

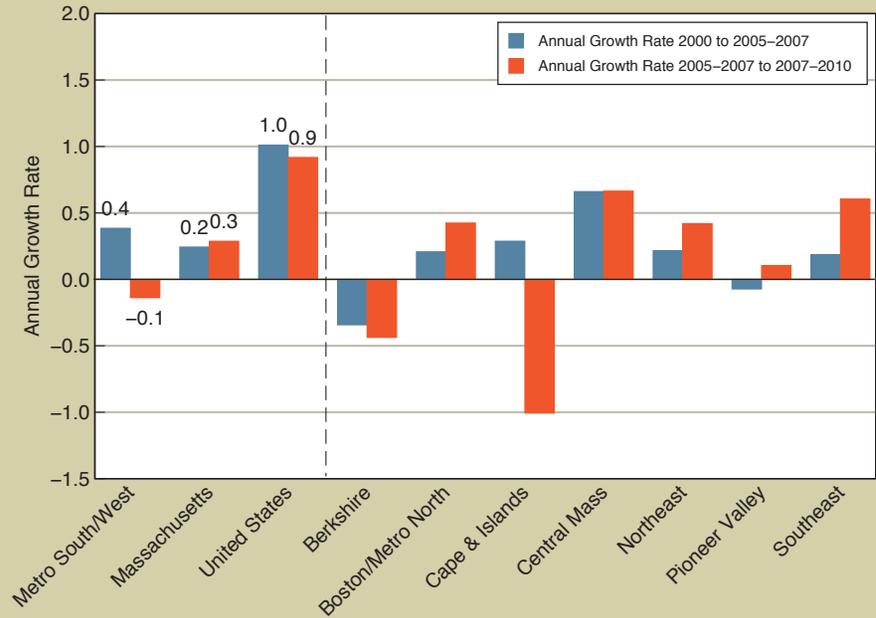
POPULATION GROWTH TRENDS

The third largest region by total population, Metro South/West accounted for 16.6 percent of the state's population at the end of the decade. After experiencing the second fastest annual growth rate in population (0.4 percent) early in the decade, Metro South/West was one of only three regions to experience a decline in total population in recent years. The decline in population from 2005-2007 to 2008-2010 was the result of a number of factors, but it is largely attributable to the decline in the number of individuals less than 25 years old, continued losses of those age 35-44, and declines in the non-immigrant population.

Source: US Census Bureau 2000 Decennial Census Public Use Microdata Samples (PUMS) data files, 2005-2007 and 2008-2010 American Community Survey Public Use Micro Sample (PUMS) data files.

Note: The use of the three-year American Community Survey was necessary to capture accurate estimates for the small geographic areas. The three-year sample is representative of the demographic and employment characteristics of the region over a 36-month period.

Annual Growth Rates



Massachusetts Population Distribution Across Regional Labor Markets, 2008-2010

