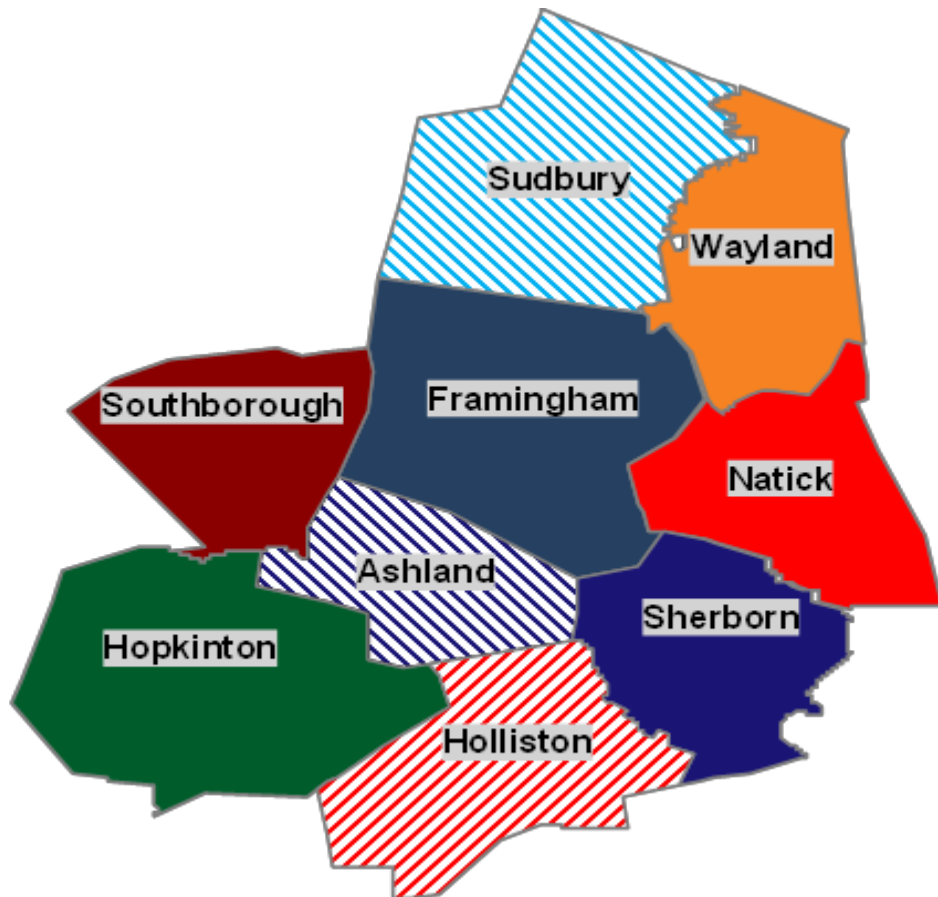


CENSUS 2010 PRELIMINARY REPORT METROWEST



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Framingham
State University

MetroWest Economic
Research Center



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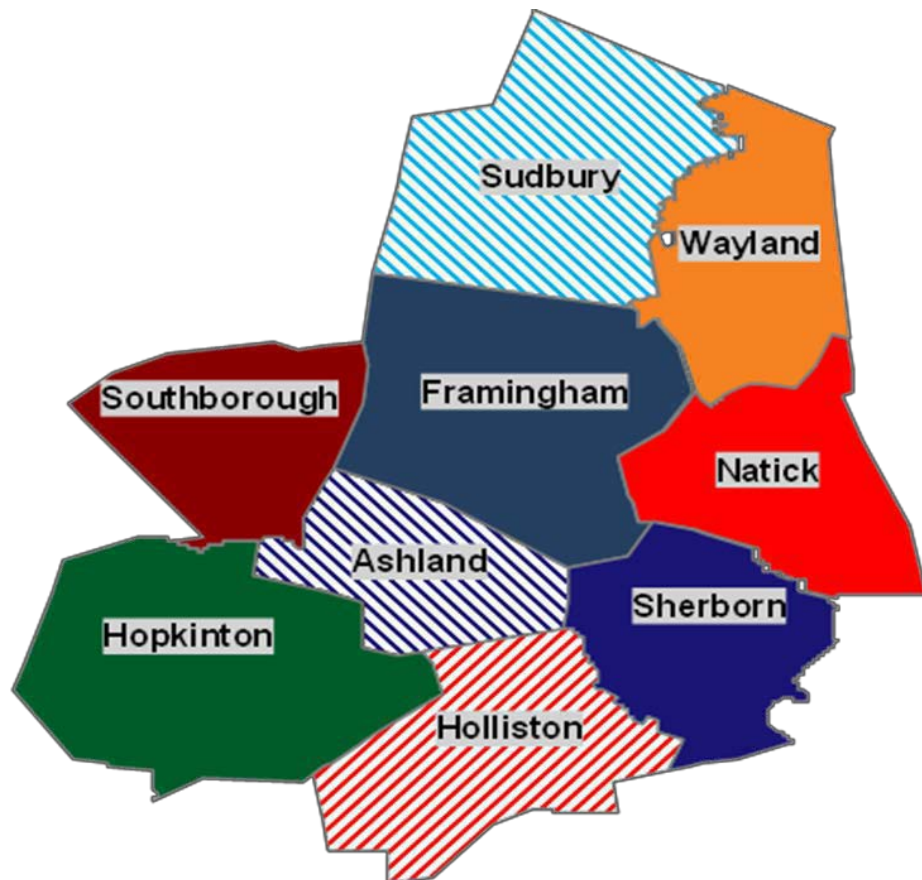
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MetroWest refers to the region located west of Boston, Massachusetts comprised of the following nine communities: Ashland, Framingham, Holliston, Hopkinton, Natick, Sherborn, Southborough, Sudbury and Wayland. Situated between Boston and Worcester, MetroWest enjoys convenient access to four major highway systems: the Massachusetts Turnpike (I-90) and Routes 9, I-95 and I-495. The region is home to thousands of small and medium-sized businesses as well as large national firms like Bose Corporation, Boston Scientific, Cognex, Computer Associates, EMC, Genzyme, Raytheon, Staples, and TJX Companies and the internationally known U.S. Army Natick Laboratories.

Centered around Framingham, MetroWest has a 2010 population of 190,928 and a resident labor force of more than 100,000 workers. MetroWest residents are exceptionally well educated with career experience in those occupations and industries that promise growth in the decades ahead. A combination of high labor force participation rates, high wage occupations and low unemployment results in households with incomes substantially above state and national averages.

This booklet provides a preliminary description and partial analyses of census data for the residents of MetroWest. For more information on the data, see the appendix.

