Backgrounder - 2014 Municipal Census Results

City Planning

What growth means for city planning

Population growth since 2012 has been very rapid – up 60,428 in two years, or 7.4%. This has clear implications for how we advance our plans to grow the city “up, in and out.”

Strategies

Edmonton has developed purposeful strategies to accommodate our long-term growth.

- Transformational projects such as downtown revitalization, Transit Oriented Development, the Quarters, Blatchford and Rossdale redevelopment are helping our central neighbourhoods and the areas along Edmonton’s expanding LRT routes grow “upward.”

- The planning and construction of new residential neighbourhoods in developing areas of the city, and an Annexation bid to secure needed residential and non-residential land supply in the south in particular, will enable our city to grow “outward.”

- Infill redevelopment initiatives to increase housing choice and supply in mature and established neighbourhoods will help Edmonton grow “inward.”

These strategies support the long term goals set for Edmonton by City Council and citizens in 2008 (*The Way Ahead*). They will build a vibrant and livable Edmonton with a sustainable balance of residential, commercial, and industrial opportunities and choices.

Age of population

Our population is young. The largest single age group in Edmonton is the 20-39 year old range. This has implications for what type of housing is most in demand, the speed at which we’re creating new homes, and for the schools and neighbourhood amenities that will accommodate the children of young families. At the same time, the number of senior citizens is also rising, with implications for the way we enable more housing opportunities for older generations.

Where growth is happening

Population growth is happening across the city, but the majority is in the south in “developing neighbourhoods” (see neighbourhood-classification map below for more information about where our neighbourhoods are located).

Nine of the top 10 fastest growing neighbourhoods over the last five years are in the south. Top five-year increases by neighbourhood are as follows:

Summerside	6,507	Rutherford	3,916
The Hamptons	5,146	South Terwillegar	3,878
Windermere	5,017	Ambleside	3,244
Walker	4,424	Tamarack	2,795
Laurel	4,409	Charlesworth	2,775

Edmonton has 382 standard census neighbourhoods of which 317 are predominantly or partially residential.

A majority of the 11 "central core" residential neighbourhoods increased in population over the last five years for a total growth of over 5,700 people. Within the core, the Downtown neighbourhood alone increased by more than 1,500 residents (see "Population Growth by Residential Neighbourhood: 2009-2014" map for more information).

Sixty "mature neighbourhoods" and forty-seven "established neighbourhoods" gained in population. Over the last five years, the overall population gain in the mature and established neighbourhoods combined was over 11,000 people (not including the "central core neighbourhoods").

Although there has been overall growth city-wide: 44 established neighbourhoods and 39 mature neighbourhoods experienced a population loss over the last five years. This represents 43% of the mature and established neighbourhoods in the city (not including the "central core neighbourhoods").

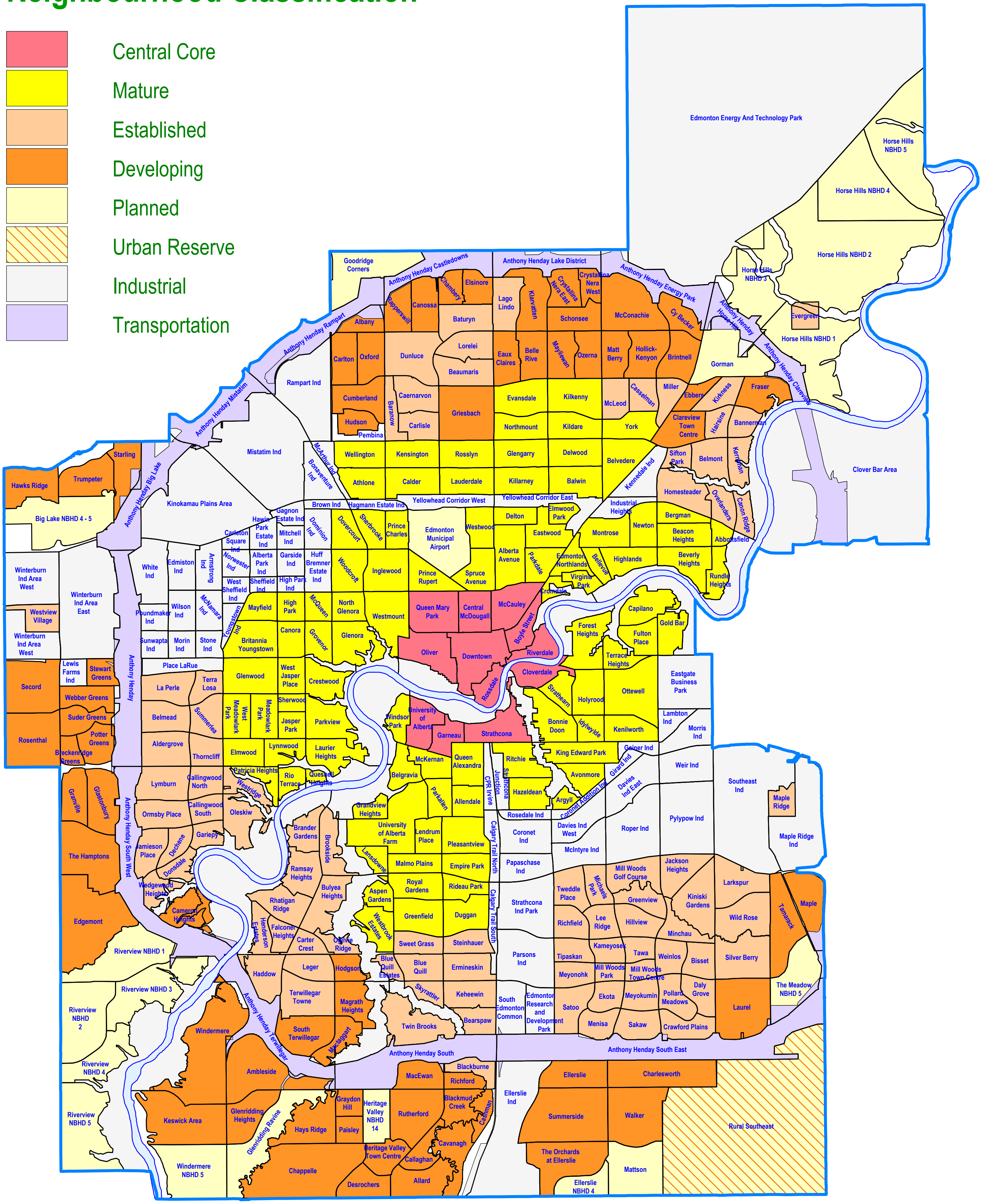
At a ward level all wards gained in population with wards 9 and 12 exhibiting the strongest growth (see "Population Growth by Ward: 2012-2014" map for more information).

Supporting maps:

- *Neighbourhood classification*
- *Population Growth by Ward: 2012-2014*
- *Population Growth by Neighbourhood: 2009-2014*

Neighbourhood Classification

- Central Core
- Mature
- Established
- Developing
- Planned
- Urban Reserve
- Industrial
- Transportation

