

2.0 POPULATION AND HOUSING

Eureka County Population Growth and Decline

Eureka County population was estimated to be 1,903 persons in 2014 (Table 2-1). This is the first annual decline in 13 years primarily due to a reduction of activity at the Ruby Hill mine. The largest increase in population occurred during 2010 with the release of the official Census population which was substantially higher than the Nevada State Demographer's annual estimates. The County's average annual population growth over the years 2000-2010 was 2.1 percent. Since 1990 the County population has increased 356 persons. Over the last 23 years, the population for Eureka County has fluctuated primarily due to activity in the mining industry. Population fell sharply in 1994, increased to a high of an estimated 1,895 persons in 1998, and declined again reaching a low of 1,384 persons in 2003, before climbing again through 2012 and 2013 (Figure 2-1).

As a comparison, the average annual population growth rate of the state of Nevada over the period 1990-2010 was 6.2 percent. From 2000 to 2014 the average annual growth rate for the State of Nevada was 3.1 percent as compared to a 1.2 percent growth rate during the same period in Eureka County.

In Eureka County the greatest part of population change is due to migration as opposed to natural births and deaths (Table 2-2). More people moved out of Eureka County than stayed in the years 2000-2002, while more people moved into the County in the years 2003-2005 and 2008-2013. The rate of natural population change (births minus deaths in the county) was positive over all years in the eighteen-year period except 2006.

This "natural" increase is small, however: the year with the highest rate of natural increase was 2007, with an excess of births over

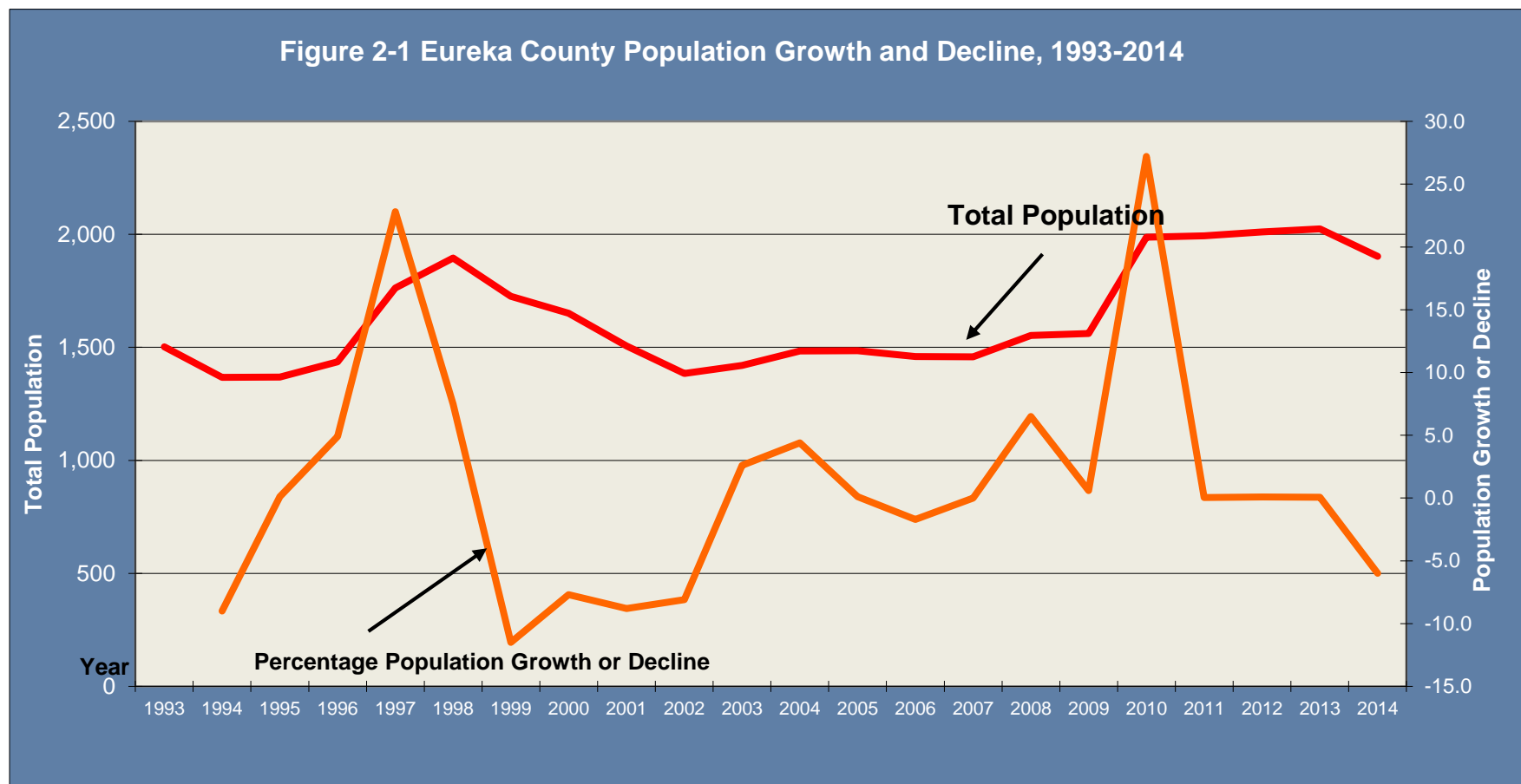
Table 2-1. Annual Population Estimates, 1993 to 2014
Eureka County

