

# Benchmarking Central Ohio

# 2016



THE COLUMBUS  
FOUNDATION

## Community Research Partners

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# Benchmarking Central Ohio 2016

NOVEMBER 2016

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# Introduction

## About the Benchmarking Project

Welcome to the 2016 Benchmarking Report. This year's report continues Community Research Partner's (CRP) tradition of analyzing key indicators that impact the health, economic competitiveness, and quality of life for our community. We benchmark data for the population of the Columbus, Ohio metropolitan area alongside comparative or 'peer' metropolitan areas. This year's Benchmarking Report retains a number of features from the 2013 study, but some changes have been made to refine the report and offer fresh insights for 2016.

The structure of this year's Benchmarking Report remains the same. Indicators are grouped by section under the following topic areas: Population Vitality, Economic Strength, Personal Prosperity, Lifelong Learning, and Community Wellbeing. Within these topic areas, this study explores the data that underpin our daily lives. While updated data were not available for some of the indicators retained for 2016, data are presented alongside an expanded metro list for new rankings and comparisons.

Sponsored by The Columbus Foundation, Benchmarking Central Ohio 2016 represents the sixth edition of the benchmarking project.

## Methodology

Since its inception in 2005, the benchmarking project is designed to:

**Benchmark against both similar and best-in-class communities.** Compare Columbus with other metropolitan areas that represent both "peer communities" (similar demographics/geography) and "best-in-class" communities (having characteristics that other communities emulate).

**Select indicators from a broad framework, with a focus on economic competitiveness.** Identify indicators that describe characteristics of the population, economy, and quality of life that contribute to the economic competitiveness of the region.

**Use easily accessible, recent data.** Collect data from existing, centralized sources. The process will not include conducting new research or collecting data from individual communities. If possible, the report will use indicator data no more than three years old that can also be regularly updated.

**Produce a product that is useful to a wide audience.** Prepare a report that (1) is easy for a variety of users to understand, (2) can be used to guide program and policy development, (3) informs the community about how Columbus stacks up, and (4) inspires the community to act.

**Provide regular updates.** After the initial report, produce follow-up reports to assess progress and trends.

## The Indicator Groups

As with the previous report, the indicators in Benchmarking Central Ohio 2016 are organized into five topic sections:

1. Population Vitality
2. Economic Strength
3. Personal Prosperity
4. Lifelong Learning
5. Community Wellbeing

The indicators included in each topic were re-evaluated, resulting in fewer indicators than the 2013 report. The indicators included here were selected to best represent actual conditions related to the topic area. Some indicators were cut based on lack of easily accessible or recent data.

## The Metro Areas

Previously, the benchmarking project has compared Columbus to 15 metro areas. This year, we have cast the net wider and expanded the cohort to 22. The 7 new metro areas added for 2016 are: Las Vegas (NV), Orlando (FL), Pittsburgh (PA), Providence (RI), Sacramento (CA), San Antonio (TX), and San Jose (CA). Where data have been updated, the indicators apply the

Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) geographies defined by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget in 2013, as used by the Census Bureau and other federal agencies for statistical purposes. Some indicators use the MSA boundaries defined from 2003, where the source dataset has not updated to the newer boundaries. Not all metro areas were represented in the source datasets. In these cases, an “N/A” is used to indicate no available data.

CRP has collected most of the indicator data for the top 100 MSAs by population. Where possible, a figure for the top 100 MSAs is included for comparison purposes.

A map of the geographies covered in this report is included for reference on page iv. On each indicator page, metro areas are colored by region, with red for Midwest, blue for South, green for West, and black for Northeast (Providence only).

## About the Rankings

Each indicator page contains a bar graph that rank-orders the metro areas. Columbus is always highlighted in red. Many of the graphs display data as a percentage to enable comparisons of metro areas with different populations. For most of the indicators, 1 indicates the “highest” and “best” or otherwise the preferred condition, and 23rd indicates the “lowest” and “worst” or undesired condition. For some indicators, such as unemployment rate, poverty rate, and crime rate, a low value for the measure is the preferred condition, and accordingly, is ranked higher.

Where the Columbus MSA’s ranking is tied with another MSA, its ranking number is marked with a T. This report utilizes a “dense ranking” system, in which ties are assigned the same number in ranking sequence, and the next metro is assigned the immediately following ranking number (e.g. 1, 2, T-3, T-3, 4). This is a change from the previous ranking system, to better represent Columbus’ distance from the most preferred position based on the number value.

Some tied metros will not be listed alphabetically, as there was a slight difference in value between them, ranking one higher than the other(s). However, they are presented as ties based on rounding to the appropriate number of significant digits.

Columbus ranking tables are presented at the beginning of each of the five topic sections. This provides a quick way of visually scanning where the Columbus metro falls among the indicators in a given topic. Note that due to tied metros in this ranking system, the possible ranking values may not always end on a rank of 23.

It is important to acknowledge the ranking in this report within the context of each specific indicator. For data where the spread between the highest and lowest figures is small, ranking may be a less useful tool for analysis. Similarly, the trend charts show how Columbus changes over time; small changes over time may not indicate statistically significant change. Notes indicate if the metro area boundaries themselves have changed over time, which may impact the value. Data sources may use old or updated boundaries when describing the MSA. Readers should consider the geography included in each indicator and how it could impact the interpretation of the data. Trend charts depicting dollar figures are not adjusted for inflation.

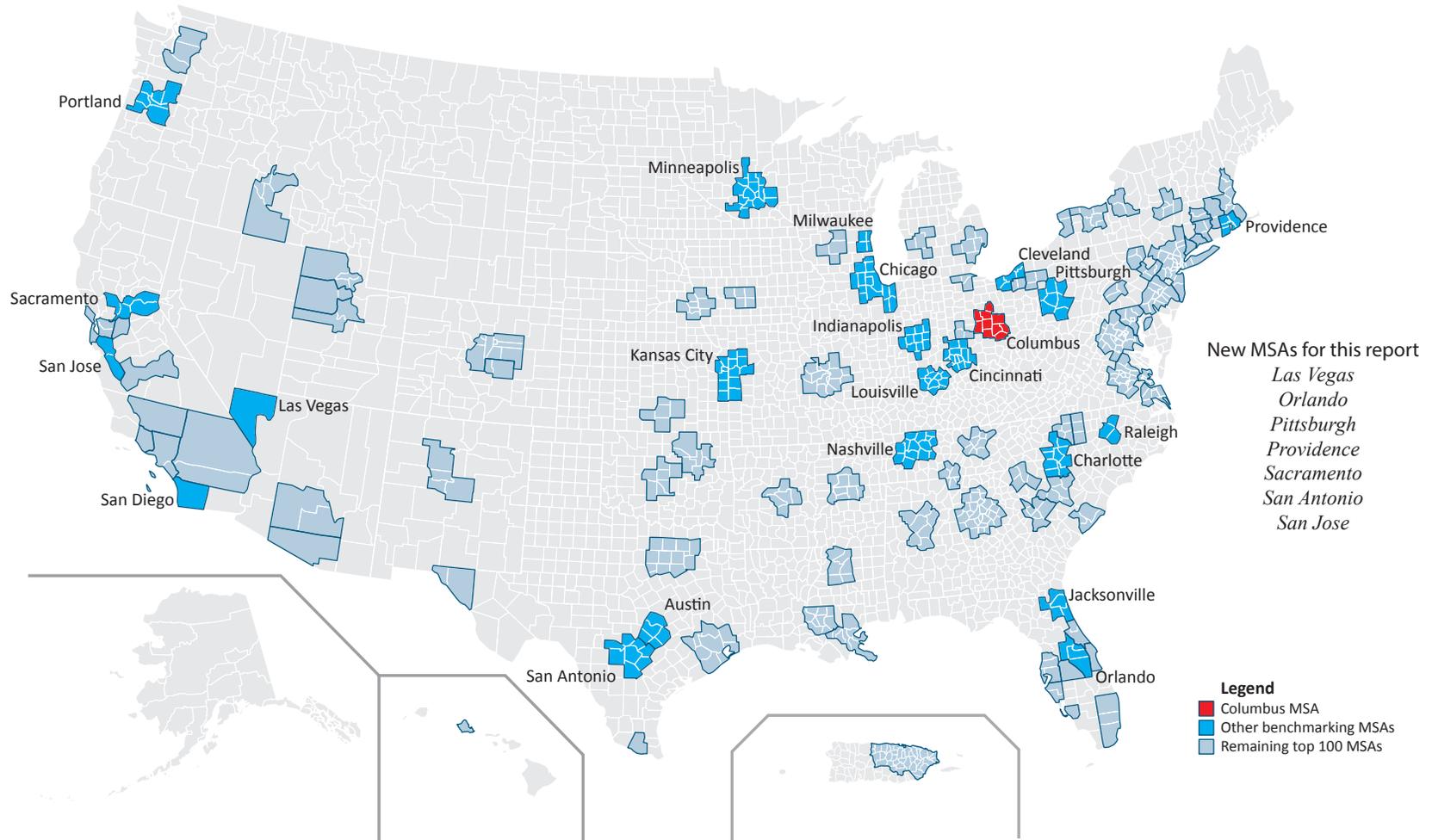
## Accuracy

CRP has been careful in collecting, analyzing, checking, and presenting data from a variety of sources to prepare this report. CRP has judged its data sources (indicated on each indicator page and listed in the Data Sources section starting on page 6-1) to be reliable, but it was not possible to authenticate all data. If careful readers of the report discover data or typographical errors, CRP welcomes this feedback and will incorporate corrections into future versions of the report.

## Benchmarking Metro Area Definitions

Metro Area	MSA Geography (new counties are blue, counties removed from the 2003 MSA geography are red )
Austin	Bastrop, Caldwell, Hays, Travis, Williamson, TX
Charlotte	Anson, Cabarrus, Gaston, Iredell, Lincoln, Mecklenburg, Rowan, Union, NC; Chester, Lancaster, York, SC
Chicago	Cook, DeKalb, DuPage, Grundy, Kane, Kendall, Lake, McHenry, Will, IL; Jasper, Lake, Newton, Porter, IN; Kenosha, WI
Cincinnati	Brown, Butler, Clermont, Hamilton, Warren, OH; Boone, Bracken, Campbell, Gallatin, Grant, Kenton, Pendleton, KY; Dearborn, Franklin, Ohio, Union, IN
Cleveland	Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake, Lorain, Medina, OH
Columbus	Delaware, Fairfield, Franklin, Hocking, Licking, Madison, Morrow, Perry, Pickaway, Union, OH
Indianapolis	Boone, Brown, Hamilton, Hancock, Hendricks, Johnson, Madison, Marion, Morgan, Putnam, Shelby, IN
Jacksonville	Baker, Clay, Duval, Nassau, St. Johns, FL
Las Vegas	Clark, NV
Kansas City	Bates, Caldwell, Cass, Clay, Clinton, Jackson, Lafayette, Platte, Ray, MO; Franklin, Johnson, Leavenworth, Linn, Miami, Wyandotte, KS
Louisville	Bullitt, Henry, Jefferson, Meade, Nelson, Oldham, Shelby, Spencer, Trimble, KY; Clark, Floyd, Harrison, Scott, Washington, IN
Milwaukee	Milwaukee, Ozaukee, Washington, Waukesha, WI
Minneapolis	Anoka, Carver, Chisago, Dakota, Hennepin, Isanti, Le Sueur, Mille Lacs, Ramsey, Scott, Sherburne, Sibley, Washington, Wright, MN; Pierce, St. Croix, WI
Nashville	Cannon, Cheatham, Davidson, Dickson, Hickman, Macon, Maury, Robertson, Rutherford, Smith, Sumner, Trousdale, Williamson, Wilson, TN
Orlando	Lake, Orange, Osceola, Seminole, FL
Pittsburgh	Allegheny, Armstrong, Beaver, Butler, Fayette, Washington, Westmorland, PA
Portland	Clackamas, Columbia, Multnomah, Washington, Yamhill, OR; Clark, Skamania, WA
Providence	Bristol, MA; Bristol, Kent, Newport, Providence, Washington, RI
Raleigh	Franklin, Johnston, Wake, NC
Sacramento	El Dorado, Placer, Sacramento, Yolo, CA
San Antonio	Atascosa, Bandera, Bexar, Comal, Guadalupe, Kendall, Medina, Wilson, TX
San Diego	San Diego, CA
San Jose	San Benito, Santa Clara, CA

# Top 100 MSAs by Population, 2015



# Section 1: Population Vitality

This section includes indicators of population growth, diversity, age, and households that describe the vitality of the metro area populations.

The following are the Population Vitality indicator categories:

1.01 Population Growth

1.05 Households

1.02 Race and Ethnicity

1.06 Same-Sex Couples

1.03 Senior Population

1.07 Urban Density

1.04 Median Age

# Section Overview

This section includes demographic indicators measuring population growth, diversity, age, household size, and urban density. Faster-growing, more diverse, and younger metro areas are thought to be more economically competitive. These indicators combined help us understand the vitality and dynamism of metro area populations. Here, some of the most recent population findings are pulled out. Where the indicators present opportunities for additional analysis, we highlight a few points of interest for further discussion.

The table on page 1-4 shows where the rankings in this section fall. Columbus tends to rank in the top and middle tiers when it comes to population vitality. It is a high-growth metropolitan area with a younger population and a mixed picture of diversity.

## Population Growth

Columbus showed steady population growth of 2.6% between 2013 and 2015, bringing the metro population above the 2 million mark (1.01). This growth is the highest among the Midwestern benchmarking cities and joint 10th overall across the comparative metro areas. The Columbus MSA grew by two counties, Hocking and Perry County, bringing the total to 10 counties currently making up the MSA. While the population in the Columbus MSA continues to grow, the overall urban density stays flat (1.07), partly due to the increasing land area of the MSA. The most recent characterization by realtor firm Trulia shows Columbus as 54% suburban, 46% urban<sup>1</sup>.

## Diversity

Columbus ranks in the bottom tier for the overall percentage of the population that is recognized as a minority race or ethnicity, according to Census data (1.02). Despite a marginal rise of 0.7% since 2014, the overall minority population in Columbus has remained fairly constant since 2011, with around 1 in 4 people of a racial or ethnic minority. Columbus has one of the lowest Hispanic or Latino populations among the comparative metro areas, with only Cincinnati and Pittsburgh ranking lower. Columbus remains one of the highest ranked cities for same-sex couples (1.06), with 6.06 couples per 1,000 households, climbing from 5th to 2nd in the cohort ranking from the 2013 report to the current report.

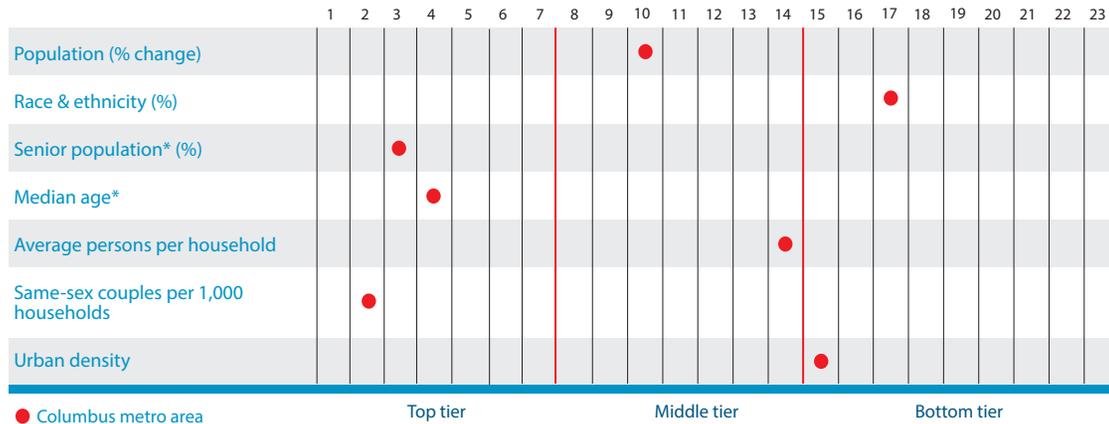
## Younger Population

Columbus retains one of the youngest populations among the comparative benchmarking cities, with a current median age of 35.9, placing Columbus 4th overall, youngest of the Midwest metros, and lower than the U.S. average of 37.8 (1.04). At 12.3%, the percentage of seniors (aged 65 and over) in Columbus has climbed marginally over the past few years, alongside national trends, but still remains below the top 100 MSA figure of 13.9% (1.03). Retaining a young population helps keep Columbus in the top tier for highest proportion of the population of prime working age. Columbus currently ranks 7th for percentage of the population of prime working age and 3rd for the proportion of the population aged 25 to 34 (following section, 2.10).

