



Significant Upgrades to CERC DataFinder®

As you know, DataFinder unveiled two major changes in March. First, the current year estimates of the standard data from Applied Geographic Systems are for 2006 and the projections reach to 2011. In addition, the upgraded architecture of the product enhances the user interface and the ease of obtaining data.

Metropolitan Geography Changes Are No Problem for DataFinder

In June 2003, the U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) revised the definitions for the nation's Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs) and accepted 49 new MSAs¹. The MSAs are identified by the number of residents in the core of each area. There are four MSAs in Connecticut using the new definitions:

- Bridgeport-Stamford-Norwalk (includes Fairfield County)
- Hartford-West Hartford-East Hartford (Hartford, Middlesex, Tolland counties)
- New Haven-Milford (New Haven County)
- Norwich-New London (New London County)

At the same time, Micropolitan Statistical Areas and New England City and Town Areas were also defined based on population centers. The problem for researchers is that the new definitions does not allow for long-term analyses because the geographies are not identical.

If you need historical metro-level data, turn to DataFinder for the answers. DataFinder displays historical data for the current metro definitions because their data and estimates are aggregated by block group. DataFinder enables you to compare metro trends over time. Below is a look at the population trends of Connecticut's MSAs.

	Bridgeport-Stamford-Norwalk	Hartford-West Hartford-East Hartford	New Haven-Milford	Norwich-New London
1990	827,646	1,123,682	804,223	254,956
2000	882,567	1,148,618	824,008	259,088
2006	910,335	1,203,275	853,981	269,227

Do You Have Questions or Comments? Contact CERC

If you would like to brush up on your DataFinder skills, contact Alissa DeJonge (860-571-6206), Dale Shannon (860-571-6209) or datafinder@cerc.com to set up a training session.

¹ <http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/bulletins/b03-04.html>