

Urban and Rural:

For Census 2000 the U.S. Census Bureau classifies as urban all territory, population, and housing units located within urbanized areas (UAs) and urban clusters (UCs). It delineates UA and UC boundaries to encompass densely settled territory, which generally consists of: A cluster of one or more block groups or census blocks each of which has a population density of at least 1,000 people per square mile at the time, and surrounding block groups and census blocks each of which has a population density of at least 500 people per square mile at the time, and less densely settled blocks that form enclaves or indentations, or are used to connect discontinuous areas with qualifying densities.

Rural consists of all territory, population, and housing units located outside of UAs and UCs.

Urbanized Areas (UAs) - An urbanized area consists of densely settled territory that contains 50,000 or more people. The U.S. Census Bureau delineates UAs to provide a better separation of urban and rural territory, population, and housing in the vicinity of large places. For Census 2000, the UA criteria were extensively revised and the delineations were performed using a zero-based approach. Because of more stringent density requirements, some territory that was classified as urbanized for the 1990 census has been reclassified as rural. (Area that was part of a 1990 UA has not been automatically grand fathered into the 2000 UA.) In addition, some areas that were identified as UAs for the 1990 census have been reclassified as urban clusters.

Urban Clusters (UCs) - An urban cluster consists of densely settled territory that has at least 2,500 people but fewer than 50,000 people. The U.S. Census Bureau introduced the UC for Census 2000 to provide a more consistent and accurate measure of the population concentration in and around places. UCs are defined using the same criteria that are used to define UAs. UCs replace the provision in the 1990 and previous censuses that defined as urban only those places with 2,500 or more people located outside of urbanized areas.

This data set dose NOT include those parts of Urbanized Areas which cross into other

States. To find out more about Urban and Rural area delineation visit the Census Bureau website <http://www.census.gov>.

NOTE: Most of this metadata has been copied directly from Census documentation. For more complete information please see the technical documentation for the UA Census 2000 TIGER/Line files or the Census Geography Reference Resource page at the Census Bureau's Internet site.