



# New Brighton Comprehensive Plan

---

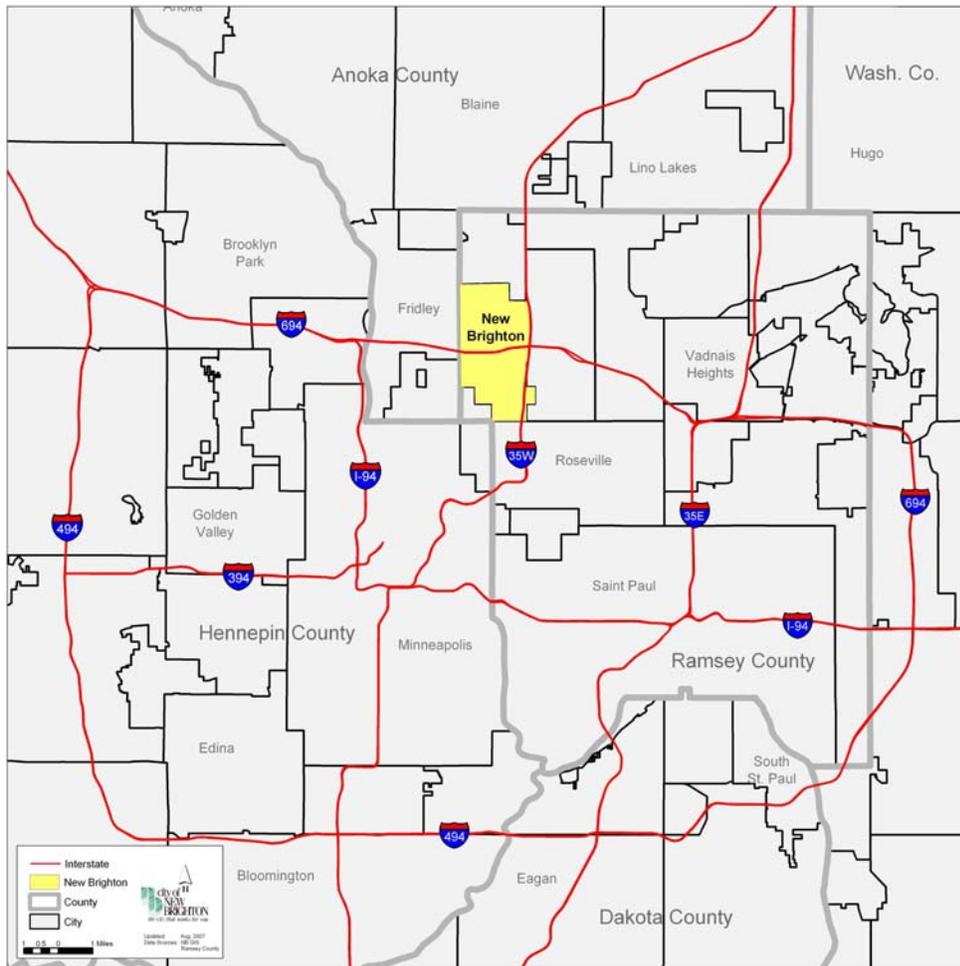
## The Context

---

### Regional Setting

The City of New Brighton is strategically located within the Twin Cities Metropolitan Area approximately 7 miles from downtown Minneapolis and 10 miles from downtown St. Paul. Its location at the intersection of Interstates 694 and 35W provide for quick and easy access to the majority of the metropolitan area.

Figure 3 - 1 Regional Setting





## Historical Development Patterns

(Information was obtained through [www.newbrightonmn.gov](http://www.newbrightonmn.gov) and the City of New Brighton Historical Society)

### Early Development

The City of New Brighton, as with most Minnesota towns, was first inhabited by Native Indians who came to the area on rice harvesting treks and located near Long Lake and Rice Creek. In the mid-1800's, French and English settlers came upon the New Brighton area in their search for part of the American Dream: land and a homestead. In 1858 the settlement was established, a government was formed and development ensued consisting of a store, school and mission church. The Village of New Brighton was not actually incorporated however until 1891.

### Industrial Era

After the settlement was established, the railroad was soon to follow and the Minneapolis Stockyards and Packing Company was formed. This company locating in New Brighton is identified as the most significant point in New Brighton's history as with it came the development of related businesses and thus a thriving agricultural community. The name New Brighton actually came from Brighton, Massachusetts, a cattle center serving the Boston area.



**Figure 3 - 2 The Soo Line Railroad's New Brighton Depot, built in 1897**



**Figure 3 - 3 An aerial view of New Brighton's Downtown and industrial area in the late 1920's**



## Census Demographics

### Population Growth

Population growth in New Brighton was rapid during the 1960's, increasing 202 percent from 1960 to 1970. However, during the 1970's, the population of New Brighton slowed down to just 19 percent. During the 1980's, growth decreased to an annual rate of -106 persons per year and in the 1990's New Brighton experienced no additional growth. New Brighton's 2000 population was estimated to be 22,206 by the Metropolitan Council. Table 3 – 1 depicts population growth within New Brighton, surrounding communities, and Ramsey County from 1960 through 2000.

**Table 3 - 1 Population Growth**

POPULATION GROWTH 1960 - 2000									
	New Brighton	Mounds View	Blaine	Ramsey County	Roseville	Arden Hills	St. Anthony	Columbia Heights	Fridley
1960	6,448	6,416	7,570		23,997	3,930	5,084	17,533	15,173
1970	19,507	9,988	20,640	476,255	34,518	5,628	9,239	23,997	29,233
1980	23,269	12,593	28,558	459,784	35,820	8,012	7,981	20,029	30,228
1990	22,207	12,541	38,975	485,783	33,485	9,199	7,727	18,910	28,335
2000	22,206	12,738	44,942	511,035	33,690	9,652	8,012	18,520	27,449
AVERAGE ANNUAL POPULATION GROWTH									
Time Frame	New Brighton	Mounds View	Blaine	Ramsey County	Roseville	Arden Hills	St. Anthony	Columbia Heights	Fridley
1960-1970	13,059	3,572	13,070		10,521	1,698	4,155	6,464	14,060
1970-1980	3,762	2,605	7,919	-16,471	1,302	2,384	-1,258	-3,968	995
1980-1990	-1,062	-52	10,417	25,999	-2,335	1,187	-254	-1,119	-1,893
1990-2000	-1	197	5,967	25,252	205	453	285	-390	-886
PERCENTAGE GROWTH									
Time Frame	New Brighton	Mounds View	Blaine	Ramsey County	Roseville	Arden Hills	St. Anthony	Columbia Heights	Fridley
1960-	202%	55%	173%		44%	43%	88%	37%	93%



1970									
1970-1980	19%	26%	38%	-3%	4%	42%	-14%	-16%	3%
1980-1990	-4%	-4%	36%	6%	-6%	15%	-3%	6%	-6%
1990-2000	0%	2%	15%	5%	1%	5%	4%	-2%	-3%

Source: U.S. Census, 1960, 1970, 1980, 1990, 2000

### Household Growth

Household growth in New Brighton is illustrated in the table below. The 2000 average household size in New Brighton was 2.46 in 2000, down from the 1990 number of 2.61. The Metropolitan Council projections suggest that these trends are continuing. The lower household size is reflective of a combination of young married couples who are waiting longer to have children and have fewer children and also an increasing number of empty nester parents whose children have grown and left home.

