

# **Neighborhood Facts** A Data Book on the Status of Denver Neighborhoods from Census 2000

Special Insert: Map of Resources and Risk Factors in Denver Neighborhoods



**The Piton Foundation** 

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## **About The Piton Foundation**

The Piton Foundation is a private, operating foundation established in 1976 by Denver oil man Sam Gary. The foundation is supported principally by Gary-Williams Energy Corporation and is considered the "community investment division" of the company.

The foundation's vision is a better future for the low-income children of Denver. Its mission is to provide opportunities for children and their families to move from poverty and dependence to self-reliance. The foundation develops and implements programs to improve public education, create economic opportunities for families, and strengthen neighborhoods.

The foundation also maintains an extensive database of statistics about Denver's neighborhoods. This information is available in "Neighborhood Facts" at www.piton.org, which features regularly-updated statistics from a wide variety of sources, maps and graphs about every neighborhood, including information on population, income, poverty, education, employment, housing, health, safety and much more. The companion "School Facts" offers a searchable database of statistics about all the schools in Denver Public Schools.

Neighborhood Facts: A Data Book on the Status of Denver Neighborhoods from Census 2000

August 2004

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### Introduction

Every 10 years, the U.S. Census provides a unique opportunity to look at the major demographic, economic and social changes in our community. While much of the Census 2000 data – at a state and even a city level – has been released and covered in the media, The Piton Foundation's analyses take a previously unexplored look at the 2000 census data on a *neighborhood-by-neighborhood level*.

### **Democratizing information through "Neighborhood Facts"**

This report is part of an ongoing effort by The Piton Foundation to make data about the health of Denver's neighborhoods and families widely accessible. Established in 1991, "Neighborhood Facts" was founded on Piton's belief that reliable and objective information should be the basis of all political, policy and economic decisions.

In 1998, the foundation put "Neighborhood Facts" online, designed to be a user-friendly, searchable database of neighborhood indicators, maps, and histories.

In 2001, the web site was re-launched in both English and Spanish, adding new databases for census data from 1970, 1980, 1990 and 2000 for every neighborhood, and "School Facts," which provides detailed public education data for every Denver public or charter school.

The Piton Foundation's goal for Neighborhood Facts is twofold: 1) promote the practical use of data by community and city leaders and 2) emphasize using information to build the knowledge capacity of institutions and residents in lowincome neighborhoods.

### Census 2000

The vast majority of data presented in this report is from Census 2000. Since the first census was conducted in 1790, a census has been conducted every 10 years. The information collected is used to determine how many seats each state will have in the U.S. House of Representatives. But the census also provides a wealth of information that communities use for everything from planning schools and building roads to providing recreational opportunities and managing healthcare services. The 2000 census surveyed about 275 million U.S. residents, or approximately 118 million households.

There are two versions of the census, a short questionnaire and then a longer, more detailed form, commonly called the long form. Approximately 85% of households completed the short form with seven questions: name, sex, age, relationship, Hispanic origin, and housing tenure (whether the home is owned or rented.) In addition, on average, every sixth household completed the long form, which covered about 34 subjects, including education, ancestry, employment, and income.

### Neighborhood Facts: A Data Book on the Status of Denver Neighborhoods from Census 2000

This report presents demographic and economic data pertaining to eight indicators: population, race and ethnicity, immigration, households and families, education, jobs and wages, poverty, and housing. Data about Denver is presented side-by-side to data on the suburbs, for comparison purposes, and then, most notably, presented at a neighborhood level. Suburban data includes the counties of Adams, Arapahoe, Boulder, Douglas and Jefferson.

For the sake of Piton's neighborhood-level analyses, Denver's 76 populated neighborhoods (Denver Airport had a

population of four and is not included in this analysis) are designated into three categories: **poor, at-risk,** and **nonpoor.** "Poor" neighborhoods are defined as those where more than 25% of the residents lived in poverty in 1990 and 2000. There were 13 neighborhoods that were poor in both 1990 and 2000. An additional 10 neighborhoods were poor in



1990 but not in 2000. These 10 neighborhoods are categorized in this analysis as "at-risk" neighborhoods. The remaining 52 "non-poor" neighborhoods\* had fewer than 25% of their residents in poverty in both 1990 and 2000.

Looking at the data this way provides a method for analyzing change within Denver, comparing neighborhoods that are economically similar, while not losing sight of the foundation's

Poverty:	How Poor is Poor?
	2000
Size of	Federal Poverty
Family	Guidelines
1	\$ 8,350
2	\$11,250
3	\$14,150
4	\$17,050
5	\$19,950
6	\$22,850
7	\$25,750
8	\$28,650

particular concern about low-income neighborhoods. By segregating the at-risk neighborhoods (those that were poor in 1990 but not in 2000) we can pay special attention to the changes that contributed to those neighborhoods moving out of poverty and be able to better watch for subtle indications of further change in these neighborhoods in transition.

In addition to Census 2000 data, this report also looks at what are called "neighborhood resources and risk factors." The capacity of families to bring up their children well is inextricably linked to financial, educational, physical and social resources. Throughout the city of Denver there exist many resources for residents and their families. These include churches, public institutions – like schools, libraries, recreation centers and health care clinics – and private ones like grocery stores and child care centers. But risk factors also exist that can make neighborhoods difficult places to raise families. These include liquor stores, abandoned buildings and gun shops. The Piton Foundation believes it is important to examine these "immeasurable" factors too in examining the health of the city's neighborhoods and families. These resources and risk factors are included in a pull-out map at the end of the report.

And finally, this report looks at what has happened since the 2000 census was taken and a major recession hit. A third of the jobs gained over the previous decade were lost, unemployment increased, and the poverty rate went back up to almost the 1990 level.

### **Other Resources**

- Detailed data from the U.S. Census. The U.S. Census provides a searchable database of data it collects. Data from the 1990 and 2000 decennial censuses and data from the 2002 American Community Survey is available at: http://factfinder.census.gov/ servlet/DatasetMainPageServlet?\_program=DEC&\_lang=en&\_ts
- *Living Cities Denver in Focus: A Profile from Census 2000.* The Brookings Institution published a fact book about Denver and its suburbs, which formed the basis for this report. The Brookings report is available at: http://www.brookings.edu/es/urban/livingcities/Denver.htm
- *Brookings Living Cities Census Series.* The Brookings Institution is publishing a series of reports based on in-depth analyses of 2000 Census data. These reports are available at: http://www.brookings.edu/es/urban/issues/demographics/demographics.htm
- *Neighborhood Change in Urban America*. The staff of the National Neighborhood Indicator Partnership at the Urban Institute is producing a series of in-depth analyses based on Census 2000, including a paper on concentrated poverty. These reports are available at: http://www.urban.org/nnip/ncua/series.html
- The Piton Foundation. For the latest data about Denver neighborhoods and schools go to www.piton.org

<sup>\*</sup>Stapleton and Denver Airport are excluded because their populations in poverty in 2000 were less than 3 persons.

### **Executive Summary**

The city of Denver changed over the decade of the 1990s. Its population grew for the first time in several decades. The population changed too. Denver grew racially and ethnically more diverse, primarily due to a significant increase in Latinos, particularly Mexican immigrants. And the city continued to experience a rise in households without children.

Denver's neighborhoods also changed. The number of poor neighborhoods – where more than 25% of residents lived in poverty – decreased as poverty became less concentrated. Poor people increasingly lived in the suburbs and in historically non-poor Denver neighborhoods.

But some things didn't change, despite the economic good times. While the poverty rate declined – largely the result of population growth – the actual number of poor people living in Denver remained virtually unchanged. Also unchanged, families with children remained the poorest of all household types and people of color still had far greater poverty rates than whites.

In analyzing the 2000 Census for this data book on Denver's neighborhoods, The Piton Foundation identified the following major findings:

Denver's population increased by 19% – to 555,000 people – between 1990 and 2000, after two decades of population loss. But in comparison, the suburbs grew by much more, 34%. Growth took place across all Denver's neighborhoods, but several lower income neighborhoods in west and northeast Denver saw population increases between 25% and 50%, including Villa Park, Westwood, Valverde, Whittier, Clayton, Elyria/Swansea and Northeast Park Hill. Cole saw growth just over 50%.

About 47% of Denver's residents were under 35 years of age. Fully half of Denver's households were single people living alone or unrelated people living together. Only 23% of households were families with children. Poor and at-risk neighborhoods had the highest percentage of households with children. Denver also had a highly mobile population, with one-third of its residents moving here within the last five years.



At the time of the 2000 Census, the city's population was just slightly more than half white (52%), nearly one-third (32%) Latino, and 11% African American. Almost 80% of Denver's new residents between 1990 and 2000 were Latino. The increase in Latinos was almost entirely attributable to immigrants from Mexico. By 2000, one in six Denver residents was an immigrant, with Mexicans making up twothirds of the city's foreign-born population.

More than half of Denver's neighborhoods experienced an increase of 50% in their Latino population over the decade. And by 2000, 21 of the 76 neighborhoods had populations greater than 50% Latino. Immigrants concentrated in neighborhoods in west and northeast Denver, including West Colfax, Villa Park, Barnum, Westwood, Valverde, Baker, Highland, Globeville, Clayton and Elyria Swansea. In Jefferson Park, about 50% of residents were foreign born; about 41% in Cole.

While 35% of adults in Denver had at least a college degree, 21% had not graduated from high school. The percentage of adults in Denver with a college degree was significantly higher than the national average of 24%. But people of color lagged far behind whites. While 48% of whites had a college degree, only 18% of African Americans and 8% of Latinos had degrees.

Denver's share of all metro-area jobs decreased from 43% in 1990 to just 34% in 2000. According to the Brookings Institution, half of all commutes in the Denver metro area began and ended in the suburbs and a below-average proportion of Denver residents worked within the city.

Even with the strong 20% increase in wages in the 1990s, 55% of the city's workers earned less than \$28,000 and three quarters earned less than \$40,000. And unemployment rates in poor neighborhoods were two to three times higher than the city's rate.

The poverty rate in Denver, and the suburbs, declined but the number of poor persons increased in all metro counties but Denver. Meanwhile, poverty also became less concentrated in traditionally poor city neighborhoods. Just 13 Denver neighborhoods were poor in 2000, down from 23 in 1990. And of the 20 neighborhoods that saw the largest increases in the number of poor persons over the decade, 15 were non-poor neighborhoods.

Home prices and rents skyrocketed in Denver, far outpacing increases in wages during the 1990s. Housing prices doubled over the decade, while rents increased by 24%. As a result, more than one in three Denver households paid more than 30% of their income on housing. Poor neighborhoods saw the greatest increases in housing prices and rents, making housing less affordable for low-income families.

### Many Gains Overturned Since 2000

Conditions have changed for the worse in Denver since 2000, as Denver, like the rest of the country was hit by a major recession. Since 2000, the city has lost more than onethird of the jobs it gained over the decade. And the jobs lost were in industries that employ large numbers of unskilled and low-income workers. Corresponding with the job loss was a sharp increase in unemployment and the poverty rate. But housing prices continued escalating. This combination of factors threatens Denver's neighborhoods and families "on the edge" and the tenuous gains they made over the decade of the 1990s.

### It's a Fact in 2000...

### **Children in Denver**

- There were 122,000 children in Denver, or 22% of the population.
- 49% of the city's children were Latino, 14% were black and 30% were white.
- Only 23% of households in Denver had children.
- 15% of children didn't live with either one of their parents.
- 24% of the city's youth were school dropouts; 37% of Latino youth had dropped out.

#### **The Poor in Denver**

- There were 78,000 poor people in Denver, or 14% of the population; the number of poor was virtually the same as in 1990.
- Latinos had the highest poverty rate, 23%, compared with 19% for blacks and 11% for whites.
- Children had the highest poverty rate, 21%, compared with 13% for adults and 10% for the elderly.
- Single-parent families had the highest poverty rate (28%), compared to 10% for married couples with children.
- 13 neighborhoods in Denver were poor, down from 23 in 1990.

Population growth is a basic measure of a community's health. However, community planning also requires an understanding of the age profile of the population. For instance, the number of workinaage residents from whom the city can raise revenue influences the level of services it can provide for more "dependent" residents. such as the elderly and children.

# POPULATION Population

Just like the nation and the state, Denver's population grew dramatically between 1990 and 2000. Nationwide, the United States added 32.7 million people in the 1990s, the largest ever population increase between censuses. Colorado's population grew by almost 1,000,000 people.

In Denver, after decades of decline, the city's population grew by almost 19% between 1990 and 2000, an increase of 87,000 residents. While Denver is the 25th largest city in the United States, it ranked sixth in population growth between 1990 and 2000.

The suburban counties saw increases as well, greater in fact than Denver's growth. *(Find additional data at Piton's web site related to population growth in the metro counties.)* But Denver's growth took place despite the fact that the city is geographically restricted because of the 1974 Poundstone Amendment, which prohibited Denver from annexing adjoining land. A decrease in vacant housing and the building of new homes across the city, but particularly in areas like Green Valley Ranch, accounted for growth over the past decade.



Like the nation, Denver has a highly mobile population. One in three Denver residents arrived within the last five years of the decade. While overall the population of the United States is aging, cities traditionally have younger populations than suburbs – nationwide, 46% of city residents in 2000 were more than 35 years old, compared to 51% of suburban residents. But Denver's population is even younger than the national average. And compared to the rest of the nation, Denver experienced a larger increase in the population under 35 and a smaller increase in the population age 55 and older.

At a neighborhood level, the majority (40) of Denver's 76 neighborhoods experienced an increase in population of 25% or less. However, in 17 neighborhoods, including several lower-income neighborhoods in west and northeast Denver, the population increased between 25 and 50 percent.

## Denver's population grew dramatically between 1990 and 2000 after decades of decline.

Total population, 1970 - 2000: Denver



Source: The Population of States and Counties of the United States: 1790 to 1990, U.S. Census Bureau

### While the population of Denver grew rapidly in the 1990s, its suburbs grew much faster.

Percent population change, 1990-2000: Denver and suburbs



Source: U.S. Decennial Census - 1990 STF1 Table P1; 2000 STF1 Table P1

### One in three residents of Denver arrived within the last five years.

Share of population residing in a different county five years ago, 2000: Denver and suburbs



Source: U.S. Decennial Census - 1990 STF3 Table P43; 2000 STF3 Table P24

# Compared to the nation, Denver experienced higher growth in younger populations (under 35) and lower growth in older populations (age 55 and older).

Percent population change by age group: 1990-2000: Denver and U.S.



