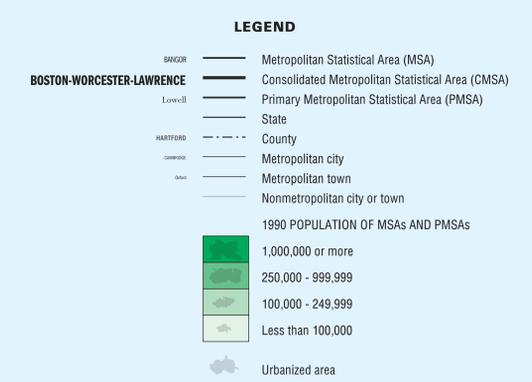
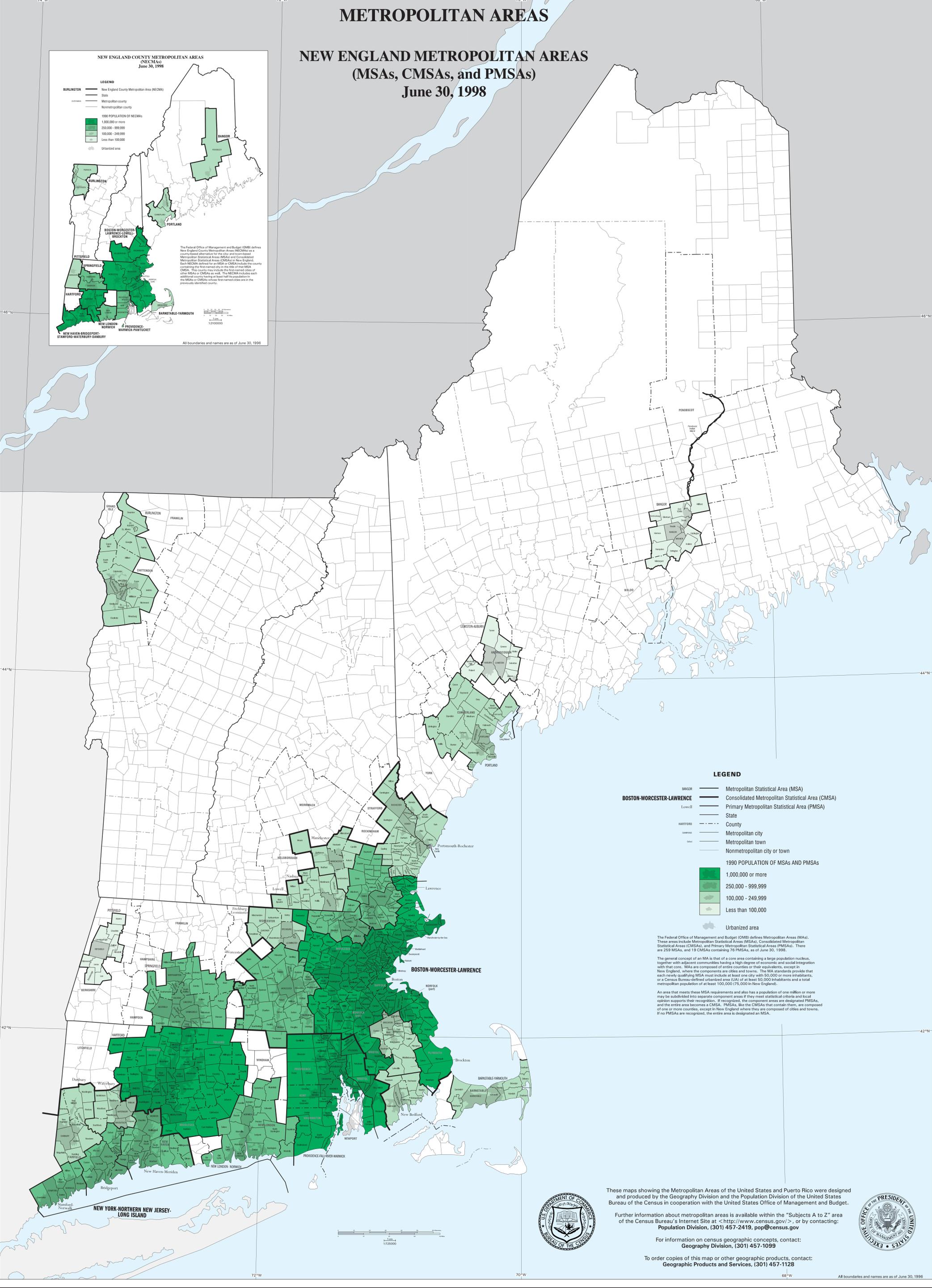
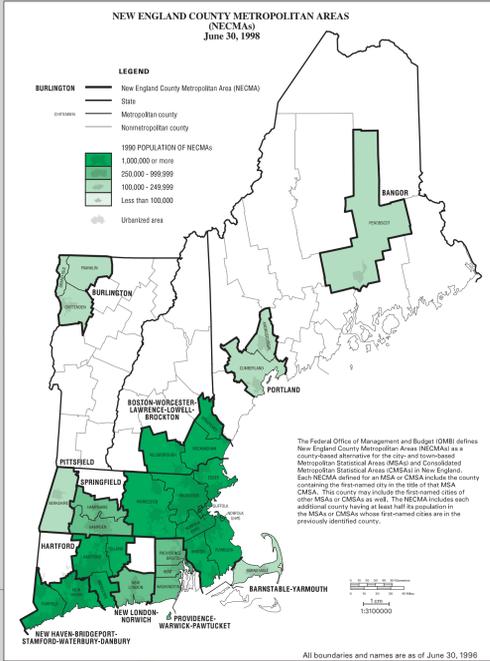


METROPOLITAN AREAS

NEW ENGLAND METROPOLITAN AREAS (MSAs, CMSAs, and PMSAs) June 30, 1998



The Federal Office of Management and Budget (OMB) defines Metropolitan Areas (MAs). These areas include Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs), Consolidated Metropolitan Statistical Areas (CMSAs), and Primary Metropolitan Statistical Areas (PMSAs). There are 253 MSAs, and 19 CMSAs containing 78 PMSAs, as of June 30, 1998.

The general concept of an MA is that of a core area containing a large population nucleus, together with adjacent communities having a high degree of economic and social integration with that core. MAs are composed of entire counties or their equivalents, except in New England, where the components are cities and towns. The MA standards provide that each newly qualifying MSA must include at least one city with 50,000 or more inhabitants, or a Census Bureau-defined urbanized area (UJA) of at least 50,000 inhabitants and a total metropolitan population of at least 100,000 (75,000 in New England).

An area that meets these MSA requirements and also has a population of one million or more may be subdivided into separate component areas if they meet statistical criteria and local opinion supports their recognition. If recognized, the component areas are designated PMSAs, and the entire area becomes a CMSA. PMSAs, like the CMSAs that contain them, are composed of one or more counties, except in New England where they are composed of cities and towns. If no PMSAs are recognized, the entire area is designated an MSA.



These maps showing the Metropolitan Areas of the United States and Puerto Rico were designed and produced by the Geography Division and the Population Division of the United States Bureau of the Census in cooperation with the United States Office of Management and Budget.

Further information about metropolitan areas 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) 457-2419, pop@census.gov

For information on census geographic concepts, contact: Geography Division, (301) 457-1099

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