

Collection

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*Projections of
the Population
of Oklahoma to
1970*

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Findings of the Study

Although projections of future populations are not blueprints for economic development, they provide a basis for planning a wide range of public and private activities at both the state and local levels. For example, the future needs for schools, colleges, hospitals, churches, housing, highways, streets, public utilities, retail, wholesale, and service establishments, and many other facilities and services are largely dependent upon the size and composition of the prospective population.

According to the 1950 Census of Population, the state had 2,233,351 residents. The uppermost questions probably are: How many people will Oklahoma have in 1960, at the next official census? How many in 1965? In 1970?

One cannot predict accurately the exact size of populations beyond the latest census date, because the precise course which births, deaths, and migrations will take is only conjectural. Accordingly, this study prepared, from an almost infinite number of likely possibilities, four separate sets of 1960, 1965, and 1970 projections to demarcate the potential range of Oklahoma populations, not as precise predictions, but as reasonable probabilities.

This study was made to seek replies to some of the many requests for information about Oklahoma population trends. In addition to supplying projections of school and college age populations and enrollments, it projects the future labor force and extensive age, sex, residential, and racial characteristics of the expected populations. Further, it recapitulates past trends and summarizes the principal projected population changes through 1970. Chiefly, they are:

Total Population. The projections indicate a steady, uninterrupted increase in Oklahoma's population after 1955. By 1970, between 2,294,000 and 3,017,000 people probably will be residing in the state, implying gains of 61,000 to 783,000 persons, or 3 to 35 percent, during 1950-70.

Productive Age Population. The size of Oklahoma's productive age population (20-64) is likely to remain on an even keel between 1950 and 1970; either small gains or losses are possible. Despite the lull in growth, the probable number of persons in the labor force will be 10 to 38 percent greater in 1970 than in 1950, with employed women accounting for most of the likely expansion. This indicates a need for 76,000 to 300,000 new jobs during this 20-year period.

Preschool Children. While the Oklahoma preschool age population may either expand or contract in size by 1970, there will be small to marked gains in the number of youth of elementary, high school, and college ages.

College Age Group. Oklahoma colleges will feel the greatest impact of these changes in youth population, as enrollments are likely to double between 1950 and 1970, rising to between 82,000 and 103,000 by 1970. This would be an increase of 40,000 to 60,000 students, or roughly 90 to 140 percent, since 1950.

School Age Group. Secondary school enrollments probably will grow by 16 to 43 percent, with elementary school enrollments expanding as much as 6 to 57 percent between 1950 and 1970.

Persons 65 and Over. That the aged population in Oklahoma will continue to enlarge is a foregone conclusion; between 66,000 and 83,000 persons 65 years of age and over will be added to the state's population by 1970.

Sex Ratio. The persistent decline in the sex ratio of Oklahoma's population will not be stemmed by 1970, when there will be only 97 to 98 males per 100 females. The higher mortality of males than of females in both white and non-white races will increase not only the disparity of females over males at older ages, but also the probability that husbands will die before their wives, thereby swelling the relative numbers of widows. Furthermore, the duration of widowhood for females will lengthen by 1970.

Rural-Urban Population. A sustained growth in the state's rural-nonfarm and urban populations likely will ensue, with gains of 48 to 108 percent by 1970 in the rural-nonfarm areas and of 12 to 33 percent in the cities. Moreover, the prospective urban population expansion will be much greater among whites than nonwhites, whereas the rate of growth in the rural-nonfarm areas will be approximately twice as high for the colored as for the white population.

Farm Population. The projections indicate that a drastic reduction in the size of the Oklahoma farm population is imminent, with the number of farm people falling from 553,000 in 1950 to between 217,000 and 380,000 in 1970. Furthermore, farm consolidation and automation may uproot as many as 170,000 to 335,000 persons.

Areas A and B. Oklahoma County (Area B) and Tulsa County (Area A) will experience marked population increases, with the 1950-70 period conferring probable gains of 270,000 to 428,000 persons, or 83 to 132 percent, in Oklahoma County and 165,000 to 225,000 people, or 66 to 102 percent, in Tulsa County. (The map on Page 31, shows the economic areas of Oklahoma.) Indeed, the prospective growth of these two areas accounts for practically all of the expected statewide population expansion. The projections indicate that between 42 and 44 percent of the future Oklahoma population will be concentrated into those two counties by 1970, compared to only 26 percent in 1950.

Some of the concomitant population changes in store for Areas A and B during 1950-70 are: **First**, there will be a rapidly growing number of customers for all types of consumer goods and services; **second**, both the elementary and

secondary school age populations will more than double in size; **third**, the population in the economically active ages will expand by 50 to 90 percent; and **fourth**, the number of elderly persons will more than double.

With the advent of the huge postwar population expansion, suburban communities became firmly implanted in the fringe areas of Oklahoma City, especially, and Tulsa. During 1940-50, for example, suburban population growth in Oklahoma and Tulsa counties outran that for both metropolises. But this is only a portent of that yet to come. The 1970 projections indicate that suburbs will continue to develop around the corporate limits of the central cities and reach out farther into the rural hinterlands, and that Oklahoma City and Tulsa will continue to be encircled by rapidly expanding satellite communities.

Areas 6, 7b, and 9. Areas 6, 7b, and 9 face population losses of 4 to 45 percent between 1950 and 1970. The only gains will be among the aged populations; by 1970, these areas can expect gains from 1,000 to 4,500 persons 65 years of age and over. Meanwhile, 12 to 50 percent of the productive age population will vanish, and the elementary and high school age populations will decline.

Other Areas. During 1950-70, the total number of people in Economic Areas 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7a, 8a, and 8b will remain almost static; these areas may either hold their own, or perchance experience either scant increases or declines. In any event, the projections indicate that no swift changes in total population are likely to arise by 1970. Area 2 will achieve elementary school age population gains; Areas 2 and 5 will record increases in their high school age populations; and only two economic areas, Areas 4 and 8b, have any prospects of attaining increases in the population in the main working ages (20-64 years). In the other six economic areas, there will be a thinning out in the number of school age and productive age populations. However, each of the eight areas will be swamped with rapidly expanding aged populations, thus conforming to the statewide pattern of mounting numbers of senior citizens.

During 1950-70, the number of farm people will practically plummet in every state economic area. Areas 4, 5, and 7a will export the largest relative numbers, for between 40 and 70 percent of the population may be dislodged from farms by 1970.

Projections of the Population of Oklahoma to 1970

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This report, the second of two publications, presents July 1, 1955, Oklahoma population estimates and July 1, 1960, 1965, and 1970, population projections.¹ Its five major objectives were to determine the following:

1. The population of the state of Oklahoma on July 1, 1955, 1960, 1965, and 1970.
2. The size of the prospective school and college age populations and enrollments.
3. The probable size of the future labor force.
4. The probable age, race, residence, and sex composition of the future populations.
5. The population of each of the 13 state economic areas for these four years.

¹The Bureau of the Census has released postcensal estimates of the total and civilian population of Oklahoma each year from July 1, 1950, through July 1, 1958, and has published projections of the Oklahoma college age population to 1973, and the total population to 1970, but it has prepared neither estimates nor projections of the population of the state, counties, or state economic areas by detailed age, race, residence, and sex characteristics. The following publications contain the official estimates and projections prepared by the Bureau of the Census: U. S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, *Current Population Reports, Population Estimates*, Series P-25, Nos. 194, 189, 186, 185, 178, 168, 165, 160, 151, 132, 110, and 56.

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Projection Procedure

The July 1, 1955, population estimates and July 1, 1960, 1965, and 1970, projections were computed by the component or "cohort-survival" method using a high-speed IBM 650 electronic computer. Only one set of July 1, 1955, population estimates was prepared, these figures being adjusted proportionately to add to the Bureau of the Census' official estimate of Oklahoma's total population on that date.

Four separate series of population projections were made for July 1, 1960, 1965, and 1970, each based on a different combination of assumptions regarding future birth, mortality, and net migration rates. For further information relative to the determination of projected populations and a description of the component method, see Oklahoma Agricultural Experiment Station Miscellaneous Publication MP-54, December, 1959. Unpublished tables showing 1955 population estimates and 1960, 1965, and 1970 projections of the 13 Oklahoma state economic areas, classified by age-race-residence-sex groups, are available upon request.

Inasmuch as one cannot predetermine the precise levels of the three variables affecting Oklahoma's future population—births, deaths, and net migration—the population projections presented herein are forecasts, not predictions. All four projections for 1960, 1965, and 1970 appear to be reasonably possible, but no one series is selected as the single best projection. Moreover, the highest and lowest projections should not be interpreted as encompassing the most probable size of the future population. Rather, they illustrate the possible variation in population size which will result if assumed birth, death, and net migration rates are actually realized. The user may, of course, choose any one of the projected series which seems most appropriate for his particular purpose.

The Future Population of Oklahoma

The total population of Oklahoma reached its summit in 1930 and has declined gradually since that time; the state, nevertheless, had approximately 163,000 more people in 1955 than in 1920. On July 1, 1955, an estimated 2,191,000 persons resided in Oklahoma, compared with 2,233,351 in 1950, 2,336,434 in 1940, 2,396,040 in 1930, and 2,028,283 in 1920.

Oklahoma's prospects for population growth to 1970 are portrayed in Table 1. The 1960 projections indicate that there will be between 2,221,000 and 2,333,000 inhabitants, reflecting a gain of 30,000 to 42,000 people between July

Table 1. Estimates and Projections of Oklahoma's Population, by Race and Sex.

Year and Projection Series	Total			White			Nonwhite		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
1950	2,233,351	1,115,555	1,117,796	2,032,526	1,017,323	1,015,203	200,825	98,232	102,593
1955	2,191,000	1,089,410	1,101,590	1,996,568	994,348	1,002,220	194,432	95,062	99,370
1960									
1	2,332,971	1,156,553	1,176,418	2,122,964	1,053,812	1,069,152	210,007	102,741	107,266
2	2,306,678	1,143,072	1,163,606	2,099,352	1,041,706	1,057,646	207,326	101,366	105,960
3	2,245,930	1,113,126	1,132,804	2,048,409	1,016,471	1,031,938	197,521	96,655	100,866
4	2,220,578	1,100,132	1,120,446	2,025,474	1,004,717	1,020,757	195,104	95,415	99,689
1965									
1	2,618,604	1,295,549	1,323,055	2,372,383	1,175,048	1,197,335	246,221	120,501	125,720
2	2,498,934	1,235,583	1,263,351	2,269,683	1,123,414	1,146,269	229,251	112,169	117,082
3	2,356,741	1,164,179	1,192,562	2,145,850	1,061,062	1,084,788	210,891	103,117	107,774
4	2,246,584	1,109,030	1,137,554	2,050,282	1,013,074	1,037,208	196,302	95,956	100,346
1970									
1	3,016,765	1,491,082	1,525,683	2,718,312	1,344,832	1,373,480	298,453	146,250	152,203
2	2,774,651	1,370,532	1,404,119	2,511,996	1,241,758	1,270,238	262,655	128,774	133,881
3	2,496,646	1,229,545	1,267,101	2,269,880	1,118,804	1,151,076	226,766	110,741	116,025
4	2,294,059	1,128,922	1,165,137	2,094,413	1,031,356	1,063,057	199,646	97,566	102,080
<u>Change in Projected Population, 1950-70</u>									
1	783,414	375,527	407,887	685,786	327,509	358,277	97,628	48,018	49,610
2	541,300	254,977	286,323	479,470	224,435	255,035	61,830	30,542	31,288
3	263,295	113,990	149,305	237,354	101,481	135,873	25,941	12,509	13,432
4	60,708	13,367	47,341	61,887	14,033	47,854	-1,179	-666	-513
<u>Percentage Change in Projected Population, 1950-70</u>									
1	35.1	33.7	36.5	33.7	32.2	35.3	48.6	48.9	48.4
2	24.2	22.9	25.6	23.6	22.1	25.1	30.8	31.1	30.5
3	11.8	10.2	13.4	11.7	10.0	13.4	12.9	12.7	13.1
4	2.7	1.2	4.2	3.0	1.4	4.7	-.6	-.7	-.5

Projections of Oklahoma's Population to 1970

1, 1955, and July 1, 1960. The population probably will expand by 26,000 to 286,000 persons during the next five-year period, giving an approximate total of 2,247,000 to 2,619,000 in 1965.

Between 1965 and 1970, Oklahoma's population should increase by another 47,000 to 398,000 persons, the total ranging from 2,294,000 to 3,017,000 in 1970. The lowest of the four 1970 projections (Series 4) provides an increment of nearly 61,000 persons, or 3 percent; the highest projection (Series 1) yields a population gain of 783,000, or 35 percent, between 1950 and 1970. In short, Oklahoma can expect small to substantial increases in its total population to 1970.

Probable Characteristics of the Future Population

Age Composition

Some notable changes will occur in the age distribution of Oklahoma's population between 1950 and 1970 (Tables 2 and 3). These prospective alterations, however, are not uniform for all age groups. **First**, there will be an upsurge in the population 55 years of age and over, with the gains amounting to about 60 percent for those 75 years of age and over. **Second**, a substantial enlargement will occur in the number of people 10-24 years of age. **Third**, relatively minor modifications are likely in the number of persons in ages 25 to 54, where divergent trends are shown by the four separate projections. **Fourth**, by far the greatest uncertainty is the change in the number of children under 10 years of age; either increases or declines may occur. In 1970, this group will be comprised of persons born between 1960 and 1970, and the number is, therefore, subject to extreme variation.

Despite the almost prodigious growth expected in the aged population between now and 1970, there will be a reversal in the long-term rise in the median age of Oklahoma's population. For example, the median age of the population of Oklahoma advanced three years between 1940 and 1955, going from 26.2 to 29.2 years, respectively. As a result of the high birth rates since World War II, the median age of Oklahoma's future population will fall during each of the three successive five-year periods, varying from 24.6 to 28.4 years in 1970.

Population of Preschool Age. There were nearly 230,000 children in the preschool ages (under 5 years) in 1955, or about 21,000 fewer than in 1950. The size of this group in 1960, 1965, and 1970 hinges, of course, upon the trend in the birth rates. By 1970, the projections show that Oklahoma can anticipate between 205,000 and 393,000 children of preschool age (Tables 2 and 3). Ac-

Table 2. Estimates and Projections of the Total Population, by Age, Oklahoma.

