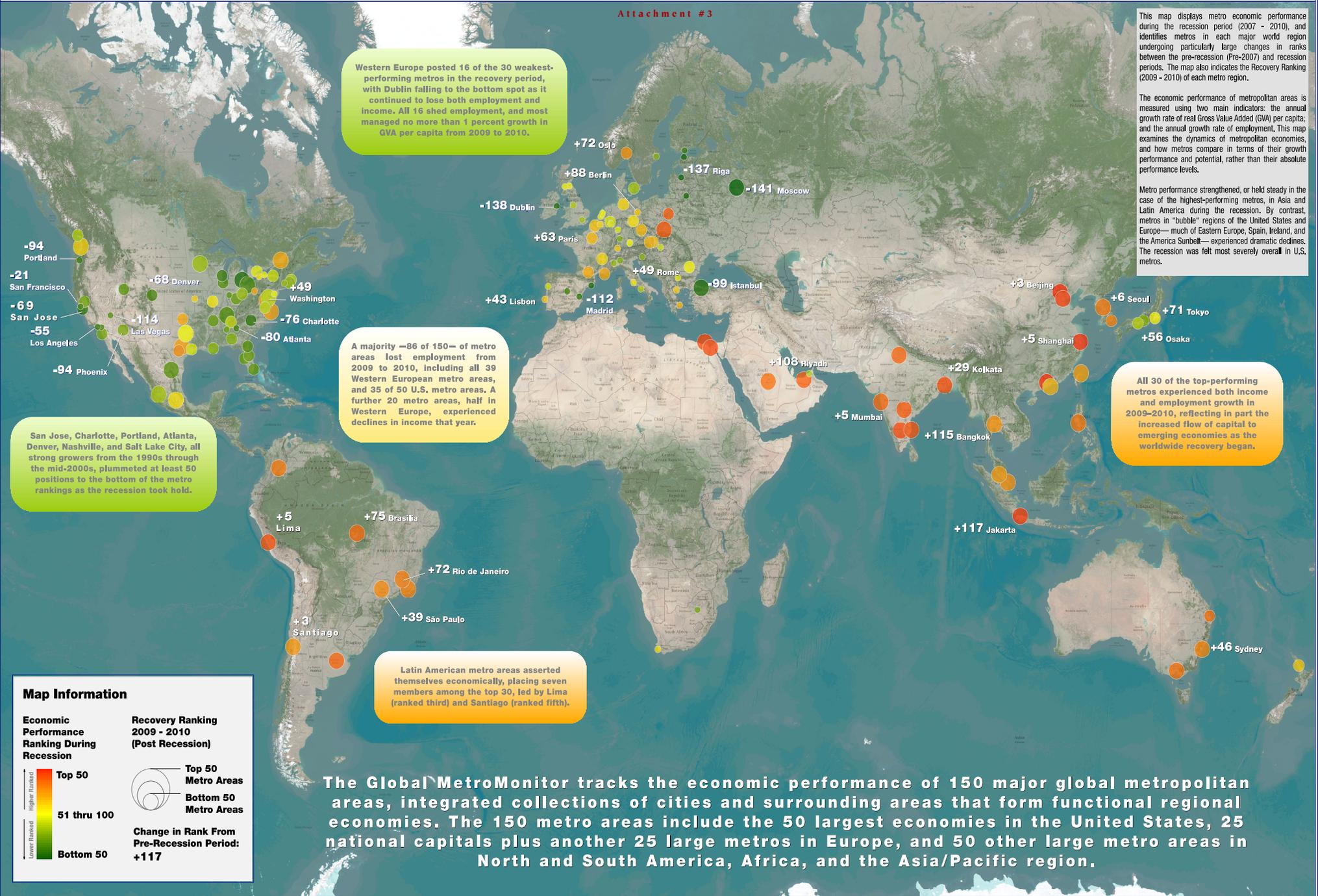


# Metro Economic Performance During The Great Recession and Change in Ranking (Pre-Recession to Recovery)

Research and Demographic Unit

Map of the Month: December 2010

Geographic Information Systems Unit



Western Europe posted 16 of the 30 weakest-performing metros in the recovery period, with Dublin falling to the bottom spot as it continued to lose both employment and income. All 16 shed employment, and most managed no more than 1 percent growth in GVA per capita from 2009 to 2010.

A majority —86 of 150— of metro areas lost employment from 2009 to 2010, including all 39 Western European metro areas, and 35 of 50 U.S. metro areas. A further 20 metro areas, half in Western Europe, experienced declines in income that year.

San Jose, Charlotte, Portland, Atlanta, Denver, Nashville, and Salt Lake City, all strong growers from the 1990s through the mid-2000s, plummeted at least 50 positions to the bottom of the metro rankings as the recession took hold.

Latin American metro areas asserted themselves economically, placing seven members among the top 30, led by Lima (ranked third) and Santiago (ranked fifth).

This map displays metro economic performance during the recession period (2007 - 2010), and identifies metros in each major world region undergoing particularly large changes in ranks between the pre-recession (Pre-2007) and recession periods. The map also indicates the Recovery Ranking (2009 - 2010) of each metro region.

The economic performance of metropolitan areas is measured using two main indicators: the annual growth rate of real Gross Value Added (GVA) per capita; and the annual growth rate of employment. This map examines the dynamics of metropolitan economies, and how metros compare in terms of their growth performance and potential rather than their absolute performance levels.

Metro performance strengthened, or held steady in the case of the highest-performing metros, in Asia and Latin America during the recession. By contrast, metros in "bubble" regions of the United States and Europe—much of Eastern Europe, Spain, Ireland, and the America Sunbelt—experienced dramatic declines. The recession was felt most severely overall in U.S. metros.

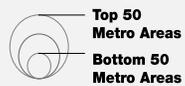
All 30 of the top-performing metros experienced both income and employment growth in 2009-2010, reflecting in part the increased flow of capital to emerging economies as the worldwide recovery began.

### Map Information

**Economic Performance Ranking During Recession**



**Recovery Ranking 2009 - 2010 (Post Recession)**



**Change in Rank From Pre-Recession Period: +117**

The Global MetroMonitor tracks the economic performance of 150 major global metropolitan areas, integrated collections of cities and surrounding areas that form functional regional economies. The 150 metro areas include the 50 largest economies in the United States, 25 national capitals plus another 25 large metros in Europe, and 50 other large metro areas in North and South America, Africa, and the Asia/Pacific region.