 2.2				
Distribution and Annual Average Growth Rate of Historical Population				
April 1, 1970 to April 1, 2000				
Estancia Region				
Census Year	County Population in Region			
	Total Region Population	Bernalillo	Santa Fe	Torrance
1970	6,830	1,081	459	5,290
1980	10,620	1,609	1,520	7,491
1990	17,535	3,361	3,889	10,285
2000	31,487	5,569	9,007	16,911
Census Year	Distribution of County Population in Region			
	Total Region	Bernalillo	Santa Fe	Torrance
1970	100.0	15.8	6.7	77.4
1980	100.0	15.1	14.3	70.5
1990	100.0	19.2	22.2	58.7
2000	100.0	17.7	28.6	53.7
Census Year	Growth Rate of Region and County Population			
	Total Region	Bernalillo	Santa Fe	Torrance
1970-1980	4.41	3.97	11.97	3.48
1980-1990	5.01	7.37	9.39	3.17
1990-2000	5.85	5.05	8.40	4.97
Source: New Mexico County Population Totals from the U.S. Census Bureau Bureau of Business and Economic Research, University of New Mexico				



The differences in the growth patterns among the areas in the region led to shifts in the region's population distribution. Torrance County is still demographically dominant although its population share had diminished over the years. In the 1970s, over three-quarters of the region's population claimed Torrance County as their place of residence. Two decades later, just above 50 percent of the region's population lived in Torrance County. In 2000, close to 30 percent of the region's population lived in Santa Fe County. The incorporation of Edgewood will further favor growth in southern Santa Fe County. The prevalence of more high-end development in Bernalillo County's East mountain areas had restrained an otherwise expansive population growth in this county.

LEA WATER PLANNING REGION

Lea County is the water planning region. This region had suffered significant population losses since the end of the oil and gas boom in the late 1970s. In 1970, close to 50 thousand lived in Lea County. In 1980, over 55 thousand people were counted in Lea County. Since 1980, Lea County's population remained at the 55 thousand level. The downturn in mining and the oil and gas industries led to the exodus of workers and their families as they sought job opportunities in other places. The region continues to struggle as it finds alternative means of employment for its residents. In the 1990s, a privately run prison facility was constructed in Hobbs after the State Legislature passed a bill authorizing the construction of prison facilities in the state. These facilities house not only local but federal and other state inmates. But for the most part, population growth in this region will continue to be tied to the oil and natural gas industry. A rise in the price of oil and gas would most likely result in a positive population growth in Lea County. Table 2.3 shows the historical population growth and trend in the region.

Table 2.3 Distribution and Annual Average Growth Rate of Historical Population April 1, 1970 to April 1, 2000 Lea County Region					
Census Year	County Population in Region		Census Year	Growth Rate of Region and County Population	
	Total Region Population	Lea		Total Region	Lea
1970	49,554	49,554			
1980	55,993	55,993	1970-1980	1.22	1.22
1990	55,765	55,765	1980-1990	-0.04	-0.04
2000	55,511	55,511	1990-2000	-0.04	-0.05

Source: New Mexico County Population Totals from the U.S. Census Bureau of Business and Economic Research

LOWER PECOS VALLEY WATER PLANNING REGION

Eddy County, Chaves County, De Baca County, Lincoln County and Otero County make up the Lower Pecos Valley Water Planning Region. The population of this region increased by 45 percent over 30 years, from 94 thousand in 1970 to 136 thousand in 2000. Table 2.4 and Figure 2.2 present the historical population levels and trend in the Lower Pecos Valley Water Planning Region. For 30 years, Chaves County dominated the demographic landscape in this region followed by Eddy County. Before 2000, 90 percent of the region's population lived in these two counties; 46 percent in Chaves County and 44 percent in Eddy County. In 2000, the share of these two counties decreased to 83 percent. Most of this decline was in Eddy County. Chaves County's share declined to 46 percent while that of Eddy County dropped to 38 percent in 2000.

A strong population growth in the decade of the 1990s enabled Lincoln County to gain considerable rank in 2000 when its share rose to 13 percent. This is an increase of four percentage-points from its 1990 share of nine percent. Meanwhile, Otero County inched its way from one percent in 1970 to slightly over two percent in 2000. Figure 2.2 demonstrates the shifts in the relative shares of each county.

LOWER RIO GRANDE WATER PLANNING REGION

Dona Ana County makes up the Lower Rio Grande Water Planning Region. From 1970 to 1990, population growth in the Lower Rio Grande Region exceeded three percent annually; 3.1 percent between 1970 and 1980 and 3.3 percent between 1980 and 1990. Migration accounted for most of the region's population growth. Dona Ana County borders the state of Texas and Mexico. It is also home to the second largest university, New Mexico State University, in the state. As expected of education centers, Dona Ana County attracts young adult migrants. Moreover, its proximity to the Mexican and Texas borders also makes Dona County a major destination for migrants in their peak productive years. Table 2.5 summarizes the population growth patterns and trends in the Lower Rio Grande Water Planning Region.

Table 2.4
Distribution and Annual Average Growth Rate of Historical Population
April 1, 1970 to April 1, 2000
Lower Pecos Valley Region

Census Year	County Population in Region					
	Total Region	Chaves	De Baca	Eddy	Lincoln	Otero
1970	94,296	43,330	2,547	41,111	6,085	1,222
1980	112,783	51,098	2,454	47,846	9,367	2,019
1990	121,739	57,831	2,252	48,596	10,810	2,250
2000	136,290	61,373	2,240	51,649	17,784	3,244

Census Year	Distribution of County Population in Region					
	Total Region	Chaves	De Baca	Eddy	Lincoln	Otero
1970	100.0	46.0	2.7	43.6	6.5	1.3
1980	100.0	45.3	2.2	42.4	8.3	1.8
1990	100.0	47.5	1.8	39.9	8.9	1.8
2000	100.0	45.0	1.6	37.9	13.0	2.4

Census Year	Growth Rate of Region and County Population					
	Total Region	Chaves	De Baca	Eddy	Lincoln	Otero
1970-1980	1.79	1.65	-0.37	1.52	4.31	5.02
1980-1990	0.76	1.24	-0.86	0.16	1.43	1.09
1990-2000	1.13	0.59	-0.05	0.61	4.98	3.66

Source: New Mexico County Population Totals from the U.S. Census Bureau of Business and Economic Research

Figure 2.2
Distribution of Historical and Projected Population in Lower Pecos Valley Region, by County

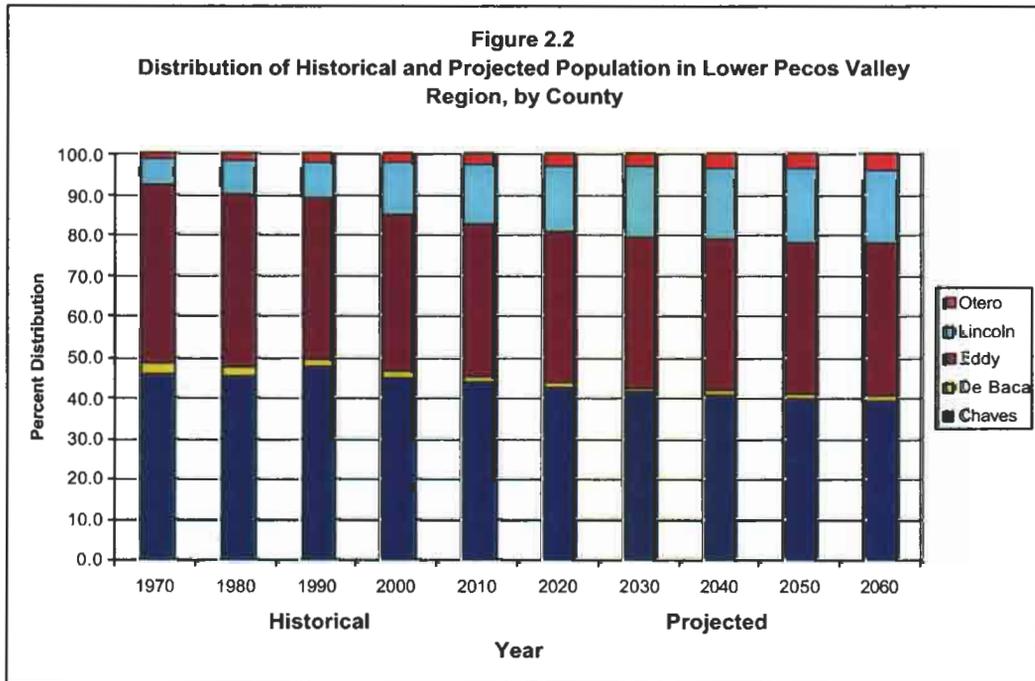


Table 2.5 Distribution and Annual Average Growth Rate of Historical Population April 1, 1970 to April 1, 2000 Lower Rio Grande Region					
Census Year	County Population in Region		Census Year	Growth Rate of Region	
	Total Region Population	Dona Ana		Total Region	Dona Ana
1970	69,773	69,773			
1980	96,340	96,340	1970-1980	3.23	3.23
1990	135,510	135,510	1980-1990	3.41	3.41
2000	174,682	174,682	1990-2000	2.54	2.54

Source: New Mexico County Population Totals from the U.S. Census Bureau of Business and Economic Research, University of New Mexico

MIDDLE RIO GRANDE WATER PLANNING REGION

The Middle Rio Grande Water Planning Region is the most populous water planning region in the state. It is the business, service, education, transportation, manufacturing, and government center in the state. This region includes Bernalillo County, the most densely populated county, and two of the fastest growing counties, Sandoval and Valencia counties. Bernalillo County is home to the University of New Mexico, the Albuquerque Technical and Vocational Institute, Kirtland Air Force Base, Phillips Semiconductor, and a number of federal agencies and other government offices.

Table 2.6 shows that the Middle Rio Grande Water Planning Region doubled its population in 30 years. In 1970, 353 thousand (or about 35%) of the state population lived in the Middle Rio Grande Region. In 2000, this number expanded to over 700 thousand people or about 40 percent of the state population. Of these, 550 thousand were in Bernalillo County, 89 thousand in Sandoval County, and 66 thousand in Valencia County. Figure 2.3 shows the allocation of the region population by county.

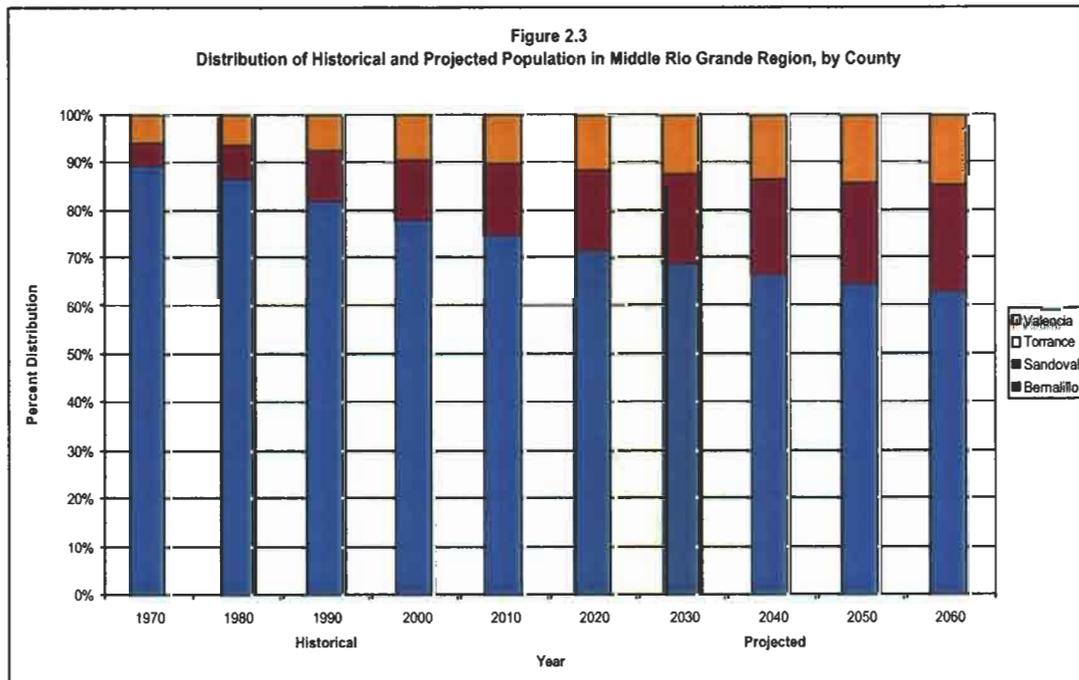
Sandoval and Valencia are major destinations for young families in need of affordable housing as well as those that want larger acres for building homes. The rural character of Valencia County attracted migrants in large numbers. The village of Los Lunas, Bosque Farms, and the Rio Communities at the foot of the Manzano Mountains has undergone rapid housing development in recent years. Until recently, the City of Rio Rancho, which is located in Sandoval County, was the major destination for families and individuals in search of reasonably priced homes. In the late 1990s, Westside Albuquerque began extensive residential housing development that catered to moderate-income clients. All these factors combined to propel population growth in the region.

Sandoval County and Bernalillo County have also been fairly successful in recruiting new service industries. The passage of legislation allowing reduced taxes for call centers helped to attract such companies to locate both in metropolitan Albuquerque and in the Las Cruces area. Recently, this trend has spilled over to non-metropolitan regions in the state. Thousands of jobs have been created in the region as a result of the influx of these call centers. The signing of gaming compacts with Native American tribes further increased job opportunities in Sandoval and

Table 2.6
Distribution and Annual Average Growth Rate of Historical Population
April 1, 1970 to April 1, 2000
Middle Rio Grande Region

Census Year	County Population in Region			
	Total Region Population	Bernalillo	Sandoval	Valencia
1970	352,512	314,693	17,342	20,477
1980	483,194	418,653	33,772	30,769
1990	584,579	477,216	62,128	45,235
2000	706,073	551,109	88,812	66,152
Census Year	Distribution of County Population in Region			
	Total Region	Bernalillo	Sandoval	Valencia
1970	100.0	89.3	4.9	5.8
1980	100.0	86.6	7.0	6.4
1990	100.0	81.6	10.6	7.7
2000	100.0	78.1	12.6	9.4
Census Year	Growth Rate of Region and County Population			
	Total Region	Bernalillo	Sandoval	Valencia
1970-1980	3.15	2.85	6.66	4.07
1980-1990	1.90	1.31	6.10	3.85
1990-2000	1.89	1.44	3.57	3.80

Source: New Mexico County Population Totals from the U.S. Census Bureau of Business and Economic Research, University of New Mexico



Bernalillo counties. Not only did they build larger casinos, the tribes also ventured into becoming resort destinations by constructing luxury hotels, golf courses, tennis courts, race tracks, and other entertainment venues to attract visitors for extended stays.

More jobs were also created in the manufacturing sector. Intel added 500 jobs to its existing workforce. These positive changes in the economy further contributed to a stronger than expected population growth in the 1990s. Between 1990 and 2000, the annual average population growth rate for the region was 1.9 percent compared to 1.83 for the state. For the same period, Sandoval County and Valencia County had even much higher growth rate than the region as a whole. The annual average population growth rate for Sandoval County was 3.57 percent and Valencia County was 3.80 percent. Bernalillo County had the lowest growth rate at 1.44 percent annually. But in absolute terms, Bernalillo County contributed the most to the region's population. Of the 121 thousand additional people to the region's population, 61 percent (73,893) were in Bernalillo County.

NORTHEAST NEW MEXICO WATER PLANNING REGION

The Northeast New Mexico Water Planning Region consists of seven counties in the eastern part of the state, namely, Curry, Guadalupe, Harding, Quay, Roosevelt, San Miguel, and Union. From 1970 to 1990, this region's population maintained a population close to 80 thousand. In 2000, its population rose to 83 thousand. Table 2.7 indicates that population growth was primarily in Curry County and neighboring Roosevelt County. The population in these two counties more than compensated for the losses in the smaller counties of Harding and Quay.

Figure 2.4 presents the allocation of the region's population by county. It shows that the relative ranking of each county in the region had stayed the same since 1970. Curry County, which is home to Cannon Air Force Base, had been the most populous county. Roosevelt County was second. Its proximity to Cannon Air Force Base and the presence of Eastern New Mexico University guarantees Roosevelt County a stable population source. The counties of Guadalupe and Union were about equal in size, overall. The smallest county was Harding.

Guadalupe County and Union County posted a positive growth between 1990 and 2000, reversing an otherwise downward trend from 1970 to 1990. The establishment of a private prison in Santa Rosa contributed to Guadalupe County's strong recovery (1.19% annually) in the 1990s. Harding County and Quay County stayed on a downward course. Harding County lost 200 people in 30 years, dropping its population to below 1000 people in 2000.

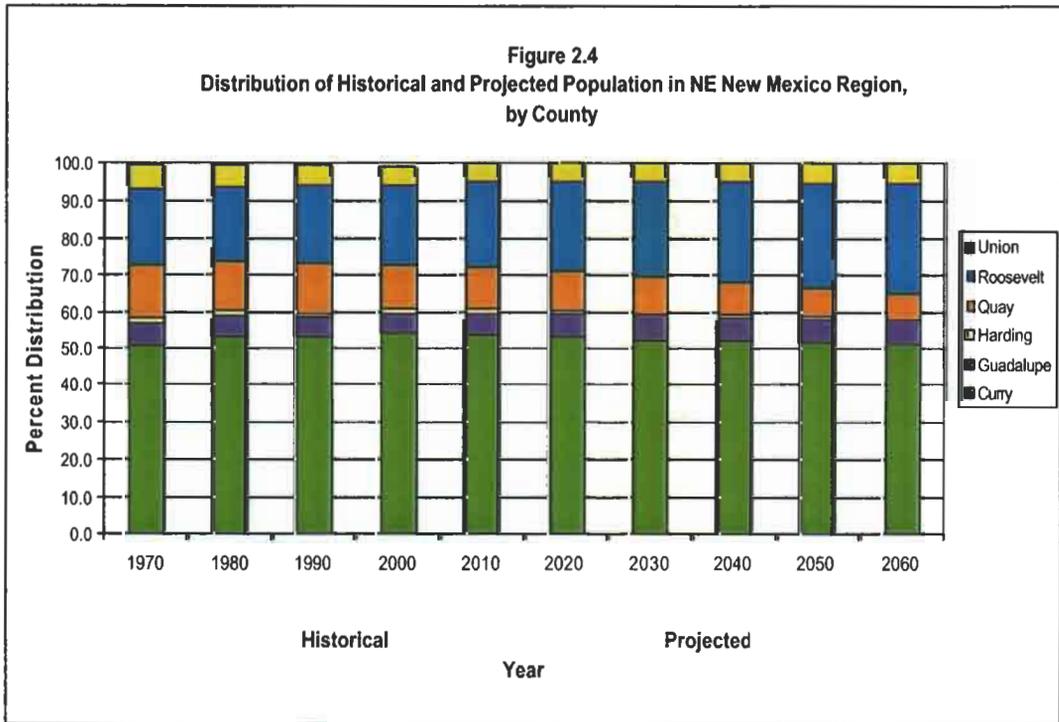
Table 2.7
Distribution and Annual Average Growth Rate of Historical Population
NE New Mexico Region

Census Year	County Population in Region						
	Total Region Population	Curry	Guadalupe	Harding	Quay	Roosevelt	Union
1970	78,141	39,517	4,969	1,348	10,903	16,479	4,925
1980	78,602	42,019	4,496	1,090	10,577	15,695	4,725
1990	78,999	42,207	4,156	987	10,823	16,702	4,124
2000	82,881	45,044	4,680	810	10,155	18,018	4,174

Census Year	Distribution of County Population in Region						
	Total Region	Curry	Guadalupe	Harding	Quay	Roosevelt	Union
1970	100.0	50.6	6.4	1.7	14.0	21.1	6.3
1980	100.0	53.5	5.7	1.4	13.5	20.0	6.0
1990	100.0	53.4	5.3	1.2	13.7	21.1	5.2
2000	100.0	54.3	5.6	1.0	12.3	21.7	5.0

Census Year	Growth Rate of Region and County Population						
	Total Region	Curry	Guadalupe	Harding	Quay	Roosevelt	Union
1970-1980	0.06	0.61	-1.00	-2.12	-0.30	-0.49	-0.41
1980-1990	0.05	0.04	-0.79	-0.99	0.23	0.62	-1.36
1990-2000	0.48	0.65	1.19	-1.98	-0.64	0.76	0.12

Source: New Mexico County Population Totals from the U.S. Census Bureau of Business and Economic Research, University of New Mexico



NORTHWEST NEW MEXICO WATER PLANNING REGION

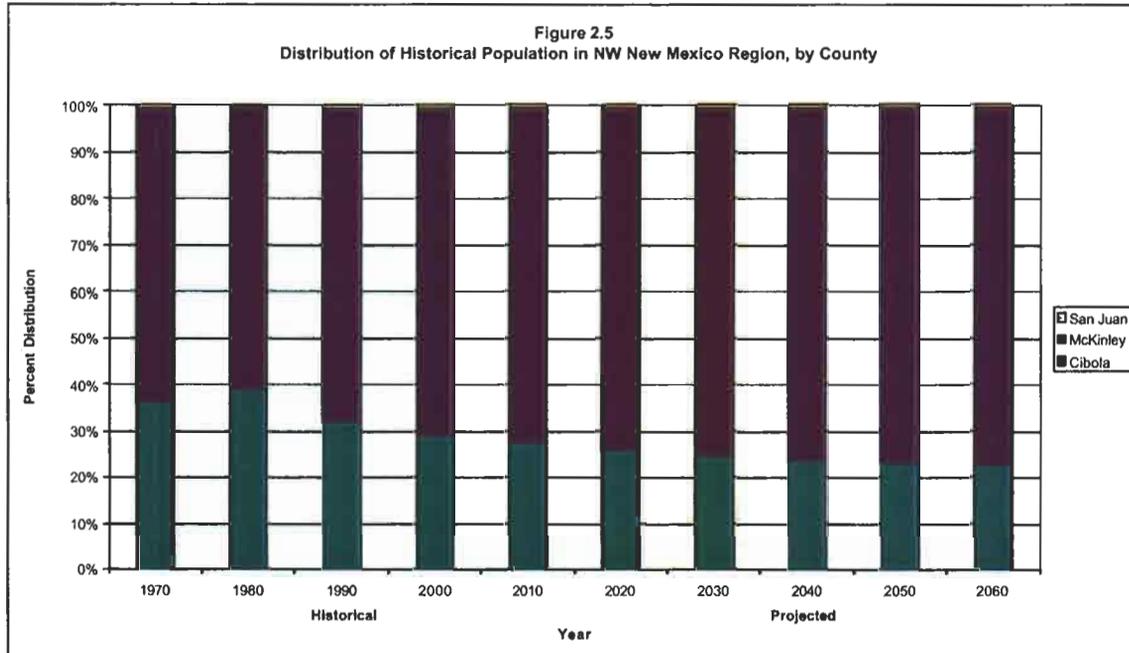
Located on the northwest section of the state is Northwest New Mexico Water Planning Region. The whole county of Cibola, about 80 percent of McKinley County and a small portion of San Juan County make up this region.

Table 2.8 shows the rise and fall of this region's population growth. Rapid population growth characterized the 1970s when the region grew at 3.4 percent annually. Negative growth marked the 1980s. A moderate recovery occurred in the 1990s when population grew at an average of 1.7 percent annually. Between 1990 and 2000, this region gained almost 15 thousand people. The Census 2000 counted 88 thousand Northwest region residents.

Figure 2.5 demonstrates the growing demographic dominance of McKinley County. In 1970, 63 percent of the region population lived in this county. Even with a very slow rate of growth (0.51%), McKinley County increased its share to 67 percent in 1990, from 61 percent in 1980. Meanwhile, Cibola County dropped its share from 39 percent in 1980 to 32 percent in 1990. The closure of uranium mining led to the flight of more than six thousand people from Cibola County in the latter part of the 1980 decade. By mid-1990s, Cibola County began a slow recovery. This was made possible by the passage of legislation authorizing the construction of new prison facilities in the county and the approval of the gaming compact between the state and Native American tribes authorizing casino-type gambling on Native American reservations. Laguna and Acoma pueblos built bigger and more luxurious casinos thereby creating more jobs for local residents. These economic development efforts contributed to a recovery of Cibola County's population.

Census Year	County Population in Region			
	Total Region Population	Cibola	McKinley	San Juan
1970	55,581	20,062	35,253	266
1980	78,156	30,346	47,514	296
1990	74,305	23,794	50,019	492
2000	87,913	25,595	61,742	576
Census Year	Distribution of County Population in Region			
	Total Region	Cibola	McKinley	San Juan
1970	100.0	36.1	63.4	0.5
1980	100.0	38.8	60.8	0.4
1990	100.0	32.0	67.3	0.7
2000	100.0	29.1	70.2	0.7
Census Year	Growth Rate of Region and County Population			
	Total Region	Cibola	McKinley	San Juan
1970-1980	3.41	4.14	2.98	1.07
1980-1990	-0.51	-2.43	0.51	5.08
1990-2000	1.68	0.73	2.11	1.58

Source: New Mexico County Population Totals from the U.S. Census Bureau of Business and Economic Research, University of New Mexico



RIO ARRIBA WATER PLANNING REGION

The smallest water planning region in the state, Rio Arriba, had a population of over six thousand people in 1970 and 1980. In the 1990s, this region's expanded at an average annual rate above one percent resulting in an increase of over 900 people during the period. Table 2.9 presents the population levels and trend in this region.

The Carson National Forest and Santa National Forest cover the expanse of this region. Most of the sparsely populated communities of Abiquiu, Chama, Coyote, El Rito, El Vado, Ensanadas, Gallina, La Madera, Tierra Amarilla, Vallecitos, Youngsville, and a portion of Santa Clara Indian Reservation in Rio Arriba County are located in this region. Retirement and amenity migration, especially in the Chama area, which is near the border of the state of Colorado and in the southeastern part of the region, for example, Abiquiu partially contributed to the population growth in this area. But it is this region's geographic closeness to metropolitan Santa Fe that that accounted for most of the region's population growth. Additionally, affordable housing and real estate had drawn commuters to this region.

SAN JUAN WATER PLANNING REGION

Comprised primarily of San Juan County, this region is located in the northwest corner of the state. Its land area includes the population center of Jicarilla Apache Indian Reservation, Dulce, as well as the small communities of Lindrith and Lumberton. Also included in this region are the Navajo reservation areas north of Gallup in McKinley County and the northwest corner of Sandoval County that borders the counties of Rio Arriba, McKinley, and San Juan.

Like other regions in the state whose economies were primarily fueled by the mining, oil and natural gas industries, the region's population expanded and contracted with the upturn and downturn in these

Table 2.9		
Distribution and Annual Average Growth Rate of Historical Population: April 1, 1970 to April 1, 2000		
Rio Arriba Region		
Census Year	County Population in Region	
	Total Region Population	Rio Arriba
1970	6,263	6,263
1980	6,303	6,303
1990	6,832	6,832
2000	7,751	7,751
Census Year	Growth Rate of Region and County Population	
	Total Region	Rio Arriba
1970-1980	0.06	0.06
1980-1990	0.81	0.81
1990-2000	1.26	1.26
Source: New Mexico County Population Totals from the U.S. Census Bureau of Business and Economic Research		

industries. In the 1970s, when energy development was at its peak, economic growth in the region was strong. In the 1980s, as a result of declines in the price of oil, economic growth in the region declined. In the early 1990s, San Juan County's mining sector staged a recovery as natural gas exploration increased in response to a federal tax credit for coal-seam gas extraction. Tourism, government spending, and the expansion of Mesa Air Group a regional airline that is headquartered in Farmington further boosted the region's economic growth during the 1990s.

