

2013 Population Estimates For New Jersey

by Sen-Yuan Wu, Research Economist



New Jersey Population Approaches 9 Million

The nation's most densely populous state is slowly moving toward a record 9 million New Jerseyans. As of July 1, 2013, New Jersey's population was estimated to be 8,899,339, an increase of 107,430 from the latest decennial census. The state's 1.2 percent growth rate ranked 37th among all the states. The national average was 2.4 percent.

There are three elements that lead to changes in the state population. These are the natural increment (or the difference between the number of births and deaths), domestic migration (the net number of persons moving into or out of a given area) and international immigration into the state.

Between 2010 and 2013, natural increment was the major source of New Jersey's population growth with 114,688

more births than deaths. A hefty influx of international immigrants to New Jersey (+145,374) was offset by a net loss due to domestic migration (-148,150). As a result, the state's racial and ethnic composition has evolved to include higher proportions of Hispanics and Asians.

The size of the natural increment component of population change in New Jersey has fallen downward since 2004 as the nation and the state entered a "low fertility" trajectory cycle. New Jersey's annual total of births was 116,468 between 2002 and 2003, but ten years later, it had declined to 104,769.

The state's net migration (the difference between in-migration and out-migration) turned from positive to negative in 2003-04 as the influx from international migration dwindled while the outflow to other states crept up. After reaching a historical high (-34,162) in 2005-06, the state's net loss due to migration has subdued gradually and became a moderate net gain (+1,338) in 2012-13.

With 1,210 persons per square mile, New Jersey's distinct status as the nation's most densely populated state remains unchallenged. The only other state with more than 1,000 persons per square mile is Rhode Island (1,017 persons per square mile). The national population density was 89.5 persons per square mile in 2013.

As of July 1, 2013, New Jersey's population was estimated to be 8,899,339, an increase of 107,430 from the latest decennial census

Annual Components of Population Change:
New Jersey, 2000-2013

Year	Births	Deaths	Migration	
			International	Domestic
2000-01	112,168	72,782	54,557	-32,125
2001-02	112,854	74,829	50,551	-30,918
2002-03	115,968	73,374	42,990	-42,316
2003-04	116,468	73,662	40,207	-51,304
2004-05	112,046	72,187	41,207	-67,216
2005-06	109,251	69,486	42,691	-76,853
2006-07	111,339	69,823	38,252	-67,751
2007-08	111,094	69,914	37,446	-51,234
2008-09	110,471	71,676	37,360	-31,690
2009-10	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
2010-11	106,690	69,934	43,345	-45,676
2011-12	105,581	70,888	45,446	-48,912
2012-13	104,769	70,752	46,373	-45,035

Source: US Bureau of the Census, Population Division

Note: Population estimates were not produced for 2010 due to the decennial census. The 2009-10 components of change are thus unavailable.

Scan to visit the
Office of Research and
Information online:



Northern Counties Regain Their Growth Momentum

After lagging behind other parts of the state for four decades, counties in the Northern Region (Bergen, Essex, Hudson, Morris, Passaic and Union) led the state's population growth over the 2010-2013 period with a 0.6 percent average annual rate of growth. The Northern Region's 0.2 percent per annum growth rate in 2000-2010 was the lowest among the state's five regions. The Central counties (Hunterdon, Mercer, Middlesex and Somerset) continued to grow faster than average although the region's growth rate has slowed down to 0.5 percent per annum in the current decade from 0.7 percent per annum in last decade.

The Coastal counties (Atlantic, Cape May, Monmouth and Ocean) had been the state's population magnet during the 1980s (+16%) and 1990s (+13.4%). More recently the region's growth rate tapered to 6.6 percent between 2000 and 2010, and further diminished to just 0.4 percent for the first three years of this decade. The Southern counties (Burlington, Camden, Cumberland, Gloucester and Salem) were growing faster than the state as a whole in the previous decade (+5.4%). However, the region's 0.2 percent growth so far in this decade was less than the statewide

