

# U.S. Census Bureau Population and Housing Unit Estimates

*A presentation to the*  
Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments  
September 5, 2017

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# Overview

- What do we mean by “estimates?”
- What estimates do we produce?
- Why do we produce them?
- How are they produced?
- When are they available?
- Where can you find them?
- An overview of recent trends in the MWCOG region.

# What do we mean by “estimates?”

- The official measures of population and housing units between censuses
- Based on the previous decennial census
- Produced using administrative records data
- Annual data for all other geographies centered on July 1 as a mid-year estimate
- *Vintage* = time series
- Entire series revised each year

# What do we mean by “estimates?”

*From Vintage 2015*

Table 1. Annual Estimates of the Resident Population for the United States, Regions, States, and Puerto Rico: April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2015

Geographic Area	April 1, 2010		Population Estimate (as of July 1)					
	Census	Estimates Base	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
<b>United States</b>	308,745,538	308,758,105	309,346,863	311,718,857	314,102,623	316,427,395	318,907,401	321,418,820
<b>Northeast</b>	55,317,240	55,318,348	55,387,174	55,638,038	55,835,056	56,019,353	56,171,281	56,283,891
<b>Midwest</b>	66,927,001	66,929,897	66,977,505	67,156,488	67,340,231	67,565,788	67,762,069	67,907,403
<b>South</b>	114,555,744	114,562,953	114,862,858	116,080,267	117,331,340	118,487,418	119,795,010	121,182,847
<b>West</b>	71,945,553	71,946,907	72,119,326	72,844,064	73,595,996	74,354,836	75,179,041	76,044,679

*From Vintage 2016*

Table 1. Annual Estimates of the Resident Population for the United States, Regions, States, and Puerto Rico: April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2016

Geographic Area	April 1, 2010		Population Estimate (as of July 1)						
	Census	Estimates Base	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
<b>United States</b>	308,745,538	308,758,105	309,348,193	311,663,358	313,998,379	316,204,908	318,563,456	320,896,618	323,127,513
<b>Northeast</b>	55,317,240	55,318,353	55,388,056	55,632,766	55,829,059	55,988,771	56,116,791	56,184,737	56,209,510
<b>Midwest</b>	66,927,001	66,929,825	66,978,602	67,153,331	67,332,320	67,543,948	67,726,368	67,838,387	67,941,429
<b>South</b>	114,555,744	114,563,005	114,863,114	116,061,801	117,299,171	118,424,320	119,696,311	121,039,206	122,319,574
<b>West</b>	71,945,553	71,946,922	72,118,421	72,815,460	73,537,829	74,247,869	75,023,986	75,834,288	76,657,000

# What estimates do we produce?

Estimate Type	U.S.	States	Metro/ Micro Statistical Areas	Counties	Cities and Towns	Puerto Rico	Puerto Rico Municipios
<b>Total Resident Population</b>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<b>Components of Change (Births, Deaths, Net Migration)</b>	X	X	X	X		X	
<b>Population Characteristics (Age, Sex, Race, Hispanic Origin)</b>	X	X		X		X	X
<b>Monthly Population (Five Universes*)</b>	X						
<b>Housing Units</b>	X	X		X			
* Resident, Resident Plus Armed Forces Overseas, Civilian, Civilian Noninstitutionalized, Household							

# Why do we produce estimates?

- Federal mandate (U.S.C. Title 13, Section 181):
  - “During the intervals between each census of population...the Secretary, to the extent feasible, should annually produce and publish for each State, county, and local unit of general purpose government which has a population of fifty thousand or more, current data on total population and population characteristics and, to the extent feasible, shall biennially produce and publish for other local units of general purpose government current data on total population.”
- Data uses
  - Allocation of federal funds
  - Program planning for public and private services
  - Controls for federal surveys
    - Current Population Survey (CPS)
    - American Community Survey (ACS)

# How do we produce population estimates?

- National, state, and county populations
  - *Cohort-component method*



- Subcounty population (cities and towns)
  - *Distributive housing unit method*



# How do we produce housing unit estimates?

- National, state, and county housing units
  - *Housing unit method*





# When are estimates data available?

## Schedule for Vintage 2017 Estimates

Release Date	Product
December 2017/ January 2018	Population totals and components of change; Voting-age population (Ages 18+)—Nation, states, Puerto Rico Commonwealth
March 2018	Population totals and components of change—Counties, Puerto Rico municipios, metropolitan/micropolitan areas
May 2018	Population totals—Cities and towns (incorporated places, minor civil divisions) Housing unit totals—Nation, states, counties
June 2018	Population by age, sex, race, Hispanic origin—Nation, states, and counties; and Puerto Rico Commonwealth and municipios (age and sex only)

# Where can you find estimates data?

## [census.gov/programs-surveys/popest](https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/popest)

U.S. Department of Commerce | Blogs | Index A-Z | Glossary | FAQs

United States Census Bureau

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### Population and Housing Unit Estimates

About this Section

- Data
- Geographies
- Guidance for Data Users
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- Library
- News
- Technical Documentation

The Census Bureau's Population Estimates Program (PEP) produces estimates of the population for the United States, its states, counties, cities, and towns, as well as for the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico and its municipios.

