

POPULATION OVERVIEW:

# Growing Michigan Together.

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# Why now?

If we don't act, Michigan is projected to grow at about 1/3 the national growth rate over the next 30 years. And even the national growth rate is slowing.

A flat or declining population would:

- Render Michigan uncompetitive and with an insufficient workforce
- Undermine the customer base for Michigan businesses and entrepreneurs
- Erode some Michigan communities, and undermine the tax base for public investment in critical infrastructure and communities across our state
- Reduce Michiganders political influence nationally

Lots of states – and our country – are facing the impact of slowing population growth and low geographic mobility. Michigan is stepping up to solve it.

# Michigan's Path to a Prosperous Future: Challenges and Opportunities

Michigan is at a crossroads. For many years, the state grew and prospered as a world leader in innovation and twentieth century manufacturing. People migrated to the state from across the nation and the world in search of economic opportunity. As the “birthplace of the middle class,” Michigan workers earned wages that afforded them the opportunity to own homes, cars, and recreational amenities, and to offer futures for their children that would be better than their own.

**However, for the past five decades, Michigan has been losing ground. Michigan has fallen behind other states in population growth, jobs, earnings, health, educational achievement, and the quality of public services at the state and local levels.** Too few interstate immigrants target Michigan as a destination, international immigration has fallen, and too many young Michigan residents are leaving.

**Absent policy changes and investments, Michigan's current path will lead to a shrinking population and continuing declines in the state's competitiveness and quality of life.** But there is real opportunity to change this future with policies that retain young residents and attract domestic and international immigrants to Michigan. Today's state and local political, business, community, and foundation leaders can restore Michigan's status as an economic engine and destination through sustained and coordinated investments in the state and its people.

Good ideas already exist in government, philanthropy, the private sector, and communities around the state. However, for far too long, the political divisiveness that has plagued public discourse has either kept these ideas from being implemented or caused efforts to be abandoned as political winds shift. Stakeholders, regions, and political parties must come together to support quality of life and economic opportunity for Michiganders today and tomorrow.



GROWING MICHIGAN TOGETHER

II. | CURRENT TRENDS

# Current trends in Michigan's population

## CURRENT TRENDS IN POPULATION GROWTH

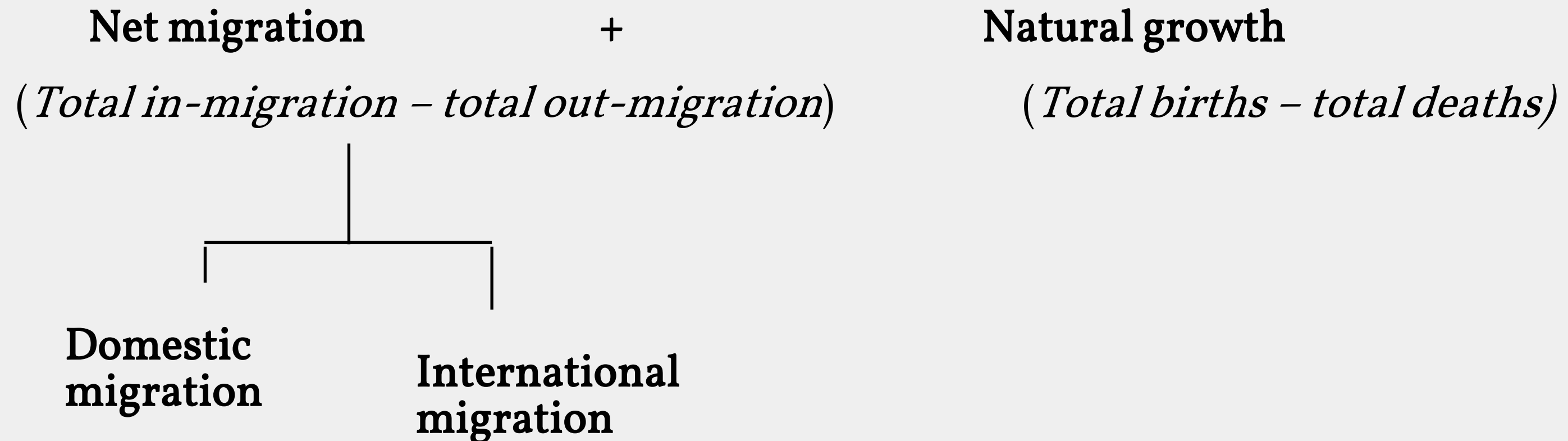
# Michigan Isn't growing.

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- 01 **Between 2010 – 2020, Michigan grew 2%. The US grew by 7.4%.** Relative to the average, Michigan trailed behind. Since period of fast growth before 1970, Michigan's population has largely stagnated. From 2000 to 2020 Michigan ranked 49<sup>th</sup> in the country in population growth, as a % change.
- 02 **Recently, from 2020 – 2022 Michigan's population fell by .4% to 10,034,113**
  - Michigan was one of 18 states that saw population decline.
  - In total, Michigan has **roughly 40,000 fewer residents** since the [decennial census](#) in 2020 when the population reached 10.077 million.
- 03 Michigan's projected negative deaths vs births rate, combined with negative domestic migration contribute to the current trend.



