UMASS DONAHUE INSTITUTE

Section II. State-Level Summary

excerpt from:

***Long-term Population Projections for Massachusetts Regions and Municipalities*:**

Prepared for the
Office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth
of Massachusetts

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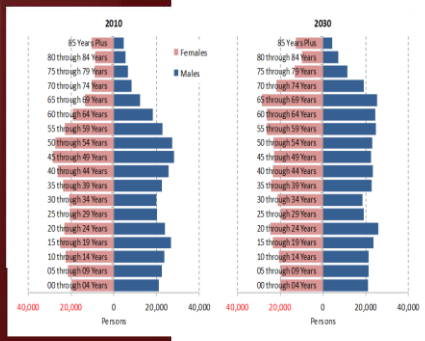

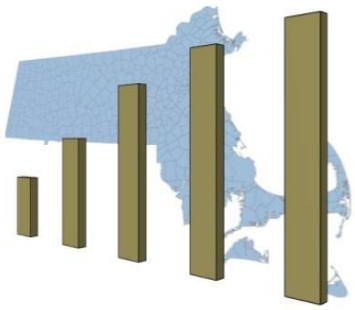

March 2015

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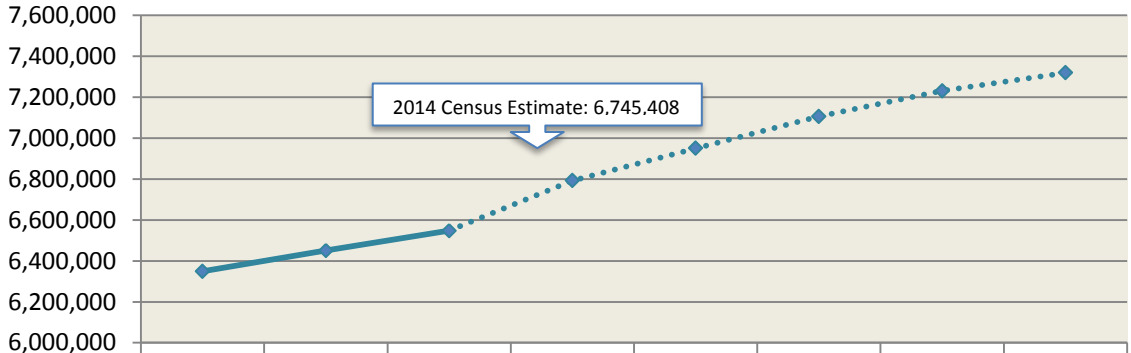
A. Massachusetts Growth: 2000 to 2035

The UMass Donahue Institute projections anticipate that the Massachusetts population will grow by 11.8% from 2010 to 2035, with population increasing by 771,840 over the 25-year term to a new total of 7,319,469. This projection picks up on the recent rapid growth experienced in Massachusetts through 2014, estimated at 3% cumulatively since the 2010 Census and averaging 46,492 persons per year according to U.S. Census estimates.[1] In this projection series, growth will continue at about this same rate through 2015, adding about 245,000 persons in the first five-year period, and then gradually diminish over the following time periods, slowing to about 1.2% growth in the 2030 to 2035 period. By comparison, Massachusetts grew 3.1% in the ten years from 2000 to 2010, increasing just 0.9% from 2000 to 2005 and then accelerating to 2.3% from 2005 to 2010 (Figure 2.1[2]).

