

Appendix I

Population and Growth Trends in the French Broad River Basin

Population and Growth Trends

Below are three different ways of presenting population information for the French Broad River basin. Population estimates are first presented for the entire basin using 2000 county population data and estimates of the percentage of the county within each subbasin. County population data are presented to project county growth estimates based on Office of State Planning information (June and September 2004). Data presented by municipality summarize information on past growth of large urban areas in the basin. While the three different sets of information cannot be directly compared, general conclusions are apparent by looking at the information. Counties with the highest expected growth are associated with the largest municipal areas and the most densely populated subbasins in the basin.

Basin Population and Population Density

Information on basin population and subbasin population density is useful in determining which streams are likely to exhibit more impacts as a result of population growth. This information is presented to estimate overall river basin population and population density by subbasin. It is assumed that county populations (as presented below) are distributed evenly throughout each county; therefore, subbasins that are within counties with large urban areas may overestimate the actual population in that portion of the basin. The overall population of the basin based on 2000 census block data is 393,795, with approximately 139 persons/square mile. Population density estimated by subbasin is presented in the following map.

County Population and Growth Trends

Information on county population projections is presented here for counties that are wholly or partly contained within the basin; however, river basin boundaries do not directly coincide with county boundaries. Therefore, this information is intended to present only an estimate of expected population growth in counties that have some land area in this basin. For more information on county population estimates, contact the Office of State Planning website at <http://demog.state.nc.us/>.

County	Percent of County in Basin ♦	1990 Population	2000 Population	Estimated % Growth 1990-2000	Estimated Population 2020	Estimated % Growth 2000-2020
Avery	38	14,867	17,167	13.4	20,523	16.4
Buncombe	93	174,357	206,310	15.5	268,001	23.0
Haywood	100	46,948	54,033	13.1	66,059	18.2
Henderson	71	69,747	89,193	21.8	127,044	29.8
Madison	100	16,953	19,635	13.7	23,972	18.1
Mitchell	100	14,433	15,687	8.0	17,508	10.4
Transylvania	82	25,520	29,334	13.0	33,997	13.7
Yancey	100	15,419	17,774	13.2	21,145	15.9
Subtotals		378,244	449,133	15.8	578,249	22.3

♦ Source: North Carolina Center for Geographic Information and Analysis (CGIA), 1997.