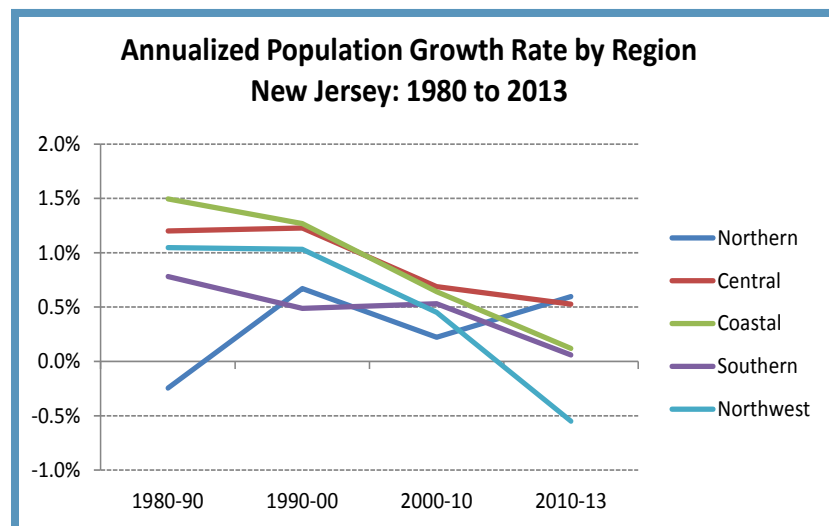
growth rate (+1.2%). Population in the two rural counties of the state's Northwest (Sussex and Warren) increased rapidly during the 1980s (+11%) and 1990s (+10.8%), but decelerated to 4.6 percent in the last decade. Furthermore, the region experienced a moderate population decline (-1.8%) between 2010 and 2013.

Hudson Was the Fastest Growing County

Hudson County gained more residents (+26,000) than any other county in New Jersey, during the first three years of this decade. Three other urbanized counties also gained more than 10,000 residents in the past three years: Bergen (+20,200), Middlesex (+19,100) and Union (+11,800). With a 4.1 percent growth rate, Hudson was also the state's fastest growing county, followed by Middlesex (+2.4%), Bergen (+2.2%), Somerset (+2.2%) and Union (+2.2%).

The hefty population growth in Hudson County was a result of substantial natural increment and migration. The county's 19,000 natural increment was the largest in the state, and its 7,600 net migration (including movement among New Jersey counties) was the state's

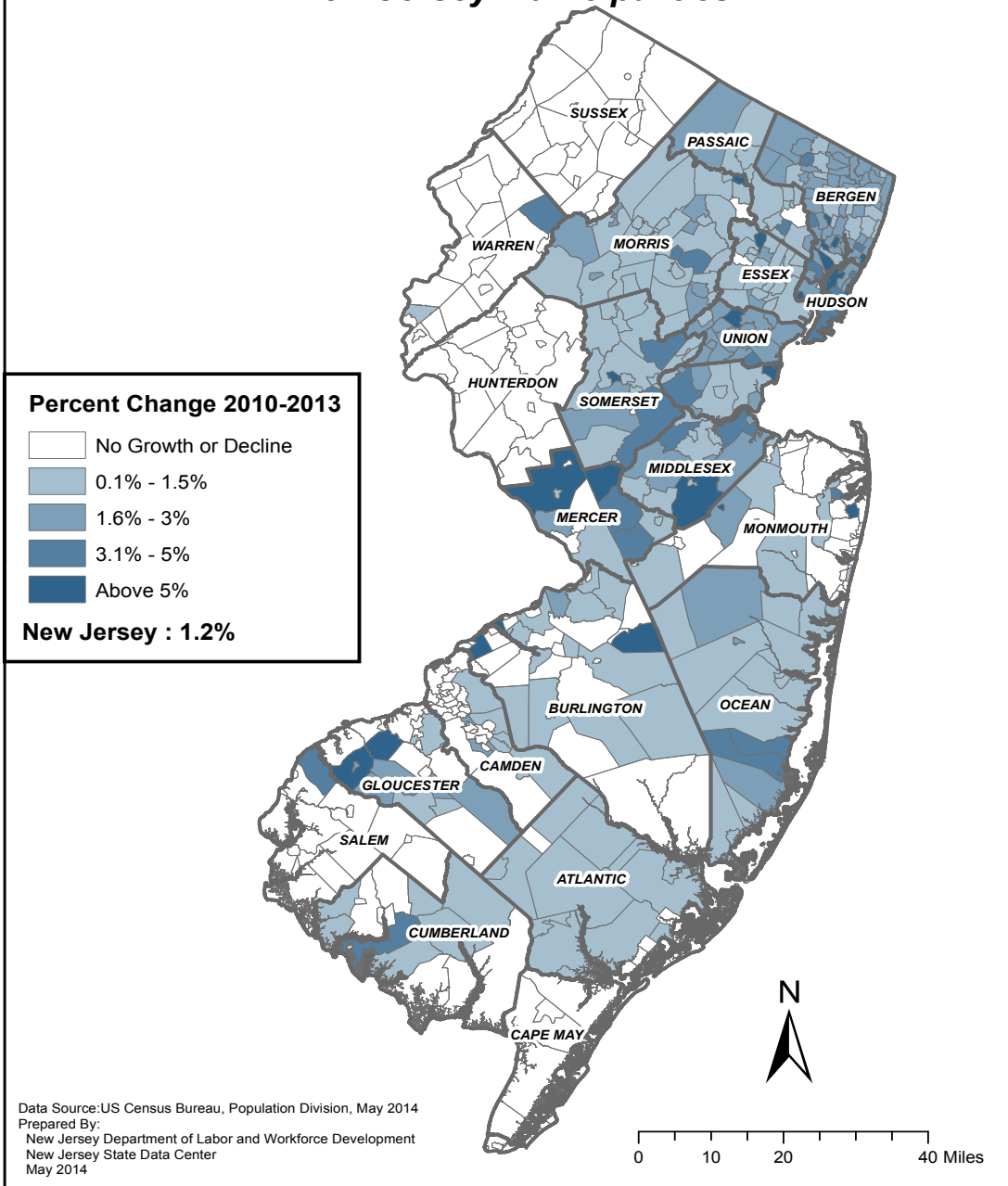
Counties in the Northern Region (Bergen, Essex, Hudson, Morris, Passaic and Union) led the state's population growth over the 2010-2013 period



