**Delray Beach City Population between the 2010 and 2020 Census**

**in Comparison with Other Florida Cities**

**Ben Kon – Delray Beach Public Library, 2/19/2022**

US Decennial Census Data was obtained for all Census Designated Places (CDPs) in Florida. Of the 955 entries in the 2020 Census, 39 did not have a value with which to compare in 2010 and were thus removed from the analysis, leaving 916 CDPs.

**Population of Florida Cities and other CDPs – General Characteristics**

The 2020 Census data shows that CDPs in Florida have an average population of 17,945 with a median value of 5,147, indicating many small towns and other sparsely populated areas. There are, of course, several large outliers, including the major metropolitan areas of Jacksonville, Miami, Tampa, Orlando, and St Petersburg in the top five spots. At 66,846, Delray Beach city falls in as the 51st largest place in Florida by population, within the top 6%.

**Relative Change in Population for Florida CDPs**

The percent change in population was calculated for each place and can be viewed as the relative change in population over the ten-year period. The distribution of this relative change is illustrated by the box plot and kernel density plot below:

Average (mean) relative change: 13.05 %

Standard Deviation: 34.83 %

Median relative change: 7.78%

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Delray Beach shows a percent change in population of 10.45%, above the median value, but below the mean. Its relative change in population is greater than about 60% of all other CDPs in Florida over the ten-year period. Nearby cities with similar relative changes in population between 2010 and 2020 include Ft. Lauderdale (10.41%), Jupiter (10.68%), and Lantana (10.37%).

Given the number of outliers at the higher end of this dataset, and seeing that many of these are smaller communities, where moderate changes in actual population may translate to a much more significant value for relative change, it may also be beneficial to look at the raw numerical differences, or absolute change, in population.

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| **Geographic Area Name** | **2020 Census** | **2010 Census** | **Percent Change** | **Population Difference** |
| Nocatee CDP, Florida | 22503 | 4524 | 397.41% | 17979 |
| Balm CDP, Florida | 6541 | 1457 | 348.94% | 5084 |
| Fisher Island CDP, Florida | 561 | 132 | 325.00% | 429 |
| Horizon West CDP, Florida | 58101 | 14000 | 315.01% | 44101 |
| Silver Springs Shores CDP, Florida | 24846 | 6539 | 279.97% | 18307 |
| Freeport city, Florida | 5861 | 1787 | 227.98% | 4074 |
| Davenport city, Florida | 9043 | 2888 | 213.12% | 6155 |
| Wabasso CDP, Florida | 1627 | 609 | 167.16% | 1018 |
| Viera West CDP, Florida | 16688 | 6641 | 151.29% | 10047 |
| Connerton CDP, Florida | 5282 | 2116 | 149.62% | 3166 |

Sample Table 1 – Ten Florida places with greatest percent change in population

**Absolute Population Change of Florida CDPs**

Distributions for the absolute change in population for all Florida CDPs are shown below. The population of Delray Beach increased by 6,324 persons between the 2010 and 2020 Census. This is a greater absolute increase in population than 90% of all other CDPs in Florida, well above both the median and mean values. Nearby places with similar increases in population include Lake Worth (7,309 persons), Greenacres (6,417 persons), and Jupiter (5,891 persons).

Average (mean) absolute change: 2,362 persons

Standard Deviation: 7,094 persons

Median absolute change: 293 persons

As with the values for percent change, the data is concentrated with strong central tendencies but with a significant number of large outliers. However, in contrast with the values for relative change, here those high values correlate more closely to those CDPs with large populations.

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| **Geographic Area Name** | **2020 Census** | **2010 Census** | **Percent Change** | **Population Difference** |
| Jacksonville city, Florida | 949611 | 821784 | 15.55% | 127827 |
| Orlando city, Florida | 307573 | 238300 | 29.07% | 69273 |
| Tampa city, Florida | 384959 | 335709 | 14.67% | 49250 |
| Horizon West CDP, Florida | 58101 | 14000 | 315.01% | 44101 |
| Miami city, Florida | 442241 | 399457 | 10.71% | 42784 |
| Port St. Lucie city, Florida | 204851 | 164603 | 24.45% | 40248 |
| Cape Coral city, Florida | 194016 | 154305 | 25.74% | 39711 |
| Riverview CDP, Florida | 107396 | 71050 | 51.16% | 36346 |
| Four Corners CDP, Florida | 56381 | 26116 | 115.89% | 30265 |
| Doral city, Florida | 75874 | 45704 | 66.01% | 30170 |

Sample Table 2 – Ten Florida places with greatest raw increase in population from 2010-2020

**Palm Beach County CDPs**

Palm Beach County has a total of 39 Census Designated Places, all of which were incorporated prior to 2010 except for the city of Westlake. Comparing both the percent change in population as well as the raw difference between 2020 and 2010, one may note a similar standing for Delray Beach as when compared to CDPs throughout the state.