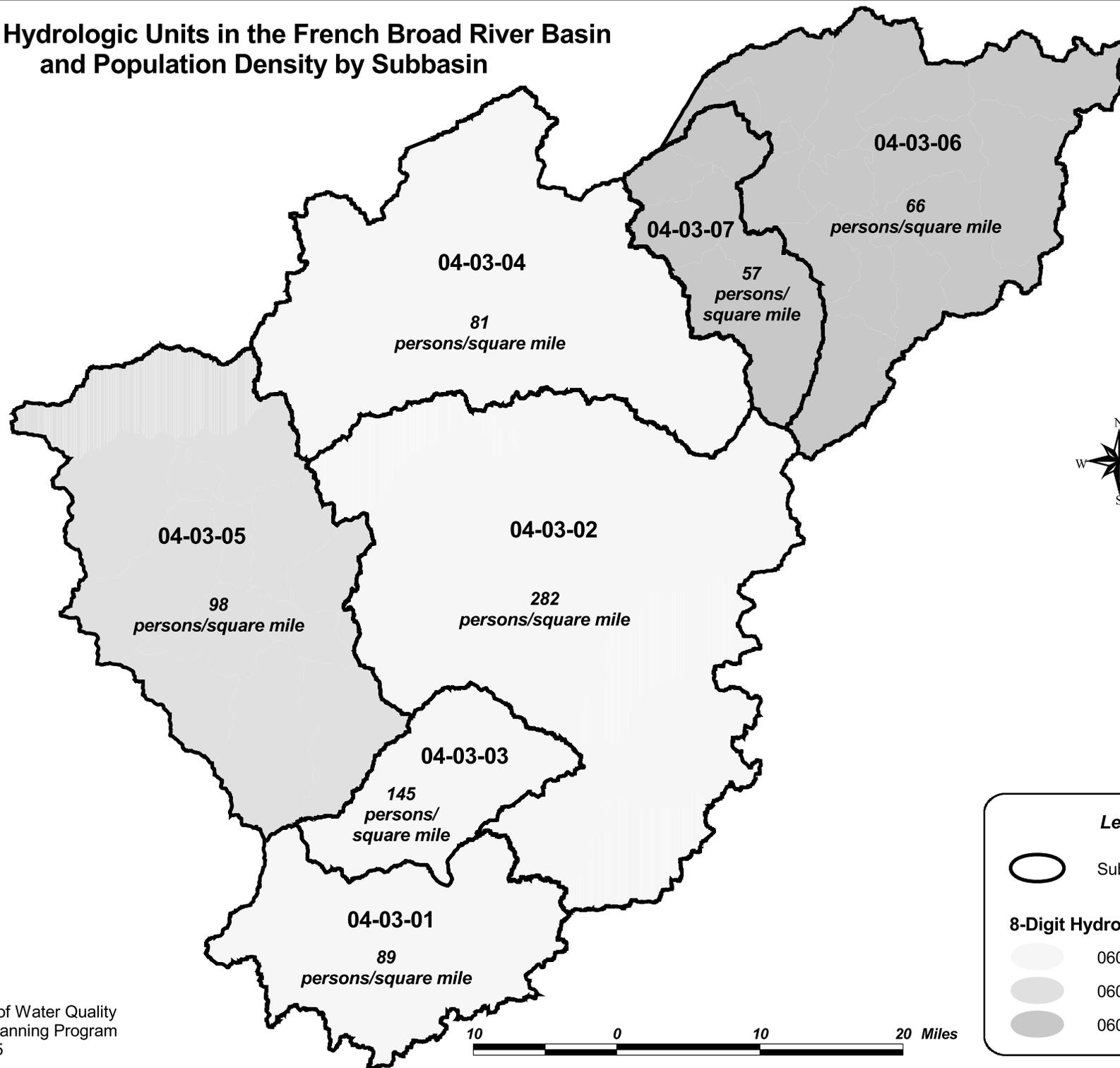
Municipal Population and Growth Trends

The table below presents population data from Office of State Planning for municipalities with populations greater than 2,000 persons, located wholly or partly within the basin. These data represent 12 of the 24 municipalities in the basin.

