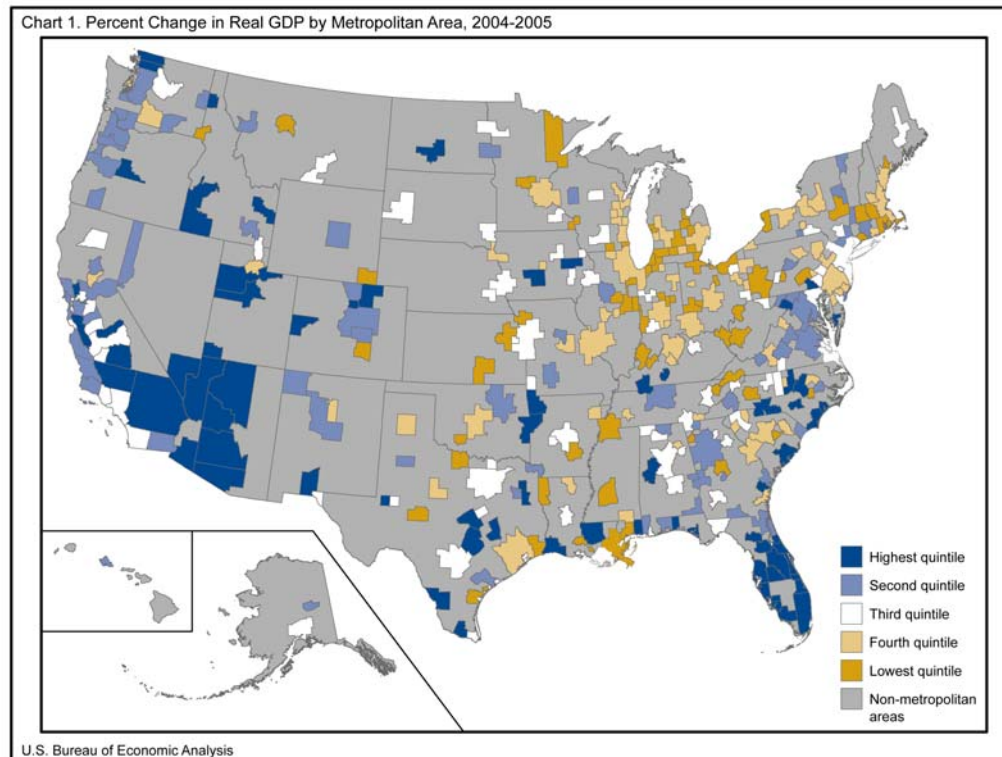


## BEA INTRODUCES NEW MEASURES OF THE METROPOLITAN ECONOMY

### *Prototype Estimates of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) by Metropolitan Area, 2001-2005*

Today, the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis released experimental measures of economic output produced in the Nation's metropolitan areas.<sup>1</sup> GDP by metropolitan area is the measure of the market value of final goods and services produced within a metropolitan area in a particular period of time. GDP is BEA's preferred and most comprehensive measure of economic activity. These are prototype statistics and are being released for evaluation and comment by data users.<sup>2</sup>



- To put these new prototype estimates into perspective, in 2005, current-dollar GDP for the Nation was \$12.4 trillion; it was \$1.6 trillion for California, the largest state; and it was \$1.1 trillion for the New York metropolitan area.
- In 2005, metropolitan areas produced 90 percent of U.S. GDP.
- The five largest metropolitan areas accounted for 23 percent of the U.S. total, whereas the smallest 75 metropolitan areas accounted for less than two percent.
- Chart 1 shows that strong growth in real GDP by metropolitan area in 2005 occurred along the western and southern coasts. Growth was particularly robust and widespread in metropolitan areas located in Florida. In contrast, metropolitan areas near the Great Lakes didn't perform as well.

<sup>1</sup> Metropolitan (statistical) areas, defined by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget, are standardized county-based areas having at least one urbanized area of 50,000 or more population, plus adjacent territory that has a high degree of social and economic integration with the core, as measured by commuting ties.

<sup>2</sup> The prototype estimates of GDP by metropolitan area are based on county earnings by industry from BEA's local area personal income accounts released April 26, 2007 and on the GDP-by-state estimates released June 7, 2007.

BEA data—including GDP, personal income, the balance of payments, foreign direct investment, the input-output accounts, and economic data for states, local areas, and industries—are available on the BEA Web site: [www.bea.gov](http://www.bea.gov). [E-mail](#) alerts are also available.

NOTE: The next release of GDP by metropolitan area will be in the Fall of 2008.