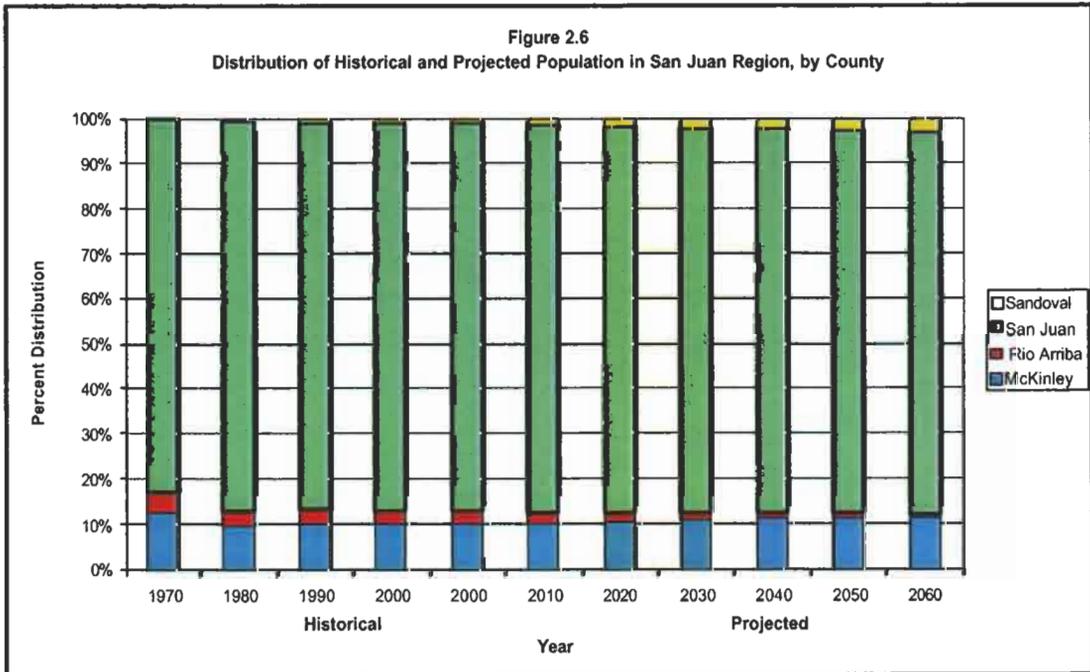
Table 2.10 traces the population growth trend of the San Juan Water Planning Region. In 30 years, the region's population expanded from 63 thousand people to 131 thousand, an increase of 68 thousand people. Forty-five percent (30 thousand people) of the total population growth from 1970 to 2000 occurred during the 1970s. Thirty-six percent (25 thousand people) was added in the 1990s. Population growth was fastest in the 1970s, slowest in the 1980s, and moderate in the 1990s. As in other regions of the state, this population growth trend was coincidental with the downturn and upturn of the economy following the cycles of the growth in the extractive industries. The exception to this cyclical pattern was Sandoval County. Its population that is in the San Juan Region had been on a precipitous decline since 1970.

Figure 2.6 shows the relative shares of each county in the region's population. It points out that after 1970, San Juan County gained even more ground as its share increased from 83 per cent in 1970 to 86 per cent in 1980 and it stayed at this level thereafter. In the next two decades, the share of Rio Arriba County continued to decline while McKinley County maintained its share at 10 percent. Sandoval County's share hovered close to one percent from 1980 to 2000.

Table 2.10
Distribution and Annual Average Growth Rate of Historical Population
April 1, 1970 to April 1, 2000
San Juan Region

Census Year	County Population in Region				
	Total Region Population	McKinley	Rio Arriba	San Juan	Sandoval
1970	63,242	7,954	2,887	52,251	150
1980	93,640	8,935	2,940	81,137	628
1990	106,373	10,667	3,402	91,113	1,191
2000	130,963	13,056	3,586	113,225	1,096
Census Year	Distribution of County Population in Region				
	Total Region	McKinley	Rio Arriba	San Juan	Sandoval
1970	100.0	12.6	4.6	82.6	0.2
1980	100.0	9.5	3.1	86.6	0.7
1990	100.0	10.0	3.2	85.7	1.1
2000	100.0	10.0	2.7	86.5	0.8
Census Year	Growth Rate of Region and County Population				
	Total Region	McKinley	Rio Arriba	San Juan	Sandoval
1970-1980	3.92	1.16	0.18	4.40	14.32
1980-1990	1.27	1.77	1.46	1.16	6.40
1990-2000	2.08	2.02	0.53	2.17	-0.83

Source: New Mexico County Population Totals from the U.S. Census Bureau of Business and Economic Research, University of New Mexico



SAN MIGUEL/MORA WATER PLANNING REGION

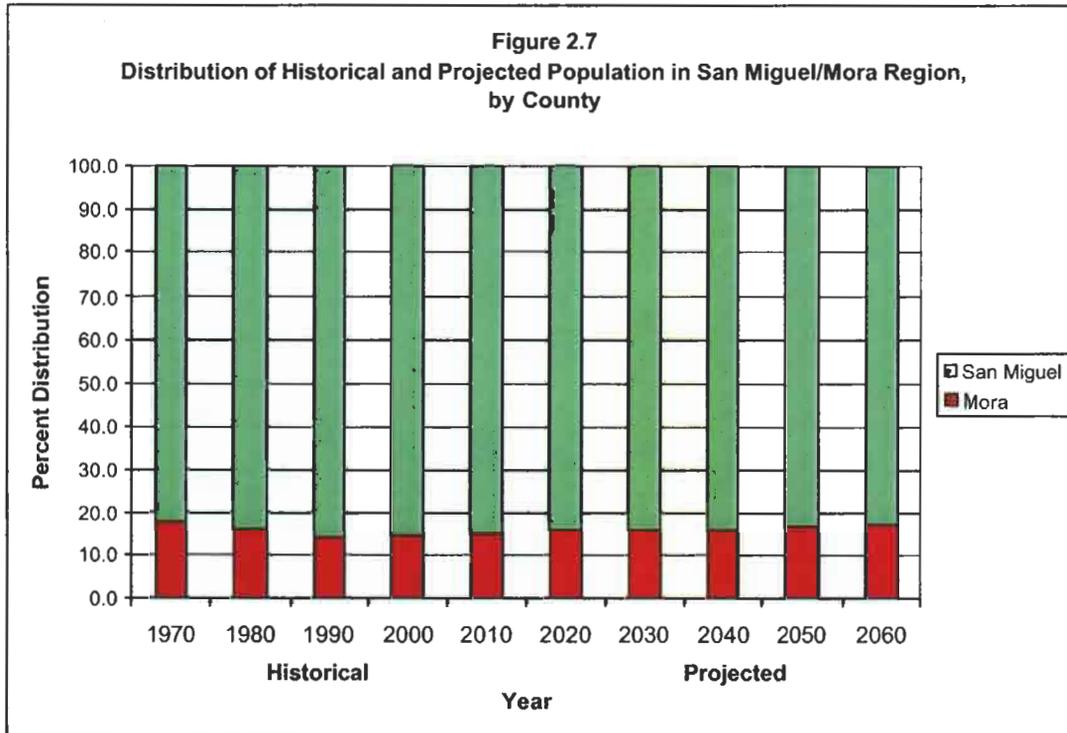
The San Miguel/Mora Water Planning Region covers Mora County and San Miguel County. Table 2.11 shows that population growth in the region was very weak between 1970 and 1980 (0.09% annual growth rate). In the 1980s, population growth significantly increased. The region's estimated average annual growth rate for the 1980 decade was 1.1 percent. This upward momentum persisted until the end of the 1990 decade. The estimated average annual growth rate between 1990 and 2000 was 1.6 percent. The stronger than expected population growth in the region could be attributed to increased migration into both Mora County and San Miguel County.

Table 2.11 also points out the differential rate of growth between the two counties. Historically, Mora County grew at a much slower rate than San Miguel County. But in the late 1980s Mora County started on a positive population growth trajectory that continued throughout the next 20 years. By 2000, Mora County was growing faster than San Miguel County. Between 1990 and 2000, the estimated annual population growth rate for Mora County was close to two percent. The corresponding rate for San Miguel County was 1.6 percent. The closure of Medite Corporation fiberboard plant in the City of Las Vegas led to significant loss of employment in the county. However, the presence of New Mexico Highlands University and Luna Vocational-Technical Institute assures some stability in the number of young adults in San Miguel County.

Figure 2.7 shows that since 1980 the relative share of each county in the region's population changed little if at all. Prior to 1980, Mora County had an 18 per cent share in the region population. Starting in 1980, Mora County's share starting declining until it reached 14 percent in 1990. In the 1990s, Mora County underwent some major changes. It became more gentrified as migrants in search of wide open space and the amenities of a rural environment came in large numbers. The result was unprecedented strong population growth. But the more populous San Miguel County will continue its hegemony in this region for a very long time.

Census Year	County Population in Region		
	Total Region Population	Mora	San Miguel
1970	26,624	4,673	21,951
1980	26,956	4,205	22,751
1990	30,007	4,264	25,743
2000	35,306	5,180	30,126
Census Year	Distribution of County Population in Region		
	Total Region	Mora	San Miguel
1970	100.0	17.6	82.4
1980	100.0	15.6	84.4
1990	100.0	14.2	85.8
2000	100.0	14.7	85.3
Census Year	Growth Rate of Region and County Population		
	Total Region	Mora	San Miguel
1970-1980	0.12	-1.06	0.36
1980-1990	1.07	0.14	1.24
1990-2000	1.63	1.95	1.57

Source: New Mexico County Population Totals from the U.S. Census Bureau of Business and Economic Research, University of New Mexico



SANTA FE/LOS ALAMOS WATER PLANNING REGION

Except for the southern portion that is in the Estancia Water Planning Region, Santa Fe County is primarily in the Santa Fe/Los Alamos Water Planning Region. The entire population of Los Alamos County is in this region. The population centers of Espanola, San Juan Pueblo, Santa Clara Pueblo and Chimayo in Rio Arriba County are located in the Santa Fe/Los Alamos Region. A small unpopulated portion in the northeastern corner of Sandoval County, which is in the Jemez National Forest, is also in this region.

Table 2.12 traces the historical growth of Santa Fe/ Los Alamos Region. Figure 2.8 shows the distribution of the region's population.

Table 2.12 indicates that the region's population increased from 86 thousand people in 1970 to 168 thousand in 2000. The strong population growth in Santa Fe County during the last three decades accounted for the faster than average growth in the region. Santa Fe County grew more than three percent annually between 1970 and 1980. This growth rate declined to 2.4 percent by 2000. However, even at this lower rate of growth, Santa Fe County grew faster than either Rio Arriba County or Los Alamos County.

Population growth in Los Alamos County lost steam after the 1970s. The Vietnam War ended in 1975. As a result, federal spending on defense-related research was reduced. Further reductions in spending were made as the federal government attempted to balance the budget and make government leaner. Jobs were lost. Workers were laid off. These displaced workers and their families eventually left the region. For the first time since its incorporation in the early 1950's, Los Alamos County population stagnated. Meanwhile, population growth in Rio Arriba County was strong but fluctuating during the last 30 years. This county experienced rapid population growth in

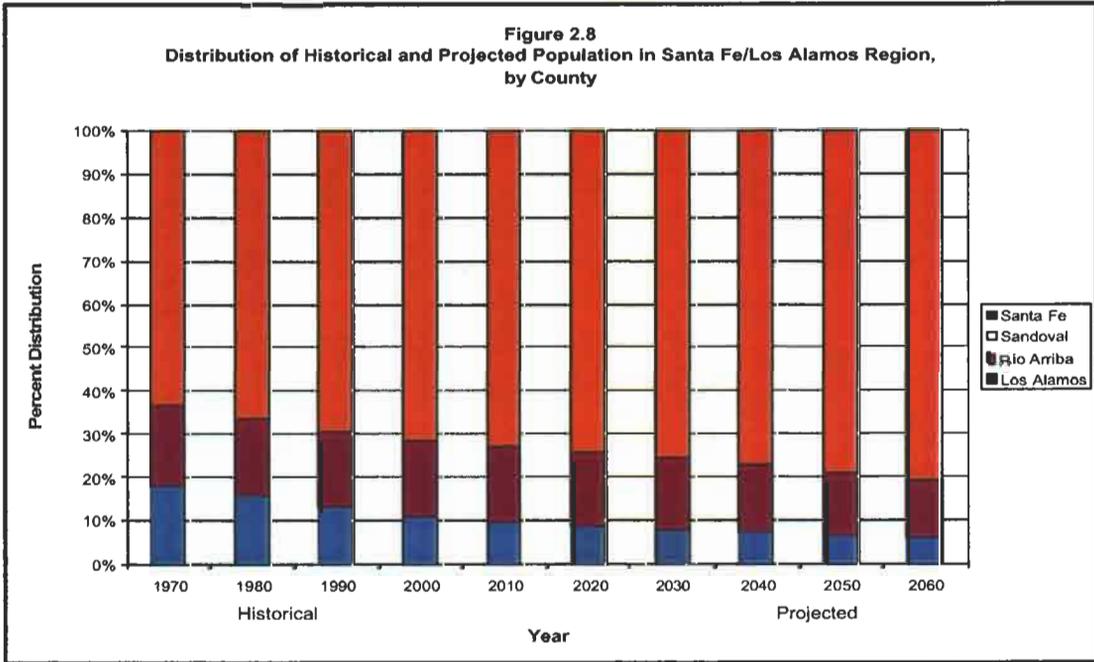
Table 2.12
Distribution and Annual Average Growth Rate of Historical Population
April 1, 1970 to April 1, 2000
Santa Fe/Los Alamos Region

Census Year	County Population in Region			
	Total Region Population	Los Alamos	Rio Arriba	Santa Fe
1970	85,533	15,198	16,020	54,315
1980	111,637	17,599	20,039	73,999
1990	137,256	18,115	24,102	95,039
2000	168,464	18,343	29,836	120,285

Census Year	Distribution of County Population in Region			
	Total Region	Los Alamos	Rio Arriba	Santa Fe
1970	100.0	17.8	18.7	63.5
1980	100.0	15.8	18.0	66.3
1990	100.0	13.2	17.6	69.2
2000	100.0	10.9	17.7	71.4

Census Year	Growth Rate of Region and County Population			
	Total Region	Los Alamos	Rio Arriba	Santa Fe
1970-1980	2.66	1.47	2.24	3.09
1980-1990	2.07	0.29	1.85	2.50
1990-2000	2.05	0.13	2.13	2.36

Source: New Mexico County Population Totals from the U.S. Census Bureau of Business and Economic Research, University of New Mexico



the 1970s when its population grew at over two percent (2.2%) annually. In the 1980s, its growth rate was estimated at just under two percent (1.9%). The following decade, its growth rate rebounded to over two percent (2.1%).

A number of factors contributed to this strong growth in Rio Arriba County. Manufacturing has maintained a presence in Southern Rio Arriba with the continued operation of Rio Grande Forest Products and the transfer of Nambé Mills from Santa Fe to Espanola. Indian casino-gaming expanded resulting in increased employment opportunities in this region. Employees at nearby LANL and Santa Fe were drawn to the Espanola area in Southern Rio Arriba County because of the availability of more affordable real estate. Despite these positive increases in Rio Arriba County its share in the region declined slightly. Santa Fe County expanded its share at the expense of Los Alamos County.

SOCORRO/SIERRA WATER PLANNING REGION

The Socorro/Sierra Water Planning Region is composed of Socorro County and Sierra County. Socorro County is home to New Mexico Technical Institute and the National Radio Astronomy Observatory (NRAO) which is one of the world's premier research facilities for radio astronomy. NRAO operates the powerful "Very Large Array" radio telescopes that span the western hemisphere. Scientists from around the world use these instruments to probe fundamental questions in physics and astronomy. Sierra County is primarily a retirement destination. Sierra County is the oldest county in the state. Close to 30 percent of its population are 65 years or older.

Table 2.13 presents the region's population levels and trends from 1970 to 2000. Figure 2.9 graphically presents the split in the region's population between the two counties. Very little change had occurred in 30 years. Close to 60 percent of the region's population lived in Socorro and the rest in Sierra County. The distribution in 1970 was the same as in 2000. There was a small change in 1980 and 1990 when Socorro County gained slightly over Sierra County. But Sierra County regained its original share by 2000.

Table 2.13 also points to a steady increase in the region's population size, from just above 17 thousand in 1970 to 31 thousand by 2000. The region's average yearly growth rate ranged from a low of 1.6 percent during the 1980 decade to a high of 2.4 in the 1990 decade. At the county level, prior to 1990, Socorro County grew at a faster rate than Sierra County. In the 1990s, the reverse was true. Sierra County registered an average growth rate that was close to three percent (2.9%) compared to Socorro County's 2.0 percent.

SOUTHWEST NEW MEXICO WATER PLANNING REGION

The four border counties of Catron, Grant, Hidalgo, and Luna comprise the Southwest New Mexico Water Planning Region. Catron County and Grant County are on the state of Arizona border. Hidalgo County borders both Arizona and Mexico. An international port of entry, the Columbus Federal Border Station, is located in Luna County. Its Mexican counterpart is located in Las Palomas.

Table 2.14 shows the historical region and county population levels and trends from 1970 to 2000. In 30 years, this region's population increased by 25 thousand people. Forty-five percent of this increase occurred between 1990 and 2000. Luna County accounted for 61 percent of this population increase while Grant County contributed 30 percent. The remainder came from Catron County. Hidalgo County lost a few people during the period.

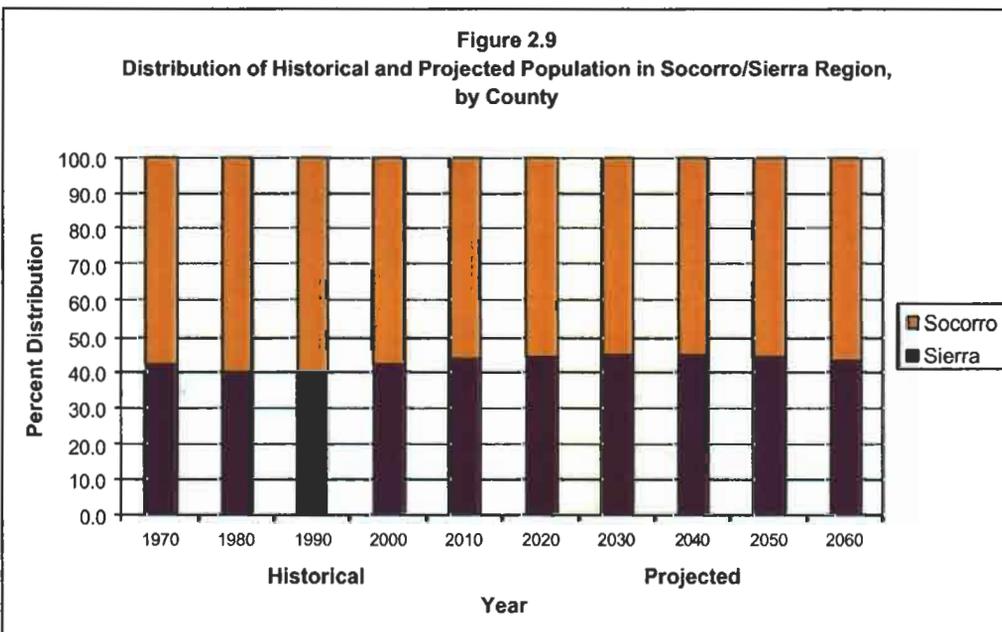
The counties of Grant and Luna are both popular migrant destinations for retirees and young migrants alike. In Luna County, the City of Columbus, which is across the border from the Mexican town of Las Palomas, has been a favorite destination of Mexican families with school

Table 2.13
Distribution and Annual Average Growth Rate of
Historical Population: April 1, 1970 to April 1, 2000
Socorro/Sierra Region

Census Year	County Population in Region		
	Total Region Population	Sierra	Socorro
1970	16,952	7,189	9,763
1980	21,020	8,454	12,566
1990	24,676	9,912	14,764
2000	31,348	13,270	18,078
Census Year	Distribution of County Population in Region		
	Total Region	Sierra	Socorro
1970	100.0	42.4	57.6
1980	100.0	40.2	59.8
1990	100.0	40.2	59.8
2000	100.0	42.3	57.7
Census Year	Growth Rate of Region and County Population		
	Total Region	Sierra	Socorro
1970-1980	2.15	1.62	2.52
1980-1990	1.60	1.59	1.61
1990-2000	2.39	2.92	2.03

Source: New Mexico County Population Totals from the U.S. Census Bureau of Business and Economic Research, University of New Mexico

Figure 2.9
Distribution of Historical and Projected Population in Socorro/Sierra Region,
by County



age children while the city of Deming has drawn elderly migrants. In Grant County, Silver City is fast becoming a destination for retirement migration. Grant County also has a very well established young adult population because of the presence of Western New Mexico University in Silver City.

The decade of the 1990s was a period of population recovery for Catron County. Its population growth averaged about 3.3 percent annually, effectively adding about one thousand people in 10 years. In the previous decade, Catron County lost about 200 people. Hidalgo County was on a downward trajectory. Table 2.14 shows that in the 1970s population growth in Hidalgo County (2.45%) was second only to Luna County (2.86%). In the following decade, the population of Hidalgo County started to decline. This persisted until the end of the 1990 decade. This continuous loss of population eroded the share of Hidalgo county in the region population. Figure 2.10 illustrates the shifts in the population distribution of the region's population during the last 30 years.

TAOS WATER PLANNING REGION

The Taos Water Planning Region is primarily Taos County. A tiny portion of Rio Arriba County is in this region but less than 20 people live in this region's sector. From 1970 to 2000, population growth in the region had accelerated notwithstanding the departure of young adults.

Table 2.15 shows that the region's average annual growth rate increased from just above one percent between 1970 and 1980 to 2.6 percent between 1990 and 2000. In 30 years, the region's population expanded from 18 thousand in 1970 to 30 thousand in 2000. Of the 12 thousand population increase, more than six thousand was added during the last decade. Its beautiful landscape, ski resorts, art colonies, and native cultures make Taos County irresistible to wealthy migrants who are seeking solace from the hectic life in the city. The last decade saw an unprecedented strong population growth in Taos. Most of this growth was among the middle age and elderly populations. The fastest growing cohorts were the 45 to 64 year olds and the 65 years and older. The former cohort increased its size by more than 70 percent while the latter increased by almost 50 percent.

TULAROSA/SACRAMENTO WATER PLANNING REGION

Table 2.16 shows that in the last 30 years, Otero County dominated the demographic landscape of the Tularosa/Sacramento Water Planning Region. In 1990 and 2000, 97 percent of the region's population lived in Otero County. Lincoln County accounted for less than three percent of the region's population. A small portion of Eddy County and Chaves County are located in this region but their combined contributions to the region's population are negligible. After 1980, population growth in Otero County had been on the upswing. Figure 2.11 underscores the hegemony of Otero County in this region.

The presence of major defense and military bases such as the White Sands Missile Range and Holloman Air Force Base contributes to the appeal of Otero County to migrants. Otero County is the home of the nation's F-117 Stealth fighters. In the 1990s, as part of the Federal government's attempt to curve defense spending, bases around the nation were closed. Personnel of bases that were closed were relocated to other regions. For example, a California-based squadron was transferred to Holloman Air Force Base. Later in mid-decade, a German tactical training center was also established in Holloman. Continued population growth in this region will depend on the growth in the military and other defense-related activities.

