

Michigan Highlights from the Vintage 2022 Release for National and State Population Estimates

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Summary

The U.S. Census Bureau has released the Vintage 2022 national and state population estimates for July 1, 2022. The 2022 Vintage includes population change between 2021 and 2022, as well as the components of change (births, deaths, and migration) in that one-year period. The 2022 Vintage also incorporates updates and corrections to the 2021 Vintage estimates.

The 2021 Vintage showed that Michigan experienced population decline and more deaths than births (natural decrease) from 2020 to 2021. Although the ratio of births to deaths has been declining in Michigan the past several decades, the state's overall population decline from 2020 to 2021 can be attributed to continued domestic migration loss to other states, the impact of COVID-19 mortality, and the low rate of net international migration in that year. The year 2021 represents an important demographic inflection point since it is the first year since at least 1900 in which Michigan experienced natural decrease.

The new Vintage 2022 data showed that Michigan experienced population decline and natural decrease for the second year in a row, with the state's population falling to 10,034,113 persons in 2022. Michigan continues to rank in the top 10 most populous states in 2022, but Michigan was among the 18 states which experienced population decline and the 24 states which experienced natural decrease from 2021 to 2022. Michigan's population is estimated to have decreased by 3,391 persons (-0.03%) in this one-year period. Compared to other states, Michigan had the 32nd lowest rate of population change from 2021 to 2022. Figure 1 provides a statewide comparison of population change across the country. As a whole, the United States added 1,256,003 persons (0.4%) to the national population between 2021 and 2022. This modest growth rate represents a continuation of the United States' slowing growth rate since the 1990s but is higher than the record-low growth rate in 2021.

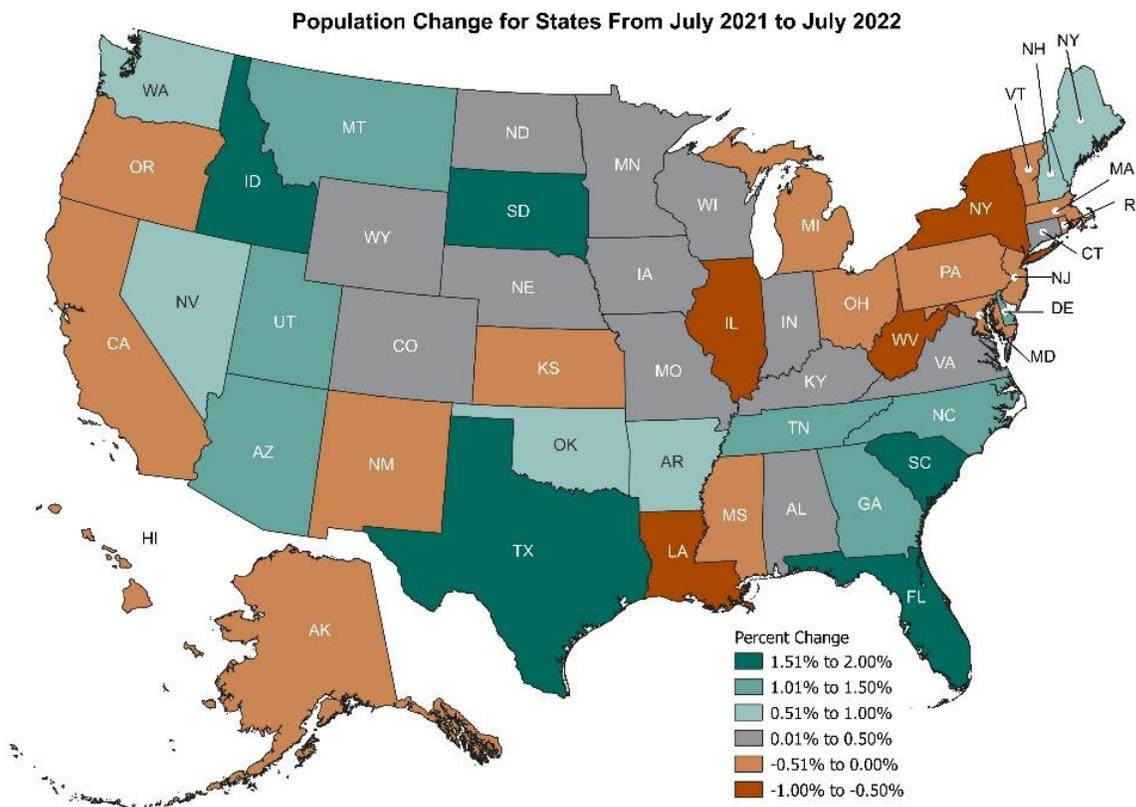
The components of population change demonstrate which demographic dynamics contributed to Michigan's population decline from 2021 to 2022. There were an estimated 117,639 deaths in Michigan from 2021 to 2022. COVID-19 continued contributing to the high number of deaths in this one-year period. However, the aging of a large generational cohort, the Baby Boomers, has also contributed to increasing mortality in recent years. Michigan is estimated to have had the 16th highest death rate among the 50 states in 2022.

Michigan recorded 105,157 births from 2021 to 2022, recovering slightly from 102,739 births in 2020-2021. Despite this modest increase, births in Michigan were still lower than 2019, when there were 109,472 births. Low and decreasing birth rates in Michigan are aligned with national trends, where birth rates have been decreasing for decades. However, Michigan is estimated to have had the 36th lowest birth rate in 2022 relative to the other 49 states. When examining births and deaths together in the natural change component of population change (births minus deaths), Michigan

had a natural decrease of 12,482 persons. Michigan ranked 9th among the 24 other states which also experienced natural decrease.

In terms of net migration (the number of people moving into Michigan minus those moving away from Michigan), the state is estimated to have experienced a net positive migration of 10,330 persons in 2022. Net migration consists of domestic and international components. Domestic migration represents the number of people moving between Michigan and other states, whereas international migration represents the number of people moving between Michigan and other countries. Michigan is estimated to have had a net domestic migration of -8,482 persons in 2022, the 30th lowest net domestic migration rate among the 50 states. Although Michigan has consistently lost more people to other states than it has gained since the 1970s, international migration has historically been net positive in Michigan, helping offset some of Michigan's population loss from domestic out-migration. The Vintage 2022 data estimate that Michigan had a net positive international migration of 18,812 persons in 2022. However, when compared to other states and the nation, Michigan had relatively low rates of international migration, ranking 30th among the 50 states in terms of net international migration rates.

Figure 1



Source: Vintage 2022 Population Estimates, Population Estimates Program, U.S. Census Bureau