

Population and Demographics

Chapter 6: Population and Demographics

Goal: There is no specific goal stated for population but all other goals depend on an understanding of population and demographics.

Purpose: The collection of demographic data is not only interesting but it provides a great deal of information about the Town of Clinton. The data will confirm intuitions about what is happening in the community and more importantly it can show new patterns and trends.

Historical Trends: Between 1920 and 1970, Clinton's year-round population grew at a relatively constant rate, reaching a level of 1,971 persons by 1970. During the 1970's, the Town grew by 37%, reaching a level of 2,696 persons in 1980. Between 1980 and 1990, the town gained 636 people for a gain of 23%. However, from 1990 to 2000, the Town's population remained somewhat the same with an increase of only 8. From 1960 to 2000, Clinton's growth exceeded the growth rate of Kennebec County and the State. However, from 2000 to 2010 Clinton's growth mirrored the Kennebec and State. Clinton's historical population figures, as well as those for Kennebec County and the State of Maine, are shown in Table 6-1 below.

Table 6-1 Population of Clinton, Kennebec County, and Maine 1920-2010			
Source: 2010 Census			
Year	Clinton	Kennebec County	Maine
1920	1,230	63,844	768,014
1930	1,354	70,691	797,423
1940	1,436	77,231	847,226
1950	1,623	83,881	914,950
1960	1,729	89,150	970,689
1970	1,971	95,247	992,048
1980	2,696	109,889	1,124,660
1990	3,332	115,904	1,227,928
2000	3,340	117,114	1,274,923
2010	3,486	122,151	1,328,361
1970-1980 change	37%	15%	13%
1980-1990 change	23%	5%	9%
1990-2000 change	0%	1%	4%
2000-2010 change	4%	4%	4%
1960-2010 change	101%	37%	37%

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Factors contributing to Clinton's growth between 1960 and 2010, during which time the Town's population almost doubled, include the national trend to migrate from urban to rural areas, the proximity of Clinton to Waterville, and the relatively low cost of land.

Regional Comparative Population Change: Table 6-2 contains a summary of population changes over the past 20 years for Clinton and a number of nearby communities, Kennebec County, and the State. As shown in the table, Clinton showed no growth or lost population during the 1990's. Only two other towns were lower. From 2000-2010, Clinton was the fourth in growth and matched the Kennebec County and State.

Table 6-2 Regional Comparative Population Change 1990 - 2010 Source: U.S. Census, 1990, 2000, 2010					
Town	1990	2000	2010	%Change 1990-2000	%Change 2000-2100
Clinton	3,332	3,340	3,486	0	4
Benton	2,312	2,557	2,732	11	7
Burnham	961	1,142	1,164	19	2
Canaan	1,636	2,017	2,275	23	13
China	3,713	4,106	4,328	11	5
Fairfield	6,718	6,573	6,735	-2	2
Norridgewock	3,105	3,794	3,367	6	-3
Skowhegan	8,725	8,824	8,589	1	-3
Vassalboro	3,679	4,047	4,340	10	7
Winslow	7,997	7,743	7,794	-3	1
Kennebec Co.	115,904	117,114	122,151	1	4
Maine	1,127,928	1,274,923	1,328,361	4	4

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Age Distribution: The age distribution groupings below in the Tables represent pre-school (under 5), school-age (5-17), childbearing age (18-44), middle-age (45-64), and seniors (65 and over).

Table 6-3 contains a summary of age distribution for Clinton, Kennebec County and the State for 2010. Clinton's age distribution is very similar to that of Kennebec County (Clinton has a slightly higher percentage of pre-schoolers and school-age children). Clinton mirrors the county and state in the "45-64" population. Clinton's population in the "65 and over" category is the fastest growing segment.

Table 6-3 Population by Age Category, 2010 Source : 2010 Census						
Age	Clinton		Kennebec County		State	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Under 5	190	6	6,334	5	69,520	5
5-17	608	17	18,974	15	205,013	15
18-44	1,181	34	39,633	33	432,072	33
45-64	1,083	31	38,250	31	410,676	31
65 and over	424	12	18,960	16	211,080	16
Total	3,486	100	122,151	100	1,328,361	100

Table 6-4 provides an overview of how the town's population changed during the 2000-2010 decade. The Town actually lost population in the first three groups. The largest percentage gain was in the "65 and over" category. The 5-17 school-age group indicates no changes are required for school services at this time.

Table 6-4 Clinton Population Growth by Age Category, 2000-2010 Source: Census 2000, 2010				
Age	2000	2010	2000-2010 Change	
			#	%
Under 5	222	190	-32	-14
5-17	666	608	-58	-9
18-44	1,311	1,181	-130	-10
45-64	825	1,083	258	31
65 and over	316	424	108	34
Total	3,340	3,486	146	4

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Table 6-5 shows household size in both 2000 and 2010. There has been an increase in total households of 134 with the largest increases in 1 and 2 person households.

