There was a 14.7% increase in the number of households in the US from 1990 to 2000. A crude distinction can be made between the faster growing Sunbelt region of the country and the slower growing Rustbelt region. Megalopolis is in the slower growth part of the country with almost 5% less increase in households than the national average.

The map of the percentage change in households in relation to the national average identifies the fast growing dynamic region of southern Maryland and northern Virginia counties that surround Washington DC. Spotsylvania and Loudon, both in Virginia grew by 65.2% and 96.4% respectively. Areas of less pronounced growth are found throughout the more recently suburbanizing counties such as Hillsborough and Merrimack, both in New Hampshire, that had figures of 15.9% and 16.2%.

Areas of decline include the central city areas of Washington DC, Baltimore City and Philadelphia. Area of lower than average increase include a broad swathe of counties in the already urbanized regions of the New York and New England, such as Hudson County NJ with only 10.4% increase. In these counties most of the available space had already been built up.

U.S. Census Bureau, 1990 Census of Population and Housing, Summary Tape File (STF) 1C on CD-ROM.
Data obtained through University of Virginia Library Geospatial and Statistical Data Center (http://fisher.lib.virginia.edu/collections/states/ccdb/)