

# Memo 1: Population Change and Census 2020 Response

5/15/2020

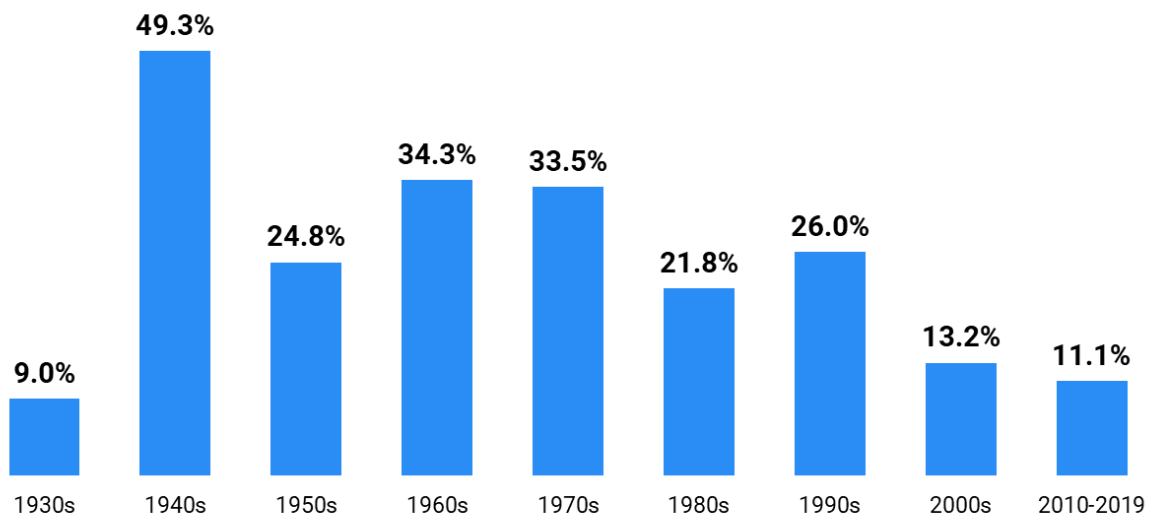
## Population Change – Orange County and Municipalities

### Orange County approaching 2000s growth

- Orange County grew by 11.1% between 2010 and 2019. This is a nearly two percentage point increase in total growth from last year (9.2%); if these growth trends continued through early 2020, the growth rate over the decade may be close to the total growth observed in 2000.
- It has added 14,783 residents since 2010, less than 1K below the numeric population growth of the 2000s (15,574).

### Orange County nearing 2000s growth rate

*Percent population increase by decade, 1930-2019*



Source: Census Bureau, Population Estimates

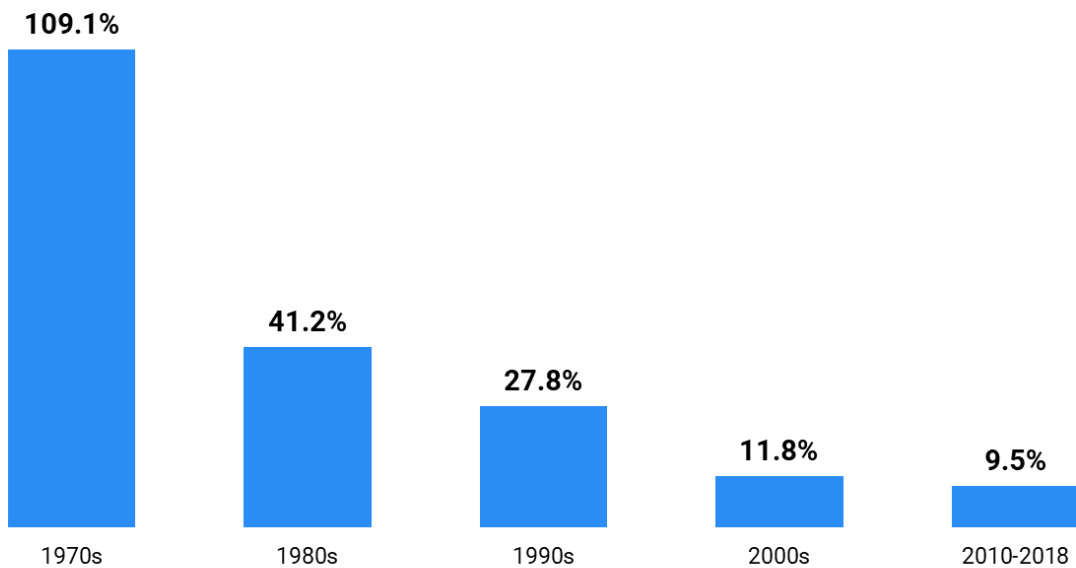
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## Hillsborough fastest-growing municipality in Orange County

