

Preliminary local forecasts to 2050 update

Greg Johnson, Principal Engineer

Greg.Johnson@metc.state.mn.us

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metro council.org/forecasts/



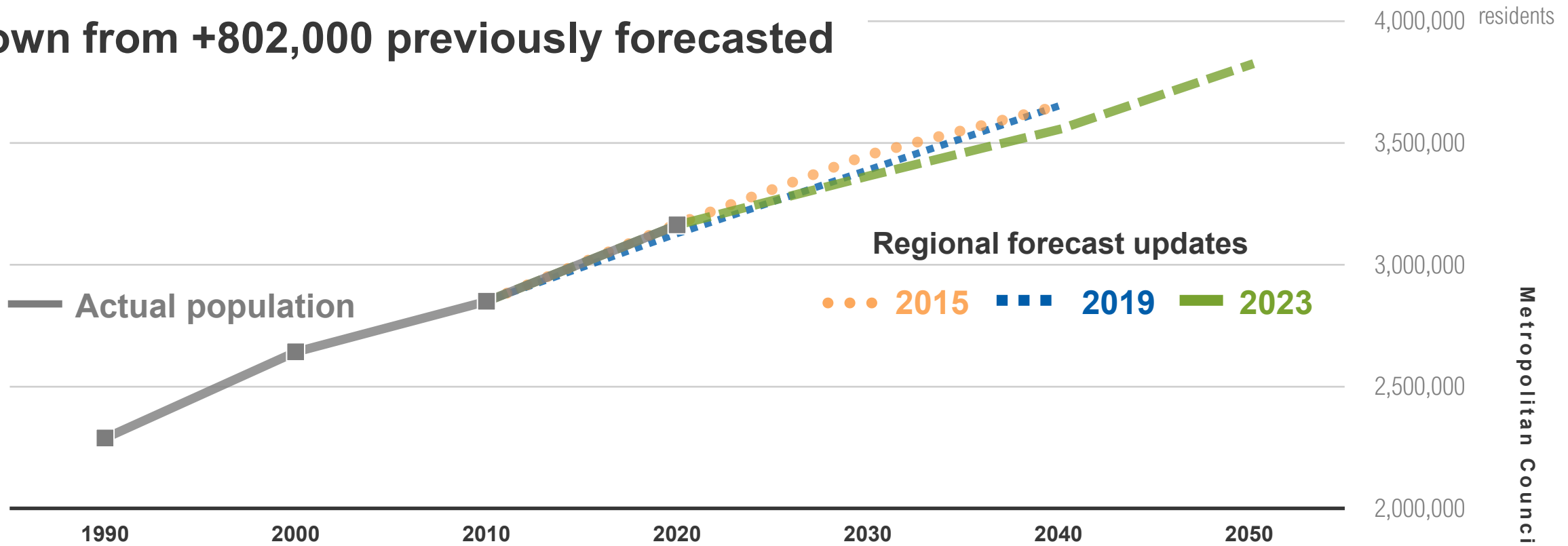
Updated regional forecast to 2050

	2010	2020	2023	2030	2040	2050
Employment	1,541,000	1,581,000	1,754,000	1,802,000	1,895,000	2,074,000
Households	1,118,000	1,240,000	1,274,000	1,350,000	1,450,000	1,564,000
Average HH size	2.50	2.50	2.47	2.44	2.40	2.39
Population	2,850,000	3,163,000	3,207,000	3,364,000	3,555,000	3,820,000
Population Growth	207,000	313,000	—	201,000	191,000	265,000

Source: 2010 – 2022: US Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), US Census Bureau, Metropolitan Council;
2023 – 2050: Metropolitan Council's regional forecast (2023)

Population grows, but less growth than past forecasts

Population gains +705,000 (2010-40),
down from +802,000 previously forecasted



Source: 1990-2010 from U.S. Census Bureau; 2015, 2019, 2023 forecasts from Metropolitan Council.

Regional forecast summary



Less growth than past forecasts

Metro will reach 3.8 million population and over 1.5 million households – but will take longer to get there

Demographic sources of growth are weakened

- Births and birth rates are at record-lows
- Immigration still a major contributor and growing – but not as much as past expectations

2050 will look very different

- Growing racial and ethnic diversity
- Growing numbers and share of older adults (65+)
- Implications: different patterns of activity, time use, different housing demands

Input from local partners and the public



Preliminary local forecasts set (version 1), January 2024

About the product set

- City- and township-level results
 - Sub city, zonal results come later
- Excel workbook format
- Also an interactive web map

Visit <https://metro council.org/forecasts>

Why versions 1, 2, 3...?



