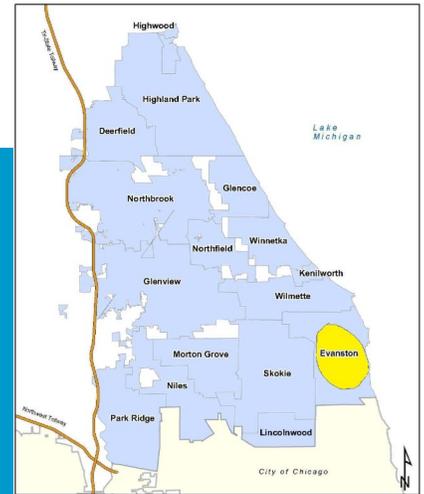


# Evanston, IL



## Open Communities'

mission is to educate, advocate and organize to promote just and inclusive communities in north suburban Chicago.

Founded in 1972 by north suburban residents and congregations, we are a nonprofit, membership-based organization dedicated to fostering economically and culturally diverse communities.

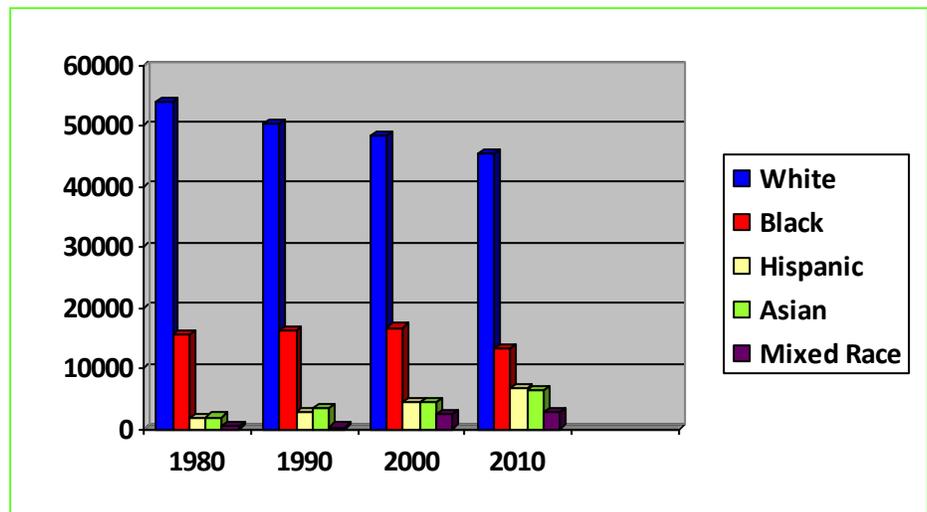
The programs we offer include Fair Housing Discrimination Investigation and Education, Foreclosure Prevention Counseling, Landlord/Tenant Advice, Homesharing, Immigrant Leadership Development, Affordable Housing Advocacy, and Community Organizing.

614 Lincoln Avenue  
Winnetka, IL 60093-2331  
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[www.open-communities.org](http://www.open-communities.org)

[Evanston](#) is a suburban city in Cook County, Illinois, about 12 miles north of downtown Chicago. It is bordered by Chicago to the south, Skokie to the west, and Wilmette to the north. Evanston, along with three other U.S. cities, claims to have originated the ice cream sundae. Evanston has ongoing partnerships with several mission-driven and community-oriented organizations including *Housing Opportunities for Women*, *Evanston Revitalization Partnership*, and *Evanston Community Foundation*.

As of the 2010 Census, Evanston is reported to have a total of 74,486 residents. Of this total, 28,935 are non-white, which means minorities make up 38.8 percent of Evanston's population. African Americans comprise the largest minority group at 17 percent.

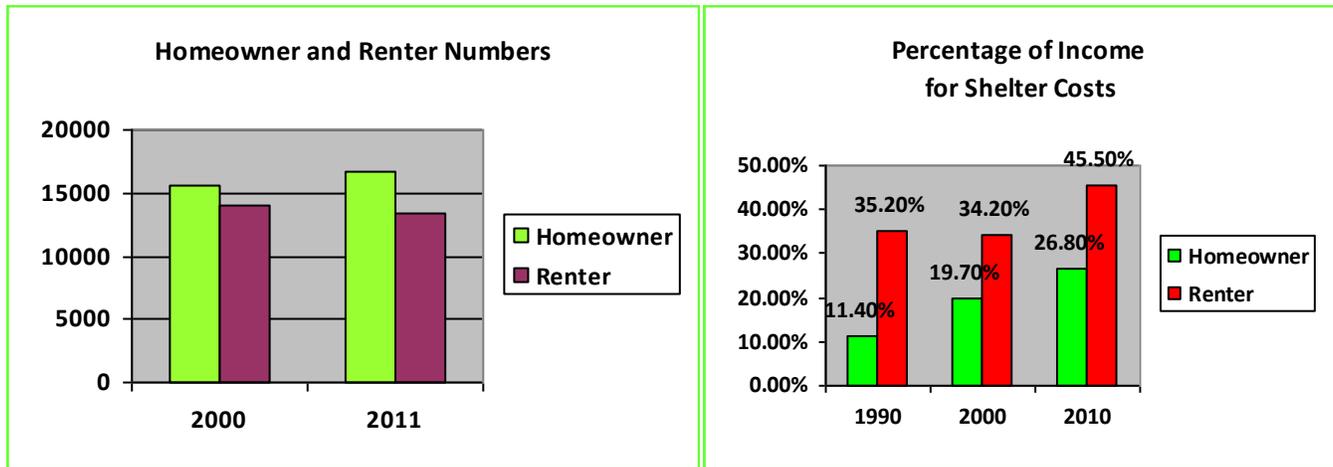
The graph<sup>1</sup> below shows demographic trends in Evanston from 1980-2010.



<sup>1</sup>Graph data available at [www.open-communities.org](http://www.open-communities.org)

## Homeownership and Renter Trends

These graphs<sup>2</sup> map homeownership and renter trends in Evanston between 1990 and 2011. The left graph shows that the number of renters and homeowners numbers is fairly close. However, the graph on the right shows renters consistently spent far more than homeowners on shelter costs. In 1990 and 2010 respectively, renter costs were triple and almost double that of homeowners. In both cases, renter shelter costs went above 35 percent of income. In 2000, renters spent just below 35 percent on shelter costs, but that was still almost double homeowners' shelter costs for that year.



## Seniors (according to the Census between 2008-2012)

- ◆ 940 out of 1767 (53%) of seniors 65 and older spent more than 35 percent of household income on rent
- ◆ 42 percent of 1650 seniors aged 65-75 still had a mortgage

## Affordable Housing Stock

According to a 2013 report from the Illinois Affordable Housing Planning and Appeal Act, Evanston offers 4,426 affordable housing units out of a total of 28,671 (15.4%) homes in the community.

Evanston has been quite proactive in advocating for and working to provide inclusionary and affordable housing and resources. The city also utilizes various local, state, and federal grants to help provide subsidies to rehabilitate and renovate properties for moderate-to-low income households.

<sup>2</sup>Graph data available at [www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov)