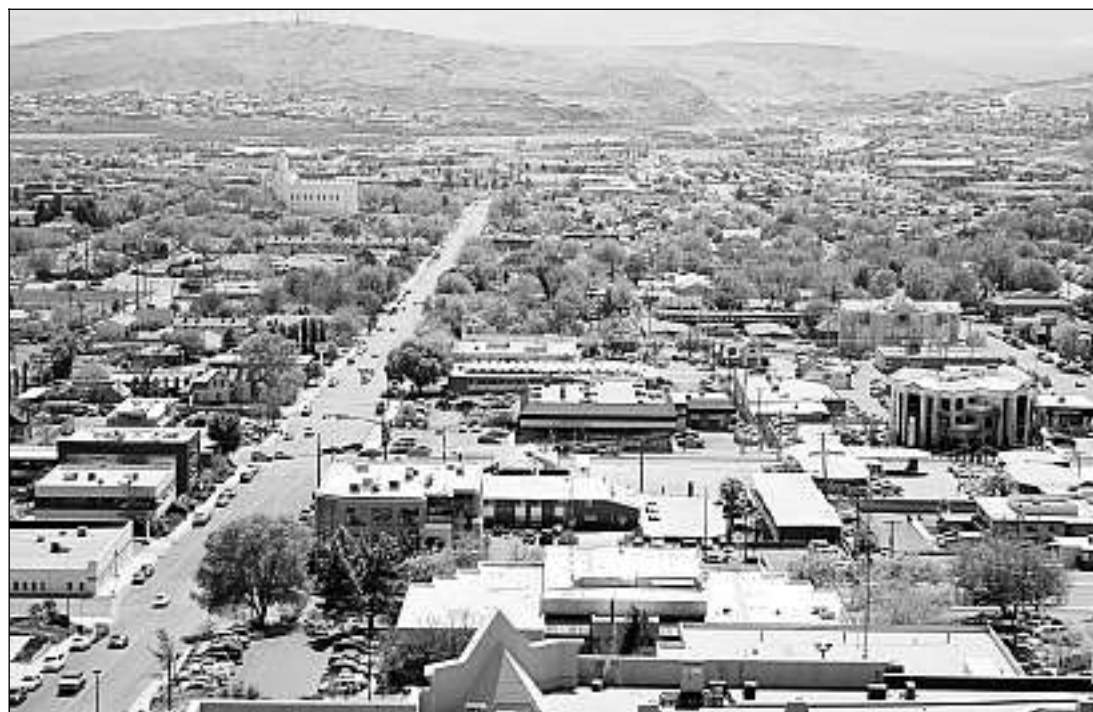


Nation

Population change in states' top urban areas

Metro area	2000 pop.	2006 pop.	Pct. chg.
Alabama			
Birmingham	1,051,305	1,100,019	4.6%
Mobile	399,843	404,157	1.1%
Huntsville	342,627	376,753	10.0%
Montgomery	346,530	361,748	4.4%
Tuscaloosa	193,106	198,769	2.9%
Alaska			
Anchorage	319,605	359,180	12.4%
Fairbanks	82,840	86,754	4.7%
Juneau	30,711	30,737	0.1%
Ketchikan	14,059	13,384	-4.8%
Kodiak	13,913	13,072	-6.0%
Arizona			
Phoenix	3,251,876	4,039,182	24.2%
Tucson	843,746	946,362	12.2%
Prescott	167,517	208,014	24.2%
Lake Havasu City	155,032	193,035	24.5%
Yuma	160,026	187,555	17.2%
Arkansas			
Little Rock	610,520	652,834	6.9%
Fayetteville	347,045	420,876	21.3%
Fort Smith	273,171	288,818	5.7%
Texarkana	129,749	134,510	3.7%
Jonesboro	107,762	113,330	5.2%
California			
Los Angeles	12,365,619	12,950,129	4.7%
San Francisco-Oakland	4,123,742	4,180,027	1.4%
Riverside	3,254,821	4,026,135	23.7%
San Diego	2,813,833	2,941,454	4.5%
Sacramento	1,796,857	2,067,117	15.0%
Colorado			
Denver	2,179,320	2,408,750	10.5%
Colorado Springs	537,484	599,127	11.5%
Boulder	269,787	282,304	4.6%
Fort Collins	251,494	276,253	9.8%
Greeley	180,861	236,857	31.0%
Connecticut			
Hartford	1,148,618	1,188,841	3.5%
Bridgeport	882,567	900,440	2.0%
New Haven	824,008	845,244	2.6%
Norwich	259,106	263,293	1.6%
Torrington	182,212	190,119	4.3%
Delaware			
Seaford	156,635	180,288	15.1%
Dover	126,700	147,601	16.5%
District of Columbia			
Washington	4,796,180	5,290,400	10.3%
Florida			
Miami-Dade	5,007,988	5,463,857	9.1%
Tampa-St. Petersburg	2,396,013	2,697,731	12.6%
Orlando	1,644,563	1,984,855	20.7%
Jacksonville	1,122,750	1,277,997	13.8%
Sarasota	589,963	682,833	15.7%
Georgia			
Atlanta	4,248,012	5,138,223	21.0%
Augusta-Richmond Co.	499,653	523,249	4.7%
Savannah	293,299	320,013	9.1%
Columbus	281,768	288,847	2.5%
Macon	222,385	229,326	3.1%
Hawaii			
Honolulu	876,156	909,863	3.8%
Hilo	148,677	171,191	15.1%
Kaunaloa	128,094	141,320	10.3%
Kapaa	58,463	63,004	7.8%
Idaho			
Boise	464,840	567,640	22.1%
Coeur d'Alene	108,685	131,507	21.0%
Idaho Falls	101,677	116,980	15.1%
Twin Falls	82,626	91,705	11.0%
Pocatello	83,103	86,357	3.9%
Illinois			
Chicago	9,098,615	9,505,748	4.5%
Peoria	366,875	370,194	0.9%
Rockford	320,204	348,252	8.8%
Champaign-Urbana	210,279	216,581	3.0%