Read More

- Vintage 2016 Tables
- Technical Documentation
- Release Schedule

**Latest**

News | Tables | Publications | Visualizations

- The Nation's Median Age Continues to Rise**  
June 22, 2017  
  
The nation's population has a distinctly older age profile than it did 16 years ago, according to new U.S. Census Bureau population estimates released today.
- La población más vieja de la nación todavía está aumentando**  
June 22, 2017  
  
La población de la nación tiene un perfil claramente mayor de edad que hace 16 años, según nuevas estimaciones de población.
- Detailed Population Estimates by Age, Sex, Race and Hispanic Origin**  
June 13, 2017  
  
The U.S. Census Bureau will offer a two-day embargo for members of the media to view the detailed population estimates by age, sex, race and Hispanic origin.

[View All News](#)

Jun 27, 2017 13:40 UTC (+4)

United States | World

### U.S. Population

325,320,943

#### COMPONENTS OF POPULATION CHANGE

- One birth every 8 seconds
- One death every 12 seconds
- One international migrant (net) every 32 seconds
- Net gain of one person every 13 seconds

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# Where can you find estimates data?

The screenshot shows the U.S. Census Bureau website. At the top right, there are links for "U.S. Department of Commerce | Blogs | Index A-Z | Glossary | FAQs" and a search bar. The main navigation bar includes "Topics", "Geography", "Library", "Data", "Surveys/Programs", "Newsroom", and "About Us". Below this, the page title is "Population and Housing Unit Estimates". A left sidebar menu is open, with "Data" selected and a dropdown menu showing "Datasets", "Data Tools", "Tables" (circled in blue), and "Errata Notes". A blue arrow points to the "Data" menu item. Below the menu, there are three icons: a calendar for "Vintage 2016 Tables", a document with a pencil for "Technical Documentation", and a calendar with a play button for "Release Schedule". At the bottom, there is a "Latest" section with a "United States" dropdown menu and a "World" button. The URL at the bottom left is "https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/popest/data.html".

# Current estimates data

https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/popest/data/tables.2016.html

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## Population and Housing Unit Estimates

### About this Section

#### Data

- Datasets
- Data Tools
- Tables**
- Errata Notes

#### Geographies

#### Guidance for Data Users

#### Guidance for Geographies Users

#### Library

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### Population and Housing Unit Estimates Tables

The population and housing unit estimates are released on a flow basis throughout each year. Each new series of data (called vintages) incorporates the latest administrative record data, geographic boundaries, and methodology. Therefore, the entire time series of estimates beginning with the most recent decennial census is revised annually, and estimates from different vintages of data may not be consistent across geography and characteristics detail. When multiple vintages of data are available, the most recent vintage is the preferred data.

The vintage year (e.g., Vintage 2016) refers to the final year of the time series. The reference date for all estimates is July 1, unless otherwise specified.

Additional estimates files are available in the [Datasets](#) section.

All 2016 2015 2014 2013 ▶

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**City and Town Population Totals Tables: 2010-2016**  
These tables feature Vintage 2016 population estimates totals.

200%

# Current estimates data

## Data

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Developers

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### City and Town Population Totals Tables: 2010-2016





#### City and Town Population


Incorporated Places and Minor Civil Divisions

 [Methodology](#) [<1.0 MB]

#### Places of 50,000 or More

 [Annual Estimates of the Resident Population for Incorporated Places of 50,000 or More, Ranked by July 1, 2016 Population: April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2016](#) [<1.0 MB]

 [Cumulative Estimates of Resident Population Change for Incorporated Places of 50,000 or More in 2010, Ranked by Percent Change: April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2016](#) [<1.0 MB]

 [Annual Estimates of Resident Population Change for Incorporated Places of 50,000 or More in 2015, Ranked by Percent Change: July 1, 2015 to July 1, 2016](#) [<1.0 MB]

#### Incorporated Places: 2010 to 2016

[United States](#)

[Alabama](#)

[Alaska](#)

[Kansas](#)

[Kentucky](#)

[Louisiana](#)

[North Carolina](#)

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# Current estimates data

PEPANRES


Annual Estimates of the Resident Population: April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2016   
2016 Population Estimates

Table View 

[← BACK TO ADVANCED SEARCH](#)

Actions:  [Modify Table](#) |  [Add/Remove Geographies](#) |  [Bookmark/Save](#) |  [Print](#) |  [Download](#) |  [Create a Map](#)

Not all rows may be displayed below.  
Click Back to Search to select other geographies using the search options on the left.

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The table contains a total of **45,093** data rows.

