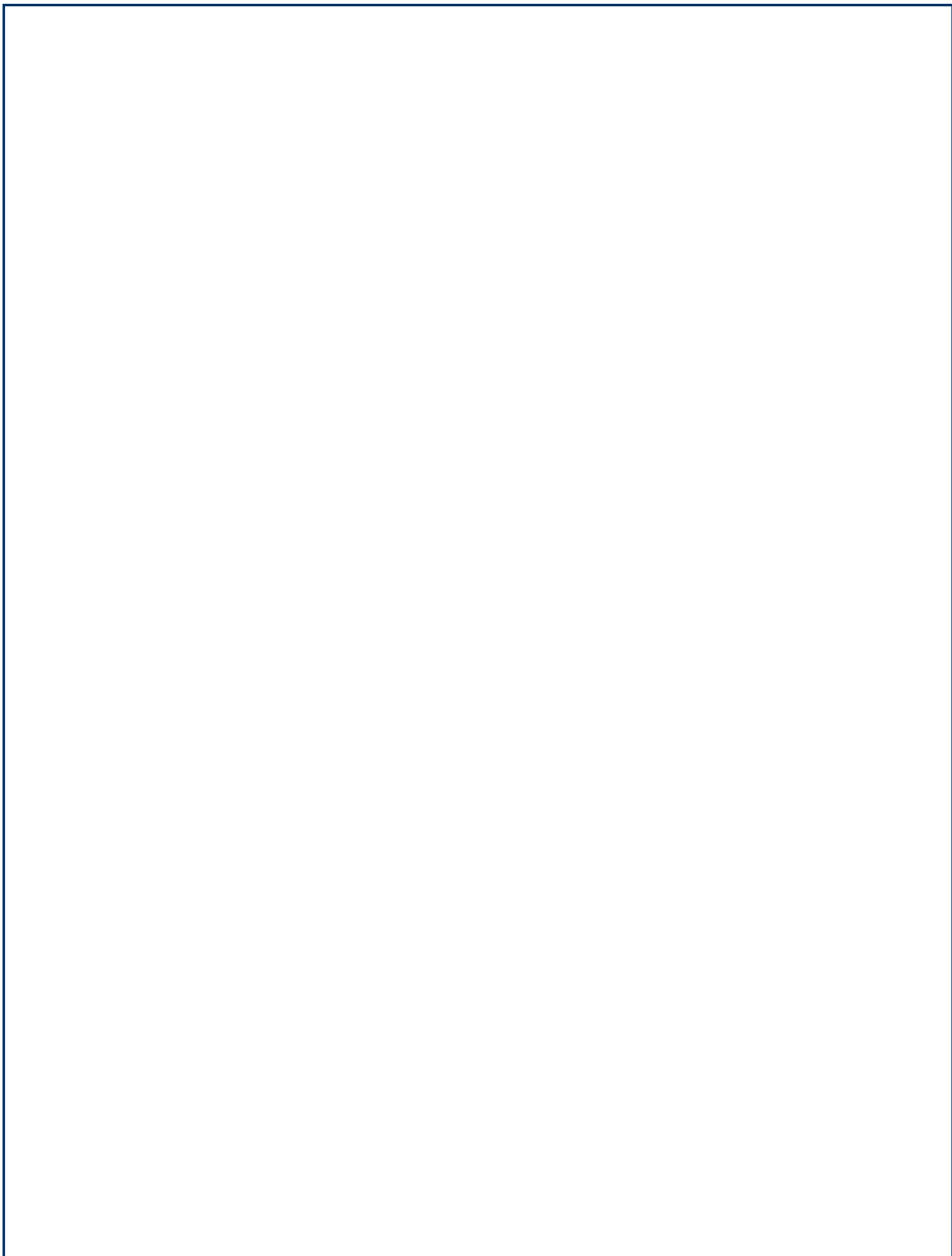# South Wilmington Socioeconomic Profile

U.S. Department of Commerce
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Ocean Service

South Wilmington Socioeconomic Profile

Emily J. Crum
Kristen M. Crossett
Brent Ache
Peter C. Wiley

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Executive Summary
Socioeconomic Profile of South Wilmington, Delaware

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Ocean Service (NOS) compiled a socioeconomic profile report in partnership with the Delaware Coastal Programs to support the development of a Special Area Management Plan (SAMP) for South Wilmington, Delaware. The report presents a comprehensive socioeconomic snapshot of South Wilmington, using all readily-accessible, current data. The report presents demographic information such as population, education, and household characteristics; information on employment and income for residents and businesses in the area; information on current land use; inventories of residential development and public and social services available in South Wilmington; crime, voting, and vital statistics; and tax assess values for South Wilmington properties. The report does not present trend information nor attempt to interpret or draw conclusions from the data.

This executive summary provides an overview of the socioeconomic profile report and presents background information, an overview of data collection methods, and summary tables for all data presented in the main body of the report. For details on the data in the summary tables, please refer to the main report text.

U.S. Department of Commerce
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National Ocean Service

Background: South Wilmington Special Area Management Plan (SAMP)

The City of Wilmington, Delaware, is located along the confluence of the Delaware, Christina, and Brandywine Rivers. While recent efforts to revitalize the city have focused on the northern side of the Christina River, the region of the city located on the southern side of the river, an area known as South Wilmington, has remained largely underutilized. This area includes the historic residential community of Southbridge.

Delaware Coastal Programs, within the Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control, received funding to develop a SAMP for South Wilmington and developments along the New Castle/Route 9 Corridor (an area herein referred to as "South Wilmington"). As defined under the federal Coastal Zone Management Act, a SAMP is a long-term comprehensive plan that encourages natural resource protection and balanced coastal-dependent economic growth in areas within the coastal zone. Development of the South Wilmington SAMP will bring together community members and organizations, business leaders, and representatives from city, state, and federal government organizations with the intention of enhancing the environmental and economic well-being of South Wilmington. The South Wilmington SAMP Project Area is defined as the area shown in Figure 1 and, as mentioned, includes South Wilmington and the New Castle/Route 9 Corridor developments.
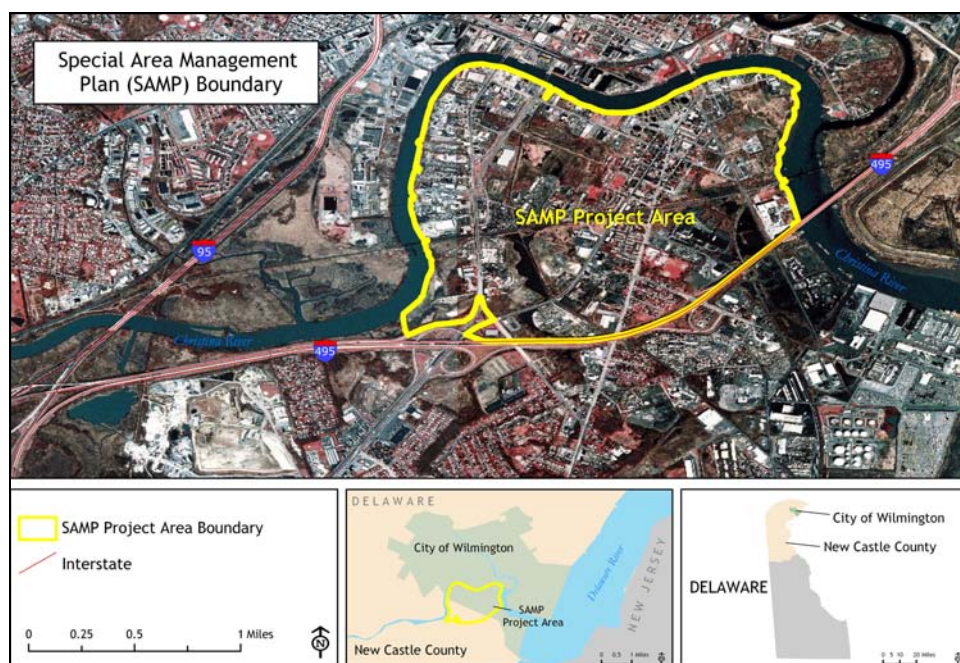

Figure 1: South Wilmington Special Area Management Plan (SAMP) Project Area.
Source: Delaware Coastal Programs, 2005; Color-IR Digital Orthophotos, March 1992

The South Wilmington SAMP provides an opportunity to address the environmental, social, and economic issues in the area, as well as the needs of those affected by the revitalization of South Wilmington. Development of the South Wilmington SAMP is being accomplished through the ongoing development of the following six planning documents: ♦ Neighborhood Plan, ♦ Legal Authorities Inventory and Review, ♦ Ecological Characterization, ♦ Non-Residential Economic Development Plan, ♦ Drainage Improvement Plan, and ♦ Public Engagement and Outreach Plan. The final SAMP will combine the results and recommendations of these documents into a comprehensive action plan to guide the revitalization of South Wilmington.

Purpose of the Socioeconomic Profile

The socioeconomic profile report was prepared as a component of the Ecological Characterization planning document. As a compilation of information from existing sources about recent social and economic characteristics of South Wilmington, the purpose of the report is to support the development of the final SAMP action plan, and provide a comprehensive baseline from which to measure the impacts of SAMP implementation (from five to 20 years out). A secondary, but equally important, purpose of the document is to provide an example for other coastal communities interested in developing socioeconomic baselines for planning and revitalization purposes.

Socioeconomic information can provide an important perspective on the individuals, businesses, and human activities within an area. Such a perspective is important to ensuring that planning and implementation of restoration and revitalization efforts meet the social, economic, and environmental needs of a community. Socioeconomic information can help to guide public policy decisions needed to move forward with growth and development.

Data Collection and Presentation Methods

All readily-accessible data sources were investigated for inclusion in this report; the most reliable, accurate, and up-to-date were selected for inclusion.

U.S. Census Bureau data

Throughout the report, data are presented from the U.S. Census Bureau (Census Bureau); these data were obtained via the Spatial Trends in Coastal Socioeconomics (STICS) Web site (http://stics.noaa.gov) and from Geolytics, Inc. (2003). All Census Bureau data are presented from Census 2000, and thus represent characteristics from the year 2000.

Census Bureau data are tabulated and released according to Census Bureau-defined and political geographies. Census geographies provide a framework for interpreting, analyzing, and understanding Census Bureau data. Figure 2 illustrates the geographies used in the report.

Acknowledging that most previous socioeconomic descriptions of South Wilmington have successfully used Census Tract 19 as a study area, for the purposes of this report, Census Bureau data are presented using specific aggregations of Census blocks and block groups. Unlike Census Tract 19, data from the smaller block and block group geographies can be combined to more closely match the SAMP Project Area, which is the specific area shown in Figure 1 and targeted for revitalization through the South Wilmington SAMP process.

Figures 3 and 4 present the Census blocks and block groups used as "study areas" throughout the report. Blocks and block groups were carefully selected to most closely cover the entire SAMP Project Area, but the reader will recognize that both study areas include some areas that are not part of the SAMP Project Area and exclude some areas that are part of the SAMP Project Area. Additionally, the study areas do include parts of New Castle County along Route 9, that fall outside of the City of Wilmington. For additional details regarding the Census Bureau geographies selected to cover the SAMP Project Area, please refer to the main report.
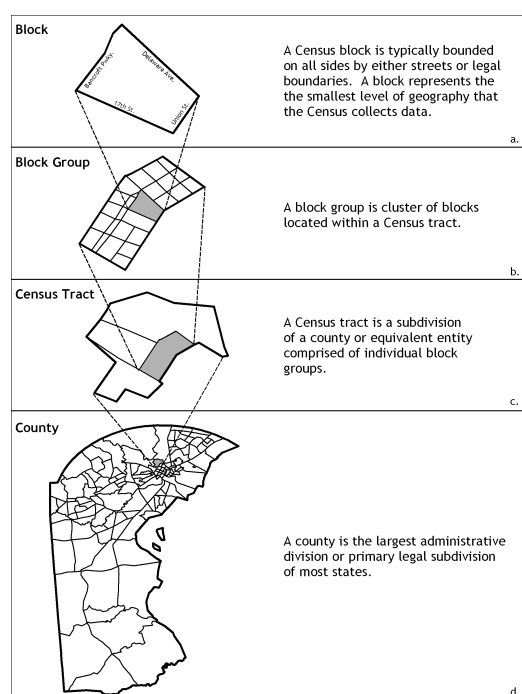

Block
A Census block is typically bounded on all sides by either streets or legal boundaries. A block represents the the smallest level of geography that the Census collects data.
a.

Block Group
A block group is cluster of blocks located within a Census tract.
b.

Census Tract
A Census tract is a subdivision of a county or equivalent entity comprised of individual block groups.
c.

County
A county is the largest administrative division or primary legal subdivision of most states.
d.

Figure 2: Illustration of Census geographies used in the socioeconomic profile report.
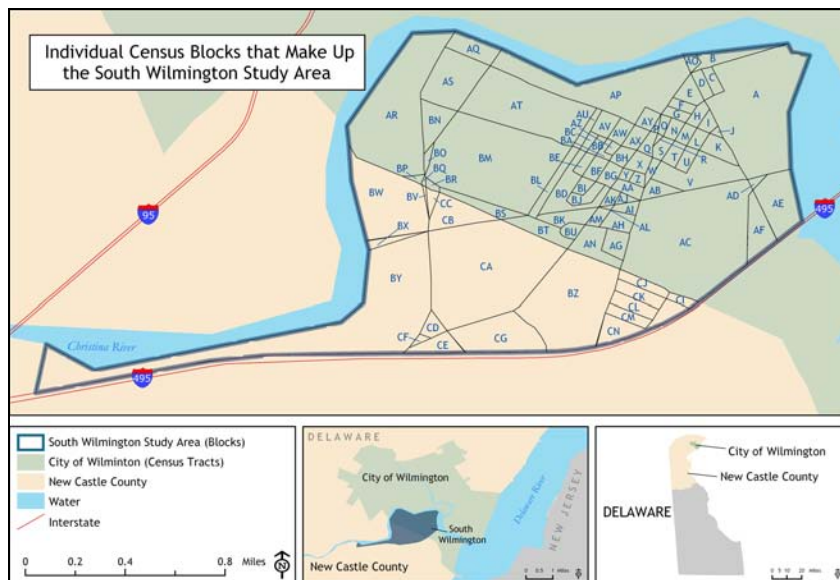*Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2001; 2000*

Figure 3: The 91 Census blocks selected to represent South Wilmington and the New Castle/Route 9 Corridor developments.
Sources: Delaware Department of Transportation, 2001; U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

Figure 4: The four Census block groups selected to represent South Wilmington and the New Castle/Route 9 Corridor developments.
Sources: Delaware Department of Transportation, 2001; U.S. Census Bureau, 2000
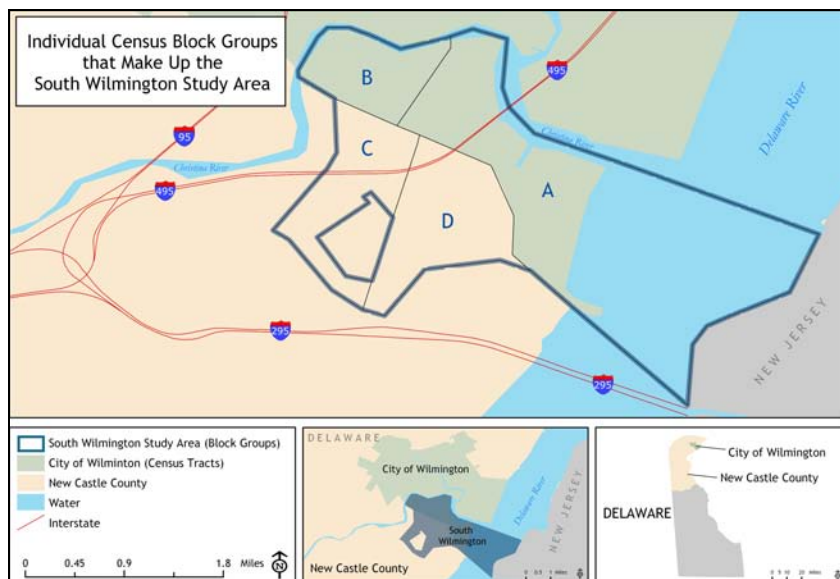
Other data

Throughout this report, data are included that were collected from a variety of different sources. In all instances, data and sources are cited and/or discussed at the time of data presentation. It is important to recognize that the information in this report represents data from readily-accessible sources. Additional information may be available regarding the resources and services available in South Wilmington which were not captured in the accessible data sources and are thus not represented in the report.

Summary Tables

The tables that follow summarize collected socioeconomic data for South Wilmington. These tables are intended only to provide an overview of the information presented in the main text of the socioeconomic profile report; for details on the data, including data collection methods and comparative data for the City of Wilmington and New Castle County, please refer to the main report text.

Summary Tables

South Wilmington Census block groups study area*

	Number	Percent
Total Population	**5,103**	
Population density	914.5 persons/mi²	
Gender		
Males	2,280	44.7
Females	2,823	55.3
Persons by Race		
One race	4,970	97.4
Black	4,148	81.3
White	646	12.7
Native American	15	0.3
Asian	20	0.4
Other	141	2.8
Two or more races	133	2.6
Educational attainment		
Population aged over 25 years	*2,885*	
High school graduates	1,888	65.4
College graduates	255	8.8
School enrollment		
Number of students	*1,685*	
Nursery school	12	7.7
Grades K-4	492	29.2
Grades 5-8	483	28.7
Grades 9-12	466	27.7
College	95	5.6
Graduate school	20	1.2
Public school (K-12)	1,356	94.1
Private school (K-12)	85	5.9
Household characteristics		
Number of households	*1,782*	
Family	1,291	72.4
Non-family	491	27.6
With children	690	38.7
Living alone	391	21.9
2-4 persons per household	1,135	63.7
5+ persons per household	256	14.4
Disability characteristics		
Population aged over 5 years	*4,726*	
Population aged over 5 years with a disability	1,196	25.3
Males	460	9.7
Females	736	15.6
Aged 5 to 15	101	2.1
Aged 16 to 64	790	16.7
Aged 65 and over	305	6.5

	Number	Percent
Employment characteristics		
Population aged over 16 years	*3,605*	
In labor force	2,176	60.4
Employed	1,943	53.9
Unemployed	221	6.1
Industry employment		
Employed population	*1,943*	
Agriculture & mining	5	0.3
Construction	101	5.2
Manufacturing	160	8.2
Wholesale & retail trade	285	14.7
Transportation, warehousing, & utilities	137	7.1
Information	15	0.8
Finance, insurance, & real estate	296	15.2
Professional, scientific, & technical services	21	1.1
Administrative support	154	7.9
Management	0	0.0
Health & social services	312	16.1
Education	66	3.4
Arts & entertainment	41	2.1
Food services	138	7.1
Other services	44	2.3
Government	168	8.6
Means of transportation to work		
Number of workers	*1,845*	
Drove alone	1,141	61.8
Carpooled	251	13.6
Public transportation	297	16.1
Motorcycle	0	0.0
Bicycle	0	0.0
Walked	121	6.6
"Other" means	15	0.8
Worked at home	20	1.1
Travel time to work		
Number of local commuters	*1,825*	
Under 5 minutes	38	2.1
5 to 29 minutes	1,214	66.5
30 to 59 minutes	417	22.8
60 to 89 minutes	64	3.5
90+ minutes	92	5.0
Armed services status		
Population aged 18 years and over	*3,391*	
Veterans	399	11.8
Enlisted in armed forces	12	0.4

South Wilmington Census block groups study area*

	Number	Percent
Household income		
Number of households	*1,782*	
Under $10,000	300	16.8
$10,000 to $19,999	255	14.3
$20,000 to $39,999	527	29.6
$40,000 to $59,999	328	18.4
$60,000 to $74,999	191	10.7
$75,000 to $99,999	94	5.3
$100,000 to $149,999	57	3.2
Over $150,000	30	1.7
Per capita income	$12,877.50	
With retirement income	397	22.3
With social security income	510	28.6
With public assistance	182	10.2
Poverty status		
Total population	*5,072*	
Total persons in poverty	1,079	21.3
Under 18 years of age	451	8.9
Over 65 years of age	116	2.3
Total households in poverty	398	22.3
Family	275	15.4
Non-family	123	6.9
Housing unit occupancy		
Number of housing units	*2,034*	
Occupied	1,824	89.7
Vacant	210	10.3
Owner-occupied housing units	1,063	58.3
Renter-occupied housing units	761	41.7
Housing value		
Number of owner-occupied housing units reporting values	*1,038*	
Under $40,000	76	7.3
$40,000 to $59,999	282	27.2
$60,000 to $79,999	263	25.3
$80,000 to $99,999	264	25.4
$100,000 to $149,999	110	10.6
$150,000 to $174,999	13	1.3
Over $175,000	30	2.9
Housing unit facilities		
Number of housing units	*2,034*	
With complete plumbing facilities	2,018	99.2
With complete kitchen facilities	2,017	99.2
Number of occupied housing units	*1,824*	
With telephone service	1,759	96.4

	Number	Percent
Gross monthly rent		
Number of renter-occupied housing units	*761*	
Under $150	71	9.9
$150 to $349	78	10.9
$350 to $449	107	15.0
$450 to $549	62	8.7
$550 to $649	141	19.7
$650 to $749	115	16.1
$750 to $899	89	12.5
$900 to $1249	35	4.9
Over $1250	16	2.2
No cash rent	47	6.2
Housing unit size		
Number of housing units	*2,034*	
1 room	8	0.4
2 rooms	19	0.9
3 rooms	163	8.0
4 rooms	28	11.7
5 rooms	505	24.8
6 rooms	697	34.3
7 rooms	234	11.5
8 rooms	80	3.9
9 or more rooms	90	4.4
Less than 1 bedroom	16	0.8
1 bedroom	142	7.0
2 bedrooms	566	27.8
3 bedrooms	1,147	56.4
4 bedrooms	148	7.3
5 or more bedrooms	15	0.7
Year structure built		
Number of housing units	*2,034*	
1939 or earlier	361	17.7
1940 to 1949	273	13.4
1950 to 1959	738	36.3
1960 to 1969	296	14.6
1970 to 1979	96	4.7
1980 to 1989	113	5.6
1990 to 1994	112	5.5
1995 to 1998	14	0.7
1999 to March 2000	31	1.5
Vehicle availability		
Number of occupied housing units	*1,824*	
No vehicle	463	25.4
1 vehicle	690	37.8
2 vehicles	430	23.6
3 vehicles	186	10.2
4 vehicles	35	1.9
5 or more vehicles	20	1.1

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000
See Figure 2 for a map of the study area defined by an aggregation of Census block groups.

South Wilmington Census blocks study area*

	Number	Percent		Number	Percent
Total Population	**2,184**		**Household type**		
Population density	1,382.3 persons/mi²		*Total number of households*	*733*	
			Family	529	72.2
Gender			Non-family	204	27.8
Males	1,028	47.1	With children	303	41.3
Females	1,156	52.9			
Persons by Race			**Housing unit occupancy**		
One race	2,147	98.3	*Total number of housing units*	*881*	
Black	1,897	86.9	Vacant	148	16.8
White	143	6.5	Occupied	733	83.2
Native American	7	0.3	Owner-occupied	293	40.0
Asian	6	0.3	Renter-occupied	440	60.0
Other	94	4.3			
Two or more races	37	1.7			

South Wilmington Census blocks study area*

	Number	Percent		Number	Percent
Land use acreage			**Retail trade businesses**		
Total acres	*982.6*		*Number of retail trade businesses*	*72*	
Industrial	556.6	56.6	Automobile dealers	7	9.7
Urban	172.7	17.6	Other motor vehicle dealers	1	1.4
Natural areas/wetlands	84.8	8.6	Auto parts, accessories, & tire parts	7	9.7
Other	62.1	6.3	Home furnishing stores	2	2.8
Transportation	51.7	5.3	Electronic & appliance stores	13	18.1
Residential	41.4	4.2	Building material & supplies dealers	9	12.5
Recreational	13.3	1.4	Lawn & garden equipment & supplies stores	1	1.4
			Grocery stores	4	5.6
Zoning acreage			Specialty food stores	3	4.2
Total acres	*984.3*		Beer, wine, & liquor stores	2	2.8
Manufacturing	521.7	53.0	Health & personal care stores	2	2.8
Waterfront development	246.6	25.0	Gasoline stations	4	5.6
Residential	104.1	10.6	Florists	1	1.4
Commercial	94.9	9.6	Office supplies, stationary, & gift stores	1	1.4
Open space	17.0	1.7	Other miscellaneous store retailers	2	2.8
			Vending machine operators	2	2.8
Business summary			Direct selling establishments	1	1.4
Total number of businesses	229		Food & drink establishments	10	13.9
Total number of employees	4,688				
			Other businesses		
Service businesses			*Number of "other" businesses*	*33*	
Number of service businesses	*90*		Agriculture & mining	6	6.2
Hotels & lodging	1	1.1	Construction	16	16.5
Automotive services	20	22.2	Manufacturing	14	14.4
Motion pictures & amusements	3	3.3	Transportation	18	18.6
Health services	3	3.3	Communication	1	1.0
Education institutions & libraries	1	1.1	Electric, gas, water, & sanitary services	3	3.1
Financial & real estate services	6	6.7	Wholesale trade	33	34.0
Other services	56	62.2	Government	6	6.2

South Wilmington Census blocks study area*

	Number	Percent			Number	Percent
Crime statistics				**City of Wilmington voting**		
Number of arrests in 2003	*194*			Voting district: 4th Council District of Wilmington		
General arrests	36	18.6		*Number of registered voters*	*5,954*	
Violent crime	26	13.4		Democrats	4,255	71.5
Assault	18	9.3		Republicans	637	10.7
Burglary	10	5.2		Independents	963	16.2
Drug	70	36.1		Other party affiliation	99	1.7
Rape	2	1.0				
Robbery	3	1.5		**New Castle County voting**		
Weapons	26	13.4		Voting district: 4th and 10th New Castle County Districts		
Homicide	3	1.5				
Number of criminal complaints in 2003	333					

Source: Delaware Statistical Analysis Center, 2003; Office of the State Election Commissioner, Delaware, 2005; State of Delaware Department of Elections

South Wilmington Census blocks study area*

New Castle County tax assess values

Property class	Number of parcels	Total tax assess value
Total	**1099**	**$80,298,800**
Commercial	238	$25,827,300
Exempt commercial	89	$23,735,800
Industrial	63	$17,957,900
Residential	635	$10,783,300
Exempt residential	66	$688,300
Utility	8	$1,306,200

Source: New Castle County, 2005

Total length of South Wilmington roads: 19.3 miles

Nearest rail station: City of Wilmington
Rail services: Amtrak, SEPTA, CSX Transportation

Nearest airports: New Castle Airport; Philadelphia International Airport

Nearest port: Port of Wilmington

Number of childcare facilities: 2

South Wilmington school district: Christina (District number 95 – 33 00)
Number of public schools attended by South Wilmington students: 9

Number of libraries: 0

Number of courts: 0

Number of government buildings: 1

Number of senior living centers: 2

Number of places of worship: 15

Number of health care facilities: 1

Number of civic and neighborhood organizations: 2

City of Wilmington average water usage: 26 million gallons/day

City of Wilmington average waste water flow: 80 million gallons/day

Total length of South Wilmington sewer system: 20.7 miles

Number of parks: 8

Sources: Amtrak, 2005; SEPTA, 2005; New Castle Airport, 2005; Philadelphia International Airport, 2005; Diamond State Port Corporation, 2005; City of Wilmington, 2005; City of Wilmington, 2004; Christina School District, 2004; New Castle County, 2005; Delaware State Courts, 2004; City of Wilmington, 2004b
*See Figure 3 for a map of the study area defined by an aggregation of blocks.

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Preface

This socioeconomic profile report was compiled by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Ocean Service (NOS), in partnership with the Delaware Coastal Programs, to support the development of a Special Area Management Plan (SAMP) for South Wilmington, Delaware. The report includes discussions and displays of data on the current socioeconomic status of the South Wilmington area, including demographic information such as population, education, household characteristics, and an inventory of residential development. Also included are information on employment and income for residents and businesses in the area and information on current land use. Finally, the report includes inventories of public and social services available in South Wilmington; crime, voting, and vital statistics; and property tax assess values for the area.

Chapter 1: Introduction

Chapter 1: Introduction

This chapter introduces the South Wilmington Special Area Management Plan (SAMP) project and the socioeconomic profile for South Wilmington, Delaware. Also included in the chapter are an overview of the SAMP development process and a discussion of the role of the socioeconomic profile in that development process. Data collection and presentation methods for information in the report and the South Wilmington environmental setting are also described.

1.a. Background: South Wilmington Special Area Management Plan

The city of Wilmington, Delaware, is located along the confluence of the Delaware, Christina, and Brandywine Rivers. Recent efforts to revitalize the city have focused on the northern side of the Christina River; the region of the city located on the southern side of the river, an area known as South Wilmington, has remained largely underutilized. For purposes of the SAMP, South Wilmington is defined as an area of approximately 1.6 square miles, bounded by the Christina River to the north, east, and west, and Interstate-495 to the south, as shown in the map on the following page (Figure 1.1.). This area includes the historic residential community of Southbridge, as well as points to the south of Southbridge that lie outside of the City of Wilmington along the New Castle/Route 9 Corridor. The South Wilmington area defined by the SAMP lies adjacent to the Port of Wilmington, is zoned for a range of mixed uses, and is also the site of a variety of heavy and light industrial facilities and tracts of undeveloped upland and wetlands. The South Wilmington area is facing a variety of environmental problems.

Delaware Coastal Programs, within the Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control, received funding from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to develop a SAMP for the South Wilmington, Delaware area. As defined under the federal Coastal Zone Management Act, a SAMP is a long-term comprehensive plan that encourages natural resource protection and reasonable coastal-dependent economic growth in areas within the coastal zone [Federal Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972, 15 U.S.C.A Section 1453(17)]. Development of the South Wilmington SAMP will bring together community members and organizations, business leaders, and representatives from city, state, and federal government organizations, with the intention of enhancing the environmental and economic wellbeing of South Wilmington.

The South Wilmington area was selected for a SAMP because of its strong economic and community revitalization potential. Despite the area's prime riverfront location, property values in South Wilmington have remained relatively low due to several environmental, economic, and social issues. Environmental problems in the area include serious flooding, degraded wetlands, and soil contamination from past industrial activities. The area has had difficulty attracting and retaining retail businesses to provide services and employment for community residents. In spite of these issues, several factors make the area an ideal site for revitalization efforts, including location, Southbridge's historically strong sense of community, and the area's potential for environmental improvements and economic development. Managing the environmental, economic, and social issues facing the area and maximizing growth potential in a manner that will not uproot the Southbridge residential community requires careful, coordinated planning.

Figure 1.1. South Wilmington Special Area Management Plan (SAMP) project area.
Source: Delaware Coastal Programs, 2005; Color-IR Digital Orthophotos, 1992
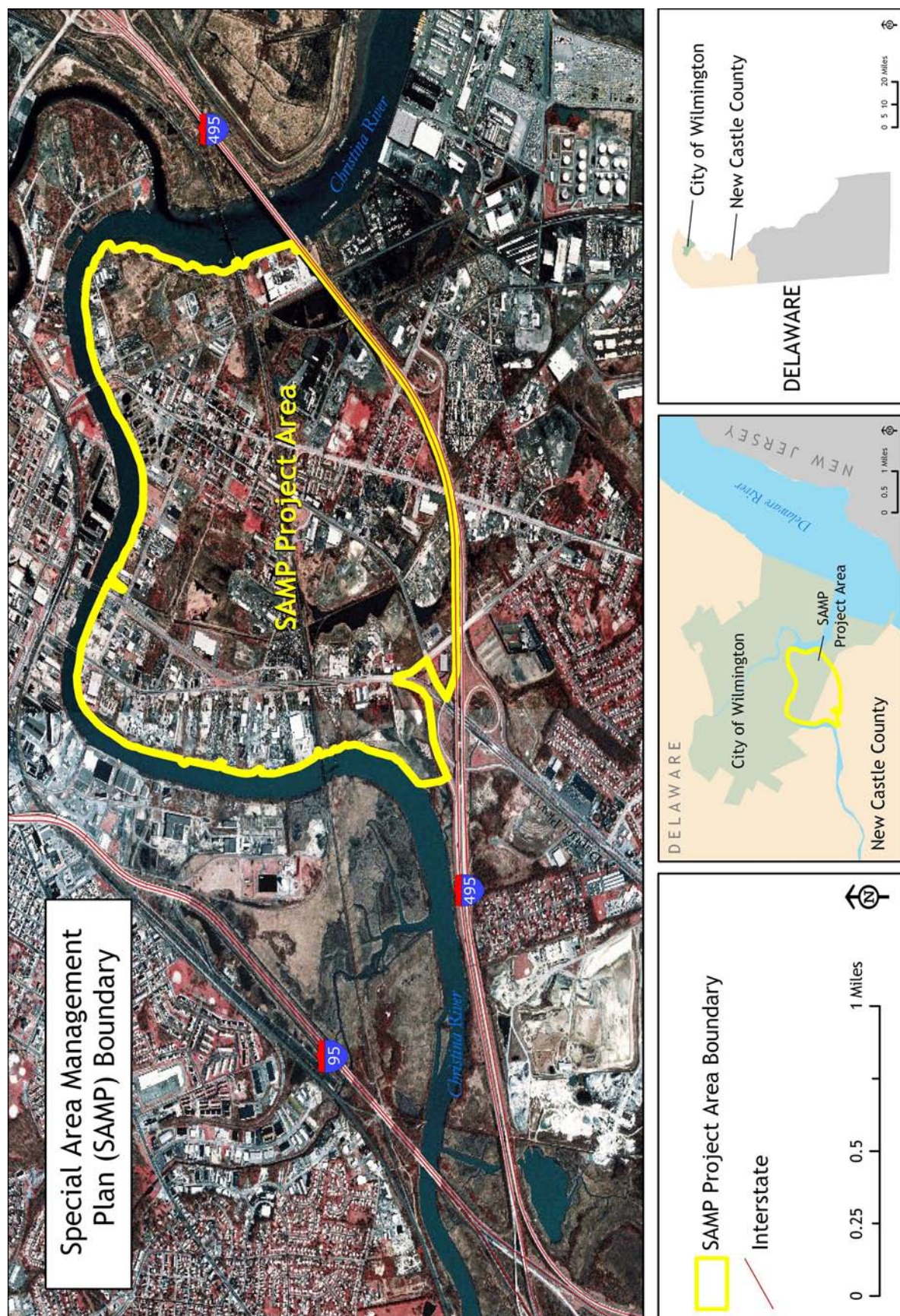
The South Wilmington SAMP provides an opportunity for collaborative and comprehensive planning to address the environmental, social, and economic issues, and needs of those affected by revitalization in South Wilmington. Development of the South Wilmington SAMP is being accomplished through the ongoing development of six planning documents: ♦ Neighborhood Plan, ♦ Legal Authorities Inventory and Review, ♦ Ecological Characterization, ♦ Non-Residential Economic Development Plan, ♦ Drainage Improvement Plan, and ♦ Public Engagement and Outreach Plan. The final SAMP will combine the results and recommendations of these documents into a comprehensive action plan to guide the revitalization of South Wilmington.

1.b. Purpose: The South Wilmington Socioeconomic Profile Report

This South Wilmington socioeconomic profile report was prepared as a component of the Ecological Characterization planning document mentioned above. The report is a compilation and synthesis of information from existing sources about recent social and economic characteristics of South Wilmington, Delaware. While the report presents socioeconomic data, it does not analyze or draw conclusions about the information. Rather, the report's purposes are to support the development of the SAMP and to provide a baseline from which to measure the impacts of SAMP implementation.

Socioeconomic information can provide an important perspective on the individuals, businesses, and human activities within an area. Such a perspective is important to ensuring that planning and implementing restoration and revitalization efforts meet the social, economic, and environmental needs of a community. Socioeconomic information can help to guide public policy decisions needed to move forward with growth and development. For example, employment and income characteristics can serve as indicators of general prosperity in an area and, when combined with demographic information such as education, can be used to identify gaps in job availability or to provide insight into potential areas for future growth. Current land use and development information can help to identify areas for future development or restoration and can be used to identify the demand for resources in a particular area. Examining the age range of a community population can help to identify needs, such as schools or nursing homes. Socioeconomic information can thus help in developing a SAMP that will protect natural resources while meeting community needs and encouraging economic growth. The contents of this report are designed to support the preparation of multiple components of the SAMP, including the Ecological Characterization, the Neighborhood Plan, and the Non-Residential Economic Development Plan.

This report, by providing a relatively comprehensive snapshot of the current socioeconomic characteristics of South Wilmington, provides critical baseline information from which to measure the impacts of SAMP implementation. The report also provides an example for other coastal communities interested in developing and understanding their socioeconomic baselines for planning and revitalization purposes.

1.c. Data Collection and Presentation Methods

This section provides overviews of the methods used to collect and display the data in this report. All readily-available data sources were investigated; the most reliable, accurate, and up-to-date information was selected for inclusion. Data sources are listed below each graph and table throughout the report.

The information presented in this report was selected based upon input from, and prioritization by, the SAMP Ecological Characterization and Core Management Workgroups. Key criteria for data inclusion included: high priority, as determined by the Ecological Characterization and Core Management Workgroups; data availability; and feasibility of inclusion based on time constraints for report preparation. The Core Management Workgroup is overseeing the efforts of the individual workgroups (including the Ecological Characterization Workgroup) in preparing the six different SAMP components discussed earlier in this chapter; the Core Management Workgroup is comprised of representatives from South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County; South Wilmington community members; and area businesses. The Ecological Characterization Workgroup is responsible for drafting the Ecological Characterization portion of the South Wilmington SAMP. For additional details regarding the activities of the SAMP working groups, refer to the South Wilmington SAMP Web site (http://www.dnrec.state.de.us/dnrec2000/Divisions/Soil/dcmp/WilmSAMP/SAMP.htm).

U.S. Census Bureau data

Throughout the report, data are presented from the U.S. Census Bureau (Census); these data were obtained via the Spatial Trends in Coastal Socioeconomics (STICS) Web site (http://stics.noaa.gov) and from Geolytics, Inc. (2003). All Census data are presented from Census 2000.

The U.S. Census Bureau tabulates and releases data according to Census-defined and political geographic units (geographies). Census geographies provide a framework for interpreting, analyzing, and understanding Census data. The Census classifies all geographic entities into two broad categories: legal and administrative entities and statistical entities (U.S. Census Bureau, 2002). The geographies used in this report follow the geographical hierarchy illustrated in Figure 1.2. and listed below (from smallest area to largest area):

- ♦ Block
  - ♦ Block group
    - ♦ Census tract
      - ♦ County

Block

A Census block is typically bounded on all sides by either streets or legal boundaries. A block represents the the smallest level of geography that the Census collects data.

a.

Block Group

A block group is cluster of blocks located within a Census tract.

b.

Census Tract

A Census tract is a subdivision of a county or equivalent entity comprised of individual block groups.

c.

County

A county is the largest administrative division or primary legal subdivision of most states.

d.

Figure 1.2. Illustration of Census geographies used in the socioeconomic profile report.
Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2001; 2000

Acknowledging that most previous socioeconomic descriptions of South Wilmington have successfully used Census Tract 19 as a study area, for the purposes of this report, Census data are presented using the blocks and block groups described below. Unlike Census Tract 19, data from the smaller geographies made of blocks and block groups can be combined to more closely match the SAMP Project Area, which is the specific area shown in Figure 1.1. and targeted for revitalization through the South Wilmington SAMP process.

Data are presented in this report at the following four Census-bounded study areas:

- *South Wilmington Census blocks*: Data for each of the 91 Census blocks shown in Figure 1.3. were aggregated and the resulting sums are herein presented as values for the "South Wilmington blocks-level study area." The cumulative area represented by the selected 91 blocks most closely matches the area SAMP Project Area shown in Figure 1.1.
- *South Wilmington Census block groups*: Data for each of the four Census block groups shown in Figure 1.4. were aggregated and the resulting sums are herein presented as values for the "South Wilmington block groups-level study area." The cumulative area of these four block groups closely match the area defined in the SAMP, but also include some areas outside of the area targeted in the SAMP.
- *City of Wilmington*: Data are presented from the 27 Census tracts that represent the City of Wilmington proper and also encompass a large portion of South Wilmington. The area representing the City of Wilmington is shown in the inset maps on Figures 1.3. and 1.4.
- *New Castle County*: Data are presented from the 127 Census tracts that cover New Castle County and also encompass the City of Wilmington and South Wilmington. The area representing New Castle County is shown in the inset maps on Figures 1.3. and 1.4.

Specific Census geographic codes for each of the above geographies can be found Appendix A. For additional details regarding the selection of geographies used in the report, please refer to Appendix B.

In Chapters 2, 3, and 4, Census data for the City of Wilmington and New Castle County are presented relative to data for South Wilmington for comparative purposes only.

The study area for non-Census data presentations in Chapters 6, 7, 8, and 9 is represented by the 91 Census blocks, which define the blocks-level study area shown in Figure 1.3.; this study area is not to be confused with the SAMP Project Area, which is shown in Figure 1.1.

In order to present Census data in the report, values from individual blocks, block groups, and/or tracts were summed and percentages calculated; no data or statistical manipulations were performed.

It is important to note that Census data is self reported; that is, residents are asked to fill in questionnaires regarding race, age, education, disability status, etc. Census data represent, in part, how residents interpret and respond to each survey question. Additionally, values are reflective of only those residents who returned the Census 2000 questionnaire mailed to their homes. For additional details regarding the collection and presentation of Census 2000 data, refer to the document "Census 2000 Basics," available from the U.S. Census Bureau online at: http://www.census.gov/mso/www/c2000basics/00Basics.pdf.
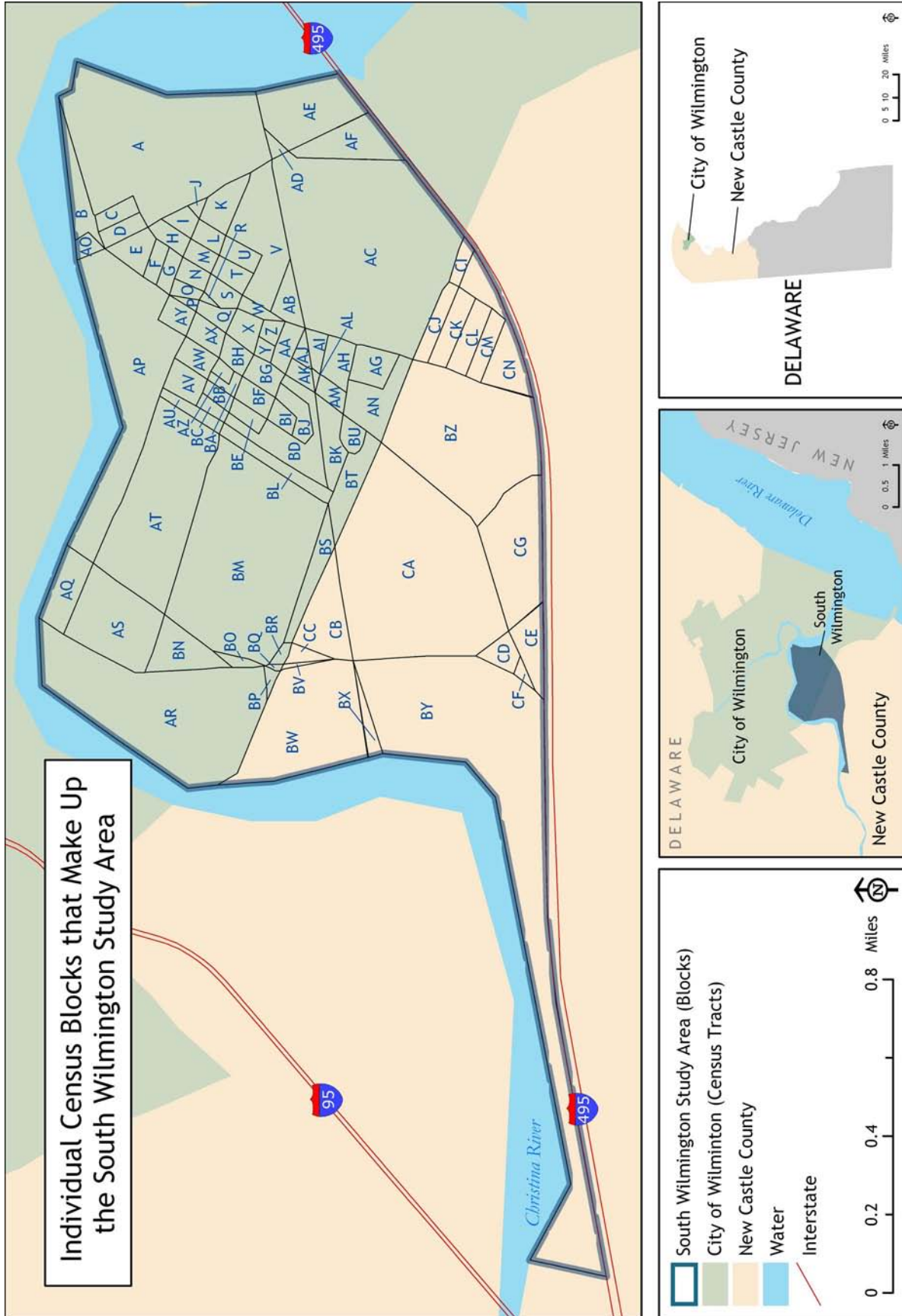
Figure 1.3. The 91 Census blocks selected to represent the South Wilmington blocks-level study area.
Sources: Delaware Department of Transportation, 2001; U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

Individual Census Block Groups that Make Up the South Wilmington Study Area

Legend:
- South Wilmington Study Area (Block Groups)
- City of Wilminton (Census Tracts)
- New Castle County
- Water
- Interstate

0   0.45   0.9   1.8 Miles

City of Wilmington
South Wilmington
New Castle County

DELAWARE
NEW JERSEY

0   0.5   1 Miles

DELAWARE
City of Wilmington
New Castle County

0 5 10   20 Miles
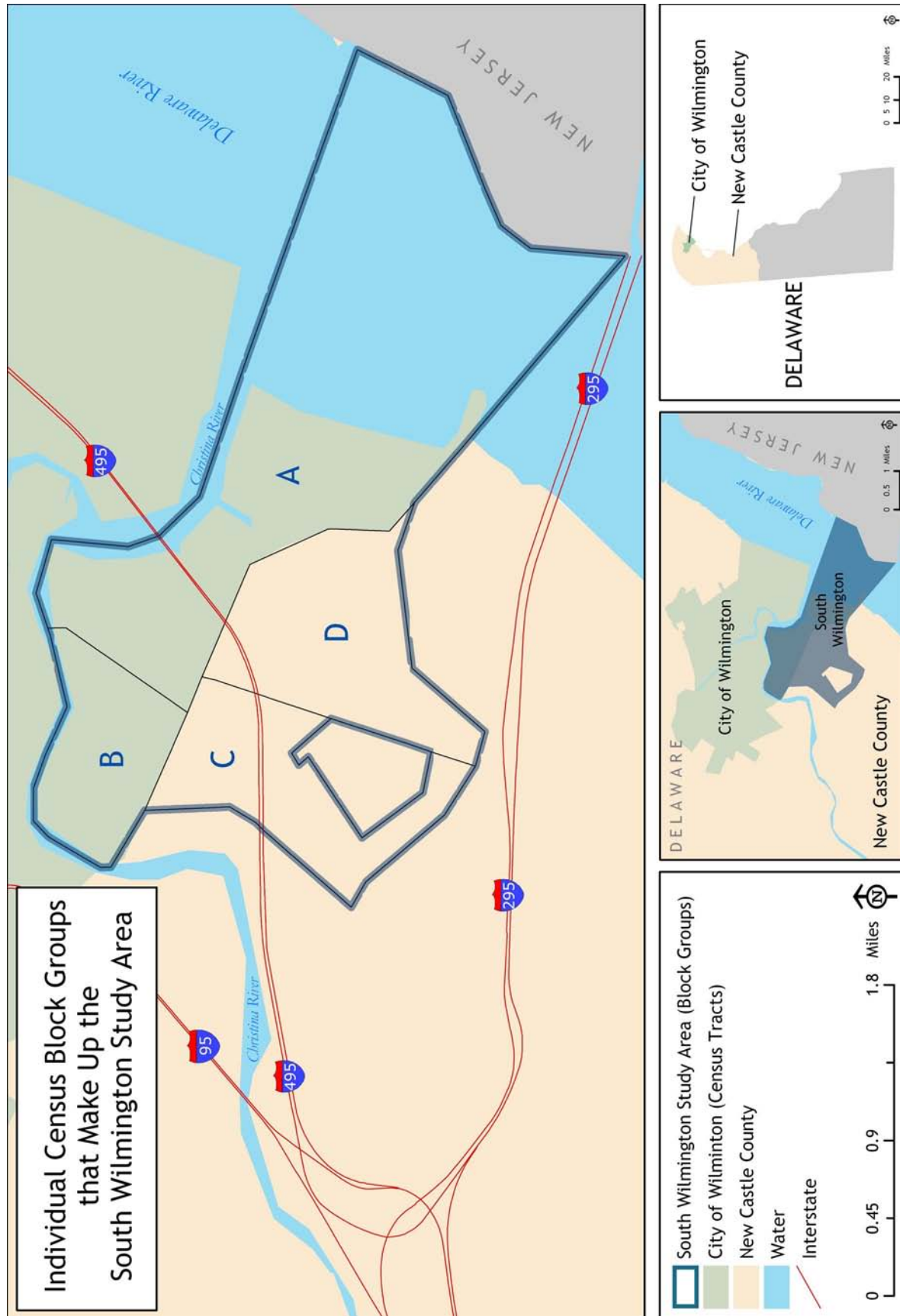
Figure 1.4. The four Census block groups selected to represent block groups-level study area.
Sources: Delaware Department of Transportation, 2001; U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

Other data

Throughout this report, data are included that were collected from a variety of different sources. In all instances, data and sources are cited and/or discussed at the time of data presentation. Additionally, if the data are presented at geographies other than the Census geographies discussed above, maps and/or discussions are included to explain data presentation.

It is important to recognize that the information in this report represents that data from accessible sources. Additional information may be available regarding the resources and services in South Wilmington which were not captured in the accessible data sources and are thus not represented in the report.

Data presentation

Data displays in this report take the form of graphs, tables, and maps, as applicable. Graphs were generated using Microsoft Excel. Maps were generated using ESRI's ArcMap (v. 8.3). Sources for the base maps used throughout the report are as follows:

- City of Wilmington Census Tracts: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 (obtained via the STICS Web site)
- New Castle County: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 (obtained via the STICS Web site)
- Interstate and roads: Delaware Department of Transportation, 2001 (obtained from the Delaware Coastal Programs)
- Water: STICS Web site
- State(s): U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 (obtained via the STICS Web site)
- South Wilmington Study Area Block (coarse boundary): U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 (obtained via the STICS Web site)

Data discussion and displays included in the report were selected to summarize findings and to identify key features and data disparities. Note that only relevant, interesting data are discussed and/or displayed in the main body of report.

Data and graphs presented in the report were subject to quality assurance evaluations and the document was reviewed by NOS and Delaware Coastal Programs staff. Members of the Ecological Characterization Workgroup also reviewed and provided feedback on the document. Additionally, Kevin Coyle; James Brunswick; Wayne Brown; Don Berry; Tigist Zegeye; Rosalind Kotz; and Phillips Preiss Shapiro Associates, Inc. provided comprehensive reviews of the report.

1.d. Overview of South Wilmington Environmental Characteristics

This section includes brief overviews of the physical and environmental characteristics of the South Wilmington study area. For a more detailed discussion of the environmental conditions and issues in South Wilmington, please refer to the complete South Wilmington SAMP Ecological Characterization.

The Christina River watershed

South Wilmington is located within the Christina River Basin, which occupies 565 square miles in Pennsylvania, Maryland, and Delaware and includes four major watersheds. The South Wilmington area is located within the Christina River watershed (78 square miles) and the tidal Christina River subwatershed (22 square miles) (Water Resources Agency, 1998).

Overall, waters in the Christina River Basin, including ground and surface waters, supply 75 percent of public water for residents in New Castle County, Delaware (Water Resources Agency, 1998). To the City of Wilmington, the Christina River watershed provides public and industrial water supplies, with the bulk of water sourced from surface waters due to thin (low-yield) aquifers in the area (Kauffman, Wozniak, & Vonck, 2003). The Christina River also provides recreational opportunities, such as fishing and boating, and transportation for ocean-going vessels through the Port of Wilmington.

Water quality

The Christina River watershed is subject to a host of water quality problems, caused largely by urban runoff, hazardous/superfund sites, and combined sewer overflows.