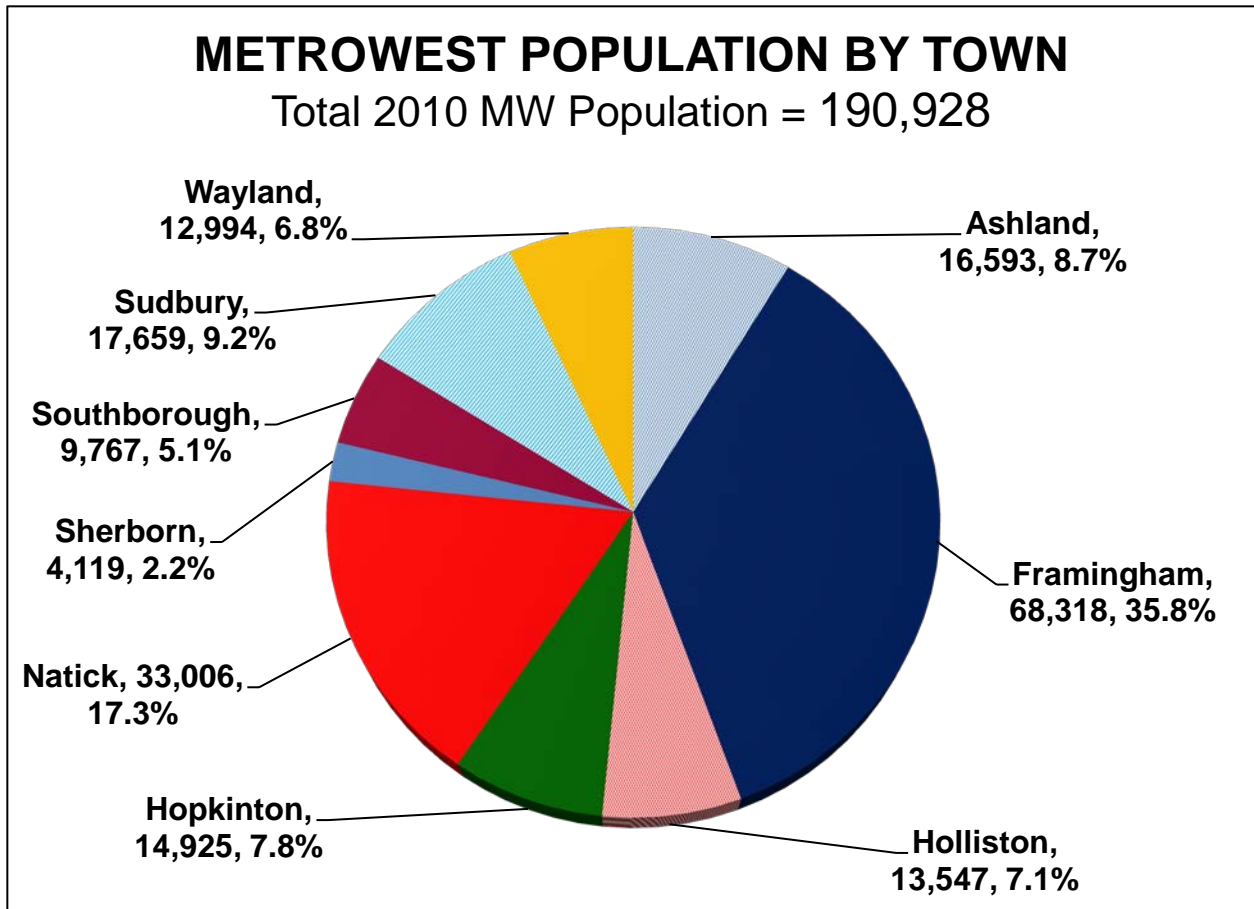


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TABLE OF CONTENTS

MetroWest Population: 2010	1
MetroWest Population by Town: 2000 and 2010	2
MetroWest Percentage Change in Population	3
MetroWest Race	4
MetroWest Percentage of Hispanic or Latino Individuals	5
MetroWest Age Distribution	6
MetroWest Age by Town	7
MetroWest Median Age	8
MetroWest Percentage Change by Age	9
MetroWest Total Households	10
MetroWest Average Household Size	11
MetroWest Percentage of Families	12
MetroWest Husband-Wife Families	13
MetroWest Owners and Renters by Race	14
Appendix	15

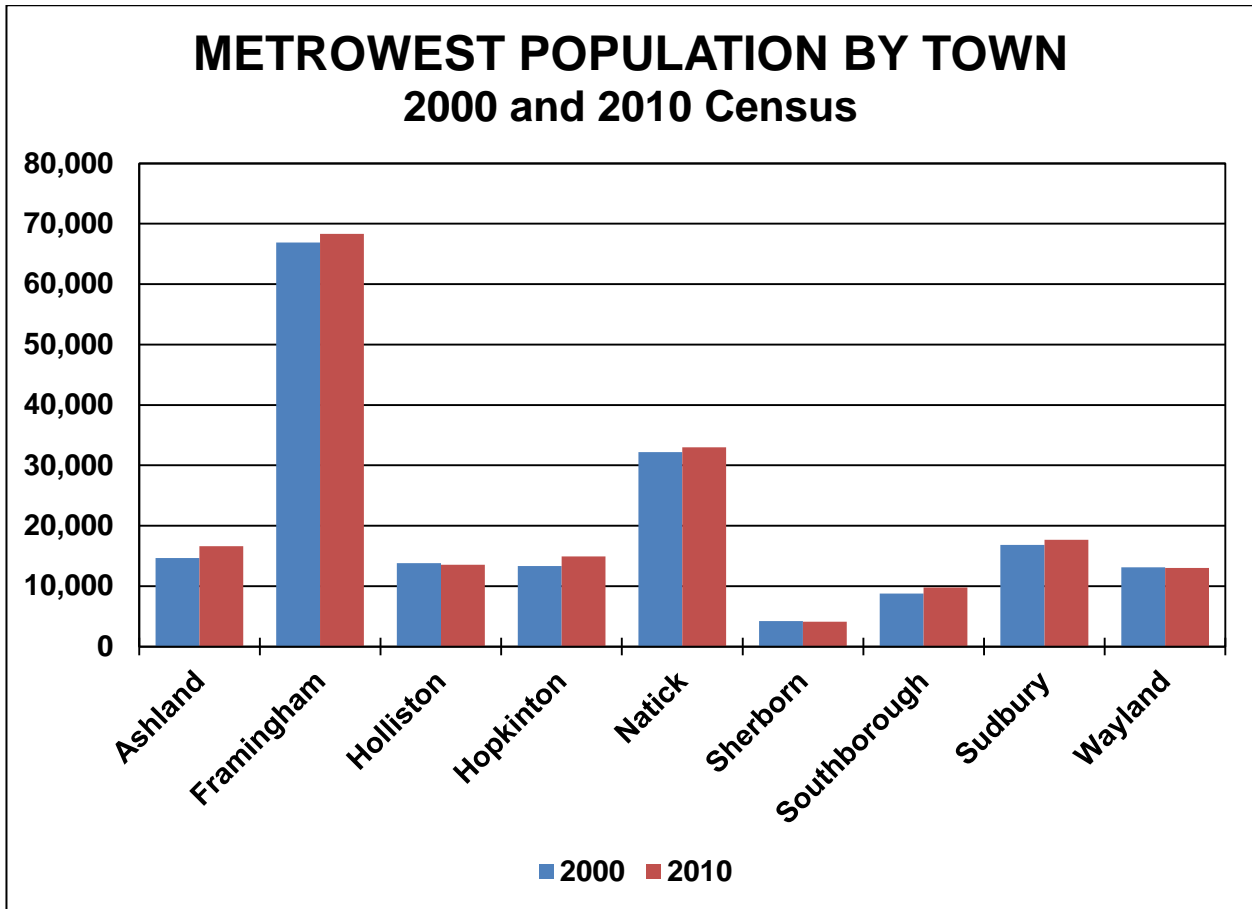
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Source: U.S. Census Bureau and MERC

- The U.S. Census Bureau reported that 190,928 individuals lived in MetroWest in April 2010. The above graph shows the percentage distribution of those individuals among the nine communities in the region.
- Framingham and Natick accounted for the region's largest populations with 35.8% and 17.3% of the MetroWest population respectively. Framingham's population of 68,318 individuals, is more than double Natick's population of 33,006 individuals.
- The smallest share of the MetroWest population resides in Sherborn, home to 2.2% of the region's people, accounting for 4,119 individuals.
- Comparatively, the remaining communities account for shares between 5% and 9% of the MetroWest population. Ashland has 8.7% of the region's population, Holliston has 7.1%, Hopkinton has 7.8%, Southborough has 5.1%, and Sudbury has 9.2%.

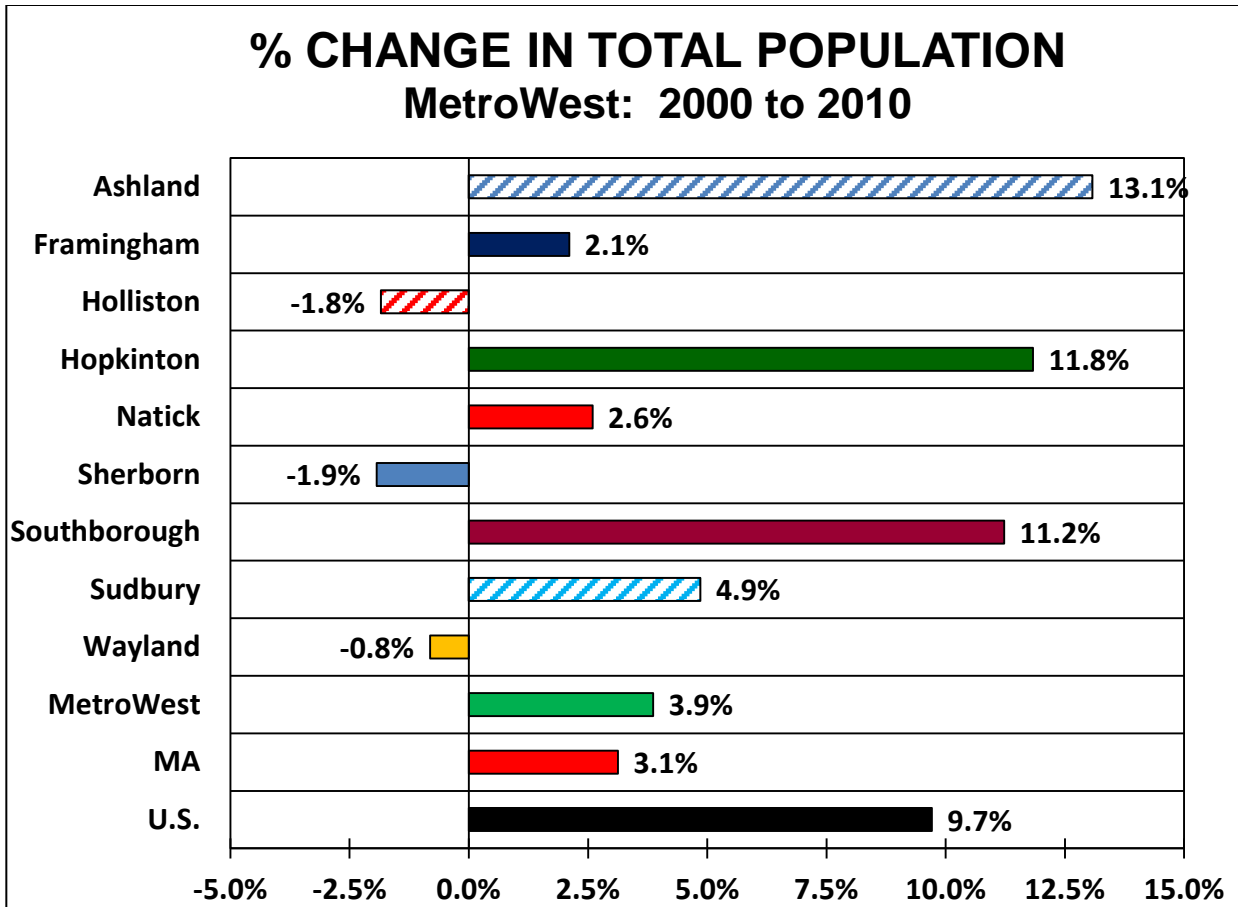
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Source: U.S. Census Bureau and MERC

