



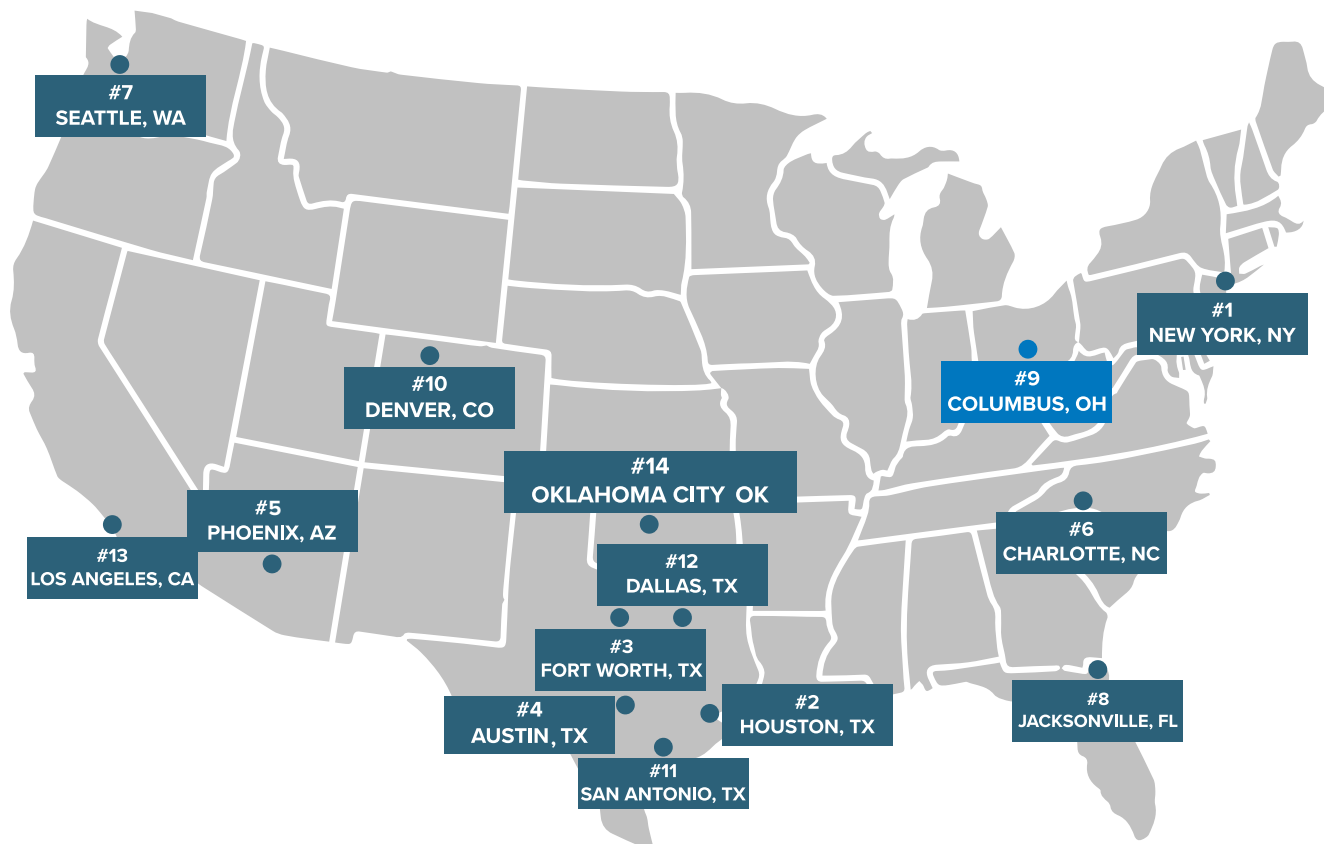
CENSUS 2020 DATA AND GROWTH IN CENTRAL OHIO

The first 2020 Census data at the sub-state level was released on August 12th. More detailed data will be available in 2022. Find the data for the entire state at morpc.org/data.

Thanks to the strength of the region's economic development partnerships and innovative corporate culture, ease of commute, our growing downtown, and our strong suburban communities, Central Ohio grew over the last decade – adding nearly 240,000 residents from 2010 to 2020.

- This is strong growth. In fact, among almost 400 metro areas in the nation, Central Ohio ranked 27th in population growth.
- Central Ohio had uniquely strong urban growth compared with other Midwestern metros. The City of Columbus was the only Midwestern city to grow by more than 100,000 residents. Columbus ranked 9th in growth nationwide.

