

Numbers alone can never capture the essence of a city, but they can spark a conversation among leaders about a city's opportunities and challenges. This document shows data for your city alongside similar data for selected other cities, on a wide variety of metrics. We show comparative data so that you get a sense of the range of possibilities. We want to emphasize, however: the data don't show that some cities are "better" than others, and we aren't suggesting that America's cities are competing against each other. To the contrary, all of them can improve simultaneously, and they improve fastest when they learn from each other.

U.S. COMPETITIVENESS: NASHVILLE DATA BOOK

Young American Leaders Program

June 24-27, 2025

HARVARD | BUSINESS | SCHOOL
U.S. Competitiveness Project

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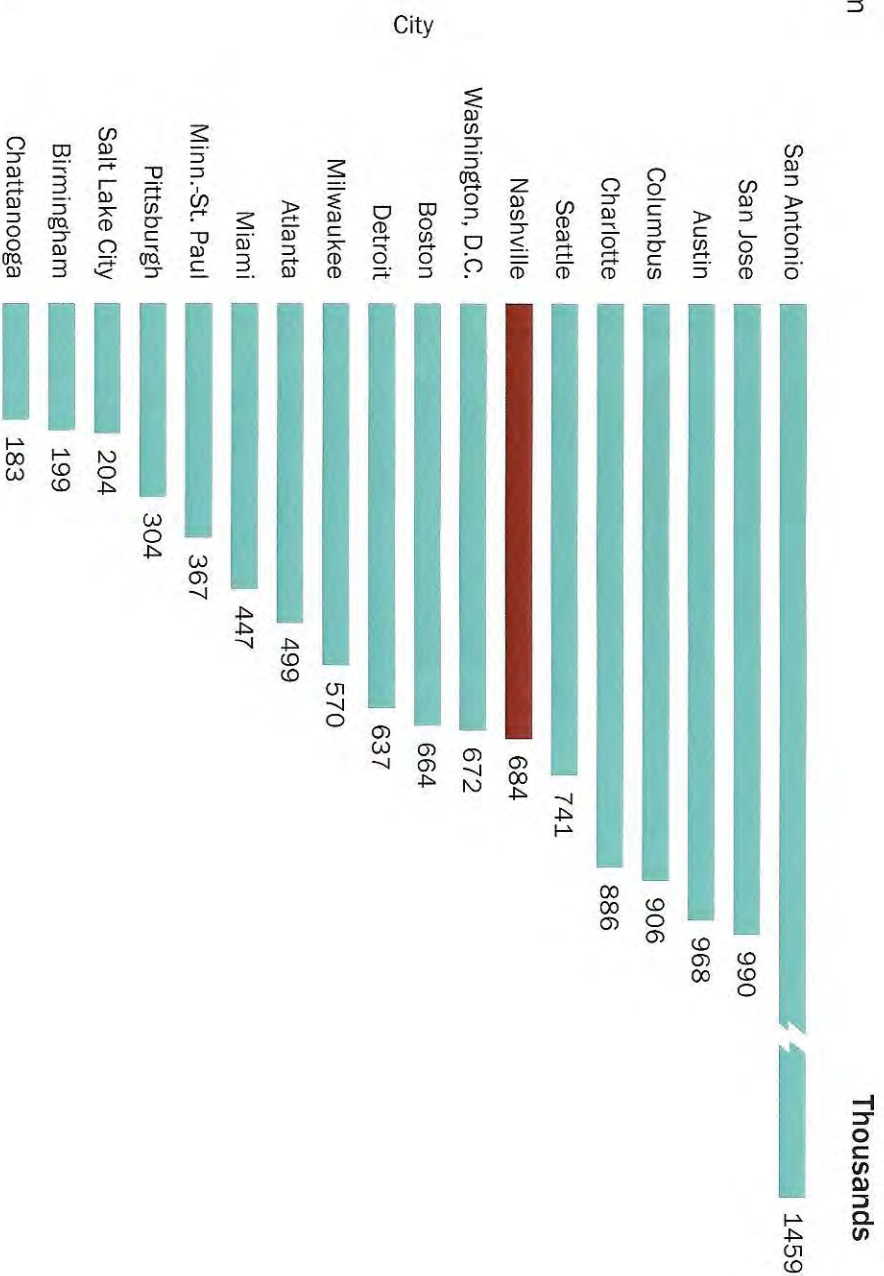
APPENDIX

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

This data book is modeled in part after the Community Research Partners' benchmarking study "Benchmarking Central Ohio 2013," commissioned by the Columbus Partnership and The Columbus Foundation, available at <http://www.leadershipcolumbus.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/BenchmarkingCentralOhio2013.pdf>.

DEMOGRAPHICS: CITY POPULATION, 2023

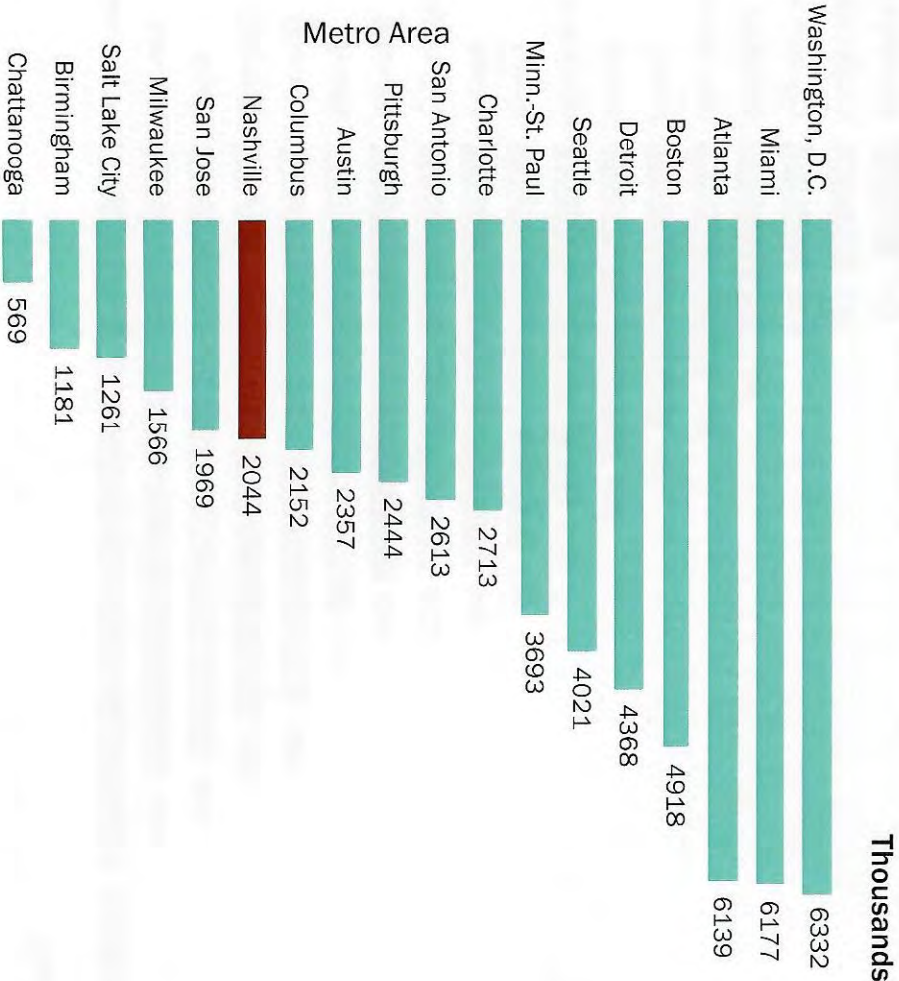
This chart shows the total population of each city in 2023. The data are from the U.S. Census Bureau's 5-Year American Community Survey.



Notes: Nashville figure is reported for metro government of Nashville and Davidson County.

DEMOGRAPHICS: MSA POPULATION, 2023

This chart shows the total population of each Metropolitan Statistical Area in 2023. The data are from the U.S. Census Bureau's 5-Year American Community Survey.



DEMOGRAPHICS: COMPOUND ANNUAL GROWTH RATE IN POPULATION, 2005–2023

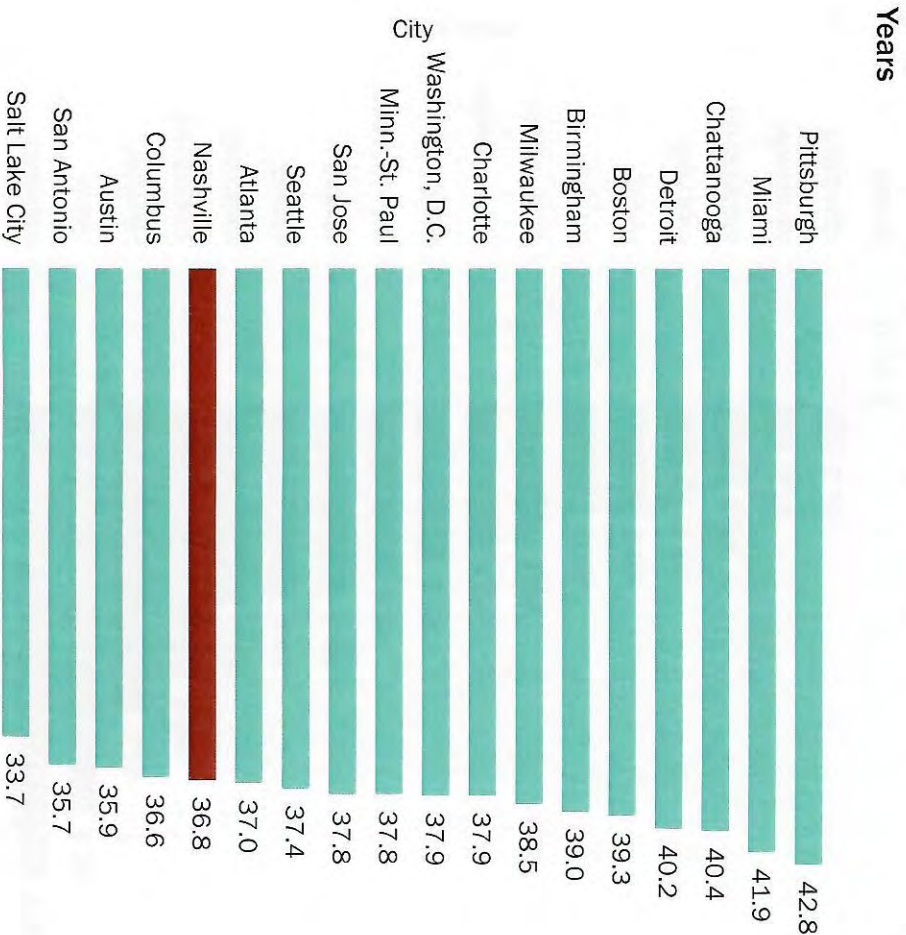
This chart shows the annual growth rate of the total population of each Metropolitan Statistical Area from 2005 to 2023. The data are from the U.S. Census Bureau's 5-Year American Community Surveys.



Notes: The American Community Survey results for 2005 and 2023 use different Censuses for its weighting procedure, which can reduce comparability across years. Also, Metropolitan Statistical Areas boundaries were redefined between 2005 and 2023. The redefinitions may have a moderate effect on calculations of changes over time.

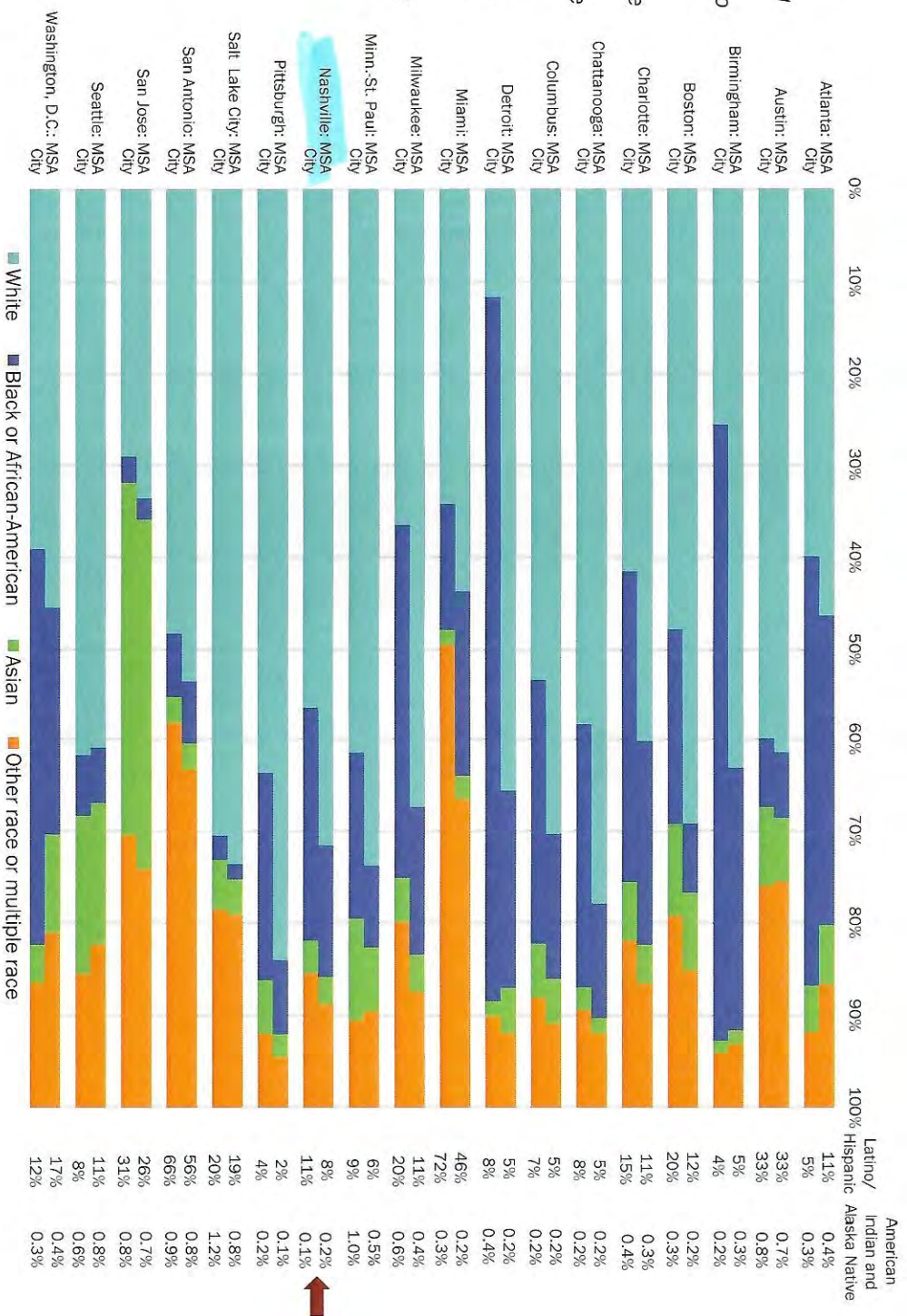
DEMOGRAPHICS: MEDIAN AGE, 2023

This chart shows the median age of the total population in each Metropolitan Statistical Area. The data are from the U.S. Census Bureau's 5-Year American Community Survey.



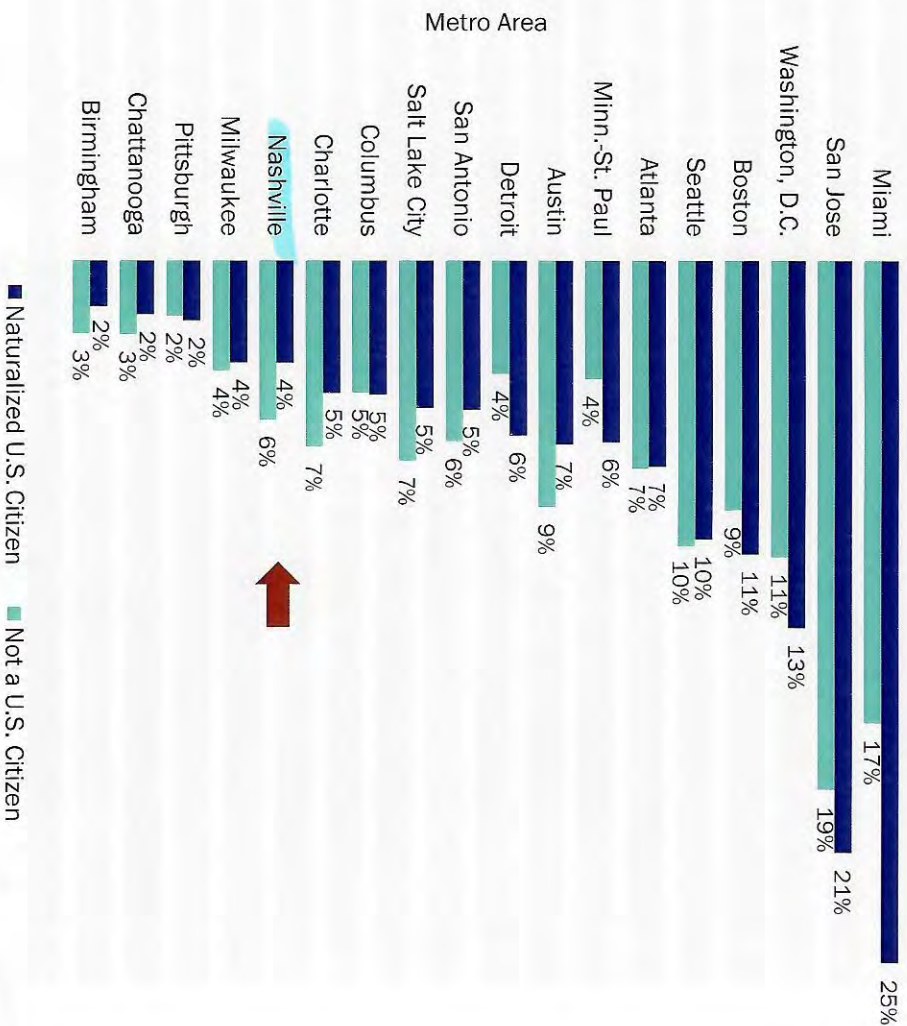
DEMOGRAPHICS: RACE AND ETHNICITY, 2023

This chart shows the racial and ethnic composition of each Metropolitan Statistical Area and city based on individuals' self-identification in 2023. Those who responded with multiple racial identities or other races are included in "Other race / multiple races." The portions of the population who identify as Native American and Alaska Native as well as Latino or Hispanic are included separately. People who identify themselves as ethnically Latino or Hispanic individuals may be of any race (White, Black or African-American, Asian, or other race / multiple races). These data are from the U.S. Census Bureau's 5-Year American Community Survey.



DEMOGRAPHICS: FOREIGN-BORN POPULATION, 2023

This chart shows the percent of individuals in each Metropolitan Statistical Area who were born outside the United States, including naturalized U.S. citizens and persons who are not U.S. citizens. The data are from the U.S. Census Bureau's 5-Year American Community Survey.



