

New York Growth is Linked to Immigration

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Body

New York City took in 854,000 immigrants between 1980 and 1989, who fanned out into all five boroughs to feed great changes in racial and ethnic concentrations, according to data released yesterday by Federal **immigration** officials and the Census Bureau.

The figures show that the city's rebound in population in the 1980's rode upon waves of immigrants from Asia, the Caribbean and Latin America, who more than made up for a continuing loss of whites.

All this created a much different city, where one out of nine **New** Yorkers came from another country in the last decade and where whites of European ancestry now account for less than half of the city's population.

Residents identifying themselves as Hispanic grew by 281,797 -- to 1,783,511. Asians more than doubled in number, growing by 281,218 -- to 512,719.

Decline in White Population

Asians grew sharply across the country, according to the census, and that pattern held across **New York** State, where they grew to 693,760 residents from 310,526 in 1980. More than half live in Brooklyn and Queens, whose Asian populations now both outnumber Manhattan's Asian population.

The city's overall population increased by 3.5 percent, to 7,322,564, despite a 10.9 percent decline in whites. The number of whites, which in the data released yesterday includes several hundred thousand Hispanic residents who identify themselves as white, fell to 3,827,088, from 4,294,075 in 1980.

Similar patterns were seen in **New York** State, where the overall population increased by 2.5 percent, to 17,990,455, even though the white population fell by 4.1 percent. There were 13,385,255 whites in the state in 1990, down from 13,960,868 a decade earlier.

In contrast with the **growth** in **New York** City, though, **immigration** in **New York's** next largest cities -- Buffalo, Rochester, Yonkers and Syracuse -- was not enough to prevent overall population declines because of the loss of whites.

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The new census data confirm trends that have long been noted by demographers and others. "We've gotten used to the fact that New York City is a place where the whiteEuropean population is now less than 50 percent and falling," said Rosemary Scanlon, chief economist of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey.

The data released yesterday elaborated on overall population figures released last month. New York and other cities have challenged the data in a lawsuit, on the ground that the Census Bureau failed to count thousands of residents, many of them minorities.

The figures, according to New York officials, are likely to understate the actual minority population. Figures from the Immigration and Naturalization Service show that between 1980 and 1989 New York City took in 854,000 immigrants. This is seen as the principal reason why the city's population grew both in absolute numbers and diversity in the last decade.

Among the various racial and ethnic groups, blacks showed the largest increase: 318,175. The census put the number of blacks at 2,102,512, up 17.8 percent over the 1,784,337 reported in 1980. Nearly half of the increase -- 149,493 -- was registered in Brooklyn, which has seen a large influx from the Caribbean.

The most dramatic increases were registered by Asians, whose population was put at 512,719, more than double the 1980 total of 231,501. The largest influx was in Queens, which has become a favorite destination of Chinese immigrants. There were 238,336 Asians in that borough, or 154 percent morethan the 93,780 counted in 1980. The Asian population also grew by 159 percent in Brooklyn, 135 percent in the Bronx, 153 percent on Staten Island and 52 percent in Manhattan.

The data released yesterday showed that whites still constitute 52 percent of New York City's population. But the figure of 3,827,088 whites includes a high percentage of the city's 1,783,511 Hispanic residents.

Demographers thus agree that sometime during the mid-1980's non-Hispanic whites ceased to be a majority of the city's population. Confirmation of this must await the release of further data from the Census Bureau, possibly next week.

Many Whites Leave City

The proportion of non-Hispanic whites in the city has been declining for several decades, and analysts generally agree that the net loss of 466,987 whites over the decade was caused almost entirely by continued migration of this group.

Manhattan and Staten Island could be exceptions to this trend. The white population of Manhattan, including some Hispanic residents, grew by 26,023 during the decade, to 867,227, a gain of 3.1 percent. Staten Island added 8,509 whites for a total of 322,043, a gain of 2.7 percent.

The number of Hispanic people in the city increased by 281,797, a gain of 18.8 percent. The largest gain, 126,758, was in the Bronx, which became the only borough in which Hispanic residents now outnumber whites. In 1980 there were 554,046 whites and 396,353 Hispanics in the Bronx. In 1990, the bureau reported, there were 430,077 whites and 523,111 Hispanics.

Data for New York State showed that, among the various racial and ethnic groups, Hispanic people accounted for the biggest gains. There were 1,659,300 Hispanic residents in 1980, or 9.5 percent of the overall population. By last year this figure had increased by 554,726 to 2,214,026, or 12.3 percent of the total.

Strong Black Growth

Blacks also showed strong growth in the state, increasing by 457,049. The black population went from 2,402,006, or 13.7 percent of the population, in 1980 to 2,859,055, or 15.9 percent of the total, in 1990.

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Asians showed the strongest percentage growth, registering an increase of 123.4 percent. The statewide Asian population grew from 310,526, or 1.8 percent of the total, in 1980 to 693,760, or 3.9 percent, in 1990.

