



Highlights from 2020 Census

Posted April 2022 by Dr. Ama Abrokwah

Overview

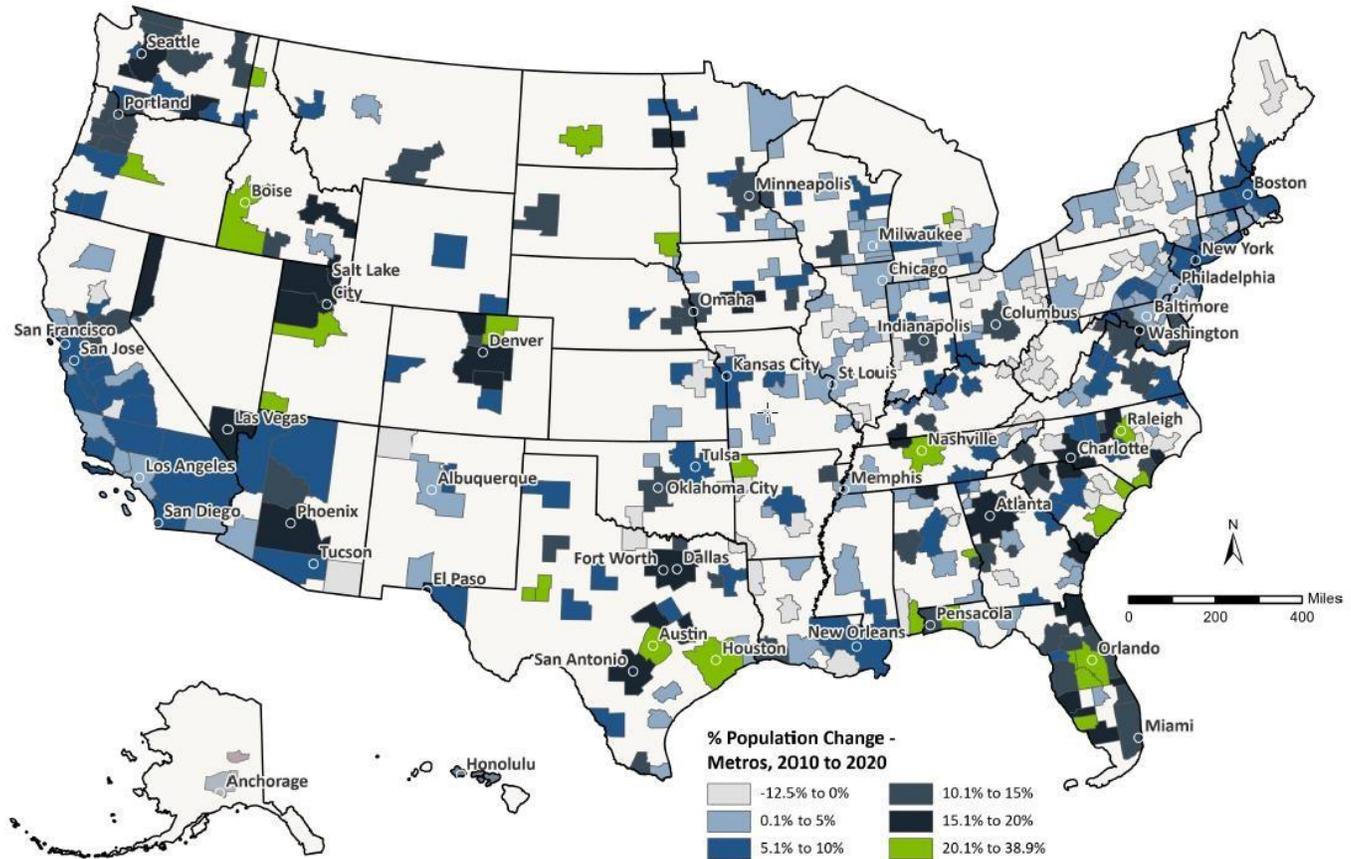
- The Tulsa metro grew by 8.3% (adding 77,853 people) from 2010 to 2020, becoming one of five metro areas that crossed the 1.0-million-person threshold between 2010 and 2020.
- Tulsa County was the fastest growing county in the metro with a population growth of 10.9% over the decade.
- The Tulsa metro is more racially diverse now compared to a decade ago. The percentage of White, Non-Hispanic population decreased by over 4% between 2010 and 2020.
- While each major race and ethnic grouping except whites had positive growth from 2010 to 2020, the Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander population grew an extraordinary 131.2%.

