

Knox County Demographic Trends

Date:

November 2001

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information:

Publications:

View related Census
2000 data on our
Web site at:
[www.knoxmpc.org/
locldata/demogr.htm](http://www.knoxmpc.org/locldata/demogr.htm)

MPC contact person:

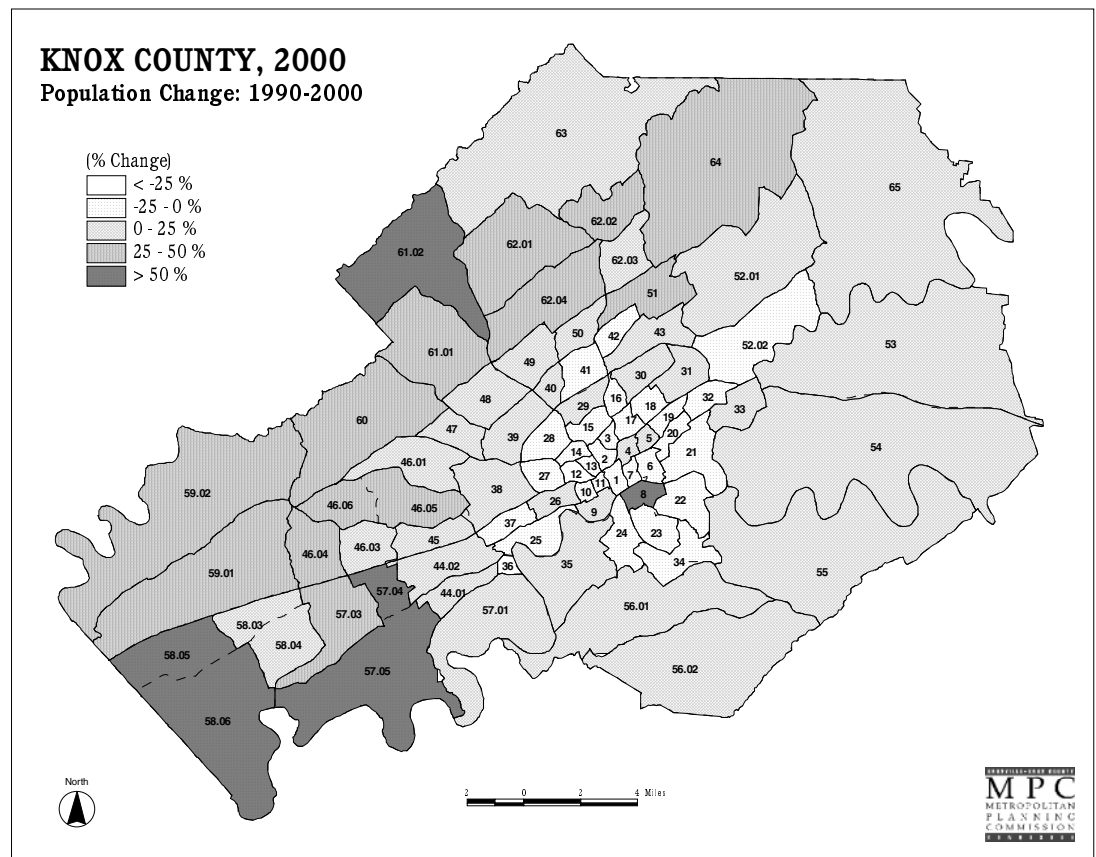
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www.knoxmpc.org
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**In August the Census
Bureau released details on
population, housing, and
family structure. Here are
some of the highlights.**

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the population of Knoxville and Knox County increased almost 14% between 1990 and 2000. More than 37,000 people moved into the county balance during the '90s, while the city population grew by almost 9,000 people, regaining most of the population lost during the '80s.