**Table 3 - 2 Household Growth**

<b>HOUSEHOLD GROWTH 1970 - 2000</b>			
	Population	Households	Household Size
1970	19,507	5,559	3.50
1980	23,269	7,739	3.00
1990	22,207	8,523	2.61
2000	22,206	9,013	2.46

Source: U.S. Census, 1970, 1980, 1990, 2000

The 2000 Census provides a demographic profile of the households in New Brighton as illustrated in Table 3 – 3. Of the 9,013 households in 2000, 5,907 or 65.5 percent were families, comprised mostly of married couples. Approximately 29 percent of the total households consist of families with children. The Census Data indicated that in 2000, 34.5 percent of all households were non-family households. This is an increase from 31 percent in 1990.



**Table 3 - 3 Household Characteristics**

<b>2000 HOUSEHOLD CHARACTERISTICS</b>						
	Total # of HH	Percent Total HH	HH w/ Children	Percent Total HH	Families w/o Child	Percent Total HH
Family- Married Couple	4,719	52.4%	1,871	20.8%	2,848	31.6%
Family - Female Householder	898	10%	596	6.6%	302	3.4%
Total Families	5,907	65.5%	2,600	28.8%	3,307	36.7%
Non-Family Households	3,106	34.5%	--	--	--	--
<b>TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS</b>	<b>9,013</b>	<b>100%</b>				

Source: U.S. Census, 2000



## Housing

As demonstrated in the table below, nearly 64 percent of the housing stock within the City of New Brighton is single family residential, whether it be detached or attached housing. Multiple family residential housing (10+units) makes up 29.5 percent of the housing stock. The remainder includes manufactured housing at 3.6 percent, and townhomes (2-9 units at 3.1 percent.)

**Table 3 - 4 Housing Types**

2000 HOUSING TYPES		
	Total # Units	Percentage
1 Unit Detached	5,017	54.8%
1 Unit Attached	816	8.9%
2-4 Units	157	1.7%
5-9 Units	127	1.4%
10+Units	2,704	29.5%
Manufactured Housing	334	3.6%
Total # of Units	9,155	100%

Source: U.S. Census, 2000

## Age Characteristics

The 2000 Census provides age characteristics information regarding New Brighton residents. This information is detailed Tables 3 – 5 and 3 – 6. Table 3 – 5 illustrates the median age of New Brighton residents and surrounding communities. The median age in New Brighton is similar to other Cities in the area.



**Table 3 - 5 Median Age**

<b>2000 MEDIAN AGE</b>	
New Brighton	37
Mounds View	33.5
Blaine	32.7
Roseville	41.0
Arden Hills	36.2
St. Anthony	43.0
Columbia Heights	39.0
Fridley	36.3
Ramsey County	33.7

Source: U.S. Census, 2000

As demonstrated in Table 3 – 6, the labor force age group (ages 20 to 64) represents the City's largest age group accounting for 61 percent of the population. The next largest age group is the school age group (ages zero to 19) representing 24 percent of the population. The retired age group (ages 64 and over) accounts for the final 12.6 percent of the City's population. It should be noted, this is a significant increase from the 1990 Census numbers of 9 percent. The labor force age is consistent with the Ramsey County population age group characteristics which show 59 percent of the population within the labor force age group. New Brighton has a slightly greater percentage of its population within the retirement age group as 12.6 percent are over 65 while 12 percent of the County's population is within the retirement age group.



**Table 3 - 6 Population Age Group**

<b>2000 POPULATION ACCORDING TO AGE GROUP</b>				
Age Group	New Brighton	Percent	Ramsey County	Percent
School Age				
Under 5	1,288	5.8%	34,956	7%
5-9	1,422	6.4%	36,998	7%
10-14	1,344	6.1%	36,989	7%
15-19	1,415	6.4%	38,450	8%
<b>SUB-TOTAL</b>	<b>5,469</b>	<b>24.1%</b>	<b>147,393</b>	<b>29%</b>
Labor Force				
20-24	1,976	8.9%	41,289	8%
25-34	3,032	13.7%	76,638	15%
35-44	3,250	14.6%	80,271	16%
45-54	3,188	14.4%	67,314	13%
55-64	2,492	11.3%	38,628	7%
<b>SUB-TOTAL</b>	<b>13,938</b>	<b>61.4%</b>	<b>304,140</b>	<b>59%</b>
Retired				
65+	2,799	12.6%	59,502	12%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>22,700</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>511,035</b>	<b>100%</b>
Source: U.S. Census, 2000				

The predominance of individuals in the labor force age group is typical of communities located in proximity to the Twin Cities. However, significant population of persons 65 and older has raised the City's median age, indicating that New Brighton is a desirable retirement community. New Brighton's age demographics are a major factor in planning for the future of the community in regard to demand for services such as parks and trails, entertainment, schools and services for the elderly.



## Education

The following table illustrates the education levels for New Brighton residents age 25 and over. As indicated, approximately 93 percent of New Brighton's population has attained a high school diploma or higher and nearly 41 percent have attained a college bachelor's degree or higher. For comparison purposes, 87.6 percent of Ramsey County's population age 25 and over have attained a high school degree and 34.3 percent have attained a bachelor's degree or higher.

**Table 3 - 7 Education Levels**

<b>2000 EDUCATION LEVELS AGE 25 AND OVER</b>				
<b>Level Attained</b>	<b>New Brighton</b>	<b>Percent</b>	<b>Ramsey County</b>	<b>Percent</b>
> 9 <sup>th</sup> Grade	362	2.4%	16,531	5.1%
9th to 12th Grades (no diploma)	691	4.7%	23,483	7.3%
High School Graduate	3,269	22.1%	81,763	25.3%
Some College (no degree)	3,398	22.9%	70,054	21.7 %
Associate Degree	1,073	7.2%	20,411	6.3%
Bachelors Degree	3,942	26.6%	70,537	21.8%
Graduate Degree	2,075	14%	40,435	12.5 %
Total over 25	14,810	100%	323,214	100%
% High School Graduate or higher		92.9%		87.6 %
% Bachelors Degree or higher		40.6%		34.3 %
Source: U.S. Census, 2000				



## Occupation

Information from the Department of Employment and Economic Development and the 2000 Census regarding employment demographics of New Brighton is depicted on this and the next page. The most common occupation category within New Brighton's labor force is management, professional and related at 43.5%, followed by sales and office occupations at 29 percent. Educational, health and social service occupations make up almost 24 percent of the work force and manufacturing making up 15%.

**Table 3 - 8 Major Employers in New Brighton**

<i>Employer</i>	<i>NAICS</i>	<i>Products/Services</i>	<i>Employee Count</i>
Medtox Laboratory Inc	621511	Medical Laboratories	450
City of New Brighton	921190	Other General Government Support	250
Hypro Corp Lear Inc	333911	Pump & Pumping Equipment Mfg.	250
Extendicare Homes, Inc	623312	Homes for the Elderly	175
Next Day Gourmet	423490	Other Prof. Equip. & Supplies, Merch. Whole.	175
Print Craft	323110	Comm. Lithographic Printing	175
Sparta Foods	311999	All Other Misc. Food Mfg.	175
Donatelle Plastics	326199	All Other Plastics Prod. Mfg.	150
Cub Foods	445110	Supermarkets & Other Grocery (exc. Convenience) Stores	125
Trend Enterprises, Inc	562111	Solid Waste Collection	125

