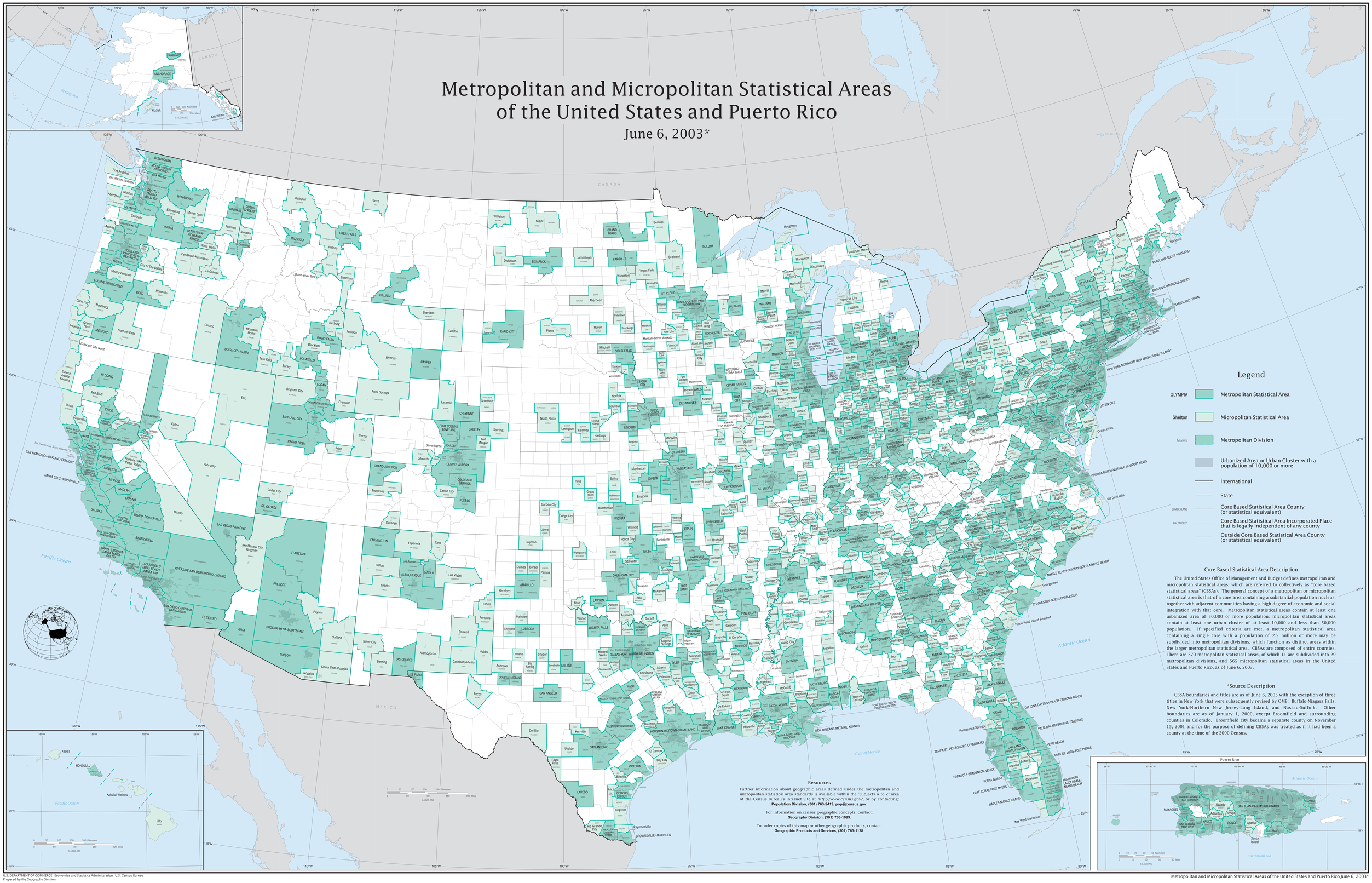
Metropolitan and Micropolitan Statistical Areas of the United States and Puerto Rico

June 6, 2003*



Core Based Statistical Area Description

The United States Office of Management and Budget defines metropolitan and micropolitan statistical areas, which are referred to collectively as "core based statistical areas" (CBSAs). The general concept of a metropolitan or micropolitan statistical area is that of a core area containing a substantial population nucleus, together with adjacent communities having a high degree of economic and social integration with that core. Metropolitan statistical areas contain at least one urbanized area of 50,000 or more population; micropolitan statistical areas contain at least one urban cluster of at least 10,000 and less than 50,000 population. If specified criteria are met, a metropolitan statistical area containing a single core with a population of 2.5 million or more may be subdivided into metropolitan divisions, which function as distinct areas within the larger metropolitan statistical area. CBSAs are composed of entire counties. There are 370 metropolitan statistical areas, of which 11 are subdivided into 29 metropolitan divisions, and 565 micropolitan statistical areas in the United States and Puerto Rico, as of June 6, 2003.

*Source Description

CBSA boundaries and titles are as of June 6, 2003 with the exception of three titles in New York that were subsequently revised by OMB: Buffalo-Niagara Falls, New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island, and Nassau-Suffolk. Other boundaries are as of January 1, 2000, except Broomfield and surrounding counties in Colorado. Broomfield city became a separate county on November 15, 2001 and for the purpose of defining CBSAs was treated as if it had been a county at the time of the 2000 Census.

Resources

Further information about geographic areas defined under the metropolitan and micropolitan statistical area standards is available within the "Subjects A to Z" area of the Census Bureau's Internet Site at *http://www.census.gov/*, or by contacting:
Population Division, (301) 763-2419, pop@census.gov.

For information on census geographic concepts, contact:
Geography Division, (301) 763-1099.

To order copies of this map or other geographic products, contact:
Geographic Products and Services, (301) 763-1128.