

DEMOGRAPHIC FORECAST STUDY

for the FM Metropolitan Area

Introduction

The Fargo-Moorhead Metropolitan Council of Governments (Metro COG) develops demographic forecasts for the Fargo-Moorhead metropolitan area every five years as part of the long-range transportation planning process. These demographic forecasts are also very important for local units of governments and other entities to support other ongoing planning efforts.

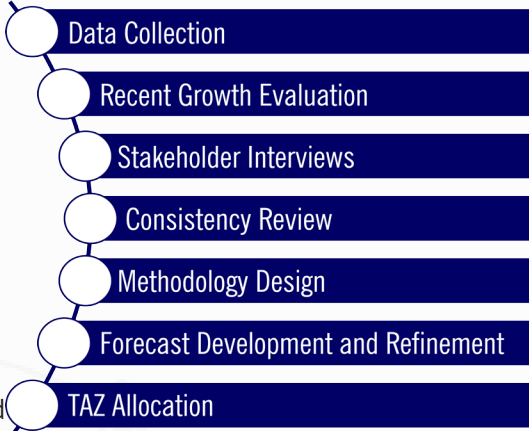
Study Area

The Fargo-Moorhead Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) includes Cass County, North Dakota and Clay County, Minnesota. While forecasts were completed for the entire MSA, additional forecasts were completed for the Metro COG Metropolitan Planning Area (MPA), which is comprised of 30 townships from within Cass County, North Dakota and Clay County, Minnesota. For the purposes of the 2016 Demographic Forecast, cities were designated as either a Primary City or a Smaller City, with specific methodologies for each.

	2015	2020	2025	2030	2035	2040	2045
MSA	232,900	259,260	281,030	300,460	317,400	331,730	342,360
MPA	222,366	246,523	267,331	286,013	302,419	316,413	326,782
Cass County	168,930	189,900	206,620	221,350	233,940	244,460	251,940
Clay County	63,970	69,360	74,410	79,110	83,460	87,270	90,420
Fargo	117,230	129,690	140,030	151,810	162,450	172,140	179,800
West Fargo	32,300	37,370	40,140	42,000	43,240	43,660	43,270
Horace	2,620	5,070	8,190	8,940	9,500	9,820	10,040
Casselton	2,420	2,530	2,680	2,800	2,920	2,990	3,110
Balance of Cass	14,360	15,240	15,580	15,800	15,830	15,850	15,720
Moorhead	43,840	47,120	50,290	53,340	56,390	59,100	61,420
Dilworth	4,300	4,760	5,210	5,620	5,960	6,270	6,510
Barnesville	2,780	3,020	3,300	3,530	3,730	3,920	4,110
Hawley	2,190	2,290	2,390	2,460	2,570	2,630	2,700
Balance of Clay	11,450	12,710	13,760	14,680	15,470	16,130	16,610

Study Process

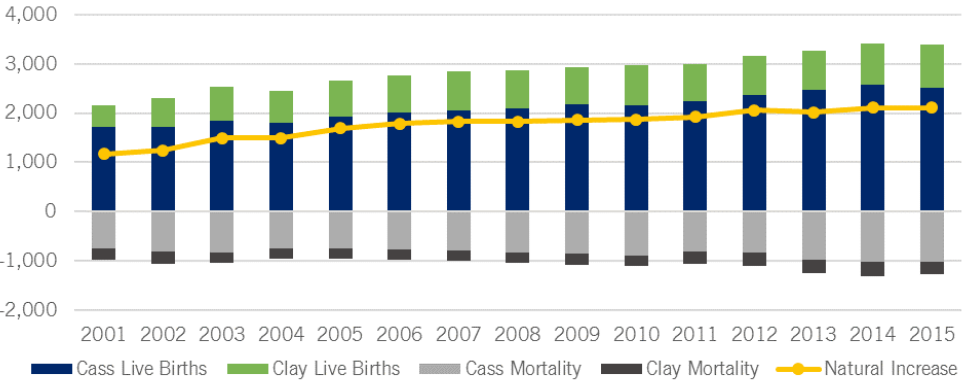
The Demographic Forecast Study followed the process shown to the right. Demographic forecast studies require a robust set of data, including existing and anticipated employment levels; population, including live births and deaths statistics; the number and size of households; building permit records, and primary, secondary, and post-secondary education enrollment. These datasets were used to determine recent growth and perform a consistency review with previous demographic forecasts and ultimately informed the forecasts included in this study.



