

## Population Trends

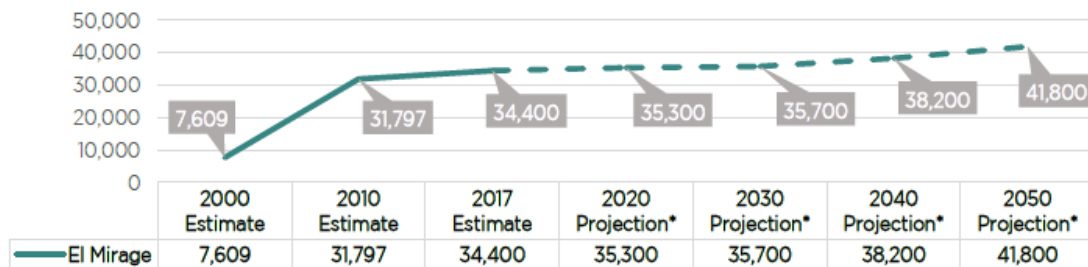
From the time of incorporation in 1951 to the early 1990s, El Mirage was a small agricultural community that had experienced limited growth. However, a period of physical expansion as the city annexed land created an opportunity for future population growth. In 1970, El Mirage was only 2.1 square miles. By 1980 it was 7.5 square miles and by 1990 El Mirage was nearly 10 square miles as it exists today. Residential development followed in the 1990s and 2000s. As a result, the population began to grow. In 2000, the population of El Mirage reached 7,609 residents,<sup>1</sup> and by 2010, the population ballooned to 31,797 residents which is evident by the steep growth illustrated in Figure 3.<sup>2</sup>

Following the recent national recession, population growth rates started to reduce across Maricopa County as well as in El Mirage. According to the U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey 2017 5-Year Estimates (ACS 2017 5-Year Estimates), El Mirage most recently has a projected population of approximately 34,400 people, ranking the city the 30<sup>th</sup> most populated city in Arizona.<sup>3</sup>

## Population Projections

As population growth rates continue to flatten out across the Phoenix Metropolitan Area, El Mirage is expected to continue to grow but at a much slower rate than the prior two decades - described in Figure 3. The Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG) projects El Mirage to have a population of 35,300 people<sup>4</sup> by 2020, approximately a 3% population growth rate since 2010 compared to the enormous 352.1% population growth rate experienced between 2000 and 2010. Furthermore, by 2040, El Mirage is projected to have a population of 37,800 and 40,400 by 2050, respectively.<sup>5</sup>

**Figure 3: El Mirage Population Trends & Projections**



\*Population projections based on municipal planning boundaries  
 Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000, Census 2010, 2017 ACS 5-Year Estimate, & Maricopa Association of Governments Socioeconomic Projections of Population and Employment, May 2016