

# Southern Coalition for Social Justice

## Census 2010 Factsheet: Mecklenburg County

How has Mecklenburg County changed since the last census?

	2000 Census	2010 Projection
<i>Total population</i>	695,370	910,755, a 31% increase
<i>Percent African-American</i>	27.87%	29.17%
<i>Percent Hispanic</i>	6.45%	10.80%

These projections come from NC's Office of State Budget and Management, in conjunction with data from the US Census American Community Survey (ACS 2006-2008). The NC OSBM projections are based on Census 2000 data, so they're only as accurate as the census itself!

Also, the ACS is a three-year average of phone survey data, and for privacy reasons data is not released for populations less than 20,000. In rural parts of NC, that means small-area data on race, ethnicity, poverty, transportation, health coverage, etc. will be either infrequently released or not available at all. In many smaller counties, timely data on the Hispanic population is simply not available.

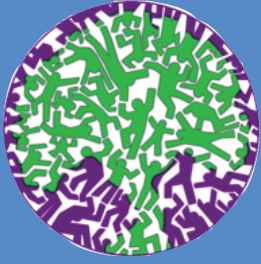
What do population shifts mean for political representation?

- Mecklenburg County and the Charlotte metro area are gaining population relative to the state as a whole (in general, urban areas of NC and their surrounds are growing faster than the state average, while rural counties are losing population or growing slower than the state average).
- Initial predictions have Mecklenburg gaining at least one seat in the NC House. In combination with the predicted increase in minority population percentage, 2010 redistricting could bring opportunities for increased minority representation in the county. Census outreach work to prevent undercount and solidify these gains is essential!
- NC House – Mecklenburg is currently split between the 98 through 107th NC House districts (see table, and attached map).

### Mecklenburg County NC House Districts

Voting Age Population as of Census 2000  
(majority-minority districts are bolded)

<i>NC House District</i>	<i>% White</i>	<i>% African-American*</i>	<i>% Asian or Pacific Islander</i>	<i>% Hispanic</i>
98	85.8%	10.3%	2.3%	2.7%
99	59.1%	31.0%	5.2%	6.1%
100	55.2%	34.1%	3.8%	11.8%
<b>101</b>	<b>40.7%</b>	<b>53.4%</b>	<b>2.6%</b>	<b>5.0%</b>
<b>102</b>	<b>36.5%</b>	<b>51.0%</b>	<b>2.8%</b>	<b>12.4%</b>
103	80.3%	14.5%	2.3%	4.0%
104	90.8%	4.8%	2.9%	2.5%



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<i>NC House District</i>	<i>% White</i>	<i>% African-American*</i>	<i>% Asian or Pacific Islander</i>	<i>% Hispanic</i>
105	89.8%	4.8%	3.7%	2.7%
106	60.4%	28.8%	3.1%	12.3%
<b>107</b>	<b>39.3%</b>	<b>54.1%</b>	<b>3.2%</b>	<b>5.0%</b>

*\*includes folks who self-identified as multi-racial and African-American, or Hispanic and African-American*

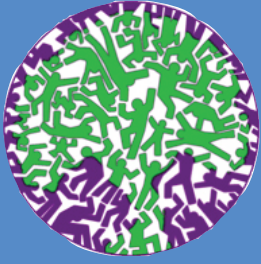
- State Senate – Mecklenburg County is covered by State Senate Districts 37-40, and shares part of District 35 with Union County. Of these 5, District 38 was the only one counted as majority-minority in Census 2000 (with 47.2% African-American and 6.5% Hispanic). Districts 37 and 40, however, both also had significant Hispanic populations in 2000 (with 9% and 7.2%, respectively), and with the Hispanic population in Mecklenburg County predicted to nearly double in Census 2010, these districts may have a significant Hispanic voting block.
- US Congress – Mecklenburg is split between the 9th and 12th Congressional Districts. The 9th District is 86% white (represented by Sue Myrick), while the 12th District (Mel Watt’s district) is borderline majority-minority.