Table 2.14
Distribution and Annual Average Growth Rate of Historical Population
April 1, 1970 to April 1, 2000
SW New Mexico Region

Census Year	County Population in Region				
	Total Region Population	Catron	Grant	Hidalgo	Luna
1970	40,668	2,198	22,030	4,734	11,706
1980	50,558	2,720	26,204	6,049	15,585
1990	54,307	2,563	27,676	5,958	18,110
2000	65,493	3,543	31,002	5,932	25,016

Census Year	Distribution of County Population in Region				
	Total Region	Catron	Grant	Hidalgo	Luna
1970	100.0	5.4	54.2	11.6	28.8
1980	100.0	5.4	51.8	12.0	30.8
1990	100.0	4.7	51.0	11.0	33.3
2000	100.0	5.4	47.3	9.1	38.2

Census Year	Growth Rate of Region and County Population Region				
	Total Region	Catron	Grant	Hidalgo	Luna
1970-1980	2.18	2.13	1.74	2.45	2.86
1980-1990	0.72	-0.59	0.55	-0.15	1.50
1990-2000	1.87	3.24	1.13	-0.04	3.23

Source: New Mexico County Population Totals from the U.S. Census Bureau of Business and Economic Research, University of New Mexico

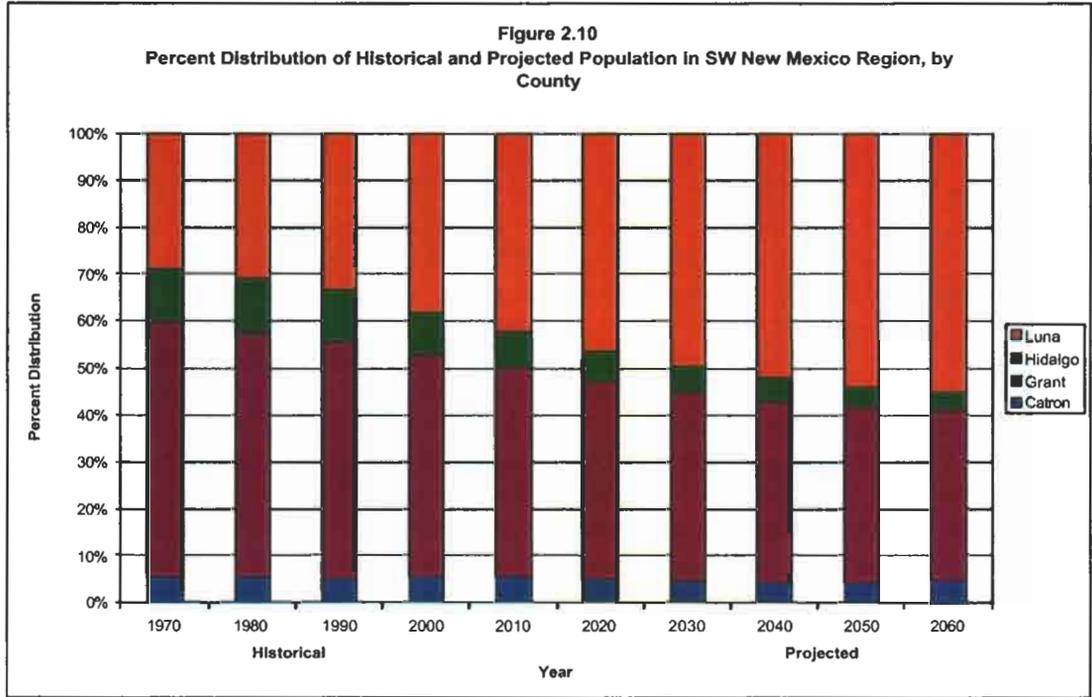


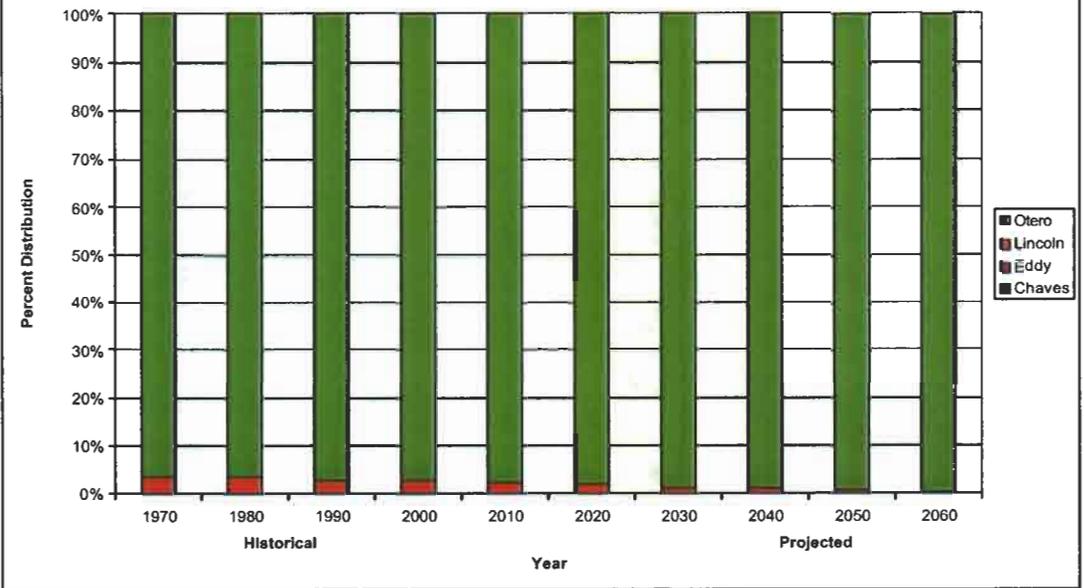
Table 2.15			
Distribution and Annual Average Growth Rate of Historical Population			
April 1, 1970 to April 1, 2000			
Taos Region			
Census Year	County Population in Region		
	Total Region Population	Rio Arriba	Taos
1970	17,516	0	17,516
1980	19,456	0	19,456
1990	23,147	29	23,118
2000	29,996	17	29,979
Census Year	Distribution of County Population in Region		
	Total Region	Rio Arriba	Taos
1970	100.0	0.0	100.0
1980	100.0	0.0	100.0
1990	100.0	0.1	99.9
2000	100.0	0.1	99.9
Census Year	Growth Rate of Region and County Population		
	Total Region	Rio Arriba	Taos
1970-1980	1.05	n/a	1.05
1980-1990	1.74	n/a	1.72
1990-2000	2.59	-5.34	2.60

Source: New Mexico County Population Totals from the U.S. Census Bureau of Business and Economic Research, University of New Mexico

Table 2.16					
Distribution and Annual Average Growth Rate of Historical Population					
April 1, 1970 to April 1, 2000					
Tularosa/Sacramento Region					
Census Year	County Population in Region				
	Total Region Population	Chaves	Eddy	Lincoln	Otero
1970	41,362	5	8	1,475	39,875
1980	44,291	5	9	1,630	42,646
1990	51,112	18	9	1,407	49,678
2000	60,699	9	9	1,627	59,054
Census Year	Distribution of County Population in Region				
	Total Region	Chaves	Eddy	Lincoln	Otero
1970	100.0	0.0	0.0	3.6	96.4
1980	100.0	0.0	0.0	3.7	96.3
1990	100.0	0.0	0.0	2.8	97.2
2000	100.0	0.0	0.0	2.7	97.3
Census Year	Growth Rate of Region and County Population				
	Total Region	Chaves	Eddy	Lincoln	Otero
1970-1980	0.68	1.65	1.52	1.00	0.67
1980-1990	1.43	11.94	0.16	-1.47	1.53
1990-2000	1.72	-6.93	0.00	1.45	1.73

Source: New Mexico County Population Totals from the U.S. Census Bureau of Business and Economic Research, University of New Mexico

Figure 2.12
Distribution of Historical and Projected Population in Tularosa/Sacramento Region,
by County



Chapter 3

FUTURE POPULATION LEVELS AND TRENDS

This chapter presents the projected populations for the 16 water regions from July 1, 2000 to July 1, 2060. A two-step projection methodology was utilized to estimate the populations. First, a cohort-component method was used to obtain the projected county populations. Second, a regression-based ratio technique was employed to derive the future share of each water region in the county population. The methodology used to calculate these projections are detailed in Appendix 1. As in the previous chapter, the results are presented by water region.

Starting in the year 2010, New Mexico like the rest of the country, will undergo significant demographic restructuring. Overall, population growth will be slower than in the previous century. As indicated in the earlier chapter, the first of the baby boom generation will reach age 65 years by 2010. In the next 20 years, successive cohorts of this generation will join the ranks of the elderly. Shortly after the last cohort of this generation reaches age 65 years, by 2035, the first cohort of the baby boomlet generation, the children of the baby boom generation, will reach retirement and add to the ranks of the elderly. Fertility has been going down but it is expected to level off close to replacement level at 2.1 children per woman of childbearing age in most New Mexico counties.

The metropolitan counties of Albuquerque and Santa Fe-Los Alamos are projected to have fertility levels below replacement level, from 1.5 to 1.9 children per woman of childbearing age. The Las Cruces Metropolitan area is likely to be at replacement level. Although life expectancy is expected to increase for both males and females, a population with an older age structure experiences more deaths, in absolute numbers, than a younger population as the elderly population is at a higher risk of dying. A combination of a declining fertility and an aging population results in a slower population growth, overall. Regions that attract migrants in the working age groups will be the fastest growing. Regions that attract retirement migration will expect to grow at slow to moderate speed provided they draw an ever-increasing number of retirees to replace those who die. Otherwise, these regions will lose population as the number of deaths exceeds the number of births, a case known as "natural decrease." A good example of a county that is experiencing this phenomenon of natural decrease is Sierra County. Population growth in Sierra County is primarily the result of migration.

Competition for retirees is anticipated. Regions that are established retirement destinations will certainly have a head start over newly developing retirement regions. Regions that want to attract retirees would need to provide competitive or better infrastructure and amenities or incentives than currently available in traditional retirement destination.

The projected population and trends are presented in both tabular and graphic format. When the county is also the water region, no graphic presentation of the data accompanies the text.

COLFAX WATER PLANNING REGION

The lack of strong economic base to retain the young population even as it manages to attract retirement migration will result in a slow population growth in the Colfax Water Planning Region. Like everywhere else in the nation, the regions that are not major immigrant destinations will undergo rapid graying of their population as the baby boom generations reach age 65 years starting in the year 2010.

Table 3.1 presents the future population trend in Colfax. While its demographic future will follow the same general trend expected in most of the nation and the state, Colfax will continue to have a population that is older than the state as a whole. In 1990, the median age of population in Colfax

Table 3.1 Projected Population and Annual Average Growth Rate July 1, 2000 to July 1, 2060 Colfax Region					
Projection Year	County Population in Region		Projection Year	Growth Rate of Region and County Population	
	Total Region Population	Colfax		Total Region	Colfax
2000	14,230	14,230			
2005	14,765	14,765	2000-05	0.74	0.74
2010	15,234	15,234	2005-10	0.63	0.63
2015	15,625	15,625	2010-15	0.51	0.51
2020	15,890	15,890	2015-20	0.34	0.34
2025	16,021	16,021	2020-25	0.16	0.16
2030	16,026	16,026	2025-30	0.01	0.01
2035	15,991	15,991	2030-35	-0.04	-0.04
2040	15,796	15,796	2035-40	-0.25	-0.25
2045	15,541	15,541	2040-45	-0.33	-0.33
2050	15,265	15,265	2045-50	-0.36	-0.36
2055	15,009	15,009	2050-55	-0.34	-0.34
2060	14,801	14,801	2055-60	-0.28	-0.28

Source: Bureau of Business and Economic Research, UNM

was estimated at 35.5 years. In 2000, this increased to 40.8 years. By comparison, the median age of the state population was 31.2 years and 34.6 years for 1990 and 2000, respectively. If past regional migration patterns persist, Colfax would need to attract an ever-increasing number of retirees to compensate for losses due to a higher incidence of deaths and lower number of births as expected from an older population.

The projected population for Colfax peaks at 16 thousand by 2030. Thereafter, the region's population is expected to gradually decrease to just below 15 thousand people by 2060. An economy that will attract and sustain migrants particularly those in their peak reproductive and economically productive years (25-44) could reverse this projected downward trend. Alternatively, a sustained large-scale migration of retirees even in the face of low fertility could also maintain a positive population growth rate.

ESTANCIA WATER PLANNING REGION

In the next 60 years, population growth in the Estancia Water Planning Region is projected to slow down. Nevertheless, Estancia is expected to more than triple its population during this period. Its proximity to the two major economic and government centers in the state, the cities of Santa Fe and Albuquerque, foretells this region's strong population growth. The incorporation of the Town of Edgewood in 1999 has spurred an aggressive push for economic and residential development in the region that is expected to continue throughout the projection period. The competitive cost of housing in Edgewood and neighboring Tarrant County coupled with high-end residential and recreational development in the east mountain area of Bernalillo County has made Estancia an attractive destination to a wide spectrum of migrants. Barring the occurrence of catastrophic economic and environmental events, this region's population is projected to more than triple in 60

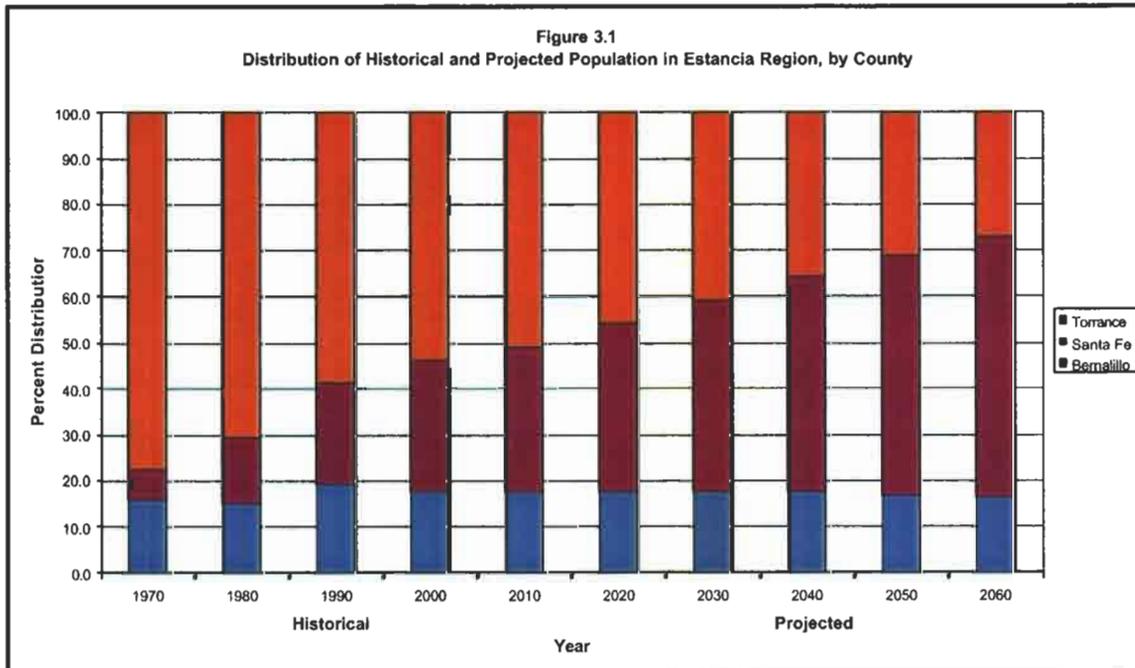
years. Table 3.2 shows that the region's population will increase from 32 thousand in 2000 to 118 thousand in 2060. Its annual average population growth rate will decline from a high of over three percent (3.19%) in the first half of the 2000 decade to under two percent (1.77%) between 2055 and 2060. This trend of declining population growth rate is expected throughout the region.

Figure 3.1 indicates that during the projection period, southern Santa Fe County will outpace both Torrance County and Bernalillo County's East mountains to predominate as the Estancia Water Planning Region's population center. The low density and upscale development in the East mountains could restrain population growth in Bernalillo County. The lack of good quality water in Tijeras and Cedar Crest could further constrain future residential development in this area. This slower growth in the Bernalillo County East mountains will be compensated by increased residential and economic development in Edgewood.

Table 3.2
Projected Distribution and Annual Average Growth Rate
July 1, 2000 to July 1, 2060
Estancia Region

Projection Year	County Population in Region				Distribution of County Population in Region				Projection Year	Growth Rate of Region and County Population			
	Total Region	Bernalillo	Santa Fe	Torrance	Total Region	Bernalillo	Santa Fe	Torrance		Total Region	Bernalillo	Santa Fe	Torrance
2000	31,672	5,587	9,057	17,029	100.0	17.6	28.6	53.8					
2005	37,141	6,474	11,145	19,523	100.0	17.4	30.0	52.6	2000-05	3.19	2.95	4.15	2.73
2010	42,539	7,356	13,499	21,684	100.0	17.3	31.7	51.0	2005-10	2.71	2.56	3.83	2.10
2015	48,497	8,424	16,612	23,461	100.0	17.4	34.3	48.4	2010-15	2.62	2.71	4.15	1.58
2020	54,649	9,529	20,174	24,946	100.0	17.4	36.9	45.6	2015-20	2.39	2.47	3.89	1.23
2025	61,037	10,664	24,127	26,246	100.0	17.5	39.5	43.0	2020-25	2.21	2.25	3.58	1.02
2030	67,594	11,818	28,422	27,353	100.0	17.5	42.0	40.5	2025-30	2.04	2.06	3.28	0.83
2035	74,563	12,982	33,249	28,331	100.0	17.4	44.6	38.0	2030-35	1.96	1.88	3.14	0.70
2040	82,041	14,147	38,658	29,236	100.0	17.2	47.1	35.6	2035-40	1.91	1.72	3.01	0.63
2045	90,099	15,324	44,700	30,075	100.0	17.0	49.6	33.4	2040-45	1.87	1.60	2.90	0.57
2050	98,637	16,531	51,291	30,815	100.0	16.8	52.0	31.2	2045-50	1.81	1.52	2.75	0.49
2055	107,833	17,781	58,591	31,461	100.0	16.5	54.3	29.2	2050-55	1.78	1.46	2.66	0.41
2060	117,812	19,083	66,667	32,061	100.0	16.2	56.6	27.2	2055-60	1.77	1.41	2.58	0.38

Source: Bureau of Business and Economic Research, University of New Mexico



LEA WATER PLANNING REGION

Table 3.3 points up the downward trend in the Lea Water Planning Region's future population. The collapse of the extractive industries in the early 1980s spurred the population decline from which Lea has not recovered. It is expected that the absence of any major industrial or economic development initiatives will restrain population growth as the working age cohorts move out of the region in search of better job opportunities. The result will be a steady erosion of the region's population size. This decline will bottom out by the year 2040, after which the population will begin to stabilize. The projected 2040 population size is slightly over 47 thousand. This is 13 per cent less than Lea's 2000 population of 55 thousand people. Positive population growth is projected after 2040. By 2060, this region is calculated to have approximately 48 thousand people.

LOWER PECOS VALLEY WATER PLANNING REGION

Population growth in the Lower Pecos Valley Water Planning Region is projected to progressively decline in the next 60 years. Table 3.4 and Figure 3.2 present the county distribution of the region's population.

Table 3.4 indicates that Lower Pecos Valley's average annual population growth rate will drop from nine-tenths of a percent to just above one-tenths of a percent in 60 years. Notwithstanding, this region's population will expand from 137 thousand in 2000 to 175 thousand by 2060, an increase of almost 40 thousand in 60 years. Three-quarters of this change is projected to occur during the first half of the projection period. A much smaller change is expected in the second half of the period.

In general, the same pattern of population growth is expected at the county level, i.e. faster growth during the first half and significantly slower growth during the second half of that 60-year projection period. The number of people in De Baca County that are in the region is calculated to change very little in the next 60 years. The resort county of Lincoln will have the

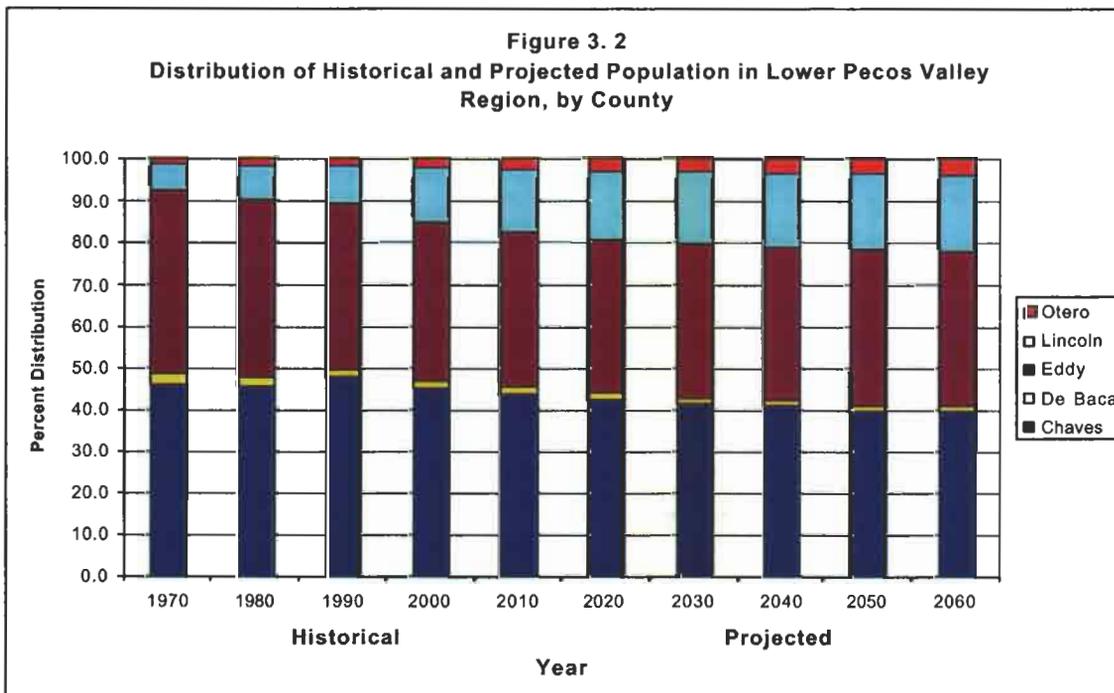
Projection Year	Region Population		Projection Year	Growth Rate of Region	
	Total Region Population	Lea County		Total Region	Lea County
2000	55,490	55,490			
2005	55,044	55,044	2000-05	-0.16	-0.16
2010	54,526	54,526	2005-10	-0.19	-0.19
2015	53,767	53,767	2010-15	-0.28	-0.28
2020	52,632	52,632	2015-20	-0.43	-0.43
2025	51,104	51,104	2020-25	-0.59	-0.59
2030	49,239	49,239	2025-30	-0.74	-0.74
2035	47,695	47,695	2030-35	-0.64	-0.64
2040	47,241	47,241	2035-40	-0.19	-0.19
2045	47,412	47,412	2040-45	0.07	0.07
2050	47,601	47,601	2045-50	0.08	0.08
2055	47,790	47,790	2050-55	0.08	0.08
2060	48,043	48,043	2055-60	0.11	0.01

Source: Bureau of Business and Economic Research, University of New Mexico

Table 3.4
Projected Distribution and Annual Average Growth Rate
July 1, 2000 to July 1, 2060
Lower Pecos Valley Region

Projection Year	County Population in Region						Distribution of County Population in Region						Projection Year	Growth Rate of Region and County Population					
	Total Region	Chaves	De Baca	Eddy	Lincoln	Otero	Total Region	Chaves	De Baca	Eddy	Lincoln	Otero		Total Region	Chaves	De Baca	Eddy	Lincoln	Otero
2000	136,542	61,434	2,241	51,667	17,943	3,257	100.0	45.0	1.6	37.8	13.1	2.4							
2005	142,812	63,259	2,270	53,447	20,240	3,595	100.0	44.3	1.6	37.4	14.2	2.5	2000-05	0.90	0.59	0.26	0.68	2.41	1.97
2010	148,644	64,779	2,289	55,209	22,426	3,940	100.0	43.6	1.5	37.1	15.1	2.7	2005-10	0.80	0.47	0.17	0.65	2.05	1.83
2015	153,981	66,149	2,293	56,884	24,381	4,275	100.0	43.0	1.5	36.9	15.8	2.8	2010-15	0.71	0.42	0.03	0.60	1.67	1.63
2020	158,789	67,323	2,296	58,452	26,115	4,603	100.0	42.4	1.4	36.8	16.4	2.9	2015-20	0.61	0.35	0.03	0.54	1.37	1.48
2025	162,790	68,154	2,295	59,841	27,567	4,933	100.0	41.9	1.4	36.8	16.9	3.0	2020-25	0.50	0.25	-0.01	0.47	1.08	1.38
2030	166,072	68,660	2,296	61,007	28,844	5,264	100.0	41.3	1.4	36.7	17.4	3.2	2025-30	0.40	0.15	0.01	0.39	0.91	1.30
2035	168,566	68,937	2,289	61,910	29,842	5,588	100.0	40.9	1.4	36.7	17.7	3.3	2030-35	0.30	0.08	-0.06	0.29	0.68	1.20
2040	170,492	69,049	2,292	62,630	30,625	5,896	100.0	40.5	1.3	36.7	18.0	3.5	2035-40	0.23	0.03	0.03	0.23	0.52	1.07
2045	171,937	69,032	2,292	63,211	31,211	6,190	100.0	40.1	1.3	36.8	18.2	3.6	2040-45	0.17	0.00	0.00	0.18	0.38	0.97
2050	173,157	68,939	2,284	63,797	31,659	6,478	100.0	39.8	1.3	36.8	18.3	3.7	2045-50	0.14	-0.03	-0.07	0.18	0.28	0.91
2055	174,189	68,834	2,274	64,360	31,959	6,762	100.0	39.5	1.3	36.9	18.3	3.9	2050-55	0.12	-0.03	-0.09	0.18	0.19	0.86
2060	175,300	68,749	2,267	65,049	32,185	7,049	100.0	39.2	1.3	37.1	18.4	4.0	2055-60	0.13	-0.02	-0.06	0.21	0.14	0.83

Source: Bureau of Business and Economic Research, University of New Mexico



largest increase, approximately 14 thousand people over the 60-year period. Eddy County will add approximately 13 thousand, Chaves County seven thousand, and Otero County slightly under four thousand.

The differential growth rates among the counties will change the allocation of the region's population in favor of fast-growing counties. For instance, Chaves County's share will contract as its growth rate slows down. The proportion of the region's population that resides in Chaves County will decrease from 45 percent in 2000 to 39 percent by 2060. Eddy County's share will change only slightly during the 60-year projection period. Meanwhile, Lincoln County's share in the region will go up five-percentage points, from 13 percent in 2000 to 18 percent by 2060. Otero County's portion will almost double in 60 years, from two percent in 2000 to four percent in 2060. Figure 3.2 illustrates these future shifts in the distribution of the Lower Pecos Valley Region population.

LOWER RIO GRANDE WATER PLANNING REGION

The Lower Rio Grande Water Planning Region population will more than double in size in 60 years. In 2000, this region's population was over 185 thousand. By 2060, its population is projected to top 390 thousand. Population growth will be fastest in the first 35 years even as the annual average growth rate declines from 2.4 percent between 2000 and 2005 to 1.1 percent between 2030 and 2035. During this 35 year-period, the region's population will expand by 75 percent or 140 thousand people. After 2035, population growth in Lower Rio Grande will decline to less than one percent; from .98% between 2035 and 2040 to half a percent between 2055 and 2060. Nevertheless, because of the presence of the second largest state university, New Mexico State University, in Dona Ana County and the region's proximity to the Texas and Mexican borders, Lower Rio Grande will continue to be a major destination for young adults thus ensuring a positive albeit slower pace of population growth by the middle of this century.

MIDDLE RIO GRANDE REGION

The most heavily populated region in the state will sustain its demographic dominance throughout the 60-year projection period. In 2000, the Middle Rio Grande Region has 39 percent of the state population. This share will peak at 40 percent by 2030 and will stay at this level in the next 30 years. Table 3.6 shows that the region's population will reach the one million mark by 2030. In the ensuing 30 years the region will add 23 percent or 240 thousand more people to its 2030 population. By 2060, the projected Middle Rio Grande Region population will top 1.3 million. At this time the state population will reach 3.2 million people, and slightly over 40 percent of them will be in the Middle Rio Grande Region.

Figure 3.3 shows that in 2000 over three-quarters of the region's population lived in Bernalillo County; 13 percent were in Sandoval County, and the remainder lived in Valencia

Projection Year	Region Population		Projection Year	Growth Rate of Region	
	Total Region Population	Dona Ana		Total Region	Dona Ana
2000	175,524	175,524			
2005	197,472	197,472	2000-05	2.36	2.36
2010	218,788	218,788	2005-10	2.05	2.05
2015	238,677	238,677	2010-15	1.74	1.74
2020	256,254	256,254	2015-20	1.42	1.42
2025	272,764	272,764	2020-25	1.25	1.25
2030	289,897	289,897	2025-30	1.22	1.22
2035	306,907	306,907	2030-35	1.14	1.14
2040	322,568	322,568	2035-40	1.00	1.00
2045	336,560	336,560	2040-45	0.85	0.85
2050	348,883	348,883	2045-50	0.72	0.72
2055	359,914	359,914	2050-55	0.62	0.62
2060	370,005	370,005	2055-60	0.55	0.55

Source: Bureau of Business and Economic Research, University of New Mexico

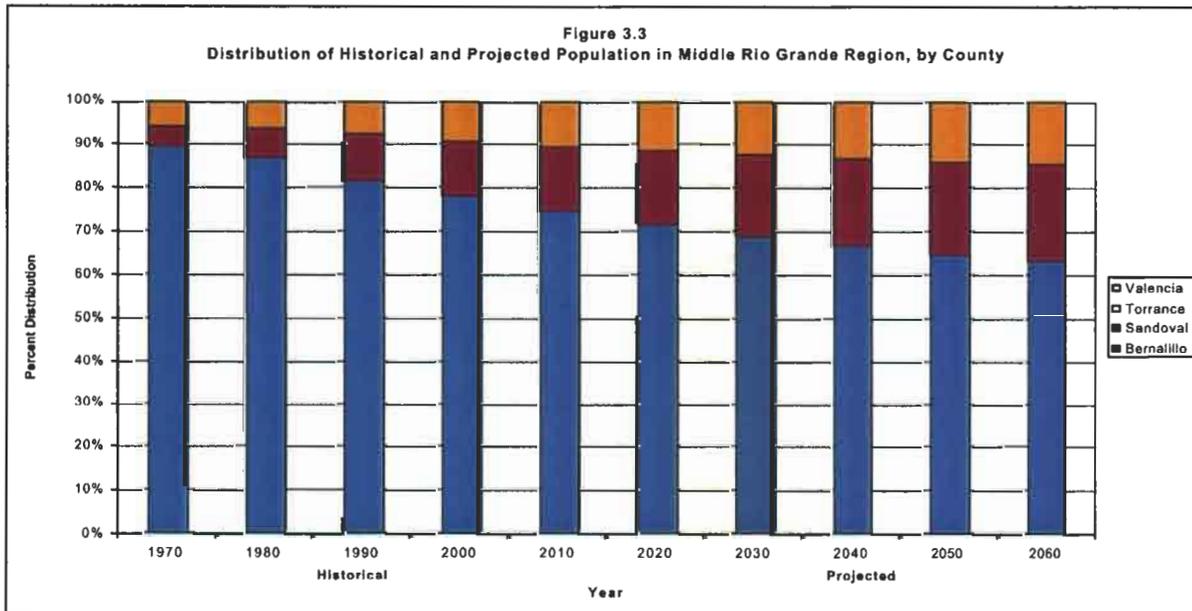
County. The relatively faster growing Sandoval and Valencia Counties will push down Bernalillo County's share in the next 60 years. Bernalillo County's share will decrease from 78 percent in 2000 to 63 percent by 2060.