1. Methodology described here, along with links to data:  
<http://jedkolko.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/05/Data-and-methodological-details-052715.pdf>



# Population Vitality Ranking



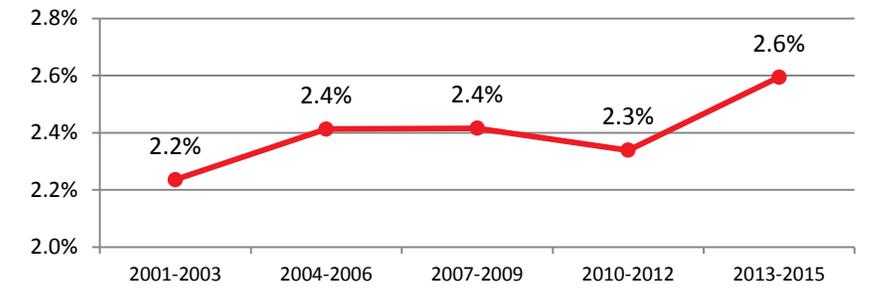
These indicators are ranked from highest (1) to lowest (23), except (\*) ranked lowest (1) to highest (23).

# Indicator 1.01: Population Growth

This indicator includes Bureau of the Census data on the total metro area populations in 2013 and 2015 and the increase or decrease in population from 2013 and 2015.

Columbus showed steady population growth of 2.6% between 2013 and 2015, bringing the metro population above the 2 million mark. This growth is the highest among the Midwestern benchmarking cities and joint 10th overall across the benchmarking metros.

## Columbus Trends: Percentage of population change



Note: the population for all years is adjusted to current MSA boundaries

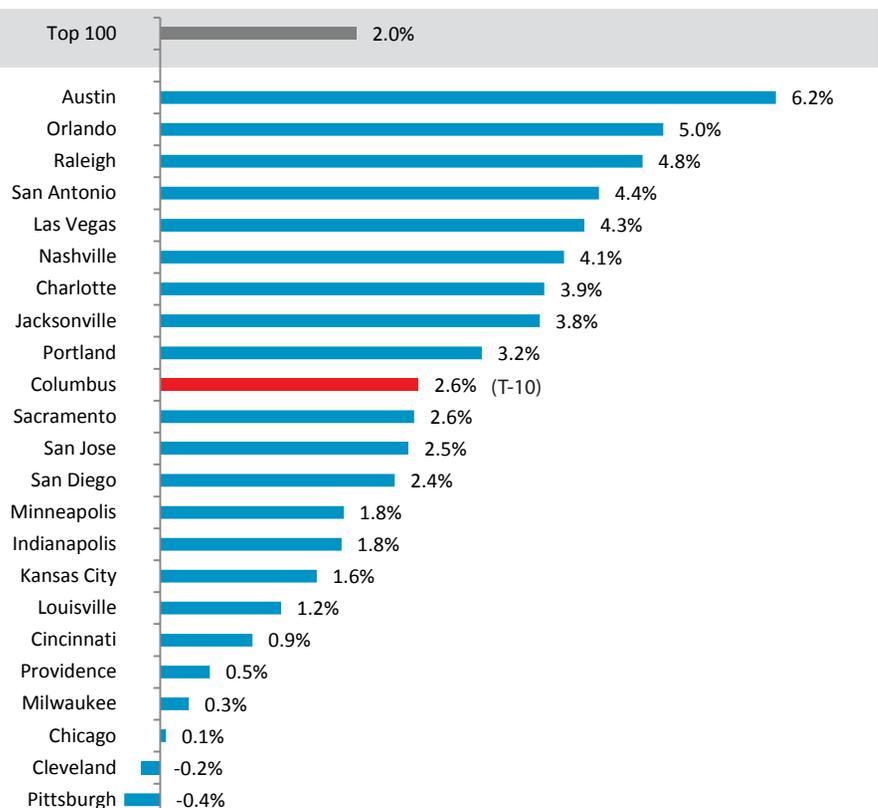
## Total population, 2013-2015

Metro area	2013	2015
1 Austin	1,884,439	2,000,860
2 Orlando	2,272,395	2,387,138
3 Raleigh	1,214,747	1,273,568
4 San Antonio	2,283,485	2,384,075
5 Las Vegas	2,028,421	2,114,801
6 Nashville	1,759,034	1,830,345
7 Charlotte	2,336,266	2,426,363
8 Jacksonville	1,396,267	1,449,481
9 Portland	2,314,482	2,389,228
10 Columbus	<b>1,970,511</b>	<b>2,021,632</b>
10 Sacramento	2,217,634	2,274,194
11 San Jose	1,928,745	1,976,836
12 San Diego	3,223,645	3,299,521
13 Minneapolis	3,460,826	3,524,583
13 Indianapolis	1,953,277	1,988,817
14 Kansas City	2,055,178	2,087,471
15 Louisville	1,263,092	1,278,413
16 Cincinnati	2,137,868	2,157,719
17 Providence	1,605,040	1,613,070
18 Milwaukee	1,571,207	1,575,747
19 Chicago	9,545,362	9,551,031
20 Cleveland	2,064,854	2,060,810
21 Pittsburgh	2,361,518	2,353,045

Regions: Red=Midwest; Blue=South; Green=West; Black=NE

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Population Estimates

## Percentage of population change, 2013-2015



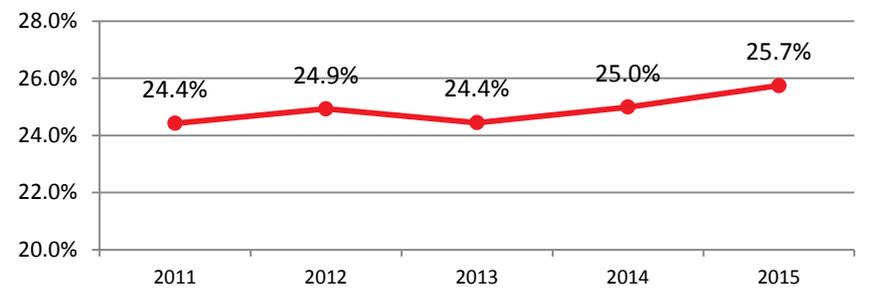
(#) Ranked from highest to lowest

# Indicator 1.02: Race and Ethnicity

This indicator includes data from the American Community Survey on the racial and ethnic diversity of the metro areas. These data reflect self-identification by people according to the race and ethnicity with which they most closely identify. The percentages in the data table do not total 100% because there are additional Census race classifications not shown on the table.

Columbus ranks in the bottom tier for the overall percentage of the population that is recognized as a minority race or ethnicity. Columbus has one of the lowest Hispanic or Latino populations among the comparative metro areas, with only Cincinnati and Pittsburgh ranking lower.

## Columbus Trends: Percentage of pop. of racial, ethnic minority



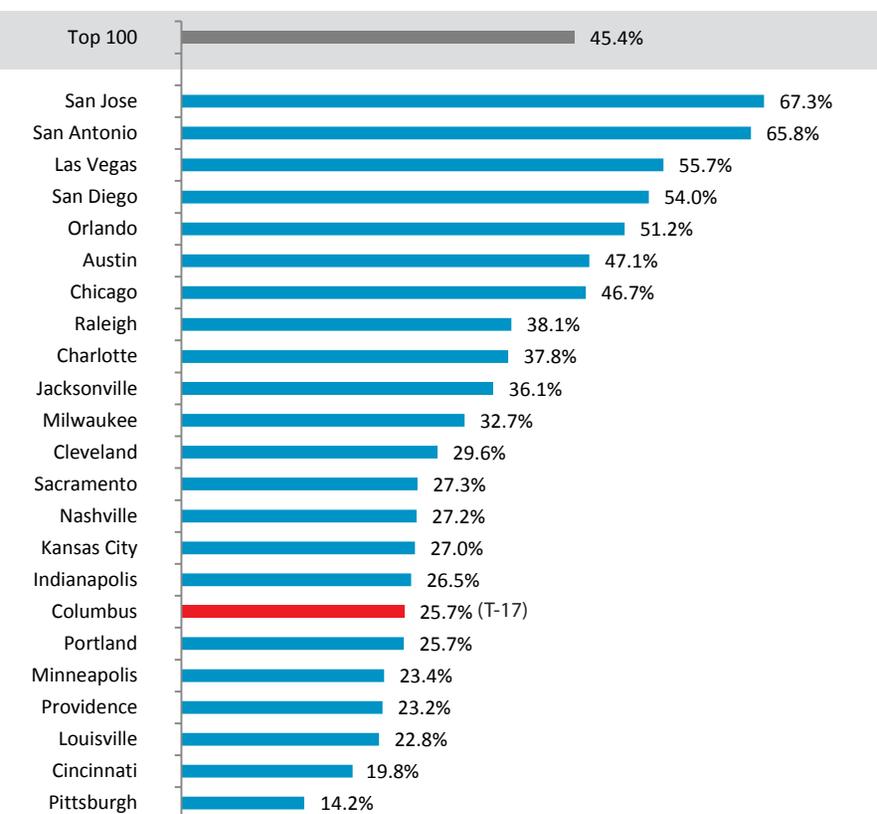
Note: Columbus MSA boundaries changed in 2013 (added Hocking and Perry counties)

## Population by race and ethnicity, 2015

Metro area	White	Black or African American	Asian	Hispanic or Latino (of any race)
1 San Jose	32.7%	2.3%	33.7%	27.3%
2 San Antonio	34.2%	6.4%	2.4%	55.0%
3 Las Vegas	44.3%	10.5%	9.5%	30.6%
4 San Diego	46.0%	4.9%	11.5%	33.4%
5 Orlando	48.8%	15.4%	4.2%	28.7%
6 Austin	52.9%	7.1%	5.5%	32.2%
7 Chicago	53.3%	16.5%	6.3%	21.9%
8 Raleigh	61.9%	19.9%	5.2%	10.5%
9 Charlotte	62.2%	22.2%	3.4%	9.7%
10 Jacksonville	63.9%	21.2%	3.8%	8.2%
11 Milwaukee	67.3%	16.3%	3.5%	10.4%
12 Cleveland	70.4%	19.7%	2.2%	5.5%
13 Sacramento	53.2%	6.9%	12.9%	21.3%
14 Nashville	72.8%	15.0%	2.4%	6.9%
15 Kansas City	73.0%	12.4%	2.7%	8.9%
16 Indianapolis	73.5%	14.6%	2.9%	6.5%
17 Columbus	<b>74.3%</b>	<b>14.8%</b>	<b>3.7%</b>	<b>3.9%</b>
17 Portland	74.3%	2.7%	6.3%	11.7%
18 Minneapolis	76.6%	7.8%	6.4%	5.7%
19 Providence	76.8%	4.7%	2.9%	11.9%
20 Louisville	77.2%	13.8%	1.9%	4.4%
21 Cincinnati	80.2%	12.0%	2.3%	3.0%
22 Pittsburgh	85.8%	7.9%	2.2%	1.7%

Regions: Red=Midwest; Blue=South; Green=West; Black=NE

## Percentage of population of a racial or ethnic minority, 2015



(#) Ranked from highest to lowest

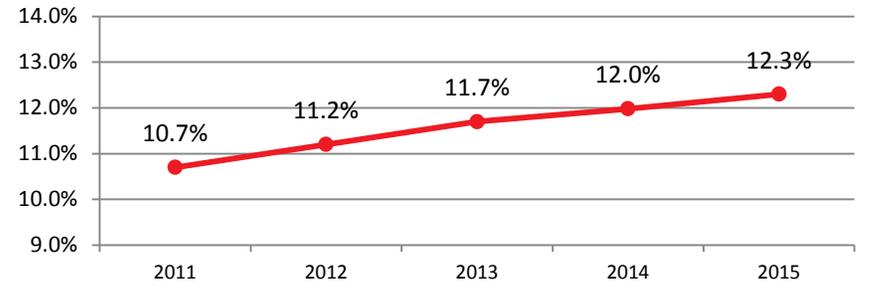
Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, American Community Survey

# Indicator 1.03: Senior Population

This indicator includes data from the American Community Survey on the number and percentage of individuals age 65 and older. As baby boomers age, the senior population across the country grows, posing new challenges. A larger share of seniors in a population is an indicator of a community with greater health care needs and more people exiting the workforce and becoming economically dependent on the working-age population.

At 12.3%, the percentage of seniors in Columbus has climbed marginally over the past few years, alongside national trends, but still remains below the top 100 metro figure of 13.9%.

**Columbus Trends: Percentage of population age 65 and older**



Note: Columbus MSA boundaries changed in 2013 (added Hocking and Perry counties)

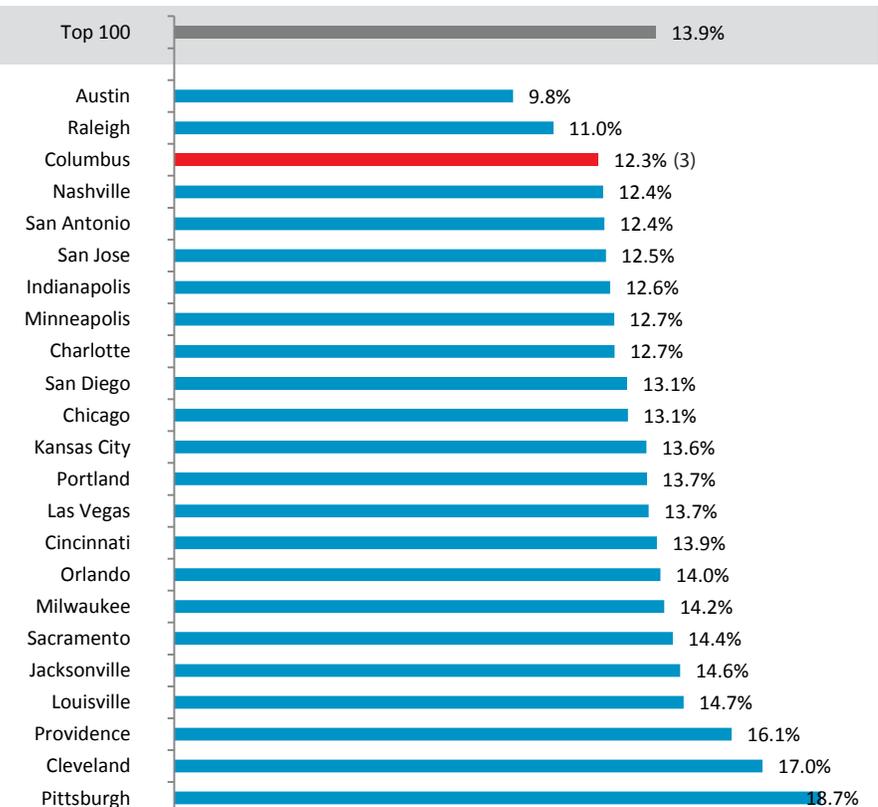
**Population age 65 and older, 2015**

Metro area	Total population age 65 and over
1 Austin	195,856
2 Raleigh	139,512
3 <b>Columbus</b>	<b>247,666</b>
4 Nashville	226,733
4 San Antonio	295,981
5 San Jose	246,426
6 Indianapolis	250,332
7 Minneapolis	447,768
7 Charlotte	308,514
8 San Diego	431,699
8 Chicago	1,251,283
9 Kansas City	284,727
10 Portland	326,292
10 Las Vegas	289,825
11 Cincinnati	301,066
12 Orlando	335,235
13 Milwaukee	223,003
14 Sacramento	327,444
15 Jacksonville	211,780
16 Louisville	188,228
17 Providence	259,657
18 Cleveland	350,060
19 Pittsburgh	439,441

Regions: Red=Midwest; Blue=South; Green=West; Black=NE

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, American Community Survey

**Percentage of population age 65 and older, 2015**



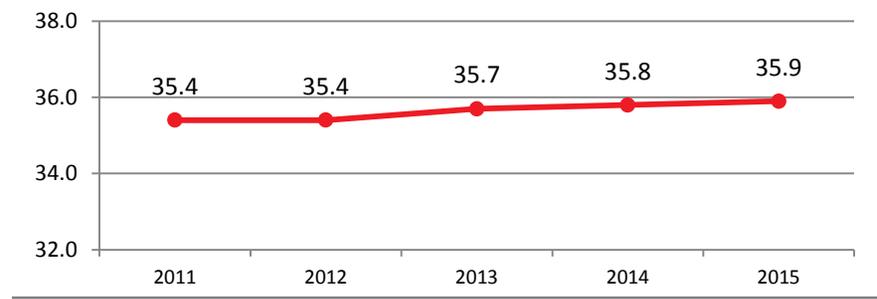
(#) Ranked from lowest to highest

# Indicator 1.04: Median Age

This indicator includes data from the American Community Survey on the median age of the metro area populations. The median age, which is expressed in years, is the age that divides the population into two groups of equal size. Half the population is older than the median age, and half is younger. This indicator includes median age data for the total population as well as the median age for selected racial and ethnic subgroups.

Columbus retains one of the youngest populations among the comparative benchmarking metros, with a current median age of 35.9, it is 4th overall, youngest of the Midwest metros, and lower than the U.S. average of 37.8.

## Columbus Trends: Median age (years) of total population



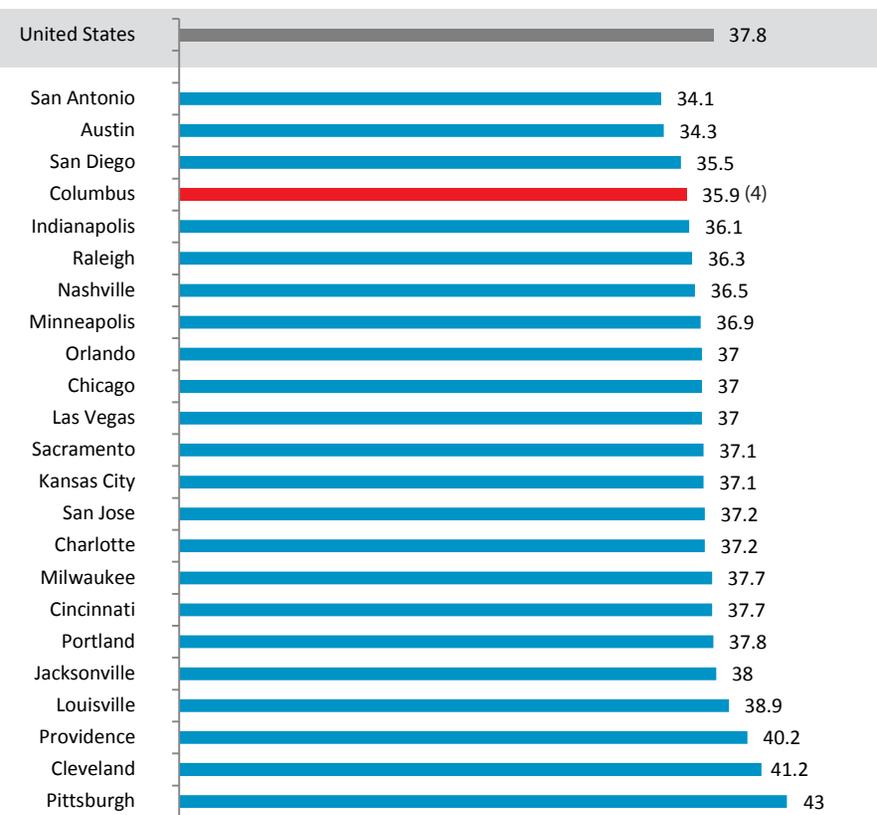
Note: Columbus MSA boundaries changed in 2013 (added Hocking and Perry counties)

## Median age (years) by race and ethnicity, 2015

Metro area	White	Black or African American	Asian	Hispanic or Latino
1 San Antonio	35.2	33.7	35.8	30.6
2 Austin	35.5	33.7	33.4	27.9
3 San Diego	37.1	32.8	38.1	28.8
4 <b>Columbus</b>	<b>37.9</b>	<b>31.3</b>	<b>33.0</b>	<b>25.0</b>
5 Indianapolis	38.3	31.4	32.5	24.9
6 Raleigh	38.1	34.1	35.4	25.4
7 Nashville	38.3	32.6	35.3	25.6
8 Minneapolis	40.3	27.9	29.6	25.1
9 Orlando	39.7	31.7	38.0	32.3
9 Chicago	39.4	35.1	36.9	28.5
9 Las Vegas	40.3	33.0	41.1	28.0
10 Sacramento	40.7	34.5	35.3	27.6
10 Kansas City	39.1	33.7	32.2	26.1
11 San Jose	41.1	35.3	38.1	29.6
11 Charlotte	40.2	34.0	33.1	26.1
12 Milwaukee	41.8	29.5	30.5	26.0
12 Cincinnati	39.8	33.6	33.2	24.6
13 Portland	39.4	33.1	37.0	25.7
14 Jacksonville	41.2	31.6	37.1	30.1
15 Louisville	41.0	34.7	31.1	26.0
16 Providence	43.4	30.7	31.4	26.1
17 Cleveland	44.3	35.2	34.9	27.3
18 Pittsburgh	45.1	34.5	31.5	26.9

Regions: Red=Midwest; Blue=South; Green=West; Black=NE

## Median age (years) of total population, 2015



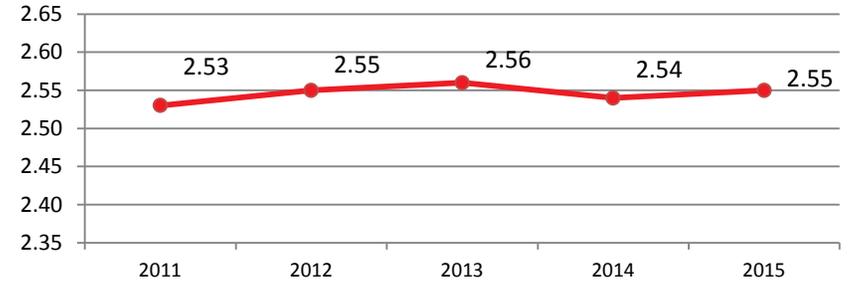
(#) Ranked from lowest to highest

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, American Community Survey

# Indicator 1.05: Households

This indicator includes data from the American Community Survey on the number and type of households in the metro areas. A household is defined as an occupied housing unit, and households are categorized into types based on the characteristics of the primary householder and his or her relationship with others in the household. Examples of household types include married couples, persons living alone, and single mothers with children and no husband present. Average household size is calculated by dividing the total number of people living in households in an area by the total number of households.

## Columbus Trends: Average persons per household



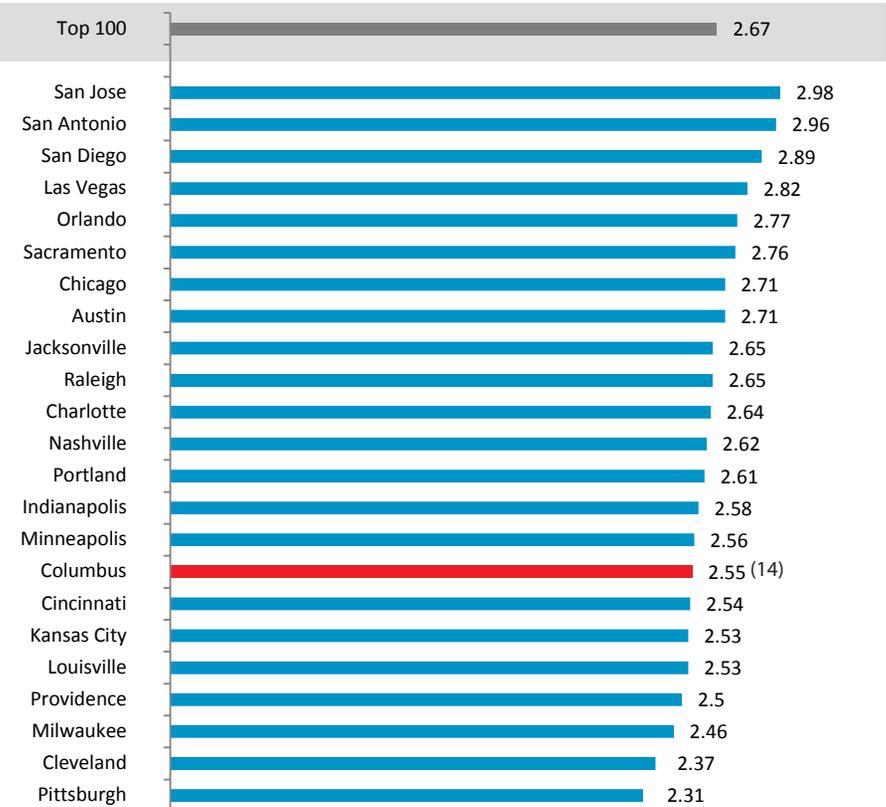
Note: Columbus MSA boundaries changed in 2013 (added Hocking and Perry counties)

## Number and percentage of households by type, 2015

Metro area	Total households	Married Couple Households	Persons living alone	Women with children (no spouse present)
1 San Jose	651,352	56.9%	20.4%	10.1%
2 San Antonio	791,273	48.2%	26.1%	14.9%
3 San Diego	1,113,610	49.1%	24.9%	11.6%
4 Las Vegas	740,966	42.6%	28.9%	14.1%
5 Orlando	845,295	46.9%	24.6%	14.8%
6 Sacramento	809,295	48.0%	26.5%	13.0%
7 Chicago	3,470,993	47.3%	28.5%	13.4%
7 Austin	723,914	47.6%	28.2%	9.7%
8 Jacksonville	536,299	47.2%	27.2%	14.5%
8 Raleigh	470,527	51.9%	25.0%	11.6%
9 Charlotte	905,696	48.6%	27.1%	13.6%
10 Nashville	686,640	49.7%	26.3%	12.1%
11 Portland	901,402	48.6%	27.6%	10.0%
12 Indianapolis	755,100	45.5%	31.2%	12.6%
13 Minneapolis	1,354,766	50.7%	27.6%	9.7%
14 <b>Columbus</b>	<b>772,304</b>	<b>46.3%</b>	<b>28.4%</b>	<b>12.7%</b>
15 Cincinnati	832,607	47.9%	28.8%	12.9%
16 Kansas City	814,092	48.2%	29.8%	11.6%
16 Louisville	496,455	45.8%	30.3%	13.3%
17 Providence	622,607	43.4%	30.9%	14.2%
18 Milwaukee	627,842	44.3%	31.3%	12.3%
19 Cleveland	849,475	42.6%	33.5%	14.0%
20 Pittsburgh	990,355	46.5%	32.4%	11.0%

Regions: Red=Midwest; Blue=South; Green=West; Black=NE

## Average persons per household, 2015



(#) Ranked from highest to lowest

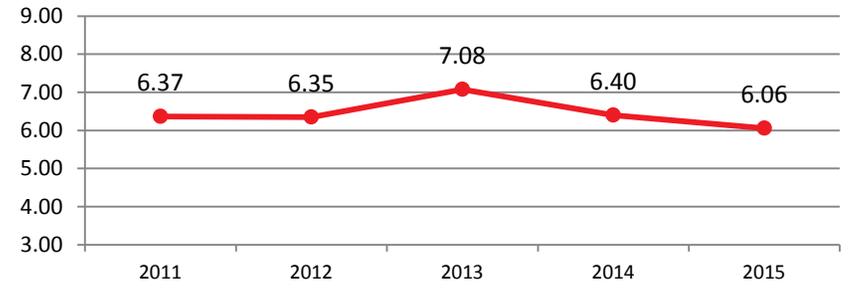
Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, American Community Survey

# Indicator 1.06: Same-Sex Couples

This indicator includes data from the American Community Survey on same-sex partner households. The number includes both married and unmarried same-sex couples.

Columbus remains one of the highest ranked cities for same-sex couples, with 6.06 couples per 1,000 households, climbing from 5th to 2nd in the cohort ranking from the 2013 report to the current report.

## Columbus Trends: Same-sex couples per 1,000 households



Note: Columbus MSA boundaries changed in 2013 (added Hocking and Perry counties)

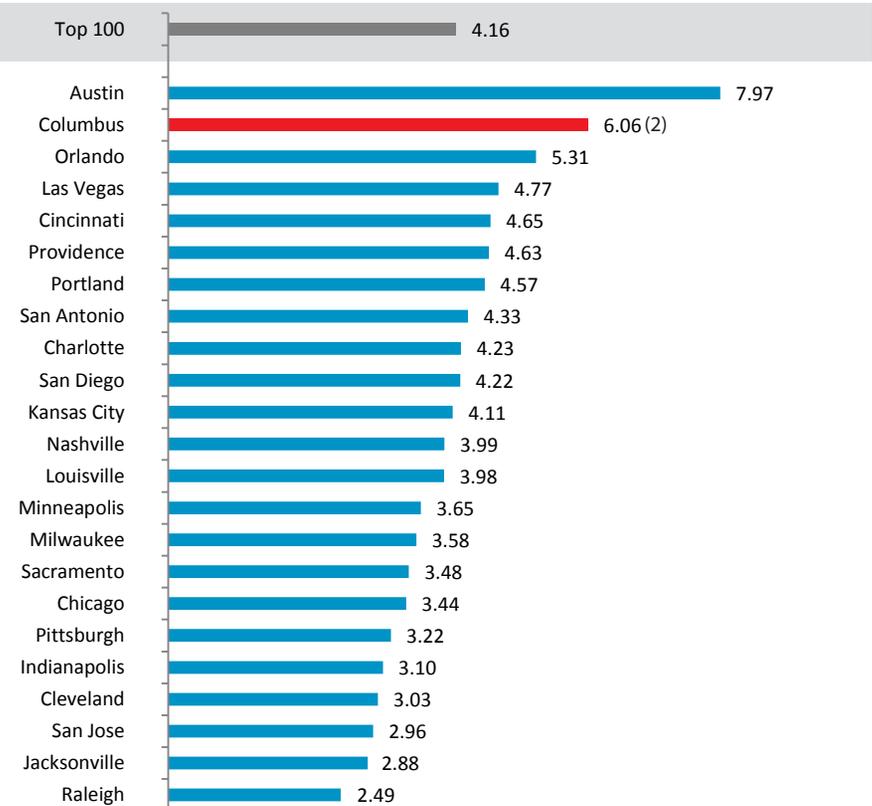
## Same-sex couples by sex, 2015

Metro area	Male Couples	Female Couples
1 Austin	3,102	2,669
2 <b>Columbus</b>	<b>2,584</b>	<b>2,099</b>
3 Orlando	3,164	1,324
4 Las Vegas	2,000	1,534
5 Cincinnati	1,730	2,145
6 Providence	1,331	1,553
7 Portland	1,844	2,275
8 San Antonio	1,827	1,598
9 Charlotte	2,215	1,613
10 San Diego	3,270	1,425
11 Kansas City	1,481	1,863
12 Nashville	1,400	1,340
13 Louisville	865	1,112
14 Minneapolis	1,721	3,221
15 Milwaukee	1,100	1,149
16 Sacramento	1,302	1,511
17 Chicago	6,765	5,161
18 Pittsburgh	1,727	1,458
19 Indianapolis	909	1,432
20 Cleveland	1,244	1,328
21 San Jose	971	956
22 Jacksonville	1,002	544
23 Raleigh	345	828

Regions: Red=Midwest; Blue=South; Green=West; Black=NE

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, American Community Survey

## Same-sex couples per 1,000 households, 2015



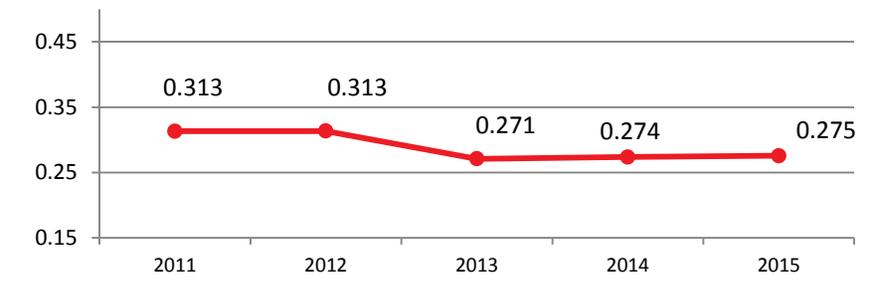
(#) Ranked from highest to lowest

# Indicator 1.07: Urban Density

This indicator includes data that provide multiple perspectives on urban density. The first, from the Center for Neighborhood Technology, uses the number of road intersections per square mile to describe the extent to which an area's road network permits (or restricts) the movement of vehicles or people. The second data set, from the American Community Survey, includes the number of persons per square mile and the number of dwelling units per acre. These are indicators of population and residential density, respectively, and are used to help plan city services, address infrastructure needs, and guide real estate development.

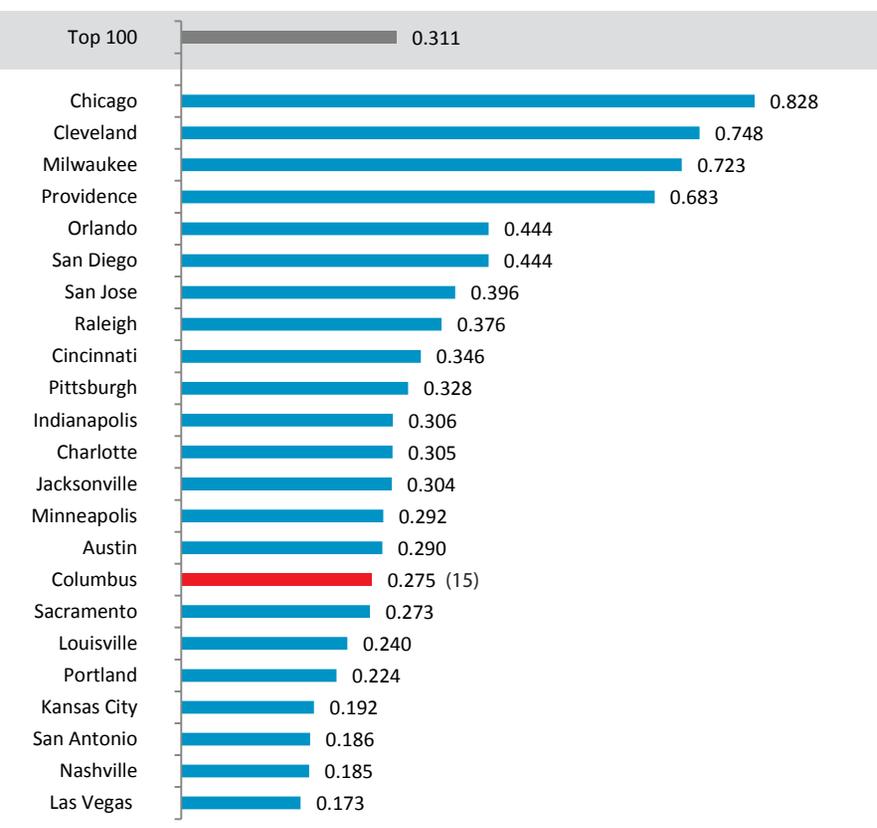
While the population in the Columbus metro continues to grow, the overall urban density stays flat, partly due to the increasing land area of the metro.

## Columbus Trends: Dwelling units per acre



Note: Columbus MSA boundaries changed in 2013 (added Hocking and Perry counties)

## Dwelling units per acre, 2015



(#) Ranked from highest to lowest

## Intersection and population density

Metro area	Intersections per square mile*	Persons per square mile, 2015
1 Chicago	54	1,327
2 Cleveland	34	1,031
3 Milwaukee	42	1,083
4 Providence	56	1,016
5 Orlando	28	686
5 San Diego	27	1,107
6 San Jose	26	820
7 Raleigh	24	601
8 Cincinnati	24	518
9 Pittsburgh	33	446
10 Indianapolis	28	462
11 Charlotte	23	479
12 Jacksonville	25	453
13 Minneapolis	26	462
14 Austin	20	474
15 <b>Columbus</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>421</b>
16 Sacramento	18	446
17 Louisville	19	357
18 Portland	18	357
19 Kansas City	21	288
20 San Antonio	16	451
21 Nashville	16	290
22 Las Vegas	9	268

Regions: Red=Midwest; Blue=South; Green=West; Black=NE

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, American Community Survey; Center for Neighborhood Technology, H+T Affordability Index

\* Accessed from source in 2016



# Section 2: Economic Strength

This section includes indicators of industries and innovation, business growth, business size and ownership, productivity, employment, and workforce that describe the strength of the metro area economies.

The following are the Economic Strength indicator categories:

- 2.01 Industry Sector Employment
- 2.02 High Tech Industries
- 2.03 Entrepreneurship
- 2.04 Small Business Firms
- 2.05 Small Business Startups
- 2.06 Minority Business Ownership
- 2.07 Women's Business Ownership
- 2.08 Income and Wages
- 2.09 Occupations
- 2.10 Workforce
- 2.11 Clean Jobs
- 2.12 Unemployment
- 2.13 Brain Gain

# Section Overview

This section includes indicators measuring the overall economic picture of the metro areas. The indicators include a focus on industry specialization, business development, diversity in business ownership, entrepreneurship, income and wages, and workforce vitality. A growing, diverse, and innovative workforce can act as the economic hub of a region.

The table on page 2-4 shows where the rankings in this section fall. While Columbus continues to lag behind in very small businesses, it has seen some growth in the number of small business startups (2.05) since the 2013 Benchmarking report. Also identified in the prior report, Columbus' main industrial strength lies in sectors that are seen as more resilient to shifts in the economy. Here, we highlight some of the strengths and weaknesses of Columbus' economy, as seen across the benchmarking comparison metros.

## Innovation and Entrepreneurship

Columbus currently ranks in the bottom tier for business ownership among the benchmarking cities. However, Columbus' 7.5% rate of business ownership for 2015 is comparable to the other Midwest cities including Pittsburgh, Cincinnati, Cleveland, and Indianapolis (2.03). Similarly, Columbus ranks low for new establishment births (2.05). The percentage of very small business firms to total firms in the Columbus MSA has remained flat over the course of 2007 to 2012, but at 58.6%, Columbus sits last among the cohort metros. This suggests work to be done to encourage or assist these small (<20 employees) firms in order to support the economic health of Central Ohio.

