

Growth and Change in the Region's Communities

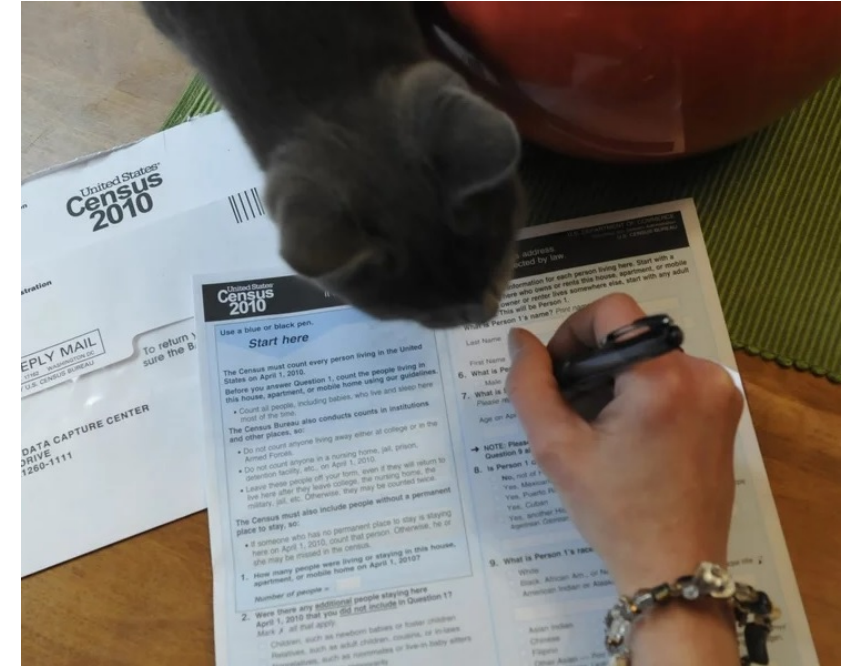
Lessons from the 2020 Census

This presentation will cover:

- What is the Census? And what information is available?
- Twin Cities region population growth
- Census's criteria for Urban Areas
- Final phase of 2020 Census: troubleshooting

What is the Census?

- **census:** an official cataloguing of the population, with details on age, sex, etc.
- Censuses in the U.S.
 - Data collection once every 10 years
 - Mailed and online questionnaire options
 - Census-takers enumerate remaining places, and follow-up with nonrespondents
- Questions asked
 - Age, sex, race, ethnicity, rent or own home, family (or nonfamily) relationship among people living together



Count Everyone! (to the extent possible)

- Outstanding self-response in Minnesota and metro counties
 - Minnesota self-response: 74% of addresses, highest in nation
 - Self-responses are higher quality than the alternatives: neighbor/proxy response, administrative data-mining, imputation
- Minnesota population was more than expected
 - Pre-2020 projections were in the range 5,663,000 (lowest projection: Urban Institute) to 5,690,000 (highest projection: Met Council)
 - Ultimate 2020 Census result: **5,706,494**
 - Minnesota awarded the nation's 435th Congressional District: 713,312 residents per CD

What is available in the Census?

Now

- Total housing units
- Total households
- Total population + Adult population
- Race and Hispanic/Latino origin

Later (2022 Q3?)

- Detailed age/sex
- Rent or own home
- Relationships among people living together

Other surveys: Not Decennial Census

- Income
- Disability
- Housing costs
- Employment
- Commuting
- *These are featured in American Community Survey*

