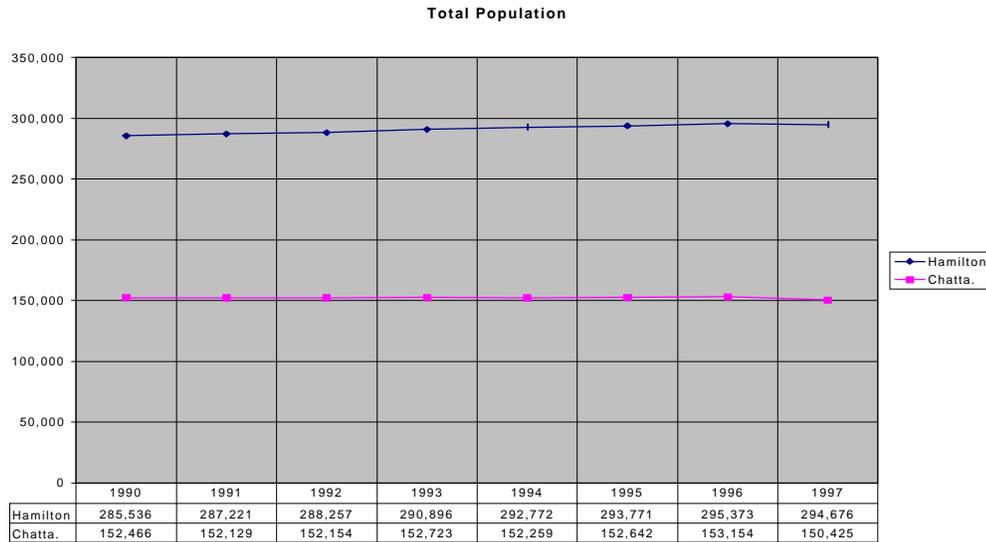


# REVIEW OF SELECTED DEMOGRAPHIC DATA FOR HAMILTON COUNTY

## POPULATION

Hamilton County is the fourth largest metropolitan area in Tennessee. The U. S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, has estimated Hamilton County's population for 1997 to be 294,676 persons. As noted in the chart below, there was a 3.2 percent increase in the population of Hamilton County for the eight-year period, 1990 - 1997. This represents a relatively flat growth rate.



Source: U. S. Department of commerce, Bureau of the Census

The estimated population for the City of Chattanooga for 1997 is 150,425 persons. This figure is down by 1.3 percent from the 1990 census figure, which was 152,466.

In contrasting the population figures of the City and County, it is suggested that there is a trend reflecting that City dwellers are relocating to County communities.

As a point for comparison, the population of Tennessee for the period 1990 to 1997 increased by 10.1 percent, from 4,877,185 to 5,368,198, while the City and County were experiencing a relatively flat growth trend, as noted previously.

## RACE AND ETHNICITY

With regard to the *racial makeup* of Hamilton County, census data estimates for 1997 reflect that 79.2 percent of the population were white, 19.5 percent were black, and 1.3 percent were of other racial or ethnic minorities. The racial mix between White and Black residents remained rather stable during the period of 1990 through 1997.