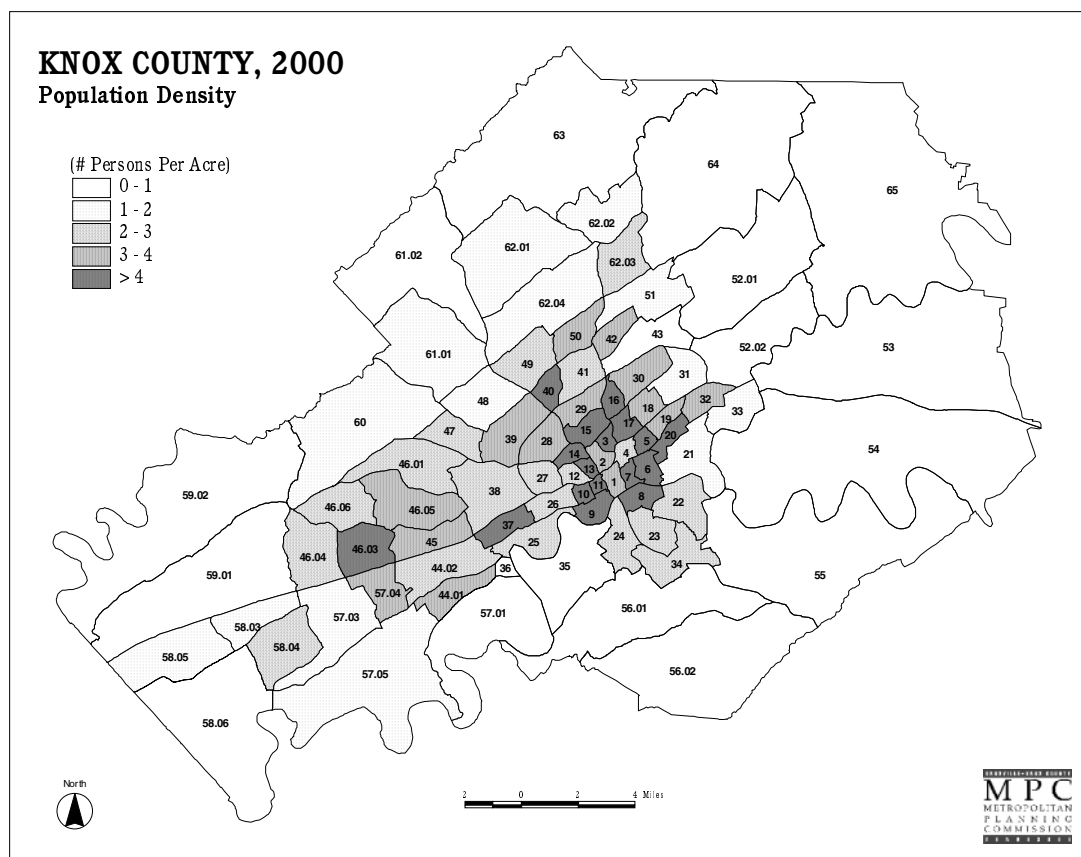


	1980	1990	2000	% Change 1990-2000
<i>Population</i>				
Knoxville	175,045	165,121	173,890	5.3
Knox County Balance	144,649	170,628	208,142	22.0
Total (City-County)	319,694	335,749	382,032	13.8

HOUSING DENSITY

Summary

- During the '90s, the gain in the number of housing units paralleled the gain in the number of households. Both exceeded the increase in population. Housing units grew by 19.4%, households by 18.1%, and population by 13.8%.
- Out of the total 27,857 new housing units built during the '90s, over 19,000 were located in the county balance, a 28.8% gain in residential stock.
- Homeowners accounted for 67% of all occupied housing units in Knox County, up from 64% in 1990.
- In 2000, 33% of all housing units in Knox County were rentals. In 1990, rentals accounted for 36% of all units.
- A closer split was seen in the city. 51% of housing units were owned and 49% were rental properties. The percentage of homeowners within the city increased slightly from 1990 when 49.9% of housing units were owner-occupied. In 1980, 51.1% were owned.
- Most of the rental property in Knox County was within the city limits with a 72% share of the total. Rental property accounted for 18.3% of occupied housing stock in the county balance.
- Vacant properties represented 7.9% of all housing units countywide. This was an increase from 1990 when the vacancy rate was 6.9%.
- The vacancy rate for rental units countywide was 10%, also an increase from 1990.

