

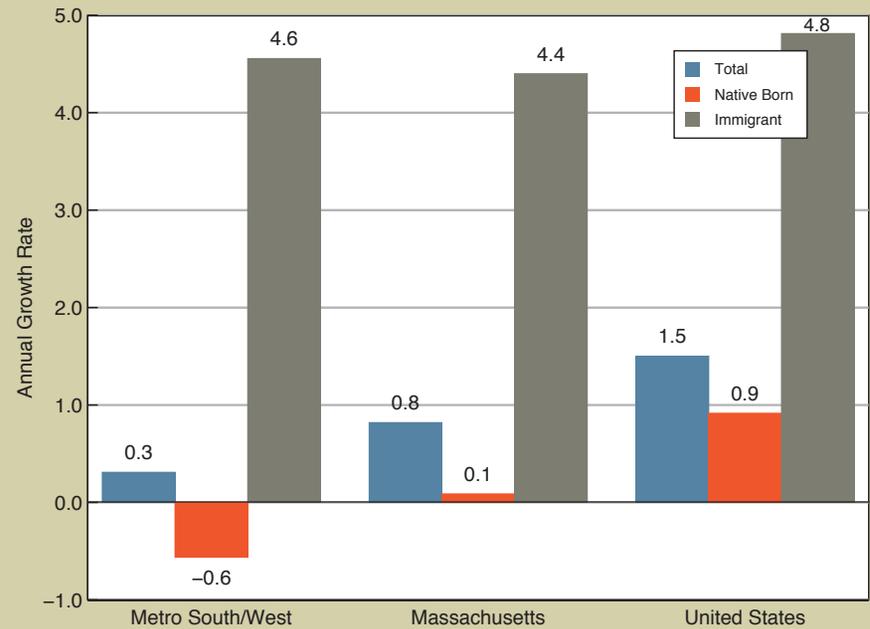
GROWTH IN THE CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE BY NATIVITY STATUS

The civilian labor force is the people who are either working or unemployed but actively looking for work (a region's actual labor supply). In Metro South/West, a high percentage of the working-age population (over 70 percent) is part of the labor force. In Metro South/West, immigrants are driving the growth of the civilian labor force. Despite declines in the native-born population participating in the labor force between 2000 and 2005-2007, the overall labor force in the region continued to grow. This growth was a result of a 4.6 percent annual growth rate of the immigrant labor force. Between 2005-2007 and 2008-2010, the number of native-born people participating in the region's civilian labor force increased slightly. The number of immigrants continued to grow, but at a lower rate than in the first part of the decade and also at a lower rate than in the state or the nation.

Source: US Census 2000 Decennial Census PUMS data files, 2005-2007 and 2008-2010 American Community Survey PUMS data files.

Note: The civilian labor force is all individuals 16 years of age or older who are classified as employed or unemployed and actively looking for work. Immigrants are individuals born outside the country.

Annual Growth Rate, 2000 to 2005-2007



Annual Growth Rate, 2005-2007 to 2008-2010

