

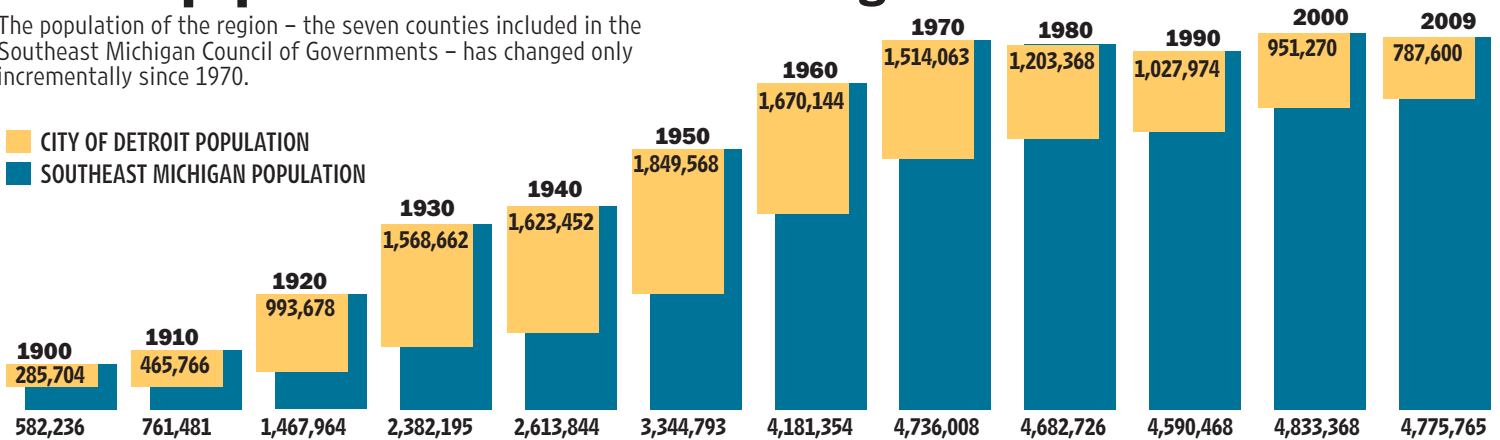


Downtown crowds and traffic by the Hudson's store on Woodward Avenue around 1950. Hudson's displayed the world's largest flag on Flag Day.

Free Press file photo

Historic populations of Southeast Michigan and Detroit

The population of the region – the seven counties included in the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments – has changed only incrementally since 1970.

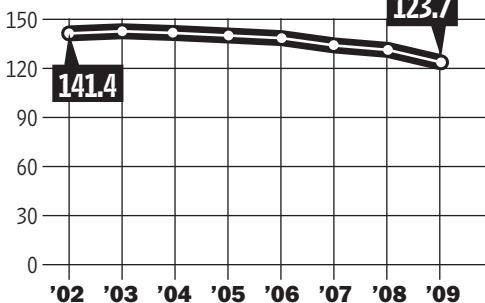


Source: SEMCOG

SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN TRAFFIC DECLINE

Traffic in the region has fallen off as fewer people have job commutes and factories have less to ship.

WEEKDAY VEHICLE MILES TRAVELLED, IN MILLIONS

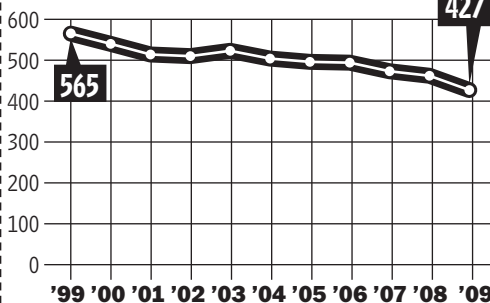


Source: SEMCOG

LESS WATER IS USED

Water pumped through the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department has declined substantially.

AVERAGE WATER USE, IN MILLIONS OF GALLONS PER DAY

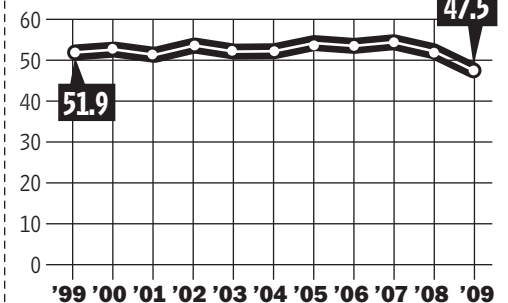


Source: The Foster Group

LESS ELECTRICITY USE

Electricity sales in the service territory from the Thumb to Monroe saw a sharp dip in the last two years.

DETROIT EDISON SERVICE AREA SALES, IN MILLIONS OF MEGAWATT HOURS



Source: Detroit Edison

MARTHA THIERRY/Detroit Free Press