Age	Year and Projection Series													
	1950	1955	1960				1965				1970			
			1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
Oklahoma	2,233,351	2,191,000	2,332,971	2,306,678	2,245,930	2,220,578	2,618,604	2,498,934	2,356,741	2,246,584	3,016,765	2,774,651	2,496,646	2,294,059
0-4	240,458	229,709	262,380	236,087	253,449	228,097	308,222	297,951	21,208	204,203	393,119	360,035	224,205	204,707
5-9	211,222	232,426	238,322	238,322	230,851		281,646	245,690	263,698	229,941	333,011	312,265	221,430	207,698
10-14	187,701	190,778	226,685	226,685	217,090		244,265	234,936	227,800	218,836	288,946	242,577	260,611	218,572
15-19	178,872	164,281	185,465	185,465	175,058		236,209	224,177	215,177	203,766	258,055	236,593	229,775	210,222
20-24	166,422	153,875	160,213	160,213	149,201		198,058	185,653	175,882	164,260	258,056	230,554	222,028	197,522
25-29	168,673	148,400	150,867	150,867	141,519		170,227	160,459	149,831	140,803	214,960	190,622	181,154	159,762
30-34	152,762	151,407	145,641	145,641	139,077		155,146	148,380	139,398	133,136	177,064	160,008	149,666	134,803
35-39	155,009	137,560	147,011	147,011	141,683		147,267	142,370	136,094	131,482	157,080	145,223	136,558	126,126
40-44	147,428	138,668	132,527	132,527	128,197		147,112	142,796	137,755	133,666	147,886	139,081	133,048	125,122
45-49	131,715	132,041	132,573	132,573	128,515		131,129	127,482	123,415	119,945	146,200	138,341	133,574	126,428
50-54	113,988	117,619	125,016	125,016	121,528		129,397	126,013	122,236	118,998	128,406	121,814	118,011	111,985
55-59	100,972	101,251	110,082	110,082	107,500		120,109	117,426	114,214	111,635	124,773	118,912	115,413	109,995
60-64	85,340	88,154	93,141	93,141	91,336		103,712	101,783	99,435	97,562	113,694	109,156	106,228	101,977
65-69	74,127	72,469	78,519	78,519	77,277		85,037	83,760	82,163	80,911	95,364	92,227	90,132	87,149
70-74	53,991	60,128	61,578	61,578	61,064		68,256	67,690	66,643	66,089	74,794	73,073	71,700	70,037
75+	64,671	72,234	82,951	82,951	82,565		92,812	92,368	91,792	91,351	105,357	104,170	103,113	101,954
Adjusted for Census Under- enumeration of Children:														
All Ages	2,248,351	2,205,005	2,349,157	2,321,248	2,261,300	2,234,424	2,638,229	2,517,596	2,369,905	2,259,105	3,042,371	2,797,654	2,510,733	2,306,649
Under 5	255,458	243,714	278,566	250,657	268,819	241,943	327,847	316,613	224,372	216,724	418,725	383,038	238,292	217,297

Projections of Oklahoma's Population to 1970

Table 3. Projected Change in Oklahoma's Population, by Age, 1950-70.

Age	Projection Series							
	Number				Per Cent			
	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
Oklahoma	783,414	541,300	263,295	60,708	35.1	24.2	11.8	2.7
0-4	152,661	119,577	-16,253	-35,751	63.5	49.7	-6.8	-14.9
5-9	121,789	101,043	10,208	-3,524	57.7	47.8	4.8	-1.7
10-14	101,245	54,876	72,910	30,871	53.9	29.2	38.8	16.4
15-19	79,183	57,721	50,903	31,350	44.3	32.3	28.5	17.5
20-24	91,634	64,132	55,606	31,100	55.1	38.5	33.4	18.7
25-29	46,287	21,949	12,481	-8,911	27.4	13.0	7.4	-5.3
30-34	24,302	7,246	-3,096	-17,959	15.9	4.7	-2.0	-11.8
35-39	2,071	-9,786	-18,451	-28,883	1.3	-6.3	-11.9	-18.6
40-44	458	-8,347	-14,380	-22,306	.3	-5.7	-9.8	-15.1
45-49	14,485	6,626	1,859	-5,287	11.0	5.0	1.4	-4.0
50-54	14,418	7,826	4,023	-2,003	12.6	6.9	3.5	-1.8
55-59	23,801	17,940	14,441	9,023	23.6	17.8	14.3	8.9
60-64	28,354	23,816	20,888	16,637	33.2	27.9	24.5	19.5
65-69	21,237	18,100	16,005	13,022	28.6	24.4	21.6	17.5
70-74	20,803	19,082	17,709	16,046	38.5	35.3	32.8	29.7
75 +	40,686	39,499	38,442	37,283	62.9	61.1	59.4	57.7

Continued from Page 8

According to projection Series 1, this group will gain nearly 153,000 youngsters, or 64 percent, whereas projection Series 4 implies a decline of almost 36,000 children, or 15 percent.

Population of Elementary School Age. While the total population of Oklahoma decreased by 42,000 persons during April 1, 1950, and July 1, 1955, the number of children of elementary school age (5-13 years) grew by more than 26,000, gaining over 7 percent (Table 4).²

Between 1955 and 1960, Oklahoma may expect a further increase of 20,000 to 35,000 in the number of youngsters of elementary school age, raising the total to around 408,000 to 423,000 in 1960. Beginning with 1965, the projected numbers will range from 406,000 and 478,000. The 1970 projections show between 383,000 and 567,000 children in this age group, denoting probable increases of 6 to 57 percent between 1950 and 1970.

Population of High School Age. The number of Oklahoma youths of high school age (14-17) has dwindled steadily from 195,000 in 1940, to 147,000 in 1950, and to 136,000 in 1955 (Table 4).

This group will swell gradually, as the large numbers of children born during the postwar years reach high school age. By 1970, it will number between 171,000 and 210,000, signifying gains of from about 16 to over 40 percent during 1950-70.

Population of College Age.³ The number of Oklahomans of college age has also waned since 1940. In 1940, approximately 181,000 persons were 18 to 21 years of age, compared with 135,000 in 1950, and 126,000 in 1955 (Table 4). Those in this age group in 1955 were born during the middle of the 1930's when the birth rate was at the lowest level in the nation's history.

All four projections suggest marked gains in the prospective number of college age youth. By 1970, this population should stand between 165,000 and 207,000, evidencing gains from 22 to 54 percent since 1950.

²Population estimates and projections were prepared by conventional five-year age groups, i. e., 0-4, 5-9, 10-14, up to 75 years of age and over. Then, Sprague mid-panel multipliers were applied to the 10-14, 15-19, and 20-24 year-old populations to obtain estimates for single years of age. The multipliers were taken from A. J. Jaffe, *Handbook of Statistical Methods for Demographers*, U. S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Washington 25, D. C., 1951, p. 95.

³All persons reaching college age (18-21) in 1970 were living on July 1, 1955. Hence, the 1970 college age projections do not involve estimates of future births; only mortality and net migration will affect the number living in Oklahoma on that date. Accordingly, the 1970 projections of college age populations are more reliable than 1970 projections of children under 15 years of age, the estimates for which must be based partly upon forecasts of future births occurring between 1955 and 1970.

Table 4. Estimates and Projections of Oklahoma's School and College Age Populations.

Year and Projection Series	Population 5-13 Years of Age (1)	Population 14-17 Years of Age (2)	Population 18-21 Years of Age (3)
1940	413,555	195,072	181,263
1950	361,639	146,705	135,138
1955	387,761	136,009	126,105
1960	1 422,539	158,036	136,027
	2 422,580	157,995	136,027
	3 407,490	149,880	127,320
	4 407,531	149,839	127,320
1965	1 477,943	192,692	175,310
	2 434,077	184,493	164,961
	3 447,232	176,770	157,593
	4 405,878	168,950	147,842
1970	1 567,283	210,313	207,372
	2 508,165	188,358	189,617
	3 431,157	190,906	180,880
	4 382,755	170,749	164,929
Projected Change in Population, 1950-70			
	1 205,644	63,608	72,234
	2 146,526	41,653	54,479
	3 69,518	44,201	45,742
	4 21,116	24,044	29,791
Percentage Change in Projected Population, 1950-70			
	1 56.9	43.4	53.5
	2 40.5	28.4	40.3
	3 19.2	30.1	33.8
	4 5.8	16.4	22.0

Source: 1940 U.S. Census of Population, Characteristics of the Population, Oklahoma, Second Series, Table 21, and 1950 U.S. Census of Population, General Characteristics, Oklahoma, P-B36, Table 41.

Population of Working Age. The number of persons in the principal working ages (20-64 years) has diminished gradually since 1940. For example, the Oklahoma population in the productive ages dropped from almost 1,268,000 in 1940 to 1,222,000 in 1950, further slipping to 1,169,000 in 1955 (Table 5).⁴ Whereas the number of older workers (45-64 years of age) has risen, the number of younger persons (20-44 years) has waned steadily.

The projections reveal that the number of persons in the older working ages (45-64 years) will mount progressively from 1950 onward, resulting in 4 to 19

⁴Over 88 percent of all Oklahomans in the labor force in 1950 were 20-64 years of age.

Table 5. Estimates and Projections of the Productive and Aged Populations, Oklahoma

Year and Projection Series	Population 20-64 Years of Age			Population 65 Years of Age and Over
	Total	20-44 Years of Age	45-64 Years of Age	
1940	1,267,553	868,565	398,988	144,934
1950	1,222,309	790,294	432,015	192,789
1955	1,168,975	729,910	439,065	204,831
1960	1)- 1,197,071	736,259	460,812	223,048
	2)			
	3)- 1,148,556	699,677	448,879	220,926
	4)			
1965	1 1,302,157	817,810	484,347	246,105
	2 1,252,362	779,658	472,704	243,818
	3 1,198,260	738,960	459,300	240,598
	4 1,151,487	703,347	448,140	238,351
1970	1 1,468,119	955,046	513,073	275,515
	2 1,353,711	865,488	488,223	269,470
	3 1,295,680	822,454	473,226	264,945
	4 1,193,720	743,335	450,385	259,140
<u>Projected Change in Population, 1950-70</u>				
	1 245,810	164,752	81,058	82,726
	2 131,402	75,194	56,208	76,681
	3 73,371	32,160	41,211	72,156
	4 -28,589	-46,959	18,370	66,351
<u>Percentage Change in Projected Population, 1950-70</u>				
	1 20.1	20.8	18.8	42.9
	2 10.8	9.5	13.0	39.8
	3 6.0	4.1	9.5	37.4
	4 -2.3	-5.9	4.3	34.4

percent increases, buttressing the size of this group by 18,000 to 81,000 people, between 1950 and 1970. On the other hand, the number of persons in the young productive ages (20-44 years) may taper off until 1960, with an upturn after that date. Thus, in 1970, as compared to 1950, there may be either 29,000 fewer or 246,000 more persons in the main working ages. Furthermore, the proportion of the total population in the productive ages will diminish from 55 percent of the total in 1950, and 53 percent in 1955, to between 49 and 52 percent in 1970. This will inflate the proportionate numbers of people in the dependent ages—both the youth and aged combined.

The Aged Population. The number of elderly persons (65 years of age and over) has risen precipitously in Oklahoma, jumping from 145,000 in 1940, to 193,000 in 1950, and to nearly 205,000 in 1955 (Table 5). This striking growth is due, primarily, to the recent settlement of Oklahoma. Thousands upon thous-

ands of young adults migrated to the state during territorial days and early statehood, between 1890 and 1920, and the survivors of this initial immigration have swollen the present numbers of aged persons. Declining death rates in lower age groups are also factors raising the numbers of elders in the state.

Indeed, the changes since 1940 serve as a harbinger of the future; this prolific build-up in the aged population will persist, at an undiminished rate, through 1970. Whereupon, the number of persons 65 years of age and over will range from 259,000 to 276,000, signaling absolute gains of 66,000 to 83,000 oldsters, or 34 to 43 percent, between 1950 and 1970. Moreover, the relative size of the aged population will rise from 8.6 percent of the total population in 1950, and 9.3 percent in 1955, to between 9.6 and 10.0 percent in 1960. By 1970, the superannuated individuals will comprise from 9.1 to 11.3 percent of the state's population.

The continued extension of average life expectancy will not only bolster the number of persons 65 years of age and over, but will also lengthen the period of old-age dependency, as the following figures show:

First, increased chances of survival will prolong lives, enabling larger numbers to live to retirement age. About 72,980 Oklahoma white males and 64,530 nonwhite males out of every 100,000 born in 1970, assuming they are subject throughout life to projected mortality rates for that year, can expect to attain age 65, compared to 66,640 white males and 52,110 nonwhite males in 1950.

Second, between 1950 and 1970 the probable average duration of the retirement period will protract as follows: An Oklahoma white male worker who retired in 1950 at age 65 could expect to celebrate his 78th birthday, living almost to his 79th birth date. By 1970, one who retires at the same age can almost expect to reach his 80th birthday, living 1.1 years longer than in 1950. Correspondingly, a nonwhite Oklahoma man at age 65 in 1970 is likely to live nearly 2.5 years longer than one of the same age in 1950.⁵

Third, the pronounced pattern of earlier exit of older male workers from the labor force will also extend the average length of the period of old-age dependency, greatly intensifying the field of geriatrics. The perplexing problems associated with rising numbers of aged persons, prolonged retirement on limited incomes, infirmity and ill health, social isolation, and dependency will become, therefore, increasingly onerous in the immediate future. A progressively bulging

⁵Wolfbein estimates that the average number of years that men have spent in retirement has more than doubled since 1900, and current trends point toward a tripling of this figure by 2000. For example, in 1900 a U. S. male worker 20 years of age could look forward to living 42.2 additional years, spending 39.4 years working and 2.8 years in retirement. By 1955, a male worker of the same age could expect to live 49.5 years, having a working life expectancy of 43.0 years and a period of retirement of 6.5 years. Source: Seymour L. Wolfbein, "The Length of Working Life," mimeographed paper presented at the Fourth International Gerontological Congress, Merano, Italy, July, 1957, p. 5.

old-age dependency load is certain to continue in Oklahoma, thereby accentuating existing gerontological problems.

Over 100,000 persons are on the public old-age assistance rolls; in the past, Oklahoma has ranked second only to Louisiana in per capita state payments for this purpose. But, in 1957, Oklahoma passed Louisiana; it now is first, even leading the 30-odd states having higher per capita personal incomes than Oklahoma.

Sex Composition

Early Oklahoma settlers contained a disproportionately large number of males. As late as 1910, the sex ratio was 113.7 males per 100 females. Since that time, the sex ratio has diminished consistently as the excess of males over females has disappeared.

The sex ratio dipped to 109.0 in 1920, to 106.1 in 1930, to 102.4 in 1940, and to 99.8 in 1950, when, for the first time in the state's history, females outnumbered males. The downward trend continued from 1950 to 1955, when the sex ratio declined to 98.9.

The decline in the sex ratios since 1910 will persist in the visible future, because the projected increase of females surpasses that of the males (Table 1). At the halfway point in the projection period (1960), the probable sex ratio will vary from 98.2 to 98.3, shrinking to between 97.5 and 97.9 in 1965, and reaching an all-time low of between 96.9 and 97.7 in 1970.

The most noteworthy change in the sex ratio will occur in the population 50 years of age and over, where it will plunge drastically, since females will increase much more rapidly than males of middle and advanced ages (Table 6). This trend is ascribable, as the following figures demonstrate, to the lower mortality of females than of males:

In 1950 the average life expectancy at birth for Oklahoma white females exceeded that for white males by 6.5 years; and by 1970 the differential will be 7.7 years. For Oklahoma nonwhites, it was 4.0 years greater for females than for males in 1950, and will spread to 5.4 years by 1970. Moreover, in 1950, about 80,790 Oklahoma white females out of each 100,000 born, as compared to 66,640 white males, could expect to attain age 65. By 1970, approximately 88,890 Oklahoma white females and 72,980 white males out of each cohort of 100,000 live births, can expect to live to 65 years of age. From 1950 to 1970, the female excess will rise from 14,150 to 15,910 for whites, and from 6,870 to 9,310 for nonwhites at age 65.

