

## **INTRODUCTION**

This is the first volume of the Bellevue Census 2000 Report. The report will summarize and analyze findings from Census 2000 relating to the City of Bellevue. This first volume will present information for the city as a whole. Information will be presented for the year 2000 both in the context of changes since the 1990 Census, and also comparing and contrasting demographic trends for Bellevue with the region as a whole, and in some cases other cities in the area. Subsequent volumes, which will be released later in 2003, will focus more on demographic trends that are occurring within the community itself, and will present and analyze information at a more localized census tract and neighborhood level in the city.

### **Background**

Every ten years the United States Census Bureau attempts to count every person in the United States. The Year 2000 census was conducted in April 2000. These data are used for several purposes. Historically, the most pertinent use has been to determine how many representatives each state is given in the United States House of Representatives, and to preserve the principle of one person - one vote. In accordance with U.S. Public Law 94 - 171 the first data released each time a census is conducted pertains directly to Congressional redistricting, and covers such factors as total population and households, race, and population over the age of 18. This information is gathered in the census "short form", which is supposed to be filled out for every person in the United States. This information was released to the public for Bellevue and other places in the U.S. in March 2001.

In addition to this demographic information gathered on the short form, the Census Bureau also attempts to gather more detailed socio-economic information in a longer census form. This "long form" was filled out by 1 out of every 6 households in the United States. The socio-economic information gathered in the long form, which covered social, economic, and housing characteristics, was released in Spring 2002 at the citywide level. In September 2002, socio-economic data was released at smaller levels of geography (census tracts and census blocks).

This volume will present information for the city as a whole taken from both the short and long forms. Information will be presented on:

- Population
- Household and age characteristics
- Race and ethnicity
- Nativity, place of birth, and language
- Income, education and employment
- Housing and residential patterns
- Transportation

### **Use of Information**

The information gathered as part of Census 2000 and presented here is very important to the City of Bellevue. The information gives the City, other public agencies, and the public at large a glimpse of who we really are as a community. Census information can be used to help determine the type of programs

and services that can best serve the community as it is, and provide clues to the type of community we are likely to become in the future. Therefore, the Bellevue Census 2000 Report will not only present information, but also will highlight key findings and present analysis on the potential implications of these findings.

Questions on the information presented in this volume, or any other questions on Census 2000 as it pertains to Bellevue, should be directed to the Planning Division, Bellevue Department of Planning & Community Development, at 425-452-7857.