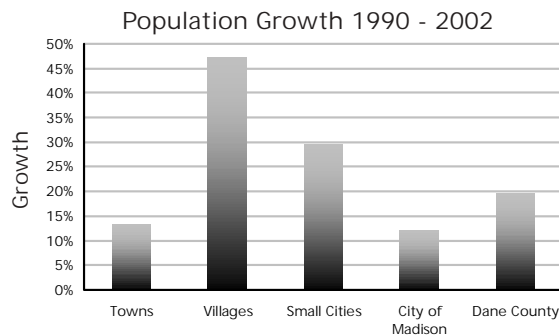


# REGIONAL TRENDS 2002

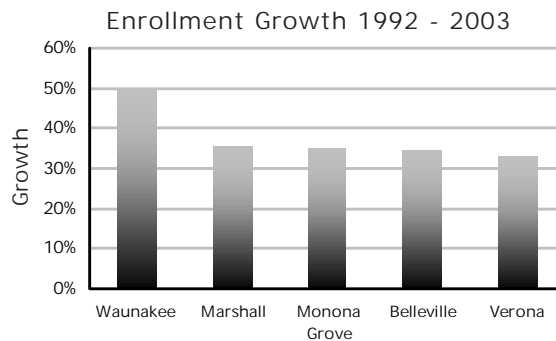
## Population

The population in Dane County grew from 431,815 in 2001 to 438,881 in 2002, according to the Wisconsin Department of Administration. While the total county population has grown by 20 percent since 1990, the amount of growth has varied widely for the County's municipalities. The towns and the City of Madison grew more slowly, while the smaller cities and villages grew much more quickly.



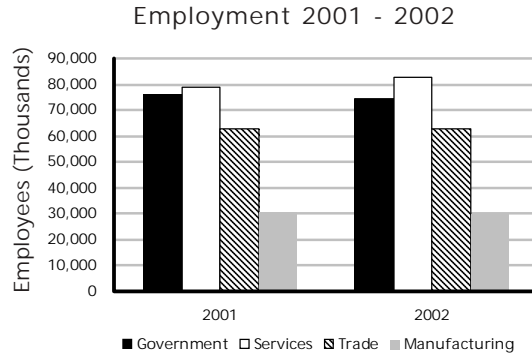
## School Enrollment

K-12 public school enrollment in Dane County decreased from 64,141 in 2002 to 63,900 in 2003. School enrollment decreased for the first time since 1985. Public school enrollment increased 14% from 1992 to 2003. The school districts with the highest growth since the 1991-92 school year are shown below.



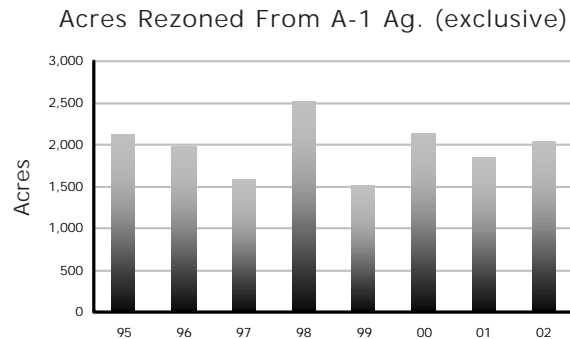
## Employment

The total nonfarm wage and salary employment base in Dane County increased by only 1,600 new jobs, or 0.5%, over 2001 levels. During the 1990s employment increased by an average of 6,700 jobs per year. The average unemployment rate in Dane County in 2002 was 2.7%.



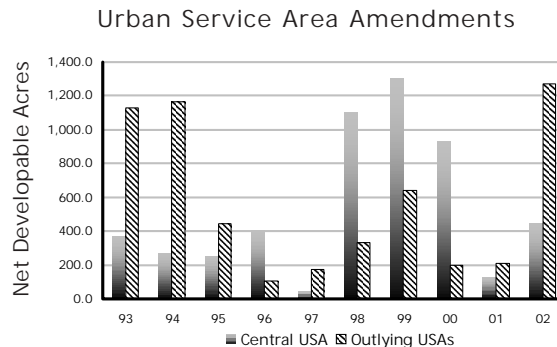
## Agricultural Lands

The average value of all agricultural land sold in Dane County decreased from \$7,716 per acre in 2000 to \$6,404 per acre in 2001 (latest available data). The value of land sold for continued agricultural use (\$4,031 per acre in 2001) has increased every year since 1992. The value of land sold for non-agricultural use decreased from \$11,177 per acre in 2000 to \$10,770 per acre in 2001. Approximately 2,040 acres were rezoned from the A-1 Agriculture (Exclusive) zoning for nonagricultural uses in 2002, according to Dane County zoning records.



