POPULATION DISTRIBUTION IN 2005

Using information on births, deaths, and domestic and international migration, the U.S. Census Bureau publishes population estimates as of July 1 for every year following a census. The results are used to determine federal funding allocations, to monitor population trends, and to improve the accuracy of surveys. The estimates in this report are for July 1, 2005, and cover the 50 states and the District of Columbia.

The Nation and Regions

Between Census Day (April 1, 2000) and July 1, 2005, the resident population of the United States grew from 281.4 million to 296.4 million, an increase of 5 percent. During this period, 21.3 million U.S. residents were born and 12.7 million died, creating a "natural increase" of 8.6 million people. The net increase from

Words That Count

Population estimates, as produced by the Census Bureau's Population Estimates Program, are approximations of populations for present or past dates. The calculations begin with the most recent census counts and are updated using data on births, deaths, net internal migration, and net international migration. Estimates of net international migration are developed from data from Census 2000 and the annual American Community Survey (ACS). Estimates of net internal migration are developed from tax returns and Medicare enrollment. The population estimates in this report are based on Census 2000. The numbers in this report cover the 50 states and the District of Columbia; they do not include Puerto Rico or any of the U.S. island areas: the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, or the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Resident population includes all people living in the United States.
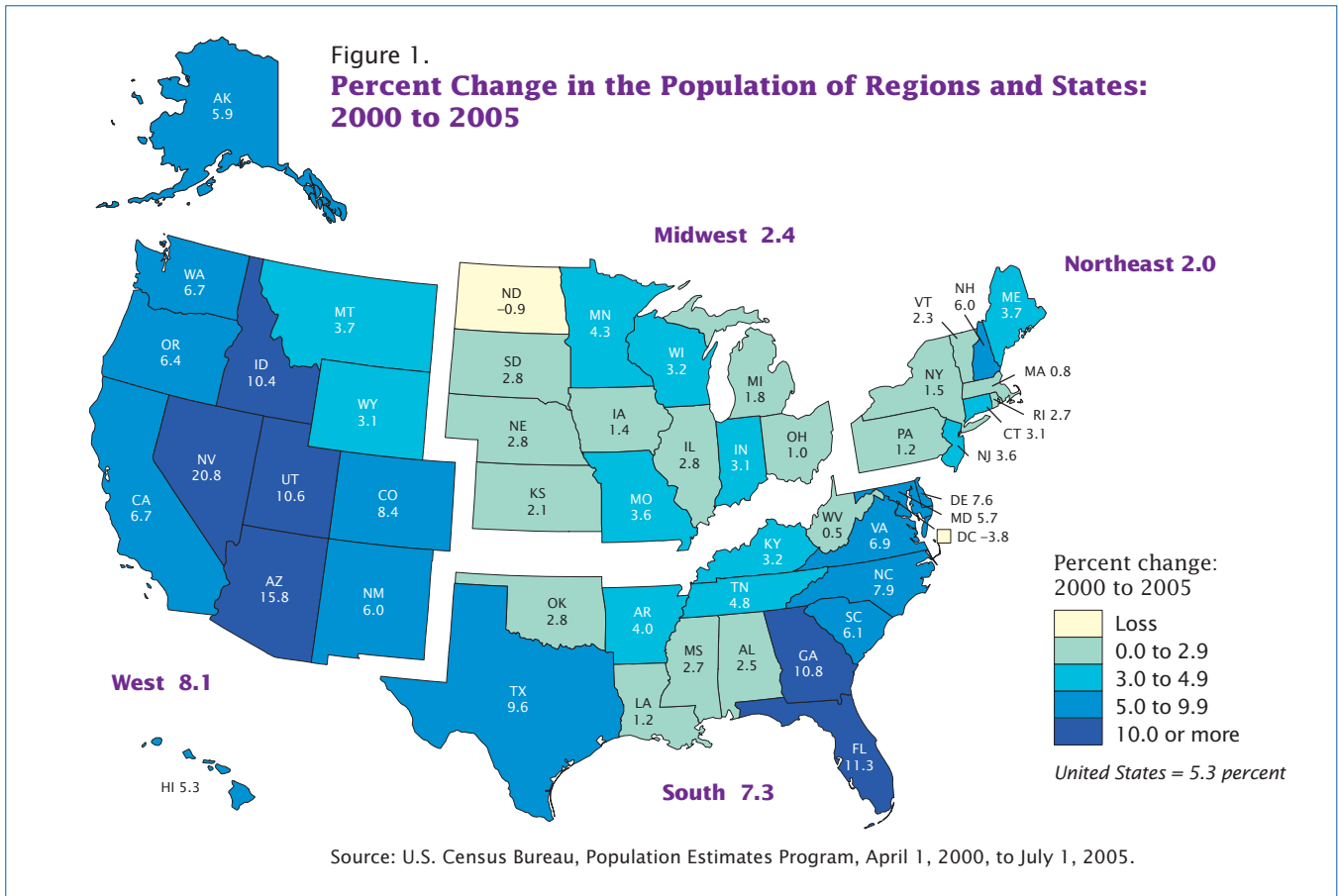
Civilian noninstitutionalized population is the basic population represented in the Census Bureau's surveys used in this report: the Current Population Survey (CPS), the Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP), and the American Housing Survey (AHS). It includes everyone living in the United States who is not in an institution (such as a prison or a nursing home) or living on a military base.[1] Because