Twin Cities region population growth

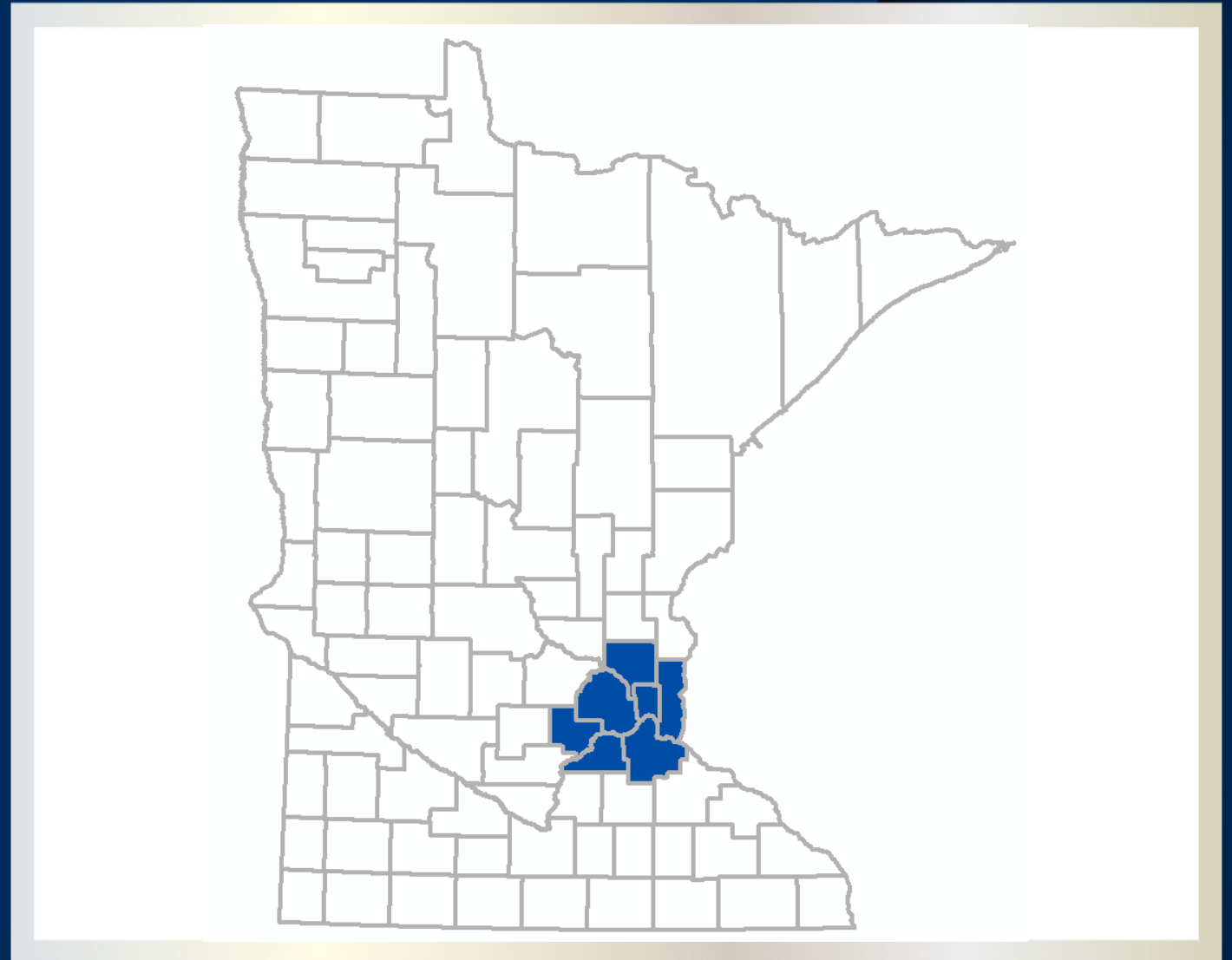
Region is home to majority of Minnesotans

The 7-county Twin
Cities region:

3.163 million residents
(55% of Minnesota's
population)