With the release of the Census 2020 redistricting file in August 2021, which was posted on the data tables on data.gov in [September](#), legislators and local community members are beginning the process of drafting new political boundaries. This dataset provides better access to the information for analyzing how our region has changed since 2010. Data in this release is limited to a few variables such as race and ethnic origin, housing unit occupancy, and population of the voting age.

Metro population growth

The Tulsa MSA is the 55th largest metro in the nation. It is the 2nd largest metro in Oklahoma and accounts for 25% of Oklahoma's population. Between 2010 and 2020, the metro grew at 8.3%, a net increase of an estimated 77,853 residents.

The map below depicts the population percent change for metropolitan areas in the U.S. Areas in light grey had negative growth, while those in green grew by over 20% in the last 10 years.



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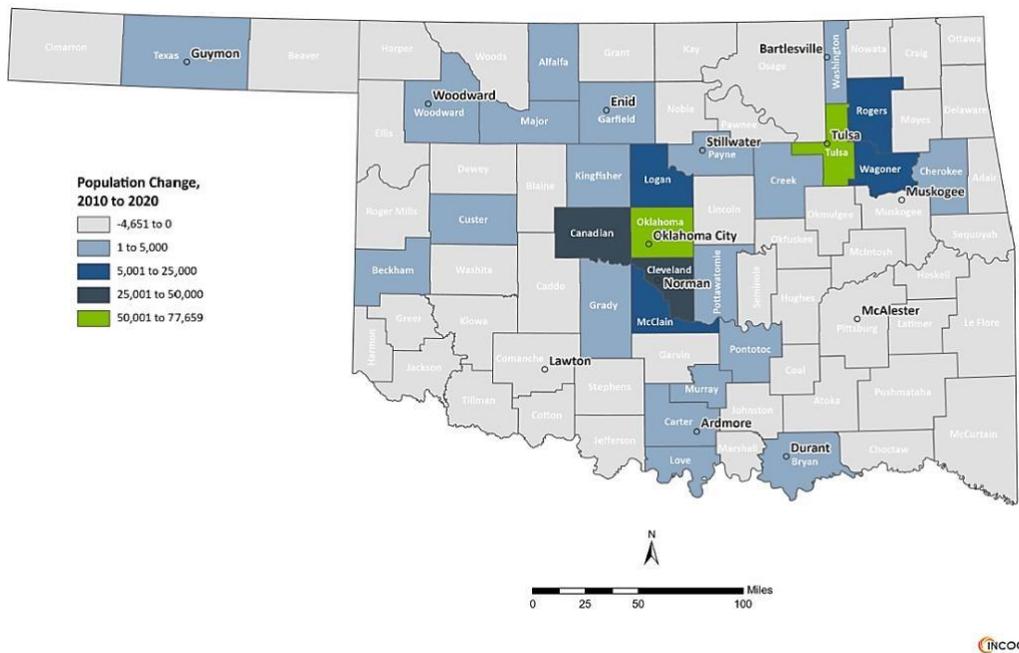
County population growth

All but three of Tulsa Metro's seven counties gained in population over the past 10 years. Tulsa County ranked as the fastest growing among counties in the metro. It added 65,876 residents or 10.9% over the last 10 years. Wagoner County ranked as 2nd, with growth of 10.8%. Rogers and Creek Counties also had growth of 9.5% and 2.5%, respectively.

Counties Population Growth 2010-2020

| | Population | | Population Change | |
|-----------------|------------|---------|-------------------|--------|
| | 2010 | 2020 | Numeric | % ch. |
| Tulsa County | 603,403 | 669,279 | 65,876 | 10.92% |
| Wagoner County | 73,085 | 80,981 | 7,896 | 10.80% |
| Rogers County | 86,905 | 95,240 | 8,335 | 9.59% |
| Creek County | 69,967 | 71,754 | 1,787 | 2.55% |
| Osage County | 47,472 | 45,818 | -1,654 | -3.48% |
| Pawnee County | 16,577 | 15,553 | -1,024 | -6.18% |
| Okmulgee County | 40,069 | 36,706 | -3,363 | -8.39% |

The map below depicts the numeric population change for all counties in the state of Oklahoma. Counties shaded in light grey lost people, while counties in green added at least 50,000.



Tulsa County had the second largest numerical addition of any county in the state. Rogers and Wagoner Counties were also among the top 10 population gainers in the state over the last decade.

