Brittany Braxton Minorities

1. The number of communities in Southwest Ohio and Northern Kentucky with a minority population of at least 20 percent doubled during the past decade, from 12 to 24.
2. West Chester, Blue Ash, Deerfield Township, Fairfield and Hamilton all are among the communities that now have a 20 percent minority population.
3. Wright said minority populations, especially immigrants, are crucial because they can fuel growth or mitigate losses as the white population ages, has fewer children or moves away from Rust Belt states such as Ohio in search of better jobs.
4. Although African-Americans remain the largest minority group in Cincinnati, representing 45 percent of the total population, the city's small Hispanic population grew faster than any other.
5. He said some immigrants left after the economic downturn claimed their blue collar jobs, but he sees Hispanics as essential to future growth.