These probable sex differentials in life expectancy will not only augment the disproportionate number of females at older ages and further depress the sex

Table 6. Sex Ratios of Oklahoma's Population, by Age, 1950 and 1970.

Age	Year and Projection Series				
	1950	1970			
		1	2	3	4
Oklahoma	99.8	97.7	97.6	97.0	96.9
0-4	103.8	105.2	105.2	105.2	105.3
5-9	104.3	105.6	105.9	105.9	106.2
10-14	104.7	103.7	104.3	104.3	104.9
15-19	102.0	99.2	100.3	100.4	101.8
20-24	98.6	96.7	97.7	98.1	99.4
25-29	97.7	100.5	100.2	101.2	101.0
30-34	96.0	106.9	106.0	106.4	105.4
35-39	94.5	103.7	103.3	102.9	102.3
40-44	97.3	101.3	101.1	100.7	100.4
45-49	96.9	99.0	98.9	98.9	98.8
50-54	99.4	93.3	93.1	93.1	93.0
55-59	98.2	86.7	86.3	86.1	85.6
60-64	98.5	83.8	83.5	83.2	82.9
65-69	97.5	78.4	78.4	78.1	78.1
70-74	100.1	74.9	75.0	74.9	75.0
75 +	100.9	71.9	71.9	72.0	72.0

ratios in these age groups, but also will increase the probability that wives will outlive their husbands, further enlarging the numbers of widowed females. Because of the continuing improvement in longevity, widowed women will have a longer period of widowhood in 1970 than at present. The problems associated with widowhood will, therefore, multiply in the forthcoming years.

Color Composition

The racial composition of Oklahoma's population has undergone a gradual modification since statehood, with the proportion of whites in the total population increasing and the percentage of nonwhites decreasing. While whites constituted 87.2 percent of the total in 1910, they comprised 91.0 percent of the total in 1950, and 91.1 percent in 1955.

Although the rate of natural increase is higher for nonwhites than whites, nonwhites have dwindled proportionally because: **First**, their emigration rate from Oklahoma is much higher than that of whites, being about 1.75 times the white rate;⁶ and **second**, the last two censuses enumerated many Indians, perhaps

⁶See James D. Tarver, *Population Change and Migration in Oklahoma, 1940-50, Oklahoma AES Bull. No. B-485, January, 1957, Table 2.*

several thousands, as whites. This distorts the actual trends, paring the proportion of nonwhites, while exaggerating that of whites.

The projections indicate that no consequential change will occur in the racial composition of the Oklahoma population between 1955 and 1970. Whereas whites accounted for 91.1 percent of the total in 1955, their proportions will range from 91.1 to 91.2 in 1960, from 90.6 to 91.3 in 1965, and between 90.1 and 91.3 in 1970.

By 1970, whites will be 3 to 34 percent more numerous, with nonwhites either 1 percent fewer or 49 percent greater, than in 1950 (Table 1). At ages 5 to 24 and 75 years and over, increases of nonwhites will be relatively greater, in each sex, than for the corresponding white population (Tables 7-10).

In contrast, whites between 40 and 74 years of age will either increase at a somewhat higher rate or decline by a smaller proportion than nonwhites. Between 1950 and 1970, nonwhite males 40-64 years of age and nonwhite females 35-54 years of age are likely to experience relatively large population losses.

The sex ratio of the whites will decline appreciably, ranging between 97.0 and 97.9 in 1970, compared with 100.2 in 1950 and 99.2 in 1955 (Table 11). Simultaneously, that of nonwhites will remain practically stationary, standing between 95.6 and 96.1 in 1970, as compared to 95.7 in 1950 and 1955. At 45 years of age and over for nonwhites and 50 years and over for whites, the sex ratios will fall, with the proportionate decreases becoming greater as age increases. By 1970, white females in advanced ages will outnumber white males to a much greater extent than in 1950. For instance, the 1970 sex ratio of the white population 75 years of age and over will be pared to about 70 and that of the nonwhite population will be 83 or 84. Furthermore, the number of colored women will become larger than the number of colored men at 60 years of age and over.

Residential Composition

Oklahoma was predominantly a rural state in 1920, with approximately half of its people residing on farms, one-quarter living in small towns and villages, and a quarter in cities of 2,500 population and over. The number of rural-nonfarm residents has increased slightly since 1920, but the proportion of the state's population living in rural-nonfarm areas was practically the same in 1950 as 30 years earlier. The two residential shifts which foreshadow all others is the rapid growth of the urban and the decline of the rural-farm population. The urban population more than doubled between 1920 and 1950, when it com-

Table 7. Estimates and Projections of the White Male Population, by Age, Oklahoma.

Age	Year and Projection Series													
	1950	1955	1960				1965				1970			
			1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
Oklahoma	1,017,323	994,348	1,053,312	1,041,706	1,016,471	1,004,717	1,175,048	1,123,414	1,061,062	1,013,074	1,344,832	1,241,758	1,118,804	1,031,356
0-4	109,644	106,012	120,665	108,559	117,208	105,454	140,193	136,286	96,783	94,081	177,253	163,451	102,425	94,198
5-9	96,961	105,065	108,709		105,639		127,606	111,658	120,608	105,471	149,012	141,095	100,241	94,890
10-14	85,867	87,378	101,980		97,903		110,349	106,407	103,477	99,681	129,726	109,531	118,370	99,832
15-19	81,549	75,255	84,237		79,847		104,500	99,629	95,866	91,256	114,091	105,378	102,592	94,650
20-24	75,823	70,340	73,291		68,567		89,087	83,801	79,809	74,835	112,868	101,766	98,307	88,350
25-29	77,041	68,084	69,385		65,204		78,758	74,326	69,697	65,560	97,930	87,146	83,345	73,734
30-34	69,334	69,985	67,531		64,494		72,226	69,122	65,011	62,105	83,436	75,485	70,893	63,844
35-39	69,472	63,074	68,520		66,187		68,801	66,626	63,675	61,607	73,727	68,347	64,312	59,481
40-44	67,120	62,443	60,992		59,115		68,826	66,919	64,691	62,863	69,410	65,478	62,609	59,010
45-49	59,390	59,917	59,502		57,724		60,142	58,542	56,773	55,240	68,200	64,725	62,611	59,409
50-54	52,192	52,534	56,143		54,571		57,433	55,933	54,291	52,857	58,225	55,333	53,688	51,035
55-59	45,841	45,358	48,193		46,983		52,357	51,603	50,180	48,975	54,185	51,566	50,072	47,657
60-64	38,792	38,989	40,577		39,766		44,051	43,206	42,135	41,320	48,443	46,416	45,154	43,265
65-69	33,577	31,958	33,543		33,079		35,605	35,126	34,433	33,969	38,822	37,579	36,657	35,481
70-74	24,817	26,063	25,891		25,691		27,688	27,477	27,097	26,889	29,595	28,979	28,411	27,820
75 +	29,903	31,893	34,653		34,493		36,926	36,753	36,536	36,365	39,909	39,483	39,117	38,700
Adjusted for Census Underenumeration of Children:														
All Ages	1,022,323	999,182	1,059,314	1,046,656	1,021,315	1,009,526	1,181,441	1,129,628	1,065,475	1,017,364	1,352,915	1,249,211	1,123,474	1,035,651
Under 5	114,644	110,846	126,167	113,509	122,552	110,263	146,586	142,500	101,196	98,371	185,336	170,904	107,095	98,493

Table 8. Estimates and Projections of the White Female Population, by Age, Oklahoma.

Age	Year and Projection Series													
	1950	1955	1960				1965				1970			
			1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
Oklahoma	1,015,203	1,002,220	1,069,152	1,057,646	1,031,938	1,020,757	1,197,335	1,146,269	1,084,788	1,037,208	1,373,480	1,270,238	1,151,076	1,063,057
0-4	105,134	100,872	114,657	103,151	111,480	100,299	133,063	129,477	91,946	89,459	168,270	155,323	97,326	89,599
5-9	92,537	99,896		102,776		99,729	120,608	105,396	113,959	99,514	140,688	133,173	94,614	89,522
10-14	82,022	83,781		97,988		93,761	106,225	102,026	99,113	95,058	124,953	104,970	113,582	95,254
15-19	79,400	72,540		82,591		77,958	104,122	98,748	94,696	89,577	114,970	105,057	102,248	93,123
20-24	76,387	69,410		71,652		66,889	89,716	84,246	79,686	74,538	116,285	103,832	99,841	88,653
25-29	78,188	68,587		68,383		64,408	75,896	71,833	67,163	63,383	97,239	86,689	82,105	72,757
30-34	71,474	70,278		67,159		64,377	69,847	67,066	63,258	60,667	78,023	71,115	66,555	60,464
35-39	72,765	64,605		68,219		65,880	67,684	65,595	62,940	60,965	70,445	65,578	61,907	57,583
40-44	68,256	65,650		62,439		60,497	68,246	66,357	64,142	62,350	67,903	64,147	61,602	58,208
45-49	60,950	61,985		63,360		61,534	62,203	60,542	58,710	57,123	68,258	64,765	62,661	59,474
50-54	52,404	55,517		59,643		58,085	62,744	61,200	59,472	57,989	61,794	58,748	57,014	54,205
55-59	46,752	47,910		53,245		52,104	58,640	57,437	55,969	54,806	61,922	59,214	57,577	55,052
60-64	39,514	42,288		45,528		44,729	51,755	50,877	49,801	48,943	57,303	55,198	53,815	51,824
65-69	34,569	34,934		39,101		38,525	43,145	42,531	41,792	41,185	49,417	47,902	46,903	45,448
70-74	24,925	29,366		31,073		30,828	35,511	35,229	34,716	34,441	39,716	38,844	38,178	37,332
75 +	29,926	34,601		41,338		41,154	47,930	47,709	47,425	47,210	56,294	55,683	55,148	54,559
Adjusted for Census Underenumeration of Children:														
All Ages	1,019,203	1,006,058	1,073,514	1,061,570	1,036,179	1,024,573	1,202,397	1,151,195	1,088,286	1,040,611	1,379,882	1,276,147	1,154,779	1,066,466
Under 5	109,134	104,710	119,019	107,075	115,721	104,115	138,125	134,403	95,444	92,862	174,672	161,232	101,029	93,008

Table 9. Estimates and Projections of the Nonwhite Male Population, by Age, Oklahoma.

Age	Year and Projection Series													
	1950	1955	1960				1965				1970			
			1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
Oklahoma:	98,232	95,062	102,741	101,366	96,655	95,415	120,501	112,169	103,117	95,956	146,250	128,774	110,741	97,566
0-4	12,815	11,755	13,846	12,471	12,732	11,492	17,825	16,491	11,516	10,641	24,279	21,143	12,543	10,792
5-9	10,896	13,798	13,848		13,195		17,095	14,685	15,013	12,908	22,064	19,513	13,645	12,058
10-14	10,136	9,847	13,343		12,750		14,104	13,549	12,926	12,408	17,339	14,291	14,648	12,090
15-19	8,775	8,443	9,285		8,628		13,534	12,712	12,175	11,401	14,411	13,119	12,529	11,401
20-24	6,796	6,862	7,787		7,013		9,505	8,687	8,124	7,381	13,994	12,141	11,666	10,094
25-29	6,313	5,544	6,317		5,690		7,975	7,281	6,617	6,008	9,796	8,253	7,770	6,525
30-34	5,482	5,203	5,184		4,808		6,333	5,874	5,318	4,922	8,040	6,848	6,261	5,328
35-39	5,845	4,493	4,781		4,471		5,097	4,795	4,458	4,190	6,247	5,428	4,927	4,289
40-44	5,579	4,756	4,102		3,847		4,668	4,405	4,125	3,890	4,995	4,447	4,137	3,688
45-49	5,435	4,595	4,321		4,085		3,950	3,749	3,521	3,338	4,521	4,062	3,808	3,425
50-54	4,625	4,488	4,133		3,948		4,069	3,899	3,689	3,528	3,740	3,405	3,203	2,916
55-59	4,133*	3,374	4,001		3,887		3,795	3,686	3,525	3,425	3,755	3,501	3,312	3,084
60-64	3,553*	3,412	3,365		3,269		3,573	3,495	3,395	3,321	3,405	3,239	3,098	2,946
65-69	3,026*	2,768	2,835		2,762		2,899	2,833	2,771	2,700	3,091	2,956	2,869	2,744
70-74	2,109	2,239	2,204		2,176		2,348	2,317	2,258	2,229	2,428	2,343	2,293	2,207
75 +	2,579	2,935	3,389		3,374		3,731	3,711	3,686	3,666	4,145	4,085	4,032	3,979
Adjusted for Census Underenumeration of Children:														
All Ages	101,232	97,814	105,982	104,286	99,635	93,105	124,674	116,030	105,813	98,447	151,933	133,724	113,677	100,092
Under 5	15,815	14,507	17,087	15,391	15,712	14,182	21,998	20,352	14,212	13,132	29,962	26,093	15,479	13,318

* 1950 populations 55-69 years of age corrected for misstatement of ages.

Table 10. Estimates and Projections of the Nonwhite Female Population, by Age, Oklahoma.

Age	Year and Projection Series													
	1950	1955	1960				1965				1970			
			1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
Oklahoma	102,593	99,370	107,266	105,760	100,866	99,689	125,720	117,082	107,774	101,346	152,203	133,881	116,025	102,080
0-4	12,865	11,770	13,212	11,906	12,029	10,852	17,141	15,697	10,963	10,022	23,317	20,118	11,911	10,118
5-9	10,828	13,667		12,989		12,288	16,337	13,951	14,118	12,048	21,247	18,484	12,930	11,228
10-14	9,676	9,772		13,374		12,676	13,587	12,954	12,284	11,689	16,928	13,785	14,011	11,396
15-19	9,148	8,043		9,352		8,625	14,053	13,088	12,440	11,532	14,583	13,039	12,406	11,048
20-24	7,416	7,263		7,483		6,732	9,750	8,919	8,263	7,506	14,909	12,815	12,214	10,425
25-29	7,131	6,185		6,782		6,217	7,598	7,019	6,354	5,852	9,995	8,534	7,934	6,746
30-34	6,472	5,941		5,767		5,398	6,740	6,318	5,811	5,442	7,565	6,560	5,957	5,167
35-39	6,927	5,388		5,491		5,145	5,685	5,354	5,021	4,720	6,661	5,870	5,412	4,773
40-44	6,473	5,819		4,994		4,738	5,372	5,115	4,797	4,563	5,578	5,009	4,700	4,216
45-49	5,940	5,544		5,390		5,172	4,834	4,649	4,411	4,244	5,221	4,789	4,494	4,120
50-54	4,767	5,080		5,097		4,924	5,151	4,981	4,784	4,624	4,647	4,328	4,106	3,829
55-59	4,191*	4,109		4,643		4,526	4,817	4,700	4,540	4,429	4,911	4,631	4,452	4,202
60-64	3,481*	3,465		3,671		3,552	4,333	4,205	4,104	3,978	4,543	4,303	4,161	3,942
65-69	2,955*	2,809		3,740		2,931	3,388	3,270	3,167	3,057	4,034	3,790	3,703	3,476
70-74	2,060	2,410		2,410		2,369	2,709	2,667	2,572	2,530	3,055	2,907	2,818	2,678
75+	2,263	2,805		3,571		3,544	4,225	4,195	4,145	4,110	5,009	4,919	4,816	4,716
Adjusted for Census Under- enumeration of Children:														
All Ages	105,593	101,951	110,347	108,736	103,671	102,220	129,717	120,743	110,231	102,683	157,641	138,573	118,803	104,440
Under 5	15,865	13,651	16,293	14,682	14,834	13,383	21,138	19,358	13,520	12,359	28,755	24,809	14,689	12,478

* 1950 populations 55-69 years of age corrected for misstatement of ages.