# Drivers of population growth

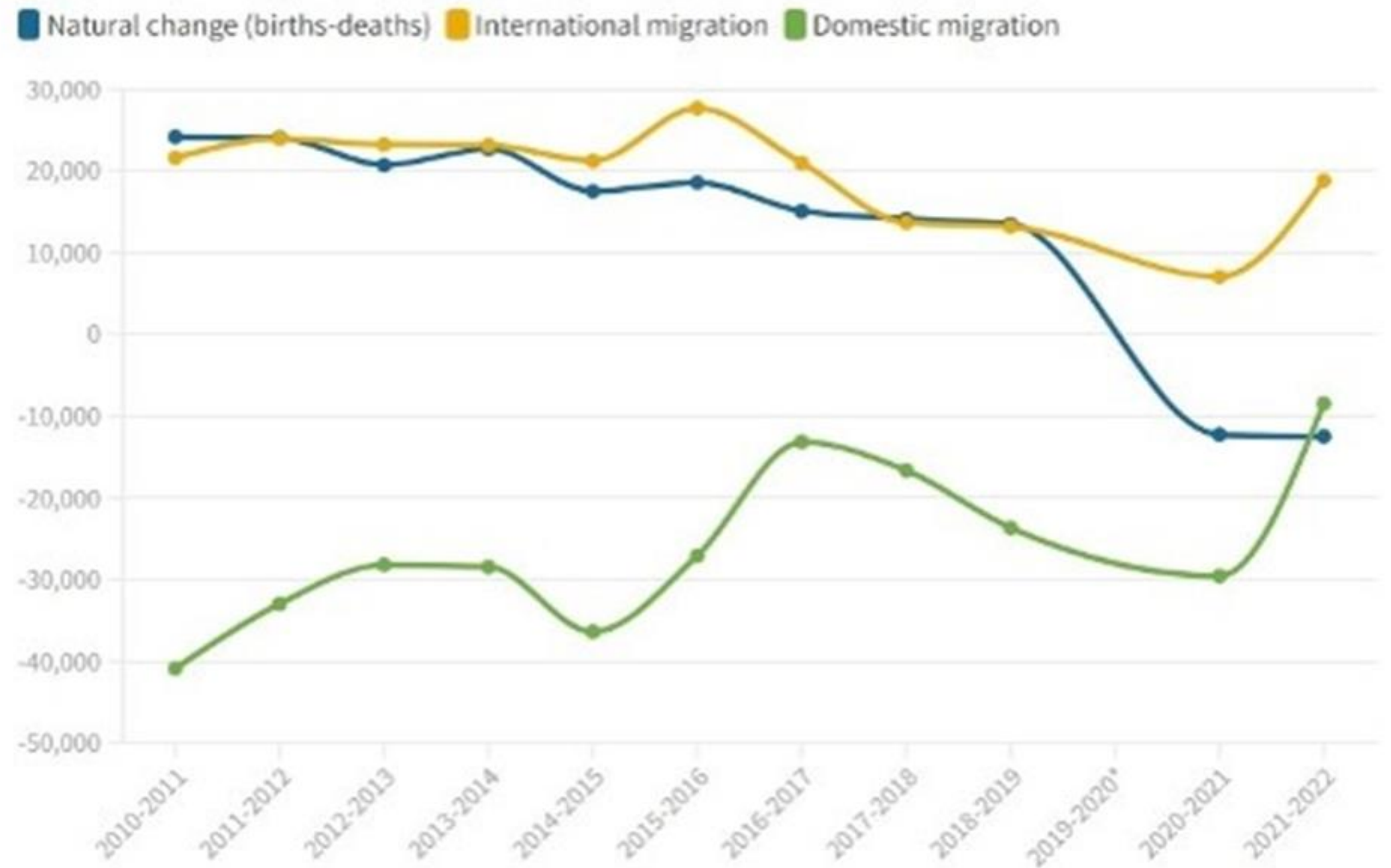


TREND 1, NET MIGRATION

# Negative domestic migration...

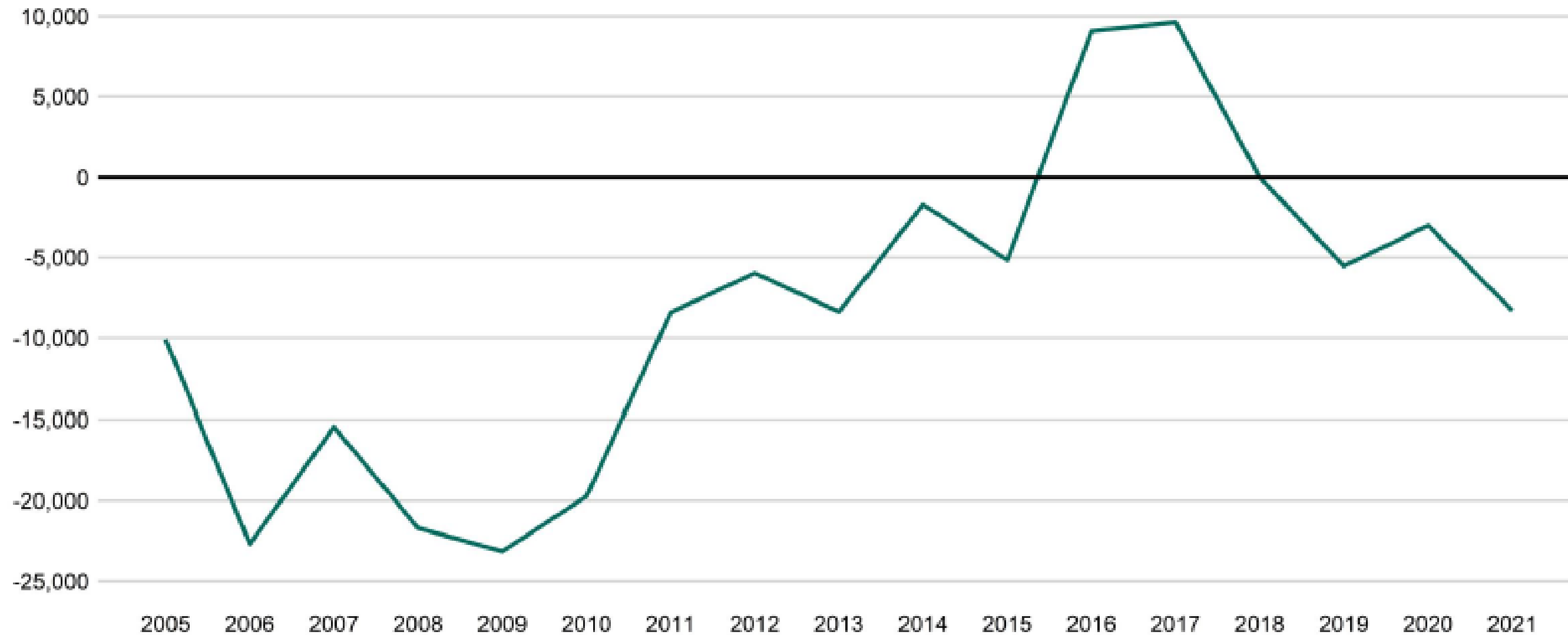
Domestic migration has been negative and is projected to be if nothing changes. International migration is lower than our share of the US population. And, while it partially offsets the negative impact of domestic out migration, it is not projected to outpace domestic migration and natural population declines.

### Michigan gains from international migration



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division • \*NOTE Data are not available for decennial census years.

## Michigan's Net Migration of Prime-Working Age Adults, Ages 25–54 (2005 to 2021)



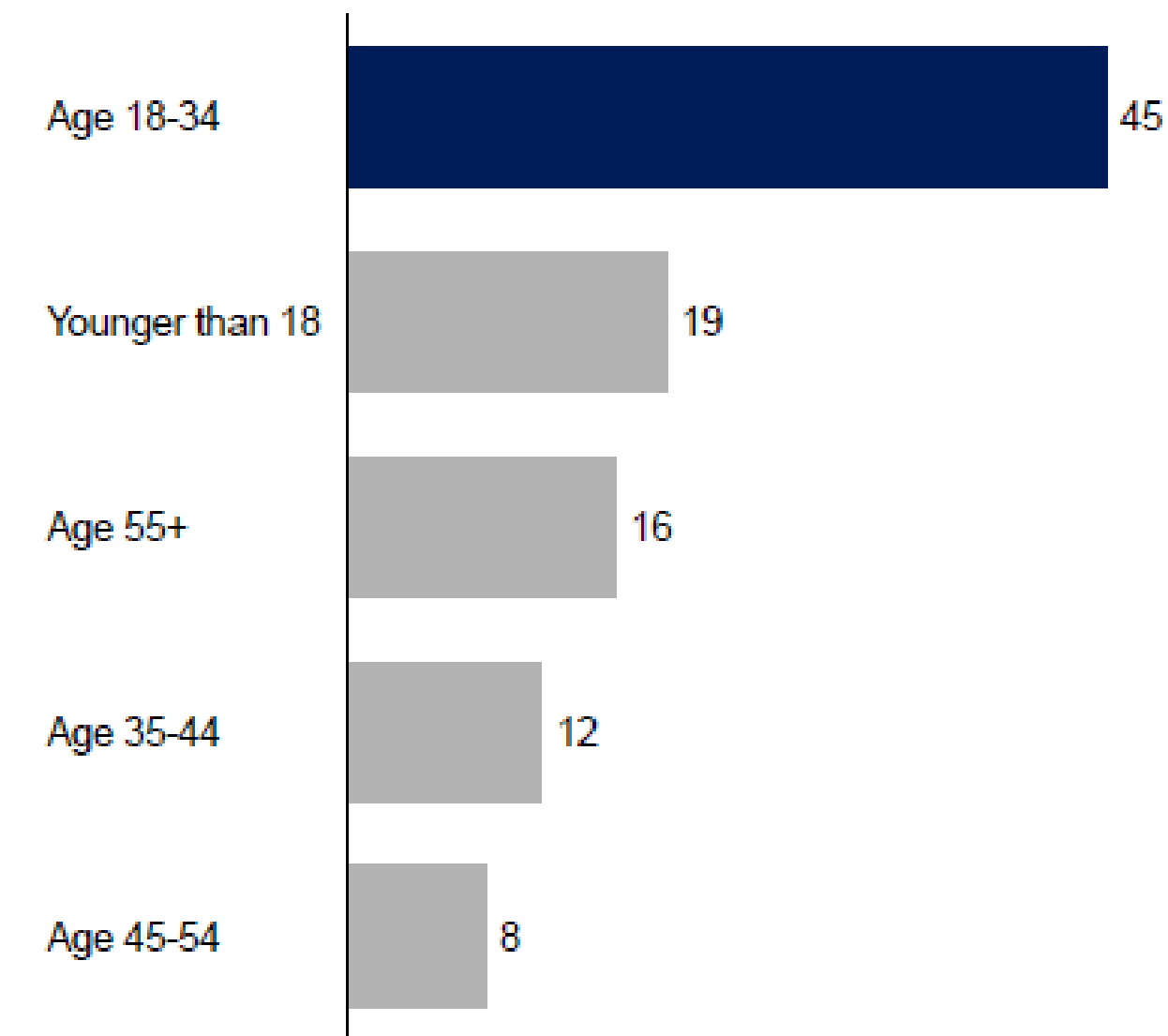
Source: American Community Survey (ACS) public-use microdata, U.S. Census Bureau