Versions of this table are available for the following years:

**2016** ▶

2015

2014

2013

2012

2011

Geography	April 1, 2010		Population Estimate (as of July 1)						
	Census	Estimates Base	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Abbeville city, Alabama	2,688	2,688	2,683	2,685	2,647	2,631	2,619	2,616	2,603
Adamsville city, Alabama	4,522	4,522	4,517	4,495	4,472	4,447	4,428	4,395	4,360
Addison town, Alabama	758	756	754	753	748	748	747	740	738
Akron town, Alabama	356	356	355	345	345	342	337	337	334
Alabaster city, Alabama	30,352	31,066	31,176	31,362	31,663	31,960	32,167	32,751	32,948
Albertville city, Alabama	21,160	21,127	21,152	21,335	21,386	21,408	21,383	21,454	21,525
Alexander City city, Alabama	14,875	14,984	14,947	14,932	14,834	14,928	14,905	14,792	14,773
Aliceville city, Alabama	2,486	2,481	2,478	2,431	2,430	2,410	2,384	2,376	2,357
Allgood town, Alabama	622	622	623	627	628	628	627	628	627
Altoona town, Alabama	933	937	937	935	934	930	927	922	919
Andalusia city, Alabama	9,015	9,015	9,026	9,095	9,042	9,058	9,051	9,021	8,968
Anderson town, Alabama	282	282	282	281	280	279	279	277	276
Anniston city, Alabama	23,106	23,120	23,076	22,902	22,745	22,596	22,441	22,286	22,112
Arab city, Alabama	8,050	8,091	8,107	8,189	8,232	8,257	8,260	8,296	8,340

# Current estimates data

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The Census Bureau's Population Estimates Program (PEP) produces estimates of the population for the United States, its states, counties, cities, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico and its municipios.

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[Data Tools](#)

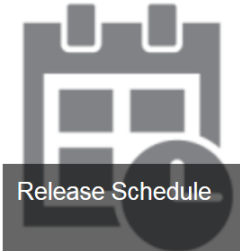
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[Errata Notes](#)

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**Latest**

Jun 28, 2017 12:45 UTC (+4)

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# Current estimates data

All 2016 2015 2014 2013 ▶



## City and Town Population Totals Datasets: 2010-2016

These datasets feature Vintage 2016 population estimates totals.



## County Population Totals Datasets: 2010-2016

These datasets feature Vintage 2016 population estimates totals.



## County Population by Characteristics Datasets: 2010-2016

These datasets feature Vintage 2016 population estimates by age, sex, race, and Hispanic origin.



## Metropolitan and Micropolitan Statistical Area Datasets: 2010-2016

These datasets feature Vintage 2016 population estimates totals.



## National Population Totals Datasets: 2010-2016

These datasets feature Vintage 2016 population estimates totals.



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Census.gov > Population Estimates > County Population by Characteristics Datasets: 2010-2016

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### County Population by Characteristics Datasets: 2010-2016

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#### Nation, States, Counties, and Puerto Rico Population

[Methodology](#) [<1.0 MB]

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#### Annual County Resident Population Estimates by Age, Sex, Race, and Hispanic Origin: April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2016

[File Layout](#) [<1.0 MB]

United States	Kansas	North Carolina
Alabama	Kentucky	North Dakota
Alaska	Louisiana	Ohio
Arizona	Maine	Oklahoma
Arkansas	Maryland	Oregon

### Related Information

[County Population by Characteristics Tables: 2010-2016](#)

[County Population Totals Datasets: 2010](#)

# Current estimates data

CC-EST2016-ALLDATA-[ST-FIPS]: Annual County Resident Population Estimates by Age, Sex, Race, and Hispanic Origin: April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2016

File: 7/1/2016 County Characteristics Resident Population Estimates

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division  
Release Date: June 2017

Sort order of observations: COUNTY, YEAR, and AGEGRP within STATE

Data fields (in order of appearance):