Source: U.S. Decennial Census - 1990 STF1 Table P11; 2000 - STF1A Table P12



Source: U.S. Decennial Census - 1990 STF1 Table P1; 2000 STF1 Table P1

Population									
Neighborhood	Population 2000	% Change Population 1990-2000	% Persons Age 5+ Living in Denver in 2000 Who Lived in a City Other than Denver in 1995	% Persons < 18 2000	% Persons 18 to 34 2000	% Persons 35 to 54 2000	% Persons 55 to 64 2000	% Persons > 64 2000	% Dependents (<18 and > 64) 2000
Denver	554636	18.6%	33.0%	22.0%	31.2%	28.4%	7.2%	11.3%	33.2%
Poor Neighborhoods:									
Auraria-Lincoln Park	6554	-0.6%	35.8%	26.3%	37.6%	22.8%	5.3%	8.0%	34.3%
City Park West	4286	10.4%	33.1%	12.8%	38.4%	28.0%	7.3%	13.6%	26.4%
Civic Center	619	141.8%	47.8%	5.3%	30.0%	46.5%	13.7%	4.4%	9.7%
Clayton	5172	36.6%	19.8%	35.6%	26.4%	23.0%	6.0%	9.0%	44.7%
Cole	5662	52.4%	25.4%	33.1%	32.0%	21.0%	6.0%	7.9%	40.9%
Elyria Swansea	6708	32.7%	21.1%	36.0%	30.2%	21.2%	5.4%	7.2%	43.2%
Five Points	8775	8.8%	28.3%	24.7%	31.3%	28.6%	7.1%	8.3%	33.0%
Jefferson Park	3330	33.2%	41.2%	29.8%	39.9%	23.0%	3.9%	3.4%	33.2%
North Capitol Hill	4071	33.8%	53.3%	6.8%	46.6%	27.6%	7.4%	11.6%	18.4%
Sun Valley	1496	2.6%	4.2%	53.6%	24.0%	14.3%	4.3%	3.7%	57.4%
Valverde	3980	29.9%	20.4%	34.1%	29.2%	23.2%	5.7%	7.8%	41.9%
West Colfax	10825	21.5%	32.2%	31.6%	30.7%	23.1%	5.3%	9.3%	40.8%
Whittier	5462	26.1%	27.2%	30.3%	29.6%	26.8%	5.2%	8.1%	38.4%
At-Risk Neighborhoods:									
Baker	5810	10.7%	35.9%	23.5%	36.4%	28.7%	5.2%	6.2%	29.7%
Capitol Hill	14987	16.5%	51.2%	4.5%	54.1%	29.3%	6.5%	5.6%	10.1%
Central Business	2005	46.5%	51.3%	2.7%	41.8%	33.5%	10.8%	11.2%	13.9%
Globeville	3454	0.0%	24.3%	32.5%	30.3%	24.5%	5.4%	7.3%	39.8%
Highland	10353	16.8%	38.3%	24.9%	34.4%	24.3%	5.0%	11.4%	36.4%
Northeast Park Hill	7824	26.5%	22.0%	32.5%	23.9%	24.7%	8.3%	10.7%	43.2%
Skyland	3375	15.7%	15.4%	26.0%	22.0%	25.5%	8.1%	18.4%	44.4%
Sunnyside	11555	11.9%	21.4%	29.3%	28.7%	25.7%	6.9%	9.4%	38.7%
Villa Park	9997	41.5%	33.6%	34.1%	30.9%	22.9%	5.6%	6.5%	40.6%
Westwood	14999	35.0%	24.0%	34.7%	31.0%	22.2%	5.9%	6.2%	41.0%
Non-Poor Neighborhoods:									
Athmar Park	8664	26.4%	23.7%	29.3%	28.5%	25.5%	6.3%	10.4%	39.7%
Barnum	6060	35.0%	20.0%	32.8%	30.1%	24.7%	5.3%	7.1%	39.9%
Barnum West	5558	23.2%	19.9%	30.2%	25.9%	25.3%	7.4%	11.2%	41.4%
Bear Valley	7628	6.0%	30.4%	20.3%	25.3%	29.4%	9.3%	15.7%	36.1%
Belcaro	3675	9.4%	21.1%	14.9%	11.8%	35.5%	12.4%	25.5%	40.3%
Berkeley	8891	4.3%	26.1%	20.1%	27.3%	31.6%	6.7%	14.3%	34.3%
Chaffee Park	4374	31.9%	27.4%	26.8%	26.0%	25.7%	7.7%	13.8%	40.6%
Cheesman Park	8284	11.0%	43.6%	7.3%	40.8%	31.5%	8.8%	11.7%	19.0%
Cherry Creek	5028	11.9%	42.6%	6.3%	30.7%	32.0%	12.8%	18.1%	24.4%
City Park	2123	4.6%	35.0%	10.5%	37.2%	33.3%	5.5%	13.5%	24.0%
College View	5854	35.4%	34.8%	30.8%	31.3%	26.3%	5.9%	5.7%	36.5%
Congress Park	10324	7.1%	40.6%	13.6%	37.8%	35.0%	6.8%	6.8%	20.5%
Cory-Merrill	3486	-2.7%	28.8%	12.7%	29.6%	34.6%	7.1%	16.0%	28.7%
Country Club	2971	-1.4%	25.4%	21.5%	18.6%	37.2%	13.6%	9.1%	30.6%

Population									
Neighborhood	Population 2000	% Change Population 1990-2000	% Persons Age 5+ Living in Denver in 2000 Who Lived in a City Other than Denver in 1995	% Persons < 18 2000	% Persons 18 to 34 2000	% Persons 35 to 54 2000	% Persons 55 to 64 2000	% Persons > 64 2000	% Dependents (<18 and >64) 2000
East Colfax	10136	41.3%	39.3%	28.0%	33.2%	28.2%	5.2%	5.4%	33.4%
Fort Logan	8769	17.2%	26.0%	22.5%	20.5%	30.2%	10.1%	16.8%	39.3%
Goldsmith	5815	25.5%	35.6%	14.5%	33.0%	25.4%	8.0%	19.1%	33.6%
Green Valley Ranch	8822	220.8%	39.8%	31.2%	31.2%	31.8%	4.2%	1.6%	32.8%
Hale	7474	7.2%	41.9%	13.4%	38.0%	32.6%	6.5%	9.5%	22.9%
Hampden	18748	17.2%	38.2%	16.4%	28.9%	29.5%	9.8%	15.4%	31.8%
Hampden South	13578	8.9%	34.0%	16.3%	27.0%	29.5%	11.5%	15.7%	32.0%
Harvey Park	11221	9.9%	22.9%	26.2%	24.8%	28.6%	6.4%	14.0%	40.2%
Harvey Park South	8361	14.6%	24.4%	22.9%	25.9%	27.0%	7.1%	17.1%	40.0%
Hilltop	7845	3.9%	20.6%	22.3%	12.5%	33.4%	10.2%	21.6%	43.9%
Indian Creek	3341	14.9%	38.1%	10.4%	33.2%	39.3%	11.2%	6.0%	16.4%
Kennedy	3393	28.0%	82.2%	12.8%	58.2%	23.8%	3.0%	2.2%	15.0%
Lowry Field	2886	-27.5%	55.4%	31.7%	30.6%	28.2%	4.2%	5.3%	37.0%
Marlee	12232	17.9%	25.3%	28.1%	27.0%	26.8%	6.8%	11.3%	39.4%
Marston	9817	63.6%	49.1%	21.4%	33.7%	31.6%	6.3%	7.0%	28.4%
Montbello	27914	58.8%	32.1%	35.5%	28.2%	26.0%	6.2%	4.0%	39.5%
Montclair	5373	2.7%	26.9%	16.1%	27.6%	36.2%	8.2%	11.9%	28.0%
North Park Hill	10057	1 1%	16.4%	26.2%	20.9%	29.8%	9.6%	13.5%	39.7%
Overland	2081	6.3%	26.7%	21.4%	30.8%	32.6%	7.4%	7.8%	29.2%
Platte Park	5310	1 4%	30.7%	16.3%	32.2%	38.3%	5.4%	7.8%	24.1%
Regis	4088	2.5%	32.3%	18.1%	33.6%	28.1%	7.2%	13.0%	31.1%
Rosedale	2689	9.8%	36.2%	13.3%	32.3%	28.5%	5.9%	20.0%	33.3%
Buby Hill	9761	17.8%	22.3%	28.5%	26.5%	24.2%	7.6%	13.2%	41.6%
Sloan's Lake	8081	8.5%	25.8%	20.070	28.4%	29.0%	7.0%	1/ 1%	35.6%
South Park Hill	85/1	-1 7%	23.070	27.270	20.470	20.5%	8.9%	8.9%	31.5%
Southmoor Park	2881	66.6%	/3.2%	10.9%	32.1%	26.3%	9.0%	21.7%	32.7%
Spoor	11/60	0.070	45.270	7 406	17 106	20.07%	6.3%	21.770 Q 10/	15 5%
Staplaton	2575	00.0%	54.4%	0.4%	5/ 2%	13 0%	0.570	0.1%	0.8%
Union Station	2015	56 10/	20 10/	0.470	00.00/	25 1 0/	16 20/	0.470	0.070
University	2220	6 10/	52.6%	2.270	52 Q0/	04.004	10.370	24.270 010/	20.370
	5554	1 504	04.004	9.0%	24.004	24.270	4.270	17 70/	25 204
	0070	-1.070	24.270	11.0%	24.970	00.70/	7.0%	10.00/	01 70/
Virginia Village	0870	11.5%	33.5%	14.9%	32.3%	29.7%	0.3%	10.8%	31.7%
Virginia village	13575	11.5%	30.7%	17.0%	31.0%	29.5%	7.3%	14.0%	32.2%
Washington Park	6650	-0.8%	28.8%	13.9%	26.8%	38.2%	8.4%	12.6%	26.5%
Washington Park West	6319	-1.3%	37.4%	12.2%	39.2%	34.6%	6.3%	1.8%	20.0%
vvasnington virginia Vale	13128	18.1%	39.4%	16.5%	34.8%	27.0%	1.1%	14.0%	30.6%
Wellshire	3044	2.0%	16.3%	20.1%	13.0%	31.6%	9.3%	25.9%	46.1%
West Highland	8531	-0.7%	28.0%	17.4%	29.5%	32.8%	7.4%	12.9%	30.3%
Windsor	12572	51.8%	49.0%	12.6%	29.4%	21.1%	8.1%	28.7%	41.4%

Denver Airport is not included due to a small population in 2000 of 4 persons.

Many people move into cities because they want to live in diverse communities. But a diverse population also requires funding and delivering public services consistent with diverse needs. In particular, the growing representation of Latinos. whose families tend to be younger and to have more children. suggests communities

communities need to take a closer look at schools, public health, and other programs for this population.

# **RACE & ETHNICITY Race and Ethnicity**

The racial and ethnic makeup of the United States is changing rapidly. Census 2000 showed that nationwide the Latino population has grown to almost the same size as the African-American population, about 12%.

Cities in particular are becoming more diverse. In Denver, the population in 2000 was just slightly over half white (52%), and nearly one-third (32%) Latino.

Most of the growth in Denver's population over the past decade was due to a large increase in Latinos; less so for the surrounding metro counties. Almost 79% (or almost 70,000) of Denver's 87,000 new residents between 1990 and 2000 were Latino.

In the suburbs, the Latino population more than doubled between 1990 and 2000, but Latinos accounted for only 29% of the overall population growth. Non-Latino whites accounted for 54% of the suburban population growth compared with just 1% of Denver's growth. *(Find additional data at Piton's web site related to the racial makeup of metro Denver counties in 2000.)* 



Of Denver's 76 neighborhoods, 21 have populations that are now more than 50% Latino. While six Denver neighborhoods had a majority of African Americans in 1990, by 2000 there were only three majority black neighborhoods. What's more, more than half (40) of Denver's neighborhoods experienced an increase of more than 50% in their Latino population over the decade.

# Denver was the most diverse of all the metro counties, with whites making up only about one-half of the population in 2000.

Share of population by race/ethnicity, 2000: Denver and suburbs



Note: All races, except Latinos, are exclusive of Latinos.

Source: U.S. Decennial Census - 1990 STF1 Table P10; 2000 STF1 Table P4

### The largest proportion of Denver's growth was attributable to increases in the Latino population.

Population change by race/ethnicity: 1990-2000: Denver and suburbs



Note: All races, except Latinos, are exclusive of Latinos.

Source: U.S. Decennial Census - 1990 STF1 Table P10; 2000 STF1 Table P4

### In 21 of Denver's 76 neighborhoods, Latinos were the majority in 2000.

Change in racial/ethnic majority, 1980 – 2000: Denver neighborhoods

	1980	1990	2000	
Neighborhoods with greater than 50% Latino	10	15	21	
Neighborhoods with greater than 50% Black	5	6	3	
Neighborhoods with greater than 50% White	52	49	44	
Neighborhoods with no Racial/Ethnic Group >50%	9	6	8	

