

People, Homes, and Economics -- Planning for the Future of the Town of Brillion



Planning for the Town of Brillion begins by understanding the people who live, work, and own property in the town. Accurate information about the population is critical to forecasting the need for community facilities and services over the next 20 years. Therefore, recent town planning activities have focused on the development of community and housing profiles. These profiles will eventually be included as chapters in the Comprehensive

Plan. This information will be updated with the release of the Census 2000 data in 2001 and 2002.

The community profile describes the people and current economic climate in the Town of Brillion. The housing profile examines the amount, age, occupancy and cost of housing in the town. The information in these profiles will be used to identify issues, opportunities and trends that will be addressed to meet the future development needs of the Town of Brillion. The following is a summary of the information gathered in the community and housing profiles.

How Many People Live in the Town Of Brillion?

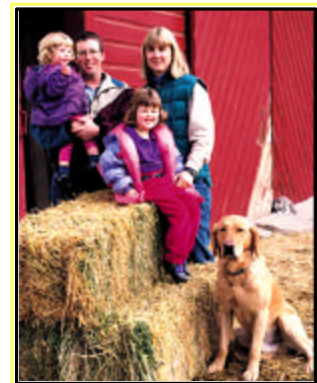
Given its central location with easy access to Manitowoc, Green Bay, and the Fox Cities, as well as its rural atmosphere, the Town of Brillion is a very desirable place to live. In fact, between 1990 and 1997, the Town of Brillion was the 2nd fastest growing town in Calumet County.

For 2000, the Wisconsin Department of Administration (DOA) has estimated that the population in the town is 1,424. This figure is actually larger than what the DOA had predicted as the town's population in 2020. Needless to say, the town is growing, at a rate far beyond projections. It will be important to gage the population against the information obtained from the Census 2000.

Who are the People of the Town of Brillion?

Several general characteristics are known about the people of the Town of Brillion.¹

- ?? A quarter of the population is under age 20. This is a significant share of the overall population and suggests that schools and recreation areas are important.
- ?? Nearly 100% if the people in the Town of Brillion are Caucasian.
- ?? 50% of the residents of the Town of Brillion have a high school diploma, compared to only 47% of Calumet County residents.



How Strong is the Local Economy?

In a bustling financial environment the economic picture changes frequently. Therefore, any analysis of the local economy must rely on the most recent information available. Current economic indicators are not available specifically for the Town of Brillion. However, the 1997 Economic Census (U.S. Census Bureau) provides up-to-date economic data for Calumet

¹ This information is taken from the 1990 U.S. Census. 2000 U.S. Census data is not yet available.

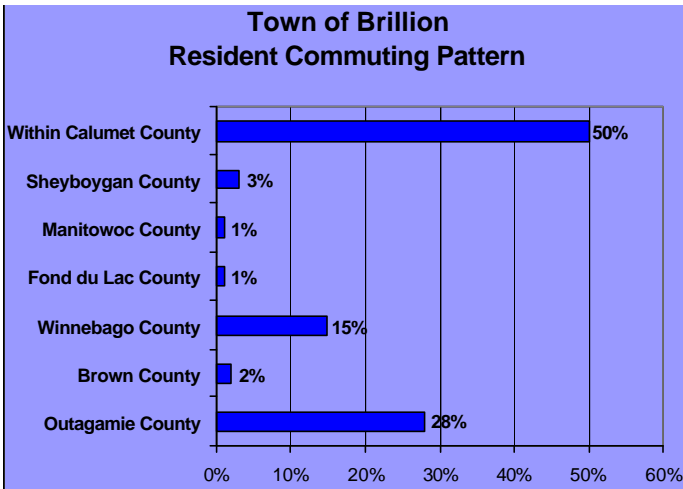
County. This data serves as a good indicator of the economic environment of the Town of Brillion.

Based on 1997 Economic Census data for Calumet County:

- ?? Calumet County has a very strong manufacturing sector.
- ?? The unemployment rate in Calumet County has been steadily decreasing.
- ?? The 2000 estimate of per capita income in the Town of Brillion is \$19,931, up from \$11,293 in 1989.

Where do Residents go to Work?

Half of all town workers commute within Calumet County each day. Winnebago County and



Outagamie County were the other two most popular commuter destinations. Commuters traveling to these areas are likely working in the Fox Cities, which has experienced steady economic growth. Small percentages of the workforce commute to Sheyboygan, Manitowoc, and Brown Counties.

Residents who work *within* Calumet County find a range of employment opportunities available. Education, health service, government, farming, and manufacturing are all major

employers. Calumet County also has a very strong manufacturing employment sector. Evidence of this is seen by the fact that eight (8) of the county's top ten employers were manufacturing industries in 1997.

What Types of Homes are in the Town of Brillion?

Traditionally, rural towns, like the Town of Brillion, have a high percentage of single family homes, often with few other types of housing available. As new residents move in and the population ages, a variety of housing types must be looked at to meet the needs of residents of all ages. The Town of Brillion is fortunate to have sewer and water service available in the Forest Junction area. These services can support alternative housing types (i.e. apartments, 2-family units, mobile home parks, senior housing, etc.).



- ?? There are 500 housing units in the Town of Brillion. Almost all of these housing units are single family homes (WI Town Land Use Databook for Calumet County, 1999).
- ?? The average price of a home in the Town of Brillion is estimated at \$83,276. (Based on 1990 Census Data, adjusted by avg. annual inflation rates between 1990 and 2000)
- ?? 41% of the housing supply was built before 1939.

More Planning Updates Coming Soon...Please check in again!