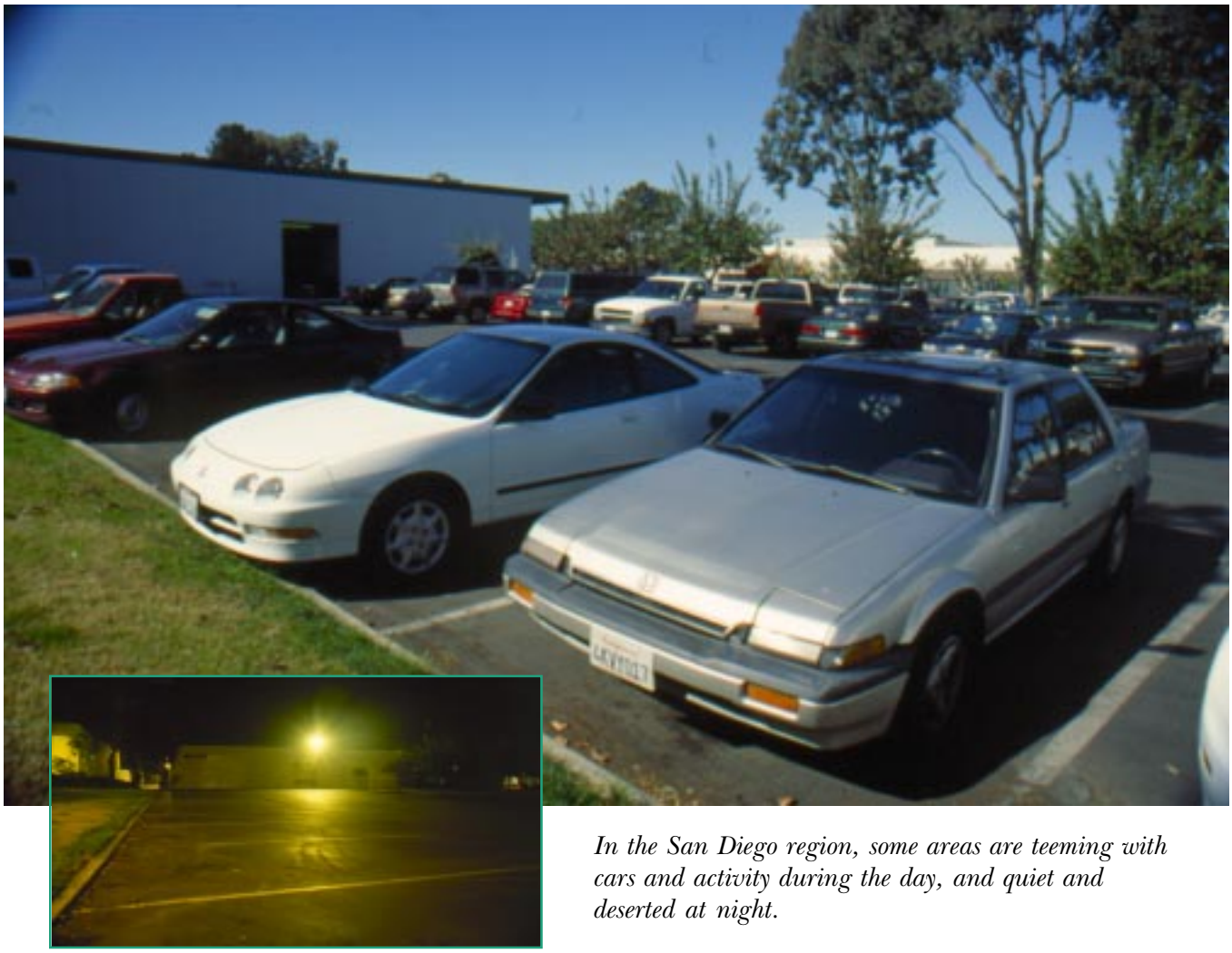
S A N D A G

INFO

MAY-JUNE 2000, NO. 3 THREE DOLLARS

DAYTIME POPULATION

The Region's Population Distribution Shifts Dramatically From Day to Night



In the San Diego region, some areas are teeming with cars and activity during the day, and quiet and deserted at night.

. . . increasingly complex commute patterns have further altered the daily shifts in population distribution.

INTRODUCTION

A major shift in the region's population distribution takes place twice each weekday. In the morning, population in residential areas thins out as schools and employment areas fill up. Each evening, the process reverses. The difference between nighttime and daytime population is extreme in many areas, and therefore of importance to commuters, public officials, and planners.

The distribution of resident ("nighttime") population is well documented. Various sources, including the decennial census and SANDAG's annual estimates of population and housing, document where people live. However, on a typical weekday morning, most of those people are somewhere else. The estimates in this report provide geographically specific daytime population figures.

The soaring economy of the last five years has brought increasingly complex commute patterns to the region, which have further altered the daily shifts in population distribution. For example, a major change is seen on Interstate 5 (I-5) between downtown San Diego and Carlsbad. In the late 1980s — the last boom period — the pattern was simple: the heaviest traffic was southbound in the morning and northbound in the evening. The rapid growth of employment centers in Carlsbad and in the Sorrento Valley/Sorrento Mesa areas has changed that. While morning congestion levels remain high southbound from Carlsbad to the Interstate 805 split, traffic on northbound I-5 now slows from downtown San Diego to Sorrento Valley. In the evening, congestion now can occur in the southbound direction for the entire length of that freeway, as people commute home.

Many decisions are affected by the distribution of daytime population. For example, areas with high employment but few homes still require appropriate infrastructure, such as sufficient water and sewer capacity, properly sized access roads, and ample parking.

Certain public safety issues are influenced by daytime population patterns. For example, to avoid routing hazardous or dangerous materials through heavily populated areas, the daily shift in population distribution should be taken into account. Disaster preparedness plans also should consider the variations in daytime and nighttime population, as they have a direct impact on dispatching emergency vehicles and determining the best evacuation routes.

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Per capita social statistics often are skewed by the daily population shift. The reporting of crime rates illustrates how this information may be skewed. Crime rates usually are expressed as the ratio of crimes per person for a given geographic area. The problem is that "per person" refers to the resident population of that area, *not necessarily to the number of people in that area when the crimes occur*. This may result in crime rates being overstated in areas where there is a high daytime population but relatively few residents, such as central cities. This statistical bias is reversed in the suburbs where resident population is high, but daytime population is much lower. Crime rates in these areas often may be understated.

SANDAG has developed a method for estimating daytime population for small geographic areas. This edition of ***INFO*** presents 1995 and 2020 daytime population information for the San Diego region's 19 local jurisdictions, 41 subregional areas (SRAs), and 437 census tracts. Special tabulations and maps of daytime population for any geographic area are available through SourcePoint, a non-profit corporation chartered by SANDAG. For information on these or other SourcePoint products, please call (619) 595-5353.

Daily population shifts may skew the reporting of crime rates. Areas with high daytime population but relatively few residents may result in crime rates being overstated.

*This **INFO** presents daytime population information for 1995 and 2020 and does not include current (2000) population figures. The daytime population estimates are a byproduct of the 2020 Cities/County Forecast (which has a base year of 1995), and are intended for use as a comparison to the forecast's resident population data. Although the forecast is tracking well for 2000 (within less than one-half of one percent), it was felt that even small differences with other published year 2000 population data might cause confusion.*

Nearly 25 percent of the region's jobs are in Central San Diego and Kearny Mesa. These areas increase by more than 100,000 people each work day.

SUBREGIONAL AREAS

The 41 subregional areas (SRAs), depicted in Map 7 represent groups of census tracts and are used as standard geographic areas for statistical analyses. Table 1 shows 1995 and 2020 resident and daytime population for all SRAs. About half of the SRAs lose population during the daytime and half gain in 1995. Generally, 1995 daytime population increases occur in areas with relatively high employment. Three of the East County SRAs — Palomar-Julian, Mountain Empire and Anza-Borrego Springs — are exceptions, due mostly to their larger proportions of retired people.

The SRA with both the highest percentage loss and the highest numeric loss in 1995 was Southeast San Diego.[1] Here, daytime population dropped by 49,000 people, or 32 percent in 1995.

