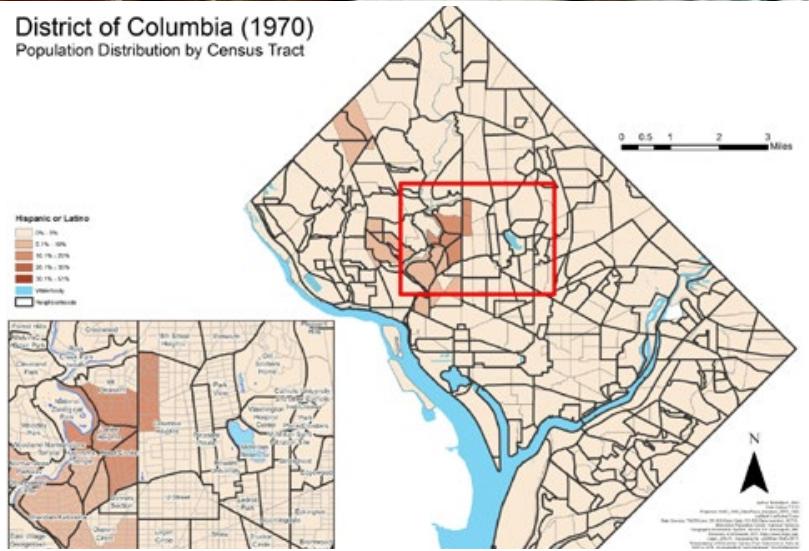


HOLA CULTURA | D.C. LATINO HISTORY PROJECT 2015 - 2016



District of Columbia (1970)
Population Distribution by Census Tract



In the summers of 2015 and 2016, Hola Cultura's high school and college interns examined the history of Washington D.C.'s Latino community.



We interviewed local residents, investigated how housing costs and "cultural spaces" influence where Latinos have settled, and used U.S. Census data to map neighborhood change over time.

These are our research highlights. To read the full stories and many others, visit Hola Cultura's special projects website: www.holaculturamas.wordpress.com

1970-2010

D.C. Latino Population Distribution

Maps by Nicholas John



1977 photo of 18th Street and Columbia Road, published in the *Washington Star*; photo courtesy of D.C. Public Library's Washingtoniana Collection

Hola Cultura's interns investigated where Latinos live and have lived over the last half-century.

