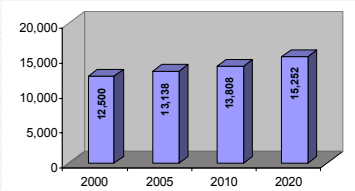


CHAPTER EIGHT

Projections & Planning Assumptions

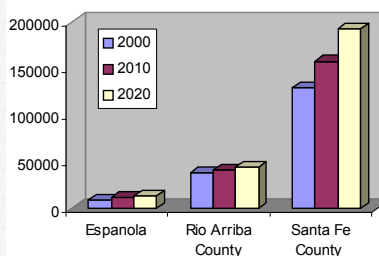
- 8.01 Population Growth
- 8.02 Projected Income and Employment Growth
- 8.03 Projected Housing Needs
- 8.04 Commercial & Industrial Development Trends
- 8.05 Projected Water Demands

Figure 8-1 Espanola City limits - Projected Population



Based on a 1 percent annual growth rate of City staff population estimate (12,500) for the year 2000

Figure 8-2 Projected Populations Compared



8.01 Projected Population Growth

Like most communities in Rio Arriba and Santa Fe County, Española’s population has grown over the past 40 years. In 1960, Española had a population of 1,976. The 2000 Census estimates Española’s population to be 9,688. The City staff estimate for Española’s population in the year 2000 is higher, approximately 12,500 people. Though Española’s population will continue to grow in coming years, the rate of growth has been slowing down and is expected to level off through the future. For instance, the growth rate from 1990 to 2000 was approximately 15 percent (about 1.5 percent annually), 8 percent less than the average growth rate of the previous decade. (CUED 2001) In the Jemez y Sangre Water Planning Region, the Santa Cruz Sub-basin—of which Española comprises the largest percent of the population—is expected to grow a little above 1 percent annually through the next 60 years. (BBER 2000)

At a growth rate of 1 percent annually from the City staff estimate of 12,500 by the year 2020 Española’s population would be approximately 15,252. This indicates an increase of approximately 2,752 people from today—about 138 new residents each year. Tables 8-1 and 8-2 indicate the projected population within City limits for Census data estimates and City staff estimates from 2000 to the year 2020 using a low (0.5 percent); medium (1 percent) and high (1.5 percent) annual growth rate. Table 8-3 indicates the projected population for the City’s total planning area.

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Table 8-1: Espanola's Projected Population within City limits based on US Census population estimate of 9,688 for the year 2000.

	Annual Growth Rate		
	0.5 percent	1 percent	1.5 percent
2001	9,736	9,785	9,833
2002	9,785	9,883	9,981
2003	9,834	9,982	10,131
2004	9,883	10,081	10,282
2005	9,933	10,182	10,437
2006	9,982	10,284	10,593
2007	10,032	10,387	10,752
2008	10,082	10,491	10,913
2009	10,133	10,596	11,077
2010	10,183	10,702	11,243
2011	10,234	10,809	11,412
2012	10,286	10,917	11,583
2013	10,337	11,026	11,757
2014	10,389	11,136	11,933
2015	10,441	11,247	12,112
2016	10,493	11,360	12,294
2017	10,545	11,474	12,478
2018	10,598	11,588	12,666
2019	10,651	11,704	12,855
2020	10,704	11,821	13,048

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Table 8-2: Espanola’s Projected Population within City limits based on City Staff population estimate of 12,500 for the year 2000

	Annual Growth Rate		
	0.5 percent	1 percent	1.5 percent
2001	12,563	12,625	12,688
2002	12,625	12,751	12,878
2003	12,688	12,879	13,071
2004	12,752	13,008	13,267
2005	12,816	13,138	13,466
2006	12,880	13,269	13,668
2007	12,944	13,402	13,873
2008	13,009	13,536	14,081
2009	13,074	13,671	14,292
2010	13,139	13,808	14,507
2011	13,205	13,946	14,724
2012	13,271	14,085	14,945
2013	13,337	14,226	15,169
2014	13,404	14,368	15,397
2015	13,471	14,512	15,628
2016	13,538	14,657	15,862
2017	13,606	14,804	16,100
2018	13,674	14,952	16,342
2019	13,742	15,101	16,587
2020	13,811	15,252	16,836