Counties Population Growth in Oklahoma

| | Population | | Population Change | |
|---------------------|------------|---------|-------------------|-------|
| | 2010 | 2020 | Numeric | % Ch. |
| Oklahoma County | 718,633 | 796,292 | 77,659 | 10.8% |
| Tulsa County | 603,403 | 669,279 | 65,876 | 10.9% |
| Cleveland County | 255,755 | 295,528 | 39,773 | 15.6% |
| Canadian County | 115,541 | 154,405 | 38,864 | 33.6% |
| Rogers County | 86,905 | 95,240 | 8,335 | 9.6% |
| Wagoner County | 73,085 | 80,981 | 7,896 | 10.8% |
| Logan County | 41,848 | 49,555 | 7,707 | 18.4% |
| McClain County | 34,506 | 41,662 | 7,156 | 20.7% |
| Payne County | 77,350 | 81,646 | 4,296 | 5.6% |
| Bryan County | 42,416 | 46,067 | 3,651 | 8.6% |
| Pottawatomie County | 69,442 | 72,454 | 3,012 | 4.3% |
| Grady County | 52,431 | 54,795 | 2,364 | 4.5% |
| Garfield County | 60,580 | 62,846 | 2,266 | 3.7% |
| Creek County | 69,967 | 71,754 | 1,787 | 2.6% |
| Washington County | 50,976 | 52,455 | 1,479 | 2.9% |
| Custer County | 27,469 | 28,513 | 1,044 | 3.8% |
| Texas County | 20,640 | 21,384 | 744 | 3.6% |
| Love County | 9,423 | 10,146 | 723 | 7.7% |
| Pontotoc County | 37,492 | 38,065 | 573 | 1.5% |
| Carter County | 47,557 | 48,003 | 446 | 0.9% |

For an excel download that summarizes the population of the Tulsa region counties as well as the US rankings of the metropolitan statistical areas and counties, [click here](#).

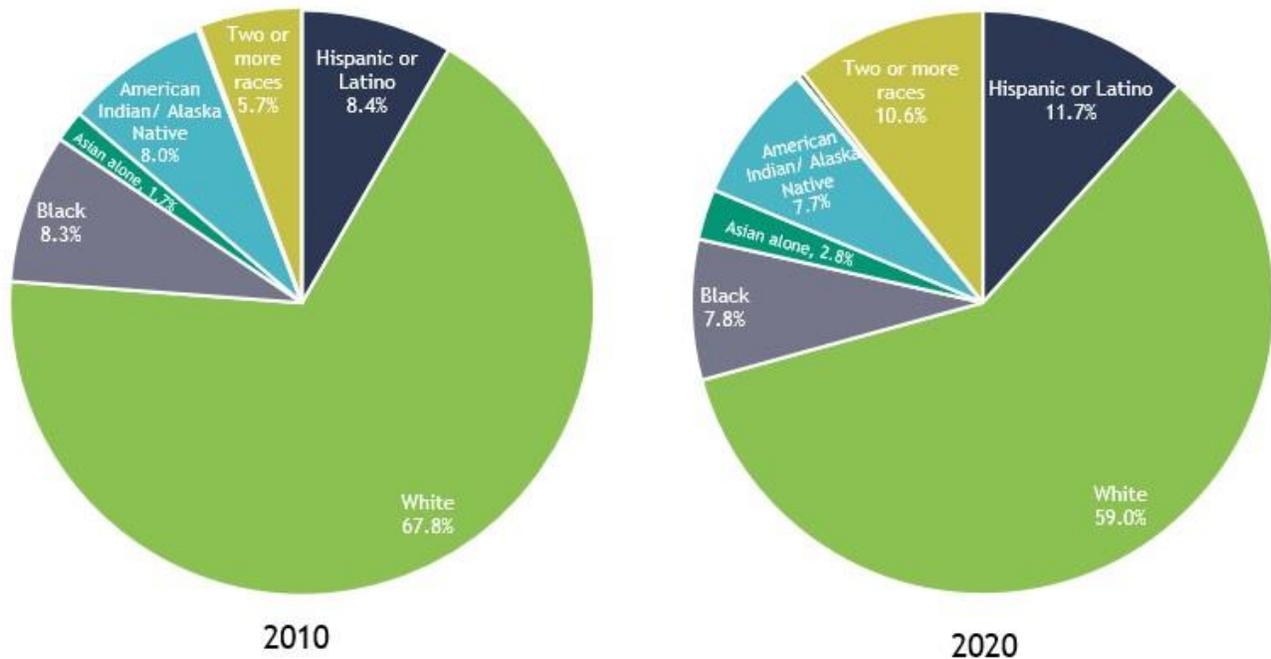
Tulsa metro population by race & Hispanic/Latino origin

One of the key components of the redistricting file is population by race and Hispanic origin. Most of the major race categories in the Tulsa metro grew during the last decade. Some grew faster than others, so the overall distribution of race and ethnic groups shifted somewhat when compared to 2010. Most notably, during the last decade in the Tulsa metro, non-Hispanic Whites went from a share of the population, 67.8 % in 2010 to 59% in 2020. A decrease of more than 5%. The share of Hispanics grew from 8.3% in 2010 to 11.7% in 2020, while Two or more races surpassed Black alone as the third largest population group.

