Hennepin County 2010 Population, Income and Poverty Fact Sheet

December 2011

Introduction

This fact sheet presents 2010 Census counts of population and demographic data and 2010 American Community Survey (ACS) estimates of income, poverty, education and immigration for Hennepin County and its four cities with populations greater than 65,000. These four cities account for 53 percent of the county’s population. Comparisons are made to 2000 Census data. The ACS is an annual survey created by the U.S. Census Bureau to provide more current information in the years between the 10-year censuses. The survey contains estimates on income, poverty, and several other measures that are no longer collected in the decennial census.\(^1\)

Population

The population in Hennepin County grew from 1,116,200 in 2000 to 1,152,425 in 2010, an increase of 36,225 people, or 3.2 percent. This is a slower growth rate than was seen in the 1980s and 1990s.

Immigration

- The proportion of the foreign born population in Hennepin County increased from 10 percent in 2000 to 13 percent in 2010.
- Brooklyn Park had the largest increase in the proportion of their foreign born population (12%).

Visit the Research, Planning and Development Department website at: http://www.hennepin.us/rpd for an electronic version, to obtain the raw numbers used to produce this Fact Sheet, and to view forthcoming Hennepin County Census reports.

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\(^1\) American Community Survey data is not based on an actual count of the U.S. population as is the decennial census, but is instead collected annually through a rolling survey of a sample of Americans. For this reason, ACS results are regarded as estimates and there are margins of error associated with the data.
The population pyramids on this page show a different age configuration by race and ethnicity. Blacks and Hispanics have a much higher proportion of children and young adults. Whites have a much higher proportion of Baby Boomers (46 to 64) and elderly (65 and over).

Note: The difference in the horizontal chart scales. All racial/ethnic groups are mutually exclusive.
Education

- The percentage of Hennepin County adults age 25 and over with at least a Bachelor’s degree increased from 39 percent in 2000 to an estimated 44 percent in 2010.
- The largest increase in the proportion of the 25 and over population with a Bachelor’s degree occurred among Asians (11%) and American Indians (8%).

Family Income

- Adjusted for inflation to 2010 dollars, estimated median family income decreased between 1999 and 2010 in Hennepin County and its four largest cities.\(^3\)
  - Brooklyn Park had the largest percentage decline in estimated median family income.
- Over half (53%) of the adults age 25 and over living in the city of Plymouth had a Bachelor’s degree or higher in 2010. Minneapolis had the next highest percentage of college educated adults (over 44%).

Household Income\(^4\)

- Adjusted for inflation to 2010 dollars, estimated median household income also declined in all four cities plus the county overall.
- Brooklyn Park had the largest percentage decline in estimated median household income.

\(^3\) In Figures 6 and 7 all dollar amounts are adjusted for inflation to 2010 dollars. Family income includes the incomes of all members living in the household who are 15 years old and over and related to the head household by birth, marriage, or adoption.

\(^4\) Household income includes the income of the head household and all individuals 15 years old and over living in the household, whether they are related to the head household or not. Because many households consist of only one person, median household income is usually less than median family income.
Poverty

- The percentage of Hennepin County families living in poverty increased from 5 percent in 1999 to an estimated 9 percent in 2010.  
- All racial/ethnic groups, except Asians, saw an increase in the proportion of families living in poverty.  
- There is a large variation among racial/ethnic groups in the 2010 poverty rate, ranging from an estimated 4 percent for White families up to an estimated 36 percent for Black families and 38 percent for American Indian families.

- The county and its four largest cities experienced an increase from 1999 to 2010 in the percentage of residents with incomes below both the 100 percent and the 200 percent poverty thresholds.  
- The percentage of county residents living below 100 percent of poverty increased from an estimated 8 percent in 1999 to an estimated 14 percent in 2010.  
- The city of Minneapolis had an estimated 23 percent of its residents living below 100 percent of poverty in 2010.  
- Brooklyn Park saw the greatest increase in the proportion of residents below 100 percent of poverty, from an estimated 5.1 percent in 1999 to an estimated 17.7 percent in 2010; from an estimated 16.2 percent (1999) to 36.5 percent (2010) in the proportion below 200 percent of poverty.

5 Poverty status is determined by income and family size. In 2010, the 100 percent federal poverty threshold was $22,113 for a family of four with two children under the age of 18.

6 The data in Figure 9 is based on the population for whom poverty status is determined. The Census Bureau determines poverty status for all people except institutionalized people, people in military group quarters, people in college dormitories, and individuals under 15 years old who are unrelated to the head of household. These groups are excluded from the numerator and denominator when calculating poverty rates.

7 Poverty status is determined by comparing annual income to poverty thresholds that vary by family size, number of children, and age of householder. If a family’s before tax income is less than their threshold, then that family and every individual in it are considered to be in poverty. For people not living in families, poverty status is determined by comparing the individual’s income to his or her poverty threshold. Poverty thresholds range from $11,139 for a one person household to $48,527 for a nine person family with one related child under 18.

For more information see “How Poverty is Calculated in the ACS” at: www.census.gov/hhes/www/poverty/methods/definitions.html

For more information about this Fact Sheet contact Sharon Krmpotich at 612-596-7181 or by e-mail at: sharon.krmpotich@co.hennepin.mn.us.

Go to http://www.census.gov/acs for more information on the American Community Survey.