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Table 8-3: Espanola's Projected Population for total planning area based on City staff planning area estimate of 13,388 for the year 2003

	Annual Growth Rate		
	0.5 percent	1 percent	1.5 percent
2001	13,455	13,522	13,589
2002	13,522	13,657	13,793
2003	13,590	13,794	14,000
2004	13,658	13,932	14,210
2005	13,726	14,071	14,423
2006	13,795	14,212	14,639
2007	13,864	14,354	14,859
2008	13,933	14,497	15,081
2009	14,003	14,642	15,308
2010	14,073	14,789	15,537
2011	14,143	14,937	15,770
2012	14,214	15,086	16,007
2013	14,285	15,237	16,247
2014	14,356	15,389	16,491
2015	14,428	15,543	16,738
2016	14,500	15,698	16,989
2017	14,573	15,855	17,244
2018	14,646	16,014	17,503
2019	14,719	16,174	17,765
2020	14,792	16,336	18,032

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If the City of Espanola's demographics follow the projected percentage distribution of Rio Arriba and Santa Fe counties, many of Espanola's residents (24-29 percent) 20 years from now will be under the age of 19. A little over 25 percent of the 2020 population is expected to be between the ages of 25 to 44 years. Adults 45 to 64 years of age will likely comprise 21-27 percent of the population, followed by those 65 and over, comprising approximately 15-18 percent of the population.

8.02 Projected Income and Employment Growth.

In 1990, Espanola's median household income was \$19,785. However, nearly 30 percent of households in 1990 earned less than \$10,000. The next largest group (20 percent) of households earned in the range of \$15,000 to \$25,000. By 2000, the average household income had increased to \$27,144. Yet, the largest group of households (about 18 percent) still earned less than \$10,000. Nonetheless, the number of households at this low income level had decreased by 10 percent in the 10 year period. The next largest group (17.5 percent) at \$15,000 to \$25,000 had decreased slightly, while the percent of household earners within the \$50,000 to \$75,000 income level more than doubled in this same ten year period. (Census 1990 and Census 2000) In 1990, 26 percent of individuals in Espanola were considered to be living below the poverty level. While in 2000, approximately 22 percent of the individuals were below poverty.

The number of people employed in Espanola's labor force grew by 2 percent between 1990 and 2000, while the unemployment increased by 0.3 percent. (Census 1990 and Census 2000) The BBER estimates the Jemez y Sangre Water Planning Region (in which the City of Espanola lies) baseline employment rate to grow at an average of 2.2 percent annually from 2000 to 2009, and 3 percent annually from 2010 to 2020. (BBER 2000) Based on this employment trend, about 5,571 people (52 percent) of Espanola's 2010 population (estimated at 10,702), and 7,487 people (63 percent) of the 2020 population, will be employed.

The majority of Espanola residents work at LANL. As such, the Lab's labor force and employment trends impact employment opportunities for Espanola residents. LANL has downsized its workforce in recent years, and though overall employment trends for Espanola have increased since 1990, Espanola's economic records from 1998 and 1999 reflect LANL's change in employment. (CUED 2000)

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8.03 Projected Housing Needs

Based on the estimated population growth rate of 2,752 people (at a 1 percent growth rate as outlined in section 8.01 Projected Population Growth) and a average household size of 2.56 (Census 2000 average household size), the City of Española will require an approximately 54 new homes per year for the next 20 years to meet a 20 percent increase in population. These estimates suggest a total of 1075 new housing units in Española by the year 2020.

The demographic groups expected to comprise the largest proportion of the 2020 population include people less than 19 years of age, those aged 25 to 44 years, as well as adults 45 to 64 years. This demographic trend suggests a future demand in Española for family-oriented housing.