Source: Neighborhood Change Database (NCDB), Geolytics, Inc. 1970-2000



### Latinos were concentrated in neighborhoods west and north of downtown.

Source: U.S. Decennial Census - 1990 STF1 Table P10; 2000 STF1 Table P4

Race									
Neighborhood	% Latinos 2000	% Non-Latino Whites 2000	% Non-Latino African Americans 2000	% Non-Latino Native Americans 2000	% Non-Latino Asians / Pacific Islanders 2000	% Non-Latino Other Races 2000	% Change in Latinos 1990 to 2000	% Change in Non-Latino African Americans 1990 to 2000	% Change in Non-Latino Whites 1990 to 2000
Denver	31.7%	51.9%	10.8%	0.7%	2.8%	2.1%	63.6%	3.7%	0.3%
Poor Neighborhoods:									
Auraria-Lincoln Park	52.5%	32.4%	7.2%	1.5%	4.0%	2.4%	-10.0%	-12.1%	15.9%
City Park West	14.1%	50.9%	29.0%	1.4%	1.4%	3.3%	26.1%	-23.0%	32.7%
Civic Center	14.1%	74.6%	5.8%	0.8%	2.4%	2.3%	-17.1%	63.6%	301.7%
Clayton	50.2%	6.0%	38.9%	0.6%	2.1%	2.2%	255.3%	-23.3%	2.3%
Cole	71.0%	6.0%	21.3%	0.6%	0.3%	0.9%	97.8%	-11.9%	34.3%
Elyria Swansea	83.0%	9.9%	5.3%	0.7%	0.3%	0.8%	51.3%	28.1%	-34.9%
Five Points	42.9%	27.4%	25.4%	1.3%	0.6%	2.3%	13.8%	-24.5%	52.0%
Jefferson Park	82.6%	14.1%	0.9%	1.3%	0.4%	0.7%	44.6%	-8.8%	-1.5%
North Capitol Hill	22.3%	60.9%	9.7%	1.1%	3.2%	2.9%	34.2%	5.9%	29.2%
Sun Valley	52.6%	10.1%	17.2%	1.9%	13.5%	4.7%	-16.5%	70.9%	-22.6%
Valverde	74.6%	18.2%	2.5%	1.4%	2.1%	1.2%	56.6%	22.5%	-23.2%
West Colfax	67.9%	23.5%	3.0%	1.1%	2.5%	1.9%	47.8%	35.0%	-17.0%
Whittier	32.6%	19.5%	44.1%	0.4%	0.5%	2.9%	240.6%	-25.5%	110.5%
At-Risk Neighborhoods:									
Baker	53.6%	39.7%	2.9%	1.2%	0.7%	1.8%	6.9%	37.4%	15.2%
Capitol Hill	13.1%	75.1%	5.1%	0.9%	2.9%	2.8%	23.8%	-26.7%	14.8%
Central Business	12.0%	73.6%	7.7%	0.8%	3.2%	2.7%	97.5%	43.5%	34.6%
Globeville	77.5%	17.0%	2.5%	1.0%	0.8%	1.2%	14.3%	-75.8%	-11.3%
Highland	66.8%	29.4%	1.4%	0.8%	0.6%	1.1%	13.7%	50.5%	25.1%
Northeast Park Hill	23.8%	4.7%	68.5%	0.4%	0.4%	2.2%	692.8%	-5.5%	76.8%
Skyland	21.7%	9.8%	64.2%	0.4%	0.7%	3.2%	255.3%	-14.6%	143.4%
Sunnyside	72.3%	23.1%	1.8%	1.0%	0.6%	1.2%	17.7%	52.5%	-6.2%
Villa Park	79.9%	15.7%	1.4%	0.9%	1.1%	0.9%	75.5%	113.4%	-30.3%
Westwood	76.0%	16.9%	1.2%	1.4%	3.4%	1.1%	77.9%	-9.8%	-34.8%
Non-Poor Neighborhoods	:								
Athmar Park	65.2%	29.5%	0.8%	0.4%	3.2%	0.8%	89.5%	14.1%	-27.7%
Barnum	75.8%	20.7%	0.6%	0.8%	0.6%	1.4%	84.7%	-31.5%	-33.0%
Barnum West	67.9%	28.5%	0.7%	1.0%	1.0%	0.9%	66.1%	48.1%	-24.3%
Bear Vallev	21.5%	70.6%	1.2%	0.5%	4.7%	1.5%	69.6%	55.0%	-9.3%
Belcaro	2.5%	94.4%	0.6%	**	1.2%	1.2%	16.3%	-16.0%	8.4%
Berkelev	36.1%	59.5%	1.0%	0.8%	0.7%	1.8%	29.8%	73.1%	-9.8%
Chaffee Park	64.1%	31.4%	0.9%	0.9%	0.9%	1.7%	75.5%	263.6%	-16.4%
Cheesman Park	9.2%	79.4%	6.1%	1.1%	2.1%	2.1%	30.7%	-15.5%	8.1%
Cherry Creek	4.0%	90.5%	1.1%	0.4%	2.4%	1.7%	-5.7%	-40.2%	10.8%
City Park	10.0%	73.2%	10.9%	0.6%	2.6%	2.7%	-10.1%	-35.0%	11.4%
College View	60.0%	29.1%	2.2%	1.0%	5.8%	1.8%	83.3%	26.2%	-13.5%
Congress Park	9.2%	79.1%	6.7%	0.8%	2.1%	2.1%	25.8%	-31.8%	8.1%
Corv-Merrill	5.9%	88.6%	0.7%	0.2%	2.2%	2.4%	30.8%	0.0%	-7.2%
Country Club	2.5%	94.1%	0.4%	0.1%	1.8%	1.0%	29.8%	-40.0%	-3.6%

Race										ĺ
Neighborhood	% Latinos 2000	% Non-Latino Whites 2000	% Non-Latino African Americans 2000	% Non-Latino Native Americans 2000	% Non-Latino Asians / Pacific Islanders 2000	% Non-Latino Other Races 2000	% Change in Latinos 1990 to 2000	% Change in Non-Latino African Americans 1990 to 2000	% Change in Non-Latino Whites 1990 to 2000	
East Colfax	31.9%	30.6%	31.6%	0.9%	1.5%	3.5%	341.9%	35.5%	-18.8%	Î
Fort Logan	20.2%	72.3%	2.0%	0.6%	3.8%	1.2%	88.4%	35.2%	1.8%	
Goldsmith	22.1%	61.8%	7.9%	0.7%	5.3%	2.3%	415.3%	65.8%	-9.2%	
Green Valley Ranch	16.5%	44.6%	30.1%	0.7%	4.4%	3.7%	420.8%	353.8%	122.9%	
Hale	10.0%	73.7%	7.2%	0.5%	6.2%	2.4%	46.3%	-22.5%	0.6%	
Hampden	10.0%	73.0%	9.8%	0.4%	4.1%	2.7%	135.4%	75.0%	-0.1%	
Hampden South	7.0%	80.2%	7.4%	0.2%	3.0%	2.3%	79.0%	17.4%	0.8%	
Harvey Park	42.8%	49.8%	0.9%	0.8%	4.3%	1.4%	84.0%	3.1%	-20.8%	
Harvey Park South	31.7%	58.8%	1.4%	0.8%	5.8%	1.6%	106.4%	10.8%	-13.1%	
Hilltop	3.5%	88.8%	3.6%	0.1%	2.2%	1.7%	62.7%	37.0%	-1.5%	
Indian Creek	6.4%	82.1%	5.8%	0.3%	3.0%	2.4%	52.1%	35.9%	7.9%	
Kennedy	11.8%	63.4%	9.9%	0.7%	10.3%	3.9%	90.9%	49.8%	2.3%	
Lowry Field	15.4%	55.8%	19.9%	1.4%	1.8%	5.6%	32.1%	5.7%	-44.4%	
Mar Lee	55.3%	36.4%	1.3%	1.3%	4.4%	1.3%	94.6%	-8.8%	-26.8%	
Marston	13.1%	81.0%	1.2%	0.3%	2.9%	1.5%	129.1%	174.4%	49.9%	
Montbello	36.6%	12.6%	44.5%	0.4%	2.8%	3.0%	362.9%	21.8%	-20.9%	
Montclair	7.9%	78.7%	8.3%	0.4%	1.8%	3.0%	28.1%	-21.4%	0.4%	
North Park Hill	10.9%	27.6%	56.0%	0.5%	1.1%	3.8%	103.5%	-19.3%	24.1%	
Overland	29.6%	64.3%	2.1%	1.0%	1.5%	1.6%	18.5%	168.8%	-2.2%	
Platte Park	8.5%	86.9%	1.2%	0.7%	1.0%	1.8%	-0.4%	14.8%	-0.4%	
Regis	30.2%	64.3%	1.2%	0.6%	1.0%	2.0%	36.3%	82.1%	-10.9%	
Rosedale	9.6%	84.6%	1.2%	0.5%	1.5%	2.0%	38.0%	-2.6%	5.1%	
Buby Hill	59.5%	31.0%	1.8%	0.4%	61%	1.2%	65.2%	0.0%	-28.4%	
Sloan's Lake	43.3%	48.8%	1.6%	1.2%	3.5%	1.6%	14.6%	24.0%	3.2%	
South Park Hill	8.1%	74.6%	12.8%	0.3%	2.1%	2 1%	42.1%	-24.6%	-2.6%	
Southmoor Park	4.8%	88.1%	2.3%	0.0%	2.170	2.1%	253.8%	124.070	54.9%	
Speer	13.6%	78.9%	2.0%	0.2%	1.8%	2.470	-8.5%	-23.2%	11 7%	
Stapleton	33.6%	30.8%	33.1%	1.6%	0.8%	**	113.3%	76.4%	117.0%	
Union Station	9.2%	75.1%	3.3%	0.4%	9.3%	2.6%	88.9%	32.1%	49.2%	
University	6.4%	83.7%	2.4%	0.6%	4 5%	2.0%	28.6%	19.9%	1.4%	
University Hills	7.2%	86.1%	2.3%	0.5%	2.0%	1.9%	73.9%	80.3%	-8.1%	
University Park	6.0%	85.5%	1.8%	0.3%	4 1%	2.2%	48.6%	15.9%	4 9%	
Virginia Village	17 1%	69.4%	5.9%	0.6%	4.170	3.0%	175.9%	30.7%	-8.9%	
Washington Park	3.4%	92.9%	0.5%	0.0%	1.5%	1 / %	18.4%	-12 3%	-2.9%	
Washington Park West	8.5%	87.0%	1 1%	0.7%	1.0%	1.4%	-12.5%	0.0%	-1.8%	
Washington Virginia Volo	10.5%	69.3%	10.7%	0.770	6 10/2	3,0%	88 70%	10.0%	/ 10/	
Wallshire	10.5%	92.3%	0.9%	0.4%	1.5%	1 1%	1// 0%	-6.9%	-2.0%	
West Highland	30.0%	64.5%	1 1 0%	0.170	1.0%	1.170	_11.30%	-5.1%	2.070	
Windsor	18.6%	63.3%	10.7%	0.5%	1.470	2.5%	565.2%	30.3%	10.2%	
WINGSUI	10.070	00.070	10.770	0.070	4.070	2.070	000.270	00.070	13.270	

\*\* Represents fewer than three events.

Denver Airport is not included due to a small population in 2000 of 4 persons.

Understanding the scope and characteristics of the growing immigrant population is central to understanding the cultural, social and political differences in a community.

# **MALE RATION**

The United States is experiencing a period of unparalleled immigration. During the 1990s, the country's foreign-born population increased by 57%, or by 11 million people. According to Census 2000, there were 31 million immigrants in the country, accounting for 11% of the U.S. population.

As the previous section on race and ethnicity showed, Denver's population growth during the 1990s was due to a large increase in Latinos. Census 2000 data on immigration shows that the increase in Latinos was in fact a growth in immigrants, particularly from Central American countries.

The Brookings Institution has identified Denver as one of eight "re-emerging gateway cities" in the country, those that began the 20th century attracting large numbers of immigrants, waned as destinations during the middle of the century, but are now re-emerging as important immigrant gateways. By 2000, more than one in six Denver residents was an immigrant. *(Find additional data on Piton's web site related to the foreign-born population in metro counties, 1990 and 2000.)* 



Between 1990 and 2000, the city experienced an increase of almost 200% in its foreign-born population, from 35,000 to 97,000. Mexicans are Denver's largest immigrant group, making up two-thirds of the foreign-born.

According to the census, almost 40,000 Denver residents 18 years of age and older (9%) did not speak English well or at all. Of those, 87% spoke Spanish.

Within Denver, immigrants concentrated in about one-third of Denver's neighborhoods, which tended to be the poor and at-risk neighborhoods.

### More than one in six Denver residents was an immigrant in 2000.

Percent foreign-born population, 2000: Denver and suburbs



# Immigrants accounted for the majority of Denver's population growth during the 1990s, but a much smaller proportion of the population growth in the suburbs.

Percent population growth attributable to foreign-born, 1990-2000: Denver and suburbs



Source: U.S. Decennial Census - 1990 STF1 Table P1 and STF3 Table P36; 2000 STF1 Table P1 and STF3 Table P22

### Two-thirds of Denver's immigrants were born in Mexico.

Share of foreign-born by region of birth, 2000: Denver



Source: U.S. Decennial Census -2000 STF3 Table PCT19



Immigration						
Neighborhood	Foreign Born 2000	Foreign Born as % of Total Population 2000	% Change Foreign Born 1990 to 2000	% of Foreign Born Who Arrived Between 1995 to 2000	% of Persons 18+ Not Speaking English Well or At All 2000	% Change in the # of Persons 18+ Not Speaking English Well or At All 1990 to 2000
Denver	96601	17.4%	178.3%	42.5%	9.2%	258.2%
Poor Neighborhoods:						
Auraria-Lincoln Park	1381	21.1%	105.2%	37.9%	9.7%	50.2%
City Park West	355	8.3%	99.4%	31.0%	3.6%	369.0%
Civic Center	43	6.9%	59.3%	32.6%	1.7%	28.6%
Clayton	1579	30.5%	1124.0%	41.7%	23.7%	897.5%
Cole	2343	41.4%	252.3%	43.5%	35.4%	253.9%
Elyria Swansea	2633	39.3%	153.7%	34.6%	29.4%	99.4%
Five Points	1838	20.9%	184.5%	37.4%	13.9%	146.3%
Jefferson Park	1670	50.2%	126.9%	54.3%	36.3%	94.9%
North Capitol Hill	737	18.1%	96.0%	71.5%	9.9%	108.4%
Sun Valley	173	11.6%	-15.2%	23.7%	13.3%	-18.7%
Valverde	1270	31.9%	288.4%	38.5%	26.0%	488.1%
West Colfax	3572	33.0%	119.1%	47.4%	22.0%	120.9%
Whittier	1258	23.0%	948.3%	66.0%	18.9%	1900.0%
At-Risk Neighborhoods:						
Baker	1931	33.2%	121.7%	47.4%	21.5%	118.1%
Capitol Hill	1341	8.9%	42.2%	52.3%	2.8%	188.6%
Central Business	158	7.9%	163.3%	30.4%	0.8%	**
Globeville	1296	37.5%	96.4%	33.5%	26.1%	265.1%
Highland	3413	33.0%	70.1%	55.6%	25.2%	156.9%
Northeast Park Hill	1111	14.2%	705.1%	42.4%	11.4%	2137.0%
Skyland	441	13.1%	2105.0%	54.6%	10.1%	4940.0%
Sunnyside	2577	22.3%	126.3%	39.9%	15.9%	214.3%
Villa Park	3551	35.5%	531.9%	41.9%	24.7%	564.4%
Westwood	5237	34.9%	423.2%	41.1%	25.1%	504.4%
Non-Poor Neighborhoods:						
Athmar Park	2364	27.3%	356.4%	36.5%	20.7%	451.5%
Barnum	1825	30.1%	377.7%	31.0%	20.6%	517.6%
Barnum West	1453	26.1%	497.9%	33.4%	17.2%	990.2%
Bear Valley	417	5.5%	64.2%	19.2%	2.2%	269.4%
Belcaro	178	4.8%	61.8%	20.8%	0.4%	-45.5%
Berkeley	759	8.5%	60.1%	34.3%	3.9%	69.9%
Chaffee Park	1143	26.1%	331.3%	33.2%	18.6%	383.7%
Cheesman Park	510	6.2%	43.7%	45.3%	0.4%	-23.3%
Cherry Creek	811	16.1%	61.9%	28.0%	6.3%	204.1%
City Park	183	8.6%	60.5%	35.0%	**	**
College View	1996	34.1%	317.6%	52.1%	25.0%	423.2%
Congress Park	1000	9.7%	68.6%	37.9%	2.4%	253.2%
Cory-Merrill	162	4.6%	-28.6%	17.9%	0.4%	-72.5%
Country Club	111	3.7%	-21.3%	40.5%	0.1%	-62.5%

Immigration						
Neighborhood	Foreign Born 2000	Foreign Born as % of Total Population 2000	% Change Foreign Born 1990 to 2000	% of Foreign Born Who Arrived Between 1995 to 2000	% of Persons 18+ Not Speaking English Well or At All 2000	% Change in the # of Persons 18+ Not Speaking English Well or At All 1990 to 2000
Fast Colfax	2788	27.5%	453.2%	51.4%	14.0%	591.9%
Fort Logan	610	7.0%	127.6%	18.2%	2.1%	144.8%
Goldsmith	1334	22.9%	341.7%	64.1%	9.0%	2394.4%
Green Valley Ranch	923	10.5%	650.4%	36.2%	2.4%	2350.0%
Hale	1076	14.4%	47.4%	46.9%	3.6%	125.7%
Hampden	2410	12.9%	136.3%	37.0%	3.8%	568.5%
Hampden South	1383	10.2%	119.2%	42.5%	2.3%	217.3%
Harvey Park	1831	16.3%	211.9%	36.0%	10.3%	552.7%
Harvey Park South	974	11.6%	479.8%	44.7%	4.6%	579.5%
Hilltop	820	10.5%	66.0%	27.8%	1.4%	28.1%
Indian Creek	261	7.8%	76.4%	39.1%	0.1%	-66.7%
Kennedy	478	14.1%	87.5%	51.9%	2.0%	34.9%
Lowry Field	237	8.2%	22.8%	33.3%	4.9%	533.3%
Mar Lee	3218	26.3%	363.0%	48.4%	16.9%	350.8%
Marston	517	5.3%	231.4%	15.5%	1.1%	141.7%
Montbello	6410	23.0%	786.6%	38.5%	14.8%	1043.3%
Montclair	240	4.5%	7.6%	45.8%	0.6%	-26.3%
North Park Hill	810	8.1%	368.2%	29.5%	4.0%	560.0%
Overland	162	7.8%	62.0%	29.6%	2.5%	-6.5%
Platte Park	347	6.5%	81.7%	33.1%	1.7%	137.5%
Regis	361	8.8%	95.1%	29.6%	4.4%	170.9%
Rosedale	130	4.8%	106.3%	9.2%	1.4%	450.0%
Ruby Hill	2667	27.3%	186.5%	38.8%	20.5%	370.5%
Sloan's Lake	1054	13.0%	25.8%	39.3%	7.2%	69.7%
South Park Hill	681	8.0%	160.9%	41.3%	3.5%	389.6%
Southmoor Park	202	7.0%	573.3%	33.2%	0.5%	133.3%
Speer	1246	10.9%	45.9%	33.5%	3.5%	28.3%
Stapleton	**	**	**	**	**	**
Union Station	322	14.5%	130.0%	34.8%	3.3%	-12.0%
University	655	7.5%	10.1%	50.8%	1.1%	-4.4%
University Hills	215	3.9%	0.9%	17.2%	1.0%	11.6%
University Park	548	8.0%	73.4%	43.2%	1.1%	73.0%
Virginia Village	2570	18.9%	161.4%	64.7%	9.9%	397.7%
Washington Park	235	3.5%	27.0%	24.3%	0.6%	500.0%
Washington Park West	352	5.6%	-15.0%	29.5%	0.6%	-64.4%
Washington Virginia Vale	2601	19.8%	133.9%	45.3%	7.3%	167.3%
Wellshire	136	4.5%	3.0%	23.5%	0.5%	33.3%
West Highland	518	6.1%	13.1%	36.1%	3.0%	21.7%
Windsor	2455	19.5%	512.2%	50.9%	8.5%	1818.4%

\*\* Represents fewer than three events.

Denver Airport is not included due to a small population in 2000 of 4 persons.

Data on the types of households in a community provide important information about the kinds of housing and other public services the community needs to provide. Whether households are made up of single adults, or include children, also can be a predictor of the kinds of decisions around issues. such as schools. that voters are likely to make.

# Households and Families

The census defines households in terms of family and non-family households. A non-family household could be a single person living alone or two or more unrelated persons living together. A family can be with or without children. For example, a married couple without children is considered a family.

National household data from Census 2000 confirms that the "traditional" family – married parents with children under 18 – comprised less than one-quarter (23.5%) of all households in the United States. In fact, people living alone represented a larger share (26%) of households than traditional families. Demographers say these numbers reflect the aging of "Baby Boomers" into "Empty Nesters" and an increase in the typical age of first marriages.

Corresponding with the population increase in Denver over the decade was an increase in the number of households. According to Census 2000 data, Denver had the most (50%) non-family households of all metro area counties **and** the smallest percentage (23%) of families with children. *(Find additional data on household structure in the metro counties on Piton's web site.)* But those percentages vary widely by neighborhood. Poor and at-risk



neighborhoods had the highest percentage of families with children.

Census 2000 findings on families also reveal that a growing number of children are living with someone other than a parent. The data indicated that an increasing number of children are living with grandparents or other relatives, with Denver having the highest percentage (15%) of children living in households with no parent present. (*Find additional data on children living without parents in the metro counties,* 1990 and 2000, on Piton's web site. Also find age breakdown of children living without parents in Denver and the metro counties.)

# Roughly half of Denver households are people living alone or with non-relatives; relatively few households are families with children.

Share of households by type, 2000: Denver and suburbs



Source: U.S. Decennial Census -2000 STF1 Table P18

### Denver's increase in households was primarily in non-family households.

Change in households by household type, 1990-2000: Denver and suburbs



Source: U.S. Decennial Census - 1990 STF1 Table P16; 2000 STF1 Table P18

# In Denver, the majority of white households were non-family households, whereas the majority of Latino households were families with children.

Family structure by race and ethnicity, 2000: Denver



Source: U.S. Decennial Census - 1990 STF1 Table P19 and P20; 2000 STF1 Table P26 and P35

# In Denver, a growing number of children in 2000 were living in households with someone other than their parents.

Percent of children living with no parent present, 1990-2000: Denver and suburbs



Source: U.S. Decennial Census - 1990 STF1 Table P21; 2000 STF1 Table P28



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Households and Families										
Neighborhood	Total Households 2000	% Non-Family Households 2000	% Families without Children <18 2000	% Families with Children <18 2000	% Children <18 with No Parent Present 2000	% Point Change Children <18 with No Parent Present 1990 to 2000	% Single Fathers with Children 2000	% Single Mothers with Children 2000	% Married Couples with Children 2000	
Denver	239235	50.1%	26.6%	23.2%	15.1%	3.3%	1.9%	6.4%	15.0%	
Poor Neighborhoods:										
Auraria-Lincoln Park	2714	55.2%	18.5%	26.2%	15.5%	4.6%	2.8%	13.7%	9.7%	
City Park West	2249	72.1%	15.7%	12.2%	19.7%	4.0%	1.0%	6.3%	4.9%	
Civic Center	400	78.3%	17.3%	4.5%	33.3%	18.0%	1.3%	1.5%	1.8%	
Clayton	1522	28.3%	31.1%	40.6%	21.2%	-1.9%	3.9%	13.6%	23.1%	
Cole	1632	27.5%	31.4%	41.1%	20.5%	-2.7%	3.3%	12.3%	25.6%	
Elyria Swansea	1741	20.2%	30.0%	49.7%	19.9%	6.5%	3.3%	12.3%	34.1%	
Five Points	3261	53.4%	20.8%	25.7%	19.9%	0.1%	2.1%	12.4%	11.2%	
Jefferson Park	1065	36.6%	23.5%	39.9%	16.8%	4.1%	5.7%	9.3%	24.9%	
North Capitol Hill	2385	83.7%	10.7%	5.6%	21.7%	7.3%	0.8%	2.3%	2.6%	
Sun Valley	449	14.0%	16.3%	69.7%	10.9%	2.7%	5.3%	53.7%	10.7%	
Valverde	1225	26.7%	30.3%	43.0%	19.3%	5.2%	3.8%	13.6%	25.6%	
West Colfax	3581	39.0%	23.8%	37.2%	18.1%	1.3%	3.6%	12.9%	20.7%	
Whittier	1927	39.3%	28.6%	32.1%	22.0%	-6.5%	2.3%	14.6%	15.2%	
At-Risk Neighborhoods:							,.			
Baker	2421	59.0%	21.5%	19.5%	22.4%	8.0%	1.2%	5.3%	12.9%	
Capitol Hill	10629	87.5%	8.9%	3.5%	21.3%	4.6%	0.5%	1.5%	1.6%	
Central Business	1421	84.0%	13.4%	2.6%	22.2%	5.6%	0.6%	1.1%	0.9%	
Globeville	911	23.3%	33.3%	43.5%	26.9%	13.5%	4.8%	9.8%	28.9%	
Highland	3595	43.2%	27.0%	29.8%	20.1%	5.0%	2.3%	8.2%	19.3%	
Northeast Park Hill	2633	31.1%	33.0%	35.9%	24.3%	1.2%	2.8%	17.6%	15.5%	
Skyland	1411	45.9%	30.8%	23.3%	27.0%	3.1%	2.3%	9.6%	11.3%	
Suppyside	3867	32.2%	33.1%	34.7%	19.9%	5.2%	3.1%	11.8%	19.7%	
Villa Park	2902	27.2%	27.7%	45.1%	19.6%	6.7%	1.2%	11.3%	29.6%	
Westwood	1251	27.270	20.5%	43.170	17 7%	3.0%	4.270	12.5%	20.070	
Non-Poor Neighborhoods	42.04	20.470	29.570	47.170	17.770	5.370	4.070	12.370	50.070	
Athmar Park	2880	20 / 1%	33 7%	36.0%	17.6%	1 0%	2.0%	8 20%	25.8%	
Barnum	1811	26.9%	31 / %	/1 7%	21.6%	5.7%	3.6%	9.6%	28.6%	
Barnum West	1700	20.970	25 10/	25.00/	10.0%	9.20/	2 10/	5.0%	20.070	
Barr Valley	2255	29.070	26 20/	04 404	0.204	1 20/	2.170	0.970	23.670	
Beloaro	1022	39.370 /1 10/	30.370 A1 40/	24.470	9.270	1.370	2.070	4.070	17.570	
Berkeley	2006	41.170	41.470	17.570	17.070	-1.070	0.9%	F 70/	14.50/	
Choffee Derk	3000	47.1%	30.0%	22.2%	17.2%	5.9%	2.0%	5.7% 7.10/	14.5%	
Chargemen Derk	1500	34.9%	31.4%	0.1%	10.4%	5.6%	2.0%	7.1%	24.0%	
Cheesman Park	2498	01.U% 67.90/	12.8%	0.1%	10.7%	2.0%	0.0%	2.9%	2.0%	
City Devic	3198	67.8%	25.3%	7.0%	1.2%	0.3%	0.8%	2.1%	4.1%	
	1153	74.8%	15.1%	10.1%	15.3%	7.8%	1.4%	3.1%	5.6%	
College view	1847	29.6%	30.5%	40.0%	17.4%	6.0%	3.3%	11.4%	25.3%	
Congress Park	5729	67.0%	18.4%	14.5%	6.3%	-3.4%	0.9%	4.2%	9.4%	
Cory-Merrill	1801	55.7%	28.4%	15.9%	5.9%	1.1%	1.1%	3.4%	11.4%	
Country Club	1321	38.7%	34.3%	27.0%	1.6%	-1.1%	0.8%	3.3%	23.0%	

Households and Families										
Neighborhood	Total Households 2000	% Non-Family Households 2000	% Families without Children <18 2000	% Families with Children <18 2000	% Children <18 with No Parent Present 2000	% Point Change Children <18 with No Parent Present 1990 to 2000	% Single Fathers with Children 2000	% Single Mothers with Children 2000	% Married Couples with Children 2000	
East Colfax	4063	44.8%	23.1%	32.1%	13.3%	2.4%	3.1%	11.5%	17.5%	
Fort Logan	3279	29.1%	42.0%	28.9%	16.9%	1.5%	1.9%	5.8%	21.2%	
Goldsmith	2840	59.3%	24.4%	16.3%	9.2%	2.0%	1.8%	4.6%	9.9%	
Green Vallev Ranch	3109	25.5%	29.4%	45.1%	9.0%	6.4%	2.7%	8.1%	34.3%	
Hale	4181	64.2%	21.0%	14.8%	6.2%	0.5%	1.1%	4.2%	9.5%	
Hampden	9862	54.9%	27.8%	17.4%	6.8%	1.0%	1.4%	5.4%	10.6%	
Hampden South	6889	49.6%	32.3%	18.0%	5.7%	0.3%	1.3%	4.4%	12.4%	
Harvey Park	4170	32.4%	35.5%	32.1%	15.3%	3.5%	3.0%	6.7%	22.4%	
Harvey Park South	3312	35.4%	36.0%	28.6%	11.9%	2.7%	2.0%	6.6%	20.0%	
Hilltop	3428	36.8%	35.9%	27.4%	3.7%	0.9%	0.9%	3.4%	23.1%	
Indian Creek	1967	63.2%	24.3%	12.5%	8.6%	2.9%	0.9%	3.7%	7.9%	
Kennedy	2051	70.5%	15.0%	14.5%	6.5%	-0.7%	2.0%	5.8%	6.8%	
Lowry Field	1072	38.8%	23.0%	38.2%	7.3%	5.9%	2.2%	13.4%	22.5%	
Mar Lee	4118	29.7%	34.2%	36.0%	17.3%	5.5%	2.8%	8.0%	25.2%	
Marston	4447	42.6%	30.2%	27.2%	3.8%	0.6%	1.8%	4.4%	21.0%	
Montbello	7972	18.2%	33.7%	48.1%	18.3%	3.9%	3.5%	12.3%	32.3%	
Montclair	2739	54.4%	26.9%	18.7%	5.2%	-0.5%	1.6%	4.2%	12.9%	
North Park Hill	3944	32.8%	38.6%	28.6%	22.1%	2.7%	1.7%	10.6%	16.3%	
Overland	874	46.8%	28.7%	24.5%	17.7%	6.5%	3.4%	5.9%	15.1%	
Platte Park	2702	58.1%	22.7%	19.1%	5.4%	-0.6%	1.0%	4.8%	13.4%	
Regis	1649	47.1%	32.1%	20.9%	17.3%	9.1%	2.0%	5.1%	13.8%	
Rosedale	1295	59.5%	24.4%	16.1%	8.7%	-1.8%	2.2%	4.2%	9.7%	
Ruby Hill	3400	34.9%	31.6%	33.5%	17.3%	8.9%	2.9%	7.3%	23.4%	
Sloan's Lake	3592	48.4%	29.0%	22.6%	14.3%	4.0%	2.1%	7.1%	13.4%	
South Park Hill	3644	38.6%	32.7%	28.7%	8.5%	-1.4%	1.6%	5.8%	21.2%	
Southmoor Park	1538	55.4%	32.6%	12.0%	6.0%	-0.7%	1.0%	2.0%	9.0%	
Speer	7413	78.2%	14.5%	7.2%	9.1%	0.1%	1.0%	2.2%	4.1%	
Stapleton	3	**	**	**	100.0%	14.3%	**	**	**	
Union Station	1588	75.3%	22.4%	2.3%	**	**	0.5%	0.3%	1.5%	
University	3924	64.9%	22.4%	12.8%	9.8%	3.8%	1.0%	3.1%	8.7%	
University Hills	2588	49.0%	30.7%	20.3%	7.0%	0.9%	1.7%	4.6%	14.1%	
University Park	3557	60.5%	22.8%	16.7%	5.5%	0.0%	0.8%	3.1%	12.7%	
Virginia Village	6323	51.3%	28.1%	20.5%	10.2%	4.8%	1.9%	4.9%	13.7%	
Washington Park	3390	53.9%	29.5%	16.6%	4.8%	0.4%	0.9%	2.2%	13.5%	
Washington Park West	3380	61.7%	24.2%	14.1%	7.7%	0.4%	0.8%	2.7%	10.6%	
Washington Virginia Vale	6647	57.4%	24.6%	18.0%	7.8%	1.4%	1.6%	5.4%	11.1%	
Wellshire	1351	35.6%	39.5%	24.9%	3.9%	1.0%	0.9%	3.0%	21.1%	
West Highland	3944	52.7%	29.2%	18.1%	20.8%	5.4%	1.7%	4.6%	11.8%	
Windsor	7193	62.9%	25.4%	11.7%	10.7%	1.1%	1.0%	3.2%	7.5%	

\*\* Represents fewer than three events.