CITIES WITH POPULATION GROWTH >100,000 2010 – 2020, RANKED BY GROWTH



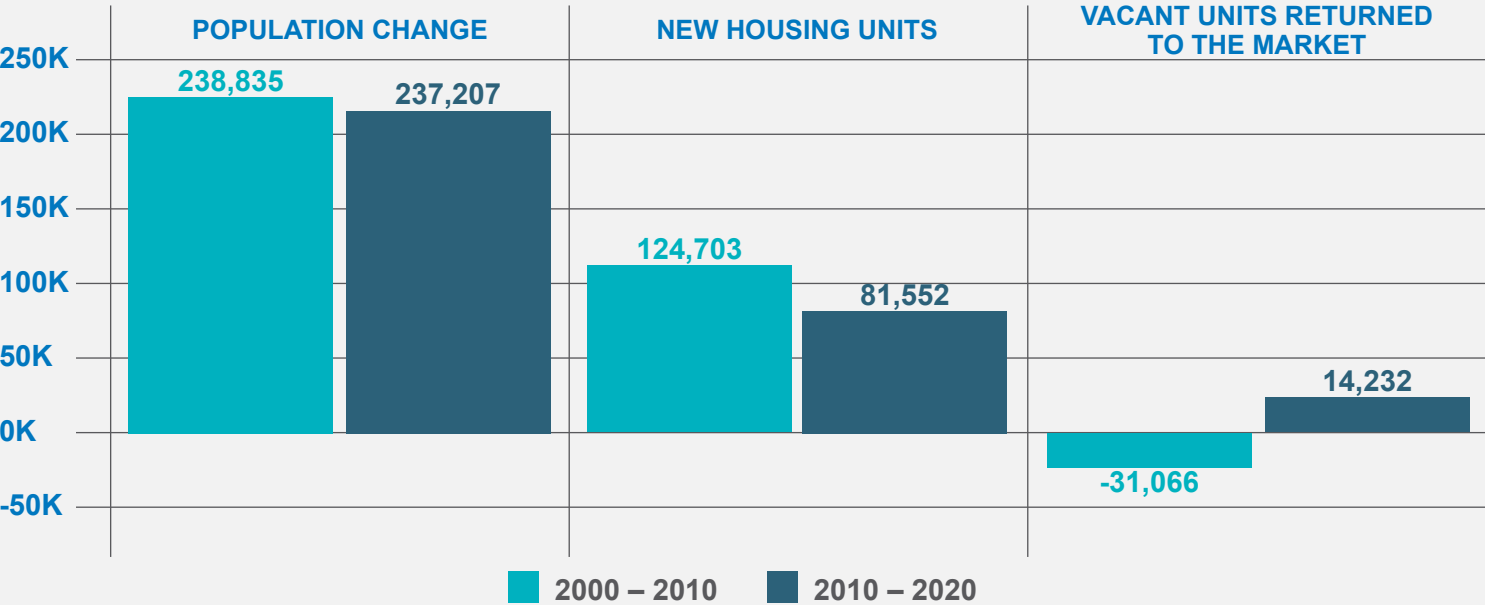
“Growth” is not the story as we look everywhere across the state.

- While Central Ohio experienced strong growth in the 2010s, 55 out of 88 Ohio counties lost population during the decade, including five counties right here in the MORPC region.
- Migration was a major driver for growth in the region in the 2010s. Some data suggests that, of domestic migration into Central Ohio’s growing counties, 80% come from other parts of Ohio—which means the health of our growth is directly tied to healthy growth in the rest of the state.
- This is certainly something we need to continue to watch, especially as rural communities are trying to find ways to attract and retain a younger workforce to support their existing aging population. If more employers allow telework, rural communities have the opportunity to revive as more workers are taking their commute out of the equation when deciding where to live.

You’ve all been hearing about this “hot” housing market in Central Ohio; the 2020 Census data tells us why:

- In the 2000s, we added 100,000 housing units for 240,000 more people (about 1 for every 2.4 people); in the 2010s, we added 80,000 housing units for 240,000 (about 1 for every 3 people). With an average household size of 2.5, that’s simply not enough to go around. In part, we’ve balanced the deficit by getting more than 14,000 vacant units back on the market and occupied.
- But housing underproduction is creating big pressure for residents at all price points in the market, exacerbated by new types of housing demand created by the pandemic. Our team continues to work with our external partners to implement actions developed in the [Regional Housing Strategy](#).

