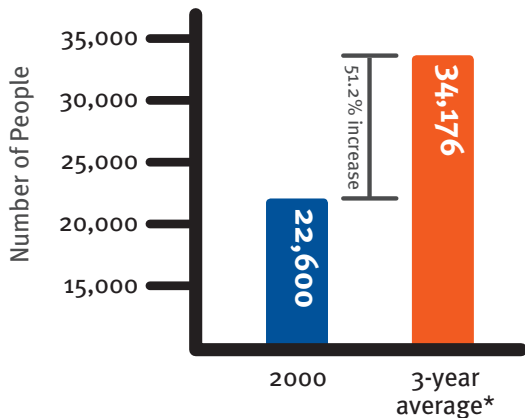


Pathways Past Poverty

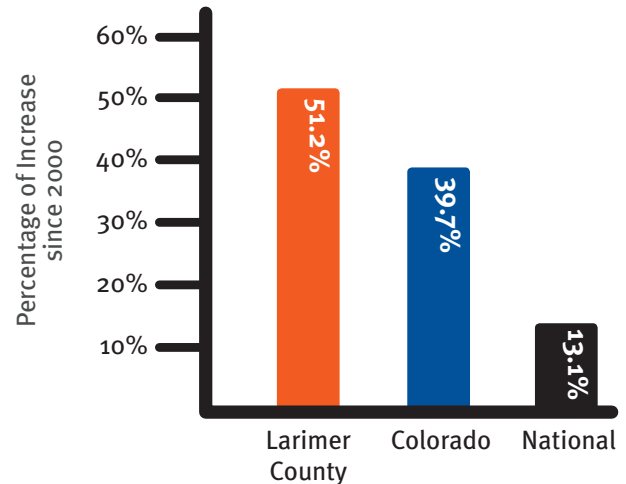
OVERALL POVERTY

* The 3-year average indicates the average numbers from the 2005, 2006 and 2007 American Community Surveys. Using averages helps to smooth out the margin of error issues that are inherent with smaller sample sizes.

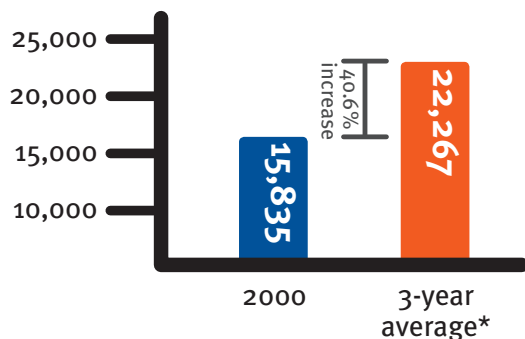
People living below the poverty line in Larimer County