Denver Airport is not included due to a small population in 2000 of 4 persons.
Education strongly influences the economic success of individuals and families, and thus contributes to the overall economic success of a community.

## **Education**

Overall, the educational level of the U.S. population has increased over the last several decades. According to Census 2000, about 84% of all people 25 and older had a high school diploma and 24% had at least a bachelor's degree. Three decades earlier, only 55% of adults had finished high school and only 11% had a college degree.

In Denver, the percentage of adults with a college degree is significantly higher than the national average, 35% versus 24%. The city and the state have long attracted young, highly educated people.

But there remain large disparities in educational attainment by race/ethnicity and by place of residence. In Denver, 48% of white adults age 25 or older have college degrees, but only 18% of black and 8% of Latino adults age 25 or older do.

And compared to suburban residents, a much higher percentage of the city's residents never graduated from high school. *(Find additional data on Piton's web site on educational attainment in the metro counties.)* 



Within Denver, poor and at-risk neighborhoods are home to the smallest proportion of college graduates and the largest proportion of residents with less than a high school education.

Another measure of educational attainment, the percentage of high school dropouts, actually worsened over the 1990s, in both Denver and the suburbs.

## While one in three adults living in both Denver and the suburbs in 2000 had a college degree, twice as many adults in Denver did not have a high school degree.

Share of population age 25 and over by educational attainment, 2000: Denver and suburbs



Source: U.S. Decennial Census - 1990 STF3 Table P57; 2000 STF3 Table P37

### African Americans and Latinos in Denver had low rates of college degree attainment compared to their white and Asian counterparts.

Share of population age 25 and over with no high school degree or at least a bachelor's degree by race/ethnicity, 2000: Denver



Source: U.S. Decennial Census - 1990 STF3 Table P58 and P59; 2000 STF3 Table P148A to I

## Denver experienced a significant increase in the percent of dropouts in the 1990s, particularly among Latino youth.

Share of population 16-19 not enrolled in school and not graduated, 1990-2000: Denver



Source: U.S. Decennial Census - 1990 STF3 Table P62 and P63; 2000 STF3 Table P149A to I

## Two-thirds of adults in poor neighborhoods have only a high school degree or less, compared to non-poor neighborhoods where two-thirds of adults have at least some college education.

Proportion of population age 25 and over by educational level, 2000: Denver neighborhoods



Source: U.S. Decennial Census -2000 STF3 Table P37

Education						
Neighborhood	% of Persons Age 25+ without a High School Education 2000	% of Persons Age 25+ with a High School Degree 2000	% of Persons Age 25+ with Some College or an Associates Degree 2000	% of Persons Age 25+ with a Bachelors Degree or Higher 2000	% 16 - 19 Year Olds Not Enrolled In or Graduated from High School 2000	% Change 16 - 19 Year Olds Not Enrolled In or Graduated from High School 1990 to 2000
Denver	<b>21.1</b> %	20.0%	24.4%	34.5%	23.9%	89.5%
Poor Neighborhoods:						
Auraria-Lincoln Park	38.6%	17.8%	19.4%	24.3%	32.0%	-4.1%
City Park West	19.6%	21.3%	27.0%	32.1%	14.2%	-45.7%
Civic Center	23.6%	7.7%	15.7%	53.0%	**	**
Clayton	45.6%	27.0%	17.0%	10.4%	29.7%	100.0%
Cole	57.8%	17.9%	13.1%	11.2%	32.1%	46.3%
Elyria Swansea	60.4%	23.7%	12.5%	3.4%	34.8%	51.8%
Five Points	39.5%	20.4%	20.3%	19.8%	37.5%	65.1%
Jefferson Park	59.6%	17.9%	10.4%	12.2%	61.4%	-16.8%
North Capitol Hill	24.0%	16.1%	28.4%	31.5%	36.0%	158.3%
Sun Valley	56.6%	27.3%	14.7%	1.5%	15.3%	233.3%
Valverde	58.1%	25.4%	12.1%	4.3%	29.4%	278.9%
West Colfax	45.0%	27.5%	16.3%	11.2%	38.5%	314.9%
Whittier	34.2%	18.7%	23.5%	23.6%	32.6%	114.8%
At-Risk Neighborhoods:						
Baker	36.0%	13.0%	18.9%	32.2%	30.2%	542.9%
Capitol Hill	9.6%	15.3%	31.9%	43.2%	12.0%	-24.3%
Central Business	12.9%	12.9%	27.2%	47.0%	**	**
Globeville	63.4%	20.9%	12.3%	3.5%	36.8%	96.8%
Highland	44.0%	20.6%	13.3%	22.1%	51.2%	193.7%
Northeast Park Hill	33.5%	30.7%	25.7%	10.1%	25.3%	107.6%
Skyland	28.7%	19.6%	31.4%	20.3%	17.1%	300.0%
Sunnvside	43.3%	25.6%	18.2%	13.0%	33.3%	109.5%
Villa Park	52.7%	26.2%	16.1%	4.9%	33.0%	83.9%
Westwood	55.9%	25.5%	14.3%	4.3%	40.0%	95.2%
Non-Poor Neighborhoods	S:					
Athmar Park	43.9%	28.0%	19.7%	8.3%	23.9%	83.3%
Barnum	46.4%	30.2%	16.2%	7.1%	29.2%	83.3%
Barnum West	42.1%	31.7%	19.6%	6.6%	29.7%	82.5%
Bear Valley	9.2%	25.7%	33.9%	31.2%	17.0%	33.3%
Belcaro	2.1%	7.9%	20.3%	69.7%	6.0%	-20.0%
Berkeley	20.1%	26.6%	26.5%	26.8%	20.7%	-14 7%
Chaffee Park	40.9%	30.1%	15.3%	13.7%	20.8%	135.0%
Cheesman Park	5.8%	14.5%	27.8%	51.9%	14.4%	-46.0%
Cherry Creek	5.8%	9.9%	19.5%	64.8%	37.5%	114.3%
City Park	9.4%	21.6%	25.2%	43.8%	31.8%	100.0%
College View	46.4%	27.070	19.8%	6 7%	41 4%	287.5%
Congress Park	8.2%	11.2%	23.1%	57 5%	26.5%	17 1%
Conv-Merrill	1.6%	11.270	23.170	62.5%	8.0%	47.170
Country Club	1.0%	3.6%	15 7%	79.6%	0.070	+0.070
Country Club	1.270	3.070	13.770	19.070		

Education						
Neighborhood	% of Persons Age 25+ without a High School Education 2000	% of Persons Age 25+ with a High School Degree 2000	% of Persons Age 25+ with Some College or an Associates Degree 2000	% of Persons Age 25+ with a Bachelors Degree or Higher 2000	% 16 - 19 Year Olds Not Enrolled In or Graduated from High School 2000	% Change 16 - 19 Year Olds Not Enrolled In or Graduated from High School 1990 to 2000
East Colfax	27.6%	25.0%	29.4%	18.0%	33.9%	417.5%
Fort Logan	9.7%	28.0%	29.4%	32.9%	20.2%	184.4%
Goldsmith	15.2%	19.3%	28.6%	36.9%	28.7%	**
Green Valley Ranch	7.9%	25.0%	39.0%	28.1%	14.1%	**
Hale	6.9%	13.2%	24.0%	55.9%	4.0%	166.7%
Hampden	7.2%	16.9%	30.9%	45.1%	14.3%	130.0%
Hampden South	5.0%	15.4%	29.4%	50.2%	9.5%	100.0%
Harvey Park	26.6%	32.6%	25.9%	15.0%	28.2%	88.9%
Harvey Park South	17.5%	30.0%	28.6%	23.9%	22.2%	70.5%
Hilltop	4.5%	9.2%	20.6%	65.7%	3.5%	75.0%
Indian Creek	2.0%	9.7%	28.2%	60.1%	6.3%	**
Kennedy	7.1%	16.6%	37.8%	38.6%	26.6%	141.7%
Lowry Field	14.9%	14.3%	25.5%	45.3%	5.0%	33.3%
Mar Lee	39.8%	29.2%	21.6%	9.4%	25.8%	35.4%
Marston	4.8%	19.1%	39.7%	36.4%	6.8%	-51.0%
Montbello	29.5%	26.8%	31.6%	12.1%	26.5%	434.7%
Montclair	4.5%	11.4%	21.4%	62.7%	**	**
North Park Hill	16.8%	21.6%	25.9%	35.7%	15.0%	16.9%
Overland	23.8%	29.7%	26.4%	20.1%	29.9%	207.7%
Platte Park	9.2%	13.5%	21.5%	55.8%	**	**
Regis	18.0%	25.0%	32.2%	24.8%	3.1%	37.5%
Rosedale	11.5%	23.7%	26.9%	37.9%	19.5%	-55.3%
Ruby Hill	45.2%	29.8%	18.7%	6.3%	25.0%	111.4%
Sloan's Lake	23.5%	20.1%	23.3%	33.1%	18.4%	-14.9%
South Park Hill	7.2%	9.8%	18.3%	64.7%	10.2%	160.0%
Southmoor Park	5.4%	10.3%	26.6%	57.7%	**	**
Speer	6.9%	14.3%	25.7%	53.1%	7.2%	-71.4%
Stapleton	39.8%	29.9%	16.8%	13.4%	26.3%	-12.5%
Union Station	22.7%	12.5%	15.2%	49.6%	**	**
University	4.7%	14.7%	22.6%	58.0%	1.9%	150.0%
University Hills	9.9%	17.5%	28.6%	43.9%	**	**
University Park	5.0%	14.4%	22.6%	57.9%	**	**
Virginia Village	13.4%	19.1%	27.6%	40.0%	31.7%	168.5%
Washington Park	3.7%	7.3%	17.3%	71.7%	**	**
Washington Park West	5.2%	10.1%	19.9%	64.8%	7.4%	-65.4%
Washington Virginia Vale	9.4%	18.5%	28.5%	43.6%	12.6%	214.3%
Wellshire	1.8%	7.8%	25.4%	64.9%	**	**
West Highland	14.4%	20.5%	26.5%	38.6%	16.3%	-42.0%
Windsor	14.6%	24.0%	26.3%	35.0%	29.5%	219.4%

\*\* Represents fewer than three events.

Denver Airport is not included due to a small population in 2000 of 4 persons.

The ability of residents to provide for themselves and their families also impacts the social and economic well being of a community. To enhance economic security for working families requires having the right mix of jobs – that pay family-supporting wages – and career development opportunities.

# **Jobs and Wages**

The 1990s were a period of very strong job growth. Between January 1995 and April 2000, almost 16 million new jobs were created across America. At the time of Census 2000, the nation's unemployment rate stood at a near historical low.

In Denver during the 1990s, more than 100,000 new jobs were created. But in the suburbs the growth was more than 450,000 new jobs, resulting in Denver's share of total metro area jobs steadily declining over the decade. According to the Brookings Institution, half of all commutes in the Denver metro area began and ended in the suburbs in 2000, and fewer than two in three Denver residents worked in the city. This is far below the average for the 100 largest cities in the United States.

While incomes increased in the 1990s, the progress was not as great as might be expected based on the strength of the economy. Nationwide, wage and salary income rose by 8.8%, from \$49,943 (adjusted for inflation) to nearly \$54,358 in 2000. In Denver, the increase in wage and salary income was far greater, 20% between 1990 and 2000 (from \$43,000 to \$51,000) but not as great as the increase in inflation, which was 32% over the decade.



Even with the strong increase in wages, in Denver more than half of workers earned less than 200% of poverty in 2000, which is about \$28,000 for a family of three. Three-quarters of Denver residents earned less than what is called the "selfsufficiency" standard, or about \$40,000 for a family of three. The self-sufficiency standard is a localized measure of the income needed to meet the basic needs of a family without public or private assistance.

And while historically disadvantaged groups also benefited from the good economic times, disparities still existed. The unemployment rate among people of color remained significantly higher than for whites. At a neighborhood level, the unemployment rate varied greatly, with some poor neighborhoods having unemployment rates two to three times higher than the city-wide rate.

#### Denver's share of total metro area jobs declined significantly in the 1990s.

Proportion of jobs, 2000: Denver and suburbs



Source: Denver Regional Council of Governments: Metro Vision Resource Center

### Average wage and salary income increased in both Denver and the suburbs in the 1990s, but a large gap still exists.

Average wage and salary income, 1990-2000: Denver and suburbs



Note: Wage and salary data is based on income in the year preceding the census; in this case, 1989 and 1999. 1989 data has been adjusted to reflect 1999 dollars using CPI-U factor of 1.343548. CPI-U in 1989 and 1999 are 124.0 and 166.6, respectively.

Source: U.S. Decennial Census - 1990 STF3 Table P90 and P98; 2000 STF3 Table P59 and P68

## More than half of Denver's workers earned less than 200% of poverty (\$28,000) and three quarters earned less than the "self-sufficiency standard" (\$40,000).

Earnings as a percent of poverty for a family of three, 2000: Denver



NOTE: Earnings are the sum of wage and salary income, plus self-employment income. In Denver, self-employment income accounts for 8.7% of earnings. The self-sufficiency standard is the amount found necessary (\$39,923) for a family of three (one adult, one preschooler, and a school-age child) to meet basic needs in 2000.

Source: U.S. Decennial Census -2000 STF3 Table P84

#### Unemployment among people of color remained higher than among whites.

Unemployment rate by race, 2000: Denver



\*\*Some African Americans, Asian/Pacific Islanders, or Native Americans also are Latino.

