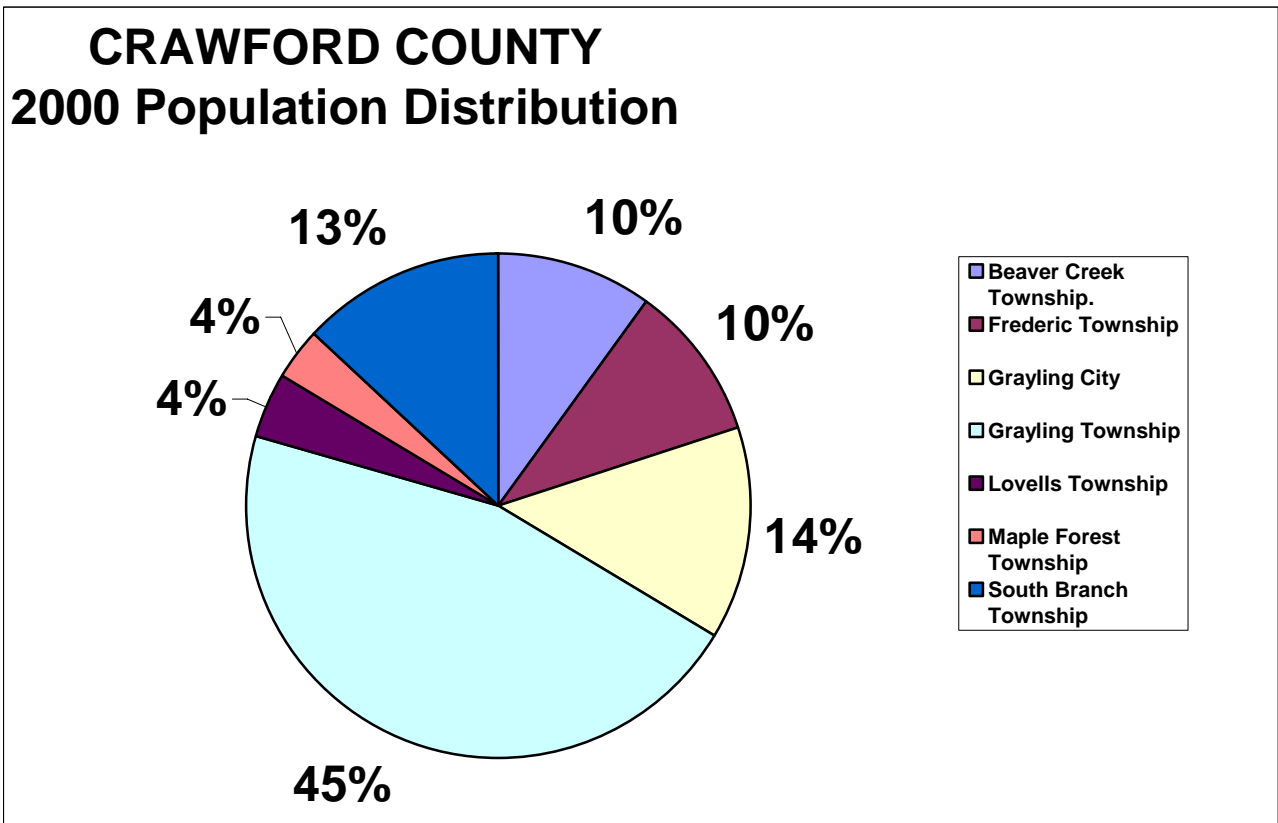


Population

Beaver Creek is a 72 section General Law Township in Crawford County located in the northern lower peninsula of Michigan. The 2000 Census found 1,486 people living in Beaver Creek Township.

In 2000, 59 percent of Crawford County's population resided in Grayling Township and the City of Grayling, with the majority (45%) found in Grayling Township. The Township of South Branch made up 13% of the County population, the Townships of Beaver Creek and Frederic, each made up about ten percent of the total County population, while the Townships of Maple Forest and Lovells together made up around eight percent. The proportion of the County population living in Crawford County and in each of the Townships is shown below.



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Population changes between 1990 to 2000 were not evenly distributed. While all municipalities gained in population during the period, the gains ranged from a low of + .02 percent in Maple Forest Township to as high as +38 percent in Lovells Township. Beaver Creek Township increased in third place with +27 percent, behind South Branch's +34 percent increase. The City of Grayling showed a + 16 percent increase, Grayling Township +15 percent increase and Frederic's increase was + 8 percent.

Population changes in Crawford County between 1980 and 2000 are much greater. Beaver Creek Township almost doubled its population and was the fastest growing Township for the 20 year span. Second in 20 year growth was South Branch with Frederic showing the least growth. Crawford County's largest Township, Grayling Township, registered the largest numeric growth of + 2,497 persons during this time frame.