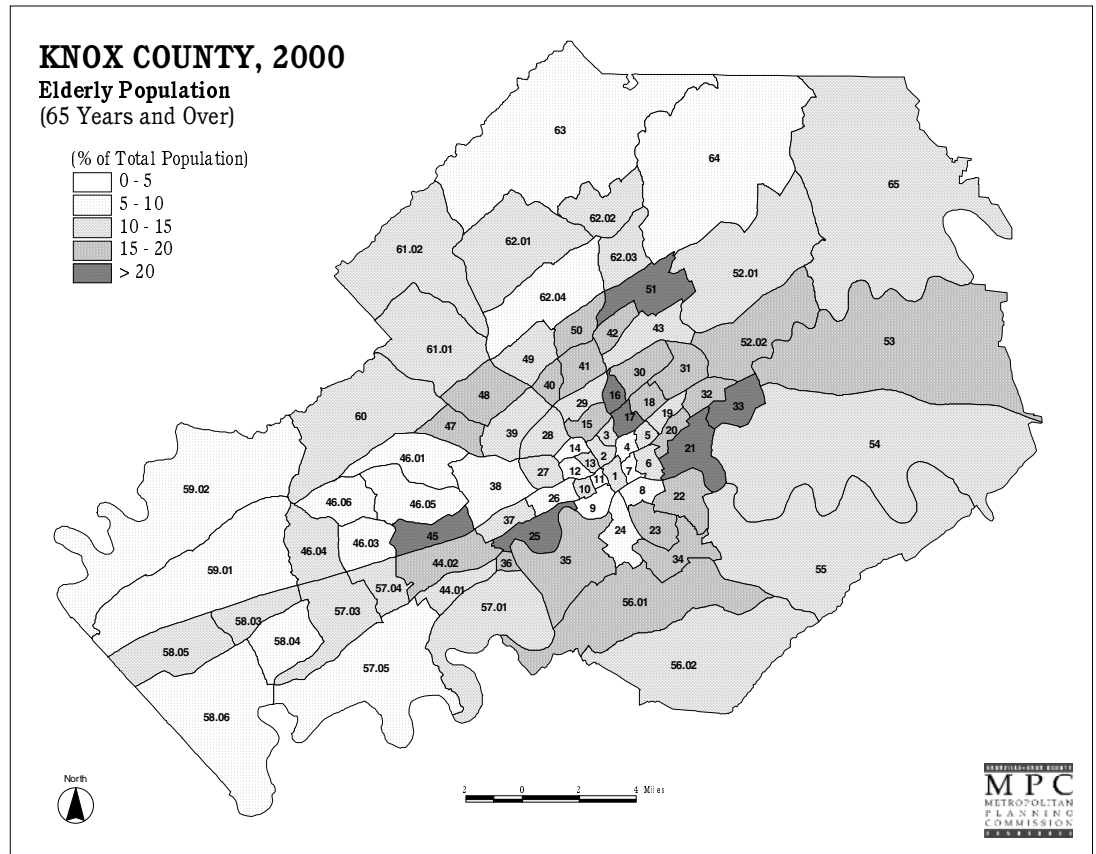


	1980	1990	2000	% Change 1990-2000
Total Units				
Knoxville	73,233	76,453	84,981	11.2
Knox County Balance	52,544	67,129	86,458	28.8
Total (City-County)	125,777	143,582	171,439	19.4
Owner-Occupied Units				
Knoxville	35,075	34,892	39,208	12.4
Knox County Balance	39,494	50,477	66,354	31.5
Total (City-County)	74,569	85,369	105,562	23.7
Renter-Occupied Units				
Knoxville	33,499	35,081	37,442	6.7
Knox County Balance	9,883	13,189	14,868	12.7
Total (City-County)	43,382	48,270	52,310	8.4
Vacant Housing Units				
Knoxville	4,659	6,480	8,331	28.6
Knox County Balance	3,167	3,463	5,236	51.2
Total (City-County)	7,826	9,943	13,567	36.4
Vacancy Rate				
Knoxville	6.4	8.5	9.8	
Knox County Balance	6.0	5.2	6.1	
Total (City-County)	6.2	6.9	7.9	

AGE

Summary

- School age population, ages 5-19 years, increased 13% between 1990 and 2000.
- The young adult population, ages 25-34 years, declined by 3,000 during the '90s. The youngest adults, ages 20-24, showed a small gain countywide, increasing by 4.4%.
- The Baby Boomer population was responsible for a 52% increase in the 45-54 age group during the '90s. In 1990, people ages 45-54 comprised 10.5% of the total. By 2000, this age group grew to a 14.1% share.
- Population 75 years and over showed the next largest increase (25.5%) between 1990 and 2000.
- More elderly people are living in the county balance. Since 1980, the county gain was over 100%, while the increase within the city limits averaged just over 3.0%.
- Population in Knox County is aging. The median is now 36 years, up from 33.6 in 1990. The median age statewide in 2000 is 35.9.