8.04 Commercial & Industrial Development Trends

Economic development organizations throughout the Española Valley are focusing on a number of industry clusters for economic development. The City of Espanola as well as the many economic development initiatives underway would benefit from further collaboration and coordination. The main trends for industrial and commercial development in and around Española include agriculture and food processing, arts and crafts, and tourism.

The 1998-99 Overall Economic Development Update (prepared by North Central New Mexico Economic Development District) indicates agriculture as a key element of economic development for the Northern New Mexico region. In relation to this finding, the Regional Development Corporation recommends Northern New Mexico communities focus on business enterprises and services that support agriculture in the region, such as the development of a fresh produce and food distribution association. (CUED 2001)

TRADE, a local regional economic development organization assists local artisans and crafts people with business development and marketing in Española, and throughout Northern New Mexico. To assist in tourism development, the City of Española has designated a new tourist commercial district to host tourism-related businesses, such as art stores, theatres, and restaurants.

A first phase of Lazaro Subdivion, a 2500 acre site plan (of which approximately half lies in City limits) for a mixed-use development has been approved. Phase 1A is a 75 acre office park and is currently under construction on the west side of the City north of Johnnie A. Roybal Industrial Park.

Available land for light and heavy industrial in Española is limited. Outside of the Johnnie A. Roybal Industrial Park, the City lacks large undeveloped parcels of land for future industrial use. At the time of this report, the City was working to secure funds to prepare three sites at Johnnie A. Roybal Industrial Park for future industrial development. (CUED 2001)

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8.05 Projected Water Demands

A. Projected Demand of the Santa Cruz River Sub-basin.

Most residents of the Santa Cruz River Sub-basin live in Española or communities to the east—along State Road 76, including Santa Cruz, Chimayo, Pofrero, Cordova, Truchas, or south including La Mesilla and Arroyo Seco near US 285. In the year 2000, the Santa Cruz Sub-basin population was estimated to be about 20,000. (BBER 2000)

Under the most likely population growth scenario, the population of the Santa Cruz Sub-basin is expected to grow to about 40,000 by the year 2060. New growth is likely to be in the same general location as the presently populated areas, with the greatest growth in the basin occurring in Española, southeast of Riverside Drive (BBER 2000). The increased population will result in a greater demand of groundwater for domestic use, from 3,000 afy in year 2000 to 6,000 afy in 2060. Surface water demand, which is mainly for agriculture, is expected to remain the same during this period.

B. Projected Demand of the Santa Clara Sub-basin. The population in the Santa Clara Sub-basin is estimated at 4,800 in 1999, and is projected to grow to 7,180 in the next 60 years (BBER). Most people reside either in Santa Clara Pueblo south of Española or in southwestern Española, west of the Rio Grande River. Future growth will likely take place in these same general areas of the sub-basin. Groundwater used only for domestic purposes, based on population is projected to grow from 720 afy to 1077 afy by the year 2060. Municipal/industrial demand (mainly in Española) will likely grow over the next 60 years, but future growth will be constrained by limited availability of water rights. Surface water usage for irrigation is projected to remain essentially constant during this period.

C. Overall Projected Water Demands. The initial assessment of the Jemez y Sangre Water Planning Council is that, although population will increase substantially, there will be sufficient water in the Santa Cruz River, the Santa Clara and the Valarde

River sub basins, at least through 2060. (Jemez y Sangre Water Planning Council 2001) This assessment takes into account the additional water that Española will be receiving from the San Juan-Chama Project, a large hydrology project that will provide water from Colorado for a number of New Mexico communities. In all sub-basins, however, there are some problems with water quality and some uncertainties over water rights. Ultimately, these projections could change, of course, if the area experiences extraordinary droughts or if growth is higher than expected. In addition, an adequate supply of water in the City of Española also depends upon building the necessary wells, pipes, and treatment plants. Please refer to Chapter Six: Infrastructure for an overview of Espanola's existing water system.



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