

A Demographic Exploration of Frederick County Census 2000 – Age Characteristics

Welcome to the August, 2004 edition of “A Demographic Exploration of Frederick County.” This month, Age characteristics will be explored. Using the responses from the 2000 US Census, these attributes will be examined in order to create “A Demographic Exploration of Frederick County.” For further information on the demographics of Frederick County, please visit the Demographics Home Page at <http://www.co.frederick.md.us/planning/Demographics/DemographicsHome.html>

Frederick County is the 6th youngest county in Maryland. The median age in Frederick is 35.6 years old. The state of Maryland has a median age of 36 years old, and the US has a median age of 35.3 years old. This makes Frederick County younger than the state average but older than the national. Within Frederick County, the top three youngest Census Designated Places (CDPs) are: 1. Ballenger Creek 2. Mt. Airy and 3. Myersville (Figure 1).

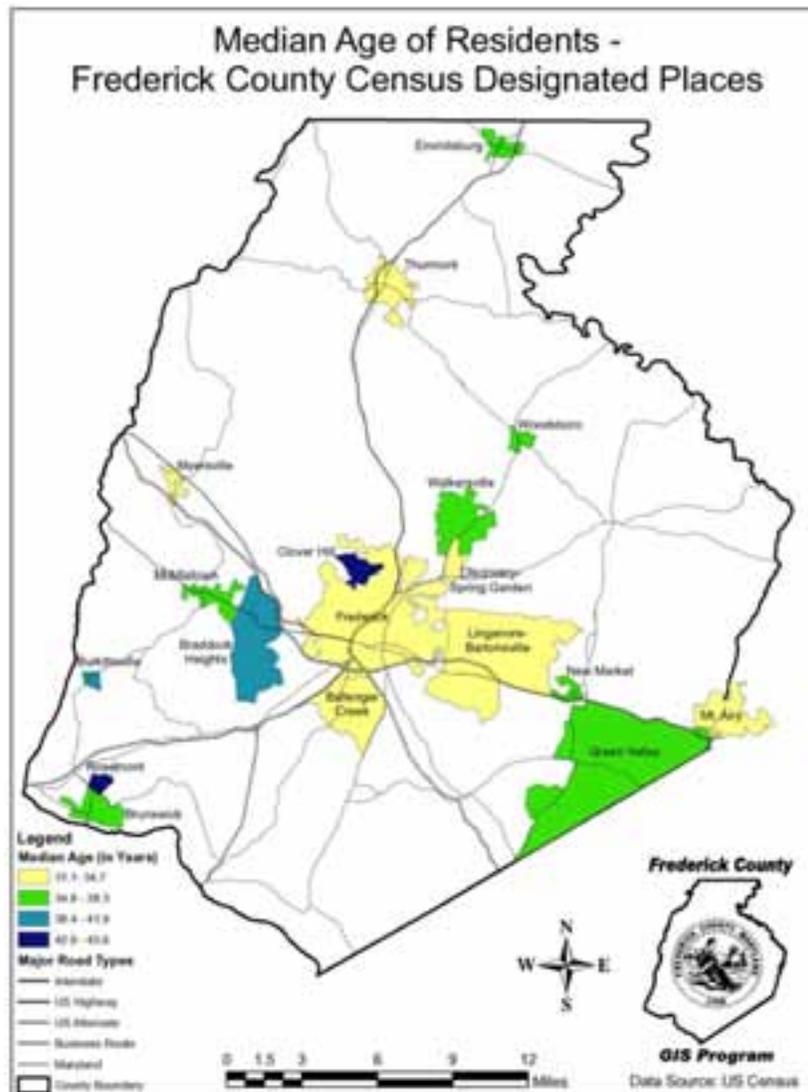


Figure 1.

28% of the residents in Frederick County are under the age of 18 and 7% are under 5 years old. 1 in every 5 persons (or 23%) in Frederick County is a school-aged child, or between the ages of 6 and 17. Most of these children live along the I-70 corridor of southern Frederick City spreading eastward toward Mt. Airy (Figure 2).

