Lufkin — #1 of 10: Population

Lufkin leads Texas micropolitan areas in population

Based on 2024 U.S. Census data

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THE DATA

87,275

Population (2024)

Lufkin is the most populous micropolitan area in Texas, according to the 2024 U.S. Census Bureau data.

This population figure reflects a growing concentration of residents in mid-sized rural hubs, not just small towns. Lufkin's size signals a shift in how rural Texas is being defined—not by isolation, but by infrastructure, connectivity, and demographic resilience. This is not a ghost town revival; it's a demographic renaissance.



Photo: Patrick Feller from Humble, Texas, USA · CC BY 2.0 · Wikimedia Commons

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, 2024 · ALEX Intelligence computation
https://alex-companies.com/data/2026-11-07-land-land-dem-population-msa-tx-micro

01

Population drives land value

In Texas, population growth in micropolitan areas is directly correlated with rising land demand, especially for buildable and recreational parcels. Lufkin’s 87,275 residents signal a sustained migration pattern into rural centers, not just exurbs. This isn’t just about housing—it’s about land use flexibility, infrastructure readiness, and the viability of off-grid living with modern connectivity.

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02

Micropolitans are the new economic anchors

Lufkin’s ranking suggests that Texas is shifting toward a model where mid-sized rural hubs—not just major metros—anchor regional economies. These areas attract remote workers, retirees, and entrepreneurs seeking quality of life without the cost. As broadband expands and land values rise in these zones, they become self-sustaining ecosystems with their own service economies, reducing reliance on distant urban centers.

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