Figure 2.1: Massachusetts Actual and Projected Population, 2000-2035



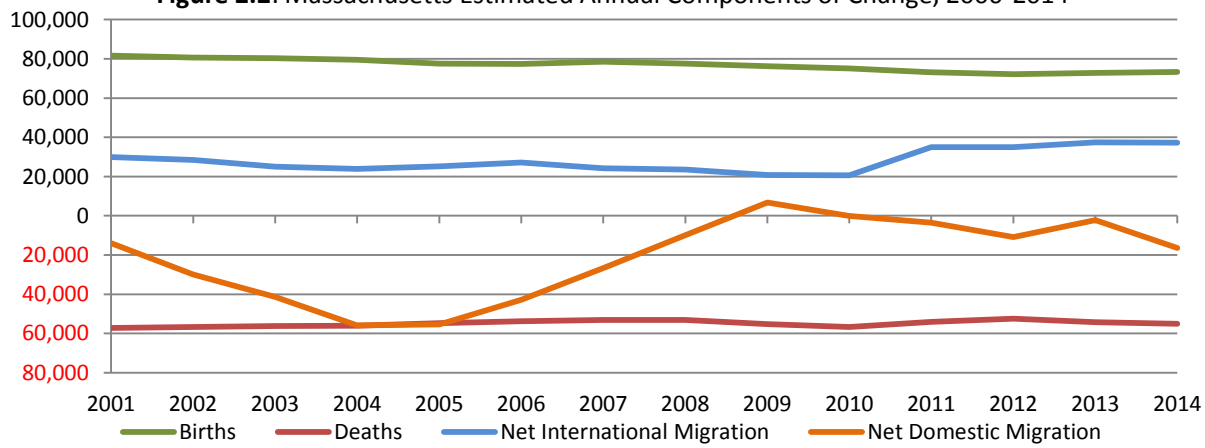
	2000	2005	2010	2015	2020	2025	2030	2035
Population	6,349,097	6,450,755	6,547,629	6,792,591	6,950,668	7,105,878	7,231,126	7,319,469
Numeric Change		101,658	96,874	244,962	158,077	155,210	125,248	88,343
5-Year % Change		1.6%	1.5%	3.7%	2.3%	2.2%	1.8%	1.2%

[1] Source: U.S. Census Bureau Population Division, Cumulative Estimates of the Resident Population Change for the United States, Regions, States, and Puerto Rico: April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2014 (NST-EST2014-02), December 23, 2014.
[2] Sources: U.S. Census Bureau: Census 2000; 2005 Interim State Population Projections; Census 2010; 2014 Estimates; and UMass Donahue Institute Population Projections, 2015.

B. Factors Affecting Growth Rates

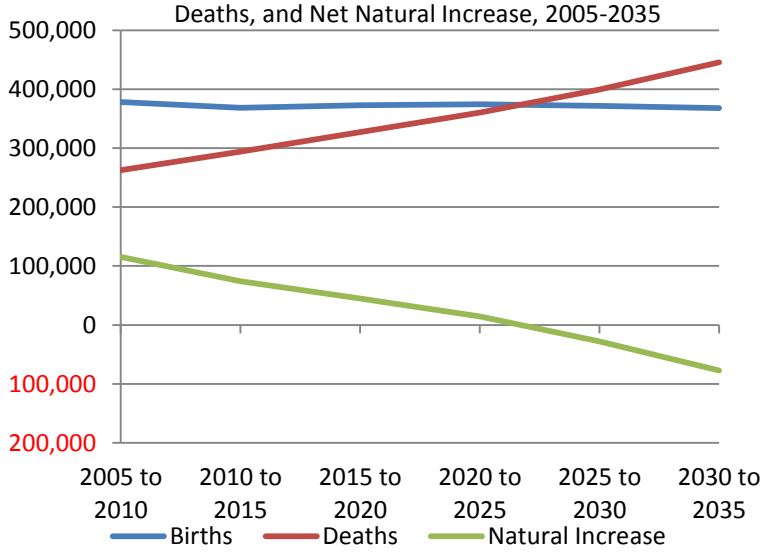
Recent rapid growth in Massachusetts is attributed to a combination of natural increase – more births than deaths, and positive total migration, which is the sum of slightly negative domestic migration to other parts of the U.S. offset by positive international immigration into the state (Figure 2.2).

Figure 2.2: Massachusetts Estimated Annual Components of Change, 2000-2014



Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division Tables ST-2000-7, CO-EST2010-ALLDATA, and NST-EST2014-ALLDATA.

Figure 2.3: Massachusetts Actual and Projected Births, Deaths, and Net Natural Increase, 2005-2035



