

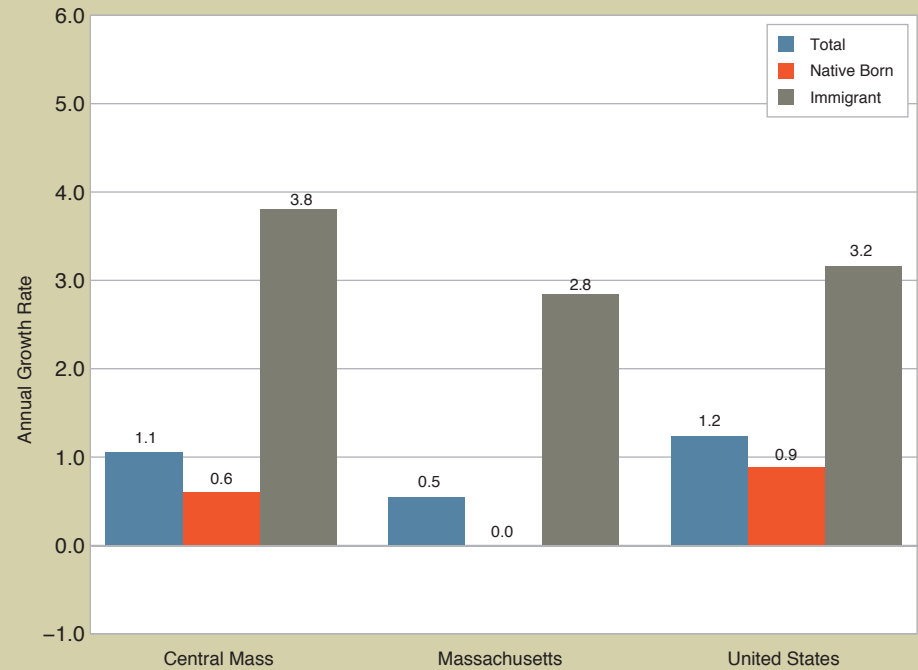
GROWTH IN THE WORKING-AGE POPULATION BY NATIVITY STATUS

Immigrants in Central Mass have been a major driver of growth in the working-age population (a region's potential labor supply, typically defined as individuals 16 years of age or older). Between 2000 and 2005-2007, the growth of working-age immigrants (3.8 percent) in the region exceeded the growth of working-age immigrants in both Massachusetts and the United States. Combining this strong increase with modest native-born population growth, the total working-age population grew 1.1 percent and far exceeded the growth rate of Massachusetts (0.5 percent). In fact, it was closer to the growth rate in the United States (1.2 percent). As the native-born population in the region stagnated in recent years, stronger annual growth in the immigrant population (5.0 percent) led to an overall growth of the working-age population of 0.8 percent between 2005-2007 and 2008-2010. In comparison, the growth of working-age immigrants slowed in both Massachusetts and the United States, but a growing native-born population buoyed the working-age population.

Source: US Census Bureau 2000 Decennial Census PUMS data files, 2005-2007 and 2008-2010 American Community Survey PUMS data files.

Note: The working-age population is defined as individuals 16 years of age or older, excluding institutionalized populations. Immigrants are individuals born outside the country.

Annual Growth Rate, 2000 to 2005-2007



Annual Growth Rate, 2005-2007 to 2008-2010