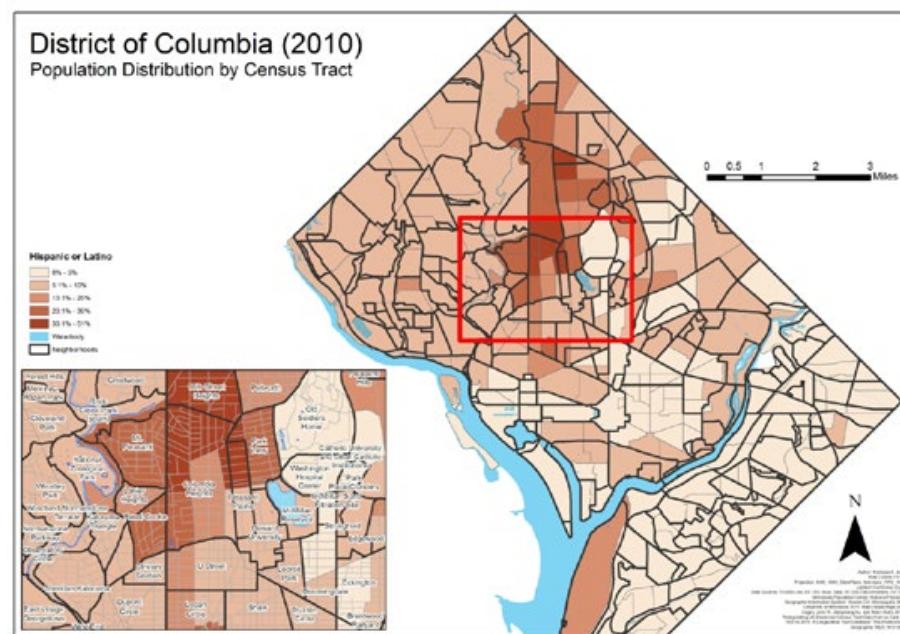
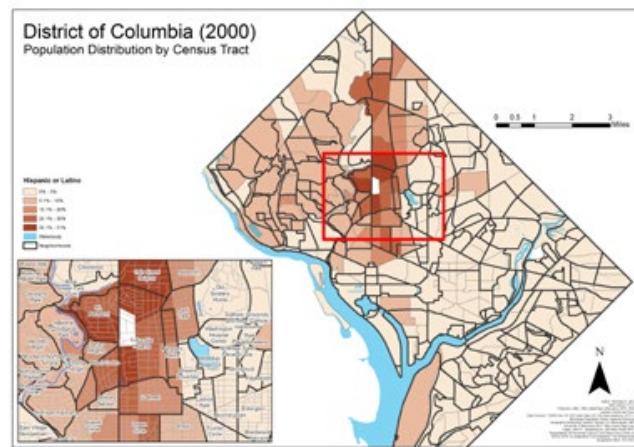
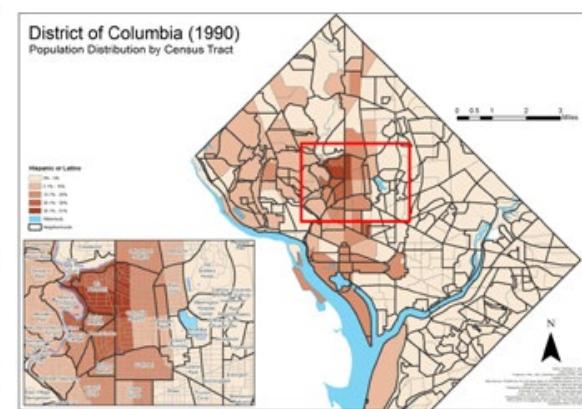
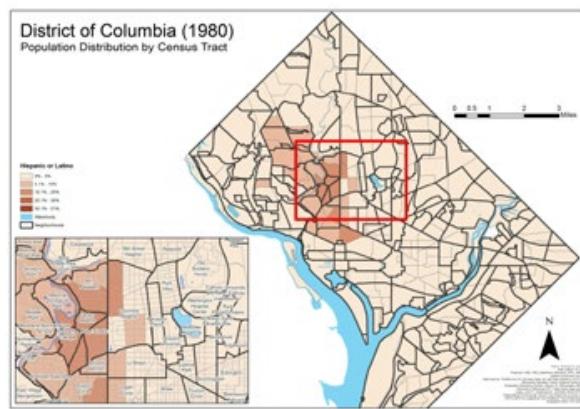
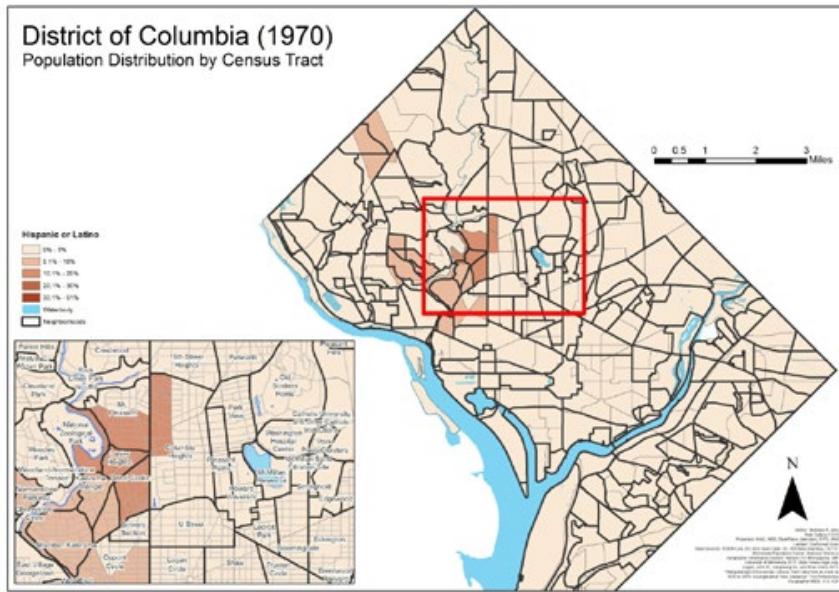
To learn more, click [here](#).



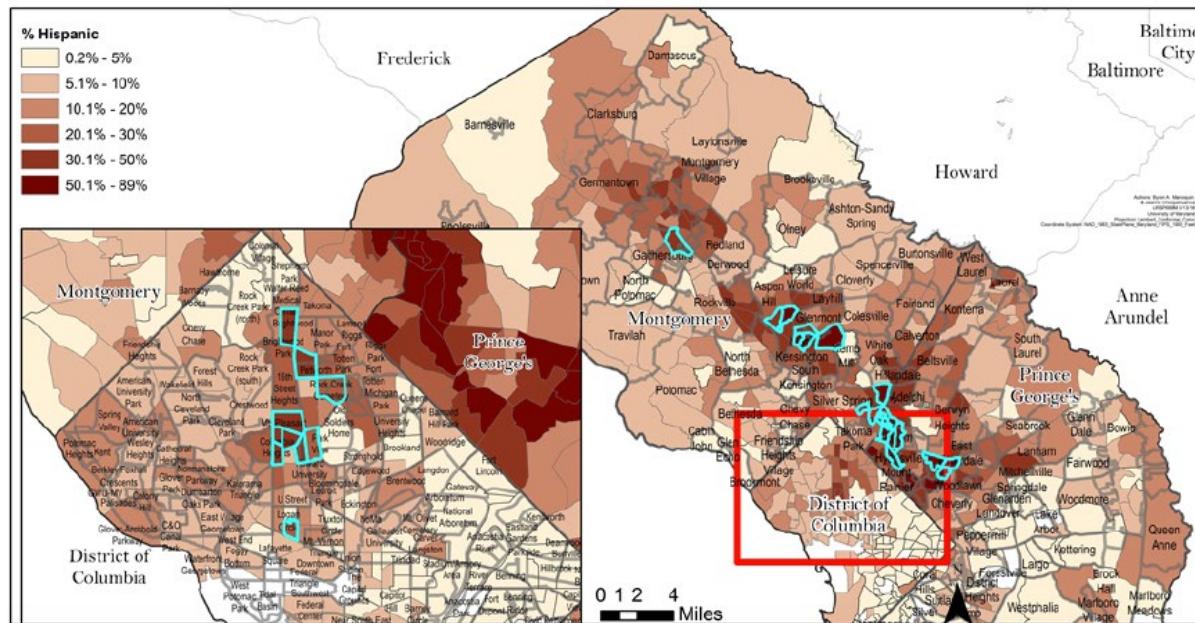
18th Street Today

D.C. Latino Population Distribution (continued)

To learn more, click [here](#).



