2026 POPULATION ESTIMATES

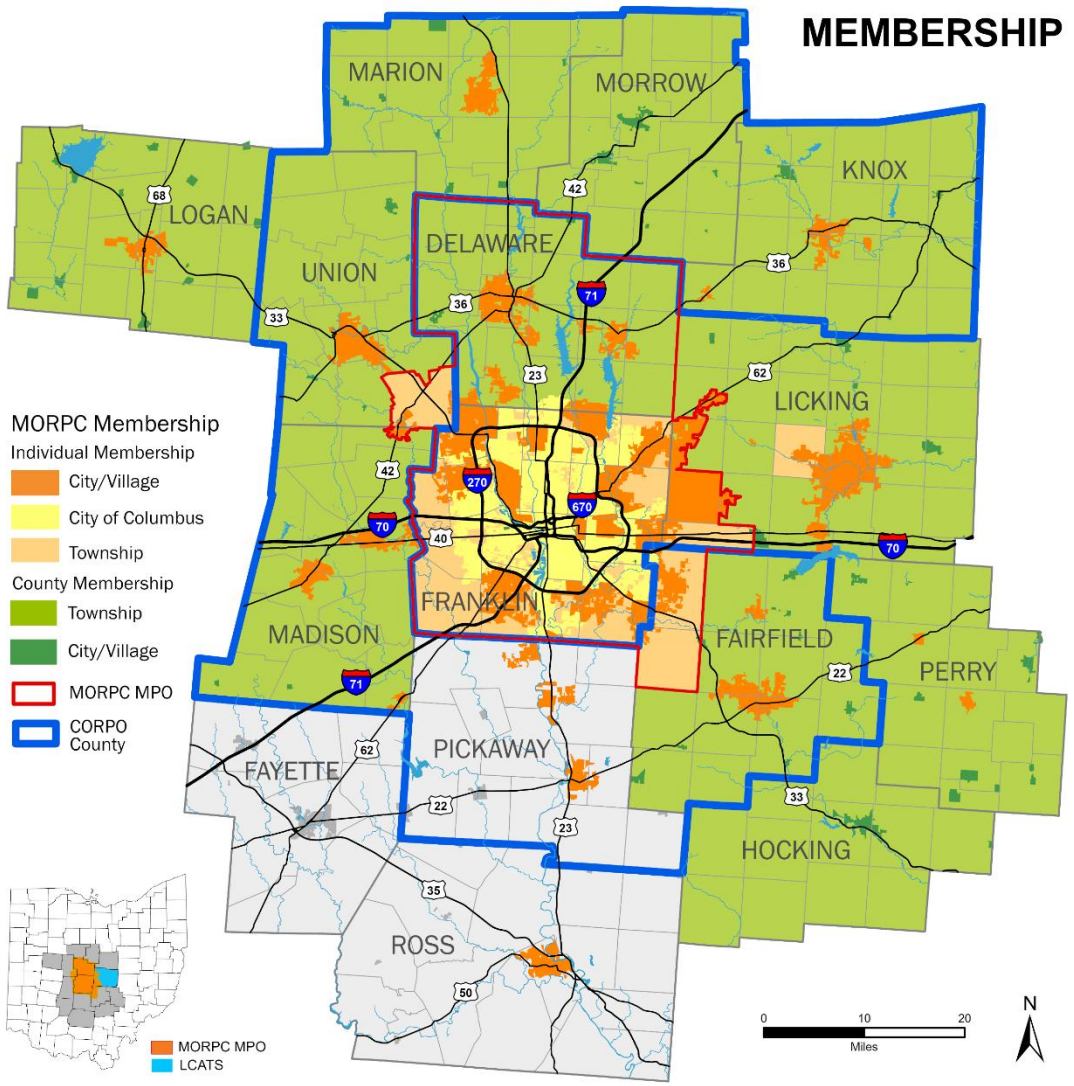
Executive Committee

August 6, 2026

MID-OHIO REGIONAL
MORPC
PLANNING COMMISSION

LATEST POPULATION ESTIMATES SHOW STEADY MORPC MEMBER GROWTH

MORPC



Estimated Population Growth Since Decennial Census (Apr 1, 2020 - Jan 1, 2026)

