

Section 2. County Population Trends

This section examines trends in the population of Hamilton County and the metropolitan area. Although there are intervening factors that have more immediate impact on correctional populations, an understanding of population growth and the demographics of the population is a helpful foundation on which to begin planning.

City and County Population Trends

Figure 2.1 Trend in Hamilton County, Cincinnati City Population

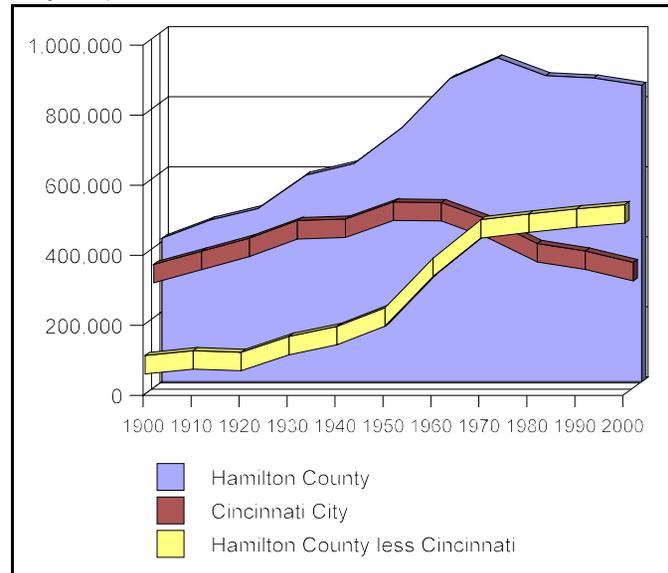


Table 2.1 Trend in Hamilton County, City of Cincinnati, and Included Municipalities and Township Population

Year	Hamilton County Total	City of Cincinnati	Hamilton County less Cincinnati	Municipalities less Cincinnati	Townships	Cities & Villages
1900	409,479	325,902	83,577	42,033	41,544	367,935
1910	460,732	363,591	97,141	67,231	29,910	430,822
1920	493,678	401,247	92,431	65,789	26,642	467,036
1930	589,356	451,160	138,196	95,118	43,078	546,278
1940	621,987	455,610	166,377	104,421	61,956	560,031
1950	723,952	503,998	219,954	138,975	80,979	642,973
1960	864,122	502,550	361,572	196,191	165,381	698,741
1970	924,017	452,524	471,493	230,968	240,525	683,492
1980	873,224	385,457	487,767	227,370	260,397	612,827
1990	866,228	364,114	502,114	227,942	274,172	592,056
2000	845,303	331,285	514,018	225,214	288,804	556,499
% change	106%	2%	515%	436%	595%	51%
% change since 1950	17%	-34%	134%	62%	257%	-13%

Figure 2.1 and Table 2.1 show US Census data from 1900 through 2000, provided by the Hamilton County Regional Planning Commission. Appendix A provides this information for all municipalities and townships. The population of Hamilton County has doubled in the last century, but demographic changes differ in different sectors of the County. The population of the City of Cincinnati was essentially the same in 2000 as it was in 1900, and reflects a 34% decrease since 1950, when population in the City peaked. The population of the County less Cincinnati has increased 515% since 1900 and 134% since 1950. The population of cities other than Cincinnati has increased 436% since 1900 and 62% since 1950. The population of the townships has increased 595% since

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1900 and 257% since 1950. The population of cities and villages has increased 51% since 1900 and has decreased 13% since 1950, primarily because of the decrease in the City of Cincinnati population. The figure clearly shows an overall decrease in total County population since 1970, primarily because of the significant decrease in the City of Cincinnati. Equally apparent is the increase in municipal and township populations outside of Cincinnati.

To a great degree, this pattern is similar to most metropolitan areas, as the development of a transportation infrastructure and the accompanying commuter phenomenon has led to movement away from many center cities. In correctional planning, the issue is often not how many people **leave** the jurisdiction, but who **remains**. In general, there are two competing trends, which the County may be experiencing simultaneously; both relate to the future of the City of Cincinnati. The first trend can be characterized as the “redevelopment” of the center city. In this trend, areas are redeveloped and revitalized, bringing a number of people back to downtown. The residential development associated with this trend is often quite expensive. The second trend is one of outward migration, as people leave the city to live in the suburbs. In Cincinnati, both of these trends have a direct relationship to the potential size and nature of the urban population.

