



5th District Footprint

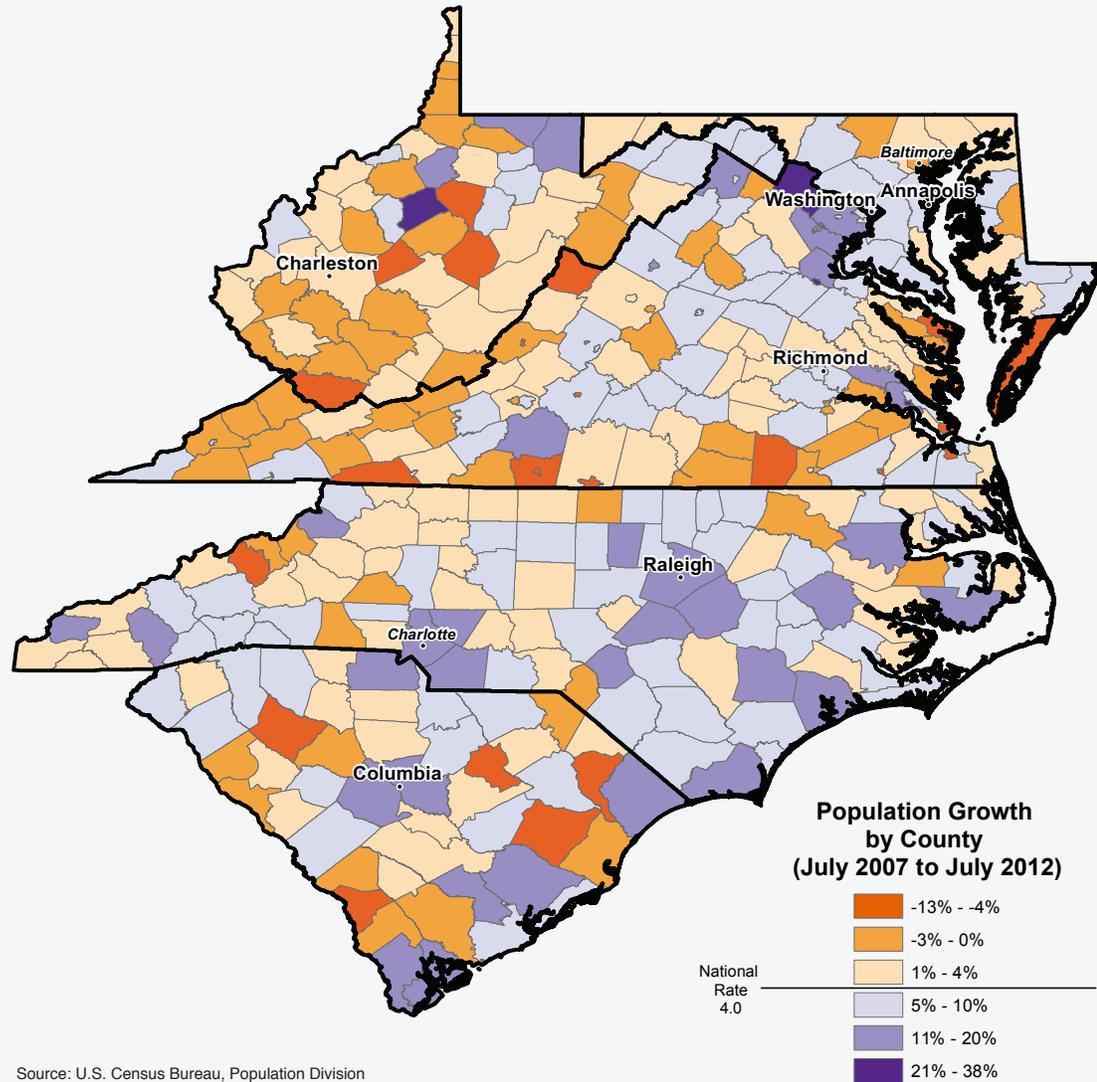
Recent Patterns in the Fifth District's Population Growth

This issue of *5th District Footprint* looks at the patterns of population growth in the Fifth District between 2007 and 2012. The U.S. population grew by 4 percent between July 2007 and July 2012.¹ Every Fifth District state and the District of Columbia experienced population growth. At 2.4 percent, West Virginia was the only state in the Fifth District whose population growth rate was below the national rate.

Seventy-five percent of the counties within Fifth District states experienced population growth while the remaining lost population. Manassas Park City, Va. (38 percent) had the District's highest population growth rate and Accomack County, Va. the lowest (13 percent population decline). Both of these localities have fewer than 40,000 people.

Population growth within a county may be the result of migration from a different county, state or country. A contributing factor to U.S. population growth is migration from abroad. In 2011, migration from foreign countries accounted for 25 percent of out-of-state migrants.² Among Fifth District states, the share of out-of-state migrants who came from a foreign country ranged from 8 percent in West Virginia to 27 percent in Maryland. In Virginia, North Carolina and Maryland, the number of migrants from abroad was larger than the number of migrants from any other U.S. state.

Among North Carolina's counties, the largest number of out-



of-state migrants in 2010 came from Asia to Cumberland (5,815) and Onslow (4,819) counties.³ Cumberland and Onslow are home to U.S. military installations, so this pattern may partially reflect the return of military personnel from Afghanistan and Iraq.

For other states in the Fifth District, intrastate migration, particularly around major cities, was one of the largest contributors to a county's population growth. In Richland County, South Carolina, home to the city of Columbia, 24 percent of the people who moved to the county in 2010 came from another county in South Carolina. Former residents of neighboring Lexington County made up the largest share of these intrastate migrants.

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¹ U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division, Annual Estimates

² Percentage is based on the share of U.S. population 1 year and older where "out-of-state migrants" are those who lived in a different state or country in the previous year. U.S. Census Bureau, 2011 American Community Survey

³ The migration flows are based on state or country of residence the prior year, for example, 2009. U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey