

Summary of the Population Revision Request Process for Regional Water Planning

1. Since the first regional planning cycle, the TWDB has always relied on the Texas Demographic Center (State Demographer) to produce the first 30 years of regional water planning population projections by county. To reach the 50-year planning horizon, the TWDB then extends the state demographer's trends for the last 20 years.



- 2. The Texas Demographic Center's 30 years of county-level population trends are driven by the current demographic profile of the population, including age and sex, and other factors like birth rates, death rates, and migration rates.
- 3. The TWDB sub-allocates the Texas Demographic Center's county populations to specific utilities (Water User Groups or 'WUGs'), to develop draft WUG population projections. This is the normal starting set of projections which the Regional Water Planning Groups (RWPGs) then must consider and, if desired, propose revisions for the TWDB's consideration.
- 4. The RWPGs review the draft projections and give the TWDB feedback and offer revisions with justifications based on local information. The TWDB staff will assist in reviewing data collected by the RWPGs and their technical consultants and actively encourage RWPGs to share their preliminary data and justifications with the TWDB as early as possible. In fact, we strongly encourage RWPGs to submit draft revision requests and supporting data prior to RWPGs considering and taking action so that all parties are well-versed in the information being



considered to support decisions to submit revision requests. The initial revision data shared with TWDB may begin a back-and-forth process between the RWPG and the TWDB to eventually arrive at a credible set of projections that the TWDB Board may then adopt for use in the Regional Water Plans and State Water Plan.

- 5. The TWDB Board-adopted projections are required to be used in the development of the regional water plans. The RWPGs may request revisions to adopted projections later in the planning cycle through an amendment process, however TWDB regional water planning grant funds may not be used for revisions to TWDB Board-adopted projections as limited by our administrative rules (31 TAC Ch. 355.92).
- 6. With each new planning cycle, population projections are revisited and the RWPGs have the opportunity to collect supporting data and revise population projections.
- 7. Nothing prevents the RWPGs from including recommended water management strategies or projects that may provide water volumes in excess of projected needs. This affords RWPGs an opportunity to ensure adequate water supply in the event that population grows or water use increases beyond what was initially planned for.

Additional Information:

Texas Demographic Center Population Projections: https://demographics.texas.gov/

TWDB Projections Website: https://www.twdb.texas.gov/waterplanning/data/projections/index.asp

TWDB Regional Water Planning Website: https://www.twdb.texas.gov/waterplanning/rwp/index.asp