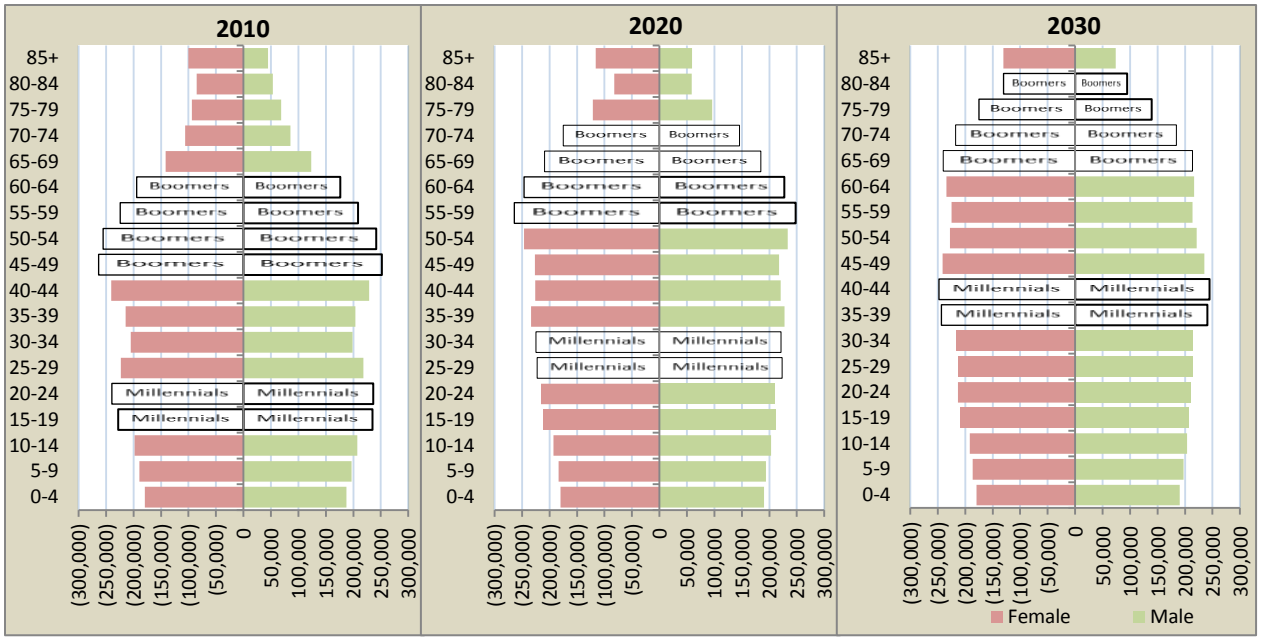
In recent years, Massachusetts has stood out as the fastest grower in the Northeast due to its relatively low domestic outflow and high immigration,[3] and this projection series anticipates that future migration in Massachusetts will carry forward at rates that reflect these recent trends. The eventual slow-down in growth, on the other hand, is attributable to the age profiles of Massachusetts and the United States overall, both directly impacting future numbers of births and deaths. As the United States grows older, the bulk of its population ages out of childbearing years and eventually into higher mortality cohorts—factors that will contribute to slower population growth. In Massachusetts the effect of this aging is even more pronounced as the state is already older than the United States on average, with a larger

[3]Source: U.S. Census Bureau Population Division, NST_EST2014. For a full summary of Massachusetts' recent growth and components of change, see *UMass Donahue Institute Summary of The U.S. Census Bureau's 2014 State-Level Population Estimates*, December 23, 2014 at http://www.massbenchmarks.org/statedata/data/UMDIsumStatePop2014.12.23.pdf.

share of its population in the older age-groups and a smaller share in the younger.[4] So while the population continues to grow, with births declining only slightly, the increasing number of deaths in an aging population starts to erode the net natural increase in Massachusetts. By 2030 the number of deaths is expected to outnumber new births in the state (Figure 2.3). An increasing pool of retirees in Massachusetts exacerbates this effect to some extent by increasing out-migration from many regions of the state to places in the South and West.

While an aging baby boom population results in diminishing population growth over time, the effect is offset in part by a large "millennial" generation in the United States overall. By 2010 this group was aging into the cohorts associated with increased migration to college and work destinations: factors that historically have led to population increase in Massachusetts, especially in the Greater Boston region. At the top end, this generation is also entering the age group associated with starting families, additionally increasing the overall population with children as it ages. The millennials, born from about 1982 through 1995 and sometimes called the "Echo-Boomers", represent the second-largest population "bulge" in the U.S. age pyramid after the baby-boomer. Like the boomers, their collective life-stage heavily influences the components of population change in the United States and its sub-regions. In the Massachusetts 2010 population pyramid (Figure 2.4), this group appears in the 15-24 year-old cohorts. By 2020, this group will be enlarged by college-aged in-migrants and will have aged forward into the 25-34 year-old cohort: an age-span associated with both high fertility and high levels of migration.