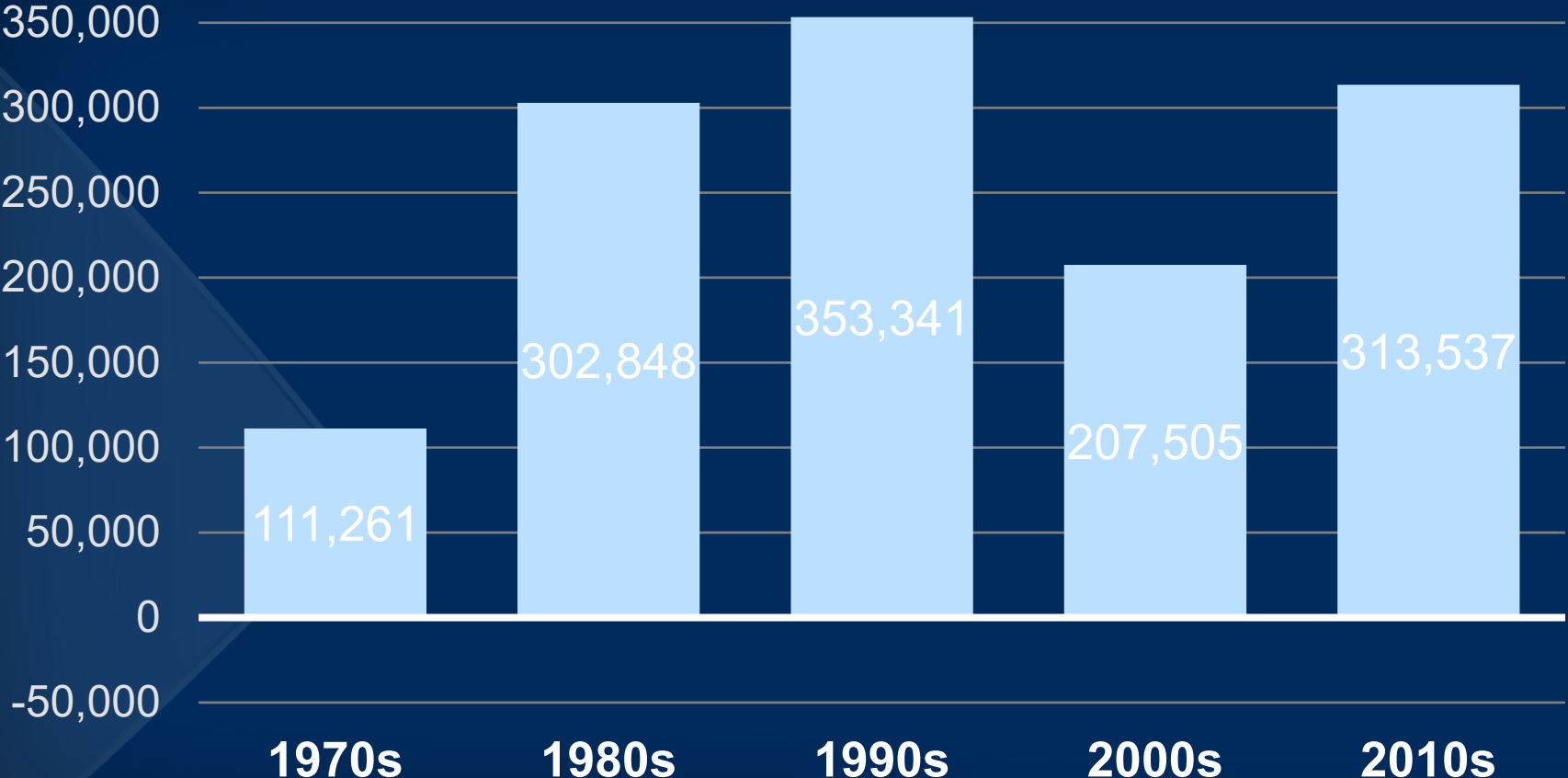
**+ 313,500 people, 2010-
2020**

(78% of state's 2010-2020
growth)