second largest, after Bergen's 14,400 gain. Cape May was the only county to experience a natural decrease (1,100 more deaths than births) between 2010 and 2013.

Seven counties ex-

Percent Change in Population: April 1, 2010 - July 1, 2013 New Jersey Municipalities



perienced population declines between 2010 and 2013, led by these four rural counties: Sussex (-2,900), Cape May (-1,400), Warren (-1,300) and Hunterdon (-1,100).

Every county in the state gained population from international migration. With a net gain of more than 10,000,

Hudson (+27,000), Middlesex (+21,700), Bergen (+17,000), Essex (+16,500) and Union (+11,100) counties were the state's major magnets of international immigrants.

Almost all counties in New Jersey lost population due to domestic migration between 2010 and 2013, except

Ocean. Even Ocean County's net gain from domestic migration (+1,519) has shrunk considerably from the previous two decades. Counties with large net losses (10,000 or more) due to domestic migration included Essex (-25,200), Hudson (-19,400), Passaic (-16,900), Middlesex (-16,500) and Camden (-12,500).

Bergen (population 925,328, ranked 55th nationally) was still the most populous county in New Jersey, followed by Middlesex (828,919) and Essex (789,565). The state's two "small" counties still had less than 100,000 residents — Salem (65,166) and Cape May (95,897).

More Growth in Large Municipalities than Small Ones

Population increased in 329 of New Jersey's 565 municipalities between 2010 and 2013, decreased in 231 while five were unchanged.

Six municipalities in New Jersey had more than 100,000 residents as of July 1, 2013: Newark, Jersey City, Paterson, Elizabeth, Edison Township and Woodbridge Township. The two "largest" municipalities — Newark (ranked 68) and Jersey City (ranked 74) — were also on the nation's top 100 cities list. On the other hand, fewer than 500 people resided in each of the Garden State's eleven smallest municipalities. With just five residents, Tavistock Borough (Camden County) continued to be New Jersey's least populated municipality.

Large municipalities grew faster than their smaller counterparts in 2010-2013. Population in the six largest municipalities (with 100,000 population or more) grew by 1.6 percent, substantially faster than the statewide growth rate of 1.2 percent. At a rate of 1.5 percent, the 30 municipalities with 50,000 to 100,000 residents also grew rapidly. In comparison, popu-

lation in the 190 small municipalities (less than 5,000 residents) has declined so far in this decade.

The six largest municipalities accounted for 14.7 percent of the state's total population growth in 2010-13. Another 26.9 percent growth was accounted for by the 30 municipalities with 50,000 to 100,000 residents.

Numerically, Jersey City had the largest gain with 9,700 new residents, followed by Somerset County's Franklin Township (+3,000). Seven other municipalities also had population gains of 2,000 or more: Elizabeth, Hoboken, Monroe Township, West New York, Piscataway Township, Secaucus and Bayonne. Trenton had the largest population decline (-560) among the state's 565 municipalities between 2010 and 2013. Vernon Township, Eatontown Borough, Camden, Union Beach Borough, Washington Township (Gloucester County), and Lower Township also lost more than 400 residents thus far in this decade.