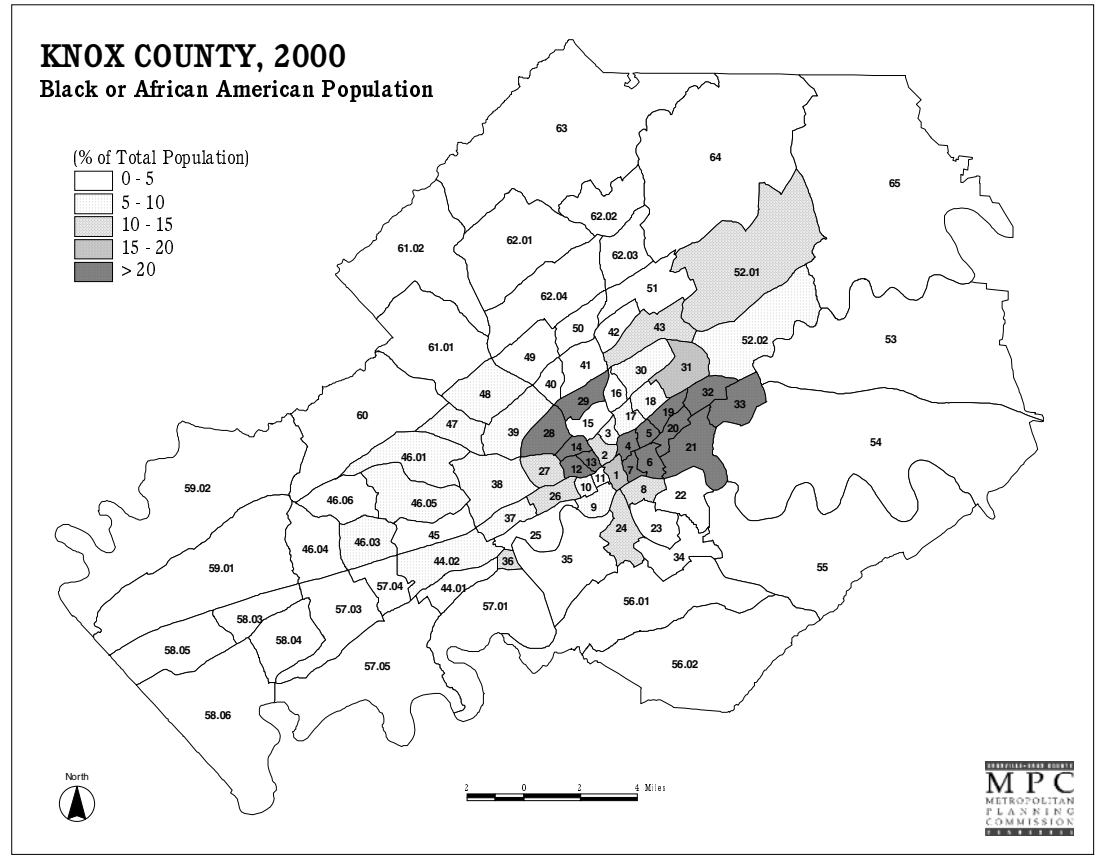


	1980	1990	2000	% Change 1990-2000
Total (City-County) By Age				
Under 5 years	19,638	21,426	23,371	9.1
5 to 9 years	21,495	21,148	23,984	13.4
10 to 14 years	23,402	20,155	23,846	18.3
15 to 19 years	30,179	24,918	26,976	8.3
20 to 24 years	35,629	30,077	31,408	4.4
25 to 34 years	54,911	58,024	55,057	-5.1
35 to 44 years	36,272	52,117	60,900	16.9
45 to 54 years	32,476	35,395	53,742	51.8
55 to 64 years	29,935	29,799	34,333	15.2
65 to 74 years	21,782	24,818	25,983	4.7
75 to 84 years	11,037	13,829	16,839	21.8
85 years and over	2,938	4,043	5,593	38.3
Elderly (over 65)				
Knoxville	24,172	25,441	24,994	-1.8
Share of total (%)	13.8	15.4	14.4	
Knox County Balance	11,585	17,249	23,421	35.8
Share of total (%)	8.0	10.1	11.3	
Total (City-County)	35,757	42,690	48,415	13.4
Share of total (%)	11.2	12.7	12.7	
Median Age				
Knoxville	29.4	32.4	33.4	
Knox County Balance	30.7	34.9	n/a	
Total (City-County)	30.0	33.6	36.0	

RACE: BLACK, WHITE, AND ASIAN

Summary

- Although more African-Americans live in the county balance than previously, the city share still predominates. 85% of Knox County's African-American population live in the city, representing 16.2% of the total population. In Knoxville and Knox County combined, 8.6% of the total is African-American.
- The percentage of white population within the city limits continued to fall, a trend since 1970 when the share was 86.9%. In 2000, the share was 79.7%.
- The Asian population increased evenly in both the city (829) and county balance (826). An additional 855 people classed themselves as Asian in combination with one or more other race(s).
- The Asian population grew 50.4% countywide between 1990 and 2000.

