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Friday, March 27, 2009

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Madera growth garners national ranking

Written by Business Journal Staff
 Friday, 27 March 2009



Madera was the second-fastest growing metropolitan statistical area (MSA) between 2007 and 2008 in California and ranked 60th in the nation, according to July 1, 2008 population estimates for the nation's metropolitan and micropolitan statistical areas and counties released recently by the U.S. Census Bureau.

The Madera MSA added 2,679 residents for a percentage gain of 1.8 percent. The total population of the area is 148,333.

The Visalia-Porterville MSA ranked fourth in California and 69th in the U.S. It added 7,104 residents, a growth rate of 1.7 percent, and has 426,276 residents.

The Fresno MSA ranked sixth in the state and 78th in the nation. It added 9,856 residents for a one-year growth rate of 1.6 percent. It now has 909,153 residents.

Raleigh-Cary, N.C., and Austin-Round Rock, Texas, were the nation's fastest-growing metro areas between 2007 and 2008. Raleigh-Cary saw its population climb 4.3 percent to 1.1 million. Austin-Round Rock experienced a 3.8 percent increase to 1.7 million. These two large metro areas were among 47 of the 50 fastest-growing areas located entirely in the South or West.

El Centro was the fastest growing MSA in California with a 2 percent growth rate. It ranked 51st in the nation.

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POLL

Do you support the City of Fresno's decision to freeze development impact fees through 2009?

- Yes, because it's a necessary step to revive the local housing industry and create jobs.
- No, because the city shouldn't subsidize homebuilding; the developers should pay for the actual costs created by new projects.
- There are good arguments on both sides.

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