



DBonnet Associates

evaluation for enlightened decision making

2007 Community Needs Assessment for Howard County, Indiana

May 2007

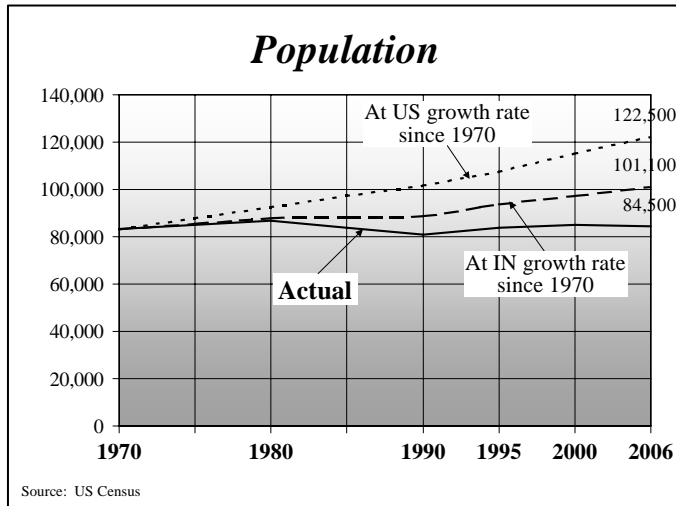
*Prepared for the
4community Partners
Howard County, Indiana*

- United Way of Howard County
- City of Kokomo
- Community Foundation of Howard County
- Howard County Health Department
- Howard Regional Hospital
- Ivy Tech Community College
- St. Joseph Hospital and Health Center

Deborah G. Bonnet

Robert E. Hoke

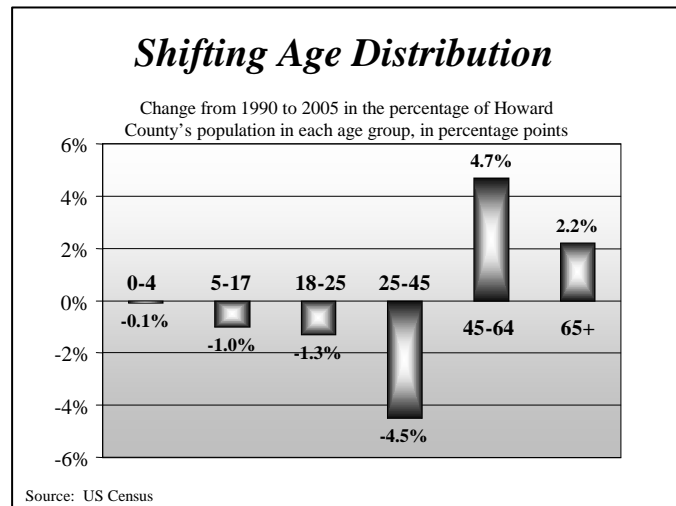
Population Profile



Howard County's population is flat in size and aging in composition.

Estimated at 84,500 in 2006, the population count has remained within the range of about 87,000 (in 1980) and 81,000 (in 1990) for the last 35 years. Net growth since 1970 is 1.6%, compared to Indiana's 22% and the nation's 47%.

Between 2005 and 2006 the County's population declined by 347 even though there were 353 more births than deaths. A net of 61 people moved into the County from other countries while a net of 761 moved from Howard County to elsewhere in the United States.



In 1990 the median age was 34.1; half the population was older than 34.1 years, half younger. By 2006 the median age had increased by nearly four years, to 37.9 – two years older than Indiana's median and 3.5 years older than the nation's. Today 40% of the County's residents are 45 or older, compared to 33% in 1990. Seniors (65+) account for 14% of the population.¹

Consistent with its aging population and other national trends, household compositions have shifted since 1990,

with fewer households headed by married couples, more single parents, and more people living alone. In 2000 less than one-quarter of households (22%) consisted of a married couple living with their children, the same as in the nation as a whole. Single parents headed 9.6% of households and 22% of households with children.

Sources of income in 2004 indicate that more than a quarter of the population was retired. Ten percent of households used food stamps in 2004; 78% of households had earned income.

Non-Hispanic Caucasians account for 90% of the County's population, African Americans 7.0%, Hispanics 2.1%, and Asians 1.0%. Seventy-six percent of County residents were born in Indiana, 2.1% in other countries. Additional population statistics are presented in the following table.

¹ Statistics presented throughout this report are the most current available, in most cases from 2005 but sometimes an earlier year.

Overview Statistics

Population (2006)	84,500	Households (2000)	34,800
Work Force (2005)	39,102	Housing units (2005)	39,225

	Howard Co		Indiana	US
Race/Ethnicity	2005		2005	2005
Caucasian	90.2%		88.6%	66.8%
African American	7.0%		8.8%	11.9%
Hispanic	2.1%		4.5%	14.5%
Asian	1.0%		1.2%	4.3%
	Howard Co		Indiana	US
Age	1990	2005	2005	2005
0-4	7.1%	7.0%	6.9%	7.0%
5-17	19.6%	18.6%	18.7%	18.3%
18-24	9.1%	7.8%	9.9%	13.6%
25-44	30.8%	26.3%	27.6%	28.4%
45-64	21.7%	26.4%	24.5%	20.5%
65+	11.7%	13.9%	12.4%	12.1%
Median	34.1	37.9	35.9	36.4
	Howard Co		Indiana	US
Household Composition	1990	2000	2000	2000
Married With Children	26.4%	21.7%	23.8%	21.7%
Married Without Children	31.6%	31.0%	29.8%	28.0%
Single Parents	7.3%	9.6%	9.1%	9.9%
Living Alone	25.0%	28.2%	25.9%	27.1%
Other	9.7%	9.5%	11.4%	13.3%
	Howard Co		Indiana	US
Economics	1998	2004	2004	2004
Median Household Income (adjusted for inflation)	\$50,839	\$45,856	\$43,342	\$46,242
	1994	2004	2004	2004
Per Capita Income (adjusted for inflation)	\$28,525	\$31,134	\$30,198	\$25,035
	2000	2005	2005	2005
Poverty Rate (families)	8.8%	13.2%	12.2%	10.2%
	1999	2006	2006	2006
Unemployment Rate	2.5%	7.0%	5.8%	4.5%

Howard County Indiana
2007 Community Needs Assessment

Overview Statistics, cont.

Sources of Household Income (% with any)	2003
Earnings	77.5%
Social Security	27.3%
Retirement	25.2%
Supplemental Security	4.4%
Cash public assistance	2.7%
Food stamps	9.9%
Components of Population Change from 2005 to 2006	2005-2006
Net Domestic Migration	-761
Net International Migration	61
Births	1,154
Deaths	-801
Net Change	-347
Birth Place	2005
Born in Indiana	76.0%
Foreign born	2.1%

For updates to this profile and additional Howard County statistics go to:

<http://www.stats.indiana.edu/profiles/pr18067.html>