

The Berkeley-Charleston-Dorchester Region

Population

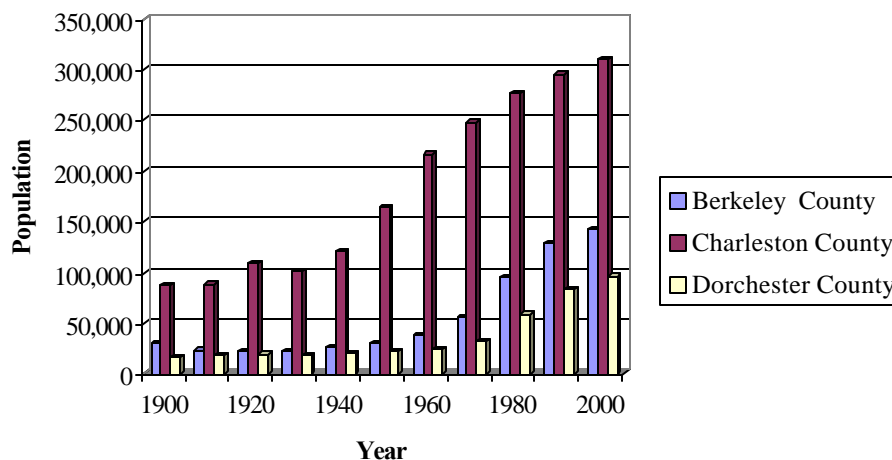
The Berkeley-Charleston-Dorchester region has seen both significant population growth and decline over the last century. The greatest increase in population (29 percent) occurred between 1940 and 1950. The greatest population decline (5 percent) occurred between 1920 and 1930. Overall, the region has increased by 414,279 persons, or 307.4 percent, since 1900.

The 2000 Census indicates that the region now contains the largest population it has in the last 100 years, if not longer. In 2000, the region made up almost 14 percent of the State's population and 8 percent of the growth rate of the State. During the 1990's, the region grew by 42,158 persons, an increase of 8.3 percent.

Racial Composition

The racial composition of the region also changed during the 1990's. The population growth rate of the White population was far lower in 2000 than those of either the African-American or the "Other" populations. In terms of actual number growth, the African-American population experienced the most growth in the region, increasing by more than 15,500 persons. The White population grew by more than 13,500 persons and the "Other" population grew by over 5,000 persons.

Population Increase of the BCD Region, 1900 - 2000



Age Distribution

The age distribution in the region has changed slightly over the last decade, as well. In 1990, 72 percent of the population was over 18 years of age. In 2000, that figure had increased to 74 percent of the population. This represents an 11 percent increase in the total number of persons over the age of 18 between 1990 and 2000.

Age Distribution in the BCD Region, 1990 and 2000

1990 Population	1990 18+ years	% 18+ years	2000 Population	2000 18+ years	% 18+ years	#90-00	%90-00
506,875	366,951	72%	549,033	407,588	74%	40,637	11%

Source: US Bureau of the Census