

Wisconsin Department of Administration Forecasts

The Wisconsin Department of Administration (WDOA), Demographics Services Center develops population projections for the State of Wisconsin in accordance with Wisconsin Statutes, Section 16.96. Projections created by WDOA are deemed the official projections for the state. WDOA projections reveal several important trends that should be noted. These trends are anticipated at the state level, and are likely to have similar effects on Burnett County.

1. Wisconsin's population in 2030 is projected to be 6.35 million, nearly one million more than the 2000 census count of 5.36 million.
2. The working age population – ages 18 through 64 – will peak in 2015 at 3.67 million and then decline slightly by 2030 to 3.60 million (but remains 300,000 above the 2000 census count).
3. The volume of deaths will increase substantially due to the aging population.
4. The 65-plus age population will increase slowly up to 2010, and then grow dramatically as the Baby Boomers reach this age group. Senior citizens accounted for 13% of the state's total population in 2000. Their proportion will rise to 21% state wide and 23% in Burnett County by 2030.

Linear Trend Forecasts

Linear projections were created by using the 1970, 1980, 1990, and 2000 census counts. Increasing and decreasing population counts were used to calculate a constant value that is based on this 30 year history. These constant values were used to project the population to the year 2030 using a linear trend. Therefore, linear trends are based directly on historical population trends.

Table 2-6 displays both the WDOA and linear population projections for communities in Burnett County to the year 2030. These projections were updated in September of 2009.