Growth in historical context

CHANGE IN POPULATION



Most cities/ townships are adding people

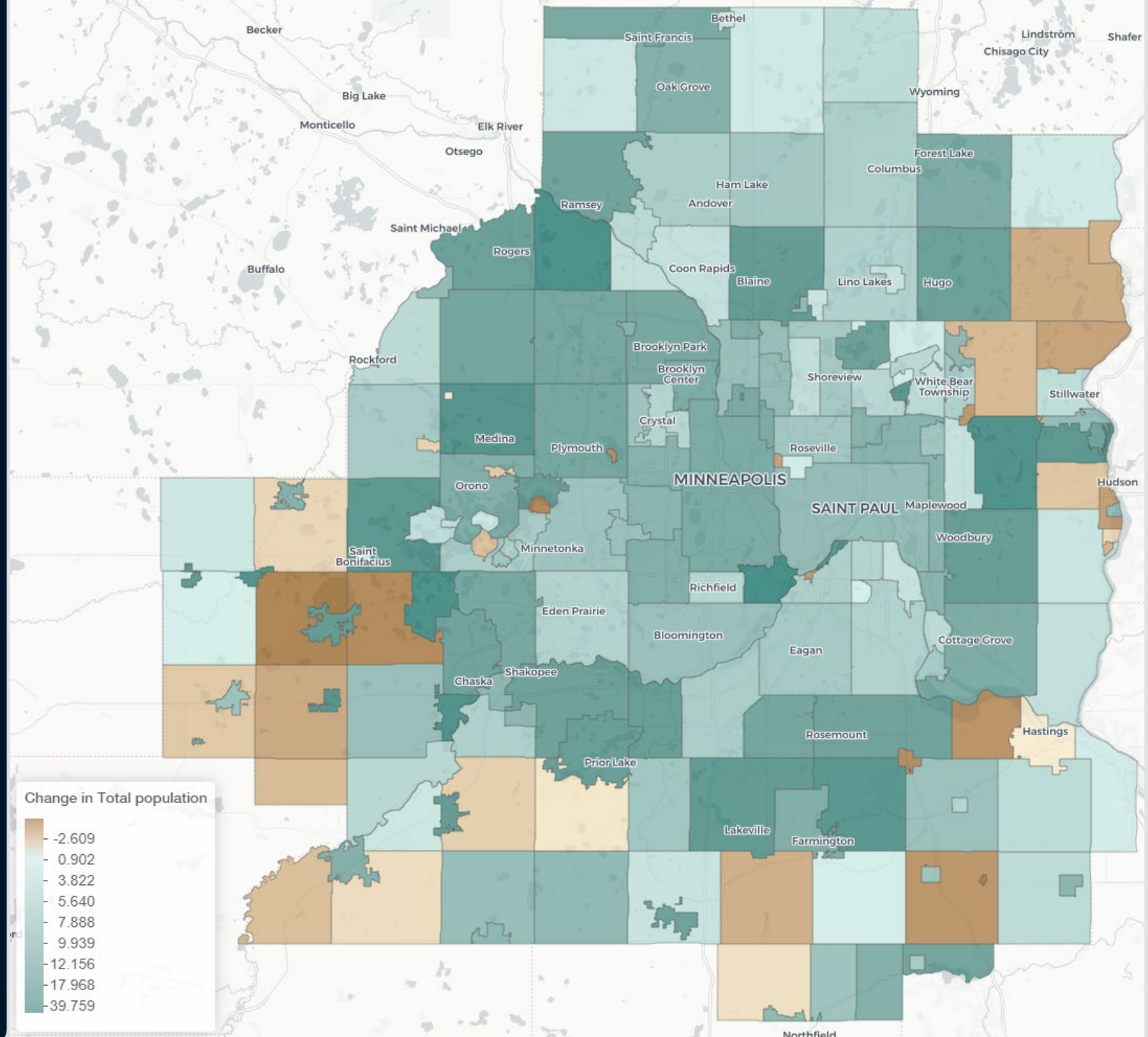
2010-2020:
+313,500 people

*High population
growth*

*Small population
growth*

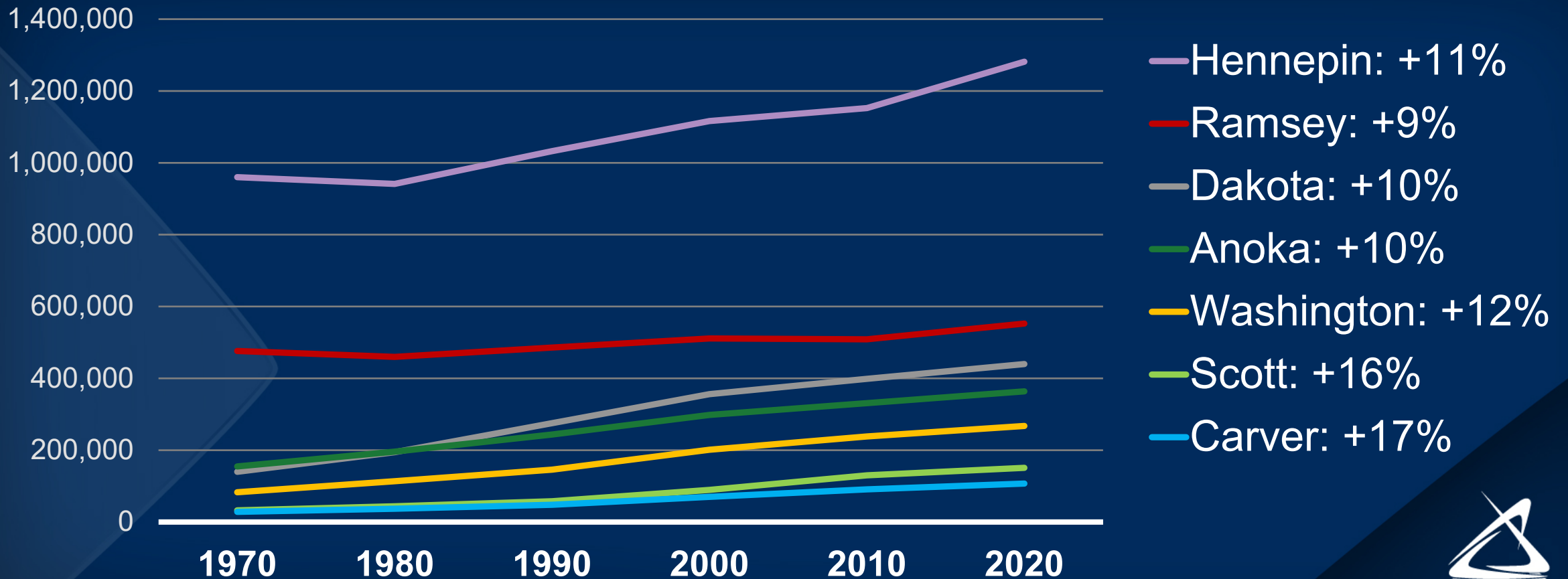
*Small population
