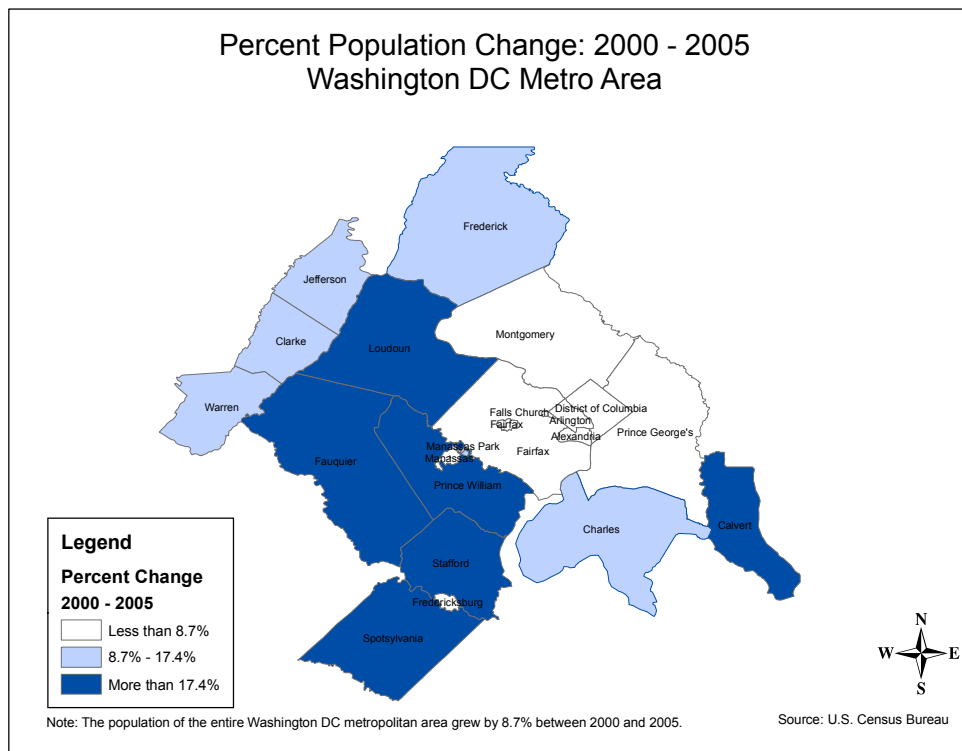


The Washington MSA Population Grows by 418,400 in the Last 5 Years

**July 1, 2005 Population = 5,214,600**

The U.S. Bureau of the Census recently released July 1, 2005 population estimates for counties in the U.S. The population estimates for the first half of the first decade of the century show that the region's population growth is paralleling the region's economic performance and its place in leading job growth among all major metropolitan areas. As the 4<sup>th</sup> largest economy in the U.S., the Washington metropolitan area continues to show strong population growth. The population growth patterns are mirroring the job growth patterns in the region as the suburban areas in Northern Virginia continue to grow the fastest, particularly in the ring of counties outside Fairfax. Loudoun, Prince William, Fauquier, Stafford, and Spotsylvania are the fastest growing counties in population. These population growth trends have also been part of the strong surge in housing prices in the past few years, and as long as job growth continues in the region, population growth and housing demand will follow.



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Key findings of this newly available information.

