**PROJECT OVERVIEW**

As the 2010 Census data for metro Denver become available, The Piton Foundation is analyzing the data for use by public officials, program providers, and everyday citizens to learn how our metro Denver communities are changing.

As we’ve done for the past three decennial census data releases, The Piton Foundation is analyzing the data and posting them on our web site. We also are producing a series of census briefs presenting the key findings. The first three briefs analyze census data about population, race, and age.

With this release, we are providing even more census information. We’ve created a new web tool to allow users to easily find data at the census tract level in metro Denver. Census tracts are small statistical subdivisions of a county averaging 4,000 people. To learn more about a specific census tract, check out our new census mapping tool at www.piton.org/census2010.

Look for e-mail announcements about additional briefs that we’re planning as more 2010 Census data are released. Plus, because the decennial census no longer gives us important data on characteristics such as poverty or educational attainment, The Piton Foundation will be developing briefs using other data, including the American Community Survey, to supplement the information in the decennial census.

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**NEIGHBORHOOD FOCUS**

**Denver’s Growth Slows, Racial Diversity Unchanged**

The 2010 Census data reveal that overall population growth in Denver, as well as the growth of minority groups, was much slower than in the suburban counties. But within Denver these factors varied greatly by neighborhood, according to The Piton Foundation’s analyses of the 2010 Census.

Denver added 46,000 people in the past decade — one third of them Hispanic and more than half of them white.

The population of Denver grew only 8.2% over the decade versus 16.0% for the entire metro area, slower than any other county except Jefferson (1.7%). What’s more, the racial makeup of the city, which was already more diverse than the rest of the metro counties, changed little over the decade while it changed greatly in the suburbs.

Denver has a smaller percentage of children (21.5%) than the metro area overall (24.6%) and the lowest percentage of any other county except Boulder (21.3%). But Denver still has more children (128,766) than any other county except Arapahoe (147,324), with Adams (126,123) now not far behind.

But the number of children in Denver grew by only 5.7%, while Adams and Arapahoe counties saw increases of 27.3% and 13.0%, respectively.
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Denver’s Neighborhoods

Denver has 77 designated neighborhoods, and the 2010 Census data show changes in population, racial makeup, and age vary greatly from neighborhood to neighborhood.

Denver’s population growth over the past decade primarily occurred in the far northeast corner of the city. Together, Stapleton, Montbello and Green Valley Ranch added 34,186 people since 2000, accounting for 75% of Denver’s net growth. Downtown Denver neighborhoods continued to see large increases in the over-18 population, including Union Station and the Central Business District (CBD), where new high rise apartments and condominiums sprang up over the past two decades.

In contrast, many neighborhoods in northwest Denver (Highland, Sunnyside, Villa Park, Baker, Sloan’s Lake, and West Colfax) experienced a decline in population, as did the northeast Denver neighborhoods of Cole and Clayton, both of which had seen growth of 35% or more over the previous decade.

"Stapleton, Montbello and Green Valley Ranch added more than 34,000 people, accounting for 75% of Denver’s net growth."

Change in Neighborhood Population, 2000 to 2010
Where Does Denver’s Youth Population Live?

This map shows Census 2010 block groups displayed by percent of the population that is under 18. Green areas have a significantly larger youth population than Denver’s average of 21.5%.

Children Clustered in Far Northeast and Southwest Neighborhoods

Children in Denver are concentrated in neighborhoods like Green Valley Ranch and Montbello, which saw greater than average population growth, but also in older west Denver neighborhoods, like Sun Valley, Westwood, Valverde, Barnum and Villa Park.

Older northeast Denver neighborhoods like Elyria Swansea, Clayton and Cole also have among the highest percentages of children. In all of these neighborhoods, 30% or more of the population are children under 18.

There also is a direct correlation between Denver neighborhoods with a significant percentage of youth and those with a high percentage of Hispanics. Of the 10 neighborhoods with child populations exceeding 30%, nine have a Hispanic majority.
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Most Denver Neighborhoods Have A Racial Majority

All but 10 of Denver’s 77 neighborhoods have a racial/ethnic majority. In 2010, 47 were majority white, 19 were majority Hispanic, and one was majority African American. Many neighborhoods that didn’t have big population increases or decreases over the decade still had significant changes in their racial makeup. In particular, Hispanics became more concentrated in certain neighborhoods, especially in southwest Denver.

Whereas African Americans were the majority in three neighborhoods in 2000 (Northeast Park Hill, North Park Hill and Skyland), by 2010, they remained the majority only in Northeast Park Hill. Over the past decade, the black population moved from central Denver to Aurora and other parts of Arapahoe County.

