

The logo for Georgia's State Water Plan features a light blue outline of the state of Georgia on the left. To the right of the outline, the text "Georgia's" is written in a smaller, blue, sans-serif font, and "State Water Plan" is written in a larger, bold, blue, sans-serif font. A horizontal blue brushstroke underline extends from the bottom of the state outline across the page.

Georgia's State Water Plan

Population Status Summary

This summary provides the Council with a brief update of the activities associated with developing population estimates and projections. Since Council Meeting 2, the Office of Planning and Budget (OPB) has received over 600 comments related to population projections. These comments contain great feedback and OPB is currently working to respond to each comment. The population projection status as of the last week of August 2009 is as follows:

- OPB is committed to reviewing and addressing the comments that have been received on the estimates and projections. The comments have been very helpful and in order to thoroughly address the comments the deadline for completing draft final projections has is likely to extend until late September or early October (original goal was to complete by mid-August).
- OPB has taken the feedback and integrated it back into their projection approach.
- Many of the comments focused on ensuring that recent employment trends, the approach to immigration, and transient populations be adjusted to provide the best estimate of future growth and water use.
- Please keep in mind that one goal of OPB is to achieve consistency throughout all Regions in the State while integrating Region-specific considerations in the approach.

Population projections are not yet finalized. It is unlikely that the population projections will be available by Council Meeting 3. While we would all like to have the projections as soon as possible it is nice to see that OPB is committed to doing the best job possible. OPB also recognizes that water use needs to include all population in an area and not just permanent population. Some water demands of transient population will be captured in demand forecasts.