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THE BOOM AREAS OF AMERICA 10 fastest-growing U.S. counties

According to the Census Bureau, these counties are adding more residents than any other.

By Les Christie, CNNMoney.com staff writer

y, Texas

Population: 1,671,295

Increase (July 2005 - July 2006): 51,629

The county seat, Fort Worth, has risen from its roots as one of America's foremost "cow towns" to become one of the 20 largest cities in the United States.

Tarrant County's economy, still strong in agriculture and cattle, is much more diversified today, with aerospace and defense contractors playing a major role.

Major employers include AMR Corp. (American Airlines), D.R. Horton Homes and Radio Shack.

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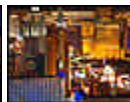
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Collin County, Texas



Dallas County, Texas

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Population: 698,851

Increase (July 2005 - July 2006): 37,925

Collin County is part of the Dallas-Fort Worth metro area and joins two other counties here among the 10 fastest-growing U.S. counties.

Collin is the wealthiest county in Texas, and many of its towns and neighborhoods are home to the corporate elite of the Dallas area.



PHOTO: TONY JIMENEZ

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Population: 2,345,815

Increase (July 2005 - July 2006): 37,288

Dallas is a business-friendly city that has become a center for the petroleum industry, telecommunications and banking. Because of its importance in the computer industry, the area is sometimes referred to as Silicon Prairie.

It's also a transportation center; the city of Dallas expanded around a nexus of 19th-century rail lines. Today, a network of interstate highways funnels shipping from southern Texas and Mexico through the county and north into America's heartland.



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