

Population Characteristics

Age Structure. The median age of Lyon Township's population increased from 31.0 years in 1990 to 35.2 years in 2000 (see Table 3-3). During the same period, the median age for residents of Oakland County increased from 33.8 to 36.7 years.

Thus, while Oakland County's population is older, Lyon Township's population is aging at a faster rate. The Township has a relatively low percentage of seniors, compared to the County's share. Analysis of SEMCOG data indicates that Lyon's fastest growing age group is the "35 to 65" bracket, and the "18 to 34" bracket declined significantly. The percentages of the pre-school, school-age, and senior populations in the Township were relatively stable.

The lack of a large percentage growth of pre-school and school age children indicates that much of the growth in the Township in the 2000's probably consisted of mature families in the 45 to 64 bracket. Persons in this age bracket are more likely to have children who are in high school, out of school, or in college. This is in contrast to the 1980's when there was a significant influx of young families into the Township.

Table 3-3

AGE STRUCTURE				
	Lyon Township		Oakland County	
	Number	Percent	Percent	Percent Difference
Under 5 years	881	8.0%	6.7%	1.3%
5 to 19 years	2,574	23.4%	20.6%	2.8%
20 to 24 years	535	4.8%	5.1%	-0.3%
25 to 44 years	3,760	34.1%	32.5%	1.6%
45 to 64 years	2,545	23.1%	23.9%	-0.8%
65 years and older	746	6.8%	11.4%	-4.6%

Source: Bureau of the Census, 2000

South Lyon Community School District enrollment data supports this observation. While young families are moving into the Township, they are occupying a smaller percentage of the total Township growth. Kindergarten through twelfth grade enrollment increased from 6,067 students in 2000-2001 to 7,081 in 2009-2010 (see Table 3-4). During this time period, the kindergarten through fifth grade bracket increased by 10 percent. Enrollment in grades six through eight increased by 18.5 percent. High school enrollment increased 27.1%.