Notes: According to the U.S. Census, "Not a U.S. Citizen" includes legal permanent residents, temporary migrants, humanitarian migrants, and unauthorized migrants. However, the American Community Survey (ACS) does not ask whether the foreign-born population is documented or undocumented.

ECONOMIC: LARGEST INDUSTRY CLUSTERS BY EMPLOYMENT, 2022

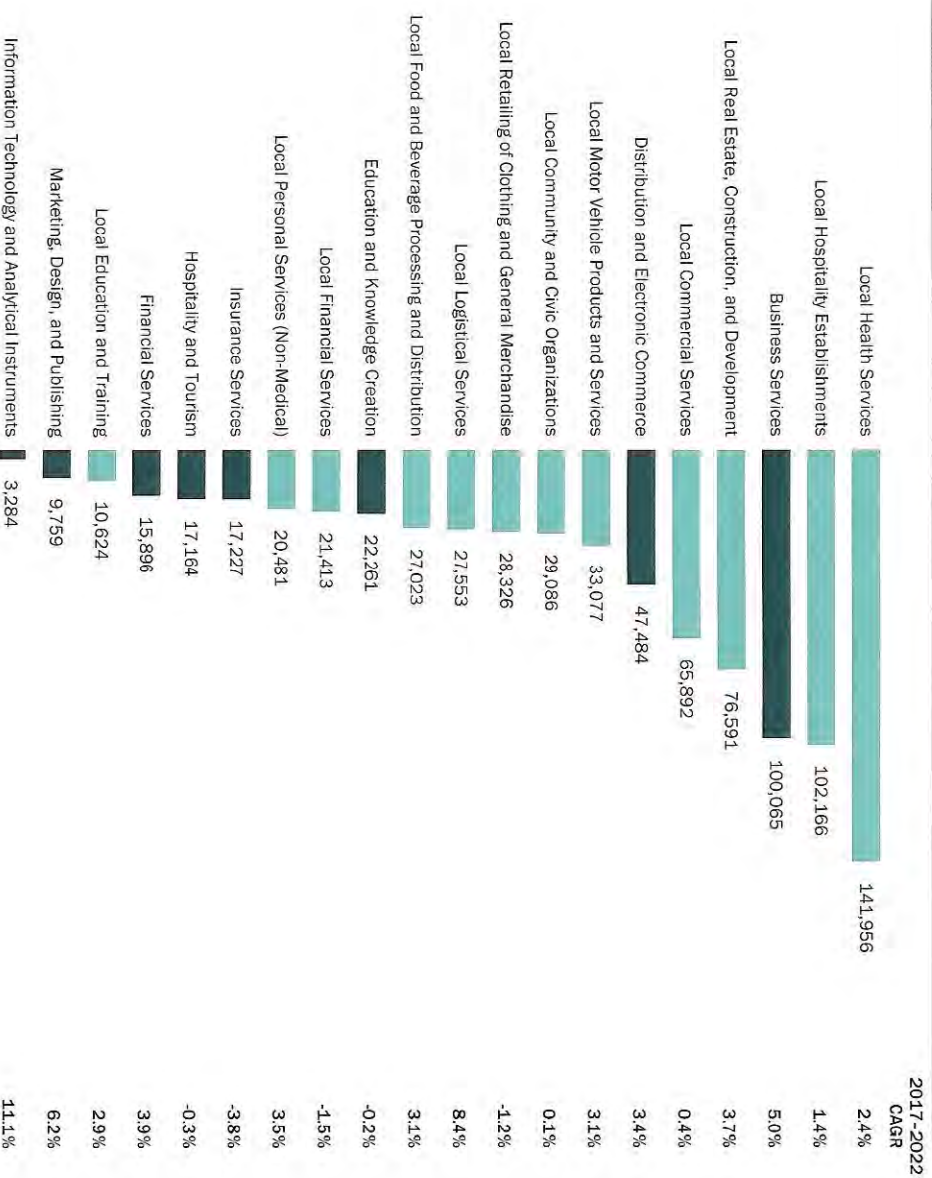
This chart shows the 20 largest industry clusters by the number of persons employed in them in 2022 for the Nashville Metropolitan Statistical Area. A cluster is a concentration of related industries in a particular location.

In dark blue are *traded clusters*: groups of related industries that serve markets beyond the region in which they are located and are generally able to choose their location of operation. In light blue are *local clusters*: related industries that serve the local market.

The annual growth of employment for each cluster from 2017 to 2022 is also included.

These data are from Harvard Business School's Cluster Mapping Project, led by Professor Michael Porter and Richard Bryden, Project Director.

Notes: Data reflects employment in the Nashville-Davidson--Murfreesboro--Franklin, TN Metro Area.



ECONOMIC: DETAILED PROFILE OF TRADED INDUSTRY CLUSTERS, 2003–2022

The following chart shows the composition of, and trends in, clusters for the Nashville Metropolitan Statistical Area. A cluster is a concentration of related industries in a particular location. The chart looks only at *traded* clusters—groups of related industries that serve markets beyond the region in which they are located and are generally able to choose their location of operation, unlike local clusters which serve local markets. Since traded clusters tend to only appear in regions that afford specific competitive advantages, this chart can help us understand Nashville's competitive strengths.

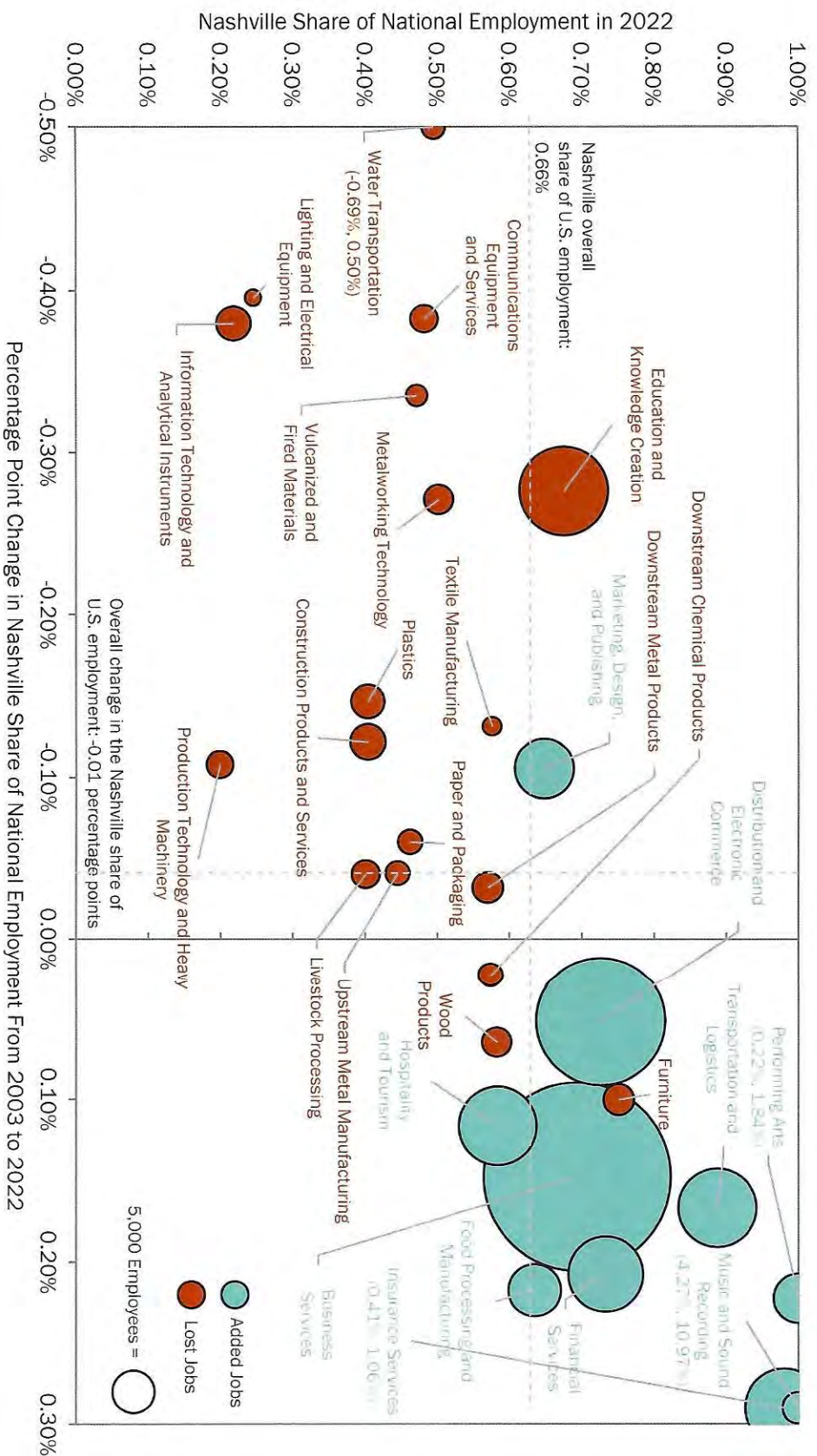
Each bubble on the chart represents a cluster. The size of each bubble indicates the number of people employed in the cluster. A bubble is blue if employment in the cluster grew between 2003 and 2022 and red if it shrank. A bubble is high on the chart if Nashville has a large share of national employment in the cluster. A bubble is far to the right if Nashville has gained share of national employment in the cluster between 2003 and 2022.

For instance, the “music and sound recording” cluster in Nashville MSA is a key traded cluster in town; it accounted for 10.97% of all U.S. jobs in the cluster, and gained a 4.27 percentage point share of all U.S. jobs in the cluster between 2003 and 2022.

These data are from Harvard Business School's Cluster Mapping Project, led by Professor Michael Porter and Richard Bryden, Project Director.

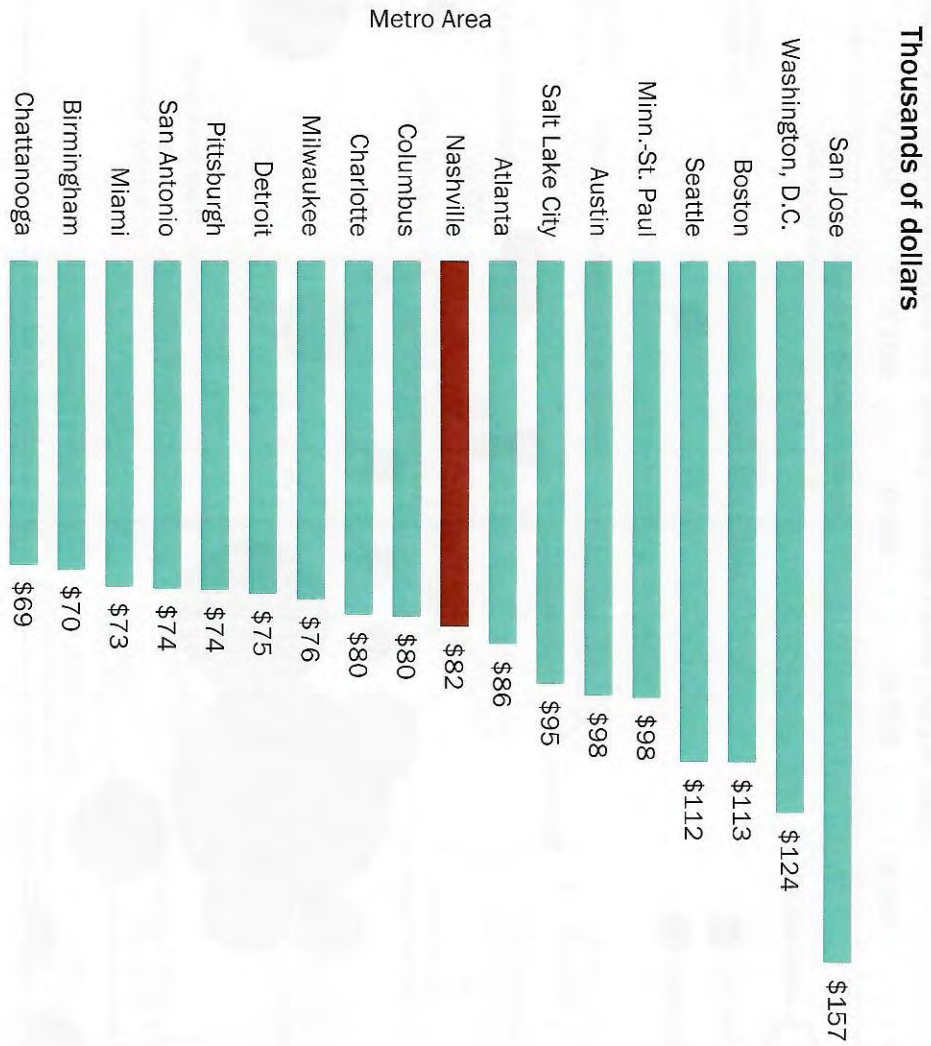
Notes: Clusters that fall outside the charted area are included on the edge of the chart with the change in the share of national traded cluster employment and the share of national employment for the cluster included in parentheses. Clusters whose employment represented both under two percent of that cluster's national employment and under 0.2% of Nashville Metropolitan Statistical Area employment in 2022 are not shown.

ECONOMIC: DETAILED PROFILE OF TRADED INDUSTRY CLUSTERS, 2003–2022



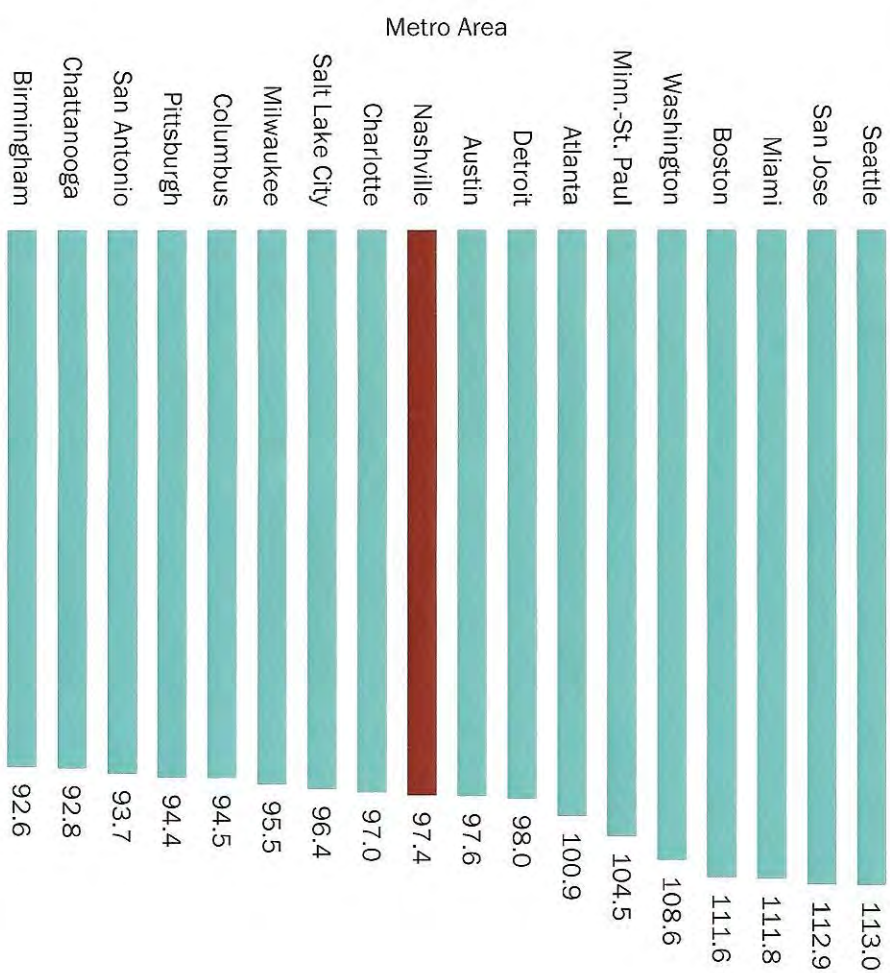
ECONOMIC: MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME, 2023

This chart shows median household income in each Metropolitan Statistical Area. The data are from the U.S. Census Bureau's 2023 5-Year American Community Survey.



ECONOMIC: COST OF LIVING INDEX, 2023

This chart shows the Cost of Living (COL) index in 2023 in each Metropolitan Statistical Area. The COL index measures the differences in prices of goods and services across Metropolitan Statistical Areas throughout the U.S., where 100 is the U.S. average. A COL above 100 indicates a city that is more expensive than the U.S. average cost of living. The data are from the Bureau of Economic Analysis.

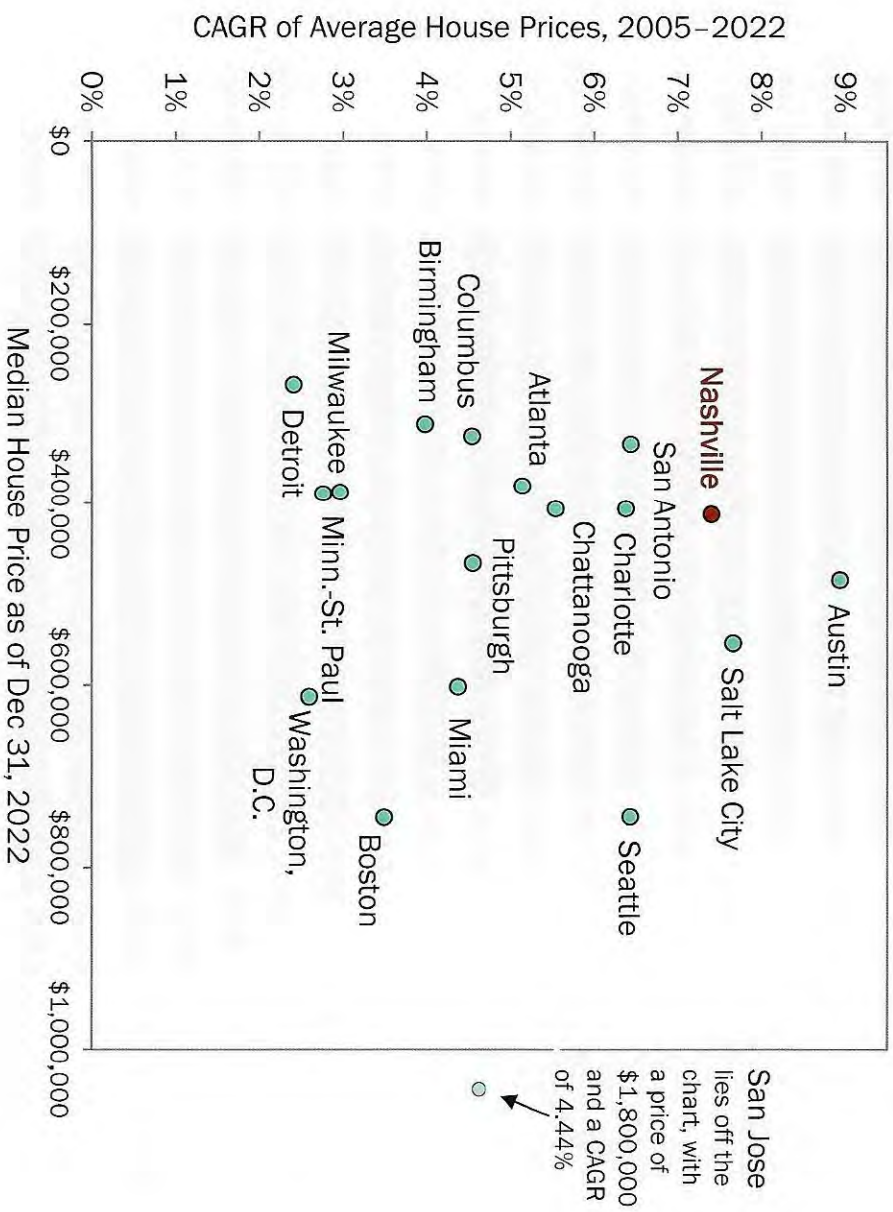


ECONOMIC: HOUSE PRICES AND GROWTH RATES OF HOUSE PRICES

This chart shows the median house price in 2022 and the growth rate of house prices from 2005 to 2022 in each Metropolitan Statistical Area.

