

# Indiana's Population Growth Continues

State population estimates released by the U.S. Bureau of the Census on December 29, 1999 indicate that Indiana's population continues to grow, but not as rapidly as the nation. (Estimates, along with ranks for all states can be seen in **Figure 1**.)

The state's July 1, 1999 population is estimated to be over 5.9 million compared with the 1990 census count of 5.5 million, for an increase of almost 400,000 persons since 1990. Indiana's growth rate of 7.2 percent since the 1990 census is lower than the growth rate of 9.6 percent experienced by the nation during the same period. The nation's population has increased from almost 249 million in 1990 to almost 273 million in 1999, an increase of 24 million persons.

In the most recent year, Indiana's population has grown by 35,000 persons for a growth rate of 0.6 percent between 1998 and 1999. Again the state's growth rate did not keep pace with the growth rate of 0.9 percent for the nation for the most recent year.

## Indiana Ranks 14<sup>th</sup> in Population, 28<sup>th</sup> in Growth Rate

Indiana has been the 28<sup>th</sup> fastest growing state in the nation since 1990, and retains its position as the 14<sup>th</sup> most populous state. However, Indiana's share of the nation's population continues to decline, from 2.56 percent in 1970, to 2.42 percent in 1980, to 2.23 percent in 1990 and to 2.18 percent in 1999.

These estimates indicate that the state's population is growing more slowly than it did earlier in the decade (see **Figure 2**). The rate of population growth appears to have peaked between 1991 and 1995, with annual growth rates of 0.8 percent and 0.9 percent. In the most recent three-year period, annual growth rates have slowed to 0.6%. It is estimated that Indiana's population grew by 53,000 persons between 1992 and 1993, compared with an increase of 35,000 persons between 1998 and 1999.

Despite slower growth than earlier in the decade, recent population growth in Indiana has been much faster than the growth seen in the '80s. Between 1980 and 1990, Indiana's population grew by only 54,000 persons for a growth rate of 1.0 percent. Growth in the nine-year period since the 1990 census has been more than seven times the growth experienced by the state in the previous decade.

## In-Migration Continues

In each year since 1990, Indiana has seen net in-migration (see **Figure 3**). With more persons moving into the state than moving out, this represents a reversal of the out-migration experienced in the 1980s. This recent in-migration, combined with natural increase, resulted in relatively rapid population growth for the Hoosier State in the '90s.

Of the net population increase of 399,000 persons since the 1990 census, about 73 percent were the result of more births than deaths, and 27 percent due to net in-migration.

However, the estimates indicate that in the most recent year the state has experienced negative domestic net migration; that is, more people moved from Indiana to other states than moved from other states to Indiana between 1998 and 1999. At the same time, Indiana gained more people than it lost to foreign countries, resulting in total (domestic + international) net-migration that was positive. International net in-migration to the Hoosier State has steadily increased throughout the decade.

## Will Indiana Retain Ten Seats in the Next Apportionment of the U.S. House of Representatives?

Following the census in April 2000, the 435 seats in the U.S. House of Representatives will be re-apportioned to states according to the census population counts. States that have not experienced population growth rates equal to that of the nation will be candidates to lose seats, while states that have grown more rapidly than the nation may gain seats in the House of Representatives.

Joan P. Rainey

Research Analyst, Indiana Business Research Center, Kelley School of Business, Indiana University

Figure 1  
1999 Population Estimates, Indiana and Neighboring States

	Estimate	Change		Percent Change		
	1-Jul-99	1999 Rank	1990 to 1999	Rank	1990 to 1999	Rank
United States	272,690,813		23,899,888		9.6	
Illinois	12,128,370	5	697,768	9	6.1	34
Indiana	5,942,901	14	398,745	19	7.2	28
Kentucky	3,960,825	25	273,933	25	7.4	26
Louisiana	4,372,035	22	150,209	34	3.6	41
Michigan	9,863,775	8	568,488	13	6.1	33
Minnesota	4,775,508	21	399,843	17	9.1	20
Mississippi	2,768,619	31	193,144	31	7.5	25
Ohio	11,256,654	7	409,539	15	3.8	40
Wisconsin	5,250,446	18	358,492	22	7.3	27

