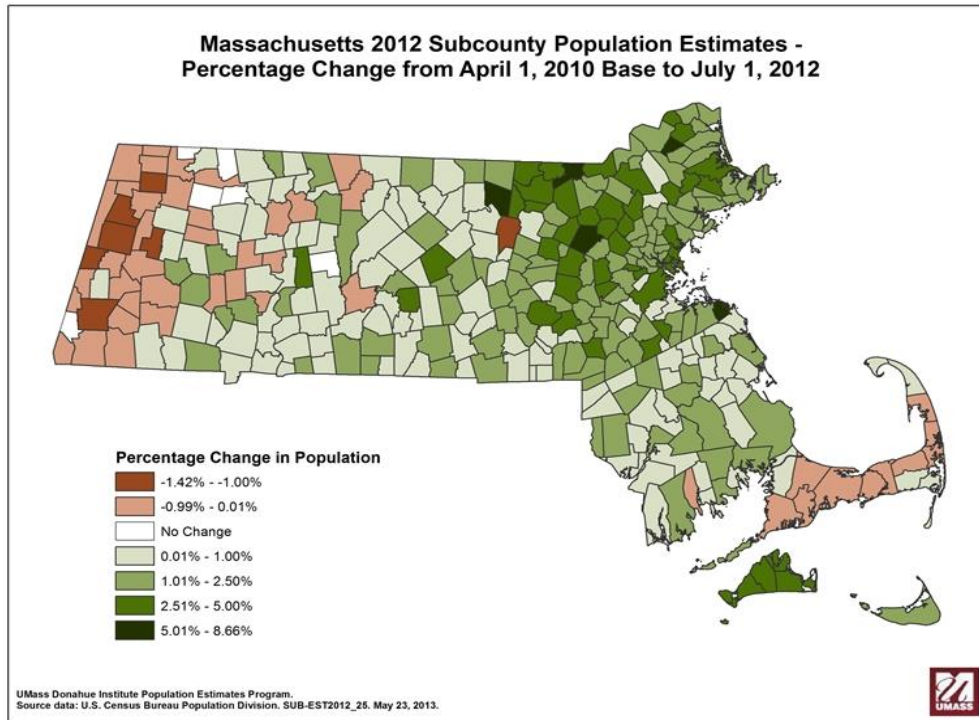


University of Massachusetts Donahue Institute Population Estimates Program
Summary of U.S. Census Bureau's 2012 Population Estimates
for Massachusetts Minor Civil Divisions

For Release May 23, 2013



U.S. Census Bureau Releases Sub-County-level Population Estimates for July 1, 2012

On May 23, 2013 the U.S. Census Bureau released updated population estimates for Massachusetts cities and towns (also called “minor civil divisions” or “MCDs”) for July 1, 2012. This new vintage of estimates allocates the Census Bureau’s 2012 county-level population estimates, which were released in March 2013, to individual municipalities. While the county-level estimates are produced by accounting for “components of change” including births, deaths, and migration, the sub-county estimates are produced by distributing the county-level household population to each city and town based on a housing unit formula, and then factoring in the group quarters population belonging to each. In its housing unit formula, the Bureau considers each town’s share of the current housing unit estimates along with its specific person-per-household and occupancy rates.

Highlights from the state and county-level estimates released earlier this year by the U.S. Census Bureau appear below. For further information on State and County estimates released for Massachusetts previously this year, please see our detailed reports at:
<http://www.massbenchmarks.org/statedata/news.htm>

- For State-level population estimates, see the release dated **12/26/2012**.
- For County-level population estimates, including components of change, see the release dated **03/14/12**.