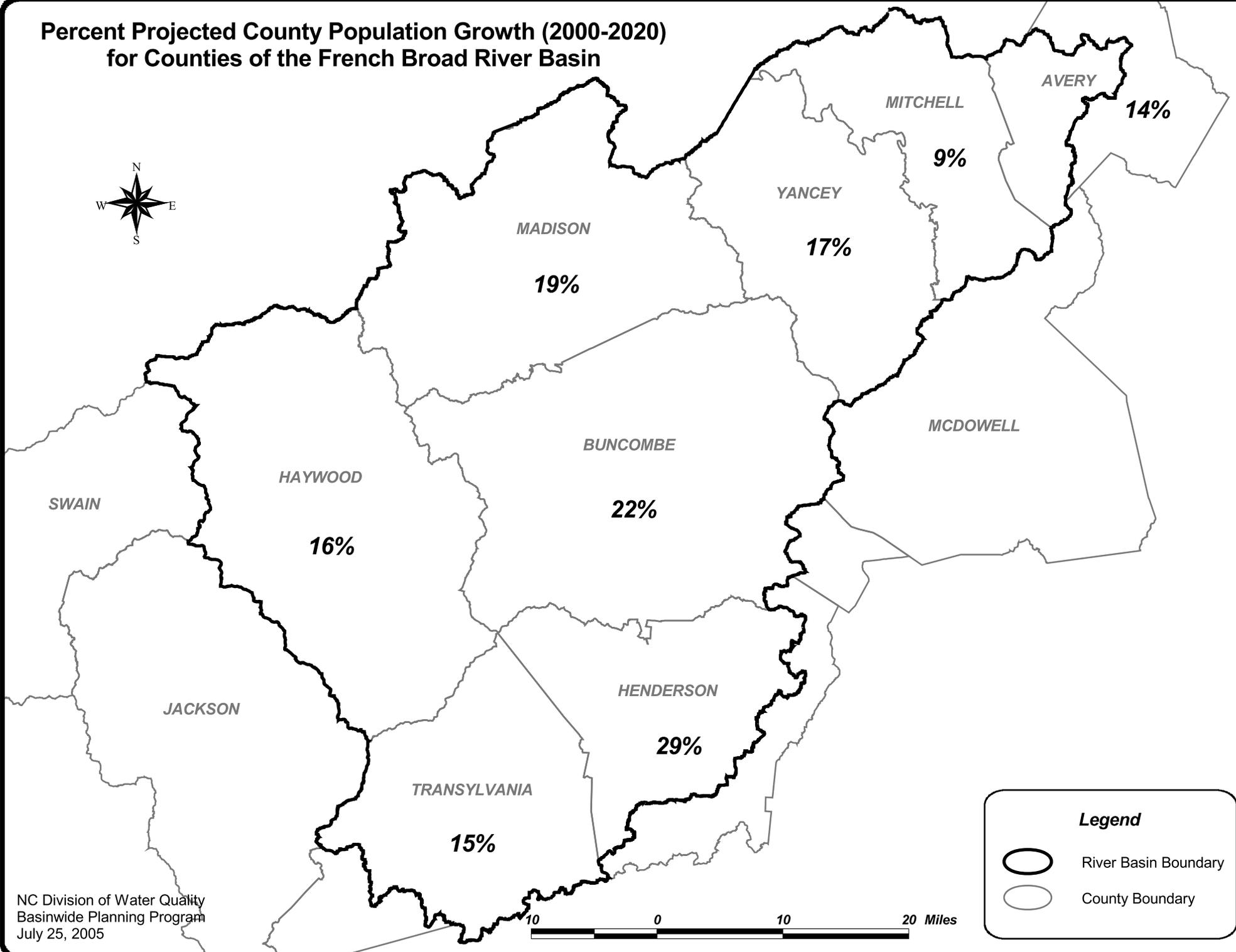
Municipality	County	1980 Population	1990 Population	2000 Population	Percent Change (1980-90)	Percent Change (1990-2000)
Asheville	Buncombe	54,022	61,855	68,889	14.5	11.4
Black Mountain	Buncombe	4,083	5,533	7,511	35.5	35.7
Brevard	Transylvania	5,323	5,388	6,789	1.2	26.0
Canton	Haywood	4,631	3,790	4,029	-18.2	6.3
Flat Rock	Henderson	1,619	2,565	58.4
Fletcher	Henderson	2,233	2,787	4,185	24.8	50.2
Hendersonville	Henderson	6,862	7,284	10,569	6.1	45.1
Mars Hill	Madison	2,126	1,611	1,764	-24.2	9.5
Spruce Pine	Mitchell	2,282	2,010	2,030	-11.9	1.0
Waynesville	Haywood	8,576	8,438	9,232	-1.6	9.4
Weaverville	Buncombe	1,495	2,107	2,416	40.9	14.7
Woodfin	Buncombe	3,260	2,736	3,162	-16.1	15.6

- - The numbers reported reflect municipality population; however, these municipalities are not entirely within the basin. The intent is to demonstrate growth for municipalities located wholly or partially within the basin.

8-Digit Hydrologic Units in the French Broad River Basin and Population Density by Subbasin



Percent Projected County Population Growth (2000-2020) for Counties of the French Broad River Basin



Legend

- River Basin Boundary
- County Boundary

