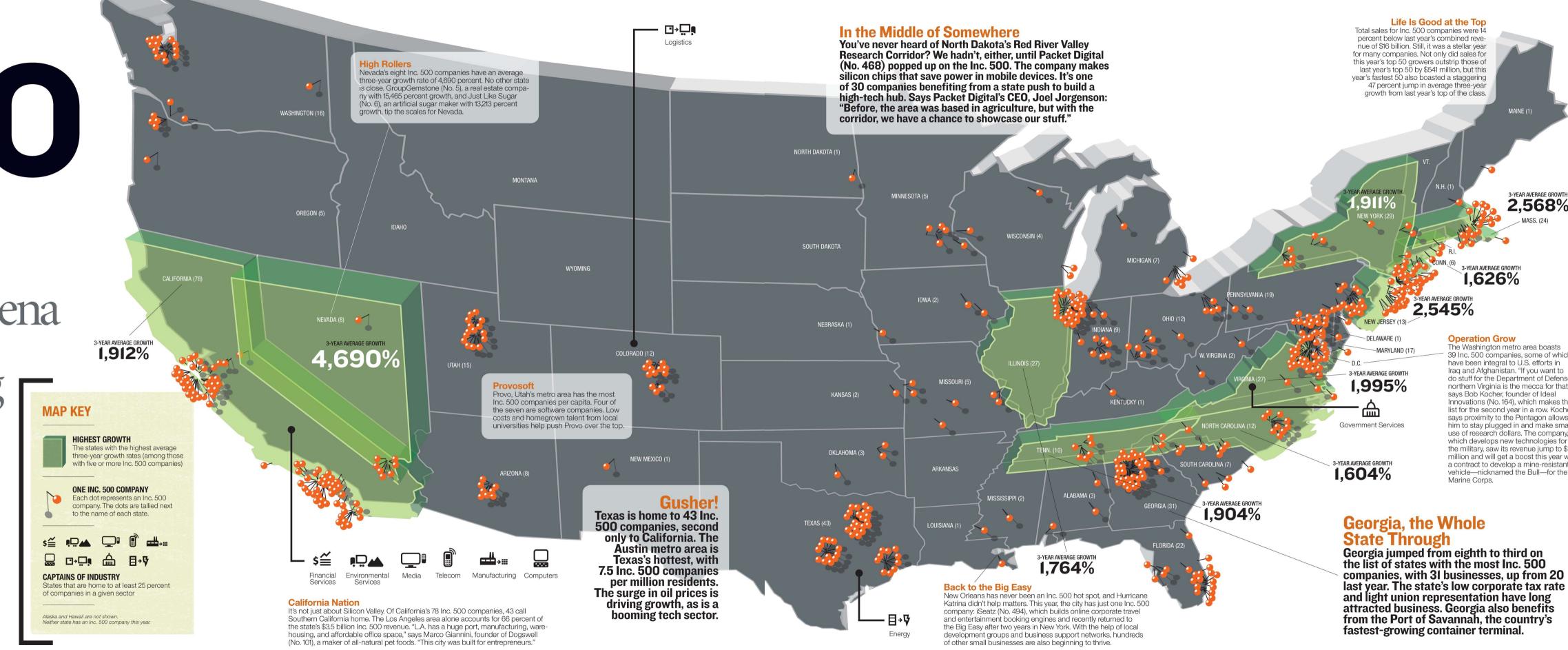


500 HOT SPOTS From Pasadena

By NITASHA TIKU, RUBY MADREN-BRITTON, AND MAX CHAFKIN Map by L-DOPA



STATES WITH THE MOST COMPANIES 1. California 2. Texas 3. Georgia 4. New York 5. Illinois Virginia 6. Massachusetts 7. Florida

Life Is Good at the Top

STATES WITH THE MOST COMPANIES PER MILLION RESIDENTS

8. Pennsylvania 9. Maryland

2,568%

1,626%

Operation Grow

Marine Corps.

The Washington metro area boasts 39 Inc. 500 companies, some of which have been integral to U.S. efforts in Iraq and Afghanistan, "If you want to

do stuff for the Department of Defense northern Virginia is the mecca for that,"

Innovations (No. 164), which makes the

list for the second year in a row. Kocher

says proximity to the Pentagon allows

him to stay plugged in and make smart use of research dollars. The company. which develops new technologies for

the military, saw its revenue jump to \$54

million and will get a boost this year with

a contract to develop a mine-resistant

vehicle—nicknamed the Bull—for the

says Bob Kocher, founder of Ideal

1. Utah	5.9
2. Massachusetts	3.7
3. Virginia	3.5
4. Georgia	3.3
5. Nevada	3.2
6. Maryland	3.0
7. Colorado	2.5
Washington	2.5
8. California	2.1
Illinois	2.1

CITIES WITH THE MOST COMPANIES*

1. Washington, D.C.	39
2. New York	31
3. Atlanta	29
4. Chicago	27
5. Los Angeles	26
6. Dallas	20
San Francisco	20
7. Boston	18
8. Miami	14
9. Philadelphia	13
Seattle	13

CITIES WITH THE MOST COMPANIES **PER MILLION RESIDENTS****

Provo, Utah	14.2
Austin	7.5
Washington, D.C.	7.3
Raleigh, N.C.	6.7
Colorado Springs, Colo.	6.6
Salt Lake City	6.4
San Jose, Calif.	6.1
Atlanta	5.5
Scranton, Pa.	5.5
San Francisco	4.8

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