

Population Growth in Maine: A Quick Look at the Challenge

Presentation to Maine Quality of Place
Council

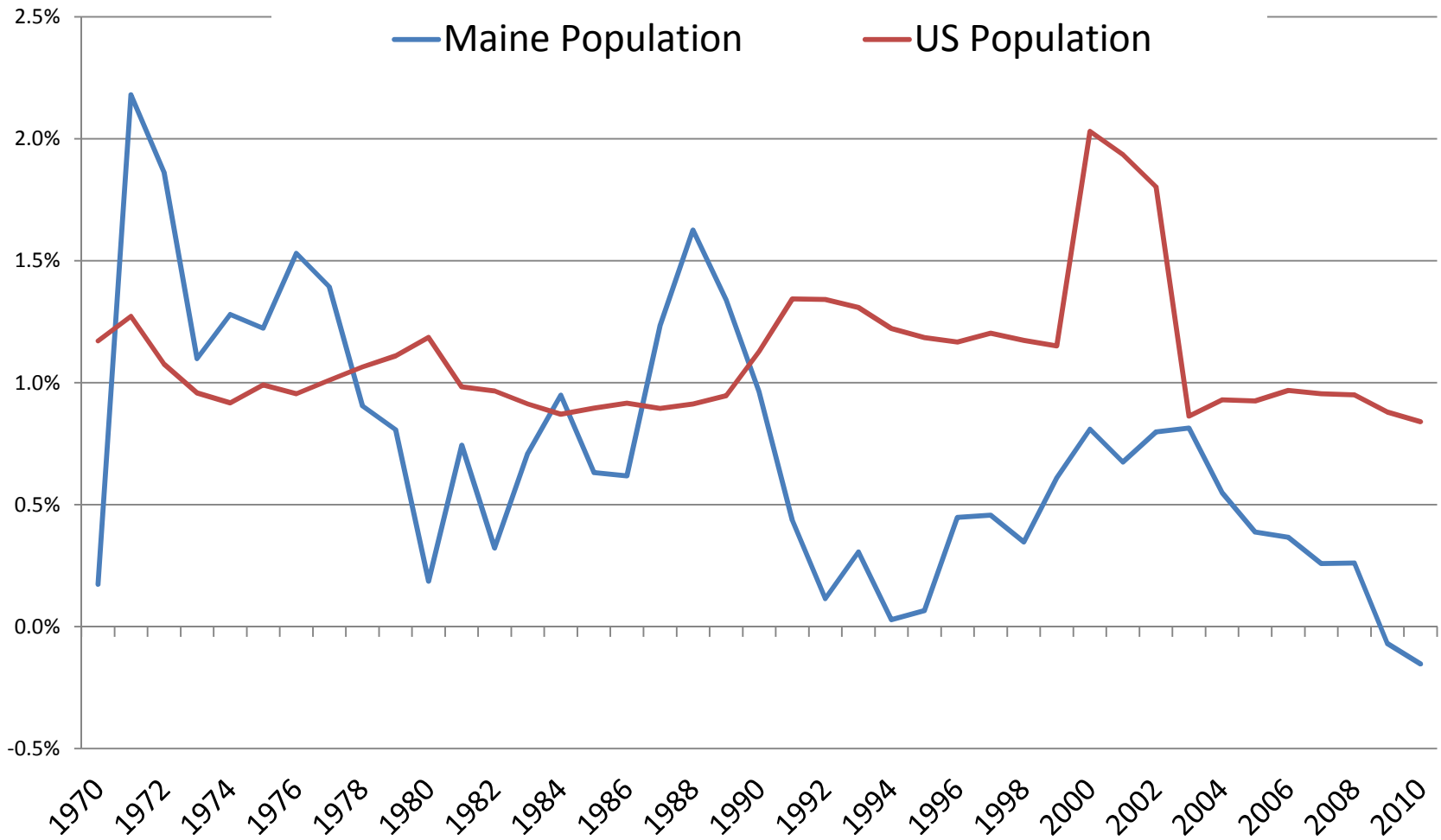
Joel Johnson

November 1, 2011

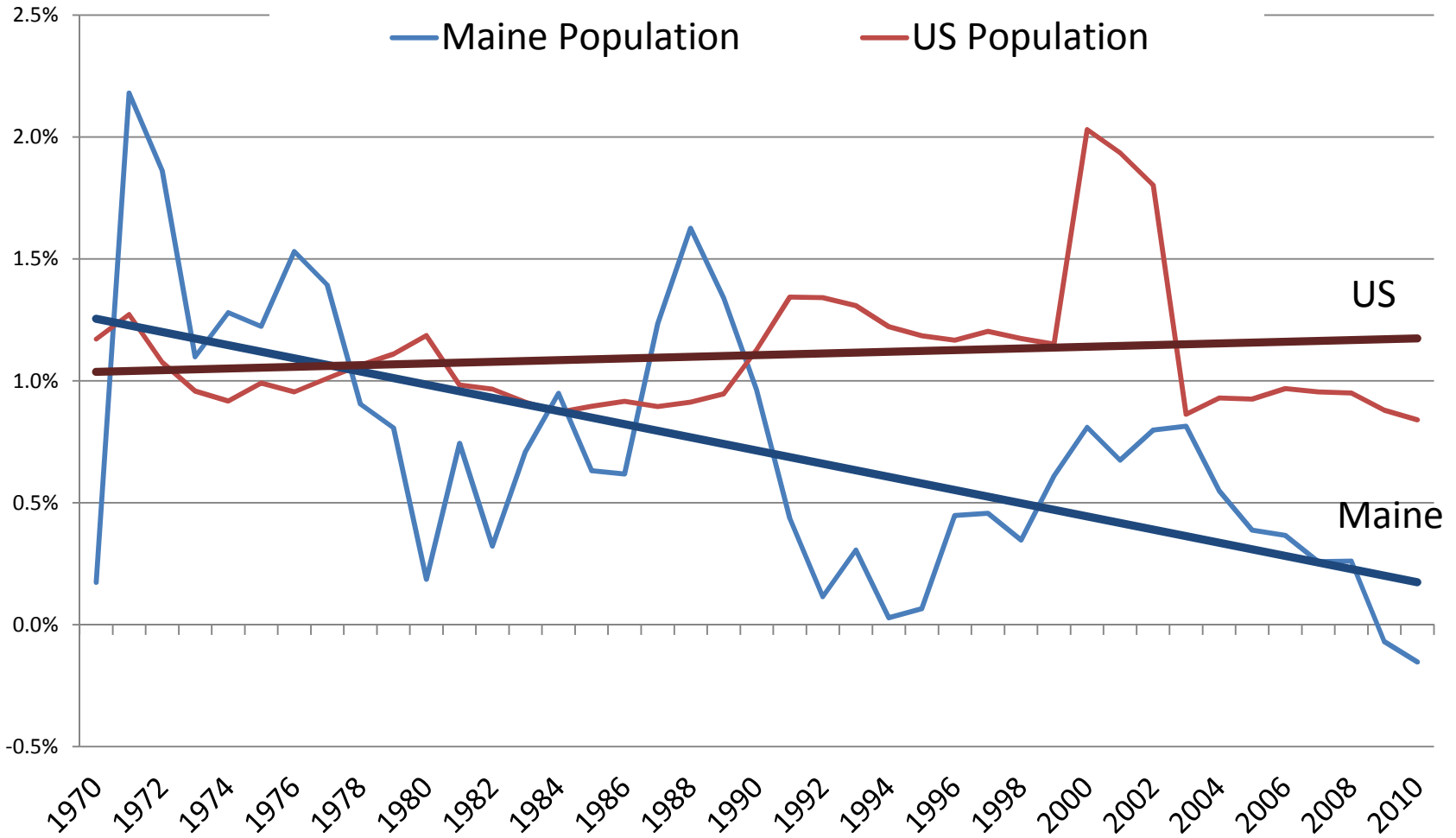
Some Facts

- Maine is the oldest state in the nation: median age = 42.7
- Maine is aging very quickly: median age in 2000 = 37.6
- Maine's population *declined* in 2009 and 2010
- Population growth goes hand-in-hand with economic growth
- Maine's future depends on people:
 - How many?
 - How skilled?
 - How old?
 - How diverse?