By 2030, the Middle Rio Grande Region's population will be distributed as follows: 69 percent in Bernalillo County, 19 percent in Sandoval County, and 13 percent in Valencia County. The corresponding distribution by 2060 is as follows: 63 percent of the region's population will in Bernalillo County, 22 percent in Sandoval County, and 15 percent in Valencia County. The population growth potential for this region remains high as plans for wider roads and faster transportation systems are implemented.

Table 3.6
Projected Distribution and Annual Average Growth Rate
July 1, 2000 to July 1, 2060
Middle Rio Grande Region

Projection Year	County Population in Region				Distribution of County Population in Region				Projection Year	Growth Rate of Region and County Population			
	Total Region Population	Bernalillo	Sandoval	Valencia	Total Region	Bernalillo	Sandoval	Valencia		Total Region	Bernalillo	Sandoval	Valencia
2000	709,218	552,850	89,668	66,699	100.0	78.0	12.6	9.4	2000-05	1.66	1.21	3.52	2.74
2005	770,758	587,327	106,928	76,503	100.0	76.2	13.9	9.9	2005-10	1.40	0.96	2.97	2.50
2010	826,792	616,065	124,058	86,670	100.0	74.5	15.0	10.5	2010-15	1.27	0.83	2.65	2.30
2015	880,977	642,073	141,662	97,242	100.0	72.9	16.1	11.0	2015-20	1.16	0.74	2.33	2.08
2020	933,357	666,289	159,162	107,906	100.0	71.4	17.1	11.6	2020-25	1.04	0.66	2.03	1.85
2025	983,119	688,603	176,177	118,339	100.0	70.0	17.9	12.0	2025-30	0.93	0.58	1.80	1.65
2030	1,030,088	708,817	192,745	128,527	100.0	68.8	18.7	12.5	2030-35	0.84	0.50	1.60	1.51
2035	1,074,139	728,752	208,797	138,590	100.0	67.7	19.4	12.9	2035-40	0.75	0.43	1.43	1.39
2040	1,115,200	742,378	224,259	148,563	100.0	66.6	20.1	13.3	2040-45	0.69	0.38	1.29	1.29
2045	1,154,293	756,662	239,172	158,459	100.0	65.6	20.7	13.7	2045-50	0.65	0.37	1.18	1.20
2050	1,192,668	770,681	253,746	168,242	100.0	64.6	21.3	14.1	2050-55	0.63	0.37	1.11	1.12
2055	1,231,098	784,962	268,196	177,940	100.0	63.8	21.8	14.5	2055-60	0.63	0.38	1.05	1.07
2060	1,270,339	799,941	282,721	187,677	100.0	63.0	22.3	14.8					

Source: Bureau of Business and Economic Research, University of New Mexico



NORTHEAST NEW MEXICO WATER PLANNING REGION

In 2000, close to five percent or 85 thousand of the state population lived in the Northeast New Mexico Water Planning Region. By 2030, less than four percent or 93 thousand of the state population will be found in the Northeast New Mexico.

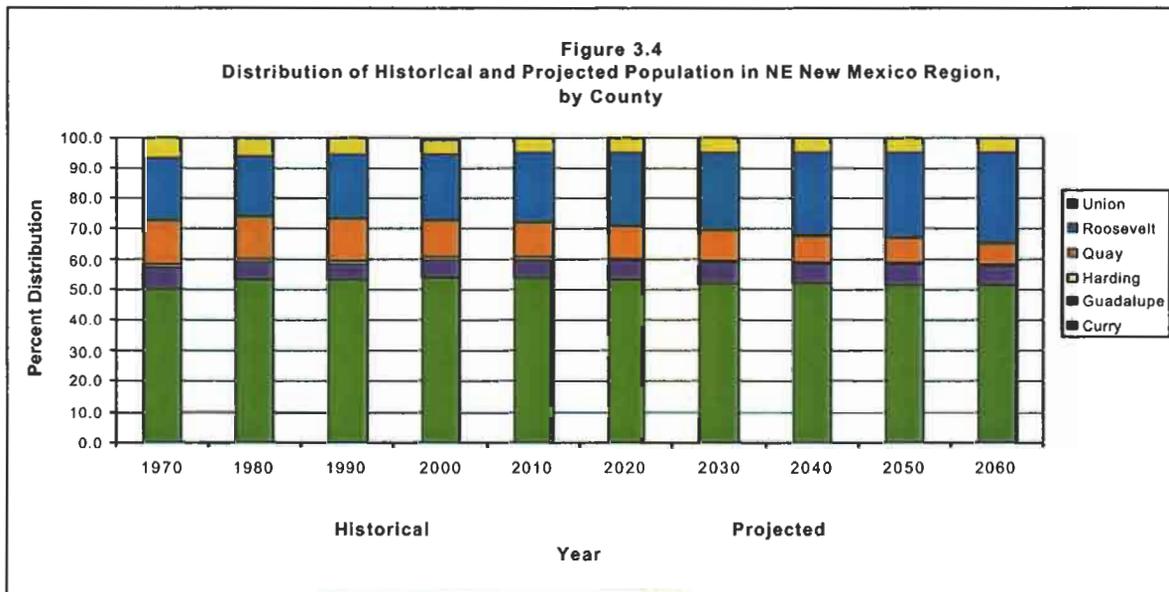
Table 3.7 shows that after 2030, this region will see no growth to negative growth unless a major economic restructuring occurs during this period. The smaller counties of Guadalupe, Harding, and Quay as well as Curry County will contribute to the depressed population growth in the Northeast New Mexico Region. Curry County is expected to lose population as the federal government continues to downsize defense spending. Roosevelt County and Union County will defy the downward population growth projected in the rest of the region.

Figure 3.4 illustrates the shifts in the region's population distribution. It also shows that the counties that are projected to have a positive growth trajectory, Union County and Roosevelt County, will increase their shares in the region's population. Clearly, Roosevelt County will gain the most as the rest of the counties in the region suffer population stagnation or decline.

Table 3.7
Projected Distribution and Annual Average Growth Rate
July 1, 2000 to July 1, 2060
NE New Mexico Region

Projection Year	County Population in Region							Distribution of County Population in Region							Projection Year	Growth Rate of Region and County Population							
	Total Region Population	Curry	Guadalupe	Harding	Quay	Roosevelt	Union	Total Region	Curry	Guadalupe	Harding	Quay	Roosevelt	Union		Total Region	Curry	Guadalupe	Harding	Quay	Roosevelt	Union	
2000	83,003	45,085	4,696	828	10,142	18,075	4,177	100.0	54.3	5.7	1.0	12.2	21.8	5.0									
2005	85,358	46,054	5,010	805	10,089	19,119	4,280	100.0	54.0	5.9	0.9	11.8	22.4	5.0	2000-05	0.56	0.43	1.29	-0.54	-0.10	1.12	0.49	
2010	87,611	46,961	5,304	780	10,003	20,198	4,365	100.0	53.6	6.1	0.9	11.4	23.1	5.0	2005-10	0.52	0.39	1.14	-0.66	-0.17	1.10	0.39	
2015	89,568	47,721	5,555	752	9,865	21,236	4,439	100.0	53.3	6.2	0.8	11.0	23.7	5.0	2010-15	0.44	0.32	0.92	-0.73	-0.28	1.00	0.34	
2020	91,008	48,239	5,748	726	9,642	22,148	4,505	100.0	53.0	6.3	0.8	10.6	24.3	5.0	2015-20	0.32	0.22	0.68	-0.70	-0.46	0.84	0.30	
2025	91,925	48,483	5,887	698	9,335	22,961	4,561	100.0	52.7	6.4	0.8	10.2	25.0	5.0	2020-25	0.20	0.10	0.48	-0.79	-0.65	0.72	0.25	
2030	92,494	48,504	5,989	671	8,982	23,732	4,616	100.0	52.4	6.5	0.7	9.7	25.7	5.0	2025-30	0.12	0.01	0.34	-0.79	-0.77	0.66	0.24	
2035	92,830	48,413	6,047	650	8,595	24,464	4,661	100.0	52.2	6.5	0.7	9.3	26.4	5.0	2030-35	0.07	-0.04	0.19	-0.64	-0.88	0.61	0.19	
2040	92,895	48,229	6,059	633	8,169	25,119	4,686	100.0	51.9	6.5	0.7	8.8	27.0	5.0	2035-40	0.02	-0.08	0.04	-0.53	-1.02	0.53	0.11	
2045	92,616	47,895	6,023	616	7,708	25,673	4,701	100.0	51.7	6.5	0.7	8.3	27.7	5.1	2040-45	-0.06	-0.14	-0.12	-0.54	-1.16	0.44	0.06	
2050	92,008	47,407	5,949	596	7,224	26,126	4,706	100.0	51.5	6.5	0.6	7.9	28.4	5.1	2045-50	-0.13	-0.20	-0.25	-0.66	-1.30	0.35	0.02	
2055	91,181	46,793	5,859	577	6,733	26,510	4,709	100.0	51.3	6.4	0.6	7.4	29.1	5.2	2050-55	-0.18	-0.26	-0.30	-0.65	-1.41	0.29	0.01	
2060	90,289	46,127	5,782	557	6,247	26,847	4,719	100.0	51.1	6.4	0.6	6.9	29.7	5.2	2055-60	-0.19	-0.29	-0.26	-0.35	-1.50	0.25	0.04	

Source: Bureau of Business and Economic Research, University of New Mexico



NORTHWEST NEW MEXICO WATER PLANNING REGION

The predominantly Native American Northwest New Mexico Water Planning Region will steadfastly keep its rank as the sixth most populous region in the state throughout the 60-year projection period. In 2000, Northwest New Mexico's population was estimated at 88 thousand people. By 2030, the region's population is projected to reach 127 thousand. By 2060, this is calculated to top 150 thousand people. Table 3.8 shows that, consistent with the general trend in the state, the annual average population growth rate for Northwest New Mexico will gradually decline during the next 60 years. Prior to 2030, its annual growth rate is projected to be above one percent. Thereafter, the pace of its population growth will slow down. Nevertheless, the region's 2060 population will be 75 percent more than its 2000 population.

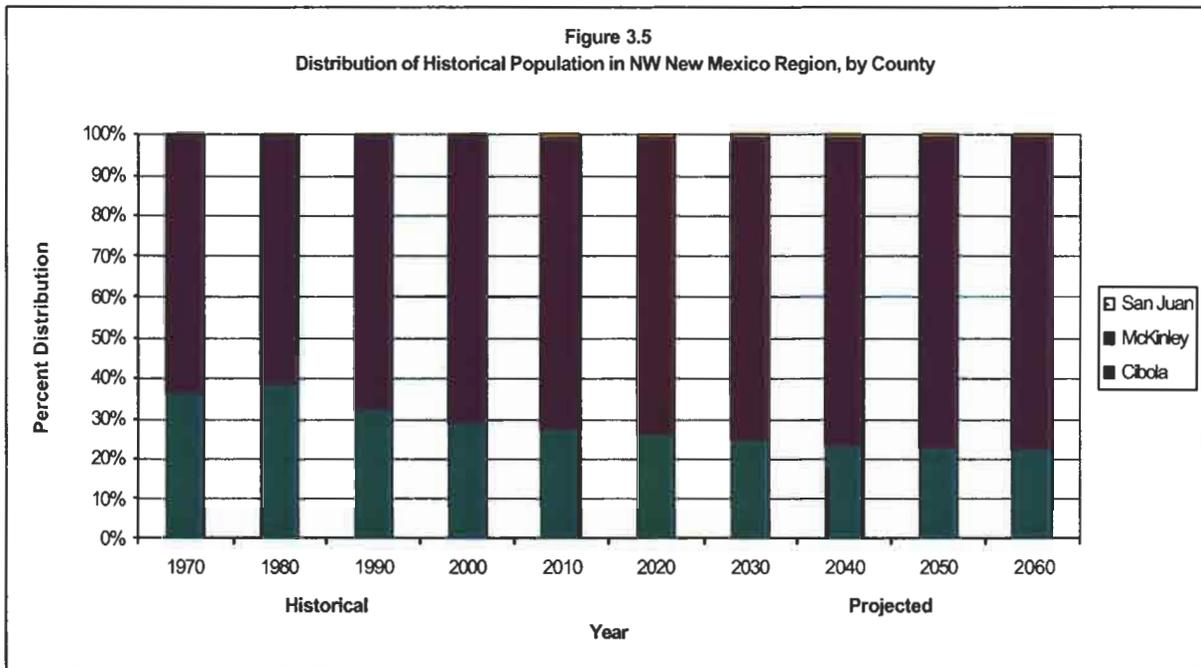
Table 3.8 reveals that all the areas in the region are expected to maintain a positive growth trajectory during the projection period. The portion of this regional population that is in San Juan County will have the fastest rate of growth. It will double in size in 60 years; from 600 to 1200 people. Yet, its relative share in the regional population will remain constant at seven-tenths of a percent. McKinley County will continue to increase its share in the region's population as its population expands to 120 thousand, by 2060.

Its slower than average annual growth rate causes Cibola County to have a smaller population increase than expected. During the next 30 years, Cibola County's population will decline but its population size will increase by 20 percent. From 2030 to 2060, Cibola County will grow by 11 percent. In absolute terms, this translates to five thousand new residents in the next 30 years and an additional three thousand in the following 30 years, for an estimated total population of about 34 thousand, by 2060.

Figure 3.5 presents the county allocation of Northwest New Mexico's population. It underscores the continued dominance of McKinley County and the declining share of Cibola County. San Juan County's population share in this region is too small to make a difference.

Projection Year	County Population in Region				Distribution of County Population in Region				Projection Year	Growth Rate of Region and County Population			
	Total Region Population	Cibola	McKinley	San Juan	Total Region	Cibola	McKinley	San Juan		Total Region	Cibola	McKinley	San Juan
2000	88,230	25,683	61,968	578	100.0	29.1	70.2	0.7					
2005	94,825	26,764	67,426	635	100.0	28.2	71.1	0.7	2000-05	1.44	0.82	1.69	1.88
2010	101,566	27,740	73,131	694	100.0	27.3	72.0	0.7	2005-10	1.37	0.72	1.62	1.78
2015	108,271	28,634	78,891	745	100.0	26.4	72.9	0.7	2010-15	1.28	0.63	1.52	1.41
2020	114,764	29,455	84,514	796	100.0	25.7	73.6	0.7	2015-20	1.16	0.57	1.38	1.31
2025	121,063	30,215	90,003	845	100.0	25.0	74.3	0.7	2020-25	1.07	0.51	1.26	1.21
2030	127,275	30,947	95,433	895	100.0	24.3	75.0	0.7	2025-30	1.00	0.48	1.17	1.14
2035	133,185	31,651	100,591	943	100.0	23.8	75.5	0.7	2030-35	0.91	0.45	1.05	1.06
2040	138,487	32,284	105,213	989	100.0	23.3	76.0	0.7	2035-40	0.78	0.40	0.90	0.95
2045	143,204	32,860	109,311	1,032	100.0	22.9	76.3	0.7	2040-45	0.67	0.35	0.76	0.85
2050	147,359	33,403	112,883	1,073	100.0	22.7	76.6	0.7	2045-50	0.57	0.33	0.64	0.78
2055	151,015	33,938	115,964	1,113	100.0	22.5	76.8	0.7	2050-55	0.49	0.32	0.54	0.73
2060	154,237	34,475	118,610	1,152	100.0	22.4	76.9	0.7	2055-60	0.42	0.31	0.45	0.70

Source: Bureau of Business and Economic Research, University of New Mexico



RIO ARRIBA WATER PLANNING REGION

The smallest water planning region in the state is projected to become even smaller as it loses population during the 60-year projection period. Table 3.9 shows the level and trend of population growth in the Rio Arriba Region from July 1, 2000 to July 1, 2030. Table 3.9 indicates a gradual but sustained decline in the region's population. From 2000 to 2060, the projected population will decline by more than 50 percent. By 2060, the Rio Arriba Water Planning Region is estimated to have a population of just above three thousand people.

The lack of employment opportunities and its distance from any major metropolitan area or employment centers will stymie any future population expansion in the Rio Arriba Water Planning Region. The Espanola Valley which is currently the population growth center in Rio Arriba County, will further increase its influence in the region as it attracts commuters who work in nearby Los Alamos and Santa Fe counties. Retirement migration to the region is expected to continue but competition for retirees from the counties of Santa Fe, San Miguel, Mora, and Taos will present a major challenge. The lack of infrastructure for retirees also poses a major deterrent for growth in this area. An old population coupled with low fertility and the continued out-migration of young people inevitably leads to a smaller population size.

SAN JUAN WATER PLANNING REGION

Located on the northwest corner of the state, the San Juan Water Planning Region was the fifth largest region in 2000. By 2005, it will surpass Lower Pecos Valley to become the fourth largest water planning region and it will remain in this position for the rest of the projection period. Shortly after 2030, San Juan will reach the 180 thousand mark. Approximately 50 thousand new residents are expected between 2000 and 2030. An additional 30 thousand people will call San Juan Region home by 2060,

Table 3.9 Projected Distribution and Annual Average Growth Rate: July 1, 2000 to July 1, 2060 Rio Arriba Region			
Projection Year	Rio Arriba Region Population	Projection Year	Growth Rate Region
2000	7,773		
2005	7,679	2000-05	-0.24
2010	7,517	2005-10	-0.43
2015	7,393	2010-15	-0.33
2020	7,179	2015-20	-0.59
2025	6,874	2020-25	-0.87
2030	6,497	2025-30	-1.13
2035	6,062	2030-35	-1.38
2040	5,577	2035-40	-1.67
2045	5,052	2040-45	-1.98
2050	4,498	2045-50	-2.32
2055	3,928	2050-55	-2.71
2060	3,355	2055-60	-3.15

Source: Bureau of Business and Economic Research, UNM

topping its population to 210 thousand. Over 80 percent of this additional population will be in San Juan County. Close to 15 percent will be in McKinley County and nearly 10 percent will be in Sandoval County. The Rio Arriba County portion of this region is expected to lose people during the next 60 years. Table 3.10 summarizes the population growth trends during this period.

Figure 3.6 shows the county allocation of the region's population. The small fraction of Sandoval County becomes noticeable by 2010 as its share reaches 1.5 percent. Thereafter, Sandoval County's share will steadfastly increase until it reaches three percent by 2060. Although the biggest contributor to the region's population growth is San Juan County, its share is calculated to decline slightly by 2060. The rest of the region's population is distributed as follows: McKinley County, 10 percent; Rio Arriba County, two percent; Sandoval County, one percent. Both McKinley County and Sandoval County will increase their shares. McKinley will go from 10 percent to 11 percent by 2030 and then plateaus at this level. Sandoval County will more than double its share from one percent in 2000 to three percent by 2060. Rio Arriba County's share will continue to diminish.

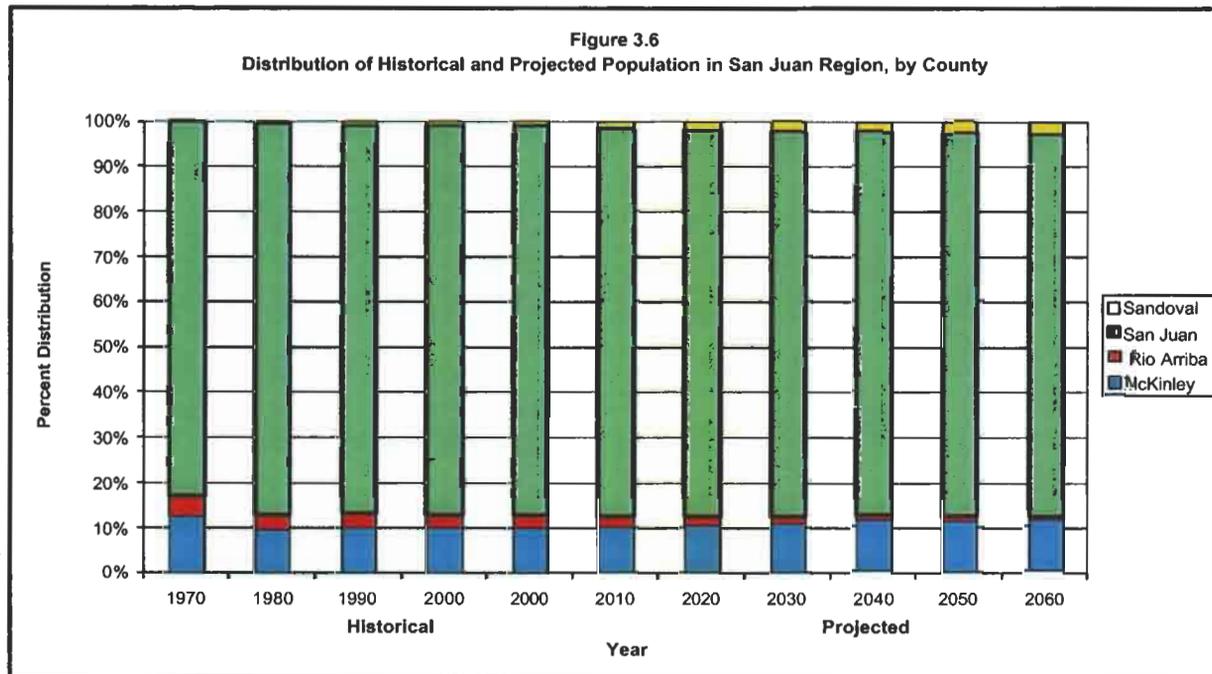
SAN MIGUEL/MORA WATER PLANNING REGION

Ranked 11th in 2000, the San Miguel/Mora Water Planning Region slides down to 12th position in 2005 and it will remain in this position for the rest of the projection period. Nevertheless, its share in the state population, approximately two percent, will be unchanged throughout the projection period. In 2000, San Miguel/Mora's population was estimated at approximately 35 thousand people. This was divided into 85 percent San Miguel County and 15 percent Mora County.

Table 3.11 shows that by 2030, the region's population will swell to 50 thousand people; approximately 42 thousand will be in San Miguel County and approximately eight thousand will be in Mora

Projection Year	County Population in Region					Distribution of County Population in Region					Projection Year	Growth Rate of Region and County Population				
	Total Region Population	McKinley	Rio Arriba	San Juan	Sandoval	Total Region	McKinley	Rio Arriba	San Juan	Sandoval		Total Region	McKinley	Rio Arriba	San Juan	Sandoval
2000	131,500	13,104	3,596	113,694	1,107	100.0	10.0	2.7	86.5	0.8						
2005	140,093	14,058	3,636	120,810	1,589	100.0	10.0	2.6	86.2	1.1	2000-05	1.27	1.41	0.22	1.21	7.24
2010	148,740	15,032	3,653	127,898	2,158	100.0	10.1	2.5	86.0	1.5	2005-10	1.20	1.34	0.09	1.14	6.12
2015	157,072	16,153	3,622	134,752	2,545	100.0	10.3	2.3	85.8	1.6	2010-15	1.09	1.44	-0.17	1.04	3.30
2020	164,998	17,236	3,549	141,261	2,950	100.0	10.4	2.2	85.6	1.8	2015-20	0.98	1.30	-0.40	0.94	2.95
2025	172,490	18,284	3,434	147,405	3,366	100.0	10.6	2.0	85.5	2.0	2020-25	0.89	1.18	-0.66	0.85	2.64
2030	179,754	19,312	3,285	153,364	3,793	100.0	10.7	1.8	85.3	2.1	2025-30	0.83	1.09	-0.89	0.79	2.39
2035	186,576	20,275	3,108	158,964	4,229	100.0	10.9	1.7	85.2	2.3	2030-35	0.74	0.97	-1.11	0.72	2.17
2040	192,588	21,124	2,907	163,888	4,670	100.0	11.0	1.5	85.1	2.4	2035-40	0.63	0.82	-1.34	0.61	1.99
2045	197,858	21,860	2,684	168,196	5,118	100.0	11.0	1.4	85.0	2.6	2040-45	0.54	0.69	-1.59	0.52	1.83
2050	202,529	22,484	2,446	172,023	5,575	100.0	11.1	1.2	84.9	2.8	2045-50	0.47	0.56	-1.86	0.45	1.71
2055	206,795	23,007	2,199	175,542	6,047	100.0	11.1	1.1	84.9	2.9	2050-55	0.42	0.46	-2.13	0.41	1.62
2060	210,818	23,438	1,948	178,895	6,537	100.0	11.1	0.9	84.9	3.1	2055-60	0.39	0.37	-2.42	0.38	1.56

Source: Bureau of Business and Economic Research, University of New Mexico



County. Even with a reduced annual growth rate, the region will top 55 thousand by 2060. The region's 2060 population will be split thus, 83 percent or approximately 48 thousand people in San Miguel County and 17 percent or more than nine thousand people in Mora County.