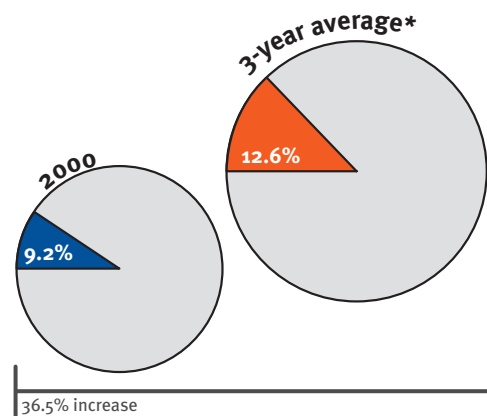
Comparison of change since 2000



Number of people living below the poverty line in Fort Collins



Percentage of Larimer County population living below the poverty line



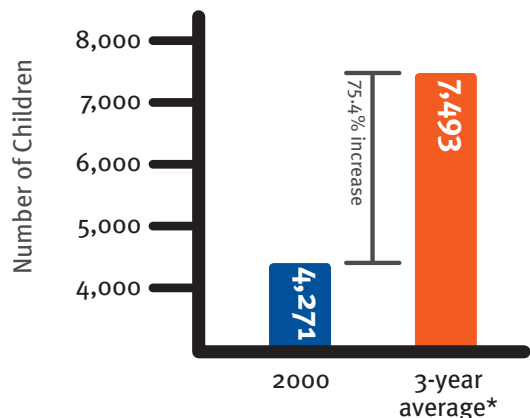
- The three year average* for the number of people living below the poverty line in Larimer County is **34,176**.
• When compared to the 2000 Census, that's an **increase of 51.2%** in 7 years.
- Larimer County's averaged poverty rate is **12.6%**.
• That's a **36.5% increase** since 2000.
- Comparing the County's poverty rate to the Colorado & National averages shows how quickly our poverty rate is growing:
• The Colorado averaged poverty rate is **11.7%**. That's a **26.1% increase** from 2000.
• The National average is **13.2%**. While this number is higher than the County's average, its rate of growth since 2000 is much lower, with an increase of only **6.5%**.
- What this tells us is that based on the 3 year averages*, **Larimer County has increased its rate of growth for people living in poverty 1.4 times faster than the State and 5.6 times faster than the Nation.**

Pathways Past Poverty

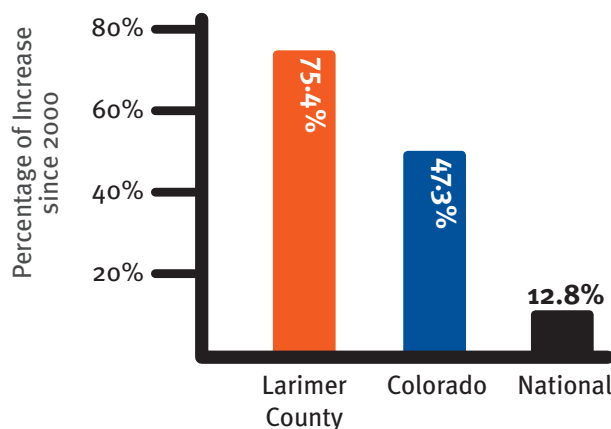
CHILDREN LIVING IN POVERTY

* The 3-year average indicates the average numbers from the 2005, 2006 and 2007 American Community Surveys. Using averages helps to smooth out the margin of error issues that are inherent with smaller sample sizes.

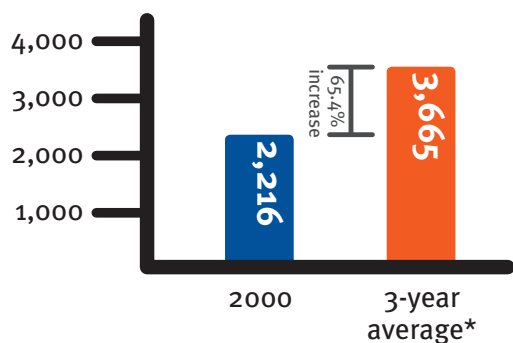
Children living below the poverty line in Larimer County



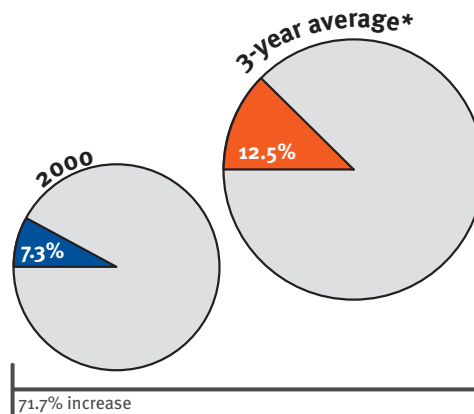
Comparison of change since 2000



Number of children living below the poverty line in Fort Collins



Percentage of the Larimer County population of children living below the poverty line



