

New Hampshire Economic Conditions

June 2011

New Hampshire Population: Where Do We Rank?

The 2010 Census population count for New Hampshire was 1,316,470, a 6.7 percent increase over the 2000 count of 1,235,786. This was a modest increase, and the lowest percent change for New Hampshire since 1940, when population increased by 5.6 percent over 1930. While total population continues to grow, the amount of growth has slowed sharply over the last three Censuses.

New Hampshire's rate of growth ranked 32nd among the states. The other New England states grew more slowly than New Hampshire, and all were well below the United States percent change of 9.7 percent. The fastest growing states were Nevada (35.1 percent) and Arizona (24.6 percent). Michigan (-0.6 percent) was the only state to lose population from 2000 to 2010.

2000-2010 Percent Change in Population, New England States

| | Percent Change | Rank (Inc. DC) |
|----------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Connecticut | 4.9% | 36 |
| Maine | 4.2% | 40 |
| Massachusetts | 3.1% | 44 |
| New Hampshire | 6.5% | 32 |
| Rhode Island | 0.4% | 50 |
| Vermont | 2.8% | 45 |

Components of Population Change

A decade is a relatively long time frame, masking a faster growth in the first couple of years to a near standstill by the end of the decade. Between the decennial Censuses, the US Census Bureau annually estimates *Components of Population Change*. The components measure changes in pop-

ulation due to natural increase (births minus deaths) and migration. Migration can be international, people moving in/out of the state from/to other countries, or domestic, people moving in/out of the state from/to other states.

In 2001, the state's annual rate of population growth was 1.6 percent. By 2007, the state's rate of population growth had dropped to a meager 0.3 percent annually; and in 2009, the rate fell to 0.2 percent. The main reason for the gain in the beginning of the last decade was domestic migration. But from 2007 to 2009, domestic migration turned negative, meaning more residents moved out of New Hampshire to another state than moved into New Hampshire from another state. Net natural increase and international migration remained positive throughout the decade.

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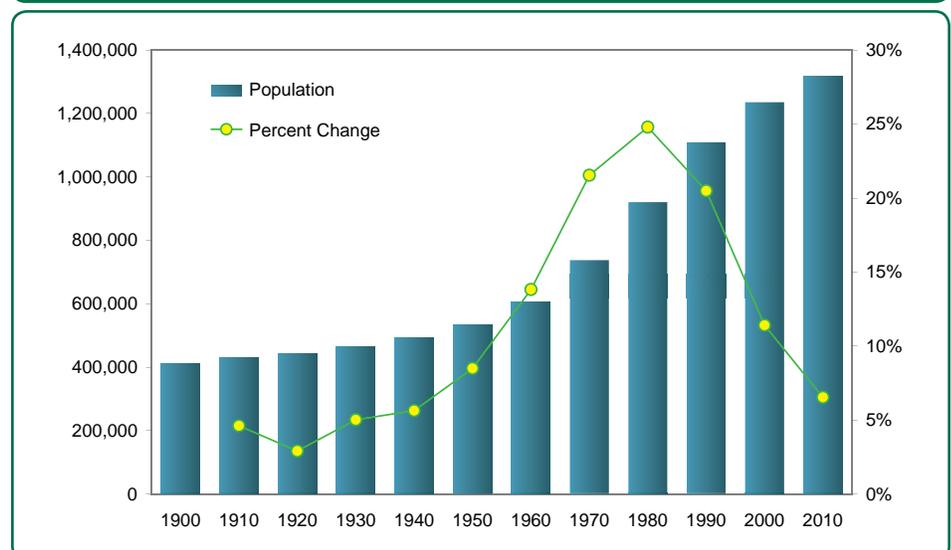
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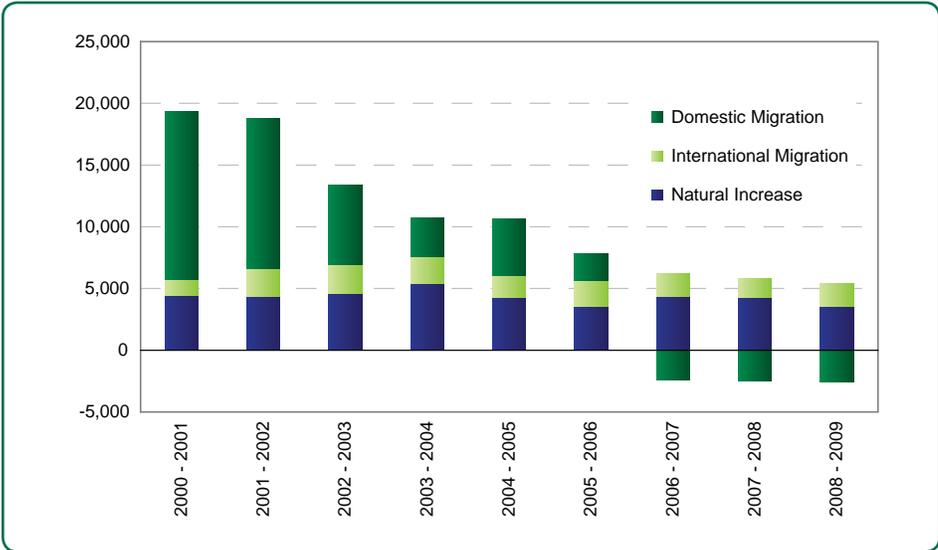
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New Hampshire Population, 2000-2010



