

Population

Population growth does not by itself define a city's health. Nevertheless, the fact that people "vote with their feet" makes population change a good first order indicator of the appeal of a place.

Fargo's Population Growth was double the national rate between 1980 and 2000 and outpaces most of its peers

Percent population change, 1980-2000

City	Population			Percent change		
	1980	1990	2000	1980-1990	1990-2000	Total 1980-2000
Fort Collins, CO	65,092	87,758	118,440	35%	35%	82%
Sioux Falls MSA	123,377	139,236	187,093	13%	34%	52%
Sioux Falls	81,343	100,836	124,158	24%	23%	53%
Fargo	61,383	74,111	90,599	21%	22%	48%
Cass County	88,247	102,874	123,138	17%	20%	40%
Lincoln, NE		191,972	225,442		17%	
Fargo Moorhead MSA	137,574	153,296	174,367	11%	14%	27%
Nation	226,542,199	248,718,301	281,421,906	10%	13%	24%
Columbus, OH	565,021	632,910	711,470	12%	12%	26%
Madison, WI	170,616	191,262	207,525	12%	9%	22%
Indianapolis, IN	711,539	731,327	781,870	3%	7%	10%
Minneapolis St. Paul, MN	641,271	640,618	669,769	0%	5%	4%
Chicago, IL	3,005,072	2,783,726	2,896,016	-7%	4%	-4%
Duluth, MN	92,811	85,493	86,810	-8%	2%	-7%
Kansas City, MO	448,028	435,146	441,545	-3%	2%	-1%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, P001 and P1, Living Cities Dataset (Brookings Institution)

Fargo has experienced double digit population growth every decade of this century

Population change by decade, 1900-2000

