2020 Decennial Census: Race and Hispanic or Latino Ethnicity in Loudoun County, Virginia

Loudoun County Department of Finance and Budget: October 12, 2021

Race and Ethnicity: Definitions

The Census questionnaire is designed to allow respondents to self-identify their detailed identities. The Census Bureau uses classifications provided by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB).¹ The OMB provides the definitions and categories used to collect and present federal data on race and ethnicity. The Census Bureau explains that:

OMB requires two minimum categories on ethnicity (Hispanic or Latino and Not Hispanic or Latino) and five minimum categories on race (White, Black or African American, American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian, and Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander).²

Data on race is captured in its own question (question 9 for person 1, question 7 for other persons) on the Census questionnaire. The Census Bureau provides the following definitions of the five race categories:³

- *White* A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Europe, the Middle East, or North Africa.
- *Black or African American* A person having origins in any of the Black racial groups of Africa.
- *American Indian or Alaska Native* A person having origins in any of the original peoples of North and South America (including Central America) and who maintains tribal affiliation or community attachment.
- *Asian* A person having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, or the Indian subcontinent including, for example, Cambodia, China, India, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippine Islands, Thailand, and Vietnam.
- *Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander* A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Hawaii, Guam, Samoa, or other Pacific Islands.

The White, Black or African American, and American Indian or Alaskan Native categories have their own check box along with space to write in more information about origin. For the Asian and the Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander races, a series of check boxes such as Chinese, Asian Indian, and Samoan are provided, rather than a single check box for a race. Respondents also have the opportunity to select more than one race, as well as Some Other Race.

Race and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity are two distinct concepts under the OMB guidance. Accordingly, data on Hispanic/Latino ethnicity (also referred to as Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish

¹U.S. OMB, <u>Revisions to the Standards for the Classification of Federal Data on Race and Ethnicity</u>, 1997.

² U.S. Census Bureau, <u>2020 Census State Redistricting Data (Public Law 94-171) Technical Documentation</u>, 2021, p. B-2.

³ U.S. Census Bureau, Topics/Population/Race/<u>About Race</u>.

origin) is captured by a separate question (question 8 for person 1, question 6 for other persons). People who identify as of Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin may be of any race.

The redistricting dataset, which is the Decennial Census data that are currently available from the Census Bureau, provides statistics for:

- The six race categories listed above,
- Any combination of the six race categories, and
- Whether people identify as Hispanic/Latino or not.

In this way, the redistricting dataset remains consistent with the categories provided by the OMB for presentation of federal data. Additional origin or ancestry data, such as by country or tribe, will be made available in future releases of data from the Decennial Census.

Interpreting Race and Ethnicity Data from the 2020 Census

There are a few features of both race and ethnicity that are important to understand when interpreting the data from the 2020 Decennial Census, including:

- how the Census Bureau analyzes data, and
- how individuals chose to answer questions.

Improvements to Question Design, Data Processing, and Coding

For 2020, the Census Bureau undertook research into the design of questions, altering the questions somewhat to make them easier to understand and to provide a dedicated write-in area where those responding *White* and *Black or African American* could provide origin data.

The Census Bureau also sought to improve how it reports data from individuals who wrote in additional detail on their origin. It increased the number of characters captured from the write-in responses from 30 for the 2010 Census to 200 for the 2020 Census, allowing it to capture longer write-in responses. When processing the data, the Census Bureau utilized write-in data to help assign Hispanic/Latino ethnicity and race, regardless of whether that write-in data was provided under the Hispanic/Latino question or the race question. Finally, the Bureau increased the options for how the write-in answers could be coded.

The Census Bureau has increased the amount of information collected from respondents, and the Bureau has indicated that this increased level of detail better captures the diverse nature of the nation's population. The Census Bureau has done comparisons of the racial distribution data from the 2010 Census to the 2020 Census. One finding has been an increase in the multiracial population (persons of two or more races), which has increased 276 percent nationwide. The Bureau cautions, however, that changes to question design, coding, and processing have been part of the reason for why data in 2020 is different than in 2010. Further:

It is important to note that these data comparisons between the 2020 Census and the 2010 Census race data should be made with caution, taking into account the improvements we have made to the Hispanic origin and race questions and the ways we code what people tell us.⁴

For this reason, 2020 Decennial Census data are not completely comparable to 2010 data. The Census Bureau asserts:

We are confident that differences in the overall racial distributions are largely due to improvements in the design of the two separate questions for race data collection and processing as well as some demographic changes over the past 10 years.⁵

Further, the Bureau states:

... users may see differences in the data when comparing to other Census Bureau surveys or non-Census Bureau data sources. If unexpected differences occur, this may be related to a number of factors, primarily the design of the race and ethnicity questions and the improvements to the ways in which we code what people tell us.⁶

Finally, the Bureau is including a note below their tables cautioning the user about comparisons of 2010 and 2020 data. This note is also used in this memo.