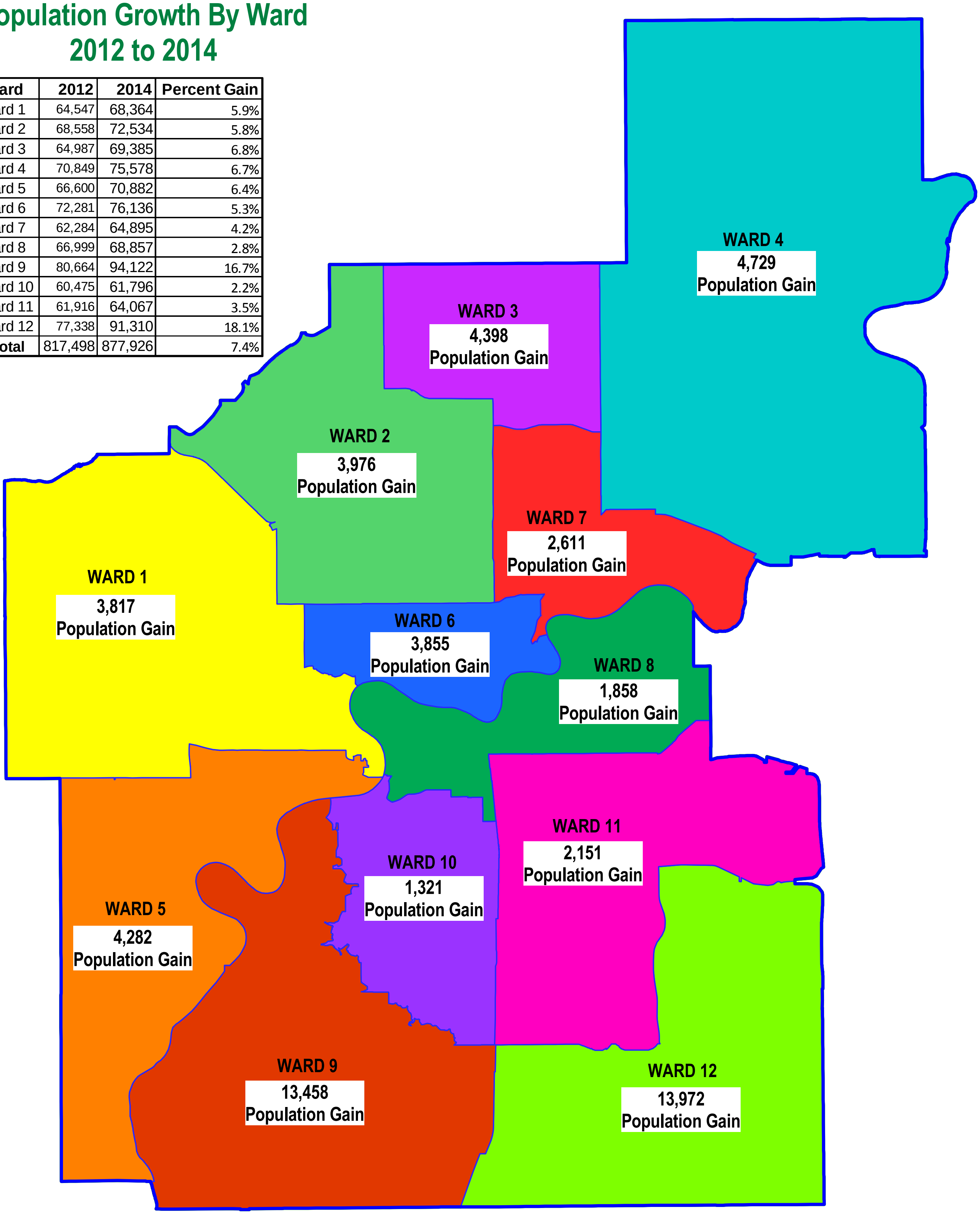


Map compiled by:
Geospatial Services Unit
Urban Planning and Environment Branch

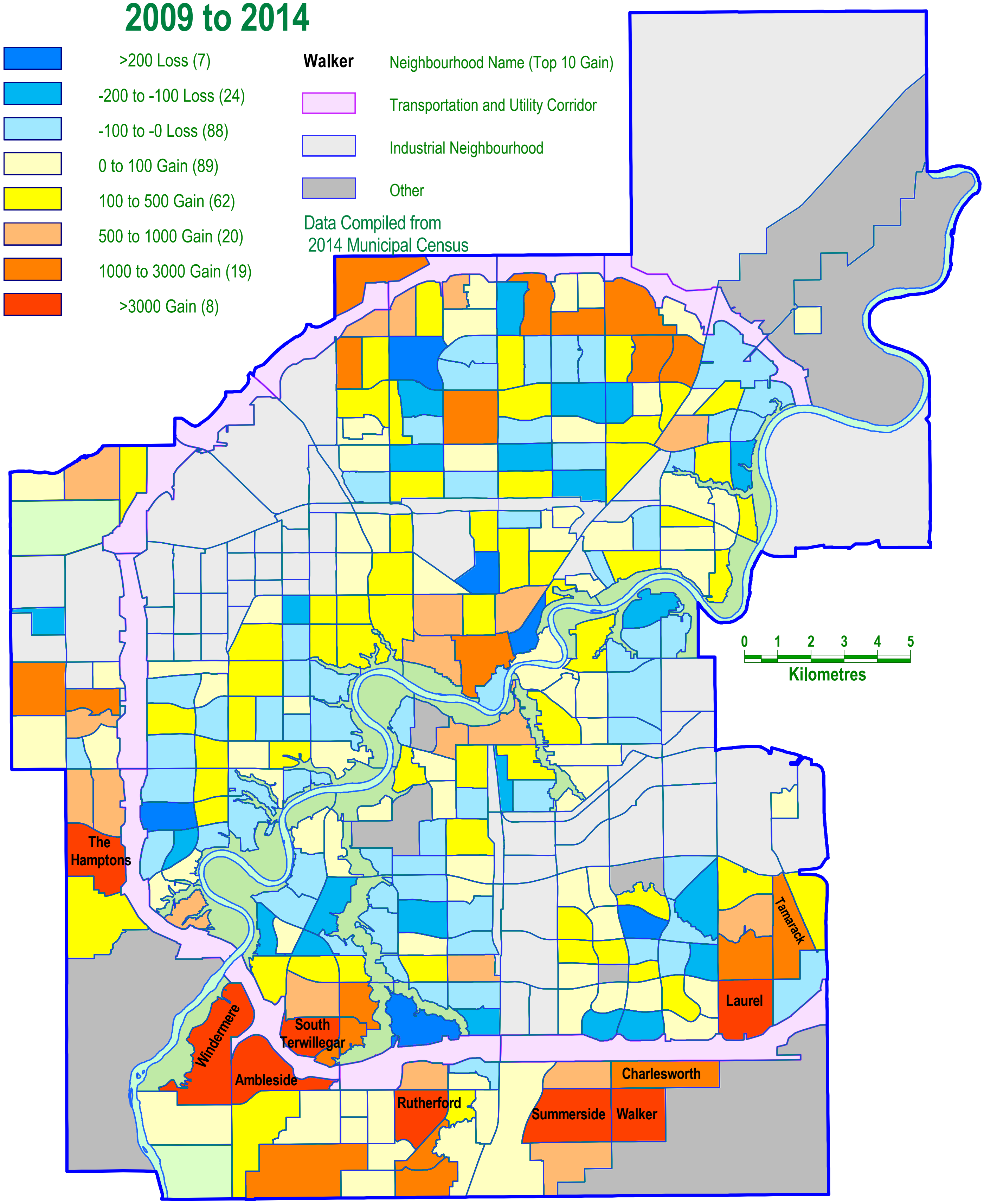
THE CITY OF Edmonton SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Population Growth By Ward
2012 to 2014

Ward	2012	2014	Percent Gain
Ward 1	64,547	68,364	5.9%
Ward 2	68,558	72,534	5.8%
Ward 3	64,987	69,385	6.8%
Ward 4	70,849	75,578	6.7%
Ward 5	66,600	70,882	6.4%
Ward 6	72,281	76,136	5.3%
Ward 7	62,284	64,895	4.2%
Ward 8	66,999	68,857	2.8%
Ward 9	80,664	94,122	16.7%
Ward 10	60,475	61,796	2.2%
Ward 11	61,916	64,067	3.5%
Ward 12	77,338	91,310	18.1%
Total	817,498	877,926	7.4%



