

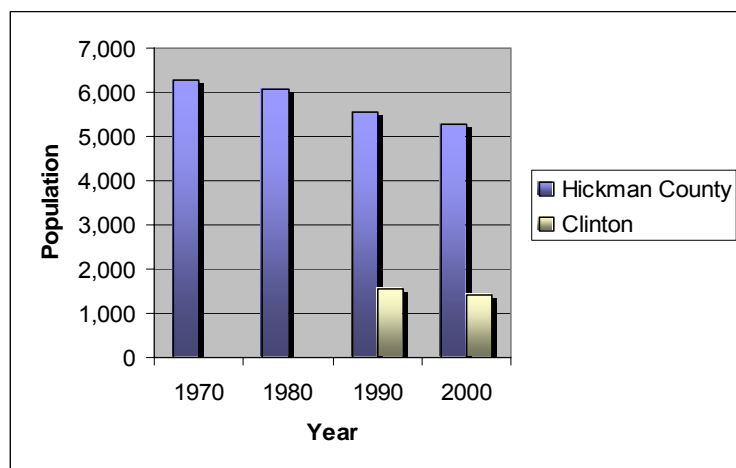
6.0 HUMAN ENVIRONMENT

An overview was conducted to determine the general characteristics of the human environment in the study area. The analysis addresses: general socioeconomic characteristics, environmental justice, land use, agricultural activity, hazardous materials sites, historic resources, and archeological resources.

6.1 Socioeconomic Profile

Population Growth – According to the 2000 Census, the population of Hickman County was 5,262 and the population of the City of Clinton was 1,415. These numbers are down slightly from 1990 when the populations for Hickman County and the City of Clinton were 5,566 and 1,547 respectively. According to the Kentucky State Data Center, the population of Hickman County is projected to decline to 4,360 by 2030 (a decrease of 0.57% per year). Refer to Figure 14 for the historic population data.

Figure 14: Historic Population Data (1970-2000)



Source: 2000 U.S. Census

Minority Populations – Hickman County has a minority population of 12.3 percent. The City of Clinton has a higher percent minority population at 30.0 percent. These minority populations exceed the statewide average of 10.7 percent. During an informal interview, one Hickman County official mentioned the presence of a minority community in the northwest portion of the town. This was substantiated by the Environmental Justice analysis (refer to Environmental Justice section – 6.2).

Low – Income Populations – In 2000, approximately 17.4 percent of the Hickman County population was below the poverty line. In Clinton, approximately 28.3 percent was below the poverty line. These numbers exceed the national average of 12.4 percent and the statewide average of 15.8 percent.

Age of Population – The City of Clinton and Hickman County both have a larger than average percent of residents age 62 and over (28.3 and 22.0 percent respectively) compared to the national and statewide averages (14.7 and 14.9 percent respectively).

Local Economy – In 2001, Hickman County’s unemployment rate was 6.2 percent. This is higher than the 2001 unemployment rates for Kentucky and the U.S., which were 5.5 and 4.8 percent, respectively. Of the 1,320 people working in the county (in 2000), the highest percentage (28.9 percent) work in manufacturing, followed by services (17.7

percent), and retail trade (10.5 percent). The remainder of the county workforce is employed in a range of other fields as shown in Table 16 (Appendix A). There is only one major manufacturer in the Clinton area, Harper’s Country Hams Inc. as shown in Table 17 (Appendix A). Two others, Garan (an apparel manufacturer) and Jakel (a motor assembly plant) closed within the last three years, eliminating as many as 450 jobs.

Commuting – Approximately 54 percent of employed Hickman County residents work in the county, with the remaining 46 percent commuting to other nearby counties such as Fulton, McCracken, Graves, and Carlisle as shown in Table 18 (Appendix A). Most of the employees working in the county also live in the county (65%).

Community Facilities and Development Patterns – Typical community facilities are located within Clinton, e.g., courthouse, city hall, elementary school, high school, senior center, police department, health department, churches, etc. (Refer to Figure 15 in Appendix B). Most commercial development is located on US 51 with a concentration in downtown Clinton and south of Clinton near KY 780 (North). Residential development is also centered on Clinton (both east and west of US 51). There is also a pocket of residential development on KY 58 east of town and additional homes scattered throughout the remainder of the study area. Other than the town of Clinton, there are no named communities in the area.