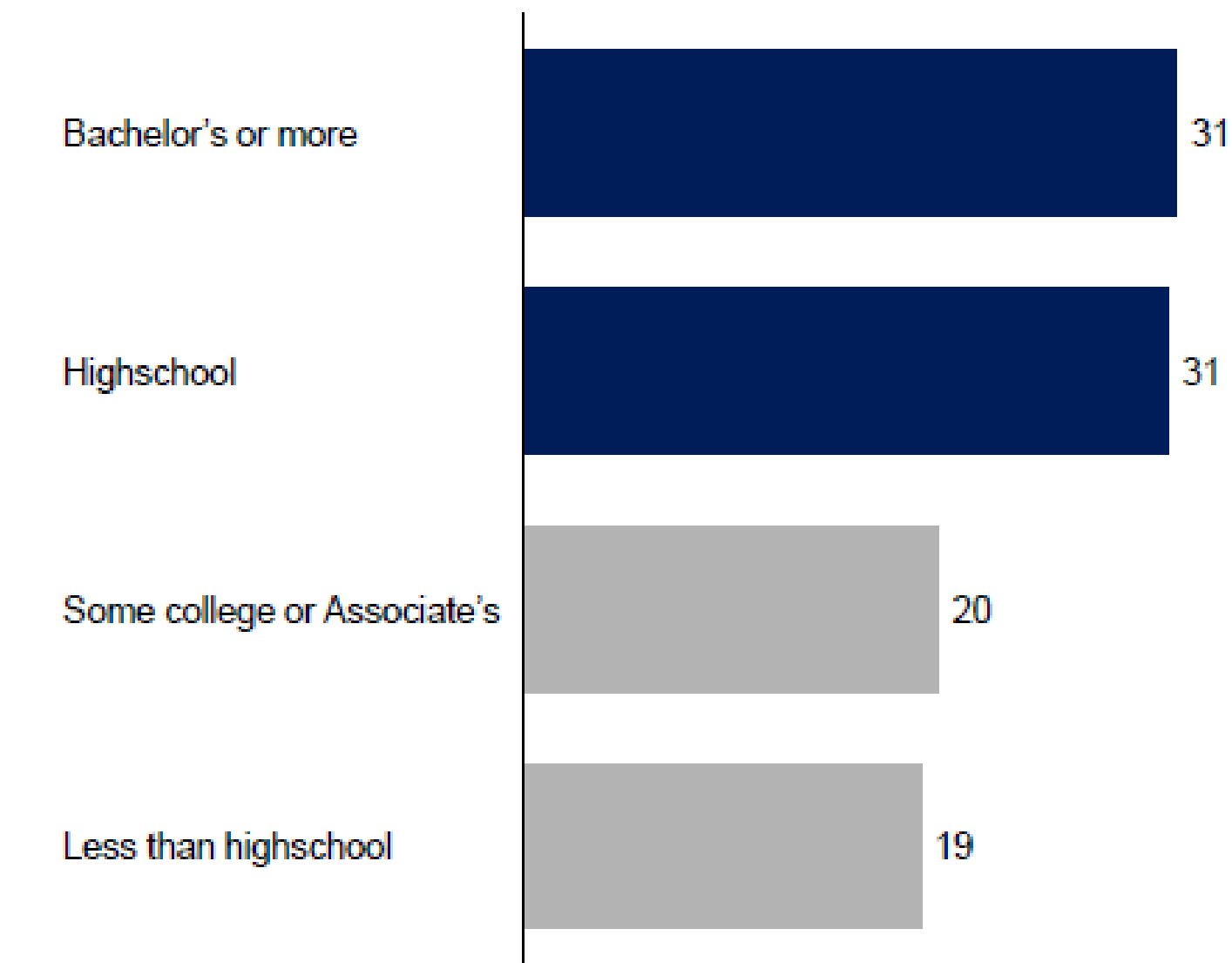
CURRENT TREND – MI GROWTH OPPORTUNITIES, BY COMMUNITY

The largest share of people leaving Michigan for job-related reasons are young (45% ages 18-34) and educated (31% bachelor's+)

Outmigration for job-related reasons by age cohort, 2015-2019, %



Outmigration for job-related reasons by educational attainment, 2015-2019, %



## TREND 2, NATURAL GROWTH

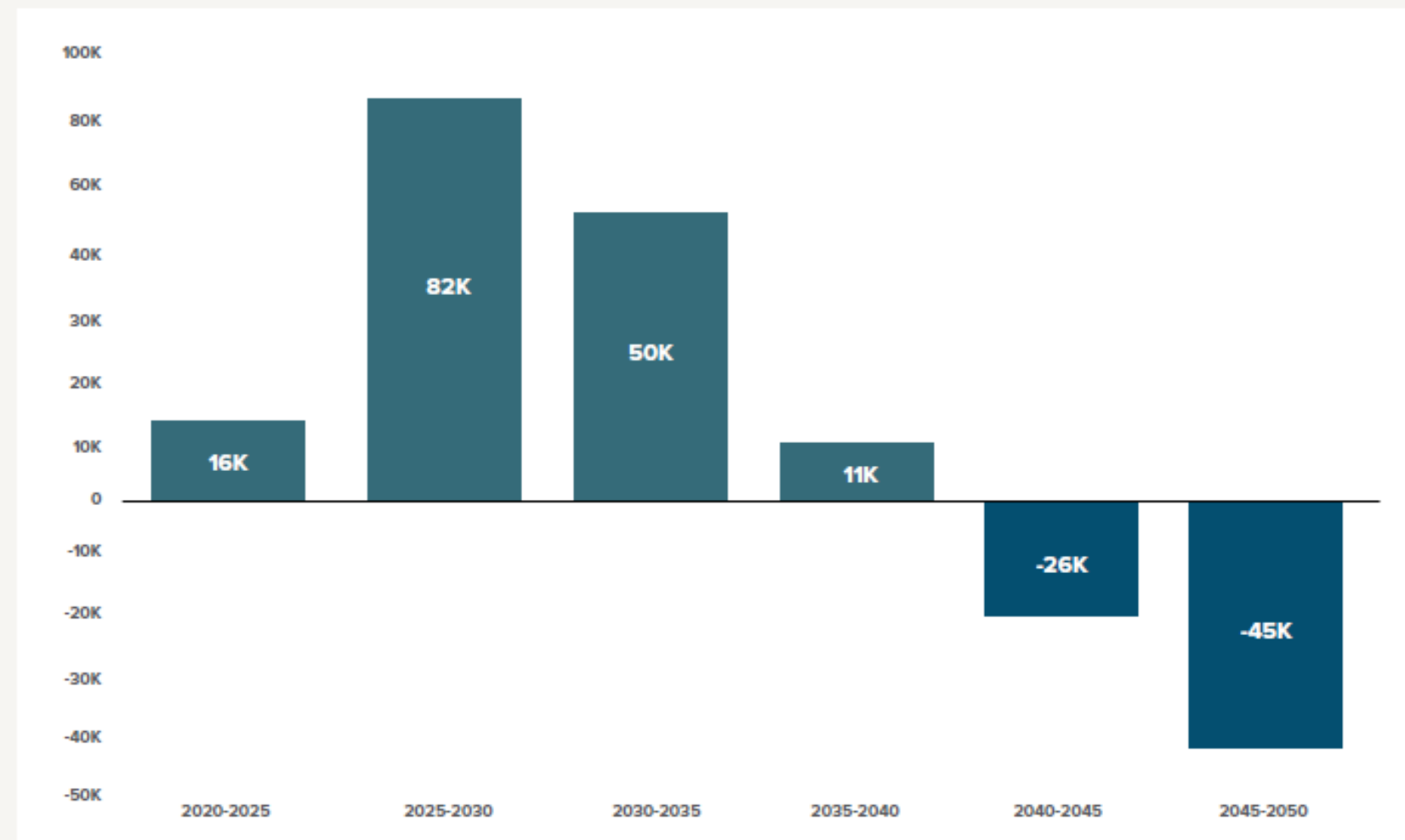
# Declining natural growth...

Replacement level births are ~2.1 per woman; the average in the US (and Michigan) has fallen below 1.7. Michigan slightly trails the nation.

Slowing natural population increases (births minus deaths), and the projections of that continued trend, put downward pressure on population growth in Michigan, and, eventually, across the country.

To overcome negative “natural” growth, Michigan can focus on positive net migration.