Population Growth By Residential Neighbourhood 2009 to 2014



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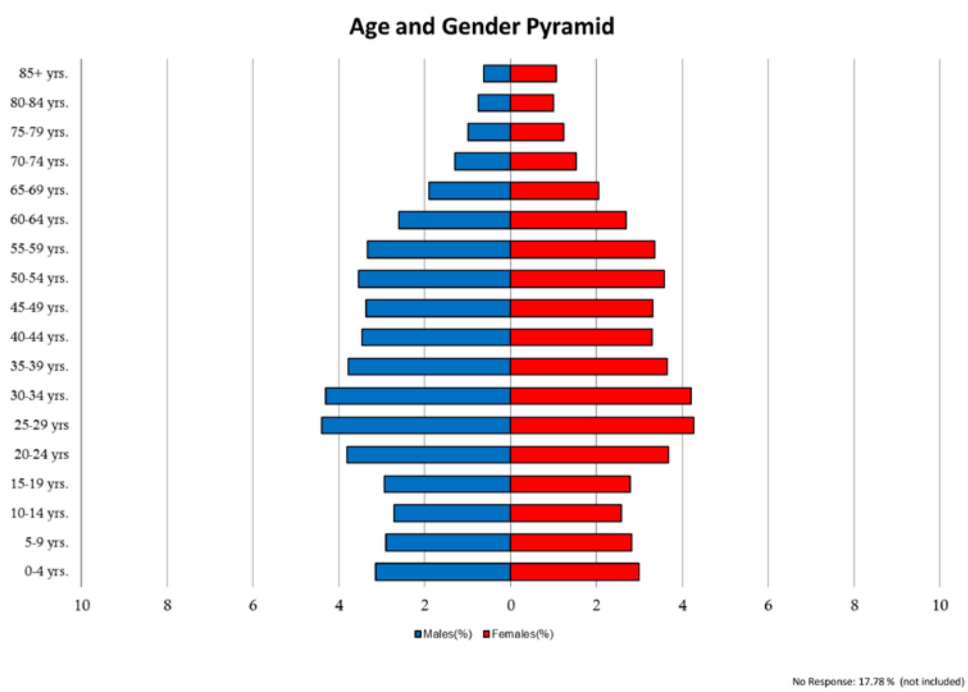
THE CITY OF Edmonton SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Population Profile and the Economy

Edmonton's population growth over the past two years outpaced that of Alberta as whole and was over 3 times that of the current estimates of growth for Canada. (see Table 1)

Table 1 - Population growth from 2012 to 2014	
City of Edmonton	7.39%
Alberta	6.5%
Canada	2.3%
Source: City of Edmonton, Alberta Treasury and Finance	

Edmonton has one of the youngest populations in Canada. This is illustrated in Figure 1 where the younger age cohort between 20 and 39 is particularly prominent. As well the city is experiencing renewed growth among children particularly among the youngest age cohort.



Labour Force and Working Age Population

The significant growth in the working-age population puts Edmonton in a very good labour force position. These very strong results have helped keep Edmonton's labour market more balanced then in the period from 2005 to 2008 when unemployment in the city fell to very low levels and helped spark a round of higher inflation.

Nonetheless, some industries such as construction, manufacturing and professional services continue to experience shortages with respect to some specialized skill sets. High levels of net in migration must be combined with continued efforts to improve the quality and flexibility of Edmonton's labour force.

Population Growth and Economic Momentum

With outstanding population growth comes a rising demand for housing as well as consumer products and services. This rising demand will give the city's economy internal momentum, making the local economy less vulnerable to external shocks. Over the coming year we anticipate growth that will pivot from manufacturing, professional services and logistics toward retail, personal services and hospitality.

New arrivals to the city

The proportion of international migrants is increasing among new arrivals to the city. The census results indicate that 26% of newcomers to the City were international migrants. This means we are succeeding in attracting more international newcomers directly to Edmonton. Traditionally new comers have tended to move first to Montreal, Toronto and Vancouver. As well the city is now drawing on a deeper, more global labour pool which offers a full range of skills and experience as well as enhancing the cosmopolitan quality of life in Edmonton.

Funding implications of growth

Over the last 10 years, the City of Edmonton implemented a program of investment in our infrastructure, unprecedented in this city's history. From 2004 to 2014, capital projects worth $9.3 billion have enabled the City to support our growing city. Half of this investment was also to anticipate and plan for future growth. This foresight meant that the City was able to respond to the growing population and economy by building new recreation centres, LRT, libraries, police and fire stations, waste facilities, renewed roadway arteries, and increased drainage capacity.

Population growth can mean more grants from other orders of government, however there is often a lag between the census results and when municipalities receive grants. Furthermore, both the Provincial and Federal governments use per-capita allocations to assign grants to municipalities but the overall funding usually remains the same. A 10% population increase does not equate to a 10% increase in grants. The City of Edmonton is continuing to work with the Alberta Government to develop new funding mechanisms.