Table 11. Sex Ratios of Oklahoma's Population, by Age and Race, 1950 and 1970.

Age	Year and Projection Series									
	Whites					Nonwhites				
	1950	1970				1950	1970			
	1	2	3	4		1	2	3	4	
Oklahoma	100.2	97.9	97.8	97.2	97.0	95.7	96.1	96.2	95.4	95.6
0-4	104.3	105.3	105.2	105.2	105.1	99.6	104.1	105.1	105.3	106.7
5-9	104.8	105.9	105.9	105.9	106.0	100.6	103.8	105.6	105.5	107.4
10-14	104.7	103.8	104.3	104.2	104.8	104.8	102.4	103.7	104.5	106.1
15-19	102.7	99.2	100.3	100.3	101.6	95.9	98.8	100.6	101.0	103.2
20-24	99.3	97.1	98.0	98.5	99.7	91.6	93.9	94.7	95.5	96.8
25-29	98.5	100.7	100.5	101.5	101.3	88.5	98.0	96.7	97.9	96.7
30-34	97.0	106.9	106.1	106.5	105.6	84.7	106.3	104.4	105.1	103.1
35-39	95.5	104.7	104.2	103.9	103.3	84.4	93.8	92.5	91.0	89.9
40-44	98.3	102.2	102.1	101.6	101.4	86.2	89.5	88.8	88.0	87.5
45-49	97.4	99.9	99.9	99.9	99.9	91.5	86.6	84.8	84.7	83.1
50-54	99.6	94.2	94.2	94.2	94.2	97.0	80.5	78.7	78.0	76.2
55-59	98.1	87.5	87.1	87.0	86.6	99.9	76.5	75.6	74.4	73.4
60-64	98.2	84.5	84.1	83.9	83.5	102.1	75.0	75.3	74.5	74.7
65-69	97.1	78.6	78.4	78.2	78.1	102.4	76.6	78.0	77.5	78.9
70-74	99.6	74.5	74.6	74.4	74.5	106.3	79.5	80.6	81.4	82.4
75+	99.9	70.9	70.9	70.9	70.9	114.0	82.8	83.0	83.7	84.4

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prised over half of the state total. Meanwhile, the farm population shrank by approximately one-half, or to less than a fourth of the state's 1950 total.

It is very unlikely that these long-continuing trends in the residential composition of Oklahoma's population will be arrested or reversed capriciously between now and 1970. Nevertheless, any projections of future Oklahoma urban, rural-nonfarm, and rural-farm populations are likely to be unrealistic.⁷

Therefore, the figures should be used with caution, and their limitations taken into account.

The projection techniques for the three residential populations assume that the cities and other areas which were urban in 1950 will remain so throughout 1970.⁸ Hence, they make no allowance for the appearance of new urban places or the retrogression of any 1950 urban areas to rural-nonfarm status.

Also, the 1950 definitions of urban and rural-farm residents were used in preparing 1955 estimates and 1960, 1965, and 1970 projections of the three residential populations, thereby making no allowance for future changes in definition. As a result, the projections underestimate the probable size of the future urban population and overstate the prospective rural-nonfarm and rural-farm populations. Since to undertake any corrections in the figures would be too presumptuous, the original residential estimates and projections are maintained.

The residential population estimates and projections herald the following trends:

First, the Oklahoma farm population will diminish steadily, losing 173,000 to 336,000 people, or about 30 to 60 percent, between 1950 and 1970. Should this

⁷Two factors, namely changes in definition and classification of residential areas, make it impossible to project, with any degree of accuracy, the probable future Oklahoma populations residing in urban centers, and in rural-nonfarm and rural-farm areas. *First*, it is not possible to forecast the number of towns of less than 2,500 people that will attain urban status, a population of 2,500 or more inhabitants, during any future five- or ten-year period. Likewise, one is unable to estimate how many urban centers will shift from urban to rural-nonfarm status, or how many new urban places will arise during any future period. Even if one could estimate the number of places involving changes in rural-urban residence, he would be unable to estimate the population of such towns and cities. *Second*, any future changes in the definition of urban, rural-nonfarm, and rural-farm residence, similar to those made in 1950, will also effect the numbers of persons living in each of the three residential areas. For example, the new definition of a farm adopted in the 1959 Census of Agriculture and the 1960 Census of Population and Housing will reduce the size of the farm population. A household (family and all other occupants) will be classified as living on a farm if (1) there are 10 or more acres in the place and the value of products sold was \$50 or more, or (2) if the place contained fewer than 10 acres but the value of products sold amounted to \$250 or more. Probably two-thirds of the farms now classified as "residential" will not be counted as farms in 1959 and 1960. Additional changes in definitions are likely to occur in 1970, thereby rendering any population projections incomparable with future census enumerations.

⁸See section on "Adjustments of Population and Vital Statistics Data," Oklahoma AES Misc. Pub., MP-54, December, 1959, pp. 15-16.

occur, it may cut the farm population in half, to between 217,000 and 380,000 by 1970 (Table 12).⁹ In that event, the farm population will continue no more than 10 to 13 percent of the total in 1970. Undoubtedly, its relative share will be even smaller than the projected proportion because the 1960 definition of farms will further whittle the number of farm residents.

With further technological advance, increasing mechanization and efficiency, and rapidly rising productivity of workers, thousands of farms and agricultural job opportunities will perish by 1970.¹⁰ Hence, it may be necessary, as in the past, for half or more of the farm youth, upon reaching maturity, to drift to towns and cities for employment.¹¹

Second, while both will expand, the rural-nonfarm will increase more rapidly, in proportion, than the urban population of Oklahoma (Tables 13 and 14). The rural-nonfarm population will climax the 1950-70 period with a probable increase of 48 to 108 percent, with its relative share of the total population climbing from 24 percent in 1950 to between 35 and 37 percent in 1970. Meanwhile, urban centers should expect gains of 12 to 33 percent; and their share of the total state population will be 50 to 56 percent in 1970, as compared to 51 percent in 1950.

Third, the white urban population has a much greater prospective growth than the nonwhite. For example, it may increase by 15 to 35 percent between 1950 and 1970, while the colored population may increase by only 10 percent, become stationary, or decline by as much as 13 percent. The age groups likely to show the largest relative gains in the urban population up to 1970 are those between 10 and 24 and those 55 years old or over.

Fourth, relatively large increases will characterize all age groups in the rural-nonfarm population between 1950 and 1970, with the greatest proportionate gains in the ages under 35. However, the colored population will grow at a rate about

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⁹The 1960 projections of the Oklahoma rural-farm population range from 352,000 to 389,000 persons. An earlier estimate of 354,000 which was computed by a different procedure, falls in the lower limit of the above projection. See James D. Tarver, *Oklahoma Farm Manpower Needs, Oklahoma AES Bull. No. B-505, April, 1958, Table 5.*

¹⁰The output per farm worker in Oklahoma agriculture approximately doubled during 1924-54. See James D. Tarver and Leo V. Blakley, "Changes in Farm Worker Productivity in Oklahoma," *Oklahoma Current Farm Economics, Vol. 29, No. 5, October, 1956, pp. 83-93.*

¹¹See James D. Tarver, *Oklahoma Farm Manpower Needs, Oklahoma AES Bull. No. B-505, April, 1958, pp. 8-15.*

Table 12. Estimates and Projections of the Rural-Farm Population, by Age, Oklahoma

Age	Year and Projection Series													
	1950	1955	1960				1965				1970			
			1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
Oklahoma	553,100	432,376	389,040	383,623	357,150	352,748	381,249	346,640	309,830	279,778	379,912	315,842	264,623	217,400
0-4	59,578	49,540	52,655	47,238	41,395	44,201	52,769	49,536	32,853	30,794	57,251	47,218	27,537	22,373
5-9	62,440	51,842		47,975		45,133	53,839	45,571	47,618	40,235	54,023	47,760	31,586	27,855
10-14	62,227	44,507		41,843		37,885	42,397	38,737	36,440	33,037	47,590	36,720	38,362	29,312
15-19	52,835	39,236		32,224		28,387	33,484	29,907	26,999	23,698	34,008	27,603	25,959	20,663
20-24	30,037	30,508		27,276		23,345	25,346	21,986	19,285	16,406	26,291	20,211	18,201	13,469
25-29	30,693	18,939		22,504		19,565	22,735	20,037	17,082	14,812	21,016	15,956	13,956	10,228
30-34	32,322	21,428		15,288		13,687	20,143	18,206	15,804	14,148	20,369	16,174	13,763	10,658
35-39	37,188	24,183		18,264		16,531	14,260	12,966	11,605	10,477	18,836	15,486	13,431	10,872
40-44	36,761	28,318		20,860		19,108	17,055	15,669	14,171	12,947	13,287	11,068	9,907	8,149
45-49	33,548	28,004		24,182		22,271	19,175	17,732	16,229	14,521	15,634	13,238	11,965	10,030
50-54	29,310	25,157		23,257		21,591	21,477	20,007	18,406	17,075	16,971	14,594	13,337	11,363
55-59	26,750*	21,258		19,872		18,721	19,338	18,262	16,941	15,949	17,816	15,650	14,377	12,548
60-64	21,614*	17,862		15,367		14,665	14,924	14,267	13,425	12,805	14,462	13,028	12,079	10,834
65-69	16,154*	13,153		11,530		11,139	10,190	9,850	9,384	9,058	9,849	9,084	8,540	7,851
70-74	10,241	9,174		7,839		7,702	6,990	6,859	6,625	6,514	6,155	5,843	5,565	5,268
75+	11,393	9,258		8,104		8,027	7,127	7,057	6,963	6,902	6,354	6,209	6,058	5,927
Adjusted for Census Under- enumeration of Children:														
All Ages	556,937	435,447	392,412	386,653	360,240	354,821	384,807	349,910	311,947	281,712	383,973	319,053	266,435	218,807
Under 5	63,415	52,620	56,027	50,268	52,483	47,064	56,327	52,797	34,970	32,728	61,312	50,429	29,349	23,780

* 1950 nonwhite populations 55-69 years of age corrected for misstatement of ages.

Table 13. Estimates and Projections of the Rural-Nonfarm Population, by Age, Oklahoma.

Age	Year and Projection Series													
	1950	1955	1960				1965				1970			
			1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
Oklahoma	540,777	558,831	658,073	649,431	627,845	619,587	844,067	795,941	740,562	695,928	1,124,674	1,013,850	894,014	798,386
0-4	58,606	53,317	85,794	77,152	82,260	74,002	113,578	108,929	77,438	74,144	161,489	146,884	91,367	81,891
5-9	54,737	61,756	63,027	66,346	60,070	62,915	106,615	91,832	97,878	83,963	142,754	131,503	93,401	85,583
10-14	48,865	53,174	53,078	53,078	50,075	50,075	73,408	69,790	66,383	62,890	123,845	101,989	108,789	88,781
15-19	45,372	44,602	44,110	44,110	41,133	41,133	72,969	68,861	65,106	61,390	83,354	74,962	71,115	63,476
20-24	36,639	39,514	38,329	38,329	35,682	35,682	58,778	54,870	51,688	48,016	86,372	76,089	71,764	62,819
25-29	35,926	33,942	33,219	33,219	31,758	31,758	49,824	46,319	42,869	40,319	76,193	66,093	62,368	53,402
30-34	33,686	35,045	33,400	33,400	30,992	30,992	42,068	45,165	42,068	37,317	69,140	60,629	56,458	48,662
35-39	34,456	31,887	29,632	29,632	28,746	28,746	48,750	43,404	40,346	37,833	61,415	55,010	51,056	44,950
40-44	32,619	32,340	26,102	26,102	25,481	25,481	44,062	41,951	39,379	37,317	53,299	48,312	45,034	40,195
45-49	29,506	31,015	23,933	23,933	23,508	23,508	37,342	35,778	33,973	32,446	50,367	46,196	43,519	39,425
50-54	25,515	28,413	21,200	21,200	20,992	20,992	36,658	35,347	33,815	32,524	41,634	38,516	36,613	33,579
55-59	23,964*	25,128	19,177	19,177	19,589	19,589	35,088	34,030	32,741	31,697	40,310	37,718	36,070	33,562
60-64	21,636*	23,730	17,053	17,053	17,533	17,533	31,772	31,016	30,041	29,293	37,913	35,880	34,494	32,522
65-69	21,340*	21,120	17,053	17,053	17,533	17,533	26,919	26,429	25,782	25,302	32,949	31,561	30,539	29,202
70-74	17,053	19,177	19,589	19,589	22,094	22,094	22,708	22,518	22,094	21,893	25,810	25,094	24,459	23,772
75 +	20,857	24,671	28,976	28,976	32,745	32,745	32,612	32,612	32,414	32,283	37,830	37,414	36,968	36,565
Adjusted for Census Underenumeration of Children:														
All Ages	544,471	562,135	663,563	654,373	633,008	624,239	851,697	803,143	745,645	700,711	1,136,008	1,024,057	900,235	803,867
Under 5	62,300	56,621	91,264	82,094	87,423	78,654	121,208	116,131	82,521	78,927	172,323	157,091	97,588	87,372

*1950 nonwhite populations 55-69 years of age corrected for misstatement of ages.

Table 14. Estimates and Projections of the Urban Population, by Age, Oklahoma.