New Hampshire Components of Population Change, 2000-2009



The next youngest states were Texas (33.6 years) and Alaska (33.8 years); the District of Columbia also had a median age of 33.8 years. The 2010 median age for all US residents was 37.2 years.

Population by Race

New Hampshire gained population in all race and ethnic categories from 2000 to 2010. Though the numbers of minority population are still relatively small, the state ranked second highest among all states and the District of Columbia in the percent change of minority population. The state's minority population — which includes all those reporting ethnicity and race as something other than *non-Hispanic White alone* — grew from 4.9 percent to 7.7 percent, a 67.5 percent increase over the ten-year period. New Hampshire had 101,420 minority residents in 2010, compared to 60,534 in 2000.

Population by Age

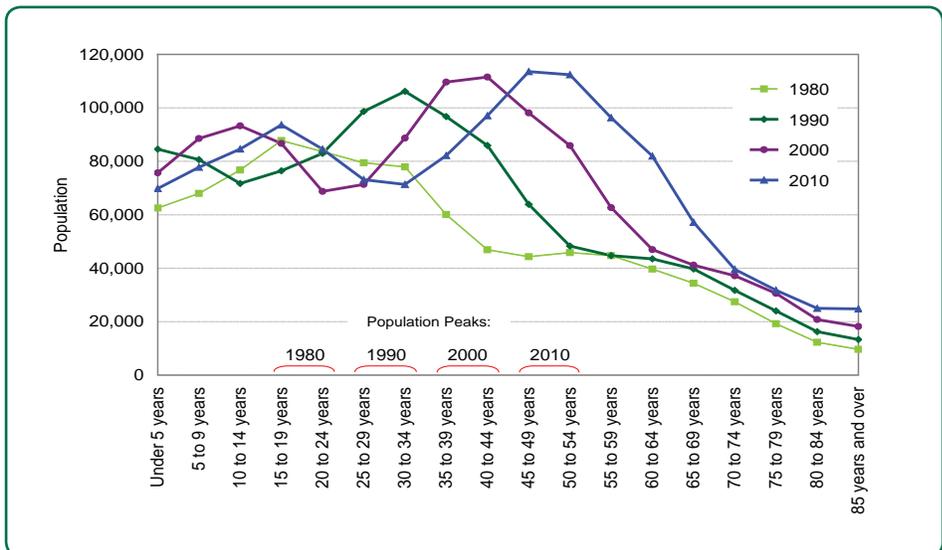
New Hampshire continues to grow older as the baby boom generation maintains its dominant share of the population. In 1980, the two age groups with the largest population were 15 to 19 years and 20 to 24 years of age. By 2010, the two age groups with the largest population were 45 to 49 years and 50 to 54 years of age. A similar, smaller bump represents the echo boom generation, also known as Gen Xers. Over the last four Censuses, the numbers of those age 70 and older have had a common pattern of decrease, but with each consecutive Census there are slightly more people in each cohort.

over 40: Pennsylvania (40.1 years), Florida (40.7 years) and West Virginia (41.3 years).

