DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF THE RESIDENT POPULATION OF METRO SOUTH/WEST

Over the past decade, the number of people living in Metro South/West increased at an annual growth rate of 0.2 percent. The growth in the Metro South/West immigrant population was strong enough to offset losses in the native-born population. The region also became more diverse over the past decade, with strong growth among minority groups, most notably Hispanic residents. The region’s population also became considerably older as baby boomers (born between 1946 and 1964) neared retirement age. In particular, the 55-64-year-old age cohort grew at a robust annual rate of 4.2 percent over the course of the decade. The second fastest growing age cohort in Metro South/West was 16-24-year-olds, who are the children of baby boomers and are commonly referred to as the echo-boom generation.


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 Data Appendix.