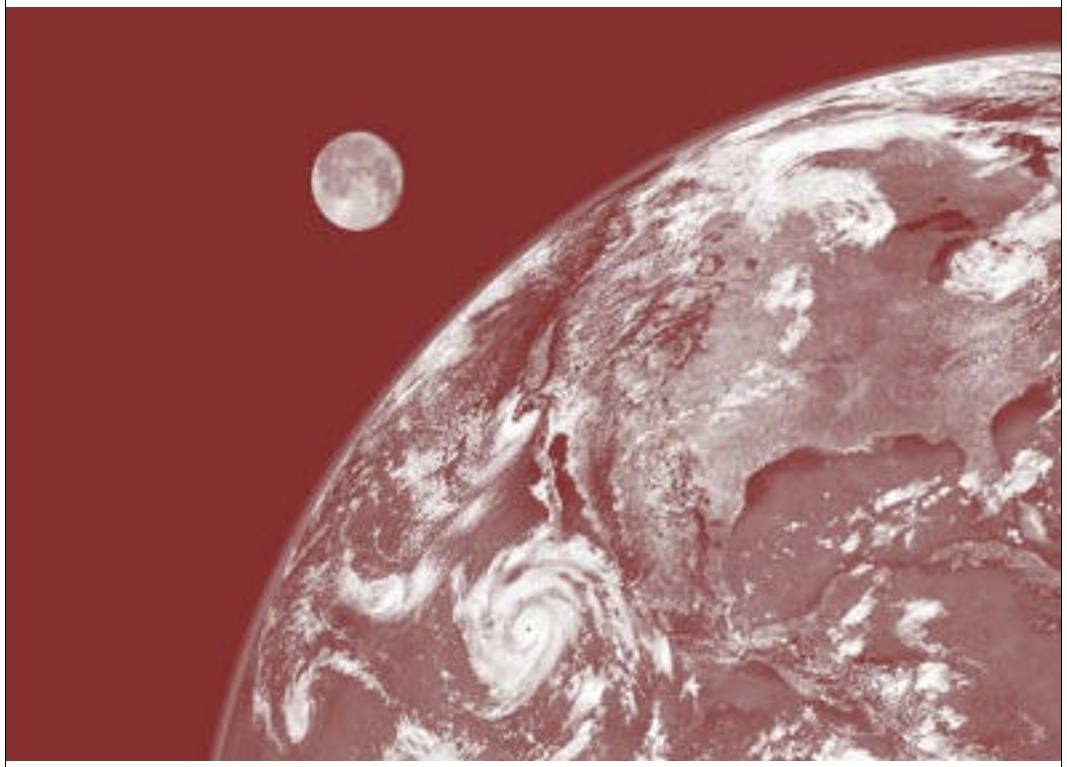
WHERE
WE
STAND



The Strategic Assessment of the St. Louis Region

4TH EDITION

East-West Gateway Coordinating Council

2002

This report is the fourth edition of Where We Stand: A Strategic Assessment of the St. Louis Region. East-West Gateway published three earlier editions in 1992, 1996, and 1999. Each of these described the standing of the St. Louis region among its peers in relationship to more than 80 social, economic, fiscal, and physical variables. In preparing the analyses, East-West Gateway staff used the most recent and reliable data available at the time of publication.

Sections 2-10 of this fourth edition were released as a series of interim products during the summer and fall of 2002. For some indicators, new data were released by the U.S. Census Bureau, the Bureau of Economic Analysis, or other federal agencies after the interim report was prepared. When this was the case, and time allowed, the indicator was updated for this final, complete version of the assessment.

The preparation of this document was financed in part by the U.S. Department of Transportation through the Federal Transit Administration, Federal Highway Administration, Missouri Department of Transportation, and Illinois Department of Transportation. The contents of this report reflect the opinions, findings, and conclusions of the author. The contents do not necessarily reflect the official views or policies of the funding agencies.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

THE NATIONAL MARKETPLACE 5

ST. LOUIS AND OUR PEER REGIONS 13
- Metro Area Population
- Land Area
- Population Density

DEMOGRAPHICS 17
- Population Change
- Race and Ethnicity
- Age
- Households

HOUSEHOLD INCOME AND WEALTH 27

EDUCATIONAL PERFORMANCE 33
- Attainment
- Enrollment
- Spending

ECONOMIC VITALITY 39
- Employment
- Establishments
- Investment and Output

INDIVIDUAL AND FAMILY WELL-BEING 47
- Health and Mortality
- Families at Risk
- Racial Disparity

CRIME AND SOCIAL DISORDER 57

URBAN FORM AND PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT 61
- Land Use
- Environment
- Transportation

LEADERSHIP, GOVERNANCE, AND PUBLIC SERVICE 69
- Government
- Public Finance
- Community Engagement

HOW FAR WE'VE COME 77

SOURCES AND NOTES 85

THE NATIONAL MARKETPLACE

THE NATIONAL MARKETPLACE

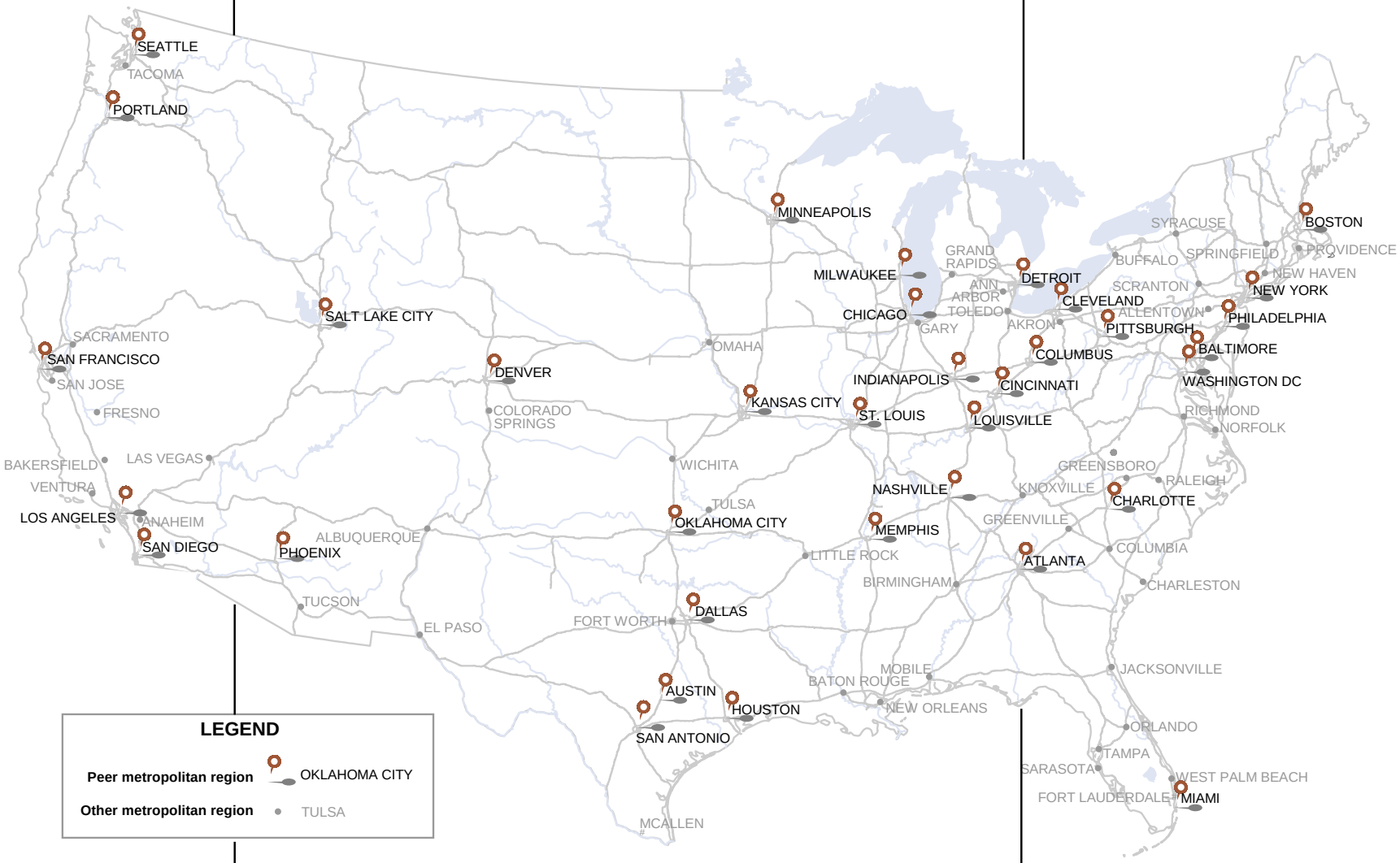
America's metropolitan areas are hubs of population, innovation, and wealth—the attributes that drive the largest producer of goods and services in the world. Although they comprise only 20 percent of its land area, the nation's 319 metros account for 80 percent of America's population, 84 percent of its employment, and 85 percent of its Gross Domestic Product.[1] Centers of knowledge and ideas, powered by ever-more sophisticated technologies, linked by highways, waterways, and airways, metropolitan regions are at once complementary and competitive. It is not possible to understand America's place in the global economy, the performance of the national marketplace, or the forces that push some cities to grow and others to decline without first understanding the dynamics of metropolitan growth and inter-regional competition.

Ten years ago, when the East-West Gateway Coordinating Council issued the first edition of *Where We Stand*, the notion of metropolitan areas competing in the national marketplace jarred the world view of some St. Louisans. Perhaps it challenged our long-standing fixation with economic "rivals" in the next county or on the other side of the river. But the time to let go of old ways of thinking is long past. In the knowledge-driven economy that characterized the end of the last century and the beginning of this one, all parts of St. Louis are in it together. Together we vie with Charlotte, Denver, and Austin; Ireland, Singapore, and Malaysia; and other growing economies for the highly-mobile capital of production.

Since the first strategic assessment was published, a number of important trends have continued to transform the national and international marketplace—pulling America's metropolitan areas along in their grip. Following are some of them.

[1] U. S. Metro Economies: The Engines of America's Growth. Prepared by DRI-WEFA for the United States Conference of Mayors. 2001.

go back


SEATTLE
TACOMA
PORTLAND
SALT LAKE CITY
SACRAMENTO
SAN FRANCISCO
SAN JOSE
FRESNO
BAKERSFIELD
LAS VEGAS
VENTURA
LOS ANGELES
ANAHEIM
SAN DIEGO
PHOENIX
ALBUQUERQUE
TUCSON
EL PASO
DENVER
COLORADO SPRINGS
OMAHA
WICHITA
TULSA
OKLAHOMA CITY
FORT WORTH
DALLAS
AUSTIN
SAN ANTONIO
HOUSTON
MCALLEN
MINNEAPOLIS
MILWAUKEE
CHICAGO
GARY
KANSAS CITY
ST. LOUIS
LITTLE ROCK
MEMPHIS
NASHVILLE
BIRMINGHAM
ATLANTA
BATON ROUGE
NEW ORLEANS
MOBILE
GRAND RAPIDS
ANN ARBOR
TOLEDO
DETROIT
CLEVELAND
AKRON
COLUMBUS
INDIANAPOLIS
CINCINNATI
LOUISVILLE
GREENVILLE
KNOXVILLE
GREENSBORO
CHARLOTTE
RALEIGH
COLUMBIA
CHARLESTON
JACKSONVILLE
ORLANDO
TAMPA
SARASOTA
WEST PALM BEACH
FORT LAUDERDALE
MIAMI
SYRACUSE
BUFFALO
SCRANTON
ALLENTOWN
PITTSBURGH
PHILADELPHIA
BALTIMORE
WASHINGTON DC
RICHMOND
NORFOLK
SPRINGFIELD
BOSTON
PROVIDENCE
NEW HAVEN
NEW YORK
LEGEND
Peer metropolitan region
OKLAHOMA CITY
Other metropolitan region
TULSA

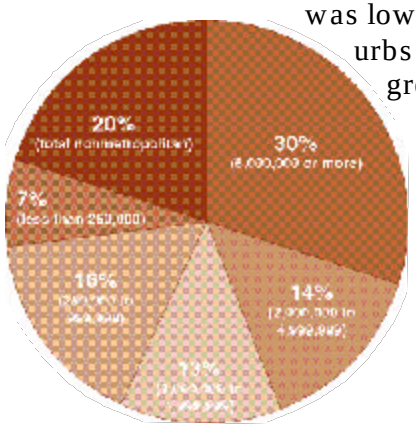
Population

- Between 1990 and 2000, the United States experienced the largest population growth in its history, rising from 248.7 to 281.4 million inhabitants. The decennial increase of 13.1 percent was five times the average percentage increase of other industrialized countries of the world during that time period.[2] Most of this growth was in metro areas, where four of every five Americans (80.3 percent) now live.[3]

- Approximately 44 percent of all population growth in the United States during the 1990s was from immigration. 11.2 million legal and illegal immigrants settled in this country during the decade—an immigration wave unprecedented in U.S. history. The greatest increases were among people from Latin America, who now account for more than half (52 percent) of the foreign-born population, up from 42 percent in 1990.[4]

- After decades of decline, some central cities showed signs of a comeback during the 1990s. Almost three-quarters (72 percent) of the nation's 100 largest central cities gained population in the 1990s, compared with less than two-thirds (62 percent) in the 1980s. Still, the rate of population increase in 52 of the 72 growing central cities was lower than that of their metro areas.[5] The suburbs around these cities were the places that grew most rapidly.

SHARE OF U.S. TOTAL POPULATION CHANGE BY SIZE OF METRO AREA, 1990-2000



[2] Census 2000 Brief: The United States in International Context. U.S. Census Bureau, February 2002.

[3] Census 2000 Brief: Population Change and Distribution. U.S. Census Bureau, April 2001.

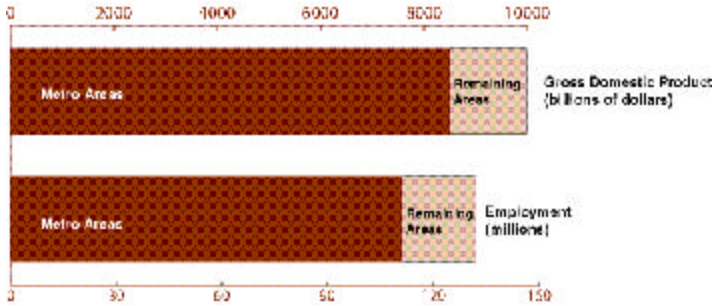
[4] Steven A. Camarota, "Immigrants in the United States-2000." Center for Immigration Studies. January 2001

[5] City Growth and the 2000 Census: Which Places Grew, and Why. The Brookings Institution Center on Urban and Metropolitan Policy. May 2001.

Economy

- Throughout the 1990s, the services-producing sector continued to gain share over the goods-producing sector in the national marketplace. Factories gave way to new high-rise complexes where financial, health, information, education, research, and entertainment services are now designed and delivered. A full 93 percent of high-tech and business service jobs, the fastest growing segments of the U. S. economy, are located in metro areas.[6] These are also among the nation's most mobile industries, with location decisions hinging on access to talent, technology, and complementary firms.

- The Gross Domestic Product of the United States increased by nearly $4.27 trillion between 1990 and 2000, up from $5.71 to $9.98 trillion per year. The output of the nation's metro areas accounted for 86 percent of that increase.[7] Workers in metropolitan areas earned $4.22 trillion in wages and salaries in 2000.



U.S. JOBS AND OUTPUT, 2000

[6] U. S. Metro Economies. Page 5.

[7] U.S. Metro Economies. Pages 3-4.

- By 1999, the nation's poverty rate had dropped to its lowest level since 1979. Every racial and ethnic group showed a decline in the number of poor and the percent of people in poverty during that time period. Declines were concentrated in metropolitan areas, particularly their central cities.[8]

- The income gap between those workers in and those outside metropolitan areas continued to grow. The average metro area worker earned $38,000 in wages and benefits in 2000–$13,200 more than the typical worker outside metropolitan areas. This income gap between metro area and non-metro area workers was only $4,600 in 1985.[9]

- Mature workers comprised the fastest growing segment of the workforce. Between 1990 and 2000, 50-to-54 year olds grew by 55 percent—more than any other age group. The second-fastest growing group included individuals aged 45 to 49, whose numbers increased by 45 percent.[10] These cohorts comprise more than half of the post World War II baby boom. Their numbers will continue to have a significant influence on social, economic, and other aspects of American life for decades to come.

8 "Poverty Rate Lowest in 20 Years, Household Income at Record High, Census Bureau Reports." Press Release from the U.S. Census Bureau. September 26, 2000.

9 U.S. Metro Economies. Page 4.

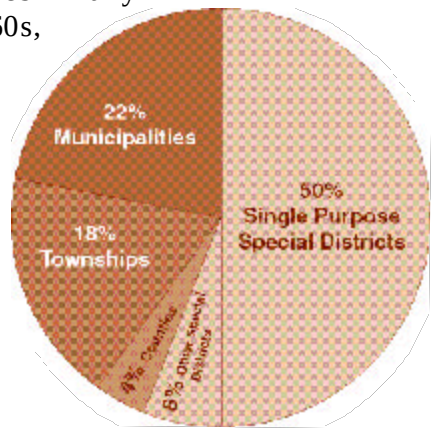
10 Census 2000 Brief: Age 2000. U. S. Census Bureau. October 2001.

Government

- By 2000, there were 87,900 units of government in the United States. All but 51 of these (the Federal government and the 50 states) are classified as "local" governments. Approximately 44 percent are general purpose governments and the remaining 56 percent are local governments that have been established for specialized purposes—including school districts and other special district governments. Almost all of the special district governments perform a single function, such as drainage and flood control, soil and water conservation, fire protection, water supply, or housing and community development.

- The most noteworthy change in the form and function of local governments during recent decades has been in the area of special district government. Special districts proliferated between 1952 and 2002, increasing by almost 300 percent. During the same time period, school districts were consolidating and reorganizing, with the number of independent units shrinking by 80 percent. Municipalities increased by 16 percent, and the number of counties in the nation remained relatively steady.[11]

- Local governments continued to have the responsibility and authority for a wide array of services to citizens and firms within their jurisdiction. These services include education, public health and safety, infrastructure, environmental protection and sanitation, public housing, and more. They use a variety of techniques to generate the revenues needed to provide these services—many of which were put in place in the 1960s, '70s, and '80s.



LOCAL GOVERNMENT IN THE UNITED STATES, 2002

[11] Government Units in 2002 U.S. Census Bureau. July 2002.

- Together, property taxes, general sales taxes, and income taxes account for between one-half and three-quarters of general municipal revenues. The mix varies considerably across large cities. The predominant general tax revenue for Milwaukee, Portland, and Boston, for example, is property tax. For Oklahoma City and Shreveport, it is sales tax. For Columbus, Philadelphia, Louisville, and Cincinnati, it is the income tax.[12]

This report concludes a series of five that describes where St. Louis stands among its peer regions in relationship to these and other social, economic, fiscal, and physical variables. It also presents a reflection on changes that have—and, often, have not—occurred in the region's standing over the past ten years.

The reader may search for the obvious information that explains why some metros are faring well, overall, and others are lagging behind. But no single, simple answer will emerge from the data. Each metro's story is a mix of strengths and weaknesses and a challenge to community leaders and citizens to build more strategically on what they have in order to overcome the unique set of impediments that stand in the way of the future each desires.

12 Michael Pagano. City Fiscal Conditions in 2001. National League of Cities. July 2001.

ST. LOUIS AND OUR PEER REGIONS

ST. LOUIS AND OUR PEER REGIONS

Where does the St. Louis metropolitan area stand in the competitive and global marketplace of 2002? To address that question, indicators of economic, social, fiscal, and physical well-being used in earlier editions of the *Where We Stand* strategic assessment have been updated to the most recent year available. A few new indicators have been added, as well, in response to the growing importance of selected 21st Century trends.

The 35 metropolitan areas used in the 1996 and 1999 editions have been continued into this 2002 update. These remain the metropolitan areas most likely to be considered when firms and workers, families and retirees, new and mature talent are considering where they can find the most desirable quality of life. Each of the metro areas, which are depicted in the map on page 7, meets the following selection criteria: the area has a population of 950,000 or more and is within 500 miles of St. Louis, or the area has an economic function similar to that of the St. Louis region.

Unless otherwise noted, the terms "regions," "peer regions," and "metro areas" are used interchangeably throughout this report to connote Metropolitan Statistical Areas. The boundaries of MSAs are established by the Office of Management and Budget and used by the Census Bureau and other federal agencies. The OMB makes its designation not on the exclusive basis of population or land area size, but rather on the basis of the economic and social interaction and integration that connects outlying areas with a large central core. The geographic range of this activity varies considerably from place to place, influenced by many things, including how close one urban area is to another. The OMB sometimes designates two or more Primary Metropolitan Statistical Areas (PMSAs) that have strong internal links within a larger, consolidated metro area (CMSA). When this is the case, PMSA boundaries have been used.

As is illustrated in the charts at right, the 35 peer regions range from a population high of 9.5 million (the Los Angeles PMSA) to a population low of just over 1 million (the Louisville MSA). With 2.6 million people in 2000, the St. Louis MSA ranks 14th—close to the average.[1]

St. Louis is the third largest in the amount of land that it covers, but, because its population is slightly less than average, it ranks relatively low (28th) in population per square mile. At opposite ends of the density scale are the highly-concentrated New York PMSA (8,160 persons per square mile) and the sparsely-populated Phoenix MSA (223 persons per square mile).

[1] The St. Louis Metropolitan Statistical Area encompasses the City of St. Louis; Franklin, Jefferson, Lincoln, St. Charles, St. Louis, and Warren counties in Missouri; Clinton, Jersey, Madison, Monroe, and St. Clair counties in Illinois. The area is depicted in the map on page 16.

A PEER REGION...