- The Washington-Arlington-Alexandria Metropolitan Statistical Area had a 2005 population of 5,214,600. The metro area has grown by 418,400 persons since 2000, which represents an average growth of approximately 84,000 persons per year – the equivalent of adding a new Calvert County to the metro area each year. This is a 4-year growth of 8.7 percent.
- Within the metropolitan area, Loudoun County continued to lead all counties in rate of growth, adding 85,900 in population since 2000 – an increase of 50.6% in five years. Prince William County added the second largest amount in absolute change with +67,800, followed by Montgomery County (+54,300), Prince George’s County (+44,600), and Fairfax County (+36,800).
- Four metropolitan area counties ranked in the top 100 counties in the U.S. in rate of growth from 2000-2005. They were:
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> – Loudoun County with 50.7%
  - 26<sup>th</sup> – Spotsylvania County with 28.9%
  - 36<sup>th</sup> – Stafford County with 27.5%
  - 54<sup>th</sup> – Prince William County with 24.1%
  - Two Virginia counties just outside the official Metro definition were also in the top 100 with Culpeper County ranking 55<sup>th</sup> with a 24.1% increase and King George County ranking 72<sup>nd</sup> with 22.8% increase. Berkeley County, WVA ranked 71<sup>st</sup> with a 23.0% increase.
- According to the Census Bureau’s estimates of population, the District of Columbia declined by 21,600 persons since 2000, while Suburban Maryland added 155,900 and Northern Virginia added 277,100.
- The Washington-Baltimore-Northern Virginia Combined Statistical Area, which includes the Baltimore-Towson MSA, the Winchester, VA MSA, the Micropolitan Statistical Areas of Culpeper, VA and Lexington Park (St Mary’s County), MD, had a July 1, 2005, population of 8,125,500. The combined area grew by 552,700 from 2000-2005, an increase of 7.3%.
- The Baltimore-Towson Metropolitan Statistical Area grew from 2,553,100 in 2000 to 2,655,700 in 2005 – an increase of 102,600 (4.0%).

Following are tables showing details of the above data. For definitions of Combined, Metropolitan, and Micropolitan Statistical Areas, see:

<http://www.census.gov/population/www/estimates/aboutmetro.html>

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**Table 1. Population 1990 - 2005**  
**Washington-Baltimore-Northern Virginia, DC-MD-VA-WV Combined Statistical Area by Components**

Washington-Arlington-Alexandria, DC-MD-VA-WV Metropolitan Statistical Area  
(Metro Area Definitions as of June 2003, OMB)

	1990	2000	2005	1990 - 2000		2000 - 2005	
				Change	% Change	Change	% Change
District of Columbia	606,900	572,100	550,500	-34,800	-5.7%	-21,600	-3.8%
Calvert County	51,400	74,600	87,900	23,200	45.1%	13,300	17.8%
Charles County	101,200	120,500	138,800	19,300	19.1%	18,300	15.2%
Frederick County	150,200	195,300	220,700	45,100	30.0%	25,400	13.0%
Montgomery County	757,000	873,300	927,600	116,300	15.4%	54,300	6.2%
Prince George's County	729,300	801,500	846,100	72,200	9.9%	44,600	5.6%
<b>Suburban Maryland</b>	<b>1,789,100</b>	<b>2,065,200</b>	<b>2,221,100</b>	<b>276,100</b>	<b>15.4%</b>	<b>155,900</b>	<b>7.5%</b>
Arlington County	170,900	189,500	196,000	18,600	10.9%	6,500	3.4%
Clarke County	12,100	12,700	14,200	600	5.0%	1,500	11.8%
Fairfax County	818,600	969,700	1,006,500	151,100	18.5%	36,800	3.8%
Fauquier County	48,700	55,100	65,000	6,400	13.1%	9,900	18.0%
Loudoun County	86,100	169,600	255,500	83,500	97.0%	85,900	50.6%
Prince William County	215,700	280,800	348,600	65,100	30.2%	67,800	24.1%
Spotsylvania County	57,400	90,400	116,500	33,000	57.5%	26,100	28.9%
Stafford County	61,200	92,400	117,900	31,200	51.0%	25,500	27.6%
Warren County	26,100	31,600	35,600	5,500	21.1%	4,000	12.7%
Alexandria city	111,200	128,300	135,300	17,100	15.4%	7,000	5.5%
Fairfax city	19,600	21,500	22,000	1,900	9.7%	500	2.3%
Falls Church city	9,600	10,400	10,800	800	8.3%	400	3.8%
Fredericksburg city	19,000	19,300	20,700	300	1.6%	1,400	7.3%
Manassas city	28,000	35,100	37,600	7,100	25.4%	2,500	7.1%
Manassas Park city	6,700	10,300	11,600	3,600	53.7%	1,300	12.6%
<b>Northern Virginia</b>	<b>1,690,900</b>	<b>2,116,700</b>	<b>2,393,800</b>	<b>425,800</b>	<b>25.2%</b>	<b>277,100</b>	<b>13.1%</b>
Jefferson County, WV	35,900	42,200	49,200	6,300	17.5%	7,000	16.6%
<b>Washington MSA Total</b>	<b>4,122,800</b>	<b>4,796,200</b>	<b>5,214,600</b>	<b>673,400</b>	<b>16.3%</b>	<b>418,400</b>	<b>8.7%</b>