DOWNLOAD THE DATA:

Denver Neighborhoods: Change in Percent Hispanic
Denver Neighborhoods: Percent of Population Under 18

Find more data tables and graphics at piton.org/census2010

* The U.S. Census asks two separate questions regarding race and ethnicity. The first asks if the respondent is of Hispanic or Latino origin. People of Hispanic/Latino origin may be of any race. The second asks the respondent their race. Options are white, black/African American, American Indian, Asian and some others. In The Piton Foundation’s analyses, the race breakdowns of white, black, Asian and American Indian refer to non-Hispanic members of those groups.
### Denver Neighborhoods by Racial/Ethnic Majority, 2010

#### Thirteen Denver Neighborhoods Saw a Shift in Their Racial Majority in the Past Decade

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Neighborhoods in Transition

Denver’s neighborhoods in transition experienced drastically different types of change over the past decade. In neighborhoods that saw large population increases or decreases, often the population change wasn’t uniform among racial and ethnic groups. Montbello, Denver’s fifth-fastest growing neighborhood, had a growing Hispanic population but shrinking white and black populations. Seven of Denver’s 10 fastest-shrinking neighborhoods – including Clayton, Baker, Cole, Sunnyside and Highland – actually saw increases in their white populations. Notable exceptions are Hampden and Virginia Village, which had increases in their Hispanic and black populations but decreases in their white and Asian populations.

NORTHEAST: RAPID GROWTH, YOUTH, DIVERSITY

Some of Denver’s youngest and fastest growing neighborhoods lie in the far northeast. Together, Stapleton, Montbello and Green Valley Ranch added more than 34,000 people since 2000, accounting for 75% of Denver’s net growth. One out of five Denver kids lives in Stapleton, Montbello or Green Valley Ranch. Within the far northeast, Stapleton was the center of white growth, Montbello was the center of Hispanic growth, and Green Valley Ranch showed the most diverse growth.

STAPLETON
RAPID GROWTH / Ranks 7th in total population, up from 70th in 2000 / Accounts for one-quarter of Denver’s net decadal growth

PREDOMINANTLY WHITE / Is 70% white, 13% Hispanic, 10% black, 3.7% Asian

EMERGING YOUTH / One in four residents under 18 / Ranks 23rd in youth population

GREEN VALLEY RANCH
RAPID GROWTH / Denver’s 2nd largest neighborhood with more than 29,000 people, up from 22nd in 2000 / Accounts for 45% of Denver’s net decadal growth

DIVERSE / No racial or ethnic majority / 37% Hispanic, 28% black, 24% white, 6% Asian

MANY YOUTH / Denver’s 2nd largest youth population/ 10,000 people under 18
URBAN CENTER: VARIED DEMOGRAPHIC SHIFTS

Urban redevelopment in Denver’s core led to an increasing white population but a decreasing overall population in neighborhoods such as Highland, Sunnyside, Cole and Clayton. Many of the neighborhoods in central Denver, such as Whittier and Jefferson Park, saw significant decreases in their youth populations, including the fast-growing neighborhood of Five Points.

HIGHLAND

SHRINKING TOTAL POPULATION / Ranks 29th in total population, down from 14th in 2000 / Experienced a net population drop of nearly 2,000 people

PREDOMINANTLY WHITE / Shifted from majority Hispanic in 2000 to majority white in 2010 / Hispanic population decreased by 3,780 while white population increased by 1,800 / In 2000, had twice as many Hispanic residents as white residents / In 2010, had 1-1/2 white residents for every Hispanic resident

SHRINKING YOUTH POPULATION / 25% of Highland’s population was under 18 in 2000 / Only 15% of its population was under 18 in 2010

COLE

SHRINKING TOTAL POPULATION / Experienced a net population loss of more than 1,100 people in the past decade

HISPANIC MAJORITY & GROWING WHITE POPULATION / Saw a drop in its non-white population (-1,585) but an increase in its white population (574) / Although still majority Hispanic, went from a 70% Hispanic population in 2000 to a 61% Hispanic population in 2010 / Cole’s white population increased to 20% in 2010 from 6% in 2000

YOUNG, BUT SLIGHT DECREASE IN YOUTH / Has nearly 500 fewer youths in 2010 than it did in 2000 / With 30% of its population under 18, down from 33% in 2000, is still one of Denver’s youngest neighborhoods
Southwest: Hispanicization and Little Net Growth

Although many neighborhoods in southwest Denver didn’t have rapid population increases or decreases, they reflected shifting racial and ethnic demographics, including a growing Hispanic population. Many neighborhoods in the southwest, such as Bear Valley, also had growing youth populations.

Harvey Park & Harvey Park South

Steady Population / Together, Harvey Park and Harvey Park South experienced almost no net population growth.

New Hispanic Majority / Their ratios of white and Hispanic populations flipped over the past decade. Combined, the neighborhoods had a 53.7% white population in 2000 and a 38.0% Hispanic population. They had a 38.7% white population and a 53.3% Hispanic population in 2010.

More Youth / Both neighborhoods have a greater than average youth population and saw increases in the proportion of the population that is under 18 over the past decade. Harvey Park increased from 26% youth in 2000 to 27% youth in 2010. Harvey Park South increased from 23% in 2000 to 25% in 2010.