Suburban counties showed what is also becoming a pattern throughout the metropolitan area: stagnation of the white population and an increase in the number of residents from racial and ethnic minorities.

Nassau and Westchester Counties, for example, both registered overall declines in population because of loss of whites. In Nassau the white population dropped by 7.4 percent, to 1,115,119, while in Westchester the number of whites declined by 4.9 percent, to 694,308.

Ms. Scanlon of the Port Authority said that the decline in white population in such suburbs was largely a result of declining family size. "There's a lot of empty nesting in those areas," she said.

Suffolk County, which has a somewhat younger overall population, was something of an exception to this trend.

Graphic

Graphs: "New York City's Decade of Change" shows percentage of New York City's population in 1980 and 1990, from the Census Bureau (pg. B1);

Table: "The Census Count for New York"

From the Census Bureau, New York City continues to dispute the Census Bureau's count.

<u>New York</u> State	1980	1990	Change
Total	17,558,072	17,990,455	2.5%
White	13,960,868	13,385,255	-4.1
Black	2,402,006	2,859,055	19.0
American Indian, Eskimo,	Aleut	39,582	62,651
			5
			8
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Asian or Pacific Islander	310,526	693,760	123.4
Other	845,090	989,734	17.1
Hispanic origin	1,659,300	2,214,026	33.4
<u>New York</u> City 1980	1990	Change	
Total	7,071,639	7,322,564	3.5%
White	4,294,075	3,827,088	-10.9
Black	1,784,337	2,102,512	17.8
American Indian, Eskimo,	Aleut	11,824	27,531
			1
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			2
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Asian or Pacific Islander	231,501	512,719	121.5
Other	749,902	852,714	13.7
Hispanic origin	1,501,714	1,783,511	18.8

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Brooklyn	1980	1990	Change	
Total	2,230,936	2,300,664	3.1%	
White	1,249,486	1,078,549	-13.7	
Black	722,812	872,305	20.7	
American Indian, Eskimo, Aleut		3,182	7,969	150.4
Asian or Pacific Islander	42,965	111,251	159.0	
Other	212,491	230,590	8.5	
Hispanic origin	392,118	462,411	17.9	
Queens	1980	1990	Change	
Total	1,891,352	1,951,598	3.2%	
White	1,335,805	1,129,192	-15.5	
Black	354,129	423,211	19.5	
American Indian, Eskimo, Aleut	2,814	7,050	150.5	
Asian or Pacific Islander	93,780	238,336	154.1	
Other	104,824	153,809	46.7	
Hispanic origin	262,422	381,120	45.2	
Manhattan	1980	1990	Change	
Total	1,428,285	1,487,536	4.1%	
White	841,204	867,227	3.1	
Black	309,854	326,967	5.5	
American Indian, Eskimo, Aleut		3,036	5,728	88.7
Asian or Pacific Islander	72,884	110,629	51.8	
Other	201,307	176,985	-	12.1
Hispanic origin	336,247	386,630	15.0	
Bronx	1980	1990	Change	
Total	1,168,972	1,203,789	3.0%	
White	554,046	430,077	-22.4	
Black	371,926	449,399	20.8	
American Indian, Eskimo, Aleut		2,409	6,069	151.9
Asian or Pacific Islander	15,163	35,562	134.5	
Other	225,428	282,662	24.9	
Hispanic origin	396,353	523,111	32.0	
Staten Island	1980	1990	Change	

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Total	352,121	378,977	7.7%	
White	313,534	322,043	2.7	
Black	25,616	30,630	19.6	
American Indian, Eskimo,	Aleut	383	715	86.7
Asian or Pacific Islander	6,709	16,941	152.5	
Other	5,879	8,648	47.1	
Hispanic origin	18,884	30,239	60.1	
Suffolk County	1980	1990	Change	
Total	1,284,231	1,321,864	2.9%	
White	1,185,109	1,190,315	0.4	
Black	71,741	82,910	15.6	
American Indian, Eskimo,	Aleut	1,966	2,994	52.3
Asian or Pacific Islander	10,297	23,100	124.3	
Other	15,118	22,545	49.1	
Hispanic origin	58,689	87,852	49.7	
Nassau County	1980	1990	Change	
Total	1,321,582	1,287,348	- 2.6%	
White	1,204,208	1,115,119	- 7.4	
Black	90,743	111,057	22.4	
American Indian, Eskimo,	Aleut	892	1,642	84.1
Asian or Pacific Islander	14,472	39,299	171.5	
Other	11,267	20,231	79.6	
Hispanic origin	43,286	77,386	78.8	
Westchester County	1980	1990	Change	
Total	866,599	874,866	1.0%	
White	729,831	694,308	- 4.9	
Black	104,815	120,195	14.7	
American Indian, Eskimo, Aleut	722	1,405	94.6	
Asian or Pacific Islander	15,126	32,169	112.7	
Other	16,105	26,789	66.3	
Hispanic origin	45,566	86,194	89.2	

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