Highlights from the 2012 State and County Level Estimates Releases

- State-level estimates for Massachusetts released by the U.S. Census Bureau on December 20, 2012 increased the state population by 98,515 over the April 1, 2010 Census estimates base to a new total of 6,646,144 persons, maintaining its rank as the 14th most populous state in the U.S. This 1.5% cumulative increase puts Massachusetts' growth at almost twice that of the Northeast average, and ranks it as the fastest growing state in the Northeast region, in terms of percentage growth, for the second year since 2010. At the national level, Massachusetts ranked 28th for percentage growth – up from 33rd in the 2010 to 2011 period – and 13th for numerical growth – up in rank from 20th last year. From April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2011 the Massachusetts population increased by 39,907; and from July 1, 2011 to July 1, 2012 it increased by 58,608.
- Massachusetts' cumulative population increase of 1.5% is now approaching the national average of 1.7%. Though still below the percentage growth experienced in the Southern and Western states of the U.S., which average 2.4% and 2.3% respectively, Massachusetts outpaces the Midwestern region, which is growing at about 0.6%. This growth continues the trend seen over the last decade, where Southern and Western states' growth significantly outpaced the Northeast and the Midwest. It also continues an upward growth trend experienced by Massachusetts toward the end of the last decade and starts to close the growth gap between Massachusetts other parts of the U.S.
- **The components of change**, the data factors which account for estimated changes in population, include: natural increase (births minus deaths), net migration (internal within the U.S. plus international migration), and changes in the group quarters population counts. From July 1, 2011 to 2012 the total number of births in Massachusetts was higher than the number of deaths, resulting in a "natural increase" of 18,779 persons. Net migration also contributed to the Commonwealth's increase in population. Despite negative domestic out-migration (an estimated 9,613 net persons leaving MA for other U.S. locations), a positive trend in international migration (a net of 30,416 persons moving into Massachusetts from outside of the U.S.) resulted in an overall positive net in-migration of 20,803.
- At the county level, the greatest numerical increases in Massachusetts from July 1st 2011 to July 1st 2012 were seen in: Middlesex County at 15,165 persons gained; Suffolk County at 9,670; and Essex County at 4,794. In terms of percentage change, the largest gains were in: Nantucket County at 1.7%; Dukes County at 1.5%; and Suffolk County at 1.3%. Suffolk, Middlesex, and the small counties of Dukes and Nantucket had the highest rates of net migration in the state in 2012, which helped to boost their population growth over the past year. Nantucket, Suffolk, and Middlesex counties also had highest rates of *natural increase* from 2011 to 2012, meaning they had a high rate of births compared to deaths over the past year as compared to other parts of the state.
- The greatest numerical decreases from 2011 to 2012 were estimated in: Berkshire County at -431; Barnstable County at -239; and Franklin County at -106. The most significant percentage point decreases from July 2011 to July 2012 were in: Berkshire County at -0.3%; Franklin County at -0.1%; and Barnstable at -0.1% spurred by negative natural increase in all of these counties (more deaths than births), as well as negative net migration in both Franklin and Berkshire counties (more people moving out than in).

Subcounty Population Estimates - Large Cities:

According to the U.S. Census Bureau's 2012 Subcounty Population Estimates, all but one of Massachusetts' largest cities, of 50,000 persons or more, have increased in population since the 2010 Census. Boston gained 3.1%, or 18,885 persons; Worcester increased by 1,624 persons, or 0.9%, and Springfield increased by 492 persons or 0.3%. Throughout the U.S., 89% of the 729 incorporated places over 50,000 have increased in population since the 2010 Census, with an average increase of 2.3% percent. The most significant growth was seen in parts of the South and West. According to the U.S. Census Bureau:

"Eight of the 15 fastest-growing large U.S. cities and towns for the year ending July 1, 2012 were in Texas, according to population estimates released today by the U.S. Census Bureau. The Lone Star State also stood out in terms of the size of population growth, with five of the 10 cities and towns that added the most people over the year. The fastest-growing municipalities are spread across Texas, from the High Plains of West Texas to the Houston suburbs. San Marcos, along the Interstate 35 corridor between Austin and San Antonio, had the highest rate of growth among all U.S. cities and towns with at least 50,000 people. Its population rose 4.9 percent between 2011 and 2012. Completing the top five nationwide were Midland and Cedar Park, both in Texas; South Jordan, Utah; and Clarksville, Tenn. No state other than Texas had more than one city on the list of the 15 fastest-growing large cities and towns. However, all but one were in the South or West."
(<https://www.census.gov/newsroom/releases>)

The following table shows the estimated numerical and percentage differences - from the April 1, 2010 Census base to July 1, 2011 - for cities in Massachusetts with populations over 50,000, as well as their national rankings by percentage change.

Cumulative Estimates of Resident Population Change for Massachusetts Incorporated Places Over 50,000, Ranked by Percent Change: April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2012					
National Rank, out of 729.	Geography	Population Estimate		Change, 2010 to 2012	
		April 1, 2010 Estimates Base	July 1, 2012	Number	Percent
220	Boston	617,594	636,479	18,885	3.1
266	Revere	51,755	53,179	1,424	2.8
344	Weymouth	53,743	54,906	1,163	2.2
355	Waltham	60,632	61,918	1,286	2.1
399	Somerville	75,674	77,104	1,430	1.9
401	Lowell	106,519	108,522	2,003	1.9
454	Malden	59,450	60,374	924	1.6
461	Haverhill	60,879	61,797	918	1.5
475	Medford	56,253	57,033	780	1.4
482	Newton	85,146	86,307	1,161	1.4
499	Cambridge	105,162	106,471	1,309	1.2
500	Lawrence	76,377	77,326	949	1.2
507	Peabody	51,251	51,867	616	1.2
535	Lynn	90,329	91,253	924	1.0
561	Worcester	181,045	182,669	1,624	0.9
569	Quincy	92,271	93,027	756	0.8
620	Chicopee	55,298	55,490	192	0.3
622	Taunton	55,874	56,055	181	0.3
623	Springfield	153,060	153,552	492	0.3
625	Brockton	93,810	94,094	284	0.3
643	Fall River	88,857	88,945	88	0.1
675	New Bedford	95,072	94,929	-143	-0.2

Note: Areas are included in this table if they exceed the stated threshold at any point in the time series. The estimates are based on the 2010 Census and reflect changes to the April 1, 2010 population due to the Count Question Resolution program and geographic program revisions. All geographic boundaries for the 2012 population estimates series are defined as of January 1, 2012.

UMass Donahue Institute Population Estimates Program. Source Data: PEPCUMCHIP: Cumulative Estimates of Resident Population Change for Incorporated Places Over 50,000, Ranked by Percent Change: April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2012. U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division. Release Date: May 2013.

All Cities and Towns:

Among the 351 individual cities and towns in Massachusetts, the U.S. Census estimated that from April 1, 2010 to July 1st 2012 two-hundred-ninety-three (293) municipalities increased in population, six (6) were unchanged, and fifty-two (52) decreased, with most population gains experienced within the already denser Middlesex, Suffolk, and Essex Counties, and most loss experienced in the western counties of Berkshire, Franklin, and Hampshire as well as in the Cape Cod area, Barnstable County. By percentage point, the largest gains from the 2010 Census to 2012 were estimated in the small towns of Cohasset (8.7%), Lunenburg (7.5%), and Concord (7.3%). Numerically, Boston (18,885), Lowell (2,003), and Framingham (1,750) represented the municipalities with the largest gains.

The municipalities showing the greatest estimated loss as a percentage of total population included Great Barrington (-1.4%), Pittsfield (-1.3%), and Lancaster (-1.2%). The greatest population decreases in terms of numbers were estimated in Pittsfield (-569), Barnstable (-369), and New Bedford (-143). Because each of these three cities also represent the most populous places within their home county, and because the estimates model is based upon county totals which are then distributed to the sub-county geographies, it is not surprising that they each carry the largest numeric population loss within their county.

The table below lists the 20 fastest growing places in Massachusetts since April 1, 2010 by percentage growth, followed by a table showing the fastest growing according to numeric growth.

