

Press Release

For Immediate Release. April 16, 2001

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PROXIMITY RELEASES RANKING OF LARGEST U.S. COUNTIES BASED ON CENSUS 2000

ALEXANDRIA, VA -- Proximity, Inc., specialists in the development and analysis of geodemographic information, has developed a ranking of the largest U.S. counties based on Census 2000. A table showing the ranking of the largest 100 U.S. counties may be accessed on the Internet via the Web page <http://www.proximityone.com>.

Based on Census 2000 population, the largest county in the U.S. is Los Angeles County, CA with population of 9,515,338. Los Angeles County ranked second in terms of population growth from 1990 to 2000 with an increase of 656,174.

Based on population change from 1990 to 2000, Maricopa County, AZ was ranked number one. The County increased from 2,122,101 in 1990 to 3,072,149 in 2000, an increase of 950,048 or 44.77 percent. The city of Phoenix, in Maricopa County, was ranked number two in cities with the largest population growth between 1990 and 2000.

The total population of all counties in Census 2000 was 206,462,567 (same as total U.S. population). The total population of the largest 100 counties was 119,305,672 (42.39 percent of the total population).

The county ranking is based on a U.S. by county national database developed by Proximity that integrates 1990 Census and Census 2000 demographics. In addition to showing the largest 100 counties based on total population, the same Web page shows the 100 counties having the largest population growth over the decade.

According to Warren Glimpse, principal analyst and president of Proximity, "Counties are an important geographic entity of interest to many analysts and researchers. The 3,141 counties in the U.S. make these geographic areas finely grained enough for sub-state analysis, are available wall-to-wall for the U.S., and have the widest array of more reliable subject matter data for any type of sub-state geographic area."

The county rankings are one part of Proximity's analysis of population dynamics now being progressively revealed as the Census 2000 data are released. Proximity has developed similar rankings for U.S. cities and school districts. More information about these rankings is available at the same Web site (<http://www.proximityone.com>).

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