

DEMOGRAPHICS, ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES

POPULATION

The Town’s population has increased over the last fifty years according to the Census. As displayed in Table 1.1, the Town of Spider Lake experienced a 95.5 percent increase from 1950 to 2000. The largest increase was between 1970 and 1980 when the population grew by 27.8 percent.

Table 1.1: Town of Spider Lake Historical Population						
	1950	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000
US Census	200	246	259	331	362	391

Between 1990 and the 2007 preliminary population estimate, the Town of Spider Lake experienced a 15.5 percent increase (Table 1.2). Meanwhile, Sawyer County grew at the rate of nearly 24 percent. All of the surrounding Towns grew over the same time period, with the exception of the Town of Shanagolden, Ashland County, which decreased in population by almost 16 percent. Using the 2007 estimate, Spider Lake comprises about 2.4 percent of the Sawyer County.

Table 1.2: Population Comparisons					
	1990	2000	2007*	Net Change	% Change
Cable	817	836	854	+37	4.5%
Lenroot	966	1,165	1,315	+349	36.1%
Namakagon	276	285	308	+32	11.6%
Round Lake	727	962	1,083	+356	49.0%
Shanagolden	172	150	145	-27	-15.7%
Spider Lake	362	391	418	+56	15.5%
Sawyer County	14,181	16,196	17,542	+3,361	23.7%

*January 1, 2007 Preliminary Population Estimates, WI Dept. of Administration

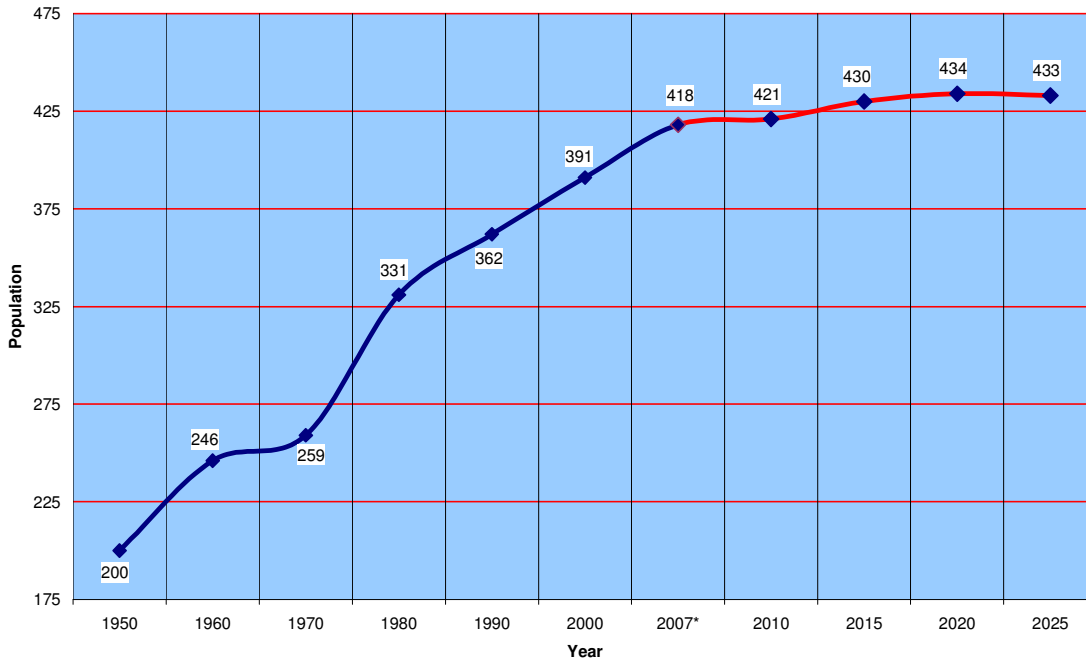
The Wisconsin Department of Administration conducts municipal-level population projections in five-year increments. According to these projections, the Town of Spider Lake will increase by only 12 residents or 2.9 percent from 2010 to 2025. See Table 1.3 below and Figure 1 on the following page.

Table 1.3: Population Projections				
2007*	2010	2010	2020	2025
418	421	430	434	433

Source: Wisconsin Department of Administration

*January 1, 2007 Preliminary Population Estimates, WI Dept. of Administration

Figure 1: Historical and Projected Population



AGE

The number of people aged 65 and older that lived in Spider Lake increased from 79 in 1990, to 114 in 2000 – an increase of 44.3 percent (Table 1.4). In the same time period, the number of people under 24 years of age dropped by 30 percent. This indicates a trend common to NW Wisconsin, where elderly are making up the majority of the population residents of communities. The 65 to 74 age group as grown the most in the past 10 years and the 15 to 24 age group has decreased the most.