The biggest percentage gains in daytime population are seen in the three predominantly military SRAs: Pendleton (66%), Miramar (63%), and Coronado (52%). University, with a daily gain of 51 percent, has the highest percent gain of the civilian SRAs.

The largest numeric gains by far are in Central San Diego, where daytime population increases by 64,000 in 1995, and in Kearny Mesa, which gains 57,000 people each day. This is understandable since combined, these two SRAs contain 24 percent of the region's jobs. The Peninsula SRA, the region's third highest gainer, sees a daily increase of less than half that of Kearny Mesa.

Two good examples of major changes in daytime population shifts over time are seen in the San Marcos and Del Mar-Mira Mesa SRAs. In 1995, the San Marcos SRA's daytime population was about 11,000 people higher than its resident population. With a large increase in jobs projected in that area over the next 20 years, the daytime increase will almost triple by the year 2020 to more than 30,000 people.

The Del Mar-Mira Mesa SRA will go the other way. While jobs will increase by about 60 percent by the year 2020 (compared to a 124% jump in San Marcos), the number of homes will double. As a result, Del Mar-Mira Mesa's current daytime population increase of nearly 13,000 will be reduced to a negligible 1,600 people.

The ratio of jobs to homes in an area — often called the jobs/housing balance — is a commonly used statistical tool that also has a strong influence on the daily population shifts. A close balance means that an area has the potential to allow more

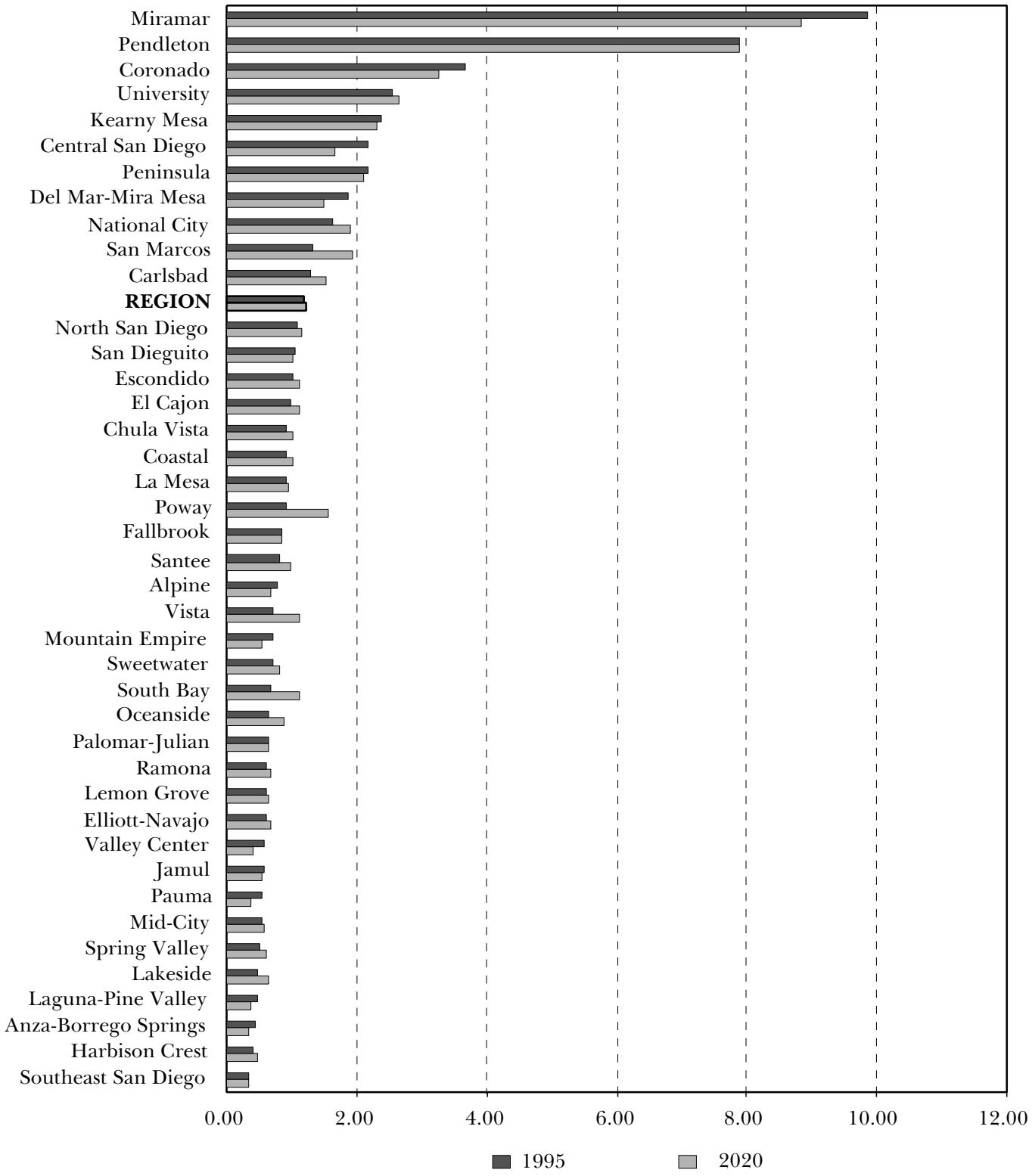
[1] This SRA should not be confused with the City of San Diego's Southeast San Diego community plan area, or CPA. The SRA encompasses a geographic area larger than the CPA.

Table 1
DAYTIME POPULATION
By Subregional Areas (SRA)

	Jurisdiction	1995 Resident Population	1995 Daytime Population	1995 Daily Change Number	1995 Daily Change Percent	2020 Resident Population	2020 Daytime Population	2020 Daily Change Number	2020 Daily Change Percent
1	Central San Diego	159,700	223,700	64,000	40.1%	243,500	307,600	64,100	26.3%
2	Peninsula	62,600	88,900	26,300	42.0%	73,100	105,100	32,000	43.8%
3	Coronado	28,700	43,700	15,000	52.3%	29,700	45,100	15,400	51.9%
4	National City	53,900	58,200	4,300	8.0%	58,100	65,900	7,800	13.4%
5	Southeast San Diego	151,500	102,500	-49,000	-32.3%	197,800	137,500	-60,300	-30.5%
6	Mid-City	151,100	136,600	-14,500	-9.6%	178,600	166,400	-12,200	-6.8%
10	Kearny Mesa	140,500	197,600	57,100	40.6%	176,100	244,400	68,300	38.8%
11	Coastal	76,900	78,000	1,100	1.4%	83,300	84,200	900	1.1%
12	University	48,600	73,300	24,700	50.8%	65,000	103,200	38,200	58.8%
13	Del Mar-Mira Mesa	117,300	130,100	12,800	10.9%	227,200	228,800	1,600	0.7%
14	North San Diego	79,700	77,600	-2,100	-2.6%	131,600	127,500	-4,100	-3.1%
15	Poway	68,200	63,300	-4,900	-7.2%	97,500	100,700	3,200	3.3%
16	Miramar	4,600	7,500	2,900	63.0%	4,300	7,000	2,700	62.8%
17	Elliott-Navajo	90,500	74,200	-16,300	-18.0%	99,200	84,600	-14,600	-14.7%
20	Sweetwater	58,000	55,900	-2,100	-3.6%	165,100	164,600	-500	-0.3%
21	Chula Vista	103,500	104,300	800	0.8%	120,000	123,000	3,000	2.5%
22	South Bay	119,900	103,600	-16,300	-13.6%	252,700	230,200	-22,500	-8.9%
30	Jamul	10,900	9,300	-1,600	-14.7%	36,200	26,900	-9,300	-25.7%
31	Spring Valley	78,700	64,800	-13,900	-17.7%	90,400	77,300	-13,100	-14.5%
32	Lemon Grove	29,000	24,600	-4,400	-15.2%	35,100	29,900	-5,200	-14.8%
33	La Mesa	58,400	60,700	2,300	3.9%	69,000	70,800	1,800	2.6%
34	El Cajon	115,900	120,900	5,000	4.3%	132,300	138,900	6,600	5.0%
35	Santee	52,300	53,200	900	1.7%	70,200	72,900	2,700	3.8%
36	Lakeside	52,300	41,100	-11,200	-21.4%	68,500	56,100	-12,400	-18.1%
37	Harbison Crest	14,900	11,300	-3,600	-24.2%	19,200	14,600	-4,600	-24.0%
38	Alpine	12,600	11,700	-900	-7.1%	22,600	19,900	-2,700	-11.9%
39	Ramona	30,900	26,600	-4,300	-13.9%	50,300	41,300	-9,000	-17.9%
40	San Dieguito	80,500	76,800	-3,700	-4.6%	109,000	106,700	-2,300	-2.1%
41	Carlsbad	81,400	85,500	4,100	5.0%	146,000	159,100	13,100	9.0%
42	Oceanside	137,600	121,800	-15,800	-11.5%	194,800	186,300	-8,500	-4.4%
43	Pendleton	33,900	56,100	22,200	65.5%	37,000	58,800	21,800	58.9%
50	Escondido	132,800	134,100	1,300	1.0%	180,400	185,800	5,400	3.0%
51	San Marcos	60,200	71,100	10,900	18.1%	95,700	125,900	30,200	31.6%
52	Vista	87,100	74,000	-13,100	-15.0%	115,500	101,400	-14,100	-12.2%
53	Valley Center	18,000	15,400	-2,600	-14.4%	40,200	29,000	-11,200	-27.9%
54	Pauma	5,100	4,300	-800	-15.7%	9,900	7,100	-2,800	-28.3%
55	Fallbrook	40,900	34,100	-6,800	-16.6%	59,800	50,000	-9,800	-16.4%
60	Palomar-Julian	5,900	6,700	800	13.6%	8,300	8,500	200	2.4%
61	Laguna-Pine Valley	5,300	4,200	-1,100	-20.8%	7,700	5,900	-1,800	-23.4%
62	Mountain Empire	6,000	7,600	1,600	26.7%	14,600	12,600	-2,000	-13.7%
63	Anza-Borrego Springs	3,500	5,100	1,600	45.7%	37,800	25,200	-12,600	-33.3%
Region		**2,669,300**	**2,740,000**	**70,700**	**2.6%**	**3,853,300**	**3,936,700**	**83,400**	**2.2%**