Age	Year and Projection Series													
	1950	1955	1960				1965				1970			
			1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
Oklahoma	1,139,474	1,199,793	1,285,858	1,273,624	1,260,933	1,248,943	1,393,288	1,356,344	1,306,349	1,270,878	1,512,179	1,444,959	1,338,009	1,278,273
0-4	122,274	126,843	123,931	111,697	121,794	109,804	141,875	139,486	100,917	99,265	174,379	165,933	105,301	100,443
5-9	94,036	118,828	127,320		125,648		121,192	108,287	118,202	105,743	136,234	133,002	96,443	94,260
10-14	76,509	93,097	118,496		116,290		128,460	126,409	124,977	122,909	117,511	103,868	113,460	100,479
15-19	80,665	80,443	100,163		96,596		129,756	125,409	123,072	118,678	140,693	134,028	132,701	126,083
20-24	99,746	83,853	88,827		84,723		113,934	108,797	104,909	99,838	145,393	134,254	132,063	121,234
25-29	102,054	95,519	86,639		83,148		94,012	90,598	86,430	83,122	117,751	108,573	104,830	96,132
30-34	86,754	94,934	92,024		89,708		83,042	81,424	78,429	76,920	87,555	83,205	79,445	75,483
35-39	83,365	81,490	90,528		89,285		87,023	86,000	84,143	83,172	76,829	74,727	72,071	70,304
40-44	78,048	78,010	78,267		77,331		85,995	85,176	84,205	83,402	81,300	79,701	78,107	76,778
45-49	68,661	73,022	74,908		74,152		74,612	73,972	73,213	72,578	80,199	78,907	78,090	76,973
50-54	59,163	64,049	69,592		68,945		71,262	70,659	70,015	69,399	69,801	68,704	68,061	67,043
55-59	50,358*	54,865	60,578		60,033		65,683	65,134	64,532	63,989	66,647	65,544	64,966	63,885
60-64	42,090*	46,562	51,672		51,190		57,016	56,500	55,969	55,464	61,319	60,248	59,655	58,621
65-69	36,633*	38,196	43,056		42,650		47,928	47,481	46,997	46,551	52,566	51,582	51,053	50,096
70-74	26,697	31,777	33,986		33,773		38,553	38,313	37,924	37,682	42,829	42,136	41,676	40,997
75 +	32,421	38,305	45,871		45,667		52,940	52,699	52,415	52,166	61,173	60,547	60,087	59,462
Adjusted for Census Underenumeration of Children:														
All Ages	1,146,943	1,207,423	1,293,182	1,280,222	1,268,052	1,255,364	1,401,725	1,364,543	1,312,313	1,276,682	1,522,390	1,454,544	1,344,063	1,283,975
Under 5	129,743	134,473	131,255	118,295	128,913	116,225	150,312	147,685	106,881	105,069	184,590	175,518	111,355	106,145

*1950 nonwhite populations 55-69 years of age corrected for misstatement of ages.

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twice that for whites. Also, the nonwhites probably will constitute between 12 and 13 percent of the rural-nonfarm population in 1970, compared to only 9 percent in 1950.

Fifth, both the rural-farm white and nonwhite populations will dwindle between 1950 and 1970, producing an inconsequential change in the racial composition of the farming areas in the state. Furthermore, substantial losses will stifle growth among both races, in every age group. The prospective shrinkage is highest among those 35 to 49 years of age, where extensive migration is likely to drain off 50 to 80 percent of the farm population by 1970.

Projected School and College Enrollments

Future expansions in the Oklahoma college and school age population will vastly augment current enrollments. For example, Oklahoma colleges may have between 82,000 and 103,000 students in 1970, indicating an increase of 39,000 to 60,000 collegiate students, or 89 to 137 percent, since 1950.¹² If these projections materialize, enrollments in Oklahoma colleges will approximately double between 1950 and 1970. Thus, Oklahoma is on the threshold of a college enrollment boom; and the end is nowhere in sight.

Moreover, the 1970 projections indicate that between 343,000 and 508,000 children will be attending Oklahoma elementary schools, a gain of from 19,000 to 184,000 pupils between 1950 and 1970. Also, Oklahoma high school enrollments probably will be from 18,000 to 49,000 larger in 1970 than in 1950, giving a possible total of 131,000 to 161,000 students in 1970.¹³ Therefore, the secondary school enrollment probably will increase between 16 and 43 percent during 1950-70.

¹²This projection is based upon the assumption that the ratio of total Oklahoma college enrollment to the population 18-21 years of age will continue to increase, rising from 33.84 percent in 1955 to 39.84 percent in 1960, to 44.84 percent in 1965, and to 49.85 percent in 1970.

¹³The 1970 Oklahoma elementary and high school enrollment projections are based upon the assumption that the 1950 ratios of elementary and secondary school enrollments to the populations in each of the two respective age groups 5-13 and 14-17, will continue unchanged to 1970. Consequently, the projected 1970 elementary and high school enrollments are conservative.

Projected Labor Force

The number of persons in Oklahoma's labor force was approximately 8,000 fewer in 1950 than in 1940, occasioned by a shrinking of numbers of male workers. While the number of males decreased by nearly 47,000 during the decade, almost 39,000 female newcomers entered the working force.

Between 1950 and 1955, the state's working population increased by over 38,000 persons, with more than 85 percent of the increment being attributable to the entry of women into the labor market (Table 15).¹⁴

The 1960 projections show a probable labor force of 827,000 to 873,000 persons. Thereafter, the number of workers will rise. By 1970, the labor force should number between 871,000 and 1,096,000 persons, compiling probable increases of 76,000 to 301,000 workers, or 10 to 38 percent, between 1950 and 1970 (Table 15).

Larger and larger numbers of Oklahoma women have sought employment outside the home. Women's propensity to pursue careers will continue to increase as new job opportunities for them appear, especially in the growing service and related industries. Consequently, the projections indicate a much greater relative expansion in the female than in the male labor force between 1950 and 1970. During this interval, the number of female workers probably will climb by 23 to 76 percent, whereas the male labor force is expected to ascend by not more than 3 to 29 percent.

Three current manpower trends are simply a prelude to the oncoming events:

First, the labor force participation rates of school age youths, particularly among males 18-24 years of age, will decline as the proportion attending high schools and colleges increases. Protracted periods of education and training will

¹⁴One set of 1955 Oklahoma labor force estimates and four separate series of projections were prepared for 1960, 1965, and 1970. The Oklahoma estimates and projections were tied in with national levels, and are on an annual average basis, whereas the 1950 figures apply to April 1. The computations were developed in the following way: *First*, it was assumed that the ratios of the Oklahoma to the U. S. April 1, 1950, labor force participation rates, separately by age and sex, will prevail to 1970.

Second, estimates of the 1955 Oklahoma labor force participation rates were obtained by applying the 1950 ratios to the recorded 1955 annual average U. S. rates (taken from *Current Population Reports, Labor Force, "Projections of the Labor Force in the United States, 1955 to 1975,"* Series P-50, No. 69, Table 1).

Third, the resulting 1955 Oklahoma labor force participation rates were multiplied by the 1955 population estimates, by age and sex, to compute the estimated annual average number in the labor force.

Fourth, then two series of projected 1960, 1965, and 1970 Oklahoma labor force participation rates were calculated using U. S. projections II and IV (see *Current Population Reports, Labor Force, Series P-50, No. 69, Tables 2 and 4*).

Fifth, these two projected labor force participation rates were multiplied by projected populations I and IV to obtain the projected numbers in the Oklahoma labor force in 1960, 1965, and 1970. These four projections include both the maximum and minimum labor force computed by 16 separate projections, from four possible population and four labor force participation assumptions.

Table 15. Estimates and Projections of the Labor Force, by Age and Sex, Oklahoma.

Age and Sex	Year and Projection Series													
	1950	1955	1960				1965				1970			
			1 1/	2 2/	3 3/	4 4/	1 1/	2 2/	3 3/	4 4/	1 1/	2 2/	3 3/	4 4/
Total, 14 Years and Over-----	794,935	833,338	861,652	873,302	826,783	338,124	947,997	970,147	840,197	860,518	1,064,479	1,096,434	871,424	898,669
Males, 14 Years and Over-----	599,725	605,347	624,888	619,588	599,390	594,249	687,432	675,099	608,660	597,318	773,241	753,376	632,324	614,829
14-19	39,360	45,286	50,729	46,083	43,064	45,557	63,172	56,485	55,276	49,425	69,781	59,322	57,314	48,723
20-24	64,420	66,008	69,322	68,268	64,621	63,638	84,296	81,930	70,295	68,321	108,467	103,773	84,170	80,527
25-34	143,270	141,822	141,441	141,887	133,607	134,027	157,523	158,350	132,081	132,774	189,840	191,433	142,408	143,603
35-44	135,475	129,510	132,998	133,551	128,409	128,943	141,644	142,823	127,381	128,441	148,358	150,056	121,536	122,927
45-54	109,365	114,242	116,653	117,398	113,108	113,830	118,058	119,314	108,065	109,215	126,605	128,625	109,778	111,530
55-64	74,425	77,247	81,043	82,004	79,179	80,118	87,905	89,990	81,806	83,746	92,551	95,625	81,731	84,445
65 +	33,410	31,232	32,702	28,397	32,402	28,136	34,834	26,207	33,756	25,396	37,639	24,542	35,387	23,074
Female, 14 Years and Over-----	195,210	227,991	236,764	253,714	227,393	243,875	260,565	295,048	231,537	263,200	291,238	343,058	239,100	283,840
14-19	16,800	20,473	23,484	22,806	22,148	21,509	29,515	28,238	25,411	24,312	32,890	30,384	26,359	24,350
20-24	26,810	25,915	26,748	27,143	24,884	25,252	33,620	34,415	27,731	28,387	44,344	45,131	33,488	34,083
25-34	41,430	41,975	41,169	42,354	39,031	40,154	44,503	47,064	37,626	39,791	53,605	58,618	40,347	44,121
35-44	48,090	52,199	52,082	55,328	50,280	53,414	54,238	60,853	48,929	54,896	55,567	65,355	46,044	54,155
45-54	37,160	50,994	53,129	60,071	51,627	58,372	53,703	67,466	49,344	61,990	53,688	75,277	48,408	65,436
55-64	19,665	28,843	31,594	36,731	30,949	35,984	35,266	45,786	33,086	42,956	37,960	54,431	33,931	48,653
65 +	5,255	7,592	8,558	9,281	8,474	9,190	9,720	11,226	9,410	10,868	11,184	13,862	10,523	13,042

1/ Projected Oklahoma labor force participation rates "IV" multiplied by projected population series 1. Labor force projection IV assumes a continuation of the 1955 annual average rates without change to 1970.

2/ Projected Oklahoma labor force participation rates "II" multiplied by projected population series 1. Labor force projection II, in general, assumes an extension of the rate of change in the annual average labor force participation rates during 1950 to 1955.

3/ Projected Oklahoma labor force participation rates "IV" multiplied by projected population series 4.

4/ Projected Oklahoma labor force participation rates "II" multiplied by projected population series 4.

delay the entry of young people into vocations, thus curtailing the supply of young potential workers.

Second, the proportions of men 65 years old and over in the labor force will continue to wane with increased retirement at lower ages. Restricted self-employment opportunities and the extension of Social Security benefits will accelerate the withdrawal of older workers from labor force activity.

Third, the labor force participation rates of females, especially of married women 35 years of age and over, will rise as their inclination to join the labor force increases.

Probable Geographic Distribution of Oklahoma's Future Population

Although the foregoing figures presage a gradual, but continual, enlargement in Oklahoma's total population from 1955 to 1970, not all 13 state economic areas will share equally in these gains. A widespread population reshuffle within the state is likely, owing to a marked dispersion from certain areas and a piling-up in others. Thus, the state's population will be more unevenly distributed in

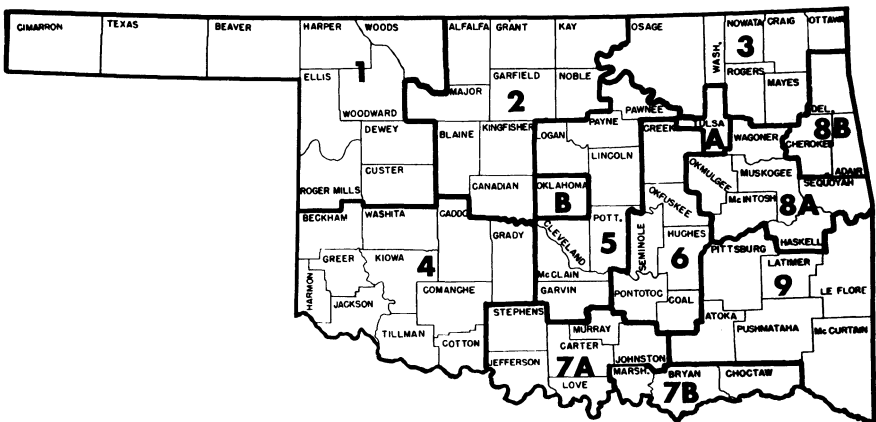


Figure 1. Oklahoma economic areas.

Oklahoma state economic areas, 1950. By 1970, Areas A and B, Tulsa and Oklahoma counties, may contain as much as 1/4 of the state's population.

1970 than in 1950. The projections suggest three distinct configurations. The most conspicuous, yet diverse, geographical redistribution will develop in five areas: A, B, 6, 7b, and 9.

First, Areas A and B, embracing Tulsa and Oklahoma Counties, respectively, will experience a surging population expansion. Area B, Oklahoma County, the most populous in the state, may expect increases of 270,000 to 428,000 people, or 83 to 132 percent, between 1950 and 1970 (Table 16). Meanwhile, spiraling growth will boost the population of Area A, Tulsa County, by 165,000 to 255,000 persons, involving gains of 66 to 102 percent.

Second, depopulation is imminent in Areas 6, 7b and 9, with each of the first two facing losses of between 10 and 45 percent during 1950-70. In the meantime, emigration will trim the total population of Area 9 by 4 to 38 percent.

Third, future trends in the total population of eight economic areas, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7a, 8a, and 8b, are indefinite or problematical. Projection Series 3 and 4 intimate forthcoming losses between 1950 and 1970; at least one of the two series, however, portends prospective gains (Table 16).

Characteristics of the Future Population

Metropolitan Economic Areas A and B

Total Population. Natural increase (excess of births over deaths) probably will supply around 55 percent and migration about 45 percent of the demographic changes expected for Economic Areas A and B during 1950-70. The very rapid population growth imminent in these two areas will account for virtually all of the projected gains for the state, more than offsetting almost certain declines in Areas 6, 7b, and 9, and possible losses accruing to the remaining eight economic areas.

As a result of phenomenal growth, the density of the population in Oklahoma and Tulsa Counties is likely to double, rising from 459 persons per square mile in 1950 to between 841 and 1,062 persons in 1970 in Oklahoma County, and from 440 to between 728 and 887, for corresponding dates, in Tulsa County. Moreover, the proportion of Oklahoma's population residing in Areas A and B will rise sharply, climbing from 26 percent in 1950 to between 42 and 44 percent in 1970. Tulsa County's share of the total population will go from

Table 16. Estimates and Projections of the Total Population, by State Economic Area, Oklahoma.