Table 1.4: Age Distribution

Age category	1990	2000	% Change: 1990-2000
85 and over	8	12	+50.0%
75 to 84	29	28	-3.4%
65 to 74	42	74	+76.2%
55 to 64	77	68	-11.7%
45 to 54	51	63	+23.5%
35 to 44	53	72	+35.8%
25 to 34	26	21	-19.2%
15 to 24	32	16	-50.0%
5 to 14	33	32	-3.0%
Under 5	11	5	-54.5%
Selected age categories			
All inhabitants over 75	37	40	+8.1%
All inhabitants over 65	79	114	+44.3%
All inhabitants under 24	76	53	-30.3%
All inhabitants under 14	44	37	-15.9%

RACE

In 2000, 379 residents listed themselves as white, four as American Indian, and one as African American. Table 1.5 shows the racial makeup for the Town.

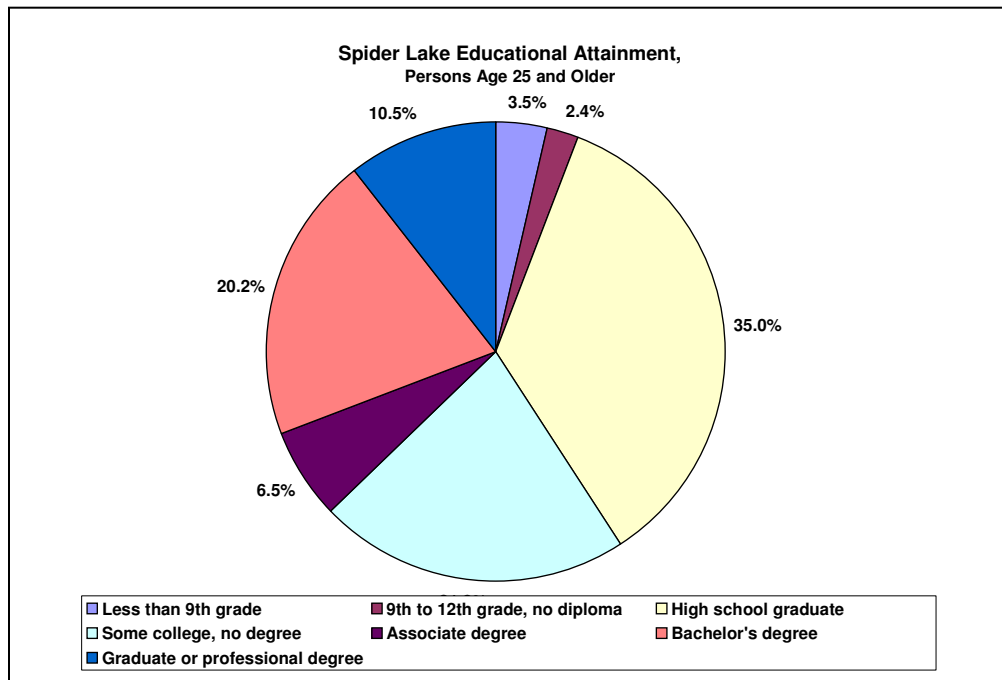
Total:	391
White alone	379
Black or African American alone	1
American Indian	4
Asian alone	0
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone	0
Some other race alone	2
Two or more races	5

2000 US Census Bureau

EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

The 2000 Census showed that 130 people living in the Town of Spider Lake had completed high school and of those 130, 81 had some college, 24 had an associated degree, 75 had a bachelor degree and 39 had a graduate or professional degree. Only those 25 years of age and older are reflected. Figure 1.2 provides a look at educational attainment in the Town of Spider Lake percentage wise.

Figure 1.2 – Educational Attainment, Town of Spider Lake



HOUSEHOLDS

Households are defined as total occupied housing units in a municipality. The number of households in the Town of Spider Lake has grown by 17 percent, from 159 in 1990 to 186 in 2000. Of the 186 total households in 2000, 145 are two or more person households. Average household size has declined in the past 20 years (Table 1.6). State and national trends have indicated an increase in the total number of households, along with a decrease in average household size. Contributing factors for this trend may include: decreasing birth rate, people waiting longer to get married, an increase in the average lifespan resulting in more elderly living alone and divorce.

1980	1990	2000
2.55	2.28	2.07

Final household projections, developed by the Wisconsin Demographic Services Center, indicate that the number of households will continue to increase. Table 1.7 details household projections for the Town of Spider Lake.