HOLA CULTURA | D.C. LATINO HISTORY PROJECT 2015 - 2016



Outlined in blue: cultural spaces hotspots taken from 2014 data

Where Latinos live in Washington D.C. and Montgomery and Prince George's counties

Maps and analysis by Jeanne Natalia Choquehuanca and Byron Antonio Marroquin

Jeanne Natalia Choquehuanca and Byron Antonio Marroquin used the U.S. Census Bureau's 2014 American Community Survey to examine Latino settlement patterns in Washington D.C. and its Maryland suburbs. Among the questions they explored is whether cultural spaces play a role in where Latinos choose to live. They mapped the presence of the Latino population in the District, Prince George's and Montgomery counties and examined presence of Hispanic business and other cultural spaces in those areas. The results showed a strong positive correlation between the location of cultural spaces and the settlement choices made by Latino households.

To read more, click [here](#).

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"[T]he Washington metropolitan area had the largest increase in rental costs among the 15 largest metropolitan areas and the third largest among all metropolitan areas between 2008 and 2012."

—Urban Institute

DMV Latino neighborhoods by nationality

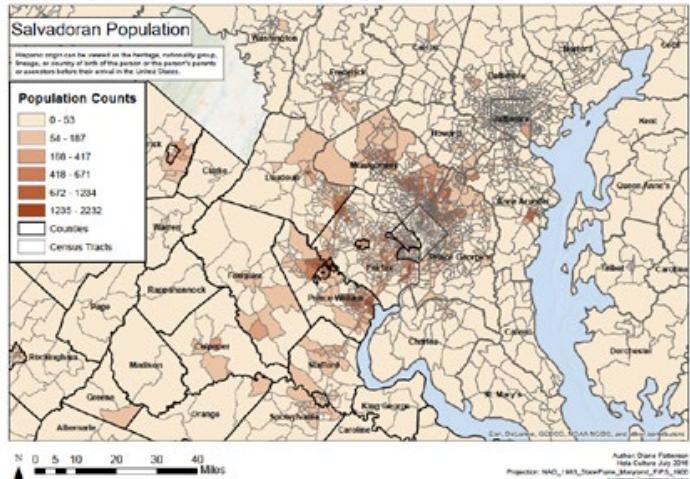
Maps by Diane Patterson + Nicholas John; Story by Jeniffer Peña Alvarez

While Latinos live all over the Washington area and in every D.C. ward, different national groups have settled in different places. These maps show where the region's three largest Latino communities live.

The greater Washington area is home to nearly one million Latinos. Diane Patterson and Nicholas John used the 2010 Census to map population clusters for eight of the area's largest Latino national groups.

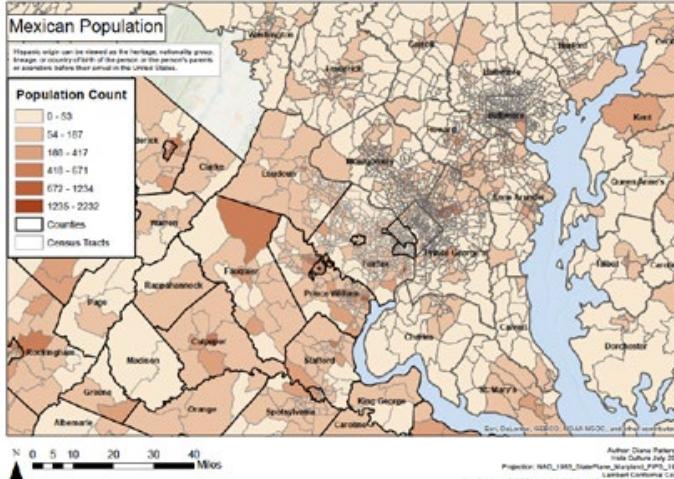
To find out where Bolivians, Dominicans, Guatemalans, Hondurans and Peruvians have settled, click [here](#).