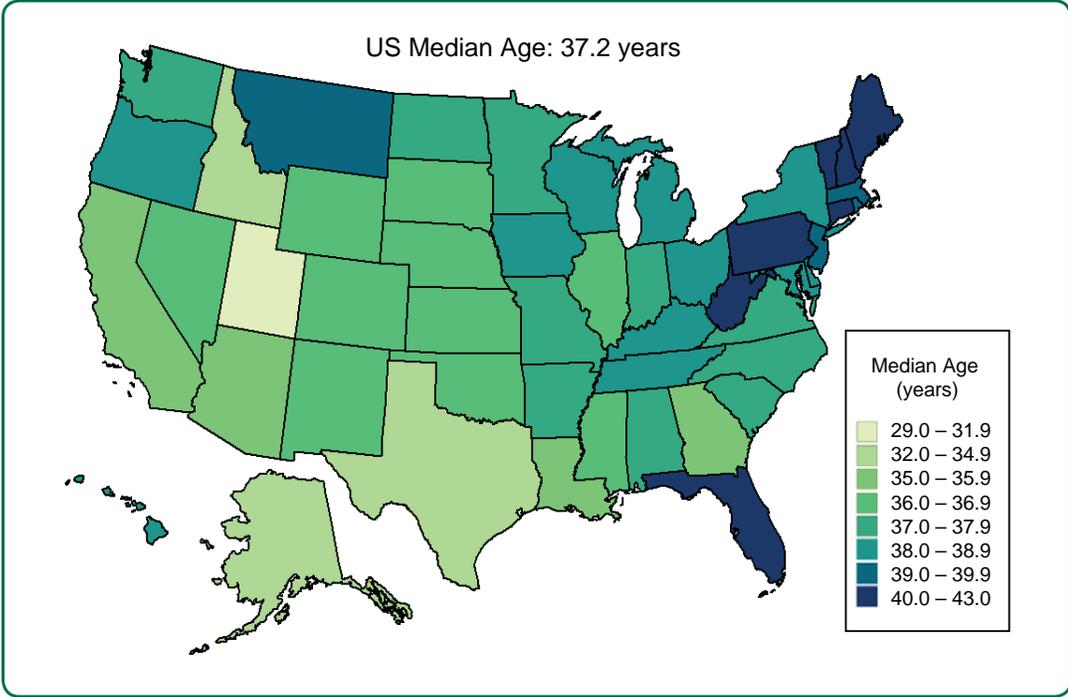
Utah continues its reign as the youngest state, with a median age of 29.2 years. It was the only state in 2010 with a median age below 30 years.

New Hampshire's population was 92.3 percent *non-Hispanic White only*, compared to the nation at 63.7 percent. From 2000 to 2010, the state's minor-

New Hampshire Population by Age



Median Age by State, 2010



ity population increased by 40,886 residents, edging out the increase in *non-Hispanic White alone* population of 39,798 residents.

When breaking out New Hampshire’s population by race, the highest share among minorities of one race is *Asian*, followed by those who are *Black or African Americans*. Those who are *Two or more races* represent 1.6 percent of the total population. The share of total population of Hispanic or Latino ethnicity, regardless of race, was 2.8 percent in 2010. Though not a large share of the population, the number of Hispanic residents in the state increased by 79.1 percent over 2000.

Nevada had the highest percent change in minority population, increasing by 78.1 percent to 1.2 million. Only the District of Columbia lost minority population, decreasing by 5 percent. Overall, Hawaii, whose residents are largely *Native Hawaiian*

and other Pacific Islanders, held the largest share of minority population in 2010 at 77.3 percent, followed by the District of Columbia (65.5 percent), California (59.9 percent), and

New Mexico (59.5 percent). Maine has the lowest share of minority population (5.6 percent), followed by Vermont (5.7 percent) and West Virginia (6.8 percent).

New Hampshire Population by Race, 2010