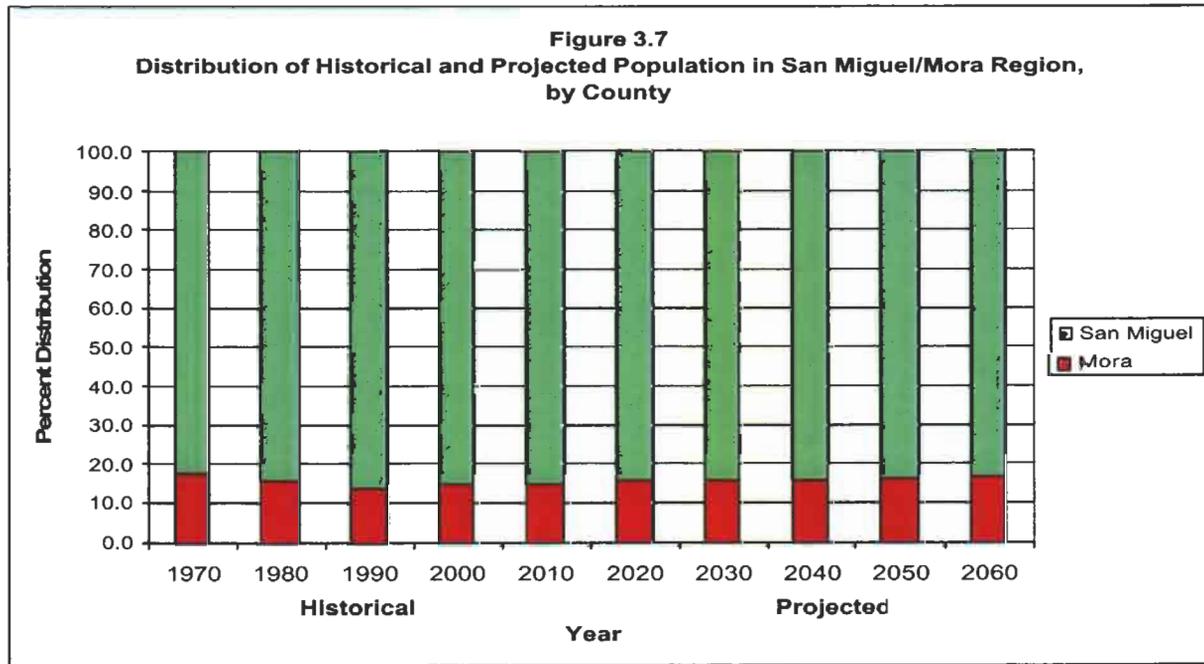
Figure 3.7 graphs the distribution of the region's population. It indicates the gradual although small rise in Mora County's share. It is anticipated that both counties will continue to attract families from Los Alamos County and Santa Fe County as well retirees from other counties in the state and other parts of the US. But like other rural regions in the state unless employment opportunities become available to young adults in the foreseeable future, this region will expect the exodus of this segment of the region's population. Notwithstanding a large number of retirees, population growth in San Miguel/Mora will be tempered by the continued flight of young people in search of employment.

Table 3.11
Projected Distribution and Annual Average Growth Rate
July 1, 2000 to July 1, 2060
San Miguel/Mora Region

Projection Year	County Population in Region			Distribution of County Population in Region			Projection Year	Growth Rate of Region and County Population		
	Total Region Population	Mora	San Miguel	Total Region	Mora	San Miguel		Total Region	Mora	San Miguel
2000	35,454	5,205	30,249	100.0	14.7	85.3				
2005	38,217	5,704	32,513	100.0	14.9	85.1	2000-05	1.50	1.83	1.44
2010	40,951	6,205	34,746	100.0	15.2	84.8	2005-10	1.38	1.68	1.33
2015	43,573	6,697	36,876	100.0	15.4	84.6	2010-15	1.24	1.53	1.19
2020	45,991	7,144	38,847	100.0	15.5	84.5	2015-20	1.08	1.29	1.04
2025	48,151	7,539	40,612	100.0	15.7	84.3	2020-25	0.92	1.08	0.89
2030	50,078	7,888	42,190	100.0	15.8	84.2	2025-30	0.78	0.91	0.76
2035	51,751	8,195	43,556	100.0	15.8	84.2	2030-35	0.66	0.76	0.64
2040	53,137	8,469	44,668	100.0	15.9	84.1	2035-40	0.53	0.66	0.50
2045	54,300	8,720	45,580	100.0	16.1	83.9	2040-45	0.43	0.58	0.40
2050	55,310	8,966	46,344	100.0	16.2	83.8	2045-50	0.37	0.56	0.33
2055	56,218	9,215	47,003	100.0	16.4	83.6	2050-55	0.33	0.55	0.28
2060	57,074	9,480	47,594	100.0	16.6	83.4	2055-60	0.30	0.57	0.25

Source: Bureau of Business and Economic Research, University of New Mexico

Figure 3.7
Distribution of Historical and Projected Population in San Miguel/Mora Region, by County



SANTA FE/LOS ALAMOS WATER PLANNING REGION

The Santa Fe/Los Alamos Water Planning Region is third most populous region in the state. It will maintain this position throughout the 60-year projection period. Table 3.12 presents this region's future population trend. In 2000, the estimated region's population was just under 170 thousand. By 2030, this number will increase to 261 thousand people. By 2060 the population in this region will reach 360

thousand. The region's population is distributed among the three counties as follows: 72 percent in Santa Fe County, 18 percent in Rio Arriba county, and the rest in Los Alamos County. Figure 3.8 shows that Santa Fe County will further increase its hegemony in the region effectively minimizing the share of the smaller counties of Los Alamos and Rio Arriba.

The higher than average annual population growth rate estimated for Santa Fe County accounts for this region's strong population showing. To a small degree, Rio Arriba County is anticipated to influence the faster than average speed of the region's population growth, at least, in the first 30 years of the projection period. The attraction of Espanola valley in Rio Arriba County to commuters is expected to continue unless affordable housing becomes more accessible in Los Alamos County and Santa Fe County. The contribution of Los Alamos County to the region's population growth is very small. Two percent of the 190 thousand new people will live in Los Alamos County. The comparative figures for Rio Arriba County and Santa Fe County are nine percent and 89 percent, respectively. A combination of economic and demographic factors account for this projected slow population growth in Los Alamos County. As long as employment opportunities are limited to the Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL), teenagers and young adults who initially leave in pursuit of higher education will not return for lack of appropriate jobs. Increasingly, upper echelon LANL employees will continue to retire in place forcing new employees to seek housing in neighboring counties. These trends will contribute to the rapid aging of the population of Los Alamos County while slowing down the aging of the population in Rio Arriba County as the latter attracts more of the working age population with young children.

SOCORRO/SIERRA WATER PLANNING REGION

The third smallest water planning region in the state, Socorro/Sierra, will keep its position throughout the projection period. Table 3.13 shows that Socorro/Sierra's population will double in 60 years, from 20 thousand in 2000 to 38 thousand by 2060. Like other regions in the state, Socorro/Sierra will have a stronger population growth in the first half than the second half of the projection period. Sierra County, as a retirement destination, has a head start over the rest of the state. It has been a major retirement destination for decades and it is expected to continue as such throughout this century. However, it is anticipated that population growth in Sierra County will slow down as other areas compete for future retirees. Nonetheless, the coming of age of the baby boom generation and the baby boomlet cohorts, which will swell up the ranks of the elderly, promises a fair share for Sierra County. In contrast Socorro County will continue to attract young people. The presence of New Mexico Technical Institute assures Socorro County a steady stream of undergraduate and graduate students and their families. Figure 3.9 shows the allocation of the region's population.

Table 3.12
Projected Distribution and Annual Average Growth Rate
July 1, 2000 to July 1, 2060
Santa Fe/ Los Alamos Region

Projection Year	County Population in Region				Distribution of County Population in Region				Projection Year	Growth Rate of Region and County Population			
	Total Region Population	Los Alamos	Rio Arriba	Santa Fe	Total Region	Los Alamos	Rio Arriba	Santa Fe		Total Region	Los Alamos	Rio Arriba	Santa Fe
2000	169,159	18,359	29,921	120,879	100.0	10.9	17.7	71.5	2000-05	1.67	0.39	1.56	1.89
2005	183,918	18,722	32,353	132,842	100.0	10.2	17.6	72.2		2005-10	1.58	0.42	1.47
2010	199,071	19,122	34,824	145,125	100.0	9.6	17.5	72.9	2010-15	1.49	0.49	1.29	1.67
2015	214,521	19,595	37,137	157,788	100.0	9.1	17.3	73.6	2015-20	1.44	0.51	1.11	1.63
2020	230,577	20,099	39,249	171,229	100.0	8.7	17.0	74.3	2020-25	1.32	0.46	0.92	1.51
2025	246,325	20,565	41,086	184,674	100.0	8.3	16.7	75.0	2025-30	1.17	0.29	0.76	1.36
2030	261,230	20,866	42,674	197,690	100.0	8.0	16.3	75.7	2030-35	1.14	0.16	0.63	1.35
2035	276,565	21,034	44,029	211,502	100.0	7.6	15.9	76.5	2035-40	1.12	0.18	0.49	1.34
2040	292,462	21,224	45,117	226,121	100.0	7.3	15.4	77.3	2040-45	1.10	0.20	0.35	1.32
2045	308,924	21,441	45,920	241,563	100.0	6.9	14.9	78.2	2045-50	1.03	0.18	0.23	1.25
2050	325,209	21,636	46,440	257,133	100.0	6.7	14.3	79.1	2050-55	1.01	0.17	0.11	1.23
2055	341,985	21,817	46,705	273,463	100.0	6.4	13.7	80.0	2055-60	0.99	0.18	0.02	1.22
2060	359,376	22,014	46,755	290,607	100.0	6.1	13.0	80.9					

Source: Bureau of Business and Economic Research, University of New Mexico

Figure 3.8
Distribution of Historical and Projected Population in Santa Fe/Los Alamos Region, by County

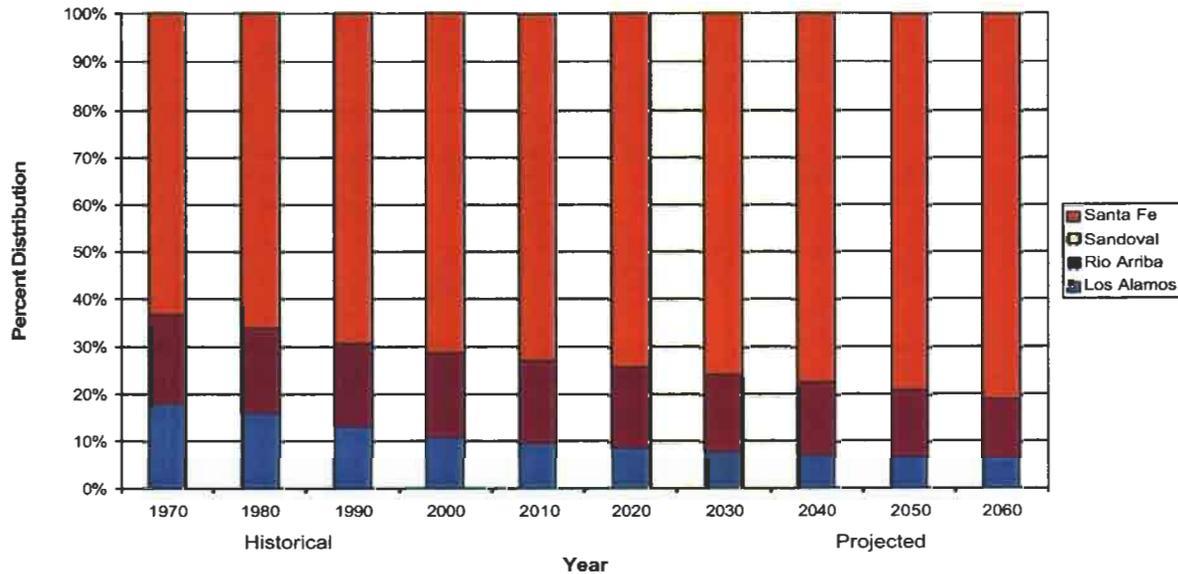
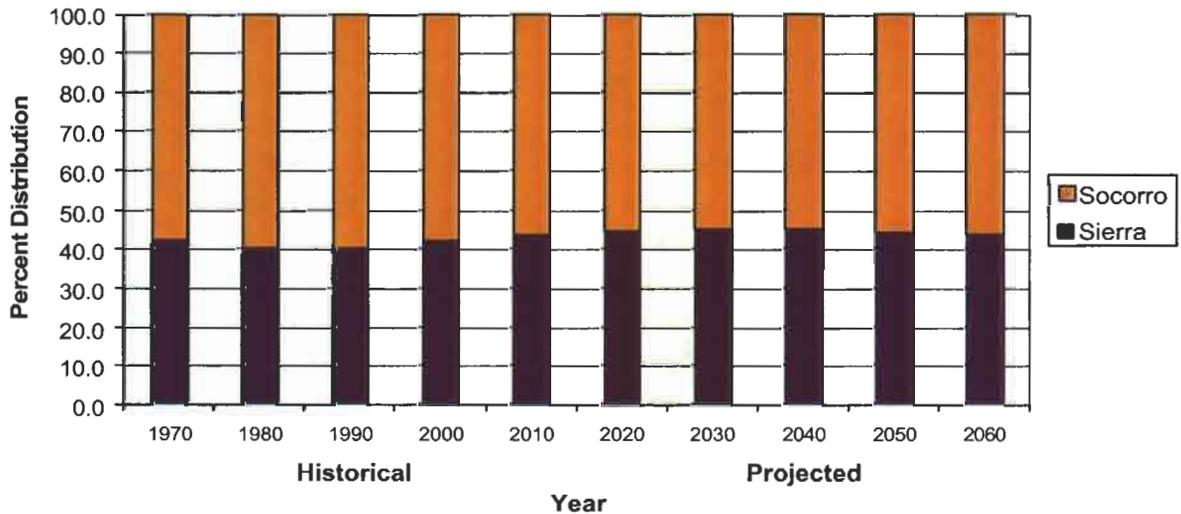


Table 3.13
Projected Distribution and Annual Average Growth Rate
July 1, 2000 to July 1, 2060
Socorro/Sierra Region

Projection Year	County Population in Region			Distribution of County Population in Region			Projection Year	Growth Rate of Region and County Population		
	Total Region Population	Sierra	Socorro	Total Region	Sierra	Socorro		Total Region	Sierra	Socorro
2000	31,520	13,355	18,165	100.0	42.4	57.6	2000-05	2.03	2.40	1.75
2005	34,882	15,058	19,824	100.0	43.2	56.8				
2010	38,172	16,700	21,472	100.0	43.7	56.3	2005-10	1.80	2.07	1.60
2015	41,383	18,281	23,102	100.0	44.2	55.8	2010-15	1.62	1.81	1.46
2020	44,447	19,774	24,673	100.0	44.5	55.5	2015-20	1.43	1.57	1.32
2025	47,311	21,172	26,139	100.0	44.8	55.2	2020-25	1.25	1.37	1.15
2030	50,012	22,485	27,527	100.0	45.0	55.0	2025-30	1.11	1.20	1.03
2035	52,490	23,644	28,846	100.0	45.0	55.0	2030-35	0.97	1.01	0.94
2040	54,653	24,567	30,086	100.0	45.0	55.0	2035-40	0.81	0.77	0.84
2045	56,525	25,276	31,249	100.0	44.7	55.3	2040-45	0.67	0.57	0.76
2050	58,105	25,772	32,333	100.0	44.4	55.6	2045-50	0.55	0.39	0.68
2055	59,429	26,073	33,356	100.0	43.9	56.1	2050-55	0.45	0.23	0.62
2060	60,541	26,201	34,340	100.0	43.3	56.7	2055-60	0.37	0.10	0.58

Source: Bureau of Business and Economic Research, University of New Mexico

Figure 3.9
Distribution of Historical and Projected Population in Socorro/Sierra Region, by County



SOUTHWEST NEW MEXICO REGION

The 8th most populous region in the state, Southwest New Mexico Region will grow from 66 thousand people in 2000 to 84 thousand by 2030, an increase of more than 40 percent during the period. Table 3.14 shows that by 2060, the area population will reach 114 thousand people. With the exception of

Hidalgo County, which is projected to lose as much as 900 people or 15 percent of its 2000 population over the next 60 years, the rest of the region will significantly increase its population during the same time period. Luna County, which is at the Mexican border, will have the biggest population gain. In 60 years its population will reach 63 thousand, more than twice as large as its population in 2000. Grant County will add more than 10 thousand people over 60 years. By 2060, Grant County will have a population of more than 40 thousand. The smallest county in the region, Catron County, will have a population of almost five thousand by 2060. This is an increase of over a thousand people in 60 years.

Migration to both Grant County and Luna County will continue to attract a mix of young and old migrants. College-bound students will continue to go to Western New Mexico State University in Silver City. Its border location sustains Luna County's position as a major destination for Mexican immigrants. In recent years, both counties have become major destination. Retirees are expected to dominate the migration streams to Grant and Luna County.

Figure 3.10 shows the accelerated population growth in Luna County at the expense of Catron, Grant, and Hidalgo counties. A relatively slower population growth will result in Grant County experiencing a gradual decline in its share over the 60-year period. A similar pattern is projected for Catron County. Hidalgo County will experience the biggest population loss in the region.

TAOS WATER PLANNING REGION

Spectacular sceneries, some of the best ski resorts in the region, the Taos art colony, and Taos Pueblo are among the reasons that tourists and affluent migrants have come to this region. The influx of migrants to the Taos Water Planning Region noted in the last decade is expected to continue throughout the projection period. The richness of the cultural traditions and the environmental amenities present in the region will be the major attraction to the rapidly aging and affluent baby boom retirees. This projected expansion in the elderly population will be offset by the continued departure of the younger population unless better paying jobs in the service sector economy become available in large numbers in the future. This will be exacerbated as the local population becomes more highly educated and demands for better paying jobs.

Table 3.14
Projected Distribution and Annual Average Growth Rate
July 1, 2000 to July 1, 2060
SW New Mexico Region

Projection Year	County Population in Region					Distribution of County Population in Region					Projection Year	Growth Rate of Region and County Population				
	Total Region	Catron	Grant	Hidalgo	Luna	Total Region	Catron	Grant	Hidalgo	Luna		Total Region	Catron	Grant	Hidalgo	Luna
2000	65,768	3,567	31,083	5,929	25,189	100.0	5.4	47.3	9.0	38.3						
2005	70,785	3,814	32,462	5,875	28,634	100.0	5.4	45.9	8.3	40.5	2000-05	1.47	1.34	0.87	-0.18	2.56
2010	75,754	4,001	33,769	5,799	32,185	100.0	5.3	44.6	7.7	42.5	2005-10	1.36	0.96	0.79	-0.26	2.34
2015	80,630	4,144	34,920	5,716	35,850	100.0	5.1	43.3	7.1	44.5	2010-15	1.25	0.70	0.67	-0.29	2.16
2020	85,230	4,236	35,886	5,624	39,484	100.0	5.0	42.1	6.6	46.4	2015-20	1.11	0.44	0.55	-0.32	1.93
2025	89,511	4,281	36,758	5,515	42,957	100.0	4.8	41.1	6.2	48.1	2020-25	0.98	0.21	0.48	-0.39	1.69
2030	93,639	4,289	37,657	5,378	46,315	100.0	4.6	40.3	5.7	49.6	2025-30	0.90	0.04	0.48	-0.50	1.51
2035	97,588	4,295	38,517	5,230	49,546	100.0	4.4	39.6	5.4	50.9	2030-35	0.83	0.03	0.45	-0.56	1.35
2040	101,264	4,336	39,234	5,101	52,593	100.0	4.3	38.8	5.0	52.1	2035-40	0.74	0.19	0.37	-0.50	1.19
2045	104,708	4,418	39,819	5,013	55,458	100.0	4.2	38.1	4.8	53.1	2040-45	0.67	0.37	0.30	-0.35	1.06
2050	107,940	4,545	40,329	4,976	58,090	100.0	4.2	37.4	4.6	53.9	2045-50	0.61	0.57	0.25	-0.15	0.93
2055	110,994	4,715	40,824	4,983	60,472	100.0	4.3	36.8	4.5	54.6	2050-55	0.56	0.73	0.24	0.03	0.80
2060	113,931	4,923	41,332	5,033	62,643	100.0	4.3	36.3	4.4	55.0	2055-60	0.52	0.86	0.25	0.20	0.71

Source: Bureau of Business and Economic Research, University of New Mexico

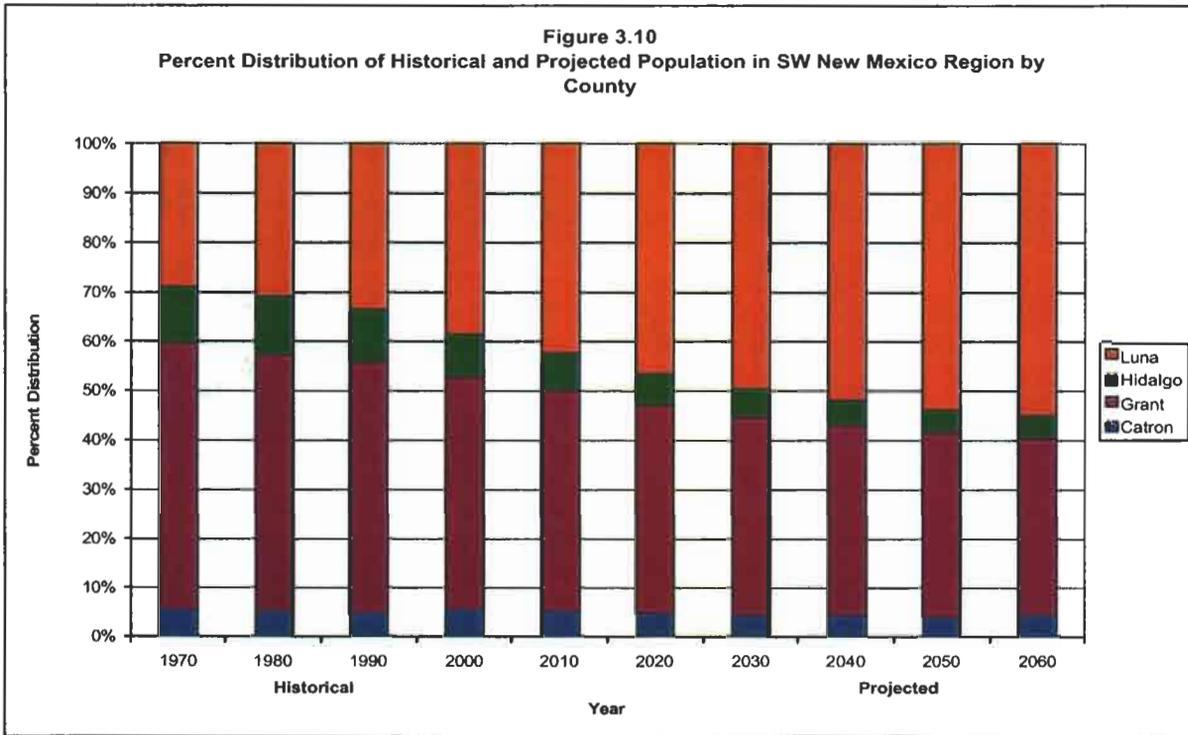


Table 3.15 shows the future population trend in the Taos Water Planning Region. The small part of Rio Arriba County that is in the region will not develop into a major population center because the area is primarily a state park and American Indian reservation. The population center for Rio Arriba County will most certainly continue to be in the Espanola Valley in the Santa Fe/Los Alamos Water Planning Region that is closest to the business and government centers in Santa Fe County and Los Alamos County.

TULAROSA/SACRAMENTO WATER PLANNING REGION

The population of Tularosa/Sacramento Water Planning Region will continue to be concentrated in Otero County. The counties of Chaves, Eddy, and Lincoln will remain minor contributors to the region's population. The region's population growth rate will gradually decrease. This will result in a reduction in its rank as the ninth most populous region starting in 2040. The Estancia Water Planning Region will move to ninth position as Tularosa/Sacramento slides to 10th position. However, Tularosa/Sacramento's population will continue to grow in a positive direction. In 60 years, the region's population is projected to increase by 10 thousand more people; from 60 thousand in 2000 to 70 thousand people by 2060. The presence of defense installations and the region's proximity to the state of Texas and the Mexican Border keeps this region's population growing in a positive direction. Tularosa/Sacramento will likely benefit from retirement migration especially those associated with the military. The accessibility of El Paso where a large military hospital is located adds to the attraction of the city of Alamogordo and the surrounding areas to military retirees and their families.

The portion of Lincoln County that is in the Tularosa/Sacramento Region is expected to lose population in the next 60 years. The ceaseless migration of young people to places where employment opportunities are better will have a negative impact in this area's long-term population growth prospect. The retirement migration that is foreseen for resort areas will occur in the Lower Pecos

Table 3.15
Projected Distribution and Annual Average Growth Rate
July 1, 2000 to July 1, 2060
Taos Region

Projection Year	County Population in Region			Distribution of County Population in Region			Projection Year	Growth Rate of Region and County Population		
	Total Region Population	Rio Arriba	Taos	Total Region	Rio Arriba	Taos		Total Region	Rio Arriba	Taos
2000	30,171	17	30,154	100.0	0.1	99.9				
2005	32,681	26	32,655	100.0	0.1	99.9	2000-05	1.60	8.81	1.59
2010	35,151	37	35,114	100.0	0.1	99.9	2005-10	1.46	6.58	1.45
2015	37,477	43	37,434	100.0	0.1	99.9	2010-15	1.28	3.27	1.28
2020	39,542	50	39,492	100.0	0.1	99.9	2015-20	1.07	2.85	1.07
2025	41,322	57	41,265	100.0	0.1	99.9	2020-25	0.88	2.47	0.88
2030	42,844	63	42,781	100.0	0.1	99.9	2025-30	0.72	2.15	0.72
2035	44,042	69	43,973	100.0	0.2	99.8	2030-35	0.55	1.88	0.55
2040	44,835	75	44,760	100.0	0.2	99.8	2035-40	0.36	1.63	0.35
2045	45,291	81	45,210	100.0	0.2	99.8	2040-45	0.20	1.40	0.20
2050	45,490	85	45,405	100.0	0.2	99.8	2045-50	0.09	1.19	0.09
2055	45,497	90	45,407	100.0	0.2	99.8	2050-55	0.00	1.01	0.00
2060	45,359	94	45,265	100.0	0.2	99.8	2055-60	-0.06	0.85	-0.06

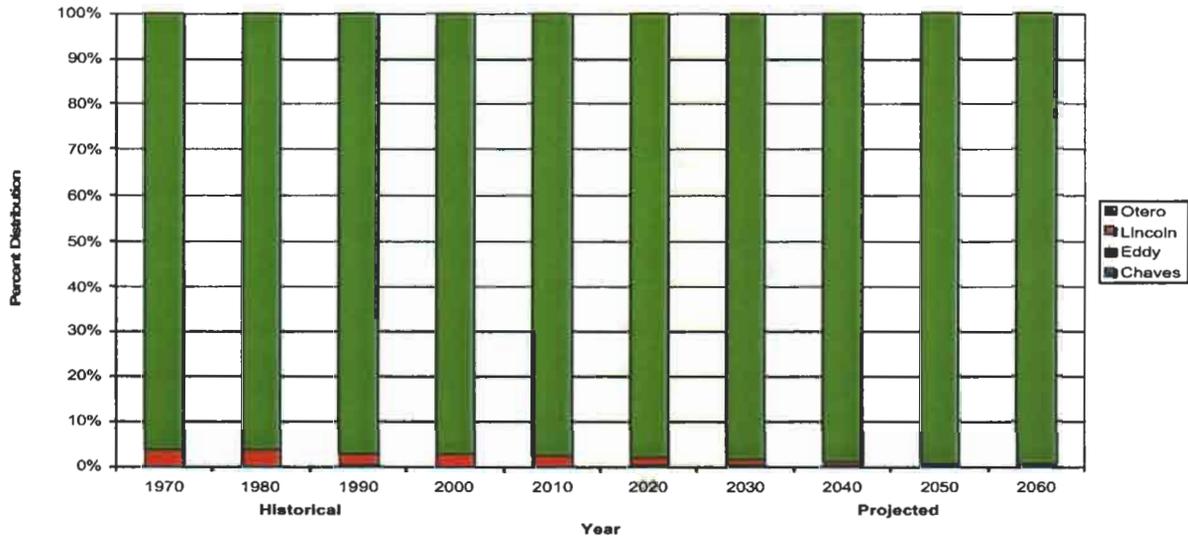
Source: Bureau of Business and Economic Research, University of New Mexico

Table 3.16
Projected Distribution and Annual Average Growth Rate
July 1, 2000 to July 1, 2060
Tularosa/ Sacramento Region

Projection Year	County Population in Region					Distribution of County Population in Region					Projection Year	Growth Rate of Region and County Population				
	Total Region	Chaves	Eddy	Lincoln	Otero	Total Region	Chaves	Eddy	Lincoln	Otero		Total Region	Chaves	Eddy	Lincoln	Otero
2000	60,956	10	9	1,642	59,296	100.0	0.0	0.0	2.7	97.3						
2005	62,855	11	9	1,579	61,256	100.0	0.0	0.0	2.5	97.5	2000-05	0.61	2.38	0.43	-0.78	0.65
2010	64,550	12	9	1,454	63,075	100.0	0.0	0.0	2.3	97.7	2005-10	0.53	2.12	0.40	-1.65	0.59
2015	65,985	14	10	1,348	64,613	100.0	0.0	0.0	2.0	97.9	2010-15	0.44	1.94	0.24	-1.51	0.48
2020	67,114	15	10	1,200	65,890	100.0	0.0	0.0	1.8	98.2	2015-20	0.34	1.77	0.18	-2.33	0.39
2025	68,131	16	10	1,081	67,024	100.0	0.0	0.0	1.6	98.4	2020-25	0.30	1.57	0.10	-2.08	0.34
2030	69,013	17	10	940	68,046	100.0	0.0	0.0	1.4	98.6	2025-30	0.26	1.39	0.01	-2.80	0.30
2035	69,732	18	10	830	68,875	100.0	0.0	0.0	1.2	98.8	2030-35	0.21	1.25	-0.09	-2.48	0.24
2040	70,140	19	10	707	69,404	100.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	99.0	2035-40	0.12	1.14	-0.16	-3.20	0.15
2045	70,364	20	9	616	69,718	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.9	99.1	2040-45	0.06	1.04	-0.21	-2.77	0.09
2050	70,460	21	9	519	69,910	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.7	99.2	2045-50	0.03	0.97	-0.23	-3.42	0.06
2055	70,500	4	9	448	70,039	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.6	99.3	2050-55	0.01	-33.01	-0.23	-2.95	0.04
2060	70,567	21	9	375	70,162	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.5	99.4	2055-60	0.02	32.95	-0.22	-3.57	0.04

Source: Bureau of Business and Economic Research, University of New Mexico

Figure 3.12
Distribution of Historical and Projected Population in Tularosa/Sacramento Region, by County



Chapter 4

COMPARATIVE POPULATION SIZE AND GROWTH

This chapter looks at the future water planning region's population distribution and growth patterns in 10-year intervals. Using maps this chapter will track the path of population growth in the state and identify population centers among the regions. In the previous chapter, it was clear that population growth in all the regions will decelerate during the next 60 years. Throughout the state, fertility is expected to decline, life expectancy will improve, internal migration will be dominated by retirement migration, and international migration will become more restrictive. The combination of all these factors foretells a slower population growth for the state, overall. However, depending on location and economic infrastructure, differential regional population growth is forecast in the next 60 years.