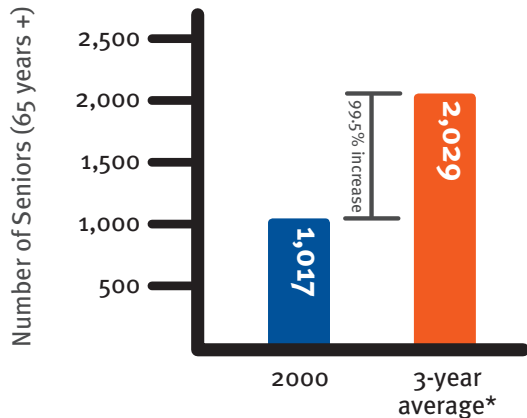
- The three year average* for the number of children living below the poverty line in Larimer County is **7,493**.
 - When compared to the 2000 Census, that's an **increase of 75.4%** in 7 years.
- Larimer County's averaged childhood poverty rate is **12.5%**.
 - That's a **71.7%** increase since 2000.
- Comparisons with the State and National data show that Larimer County is outpacing the growth of children living in poverty:
 - The Colorado averaged childhood poverty rate is **15.4%**. That's a **36.8% increase** from 2000.
 - The National average is **18.3%**. This number is also higher than the County's average, yet the rate of growth since 2000 is also much lower, with an increase of only **10.5%**.
- What this tells us is that an increase in children living in poverty is a consistent and concerning trend. Based on the three year averages*, **Larimer County has increased its rate of growth for childhood poverty 1.9 times faster than the State and 6.8 times faster than the Nation.**

Pathways Past Poverty

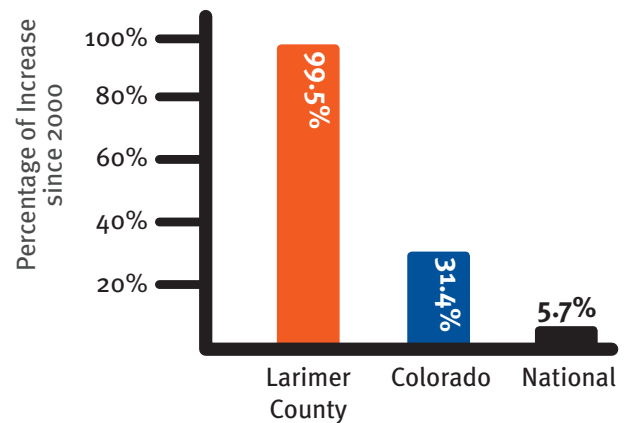
SENIORS (65 YEARS +) LIVING IN POVERTY

* The 3-year average indicates the average numbers from the 2005, 2006 and 2007 American Community Surveys. Using averages helps to smooth out the margin of error issues that are inherent with smaller sample sizes.

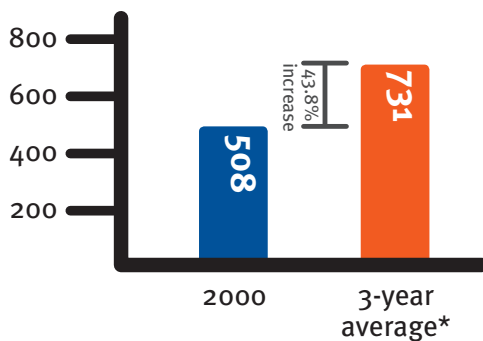
Seniors (65 years +) living below the poverty line in Larimer County



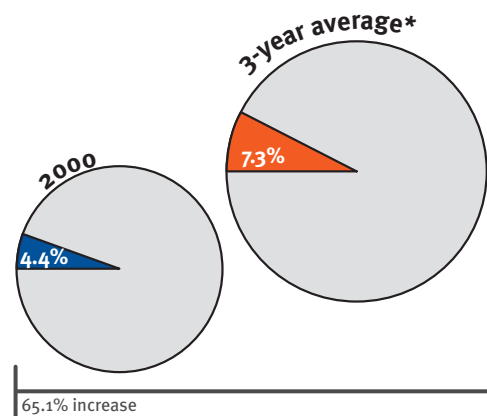
Comparison of change since 2000



Number of seniors (65 years +) living below the poverty line in Fort Collins



Percentage of the Larimer County population of seniors (65 years +) living below the poverty line



