

Preface

The *State and Metropolitan Area Data Book* (SMADB), published periodically since 1979, is a local area supplement to the *Statistical Abstract of the United States*. This 2006 edition is the sixth in the series. Earlier editions were published in 1979, 1982, 1986, 1991, and 1997–98.

The SMADB is a convenient summary of statistics on the social and economic structure of the states, metropolitan areas, and micropolitan areas in the United States. It is designed to serve as a statistical reference and guide to other data publications and sources. The latter function is served by the source citations appearing below each table and in Appendix A, Source Notes and Explanations.

This volume includes a selection of data from many statistical publications and electronic sources, including most of the federal statistical agencies, nonprofit organizations, and private businesses in some cases. Publications and Internet sites listed as sources usually contain additional detail and more comprehensive discussions of definitions and concepts than can be presented here. Data not available in printed publications issued by the contributing agency but obtained from Web sites are identified in the source notes using the “Suggested Citation Styles for our Internet Information” found on the Census Bureau’s Web site at <http://www.census.gov/main/www/citation.html>. More information on the subjects covered in the tables so noted may generally be obtained from the source, including more methodological information about how the numbers are collected or produced.

Changes in this edition. The major change in this edition is in the metropolitan area concept itself. Over time, the concept and nomenclature for metropolitan areas has changed from the original 1910 “metropolitan districts” to what was called standard metropolitan area in 1949 to standard metropolitan statistical areas, or SMSAs, in 1959. SMSAs lasted until 1983, when a new set of acronyms and concepts such as MSA, CMSA, PMSA, and NECMAs came into existence. These lasted until the recent Office of Management and Budget announcement effective June 6, 2003, created the current metropolitan and micropolitan statistical areas. For information about this announcement, see our Appendix C on Geographic Concepts and Codes. Tables B and C cover the metropolitan areas, while Table D presents micropolitan areas.

Information for states has been expanded substantially in comparison with the prior edition. There is extensive information from the Census Bureau’s new American Community Survey on topics such as households, marital status, mobility, language spoken at home, foreign born, educational attainment, income, poverty, and housing

characteristics that updates many statistics previously only available from the decennial census. There is an interesting, brand-new table with cost-of-living indicators that consolidates many variables in this area. Health data has been expanded to cover many of the key indicators such as obesity, drug use, and alcohol use. Election results from 2004 are also included.

We made a special effort to include material from the 2002 Economic Census for retail and accommodation and food services and also the latest population estimates. To help highlight all this information, you will find a Rankings section in this publication and on our Web site at <http://www.census.gov/compendia/smadb/>.

In order to help users understand more about the data, we have a new appendix B, entitled Limitations of the Data and Methodology. You will find descriptions about the survey universe and frequency, along with some basic information about the data collection operation and sampling and nonsampling errors, if applicable. Sources of additional information and Web links to that information are also included.

States. Data are presented for the United States, the 50 states, and the District of Columbia. 1,539 data items are presented for these areas in tables A-1 through A-87. The states and the District of Columbia are presented in alphabetic order under the U.S. total.

Metropolitan areas and metropolitan divisions. Data are presented for the 390 metropolitan areas and metropolitan divisions defined as of January 1, 1992, as well as the United States, the 50 states, and the District of Columbia. 139 data items are presented for these areas in tables B-1 through B-11.

Metropolitan areas and metropolitan divisions with their county components. Data are presented for 46 data items in tables C-1 through C-4. The counties and county equivalents are presented under their respective metropolitan area or metropolitan division.

Micropolitan areas. Data are presented in table D-1 covering 13 variables and 575 areas.

Appendixes. Appendix A presents a discussion of source notes and explanations for the data items in tables A through D. Appendix B covers data collection and methodological information for the first time in this publication. Appendix C presents a discussion of the geographic concepts and codes relevant to this volume, as well as the current definitions for metropolitan areas.

For additional information on data presented, please consult the source publications available in local libraries, write to the agency indicated in the source notes, or visit the Internet site listed. Contact the Census Bureau only if it is cited as the source.

Statistics for the nation. Extensive data at the national level can be found in the *Statistical Abstract of the United States: 2006*, an annual national data book, released each fall. *U.S.A. Statistics in Brief*, a pocket-size pamphlet highlighting many statistical series in the *Abstract*, is available separately; single copies of this pamphlet can be obtained

free from the U.S. Census Bureau, Customer Services Center, Washington, DC 20233 (telephone 301-763-4100). The *Statistical Abstract* and *U.S.A. Statistics in Brief* may be on our Web site at <<http://www.census.gov/compendia/statab/>>.

Statistics for counties and cities. Data for counties and cities may be found in the *County and City Data Book 2000* or the U.S.A. Counties database on our Web site at <<http://www.census.gov/statab/www/ccdb.html>> and <<http://censtats.census.gov/usa/usa.shtml>>.

State and Metropolitan Area Data Book User Survey—inserted in this edition is the first user survey in order to ask you for suggestions on various aspects of the SMADB. Your input will help us to maintain the usefulness of the Compendia program. If the questionnaire is missing and you would like to participate in the survey, you may obtain one on the SMADB Web site at <<http://www.census.gov/compendia/smadb/>>.