1 has a population of 950,000 or more

and

2 is within 500 miles of St. Louis

or

3 has an economic function similar to that of the St. Louis region

METRO AREA POPULATION

2000

1	**Los Angeles**	**9,519,338**
2	New York	9,314,235
3	Chicago	8,272,768
4	Philadelphia	5,100,931
5	Washington DC	4,923,153
6	Detroit	4,441,551
7	Houston	4,177,646
8	Atlanta	4,112,198
9	Dallas	3,519,176
10	Boston	3,406,829
11	Phoenix	3,251,876
Average		2,978,201
12	Minneapolis	2,968,806
13	San Diego	2,813,833
14	**St. Louis**	**2,603,607**
15	Baltimore	2,552,994
16	Seattle	2,414,616
17	Pittsburgh	2,358,695
18	Miami	2,253,362
19	Cleveland	2,250,871
20	Denver	2,109,282
21	Portland	1,918,009
22	Kansas City	1,776,062
23	San Francisco	1,731,183
24	Cincinnati	1,646,395
25	Indianapolis	1,607,486
26	San Antonio	1,592,383
27	Columbus	1,540,157
28	Milwaukee	1,500,741
29	Charlotte	1,499,293
30	Salt Lake City	1,333,914
31	Austin	1,249,763
32	Nashville	1,231,311
33	Memphis	1,135,614
34	Oklahoma City	1,083,346
35	**Louisville**	**1,025,598**

Source: 2000 Census

LAND AREA

In square miles, 2000

1	**Phoenix**	**14,573**
2	Washington DC	6,509
3	**St. Louis**	**6,392**
4	Dallas	6,186
5	Atlanta	6,124
6	Minneapolis	6,063
7	Houston	5,920
8	Kansas City	5,406
9	Chicago	5,062
10	Portland	5,028
11	Pittsburgh	4,626
12	Seattle	4,424
13	Oklahoma City	4,247
14	Austin	4,224
15	San Diego	4,200
Average		4,141
16	Nashville	4,073
17	Los Angeles	4,061
18	Detroit	3,897
19	Philadelphia	3,855
20	Denver	3,761
21	Indianapolis	3,523
22	Charlotte	3,377
23	Cincinnati	3,342
24	San Antonio	3,326
25	Columbus	3,141
26	Memphis	3,006
27	Cleveland	2,706
28	Baltimore	2,609
29	Louisville	2,072
30	Boston	2,022
31	Miami	1,946
32	Salt Lake City	1,617
33	Milwaukee	1,460
34	New York	1,142
35	**San Francisco**	**1,016**

Source: 2000 Census

POPULATION DENSITY

Persons per square mile, 2000

1	**New York**	**8,160**
2	Los Angeles	2,344
3	San Francisco	1,705
4	Boston	1,685
5	Chicago	1,634
6	Philadelphia	1,323
7	Miami	1,158
8	Detroit	1,140
9	Milwaukee	1,028
10	Baltimore	979
Average		963
11	Cleveland	832
12	Salt Lake City	825
13	Washington DC	756
14	Houston	706
15	Atlanta	672
16	San Diego	670
17	Dallas	569
18	Denver	561
19	Seattle	546
20	Pittsburgh	510
21	Louisville	495
22	Cincinnati	493
23	Columbus	490
23	Minneapolis	490
25	San Antonio	479
26	Indianapolis	456
27	Charlotte	444
28	**St. Louis**	**407**
29	Portland	382
30	Memphis	378
31	Kansas City	329
32	Nashville	302
33	Austin	296
34	Oklahoma City	255
35	**Phoenix**	**223**

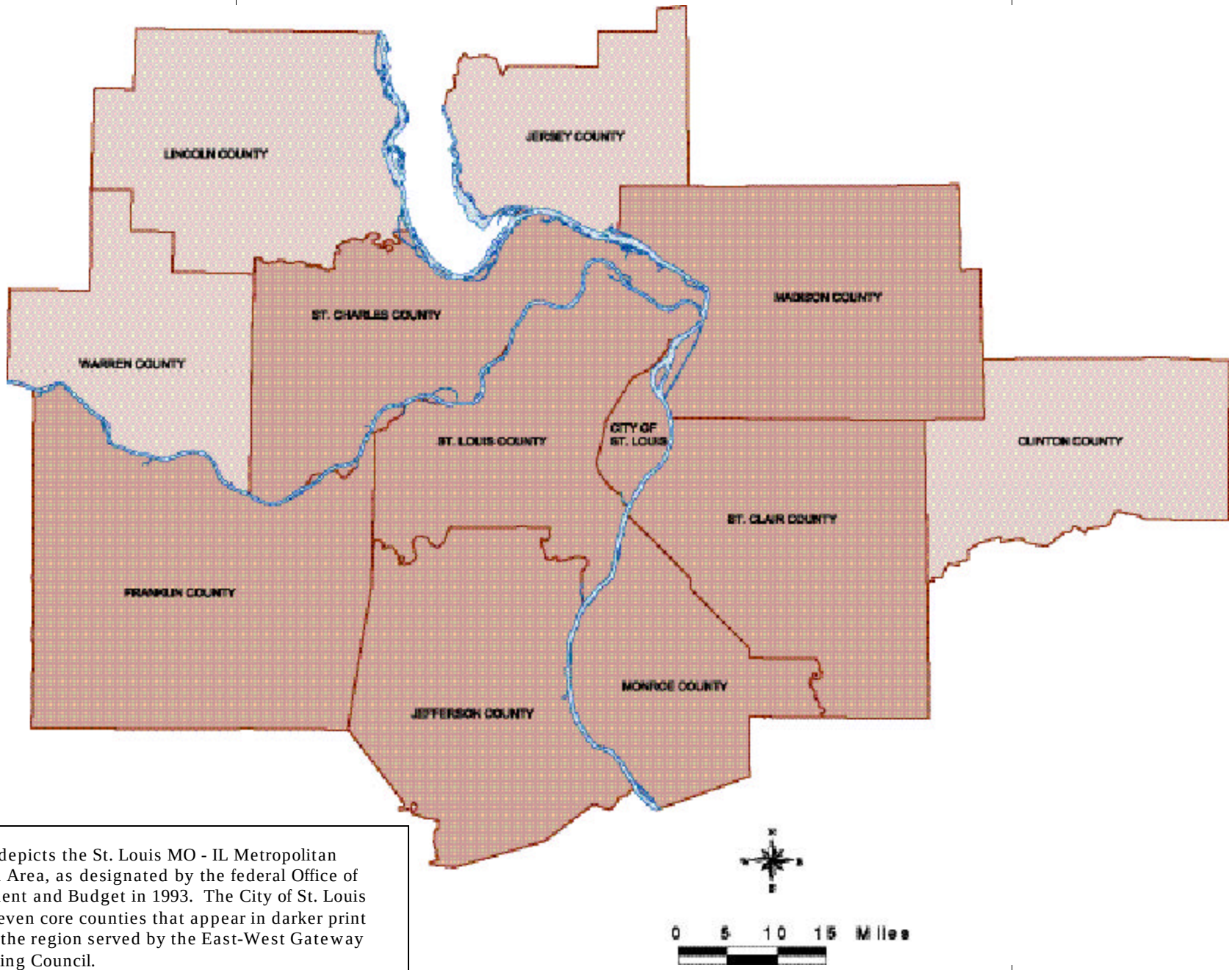
Source: 2000 Census

HIGHER

AVERAGE

LOWER

THE ST. LOUIS REGION



The map depicts the St. Louis MO - IL Metropolitan Statistical Area, as designated by the federal Office of Management and Budget in 1993. The City of St. Louis and the seven core counties that appear in darker print comprise the region served by the East-West Gateway Coordinating Council.

DEMOGRAPHICS

POPULATION CHANGE

During the decade of the 1990s, metropolitan areas in the South and West led the rest in rates of population growth. In 2000, remarkably, Austin and Phoenix are nearly 50 percent larger than they were when the decade began. St. Louis' population grew by less than 5 percent during the decade, as was the case for the cluster of older regions in the Northeast and Midwest that comprise the bottom rung.

The Census counts are only a snapshot in time, of course; they do not illuminate the complex events that went on between the decennial surveys. Net migration is one of these underlying activities. It is calculated to reflect the amount of change in a region that cannot be attributed to births and deaths among residents. The second chart at right indicates that, if births and deaths accounted for all the population change that took place in the St. Louis metropolitan area between 1990 and 2000, the region would have had 47,000 more people in 2000 than the Census reflects. In other words, an excess in the number of births over deaths in the decade masks the fact that the region actually lost 47,000 residents.

Another dynamic of interest is the shifting share of a metropolitan area's population that lives in the central city. The population of the City of St. Louis is very small (13.4 percent) in relationship to the metro area as a whole. St. Louis lost a greater proportion of its population than did any other central city in the peer regions.

POPULATION CHANGE

By percent, 1990-2000

1	**Austin**	**47.7**
2	Phoenix	45.3
3	Atlanta	38.9
4	Dallas	31.5
5	Denver	30.0
6	Charlotte	29.0
7	Portland	26.6
8	Houston	25.8
9	Nashville	25.0
10	Salt Lake City	24.4
11	San Antonio	20.2
12	Seattle	18.8
13	Minneapolis	16.9
14	Washington DC	16.6
Average		16.5
15	Indianapolis	16.4
16	Miami	16.3
17	Columbus	14.5
18	Oklahoma City	13.0
19	Memphis	12.7
20	San Diego	12.6
21	Kansas City	12.2
22	Chicago	11.6
23	New York	9.0
24	Louisville	8.1
25	San Francisco	8.0
26	Cincinnati	7.9
27	Los Angeles	7.4
28	Baltimore	7.2
29	Boston	5.5
30	Milwaukee	4.8
31	**St. Louis**	**4.5**
32	Detroit	4.1
33	Philadelphia	3.6
34	Cleveland	2.2
35	**Pittsburgh**	**-1.5**

Source: 2001 County and City Extra, Annual Metro City and County Data Book

NET MIGRATION

In thousands, 1990-2000

1	**Atlanta**	**589**
2	Phoenix	458
3	Dallas	286
4	Houston	271
5	Portland	224
6	Denver	201
7	Austin	198
8	Charlotte	173
9	Seattle	152
10	Nashville	119
11	Minneapolis	113
12	Washington DC	113
13	Miami	101
14	San Antonio	99
15	Indianapolis	58
16	Kansas City	52
17	Columbus	47
Average		41
18	Salt Lake City	34
19	San Diego	28
20	Oklahoma City	27
21	Louisville	17
22	Memphis	16
23	Cincinnati	15
24	San Francisco	14
25	Baltimore	-15
26	Boston	-40
27	**St. Louis**	**-47**
28	Milwaukee	-61
29	Pittsburgh	-66
30	Cleveland	-85
31	Chicago	-161
32	Detroit	-183
33	Philadelphia	-188
34	New York	-426
35	**Los Angeles**	**-659**

Source: 2001 County and City Extra, Annual Metro City and County Data Book

CENTRAL CITY SHARE OF METRO POPULATION

By percent, 2000

1	**New York**	**86.0**
2	San Antonio	71.9
3	Memphis	57.2
4	Austin	52.5
5	Indianapolis	48.6
6	Houston	46.8
7	Oklahoma City	46.7
8	Columbus	46.2
9	San Francisco	44.9
10	Nashville	44.3
11	San Diego	43.5
12	Phoenix	40.6
13	Milwaukee	39.8
14	Los Angeles	38.8
15	Charlotte	36.1
16	Chicago	35.0
17	Dallas	33.8
Average		33.3
18	Philadelphia	29.8
19	Portland	27.6
20	Denver	26.3
21	Baltimore	25.5
22	Louisville	25.0
23	Kansas City	24.9
24	Seattle	23.3
25	Detroit	21.4
26	Cleveland	21.3
27	Cincinnati	20.1
28	Boston	17.3
29	Miami	16.1
30	Pittsburgh	14.2
31	Salt Lake City	13.6
32	**St. Louis**	**13.4**
33	Minneapolis	12.9
34	Washington DC	11.6
35	**Atlanta**	**10.1**

Source: 2000 Census

CENTRAL CITY POPULATION CHANGE

By percent, 1990-2000

1	**Austin**	**41.0**
2	Charlotte	36.6
3	Phoenix	34.3
4	San Antonio	22.3
5	Portland	21.0
6	Houston	19.8
7	Denver	18.6
8	Dallas	18.1
9	Oklahoma City	13.8
10	Salt Lake City	13.6
11	Columbus	12.4
12	Nashville	11.7
13	San Diego	10.2
14	New York	9.4
15	Seattle	9.1
Average		7.5
16	San Francisco	7.3
17	Indianapolis	6.9
18	Memphis	6.5
19	Los Angeles	6.0
20	Atlanta	5.7
21	Chicago	4.0
22	Minneapolis	3.9
23	Boston	2.6
24	Kansas City	1.5
25	Miami	1.1
26	Philadelphia	-4.3
27	Louisville	-4.8
28	Milwaukee	-5.0
29	Cleveland	-5.4
30	Washington DC	-5.7
31	Detroit	-7.5
32	Cincinnati	-9.0
33	Pittsburgh	-9.5
34	Baltimore	-11.5
35	**St. Louis**	**-12.2**

Source: 1990 and 2000 Census

HIGHER

AVERAGE

LOWER

RACE AND ETHNICITY

In 2000, St. Louis ranked 13th in the percentage of its population that is white and 12th in the percentage of its population that is African-American. Together, these two races comprise almost 97 percent of the region's total population—towering over the influence and flavor of any other races and cultures. Only one other peer metro came close to St. Louis in the lack of representation of people of other races. This was Nashville, where 94 percent of the population is either African-American or white.

Of the 3 percent of St. Louis' population that was of other races in 2000, approximately half are Asians. Hispanics, who comprise less than 2 percent of the St. Louis region's population, can be of any race.

St. Louis ranked third from the bottom in the number of immigrants who settled in the region during the 1990s, the decade of the largest immigration wave in the nation's history. St. Louis trailed not only those regions near the coasts and at the nation's borders—where higher numbers would be expected—but also several metropolitan areas in the Midwest, such as Oklahoma City, Kansas City, and Milwaukee.

WHITE POPULATION

Percent of total, 2000

1	**Pittsburgh**	**89.5**
2	Salt Lake City	87.6
3	Minneapolis	86.1
4	Portland	84.5
5	Cincinnati	84.1
6	Louisville	82.8
7	Boston	82.5
8	Indianapolis	82.1
9	Columbus	81.3
10	Kansas City	80.8
11	Denver	79.4
11	Nashville	79.4
12	Seattle	78.6
13	**St. Louis**	**78.3**
14	Milwaukee	77.1
15	Phoenix	77.0
16	Cleveland	76.9
17	Oklahoma City	75.7
18	Charlotte	73.6
	Average	73.0
19	Austin	72.5
20	Philadelphia	72.1
21	Detroit	71.2
22	San Antonio	70.6
23	Miami	69.7
24	Baltimore	67.3
25	Dallas	67.2
26	San Diego	66.5
27	Chicago	65.8
28	Atlanta	63.0
29	Houston	61.1
30	Washington DC	60.1
31	San Francisco	58.6
32	Memphis	52.9
33	New York	48.8
34	**Los Angeles**	**48.7**

Source: 2000 Census

AFRICAN-AMERICAN POPULATION

Percent of total, 2000

1	**Memphis**	**43.4**
2	Atlanta	28.9
3	Baltimore	27.4
4	Washington DC	26.0
5	New York	24.6
6	Detroit	22.9
7	Charlotte	20.5
8	Miami	20.3
9	Philadelphia	20.1
10	Chicago	18.9
11	Cleveland	18.5
12	**St. Louis**	**18.3**
13	Houston	17.5
14	Milwaukee	15.7
15	Nashville	15.6
16	Dallas	15.1
	Average	14.4
17	Louisville	13.9
17	Indianapolis	13.9
18	Columbus	13.4
19	Cincinnati	13.0
20	Kansas City	12.8
21	Oklahoma City	10.6
22	Los Angeles	9.8
23	Pittsburgh	8.1
24	Austin	8.0
25	Boston	7.0
26	San Antonio	6.6
27	San Diego	5.7
28	Denver	5.5
29	San Francisco	5.3
29	Minneapolis	5.3
30	Seattle	4.4
31	Phoenix	3.7
32	Portland	2.7
33	**Salt Lake City**	**1.1**

Source: 2000 Census

ASIAN POPULATION

Percent of total, 2000

1	**San Francisco**	**22.7**
2	Los Angeles	11.9
3	Seattle	9.4
4	New York	9.1
5	San Diego	8.9
6	Washington DC	6.7
7	Houston	5.2
8	Boston	4.9
9	Portland	4.6
9	Chicago	4.6
10	Minneapolis	4.1
	Average	4.1
11	Dallas	4.0
12	Austin	3.5
13	Philadelphia	3.4
14	Atlanta	3.3
15	Denver	3.0
16	Baltimore	2.7
17	Oklahoma City	2.5
18	Columbus	2.4
19	Detroit	2.3
20	Salt Lake City	2.2
21	Phoenix	2.1
21	Milwaukee	2.1
22	Charlotte	1.9
23	Nashville	1.6
23	Kansas City	1.6
24	San Antonio	1.5
25	Miami	1.4
25	Cleveland	1.4
26	**St. Louis**	**1.4**
26	Memphis	1.4
27	Cincinnati	1.2
27	Indianapolis	1.2
28	Pittsburgh	1.1
28	**Louisville**	**1.1**

Source: 2000 Census

HISPANIC POPULATION

Percent of total, 2000

1	**Miami**	**57.3**
2	San Antonio	51.2
3	Los Angeles	44.6
4	Houston	29.9
5	San Diego	26.7
6	Austin	26.2
7	Phoenix	25.1
7	New York	25.1
8	Dallas	23.0
9	Denver	18.8
10	Chicago	17.1
11	San Francisco	16.8
	Average	13.2
12	Salt Lake City	10.8
13	Washington DC	8.8
14	Portland	7.4
15	Oklahoma City	6.7
16	Atlanta	6.5
17	Milwaukee	6.3
18	Boston	5.9
19	Kansas City	5.2
19	Seattle	5.2
20	Philadelphia	5.1
20	Charlotte	5.1
21	Cleveland	3.3
21	Nashville	3.3
21	Minneapolis	3.3
22	Detroit	2.9
23	Indianapolis	2.7
24	Memphis	2.4
25	Baltimore	2.0
26	Columbus	1.8
27	Louisville	1.6
28	**St. Louis**	**1.5**
29	Cincinnati	1.1
30	**Pittsburgh**	**0.7**

Source: 2000 Census

IMMIGRANTS

Number per 10,000 population, 2000

1	**Miami**	**1,847**
2	New York	1,423
3	Los Angeles	1,262
4	San Francisco	1,188
5	Houston	993
6	Dallas	941
7	Washington DC	802
8	Chicago	773
9	San Diego	766
10	Phoenix	753
11	Austin	681
12	Seattle	659
13	Boston	653
14	Atlanta	624
15	Denver	623
16	Portland	577
	Average	559
17	Salt Lake City	492
18	Charlotte	423
19	Minneapolis	393
20	San Antonio	352
21	Detroit	328
22	Oklahoma City	308
23	Nashville	290
24	Philadelphia	286
25	Columbus	268
26	Kansas City	248
27	Milwaukee	247
28	Baltimore	240
29	Memphis	198
30	Indianapolis	192
31	Cleveland	180
32	Louisville	161
33	**St. Louis**	**158**
34	Cincinnati	128
35	**Pittsburgh**	**106**

Source: Lewis Mumford Center for Cooperative Urban and Regional Research

HIGHER

AVERAGE

LOWER

AGE

Populations are aging not only across the United States, but in every major world region. At the metropolitan area level, this trend is manifest in slowly rising median ages. In 1990, the average of the median age of the metros included in the 1992 *Where We Stand* report was 32.9 years. In 2000, the average is 34.5. St. Louis area residents are somewhat older than the average, ranking 8th from the top of the peers.

One of the most important statistics on this page is the percentage of adults who are between the ages of 18 and 64—generally considered to be working age. St. Louis ranks 4th from the bottom on this variable, indicating that our labor pool is small, relative to our overall population. This observation, coupled with our high median age, suggests what is confirmed in one of the other charts: the proportion of our population over age 65 is large.

The two charts on children and youth illustrate that our pre-school population is small, while our population of school age is slightly higher than average.

MEDIAN AGE

2000

1	**Pittsburgh**	**40.0**
2	Cleveland	37.3
2	San Francisco	37.3
4	Louisville	36.5
5	Philadelphia	36.4
6	Boston	36.3
6	Baltimore	36.3
8	**St. Louis**	**36.0**
9	Miami	35.6
10	Seattle	35.5
10	Detroit	35.5
12	Milwaukee	35.4
13	Kansas City	35.2
14	Cincinnati	35.1
15	Washington DC	34.9
16	Portland	34.8
17	Indianapolis	34.6
17	New York	34.6
19	Nashville	34.5
Average		34.5
20	Charlotte	34.3
21	Minneapolis	34.2
22	Oklahoma City	34.1
22	Denver	34.1
24	Chicago	33.7
25	Columbus	33.6
26	Memphis	33.2
26	San Diego	33.2
26	Phoenix	33.2
29	Atlanta	32.9
30	San Antonio	32.7
31	Los Angeles	32.0
32	Dallas	31.8
33	Houston	31.6
34	Austin	30.9
35	**Salt Lake City**	**28.6**

Source: 2000 Census

CHILDREN YOUNGER THAN 5

Percent of total, 2000

1	**Salt Lake City**	**9.1**
2	Houston	8.1
2	Dallas	8.1
4	Phoenix	7.8
4	San Antonio	7.8
6	Los Angeles	7.7
7	Memphis	7.6
8	Atlanta	7.5
8	Chicago	7.5
10	Austin	7.4
10	Indianapolis	7.4
12	Columbus	7.2
12	Denver	7.2
12	Kansas City	7.2
12	Minneapolis	7.2
16	Charlotte	7.1
16	Cincinnati	7.1
16	San Diego	7.1
Average		7.1
19	Detroit	7.0
19	Oklahoma City	7.0
19	Portland	7.0
19	Washington DC	7.0
23	Milwaukee	6.9
23	Nashville	6.9
25	New York	6.8
26	Louisville	6.7
26	**St. Louis**	**6.7**
28	Cleveland	6.6
29	Baltimore	6.5
29	Miami	6.5
29	Philadelphia	6.5
32	Seattle	6.4
33	Boston	6.2
34	Pittsburgh	5.6
35	**San Francisco**	**5.2**

Source: 2000 Census

CHILDREN AND YOUTH YOUNGER THAN 18

Percent of total, 2000

1	**Salt Lake City**	**31.4**
2	Houston	29.2
3	Memphis	28.3
3	San Antonio	28.3
5	Dallas	28.0
5	Los Angeles	28.0
7	Chicago	26.9
8	Phoenix	26.8
9	Minneapolis	26.7
10	Atlanta	26.6
10	Cincinnati	26.6
10	Indianapolis	26.6
10	Kansas City	26.6
14	Detroit	26.5
15	Milwaukee	26.4
16	**St. Louis**	**26.3**
Average		25.9
17	Denver	25.8
18	San Diego	25.7
19	Oklahoma City	25.6
20	Columbus	25.5
20	Portland	25.5
22	Austin	25.4
22	Charlotte	25.4
22	Cleveland	25.4
22	Philadelphia	25.4
26	Baltimore	25.3
26	Washington DC	25.3
28	Louisville	24.8
28	Miami	24.8
28	Nashville	24.8
31	New York	24.4
32	Seattle	23.8
33	Boston	22.5
34	Pittsburgh	22.3
35	**San Francisco**	**18.8**

Source: 2000 Census

ADULTS AGED 18-64

Percent of total, 2000

1	**San Francisco**	**68.1**
2	Austin	67.4
3	Seattle	65.9
4	Atlanta	65.8
5	Washington DC	65.6
6	Nashville	65.2
7	Denver	65.1
8	Columbus	64.5
9	Boston	64.4
9	Charlotte	64.4
11	Dallas	64.3
12	Portland	64.2
13	Minneapolis	63.7
14	New York	63.6
15	Houston	63.3
16	San Diego	63.1
Average		63.1
17	Oklahoma City	63.0
18	Baltimore	62.7
19	Louisville	62.6
20	Indianapolis	62.4
21	Chicago	62.3
22	Los Angeles	62.2
23	Kansas City	62.0
24	Miami	61.8
25	Memphis	61.7
26	Cincinnati	61.5
27	Detroit	61.4
28	Phoenix	61.2
29	Philadelphia	61.1
30	Milwaukee	61.0
30	San Antonio	61.0
32	**St. Louis**	**60.8**
33	Salt Lake City	60.3
34	Cleveland	60.1
35	**Pittsburgh**	**60.0**

Source: 2000 Census

ADULTS AGED 65 AND OLDER

Percent of total, 2000

1	**Pittsburgh**	**17.7**
2	Cleveland	14.5
3	Philadelphia	13.6
4	Miami	13.3
5	Boston	13.1
5	San Francisco	13.1
7	**St. Louis**	**12.9**
8	Louisville	12.6
8	Milwaukee	12.6
10	Detroit	12.1
11	Baltimore	12.0
12	Cincinnati	11.9
12	New York	11.9
12	Phoenix	11.9
15	Kansas City	11.4
15	Oklahoma City	11.4
17	San Diego	11.2
Average		11.0
18	Indianapolis	10.9
19	Chicago	10.7
19	San Antonio	10.7
21	Portland	10.3
22	Charlotte	10.2
22	Seattle	10.2
24	Columbus	10.0
24	Memphis	10.0
24	Nashville	10.0
27	Los Angeles	9.7
28	Minneapolis	9.6
29	Washington DC	9.1
30	Denver	9.0
31	Salt Lake City	8.3
32	Dallas	7.7
33	Atlanta	7.6
34	Houston	7.4
35	**Austin**	**7.3**

Source: 2000 Census

HIGHER

AVERAGE

LOWER

HOUSEHOLDS

The Census Bureau defines a "household" as an individual or group of individuals who occupy the same housing unit. Between 1990 and 2000, the number of households in the St. Louis region increased at a faster rate (7.5 percent) than did its population (4.5 percent), shrinking the average household size. This is consistent with national trends, although it did not hold true for the fastest-growing peer regions: Austin, Phoenix, and Atlanta.

Family households comprise slightly more than two-thirds of all households in the St. Louis region, ranking the region 13th highest among the peers. Family households are those which include two or more people who are related by blood, marriage, or adoption. Of the family households in the St. Louis region, nearly one of seven (14.8 percent) is headed by a single mother or father.

One of the most notable household characteristics for St. Louis relates to non-family households, however. According to the 2000 Census, one of every ten households is a person aged 65 or older who lives alone. St. Louis ranks 4th from the top on this variable.