Regional Population

Hamilton County is the largest jurisdiction in the tri-state area; it is the center of industry commerce and entertainment. As a result, there is a significant population that frequently passes through or comes into the County which is not represented by the resident population.

County	1900	1910	1920	1930	1940	1950	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000	% change since 70
Boone County, KY	11,170	9,420	9,572	9,595	10,820	13,015	21,940	32,812	45,842	57,589	97,139	196%
Butler County, OH	56,870	70,271	87,025	114,084	120,249	147,203	199,076	226,207	258,787	291,479	343,207	52%
Campbell County, KY	54,223	59,369	61,868	73,391	71,918	76,196	86,803	88,501	83,317	83,866	87,970	-1%
Clermont County, OH	31,610	29,551	28,291	29,786	34,109	42,182	80,530	95,725	128,483	150,187	185,799	94%
Dearborn County, IN	22,194	21,396	20,033	21,056	23,053	25,141	28,674	29,430	34,291	38,835	47,849	63%
Hamilton County, OH	409,479	460,732	493,678	589,356	621,987	723,952	864,121	924,018	873,224	866,228	823,472	-11%
Kenton County, KY	63,591	70,355	73,453	93,534	93,139	104,254	120,700	129,440	137,058	142,031	152,287	18%
Warren County, OH	25,584	24,497	25,716	27,348	29,894	38,505	65,711	84,925	99,276	113,909	181,743	114%
Regional Total	674,721	745,591	799,636	958,150	1,005,169	1,170,448	1,467,555	1,611,058	1,660,278	1,744,124	1,919,466	19%

Table 2.2 Trend in Regional Population

There are several different definitions of the Cincinnati SMSA. With the exception of Butler County above, all of the counties are in the SMSA used by the Census Bureau. However, other federal agencies use a fifteen county region, including seven in Kentucky and have grouped Cincinnati with northern Kentucky for reporting purposes. For this analysis, it seems reasonable to consider the potential impact of jurisdictions which are physically adjacent to Hamilton County. Although the population of Hamilton County has been declining since 1970, the population of the region has grown 184% since 1900 and 19% since 1970. The rate of population growth in the counties which

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surround Hamilton is significant (114% in Warren County, 94% in Clermont County, and 52% in Butler County. The growth in Boone County, immediately across the River, and the site of the airport is very substantial (196% since 1970).

Age Cohorts

The Ohio Department of Development examines population trends within the State. In addition to providing projections of County population, they examine some of the larger demographic trends, including the differential growth rates for age groups within the population.