- Framingham had the largest population both in 2000 with 66,910 residents and in 2010 with 68,318 residents. Natick was the second largest town with 32,170 people in 2000 and 33,006 in 2010. In both 2000 and 2010 the number of Framingham individuals was more than double the number reported in Natick.
- Sherborn had the lowest population in both years, with 4,200 residents in 2000 and 4,119 in 2010. Sherborn also had the largest percentage decrease in population, though Holliston and Wayland also saw declines in population from 2000 to 2010. Sherborn had approximately one-sixteenth the population of Framingham in 2010.
- Ashland had the largest increase in population from 2000 to 2010. Ashland's 2000 population of 14,674 residents rose by 1,919 individuals to reach 16,593 in 2010.
- Sudbury, Natick and Southborough populations increased by less than 1,000 individuals over the decade. Sudbury and Natick increased by 818 and 836, respectively, while Southborough missed the 1,000 mark by 14 individuals, at 986.

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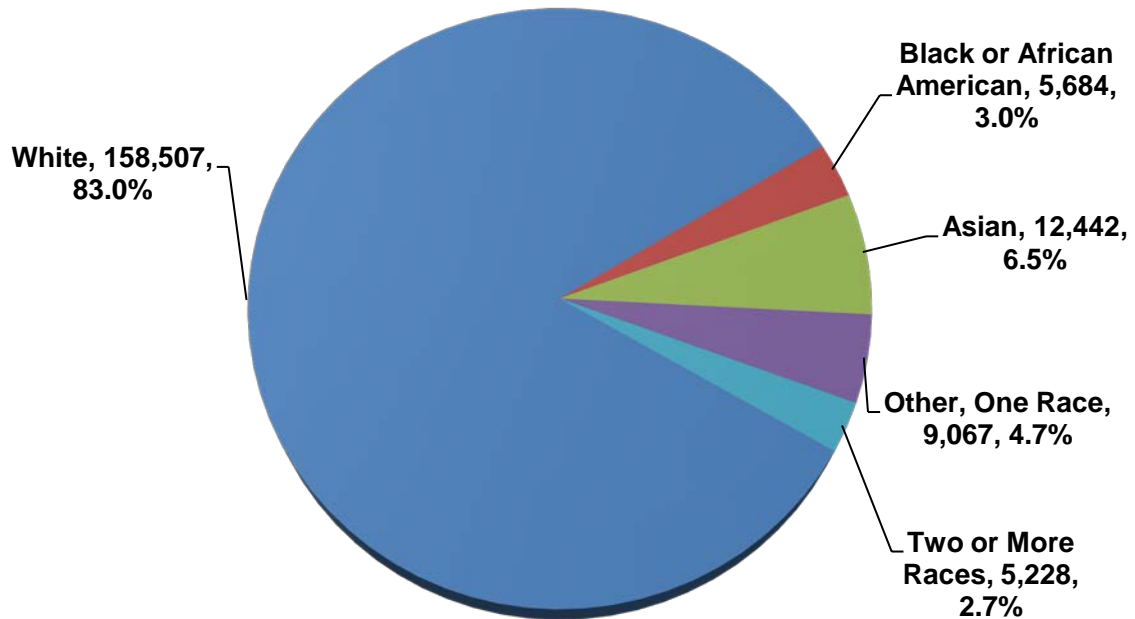
Source: U.S. Census Bureau and MERC

- Between 2000 and 2010, the population of MetroWest increased from 183,823 individuals to 190,928 persons. This was an increase of more than 7,100 individuals, or 3.9%.
- This percentage increase in MetroWest’s population was greater than that of Massachusetts at 3.1%, but less than that in the U.S., which registered a 9.7% increase over the same time period.
- Though most communities in MetroWest experienced increases in population, three towns did not. Sherborn lost the largest share of its population at -1.9%, followed by Holliston at -1.8% and Wayland at -0.8%.
- Of the towns that gained in population, Framingham and Natick did so at a rate less than that of the region, state and nation. While Sudbury’s population growth of 4.9% outpaced the region and state, it lagged behind the nation. The largest growth in population in the region occurred in Ashland (+13.1%), Hopkinton (+11.8%) and Southborough (+11.2%).

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DISTRIBUTION OF RACE IN METROWEST

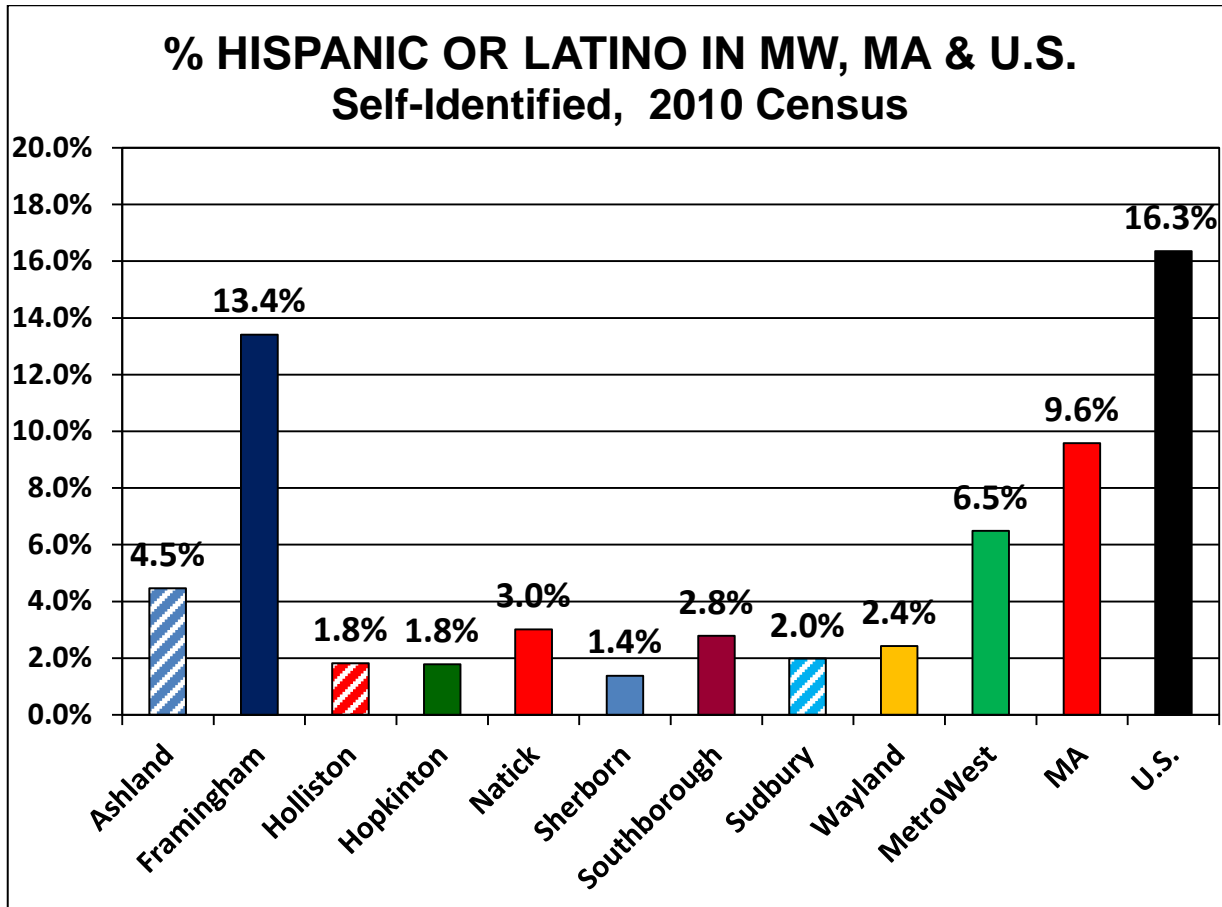
Total MetroWest Population in 2010: 190,928



Source: U.S. Census Bureau and MERC

- Of the 190,928 people in MetroWest in 2010, 83.1% of them identified themselves as White. This was more than 12 times as large a percentage as the next largest racial category, which was Asian with 6.5% of the regional population. Black or African American registered less than half as large a percentage as Asian, with only 3.0% of individuals selecting that category.
- Accounting for 4.7% of the MetroWest population 9,067 individuals identified themselves as belonging to One Race other than Asian, Black or African American or White.
- Those who selected more than one race accounted for 2.7% of the total or 5,228 individuals.
- Of the combined 17% of minority groups in MetroWest, individuals who self-identified as Asians make up the largest minority population at 38.2% of all minorities, followed by Black or African American individuals who constitute 17.6% of the minority population in MetroWest.