Washington, D.C. Metropolitan Region (2010)



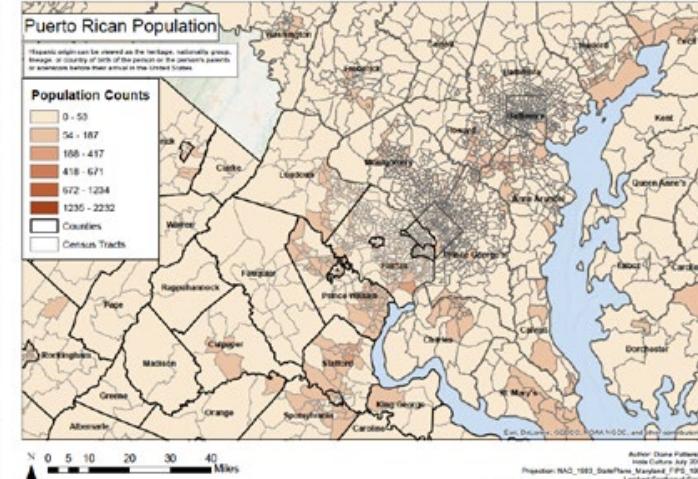
Salvadorians are the largest national Latino group in the District and have a strong presence throughout the region.

Washington, D.C. Metropolitan Region (2010)



Mexican nationals and Mexican-Americans are the second largest group of Latinos in the District and also have a strong suburban presence.

Washington, D.C. Metropolitan Region (2010)



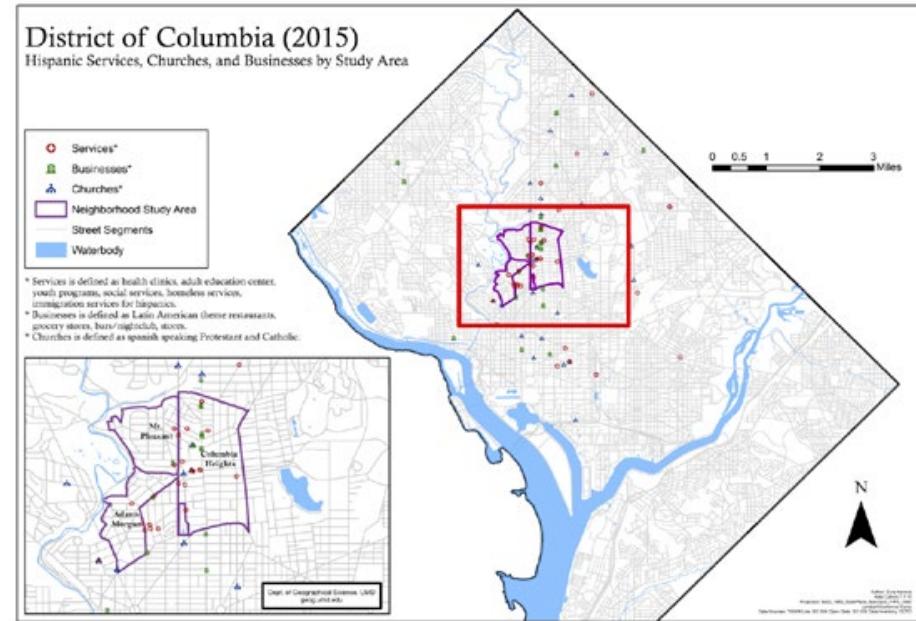
Puerto Ricans, the third largest group in the District, live largely in Northeast and Southeast D.C. and throughout the suburbs.

This and most photos in this report were taken by Hola Cultura's Herbert Ramirez.



D.C.'s Latino Cultural Spaces

Map by Elvis Herrera

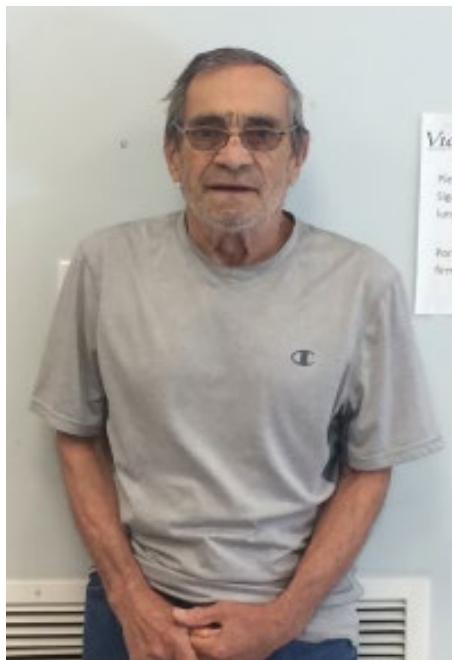


To learn more, click [here](#).

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Despite the obstacles, the Geographic Information System (GIS) maps are one of this project's greatest achievements. By using U.S. Census data collected over a half-century, Hola Cultura's GIS interns demonstrated how the neighborhood has transformed, offering close-ups on specific locations and sections of the tri-neighborhood area."

—Hola Cultura



A clock Josue made out of plastic spoons



DC tenant activist Filipa Arias with Hola Cultura intern Gilberto Flores

Latino Oral Histories

Josue Lugo is a 69-year-old from Puerto Rico, who lives with his wife in on Missouri Avenue NW in Washington's Brightwood neighborhood. He lives in a calm, well-maintained place. Josue is retired. He does not work and spends his time at the Vida Senior Center. But when he has a chance, he crafts things made out of recycled materials. Once he's done, he sells them. He enjoys it. It keeps him busy; filling time he once spent working.