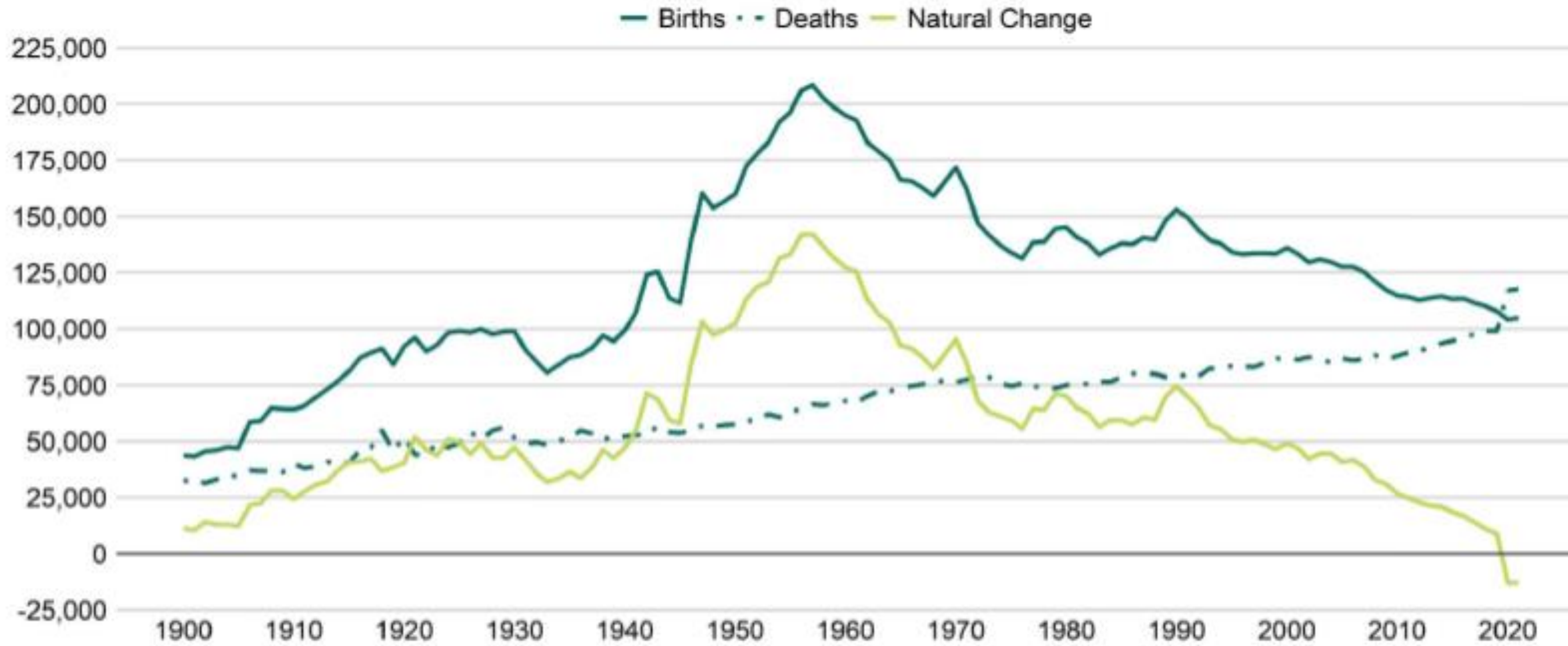
Chart 3: Components of Michigan Population Change – Natural Increase (Births minus Deaths)  
By 2040, on the current trajectory, there will be more deaths than births



Source: Altarum analysis of projections by the University of Michigan, Research Seminar in Quantitative Economics in The Economic and Demographic Outlook for Michigan Through 2050.

# Historical Natural Change in Michigan, 1900–2021

(Births and Deaths)



Source: Michigan Department of Health and Human Services

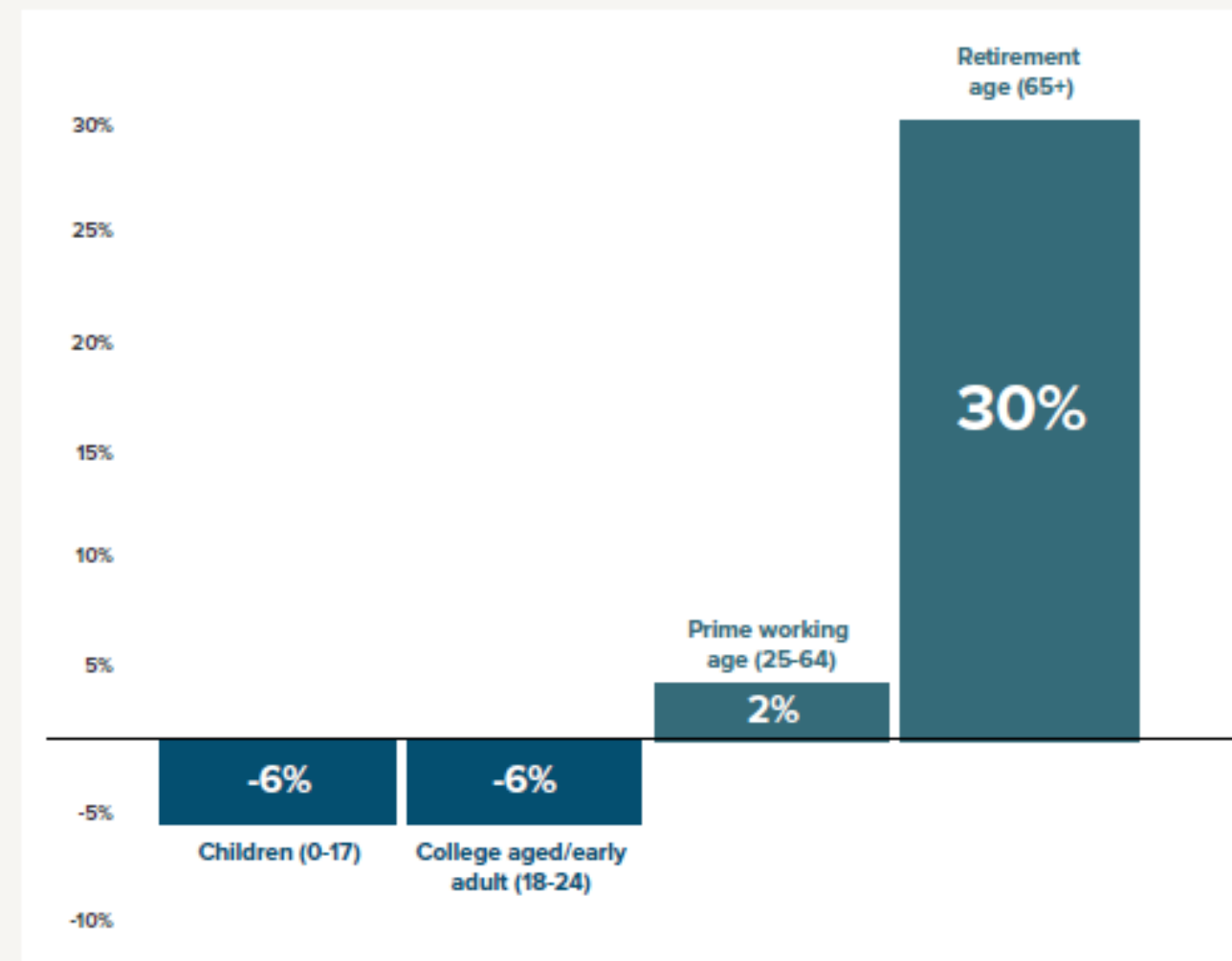
TREND 3, AGING POPULATION

# Higher Average age...

Michigan's population is aging faster than other states in the Midwest. And while the whole country is facing the challenge of an aging population, the impacts on Michigan's labor force, for example, are already being felt.

Chart 2: Projection of Population Change by Age Group, 2020 to 2050

Michigan's population is aging



Source: Altarum analysis of projections by the University of Michigan Research Seminar in Quantitative Economics in *The Economic and Demographic Outlook for Michigan Through 2050*.

## GROWING MICHIGAN TOGETHER

### I. | STAKES & OPPORTUNITY COSTS



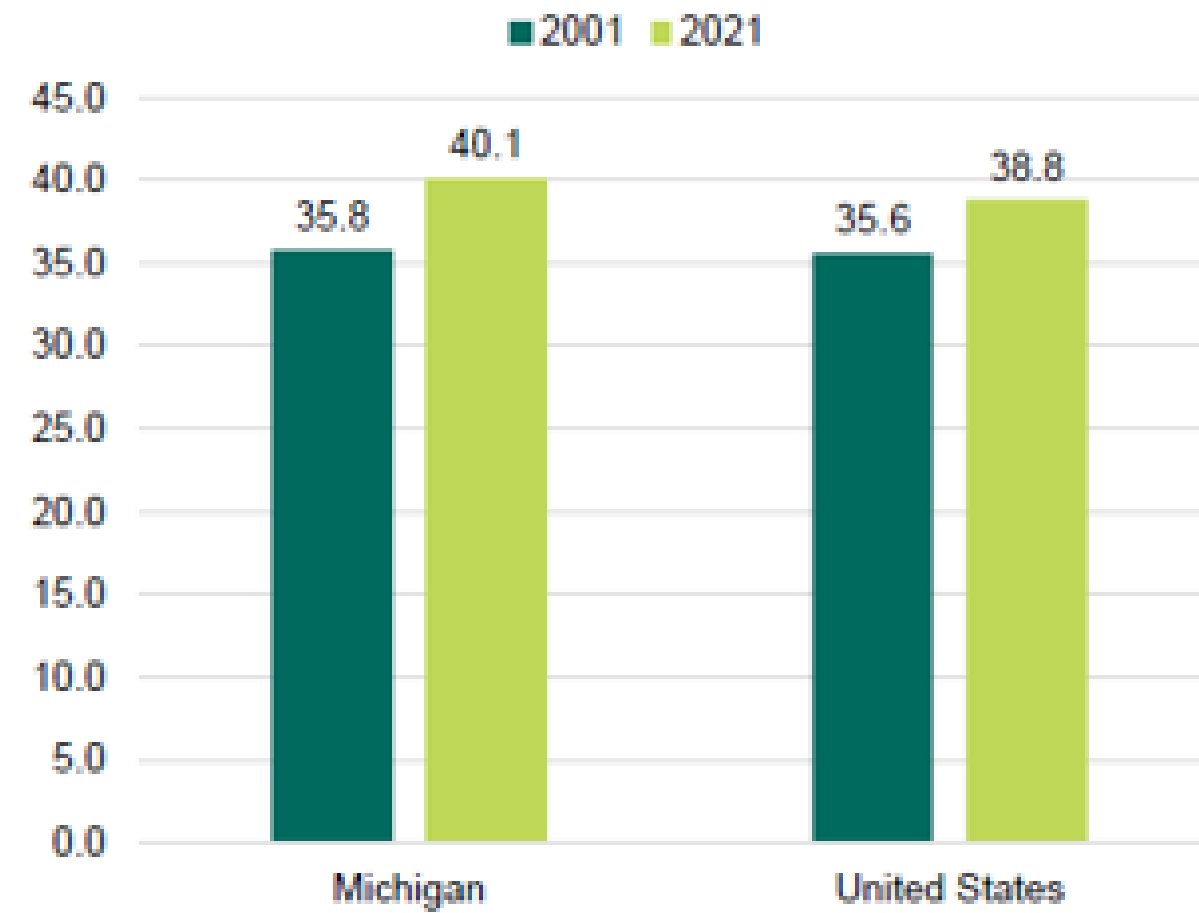
Michigan moved from the 29<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> oldest state in 2021