All population figures are rounded to the nearest 100.
Source: SANDAG 2020 Cities/County Forecast

Figure 1
JOBS PER HOUSING UNIT
By Subregional Area



Source: SANDAG 2020 Cities/County Forecast

people to work closer to where they live. In 1995, the region as a whole had 1.19 jobs for each housing unit. Figure 1 depicts the jobs-to-homes ratios for the 41 SRAs. Only 11 of the 41 SRAs have a ratio higher than the region's 1.19 figure in 1995, indicating that employment in the region is fairly concentrated into relatively few areas. Excluding the three military SRAs, the highest ratios occur in University (2.55), Kearny Mesa (2.37), Central San Diego (2.18), Peninsula (2.16), and Del Mar-Mira Mesa (1.87).

JURISDICTIONS

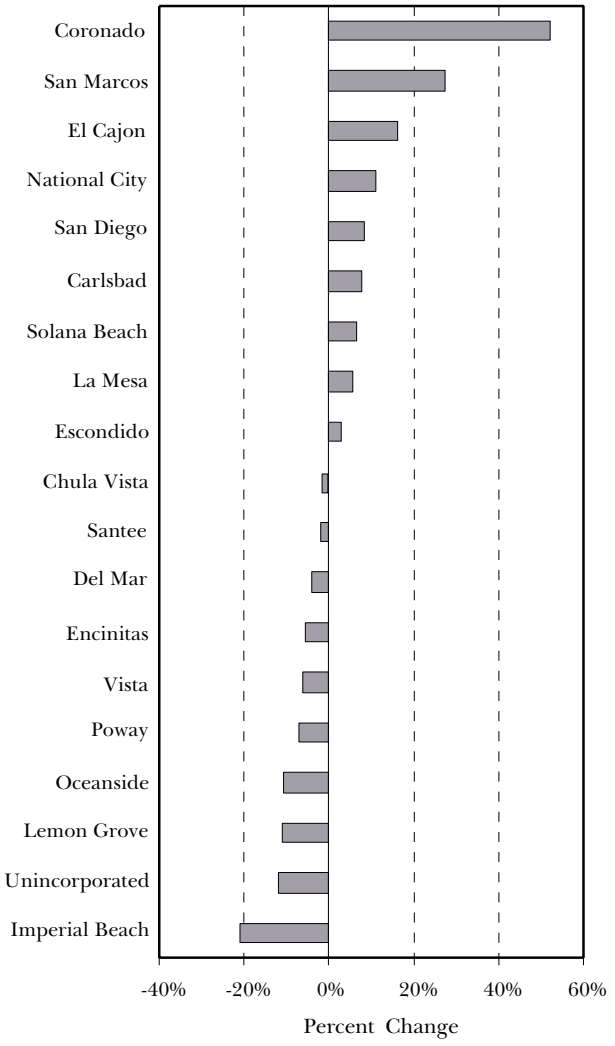
Figure 2 and Table 2 indicate that 10 of the region's 19 jurisdictions lose population during the daytime in 1995. By 2020, that number will drop to eight. The largest numeric drop among all jurisdictions in both 1995 and 2020 is in the unincorporated area. This is due to its rural, residential setting, and because the majority of the region's jobs and schools are located in the cities.

Among the 18 incorporated cities, Imperial Beach experiences the largest percentage drop in both years: -21 percent and -15 percent, respectively. Imperial Beach also shows the largest numeric drop in its population during the day in 2020 because of its relatively small employment base and shopping opportunities. Because of Oceanside's connection to Camp Pendleton, its loss of daytime population is the most of any city in 1995 (-15,800), and second only to Imperial Beach in 2020.

The largest percentage gain in daytime population in both 1995 and 2020 occurs in the City of Coronado. Its 52 percent daily increase is almost twice that of the City of San Marcos, the second leading percentage gainer in 1995. This is the result of thousands of people commuting each day to their jobs at Naval Air Station North Island. The largest numeric gain in both years is seen in the City of San Diego, which is home to more than half of the region's jobs.

Two jurisdictions can expect major changes in their daytime population shifts over the next 20 years. The biggest difference will be seen in the City of Poway. In 1995, Poway's daytime population was seven percent lower than its resident population. By 2020, however, Poway will see its population swell by more than 9,000 people each day — an increase of more than 17 percent over its resident population. The reason is the continuing development of the South Poway industrial area. Major job growth is also the reason for Vista's switch from a six percent population loss each day in 1995 to a four percent daily gain in 2020. Employment in Vista is projected to grow by 145 percent between 1995 and 2020.

Figure 2
THE POPULATION OF JURISDICTIONS CHANGES DRAMATICALLY FROM NIGHT TO DAY (1995)



Source: SANDAG 2020 Cities/County Forecast

In 2020 during the workweek, daytime population in the region will increase by 83,000 people each day.

While some cities gain population and some lose population during the day, overall the region experiences a jump in the number of people here during the day. In both 1995 and 2020 the daytime population exceeds the resident population by more than two percent. The main reason for this is that many residents of Orange County, Riverside County, and Mexico work and shop here.

Figure 3 presents the jobs-to-housing ratios for all 19 jurisdictions. Almost without exception, those jurisdictions with ratios less than the regional figure lose population in the daytime. Those jurisdictions with ratios higher than 1.19 gain daytime population.