This memorandum presents data for 2000, 2010, and 2020 side-by-side. What is important for the user to keep in mind is that the <u>changes shown between 2010 and 2020 may not solely reflect</u> <u>changes in the characteristics of Loudoun's residents</u>. Rather, they also can reflect changes in how data were collected and processed for the 2020 Census, as part of the Census Bureau's efforts to better reflect the diversity of individuals and the country.

Differential Privacy

The Census Bureau has a legal requirement to maintain the privacy of respondents.⁷ The Census Bureau has long taken steps to prevent disclosure of personal information. "Differential privacy" is the approach the Census Bureau introduced with the 2020 Census. The differential privacy approach injects random statistical "noise," which reflects a tradeoff between accuracy and

⁴ U.S. Census Bureau. Jones, Nichols et al., *America Counts:* "2020 Census Illuminates Racial and Ethnic Composition of the Country," August 12, 2021.

⁵ U.S. Census Bureau. Ramirez, Roberto et al., *America Counts:* "<u>2020 Census Results Released Today Are</u> <u>Generally in Line With Expectations</u>," August 12, 2021.

⁶ U.S. Census Bureau. Marks, Rachel and Rios-Vargas, Merarys, *Random Samplings Blog:* "<u>Improvements to</u> <u>the 2020 Census Race and Hispanic Origin Question Designs, Data Processing, and Coding Procedures</u>," August 3, 2021.

⁷ Title 13 of the U.S. Code authorizes the Census Bureau to conduct surveys and censuses and mandates that any information obtained from private individuals and establishments remains confidential. Section 9 of Title 13 prohibits the Census Bureau from releasing "any publication whereby the data furnished by any particular establishment or individual under this title can be identified." (U.S. Census Bureau, <u>2020 Census State Redistricting Data (Public Law 94-171) Technical Documentation</u>, 2021, p. 7-2)

privacy. The purpose of injecting the noise is to obscure individual data responses. While the differential privacy methodology is new, obscuring data for privacy purposes is not. Using differential privacy, data become somewhat less accurate when moving from larger geographies (such as the county level) down to smaller geographies (census tract, block group, and finally the block levels). Analysis by the NVRC of the impact of the differential privacy settings⁸ shows that data are reliable at the census tract level, usable at the block group level when also reviewed for unexpected results, and not recommended for use at the individual block level. These recommendations reflect the reduced accuracy of statistics such as the share of a given group within an area at the smallest levels, especially when an individual block – or even block group – does not have many people. If results are considerably different from what has been shown in the past or in other data sources such as the U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey, the population size of a given block group can be evaluated to determine if the changes introduced by differential privacy could plausibly be the cause.

This memorandum includes maps of race and Hispanic/Latino ethnicity population concentrations at the <u>block group</u> level.

How Individuals Answered Questions

As noted in the section above on "Improvements to Question Design, Data Processing, and Coding," the Census Bureau's changes to capture more detail has led to an increase in the population shown in the multiracial category (two or more races) nationwide.

Another phenomenon is the use of the *Some Other Race* category. Hispanic/Latino persons often choose this category. Both in Loudoun County and nationally,⁹ over 90 percent of responses for *Some Other Race* are for persons who also identify as Hispanic/Latino.

Race

Table 1 presents data on race. Multiracial people are included in the *Two or More Races* category. Each category other than *Two or More Races* is designated *White alone*, etc., with the "alone" indicating that this view of the data does not also include combinations with other racial categories.

Table 1. Loudoun County Population by Race

| | 2000 | 2010 | 2020 |
|-------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| Total population | 169,599 | 312,311 | 420,959 |
| White alone, total population | 140,419 | 214,471 | 225,974 |
| Share of population | 83% | 69% | 54% |

⁸ Kaneff, Jill, <u>presentation to the NVRC Board</u>, September 23, 2021. To enable demographers to assess the potential impact of the differential privacy settings on 2020 Census results, the Census Bureau also provided 2010 Census "demonstration data" processed using the same methodology and settings.

