

TABLE 2  
BIRTHS, DEATHS, AND MARRIAGES  
CITY OF GLOUCESTER, 1970-1980

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>BIRTHS</u>	<u>DEATHS</u>	<u>NET DIFFERENCE</u>	<u>MARRIAGES</u>
1970	279	189	90	133
1971	261	186	75	134
1972	228	176	52	138
1973	198	161	37	119
1974	188	165	23	126
1975	190	185	5	105
1976	194	165	29	109
1977	196	153	43	115
1978	176	149	27	104
1979	179	142	37	100
<u>1980</u>	<u>182</u>	<u>191</u>	<u>-9</u>	<u>96</u>
TOTALS 1970-79	2,089	1,671	418	1,183
TEN YR AVG - 1970-79	209	167	42	118
% CHGE 1970-80	-0.35	0.01	1.10	-0.28

Source: N.J. Department of Health; Compilations by Planning, Research and Development Corporation.

The table below shows the 1970-80 population change by the probable source of the change.

TABLE 3  
CHANGE IN POPULATION BY SOURCE  
1970-1980

1970 Population	14,707
Less Deaths (1970-80)	-1,671
Add Births (1970-80)	+2,089
Potential 1980 Population	15,125
Actual 1980 Population	<u>13,121</u>
Outmigration of Residents (1970-80)	2,004

E. OBSERVED TRENDS

The decline in birth rates is both a national and a local trend and thus far shows no signs of reversing itself, though it may well have stabilized itself at current levels.

The outmigration trend appears to be strongly related to a lack of available, decent housing within the City.

The increase in death rates is the beginning evidence of a trend toward an older population in the City. This trend will be explored in more detail in subsequent sections.

F. COMPOSITION BY AGE GROUP AND OBSERVED TRENDS

One of the most significant characteristics of the population of the City of Gloucester is the large percentage of persons over 60 years of age---21% (versus 15.3% at the county level). This group is projected to grow to 25% of the City's population by 1990.

The next most significant group in the City's population is the 25-34 year old group which represents approximately 13% of the City total (versus 15.9% of the county population). This group is important to the City, since it represents the "family forming" age group which accounts for future school populations and major purchases, such as homes, appliances, furniture, etc.

A further analysis of potential size of this group based on the size of the "15 to 24 year old group" in 1970, shows that approximately 25% of this 1970 group migrated out of the City between 1970 and 1980. By 1990 the "25-34 year old group" should grow to approximately 14% of the City's population.

The "under 10 year old group" dropped from 19% of the population in 1970 to 14% in 1980, reflecting the drop in birth rates locally and nationally. Recent evidence suggests that the birth rate may have stabilized and, thus, this group may increase to 15% of the City's population by 1990.

The 10 to 19 year old group dropped from 19% of the population in 1970 to 18% in 1980 and should experience a very significant drop to 13% by 1990. This shift, directly related to the decline in births during the 1970's is likely to impact the school system significantly during the second half of the 1980's and early 1990's.

G. PROJECTIONS TO 1990

Based on trends in births, deaths and the migration of households which are currently under way, the consultants believe that, unless a significant number of new homes are built and occupied during the remainder of the decade, the population of the City will decline to approximately 11,537 persons by 1990. These projections by age group are shown below:

TABLE 4

<u>Age Group</u>	<u>City Population</u>		<u>Projected Pop.</u>	
	<u>1970</u>	<u>1980</u>	<u>1990</u>	<u>CHANGE</u>
0-4 Yrs.	1,282	880	728	- 152
5-9	1,411	882	750	- 132
10-14	1,424	1,063	760	- 303
15-19	1,326	1,262	761	- 501
20-24	1,148	1,095	817	- 278
25-34	1,554	1,700	1,620	- 80
35-44	1,502	1,264	1,382	+ 118
45-54	1,926	1,387	1,167	- 220
54-59	852	861	766	- 95
60-64	710	853	759	- 94
65-74	1,015	1,146	1,258	+ 112
75+	515	654	769	+ 115
TOTALS	14,665	13,121	11,537	-1,510

Note: Projections of Population by age group to 1990 assume the following:

- Outmigration will continue at the same rate
- New construction of homes will not exceed 100+ during the 1980's
- Birth rates have stabilized at approximately 13.9 births per 1,000 persons.