

## SPACE REVIEWS OF FLORIDA CITY GROWTH

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During the last four years, nine out of the twenty-five fastest growing cities in the United States were in the state of Florida, (Figure 1). A unique way to see world-wide city growth is provided by U.S.A.F. Weather satellites orbiting the earth at altitudes of 450 miles. The sun-synchronous spacecraft have low light sensors which enable unusual photos to be taken at night.

The "night eyes in the sky" capture moonlit clouds and cloud systems as well as lightning, fires and auroras. Moonlit, cloud free nights provide the best conditions for monitoring city growth as well as energy consumption.

The best comparisons have occurred in the last five years since the meteorological satellite sensors have not changed. Earlier space vehicle sensor improvements negated any valid city growth studies. Now, the Florida local midnight images can be presented to show the sunshine state's city areal extent and growth at night (Figure 2). Weather satellites show more than weather!

### 25 fastest growing cities AMERICAN

Here is the Dun and Bradstreet Corp. list of the 25 fastest growing metropolitan areas:

The cities are listed by metropolitan area, the 1983 population estimate and the percentage of growth since 1980.

● 1. Midland, Texas	107,193	29.7
● 2. Fort Pierce	191,370	26.6
● 3. Bryan-College Sta., Texas	116,975	25.0
● 4. Odessa, Texas	143,690	24.5
● 5. Fort Myers	253,971	23.7
● 6. Houston	3,284,152	20.0
● 7. Ocala	146,111	19.3
● 8. Lafayette, La.	226,563	19.1
● 9. Longview-Marshall, Texas	180,279	18.8
● 10. West Palm Beach	682,838	18.4
● 11. Bradenton	173,944	17.2
● 12. Las Vegas, Nev.	542,064	17.1
● 13. Daytona Beach	301,077	16.4
● 14. Enid, Okla.	72,786	15.9
● 15. Casper, Wyo.	83,054	15.6
● 16. Sarasota	233,436	15.4
● 17. Austin, Texas	619,116	15.4
● 18. Victoria, Texas	79,110	15.0
● 19. Orlando	804,693	15.0
● 20. Riverside, Calif.	1,785,491	14.6
● 21. Melbourne	311,937	14.3
● 22. Fort Worth, Texas	1,109,516	14.0
● 23. Bakersfield, Calif.	457,291	13.4
● 24. Olympia, Wash.	140,668	13.2
● 25. San Angelo, Texas	95,959	13.2