The median house price reflects single-family homes and condos. The data are from Clear Capital, a provider of real estate data and analysis, as published by Kiplinger.

The growth in average house prices reflects single-family detached and townhome properties serving as collateral on loans purchased by Freddie Mac or Fannie Mae since January 1975. Price appreciation is measured by comparing the price of the same property over two or more transactions, without adjusting for inflation. The data are from the Freddie Mac House Price Index.



OTHER METRICS: HOUSING AFFORDABILITY

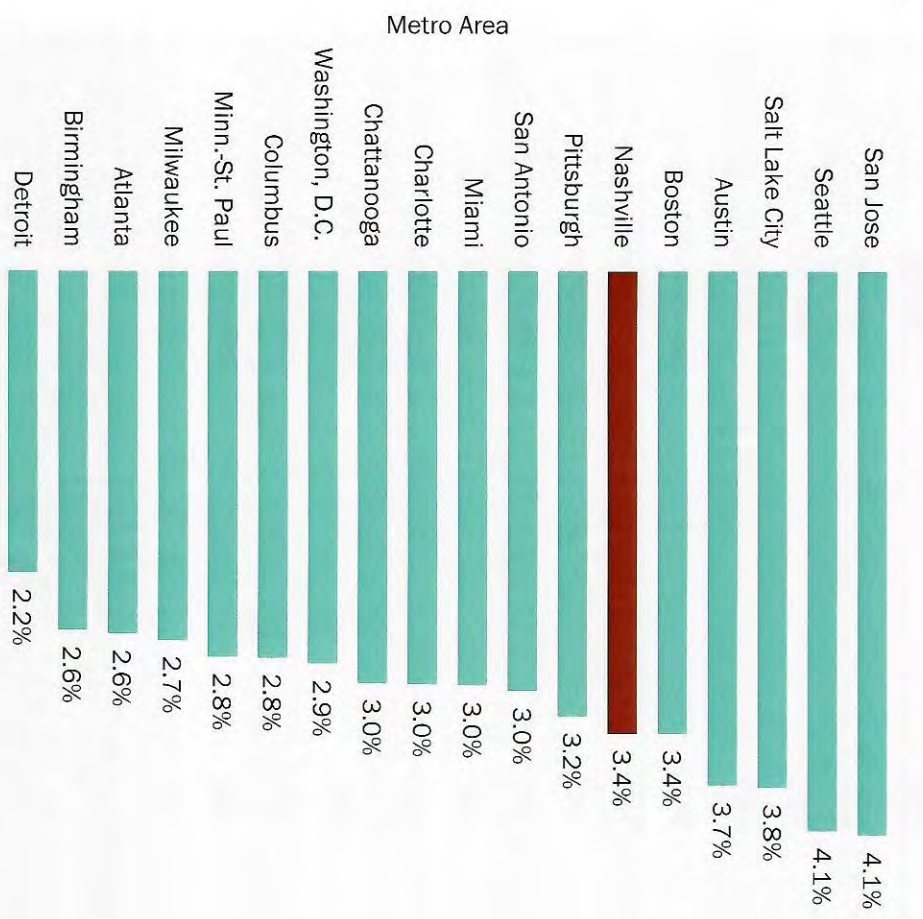
This chart shows the ranking of cities by housing affordability in 2023. Housing affordability is measured using the percentage of households spending less than 30 percent of income on housing costs. A lower number (rank) indicates greater affordability.

The data are from the Milken Institute's Best-Performing Cities 2025 report.

City	Ranking (2023)
Pittsburgh	9
Chattanooga	36
Birmingham	40
Minn.-St. Paul	49
Salt Lake City	65
Nashville	88
Milwaukee	94
Columbus	95
Detroit	121
San Antonio	129
Seattle	135
San Jose	144
Boston	163
Miami	200

ECONOMIC: COMPOUND ANNUAL GROWTH RATE IN MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME, 2005–2023

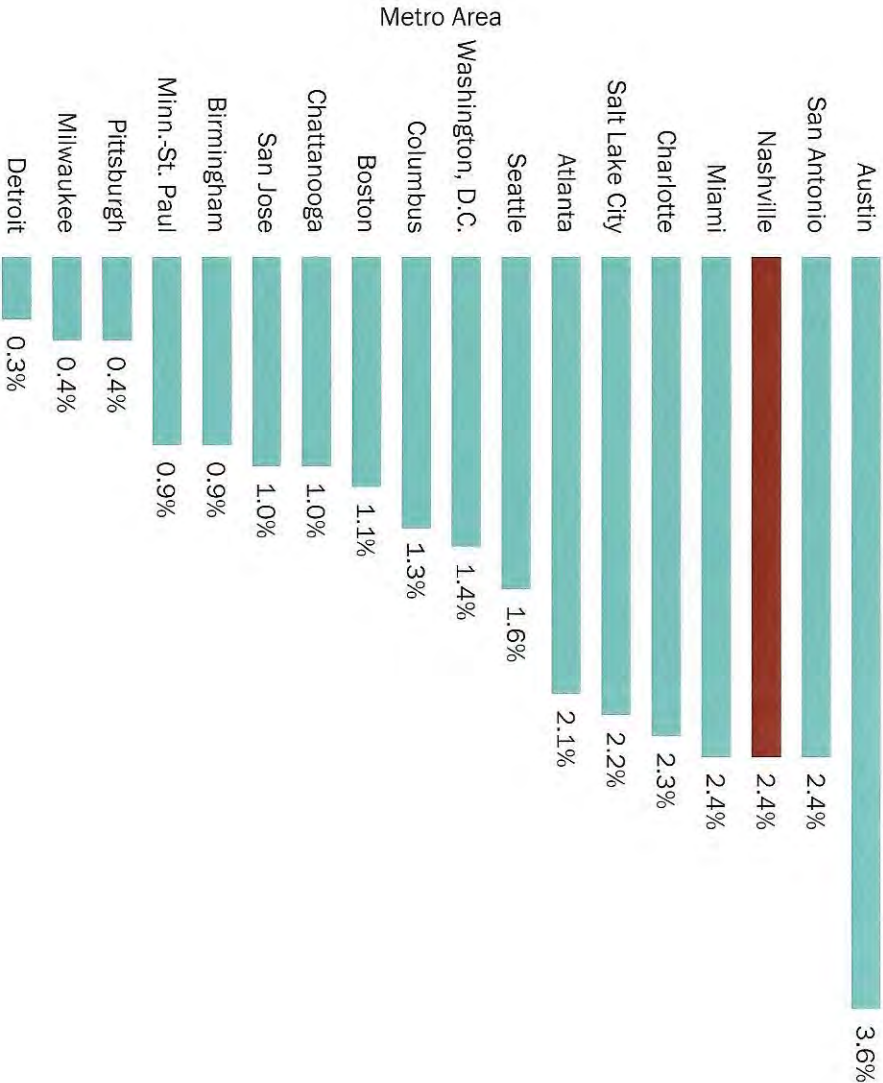
This chart shows the annual growth of median household income between 2005 and 2023 in each Metropolitan Statistical Area. Median household income is not adjusted for inflation across years. The data are from the U.S. Census Bureau's 5-Year American Community Surveys.



Notes: The American Community Survey results for 2005 and 2023 use different Censuses for its weighting procedure, which can reduce comparability across years. Also, Metropolitan Statistical Areas boundaries were redefined between 2005 and 2023. The redefinitions may have a moderate effect on calculations of changes over time.

ECONOMIC: COMPOUND ANNUAL GROWTH RATE IN PRIVATE SECTOR JOBS, 2001-2022

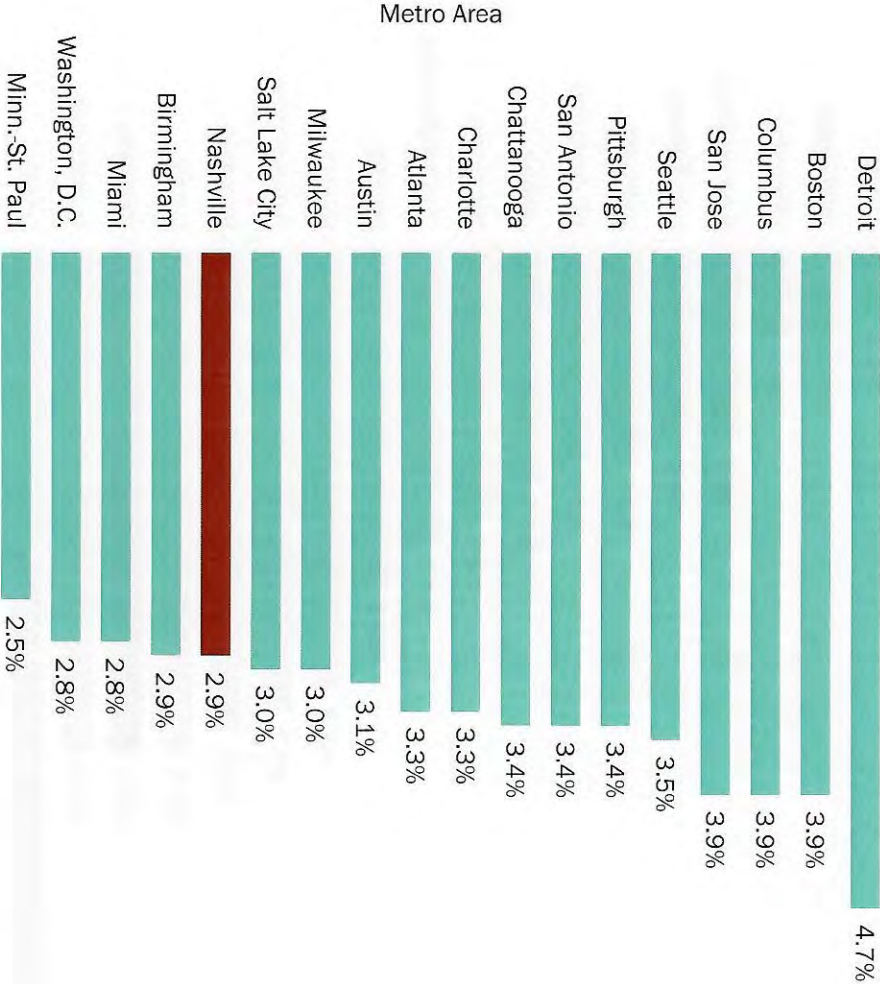
This chart shows the annual growth of the number of jobs in the private, nonfarm sector (full- and part-time) between 2001 and 2022 in each Metropolitan Statistical Area. Private sector jobs include all jobs in the economy except for federal, state, or local government jobs and farm jobs. The data are from the Bureau of Economic Analysis.



Notes: Metropolitan Statistical Areas boundaries were redefined between 2001 and 2022. The redefinitions may have a moderate effect on calculations of changes over time.

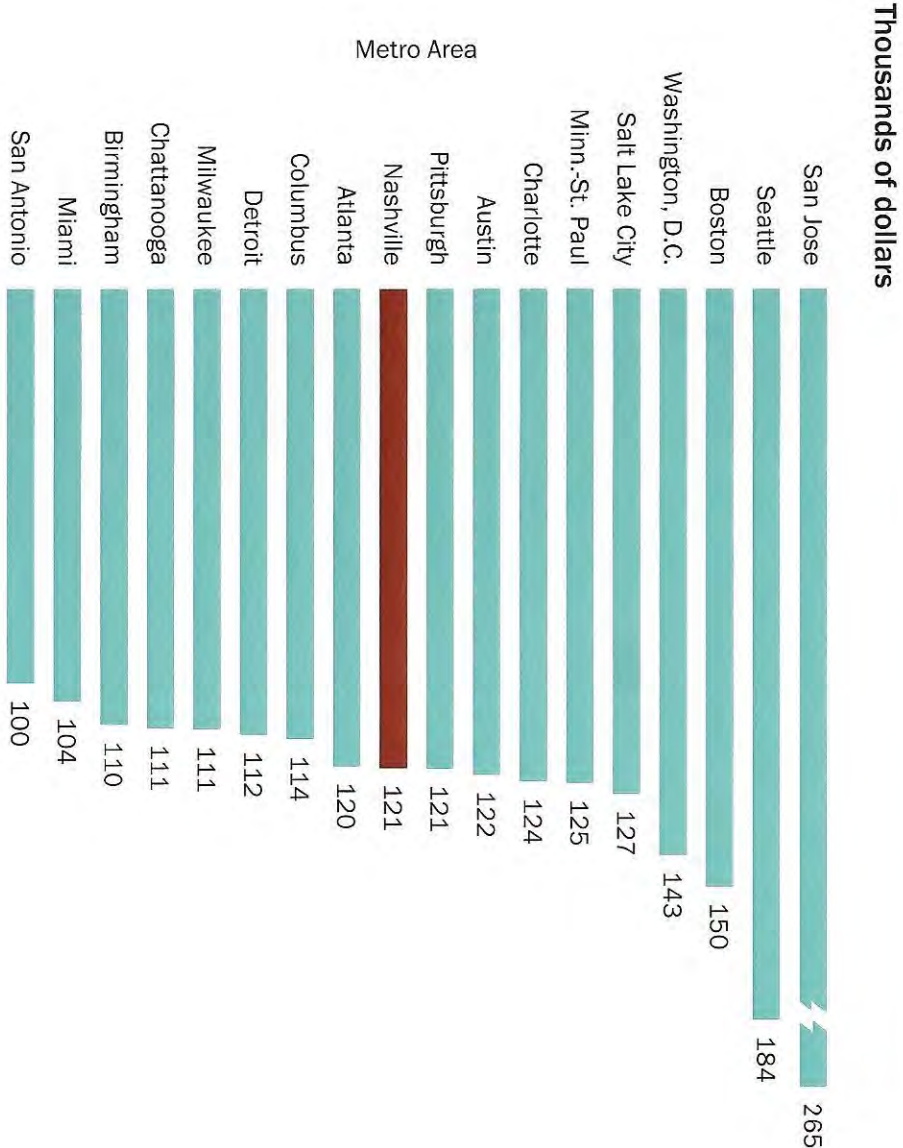
ECONOMIC: UNEMPLOYMENT RATE, 2024

This chart shows the annual average percentage of people unemployed in the civilian workforce in 2024 for each Metropolitan Statistical Area. A person is considered unemployed if he or she has actively looked for work in the past four weeks and is currently available for work but does not have a job. The civilian workforce consists of all persons who have a job or are seeking a job, are at least 16 years old, are not serving in the military, and are not institutionalized. The data are from the Bureau of Labor Statistics.



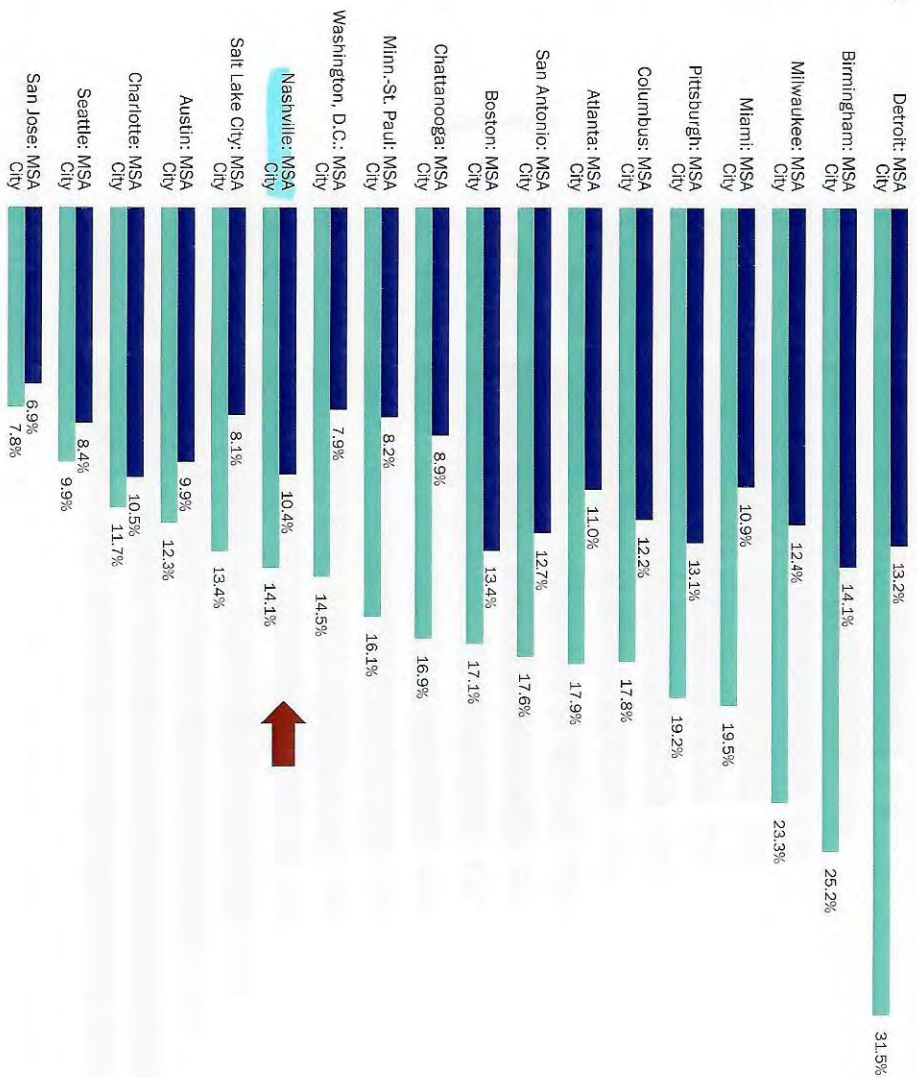
ECONOMIC: LABOR PRODUCTIVITY, 2022

This chart shows the economy's capacity to produce goods and services from a unit amount of labor input in 2022 in each Metropolitan Statistical Area. A higher productivity value indicates that the economy is able to produce more goods and services from the same amount of labor input compared to a lower productivity value. The indicator is calculated as the gross domestic product of a region in 2022 (in current dollars) divided by the average number of full- and part-time employed persons that year. The data are from the Bureau of Economic Analysis.