HOUSEHOLDS
2000

1	**New York**	**3,484,108**
2	Los Angeles	3,133,774
3	Chicago	2,971,690
4	Philadelphia	1,914,246
5	Washington DC	1,848,064
6	Detroit	1,695,331
7	Atlanta	1,504,871
8	Houston	1,462,665
9	Boston	1,323,487
10	Dallas	1,281,957
11	Phoenix	1,194,250
12	Minneapolis	1,136,615
Average		1,106,584
13	**St. Louis**	**1,012,419**
14	San Diego	994,677
15	Baltimore	974,071
16	Pittsburgh	966,500
17	Seattle	963,552
18	Cleveland	892,562
19	Denver	825,291
20	Miami	776,774
21	Portland	741,776
22	Kansas City	694,468
23	San Francisco	684,453
24	Cincinnati	645,048
25	Indianapolis	629,655
26	Columbus	610,757
27	Milwaukee	587,657
28	Charlotte	575,293
29	San Antonio	559,946
30	Nashville	479,569
31	Austin	471,855
32	Salt Lake City	432,040
33	Oklahoma City	424,764
34	Memphis	424,202
35	**Louisville**	**412,050**

Source: 2000 Census

GROWTH IN HOUSEHOLDS

Percent change, 1990-2000

1	**Austin**	**44.7**
2	Phoenix	41.0
3	Atlanta	36.5
4	Charlotte	30.5
5	Dallas	28.0
6	Nashville	27.6
7	Denver	27.1
8	Portland	25.8
9	Salt Lake City	24.3
10	Houston	22.6
11	San Antonio	22.1
12	Seattle	19.1
13	Columbus	18.9
14	Indianapolis	18.8
15	Minneapolis	18.4
16	Washington DC	18.0
	Average	17.2
17	Memphis	16.1
18	Oklahoma City	15.5
19	Kansas City	14.1
20	Louisville	12.5
21	Cincinnati	12.3
22	Miami	12.2
23	San Diego	12.1
24	Chicago	11.2
25	Baltimore	10.7
26	Milwaukee	9.3
27	Boston	8.8
28	**St. Louis**	**7.5**
29	Detroit	7.3
30	New York	7.1
31	San Francisco	6.5
32	Philadelphia	6.3
33	Cleveland	5.6
34	Los Angeles	4.8
35	**Pittsburgh**	**2.0**

Source: 2000 Census

FAMILY HOUSEHOLDS

Percent of all households, 2000

1	**Salt Lake City**	**74.7**
2	San Antonio	71.5
3	Houston	71.1
4	Miami	70.6
5	Memphis	69.4
6	Atlanta	69.2
7	Charlotte	69.1
8	Dallas	68.6
9	Los Angeles	68.2
10	Chicago	67.8
11	Phoenix	67.7
12	Detroit	67.6
13	Philadelphia	67.4
13	**St. Louis**	**67.4**
14	Kansas City	67.1
14	Nashville	67.1
14	Baltimore	67.1
15	Indianapolis	66.9
16	Louisville	66.8
16	Oklahoma City	66.8
17	San Diego	66.7
	Average	66.6
18	Cincinnati	66.5
19	Washington DC	66.1
20	Cleveland	65.9
21	Minneapolis	65.5
22	Pittsburgh	65.3
23	Portland	65.0
24	Milwaukee	64.9
25	Columbus	64.2
26	Denver	63.9
27	Austin	62.7
27	New York	62.7
28	Boston	62.3
29	Seattle	62.1
30	**San Francisco**	**55.1**

Source: 2000 Census

FAMILIES HEADED BY SINGLE PARENTS

Percent of all families, 2000

1	**Memphis**	**19.5**
2	New York	18.3
3	Los Angeles	16.0
4	Miami	15.9
5	Milwaukee	15.4
5	Baltimore	15.4
6	San Antonio	15.3
7	Louisville	15.0
7	Columbus	15.0
7	Detroit	15.0
8	Indianapolis	14.8
8	Oklahoma City	14.8
9	**St. Louis**	**14.8**
10	Cleveland	14.7
11	Cincinnati	14.6
12	Atlanta	14.5
13	Houston	14.2
	Average	14.1
14	Philadelphia	14.0
14	Kansas City	14.0
15	Phoenix	13.8
15	Dallas	13.8
16	Nashville	13.7
16	San Diego	13.6
17	Washington DC	13.4
17	Denver	13.4
18	Austin	13.2
19	Charlotte	13.1
19	Portland	13.1
20	Chicago	13.0
21	Minneapolis	12.5
22	Seattle	12.4
23	Boston	11.3
24	Pittsburgh	11.2
24	Salt Lake City	11.2
25	**San Francisco**	**9.9**

Source: 2000 Census

ADULTS CARING FOR GRANDCHILDREN

Percent of adults aged 30 and older, 2000

1	**Memphis**	**2.5**
2	San Antonio	2.4
3	Houston	2.2
4	Miami	2.1
5	Dallas	2.0
6	Baltimore	1.8
6	Oklahoma City	1.8
7	Nashville	1.7
7	Charlotte	1.7
7	New York	1.7
8	Atlanta	1.6
8	Chicago	1.6
8	Phoenix	1.6
8	Salt Lake City	1.6
9	Indianapolis	1.5
9	Louisville	1.5
9	Austin	1.5
	Average	1.5
10	Los Angeles	1.4
10	**St. Louis**	**1.4**
10	San Diego	1.4
10	Kansas City	1.4
10	Detroit	1.4
10	Washington DC	1.4
10	Philadelphia	1.4
11	Cleveland	1.3
11	Columbus	1.3
11	Cincinnati	1.3
12	Denver	1.2
13	Milwaukee	1.1
14	Portland	1.0
14	San Francisco	1.0
15	Pittsburgh	0.9
16	Seattle	0.8
17	Minneapolis	0.7
17	**Boston**	**0.7**

Source: 2000 Census

PERSONS AGED 65 AND OLDER LIVING ALONE

Percent of all households

1	**Pittsburgh**	**13.1**
2	Cleveland	10.9
3	Boston	10.1
3	Philadelphia	10.1
4	New York	9.9
4	**St. Louis**	**9.9**
5	Milwaukee	9.7
6	Detroit	9.5
6	Louisville	9.5
7	Cincinnati	9.3
8	San Francisco	9.2
9	Baltimore	8.8
10	Miami	8.6
10	Kansas City	8.6
11	Oklahoma City	8.5
12	Chicago	8.4
13	Indianapolis	8.3
	Average	8.1
14	Phoenix	8.0
15	San Diego	7.9
16	Portland	7.7
17	Columbus	7.6
18	San Antonio	7.5
18	Minneapolis	7.5
18	Memphis	7.5
19	Seattle	7.3
20	Los Angeles	7.1
20	Nashville	7.1
21	Charlotte	7.0
22	Denver	6.7
23	Washington DC	6.4
24	Salt Lake City	6.2
25	Dallas	5.4
26	Houston	5.3
27	Atlanta	5.0
28	**Austin**	**4.7**

Source: 2000 Census

HIGHER

AVERAGE

LOWER

HOUSEHOLD INCOME AND WEALTH

HOUSEHOLD INCOME AND WEALTH

The first two charts at right show St. Louis lagging in the bottom third of peer regions in median household income and in income growth over the past decade. The third chart, however, in which median household income has been adjusted for cost of living, paints a more positive picture. St. Louis ranks 12th from the top in the purchasing power available to households of average means. Other metros in the Midwest (Nashville and Indianapolis, for example) fare better on the income indicator when cost of living is taken into account, as well.

The fourth chart illustrates the proportion of household income that is derived from wages and salaries. St. Louis' percentage is lower than most of the regions on this variable. Perhaps this can partially be explained by the large percentage of our population that is over age 65 and likely to be living on income from retirement savings, pensions, investments, and other sources.

The chart at the far right deals with the most common type of household: families. Slightly more than 7 percent of the region's families had incomes below the poverty level at the time the 2000 Census was taken. To qualify as poor under the official poverty threshold that year, a family of four must have had an annual income less than $17,029.

MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME

In dollars, 1999

1	**San Francisco**	**63,297**
2	Washington DC	62,216
3	Boston	55,183
4	Minneapolis	54,304
5	Seattle	52,804
6	Atlanta	51,948
7	Chicago	51,680
8	Denver	51,191
9	Baltimore	49,938
10	Detroit	49,175
11	Austin	48,950
12	Salt Lake City	48,594
13	Dallas	48,364
14	Philadelphia	47,536
15	Portland	47,077
16	San Diego	47,067
	Average	46,740
17	Kansas City	46,193
18	Charlotte	46,119
19	Milwaukee	45,901
20	Indianapolis	45,548
21	Columbus	44,782
22	Phoenix	44,752
23	Houston	44,655
24	**St. Louis**	**44,437**
25	Cincinnati	44,248
26	Nashville	44,223
27	Los Angeles	42,189
28	Cleveland	42,089
29	New York	41,053
30	Louisville	40,821
31	Memphis	40,201
32	San Antonio	39,140
33	Pittsburgh	37,467
34	Oklahoma City	36,797
35	**Miami**	**35,966**

Source: 2000 Census

GROWTH IN HOUSEHOLD INCOME

Percent change, 1989-1999

1	**Austin**	**28.0**
2	Salt Lake City	17.1
3	San Francisco	16.3
4	Denver	16.0
5	Portland	12.8
6	San Antonio	11.7
7	Memphis	10.8
8	Minneapolis	10.5
9	Charlotte	10.3
10	Louisville	10.1
11	Chicago	9.1
12	Nashville	8.9
13	Kansas City	8.8
14	Columbus	8.7
15	Dallas	8.2
15	Seattle	8.2
15	Phoenix	8.2
16	Cincinnati	7.3
16	Atlanta	7.3
17	Indianapolis	7.1
	Average	6.9
18	Detroit	5.7
18	Milwaukee	5.7
19	Houston	5.6
20	Pittsburgh	4.4
21	**St. Louis**	**4.1**
22	Cleveland	2.5
23	Oklahoma City	1.9
24	Baltimore	1.7
25	Boston	1.4
26	San Diego	0.0
27	Philadelphia	-0.2
28	Miami	-0.5
29	Washington DC	-1.2
30	New York	-3.5
31	**Los Angeles**	**-10.2**

Source: 1990 and 2000 Census

PURCHASING POWER

Household income adjusted for cost of living in dollars, 1999

1	**Baltimore**	**51,482**
2	Minneapolis	51,038
3	Atlanta	50,337
4	Austin	49,295
5	Dallas	47,838
6	Indianapolis	47,347
7	Denver	47,268
8	Houston	47,254
9	Salt Lake City	47,179
10	Nashville	46,404
11	Charlotte	46,211
12	**St. Louis**	**45,670**
13	Kansas City	45,555
14	Cincinnati	45,197
15	Columbus	44,782
16	Seattle	44,485
17	Memphis	43,840
18	Phoenix	43,746
19	Detroit	43,556
20	Milwaukee	43,426
21	Louisville	42,345
	Average	42,316
22	San Antonio	41,951
23	Portland	41,883
24	Chicago	41,677
25	Oklahoma City	40,705
26	Philadelphia	40,664
27	Boston	40,516
28	Cleveland	37,512
29	San Diego	37,237
30	Pittsburgh	35,346
31	Washington DC	34,373
32	Los Angeles	34,272
33	Miami	33,803
34	San Francisco	29,169
35	**New York**	**17,711**

Source: 2000 Census

INCOME FROM EARNINGS

Percent of total median household income from salaries and wages, 1999

1	**Austin**	**89.4**
2	Dallas	88.6
3	Atlanta	88.4
4	Washington DC	87.7
5	Houston	87.4
6	Denver	87.1
6	Salt Lake City	87.1
7	Minneapolis	86.7
8	Charlotte	85.9
9	Nashville	85.5
10	Seattle	84.9
11	Columbus	84.6
12	Portland	84.3
13	Indianapolis	84.1
14	Chicago	83.6
15	Kansas City	83.5
	Average	83.3
15	Los Angeles	83.3
16	San Antonio	83.1
17	Memphis	82.9
19	San Francisco	82.8
20	San Diego	82.6
21	Baltimore	81.9
21	Oklahoma City	81.9
22	Boston	81.6
23	Cincinnati	81.5
23	Milwaukee	81.5
24	Phoenix	81.1
25	Miami	80.8
26	**St. Louis**	**80.6**
27	Detroit	80.5
28	Louisville	80.3
29	Philadelphia	79.5
30	Cleveland	78.5
31	New York	77.1
32	**Pittsburgh**	**74.2**

Source: 2000 Census

FAMILIES IN POVERTY

Percent of all families, 2000

1	**Washington DC**	**16.7**
2	New York	16.6
3	Miami	14.5
4	Los Angeles	14.4
5	Memphis	12.7
6	San Antonio	11.9
7	Houston	11.1
8	Oklahoma City	10.1
9	Philadelphia	9.1
10	Louisville	8.9
10	San Diego	8.9
	Average	8.5
11	Dallas	8.4
12	Cleveland	8.2
12	Phoenix	8.2
13	Chicago	7.9
14	Pittsburgh	7.8
15	Milwaukee	7.7
16	Cincinnati	7.5
17	Nashville	7.4
18	**St. Louis**	**7.1**
18	Columbus	7.1
18	Baltimore	7.1
18	Kansas City	7.1
19	Atlanta	6.9
20	Charlotte	6.7
20	Austin	6.7
21	Indianapolis	6.3
22	Seattle	5.8
22	Boston	5.8
23	Denver	5.6
23	Salt Lake City	5.6
24	San Francisco	5.2
24	Portland	5.2
25	**Minneapolis**	**4.3**

Source: 2000 Census

HIGHER

AVERAGE

LOWER

HOUSEHOLD INCOME AND WEALTH

The first chart at right illustrates differences in economic well-being between residents of the central city and those of the remaining counties in each metropolitan region. This economic disparity index is based on five indicators from the 2000 Census: unemployment, change in per capita income, poverty, housing affordability, and public assistance. With central city residents scoring three times the rate of poverty and 2.4 times the unemployment rate of suburban residents, St. Louis ranks 10th most severe in terms of economic disparity compared to its 34 metropolitan peers.

The remaining indicators deal with one aspect of household wealth, which is measured in terms of assets as well as income. Most American households choose homeownership as their primary investment; it is a good indicator of household wealth, and the one used here. The data show that one of St. Louis' most attractive attributes is housing that is less expensive than in most of the metro areas. Not surprisingly, opportunities for homeownership and homeownership rates themselves are relatively high.

These positive characteristics are tempered by the final chart, which illustrates racial differences in the use of subprime lending for home refinancing loans. Subprime loans are those in which the borrower is considered to be at significantly higher risk of default and thus pays interest that is one to six percentage points higher than the prime rate reserved for those with good credit. According to the data presented here, African-Americans in the upper income category in the St. Louis region receive almost six times as many subprime home refinance loans as do whites in the same income bracket.

ECONOMIC DISPARITY

Central city to suburban resident ratio on five economic variables

1	**Milwaukee**	**7.2**
2	Detroit	7.0
3	Cleveland	6.8
3	Washington DC	6.8
5	Atlanta	6.6
5	Baltimore	6.6
7	Philadelphia	5.4
8	Chicago	5.0
8	Memphis	5.0
10	San Antonio	4.8
10	**St. Louis**	**4.8**
12	Cincinnati	4.6
12	New York	4.6
14	Louisville	4.2
14	Minneapolis	4.2
Average		4.0
16	Boston	3.8
17	Columbus	3.6
17	Denver	3.6
17	Indianapolis	3.6
17	Kansas City	3.6
17	San Francisco	3.6
22	Pittsburgh	3.2
23	San Diego	3.0
24	Dallas	2.8
24	Houston	2.8
24	Seattle	2.8
27	Austin	2.6
27	Nashville	2.6
27	Los Angeles	2.4
27	Portland	2.4
27	Salt Lake City	2.4
32	Miami	2.2
33	Charlotte	2.0
33	Oklahoma City	2.0
33	**Phoenix**	**2.0**

Source: 2000 Census

MEDIAN SALES PRICE OF ONE-FAMILY HOMES

In thousands of dollars, 2001

1	**San Francisco**	**475.9**
2	Boston	356.6
3	San Diego	298.6
4	New York	258.2
5	Seattle	245.4
6	Los Angeles	241.4
7	Denver	218.3
8	Washington DC	213.9
9	Chicago	198.5
Average		170.9
10	Minneapolis	167.4
11	Miami	162.7
12	Baltimore	158.2
13	Portland	158.0
14	Austin	151.9
15	Milwaukee	149.4
16	Salt Lake City	147.6
17	Charlotte	145.3
18	Detroit	140.0
19	Phoenix	139.4
20	Atlanta	138.8
21	Columbus	135.7
21	Kansas City	135.7
23	Philadelphia	134.8
24	Dallas	131.1
25	Cincinnati	130.2
26	Nashville	130.0
27	Cleveland	125.1
27	Memphis	125.1
29	Houston	122.4
30	Indianapolis	116.9
31	Louisville	116.7
32	**St. Louis**	**116.2**
33	San Antonio	103.8
34	Pittsburgh	97.8
35	**Oklahoma City**	**95.0**

Source: National Association of Realtors

HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

Percent of homes affordable for median income, 2001

1	**Indianapolis**	**83.4**
2	Kansas City	82.8
3	Oklahoma City	79.4
3	Cincinnati	79.4
4	Columbus	78.8
5	Nashville	77.3
6	Louisville	75.6
7	Washington DC	75.4
8	**St. Louis**	**74.5**
9	Minneapolis	74.4
10	Memphis	74.1
11	Cleveland	72.7
12	Baltimore	71.3
13	Atlanta	71.2
14	Milwaukee	70.5
15	Phoenix	70.0
16	San Antonio	67.5
17	Dallas	67.1
18	Houston	64.6
19	Pittsburgh	63.0
Average		62.5
20	Salt Lake City	61.4
21	Austin	60.8
22	Philadelphia	60.6
23	Miami	55.4
24	Seattle	55.2
25	New York	54.8
26	Denver	52.6
27	Charlotte	43.3
28	Boston	41.8
29	Portland	37.1
30	Los Angeles	35.6
31	San Diego	22.3
32	**San Francisco**	**7.8**

Source: National Association of Home Builders

HOME OWNERSHIP

Homeowner households as a percent of total households, 2000

1	**Charlotte**	**75.8**
2	Detroit	75.3
3	Philadelphia	74.4
4	Kansas City	73.6
5	Minneapolis	73.1
6	Cincinnati	72.5
7	Cleveland	72.1
7	Salt Lake City	72.1
8	Pittsburgh	71.8
9	Phoenix	70.7
10	**St. Louis**	**70.6**
11	Oklahoma City	70.5
12	Louisville	70.2
13	Denver	68.2
13	Baltimore	68.2
14	Nashville	67.9
15	Atlanta	67.7
16	Indianapolis	67.5
17	Washington DC	67.1
18	San Antonio	66.6
19	Chicago	66.4
Average		65.0
20	Seattle	63.4
21	Dallas	62.4
22	Columbus	61.6
23	Memphis	61.1
24	San Diego	59.1
25	Boston	58.7
26	Miami	56.2
27	Austin	54.7
28	Houston	53.6
29	Los Angeles	49.1
30	San Francisco	48.9
31	**New York**	**34.1**

Source: 2000 Census

RACIAL DISPARITY IN REFINANCE LOANS

Upper-income African-American/ White ratio in subprime lending, 2000

1	**St. Louis**	**5.93**
2	Milwaukee	5.85
3	Chicago	4.99
4	San Francisco	4.66
5	Indianapolis	4.27
6	Charlotte	4.12
7	Louisville	4.09
8	Washington DC	3.95
9	Detroit	3.74
10	Memphis	3.70
11	Kansas City	3.66
12	Boston	3.64
12	Cincinnati	3.64
14	Philadelphia	3.44
15	Columbus	3.42
16	Baltimore	3.41
17	Denver	3.39
18	Houston	3.34
Average		3.34
19	Miami	3.19
19	Dallas	3.19
21	Cleveland	3.16
22	Oklahoma City	3.11
23	Nashville	3.08
24	Seattle	3.05
24	Atlanta	3.05
26	Pittsburgh	2.88
27	New York	2.84
28	Los Angeles	2.56
29	Austin	2.44
30	Minneapolis	2.38
31	Portland	2.35
32	San Diego	2.02
33	Phoenix	2.01
34	**San Antonio**	**1.65**

Source: Center for Community Change, Calvin Bradford and Associates, 2002

HIGHER

AVERAGE

LOWER

EDUCATIONAL PERFORMANCE

EDUCATIONAL PERFORMANCE

ATTAINMENT

The St. Louis region ranks slightly better than the average on three indicators of educational performance, with a higher percentage of adults with both high school diplomas and associate degrees and a lower percentage of those who did not complete the ninth grade.

However, the region is not as strong in the national marketplace in the proportion of its adult population with bachelor's or advanced degrees. And, despite the abundance of colleges and universities in the area, the pattern is similar for those over age 18 currently pursuing post-secondary education (see page 37). With the exception of Chicago, regions in the Midwest generally fall in the middle and lower ranks on higher education variables.

In the knowledge-based economy of the 21st Century, it is not surprising to find the same metropolitan areas that appear in the top ten of both advanced and bachelor's degrees clustered near the top of the rankings of median household income and earnings per job.[3] Five of these regions—San Francisco, Boston, Washington DC, Seattle, and Denver—also rank among the highest in Gross Metropolitan Product, per capita (see page 43).

[3] The rankings on median household income are on, page 29. Earnings per job rankings are on page 41.

ADULTS WITH ADVANCED DEGREES

Percent persons 25 and older with master's, professional, or doctorate degrees, 2000

1	**Washington DC**	**18.8**
2	Boston	16.9
3	San Francisco	16.3
4	New York	12.6
5	Austin	12.4
6	Baltimore	11.9
7	Seattle	11.6
8	Philadelphia	11.4
9	Denver	11.2
10	Chicago	11.1
11	San Diego	10.9
12	Minneapolis	10.5
13	Atlanta	10.4
Average		10.2
14	Portland	9.6
14	Kansas City	9.6
14	Columbus	9.6
17	Dallas	9.5
18	**St. Louis**	**9.2**
19	Miami	9.1
20	Houston	9.0
21	Cincinnati	8.9
22	Los Angeles	8.8
23	Indianapolis	8.7
23	Pittsburgh	8.7
25	Nashville	8.6
26	Detroit	8.5
26	Phoenix	8.5
28	Louisville	8.4
28	Cleveland	8.4
28	Milwaukee	8.4
28	Oklahoma City	8.4
28	Salt Lake City	8.4
33	San Antonio	8.1
34	Memphis	7.8
35	**Charlotte**	**7.4**

Source: 2000 Census

ADULTS WITH BACHELOR'S DEGREES

Percent persons 25 and older with bachelor's degrees or higher, 2000

1	**San Francisco**	**43.6**
2	Washington DC	41.8
3	Boston	39.5
4	Austin	36.7
5	Seattle	35.9
6	Denver	34.2
7	Atlanta	32.0
8	Chicago	30.1
9	Dallas	30.0
10	San Diego	29.5
11	Baltimore	29.2
11	New York	29.2
13	Columbus	29.1
14	Portland	28.8
14	Philadelphia	28.8
16	Kansas City	28.5
Average		28.3
17	Minneapolis	27.7
18	Houston	27.2
19	Nashville	26.9
20	Charlotte	26.5
20	Salt Lake City	26.5
22	Milwaukee	26.2
23	Indianapolis	25.8
24	Cincinnati	25.3
24	**St. Louis**	**25.3**
26	Phoenix	25.1
27	Los Angeles	24.9
28	Oklahoma City	24.4
29	Pittsburgh	23.8
30	Cleveland	23.3
31	Miami	22.9
32	Detroit	22.8
33	Memphis	22.7
34	San Antonio	22.4
35	**Louisville**	**13.7**

Source: 2000 Census

ADULTS WITH ASSOCIATE DEGREES

Percent persons 25 and older, 2000

1	**Seattle**	**8.0**
2	Salt Lake City	7.7
3	San Diego	7.6
4	Pittsburgh	7.0
5	Phoenix	6.9
5	Portland	6.9
7	Miami	6.8
7	Milwaukee	6.8
9	Boston	6.7
9	Charlotte	6.7
11	Denver	6.6
11	Detroit	6.6
13	San Francisco	6.3
14	Los Angeles	6.2
14	**St. Louis**	**6.2**
16	Cincinnati	6.1
Average		6.1
17	Indianapolis	6.0
17	San Antonio	6.0
19	Kansas City	5.8
19	Louisville	5.8
21	Minneapolis	5.7
21	Atlanta	5.7
21	Cleveland	5.7
21	Columbus	5.7
25	Chicago	5.6
26	Philadelphia	5.5
27	Austin	5.4
27	Baltimore	5.4
27	Dallas	5.4
27	New York	5.4
31	Oklahoma City	5.3
32	Memphis	5.2
33	Nashville	5.1
34	Washington DC	5.0
35	**Houston**	**4.8**

Source: 2000 Census

ADULTS WITH HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMAS

Percent persons 25 and older, 2000

1	**Minneapolis**	**90.6**
2	Seattle	90.1
3	Salt Lake City	87.5
4	Portland	87.2
5	Boston	87.1
6	Kansas City	86.7
6	Washington DC	86.7
8	Denver	86.4
9	Columbus	85.8
10	Pittsburgh	85.1
11	Austin	84.8
12	Milwaukee	84.3
13	San Francisco	84.2
14	Atlanta	84.0
14	Indianapolis	84.0
16	Oklahoma City	83.6
17	**St. Louis**	**83.4**
18	Cleveland	82.9
19	San Diego	82.6
Average		82.6
20	Cincinnati	82.4
21	Philadelphia	82.2
22	Detroit	82.1
23	Baltimore	81.9
23	Phoenix	81.9
25	Nashville	81.4
26	Louisville	81.3
27	Chicago	81.0
28	Charlotte	80.5
29	Memphis	79.8
30	Dallas	79.4
31	San Antonio	77.3
32	Houston	75.9
33	New York	74.0
34	Miami	73.9
35	**Los Angeles**	**69.9**

Source: 2000 Census

ADULTS WITH LESS THAN A 9TH GRADE EDUCATION

Percent persons 25 and older, 2000

1	**Miami**	**14.7**
2	Los Angeles	13.8
3	New York	11.2
3	Houston	11.2
5	San Antonio	11.1
6	Dallas	9.3
7	San Francisco	8.2
8	Chicago	8.1
9	San Diego	7.9
10	Washington DC	7.8
11	Pittsburgh	7.6
11	Phoenix	7.6
13	Austin	7.2
Average		6.6
14	Charlotte	6.4
15	Nashville	6.2
15	Memphis	6.2
17	**St. Louis**	**5.5**
17	Louisville	5.5
19	Atlanta	5.4
19	Baltimore	5.4
21	Denver	5.1
22	Oklahoma City	4.9
22	Detroit	4.9
24	Boston	4.8
24	Philadelphia	4.8
26	Milwaukee	4.7
27	Portland	4.6
27	Cincinnati	4.6
29	Cleveland	4.3
30	Indianapolis	4.1
30	Kansas City	4.1
32	Minneapolis	3.4
32	Salt Lake City	3.4
34	Columbus	3.3
35	**Seattle**	**3.2**

Source: 2000 Census

HIGHER

AVERAGE

LOWER

ENROLLMENT AND SPENDING

St. Louis ranks high among the peer metros in the percentage of young children attending nursery and preschool. Almost 55,000 little St. Louisans fall into this category; they comprise nearly one-third of the region's citizens under age 5.

More than 476,000 children and youth were enrolled in elementary and secondary schools in the St. Louis metropolitan area at the time of the 2000 Census. There was one teacher for almost every 15 students, tying St. Louis with its western neighbor, Kansas City. Interestingly, Boston, which ranks high on all of the other educational variables, ranks lower than St. Louis in teacher to student ratio.

