SOCIOECONOMIC DATA FORECASTS METHODOLOGY

The Bureau of Economic and Business Research (BEBR) at the University of Florida develops and maintains demographic forecasts through the year 2040 for counties to use in individual budgeting, planning and policy analysis. Data is maintained by municipality and county. Using the BEBR control totals for 2040 for each county, growth was allocated to high growth areas following each county’s comprehensive plan, recent approved developments, and economic development visions.

Working in concert with individual City and County staffs, allocations were then refined based on current planning documents and studies to represent the anticipated growth per Traffic Analysis Zone (TAZ). After the population and employment growth was agreed upon by the LRTP Committee, the Technical Advisory Committee and Local Planning Staff, the population and employment data was converted into the Florida Standard Urbanized Transportation Modeling Structure (FSUTMS) for Zdata using census demographic trends and future land use maps. Population was broken down into single family and multifamily population.

Dwelling units were then estimated based on the persons per household numbers from the 2010 census. Employment forecasts were broken down into Industrial, Commercial and Service employment based on the future land use of the TAZ and development approvals. Additionally school enrollment was forecasted using the population growth and working with both the Manatee County and Sarasota County School districts. Future hotel and motel room growth was projected using the service employment and local development approvals for use in the travel forecast model to generate peak season traffic.