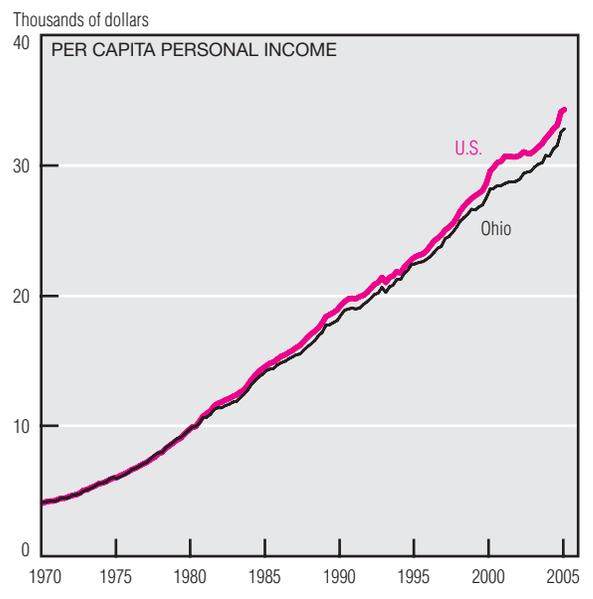
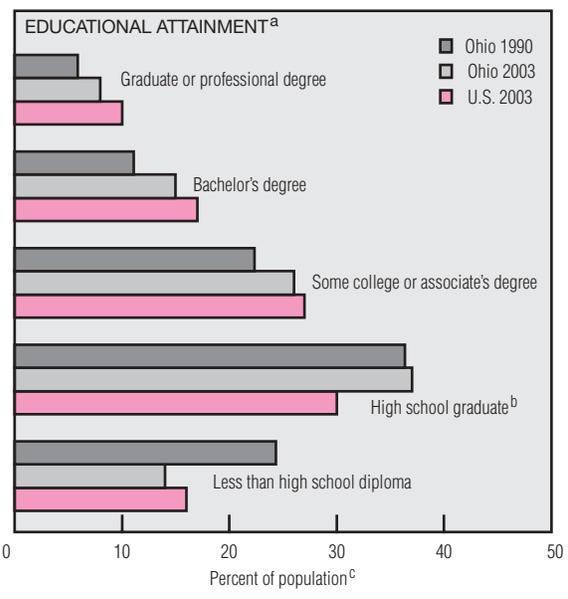
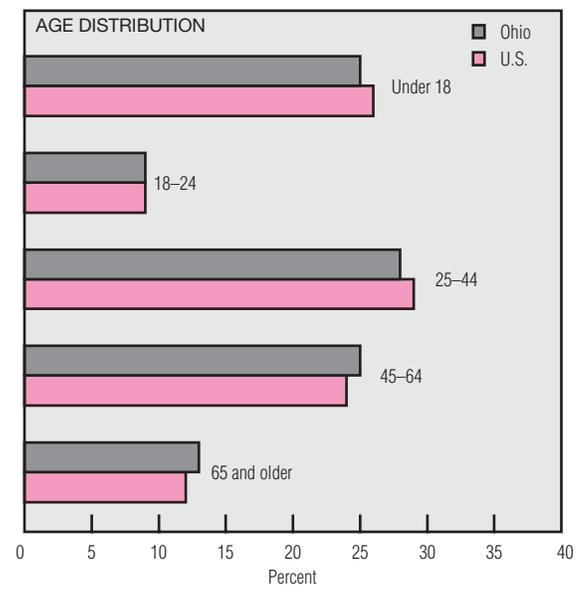
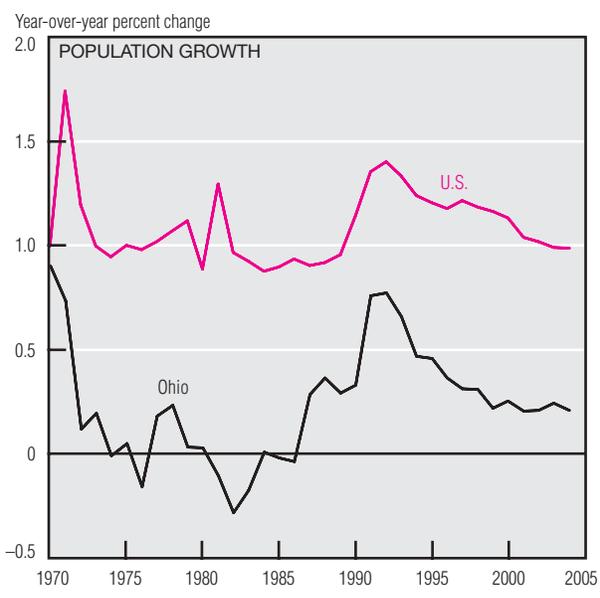


Demographics and Income in Ohio



a. Educational attainment data for 2003 are from the American Community Survey; data for 1990 are from Census 2000.
 b. High school graduates include people with a G.E.D. or similar equivalent.
 c. Aged 25 and older.
 SOURCES: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census and Bureau of Economic Analysis.

Ohio's population growth has consistently lagged the United States' since 1970. For much of the 1970s and 1980s, U.S. population growth hovered around 1%, but Ohio showed essentially no net growth. The growth-rate gap narrowed in the latter half of the 1980s, when Ohio enjoyed a short-lived resurgence in population growth, but it widened throughout the 1990s. As of 2004, this gap was roughly $\frac{3}{4}$ percentage point.

Ohio's slower population growth over the last three decades may be manifesting itself as a higher average age than the nation's: Ohio has a slightly smaller proportion of residents who are under 18 and between the ages of 25 and 44, and a slightly larger proportion who are over 45. This lends some credence to the view that Ohio has not been entirely successful at attracting prime-age workers. A state's inability to attract (or retain) prime-age workers may result in a less-educated populace. Indeed, the

proportion of Ohio's population with post-secondary education is smaller than in the United States as a whole. Until 1980, Ohio and the nation had essentially the same per capita personal income, but the economic and demographic shifts of recent decades have caused Ohio's to drop steadily below the nation's. There has been some convergence since the start of the 2001 recession, but the gap in per capita income remains near postwar highs.