St. Louis taxpayers spend 4.2 percent of their total income educating the future workforce—close to the average for all the metros and comparable to the rate of expenditure in the large metros of Chicago and Los Angeles.

ADULTS ENROLLED IN POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION

Percent persons 18 and older, 2000

1	**Austin**	**12.6**
2	San Diego	11.6
3	San Antonio	10.8
4	Boston	10.7
4	San Francisco	10.7
4	Los Angeles	10.7
7	Columbus	10.2
7	Oklahoma City	10.2
9	Salt Lake City	9.8
10	Chicago	9.7
11	Washington DC	9.5
11	New York	9.5
11	Miami	9.5
Average		8.8
14	Baltimore	8.8
15	Seattle	8.6
15	Phoenix	8.6
17	Milwaukee	8.4
17	Minneapolis	8.4
17	Philadelphia	8.4
20	**St. Louis**	**8.0**
21	Nashville	7.8
21	Denver	7.8
23	Portland	7.7
24	Detroit	7.6
25	Houston	7.5
26	Dallas	7.4
26	Atlanta	7.4
28	Memphis	7.3
29	Pittsburgh	7.2
30	Cincinnati	7.1
31	Kansas City	6.9
32	Charlotte	6.8
33	Cleveland	6.7
34	Louisville	6.6
35	**Indianapolis**	**6.3**

Source: 2000 Census

CHILDREN ENROLLED IN PRESCHOOL

Percent persons younger than age 5, 2000

1	**Boston**	**31.9**
2	**St. Louis**	**31.5**
3	Philadelphia	31.4
4	Atlanta	31.3
5	Pittsburgh	30.0
6	Kansas City	29.7
7	Cleveland	29.2
8	Chicago	28.7
8	San Francisco	28.7
10	Charlotte	28.2
11	Seattle	28.1
12	Washington DC	28.0
13	Minneapolis	27.8
14	Baltimore	27.7
14	Cincinnati	27.7
16	Memphis	27.5
17	Miami	27.1
18	Detroit	27.0
19	Columbus	26.9
20	Louisville	26.8
Average		26.7
21	Denver	26.4
22	Indianapolis	26.2
23	Austin	25.6
24	Oklahoma City	25.3
25	New York	25.2
26	Dallas	24.8
26	Nashville	24.8
28	Houston	24.1
29	San Antonio	23.5
30	San Diego	23.2
31	Portland	23.0
31	Milwaukee	23.0
33	Salt Lake City	22.8
34	Los Angeles	21.6
35	**Phoenix**	**21.2**

Source: 2000 Census

PUPIL TO TEACHER RATIO

Elementary and secondary school students per teacher, 2000

1	**Philadelphia**	**23.4**
2	Louisville	23.3
3	Salt Lake City	22.1
4	Los Angeles	21.2
5	San Diego	20.5
6	Seattle	20.2
6	Phoenix	20.2
8	Miami	19.8
8	Portland	19.8
10	San Francisco	19.0
11	Detroit	18.6
12	Denver	18.1
Average		17.2
13	Indianapolis	17.1
14	Chicago	17.0
15	Minneapolis	16.8
16	Houston	16.3
16	Baltimore	16.3
18	Memphis	16.1
19	Pittsburgh	16.0
20	Cincinnati	15.8
20	New York	15.8
22	Atlanta	15.7
22	Columbus	15.7
24	Oklahoma City	15.6
24	Charlotte	15.6
24	Milwaukee	15.6
27	Washington DC	15.0
28	Kansas City	14.9
28	San Antonio	14.9
28	**St. Louis**	**14.9**
31	Dallas	14.8
32	Cleveland	14.6
33	Boston	14.4
34	**Nashville**	**14.2**
34	**Austin**	**14.2**

Source: National Center for Education Statistics

EDUCATIONAL SPENDING PER PUPIL

1999-2000

1	**New York**	**11,854**
2	Philadelphia	10,612
3	Boston	10,236
4	Detroit	9,697
5	Milwaukee	9,597
6	Washington DC	9,572
7	Pittsburgh	9,478
8	Chicago	9,380
9	Minneapolis	9,327
10	Indianapolis	9,064
11	Austin	8,961
12	Cleveland	8,884
13	Columbus	8,593
14	Baltimore	8,442
15	Cincinnati	8,324
Average		8,257
16	Seattle	8,114
17	Atlanta	8,063
18	**St. Louis**	**8,051**
19	San Antonio	7,979
20	Louisville	7,854
21	Denver	7,844
22	Dallas	7,802
23	San Francisco	7,797
24	Houston	7,693
25	Charlotte	7,620
26	Kansas City	7,611
27	Portland	7,587
28	San Diego	7,412
29	Miami	7,377
30	Los Angeles	7,298
31	Nashville	7,136
32	Phoenix	6,751
33	Memphis	6,378
34	Oklahoma City	5,525
35	**Salt Lake City**	**5,083**

Source: National Center for Education Statistics

EDUCATIONAL SPENDING RATE

Dollars spent on education as a percent of total income, 2000

1	**San Antonio**	**5.8**
2	Detroit	4.9
3	Milwaukee	4.8
4	Indianapolis	4.7
5	Miami	4.6
5	Austin	4.6
5	Philadelphia	4.6
8	Pittsburgh	4.5
9	Houston	4.3
9	Minneapolis	4.3
11	Chicago	4.2
11	Los Angeles	4.2
11	**St. Louis**	**4.2**
14	Baltimore	4.1
14	Atlanta	4.1
14	New York	4.1
14	Kansas City	4.1
Average		4.0
18	Salt Lake City	4.0
19	Memphis	3.9
19	Dallas	3.9
19	Louisville	3.9
19	Charlotte	3.9
19	Phoenix	3.9
24	San Diego	3.8
24	Portland	3.8
24	Boston*	3.8
27	Washington DC	3.7
27	Oklahoma City	3.7
29	Cleveland	3.6
30	Nashville	3.4
30	Denver	3.4
32	Columbus	3.3
33	Seattle	3.0
33	Cincinnati	3.0
35	**San Francisco**	**1.4**

Source: National Center for Education Statistics
***1999 Data**

HIGHER

AVERAGE

LOWER

ECONOMIC VITALITY

EMPLOYMENT

Between 1996 and 2000, the St. Louis metropolitan area gained 91,459 jobs—a 5.9 percent increase to 1,636,410 full and part-time positions. This rate of increase was the second smallest of all the peer regions. By way of comparison, two Midwestern metros with growth rates closer to the average, Kansas City and Indianapolis, gained 111,651 and 104,498 jobs, respectively. St. Louis ranks very close to these two metros in average earnings per job.

Given this trend, it is not surprising to find St. Louis close to the bottom of the charts that describe changes in service sector and manufacturing employment. sixteen metros (including St. Louis) experienced a net loss in manufacturing jobs, while all gained service sector employment.

The region's unemployment rate was slightly higher than the average between 1997 and 2001.

JOB GROWTH

Percent increase in jobs, 1996-2000

1	**Austin**	**22.8**
2	Phoenix	19.2
3	Dallas	17.7
4	Denver	17.0
5	Atlanta	16.3
6	San Diego	16.1
7	Houston	15.4
8	Charlotte	14.6
9	Seattle	14.3
10	San Francisco	13.1
11	Nashville	12.9
12	Salt Lake City	12.5
13	San Antonio	12.4
13	Washington DC	12.4
Average		11.5
15	Columbus	11.4
16	Portland	11.1
17	Indianapolis	10.7
18	New York	10.6
19	Kansas City	10.2
19	Boston	10.2
21	Minneapolis	10.1
22	Miami	9.9
22	Oklahoma City	9.9
22	Memphis	9.6
25	Baltimore	9.0
26	Louisville	8.9
27	Philadelphia	8.4
28	Cincinnati	8.3
29	Chicago	7.9
29	Los Angeles	7.9
31	Detroit	7.6
32	Milwaukee	7.0
33	Pittsburgh	6.0
34	**St. Louis**	**5.9**
35	**Cleveland**	**5.8**

Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis

CHANGE IN SERVICE SECTOR EMPLOYMENT

Percent increase in jobs, 1996-2000

1	**Austin**	**27.8**
2	Charlotte	23.6
3	Phoenix	23.4
4	Atlanta	23.2
5	Washington DC	20.7
6	Dallas	20.3
7	Seattle	19.7
7	San Diego	19.7
9	San Francisco	19.5
10	Denver	18.5
11	Houston	17.6
11	Indianapolis	17.6
13	San Antonio	17.4
14	Salt Lake City	17.3
15	Nashville	17.0
16	Columbus	16.9
17	Baltimore	16.8
Average		16.3
18	Cincinnati	16.1
19	New York	15.9
20	Oklahoma City	15.7
21	Miami	15.5
22	Milwaukee	15.2
23	Portland	15.1
24	Minneapolis	14.5
25	Memphis	13.6
25	Philadelphia	13.6
27	Chicago	13.2
27	Boston	13.2
29	Kansas City	12.8
30	Detroit	11.9
31	Louisville	10.3
32	Cleveland	10.0
33	**St. Louis**	**9.2**
34	Los Angeles	8.9
35	**Pittsburgh**	**7.9**

Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis

CHANGE IN MANUFACTURING EMPLOYMENT

1996-2000

1	**Austin**	**24.0**
2	San Diego	9.8
3	San Antonio	6.6
3	Phoenix	6.6
5	Dallas	5.4
5	Houston	5.4
7	Portland	3.9
8	Oklahoma City	3.2
9	Detroit	3.1
10	Atlanta	3.0
11	Columbus	2.6
12	Indianapolis	2.4
13	Pittsburgh	2.1
13	Seattle	2.1
15	Salt Lake City	1.3
16	Minneapolis	0.8
Average		0.5
17	Denver	0.3
18	Cincinnati	0.0
19	Nashville	-0.5
20	Louisville	-0.7
21	Milwaukee	-1.1
22	Memphis	-1.2
23	Boston	-1.8
24	Cleveland	-2.2
25	Philadelphia	-2.3
26	Kansas City	-2.5
27	Los Angeles	-2.8
28	Baltimore	-3.7
28	Chicago	-3.7
30	San Francisco	-5.9
31	**St. Louis**	**-8.1**
32	Charlotte	-8.8
33	New York	-9.0
34	**Miami**	**-10.9**

Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis

EARNINGS PER JOB

Average in dollars, 1999

1	**San Francisco**	**59,077**
2	New York	56,434
3	Seattle	45,265
4	Boston	44,395
5	Washington DC	41,939
6	Detroit	41,696
7	Dallas	41,630
8	Chicago	41,307
9	Denver	40,788
10	Austin	40,381
11	Houston	40,339
12	Atlanta	39,478
13	Los Angeles	39,265
14	Minneapolis	38,921
15	Philadelphia	38,648
Average		37,379
16	San Diego	36,644
17	Charlotte	35,748
18	Baltimore	35,473
19	Phoenix	34,663
20	Kansas City	34,623
21	Cincinnati	34,592
22	**St. Louis**	**34,445**
23	Indianapolis	34,303
24	Cleveland	34,253
25	Milwaukee	33,980
26	Pittsburgh	33,402
27	Nashville	32,920
28	Miami	32,914
29	Memphis	32,663
30	Louisville	31,435
31	Portland	30,801
32	Salt Lake	30,511
33	San Antonio	29,496
34	Columbus	27,941
35	**Oklahoma City**	**27,906**

Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis

UNEMPLOYMENT

Average rate, 1997-2001

1	**New York**	**6.58**
2	Miami	6.30
3	Los Angeles	6.06
4	Baltimore	4.74
5	Portland	4.56
6	Cleveland	4.54
7	Chicago	4.50
8	Pittsburgh	4.44
9	Houston	4.40
10	Philadelphia	4.34
11	**St. Louis**	**4.16**
12	Memphis	4.02
13	Detroit	3.86
Average		3.81
14	Seattle	3.74
15	Louisville	3.72
16	Milwaukee	3.70
17	San Antonio	3.66
18	Kansas City	3.64
19	Cincinnati	3.62
20	Dallas	3.58
21	Salt Lake City	3.50
22	San Diego	3.40
23	Charlotte	3.34
24	Atlanta	3.32
25	Oklahoma City	3.18
26	Phoenix	3.06
27	Nashville	3.00
28	Washington DC	2.98
29	San Francisco	2.92
30	Boston	2.86
31	Denver	2.84
32	Austin	2.74
33	Indianapolis	2.72
34	Columbus	2.70
35	**Minneapolis**	**2.52**

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

HIGHER

AVERAGE

LOWER

ESTABLISHMENTS

St. Louis ranks in the bottom third of the metros in ownership of firms by African-Americans. In 1997, African Americans owned 1,244 firms with employees. Of that number, 51 percent were in the service industry, 19 percent were retail firms, and 11 percent were in construction. Total annual payroll for all African-American owned firms totaled $153,380,000.

Although it is not depicted in the charts, it is interesting to note that Asians and Pacific Islanders owned 1,311 firms with employees in the St. Louis region in 2000—slightly more than the number owned by African-Americans. These minority firms account for one-third fewer employees, but the annual payroll is 9 percent higher.

Women own 8,549 firms in the St. Louis metropolitan area—632 for every 100,000 women, which is very close to the average of the peer metros. As is the case for firms owned by African-Americans, women-owned firms are concentrated in the service industry (44 percent), retail trade (21 percent) and construction (11 percent).

St. Louis had economic output (Gross Metropolitan Product) of $89.6 billion in 2000—comparable to the whole countries of Egypt ($91 billion), Colombia ($90 billion), and Malaysia ($89 billion). GMP is not increasing as fast in St. Louis as it is in many of the American peer metros, however. Between 1997 and 2000, per capita output increased by 14.2 percent, ranking St. Louis 26th.

GROWTH IN BUSINESS ESTABLISHMENTS

Percent change, 1996-1999

1	**Salt Lake City**	**10.48**
2	Atlanta	10.13
3	Charlotte	10.00
4	Austin	9.98
5	Phoenix	9.20
6	Denver	7.93
7	Minneapolis	7.68
8	San Diego	7.19
9	Houston	6.18
10	Boston	5.60
11	Portland	5.58
12	Dallas	5.43
13	Seattle	5.21
14	Nashville	5.16
15	Kansas City	4.75
16	San Antonio	4.70
Average		4.60
17	New York	4.59
18	Chicago	4.13
19	Oklahoma City	3.91
20	Indianapolis	3.66
21	Columbus	3.33
22	Los Angeles	3.21
23	Memphis	2.81
24	Louisville	2.71
25	San Francisco	2.35
26	Philadelphia	2.14
27	Milwaukee	2.02
28	Baltimore	1.86
29	Cincinnati	1.65
30	Pittsburgh	1.60
31	Detroit	1.53
32	**St. Louis**	**1.49**
33	Cleveland	1.42
34	Washington DC	1.13
35	**Miami**	**0.13**

Source: County Business Patterns, Bureau of the Census

FIRMS OWNED BY AFRICAN-AMERICANS

Firms with employees, per 100,000 African Americans, 1997

1	**San Francisco**	**652**
2	Portland	625
3	San Diego	614
4	Seattle	527
5	Nashville	482
6	Denver	480
7	Kansas City	452
8	Columbus	368
9	Dallas	364
10	Houston	363
11	Charlotte	363
12	Los Angeles	361
13	Boston	357
14	Washington DC	347
Average		334
16	Indianapolis	328
17	Phoenix	319
18	Pittsburgh	292
19	Minneapolis	287
20	Atlanta	285
21	Louisville	283
22	Austin	282
22	Cincinnati	282
23	New York	276
24	Memphis	271
25	**St. Louis**	**260**
25	Baltimore	256
27	Cleveland	248
28	Milwaukee	245
29	Philadelphia	242
30	Miami	238
31	San Antonio	230
32	Chicago	207
33	Detroit	204
34	Oklahoma City	191
35	**Salt Lake City**	**140**

Source: 1997 Economic Census

FIRMS OWNED BY WOMEN

Firms with employees, per 100,000 women, 1997

1	**San Francisco**	**1,009**
2	Seattle	844
3	Denver	820
4	Miami	803
5	Dallas	722
6	Portland	717
7	Austin	716
8	Washington DC	676
9	Oklahoma City	662
10	San Antonio	656
11	Chicago	649
12	Boston	642
13	**St. Louis**	**632**
Average		628
14	Atlanta	623
15	Louisville	614
16	Nashville	610
17	Cleveland	608
18	Houston	599
19	Milwaukee	597
19	Baltimore	597
21	Kansas City	585
22	Minneapolis	584
23	Charlotte	580
24	San Diego	575
25	Los Angeles	569
26	Pittsburgh	564
27	New York	558
28	Columbus	551
29	Phoenix	536
30	Memphis	532
31	Cincinnati	529
32	Philadelphia	525
33	Indianapolis	519
34	Detroit	507
35	**Salt Lake City**	**483**

Source: 1997 Economic Census

GROWTH IN GROSS METROPOLITAN PRODUCT

Percent change per capita, 1997-2000

1	**San Diego**	**24.6**
2	Boston	23.3
3	Phoenix	19.2
4	Denver	19.1
5	Detroit	19.0
6	Louisville	18.8
6	San Antonio	18.8
8	Houston	18.7
8	Pittsburgh	18.7
10	Nashville	18.4
11	Seattle	18.0
12	Philadelphia	17.6
13	Washington	17.2
14	Minneapolis	16.9
15	Kansas City	16.2
16	Baltimore	16.1
Average		16.1
17	Cleveland	15.8
18	Charlotte	15.7
19	Los Angeles	15.3
20	New York	15.1
20	Cincinnati	15.1
22	San Francisco	14.9
23	Columbus	14.4
23	Austin	14.4
25	Oklahoma City	14.3
26	**St. Louis**	**14.2**
27	Indianapolis	13.9
27	Dallas	13.9
29	Salt Lake City	13.8
30	Portland	13.5
31	Milwaukee	13.1
32	Atlanta	13.0
32	Chicago	13.0
34	Memphis	12.7
35	**Miami**	**6.9**

Source: U.S. Metro Economies: The Engines of America's Growth

GROSS METROPOLITAN PRODUCT

Per capita in dollars, 2000

1	**San Francisco**	**8,052.78**
2	Boston	7,749.44
3	San Diego	7,342.26
4	Seattle	7,280.54
5	Denver	6,940.47
6	Houston	6,700.84
7	Washington	6,478.30
8	New York	6,165.33
9	Louisville	5,973.48
10	Minneapolis	5,895.71
11	Nashville	5,709.06
12	Phoenix	5,668.18
13	Detroit	5,626.89
14	Dallas	5,540.20
15	Charlotte	5,534.52
16	Pittsburgh	5,378.83
Average		5,376.30
17	San Antonio	5,325.27
18	Philadelphia	5,318.28
19	Baltimore	5,225.00
20	Kansas City	5,091.75
21	Los Angeles	5,064.53
22	Columbus	4,965.22
23	Cleveland	4,895.38
24	Atlanta	4,884.50
25	Austin	4,851.88
26	Cincinnati	4,729.99
27	Chicago	4,622.03
28	Portland	4,422.83
29	Indianapolis	4,380.75
30	**St. Louis**	**4,274.68**
31	Salt Lake City	4,229.06
32	Milwaukee	4,224.31
33	Memphis	3,853.54
34	Oklahoma City	3,730.71
35	**Miami**	**2,044.84**

Source: U.S. Metro Economies: The Engines of America's Growth

HIGHER

AVERAGE

LOWER

INVESTMENT AND OUTPUT

St. Louis ranks close to the middle of the metros in the ratio of bank loans to deposits, a measure of the availability of capital for investment. There appears to be no common thread in conservative or aggressive lending practices among Midwestern metros. Two of St. Louis' counterparts in Ohio, Columbus and Cleveland, have very high bank loan to deposit ratios, while the rates in Kansas City and Oklahoma City are much lower.

St. Louis leads the bottom third of the peer regions in the number of utility patents granted, the value of foreign exports, and the New Economy Index. The index is comprised of multiple factors intended to gauge the extent to which a metro has adapted to the information-driven economic order. These include wage levels, trade, foreign investment, entrepreneurship, competition, "coopetition," job churning, consumer choices, speed, computerization, computing costs, data transmission costs, productivity growth, earnings inequality, underemployment, worker displacement, wage premiums for high skilled jobs, employee benefits, contingent work, job stability, e-commerce, research and development, patents, student math and reading abilities, and more.[4]

[4] For more information on the New Economy Index, see www.ppionline.org.

RATIO OF BANK LOANS TO DEPOSITS

2001

1	**Phoenix**	**156.7**
2	Columbus	145.0
3	Cleveland	139.8
4	Indiana	134.5
5	Minneapolis	111.1
6	Atlanta	110.6
7	Detroit	109.6
8	Cincinnati	106.9
9	Louisville	105.0
10	Milwaukee	103.7
11	Memphis	103.5
12	San Francisco	103.0
13	Seattle	101.1
14	Charlotte	91.4
	Average	91.4
15	Baltimore	90.4
16	Chicago	88.9
17	**St. Louis**	**85.8**
18	Portland	84.6
19	Dallas	83.3
20	San Diego	82.7
21	Pittsburgh	82.2
22	Denver	81.6
23	Nashville	81.3
24	Los Angeles	77.5
25	Miami	77.4
26	Kansas City	77.3
27	Oklahoma City	77.0
28	Washington DC	74.8
28	Houston	74.8
30	New York	73.3
31	Philadelphia	71.6
32	Salt Lake City	63.0
33	San Antonio	60.0
34	Austin	54.8
35	**Boston**	**35.2**

Source: Federal Reserve Bank

UTILITY PATENTS

Patents granted, 1999

1	**Boston**	**3,805**
2	Chicago	2,928
3	Los Angeles	2,348
4	Minneapolis	2,180
5	Detroit	1,962
6	Philadelphia	1,849
7	San Diego	1,748
8	New York	1,703
9	San Francisco	1,700
10	Dallas	1,638
11	Austin	1,570
12	Houston	1,564
13	Washington DC	1,299
14	Seattle	1,296
15	Phoenix	1,152
	Average	1,103
16	Atlanta	1,044
17	Portland	925
18	Pittsburgh	808
19	Cleveland	785
20	Cincinnati	781
21	**St. Louis**	**742**
22	Baltimore	662
23	Denver	565
24	Indianapolis	543
25	Milwaukee	528
26	Salt Lake City	474
27	Columbus	342
28	Kansas City	274
29	Miami	262
30	Charlotte	260
31	San Antonio	258
32	Memphis	168
33	Louisville	161
34	Oklahoma City	148
35	**Nashville**	**140**

Source: U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

FOREIGN EXPORT OF GOODS

In millions of dollars, 1999

1	**Seattle**	**32,356**
2	Detroit	28,008
3	New York	24,484
4	Los Angeles	23,904
5	Chicago	21,144
6	Houston	18,967
7	Minneapolis	12,401
8	Miami	11,942
9	Boston	10,426
10	Portland	9,366
11	Philadelphia	9,267
12	San Francisco	9,034
13	San Diego	8,963
	Average	8,862
14	Dallas	8,188
15	Atlanta	7,574
16	Phoenix	7,531
17	Washington DC	7,213
18	Cincinnati	6,783
19	Cleveland	5,894
20	Indianapolis	5,187
21	Austin	4,931
22	**St. Louis**	**4,879**
23	Pittsburgh	3,940
24	Milwaukee	3,720
25	Kansas City	3,306
26	Memphis	3,135
27	Charlotte	2,750
28	Louisville	2,392
29	Baltimore	2,328
30	Salt Lake City	2,260
31	San Antonio	2,003
32	Columbus	1,966
33	Nashville	1,836
34	Denver	1,558
35	**Oklahoma City**	**525**

Source: International Trade Administration

NEW ECONOMY INDEX

Indicators gauging adaption to the new economic order, 2001

1	**San Francisco**	**95.6**
2	Austin	77.9
3	Seattle	68.0
4	San Diego	61.4
5	Washington DC	60.6
6	Denver	58.1
7	Boston	54.0
8	Salt Lake City	49.8
9	Minneapolis	49.0
10	Atlanta	48.6
11	Dallas	46.0
12	Miami	45.6
13	Houston	45.3
14	Portland	42.7
15	Phoenix	41.6
	Average	41.5
16	New York	39.5
17	Philadelphia	38.3
18	Chicago	37.7
19	Los Angeles	37.4
20	Kansas City	35.0
21	**St. Louis**	**31.9**
22	Detroit	31.8
23	Indianapolis	31.0
23	Charlotte	31.0
25	Nashville	30.6
26	Cleveland	29.5
27	Cincinnati	28.9
28	Columbus	28.5
29	Pittsburgh	27.1
30	Oklahoma City	27.0
31	Milwaukee	26.5
32	Louisville	19.8
33	Memphis	19.2
34	**San Antonio**	**15.0**

Source: Progressive Policy Institute

HIGHER

AVERAGE

LOWER

INDIVIDUAL AND FAMILY WELL-BEING

HEALTH AND MORTALITY

The charts on page 49 describe health impacts that extend well beyond individuals and their families to the larger community. The first one quantifies births to teenaged mothers, for which St. Louis ranks 14th highest among the metropolitan areas. Compared to those with older mothers, these newborns are at higher risk of low birth-weight and infant mortality. And, although individual circumstances vary, as a whole, "they are more likely to grow up in homes that offer lower levels of emotional support and cognitive stimulation, and they [as is the case for their mothers] are less likely to earn high school diplomas." [3]

The second chart ranks the peer regions in terms of infant mortality, which refers to the death of an infant before his or her first birthday. The infant mortality rate is commonly used as a quality of life indicator because it reflects the outcome of a variety of factors, including maternal health, socioeconomic conditions, and access to quality health care.[4] Seven of the ten peer regions with the highest infant mortality rates are in the central states of Tennessee, Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, Missouri, and Illinois. They include St. Louis, which tied for the 7th highest rate with Columbus.

