

## 2.0 Key Issues, Opportunities, and Conflicts

An important issue in the Towns is the identification and protection of farm land and maintaining the rural character of the Town. Many comments from the survey mentioned the country living and the peaceful rural setting. Ninety-eight percent of the residents who responded to the 1998 Town of Tilden Community Opinion Survey agreed that Tilden is a good place to live.

Of the respondents, 93% felt that Environmental Protection was important to them. County shore land zoning regulates set back distances to protect waterways in the Town. Eighty-eight percent agreed that voluntary measures should be explored to encourage landowners to preserve wildlife habitat.

Other key issues include storm water runoff and conflicts arising between livestock operations and non-farm residential development.

The Highway 53 corridor with two exits in the Town (County B and County S) was another concern. Eighty-four percent of respondents felt that if light industry or commercial development was permitted in the Town, it should be limited to designated industrial areas created for this purpose, with many comments suggesting it be near the Hwy. 53 corridor.

Protection of water resources including Duncan Creek Watershed and Hay Creek Trout Project is important to Town of Tilden residents.

Non-metallic open pit mining conflicts with the desire of the residents to maintain the peaceful, rural setting of this farming community. Currently it is unclear whether or not this would be an exception under current county zoning. The Town may need a stronger ordinance to control non-metallic open mining conflicts to make it clear that the local citizens maintain control over issues of acceptable land use.

### Socioeconomic Profile

Note: Unless otherwise noted, US Census data is the source of data and information.

Table 2 - 1  
Population Changes

Unit of Government	1970	1980	1990	2000	2008
Tilden	963	1,088	1,079	1,185	1,343

During the last 38 years, the Town of Tilden has seen a population growth of 380 residents. There were 963 residents in 1970 and 1343 in 2008. The population change from 1970 to 2008 represents an increase of 39.5%. From 1990 to 2000, the population of the township grew by 9.8%. This compares to a 5.4% increase in the population of Chippewa County during the same time period.

In 1970 the population density in the town was 26.75 per square mile. By the year 2008, this had increased to 37.3. When developing a land use plan, planners will have to develop an acceptable population density if one of the goals is to preserve the rural character of the town. Increasing population density may put development pressure on the Duncan Creek Watershed and on the road system.

West Central Regional Planning projects that the town may increase to 1571 by 2020 and 1732 by 2030. This would represent an increase in population density per square mile of 43.63 by 2020 and 48.11 by 2030.

Due to the proximity of the Town of Tilden to the City of Chippewa Falls, population growth and hence population density may be difficult to control. Annexation is a factor that will be a future concern.

What the future holds will be affected by whatever land use plan is adopted.

Table 2- 2  
Population Projections Wisconsin Department of Administration (DOA)

			Census			Projection				
	1970	1980	1990	2000	2005	2010	2015	2020	2025	2030
Tilden	963	1,088	1,079	1,185	1,287	1,381	1,477	1,571	1,658	1,732

Table 2- 3  
Population and Household Comparison (2000 Census)

Town of Tilden	1990	2000
Population	1,079	1,185
Households	341	399
Household size	3.16	2.97

## Household by Type

Table 2- 4  
Households by Type (2000 Census)

	Town of Tilden		Chippewa County	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total Number of households	399	100	21,356	100
Family households	325	81.5	15,006	70.3
With children under 18 years	155	38.8	7,206	33.7
Married Couples	294	73.7	12,450	58.3
Female head of household	14	3.5	1,714	8.0
With children under 18 years	6	1.5	1,142	5.3
Non-family household	74	18.5	6,350	29.7
Householder living alone	63	15.8	5,271	24.7
Householder 65 years & older	24	6.0	2,339	11.0

The majority of households are family households (81.5%). This is a 17% increase from 1990. Married couple family households accounted for 73.7% of the households in the town. Female head of households were 3.5%. The percentage of married couple households with children under 18 was 35.8%.

The average household size was 2.97. The average family size was 3.32.

Table 2- 5  
Gender and Age (2000 Census)

Total Population	Town of Tilden		Chippewa County 2000	
	1,185		55,195	
Subject	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Male	621	52.4	27,468	49.8
Female	564	47.6	27,726	50.2
Under Age 5	79	6.7	3,451	6.3
5-19 years	317	26.7	12,612	22.9
20-34 years	181	15.3	9,244	16.8
35-64 years	497	42.0	21,851	39.5
65 years & older	111	9.4	8,037	15.6
Median Age	35.7		37.6	

The town population has slightly more men than women, while the county is slightly more women than men. By age, the town and county seem to be distributed the same.