—Josue Paez and Ronal Reyes

Maria is 32 years old. She was born in El Salvador and came to the United States on March 9, 2007, seeking a better life for her children. Her first impression was that Washington D.C. was boring because she did not know the neighborhood. With time, she adapted, though there are not many activities for her to enjoy here. She lives on Chapin Street in Columbia Heights, after spending seven months in Mt. Pleasant, where the family's apartment was too small. She likes where she lives now because her apartment building is well maintained. She has a good job near Chinatown. She walks to work and shops at Panam supermarket. Her sons go to Lincoln middle school and her daughter to Cardozo high school. She knows her neighbors, who speak English and Spanish. She likes her neighborhood because she feels safe. Her family attends Sacred Heart church.

—Ingrid Gomez and Ronal Reyes

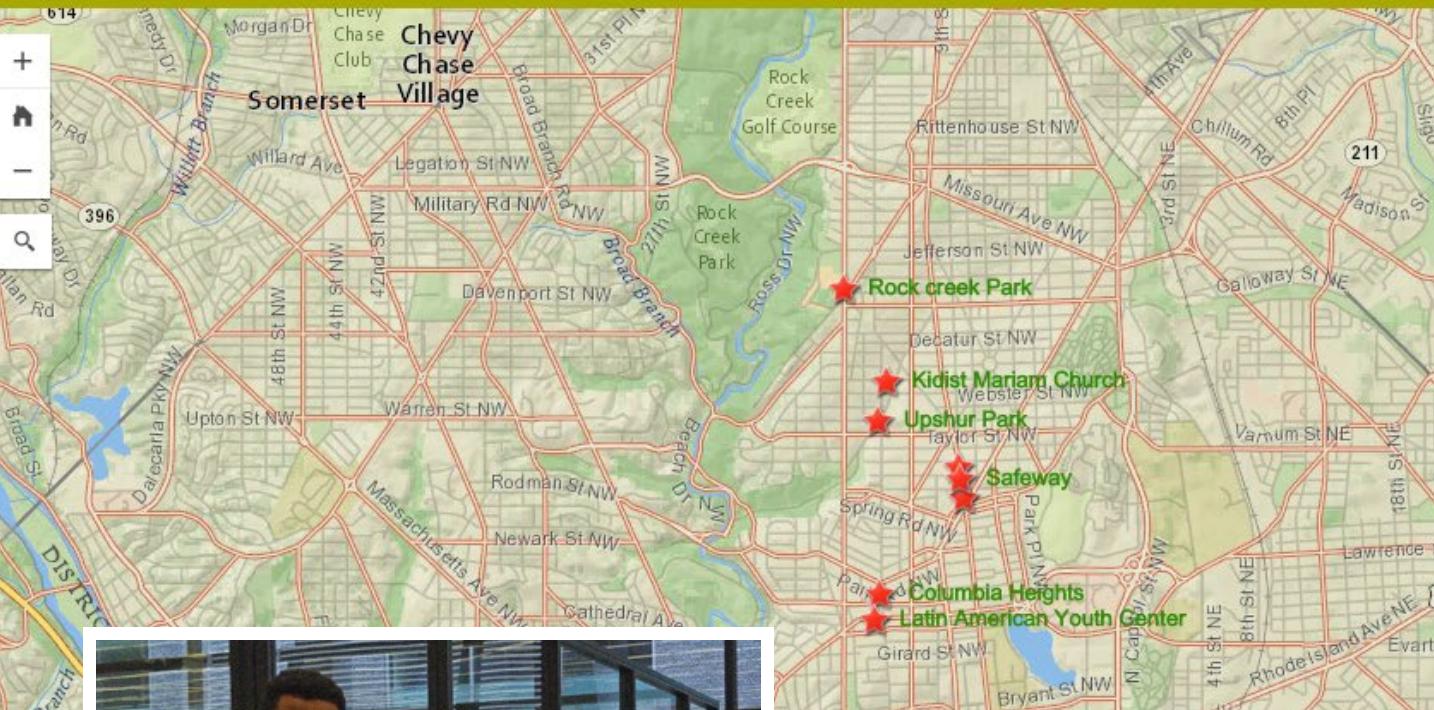
Mapping my Story

By Leul Bulcha



Hola Cultura Intern
Leul Bulcha's story map,
showcasing the different
locations around the
Washington area where he
spends the most time with
his friends and family.

Click [here](#) for the
interactive version of
Leul's story map.



Leul receiving his certificate of completion from Summer 2016 intern supervisor Julianna Hollins at the MKL Library's Dream Lab.



QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Before I became part of Hola Cultura, even though I would see maps here and there, I didn't have any idea how geographic information systems (GIS) maps were made. Now I am confident enough to teach it."