Massachusetts' Fastest Growers by Percent of Population, April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2012							
Geography	County	April 1, 2010 Estimates Base	July 1 Estimate			Percent Change 2010 base to July 1, 2012	Rank Percent Change
			2010	2011	2012		
Cohasset	Norfolk	7,542	7,551	8,144	8,195	8.7%	1
Lunenburg	Worcester	10,086	10,088	10,819	10,847	7.5%	2
Concord	Middlesex	17,668	17,751	18,758	18,957	7.3%	3
Tyngsborough	Middlesex	11,292	11,388	11,778	11,953	5.9%	4
Groveland	Essex	6,459	6,493	6,631	6,794	5.2%	5
Chelsea	Suffolk	35,177	35,310	36,112	36,828	4.7%	6
Shirley	Middlesex	7,211	7,307	7,473	7,546	4.6%	7
Weston	Middlesex	11,261	11,377	11,570	11,737	4.2%	8
Westford	Middlesex	21,951	22,030	22,440	22,851	4.1%	9
Northborough	Worcester	14,155	14,392	14,667	14,724	4.0%	10
Stow	Middlesex	6,590	6,632	6,747	6,854	4.0%	11
Hamilton	Essex	7,764	7,990	8,034	8,072	4.0%	12
Chilmark	Dukes	866	869	884	900	3.9%	13
Dunstable	Middlesex	3,179	3,192	3,250	3,303	3.9%	14
Hopkinton	Middlesex	14,925	14,986	15,245	15,478	3.7%	15
Ayer	Middlesex	7,427	7,460	7,585	7,688	3.5%	16
Edgartown	Dukes	4,067	4,082	4,138	4,209	3.5%	17
Groton	Middlesex	10,646	10,678	10,900	11,017	3.5%	18
Randolph	Norfolk	32,112	32,444	32,780	33,226	3.5%	19
Holliston	Middlesex	13,547	13,586	13,839	14,014	3.4%	20

UMass Donahue Institute Population Estimates Program. Source data: U.S. Census Bureau Population Division. SUB-EST2012_25. May 23, 2013.

Massachusetts' Fastest Growers by Population, April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2012							
Geography	County	April 1, 2010 Estimates Base	July 1 Estimate			Numeric Change 2010 base to July 1, 2012	Rank Numeric Change
			2010	2011	2012		
Boston	Suffolk	617,594	620,223	628,335	636,479	18,885	1
Lowell	Middlesex	106,519	106,709	107,571	108,522	2,003	2
Framingham	Middlesex	68,318	68,622	69,542	70,068	1,750	3
Chelsea	Suffolk	35,177	35,310	36,112	36,828	1,651	4
Worcester	Worcester	181,045	181,861	182,434	182,669	1,624	5
Somerville	Middlesex	75,674	75,776	76,265	77,104	1,430	6
Revere	Suffolk	51,755	51,858	52,562	53,179	1,424	7
Cambridge	Middlesex	105,162	104,944	105,792	106,471	1,309	8
Concord	Middlesex	17,668	17,751	18,758	18,957	1,289	9
Waltham	Middlesex	60,632	60,863	61,418	61,918	1,286	10
Billerica	Middlesex	40,243	40,407	41,045	41,454	1,211	11
Amherst	Hampshire	37,819	38,685	38,991	39,016	1,197	12
Weymouth	Norfolk	53,743	53,802	54,153	54,906	1,163	13
Newton	Middlesex	85,146	85,355	85,596	86,307	1,161	14
Randolph	Norfolk	32,112	32,444	32,780	33,226	1,114	15
Plymouth	Plymouth	56,468	56,664	57,172	57,463	995	16
Lawrence	Essex	76,377	76,519	76,960	77,326	949	17
Watertown	Middlesex	31,915	31,985	32,199	32,863	948	18
Andover	Essex	33,209	33,285	33,869	34,142	933	19
Malden	Middlesex	59,450	59,561	59,940	60,374	924	20
Lynn	Essex	90,329	90,490	90,880	91,253	924	20

UMass Donahue Institute Population Estimates Program. Source data: U.S. Census Bureau Population Division. SUB-EST2012_25. May 23, 2013.

For detailed Excel tables and maps related to this summary report, refer to the appendices of our May 23, 2013 release at: <http://www.massbenchmarks.org/statedata/news.htm>

- Appendix A: Annual Estimates of the Resident Population of Massachusetts Counties and Minor Civil Divisions, April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2012, by County
- Appendix B: Annual Estimates of the Resident Population of Massachusetts Minor Civil Divisions, Percent Change, and Percent Change Rank: April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2012
- Appendix C Map: Estimated Population of Massachusetts Municipalities: July 1, 2012
- Appendix D Map: Estimated Percent Change in Population for Massachusetts Municipalities; April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2012

For more information on the U.S. Census Bureau's Vintage 2012 Population Estimates Release, and to see data for the rest of the U.S., go to the U.S. Census Bureau's estimates page at: <http://www.census.gov/popest/estimates.html>.

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