Poverty in Colorado
By the Numbers

Elizabeth Garner, State Demographer, Department of Local Affairs
A Picture of Poverty in Colorado

Elizabeth Garner
Elizabeth.garner@state.co.us
State Demography Office
July 2014
www.colorado.gov/demography
State Demography Office

- State Agency
  - Responsible for population data needed by state agencies.

- Department of Local Affairs
  - Prepares data and information in ways that account for local perspectives, needs.

- Public Information
  - Makes data and information readily available to the public, including citizens, businesses and non-profit agencies.

- Outreach
  - Work with local governments and others to understand what the numbers are saying.
Outline

• Define poverty
• Compared to data on livable wage and industry wages.
• Trends in Poverty
• Poverty by Characteristic
  • Age
  • Employment Status
  • Educational attainment
  • Household type and size
What is Poverty – US Poverty Thresholds

![Bar graph showing poverty thresholds for different household sizes](image)

- For 1 person: $11,460
- For 2 persons: $23,850
- For 8 persons: $45,000

US Dept of Health and Human Services, 2014
Self Sufficiency Standard vs. Poverty

- $58,561 or
- $27.72/hr or
- $13.86/hr

each adult

Persons in Household:
- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4

Self Sufficiency
Poverty

Colorado Center on Law and Policy,
Occupational Wage Outlook

US Top Occupations to Grow by Wage 2010-2020

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics
Colorado Share of Households By Income, 2012

- 32% Less than $25,000
- 23% $25,000-50,000
- 24% $50,000-100,000
- 21% $100,000+

Census ACS 2012
Colorado vs US Individual Poverty Rate 1995 - 2012

In 2012
13.5% vs 16%

Source: Census, SAIPE
• Real Median Household Income has fallen 2000-12
  • Colorado – 7.6%
  • US - 5.6%
Real Household Income at Selected Percentiles: 1967 to 2012

Income in thousands (2012 dollars)

- 95th Percentile: $191,200
- 90th Percentile: $146,000
- 50th Percentile (median): $51,000
- 10th Percentile: $12,200
- 10th Percentile (median): $9,800

Note: Income rounded to nearest $100.
Colorado Income Inequality Measured by Gini Index

0 - 1  Perfect Equality - Inequality

Census Bureau

1979 | 1989 | 1999 | 2010
---|---|---|---
0.34 | 0.42 | 0.46 | 0.48
Poverty Rates by Race and Hispanic Origin: 1959 to 2012

- Black: 55.1% → 27.2%
- Hispanic (any race): 7.5% → 25.6%
- Asian: 16.1% → 11.7%
- Non-Hispanic White: 9.7%

What Could Be Causing Growth In Poverty

• Job Loss – income loss
  • Increase in unemployed
  • Increase in part time or marginally attached.
  • Wages –
  • Age – what age groups performed well – or not
  • Education – what educational groups performed well – or not

• Drop out of the labor force
  • Age out
  • Opt out – something better to do.
    • Education
    • Caregiver

• Household Composition
  • Number of earners
  • Marital Status
  • Number of kids
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Industry</th>
<th>Difference 2013 - Trough</th>
<th>2013 Jobs Relative to Pre Recession Peak</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture</td>
<td>5,146</td>
<td>8,090</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oil &amp; Gas / Mining</td>
<td>6,489</td>
<td>1,931</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utilities</td>
<td>-377</td>
<td>(574)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>14,841</td>
<td>(45,573)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manufacturing</td>
<td>8,015</td>
<td>(16,537)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wholesale Trade</td>
<td>6,468</td>
<td>(3,781)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retail Trade</td>
<td>14,440</td>
<td>(7,792)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transport &amp; Warehousing</td>
<td>6,579</td>
<td>(2,137)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information</td>
<td>-1,121</td>
<td>(7,513)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance</td>
<td>6,705</td>
<td>(5,844)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Real Estate</td>
<td>3,583</td>
<td>(5,535)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prof. Business Services</td>
<td>25,245</td>
<td>17,081</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mgmt of Companies</td>
<td>5,970</td>
<td>5,504</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administration</td>
<td>19,008</td>
<td>4,572</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education Services</td>
<td>6,936</td>
<td>5,014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Services</td>
<td>32,389</td>
<td>19,488</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arts</td>
<td>5,235</td>
<td>4,085</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accomodation &amp; Food</td>
<td>24,187</td>
<td>13,723</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Services</td>
<td>11,507</td>
<td>5,698</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government</td>
<td>28,817</td>
<td>11,577</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

State Demography Office, 2013
Population vs. Jobs 2000-12

Source: State Demography Office, CO Department of Labor
Colorado Unemployment Rates by Six Measures

U6 Includes discouraged, marginally attached and part time for econ reasons

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics
Change in the Colorado Poverty Rate by Employment from 2000 to 2010

Census 2000 and ACS 2010

- Employed: 1.5%
- Unemployed: 0.2%
- Not in labor force: -0.5%
Share of Unemployed by Age