Year and Projection Series	Total	Economic Area													
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7a	7b	8a	8b	9	A	B	
1950	2,233,351	105,728	198,854	168,444	250,846	233,461	160,357	110,748	57,575	177,775	48,644	143,848	251,706	325,365	
1955	2,191,000	99,363	192,773	157,364	238,056	221,046	135,695	102,209	48,578	162,873	44,760	124,573	285,583	378,127	
1960	1 2,332,971	101,614	199,231	158,713	243,154	224,478	130,025	101,869	46,793	165,455	45,934	122,519	335,735	457,451	
	2 2,306,678	100,443	197,045	156,974	240,483	222,218	128,626	100,769	46,251	163,507	45,353	121,105	332,162	451,742	
	3 2,245,930	97,900	193,603	152,272	233,959	216,434	120,252	96,985	43,444	157,626	43,667	114,501	328,884	446,403	
	4 2,220,578	96,772	191,481	150,609	231,363	214,258	118,948	95,934	42,933	155,767	43,113	113,165	325,396	440,839	
1965	1 2,618,604	108,564	212,879	167,680	259,710	237,198	135,046	106,901	48,723	177,773	49,955	129,464	407,672	577,039	
	2 2,498,934	103,584	204,764	159,379	247,539	226,091	124,242	100,878	44,945	167,663	46,982	120,157	395,451	556,439	
	3 2,356,741	97,784	195,151	149,862	233,409	214,972	112,422	94,061	40,751	156,422	43,546	109,627	379,098	529,636	
	4 2,246,584	93,118	137,532	142,219	222,078	205,404	102,875	88,571	37,430	147,307	40,902	101,317	367,494	510,337	
1970	1 3,016,765	117,386	230,572	179,539	280,927	253,097	142,407	113,640	51,375	193,788	55,098	138,703	507,169	753,064	
	2 2,774,651	108,444	215,341	163,561	257,560	233,506	121,330	101,928	43,967	173,731	49,097	120,330	480,522	705,334	
	3 2,496,646	97,293	196,034	146,806	232,000	212,616	104,485	90,673	37,926	154,065	43,089	104,265	440,125	637,219	
	4 2,294,059	89,130	182,811	133,506	212,066	195,858	88,227	81,092	32,315	137,968	38,390	89,863	416,586	596,247	
							<u>Change in Projected Population, 1950-70</u>								
	1 783,414	11,658	31,718	11,095	30,081	19,636	-17,950	2,892	-6,200	16,013	6,454	-5,145	255,463	427,699	
	2 541,300	2,716	16,487	-4,883	6,714	45	-39,027	-8,820	-13,608	-4,044	453	-23,518	228,816	379,969	
	3 263,295	-8,435	-2,770	-21,638	-18,346	-20,845	-55,872	-20,075	-19,649	-23,710	-5,555	-39,583	188,419	311,854	
	4 60,708	-16,598	-16,043	-34,938	-38,730	-37,603	-72,130	-29,656	-25,260	-39,807	-10,254	-53,985	164,880	270,882	
							<u>Percentage Change in Projected Population, 1950-70</u>								
	1 35.1	11.0	16.0	6.6	12.0	8.4	-11.2	2.6	-10.8	9.0	13.3	-3.6	101.5	131.5	
	2 24.2	2.6	8.3	-2.9	2.7	0.0	-24.3	-8.0	-23.6	-2.3	.9	-16.3	90.9	116.8	
	3 11.8	-8.0	-1.4	-12.8	-7.5	-8.9	-34.8	-13.1	-34.1	-13.3	-11.4	-27.5	74.9	95.8	
	4 2.7	-15.7	-8.1	-20.7	-15.5	-16.1	-45.0	-26.8	-43.9	-22.4	-21.1	-37.5	65.5	83.3	

11 percent in 1950 to between 17 and 18 percent in 1970; Oklahoma County's share will jump from 15 percent in 1950 to either 25 or 26 percent in 1970.

Composition of the Population. By 1970, both Oklahoma and Tulsa Counties will have rapid population gains at all ages, the highest proportionate increases coming at ages 10-24 and 60 years and over.¹⁵

Special attention is focused on the following six projected changes during the 20-year interval:

First, the number of children of preschool ages (under 5 years) will be about 35 to 200 percent greater in 1970 than in 1950 in Areas A and B.

Second, both areas will have exceptionally large influxes in their elementary and high school populations, with the latter school age group increasing at a somewhat higher rate than the former (Tables 17 and 18). In Oklahoma County, for instance, the number of elementary and high school youths may treble between 1950 and 1970.¹⁶

Third, the population in the economically active ages will expand by 65 to 90 percent in Oklahoma County and between 50 and 70 percent in Tulsa County.

Fourth, persons 65 years of age and over will be more than twice as numerous in 1970 as in 1950. Tulsa County's aged population will rise by about 125 to 135 percent; and in Oklahoma County the gains will approach 115 to 125 percent. Moreover, in 1950, these two counties contained less than one-fifth of Oklahoma's "old age" population, but by 1970, the proportion will be about one-third.

Fifth, in these counties, white population gains between 1950 and 1970 will outstrip those of nonwhites (Tables 19-22).

Sixth, Table 25 presages a fading farm population, with losses of around 20 to 60 percent, in Oklahoma and Tulsa Counties during the 1950-70 era. And, their probable rural non-farm population expansion far transcends that of the cities (Tables 23 and 24). This amounts to mushrooming suburban communities, by

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¹⁵Unpublished tables showing the 1950 populations, 1955 estimates, and 1960, 1965, and 1970 projections of the 13 Oklahoma state economic areas, classified by age-race-sex-residence groups, are available upon request.

¹⁶Estimates and projections of the college age populations, by state economic areas, are not shown here. Such projections do not reliably indicate probable college and university enrollments because many students attend colleges outside of their home counties.

Table 17. Estimates and Projections of Population 5-13 Years of Age, by State Economic Area, Oklahoma

Year and Projection Series	Economic Area													
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7a	7b	8a	8b	9	A	B	
1940	19,429	34,037	32,894	48,710	43,041	43,718	24,469	15,651	39,274	11,557	37,497	27,896	35,382	
1950	17,237	30,773	28,483	41,991	35,022	28,939	18,516	10,415	32,416	9,443	27,600	35,506	45,298	
1955	17,672	33,016	28,202	43,166	37,051	25,732	17,778	8,888	31,655	8,969	24,621	47,625	63,386	
1960	1	18,042	36,101	28,462	44,667	38,723	23,785	18,998	7,885	29,601	8,626	22,092	59,737	85,820
	2	18,044	36,104	28,467	44,671	38,727	23,788	19,000	7,885	29,603	8,627	22,095	59,743	85,826
	3	17,445	35,263	27,263	42,962	37,434	22,000	17,954	7,225	28,192	8,251	20,602	58,916	83,983
	4	17,446	35,265	27,265	42,968	37,437	22,002	17,956	7,226	28,195	8,252	20,606	58,920	83,993
1965	1	20,038	39,702	30,402	48,121	40,984	24,677	20,211	8,744	33,345	9,968	24,497	70,125	107,129
	2	18,204	36,501	27,393	43,601	37,335	21,564	18,020	7,539	29,849	8,957	21,578	65,188	98,348
	3	18,874	37,917	28,164	44,723	38,292	21,575	18,359	7,491	30,352	9,094	21,732	68,116	102,543
	4	17,126	34,850	25,343	40,455	34,860	18,751	16,317	6,408	27,109	8,160	19,052	63,331	94,116
1970	1	22,998	44,241	33,837	53,824	44,478	27,591	21,368	10,344	40,658	12,213	29,004	87,169	139,558
	2	20,719	40,388	29,970	47,810	39,723	23,102	18,571	8,480	35,422	10,675	24,675	81,053	127,577
	3	17,718	34,814	25,355	40,776	34,053	18,746	15,566	6,851	29,862	8,788	20,220	69,824	108,584
	4	15,792	31,526	22,225	35,818	30,124	15,417	13,355	5,497	25,747	7,610	16,915	64,398	98,331
Projected Change in School Population, 1950-70														
1	5,761	13,468	5,354	11,833	9,456	-1,348	2,852	-71	8,242	2,770	1,404	51,663	94,260	
2	3,482	9,615	1,487	5,819	4,701	-5,837	55	-1,935	3,006	1,232	-2,925	45,547	82,279	
3	481	4,041	-3,128	-1,215	-969	-10,193	-2,950	-3,564	-2,554	-655	-7,380	34,318	63,286	
4	-1,445	753	-6,258	-6,173	-4,898	-13,522	-5,161	-4,918	-6,669	-1,833	-10,685	28,892	53,033	
Percentage Change in Projected School Population, 1950-70														
1	33.4	43.8	18.8	28.2	27.0	-4.7	15.4	-0.7	25.4	29.3	5.1	145.5	208.1	
2	20.2	31.2	5.2	13.9	13.4	-20.2	0.3	-18.6	9.3	13.0	-10.6	128.3	181.6	
3	2.8	13.1	-11.0	-2.9	-2.8	-35.2	-15.9	-34.2	-7.9	-6.9	-26.7	96.7	139.7	
4	-8.4	2.4	-22.0	-14.7	-14.0	-46.7	-27.9	-47.2	-20.6	-19.4	-38.7	81.4	117.1	

Source: 1940 U. S. Census of Population, Characteristics of the Population, Oklahoma, Second Series, Table 21, and 1950 U. S. Census of Population, General Characteristics, Oklahoma, P-B36, Table 41.

Projections of Oklahoma's Population to 1970

Table 18. Estimates and Projections of Population 14-17 Years of Age, by State Economic Area, Oklahoma.

Year and Projection Series	Economic Area													
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7a	7b	8a	8b	9	A	B	
1940	9,028	16,370	15,648	22,798	20,711	20,517	11,695	7,112	18,462	5,160	17,271	14,040	16,260	
1950	7,012	12,475	11,262	17,780	14,900	11,870	7,767	4,453	13,560	3,968	11,615	13,268	16,775	
1955	6,400	11,725	9,759	15,513	14,269	9,139	6,245	3,372	11,169	3,299	8,955	15,619	20,545	
1960	1	6,930	12,945	10,740	17,162	15,500	9,288	6,609	3,271	11,989	3,422	9,070	21,777	29,333
	2	6,928	12,942	10,735	17,158	15,496	9,285	6,607	3,271	11,987	3,421	9,067	21,771	29,327
	3	6,612	12,489	9,995	16,371	15,138	8,296	6,073	2,931	11,110	3,176	8,174	21,191	28,324
	4	6,612	12,487	9,993	16,366	15,135	8,294	6,071	2,930	11,107	3,175	8,169	21,187	28,313
1965	1	7,835	15,335	12,030	19,224	17,325	10,194	7,715	3,430	13,116	3,740	9,632	29,736	43,380
	2	7,530	14,883	11,295	18,467	17,004	9,245	7,174	3,121	12,259	3,499	8,799	29,092	42,125
	3	7,210	14,396	10,695	17,697	16,389	8,441	6,689	2,840	11,572	3,317	8,109	28,435	40,980
	4	6,916	13,958	9,997	16,966	16,082	7,565	6,181	2,556	10,755	3,083	7,336	27,802	39,753
1970	1	8,042	16,306	12,282	19,884	17,652	9,697	8,337	3,288	12,643	3,786	9,214	34,626	54,556
	2	7,191	14,885	10,617	17,815	16,261	7,850	7,049	2,655	10,863	3,264	7,581	32,235	50,092
	3	7,326	15,240	10,733	17,896	16,361	7,709	7,040	2,576	10,896	3,280	7,505	33,190	51,154
	4	6,527	13,892	9,226	15,979	15,065	6,131	5,891	2,047	9,294	2,809	6,088	30,887	46,913
<u>Projected Change in School Population, 1950-70</u>														
1	1,030	3,831	1,020	2,104	2,752	-2,173	570	-1,165	-917	-182	-2,401	21,358	37,781	
2	179	2,410	-645	35	1,361	-4,020	-718	-1,798	-2,697	-704	-4,034	18,967	33,317	
3	314	2,765	-529	116	1,461	-4,161	-727	-1,877	-2,664	-688	-4,110	19,922	34,379	
4	-485	1,417	-2,036	-1,801	165	-5,739	-1,876	-2,406	-4,266	-1,159	-5,527	17,619	30,138	
<u>Percentage Change in Projected School Population, 1950-70</u>														
1	14.7	30.7	9.1	11.8	18.5	-18.3	7.3	-26.2	-6.8	-4.6	-20.7	161.0	225.2	
2	2.6	19.3	-5.7	0.2	9.1	-33.9	-9.2	-40.4	-19.9	-17.7	-34.7	143.0	198.6	
3	4.5	22.2	-4.7	0.7	9.8	-35.1	-9.4	-42.2	-19.6	-17.3	-35.4	150.2	204.9	
4	-6.9	11.4	-18.1	-10.1	1.1	-48.3	-24.2	-54.0	-31.5	-29.2	-47.6	132.8	179.7	

Source: 1940 U.S. Census of Population, Characteristics of the Population, Oklahoma, Second Series, Table 21, and 1950 U. S. Census of Population, General Characteristics, Oklahoma, P-B36, Table 41.

Table 19. Estimates and Projections of the White Male Population, by State Economic Area, Oklahoma.

Year and Projection Series	Economic Area															
	Total	1	2	3	4	5	6	7a	7b	8a	8b	9	A	B		
1950	1,017,323	53,031	94,948	79,617	118,144	112,158	69,513	52,105	25,455	71,627	20,671	64,361	111,384	144,309		
1955	994,348	49,496	91,781	74,015	110,512	106,605	58,217	48,036	21,254	65,787	18,971	54,919	126,775	167,980		
1960	1	1,053,812	50,333	94,393	74,179	111,475	108,229	55,013	47,686	20,221	66,612	19,307	53,339	149,228	203,797	
	2	1,041,706	49,746	93,358	73,355	110,247	107,165	54,433	47,160	19,983	65,814	19,073	52,707	147,557	201,108	
	3	1,016,471	48,517	91,907	71,306	107,326	104,680	50,971	45,480	18,825	63,868	18,512	49,848	146,194	199,037	
	4	1,004,717	47,947	90,892	70,509	106,125	103,648	50,424	44,973	18,602	63,092	18,282	49,246	144,563	196,414	
1965	1	1,175,048	53,480	100,170	77,820	117,500	114,066	56,101	48,796	20,712	70,759	20,651	55,565	181,229	257,199	
	2	1,123,414	51,036	96,547	74,080	112,060	109,171	51,729	47,043	19,165	67,174	19,601	51,572	175,781	248,155	
	3	1,061,062	48,176	92,220	69,772	105,695	104,121	46,949	43,933	17,433	62,986	18,334	47,073	168,316	236,054	
	4	1,013,074	45,885	88,774	66,276	100,595	99,812	43,036	41,395	16,055	59,662	17,371	43,482	163,156	227,575	
1970	1	1,344,832	57,493	107,776	82,709	125,341	121,327	57,850	52,688	21,436	76,077	22,348	58,569	225,541	335,727	
	2	1,241,758	52,877	101,054	75,647	114,897	112,711	49,562	47,384	18,469	69,185	20,280	50,855	213,745	314,992	
	3	1,118,804	47,624	92,283	67,956	103,628	103,212	42,973	42,193	16,013	61,754	18,030	44,148	195,258	283,732	
	4	1,031,356	43,637	86,361	61,921	94,725	95,676	36,410	37,784	13,710	55,969	16,333	38,016	184,868	265,946	
							<u>Change in Projected Population, 1950-70</u>									
	1	327,509	4,462	12,778	3,092	7,197	9,169	-11,663	583	-4,019	4,450	1,677	-5,792	114,157	191,418	
	2	224,435	-154	6,106	-3,970	-3,147	553	-19,951	-4,721	-6,986	-2,442	-391	-13,506	102,361	170,683	
	3	111,481	-5,407	-2,665	-11,661	-14,516	-8,946	-26,540	-9,912	-9,442	-9,873	-2,641	-20,213	83,874	139,423	
	4	14,033	-9,394	-8,587	-17,696	-23,419	-16,482	-33,103	-14,321	-11,745	-15,658	-4,338	-26,345	73,484	121,637	
							<u>Percentage Change in Projected Population, 1950-70</u>									
	1	32.2	8.4	13.5	3.9	6.1	8.2	-16.8	1.1	-15.8	6.2	8.1	-9.0	102.5	132.6	
	2	22.1	-0.3	6.4	-5.0	-2.7	0.5	-28.7	-9.1	-27.4	-3.4	-1.9	-21.0	91.9	118.3	
	3	10.0	-10.2	-2.8	-14.6	-12.3	-8.0	-38.2	-19.0	-37.1	-13.8	-12.8	-31.4	75.3	96.6	
	4	1.4	-17.7	-9.0	-22.2	-19.8	-14.7	-47.6	-27.5	-46.1	-21.9	-21.0	-40.9	66.0	84.3	

Projections of Oklahoma's Population to 1970

Table 20. Estimates and Projections of the White Female Population, by State Economic Area, Oklahoma.