Year	Total Population	Period	% Change
1993	1,502	93-94	-9.0
1994	1,367	94-95	0.1
1995	1,369	95-96	4.9
1996	1,436	96-97	22.8
1997	1,763	97-98	7.5
1998	1,895	98-99	-11.5
1999	1,726	99-00	-7.7
2000	1,651	00-01	-8.8
2001	1,506	01-02	-8.1
2002	1,384	02-03	2.6
2003	1,420	03-04	4.4
2004	1,484	04-05	0.1
2005	1,485	05-06	-1.7
2006	1,460	06-07	-0.01
2007	1,458	07-08	6.5
2008	1,553	08-09	0.6
2009	1,562	09-10	27.2
2010	1,987	10-11	0.04
2011	1,994	11-12	0.8
2012	2,011	12-13	0.6
2013	2,024	13-14	-6.0
2014	1,903		

Source: NV Dept. of Taxation and NV State Demographer, NSBDC-UNR, "Certified Population of Nevada Counties, Cities and Towns



deaths of 21 persons. Net migration continued to improve even further from 2008 to 2013. The spike in net migration in 2010 is largely due to adjustments made as the result of the Census (Figure 2-2). Prior population estimates are made annually by the Nevada State Demographer. Under certain conditions, annual estimates can be above or below the actual Census figures.



Source: Nevada State Demographer and Census



Table 2-2 Population and Population Component Growth/Decline in Eureka County and Nevada, 2002-2014

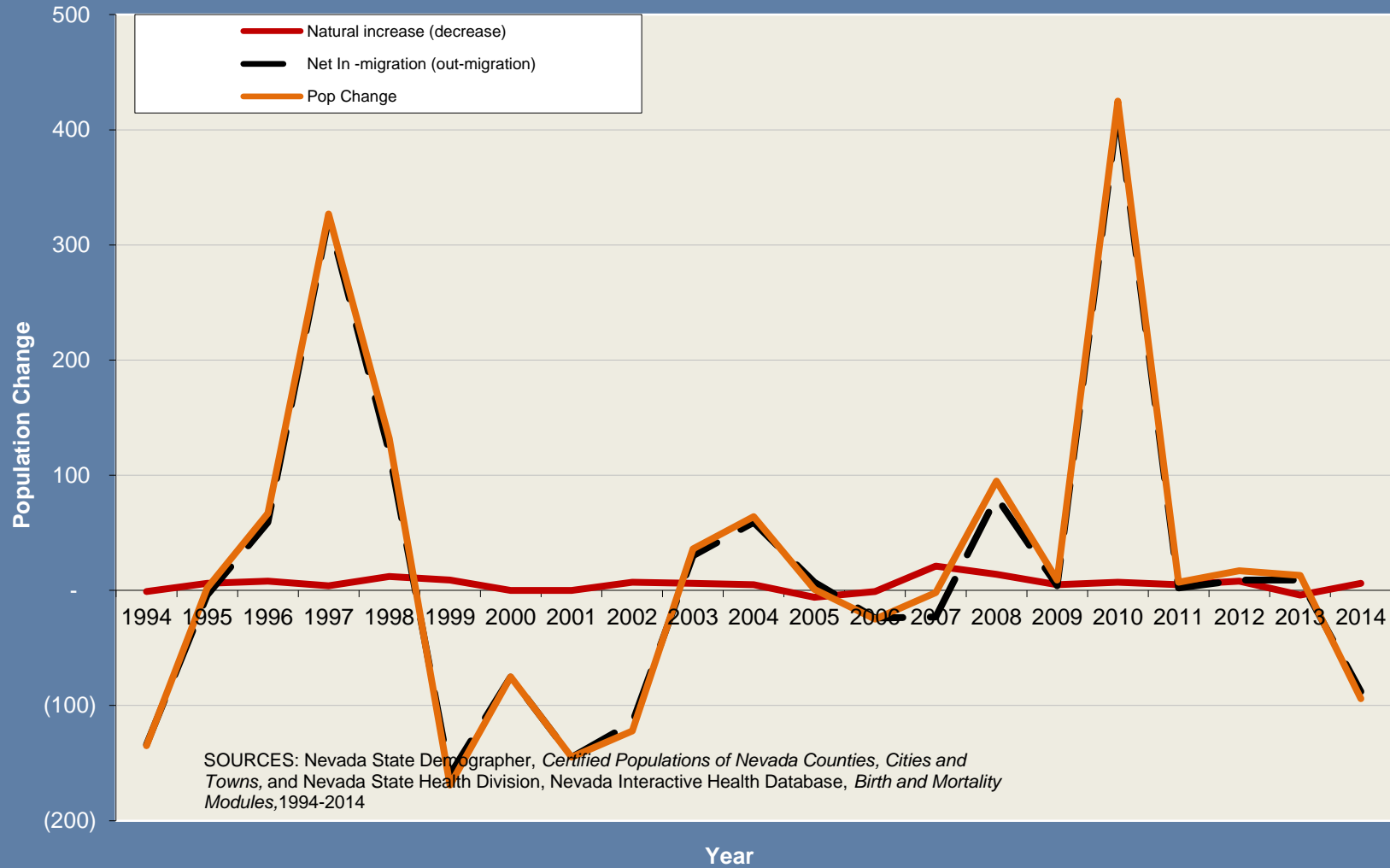
	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
EUREKA COUNTY													
Population	1,384	1,420	1,484	1,485	1,460	1,458	1,553	1,562	1,987	1994	2011	2024	1903
% Growth rate	(8.1)	2.6	3.6	0.1	(1.7)	(0.0)	6.5	0.6	27.2	0.8	0.6	.01	(5.9)
Pop Change	(122)	36	64	1	(25)	(2)	95	9	425	7	17	13	(121)
Natural increase (decrease)	7	6	5	-6	(1)	21	14	5	7	5	8	-4	8
Net In-migration (out-migration)	(115)	30	59	7	(24)	(23)	81	4	418	2	9	9	(113)
NEVADA													
Population	2,206,022	2,296,566	2,410,768	2,518,869	2,623,050	2,718,337	2,738,733	2,711,206	2,724,634	2,721,794	2,750,217	2,800,967	2,843,301
% Growth rate	3.4	4.1	4.5	4.10	3.6	0.8	-1.0	0.5	2.94	-1	2.9	1.0	1.5
Pop Change	73,524	90,544	114,202	108,101	104,181	95,287	20,396	(27,527)	13,428	(2,840)	79,173	50,750	42,334
Natural increase	15,759	15,939	17,489	17,594	18,718	21,351	22,926	20,519	18,536	15,027	14,038	13,539	13,914
Net In-migration	57,765	74,605	96,713	90,507	85,463	73,936	(2,530)	(48,046)	(5,108)	(17,867)	65,135	37,211	28,420