NOTE: Unemployment is calculated using data from the decennial census. The census determines unemployment differently than the more common unemployment rates reported by the Colorado Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Source: U.S. Decennial Census - 2000 STF3, P150A to I



Source: U.S. Decennial Census - 2000 STF3 Table P43

Jobs and Wages									
Neighborhood	Total Jobs 2000	% Change in Total Jobs 1990 to 2000	Average Wage and Salary Income per Household 2000	% Change in Average Wage and Salary Income per Household 1990 to 2000	Unemployed as % of Civilian Labor Force 2000	Unemployed Non-Latino Whites as % of Non-Latino White Civilian Labor Force 2000	Unemployed African Americans as % of African American Civilian Labor Force 2000	Unemployed Latinos as % of Latino Civilian Labor Force 2000	Unemployed Other Races as % of Other Race Civilian Labor Force 2000
Denver	524306	25.0%	\$51,487	19.5%	5.7%	4.0%	9.0%	8.3%	8.4%
Poor Neighborhoods:									
Auraria-Lincoln Park	16621	6.3%	\$41,996	53.1%	10.6%	4.2%	15.7%	17.2%	14.8%
City Park West	12396	68.0%	\$37,406	34.3%	11.9%	11.0%	10.8%	22.8%	12.9%
Civic Center	13712	92.7%	\$56,026	116.8%	6.1%	7.5%	**	**	**
Clayton	2266	5.5%	\$45,184	63.1%	11.2%	9.2%	11.3%	11.9%	12.3%
Cole	1776	34.1%	\$41,665	44.2%	18.7%	12.5%	27.7%	17.0%	20.7%
Elyria Swansea	10654	32.4%	\$38,372	32.0%	12.4%	9.3%	20.0%	12.6%	14.3%
Five Points	17799	81.1%	\$37,306	22.6%	12.7%	8.6%	16.4%	13.9%	13.1%
Jefferson Park	3186	-5.3%	\$35,621	26.0%	7.4%	2.2%	**	9.3%	6.0%
North Capitol Hill	24486	21.4%	\$34,974	20.9%	14.2%	14.0%	48.1%	3.3%	4.2%
Sun Valley	2853	-16.5%	\$13,627	-2.8%	18.0%	29.2%	70.6%	9.6%	13.2%
Valverde	6786	39.6%	\$38,107	21.1%	7.4%	**	47.8%	7.8%	7.0%
West Colfax	4346	5.8%	\$35,957	20.0%	14.1%	10.9%	30.1%	15.4%	12.7%
Whittier	700	-22.0%	\$40,677	19.0%	5.6%	2.0%	7.4%	6.1%	7.4%
At-Risk Neighborhoods:									
Baker	9259	-11.0%	\$43,188	36.7%	4.5%	2.9%	26.8%	6.0%	1.8%
Capitol Hill	18350	24.9%	\$35,165	20.5%	4.9%	4.2%	0.7%	8.2%	9.6%
Central Business	56864	1.9%	\$68,648	66.1%	5.7%	2.3%	44.6%	12.6%	9.6%
Globeville	7404	14.7%	\$37,547	29.6%	11.9%	17.7%	**	8.8%	12.6%
Highland	5799	12.0%	\$40,063	40.7%	13.2%	17.5%	14.5%	10.2%	8.9%
Northeast Park Hill	13488	22.3%	\$34,605	1.5%	6.6%	2.2%	7.0%	7.2%	4.0%
Skyland	850	97.7%	\$42,979	17.4%	6.4%	1.7%	8.5%	5.5%	1.9%
Sunnyside	3492	14.7%	\$43,409	33.3%	8.0%	4.2%	19.6%	8.9%	12.8%
Villa Park	830	3.4%	\$40,926	41.5%	8.8%	6.0%	**	9.6%	11.5%
Westwood	1878	-23.2%	\$38,039	16.3%	7.6%	6.7%	7.3%	7.5%	9.5%
Non-Poor Neighborhoods:									
Athmar Park	4135	-2.2%	\$43,667	15.3%	5.7%	2.8%	**	7.7%	8.9%
Barnum	1004	17.7%	\$41,424	13.7%	3.4%	2.4%	**	3.9%	2.4%
Barnum West	714	-19.4%	\$38,655	2.9%	6.9%	6.5%	**	7.3%	7.9%
Bear Valley	2224	42.6%	\$48,819	5.7%	3.6%	3.8%	**	3.1%	1.2%
Belcaro	5503	54.4%	\$145,693	60.5%	4.5%	3.2%	**	34.4%	20.8%
Berkeley	2227	4.1%	\$46,346	22.9%	6.2%	6.0%	22.9%	5.7%	8.3%
Chaffee Park	2478	21.8%	\$50,585	40.9%	10.4%	8.5%	**	11.5%	10.9%
Cheesman Park	2627	36.8%	\$44,689	17.6%	2.6%	2.2%	3.0%	4.6%	4.2%
Cherry Creek	15875	50.4%	\$80,305	36.7%	2.1%	2.3%	**	**	**
City Park	2291	-5.5%	\$51,644	47.2%	7.0%	7.9%	**	4.7%	5.4%
College View	4818	16.9%	\$39,030	25.1%	8.0%	4.6%	32.1%	9.0%	10.2%
Congress Park	3054	34.7%	\$56,178	24.6%	3.5%	2.4%	19.9%	0.7%	1.8%
Cory-Merrill	7082	23.2%	\$77,008	45.8%	2.5%	1.0%	37.0%	36.2%	6.9%
Country Club	3585	316.4%	\$105,690	16.7%	1.9%	2.0%	**	**	**

Jobs and Wages									
Neighborbood	Total Jobs	% Change in Total Jobs 1990 to 2000	Average Wage and Salary Income per Household 2000	% Change in Average Wage and Salary Income per Household 1990 to 2000	Unemployed as % of Civilian Labor Force	Unemployed Non-Latino Whites as % of Non-Latino White Civilian Labor Force 2000	Unemployed African Americans as % of African American Civilian Labor Force 2000	Unemployed Latinos as % of Latino Civilian Labor Force	Unemployed Other Races as % of Other Race Civilian Labor Force
Fast Colfax	1416	1990 10 2000	\$27,406	16 594	6.2%	1.5%	10.8%	2000	2000
East Collax	0100	4.0%	¢61 029	9 404	0.3%	2.00/	20.90/	0.7 70 7 10/	0.3%
Goldsmith	/701	-1.270	\$42,708	5 3 %	4.7 %	1.6%	SU.670 8.4%	20.7%	4.3%
Green Valley Banch	1/10	307.8%	\$60 193	1.1%	1.0%	2.6%	7.9%	0.7%	3.7%
Hale	14495	-10.6%	\$50,993	23.8%	3.2%	2.070	8.9%	6.8%	9.4%
Hampden	10200	9.5%	\$50,188	-10.3%	3.3%	3.3%	3.1%	3.5%	3.7%
Hampden South	22963	122.8%	\$58.417	1.6%	4.0%	3.8%	7.8%	7.0%	1.9%
Harvey Park	2331	23.9%	\$45,870	18.9%	3.1%	2.0%	**	4.2%	4 1%
Harvey Park South	2742	108.4%	\$51,469	16.8%	3.2%	2.5%	10.6%	3.4%	6.3%
Hilltop	2253	49.5%	\$102,232	20.7%	2.0%	1.8%	7.1%	**	3.1%
Indian Creek	872	0.2%	\$59 729	-6.7%	3.7%	3.3%	6.9%	7.3%	**
Kennedy	737	224 7%	\$39 122	42.0%	4.3%	4.3%	3.8%	**	4 9%
Lowry Field	813	-90.9%	\$70,213	106.5%	5.7%	4.9%	7.0%	13.6%	6.3%
Marlee	2028	3.6%	\$40,067	8.0%	6.5%	3.1%	**	8.7%	11.0%
Marston	1090	-34.1%	\$63.070	21.6%	2.5%	2.8%	**	**	1.6%
Montbello	2963	72.6%	\$47,490	6.0%	7.3%	5.0%	8.7%	7.1%	7.3%
Montclair	1783	0.8%	\$62,911	21.8%	1.8%	1.0%	10.6%	1.4%	1.4%
North Park Hill	949	6.2%	\$56,999	19.0%	4.5%	3.3%	6.2%	2.9%	2.9%
Overland	5613	15.1%	\$39.371	29.5%	9.4%	8.8%	75.0%	10.6%	10.4%
Platte Park	5421	141.9%	\$58.817	26.6%	4.0%	3.1%	**	10.9%	9.8%
Regis	2213	47.7%	\$44,591	10.8%	10.2%	10.2%	**	13.1%	11.6%
Rosedale	3313	-20.7%	\$52,141	20.3%	1.9%	2.1%	**	**	**
Ruby Hill	5554	51.5%	\$45.186	18.4%	6.8%	7.3%	**	6.9%	7.2%
Sloan's Lake	1464	30.0%	\$51,345	41.4%	6.3%	4.7%	8.4%	8.5%	7.4%
South Park Hill	2284	16.6%	\$80,949	17.6%	2.6%	2.1%	2.5%	4.6%	6.5%
Southmoor Park	3157	216.6%	\$63,232	10.8%	4.7%	4.3%	27.5%	**	4.5%
Speer	6591	63.1%	\$42,051	14.5%	3.5%	2.9%	**	5.4%	9.4%
Stapleton	33210	4.7%	**	**	**	**	**	**	**
Union Station	18851	12.9%	\$104,374	22.7%	4.2%	2.9%	17.3%	9.3%	10.3%
University	4808	18.6%	\$46,703	34.9%	13.1%	12.7%	**	12.3%	15.4%
University Hills	6040	22.1%	\$52,286	3.6%	2.3%	2.6%	**	**	**
University Park	2279	2.5%	\$57,648	22.6%	3.6%	3.4%	**	5.3%	6.2%
Virginia Village	11427	6.6%	\$48,392	13.4%	4.4%	2.7%	4.4%	11.4%	11.8%
Washington Park	6863	270.4%	\$99,056	53.0%	1.7%	1.8%	**	**	**
Washington Park West	1826	-35.0%	\$65,986	48.1%	2.9%	2.1%	**	9.0%	12.3%
Washington Virginia Vale	3681	-45.7%	\$51,978	27.1%	2.2%	1.6%	4.1%	1.9%	4.6%
Wellshire	885	-1.6%	\$87,174	17.1%	3.6%	3.8%	**	**	**
West Highland	2029	-4.6%	\$48,012	14.0%	4.7%	3.9%	26.3%	6.6%	7.0%
Windsor	3478	130.2%	\$48,534	43.5%	3.7%	2.7%	7.8%	3.8%	5.5%

\*\* Represents fewer than three events.

Denver Airport is not included due to a small population in 2000 of 4 persons.

The strength of the local economy, but more importantly the wellbeing of residents, is heavily influenced by whether all members of the community are in positions to prosper. **Poverty robs residents** of the ability to care for themselves and support their families.

## **Poverty**

The U.S. poverty rate decreased slightly over the decade, from 13.1% to 12.4%, a modest improvement considering the strong economy.

The strength of the local economy – but more the dramatic population growth in the past decade – led to an overall decrease in poverty in Denver too, from 17% to just over 14%. Poverty rates remained significantly higher among traditionally poorer groups, including people of color and single parents.

A closer look at the data uncovers a number of important shifts over the decade of the 1990s. For one, there was a notable decrease in poverty among single-parent families. And while the poverty rate declined in the suburbs, the actual number of poor people increased substantially. This increase in the number of poor living in the suburban counties is consistent with recent national studies that show that the number of poor has risen in the suburbs of many metropolitan areas, even during a decade of economic expansion.

Another important shift was seen in where poor people lived within the city too. Of the 20



Denver neighborhoods that saw the largest increases in the number of poor, 15 were non-poor neighborhoods.

At the neighborhood level, there were 10 fewer Denver neighborhoods that were poor as of Census 2000 (poverty rate greater than 25%). In the 10 neighborhoods that were poor in 1990 but not in 2000, the strong economic conditions that prevailed throughout the decade were a factor that appears to have had a favorable impact on poverty rates, as was the substantial increase in the population of these neighborhoods over the decade. While the city's population increased by almost 19% between 1990 and 2000, the population in these 10 neighborhoods increased by 22%.

2000

Federal Poverty

Guidelines

\$ 8.350

\$11.250

\$14,150

\$17.050

\$19,950

\$22,850

\$25,750

\$28.650

#### While the poverty rate decreased in Denver and the suburbs in the 1990s, the number of poor people living in the suburbs actually increased.

Poverty rate and numbers of persons in poverty, 1990-2000: Denver and suburbs



% of Persons in Poverty

Source: U.S. Decennial Census - 1990 STF3 Table P118; 2000 STF3 Table P87

#### Poverty in 2000 remained highest among people of color.

Poverty Rates by Race/Ethnicity, 1990-2000: Denver



Note: Latinos may be of any race. Thus, these data double count Latinos, who are predominately white, but also may be African-American, Asian/Pacific Islander, or Native American.

Source: U.S. Decennial Census - 1990 STF3 Table P119 and P120; 2000 STF3 Table P159 A to I

#### Poverty among single-parent families remained high, but dropped significantly between 1990 and 2000.

Poverty rates by family type, 1990-2000: Denver



Source: U.S. Decennial Census -1990 STF3 Table P123 and 2000 STF3 Table P90

#### Coinciding with a national trend, poor residents of Denver were less concentrated in historically poor neighborhoods.