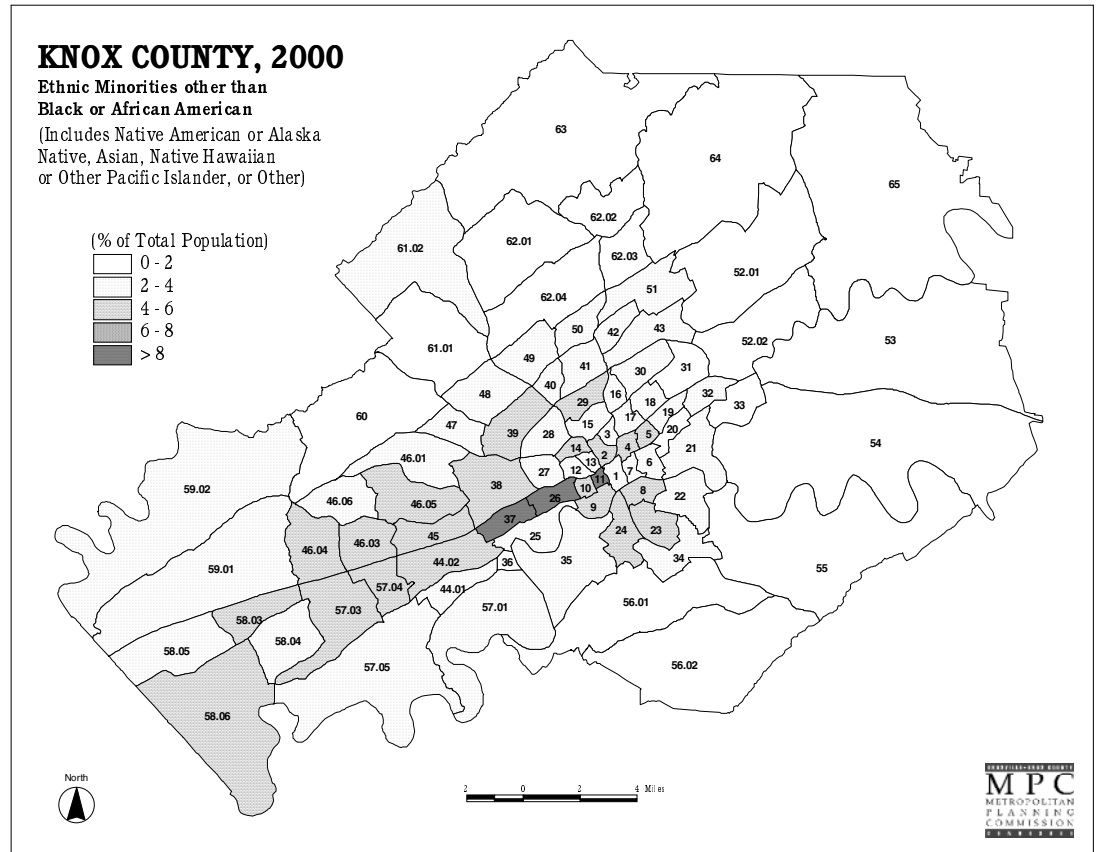


	1980	1990	2000	% Change 1990-2000
White				
Knoxville	147,452	136,604	138,611	1.5
Share of total (%)	84.2	82.7	79.7	
Knox County Balance	141,223	164,817	197,960	20.1
Share of total (%)	97.6	96.6	95.1	
Total (City-County)	288,675	301,421	336,571	11.7
Share of total (%)	90.3	89.8	88.1	
Black				
Knoxville	25,582	26,053	28,171	8.1
Share of total (%)	14.6	15.8	16.2	
Knox County Balance	2,424	3,550	4,816	35.7
Share of total (%)	1.7	2.1	2.3	
Total (City-County)	28,006	29,603	32,987	11.4
Share of total (%)	8.8	8.8	8.6	
Asian				
Knoxville	900	1,696	2,525	48.9
Share of total (%)	0.5	1.0	1.5	
Knox County Balance	639	1,586	2,412	52.1
Share of total (%)	0.4	0.9	1.2	
Total (City-County)	1,539	3,282	4,937	50.4
Share of total (%)	0.5	1.0	1.3	

RACE: OTHER

Summary

- Native Americans retained the smallest share of local population with a total of 1,007 people. Another 1,694 classified themselves as Native American in combination with some other race.
- “Other” race category included Pacific Islanders/Hawaiians and those who classified themselves as more than two races or a race not specifically listed on the Census survey form.
- The Hispanic population increased by 140% between 1980 and 2000. Despite this large growth, Hispanics remained a small percentage of the total population of Knox County at 1.3%. Knox had a smaller share of Hispanics than the more rural surrounding counties.