Source: Nevada State Demographer and Nevada State Health Division-Births and Deaths

Prior to the 2010 Census, the annual state estimates were below the actual. However, not all the population gains in Eureka County are due to adjustments being made between state estimates and the Census. Substantial and new economic activity in Eureka County primarily related to mining is driving population gains. The level of activity in the mining sector is likely to bolster further population gains.



Figure 2-2: Natural Increase and Migration Contributions to Population Change



New Mining Activity Will Create Future Populations Gains for Eureka County

Since the beginning of the current mining expansion (2004 -), the population of Eureka County has exhibited small and consistent increases. Historically, mining operations in Eureka County were primarily located north of Interstate 80 with a few smaller operations scattered throughout the County. As a result, the significant growth in the local workforce in Eureka County did not translate into large local population gains due to the proximity of Carlin Trend mines to neighboring communities of Battle Mountain, Carlin and Elko.

As mining operations and exploration move south along an extension of the Carlin and Battle Mountain trends, future growth in Eureka County and more specifically the Diamond Valley area and the Town of Eureka is increasingly being influenced by new mineral development activity. With Barrick's Cortez Complex, Horse Canyon, and Mill Canyon project to the north and Midway Gold operations to the south, the Town of Eureka and Diamond Valley are increasingly becoming the geographic center of major gold and silver development activity. Additionally, industrial mineral development could also have a significant impact on the Town of Eureka and Diamond Valley. As a result, population growth should increase substantially over the next decade.

Several mining projects with strong prospects of reaching full operations in and around the Diamond Valley/Town of Eureka area have more than 1,200 projected employees for operational phases not including any of the Barrick's existing operations at Cortez Hills and Bald Mountain. As Barrick's operations move further south along the Carlin trend, an increasing number of employees will choose to live in the Diamond Valley/Town of Eureka area. Barrick's Horse Canyon/Cortez unified project (Gold Rush Deposit) is the company's next flagship project located six kilometers from the Cortez mine, and is one of the largest and highest grade gold discoveries of the last decade. Measured and indicated resources stood at 10.6 million ounces and inferred resources were 4.9 million ounces at the end of 2014. Operational employment is expected to be on par with Barrick's other major Carlin Trend mines. Due to its proximity to Diamond Valley and the Town of Eureka, significant operational employees are expected to locate to the area.

The proximity of mining projects to the Town of Eureka, and the projected number of operational employees should also generate increased non-mining support services and trade activity as well. Typically, one mining job creates at least one non-mining job in the local economy. Combined, the projected economic activity and associated population growth over the next decade could be substantial and drive demands on local resources and services.



Other Population Statistics for Eureka County

The graphs on the previous and following pages show other characteristics of the population of Eureka County as reported in U.S. Census and subsequent population estimates by the Nevada State Demographer.

Persons per Square Mile

Eureka County has an extremely low population density - only 0.48 persons per square mile, as compared to 24.6 persons per square mile for Nevada as a whole, and 87.4 persons per square mile nationwide (Figure 2-3). About 51 percent of the estimated 2013 county population of 2,024 resided in the town of Eureka or Crescent Valley, so the actual population density of areas outside of these towns is considerably lower than 0.48 persons per square mile. This is typical of and consistent with the rest of rural northern Nevada, where population tends to be clustered around small towns and cities which grew up as mining towns, local commerce centers serving the surrounding rural areas, or railroad camps. In addition, approximately 81 percent of Eureka County land is managed by the Bureau of Land Management and the U.S. Forest Service, making these areas presently unavailable for settlement.