loss*

*High population
loss*



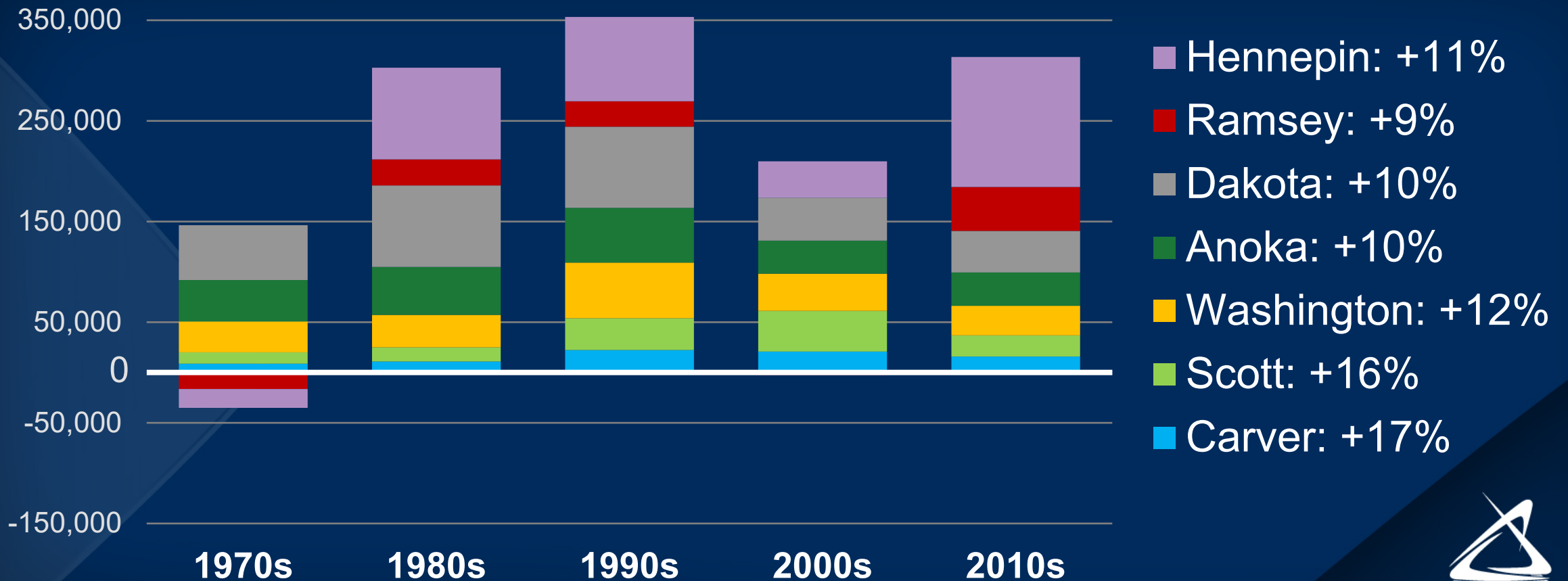
Every county grew in 2010s

POPULATION BY COUNTY



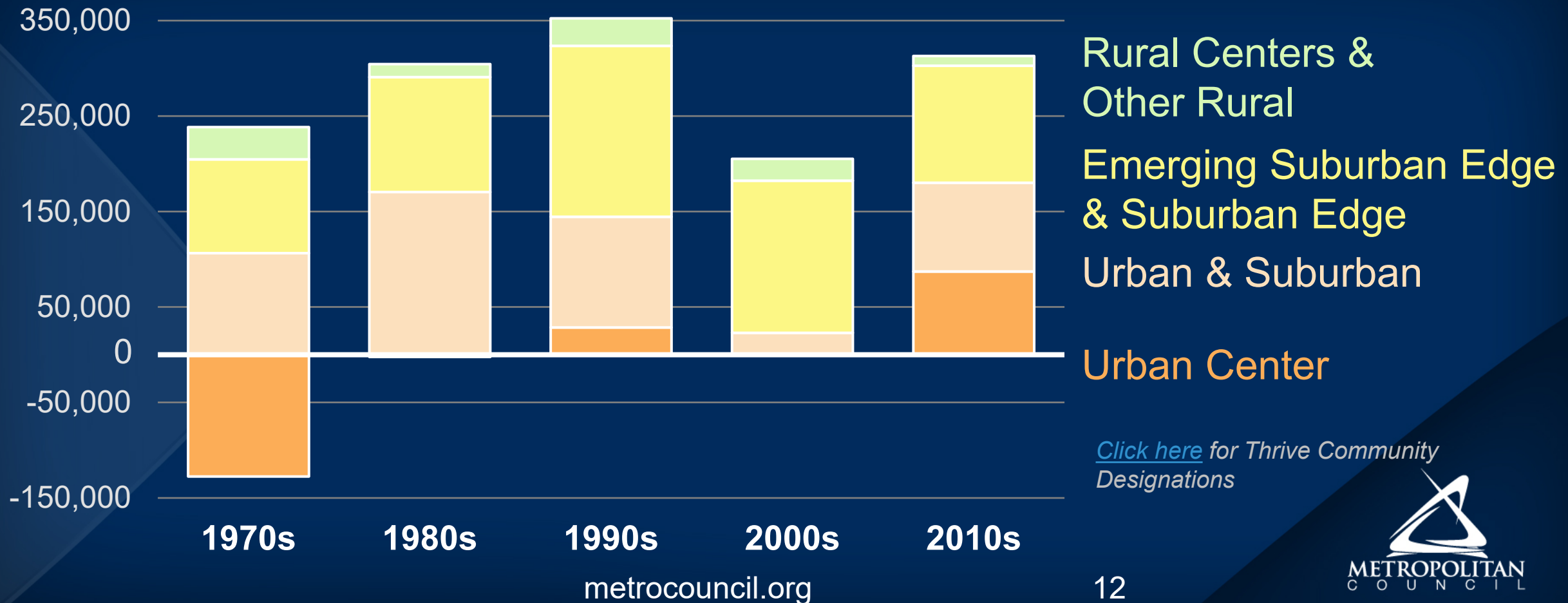
Population growth by county

CHANGE IN POPULATION BY COUNTY



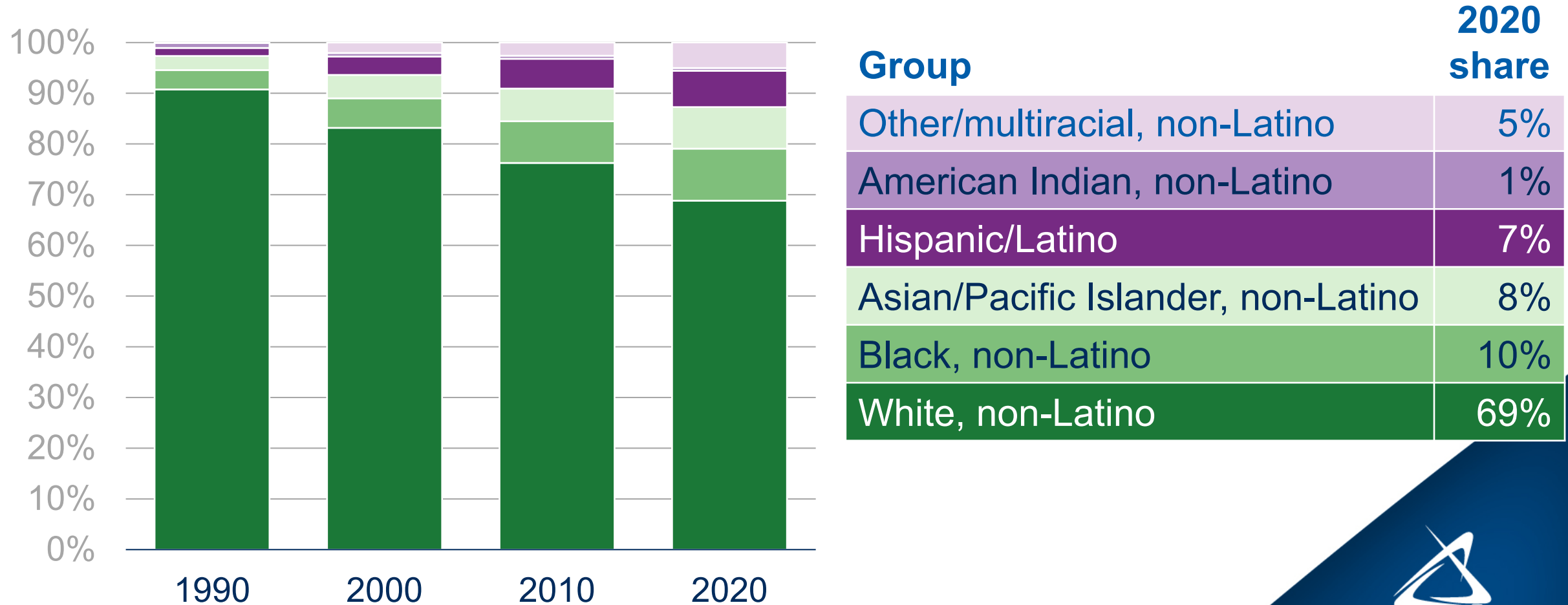
