PROFILE

Age Structure Analysis

Age Structure analysis will interpret what a city is experiencing within its age groups. It is necessary to research this information to effectively plan. An age cohort breaks down the overall population into five year spans which a community can evaluate its development. The past or present growth of particular age cohorts must be taken into consideration. The child-bearing age cohorts are typically an important factor because they supply the natural growth of a community's population. When evaluating the age cohorts of 20 to 44, the growth of the community may be naturally higher. On the other hand, if the large, younger cohorts maintain their relative size, but do not increase the population as expected, they will, as a group, tend to strain the resources of an area as they age. Communities must also take into account the population that is growing in place. If a community has a large retired population, it may need to invest and supply adequate assistance and available care. Budgeting and future investment can be altered to correct for deficiencies and avoid overspending.

The 2010 Age Cohort Chart visualizes the population within Lexington. The two youngest cohorts are shown to be the largest. The 0-4 age range has 546 boys and 447 girls while the second largest cohort of 5-9 has 479 boys and 461 girls for a total of 940 children.

As Figure 3 shows, the school system may become the focus of the community. Difficulties may arise with a continued growth of the school aged population and possibly create a strain on public funds if not planned properly. This figure is for visual purposes and a more detailed table follows.

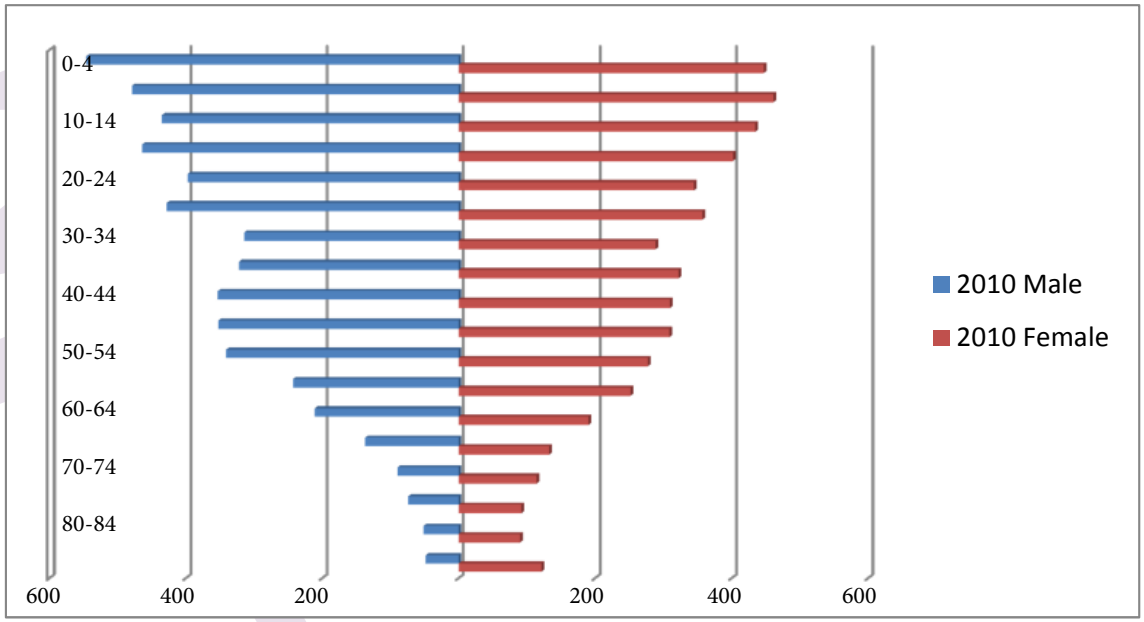

Figure 3: 2010 Age Cohort Chart, Lexington