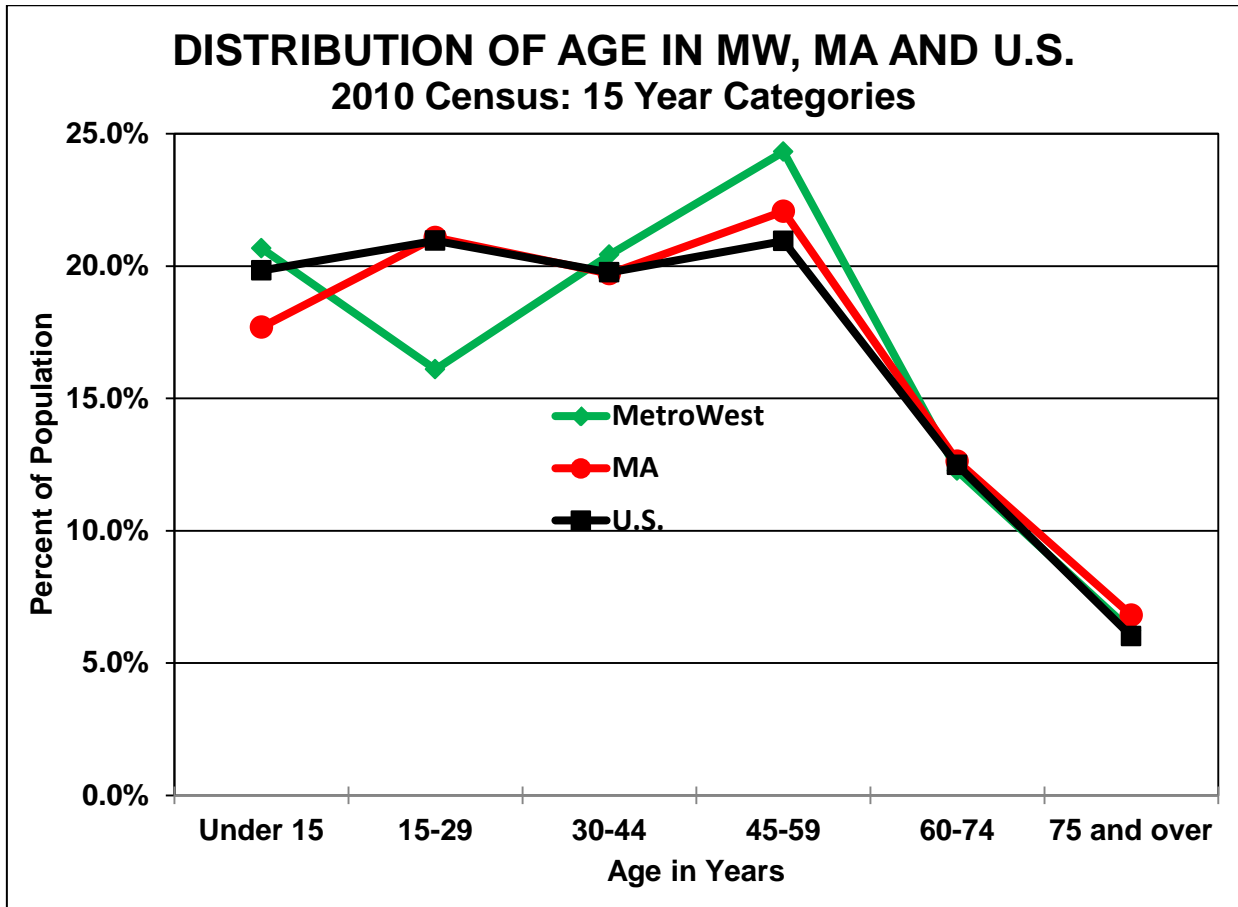
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Source: U.S. Census Bureau and MERC

- This graph displays information on ethnicity from Census 2010 for MetroWest, its nine towns, Massachusetts and the United States.
- Sherborn had the lowest percentage of Hispanic or Latino individuals, at 1.4%. This was about 1 in 72 people in Sherborn, compared to 1 in 15 for MetroWest, 1 in 10 for Massachusetts, and 1 in 6 for the United States.
- The MetroWest community with the highest percentage of Hispanic or Latino individuals was Framingham, at 13.4%, which was higher than both the region and the state but still lower than the nation. No other MetroWest community had a percentage higher than the region, state or nation.
- Ashland had the second highest percentage of Hispanic or Latino individuals in MetroWest with 4.5%; it still was only one-third the Framingham value.
- All other MetroWest communities reported Hispanic or Latino percentages between 1.8%, or 1 in 56, to 3%, or 1 in 33 individuals.

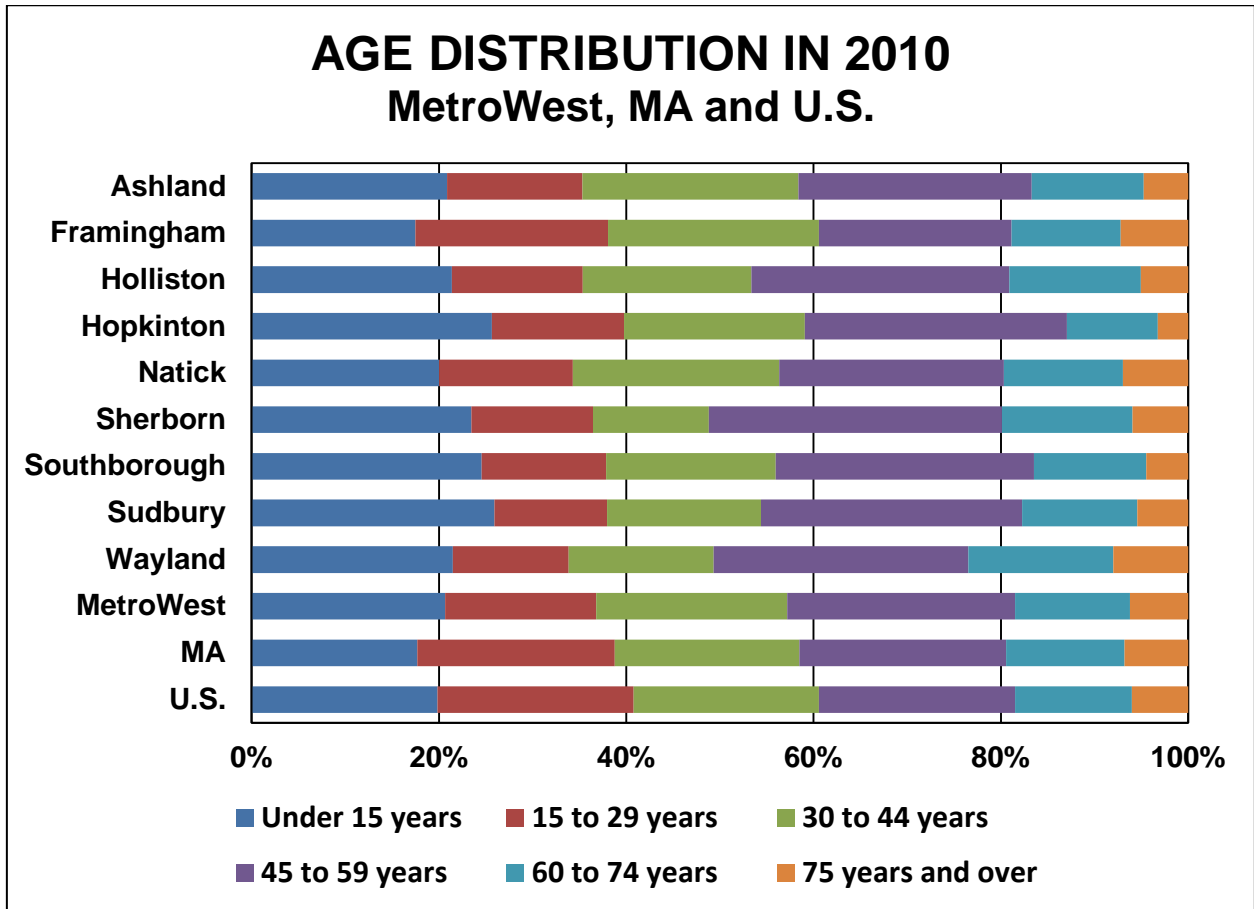
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Source: U.S. Census Bureau and MERC

- For MetroWest and Massachusetts, the largest percentage of the population, at 24.3% and 22.1% respectively, fell into the 45-59 age category. In contrast, the nation's largest age group, at 21.0% of the population, was between 15 and 29 years of age.
- Of the four age groups under 60 years old, the lowest percentage occurred in MetroWest's 15-29 age category; they represented 16.1% of the population of MW – about 1 in 6 people compared to about 1 in 5 for both Massachusetts and the United States.
- The lowest percentage of any age group was the U.S. population aged 75 and over, which was only 6.0% of the total national population. The highest percentage occurred in the 45 to 59 age group in MetroWest at 24.3%.
- After reaching a peak in the 45 to 59 age group, the MetroWest, Massachusetts and United States distributions all exhibit a rapid decline resulting in the lowest percent of individuals being 75 years or older. MetroWest and Massachusetts bottom out in this age group at 6.2%, 6.8% respectively. The nation has 6% of its population in the 75 and over category.