Annual Population Change in Maine and the US, 1970-2010



Annual Population Change in Maine and the US, 1970-2010



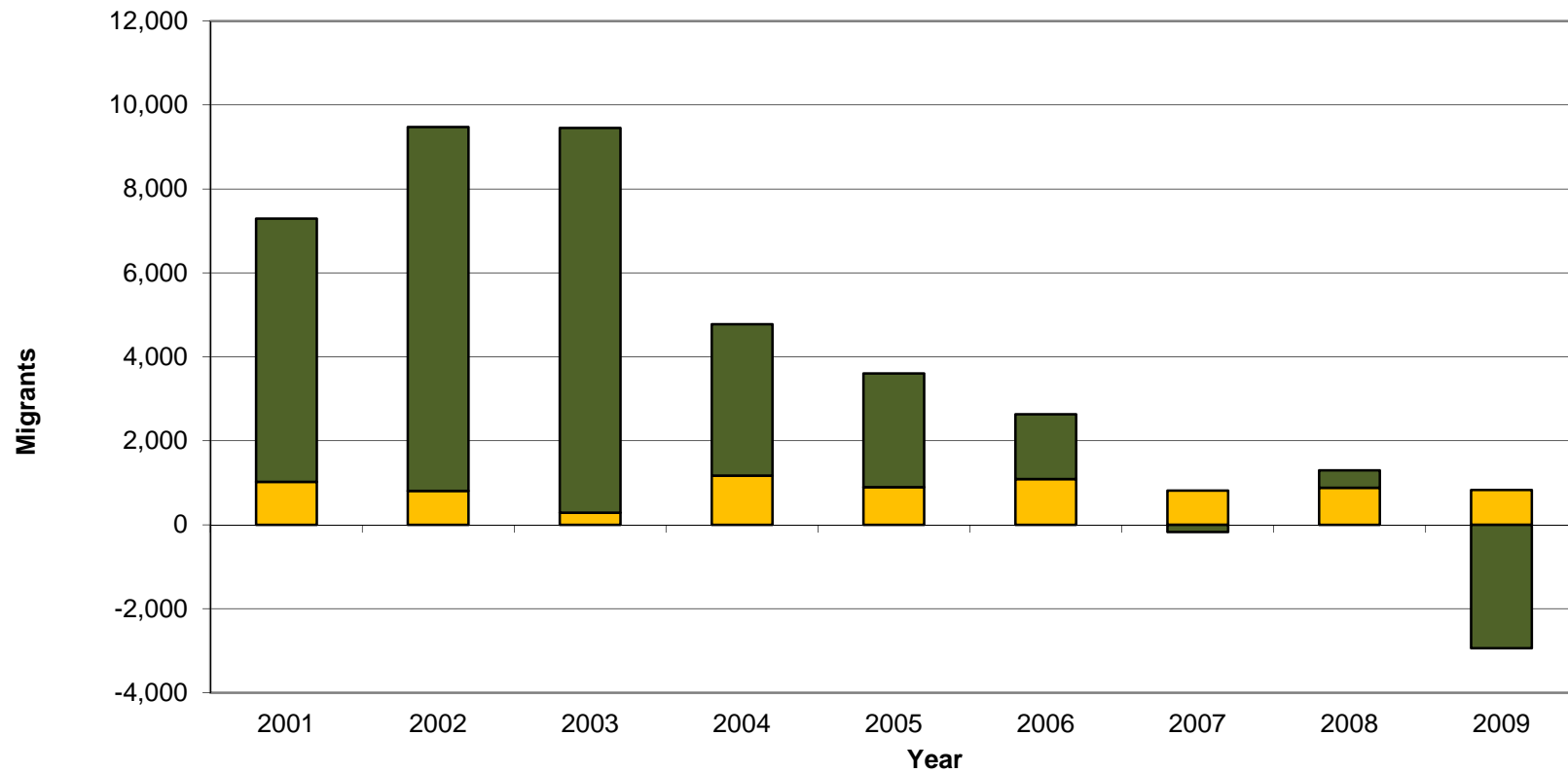
Skilled workers are moving out of rural areas and into cities

- Wall Street Journal (9-22-2011):
 - Latest Census data suggests that metropolitan areas with high education and income levels are widening their lead.
 - “In a knowledge economy, success breeds success” –Alan Berube, Brookings Institution