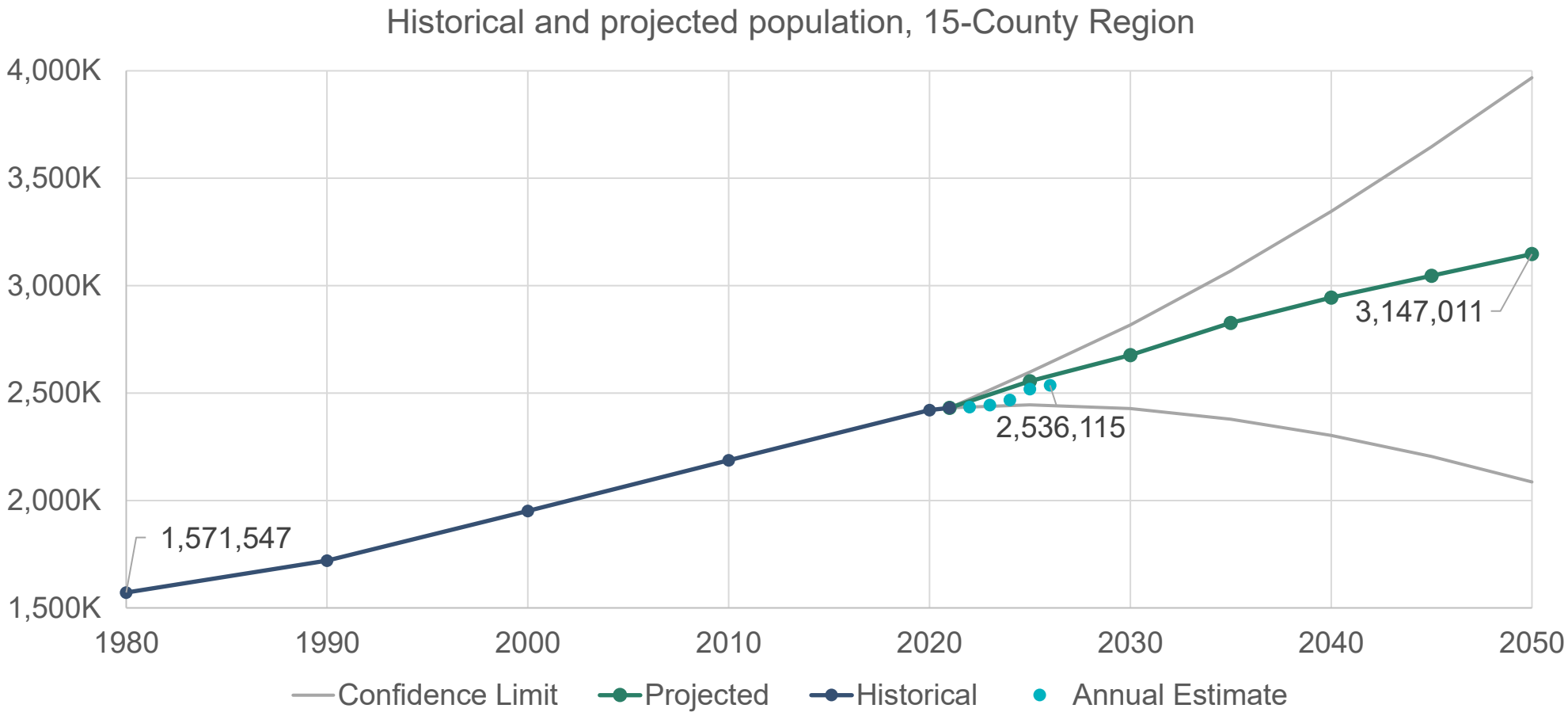
MORPC members

↑114.5K

All jurisdictions

↑116.9K

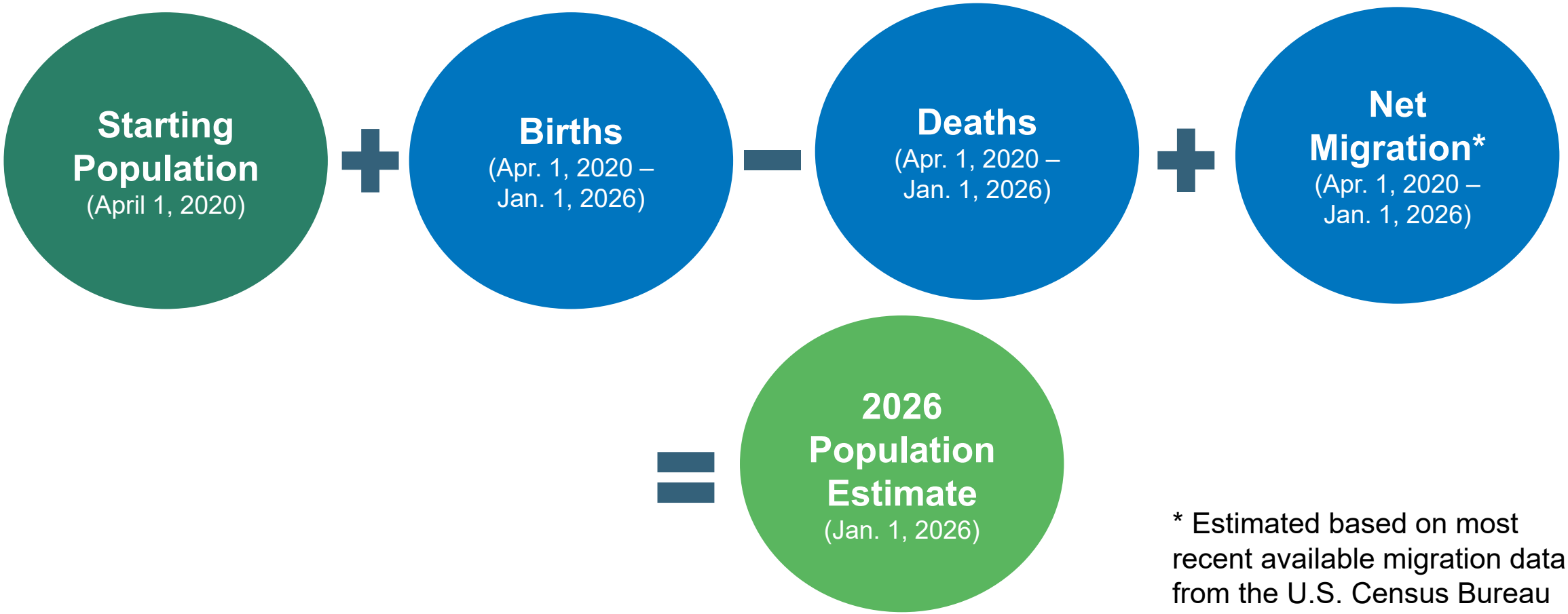
GROWTH IS STEADY, BUT SLOWER THAN PROJECTED



SOURCE: MORPC 2024-2050 County Projections, Decennial Census, MORPC 2026 County Population Estimates