Figure 2  
Percent Change in Population

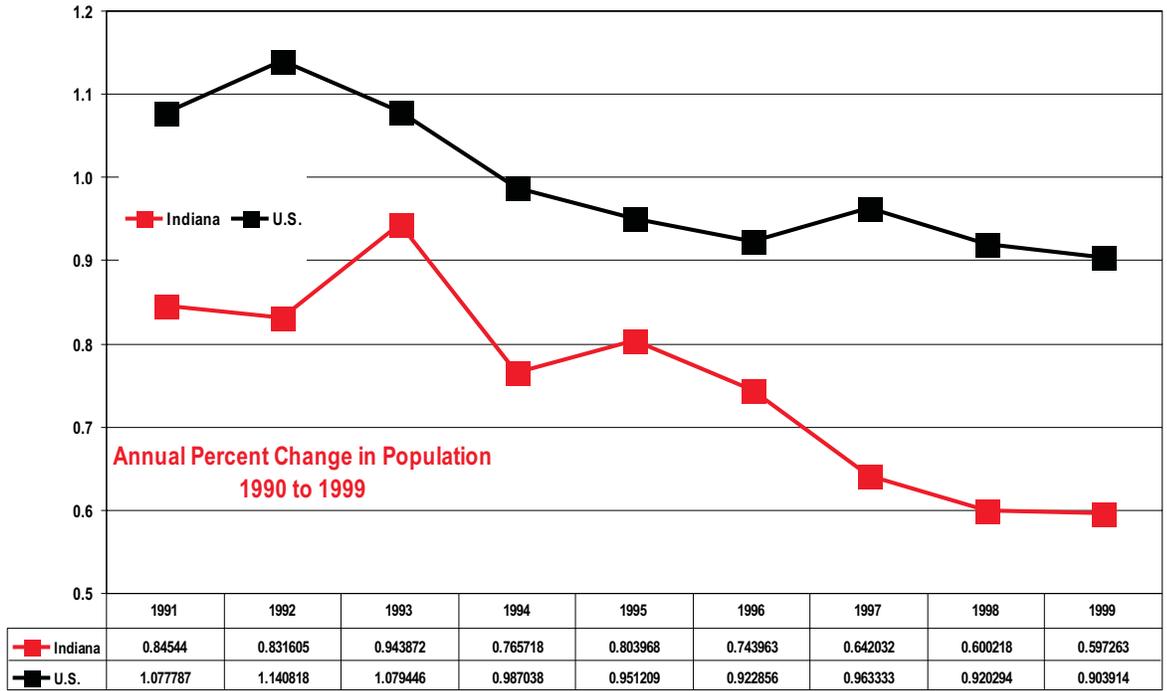
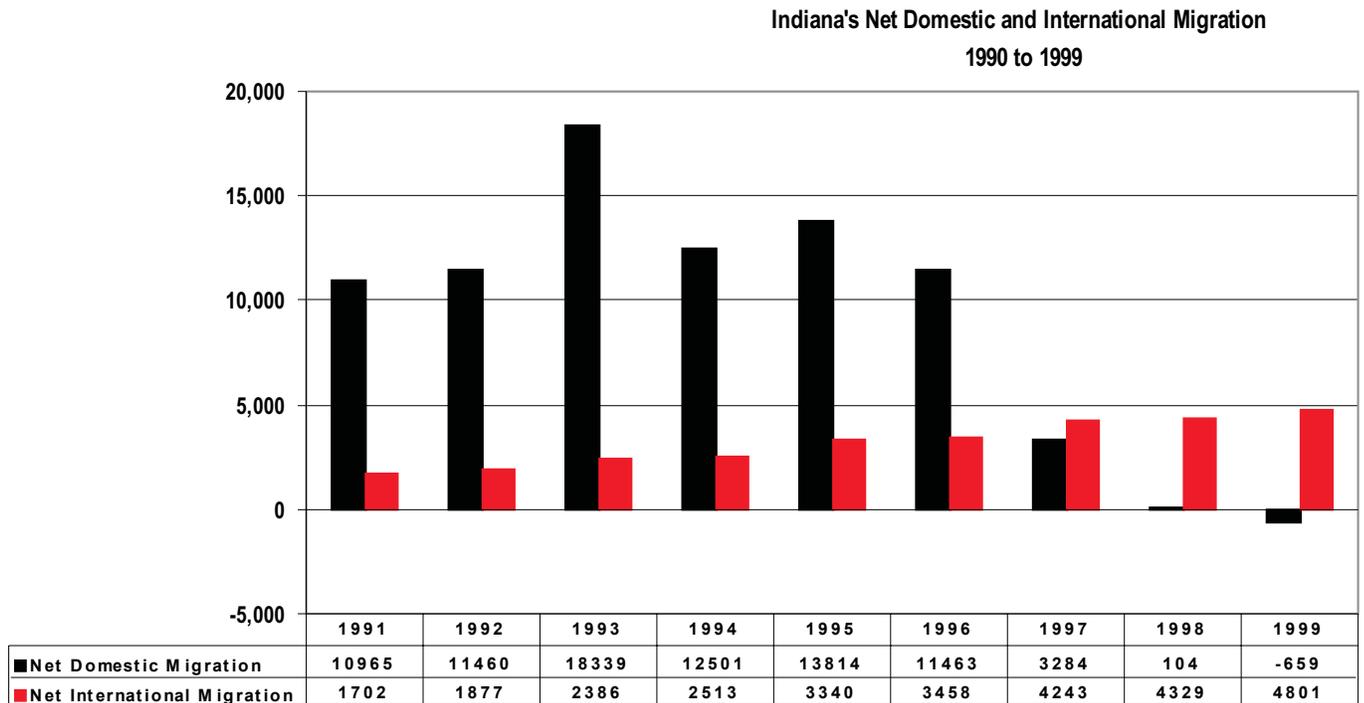