AGE COHORTS	CENSUS 1990			CENSUS 2000			% CHANGE 1990-2000			2005 ESTIMATE		
	TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE
	POP	POP	POP	POP	POP	POP						
0-4	67,590	34,720	32,880	56,550	28,890	27,660	-16.3%	-16.8%	-15.9%	53,610	27,440	26,170
5-9	65,060	33,210	31,850	60,720	30,960	29,760	-6.7%	-6.8%	-6.5%	54,460	27,830	26,620
10-14	58,710	30,070	28,650	63,820	32,820	31,010	8.7%	9.1%	8.2%	56,860	28,910	27,940
15-19	59,150	29,980	29,180	60,990	30,950	30,040	3.1%	3.2%	2.9%	64,930	32,700	32,230
20-24	65,760	32,020	33,740	56,940	28,100	28,840	-13.4%	-12.2%	-14.5%	61,400	30,670	30,730
25-29	75,250	36,320	38,930	58,200	28,260	29,940	-22.7%	-22.2%	-23.1%	52,960	26,180	26,780
30-34	75,500	36,460	39,040	59,490	29,170	30,320	-21.2%	-20.0%	-22.3%	53,150	25,970	27,180
35-39	66,960	32,390	34,570	65,260	31,620	33,640	-2.5%	-2.4%	-2.7%	55,440	27,270	28,170
40-44	56,890	27,390	29,500	67,710	32,640	35,070	19.0%	19.2%	18.9%	62,240	30,110	32,130
45-49	44,320	21,090	23,240	61,070	29,240	31,830	37.8%	38.7%	37.0%	64,420	30,990	33,430
50-54	38,520	17,860	20,660	51,110	24,550	26,550	32.7%	37.5%	28.5%	57,180	27,250	29,930
55-59	37,930	17,470	20,460	37,990	17,890	20,100	0.2%	2.4%	-1.7%	46,630	22,080	24,550
60-64	39,160	17,720	21,440	31,560	14,210	17,340	-19.4%	-19.8%	-19.1%	33,350	15,330	18,020
65-69	36,280	15,680	20,600	29,690	12,980	16,710	-18.2%	-17.3%	-18.9%	26,800	11,580	15,210
70-74	28,120	11,290	16,840	28,620	11,980	16,640	1.8%	6.2%	-1.2%	24,420	10,160	14,260
75-79	22,660	8,140	14,520	24,330	9,300	15,030	7.4%	14.2%	3.5%	22,530	8,820	13,710
80-84	15,860	4,990	10,870	16,140	5,550	10,590	1.8%	11.2%	-2.6%	18,540	6,460	12,070
85+	12,510	3,130	9,380	15,130	3,870	11,260	21.0%	23.8%	20.1%	16,810	5,230	11,580
TOTAL	866,230	409,900	456,330	845,300	402,970	442,330	-2.4%	-1.7%	-3.1%	825,710	395,000	430,720

Table 2.3 Hamilton County Population by Age Group

Table 2.3 shows that the population of Hamilton County, like the State and the Nation, is living longer, which results in increasing numbers of people in the 70 and older categories. At one point, the "at risk" theory of incarceration suggested that the age group of 18-28 year-olds, particularly males, were the most likely to be incarcerated. As a result, as this age group decreased in size (as it did from 1990 to 2000),

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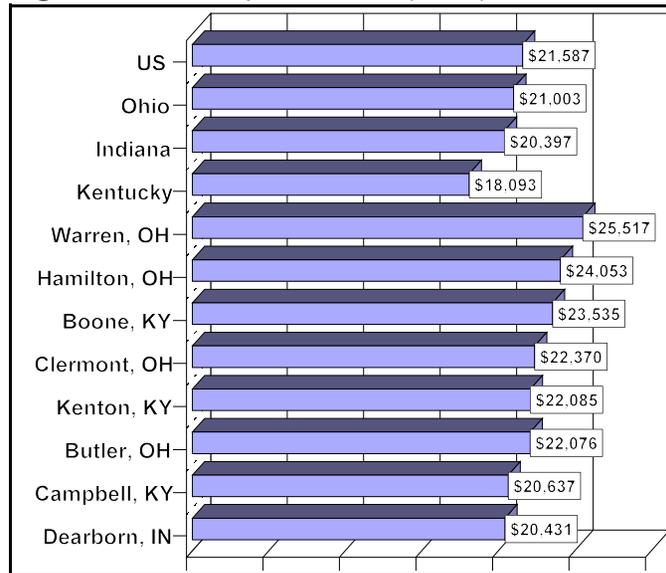
the population of the jail should decrease. That has clearly not been the case in either the nation, the State of Ohio or Hamilton County. It appears that there are factors, such as mandatory sentencing, the impact of highly addictive drugs, and social attitudes toward particular types of crime, such as DUI and domestic violence, that intervene in the at risk theory of incarceration. These shifts may be at the root of most justice systems seeing an “aging” jail population, which includes a more significant number of female offenders.

From a criminal justice planning perspective, there is one other trend which merits some consideration. The population of 10-19 year olds increased from 1990 to 2000. This is the age group that has begun to enter the adult justice system in this decade and it suggests that the system will continue to have a population of younger offenders to manage in the next 10 years. As planning efforts move forward, it will be important to be prepared for the growth which will occur in this segment of the population.

Economic Indicators

Per Capita Income

Figure 2.2 Per Capita Income (2000)



A number of the strongest risk factors for criminal behavior are associated with poverty. This section provides information regarding per capita income in the 2000 census, median household income, and the percentage of individuals living below the poverty level. All information in this section is taken from information available on the U.S. Bureau of Census website and comes from various economic surveys.