[—Leul Bulcha](#)

Renovations Needed? Rent control could get a makeover

Written by Emily Birnbaum; maps by Nicholas John, Elvis Herrera and Byron Marroquin

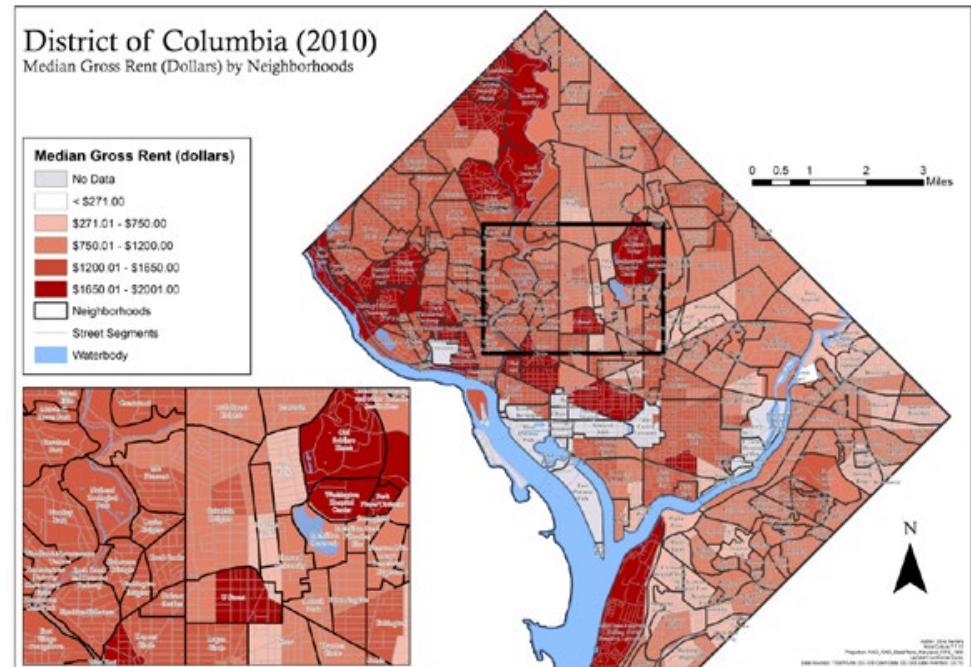
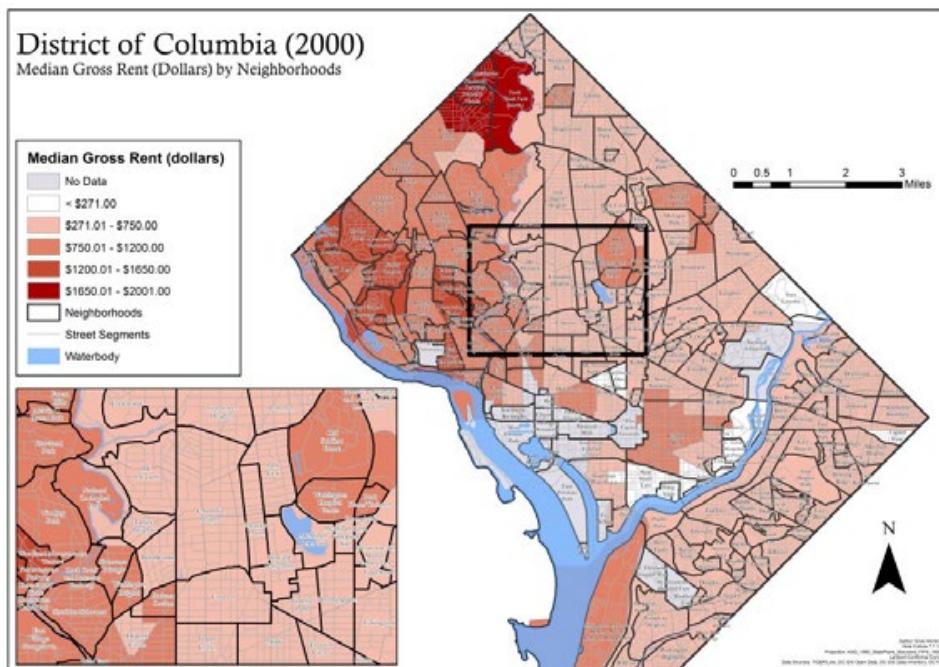
Tenant organizers and their allies are campaigning to reform D.C.'s rent control law. First passed in the 1970s, the law could govern as many as 90,000 units of housing, more than half of the city's total, depending on how the rules are interpreted. So the stakes are high.

To read more, click [here](#).

