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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Decade</th>
<th>Population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1970s</td>
<td>111,261</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1980s</td>
<td>302,848</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1990s</td>
<td>353,341</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000s</td>
<td>207,505</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010s</td>
<td>313,537</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

metrocouncil.org
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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>Population Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hennepin</td>
<td>+11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ramsey</td>
<td>+9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dakota</td>
<td>+10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anoka</td>
<td>+10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Washington</td>
<td>+12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scott</td>
<td>+16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carver</td>
<td>+17%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Population growth by county

CHANGE IN POPULATION BY COUNTY

-150,000 -50,000 50,000 150,000 250,000 350,000

1970s 1980s 1990s 2000s 2010s

Hennepin: +11%
Ramsey: +9%
Dakota: +10%
Anoka: +10%
Washington: +12%
Scott: +16%
Carver: +17%

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Population growth by policy area

CHANGE IN POPULATION BY THRIVE COMMUNITY DESIGNATION

Rural Centers & Other Rural
Emerging Suburban Edge & Suburban Edge
Urban & Suburban
Urban Center

Click here for Thrive Community Designations
Diversity is increasing

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>2020 share</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Other/multiracial, non-Latino</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Indian, non-Latino</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic/Latino</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian/Pacific Islander, non-Latino</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black, non-Latino</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White, non-Latino</td>
<td>69%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1/12/2022 metrocouncil.org
Most areas saw an 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
metrocouncil.org/Census2020

General audiences
- Interactive map
- Digital report
- Download Data
- Community Profiles

Local jurisdictions
- 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.
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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