Population Age Distribution

Eureka County has a relatively young population. 26 percent of the county population, or 520 people, are under the age of 20 (Figure 2-4). Approximately 54 percent of the population, or 1,077 people, are between age 20 and 60, while only 20 percent (248 people) are age 60 or older. Since 2000, the younger population age group (under the age of 20) has declined in Eureka County. This is consistent with State and National trends. As more working age people move into Eureka County for employment, there will likely be an increase in persons age 55 and younger.

Population by Race

Approximately 90 percent of the 2010 population of Eureka County was white (Figure 2-5). This is higher than in Nevada as a whole, where the percentage of white persons in the population in 2010 was 62 percent. People of Hispanic origin comprised 9.4 percent of the 2010 Eureka County population, in comparison to 20.7 percent statewide. American Indians made up 1.9 percent of Eureka County population, a lower percentage than in the state as a whole, which had an estimated 2.0 percent American Indian population. All other races accounted for 5.7 percent of the 2010 Eureka County population.

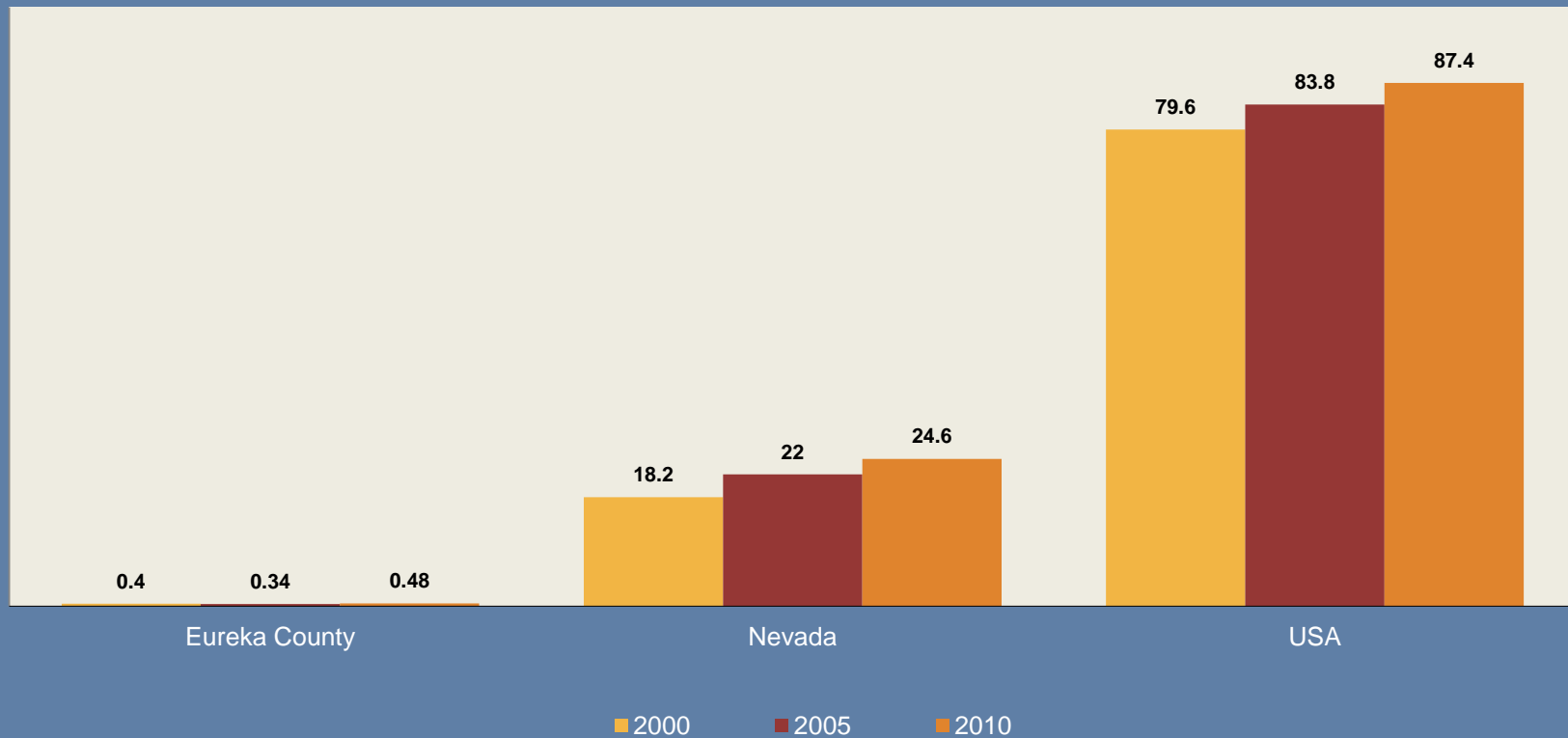


Population Growth in Eureka Town and Crescent Valley

Countywide population trends are mirrored in Eureka town and Crescent Valley (Figure2-6). Both town populations increased until 1998, decreased to 2002, then rose again subsequent years. The overall average annual rate of growth between 1996 and 2013 in Eureka town was 2.5 percent; in Crescent Valley 2.7 percent. In 2014 the population of Eureka decreased from 720 to 691 and Crescent Valley Town increased slightly to 374.