Figure 2.4: Massachusetts Actual and Projected Population by Cohort 2010, 2020, and 2030

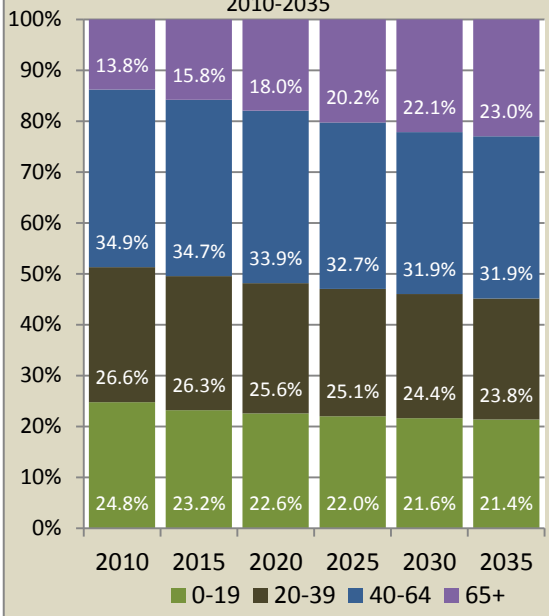


Sources: U.S. Census Bureau 2010 Census Summary File 1; UMass Donahue Institute Population Projections, 2015

[4] The Massachusetts population under 18 represents 21.7% of its population compared to 24% for the U.S. The Massachusetts population 40 and over is 48.7% compared to 46.3% for the U.S. Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census Summary File 1.

This aging effect of both the boomers and millennials also helps to explain why Massachusetts population growth slows to an even greater extent after 2025. Looking across the 25-year period, the swell in the percent of population aged 20-39 experienced in 2010 and 2015 (representing the millennial bulge) starts to falls off somewhat in 2020 and increasingly so thereafter (Figure 2.5). Meanwhile, the population of persons in their 40s and 50s steadily decreases from about 35% of the state's population in 2010 to 31.9% by 2035. The 0-19 age group also decreases over time, roughly following the pattern of their parents, and changing from almost 25% of the 2010 Massachusetts population to 21.4% by 2035. In sharp contrast, the population aged 65 and over in the state increases from about 14% to almost 16% in the first five-year period, and then increases even more in the second. By 2035, the 65-and-over population will represent 23% of the state's population.

Figure 2.5: Massachusetts Projected Population Distribution by Age Group, 2010-2035

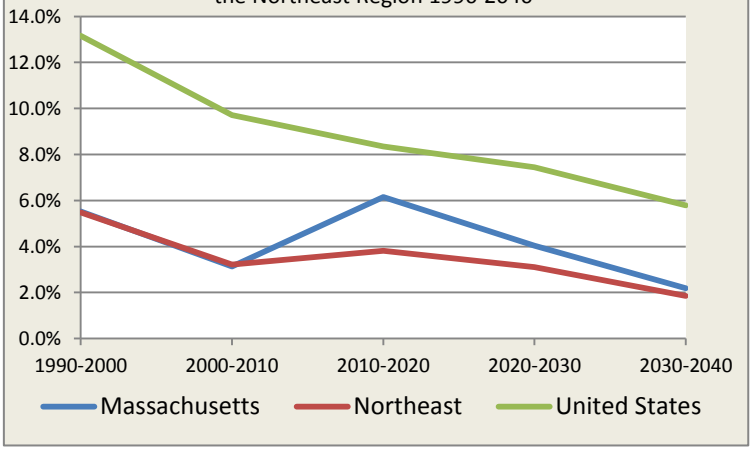


Source Data: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census Summary File 1; UMass Donahue Institute Population Projections 2015.

C. Massachusetts and United States Growth Comparison

Although Massachusetts will continue to grow in population through 2035 and even outpace the Northeast Region as in recent years, its growth will still lag that of the United States as a whole (Figure 2.6[5]). While Massachusetts is projected to grow by 6.2% from 2010 to 2020, the Northeast will grow by just 3.8%[6] and the U.S. by a projected 8.3%.[7] From 2020 to 2030, Massachusetts growth will slow to 4.0%, still ahead of the Northeast at just 3.1%, while the U.S. average also slows to 7.4% yet remains higher than Massachusetts.

