

DRAFT

Demographic Trends

Reviewed by Library Commission 9/6/06

- Based on Planning Department data, population growth between now and 2030 is projected to be approximately 12,900 residents within the city limits and Area II. Forty-four percent of this growth is projected to be in the North Boulder (21%), Gunbarrel (13%) and Palo Park (10%) subcommunities.
- Based on projections from the Boulder Valley School District, the number of elementary and middle school children located within the City of Boulder will increase by less than 200 between 2006 and 2010. The difference between 2006 and 2015 is projected to be less than 100 students.

The following demographic information is taken from *Census Highlights, City of Boulder: A Demographic Profile*, prepared by the Department of Housing & Human Services, April 2004 and from the Demographic Profile section of the 2005 *Housing and Human Services Master Plan*:

- The number of elderly will increase significantly over the next 10 – 20 years. By the year 2030, at least a quarter of the city's population is projected to be over the age of 60 (compared to 14% in 2000). The median age is projected to increase from 35 (without college students) in 2000 to age 51 in 2030.
- The population segment of non-English speakers and those with English as a second language will continue to grow. The largest immigrant population will continue to be Latinos.
- Overall, Boulder is and will remain an affluent, well-educated community. However, Boulder's population includes both ends of the spectrum - the very wealthy and a sizeable population living below the federal poverty level (\$19,350 for a family of four in 2005), the highly educated and the not well educated. In addition, there are indications that the income gap between the affluent and low-income residents is widening.
 - The Boulder/Longmont median family income estimates have grown from \$43,400 in 1990 to \$74,000 in 2000, \$81,400 in 2001 and \$87,900 in 2002. It is important to note that these estimates include Longmont; thus median income for Boulder itself would probably be even higher.
 - In 1990, Boulder's median income was slightly higher than the state and nation. Although state and national median incomes remained relatively comparable from 1990 to 2002, the disparity between Boulder and the state/national figures increased markedly, with Boulder being 35% higher than the state figure and 47% higher than the national figure in 2002.
 - At the same time, the percentage of Boulder's population (excluding university students) below poverty was 14% (about 9,208 people) in 2002, higher than the 2002 national poverty rate, estimated at 12.1%.
 - The Latino median income in Boulder has declined relative to the White median income. In 1990 the Latino median income was about 53% of the White median income; in 2000 it had declined to 45% of the White median income.
 - Based on 2000 Census data, over two-thirds of Boulder's population aged 25 and older had a Bachelor's, graduate or professional degree in 2000, compared to a national estimate of 26%. In contrast, 5% of the Boulder population had less than a high school degree in both 1990 and 2000.