Figure 3  
Net Migration



If the apportionment process were applied to the 1999 state population estimates, Indiana would narrowly retain its ten seats in the House. However, if Indiana's 1999 population had been estimated to be only 0.5 percent lower than it was, the state would be assigned only nine seats in the House.

It is important therefore for Indiana to count all Hoosiers in the 2000 Census. It appears that the state is "on the bubble" in terms of holding onto its current number of seats in the House of Representatives. If all Indiana residents return their census forms filled out completely and accurately it will increase the chances that the state will retain ten seats in the House. Census awareness activities in the state are currently in progress, with the goal to reach as many Hoosiers as possible with the message that the census is important, confidential and easy (see [www.census.indiana.edu](http://www.census.indiana.edu)).

#### Indiana Compared to Other States

Figure 4 shows rates of population change between 1990 and 1999 for all states. Indiana's 7.2 percent rate of growth compares favorably with neighboring states. The Midwest Region grew by 6.0 percent since 1990. Indiana has grown faster than Michigan (6.1%), Illinois (6.1%) and Ohio (3.8%), with a slightly lower rate of growth than Kentucky (7.4%).

The South and West regions continue to outpace the rest of the nation in population growth. The South added 11 million persons since 1990, for a growth rate of 12.9 percent. The West added 8.3 million persons for the highest regional rate of growth of 15.7 percent. Growth in the Northeast was 2.0 percent since the 1990 census count.

Nevada has grown from 1.2 million persons in 1990 to more than 1.8 million persons in 1999 with a net population increase of over 600,000 persons. This 50.6 percent growth rate makes it the fastest growing state in the nation. Explosive growth during the '90s has moved Nevada past Maine, Nebraska, New Mexico and West Virginia to jump from 39<sup>th</sup> to 35<sup>th</sup> in population rankings. Growth of over 65,000 persons (3.8%) in the most recent year between 1998 and 1999 makes Nevada the fastest growing state in the nation for 14 consecutive years.

Other fast-growing states, between 1990 and 1998, include Arizona (30.4%), Idaho (24.3%), Utah (23.6%), Colorado (23.1%), Georgia (20.2%), Washington (18.3%), and Texas (18.0%). California and Texas added the largest numbers of persons since 1990 (3.3 million in California and almost 3.1 million in Texas). Other states adding large numbers of persons include Florida, Georgia, Arizona, North Carolina and Washington.

Migration is driving the rapid population growth in the south and west. About two-thirds of the nation's population growth since 1990 is due to natural increase, (more births than deaths), with the remaining one-third due to net in-migration. States with more than 50 percent of their growth attributed to net migration include Florida, Nevada, Oregon, Arizona, Idaho, Tennessee, North Carolina, Colorado, Washington, Georgia, Montana, Arkansas, and Delaware.

The District of Columbia has lost almost 88,000 persons since 1990, for a rate of decline of 14.5 percent. Rhode Island, Connecticut and North Dakota have also lost population since the 1990 census. The District of Columbia has lost population in the most recent year, along with Pennsylvania, West Virginia, North Dakota, Hawaii and Wyoming.

#### Ten Most Populous States

Illinois has moved up from being the 6<sup>th</sup> most populous state in 1990 to 5<sup>th</sup> position, due to Pennsylvania's loss of population in the last few years. The ten most populous states are California (33.1 million), Texas (20.0 million), New York (18.2 million), Florida (15.1 million), Illinois (12.1 million), Pennsylvania (12.0 million), Ohio (11.3 million), Michigan (9.9 million), New Jersey (8.1 million) and Georgia (7.8 million).

It is important to note that these population figures are estimates produced using a demographic model and are not the result of a direct attempt to count population, as is done in a census year. These estimates were produced by the U.S. Bureau of the Census using the Tax Return Method; details on this method can be found at [www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov).

The Indiana Business Research Center, in the Kelley School of Business at Indiana University, serves as the state's official liaison with the U.S. Bureau of the Census. Its present and future role will be to work with the state and its localities to provide a full and accurate census count in the year 2000. For more information about the Census in Indiana, see [www.census.indiana.edu](http://www.census.indiana.edu). For more statistical data for and about Indiana, see [www.stats.indiana.edu](http://www.stats.indiana.edu).

Figure 4  
Rates of Population Change, 1990 to 1999