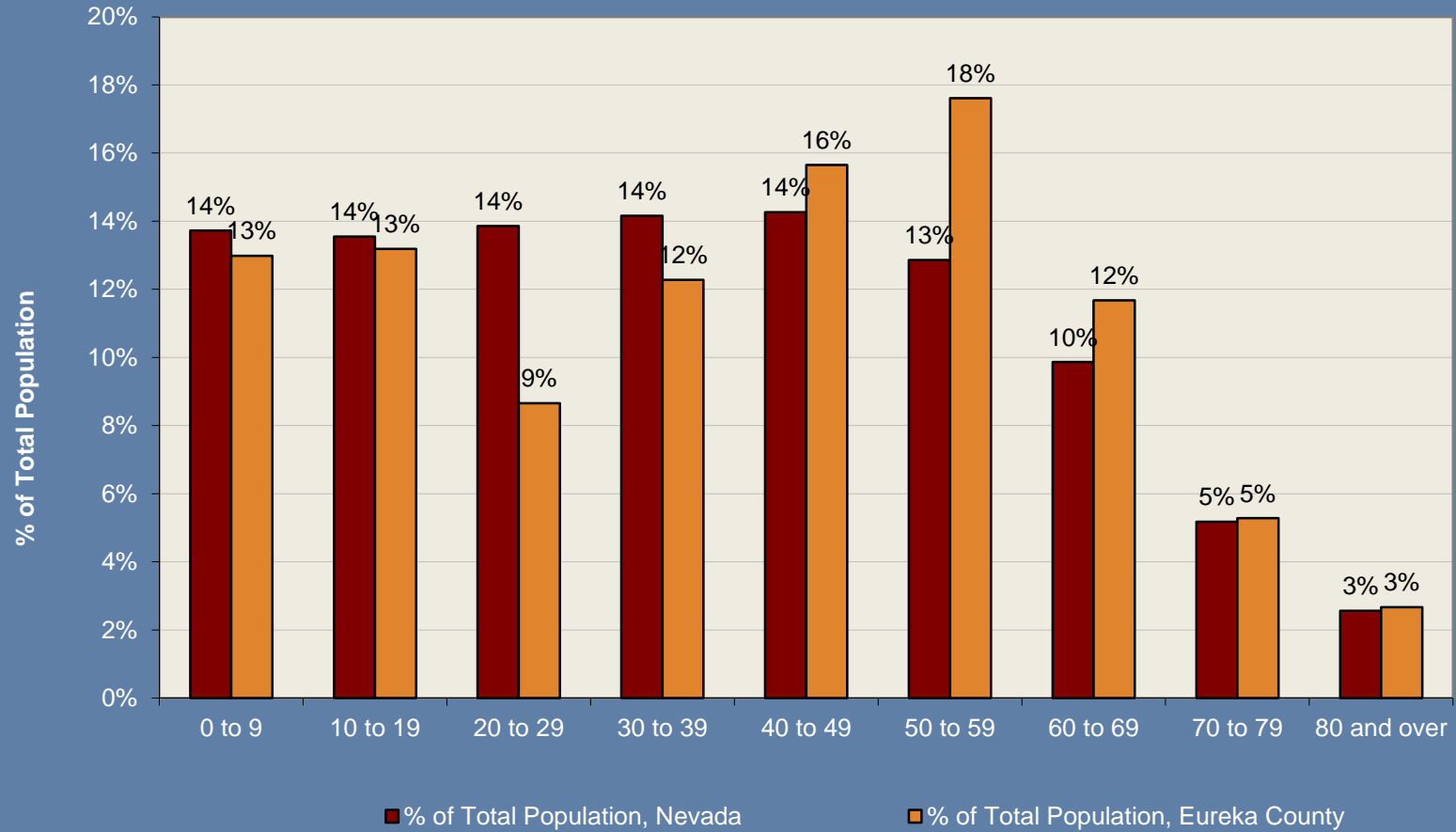
**Figure 2-3 Persons per Square Mile
Eureka County, Nevada and the United States**



SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 & 2010 Profile of General Demographic Characteristics, Eureka County, Nevada, Nevada Quik Facts and 2005 Population Estimates



Figure 2-4 Age Distribution of Nevada and Eureka Populations, 2010



SOURCE: U.S. Census, 2010



Figure 2-5 Nevada And Eureka County Population by Race/Hispanic Origin 2000 and 2010