The third chart focuses on Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS). The rate of this devastating communicable disease has been highly responsive to aggressive public education and public health measures. Nonetheless, rates remain high in Miami, New York, Baltimore, San Francisco, and Washington, DC. The chart makes the point that the proportion of individuals with AIDS is lower in St. Louis than in 27 of the other metros. Nine of the ten metropolitan areas with the lowest AIDS rates are in the Midwest.

The last two charts on the facing page describe access to health care in the peer metros. St. Louis ranks close to the average on the number of primary care physicians per 100,000 people, and somewhat better (lower) than the average on the percentage of its population aged birth to 64 with no healthcare insurance. Uninsured persons are less likely to receive preventive healthcare services, are diagnosed at more advanced stages of disease, and tend to receive less therapeutic care than do persons with health care insurance.[5]

[3] America's Children: Key National Indicators of Well-Being. 2002. Page 36.

[4] America's Children: Key National Indicators of Well-Being. 2002. Page 31.

[5] The Kaiser Commission on Medicaid and the Uninsured. Sicker and Poorer: The Consequences of Being Uninsured. 2002. www.kff.org

BIRTHS TO TEEN PARENTS

Percent of total births, 1997

1	**Memphis**	**18.1**
2	San Antonio	17.0
3	Louisville	15.1
4	Oklahoma City	14.7
5	Phoenix	14.3
6	Houston	14.2
7	Nashville	13.7
8	Cincinnati	13.6
9	Dallas	13.4
10	Indianapolis	13.2
11	Milwaukee	13.1
12	Austin	12.9
13	Charlotte	12.7
14	**St. Louis**	**12.3**
14	Cleveland	12.3
16	Columbus	12.2
17	Kansas City	12.1
18	Chicago	11.8
	Average	11.8
19	Los Angeles	11.7
20	Baltimore	11.6
20	Atlanta	11.6
22	Miami	11.3
23	Salt Lake City	11.1
24	Denver	10.9
25	Philadelphia	10.8
26	Detroit	10.7
27	Portland	10.6
28	San Diego	9.9
29	New York	9.2
30	Pittsburgh	9.0
31	Minneapolis	8.1
32	Washington DC	8.0
33	Seattle	7.2
34	Boston*	6.7
34	**San Francisco**	**6.7**

***New England Consolidated Metropolitan Area (NECMA)**
Source: Vital Statistics of the United States, 1997

INFANT MORTALITY RATE

Infants who died before age one, per 1,000 live births, 1998

1	**Memphis**	**11.9**
2	Baltimore	8.8
3	Cleveland	8.6
4	Indianapolis	8.5
4	Chicago	8.5
6	Detroit	8.2
7	**St. Louis**	**7.9**
7	Columbus	7.9
9	Atlanta	7.7
9	Philadelphia	7.7
11	Oklahoma City	7.6
12	Washington DC	7.4
12	San Antonio	7.4
12	Milwaukee	7.4
15	Louisville	7.2
15	Nashville	7.2
15	Phoenix	7.2
15	Cincinnati	7.2
19	Kansas City	7.1
20	Charlotte	7.0
	Average	6.9
21	Pittsburgh	6.6
22	New York	6.4
23	Denver	6.2
24	Houston	5.9
25	Los Angeles	5.7
25	Minneapolis	5.7
25	Austin	5.7
28	Dallas	5.6
28	Salt Lake City	5.6
30	Miami	5.5
31	San Diego	5.4
31	Seattle	5.4
33	Portland	5.3
34	Boston*	4.8
35	**San Francisco**	**4.7**

***New England Consolidated Metropolitan Area (NECMA)**
Source: Health and Health Care in the United States, 2000

AIDS RISK

Persons with AIDS per 100,000 population, 2001

1	**Miami**	**60.1**
2	New York	49.4
3	Baltimore	43.5
4	San Francisco	39.9
5	Washington DC	34.7
6	Philadelphia	26.4
7	Memphis	26.2
8	Nashville	22.9
9	Atlanta	22.2
10	Houston	21.2
	Average	17.6
11	Austin	17.0
12	Dallas	16.7
13	Los Angeles	16.6
14	Oklahoma City	15.2
15	San Diego	14.8
16	Seattle	13.9
17	Detroit	12.6
18	Chicago	12.5
19	Louisville	12.4
20	Boston*	11.8
21	Denver	11.5
22	Phoenix	10.5
23	Portland	10.3
24	Salt Lake City	10.0
25	Charlotte	9.9
26	Kansas City	9.6
26	Indianapolis	9.6
28	**St. Louis**	**9.4**
29	San Antonio	9.3
30	Cleveland	8.2
31	Milwaukee	8.0
32	Columbus	5.6
33	Minneapolis	5.5
34	Pittsburgh	4.9
35	**Cincinnati**	**3.9**

***New England Consolidated Metropolitan Area (NECMA)**
Source: Centers for Disease Control

PRIMARY CARE PHYSICIANS

Per 100,000 population, 2000

1	**Boston***	**183.6**
2	San Francisco	173.8
3	New York	154.9
4	Baltimore	139.8
5	Washington DC	126.1
6	Chicago	121.2
7	Philadelphia	120.3
8	Seattle	118.7
9	Pittsburgh	117.5
10	Miami	117.3
11	Cincinnati	115.5
12	Cleveland	114.6
13	Milwaukee	113.3
14	Indianapolis	112.3
15	Nashville	109.4
16	Minneapolis	109.2
17	Louisville	106.7
	Average	105.9
18	**St. Louis**	**105.2**
19	Denver	101.9
20	Portland	100.6
21	Columbus	98.8
22	Memphis	97.8
23	Detroit	96.0
24	Los Angeles	95.4
25	Kansas City	95.0
26	San Diego	93.1
27	San Antonio	92.9
28	Atlanta	88.4
29	Houston	86.1
30	Oklahoma City	84.4
31	Salt Lake City	84.0
32	Charlotte	81.4
33	Austin	80.1
34	Dallas	77.3
35	**Phoenix**	**71.9**

***New England Consolidated Metropolitan Area (NECMA)**
Source: American Medical Association

PERSONS WITHOUT HEALTH INSURANCE

Percent of all persons aged birth-64, 1997

1	**Los Angeles**	**31.5**
2	Houston	29.5
3	New York	27.1
4	Miami	26.9
5	Phoenix	26.1
6	Dallas	24.7
7	San Antonio	23.9
8	Austin	23.3
9	San Francisco	23.1
10	San Diego	21.9
11	Atlanta	18.7
12	Oklahoma City	18.4
	Average	17.3
13	Columbus	16.6
14	Salt Lake City	16.0
15	Memphis	15.6
16	Washington DC	15.3
16	Boston*	15.3
16	Chicago	15.3
19	Philadelphia	14.9
20	Baltimore	14.6
21	Nashville	14.5
22	**St. Louis**	**14.1**
23	Cleveland	13.8
24	Kansas City	13.6
25	Detroit	13.4
26	Louisville	12.9
26	Indianapolis	12.9
28	Portland	12.5
28	Cincinnati	12.5
29	Denver	12.2
31	Seattle	12.0
31	Charlotte	12.0
33	Pittsburgh	11.1
34	Minneapolis	10.1
35	**Milwaukee**	**8.1**

***New England Consolidated Metropolitan Area (NECMA)**
Source: Commonwealth Fund

HIGHER

AVERAGE

LOWER

HEALTH AND MORTALITY

The five charts on the opposite page describe the rate of death in each of the metropolitan areas due to three significant causes: disease, unintentional injuries (accidents), and intentional self-harm (suicide). As might be expected, those metros with the largest proportion of older persons tend to rank higher in terms of death from disease, and those with younger populations dominate the highest ranks of death from injuries.

Heart disease is the leading cause of death in the United States. In addition, it is a major cause of disability and "a significant contributor to increases in health care costs in the United States."[6] St. Louis ranks 4th highest in the rate of deaths from heart disease. The heart disease death rate in the St. Louis region is nearly 38 percent higher than the average of all the metros.

Cancer is the second most prevalent cause of death, nationwide. Of the various forms of cancer, lung cancer is the greatest killer among both men and women. Second in risk is prostate cancer for men, and breast cancer for women. Colorectal cancer is third for both. The chart illustrates St. Louis' position as 6th highest in deaths from cancer among the metros. Its rate of 218 deaths per 100,000 population is 19 percent higher than the average.

The next two charts describe the vulnerability of the region's citizens to death from unintentional injuries. Such injuries are the leading causes of death for children and young adults aged 1 to 34. St. Louis ranks high on both counts: 6th in deaths from all accidental causes, and 11th in deaths resulting from motor vehicle crashes, the most prevalent form of unintentional injury. Also included in this category are falls, drownings, and other accidents.

The last chart shows wide variation in the rate of deaths from suicide among the metros. Salt Lake City and Phoenix, which rank low in deaths from heart disease and cancer, have the highest suicide rates. St. Louis is slightly higher than the average, with 11.5 suicides per 100,000 population in 1998.

[6] U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Public Health Service. Healthy People 2010: Objectives for Improving Health. Page 12-3.

DEATHS FROM HEART DISEASE

Per 100,000 population, 1998

1	**Pittsburgh**	**397**
2	Cleveland	326
3	New York	322
4	**St. Louis**	**314**
5	Louisville	304
6	Philadelphia	283
7	Detroit	277
8	Miami	270
9	Oklahoma City	269
10	Cincinnati	254
11	Milwaukee	253
12	Memphis	252
13	Baltimore	247
14	Indianapolis	243
15	Kansas City	241
16	Nashville	234
16	Chicago	234
18	Boston*	232
	Average	228
19	Charlotte	227
20	Columbus	221
21	San Antonio	213
22	Los Angeles	208
23	San Francisco	207
24	Phoenix	199
25	San Diego	189
26	Portland	187
27	Seattle	168
28	Houston	166
29	Dallas	164
29	Washington DC	164
31	Atlanta	162
32	Denver	154
33	Minneapolis	147
34	Salt Lake City	136
35	**Austin**	**133**

***New England Consolidated Metropolitan Area (NECMA)**
Source: Health and Health Care in the United States, 2nd Edition, 2000

DEATHS FROM CANCER

Per 100,000 population, 1998

1	**Pittsburgh**	**280**
2	Philadelphia	245
3	Cleveland	244
4	Louisville	236
5	Baltimore	222
6	**St. Louis**	**218**
7	Cincinnati	214
8	Milwaukee	207
9	Detroit	201
10	Indianapolis	199
11	Boston*	198
12	Memphis	197
13	San Francisco	191
14	Chicago	188
15	New York	187
16	Nashville	186
17	Oklahoma City	185
	Average	183
18	Miami	183
19	Kansas City	182
19	Columbus	182
21	Charlotte	179
22	Portland	176
23	Phoenix	171
24	Seattle	164
25	San Antonio	162
26	San Diego	162
27	Minneapolis	158
28	Washington DC	155
29	Los Angeles	147
30	Dallas	142
31	Denver	141
32	Atlanta	139
33	Houston	137
34	Austin	126
35	**Salt Lake City**	**105**

***New England Consolidated Metropolitan Area (NECMA)**
Source: Health and Health Care in the United States, 2nd Edition, 2000

DEATHS FROM ACCIDENTAL CAUSES

Per 100,000 population, 1998

1	**Memphis**	**43.2**
2	Oklahoma City	41.7
3	Phoenix	41.5
4	Philadelphia	40.6
5	Nashville	38.8
6	**St. Louis**	**35.8**
7	Portland	34.4
8	Kansas City	34.1
9	Austin	33.8
10	Miami	33.7
11	Pittsburgh	33.4
12	Louisville	33.2
13	Dallas	32.8
14	Indianapolis	32.6
15	Atlanta	32.5
16	Denver	32.4
17	Cincinnati	32.3
	Average	31.6
18	San Francisco	31.5
19	Charlotte	31.3
20	Minneapolis	31.0
21	Milwaukee	30.8
22	San Antonio	30.7
23	Salt Lake City	30.6
24	Houston	30.4
25	Seattle	29.6
26	Detroit	28.8
27	Baltimore	27.1
28	New York	26.6
29	Columbus	26.1
30	San Diego	26.0
30	Chicago	26.0
32	Washington DC	25.1
33	Cleveland	24.8
34	Los Angeles	22.7
35	**Boston**	**18.5**

Source: Health and Health Care in the United States, 2nd Edition, 2000

DEATHS FROM MOTOR VEHICLE CRASHES

Per 100,000 population, 1998

1	**Memphis**	**22.0**
2	Nashville	19.6
3	Oklahoma City	18.7
4	Phoenix	17.6
5	Dallas	17.1
6	Salt Lake City	16.6
7	Austin	16.5
8	Kansas City	16.4
9	Atlanta	16.3
10	Miami	16.2
11	**St. Louis**	**15.5**
12	Houston	15.3
13	Charlotte	14.5
14	San Antonio	14.2
15	Louisville	13.4
15	Detroit	13.4
17	Denver	13.2
	Average	12.9
18	Indianapolis	12.6
19	Portland	12.1
20	Columbus	12.0
21	Baltimore	11.5
22	Philadelphia	11.2
23	Washington	11.1
24	Cincinnati	11.0
25	Minneapolis	10.6
26	Pittsburgh	10.1
26	Los Angeles	10.0
28	Chicago	10.0
29	Seattle	9.9
30	San Diego	9.6
31	Milwaukee	9.0
32	Cleveland	8.7
33	San Francisco	7.9
34	New York	7.7
35	**Boston**	**7.5**

Source: Health and Health Care in the United States, 2nd Edition, 2000

DEATHS FROM SUICIDE

Per 100,000 population, 1998

1	**Salt Lake City**	**15.5**
2	Phoenix	14.7
2	Nashville	14.7
4	Oklahoma City	14.6
5	Denver	14.5
6	Portland	14.0
7	Indianapolis	13.6
8	Pittsburgh	13.0
9	San Diego	12.4
10	San Francisco	12.3
11	Miami	11.6
12	**St. Louis**	**11.5**
13	Kansas City	11.3
14	Cincinnati	11.2
15	Charlotte	11.1
	Average	11.0
16	Atlanta	11.0
17	Dallas	10.9
18	Chicago	10.7
18	Memphis	10.7
20	Seattle	10.6
21	San Antonio	10.5
21	Philadelphia	10.5
23	Louisville	10.4
24	Milwaukee	10.0
24	Cleveland	10.0
26	Austin	9.9
26	Houston	9.9
26	Baltimore	9.9
26	Columbus	9.9
30	Detroit	9.7
31	Minneapolis	9.4
32	Los Angeles	8.5
33	Washington	8.3
34	Boston	7.3
35	**New York**	**7.0**

Source: Health and Health Care in the United States, 2nd Edition, 2000

HIGHER

AVERAGE

LOWER

FAMILIES AT RISK

The charts on the page at right rank the peer metros on four social and economic risk factors for families. The first of these is the proportion of births to unmarried women. While individual circumstances vary considerably, the overall rate of unmarried births is a community concern because "children of unmarried mothers are at higher risk of having adverse birth outcomes, such as low birthweight and infant mortality, and are more likely to live in poverty than children of married mothers."[7] According to the National Center for Health Statistics, the proportion of births to unmarried women, nationwide, increased from 29 percent in 1980 to 44 percent in 1997. The chart provided here shows that St. Louis scored lower than the national average but higher than the average among the peer regions in 1997.

The next three charts demonstrate that St. Louis has lower rates for individuals, children, and older adults living in poverty than do most of the peer metro areas. This latter point is especially good news, because St. Louis ranks 4th in the proportion of its older population living alone—a factor often associated with elderly poverty.

In 1999 (the year of reference for the 2000 Census on economic variables), the official poverty rate was $8,667 per year for an individual under age 65 living alone, $17,029 for a family of four, and $7,990 for an individual aged 65 and older living alone.[8] The Census Bureau reports that the nation's poverty rate in 1999 was the lowest in 20 years.

[7] America's Children: Key Indicators of National Well-Being. 2002. Page 8.

[8] For more information on the poverty threshold, consult the Census Bureau's web site, www.census.gov.

BIRTHS TO UNWED PARENTS

Percent total births, 1997

1	**Memphis**	**49.0**
2	New York	41.6
3	Miami	39.5
4	Milwaukee	37.6
5	Cleveland	37.0
6	Phoenix	36.7
7	Los Angeles	36.6
8	Baltimore	36.5
9	Louisville	36.4
9	Philadelphia	36.4
11	**St. Louis**	**35.7**
12	Detroit	34.9
13	Chicago	33.7
14	Indianapolis	33.6
15	Oklahoma City	33.3
16	Cincinnati	32.7
17	Columbus	32.5
	Average	32.0
18	Nashville	31.8
18	Dallas	31.8
18	Houston	31.8
21	Kansas City	31.5
22	Atlanta	31.1
23	Charlotte	30.5
24	Pittsburgh	30.1
25	San Antonio	29.3
25	San Diego	29.3
27	Washington DC	29.0
28	Portland	26.4
29	Austin	25.4
30	Denver	25.0
31	Minneapolis	24.2
32	Boston*	24.1
33	San Francisco	23.8
34	Seattle	22.4
35	**Salt Lake City**	**19.7**

***New England Consolidated Metropolitan Area (NECMA)**
Source: Vital Statistics of the United States, 1997

INDIVIDUALS LIVING IN POVERTY

Percent of all persons, 2000

1	**New York**	**19.5**
2	Miami	18.0
3	Los Angeles	17.9
4	San Antonio	15.1
5	Memphis	15.0
6	Houston	13.9
7	Oklahoma City	13.5
8	San Diego	12.4
9	Phoenix	12.0
10	Dallas	11.1
10	Austin	11.1
	Average	10.9
12	Philadelphia	10.8
12	Pittsburgh	10.8
12	Cleveland	10.8
15	Detroit	10.7
15	Louisville	10.7
17	Milwaukee	10.6
18	Chicago	10.5
19	Nashville	10.1
19	Columbus	10.1
21	Baltimore	9.8
22	**St. Louis**	**9.7**
23	Cincinnati	9.5
24	Atlanta	9.4
25	Portland	9.3
26	Charlotte	9.2
27	Indianapolis	8.6
28	San Francisco	8.4
29	Kansas City	8.3
30	Boston	8.3
31	Denver	8.1
32	Seattle	7.9
33	Salt Lake City	7.7
34	Washington DC	7.3
35	**Minneapolis**	**6.6**

Source: 2000 Census

CHILDREN LIVING IN POVERTY

Percent of persons under age 18, 2000

1	**New York**	**27.2**
2	Los Angeles	24.2
3	Miami	22.9
4	Memphis	21.3
5	San Antonio	21.2
6	Oklahoma City	17.9
7	Houston	17.8
8	San Diego	16.5
9	Phoenix	15.9
10	Milwaukee	15.7
11	Cleveland	15.6
12	Louisville	15.1
13	Detroit	14.8
14	Pittsburgh	14.4
15	Dallas	14.2
	Average	14.2
16	Philadelphia	14.1
17	Chicago	14.0
18	**St. Louis**	**13.4**
19	Charlotte	13.0
20	Nashville	12.9
21	Cincinnati	12.4
22	Columbus	12.3
23	Baltimore	12.1
24	Austin	11.7
24	Atlanta	11.7
26	Portland	10.8
27	Indianapolis	10.7
27	Kansas City	10.7
29	Denver	9.9
30	Boston	9.6
31	Seattle	8.9
32	San Francisco	8.7
32	Salt Lake City	8.7
34	Washington DC	8.6
35	**Minneapolis**	**8.0**

Source: 2000 Census

OLDER PERSONS LIVING IN POVERTY

Percent of all persons aged 65 and older, 2000

1	**Miami**	**18.9**
2	New York	16.2
3	Memphis	13.2
4	Houston	11.9
5	San Antonio	11.8
6	Los Angeles	10.5
7	Nashville	10.4
8	Atlanta	10.0
9	Dallas	9.9
10	Baltimore	9.6
10	Charlotte	9.6
12	Pittsburgh	9.0
12	Philadelphia	9.0
	Average	9.0
14	Detroit	8.8
15	Chicago	8.7
16	Oklahoma City	8.5
17	Austin	8.2
17	Cleveland	8.2
17	Boston	8.2
20	Louisville	8.0
20	Columbus	8.0
22	Cincinnati	7.8
23	San Francisco	7.6
23	**St. Louis**	**7.6**
25	Phoenix	7.5
26	Indianapolis	7.4
27	Seattle	7.3
27	Washington DC	7.3
29	Portland	7.1
30	Denver	6.9
30	Milwaukee	6.9
32	San Diego	6.8
32	Kansas City	6.8
34	Minneapolis	5.8
35	**Salt Lake City**	**5.3**

Source: 2000 Census

HIGHER

AVERAGE

LOWER

RACIAL DISPARITY

The data presented on the next page describe social and economic disparities between African-Americans and whites in each of the peer metros. Together, these two racial groups comprise almost 97 percent of the population of the St. Louis region. Approximately 78.3 percent of St. Louisans are white and 18.3 percent are African-American.

The racial disparity index comprises 12 variables, which are quantified by national data sources and analyzed by East-West Gateway staff. These include residential and social segregation, poverty and unemployment rates, inadequate or unaffordable housing, occupation, infant mortality, and more. The higher the value on these charts, the greater the level of disparity between the races.

It is noteworthy that racial disparity is a factor in all 35 of the areas used in this comparison. Even African-Americans in the regions with the lowest levels of disparity (San Antonio, Salt Lake City, and Phoenix) score significantly worse on the index than do whites.

St. Louis has the 11th highest level of disparity between African-Americans and whites. Seven of the twelve regions with the most severe levels of disparity are in the central states.

The next charts highlight three individual components of the racial disparity index. African-Americans in the St. Louis region have unemployment rates and infant mortality rates three times that of whites, according to the charts. The level of disparity between African-Americans and whites who are paying more than 35 percent of their income on housing is the greatest of all the metros. Generally, housing is considered to be "affordable" when it costs less than 35 percent of a household's monthly income.

RACIAL DISPARITY INDEX

Ratio African-American to white on twelve indicators, 2002

1	**Atlanta**	**7.5**
2	Chicago	7.3
2	Memphis	7.3
4	Baltimore	7.0
4	Milwaukee	7.0
4	Philadelphia	7.0
7	Detroit	6.9
8	Cincinnati	6.7
8	Cleveland	6.7
10	Washington DC	6.5
11	Pittsburgh	6.4
11	**St. Louis**	**6.4**
13	Indianapolis	6.3
14	Minneapolis	6.2
15	Kansas City	6.1
16	Charlotte	6.0
17	Boston	5.9
17	Columbus	5.9
19	Austin	5.8
19	Oklahoma City	5.8
19	San Francisco	5.8
19	Miami	5.8
	Average	5.7
23	Louisville	5.6
24	Denver	5.5
25	Dallas	5.4
25	Houston	5.4
27	Nashville	5.3
28	New York	4.9
29	Seattle	4.5
30	Portland	4.4
31	Los Angeles	3.9
32	San Diego	3.8
33	Phoenix	3.3
34	San Antonio	3.2
35	**Salt Lake City**	**3.0**

DISPARITY IN INFANT MORTALITY

Ratio African-American to white infant deaths per 1,000 live births, 1998

1	**Pittsburgh**	**3.6**
2	Philadelphia	3.4
3	Minneapolis	3.3
4	Washington DC	3.2
5	Portland	3.1
6	Memphis	3.0
6	Detroit	3.0
6	**St. Louis**	**3.0**
9	Baltimore	2.9
9	Cincinnati	2.9
9	Oklahoma City	2.9
9	Denver	2.9
9	San Diego	2.9
	Average	2.8
14	Austin	2.8
15	Seattle	2.7
15	San Francisco	2.7
17	Chicago	2.6
17	Phoenix	2.6
19	Cleveland	2.5
19	Kansas City	2.5
21	Los Angeles	2.3
22	Milwaukee	2.0
23	Dallas	2.2
23	Nashville	2.2
25	Columbus	2.1
25	Miami	2.1
25	Charlotte	2.1
28	Indianapolis	2.0
29	Atlanta	1.8
29	Boston*	1.8
29	Louisville	1.8
29	San Antonio	1.8
29	Houston	1.8
34	New York	1.5
35	**Salt Lake City**	**0.8**

***New England Consolidated Metropolitan Area (NECMA)**
Source: National Center for Health Statistics

DISPARITY IN UNEMPLOYMENT

Ratio African-American to white unemployment rates, 2000

1	**Cincinnati**	**4.3**
2	Chicago	3.8
2	Kansas City	3.8
4	Baltimore	3.4
5	Philadelphia	3.3
5	Pittsburgh	3.3
7	Boston PMSA	3.1
7	Washington DC	3.1
9	**St. Louis**	**3.0**
10	Milwaukee	2.9
11	Dallas*	2.8
12	Atlanta	2.6
	Average	2.5
13	Louisville	2.2
13	Columbus	2.2
15	Cleveland	2.1
16	Detroit	1.9
17	Memphis	1.8
18	Seattle	1.7
18	Charlotte	1.7
18	Houston	1.7
21	New York	1.6
21	Los Angeles	1.6
23	Miami	1.3
24	**Phoenix**	**0.6**

***Consolidated Metropolitan Statistical Area**
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Geographic Profile of the United States

DISPARITY IN HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

Ratio African-American to white households paying more than 35 percent of income on housing, 1994-1999

1	**St. Louis**	**2.22**
2	Milwaukee	2.08
3	Oklahoma City	2.03
4	Salt Lake City	1.84
5	Washington DC	1.82
6	Cincinnati	1.79
7	Indianapolis	1.70
8	Detroit	1.69
8	Pittsburgh	1.69
10	Charlotte	1.68
10	Minneapolis	1.68
12	Chicago	1.63
13	Memphis	1.62
13	Atlanta	1.62
15	Cleveland	1.58
	Average	1.52
16	Portland	1.46
17	Baltimore	1.45
18	Kansas City	1.43
18	Philadelphia	1.43
20	Houston	1.42
21	Dallas	1.41
21	Los Angeles	1.41
23	Denver	1.40
23	Columbus	1.40
25	Seattle	1.39
26	New York	1.37
27	San Antonio	1.36
28	San Francisco	1.23
29	Boston	1.15
30	San Diego	1.09
31	Miami	1.07
32	**Phoenix**	**0.45**

Source: American Housing Survey

HIGHER

AVERAGE

LOWER

CRIME AND SOCIAL DISORDER

CRIME AND SOCIAL DISORDER

Crime is partially the result of a number of factors in community life—social, psychological, demographic, economic, and more. Crime rates reflect not only the complex interactions of these factors, but also the extent to which citizens report unlawful activity and local, state, and federal law enforcement officials apprehend perpetrators. At best, the indicators on the following page are imprecise measures, but they are often referred to by individuals and families choosing to make a metropolitan area their home.

