

Regional Trends

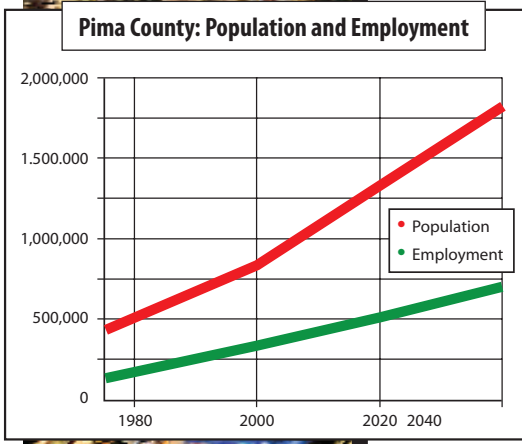
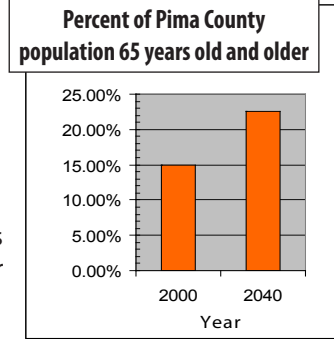


Pima Association of Governments (PAG) is developing a new long-range transportation plan for eastern Pima County and the Tucson metropolitan area. PAG's 2040 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) will be a 30-year plan that provides a framework for transportation investments in the PAG region by identifying projects that could potentially be developed with federal, state and local funding through 2040.

What will our population be like in 2040?

Tucson has long been a popular destination for students, families and retirees. Between 1975 and 2000, Pima County's population grew by approximately 90 percent. Today, there are just over 1 million people in Pima County and that number is expected to rise by 80 percent to 1.77 million by 2040. Population growth is expected to outpace employment growth; however, the region is expected to see the following employment sectors expand over the next 30 years: professional and business services, health care, transportation and warehousing, trade and hospitality.

Significant growth will occur in the elderly population as life expectancy continues to rise with improved health care and quality of life and the migration of retirees. By 2040, 22.5 percent of the population will be 65 years old or older, as compared to 14.9 percent today. Increasing age frequently results in higher levels of varied disabilities, which have multiple affects on a community, let alone the individual and his or her immediate family. We will need to plan for a higher demand for public transportation services, including special needs and wheelchair accessible rides currently.

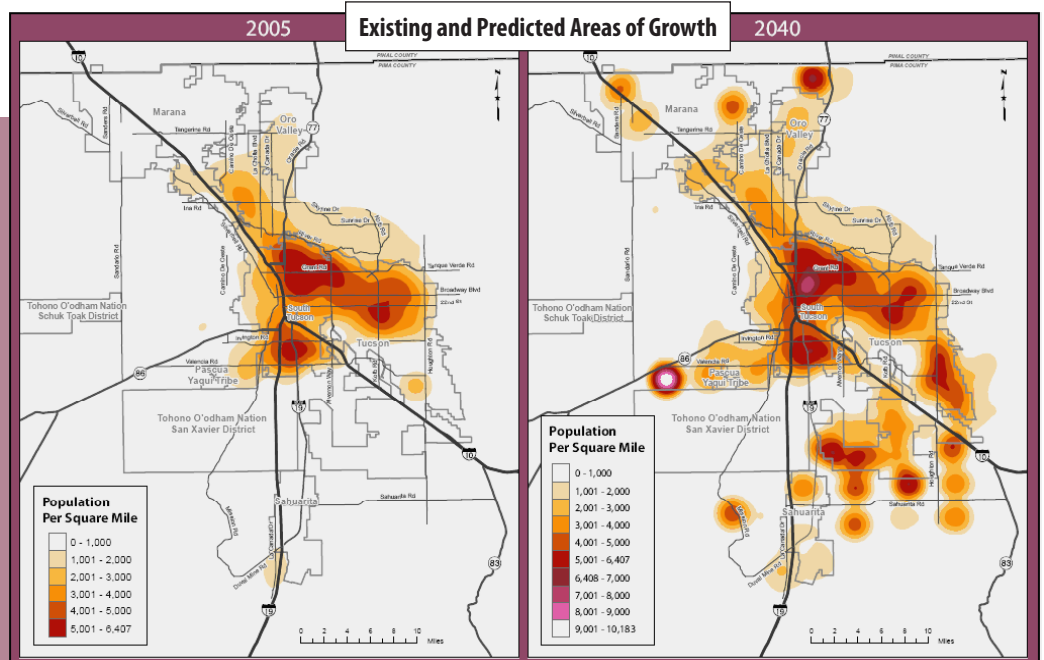


Where will we live?

