Florida will gain the most new residents of any state in the union in the next 25 years, according to a study by the U.S. Department of Commerce. — News Report

North Central Florida's share in the state's phenomenal projected growth between now and the year 2000 will enlarge it from a present 12-county population of some 290,000 to approximately 441,000 at the beginning of the new century, according to the latest published projections of the University of Florida's Bureau of Economic and Business Research.

The region's only standard metropolitan statistical area, Alachua County, will feel the increase most as the number of its residents goes up by an estimated 88%. Adjacent Gilchrist, Union, Putnam, Dixie, and Columbia will have growth of approximately 68%, 57%, 54%, 48%, 43%, respectively. Other counties in the region will grow between 12% and 32%.

As this spurt begins, local governments are turning toward cooperative planning in the degree to which they feel concern about growth.

No matter how fast or slow the population increase will be in each county, however, every county will be affected by all the others in the use of resources and services which cannot be contained within political boundaries: water supplies, drainage, electric power, waste disposal, recreation.

As the largest municipalities spread out, people who work in them will increasingly be building their homes and sending their children to school in outlying regions, even in adjoining counties.

With the growth will come the need for better transportation, more fire and police protection, health care, parks and recreational lands in the locations where people are expected to come.

The North Central Regional Planning Council and Health Planning Council, formed of representatives from county and city governments, are working toward seeing that the needs of the new population will be met as they arise.

The Councils' efforts are organized in divisions for regional, health, transportation, criminal justice and local assistance planning. Their work over the past year — 1974 — in these areas is outlined in this report.
Federal and state governments are increasingly requiring cooperative planning for such regional concerns as waste disposal, drainage and utilities to prevent duplication of efforts by the local governments within an area and to encourage more efficient use of money and other resources.

Education in the values of regionalism, reviews of proposed large-scale developments and specific studies and work programs for member governments are the responsibility of the regional planning staff of the Council.

It has finished studies for Alachua County on community facilities, housing problems, drainage, water and sewer systems and solid waste disposal.

When the National Association of County Officials voted an award to Alachua County for its solid waste management policies, one of the considerations was the Council's first-phase study of the problem.

Seven counties in the region were found by the Council to contain lands of special significance which were recommended for state purchase and protection. Two of these are already approved for purchase by the state.

Recent successful efforts of the Audubon Society to bring about state purchase of another endangered area — San Felasco Hammock — were aided by Council endorsement and its recommendation in a 1973 study on Open Space and Recreation. Staff members provided environmental and public-attitude information, talked with state officials and attended state hearings on the subject.

The project review workload of the Council staff and clearinghouse committee during the year included reviews of 41 applications for federally-assisted projects with a combined value of $5,497,912. The regional planning staff is also responsible for reviews of developments of regional impact for the state.
heath

The Health Planning Council, which shares staff and office space with the Regional Planning Council and is responsible for some of the same geographic territory, advanced on several fronts in the past year.

Its planning staff increased to four professionals; its membership broadened with the addition of support from Bradford and Putnam Counties; it received its first county contract with a request from Alachua County for a study of ambulatory health delivery systems; and its review workload doubled.

Reviews of applications for proposed medical facilities and services in the 10-county region covered by the Health Council consumed much of the staff's time as the number increased from 26 in 1973 to 55 in 1974.

During the year, health profiles were completed for Alachua, Bradford and Putnam Counties, while a Columbia County profile was in the draft stage.

In March, the Council hired its first health planning director. During the year, the staff began developing a policy and procedures manual for the Council and its major committees; worked up a two-year program; and began refining the Council organizational structure.

Volunteer labors of the county health advisory committees and the Council's clearinghouse review committees added up to a tremendous number of hours donated to the overall health effort. One five-member committee was clocked at almost 600 man-hours during one six-month period.

Though the Health Council began in 1970, it became functional only in 1971 when the state approved it as an agency qualified to receive funds under Section 314b of the federal Partnership in Health Act. The U.S. approved it in 1972, but federal funds were frozen and none have been received from this act to date.
With the hiring of a full-time transportation planner in 1974, the Council took a big step toward eventual development of a regional program for fast, safe economical movement of people and goods around north central Florida.

Opinions and critical comments of informed private citizens are active ingredients in the regional planning process. Since 1970, a Citizens Participation Committee has met monthly with the regional staff. A membership of from 10 to 20 persons, representing a broad range of socioeconomic levels, reviews all studies done by the Council and votes a committee comment on them as well as on the annual program design. Members of GUATS will attend the meetings of the transportation and environmental subcommittees of the CPC give special attention to those areas.

To keep the citizens up-to-date on issues, the Council distributes an annual Citizens Participation Newsletter. The newsletter provides information on Council activities, relevant news articles, and other community events related to transportation planning.