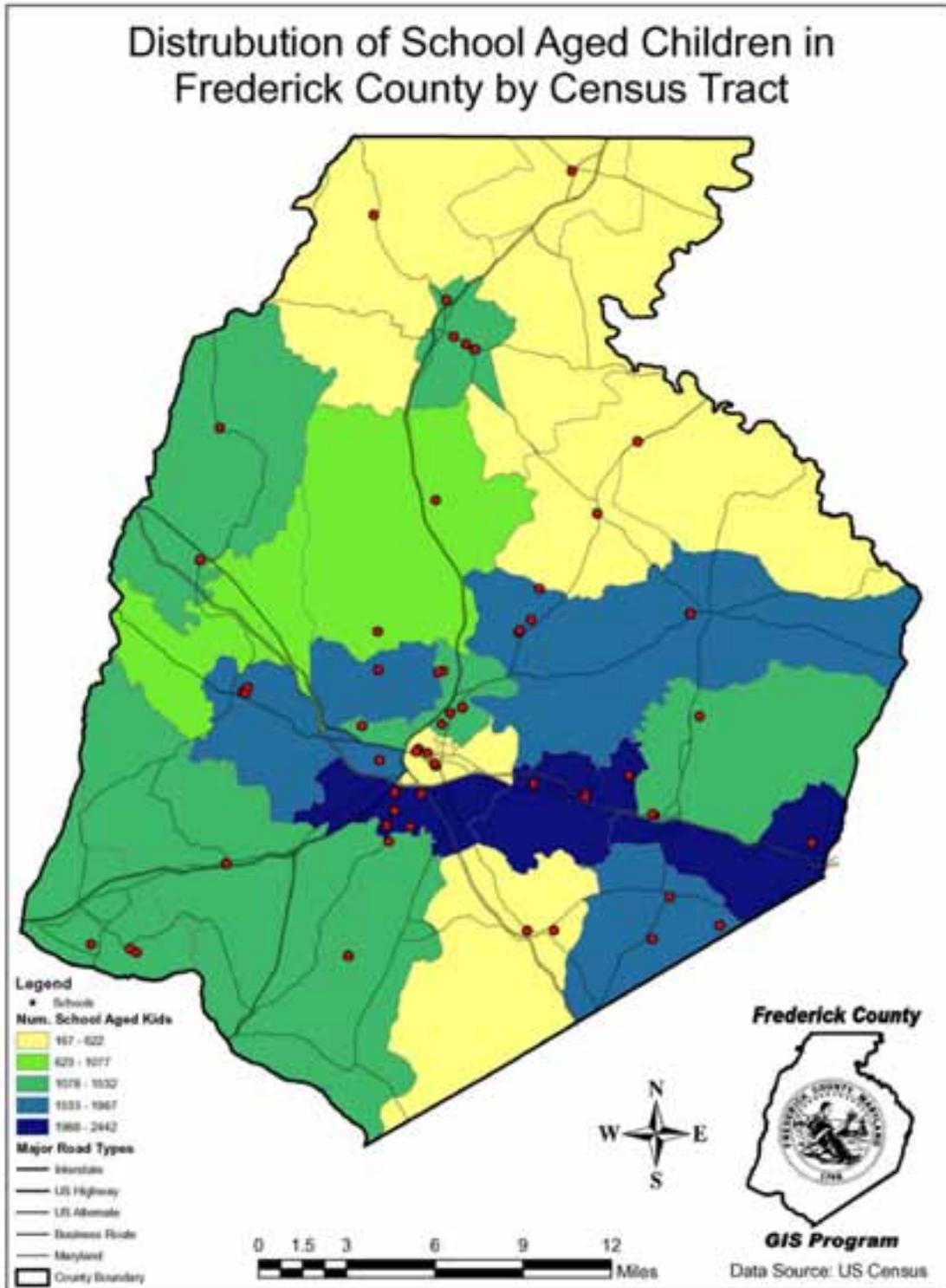


Figure 2.

According to Figure 2, most of the schools are placed in locations where there are not many school-aged students. This can be a little misleading because most of the schools are located in CDPs and incorporated municipalities throughout the County. Figure 3 is a better representation of the distribution of school-aged students as compared to the locations of Frederick County Public Schools.