WHERE ARE THE PEOPLE?

The regional population maps below plot the distribution pattern of the state population by regions from July 1, 2000 to July 1, 2060. The colors go from light to dark according to the population size. The lightest shade designates the least populous regions while the darkest shade designates the most populous.

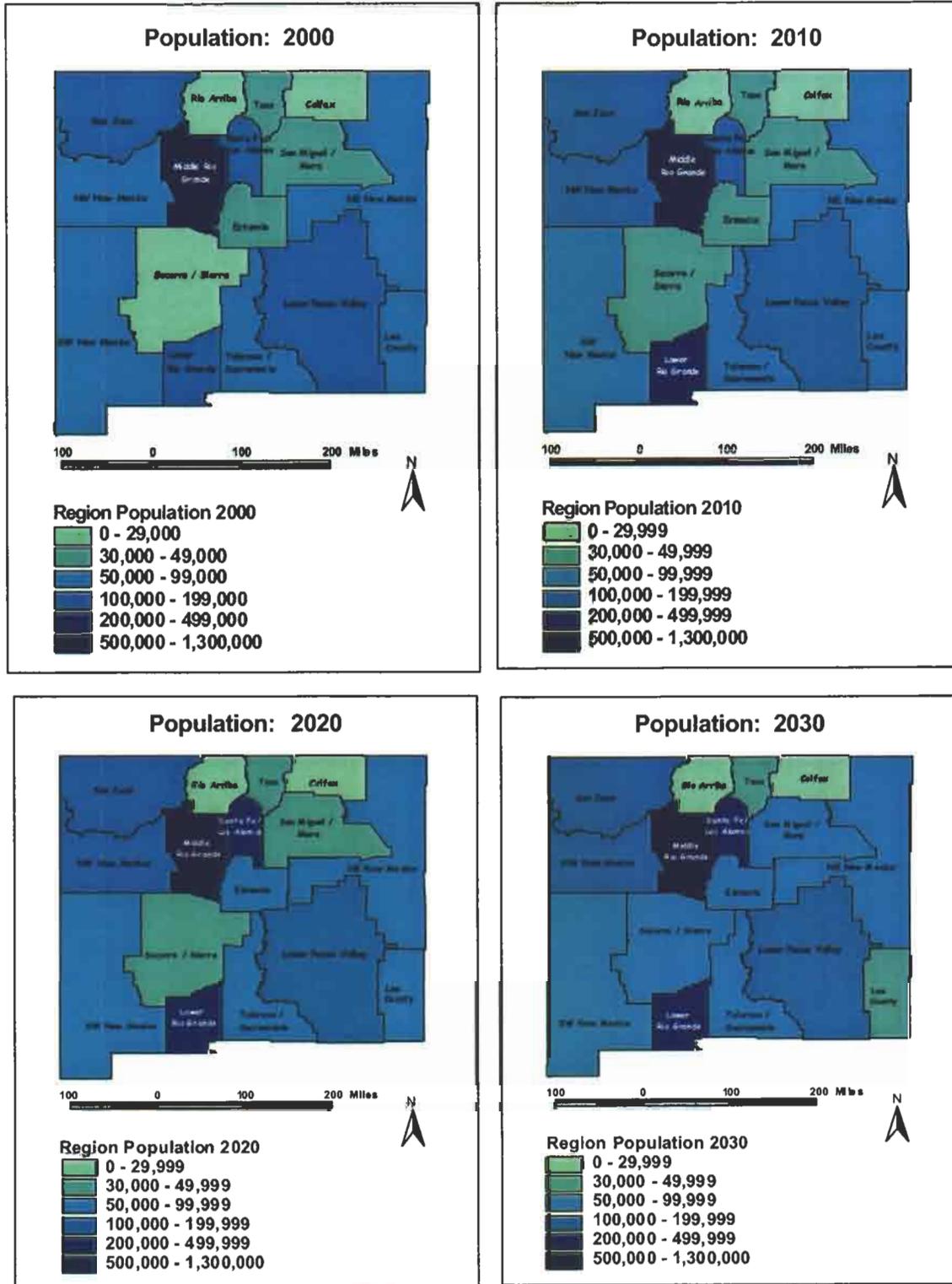
As expected, the Middle Rio Grande Water Planning Region will maintain its preeminence. In 60 years, this region would almost double its population, from 700 thousand to 1.3 million. During this projection period, no region will come close to the Middle Rio Grande Region in terms of population size. In 2000, Lower Rio Grande, Santa Fe/Los Alamos, Lower Pecos Valley, had populations above 100 thousand but below 200 thousand. No region crossed the 200-thousand people threshold in 2000. It will take a few more years before one of these regions tops 200 thousand. By 2010, Lower Rio Grande Valley Region will exceed 200 thousand while Santa Fe/Los Alamos Region will take another year before reaching this threshold. By 2050, San Juan Region will exceed 200 thousand people but Lower Pecos Valley Region will remain below this population threshold. By 2060, Lower Pecos Valley Region will top 170 thousand.

Five regions, Northwest NM, Southwest NM, Northeast NM, Tularosa/Sacramento, and Lea Region had populations above 50 thousand but below 100 thousand people in 2000. By 2010, Northwest NM Region will break away from the pack and cross the 100-thousand population threshold while it will take Southwest NM Region until 2040 to get to this population size.

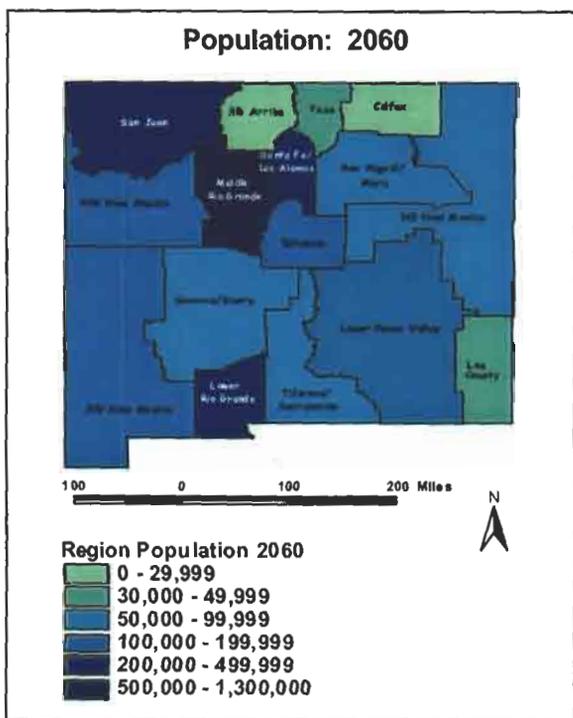
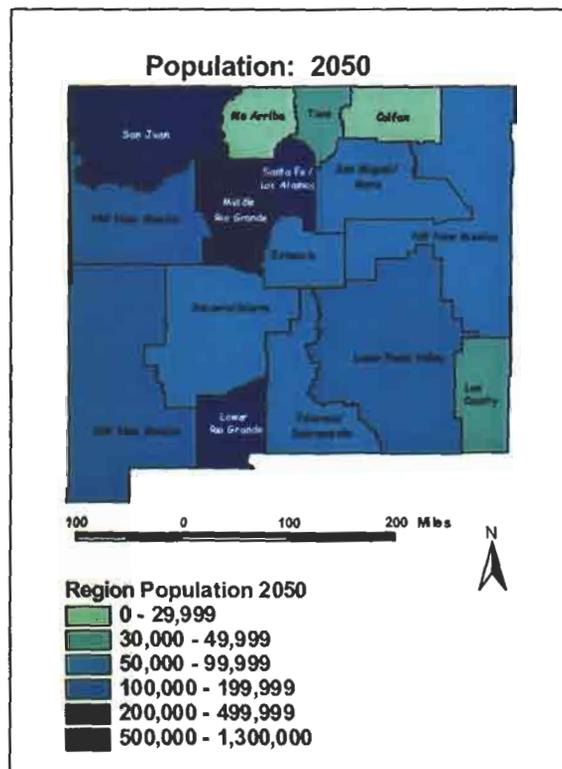
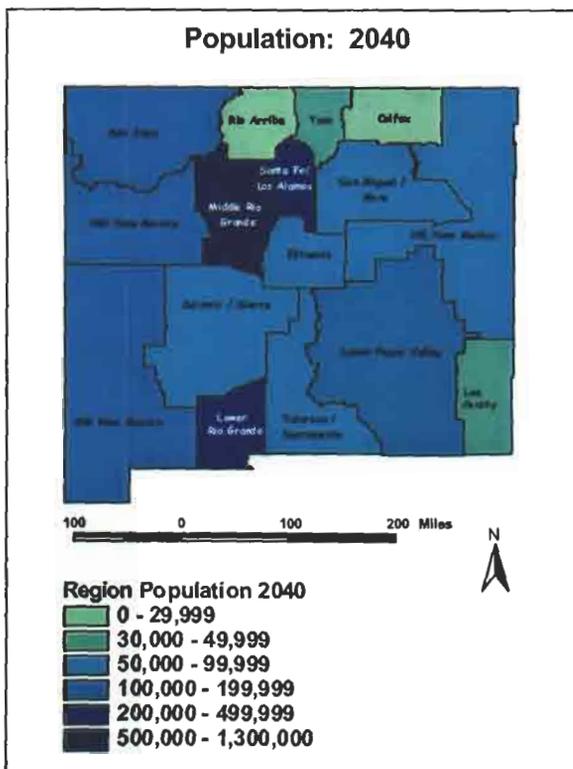
Estancia Region will almost quadruple its population in 60 years. Climbing very rapidly, this region will move from 12th place in 2000 to 8th place in 2060, bypassing San Miguel, Lea, Tularosa/Sacramento, Northeast NM, and Southwest NM regions.

Colfax Region and Rio Arriba Region will maintain a population size below 20 thousand during the 60-year projection period. Lea Region, Taos Region and Colfax Region will have populations in excess of 30 thousand but below 50 thousand during this period.

Water Region Population July 1, 2000 to July 1, 2060



Water Region Population July 1, 2000 to July 1, 2060



WHERE ARE THE POPULATION GROWTH CENTERS?

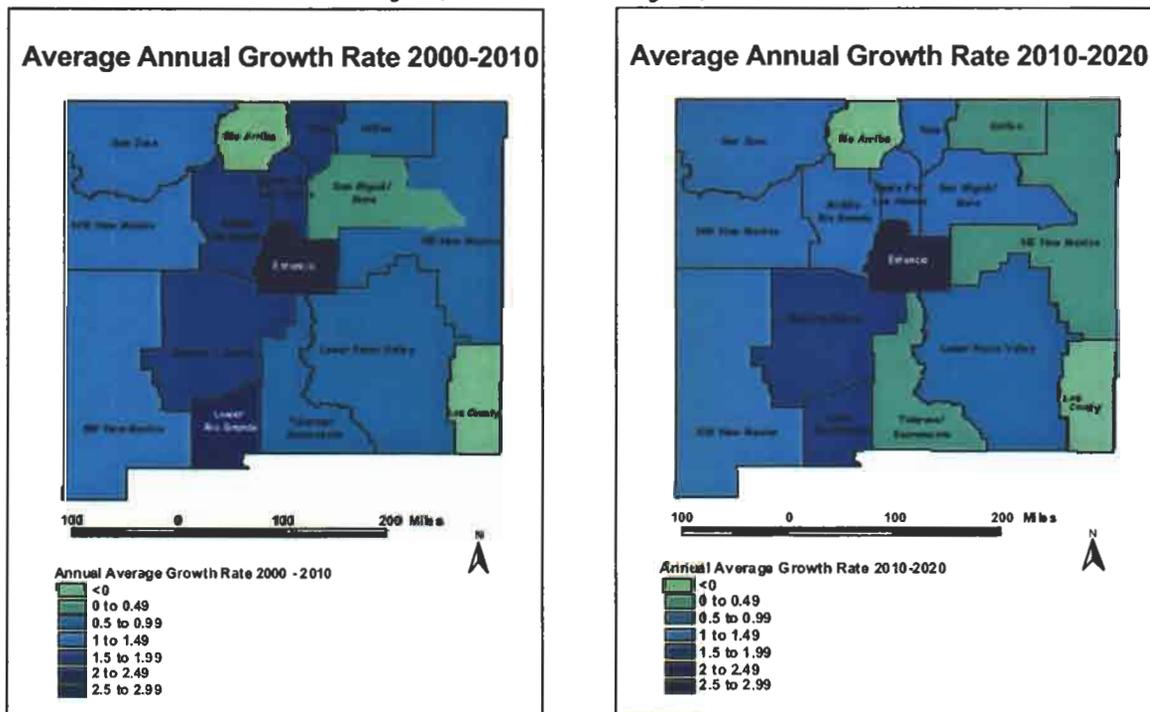
Overall, population growth in the state will decline during the next 60 years. Across water regions variations are to be expected. The maps below show that the regions along the Rio Grande Corridor will experience moderate to strong population growth during the first 20 years of the projection period. Beyond 2020, population growth in the Middle Rio Grande Region will drop below one percent annually and will continue to do so for the rest of the period. By 2030, the average population growth rate in Socorro/Sierra Region will drop below one percent annually. By 2040, the Lower Rio Grande Region will follow suit. Although population growth in Estancia Region and Santa Fe/Los Alamos Region will be declining as in the rest of the region, both regions are projected to have an annual average growth rate at one percent or higher per year. Santa Fe/Los Alamos Region is estimated to have an average growth rate of exactly one percent per year while Estancia Region will have an average annual growth rate of about 1.8 percent.

With the exception of San Miguel Region, all water regions on the eastern part of the state are expected to have weak population growth, i.e., under one percent annually, throughout the projection period. Lea Region, which is projected to have a negative growth path until the end of the 2030-decade, will rebound to a positive but very slow growth trajectory starting in the 2040-decade. In Northern New Mexico, Rio Arriba Region is expected to continue on a negative population growth track.

The regions on the western part of the state will similarly experience a decline in their speed of population growth. All three western regions, San Juan, Northwest New Mexico and Southwest New Mexico are projected to have moderate growth rates (greater than 1% but under 1.5%) during the first 20 years of this century. By 2030, these regions will grow at much slower rates, under one percent annually. Southwest New Mexico will sustain an annual average growth rate higher than 0.5 percent until the end of the projection period but San Juan and Northwest New Mexico regions will drop below this threshold.

Water Region Average Annual Growth Rate

July 1, 2000 to July 1, 2060



Water Region Average Annual Growth Rate July 1, 2000 to July 1, 2060

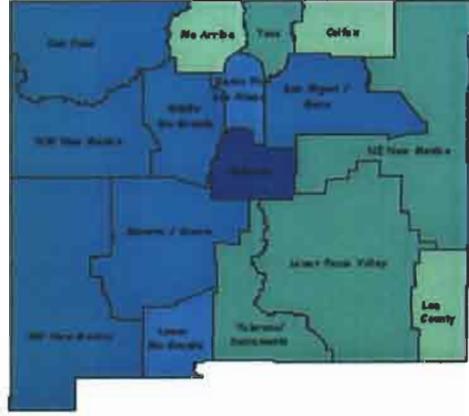
Average Annual Growth Rate 2020-2030



Annual Average Growth Rate 2020-2030

<0
0 to 0.49
0.5 to 0.99
1 to 1.49
1.5 to 1.99
2 to 2.49
2.5 to 2.99

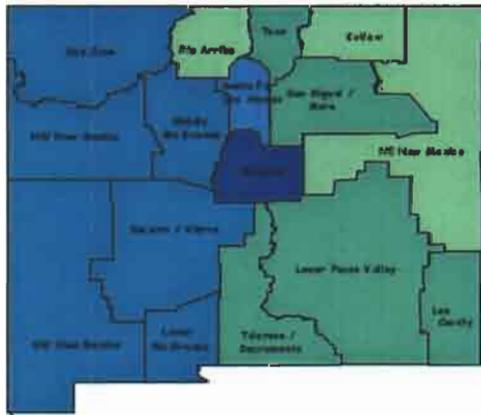
Average Annual Growth Rate 2030-2040



Annual Average Growth Rate 2030-2040

<0
0 to 0.49
0.5 to 0.99
1 to 1.49
1.5 to 1.99
2 to 2.49
2.5 to 2.99

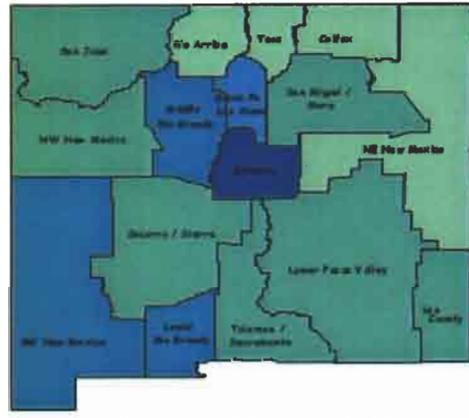
Average Annual Growth Rate 2040-2050



Annual Average Growth Rate 2040-2050

<0
0 to 0.49
0.5 to 0.99
1 to 1.49
1.5 to 1.99
2 to 2.49
2.5 to 2.99

Average Annual Growth Rate 2050-2060



Annual Average Growth Rate 2050-2060

<0
0 to 0.49
0.5 to 0.99
1 to 1.49
1.5 to 1.99
2 to 2.49
2.5 to 2.99

APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1

METHODOLOGY

This section covers the methodology that was used in calculating the population numbers for each region

General Baseline Methodology

Population counts from the four most recent censuses (1970, 1980, 1990, and 2000) were used to establish the historical trends for the county and region populations. The historical region population trends were based on the 1980, 1990, and 2000 Census block and census tract populations within each county. Between 1980 and 1990 the geographic boundaries changed significantly. Between 1990 and 2000 some boundaries changed but they were not as extensive as in the previous two Censuses. In establishing the historical trend the 1970, 1980 and 1990 region boundaries were made consistent with the 2000 boundary definitions. The Census Maps 2000 were overlaid on the earlier census maps to ensure the same coverage. In every case where the county is divided into two or more regions, the 2000 census tracts and/or block boundary definitions were used to determine the appropriate geographic split in the previous years. Once the appropriate boundaries were determined, the share of the planning region in the county population was estimated for each Census year. The future share of each region in the county population was extrapolated from this trend using a linear regression model.

The following are the Census 2000 boundary definitions for counties that were split into multiple water planning regions:

Bernalillo County

Estancia Region:

Tract: 003803; Blocks: 3042, 3044.

Tract: 003806; Blocks: 1044, 1045, 1049, 1056.

Tract: 003807; Blocks: 2017, 2021, 3014, 3019, 3038.

Middle Rio Grande Region:

Tract: 003803; Blocks: 3002, 3040.

Tract: 003804; Blocks: 2018, 3001, 3031.

Tract: 003806; Blocks: 1030, 1046, 1047, 1050 .

Tract: 003807; Blocks: 3002, 3012, 3015, 3016.

Blocks with zero population:

Tract: 003803; Block: 3000.

Tract: 003804; Block: 3037.

Tract: 003806; Block: 1004 .

Tract: 940300; Blocks: 1000, 1029, 1030.

Chaves County

Lower Pecos Valley Region:

Tract: 001100; Blocks: 6545, 6558, 6563, 6566, 6613.

Tract: 001200; Blocks: 2638.

Tract: 001400; Blocks: 1844.

Blocks with zero population:

Tract: 001100; Blocks: 6568, 6572.

Tract: 001200; Blocks: 2609, 2618, 2619, 2620, 2621, 2622, 2624, 2626, 2632, 2637, 2938, 2940, 2959, 2960.

Tract: 001400; Blocks: 1021, 1842, 1843, 1848, 1849, 1858, 1866, 1871, 1872, 1873, 1884, 1895, 1897, 1898, 1899, 1900, 1975, 1986, 1987.

De Baca County

Lower Pecos Valley Region

Tract: 960100; Blocks: 1062, 1380, 1397, 1839, 1840, 3025, 3028.

Lower Pecos Valley Region:

Tract: 960100; Blocks: 1385, 1402.

Blocks with zero population:

Tract: 960100; Blocks: 1365, 1378, 1382, 1383, 1387, 1398, 1399, 1408, 1414, 1415, 1416, 1417, 1418, 1424, 1428, 1479, 1490, 1491, 1492, 1509, 1512, 1513, 1514, 1515, 1517, 1540, 1541, 1543, 1557, 1570, 1571, 1573, 1574, 1651, 1652, 1653, 1659, 1660, 1661, 1669, 1671, 1694, 1695, 1697, 1736, 1781, 1784, 1785, 1792, 1795, 1796, 1797, 1802, 1810, 1813, 1828, 1829, 1842, 1850, 1873, 1909, 1910, 1912, 1947, 1948, 1954, 1957, 1994, 3031, 3032, 3033, 3995.

Eddy County

Lower Pecos Valley Region :

Tract: 000700; Blocks: 1093, 1185.

Tract: 000900; Block: 1416.

Lower Pecos Valley Region:

Tract: 000700; Block: 1095.

Tract: 000900; Block: 1387.

Tularosa/Sacramento Region:

Tract: 000700; Block: 2772.

Blocks with zero population:

Tract: 000700; Blocks: 1009, 1010, 1011, 1012, 1014, 1015, 1020, 1025, 1029, 1031, 1036, 1044, 1045, 1054, 1055, 1058, 1060, 1075, 1076, 1078, 1079, 1083, 1085, 1091, 1096, 1115, 1161, 1162, 1165, 1166, 1168, 1184, 1246, 1247, 1252, 1272, 1275, 1276, 1278, 1279, 1307, 1308, 1309, 2763, 2765, 2770, 2771, 2773.

Tract: 000900; Blocks: 1003, 1080, 1088, 1091, 1093, 1095, 1103, 1106, 1107, 1136, 1140, 1239, 1326, 1327, 1328, 1329, 1333, 1334, 1337, 1375, 1377, 1378, 1410, 1411, 1412, 1414, 1418, 1419, 1420, 1423, 1424, 1511, 1536, 1537, 1555, 1556, 1578, 1609, 1610, 1685, 1686, 1687.

Lincoln County

Tularosa/Sacramento Region:

Tract: 980200, Blocks: 1069, 1379, 1418, 1426, 1476, 1554

Lower Pecos Valley Region:

Tract: 980200, Blocks: 1070, 1372, 1377, 2222.

Tract: 980300, Blocks: 1335, 1341, 1349, 1361, 1365, 1586.

Tract: 980400, Blocks: 2034.

Blocks with zero population:

Tract: 980200; Blocks: 1024, 1025, 1026, 1027, 1040, 1072, 1073, 1358, 1359, 1371, 1378, 1380, 1422, 1425, 1428, 1436, 1544, 1559, 1560, 2245.

Tract: 980300; Blocks: 1338, 1339, 1350, 1351, 1359, 1362, 1363, 1568, 1572, 1588.

Mora County

San Miguel/Mora Region:

Tract: 955200; Blocks: 2011, 2021, 2026, 3009.

Otero County

Tularosa/Sacramento:

Tract: 000800; Blocks: 1000, 1002, 1006, 1009, 1076, 1078, 2010.

Tract: 000900; Blocks: 2014, 2033, 2049, 2050, 2051, 2062, 2084, 2207, 3192, 3219, 4000, 4471.

Lower Pecos Valley Region:

Tract: 00800; Blocks: 1079, 2008, 2046, 2103, 2153.

Tract: 000900; Blocks: 2003, 2011, 2019, 2020, 2063, 2083, 2103, 2105, 2107, 2137, 2220, 2223, 3214, 3139, 3185, 4817.

Blocks with zero population:

Tract: 000800; Blocks: 2063, 2107, 2110, 2112, 2114, 2115, 2116, 2117, 2120, 2132, 2139, 2152, 2154, 2167, 2168.

Tract: 000900; Blocks: 1000, 2013, 2024, 2045, 2102, 2209, 2210, 3119, 3165, 3168, 3170, 3176, 3177, 3190, 3193, 3215, 3218, 3222, 3223, 3227, 3228, 4010, 4490, 4553, 4816.

Rio Arriba County

Santa Fe/Los Alamos:

Tract: 000100; Blocks: 1006.