HOW WE ESTIMATE COUNTY POPULATIONS

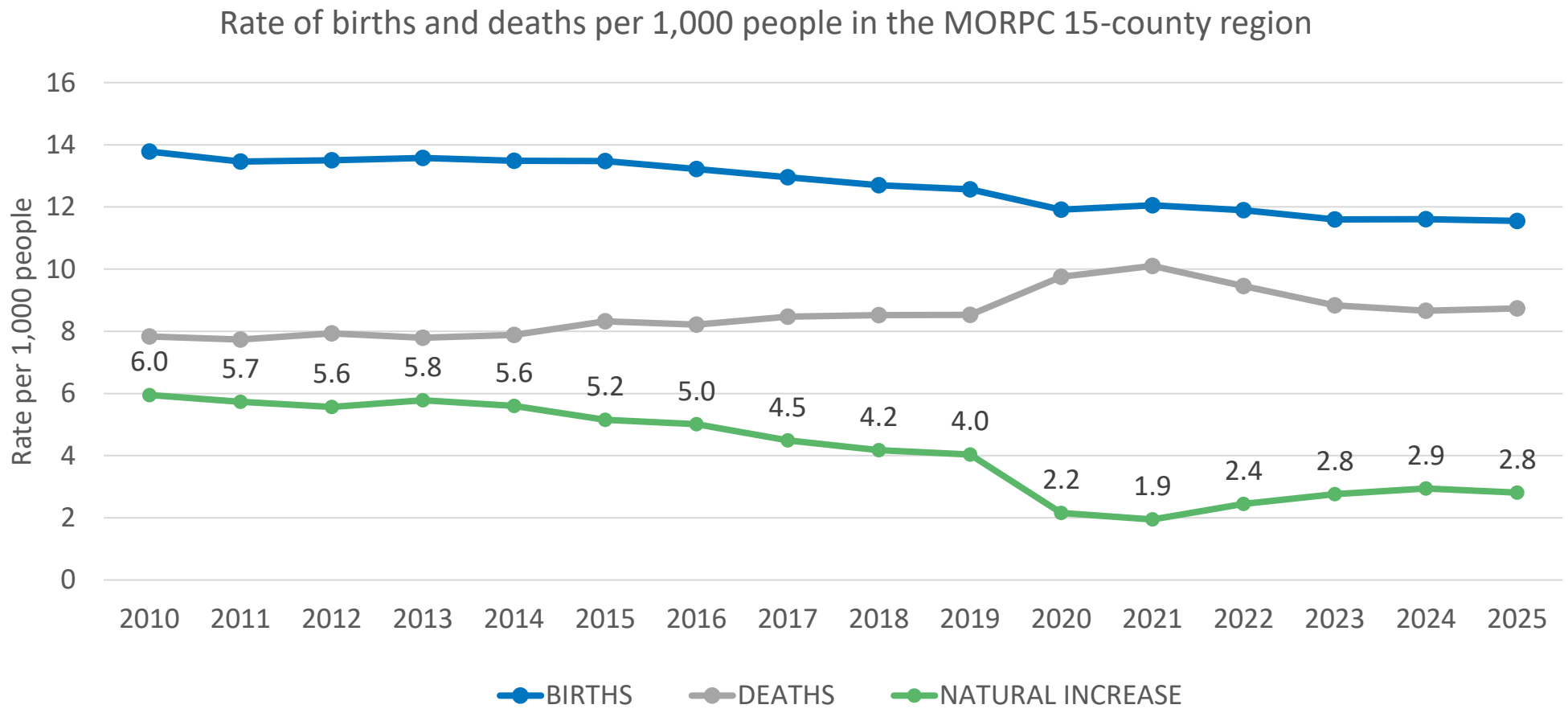
MORPC



* Estimated based on most recent available migration data from the U.S. Census Bureau