Per capita income in the US in 2000 was \$21,587; all three states in the region fall below the national average. In the region, Warren County has the highest per capita income at \$25,517, and Hamilton County’s is second highest at \$24,053. Per capita income is lowest in Dearborn County, Indiana at \$20,431.

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Median Household Income

Figure 2.3 Trend in Median Household Income

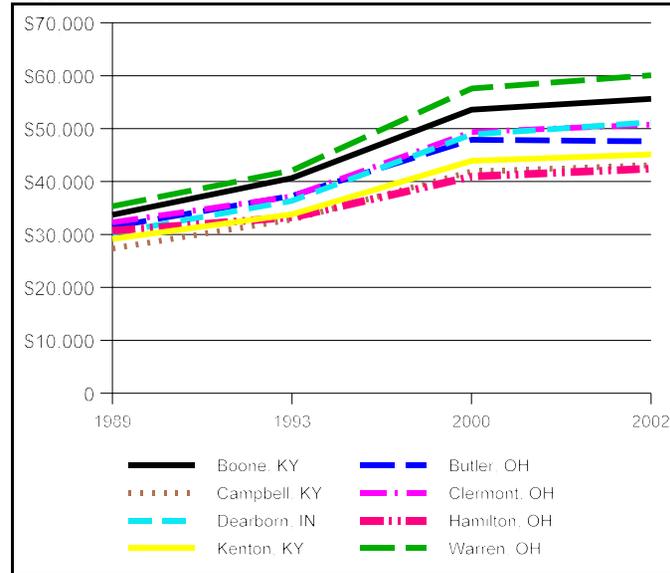


Table 2.2 Trend in Median Household Income

Jurisdiction	1989		1993		2000		2002
	Actual	Adjusted	Actual	Adjusted	Actual	Adjusted	Actual
US	\$28,906	\$41,914	\$31,241	\$38,739	\$41,567	\$43,230	\$42,409
Ohio	\$28,626	\$41,508	\$30,896	\$38,311	\$40,954	\$42,592	\$42,246
Indiana	\$27,769	\$40,265	\$31,055	\$38,508	\$41,567	\$43,230	\$41,973
Kentucky	\$23,392	\$33,918	\$25,222	\$31,275	\$33,672	\$35,019	\$35,875
Warren, OH	\$35,358	\$51,269	\$42,111	\$52,218	\$57,592	\$59,896	\$60,083
Boone, KY	\$33,730	\$48,909	\$40,700	\$50,468	\$53,593	\$55,737	\$55,617
Dearborn, IN	\$30,264	\$43,883	\$36,371	\$45,100	\$48,899	\$50,855	\$51,194
Clermont, OH	\$32,260	\$46,777	\$37,203	\$46,132	\$49,386	\$51,361	\$50,761
Butler, OH	\$31,485	\$45,653	\$37,304	\$46,257	\$47,885	\$49,800	\$47,582
Kenton, KY	\$29,171	\$42,298	\$33,815	\$41,931	\$43,906	\$45,662	\$45,147
Campbell, KY	\$27,354	\$39,663	\$32,801	\$40,673	\$41,903	\$43,579	\$43,087
Hamilton, OH	\$30,714	\$44,535	\$33,248	\$41,228	\$40,964	\$42,603	\$42,457

Adjusted is actual adjusted to 2002 dollars

Medians are often better measures than averages. Medians provide the point at which half of the statistic is below and the other half above the number provided. Averages can be skewed by the extreme cases at either end of the range; medians are not. All of the jurisdictions shown exhibit the same trend in median household income, and all have increased since the 1989.

For the counties shown, 2002 median household income is highest in Warren County at above \$60,000 and lowest in Hamilton County at \$42,457. All of the counties in Ohio are above the average for the State. Since Hamilton County had the highest per capita income, there are several possibilities that explain the difference. Hamilton County may have smaller households, or Hamilton County may have more statistically skewed data in which there are greater extremes at one end of the economic spectrum.