Tract: 000300; blocks: 1027, 3008.

Tract: 00400; Blocks, 1458, 1508.

Taos Region

Tract: 000100; Blocks: 1005, 1052.

Rio Arriba Region:

Tract: 00400; Blocks: 1099, 1416, 1463, 1466, 2080.

Tract: 000500; Blocks: 1508, 3138, 3140, 3145, 3147, 3500.

San Juan Region:

Tract: 000500; Blocks: 1452, 3178, 3673.

Tract: 940900; Blocks: 3053.

Blocks with zero population:

Tract: 000100; Blocks: 1000, 1011, 1046, 1047, 1088, 1097, 1100, 1111, 1113, 1117.

Tract: 000300; blocks: 3017, 3032.

Tract: 00400; Blocks, 1094, 1096, 1097, 1304, 1402, 1415, 1452, 1504.

Tract: 940800; Blocks: 3114, 3116, 3198.

Tract: 000500; Blocks: 1521, 1522, 1523, 1542, 3149, 3189, 3195, 3198, 3298, 3301, 3302, 3497, 3514.

Tract: 940900; Blocks: 3015, 3016, 3041, 3043, 3047, 3048, 3050, 3073, 3074, 3075, 3085, 3104, 3105, 3107, 3296, 3299, 3322, 3343, 3344, 3345, 3484, 3495, 3534, 3535, 3538, 3541, 3542, 3560, 3567, 3743, 3745, 3750.

Sandoval County

Middle Rio Grande Region:

Tract: 010200; Blocks: 3134.

Tract: 943300; Blocks: 1038.

San Juan Region:

Tract: 010200; Blocks: 3007, 3009.

Tract: 940900; Blocks: 2000, 2121.

Tract: 943300; Blocks: 1596.

Blocks with zero population:

Tract: 010101; Blocks: 1000, 1001, 1065

Tract: 940800; Blocks: 3000, 3001, 3002, 3003, 3005, 3006, 3007, 3008, 3009, 3010, 3011, 3012, 3013, 3014, 3015, 3016, 3017, 3018, 3019, 3020, 3021.

Tract: 010200; Blocks: 3043, 3044, 3049, 3050, 3051, 3056, 3135, 3136.

Tract: 940900; Blocks: 2118, 2195, 2199, 2200, 2221, 2222.

Tract: 943300; Blocks: 1001, 1587, 1588, 1595, 1603, 1606, 1794, 1796.

San Juan County

NW New Mexico Region

Tract: 943100; Blocks: 1075, 1076, 1161, 1169, 1170.

Blocks with zero population:

Tract: 942900; Blocks: 3128, 3130, 7021, 7022, 7024, 7025, 7026, 7027, 7033, 7034, 7035, 7036, 7045, 7046, 7049, 7076, 7078, 7083, 7087, 7088, 7096, 7097, 7098, 7105, 7106, 7107, 7108, 7110, 7113, 7114, 7120, 7121.

Tract: 943100; Blocks: 1026, 1029, 1032, 1077, 1106, 1107, 1108, 1138, 1142, 1143, 1144, 1146, 1147, 1150, 1151, 1152, 1153, 1155, 1157, 2099, 2102, 2103.

San Miguel County

San Miguel/Mora Region

Tract: 957500; Blocks: 1221, 1230, 1932, 1957.

San Miguel/Mora Region

Tract: 957500; Blocks: 1212, 1390, 1594, 1614.

Blocks with zero population:

Tract: 957500; Blocks: 1051, 1213, 1393, 1405, 1406, 1573, 1585, 1586, 1597, 1598, 1611, 1893, 1894, 1935, 1950, 1951, 1958.

McKinley County

San Juan Region:

Tract: 943400; Blocks: 1004, 1005, 1047, 1082, 1083, 1085, 1184, 1228, 1601, 1622, 1623, 1629, 1630, 2012, 2108, 2144, 2166, 2170, 2183, 2184, 2186, 2187, 2214, 2256, 4027, 4065, 4285, 4286, 4287.

Tract: 943500; Blocks: 3284, 3286, 4095, 4109.

Tract: 943600; Blocks: 2401, 4002, 4014, 4023, 4024, 4025, 4035, 4039, 4116, 4117, 4131, 4135, 4256, 4409, 4411.

Tract 943700; Blocks: 1152, 1167, 1168, 1195, 1200, 1211, 1218, 1221, 3085, 3135, 3141, 3142, 3242, 4109.

Tract: 943800; Blocks: 1084, 1105, 1108, 1110, 1111, 1124, 1195, 1198, 2008, 2035, 2038, 2217, 2255, 2260, 2305, 2318, 2329, 2357, 2451, 2539, 2540, 2541, 2547, 4003, 4012, 4046, 4098, 4106, 4111.

Tract: 943900; Blocks: 1019, 1022, 1028, 1042, 1046, 1047, 1064, 1079, 1088, 1093, 1095, 1096, 1097, 1098, 1423, 1425.
Tract: 946000; Blocks: 2005, 2006, 2033, 2036, 2040, 2067, 2082, 2086, 2088, 2107, 2108, 2112.

NW New Mexico Region

Tract: 943400; Blocks: 1079, 1183, 2217, 3153, 4024, 4063, 4291.
Tract 943700; Blocks: 3117, 3131, 3144.
Tract: 943800; Blocks: 5087.
Tract: 943900; Blocks: 1003, 1066.
Tract: 946000; Blocks: 2015, 2089.

Blocks with zero population:

Tract: 943400; Blocks: 1061, 1081, 1087, 1181, 1597, 1624, 1632, 2011, 2202, 2203, 2208, 2210, 2211, 2218, 2219, 3249, 3268, 4038.
Tract: 943500; Blocks: 3285.
Tract: 943600; Blocks: 2096, 2099, 2400, 4009, 4010, 4016, 4017, 4018, 4026, 4031, 4032, 4033, 4034, 4038, 4040, 4041, 4042, 4113, 4117, 4128, 4130, 4133, 4134, 4141, 4144, 4258, 4265, 4266, 4410, 4418.
Tract 943700; Blocks: 1185, 1196, 1219, 1220, 3114, 3122, 3138, 3140, 3143.
Tract: 943800; Blocks: 1106, 1107, 1196, 2002, 2006, 2013, 2014, 2034, 2210, 2215, 2222, 2223, 2298, 2299, 2300, 2301, 2306, 2307, 2308, 2310, 2358, 2542, 2545, 4013, 4043, 4044, 4045, 4107, 4110, 5088, 5089, 5090, 5092.
Tract: 943900; Blocks: 1007, 1013, 1073, 1074, 1076, 1078, 1080, 1087, 1090, 1104, 1119.
Tract: 945300; Blocks: 1000, 1001, 1004.
Tract: 946000; Blocks: 2019, 2041, 2043, 2066, 2106, 2109, 2110, 2111, 2563.

Santa Fe County

Santa Fe/Los Alamos Region:

Tract 10306, Blocks: 1203, 1221, 2086, 2149, 2153, 2283.

Estancia Region:

Tract 10306, Blocks: 1262, 2111, 2159, 2174, 2185.

Blocks with zero population:

Tract 10306, Blocks, 1202, 1205, 1215, 1216, 1217, 1224, 1226, 1227, 1257, 1258, 1263, 1267, 1270, 1272, 1274, 2125, 2126, 2128, 2129, 2130, 2140.

Sierra County

Socorro/Sierra Region:

Tract: 982400, Blocks: 1035, 1073, 1076, 1230, 1377, 1450, 2075, 2083, 2085, 2159, 2231, 2320.

Socorro/Sierra Region:

Tract: 982400, Blocks: 1113, 1233, 1237, 2084, 2086, 2087, 2102, 2106, 2108, 2120, 2121, 2122, 2124, 2128, 2174, 2205, 2224, 2228, 2310, 2327, 2328, 2498.

Blocks with zero population:

Tract: 982400, Blocks: 1074, 1232, 1243, 1424, 1426, 1505, 1506, 1509, 1517, 1528, 1532, 1535, 2104, 2229, 2230, 2233, 2321, 2324, 2325, 2475, 2476, 2495, 2496, 2499, 2501, 2502, 2513, 2515, 2591, 2630, 2631, 2632, 2633, 2678, 2727.

Projection Methodology

The population projections for the water regions were done in two stages. First, the county populations were calculated using a cohort-component method of population projection. Second, a linear regression model was used to estimate the water planning region population within the county.

County population projection. Utilizing the historical vital events rates cited above, and the net migration numbers derived from the 1990 and 2000 Censuses, the July 1, 2000 to July 1, 2060 county population numbers were calculated using a cohort-component method of population projections. The cohort-component method requires separate assumptions for each of the components of population change. The fertility rates (TFRs) used in the projection have been extrapolated using a time series regression analysis based on the 30-year historical trend determined for each county. Some modifications were made if the rate implied by the regression results became too low (below 1.5 children per woman) or too high (4.0 children per woman). In this instance, the fertility rate in the previous decade was used. At each TFR level is associated a set of age-specific fertility rates (ASFR). The ASFR were applied on the projected population of women between the ages of 15 and 44 years old to obtain the number of births for a given projection year.

To project the survival rates from 2000 to 2060, regional life tables were constructed. Life tables for New Mexico had been calculated by the National Center for Health Statistics but in New Mexico variations in mortality experiences among regions are large that using the state numbers across all regions could exaggerate mortality rates in areas with high life expectancy and understate mortality rates in areas with low life expectancy. To avoid these distortions, the counties were grouped according to mortality levels based on deaths data provided by the Public Health Division of the State Department of Health. The counties were grouped into five regions and for each region a set of model life tables, male and female tables were calculated. The life expectancy for each region was assumed to converge with the projected US 2080 life expectancy. A previous analysis of mortality in New Mexico and the US indicated that, overall, New Mexican life expectancy improved at a much faster rate than the nation as a whole.

From the projected life tables were calculated the survival ratios which in turn were used to estimate the number of survivors for each five-year cohort. To these survivors were added the number of migrants estimated using what are known as Census survival methods presented below.

For the most part, the volume of net migration in each county was assumed to be constant for the period. Where the IRS-based migration estimates were deemed reliable, these estimates were used to calibrate the net migration figures derived from the Census survival methods.

These indirect methods of estimating net migration are called forward and reverse survival methods. These methods assume a closed population, that is, no in- or out-migration in the area. Additional people come from births only and attrition comes from deaths only. In this closed system any difference between the actual and expected counts is attributed to migration.

The forward survival process involves using the 1990 life table survival rates to move forward the 1990 Census populations, disaggregated by sex and age in five-year intervals, to April 1, 2000, the date of the Census 2000. The expected population numbers based on this calculation were compared with the actual Census 2000 counts. The difference between the expected and the actual counts was the result of migration. Applying the same 1990 survival rates on the Census 2000 actual counts, the expected 1990 Census populations were estimated. The implied or expected 1990 numbers were compared with the actual 1990 Census

counts. Again, the difference in the population numbers was attributed to migration. The final migration numbers were calculated by taking the average of the implied migration numbers from the two methods.

The projected population for any given year is the aggregation of the results from the above procedures.

Water Region's population projection. In instances where the county is split into multiple regions, the future share of each region in the county population was estimated using a modified time series regression technique. To accomplish this, the share of the region in the county population was calculated for 1970, 1980, 1990, and 2000. These shares expressed as ratios were used as input in the regression equation. From the regression model, coefficients were derived. The regression coefficients were used to estimate the future share of the region in the county population. To ensure that the subcounty ratios add to unity, a rake factor was calculated to arrive at the adjusted subcounty ratios. The adjusted ratios were then applied on the projected county population to get the region population within the county. Finally, all the region population parts from the various counties were aggregated to obtain the total region population.

APPENDIX 2

Appendix 2
Projected County Population
July 1, 2000 to July 1, 2060

	Bernalillo	Catron	Chaves	Cibola	Colfax	Curry	De Baca
2000	558,437	3,567	61,453	25,683	14,230	45,085	2,241
2005	593,801	3,814	63,280	26,764	14,765	46,054	2,270
2010	623,421	4,001	64,801	27,740	15,234	46,961	2,289
2015	650,497	4,144	66,172	28,634	15,625	47,721	2,293
2020	675,818	4,236	67,347	29,455	15,890	48,239	2,296
2025	699,267	4,281	68,180	30,215	16,021	48,483	2,295
2030	720,635	4,289	68,686	30,947	16,026	48,504	2,296
2035	739,734	4,295	68,966	31,651	15,991	48,413	2,289
2040	756,525	4,336	69,077	32,284	15,796	48,229	2,292
2045	771,986	4,418	69,063	32,860	15,541	47,895	2,292
2050	787,212	4,545	68,968	33,403	15,265	47,407	2,284
2055	802,743	4,715	68,846	33,938	15,009	46,793	2,274
2060	819,024	4,923	68,778	34,475	14,801	46,127	2,267

	Dona Ana	Eddy	Grant	Guadalupe	Harding	Hidalgo	Lea
2000	175,524	51,736	31,083	4,696	828	5,929	55,490
2005	197,472	53,514	32,462	5,010	806	5,875	55,044
2010	218,788	55,274	33,769	5,304	780	5,799	54,526
2015	238,677	56,948	34,920	5,555	752	5,716	53,767
2020	256,254	58,514	35,886	5,748	726	5,624	52,632
2025	272,764	59,908	36,758	5,887	698	5,515	51,104
2030	289,897	61,066	37,657	5,989	671	5,378	49,239
2035	306,907	61,978	38,517	6,047	650	5,230	47,695
2040	322,568	62,683	39,234	6,059	633	5,101	47,241
2045	336,560	63,281	39,819	6,023	616	5,013	47,412
2050	348,883	63,845	40,329	5,949	596	4,976	47,601
2055	359,914	64,430	40,824	5,859	577	4,983	47,790
2060	370,005	65,091	41,332	5,782	567	5,033	48,043

	Lincoln	Los Alamos	Luna	McKinley	Mora	Otero	Quay
2000	19,585	18,359	25,189	75,072	5,205	62,553	10,142
2005	21,819	18,722	28,634	81,484	5,704	64,851	10,089
2010	23,880	19,122	32,185	88,163	6,205	67,015	10,003
2015	25,729	19,595	35,850	95,044	6,697	68,888	9,865
2020	27,315	20,099	39,484	101,750	7,144	70,493	9,642
2025	28,648	20,565	42,957	108,287	7,539	71,957	9,335
2030	29,784	20,866	46,315	114,745	7,888	73,310	8,982
2035	30,672	21,034	49,546	120,866	8,195	74,463	8,595
2040	31,332	21,224	52,593	126,337	8,469	75,300	8,169
2045	31,827	21,441	55,458	131,171	8,720	75,908	7,708
2050	32,178	21,636	58,090	135,367	8,966	76,388	7,224
2055	32,407	21,817	60,472	138,971	9,215	76,801	6,733
2060	32,560	22,014	62,643	142,048	9,480	77,211	6,247

source: Bureau of Business and Economic Research, University of New Mexico

Appendix 2
Projected County Population
July 1, 2000 to July 1, 2060

	Rio Arriba	Roosevelt	Sandoval	San Juan	San Miguel	Santa Fe	Sierra
2000	41,307	18,075	90,775	114,272	30,249	129,936	13,355
2005	43,694	19,119	108,517	121,445	32,513	143,987	15,058
2010	46,030	20,198	126,216	128,592	34,746	158,624	16,700
2015	48,196	21,236	144,207	135,497	36,876	174,400	18,281
2020	50,027	22,148	162,112	142,057	38,847	191,403	19,774
2025	51,451	22,961	179,543	148,250	40,612	208,801	21,172
2030	52,519	23,732	196,538	154,259	42,190	226,112	22,485
2035	53,269	24,464	213,026	159,907	43,556	244,751	23,644
2040	53,676	25,119	228,929	164,877	44,668	264,778	24,567
2045	53,737	25,673	244,290	169,228	45,580	286,263	25,276
2050	53,470	26,126	259,321	173,096	46,344	308,424	25,772
2055	52,922	26,510	274,243	176,655	47,003	332,054	26,073
2060	52,152	26,847	289,258	180,047	47,594	357,275	26,201

	Socorro	Taos	Torrance	Union	Valencia
2000	18,165	30,154	17,029	4,177	66,699
2005	19,824	32,655	19,523	4,280	76,503
2010	21,472	35,114	21,684	4,365	86,670
2015	23,102	37,434	23,461	4,439	97,242
2020	24,673	39,492	24,946	4,505	107,906
2025	26,139	41,265	26,246	4,561	118,339
2030	27,527	42,781	27,353	4,616	128,527
2035	28,846	43,973	28,331	4,661	138,590
2040	30,086	44,760	29,236	4,686	148,563
2045	31,249	45,210	30,075	4,701	158,459
2050	32,333	45,405	30,815	4,706	168,242
2055	33,356	45,407	31,461	4,709	177,940
2060	34,340	45,265	32,061	4,719	187,677

source: Bureau of Business and Economic Research, University of New Mexico

APPENDIX 3

Appendix 3.1
Water Region Population in County and Percent Distribution
July 1, 2000 to July 1, 2060
Bernalillo County

Projection Year	Water Region Population in County		
	Total County Population	Middle Rio Grande	Estancia
2000	558,437	552,850	5,587
2005	593,801	587,327	6,474
2010	623,421	616,065	7,356
2015	650,497	642,073	8,424
2020	675,818	666,289	9,529
2025	699,267	688,603	10,664
2030	720,635	708,817	11,818
2035	739,734	726,752	12,982
2040	756,525	742,378	14,147
2045	771,986	756,662	15,324
2050	787,212	770,681	16,531
2055	802,743	784,962	17,781
2060	819,024	799,941	19,083
Projection Year	Percent Distribution		
	Total County Population	Middle Rio Grande	Estancia
2000	100.0	99.0	1.0
2005	100.0	98.9	1.1
2010	100.0	98.8	1.2
2015	100.0	98.7	1.3
2020	100.0	98.6	1.4
2025	100.0	98.5	1.5
2030	100.0	98.4	1.6
2035	100.0	98.2	1.8
2040	100.0	98.1	1.9
2045	100.0	98.0	2.0
2050	100.0	97.9	2.1
2055	100.0	97.8	2.2
2060	100.0	97.7	2.3

Source: Bureau of Business and Economic Research, University of New Mexico

Appendix 3.2
Water Region Population in County and Percent Distribution
July 1, 2000 to July 1, 2060
Catron County

Projection Year	Water Region Population in County	
	Total County Population	SW New Mexico
2000	3,567	3,567
2005	3,814	3,814
2010	4,001	4,001
2015	4,144	4,144
2020	4,236	4,236
2025	4,281	4,281
2030	4,289	4,289
2035	4,295	4,295
2040	4,336	4,336
2045	4,418	4,418
2050	4,545	4,545
2055	4,715	4,715
2060	4,923	4,923
Projection Year	Percent Distribution	
	Total County	SW New Mexico
2000	100.0	100.0
2005	100.0	100.0
2010	100.0	100.0
2015	100.0	100.0
2020	100.0	100.0
2025	100.0	100.0
2030	100.0	100.0
2035	100.0	100.0
2040	100.0	100.0
2045	100.0	100.0
2050	100.0	100.0
2055	100.0	100.0
2060	100.0	100.0

Source: Bureau of Business and Economic Research, University of New Mexico

Appendix 3.3
Water Region Population in County and Percent Distribution
July 1, 2000 to July 1, 2060
Chaves County

Projection Year	Water Region Population in County		
	Total County Population	Lower Pecos Valley	Tularosa/Sacramento
2000	61,453	61,443	10
2005	63,280	63,269	11
2010	64,801	64,789	12
2015	66,172	66,158	14
2020	67,347	67,332	15
2025	68,180	68,164	16
2030	68,686	68,669	17
2035	68,966	68,948	18
2040	69,077	69,058	19
2045	69,063	69,043	20
2050	68,968	68,947	21
2055	68,846	68,842	4
2060	68,778	68,757	21
Projection Year	Percent Distribution		
	Total County	Lower Pecos Valley	Tularosa/Sacramento
2000	100.0	100.0	0.0
2005	100.0	100.0	0.0
2010	100.0	100.0	0.0
2015	100.0	100.0	0.0
2020	100.0	100.0	0.0
2025	100.0	100.0	0.0
2030	100.0	100.0	0.0
2035	100.0	100.0	0.0
2040	100.0	100.0	0.0
2045	100.0	100.0	0.0
2050	100.0	100.0	0.0
2055	100.0	100.0	0.0
2060	100.0	100.0	0.0

Source: Bureau of Business and Economic Research, University of New Mexico

Appendix 3.4
Water Region Population in County and Percent Distribution
July 1, 2000 to July 1, 2060
Cibola County

Projection Year	Water Region Population in County	
	Total County Population	NW New Mexico
2000	25,683	25,683
2005	26,764	26,764
2010	27,740	27,740
2015	28,634	28,634
2020	29,455	29,455
2025	30,215	30,215
2030	30,947	30,947
2035	31,651	31,651
2040	32,284	32,284
2045	32,860	32,860
2050	33,403	33,403
2055	33,938	33,938
2060	34,475	34,475
Projection Year	Percent Distribution	
	Total County	NW New Mexico
2000	100.0	100.0
2005	100.0	100.0
2010	100.0	100.0
2015	100.0	100.0
2020	100.0	100.0
2025	100.0	100.0
2030	100.0	100.0
2035	100.0	100.0
2040	100.0	100.0
2045	100.0	100.0
2050	100.0	100.0
2055	100.0	100.0
2060	100.0	100.0

Source: Bureau of Business and Economic Research, University of New Mexico

Appendix 3.5
Water Region Population in County and Percent Distribution
July 1, 2000 to July 1, 2060
Colfax County

Projection Year	Water Region Population in County	
	Total County Population	Colfax
2000	14,230	14,230
2005	14,765	14,765
2010	15,234	15,234
2015	15,625	15,625
2020	15,890	15,890
2025	16,021	16,021
2030	16,026	16,026
2035	15,991	15,991
2040	15,796	15,796
2045	15,541	15,541
2050	15,265	15,265
2055	15,009	15,009
2060	14,801	14,801
Projection Year	Percent Distribution	
	Total County	Colfax
2000	100.0	100.0
2005	100.0	100.0
2010	100.0	100.0
2015	100.0	100.0
2020	100.0	100.0
2025	100.0	100.0
2030	100.0	100.0
2035	100.0	100.0
2040	100.0	100.0
2045	100.0	100.0
2050	100.0	100.0
2055	100.0	100.0
2060	100.0	100.0

Source: Bureau of Business and Economic Research, University of New Mexico

Appendix 3.6
Water Region Population in County and Percent Distribution
July 1, 2000 to July 1, 2060
Curry County

Projection Year	Water Region Population in County	
	Total County Population	NE New Mexico
2000	45,085	45,085
2005	46,054	46,054
2010	46,961	46,961
2015	47,721	47,721
2020	48,239	48,239
2025	48,483	48,483
2030	48,504	48,504
2035	48,413	48,413
2040	48,229	48,229
2045	47,895	47,895
2050	47,407	47,407
2055	46,793	46,793
2060	46,127	46,127
Projection Year	Percent Distribution	
	Total County	NE New Mexico
2000	100.0	100.0
2005	100.0	100.0
2010	100.0	100.0
2015	100.0	100.0
2020	100.0	100.0
2025	100.0	100.0
2030	100.0	100.0
2035	100.0	100.0
2040	100.0	100.0
2045	100.0	100.0
2050	100.0	100.0
2055	100.0	100.0
2060	100.0	100.0

Source: Bureau of Business and Economic Research, University of New Mexico

Appendix 3.7
Water Region Population in County and Percent Distribution
July 1, 2000 to July 1, 2060
De Baca County

Projection Year	Water Region Population in County	
	Total County Population	Lower Pecos Valley
2000	2,241	2,241
2005	2,270	2,270
2010	2,289	2,289
2015	2,293	2,293
2020	2,296	2,296
2025	2,295	2,295
2030	2,296	2,296
2035	2,289	2,289
2040	2,292	2,292
2045	2,292	2,292
2050	2,284	2,284
2055	2,274	2,274
2060	2,267	2,267
Projection Year	Percent Distribution	
	Total County	Lower Pecos Valley
2000	100.0	100.0
2005	100.0	100.0
2010	100.0	100.0
2015	100.0	100.0
2020	100.0	100.0
2025	100.0	100.0
2030	100.0	100.0
2035	100.0	100.0
2040	100.0	100.0
2045	100.0	100.0
2050	100.0	100.0
2055	100.0	100.0
2060	100.0	100.0

Source: Bureau of Business and Economic Research, University of New Mexico

Appendix 3.8
Water Region Population in County and Percent Distribution
July 1, 2000 to July 1, 2060
Dona Ana County

Projection Year	Water Region Population in County	
	Total County Population	Lower Rio Grande
2000	175,524	175,524
2005	197,472	197,472
2010	218,788	218,788
2015	238,677	238,677
2020	256,254	256,254
2025	272,764	272,764
2030	289,897	289,897
2035	306,907	306,907
2040	322,568	322,568
2045	336,560	336,560
2050	348,883	348,883
2055	359,914	359,914
2060	370,005	370,005
Projection Year	Percent Distribution	
	Total County	Lower Rio Grande
2000	100.0	100.0
2005	100.0	100.0
2010	100.0	100.0
2015	100.0	100.0
2020	100.0	100.0
2025	100.0	100.0
2030	100.0	100.0
2035	100.0	100.0
2040	100.0	100.0
2045	100.0	100.0
2050	100.0	100.0
2055	100.0	100.0
2060	100.0	100.0

Source: Bureau of Business and Economic Research, University of New Mexico

Appendix 3.9
Water Region Population in County and Percent Distribution
July 1, 2000 to July 1, 2060
Eddy County

Projection Year	Water Region Population in County		
	Total County Population	Lower Pecos Valley	Tularosa/Sacramento
2000	51,736	51,667	9
2005	53,514	53,447	9
2010	55,274	55,209	9
2015	56,948	56,884	10
2020	58,514	58,452	10
2025	59,908	59,841	10
2030	61,066	61,007	10
2035	61,978	61,910	10
2040	62,683	62,630	10
2045	63,281	63,211	9
2050	63,845	63,797	9
2055	64,430	64,360	9
2060	65,091	65,049	9
Projection Year	Percent Distribution		
	Total County	Lower Pecos Valley	Tularosa/Sacramento
2000	100.0	99.9	0.0
2005	100.0	99.9	0.0
2010	100.0	99.9	0.0
2015	100.0	99.9	0.0
2020	100.0	99.9	0.0
2025	100.0	99.9	0.0
2030	100.0	99.9	0.0
2035	100.0	99.9	0.0
2040	100.0	99.9	0.0
2045	100.0	99.9	0.0
2050	100.0	99.9	0.0
2055	100.0	99.9	0.0
2060	100.0	99.9	0.0

Source: Bureau of Business and Economic Research, University of New Mexico

Appendix 3.10
Water Region Population in County and Percent Distribution
July 1, 2000 to July 1, 2060
Grant County