HOUSING CHANGES IN THE 2000s AND 2010s



Although we can expect periods of faster or slower growth, Central Ohio is still on track to become a region of 3 million by 2050.

- While this may pose some challenges, it also gives us the opportunity to make sure that we plan for growth and development in an intentional way that integrates the various regional initiatives (e.g. COG, RAPID 5, Regional Housing Strategy, LinkUs) and raises up the neighborhoods that have been traditionally under-served and under-invested.

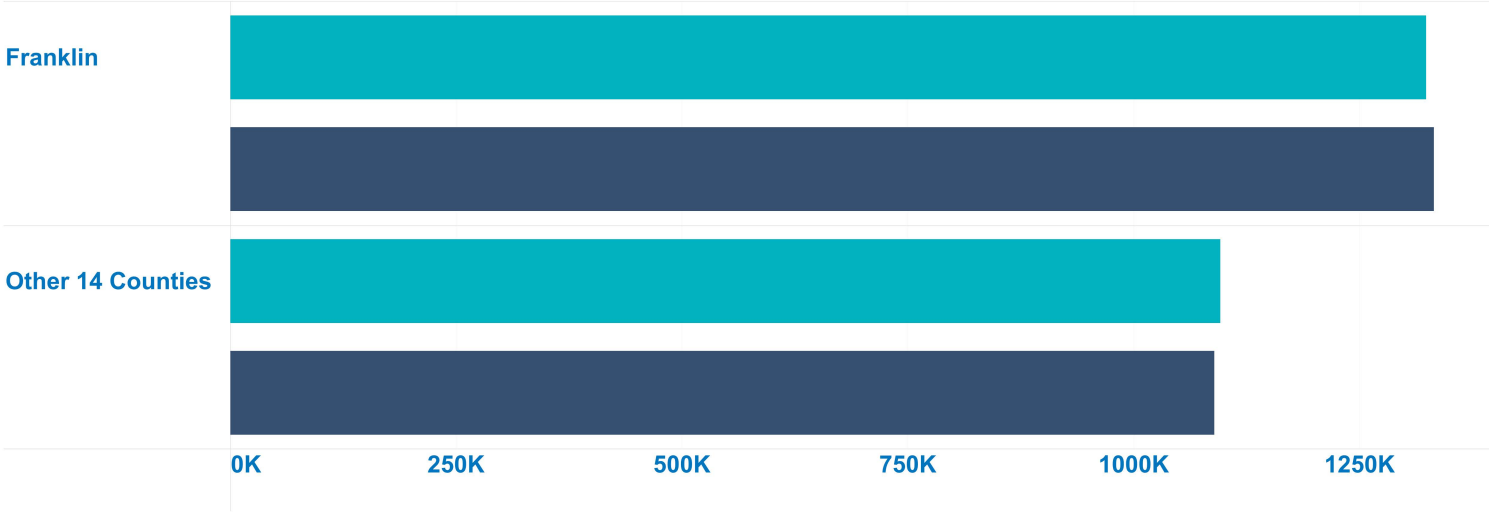
We are lucky to live in a region that continues to become more racially and culturally diverse, and that highlights the importance of putting equity front and center in our work.

- Our state is becoming more diverse and people of color made up a larger proportion of the population in every single Ohio county in 2020 compared with 2010.
- In the 2010s, half of the migration into Central Ohio was from residents moving here from overseas. New Americans and immigrants in Central Ohio are an integral part of the region’s culture and economy.

The 2020 Census numbers validate our population estimates methods.

- Not to toot our own horns, but MORPC’s estimates of growth from 2010 to 2020 were only about 2,000 people (1%) over the growth observed from the 2010 to 2020 Census counts for the 15-county Central Ohio region. We’re proud of the success of the improvements to our population estimates over recent years.
- The approach — using administrative records (vital statistics and migration) to measure population change at the county level, then using residential building permits to measure growth at the city, village, and township level – will continue going forward in the 2020s.

MORPC 2020 POPULATION ESTIMATES V. 2020 CENSUS POPULATION
FRANKLIN COUNTY AND OTHER 14 COUNTIES COMBINED



OTHER 14 COUNTIES, DETAILED