⁹ U.S. Census Bureau. Jones, Nichols et al., *America Counts:* "2020 Census Illuminates Racial and Ethnic Composition of the Country," August 12, 2021.

| | 2000 | 2010 | 2020 |
|--|--------|--------|--------|
| Black or African American alone, total | 11,683 | 22,710 | 30,568 |
| pop. | 11,005 | 22,710 | 50,500 |
| Share of population | 7% | 7% | 7% |
| American Indian and Alaska Native alone, | 358 | 914 | 1,582 |
| total pop. | 556 | 514 | 1,362 |
| Share of population | 0% | 0% | 0% |
| Asian alone, total pop. | 9,067 | 46,033 | 89,779 |
| Share of population | 5% | 15% | 21% |
| Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific | 105 | 184 | 263 |
| Islander alone, total pop. | 105 | 184 | 205 |
| Share of population | 0% | 0% | 0% |
| Some Other Race alone, total pop. | 3,837 | 15,424 | 28,136 |
| Share of population | 2% | 5% | 7% |
| Two or More Races, total pop. | 4,130 | 12,575 | 44,657 |
| Share of population | 2% | 4% | 11% |

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, Decennial Census Redistricting Data (P.L. 94-171), Tables PL001 (2000) and PL1 (2010, 2020). Loudoun County Department of Finance and Budget.

Note: Data users should use caution when comparing 2010 Census and 2020 Census race data because of improvements to question design, data processing, and coding procedures for the 2020 Census.

The largest share of the population continues to identify with the *White alone* racial category. However, the *White alone* share of the population has been continually decreasing by around 15 percent per decade. From 2010 to 2020, the share of population increased for *Asian alone, Some Other Race,* and *Two or More Races*.

- *Asian alone*: From 2000 to 2010, the County saw a steep increase in the *Asian alone* population. The *Asian alone* racial category has continued to increase its share of the population, maintaining its status as the second largest racial category in the County.
- *Some Other Race*: The share of people identifying as *Some Other Race* increased again from 2010 to 2020.
- *Two or More Races*: The *Two or More Races* category nearly tripled its share of the population from 2010 to 2020. It is now the third largest racial category in the County. Increased population in this category is consistent with the impact of the Census Bureau's improvements to question design, data processing, and coding.

No increases in share of the population were seen from the *Black or African American alone, American Indian and Alaska Native alone,* or *Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone* racial categories. However, all racial categories saw an increase in the number of residents. This is due to the overall growth of the county, as seen in Table 2. Loudoun County's population has continued to grow, increasing 35 percent between 2010 and 2020 and adding nearly 110,000 residents.

| | 2000 to 2010 | 2010 to 2020 |
|---|----------------|----------------|
| Total population increase Percentage growth | 142,712 84% | 108,648 35% |
| White alone, population increase Percentage growth | 74,052 53% | 11,503 5% |
| Black or African American alone, population increase Percentage growth | 11,027 94% | 7,858 35% |
| American Indian and Alaska Native alone, population increase Percentage growth | 556 155% | 668 73% |
| Asian alone, population increase Percentage growth | 36,966 408% | 43,746 95% |
| Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone, population increase Percentage growth | 79 75% | 79 43% |
| Some Other Race alone, population increase Percentage growth | 11,587 302% | 12,712 82% |
| Two or More Races, population increase Percentage growth | 8,445 204% | 32,082 255% |

Table 2. Loudoun County Population Growth by Race

Source: Loudoun County Department of Finance and Budget.

Note: Data users should use caution when comparing 2010 Census and 2020 Census race data because of improvements to question design, data processing, and coding procedures for the 2020 Census.

While over half of the County residents identify with the *White alone* racial category, that category did not grow as quickly as other racial categories. The three fastest growing racial categories are *Two or More Races, Asian alone,* and *Some Other Race alone.*

- *Two or More Races alone:* From 2010 to 2020, the racial category that experienced the highest rate of increase was *Two or More Races*, adding 32,082 residents. The percentage growth for this category, which also can be referred to as multiracial, was 255 percent, similar to the 276 percent increase nationwide. The increase was largely due to more residents identifying as *White and Some Other Race, White and Asian, White and Black or African American*, or *White and American Indian and Alaska Native. Two or More Races alone* is the only racial category that saw an increased rate of growth compared to 2000 to 2010.
- Asian alone: The next largest increase was in the Asian alone racial category, with a 95 percent increase from 2010 to 2020, nearly doubling the number of residents identifying as Asian alone. While this is a large increase, it represents a lower growth rate than from 2000 to 2010, when there was 408 percent growth. The Asian alone racial category includes people of many different origins such as people who may identify as Asian Indian, Korean,

Pakistani, or Vietnamese. Information on the origins of the people identifying as *Asian alone* will be included in a future 2020 Decennial Census data release.