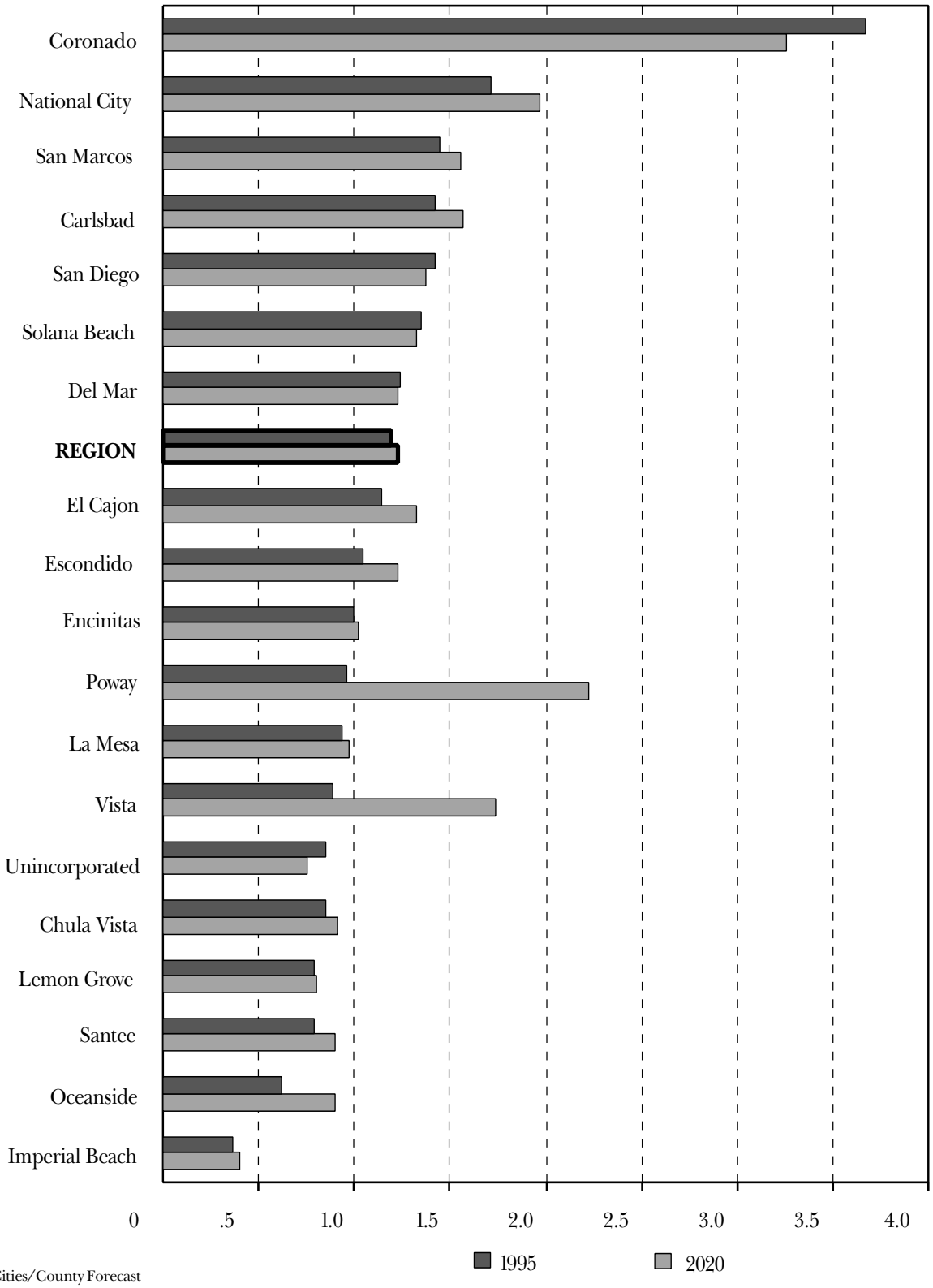
Figure 3 also depicts the effects of the substantial job growth in Poway and Vista between 1995 and 2020. The jobs-housing ratios in those cities increase by 132 percent and 96 percent respectively over the 25-year period.

Table 2
DAYTIME POPULATION
By Jurisdiction

	1995				2020			
	Resident	Daytime	Daily Change		Resident	Daytime	Daily Change	
Jurisdiction	Population	Population	Number	Percent	Population	Population	Number	Percent
Carlsbad	67,200	72,300	5,100	7.6%	132,200	144,000	11,800	8.9%
Chula Vista	151,100	150,700	-400	-0.3%	275,500	278,700	3,200	1.2%
Coronado	28,700	43,700	15,000	52.3%	29,700	45,100	15,400	51.9%
Del Mar	5,100	4,900	-200	-3.9%	6,100	5,500	-600	-9.8%
El Cajon	91,500	106,300	14,800	16.2%	104,600	122,800	18,200	17.4%
Encinitas	56,800	53,700	-3,100	-5.5%	70,800	70,400	-400	-0.6%
Escondido	117,500	121,000	3,500	3.0%	143,200	152,200	9,000	6.3%
Imperial Beach	27,700	21,900	-5,800	-20.9%	33,300	28,300	-5,000	-15.0%
La Mesa	56,300	59,500	3,200	5.7%	66,800	69,500	2,700	4.0%
Lemon Grove	24,600	21,900	-2,700	-11.0%	30,200	26,800	-3,400	-11.3%
National City	54,100	60,100	6,000	11.1%	59,000	68,200	9,200	15.6%
Oceanside	145,900	130,100	-15,800	-10.8%	202,600	198,100	-4,500	-2.2%
Poway	45,200	42,000	-3,200	-7.1%	53,300	62,600	9,300	17.4%
San Diego	1,174,400	1,271,400	97,000	8.3%	1,693,500	1,793,400	99,900	5.9%
San Marcos	47,400	60,400	13,000	27.4%	91,600	121,100	29,500	32.2%
Santee	53,600	52,600	-1,000	-1.9%	74,900	73,800	-1,100	-1.5%
Solana Beach	13,500	14,400	900	6.7%	16,100	15,800	-300	-1.9%
Vista	79,500	74,600	-4,900	-6.2%	103,300	107,300	4,000	3.9%
Unincorporated	429,200	378,500	-50,700	-11.8%	666,600	553,100	-113,500	-17.0%
Region	**2,669,300**	**2,740,000**	**70,700**	**2.6%**	**3,853,300**	**3,936,700**	**83,400**	**2.2%**

All population figures are rounded to the nearest 100.
Source: SANDAG 2020 Cities/County Forecast

Figure 3
JOBS PER HOUSING UNIT
By Jurisdiction



Source: SANDAG 2020 Cities/County Forecast

In 2020, one downtown San Diego census tract will have a daytime population density of more than 90,000 people per square mile.

POPULATION DENSITY BY CENSUS TRACT

Maps 1 through 6 illustrate the shifts in population densities (people per square mile) by census tract. For the sake of legibility, and because population density changes in the East County are relatively minor, the maps depict the western area of the region only. This area accounts for about 98 percent of the region's population, homes, and jobs.

Maps 1 and 2 compare nighttime and daytime population densities for 1995. These maps show that population in the daytime is more concentrated than it is at night. Map 2, displaying daytime population density, shows 11 fewer census tracts in the densest category (more than 6,000 people per square mile) than Map 1, but their densities are much higher. At night, the tract with the region's highest density has 28,000 people per square mile, and there are eight others with densities of 20,000 or more. In the daytime, only five census tracts have densities in excess of 20,000. However, four of those are more than 30,000 and one tract in downtown San Diego has a daytime population density of more than 90,000 people per square mile.

Maps 3 and 4 show the same comparison for the year 2020. By 2020, the region will add another one million residents and 500,000 jobs, and their presence is illustrated in both maps. A comparison of the nighttime densities in Maps 1 and 3, for example, shows that between 1995 and 2020, 36 census tracts move from the lowest category (fewer than 3,000 people per square mile) to a higher density category. The daytime densities — Maps 2 and 4 — follow suit, with 43 tracts moving out of the least dense category.

The night-to-day concentration of population seen in 1995 continues in 2020: fewer tracts have high densities in the daytime, but those that do have substantially higher density. The downtown San Diego tract mentioned before will see some 140,000 people per square mile by 2020.

Finally, Maps 5 and 6 portray the night to daytime changes in population density for 1995 and 2020. Both maps highlight that primarily residential areas lose population in the daytime, while employment areas gain significantly. In 1995, the largest gains are seen in areas such as around Palomar Airport in Carlsbad, as well as Sorrento Valley, Miramar Road, Kearny Mesa, downtown San Diego, and all along Interstate 8. By 2020, those areas are joined by significant daytime density increases in San Marcos, Sorrento Mesa, and south Poway.