ECONOMIC: PORTION OF POPULATION IN POVERTY, 2023

This chart shows the percentage of the population in households living below the national poverty level in 2023 in each Metropolitan Statistical Area and city. The national poverty level is defined by the U.S. Census Bureau. The data are from the U.S. Census Bureau's 5-Year American Community Survey.



Notes: Minneapolis-St. Paul city data reflect a weighted average for Minneapolis and St. Paul (using 2023 populations). Nashville city data are for metro government of Nashville and Davidson County.

ECONOMIC: INEQUALITY, 2023

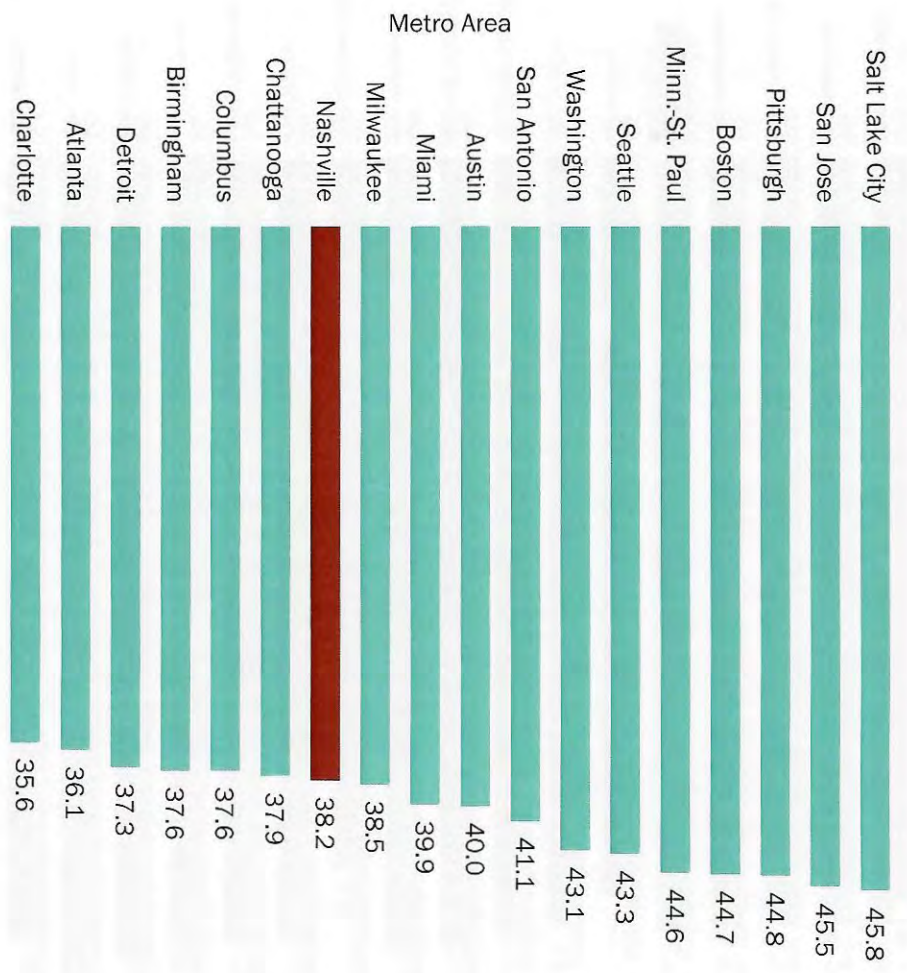
This chart shows the Gini coefficient for each Metropolitan Statistical Area and city in 2023. The Gini coefficient is a commonly used measure of statistical dispersion that reflects the degree of inequality in an area's income distribution. The figure can range from 0 to 1. A coefficient of zero means perfect income equality while larger numbers signify greater inequality. The data are from the U.S. Census Bureau's 5-Year American Community Survey.



Notes: Minneapolis-St. Paul city data reflect a weighted average for Minneapolis and St. Paul (using 2023 populations). Nashville city data are for metro government of Nashville and Davidson County.

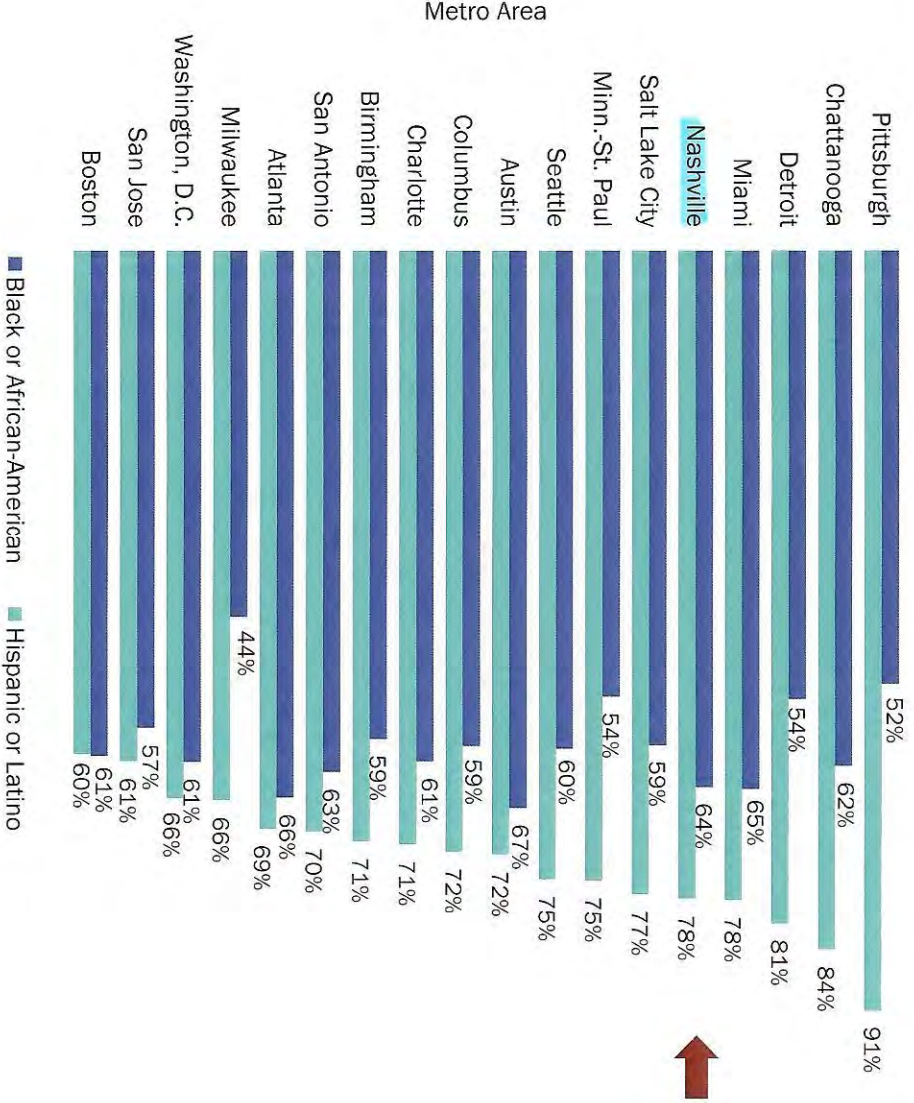
ECONOMIC: UPWARD ECONOMIC MOBILITY

This chart shows the expected income rank on a 0-100 scale of children born between 1980-1982 in each Metropolitan Statistical Area from families at the 25th percentile of the national parent income distribution. A higher upward economic mobility value indicates that a child is more likely to achieve a higher income rank in adulthood. For instance, on average, a child born to a family in the 25th percentile of the national income distribution in the Austin MSA would typically be in the 40th percentile of the national income distribution as an adult (≈30 years old). The data are from Raj Chetty, Nathaniel Hendren, Patrick Kline, and Emmanuel Saez's paper, "Where is the Land of Opportunity? The Geography of Intergenerational Mobility in the United States," 2014.



ECONOMIC: MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME FOR SELECTED POPULATIONS AS A PERCENTAGE OF WHITE MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME, 2023

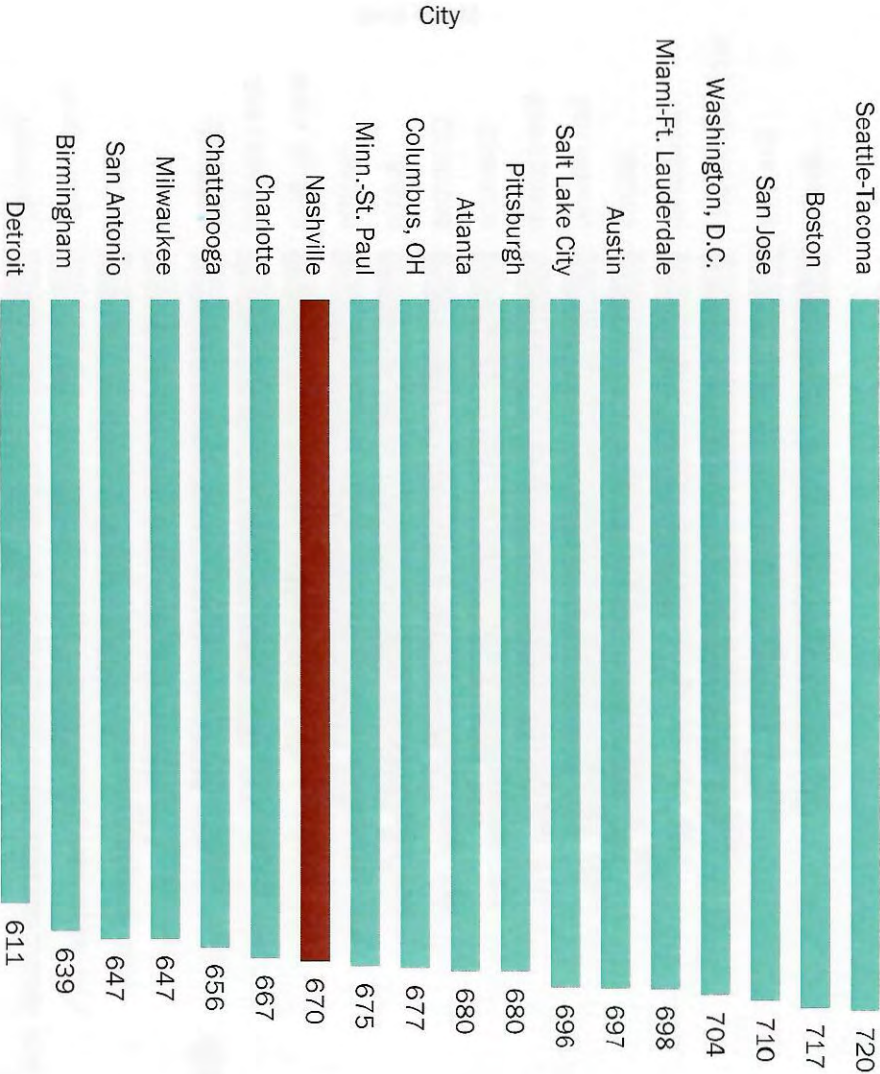
This chart shows median income for Black or African-American households and for Hispanic or Latino households as a percentage of the median income for white, non-Hispanic, non-Latino households in each Metropolitan Statistical Area during the period 2018–2023. The data are from the U.S. Census Bureau's 5-Year American Community Survey.



Notes: Per the American Community Survey, a Black or African American householder may also be Hispanic or Latino.

ECONOMIC: MEDIAN CREDIT SCORE, 2024

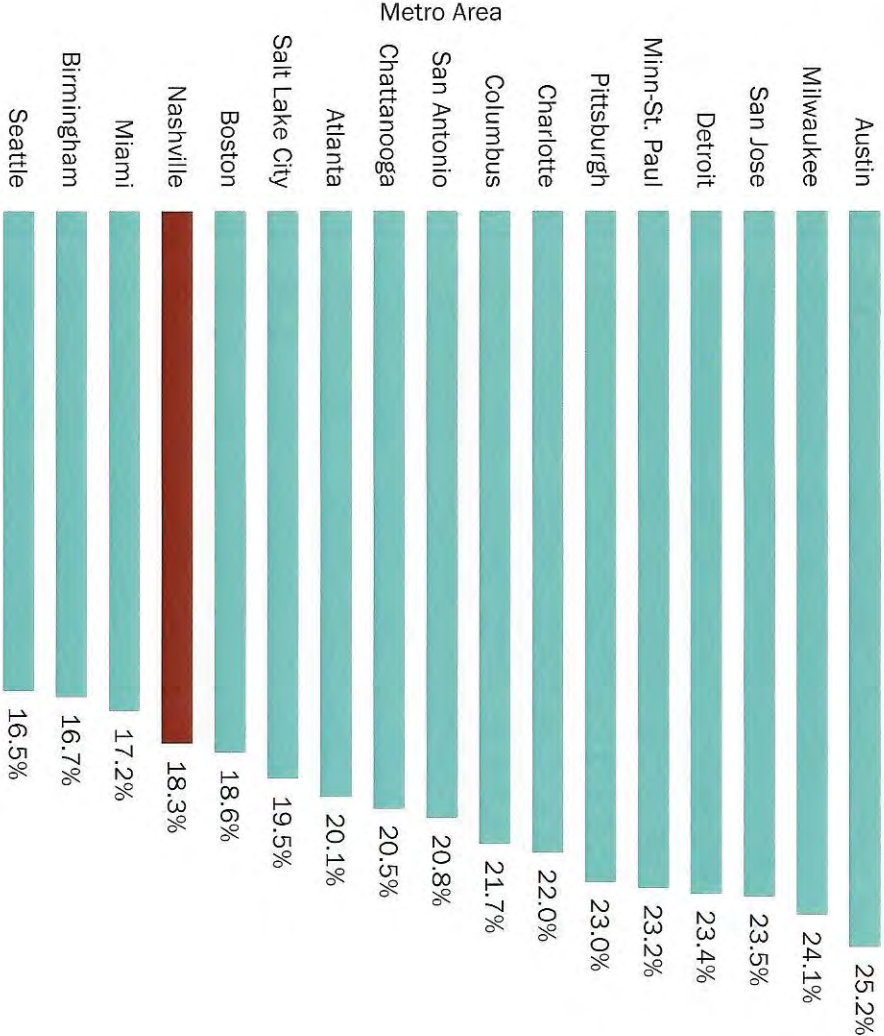
This chart shows the median credit score for various U.S. cities. Experian categorizes credit scores as follows: 300-579 is "Poor," 580-669 is "Fair," 670-739 is "Good," 740-799 is "Very Good," and 800-850 is "Exceptional." The data are from WalletHub.



ECONOMIC: OFFICE VACANCY RATE, 2024

This chart shows the overall office vacancy rates by metro area as of Q2 2024. Vacancy rate here is defined as the square footage of rentable space available divided by the total square footage of rentable space.

The data are from Moody's.

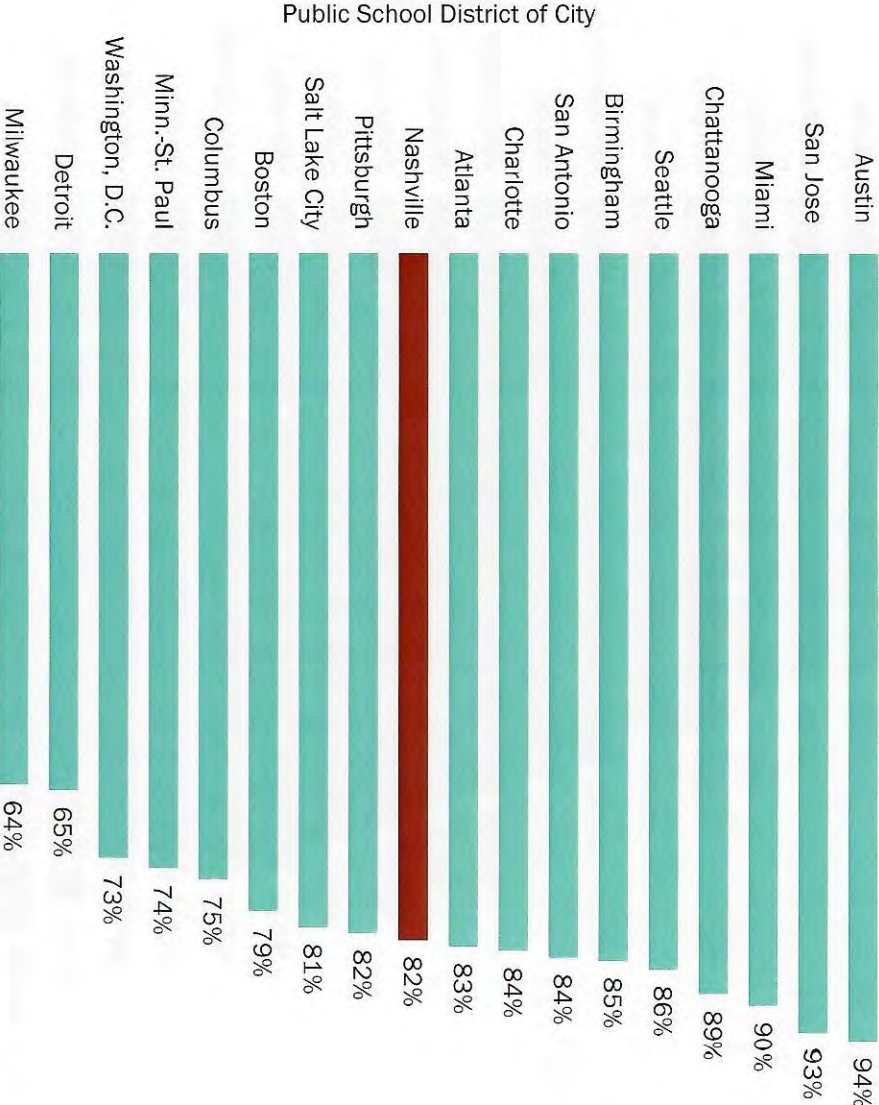


Notes: The data include federal bridges.