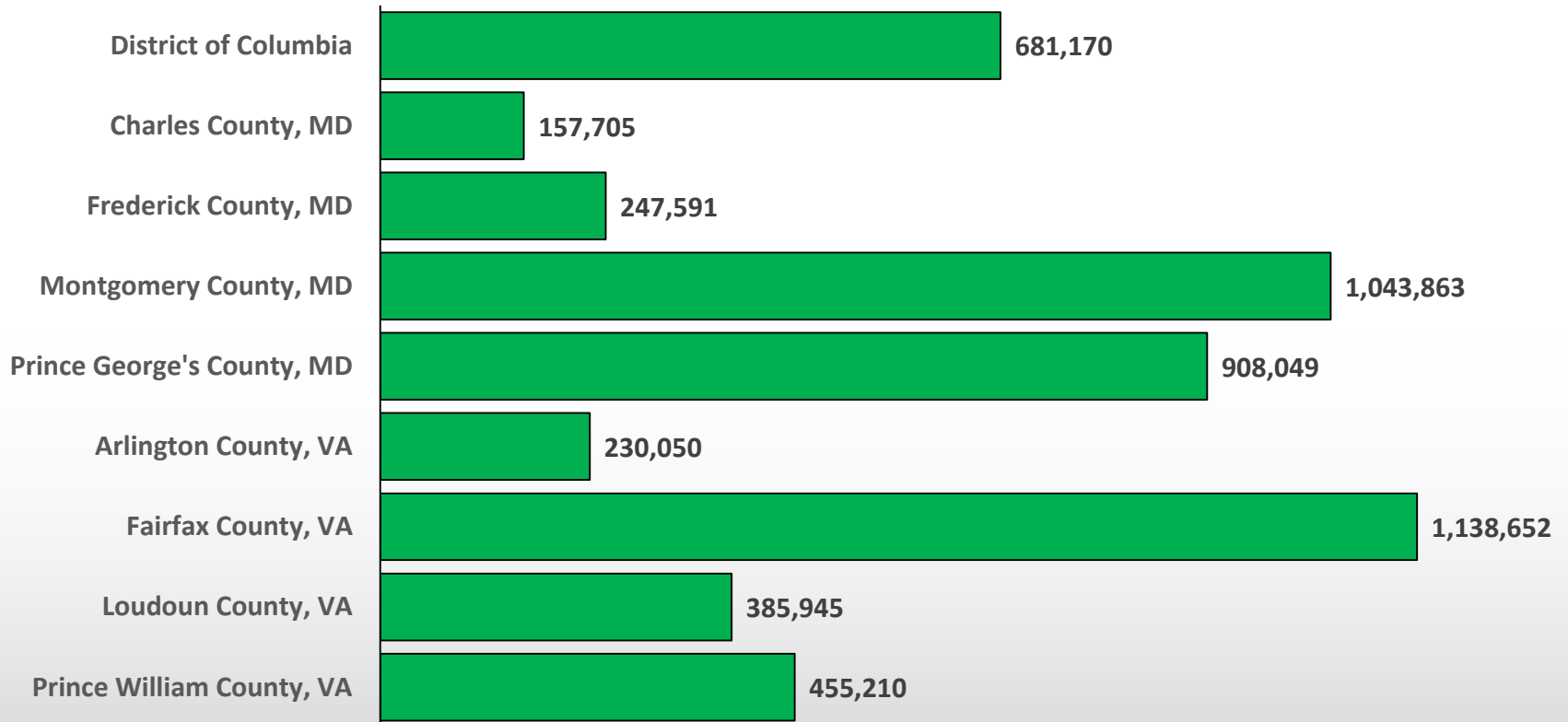
VARIABLE	DESCRIPTION
SUMLEV	Geographic Summary Level
STATE	State FIPS code
COUNTY	County FIPS code
STNAME	State Name
CTYNAME	County Name
YEAR	Year
AGEGRP	Age group
TOT_POP	Total population
TOT_MALE	Total male population
TOT_FEMALE	Total female population
WA_MALE	White alone male population
WA_FEMALE	White alone female population
BA_MALE	Black or African American alone male population
BA_FEMALE	Black or African American alone female population
IA_MALE	American Indian and Alaska Native alone male population

# Current estimates data

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K
1	SUMLEV	STATE	COUNTY	STNAME	CTYNAME	YEAR	AGEGRP	TOT_POP	TOT_MALE	TOT_FEMALE	WA_MALE
2	50	24	1	Maryland	Allegany County	1	0	75087	38842	36245	33210
3	50	24	1	Maryland	Allegany County	1	1	3496	1834	1662	1671
4	50	24	1	Maryland	Allegany County	1	2	3661	1913	1748	1729
5	50	24	1	Maryland	Allegany County	1	3	3828	1976	1852	1831
6	50	24	1	Maryland	Allegany County	1	4	5742	2852	2890	2371
7	50	24	1	Maryland	Allegany County	1	5	6385	3507	2878	2711
8	50	24	1	Maryland	Allegany County	1	6	4691	2793	1898	2039
9	50	24	1	Maryland	Allegany County	1	7	4380	2696	1684	1924
10	50	24	1	Maryland	Allegany County	1	8	4492	2547	1945	1897
11	50	24	1	Maryland	Allegany County	1	9	4808	2734	2074	2218
12	50	24	1	Maryland	Allegany County	1	10	5301	2805	2496	2413
13	50	24	1	Maryland	Allegany County	1	11	5376	2810	2566	2499
14	50	24	1	Maryland	Allegany County	1	12	4869	2453	2416	2277
15	50	24	1	Maryland	Allegany County	1	13	4656	2258	2398	2117
16	50	24	1	Maryland	Allegany County	1	14	3706	1746	1960	1675
17	50	24	1	Maryland	Allegany County	1	15	3100	1417	1683	1383
18	50	24	1	Maryland	Allegany County	1	16	2510	1049	1461	1026
19	50	24	1	Maryland	Allegany County	1	17	2127	818	1309	807
20	50	24	1	Maryland	Allegany County	1	18	1959	634	1325	622
21	50	24	1	Maryland	Allegany County	2	0	75087	38842	36245	33210