We want to get this right

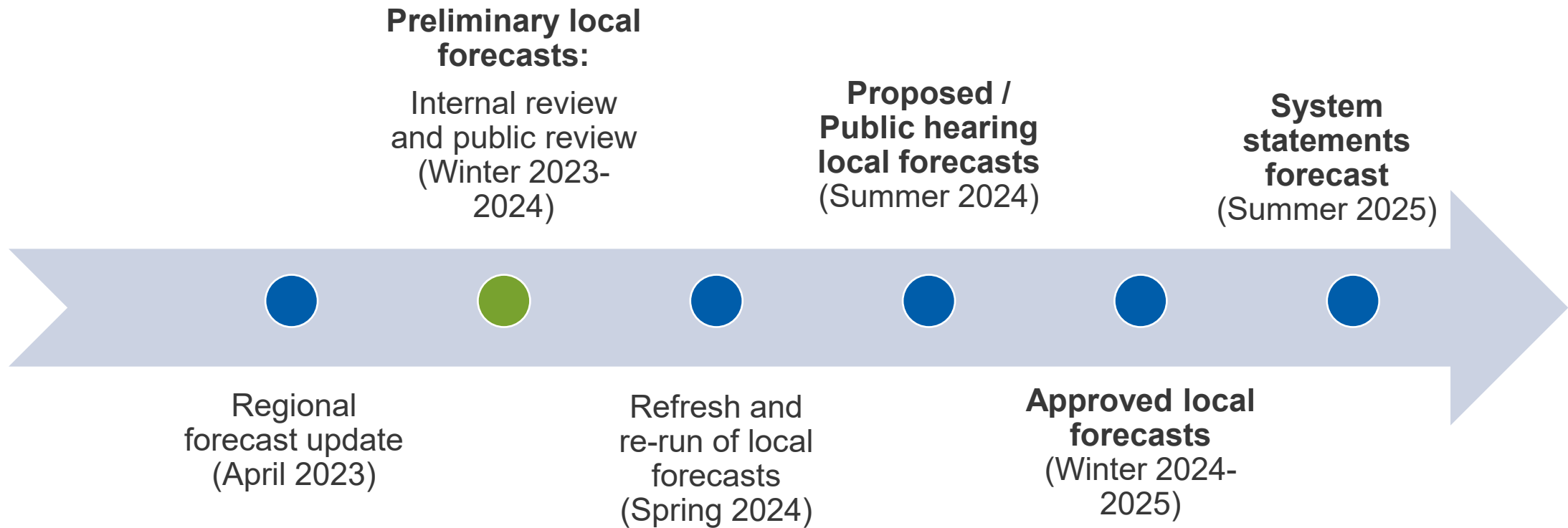
Preliminary Local Forecasts (version 1) does not yet reflect known/ proposed developments; transportation model results; water supply analysis; nor any new regional policies.

- Published January 2024. Local governments can comment, Jan.– Feb. 29

Proposed Local Forecasts (version 2) will introduce new regional system characteristics, including a refresh of planned transportation and transit networks. It will further introduce new regional policies and implications for spatial planning. Council staff are asking direction on new policies from Council Members.

- Expected Summer 2024. Public hearing, Aug. 15 – Oct. 7, 2024

Forecast timeline parallels the *Imagine 2050* timeline



Multiple opportunities for stakeholders to review and comment

Jan. – Feb. 29, 2024	<p>Review and comment on Preliminary Local Forecasts v. 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Includes population, households, employment for counties, cities, townships
Aug. 15 – Oct. 7, 2024	<p>Review and comment on Proposed Local Forecasts v. 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Includes population, households, employment for counties, cities, townships, sub city sewer-serviced and policy areas, and Transportation Analysis Zones Part of public comment period for <i>Imagine 2050</i>
Sept. – Dec. 2025	<p>Review and comment on System Statement Local Forecasts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Includes population, households, employment for counties, cities, townships, sub city sewer-serviced and policy areas Part of appeals period for System Statements
2026 – 2028	<p>Preparation and review of Comprehensive Plan Updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Met Council and local governments can agree to local forecast revisions as expectations and plans evolve
2026 – 2034	<p>Preparation and review of Plan Amendments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Met Council and local governments can agree to local forecast revisions as expectations and plans evolve