Springfield	201,440	206,112	2.3%
Indiana			
Indianapolis	1,525,104	1,666,032	9.2%
Fort Wayne	390,154	408,071	4.6%
Evansville	342,816	350,356	2.2%
South Bend	316,661	318,007	0.4%
Elkhart	182,791	198,105	8.4%
Iowa			
Des Moines	481,398	534,230	11.0%
Davenport	376,052	377,291	0.3%
Cedar Rapids	237,230	249,320	5.1%
Waterloo	163,707	162,263	-0.9%
Sioux City	143,053	143,474	0.3%
Kansas			
Wichita	571,168	592,126	3.7%
Topeka	224,551	228,894	1.9%
Lawrence	99,965	112,123	12.2%
Manhattan	109,008	105,921	-2.8%
Hutchinson	64,790	63,706	-1.7%
Kentucky			
Louisville-Jefferson Co.	1,162,409	1,222,216	5.1%
Lexington	408,326	436,684	6.9%
Bowling Green	104,166	113,320	8.8%
Owensboro	109,875	112,093	2.0%
Elizabethtown	107,543	110,878	3.1%
Louisiana			
New Orleans	1,316,512	1,024,678	-22.2%
Baton Rouge	705,967	766,514	8.6%
Shreveport	375,968	386,778	2.9%
Lafayette	238,906	254,432	6.5%
Houma	194,477	202,902	4.3%
Maine			
Portland	487,568	513,667	5.4%
Bangor	144,919	147,180	1.6%
Augusta	117,114	121,068	3.4%
Lewiston	103,793	107,552	3.6%
Rockland	39,618	41,096	3.7%
Maryland			
Baltimore	2,552,994	2,658,405	4.1%
Hagerstown	222,771	257,619	15.6%

The population of Denver's metropolitan area has topped that of Pittsburgh's, and Houston's has passed Miami's, according to population estimates Thursday by the Census Bureau. The figures are pegged to last July 1. Metros can include dozens of suburban counties or just a single county. On this page are the population changes in each state's largest urban areas. The lists include both metros and smaller counterparts called "micropolitan" areas. Both areas may cross state lines. For this list, each is named for its central city and is listed under that city's state. Example: Metropolitan Chicago stretches into Wisconsin and Indiana, but it is listed under Illinois.



By Michele Stein, St. George Area Chamber of Commerce

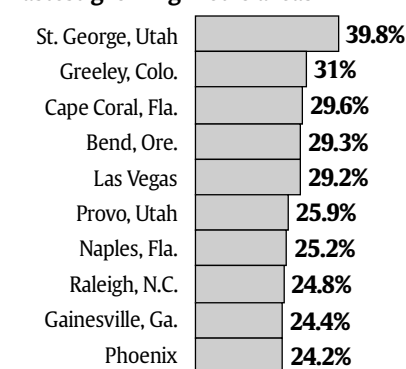
St. George, Utah: Just north of the Arizona border, it was the fastest-growing metro area from 2000 to 2006.

Extremes of growth and loss

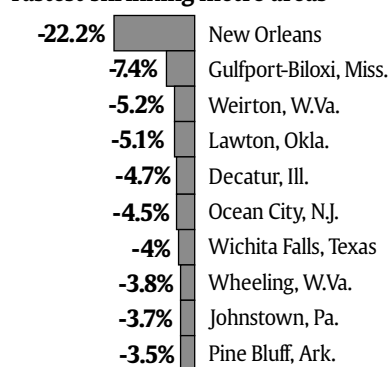
Western mountain states were home to the two metropolitan areas that grew the fastest from 2000 to 2006. At the same time, Hurricane Katrina sent two Southern metropolitan areas to the top of the fastest-shrinking list.

