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BEST OF IREDELL
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Wednesday, April 8

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Saturday, April 4, 2026

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AREA SEES GROWTH



RECORD & LANDMARK FILE PHOTO

Downtown Statesville in November 2020.

Charlotte metro region outpaced most US areas for growth

DESIREE MATHURIN AND JOHN MARKS
The Herald (Rock Hill, S.C.)

The Charlotte metro area continues to attract thousands of people to the region each year. And the total number puts the area in the top 10 nationally, new Census Bureau estimates released in March found.

The Charlotte-Concord-Gastonia metropolitan statistical area's population growth was seventh highest across the nation's metros in a five-year period, the Census Bureau said. There are 387 MSAs.

Metropolitan statistical areas consist of a county or counties where one urban area has a population of at least 50,000, according to the Census Bureau. The Charlotte metro area includes Anson, Cabarrus, Gaston, Iredell, Lincoln and Mecklenburg counties in North Carolina, along with Chester, Lancaster and York counties in South Carolina.

From April 2020 to July 2025, the Charlotte region added more than 278,700 people on both sides of the Carolinas border,

for a total of 2.9 million people last year.

The number of newcomers continues to cement the region's place among other major metro areas, including Dallas, Houston, Phoenix, Atlanta and Austin, Texas.

While the total number of people coming to the region is greater than most other places, the rate of growth for the Charlotte region also ranks in the upper levels.

Please see **GROWTH**, Page A3

North Iredell student arrested for gun in car

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A North Iredell High School student was arrested at a track meet in Alexander County for having a gun in their car on school property.

"The student was taken into custody without incident and will face criminal charges," the

Taylorsville Police Department said in a news release on Thursday morning. Taylorsville police did not specify what charges the student could face.

The Taylorsville Police Department received a tip through the "See Something, Say Something" anonymous reporting system on Wednesday. Alexander County

Schools said the tip was reported shortly before 3 p.m. The report said a gun was possibly brought to Alexander Central High School, the release said.

"North Iredell students had reported a concern through the "See Something Say Something" app, which allows students to anonymously report potential

threats and dangers," Alexander County Schools said in a news release. "The School Resource Officer at ACHS (Alexander Central High School) reported the information to the police department and officers were able to respond immediately.

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Iredell County Sports Hall of Fame reveals 2026 induction class

SPORTS, PAGE B1

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Warm with sun
High 78
Low 63
Forecast •A8



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