EDUCATION: HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE, 2021

This chart shows the percent of high school students who graduate with a high school diploma in each city school district in four years. The data are from various states' education departments and are for the Class of 2021, with the exceptions of the following cities:

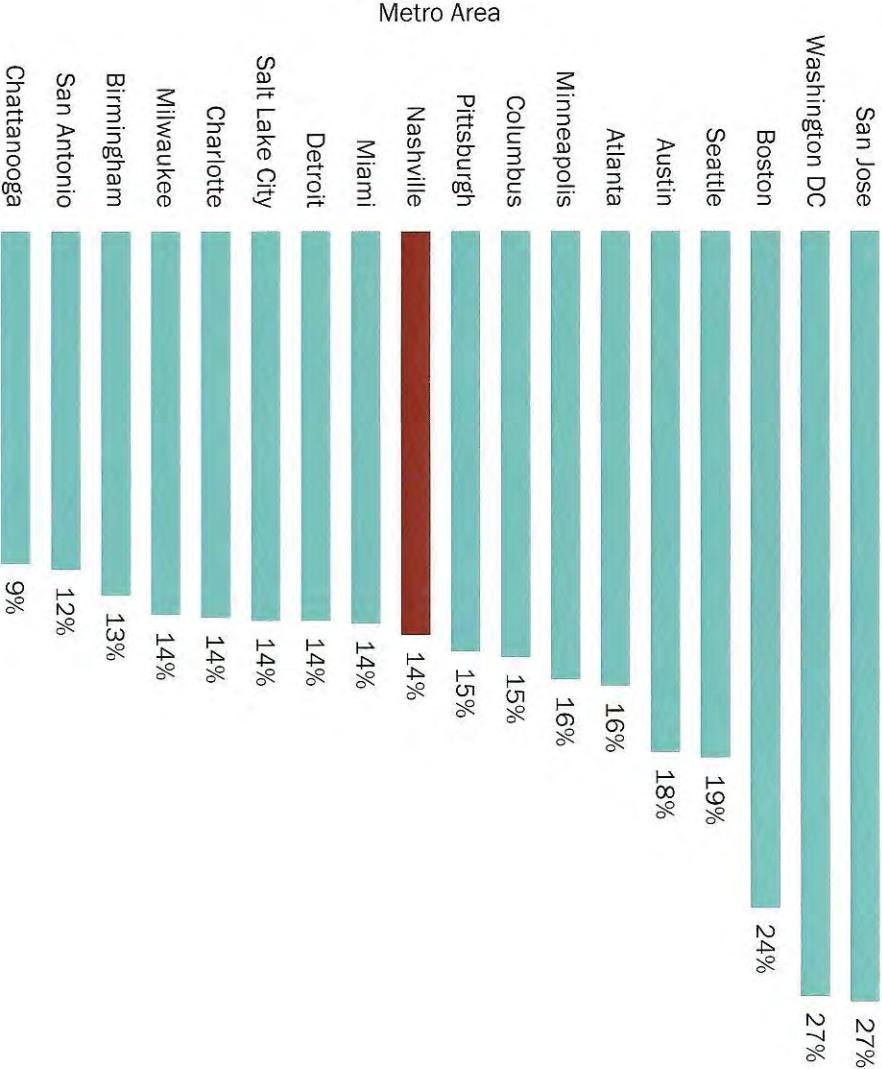
- Columbus: Class of 2020;
- Salt Lake City: Class of 2020;
- San Jose: Class of 2022.



Notes: Chattanooga figure is for Hamilton County. Minn.-St. Paul represents an average of the graduation rates of the Minneapolis Public School District and the St. Paul Public School District, weighted by the total number of potential graduates (i.e., the denominator for the four-year graduation rate) in each school district.

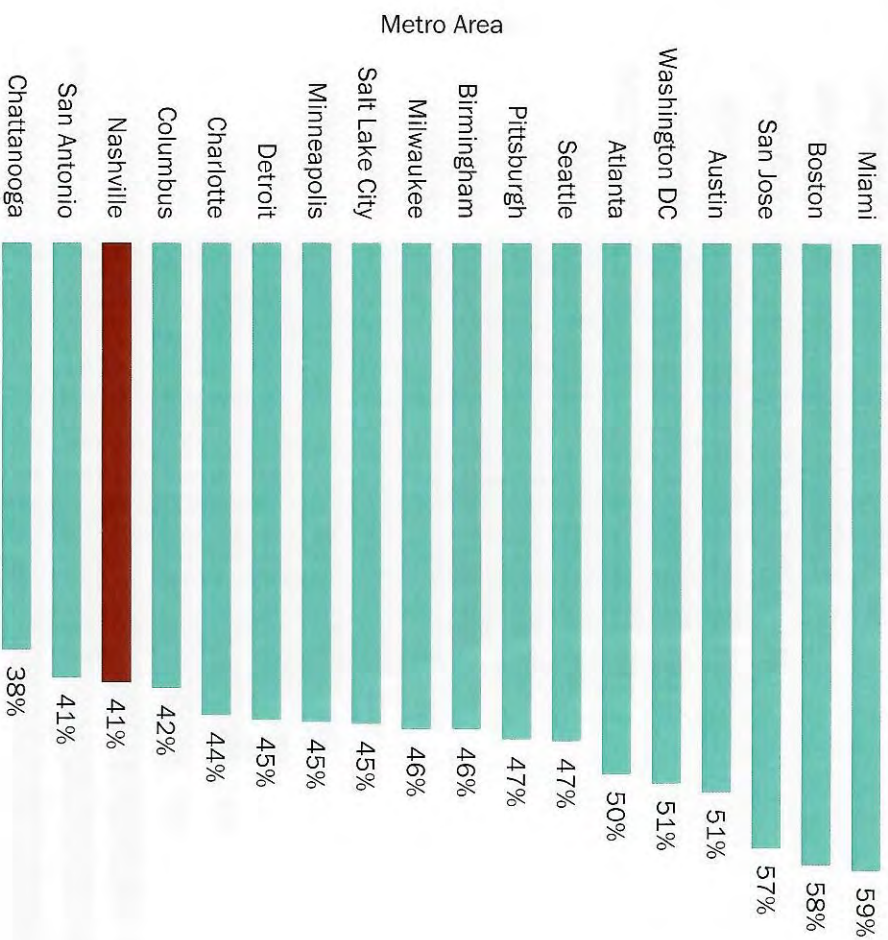
EDUCATION: PORTION OF POPULATION AGE 25 & OLDER WITH A GRADUATE DEGREE, 2023

This chart shows the percentage of each Metropolitan Statistical Area's population, age 25 or older, that held a graduate degree in 2023. The data are from the U.S. Census Bureau's 5-Year American Community Survey.



EDUCATION: PORTION OF CHILDREN AGES 3-4 ENROLLED IN SCHOOL, 2023

This chart shows the percentage of each Metropolitan Statistical Area's population, ages three or four, that was enrolled in school in 2023. The data are from the U.S. Census Bureau's 5-Year American Community Survey.

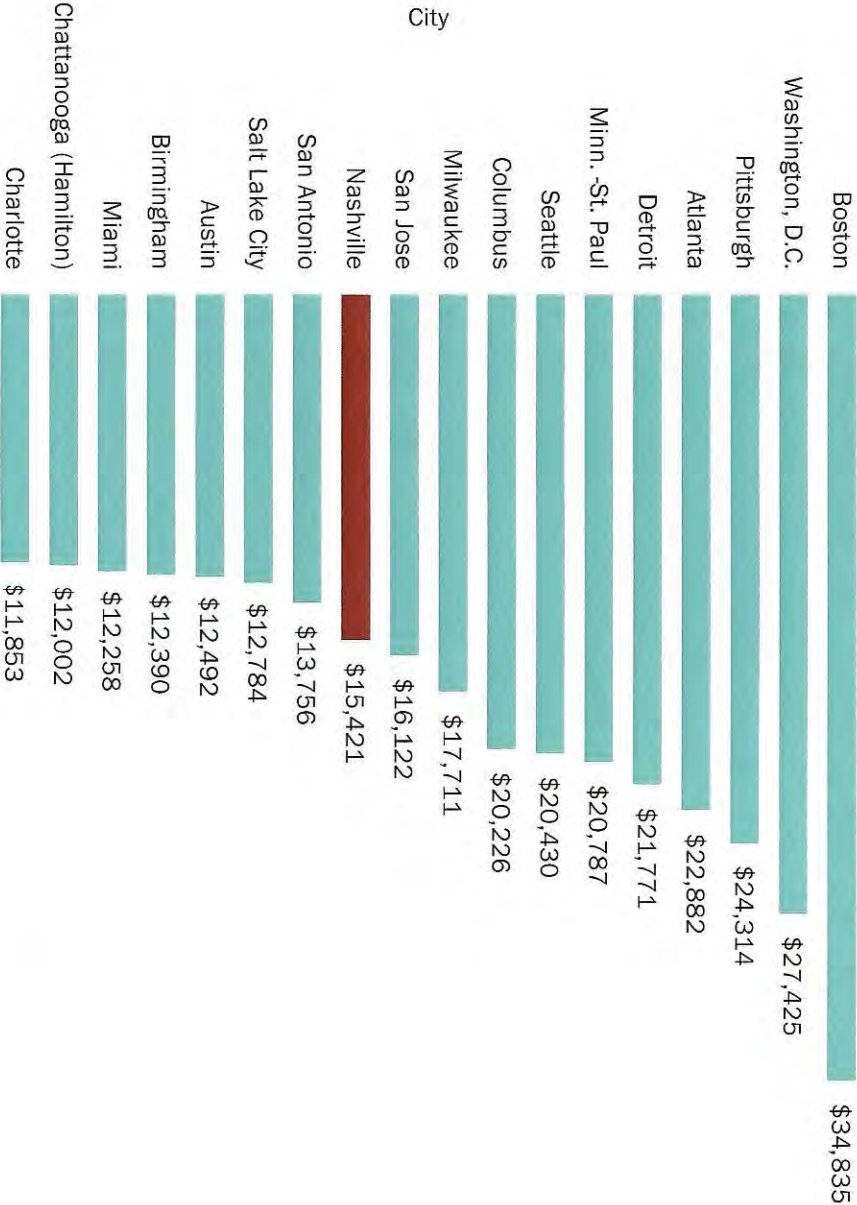


Notes: Data include both public and private schools.

EDUCATION: K-12 PUBLIC SCHOOL FUNDING PER STUDENT, 2022

This chart shows the per-pupil spending for elementary and secondary students in each city's public schools in 2022. The data are from the U.S. Census Bureau's Annual Survey of School System Finances.

Pittsburgh, Columbus, Milwaukee, Birmingham, San Antonio, and Minn.-St. Paul have multiple public-school districts within each city. For these cities, a weighted average was calculated using the percentage of students enrolled within each school district.

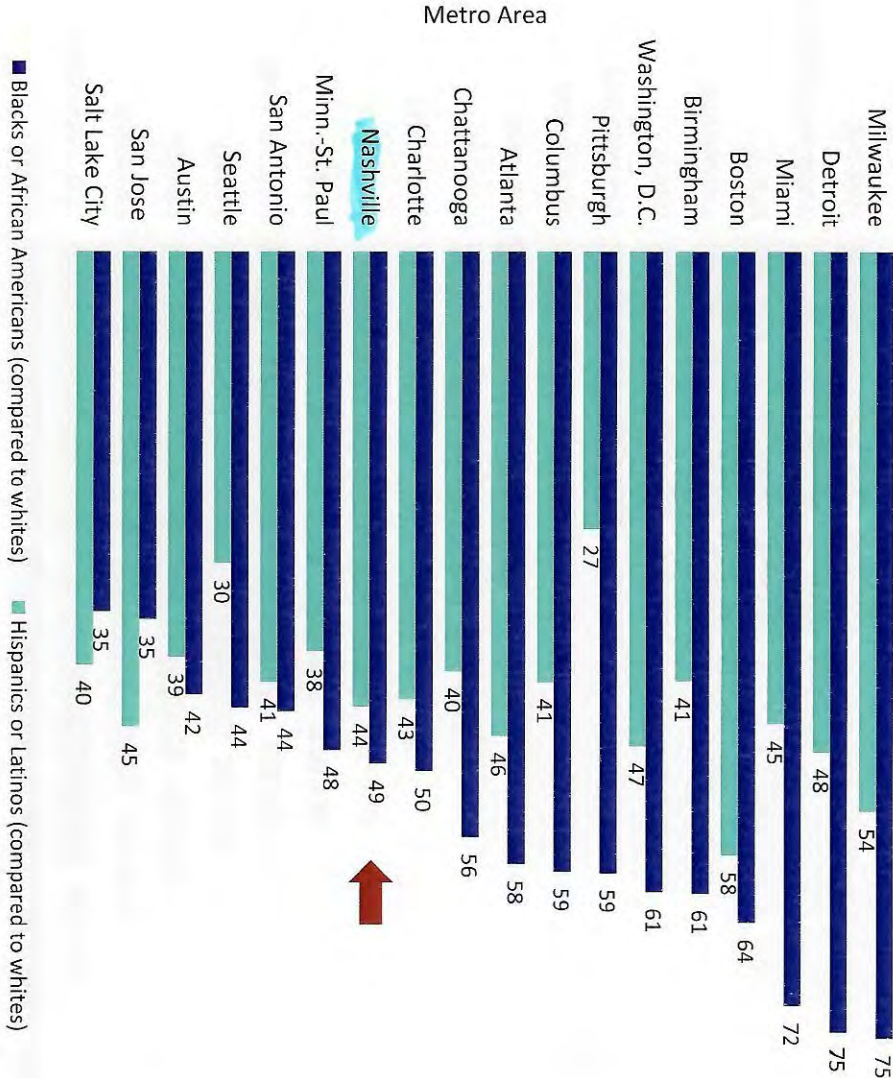


Notes: Data include both public and private schools.

SOCIAL: DISSIMILARITY INDEX OF RACIAL AND ETHNIC RESIDENTIAL SEGREGATION, 2020

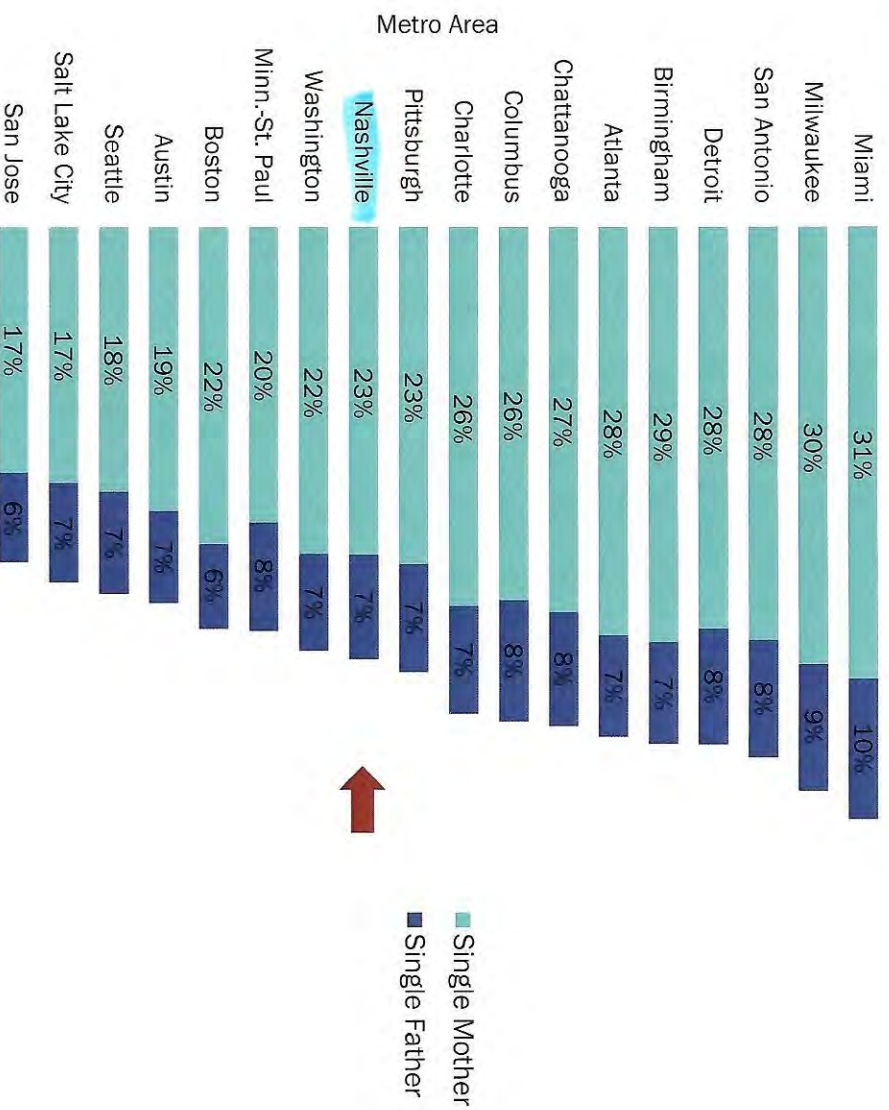
For each Metropolitan Statistical Area in 2020, this chart gives an indication of the degree of residential segregation. The “dissimilarity index” ranges from 0 (if every census tract in an MSA has the same mix of races or ethnicities as does the MSA as a whole) to 100 (if members of different races or ethnicities live in entirely different census tracts). A city with an index of 60 or above is typically considered to be highly segregated. A city with a value of 30 or below is typically considered to be well integrated, at least relative to most cities.

The data are from the 2020 5-Year American Community Survey.



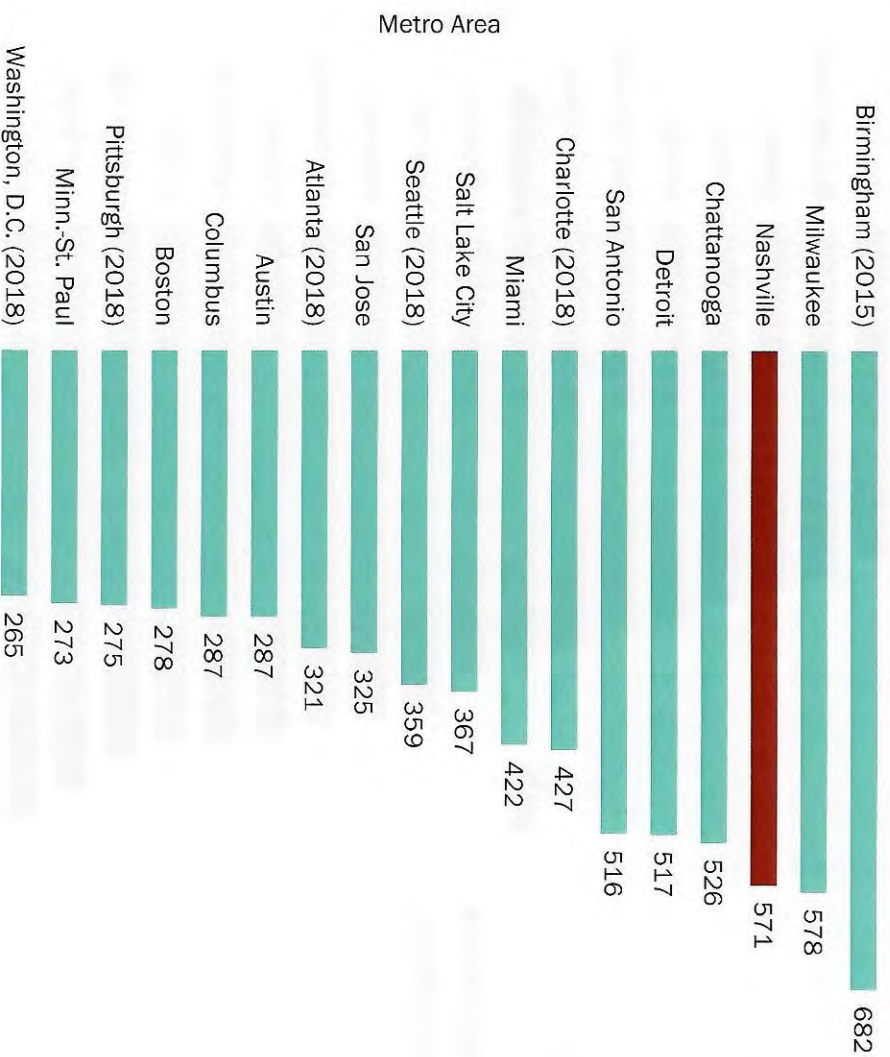
SOCIAL: FRACTION OF CHILDREN UNDER 18 LIVING WITH A SINGLE PARENT, 2023

This chart shows the percent of children in each metropolitan statistical area who were living with a single parent in 2023. The figures are calculated by dividing the number of children under 18 living with a single mother/father by the total number of children under 18. The data are from the U.S. Census Bureau's 5-Year American Community Survey. The 5-Year survey can be interpreted as representing average characteristics over the full period.