The tidal Christina River subwatershed was characterized in 1998 has having extremely high total suspended sediment (TSS) loads (Water Resources Agency, 1998). TSS is often used as an environmental indicator of watershed health; in high concentrations, sediment suspended in the water column can be a source of water quality problems, such as water treatment issues, habitat loss, and impairment of recreational uses. Additionally, many pollutants such as metals, nutrients, and toxins bind to sediment and enter the water column during runoff. A TSS load above 600 pounds per acre per year (lb/ac/yr) is considered "high." With a TSS of 928 lb/ac/yr, the tidal Christina River subwatershed had the second highest TSS load in the entire Christina River Basin (Water Resources Agency, 1998).

As urban development increases, the amount of land covered with impervious surfaces also increases, causing environmental problems such as water pollution and flooding. Impervious cover includes man-made surfaces, such as buildings, roadways, or pavement, into which water can not infiltrate and therefore runs off to the nearest waterbody. Studies indicate that water quality, habitats, and wetlands suffer when greater than 10 to 20 percent of an area is covered by impervious surfaces; of the tidal Christina River subwatershed, 44 percent is impervious cover (Water Resources Agency, 1998).

Using several criteria, including TSS and percent impervious cover, in 1998, the tidal Christina River subwatershed was one of thirteen Christina River Basin subwatersheds identified as having a "high pollution potential" (Water Resources Agency, 1998).

The Christina River watershed also exhibits high levels of bacteria, iron, phosphorus, and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) (Water Resources Agency, 1998). Within South Wilmington, surface water samples showed notable levels of aluminum; iron; lead; PCBs; and metals, including arsenic, chromium, cyanide, and mercury. Additionally, ground water samples near industrial sites in South Wilmington showed levels of arsenic, iron, and manganese that exceeded risk-based concentrations (Breslin, 1996).

Surface geology and soil

The South Wilmington area is located within the Atlantic Coastal Plain Province, which is dominated by sands, gravels, and clays. Like many urban areas, most of the original soils in the South Wilmington area have been extensively disturbed, making classification of the soils difficult (Breslin, 1996). Surface geology in South Wilmington is predominately unconsolidated coarse to fine sand capped with silts and wetland fill deposits, which are man-made deposits created in attempts to turn saturated "wetlands" into developable land (DGS, unpublished). A small portion of the South Wilmington area is undisturbed wetland, including the "Southbridge Marsh," an area of silty clays near the center of the area (DGS, unpublished).

Historical heavy and light industrial and commercial activities in South Wilmington have likely resulted in soil contamination (Breslin, 1996). Soils sampled near South Wilmington industrial sites contained elevated concentrations of arsenic, lead, chromium, and other inorganic materials (Breslin, 1996). Additionally, samples taken from South Wilmington scrap salvage yards contained PCBs above industrial and residential risk levels deemed acceptable by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (Breslin, 1996).

Climate and weather

South Wilmington has a mid-latitude, continental marine climate, meaning it is humid with moderate temperatures. From 1930 to 2003, the average annual precipitation for the area was 42.6 inches (Delaware State Climatologist, 2005). The area is most susceptible to winter storms, thunderstorms, and flooding. The area experienced over 80 floods or flash floods between 1977 and 2004 (NWS, 2005). Problems associated with excessive rainfall are compounded by the high percent area covered by impervious surfaces. Plans to improve drainage in South Wilmington will be explored in the Drainage Improvement Plan portion of the SAMP.

1.e. Organization of the Rest of this Report

The remainder of this report is organized into eight additional chapters, with each chapter presenting data on a specific topic. The introduction for each chapter includes a discussion of the data presented in the chapter and a box summarizing key numbers or information for South Wilmington. The remaining chapters include the following:

Chapter 2: Demographic and housing characteristics: Census blocks-level presentation. This chapter presents U.S. Census 2000 demographic and housing data for the South Wilmington study area, as delineated by the Census blocks shown in Figures 1.3.; the chapter also includes comparative data for the City of Wilmington and New Castle County. Data presented in Chapter 2 include the following for each of the three areas: population size and density, racial composition, age and gender distribution, household types, head of household characteristics, household size, characteristics of households with children, vacancy of residential housing units, and residential housing units occupancy (owner- versus renter-occupied).

Chapter 3: Demographic characteristics: Census block groups-level presentation. This chapter presents U.S. Census 2000 demographic data for the area defined by the South Wilmington Census block groups shown in Figure 1.4., as well as comparative data for the City of Wilmington and New Castle County. Data presented in Chapter 3 include the following for each of the three areas: population size and density, racial composition, age and gender distribution, educational attainment, school enrollment, household types, household size, resident household characteristics, characteristics of households with children, household language, and disability characteristics.

Chapter 4: Employment and residential income characteristics: Census block groups-level presentation. This chapter presents U.S. Census 2000 employment and residential income data for South Wilmington for the area defined by the block groups shown in Figure 1.4., as well as comparative data for the City of Wilmington and New Castle County. Data presented in Chapter 4 include the following for each of the three areas: employment status, employment by industry, journey to work, Armed Services status, household income, retirement and social security income, public assistance, and poverty status.

Chapter 5: Residential development: Census block groups-level presentation. This chapter presents U.S. Census 2000 residential housing data for South Wilmington, as defined by the block groups shown in Figure 1.4. Data presented in Chapter 5 include the following: housing unit occupancy, housing unit property values, housing unit mortgages, housing unit rents, housing unit sizes, housing unit ages, resident tenure, housing unit facilities and utilities, and residential vehicle availability.

Chapter 6: Land use. This chapter presents information on land use characteristics for South Wilmington, following the geography defined by the Census blocks shown in Figure 1.3. Information in Chapter 6 describes 2002 land use and zoning patterns in South Wilmington.

Chapter 7: Business establishments. This chapter presents ESRI Business Information Solutions data for businesses in South Wilmington, as defined by the geography illustrated in the Census blocks shown in Figure 1.3. The data in this chapter represent values or estimates for the year 2005. Data presented in Chapter 7 include the number of service, retail, and other businesses in South Wilmington and the number of employees working within South Wilmington.

Chapter 8: Public and community development and services. This chapter presents information collected from a variety of sources on public and community development and services available within, or in close proximity to, South Wilmington as defined by the geography illustrated in the Census blocks shown in Figure 1.3. The data presented represent values from different years; please refer to the text and/or captions to determine the age of each data item. Information presented in Chapter 8 includes the location and/or services provided by the following: roads, public transportation, rail, airports, ports, childcare and early childhood education organizations, public secondary schools, institutions of higher learning, libraries, courthouses, government offices, senior living and centers, places of worship, health care facilities, City of Wilmington Public Works, civic and neighborhood organizations, water and sewer lines, and parks and recreation.

Chapter 9: Crime, voting, and vital statistics and property tax assess values. This chapter provides crime statistics, voting and district information, vital statistics, and property tax assess values for the South Wilmington area. Information is included in this chapter because it was available only at geographies that differ from the geographies defined by the Census blocks and block groups used in previous chapters; specific data sources and geographies are discussed within the chapter.

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Chapter 2: Demographic and Housing Characteristics
Census blocks-level presentation

Chapter 2: Demographic and Housing Characteristics:
Census blocks-level presentation

This chapter provides demographic and housing information for South Wilmington at the geography defined by the U.S. Census Bureau (Census) blocks shown in Figure 2.1., for the year 2000. The specific blocks selected to represent the study area provide the closest match between available 2000 Census blocks and the geography targeted for SAMP revitalization. As discussed in Chapter 1 (pages 6 and 7), a Census block is the finest geographic level of data available from the Census; however, due to disclosure regulations, the Census only releases a limited number of demographic variables at the block-level resolution. This chapter presents several available demographic variables for the South Wilmington study area defined by the 91 Census blocks shown in Figure 2.1. These variables provide additional detail beyond the Census block groups-level demographic information provided in Chapter 3.

For the remainder of Chapter 2, references to "South Wilmington" represent the area bounded by the 91 Census blocks selected to represent the South Wilmington study area, which includes Southbridge and the New Castle/Route 9 corridor developments (see Figure 2.1.).

Chapter 2 presents data on population and household and residential development characteristics for South Wilmington, as well as for the comparative areas of the City of Wilmington and New Castle County.

The Census defines a housing unit as a space designated as separate living quarters that is directly accessible by the occupant(s), be it a house, an apartment, a mobile home, or a single room; a household includes all of the people who occupy a housing unit (Woodward & Damon, 2001).

South Wilmington blocks-level
Key Numbers:

Total population: 2,184
 Population density: 1,382.3 persons/mi^2
 Percent male: 47.1
 Percent female: 52.9

Total number of households: 733
 Percent family households: 72.2
 Percent non-family households: 27.8
 Percent households with children: 41.3

Total number of housing units: 881
 Percent occupied housing units: 83.2
 Percent vacant housing units: 16.8
 Percent owner-occupied housing units: 40.0
 Percent renter-occupied housing units: 60.0

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000
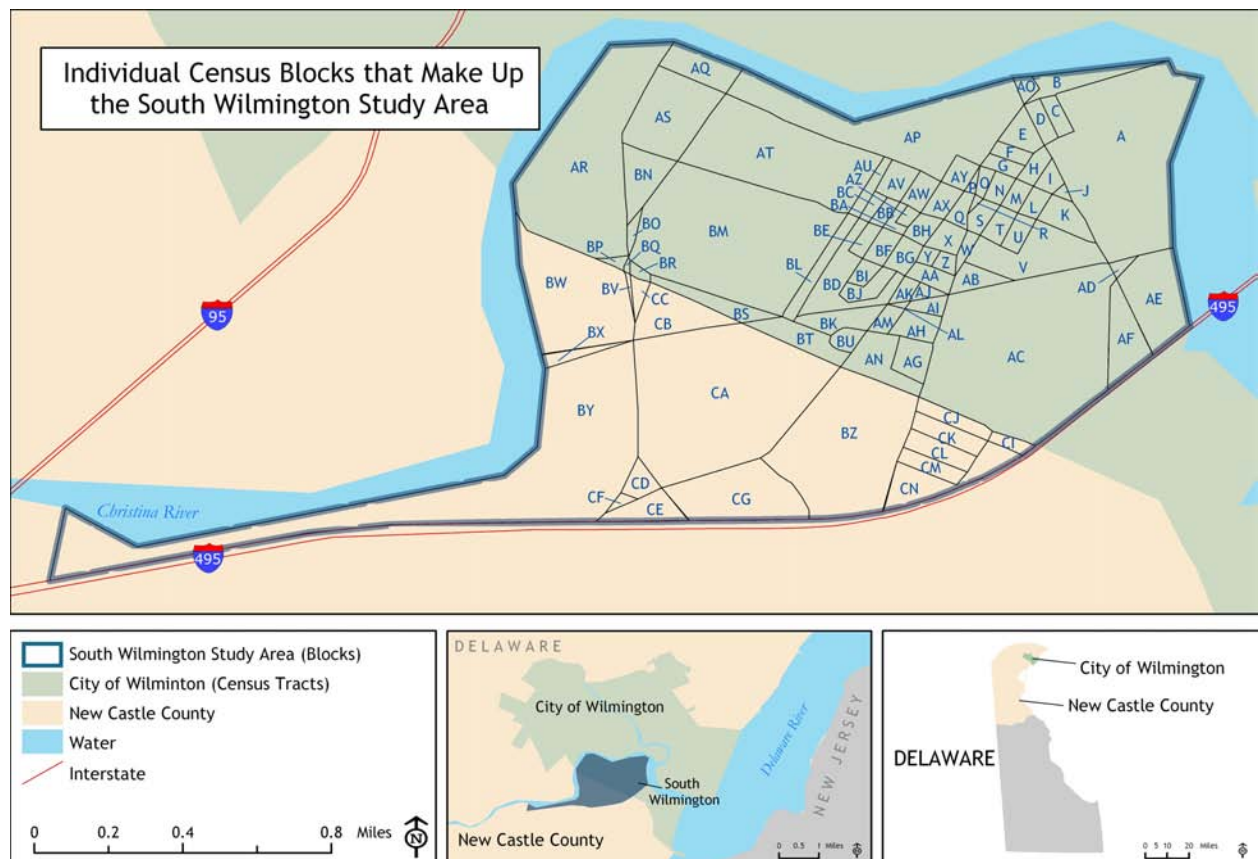
Figure 2.1. The 91 Census blocks that make up the South Wilmington study area used in this chapter of the report.
Sources: Delaware Department of Transportation, 2001; U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

2.a. Population Characteristics

This section contains racial, gender, and age distributions for the residents of South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County.

As shown in Table 2.1., in 2000, the total population of South Wilmington was 2,184. The City of Wilmington had a total population of 72,664, making it the largest city in the state of Delaware. With a total population of 500,265, New Castle County was largest of the three Delaware counties. South Wilmington had a population density of 1,382.3 persons per square mile, while the City of Wilmington was the most densely populated, having a population density of 6,698.1 persons per square mile (Table 2.2.).

	Total population
South Wilmington	2,184
City of Wilmington	72,664
New Castle County	500,265

Table 2.1. Total population as of 2000 for South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

	Total area	Population density
South Wilmington	1.58 mi²	1,382.3 persons/ mi²
City of Wilmington	10.85 mi²	6,698.1 persons/ mi²
New Castle County	426.27 mi²	1,173.6 persons/ mi²

Table 2.2. Area and population density for South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

Racial composition

In 2000, in South Wilmington, the majority of residents were Black (86.9 percent), with a smaller representation (6.5 percent) of White residents (see Figure 2.2.). In contrast, New Castle County was predominantly White (73.1 percent), with a smaller Black population (19.9 percent).

With regards to other races reported in Census 2000, in South Wilmington, 1.7 percent of residents were of two or more races, and less than one percent of the population was of Asian or Native American race; no residents of South Wilmington reported being of Pacific race. In South Wilmington, 4.3 percent of residents classified themselves as some other race, meaning that they did not consider themselves one of the racial classifications used by Census 2000 (which included White, Black, Native American, Asian, or Pacific).

♦ The majority populations in South Wilmington and the City of Wilmington were Black, while the majority population in New Castle County was White.

♦ South Wilmington had a higher percentage of Black residents than the other two areas.

Figure 2.2. Racial composition as percentages of the local populations of South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

Gender and age distribution

Gender and age distributions in 2000 for South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County are illustrated in Table 2.3. and Figures 2.3., 2.4., and 2.5. Among the 2,184 people living in South Wilmington, approximately 53 percent were female and approximately 47 percent were male. This distribution is similar to that seen in both the City of Wilmington and New Castle County, which both had slightly higher female than male populations (see Table 2.3. and Figure 2.3.).

In 2000, all three of the reviewed geographic areas showed similar age distributions across the population, with slight variations (Figure 2.4.). The majority of South Wilmington residents fell into the five to 17 and 25 to 44-year old age groups. The percentages of South Wilmington residents in the zero to four and 18 to 24-year old age groups were approximately even. The lowest percentage of South Wilmington residents fell into the 65-year-old and over age group. In contrast, both the City of Wilmington and New Castle County had the smallest percentages of residents under the age of five. Also, in the City of Wilmington and New Castle County, the largest percentages of residents were between 25 and 44 years of age.

When examining age distribution by gender, the majority of South Wilmington males were between the ages of five and 17, while more South Wilmington females were between 25 and 44 years of age than any other age group (Figure 2.5.). Otherwise, overall age distributions by gender in South Wilmington did not vary much, although a slightly higher percentage of females than males were over the age of 65. In both the City of Wilmington and New Castle County, relatively equal percentages of men and women fell into each age range, and the distribution patterns between these two areas were roughly the same. In contrast, relative to the City of Wilmington and New Castle County, greater percentages of both South Wilmington males and South Wilmington females fell into the zero to four-year old and five to 17-year old age groups, suggesting that, overall, South Wilmington has a younger population than the City of Wilmington and New Castle County.

	Males	Females
South Wilmington	1,028	1,156
City of Wilmington	34,711	37,953
New Castle County	242,823	257,442

Table 2.3. Total number of males and females living in South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

Figure 2.3. Gender distribution as percentages of the local populations in South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

♦ Women outnumbered men in South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County.

♦ The female-male ratios in all three areas were similar.
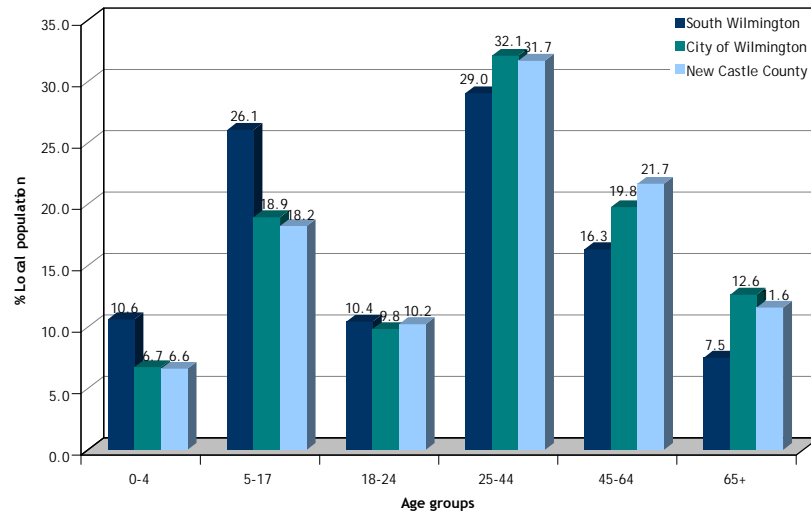
Figure 2.4. Age distribution as percentages of the local populations of South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

♦ Compared to the City of Wilmington and New Castle County, a higher percentage of South Wilmington residents were under the age of 18.

♦ Overall, the City of Wilmington and New Castle County had older populations than South Wilmington.

a. Males by age

b. Females by age
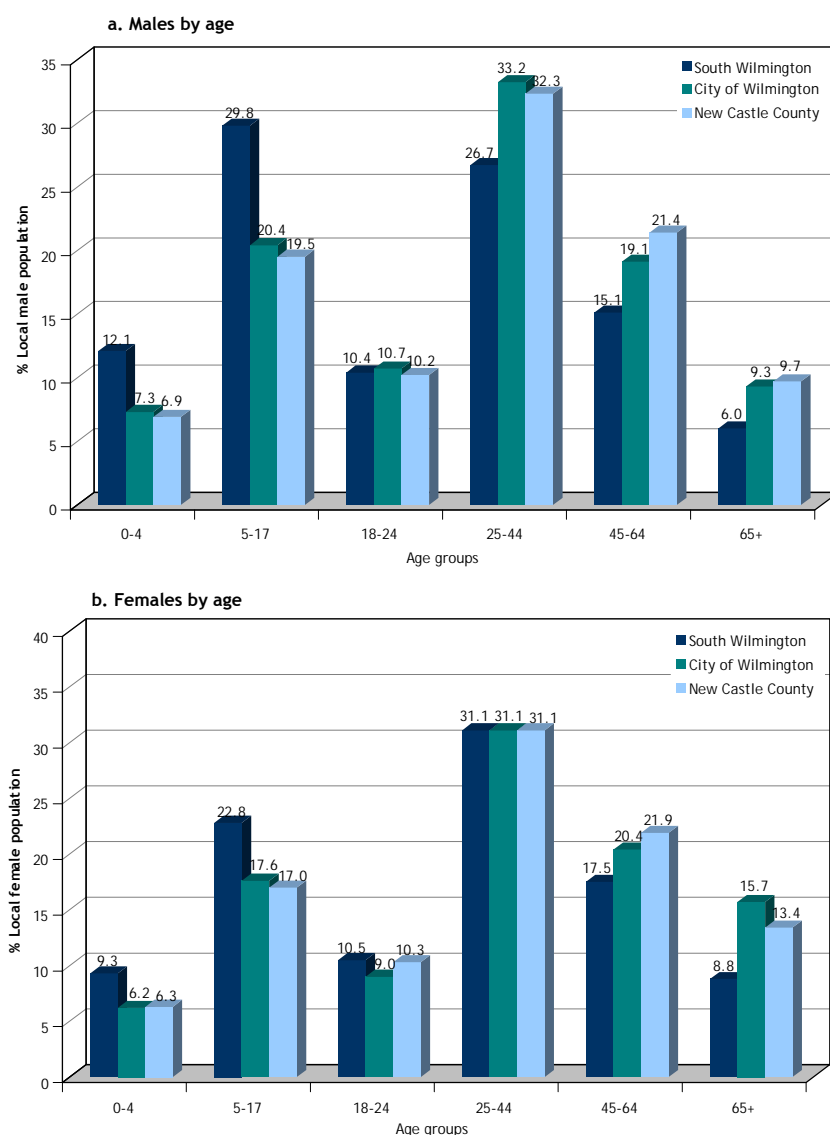
Figure 2.5. Age distribution of males (top) and females (bottom) as percentages of the male and female populations in South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

♦ Relative to the City of Wilmington and New Castle County, South Wilmington had a smaller proportion of men between the ages of 25 and 44.

♦ South Wilmington men between five and 17 years of age outnumbered South Wilmington women in this age group.

♦ There were more South Wilmington women than men between 25 and 44 years of age.

♦ South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County had equal proportions of women between the ages of 25 and 44.

2.b. Household Characteristics

This section presents information on the households in South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County. As defined by the Census Bureau, a household includes all of the people who occupy a housing unit; a housing unit is defined as a space intended as separate living quarters, be it a house, an apartment, a mobile home, or a single room. A housing unit must also provide direct access from outside the building or through a common hall (Woodward & Damon, 2001).

In each household, Census 2000 identified a single "householder," typically as the person who owns the home or whose name appears on the rental lease; however, the householder can be anyone in the household who is over the age of 15 (Simmons & O'Neill, 2001).

Information in this section is presented by household type and sex of the householder. The Census Bureau defines two household types: (1) family households, where the householder and the people in the household are related and (2) non-family households, where the householder is living alone or with nonrelatives (Simmons & O'Neill, 2001).

According to Census 2000, there were 733 total households in South Wilmington; 28,661 households in the City of Wilmington; and 188,974 households in New Castle County (see Table 2.4.).

	Total households
South Wilmington	733
City of Wilmington	28,661
New Castle County	188,974

Table 2.4. Total number of households in South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

Household types

The majority of households in South Wilmington were family households (see Table 2.5. and Figure 2.6.). Relative to the City of Wilmington and New Castle County, a greater percentage of South Wilmington households were family households. However, a smaller percentage of South Wilmington households was occupied by married-couple families. Nearly half (47.2 percent) of all South Wilmington households were single-mother families, where the householder was female with children, but no husband was present. By contrast, in New Castle County, approximately half of all households (50.8 percent) were married-couple families.

South Wilmington had the lowest percentage of people living alone, with approximately 23 percent of households being occupied by a single person. The City of Wilmington had the largest percentage of people living alone and also had the largest percentage of non-family households with two or more persons.

	South Wilmington	City of Wilmington	New Castle County
Total number of households	733	28,661	188,974
Family households	72.2	55.6	67.7
Married-couple households	18.0	27.7	50.8
Female householder, no husband present	47.2	23.2	12.9
Male householder, no wife present	7.0	4.8	4.1
Non-family households	27.8	44.4	32.3
One person	22.9	37.0	25.7
Two or more persons	4.9	13.5	8.6
65 years and over	7.9	7.4	6.6

Table 2.5. Percentages of households by type for South Wilmington, Wilmington, and New Castle County.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000
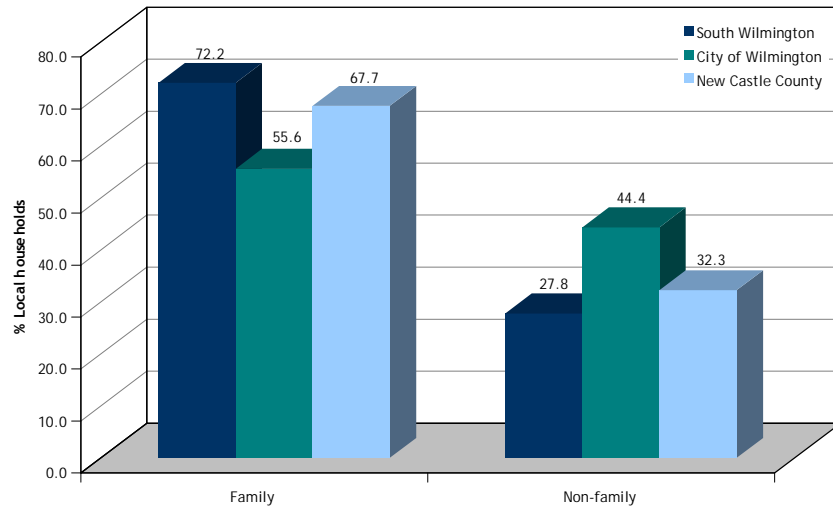
Figure 2.6. Family and non-family households as percentages of local households in South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

- Compared to the City of Wilmington and New Castle County, a higher percentage of South Wilmington households were family households.

- In all three areas, family households outnumbered non-family households.

Head of household characteristics

In 2000, three-quarters of South Wilmington householders were between the ages of 25 and 64, with the majority of householders falling in the 25 to 44-year old age range; similar householder-age distributions were found in the City of Wilmington and New Castle County, as shown in Figure 2.7. Relative to the City of Wilmington and New Castle County, South Wilmington had a slightly higher percentage of householders in the 15 to 24-year old age range and a lower percentage of householders over the age of 65. This is consistent with the conclusion that South Wilmington, overall, has a younger population than either the City of Wilmington or New Castle County.
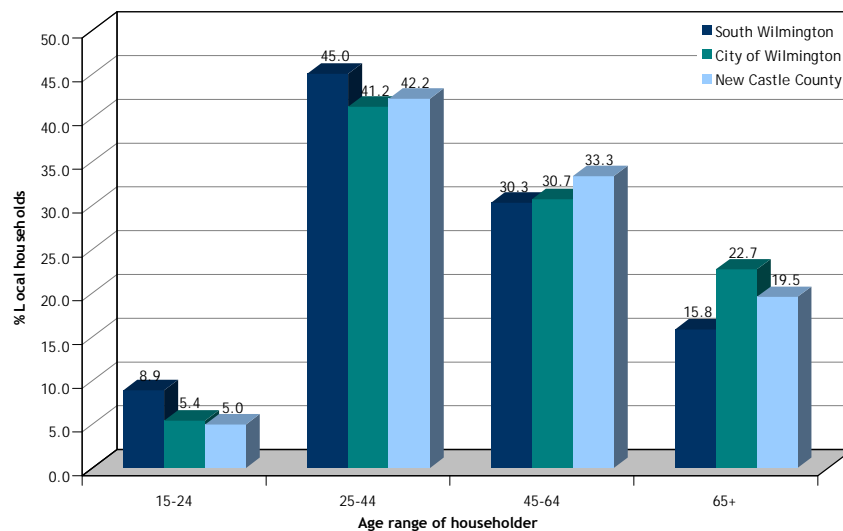
Figure 2.7. Percentages of head of households by age for South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

- Overall, the distribution patterns of householder age are similar in South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County.

- The greatest percentage of householders in the three areas fell between the ages of 25 and 44.

	South Wilmington	City of Wilmington	New Castle County
Total number of households	733	28,661	188,974
Family households	72.2	55.6	67.7
Householder aged 15-24	7.8	2.9	2.1
Householder aged 25-44	37.2	2.6	30.9
Householder aged 45-64	19.2	17.7	24.1
Householder aged 65+	7.9	8.6	10.6
Non-family households	27.8	44.4	32.3
Householder aged 15-24	1.1	2.5	2.9
Householder aged 25-44	7.8	14.9	11.3
Householder aged 45-64	11.1	13.0	9.2
Householder aged 65+	7.9	14.0	8.9

Table 2.6. Percentages of head of household by age and household type for South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

Household size

In the three areas examined, the majority of people lived in households occupied by three or fewer persons (see Figures 2.8. and 2.9.). In both South Wilmington and New Castle County, the largest percentages of households were those that had two people. In the City of Wilmington, 37 percent of households were single-person households, which is greater than the percentages seen in South Wilmington and New Castle County.
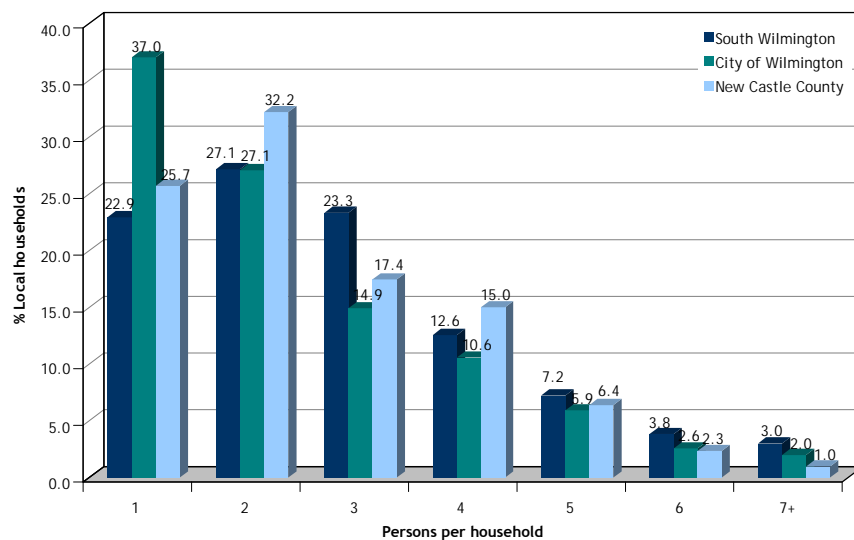
Figure 2.8. Number of persons per household as percentages of local households for South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

- More people in the City of Wilmington lived alone than in either South Wilmington or New Castle County.

- Most South Wilmington households had three or fewer people.

- The greatest percentage of New Castle County households had two persons.

a. Family households

45.0
40.0
35.0
30.0
25.0
20.0
15.0
10.0
5.0
0.0

% Local family households

■ South Wilmington
■ City of Wilmington
■ New Castle County

2: 31.0 37.4 39.7
3: 32.1 25.5 24.6
4: 17.4 18.5 21.5
5: 10.0 10.5 9.4
6: 5.3 4.5 3.4
7+: 4.2 3.6 1.4

Persons per household

b. Non-family households

90.0
80.0
70.0
60.0
50.0
40.0
30.0
20.0
10.0
0.0

% Local non-family households

■ South Wilmington
■ City of Wilmington
■ New Castle County

1: 82.4 83.4 79.6
2: 17.2 14.2 16.4
3: 0.5 1.6 2.3
4: 0.0 0.6 1.3
5: 0.0 0.1 0.2
6: 0.0 0.1 0.1

Persons per household

Figure 2.9. Number of people per family household (top) and non-family household (bottom) as percentages of local family and non-family households in South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

♦ Most New Castle County families had two persons, while South Wilmington families most often had between two to three persons.

♦ Most non-family households were limited to one to two persons in all three areas.

Characteristics of households with children

In South Wilmington, a greater proportion of family households had children under the age of 18 (57.3 percent) than in the City of Wilmington (49.2 percent) or New Castle County (48.8 percent) (Figure 2.10.). Of the South Wilmington family households with children, 20.1 percent were married-couple families; 71.6 percent were households with female householders and no husbands present; and 8.3 percent were households with male householders and no wives present. In contrast, 71.4 percent of New Castle County family households with children were married-couple households. All three areas had greater percentages of households with female householders and no husbands present than households with male householders and no wives present.

South Wilmington Socioeconomic Profile
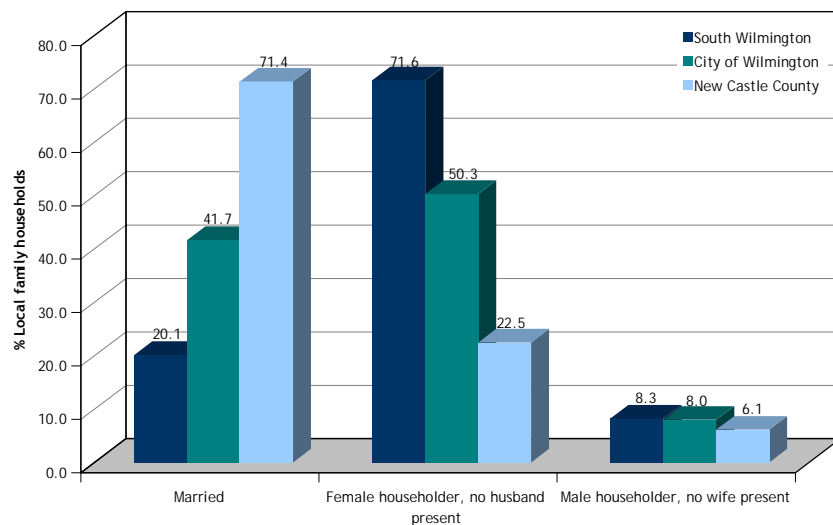
Figure 2.10. Percentages of family households with children under the age of 18 in South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County, by type of household.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

- ◆ Family households with female householders and no husbands present were more common than households with male householders and no wives.

- ◆ Relative to the City of Wilmington and New Castle County, fewer South Wilmington married couple-families had children.

2.c. Residential Housing Characteristics

In this section, information is presented on the occupancy and ownership of housing units in South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County. As mentioned previously, a housing unit may be a house, an apartment, a mobile home, or even a single room—as long as the space is designated as separate living quarters and directly accessible by the occupant (Woodward & Damon, 2001).

In Census 2000, a housing unit was considered "occupied" if it was the permanent (usual) place of residence for its inhabitants. If no one was living in the housing unit, but the unit *could be* inhabited, it was designated as being "vacant." Condemned units or those lacking roofs, walls, windows, and/or doors were not included in the Census inventory and thus are not reflected in this report.

South Wilmington had greater percentages of vacant housing units and lower percentages of owner-occupied units when compared to residential housing in the City of Wilmington and New Castle County (see Table 2.7. and Figures 2.11. and 2.12.). In 2000, there were 881 total housing units within South Wilmington. Of these housing units, 83.2 percent were occupied while 16.8 percent were vacant. Of the occupied South Wilmington housing units, 40 percent were owner-occupied and 60 percent were renter-occupied. While the ratio of occupied to vacant housing units in the City of Wilmington did not differ much from South Wilmington occupancy, the City of Wilmington did have a more equal split between renter- and owner-occupied housing units. By contrast, in New Castle County, nearly 95 percent of all housing units were occupied and of these units, approximately 70 percent were occupied by their owners.

	Total housing units
South Wilmington	881
City of Wilmington	32,138
New Castle County	199,521

Table 2.7. Total number of housing units in South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County.
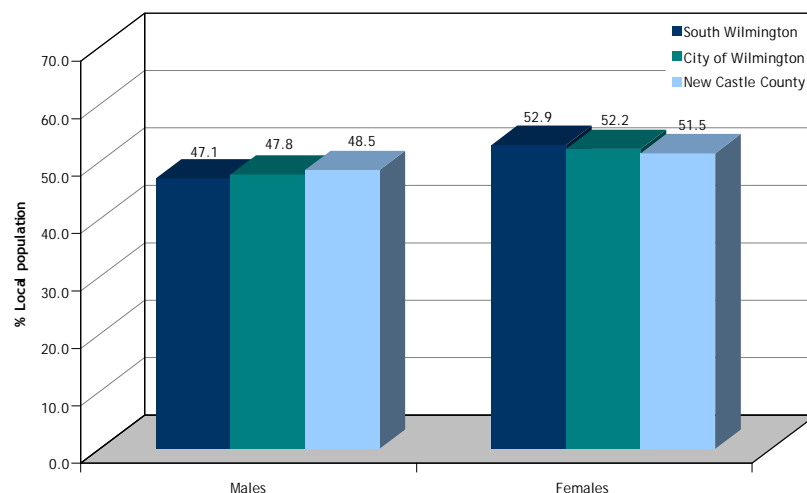*Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000*
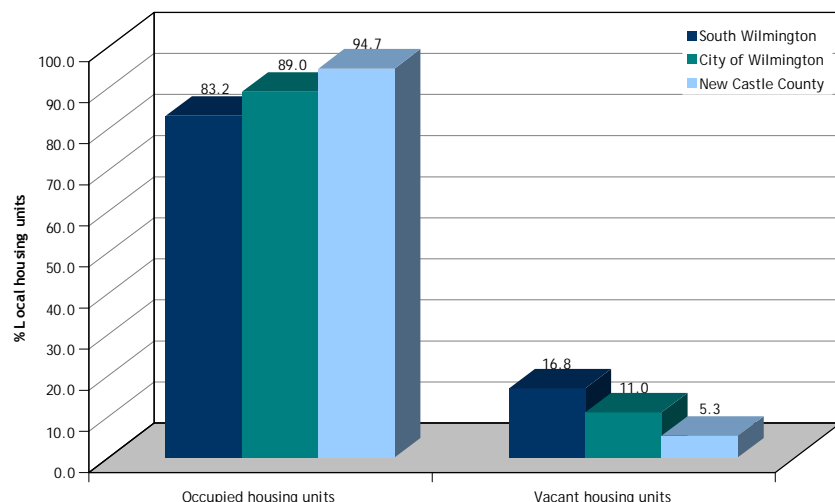
Figure 2.11. Percentages of occupied and vacant housing units in South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

♦ In South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County, more housing units were occupied than vacant.

♦ Relative to the City of Wilmington and New Castle County, South Wilmington had a greater proportion of vacant properties.
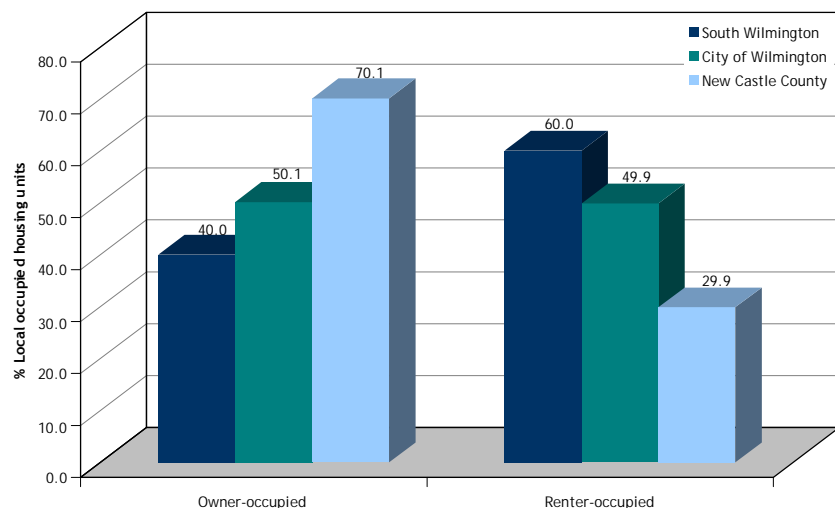
Figure 2.12. Owner- and renter-occupied housing units as percentages of local occupied housing units in South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

♦ In South Wilmington, the percentage of owner-occupied units was nearly one-third lower than the percentage in New Castle County.

♦ Most South Wilmington housing units were rented.

Chapter 3: Demographic Characteristics
Census block groups-level presentation
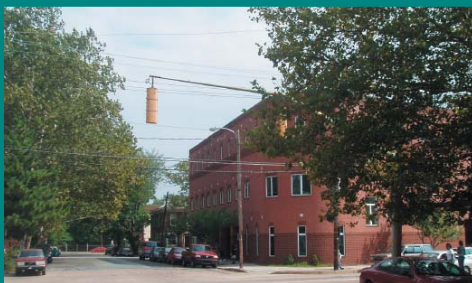
Chapter 3: Demographic Characteristics:
Census block groups-level presentation

This chapter provides U.S. Census Bureau (Census) information on the residents of South Wilmington, presented using the block groups shown in Figure 3.1. Data are presented on the population, education, household, and disability characteristics of block groups in the South Wilmington area, as well as for the comparative areas of the City of Wilmington and New Castle County.

Note that some of the data variables presented in this chapter are the same data variables as were presented in Chapter 2; however, the data in Chapter 3 are presented at a different level of Census geography. As discussed previously, disclosure issues restrict data availability at the blocks level, and therefore only a limited number of demographic data variables are presented in Chapter 2. In order to allow the inclusion of a greater number of data variables, and thus thoroughly describe the population of South Wilmington, it was necessary to change the dimension and extent of the study area by using Census block groups. Census block groups, for which data are presented in Chapter 3, represent the next level above Census blocks in the geographic hierarchy; a block group is the smallest geographic entity for which the Census releases all data. Aggregated data for the block groups shown in Figure 3.1. are presented; these four Census block groups represent the closest match between the SAMP Project Area geography (shown in Figure 1.1.) and Census block groups.

For the remainder of Chapter 3, references to "South Wilmington" represent the area bounded by the four Census block groups selected to best cover the SAMP Project Area which includes Southbridge and the New Castle/Route 9 corridor developments.

South Wilmington block groups-level
Key Numbers:

Total population: 5,103
   Population density: 914.5 persons/ mi^2
   Majority race: Black (81.3 percent)
   Percent male: 44.7
   Percent female: 55.3

Total students enrolled: 1,685

Average highest level of educational attainment: High school diploma

Total number of households: 1,782
   Percent family households: 72.4
   Percent non-family households: 27.6
   Percent households with children: 38.7

Percent of population with a disability:
   25.3

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000
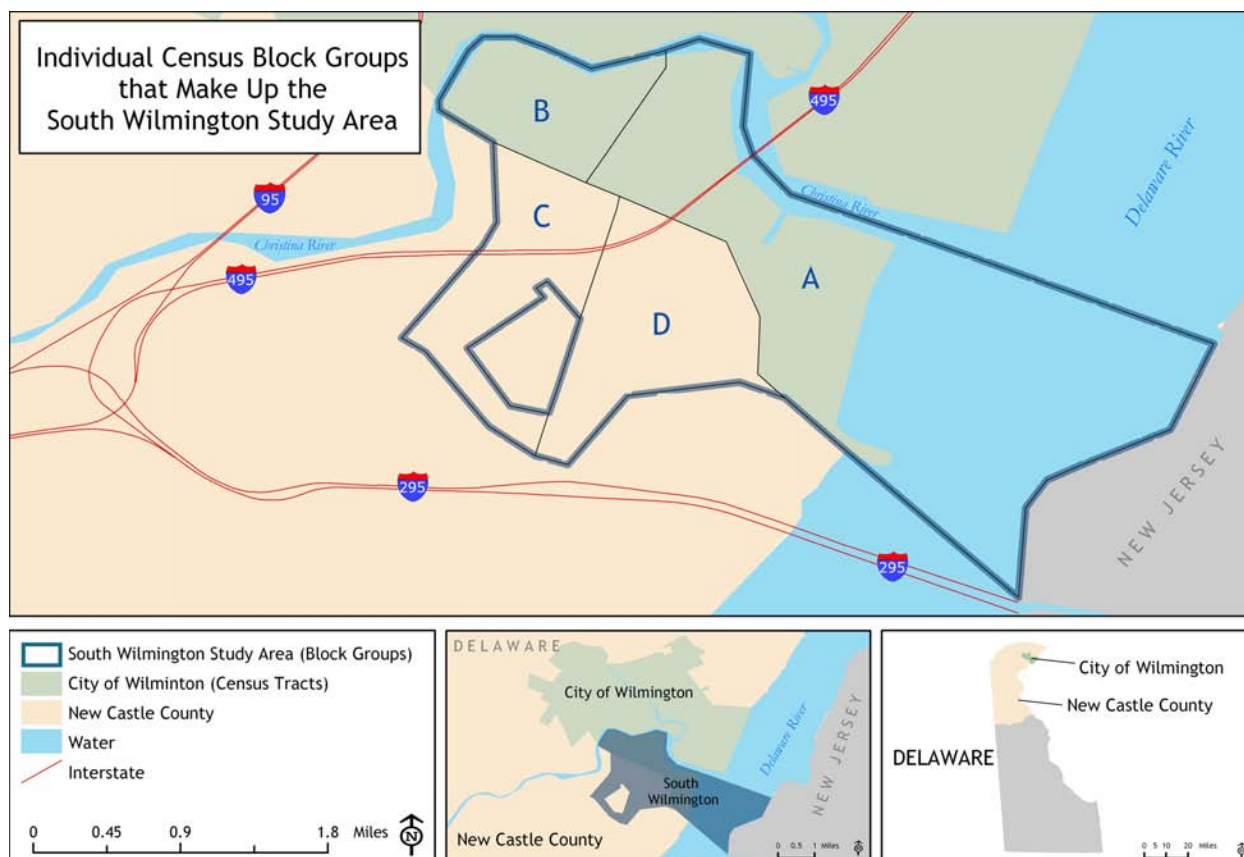
Figure 3.1. The four Census block groups that make up the South Wilmington study area used in this chapter of the report.
Sources: Delaware Department of Transportation, 2001; U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

3.a. Population Characteristics

In 2000, South Wilmington had a total population of 5,103; the City of Wilmington had a population of 72,664; and New Castle County had a total population of 500,265 (see Table 3.1.). This section of the chapter presents the racial composition, gender distribution, and age distribution for the South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County populations.

	Total population
South Wilmington	5,103
City of Wilmington	72,664
New Castle County	500,265

Table 3.1. Total population in South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

	Total area	Population density
South Wilmington	5.58 mi^2	914.5 persons/ mi^2
City of Wilmington	10.85 mi^2	6,698.1 persons/ mi^2
New Castle County	426.27 mi^2	1,173.6 persons/ mi^2

Table 3.2. Area and population density for South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County.

Racial composition

In 2000, of the 5,103 people living in South Wilmington, 4,148, or 81.3 percent, reported being Black, making this the majority race in the study area (Figure 3.2.). The White population, at 646 people, represented 12.7 percent of the South Wilmington population. Less than three percent of South Wilmington residents reported being of two or more races or some other race not otherwise represented in Census 2000. Less than one percent of the South Wilmington population reported being Asian or Native American and no residents reported their race as Pacific.

With respect to racial composition, the primary difference seen between South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County was the race of the majority population (see Figure 3.2.). While in South Wilmington and Wilmington the majority race was Black, in New Castle County, the White population was the majority, representing nearly three-quarters of the total New Castle County population.
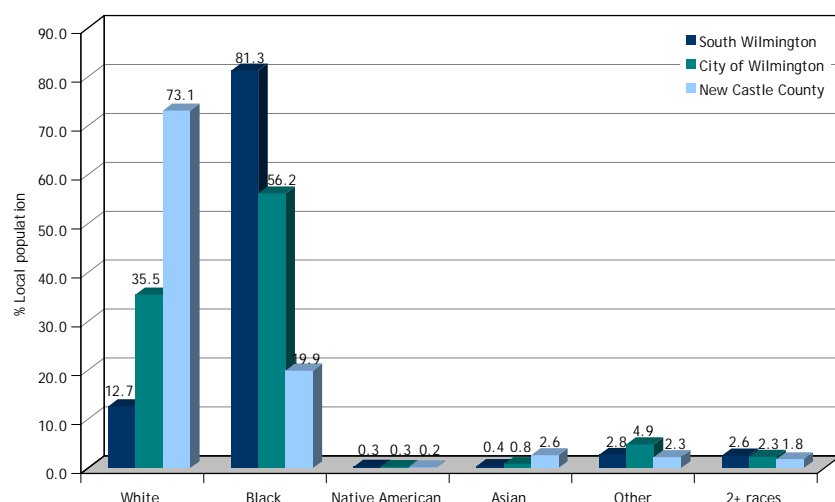
Figure 3.2. Racial composition as percentages of the local populations of South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

♦ The majority populations in South Wilmington and the City of Wilmington were Black.

♦ The majority population in New Castle County was White.

Gender distribution

In South Wilmington, 2,823 people, or 55.3 percent of the population, were female and 2,280 people, or 44.7 percent, were male (Figure 3.3.). Although South Wilmington did have a slightly higher proportion of females than did either the City of Wilmington or New Castle County, the South Wilmington female-male ratio was similar to that seen in the City of Wilmington, where 52.2 percent of the population was female, and in New Castle County, where females accounted for 51.5 percent of the population.
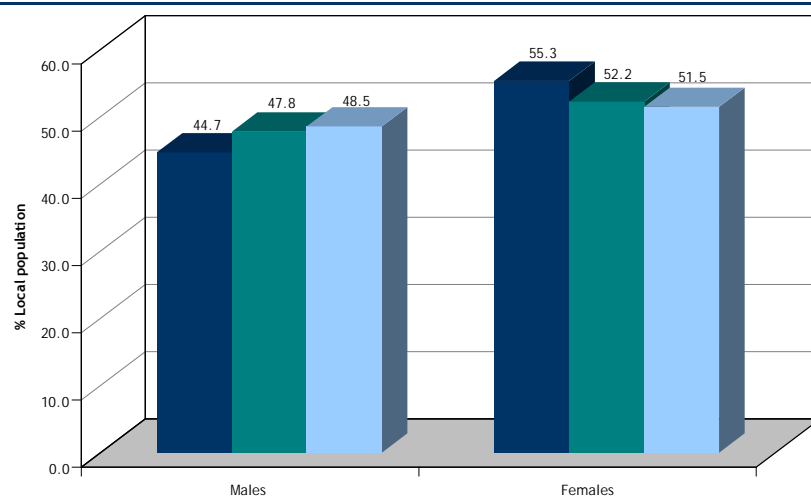
Figure 3.3. Gender distribution as percentages of the local populations in South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

- ◆ All three areas had more women than men.

- ◆ South Wilmington had a slightly greater proportion of females than did the City of Wilmington or New Castle County.

Age distribution

The two largest age groups in South Wilmington were between the ages of five to 17 (26.4 percent) and 25 to 44 (27.2 percent) (see Figure 3.4.). The next largest age group in South Wilmington was the 45 to 64-year old age group, followed by the 65 and older group and those in the 18 to 24-year old age range. The fewest number of South Wilmington residents were under the age of five.

As shown in Figure 3.4., the age distribution in South Wilmington differs from the distributions in both the City of Wilmington and New Castle County. Overall, the South Wilmington population was younger than the populations in the City of Wilmington and New Castle County, where nearly one-third of the total population was over the age of 45 (versus less than 30 percent in South Wilmington). While more South Wilmington residents fell into the 25 to 44-year old age range than in any other age group, the percentages of 25 to 44-year olds in the City of Wilmington and New Castle County were higher than that of South Wilmington.

When considering age differences between females and males in South Wilmington, most South Wilmington females were between the ages of 25 and 44, while most males were between the ages of five and 17 (see Figure 3.5.). A larger proportion of the South Wilmington population over the age of 65 was female, while more South Wilmington residents under the age of five were male.
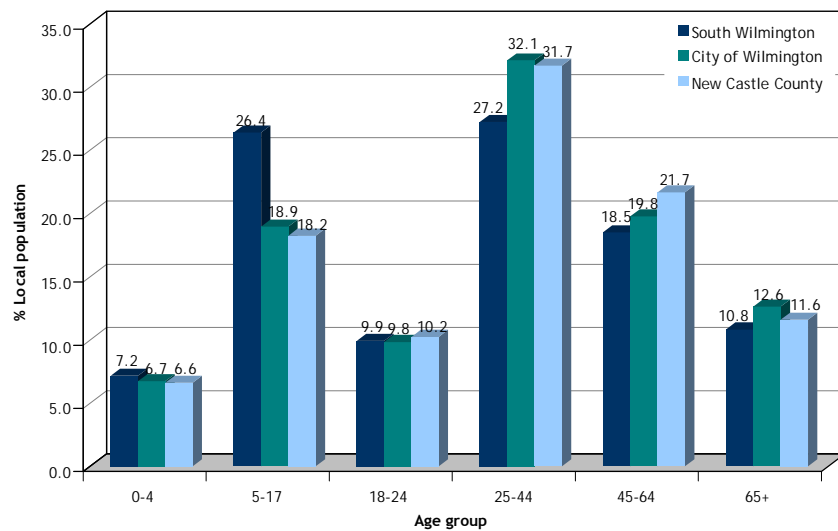
Figure 3.4. Age distribution as percentages of the total populations of South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

♦ Relative to the City of Wilmington and New Castle County, a greater percentage of the South Wilmington population was between five to 17 years of age.

♦ Overall, the City of Wilmington and New Castle County had older populations than South Wilmington.

a. Males by age

b. Females by age

- ◆ A greater percentage of South Wilmington men and women were between five and 17 years of age than the City of Wilmington or New Castle County men and women.

