

1.20 Demographic and Socio-Economic Profile

Watershed Management Area 3 incorporates portions of New Jersey State Congressional Districts 2, 3, and 4 (Plate 1.20.1). Plate 1.20.2 shows population density based on the 1990 census and Plate 1.20.3 shows population density in WMA 3 based on the 2000 census.

This data, summarized in Table 1.20.1, shows that over this period, population in WMA 3 has increased by 27,216, or over 9%. The New Jersey portion of WMA 3 had a greater increase in terms of number of people, and the New York portion of WMA 3 had a greater increase in terms of percentage.

Table 1.20.1 -Population of Watershed Management Area 3

	1990 Census	2000 Census	Change	% Change
New Jersey	228,194	244,058	15,864	6.95
New York	67,809	79,161	11,352	16.74
Total	296,003	323,219	27,216	9.19

Source: US Census Bureau

Table 1.20.2 summarizes numbers of households per square mile based on data from the 1990 and 2000 Censuses. The data shows that the growth in housing density in WMA 3 was apportioned approximately equally between New York and New Jersey, and overall approached a 20% weighted average growth in households.

Table 1.20.2 -Households per Square Mile – Watershed Management Area 3

	1990 Census	2000 Census	Change	% Change
New Jersey	207	243	36	17.39
New York	144	175	31	21.53
Weighted Average	189	224	35	18.52

Income information from the 1990 Census is shown in Table 1.20.3.

Table 1.20.3 -1990 Income Information – Watershed Management Area 3

	New Jersey	New York	Entire WMA
Median household income	\$59,969	\$50,254	\$57,630
Per capita income	\$24,085	\$19,869	\$23,070

The growth in population and households affects the watershed in several ways. Growth is usually associated with the loss of natural land, and generates a need for expansion of services, including utilities, businesses, transportation and waste disposal. It also adds pressure for increased employment opportunities, which cyclically would draw more population into an area. As the population density increases in adjacent areas, pressures increase for further development in WMA 3.