Source: 2006 MN Dept of Employment and Economic Development, Community Profile



**Table 3 - 9 Employed Civilian Population 16 years & Over**

<b>2000 OCCUPATIONS</b>			
	New Brighton	Percent	TOTAL
<b>Employed Civilian Age 16 and Over</b>	<b>12,777</b>		<b>100%</b>
<b>OCCUPATION</b>			
Management, professional, & related	5,558	43.5%	
Service	1,479	11.6%	
Sales & office	3,716	29.1%	
Farming, fishing, & forestry	0	0.0%	
Construction, extraction, & maintenance	667	5.2%	
Production, transportation, & material moving	1,357	10.6%	
<b>INDUSTRY</b>			
Agriculture, forestry, fishing, hunting, & mining	9	0.1%	
Construction	522	4.1%	
Manufacturing	1,902	14.9%	
Wholesale trade	466	3.6%	
Retail trade	1,534	12.0%	
Transportation & warehousing, utilities	700	5.5%	
Information	353	2.8%	
Finance, insurance, real estate, rental & leasing	1,115	8.7%	
Professional, scientific, management, administrative, & waste management	1,388	10.9%	
Education, health, & social services	3,018	23.6%	
Arts, entertainment, recreation, accommodation, & food services	778	6.1%	
Other services (except public administration)	610	4.8%	
Public administration	382	3.0%	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>12,777</b>		<b>100%</b>

Source: U.S. Census, 2000



## Income

The 2000 Census data regarding median household income and median family income for New Brighton and several surrounding communities is illustrated in the tables below. In 2000, the median household income in New Brighton was above the median for other communities in the area with the exception of Arden Hills and Blaine. New Brighton's 2000 family income was one of the highest family income figures for nearby communities, including Ramsey County, but except Arden Hills. These figures for New Brighton are likely a result of the high number of managerial and professional persons living in New Brighton.

**Table 3 - 10 Household Income**

<b>2000 MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME</b>	
Arden Hills	64,773
Blaine	59,219
<b><i>New Brighton</i></b>	<b><i>52,856</i></b>
Mounds View	51,974
Roseville	51,056
Fridley	48,372
St. Anthony	46,883
Ramsey County	45,722
Columbia Heights	40,562
Source: U.S. Census, 2000	

**Table 3 - 11 Family Income**

<b>2000 MEDIAN FAMILY INCOME</b>	
Arden Hills	72,236
<b><i>New Brighton</i></b>	<b><i>68,724</i></b>
Roseville	65,861
Blaine	63,831
St. Anthony	62,500
Mounds View	60,685
Ramsey County	57,747
Fridley	55,381
Columbia Heights	50,610
Source: U.S. Census, 2000	

The numbers/percentages of individuals and families considered below the poverty level has been determined in the region is illustrated in Table 3 – 12. These people may require public assistance to meet their housing needs. As such, they are an important consideration in future planning. As the following table illustrates, New Brighton falls in the middle as compared to surrounding communities in terms of the percentage of low income individuals. The table also illustrates that New Brighton compares much less percentage wise with the amount of individuals and families below the poverty level in all of Ramsey County.



**Table 3 - 12 Poverty Status in 2000 (below poverty level)**

<b>2000 POVERTY STATUS</b>				
	Individuals	Percent	Families	Percent
Fridley	2,007	7.3	386	5.3
Roseville	1,353	4.2	224	2.6
Blaine	1,347	3.0	258	2.1
Columbia Heights	1,173	6.4	187	3.9
<i>New Brighton</i>	<i>1,018</i>	<i>4.7</i>	<i>199</i>	<i>3.3</i>
Mounds View	752	5.9	150	4.4
St. Anthony	402	5.1	57	2.8
Arden Hills	302	3.9	40	1.8
Ramsey County	52,673	10.6	8,923	7.4

Source: U.S. Census, 2000



---

## Excensus Select Demographics

Beginning in 1999 Excensus has produced detailed, current summary profiles of Twin Cities' communities including information about household composition, resident ages, the length of time residents have lived in their home, their owner/renter status, as well as detailed information about the value and attributes of their dwelling units. All of the following data and findings, prepared by Excensus LLC, offers a different picture of how and why communities change and the specific role of housing in shaping these changes. This information also provides relative demographic insights into New Brighton in the years following the 2000 Census. Excensus LLC prepared the following Demographic Change Report for the year 2007. Seven key findings were made, provided below, with corresponding tables to help support such finding.

### Key Findings

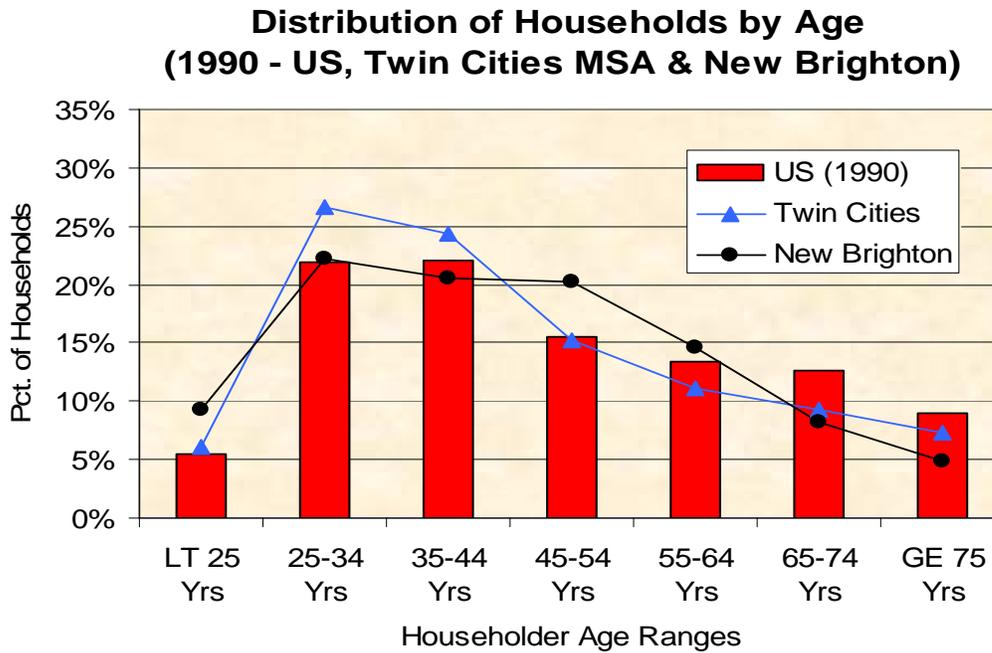
- 1. New Brighton's resident base is aging, continuing a pattern that began two decades ago.** Between 1990 and 2000, the City's base of younger households (ages 25 to 34) decreased by 21 percent, families with children decreased by five percent, and children under age five decreased by seven percent. The proportion of New Brighton households under age 45 since 2000 has continued to fall – dropping from 45 percent of all households in 2000 to 36 percent in 2006. A prolonged shift in the balance of householder ages in a community is an important indicator of changing housing, education, transportation, and community service needs.
- 2. As the share of younger households has decreased, the share of older households has increased.** Growth in the older household segments (ages 55 to 64, 65 to 74, and 75 or older) has shown consistent strong growth from 1990 to present. A total of 870 new households ages 55 or older have been added in the years 2000 to 2006 alone. This age group now accounts for 42 percent of all households in New Brighton, up from 35 percent in 2000.
- 3. Household and population counts show some increases from previous estimates.** A total of 9,464 residential households were identified in this analysis, up from 9,013 reported in the 2000 US Census. Little new construction growth has occurred during this period. Some of the increase may be attributable to absorption of unoccupied housing. The number of families with children has dropped since the 2000 Census. In 2006, an estimated 16 percent of all New Brighton households were families with children down from 21 percent reported in the 2000 Census. Household sizes have remained relatively stable. The City's population in 2006 was estimated at 23,261.
- 4. There is a clear relationship between the mix of resident ages and the composition of the community's housing stock.** Rental housing, accounting for a third of all housing units, is home to 78 percent of all households under the age of 25 and 54 percent of all households age 25 to 34. Lower priced single family housing (tax value under \$180,000) is the most evenly distributed type of housing in the city. Higher value housing (tax value of \$180,000 or more) accounts for 53 percent of all housing units in New Brighton, but is home for 75 percent of all households ages 55 to 74. In New Brighton, as in other communities, availability of rental and lower-priced single family housing is critical to attracting a base of young and growing households.



