# Detroit's Population Rises for the First Time in Decades as Southern Cities Lead U.S. Growth



**Detroit's Population Rises After Decades of Decline; Southern Cities Lead U.S. Growth**

New estimates released by the U.S. Census Bureau on May 16, 2024, show that Detroit's population grew in 2023, marking the first increase in decades. Detroit's population rose from 631,366 in 2022 to 633,218 in 2023, a modest growth of 1,852 residents. This represents a significant milestone for the city, which experienced a dramatic decline from its 1950s peak of 1.8 million residents.

Mayor Mike Duggan, who took office in January 2014, lauded the growth as a "great day" for Detroit, highlighting the city's progress since its 2013 bankruptcy, which restructured around $7 billion in debt and set aside $1.7 billion for city services. Over 25,000 houses have been razed under Duggan's administration, with another 15,000 renovated or under renovation. Detroit's population bump also follows the city's appeal and legal disputes over previous Census Bureau estimates.

While Detroit and other cities in the Northeast and Midwest experienced slight growth, the South continues to dominate U.S. population increases. Thirteen of the 15 fastest-growing cities are in the South, with eight located in Texas. San Antonio led in numerical growth, adding about 22,000 residents.

In larger U.S. cities, New York City saw a reduced population decline, losing 77,000 residents in 2023 compared to larger drops in previous years. Los Angeles lost 1,800 people last year, while San Francisco experienced a population increase of over 1,200 residents after significant losses earlier this decade.

Overall, these new Census estimates reflect varying regional growth trends, showing moderate rebounds in the Northeast and Midwest while the South continues to expand rapidly.