

## POPULATION PROJECTIONS

### City of Avon Park Comprehensive Plan Adopted December 26, 1990

Population projections have been generated by Florida Applied Demographics, a consulting firm based in Tallahassee, Florida. The projections for land use acreage are based on both permanent and seasonal population projections.

#### **Permanent Population**

Projections of permanent total population were prepared for April 1 of 1990, 1995 and 2000 by the use of linear, share and exponential models.

##### Linear Model

The linear model assumes that the average annual numeric change recorded between the 1980 census and the 1988 estimate will continue throughout the projection period.

##### Share Model

The share model assumes that the share of total population growth for Highlands County is accounted for by the growth of Avon Park over the 1980-1988 period. This share will continue throughout the projection period. Thus, Avon Park's share of Highlands County growth for this period is applied to projected County growth for 1990, 1995 and 2000 to obtain Avon Park's projections for these same years.

##### Exponential Model

The exponential model calculates the average annual rate of population growth in Avon Park over the 1980-1988 period and assumes that this rate will continue throughout the projection period.

A simple arithmetic average of these three projections was then calculated. This figure was given a weight of 50% in the final projections. Projections based on the experiences of the previous decade prepared by the Advisory Council on Intergovernmental Relations and Division of Economic and Demographic Research of the Florida Legislature were given a weight of 25% each.

## Seasonal Population

Avon Park has a large seasonal population. Many people come to Avon Park to enjoy the warm climate. This population is referred to as Winter Guests. Another component of the seasonal population, migrant farm workers, come to work in the citrus industry. In 1990, it was estimated that nearly 10% of the total peak population in Avon Park was seasonal.

The peak 1995 and 2000 seasonal population was projected by assuming that the 1990 ratio of seasonal to the permanent population will remain constant through the planning period.

### Migrant Farm Workers

There are a significant number of migrant farm laborers that live in the City of Avon Park. In 1990, the estimated number of migrant laborers and their dependents in Avon Park was 352.

### Winter Guests

Avon Park also has a substantial number of seasonal visitors that spend part of the year to enjoy the warm climate. In 1990, Avon Park was home to 566 seasonal residents.

### **Population Projections City of Avon Park: 1990 - 2000**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Permanent Population</b>	<b>Seasonal Population</b>	<b>Total Peak Population</b>
1990	8,814	918	9,732
1995	9,171	955	10,126
2000	9,540	993	10,533

Source: Florida Applied Demographics, 1990.

Note: The service area populations for Avon Park's sanitary sewer and potable water facilities are different than that of the population within the city limits. These population projections are presented in the Sanitary Sewer, Potable Water, Solid Waste, Drainage and Natural Groundwater Aquifer Recharge Element.