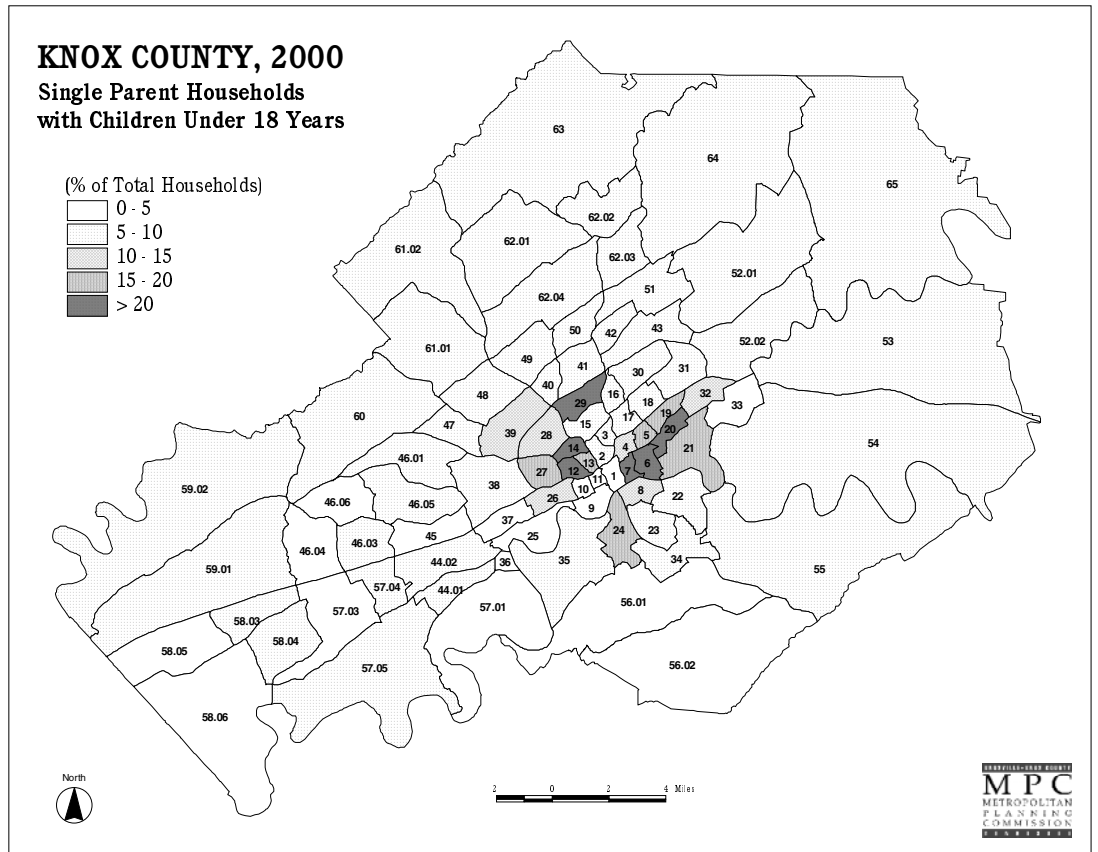
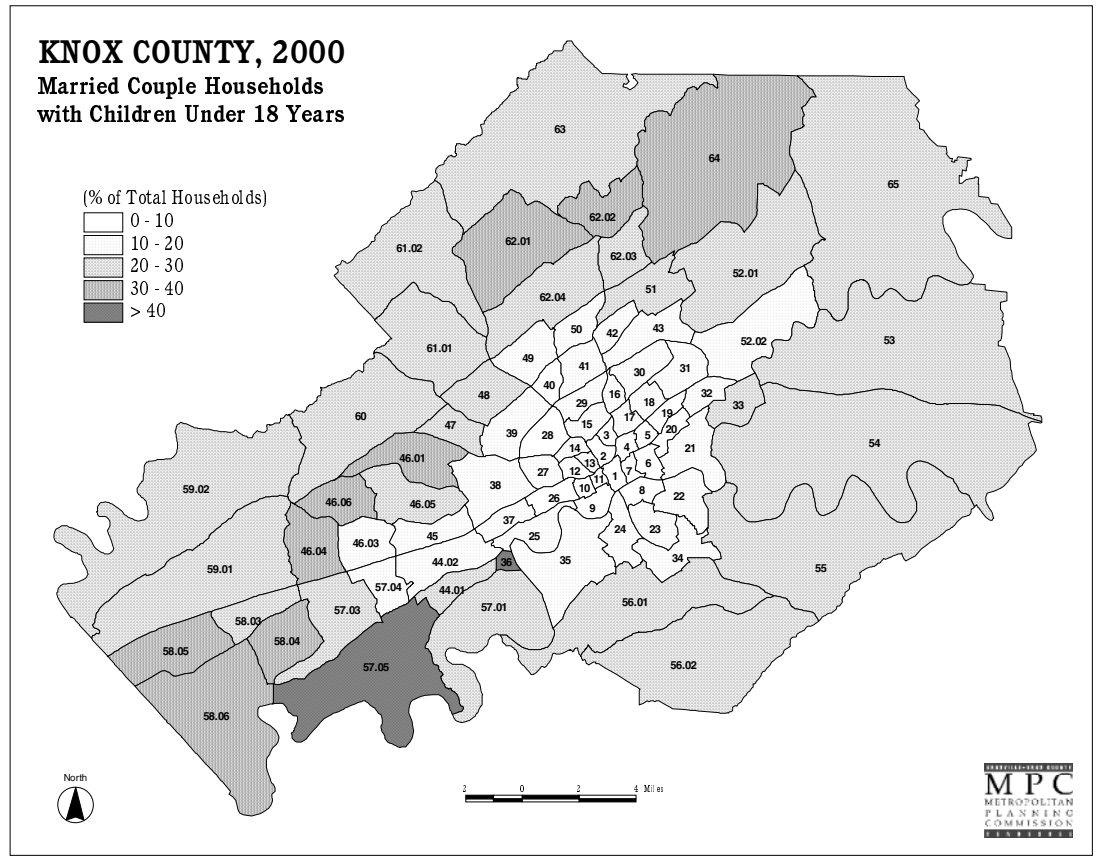
	1980	1990	2000	% Change 1990-2000
Am. Ind., AK Native				
Knoxville	277	399	541	35.6
Share of total (%)	0.2	0.2	0.3	
Knox County Balance	160	398	466	17.1
Share of total (%)	0.1	0.2	0.2	
Total (City-County)	437	797	1,007	26.3
Share of total (%)	0.1	0.2	0.3	
Other				
Knoxville	834	369	4,042	
Share of total (%)	0.5	0.2	2.3	
Knox County Balance	203	277	2,488	
Share of total (%)	0.1	0.2	1.2	
Total (City-County)	1,037	646	6,530	
Share of total (%)	0.3	0.2	1.7	
Hispanic or Latino				
Knoxville	1,210	1,099	2,751	150.3
Share of total (%)	0.7	0.7	1.6	
Knox County Balance	763	968	2,052	112.0
Share of total (%)	0.5	0.6	1.0	
Total (City-County)	1,973	2,067	4,803	132.4
Share of total (%)	0.6	0.6	1.3	