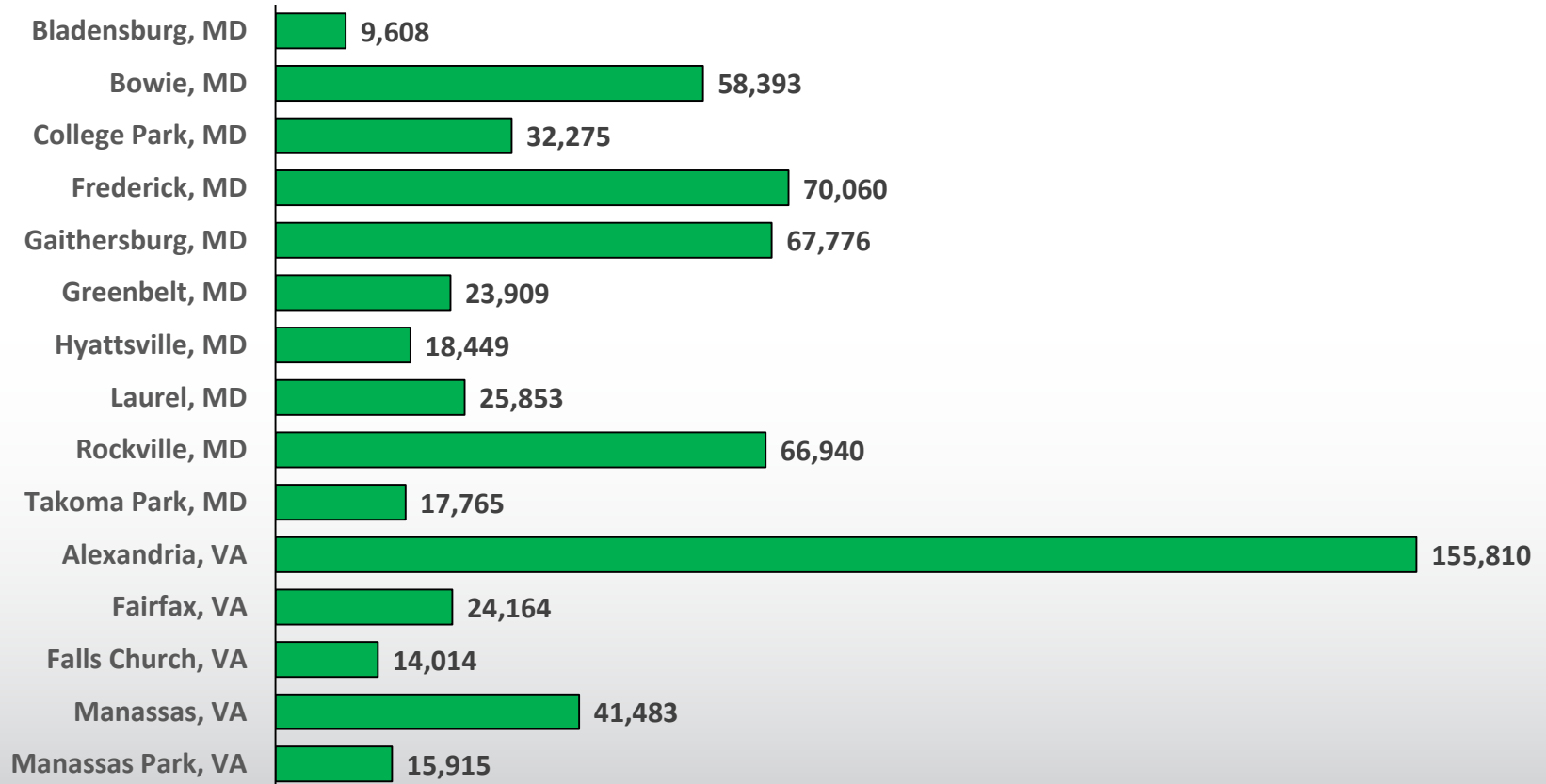
# Recent Trends in the MWCOG Region

Population Size of MWCOG Counties and DC: July 1, 2016



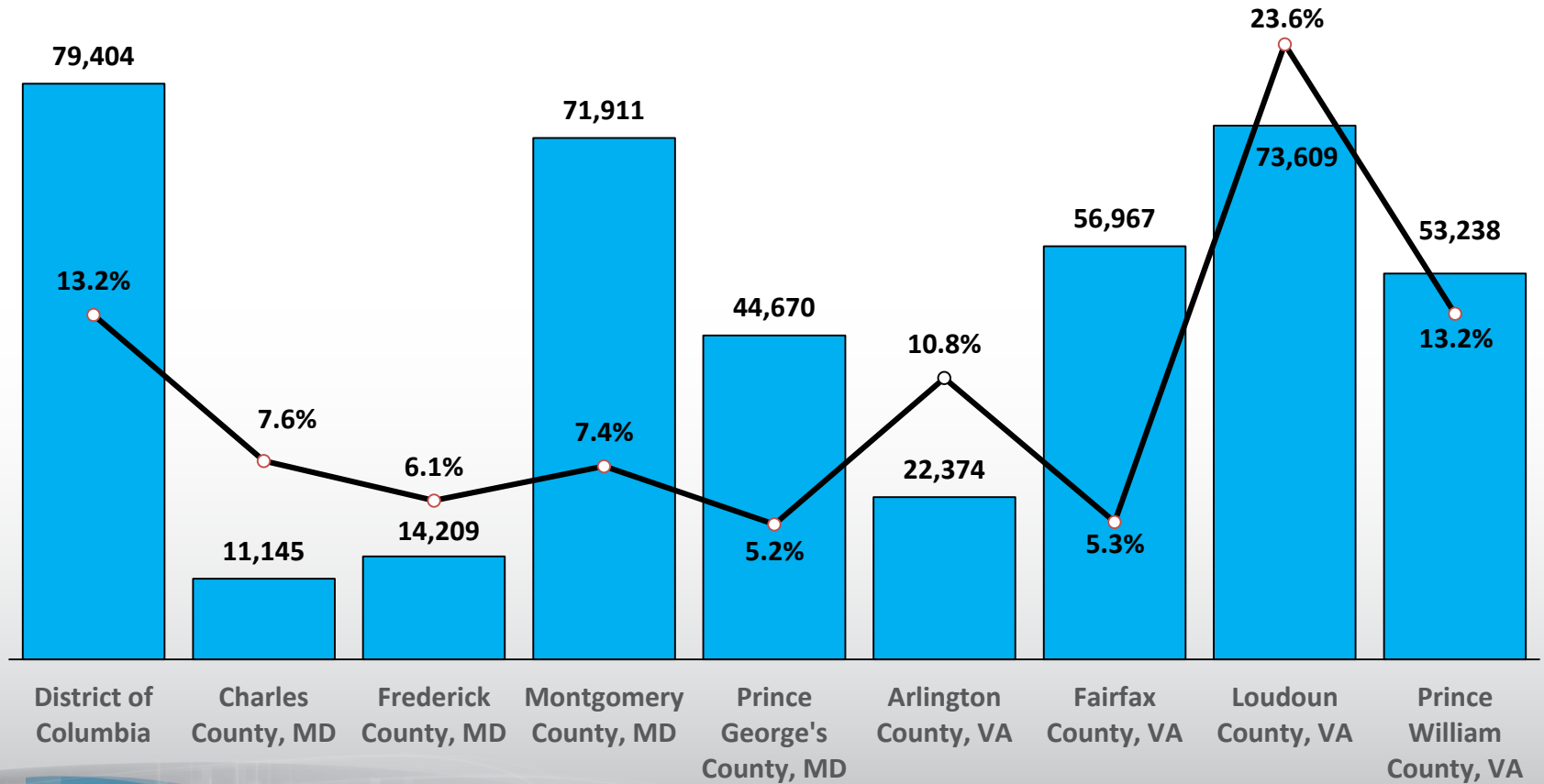
# Recent Trends in the MWCOG Region

Population Size of MWCOG Incorporated Places: July 1, 2016



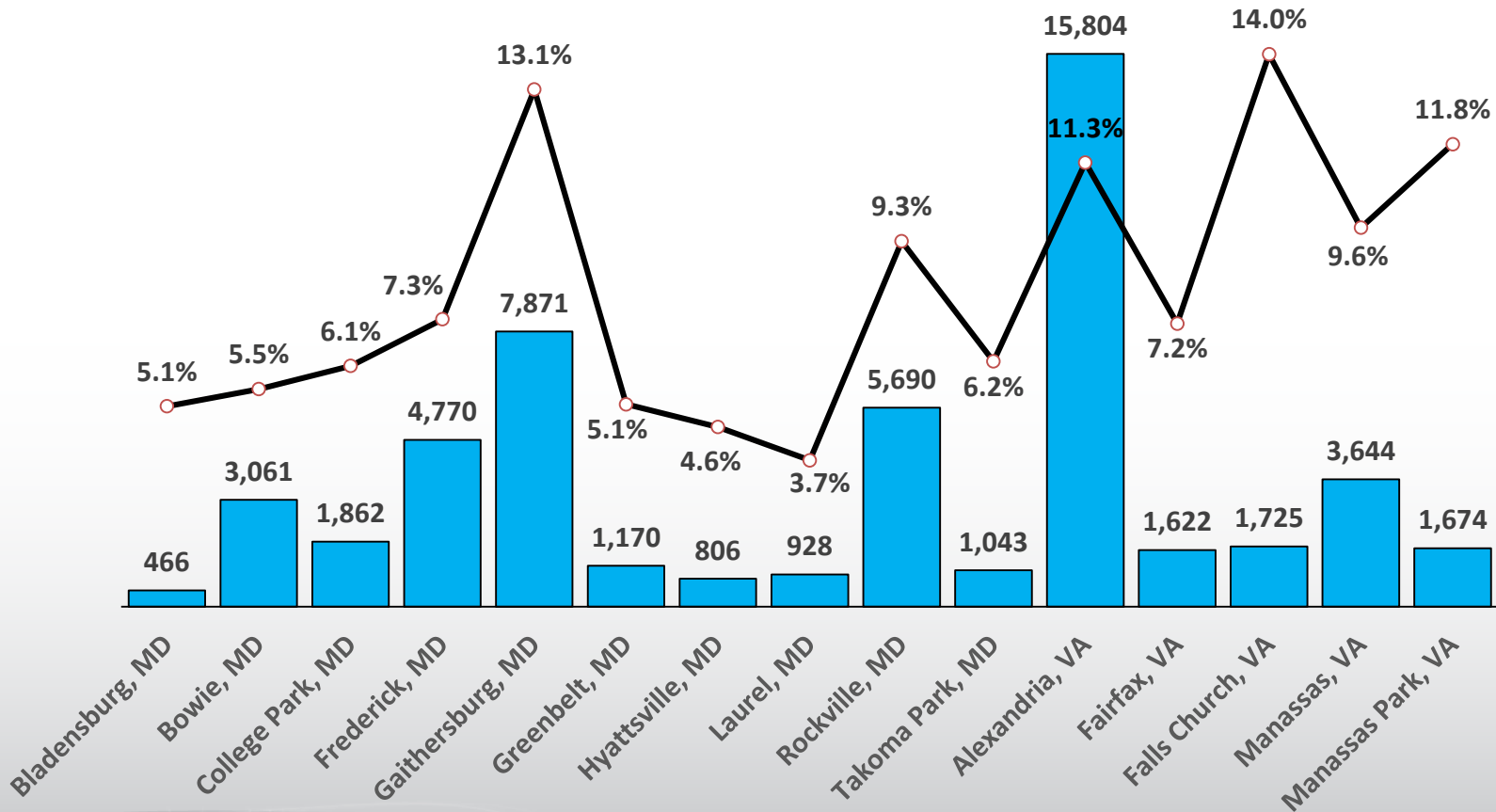
# Recent Trends in the MWCOG Region

Numeric and Percent Population Change in MWCOG Counties and DC:  
2010-2016



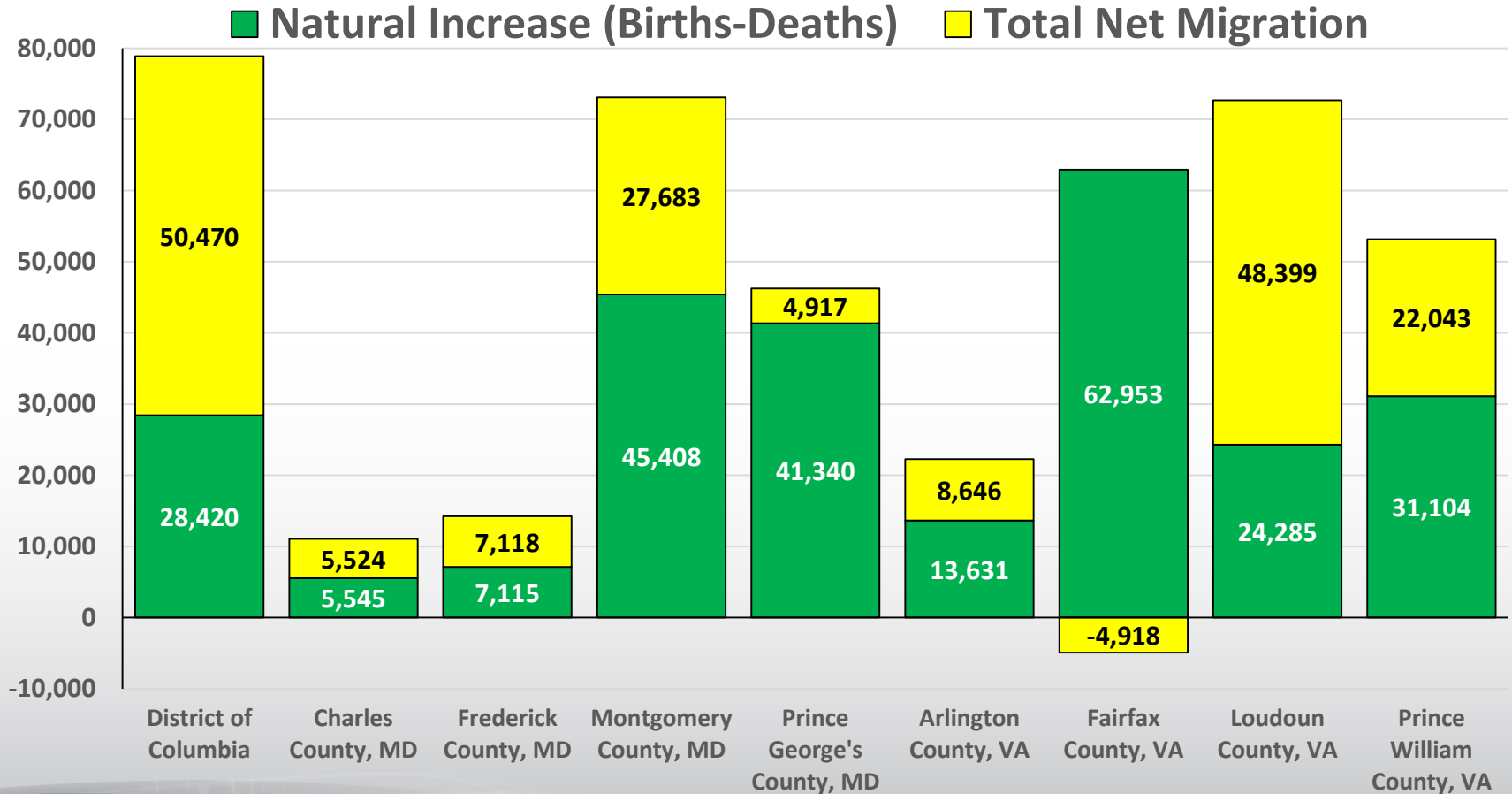
# Recent Trends in the MWCOG Region

Numeric and Percent Population Change in MWCOG Incorporated Places:  