• *Some Other Race*: This racial category grew 82 percent, with an additional 12,712 residents identifying with it. While this is a large increase, it is a lower growth rate than from 2000 to 2010. The increase in the number of residents identifying with this category from 2010 to 2020 was slightly higher than from 2000 to 2010.

From 2000 to 2010 the County's total population increased significantly, with growth across all racial categories. The County's total population has continued to increase from 2010 to 2020, but the rate of growth has slowed across nearly all racial categories. *Two or More Races alone* is the exception, being the only racial category to increase its growth rate from 2010 to 2020. The growth in this category may reflect the implementation of the Census Bureau's improvements to question design, data processing, and coding.

The following table compares the 2020 shares of population by race shown in Table 1 to those for the wider NVRC region. The NVRC region contains Arlington, Fairfax and Prince William counties, the cities of Alexandria, Fairfax, Falls Church, Manassas, and Manassas Park, and the towns of Dumfries, Herndon, Leesburg, and Vienna.

| | Loudoun | Northern |
|---|---------|----------|
| | County | Virginia |
| White alone | 54% | 50% |
| Black or African American alone | 7% | 12% |
| American Indian and Alaska Native alone | 0% | 1% |
| Asian alone | 21% | 17% |
| Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific | 0% | 0% |
| Islander alone | | |
| Some Other Race alone | 7% | 10% |
| Two or More Races | 11% | 12% |

Table 3. 2020 Shares by Race: Loudoun County and Northern Virginia

Sources: Northern Virginia Regional Commission data dashboard, October 6, 2021. Loudoun County Department of Finance and Budget.

Note: Category totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding.

As shown in Table 3, the shares of each race are fairly similar, when comparing Loudoun County to Northern Virginia as a whole. A greater share of Loudoun County's population identifies as *White* and *Asian* and a smaller share identifies as *Black or African American* and *Some Other Race* when compared Northern Virginia.

Hispanic or Latino Ethnicity

Table 4 presents data on the Hispanic or Latino population.

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|--|---------|---------|---------|
| | 2000 | 2010 | 2020 |
| Total population | 169,599 | 312,311 | 420,959 |
| Hispanic or Latino, total population | 10,089 | 38,576 | 59,744 |
| Share of population | 6% | 12% | 14% |
| Not Hispanic or Latino, total pop. | 159,510 | 273,735 | 361,215 |
| Share of population | 94% | 88% | 86% |

| Table 4. Loudoun County Population by H | Hispanic or Latino Ethnicity |
|---|------------------------------|
|---|------------------------------|

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, Decennial Census Redistricting Data (P.L. 94-171), Tables PL002 (2000) and PL2 (2010, 2020). Loudoun County Department of Finance and Budget.

Note: Data users should use caution when comparing 2010 Census and 2020 Census race data because of improvements to question design, data processing, and coding procedures for the 2020 Census.

Consistent with the population increase in the County, the number of people identifying as *Not Hispanic or Latino* and *Hispanic or Latino* have both increased. *Not Hispanic or Latino* makes up a larger share of the population than the *Hispanic or Latino* ethic category. However, the share of the population that identifies as *Not Hispanic or Latino* has been decreasing.

- *Hispanic or Latino*: The share of residents identifying as *Hispanic or Latino* has increased continually from 2000 to 2020. From 2010 to 2020, an additional 59,744 people in the County identified as *Hispanic or Latino*, comprising 14 percent of the population in 2020. This is a 2 percent increase in share of the population from 2010.
- Not Hispanic or Latino: While the number of residents identifying as Not Hispanic or Latino has increased continually from 2000 to 2020, the share of the population has been decreasing. From 2010 to 2020, Not Hispanic or Latino residents decreased their share of the population by 2%. In 2020, 86% of residents in the County identify as Not Hispanic or Latino.

As shown in Table 5, the growth of the *Hispanic or Latino* population has slowed significantly. From 2000 to 2010, the County saw the population of *Hispanic and Latino* resident increase 282 percent. From 2010 to 2020, the population increased 55 percent. While the overall number of people who identify as *Hispanic and Latino* has increased and the share of residents that identify as *Hispanic or Latino* has increased, the growth has slowed.