FAMILY STRUCTURE

Summary

- The total number of households in Knoxville and Knox County increased, while the average household size continued to decline. The average household size in Knox County was 2.3 in 2000. The national average was 2.59, a drop from 2.63 in 1990.
- Family households in 2000 held a 63.8% share of the Knox County total. Families lost ground significantly in Knox County since 1980 when the share was 72.4% of all households.
- The proportion of married couple households to the total number of households continued to decline. In 1980, married couples held a 59.4% share. By 2000, this dropped to 49.8%.
- In the county balance, married couples held a large share of households with 63.4% of the total. Within the city limits, only 35% of all households were married couple families.
- In Knox County, 20.8% of households were married couples with children, lower than the national average of 23.5%. In Tennessee, marrieds with children increased by only 5%. Married without children rose 11% statewide.
- The number of single parent families grew 27.3% from 1990 to 2000. Most lived in the city. One in ten households in the city contained a single parent with children.
- Nationally, single mother households with children under 18 years grew 25% during the '90s. In Knox County, the increase was 20%.

Summary continued on page 8



FAMILY STRUCTURE, (CONTINUED)

	1980	1990	2000	% Change 1990-2000
<i>Total Households</i>				
Knoxville	68,574	69,973	76,650	9.5
Knox County Balance	49,377	63,666	81,222	27.6
Total (City-County)	117,951	133,639	157,872	18.1
<i>Average Household Size</i>				
Knoxville	2.4	2.2	2.1	
Knox County Balance	2.9	2.6	2.5	
Total (City-County)	2.6	2.4	2.3	
<i>Family Households</i>				
Knoxville	44,053	40,572	40,193	-0.9
Share of total households (%)	64.2	58.0	52.4	
Knox County Balance	41,388	49,989	60,533	21.1
Share of total households (%)	83.8	78.5	74.5	
Total (City-County)	85,441	90,561	100,726	11.2
Share of total households (%)	72.4	67.8	63.8	
<i>Married Couples</i>				
Knoxville	33,394	28,729	27,039	-5.9
Share of total households (%)	48.7	41.1	35.3	
Knox County Balance	36,671	42,950	51,532	20.0
Share of total households (%)	74.3	67.5	63.4	
Total (City-County)	70,065	71,679	78,571	9.6
Share of total households (%)	59.4	53.6	49.8	
<i>Married Couples (with children under 18 years)</i>				
Knoxville	13,458	10,870	10,194	-6.2
Share of total households (%)	19.6	15.5	13.3	
Knox County Balance	19,732	19,885	22,609	13.7
Share of total households (%)	40.0	31.2	27.8	
Total (City-County)	33,190	30,755	32,803	6.7
Share of total households (%)	28.1	23.0	20.8	
<i>Single-Parent Families (with children under 18 years)</i>				
Knoxville	5,431	6,054	7,312	20.8
Share of total households (%)	7.9	8.7	9.5	
Knox County Balance	2,493	3,503	4,851	38.5
Share of total households (%)	5.0	5.5	6.0	
Total (City-County)	7,924	9,557	12,163	27.3
Share of total households (%)	6.7	7.2	7.7	
<i>Female householder, no husband present (with children under 18 years)</i>				
Knoxville	4,933	5,368	6,138	14.3
Share of total single parents (%)	90.8	88.7	83.9	
Knox County Balance	2,080	2,814	3,708	31.8
Share of total single parents (%)	83.4	80.3	76.4	
Total (City-County)	7,013	8,182	9,846	20.3
Share of total single parents (%)	88.5	85.6	81.0	
<i>Male householder, no wife present (with children under 18 years)</i>				
Knoxville	498	686	1,174	71.1
Share of total single parents (%)	9.2	11.3	16.1	
Knox County Balance	413	689	1,143	65.9
Share of total single parents (%)	16.6	19.7	23.6	
Total (City-County)	911	1,375	2,317	68.5
Share of total single parents (%)	11.5	14.4	19.0	

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FAMILY STRUCTURE, (CONTINUED)

Summary

	1980	1990	2000	% Change 1990-2000
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Single men raising children was the fastest growing family arrangement in Knox County, increasing by 68.5% since 1990. In 2000, one of every five single parent households was headed by the father. Nationally, single fathers raising children increased 62% since 1990. 				
Non-Family Households				
Knoxville	24,521	29,401	36,457	24.0
Share of total households (%)	35.8	42.0	47.6	
Knox County Balance	7,989	13,677	20,689	51.3
Share of total households (%)	16.2	21.5	25.5	
Total (City-County)	32,510	43,078	57,146	32.7
Share of total households (%)	27.6	32.2	36.2	
Householder Living Alone				
Knoxville	20,278	24,823	29,387	18.4
Share of total households (%)	29.6	35.5	38.3	
Knox County Balance	6,952	11,838	17,300	46.1
Share of total households (%)	14.1	18.6	21.3	
Total (City-County)	27,230	36,661	46,687	27.3
Share of total households (%)	23.1	27.4	29.6	
Unmarried-Partner Households				
Knoxville	n/a	1,623	3,617	122.9
Share of total households (%)	n/a	2.3	4.7	
Knox County Balance	n/a	1,331	2,637	98.1
Share of total households (%)	n/a	2.1	3.2	
Total (City-County)	n/a	2,954	6,254	111.7
Share of total households (%)	n/a	2.2	4.0	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In Tennessee, one in eight households was headed by single or widowed women, an increase of 24% since 1990. Among female households, those with children grew 30% from 1990. The national rate was 25%. 				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The number of unmarried partner households in Knox County increased 111.7% between 1990 and 2000. In Tennessee, the number more than doubled between 1990 and 2000, from 42,103 to 93,948 households. 				

GENDER

Summary

	1980	1990	2000	% Change 1990-2000
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Knox County's male population increased by 24,210 during the 90s. The number of women grew by 22,073. In 2000 the gender balance was 51.7% female, 48.3% male. The national split is 50.9% female, 49.1% male. 				
Female				
Knoxville	93,165	88,074	91,500	3.9
Share of total (%)	53.2	53.3	52.6	
Knox County Balance	73,109	87,308	105,955	21.4
Share of total (%)	50.5	51.2	50.9	
Total (City-County)	166,274	175,382	197,455	12.6
Share of total (%)	52.0	52.2	51.7	
Male				
Knoxville	81,880	77,047	82,390	6.9
Share of total (%)	46.8	46.7	47.4	
Knox County Balance	71,540	83,320	102,187	22.6
Share of total (%)	49.5	48.8	49.1	
Total (City-County)	153,420	160,367	184,577	15.1
Share of total (%)	48.0	47.8	48.3	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Since the share of males grew during the '90s, a closer balance was seen in 2000. There are now 93 men for every 100 women. 				