Population growth by policy area

CHANGE IN POPULATION BY THRIVE COMMUNITY DESIGNATION



Diversity is increasing

POPULATION BY RACE AND HISPANIC/LATINO ORIGIN, 1990-2020



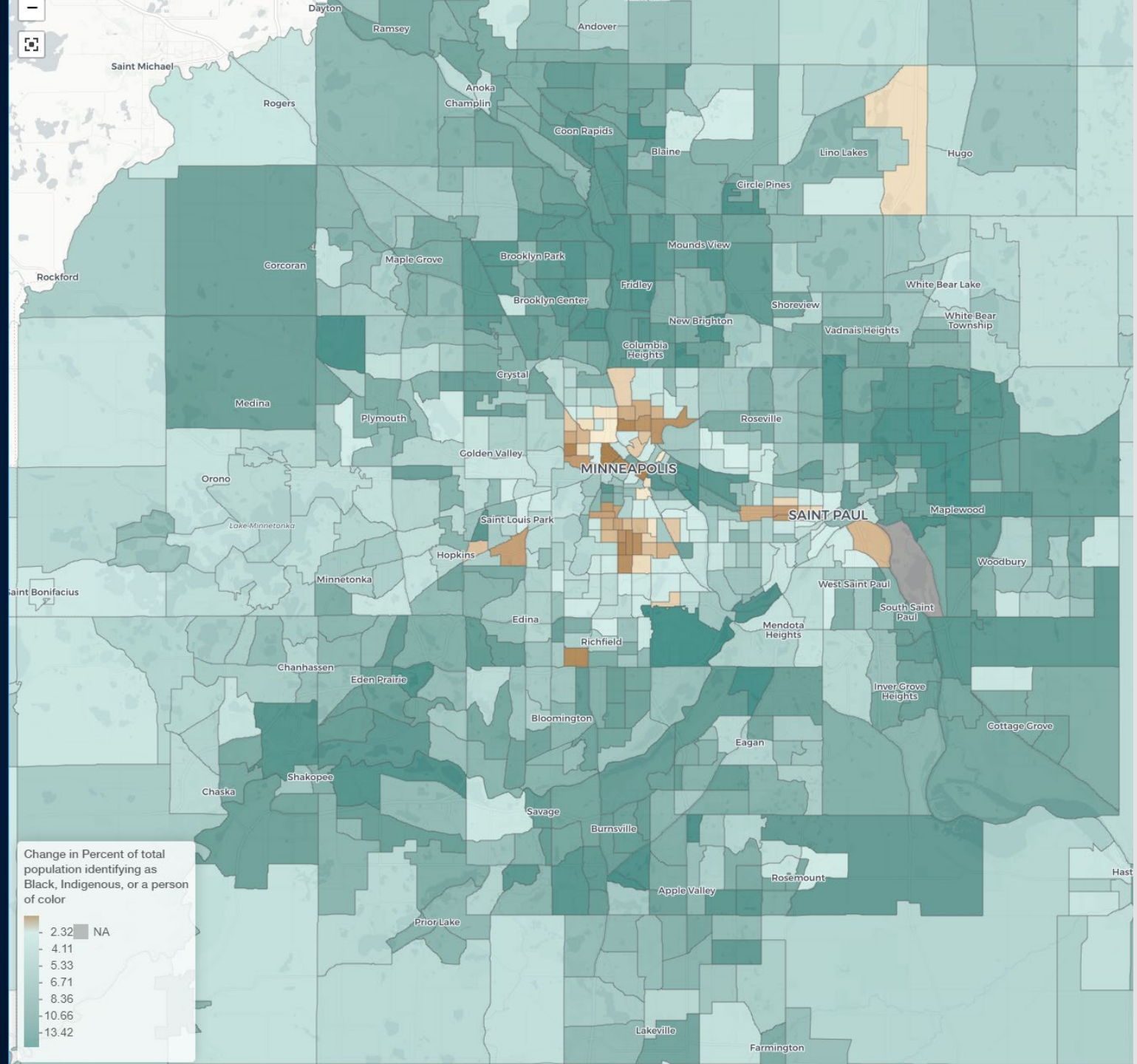
Most areas saw increase in diversity (2010-2020)

