

Hispanic Population Dynamics

75-Mile Radius of Downtown Birmingham

Metropolitan Birmingham is at the center of North Alabama's growing Hispanic population. Moreover, six of Alabama's seven counties with a Hispanic population growth rate in excess of 575% are within 75 miles of Downtown Birmingham.

According to Census 2000 information, Jefferson County is Alabama's most densely populated Hispanic county with 10,284 Hispanics, representing more than 14% of the entire state's Hispanic population of 75, 830.

Approximately 75% of Alabama's Hispanic population lived within a 75-mile radius of Downtown Birmingham in 2000. The 75-mile radius of Downtown Birmingham encompassed more than 56,800 Hispanics upon the completion of the Census in April 2000.

Astounding Growth

Between 1990 and 2000, the Hispanic population within a 75-mile radius of Downtown Birmingham grew at an astounding 274%, increasing by more than 41,600. The average annual growth rate for this region is more than 27%. The 2002 projected Hispanic population within this region is 87,480.

Metro Birmingham Rapidly Becoming Alabama's Hispanic Population and Business Center

Metropolitan Birmingham is positioned to benefit from the Hispanic population explosion gripping Alabama. In fact, 75% of Alabama's Hispanic population is within a 75 - mile radius of Downtown Birmingham.

Metropolitan Birmingham's Hispanic population boom is impacting the business community as well. Between 1992 and 1997 (most recent figures available), Metropolitan Birmingham's Hispanic owned businesses increased almost 180%, ranking 2nd in Hispanic Business growth.

Downtown Birmingham - 75-mile radius, 75% of Alabama's Hispanic Population

Approximately 56,806 Hispanics live within a 75-mile radius of Downtown Birmingham, which represents 75% of Alabama's entire Hispanic population of 75,830. Between 1990 and 2000, the Hispanic population increased by more than 41,600 in this region, representing a 274% growth rate. The annual Hispanic population growth rate in this region is an astounding 27%. The 2002 projected Hispanic population for a 75-mile radius of Downtown Birmingham is 87,480 (more than 30,000 since 2000).

Jefferson County is Alabama's most densely populated Hispanic county with 10,284 Hispanics (Census 2000). This county alone represents more than 14% of Alabama's entire Hispanic population. Moreover, Alabama's top seven Hispanic growth counties are within a 75-mile radius of Downtown Birmingham.

Hispanic Population Dynamics With-in a 75-mile Radius of Downtown Birmingham					
Hispanic Pop.	1990	2000	2002 Projection	Yearly Change90-00	Change90-00% Change
	15,187	56,806	87,480	27%	41,690 274%

Metropolitan Birmingham ranks 2nd in Growth of Hispanic Businesses

In response to the regions dramatic Hispanic population growth, Metropolitan Birmingham's Hispanic business ownership increased by almost 180% between 1992 and 1997. This growth rate more than tripled the national average of 55.49%. Hispanic business growth in Metropolitan Birmingham placed 2nd among the thirteen benchmark metropolitan areas and increased the proportion of Hispanic owned businesses to more than one percent of Metropolitan Birmingham's total businesses.

Rank	Hispanic Business Ownership Ranked by Growth 1992-1997			
	Metro Area	1992 Hispanic Firms	1997 Hispanic Firms	92 - 97 Growth
1	Knoxville	195	560	187.18%
2	Birmingham	225	629	179.56%
3	Richmond	516	1,440	179.07%
4	Raleigh Durham	465	1,283	175.91%
5	Louisville	216	536	148.15%
6	Greenville Spartanburg- Anderson	260	585	125.00%
7	Charlotte	659	1,372	108.19%
8	Greensboro - Winston-Salem	420	828	97.14%
9	Nashville	550	1,077	95.82%
10	Orlando	5,518	10,541	91.03%
11	Memphis	334	596	78.44%
	United States	771,708	1,199,896	55.49%
12	West Palm Beach - Boca Raton	4,970	7,235	45.57%
13	New Orleans	3,068	4,202	36.96%
14	Jacksonville	1,360	1,731	27.28%

Background

This analysis reveals strong indication that Metropolitan Birmingham is the population and business center for Alabama's growing Hispanic Community.

Hispanic business information is derived from The 1997 Survey of Minority Owned Business Enterprises (SOMBE) report released in June 2001. The SOMBE report is the latest information available concerning Hispanic business ownership and is a vital component in tracking the progress of minority entrepreneurship.

Benchmark Metropolitan Areas

Metropolitan Birmingham's benchmark metropolitan areas are southeastern metropolitan areas within the population range of 650,000 to 1,650,000 (excluding Norfolk, VA). The benchmark metropolitan areas are most like Birmingham with regard to population and economic scale. They range in population from Orlando, FL (1,644,561) to Knoxville, TN (687,249). Metropolitan Birmingham's population is 921,106.

Metropolitan Areas	Population
1. Orlando	1,644,561
2. Charlotte	1,499,291
3. New Orleans	1,337,726
4. Greensboro – Winston-Salem	1,251,529
5. Nashville	1,231,311
6. Raleigh Durham	1,187,941
7. Memphis	1,135,569
8. West Palm Beach – Boca Raton	1,131,184
9. Jacksonville	1,100,491
10. Louisville	1,025,598
11. Richmond	996,427
12. Greenville – Spartanburg -	962,141
13. Birmingham	921,106
14. Knoxville	687,249

Source: Birmingham Regional Chamber of Commerce