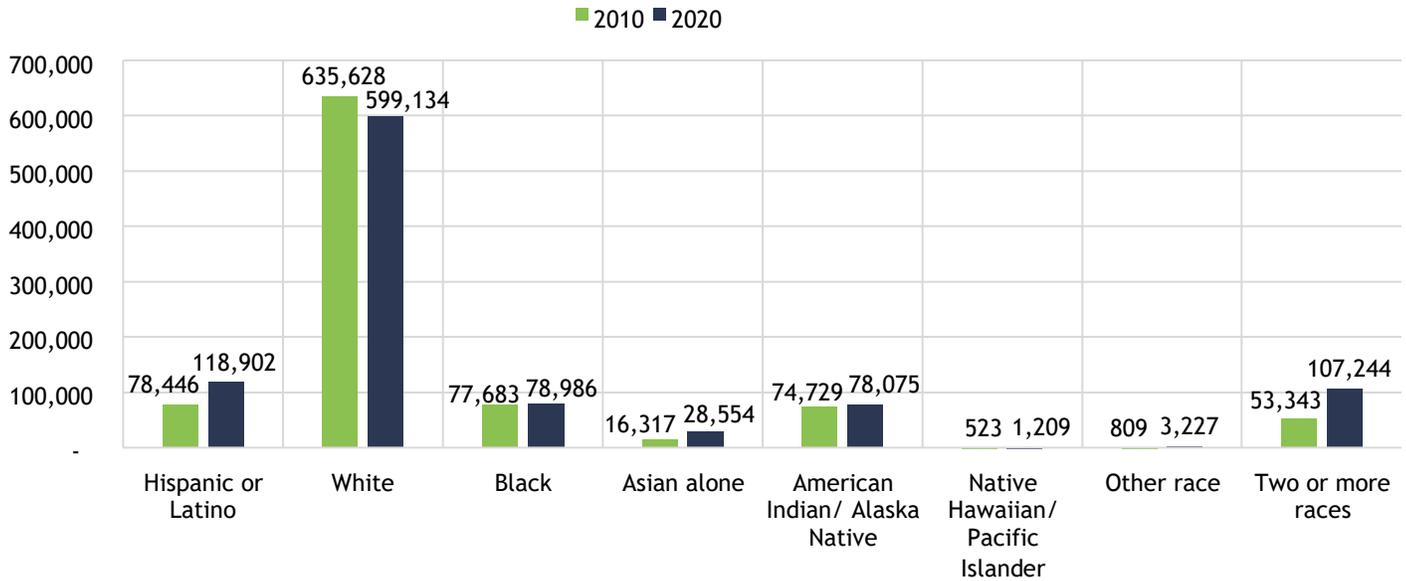
In 2010, Black alone represented 8.3%, Two or more races 5.7% of the population and now accounts for 7.8% and 10.6% respectively.

The chart below shows the total population in the Tulsa MSA for each major race/ethnic group in 2010 and 2020.

Tulsa MSA population by race and Hispanic/Latino origin



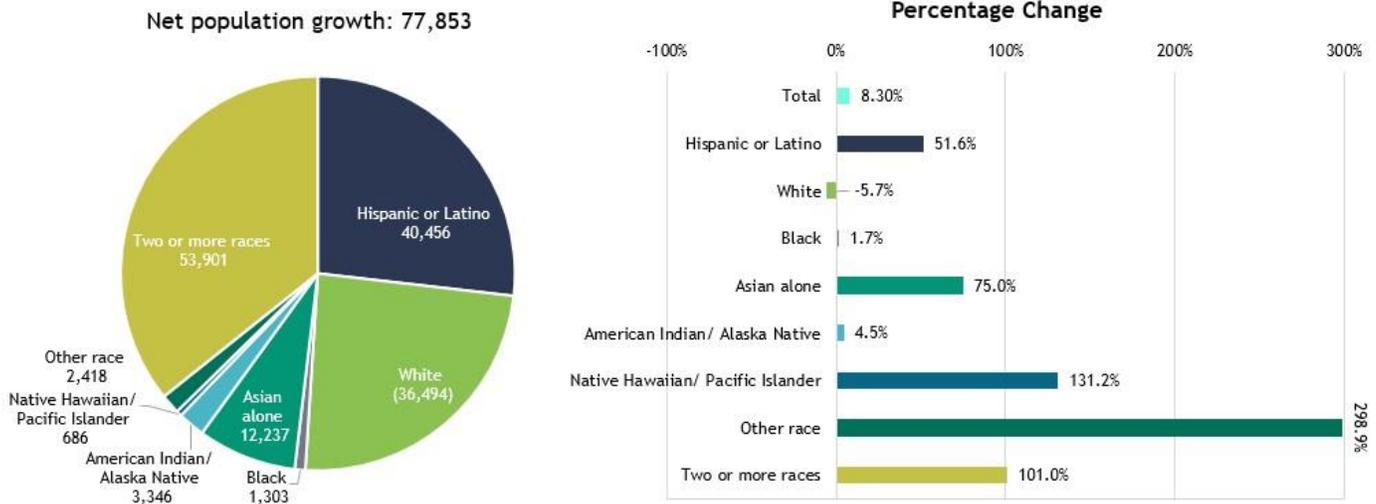
Tulsa MSA population by race and Hispanic/Latino origin



