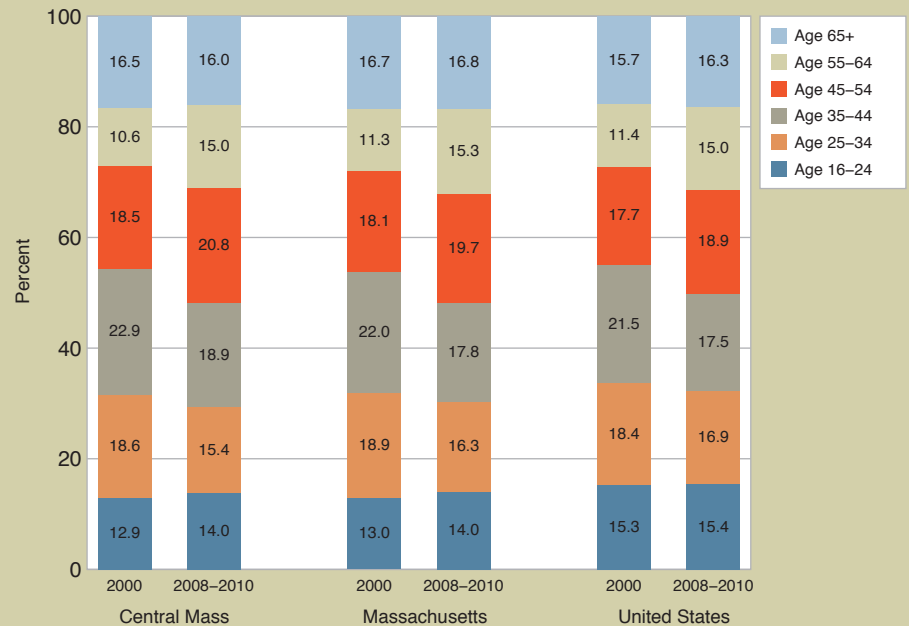


## THE AGE PROFILE OF THE WORKING-AGE POPULATION

Massachusetts is one of the oldest states in the country, and Central Mass is similar to the state in its age composition. Roughly one-third of the region's and state's working-age population is 55 years old or older. Nearly 30 percent of the region's and state's working-age population is 34 years old or younger. In Central Mass, 39.7 percent of the region's working-age population is between the ages of 35 and 54. In contrast, 37.5 percent of the state's working-age population is in this age cohort. The United States working-age population is fairly evenly divided among age cohorts, with about a third of the population each in the 16-34, 35-54, and 55-or-older age cohorts.

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

Age Distribution of the Working-Age Population, 2000 and 2008–2010



Growth of Working-Age Population by Age in Central Mass

	2000	2008-2010	Absolute Change	Annual Growth Rate (Percent)
Age 16-24	62,184	73,151	10,967	1.8
Age 25-34	89,305	80,580	-8,725	-1.1
Age 35-44	110,086	99,029	-11,057	-1.2
Age 45-54	88,698	108,934	20,236	2.3
Age 55-64	50,966	78,624	27,658	4.9
Age 65+	79,273	84,006	4,733	0.6