Projection Year	Water Region Population in County	
	Total County Population	SW New Mexico
2000	31,083	31,083
2005	32,462	32,462
2010	33,769	33,769
2015	34,920	34,920
2020	35,886	35,886
2025	36,758	36,758
2030	37,657	37,657
2035	38,517	38,517
2040	39,234	39,234
2045	39,819	39,819
2050	40,329	40,329
2055	40,824	40,824
2060	41,332	41,332
Projection Year	Percent Distribution	
	Total County	SW New Mexico
2000	100.0	100.0
2005	100.0	100.0
2010	100.0	100.0
2015	100.0	100.0
2020	100.0	100.0
2025	100.0	100.0
2030	100.0	100.0
2035	100.0	100.0
2040	100.0	100.0
2045	100.0	100.0
2050	100.0	100.0
2055	100.0	100.0
2060	100.0	100.0

Source: Bureau of Business and Economic Research, University of New Mexico

Appendix 3.11
Water Region Population in County and Percent Distribution
July 1, 2000 to July 1, 2060
Guadalupe County

Projection Year	Water Region Population in County	
	Total County Population	NE New Mexico
2000	4,696	4,696
2005	5,010	5,010
2010	5,304	5,304
2015	5,555	5,555
2020	5,748	5,748
2025	5,887	5,887
2030	5,989	5,989
2035	6,047	6,047
2040	6,059	6,059
2045	6,023	6,023
2050	5,949	5,949
2055	5,859	5,859
2060	5,782	5,782
Projection Year	Percent Distribution	
	Total County	NE New Mexico
2000	100.0	100.0
2005	100.0	100.0
2010	100.0	100.0
2015	100.0	100.0
2020	100.0	100.0
2025	100.0	100.0
2030	100.0	100.0
2035	100.0	100.0
2040	100.0	100.0
2045	100.0	100.0
2050	100.0	100.0
2055	100.0	100.0
2060	100.0	100.0

Source: Bureau of Business and Economic Research, University of New Mexico

Appendix 3.12
Water Region Population in County and Percent Distribution
July 1, 2000 to July 1, 2060
Harding County

Projection Year	Water Region Population in County	
	Total County Population	NE New Mexico
2000	828	828
2005	806	806
2010	780	780
2015	752	752
2020	726	726
2025	698	698
2030	671	671
2035	650	650
2040	633	633
2045	616	616
2050	596	596
2055	577	577
2060	567	567
Projection Year	Percent Distribution	
	Total County	NE New Mexico
2000	100.0	100.0
2005	100.0	100.0
2010	100.0	100.0
2015	100.0	100.0
2020	100.0	100.0
2025	100.0	100.0
2030	100.0	100.0
2035	100.0	100.0
2040	100.0	100.0
2045	100.0	100.0
2050	100.0	100.0
2055	100.0	100.0
2060	100.0	100.0

Source: Bureau of Business and Economic Research, University of New Mexico

Appendix 3.13
Water Region Population in County and Percent Distribution
July 1, 2000 to July 1, 2060
Hidalgo County

Projection Year	Water Region Population in County	
	Total County Population	SW New Mexico
2000	5,929	5,929
2005	5,875	5,875
2010	5,799	5,799
2015	5,716	5,716
2020	5,624	5,624
2025	5,515	5,515
2030	5,378	5,378
2035	5,230	5,230
2040	5,101	5,101
2045	5,013	5,013
2050	4,976	4,976
2055	4,983	4,983
2060	5,033	5,033
Projection Year	Percent Distribution	
	Total County	SW New Mexico
2000	100.0	100.0
2005	100.0	100.0
2010	100.0	100.0
2015	100.0	100.0
2020	100.0	100.0
2025	100.0	100.0
2030	100.0	100.0
2035	100.0	100.0
2040	100.0	100.0
2045	100.0	100.0
2050	100.0	100.0
2055	100.0	100.0
2060	100.0	100.0

Source: Bureau of Business and Economic Research, University of New Mexico

Appendix 3.14
Water Region Population in County and Percent Distribution
July 1, 2000 to July 1, 2060
Lea County

Projection Year	Water Region Population in County	
	Total County Population	Lea County
2000	55,490	55,490
2005	55,044	55,044
2010	54,526	54,526
2015	53,767	53,767
2020	52,632	52,632
2025	51,104	51,104
2030	49,239	49,239
2035	47,695	47,695
2040	47,241	47,241
2045	47,412	47,412
2050	47,601	47,601
2055	47,790	47,790
2060	48,043	48,043
Projection Year	Percent Distribution	
	Total County	Lea County
2000	100.0	100.0
2005	100.0	100.0
2010	100.0	100.0
2015	100.0	100.0
2020	100.0	100.0
2025	100.0	100.0
2030	100.0	100.0
2035	100.0	100.0
2040	100.0	100.0
2045	100.0	100.0
2050	100.0	100.0
2055	100.0	100.0
2060	100.0	100.0

Source: Bureau of Business and Economic Research, University of New Mexico

Appendix 3.15
Water Region Population in County and Percent Distribution
July 1, 2000 to July 1, 2060
Lincoln County

Projection Year	Water Region Population in County		
	Total County Population	Lower Pecos Valley	Tularosa/Sacramento
2000	19,585	17,943	1,642
2005	21,819	20,240	1,579
2010	23,880	22,426	1,454
2015	25,729	24,381	1,348
2020	27,315	26,115	1,200
2025	28,648	27,567	1,081
2030	29,784	28,844	940
2035	30,672	29,842	830
2040	31,332	30,625	707
2045	31,827	31,211	616
2050	32,178	31,659	519
2055	32,407	31,959	448
2060	32,560	32,185	375
Projection Year	Percent Distribution		
	Total County	Lower Pecos Valley	Tularosa/Sacramento
2000	100.0	91.6	8.4
2005	100.0	92.8	7.2
2010	100.0	93.9	6.1
2015	100.0	94.8	5.2
2020	100.0	95.6	4.4
2025	100.0	96.2	3.8
2030	100.0	96.8	3.2
2035	100.0	97.3	2.7
2040	100.0	97.7	2.3
2045	100.0	98.1	1.9
2050	100.0	98.4	1.6
2055	100.0	98.6	1.4
2060	100.0	98.8	1.2

Source: Bureau of Business and Economic Research, University of New Mexico

Appendix 3.16
Population in County and Percent Distribution
July 1, 2000 to July 1, 2060
Los Alamos County

Projection Year	Water Region Population	
	Total County Population	Santa Fe/Los Alamos
2000	18,359	18,359
2005	18,722	18,722
2010	19,122	19,122
2015	19,595	19,595
2020	20,099	20,099
2025	20,565	20,565
2030	20,866	20,866
2035	21,034	21,034
2040	21,224	21,224
2045	21,441	21,441
2050	21,636	21,636
2055	21,817	21,817
2060	22,014	22,014
Projection Year	Percent Distribution	
	Total County	Santa Fe/Los Alamos
2000	100.0	100.0
2005	100.0	100.0
2010	100.0	100.0
2015	100.0	100.0
2020	100.0	100.0
2025	100.0	100.0
2030	100.0	100.0
2035	100.0	100.0
2040	100.0	100.0
2045	100.0	100.0
2050	100.0	100.0
2055	100.0	100.0
2060	100.0	100.0

Source: Bureau of Business and Economic Research, University of New Mexico

Appendix 3.17
Water Region Population in County and Percent Distribution
July 1, 2000 to July 1, 2060
Luna County

Projection Year	Water Region Population in County	
	Total County Population	SW New Mexico
2000	25,189	25,189
2005	28,634	28,634
2010	32,185	32,185
2015	35,850	35,850
2020	39,484	39,484
2025	42,957	42,957
2030	46,315	46,315
2035	49,546	49,546
2040	52,593	52,593
2045	55,458	55,458
2050	58,090	58,090
2055	60,472	60,472
2060	62,643	62,643
Projection Year	Percent Distribution	
	Total County	SW New Mexico
2000	100.0	100.0
2005	100.0	100.0
2010	100.0	100.0
2015	100.0	100.0
2020	100.0	100.0
2025	100.0	100.0
2030	100.0	100.0
2035	100.0	100.0
2040	100.0	100.0
2045	100.0	100.0
2050	100.0	100.0
2055	100.0	100.0
2060	100.0	100.0

Source: Bureau of Business and Economic Research, University of New Mexico

Appendix 3.18
Water Region Population in County and Percent Distribution
July 1, 2000 to July 1, 2060
McKinley County

Projection Year	Water Region Population in County		
	Total County Population	NW New Mexico	San Juan
2000	75,072	61,968	13,104
2005	81,484	67,426	14,058
2010	88,163	73,131	15,032
2015	95,044	78,891	16,153
2020	101,750	84,514	17,236
2025	108,287	90,003	18,284
2030	114,745	95,433	19,312
2035	120,866	100,591	20,275
2040	126,337	105,213	21,124
2045	131,171	109,311	21,860
2050	135,367	112,883	22,484
2055	138,971	115,964	23,007
2060	142,048	118,610	23,438
Projection Year	Percent Distribution		
	Total County	NW New Mexico	San Juan
2000	100.0	82.5	17.5
2005	100.0	82.7	17.3
2010	100.0	83.0	17.1
2015	100.0	83.0	17.0
2020	100.0	83.1	16.9
2025	100.0	83.1	16.9
2030	100.0	83.2	16.8
2035	100.0	83.2	16.8
2040	100.0	83.3	16.7
2045	100.0	83.3	16.7
2050	100.0	83.4	16.6
2055	100.0	83.4	16.6
2060	100.0	83.5	16.5

Source: Bureau of Business and Economic Research, University of New Mexico

Appendix 3.19
Water Region Population in County and Percent Distribution
July 1, 2000 to July 1, 2060
Mora County

Projection Year	Water Region Population in County	
	Total County Population	San Miguel/Mora
2000	5,205	5,205
2005	5,704	5,704
2010	6,205	6,205
2015	6,697	6,697
2020	7,144	7,144
2025	7,539	7,539
2030	7,888	7,888
2035	8,195	8,195
2040	8,469	8,469
2045	8,720	8,720
2050	8,966	8,966
2055	9,215	9,215
2060	9,480	9,480
Projection Year	Percent Distribution	
	Total County	San Miguel/Mora
2000	100.0	100.0
2005	100.0	100.0
2010	100.0	100.0
2015	100.0	100.0
2020	100.0	100.0
2025	100.0	100.0
2030	100.0	100.0
2035	100.0	100.0
2040	100.0	100.0
2045	100.0	100.0
2050	100.0	100.0
2055	100.0	100.0
2060	100.0	100.0

Source: Bureau of Business and Economic Research, University of New Mexico

Appendix 3.20
Water Region Population in County and Percent Distribution
July 1, 2000 to July 1, 2060
Otero County

Projection Year	Water Region Population in County		
	Total County Population	Tularosa/Sacramento	Lower Pecos Valley
2000	62,553	59,296	3,257
2005	64,851	61,256	3,595
2010	67,015	63,075	3,940
2015	68,888	64,613	4,275
2020	70,493	65,890	4,603
2025	71,957	67,024	4,933
2030	73,310	68,046	5,264
2035	74,463	68,875	5,588
2040	75,300	69,404	5,896
2045	75,908	69,718	6,190
2050	76,388	69,910	6,478
2055	76,801	70,039	6,762
2060	77,211	70,162	7,049
Projection Year	Percent Distribution		
	Total County	Tularosa/Sacramento	Lower Pecos Valley
2000	100.0	94.8	5.2
2005	100.0	94.5	5.5
2010	100.0	94.1	5.9
2015	100.0	93.8	6.2
2020	100.0	93.5	6.5
2025	100.0	93.1	6.9
2030	100.0	92.8	7.2
2035	100.0	92.5	7.5
2040	100.0	92.2	7.8
2045	100.0	91.8	8.2
2050	100.0	91.5	8.5
2055	100.0	91.2	8.8
2060	100.0	90.9	9.1

Source: Bureau of Business and Economic Research, University of New Mexico

Appendix 3.21
Water Region Population in County and Percent Distribution
July 1, 2000 to July 1, 2060
Quay County

Projection Year	Water Region Population in County	
	Total County Population	NE New Mexico
2000	10,142	10,142
2005	10,089	10,089
2010	10,003	10,003
2015	9,865	9,865
2020	9,642	9,642
2025	9,335	9,335
2030	8,982	8,982
2035	8,595	8,595
2040	8,169	8,169
2045	7,708	7,708
2050	7,224	7,224
2055	6,733	6,733
2060	6,247	6,247
Projection Year	Percent Distribution	
	Total County	NE New Mexico
2000	100.0	100.0
2005	100.0	100.0
2010	100.0	100.0
2015	100.0	100.0
2020	100.0	100.0
2025	100.0	100.0
2030	100.0	100.0
2035	100.0	100.0
2040	100.0	100.0
2045	100.0	100.0
2050	100.0	100.0
2055	100.0	100.0
2060	100.0	100.0

Source: Bureau of Business and Economic Research, University of New Mexico

Appendix 3.22
Water Region Population in County and Percent Distribution
July 1, 2000 to July 1, 2060
Rio Arriba County

Projection Year	Water Region Population in County				
	Total County Population	Rio Arriba	San Juan	Santa Fe / Los Alamos	Taos
2000	41,307	7,773	3,596	29,921	17
2005	43,694	7,679	3,636	32,353	26
2010	46,030	7,517	3,653	34,824	37
2015	48,196	7,393	3,622	37,137	43
2020	50,027	7,179	3,549	39,249	50
2025	51,451	6,874	3,434	41,086	57
2030	52,519	6,497	3,285	42,674	63
2035	53,269	6,062	3,108	44,029	69
2040	53,676	5,577	2,907	45,117	75
2045	53,737	5,052	2,684	45,920	81
2050	53,470	4,498	2,446	46,440	85
2055	52,922	3,928	2,199	46,705	90
2060	52,152	3,355	1,948	46,755	94
Projection Year	Percent Distribution				
	Total County	Rio Arriba	San Juan	Santa Fe / Los Alamos	Taos
2000	100.0	18.8	8.7	72.4	0.0
2005	100.0	17.6	8.3	74.0	0.1
2010	100.0	16.3	7.9	75.7	0.1
2015	100.0	15.3	7.5	77.1	0.1
2020	100.0	14.3	7.1	78.5	0.1
2025	100.0	13.4	6.7	79.9	0.1
2030	100.0	12.4	6.3	81.3	0.1
2035	100.0	11.4	5.8	82.7	0.1
2040	100.0	10.4	5.4	84.1	0.1
2045	100.0	9.4	5.0	85.5	0.1
2050	100.0	8.4	4.6	86.9	0.2
2055	100.0	7.4	4.2	88.3	0.2
2060	100.0	6.4	3.7	89.7	0.2

Source: Bureau of Business and Economic Research, University of New Mexico

Appendix 3.23
Water Region Population in County and Percent Distribution
July 1, 2000 to July 1, 2060
Roosevelt County

Projection Year	Water Region Population in County	
	Total County Population	NE New Mexico
2000	18,075	18,075
2005	19,119	19,119
2010	20,198	20,198
2015	21,236	21,236
2020	22,148	22,148
2025	22,961	22,961
2030	23,732	23,732
2035	24,464	24,464
2040	25,119	25,119
2045	25,673	25,673
2050	26,126	26,126
2055	26,510	26,510
2060	26,847	26,847
Projection Year	Percent Distribution	
	Total County	NE New Mexico
2000	100.0	100.0
2005	100.0	100.0
2010	100.0	100.0
2015	100.0	100.0
2020	100.0	100.0
2025	100.0	100.0
2030	100.0	100.0
2035	100.0	100.0
2040	100.0	100.0
2045	100.0	100.0
2050	100.0	100.0
2055	100.0	100.0
2060	100.0	100.0

Source: Bureau of Business and Economic Research, University of New Mexico

Appendix 3.24
Water Region Population in County and Percent Distribution
July 1, 2000 to July 1, 2060
Sandoval County

Projection Year	Water Region Population in County			
	Total County Population	Middle Rio Grande	San Juan	Santa Fe/Los Alamos
2000	90,775	89,668	1,107	0
2005	108,517	106,928	1,589	0
2010	126,216	124,058	2,158	0
2015	144,207	141,662	2,545	0
2020	162,112	159,162	2,950	0
2025	179,543	176,177	3,366	0
2030	196,538	192,745	3,793	0
2035	213,026	208,797	4,229	0
2040	228,929	224,259	4,670	0
2045	244,290	239,172	5,118	0
2050	259,321	253,746	5,575	0
2055	274,243	268,196	6,047	0
2060	289,258	282,721	6,537	0
Projection Year	Percent Distribution			
	Total County	Middle Rio Grande	San Juan	Santa Fe/Los Alamos
2000	100.0	98.8	1.2	0.0
2005	100.0	98.5	1.5	0.0
2010	100.0	98.3	1.7	0.0
2015	100.0	98.2	1.8	0.0
2020	100.0	98.2	1.8	0.0
2025	100.0	98.1	1.9	0.0
2030	100.0	98.1	1.9	0.0
2035	100.0	98.0	2.0	0.0
2040	100.0	98.0	2.0	0.0
2045	100.0	97.9	2.1	0.0
2050	100.0	97.9	2.2	0.0
2055	100.0	97.8	2.2	0.0
2060	100.0	97.7	2.3	0.0

Source: Bureau of Business and Economic Research, University of New Mexico

Appendix 3.25
Water Region Population in County and Percent Distribution
July 1, 2000 to July 1, 2060
San Juan County

Projection Year	Water Region Population in County		
	Total County Population	San Juan	NW New Mexico
2000	114,272	113,694	578
2005	121,445	120,810	635
2010	128,592	127,898	694
2015	135,497	134,752	745
2020	142,057	141,261	796
2025	148,250	147,405	845
2030	154,259	153,364	895
2035	159,907	158,964	943
2040	164,877	163,888	989
2045	169,228	168,196	1,032
2050	173,096	172,023	1,073
2055	176,655	175,542	1,113
2060	180,047	178,895	1,152
Projection Year	Percent Distribution		
	Total County	San Juan	NW New Mexico
2000	100.0	99.5	0.5
2005	100.0	99.5	0.5
2010	100.0	99.5	0.5
2015	100.0	99.5	0.6
2020	100.0	99.4	0.6
2025	100.0	99.4	0.6
2030	100.0	99.4	0.6
2035	100.0	99.4	0.6
2040	100.0	99.4	0.6
2045	100.0	99.4	0.6
2050	100.0	99.4	0.6
2055	100.0	99.4	0.6
2060	100.0	99.4	0.6

Source: Bureau of Business and Economic Research, University of New Mexico

Appendix 3.26
Water Region Population in County and Percent Distribution
July 1, 2000 to July 1, 2060
San Miguel County

Projection Year	Water Region Population in County		
	Total County Population	San Miguel/Mora	NE New Mexico
2000	30,249	29,743	506
2005	32,513	31,973	540
2010	34,746	34,173	573
2015	36,876	36,269	607
2020	38,847	38,210	637
2025	40,612	39,948	664
2030	42,190	41,502	688
2035	43,556	42,848	708
2040	44,668	43,944	724
2045	45,580	44,844	736
2050	46,344	45,598	746
2055	47,003	46,249	754
2060	47,594	46,832	762
Projection Year	Percent Distribution		
	Total County	San Miguel/Mora	NE New Mexico
2000	100.0	98.3	1.7
2005	100.0	98.3	1.7
2010	100.0	98.4	1.7
2015	100.0	98.4	1.6
2020	100.0	98.4	1.6
2025	100.0	98.4	1.6
2030	100.0	98.4	1.6
2035	100.0	98.4	1.6
2040	100.0	98.4	1.6
2045	100.0	98.4	1.6
2050	100.0	98.4	1.6
2055	100.0	98.4	1.6
2060	100.0	98.4	1.6

Source: Bureau of Business and Economic Research, University of New Mexico

Appendix 3.27
Water Region Population in County and Percent Distribution
July 1, 2000 to July 1, 2060
Santa Fe County

Projection Year	Water Region Population in County		
	Total County Population	Santa Fe/Los Alamos	Estancia
2000	129,936	120,879	9,057
2005	143,987	132,842	11,145
2010	158,624	145,125	13,499
2015	174,400	157,788	16,612
2020	191,403	171,229	20,174
2025	208,801	184,674	24,127
2030	226,112	197,690	28,422
2035	244,751	211,502	33,249
2040	264,778	226,121	38,658
2045	286,263	241,563	44,700
2050	308,424	257,133	51,291
2055	332,054	273,463	58,591
2060	357,275	290,607	66,667
Projection Year	Percent Distribution		
	Total County	Santa Fe/Los Alamos	Estancia
2000	100.0	93.0	7.0
2005	100.0	92.3	7.7
2010	100.0	91.5	8.5
2015	100.0	90.5	9.5
2020	100.0	89.5	10.5
2025	100.0	88.4	11.6
2030	100.0	87.4	12.6
2035	100.0	86.4	13.6
2040	100.0	85.4	14.6
2045	100.0	84.4	15.6
2050	100.0	83.4	16.6
2055	100.0	82.4	17.6
2060	100.0	81.3	18.7

Source: Bureau of Business and Economic Research, University of New Mexico

Appendix 3.28
Water Region Population in County and Percent Distribution
July 1, 2000 to July 1, 2060
Sierra County

Projection Year	Water Region Population in County		
	Total County Population	Socorro/Sierra	Lower Rio Grande
2000	13,355	1,577	11,778
2005	15,058	1,778	13,280
2010	16,700	1,972	14,728
2015	18,281	2,218	16,063
2020	19,774	2,464	17,310
2025	21,172	2,707	18,465
2030	22,485	2,948	19,537
2035	23,644	3,177	20,467
2040	24,567	3,380	21,187
2045	25,276	3,560	21,716
2050	25,772	3,714	22,058
2055	26,073	3,842	22,231
2060	26,201	3,946	22,255
Projection Year	Percent Distribution		
	Total County	Socorro/Sierra	Lower Rio Grande
2000	100.0	11.8	88.2
2005	100.0	11.8	88.2
2010	100.0	11.8	88.2
2015	100.0	12.1	87.9
2020	100.0	12.5	87.5
2025	100.0	12.8	87.2
2030	100.0	13.1	86.9
2035	100.0	13.4	86.6
2040	100.0	13.8	86.2
2045	100.0	14.1	85.9
2050	100.0	14.4	85.6
2055	100.0	14.7	85.3
2060	100.0	15.1	84.9

Source: Bureau of Business and Economic Research, University of New Mexico

Appendix 3.29
Water Region Population in County and Percent Distribution
July 1, 2000 to July 1, 2060
Socorro County

Projection Year	Water Region Population in County	
	Total County Population	Socorro/Sierra
2000	18,165	18,165
2005	19,824	19,824
2010	21,472	21,472
2015	23,102	23,102
2020	24,673	24,673
2025	26,139	26,139
2030	27,527	27,527
2035	28,846	28,846
2040	30,086	30,086
2045	31,249	31,249
2050	32,333	32,333
2055	33,356	33,356
2060	34,340	34,340
Projection Year	Percent Distribution	
	Total County	Socorro/Sierra
2000	100.0	100.0
2005	100.0	100.0
2010	100.0	100.0
2015	100.0	100.0
2020	100.0	100.0
2025	100.0	100.0
2030	100.0	100.0
2035	100.0	100.0
2040	100.0	100.0
2045	100.0	100.0
2050	100.0	100.0
2055	100.0	100.0
2060	100.0	100.0

Source: Bureau of Business and Economic Research, University of New Mexico

Appendix 3.30
Water Region Population in County and Percent Distribution
July 1, 2000 to July 1, 2060
Taos County

Projection Year	Water Region Population in County	
	Total County Population	Taos
2000	30,154	30,154
2005	32,655	32,655
2010	35,114	35,114
2015	37,434	37,434
2020	39,492	39,492
2025	41,265	41,265
2030	42,781	42,781
2035	43,973	43,973
2040	44,760	44,760
2045	45,210	45,210
2050	45,405	45,405
2055	45,407	45,407
2060	45,265	45,265
Projection Year	Percent Distribution	
	Total County	Taos
2000	100.0	100.0
2005	100.0	100.0
2010	100.0	100.0
2015	100.0	100.0
2020	100.0	100.0
2025	100.0	100.0
2030	100.0	100.0
2035	100.0	100.0
2040	100.0	100.0
2045	100.0	100.0
2050	100.0	100.0
2055	100.0	100.0
2060	100.0	100.0

Source: Bureau of Business and Economic Research, University of New Mexico

Appendix 3.31
Water Region Population in County and Percent Distribution
July 1, 2000 to July 1, 2060
Torrance County

Projection Year	Water Region Population in County	
	Total County Population	Middle Rio Grande
2000	17,029	17,029
2005	19,523	19,523
2010	21,684	21,684
2015	23,461	23,461
2020	24,946	24,946
2025	26,246	26,246
2030	27,353	27,353
2035	28,331	28,331
2040	29,236	29,236
2045	30,075	30,075
2050	30,815	30,815
2055	31,461	31,461
2060	32,061	32,061
Projection Year	Percent Distribution	
	Total County	Middle Rio Grande
2000	100.0	100.0
2005	100.0	100.0
2010	100.0	100.0
2015	100.0	100.0
2020	100.0	100.0
2025	100.0	100.0
2030	100.0	100.0
2035	100.0	100.0
2040	100.0	100.0
2045	100.0	100.0
2050	100.0	100.0
2055	100.0	100.0
2060	100.0	100.0

Source: Bureau of Business and Economic Research, University of New Mexico

Appendix 3.32
Water Region Population in County and Percent Distribution
July 1, 2000 to July 1, 2060
Union County

Projection Year	Water Region Population in County	
	Total County Population	NE New Mexico
2000	4,177	4,177
2005	4,280	4,280
2010	4,365	4,365
2015	4,439	4,439
2020	4,505	4,505
2025	4,561	4,561
2030	4,616	4,616
2035	4,661	4,661
2040	4,686	4,686
2045	4,701	4,701
2050	4,706	4,706
2055	4,709	4,709
2060	4,719	4,719
Projection Year	Percent Distribution	
	Total County	NE New Mexico
2000	100.0	100.0
2005	100.0	100.0
2010	100.0	100.0
2015	100.0	100.0
2020	100.0	100.0
2025	100.0	100.0
2030	100.0	100.0
2035	100.0	100.0
2040	100.0	100.0
2045	100.0	100.0
2050	100.0	100.0
2055	100.0	100.0
2060	100.0	100.0

Source: Bureau of Business and Economic Research, University of New Mexico

Appendix 3.33
Water Region Population in County and Percent Distribution
July 1, 2000 to July 1, 2060
Valencia County

Projection Year	Water Region Population in County	
	Total County Population	Middle Rio Grande
2000	66,699	66,699
2005	76,503	76,503
2010	86,670	86,670
2015	97,242	97,242
2020	107,906	107,906
2025	118,339	118,339
2030	128,527	128,527
2035	138,590	138,590
2040	148,563	148,563
2045	158,459	158,459
2050	168,242	168,242
2055	177,940	177,940
2060	187,677	187,677
Projection Year	Percent Distribution	
	Total County	Middle Rio Grande
2000	100.0	100.0
2005	100.0	100.0
2010	100.0	100.0
2015	100.0	100.0
2020	100.0	100.0
2025	100.0	100.0
2030	100.0	100.0
2035	100.0	100.0
2040	100.0	100.0
2045	100.0	100.0
2050	100.0	100.0
2055	100.0	100.0
2060	100.0	100.0

Source: Bureau of Business and Economic Research, University of New Mexico