THE AGE PROFILE OF THE CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE

Given the age of the region's population, it is not surprising that Southeast's civilian labor force is getting older. About 46 percent of the civilian labor force in the Southeast region was 45 years or older in 2008-2010, compared with 37.9 percent in 2000. In the past decade, the fastest growing age groups in the region's civilian labor force were 55-64-year-olds and those 65 or older. At the same time, there were a declining number of workers between the ages of 25 and 44, and the slowest growing age cohort were those between the ages of 16 and 24. While such trends are fairly similar to those statewide and nationally, the civilian labor force in the Southeast region became slightly older than Massachusetts over the past decade and continued to have higher shares of older populations than did the United States.

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



Age Distribution of the Civilian Labor Force, 2000 and 2008–2010

Growth of Civilian Labor Force Population by Age in the Southeast Region

	2000	2008-2010	Absolute Change	Annual Growth Rate (Percent)
Age 16-24	88,449	101,108	12,659	1.5
Age 25-34	147,908	133,126	-14,782	-1.2
Age 35-44	183,745	168,316	-15,429	-1.0
Age 45-54	156,195	184,279	28,084	1.9
Age 55-64	75,636	120,801	45,165	5.3
Age 65+	24,406	34,125	9,719	3.8

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