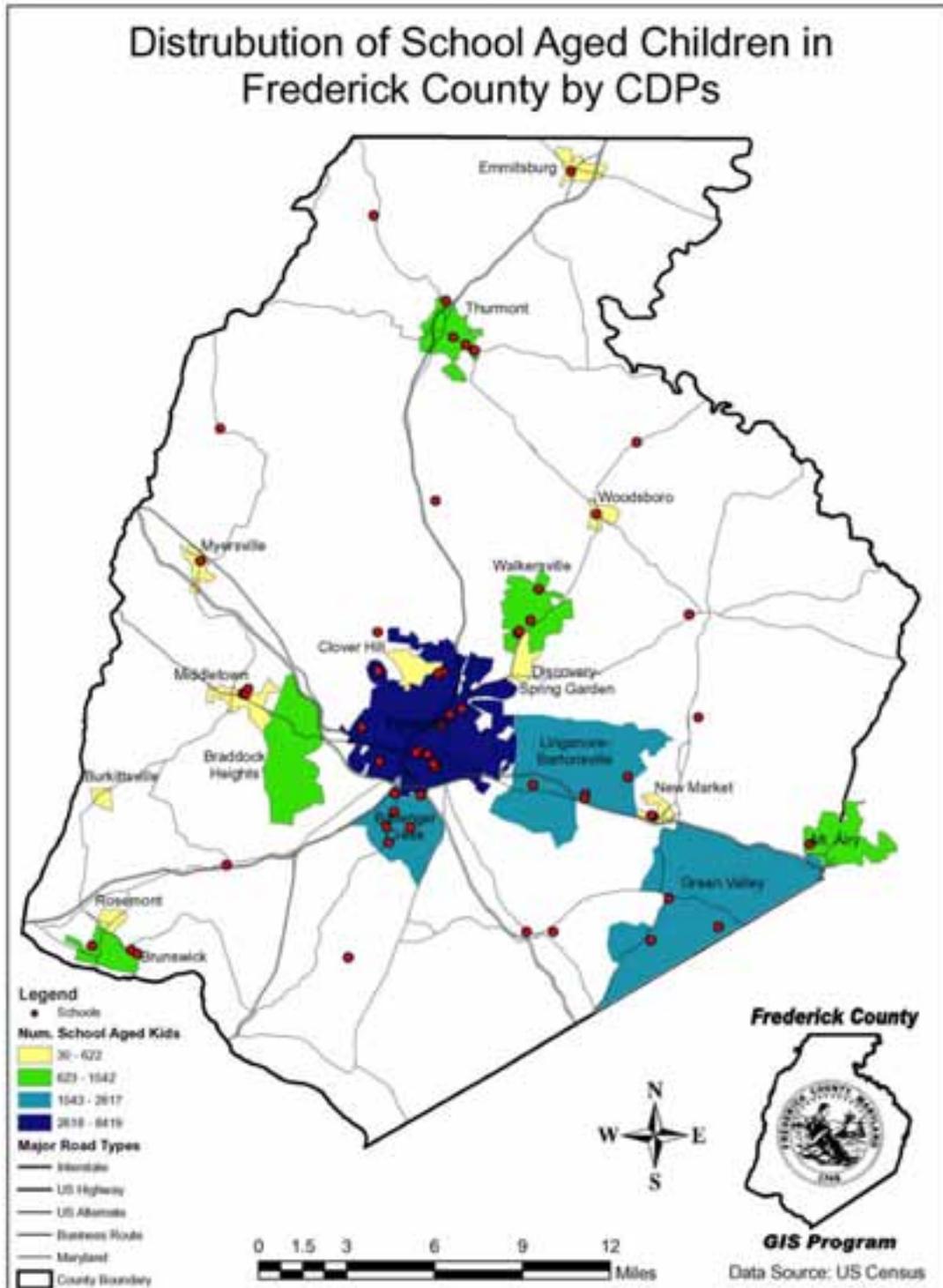


Figure 3.

With a large portion of under 18 year olds in Frederick County, there is also a significant amount of elderly (10%). 1 in every 10 Frederick County residents are 65 years or older (Figure 4). Out of 18,779 residents 65 and older, 59% or 11,150 of them are women. With school age children, the ratio of male to female is the opposite. Male school-aged children outnumber the females by 51%. This is a significant difference and enforces the idea that even in Frederick County women are living longer than men.

