

2026 POPULATION ESTIMATES

MORPC Commission

MID-OHIO REGIONAL
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PLANNING COMMISSION

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%

Proposed Resolution 16-26

“Establishing population estimates as a basis for 2027 annual participation fees to be assessed to members”

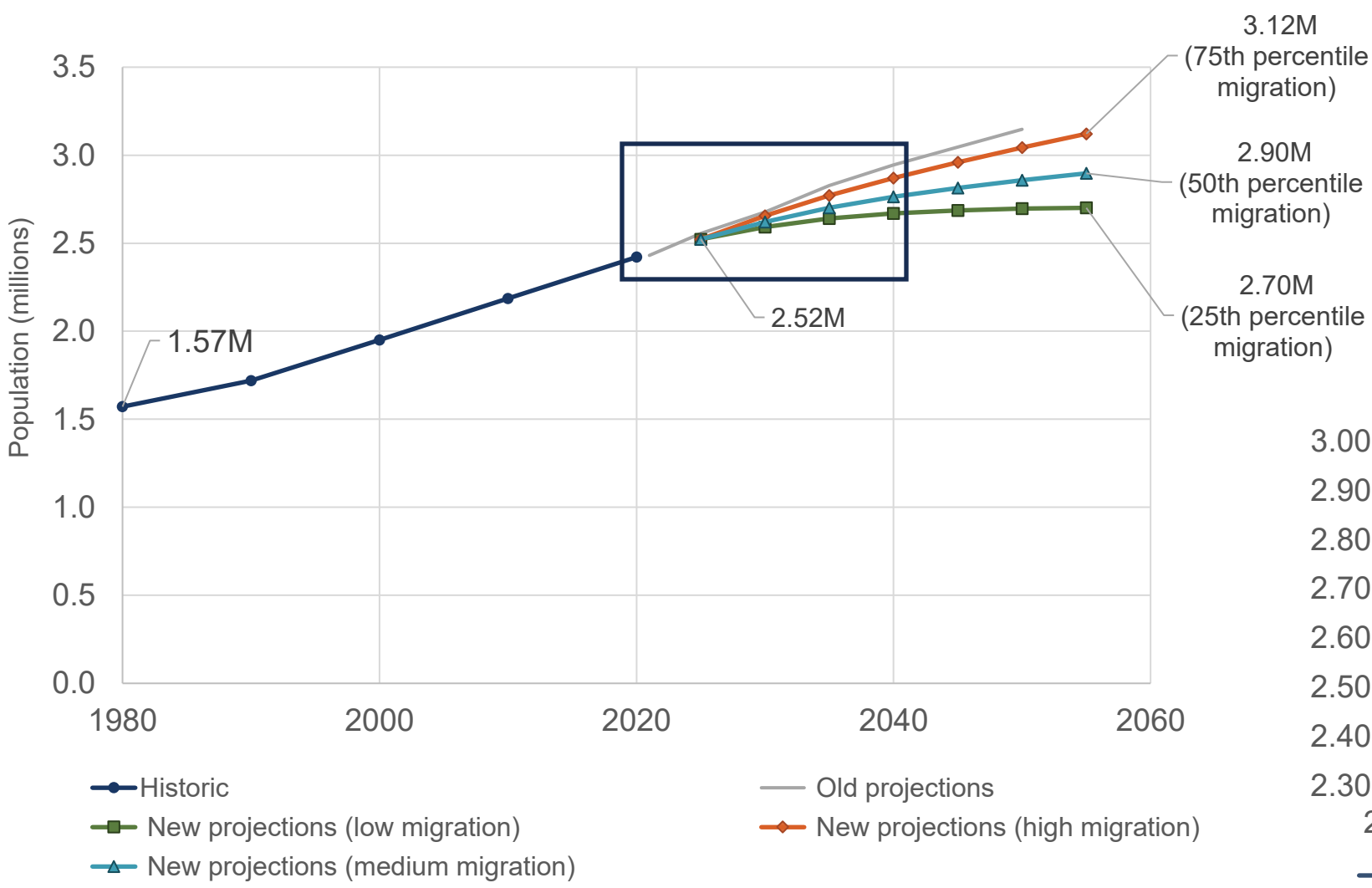


2025-2055 POPULATION Projections

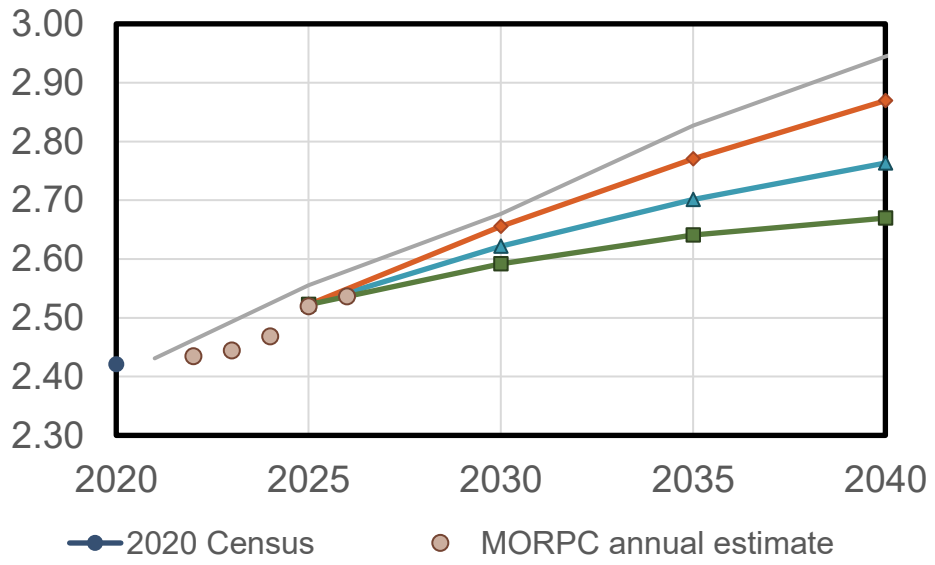
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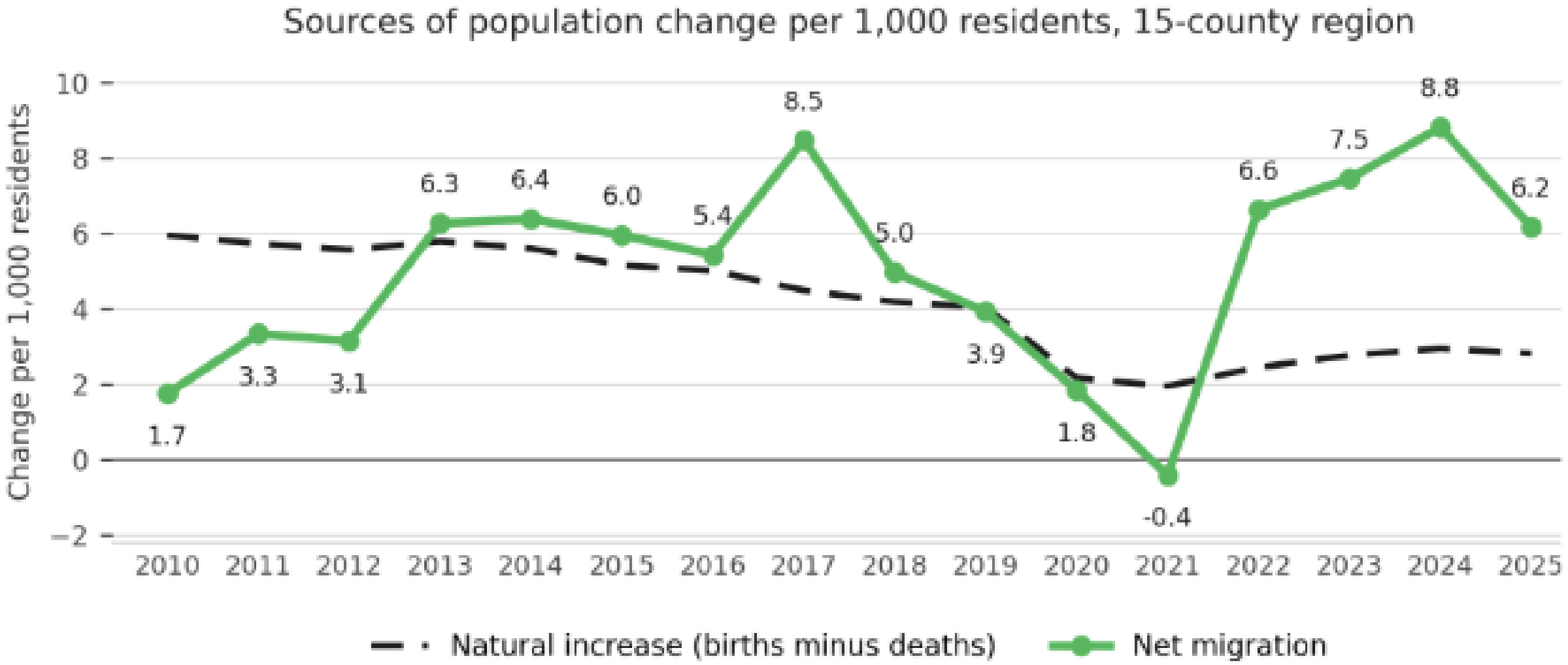
NEW PROJECTIONS: 15-COUNTY POPULATION COULD REACH 2.9M BY 2055



https://bit.ly/2026CountyPopProjections



GROWTH IS SHIFTING FROM BIRTHS TO MIGRATION



WHAT THIS MEANS FOR THE REGION

INSIGHTS

- A more moderate pace is an opportunity
  - Growth will not be evenly distributed
- The state's population would be in decline w/out Central Ohio
- Plans should consider all three scenarios

ACTIONS

- Attraction is now the main growth strategy – growth is not a given
  - Retention is also a growth strategy
- More housing is still needed
- Infrastructure investment is critical
- Regional policy must address larger disruptive trends

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