- As of 2018 – the latest year of data – Hillsborough’s growth rate was 9.5%. This was 0.6 percentage points greater than Carrboro and 2.9 percentage points above Chapel Hill.
- While numeric growth in Hillsborough was smallest of the three municipalities (+630 residents added), it is the only municipality to likely meet or exceed its 2000 numeric growth (+641).

## Hillsborough fastest-growing town in Orange County

*Percent population increase by decade, 1970-2018*



Source: Census Bureau, Population Estimates

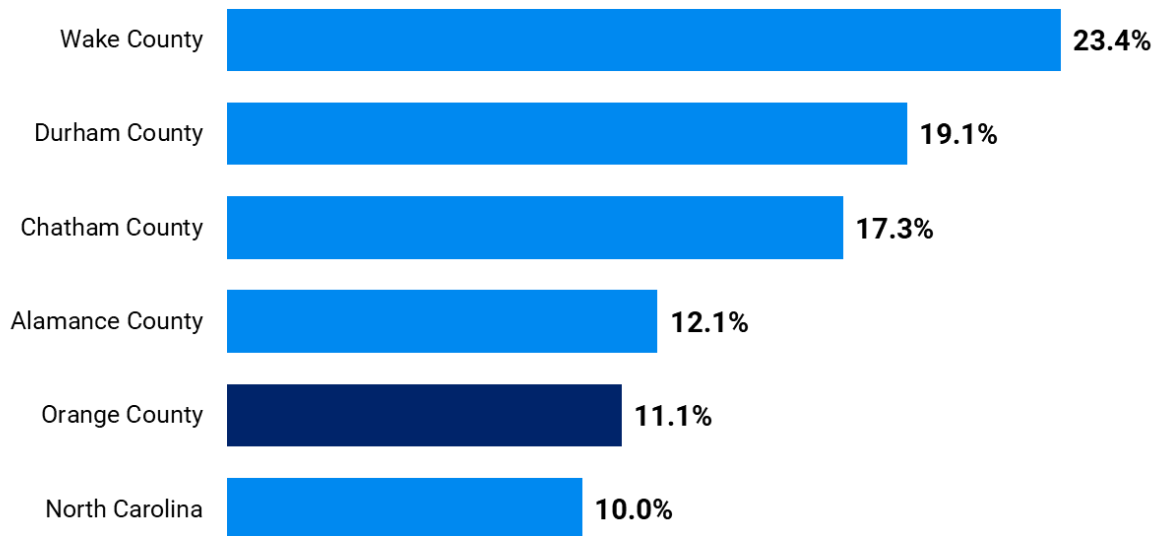
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## Gap in growth rate widens between Orange County and North Carolina

- As of 2019, Orange County's growth rate (11.1%) is 1.1 percentage points greater than the state.
- Last year, this gap was 0.3 percentage points: 9.2% in Orange County vs. 8.9% statewide.
- Among the core Triangle counties, Orange County has grown the slowest since 2010: Wake County has grown more than twice as quickly as Orange (23.4%) while Durham County's growth rate is 8.0 percentage points higher than Orange's.

## Orange, Chatham grew faster than state average

*Population growth rate, April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2019*