Largest increase in % BIPOC

Smaller increase in % BIPOC

Smaller decline in % BIPOC

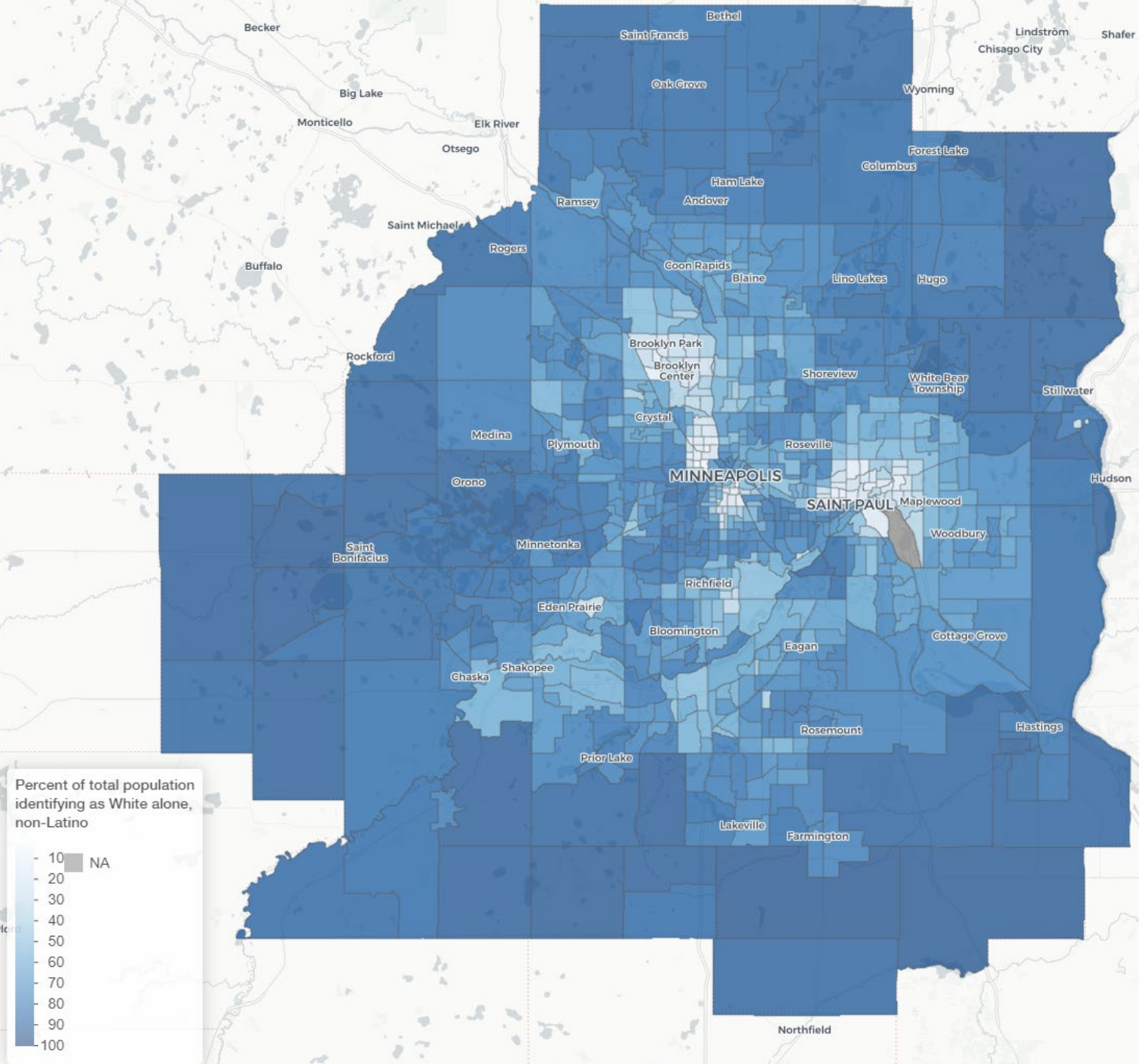
Largest decline in % BIPOC



BUT: Many areas remain mostly White (2020)

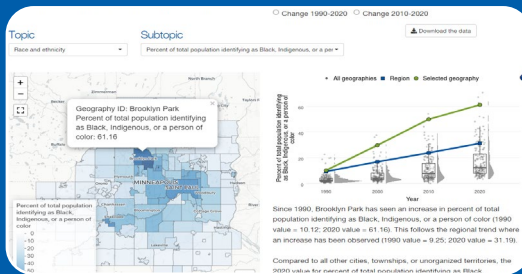
Highest % White

Lowest % White



metro council.org/Census2020

General audiences



[Interactive map](#)