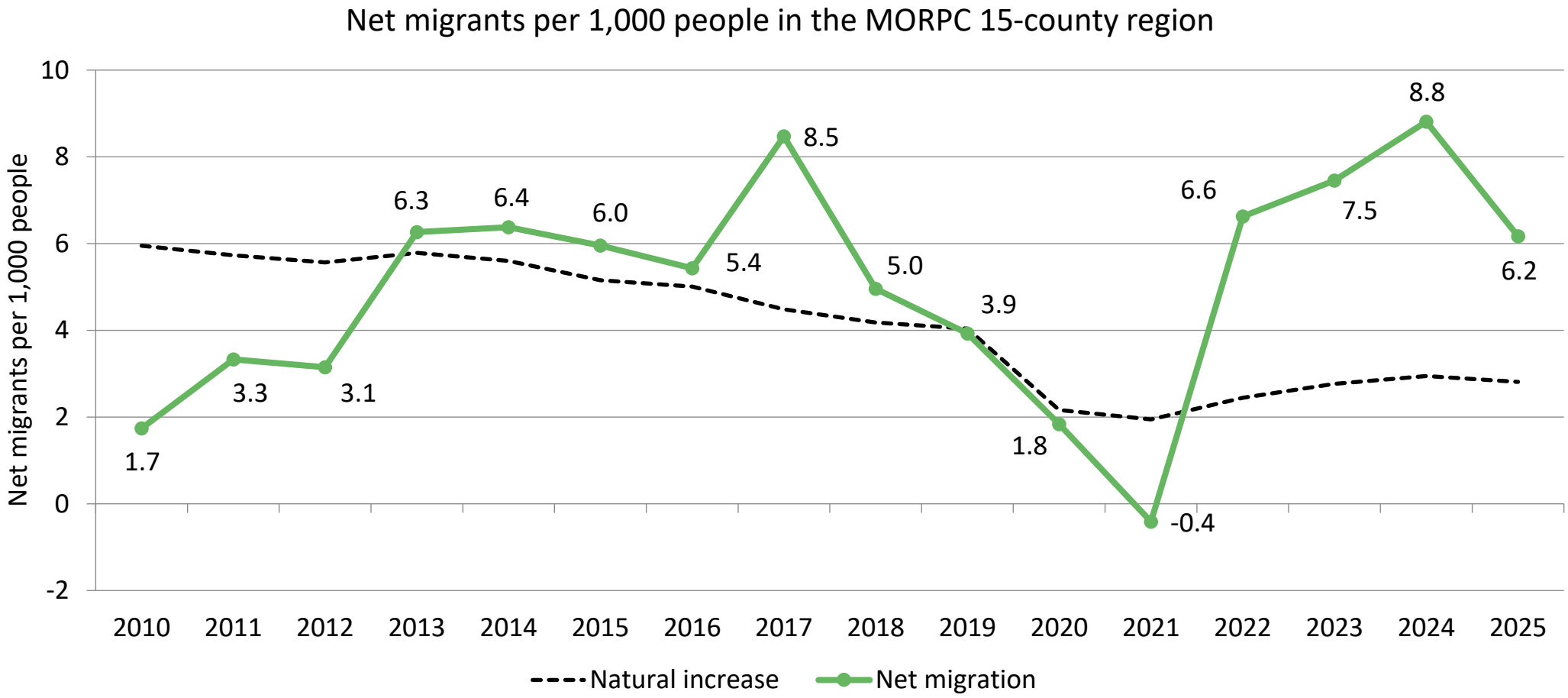
NATURAL INCREASE IS CONTRIBUTING LESS TO REGIONAL GROWTH THAN IN THE PAST

MORPC



SOURCE: Ohio Department of Health

MIGRATION IS CONTRIBUTING MORE TO REGIONAL GROWTH THAN IN THE PAST

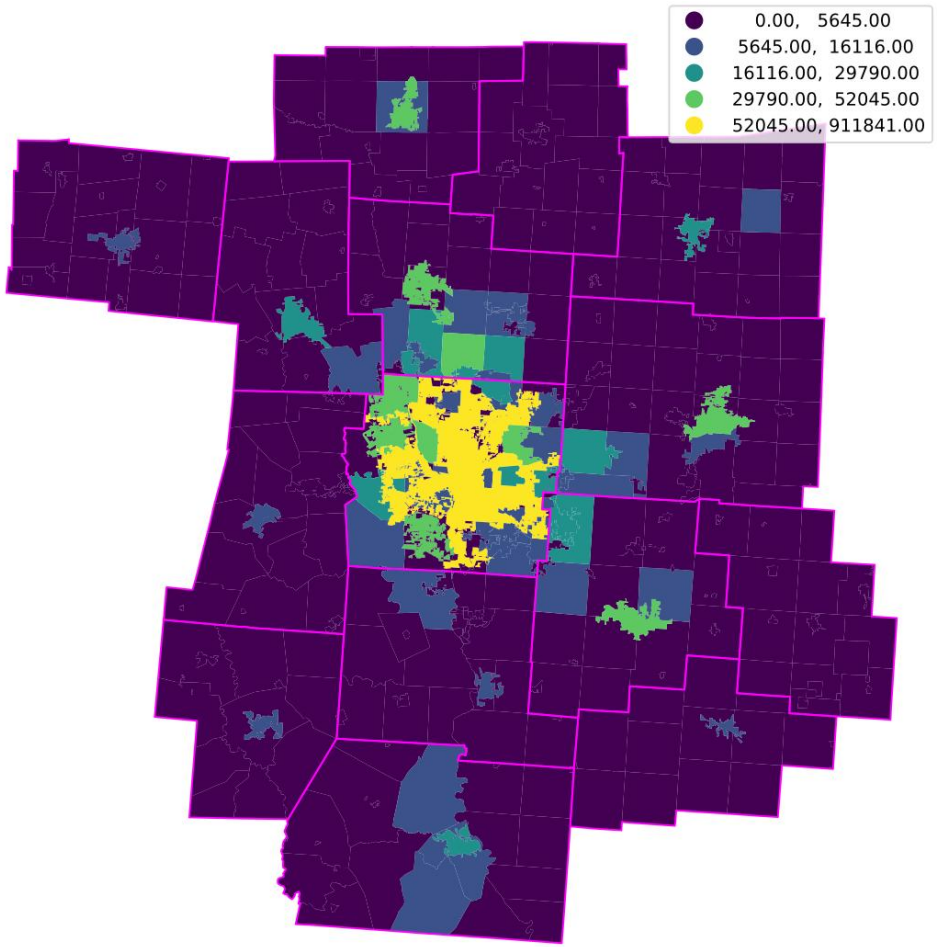


SOURCE: Census Population Estimate Program, Ohio Dept of Health

SAME METHOD AS LAST YEAR, WITH MINOR IMPROVEMENTS

- Population is distributed by county shares of group quarters and household population
- Shares are determined by weighted average of several datasets
- New this year
  - Improved handling of Group Quarters population
  - More precise placement of population within communities

January 1, 2026 estimated population



COMPARED TO LAST YEAR, TOTAL POPULATION OF MEMBERSHIP INCREASED 0.69%

- Seven new members!
  - Baltimore (pop. 3,103 in 2026)
  - Centerburg (pop. 1,712)
  - Commercial Point (pop. 4,430)
  - Hamilton Twp (pop. 4,852)
  - Norwich Twp (pop. 3,839)
  - Pleasant Twp (pop. 6,410)
  - Sharon Twp (pop. 1,815)
- One village crossed the 5k pop threshold
  - Plain City (pop. 5,246)

Year-Over-Year Change

	Last year	This year	Change	% Change
Total regional population	2,519,188	2,536,115	16,927	0.67%
Total member population	2,395,325	2,411,770	16,445	0.69%

DRAFT POPULATION ESTIMATES AND DUES ARE AVAILABLE FOR MEMBER REVIEW

- 2027 Member Dues
- Draft to be presented at August Commission
- Resolution to be introduced for adoption at September Commission
- Consultations to review estimates with MORPC staff available upon request through August 27th

https://tinyurl.com/2026PopestExcel

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