According to the median age of Frederick County's CDPs, the three areas most occupied by people 65 + is: 1. Rosemont 2. Clover Hill and 3. Braddock Heights. While examining the median ages of the County's residents, it is interesting to note that most of the time women are older than men in median age. In Emmitsburg, women have a median age 7.1 years older than the men. This is probably due to the vast amount of women who are 65 years or older compared to the men. There are only 2 of the CDPs in Frederick County where this trend is the opposite, Clover Hill and Green Valley.

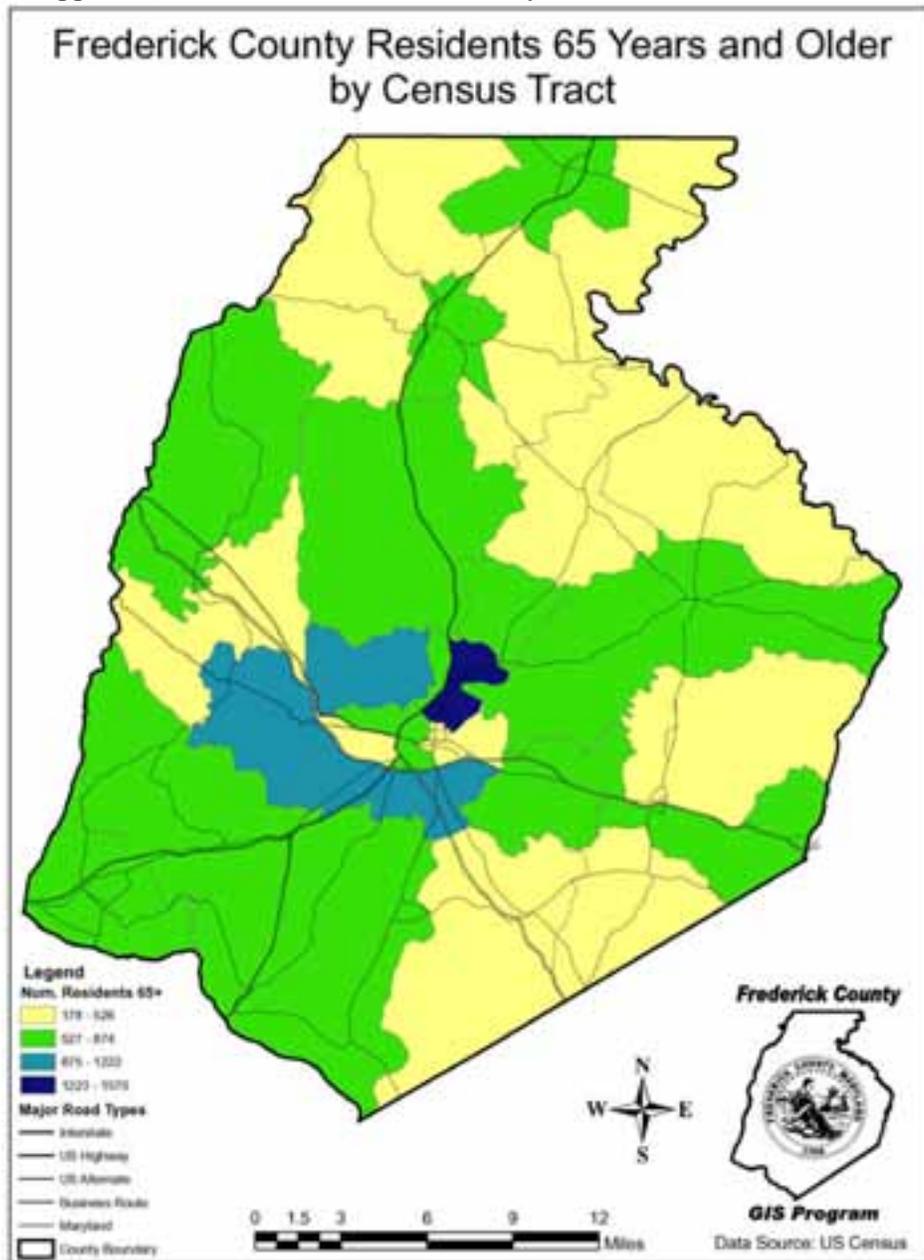


Figure 4.