



Regional Diversity

The MAPC region has become more racially and ethnically diverse every decade since at least 1970, when only 5% the region's residents were people of color. Between 2000 and 2010, residents of color—those who identify as Asian, Black, Latino, Native American, multiracial, or otherwise non-White—grew from 21% to 28% of the MAPC population, and their share increased in each of the region's 101 municipalities.

Although every municipality became more racially and ethnically diverse, the rate of change varied widely. A third of the region's municipalities became more diverse faster than the average. On the other hand, 58 predominantly-White suburban communities added residents of color more slowly than the region overall. These communities are falling further behind when it comes to representing the region's diversity.

Continuing racial segregation makes it harder for the region to reverse inequities. Children and adults of color often lack access to the privileges that come with life in wealthier suburbs. White children and adults living in mostly-White suburbs are isolated from the experiences of their peers of other races and ethnicities. To succeed as a region, we must address the many inequities that face populations of color, and reverse the enduring legacy of segregation.