



# MANAGEMENT BRIEF

DATE: March 7, 2011

TO: Mayor Davidson and Councilmembers

FROM: Dan Stroh, Acting Director, 452-5255 and Gwen Rousseau, Associate Planner-Demographer, 452-2743  
*Department of Planning & Community Development*

SUBJECT: Recent 2010 Census and American Community Survey data releases

On February 22, Washington State received the 2010 Census redistricting data from the U.S. Census Bureau, which includes population counts by race and Hispanic or Latino categories and housing counts by occupancy status. As the name implies, these data are used in “redistricting” processes for legislative districts occurring in 2011.

These were the first data released from the 2010 Census at a finer grain than state totals, and are now available all the way down to the Census block level. In addition, the first 5-year estimates from the American Community Survey (ACS) were released last December. These replace the “long form” data in the decennial census and cover the years 2005-2009.

### **Key findings from the 2010 Redistricting Data**

- In 2010, Bellevue’s population was 122,363 up from 109,569 in 2000, an increase of 11.7 percent. Bellevue remained the fifth most populous city in the State of Washington.
- The number of children in Bellevue grew at roughly the same rate as the overall population. In 2010, 21.2 percent of Bellevue’s populations were under the age of 18, up just a tenth of one percent from 21.1 percent in 2000.
- In 2010, minorities comprised 40.8 percent of Bellevue’s population, up from 28.3 percent in 2000. In terms of overall number, minority populations within Bellevue increased by nearly 62 percent, while the non-Hispanic White population declined by eight percent in the past ten years. All minority race and ethnic groups increased in Bellevue except for Native Hawaiians and Other Pacific Islanders, who declined by 11.7 percent.
- In 2010, Bellevue’s Asian population was 33,659, up from 19,011 in 2000, an increase of 77.1 percent. This represented Bellevue’s largest increase and highest rate of growth.
- Bellevue’s Hispanic and Latino population also increased rapidly, going from 5,827 in 2000 to 8,545 in 2010, an increase of 46.6 percent. Hispanics or Latinos went from comprising 5.3 percent of Bellevue’s population in 2000 to comprising 7.0 percent in 2010.
- Housing units increased faster than population. The number of housing units in Bellevue increased by 7,248 units, going from 48,303 in 2000 to 55,551 in 2010, an increase of 15 percent.

- Commensurately, residential vacancy rates were 9.4 percent in 2010, up from 5.3 percent in 2000. The vacancy rate within downtown alone was 36 percent due largely to recently completed projects that remained unsold or unleased.
- Bellevue's average household size was 2.43 in 2010 up, from 2.39 in 2000. This goes somewhat against a long-standing trend of declining household size.

### **April Study Session and Future Census Releases**

In April 2011 staff will present an in-depth review of key findings and insights from the 2010 Census redistricting data and the 2005-2009 American Community Survey. Both the 2010 Census and 5-year ACS data mark the first releases since the 2000 Census of data below the place level, enabling us to examine how Bellevue's neighborhoods have changed over the past 10 years. Staff will also be presenting these findings to City staff and Commissions, external organizations and making them available on the City's website for their use.

Since these releases, staff has been analyzing the data and creating value added products for work groups such as Human Services, Emergency Preparedness, Transportation's Title VI (nondiscrimination) program, and Neighborhood Outreach. Staff has also been working as part of the eCitygov alliance to update the NWMaps website, which will provide detailed demographic estimates to a wide range of citizen, business, and government users. The hope is that with these and future data releases we can help frame many of the issues that staff and Council are currently working on, as well as highlight areas where additional attention might be needed.

Over the next year the U.S. Census Bureau will be releasing additional data from the 2010 Census. Key dates for future releases are listed below:

#### ***May 2011: Demographic Profile (Place level – i.e. Bellevue)***

- Selected population and housing characteristics

#### ***June-August 2011: Summary File 1 (Block and Tract level)***

- Population counts for 63 race categories and Hispanic or Latino
- Selected population and housing characteristics

#### ***December 2011 – April 2012: Summary File 2 (Tract Level)***

- Population and housing characteristics iterated for many detailed race and Hispanic or Latino categories, and American Indian and Alaska Native tribes.

### **Recognition of Bellevue's Census Outreach Efforts**

The City received recognition from the local and regional census offices for Bellevue's efforts in raising awareness among our diverse population of the importance, safety and ease of filling out the 2010 Census questionnaire. Deputy Mayor Lee was specially recognized for his efforts in Bellevue as well as in the region to promote the importance of being counted. During the census, 77 percent of Bellevue's households mailed back their forms. This was higher than the national average of 74 percent and the State average of 76 percent and in line with the City of Seattle's and King County's overall average.