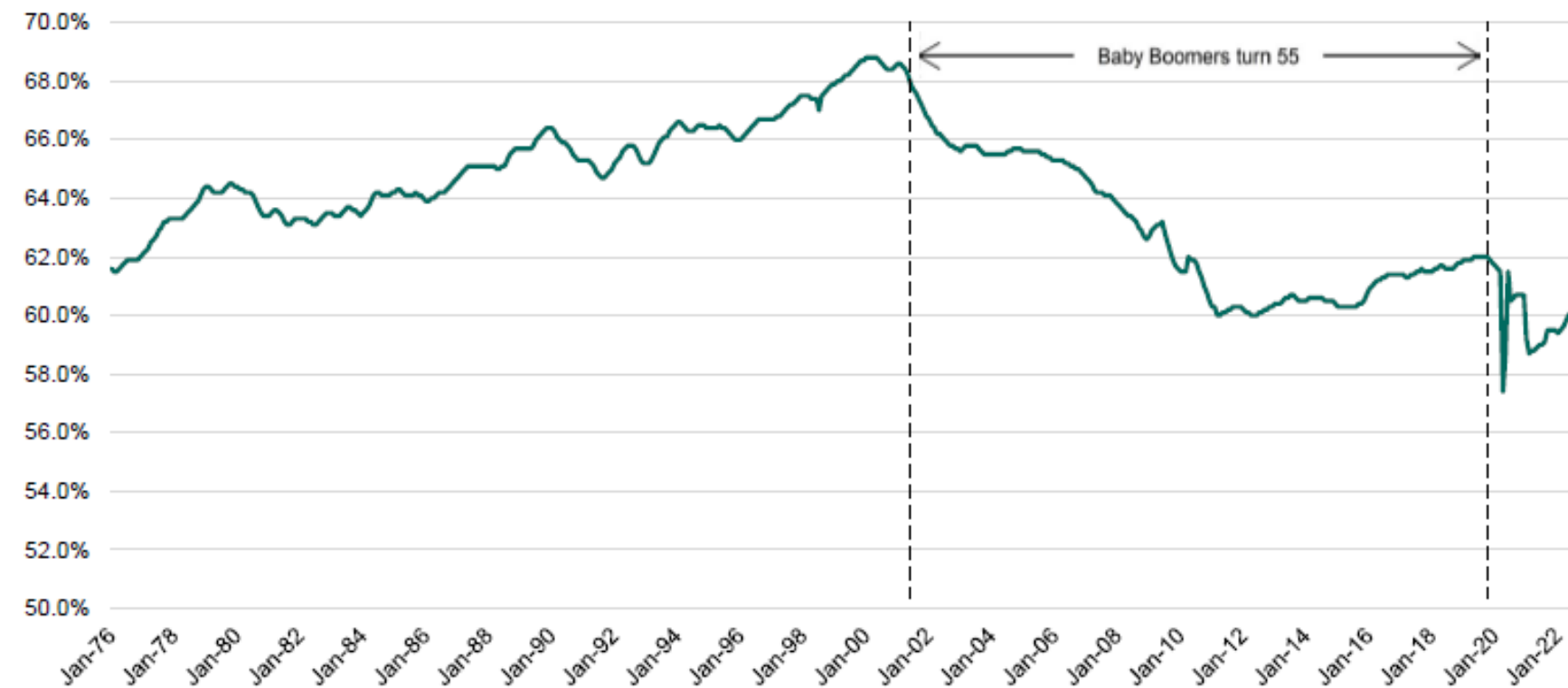
Michigan's median age increased more than any other Midwestern state over that period.



Michigan's LFPR declined sharply in that same period, driven by retirement with lower levels of working age population replacement.



## Michigan's Total Labor Force Participation Rate (1976 through 2022)



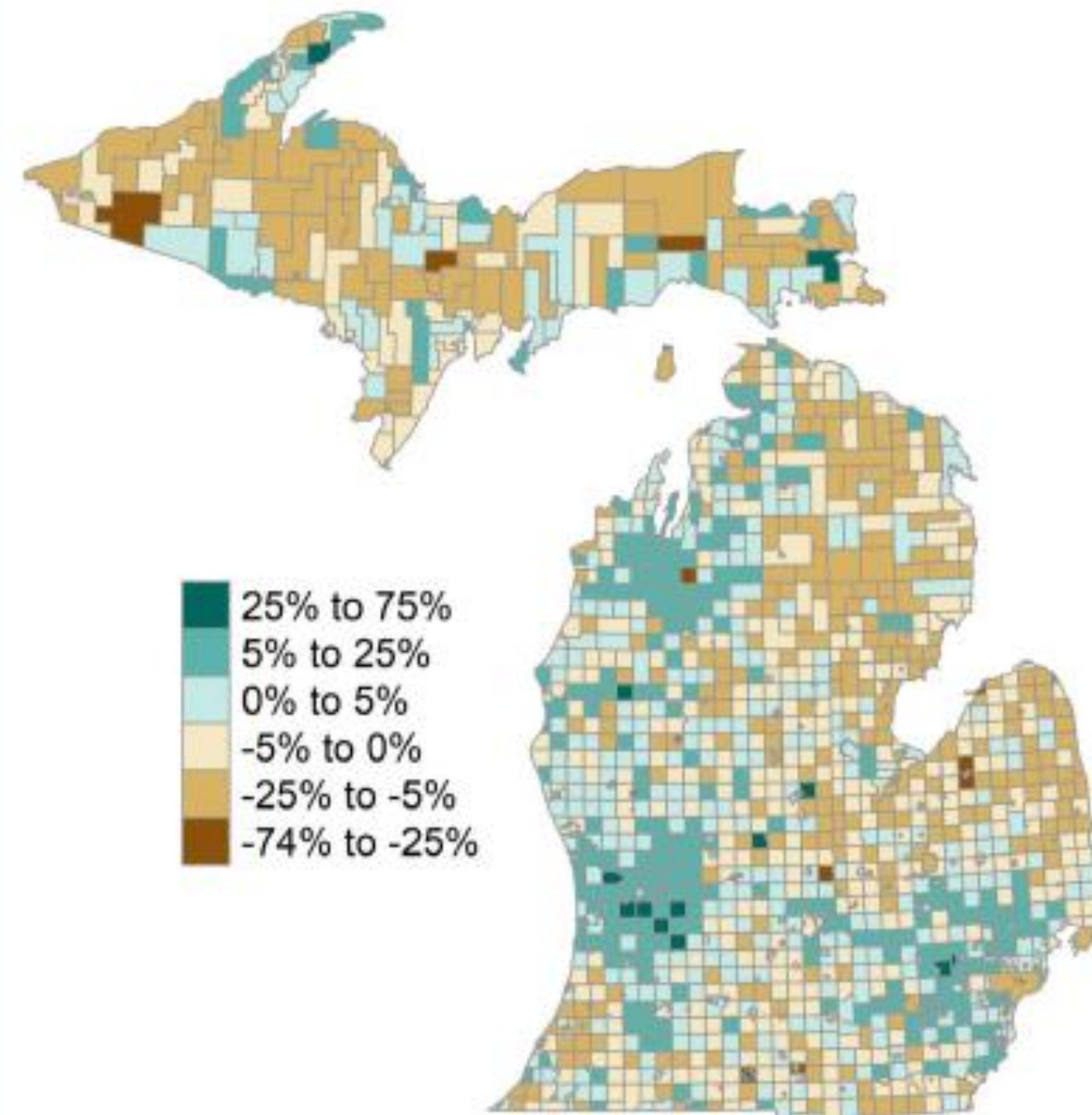
Source: Current Population Survey, U.S. Census Bureau

## REGIONAL IMPACTS, CURRENT TRENDS IN POPULATION GROWTH

### Population change across Michigan, 2010 to 2020

- Growth in this ten-year period was concentrated in Southeastern Michigan, Grand Rapids, and Traverse City.
- Decline was concentrated in the Thumb, Northeastern Lower and much of the Upper Peninsula.