Transportation

The 2014 census data show that Edmontonians use a variety of transportation modes when commuting to and from the workplace:

- 69.9 % drive cars, trucks or vans
- 6.2 % travel as passengers in cars, trucks or vans
- 16.4 % take public transit (ETS)
- 3.7 % walk
- 0.8 % ride bicycles
- 3.0 % use other means (e.g. taxis, skateboards, etc.)

The census data show how transportation modes vary across Edmonton neighbourhoods. For example, while in the general population 16.4% of Edmontonians take public transit to work, neighbourhoods along the LRT line see more than 30% of residents taking the LRT to work.

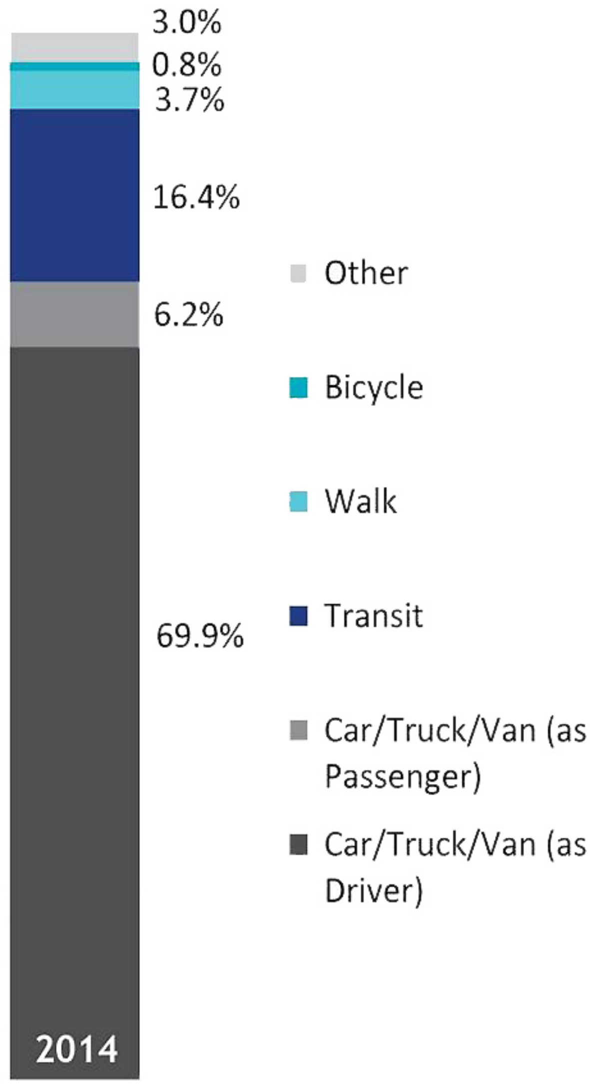
The 2014 journey-to-work census results include a broader segment of the population than the 2012 census results did, as the 2014 census was modified to include groups aged between 12 and 18 and over 65. This broader segment shows a greater proportion of Edmontonians opting for transit and other non-single-vehicle options; however, the overall results for 2012 and 2014 cannot be meaningfully compared due to the different sampling.

Top Ten Walk Journey to Work Neighbourhoods	
GARNEAU	32%
DOWNTOWN	31%
WINDSOR PARK	28%
MCKERNAN	19%
ROSSDALE	18%
OLIVER	17%
STRATHCONA	13%
BELGRAVIA	13%
RIVERDALE	13%
QUEEN ALEXANDRA	12%

Top Ten Bike Journey to Work Neighbourhoods	
PARKALLEN	7%
QUEEN ALEXANDRA	6%
BELGRAVIA	5%
WINDSOR PARK	5%
MCKERNAN	5%
ALLENDALE	5%
STRATHCONA	4%
RITCHIE	4%
RIVERDALE	4%
LANSDOWNE	4%