With 14.1 percent growth since the latest census, Riverdale Borough was the fastest growing municipality in New Jersey. Population increases between 2010 and 2013 also exceeded 10 percent in Secaucus (+12.6%), Raritan Borough (+12.0%), Harrison (+11.8%), Woolwich Township (+10.4%), and Wood-Ridge Borough (+10.2%). The most rapidly declining municipality in the state between 2010 and 2013 was Mantoloking Borough (-11.8%). Other municipalities with high rates of popula-

Population Change by Size of Municipality: New Jersey, 2010-2013

Population Size	Number of Municipalities	Census 2010	Estimates 2013	Change: 2010-2013	
				Number	Percent
More than 100,000	6	995,500	1,011,299	15,799	1.6%
50,000 to 100,000	30	1,943,919	1,972,791	28,872	1.5%
10,000 to 50,000	208	4,428,738	4,485,487	56,749	1.3%
5,000 to 10,000	131	945,559	951,720	6,161	0.7%
1,000 to 5,000	158	460,002	459,986	-16	0.0%
Less than 1,000	32	18,191	18,056	-135	-0.7%
State Total	565	8,791,909	8,899,339	107,430	1.2%

Source: US Bureau of the Census, Population Division

**Population Change in Major Cities (population 50,000 or more)
in New Jersey: 2010-2013**

Municipality	County	Census 2010	Change: 2010-2013		
			Estimates 2013	Number	Percent
Newark city	Essex	277,138	278,427	1,289	0.5%
Jersey City city	Hudson	247,643	257,342	9,699	3.9%
Paterson city	Passaic	146,199	145,948	-251	-0.2%
Elizabeth city	Union	124,969	127,558	2,589	2.1%
Clifton city	Passaic	84,136	85,390	1,254	1.5%
Trenton city	Mercer	84,913	84,349	-564	-0.7%
Camden city	Camden	77,346	76,903	-443	-0.6%
Passaic city	Passaic	69,781	70,868	1,087	1.6%
Union City city	Hudson	66,438	68,247	1,809	2.7%
Bayonne city	Hudson	63,010	65,028	2,018	3.2%
East Orange city	Essex	64,097	64,544	447	0.7%
Vineland city	Cumberland	60,724	61,050	326	0.5%
New Brunswick city	Middlesex	54,578	55,831	1,253	2.3%
Hoboken city	Hudson	50,005	52,575	2,570	5.1%
West New York town	Hudson	49,708	52,122	2,414	4.9%
Perth Amboy city	Middlesex	50,814	51,982	1,168	2.3%
Plainfield city	Union	49,808	50,588	780	1.6%
Total		1,621,307	1,648,752	27,445	1.7%

Source: US Bureau of the Census, Population Division

tion decline include Union Beach Borough (-7.1%), Maurice River Township (-3.9%), Sea Bright Borough (-3.8%) and Eatontown Borough (-3.5%). Many of these declines may be a direct result of devastation brought about by Hurricane Sandy in the Fall of 2012.

It is noteworthy that the 17 urban cities among the state's 36 large municipalities (with 50,000 residents or more) had gained more population (+27,445) and had a higher growth rate (+1.7%) than the other 19 suburban townships

(+17,226 or +1.3%). Excluding the three cities with declining populations (Paterson, Trenton and Camden), the 2010-2013 growth rate of the other 14 major growing cities is even more impressive (+2.2%).

However, urbanized places (cities, towns and boroughs) in each county as a whole had slower growth than the "balance of the county" in most counties except Bergen, Cumberland, Hudson, Middlesex, Morris and Passaic.

Data Availability

The 2013 state, county and subcounty population estimates are posted on the Office of Research and Information's web page: http://lwd.dol.state.nj.us/labor/lpa/dmograph/est/est_index.html.

For more information regarding population estimates for New Jersey, contact New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Division of Economic and Demographic Research, P. O. Box 388, Trenton, NJ 08625-0388. Telephone: 609-292-0077, email: sywu@dol.state.nj.us.

For information regarding NJ Labor Market Views please contact JoAnne Caramelo by phone at (609)292-2582 or by email at joanne.caramelo@dol.state.nj.us. To subscribe, email ori@dol.state.nj.us with Labor Market Views in the subject line.