

DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF THE RESIDENT POPULATION OF CENTRAL MASS

Over the past decade, the number of people living in Central Mass increased at an annual rate of 0.7 percent. Strong growth in the region's immigrant population was accompanied by slight growth in the native-born population, which declined in most other regions of the state. The region also became more diverse over the past decade, with strong growth among Black, Asian, and Hispanic populations. In particular, the number of Asian residents in Central Mass nearly doubled between 2000 and 2008-2010. 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 4.9 percent over the course of the decade, and the cohort of 45-54-year-olds grew the second fastest at 2.3 percent.

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

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 on-line Data Appendix.

	2000	2008-2010	Absolute Change	Annual Growth Rate (Percent)
Resident Population	628,644	667,115	38,471	0.7
Gender				
Male	304,428	325,996	21,568	0.8
Female	324,216	341,119	16,903	0.6
Nativity				
Native Born	557,843	568,814	10,971	0.2
Immigrant	70,801	98,301	27,500	3.7
Race/Ethnicity				
White, non-Hispanic	538,545	534,042	-4,503	-0.1
Black, non-Hispanic	15,628	26,035	10,407	5.8
Asian, non-Hispanic	15,701	28,658	12,957	6.9
Hispanic	46,575	65,550	18,975	3.9
Other race, non-Hispanic	12,195	12,830	635	0.6
Age				
Less than age 16	148,132	142,791	-5,341	-0.4
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