Figure 2.6: Actual and Projected Percentage Growth by 10-Year Period for Massachusetts, the United States, and the Northeast Region 1990-2040



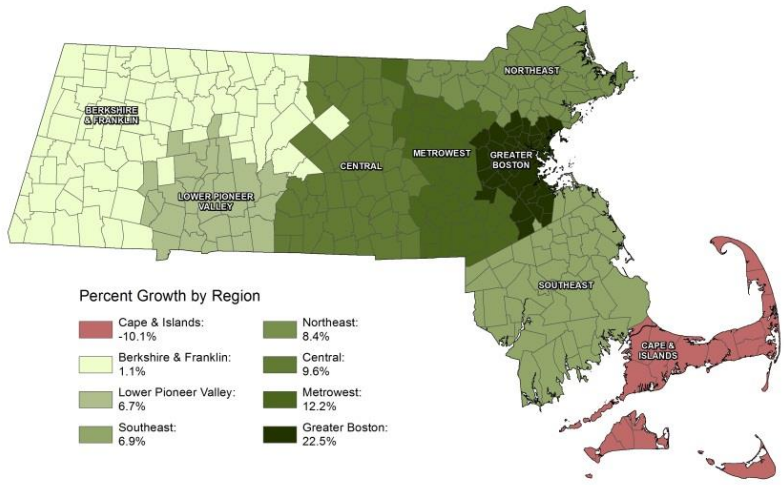
[5] Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 and Census 2010; 1990 Census, Population and Housing Unit Counts, United States (1990 CPH-2-1); *Observed and Total Population for the U.S. and the States, 2010-2040, Weldon Cooper Center for Public Service, University of Virginia, August 2013* and UMass Donahue Institute Population Projections, January 2015.
[6] Source: ibid, Weldon Cooper Center August 2013 and UMass Donahue Institute Population Projections, January 2015.
[7] Source: Projected Population by Single Year of Age, Sex, Race, and Hispanic Origin for the United States: 2014 to 2060. U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division. Release Date: December 2014.

One of the reasons why Massachusetts will continue to grow more slowly than the U.S. average is because it has an older age distribution than the national average. Although some parts of the state—particularly the Boston area—attract college-aged students, the Southern and Western regions of the U.S. start out with much higher percentages of younger cohorts in their resident populations, especially in the 0-18 year old age groups.[8] Younger populations in these regions ensure a greater number of births and fewer deaths in future years as compared to Massachusetts and the Northeast. Areas of the South and West also continue to experience positive net domestic migration while the Northeast tends to experience net domestic out-migration. That said, Massachusetts is affected by these components to a much lesser degree than other states in the Northeast. Its outmigration in recent years has tended to be minimal compared to other Northeast states, and the small domestic loss has been offset by strong positive international immigration. In 2013 Massachusetts' annual percent growth actually caught up with the U.S. rate for the first time since 1968.[9] Massachusetts has also consistently led the rest of the Northeast states in growth since the last Census in 2010. By the 2030 to 2040 period, an aging U.S. profile means that all comparison regions slow in growth significantly, the U.S. to 5.8%, Massachusetts to 2.2% and the Northeast region to 1.9%.

D. Projected Geographic Distribution of Population Growth

The projected growth in Massachusetts is not shared evenly around the state. As *Section II. Long Term Regional Population Projections* of this report shows, some regions anticipate growth well above the 11.8% anticipated for the state by 2035 (Figure 2.7). The Greater Boston region, which has been growing at an estimated 1.1% per year since 2010,[10] is expected to increase by 22.5% in the 2010 to 2035 period. Concurrently, most other regions around the state are expected to experience strong but more moderate levels of growth. The Metrowest region is expected to increase 12.2% by 2035, the

Figure 2.7:
Projected % Growth by Massachusetts Region 2010-2035



[8] Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census Summary File 1.
[9] Sources: U.S. Census Bureau Annual Estimates of the Population for the United States, Regions, States, and Puerto Rico: April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2013 (NST-EST2013-01). Release Date: December 30, 2013, Population Division; and Intercensal Estimates of the Total Resident Population of States: 1960 to 1970. Release date: Aug. 1996. Population Distribution Branch. Both: U.S. Census Bureau.
[10] Source: U.S. Census Bureau NST-EST2013-01.

Central region by 9.6%, the Northeast by 8.4%, the Southeast by 6.9%, and the Lower Pioneer Valley by 6.7%. At the other end of the spectrum, the Cape and Islands region is predicted to decrease in population by 10.1% over 25 years if recent trends in migration, fertility, and mortality continue, while the Berkshire and Franklin region will remain nearly level, with a slight increase of just 1.1% during that same period. Both of these regions stand apart from the Massachusetts average due to their older population structure compared to other regions around the state. Further analysis on why growth varies significantly by region is presented in more detail in Section III of this report.