

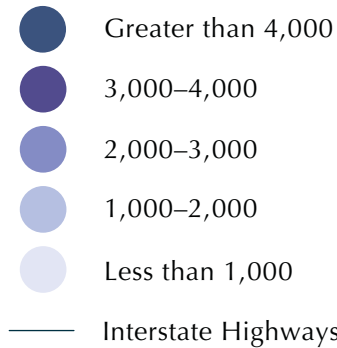
Projected Population Growth

The Boston metropolitan region is projected to grow slowly over the next 25 years.



By 2030 the region's population will likely increase 9% from the 2000 population, approximately a third of the projected U.S. population growth rate for the same period (29%). Due to the expected continued decline in household size, the number of households is projected to increase 17% from 2000 to 2030. The region will also experience significant demographic shifts, including a relative decrease in all age groups under 55 and substantial increases in empty-nesters and elders as the baby-boomers age. Senior citizens constituted 22% of the population in 2000, but they are expected to comprise 34% of the region in 2030. Urban core cities and some regional cities will grow by at least 4,000 people each, but some small suburbs such as Pembroke, Bolton, and Middleton are also projected to gain more than 3,000 new residents. Meanwhile, less than 1,000 new residents are projected for some of the "built out" inner suburbs such as Newton and Melrose and very low density suburban communities such as Sherborn, Carlisle, and Essex. The lower map demonstrates that the largest percentage increases in population are expected in smaller communities outside of Route 128.

Number of New Residents, 2000 – 2030



Percentage Increase in Population, 2000 – 2030

