* According to latest Census estimates over 1 million of Massachusetts’ 6.8 million residents – about 1 out of every six people - are foreign born.[[1]](#footnote-1) Of these, an estimated 47% are not U.S. citizens and 53% are naturalized U.S. citizens.
* **International immigration into Massachusetts *increasingly* offsets net domestic outmigration (people moving from Massachusetts to other U.S. states.) and now offsets domestic outmigration by 2 to 1.** This past year Massachusetts experienced the highest level of net international immigration since at least 2000, with an estimated net inflow of 53,013 international immigrants. Both now and historically, this positive international immigration offsets the population loss due to domestic outmigration from Massachusetts to other states. Currently twice as many people come into the state via net international immigration as leave the state via net domestic outmigration (Figure 1).
* The immigration rate of 7.7 per 1,000 population in Massachusetts is more than double that of the U.S. as a whole (3.0) and exceeds all U.S. regional averages and all other Northeast states.
* According to the latest Census estimates, only Florida ranks higher than Massachusetts in its rate of annual net international immigration per 1,000 population. (Table 1). In terms of numbers of net immigrants, Massachusetts ranked 5th (Table 2).

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Table 1. States With Highest Net International Immigration Rates, 2018 |   | Table 2. States With the Highest Net International Immigration, 2018 |
| State | Rate of Net International Immigration | Ranking |   | State | Net International Immigrants | Ranking |
| Florida | 8.3 | 1 |  | Florida | 175,670 | 1 |
| Massachusetts | 7.7 | 2 |  | California | 117,797 | 2 |
| New Jersey | 5.2 | 3 |  | Texas | 104,976 | 3 |
| District of Columbia | 5.1 | 4 |  | New York | 70,375 | 4 |
| Connecticut | 4.6 | 5 |  | Massachusetts | 53,013 | 5 |
| South Dakota | 4.2 | 6 |  | New Jersey | 46,660 | 6 |
| Washington | 4.1 | 7 |  | Pennsylvania | 35,377 | 7 |
| Maryland | 3.7 | 8 |  | Virginia | 31,641 | 8 |
| Virginia | 3.7 | 9 |  | Illinois | 30,735 | 9 |
| Texas | 3.7 | 10 |  | Washington | 30,557 | 10 |
| New York | 3.6 | 11 |  | Maryland | 22,575 | 11 |
| North Dakota | 3.4 | 12 |  | Georgia | 21,786 | 12 |
| Alaska | 3.3 | 13 |  | Michigan | 21,415 | 13 |
| California | 3.0 | 14 |  | Ohio | 20,514 | 14 |
| Vermont | 3.0 | 15 |  | North Carolina | 20,035 | 15 |
| UMass Donahue Institute. Source U.S. Census Bureau Population Division NST\_EST2018\_ALLDATA. Release Date December 19, 2018. Rates per 1,000 average population. State rankings include District of Columbia. |   | UMass Donahue Institute. Source U.S. Census Bureau Population Division NST\_EST2018\_ALLDATA. Release Date December 19, 2018.  |

1. Estimated 1,097,229 foreign born out of estimated 6,789,319 total population. 2017 American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)