Anticipated growth is based on public development plans available through the PAG member jurisdictions, recent growth rates and the maximum build out capacity for areas already under development.

The areas of fastest growth in our region are in:

- Marana, both east and west of I-10
- Near Catalina, west of State Route 77
- The Ryan Airfield vicinity along Ajo Way/SR-86
- Sahuarita
- The Houghton Road corridor south of 22nd
- The entire southeastern urbanized area, including areas within the City of Tucson and unincorporated Pima County, south to the Santa Rita Mountains, and industrial/retail areas along I-10 south/east of downtown



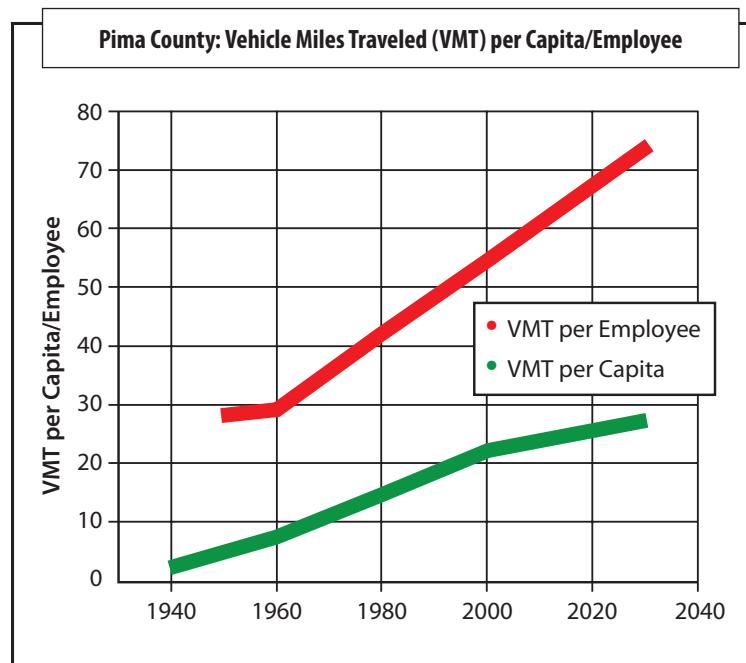


How fast are we growing?

By the year 2040, Pima County is projected to have 1.77 million people, an increase of 73 percent over today's population, while the City of Tucson is expected to reach over 900,000, a growth rate of 69 percent. The Town of Sahuarita is projected to grow the most, at 310 percent, reaching over 96,000 people by 2040, and the Town of Marana will follow with a 246 percent growth rate and a population of 117,900 by the year 2040.

Impacts of Growth on Transportation

As our community has grown, the distances we travel by car have increased exponentially. In the 1950s the vehicle miles traveled per person was approximately 28 miles per day. Today, we travel 60 miles per day and by 2040 we are predicted to travel over 70 miles per day. Likewise, the number of miles of roads grows exponentially as our region grows. In 1950, there were approximately 300 miles of roads in eastern Pima County; today, there are about 1,400 miles of roads; and by 2040, there are expected to be 2,200 miles of roads.



The number of miles we travel each day has grown dramatically over the past 50 years from 28 miles per day to 60 miles per day. As our region continues to grow and we travel longer distances to work, school, shopping and entertainment, the number of "vehicle miles traveled" could continue its exponential increase.

For more information on regional trends contact :

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How can you stay informed or get involved?

To stay informed and get involved in PAG's 2040 RTP and/or other PAG planning activities:

- Visit the PAG Web site at www.pagnet.org
- Add your name to PAG's 2040 RTP mailing list by calling PAG at (520) 792-1093
- Schedule a speaker for your next meeting

Impacts of growth on the driver:

- Longer commute times
- Increased peak-hour traffic
- Increased trip distance
- Increased stress
- Increased air pollution
- Increased fuel consumption
- Increased costs