- ◆ Overall, South Wilmington men and women were younger than the City of Wilmington or New Castle County men and women.
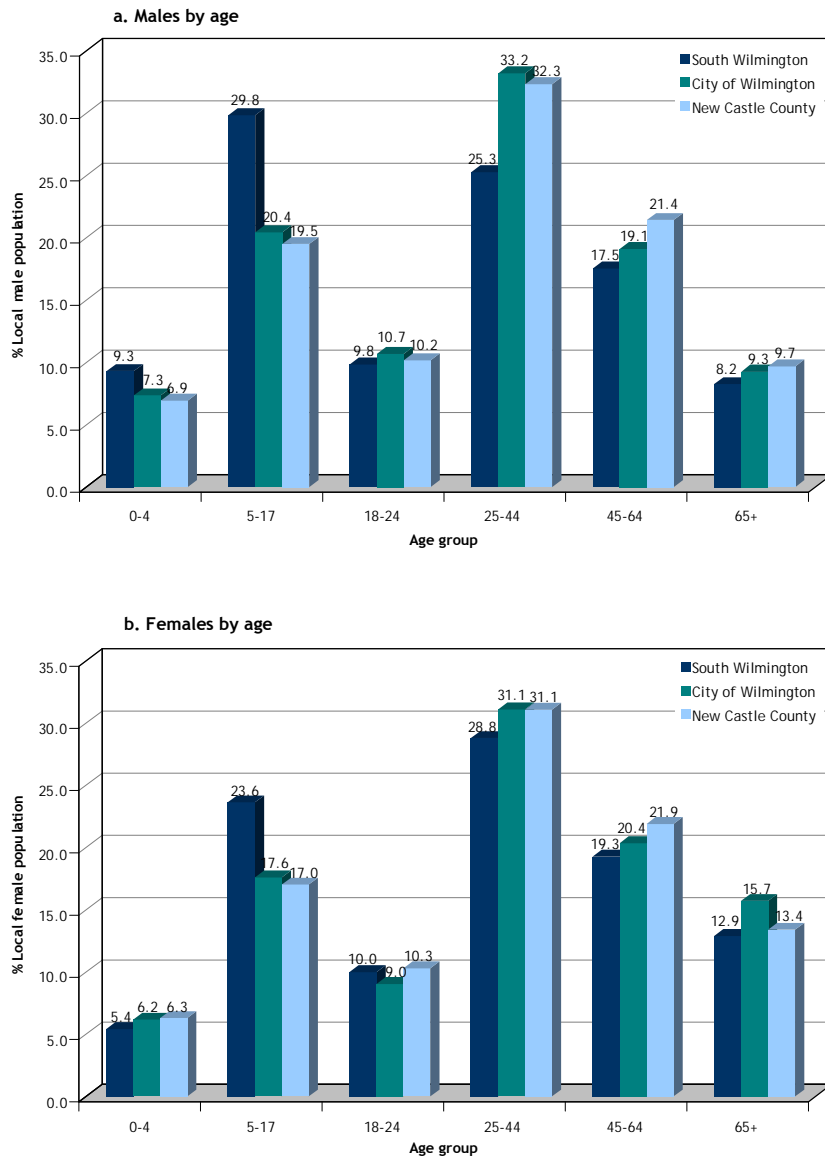
Figure 3.5. Age distribution of males (top) and females (bottom) as percentages of the male and female populations in South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

3.b. Education

This section presents information on the highest level of education completed and school enrollment in South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County.

Educational attainment

This section presents information for the highest level of education completed by the South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County populations aged 25 years and over. In

2000, 2,885 South Wilmington residents were over 25 years of age; 46,855 Wilmington residents were over 25 years old; and 324,810 New Castle County residents fell into the 25 and over age group.

In South Wilmington, over two-thirds of the 25 and over population had graduated from high school (Figure 3.6.). In South Wilmington, the most commonly achieved education level was that of high school graduate (34.6 percent). Slightly less than 20 percent of the South Wilmington population over the age of 25 years had completed some college, but had not graduated. The college completion rate in 2000 in South Wilmington was 8.8 percent.

For the City of Wilmington, the pattern of achieved education level was similar to that of South Wilmington; one difference was that, in Wilmington, the percentage of the population with a college degree or higher was greater than in South Wilmington. By contrast, in 2000, less than fifteen percent of the New Castle County population had not received a high school diploma and nearly 30 percent had been conferred college or graduate degrees.

When examining educational attainment by gender (Figure 3.7.), the most common level of education completed by South Wilmington females was high school, while the largest percentage of South Wilmington males did not receive high school diplomas (although this percentage was nearly equal to the percentage of males receiving high school diplomas.) A greater overall percentage of South Wilmington women than men completed education beyond high school; otherwise, the patterns of attainment between South Wilmington men and women were similar.
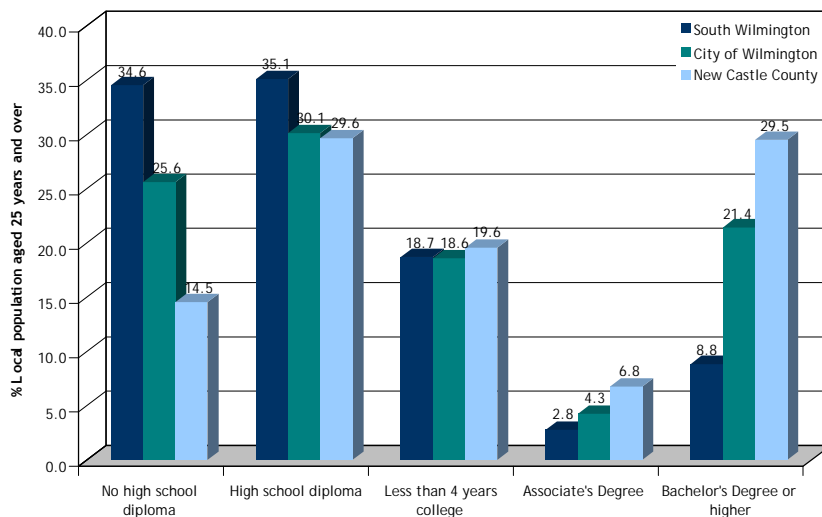
Figure 3.6. Highest level of educational attainment for South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County populations over 25 years of age.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

- ♦ Most South Wilmington residents over 25 years of age graduated from high school.

- ♦ In all three areas, the most commonly achieved education level was that of high school graduate.

- ♦ Relative to the City of Wilmington and New Castle County, South Wilmington had the greatest percentage of its population with no high school diploma.

a. Males

Chart data — % Local male population aged 25 years and over:

Category	South Wilmington	City of Wilmington	New Castle County
No high school diploma	38.1	26.5	15.2
High school diploma	37.3	29.8	28.4
Less than 4 years college	14.6	16.9	18.7
Associate's Degree	2.3	3.9	5.9
Bachelor's Degree or higher	7.7	23.0	31.9

b. Females

Chart data — % Local female population aged 25 years and over:

Category	South Wilmington	City of Wilmington	New Castle County
No high school diploma	32.2	24.9	14.0
High school diploma	33.6	30.4	30.8
Less than 4 years college	21.5	20.0	20.4
Associate's Degree	3.1	4.6	7.6
Bachelor's Degree or higher	9.6	20.1	27.3

- Relative to the City of Wilmington and New Castle County, a greater percentage of South Wilmington males did not have high school diplomas.

- Of the three areas, the greatest percentage of New Castle County males had completed college.

- More South Wilmington females than South Wilmington males completed high school.

Figure 3.7. Highest level of educational attainment for South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County males (top) and females (bottom) over 25 years of age.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

School enrollment

In 2000, the South Wilmington population over the age of three years (i.e., eligible to attend school) was 4,877; of these, one-third were enrolled (see Figure 3.8.). These 1,685 students included 129 students enrolled in nursery school, 492 enrolled in grades kindergarten-4, 483 in grades 5-8, 466 in grades 9-12, 95 in college, and 20 in graduate school. While South Wilmington females enrolled in nursery school outnumbered males, the number of males and females enrolled in other secondary school (K-12) levels was relatively equal. However, the number of females enrolled in post-secondary (undergraduate and graduate) schools was higher than the number of males enrolled (Figure 3.10.).

As in South Wilmington, in both the City of Wilmington and New Castle County, boys slightly outnumbered girls in grades K-8; however, in the City of Wilmington, more 9-12-level students were female (Figure 3.10.). Also, much like South Wilmington, both the City of Wilmington and New Castle County had higher percentages of female than male undergraduate and graduate students.

Relative to the City of Wilmington and New Castle County, a larger percentage of South Wilmington K-12 students attended public schools (Figure 3.11.). In South Wilmington, 1,356 students, or 94.1 percent of all K-12 students enrolled, attended public schools, versus 85 students, or 5.9 percent, who attended private schools. In contrast, 21,041 New Castle County students, or 22.9 percent of all K-12 New Castle County students enrolled, attended private schools during the year 2000.
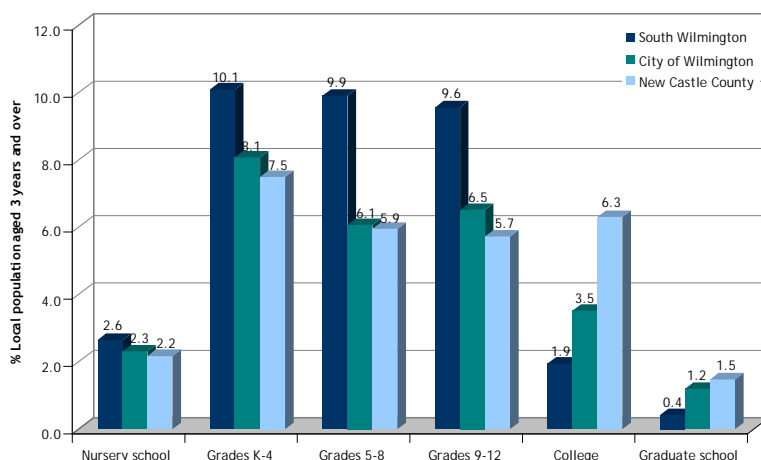
Figure 3.8. Total school enrollment by level as percentages of the local populations aged over three years for South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

- ♦ Relative to the City of Wilmington and New Castle County, a greater percentage of the South Wilmington population over three years of age was enrolled in school.

- ♦ Of the three areas, South Wilmington had the highest proportion of its population enrolled in nursery school through twelfth grade.
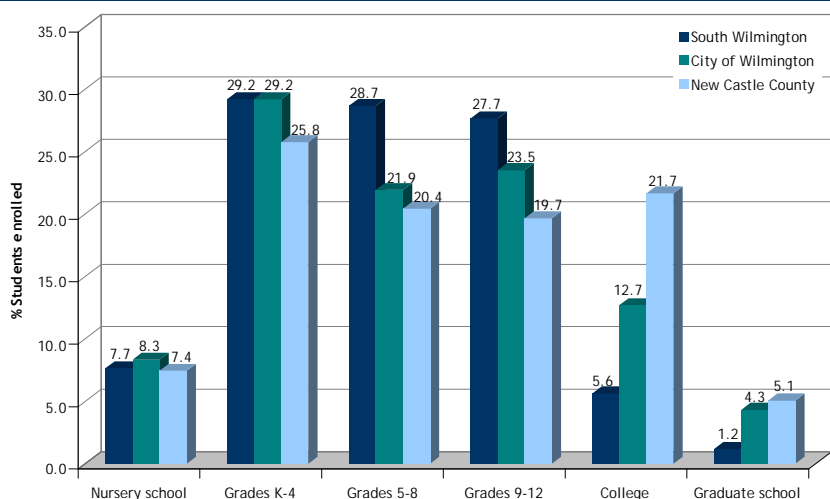
Figure 3.9. Total school enrollment by level as percentages of students enrolled for South Wilmington, City of Wilmington, and New Castle County.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

- ♦ Of the three areas, New Castle County had the greatest percentage of students in college.

- ♦ Relative to the City of Wilmington and New Castle County, more South Wilmington students were enrolled in grades 5-12.

a. South Wilmington

b. City of Wilmington
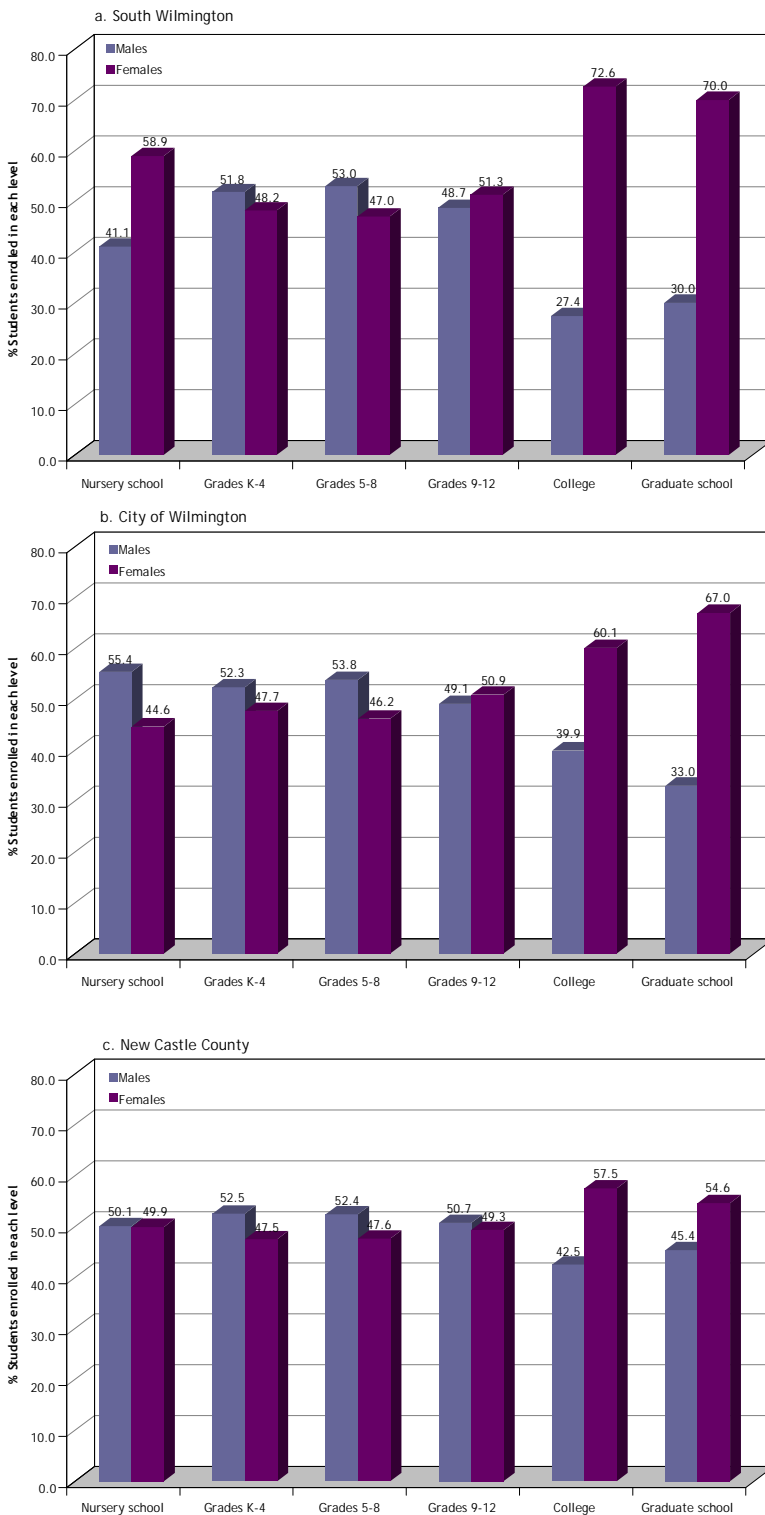
c. New Castle County

Figure 3.10. Student enrollment by gender as percentages of students enrolled in South Wilmington (top), the City of Wilmington (middle), and New Castle County (bottom).
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

◆ In all three areas, more females than males were enrolled in college and graduate school.

◆ In South Wilmington, girls outnumbered boys in nursery school and high school, while boys outnumbered girls in middle school.

Figure 3.11. Public versus private K-12 school enrollment as percentages of total K-12 enrollment for South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

♦ A larger percentage of South Wilmington students attended K-12 public schools than did City of Wilmington or New Castle County students.
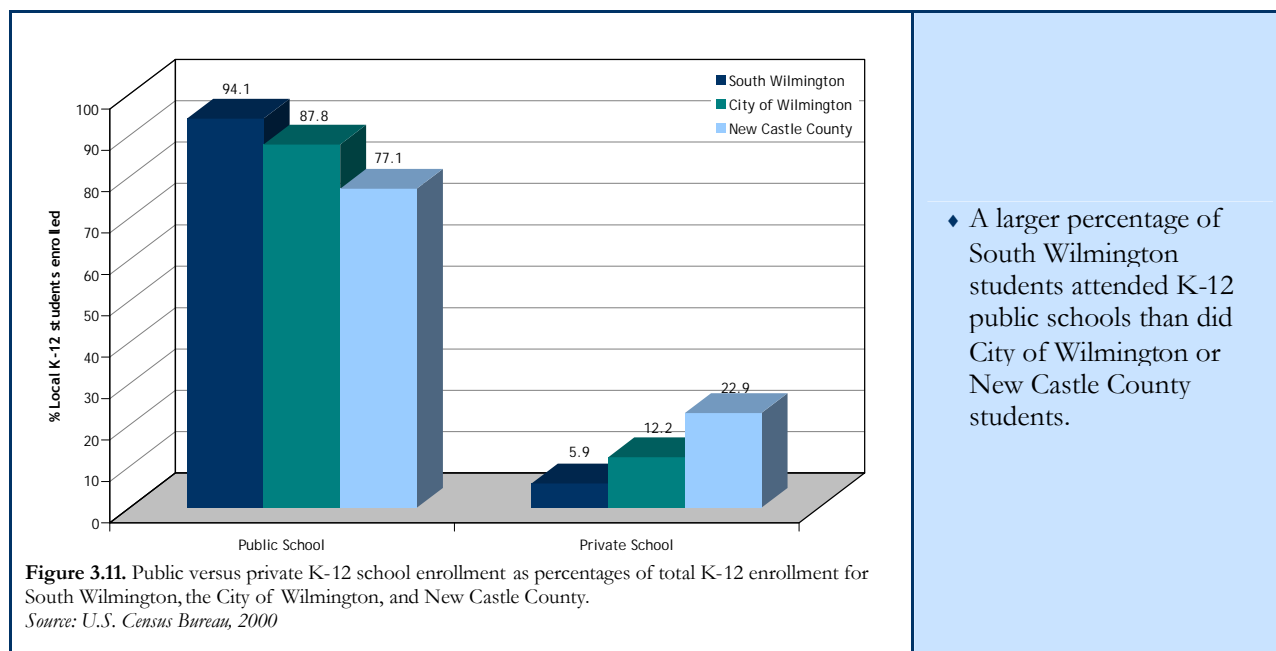
3.c. Household Characteristics

This section presents information on the households in South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County. As mentioned in Chapter 2, a household includes all of the people who occupy a housing unit; a housing unit is defined as a space intended as separate living quarters with direct access from outside the building or through a common hall (Woodward & Damon, 2001). Each household has a single "householder," who is typically the person who owns the home or whose name appears on the rental lease (Simmons & O'Neill). Persons not living in households were classified by Census 2000 as living in group quarters.

According to Census 2000, there were 1,782 total households in South Wilmington; 28,661 households in the City of Wilmington; and 188,974 households in New Castle County (see Table 3.3.). In South Wilmington, 100 percent of residents were living in households; in the City of Wilmington, 94 percent of residents were in households; and 96 percent of New Castle County residents were household residents.

	Total households
South Wilmington	1,782
City of Wilmington	28,661
New Castle County	188,974

Table 3.3. Total number of households in South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

Household types

The Census Bureau defines two household types: (1) family households, where the householder and the people in the household are related and (2) non-family households, where the householder is living alone or with non-relatives (Simmons & O'Neill, 2001). Nearly three-quarters of South Wilmington households were family households, which is a greater percentage than seen in the City of Wilmington and New Castle County (Table 3.4. and Figure 3.12.). The majority (36.1 percent) of all South Wilmington households were female family households, meaning households with a female householder and no husband present. In contrast, in the City of Wilmington, the majority of households were single-person households and approximately half of all New Castle County households were married-couple households.

	South Wilmington	City of Wilmington	New Castle County
Total number of households	1,782	28,661	188,974
Family households	72.4	55.6	67.7
Married-couple households	29.4	27.7	50.8
Female householder, no husband present	36.1	23.2	12.9
Male householder, no wife present	6.9	4.8	4.1
Non-family households	27.6	44.4	32.3
One person	21.9	37.0	25.7
Two or more persons	11.5	13.5	8.6
65 years and over	5.6	7.4	6.6

Table 3.4.: Percent of households by type for South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

Figure 3.12. Family and non-family households in South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

- South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County all had more family households than non-family households.

- Of the three areas, South Wilmington had the highest percentage of family households.
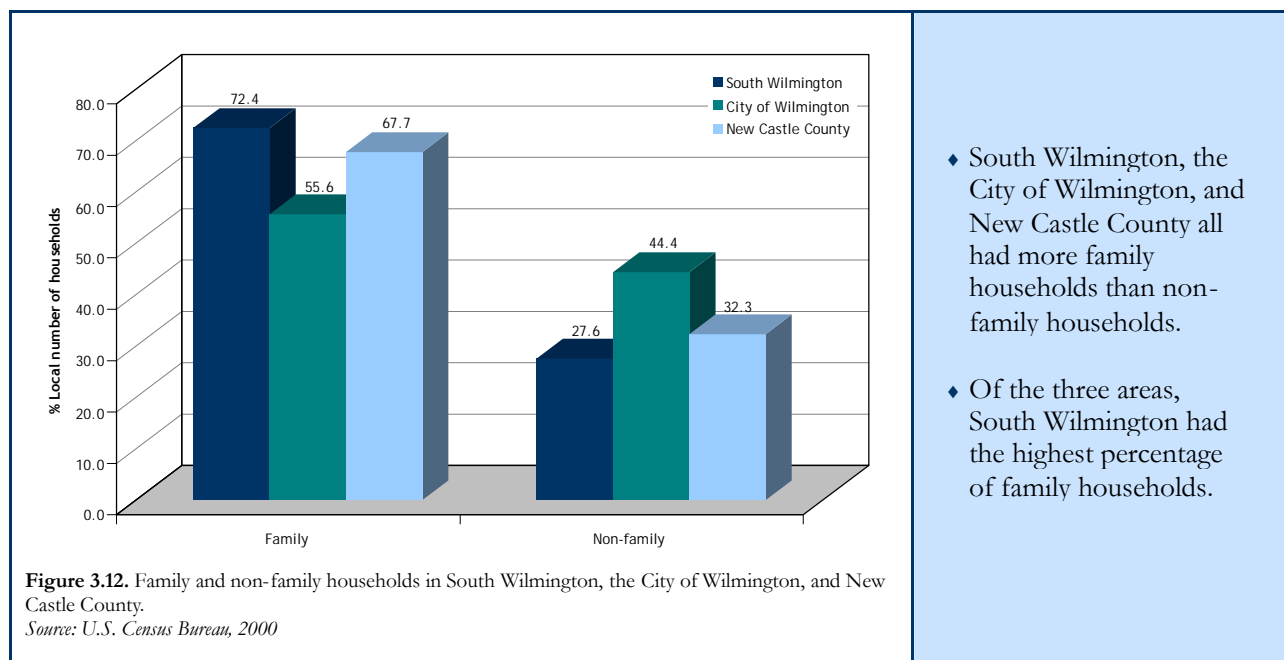
Household size

In 2000, nearly 70 percent of South Wilmington households had between one to three persons, with two-person households begin the most common (Figure 3.13.). Households with more than six people made up less than six percent of all South Wilmington households. Like South Wilmington, smaller households (less than four people) were more common than larger households in the City of Wilmington and New Castle County. However, unlike South Wilmington, over one-third of City of Wilmington households were single-person households and nearly one-third of New Castle County households had two people.

Most South Wilmington family households had three people (Figure 3.14.), while less than ten percent of South Wilmington family households had six or more people. In contrast, nearly 40 percent of New Castle County family households had two people. In South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County, the most common non-family households had only one person.
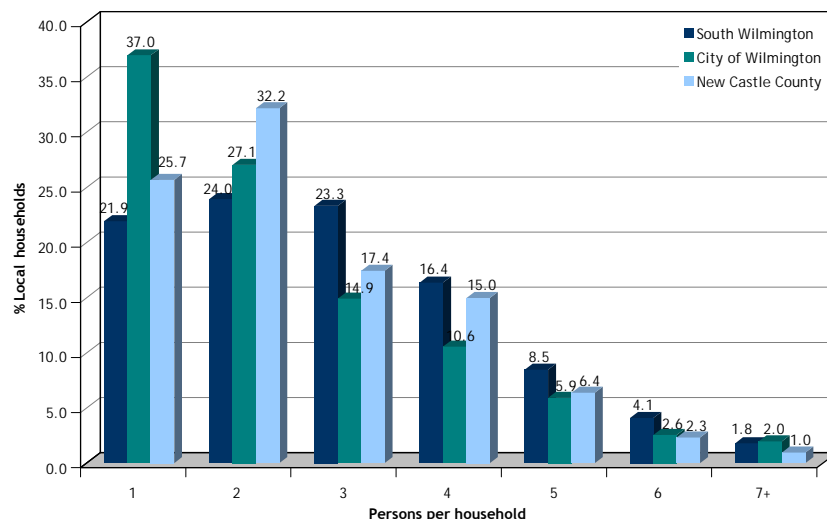
Figure 3.13. Number of persons per household for South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

♦ Relative to South Wilmington and New Castle County, the City of Wilmington had the largest percentage of single-person households.

♦ In all three areas, households with three or fewer persons were most common.

a. Family households

b. Non-family households
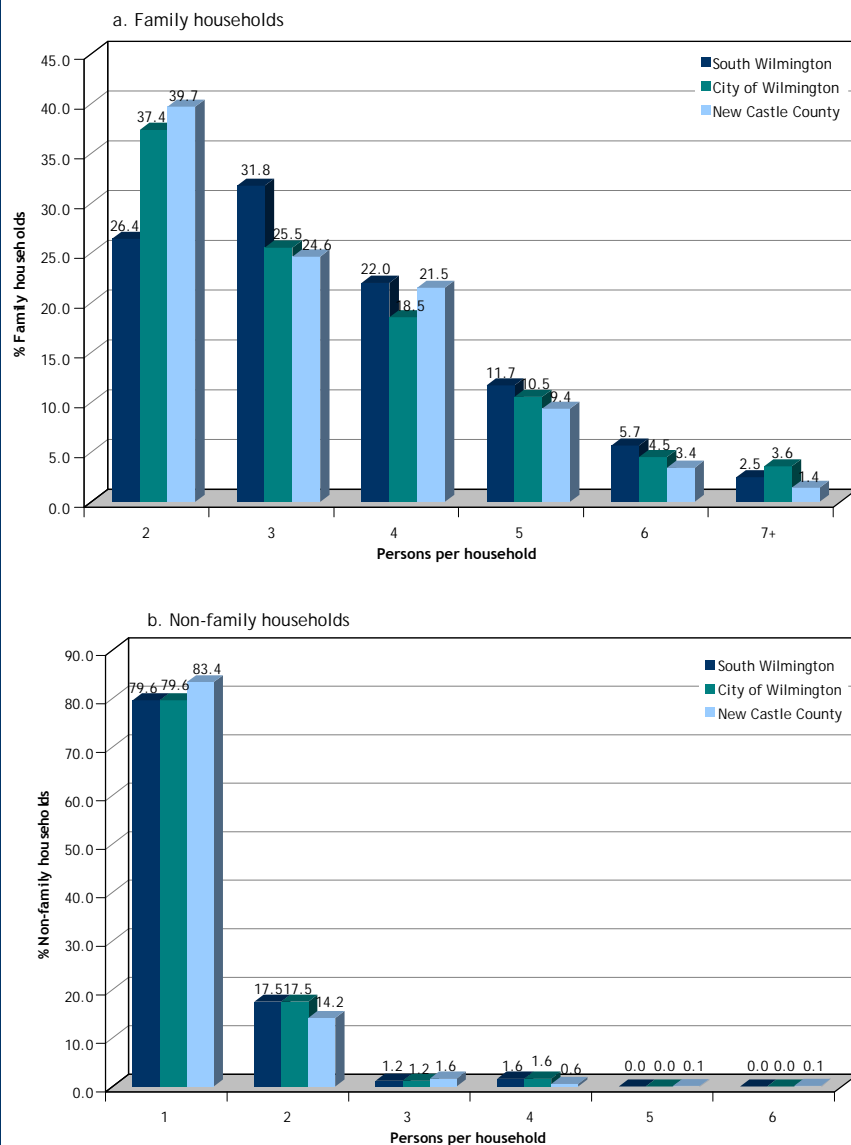
Figure 3.14. Number of people per family (top) and non-family (bottom) households in South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

♦ Most South Wilmington family households had three people, while most City of Wilmington and New Castle County family households had two people.

♦ In all three areas, the majority of non-family households were single-person households.

Household resident characteristics

In 2000, 41.9 percent of South Wilmington householders fell into the 25 to 44-year old age range, followed by 30.8 percent in the 45 to 64-year old age group, 23.1 percent in the 65 and over group, and 4.3 percent in the under 25-year old group. Similar householder-age distributions were found in the City of Wilmington and New Castle County (Figure 3.15. and Table 3.5.). Relative to South Wilmington and the City of Wilmington, New Castle County had a slightly higher percentage of householders in the 45 to 64-year old age range and a lower percentage of householders over the age of 65.

In South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County, over half of household residents who where not householders were children (Figure 3.16.). The next highest percentage of household residents included spouses of householders. In all three areas, non-relatives living in family households were the least common.

The overall distribution of householder ages was similar in all three areas.

In South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County, the greatest percentage of householders were between 25 and 44 years of age.
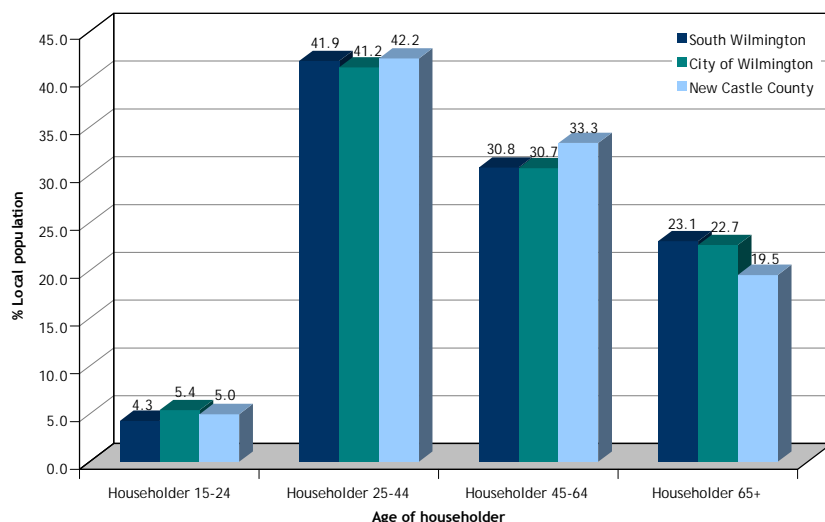
Figure 3.15. Percentages of heads of households by age in South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

	South Wilmington	City of Wilmington	New Castle County
Total number of households	1,782	28,661	188,974
Family households	72.4	55.6	67.7
Householder aged 15-24	3.6	2.9	2.1
Householder aged 25-44	34.8	2.6	30.9
Householder aged 45-64	24.5	17.7	24.1
Householder aged 65+	9.5	8.6	10.6
Non-family households	27.6	44.4	32.3
Householder aged 15-24	0.7	2.5	2.9
Householder aged 25-44	7.1	14.9	11.3
Householder aged 45-64	6.3	13.0	9.2
Householder aged 65+	13.5	14.0	8.9

Table 3.5. Percent of head of households by age for South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

Figure 3.16. Relationship of household members to householders in South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County family households.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

♦ In all three areas, most non-householder household residents were children.

♦ Relative to the City of Wilmington and New Castle County, South Wilmington had the smallest percentage of spouses living in family households.
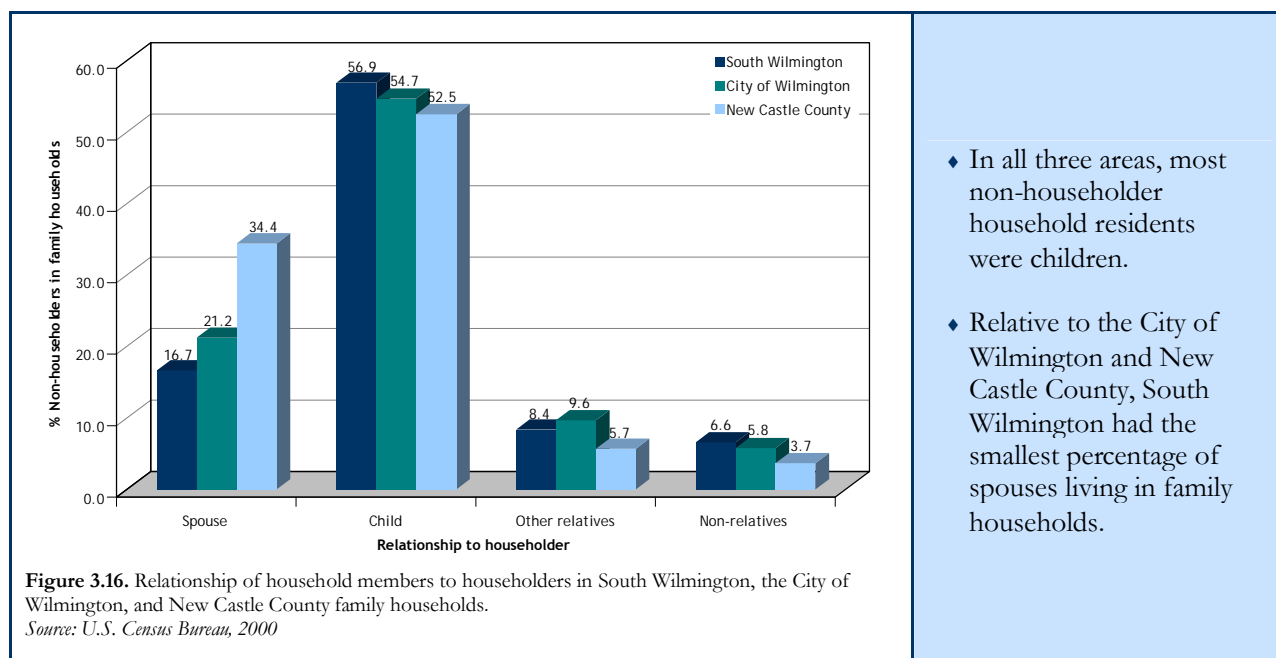
Characteristics of households with children

In 2000, 38.7 percent of all South Wilmington households had children, 27.4 percent of City of Wilmington households had children, and 33.0 percent of New Castle County households had children. Of the South Wilmington households with children, most were female-led family households (Figure 3.17.). By contrast, the majority of New Castle County households with children were married-couple families. In all three areas, the smallest percentage of households with children was male-family households.

South Wilmington had 1,248 children; the City of Wilmington had 14,473 children; and New Castle County had 110,380 children in the year 2000. Most of the children in all three areas were of school age (over four years of age) and over half were between five to 13 years of age (Figure 3.18.). Relative to the City of Wilmington and New Castle County, South Wilmington had the smallest percentage of children under the age of five. The vast majority (over 90 percent) of all children in South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County were the natural-born children of the householder with which they lived (Figure 3.19.).
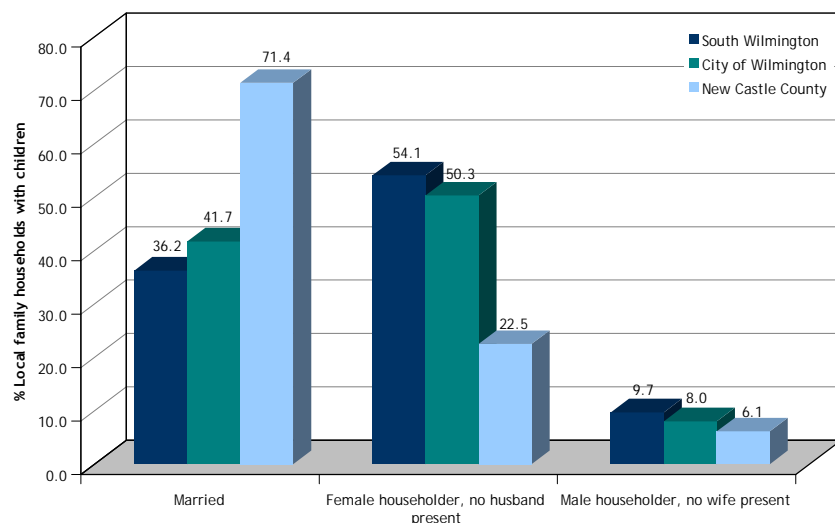
Figure 3.17. Percentages of family households by type in South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County households with children.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

♦ Relative to the City of Wilmington and New Castle County, South Wilmington had the lowest percentage of married-family households with children.

♦ The majority of South Wilmington households with children were female-family households.
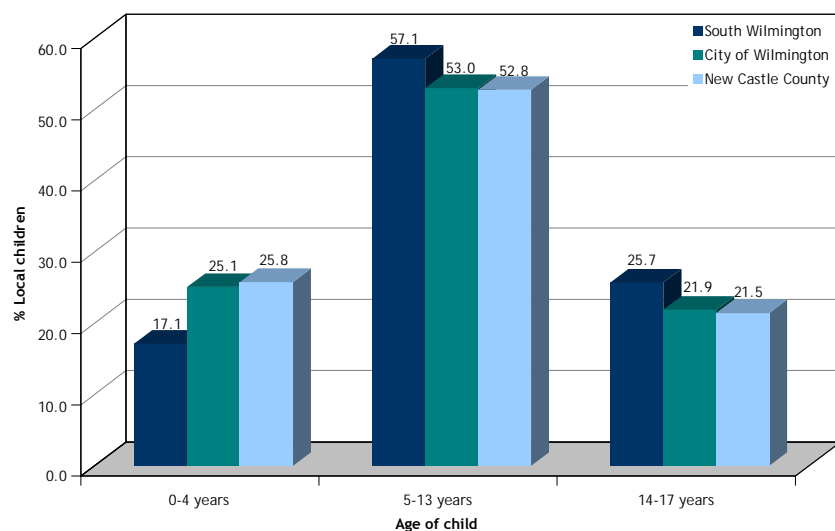
Figure 3.18. Age distributions of children in South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County households.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

♦ Most children in all three areas were between five and 13 years old.

♦ Relative to the City of Wilmington and New Castle County, South Wilmington had a lower percentage of children under five and a higher percentage of children over the age of 13.
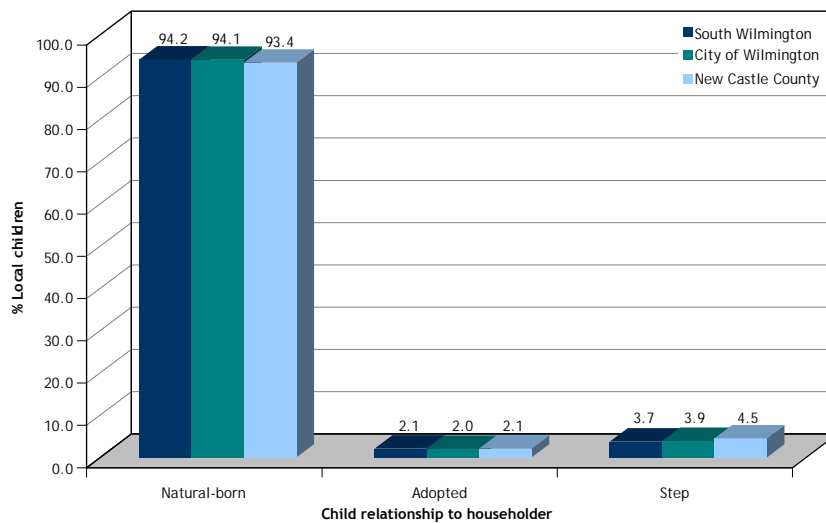
Figure 3.19. Relationship of children to householders in South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County households.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

- Most children in the households of all three areas were direct offspring of the householder.

Household language

In South Wilmington, the language most commonly spoken in households was English (92.6 percent), followed by Spanish (5.5 percent), and then a language other than English or Spanish (1.8 percent) (Figure 3.20.). The same distribution of households languages can be seen in the City of Wilmington and New Castle County, although South Wilmington did have a higher percentage of English-speaking households than either of the comparative areas.
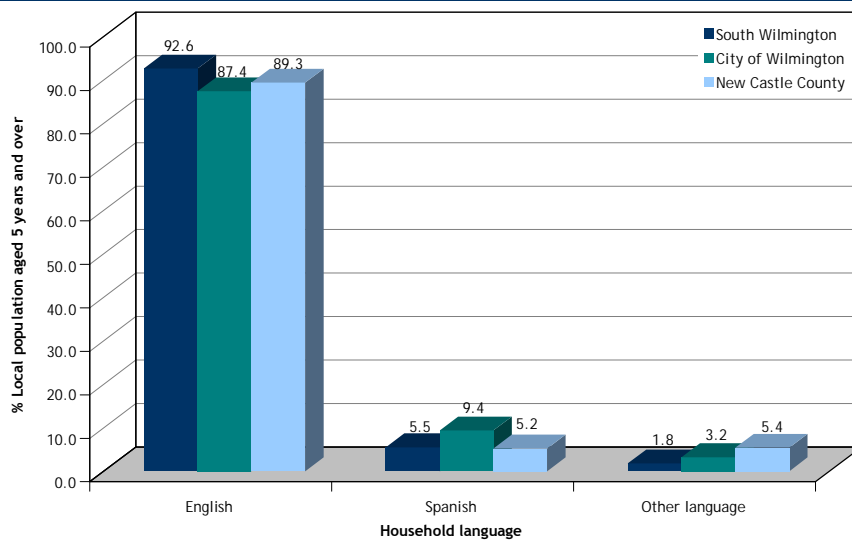
Figure 3.20. Language spoken as percentages of the populations over the age of five years in South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County households.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

- English was the most commonly spoken household language in all three areas.

South Wilmington Socioeconomic Profile

3.d. Disability Characteristics

This section presents information on the disability status, by age and type of disability, of people over the age of five in the civilian non-institutionalized populations of South Wilmington (4,726 people), the City of Wilmington (64,874 people), and New Castle County (458,998 people).

Types of disabilities discussed in this section include the following, as identified in Census 2000:

- *Sensory disabilities* involve long-lasting impairments to vision or hearing
- *Physical disabilities* involve physical limitations, such as walking or climbing stairs
- *Mental disabilities* involve difficulties with cognitive tasks, such as learning, remembering, and concentrating
- *Self-care disabilities* involve difficulties in taking care of personal needs, such as dressing and bathing
- *Go-outside-home disabilities* involve difficulties going outside the home to do things such as shopping or visiting the doctor
- *Employment disabilities* involve having a condition that makes it difficult to work at a job or a business (Waldrop & Stern, 2003).

In 2000, 25.3 percent of the South Wilmington population aged over five reported having some type of disability (Table 3.6.); a greater percentage of this population was female (15.6 percent) than male (9.7 percent) and the largest percentage (16.7 percent) was between the ages of 16 to 64 (Figure 3.21.). Similar patterns were seen in the City of Wilmington and New Castle County, where greater percentages of women than men and members of the 16 to 64-year old age group reported having disabilities. Overall, New Castle County had the lowest portion of its total population report having a disability.

In 2000, 2,322 total disabilities were reported in South Wilmington; 27,623 disabilities were reported in Wilmington; and 134,117 disabilities were reported in New Castle County (Table 3.7.). In all three areas, physical disabilities were the most commonly reported type of disability (Figure 3.23.). South Wilmington had higher percentages of sensory and self-care disabilities than did the City of Wilmington and New Castle County.

When examining type of disability by age, in all three areas the majority of the population reporting a disability between the ages of five and 15 had mental disabilities. For the population between 16 and 64 years of age, disabilities that prevented employment were most common in all three geographic areas. For the population over the age of 65 with a disability, physical disabilities were most often reported in all three areas; the South Wilmington 65 and older population had a greater percentage of sensory disabilities than the two comparative areas.

	Population aged over 5	Population aged over 5 with a disability	
		Total	*Percent*
South Wilmington	4,726	1,196	25.3
City of Wilmington	64, 874	15,336	23.6
New Castle County	458,998	77,673	16.9

Table 3.6. Population aged over five with a disability in South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

Figure 3.21. Percentages of the populations aged over five with a disability by sex in South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

- In all three areas, a larger percentage of females reported having disabilities than did men.

- Relative to the City of Wilmington and New Castle County, a greater proportion of South Wilmington women reported having a disability.
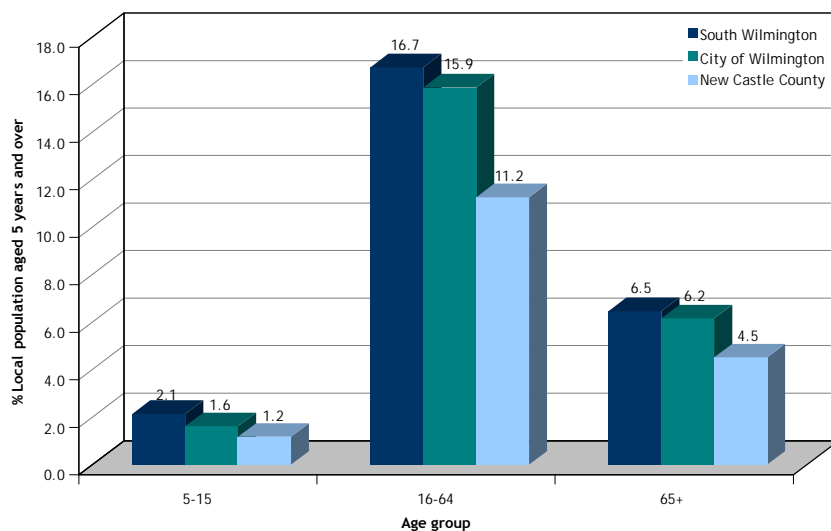
Figure 3.22. Percentages of the populations aged over five with a disability by age in South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

- In South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County, the largest proportion of the population reporting a disability was between 16 to 64 years old.

	South Wilmington	City of Wilmington	New Castle County
Total number of disabilities	2,322	27,623	134,117
For population aged 5-15	113	1,408	6,800
For population aged 16-64	1,472	17,953	87,268
For population aged 65+	737	8,262	40,049

Table 3.7. Total disabilities tallied by age for South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000
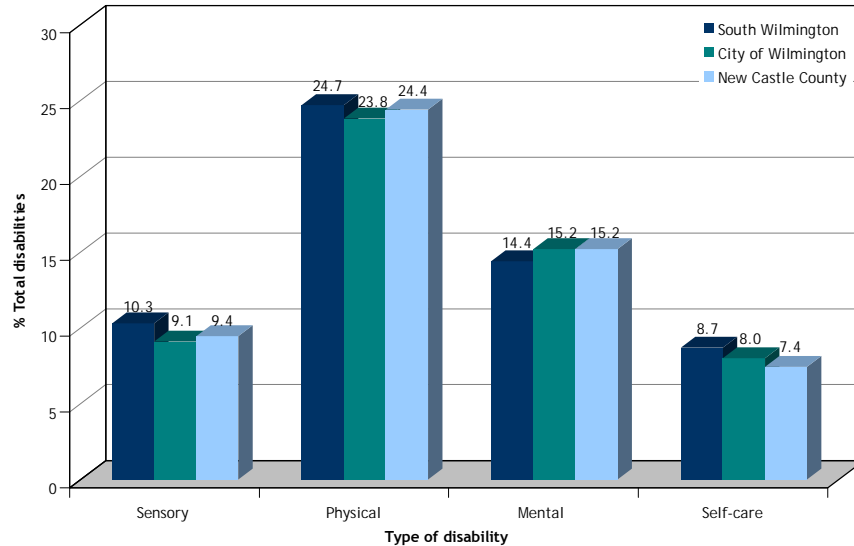
Figure 3.23. Type of disability by percentages of total disabilities reported for the populations over the age of five years in South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

♦ Relative to the City of Wilmington and New Castle County, a larger percentage of sensory disabilities were reported in South Wilmington.

♦ In all three areas, physical disabilities were the most commonly reported type of disability.

a. Population aged 5-15 years

Legend: South Wilmington, City of Wilmington, New Castle County

Y-axis: % Disabilities for local population aged 5-15 years

Type of disability	South Wilmington	City of Wilmington	New Castle County
Sensory	11.5	8.2	9.4
Physical	15.9	13.4	11.9
Mental	52.2	67.0	67.5
Self-care	20.4	11.5	11.2

b. Population aged 16-64 years

Legend: South Wilmington, City of Wilmington, New Castle County

Y-axis: % Disabilities for local population aged 16-64 years

Type of disability	South Wilmington	City of Wilmington	New Castle County
Sensory	5.3	6.5	6.1
Physical	20.8	20.0	20.2
Mental	13.4	12.5	12.6
Self-care	7.1	5.2	5.5
Go-outside-home	21.1	19.5	17.6
Employment	32.3	36.1	38.0

c. Population aged 65 years and over

Legend: South Wilmington, City of Wilmington, New Castle County

Y-axis: % Disabilities for local population aged 65 years and over

Type of disability	South Wilmington	City of Wilmington	New Castle County
Sensory	20.1	14.7	16.7
Physical	33.8	33.7	35.7
Mental	10.7	12.1	12.0
Self-care	10.2	13.4	10.9
Go-outside-home	25.2	26.1	24.7

Figure 3.24. Type of disability by age, presented as percentages of total disabilities reported for the populations over five years of age in South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County. *Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000*

♦ For the populations between five and 15 years of age, mental disabilities were most common in all three areas.

♦ Relative to the City of Wilmington and New Castle County, a smaller percentage of South Wilmington reported disabilities that prohibited employment.

♦ Physical disabilities were most commonly reported for the South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County populations over 65 years of age.

Chapter 4: Employment and Residential Income Characteristics
Census block groups-level presentation

Chapter 4: Employment and Residential Income Characteristics:
Census block groups-level presentation

This chapter presents information on the employment and income characteristics of residents in the South Wilmington block groups shown in Figure 4.1., the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County. Information in this chapter was collected from Census 2000, and thus represents characteristics from the year 2000.

For the remainder of Chapter 4, references to "South Wilmington" represent the area bounded by the four U.S. Census Bureau (Census) block groups (shown in Figure 4.1.) selected to best match the SAMP Project Area, which is illustrated in Figure 1.1 and includes the Southbridge neighborhood as well as developments along the New Castle/Route 9 corridor.

South Wilmington blocks-group level
Key Numbers:

Total population aged 16 years and over: 3,605

Total population in labor force: 2,176
  Total employed: 1,943
  Unemployment rate: 10.2 percent

Top three employment industries:
  1. Health and social services (16.1 percent)
  2. Finance, insurance, and real estate (15.2 percent)
  3. Wholesale and retail trade (14.7 percent)

Most common mode of transport to work:
Driving alone (61.8 percent)

Most common commute duration: 5 to 29 minutes (66.5 percent)

Percent of population aged 18 years and over in U.S. Armed Forces: 0.4

Percent of population aged 18 years and over with veteran status: 11.8

Per capita income: $12,877

Percent of households receiving public assistance: 10.2

Percent of population with incomes below the poverty level: 21.3

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000
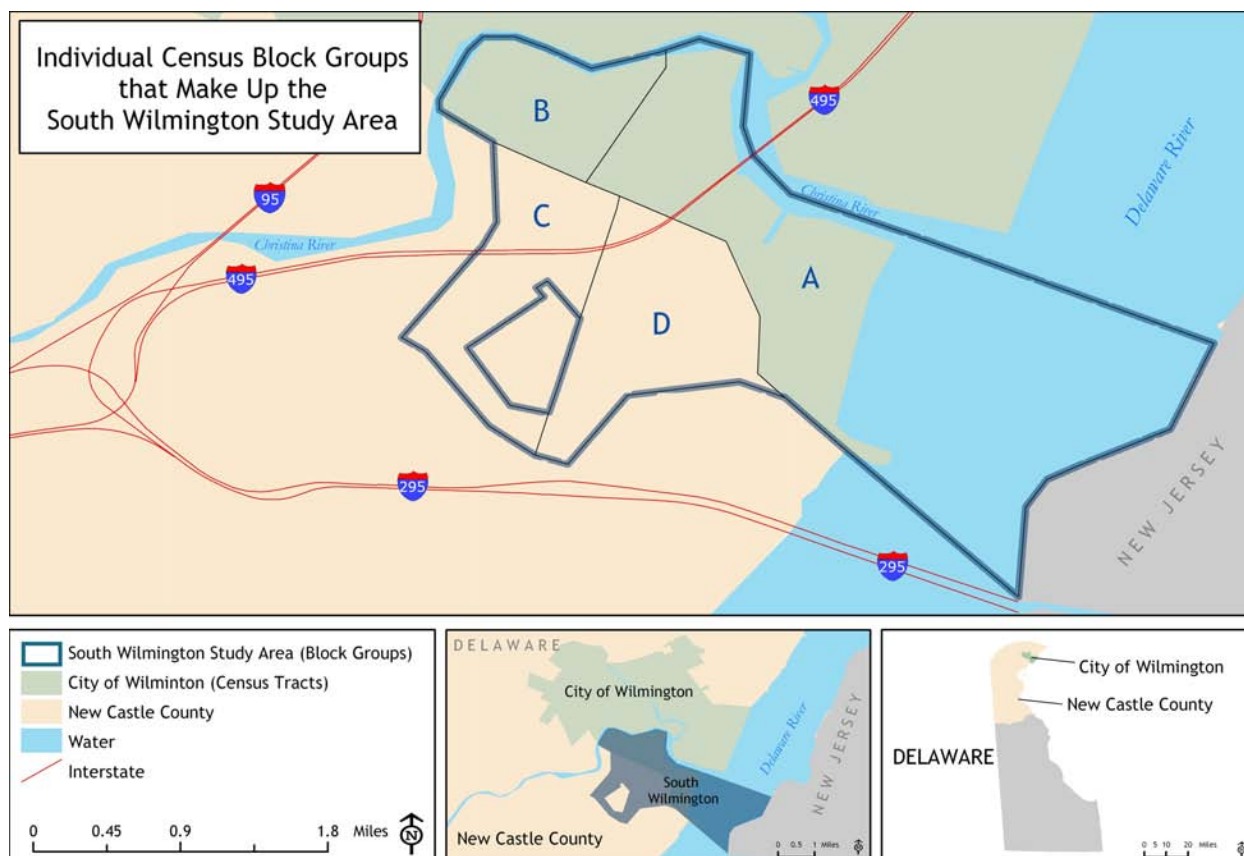
Figure 4.1. The four Census block groups that make up the South Wilmington study area used in this chapter of the report.
Sources: Delaware Department of Transportation, 2001; U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

4.a. Employment Characteristics

In this section, figures are presented on the characteristics of the labor force and employed population in South Wilmington and the two comparative areas. The chapter also presents details on resident employment by industry, where residents work and how they get to work, and Amed Services status.

