

## **The Circuit Less Travelled: A Path of Gentrification Through Colorado Neighborhoods**

Throughout the history of the United States of America race, culture, economic status, and education have defined people's class. Even today, neighborhoods are stratified by class, yet for many people their neighborhood defines their connection with the city and culture. But, what happens when you suddenly see the people and places change before your eyes? Not only change, but transform into a culture that no longer reflects your own. This is how many experience gentrification. Often, this shock of culture combined with a neighborhood becoming unaffordable to live in, forces people to move elsewhere.

In this analysis, we build a model to understand how neighborhoods of Denver are changing over time. This allows us to tell a story of where people are moving to in Denver when they become displaced. This is accomplished by using data collected in the American Community Surveys over the last 15 years to derive a clustering of neighborhoods based on factors of gentrification. We analyze how the clusters change over time using circuit walks to break large changes in the distribution of the population down to simpler steps. Thus, enabling us to visualize how the neighborhoods of Denver are changing. By understanding these changes, we can develop targeted policy recommendations for the benefit of those who may be displaced by gentrification.