

Delaware Population Consortium  
Minutes of October 11, 2012

Attending: Mike Duross, Dan Blevins, Janelle Cornwell, Barbara Gladders, Laura Simmons, Miriam Pomilio, Derrick Lightfoot, Kelly Crumpley, Don Berry, Ed Ratledge, and Jim Galvin.

Absent: Marlena Gibson, John Laznik, Terry Pepper, Megan Nehrbas, Maryellen Gray

*There is no defined membership for the DPC. Those attending or absent are noted by agreement of those participating. Those listed as missing had attended meetings in the recent past and may have surrogates attending for their organization.*

Materials were distributed including an agenda, previous meeting minutes, and the summary charts for the State and each of the Counties with the major working charts of population by sex by each year of age by single projected year.

The meeting was called to order of at 10:12 AM by Mr. Blevins in Ms. Gibson's absence (to attend the state Housing Conference). Mr. Blevins asked for approval of the minutes of the September 11, 2012 meeting. The motion was made by Ms. Pomilio to approve the minutes, seconded by Ms. Cornwell. The motion was approved by all present with one abstention.

Mr. Blevins then asked Ed Ratledge of the University of Delaware Center For Advanced Demographics And Survey Research (CADSR) to discuss the materials he distributed including multiple pages of population by gender, race (white, black, other and Hispanic) and age. Mr. Ratledge described that he had produced projection summaries based on an extrapolation of the 2010 census data. (Mr. Ratledge explained at the previous meeting that he simplified the racial breakdown into white, black, other and Hispanic, as opposed to include the Hispanic as a ethnic subset of any of the races.)

The distribution of population into race categories was estimated at 7/1/2010, slightly different from the Census date of April 1 which did create a few differences. The 2011 estimates have been released but Mr. Ratledge interpolated the age by year. The households were grounded to 2010. Ms. Gladders assembled the births and deaths through 2010, but only had available births in 2011 at the time. Mr. Ratledge felt the fertility/mortality rates were not changing and the migration was returning to historic trends. Population of the state is projected to reach 1,099,286 by 2040 and will exceed 1 million in 2021.

It was noted that households weren't being created at a rate expected; the "headship" rate. The newly minted college graduates and those that didn't attend high school are not leaving home, primarily for lack of employment, and creating new households. 2008 was the balance point for the workforce. By 2010, 20,000 more people left the workforce than entered it, by 2016 it will be 30,000 people and does not rebalance until 2032.

Any comments or corrections were to be returned to Mr. Ratledge by October 18.

There was an extended discussion on the future of the DPC and how these projections are accomplished in the future. Mr. Ratledge indicated he would not be available to provide the next series of numbers in the Fall of 2013. There were two primary areas of discussion, who would prepare the projections if the DPC continued and how they would get paid. All felt the Consortium was the preferred mechanism to provide population projections all state agencies and communities can use.

In light of the time, Mr. Lightfoot made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Ms. Gladders and unanimously approved. The meeting ended at 11:45 AM.

Respectfully submitted by James J. Galvin, Jr.