it does not include these populations, the 2005 civilian noninstitutionalized population (291.2 million) was smaller than the 2005 resident population (296.4). Although the two population universes also differed from one another in age and sex distribution, the differences were generally small. The resident population contained a higher proportion of men than the civilian noninstitutionalized population (49.3 percent compared with 48.9 percent) and a higher proportion of adults 65 and older (12.4 percent compared with 12.1 percent).

The four **statistical regions of the United States** are groups of states for which data are presented. They include the Northeast, the Midwest, the South, and the West, as shown in Figure 1.

Metropolitan and micropolitan statistical areas, as defined by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB), are collectively known as core-based statistical areas (**CBSAs**). Also called **metro areas** and **micro areas**, these geographical areas consist of one or more counties or county equivalents. Metro areas contain at least one Census-Bureau-defined urbanized area of 50,000 or more people, while micro areas contain at least one urban cluster of 10,000 to 49,000 people. See <www.census.gov/geo/www/ua/ua_2k.html>. Territory not included in either a metro or a micro area is referred to as **"outside CBSAs."** Analysis of population change in metro and micro areas in this chapter uses the December 2005 definitions of CBSAs. For more information on OMB standards, see <www.census.gov/population/www/estimates /00-32997.pdf>.

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[1] Members of the armed forces who live off post or who live with their families on post are included in the Annual Social and Economic Supplement (ASEC) to the CPS and in the SIPP, as long as one civilian adult lives in the same household. The "regular" CPS never includes people in the military, but it does include other household members living with someone in the military, as long as there is one civilian adult in the household. The AHS includes people in the military living off base in the United States.

Figure 1.
**Percent Change in the Population of Regions and States:
2000 to 2005**

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program, April 1, 2000, to July 1, 2005.

international migration (in-migrants minus out-migrants) added another 6.3 million people.

Between Census Day and July 1, 2005, the West was the fastest-growing region, increasing by 8 percent (Figure 1). The South had the second-fastest growth rate—7 percent. In contrast, the growth rate in both the Midwest and the Northeast was about 2 percent.

Among the country's four statistical regions, the South was the most populous in 2005, containing 107.5 million people or 36 percent of the U.S. total. The West and the Midwest followed with 68.3 million and 66.0 million people, respectively. The Northeast had the smallest population size, 54.6 million people.

States

Nevada was the fastest-growing state between April 1, 2000, and July 1, 2005. With a 21 percent growth rate, Nevada's total population reached 2.4 million. With a 16 percent increase, Arizona was the second-most rapidly growing state. Florida ranked third with an increase of 11 percent. Between April 1, 2000, and

July 1, 2005, North Dakota's population dropped by 0.9 percent.

California remained the most populous state, with 36.1 million people in 2005, and constituted 12 percent of the U.S. total population. The second- and third-most populous states were Texas (22.9 million) and New York (19.3 million). The least populated states in 2005 were Wyoming (509,300), Vermont (623,100), and North Dakota (636,700).