Source: Census Bureau, Population Estimates

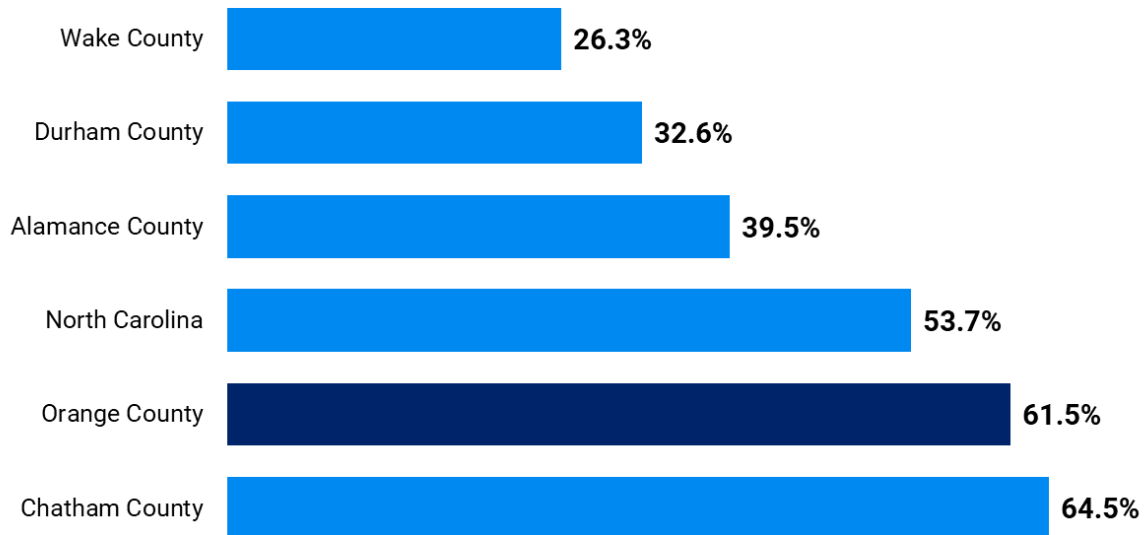
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## Majority of Orange County's population growth taking place in 65+ category

- Orange County grew by 12,325 residents from 2010-2018, while its 65+ age group grew by 7,575 residents (primarily from aging as well as some in-migration).
- Among peer counties, Orange County is second only to Chatham County in the share of county growth driven by its 65+ age group (64.5%). The share of growth in this age group is substantially higher than the state (53.7%).
- Chatham's growth in this age group is driven more by retiree migration than in Orange County. However, the high share of county growth driven by the population 65+ may suggest that Orange County is an appealing place for individuals to stay after they retire.

## Increases in 65+ drove majority of NC, county growth

*Share of 2010-2018 population growth due to 65+ growth*



Source: Census Bureau, Population Estimates

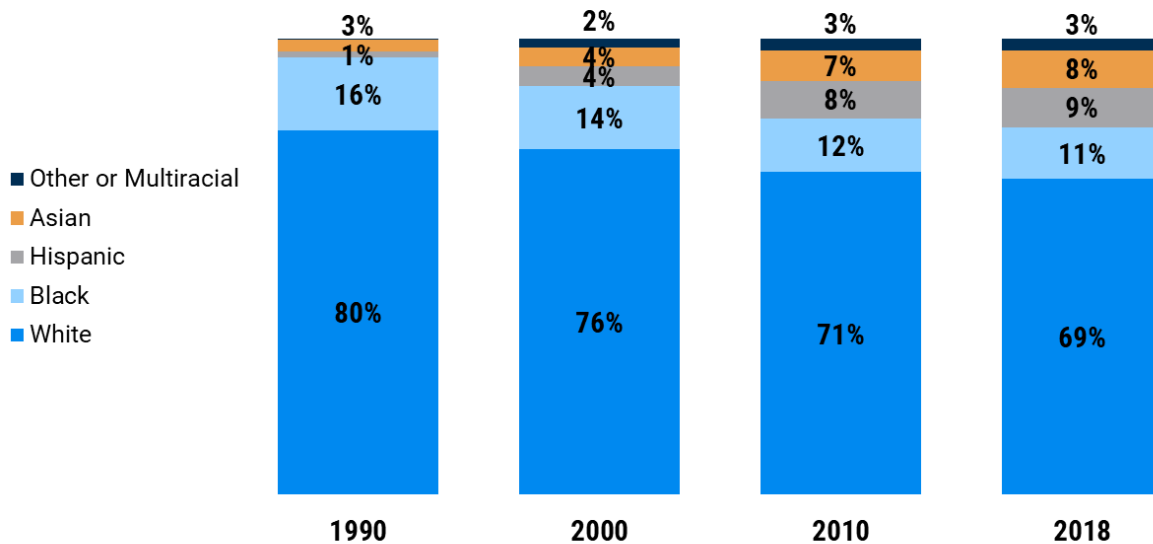
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## Over 1 in 4 Orange County residents is now Black, Hispanic, or Asian

- All racial/ethnic groups have grown in absolute numbers since 1990, though some groups—namely, Hispanic and Asian—have grown faster than others, causing significant shifts in the county population composition.
- The share of Orange County’s population that is White or Black has decreased from 1990 to 2018: -11 percentage points and -5 percentage points, respectively. Meanwhile, the share of Hispanic and Asian residents has increased: +8 and +5 percentage points, respectively.
- Together, Asian and Hispanic residents now form a larger share of the population in 2018 than Black residents alone: 17% vs. 11%.