SOCIAL: VIOLENT CRIME RATE, 2019

This chart shows the number of serious violent crime offenses known to law enforcement per 100,000 people for each Metropolitan Statistical Area in 2019 (or the most recent year available, noted in parentheses). The data are from the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Uniform Crime Reports.

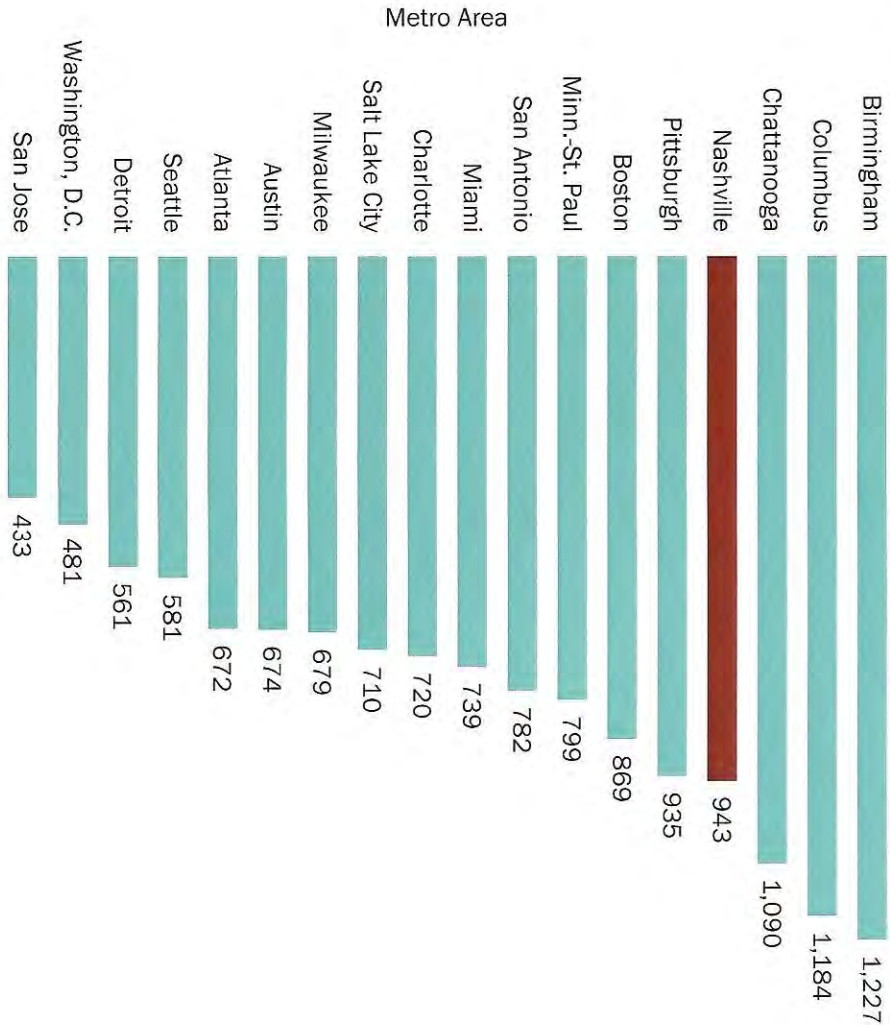


SOCIAL: ADULTS IN CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES PER 100,000 POPULATION, 2020

This chart shows the number of adults in civilian correctional facilities, per 100,000 individuals ages 18+.

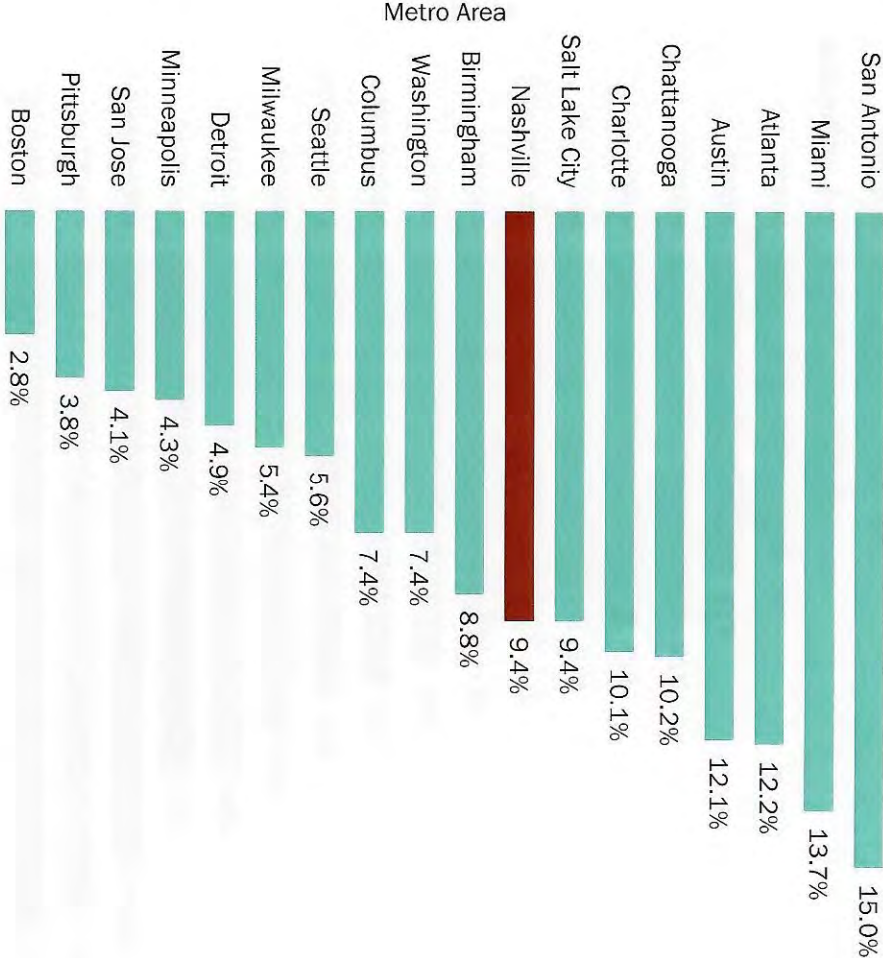
The adult correctional facilities rate is calculated by dividing the number of individuals in adult correctional facilities (excluding military disciplinary barracks and jails) by the total population age 18 and over in each Metropolitan Statistical Area. The data are from the 2020 Census Summary File 1 and the 2020 Demographic Profile Summary File.

Notes: Civilian correctional facilities for adults include federal detention centers, federal prisons, state prisons, local jails/other municipal confinement facilities, and correctional residential facilities. Data are not adjusted to account for differences in age distributions across metro areas.



SOCIAL: PERCENT OF CIVILIAN NON-INSTITUTIONAL POPULATION WITHOUT HEALTH INSURANCE, 2023

This chart shows the percent of the civilian non-institutional population who lack health insurance for each Metropolitan Statistical Area. The civilian non-institutional population includes all U.S. citizens not incarcerated, not living in other group quarters (e.g., mental facilities, nursing facilities, etc.), and not in the active-duty military. The data are from the U.S. Census Bureau's 5-Year American Community Survey.

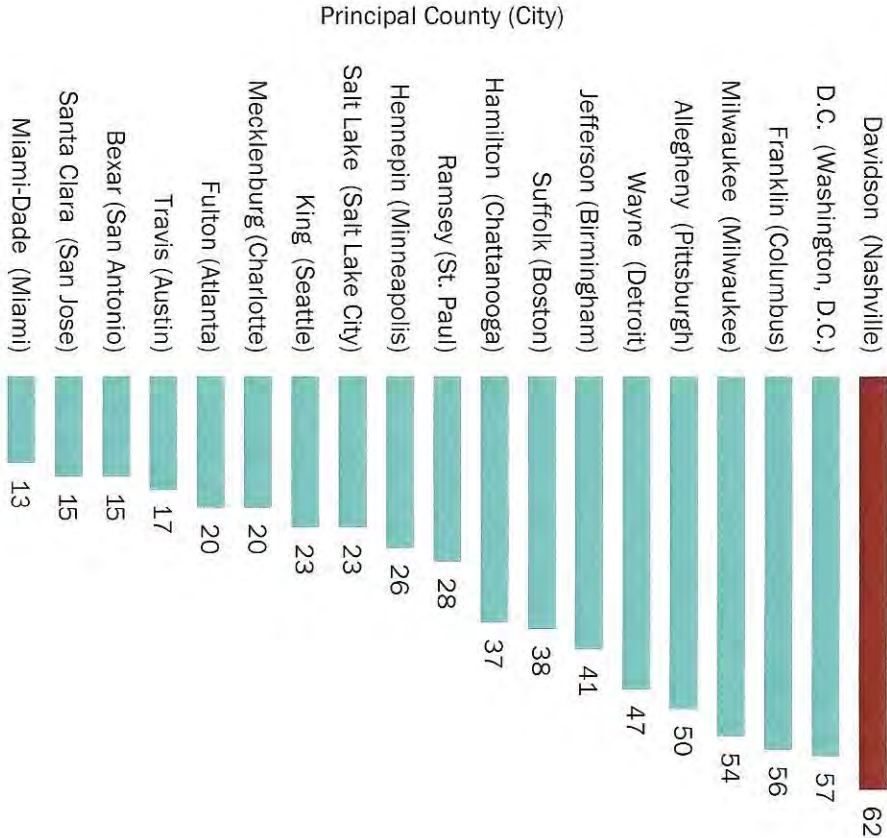


SOCIAL: DRUG OVERDOSE DEATHS PER 100,000 POPULATION, 2019-2021

This chart shows the rate of drug overdose deaths in each locale. Because data are available only at the county-level, we report the number of drug overdose deaths from 2019 to 2021, per 100,000 population, in each city's principal county—that is, the county with the highest percentage of each city's population in 2010.

Drug overdose data are from the County Health Rankings & Roadmaps program, a collaboration between the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute. The percent of the city's population in each county is identified via StatsAmerica, a service of the Indiana Business Research Center at Indiana University's Kelley School of Business.

Notes: Each city's principal county accounts for more than 90% of the city's 2010 population.



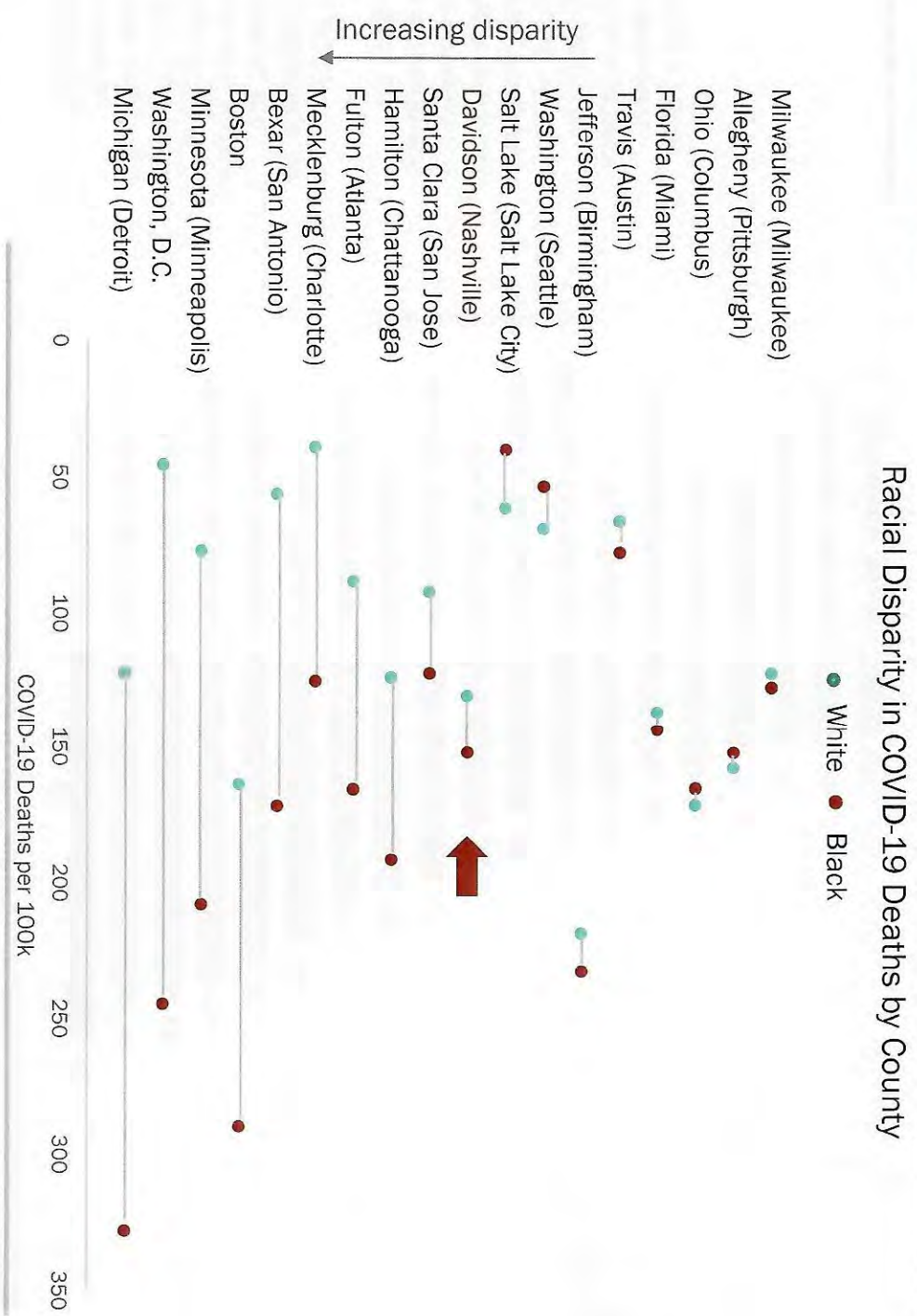
SOCIAL: RACIAL DISPARITIES IN COVID-19 DEATHS

MARCH 2020 - APRIL 2021

This chart shows the gap between white and Black COVID-19 mortality rates by county. Cities are listed by increasing disparity.

The data are from state and county dashboards as well as APM Research Lab. The Minnesota figure is age-adjusted; data for other cities are not controlled for age.

Note: Boston data are at the city level. Milwaukee, Columbus, Miami, Seattle, Minneapolis, and Detroit data are at the state level. Data for the remaining cities are at the county level, with the city's principal county shown.



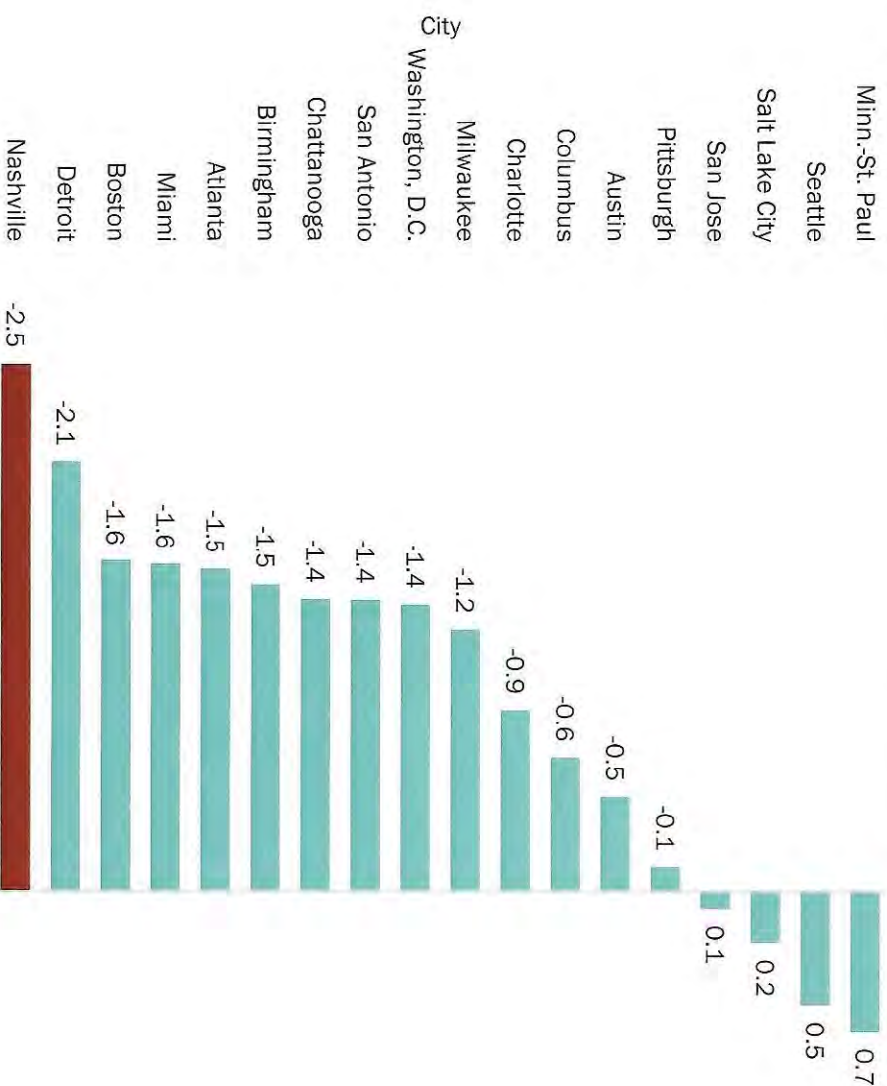
SOCIAL: SOCIAL CAPITAL INDEX, 2016

This indicator is a standardized index combining measures of family unity, family interaction, social support, community and philanthropic health, and crime for each city in 2016.

The city data represent an average of the social capital indices for each county in which the city sits. The average is weighted by the percentage of the city's population that resides in each county.

