

THE AGE PROFILE OF THE WORKING-AGE POPULATION

Massachusetts is one of the oldest states in the country, and the Northeast region is very similar to the state in its age composition. More than half (53.0 percent) of the region's and state's working-age population is 45 years or older. In fact, nearly one-third of the region's and state's working-age population is 55 years or older, while less than 30 percent of the region's working-age population is 34 years or younger. In contrast, the working-age population in the United States is more evenly divided among age cohorts, with roughly a third of the population in each of 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 the Northeast Region

	2000	2008-2010	Absolute Change	Annual Growth Rate (Percent)
Age 16-24	98,005	113,394	15,389	1.6
Age 25-34	132,918	118,848	-14,070	-1.2
Age 35-44	177,925	144,879	-33,046	-2.3
Age 45-54	140,726	167,653	26,927	2.0
Age 55-64	87,978	125,318	37,340	4.0
Age 65+	118,711	131,643	12,932	1.2