Percentage change, 2000 to 2006

Fastest-growing metro areas



Fastest-shrinking metro areas

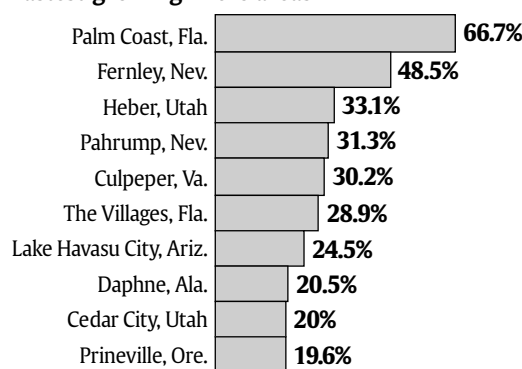


Source: USA TODAY analysis of Census Bureau data by Paul Overberg.

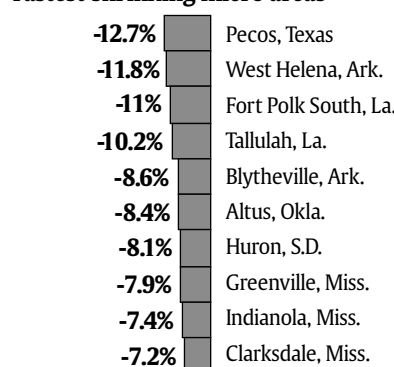
Northern Florida landed two entries on the list of the USA's fastest-growing "micropolitan" areas, while micro areas from Texas, Arkansas and Louisiana held the top five spots among those losing population.

Percentage change, 2000 to 2006

Fastest-growing micro areas



Fastest-shrinking micro areas



By Julie Snider, USA TODAY

The biggest metros

Here are the nation's largest metropolitan areas — regions centered on one or more cities of at least 50,000 people.

Metro area	2000 pop.	2006 pop.	Pct. chg.
New York	18,323,382	18,818,536	2.7%
Los Angeles	12,365,619	12,950,129	4.7%
Chicago	9,098,615	9,505,748	4.5%
Dallas-Fort Worth	5,161,518	6,003,967	16.3%
Philadelphia	5,687,141	5,826,742	2.5%
Houston	4,715,402	5,539,949	17.5%
Miami-Dade	5,007,988	5,463,857	9.1%
Washington	4,796,180	5,290,400	10.3%
Atlanta	4,248,012	5,138,223	21.0%
Detroit	4,452,557	4,468,966	0.4%

Metro area	2000 pop.	2006 pop.	Pct. chg.
Salisbury	109,392	117,761	7.7%
Cumberland	102,008	99,759	-2.2%
Lexington Park	86,232	98,854	14.6%

Massachusetts

Boston	4,392,340	4,455,217	1.4%
Worcester	749,973	784,992	4.7%
Springfield	680,014	686,174	0.9%
Barnstable	222,230	224,816	1.2%
Pittsfield	134,953	131,117	-2.8%

Michigan

Detroit	4,452,557	4,468,966	0.4%
Grand Rapids	740,482	774,084	4.5%
Lansing	447,822	454,044	1.4%
Flint	436,148	441,966	1.3%
Ann Arbor	322,770	344,047	6.6%

Minnesota

Minneapolis-St. Paul	2,968,817	3,175,041	6.9%
Duluth	275,486	274,244	-0.5%
St. Cloud	167,396	182,784	9.2%
Rochester	163,618	179,573	9.8%
Brainerd	82,252	90,045	9.5%

Mississippi

Jackson	497,197	529,456	6.5%
Gulfport-Biloxi	246,190	227,904	-7.4%
Pascagoula	150,564	152,405	1.2%
Hattiesburg	123,812	134,744	8.8%
Tupelo	125,251	131,953	5.4%

Missouri

St. Louis	2,698,672	2,796,368	3.6%
Kansas City	1,836,420	1,967,405	7.1%
Springfield	368,374	407,092	10.5%

Metro area	2000 pop.	2006 pop.	Pct. chg.
Joplin	157,322	168,552	7.1%
Columbia	145,666	155,997	7.1%

Montana

Billings	138,904	148,116	6.6%
Missoula	95,802	101,417	5.9%
Kalispell	74,471	85,314	14.6%
Bozeman	67,831	80,921	19.3%
Great Falls	80,357	79,385	-1.2%

Nebraska

Omaha	767,140	822,549	7.2%
Lincoln	266,787	283,970	6.4%
Grand Island	68,305	70,245	2.8%
Kearney	49,141	50,655	3.1%
Norfolk	49,538	49,413	-0.3%

Nevada

Las Vegas	1,375,738	1,777,539	29.2%
Reno	342,885	400,560	16.8%
Carson City	52,457	55,289	5.4%
Fernley	34,501	51,231	48.5%
Elko	46,942	48,594	3.5%

New Hampshire

Manchester	380,843	402,789	5.8%
Lebanon	167,413	172,429	3.0%
Concord	136,225	148,085	8.7%
Keene</			