The Census Bureau defines the labor force to include all people classified in the civilian labor force (employed or unemployed) plus individuals enlisted in the U.S. Armed Forces. Employed individuals include civilians who had a job; while unemployed individuals include those civilians who did not have a job at the time of the Census (Clark & Weismantle, 2003).

In 2000, the South Wilmington population over the age of 16 years was 3,605; of these individuals, 2,176 (60.4 percent) were in the labor force (Table 4.1.). The majority (58.3 percent) of the South Wilmington labor force was female (Figure 4.2.). By comparison, in the City of Wilmington, a similar percentage (60.1 percent) of the population over the age of 16 years was in the labor force, but the split between females and males in the labor force was more equal than what was seen in South Wilmington. In New Castle County, a greater percentage (67.7 percent) of the 16 and over population was in the labor force and, unlike South Wilmington, men in the New Castle County labor force outnumbered women.

Overall, the majority of the populations over the age of 16 years in all three areas were employed (Table 4.1.). The majority of the employed populations in all three areas worked 35 hours or more per week (Figure 4.3.). In 2000, 59.2 percent of the female population in South Wilmington was employed and 40.8 percent of the male population was employed. In contrast, in New Castle County, 51.4 percent of the male population was employed versus 48.6 percent of the female population (Figure 4.4.).

As defined by the Census Bureau, an unemployed civilian is someone who did not have a job during the reference period, was actively looking for work, or was waiting to be called back to a job from which he or she had been laid off and was available to go back to work (Clark and Weismantle, 2003). Census questions relevant to unemployment refer specifically to a time-frame of four weeks of job seeking; individuals who have been looking for longer than four weeks or who have given up on securing a job may not be included in the Census unemployment count (Clark and Weismantle, 2003).

The civilian unemployment rate is defined as the number of unemployed people divided by the sum of employed and unemployed people. In 2000, the unemployment rate in South Wilmington was 10.2 percent, in the City of Wilmington the unemployment rate was 9.6 percent, and in New Castle County the rate was lower, at 5.2 percent. With regards to the unemployment rates in men and women, in South Wilmington, 12.1 percent of the male population and 8.9 percent of the female population were unemployed (Figure 4.5.). Similarly, in both the City of Wilmington and New Castle County, the unemployment rate was higher in the male population.

	South Wilmington	City of Wilmington	New Castle County
Total population aged 16 years and over	3,605	56,086	389,036
Total in labor force	2,176	33,699	263,440
Total employed	1,943	30,412	249,320
Total unemployed	221	3,232	13,571

Table 4.1. Labor force, employed, and unemployed populations in South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County.
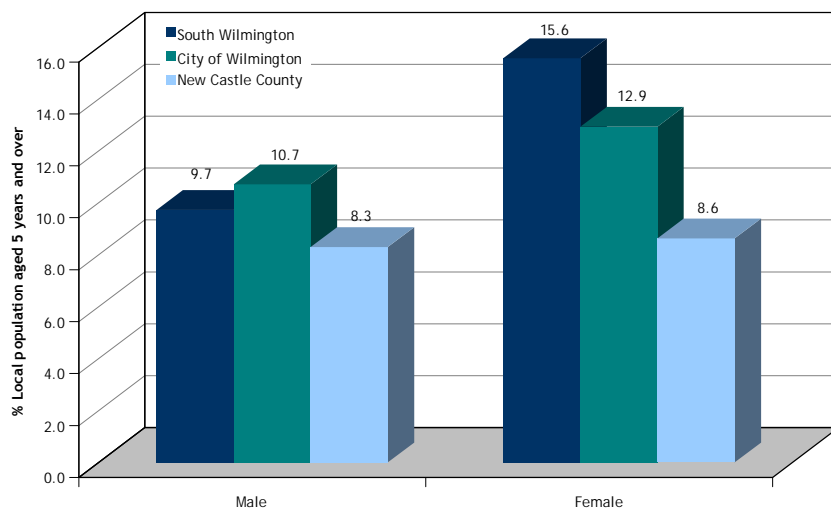*Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000*
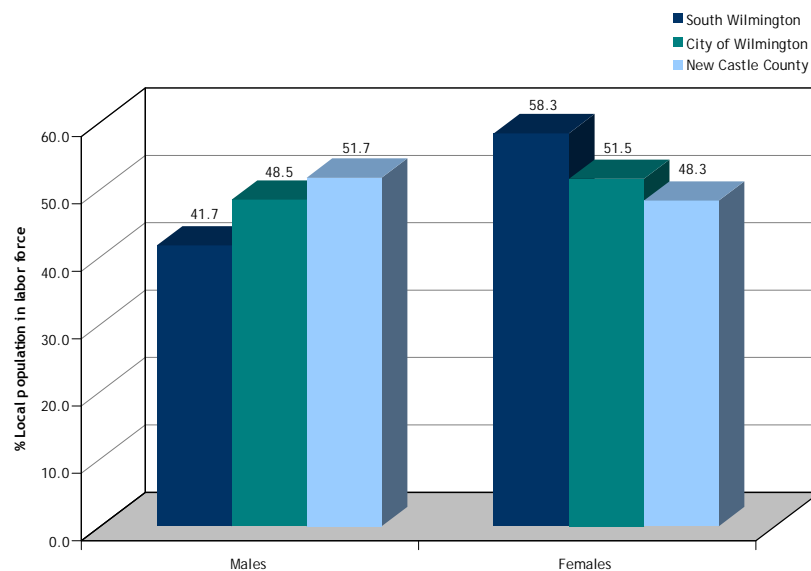
Figure 4.2. Gender distribution in the labor force as percentages of the local populations in the labor force for South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

- ◆ Relative to the City of Wilmington and New Castle County, a greater percentage of South Wilmington females were in the labor force.

- ◆ In South Wilmington and the City of Wilmington, more females than males were in the labor force; the opposite trend was seen in New Castle County.
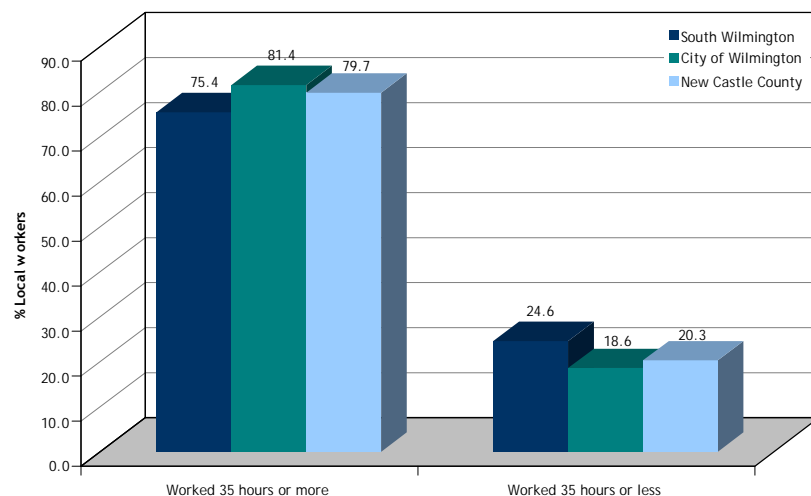
Figure 4.3. Hours worked as percentages of the employed populations in the labor force for South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

- ◆ Relative to the City of Wilmington and New Castle County, a smaller percentage of the South Wilmington population aged 16 years and older worked 35 hours or more per week.
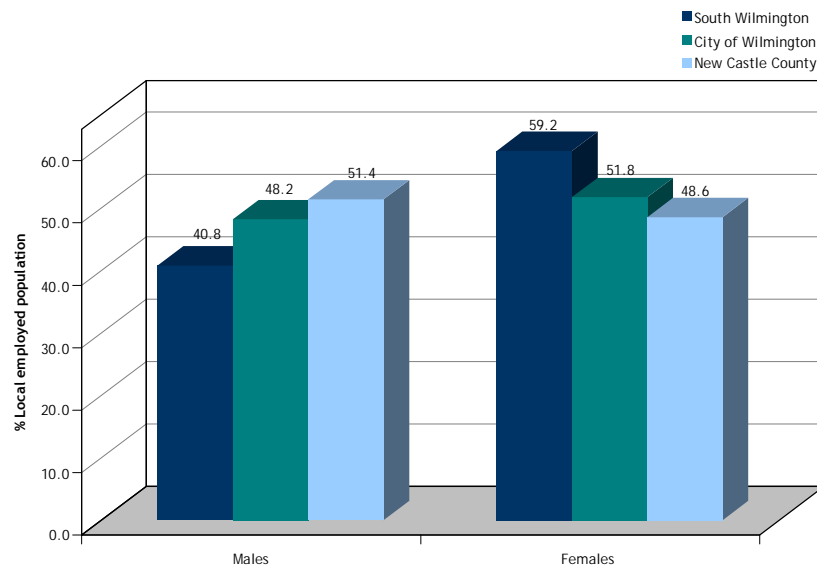
Figure 4.4. Gender distribution as percentages of the local employed populations in South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

♦ Relative to the City of Wilmington and New Castle County, a larger percentage of South Wilmington women were employed and a smaller percentage of men were employed.
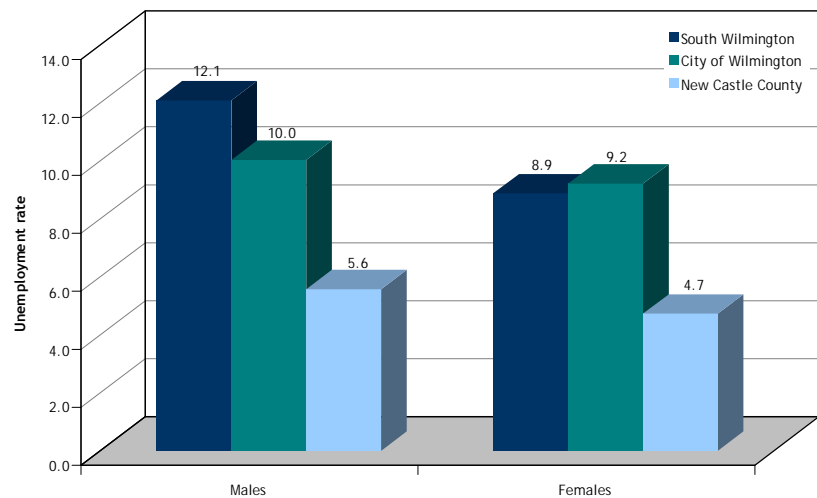
Figure 4.5. Unemployment rate by gender for the local labor force populations in South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

♦ In all three areas, the unemployment rate in men was higher than what was seen in women.

Employment by industry

This section of the chapter presents information on employment in 16 industry classifications for the residents of South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County. The term "industry" refers to the kind of business conducted by a person's employing organization; industry is not the same thing as occupation, which refers to the actual type of work that a person does on the job.

In South Wilmington, the top three employment industries were health and social services (16.1 percent); finance, insurance, and real estate (15.2 percent); and wholesale and retail trade (14.7 percent); these three industries alone employed nearly half of all working South Wilmington residents (see Figure 4.6. and Table 4.2.).

By comparison, in the City of Wilmington and New Castle County, the industry that employed the largest percentage of the working population was the finance, insurance, and real estate industry; however, overall a larger percentage of South Wilmington residents were employed in the finance, insurance, and real estate industry. The second most common employment industry in the City of Wilmington was health and social services and, in New Castle County, manufacturing ranked second. Similar to South Wilmington, in both the City of Wilmington and New Castle County, the agriculture and mining and management industries employed the smallest percentages of the populations.

The distribution of South Wilmington male and female employees in the various industries differed. The majority of South Wilmington men worked in the wholesale and retail trade industry, followed by nearly equal percentages of men in the construction; manufacturing; transportation, warehousing, and utilities; and finance, insurance, and real estate industries (Figure 4.7.)—these five industries employed two-thirds of all South Wilmington men. In contrast, nearly one-quarter of South Wilmington women worked in the health and social services industry, followed by the finance, insurance, and real estate; trade; and government sectors—these four industries employed over two-thirds of all South Wilmington women.
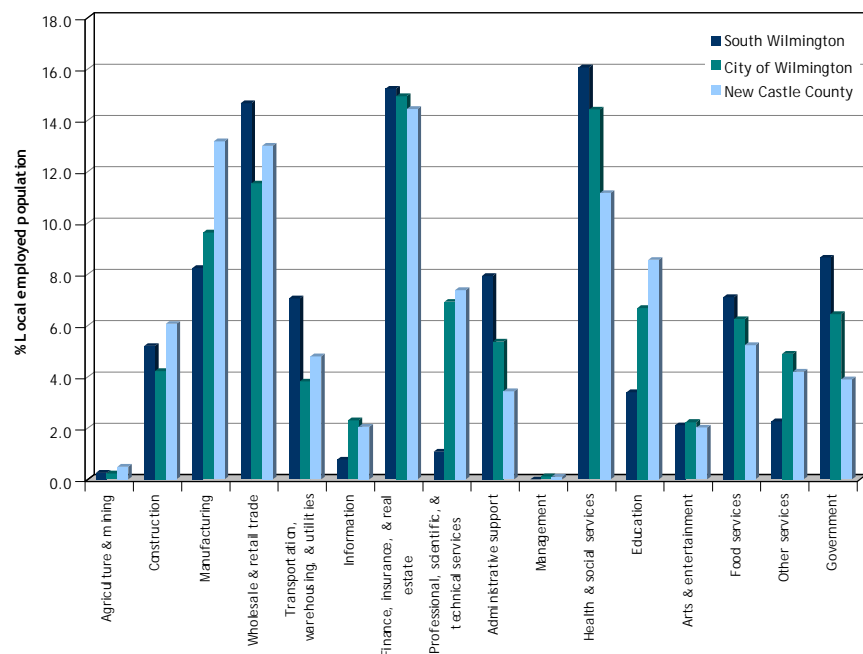
Figure 4.6. Percentages of the local employed populations working in various industries in South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County. For specific data values expressed in graph, see Table 4.2 (below).
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

♦ In South Wilmington and the City of Wilmington, the top two employment industries were health and social services and finance, insurance, and real estate.

♦ Nearly half of all South Wilmington workers were employed in the health and social services; finance, insurance, and real estate; and trade industries.

	South Wilmington	City of Wilmington	New Castle County
Total employed population	**1,943**	**30,412**	**249,320**
Percent employed in each industry:			
Agriculture and mining	0.3	0.2	0.5
Construction	5.2	4.2	6.1
Manufacturing	8.2	9.6	13.2
Wholesale and retail trade	14.7	11.5	13.0
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	7.1	3.8	4.8
Information	0.8	2.3	2.0
Finance, insurance, and real estate	15.2	14.9	14.4
Professional, scientific, and technical services	1.1	6.9	7.4
Administrative support	7.9	5.4	3.4
Management	0.0	0.1	0.1
Health and social services	16.1	14.4	11.2
Education	3.4	6.7	8.6
Arts and entertainment	2.1	2.2	2.0
Food services	7.1	6.3	5.2
Other services	2.3	4.9	4.2
Government	8.6	6.4	3.9

Table 4.2. Employment by industry for employed populations in South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

a. Males
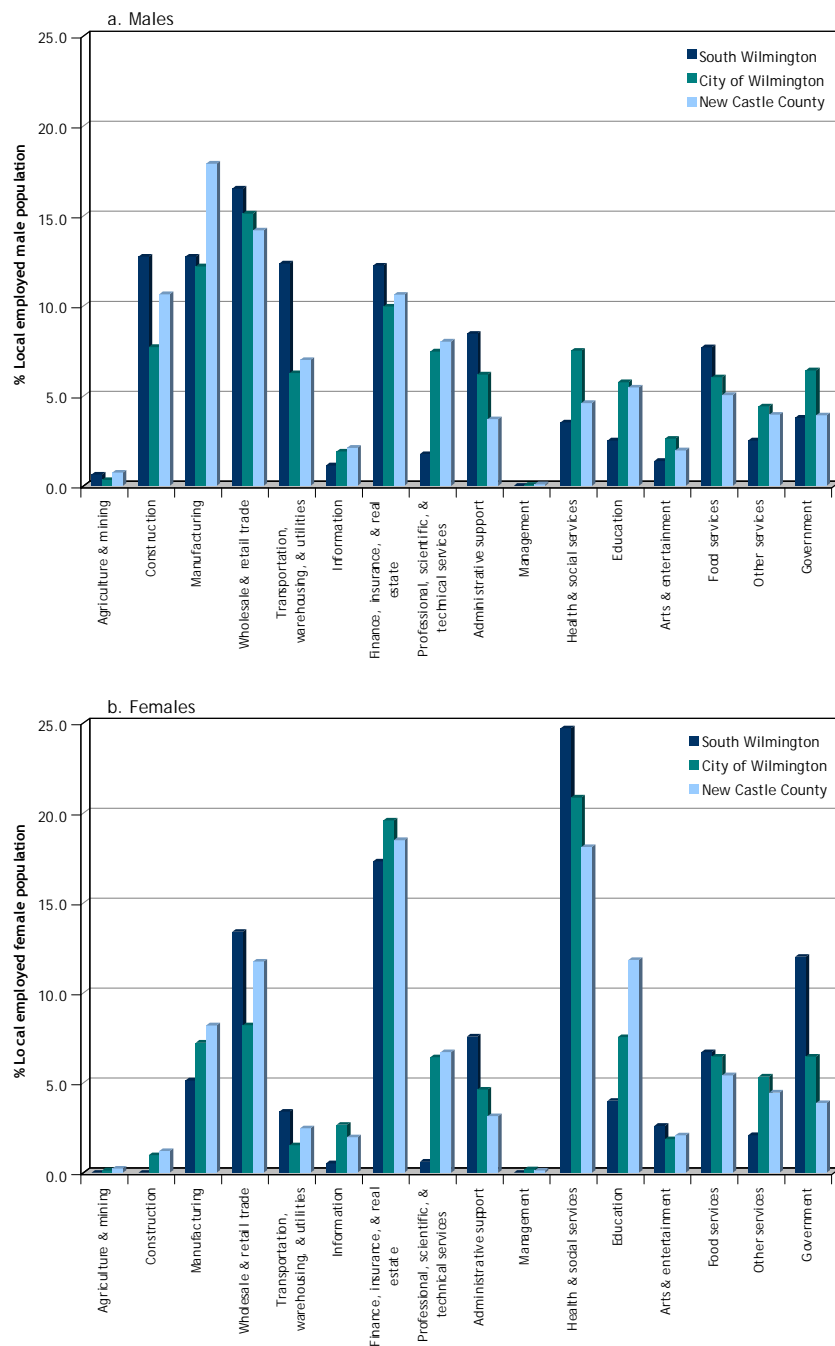
b. Females

Figure 4.7. Percentages of the local employed male (top) and female (bottom) populations in various industries in South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

♦ Relative to South Wilmington and the City of Wilmington, a larger proportion of New Castle County men worked in the manufacturing industry.

♦ The health and social services industry employed a larger proportion of the female populations than the male populations in all three areas.

Journey to work

This section presents information on the commute to work for workers living in South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County, including the length of the commute and mode of transport.

In 2000, the majority of workers living in South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County worked in the Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) or the Wilmington-Newark Primary Metropolitan Statistical Area (PMSA) (map of PMSA/MSA shown in Figure 4.8.); a larger percentage of South Wilmington workers worked inside the PMSA/MSA than the other two areas (Figure 4.9.). MSAs and PMSAs are Census-defined geographic areas that include two or more metropolitan areas grouped together for statistical purposes. However, note that the term "Primary Metropolitan Statistical Area" is no longer used by the Census Bureau; under new Census standards, a "Metropolitan Division" is used to refer to a county or group of counties within an MSA that has a population core of at least 2.5 million and is most generally comparable in concept, and equivalent to, the now obsolete "Primary Metropolitan Statistical Area" (OMB, 2005).

Differences were seen amongst the modes of transportation typically used by workers in the three areas. In South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County, driving alone was the most common way to get to work; a larger percentage of New Castle County residents drove alone than either South Wilmington or Wilmington residents (Figure 4.10.). In South Wilmington, the next most common mode of transportation to work was public transportation (16.1 percent), followed by carpooling (13.6 percent) and then walking (6.6 percent). By contrast, less than four percent of New Castle County residents took public transportation to work.

Overall, workers in South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County had similar commute durations. As shown in Figure 4.11., the majority of workers in all three areas traveled less than a half hour to get to work.
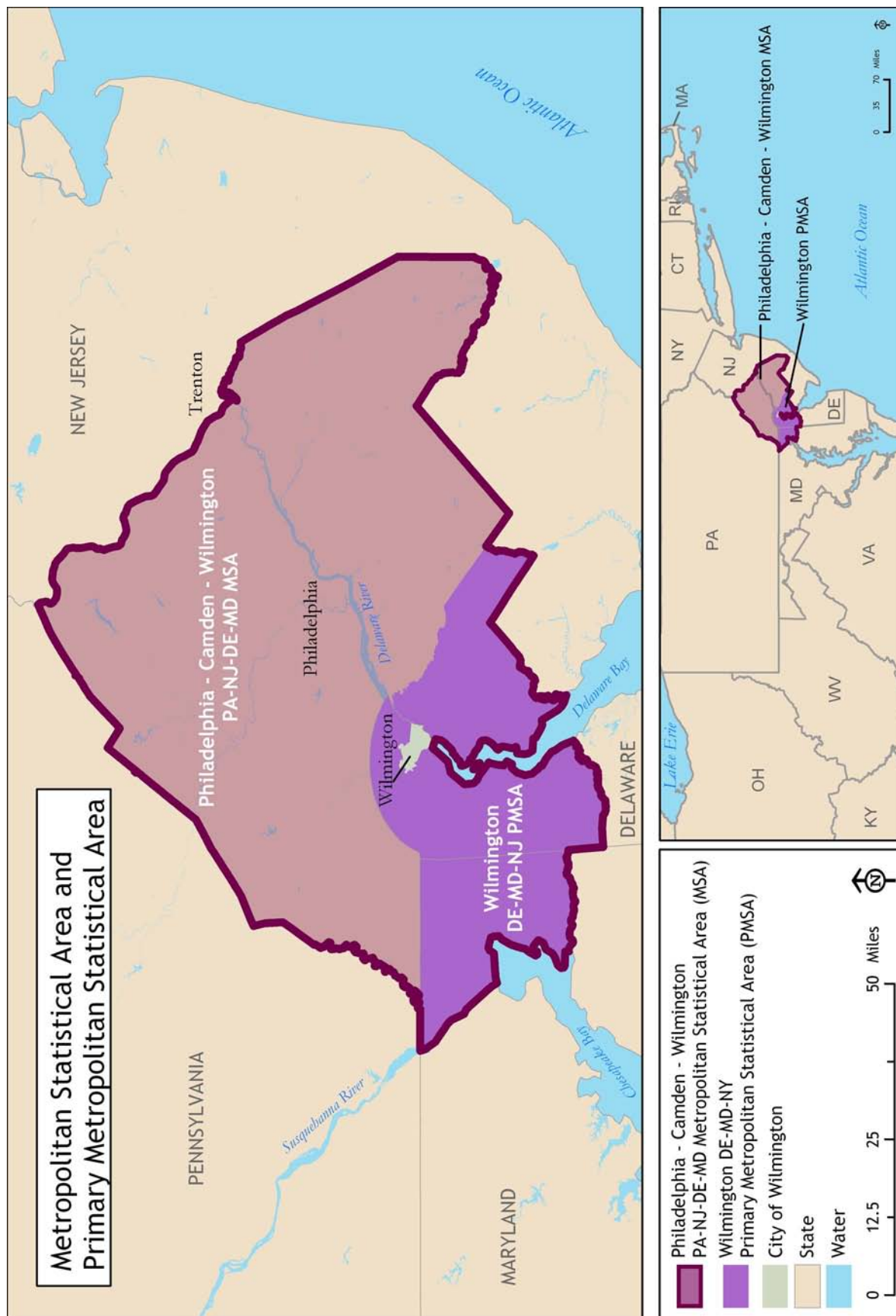
Figure 4.8. Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) and the Wilmington–Newark Primary Metropolitan Statistical Area (PMSA).
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000; 1999
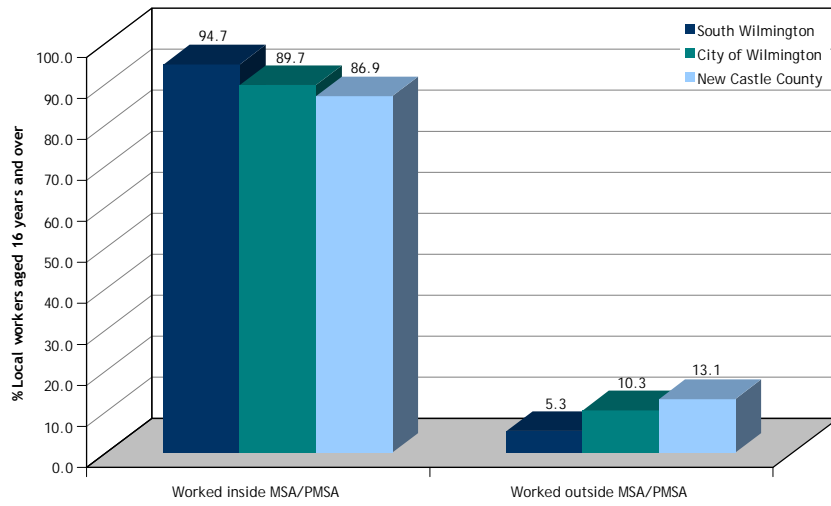
Figure 4.9. Workers living in South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County and working inside or outside of the Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington MSA or Wilmington-Newark PMSA. *Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000*

- In all three areas, the majority of workers worked in the MSA/PMSA in which they lived.

- Relative to the City of Wilmington and New Castle County, a larger percentage of South Wilmington residents worked inside the MSA/PMSA in which they lived.

a. Drove alone

Legend: South Wilmington, City of Wilmington, New Castle County

% Local workers

- 80.0
- 70.0
- 60.0
- 50.0
- 40.0
- 30.0
- 20.0
- 10.0
- 0.0

South Wilmington: 61.8
City of Wilmington: 62.4
New Castle County: 79.0

b. Other transporation modes

% Local workers

Mode	South Wilmington	City of Wilmington	New Castle County
Carpooled	13.6	14.5	10.9
Public transportation	16.1	12.0	3.9
Motorcycle	0.0	0.2	0.1
Bicycle	0.0	0.2	0.2
Walked	6.6	7.6	2.8
"Other" means	0.8	0.6	0.6
Worked at home	1.1	2.6	2.6

Figure 4.10. Means of transportation to work, including driving alone (top) and other modes (bottom), used by workers living in South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

- ♦ In all three areas, driving alone was the most common means to travel to work.

- ♦ Of the three areas, South Wilmington had the largest percentage of workers who took public transportation to work; New Castle County had the smallest such percentage.
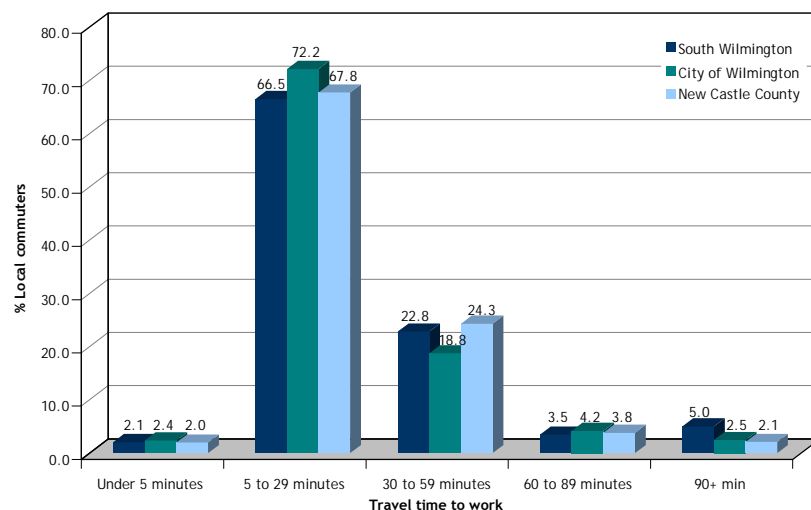
Figure 4.11. Travel time to work for commuters living in South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

♦ In all three areas, most workers had a commute of less than a half hour.

Armed Services status

This section presents information on the 2000 Armed Services status of South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County residents over the age of 18 years, including the number of enlisted soldiers and veterans.

The U.S. Armed Forces includes the U.S. Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard. The 2000 Census defined a veteran as someone who is not currently on active duty, but who once served in the U.S. Armed Forces or in the Merchant Marine.

As shown in Table 4.3., less than 15 percent of the South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County populations over the age of 18 years were involved with the U.S. Armed Forces. Less than one percent of the populations in all three areas were enlisted in the Armed Forces in 2000. Veterans made up a larger proportion of the New Castle County population than the South Wilmington or the City of Wilmington populations.

In South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County, gender involvement in the Armed Forces differed. In all three areas, males made up over 90 percent of all veterans (Figure 4.11.). Also, approximately one-third of all veterans in the three areas were aged 65 years and over. In South Wilmington, females made up a greater percentage (58.3 percent) of the population currently enlisted in the Armed Forces than did males; by contrast, nearly three-quarters of all New Castle County enlistees were male (Figure 4.13.).

	South Wilmington	City of Wilmington	New Castle County
Population aged 18 and over	3,391	53,998	376,021
Percent veterans	11.8	11.1	12.5
Percent in armed forces	0.4	0.1	0.1

Table 4.3. Percent of populations in South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County involved in the U.S. Armed Forces.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000
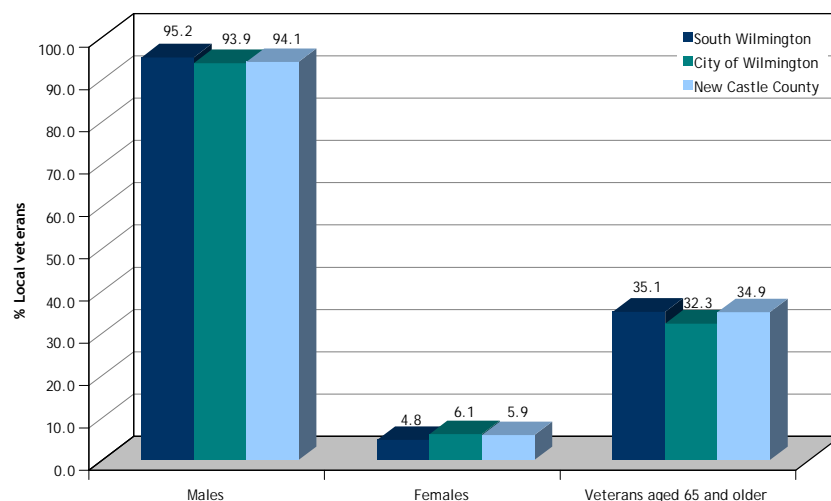
Figure 4.12. Veteran status as a percent of all veterans living in South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

♦ The majority of veterans in all three areas were male.

♦ Approximately one-third of veterans in all three areas were over the age of 65 year.
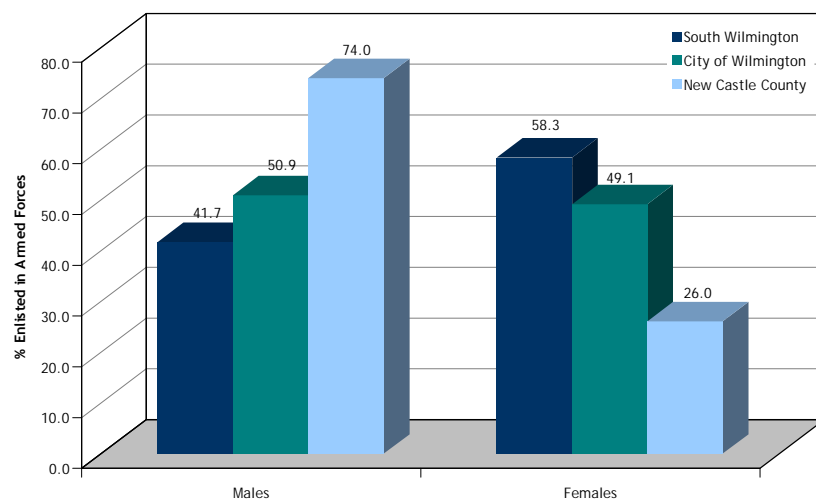
Figure 4.13. Males and females enlisted in the Armed Forces, as percentages of all enlistees living in South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

♦ In contrast to the City of Wilmington and New Castle County, women outnumbered men in terms of South Wilmington residents in the Armed Forces.

♦ Relative to the City of Wilmington and South Wilmington, a larger percentage of the enlistee population in New Castle County was male.

South Wilmington Socioeconomic Profile

4.b. Residential Income Characteristics

This section presents information on the incomes of South Wilmington, City of Wilmington, and New Castle County households and poverty status for the populations in the three geographic areas.

Household incomes

In 2000, nearly half of all South Wilmington households had an income between $20,000 and $59,999; similar income trends were seen in City of Wilmington and New Castle County households (Figure 4.14.). Overall, the income distributions in South Wilmington and City of Wilmington households were similar; however, in New Castle County, a larger percentage of households earned over $60,000, suggesting that, overall, New Castle County had higher household incomes. This is further evidenced by the fact that, in 2000, the per capita income in South Wilmington was $12,877.50, while in New Castle County, the per capita income was nearly double that of South Wilmington, at $24,667.25.

In South Wilmington, the distribution of income levels amongst men and women was the same; however, a larger proportion of South Wilmington men than South Wilmington women earned over $40,000 per year (Figure 4.15.). Relative to the City of Wilmington and New Castle County, greater percentages of South Wilmington men and women earned less than $40,000 annually, again suggesting overall higher income levels in the comparative areas.

Figure 4.14. Household incomes as percentages of households in South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

- ♦ Relative to the City of Wilmington and New Castle County, a larger percentage of South Wilmington households earned between $20,000 and $39,999.

- ♦ Income distributions in South Wilmington and the City of Wilmington were similar, while greater percentages of New Castle County households had higher incomes.

	South Wilmington	City of Wilmington	New Castle County
Per capita income	$12,877.50	$18,868.71	$24,667.25

Table 4.4. Average per capita income for South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County households in 2000.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

a. Males

Legend: South Wilmington (dark blue), City of Wilmington (teal), New Castle County (light blue)

Y-axis: % Local male population with earnings
X-axis: Income range

Income range	South Wilmington	City of Wilmington	New Castle County
Under $10,000	21.4	20.6	15.5
$10,000 - $19,999	25.6	17.2	12.0
$20,000 - $39,999	35.6	32.7	29.2
$40,000 - $64,999	15.0	18.8	24.8
$65,000 - $99,999	1.1	6.6	11.5
Over $100,000	1.3	4.0	7.0

b. Females

Legend: South Wilmington, City of Wilmington, New Castle County

Y-axis: % Local female population with earnings
X-axis: Income range

Income range	South Wilmington	City of Wilmington	New Castle County
Under $10,000	28.0	23.3	23.7
$10,000 - $19,999	21.2	22.2	17.8
$20,000 - $39,999	42.8	35.5	36.4
$40,000 - $64,999	7.1	13.2	16.5
$65,000 - $99,999	0.6	3.8	4.0
Over $100,000	0.3	2.0	1.5

Figure 4.15. Income levels for males (top) and females (bottom) in South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

♦ Relative to the City of Wilmington and New Castle County, South Wilmington men and women had lower incomes.

♦ In all three areas, men overall had higher incomes than women.

Retirement and social security income

Retirement income includes payments received from: companies or unions; the federal government; the military; state or local governments; railroad retirement; annuities or paid-up insurance policies; individual retirement accounts (IRAs) or 401(k) payments; or other retirement income. In South Wilmington, 22.3 percent of households were receiving some type of retirement income, versus 17.4 percent of City of Wilmington households and 18.9 percent of New Castle County households (Figure 4.16.). The majority of households in all three areas had no retirement income as of 2000.

South Wilmington Socioeconomic Profile

The U.S. Census Bureau defines social security income as social security pensions and survivors' benefits and permanent disability insurance payments made by the Social Security Administration prior to deductions for medical insurance; Medicare reimbursements for health services were not counted as social security benefits. In 2000, the majority of households in South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County did not have a social security income (Figure 4.17.). Of the three areas, South Wilmington had the largest proportion of households that received social security payments.
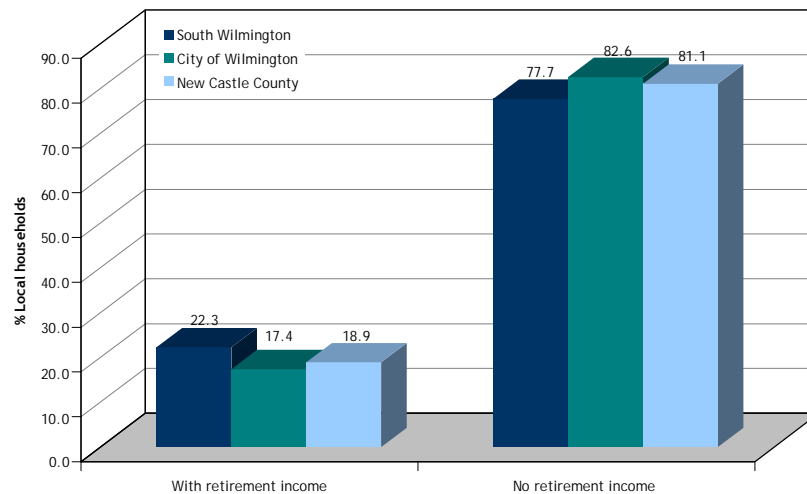
Figure 4.16. Percent of households with and without retirement income in South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

♦ Relative to the City of Wilmington and New Castle County, a larger percentage of South Wilmington households had a retirement income.

♦ In all three areas, the majority of households did not receive retirement income in 2000.
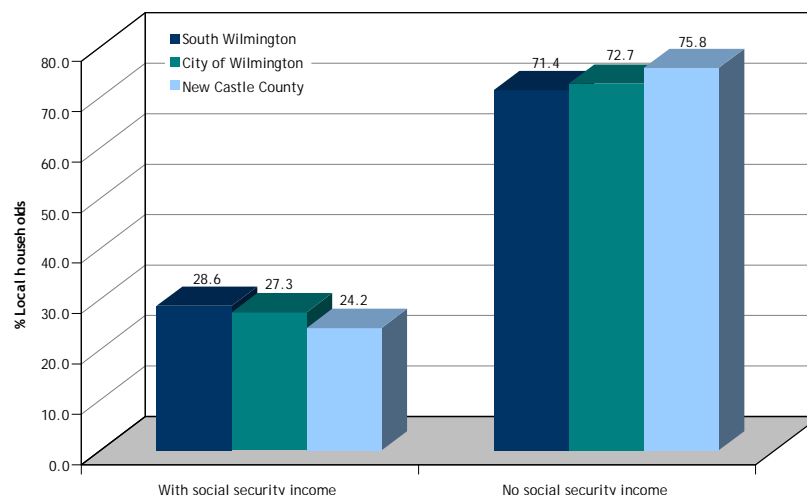
Figure 4.17. Percent of households with and without social security income in South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

♦ Most households in South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County did not receive social security payments in 2000.

♦ A greater proportion of South Wilmington households received social security income than did City of Wilmington or New Castle County households.

Public assistance

Public assistance or welfare payments include cash public assistance payments, including aid to families with dependent children, temporary assistance to needy families, general assistance, and emergency assistance. Relative to City of Wilmington and New Castle County households, in 2000, a larger percentage of South Wilmington households received public assistance of some type (Figure 4.18.). Of the three areas, New Castle County had the smallest percentage of households receiving public assistance.

Supplemental Security Income (SSI) is a federal income supplement program funded by general tax revenues (not Social Security taxes) to provide funds for basic needs such as food, clothing, and shelter to aged, blind, and disabled people who have little or no income. In 2000, 9.1 percent of households in South Wilmington received SSI. By comparison, 7.4 percent of City of Wilmington households and 3.3 percent of New Castle County households received SSI in 2000 (Figure 4.19.).
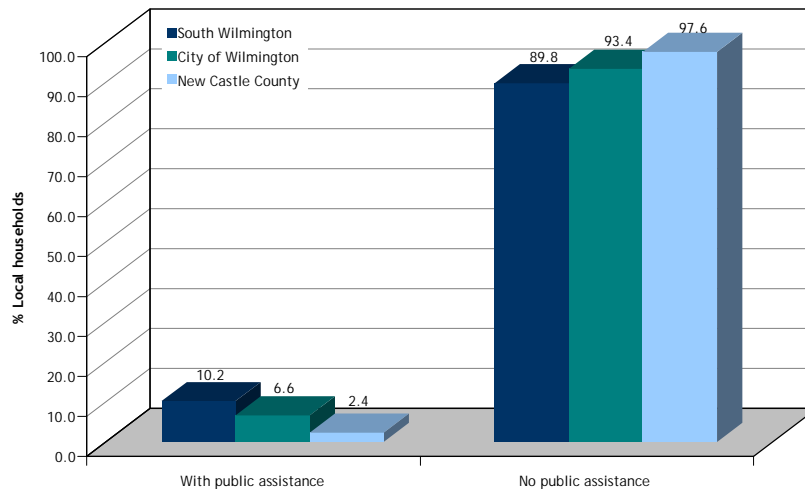
Figure 4.18. Percent of households with and without public assistance in South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

♦ In all three areas, the majority of households did not receive public assistance.

♦ Relative to the City of Wilmington and New Castle County, a larger percentage of South Wilmington households received public assistance.

South Wilmington Socioeconomic Profile
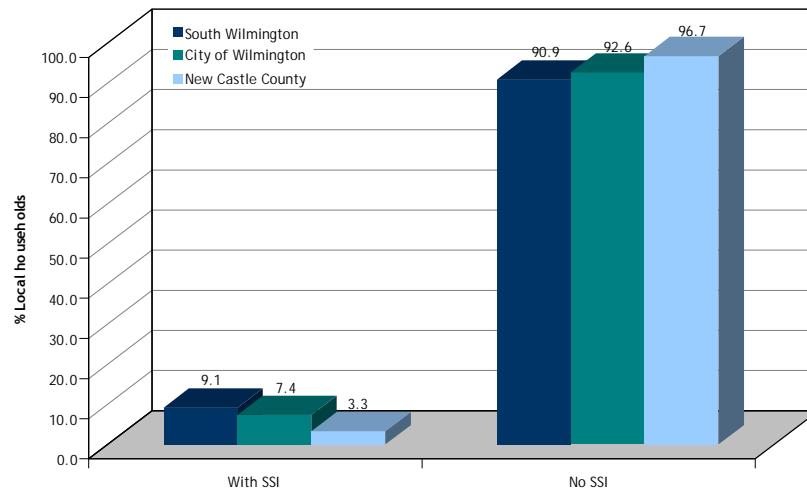
Figure 4.19. Percent of households with and without Supplemental Security Income (SSI) in South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

- In all three areas, the majority of households did not receive SSI.

- Relative to the City of Wilmington and New Castle County, a larger percentage of South Wilmington households received SSI.

Poverty status

In determining poverty status, the U.S. Census Bureau uses measures developed by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget, which examines poverty thresholds (income levels) relative to family incomes (Bishaw & Iceland, 2003). Poverty thresholds are the dollar amounts used to determine poverty status and take into account family size and the number of children present; thresholds were not adjusted for locality in Census 2000 (Bishaw & Iceland, 2003). Total family income was then compared to the poverty threshold to determine poverty status. If a family's income was less than the threshold for the family's size and composition, the family (including all members) was in poverty; if the family's income fell above the poverty threshold, the family was considered to be above the poverty level.

According to Census 2000, 21.3 percent of South Wilmington residents were earning incomes below the poverty level, while 78.7 percent had incomes above the poverty level; these figures are identical to what was seen in the City of Wilmington population (Figure 4.20.). By contrast, 8.4 percent of the New Castle County population had incomes below the poverty level and 91.6 percent were above poverty.

For South Wilmington residents with incomes below the poverty level, nearly half (47.5 percent) were between the ages of 18 and 64. The next highest percentage of South Wilmington residents below the poverty level were in the five to 17-year old age range, followed by the 65 and over and five and under age groups. While overall age distributions of residents below the poverty level seen in South Wilmington were similar to what was seen in the City of Wilmington and New Castle County, a larger percentage of the New Castle County population in poverty was in the 18 to 64-year old age group.

When examining poverty status by household, in South Wilmington, 22.3 percent of households had incomes below the poverty threshold, which is a higher percentage than was seen in either the City of Wilmington or New Castle County (Figure 4.22.). New Castle County had the lowest percentage

of households with below-poverty incomes. In terms of household type, in all three areas a higher percentage of non-family households were below poverty (Figure 4.23.). In 2000, over half of South Wilmington households with incomes below the poverty level had householders between the ages of 25 and 45 years (Figure 4.24.). Only four percent of South Wilmington households with incomes below the poverty level had householders who were under the age of 25 years; in comparison, nearly 18 percent of New Castle County households below the poverty level had householders younger than 25 years of age.
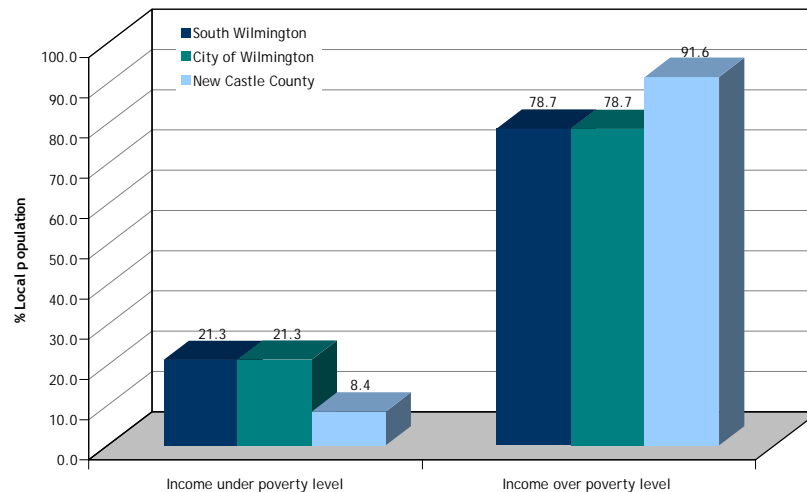
Figure 4.20. Percentages of the populations (with poverty status checked) above and below the poverty level in South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

♦ Equal percentages of South Wilmington and City of Wilmington populations had incomes both above and below the poverty threshold.

♦ Relative to the City of Wilmington and South Wilmington, a smaller percentage of the New Castle County population had incomes below the poverty levels.
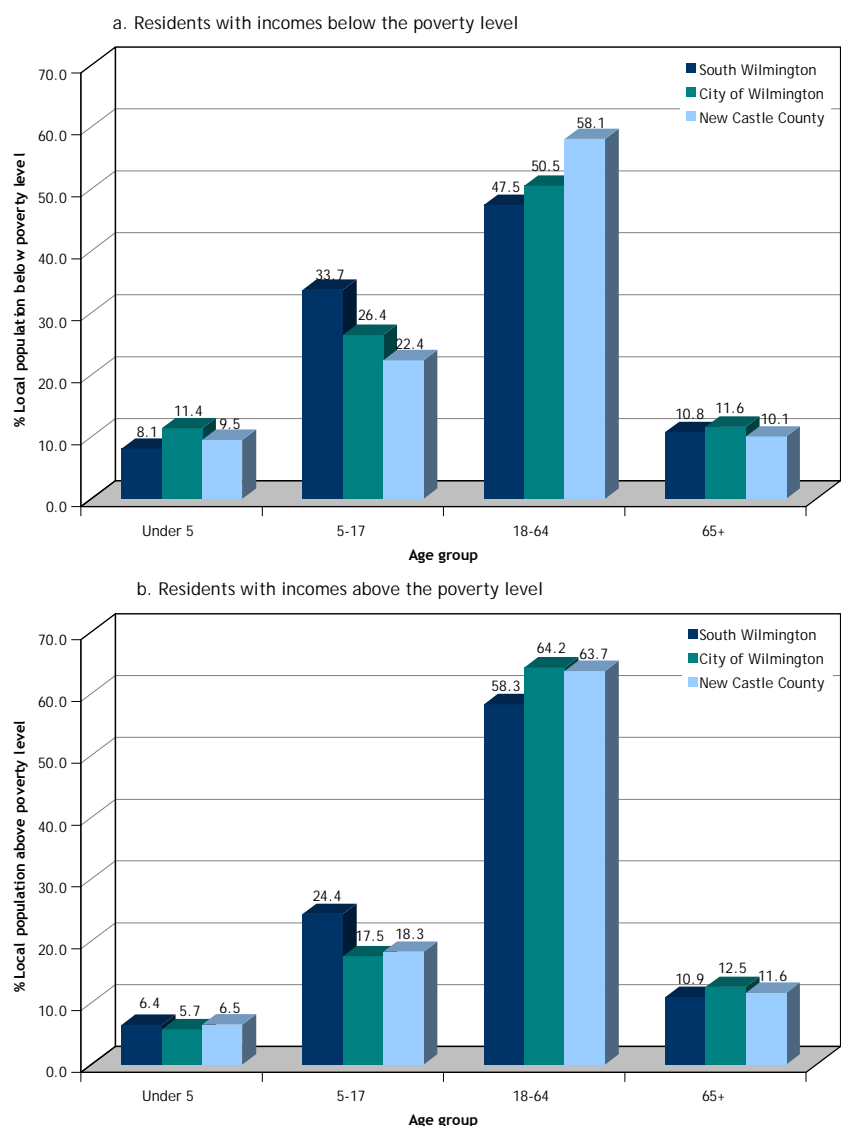
Figure 4.21. Percentages of the populations by age below (top) and above (bottom) the poverty level in South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

♦ In all three areas, most residents, both below and above poverty, were between 18 and 64 years of age.
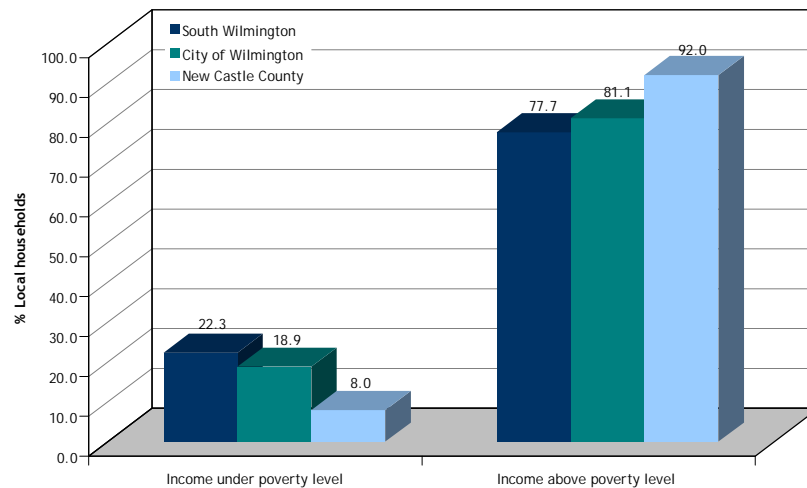
Figure 4.22. Percentages of households above and below the poverty level in South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

- In all three areas, the majority of households had incomes above poverty levels.