- 
5. **Newly constructed housing is attractive to younger households.** This is particularly true in rapidly growing communities, like Blaine, but is true in New Brighton as well. The 46 new housing units identified in New Brighton since 2003 are too few, however, to have much of an impact on New Brighton’s community aging patterns.
  6. **“Availability” of affordable owner-occupied housing may be the single most important factor driving long term demographic trends.** In New Brighton, when single family housing changes hands, the net result is generally an increase in younger households. Currently, a substantial share of affordable housing is not changing hands, a pattern called “aging in place”, where residents age while remaining in their current homes.
  7. **Finally, data indicated that New Brighton has had much more difficulty retaining younger residents than it does older residents.** Strategies that open up more single family housing and more housing choices for young (and growing) households and families could play a key role in slowing current trends.

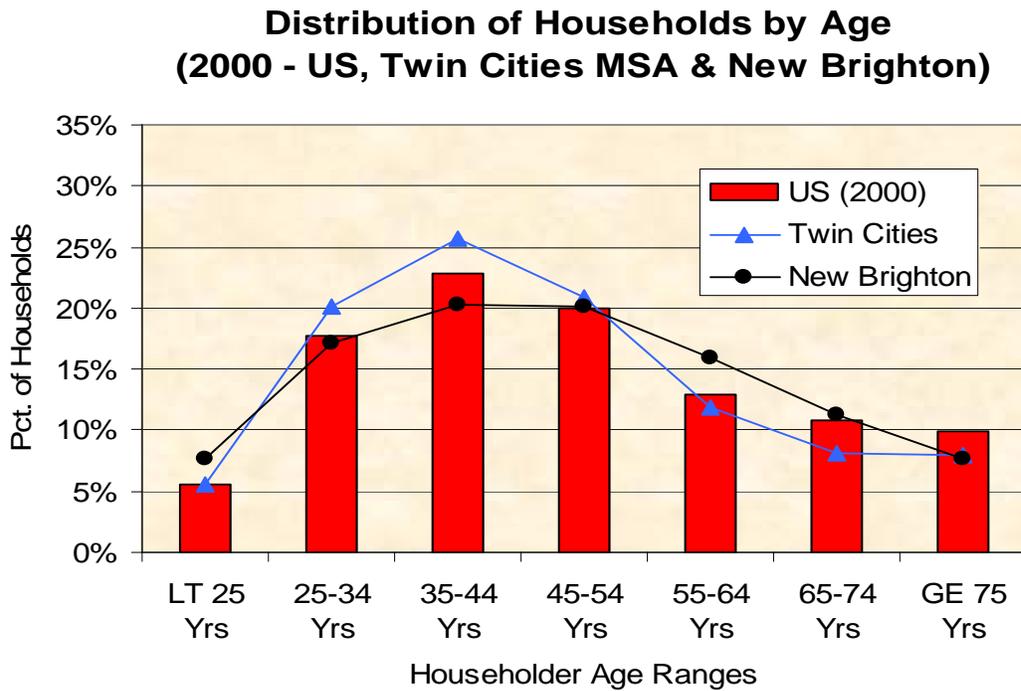


Figure 3-4



Source: US Census Bureau, 1990 Census (STF1)

Figure 3-5



Source: US Census Bureau, 1990 Census (STF1)



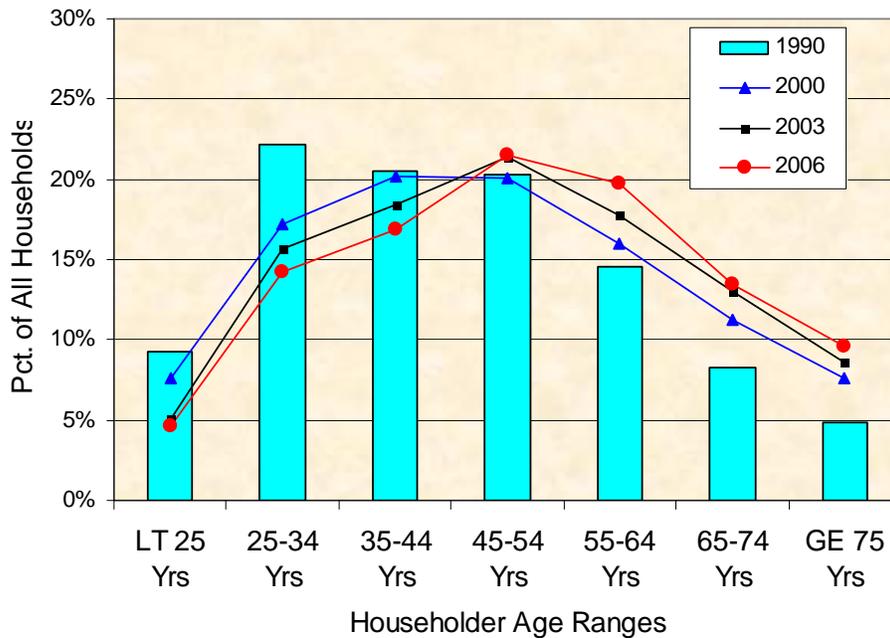
**Figure 3-6**

<b>Twin Cities Demographic Trends Adults, Families and Children 1990 to 2000</b>				
<u>Percent Change (1990-2000)</u>	<u>New Brighton</u>	<u>Suburban Ramsey County</u>	<u>City of St. Paul</u>	<u>7-County Metro Area</u>
<b>Residents Ages 25 to 34</b>	-21%	-28%	-12%	-12%
<b>Families with Children</b>	-5%	-5%	1%	10%
<b>Children Under Age 5</b>	-7%	-17%	-5%	2%

Source: US Census Bureau, 1990 Census (STF1)

**Figure 3-7**

**Shift in Household Age Distribution  
(New Brighton - 1990 to 2006)**



Source: US Census Bureau Estimates (1999 to 2020), Excensus LLC (2003 to 2006)



Figure 3-8

**1. Household and Population Trends (1990-2006)**

Adjusted Totals (Modeling of Households w/ Unknown Ages)

<u>Householder Ages</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>1990</u>
>= 75 years	896	885	858	808	684	414
65-74 years	1,263	1,248	1,230	1,220	1,016	701
55-64 years	1,851	1,776	1,693	1,668	1,439	1,245
45-54 years	2,023	2,041	2,015	2,010	1,813	1,726
35-44 years	1,670	1,748	1,782	1,831	1,824	1,752
25-34 years	1,330	1,298	1,427	1,455	1,550	1,893
<25 years	431	469	459	472	687	792
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,464</b>	<b>9,465</b>	<b>9,464</b>	<b>9,464</b>	<b>9,013</b>	<b>8,523</b>

<u>Resident Ages</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>1990</u>
>= 75 years	1,451	1,403	1,330	1,298	1,175	864
65-74 years	2,107	2,071	2,000	1,986	1,624	1,127
55-64 years	3,267	3,154	3,013	3,017	2,492	2,074
45-54 years	3,820	3,776	3,646	3,616	3,188	3,040
35-44 years	3,265	3,377	3,306	3,460	3,250	3,200
25-34 years	3,632	3,619	3,702	3,885	3,032	3,847
15-24 years	3,153	3,203	3,193	3,262	3,391	3,971
10-14 years	906	1,026	1,107	1,125	1,344	1,291
5-9 years	871	645	756	884	1,422	1,411
<5 years	789	584	685	801	1,288	1,382
<b>Total</b>	<b>23,261</b>	<b>22,858</b>	<b>22,738</b>	<b>23,334</b>	<b>22,206</b>	<b>22,207</b>