Year and Projection Series	Total	Economic Area													
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7a	7b	8a	8b	9	A	B	
1950	1,015,203	50,846	94,340	79,344	113,914	106,798	69,954	51,758	25,241	71,456	19,627	61,578	117,306	153,041	
1955	1,002,220	47,751	91,770	75,103	107,566	101,335	59,571	48,043	21,492	66,491	18,204	53,666	133,361	177,867	
1960	1	1,069,152	48,752	94,809	76,127	109,226	102,822	56,842	47,926	20,697	67,059	18,648	52,870	156,888	215,686
	2	1,057,646	48,209	93,813	75,339	108,077	101,799	56,296	47,436	20,471	67,092	18,427	52,272	155,326	213,089
	3	1,031,938	46,931	92,243	73,426	105,073	99,309	52,935	45,769	19,348	65,159	17,899	49,612	153,711	210,523
	4	1,020,757	46,402	91,267	72,664	103,946	98,317	52,417	45,296	19,135	64,414	17,681	49,043	152,186	207,989
1965	1	1,197,335	51,929	100,891	80,278	115,633	108,114	58,131	50,089	21,313	72,346	19,997	55,466	190,367	272,781
	2	1,146,269	49,539	97,251	76,778	110,296	103,637	53,937	47,464	19,820	68,858	19,008	51,732	184,812	263,137
	3	1,084,788	46,748	92,896	72,641	104,041	98,397	49,284	44,444	18,130	64,740	17,820	47,469	177,426	250,752
	4	1,037,208	44,501	89,427	69,355	99,031	94,207	45,524	42,018	16,796	61,499	16,907	44,106	172,143	241,694
1970	1	1,373,480	55,874	108,548	85,544	123,608	114,565	59,947	52,930	22,110	77,851	21,662	58,676	236,016	356,149
	2	1,270,236	51,340	101,797	78,900	113,433	106,179	51,968	47,869	19,241	71,134	19,714	51,427	223,745	333,491
	3	1,151,676	46,336	93,167	71,512	102,478	97,007	45,559	42,694	16,646	63,891	17,602	45,042	206,077	302,665
	4	1,063,057	42,407	87,162	65,790	93,730	89,714	39,208	38,672	14,596	58,210	15,992	39,261	195,196	283,119
<u>Change in Projected Population, 1950-70</u>															
	1	356,277	5,028	14,208	6,200	9,694	7,767	-10,007	1,172	-3,131	6,395	2,035	-2,902	118,710	203,108
	2	255,035	494	7,457	-444	-481	-619	-17,986	-3,889	-6,000	-322	87	-10,151	106,439	180,450
	3	135,873	-4,510	-1,173	-7,832	-11,435	-9,791	-24,395	-8,864	-8,395	-7,565	-2,025	-16,536	88,771	149,624
	4	47,854	-8,439	-7,178	-13,554	-20,184	-17,084	-30,746	-13,086	-10,645	-13,246	-3,635	-22,317	77,890	130,078
<u>Percentage Change in Projected Population, 1950-70</u>															
	1	35.3	9.9	15.1	7.8	8.5	7.3	-14.3	2.3	-12.4	8.9	10.4	-4.7	101.2	132.7
	2	25.1	1.0	7.9	-0.6	-0.4	-0.6	-25.7	-7.5	-23.8	-0.5	0.4	-16.5	90.7	117.9
	3	13.4	-8.9	-1.2	-9.9	-10.0	-9.2	-34.9	-17.1	-33.3	-10.6	-10.3	-26.9	75.7	97.8
	4	4.7	-16.6	-7.6	-17.1	-17.7	-16.0	-44.0	-25.3	-42.2	-18.5	-18.5	-36.2	66.4	85.0

Table 21. Estimates and Projections of the Nonwhite Male Population, by State Economic Area, Oklahoma.

Year and Projection Series	Total	Economic Area													
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7a	7b	8a	8b	9	A	B	
1950	98,232	912	4,791	4,631	9,585	7,127	10,305	3,312	3,335	16,745	4,276	8,994	10,738	13,431	
1955	95,062	1,032	4,536	4,067	10,305	6,426	8,834	2,957	2,827	14,654	3,898	7,933	11,886	15,607	
1960	1	102,741	1,226	4,977	4,158	11,723	6,584	8,992	3,036	2,860	14,846	4,103	8,136	13,753	18,347
	2	101,366	1,206	4,899	4,092	11,572	6,497	8,852	2,992	2,820	14,651	4,037	8,042	13,579	18,127
	3	96,655	1,188	4,675	3,726	11,250	6,101	8,088	2,777	2,562	13,641	3,746	7,490	13,525	17,886
	4	95,415	1,177	4,610	3,671	11,112	6,024	7,965	2,740	2,524	13,470	3,690	7,406	13,355	17,671
1965	1	120,501	1,517	5,882	4,761	14,061	7,382	10,345	3,428	3,285	16,729	4,774	9,215	16,565	22,557
	2	112,169	1,451	5,444	4,226	13,322	6,766	9,226	3,104	2,916	15,194	4,307	8,408	16,068	21,733
	3	103,117	1,380	4,962	3,691	12,530	6,105	8,033	2,760	2,530	13,708	3,820	7,510	15,413	20,675
	4	95,956	1,315	4,602	3,257	11,875	5,574	7,093	2,495	2,227	12,421	3,429	6,819	14,941	19,905
1970	1	146,250	1,918	7,146	5,640	17,111	8,491	12,291	3,948	3,871	19,400	5,675	10,761	20,840	29,156
	2	128,774	2,032	6,212	4,497	15,534	7,198	9,882	3,272	3,081	16,109	4,690	9,021	19,829	27,367
	3	110,741	1,602	5,263	3,647	13,890	6,053	7,936	2,720	2,481	13,593	3,850	7,505	17,769	24,394
	4	97,566	1,484	4,576	2,870	12,654	5,125	6,257	2,239	1,951	11,256	3,147	6,239	16,898	22,870
<u>Change in Projected Population, 1950-70</u>															
	1	48,013	1,006	2,357	959	7,526	1,364	1,986	636	536	2,655	1,399	1,767	10,102	15,725
	2	30,542	1,120	1,421	-134	5,999	71	-423	-40	-254	-636	414	27	9,091	13,936
	3	12,509	690	472	-1,034	4,313	-1,044	-2,369	-592	-854	-3,152	-426	-1,489	7,031	10,963
	4	-666	572	-215	-1,811	3,069	-2,002	-4,048	-1,073	-1,384	-5,489	-1,129	-2,755	6,160	9,439
<u>Percentage Change in Projected Population, 1950-70</u>															
	1	48.9	110.3	49.2	20.5	73.5	19.1	19.3	19.2	16.1	15.9	32.7	19.6	94.1	117.1
	2	31.1	122.8	29.7	-3.9	62.6	1.0	-4.1	-1.2	-7.6	-3.8	9.7	0.3	84.7	103.8
	3	12.7	75.7	9.9	-22.1	45.0	-14.6	-23.0	-17.9	-25.6	-18.8	-10.0	-16.6	65.5	81.6
	4	-0.7	62.7	-4.5	-36.7	32.0	-23.1	-39.3	-32.4	-41.5	-32.8	-26.4	-30.6	57.4	70.3

Table 22. Estimates and Projections of the Nonwhite Female Population, by State Economic Area, Oklahoma.

Year and Projection Series	Total	Economic Area																	
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7a	7b	8a	8b	9	A	B					
1950	102,593	939	4,775	4,802	9,203	7,378	10,585	3,573	3,544	17,947	4,070	8,915	12,278	14,584					
1955	99,370	1,084	4,636	4,179	9,673	6,680	9,073	3,173	3,005	15,941	3,687	8,005	13,561	16,673					
1960	1	107,266	1,303	5,052	4,249	10,730	6,643	9,178	3,221	3,015	16,138	3,876	8,174	15,866	19,621				
	2	105,960	1,282	4,975	4,188	10,587	6,757	9,045	3,181	2,977	15,950	3,816	8,084	15,700	19,418				
	3	100,866	1,264	4,778	3,814	10,310	6,344	8,258	2,959	2,709	14,958	3,510	7,551	15,454	18,957				
	4	99,689	1,246	4,712	3,765	10,180	6,269	8,142	2,925	2,672	14,791	3,460	7,470	15,292	18,765				
1965	1	125,720	1,638	5,936	4,821	12,516	7,636	10,469	3,588	3,413	17,939	4,533	9,218	19,511	24,502				
	2	117,082	1,558	5,522	4,293	11,861	7,015	9,350	3,267	3,044	16,457	4,066	8,445	18,790	23,414				
	3	107,774	1,480	5,073	3,758	11,143	6,349	8,156	2,924	2,658	14,988	3,572	7,575	17,943	22,155				
	4	100,346	1,414	4,729	3,331	10,577	5,811	7,222	2,663	2,352	13,725	3,195	6,910	17,254	21,163				
1970	1	152,203	2,101	7,150	5,646	14,867	8,714	12,319	4,074	3,958	20,460	5,413	10,697	24,772	32,032				
	2	133,681	2,195	6,278	4,517	13,546	7,418	9,918	3,403	3,176	17,303	4,413	9,027	23,203	29,484				
	3	116,025	1,731	5,371	3,691	11,996	6,314	8,017	2,866	2,586	14,827	3,607	7,570	21,021	26,428				
	4	102,080	1,602	4,712	2,925	10,957	5,343	6,352	2,397	2,058	12,533	2,918	6,347	19,624	24,312				
							<u>Change in Projected Population, 1950-70</u>												
	1	45,610	1,162	2,375	844	5,664	1,336	1,734	501	414	2,513	1,343	1,782	12,494	17,448				
	2	31,288	1,256	1,503	-285	4,343	40	-667	-170	-368	-644	343	112	10,925	14,900				
	3	13,432	792	596	-1,111	2,793	-1,064	-2,568	-707	-958	-3,120	-463	-1,345	8,743	11,844				
	4	-513	663	-63	-1,877	1,754	-2,035	-4,233	-1,176	-1,486	-5,414	-1,152	-2,568	7,346	9,728				
							<u>Percentage Change in Projected Population, 1950-70</u>												
	1	48.4	123.7	49.7	17.6	61.5	18.1	16.4	14.0	11.7	14.0	33.0	20.0	101.8	119.6				
	2	30.5	133.8	31.5	-5.9	47.2	0.5	-6.3	-4.8	-10.4	-3.6	8.4	1.3	89.0	102.2				
	3	13.1	84.3	12.5	-23.1	30.3	-14.4	-24.3	-19.3	-27.0	-17.4	-11.4	-15.1	71.2	81.2				
	4	-0.5	70.6	-1.3	-39.1	19.1	-27.6	-40.0	-32.9	-41.9	-30.2	-28.3	-28.8	59.8	66.7				

Table 23. Estimates and Projections of the Total Urban Population, by State Economic Area, Oklahoma.

Year and Projection Series	Total	Economic Area													
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7a	7b	8a	8b	9	A	B	
1950	1,139,474	28,222	94,392	67,211	101,705	111,123	70,589	43,580	19,310	76,039	4,752	34,172	207,190	281,189	
1955	1,199,793	27,807	98,954	67,012	108,339	113,662	64,936	45,401	17,887	76,100	5,000	34,742	229,721	310,232	
1960	1	1,285,358	28,597	105,651	71,034	116,653	121,137	63,278	47,429	17,611	79,925	5,822	36,944	256,824	334,953
	2	1,273,624	28,313	104,746	70,257	115,430	120,243	62,803	47,018	17,466	79,142	5,781	36,690	254,555	331,160
	3	1,260,933	27,788	103,966	69,097	114,136	116,939	59,843	45,380	16,762	77,655	5,430	35,636	253,677	334,124
	4	1,248,943	27,512	103,088	68,349	112,936	116,091	59,402	45,480	16,637	76,910	5,371	35,382	251,437	330,348
1965	1	1,393,288	30,270	114,668	77,799	128,452	133,445	65,062	51,227	18,174	86,811	7,272	40,562	290,986	348,560
	2	1,356,344	29,116	111,818	74,913	124,257	128,161	61,233	49,115	17,221	83,446	6,753	38,924	285,346	346,041
	3	1,306,349	27,713	107,579	71,341	118,427	121,926	56,964	46,595	16,108	79,524	6,145	36,936	276,850	340,241
	4	1,270,878	26,623	104,801	68,594	114,384	116,918	53,380	44,550	15,191	76,310	5,654	35,302	271,368	337,803
1970	1	1,512,179	32,292	126,290	86,213	143,119	147,987	67,583	56,154	18,902	95,877	9,087	44,857	333,326	350,492
	2	1,444,959	30,065	120,778	80,556	134,640	136,907	60,132	51,320	16,994	88,929	7,800	41,255	322,370	352,713
	3	1,338,009	27,358	110,865	73,303	122,294	126,196	53,973	47,051	15,337	80,918	6,830	37,891	302,268	333,725
	4	1,278,273	25,333	105,706	68,316	114,652	116,365	47,574	43,131	13,676	74,753	5,813	34,708	292,134	336,112
<u>Change in Projected Population, 1950-70</u>															
	1	372,705	4,070	31,898	19,002	41,414	36,864	- 3,006	12,574	-408	19,838	4,335	10,685	126,136	69,303
	2	305,465	1,843	26,386	13,345	32,935	25,784	-10,457	8,240	-2,316	12,890	3,048	7,083	115,180	71,524
	3	198,535	-864	16,473	6,092	20,589	15,073	-16,616	3,471	-3,973	4,879	2,078	3,719	95,078	52,536
	4	138,799	-2,889	11,314	1,105	12,947	5,242	-23,015	-449	-5,634	-1,266	1,061	536	84,944	54,923
<u>Percentage Change in Projected Population, 1950-70</u>															
	1	32.7	14.4	33.8	28.3	40.7	33.2	-4.3	28.9	-2.1	26.1	91.2	31.3	60.9	24.6
	2	26.8	6.5	28.0	19.9	32.4	23.2	-14.8	18.9	-12.0	17.0	64.1	20.7	55.6	25.4
	3	17.4	-3.1	17.5	9.1	20.2	13.6	-23.5	8.0	-20.6	6.4	43.7	10.9	45.9	18.7
	4	12.2	-10.2	12.0	1.6	12.7	4.7	-32.6	-1.0	-29.2	-1.7	22.3	1.6	41.0	19.5

Table 24. Estimates and Projections of the Total Rural-Nonfarm Population, by State Economic Area, Oklahoma.