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Household Size

Table 2.3 Hamilton County Household Size

	1990	2000	Numeric change	% change
Total Population	866,228	845,303	-20,925	-2.4%
Total Housing Units	361,421	373,393	11,972	3.3%
Total Households	338,881	346,790	7,909	2.3%
Total Population in Households	845,879	826,329	-19,550	-2.3%
Total Population in Group Quarters	20,349	18,974	-1,375	-6.8%
Household Size	2.50	2.38	-0.11	-4.5%

Data in Table 2.3 was provided by Hamilton County Regional Planning and is based on census data. The trend clearly shows that while population has decreased, housing units have increased. This results in smaller household size as suggested above.

Percent Below Poverty Level

Figure 2.4 Percent of Population Living Below the Poverty Level

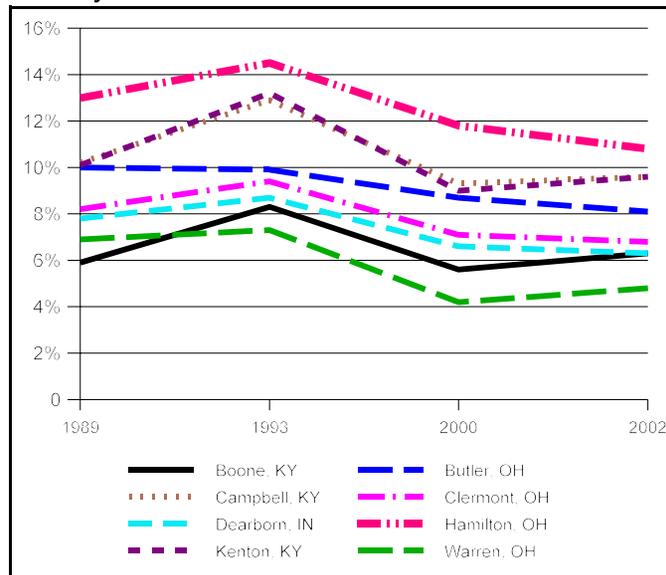


Figure 2.4 and Table 2.4 provide information about poverty in the region. Nationally, about the same proportion are living in poverty in 2002 as in 1989 (the first year for which data is available). Generally, fewer people live below the poverty level in Ohio than in the nation, and of the States for which information is provided, clearly Kentucky has the greatest proportion of its population living in poverty.

Table 2.4 Percent of Population Living Below the Poverty Level

Jurisdiction	1989	1993	2000	2002
US	12.8%	15.1%	12.4%	12.1%
Kentucky	17.2%	19.7%	15.8%	14.8%
Ohio	12.1%	13.7%	10.6%	10.2%
Indiana	10.3%	11.9%	9.5%	9.6%
Hamilton, OH	13.0%	14.5%	11.8%	10.8%
Campbell, KY	10.2%	12.9%	9.3%	9.6%
Kenton, KY	10.1%	13.2%	9.0%	9.6%
Butler, OH	10.0%	9.9%	8.7%	8.1%
Clermont, OH	8.2%	9.4%	7.1%	6.8%
Dearborn, IN	7.8%	8.7%	6.6%	6.3%
Boone, KY	5.9%	8.3%	5.6%	6.3%
Warren, OH	6.9%	7.3%	4.2%	4.8%

Of the Counties analyzed, Warren County has the smallest population living in poverty (estimated at less than five percent in 2002, and Hamilton County has the highest (estimated at 10.8%). There are two patterns shown in Figure 2.4.

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- Hamilton, Butler, Dearborn, and Clermont Counties show a continuing decrease in the proportion of individuals living below the poverty level.
- Boone, Campbell, Kenton, and Warren show an estimated increase in 2002.

Conclusions

It is often tempting to think when the population of a jurisdiction is declining that the increase in jail populations will surely begin to reverse itself. Unfortunately, that is rarely the case for at least two reasons. First, nearly all jurisdictions, particularly metropolitan areas, have a non-resident population that routinely passes through their jurisdiction; this group can also use criminal justice resources as either the victim of a crime or the perpetrator. Secondly, beyond the potential for a transient population, there is the very real issue of who leaves the jurisdiction and who stays, which is often a matter of economic development. If the population that remains in the jurisdiction is at greater risk of being involved with the justice system, then in spite of a decrease in County population, the jail population is likely to grow.