Change in number of persons in poverty, 1990-2000: Denver neighborhoods

Source: U.S. Decennial Census – 1990 STF3 Table P118; 2000 STF3 Table P87



#### Change in Persons in Poverty 1990 to 2000



Source: U.S. Decennial Census - 1990 STF3 Table P118; 2000 STF3 Table P87

Poverty									
Neighborhood	Poverty Rate 2000	% Point Change in Poverty Rate 1990 to 2000	Poverty Rate for Non-Latino Whites 2000	Poverty Rate for Latinos 2000	Poverty Rate for African Americans 2000	Poverty Rate for Others 2000	Poverty Rate for Married Families with Children 2000	Poverty Rate for Single Mothers with Children 2000	Poverty Rate for Single Fathers with Children 2000
Denver	14.3%	-2.8%	7.8%	22.5%	19.4%	21.9%	9.7%	32.6%	15.0%
Poor Neighborhoods:									
Auraria-Lincoln Park	37.7%	-13.0%	26.4%	45.7%	35.8%	46.1%	30.8%	64.0%	30.0%
City Park West	28.8%	-5.1%	19.3%	36.4%	40.6%	34.5%	9.7%	36.4%	37.0%
Civic Center	28.7%	-30.2%	26.2%	36.1%	27.8%	30.8%	**	**	**
Clayton	28.5%	-9.8%	16.8%	34.8%	24.4%	38.6%	28.9%	47.0%	7.1%
Cole	26.3%	-8.6%	17.1%	26.6%	28.2%	26.6%	17.1%	42.1%	14.3%
Elyria Swansea	27.9%	-1.8%	13.2%	27.6%	53.3%	25.7%	23.1%	64.4%	17.8%
Five Points	31.5%	-18.5%	22.1%	32.1%	43.3%	27.6%	13.3%	48.5%	66.4%
Jefferson Park	35.0%	-4.1%	7.7%	41.1%	**	41.4%	34.3%	67.3%	34.5%
North Capitol Hill	34.7%	-2.4%	28.6%	42.0%	62.1%	42.7%	28.9%	91.5%	**
Sun Valley	71.5%	4.2%	62.3%	71.6%	82.1%	78.7%	54.5%	76.3%	100.0%
Valverde	27.7%	-9.5%	24.9%	27.3%	76.1%	28.4%	17.1%	54.8%	38.1%
West Colfax	28.8%	-2.5%	19.6%	29.7%	67.6%	31.5%	25.1%	55.6%	9.0%
Whittier	28.7%	-13.4%	11.4%	34.0%	32.7%	36.6%	18.1%	47.6%	12.5%
At-Risk Neighborhoods:									
Baker	24.2%	-15.4%	8.3%	36.2%	56.7%	36.1%	25.2%	24.4%	36.8%
Capitol Hill	17.8%	-8.1%	15.6%	21.7%	24.9%	26.2%	5.6%	38.4%	17.6%
Central Business	21.5%	-5.4%	16.6%	28.6%	46.1%	42.9%	**	66.7%	**
Globeville	23.1%	-15.5%	17.4%	22.9%	34.8%	26.7%	23.4%	22.7%	45.5%
Highland	24.2%	-12.1%	12.0%	29.9%	10.1%	32.3%	19.3%	46.2%	47.4%
Northeast Park Hill	23.8%	-2.8%	15.4%	35.6%	19.3%	33.1%	25.6%	31.5%	15.7%
Skyland	15.3%	-12.8%	9.1%	19.9%	14.5%	23.8%	2.1%	32.6%	21.1%
Sunnyside	18.8%	-6.3%	10.5%	20.8%	29.6%	22.8%	11.2%	46.8%	29.4%
Villa Park	19.7%	-9.0%	15.7%	20.9%	8.3%	17.8%	17.0%	31.4%	6.1%
Westwood	24.0%	-9.2%	19.4%	25.4%	20.8%	24.7%	20.3%	51.1%	21.1%
Non-Poor Neighborhoods:									
Athmar Park	12.6%	-2.1%	6.8%	16.0%	7.7%	14.5%	11.4%	21.9%	14.9%
Barnum	13.4%	-6.7%	9.0%	15.3%	22.9%	12.4%	9.4%	30.3%	**
Barnum West	13.4%	-0.2%	6.5%	16.8%	**	21.3%	10.1%	17.3%	8.9%
Bear Valley	6.0%	1.3%	4.7%	6.4%	**	14.6%	1.1%	14.4%	6.5%
Belcaro	1.3%	-1.5%	1.0%	5.4%	**	4.1%	**	**	**
Berkeley	7.6%	-7.1%	5.7%	8.7%	41.1%	8.7%	1.3%	19.1%	17.5%
Chaffee Park	16.5%	0.8%	16.9%	15.3%	22.4%	16.0%	14.5%	35.9%	11.8%
Cheesman Park	11.1%	-5.0%	7.5%	19.7%	35.4%	15.9%	**	33.1%	**
Cherry Creek	8.1%	-2.1%	8.2%	5.6%	**	6.9%	7.2%	9.3%	**
City Park	9.6%	-5.9%	7.5%	7.0%	20.7%	12.0%	**	**	46.4%
College View	20.3%	0.6%	12.4%	21.6%	46.3%	21.4%	13.4%	39.5%	20.0%
Congress Park	10.9%	-2.2%	9.0%	26.3%	12.8%	13.5%	3.0%	22.7%	**
Cory-Merrill	5.7%	2.8%	3.9%	27.6%	13.2%	13.9%	**	**	**
Country Club	1.2%	-2.7%	1.0%	9.7%	**	5.6%	**	**	**

Poverty									
Neighborhood	Poverty Rate 2000	% Point Change in Poverty Rate 1990 to 2000	Poverty Rate for Non-Latino Whites 2000	Poverty Rate for Latinos 2000	Poverty Rate for African Americans 2000	Poverty Rate for Others 2000	Poverty Rate for Married Families with Children 2000	Poverty Rate for Single Mothers with Children 2000	Poverty Rate for Single Fathers with Children 2000
East Colfax	22.4%	1.2%	10.7%	27.9%	26.8%	29.5%	22.0%	37.5%	7.2%
Fort Logan	7.7%	1.3%	6.4%	10.3%	19.2%	10.3%	1.2%	30.3%	**
Goldsmith	15.2%	7.5%	7.6%	26.4%	19.1%	39.3%	12.2%	35.5%	25.3%
Green Valley Ranch	3.9%	3.3%	3.5%	2.3%	1.9%	7.7%	1.0%	21.8%	5.3%
Hale	13.9%	-0.3%	8.9%	30.4%	37.5%	25.6%	10.0%	41.7%	**
Hampden	7.0%	2.3%	5.2%	14.8%	9.7%	11.1%	3.7%	22.1%	4.5%
Hampden South	7.3%	3.4%	4.0%	20.3%	26.6%	22.2%	3.6%	16.4%	21.4%
Harvey Park	9.5%	-2.3%	5.3%	15.1%	**	10.4%	6.4%	16.4%	4.9%
Harvey Park South	8.5%	2.3%	6.0%	14.4%	13.2%	9.4%	3.9%	34.0%	18.2%
Hilltop	4.7%	2.4%	2.5%	**	13.6%	25.1%	2.8%	13.5%	29.6%
Indian Creek	3.9%	-0.4%	3.4%	**	8.1%	9.6%	2.7%	13.9%	**
Kennedy	10.1%	-4.4%	11.8%	10.4%	5.7%	6.4%	10.3%	27.1%	**
Lowry Field	12.9%	11.0%	8.1%	41.7%	8.8%	20.3%	2.8%	36.1%	25.0%
Mar Lee	13.8%	-2.7%	9.5%	15.4%	100.0%	14.7%	10.8%	26.4%	16.4%
Marston	2.5%	-0.3%	2.4%	4.6%	**	5.1%	0.6%	11.1%	**
Montbello	13.8%	0.7%	8.4%	18.4%	12.3%	16.4%	9.8%	24.5%	18.9%
Montclair	4 1%	-4.6%	2.0%	20.9%	2.1%	15.4%	2.8%	14.9%	**
North Park Hill	9.4%	-4.2%	2.0%	20.9%	11.1%	15.8%	4.3%	24.1%	9.5%
Overland	11.0%	-6.3%	11.1%	11.5%	31.6%	16.6%	5.2%	29.0%	**
Platte Park	61%	-3.7%	4 4%	19.1%	32.2%	10.9%	3.6%	17.9%	**
Regis	7.3%	-8.2%	7.6%	6.0%	7 9%	1 9%	**	21.3%	**
Bosedale	6.7%	0.2%	6.7%	1.9%	**	8.3%	**	21.070	**
Ruby Hill	17.6%	-1.2%	11.0%	19.6%	17 3%	22.0%	13 /1%	31.2%	10.8%
Sloan's Lake	12.3%	_8.3%	5.4%	20.7%	31.2%	1/ 5%	10.470	27.1%	12.8%
South Park Hill	6.9%	1.4%	1.7%	13 7%	12 7%	13.1%	3.1%	11 1%	**
Southmoor Park	2 4 %	1.5%	2.5%	**	**	3.7%	**	**	**
Southinoor Fark	11 00/	2.00/	2.570	01 404	10 10/	26 1 0/	5 5 0/	29 50/	**
Staplaton	11.970	-3.970	9.170	21.470	13.170	20.170	0.070	30.370	**
Union Station	20 404	0.004	12 004	24 204	/1 00/	20 70/	**	50.004	**
University	20.470	0.9%	11.0%	20.20/	41.270	26.90/	1 50/	01.004	17 20/
University Hills	14.270	-0.2 %	2.00/	52.570	43.370	20.0%	1.070	21.970	17.370
University Hills	3.0%	-1.2%	3.2%	0.0%	0.70/	9.0%	1.3%	01.00/	**
Virginia Village	11.5%	3.7%	10.2%	13.8%	9.7%	25.1%	0.0%	21.8%	0 10/
Weehington Derk	0.10/	2.8%	0.9%	23.9%	11.5% **	25.9%	ð.ð% **	13.5%	9.1%
Washington Park	2.1%	-1.0%	2.1%	3.8%	17 10/	00 40/	1 40/	10 50/	**
Washington Park West	6.8%	-0.7%	5.8%	13.7%	17.1%	22.4%	1.4%	13.5%	15.00/
wasnington virginia Vale	10.2%	-3.6%	7.6%	10.8%	22.0%	13.2%	4.1%	12.8%	15.3%
vvelisnire	1.9%	-1.0%	2.0%	45 50/	**	**	5 d 0/	13.9%	
West Highland	9.3%	-5.2%	6.4%	15.5%	= = 0 (	10.4%	5.1%	23.6%	6.6%
Windsor	8.9%	-1.5%	5.4%	19.6%	7.7%	17.7%	9.3%	37.9%	11.1%

\*\* Represents fewer than three events.

Denver Airport is not included due to a small population in 2000 of 4 persons.

Homeownership rates reflect a community's ability to embrace all of its households, not just those of greater financial means. Rising home prices mean increased equity for some but increased burden for others.

## Housing

Homeownership in the United States grew during the 1990s, driven by a strong economy and a building boom. In Denver, the homeownership rate increased slightly more than the national rate, three percentage points compared to two points nationally, and is close to the average for the 100 largest cities (53%). But Denver's homeownership rate is much less than the rate in the suburbs (71%).

African Americans and Latinos made significant improvements, although it is still the case that fewer than half of households in each group were homeowners in 2000, compared to 56% of whites in Denver. Also, the cost of buying a home came at a much higher price for people of color. People of color, particularly African Americans, paid higher mortgage rates to buy homes than whites did.

Notably, Denver's homeownership rates increased at the same time home prices in the city skyrocketed, with the average price of a home almost doubling over the decade, from just over \$100,000 to more than \$200,000.

Looking closer at neighborhood changes, home prices in poor neighborhoods increased



almost twice as much as in non-poor neighborhoods; and the increases in at-risk neighborhoods were much higher than the city average too.

On the rental side, Denver was one of a number of big cities where rents increased dramatically (24% compared to 6% nationally) over the decade. As a result, more than one in three Denver households – across all three neighborhood categories – paid more than 30% of their income on housing. Poor and at-risk neighborhoods saw the greatest decreases in vacancy rates and the largest increases in rents.

Another result of the soaring cost of housing in Denver was overcrowded housing. Overcrowding is defined as more than one person per room. The poorer the household, the more overcrowded it was, with almost one in five households in Denver's 13 poor neighborhoods overcrowded.

### While the homeownership rate increased slightly in Denver in the 1990s, it was still less than in the suburbs.

Homeownership rate, 2000: Denver and suburbs



Source: U.S. Decennial Census - 1990 STF1 Table H3; 2000 STF1 Table H4

#### Homeownership rates increased for all racial/ethnic groups in Denver over the past decade, but the rate for whites still remains significantly higher.

Homeownership rate by race/ethnicity, 1990-2000: Denver



Note: Latinos may be of any race. Thus, these data double count Latinos, who are predominately white, but also may be African-American, Asian/Pacific Islander, or Native American.

Source: U.S. Decennial Census - 1990 STF1 Table H10, H25 and H27; 2000 STF1 Table H15 A to I

#### Non-whites, particularly African Americans, paid higher mortgage rates to buy homes than whites.

Percent of sub-prime home purchase originations by race and ethnicity, 2000: Denver and suburbs



Note: All races, except Latinos, are exclusive of Latinos.

Note: HUD considers lenders "sub-prime" if they have higher denial rates and lower origination rates than prime lenders and if home refinance loans account for a higher share of total loan originations. In cases where the lender offers both prime and sub-prime loans, HUD classifies the lender as sub-prime if sub-prime or manufactured home loans account for at least 50% of conventional business.

\*Data are for Adams, Arapahoe, Jefferson and Douglas counties.

Source: Home Mortgage Disclosure Act 1995 to 2002

#### Home prices in Denver skyrocketed over the decade.

Average home sales price, 1991-2000: Denver



Note: Data has been adjusted to reflect 2000 dollars using CPI-U.

Source: Denver Community Development and Planning Agency

#### Home sales prices increased the most in poor and at-risk neighborhoods.

Average home mortgage value, 1995-2000: Denver neighborhoods



#### Average Mortgage Value for Home Purchases (Adjusted - 2000 Dollars)

1995	2000
\$110,390	\$156,243
\$116,456	\$160,795
\$ 82,657	\$131,948
\$ 85,112	\$148,171
	1995   \$110,390   \$116,456   \$ 82,657   \$ 85,112

Note: 1995 data has been adjusted to reflect 2000 dollars using CPI-U factor of 1.129921. CPI-U in 1995 and 2000 are 152.4 and 172.2, respectively.

## Rents in Denver and the suburbs increased much more than in the nation during the 1990s, but the largest increases were seen in Denver's poor and at-risk neighborhoods.

Percent change in (median) gross rent, 1990-2000: Denver neighborhoods and suburbs



\*Note: Adjusted to 2000 dollars, using CPI-U factor 1.317521. CPI-U in 1990 and 2000 are 130.7 and 172.2, respectively. Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 1990 STF3 Table H043; Census 2000 STF3 Table H63.



#### The high cost of housing also resulted in more overcrowding in Denver households.

Percentage of overcrowded homes, 1990-2000: Denver neighborhoods



Note: Overcrowded housing units are those with more than one occupant per available room.