- Relative to the City of Wilmington and New Castle County, a larger percentage of South Wilmington households were below poverty.
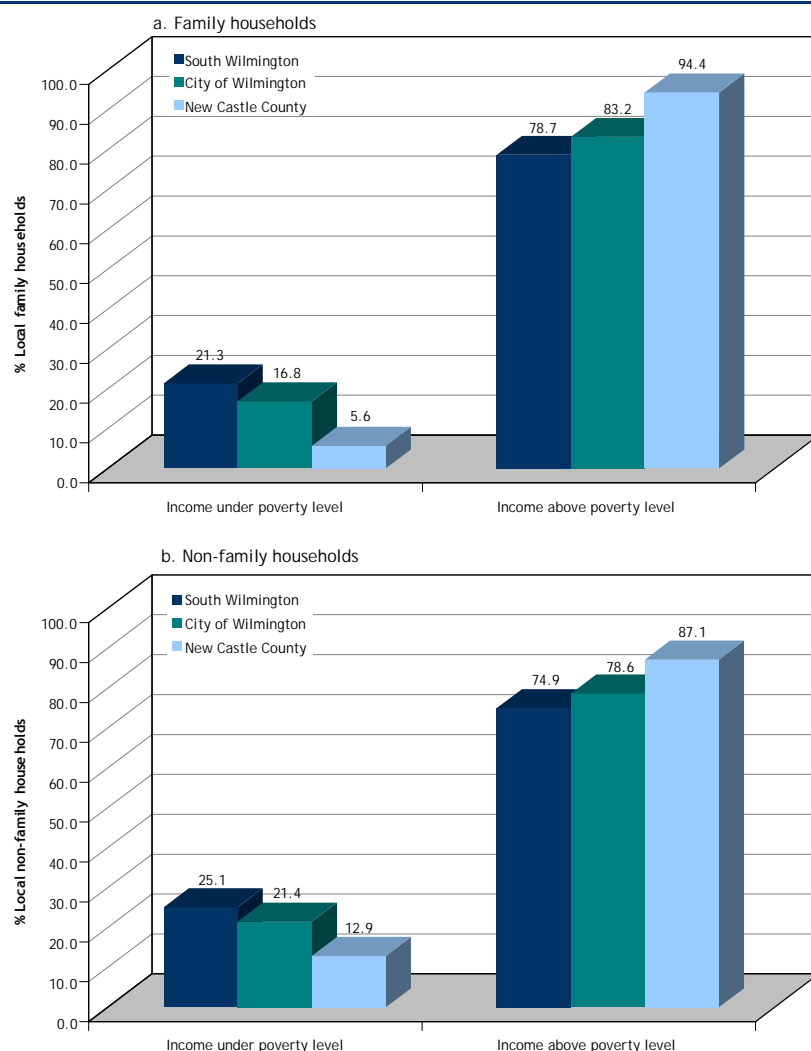
Figure 4.23. Percentages of family households (top) and non-family households (bottom) above and below poverty levels in South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County. *Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000*

♦ Relative to the City of Wilmington and New Castle County, higher percentages of both South Wilmington family and non-family households had incomes below the poverty threshold.

♦ A higher percentage of South Wilmington non-family households were below poverty than South Wilmington family households.

a. Households with incomes below the poverty level

Legend:
- South Wilmington
- City of Wilmington
- New Castle County

Values by age of householder:

Age of householder	South Wilmington	City of Wilmington	New Castle County
Under 25	4.0	10.4	17.9
25-44	57.5	37.6	36.1
45-64	16.3	25.3	24.0
65+	22.1	26.7	22.1

Y-axis: % Local households below poverty
X-axis: Age of householder

b. Households with incomes above the poverty level

Legend:
- South Wilmington
- City of Wilmington
- New Castle County

Age of householder	South Wilmington	City of Wilmington	New Castle County
Under 25	4.3	4.2	3.8
25-44	37.4	42.1	42.7
45-64	34.9	32.0	34.1
65+	23.3	21.7	19.3

Y-axis: % Local households above poverty level
X-axis: Age of householder

Figure 4.24. Percentages of households by age of householder that are below (top) and above (bottom) the poverty level in South Wilmington, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

♦ In all three areas, most households that were below the poverty level had householders between 25 and 44 years of age.

♦ Over half of South Wilmington households with incomes below the poverty level had householders between the ages of 25 and 44 years.

South Wilmington Socioeconomic Profile

Chapter 5: Residential Development
Census block groups-level presentation

Chapter 5: Residential Development:
Census block groups-level presentation

This chapter provides information on the residential housing available in South Wilmington, as designated by the Census block groups shown in Figure 5.1. Data in the chapter include the number of housing units, home ownership and leasing, and vacancy rates. Also included are details on housing characteristics such as unit size, year built, facilities available, and property values, as well as information regarding the time of residency for the South Wilmington population. Information in this chapter was collected from Census 2000, and thus represents characteristics from the year 2000.

For the remainder of Chapter 5, references to "South Wilmington" represent the area bounded by the four Census block groups shown in Figure 5.1., an area that includes the neighborhood of Southbridge as well as developments along the New Castle/Route 9 corridor.

The U.S. Census Bureau (Census) defines a housing unit as a space designated as separate living quarters that is directly accessible by the occupant(s), be it a house, an apartment, a mobile home, or a single room (Woodward & Damon, 2001).

South Wilmington block-groups level **Key Numbers:**

Total number of housing units: 2,034

Total housing units occupied: 1,824
　　Percent owner-occupied: 58.3
　　Percent renter-occupied: 41.7

Vacancy rate: 10.3 percent

Percent housing units with telephone service: 96.4

Most common housing unit size: 3 bedrooms (56.4 percent)

Most common housing unit structure:
　　Owned: 1 unit, detached (62.1 percent)
　　Rented: 1 unit, attached (56.0 percent)

Year range most housing units built: 1950 – 1959 (36.3 percent)

Percent population living in same housing unit for 5 or more years: 63.8

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000
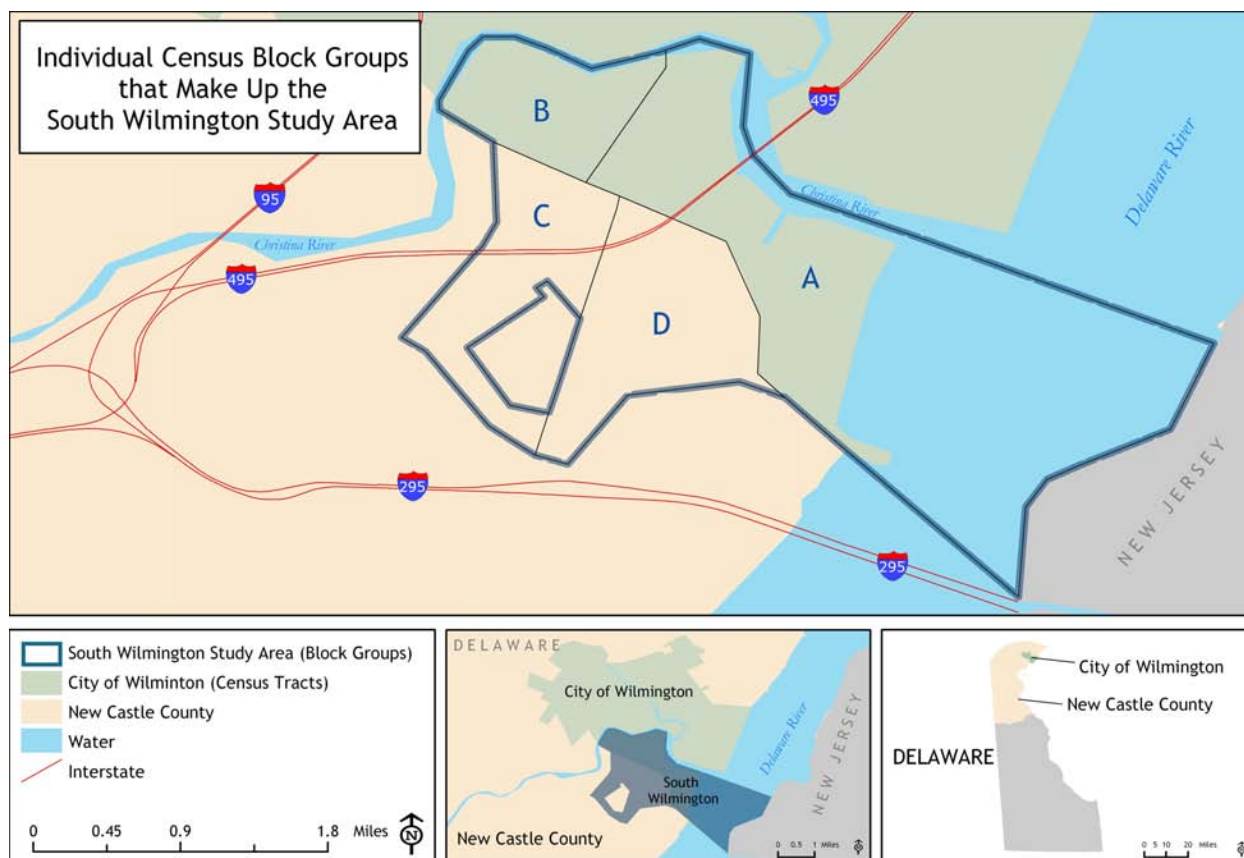
Figure 5.1. The four Census block groups that make up the South Wilmington study area used in this chapter of the report.
Sources: Delaware Department of Transportation, 2001; U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

5.a. Housing Unit Occupancy

In this section, information is presented on the number of housing units in South Wilmington, the occupancy and vacancy rates of these units, and whether the occupied units are occupied by the owner or a renter.

In Census 2000, a housing unit was considered "occupied" if it was the usual residence for its inhabitants (Woodward & Damon, 2001). If no one was living in the housing unit, but the unit *could* be inhabited, it was considered vacant; the Census count did not include condemned units or those lacking roofs, walls, windows, and/or doors. In 2000, of the 2,034 housing units in South Wilmington, 1,824 (89.7 percent) were occupied and 210 (10.3 percent) were vacant (Table 5.1.; Figure 5.2.).

Of the occupied housing units in South Wilmington in 2000, 1,063 (58.3 percent) were occupied by the owner of the housing unit, while 761 (41.7 percent) were rented (Table 5.1.; Figure 5.3.).

Total housing units	2,034
Occupied	1,824
Vacant	210
Occupied housing units	1,824
Owner-occupied	1,063
Renter-occupied	761

Table 5.1. Housing units in South Wilmington.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

Housing unit occupancy and vacancy

Vacant (10.3%)

Occupied (89.7%)

♦ Most South Wilmington housing units were occupied in 2000.
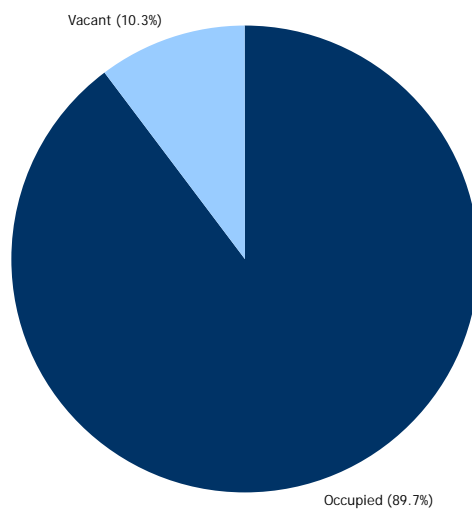
Figure 5.2. Percentages of occupied and vacant housing units in South Wilmington.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

Renter versus owner occupancy

Renter-occupied (41.7%)

Owner-occupied (58.3%)

♦ A larger percentage of housing units were occupied by owners than were occupied by renters.
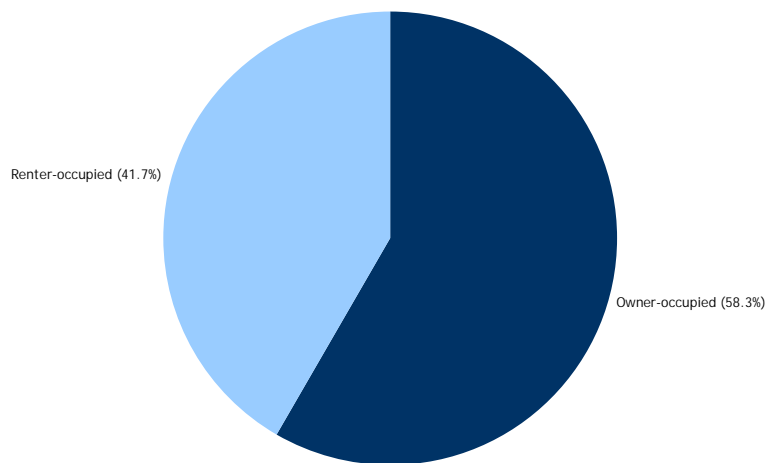
Figure 5.3. Percentages of owner- and renter-occupied housing units in South Wilmington.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

5.b. Housing Unit Property Values, Mortgages, and Rents

This section presents information on the value, mortgage and ownership costs, and rental rates of housing units in South Wilmington.

In the 2000 Census, home values were collected only from owner-occupied housing units; specifically, owner-occupied single-family homes on less than 10 acres without a business or medical office on the property (Bennefield, 2003). The home value reported by the Census Bureau represents the owner's estimate of what the house and lot would sell for if it were on the market (Bennefield, 2003). In 2000, over three-quarters of the 1,038 owner-occupied housing units for which housing values were collected in South Wilmington were valued at between $40,000 and $99,999 (Figure 5.4.). Less than 15 percent of units were valued at over $100,000.

Approximately two-thirds of all owner-occupied housing units had an active mortgage in 2000 (Figure 5.5.). Of units with mortgages, over 75 percent of owners paid monthly ownership costs of between $500 and $1,499; in contrast, nearly two-thirds of owners without mortgages paid between $150 and $299 monthly for housing-related costs (Figure 5.6.).

With regards to rented South Wilmington housing units, most renters (93.8 percent) paid cash rent in 2000 (Figure 5.7.). Rents most commonly ranged from $350 to $749 per month, with most renters (19.7 percent) paying between $550 and $649 a month. Less than ten percent of South Wilmington renters paid more than $900 per month in rent in 2000.
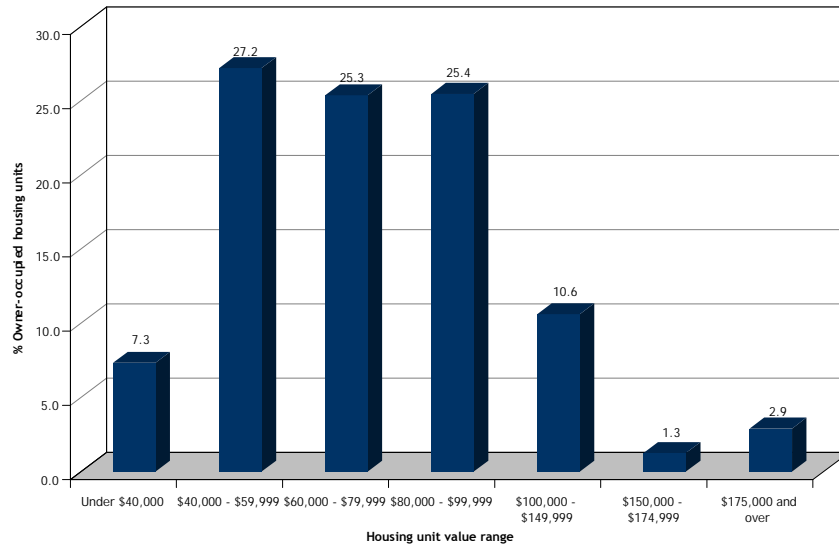
Figure 5.4. Estimated value of owner-occupied housing units in South Wilmington.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

♦ Most owner-occupied housing units were valued at between $40,000 and $99,999.

Owner-occupied housing units with or without mortgages

Without mortgage (33.9%)

With mortgage (66.1%)
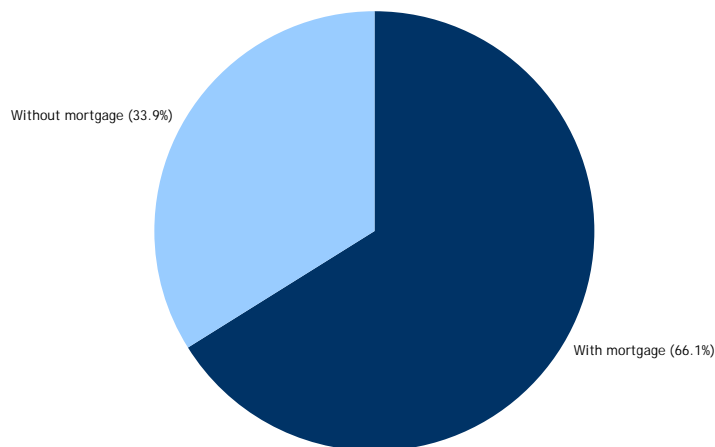
Figure 5.5. Percentages of owner-occupied housing units in South Wilmington with or without mortgages.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

♦ The majority of owner-occupied housing units in South Wilmington had mortgages in 2000.

a. Housing units with mortgages

b. Housing units without mortgages
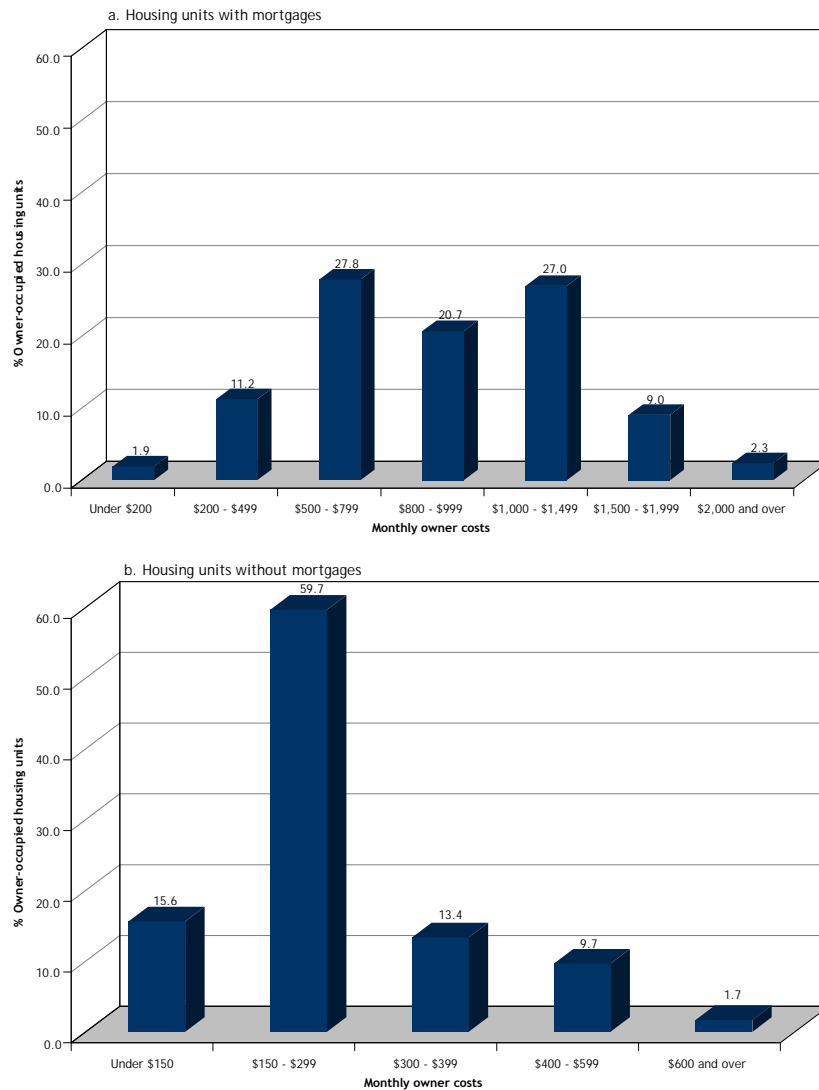
Figure 5.6. Estimated monthly owner costs of owner-occupied housing units in South Wilmington with (top) or without (bottom) mortgages.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

♦ South Wilmington owners with mortgages had higher monthly housing costs than owners without mortgages.
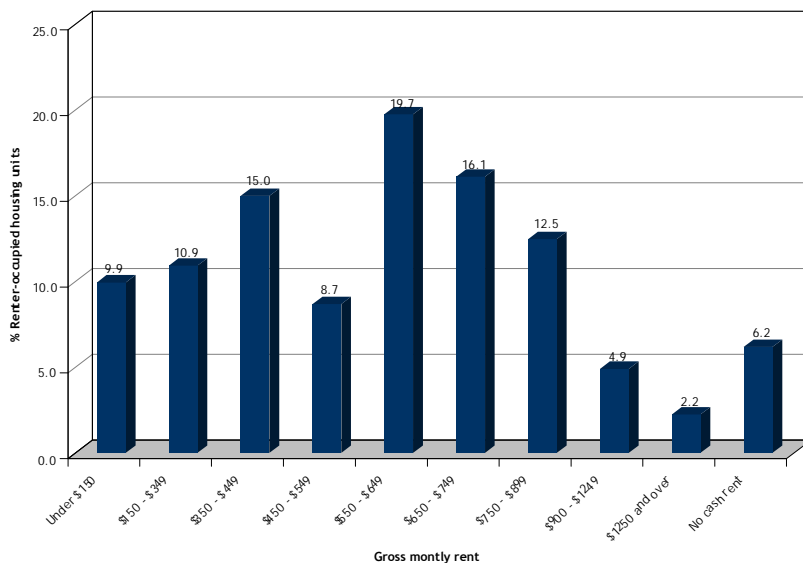
Figure 5.7. Gross monthly rent for renter-occupied housing units in South Wilmington.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

Within the figure:
- ♦ Most South Wilmington renters paid cash rent.
- ♦ Most South Wilmington renters paid between $550 to $649 in monthly rent.

(Chart data labels: 9.9, 10.9, 15.0, 8.7, 19.7, 16.1, 12.5, 4.9, 2.2, 6.2)

(X-axis categories: Under $150, $150 - $349, $350 - $449, $450 - $549, $550 - $649, $650 - $749, $750 - $899, $900 - $1249, $1250 and over, No cash rent)

(Y-axis: % Renter-occupied housing units; X-axis: Gross montly rent)

5.c. Housing Unit Size

In this section, information is presented on the number of housing units in each unit structure and the number of rooms and bedrooms for housing units in South Wilmington.

In South Wilmington in 2000, over 90 percent of all occupied housing units were single-family homes, with nearly equal percentages of these units being detached (i.e., not attached to another structure) and attached (e.g., town homes and row houses) (Figure 5.8.). Most detached single-family homes were owner-occupied, while the majority of attached single-family homes were rented. Of owner-occupied houses, nearly two-thirds were detached single units; no owner-occupied homes had more than one unit. Over half (56 percent) of renter-occupied housing units were attached single-family homes; about 20 percent of renters lived in apartment buildings (structures with two or more units).

According to Census 2000, most South Wilmington housing units (59.1 percent) had either five or six total rooms; only 27 housing units (1.3 percent) had one or two rooms (Figure 5.9.). Three-bedroom housing units were most common (Figure 5.10.).

a. Owner-occupied housing units

b. Renter-occupied housing units
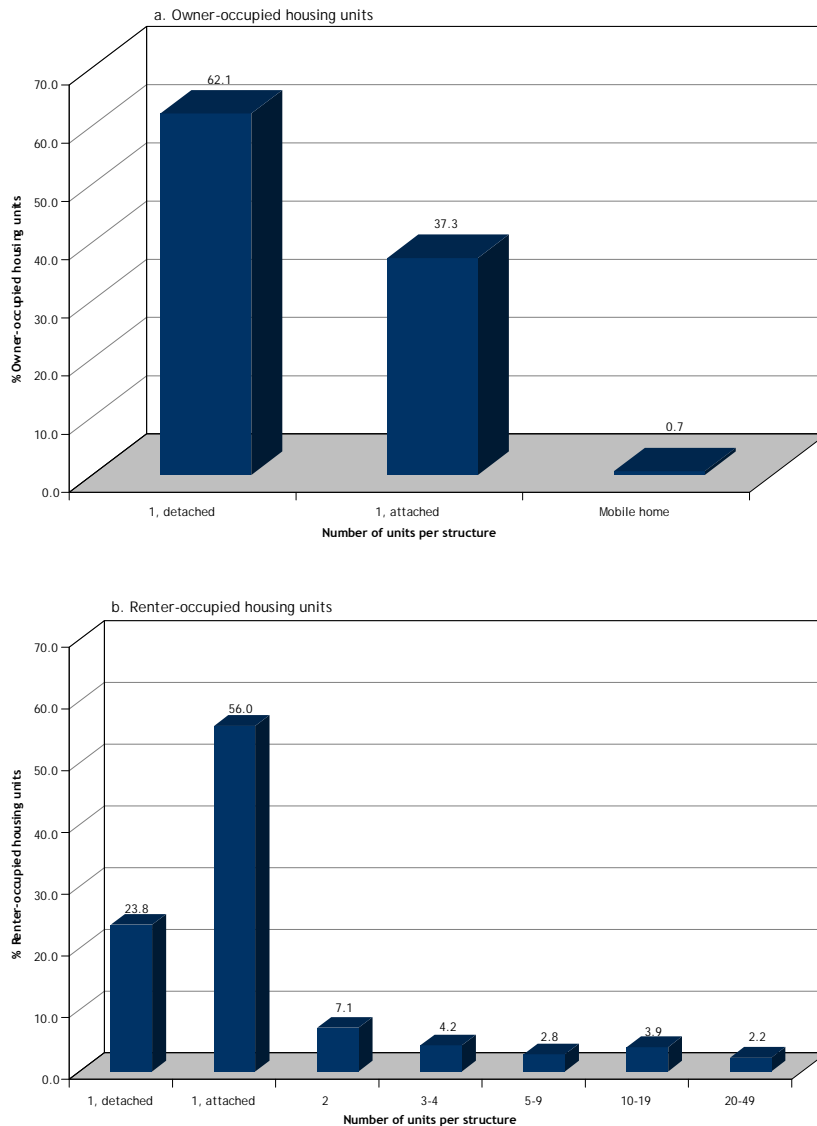
Figure 5.8. Number of units per structure of owner-occupied (top) and renter-occupied (bottom) housing units in South Wilmington.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

♦ Most housing units in South Wilmington were single units.

♦ More detached single-family homes were owner-occupied, while more attached single-family units were renter-occupied.

♦ Only renters lived in structures with multiple units.
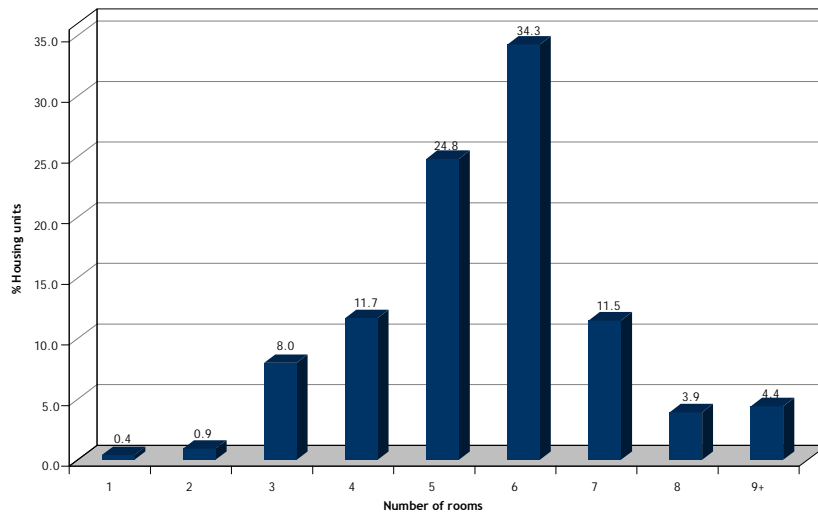
Figure 5.9. Number of rooms in housing units in South Wilmington.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

♦ Most housing units in South Wilmington had a total of six rooms.

Figure 5.10. Number of bedrooms in housing units in South Wilmington.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

♦ Most South Wilmington housing units had three bedrooms.

5.d. Age of Housing Units

In 2000, most housing units in South Wilmington were relatively old. At the time of Census 2000, the majority of housing units in South Wilmington had been built between 1950 and 1959, and over 80 percent of housing units were at least 40 years old (i.e., built in 1960 or earlier) (Figure 5.11.). Less than three percent of all housing units were less than five years old (i.e., built between 1995 and March 2000).

♦ The largest percentage of South Wilmington housing units were built between 1950 and 1959.
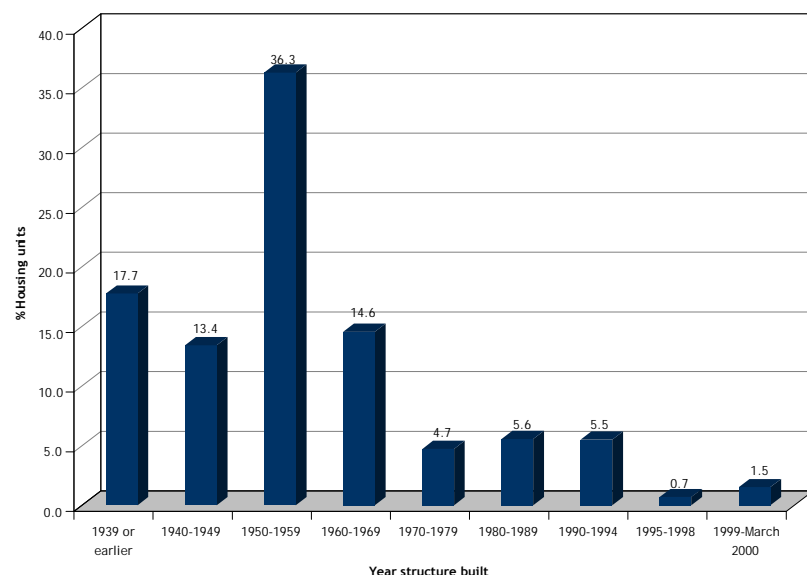
Figure 5.11. Years in which housing units in South Wilmington were built.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

5.e. Resident Tenure

In this section, information is presented regarding how long South Wilmington residents lived in the housing unit they were living in at the time of the Census (2000) and where else they might have resided.

Overall, householders in South Wilmington have resided in the house in which they lived at the time of the Census for a relatively long time. Of all occupied housing units, nearly half had been occupied by the 2000 householder since 1980 or earlier; 21.8 percent of housing units had been occupied by the 2000 householder since 1969 or earlier (Table 5.2.).

Overall, owners had been living in their housing units longer than renters (Figure 5.12.). The largest percentage of owner-occupied housing units had been occupied by the 2000 householder since 1969 or earlier, while most renter-occupied housing units had been moved into by the 2000 householder between 1995 and 1998.

South Wilmington Socioeconomic Profile

Most South Wilmington residents in 2000 had resided in their current homes for at least five years (Figure 5.13.). Of those residents not living in the same house that they lived in during 1995, most were living elsewhere in New Castle County (either inside or outside of the South Wilmington area). Approximately 15 percent of 2000 South Wilmington residents had not been living in Delaware for at least five years.

Year moved in	Percent of occupied housing units
1999-March 2000	15.4
1995-1998	17.7
1990-1994	17.5
1980-1989	15.4
1970-1979	12.3
1969 or earlier	21.8

Table 5.2. Year South Wilmington householders moved into housing units.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

a. Owner-occupied housing units

Bar chart — % Owner-occupied housing units (y-axis 0.0 to 35.0) by Year householder moved into unit (x-axis):
- 1969 or earlier: 32.5
- 1970-1979: 16.6
- 1980-1989: 19.9
- 1990-1994: 15.5
- 1995-1998: 7.5
- 1999-March 2000: 7.9

b. Renter-occupied housing

Bar chart — % Renter-occupied housing units (y-axis 0.0 to 35.0) by Year householder moved into unit (x-axis):
- 1969 or earlier: 6.7
- 1970-1979: 6.3
- 1980-1989: 8.9
- 1990-1994: 20.2
- 1995-1998: 31.9
- 1999-March 2000: 25.9

Figure 5.12. Year householders moved into owner-occupied (top) and renter-occupied (bottom) housing units in South Wilmington.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

♦ In 2000, South Wilmington householders who owned their homes had been living in them longer than had renters.

Residence in 1995

Different housing unit
(36.2%)

Same housing unit (63.8%)
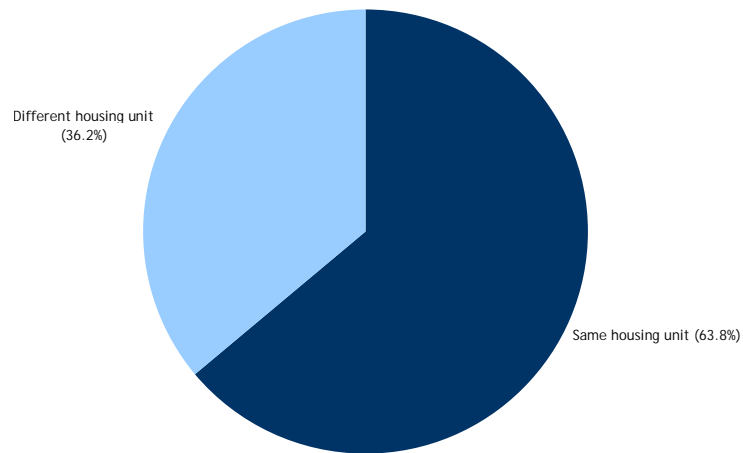
Figure 5.13. Percentages of South Wilmington residents who lived in the same housing units in 2000 as they were living in during 1995.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

♦ Most South Wilmington residents lived in the same housing unit in 2000 as they were living in during 1995.

% Population living in a different housing unit

80.0	78.9
70.0	
60.0	
50.0	
40.0	
30.0	
20.0	18.4
10.0	4.5 13.8
0.0	1.4

New Castle County   Kent or Sussex County   Delaware   Different state   Foreign country or at sea

Place of residence in 1995
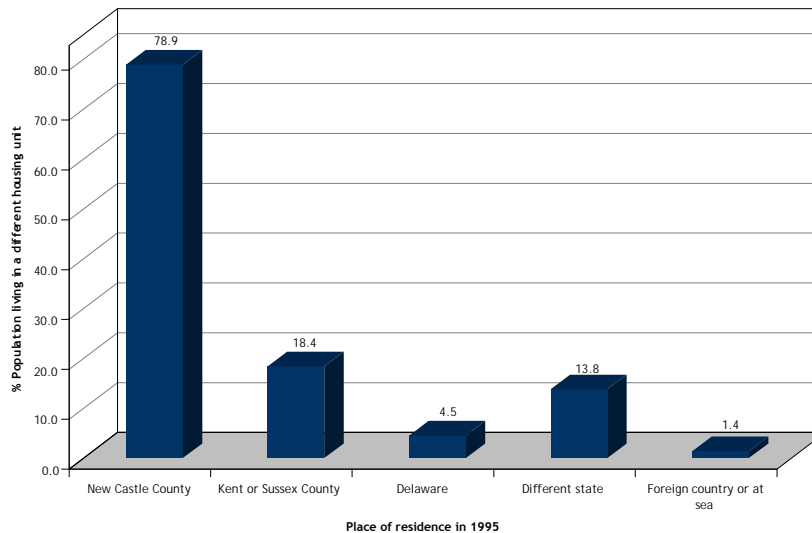
Figure 5.14. Residence of South Wilmington residents who did not live in the same housing units in 2000 as they were living in during 1995.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

♦ The majority of South Wilmington residents who occupied a different housing unit in 1995 were living somewhere in New Castle County in 1995.

5.f. Housing Unit Facilities and Utilities

In this section, information is presented on the plumbing facilities, heating fuel, telephone service, and kitchen facilities available in housing units in South Wilmington.

In 2000, less than one percent of South Wilmington housing units lacked complete plumbing facilities (Figure 5.15.). Complete plumbing facilities are defined as hot and cold piped water, a bathtub or shower, and a flush toilet (U.S. Census Bureau, 2005).

Nearly half (49.0 percent) of all South Wilmington occupied housing units used utility gas to heat their homes; fuel oil or kerosene was the second most common household heating fuel and electricity ranked third (Figure 5.16.). Less than one percent (14 total housing units) had no heating fuel source.

In terms of telephone service availability, most South Wilmington occupied housing units had telephone service (Table 5.3.). All (100 percent) of owner-occupied housing units had telephone service, while 91 percent of renter-occupied housing units had telephones in 2000 (Figure 5.17.). In order for a unit to be classified by the U.S. Census Bureau as having telephone services, a telephone must be located inside the housing unit; units where the inhabitants use a telephone located inside the building but not in the actual living quarters are classified as having no telephone (U.S. Census Bureau, 2005).

In 2000, less than one percent of all housing units in South Wilmington were lacking complete kitchen facilities (Figure 5.18.). The U.S. Census Bureau considers a housing unit to have complete kitchen facilities when it has all of the following: (1) an installed sink with piped water, (2) a stove or range, and (3) a refrigerator (U.S. Census Bureau, 2005). All kitchen facilities must be located in the unit, but they do not need to be in the same room. A housing unit having only a microwave or portable heating equipment (e.g., a hot plate or camping stove) or an ice box rather than a refrigerator is not counted as having complete kitchen facilities (U.S. Census Bureau, 2005).

Plumbing facility availability
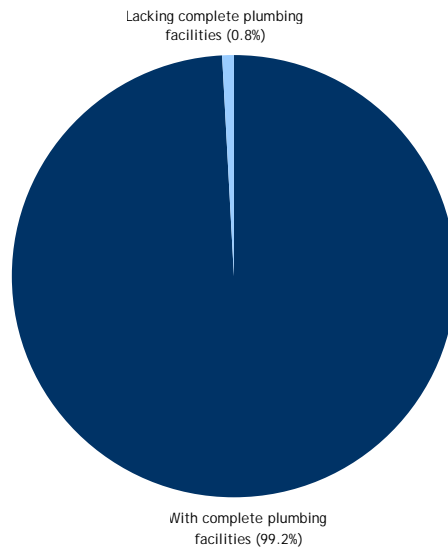
Figure 5.15. Availability of plumbing facilities in housing units as a percent of all housing units in South Wilmington.
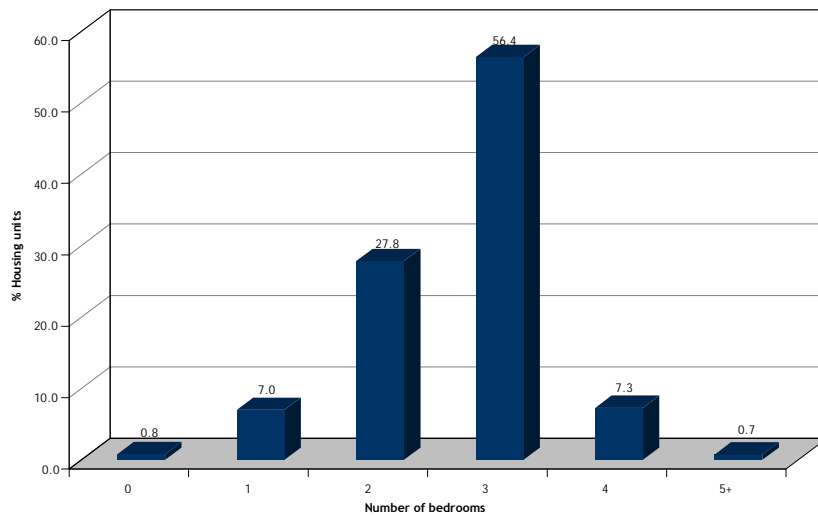*Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000*

♦ Most South Wilmington housing units had complete plumbing facilities.
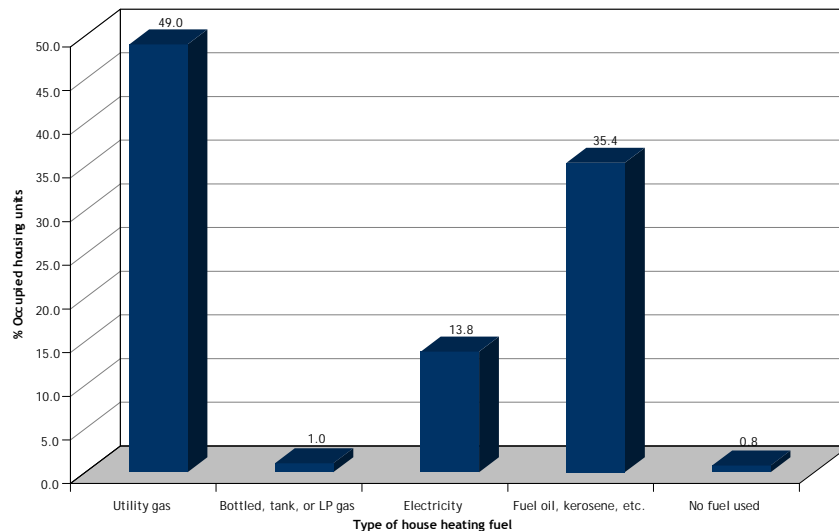
Figure 5.16. Type of fuel used to heat occupied housing units in South Wilmington.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

♦ The majority of occupied housing units were heated using utility gas.

♦ The second most common heating fuel was fuel oil or kerosene.

Total occupied housing units	1,824
With telephone service	1,759
No telephone service	65

Table 5.3. Availability of telephone service in South Wilmington housing units.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

Telephone service availability in
renter-occupied housing units

No telephone service (8.5%)

With telephone service
(91.5%)
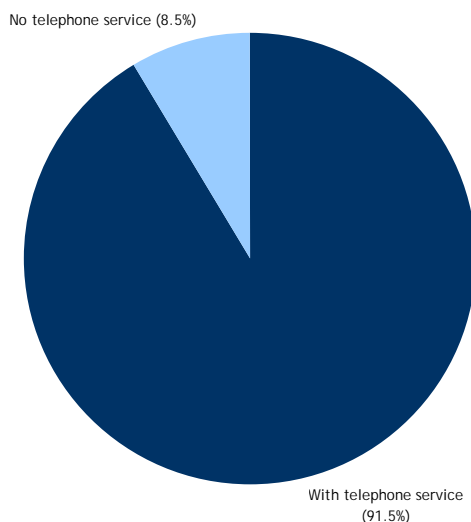
Figure 5.17. Availability of telephone service in rented housing units in South Wilmington.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

♦ Most South Wilmington
renter-occupied housing
units had telephone
service.

Kitchen facility availability

Lacking complete kitchen
facilities (0.8%)

With complete kitchen
facilities (99.2%)
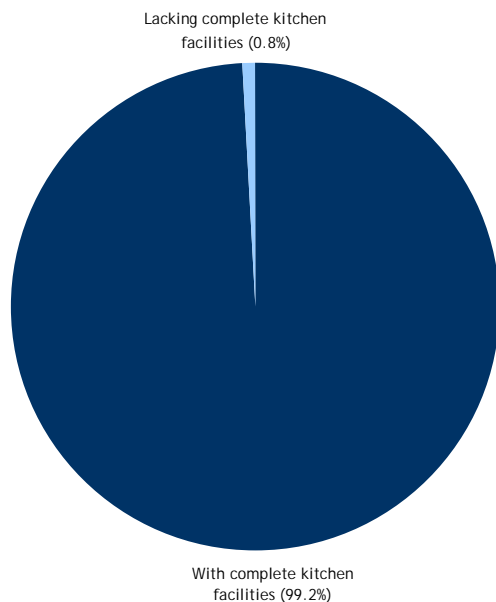
Figure 5.18. Availability of kitchen facilities in South Wilmington housing units.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

♦ Most South Wilmington
occupied housing units
had complete kitchen
facilities.

5.g. Residential Vehicle Availability

The section presents information on the vehicles available to South Wilmington residents for household use. The U.S. Census Bureau defined vehicles to include passenger cars, vans, and pickup or panel trucks of one-ton capacity or less which were kept at home and available for household use. Rented or leased vehicles, company vehicles, and police and government vehicles that were kept at home and used for non-business purposes were included in Census counts; dismantled or immobile vehicles and vehicles kept at home but used only for business purposes were not counted (U.S. Census Bureau, 2005).

In 2000, most occupied housing units in South Wilmington had access to one vehicle (Table 5.4.). About one-quarter of occupied South Wilmington housing units did not have a vehicle present; most (73.0 percent) housing units with no vehicle present were renter-occupied (Figure 5.19.). Owner-occupied housing units were more likely than renter-occupied units to have multiple vehicles.

Number of vehicles available per occupied housing unit	Number of occupied housing units	Percent of occupied housing units
0	463	25.4
1	690	37.8
2	430	23.6
3	186	10.2
4	35	1.9
5 or more	20	1.1
Total number of vehicles available	1,824	100.0

Table 5.4. Availability of vehicles in housing units in South Wilmington.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

a. Owner-occupied housing units

b. Renter-occupied housing units
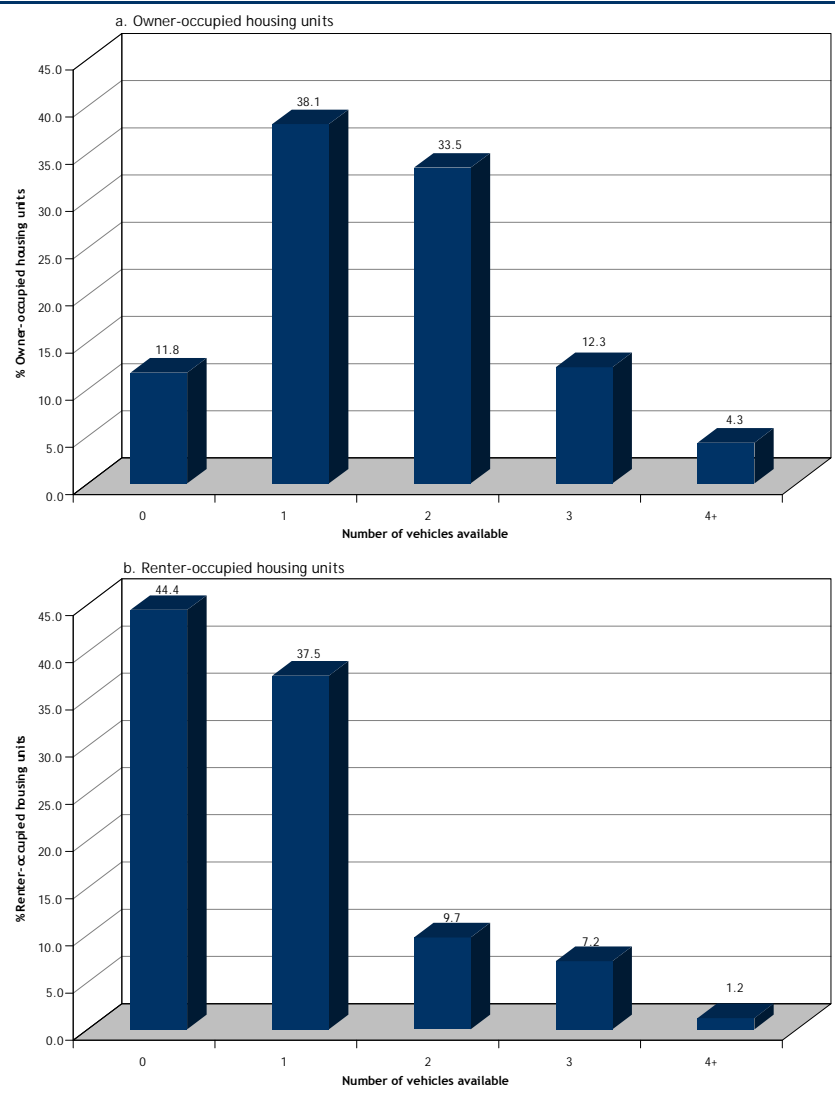
Figure 5.19. Vehicle availability in owner- (top) and renter-occupied (bottom) housing units in South Wilmington.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

- ♦ Most South Wilmington occupied housing units had one vehicle available.

- ♦ Most housing units without access to a vehicle were renter-occupied units.

South Wilmington Socioeconomic Profile
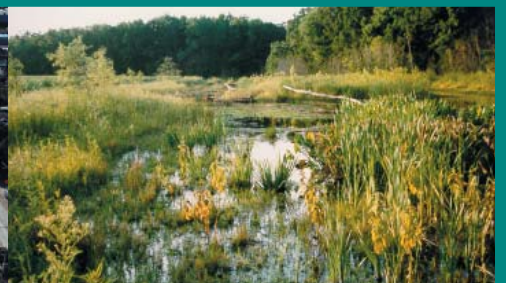
Chapter 6: Land use

Chapter 6: Land Use

This chapter provides information on land use characteristics for South Wilmington, following the geography shown in Figure 6.1., which is the cumulative area of the 91 Census blocks shown in Figure 1.3., an area that includes the Southbridge neighborhood as well as developments along the New Castle/Route 9 corridor. Included in the chapter are discussions of general patterns of land use and also zoning regulations and distributions in South Wilmington, as of 2002.

Areas of land use patterns and zones were calculated using ArcMap (8.3).

South Wilmington
Key Numbers:

Land use patterns:
Total acres: 982.7*
Industrial: 556.6 acres (56.6 percent of South Wilmington)
Urban: 172.7 acres (17.6 percent)
Natural areas/wetlands: 84.8 acres (8.6 percent)
Other: 62.1 acres (6.3 percent)
Transportation: 51.7 acres (5.3 percent)
Residential: 41.4 acres (4.2 percent)
Recreational: 13.3 acres (1.4 percent)

Zoning:
Total acres: 984.0*
Manufacturing: 521.7 acres (53.0 percent of South Wilmington)
Waterfront development: 246.6 acres (25.0 percent)
Residential: 104.1 acres (10.6 percent)
Commercial: 94.9 acres (9.6 percent)
Open space: 17.0 acres (1.7 percent)

*Numbers vary due to rounding.
Source: Delaware Spatial Data Implementation Team (I-Team), 2002
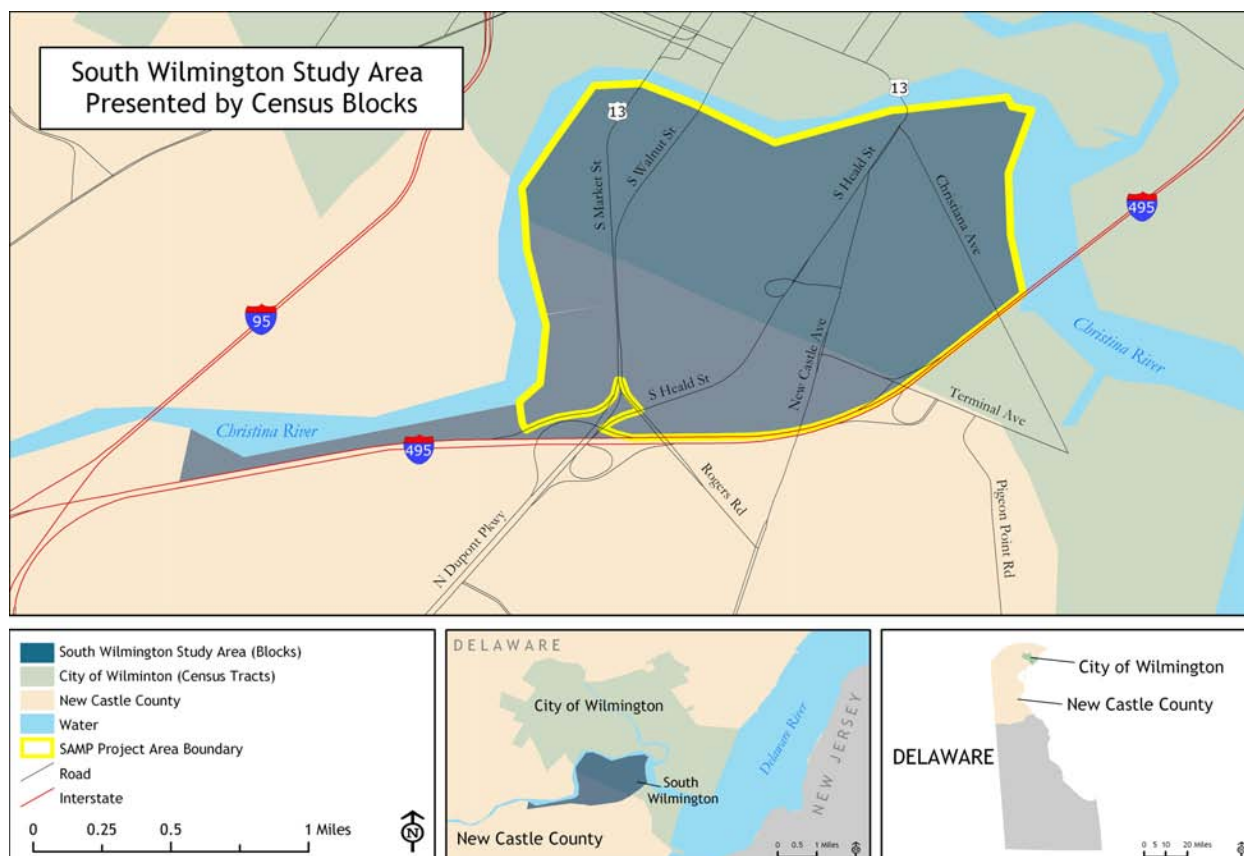
Figure 6.1. The South Wilmington study area used in this chapter of the report, which represents the cumulative area of the 91 Census blocks shown in Figure 1.3.
Sources: Delaware Department of Transportation, 2001; U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

6.a. General Land Use Characteristics

South Wilmington has a diverse mix of land uses, as is shown by the 2002 land use map shown in Figure 6.2. Land use patterns on the map were designated using the Anderson Classification System, which is a national, standardized system developed by the U.S. Geological Survey to define and classify lands by how they are being used (Anderson, Hardy, Roach, & Witmer, 1976).