Most residents (86 percent) identify as *Not Hispanic or Latino*. The growth of residents that identified as *Not Hispanic or Latino* has slowed from 72 percent from 2000 to 2010, to 32 percent from 2010 to 2020. This corresponds with the overall slowing of the County's growth rate.

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|--|--------------|--------------|--|--|
| | 2000 to 2010 | 2010 to 2020 | | |
| Total population increase | 142,712 | 108,648 | | |
| Percentage growth | 84% | 35% | | |
| Hispanic or Latino, population increase | 28,487 | 21,168 | | |
| Percentage growth | 282% | 55% | | |
| Not Hispanic or Latino, population | 114,225 | 87,480 | | |
| increase | | | | |
| Percentage growth | 72% | 32% | | |

Table 5. Loudoun County Population Growth by Hispanic or Latino Ethnicity

Source: Loudoun County Department of Finance and Budget.

Note: Data users should use caution when comparing 2010 Census and 2020 Census race data because of improvements to question design, data processing, and coding procedures for the 2020 Census.

The following table compares the 2020 shares of population by race shown in Table 4 to those for the wider NVRC region.

Table 6. 2020 Shares by Hispanic or Latino Ethnicity: Loudoun County and Northern Virginia

| | Loudoun | Northern |
|------------------------|---------|----------|
| | County | Virginia |
| Hispanic or Latino | 14% | 19% |
| Not Hispanic or Latino | 86% | 81% |

Sources: Northern Virginia Regional Commission data dashboard, October 6, 2021. Loudoun County Department of Finance and Budget.

As shown in Table 6, Loudoun County has a somewhat lower share of people identifying as *Hispanic or Latino*, when compared to Northern Virginia as a whole.

Race and Hispanic or Latino Ethnicity Data Combined

For the purposes of analyzing diversity, the Census Bureau uses mutually exclusive racial and ethnic (nonoverlapping) categories. As Hispanic or Latino people may be of any race, the Census Bureau offers a table that treats the Hispanic or Latino population of any race as one category, then for the non-Hispanic/Latino population, presents each race along with the population of *Two or More races* on additional rows. An advantage of this type of table (see Table 7 below) is that it combines both the Hispanic/Latino and race concepts, and in a way that totals to the total population. This cross-tabulation is commonly used by other data users as well.

| Table 7. Loudoun County Population by Race, Not Hispanic of Latino | | | |
|--|---------|---------|---------|
| | 2000 | 2010 | 2020 |
| Total population | 169,599 | 312,311 | 420,959 |
| Hispanic or Latino, total population | 10,089 | 38,576 | 59,744 |
| Share of total population | 6% | 12% | 14% |
| Not Hispanic or Latino, total pop. | 159,510 | 273,735 | 361,215 |
| Share of total population | 94% | 88% | 86% |
| Population of one race | 156,510 | 264,045 | 339,150 |
| White alone | 134,972 | 194,845 | 216,865 |
| Share of total population | 80% | 62% | 52% |
| Black or African American alone | 11,517 | 21,934 | 29,725 |
| Share of total population | 7% | 7% | 7% |
| American Indian and Alaska Native | 297 | 520 | 536 |
| alone | 0.04 | 0.01 | |
| Share of total population | 0% | 0% | 0% |
| Asian alone | 9,025 | 45,795 | 89,372 |
| Share of total population | 5% | 15% | 21% |
| Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific | 93 | 143 | 227 |
| Islander alone | 95 | 145 | 221 |
| Share of total population | 0% | 0% | 0% |
| Some Other Race alone | 367 | 808 | 2,425 |
| Share of total population | 0% | 0% | 1% |
| Two or More Races | 3,239 | 9,690 | 22,065 |
| Share of total population | 2% | 3% | 5% |

Table 7. Loudoun County Population by Race, Not Hispanic or Latino

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, Decennial Census Redistricting Data (P.L. 94-171), Tables PL002 (2000) and PL2 (2010, 2020). Loudoun County Department of Finance and Budget.

Note: Data users should use caution when comparing 2010 Census and 2020 Census race data because of improvements to question design, data processing, and coding procedures for the 2020 Census.

Table 7 provides the racial distribution of the population that is *Not Hispanic or Latino*. Without the *Hispanic or Latino* population included, the share of the total population decreased significantly for *Some Other Race alone* and *Two or More Races*.