The first chart illustrates that 4,626 crimes were reported per 100,000 people in the St. Louis region in the year 2000. St. Louis ranks 17th of the 29 metros for which data are available—slightly better (lower) than the average of the metros on this composite variable. When the specific type of crime is considered, the picture varies somewhat. St. Louis ranks close to the average on both property crimes and violent crime rates. On the most extreme violent crime—murder—the region exceeds the average significantly, ranking 11th among the metros. It differs by only one or two decimal points from Philadelphia, Nashville, and New York.

The last chart compares the total crime rate in the central cities to that of surrounding suburban areas. St. Louis exhibits the most severe ratio of the 29 metros for which data were available. It is worthy of note that the City of St. Louis is also one of the smallest of the central cities, when compared to its metropolitan area, in terms of both population and geographic area.

METRO CRIME RATE

Per 100,000 population, 2000

1	**Miami**	**8,063**
2	Memphis	6,766
3	San Antonio	6,397
4	Oklahoma City	6,351
5	Phoenix	6,205
6	Columbus*	6,116
7	Nashville	6,045
8	Dallas	5,646
9	Baltimore	5,566
10	Salt Lake City	5,392
11	Seattle	5,221
12	Portland	5,047
13	Houston	5,046
Average		4,875
14	Chicago	4,727
15	Austin	4,689
16	Detroit	4,687
17	**St. Louis**	**4,626**
18	Milwaukee	4,539
19	Denver	4,274
20	Minneapolis	4,112
21	Indianapolis*	4,011
22	Los Angeles	3,980
23	San Francisco	3,926
24	Philadelphia	3,859
25	Washington DC	3,623
26	New York	3,539
27	San Diego	3,275
28	Boston*	3,047
29	**Pittsburgh**	**2,599**

***Indicates 1999 Data**
Source: Crime in the United States, U.S. Department of Justice

METRO PROPERTY CRIME RATE

Total per 100,000 population, 2000

1	**Miami**	**6,856**
2	Oklahoma City	5,830
3	San Antonio	5,825
4	Memphis	5,760
5	Phoenix	5,645
6	Columbus*	5,627
7	Nashville	5,072
8	Salt Lake City	5,053
9	Dallas	4,974
10	Seattle	4,838
11	Portland	4,595
12	Baltimore	4,502
13	Houston	4,329
14	Austin	4,305
Average		4,255
15	Milwaukee	4,089
16	**St. Louis**	**4,028**
17	Chicago	3,935
18	Detroit	3,933
19	Denver	3,917
20	Minneapolis	3,754
21	Indianapolis*	3,421
22	San Francisco	3,393
23	Philadelphia	3,198
24	Washington DC	3,158
25	Los Angeles	3,036
26	San Diego	2,798
27	New York	2,666
28	Boston*	2,579
29	**Pittsburgh**	**2,268**

***Indicates 1999 Data**
Source: Crime in the United States, U.S. Department of Justice

METRO VIOLENT CRIME RATE

Per 100,000 population, 2000

1	**Miami**	**1,207**
2	Baltimore	1,064
3	Memphis	1,006
4	Nashville	973
5	Los Angeles	944
6	New York	872
7	Chicago	757
8	Detroit	754
9	Houston	717
10	Dallas	672
11	Philadelphia	660
Average		619
12	Indianapolis*	590
13	**St. Louis**	**580**
14	San Antonio	572
15	Phoenix	560
16	San Francisco	534
17	Oklahoma City	522
18	Columbus*	489
19	San Diego	477
20	Boston*	468
21	Washington DC	465
22	Portland	452
23	Milwaukee	451
24	Austin	384
24	Seattle	384
26	Minneapolis	358
27	Denver	356
28	Salt Lake City	339
29	**Pittsburgh**	**330**

***Indicates 1999 Data**
Source: Crime in the United States, U.S. Department of Justice

METRO MURDER RATE

Per 100,000 population, 2000

1	**Memphis**	**14.6**
2	Baltimore	12.2
3	Detroit	10.6
3	Los Angeles	10.6
5	Chicago	9.1
6	Indianapolis*	8.8
7	Miami	8.6
7	Milwaukee	8.6
9	Dallas	8.5
10	Philadelphia	8.1
11	**St. Louis**	**8.0**
12	Nashville	7.9
13	New York	7.8
14	Houston	7.7
15	Washington DC	7.4
16	Phoenix	7.2
Average		6.7
17	San Antonio	6.4
18	Columbus*	5.9
19	Oklahoma City	4.7
20	San Francisco	4.3
21	Denver	3.8
22	Minneapolis	3.5
22	Salt Lake City	3.5
24	Austin	3.4
24	Pittsburgh	3.4
24	San Diego	3.4
27	Seattle	3.0
28	Portland	2.1
29	**Boston***	**1.8**

***Indicates 1999 Data**
Source: Crime in the United States, U.S. Department of Justice

CENTRAL CITY TO SUBURBAN CRIME RATIO 2000

1	**St. Louis**	**4.7**
2	Detroit	3.1
3	Milwaukee	3.0
4	Oklahoma City	2.9
5	Memphis	2.8
6	Pittsburgh	2.7
7	Philadelphia	2.6
7	Boston*	2.6
7	Baltimore	2.6
10	Nashville	2.5
10	Dallas	2.5
10	Columbus*	2.5
Average		2.3
13	Washington DC	2.3
14	Austin	2.2
15	San Francisco	2.1
15	Minneapolis	2.1
17	Indianapolis*	2.0
17	Houston	2.0
17	Portland	2.0
17	Salt Lake City	2.0
21	Seattle	1.9
22	San Antonio	1.8
23	New York	1.5
23	Los Angeles	1.5
25	Phoenix	1.4
26	Miami	1.3
26	Denver	1.3
28	**San Diego**	**1.2**

***Indicates 1999 Data**
Source: Crime in the United States, U.S. Department of Justice

HIGHER

AVERAGE

LOWER

URBAN FORM AND PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

LAND USE

The charts at right describe changes in the distribution of population and employment across the landscapes of the 35 peer regions. The first chart depicts the rate at which metro area land was consumed for new development in each of the metros between 1982-1997. "Urbanized land" is a category of land cover used by the U.S. Department of Agriculture in its National Resources Inventory to describe areas that are largely built up with residential, industrial, commercial, and institutional uses; railroad yards and airports; sanitary landfills and sewage treatment plants; water control structures; and other infrastructure needed to support urban living.[4] The chart illustrates that the urbanized core of the St. Louis metropolitan area increased by one-quarter (25.1 percent) during the 15 year period. This was the third-lowest rate of expansion among the peer regions.

The second chart quantifies the change in population density within these areas of urbanized land. The three metros at the top of this chart—Phoenix, Austin, and Los Angeles—actually gained population density between 1982 and 1997. The remainder lost density as development spread. St. Louis' urbanized land area experienced a decrease in population density of 15.3 percent. This was slightly larger than the average among the metros.

The two charts at the far right quantify changes in the proportion of each metropolitan area's population and job base located in the principal urban county. The principal urban county of the St. Louis metro area is comprised of both St. Louis City and County, which are independent jurisdictions. In 1990, 44.2 percent of the St. Louis metro population lived outside the City and County. By 2000, this percentage had increased by 3.4 percentage points to 47.6 percent. This was the 6th greatest rate of dispersal among the metros. The proportion of metro employment located outside St. Louis City and County increased from 25.1 to 28.3 between 1990 and 1998. Among the metros, St. Louis was the average.

[4] For more information, see http://www.nhq.nrcs.usda.gov/NRI/1997.

CHANGE IN URBANIZED LAND

By percent, 1982-1997

1	**Nashville**	**103.0**
2	Atlanta	81.5
3	Charlotte	73.9
4	Memphis	67.3
5	Minneapolis	61.1
6	Louisville	57.4
7	Austin	55.4
8	Dallas	54.4
9	Seattle	50.9
10	Salt Lake City	50.4
11	Portland	48.9
12	Oklahoma City	48.5
13	Washington	47.0
14	Boston	46.9
Average		44.8
15	San Diego	44.1
16	Denver	42.9
17	Pittsburgh	42.6
18	Indianapolis	41.8
18	Phoenix	41.8
20	San Antonio	40.9
21	Cincinnati	40.1
22	Houston	37.6
23	Kansas City	36.8
24	Miami	36.2
25	Columbus	36.0
26	Philadelphia	35.6
27	Baltimore	32.3
28	Cleveland	31.7
29	Detroit	29.0
30	Los Angeles	27.6
30	San Francisco	27.6
32	Chicago	25.5
33	**St. Louis**	**25.1**
34	Milwaukee	24.9
35	**New York**	**20.5**

Source: National Resources Inventory, Brookings Institution Survey Series

CHANGE IN DENSITY

Percent change in density in urbanized land area, 1982-1997

1	**Phoenix**	**21.9**
2	Austin	16.0
3	Los Angeles	2.8
4	Dallas	-3.5
5	Miami	-3.9
5	San Francisco	-3.9
7	San Diego	-4.3
8	San Antonio	-7.4
9	Houston	-8.5
10	Denver	-9.0
11	Portland	-11.3
12	Atlanta	-11.4
12	Columbus	-11.4
14	Seattle	-11.8
14	Washington	-11.8
16	Chicago	-12.7
17	Salt Lake City	-13.6
Average		-13.9
18	Kansas City	-14.1
19	Milwaukee	-14.7
20	Baltimore	-14.8
21	**St. Louis**	**-15.3**
22	New York	-15.4
23	Indianapolis	-15.5
24	Detroit	-18.7
25	Charlotte	-20.2
26	Philadelphia	-21.1
27	Cincinnati	-21.2
28	Minneapolis	-22.4
29	Cleveland	-23.8
29	Oklahoma City	-23.8
31	Boston	-27.4
32	Memphis	-30.0
33	Louisville	-32.9
34	Nashville	-34.3
35	**Pittsburgh**	**-35.5**

Source: National Resources Inventory, Brookings Institution Survey Series

POPULATION DISPERSAL

Change in percent of metro population living outside the principal urban county, 1990-2000

1	**Nashville**	**5.6**
2	Cincinnati	5.0
3	Baltimore	4.9
4	Indianapolis	4.2
5	Milwaukee	4.1
6	Portland	3.4
6	Dallas	3.4
6	**St. Louis**	**3.4**
9	Chicago	3.3
9	New York	3.3
11	Austin	3.1
11	Minneapolis	3.1
11	Kansas City	3.1
14	Memphis	3.0
15	Los Angeles	2.9
15	Detroit	2.9
17	Washington DC	2.9
18	Houston	2.7
19	Miami	2.6
20	Louisville	2.5
Average		2.5
21	Philadelphia	2.4
22	Columbus	2.2
23	Denver	2.1
23	Cleveland	2.1
23	Atlanta	2.1
26	San Antonio	2.0
27	Seattle	1.8
28	Pittsburgh	1.5
28	Oklahoma City	1.5
30	San Diego	1.0
31	San Francisco	0.5
32	Boston	0.4
32	Salt Lake City	0.4
34	Phoenix	0.3
35	**Charlotte**	**-2.4**

Source: 1990 and 2000 Census

EMPLOYMENT DISPERSAL

Change in percent of employment base located outside the principal urban county,1990-1998

1	**Cincinnati**	**7.0**
2	Denver	6.1
3	Milwaukee	5.8
4	Baltimore	5.5
5	Indianapolis	5.3
6	Oklahoma City	5.1
7	Chicago	5.0
8	Kansas City	4.9
8	Austin	4.9
10	Nashville	4.8
11	Philadelphia	4.3
11	Portland	4.3
13	Washington DC	4.2
14	Detroit	3.9
15	Miami	3.4
16	**St. Louis**	**3.2**
Average		3.2
17	Los Angeles	3.0
17	Dallas	3.0
17	Seattle	3.0
20	Louisville	2.9
21	Minneapolis	2.8
22	Pittsburgh	2.7
23	Columbus	2.6
24	Atlanta	2.4
25	Houston	2.3
26	Cleveland	2.0
26	San Diego	2.0
28	Memphis	1.3
29	San Antonio	0.9
30	Salt Lake City	0.8
30	San Francisco	0.8
32	New York	0.6
33	Boston	0.4
34	Phoenix	-0.1
35	**Charlotte**	**-1.4**

Source: County Business Patterns, US Census

HIGHER

AVERAGE

LOWER

ENVIRONMENT

The quality of the natural and the built environment is the product of development and redevelopment patterns, transportation and industrial uses, as well as natural events. It is a significant factor in regional quality of life.

The charts on the facing page describe the standing of the St. Louis region on three environmental indicators. The first of these is air quality, which has been quantified using an index developed by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The index measures levels of ozone in the air, with a value of 100 being the maximum level acceptable for the protection of human health. The chart shows the number of days in 2000 in which the ozone level exceeded 100, and was therefore considered unhealthy. The range among the peer metros is considerable, with six regions having no poor air quality days and two having more than 40. St. Louis had 14 days in which the air quality exceeded the health standard, higher than the average of 10.

The second chart measures the relative health of resources within metro watersheds. The index for this chart is also from the EPA. The values rate each metro area on an index comprised of seven indicators of current water conditions (such as contaminated sediments, toxic pollutants, loss of wetlands) and nine indicators of future vulnerability (including toxic loads over permitted limits, the potential for run-off from urban and agricultural uses, and more). For this index, the lower the rank, the better the water quality. St. Louis ranks 21st, tied with our neighbor along the Mississippi River to the south: Memphis.

The last chart shows the percentage of all housing units in each metropolitan area that were vacant at the time of the 2000 Census. Approximately one of every 14 housing units in St. Louis falls into that category. With a value of 7.4 percent, St. Louis is the sixth highest among the peer metros.

DAYS OF UNHEALTHY AIR QUALITY, 2000

1	**Los Angeles**	**45**
2	Houston	41
3	Atlanta	26
4	Memphis	24
5	Charlotte	22
6	Dallas	20
7	Philadelphia	17
8	Baltimore	16
8	Nashville	16
10	San Diego	14
10	**St. Louis**	**14**
12	New York	12
13	Washington DC	11
14	Louisville	10
14	Kansas City	10
Average		10
16	Phoenix	9
17	Columbus	6
17	Austin	6
17	Oklahoma City	6
17	Salt Lake City	6
21	Cincinnati	4
21	Indianapolis	4
21	Cleveland	4
21	Pittsburgh	4
25	Detroit	3
26	Milwaukee	2
26	Denver	2
28	Seattle	1
28	Boston	1
30	Portland	0
30	Miami	0
30	San Antonio	0
30	Chicago	0
30	Minneapolis	0
30	**San Francisco**	**0**

Source: US Environmental Protection Agency

THREATS TO WATER QUALITY

Index of conditions within watersheds, 1999

1	**Philadelphia**	**4.9**
2	Louisville	4.6
3	Milwaukee	4.5
4	Indianapolis	4.4
5	New York	4.3
5	Detroit	4.3
5	Minneapolis	4.3
8	Columbus	4.2
9	Cleveland	3.9
9	Chicago	3.9
9	Boston	3.9
12	Cincinnati	3.6
12	San Francisco	3.6
14	Baltimore	3.5
14	Miami	3.5
14	Pittsburgh	3.5
17	Los Angeles	3.4
17	Oklahoma City	3.4
Average		3.3
19	Kansas City	3.2
19	Portland	3.2
21	Memphis	3.1
21	**St. Louis**	**3.1**
21	Houston	3.1
21	Phoenix	3.1
25	Salt Lake City	3.0
25	Seattle	3.0
27	Atlanta	2.9
27	Washington DC	2.9
29	Charlotte	2.7
30	San Diego	2.4
31	San Antonio	1.7
31	Austin	1.7
33	Nashville	1.6
33	Denver	1.6
35	**Dallas**	**1.5**

Source: US Environmental Protection Agency

Note: Lower values indicate better quality

VACANT HOUSING

Percent of all housing units, 2000

1	**Phoenix**	**10.3**
2	Oklahoma City	8.9
2	Miami	8.9
4	Pittsburgh	7.6
4	Indianapolis	7.6
6	**St. Louis**	**7.4**
7	Houston	7.2
8	Baltimore	7.1
9	Memphis	6.7
10	Cleveland	6.6
10	San Antonio	6.6
10	Charlotte	6.6
10	Cincinnati	6.6
14	Philadelphia	6.5
14	Columbus	6.5
16	Kansas City	6.3
17	Dallas	6.2
18	Louisville	6.0
Average		6.0
19	Nashville	5.8
20	Portland	5.7
21	Detroit	5.5
22	Atlanta	5.3
22	New York	5.3
24	Salt Lake City	5.2
25	Chicago	5.1
26	Milwaukee	4.9
26	Austin	4.9
26	Washington DC	4.9
29	Seattle	4.7
30	San Diego	4.4
31	Los Angeles	4.2
32	San Francisco	3.9
32	Boston	3.9
34	Denver	3.7
35	**Minneapolis**	**2.8**

Source: 2000 Census

HIGHER

AVERAGE

LOWER

TRANSPORTATION

This set of charts describes the availability and use of surface transportation infrastructure. The first on the left quantifies the amount of roadway per square mile for the urbanized areas of the 35 metros and the second quantifies the daily use of these roadways.[5] The numbers suggest that, although more than 8,000 miles of pavement comprise the transportation network in St. Louis' urbanized area, it is relatively modest. We are tied with Columbus for 32nd on this variable. St. Louis also ranks in the bottom third of the metros in terms of the density of daily travel. Vehicles log almost 59 million miles on roadways in the urbanized portion of the St. Louis metropolitan area every day—52,278 for every square mile.

The third chart ranks the metros in terms of the level of congestion on freeways, expressways, and principal arterial roadways. With a congestion rating exceeding 1.00, St. Louis' roadways meet the technical definition of congested. Ranking 27th, however, the St. Louis urbanized area is less congested than most of our peers.

The last two charts at the far right of the page describe the availability and use of public transit services in the peer metropolitan areas. The first, "transit capacity," quantifies the number of passenger miles that could be accommodated on the existing transit system in the course of a year, if every seat were filled whenever a vehicle was in service.[6] The numbers are expressed in thousands, so the entry for St. Louis should be read as 983,826,600, ranking St. Louis 22nd among the peers. A comparison with actual ridership during the year 2000 (roughly 52 million passengers, or 252,330,800 passenger miles) suggests that transit usage was approximately 26 percent of capacity.

The final chart compares the level of transit service to the number of households in a metropolitan area that are without private vehicles, and therefore assumed to be dependent on transit. According to the 2000 Census, almost 91,500 households in the St. Louis MSA (9 percent of households) have no vehicle. There are less than 17 annual hours of transit service available to each of these households—ranking St. Louis 27th among the peers.

5 "Urbanized areas" are delineated by the U.S. Census Bureau and used by the U.S. Department of Transportation to describe that portion of a metro area that includes the central city or cities and surrounding contiguous areas with a population density of at least 1,000 people per square mile. For a more precise definition, see www.census.gov.

6 When full, a 36-passenger bus traveling one mile is said to log 36 passenger miles. If half full, that same bus traveling one mile logs 18 passenger miles.

ROAD NETWORK

Miles of roadway per square mile, urbanized areas, 2000

1	**Miami**	**15.9**
2	Los Angeles	12.1
3	Portland	12.0
4	Detroit	10.6
5	Dallas	10.4
5	Austin	10.4
7	Washington DC	10.3
7	San Antonio	10.3
9	Indianapolis	10.0
9	Philadelphia	10.0
11	Houston	9.9
12	Milwaukee	9.8
12	Louisville	9.8
14	Denver	9.7
14	Phoenix	9.7
16	New York	9.5
17	Salt Lake City	9.4
18	Baltimore	9.3
Average		9.2
19	Minneapolis	9.2
20	Boston	8.9
20	Charlotte	8.9
22	Chicago	8.7
23	Seattle	8.4
24	San Diego	8.1
25	Memphis	8.0
26	Pittsburgh	7.8
26	Cincinnati	7.8
28	San Francisco	7.7
29	Atlanta	7.5
30	Oklahoma City	7.3
30	Kansas City	7.3
32	Columbus	7.2
32	**St. Louis**	**7.2**
34	Cleveland	6.6
35	**Nashville**	**5.2**

Source: US Department of Transportation, Highway Statistics 2000

DAILY TRAVEL DENSITY

Daily vehicle miles of travel per square mile, urbanized areas, 2000

1	**Los Angeles**	**125,859.7**
2	Miami	123,447.5
3	San Diego	85,687.4
4	Washington DC	83,042.0
5	San Francisco	75,043.6
6	Detroit	70,827.1
7	Indianapolis	69,664.4
8	San Antonio	68,959.2
9	Dallas	68,077.3
10	Portland	67,200.6
11	New York	66,609.0
12	Charlotte	63,870.0
13	Austin	63,534.6
14	Baltimore	63,231.4
Average		62,694.4
15	Milwaukee	61,560.7
16	Denver	61,106.4
17	Seattle	60,936.4
18	Houston	59,780.7
19	Louisville	59,360.4
20	Chicago	57,963.5
21	Salt Lake City	57,779.5
22	Atlanta	57,309.5
23	Philadelphia	57,167.7
24	Phoenix	55,412.4
25	Memphis	54,105.3
26	**St. Louis**	**52,278.1**
27	Boston	52,162.5
28	Columbus	51,956.3
29	Cincinnati	51,754.4
30	Minneapolis	50,939.6
31	Cleveland	45,107.5
32	Oklahoma City	40,154.9
33	Nashville	39,848.0
34	Kansas City	39,756.2
35	**Pittsburgh**	**32,810.7**

Source: US Department of Transportation, Highway Statistics 2000

ROADWAY CONGESTION

Index based on expressways and principal arterial roads, 2000

1	**Los Angeles**	**1.59**
2	San Francisco	1.45
3	Washington DC	1.35
4	Atlanta	1.32
4	San Diego	1.32
6	Chicago	1.31
7	Boston	1.30
8	Miami	1.28
9	Portland	1.27
9	Phoenix	1.27
11	Denver	1.23
11	Seattle	1.23
13	Detroit	1.22
13	Minneapolis	1.22
15	New York	1.16
16	Charlotte	1.15
Average		1.15
17	Cincinnati	1.13
17	Indianapolis	1.13
19	Austin	1.11
20	Dallas	1.10
20	Baltimore	1.10
20	Philadelphia	1.10
23	Houston	1.09
23	Louisville	1.09
25	Milwaukee	1.08
26	San Antonio	1.05
27	**St. Louis**	**1.03**
28	Columbus	1.02
29	Memphis	1.00
30	Nashville	0.98
31	Salt Lake City	0.97
31	Cleveland	0.97
33	Oklahoma City	0.87
34	Kansas City	0.81
35	**Pittsburgh**	**0.77**

Source: Texas Transportation Institute

TRANSIT SERVICE

Transit seat miles in revenue service, in thousands, 2000

1	**New York**	**37,030,522.8**
2	Chicago	11,080,295.6
3	San Francisco	6,793,919.2
4	Washington DC	5,041,285.8
5	Boston	5,038,144.5
6	Los Angeles	4,976,009.6
7	Philadelphia	4,586,574.2
Average		2,904,170.5
8	Atlanta	2,640,211.7
9	Seattle	1,967,907.0
10	Baltimore	1,947,402.0
11	Houston	1,623,085.5
12	Denver	1,574,635.0
13	Miami	1,407,797.3
14	Portland	1,366,476.1
15	Minneapolis	1,304,771.2
16	Cleveland	1,280,187.4
17	Detroit	1,272,864.6
18	Pittsburgh	1,146,289.2
19	Dallas	1,067,217.6
20	Salt Lake City	1,050,403.0
21	San Diego	1,032,161.2
22	**St. Louis**	**983,826.6**
23	Milwaukee	912,083.7
24	San Antonio	812,307.1
25	Cincinnati	555,271.8
26	Phoenix	473,900.0
27	Austin	473,241.4
28	Columbus	375,595.8
29	Louisville	343,725.5
30	Kansas City	326,948.8
31	Charlotte	294,022.9
32	Memphis	293,953.4
33	Indianapolis	261,270.0
34	Nashville	193,322.2
35	**Oklahoma City**	**118,338.2**

Source: National Transit Database 2000, Federal Transit Administration

TRANSIT USE BY HOUSEHOLDS WITHOUT CARS

Ratio of annual transit vehicle revenue hours to number of households without vehicles, 2000

1	**San Francisco**	**66.6**
2	Salt Lake City	53.6
3	Seattle	48.3
4	Austin	43.7
5	Portland	41.3
6	Denver	39.5
7	San Antonio	37.1
8	Chicago	30.3
9	Atlanta	28.4
10	Milwaukee	28.0
11	Washington DC	27.9
12	Boston	26.6
Average		25.2
13	Houston	24.8
14	Minneapolis	24.6
15	New York	23.9
16	Los Angeles	23.8
17	Cleveland	23.1
18	Dallas	21.8
19	Louisville	20.7
20	Charlotte	20.2
21	Miami	20.1
22	Philadelphia	19.4
23	Pittsburgh	18.8
24	Cincinnati	18.3
25	Baltimore	18.2
26	Columbus	17.9
27	**St Louis**	**16.6**
28	Detroit	16.0
29	San Diego	13.9
30	Kansas City	13.7
31	Nashville	12.9
32	Indianapolis	12.5
33	Memphis	12.4
34	Phoenix	11.5
35	**Oklahoma City**	**7.4**

Source: US Census and National Transit Database

HIGHER

AVERAGE

LOWER

LEADERSHIP, GOVERNANCE, AND PUBLIC SERVICE

GOVERNMENT

The charts on the next page compare the peer metros in terms of units of local government. With 788, St. Louis ranks among the leaders in plurality of government. Depending on one's perspective, the region's local government structure can be said to be 5th most fragmented or 5th most accessible to its citizenry.