### How would an accurate count impact federal funding?

- Medicaid: As of January 2010, **117,395** Mecklenburg County residents were enrolled in Medicaid. An accurate count for NC in 2000 would have resulted in **\$57 million** increased funding statewide **in 2008 alone**.
- Title I: Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools received **\$30,196,274** in federal Title I allotments in the 2009-2010 fiscal year. Those funds were distributed between 58 Title I eligible schools, serving 21,490 students (see following list). Twenty percent of the total Title I funds also went to district-wide purposes like busing.

### Mecklenburg County: Title I Schools

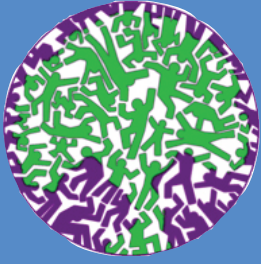
<b>School</b>	<b>% from low-income families</b>	<b>Total students</b>
Albemarle Rd. Elementary	89.7%	973
Albemarle Road Middle School	84.7%	812
Allenbrook Elementary	92.2%	451



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School	% from	
	low-income families	Total students
Ashley Park Elementary	94.6%	276
Berryhill Elementary School	79.6%	50
Billingsville Elementary	93.6%	421
Briarwood Elementary	95.1%	720
Bruns Avenue Elementary	95.9%	506
Business & Finance School@GHS	80.1%	40
Cochrane Middle School	86.2%	607
Devonshire Elementary	93.2%	561
Druid Hills Elementary	94.6%	388
Eastway Middle School	90.4%	852
First Ward Elementary	83.9%	442
Hawthorne High School	81.5%	40
Hickory Grove Elementary	85.6%	925
Hidden Valley Elementary	94.9%	526
Highland Renaissance Elementary	93.1%	566
Hornets Nest Elementary	78.6%	90
Huntingtowne Farms Elementary	76.0%	50
International Studies @ GHS	79.5%	40
Irwin Ave. Open Elementary	82.8%	418
J. H. Gunn Elementary	76.5%	200
J. T. Williams Middle School	95.0%	575
Joseph W Grier Academy	76.2%	90
Leadership & Public Serv. at G	80.8%	40
Lincoln Heights Elementary	85.1%	335
Martin Luther King Jr Middle	87.1%	858
Math and Science School at Gar	80.2%	40
McClintock Middle School	76.4%	40
Merry Oaks Elementary	91.5%	601
Midwood High School	92.3%	40
Montclair Elementary	96.7%	426
Morgan School	83.5%	40
Nathaniel Alexander Elementary	77.1%	70
Nations Ford Elementary	92.7%	600
Newell Elementary School	82.9%	832



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<b>School</b>	<b>% from low-income families</b>	<b>Total students</b>
Oakdale Elementary School	75.0%	55
Pawtuckett Elementary	83.0%	65
Pinewood Elementary	80.7%	389
Rama Road Elementary	77.9%	40
Ranson Middle School	76.7%	40
Reid Park Elementary	96.0%	576
Sedgefield Elementary	90.6%	404
Sedgefield Middle School	85.1%	429
Shamrock Gardens Elementary	93.0%	343
Spaugh Middle School	94.8%	536
Statesville Road Elementary	77.1%	60
Sterling Elementary	89.5%	526
Thomasboro Elementary	94.6%	392
Turning Point Academy	78.8%	150
Walter G. Byers Elementary	94.6%	426
West Charlotte High School	75.6%	120
Westerly Hills Elementary	91.7%	301
Whitewater Middle School	80.6%	40
Wilson Middle School	88.6%	747
Windsor Park Elementary	89.6%	731
Winterfield Elementary	92.2%	579

### Which parts of Mecklenburg County are Hard-to-Count?

The US Census Bureau tracks these and other neighborhood characteristics through its Hard-to-Count (HTC) index. Areas with an HTC index above 60 are considered 'hard-to-count' – see the accompanying map for a detail of HTC areas in Mecklenburg County. Of course, the Census index relies on 2000 data, and in many cases neighborhood-level characteristics have changed so much since 2000 that your knowledge as a local organizer will be more useful for targeting census outreach than the HTC data.