Year and Projection Series	Total	Economic Area													
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7a	7b	8a	8b	9	A	B	
1950	540,777	36,460	48,046	54,458	66,749	60,439	42,617	36,157	15,142	45,255	15,120	50,955	34,644	34,735	
1955	558,331	38,428	48,686	51,661	67,155	59,646	36,214	34,212	13,672	43,206	15,814	43,177	47,049	59,911	
1960	1	653,073	43,166	52,595	52,184	72,414	62,092	35,647	34,956	13,935	45,779	17,758	41,736	70,560	115,251
	2	649,431	42,664	51,947	51,626	71,664	61,273	35,196	34,546	13,753	45,180	17,538	41,210	69,344	113,486
	3	627,345	42,255	51,358	50,275	70,092	61,244	33,033	33,646	13,134	44,052	17,158	38,856	67,317	105,423
	4	619,567	41,763	50,724	49,741	69,351	60,447	32,594	33,255	12,960	43,479	16,952	38,373	66,170	103,776
1965	1	844,067	49,500	58,265	54,760	80,600	65,525	37,970	36,962	15,098	50,592	20,525	43,653	108,522	221,987
	2	795,941	47,897	56,151	52,220	77,197	63,659	34,950	35,165	14,088	48,079	19,583	40,143	102,470	204,339
	3	740,562	45,898	53,960	49,305	73,527	61,401	31,561	33,037	12,935	45,189	18,498	36,410	95,160	183,661
	4	693,928	44,313	51,955	46,962	70,202	59,636	28,853	31,356	12,025	42,859	17,550	33,462	89,541	167,214
1970	1	1,124,674	57,091	64,387	58,011	90,214	69,376	41,018	39,259	16,456	56,120	23,682	45,673	165,816	397,071
	2	1,013,050	54,332	60,762	53,123	83,134	66,275	35,020	35,600	14,421	51,128	21,768	39,492	151,072	347,643
	3	894,014	49,330	56,130	47,361	76,025	60,764	29,349	31,899	12,571	45,599	19,529	33,794	131,637	299,026
	4	793,386	46,331	52,435	43,740	69,689	57,990	25,158	28,902	10,960	41,413	17,876	28,758	119,004	256,130
<u>Change in Projected Population, 1950-70</u>															
	1	503,397	20,631	16,841	3,553	23,465	8,937	-1,599	3,102	1,314	10,865	8,562	-5,282	131,172	362,336
	2	473,073	17,872	12,716	-1,335	16,385	5,636	-7,597	-477	-721	5,873	6,648	-11,463	116,428	312,908
	3	353,237	12,070	8,034	-6,597	9,276	325	-12,768	-4,258	-2,571	344	4,409	-17,161	96,993	264,291
	4	257,609	9,871	4,389	-10,718	2,940	-2,449	-17,459	-7,255	-4,182	-3,842	2,756	-22,197	84,360	221,395
<u>Percentage Change in Projected Population, 1950-70</u>															
	1	108.0	56.6	35.1	6.5	35.2	14.8	-3.3	8.6	8.7	24.0	56.6	-10.4	378.6	1,043.1
	2	87.5	49.0	26.5	-2.5	24.5	9.7	-17.8	-1.3	-4.8	13.0	44.0	-22.5	336.1	900.8
	3	65.3	35.3	16.3	-12.1	13.9	0.5	-30.0	-11.8	-17.0	0.8	29.2	-33.7	280.0	760.9
	4	47.6	27.1	9.1	-19.7	4.4	-4.1	-41.0	-20.1	-27.6	-5.5	18.2	-43.6	243.5	637.4

Table 25. Estimates and Projections of the Total Rural-Farm Population, by State Economic Area, Oklahoma.

Year and Projection Series	Total	Economic Area													
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7a	7b	8a	8b	9	A	B	
1950	553,100	41,046	56,416	46,775	82,392	61,899	47,151	31,011	23,123	56,481	28,772	58,721	9,872	9,441	
1955	432,376	33,128	45,133	38,691	62,562	47,738	34,545	22,596	17,019	43,567	23,946	46,654	8,813	7,984	
1960	1	389,040	29,851	40,985	35,495	54,087	41,249	31,100	19,484	15,247	39,751	22,354	43,839	8,351	7,247
	2	383,623	29,466	40,352	35,089	53,389	40,702	30,625	19,205	15,012	39,185	22,034	43,205	8,263	7,096
	3	357,152	27,857	38,279	32,900	49,731	38,251	27,376	17,459	13,548	35,919	21,079	40,007	7,890	6,856
	4	352,048	27,497	37,669	32,519	49,076	37,720	26,952	17,199	13,336	35,378	20,790	39,410	7,789	6,713
1965	1	361,249	28,794	39,926	35,121	50,590	38,228	32,014	18,692	15,451	40,370	22,158	45,249	8,164	6,492
	2	346,649	26,571	36,795	32,246	46,085	35,071	28,059	16,598	13,636	36,158	20,646	41,090	7,635	6,059
	3	309,830	24,173	33,592	29,216	41,455	31,645	23,897	14,429	11,708	31,709	18,903	36,281	7,088	5,734
	4	279,778	22,182	30,776	26,663	37,492	28,850	20,642	12,665	10,214	28,138	17,698	32,553	6,585	5,320
1970	1	379,912	28,003	39,395	35,315	47,594	35,734	33,806	18,227	16,017	41,791	22,329	48,173	8,027	5,501
	2	315,842	24,647	33,801	29,882	39,736	30,324	26,178	14,428	12,552	33,674	19,529	39,583	7,080	4,978
	3	264,623	20,605	29,039	25,642	33,681	25,656	20,663	11,723	10,018	27,548	16,730	32,580	6,220	4,468
	4	217,400	17,466	24,670	21,450	27,725	21,503	15,495	9,059	7,679	21,802	14,701	26,397	5,448	4,005
<u>Change in Projected Population, 1950-70</u>															
1	-173,188	-13,043	-17,021	-11,460	-34,798	-26,165	-13,345	-12,734	-7,106	-14,690	-6,443	-10,548	-1,845	-3,940	
2	-237,258	-16,999	-22,615	-16,893	-42,606	-31,575	-20,973	-16,533	-10,571	-22,807	-9,243	-19,138	-2,792	-4,463	
3	-288,477	-20,441	-27,327	-21,133	-48,711	-36,243	-26,488	-19,288	-13,105	-28,933	-12,042	-26,141	-3,652	-4,973	
4	-335,700	-23,580	-31,746	-25,325	-54,667	-40,396	-31,656	-21,952	-15,444	-34,679	-14,071	-32,324	-4,424	-5,436	
<u>Percentage Change in Projected Population, 1950-70</u>															
1	-31.3	-31.8	-30.2	-24.5	-42.2	-42.3	-28.3	-41.2	-30.7	-26.0	-22.4	-18.0	-18.7	-41.7	
2	-42.9	-41.4	-40.1	-36.1	-51.7	-51.0	-44.5	-53.5	-45.7	-40.4	-32.1	-32.6	-28.3	-47.3	
3	-52.2	-49.3	-48.4	-45.2	-59.1	-58.6	-56.2	-62.2	-56.7	-51.2	-41.9	-44.5	-37.0	-52.7	
4	-60.7	-57.4	-56.3	-54.1	-66.3	-65.3	-67.1	-70.8	-66.8	-61.4	-48.9	-55.0	-44.8	-57.6	

Projections of Oklahoma's Population to 1970

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both a "suburban fall-out" and a heavy attraction of outside migrants to the immediate environs of the cities.

Nonmetropolitan Economic Areas 6, 7b, and 9

Unlike Oklahoma and Tulsa Counties, Areas 6, 7b, and 9 have little prospect of rapid population expansion. The projected statewide gains will completely bypass them. Sizeable increments in certain age groups are imminent, however, during 1950-70. According to the projections, the following significant changes are in store for Areas 6, 7b, and 9:

First, Tables 17 and 18, in general, indicate a marked diminution of the youth population in these three areas. Numbers of preschool age children may be either only slightly greater or 60 percent smaller in 1970 than in 1950; those of high school age will decline by 20 to 50 percent; and those of elementary school age will shrink by as much as 50 percent. Only Area 9 has a likelihood of an increase in the child population 5-13 years of age.

Second, large-scale emigration will strip Areas 6, 7b, and 9 of between 31,000 to 84,000 of their people in the productive ages (20-64 years) during 1950-70, precipitating losses of 12 to 50 percent. In other words, opportunities which beckon elsewhere will prune away all of the potential manpower growth.

Third, despite total population losses, these three areas will have gains of 1,100 to 4,600 in the number of people 65 years of age by 1970.

Fourth, cities in Areas 6 and 7b will experience heavy depopulation, with losses of 3,000 to 29,000 inhabitants, between 1950 and 1970 (Table 23). Furthermore, these centers will sustain the greatest proportional urban losses occurring in the 13 state economic areas.

In Area 6, future losses in both rural-farm and rural-nonfarm population will only magnify those occurring in the urban centers (Tables 24 and 25). Although Area 7b must expect a one-third to two-thirds reduction in farm inhabitants during the interim, its 1970 rural-nonfarm population may be either about 10 percent larger or 30 percent smaller than in 1950.

While the 20-year period will usher in a modest city population increase in Area 9, it will also generate losses of 10 to 45 percent in the rural-nonfarm and of 20 to 55 percent in the farm population.

Fifth, the total population of the three areas combined will dwindle from

approximately 362,000 in 1950 to between 210,000 and 332,000 in 1970, spelling losses of 30,000 to 150,000 people.

During this time, migration will siphon between 135,00 and 210,000 persons from Areas 6, 7b, and 9, erasing any prospective population increases. That probable gains of 60,000 to 105,000 persons through natural increase will fail to replenish the emigration losses during 1950-70 is, therefore, obvious.

Evidently, the population of Area 7b, embracing Bryan, Choctaw, and Marshall Counties, and Area 9, comprising Atoka, Latimer, LeFlore, McCurtain, Pittsburg, and Pushmataha Counties, reached a saturation point around 1920. Population numbers in Area 6, which includes Coal, Creek, Hughes, Okfuskee, Pontotoc, and Seminole Counties, reached a pinnacle about ten years later. Four salient factors explain the actual and prospective decline of population in southeastern Oklahoma: (1) Relatively high rates of unemployment and underemployment, or inadequate employment; (2) low incomes and levels of living; (3) high rates of natural increase of the population; (4) and large-scale out-migration.¹⁷

Nonmetropolitan Economic Areas 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7a, 8a, 8b

Less sweeping demographic changes lie ahead for these eight state economic areas than for the other five, and follow divergent trends. Projection Series 1, the highest of the four, reveals that all eight areas will gain population, with some specific areas growing by as much as 15 percent between 1950 and 1970 (Table 16). In contrast, projection Series 3 and 4 foretell losses for each area, with the total population of Area 7a catapulting from 111,000 in 1950 to 81,000 in 1970 a decline of 30,000 people, or 27 percent.

The following population changes are probable for these eight areas:

First, the number of preschool age children in 1970 may either be larger or smaller than in 1950 in each area. Area 2 should have small increases in its elementary school age population, with the other seven areas facing possible gains or losses. Areas 2 and 5 are likely to have small to moderate expansions in their secondary school age populations; Areas 1, 3, 4, and 7a will have either

¹⁷Declines in the production of oil, coal, timber, coupled with soil fertility losses, and other manifestations of economic obsolescence are often cited as basic causes of the four general dislocations mentioned here. The over-all problem is, however, a highly complex one which has no simple answer. See James D. Tarver, *A Study of Rural Manpower in Southeastern Oklahoma*, Oklahoma AES Technical Bull. No. T-56, September, 1955, pp. 9 and 20-2.

increases or decreases; but Areas 8a and 8b must expect 5 to 30 percent losses in high school youths.

Second, the projections indicate that six of the eight areas, 1, 2, 3, 5, 7a, and 8a, cannot forestall population losses in the principal working ages, 20-64 years, between 1950 and 1970. Areas 4 and 8b, however, may achieve either small gains or have losses as high as 25 percent. In any event, the dispersal of people from each of the eight areas will curb the potential growth of the working age population.

Third, an irreversible expansion of the aged population of from 20,000 to 29,000 persons eclipses all other expected demographic changes in these eight areas, between 1950 and 1970.

Fourth, Area 5 is the only economic area which is likely to depart from the statewide pattern of a declining sex ratio during 1950-70.

Fifth, substantial increases in the colored population will materialize in Areas 1 and 4, whereas the white population will either dwindle in size or achieve only meager gains. Moreover, while nonwhites were more numerous in Area 8a than elsewhere in Oklahoma in 1950, having nearly 17 percent of the state's colored population, their proportion of the total population will shrink to 12 or 13 percent by 1970.

Sixth, the urban population in five of the eight areas will enlarge, with Area 8b manifesting the largest proportionate increases. In the other three areas, 1, 7a, and 8a, cities may encounter either prospective population losses or increases. Also, Areas 1, 2, 4, and 8b will have rural-nonfarm population gains during 1950-70, whereas Areas 3, 5, 7a, and 8a may experience either small increases or decreases. Finally, an enduring flight of people from farms in all eight areas, throughout the projection period, portends further depopulation of the countryside. In Area 7a, which faces the largest relative displacement, 70 percent of the people may desert the farms by 1970.

Conclusion

Summary of the Study

By component methods this study estimates the July 1, 1955, populations and projects the July 1, 1960, 1965, and 1970, populations of Oklahoma's 13 economic areas separately by residence, and age-sex-race distributions.

One set of July 1, 1955, Oklahoma population estimates was made, then

adjusted to the official Bureau of the Census' estimate. However, the uncertainty of future Oklahoma natural increase and net migration rates necessitated the use of alternative levels for each of the three projection periods, which involved preparing four separate population projections for July 1, 1960, 1965, and 1970, with two alternative assumptions for births, three for net migration, and one assumed level of mortality.

This report delineates the major Oklahoma population changes expected between 1950 and 1970. Without imputing exactness to the 1960, 1965, and 1970 projections, it defines limits within which the population may fluctuate. Even so, some of the probable changes are so pronounced that their movements are unquestionable—only the volume and rapidity of change are in doubt.

Conclusions

The most prominent trends to 1970, in the order of their probability, are the following:

First, increases are in store for (1) Oklahoma's population, especially females, 55 years of age and over; (2) elementary, high school, and college age populations and enrollments; (3) rural-nonfarm and urban populations; (4) the labor force, particularly the female workers; and (5) the white and total populations of the state. Oklahoma and Tulsa Counties will amass large population gains in all age groups, and their suburban (rural-nonfarm) population will grow much more, proportionately, than their urban and farm populations.

Second, the total population of Economic Areas 6, 7b, and 9, the 15 counties in southeastern Oklahoma, will decrease. Also, the long-term decline in the sex ratio of Oklahoma's population will continue, meaning a pronounced disparity of females over males. Finally, increasing mechanization and productivity of farm workers will release between 30 and 60 percent of the Oklahoma farm population from agriculture to industry during 1950-70. Every state economic area may expect further farm population declines.

Third, the highly uncertain future Oklahoma population trends are those for children under ten years of age, the productive age population, especially for persons 25-54 years of age, and the total nonwhite population. The projection show that either increases or decreases for each of these groups is possible. Likewise, the pattern of change in the total population of Economic Areas 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7a 8a, and 8b is puzzling; each area may exhibit gains or losses between 1950 and 1970.