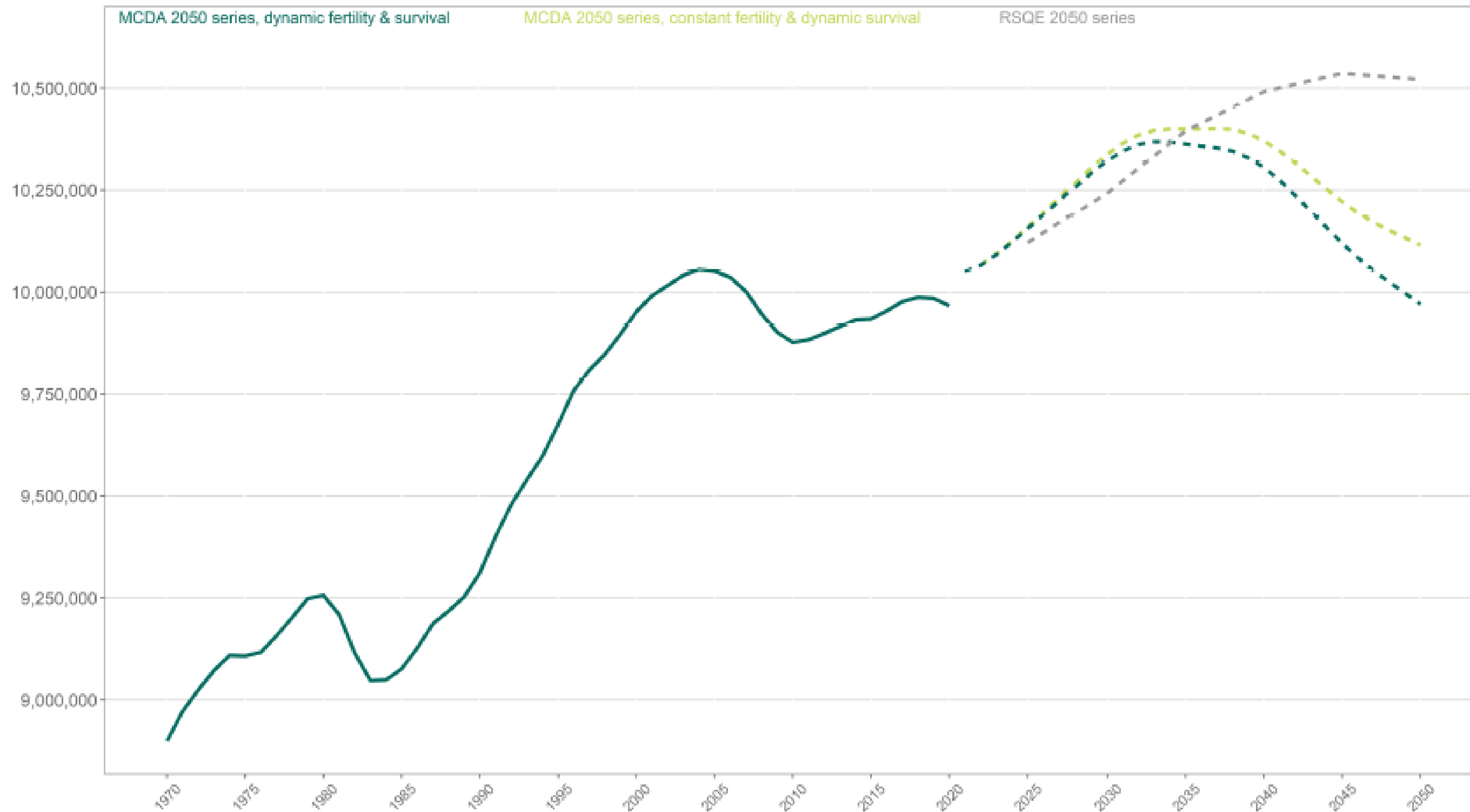
### Percent Change in Population of Michigan's Cities and Townships, 2010–2020



Source: 2010 and 2020 PL File, U.S. Census Bureau

POPULATION PROJECTIONS BASED ON CURRENT TRENDS

# If we do nothing...



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GROWING MICHIGAN TOGETHER

II. | CURRENT TREND

# How does Michigan stack up?



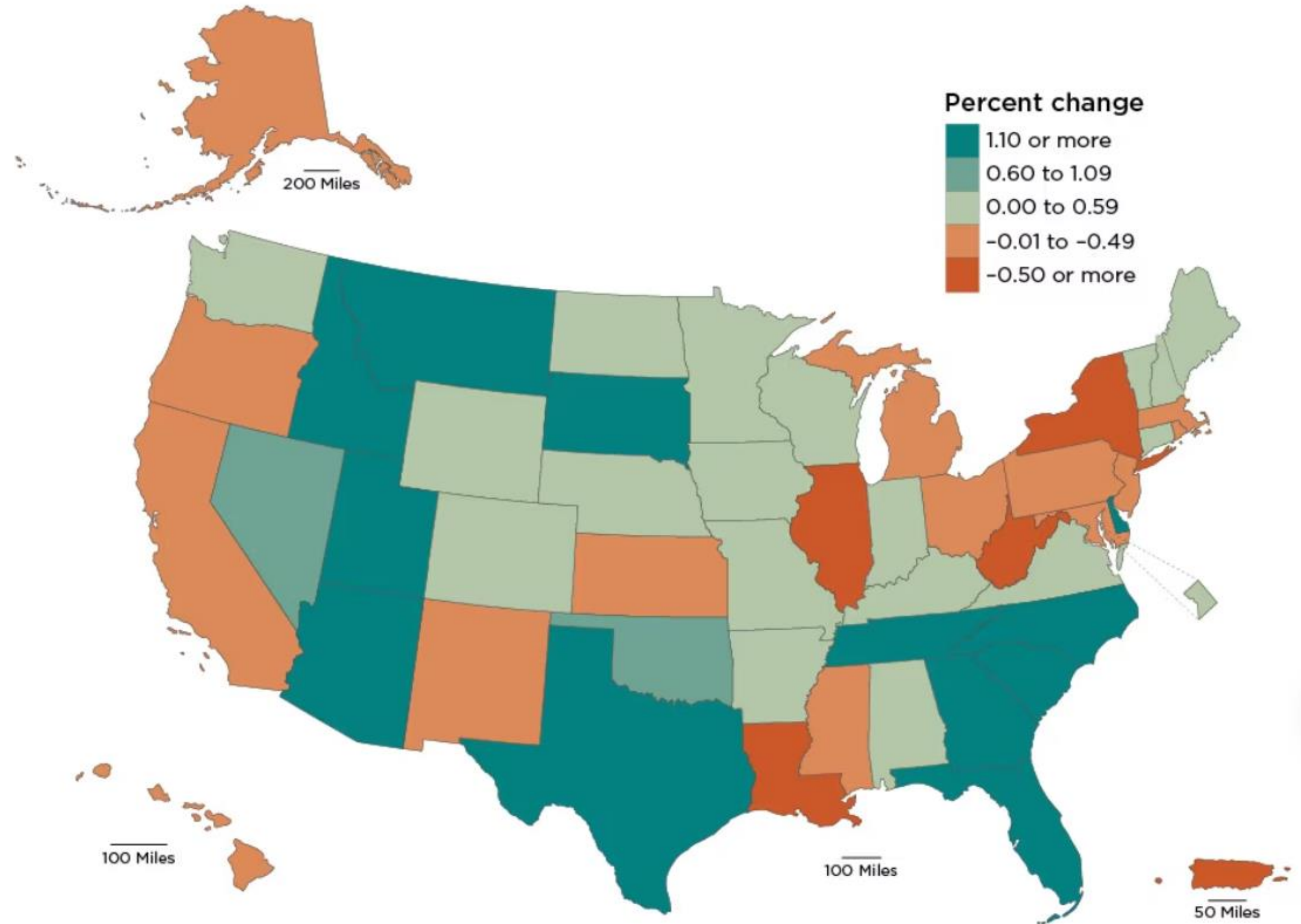


US POPULATION TRENDS

# State benchmarks

Population change, by % (2021 – 2022):

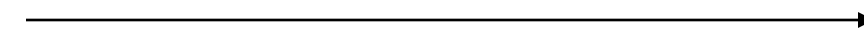
- Fastest growing states have been consistent over the last few years, including Western states (with lower populations) and sunbelt states like Florida, Arizona, Nevada, etc.
- Sunbelt growth states (e.g. Arizona, Texas, Nevada), suffer from some of the serious challenges from climate change (i.e. heat and availability of water)