Migration in Maine

International and Domestic Migration

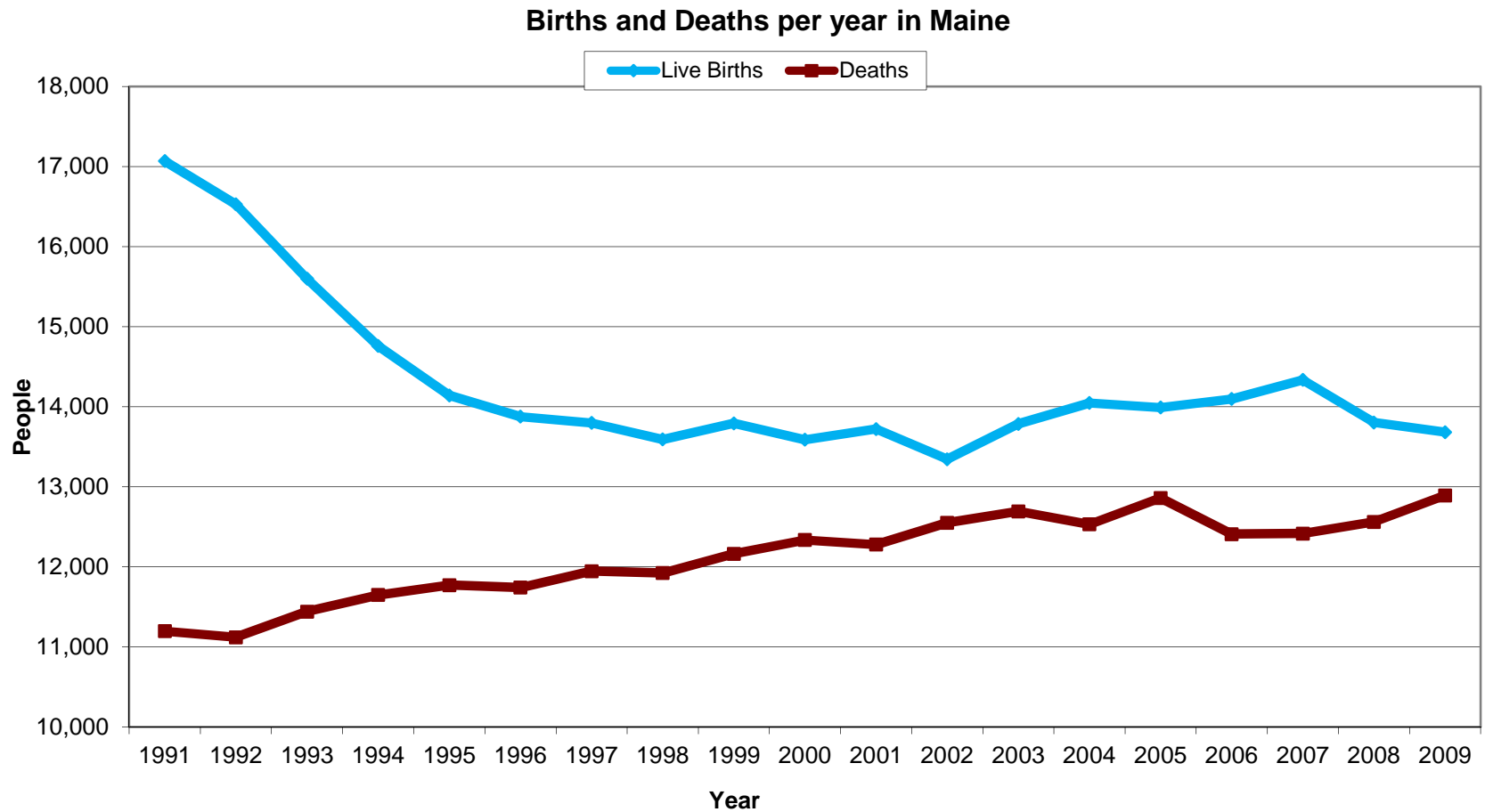
International Domestic



Technological Progress

Type of Job	Location of Job
Foraging jobs	Anywhere on the planet
Farming jobs	Any arable place on the planet
Manufacturing jobs	Towns, cities
Information and service jobs	Cities

It's not just about net migration



Questions

- What kind of demographic future do we want?
- How do we get there?