Table 6-5			
Clinton Average Household Size			
Source: Census 2000, 2010			
Persons in household	Number of households 2000	Number of households 2010	Change
1	243	344	+101
2	485	537	+52
3	239	236	-3
4	203	173	-30
5	72	80	+8
6	25	33	+8
7 and over	11	9	-2
Total	1278	1412	134

Table 6-6 shows attainment of education by citizens 25 and over in Clinton. It should be noted that there are more high school graduates and there has been more attainment of college degrees.

Table 6-6		
Clinton Educational Attainment 25 years and over		
Source: Census 2000, 2010		
Education Level Attained	Attainment by Per Cent 2000	Attainment by Per Cent 2010 (Est)
Less than 9th grade	6.2	2.4
9 -12 no diploma	13.5	8.4
High School grad/equiv	47.4	43.7
Some college; no degree	18.6	16.9
Associate's Degree	5.4	13.6
Bachelor's Degree	6.1	11.0
Graduate or professional degree	2.8	4.0
Total	100	100

Median Household Income: Based on 2010 census, the median household income in Clinton (\$46,625) is lower than that of Kennebec County (\$50,116). Table 6-7 shows the estimated households by income group compared to Kennebec County median income.

Table 6-7			
Clinton's Income Groups Compared to Kennebec County's Median Income of \$50,116			
Source: 2017 American Community Survey Estimate (1377 households)			
Less 50% of median (\$25057) (very low)	51% - 80% (\$25058-\$40093) (low)	81%-150% (\$40094-\$75174) (moderate)	Over 151% (\$75175 and over) (middle to upper)
335	185	592	265

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Distribution of the Employed Population by Type of Occupation: Table 6-8 indicates that 75% of Clinton employees work in the service sector.

Table 6-8 Distribution of the Clinton Employed Population by Type of Occupation Source: 2017 American Community Survey Estimate	
Civilian employed population 16 years and over	1,331
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, and mining	65
Construction	64
Manufacturing	200
Wholesale trade	51
Retail trade	181
Transportation and warehousing, and utilities	33
Information	49
Finance and insurance, and real estate and rental and leasing	47
Professional, scientific, and management, and administrative and waste management services	28
Educational services, and health care and social assistance	399
Arts, entertainment, and recreation, and accommodation and food services	154
Other services, except public administration	37
Public administration	23

Commuter Population: Table 6-9 shows that in Clinton twice as many workers commute to the surrounding communities rather than work in Clinton. Therefore, daytime population of Clinton is smaller than the nighttime resident population.

Table 6-9 Clinton Commuter Population Workers 16 and over Source: 2013-2017 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates		
Worked in county of residence	69.5%	917
Worked outside county of residence	30.5%	402
Worked outside state of residence	0.0%	0
Workers worked in Clinton	31.8%	419
Worked in place of residence	3.5%/46	
Worked outside place of residence	28.4%/373	
Workers worked outside of Clinton	68.2%	900

Service Center: Tables 6-8 and 6-9 indicate that Clinton is not a service center.

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Population Projections: Table 6-10 shows how Clinton’s population is expected to change. The population is expected to decrease over the next 20 years. However, Table 6-4 shows that population under age 45 decreased and over 45 increased from 2000-2010. This trend is expected to continue. Kennebec County population decreases over the 20 years as well with Maine’s population remaining relatively stable.

Table 6-10				
Town of Clinton Population Observed and Projections				
Source: Maine State Planning Office				
Year	2007	2016	2026	2036
Clinton	3,360	3,355	3,142	2,931
Kennebec County	121,741	121,328	120,095	118,667
State of Maine	1,327,040	1,330,232	1,340,462	1,337,568

Seasonal Population by Household: Out of 1412 occupied households in Clinton in 2010, 41 were seasonal or recreational. (2010 Census)

Issues:

The town needs to monitor demographic trends so that applicable plan policies and municipal spending priorities may be modified to respond to changing conditions.

The town's population between 2000 and 2010 increased by 4%. However, population projections indicate that between 2016 and 2026 population will decrease.

Population increases and decreases that differ from projections need to be quickly identified.

Younger persons between 5 and 17 years old decreased in numbers between 2000 and 2010. This trend is expected to continue. School enrollment will be impacted.

The population is getting older. The median age increased from 35.7 years in 2000 to 40.5 years in 2010.

An older population will place different demands upon the community especially with respect to housing, healthcare, emergency services, and recreation.

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Policies: None required to meet state goals.

Strategies: None required to meet state goals.

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Issues identified by the Comprehensive Planning Committee with Strategies:

Issue	Strategy	Responsibility	Action Party	Coordinator	Implementation
Issue 6-1 Population and demographics change which can affect town resources	Monitor population and demographic trends for changes especially ages 5-17 as this may affect school enrollment and address different needs of the aging population	Selectmen	Town Manager	Planning Board, Budget Committee, School District, Spectrum Generations	To be determined after 2020 census data is available