**Table 1 (cont.)  
Baltimore-Towson, MD Metropolitan Statistical Area**

	1990	2000	2005	1990 - 2000		2000 - 2005	
				Change	% Change	Change	% Change
Anne Arundel County	427,200	489,700	510,900	62,500	14.6%	21,200	4.3%
Baltimore County	692,100	754,300	786,100	62,200	9.0%	31,800	4.2%
Carroll County	123,400	150,900	168,500	27,500	22.3%	17,600	11.7%
Harford County	182,100	218,600	239,300	36,500	20.0%	20,700	9.5%
Howard County	187,300	247,800	269,500	60,500	32.3%	21,700	8.8%
Queen Anne's County	34,000	40,600	45,600	6,600	19.4%	5,000	12.3%
Baltimore City	736,000	651,200	635,800	-84,800	-11.5%	-15,400	-2.4%
<b>Baltimore-Towson, MD</b>	<b>2,382,100</b>	<b>2,553,100</b>	<b>2,655,700</b>	<b>171,000</b>	<b>7.2%</b>	<b>102,600</b>	<b>4.0%</b>

**Winchester, Va-WVA Metropolitan Statistical Area**

Frederick County	45,700	59,200	69,100	13,500	29.5%	9,900	16.7%
Winchester City	21,900	23,600	25,100	1,700	7.8%	1,500	6.4%
Hampshire County	16,500	20,200	22,000	3,700	22.4%	1,800	8.9%
Winchester MSA	84,100	103,000	116,200	18,900	22.5%	13,200	12.8%

**Culpeper, VA Micropolitan Statistical Area  
(New as of November 2004)**

Culpeper County	27,800	34,300	42,500	6,500	23.4%	8,200	23.9%
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**Lexington Park, MD Micropolitan Statistical Area**

St Mary's County	76,000	86,200	96,500	10,200	13.4%	10,300	11.9%
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Source: U.S. Census Bureau, GMU Center for Regional Analysis

**Table 2. Population 1990 - 2005 Summary**

Washington-Baltimore-Northern Virginia, DC-VA-MD-WV Combined Statistical Area

	1990		2000		2005		1990 - 2000		2000 - 2005	
							Change	% Change	Change	% Change
Washington-Arlington-Alexandria, DC-MD-VA-WV Metropolitan Statistical Area	4,122,800	4,796,200	4,796,200	5,214,600	673,400	16.3%	418,400	8.7%		
Bethesda-Frederick-Gaithersburg, MD Metropolitan Division	907,200	1,068,600	1,148,300	161,400	17.8%	79,700	7.5%			
Washington-Arlington-Alexandria, DC-VA-MD-WV Metropolitan Division	3,215,600	3,727,600	4,066,300	512,000	15.9%	338,700	9.1%			
Baltimore-Towson, MD Metropolitan Statistical Area	2,382,100	2,553,100	2,655,700	171,000	7.2%	102,600	4.0%			
Winchester, Va-WVA Metropolitan Statistical Area	84,100	103,000	116,200	18,900	22.5%	13,200	12.8%			
Culpeper, VA Micropolitan Statistical Area	27,800	34,300	42,500	6,500	23.4%	8,200	23.9%			
Lexington Park, MD Micropolitan Statistical Area	76,000	86,200	96,500	10,200	13.4%	10,300	11.9%			
Combined Statistical Area	6,692,800	7,572,800	8,125,500	880,000	13.1%	552,700	7.3%			

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, GMU Center for Regional Analysis