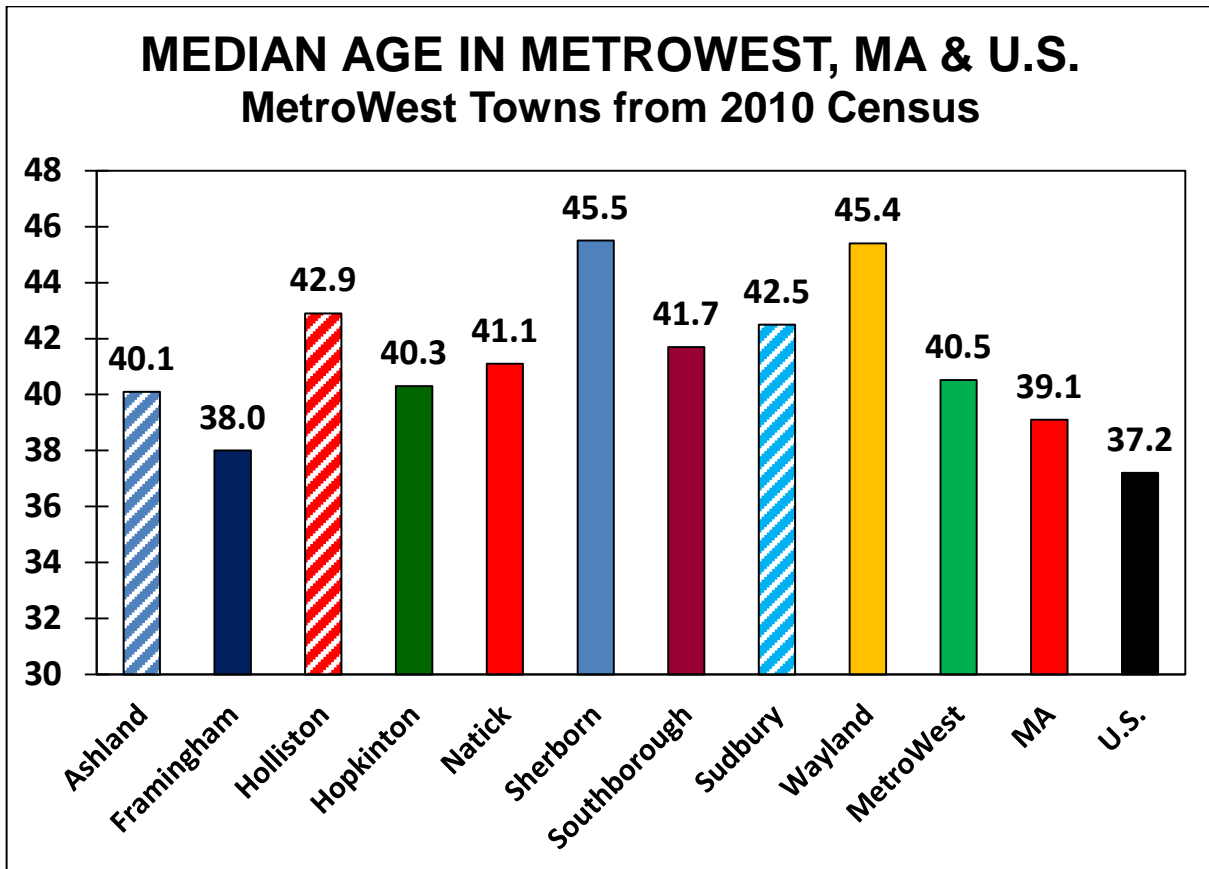
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Source: U.S. Census Bureau and MERC

- The 2010 Census age profile for MetroWest, its towns, Massachusetts and the United States is displayed for six age groups, covering 100% of the respective populations.
- MetroWest had a greater proportion of children less than 15 years of age than either Massachusetts or the nation. In two MetroWest towns, Hopkinton and Sudbury, more than 25% of the population was under 15 years of age.
- Approximately 16.1% of MetroWest residents were between 15 and 29 years of age in 2010, compared with about 21% in both Massachusetts and the United States. In Sudbury and Wayland, this age group represented less than one eighth of the total population.
- In MetroWest, the percentage of individuals 75 years of age and over was 6.2% in 2010, compared with 6.8% for Massachusetts and 6.0% for the United States. The percentage varied within MetroWest from 3.2% in Hopkinton to 8.0% in Wayland.

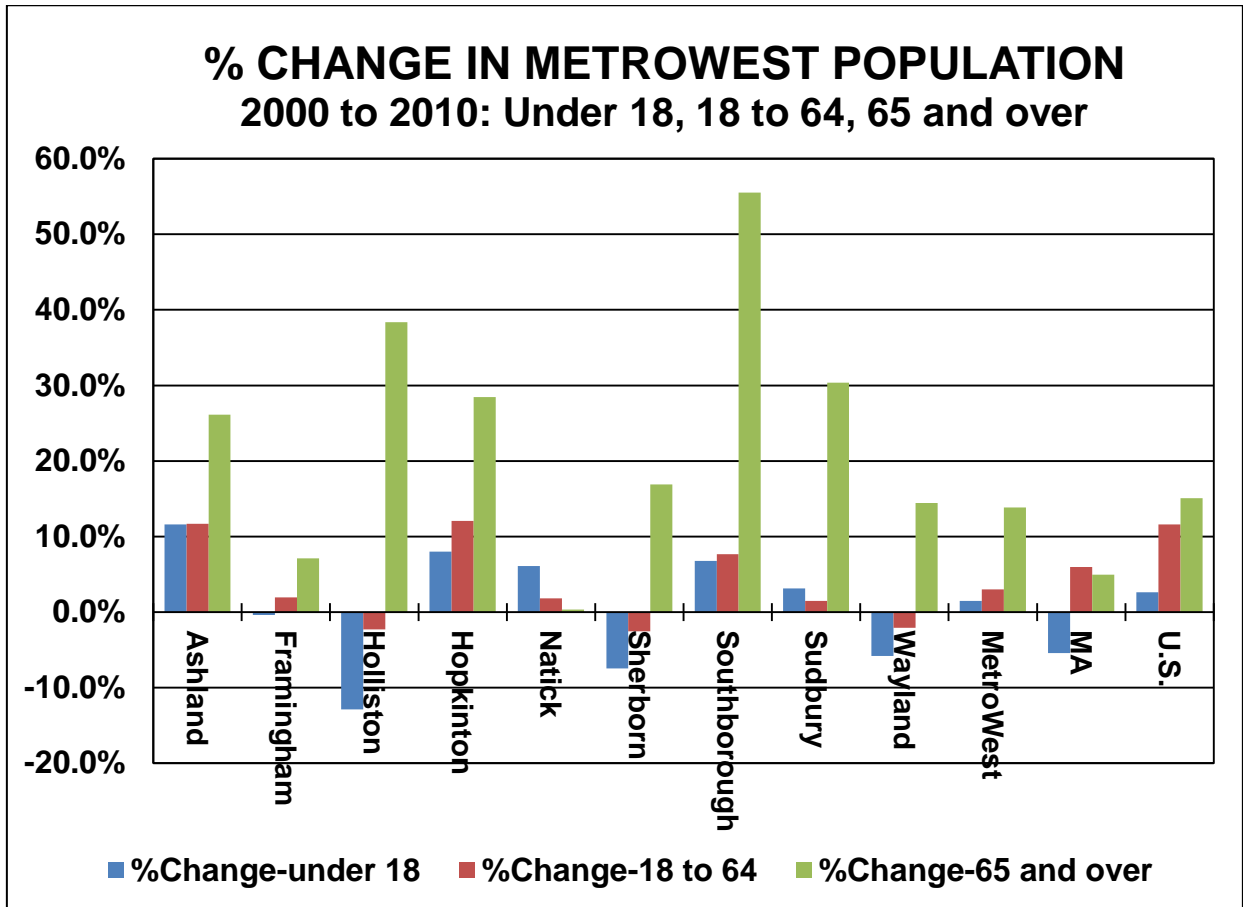
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Source: U.S. Census Bureau and MERC

- The median age of the U.S. population in 2010 was 37.2 years, up 1.8 years from 2000. The median age in Massachusetts was 39.1 years in 2010, an increase of 2.6 years since 2000. The estimated median age in MetroWest was 40.5 years in 2010, up 2.9 years from 2000.
- Median age among the nine MetroWest communities varied from 38 years old in Framingham to 45.5 years in Sherborn.
- Six communities: Holliston, Natick, Sherborn, Southborough, Sudbury, and Wayland, had a median age above 40, making them “older” than the other towns in MetroWest as well as the state and nation. The “oldest” communities are Sherborn at 45.5 and Wayland at 45.4 years for median age.
- The “youngest” communities in the MetroWest were Framingham with a median age of 38 years, and Ashland and Hopkinton tied at 40 years. Framingham was the only community in MetroWest to have a median age lower than the state.
- Ashland’s median age, of 40.1 is closer to that of the state at 39.1, while Framingham’s median age of 38 is closer to that of the nation at 37.2.