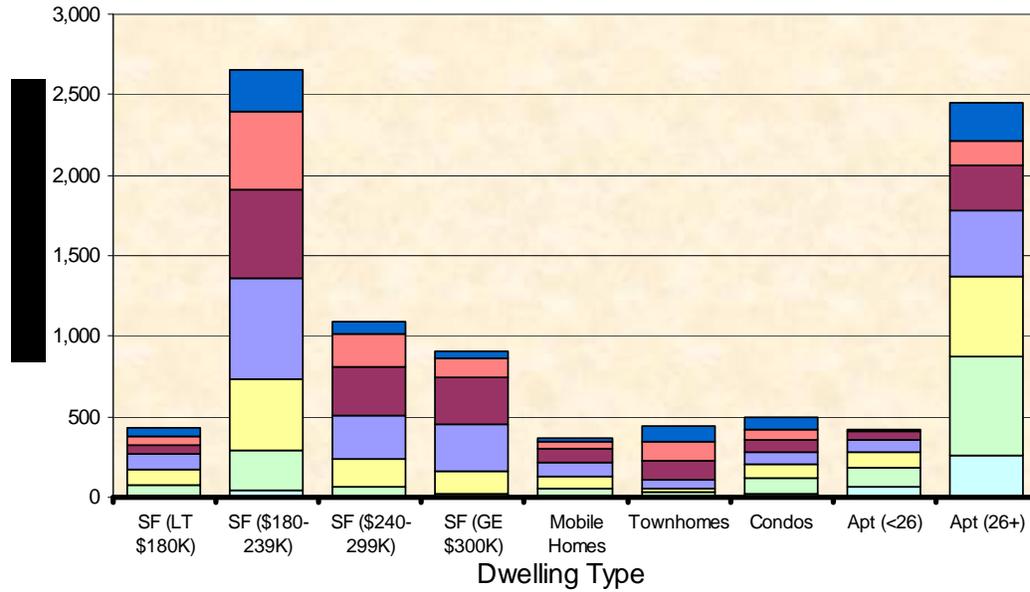
<b>Population/HH</b>	2.46	2.42	2.40	2.47	2.46	2.61
<b>Households w/kids</b>	1,526	1,825	1,745	1,790	2,332	2,294
Pct. Of all HHs	16.1%	19.3%	18.4%	18.9%	25.9%	26.9%

Sources: US Census Bureau – 1990 and 2000 Census of Population, Excensus LLC (2003-2006 modeled estimates)



Figure 3-9

**2. Count of Occupied Housing Units  
By Dwelling Type and Householder Age (2006)  
(n=9,464)**

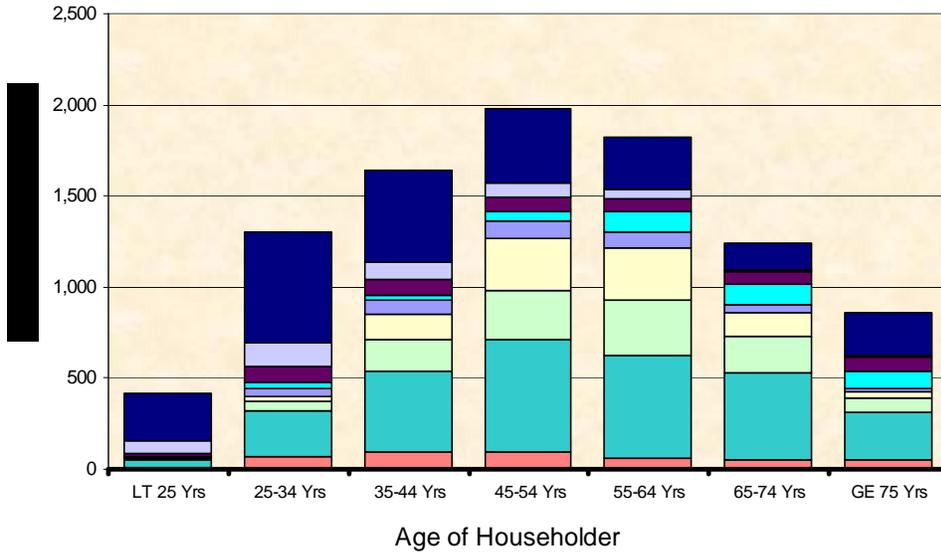


Source: Excensus LLC, 2007 City of New Brighton Demographic Change Report



Figure 3-10

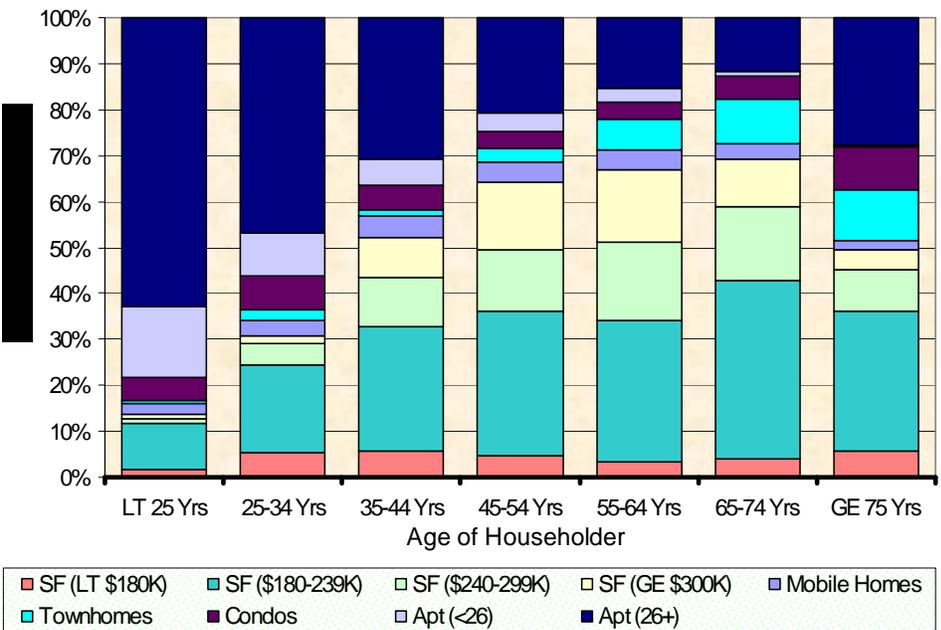
**4. Count of Occupied Housing Units  
By Householder Age and Dwelling Type (2006)  
(n=9,464)**