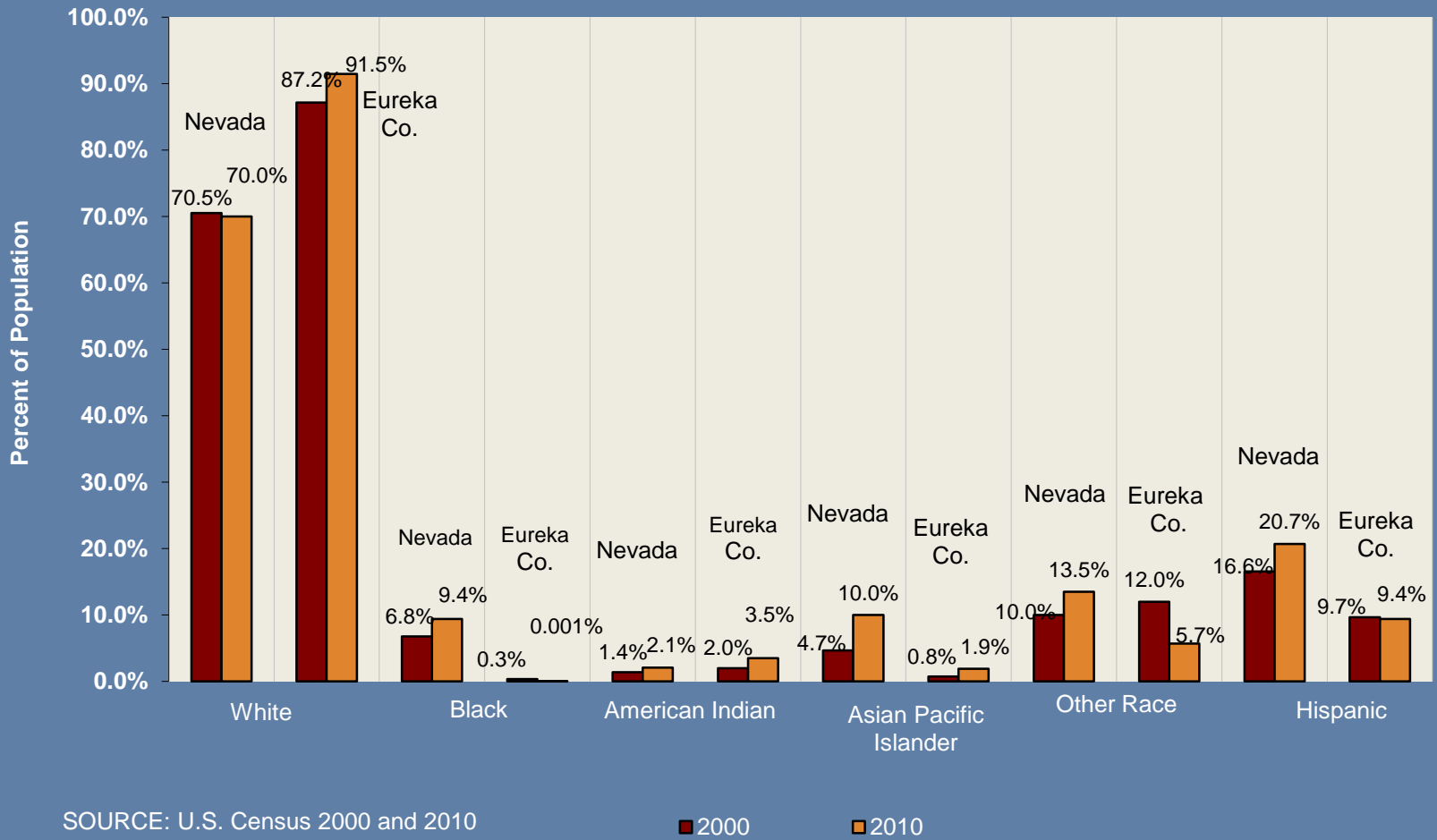
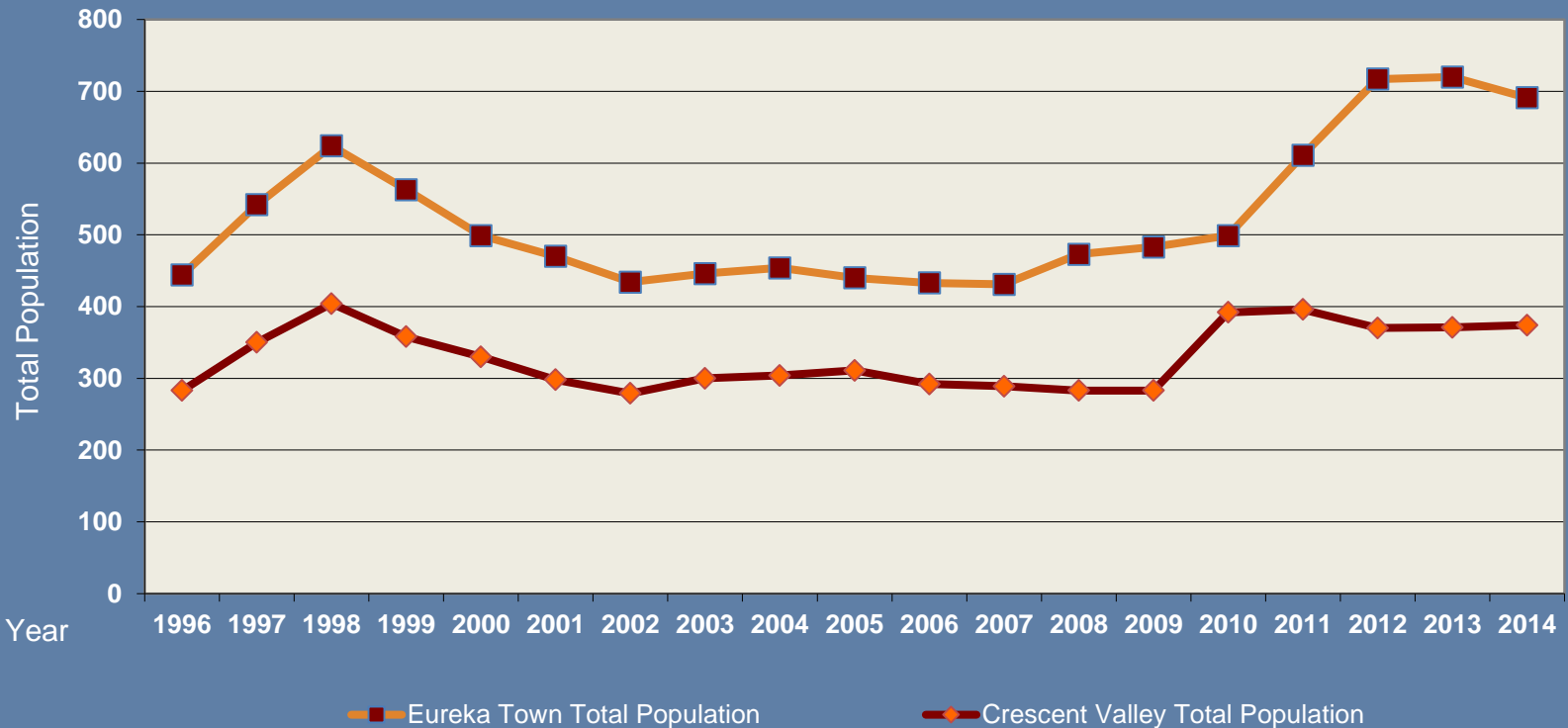