[Digital report](#)

[Download Data](#)

[Community Profiles](#)

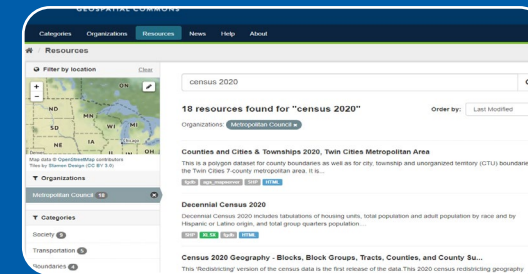
Local jurisdictions

Category	2010 Census	2020 Census	Change	Percent Change
Total Population	1,000	1,100	100	10.0%
Total Housing Units	500	550	50	10.0%
White alone	800	850	50	6.25%
Black alone	10	15	5	50.0%
Hispanic or Latino	50	60	10	20.0%

[Summary of jurisdictions](#)

[Customized report for each jurisdiction](#)

Advanced users



[Downloadable spatial files for GIS analysis](#)

[Data with standardized geographies](#)

Census's criteria for Urban Areas

What is “Urban”?

- *“The Census Bureau’s urban areas represent densely developed territory, and encompass residential, commercial, and other non-residential urban land uses.”*
 - [Federal Register Notice, Feb. 19, 2021](#)
- Extremely local: Basic building block is the Census block
- The criteria for Urban are mainly residential density and/or substantial impervious surface
- Additional criteria *“to account for commercial enclaves, special land uses such as airports.”*

Urban blocks criteria (final)

1. Basic threshold for Urban blocks

- > 475 d.u./square mile (equivalent to > 0.67 d.u./acre)
- Or substantial impervious surface: > 20%
- Or a medium or large group quarters facility

2. Aggregating Urban blocks into Urban Areas

- Contiguous territory
- Or any number of hops < 0.5 mile over land area
- Or one jump of 0.51 to 1.5 miles over land area (+ additional miles allowed to cross water)
- Urban Area must have at least 5,000 population

Urban Areas (final)

- An Urban Area is: a grouping of contiguous or connected Urban blocks; the grouping constitutes a population center
- An Urban Area must have at least 5,000 population
 - Census-designated Urban Area can qualify as a Metropolitan core if >50,000 population
 - And this becomes the basis for US DOT's designation of Metro Planning Organization service areas

Urban blocks criteria continued

1. Basic threshold for Urban blocks
2. Aggregating Urban blocks into Urban Areas
3. Fills of enclave / surrounded area
 - Groupings of blocks with employment centers (> 1,000 jobs)
 - Or blocks with functional airports, as determined by FAA definitions
 - Or blocks with substantial impervious surface: > 20%
 - Or blocks with > 200 d.u./square mile (> 0.3 d.u./acre) can qualify as Urban if adjacent or surrounded by blocks with > 0.67 d.u./acre

What does all this imply for the Minneapolis-St. Paul Urban Area?

- Limiting the “jump” distance to 1.5 mile implies lopping off some rural residential area previously in the post-2010 UA
- At the same time, there has been outward growth of the urbanized edges
- We don’t know yet where MSP Urban Area ends

- “Final criteria” FR Notice expected: February 2022
- Resulting list of Urban Areas: Summer 2022

Final phase of 2020 Census: troubleshooting

Decennial Census data is not perfect

The six leading causes of inaccuracies and errors are:

- a) Boundaries errors and geolocation errors: causing housing and population to be mis-assigned at wrong place
- b) Coverage: classic undercount situation – if Census did not visit or know the address, then uncounted
- c) Respondents' errors: can cause undercounts (*or overcounts*)
- d) Census's errors in field data collection: can cause undercounts (*or overcounts*)
- e) Census's processes of data-mining and imputation for addresses not participating: can cause undercounts (*or overcounts*)
- f) "Disclosure Avoidance System": distortions introduced to summary tables, to frustrate personal identifiability of population; causes some inaccuracy

Final phase of 2020 Census: troubleshooting

Only first two error types can be appealed to Census Bureau:

- a) Boundaries errors and geolocation errors: causing housing and population to be mis-assigned at wrong place
 - b) Coverage: classic undercount situation – if Census did not visit or know the address, then uncounted
- If state, local, tribal governments can identify and substantiate errors, Census can consider through the **Count Question Resolution** process during 2022-2023
 - Census determines whether the issues are “in scope”, whether there were errors, whether it has evidence needed for corrections
 - Only mechanism to request review and remedy of official Census results

Met Council offering training, technical assistance, data resources for CQR

- Training and technical assistance
 - Evidence for Count Question Resolution needs to be clear and thoroughly documented
 - Council staff can advise on whether CQR challenges are worth pursuing
- Data resources
 - Met Council and MetroGIS have historical data (from 2020) that can be used for problem-spotting and substantiation
- Engagement with local governments
 - Communication through our “Plan It” list, MN APA, and list of governments that participated in Census’s Local Update of Census Addresses

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1/13/2022