Source: Excensus LLC, 2007 City of New Brighton Demographic Change Report

Figure 3-11

**5. Distribution of Occupied Housing Units  
By Householder Age and Dwelling Type (2006)**

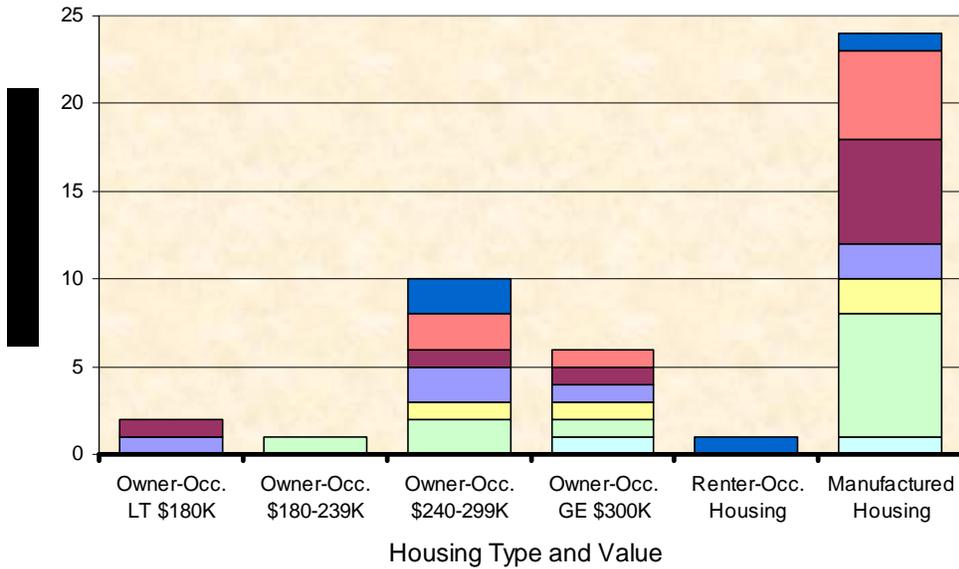


Source: Excensus LLC, 2007 City of New Brighton Demographic Change Report



Figure 3-12

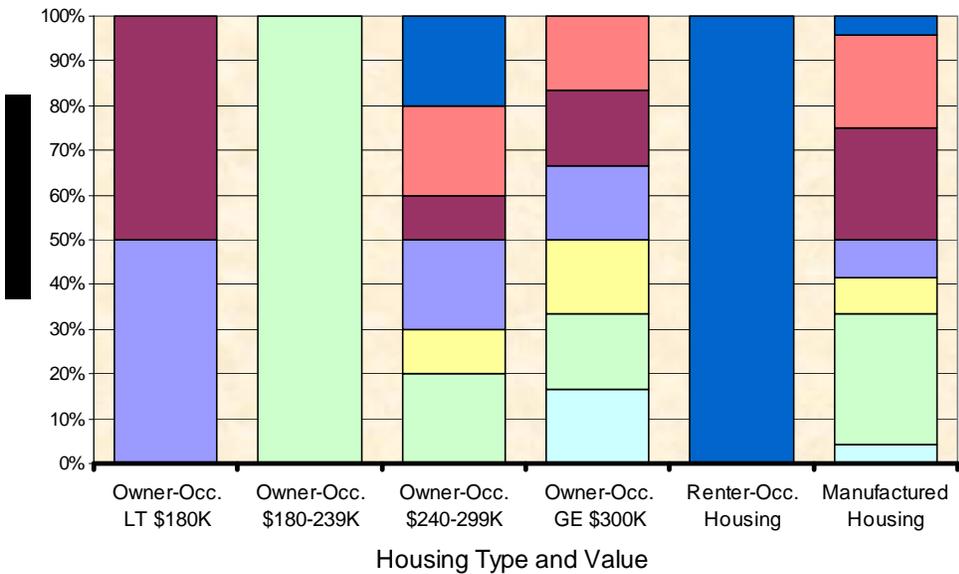
**6. Household Growth in New Housing  
By Dwelling Type and Householder Age (2003 - 2006)  
(n=46)**



Source: Excensus LLC, 2007 City of New Brighton Demographic Change Report

Figure 3-13

**7. Distribution of Households in New Housing  
By Dwelling Type and Householder Age (2003 - 2006)**



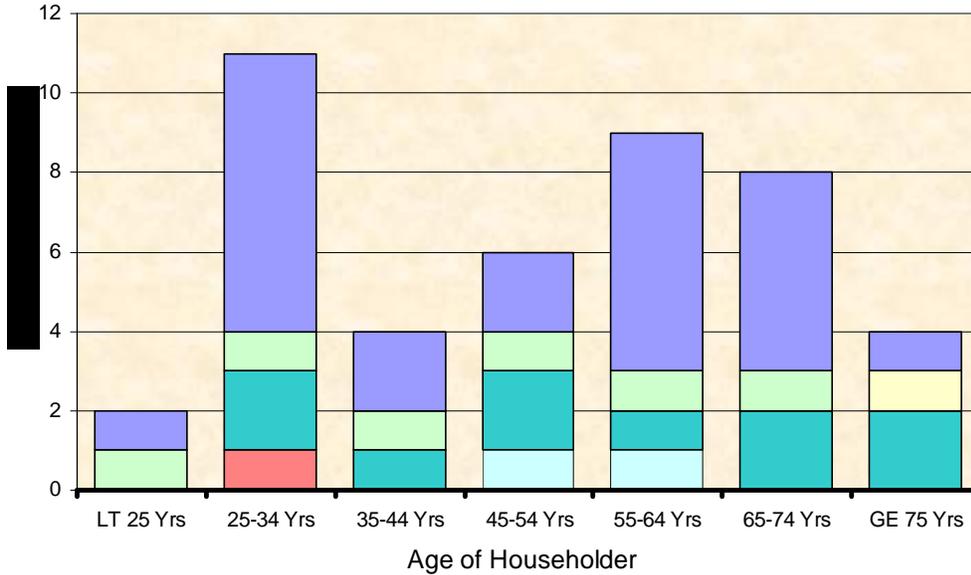
Legend: LT 25 Yrs, 25-34 Yrs, 35-44 Yrs, 45-54 Yrs, 55-64 Yrs, 65-74 Yrs, GE 75 Yrs

Source: Excensus LLC, 2007 City of New Brighton Demographic Change Report



Figure 3-14

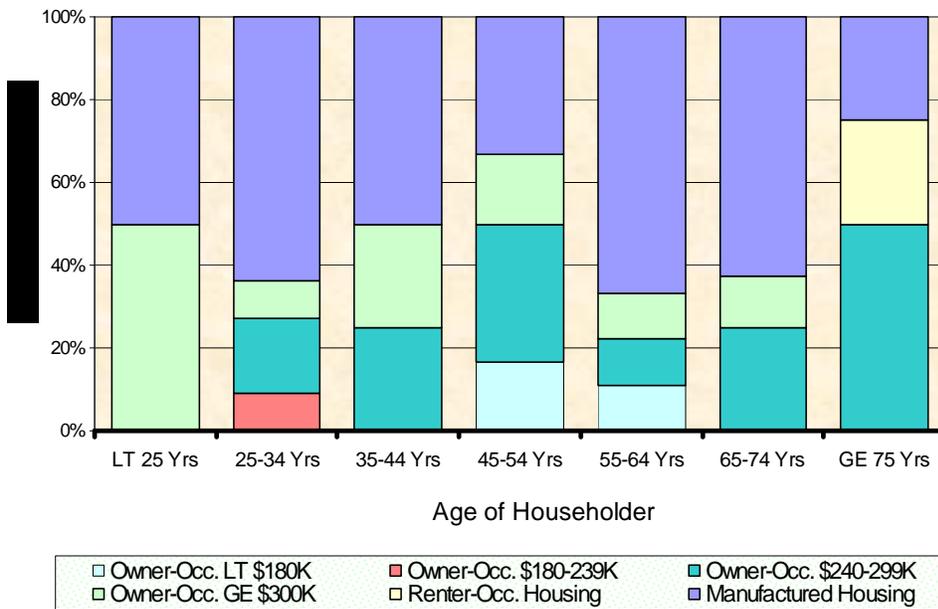
**8. Household Growth in New Housing  
By Householder Age and Dwelling Type (2003 - 2006)  
(n=69)**