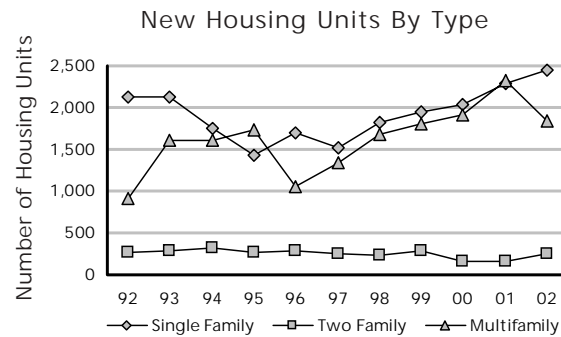
## Urban Service Areas

There were 18 amendments to urban service area boundaries in 2002. Between 1986 and 2002 there were 13,118 net developable acres added to urban service areas (USAs), including 1,713 acres added in 2002.



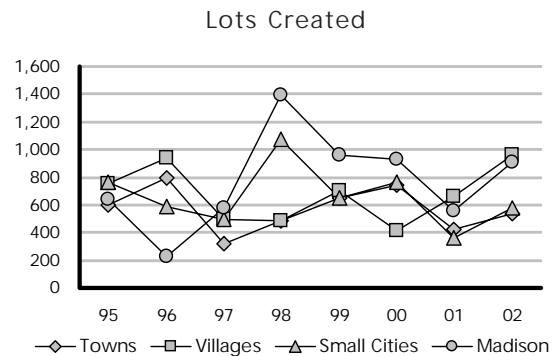
## Residential Development

There were 4,528 housing units constructed in Dane County in 2002, down from 4,776 in 2001. In 2002, more single-family housing units were built in Dane County than in any year in the last 33 years. From 2001 to 2002, multifamily unit construction decreased by 21% and single-family unit construction increased by 7%.



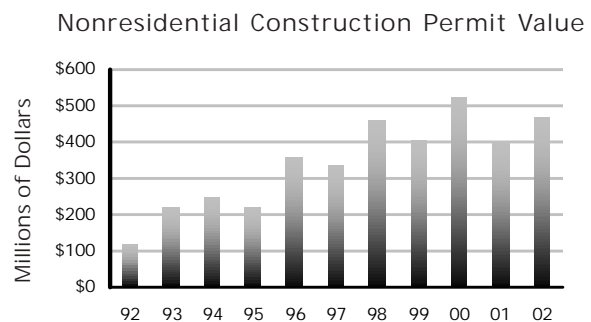
## Land Division

The total number of new parcels created in Dane County increased by 49% from 2001 levels, up to 2,975 parcels. The number of parcels created in the City of Madison increased by 63% from the previous year. There were increases in parcel creation in the villages (46%), towns (25%) and small cities (39%).



## Economic Development

Total nonresidential construction permit value was estimated at \$468 million in 2002. Among the highest value nonresidential projects in 2002 were: Greenway Station buildings (\$60 million) and Electronic Theatre Controls building (\$20 million) in the City of Middleton; and Overture Performing Arts Theater (\$50 million), City Center West building (\$30 million) and Dean Clinic (\$16.5 million) in the City of Madison.