Total Households	
2000*	186
2005	198
2010	212
2015	223
2020	230
2025	233

*U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

HOUSEHOLD INCOME

The 1999 median household income (MHI) in the town was \$37,396, which is more than Sawyer County, but less than the State, which were \$32,287 and \$43,791 respectively. Household income ranged from less than \$10,000 to \$200,000 or more. Table 1.8 breaks down household income in 1999 for the Town of Spider Lake.

Less than \$10,000	8
\$10,000 to \$24,999	48
\$25,000 to \$34,999	32
\$35,000 to \$49,999	37
\$50,000 to \$99,999	57
\$100,000 to \$199,999	11
\$200,000 or more	6

EMPLOYMENT

Between 1990 and 2000 the Town's employed residents increased by 39, going from 152 to 191 according to the U.S. Census Bureau. The two employment industries with the most employees in 1990 were retail trade and personal services. By 2000, construction and entertainment, recreation, accommodation and food services were the top two employment industries.

Population 16 years and over..... 385	
In labor force.....	193
Employed.....	191
Unemployed.....	2
Armed Forces.....	0
Not in labor force.....	192
Source: U.S. Census Bureau DP-3	

The following lists the breakdown of the number of people employed in individual industries in the Town of Spider Lake.

1. Agriculture, forestry, fishing & hunting, and mining	7
2. Construction	31
3. Manufacturing	2
4. Wholesale Trade	6
5. Retail Trade	26
6. Transportation and warehousing, and utilities	3
7. Information	-
8. Finance, insurance, real estate, and rental and leasing	9
9. Professional, scientific, management, administrative, and waste management services	5
10. Educational, health and social services	22
11. Arts, entertainment, recreation, accommodation and food	54
12. Other services (except public administration)	18
13. Public administration	8

Employment by occupation shows a person's job or work in service of an employer. Table 1.9 details the occupation of the employed civilian population 16 years and over in the Town of Spider Lake.

Management , professional, and related occupations	61
Service occupations	37
Sales and office	61
Farming, fishing, and forestry	-
Constructions, extraction, and maintenance	29
Production, transportation, and material moving	3

Table 1.10 estimates long-term employment estimates by occupation for the State’s northwest region produced by the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development. Employment of all occupations as a whole is predicted to increase by 10 percent in the ten years from 2004 to 2014. A breakdown of the 758 different occupations reveals that the following occupations will grow the most in the northwest Wisconsin region:

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| Human Resources Managers | Occupational Health and Safety |
| Property, Real Estate and Community Association Managers | Scientists |
| Soil and Plant Scientists | Baggage Porters and Bellhops |
| Social Science Research Assistants | Desktop Publishers |
| Forest and Conservation Technicians | Farmworkers, Farm and Ranch Animals |
| Engineering Teachers (Postsecondary) | Pipelayers |
| Choreographers | Helpers—Roofers |
| | Bicycle Repairers |

**Table 1.10: Occupation Projections for Northwest Wisconsin Workforce Development Area,
2004-2014
(Ashland, Bayfield, Burnett, Douglas, Iron, Price, Rusk, Sawyer, Taylor and Washburn Counties)**

Occupational Title	Estimated Employment ⁽¹⁾				Estimated Average Annual Opening		
	2004	2014	Change	% Change	New Jobs	Replacements	Total
Total, All Occupations	69,700	76,620	6,920	9.9%	690	1,740	2,430

OVERALL GOAL STATEMENT

The original development of this plan in the early 2000s and this amendment signify a continued effort by the Town and its residents to continue to plan for all aspects of Town government. Planning in strategic ways enables our elected officials to have a vision of current objectives out over the 20-year planning horizon. While one overriding goal statement is difficult to project based on the several goals, objectives, actions and programs identified in this plan, a summary goal would be to encourage best management practices in all aspects related to this planning document and to continue to encourage Northwoods Character consistent with the local environment.

ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES

Every community has a generalized or specific list of issues and opportunities that cover a wide range of topic. The Town’s natural resources, such as its lakes, rivers, and forests provide a positive influence to area citizens and visitors. These outdoor opportunities allow individuals to capture the beautiful natural resources no matter where one is in the Town. Evident throughout the list of goals and objectives is a concern regarding the development of sensitive resources and how the human foot print impacts the natural resources and the Town’s surroundings. Over the years, the Town board and committees have strived to “strike a balance” between the protection of area resources and the rights of individuals use land and area resources in a resourceful manner. Throughout the development of this plan, key statements, goals, objectives, and recommendations point to more specific issues and opportunities confronting the community.