Counties

There are 3,141 counties in the United States. Among the counties with populations of 10,000 or more, two increased 50 percent or more between Census Day and July 2005, as shown in Table 1. Flagler County, Florida, increased 53 percent and Loudoun County, Virginia, increased 51 percent. Among the top 10 fastest-growing counties during this time period, 7 were in the South (Flagler County, Florida; Loudon County, Virginia; Rockwall County, Texas; Forsyth County, Georgia; Henry County, Georgia; Newton County, Georgia; and Paulding County, Georgia);

Table 1.
Ten Fastest-Growing Counties With Populations of 10,000 or More: 2000 to 2005
(Numbers in thousands)

Rank	County	Population		Change, 2000 to 2005	
		April 1, 2000	July 1, 2005	Number	Percent
1	Flagler, FL...............................	49.8	76.4	26.6	53.3
2	Loudoun, VA..............................	169.6	255.5	85.9	50.7
3	Rockwall, TX.............................	43.1	62.9	19.9	46.1
4	Kendall, IL...............................	54.5	79.5	25.0	45.8
5	Forsyth, GA..............................	98.4	140.4	42.0	42.7
6	Douglas, CO.............................	175.8	249.4	73.7	41.9
7	Henry, GA	119.4	167.8	48.5	40.6
8	Newton, GA..............................	62.0	86.7	24.7	39.9
9	Lincoln, SD	24.1	33.4	9.2	38.2
10	Paulding, GA.............................	81.6	112.4	30.8	37.8

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program, April 1, 2000, and July 1, 2005.

Table 2.
Ten Largest U.S. Cities: 2000 and 2005
(Numbers in thousands)

Rank	City	Population		Change, 2000 to 2005	
		April 1, 2000	July 1, 2005	Number	Percent
1	New York, NY..............................	8,008.7	8,143.2	135.5	1.7
2	Los Angeles, CA	3,694.6	3,844.8	150.3	4.1
3	Chicago, IL	2,896.0	2,842.5	−53.5	−1.8
4	Houston, TX	1,957.0	2,016.6	59.6	3.0
5	Philadelphia, PA..........................	1,517.6	1,463.3	−54.3	−3.6
6	Phoenix, AZ...............................	1,321.6	1,461.6	140.0	10.6
7	San Antonio, TX..........................	1,151.4	1,256.5	105.1	9.1
8	San Diego, CA	1,223.4	1,255.5	32.1	2.6
9	Dallas, TX	1,188.6	1,213.8	25.2	2.1
10	San Jose, CA	895.3	912.3	17.0	1.9

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program, April 1, 2000, and July 1, 2005.

1 county was in the West (Douglas County, Colorado); and 2 were in the Midwest (Kendall County, Illinois, and Lincoln County, South Dakota).

Sixty-one percent of U.S. counties grew between Census Day and July 1, 2005. Over the 5-year period, a quarter of the counties grew as fast or faster than the nation as a whole. One in ten counties grew at twice the national rate.

The most populous county in 2005 was Los Angeles County, California—9.9 million. The second-most populous county in the country was Cook County, Illinois (which includes Chicago), with 5.3 million people. It was followed by Harris County, Texas (which includes Houston), with 3.7 million people, and Maricopa County, Arizona (which includes Phoenix), with 3.6 million people.

Places

Among the places in the United States for which the Census Bureau makes estimates, 254 have populations of 100,000 or more.[2] While the nation's population grew by 5 percent between Census Day (April 1, 2000) and July 1, 2005, the two fastest-growing places with more than 100,000 people—Gilbert, Arizona (58 percent), and North Las Vegas, Nevada (53 percent)—grew ten times as fast.[3] Placing third, fourth, and fifth, respectively, were Port St. Lucie, Florida (48 percent), Miramar, Florida (47 percent), and Elk Grove, California (39 percent). Finishing out the list of the ten fastest-growing

[2] All but two of these places, Honolulu, Hawaii, and Arlington, Virginia, are incorporated.
[3] A place is a concentration of population either legally bounded as an incorporated place or identified as a Census Designated Place (CDP). All of the top ten largest places are incorporated cities.

Population Change in Metropolitan and Micropolitan Statistical Areas: 2000–2005

The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) identifies core-based statistical areas (CBSAs), areas that include metropolitan statistical areas (or metro areas) and micropolitan statistical areas (or micro areas). In 2005, 296.4 million people lived in the United States—246.5 million (83 percent) in metro areas and 30.4 million (10 percent) in micro areas. The remaining 19.5 million people (7 percent) lived in territory outside CBSAs.