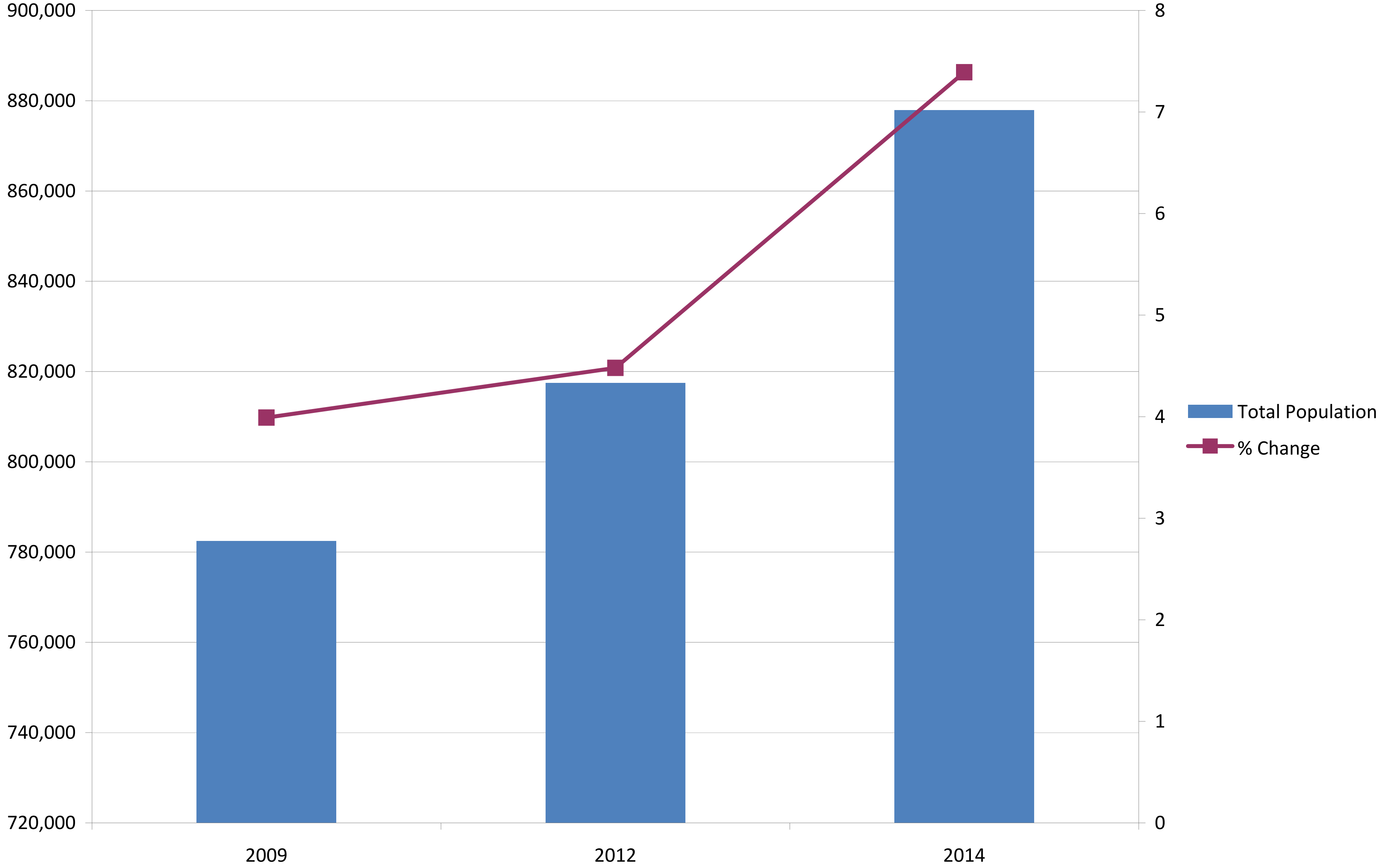
Top Ten Car Passenger Journey to Work Neighbourhoods	
GRIESBACH	25%
CUMBERLAND	24%
CRESTWOOD	23%
KILLARNEY	22%
MAYFIELD	21%
WEST MEADOWLARK PARK	15%
MEYOKUMIN	10%
LAUDERDALE	10%
BELLE RIVE	10%
RURAL NORTH EAST HORSE HILL	9%

Top Ten Transit Journey to Work Neighbourhoods	
CENTRAL MCDOUGALL	40%
CROMDALE	36%
MCCAULEY	35%
MALMO PLAINS	34%
CLAREVIEW TOWN CENTRE	34%
BOYLE STREET	31%
ERMINESKIN	30%
BLUE QUILL	30%
WESTWOOD	30%
QUEEN MARY PARK	28%