METHODOLOGY

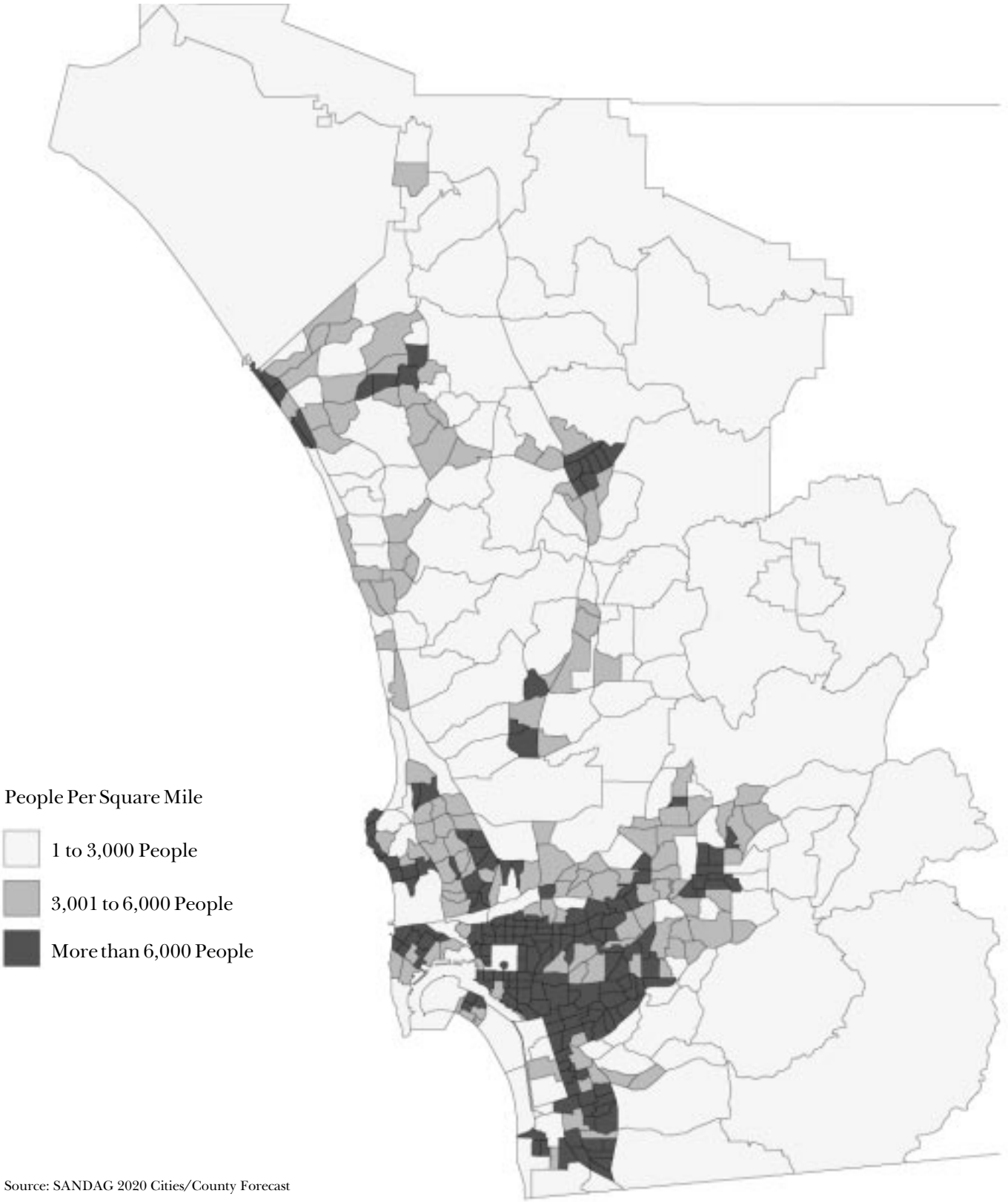
The daytime population estimates presented in this issue of ***INFO*** were prepared using a newly developed model called DayPop. DayPop combines trip generation data from SANDAG's transportation model with information from the 1995 Travel Behavior Survey[2] to produce daytime population estimates for some 29,000 Master Geographic Reference Areas (MGRAs). MGRAs are the smallest geographic units in SANDAG's geographic information system, and are roughly equivalent to census blocks. Once data is associated with MGRAs, the MGRAs can be aggregated to produce information for other geographic areas such as census tracts and jurisdictions.

The DayPop model begins with each MGRA's resident (nighttime) population. This figure includes people who live in that MGRA plus, where applicable, an estimate of people staying in hotels and motels. Using information from the Travel Behavior Survey, factors were developed to apply to each MGRA. These factors take into account the type of trip made, time of day, trip purpose, and other information. Using the appropriate factors, the DayPop model subtracts the people leaving the MGRA during the day and adds those coming into the MGRA. The end result is an estimate of the number of persons present in that MGRA between 10:00 and 11:00 a.m. on a typical weekday.

The same methodology is applied to the projected population contained in SANDAG's 2020 Cities/County Forecast to produce future daytime population. More detailed documentation on how the DayPop model works is available from SANDAG or the agency's Web site (www.sandag.org).

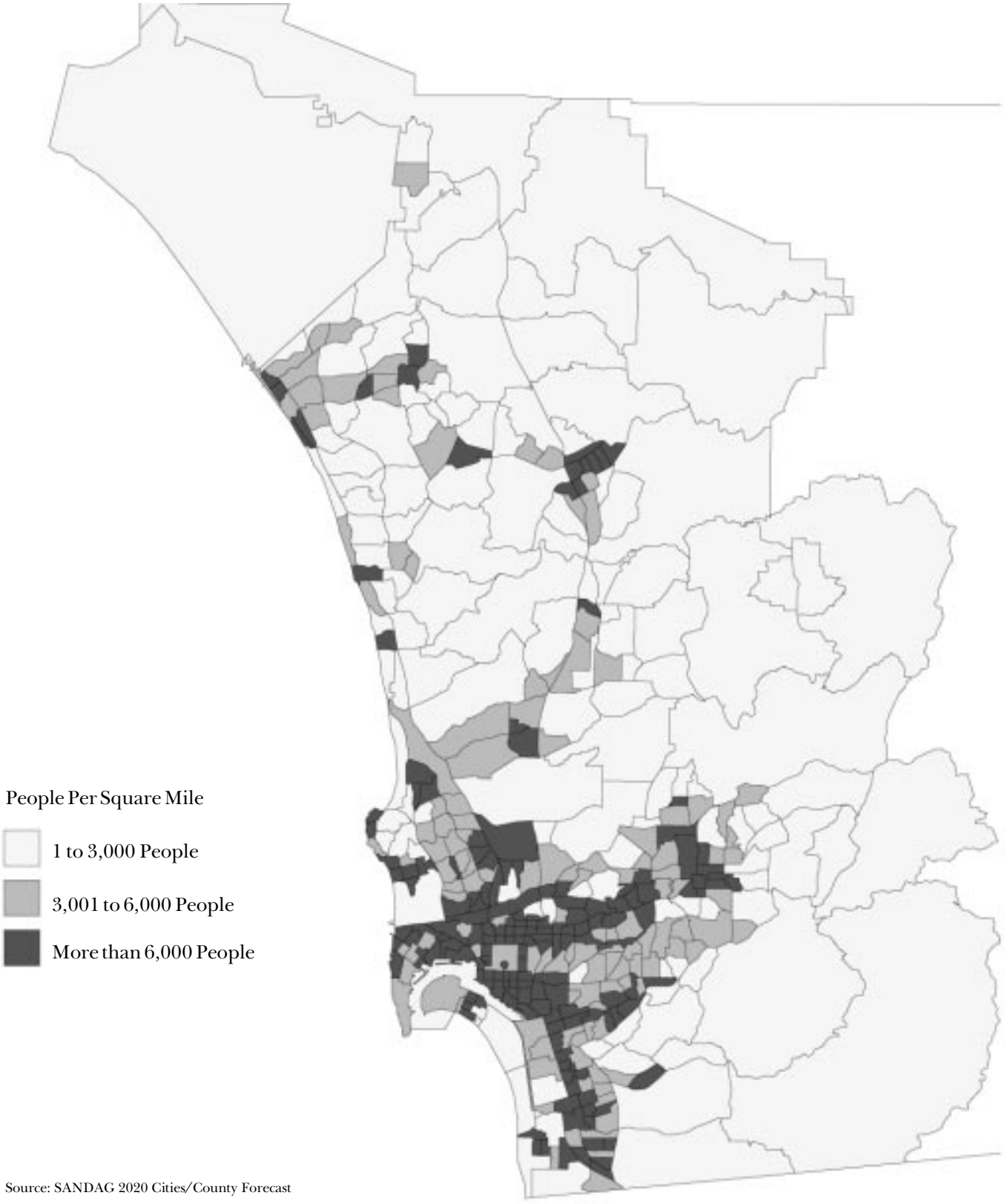
[2] Travel behavior surveys track the daily travel patterns of a representative sample of the region's households. In addition to each household's demographic data, the travel survey collects specific information about all of the trips made during a 24-hour period by each person living there, including start time, arrival time, origin address, destination address, mode of transport, and trip purpose. The survey results are then expanded to represent all households in the region.