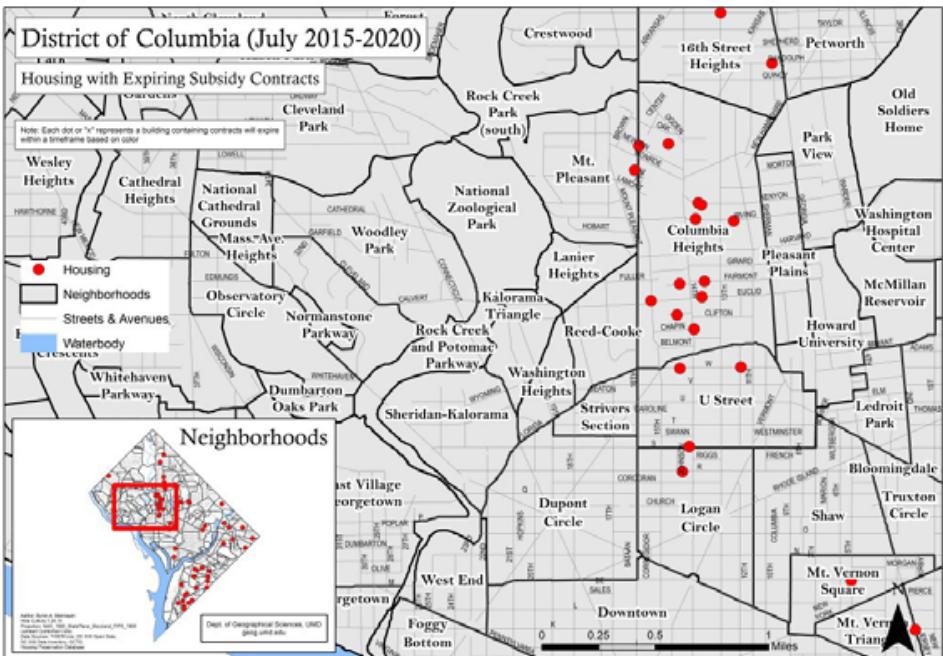
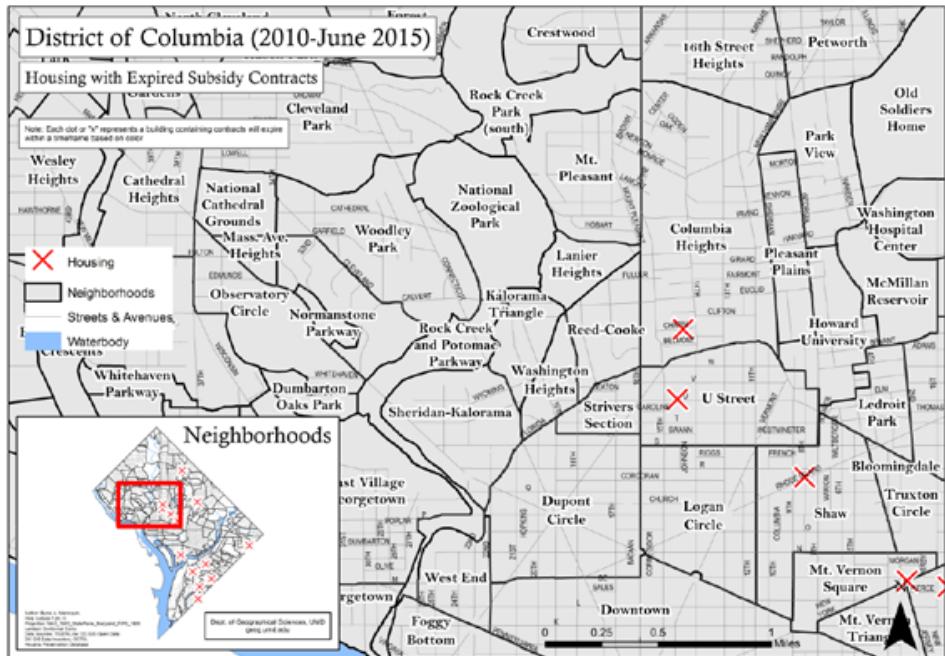
QUOTE OF THE DAY

"We're working on making sure the D.C. Council knows that this is important—that it effects a lot of tenants. We're also trying to get tenants really involved in the campaign. So they can tell their own stories."

—Philip Kennedy, tenant-organizing manager at the Latino Economic Development Center



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Maps by Byron Marroquin

Epiring Subsidies: Thousands of low-income apartments could be lost

Federal subsidies are set to expire in the next few years on thousands of D.C. apartments geared toward low-income residents.

More than 8,000 low-income housing units in the District is at risk, according to Polly Donaldson, director of the D.C. Department of Housing and Community Development. The owners of those buildings signed affordability covenants decades ago in exchange, often times, for lower-cost construction financing.

Byron Marroquin used U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development data to map the locations of the buildings that could soon exit the federal Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LITHC) and the Section 8 housing voucher programs.

To learn more, click [here](#).

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Based on current total development costs and subsidy levels, the authors estimate it would cost \$3.1 to \$5.2 billion to develop the additional affordable units needed to meet the rising demand for affordable housing projected through 2020."

—The Urban Institute



The long hard fight over 2724 11th Street NW

Story by Oliver Garretson, photos by Herbert Ramirez and maps by Nicholas John

The 26-unit apartment building at 2724 11th Street NW is a bedraggled-looking structure in Columbia Heights. Its sagging redbrick exterior shows its age. Inside, a musty smell permeates the air, resulting from the leaky roof that's led to water damage and mold. The building has been standing nearly a century, home to generations of Washingtonians, each with their own stories to tell. But the current chapter is arguably the most dramatic as its tenants fight a legal battle with the building owner that has been going on for years.