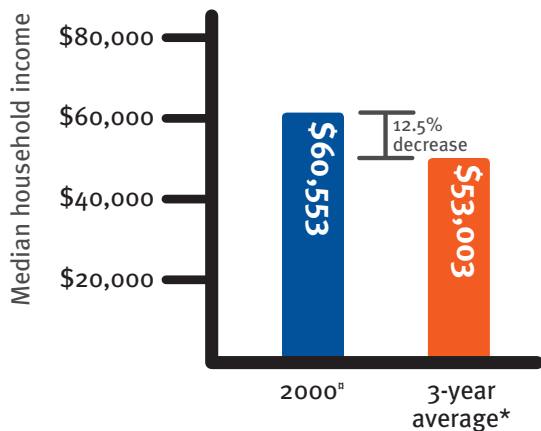
- The three year average* for the number of seniors living below the poverty line in Larimer County is **2,029**.
 - While this number is small compared to our total population, it shows a significant **increase of 99.5%**.
 - When compared to the 2000 Census Larimer County's averaged senior poverty rate is **7.3%**. That's a **65.1% increase** since 2000.
- The same outpacing trend, when comparing this rate to the State and National growth rate, holds true here as well:
 - The Colorado averaged senior poverty rate is **8.5%**. That's a **13.9% increase** from 2000.
 - The National average is **9.8%**. While this number is higher than the County's average, its rate of growth since 2000 has actually decreased **.08%**.
- What this tells us is that while the actual number of seniors living in poverty is small, we are still seeing a striking growth rate. Based on the three year averages*, **Larimer County has increased its rate of growth for seniors living in poverty 4.7 times faster than the State and 81.3 times faster than the Nation.**

Pathways Past Poverty

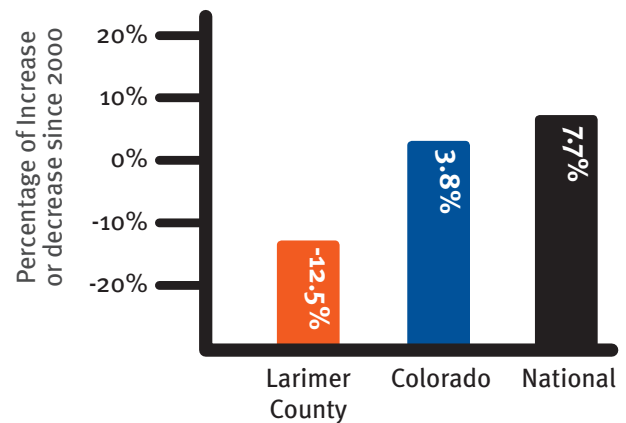
HOUSEHOLD INCOME CHANGES FOR LARIMER COUNTY

* The 3-year average indicates the average numbers from the 2005, 2006 and 2007 American Community Surveys. Using averages helps to smooth out the margin of error issues that are inherent with smaller sample sizes.

Median household income for Larimer County
(adjusted for inflation)



Comparison of change since 2000^a



The decrease of our Area Median Income (AMI) is an important and continuing trend that sheds light on the increase of families and individuals in Larimer County struggling to meet their basic needs and make ends meet.

- The three year average Larimer County AMI, when adjusted for inflation, is **\$53,003**. That's a **12.5% decrease** since the 2000 Census.
- When compared to the State and National averages, also adjusted for inflation, **we see that Larimer County is not keeping pace**. While the nation and the state have seen an increase in their AMI, Larimer County has seen a significant decrease.
 - Colorado average AMI is **\$60,995 - a 3.8% increase** since 2000.
 - National average AMI is **\$56,197 - a 7.7% increase** since 2000.

^a 1999 income, collected in the 2000 census.

The data used for the three year averages comes primarily from the Census Bureau's 2000 Census and the 2005, 2006 and 2007 American Community Surveys (unless otherwise noted). One limitation is that the census only has specific ACS data for cities and counties of more than 65,000 people.

It's important to note that college towns tend to have higher poverty rates than non-college towns, because the presence of students distorts the picture somewhat. However, Fort Collins has always been a college town and while the student population has increased some in recent years, that increase is not enough to explain away the poverty increases and growing trends we've seen since 2000.