# US POPULATION TRENDS

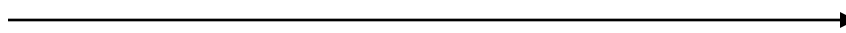
## Two-year change (2020 – 2022)

### Top 15



Idaho	1,839,092	1,849,202	1,904,314	1,939,033	1.82%	4.86%
Montana	1,084,197	1,087,075	1,106,227	1,122,867	1.50%	3.29%
Florida	21,538,226	21,589,602	21,828,069	22,244,823	1.91%	3.03%
Utah	3,271,614	3,283,785	3,339,113	3,380,800	1.25%	2.95%
South Carolina	5,118,429	5,131,848	5,193,266	5,282,634	1.72%	2.94%
Texas	29,145,428	29,232,474	29,558,864	30,029,572	1.59%	2.73%
Delaware	989,957	992,114	1,004,807	1,018,396	1.35%	2.65%
Arizona	7,151,507	7,179,943	7,264,877	7,359,197	1.30%	2.50%
South Dakota	886,677	887,799	896,164	909,824	1.52%	2.48%
North Carolina	10,439,414	10,449,445	10,565,885	10,698,973	1.26%	2.39%
Nevada	3,104,624	3,115,648	3,146,402	3,177,772	1.00%	1.99%
Tennessee	6,910,786	6,925,619	6,968,351	7,051,339	1.19%	1.82%
Georgia	10,711,937	10,729,828	10,788,029	10,912,876	1.16%	1.71%
Maine	1,362,341	1,363,557	1,377,238	1,385,340	0.59%	1.60%
Oklahoma	3,959,346	3,964,912	3,991,225	4,019,800	0.72%	1.38%
New Hampshire	1,377,518	1,378,587	1,387,505	1,395,231	0.56%	1.21%

### Bottom 16



New Jersey	9,289,031	9,271,689	9,267,961	9,261,699	-0.07%	-0.11%
Oregon	4,237,291	4,244,795	4,256,301	4,240,137	-0.38%	-0.11%
Maryland	6,177,213	6,173,205	6,174,610	6,164,660	-0.16%	-0.14%
Pennsylvania	13,002,689	12,994,440	13,012,059	12,972,008	-0.31%	-0.17%
Massachusetts	7,029,949	6,995,729	6,989,690	6,981,974	-0.11%	-0.20%
Rhode Island	1,097,371	1,096,345	1,096,985	1,093,734	-0.30%	-0.24%
New Mexico	2,117,527	2,118,390	2,116,677	2,113,344	-0.16%	-0.24%
Ohio	11,799,374	11,797,517	11,764,342	11,756,058	-0.07%	-0.35%
Michigan	10,077,325	10,069,577	10,037,504	10,034,113	-0.03%	-0.35%
Mississippi	2,961,288	2,958,141	2,949,586	2,940,057	-0.32%	-0.61%
Hawaii	1,455,273	1,451,043	1,447,154	1,440,196	-0.48%	-0.75%
West Virginia	1,793,755	1,791,420	1,785,526	1,775,156	-0.58%	-0.91%
California	39,538,245	39,501,653	39,142,991	39,029,342	-0.29%	-1.20%
Louisiana	4,657,749	4,651,664	4,627,098	4,590,241	-0.80%	-1.32%
Illinois	12,812,545	12,786,580	12,686,469	12,582,032	-0.82%	-1.60%
New York	20,201,230	20,108,296	19,857,492	19,677,151	-0.91%	-2.14%

# State benchmarks

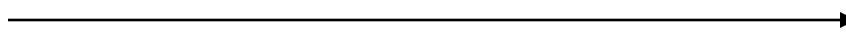
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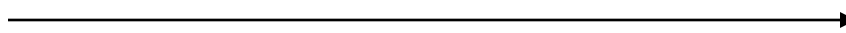
# US POPULATION TRENDS

**Population change (2021 – 2022)**  
**Top 15**



Geographic Area	April 1, 2020 Estimates Base	Population Estimate (as of July 1)			2021-2022
		2020	2021	2022	
Florida	21,538,226	21,589,602	21,828,069	22,244,823	1.91%
Idaho	1,839,092	1,849,202	1,904,314	1,939,033	1.82%
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Maine	1,362,341	1,363,557	1,377,238	1,385,340	0.59%
Washington	7,705,247	7,724,031	7,740,745	7,785,786	0.58%

**Bottom 16**



Michigan	10,077,325	10,069,577	10,037,504	10,034,113	-0.03%
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Ohio	11,799,374	11,797,517	11,764,342	11,756,058	-0.07%
Alaska	733,378	732,923	734,182	733,583	-0.08%
Massachusetts	7,029,949	6,995,729	6,989,690	6,981,974	-0.11%
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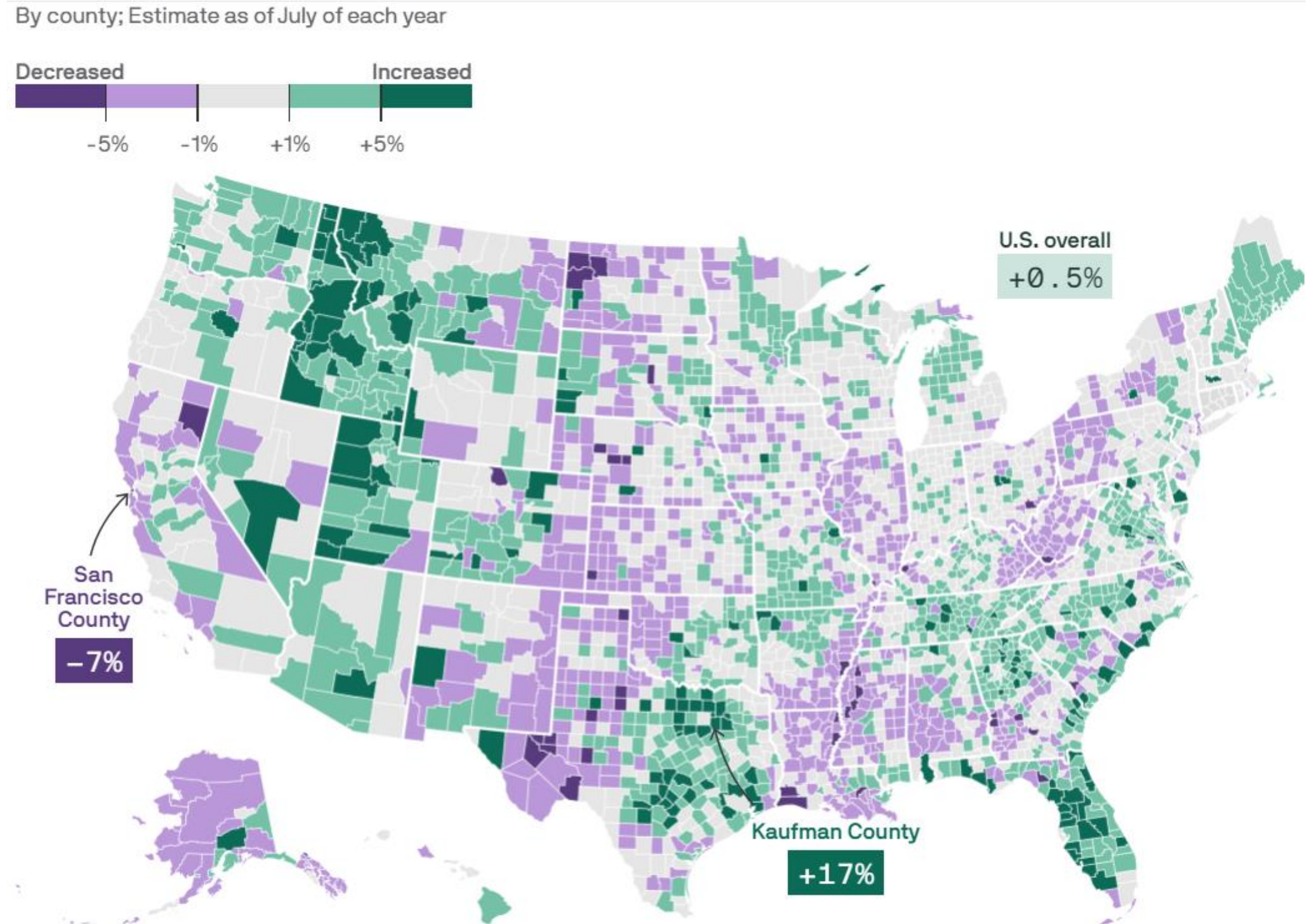
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US POPULATION TRENDS