Figure 2-6 Population Trends, 1996-2014, Eureka Town and Crescent Valley



SOURCE: Nevada State Demographer, *Nevada County Population Estimates July 1, 1996 to July 1, 2014 Includes Cities and Towns, 2010 Census.*



Eureka County Housing

Overall housing units in Eureka County increased from 801 units in 1993 to 1,069 in 2013 (Table 2-3) then declined in 2014. Mobile homes remained the dominant housing type, accounting for 64 percent of county housing in 2014. Mobile homes account for 93 percent of the housing units in Crescent Valley, and 36 percent of Eureka Town's housing stock. Single-family detached and multi-family units remain a small portion of the overall housing stock although more than 100 multi-family units are planned for the Eureka Canyon subdivision to accommodate the influx of mining related population. A total of 50 multi-family units were completed in 2012. Additional housing structures are anticipated in the subdivision as individual residential lots are now available for development.

Table 2-3. Housing Units by Type of Structure, Eureka County, Nevada

	Mobile Homes	Single family Detached	Single family Attached	Multifamily	Total County Housing Counts
1993	522	273	6	0	801
2002	614	251	20	16	901
2003	609	235	20	16	880
2006	613	239	20	16	888
2007	693	228	20	16	957
2008	670	264	33	16	983
2009	660	268	28	25	981
2010	716	225	28	25	994
2011	722	247	31	24	1,024
2012	710	259	32	74	1,075
2013	703	260	32	74	1,069
2014	636	249	32	74	991

Sources: 1993 data - Planning Information Corp, *Eureka County, Nevada Socioeconomic Conditions and Trends*, 2002, 2003, 2006-2014 Eureka Co. Assessor.

Eureka County average home sales prices peaked in 2014 (Table 2-4). Housing sale prices in Eureka County are generally affordable based upon the income available to local households. The peak price of a single-family home in Eureka County reached \$215,000 in 2014 with averages for single family conventional homes and mobile homes reaching all-time highs. Trends in housing sales activity are shown in Figure 2-7.



