Domestic Migration and Population Growth

Is Miami-Dade losing population? Should we expect lower growth rates in the future?

Recently released data on migration within the nation indicates otherwise. The data shows both the county of origin for inflow into Miami-Dade and county of destination for outflow. Putting this data into the context of population growth, it is important to realize that this component of population growth has been negative for over thirty years. However, it has been more than offset by natural increase (births minus deaths) and a large steady flow of immigrants.

Disaggregated data produced by the Statistics of Income Division of the Internal Revenue Service for tax years 2000 through 2007 indicated the following:

- Between 2000 and 2007, the inflow and the outflow of people from other counties within the U.S. to and from Miami-Dade County both increased significantly. Year 2000 had the lowest level of in-migration.

- The number of people moving into Miami-Dade grew from 45,703 to 50,057, up by 22.7 percent from the level in 2000. Out-migration has been consistently higher starting from 70,485 in 2000, spiking in 2006 to 85,998, and then dropping in 2007 to 81,629.

- Miami-Dade County has had a negative domestic migration (inflow minus outflow) which stayed relatively stable around 25,000 yearly.

The data clearly indicates that except for 2006, the impact of domestic migration on population growth has been steady and roughly in line with the Miami-Dade projections for this population component.

Further, since natural increase has also remained in line with projected values and there is no indication that immigration has lessened, it should be clear that population in Miami-Dade continues to grow. In fact, more than likely this growth is in the vicinity of 30,000 persons per year.