### 1973-74 Regional Planning Council Revenues [449,027] *

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Revenue</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Federal</td>
<td>$57,500</td>
<td>12.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State</td>
<td>22,530</td>
<td>4.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alachua County</td>
<td>193,266</td>
<td>42.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gainesville</td>
<td>167,191</td>
<td>36.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RUB</td>
<td>14,000</td>
<td>3.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>2,040</td>
<td>0.4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 1973-74 Health Planning Council Revenues [48,120] *

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Revenue</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>State</td>
<td>16,540</td>
<td>34.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Counties</td>
<td>11,400</td>
<td>23.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Way</td>
<td>2,000</td>
<td>4.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blue Cross</td>
<td>2,500</td>
<td>5.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RMP</td>
<td>7,677</td>
<td>15.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HR-1</td>
<td>2,500</td>
<td>5.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Small cities &amp; ccys.</td>
<td>3,503</td>
<td>7.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>2,000</td>
<td>4.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 1973-74 Budgeted Expenditures [504,647] *

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Expenditure</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Regional Planning &amp; Reviews</td>
<td>$351,659</td>
<td>70.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local Planning Assistance</td>
<td>29,910</td>
<td>5.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Planning</td>
<td>48,120</td>
<td>9.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation</td>
<td>7,046</td>
<td>1.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Criminal Justice **</td>
<td>7,500</td>
<td>1.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administration</td>
<td>60,412</td>
<td>12.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Adjusted budget to allow for one quarter's support of criminal justice
New legislation just enacted in Washington provides new impetus for health planning.

local planning assistance

Making a single staff available to all county and city governments which need planning help, the Regional Planning Council offers local planning assistance by contract.

During the past year, this Council division undertook the following work:

- **Alachua County:** Initiation of a county-wide comprehensive plan to be completed by the end of 1975 and updated periodically; studies on future development in the Glen Springs area of Gainesville, along Highway 441 corridor and in lands surrounding Gainesville Municipal Airport; assistance in zoning, land use, community facilities and highways planning.

- **Bradford County:** A joint program with the University of Florida which will lead to plans for land use, circulation and housing, with environmental evaluations; help in filing grant applications.

- **Union County:** Help in filing grant applications.

- **Hawthorne:** Studies on annexation and on feasibility of a neighborhood park.

- **Archer:** Review of subdivision regulations.

- **Micanopy:** A feasibility study on a lakeside park; staff service on a committee to review the newly proposed land use plan and zoning ordinance; help in filing grant applications.

Criminal justice planning moved from direct state supervision to the Regional Planning Council in mid-1974, with the north central Florida area given a 22-county area to the 11-county region served.

Eight programs, all in Alachua County, were funded a year. Eight more are approved for 1975 in Suwannee, Cross, and Gainesville.

Criminal justice planning helps courts, police, juvenile justice, and the Department of Corrections to their problems which can be funded through the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration (LEAA) programs. Two grants are approved for 1975. LEAA programs for this year include two new ones: purchase of a training seminar at the University of Florida for court clerks, circuit judges, and other staff; and support for Operation Bridge Through Drug Enforcement Unit.

Continuation projects for this year were the Corner Drug Store, Bridge Through Drug Enforcement Unit, support of the criminalistics lab at Sanford and a public information project in Gainesville.
ased. date on planning goals, procedures and methods, the staff frequently invited speakers to discuss specialized topics with the committee.

Occupations currently represented on the CPC are educator, student, housewife, landscaper, recreation consultant, utilities board member, city council member, business person, retired person and farm bureau member, among others.

Another citizens' group was formed in March, 1973, to advise the policy-makers of the Gainesville Urban Area Transportation Study (GUATS). This Citizens Advisory Committee meets twice a month to discuss and advise on anything connected, however peripherally, with GUATS, fulfilling federal regulations for input from the community.

The CAC drew up goals and objectives for transportation in the urban area and published a detailed position paper which has become a recommended model for other citizen groups across the state.

Current membership of the CAC includes the occupations of educator, administrator, retired person, business person, housewife, landscape architect and others.

**what of the future?**

The lowest estimates show some 150,000 more people coming to north central Florida in the next 25 years and the actual number may be far higher.

Even the minimum projection would mean that by the year 2000, according to current usage in the 12-county region, there would be:

- 84,745 more cars
- 51,724 more houses or apartments
- 795,000 more pounds of solid waste (garbage) every day
- 22,500,000 more gallons of fresh water used every day
- 15,000,000 more gallons of sewage every day
- 15,750,000 more kilowatt hours of electricity used every day by residential customers alone
- 634,019 more square feet of classroom space needed
- 150 more practicing physicians and 100 more hospital beds needed

In the coming year, the Planning Councils will continue their work of studying existing situations, projecting future ones and helping local governments prepare for them in the urban areas and the entire region.
North Central Florida Regional Planning Council

Robert Spence, Chairman
Samuel N. Holloway, Vice Chairman
Ralph Kluge, Secretary-Treasurer

Alachua County
Jack Durrance
Ralph W. Kluge

Alachua
Robert H. Cato
Glenn DuBois

Bradford County
George Roberts
E.W. Hodges

Gainesville
James G. Richardson
Dr. Clayton C. Curtis
Samuel N. Holloway

Hawthorne
Robert Spence
Carnell C. Henderson

Union County
Gerald Griffis
Paul Riherd

High Springs
Drayton Malphurs
L.W. Register

North Central Florida Health Planning Council

Ed Turlington, President
Robert McLendon Jr., Vice President
Virginia Stainbrook, Secretary
Harold P. Hanson, Treasurer

Alachua County
Bobby R. Bennett
Harold P. Hanson
James B. Montague
Charles A. Williams Jr.
Lucille Fristoe
Doug Thompson
Claronelle Griffin
Cullen Banks, M.D.
Cary Pafford
Ed Turlington
Donna Rowell
Malcom Randall
Richard C. Reynolds, M.D.

Putnam County
Evelyn Long
Robert McLendon Jr.
Robert Mitchem
Virginia Stainbrook

Bradford County
George Canova
Dave L. Shuford

Executive Director
CHARLES F. JUSTICE
Editor
ANN C. PIERCE
Graphics Coordinator
T. TRUSSELL

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL
5 S.W. 2ND. PLACE • GAINESVILLE, FLORIDA 32601 • 904/376-3344