



GROWING GARDENS: CULTIVA!



THORNE ECOLOGICAL INSTITUTE

Definitions to Help Interpret the Data

This report uses a great deal of data found through the American Community Survey (ACS), a nationwide survey to provide communities updated information in between bicentennial censuses. The most recent data available through the ACS is for 2007, so unless otherwise noted, data reported reflects 2007 numbers.

There are some differences between the Census 2000 and the ACS methodology that make them difficult to compare. The ACS collects data for all 12 months of the year, not for just a single point in time. The decennial census takes a snapshot of the population and housing stock based on a single day - April 1 of the decennial year. But ACS surveys are distributed year-round, so we have January data and December data.

In the decennial census you are counted where you are residing on April 1 (with a very few exceptions). With ACS it is more complicated; where you get counted is based on where you reside when you get the survey (unless you are only staying there “temporarily”, defined as less than 2 months). While the Census works to count every single person, the ACS is distributed to a population sample and produces estimates more at risk for statistical error.

The term “Latino”

In this report we use the term “Latino” to encompass people identified as “Hispanic” or “Latin” by the American Commu-

nity Survey, or other similar data collecting organizations. People who identify their origin as Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino may be of any race. We use the term “Non-Hispanic white” to refer to people who self-identify as white but do not claim Latino heritage.

Students

Beginning in 2006, the ACS includes group quarters like dormitories or sororities. Students who live off campus have been counted in the data as individuals, including information on poverty, household income, health care access, etc since the start of the ACS program.

Income vs. Wages

“Income” includes wages, salary, bonuses, self-employment income, gifts, tips, investment income, transfer payments such as social security or food stamps, pensions, rents, and interest income.

“Wages” include only payments received from an employer in an employment relationship that is reported to the State of Colorado for purposes of unemployment insurance. Wages do not include self employment income.

“Per capita income” is calculated by taking all the income earned in the county and dividing this number by the population.

Broomfield County

Broomfield became its own county in at the end of 2001. The State Demography Office has adjusted population, age, and ethnicity numbers prior to 2001 to reflect only the area that is now Boulder County.