As shown in Table 6.1. and Figure 6.3., in 2002, the majority of South Wilmington land (56.6 percent) was classified as being used for industrial activities. Under the Anderson Classification System, industrial areas are used for activities from light manufacturing (e.g., those focused on the design and production of products) to heavy manufacturing (e.g., those using raw materials such as iron ore or coal).

South Wilmington was also characterized by large sections of land being urban in nature. Urban areas are defined to include areas that are covered by permanent structures (and thus include cities, towns, etc.), as well as land having a use that is "nonconforming," meaning it fits multiple classifications (e.g., may be used for both residential and urban activities). Following areas used for industrial and urban activities, wetlands were the next largest area of land in South Wilmington.

In 2002, under the Anderson Classification System, approximately 4.3 percent of South Wilmington was being used for residential purposes (single- and multi-family dwellings). Residential areas include structures (housing units), driveways, and lawn areas, as well as any associated parking areas. Residential areas which are integral parts of other land uses may be classified under a different land use (e.g., urban); thus, although only 41.4 acres on the map were defined as being residential, much of the residential land was categorized as being "urban" and the actual area of residential housing in South Wilmington may have been greater.
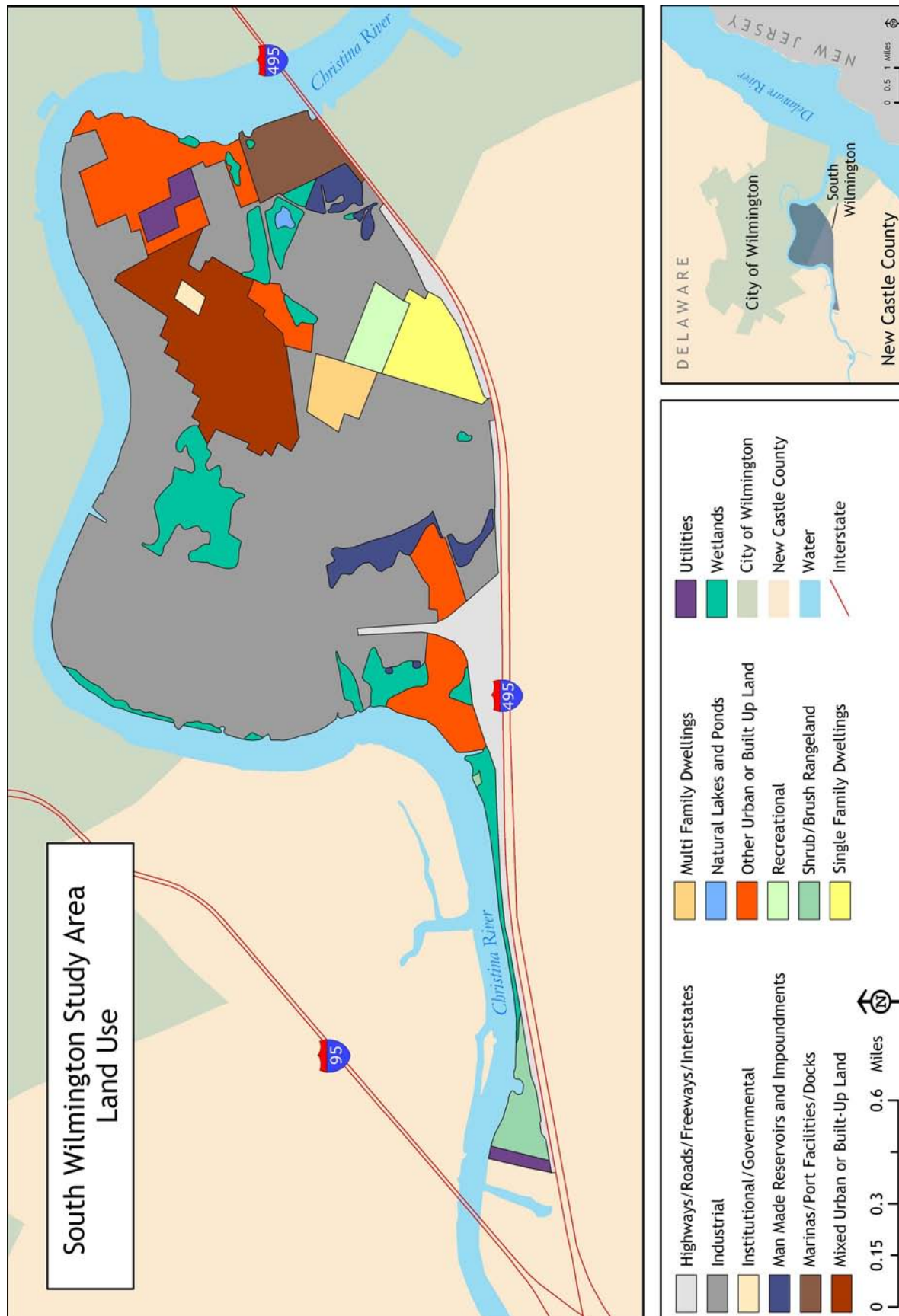
Figure 6.2. South Wilmington land use map for 2002.
Source: Delaware Spatial Data Implementation Team (I-Team), 2002

South Wilmington Socioeconomic Profile

Anderson Classification	Area (acres)	% Total area
Industrial	556.6	56.6
Other urban or built-up land	89.8	9.1
Mixed urban or built-up land	82.9	8.4
Wetlands	69.5	7.1
Highways/roads/access roads/freeways/interstates	51.7	5.3
Single-family dwellings	27.1	2.8
Marinas/port facilities/docks	25.1	2.6
Man-made reservoirs and impoundments	23.7	2.4
Multi-family dwellings	14.3	1.5
Shrub/brush rangeland	14.1	1.4
Recreational	13.3	1.4
Utilities	10.9	1.1
Institutional/government	2.4	0.2
Natural lakes and ponds	1.2	0.1
Total	**982.7**	**100.0**

Table 6.1. Anderson classification and area of land in South Wilmington.
Source: Delaware Spatial Data Implementation Team (I-Team), 2002
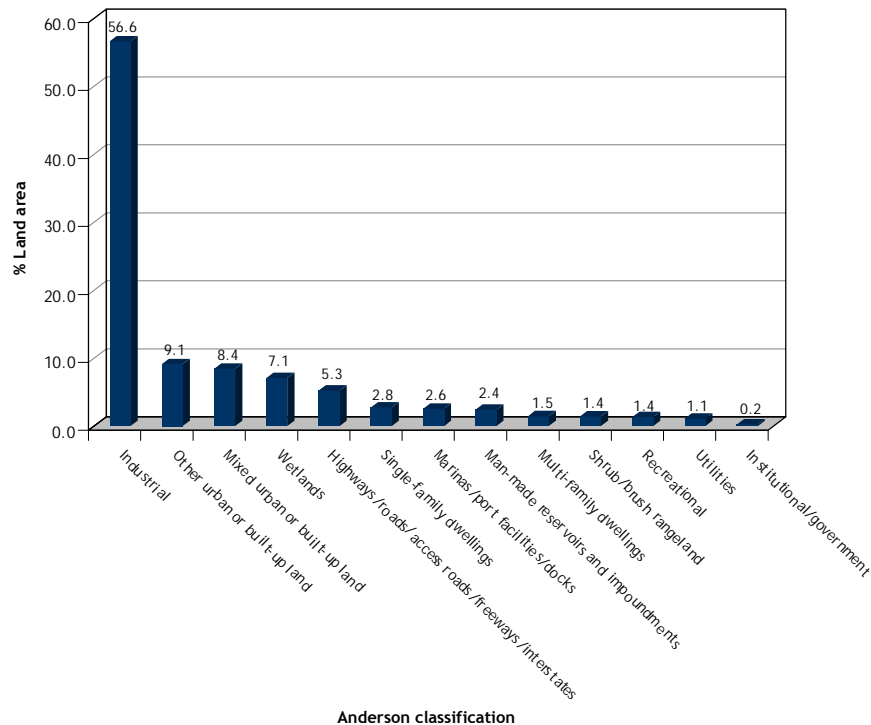
Figure 6.3. Percent area of land in South Wilmington classified under the Anderson Classification System.
Source: Delaware Spatial Data Implementation Team (I-Team), 2002

♦ Over half of land in South Wilmington was used for industrial activities.

6.b. Zoning

This section reviews 2002 zoning for South Wilmington and includes zones defined by both the City of Wilmington and New Castle County.

As can be seen in Table 6.2. and Figures 6.4. and 6.5., South Wilmington was zoned for a wide variety of uses, and includes residential, commercial, manufacturing or industrial, and waterfront development districts, as well as areas designated as "open space."

Approximately 10.6 percent of South Wilmington was zoned for residential use. Residential zoning in the area located within the City of Wilmington included one-family row houses (R-3) and low-density apartment homes (R-5-A). In the section of the study area falling under New Castle County zoning, residential zoning was represented by Neighborhood Conservation (NC-5) districts, which are zoned to protect the "existing character" of older residential developments (New Castle County, 2004).

City of Wilmington zoned commercial districts in South Wilmington included neighborhood shopping (C-1), secondary business commercial centers (C-2) that provide for both shopping and business needs, and heavy commercial sites for large wholesale and storage establishments that attract heavy truck traffic (C-5) (City of Wilmington, 2005a). A part of South Wilmington was zoned for commercial use under the New Castle County Commercial, Regional (CR) district, which provides commercial services to suburban communities (New Castle County, 2004).

South Wilmington was also zoned for manufacturing and industrial uses. The City of Wilmington M-1 zone, which accounts for 22.1 percent of South Wilmington land in 2002, permits activities associated with light manufacturing, scientific research, and wholesale warehousing or storage. The M-2 zone includes heavy industrial sites designed to provide areas where large-scale industries can find suitable sites served by rail, water, and highway transportation; no new residential development is permitted in M-2 zoned areas. Areas zoned for Heavy Industry (HI) are intended for larger, heavy industrial developments that can cause noise, air pollution, or other adverse impacts to residential areas (City of Wilmington, 2005a).

Areas along the Christina River were zoned for waterfront manufacturing (W-1) or waterfront residential commercial use (W-4). W-1 districts allow for manufacturing and heavy industrial uses that require access to transportation networks (e.g., rail, water, highways). W-4 districts allow for residential, retail, or commercial development along the riverfront (City of Wilmington, 2005a).

Areas in South Wilmington designated as open space (O) represented 1.7 percent of the study area. Open spaces are designed to provide recreation and "permanent light and air" to surrounding districts. These areas can be used for public parks, playgrounds, or recreational activities (City of Wilmington, 2005a).
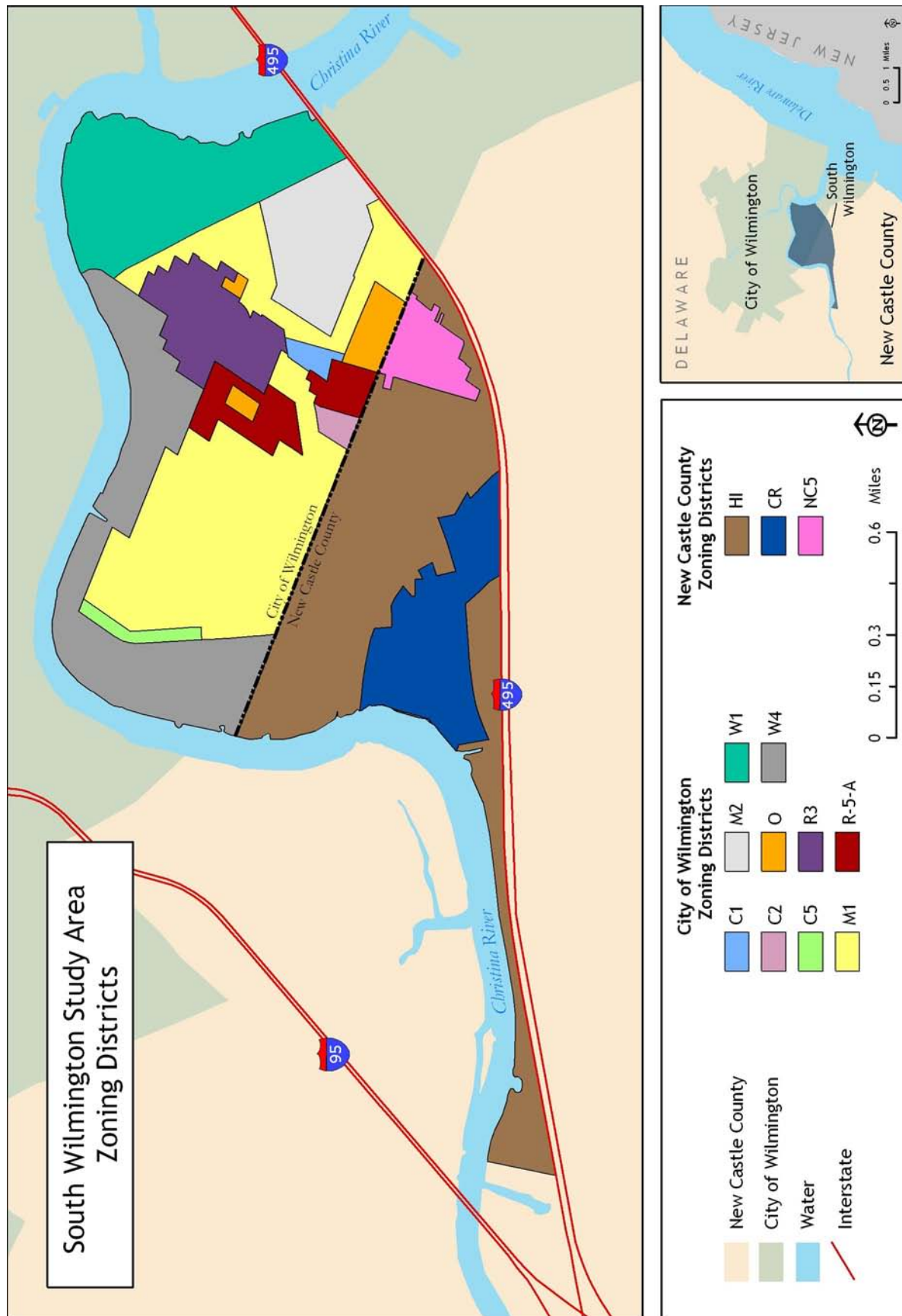
Figure 64. South Wilmington zoning map for 2002.
Source: Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control, 2002

Zoning	Area (acres)	% Total area
City of Wilmington zones:		
C-1 (Neighborhood shopping)	5.1	0.5
C-2 (Secondary business commercial centers)	4.8	0.5
C-5 (Heavy commercial)	7.0	0.7
M-1 (Light manufacturing)	217.5	22.1
M-2 (General industrial)	54.8	5.6
O (Open space)	17.0	1.7
R-3 (One-family row houses)	47.7	4.8
R-5-A (Low-density apartment houses)	32.0	3.3
W-1 (Waterfront manufacturing)	114.0	11.6
W-4 (Waterfront residential/commercial)	132.6	13.5
New Castle County zones:		
HI (Heavy Industry)	249.4	25.3
NC5 (Neighborhood Conservation)	24.0	2.4
CR (Commercial Regional)	78.1	7.9
Total	**984.0**	**100.0**

Table 6.2. Area of zoning districts in South Wilmington.
Source: Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control, 2002
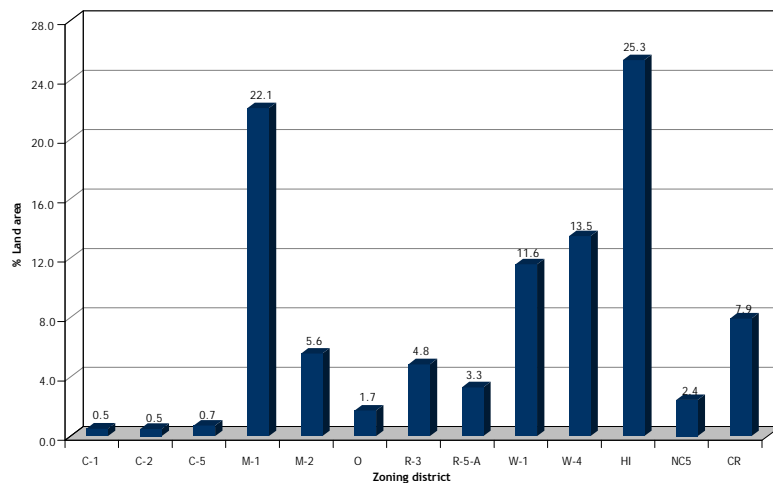
Figure 6.5. Percent area of zoning districts in South Wilmington.
Source: Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control, 2002

♦ Over half of land in South Wilmington was zoned for industrial or manufacturing use (zones M-1, M-2, and HI).

South Wilmington Socioeconomic Profile

Chapter 7: Business establishments

Chapter 7: Business Establishments

This chapter provides information on the number of service, retail, and other businesses in South Wilmington, and expected sales and consumer spending in 2005 at these businesses. The chapter also includes information on the number of employees working within South Wilmington.

All information in the chapter was collected from Environmental Systems Research Institute (ESRI) Business Information Solutions (BIS). ESRI BIS data is extracted from a list of businesses licensed through infoUSA and represents numbers as of January, 2005. According to ESRI, infoUSA collects and maintains its business database by using several sources, including directory listings (e.g., business white pages); annual reports; Securities and Exchange Commission information; federal, state, and municipal government data; business magazines, newsletters, and newspapers; and U.S. Postal Service information. infoUSA conducts telephone verification with each business annually to ensure accurate and complete information (ESRI, 2005). Retail trade information in the chapter includes businesses classified according to the 31 major industry groups identified by the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS). For additional information on NAICS, including classification definitions, visit the following Web site: http://www.census.gov/epcd/www/naics.html.

The information in this chapter is intended to provide an overview of the business services available in South Wilmington; these values may not be exact figures. Additionally, definitions used by ESRI BIS may skew the number of types of businesses in South Wilmington; for example, a gas station selling snacks and sodas may qualify as a "food and beverage store." The ESRI BIS data represents the best available information and, again, is included to provide an *estimate* of available services.

The study area for which the ESRI data was obtained was drawn to match the area defined by the South Wilmington SAMP Project Area shown in Figure 1.1.; for the remainder of Chapter 7, references to "South Wilmington" represent the area illustrated in Figure 1.1., which includes South Wilmington as well as the New Castle/Route 9 corridor developments.

South Wilmington Key Numbers:

Total number of businesses: 229

Total number of employees: 4,688

Number of service businesses: 90

Number of retail businesses: 72
  Automobile and accessory stores: 15
  Restaurants and bars: 10
  Food and beverage stores: 9
  Gas stations: 4
  Clothing stores: 0
  General merchandise stores: 0

Number of construction businesses: 16

Number of manufacturing businesses: 14

Number of transportation businesses: 18

Number of wholesale trade businesses: 33

Source: ESRI Business Information Solutions, 2005

7.a. Business Summary

In 2005, a total of 229 businesses were located in South Wilmington; these businesses employed a total of 4,688 people (Table 7.1.).

As shown in Table 7.1., 56 businesses in South Wilmington fell into the "other services" category, meaning that businesses providing "other services" represented the largest percentage of South Wilmington businesses (Figure 7.1.). "Other services" includes personal, business, miscellaneous repair, and social services, as well as museums; art galleries; membership organizations; engineering, accounting, research, management, and related services; and services not classified elsewhere. The next largest percentage of South Wilmington businesses were involved in wholesale trade, followed by establishments providing automotive services. In 2005, there were no general merchandise stores, apparel and accessory stores, securities brokers, insurance carriers, or legal service providers in South Wilmington.

A total of 2,054 people, or 43.8 percent of all people working in South Wilmington in 2005, were government employees (Figure 7.2.). The next category of businesses in South Wilmington employing the most people was wholesale trade, followed by manufacturing and construction companies. The business categories employing the fewest number of people were furniture and home furnishing retailers, hotels, and banks.

Business category	Number of businesses	Number of employees
Agriculture and mining	6	68
Construction	16	309
Manufacturing	14	390
Transportation	18	178
Communication	1	0
Electric, gas, water, and sanitary services	3	91
Wholesale trade	33	463
Home improvement	5	92
Food stores	4	36
Auto dealers, gas stations, and auto aftermarkets	14	75
Furniture and home furnishings	1	12
Eating and drinking places	14	104
Miscellaneous retail	4	33
Banks, savings, and lending institutions	1	11
Real estate, holding, or other investment offices	5	30
Hotels and lodging	1	9
Automotive services	20	117
Motion pictures and amusements	3	104
Health services	3	204
Education institutions and libraries	1	45
Other services	56	261
Government	6	2,054
Other	1	2
Total	**229**	**4,688**

Table 7.1. Number of businesses and employees for each business category in South Wilmington.
Source: ESRI Business Information Solutions, 2005
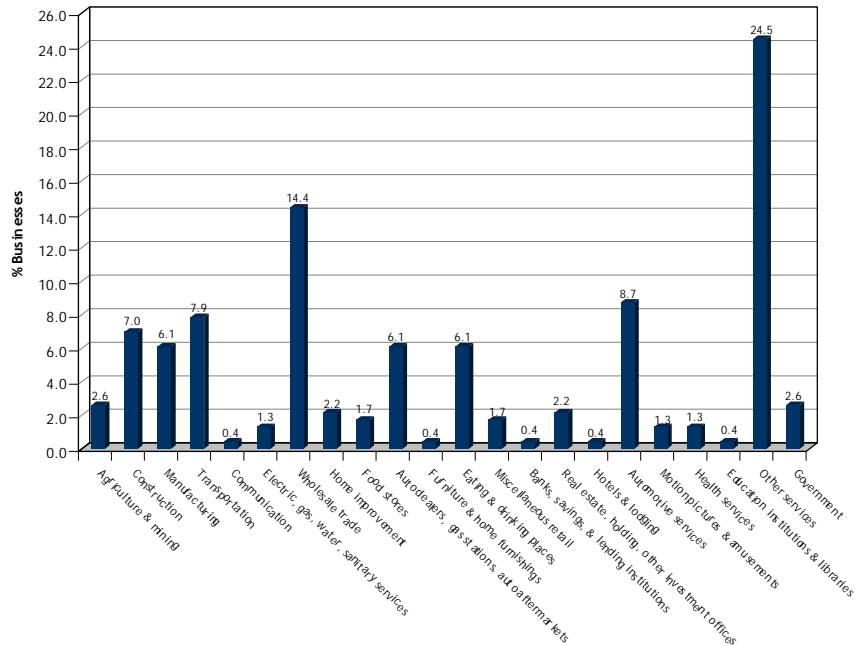
Figure 7.1. Percentages of businesses in South Wilmington by business category.
Source: ESRI Business Information Solutions, 2005

♦ Most South Wilmington businesses provided "other services."
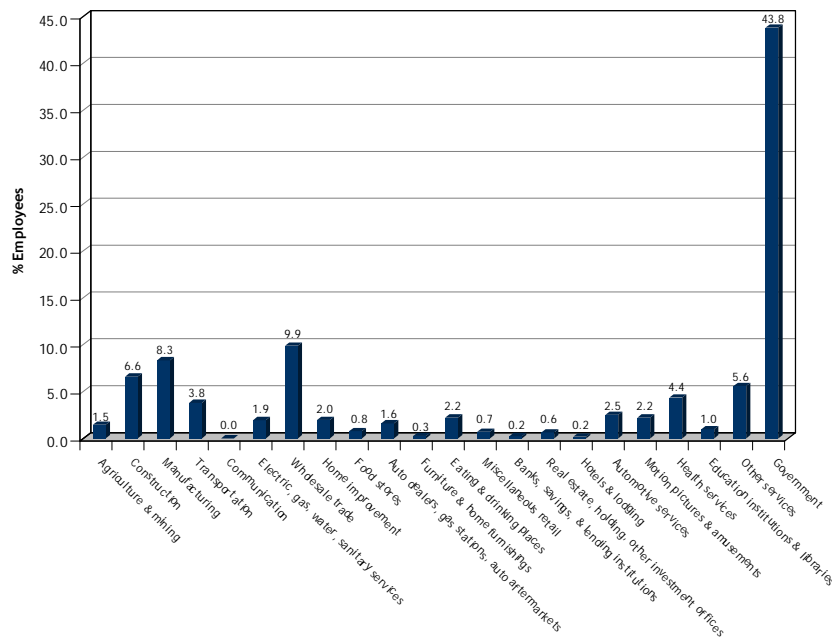
Figure 7.2. Percentages of employees by business category in South Wilmington.
Source: ESRI Business Information Solutions, 2005

♦ Government organizations employed the most people working in South Wilmington.

7.b. Service Businesses

As characterized by ESRI, service businesses include those establishments that provide lodging, automotive services, entertainment services, health services, legal services, educational services, and "other" services; percentages of these businesses are shown in Figure 7.3.

Most service businesses in South Wilmington fell into the "other services" category in 2005. The next most common type of service business in South Wilmington included businesses providing automotive services.

There were three motion picture and amusement establishments in South Wilmington in 2005. South Wilmington had a total of six businesses that were involved with financial and real estate services, including one bank and five real estate agencies. Also, there was one education institution and one hotel in 2005 in South Wilmington.

- Most South Wilmington service businesses fell into the "other services" category.

Figure 7.3. Distribution of service businesses in South Wilmington in the year 2005.
Source: ESRI Business Information Solutions, 2005
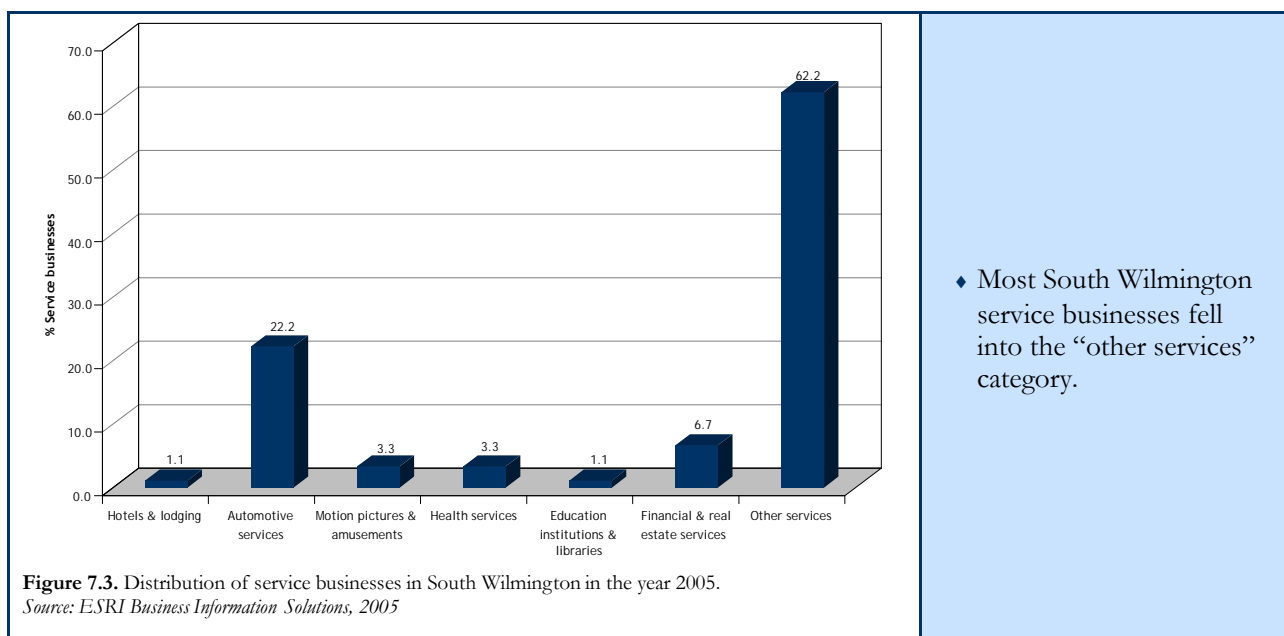
7.c. Retail Trade Establishments

As noted at the beginning of this chapter, ESRI BIS retail trade information classifies businesses within the study area according to the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS), which includes 31 industrial sectors and multiple sub-sectors.

In 2005, there were 72 retail trade establishments in South Wilmington (some of which were also classified as "service" businesses and thus may also be included in the counts in the previous section).

The largest sector of retail business in South Wilmington included automobile dealers and accessory stores (see Table 7.2. and Figure 7.4.). Of the 15 businesses involving automobiles, seven were

dealerships; seven sold auto parts, accessories, and tires; and one sold motor vehicles other than automobiles.

In 2005, there were 13 electronics and appliance stores in South Wilmington, making this the second largest retail business sector in the area. There were ten food and drink establishments in South Wilmington in 2005. Most of these establishments (seven total) were limited-service eating places; none were full-service restaurants. There was one bar in South Wilmington.

In 2005, there were nine businesses that fell into the NAICS food and beverage industry. According to the NAICS classification, industries in the food and beverage store sector usually retail food and beverages merchandise from "fixed point-of-sale" locations and have special equipment such as freezers, refrigerated display cases, or refrigerators for displaying food and beverages (U.S. Census Bureau, 2002). Of the nine food and beverage stores in South Wilmington, four were identified as being grocery stores; three sold specialty foods; and two were beer, wine, and liquor stores.

Other retail businesses in South Wilmington in 2005 included 10 home improvement/lawn and garden stores, four gas stations, two home furnishing stores, and two health and personal care stores. There were four "miscellaneous" retail businesses, which included one florist, one office supply/stationery store, and two businesses that fell into the category of "other." South Wilmington also had three non-retail stores, including two vending machine operators and one direct selling establishment.

Retail businesses not found in South Wilmington included general merchandise stores, such as department stores, and clothing, shoe, or luggage stores. South Wilmington also did not have any sporting goods, hobby, book, or music stores.

Business category	Number of businesses
Automobile dealers and accessory stores	15
Automobile dealers	7
Other motor vehicle dealers	1
Auto parts, accessories, and tire stores	7
Home furnishing stores	2
Electronic and appliance stores	13
Home improvement/lawn and garden stores	10
Building material and supplies dealers	9
Lawn and garden equipment and supplies stores	1
Food and beverage stores	9
Grocery stores	4
Specialty food stores	3
Beer, wine, and liquor stores	2
Health and personal care stores	2
Gasoline stations	4
Miscellaneous stores and retailers	4
Florists	1
Office supplies, stationery, and gift stores	1
Other miscellaneous store retailers	2
Non-store retailers	3
Vending machine operators	2
Direct selling establishments	1
Food and drink establishments	10
Total	**72**

Table 7.2. Number of retail trade businesses in South Wilmington.
Source: ESRI Business Information Solutions, 2005

Figure 7.4. Distribution of retail businesses in South Wilmington.
Source: ESRI Business Information Solutions, 2005

♦ Most South Wilmington retail businesses were in the automotive industry.

♦ The second most common type of retail business in South Wilmington was electronics and appliance stores.

7.d. "Other" Businesses

This section discusses businesses not captured as "service" or "retail" establishments. All together, these "other" businesses employed over three-quarters of people who worked in South Wilmington in 2005.

As shown in Figure 7.5., the largest percentage of "other" businesses in South Wilmington included those businesses involved in wholesale trade; the 33 businesses involved in the wholesale trade industry employed 463 people. The next largest number of other businesses in South Wilmington included those in the transportation sector, followed by those businesses involved in construction.

Also in South Wilmington in 2005, there were six businesses in the agriculture and mining industry; three businesses providing electric, gas, water, and sanitary services; and one business in the communication field (see Table 7.1.). While there were only six government establishments in South Wilmington, government was the largest employer in the area, employing nearly 44 percent of all people who worked in South Wilmington.
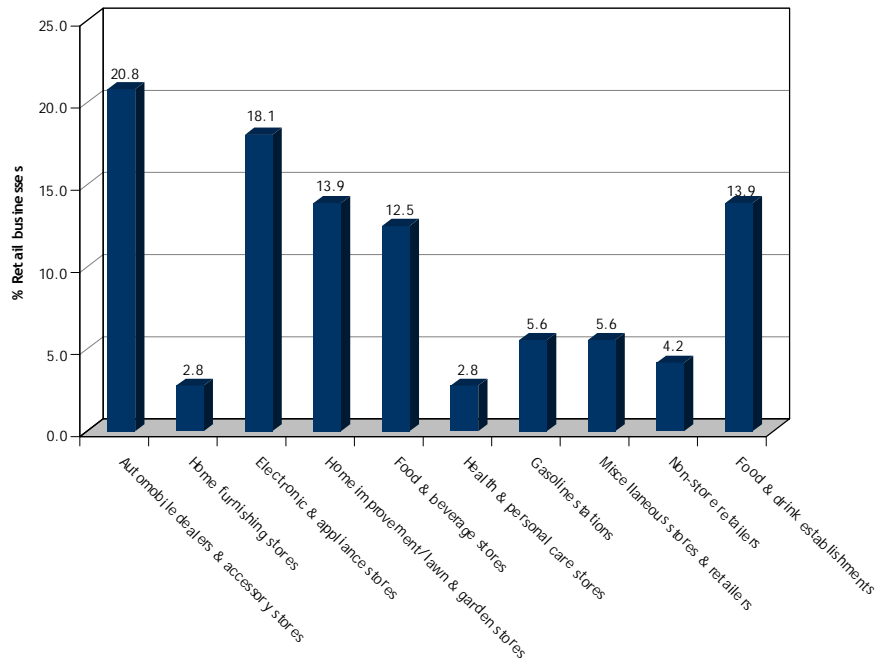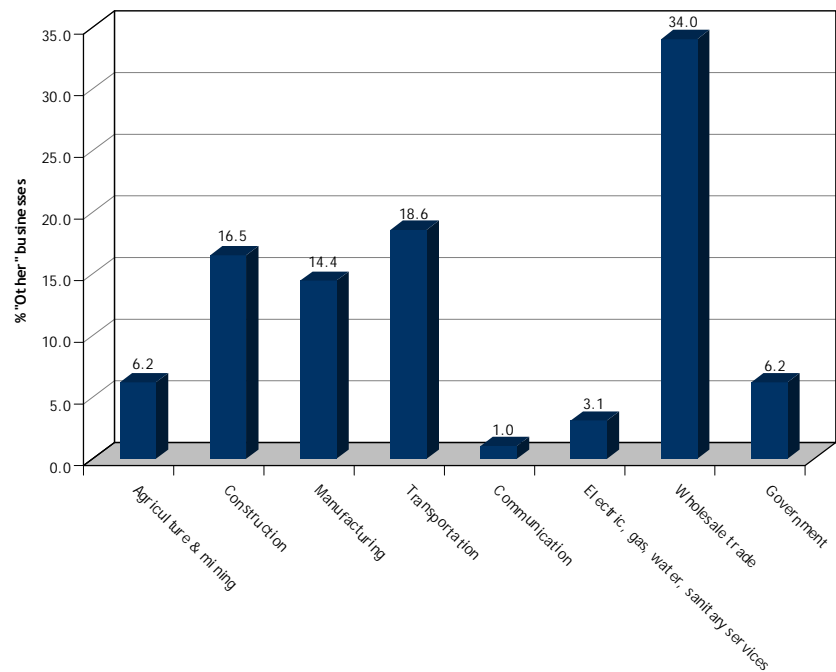
Figure 7.5. Distribution of "other" businesses in South Wilmington.
Source: ESRI Business Information Solutions, 2005

♦ Most "other" South Wilmington businesses were in the wholesale trade industry.

Chapter 8: Public and Community Development and Services

Chapter 8: Public and Community Development and Services

This chapter provides information on public and community development and services available within, or in close proximity to, South Wilmington, following the geography shown in Figure 8.1., which is the cumulative area of the 91 Census blocks shown in Figure 1.3. Included are details on transportation systems and services, education services, public and community buildings, and public and social services available to South Wilmington residents. The chapter also includes information on the South Wilmington water and sewer system and parks and recreational services within South Wilmington.

The information presented in this chapter was collected from a variety of sources, all of which are cited and listed in the Works Cited section of this report. Because the information was collected from multiple sources, the data reflect a variety of years—please refer to the text and/or table/figure citations to determine the age of the data. Additionally, it is important to recognize that the information in this chapter represents that from readily available sources; additional resources may be present in South Wilmington which were not captured in the accessible data sources and thus these resources are not represented in the chapter.

South Wilmington Key Numbers:

Total length of South Wilmington roads: 19.3 miles

Nearest rail station: City of Wilmington
    Rail services: Amtrak, SEPTA, CSX Transportation

Nearest airports: New Castle Airport; Philadelphia International Airport

Nearest port: Port of Wilmington

Number of childcare facilities: 2

South Wilmington school district: Christina (District number 95 – 33 00)
    Number of public schools attended by South Wilmington students: 9

Number of libraries: 0
Libraries in the City of Wilmington: 6

Number of courts: 0
    Courts in the City of Wilmington: 9

Number of government buildings: 1

Number of senior living centers: 2

Number of places of worship: 15

Number of health care facilities: 1
    Major hospitals in the City of Wilmington: 6

Number of civic and neighborhood organizations: 2

City of Wilmington average water usage: 26 million gallons/day

City of Wilmington average waste water flow: 80 million gallons/day

Total length of South Wilmington sewer system: 20.7 miles

Number of parks: 8

Sources: Amtrak, 2005; SEPTA, 2005; New Castle Airport, 2005; Philadelphia International Airport, 2005; Diamond State Port Corporation, 2005; City of Wilmington, 2005; Christina School District, 2004; New Castle County, 2005; Delaware State Courts, 2004; City of Wilmington, 2004b
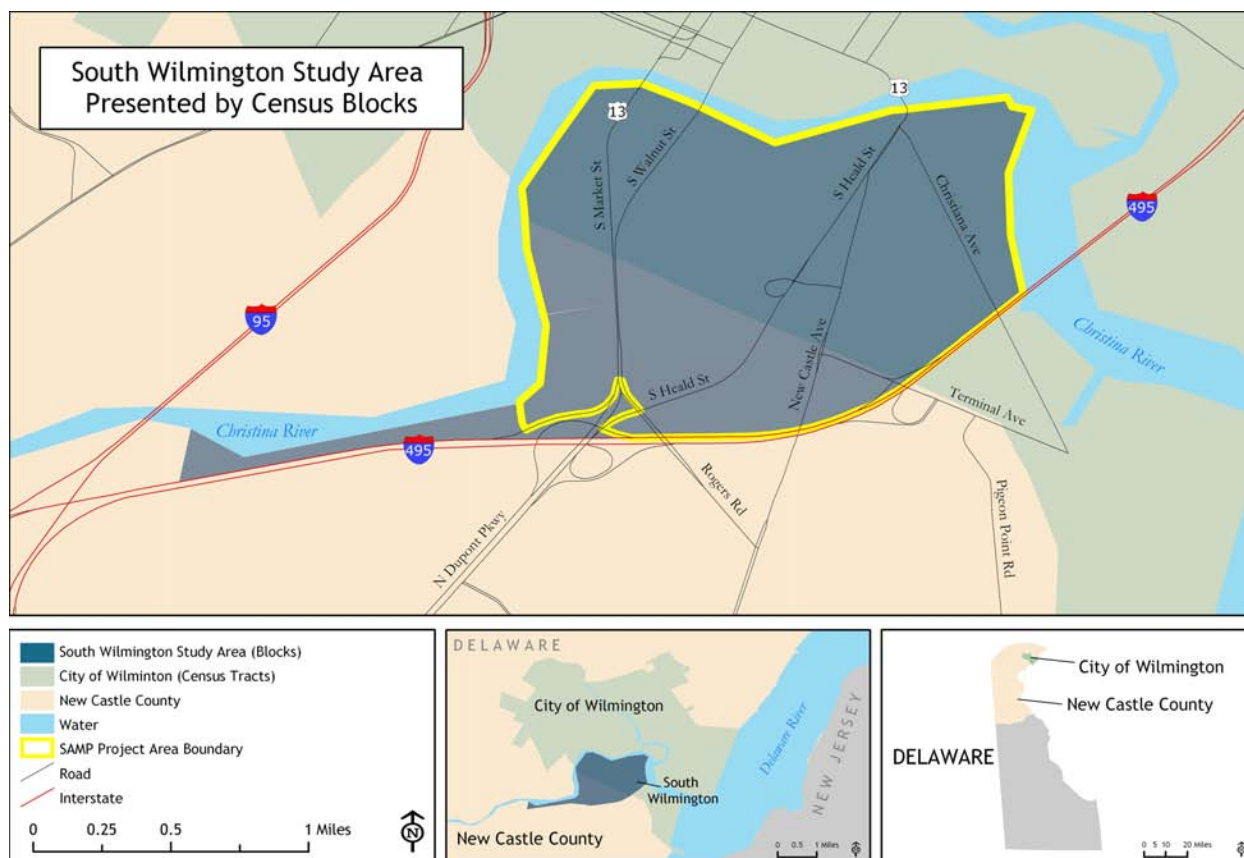
Figure 8.1. The South Wilmington study area used in this chapter of the report, which represents the cumulative area of the 91 Census blocks shown in Figure 1.3.
Sources: Delaware Department of Transportation, 2001; U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

8.a. Transportation

This section includes details on the transportation systems within or near South Wilmington, including roads, public transportation, rail, airports, and the Port of Wilmington.

Roads

Roads within South Wilmington are part of the New Castle County road network and are defined according to classes set by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). The FHWA classifies roads according to road function, where function is based on the type of services a road provides to the public (FHWA, 2002).

In 2001, there were a total of 19.3 miles of roads within or bordering South Wilmington (Figure 8.2.). These roads fell into five different FHWA classifications (Table 8.1.). Most of the roads (7.3 miles total) in South Wilmington were classified as local roads, meaning that they provide limited mobility and primarily serve to provide access to residential areas and local businesses; speed limits on local roads typically range from 20 to 45 miles per hour (FWHA, 2002). South Wilmington had a total of 6.6 miles arterial roads, including principal arterial and minor arterial roads; the FHWA defines arterial roads as those which supplement the interstate system and serve to connect major

urban areas, cities, and industrial centers and have speed limits between 50 and 70 miles per hour (FWHA, 2002). Collectors, of which there were 1.8 miles in South Wilmington, include roads that connect local roads with arterial roads; connector roads are typically shorter than arterial roads and have speed limits between 35 and 55 miles per hour (FHWA, 2002). South Wilmington is also bordered by 3.6 miles of interstate roads (Interstate-495 and Interstate-95), which, according to the FHWA, are arterial roads that provide the highest level of mobility over the greatest distances; interstate speed limits typically range between 55 and 75 miles per hour (FHWA, 2002).

Table 8.2. displays traffic counts on streets in South Wilmington for the years 1996 – 1999. A traffic count is defined as the two-way average daily traffic that passes a specified location. As shown in the table, the most heavily traveled street in South Wilmington was New Castle Avenue, near its intersection with S. Claymont Street.

Road classification	Length (miles)
Interstate (bordering South Wilmington)	3.6
Local roads	7.3
Major collectors	1.8
Minor arterials	4.0
Principal arterials	2.6
Total	**19.3**

Table 8.1. Length of roads in South Wilmington; road lengths calculated using road centerlines.
Source: Delaware Department of Transportation, 2001

Street:	Closest Cross-street:	Count:	Year of count:
S Heald St	E St (0 miles NE)	11,943	1996
New Castle Ave	D St (0.01 miles N)	5,040	1996
New Castle Ave	E St (0.01 miles S)	6,130	1996
New Castle Ave	A St (0.02 miles S)	6,257	1997
S Heald St	Lobdell St (0.02 miles NE)	11,696	1997
New Castle Ave	S Claymont St (0.03 miles N)	67,412	1997
S Walnut St	C St (0.03 miles SW)	27,817	1997
Peach St	S Heald St (0 miles NW)	12,667	1997
Dupont Pky	S Market St (0.1 miles S)	24,466	1997
S Heald St	Garasches Ln (0.27 miles NE)	13,004	1997
S Walnut St	A St (0.04 miles NE)	26,079	1997
S Market St	Howard St (0.08 miles N)	22,219	1997
S Heald St	Christiana Ave (0.03 miles NE)	11,876	1997
Christiana Ave	S Heald St (0 miles S)	11,876	1997
Terminal Ave	Wilmington Ave (0.07 miles SE)	10,400	1999
Dupont Pky	Millside Dr (0.07 miles S)	26,096	1999
New Castle Ave	Dover Ave (0 miles N)	10,189	1999
S Market St	A St (0.09 miles NE)	7,006	1999
Rogers Rd	S Heald St (0.04 miles SE)	14,390	1999
S Heald St	Rogers Rd (0.01 miles NE)	14,390	1999
Rogers Rd	S Heald St (0.04 miles NW)	7,266	1999
S Heald St	Rogers Rd (0.07 miles NE)	15,349	1999

Table 8.2. Average Daily Traffic counts for selected roads in South Wilmington.
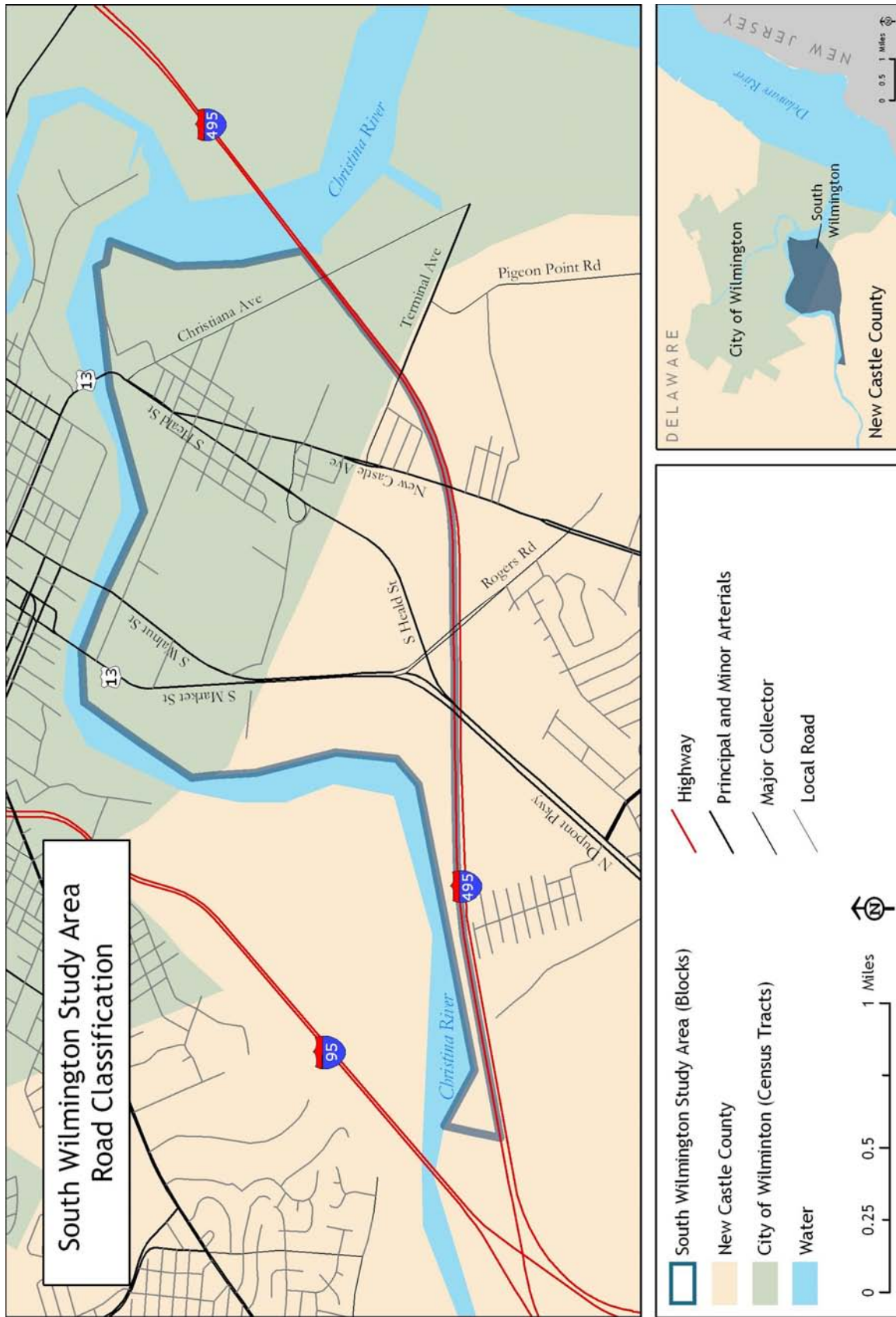*Source: ESRI Business Information Solutions, 2005*

Figure 8.2 Roads in South Wilmington.
Source: Delaware Department of Transportation, 2001

South Wilmington Socioeconomic Profile

Public bus transportation

Public bus transportation for the entire state of Delaware is provided by DART First State, which is operated by the Delaware Transit Corporation, a division of the Delaware Department of Transportation (DART First State, 2002). As of 2002, DART First State operated a fleet of 393 buses, 100 percent of which were fully accessible according to the Americans with Disabilities Act. DART First State operated 39 bus routes in New Castle County, 11 routes in Kent County, 11 routes in Sussex County, and two intercounty bus routes that provided service between Wilmington and Dover and between Dover and Milford (DART First State, 2002). Table 8.3. lists bus routes that pass through South Wilmington, as well as areas served by these routes.

Fares for 2005 were those made effective May 31, 2001 (DART First State, 2001). The regular fare for all fixed-route buses in New Castle County, with the exception of Route 32, was $1.15; riders over the age of 65 or who had a certified disability were eligible to ride fixed-route buses for a fare of $0.45. Route 32 had a special cash fare of $0.25 for all riders. Children and blind riders rode for free. Riders could also purchase a daily pass for $2.40 (DART First State, 2001).

For intercounty routes, which included Route 301, fares ranged from $1.50 to $7.50, depending upon the distance traveled; riders over the age of 65 or who had a certified disability were eligible to ride intercounty buses for fares that ranged between $0.60 and $3.00. Intercounty bus daily passes ranged in price from $3.15 to $9.45 (DART First State, 2001).