The data are from the Joint Economic Committee's "Social Capital Project: The Geography of Social Capital in America." The percent of the city's population in each county is identified via StatsAmerica, a service of the Indiana Business Research Center at Indiana University's Kelley School of Business.

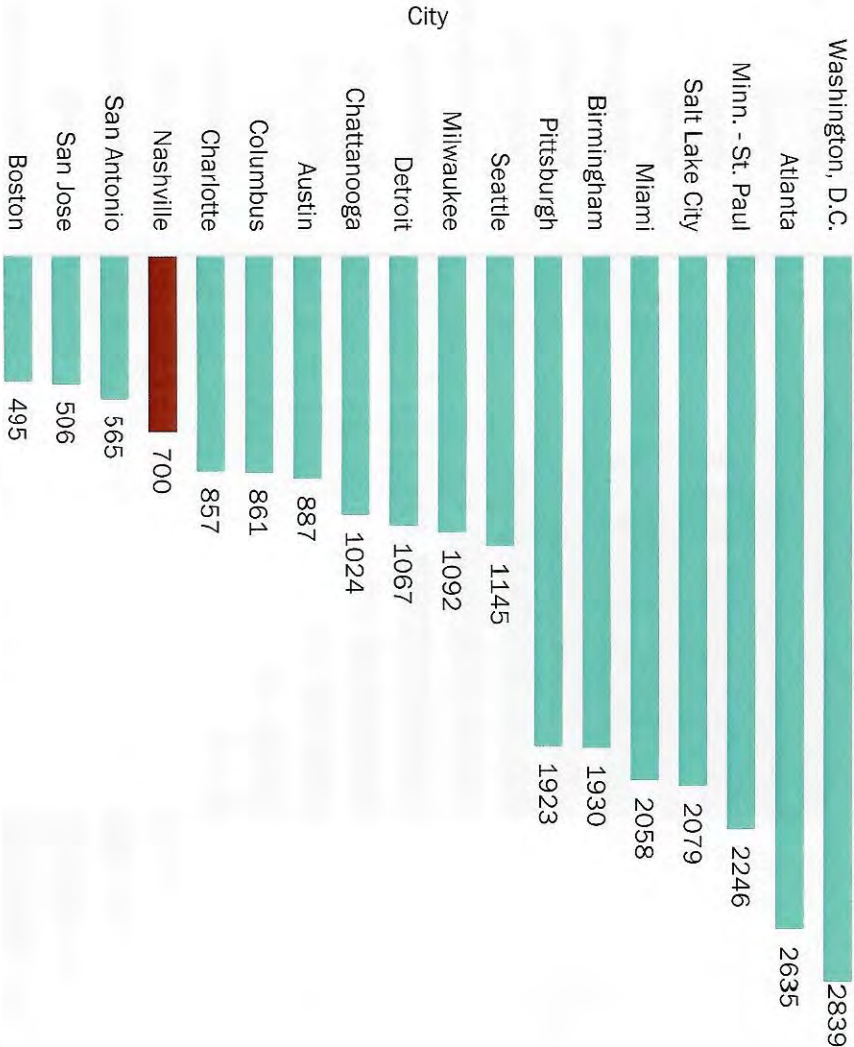
Notes: Minn.-St. Paul figure represents an average of Hennepin and Ramsey Counties, weighted by the counties' 2016 population estimates, according to the Census Bureau's 1-Year American Community Survey.



SOCIAL: CONCENTRATION OF NONPROFITS PER 100,000 POPULATION, 2024

This indicator shows the number of 501(c)3 nonprofits in each city divided by the population expressed in hundreds of thousands.

The nonprofit data for each city are from GuideStar based on the IRS Business Master File (BMF), the definitive list of tax-exempt organizations registered with the IRS, and IRS Publication 78, the listing of organizations qualified to receive tax-exempt contributions. GuideStar listings are updated in real time so counts are as of March 2024. Population data are from the American Community Survey 2022 5-year estimates.



SOCIAL: LIFE EXPECTANCY AT BIRTH BY RACE, 2019-2021

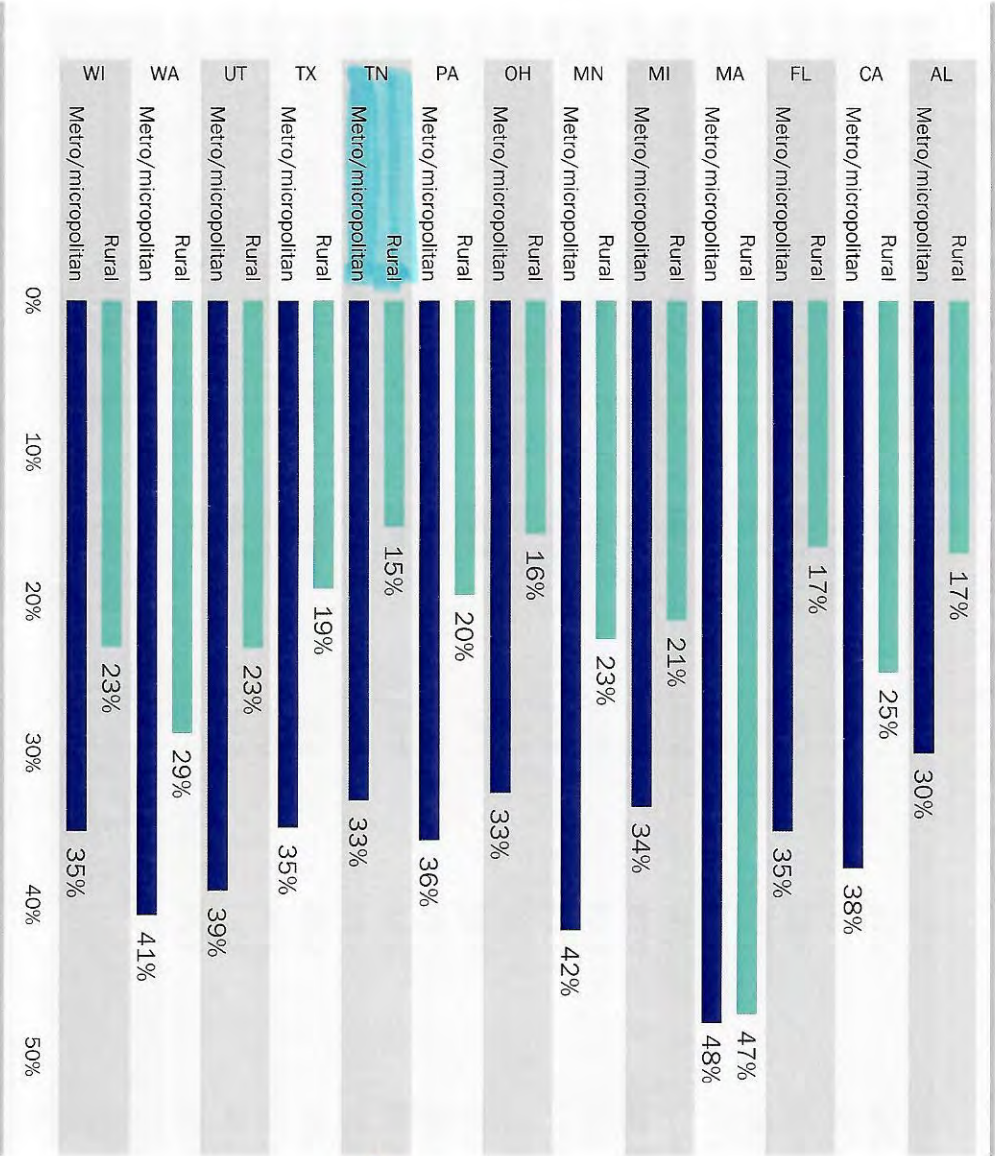
This chart shows the life expectancy at birth for residents in each city's principal county—that is, the county with the highest percentage of each city's population in 2010.

County life expectancy data are from the County Health Rankings & Roadmaps program, a collaboration between the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute. The percent of the city's population in each county is identified via StatsAmerica, a service of the Indiana Business Research Center at Indiana University's Kelley School of Business.

Principal county (city)	Asian	Black	Hispanic	White
Allegheny (Pittsburgh)	85.6	69.7	87.6	78.3
Bexar (San Antonio)	88.2	73.9	76.8	76.6
D.C. (Washington, D.C.)	90.3	70.0	84.7	87.7
Davidson (Nashville)	85.0	71.4	82.8	76.7
Franklin (Columbus)	84.9	71.9	84.7	76.6
Fulton (Atlanta)	88.6	73.2	85.7	81.8
Hamilton (Chattanooga)	85.3	71.4	88.4	76.7
Hennepin (Minneapolis)	83.5	74.2	83.6	81.1
Jefferson (Birmingham)	84.1	70.1	92.1	75.0
King (Seattle)	87.2	75.5	83.9	81.4
Mecklenburg (Charlotte)	85.3	75.0	83.1	80.8
Miami-Dade (Miami)	87.2	73.4	82.0	78.5
Milwaukee (Milwaukee)	80.6	68.5	79.7	77.4
Ramsey (St. Paul)	77.1	73.0	80.0	79.7
Salt Lake (Salt Lake City)	85.6	74.6	80.9	78.8
Santa Clara (San Jose)	89.2	78.3	82.1	82.4
Suffolk (Boston)	88.0	77.0	85.3	80.1
Travis (Austin)	88.9	75.3	81.8	80.6
Wayne (Detroit)	86.8	68.8	76.8	76.4

URBAN VS RURAL: BACHELOR'S DEGREE ATTAINMENT, 2023

For each state that contains a YALP city, this chart shows the percent of people over 25 years of age who have completed a bachelor's degree in the state's rural areas and in its metropolitan and micropolitan areas. The data are from the U.S. Census Bureau's 1-Year American Community Survey, 2023.



Notes: We define "rural" as "not in a metropolitan or micropolitan statistical area."

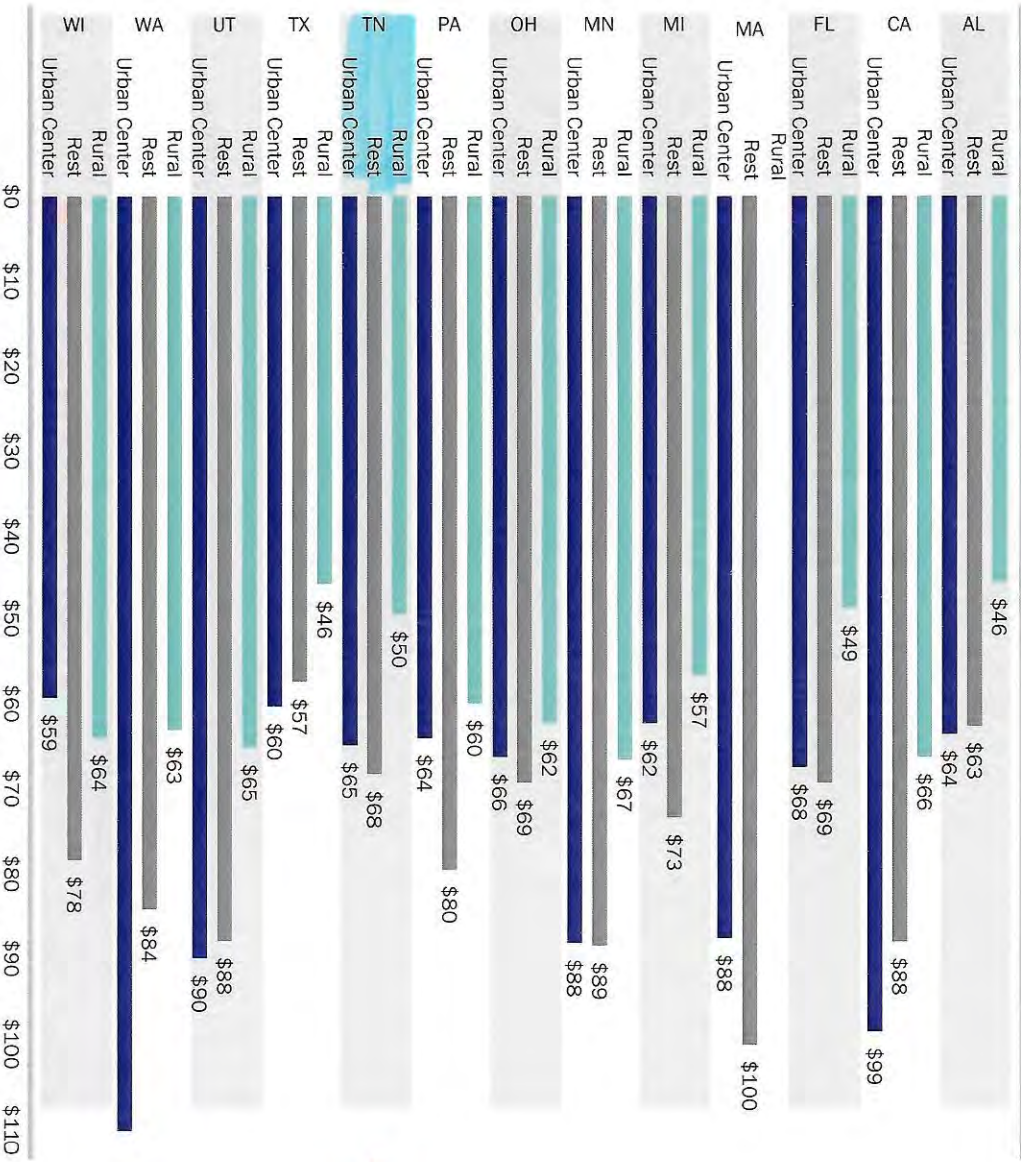
URBAN VS RURAL: MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME, RURAL VS URBAN CENTER VS REST OF STATE, 2018-2022

For each state, this chart shows the average median household income for 2018-2021 (in thousands of 2022 dollars) within three types of counties: those classified as within the center of a large metro (urban center); those in a nonmetropolitan and nonmicropolitan area (rural); and those in the “rest” of the state (including the fringe of a large metro, in a medium-sized metro, in a small metro, or in a micropolitan area).

Averages have been weighted by the American Community Survey 2018-2022 population estimates.

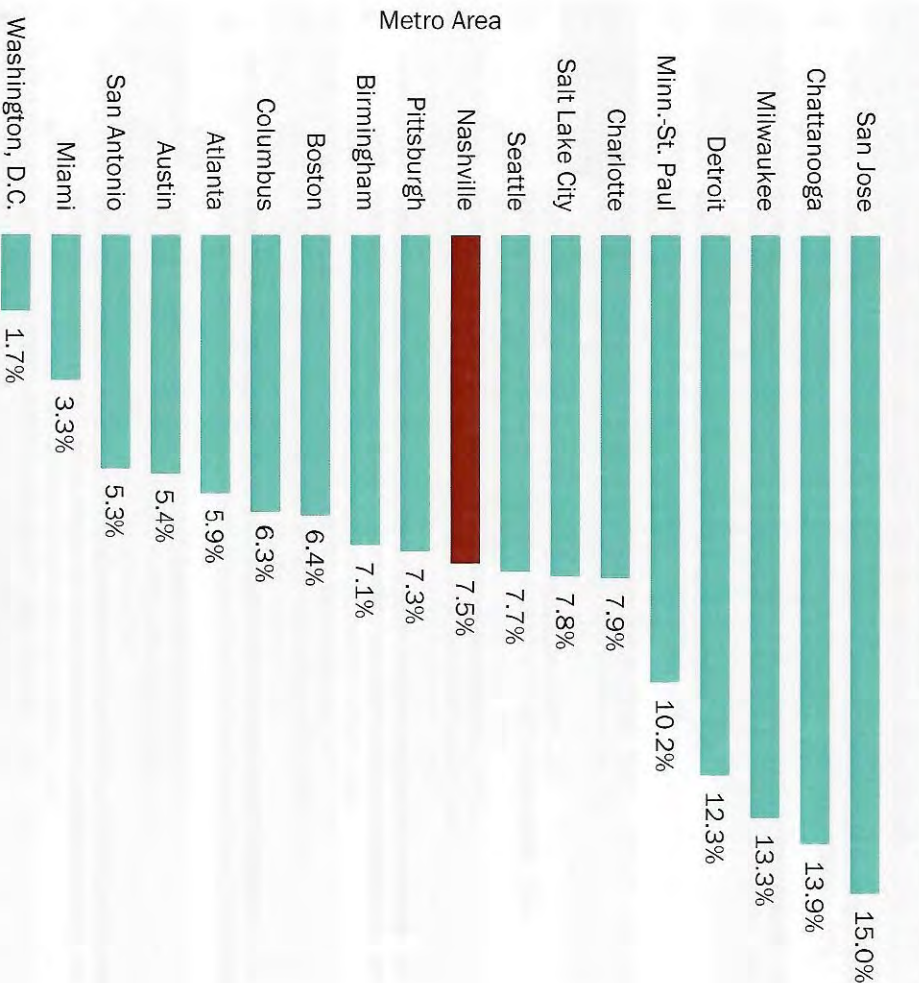
The data are from the U.S. Census Bureau’s 5-Year American Community Survey and categorized using the National Center for Health Statistics’ 2013 Urban-Rural Classification Scheme.

Notes: We exclude an estimate for rural MA since the only such county is Nantucket, a popular tourist destination. The state with the next fewest rural counties is Washington (9 counties). The remaining states have at least 14 rural counties.



