

2019 Population Estimate

City of Longmont | Planning Division

Each year, the Planning Division prepares estimates of the City's year-end population. Recent research and analysis indicates **Longmont's population as of December 31, 2019 was 97,530**. Based on these year-end estimates, the population of Longmont has increased 1.4%. This compares with a growth rate of 1.5% and an end-of-year population estimate of 96,192 in 2018.

This estimate is derived from a number of variables:

- Number of dwelling units
- Vacancy rate
- Average household size
- Population living in group quarters

A discussion of each of the variables used to develop the population estimate follows.

Number of Dwelling Units

As of April 1, 2010, the US Census Bureau placed the number of dwelling units in the City of Longmont at 35,008. Calculations done by Planning staff subsequent to the 2010 Census, estimated there were 37,673 dwelling units available for occupancy in the City as of December 31, 2018.

Data indicate that an additional 962 dwelling units were issued certificates of occupancy (COs) between January 1, 2019 and December 31, 2019. One unit was acquired through annexation and one residential unit was demolished during 2019. Based on this information, the estimated number of dwelling units available for occupancy at the end of 2019 was 38,635 ($=37,673+962+1-1$).

Vacancy Rate

The 2010 Census reported a vacancy rate of 5.0% for the City of Longmont; for the 2018 population estimate, a vacancy rate of 1.9% was used. The American Community Survey (ACS), an ongoing statistical survey administered by the U.S. Census Bureau, reports vacancy rates for both owner and renter occupied units; information from the survey generates demographic, social, housing, and economic data. The average vacancy rate reported in the 5-year ACS Estimates (2014 – 2018) for Longmont was 4.5% and the 1-Year ACS estimates reported a vacancy rate of 6.6%. The State Demography Office (SDO) also tracks vacancy for municipalities in Colorado; they reported Longmont's vacancy at 3.8% for 2018. Local information supports that vacancy rates may be increasing, but that Longmont's vacancy rates are still lower than what has been seen historically. Based on ACS data, SDO data and anecdotal information collected by staff, a vacancy rate of 3.0% has been used for these estimates.



Average Household Size

In 2010, the US Census Bureau reported the average household size in the City of Longmont was 2.58 persons per household. The average household size reported in the 5-year ACS Estimates (2014 – 2018) for Longmont was 2.60 and the 1-Year ACS estimates reported an average HH size of 2.55 persons per household. The SDO reports an average household size of 2.57 for Longmont. For this estimate, the City of Longmont has used a household size of 2.58 persons per household; this is consistent with the average household size used in the 2018 estimate.

Group Quarters Population

The 2010 Census reported that there were 639 persons living in group quarters, sometimes referred to as “group homes,” in the City of Longmont. Group quarters are defined by the Census as institutional or non-institutional living arrangements for people not living in households. Since the 2010 Census, an additional 203 persons have been identified by City staff as living in group quarters within the City. Based on this information, a group quarter’s population of 842 has been used for these 2019 population estimates.

December 31, 2019 Population Estimate

Based on the variables described above, the estimated population for the City of Longmont has been calculated as follow:

38,635	Total dwelling units
x 0.97	Occupancy rate (3.0% vacancy rate)
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37,476	Occupied dwelling units
x 2.58	Average household size
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96,688	Persons living in households
+ 842	Persons living in group quarters
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97,530	City of Longmont 2019 population estimate

CC: Harold Dominguez, City Manager
Joni Marsh, Assistant City Manager
Planning Staff
Supervisors
Grant Grover
Roberto Luna
Francie Jaffe
Kathryne Marko
Trevor Chaffin
Kimberly Klug

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