# Growth by county

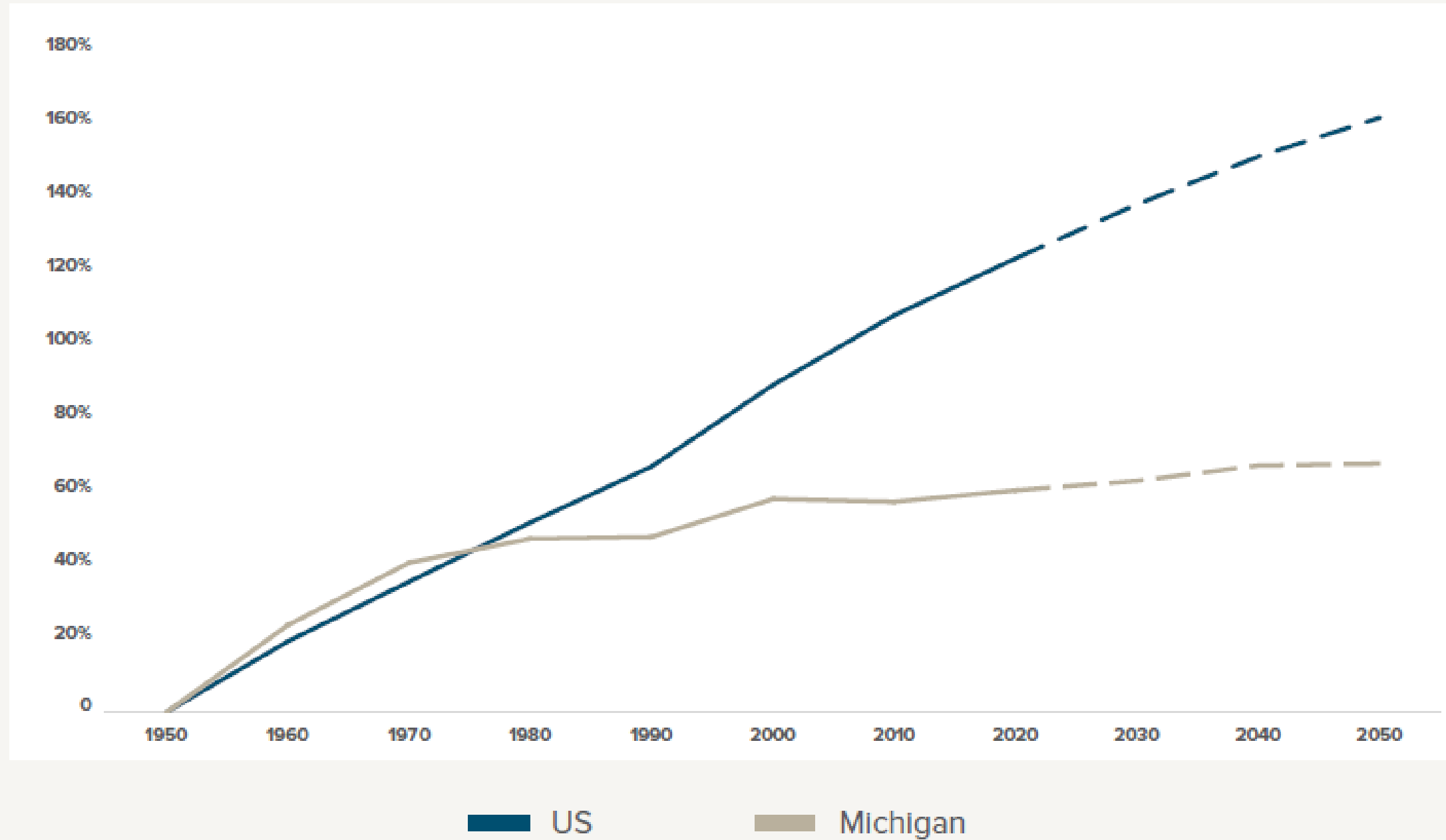
In the last two years (2020 – 2022):

- No clear pattern in ‘city growth’ trends ; some cities grew (NYC) and others shrank (SF)
- Remote work is driving sizeable population shift (see SF) in the last two years



## MI POPULATION PROJECTIONS RELATIVE TO US

**Chart 1: Cumulative Percent Change in U.S. and Michigan Populations, 1950 to 2050**  
Michigan's population growth continues to lag the national average

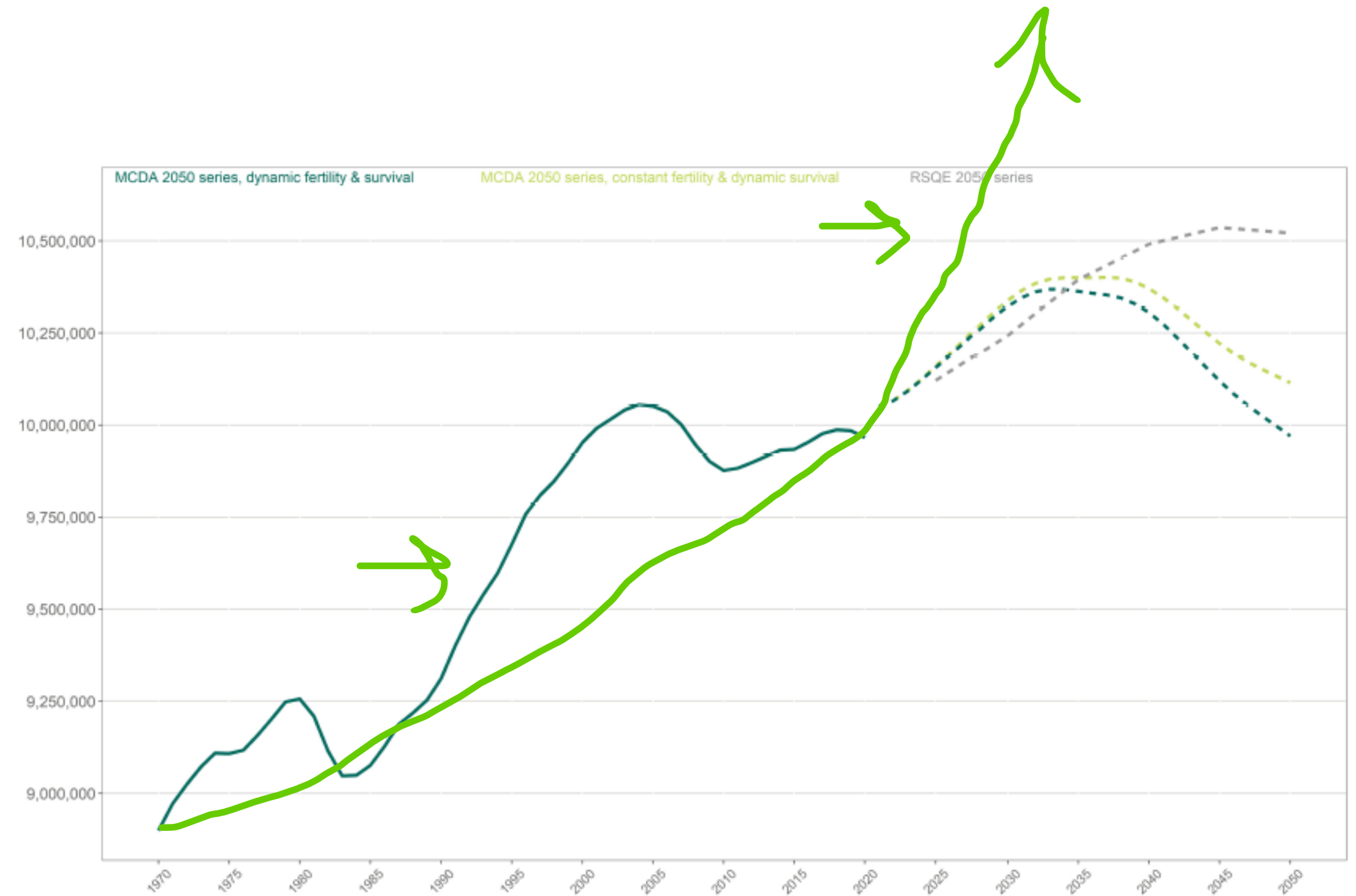


Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census and Jacob T. Burton, Gabriel M. Ehrlich, Donald R. Grimes, Kyle W. Henson, Daniil Manaenkov, and Michael R. McWilliams, University of Michigan, Research Seminar in Quantitative Economics, *The Economic and Demographic Outlook for Michigan Through 2050*, July 29, 2022.



# Change the shape of the curve...

The Growing Michigan Together Council has the opportunity to recommend actions in the areas of infrastructure / place, jobs, talent, economy, Pk-12, and higher ed that will adjust the projected drivers underlying population growth, and fundamentally change the shape of Michigan's future.



# We're up against...

- Infrastructure challenges : road conditions and water contamination, as well as the Midland dam collapse
- Workforce challenges in key areas, and sluggish wage growth
- Education challenges: not preparing young people sufficiently or in great enough numbers
- Lagging diversity
- Poor health relative to most states

GROWING MICHIGAN TOGETHER

**Thank you.**

