



**Chandra X-ray
Observatory Center**

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IC 10: A starburst galaxy about 2.2 million light years from Earth.

(Credit: X-ray: NASA/CXC/UMass Lowell/S.Laycock et al. Optical: Bill Snyder Astrophotography)

Caption: IC 10 is a starburst galaxy that has many new stars forming within it. Chandra observations taken over a decade reveal 110 X-ray sources in IC 10, including about a dozen that are black holes and neutron stars feeding off gas from young, massive stellar companions (systems known as “X-ray binaries”). Some of these pairs may eventually form systems that merge and emit gravitational waves. This new composite of IC 10 combines X-ray data from Chandra (dark blue) with an optical image (red, green, blue) taken by amateur astronomer Bill Snyder.

Scale: Image is about 10.3 arcmin on a side

Chandra X-ray Observatory ACIS Image

CXC operated for NASA by the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory
