

Will and Kendall are still booming

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Kendall and Will counties continue to rank highly on U.S. Census charts for population growth from 2000 to 2008.



A housing development in Oswego in Kendall County. Since 2000 Kendall County's population grew 89.6 percent, from 54,560 to 103,460.

(Sun-Times News Group file photo)

Both counties are slipping when more recent national data from 2007-2008 is analyzed, but they continue to dominate other Illinois counties for both time periods.

The census bureau releases statistics annually for two different stretches of time, in this case from 2000 to 2008 and from 2007 to 2008, and for both percent growth and sheer numbers, or numeric growth.

Kendall County was first in the nation for percent growth from 2000 to 2008 and fourth for growth from 2007 to 2008. Will County was 16th in nation for numeric growth from 2000 to 2008, but did not make the top 25 list for numeric growth from 2007 to 2008.

Percent growth

Since 2000 Kendall County grew 89.6 percent, from 54,560 to 103,460. From 2007 to 2008, Kendall County's addition of 6,894 people knocked it to fourth place with a growth rate of 7.1 percent.

Will County grew 35 percent from 2000 to 2008, which placed it 68th in the country. The county's 1.6 percent growth from 2007 to 2008 did not place it on the list of fastest-growing counties for that time period. Kendall County was the only Illinois county to make that list.

Numeric growth

But Will County was 16th on the list of the list of top 25 counties in numeric growth since 2000. It was the only non-Sun Belt county on the list. The county grew from 502,227 to 681,097 from 2000 to 2008.

In contrast, Will County's numeric growth did not make the top 25 list for 2007 to 2008 growth estimates. The only Illinois county on that list is Cook, which added 23,259 people.

Will County added more than 20,000 to its population base each year from 2000 to 2006. In 2007 it added 14,473 and last year the number grew by only 10,434.

Will County continues to inch up the list of 100 biggest counties in the nation, however. Will was 87th in 2008, up 10 spots from its first appearance on the list at 97th in 2004.

When comparing Illinois counties to each other, Will ranked first in numeric growth for both the 2000 to 2008 and 2007 to 2008 time periods. Kendall ranked first in percent growth for both time periods.

For more information go to www.census.gov.

<http://www.suburbanchicagonews.com/heraldnews/news/1490854,Growth-slows-Will-Kendall-J0032309.article>