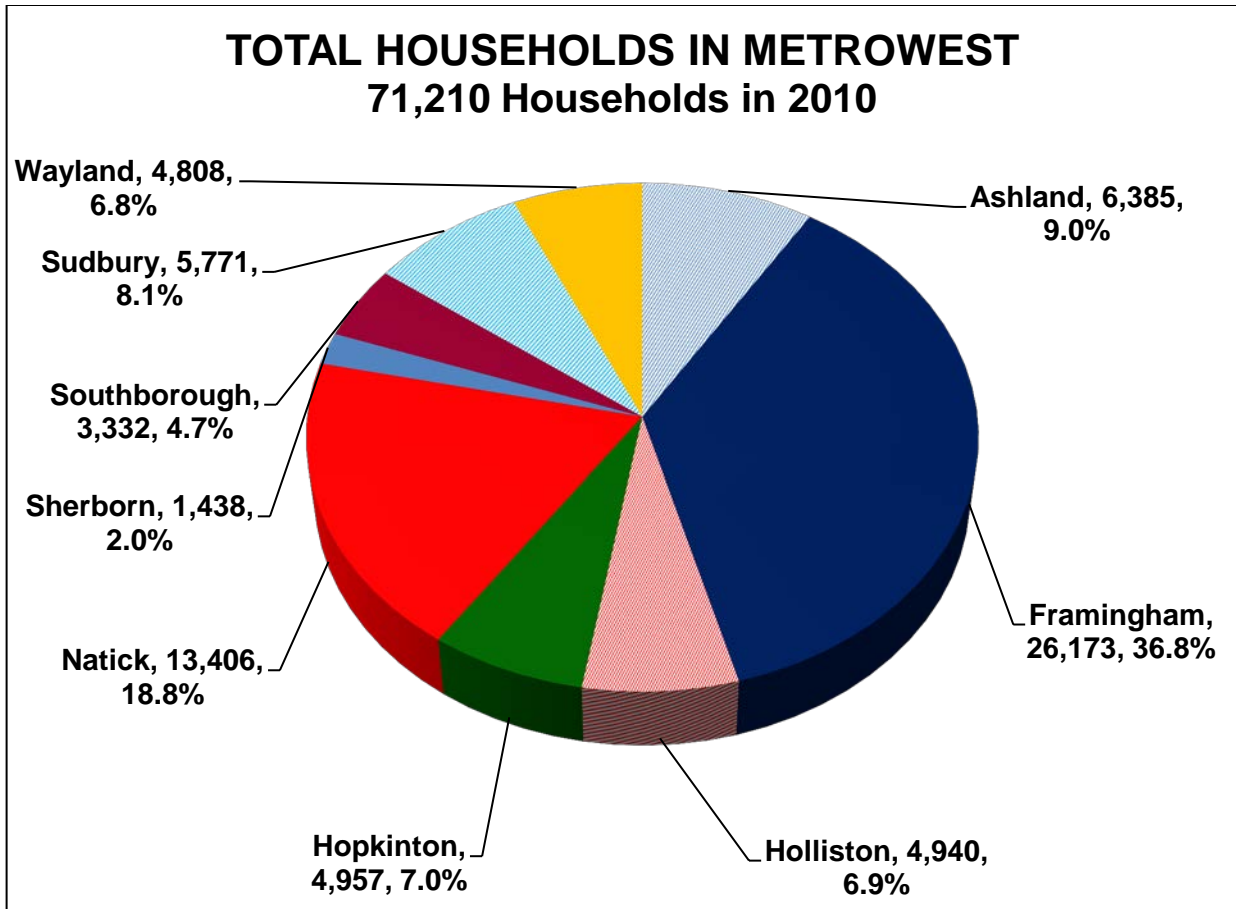
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Source: U.S. Census Bureau and MERC

- MetroWest experienced a 3.9% growth in population from 2000 to 2010, compared with 3.1% for Massachusetts and 9.7% for the United States.
- The number of people 65 and over increased in each MetroWest community, and in the region, state and nation. Also, all communities with the exception of Natick and Massachusetts, recorded the largest percentage increase in the 65 and over category. In Natick, the largest percentage increase was for people under 18, at 6.1%; while the state's largest percentage increase was in the 18 to 64 age group at 5.9%. In Holliston, Sherborn and Wayland the only increase in population over the decade occurred in the 65+ age group.
- Southborough experienced the largest percentage increase from 2000 to 2010 in people 65 and over, at 55.5%. Natick registered a mere 0.3% increase in the number of people 65 and over, the smallest percentage increase of any town in MetroWest.
- Four MetroWest communities and Massachusetts experienced a decrease in the under 18 years age group. Framingham had the smallest decrease at -0.4% while Holliston had the largest decrease at -12.9%.

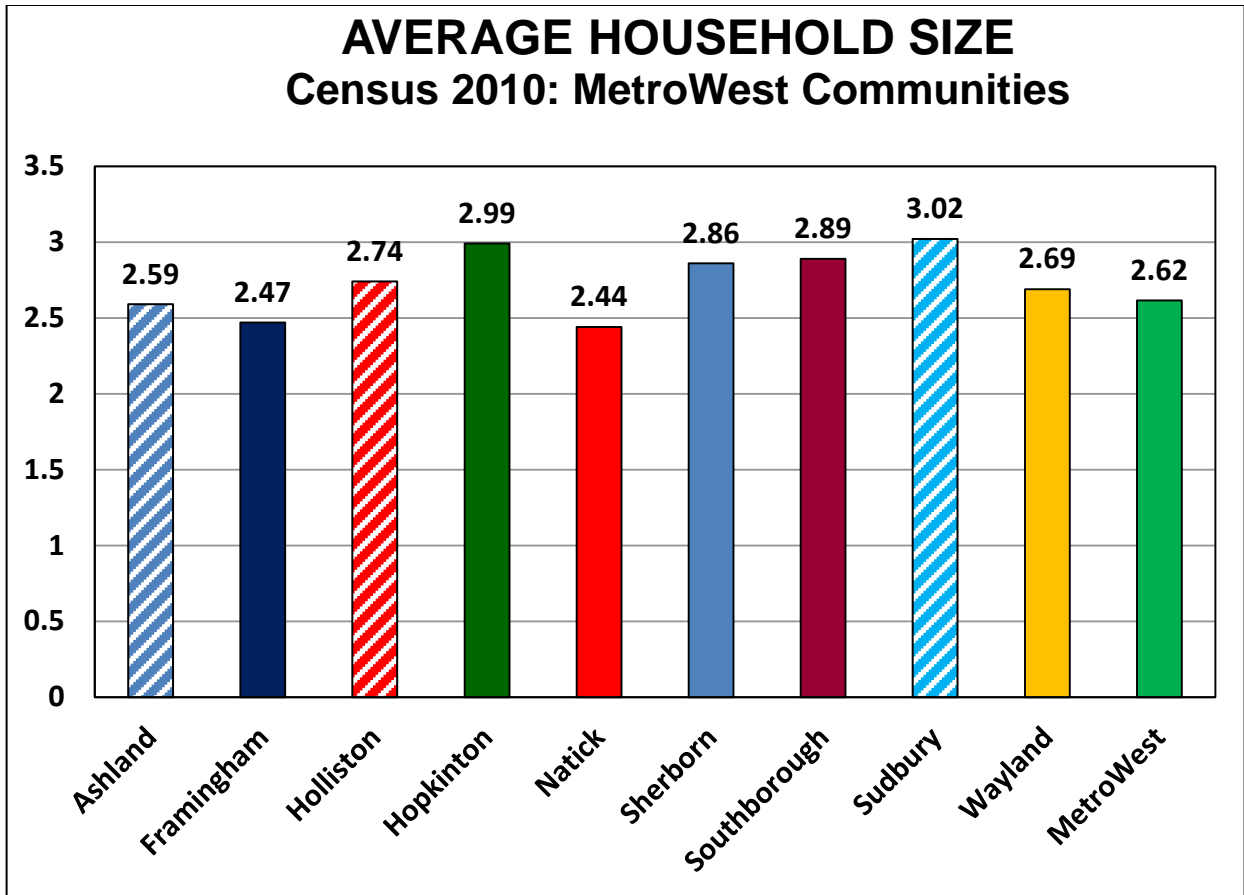
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Source: U.S. Census Bureau and MERC

- The number of households in MetroWest increased from 68,696 in 2000 to 71,210 in 2010.
- Framingham and Natick had the highest number of households in 2010, together accounting for 55.6% of the regional total. Therefore, Framingham and Natick together make up more than half the households in MetroWest. The remaining communities in MetroWest individually each had less than one quarter of the households found in Framingham.
- The town with the fewest households was Sherborn, with only 2.0% of the households in MetroWest or 1,438 households. This percentage was less than half of the second smallest share in MetroWest found in Southborough at 4.7%.
- Framingham is home to the largest number of households in the region at 26,173, Natick has the second largest number of households at 13,406 over just half of Framingham.
- The other seven MetroWest communities each had between 3,300 and 6,400 households.