### Orange County population increasingly diverse

Percentage of Orange County population, by race and ethnicity, from 1990 to 2018



Source: Census Bureau, Population Estimates

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## Census 2020 Response

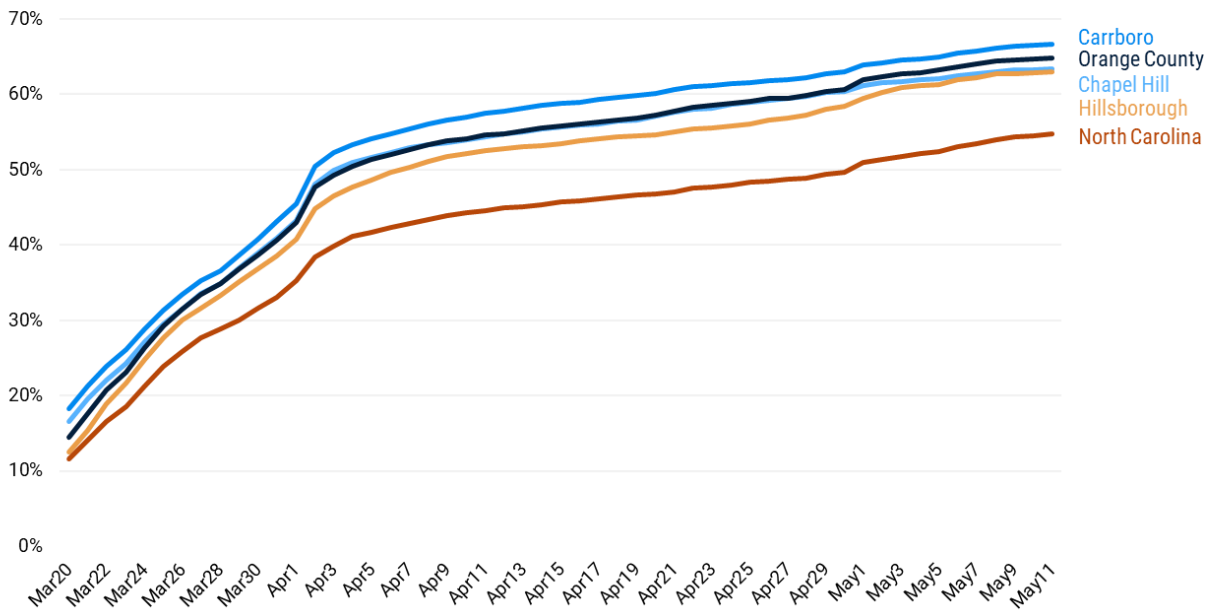
### Orange County and its municipalities outperform state in Census self-response

- Since March 20<sup>th</sup> – the first date of reporting for the 2020 Census– Orange County and its municipalities have outperformed the state in census self-response. \*
- By April 6, Orange County and all municipalities had a response rate of 50% or higher, while the state did not reach this benchmark for nearly another month (April 30).

\* Self-response is the record of households that responded to the Census by internet, mail or phone, rather than being contacted directly by a census enumerator. The graph below represents a cumulative percentage which increases each day of reporting.

### Response rates greater in Orange County and municipalities than state

2020 Census cumulative response rates for all methods, March 20 – May 11, 2020



Source: Census Bureau, 2020 Census Response Rates

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## Orange County outperforms state and all peer counties in Census self-response

- As of May 11<sup>th</sup>, Orange County had a higher self-response than the state and all peer counties.
- Orange County was also the first of its peers to cross the 50% self-response benchmark.

## Orange County exceeds state and all peer counties in Census response

*Census 2020 cumulative response rates for Orange County and peers, May 11, 2020*






Source: Census Bureau, Population Estimates

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### ABOUT CAROLINA DEMOGRAPHY

Located within the Carolina Population Center at UNC-Chapel Hill, we use data and other available research to help you put a face or a story on the population level changes facing your community. Our analysts provide a full array of demographic data and research services to inform decision making, evaluation, and policy across North Carolina, where we serve organizations and people in all 100 counties.

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