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 2010 edition is the seventh in the series. Earlier editions were published in 1979, 1982, 1986, 1991, 1997–98, and 2006.

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 data from a variety of statistical publications and electronic sources, including nonprofit organizations, private businesses, as well as the majority of the federal statistical agencies. 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 U.S. Census Bureau's Web site at <http://www.census.gov/main/www/citation.html>. More information on the subjects covered in this publication is generally made available by its source, including additional methodological information about how the data is collected or produced.

Changes in this edition. The 2007 North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) was released and a large amount of the data presented in this publication have been adjusted accordingly; 6 of the 20 NAICS sectors have been changed from the 2002 version. For more information regarding the latest installment of NAICS, see Appendix A.

In August 2008, the American Community Survey (ACS) introduced 3-year tables covering the time period 2005–2007. Three-year data are the average characteristics of the population for an area (or population group) over the entire data collection period (36 months for 3-year estimates). The standard errors and the coefficients of variation (CV) of the 3-year estimates are approximately one over the square root of three, or 58 percent, of the single years estimates. As a result of the smaller CVs, we have made every attempt to include multiyear estimates of the ACS when possible.

Age-adjusted death rates have been provided in this edition; previous editions presented crude death rates. Age-adjusted rates are mortality rates adjusted for the different age distributions of separate populations and offer more comparable data.

The results of the 2007 Census of Agriculture and the 2007 Economic Census have become available since the previous edition. The 2007 Census of Agriculture is conducted to obtain agricultural statistics for the nation, every state and every county, or county equivalent. Data for this census is released in one volume with more specialized follow-up surveys (e.g., Organic Production Survey) to be released in the future. The 2007 Economic Census data sets are being released over time, from December 2008 through late 2011. Both censuses are the respected authorities in each of their respected fields and great efforts were made to include data from each survey in this edition.

Other highlights of new data include the results of the 2008 elections. Public voting numbers are offered for the Gubernatorial, Senatorial, House, and Presidential elections, which occurred in 2008. The composition of the 111^{th} Congress and state legislatures are also included. Commuting statistics for average commute time and principal mode of transportation have been included in our transportation table. Additionally, the latest available figures on health care coverage and the financial and housing industry have been presented in this edition.

States. Data are presented for the United States, the 50 states, and the District of Columbia. There are 1,387 data items presented for these areas in Tables A-1 through A-84. The states and the District of Columbia are presented in alphabetical order under the U.S. total.

Metropolitan areas and metropolitan divisions. Data are presented for the 392 metropolitan areas and metropolitan divisions defined as of November 2007, as well as the United States, the 50 states, and the District of Columbia. There are 165 data items presented for these areas in Tables B-1 through B-14.

Metropolitan areas and metropolitan divisions with their county components. Data are presented for 51 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 577 areas.

Appendixes. Appendix A provides information on source notes and explanations for the data items in Tables A through D. Appendix B presents a brief introduction to central concepts of statistics and provides the methodological approach of principal sources. Appendix C presents a discussion of the geographic concepts relevant to this volume, as well as the current definitions for metropolitan areas. Appendix D offers a bibliography of the latest state specific abstract published since 1999.

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 2010*, an annual national data book released each fall.

Statistics for counties and cities. Data for counties and cities may be found in the *County and City Data Book: 2007* on our Web site at <http://www.census.gov/compendia/databooks>.

Data for counties only can be accessed through downloadable files in USA Counties found at the following Web site <http://censtats.census.gov/usa/usa.shtml>.