Metropolitan and Micropolitan Statistical Areas

According to the Federal government, Kentucky added two metropolitan statistical areas and has 17 micropolitan statistical areas, a new designation, based on 2000 Census data. The U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) defines metropolitan and micropolitan statistical areas for purposes of collecting, tabulating, and publishing Federal data. Comprising one or more counties, metropolitan and micropolitan statistical area definitions result from applying published standards to Census Bureau data. The general concept of metros and micros is that of core area containing a substantial population nucleus—together with adjacent communities having a high degree of social and economic integration with that core. Metros require a core urbanized area population of 50,000 or more. The core size requirement of micros is 10,000. If adjacent metros and micros show a high degree of integration with each other, they are defined as a combined statistical area (CSA).

The addition of two metros raises Kentucky’s total to nine that are at least in part inside the state border. Kentucky’s new metros—Elizabethtown and Bowling Green—join Lexington-Fayette and Owensboro-Daviess as metropolitan statistical areas contained completely in the state. The other five metros are shared by Kentucky with neighboring states.

With the new OMB designations, the number of metropolitan counties in the state increased from 22 to 35 and contained 2.3 million people in 2002 or 57 percent of the state population. In addition, 26 counties were designated as wholly or part of a micropolitan statistical area. Micro area counties contained 772,000 persons or 19 per-

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2003 OMB Designations for Kentucky Counties

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Counties</th>
<th>Population 2002</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>35</td>
<td>2,310,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>772,257</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>59</td>
<td>1,009,934</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
The KSDC News is produced by the Kentucky Population Research (KPR) program of the Kentucky State Data Center (KSDC) located at the University of Louisville Urban Studies Institute. KPR and KSDC collaborate as the Commonwealth's official demographic agencies and representatives in US Bureau of the Census federal-state cooperative programs.

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Cincinnati-Middletown-Wilmington, OH-KY-IN Combined Statistical Area 2,081,836

Cincinnati-Middletown, OH-KY-IN Metropolitan Statistical Area 2,040,746

Dearborn County, IN 47,333
Franklin County, IN 22,585
Ohio County, IN 5,804
Boone County, KY 93,290
Bracken County, KY 8,482
Campbell County, KY 88,604
Gallatin County, KY 7,836
Grant County, KY 23,620
Kenton County, KY 152,164
Pendleton County, KY 14,815
Brown County, OH 43,464
Butler County, OH 340,543
Clermont County, OH 183,352
Hamilton County, OH 833,721
Warren County, OH 175,133

Wilmington, OH Micropolitan Statistical Area 41,090
Clinton County, OH 41,090

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Corbin-London, KY Combined Statistical Area 90,949

Corbin, KY Micropolitan Statistical Area 36,636
Whitley County, KY 36,636
London, KY Micropolitan Statistical Area 54,313
Laurel County, KY 54,313

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cent of the state population. In the remaining 59 non-metropolitan counties, just over one million persons resided or 25 percent of the Kentucky total population.

Five combined statistical areas are associated with Kentucky. (See adjoining maps and data.) The Lexington-Fayette-Frankfort-Richmond CMA combines one metropolitan and three micropolitan statistical areas. The Louisville-Elizabethtown-Scottsburg CMA is comprised of two metropolitan and one micropolitan statistical areas. One metro and one micro area comprise the Cincinnati CMA. The Corbin-London CMA and the Paducah-Mayfield CMA each are made up of two micro areas.

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Click here for a spreadsheet with 1990, 2000, and 2002 populations for all Kentucky statistical areas. 

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Lexington-Fayette-Frankfort-Richmond, KY Combined Statistical Area

Frankfort, KY Micropolitan Statistical Area
- Anderson County, KY: 19,561
- Franklin County, KY: 48,201

Lexington-Fayette, KY Metropolitan Statistical Area
- Bourbon County, KY: 19,576
- Clark County, KY: 33,726
- Fayette County, KY: 263,618
- Jessamine County, KY: 40,740
- Scott County, KY: 35,320
- Woodford County, KY: 23,403

Mount Sterling, KY Micropolitan Statistical Area
- Bath County, KY: 11,407
- Menifee County, KY: 6,708
- Montgomery County, KY: 23,262

Richmond, KY Micropolitan Statistical Area
- Madison County, KY: 73,334
- Rockcastle County, KY: 16,783

Louisville-Elizabethtown-Scottsburg, KY-IN Combined Statistical Area

Elizabethtown, KY Metropolitan Statistical Area
- Hardin County, KY: 95,724
- Larue County, KY: 13,372

Louisville, KY-IN Metropolitan Statistical Area
- Clark County, IN: 98,198
- Floyd County, IN: 71,633
- Harrison County, IN: 35,244
- Washington County, IN: 27,618
- Bullitt County, KY: 63,800
- Henry County, KY: 15,367
- Jefferson County, KY: 698,080
- Meade County, KY: 27,439
- Nelson County, KY: 38,823
- Oldham County, KY: 49,310
- Shelby County, KY: 35,125
- Spencer County, KY: 13,523
- Trimble County, KY: 8,672

Scottsburg, IN Micropolitan Statistical Area
- Scott County, IN: 23,334

Paducah-Mayfield, KY-IL Combined Statistical Area

Mayfield, KY Micropolitan Statistical Area
- Graves County, KY: 37,225

Paducah, KY-IL Micropolitan Statistical Area
- Massac County, IL: 15,021
- Ballard County, KY: 8,163
- Livingston County, KY: 9,846
- McCracken County, KY: 64,534