Map 1
NIGHTTIME POPULATION DENSITY, 1995
By Census Tract



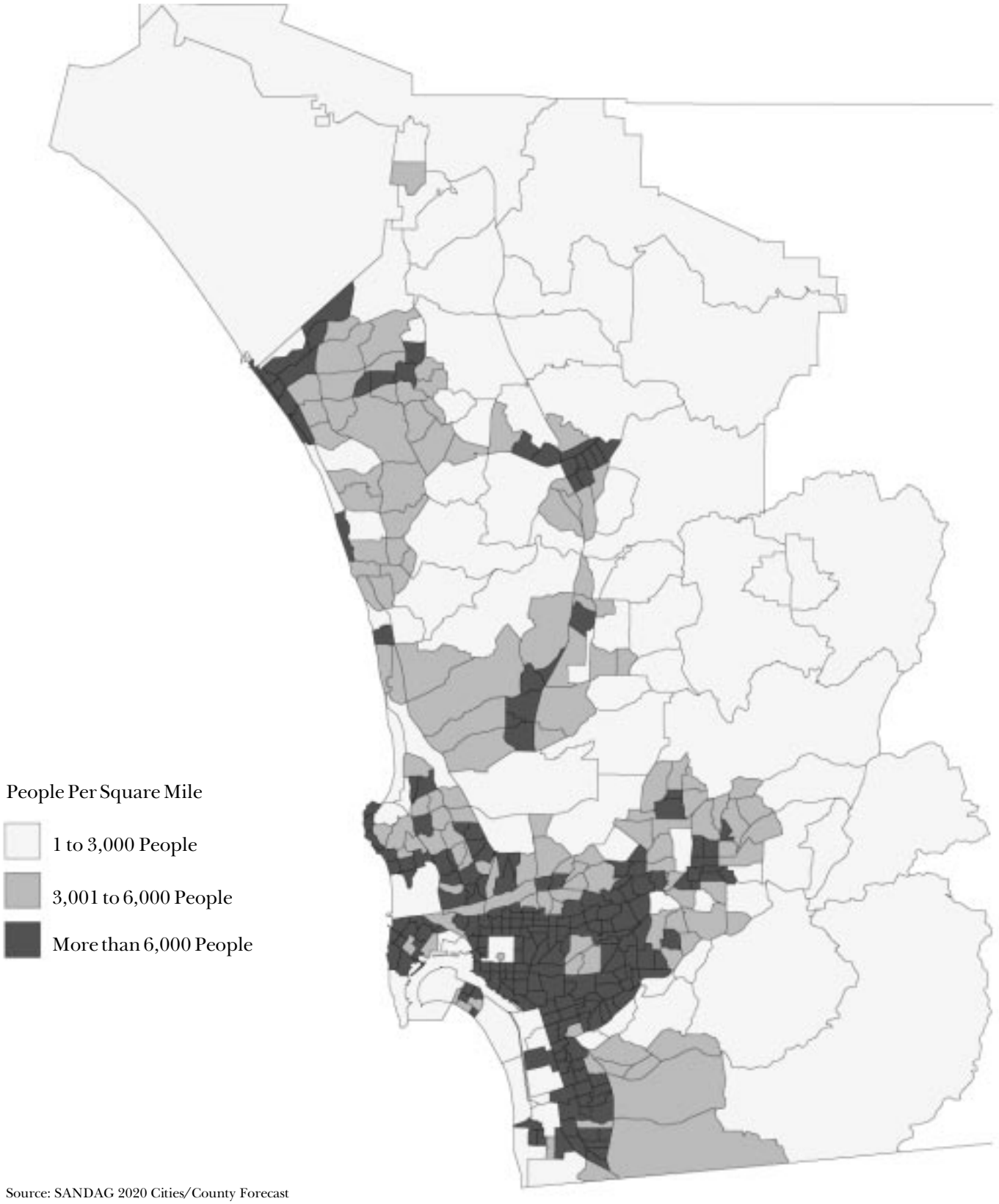
Source: SANDAG 2020 Cities/County Forecast

Map 2
DAYTIME POPULATION DENSITY, 1995
By Census Tract



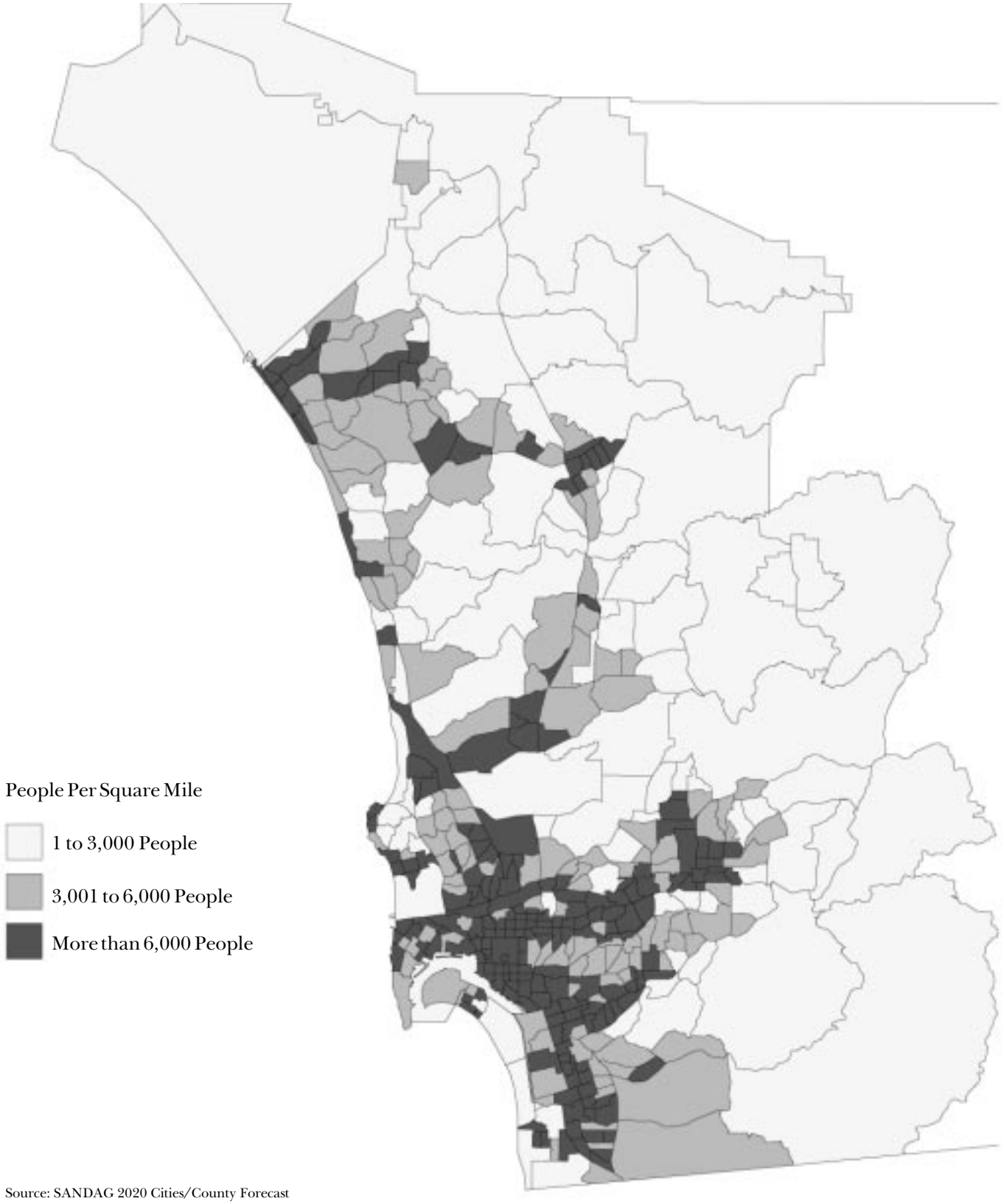
Source: SANDAG 2020 Cities/County Forecast