Study Area Growth

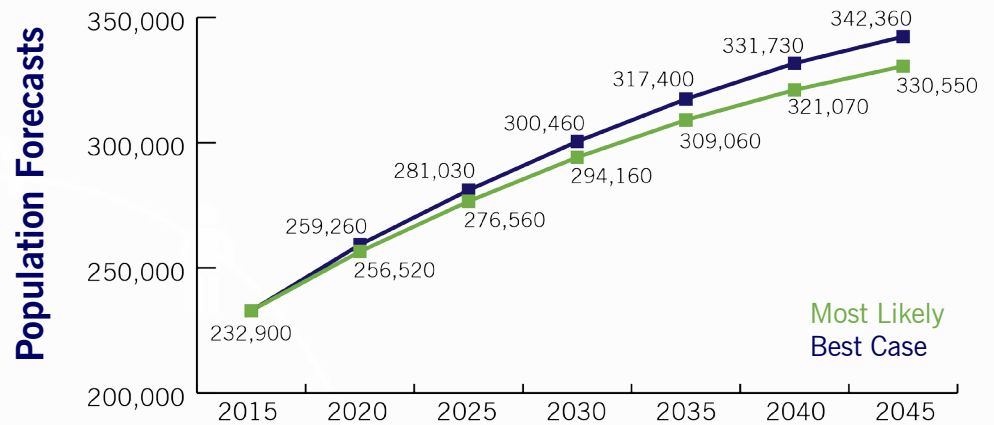
The two major components of demographic forecasts, births and deaths, have undergone significant change since the 2012 Demographic Forecast.

- » Births from 2010 to 2015 were 8.8 percent higher than forecasted
- » Deaths from 2010 to 2015 were 25.4 percent lower than forecasted



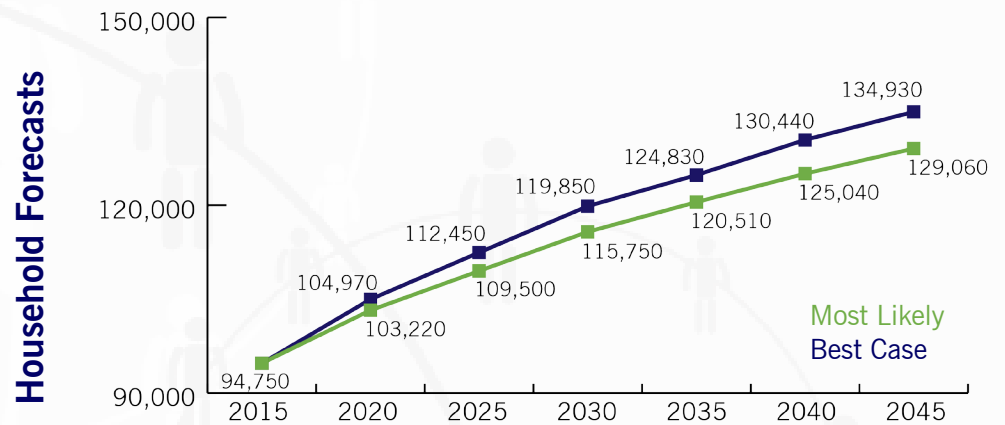
Population Forecasts

The Most Likely population scenario provides an overall population increase for the MSA from the 2015 Demographic Forecast Study estimate number of 232,900 to 330,550 in 2045. This represents a 42.9 percent increase in the total population of the MSA between 2015 and 2045. The Best Case population scenario provides an overall population increase for the MSA from the 2015 Demographic Forecast Study estimate number of 232,900 to 342,360 in 2045. This represents an overall increase of 47.0 percent between 2015 and 2045.



Household Forecasts

The Most Likely scenario provides an overall household increase for the MSA from the 2015 Demographic Forecast Study estimate number of 94,750 to 129,060 in 2045. This is a 36.2 percent change between 2015 and 2045. The Best Case Scenario provides an overall household increase for the MSA from the 2015 Demographic Forecast Study estimate number of 94,750 to 134,930 in 2045. This is a 42.4 percent change between 2015 and 2045. For the purposes of this forecast, “household” is a group of people living in a dwelling unit while “housing unit” is another term for a dwelling unit.



Jobs Forecast

The Most Likely scenario provides an overall jobs increase for the MSA from the 2015 Demographic Forecast Study estimate of 151,290 to 203,790 in 2045. This is a 34.7 percent change between 2015 and 2045. The Best Case scenario provides an overall jobs increase for the MSA from the 2015 Demographic Forecast Study estimate of 151,290 to 209,363 in 2045. This is a 38.4 percent change between 2015 and 2045.