Municipality	1980 Population	1990 Population	2000 Population
South Branch Township	1,096	1,380	1,842
Beaver Creek Township	745	1,175	1,486
Frederic Township	1,142	1,287	1,401
Grayling City	1,792	1,944	1,952
Grayling Township	4,019	5,647	6,516
Lovells Township	316	420	578
Maple Forest Township	355	497	498
Crawford County	9,465	12,350	14,273
Special Beaver Creek Township 6-20-96 Census - 1,409			

SOURCE: U.S. Census 1980,1990, 1996 and 2000

Age Distribution

The median age of residents in Beaver Creek in 2000 was 41.9 years, which is slightly more than six years older than the State's median age of 35.5 years. Crawford County has long had a significant retirement age population. The County's median age during the summer months is actually higher than shown, due to the large numbers of elderly seasonal residents. Age distribution for the residents of all of the County's municipalities is shown on Table 1-2

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TABLE 1-2 - AGE DISTRIBUTION

Municipality	<5		5-17		18-24		25-44		45-64		65+	
	Years	%	Years	%	Years	%	Years	%	Years	%	Years	%
Beaver Creek Township	85	6.0	250	17.0	95	6.4	395	26.6	426	28.7	235	15.9
Frederic Township	73	5.2	282	20.1	80	5.7	344	24.6	405	28.9	217	15.5
Grayling City	133	6.8	377	19.3	151	7.7	479	24.5	372	19.6	440	22.5
Grayling Township	348	5.3	1313	20.1	428	6.6	1879	28.8	1639	25.2	909	14.0
Lovells Township	20	3.5	69	12.0	17	3.0	117	20.2	183	31.7	172	29.8
Maple Forest Township	18	3.6	87	17.5	27	5.4	136	27.3	150	30.1	80	16.1
South Branch Township	100	5.4	342	18.6	102	5.5	448	24.3	531	28.8	319	17.3
Crawford County	777	5.4	2720	19.3	900	6.2	3798	26.5	3706	25.9	2372	16.7

SOURCE: US Bureau of Census

Age distribution data for Crawford County shows that higher concentrations of children are found in the Townships of Grayling, and Frederic. The City of Grayling also has over 25 percent of it's population comprised of children.

The City of Grayling, Grayling Township and Beaver Creek Township have high percentages of young adults (18 to 24 years old). High concentrations of adults in their middle years (24 to 44 years) are found in Grayling Township, Maple Forest and Beaver Creek Townships.

Communities with high percentages of older adults (45 to 64 years) are found in the Townships of Lovells, Maple Forest and Frederic. The highest concentration (percentage wise) of senior citizens is found in Lovells Township (29.8%), with the City of Grayling recording a relatively high percent (22.5).

Table 1-3 shows the gender distribution for Crawford County and its municipalities for 2000. Crawford County, unlike most communities, contains a slightly greater percentage of males than females (51% male population in 2000). A more usual gender distribution is approximately 51 percent female population. This slightly greater male population is due to the presence of both a military installation and a correctional institution within the County's boundaries. Beaver Creek Township mirrors the County gender distribution: male, female.

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TABLE 1-3 - GENDER DISTRIBUTION

Municipality	# Male	% Male	# Female	% Female	Total
Beaver Creek Township	758	51%	728	49%	1,486
Frederic Township	715	51%	686	49%	1,401
Grayling City	858	44%	1,094	56%	1,952
Grayling Township	3,453	53%	3,063	47%	6,516
Lovells Township	295	51%	283	49%	578
Maple Forest Township	259	52%	239	48%	498
South Branch Township	958	52%	884	48%	1,842
Crawford County	7,279	51%	6,994	49%	14,273

SOURCE: 2000 U.S. Census

Seasonal Population

Like the rest of northern Michigan, Beaver Creek Township has a large seasonal population, and a large percentage of seasonal housing units. In 2000, of the 1,125 housing units in Beaver Creek Township, 494 or 43.9 percent were seasonal. Of the remainder, 603 were occupied year-round and 28 were vacant year round.

Population Projection

A population projection forecasts future population trends based on historical population data and current information. It is important to realize that the accuracy of a projection can be affected by unforeseen happenings such as the arrival/departure of a major employer in the area. Population projections are also affected by time. As the time interval of the projection increase, so do the chances of error. Therefore, while population projections are an important tool for planning future development, constant monitoring and updating of population trends and projections is encouraged.

Several agencies have developed population projections for Crawford County as a whole. The Northeast Michigan Council of Governments, in producing their Crawford County Recreation Plan for 1997, evaluated the different projections and used those of the Department of Management and Budget (DMB). The DMB projections were selected because they more closely reflect the robust population growth in the County and Beaver Creek Township in recent years.

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Table 1-4 shows that, based on the DMB projections, the Beaver Creek Township population will increase to 1,722 people by the year 2010. This represents a 46.6 percent increase from 1990 to 2010 for Beaver Creek Township.

TABLE 1-4 - POPULATION ESTIMATES AND PROJECTIONS:1990-2010

	1990 (Actual)	1994 Estimate	2000 (Actual)	2005	2010	Percent Change 1990-2010
Beaver Creek Township	1,175	1,297	1,486	1,586	1,722	46.60%
Crawford County	12,260	13,331	14,317	16,300	17,700	44.40%

SOURCE: Census 2000 Summary File 1 (SF 1) 100-Percent Data