Compared to its population size, the St. Louis metropolitan area ranks second only to Pittsburgh in the number of units of local government. There are nearly 31 government units for every 100,000 people. Only nine of these are municipalities. Less than five are school districts. The remaining 17 are special purpose districts that have been created to address specific local and regional needs, such as fire protection, emergency medical services, sanitation, housing, and other purposes. As described in the introduction, the creation of special government districts to address specific unmet needs has been a preferred political solution for the past 50 years. The number of special districts increased by 300 percent between 1952 and 2002, nationwide.

There appears to be no direct relationship between the number of school districts per 100,000 population and the levels of educational spending (see chart on page 37). St. Louis ranks 18th among the 35 on educational spending and 11th in the percent of total income spent on education. Oklahoma City, the only metro with more school districts per 100,000 population than St. Louis, ranks 34th and 27th on these variables, respectively. Miami, with the least fragmented school system of the metros, ranks 29th in educational spending per pupil and 5th in the percentage of total income dedicated to this purpose.

UNITS OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT

General and special-purpose units of government, 1997

1	**Chicago**	**1456**
2	Pittsburgh	858
3	Philadelphia	845
4	Houston	802
5	**St. Louis**	**788**
6	Boston*	765
7	Minneapolis	519
8	Kansas City	482
9	Indianapolis	461
10	Denver	430
11	Cincinnati	381
12	Los Angeles	378
13	Detroit	372
	Average	364
14	Cleveland	345
15	Dallas	331
16	Seattle	286
17	Columbus	282
17	Portland	282
19	Louisville	276
20	Atlanta	263
21	Phoenix	215
22	New York	201
23	Milwaukee	195
24	San Francisco	191
25	Austin	187
26	San Diego	180
27	Oklahoma City	170
28	Washington DC	165
29	Salt Lake City	142
30	Nashville	110
31	Memphis	92
31	San Antonio	92
33	Charlotte	88
34	Baltimore	81
35	**Miami**	**36**

Source: 1997 Census of Governments

RATIO OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT TO CITIZENS

Units of government per 100,000 population, 1997

1	**Pittsburgh**	**36.1**
2	**St. Louis**	**30.9**
2	Indianapolis	30.9
4	Kansas City	28.5
5	Louisville	27.8
6	Cincinnati	23.9
7	Denver	23.0
8	Houston	21.2
9	Columbus	19.5
10	Chicago	18.8
10	Minneapolis	18.8
12	Austin	18.0
13	Philadelphia	17.1
14	Oklahoma City	16.6
15	Portland	16.0
16	Cleveland	15.4
	Average	14.6
17	Milwaukee	13.4
18	Boston*	13.2
19	Seattle	12.8
20	Salt Lake City	11.7
21	San Francisco	11.5
22	Dallas	10.9
23	Nashville	9.8
24	Memphis	8.5
25	Detroit	8.4
26	Phoenix	7.8
27	Atlanta	7.4
28	San Diego	6.8
29	San Antonio	6.2
30	Charlotte	5.7
31	Los Angeles	4.1
32	Washington DC	3.4
33	Baltimore	3.3
34	New York	2.3
35	**Miami**	**1.7**

Source: 1997 Census of Governments

METRO AREA MUNICIPALITIES

Municipalities per 100,000 population, 1997

1	**Louisville**	**13.0**
2	Pittsburgh	10.0
3	**St. Louis**	**8.9**
4	Kansas City	8.2
5	Cincinnati	8.0
6	Minneapolis	6.9
7	Oklahoma City	6.6
8	Indianapolis	5.5
9	Columbus	5.2
10	Cleveland	5.1
11	Dallas	4.8
	Average	4.0
12	Milwaukee	4.0
13	Nashville	3.8
13	Austin	3.8
13	Chicago	3.8
16	Memphis	3.7
17	Charlotte	3.4
17	Salt Lake City	3.4
19	Portland	3.2
20	Atlanta	3.0
21	Philadelphia	2.9
22	Detroit	2.6
23	Seattle	2.5
24	San Antonio	2.2
25	Houston	2.1
26	Washington DC	2.0
27	San Francisco	1.9
28	Denver	1.7
29	Miami	1.3
30	Phoenix	1.2
31	Los Angeles	1.0
32	Baltimore	0.8
33	Boston*	0.7
33	San Diego	0.7
35	**New York**	**0.6**

Source: 1997 Census of Governments

SCHOOL DISTRICTS

Independent school districts per 100,000 population, 1997

1	**Oklahoma City**	**6.2**
2	**St. Louis**	**4.7**
3	Pittsburgh	4.5
4	Cincinnati	4.4
5	Chicago	4.3
6	Kansas City	4.1
7	Philadelphia	3.8
7	Cleveland	3.8
9	Milwaukee	3.6
10	Columbus	3.5
11	Indianapolis	3.3
12	Portland	3.2
13	Austin	2.9
14	Minneapolis	2.8
14	San Francisco	2.8
14	Phoenix	2.8
17	Dallas	2.6
18	Detroit	2.5
	Average	2.3
19	Boston*	2.0
20	San Diego	1.8
21	Seattle	1.6
22	San Antonio	1.5
23	Louisville	1.3
23	Houston	1.3
25	Los Angeles	1.0
26	Denver	0.9
27	Atlanta	0.8
28	New York	0.6
28	Salt Lake City	0.6
28	Memphis	0.6
31	Charlotte	0.3
32	Nashville	0.2
33	Miami	0.1
34	Washington DC	0.0
34	**Baltimore**	**0.0**

Source: 1997 Census of Governments

HIGHER

AVERAGE

LOWER

***Indicates Boston New England County Metropolitan Area (NECMA)**

PUBLIC FINANCE

Although hovering near the top of all the charts on units of government, St. Louis is positioned very close to the bottom on measures of government revenue and spending. As the numbers to the right illustrate, St. Louis area residents pay less of their total income in local general taxes than do residents of any other of the peer metros—except for Boston, with which St. Louis is tied. Slightly less than two-thirds (63.2 percent) of tax revenues are from property taxes, closely resembling the pattern in Kansas City.

The rate of local government spending in the St. Louis metropolitan area is very low—33rd among the metros and almost one-fourth (23 percent) less than that in Kansas City. Only Louisville and Oklahoma City spend less per capita. These metros are also in the bottom five on local government revenue and reliance on property tax.

The next-to-last chart further illustrates the conservative nature of local government taxing and spending in the region. St. Louis has the lowest debt to revenue ratio of all the peer metropolitan areas. The level of debt is less than the level of revenue in only two metros, St. Louis and Boston.

Federal funding may compensate for some of the inter-regional gap in local government investment. With more than $7,300 in federal funds coming to the region for very resident in 1997, St. Louis ranks 4th highest among the metros. It trails only Washington, DC (where the level of federal spending is understandably very high), Baltimore, and Oklahoma City.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT REVENUE

Total annual revenue as a percent of total personal income, 1997

1	**New York**	**14.4**
2	Austin	12.1
3	Miami	11.5
4	Memphis	10.8
5	Los Angeles	10.7
6	San Antonio	9.5
7	Nashville	9.4
8	Washington DC	9.0
9	Phoenix	8.9
10	San Francisco	8.6
10	Salt Lake City	8.6
12	Chicago	8.4
12	Charlotte	8.4
Average		8.3
14	Kansas City	8.3
15	Atlanta	8.1
15	Cleveland	8.1
17	Seattle	8.0
17	Indianapolis	8.0
19	Milwaukee	7.9
20	Dallas	7.8
21	Denver	7.7
21	Philadelphia	7.7
23	Portland	7.6
23	San Diego	7.6
25	Columbus	7.3
25	Houston	7.3
27	Minneapolis	7.2
27	Cincinnati	7.2
29	Baltimore	7.1
30	Oklahoma City	6.9
31	Pittsburgh	6.6
32	Detroit	6.4
33	Louisville	6.1
34	Boston*	5.8
34	**St. Louis**	**5.8**

Source: 1997 Census of Governments, Compendium of Government Finances

RELIANCE ON PROPERTY TAX

Property tax revenue as a percentage of all local tax revenue, 1997

1	**Boston***	**97.3**
2	Milwaukee	94.6
3	Minneapolis	93.8
4	Indianapolis	87.1
5	Detroit	85.9
6	San Antonio	82.6
7	Houston	80.3
8	Austin	78.9
9	Chicago	78.7
10	Charlotte	78.2
11	Portland	76.4
12	Pittsburgh	75.8
13	Dallas	75.5
13	Miami	75.5
15	Philadelphia	71.1
16	Atlanta	71.0
16	San Diego	71.0
Average		70.2
18	Salt Lake City	69.6
19	Phoenix	68.7
20	Cincinnati	66.8
21	Los Angeles	64.4
22	Columbus	64.2
23	Cleveland	63.6
24	**St. Louis**	**63.2**
25	Kansas City	62.7
26	San Francisco	61.1
27	Memphis	60.8
28	Baltimore	59.0
28	Seattle	59.0
30	Denver	58.5
31	Louisville	58.3
32	Nashville	55.8
33	Washington DC	54.6
34	Oklahoma City	47.7
35	**New York**	**45.0**

Source: 1997 Census of Governments

LOCAL GOVERNMENT SPENDING

Total direct expenditures per capita, 1997

1	**New York**	**6,451**
2	San Francisco	4,955
3	Los Angeles	4,441
4	Miami	4,073
5	Seattle	3,907
6	Washington DC	3,871
7	Milwaukee	3,619
8	Portland	3,605
9	Minneapolis	3,597
10	San Diego	3,585
11	Austin	3,574
12	Memphis	3,452
13	Chicago	3,434
14	Philadelphia	3,396
15	Denver	3,359
16	Nashville	3,351
Average		3,330
17	Detroit	3,247
18	Phoenix	3,246
19	Cleveland	3,206
20	Atlanta	3,178
21	Kansas City	3,064
22	Indianapolis	3,044
23	San Antonio	3,010
24	Dallas	2,900
25	Salt Lake City	2,860
26	Columbus	2,853
27	Pittsburgh	2,823
28	Houston	2,818
29	Charlotte	2,807
30	Boston*	2,735
31	Cincinnati	2,729
32	Baltimore	2,532
33	**St. Louis**	**2,356**
34	Louisville	2,339
35	**Oklahoma City**	**2,137**

Source: 1997 Census of Governments

LOCAL GOVERNMENT DEBT

Ratio of local government debt to local revenue, 1997

1	**Salt Lake City**	**2.83**
2	Pittsburgh	2.44
3	Denver	2.27
4	Phoenix	2.26
5	Louisville	2.24
6	Austin	2.16
7	Houston	2.11
8	San Antonio	2.08
9	Minneapolis	1.96
10	Philadelphia	1.75
11	Miami	1.62
12	Atlanta	1.58
Average		1.55
13	Kansas City	1.51
14	San Diego	1.47
15	Seattle	1.46
16	Los Angeles	1.45
17	Portland	1.43
18	Nashville	1.42
19	Dallas	1.41
20	Indianapolis	1.40
21	Charlotte	1.35
22	Washington DC	1.31
23	New York	1.29
24	Oklahoma City	1.28
25	Detroit	1.24
26	Milwaukee	1.20
27	San Francisco	1.19
28	Chicago	1.15
29	Baltimore	1.14
30	Columbus	1.12
31	Cleveland	1.08
32	Cincinnati	1.07
33	Memphis	1.00
34	Boston*	0.96
35	**St. Louis**	**0.90**

Source: 1997 Census of Governments

FEDERAL FUNDING

Federal funding per capita, in dollars 2001

1	**Washington DC**	**16,560**
2	Baltimore	7,667
3	Oklahoma City	7,387
4	**St. Louis**	**7,315**
5	San Antonio	7,171
6	San Diego	7,046
7	Pittsburgh	6,906
8	Austin	6,784
9	Boston*	6,510
10	Philadelphia	6,286
11	Cincinnati	6,101
12	San Francisco	6,090
Average		5,958
13	New York	5,941
14	Memphis	5,775
15	Indianapolis	5,650
16	Columbus	5,589
17	Miami	5,556
18	Nashville	5,517
19	Denver	5,475
20	Salt Lake City	5,460
21	Kansas City	5,453
22	Louisville	5,380
23	Seattle	5,343
24	Cleveland	5,277
25	Atlanta	5,187
26	Los Angeles	5,143
27	Detroit	5,127
28	Phoenix	4,925
29	Milwaukee	4,781
30	Chicago	4,539
31	Minneapolis	4,458
32	Portland	4,334
33	Houston	4,295
34	Charlotte	3,771
35	**Dallas**	**3,741**

Source: US Census Bureau, Consolidated Federal Funds Report, 2001

HIGHER

AVERAGE

LOWER

*Indicates Boston NECMA

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Governance is not just the business of government, of course. The level of citizen and civic engagement in public affairs and the extent to which residents are invested in local communities are additional components. The final three variables in this report capture aspects of such community engagement.

The first chart ranks the regions in terms of the percentage of voter-eligible adults who actually voted in the 2000 Presidential election. Almost 60 percent of St. Louis area residents aged 18 and older did, ranking the region 3rd, behind Minneapolis and Milwaukee.

The next two charts describe some of the ways in which citizens show attachment to their communities. One quantifies a "sense of community," measured in terms of homeownership, persons living in the same house for more than five years, access to government, and voter participation rates. The second, the culture and recreation index, is comprised of three indicators: fine arts, broadcasting, and library assets; recreational facilities; and the level of public spending on recreation and culture. St. Louis fares better than the average on both these indices.

VOTER PARTICIPATION

Percent of population aged 18 and older voting in the 2000 Presidential election

1	**Minneapolis**	**68.5**
2	Milwaukee	67.6
3	**St. Louis**	**59.1**
4	Seattle	58.6
4	Portland	58.6
6	Kansas City	58.0
7	Cincinnati	57.1
8	Detroit	56.7
9	Louisville	56.4
10	Boston*	56.1
11	Cleveland	55.7
12	Pittsburgh	55.5
13	Philadelphia	55.2
14	Columbus	53.9
15	Washington DC	52.3
15	Denver	52.3
17	Baltimore	51.5
Average		51.1
18	Memphis	50.7
19	Nashville	50.1
20	Salt Lake City	50.0
21	San Francisco	49.9
22	Chicago	49.4
23	Austin	49.2
24	Charlotte	48.4
25	Indianapolis	48.3
26	Oklahoma City	46.7
27	San Diego	45.9
28	Atlanta	45.5
29	San Antonio	42.7
30	Houston	42.1
31	Dallas	42.0
32	Phoenix	39.6
33	Los Angeles	39.3
34	New York	38.7
35	**Miami**	**36.9**

Source: America Votes, 2000

SENSE OF COMMUNITY

Index of four variables, 2000

1	**Louisville**	**57.1**
2	Pittsburgh	44.4
3	Cincinnati	36.4
3	**St. Louis**	**36.4**
5	Minneapolis	33.3
6	Cleveland	30.8
6	Kansas City	30.8
8	Detroit	28.6
8	Milwaukee	28.6
10	Memphis	25.0
10	Philadelphia	25.0
12	Columbus	23.5
12	Indianapolis	23.5
12	Salt Lake City	23.5
Average		23.4
15	Chicago	22.2
15	Oklahoma City	22.2
17	Boston*	21.1
17	Portland	21.1
17	Seattle	21.1
20	Baltimore	20.0
20	Nashville	20.0
22	Charlotte	19.0
23	San Antonio	18.2
24	Houston	17.4
24	Washington	17.4
26	Dallas	16.7
26	San Diego	16.7
28	Miami	16.0
28	San Francisco	16.0
30	Atlanta	15.4
30	Denver	15.4
30	Phoenix	15.4
33	Austin	14.8
33	Los Angeles	14.8
35	**New York**	**12.5**

Source: America Votes, 2000, 2000 Census and 1997 Census of Governments

CULTURE AND RECREATION INDEX

1	**San Francisco**	**100.0**
2	Phoenix	59.9
2	Chicago	59.9
4	Seattle	50.0
4	Denver	50.0
4	Minneapolis	50.0
4	Salt Lake City	50.0
8	Milwaukee	37.5
8	Washington DC	37.5
8	Detroit	37.5
11	Los Angeles	33.3
11	San Diego	33.3
13	New York	30.0
13	Miami	30.0
15	Cleveland	27.2
15	Portland	27.2
15	**St. Louis**	**27.2**
18	Nashville	25.0
18	Kansas City	25.0
18	Dallas	25.0
18	Indianapolis	25.0
Average		24.7
22	Baltimore	23.1
22	Houston	23.1
24	Cincinnati	21.4
25	Pittsburgh	20.0
25	Philadelphia	20.0
25	Boston	20.0
25	Atlanta	20.0
29	Oklahoma City	18.8
30	Louisville	17.6
30	Memphis	17.6
32	Austin	15.8
33	San Antonio	14.3
34	Charlotte	11.1
35	**Columbus**	**10.7**

Source: Places Rated Almanac, 1997 Census of Governments

HIGHER

AVERAGE

LOWER

HOW FAR WE'VE COME

HOW FAR WE'VE COME

BACKGROUND

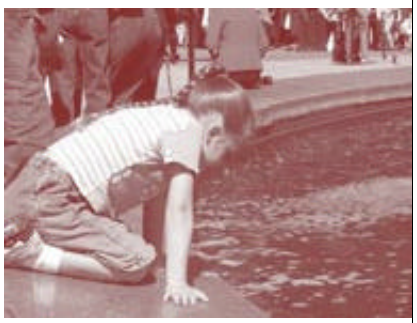
In December 1992, East-West Gateway published a small report entitled *Where We Stand: A Strategic Assessment of the St. Louis Region.* It presented data about the bi-state region that painted a clear picture of our standing in the national marketplace, challenging some of our long-held notions about how we see ourselves and how we measure success. Its message was viewed by some as a revelation, but was met with anger, resistance, and denial by others.

The introduction to the report cited newly-released data and offered the following comment:

> The 1990 Census suggests that the region is losing ground to other metropolitan areas in securing those human resources vital to regional well-being. During the 1980s, the region's population grew by less than 3 percent. This increase masks the fact that during the decade 95,000 people moved out of the region to pursue opportunities elsewhere. That statistic, more than any other, raises questions about our ability to maintain regional vitality while employing what often has been a fragmented, localized, and single-issue approach to problem-solving.

The report went on to pose the questions that provided the impetus for the study.

- How well is the region performing in those challenges facing the nation's major metropolitan areas? Are we satisfied with our performance?
- Where do we stand in comparison to other metropolitan areas that we compete with for human and economic resources? Are we confident about our competitive ability?
- Is the region making the strategic decisions necessary to elevate our standing in the national marketplace? What is required to broaden and strengthen our approach to problem-solving?



The original report was updated twice, once in 1996 and again in 1999. All three editions have been widely circulated and read, often cited, and sometimes credited with inspiring spin-off studies.

But has the information made a difference? Has the region responded with the course of action needed to "elevate our standing in the national marketplace"? That is the essential question in this concluding section of

the fourth edition of *Where We Stand*.

Following are some of the most notable themes in the region's changing profile in the ten years since the first report.[1]

- **St. Louis' population grew at a stronger rate in the 1990s than it did in the 1980s, but the region is slowly slipping backward among our peers.**

The 1992 edition of *Where We Stand* noted that St. Louis ranked 12th among the peer regions in terms of population, down from 9th in 1980. In 2000, St. Louis ranked 13th among the 30 metros in the original study, having stepped back to make room for Phoenix among the top third of regions. Phoenix experienced a 45 percent increase in population between 1990 and 2000, compared to 4.5 percent for St. Louis.

Seventh from the bottom of the metros in rate of population change in the decade of the 1980s, St. Louis dropped to 5th lowest in the 1990s (despite an increase of 60 percent in our rate of growth). The region lost ground among our peers on this variable in part because two of the metros that lagged behind St. Louis in population growth between 1980 and 1990 (Chicago and Louisville) pushed significantly ahead. Louisville's story is the most notable: not only did it move from 27th to 19th among the original 30 peers in population growth, but it reversed itself from a decade of having lost 51,000 people to a decade net of 17,000 moving in.

- **The median age of St. Louis area residents is increasing at a faster rate than is true for most of the peer metros.**

In 1990, St. Louis ranked 12th among the metros in median age of population (33 years). By 2000, our rank had risen to 8th (36 years), having surpassed Miami, Seattle, Portland, and New York.

Interestingly, the percentage of our population in each of the three major age groups (under 18, 18-65, and 65 and older) remained virtually the same between 1990 and 2000. Our ranking declined somewhat among the peers in concentration of children and youth, however, and increased slightly in terms of older adults. Those regions with increasing proportions of children and youth are those that are growing faster, overall, and those with greater racial and ethnic diversity.

TRENDS

[1] The original *Where We Stand* report included only 30 metropolitan areas. In the first update in 1996, five additional metros were added: Charlotte, Austin, San Antonio, San Diego, and Salt Lake City. These same 35 metros were used for analysis in earlier sections of this report. Most of the trend analysis in this section, however, starts from the 1992 report and compares St. Louis to the original 30. Exceptions are noted.

- **Four metros passed St. Louis in the percentage of households that are families.**[2]

Although the rate of change slowed somewhat after 1990, the number of households in almost all of the metros continued to grow at a faster rate than did their population as a whole. St. Louis ranked slightly higher on household growth (28th among 35 regions) than population growth (31st) by 2000.

At the same time, most of the metros experienced a decrease in the proportion of their households that are families. St. Louis still scores high in the percentage of family households, but the region was surpassed by four of the 30 metros in the original study during the decade. Two of these gained slightly in the share of family households (Dallas and Los Angeles) and two stayed the same (Phoenix and Chicago).

St. Louis' ranking in the proportion of births to teen-aged parents dropped slightly from 9th in 1988 to 11th among the 30 original metros in 1998, although the percentage changed by only one point. The region's ranking on births to unwed parents remained steady at 11th, but the actual percentage of births to unwed parents increased from 30 percent to 36 percent during that time period.

- **The region held its own in the rankings of educational attainment.**

Between 1990 and 2000, the percentage of the region's adults aged 25 and older with high school diplomas increased from 76 to 84 percent and the percentage of those with bachelor's or higher level degrees increased from 21 to 25 percent. All of the regions progressed on these two variables, however, and when compared with the 30 metros of the original *Where We Stand* study, St. Louis' rank remains essentially unchanged.

The region made more notable progress in relationship to decreasing adult illiteracy. The percentage of adults with less than a 9th grade education declined from 10 in 1990 to less than 6 in 2000. In the 1992 edition of *Where We Stand*, only four metros ranked higher (worse) than St. Louis on this measure. By 2000, St. Louis ranked 13th among the original 30.

In 2000, the St. Louis MSA ranked somewhat lower than the average of the metros in the percentage of adults enrolled in post-secondary education and higher than the average in the proportion of young children enrolled in preschool—just as we did in 1990.

[2] The Census Bureau considers families to be the subset of households that are comprised of persons living together who are related by blood, marriage, or adoption. Single persons living alone and non-related persons living together are also considered "households," but they are not counted as "families."

- **The region's mediocre standing in job and business growth gradually worsened during the decade.**

St. Louis' rate of growth in jobs between 1980 and 1989 (almost 20 percent) ranked us 19th among the 30 metros in the original strategic assessment. Subsequent updates show the region slipping farther behind on this variable. Between 1990 and 1996, we fell to 20th among the original 30 in employment change. By 2000, we were next-to-last among the peers, with a job growth rate higher only than that of Cleveland.