Table 2-4 Eureka County Housing Sales: 2005-2014

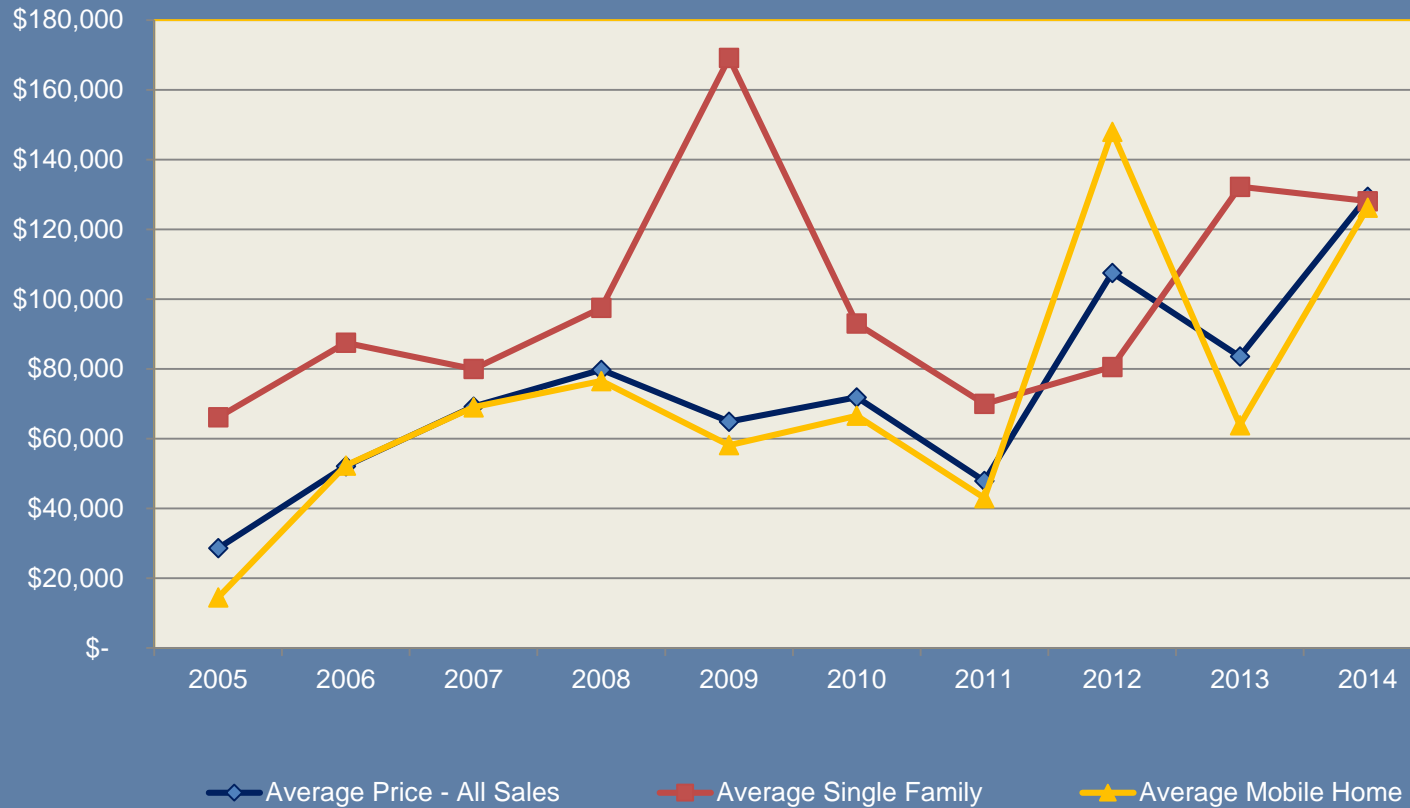
Sales Price	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Average Price - All Sales	\$28,609	\$52,140	\$69,216	\$ 79,764	\$64,884	\$ 71,843	\$47,897	\$107,550	\$83,561	\$129,334
High Price-All Sales	\$138,500	\$185,000	\$218,900	\$180,000	\$199,000	\$170,000	\$169,000	\$177,000	\$216,000	\$215,000
Low Price - All Sales	\$4,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$ 53,000	\$ 4,950	\$ 4,100	\$4,400	\$18,000	\$7,000	\$14,950
Average Single Family	\$66,125	\$87,500	\$80,000	\$97,500	\$169,145	\$ 93,000	\$70,000	\$80,583	\$132,212	\$128,080
Average Mobile Home	\$14,491	\$52,339	\$69,030	\$ 76,540	\$58,130	\$66,604	\$42,986	\$148,000	\$63,885	\$126,194

Source: Eureka County Assessor Sales Database, 2005-2014

In 2010 the median gross rent in Eureka County was \$588 per month up from \$469 per month in 2000. Renters in Eureka County accounted for 33.5 percent of the occupied housing units in 2010 (American Community Survey, 2010). With few traditional rental-housing units in Eureka County (multi-family and single-family attached), most renters occupy mobile homes and single-family detached housing. More recently, the Nevada Rural Housing Authority built 50 rental townhouse units at the Eureka Canyon Subdivision.



Figure 2-7: Average Home Sale Price Eureka County: 2005-2014



References: Housing and Population

1. Annual Population Estimates

Nevada County Population Estimates July1, 1990 to July 1, 2005 Includes Cities and Towns. [Nevada Small Business Development Center, Nevada State Demographer, Data and Publications.](#)

Annual estimates by Nevada State Demographer each July

<http://nvdemography.org/data-and-publications/estimates/estimates-by-county-city-and-unincorporated-towns/>

2. Births and Deaths Population Component

[Fertility Module \(1990-2004\). Nevada State Health Division, Nevada Interactive Health Database System](#)

[Mortality Module \(1990-2004\). Nevada State Health Division, Nevada Interactive Health Database.](#)

Nevada State Demographer, 2005-1010.

3. Other Population Statistics for Eureka County

Age, Sex, Race and Hispanic Origin Estimates from 1990 to 2003 and Projections from 2004 to 2024 for Nevada and Its Counties.

[June 2004 Nevada Small Business Development Center, Nevada State Demographer, Data and Publications.](#)

Annual estimates by Nevada State Demographer each July

<http://nvdemography.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/10/Nevada-Summary-Workbook-2010-to-2030-attachment-Revised-PDF-1>

U.S. Census Taken Every 10 Years

4. Annual Population Estimates, Eureka Town and Crescent Valley

Nevada County Population Estimates July 1, 1990 to July 1, 2005 Includes Cities and Towns. [Nevada Small Business Development Center, Nevada State Demographer, Data and Publications.](#)

Annual estimates by Nevada State Demographer each July

<http://nvdemography.org/data-and-publications/estimates/estimates-by-county-city-and-unincorporated-towns/>

5. Housing Units by Type of Structure

Housing Unit Count for July 1, 2006, Final Certification for 2002-2011 Michael Mears, Eureka County Assessor.

Annual housing count by Eureka County Assessor completed each July



6. Eureka County Housing Sales

Sales 2009, 2010, 2011 Eureka County Assessor Database Michael Mears, Eureka County Assessor.
<http://eurekacounty.net:1401/cgi-bin/asw300>

7. Housing Tenure and Median Gross Rent 2010

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census. Summary File 1, Tables H4, H16, and H17.
<http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/index.xhtml>
American Community Survey, American Fact Finder provides annual estimates.