HIGH TECH, MANUFACTURING, INNOVATION, AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP: PERCENTAGE MANUFACTURING EMPLOYMENT, 2024

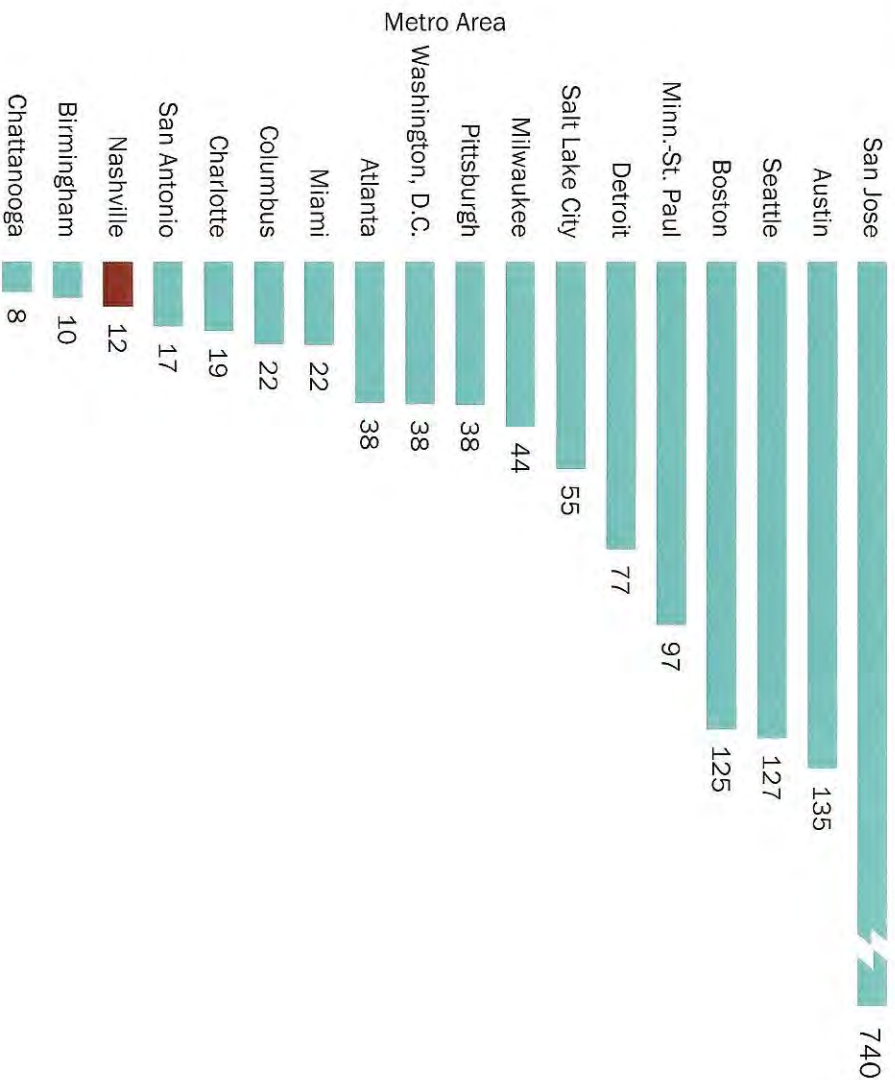
This chart shows the average share of a Metropolitan Statistical Area's nonfarm employed population that was employed in the manufacturing sector in 2024. The indicator is measured by dividing the number of nonfarm employees working in manufacturing by the total number of employed persons. The data are from the Bureau of Labor Statistics.



Notes: Boston represents the Boston-Cambridge-Nashua, Mass.-N.H. Metropolitan New England City and Town Area (NECTA).

HIGH TECH, MANUFACTURING, INNOVATION, AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP: UTILITY PATENT GRANTS PER 100,000 POPULATION, 2015

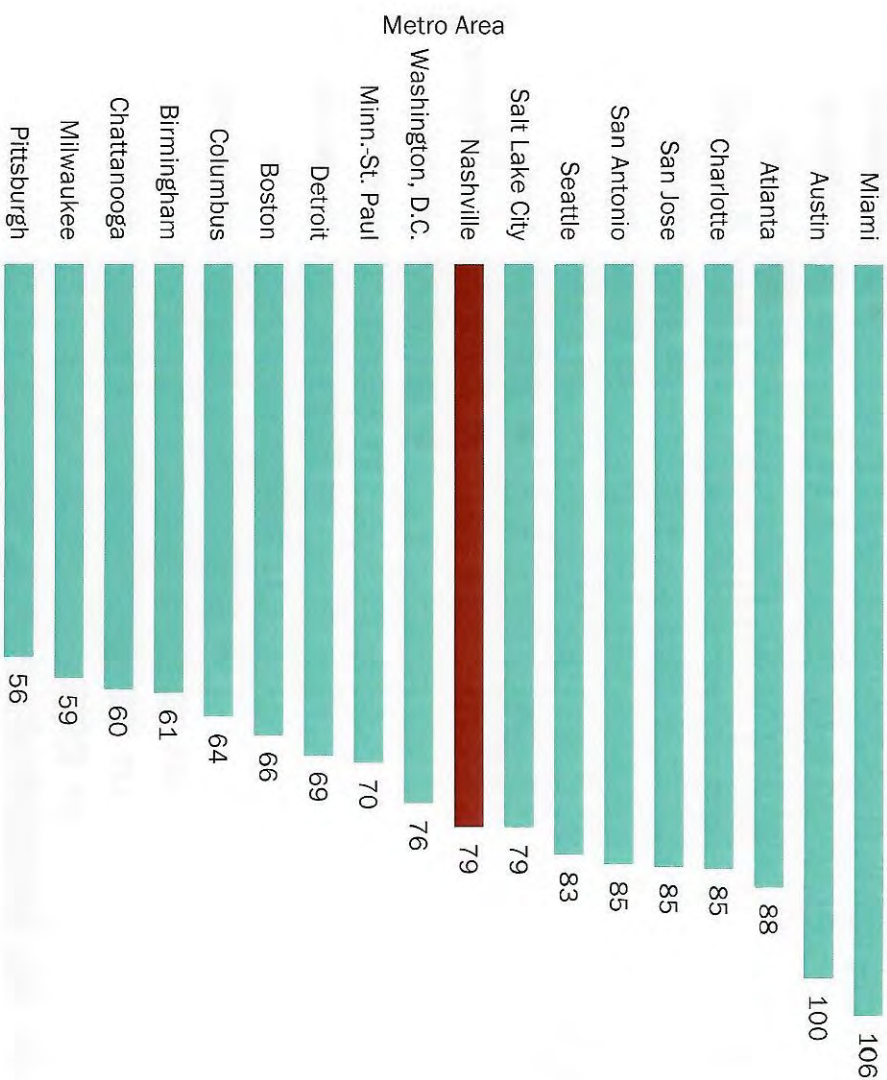
This chart shows the number of utility patents that were granted in each Metropolitan Statistical Area in 2015 divided by the population expressed in hundreds of thousands. Utility patents protect the functional aspects of an invention and are the most common type of patent application filed with the U.S. Patent Office. Patent data are from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Calendar Year Patent Statistics. Population data are from the Census Bureau's 1-Year American Community Survey.



Notes: Some Metropolitan Statistical Area titles used by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office do not match exactly with those reported via the Census Bureau's 2015 American Community Survey.

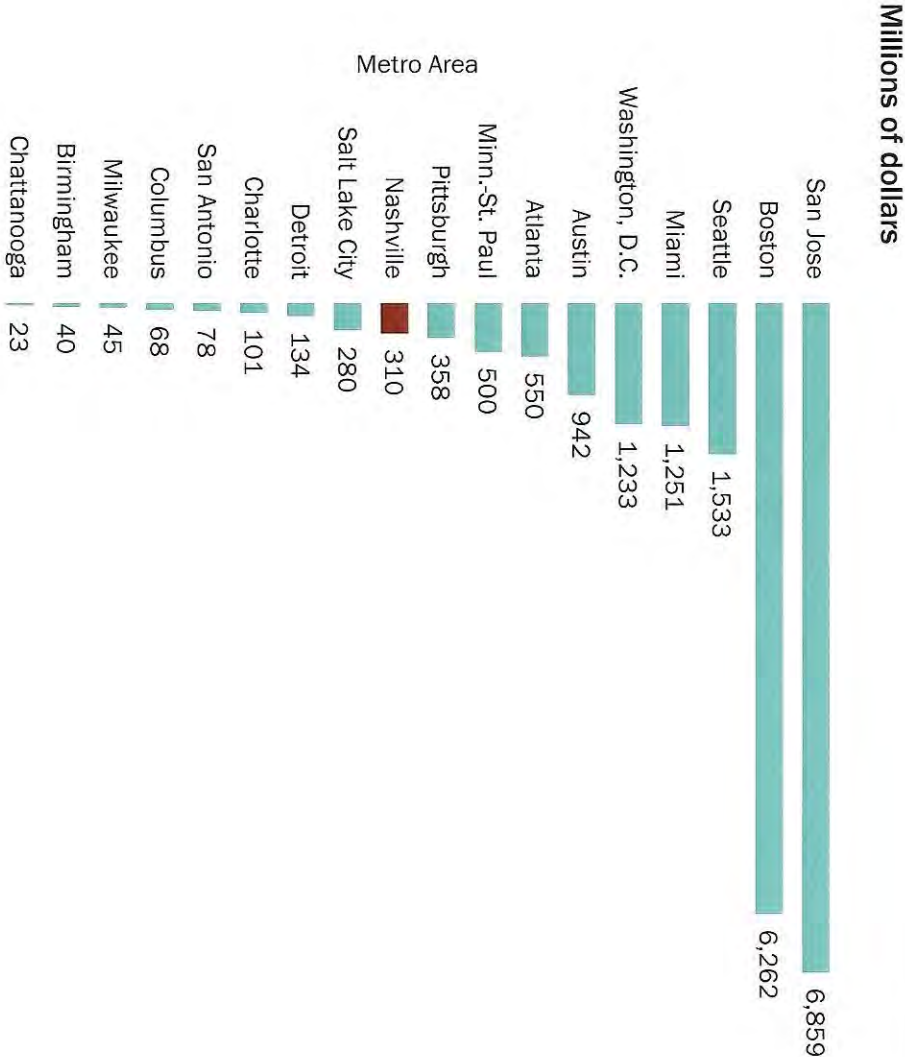
HIGH TECH, MANUFACTURING, INNOVATION, AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP: VERY SMALL FIRM BIRTHS PER 1,000 FIRMS, 2014

This chart shows the number of firms with fewer than 20 employees that were formed in 2014 in each Metropolitan Statistical Area divided by the total number of firms expressed in thousands. Firm births are defined as firms that are less than one year old. The data are from the U.S. Census Bureau's Longitudinal Business Database.



HIGH TECH, MANUFACTURING, INNOVATION, AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP: VENTURE CAPITAL FUNDING, 2016

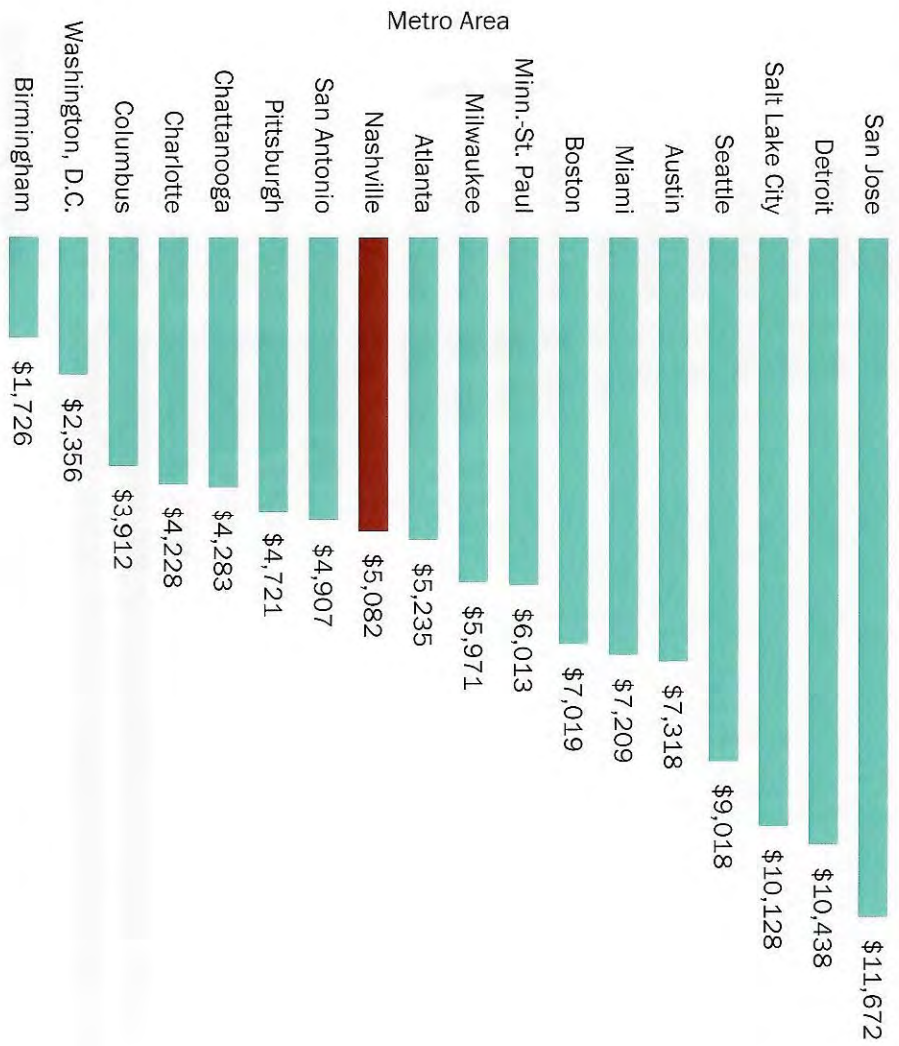
This chart shows the amount of venture capital funding each Metropolitan Statistical Area received in 2016. The data are from the PitchBook-National Venture Capital Association (NVCA) Venture Monitor.



Notes: Some Metropolitan Statistical Area titles used by the NVCA do not match exactly with those reported via the Census Bureau's 2016 American Community Survey.

HIGH TECH, MANUFACTURING, INNOVATION, AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP: MERCHANDISE EXPORTS, VALUE PER CAPITA, 2023

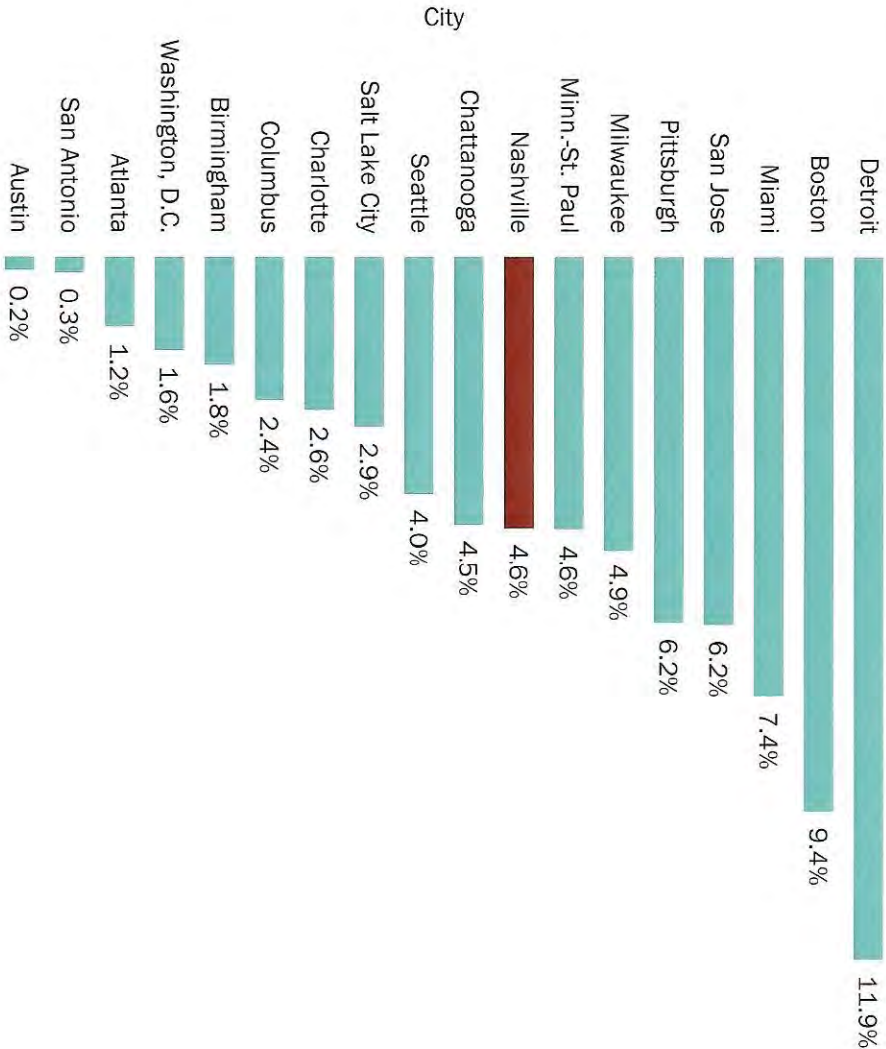
This chart shows the value of goods sold to other countries by each Metropolitan Statistical Area in 2023, divided by the total population. Exports data are from the International Trade Administration. Population data are from the U.S. Census Bureau's Population Division.



OTHER METRICS: PERCENTAGE OF BRIDGES RATED STRUCTURALLY DEFICIENT, 2023

This chart shows the functionality of bridges in each city according to the Federal Highway Administration. Because data are only available at the county-level, the percentages represent an average of structurally deficient bridges for the counties in which each city sits.

For cities that sit in more than one county, the average is weighted according to those counties' population totals from the 2023 5-Year American Community Survey.



Notes: The data include federal bridges.

OTHER METRICS: HOUSEHOLD BROADBAND ACCESS, 2023

This chart shows the ranking of cities by the percentage of households with access to any form of broadband internet. A lower number (rank) indicates greater broadband access.

The data are from the Milken Institute's Best-Performing Cities 2025 report.

City	Ranking
San Jose	3
Seattle	5
Columbus	23
Salt Lake City	25
Boston	40
Minn.-St. Paul	51
Nashville	65
San Antonio	75
Chattanooga	99
Milwaukee	107
Birmingham	119
Miami	133
Pittsburgh	153
Detroit	170

APPENDIX

Metropolitan Statistical Areas, 2024:

Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Alpharetta, GA Metro Area
Austin-Round Rock-Georgetown, TX Metro Area
Birmingham-Hoover, AL Metro Area
Boston-Cambridge-Newton, MA-NH Metro Area
Charlotte-Concord-Gastonia, NC-SC Metro Area
Chattanooga, TN-GA Metro Area
Columbus, OH Metro Area
Detroit-Warren-Dearborn, MI Metro Area
Miami-Fort Lauderdale-Pompano Beach, FL Metro Area
Milwaukee-Waukesha, WI Metro Area
Minneapolis-St. Paul-Bloomington, MN-WI Metro Area
Nashville-Davidson-Murfreesboro-Franklin, TN Metro Area
Pittsburgh, PA Metro Area
Salt Lake City, UT Metro Area
San Antonio, TX Metro Area
San Jose-Sunnyvale-Santa Clara, CA Metro Area
Seattle-Tacoma-Bellevue, WA Metro Area
Washington-Arlington-Alexandria, DC-VA-MD-WV Metro Area

Interpretation of American Community Survey 1-Year and 5-Year Estimates

American Community Survey 1-Year estimates are conducted from January through December of each calendar year. They are period estimates, based on pooled data collected over the year, as opposed to point-in-time estimates. That is, the data reflect the characteristic over the full year, not any specific day. For this document, we tend to use 1-year estimates to provide the most current data available though they will be less precise (i.e., have more sampling variability) than 5-year estimates. On the other hand, 5-year estimates will mask rapid changes in a given data point and, by definition, are less current.

The 5-year estimates, which we use for certain small populations, are based on five years of ACS data and therefore reflect the characteristics of the geographic area over the full 5-year period. The pooled estimates are reweighted and—while they may be thought of as describing the “average” over the period—do not reflect an arithmetic average of the five 1-year estimates. The data collection is evenly distributed across the period such that no month or year is overrepresented.

For more information, please see “A Compass for Understanding and Using American Community Survey Data: What General Data Users Need to Know,” U.S. Census Bureau, October 2008.