Average (mean) percent change: 10.65 %

Standard Deviation: 10.33 %

Median percent change: 10.5%

In terms of percent change, Delray Beach (10.45%) falls right around the median and mean values for Palm Beach County. Here, the only notable outlier in this smaller data set is Palm Springs, with a population increase of 42% over the ten-year period.

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Again, in terms of raw population increase, Delray Beach’s contribution (6,324 persons) seems more significant, making it the 9th largest increase in Palm Beach County, greater than 76% of the other CDPs in this area. The full Palm Beach County list is provided in Table 3, below.

Average (mean) population change: 2,362 persons

Standard Deviation: 7,094 persons

Median population change: 293 persons

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| **Geographic Area Name** | **2020 Census** | **2010 Census** | **Percent Change** | **Population Difference** |
| West Palm Beach city, Florida | 117415 | 99919 | 17.51% | 17496 |
| Boca Raton city, Florida | 97422 | 84392 | 15.44% | 13030 |
| Boynton Beach city, Florida | 80380 | 68217 | 17.83% | 12163 |
| Palm Beach Gardens city, Florida | 59182 | 48452 | 22.15% | 10730 |
| Palm Springs village, Florida | 26890 | 18928 | 42.06% | 7962 |
| Lake Worth Beach city, Florida | 42219 | 34910 | 20.94% | 7309 |
| Greenacres city, Florida | 43990 | 37573 | 17.08% | 6417 |
| Delray Beach city, Florida | 66846 | 60522 | 10.45% | 6324 |
| Jupiter town, Florida | 61047 | 55156 | 10.68% | 5891 |
| Wellington village, Florida | 61637 | 56508 | 9.08% | 5129 |
| Riviera Beach city, Florida | 37604 | 32488 | 15.75% | 5116 |
| Royal Palm Beach village, Florida | 38932 | 34140 | 14.04% | 4792 |
| North Palm Beach village, Florida | 13162 | 12015 | 9.55% | 1147 |
| Lantana town, Florida | 11504 | 10423 | 10.37% | 1081 |
| Palm Beach town, Florida | 9245 | 8348 | 10.75% | 897 |
| Lake Park town, Florida | 9047 | 8155 | 10.94% | 892 |
| Highland Beach town, Florida | 4295 | 3539 | 21.36% | 756 |
| Juno Beach town, Florida | 3858 | 3176 | 21.47% | 682 |
| Tequesta village, Florida | 6158 | 5629 | 9.40% | 529 |
| Haverhill town, Florida | 2187 | 1873 | 16.76% | 314 |
| South Palm Beach town, Florida | 1471 | 1171 | 25.62% | 300 |
| Mangonia Park town, Florida | 2142 | 1888 | 13.45% | 254 |
| Palm Beach Shores town, Florida | 1330 | 1142 | 16.46% | 188 |
| Lake Clarke Shores town, Florida | 3564 | 3376 | 5.57% | 188 |
| Loxahatchee Groves town, Florida | 3355 | 3180 | 5.50% | 175 |
| Gulf Stream town, Florida | 954 | 786 | 21.37% | 168 |
| Atlantis city, Florida | 2142 | 2005 | 6.83% | 137 |
| Hypoluxo town, Florida | 2687 | 2588 | 3.83% | 99 |
| Ocean Ridge town, Florida | 1830 | 1786 | 2.46% | 44 |
| Manalapan town, Florida | 419 | 406 | 3.20% | 13 |
| Jupiter Inlet Colony town, Florida | 405 | 400 | 1.25% | 5 |
| Golf village, Florida | 255 | 252 | 1.19% | 3 |
| Cloud Lake town, Florida | 134 | 135 | -0.74% | -1 |
| Glen Ridge town, Florida | 217 | 219 | -0.91% | -2 |
| South Bay city, Florida | 4860 | 4876 | -0.33% | -16 |
| Briny Breezes town, Florida | 502 | 601 | -16.47% | -99 |
| Pahokee city, Florida | 5524 | 5649 | -2.21% | -125 |
| Belle Glade city, Florida | 16698 | 17467 | -4.40% | -769 |

Table 3 – Palm Beach County CDPs, ordered by absolute change from 2010-2020

**Conclusions**

Values for relative change in population (those that express percent change relative to the initial population) will tend to favor areas with small populations, while those with large populations that show consistent rates of growth will often stand out more in terms of absolute change, the raw difference in numbers. Delray Beach shows respectable growth using either metric but is somewhat more impressive in terms of absolute change in population. This statement holds both when compared with other Census Designated Places in Palm Beach County as well as when compared with populations throughout Florida.

**References**

U.S. Census Bureau. 2010: DEC Redistricting Data (PL 94-171), Table P1, All Places in Florida. Retrieved from data.census.gov on February 2, 2022.

U.S. Census Bureau. 2020: DEC Redistricting Data (PL 94-171), Table P1, All Places in Florida. Retrieved from data.census.gov on February 2, 2022.