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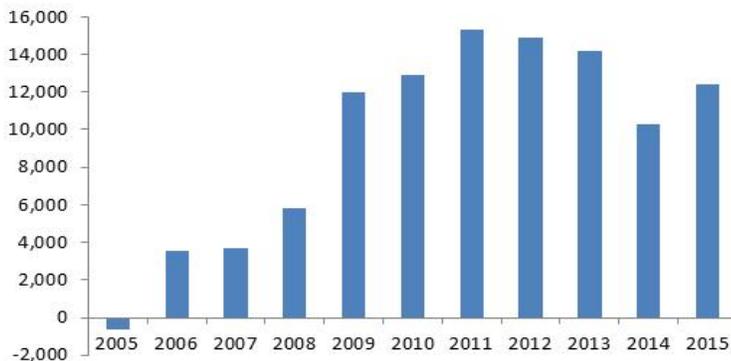
DC population tops 672,000 in 2015, a gain of 12,000 from the prior year

More international migration is the main reason for faster growth in 2015 than in 2014

According to Census Bureau estimates released in December, DC's population as of July 1, 2015 was 672,228, an increase of 12,392 (1.9%) from 2014. This is the 6th time in the past 7 years that DC's population grew by 1,000 per month or more, the exception being 2014 (10,296).

Migration is the driving force behind DC's growth last year, as it has been over the past 7 years. Natural increase (births minus deaths) accounted for a little more than a third of 2015's growth. The rest was from the net in-migration of more than 8,000 persons, 55% of whom were from outside the US. The, 4,551 new international migrants were the largest source of growth in 2015.

Increase in DC population from the prior year: 2005 to 2015

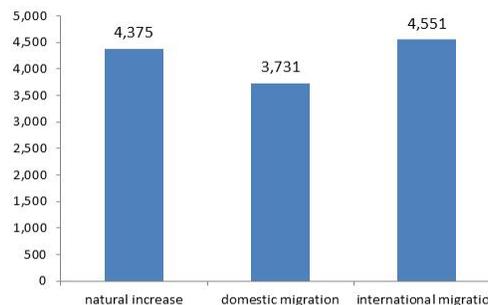


Although DC's 2015 population increase was greater than it was in 2014, it was 14.6% less than the average annual growth for the prior four year period. (The increase was 12,392 in 2015 and an average of 14,517 from 2010 to 2014.) Of the components of change, only international migration was greater in 2015

(Continued on p.2)

Change from 2014 to 2015 in DC's population due to (1) natural increase, (2) net domestic migration, and (3) net international migration

Source: Census Bureau



This briefing document was prepared by Stephen Swaim, DC Office of Revenue Analysis

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in 2015 than the annual average for the years 2010 to 2014. Natural increase in 2015 was down 9.4% and net domestic migration down 31.7% compared the average of those four years. By contrast, international migration was 11.8% higher.

The natural increase in population of 4,375 in DC for 2015 was 452 less than the prior four year average due both to fewer births and more deaths.

Looking ahead, migration holds the key to what happens to the pace of DC's population growth. The annual natural increase in DC's population is likely to be fairly stable at around 4,500 per year. For DC population growth to reach 12,000 per year, net in-migration of close to 8,000 per year would be necessary, divided between domestic and international sources. The on-going attractiveness of DC in terms of jobs, housing, and amenities is thus a crucial determinant of future population growth.

Components of DC population change: 2010 to 2015

period of change	Total population	Natural increase	Vital events		Net Migration		
			Births	Deaths	Total	International	Domestic
Average annual change from 2010 to 2014	14,517	4,827	9,884	5,057	9,538	4,072	5,466
Change from 2014 to 2015	12,392	4,375	9,593	5,218	8,282	4,551	3,731
Difference: 2015 compared to the prior 4 year average							
Amount	-2,125	-452	-291	161	-1,256	480	-1,735
Percent change	-14.6	-9.4	-2.9	3.2	-13.2	11.8	-31.7

US Census Bureau. Total includes small statistical discrepancy

Comparison to the 50 States.

The 2015 Census estimates document continued shifts in the nation's population. The District of Columbia differs, of course, in many ways from the states, but some comparisons are quite interesting. Again in 2015 DC has more population than two states (Vermont and Wyoming). Also:

- DC's net population increase of 12,392 was greater than in 19 states (7 of which had declines).
- DC's net domestic in-migration of 3,731 was greater than in 33 states (all of which had declines).
- DC's net international in-migration of 4,551 was greater than in 14 states (none of which had declines).
- DC's natural increase of 4,375 was greater than in 7 states (two of which had declines).

—Stephen Swaim, Office of Revenue Analysis