Between 2000 and 2005, the metro population increased 6.0 percent—double the rate for micro areas (3.0 percent) and about six times as fast as for territory outside CBSAs (1 percent). Among metro areas, the Saint George, UT metropolitan statistical area grew the fastest—32 percent. The Greeley, CO metropolitan statistical area was in second place with a growth rate of 27 percent, and the Las Vegas-Paradise, NV metropolitan statistical area was third with a 24 percent gain.

Regional Growth

In the Northeast and the West, 90 percent of residents lived in metro areas. Eighty percent of residents in the South were metro area dwellers. The region with the smallest share of residents living in metro areas was the Midwest—76 percent of residents lived in metro areas.

Metro area populations grew the fastest in the South (8 percent) and the West (8 percent) and the slowest in the Northeast (2 percent) and the Midwest (3 percent). With a 6 percent increase, the fastest-growing micro area population was in the West. The South followed with a 4 percent gain. The Northeast's micro area population experienced an increase of 2 percent. The micro area population increase was slowest in the Midwest (1 percent).

The West had the fastest growth for populations outside of CBSAs—3 percent. This population increased by 2 percent in the Northeast and the South but declined slightly in the Midwest (–0.2 percent).

Largest Metropolitan Statistical Areas

In 2005, 54 percent of the U.S. population lived in the 50 metro areas with populations of 1 million or more. The New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island, NY-NJ-PA metropolitan statistical area was the largest metro area—containing 18.7 million people, as shown in Table 3. With the exception of the Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Marietta, GA metropolitan statistical area—which was eleventh in 2000 and ninth in 2005—each of the ten largest metro areas in 2005 had been among the ten largest metro areas in 2000. The Boston-Cambridge-Quincy, MA-NH metropolitan statistical area fell from tenth in 2000 to eleventh in 2005.

Table 3.
Ten Most Populous Metropolitan Statistical Areas: 2005

(Numbers in thousands)

Rank	Metropolitan statistical area	Population July 1, 2005	Change, 2000 to 2005	
			Number	Percent
1	New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island, NY-NJ-PA . . .	18,747	424	2.3
2	Los Angeles-Long Beach-Santa Ana, CA	12,924	558	4.5
3	Chicago-Naperville-Joliet, IL-IN-WI.	9,443	345	3.8
4	Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington, PA-NJ-DE-MD	5,823	136	2.4
5	Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington, TX	5,819	658	12.7
6	Miami-Fort Lauderdale-Miami Beach, FL	5,422	414	8.3
7	Houston-Sugar Land-Baytown, TX	5,280	565	12.0
8	Washington-Arlington-Alexandria, DC-VA-MD-WV	5,215	418	8.7
9	Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Marietta, GA	4,918	670	15.8
10	Detroit-Warren-Livonia, MI	4,488	36	0.8

Note: Data are for the April 1, 2000, estimate and July 1, 2005. Areas are defined by the Office of Management and Budget as of December 2005.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program, April 1, 2000, and July 1, 2005.

places of 100,000 or more were Cape Coral, Florida (37 percent), Chandler, Arizona (33 percent), Rancho Cucamonga, California (33 percent), Roseville, California (33 percent), and Henderson, Nevada (32 percent). Seventy-two percent of all places with populations of 100,000 or more grew.

New York City, with a population of 8.1 million in 2005, was the largest city in the United States, as shown in Table 2. Los Angeles (3.8 million) and Chicago (2.8 million) ranked second and third. Phoenix and San Antonio were the fastest-growing cities among the ten largest places, growing 11 percent and 9 percent, respectively. Chicago and Philadelphia lost population since Census 2000. San Jose ranked tenth in population size in 2005, after passing Detroit which ranked tenth in 2000.

The Census Bureau Can Tell You More

Consult the following Census Bureau Current Population Report: *Population Change in Metropolitan and Micropolitan Statistical Areas: 1990–2003* (P25-1134) by Paul Mackun.

Look for complete reports and detailed tables on the Census Bureau's Web site <www.census.gov>.

Go to the Population Estimates Program's Web site <www.census.gov/popest/estimates.php>.

Contact the Census Bureau's Demographic Call Center (toll-free) at 1-866-758-1060.

E-mail <ask.census.gov>.