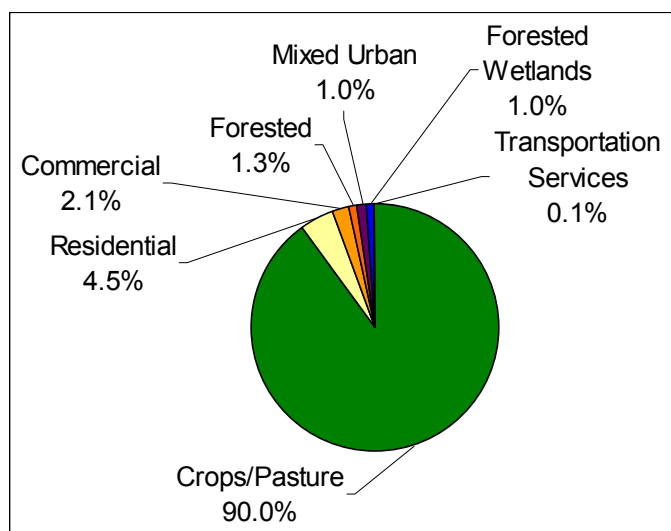
6.2 Environmental Justice

Based on the race and income data available from the U.S. Census Bureau and input from the community of Clinton, an Environmental Justice community does exist within the study area. The primary focus of the community is the northwest section of town with portions of the community located just to the east and south. Also, based on the age distribution in the study area, there is a concentration of residents age 62 years or older primarily in the southern portion of the study area. Refer to the Environmental Justice Review in Appendix C for more details.

6.3 Land Use

Hickman County currently does not have land use planning ordinances in effect (zoning or subdivision regulations). There are seven primary land use types found within the study area as shown in Figure 16. By far, the largest land use category is crops/pasture land (7,774 acres). Figure 15 (Appendix B) shows a map of the land use categories.

Figure 16: Land Use



6.4 Agricultural Activity and Prime and Unique Farmland

As noted above, agriculture is the predominant land use in the study area. In 1998, the county ranked 11th in production of corn for grain, 9th for winter wheat, 8th for sorghum, and 6th for dark fired tobacco. The prevalence of agricultural activity may be in part attributable to the availability of fertile soils. Over half (58.7 percent) of the county's 161,926 acres are considered prime and unique farmland. Related to this, there is one agricultural district located partially within the study area boundaries. This agricultural district is located in the southernmost portion of the study area along Bayou de Chien and covers a total of 475 acres (275 acres are located within the study area boundary).

6.5 Underground Storage Tanks/Hazardous Materials

Potential hazardous materials sites are primarily located in and around the urban limits of Clinton. An environmental database search for the study area revealed 11 underground storage tank sites in the study area as shown on Figure 15 in Appendix B. A limited site reconnaissance located three additional sites on US 51 in Clinton. Outside Clinton, hazardous materials location considerations are primarily related to agricultural activity since farming operations often store fuel and oil on-site.

6.6 Previously Documented Cultural Historic and Archeological Sites

The cultural historic overview identified 129 cultural historic sites (50 years of age or older) within the study area. Each site is listed in Table 19 (Appendix A) and mapped on Figure 17 (Appendix B). Two sites are currently listed in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). Site HIC-2 consists of the field surveyed Site 56 Marvin College's President's House and Site 58 Marvin College. The Marvin College's President's House and Marvin College are located near the intersection of US 51 and Cresap Street. The other site, Site HIC-5, is the Hickman County Courthouse located at the intersection of US 51 and KY 123 / KY 58.

Fifteen other sites were identified as potentially eligible, including eight along the existing US 51 corridor as shown in Figure 17 (Appendix B). Final determinations of NRHP eligibility and effect cannot be recommended until a baseline survey has been completed. For additional information, refer to the Cultural Historic Overview Survey and Determinations of Eligibility Report for Clinton, Hickman County, Kentucky.

The archeological overview showed no previously surveyed archaeological sites within the project overview area. However, the cultural historic overview of the project area identified 129 historic sites / structures (50 years of age or older) within the study area that have the potential to contain associated archaeological remains. The reconstruction of US 51 or a US 51 Bypass of Clinton has high potential to impact archaeological sites. Historic period archaeological sites may be found along US 51 through town, with the potential for encounters of prehistoric sites along the bypass corridors.