- 16-24: 27%
- 25-34: 23%
- 35-44: 17%
- 45-54: 18%
- 55-64: 12%
- 65+: 3%

Labor Force 16-34 is 35% of the labor force yet 50% of the unemployed

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics 2011 Annual Average
Change In Colorado Poverty by Age 2000 to 2010

- 55 to 64 years: 6.43 (2000) to 8.49 (2010)
- 45 to 54 years: 5.29 (2000) to 6.43 (2010)

Source: 2000 Census and 2010 American Community Survey 1-year File, U.S. Census Bureau
Change in the 18-24 year olds 2000-2010

- Employed
- Unemployed
- Not in labor force
- Total Population 18-24

Census 2000 and ACS 2010
Unemployment Rate by Education, 2011

Bureau of Labor Statistics

- Less than HS diploma: 15%
- HS grad, GED, or alt: 8%
- Some college or assoc's degree: 7%
- Bachelor's degree or higher: 4%
Colorado Poverty Rate by Educational Attainment, 2000 to 2010

- Less than HS
- HS/GED
- Some College, Less than 1 year
- Some College, More than 1 year, no degree
- Associate's Degree
- Bachelor's or more

Census 2000 and ACS 2010
Household Change And Poverty

- Household size is declining.
- Number of earners per household declined from 2008-2012
  - Especially for the under 25 year old household.
- Between 2005 and 2011 - The number of households with children under 18 who had at least one unemployed parent rose by 33 percent for US. Colorado Increase was 56% - 6th highest in US.

Between 2000-2010
- Both parents living together fell from 75% to 72%
- Female headed grew by 25%
- All households grew by 16%
Poverty by Household Type

Source: Census 2000, ACS 2010
Future Household Income is Demographically Challenged

- Demographic
  - Household type and size
  - Age
  - Race/ethnicity
    - Educational attainment
    - Household Income
- Youth Un and Under Employment
Colorado Persons 65+ Below Official Poverty Level (poverty rate assumed near 8%)
White Non Hispanic is the difference between the share shown and 100%. For example White Non-Hispanic is 58% of the Less than 5 Age Group.
Colorado Educational Attainment by Race for Pop 25+
2010 ACS 1 year

- Less than HS diploma
- HS grad, GED, or alt
- Some college or assoc's degree
- Bachelor's degree or higher

Hispanic 17%
- Less than HS diploma: 40%
- HS grad, GED, or alt: 30%
- Some college or assoc's degree: 20%
- Bachelor's degree or higher: 10%

White non-Hispanic 75%
- Less than HS diploma: 5%
- HS grad, GED, or alt: 25%
- Some college or assoc's degree: 30%
- Bachelor's degree or higher: 15%

Other 8%
- Less than HS diploma: 30%
- HS grad, GED, or alt: 30%
- Some college or assoc's degree: 20%
- Bachelor's degree or higher: 20%
Colorado Median Household Income ($2012) by Race/Ethnicity and Age

Census ACS 2012
Where to Go From Here
Poverty Can Be Complicated – Think in Terms of Income

- Poverty/Income is driven by many factors – for example
  - Full Time Work
  - Education Attainment (HS+)
  - Marital Status
  - Age and marital status of first child and number of children

- Full time employment is key factor to improve incomes
  - Age – 18 - 24 (many enrolled), 25 – 34 (bigger concern)
  - Educational attainment
    - Race/Ethnicity Differentials
  - Household Income
    - Low wage jobs – no wage growth at the lowest levels
    - Not all industries have recovered – construction, retail.
    - Paths to wage improvement
Thank you

State Demography Office
Department of Local Affairs
Elizabeth Garner
Elizabeth.garner@state.co.us
303-864-7750
www.colorado.gov/demography
Colorado Population Change By Age
Census 2000 - 2010

Source: Census 2000, 2010
Labor Force
(civilian, non-institutional, 16+, actively working or looking for work)

Cyclical
• Employed
• Unemployed

Other Issues
• Data reliability
• Small Sample Size
  • 855 Households
  • 6,800 Work sites

Structural
• Age
  • Labor force participation rates.
Percentage point change of 65+ share of population, 2010 - 2030

Source: State Demography Office
Poverty Rate for Colorado, Total Population and Seniors: 2009-2011

- Total Population:
  - Official: 13%
  - Supplemental (SPM): 14%

- Seniors (65+):
  - Official: 7%
  - Supplemental (SPM): 15%
Net Migration by Age 2000-2010

Source: Census Bureau, State Demography Office
Tackling Poverty Together

Goal: Develop two or three action items that the CWDC can achieve on this subject within the next 60 days. Action items should be specific, measurable and attainable.

More discussion is needed. For this reason, we ask that you break out into smaller groups of 8 - 10 and as a group, address the five following questions.
Tackling Poverty Together

1. Is there a role for the CWDC to address the issue of poverty? Yes or No

2. If yes, how do you see the role of the CWDC in addressing this very broad and complex issue?

3. How do you see the CWDC integrating and addressing poverty into existing CWDC initiatives?

4. What overall goal and/or specific issues would you most like to see the CWDC address when it comes to poverty?

5. Please put together one or two specific action items that the local regions and state agencies could achieve within the next 60 days.