Route number:	Areas served:		Service provided:
15	♦ Christiana Mall ♦ Corporate Commons ♦ Basin Road ♦ New Castle	♦ Jefferson Farms ♦ New Castle Avenue ♦ Downtown Wilmington	Weekdays, Saturday
16	♦ Fairfield ♦ Nottingham Green ♦ Oaklands ♦ Newark	♦ Newark Rail Station ♦ Park & Ride: DE 4 & DE 896 ♦ I-95 Service Plaza ♦ Downtown Wilmington	Weekdays
17	♦ Health & Social Services Campus ♦ Southgate Industrial Park ♦ Riveredge Industrial Park ♦ Memorial Drive	♦ Holloway Terrace ♦ Dunleith ♦ Rogers Road ♦ Downtown Wilmington	Weekdays, Saturday
22	♦ Wilton ♦ WalMart on US 40	♦ DuPont Highway ♦ Downtown Wilmington	Weekdays, Saturday
23	♦ Computer Sciences Corporation ♦ Fleet Bank ♦ University Plaza ♦ Park & Ride: DE 7 & DE 273	♦ Wilton ♦ Edinburgh Drive ♦ Corporate Commons ♦ Downtown Wilmington	Weekdays, Saturday
24	♦ Village of Fox Point ♦ Governor Printz Boulevard ♦ Edgemoor ♦ Downtown Wilmington	♦ Adams 4 Plaza ♦ Greenhill Ave ♦ Woodlawn Ave	Weekdays, Saturday
25	♦ Downtown Wilmington ♦ Llangollen ♦ Airport Plaza	♦ DuPont Highway ♦ Park & Ride: Tybouts Corner	Weekdays, Saturday
30	♦ Downtown Wilmington ♦ Stanton ♦ Limestone Road	♦ Pike Creek Shopping Center ♦ Lantana Square	Weekdays

33	♦ Newark Municipal Building ♦ Elkton Road and Apple Road ♦ Newark Rail Station ♦ Park & Ride: DE 4 & DE 896 ♦ MBNA	♦ Fairplay Station at Churchman's Crossing ♦ Christiana Hospital ♦ Continental Drive ♦ Christiana Mall ♦ Downtown Wilmington	Weekdays, Saturday
34	♦ Downtown Wilmington ♦ Christiana Mall ♦ University Plaza Shopping Center ♦ Christiana High School ♦ Kimberton	♦ Newark Senior Center ♦ Avon ♦ College Square Shopping Center ♦ Main St. at Newark Shopping Center	Weekdays
39	♦ Newark Municipal Building ♦ Elkton Road and Apple Road ♦ Park & Ride: DE 4 & DE 896	♦ Christiana Mall ♦ Downtown Wilmington	Weekdays
40	♦ People's Plaza ♦ Fox Run ♦ Sparrow Run	♦ Christiana Mall ♦ Park & Ride: DE 7 & DE 273 ♦ Downtown Wilmington	Weekdays, Saturday
41	♦ People's Plaza ♦ Fox Run ♦ Sparrow Run	♦ Christiana Mall ♦ Downtown Wilmington	Weekdays
42	♦ People's Plaza ♦ Four Seasons	♦ Downtown Wilmington	Weekdays
54	♦ Downtown Wilmington ♦ Christiana Mall ♦ Park & Ride: DE 7 at DE 273 ♦ Liberty Terrace ♦ Springmill	♦ Governor's Square Shopping Center ♦ Buckley ♦ Fairwinds Trailer Park ♦ Wilton	Weekdays
55	♦ People's Plaza ♦ Pleasant Valley Road ♦ Pencader Corporate Center ♦ Four Seasons ♦ Glasgow High School ♦ Park & Ride: DE 4 & DE 896	♦ South Chapel Street Industrial Parks ♦ Old Baltimore Pike ♦ Christiana ♦ Christiana Mall ♦ Downtown Wilmington	Weekdays
59	♦ Newark Rail Station ♦ Fairplay Station	♦ Wilmington Station	Weekdays
301	♦ Wilmington: Amtrak Station ♦ Wilmington: Rodney Square ♦ Christiana Mall ♦ Middletown	♦ Smyrna ♦ Dover ♦ Intermediate points	Weekdays
423	♦ Rodney Square ♦ Wilmington Amtrak Station ♦ Penns Grove, NJ	♦ Pennsville, NJ ♦ Deepwater, NJ	Weekdays

Table 8.3. Areas served and service provided by DART bus routes passing through South Wilmington.
Source: DART First State, 2005

Rail

In 2005, Amtrak provided full passenger service to the City of Wilmington area; three rail stations with Amtrak service were located within 20 miles of downtown Wilmington (in Wilmington, Delaware; Newark, Delaware; and Downingtown, Pennsylvania) (Amtrak, 2005). The Wilmington station, which was the closest station to South Wilmington, was open every day of the week, from 4 am to midnight. The station offered a range of routes that covered the eastern United States, including full Acela Express and Metroliner service, which provided rapid transit to major metropolitan centers such as New York City, Boston, Philadelphia, and Washington, DC (Amtrak, 2005).

Also in 2005, the City of Wilmington was serviced by the Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority (SEPTA), which provided public rail transportation services to several Pennsylvanian counties and selected rail service in New Jersey and Delaware (SEPTA, 2005). South Wilmington residents could access SEPTA rail at the Wilmington station, located at Martin Luther King Boulevard and French Street (SEPTA, 2005). The City of Wilmington was directly located on the R2 (Wilmington and Newark) line.

As of 2004, CSX Transportation offered comprehensive freight service with connections to all major points (City of Wilmington, 2004c).

Figure 8.3. shows rail track routes through South Wilmington. As of 2005, there were 6.7 miles of rail lines in South Wilmington.
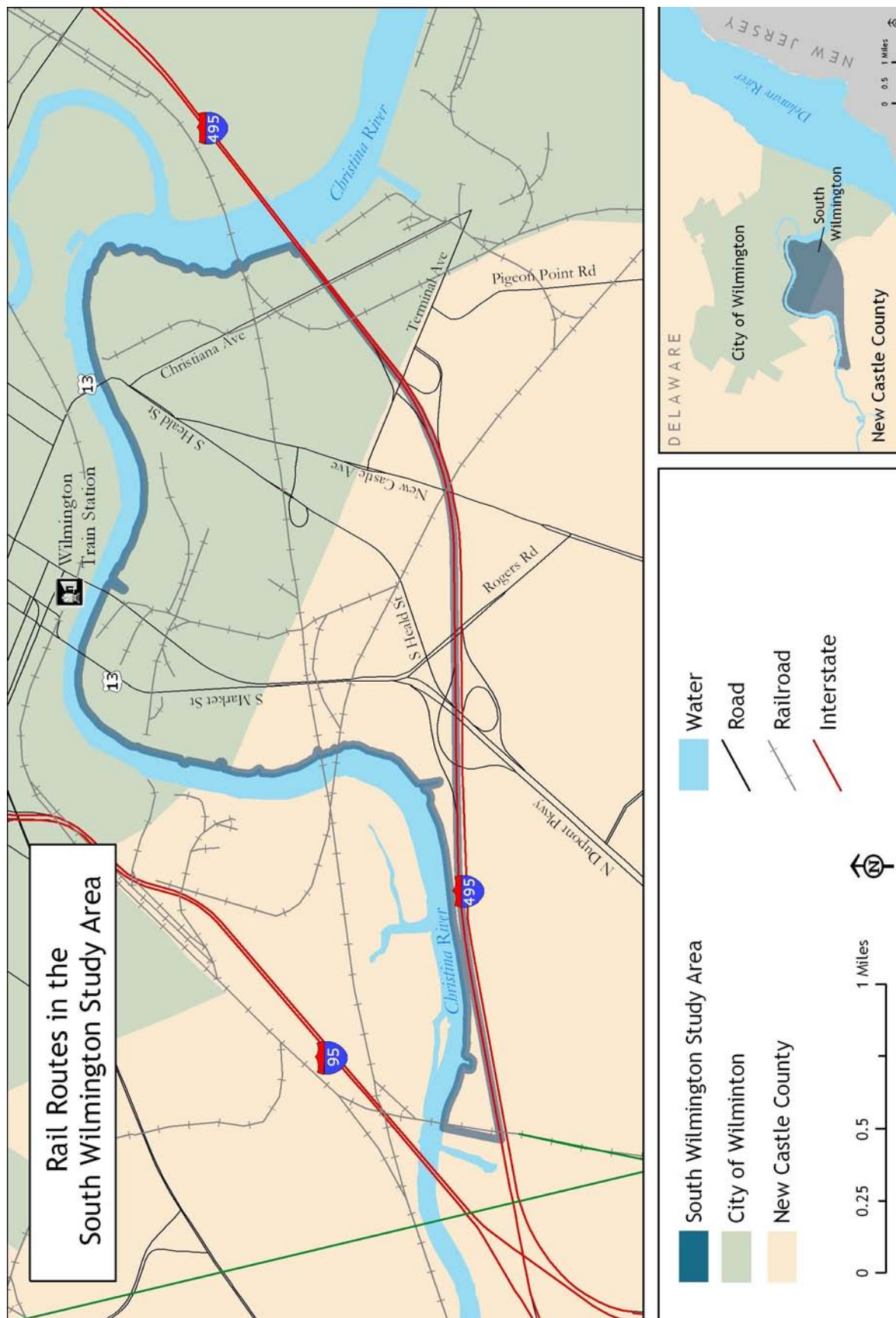
Figure 8.3. Rail tracks in South Wilmington.
Source: U.S. National Transportation Atlas, 1997; 1996

Airports

In 2005, there were two airports located within relatively close proximity to South Wilmington: the New Castle Airport and the Philadelphia International Airport.

The New Castle Airport was located approximately five miles northeast of downtown Wilmington. In 2005, the New Castle Airport covered approximately 1,250 acres; had three major runways, ten taxiways, and multiple aircraft parking ramps; and offered a full schedule of freight services and limited commuter and charter flight services (New Castle Airport, 2005). The airport also housed a flight training center and the Delaware Air National Guard's crash, fire, and rescue facility.

Philadelphia International Airport was less than 25 miles southwest of South Wilmington, located just outside of the downtown Philadelphia, Pennsylvania area. The airport, which in 2005 covered approximately 2,300 acres, had seven terminals and four runways and offered a full range of domestic and international flights to over 100 destinations (Philadelphia International Airport, 2005). In 2003, the airport handled 446,529 aircraft takeoffs and landings and processed over 24 million passengers. Additionally, Philadelphia International Airport was served by six all-cargo airlines and had a cargo volume of 578,264 tons in 2003 (Philadelphia International Airport, 2005).

The Port of Wilmington

The Port of Wilmington, located along the confluence of the Christina and Delaware Rivers, was, in 2005, owned and operated by the Diamond State Port Corporation, which is a corporate entity of the State of Delaware. The Port is accessible via the Delaware and Christina Rivers, interstate I-95, and rail (Diamond State Port Corporation, 2005).

As of 2005, port facilities included seven deepwater general cargo berths, a tanker berth, and floating berths for roll-on/roll-off ("RoRo") vessels. The Port covered over 350 acres and included 50 acres of open space and 250,000 square feet of warehouse space for storage (Diamond State Port Corporation, 2005).

In 2004, the Port handled 4.5 million tons of waterborne cargo tonnage and nearly 400 vessels (Table 8.4.). The Port of Wilmington was ranked first in North America for imports of fresh fruit, bananas, and juice concentrate, serving companies such as the Dole Fresh Fruit Company and Chiquita Banana North America (Diamond State Port Corporation, 2005). The Port was also involved in the import/export of automobiles and, in 2004, the Port handled 150 tons of vehicles. The Port also handled a variety of other cargoes, such as steel, paper and pulp, and petroleum products in 2004.

	Volume
Total annual vessel calls	395
Total annual waterborne cargo tonnage	4.5 million tons
Total containerized tonnage	1,499 tons
Bananas and tropical fruit	1,284 tons
Chilean deciduous fruit	192 tons
Other fruit	193 tons
Apple and orange juice concentrates	110 tons
Frozen beef and seafood	120 tons
Automobiles	150 tons
Steel	119 tons
Forest products	135 tons
Dry bulk	695 tons
Petroleum liquid bulk	1,500 tons
Other general cargo	1 ton

Table 8.4. Port of Wilmington statistics for calendar year 2004.
Source: Diamond State Port Corporation, 2005

8.b. Educational Structures and Services

This section provides information on the educational institutions and services available in or near South Wilmington, including child care and early childhood education organizations, public schools attended by South Wilmington students, and institutions of higher learning in the City of Wilmington. Details are also included on expenditures and services available for Wilmington public schools.

Child care and early childhood education organizations

As mentioned in Chapter 3, according to the U.S. Census Bureau, in 2000, 7.2 percent of the South Wilmington population (block groups) were between the ages of zero and four, and thus not yet eligible to enter school. For the working parent(s) of these children, as of 2005, there were 32 child care and early childhood education organizations in the City of Wilmington; two of these organizations were located directly in South Wilmington: Neighborhood House and Southbridge Children's Center (City of Wilmington, 2005b).

Neighborhood House, located at 1218 "B" Street, served approximately 60 children from infancy through kindergarten in 2005 (Neighborhood House, 2005). Neighborhood House partnered with national early childhood programs including Head Start and Early Head Start. In 2005, the facility was open Monday thru Friday, from 7:30 am to 5:30 pm (Neighborhood House, 2005) and accepted funding from Purchase of Care, the State of Delaware child care subsidy program designed to help lower-income families receive adequate child care services (Delaware Helpline, Inc., 2002a).

Southbridge Children's Center, located at 1106 "D" Street, was managed in 2005 through the Family and Workplace Connection and was a partner in the Northern Delaware Early Head Start Consortium. In 2002, the Center provided year-round care, Monday thru Friday, from 7:30 am to 5:30 pm, for children up to three years of age (Delaware Helpline, Inc., 2002b). Eligible families could receive funding to cover 4.5 hours of child care per day through the Early Head Start

program; families could apply to receive Purchase of Care funds to pay for the remainder of the day. Additional services available through the Southbridge Children's Center included home visits, health and nutrition education, and family support (Delaware Helpline, Inc., 2002b).

Public secondary schools

As mentioned in Chapter 3, in 2000, there were 1,441 students enrolled in grades kindergarten thru twelve and living in South Wilmington (block groups); 94.1 percent of these students attended public schools.

Kindergarten through twelfth-grade students who are living in South Wilmington and within the City of Wilmington limit attended several different public schools in 2005, all of which are part of the Christina School District (District number 95 – 33 00). Schools attended, by grade level, and general information about each of the schools are listed in Table 8.5.; Figure 8.4. shows the location of each school.

Grade	School
Grades K – 1	**Bancroft Elementary School** *Building:* ♦ Year built: 1928 ♦ Year last remodeled: 1998 ♦ Number of classrooms: 38 ♦ Air conditioning: Yes *Staff:* ♦ Teachers: 68.0 ♦ Librarians: 0.0 ♦ Student/teacher ratio: 15.1
Grades 2 – 3	**Brookside Elementary School** *Building:* ♦ Year built: 1954 ♦ Year last remodeled: N/A ♦ Number of classrooms: 30 ♦ Air conditioning: No *Staff:* ♦ Teachers: 30.5 ♦ Librarians: 1.0 ♦ Student/teacher ratio: 16.1
	West Park Place Elementary *Building:* ♦ Year built: 1954 ♦ Year last remodeled: 1985 ♦ Number of classrooms: 24 ♦ Air conditioning: No *Staff:* ♦ Teachers: 24.5 ♦ Librarians: 1.0 ♦ Student/teacher ratio: 17.9
	Joseph M. McVey Elementary School *Building:* ♦ Year built: 1964 ♦ Year last remodeled: N/A ♦ Number of classrooms: 28 ♦ Air conditioning: No *Staff:* ♦ Teachers: 37.0 ♦ Librarians: 1.0 ♦ Student/teacher ratio: 15.2
	Jennie E. Smith Elementary School *Building:* ♦ Year built: 1958 ♦ Year last remodeled: 1979 ♦ Number of classrooms: 30 ♦ Air conditioning: No *Staff:* ♦ Teachers: 33.0 ♦ Librarians: 1.0 ♦ Student/teacher ratio: 16.2

Grades 4 – 6	**Elbert Palmer Elementary School**	
	Building:	*Staff:*
	♦ Year built: 1916	♦ Teachers: 16.0
	♦ Year last remodeled: 1989	♦ Librarians: 1.0
	♦ Number of classrooms: 19	♦ Student/teacher ratio: 14.3
	♦ Air conditioning: Yes	
Grades 7 – 8	**Shue-Medill Middle School**	
	Building:	*Staff:*
	♦ Year built: 1967	♦ Teachers: 62.0
	♦ Year last remodeled: 1998	♦ Librarians: 1.0
	♦ Number of classrooms: 67	♦ Student/teacher ratio: 16.4
	♦ Air conditioning: Yes	
	George V. Kirk Middle School	
	Building:	*Staff:*
	♦ Year built: 1958	♦ Teachers: 63.0
	♦ Year last remodeled: 1994	♦ Librarians: 1.0
	♦ Number of classrooms: 52	♦ Student/teacher ratio: 16.0
	♦ Air conditioning: Yes	
Grades 9 – 12	**Newark High School**	
	Building:	*Staff:*
	♦ Year built: 1955	♦ Teachers: 108.0
	♦ Year last remodeled: 1998	♦ Librarians: 2.0
	♦ Number of classrooms: 103	♦ Student/teacher ratio: 17.8
	♦ Air conditioning: Yes	

Table 8.5. Public schools attended by K-12 students living in South Wilmington.
Source: Delaware Department of Education, 2004

Services offered by the Christina School District include immunizations and health screenings, special education for pregnant students, and driver education (Delaware Department of Education, 2004).

During the 2002 – 2003 year, the Christina School District had net total expenditures of approximately $179.8 million (Delaware Department of Education, 2003), with expenditures per student of $9,293 (Delaware Department of Education, 2004). Also for the 2002 – 2003 year, the Christina School District received $11.4 million from the State of Delaware; $12.0 million from federal grants; and $55.4 million from local funds, which included $36.4 million in taxes (Delaware Department of Education, 2003). In 2004, average school property taxes for a home valued at $50,000 within the District were $212.98; a homeowner with a $100,000 home paid an average of $425.95 in school taxes in 2004 (Delaware Department of Education, 2004).

The Christina School District operated 177 buses, which served 913 routes and 18,884 students during the 2002-2003 school year; the District spent a total of $5.8 million on transportation services during this year (Delaware Department of Education, 2003).
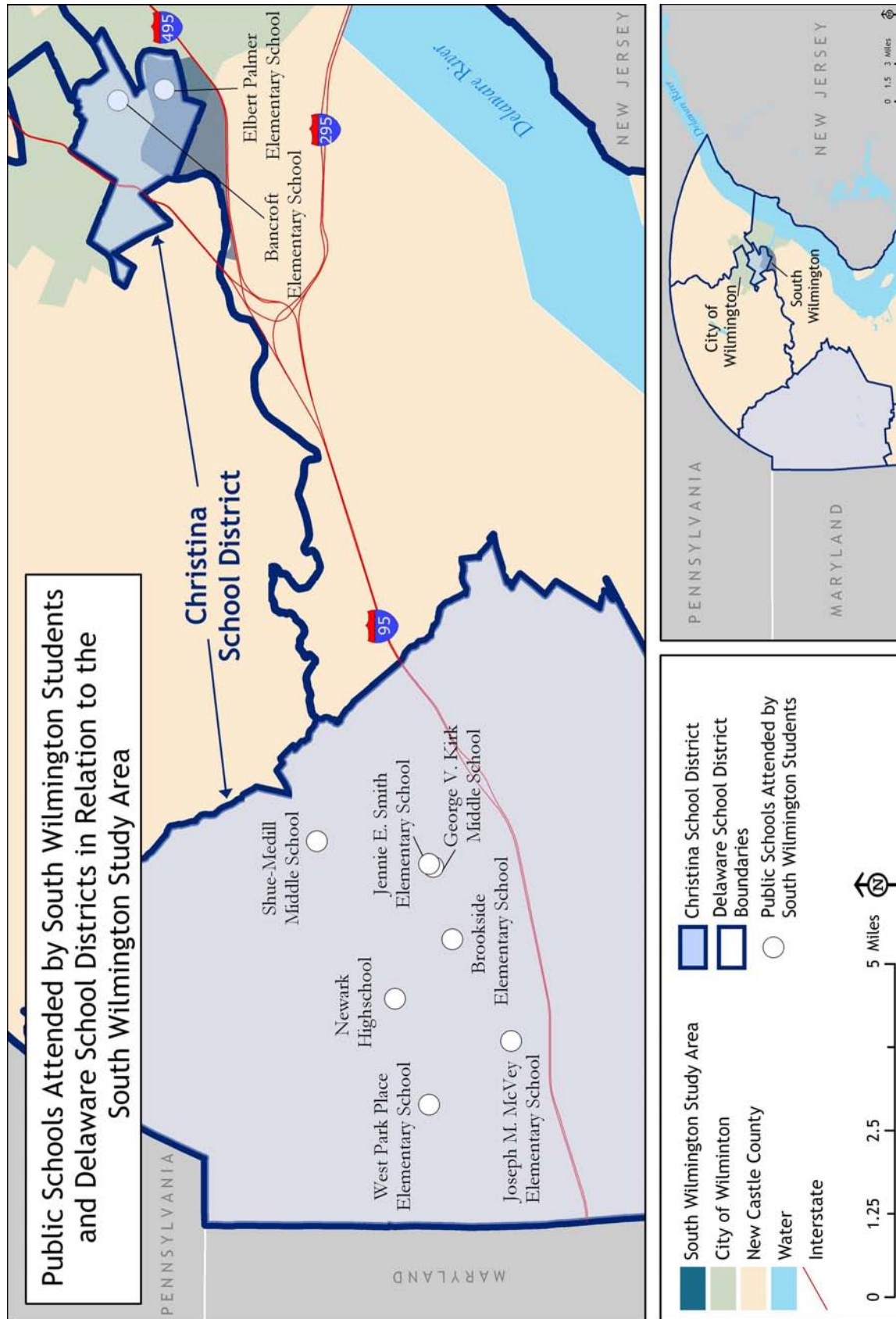
Figure 8.4. Location of schools attended by South Wilmington students.
Source: State of Delaware Department of Education, 2005

Institutions of higher learning

As discussed in Chapter 3, in 2000, there were 95 students enrolled in college and 20 graduate students who were South Wilmington residents (following the Census block groups geography). In 2005, there were eight institutions of higher learning in the City of Wilmington, none of which were located directly in South Wilmington (City of Wilmington, 2005b). These institutions included the following:

- Delaware College of Art and Design
- Delaware State University
- Delaware Technical and Community College
- Drexel University at Wilmington
- Springfield College
- University of Delaware
- University of Delaware Center for Community Research and Service
- Wilmington College

8.c. Public and Community Buildings

This section presents information on public and community buildings, including libraries, courthouses, government offices, senior housing and centers, and places of worship, that were within or nearby South Wilmington.

Libraries

In 2005, there were two public library systems accessible to South Wilmington residents: the New Castle County Public Libraries and the City of Wilmington Public Libraries. There were twelve libraries within the New Castle County Public Library system, two of which were located in the City of Wilmington (New Castle County, 2005b). While none of these libraries was located within South Wilmington, three were located less than ten miles from South Wilmington. In 2005, there were four libraries within the City of Wilmington Public Library system (Wilmington Public Library, 2005).

Funding for both library systems came primarily from New Castle County property taxes. County funds represented nearly 60 percent of the City of Wilmington library system's 2004 operating budget; the library system also received funds from private endowment; the State of Delaware; the federal government; and the City of Wilmington (Wilmington Public Library, 2005).

Courthouses

No courthouses were located directly within South Wilmington in 2005; however, several Delaware and federal courts had offices within the City of Wilmington.

The Delaware Judiciary System is composed of six courts: the Justice of the Peace Court, the Court of Common Pleas, the Family Court, Superior Court, the Court of Chancery, and the Supreme

Court (Delaware State Courts, 2004). Within New Castle County, Delaware courts hear cases at a variety of locations; those locations within the City of Wilmington as of 2005 are listed in Table 8.6.

Additionally, federal cases were heard through the U.S. District Court for the Delaware District and U.S. Bankruptcy Court - District of Delaware, at locations within the City of Wilmington (U.S. Bankruptcy Court - District of Delaware, 2005; U.S. District Court - District of Delaware, 2004).

Court	Location
Delaware Justice of the Peace Court 13 (Civil cases)	Concord Professional Building 1010 Concord Avenue
Delaware Justice of the Peace Court 20 (Criminal cases)	Public Safety Building 300 North Walnut Street
Delaware Court of Common Pleas	New Castle County Courthouse 500 North King Street
Delaware Family Court	New Castle County Courthouse 500 North King Street
Delaware Superior Court	New Castle County Courthouse 500 North King Street
Delaware Court of Chancery	New Castle County Courthouse 500 North King Street
Delaware Supreme Court	Carvel State Office Building 820 North French Street, 11th Floor
U.S. Bankruptcy Court – District of Delaware	824 Market Street, 3rd Floor
U.S. District Court – District of Delaware	J. Caleb Boggs Federal Building 844 N. King Street

Table 8.6. Location of courthouses within the City of Wilmington, Delaware.
Sources: Delaware State Courts, 2004; U.S. Bankruptcy Court - District of Delaware, 2005; U.S. District Court - District of Delaware, 2004

City of Wilmington government offices

The Department of Parks and Maintenance, headquartered at the William "Hicks" Anderson Community Center, located on 22 S. Heald Street, was the only government building located in South Wilmington in 2004. No other City of Wilmington government offices were located directly within South Wilmington (City of Wilmington, 2004a). As of 2004, the majority of City of Wilmington government offices were located at the Louis L. Redding City/County Building, 800 French Street, in downtown Wilmington (City of Wilmington, 2004a). City departments located in the Louis L. Redding City/County Building included: City Auditor; City Treasurer; Constituent Services; Cultural Affairs; Economic Development; Finance, Law, Licenses and Inspections; Management and Budget; Personnel; Planning; Public Works; and Real Estate and Housing. The City of Wilmington Department of Public Safety was located in the William T. McLaughlin Public Safety Building, on 300 N. Walnut Street (City of Wilmington, 2004a).

Senior living and centers

As noted in Chapter 3, in 2000, 10.8 percent of the South Wilmington (block group) population was over the age of 65. Facilities available for the senior population, and listed with the City of Wilmington Department of Constituent Services in 2005, included 26 senior living or housing facilities or services and 20 senior centers (City of Wilmington, 2005b).

Of the senior living or housing services, Generations Home Care, Inc. was the only service headquartered within South Wilmington; Generations Home Care provided in-home care for seniors and also offered an adult foster care program (Generations Home Care, Inc., 2005). Two senior centers were located within South Wilmington: one through the Generations Home Care, Inc. (103 Rogers Road) and the other being the South Wilmington Senior Adult Program, Inc. (451 Townsend Street) (City of Wilmington, 2005b).

Places of worship

Within the City of Wilmington, in 2005, there were 108 religious organizations or places of worship, 15 of which were located in South Wilmington (City of Wilmington, 2005b). South Wilmington places of worship included the following:

- Mt. Joy United Methodist Church (451 Townsend Street);
- Oasis de Salvation (451 Townsend Street);
- New Calvary Baptist Church (610 S. Heald Street);
- Harrison Memorial Baptist Church (413 S. Heald Street);
- New Life Baptist Church of Delaware (600A S. Claymont Street);
- Agape Fellowship FW Baptist Church (623 1/2 S. Heald Street);
- Outreach Holy Word Christian Church (400 Buttonwood Street);
- Church of the Living Word (816 S. Heald Street);
- Genesis New Life Apostolic (321 S. Heald Street);
- Pena De Horeb Pentecostal (1401 A Street);
- New Gethsemane (431 S. Claymont Street); and
- Holy Ghost Church (1218 B Street)
  (J. Allison, personal communication, May 11, 2005).

8.d. Public and Social Services

This section presents information on services provided for the South Wilmington community, including health care, services provided by the City of Wilmington Department of Public Works, and civic and neighborhood organizations active in South Wilmington.

Health care facilities

With regards to health care, in 2005, South Wilmington was accessible to a range of facilities, including one local out-patient facility and several full-service hospitals.

In 2005, there was one health-care facility located within South Wilmington: Henrietta Johnson Medical Center (HJMC). The Southbridge HJMC location, found at 601 New Castle Avenue, was an out-patient facility that offered a range of services. These services included the following:

- *primary health care services,* including complete physical exams, immunizations for children and adults, family planning, chronic disease management (e.g., diabetes, hypertension, high cholesterol, etc.), cancer screenings, sexually transmitted disease (STD) testing and treatment, and HIV counseling and testing;
- *obstetrical and women's health services,* including prenatal care (including deliveries), family planning, nutrition counseling, annual gynecological exams, and STD and HIV testing and treatment; and
- *dental care,* including preventive treatments (e.g., cleanings, x-rays, etc.), extractions, root canals, crowns, and partial and full dentures (R. Rivera, personal communication, June 3, 2005).

The Southbridge HJMC location had an on-site laboratory, where patients could have most laboratory work completed; the lab offered discounts to patients without insurance. Additionally, the Southbridge HJMC location had a pharmacy program for patients with no medical insurance (R. Rivera, personal communication, June 3, 2005). In 2005, the HJMC Southbridge location had approximately 30 employees, including three family practice physicians, two nurse practitioners, one part-time obstetrician/gynecologist, one part-time podiatrist, and one dentist (R. Rivera, personal communication, June 3, 2005).

In the year 2004, Southbridge HJMC provided care to approximately 5,000 patients and generated over 18,000 visits; patients were 72 percent Black, 14 percent White, 10 percent Hispanic, and four percent of some other race (R. Rivera, personal communication, June 3, 2005). HJMC accepted most insurance programs, including Medicare and Medicaid, and provided sliding fee-scale discounts to those patients who qualified, based on family income and family size. In 2004, approximately 30 percent of patients had no medical insurance (R. Rivera, personal communication, June 3, 2005). HJMC was a Federally Qualified Health Center, which meant that the Center received federal funding from the Bureau of Primary Health Care; HJMC also received some state funding in 2005. The 1998 City of Wilmington Capital Budget allocated $200,000 for building improvements to the HJMC facility (G. Kaminsky, personal communication, April 25, 2005; City of Wilmington, 2004b).

As of 2005, South Wilmington residents could also receive in-patient and out-patient treatment at six major hospitals located within the City of Wilmington, which are listed in Table 8.7., below.

Hospital	Location	# of beds
Alfred I. duPont Hospital for Children & Nemours Children's Clinic	1600 Rockland Road	166
Riverside Hospital	700 Lea Boulevard	42
Saint Francis Hospital	7th and Clayton Streets	107
Select Specialty Hospital - Wilmington	W. 7th and N Clayton Streets	35
Wilmington Veterans Affairs Medical Center	1601 Kirkwood Highway	58 beds, 60-bed Nursing Home Care Unit
Wilmington Hospital (Christina Health Care System)	501 W. 14th Street	250 licensed beds, plus 41 licensed inpatient-beds

Table 8.7. Hospitals in the City of Wilmington.
Sources: American Hospital Directory, 2005; Christina Care Health System, 2005

City of Wilmington Publics Works services

The City of Wilmington Department of Public Works was responsible for a wide range of services, including management of public property, refuse collection, street cleaning, street and sewer maintenance, transportation policy and planning, and waste water treatment (City of Wilmington, 2004a). Unlike most other entities within Delaware, the City of Wilmington does not rely on State funds to provide these public services (City of Wilmington, 2003).

In 2005, the City of Wilmington collected garbage, rubbish, and refuse in South Wilmington on Mondays and Thursdays (City of Wilmington, 2004a). Trash left for collection was required to be stored in water-tight metal or plastic containers with lids. As of 2003, the City of Wilmington did not offer a curbside recycling program; however, residents could drop off recycling at four designated "recycling igloos" located throughout the city, none of which are directly located in South Wilmington (City of Wilmington, 2004a).

The Department of Public Works was also responsible for street maintenance. In the City of Wilmington 2004 Capital Budget, the City designated nearly $1.4 million for the construction of internal circulation streets along Christina Landing (G. Kaminsky, personal communication, April 25, 2005; City of Wilmington, 2004b).

Civic and neighborhood organizations

As of 2004, there were a total of 55 civic and neighborhood organizations within the City of Wilmington and registered with the City Department of Constituent Services. Of these 55 organizations, three were located in South Wilmington: South Wilmington Community Council, Southbridge Civic Association, and the Neighborhood House (City of Wilmington, 2005b).

8.e. Water Works

The City of Wilmington is the only major water utility in Delaware that does not have an allocation withdrawal permit; rather, Wilmington has an entitlement that allows the city to take water (up to 55 million gallons/day) from Brandywine Creek without paying charges to the Delaware River Basin Commission (City of Wilmington, 2004c). In 2004, the water system had a capacity of 44 million gallons/day, but average usage was estimated at 26 million gallons/day (City of Wilmington, 2004c).

In addition to serving as the water provider, the City of Wilmington was also the wastewater service provider for South Wilmington; wastewater treatment was operated by Veolia Water North America Operating Services (City of Wilmington, 2004c). From the City in 2004, average wastewater flow was 80 million gallons/day, although the wastewater system had the capacity to treat up to 400 million gallons of waste per day (City of Wilmington, 2004c). Also in 2004, the City of Wilmington held a Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control (DNREC) permit to discharge 134 million gallons of wastewater/day (DNREC Permit #DE-0021320; City of Wilmington, 2004c).

The City of Wilmington 2004 Capital budget allocated $525,000 for the construction of necessary infrastructure for the Christina Landing (G. Kaminsky, personal communication, April 25, 2005; City of Wilmington, 2004b).

The location of storm, sanitation, and combined (storm and sanitation) sewer system pipes in South Wilmington are shown in Figure 8.5. As of 2005, there were a total of 6.3 miles of sewer system pipes in South Wilmington; 2.8 miles of these pipes were part of the storm sewer system, 0.4 miles were part of the sanitation sewer system, and 3.0 miles were combined system pipes (Table 8.8.).

Sewer System	Length
Storm	2.8 miles
Sanitation	0.4 miles
Combined	3.0 miles
Total	**6.3 miles**

Table 8.8. Sewer system pipe lengths for South Wilmington.
Source: Delaware Coastal Programs, 2005
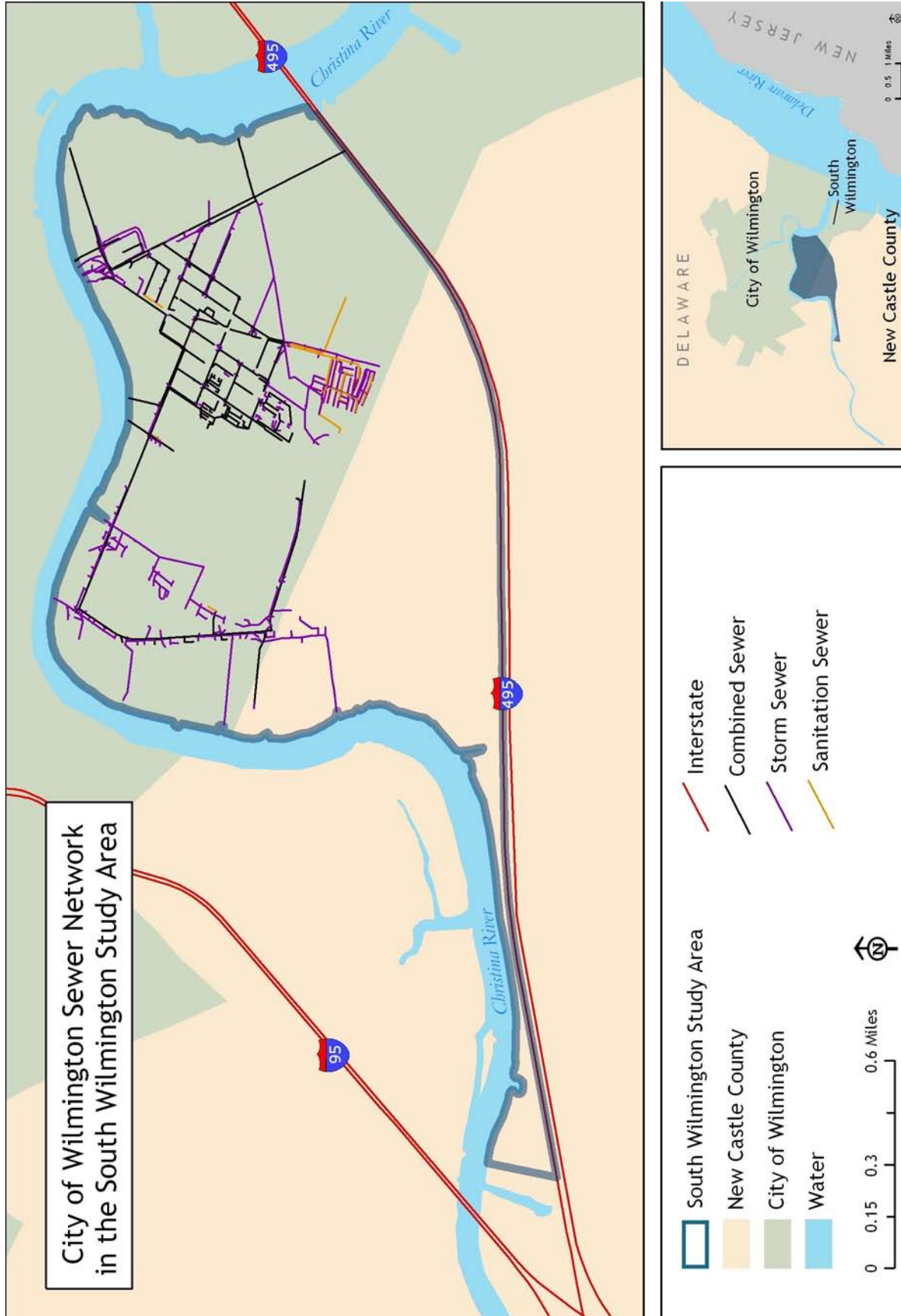
Figure 8.5. Sewer system in South Wilmington.
Source: Delaware Coastal Programs, 2005

City of Wilmington Sewer Network in the South Wilmington Study Area

Interstate
Combined Sewer
Storm Sewer
Sanitation Sewer

South Wilmington Study Area
New Castle County
City of Wilmington
Water

0   0.15   0.3   0.6 Miles

DELAWARE

City of Wilmington

South Wilmington

New Castle County

NEW JERSEY

Delaware River

0 0.5 1 Miles

Christina River

Christina River

8.f. Parks and Recreation

As of 2005, there were eight parks or community centers within South Wilmington, totaling 11.0 acres (Figure 8.6., Table 8.9.). Of these parks, only Eden Park received federal funds and only Elbert Playground received state funds. None of the parks were located directly on the water and none had nature centers, bike racks, or separate restroom facilities. At 5.5 acres, Eden Park was South Wilmington's largest park and had a swimming pool, bathhouse, one basketball court, two ballfields, a playground, and a picnic area; $100,000 was allocated in the City of Wilmington 1998 Capital Budget to install football field lights at the park, in order to create a multipurpose field (G. Kaminsky, personal communication, April 25, 2005; City of Wilmington, 2004b). Additional details about the South Wilmington parks can be found in Table 8.9., below.

The City of Wilmington has targeted funds for the creation of new parks in South Wilmington in the future (G. Kaminsky, personal communication, April 25, 2005; City of Wilmington, 2004b). The 1998 Capital Budget directed $10,000 for planning and design work for the Elbert Playground. The City's 2004 Capital Budget allocated over $2.5 million for the construction of the Christina Landing Park, which would be a riverfront facility (G. Kaminsky, personal communication, April 25, 2005; City of Wilmington, 2004b). Also in the 2004 Capital Budget, $1.5 million was identified for the development of the Diamond State Sports and Learning Center. The funding for the Center was designated as "program" spending in 2004, meaning that the City anticipated spending this money in the five "outyears," but the project had not officially yet been funded; the 2006 Capital Budget did allocate the $1.5 million cost for the construction of the Center (G. Kaminsky, personal communication, April 25, 2005; City of Wilmington, 2004).

Park/Community Center	Area (acres)	Ballfield	Basketball court	Bathhouse	Multipurpose area	Picnic area	Playground	Swimming pool	Tennis court	Tot lot
					Amenities					
Eden Park	5.5	X	X	X		X	X	X		
Henrietta Johnson Community Center	0.3									
Dugan Park	2.0	X								
Elbert Playground	1.9				X	X	X			
Heald & B Tot Lot	0.1									
Barbara Hicks Playground	1.0		X			X	X		X	X
Liberty Triangle	0.2									
Stoney Davis Park	0.1									

Table 8.9. Parks and community centers, areas, and amenities in South Wilmington.
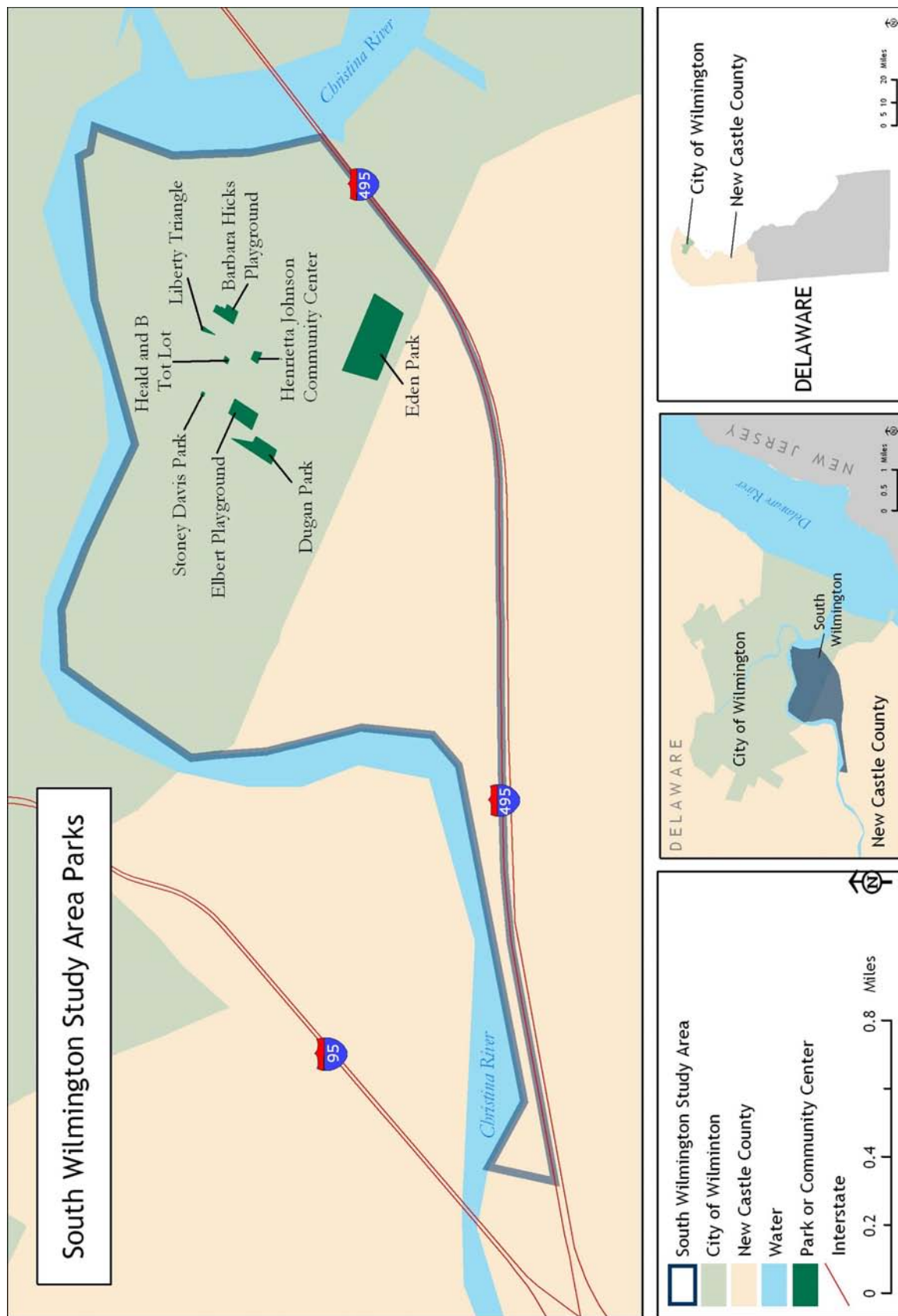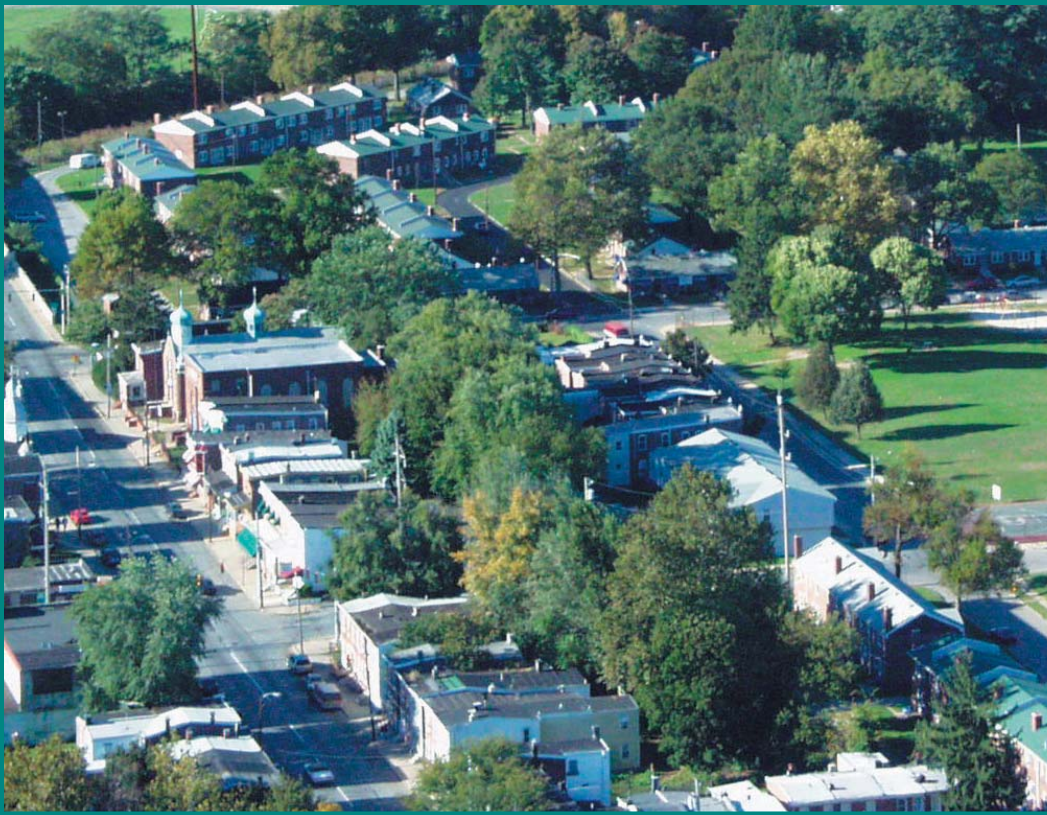*Source: City of Wilmington Department of Parks and Recreation, 2005*

Figure 8.6. Location of parks and community centers in South Wilmington.
Source: City of Wilmington Department of Parks and Recreation, 2005

Chapter 9: Crime, voting, and vital statistics and property tax assess values

HENRIETTA JOHNSON
MEDICAL CENTER

Chapter 9: Crime, Voting, and Vital Statistics and Property Tax Assess Values

This chapter provides crime statistics, voting and district information, vital statistics, and property tax assess values for South Wilmington.

Information is included in this chapter because it was available only at geographies that differ from the Census block and block-group geographies used in the previous chapters (for a discussion of Census geographies, see Chapter 1). For example, crime statistics are presented according to City of Wilmington police reporting grids, voting information is presented according to City of Wilmington and Delaware legislative districts, and vital statistics are presented at the Census tract level. Discussions and maps explaining the geographies and data sources cited are included within each corresponding section.

South Wilmington Key Numbers:

Total number of arrests in 2003: 194
  General arrests: 36
  Violent-crime arrests: 26
  Assault-related arrests: 18
  Burglary-related arrests: 10
  Drug-related arrests: 70
  Rape-related arrests: 2
  Robbery-related arrests: 3
  Weapons-related arrests: 26
  Homicide arrests: 3

Total number of criminal complaints in 2003: 333

City of Wilmington voting district: 4th
  Council District of Wilmington
  Percentage of registered Democrats: 71.5
  Percentage of registered Republicans: 10.7
  Percentage of registered Independents: 16.2

New Castle County voting districts: 4th and 10th

Delaware House of Representatives District: 16th District

Delaware Senatorial Districts: 2nd and 13th

Number of live births between 1998-2002: 224

Number of deaths between 1998-2002: 89

Most common cause of death (in the City of Wilmington): Heart disease

Total tax assess value of South Wilmington parcels in 2005: $80,298,800
Building tax assess value: $57,335,400
Land tax assess value: $22,963,400

Sources: Delaware Statistical Analysis Center, 2005; Office of the State Election Commissioner, Delaware, 2005; Delaware Health and Social Services 2005, 2004; New Castle County, 2005

9.a. Crime Statistics

This section presents 2003 crime statistics, including arrests and criminal complaints, for South Wilmington and the City of Wilmington, following the City of Wilmington police reporting grids shown in Figure 9.1. All data were obtained from the Delaware Statistical Analysis Center.

In 2003, there were 194 arrests within the South Wilmington police reporting grids, representing 4.6 percent of the 4,247 total arrests in the City of Wilmington. Of the South Wilmington arrests, most (36.1 percent) were drug related (Figure 9.2.). Rape crimes accounted for the smallest percentage of arrests (1.0 percent) in South Wilmington. While the City of Wilmington did have a higher percentage of drug arrests than South Wilmington, the overall distribution of arrests by type in Wilmington was similar to the distribution seen in the South Wilmington police reporting grids.

As mentioned, South Wilmington arrests in 2003 accounted for 4.6 percent of all arrests made in the City of Wilmington. With three homicide arrests in 2003, the South Wilmington area accounted for 13 percent of all homicide arrests in the City of Wilmington (Figure 9.3.). South Wilmington also accounted for 6.5 percent of City of Wilmington aggravated assault arrests and 5.7 percent of rape crime arrests citywide.

In South Wilmington, a total of 333 criminal complaints were filed in 2003; a total of 7,135 complaints were filed in the City of Wilmington; thus, South Wilmington criminal complaints accounted for 4.7 percent of all criminal complaints filed citywide. With regards to the distribution of criminal complaints, the major difference between South Wilmington and the City of Wilmington was that, in South Wilmington, the second most frequent type of complaint was burglary (16.2 percent) while in the City of Wilmington, drug-related complaints (19.3 percent) were the second most common type of complaint. Otherwise, the distribution of complaints between the two areas did not differ (Figure 9.4.). General (unspecified) criminal complaints accounted for the largest percentage of complaints in both South Wilmington and the City of Wilmington and the least common type of complaint in both areas was rape.

Figure 9.6. shows that in 2003, most of the crime in South Wilmington occured in Grid 19-09; the boundaries of Grid 19-09 are C Street, S. Heald Street, Christiana Avenue and the City line (see Figure 9.1.). The reporting grid with the second highest reported arrests and complaints was Grid 19-08, which is located directly north Grid 19-09; the boundaries of Grid 19-09 are C Street, S. Heald Street, and Christiana Avenue.
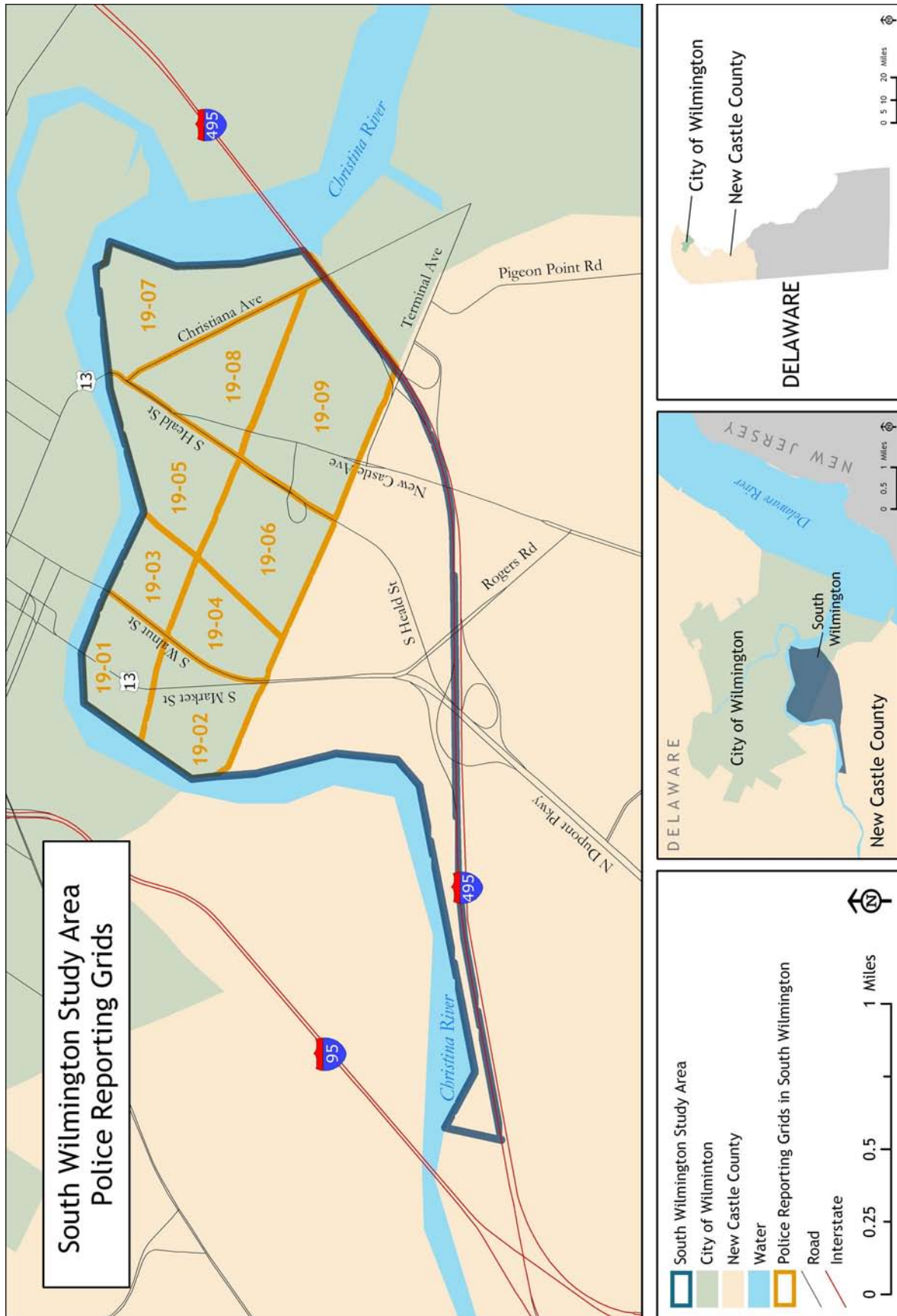
Figure 9.1. South Wilmington police reporting grids.
Source: Delaware Statistical Analysis Center, 2005

Figure 9.2. Percentages of arrests by type for South Wilmington and the City of Wilmington in 2003.
Source: Delaware Statistical Analysis Center, 2005

- The most common type of arrests in both South Wilmington and the City of Wilmington were related to illicit drug activity.