The pattern on business growth is similar. With an increase of 31 percent and a ranking of 21st, St. Louis led the bottom third of the metros in growth of business establishments between 1980 and 1989. Between 1990 and 1996, the percentage growth in firms had dropped to 24th. For the time period 1996-1999, St. Louis ranked 26th—fourth from the bottom of the original 30 regions.

The region slipped from 15th to 19th in average earnings per job between the first *Where We Stand* report and this 2002 edition. At the same time, the region's standing on unemployment improved—falling from 8th highest (where 1st is worst) among the 30 original peers during the time period 1987-1991 to 11th between 1997 and 2001.

- **St. Louis continues to rank high in the number of premature deaths.**

In 1991, St. Louis ranked 2nd highest among the metros in deaths from unintentional ("accidental") causes. By 1998, the region's rank had fallen to 6th—not because St. Louis improved its rate (which was 35.9 per 100,000 population in 1991 and 35.8 in 1998), but because four other metros experienced significant increases and moved ahead of us in the ranks. These metros were Oklahoma City, which was tied with St. Louis in 1991, Phoenix, Philadelphia, and Nashville. The most prevalent cause of unintentional injury deaths is from motor vehicle crashes, which comprise almost half the deaths from this cause.

The infant mortality rate in the St. Louis metropolitan area has improved during the past ten years, but our ranking among the peer regions has declined significantly. In 1988, St. Louis ranked 18th highest among the metros, with almost 10 infant deaths per 1,000 live births. In 1998, the rate had declined to less than 8, but this improvement was not commensurate with that of many of the other metros—such as Atlanta, Louisville, New York, and others. We ranked 7th highest in infant mortality that year.

- **We have seen no real progress in closing the racial disparity gap.**

In 1990, the St. Louis metropolitan area had the 5th highest rate of disparity between African-Americans and whites on an index of 15 health, housing, and economic variables. In 2000, this ranking had improved to 11th, although the regional score was no better than ten years earlier. Memphis and St. Louis each experienced an increase in the numerical disparity measure.

- **Crime rates have improved dramatically, nationwide, but St. Louis' ranking has not kept up on all indicators.**

Expressed as total crimes per 100,000 population, the average overall crime rate among the metros declined by almost 30 percent between 1991 and 2000. Progress in reducing crime in St. Louis, while considerable, was uneven. Where first is worst and 30th is best, the region rose from 19th to 14th in the overall crime rate during the decade. We were also 14th among the original 30 metros in property crime in 2000, up from 21st in 1991. Our rank of 13th in violent crime remained the same.

St. Louis has had the most severe ratio of central city to suburban crime rates of all the metros in each of the four editions of *Where We Stand*. In part, this is an artifact of the City's small size relative to the other anchor cities. It is notable that the ratio increased steadily between 1991 and 1997, when it peaked and has since declined slightly.

- **Long considered one of the nation's most affordable regions, St. Louis continues to do well.**

In 1991, almost 67 percent of St. Louis area housing was affordable for households earning the median income; we ranked 13th among the metro regions on this indicator. By 2000, St. Louis had risen on the charts to 8th most affordable—with nearly 75 percent of housing within reach of the median income family. The median household income for the St. Louis region was $44,437 annually—almost 5 percent less than the average for the peer regions.

The region ranked 19th among the original 30 metros in average earnings per job in 1999—down from 15th place in 1989. But, when adjusted for cost of living, the purchasing power associated with these earnings is far greater.

- **St. Louisans enjoy the notion that their local government is close at hand—with good reason.**

St. Louis ranks 3rd among the metros in terms of "sense of community." The sense of community index is comprised of four variables quantifying homeownership and voter participation rates, the length of time people stay in their homes, and access to government. This last measure is one in which St. Louis has also maintained a very high rank among the metros in each edition of *Where We Stand.* We were 4th among the metros in total units of local government in 1987, and 5th in 1997. When measured on a per capita basis, St. Louis ranked second only to Pittsburgh in both the first and fourth editions of this report.

It is important to note that the number of units of local government is increasing in most of the peer regions. This is part of a nationwide trend toward creating special purpose taxing districts to address specific urban problems.[3] In 1987, St. Louis had 692 local governments, and in 1997 we had 788. Local governments increased from 28 per 100,000 people to 31—tied with Indianapolis.

- **St. Louis remains among the most conservative of the peers in taxing and spending, and in local government debt.**

In 1987, St. Louis ranked second-lowest to Boston in local government revenue as a percent of total personal income in the region. By 1997, St. Louis and Boston were tied for last place. The region maintained a third-from-last position throughout the decade in terms of local government spending per capita, and fell three ranks to last place in the ratio of local government debt to revenue.

In contrast to these patterns, however, the region maintained a close-to-average score on per-pupil expenditures for public education—in 1987 and 1997.

While public sector investment remained modest, improvements have been notable in the availability of private funds for investment. In 1990, the St. Louis metropolitan area ranked 24th out of 30 in the ratio of bank loans to deposits. By 2000, our rank among the original 30 metropolitan regions had risen to 16th—signaling a considerable "loosening up" of private sector funds.

[3] See page 11.

CONCLUSION

In 1992, *Where We Stand* revealed some serious weaknesses in our region's competitive position. Without exception, those same problems exist today—many of them measurably worse than a decade ago. We are not growing at a rate comparable to our peers. Nor are our citizens as healthy or as educated as our competitors. The social equity issues that sap our economic productivity and divide our community are unabated.

In other ways, our community is a good, comfortable home. We participate in local government. We vote. We own our homes. Our taxes are low. So many of us can afford to live well—better than we could live elsewhere.

Both these views are substantiated in the data. But the contrast between them is remarkable. Perhaps it explains why we are slow to attack problems and why we do not welcome change. It also forecasts continued decline if we leave trends to take their course without intervention. The obvious question to conclude this report is: How much longer can we be so very comfortable and indifferent to the problems clearly visible ahead?

SOURCES AND NOTES

Metro Area Population, Population Density, and Land Area: *Population* includes all people, male and female, child and adult, living in a metropolitan area. *Population density* is expressed as persons per square mile of land area. 2000 Census of Population and Housing: Summary File 1 (SF1), U.S. Bureau of the Census. For more information, see www.census.gov.

ST. LOUIS AND OUR PEER REGIONS

DEMOGRAPHICS

Metro Area Population, Central City Population, and Population Change: *Population* includes all people, male and female, child and adult, living in a metropolitan area. 1990 Census of Population and Housing: Summary Tape File 3 (STF3), and 2000 Census of Population and Housing: Summary File 1 (SF1), U.S. Bureau of the Census.

Net Migration: An attempt to reconcile two different components of population change—*natural increase* (births minus deaths) and *migration* (people moving into or out of a region). If there were no in or out migration, population change would equal the natural increase. However, when the natural increase is greater than the population change between two periods in time, this indicates out migration from the region. Thus, in the St. Louis metropolitan area, the natural increase of population between 1990 and 2000 was 47,000 greater than the actual population change over this period, indicating an out-migration of 47,000 residents. 2001 County and City Extra, Annual Metro City and County Data Book, 10th Edition, Automated Graphic Systems, Inc.

Population by Race and Ethnicity: Note that Hispanic is an ethnic category, not a racial one. For example, a person can be white (by race) and Hispanic (by ethnic origin). 2000 Census of Population and Housing: Summary File 1 (SF1), U.S. Bureau of the Census.

Age Distribution: *Median age* is based upon a division of the age distribution of a metropolitan area into two equal parts: one-half of the population falling below the median value and one-half above the median value. 2000 Census of Population and Housing: Summary File 1 (SF1), U.S. Bureau of the Census.

Immigration: Data reported are for new immigrants (those arriving in the Unites States between 1990 and 2000). Data are from 2000 Census and prepared by the Lewis Mumford Center for Comparative Research at the New York State University, Albany (Copyright 2002). To download data, see www.albany.edu/mumford/census/.

Household Composition and Growth: *Households* are defined to include all persons occupying a single housing unit, whether related or not. A *family household* includes a householder and one or more people living in the same household who are related to the householder by birth, marriage, or adoption. 1990 Census of Population and Housing: Summary Tape File 3 (STF3), and 2000 Census of Population and Housing: Summary File 1 (SF1), U.S. Bureau of the Census.

HOUSEHOLD INCOME AND WEALTH

Household Income, Purchasing Power, and Income from Earnings: Divides the income distribution of households into two equal groups, one having incomes above the median and the other having incomes below the median. *Earnings* refers to the sum of wage and salary income, other labor income and proprietor's income. 2000 Census of Population and Housing: Summary File 1 (SF1), U.S. Bureau of the Census.

Family Poverty Rate: The poverty rate in 1999, the reference point for the 2000 Census, was based on a threshold of $8,501 for individuals and $17,029 for a family of four. 2000 Census of Population and Housing: Summary File 1 (SF1), U.S. Bureau of the Census.

Economic Disparity Index: Based on the ratio between central city to suburban residents using five variables. **1-5.** Percent of housing units with costs exceeding 35 percent of income, percent unemployment, percent persons below the poverty level, percent growth in per capita income 1989 to 1999, percent of households receiving public assistance income. 1990 Census of Population and Housing: Summary File 3 (STF3), and 2000 Census of Population and Housing: Summary File 3 (SF3), U.S. Bureau of the Census.

Housing Opportunity: The percent of a region's housing stock that a household with the median regional income could afford to buy. Housing Economics, National Association of Home Builders, third quarter 2002 (copyright).

Home Prices: Median sales price for existing single-family homes based on existing home sales data reported by the National Association of Realtors, 2001. The data can be downloaded at www.realtor.org.

Homeownership: Total home-owning households as a percent of total households. 2000 Census of Population and Housing: Summary File 1 (SF1), U.S. Bureau of the Census.

Racial Disparity in Refinance Loans: Ratio of upper-income African American to upper-income whites loans in subprime lending market. Risk or Race? Racial Disparities and the Subprime Refinance Market, Calvin Bradford and Calvin Bradford and Associates, Ltd, prepared for the Center for Community Change, May 2002. The report can be downloaded at www.communitychange.org.

EDUCATIONAL PERFORMANCE

Educational Attainment and Enrollment: The highest level of education completed by the population age 25 and older. *Enrollment* refers to the percent of individuals enrolled in educational programs at the time the Census was taken. 2000 Census of Population and Housing: Summary File 3 (SF3), U.S. Bureau of the Census.

Pupil to Teacher Ratio: The number of elementary and secondary school students per educational instructor. Common Core Data Agency Survey, 1999-2000, National Center for Education Statistics, U.S. Department of Education.

Educational Spending Per Pupil: Calculated by dividing the expenditure commitment of school districts by the number of students enrolled in educational programs. Common Core Data Agency Survey, 1999-2000, National Center for Education Statistics, U.S. Department of Education.

Educational Spending Rate: Based upon the total educational expenditure commitment of school districts as a percent of total personal income. *Expenditures:* Common Core Data Agency Survey, 1999-2000, National Center for Education Statistics, U.S. Department of Education. *Personal Income:* Regional Economic Information System, 2000, Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Department of Commerce.

ECONOMIC VITALITY

Job Growth, Service Sector and Manufacturing Employment Change, and Earnings Per Job: *Jobs* are full and part-time employment positions existing during the calendar year. *Service sector jobs* include all employment categories except mining, construction, and manufacturing. *Earnings* is the sum of wage and salary income, other labor income, and proprietor's income, rental income, personal dividend and interest income, and government and business transfer payments less personal contributions for social security. Regional Economic Information System, 1996-1999, Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Department of Commerce. www.bea.gov/bea/regional/reis/.

Unemployment Rate: The percentage of the labor force that is unemployed. Local Area Unemployment Statistics Program, Bureau of Labor Statistics. To download the information, see www.bls.gov/cps/.

Growth in Business Establishments: The change in the total number of business establishments. 1996 and 1999 County Business Patterns, U.S. Bureau of the Census. www.census.gov/epcd/cbp/view/cbpview.html.

Firms owned by African-Americans, Firms Owned by Women: Based on the race, ethnicity, or gender of the person(s) owning a majority interest in a business. 1997 Economic Census, U.S. Bureau of the Census. www.census.gov/epcd/ www/econ97.html.

Growth in Gross Metropolitan Product, Gross Metropolitan Product: The economic output of goods and services a metropolitan area produces. U.S. Metro Economies: The Engines of America's Growth, DRI-WEFA, Inc, 2001, prepared for the United States Conference of Mayors.

Ratio of Bank Loans to Deposits: A ratio of total bank loans to total bank deposits for insured commercial banks. This measure provides an indication of the availability of financing capital within a metropolitan area. Data are from an unpublished table provided by the Federal Reserve Bank of St Louis, 2001.

Utility Patents: The number of utility patent grants (i.e., patents for invention). The geographic distribution of patents is based on the residence of the inventor. United States Patent Grants by State, County, and Metropolitan Area: 1999, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Department of Commerce.

Foreign Export of Goods: All figures show sales by exporters of record located in metropolitan area. The sales location may or may not coincide with the location of production. Exporter Location Series, 1999, Office of Trade and Economic Analysis, International Trade Administration. www.ita.doc.gov.

New Economy Index: Rankings based upon five categories of indicators: knowledge jobs, globalization, economic dynamism, the digital economy, and innovation capacity. The index is prepared by the Progressive Policy Institute Technology Project. www.neweconomyindex.org.

SOURCES AND NOTES

INDIVIDUAL AND FAMILY WELL-BEING

Birth Statistics: Data on births to unwed parents and teenage mothers are based on the percent of total live births. Teenage mothers are between the ages of 15 and 19. Vital Statistics of the United States, 1997: Vol. 1, Natality, National Center for Health Statistics, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Infant Mortality Rate: The number of deaths for infants less than one year of age per 1,000 live births for 1998. Health and Health Care in the United States, 2nd Edition 2000, edited by Richard K. Thomas, PH.D., Nations Health Corporation.

AIDS Risk: The total number of people diagnosed with AIDS per 100,000 population. HIV/AIDS Surveillance Report Vol. 13, No.1 (annual), Center for Disease Control, National Center for Health Statistics.

Primary Care Physicians: Family practitioners, internal medicine physicians, obstetricians, gynecologists and pediatricians. Physicians employed by the federal government are not included. Physician Characteristics and Distribution within the United States, American Medical Association, 1997.

Health Insurance: The percentage of all persons aged birth to 65 that do not have any type of health insurance coverage. Disparities In Health Insurance and Access to Care for Residents Across U.S. Cities, prepared by Richard Brown, Roberta Wyn and Stephanie Teleki, UCLA Center for Health Policy Research, Commonwealth Fund, August 2000. To download the report, see www.cmwf.org.

Death Rates from Heart Disease, Cancer, Accidental Causes, Motor Vehicle Crashes, and Suicide: All rates are calculated per 100,000 population. *Cancer deaths* include all deaths due to a malignant neoplasm. *Accidental deaths* are attributed to motor vehicle crashes and other accidents or adverse effects. *Motor vehicle deaths* are attributed specifically to injuries and accidents involving motor vehicles. Health and Health Care in the United States, 2nd Edition 2000, edited by Richard K. Thomas, PH.D., Nations Health Corporation.

Poverty Rates: Rate in 2000 based on a threshold of $8,794 for individuals and $17,603 for a family of four. 2000 Census of Population and Housing: Summary File 3 (SF3), U.S. Bureau of the Census.

INDIVIDUAL AND FAMILY WELL-BEING

Racial Disparity Index: Twelve variables based on the ratio between values for African-Americans and whites (except *isolation*). The variables are: **1-2.** Percent of regional population by race living in central city, and percent of households with incomes below the poverty level. 2000 Census of Population and Housing: Summary File 3(SF3), U.S. Bureau of the Census; **3–5.** Percent of housing units with neighborhood problems, percent of households with housing costs exceeding 35 percent of income on housing, and percent of housing units occupied by owners. American Housing Survey for Metropolitan Areas, 1996 - 1999, U.S. Bureau of the Census; **6-7**. Percent of labor force by race employed as executives, administrators, managers and in professional specialty occupations, and percent of labor force by race employed as operators, fabricators, laborers and in service occupations. Geographic Profile of Employment and Unemployment, 1999, Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor; **8-9**. Infant death rate and percent of births to unwed mothers. 1997 Multiple Cause-of-Death File, Vital and Health Statistics, CD-Rom Series 20, No. 18, November 2001, Department of Health and Human Services, and Vital Statistics of the United States, 1997: vol 1, Natality, National Center for Health Statistics, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; **10-11** Percent unemployed, and per capita income. 2000 Census of Population and Housing: Summary File 3 (SF3), U.S. Bureau of the Census; **12.** Isolation Index: measures the percentage of black residents in the census tract where the average black resident lives. Racial Segregation in the 2000 Census: Promising News, Edward L. Glaeser, Harvard University and the Brookings Institution, and Jacob L. Vigdor, Terry Sanford Institute of Public Policy, April 2001.

Disparity in Infant Mortality: Ratio of white to African-American infant death rates. 1997 Multiple Cause-of-Death File, Vital and Health Statistics, CD-Rom Series 20, No. 18, November 2001, Department of Health and Human Services, and Vital Statistics of the United States, 1997: vol 1, Natality, National Center for Health Statistics, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Disparity in Unemployment: Ratio of white to African-American unemployment rates. Geographic Profile of Employment and Unemployment, 1999, Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor.

Disparity in Housing Opportunity: Ratio of whites and African-Americans households with housing costs exceeding more than 35 percent of income. American Housing Survey for Metropolitan Areas, 1996-1999, U.S. Bureau of the Census.

SOURCES AND NOTES

CRIME AND SOCIAL DISORDER

Crime Rates: Based on the number of crimes per 100,000 population. The central city to suburban crime ratio is the product of the central city's total crime rate divided by the crime rate in the balance of the metropolitan region. Crime in the United States (Annual), Federal Bureau of Investigation, U.S. Department of Justice, 2000. Metropolitan Crime Data for St. Louis obtained from: Missouri Crime Summary, State of Missouri Department of Public Safety, Missouri State Highway Patrol, 2000, and Crime in Illinois, Illinois State Police, 2000 (for the Illinois portion of St. Louis, as well as the Chicago metropolitan area).

URBAN FORM AND PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

Change in Urbanized Land and Density: The data on acres of urbanized land and density in the report are derived from the National Resources Inventory's national survey of land use, conducted every five years. This is the first nationwide study to define density based on an actual measurement of urbanized land use data rather than the census definition of "urbanized area," which is not based on land use. *Density* is the population divided by the urbanized land area. Who Sprawls Most? How Growth Patterns Differ Across the U.S., William Fulton et al., Brookings Institution Center on Urban and Metropolitan Policy, July 2001. To download the report, see www.brookings.edu.

Population Dispersal Rates: Calculated as the percent change in population outside the principal urban county—St. Louis City and St. Louis County. 1990 Census of Population and Housing: Summary Tape File 3 (STF3), and the 2000 Census of Population and Housing: Summary File 3 (SF3).

Employment Dispersal Rates: Calculated as the percent change in employment outside the principal urban county—St. Louis City and St. Louis County. 1990 Census of Population and Housing: Summary Tape File 3 (STF3), and the 1998 County Business Patterns, U.S. Bureau of the Census.

Air Quality: September 2001, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The EPA considers air quality unhealthy when the ozone values exceed an air quality index value of 100 on a scale of 1 to 500. Latest Findings on National Air Quality: 2000 Status and Trends.

Water Quality: Compiled from two indices: *condition* and *vulnerability*. Both indices were developed by the U.S. EPA for the purpose of measuring the health of watersheds. *Condition* is comprised of 6 indicators including designated use attainment, fish and wildlife consumption advisories, source water conditions, contaminated sediments, ambient water quality index—four toxic pollutants, ambient water quality index—four conventional pollutants, and a wetland loss index.

URBAN FORM AND PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

Vulnerability is based on eight variables: aquatic species at risk, toxic loads over permitted limits, urban runoff potential, index of agricultural runoff potential, population change, hydrologic modification, estuarine pollution susceptibility index, and air deposition. The EPA scores each watershed based on these variables, derives the two indices, and then develops a category (1-6) based on the watershed's overall water quality and vulnerability to pressures. An average value for each watershed was then developed from the index scores. Index of Watershed Indicators, 1999, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. For further information, see www.epa.gov/win.

Vacant housing: A housing unit is vacant if no one is living in it at the time of enumeration, unless its occupants are only temporarily absent. Units temporarily occupied at the time of enumeration entirely by people who have a usual residence elsewhere are also classified as vacant. 2000 Census of Population and Housing: Summary File 3 (SF3), U.S. Bureau of the Census.

Road Network and Daily Vehicle Miles of Travel: The geography used on this measure is the Federal Highway Administration's definition of urbanized area for each MSA, which is not necessarily coterminous with MSA boundaries. Highway Statistics 2000, Federal Highway Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation.

Roadway Congestion Index: An estimated measure of the intensity and duration of congestion. Values greater than 1.0 indicate the existence of area wide congestion. 2002 Urban Mobility Study, Texas Transportation Institute, Texas A&M University. The report is available at http://mobility.tamu.edu.

Transit Service and Transit Use: *Transit service* is the total number of seat miles in revenue service. This indicator is developed by multiplying the average number of seats by mode times the revenue miles of service provided by mode, and then aggregating seat miles in revenue service for all modes by agency. *Transit use* is the number of revenue (or in-service) vehicle hours of travel per household without a vehicle. Transit data: Transit Profiles for Agencies in Urbanized Areas Exceeding 200,000 Population, 2000 and the National Transit Database 2000, Federal Transit Administration, U.S Department of Transportation; *Households without vehicles:* 2000 Census of Population and Housing: Summary File 3 (SF3).

LEADERSHIP, GOVERNANCE, AND PUBLIC SERVICE

Units of Local Government: Includes county, municipal and township governments, along with independent school districts and special districts. 1997 Census of Governments: Government Organization, vol. 1, No. 1, U.S. Bureau of the Census.

Ratio of Local Government to Citizens, Metro Area Municipalities, School Districts: The number of government units per 100,000 population. 1997 Census of Governments: Government Organization, vol. 1, No. 1, U.S. Bureau of the Census.

Local Government Revenue: Revenue from local taxes or other local sources based on a percent of total personal income. *Revenue:* 1997 Census of Governments: Government Finances, vol. 4, Compendium of Government Finances, No. 5, U.S. Bureau of the Census. *Total Personal Income:* Regional Economic Information System, 1969-1999, Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Department of Commerce. www.bea.gov/bea/regional/reis/.

Reliance on Property Tax: Property tax revenue as a percent of all local tax revenue. 1997 Census of Governments: Government Finances, vol. 4, Compendium of Government Finances, No. 5, U.S. Bureau of the Census.

Local Government Spending: Total direct expenditures per capita. 1997 Census of Governments: Government Finances, vol. 4, Compendium of Government Finances, No. 5, U.S. Bureau of the Census.

Local Government Debt: Ratio of local government debt to local government revenue (income from local taxes or other local sources). 1997 Census of Governments: Government Finances, vol. 4, Compendium of Government Finances, No. 5, U.S. Bureau of the Census.

Federal Funding: Grant awards, salaries and wages, direct payments to individuals, procurement contracts and loans per capita. Consolidated Federal Funds Report: Fiscal Year 2001, U.S. Bureau of the Census, for the Office of Management and Budget.

Voter Participation: Percent of the population age 18 or older voting in the 2000 general election. Richard M. Scammon, Alice V. McGillivray, Rhodes Cook, America Votes 24, Elections Research Center, 2000.

LEADERSHIP, GOVERNANCE, AND PUBLIC SERVICE

Sense of Community Index: Based on four variables: **1.** Municipal governments per 100,000 population. 1997 Census of Governments: Government Organization, vol. 1, No. 1, U.S. Bureau of the Census; **2.** Percent of the population age 18 or older voting in the 2000 general election. Richard M. Scammon, Alice V. McGillivray, Rhodes Cook, America Votes 24, Elections Research Center, 2000. **3.** Percent owner-occupied housing units. 2000 Census of Population and Housing: Summary File 3 (SF3), U.S. Bureau of the Census; **4.** Percent of persons living in the same house or county in 2000 as in 1995. 2000 Census of Population and Housing: Summary File 3 (SF3), U.S. Bureau of the Census.

Culture and Recreation Index: Based on three variables: **1-2**. *Fine Arts* (including measures of fine arts broadcasting, museums and galleries, and cultural events); *Recreation* (including measures for recreational facilities, events, and opportunities): Places Rated Almanac, Richard Boyer and David Savageau, Prentice Hall New York (2000, copyright); **3.** Per capita local government expenditures for natural resources, and parks and recreation: 1997 Census of Governments: Government Finances, vol. 4, Compendium of Government Finances, No. 5, U.S. Bureau of the Census.

METHODOLOGY FOR DEVELOPING INDICES

The same methodology was used in developing all indices, including culture and recreation, sense of community, economic disparity, and racial disparity. Each index value is developed from multiple variables. In compiling the indices, each variable within an index was assigned a decile score. To obtain a decile score, the range of values (highest to lowest) for each individual variable among the 35 metropolitan areas was divided into ten percent increments. The highest ten percent increment was given a value of one, the lowest was given a value of ten. Each metropolitan area was then assigned a decile score of 1 to 10 for each variable, depending on the increment into which an area's value fell. The decile scores for all variables within an index were then summed for each metropolitan area and divided by the number of variables to obtain an index value. That index value was used in ranking the metro areas. To ease interpretation, reciprocal values were used for the sense of community and culture and recreation indices. Each index gives an indication of the region's relative standing.