- Some Other Race alone: As seen in Table 1, when the *Hispanic or Latino* population is included, the *Some Other Race alone* racial category made up 7 percent of the population in 2020. Without the *Hispanic or Latino*, the *Some Other Race alone* racial category only made up 1 percent of the population.
- *Two or More Races:* When the *Hispanic or Latino* population is included, the *Two or More Races* racial category made up of 11 percent of the population. Without the *Hispanic or Latino* population, only 5 percent of the population identifies as *Two or More Races*.

Table 8 provides a similar view of the data, but for the population that is *Hispanic or Latino*.

| Table 8. Loudoun County Population by Race, Hispanic of Latino | | | |
|--|---------|---------|---------|
| | 2000 | 2010 | 2020 |
| Total population | 169,599 | 312,311 | 420,959 |
| Hispanic or Latino, total population | 10,089 | 38,576 | 59,744 |
| Share of total population | 6% | 12% | 14% |
| Population of one race | 9,198 | 35,691 | 37,152 |
| White alone | 5,447 | 19,626 | 9,109 |
| Share of total population | 3% | 7% | 2% |
| Black or African American alone | 166 | 776 | 843 |
| Share of total population | 0% | 0% | 0% |
| American Indian and Alaska Native alone | 61 | 394 | 1,046 |
| Share of total population | 0% | 0% | 0% |
| Asian alone | 42 | 238 | 407 |
| Share of total population | 0% | 0% | 0% |
| Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone | 12 | 41 | 36 |
| Share of total population | 0% | 0% | 0% |
| Some Other Race alone | 3,470 | 14,616 | 25,711 |
| Share of total population | 2% | 5% | 7% |
| Two or More Races | 891 | 2,885 | 22,592 |
| Share of total population | 1% | 1% | 6% |

Table 8. Loudoun County Population by Race, Hispanic or Latino

Source: Loudoun County Department of Finance and Budget.

Note: Data users should use caution when comparing 2010 Census and 2020 Census race data because of improvements to question design, data processing, and coding procedures for the 2020 Census.

Table 8 displays the racial categories of people who identified as *Hispanic or Latino*. The majority of County residents that identified ethnically as *Hispanic and Latino*, identified racially as *Some Other Race* or *Two or More Races*.

Key Takeaways

Race

- The *White* racial category is the largest group in 2020, with 54 percent of people identifying as White alone. However, the percentage increase of this group was 5 percent, considerably slower than Loudoun County's overall population increase of 35 percent. Given the Census Bureau's changes to question design, processing, and coding, some individuals who previously would have been counted as *White* in the 2010 Census may now be counted as *Two or More Races*.
- The *Asian* category is the second largest, with 21 percent identifying as Asian alone. This group had the largest numeric increase in population. This category includes people of many different origins, such as people who identify as Asian Indian, Korean, Pakistani, Vietnamese, etc.

- Individuals identifying as *Two or More Races*, comprise the third largest group, with 11 percent of the population. About half of these individuals also identified as *Hispanic or Latino*. This group experienced the largest percentage growth, 255 percent, and the second largest population increase among racial categories. This high growth rate is similar to the national figure, 276 percent.
- The *Black or African American* category comprises 7 percent of the population. This group grew by 35 percent. Loudoun County's population also increased 35 percent.
- The *Some Other Race* category also comprises 7 percent of the population. This group grew by 82 percent. Over 90 percent of responses for *Some Other Race* are for people who also identify as *Hispanic or Latino*.
- The remaining two categories, *American Indian and Alaska Native* and *Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander* have small populations (1,582 and 263 respectively).

Hispanic or Latino Ethnicity

- Fourteen percent of the population identifies as *Hispanic or Latino*.
- Most individuals identifying as *Hispanic or Latino* also identify as *Some Other Race* or *Two or More Races*.

Comparison to Northern Virginia

- A greater share of Loudoun County's population identifies as *White* and *Asian* and a smaller share identifies as *Black or African American* and *Some Other Race* when compared to Northern Virginia.
- Loudoun County has a somewhat lower share of people identifying as *Hispanic or Latino*, when compared to Northern Virginia as a whole.

Impact of the Census Bureau's Improvements to Question Design, Data Processing, and Coding

• Changes shown between 2010 and 2020 may not solely reflect changes in the characteristics of Loudoun's residents. Rather, they also can reflect changes in how data were collected and processed for the 2020 Census, as part of the Census Bureau's efforts to better reflect the diversity of individuals and the country.