Source: Excensus LLC, 2007 City of New Brighton Demographic Change Report

Figure 3-15

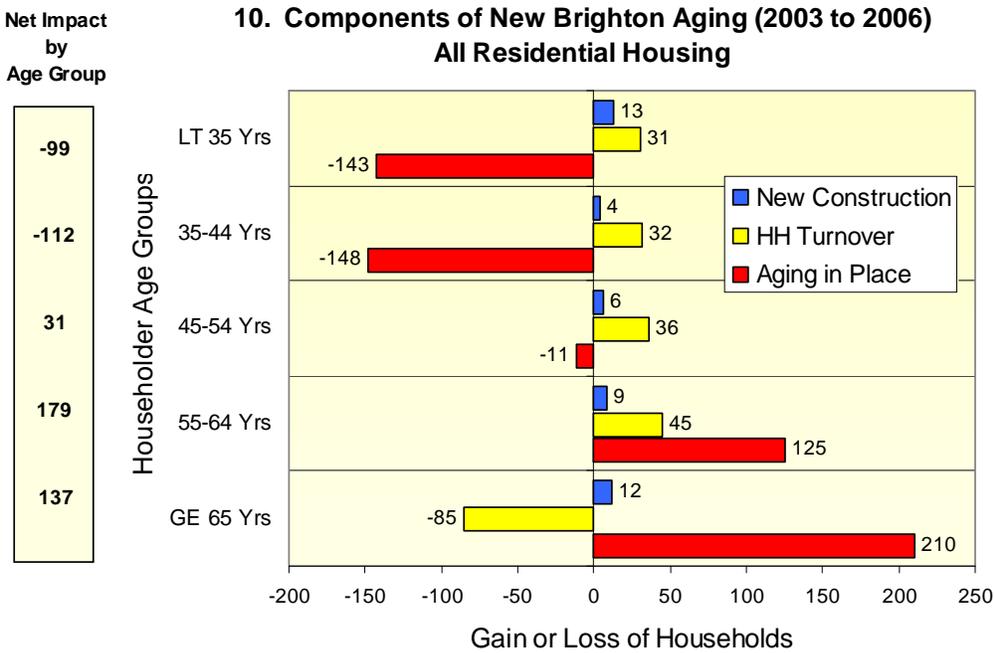
**9. Distribution of Households in New Housing  
By Householder Age and Dwelling Type (2003 - 2006)**



