

DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF THE RESIDENT POPULATION OF BOSTON/METRO NORTH

Over the decade, the number of people living in Boston/Metro North increased at an annual rate of 0.3 percent. The growth of the region's immigrant population (an annual rate of 1.5 percent) offset a decline in the native-born population. The region also became more diverse in the past decade, with strong growth among Asian and Hispanic populations. Even though the region is one of the state's youngest, the region's population became increasingly older over the decade as baby boomers (born between 1946 and 1964) neared retirement age. In particular, the 55-64-year-old age cohort grew at the fastest annual rate (2.9 percent) among age groups in the region. The second fastest growing age cohort in the region was 16-24-year-olds, who are mostly the children of both immigrants and native-born baby boomers (whose children are commonly referred to as the echo-boom generation). Boston/Metro North was also the only region in Massachusetts to see growth, albeit modest growth, among residents between the ages of 25 and 34, the region's largest age cohort.

Source: US Census Bureau 2000 Decennial Census PUMS data files and 2008-2010 American Community Survey PUMS data files.

Note: Further data for racial/ethnic and gender characteristics for the residential population, as well as the working-age, civilian labor force, unemployed, and employed populations are available in the on-line Data Appendix.

	2000	2008-2010	Absolute Change	Annual Growth Rate (Percent)
Resident Population	1,176,638	1,206,646	30,008	0.3
Gender				
Male	565,865	584,472	18,607	0.4
Female	610,773	622,174	11,401	0.2
Nativity				
Native Born	879,971	866,209	-13,762	-0.2
Immigrant	296,667	340,437	43,770	1.5
Race/Ethnicity				
White, non-Hispanic	752,646	718,680	-33,966	-0.5
Black, non-Hispanic	166,977	177,111	10,134	0.7
Asian, non-Hispanic	78,305	103,081	24,776	3.1
Hispanic	129,604	171,442	41,838	3.2
Other race, non-Hispanic	49,106	36,332	-12,774	-3.3
Age				
Less than age 16	218,590	203,102	-15,488	-0.8
Age 16-24	150,969	173,000	22,031	1.5
Age 25-34	240,026	244,276	4,250	0.2
Age 35-44	189,819	168,333	-21,486	-1.3
Age 45-54	142,504	158,068	15,564	1.2
Age 55-64	93,573	121,129	27,556	2.9
Age 65+	141,157	138,738	-2,419	-0.2