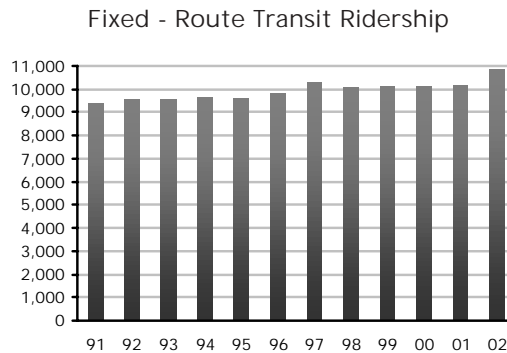


## Transportation

The *Dane County Land Use and Transportation Plan (Vision 2020)* guides both short- and long-range transportation improvements for all modes of travel within the Madison urban area and throughout the remainder of the county. The Dane County RPC, Dane County, and the Madison Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) have adopted the plan. The plan is implemented through development of a Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), which coordinates and schedules transportation improvements over a five-year period and is updated annually.

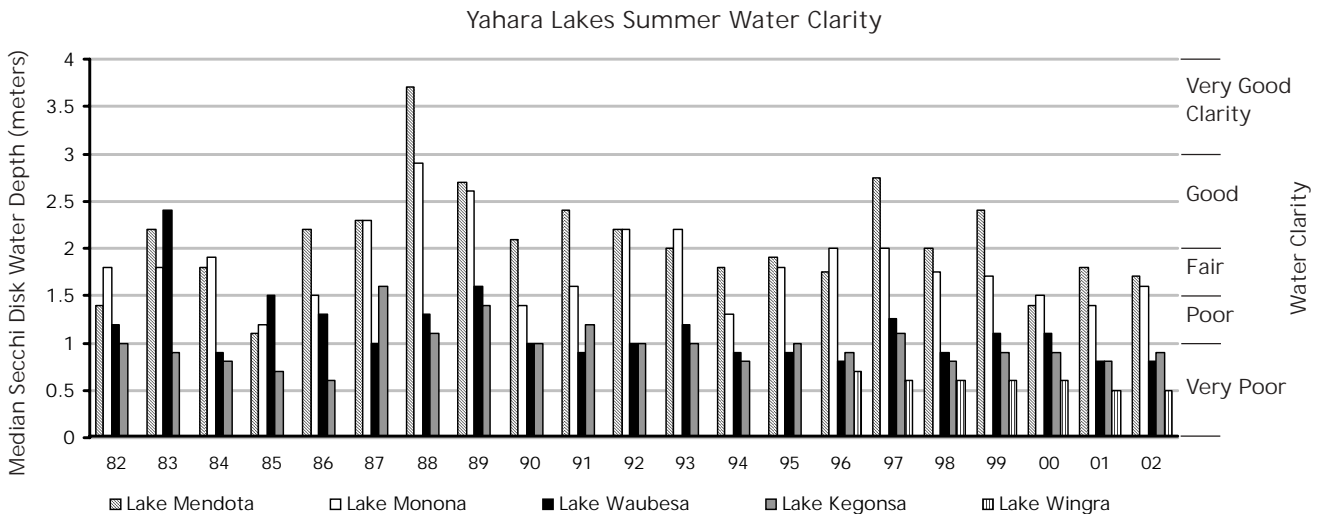
Madison Metro's total fixed-route ridership increased from 10.21 million passengers in 2001 to 10.9 in 2002, a 6.7% increase. This is Metro's highest total since 1986. The overall ridership trend has been positive since 1989, with a 20.4% increase during this period.

According to the Census 2000, 77% of Dane County residents working outside the home commuted via single-occupant vehicle, 10% carpooled, 4% used public transportation, 6% walked, and 2% bicycled. The mean travel time to work was 19.9 minutes, up 10% from 1990.



## Environmental Resources

While the quality of Dane County's ground and surface water is generally good, water pollution problems are evident in Dane County. Over-fertilization and sedimentation of our lakes from urban and rural nonpoint source stormwater runoff continues to be a problem. Groundwater quality indicates worsening trends, especially nitrates and salt. On the other hand, there have been areas of noticeable improvement. Atrazine in wells has shown improvement, due largely to state restrictions on atrazine use. Despite the significant growth and development that has occurred, surface water quality in streams is not declining, and may actually be improving due to wastewater treatment plant upgrades. In 2002, the RPC reviewed 140 sewer extensions for plan consistency and also assisted communities in water resources management and planning.



Source: Wisconsin Dept. of Natural Resources Bureau of Research, and U.W. Center for Limnology (1995-2002).