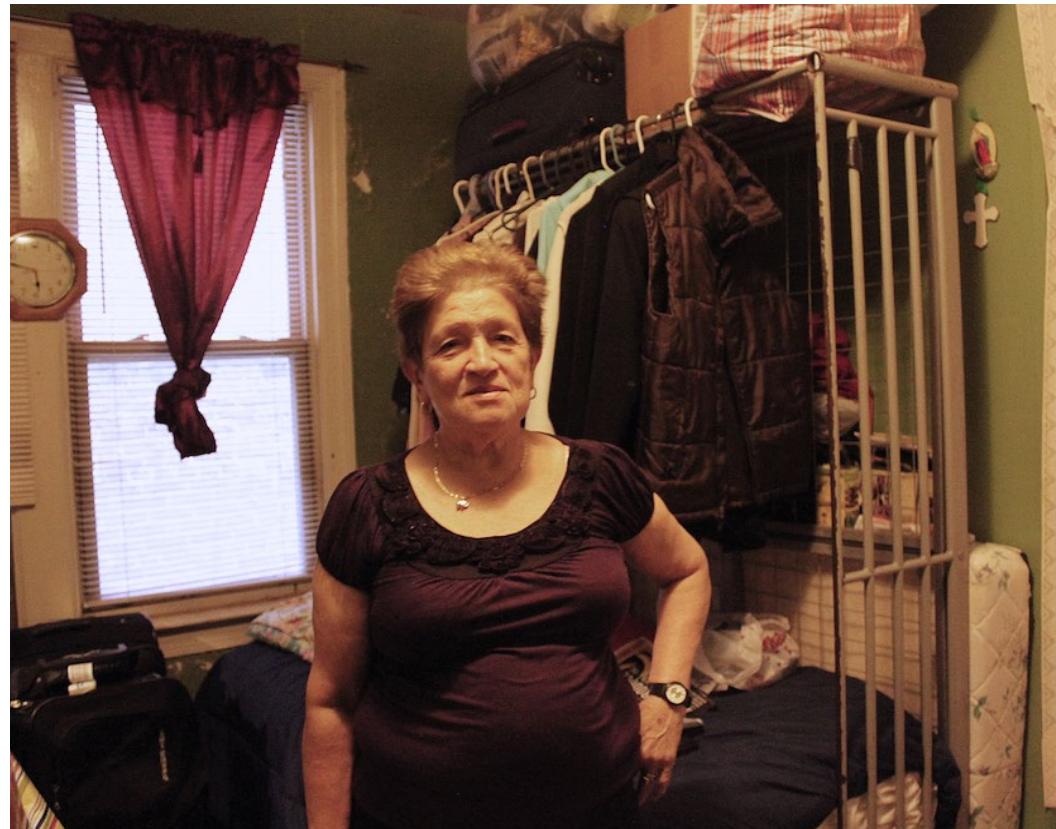
While conditions could be among the worst in the city, the situation at 2724 11th Street NW is indicative of the kinds of issues tenants living in rent controlled apartment buildings face in the District's rapidly gentrifying neighborhoods. A whole battery of unmet problems—leaky roofs, mold, and various infestations—show, tenants say, that the landlord wishes to drive them from their homes in order to capitalize on the neighborhood's renewal.

To read more, click [here](#).

The long hard fight over 2724 11th Street NW (continued)

Portraits of community residents in their homes at 2724 11th Street NW

Portraits by Herbert Ramirez. To view more by him, click [here](#).



La Salud y el Barrio: How the environment we live in dictates our overall well-being

by Julianna Hollinsed

What is health? Increasingly health experts say your environment—both home and neighborhood—play a major role.



QUOTE OF THE DAY

"In public health, there's a phrase called 'social determinants of health' and that says that the best determinate of your life span is the zip code you live in. Everything around you determines your health, much more than if you have a doctor or not. What we have found is that immigration is our number one social determinant of health."

—Alicia Wilson, La Clinica del Pueblo



Click [HERE](#) to watch her interview



Additional Resources for Finding Affordable Housing

If you're looking for affordable housing

DCHousingSearch is an online clearinghouse of low-cost homes. Its rental and real estate listings include government-funded and privately owned properties.
www.DCHousingSearch.com

If your rent is going up or you have to move

Carecen, a veteran D.C. Latino advocacy organization, has a department that helps residents in need of housing.
www.carecendc.org

If you want a stronger cooperative

Mi Casa, a local affordable housing developer, offers free training workshops for people who have recently formed tenant's associations.
www.micasa-inc.org

If you need assistance navigating the TOPA process

Latino Economic Development Center is an advocacy organization that helps low-income tenants through the TOPA process.
www.ledcmetro.org

Thanks to our Funders!

**Hola Cultura is grateful for the support
that made possible its 2015 & 2016
Summer Internship Programs**

The D.C. Mayor's Office on Latino Affairs
2015 & 2016 Latino Community Development Grant
2015 & 2016 Summer Youth Employment Program

HumanitiesDC
DC Community Heritage Project, 2016
Soul of the City, 2015

University of Maryland, 2015
School of Languages, Literatures & Cultures
Department of Geographical Sciences

American Library Association, 2015
National Endowment for the Humanities, 2015

Dream Lab, Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library, 2015-2016



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1980 photo of a Hispanic Day Parade,
published in the *Washington Star*;
photo courtesy of D.C. Public Library's
Washingtoniana Collection



WHAT IS HOLA CULTURA?

Hola Cultura is a multifaceted nonprofit that celebrates the arts and contributions of Latinos in Washington, D.C. On our website and at our events, we showcase talented D.C. Latinos, and carry out research of interest to our community.

Visit us at www.holacultura.com

We'd love to
hear from you!



Please contact us:
holacultura@gmail.com

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