In the Tulsa region, Hispanics added more people than any other category, 40,456, with a growth rate of 51.6%. Asian alone added the second the greatest number of new people with 12,237 or 75%. Non-Hispanic Whites, as mentioned earlier, decreased at a rate of 5.7%, representing 36,494 people.

One of the fastest growing groups in the Tulsa region were those identifying as being from a race group consisting of two or more races. In 2010, just 53,343 people identified as being from two or more races, while in 2020, 107,244 selected multiple races—growth of 101.1%. The graph below plots the numeric and percent change for all the categories examined in this analysis.

Tulsa MSA population by race and Hispanic/Latino origin
2010-2020



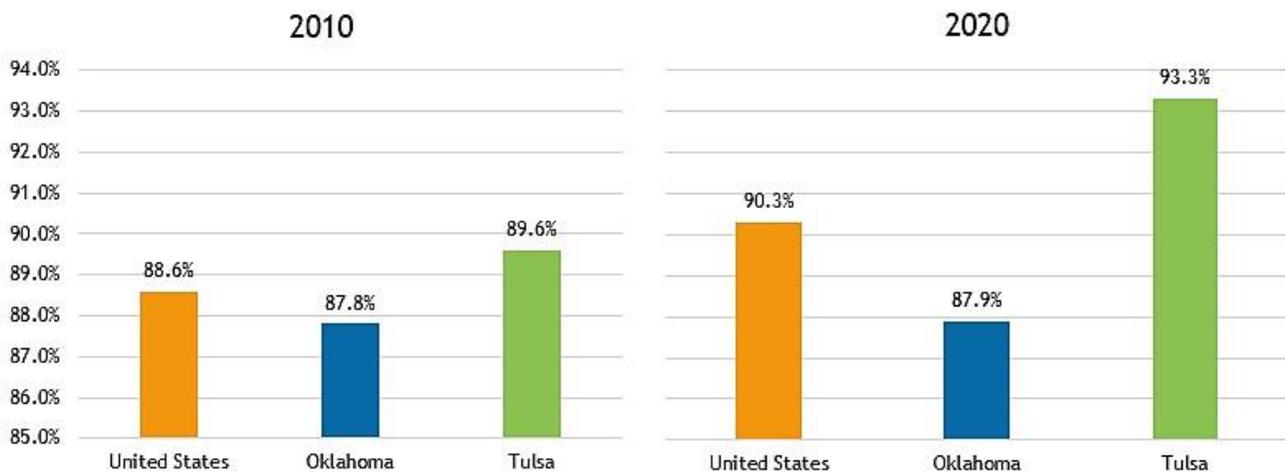
The Brookings Institution published an analysis “[Mapping America’s diversity with the 2020 census](#)” that confirms that America continues to see a trend that they have dubbed the “diversity explosion.”

Mapping housing unit characteristics within the Tulsa metro

Also included within the redistricting file is information on the number of housing units and whether they are vacant or occupied. Although it would seem from our current housing market that every house is surely occupied in the region, there is a percentage that is deemed vacant by the Census Bureau. A vacant housing unit is one where no response was received by the Census Bureau or one that is occupied by persons who have a usual residence elsewhere where they are counted.

In Census 2010, 89.6% of the housing units were occupied in the Tulsa region and that share increased to 93.3% in 2020. Both the 2010 and 2020 occupancy rates were higher in the Tulsa region than the U.S. and Oklahoma

Percent of housing units occupied



In 2022, the Census Bureau will release additional 2020 decennial census data providing more detailed age, race, household type, and housing-related data. For more on upcoming Census 2020 data products, visit this [website](#).