Source: Excensus LLC, 2007 City of New Brighton Demographic Change Report

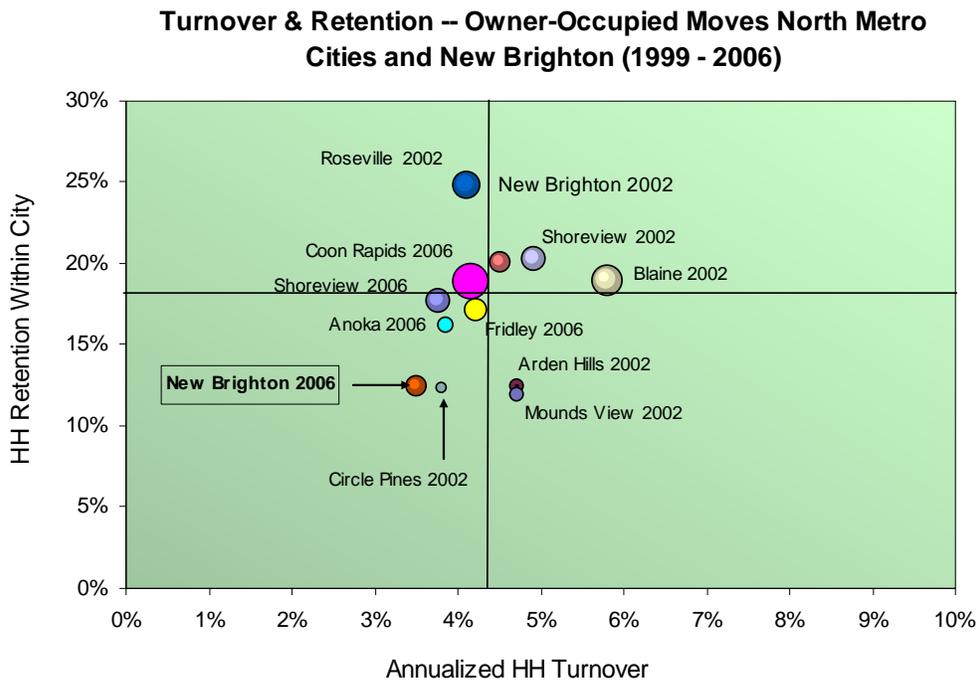


Figure 3-16



Source: Excensus LLC, 2007 City of New Brighton Demographic Change Report

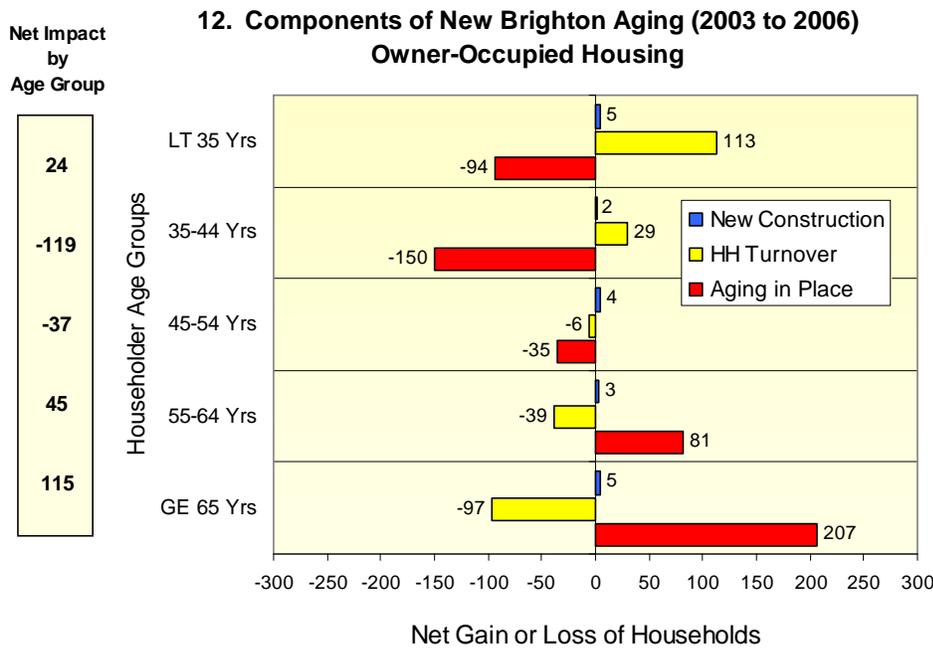
Figure 3-17



Source: Excensus LLC, 2007 City of New Brighton Demographic Change Report

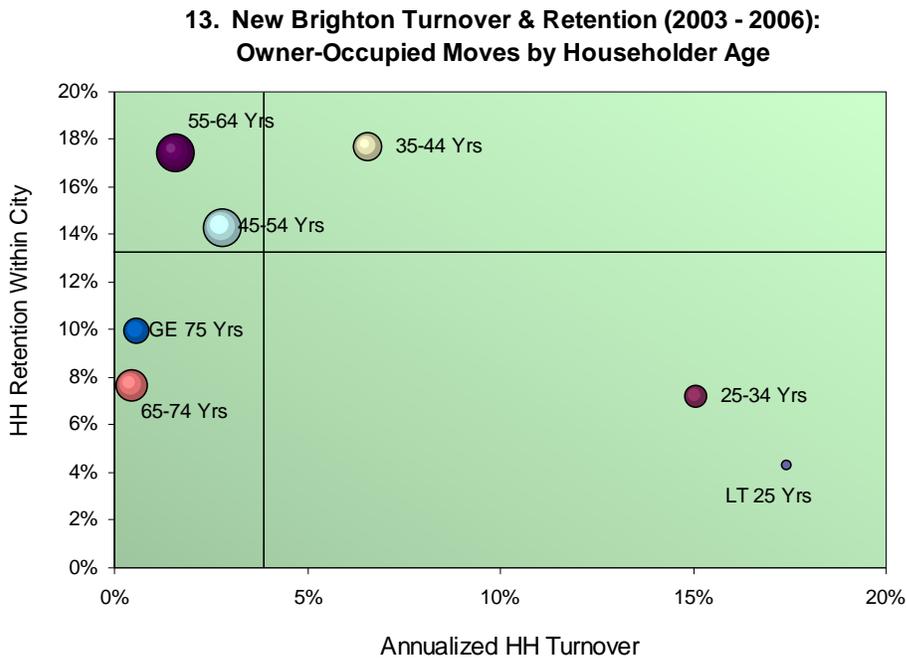


Figure 3-18



Source: Excensus LLC, 2007 City of New Brighton Demographic Change Report

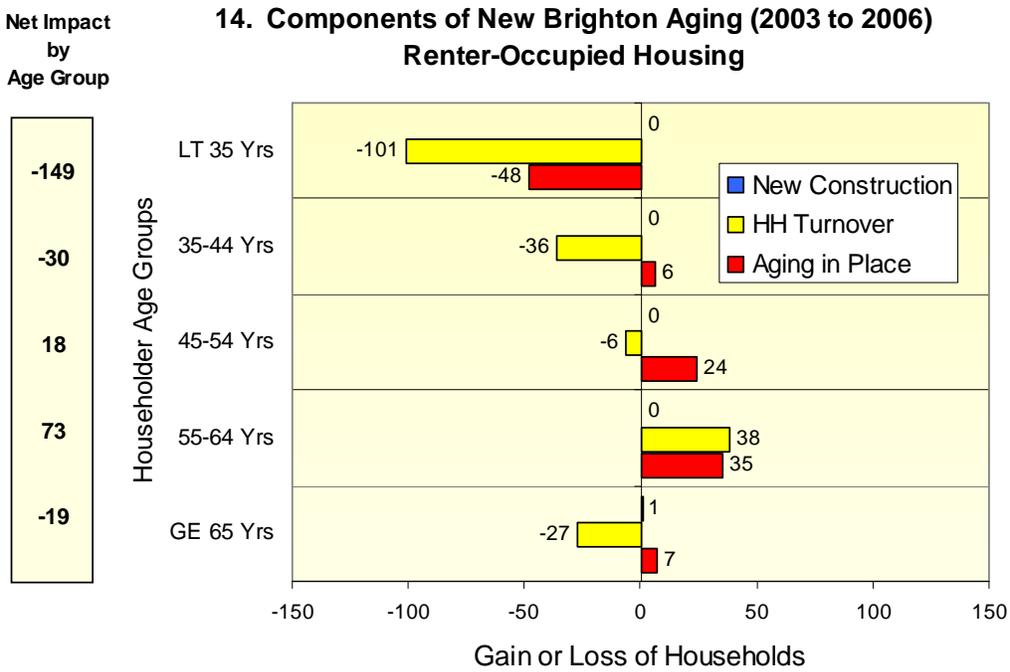
Figure 3-19



Source: Excensus LLC, 2007 City of New Brighton Demographic Change Report

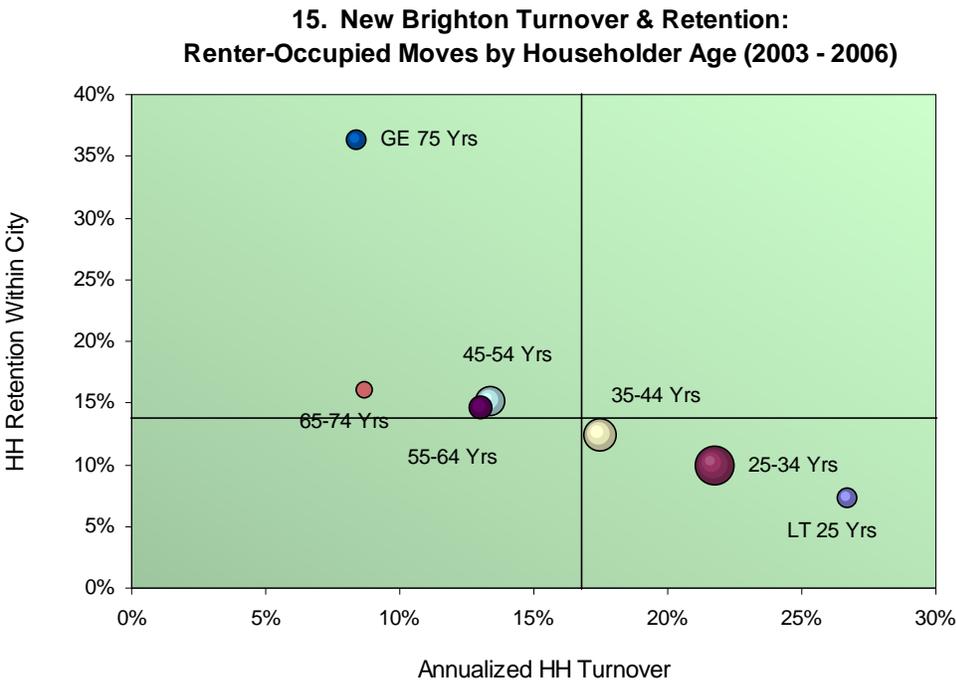


Figure 3-20



Source: Excensus LLC, 2007 City of New Brighton Demographic Change Report

Figure 3-21



Source: Excensus LLC, 2007 City of New Brighton Demographic Change Report



---

## Conclusions

- New Brighton experienced its most rapid population growth from 1960-1970 as it grew from 6,448 persons in 1960 to 19,507 in 1970. The growth is typically higher than growth rates experienced in surrounding communities during that same period.
- The percentage growth rate in New Brighton has slowed down since 1980. This trend is reflective of the limited amount of land available for residential development.
- The average household size in New Brighton has decreased since 1970. This trend reflects a combination of younger married couples waiting longer to have children and having fewer children. This trend also reflects a growing number of empty nester parent households, where the children have grown and left home.
- New Brighton's housing stock is primarily single family residential (64 percent) and multiple residential (29.5 percent). The remainder includes manufactured housing (3.6 percent) and townhomes (3.1 percent).
- New Brighton's median age is just slightly older than all of Ramsey County at 37. The labor force age group (age 19-64) is by far the largest representing 61.4 percent of the population, followed by the school age group (age 0-19) which represents approximately 24 percent of the total population. The retirement group has increased to nearly 13 percent from the 9 percent represented 10 years ago, illustrating a trend that the resident base is aging.
- Education levels among New Brighton's population are higher than the overall County. The vast majority of New Brighton residents (93 percent), age 25 and older, have attained a high school diploma while 41 percent have obtained a college bachelor's degree or higher.
- New Brighton's labor force is predominately management, professional and related occupations (43.5 percent) and sales and office (29 percent).
- The median family income in New Brighton is above the median family income for communities in the region. New Brighton's median household income is also among the highest of these same communities.
- The percentages of low income (or below poverty) New Brighton households falls in the middle when compared to surrounding communities and lower than Ramsey County as a whole.
- The City recognizes within a few years of adoption of this plan update, 2010 U.S. Census data will become available. In an effort to have accurate information available on New Brighton, the City will make 2010 Census data available once the federal government releases the data for public consumption. This update will occur prior to the next Metropolitan Council mandated Comprehensive Plan Update.