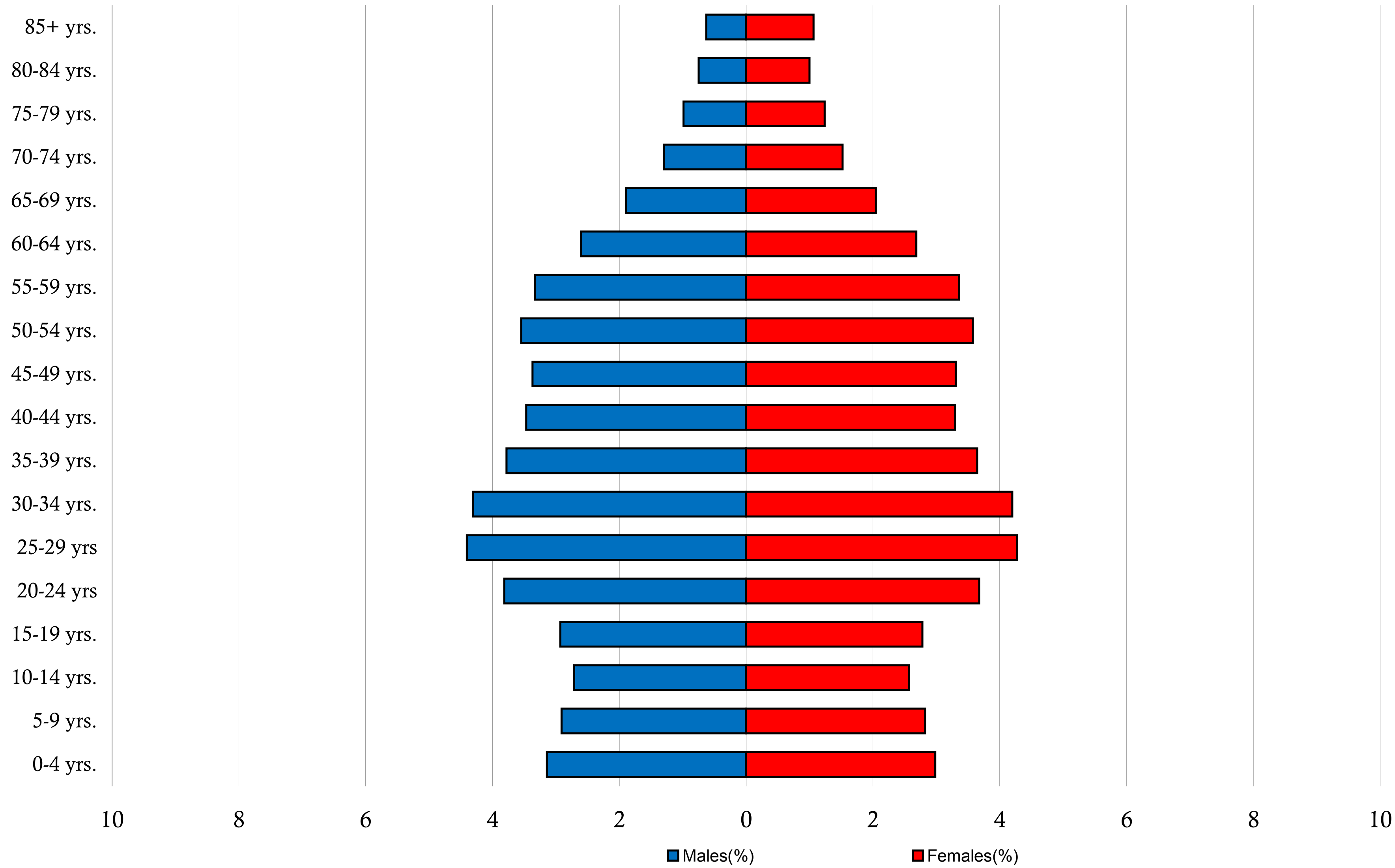


Transportation to work

Percentage Population Change 2009-2014



Age and Gender Pyramid



No Response: 17.78% (not included)