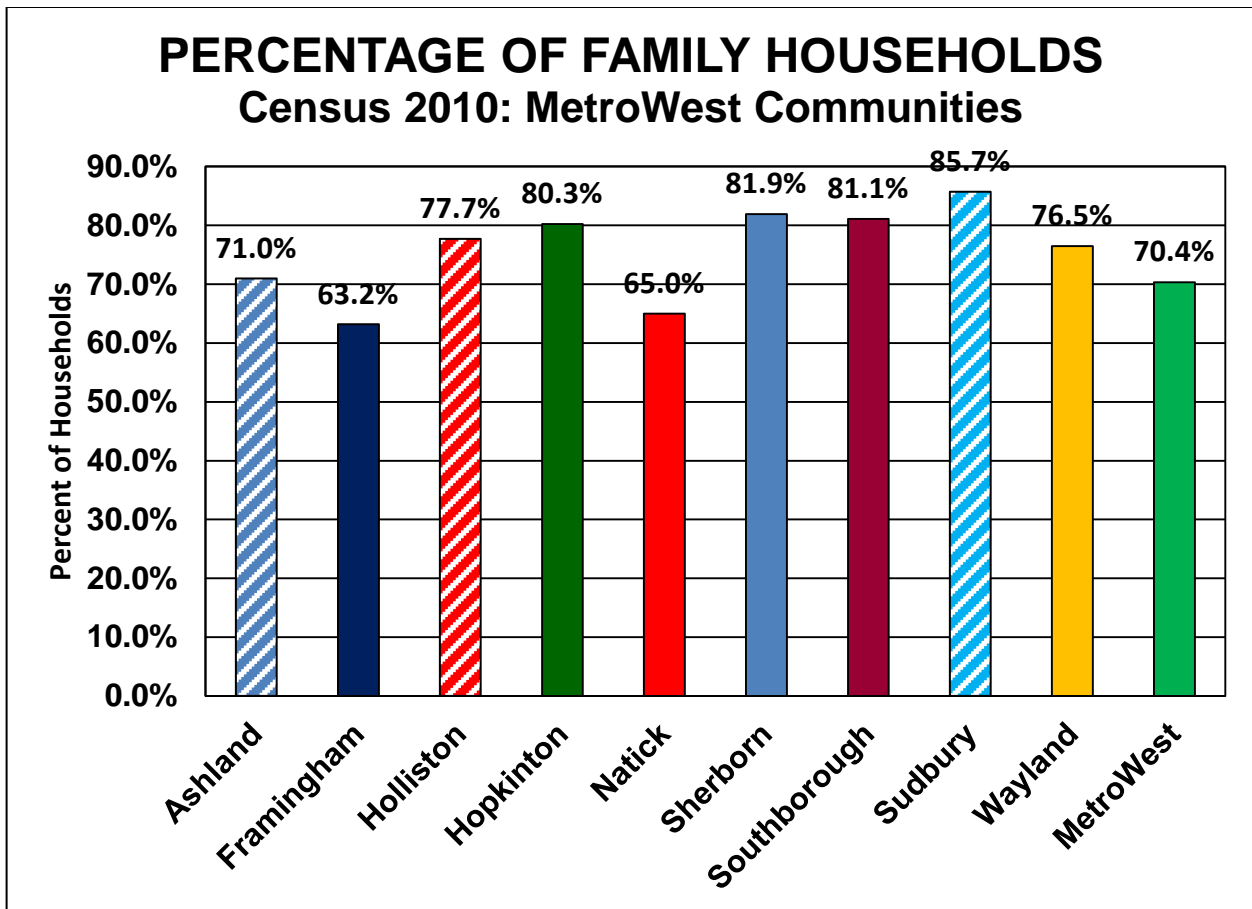
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Source: U.S. Census Bureau and MERC

- The average household size in MetroWest in 2010 was 2.62 persons per household.
- Sudbury had the highest average household size in MetroWest at 3.02 persons per household. Holliston at 2.74 persons per household, Hopkinton at 2.99, Sherborn at 2.86, Southborough at 2.89 persons and Wayland at 2.69 persons: each also had an average household size larger than the MetroWest average.
- Natick had the smallest average household size at 2.44 persons. Ashland and Framingham also had average household sizes smaller than the MetroWest average, at 2.59 and 2.47 persons respectively.
- Ashland, Framingham, and Natick have the largest number of households in the region; together they account for 64.6% of total MetroWest households. These three communities also have smaller average household sizes. Sudbury, which has the fourth largest number of households at 8.1% of the MetroWest total, has the largest average household size at more than 3 persons.

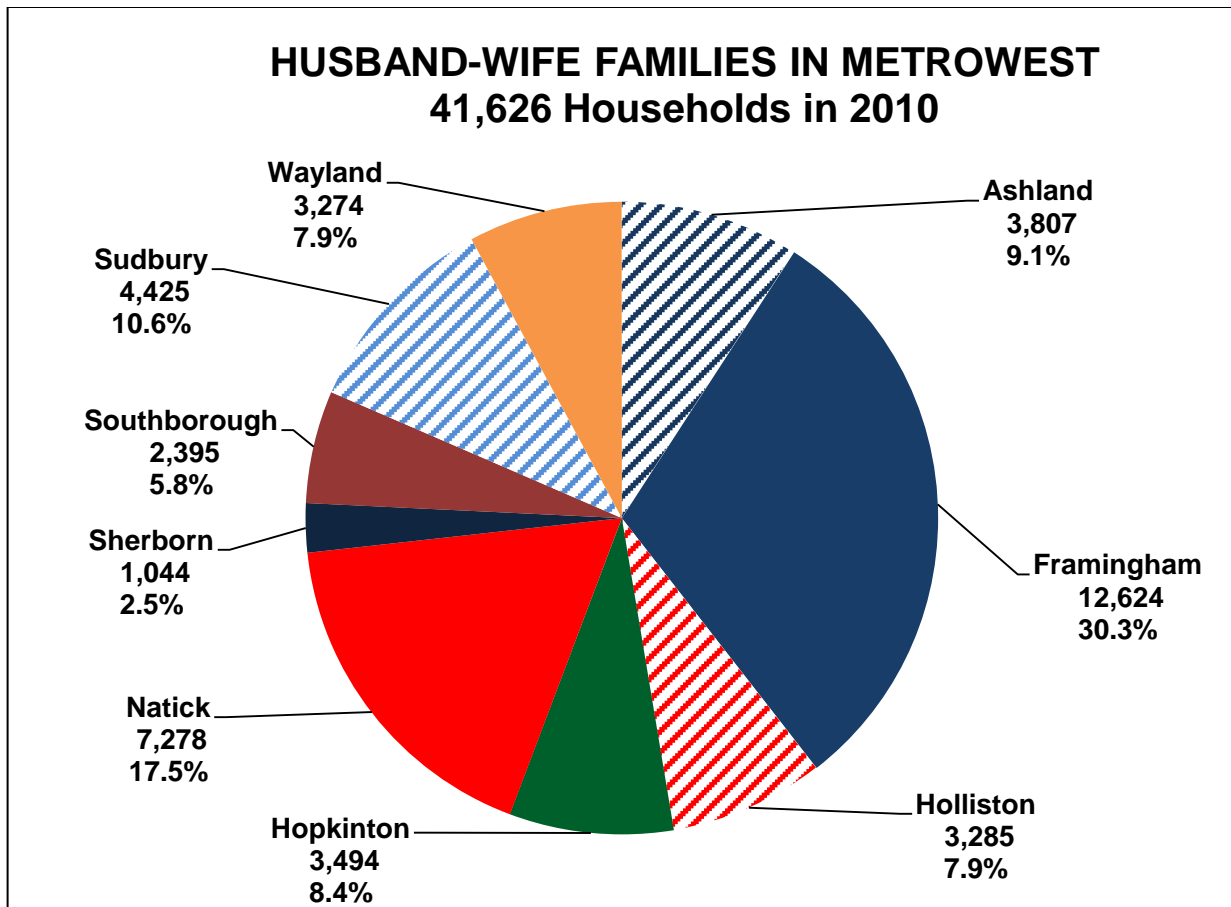
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Source: U.S. Census Bureau and MERC

- In 2010, there were 50,098 family households out of 71,120 total households in MetroWest; therefore 70.4% of households were family households.
- The town with the highest percentage of family households was Sudbury, at 85.7%. Sherborn, with 81.9%, and Southborough, with 81.1%, had respectively the second and third highest percentage of families among the MetroWest communities.
- Ashland, Holliston, Hopkinton, Sherborn, Southborough, Sudbury, and Wayland all had a percentage of families above that of MetroWest overall.
- Framingham had the lowest percentage of family households, at 63.2%. Natick was also below the MetroWest average with 65% of households recorded as family households.
- There were 66.4% family households recorded in the U.S. out of the nation's total number of households. The state recorded 63% family households, at least 0.2% lower than any of the MetroWest communities.