Map 3
NIGHTTIME POPULATION DENSITY, 2020
By Census Tract



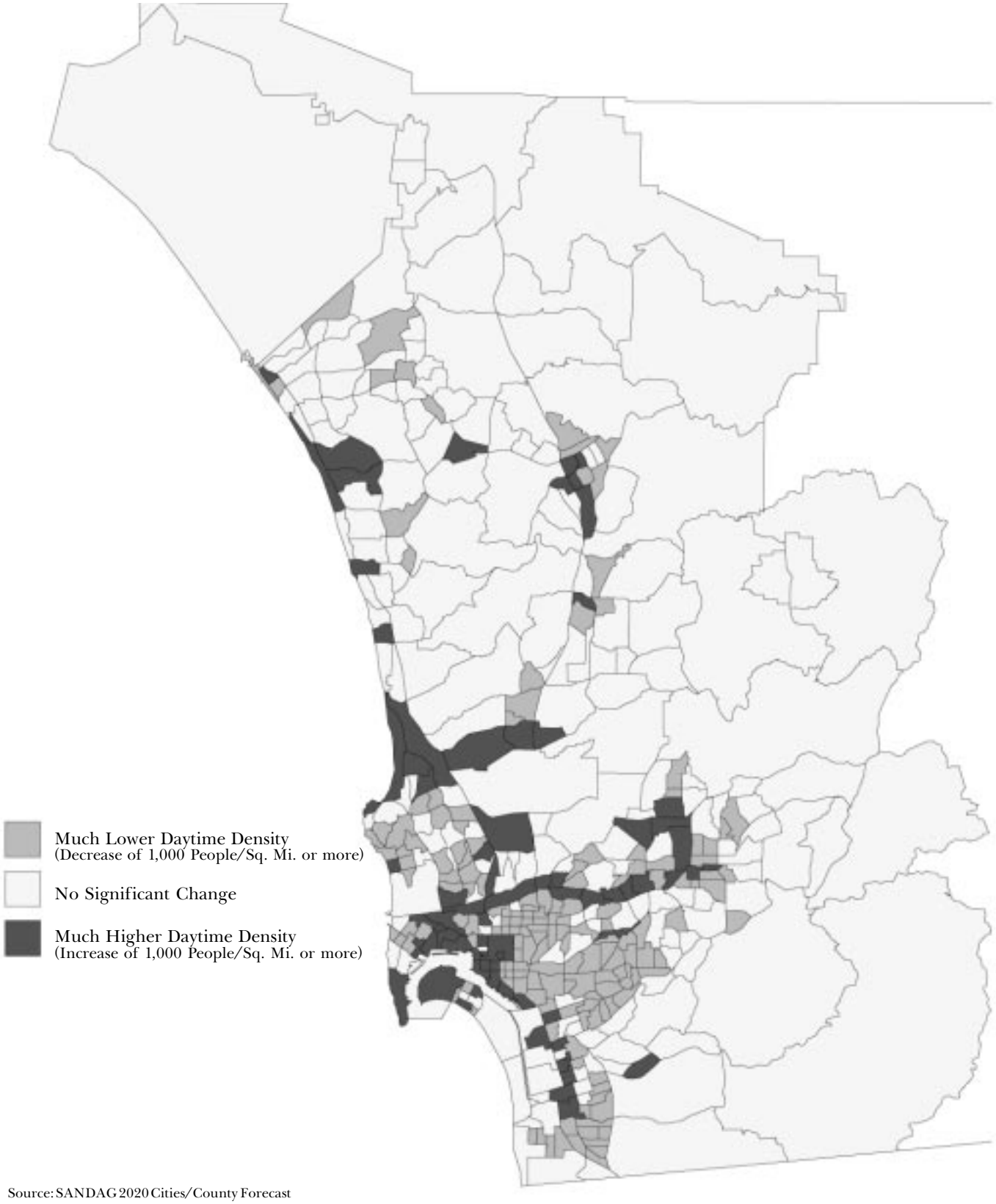
Source: SANDAG 2020 Cities/County Forecast

Map 4
DAYTIME POPULATION DENSITY, 2020
By Census Tract



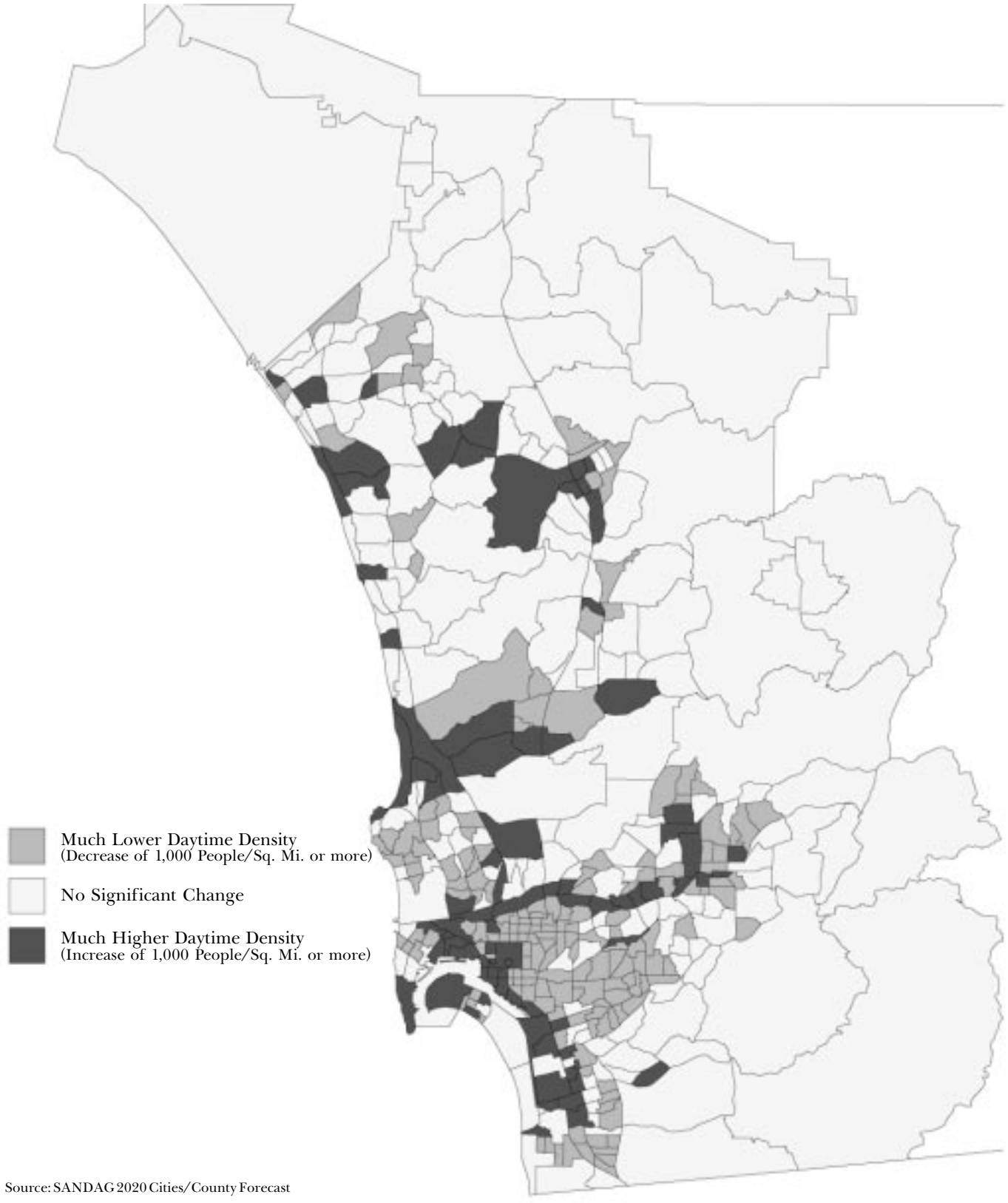
Source: SANDAG 2020 Cities/County Forecast