- Relative to the City of Wilmington, South Wilmington had fewer drug-related and robbery arrests, but slightly higher percentages of all other types of arrests.
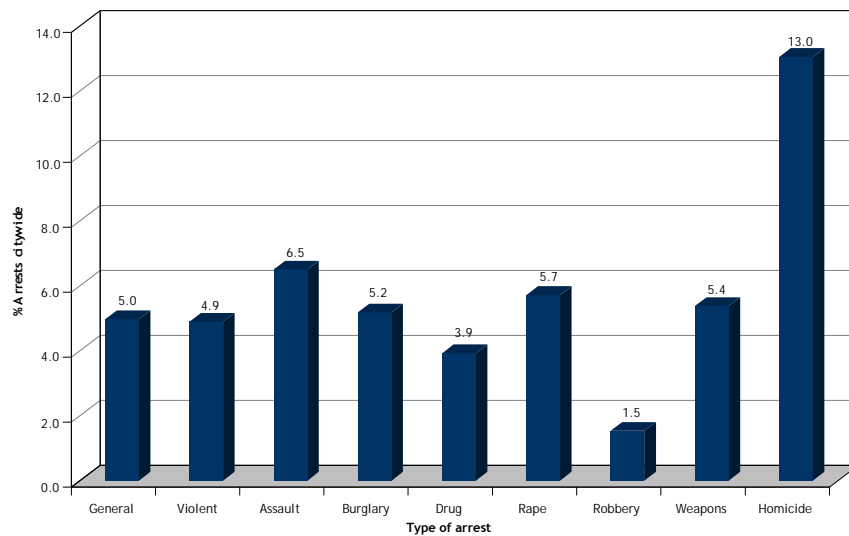
Figure 9.3. Percentages of South Wilmington arrests relative to arrests in the City of Wilmington in 2003.
Source: Delaware Statistical Analysis Center, 2005

- Of all types of arrests, homicide arrests in South Wilmington accounted for the largest percentage of arrests relative to citywide arrests.

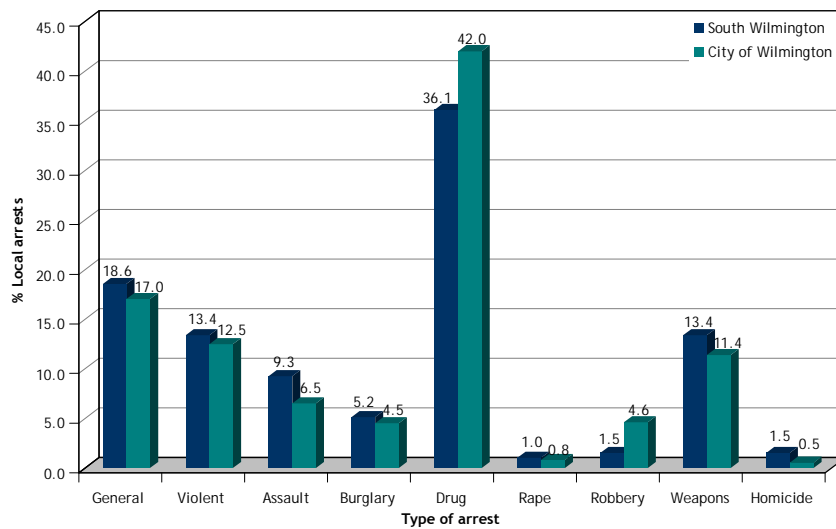*South Wilmington Socioeconomic Profile*
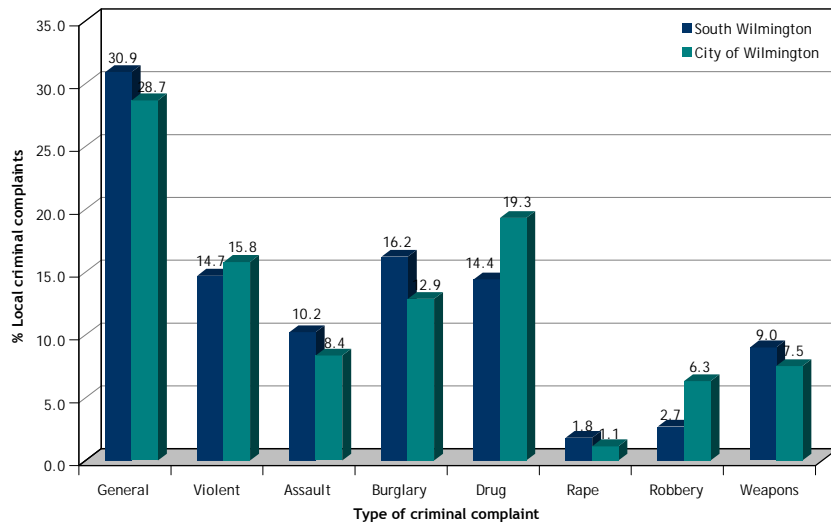
Figure 9.4. Percentages of criminal complaints by type for South Wilmington and the City of Wilmington in 2003.
Source: Delaware Statistical Analysis Center, 2005

♦ General criminal complaints were most common in South Wilmington and the City of Wilmington.

♦ South Wilmington had a higher percentage of burglary complaints than the City of Wilmington, while Wilmington had a higher percentage of drug-related complaints in 2003.
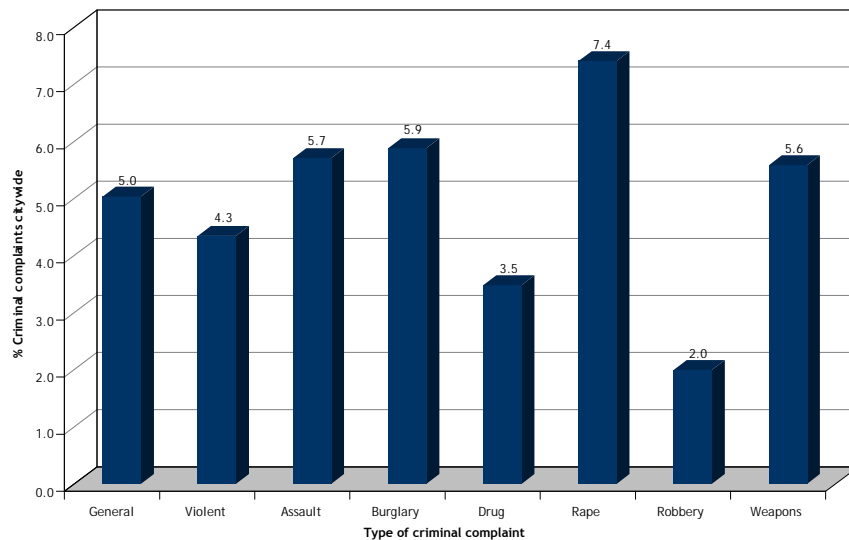
Figure 9.5. Percent of South Wilmington criminal complaints relative to complaints in the City of Wilmington in 2003.
Source: Delaware Statistical Analysis Center, 2005

♦ Of the types of criminal complaints filed in South Wilmington, rape complaints accounted for the largest percentage of complaints relative to the City of Wilmington.

♦ South Wilmington robbery complaints accounted for the lowest citywide percentage of complaints.
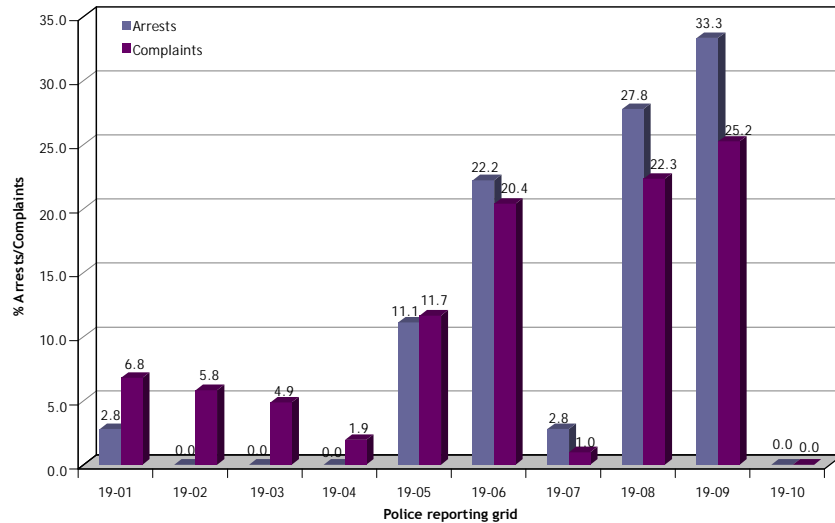
Figure 9.6. Percentages of South Wilmington arrests and complaints in 2003, by police reporting grids that fall within South Wilmington.
Source: Delaware Statistical Analysis Center, 2005

♦ Most arrests and complaints in South Wilmington in 2003 occurred in grids 19-08 and 19-09.

9.b. Voter Registration and Representation

This section provides information on voter registration and government representation for South Wilmington, including City of Wilmington districts, New Castle County districts, State of Delaware Congressional districts, and U.S. Congressional districts.

City of Wilmington voter registration and representation

Voter registration information included in this section was provided by the Delaware Office of the State Election Commissioner for the 4th Council District of Wilmington, which includes South Wilmington as well as some areas to the north of South Wilmington (Figure 9.7.). This section presents the party affiliations of voters in the 4th District Council of Wilmington, as of 2005.

In 2005, 5,954 residents within the 4th District Council were registered to vote. Of these residents, the majority (71.5 percent) were registered Democrats, followed by Independents (16.2 percent), Republicans (10.7 percent), and then some other party affiliation (1.7 percent).

The 4th Council District of Wilmington was represented by City Councilperson Hanifa G.N. Shabazz in 2005 (City of Wilmington, 2004a).

Figure 9.7. Map of the 4th Council District in Wilmington as of 2005.
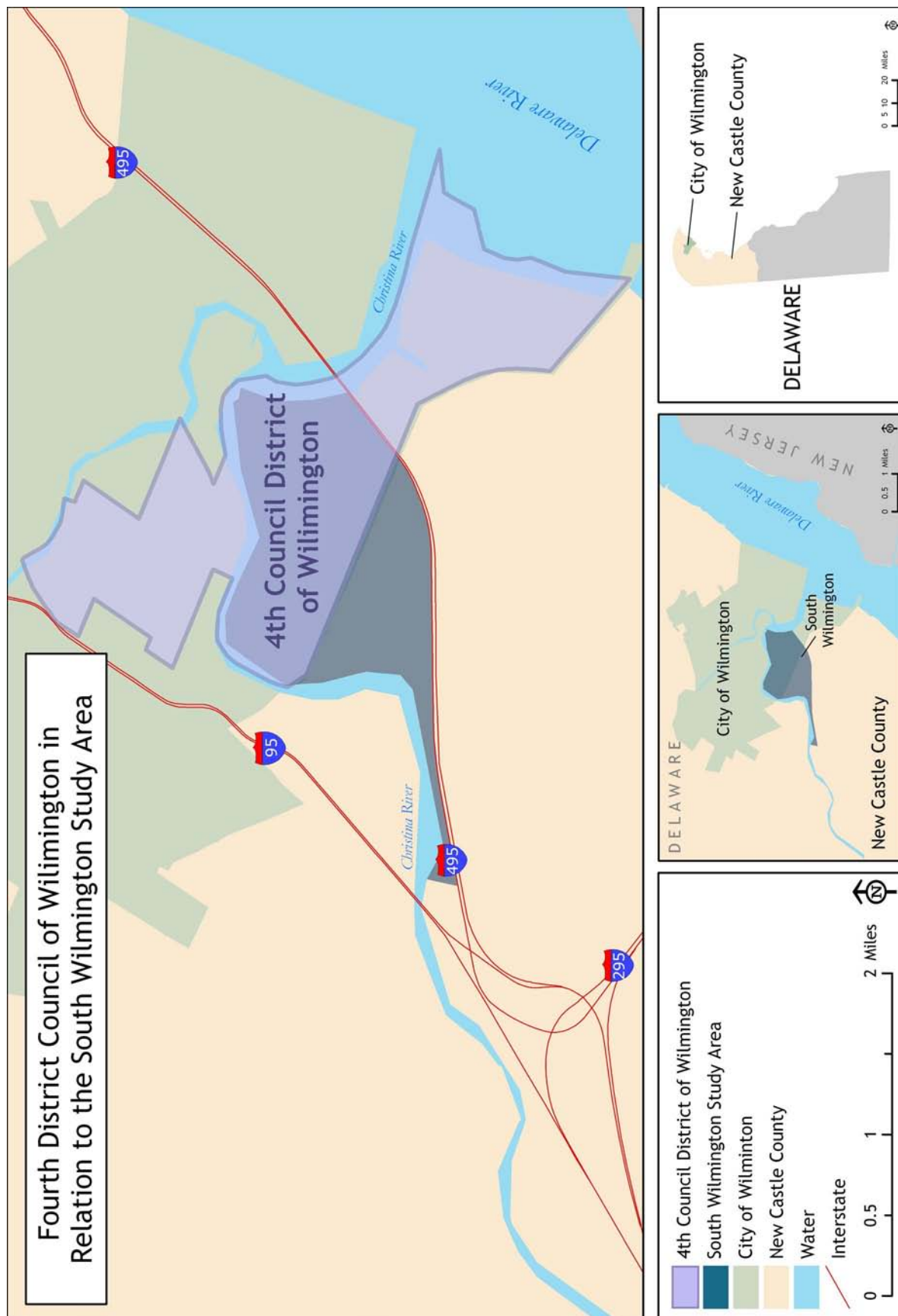*Source: Office of the State Election Commissioner, Delaware, 2005*

Party	Number of voters registered
Total voters registered	5,954
Democrats	4,255
Republicans	637
Independents	963
Other	99

Table 9.1. Voter registration by party affiliation for the 4th Council District in Wilmington as of 2005.
Source: Office of the State Election Commissioner, Delaware, 2005

Other (1.7%)
Independents (16.2%)
Republicans (10.7%)
Democrats (71.5%)

♦ The majority of registered voters in the 4th Council District of Wilmington were Democrats.

Figure 9.8. Voter registration by party affiliation for the 4th Council District in Wilmington as of 2005.
Source: Office of the State Election Commissioner, Delaware, 2005
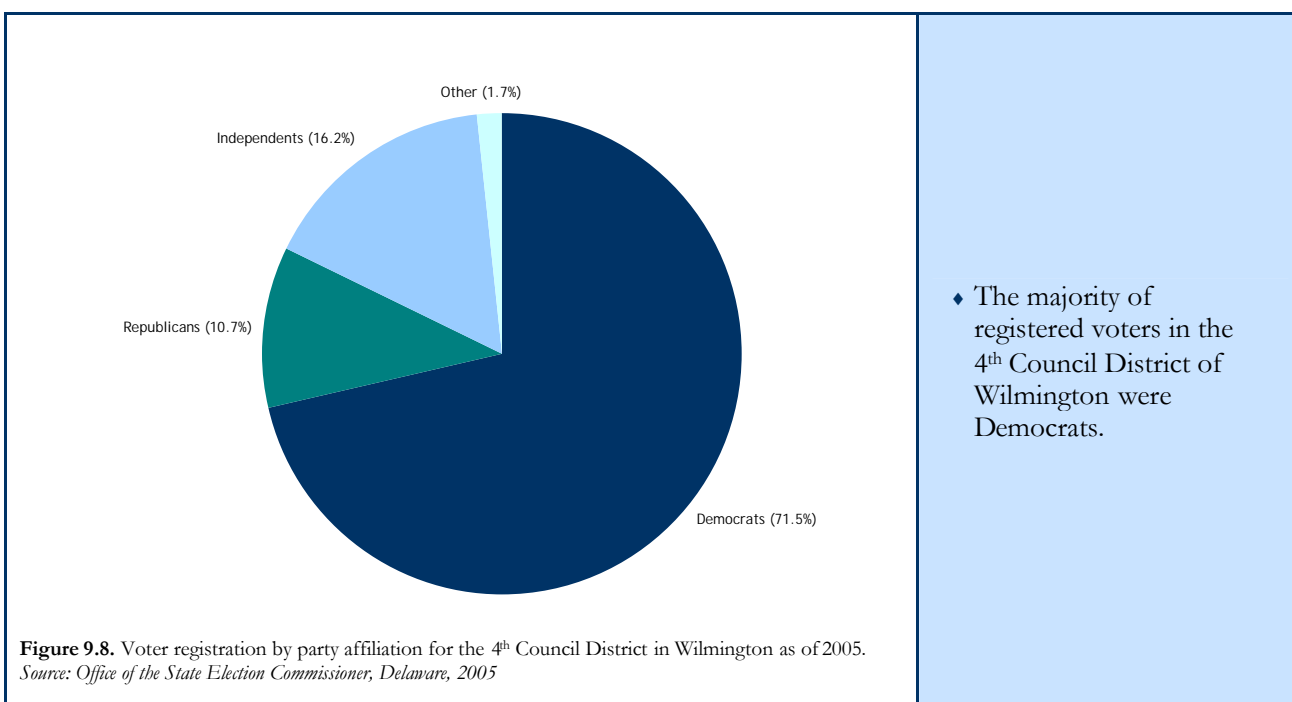
New Castle County District representation

In 2005, South Wilmington fell within New Castle County Districts 4 and 10 (New Castle County Council, 2005). In 2005, the New Castle County 4th District was represented by Democrat Penrose Hollins. The New Castle County 10th District was represented by Democrat Jea Street (New Castle County Council, 2005).

State of Delaware General Assembly representation

This section provides information on voting districts and representation in the Delaware General Assembly as of 2005.

South Wilmington was part of the Delaware House of Representatives 16th District in 2005 (see Figure 9.9.), which was represented by Representative James Johnson (Democrat). Represenative Johnson served on the following Delaware House committees: Corrections, Homeland Security,

Housing and Community Affairs, Judiciary, Labor, Public Safety, Telecommunications Internet and Technology, and Veterans Affairs (State of Delaware, 2005). The 16th District was 14.4 square miles and, in 2005, included 19,717 people; the District did not include much of downtown Wilmington.

In 2005, South Wilmington fell into two Delaware Senatorial districts: the 2nd and 13th districts (Figure 9.10.). The 2nd Senatorial District in 2005 was represented by Senator Margaret Rose Henry (Democrat), who served on the following Delaware Senate committees: Community/County Affairs, Education, Finance, Health and Social Services, and Public Safety (State of Delaware, 2005). The 2nd Senatorial District, which included the eastern part of the City of Wilmington as well as some points below, covered an area of approximately 26.0 square miles and had a population of 35,473. In 2005, Senator David McBride (Democrat) represented the 13th Senatorial District of Delaware. Senator McBride was a member of the following Delaware Senate committees: Adult and Juvenile Corrections, Finance, Highways and Transportation, Labor and Industrial Relations, Natural Resources and Environmental Control, and Public Safety (State of Delaware, 2005). The 13th Senatorial District was 15.8 square miles in area and included 36,998 people.

U.S. Congressional representation

As of 2005, in the U.S. Congress, South Wilmington was represented by Representative Michael Castle (Democrat), Senator Joseph Biden (Democrat), and Senator Thomas Carper (Democrat) (U.S. House of Representatives, 2005; U.S. Senate, 2005). Representative Castle was Chairman of the House Subcommittee on Education Reform and a member of the House Financial Services Committee. Senator Biden sat on the Foreign Relations and Judiciary Committees and was Co-Chairman of the International Narcotics Control Caucus. Senator Carper sat on the following Committees in the Senate: Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs; Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs; Environment and Public Works; and a special Committee on Aging.
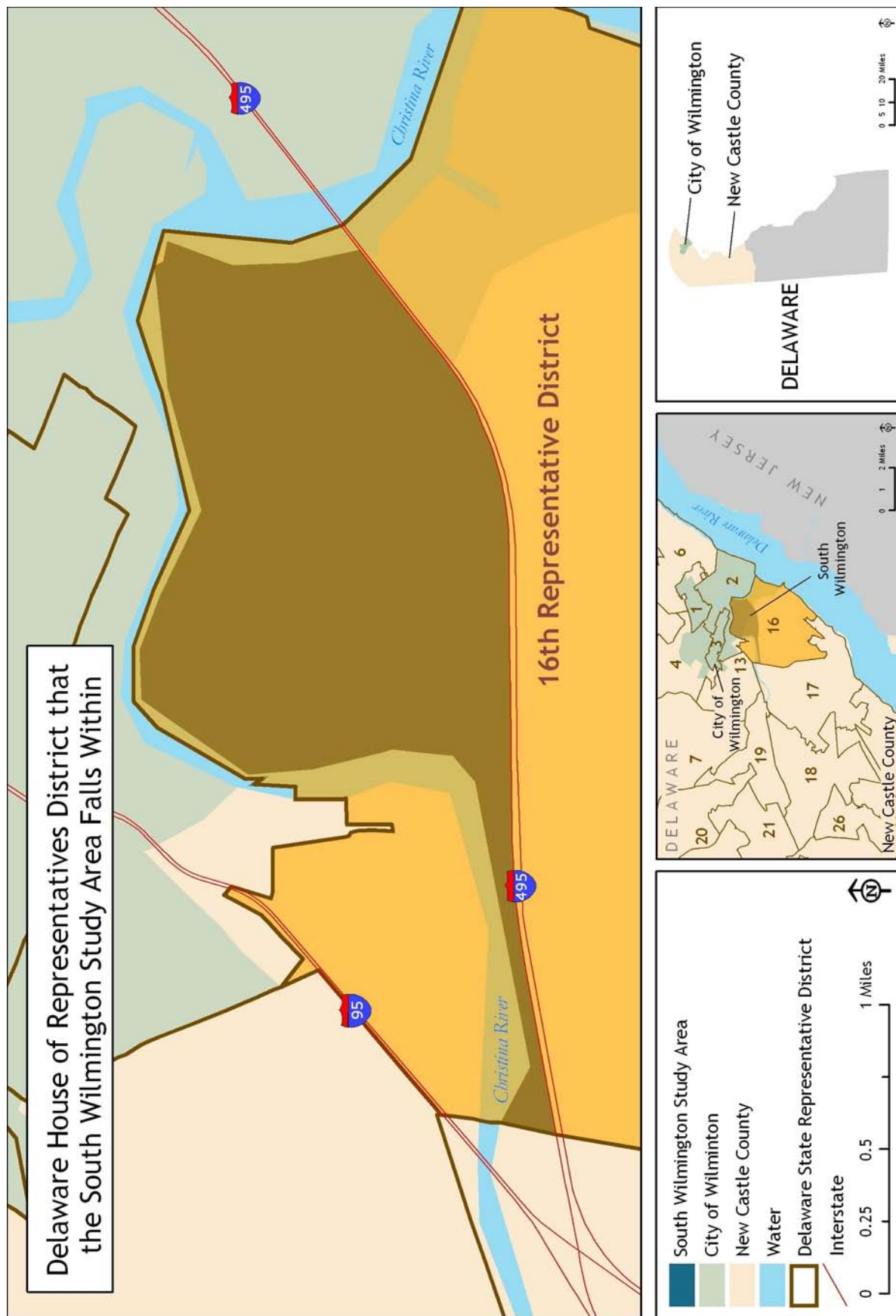
Figure 9.9. Delaware House of Representatives 16th District, which included South Wilmington. In 2005, the 16th District was represented by state Representative James Johnson (D).
Source: State of Delaware Department of Elections, 2005

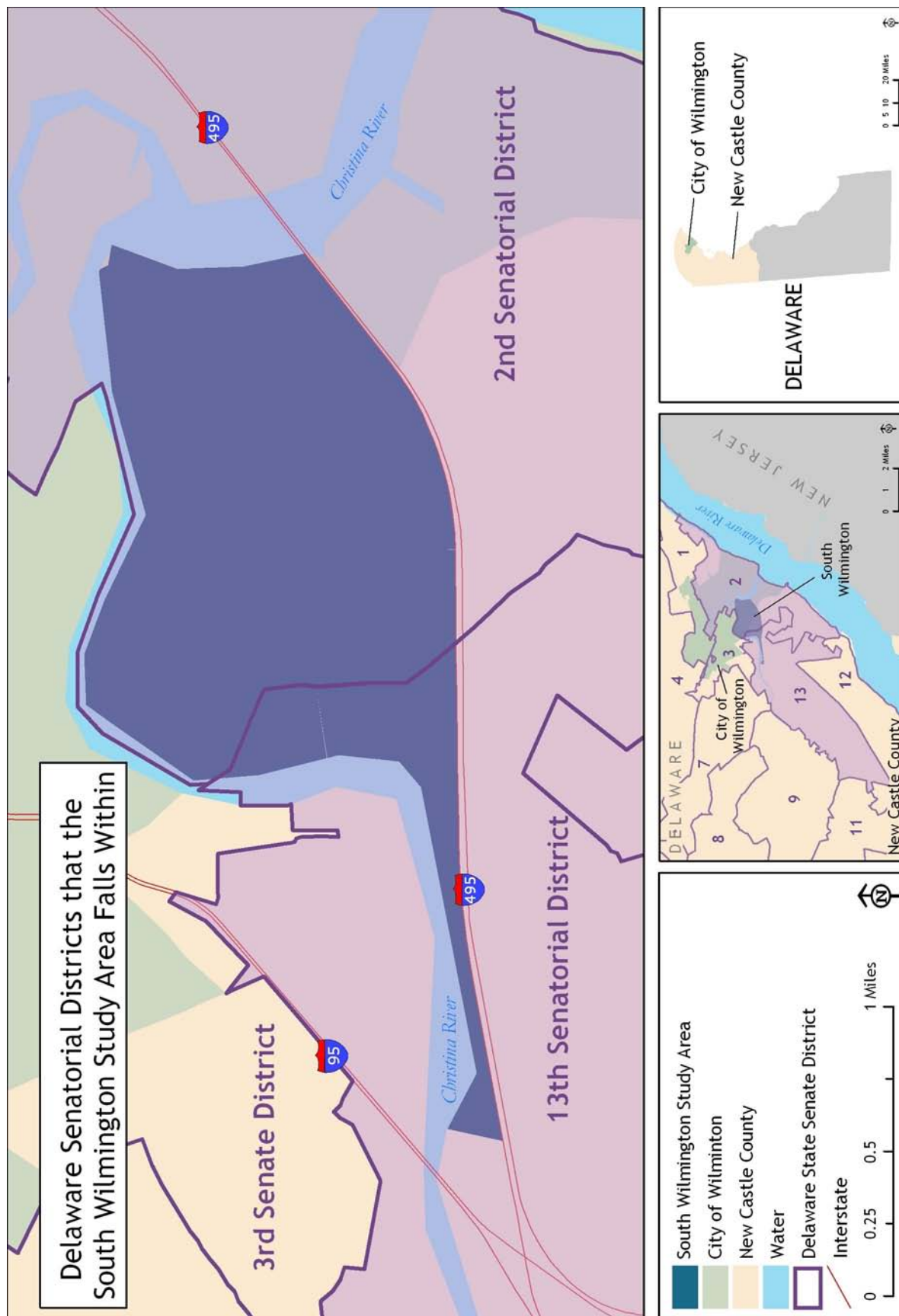**Figure 9.10.** Second and 13th Delaware Senatorial Districts, which included South Wilmington. In 2005, the 2nd District was represented by state Senator Margaret Rose Henry (D) and the 13th District was represented by state Senator David McBride (D).
Source: State of Delaware Department of Elections, 2005

9.c. Vital Statistics

This section presents birth and death statistics for Census Tract 19, which is the tract shown in Figure 9.11. that includes much of the South Wilmington study area. Also included are statistics for the City of Wilmington and New Castle County. A Census tract is the smallest level of geography for which vital statistics were available and is the next largest Census geography above the block group (for which data are presented in Chapters 3, 4, and 5 of this report). The data presented cover 1998-2002, and include Delaware residents only; Census Tract 19 data were determined by the residential address of either the mother (in the case of births), or the decedent (in the case of deaths). Also included are 2002 cause of death statistics for the City of Wilmington and New Castle County; tract-level cause of death data were not available. All data were obtained from Delaware Health and Social Services.

As is shown in Figure 9.12., between 1998 and 2002, most infants born from mothers living in Census Tract 19 were of Black race, while only 8.9 percent of Census Tract 19 live births were of White race. By contrast, the majority of live births from mothers living in New Castle County were of White race. Along similar lines, Census Tract 19 had the highest percentage of deaths in the Black population, while New Castle County had the highest percentage of deaths in the White population; deaths in the City of Wilmington were roughly split between the White and Black populations (Figure 9.13.). These birth and death percentages are likely reflections of the majority race of the population living in each of the geographic areas (i.e., the majority of residents in Census Tract 19 and the City of Wilmington were Black, while the majority of New Castle County residents were White).

Between 1998 and 2002, the deaths of residents over the age of 65 accounted for over half of all deaths in Census Tract 19 (Figure 9.14.). Deaths in the zero to 24-year old age group were least frequent. Comparative data for the City of Wilmington and New Castle County were not available.

In Census Tract 19 between 1998 and 2002, 4.5 percent of all deaths were infant mortalities, where an infant mortality is defined as the death of an infant under the age of one year. Relative to Census Tract 19, the percentages of infant deaths were lower in the City of Wilmington (2.0 percent) and New Castle County (1.6 percent).

In the year 2002, heart disease was the most common cause of death for residents in the City of Wilmington and New Castle County (Figure 9.15.; Table 9.2.). Of all forms of heart disease, ischemic heart disease (commonly called coronary artery disease and coronary heart disease) was the most prevalent cause of death. Cancer accounted for 24.3 percent of deaths in New Castle County and 20.8 of deaths in the City of Wilmington in 2002; cancer of the digestive organs and of the respiratory and intrathoracic organs (chest and lungs) were the most common forms of cancer accounting for deaths in both areas.
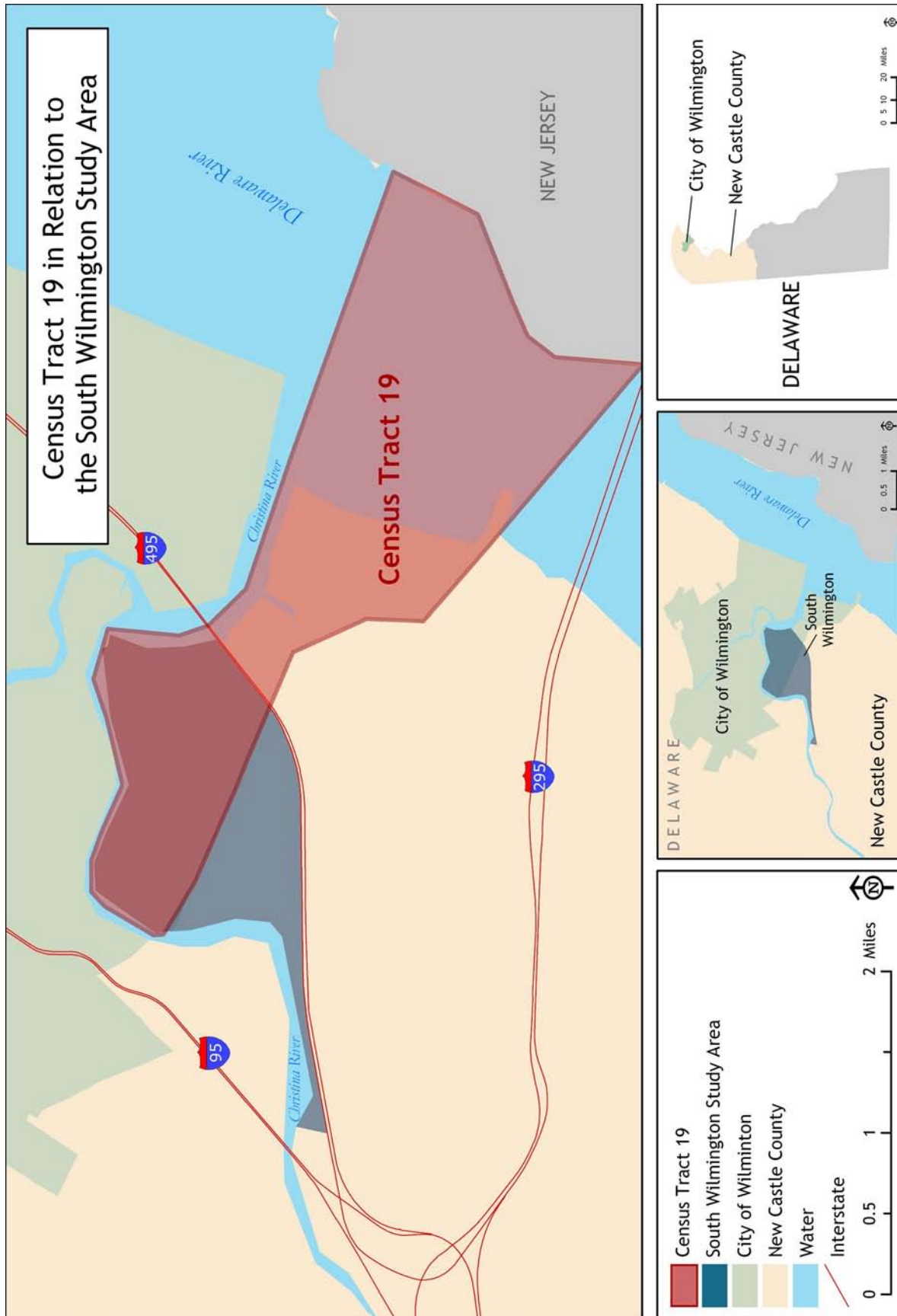
Figure 9.11. *Census Tract 19, for which vital statistics are reported in this chapter.*
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000
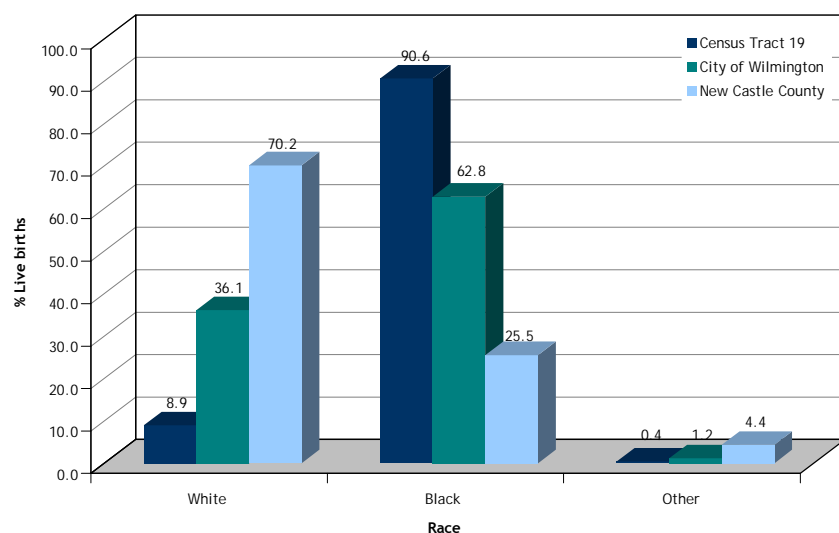
Figure 9.12. Percentages of live births by race between 1998 and 2002, for Census Tract 19, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County.
Source: Delaware Health and Social Services, 2005b; 2004

♦ Between 1998 and 2000, in Census Tract 19, most live births were of Black race, versus in New Castle County, where most births were in the White population.
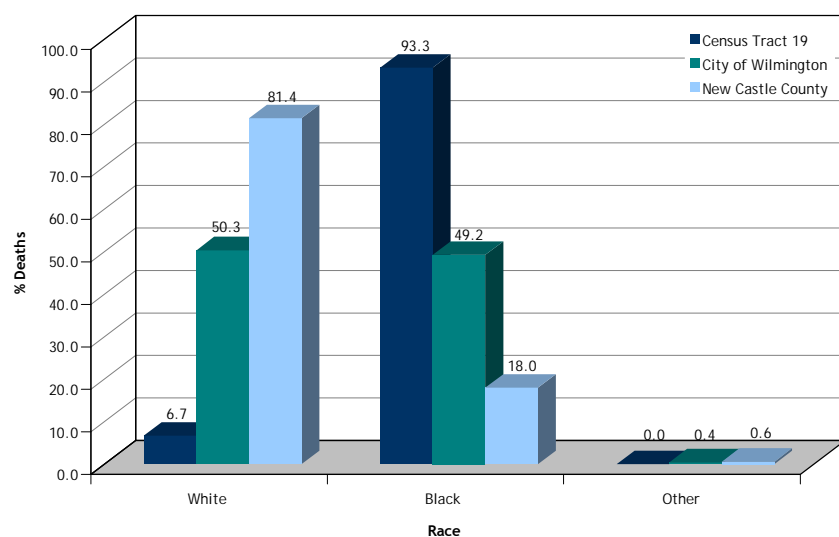
Figure 9.13. Percentages of deaths by race between 1998 and 2002, for Census Tract 19, the City of Wilmington, and New Castle County.
Source: Delaware Health and Social Services, 2005b; 2004

♦ Between 1998 and 2002, in Census Tract 19, the largest percentage of deaths occurred in the Black population.

South Wilmington Socioeconomic Profile
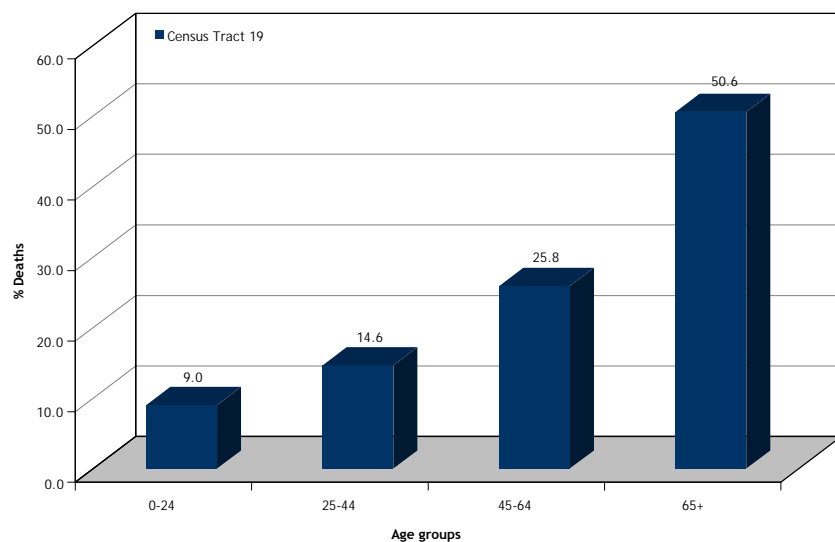
Figure 9.14. Percentages of deaths by age between 1998 and 2002, for Census Tract 19.
Source: Delaware Health and Social Services, 2005

♦ The deaths of residents over the age of 65 years made up the largest percentage of deaths in Census Tract 19.
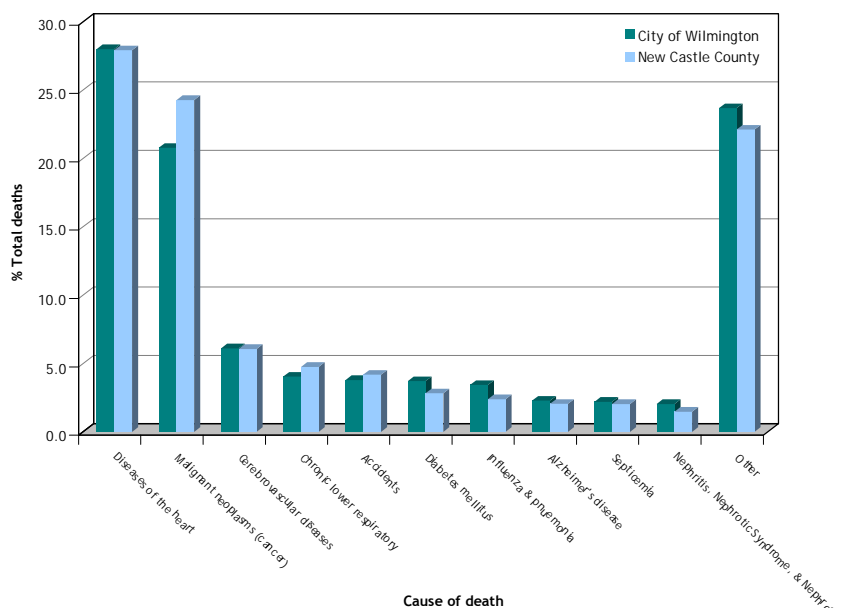
Figure 9.15. Cause of death as percentages of all deaths in the year 2002, for the City of Wilmington and New Castle County. For specific data values expressed in the graph, see Table 9.2. (below).
Source: Delaware Health and Social Services, 2004

♦ In 2002, the most common cause of death in both the City of Wilmington and New Castle County was heart disease.

	City of Wilmington	New Castle County
Diseases of the heart	28.0	27.9
Malignant neoplasms (cancer)	20.8	24.3
Cerebrovascular diseases	6.1	6.1
Chronic lower respiratory	4.0	4.8
Accidents	3.8	4.2
Diabetes mellitus	3.7	2.8
Influenza & pnuemonia	3.4	2.4
Alzheimer's disease	2.3	2.0
Septicemia	2.2	2.0
Nephritis, Nephrotic Syndrome, & Nephrosis	2.0	1.5
Other	23.7	22.1

Table 9.2. Cause of death as percentages of all deaths in the year 2002, for the City of Wilmington and New Castle County.
Source: Delaware Health and Social Services, 2004

9.d. Property Tax Assess Values

This section includes tax assess values for parcels in South Wilmington, obtained from the New Castle County Land Use Office. It is important to note that New Castle County tax assess values are used only to determine property tax rates and are not intended to reflect current market property values. Rather, New Castle County tax parcel values are based on the fair market value as of July 1, 1983 or the value at a more most recent assessment; when a new building is constructed or improvements are made to an existing structure, the property is assessed (or reassessed) by the County (New Castle County, 2005a).

In 2005, there were a total of 1099 individual parcels within the U.S. Census blocks selected to represent the South Wilmington study area, as described in Chapter 1 (see Figure 9.16.). These parcels had a total assessed value of $80,298,800 (Table 9.3.). All of the land in South Wilmington was assessed at $22,963,400 and the total building assessment was $57,335,400.

Parcels in South Wilmington were classified by the following six property classes: commercial, exempt commercial, industrial, residential, exempt residential, and utility. Although over half of individual parcels in the area were residential, the actual total area occupied by residential properties was less than the total area occupied by commercial, industrial, or utility parcels, as is evident in Figure 9.16.

The 635 residential parcels in South Wilmington had building assess values that ranged from $0 to $72,000 and land assess values ranging from $0 to $124,000; the total tax assess value of residential properties in South Wilmington was $10,783,300. Commercial properties had a total tax assess value of $25,827,300 while industrial properties were valued at $17,957,900.

A total of 89 properties were classified as being exempt commercial and 66 were classified as exempt residential. Additionally, 90 properties classified as residential held exemptions. Property exemptions that apply to South Wilmington parcels are listed in Table 9.4.
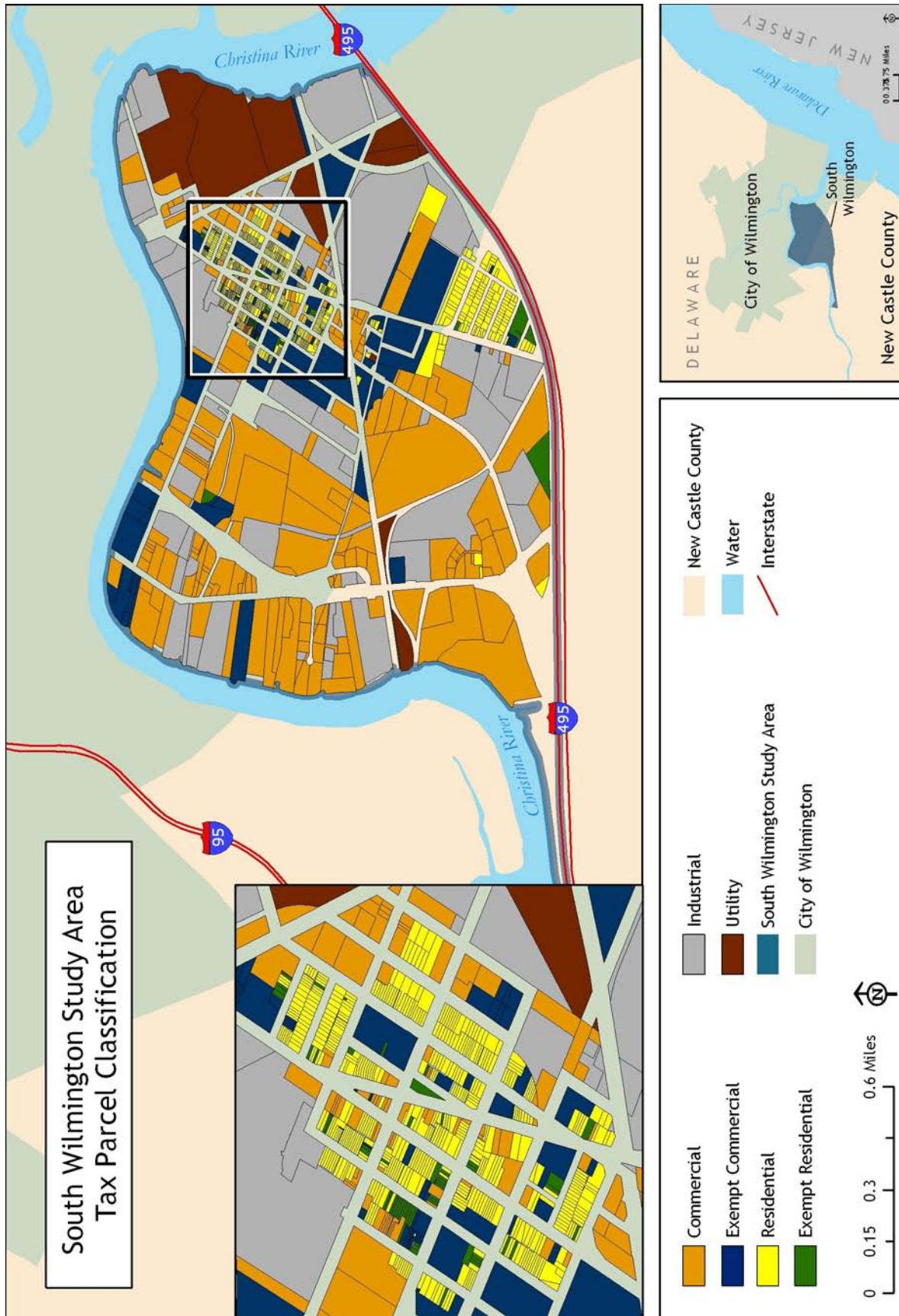
Figure 9.16. South Wilmington tax parcels, shown by property class.
Source: New Castle County, 2005a

Property class	Number of parcels	Building assess value		Land assess value		Total assess value
		Range	Total	Range	Total	
Commercial	238	$0 - $1,716,200	$16,363,700	$0 - $584,400	$9,463,600	$25,827,300
Exempt commercial	89	$0 -$4,762,400	$18,985,200	$0-$1,007,500	$4,750,600	$23,735,800
Industrial	63	$0 - $709,700	$12,092,400	$0 - $1,822,800	$5,865,500	$17,957,900
Residential	635	$0 - $72,000	$9,344,100	$0 - $124,000	$1,439,200	$10,783,300
Exempt residential	66	$0 - $32,800	$420,300	$100 - $90,000	$268,000	$688,300
Utility	8	$0 - $97,300	$129,700	$7,400 - $527,000	$1,176,500	$1,306,200
Total	**1099**		**$57,335,400**		**$22,963,400**	**$80,298,800**

Table 9.3. Tax assess values for parcels within South Wilmington, by property class.
Source: New Castle County, 2005a

Exempt type	Description
020	State of Delaware
032	New Castle County
047	Christina School District
050	Health / hospital
060	Veterans and fraternities
080	Charitable and benevolent
120	Religious
140	Wilmington Housing Authority
144	Wilmington housing agencies
150	City of Wilmington
151	Wilmington Mayor and Council
154	Wilmington Water Department
170	Miscellaneous general exemption
183	Riverfront Development Corporation
DISA	Disability - Type A
LF	Landfill
NCC65	Over 65 exemption (on NCC property taxes only)
NCCDSA	Disability - Type A (on NCC property taxes only)
O65	Over 65 exemption
WILMTI	Wilmington tax incentive

Table 9.4. Tax exemptions applied to parcels within South Wilmington.
Source: New Castle County, 2005a

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Appendix A: U.S. Census Bureau Geographic Codes

Below are the U.S. Census Bureau geographic codes for the geographies used throughout this report.

South Wilmington Census blocks:

100030019001000	100030019001023	100030019002006	100030019002029
100030019001001	100030019001024	100030019002007	100030019002030
100030019001002	100030019001025	100030019002008	100030019002031
100030019001003	100030019001026	100030019002009	100030019002032
100030019001004	100030019001027	100030019002010	100030152005000
100030019001005	100030019001028	100030019002011	100030152005001
100030019001006	100030019001029	100030019002012	100030152005002
100030019001007	100030019001030	100030019002013	100030152005003
100030019001008	100030019001031	100030019002014	100030154003000
100030019001009	100030019001044	100030019002015	100030154003001
100030019001010	100030019001045	100030019002016	100030154003002
100030019001011	100030019001046	100030019002017	100030154003003
100030019001012	100030019001047	100030019002018	100030154003004
100030019001013	100030019001048	100030019002019	100030154003005
100030019001014	100030019001049	100030019002020	100030154003006
100030019001015	100030019001050	100030019002021	100030154003018
100030019001016	100030019001051	100030019002022	100030155002001
100030019001017	100030019002000	100030019002023	100030155002002
100030019001018	100030019002001	100030019002024	100030155002003
100030019001019	100030019002002	100030019002025	100030155002004
100030019001020	100030019002003	100030019002026	100030155002005
100030019001021	100030019002004	100030019002027	100030155002006
100030019001022	100030019002005	100030019002028	

South Wilmington Census block groups:

100030019001
100030019002
100030154003
100030155002

City of Wilmington Census tracts:

10003000100	10003000700	10003001400	10003002100
10003000200	10003000800	10003001500	10003002200
10003000300	10003000900	10003001600	10003002300
10003000400	10003001000	10003001700	10003002400
10003000500	10003001100	10003001800	10003002500
10003000601	10003001200	10003001900	10003002600
10003000602	10003001300	10003002000	10003002700

New Castle County:

10003

Appendix B: U.S. Census Geographies

Figures 1.3. and 1.5. present the Census blocks and Census block groups used throughout this report. Blocks and block groups were carefully selected to most closely cover the entire SAMP Project Area, but the reader will recognize that both study areas include some areas that are not part of the SAMP Project Area and exclude some areas that are part of the SAMP Project Area.

Ninety-one Census blocks were selected to represent the SAMP Project Area (see Figure 1.3.). Because blocks are the smallest geographic units available for descriptions of Census data, block-level data is the most desirable for inclusion in the report. However, because the population within a block may be small enough that it is possible to identify individuals within the block, the Census Bureau withholds much block-level data, to protect the confidentially of residents. The Census Bureau manages this disclosure issue by releasing only a limited number of demographic variables. These variables, presented in Chapter 2, include population, race, gender, age, household characteristics, and housing occupancy and ownership.

Other demographic Census variables, such as education, income, and employment status, while not released at the block level due to the confidentiality issue mentioned above, remain important to creating a comprehensive socioeconomic profile. Therefore, key demographic variables, including those also available at the block level, are presented in Chapters 3, 4, and 5 of this report for four block groups selected to represent the SAMP Project Area (Figure 1.5.). To clarify, this report presents block group-level data for variables that are also presented at the block level in Chapter 2. This repetition is done to provide a reference for understanding and comparing all variables presented at the block group level. Because the block- and block group-level study areas are different, the same variables presented in Chapter 2 and Chapters 3, 4, and 5 will not be readily comparable.