Source: U.S. Decennial Census - 1990 STF1 Table H21; 2000 STF3 Table H20

Housing									
Neighborhood	Occupied Housing Units 2000	% Owner- Occupied Housing Units 2000	% Change in Home Ownership 1900 to 2000	% Renters Paying >30% of Income on Housing 2000	% Overcrowded Housing Units 2000	% Non-Latino White Owner Occupied Housing Units 2000	% African American Owner Occupied Housing Units 2000	% Latino Owner Occupied Housing Units 2000	% Other Race Owner Occupied Housing Units 2000
Denver	239235	52.5%	21.0%	38.6%	7.7%	57.2%	44.5%	45.3%	41.6%
Poor Neighborhoods:									
Auraria-Lincoln Park	2714	19.9%	27.4%	39.1%	9.6%	15.9%	4.2%	28.4%	25.1%
City Park West	2249	22.5%	39.0%	33.8%	4.2%	24.8%	21.5%	12.2%	16.6%
Civic Center	400	44.5%	2442.9%	43.4%	5.5%	52.1%	17.4%	13.6%	21.7%
Clayton	1522	57.0%	8.1%	41.8%	23.2%	59.9%	58.7%	55.5%	52.1%
Cole	1632	48.3%	22.6%	33.5%	28.9%	65.3%	47.2%	45.9%	46.5%
Elyria Swansea	1741	60.7%	8.1%	48.9%	31.3%	70.2%	28.8%	61.2%	59.6%
Five Points	3261	31.4%	40.9%	46.9%	10.5%	47.5%	13.6%	30.0%	29.2%
Jefferson Park	1065	23.5%	25.6%	35.5%	26.9%	41.3%	**	17.6%	18.9%
North Capitol Hill	2385	7.6%	151.4%	38.8%	7.5%	9.9%	1.6%	3.2%	3.1%
Sun Valley	449	5.1%	35.3%	37.0%	24.4%	4.8%	**	6.4%	5.9%
Valverde	1225	51.3%	13.9%	45.6%	19.6%	62.4%	16.3%	50.1%	45.5%
West Colfax	3581	28.7%	21.2%	42.9%	23.9%	33.6%	6.0%	28.3%	24.2%
Whittier	1927	53.2%	21.7%	40.2%	13.5%	71.9%	49.5%	37.4%	36.2%
At-Risk Neighborhood	s:								
Baker	2421	40.0%	24.2%	35.4%	16.2%	48.6%	5.7%	30.8%	31.1%
Capitol Hill	10629	18.1%	103.6%	37.9%	3.7%	20.5%	5.7%	10.4%	9.7%
Central Business	1421	26.5%	1112.9%	34.8%	1.1%	30.7%	15.6%	9.2%	14.5%
Globeville	911	62.7%	4.0%	43.4%	29.3%	68.4%	63.6%	60.7%	62.6%
Highland	3595	42.7%	28.1%	45.0%	18.7%	53.3%	22.6%	34.7%	32.7%
Northeast Park Hill	2633	48.2%	1.9%	53.1%	10.3%	63.6%	47.8%	45.9%	50.2%
Skyland	1411	63.4%	4.4%	44.4%	7.9%	70.8%	62.7%	60.4%	57.5%
Sunnyside	3867	58.9%	11.2%	37.7%	15.5%	76.3%	21.1%	50.7%	47.4%
Villa Park	2902	50.8%	20.6%	42.4%	26.7%	56.2%	29.8%	49.4%	51.2%
Westwood	4254	55.3%	19.9%	45.1%	24.3%	67.9%	27.5%	52.8%	48.1%
Non-Poor Neighborho	ods:								
Athmar Park	2880	71.5%	9.4%	41.3%	14.6%	83.7%	44.7%	62.4%	59.7%
Barnum	1811	67.5%	18.3%	42.2%	20.0%	75.0%	37.5%	64.2%	63.0%
Barnum West	1788	79.1%	14.2%	40.3%	12.0%	81.2%	50.0%	78.6%	75.1%
Bear Valley	3355	64.4%	10.7%	37.7%	3.1%	65.5%	48.7%	61.0%	60.1%
Belcaro	1833	92.3%	20.3%	31.7%	0.4%	92.7%	77.8%	83.9%	82.1%
Berkeley	3886	67.9%	14.9%	39.7%	3.9%	74.6%	38.9%	51.3%	51.0%
Chaffee Park	1500	77.3%	10.9%	63.4%	13.1%	73.1%	50.0%	82.0%	79.5%
Cheesman Park	5498	26.0%	55.9%	35.7%	3.1%	28.7%	9.5%	12.5%	15.0%
Cherry Creek	3198	46.7%	66.0%	29.5%	0.9%	47.8%	37.2%	30.4%	35.0%
City Park	1153	33.2%	29.8%	29.5%	1.3%	38.0%	11.1%	19.8%	16.8%
College View	1847	45.6%	22.2%	36.5%	21.6%	62.2%	13.3%	37.1%	33.6%
Congress Park	5729	39.9%	20.1%	32.9%	1.6%	45.9%	6.5%	15.2%	21.9%
Corv-Merrill	1801	81.3%	0.1%	25.1%	0.7%	82.4%	43.8%	59.3%	76.9%
Country Club	1321	81.2%	6.4%	24.1%	**	82.0%	80.0%	51.6%	72.4%

Housing									
Neinbhorhood	Occupied Housing Units 2000	% Owner- Occupied Housing Units 2000	% Change in Home Ownership 1900 to 2000	% Renters Paying >30% of Income on Housing 2000	% Overcrowded Housing Units 2000	% Non-Latino White Owner Occupied Housing Units 2000	% African American Owner Occupied Housing Units 2000	% Latino Owner Occupied Housing Units 2000	% Other Race Owner Occupied Housing Units 2000
Fast Colfax	4063	/1 1%	25.4%	14.6%	15.6%	61.9%	17.3%	30.7%	35.7%
Fort Logan	3070	70.7%	20.470	32.0%	1.5%	Q1 Q%	52 5%	70.0%	60.0%
Coldsmith	2840	21 0%	15.6%	30.1%	4.570	/0.3%	10.3%	0.3%	11 3%
Green Valley Banch	3109	78.1%	180.5%	38.1%	1.8%	70.7%	72.8%	83.0%	79.9%
Halo	/181	14.5%	19.0%	/1 3%	2.8%	51 1%	12.070	21.7%	24.0%
Hampden	9862	50.4%	19.1%	41.9%	4.4%	56.6%	27.0%	27.1%	26.0%
Hampden South	6889	61.1%	15.1%	33.6%	3.2%	63.8%	49.9%	45.6%	42.8%
Harvey Park	4170	73.2%	8.3%	36.5%	7.5%	79.8%	43.5%	61.1%	64.9%
Harvey Park South	3312	65.0%	10.9%	27.8%	5.7%	72.2%	32.5%	48.6%	48.2%
Hillton	3428	75.1%	1 1 %	39.6%	0.9%	78.0%	37.8%	66.3%	47.8%
Indian Creek	1967	79.5%	45.1%	27.3%	0.3%	81.1%	66.7%	68.4%	70.1%
Kennedy	2051	0.5%	233.3%	39.3%	7.3%	0.4%	**	**	**
Lowry Field	1072	32.9%	204.3%	47.4%	5.6%	45.3%	9.6%	91%	11.6%
Marlee	4118	68.7%	14.7%	46.6%	12.5%	80.2%	38.5%	58.4%	55.9%
Marston	4447	66.8%	96.8%	42.6%	2.4%	66.5%	55.2%	69.4%	68.6%
Montbello	7972	73.2%	47.7%	42.5%	13.7%	82.8%	73.9%	64.7%	67.2%
Montclair	2739	71.3%	19.2%	35.0%	0.6%	78.1%	29.7%	51.3%	46.2%
North Park Hill	3944	83.1%	7.6%	44.4%	6.1%	89.8%	79.8%	78.3%	80.5%
Overland	874	56.4%	18.8%	35.6%	6.6%	58.9%	57.1%	49.2%	42.4%
Platte Park	2702	65.3%	12.6%	27.4%	1.1%	67.3%	39.4%	48.0%	38.0%
Regis	1649	72.3%	10.0%	39.4%	3.8%	73.5%	43.8%	70.2%	72.9%
Rosedale	1295	49.9%	13.9%	46.8%	3.6%	51.3%	38.9%	42.7%	36.3%
Ruby Hill	3400	58.8%	10.4%	35.7%	14.6%	67.2%	16.5%	54.4%	54.9%
Sloan's Lake	3592	55.7%	22.0%	38.3%	6.9%	64.3%	30.2%	43.2%	38.9%
South Park Hill	3644	77.4%	8.0%	44.6%	1.8%	82.3%	59.9%	56.5%	50.5%
Southmoor Park	1538	50.8%	11.3%	41.2%	2.0%	52.3%	45.2%	31.5%	31.3%
Speer	7413	25.1%	43.7%	39.4%	3.4%	27.7%	9.4%	11.4%	12.1%
Stapleton	3	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**
Union Station	1588	43.6%	160.2%	46.8%	2.1%	54.4%	14.6%	14.3%	11.2%
University	3924	45.5%	4.1%	35.8%	1.8%	50.3%	5.1%	25.1%	13.7%
University Hills	2588	73.3%	10.4%	33.1%	1.6%	74.7%	57.1%	55.3%	58.0%
University Park	3557	43.5%	5.9%	41.7%	2.6%	46.9%	9.8%	23.8%	16.9%
Virginia Village	6323	45.7%	6.4%	37.2%	6.7%	54.1%	17.5%	15.0%	17.7%
Washington Park	3390	79.4%	6.8%	17.3%	**	79.8%	50.0%	69.0%	76.1%
Washington Park West	3380	58.4%	9.2%	31.4%	1.0%	60.6%	20.0%	40.2%	34.1%
Washington Virginia Vale	e 6647	42.7%	18.9%	37.0%	7.9%	47.7%	29.6%	25.8%	25.1%
Wellshire	1351	92.4%	-1.1%	26.5%	0.4%	93.1%	60.0%	75.0%	81.3%
West Highland	3944	63.6%	15.6%	35.3%	2.5%	68.1%	33.3%	49.7%	48.7%
Windsor	7193	50.5%	17.0%	33.8%	5.9%	59.6%	30.7%	16.5%	15.6%

\*\* Represents fewer than three events.

Denver Airport is not included due to a small population in 2000 of 4 persons.

Neighborhoods are home to more than people, but also to "immeasurable" factors, resources and risk factors that make neighborhoods good places to live or make them difficult places to live and raise children.

## Neighborhood Resources and Risk Factors

Census 2000 provides a wealth of statistical data for community planners to use for everything from building schools, roads, hospitals, health clinics, libraries, playgrounds, and day-care and senior citizen centers, to planning bus routes, job training programs and much more. Businesses too use census numbers to locate supermarkets and shopping centers, new housing, and facilities like movie theatres and restaurants.

While census data present a fairly comprehensive picture of conditions in Denver's neighborhoods, they do not portray the full picture. Throughout the city of Denver there exist many resources for residents and their families. These include churches, public institutions – like schools, libraries, recreation centers and health care clinics – and private ones like grocery stores and child care centers. But risk factors also exist that can make neighborhoods difficult places to raise families. These include things like environmental hazards, railroad tracks, abandoned buildings and gun shops.





Year after year, studies rank Denver high among America's "most livable cities." A survey done in 2002-2003 by the Annie E. Casey Foundation showed that more than 77% of Denver residents felt their neighborhood was a good place to raise children. Even three out of four residents of poor neighborhoods thought their neighborhood was a good place to raise children.

(Continued on page 70)

	Denver	Non-Poor Neighborhoods	At-Risk Neighborhoods	Poor Neighborhoods		
Yes	77%	80%	62%	75%		
No	19%	16%	32%	25%		

Is your neighborhood a good place to raise children?

To the city's credit, even Denver's 13 poor neighborhoods benefit from a wealth of public facilities and services as well as an abundance of religious institutions. But while Denver's poor neighborhoods are rich in many resources, residents in these neighborhoods don't have equal access to mainstream economic services and supports, such as grocery stores and banks.

Risk factors also exist that can make neighborhoods difficult places to live and raise a family. For the most part, these harmful presences are disproportionately located in poor and at-risk neighborhoods. They include such things as Superfund sites, abandoned buildings, liquor stores, adult entertainment sites and gun shops.

The table lists resources and risk factors by neighborhood type. The map inserted in the back of this report shows the location of the city's resources and risk factors.

#### Total number of neighborhood resources and risk factors, by neighborhood type

Neighborhoods	Non-Poor	At-Risk	Poor	Denver
Total Neighborhood Resources:				
Art & Cultural Facility	19	20	27	66
Bank	82	38	18	138
College/University	5	0	2	7
DPS Alternative/Charter School	6	5	11	22
DPS Elementary School	60	17	13	90
DPS High School	7	1	2	10
DPS Middle School	13	4	3	20
Fire Station	17	5	5	27
Golf course	5	1	0	6
Major Grocery Store	32	5	3	40
Hospital	12	3	13	28
Licensed Child Care Facility	89	45	45	179
Place of Worship	301	113	104	518
Police Station	6	1	3	10
Private School	48	5	7	60
Public Library	16	2	4	22
Recreation Center	14	7	7	28
Total Neighborhood Risk Factors:				
Adult Entertainment Site	10	6	5	21
Boarded Up Building	64	24	79	167
Check Cashing Site	34	12	16	62
Community Correction Facility	6	3	2	11
Environmental Impacted Area	5	0	6	11
Founded Environmental Complaint	63	19	29	111
Gunshop	8	1	2	11
Liquor Store	236	71	62	369
Pawnshop	6	9	4	19
Superfund Site	0	4	2	6
Conditions have changed dramatically since Census 2000 was taken, because Denver, like the country, was hit by a major recession that began in 2001.

# Post-Census Update

In just two years, from 2000-2002, Denver lost 36% of the jobs gained over the previous decade. And jobs for low-skilled residents disappeared faster than jobs for skilled workers. Two-thirds of the jobs lost in Denver between 2000 and 2002 were in industries like manufacturing and retail services, which employ large numbers of unskilled and low-skilled workers.

Coinciding with the job loss, the city's unemployment rose sharply, reaching a high of 7.4% in 2003. And Denver's poverty rate, which had dipped to about 14% in 2000, rose to more than 16% by 2002.

At the same time jobs were being lost, unemployment rising, and poverty increasing, housing costs continued to rise. The average home sales prices increased from \$226,000 in 2000 to \$255,000 in 2002.

Another important indication that economic conditions are worsening is the crime rate<sup>1</sup>. Denver's crime rate increased from a decade-low 73 crimes per 1000 persons in 2000 to 84 per 1000 persons in 2002. National studies show a correlation between a poor economy and high crime rate.

Overall, these conditions made it more difficult for families on the edge to hold on to the gains they made over the last decade.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Grogger, Jeffrey (2000). *An Economic Model of Recent Trends in Violence*. In A. Blumstein and J. Wallman (Eds.), *The Crime Drop*. Cambridge, Cambridge University Press.

In just two years, 2000-2002, Denver lost more than one-third of all the jobs gained in the previous decade. Half of the jobs lost were in industries hiring large numbers of low-skilled workers.

Change in number of jobs, 2000-2002: Denver



Note: Industries hiring unskilled and low-skilled workers are retail trade, wholesale trade, manufacturing, transportation, communications and public utilities.

Source: Denver Regional Council of Governments: Metro Vision Resource Center

# The unemployment rate in Denver has risen sharply since reaching a near record low in the second half of the 1990s.

Unemployment rate, 1994-2003: Denver and suburbs



Note: Unemployment is calculated using data from the Colorado Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, not the decennial census. The Census determines unemployment differently than the more common unemployment rates reported by the Department of Labor.

Source: Colorado Department of Labor and Employment

#### Between 2000 and 2002, the poverty rate in Denver increased, almost reaching the 1990 level.

Poverty rate, 1990 - 2002: Denver and suburbs



Poverty Rate in 2002

Source: U.S. Decennial Census - 1990 STF3 Table P118; 2000 STF3 Table P87 and The American Community Survey

## Crime, one of the most sensitive indicators of a neighborhood in decline, has increased since 2000.

Overall crime rate per 1,000 persons, 1990-2002: Denver



Source: Crime data provided by the Denver Department of Safety; population data by DRCOG and U.S. Census.

### Housing prices in Denver continue to rise.

Average home sales price, 2000-2002: Denver



Note: 2000 data has been adjusted to reflect 2002 dollars using CPI-U factor of 1.044715. CPI-U in 2000 and 2002 are 172.2 and 179.9, respectively.