2010-2016



# Recent Trends in the MWCOG Region

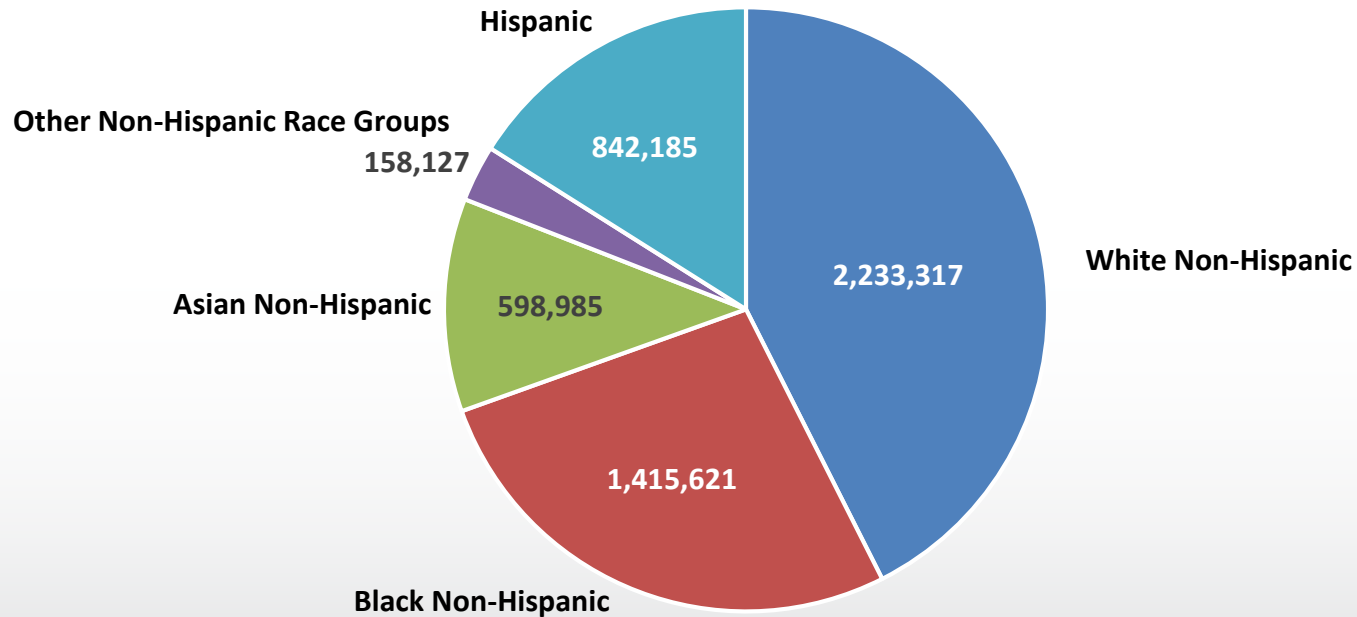
Natural Increase and Net Migration in MWCOG Counties and DC:  
2010-2016





# Recent Trends in the MWCOG Region

Race-Ethnic Distribution of the MWCOG Region: July 1, 2016



# Estimates & Projections Contacts

## ■ Population Estimates Branch

- VACANT– (301-763-2385)
- Estimates of population and components of change for the United States, states, counties, and Puerto Rico; military population and movement; group quarters population

## ■ Local Government Estimates & Migration Processing Branch

- Amel Toukabri, Chief ([amel.toukabri@census.gov](mailto:amel.toukabri@census.gov))
- Estimates of population for subcounty places (cities and towns); estimates of housing units for the United States, states, and counties; domestic migration; estimates challenge program

## ■ Net International Migration Branch

- Jason Schachter, Chief ([jason.p.schachter@census.gov](mailto:jason.p.schachter@census.gov))
- Estimates of net international migration

# Population Estimates & Projections Contacts

- **Population Evaluation, Analysis, & Projections Branch**
  - Jonathan Vespa, Chief ([jonathan.vespa@census.gov](mailto:jonathan.vespa@census.gov))
  - Projections of population and components of change for the United States; demographic analysis; estimates evaluation
- **Coordination, Dissemination, & Outreach Branch**
  - Christine Hartley, Chief ([christine.hartley@census.gov](mailto:christine.hartley@census.gov))
  - Catalogue of estimates and projections products; release schedule; website questions; special tabulations
  - Ryan Burson ([thomas.r.burson@census.gov](mailto:thomas.r.burson@census.gov)), 301-763-3668

# Questions?