Map 5
NIGHT TO DAYTIME CHANGE IN POPULATION DENSITY, 1995
By Census Tract



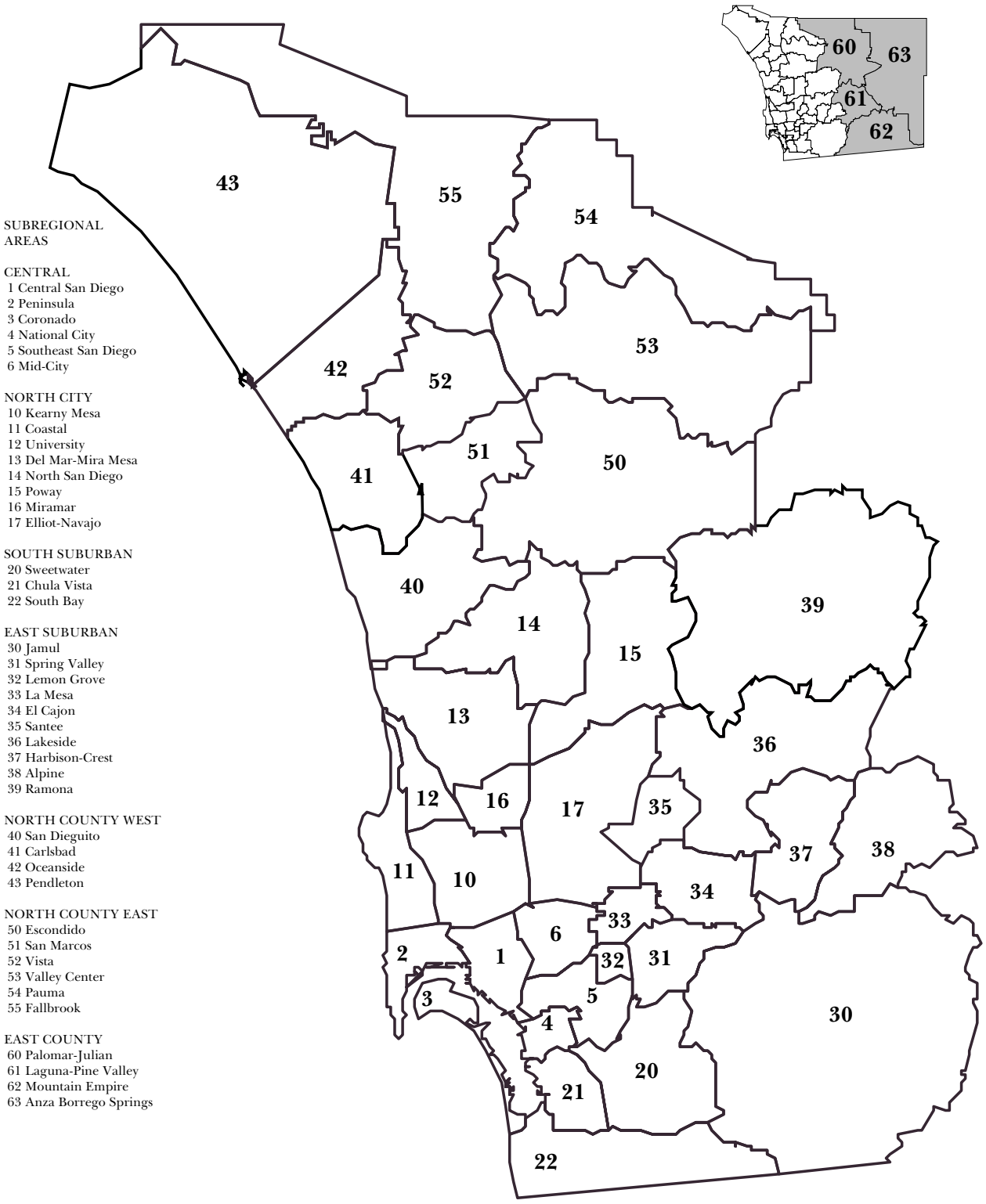
Source: SANDAG 2020 Cities/County Forecast

Map 6
NIGHT TO DAYTIME CHANGE IN POPULATION DENSITY, 2020
By Census Tract



Source: SANDAG 2020 Cities/County Forecast

Map 7
SUBREGIONAL AREAS (SRAs)



SUBREGIONAL AREAS

CENTRAL
1 Central San Diego
2 Peninsula
3 Coronado
4 National City
5 Southeast San Diego
6 Mid-City

NORTH CITY
10 Kearny Mesa
11 Coastal
12 University
13 Del Mar-Mira Mesa
14 North San Diego
15 Poway
16 Miramar
17 Elliot-Navajo

SOUTH SUBURBAN
20 Sweetwater
21 Chula Vista
22 South Bay

EAST SUBURBAN
30 Jamul
31 Spring Valley
32 Lemon Grove
33 La Mesa
34 El Cajon
35 Santee
36 Lakeside
37 Harbison-Crest
38 Alpine
39 Ramona

NORTH COUNTY WEST
40 San Dieguito
41 Carlsbad
42 Oceanside
43 Pendleton

NORTH COUNTY EAST
50 Escondido
51 San Marcos
52 Vista
53 Valley Center
54 Pauma
55 Fallbrook

EAST COUNTY
60 Palomar-Julian
61 Laguna-Pine Valley
62 Mountain Empire
63 Anza Borrego Springs

Source: SANDAG 2020 Cities/County Forecast

The Answer is Just a Click Away!

www.sandag.org

Your online resource for information about the San Diego region. View, download, and print information on regional population, housing, demographics, maps, and more.

Data Warehouse

Includes economic, demographic, and land use information about the San Diego region. Features Demographic and Economic Time Series, Subregional Estimates and Forecasts, and 1990 Census information.

http://cart.sandag.org/sdw/

Regional Economic Development Information System (REDI)

Includes 16 mapping layers that identify employment land sites, existing land use planned land use, traffic volumes, transit lines, and other details.

http://cart.sandag.org/redi/

2020 Regionwide Forecast

Includes population, housing, demographic, and other information.

www.sandag.org/data_services/forecasts/

2020 Cities/County Forecast

Information in the Regionwide Forecast is included for the region's cities, the unincorporated area, and smaller geographic areas.

www.sandag.org/data_services/forecasts/

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INFO

INFO presents information produced as part of the San Diego Association of Governments' overall planning program. The series, published every other month, contains population, housing, employment, land use, transportation, criminal justice and other data, as well as occasional reports on other subjects of general interest. This report is financed with federal funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation, state funds from Caltrans, and local funds from SANDAG member jurisdictions.

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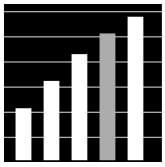
Future Issues of INFO

2020 Forecast— Subregional Demographic Characteristics

SANDAG has prepared annual estimates of the region's population by age, sex, and ethnicity for many years. Similar information has recently been developed as part of the Regional Growth Forecast process through the year 2020. For the first time, forecasted trends in the demographic make-up of subregional areas, jurisdictions, and neighborhoods can be evaluated. This ***INFO*** will highlight significant findings from our newest forecast-related data product.



San Diego Regional Employment — Clusters Update on the Engines of the Regional Economy

The San Diego region currently is transitioning into a modern, export-driven economy. Today's leading sectors no longer are located solely in the manufacturing industry. As a result, economic policy and analysis have adapted to incorporate a broader range of sectors – made possible by studying employment clusters. Employment clusters are emerging as the engines of economic activity, capable of providing a rising standard of living for the region. This ***INFO*** is an update to a 1998 ***INFO*** and presents how the region can use employment clusters to study the fundamental structure of its economy and determine what direction it will take into the 21st century.

January 1, 2000 Population and Housing Estimates

Current estimates of the region's population and housing units will be presented for jurisdictions, major statistical areas, and subregional areas. This information will be compared to estimates from previous years to examine trends in the region's population growth.

On the Cover

Each weekday, population in residential areas thins out as schools and employment areas fill up. This shift in the region's population distribution varies by jurisdiction depending on the location of employment centers and other activities that draw people away from their area of residence. About half of the region's 19 local jurisdictions gain population during the day, while the other half loses daytime population. These daily population shifts account for much of the traffic on our roads and freeways. Generally, daytime population increases in those jurisdictions that have jobs-to-housing ratios higher than the regional average. The ratio is calculated by dividing the total number of jobs by the total number of housing units.