Table 2- 6  
Educational Attainment (2000 Census)

Subject	Town of Tilden		Chippewa County	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Population 25 years & over	728	100	36,330	100
Less than 9 <sup>th</sup> grade	78	10.7	2,587	7.1
9-12, no diploma	42	5.8	3,131	8.6
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	339	46.6	14,885	41.0
Some college, no degree	117	15.9	7,029	19.3
Associate Degree	66	9.1	3,370	9.3
Bachelor's Degree	63	8.7	3,757	10.3
Graduate or professional degree	24	3.3	1,571	4.3
High school graduate or higher		83.5		84.3
Bachelor's degree or higher		12.0		14.7

Table 2- 7  
School Enrollment (2000 Census)

Subject	Town of Tilden		Chippewa County	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Population 3 years & Over in school	340	100	14,039	100
Nursery school, preschool	31	9.1	815	5.8
Kindergarten	15	4.4	899	6.4
Elementary (grades 1-8)	159	46.8	6,804	48.5
High school (grades 9-12)	88	25.9	3,711	36.5
College or graduate school	47	13.8	1,800	12.8

Table 2- 8  
Town of Tilden (2000 Census)  
Household Income

Household Income	Number	Percent
	406	100
Less than \$10,000	23	5.7
\$10,000 - \$14,999	16	3.9
\$15,000-\$24,999	36	8.9
\$25,000-\$34,999	65	16.0
\$35,000-\$49,999	81	20.0
\$50,000-\$74,999	110	27.1
\$75,000-\$99,999	41	10.1
\$100,000-\$149,000	22	5.4
\$150,000-\$199,000	8	2.0
\$200,000 or more	4	1.0
Average household income	\$46,477	
Average Social Security Income	\$12,805	
Average Retirement Income	\$15,894	

(Due to rounding of percent totals may not add up to 100%)

## Labor Force

### Employment Projections, Chippewa County

Table 2-9  
Historical Labor Force

Year	Labor Force	Chippewa County Unemployment Rate	Wisconsin Labor Force	Wisconsin Unemployment Rate
1997	30,643	4.0	2,958,858	3.5
1998	30,896	3.7	2,967,066	3.3
1999	31,028	4.2	2,970,027	3.1
2000	30,084	4.2	2,996,081	3.4
2001	30,779	5.4	3,030,998	4.4
2002	30,944	6.4	3,021,068	5.3
2003	31,611	6.3	3,033,674	5.6
2004	31,967	5.7	3,019,501	5.0
2005	32,751	5.5	3,030,971	4.8
2006	33,718	5.2	3,068,930	4.7
2007	34,095	5.4	3,089,321	4.9
2008	Not Available			

Source: Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development

Table 2- 10  
Employment Status (2000 Census)

Subject	Town of Tilden		Chippewa County	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Age 16 & Older	875	100	42,499	100
In Labor Force	660	75.4	28,970	68.2
Civilian Labor	660	75.4	28,935	68.1
Employed	639	73.0	27,552	64.9
Unemployed	21	2.4	1,353	3.2
Armed Forces	-	-	35	0.1
Not in Labor Force	215	24.6	13,529	31.8
Female (16 & older)	434	100	21,723	100
In labor force	292	67.3	13,529	63.1
Civilian	292	67.3	13,706	63.1
Employed	286	65.9	13,180	60.7

(Due to rounding, percent totals may not add up to 100)

Table 2- 11  
**Employment by Industry (2000 Census)**

Subject	Town of Tilden		Chippewa County	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Agriculture, forestry, fishing, hunting and mining	122	19.1	1,591	5.8
Construction	49	7.7	2,028	7.4
Manufacturing	141	22.1	6,464	23.4
Wholesale trade	16	2.5	891	3.2
Retail Trade	64	10.0	3,543	12.8
Transportation, warehousing and utilities	29	4.5	1,231	4.5
Information	-	-	362	1.3
Finance, insurance, real estate, rental and leasing	21	3.3	1,184	4.3
Professional, scientific, management, administrative, and Waste management services	20	3.1	1,287	4.7
Educational, health and social services	112	17.5	5,510	20.0
Arts, entertainment, recreation, accommodation and food services	19	3.0	1,646	6.0
Other services (except public administration)	17	2.7	959	3.5
Public administration	29	4.5	886	3.2

(Due to rounding percent totals may not add up to 100)

### **Employment Projections**

The largest percentage of residents in the Town is employed in manufacturing. The second largest are employed in agriculture, forestry, fishing, hunting and mining. There are several owner-operated businesses in the Town, an elementary school, a church, a beauty shop, a salvage yard, a kennel, a machine shop, a motel, a recreational vehicle sales business, a farm implement business, game farms, storage rental units and several bars and restaurants which provide employment in the Town.

Statistical data from the 2010 census will be added upon receipt. Comparisons can then be made to reflect changes in the Town.