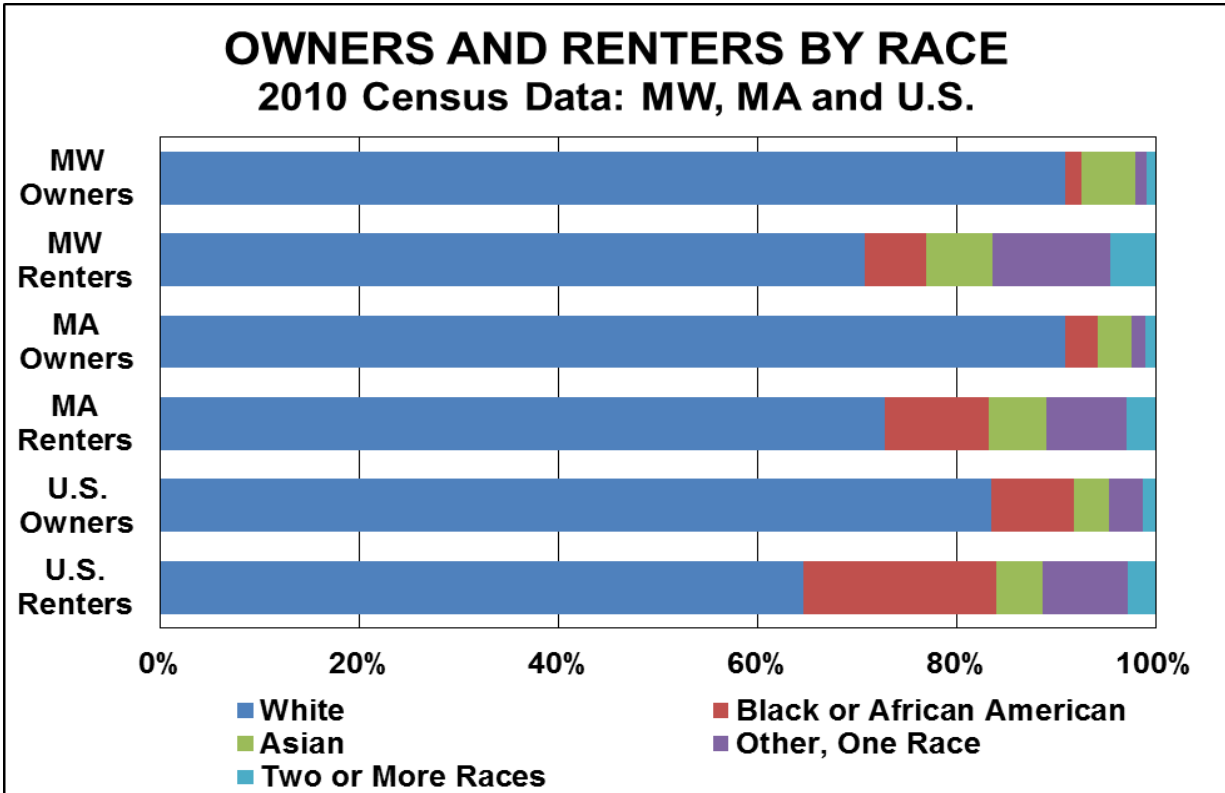
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Source: U.S. Census Bureau and MERC

- In MetroWest, of the 41,626 husband-wife families, 12,624 were located in Framingham. Therefore, Framingham accounted for 30.3% of MetroWest husband-wife families.
- Sudbury held a little over a third of the Framingham percentage of husband-wife families, at 4,425 or 10.6%. Natick had 7,278 husband-wife families or 17.5% of the region's total. Natick and Sudbury had the second and third largest shares of husband-wife families within MetroWest.
- Each of the remaining communities of Ashland, Holliston, Hopkinton, Sherborn, Southborough, and Wayland accounted for less than 10% of the region's husband-wife families.
- Sherborn, with the lowest number of husband-wife families among the MetroWest communities at 1,044, accounted for 2.5% of the regional total. Sherborn's percent is less than half that of Southborough, the community with the second smallest number of husband-wife families in the region.

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Source: U.S. Census Bureau and MERC

- In MetroWest in 2010, 90.9% of owners of housing units were White, compared with 70.8% of renters. Similarly, 90.9% of Massachusetts owners were White, compared with 72.8% of renters. For the United States, both owners and renters were more diverse, with only 83.5% of owners and 64.6% of renters identifying as White.
- All race categories, other than White, were more prevalent among renters than owners in the nation, state and region. The second largest race category in MetroWest, for both owners and renters, was Asian, comprising 5.5% of owners and 6.6% of renters.
- Black or African American householders made up a much larger proportion of renters than owners at the regional, state, and national levels. In MetroWest, they were 1.6% of owners but 6.2% of renters. In Massachusetts, they were 3.2% of owners, but 10.5% of renters, and in the United States they were 8.2% of owners, but 19.3% of renters.
- In addition, those who were some other race made up 1.1% of owners in the region, but 11.9% of renters. Individuals who identified with multiple races were 1.0% of owners in MetroWest, but 4.5% of renters.

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APPENDIX

This report uses U.S. Census data from both the Census 2000 and Census 2010. Information used is from Census 2000 and 2010 Redistricting Data (Public Law 94-171), Demographic Profile I, and Summary Files 1 and 2 for Massachusetts and the United States.

The 2000 Census of Population and Housing was conducted in the spring of 2000 and refers to population and housing characteristics in place on April 1, 2000 while the 2010 Census of Population and Housing was conducted in the spring of 2010 and refers to population and housing characteristics on April 1, 2010.

The U.S. Census Bureau reports that this data is compiled from questions asked of all people and every housing unit; hence it is called 100% data. For example, the demographic profile includes data on sex, age, race, Hispanic or Latino, household relationship, household type, group quarters population, housing occupancy, and housing tenure for all persons and households.

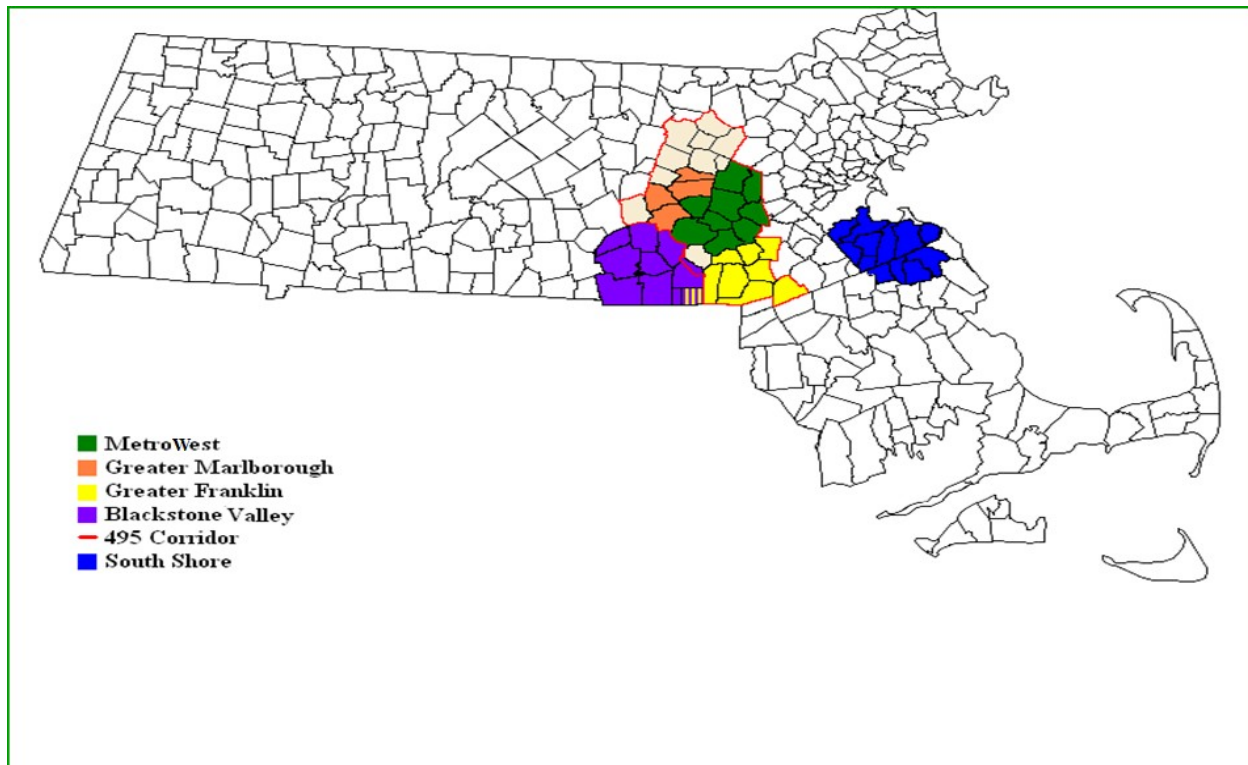
From the Census website: “The Summary File 1 data tables provide the most detailed information available so far from the 2010 Census about a community's entire population, including cross-tabulations of age, sex, households, families, relationship to householder, housing units, detailed race and Hispanic or Latino origin groups, and group quarters. The Summary File 2 tables add a new layer of detail — making information, such as age, relationship and homeownership available for specific race and ethnic groups within a community.”

The definitions of most data categories used in this report are straightforward, and can be found on the U.S. Census site. Care must be used when using data recording ethnicity and race. All respondents self-identify in the ethnic and racial categories. The Census compiled data on the Total Population for Race and on Hispanic or Latino and Not Hispanic or Latino by Race. Both data sets allowed persons to elect more than one race.

Complete information on the U.S. Census Bureau's definitions, methods and technical documentation can be found on the Census website: www.census.gov

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