Births in the Children’s Corridor: Long-term Trends

The Children’s Corridor is a very different place than it was two decades ago. Birth data reflect some of these changes, including an overall increase in births, births to foreign-born mothers and births to Hispanic mothers. Additionally, Stapleton was uninhabited until 2003. The growth of the white population in Stapleton can be seen in the overall racial and ethnic distribution of Corridor births.

Data Source: Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, birth data 1990 to 2009.

Births by Year in the Children’s Corridor, 1990 to 2009: A Boom in Immigrant Births

The birth rate in the Children’s Corridor has increased nearly 50 percent in the past 20 years. Most of that growth has been among immigrant parents. While births to mothers born in the U.S. remained fairly constant, births to mothers born outside the U.S. increased five-fold.

Births by Race/Ethnicity of Mother: Shifting Demographics

Over the past two decades, the racial and ethnic characteristics of the Children’s Corridor have shifted. In every year since 1999, more than half of births were to Hispanic mothers. Twenty years ago, African-American mothers represented the largest group. In 2004, for the first time births to white mothers outnumbered births to black mothers.

Births by Corridor Hub in 2009 by Mother’s Country of Origin

While births to foreign-born mothers represented 42.7% of children born in the Corridor in 2009, the hubs have widely different demographics. East Colfax and Original Aurora had the highest number of foreign-born mothers, at 570 (60%). In Montbello and Globeville and Elyria Swansea roughly half the births are to foreign-born mothers. In contrast, in Stapleton only 10% of mothers are foreign-born.

Data Source: Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, birth data 1990 to 2009.