## Jobs

Columbus' role as state capital provides a home to state agencies alongside the presence of numerous Fortune 1,000 companies. The highest proportion of Columbus' industry sector jobs are in Professional and Business Services (17.1%), Government (16.0%), and Education and Health Services (14.5%) (2.01). Columbus' comparative industry strength remains in the Financial industry (tied for 3rd), Transportation and Utilities (4th), and Professional and Business Services (4th). Columbus also ranks 5th for percentage of high tech occupations, exceeding that of its Midwest peers, but ranks lower in this indicator when compared to the U.S. concentration as a location quotient (2.02).

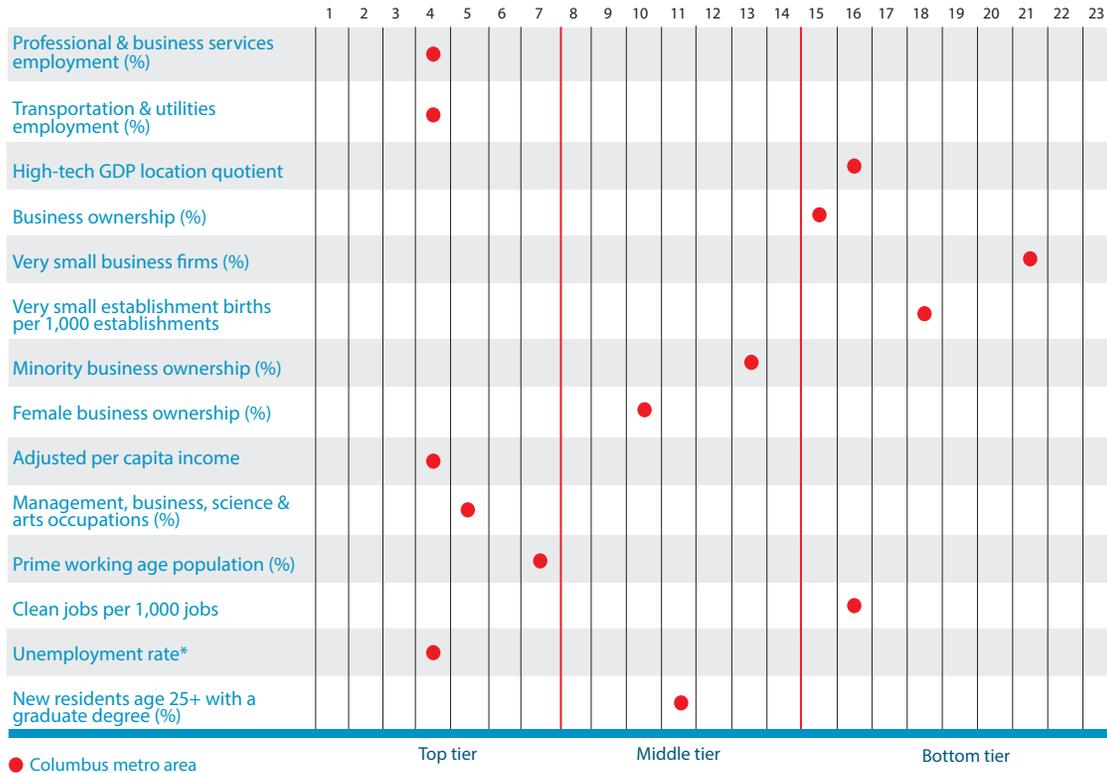
Columbus ranks last of the comparison MSAs for percent of Natural Resources, Construction, and Maintenance occupations (2.09). The metro area is experiencing an encouraging rise in both minority (2.06) and women-owned (2.07) businesses, but we sit in the bottom tier for clean jobs (2.11), as we did in the 2013 Benchmarking report.

## Economy and Workforce

Columbus has the joint 4th lowest unemployment rate (tied with Kansas City), at 3.9% as of April 2016 (2.12), the 8th highest workforce participation rate across the benchmarking cities, and is slightly above the top 100 metro figure for population of prime working age (2.10). Management, Business, Science, and Arts account for the primary share of occupations in Columbus, ranking 5th among the cohort metros (2.09). Median Per Capita income has risen slowly but steadily since 2011, by \$2,500 over 5 years. When adjusted for local cost of living, Columbus' incomes rank 4th across the benchmarking cities (2.08). Overall, this is a healthy combination which paints an optimistic economic picture of Columbus' workforce.



# Economic Strength Ranking



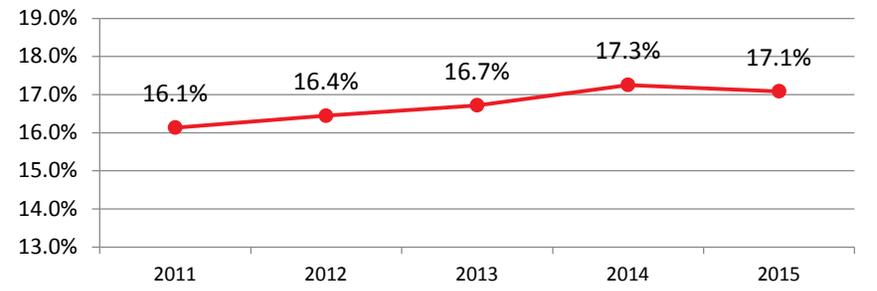
These indicators are ranked from highest (1) to lowest (23), except (\*) ranked lowest (1) to highest (23).

# Indicator 2.01: Industry Sector Employment (1/2)

This indicator includes data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) on the distribution of employment by industry. The BLS uses the North American Industry Classification, which groups similar establishments into industry groups or sectors.

The highest proportion of Columbus' industry sector jobs are in Professional and Business Services (17.1%), Government (16.0%), and Education and Health Services (14.5%). Columbus' comparative industry strength remains in Financial activities (tied for 3rd), Transportation and Utilities (4th), and Professional and Business Services (4th).

Columbus Trends: Percentage professional and business services



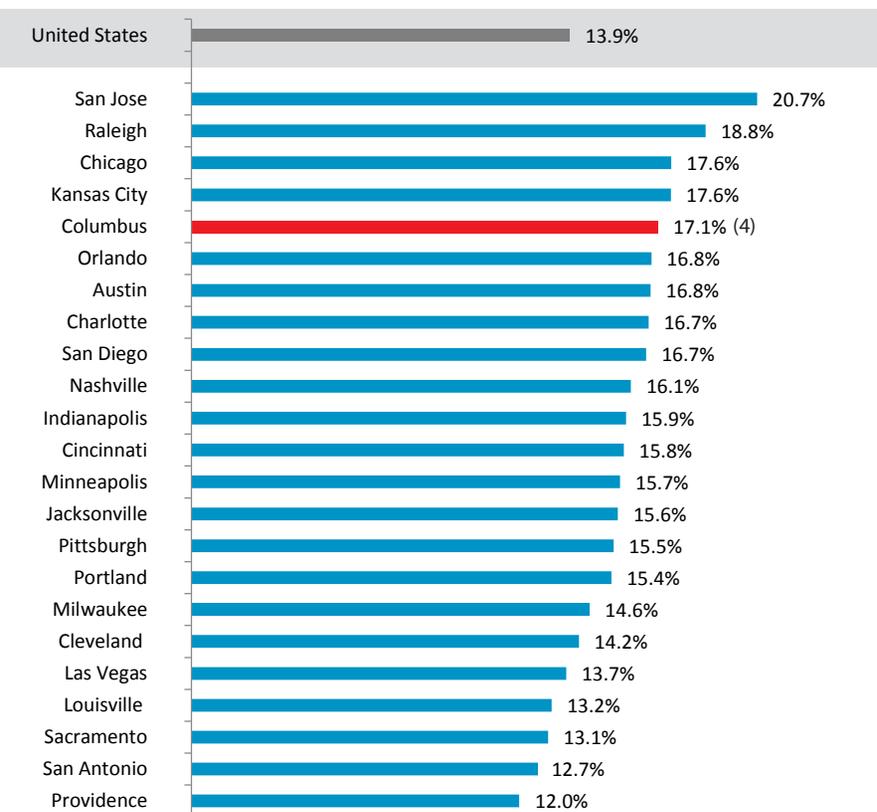
Note: Columbus MSA boundaries changed in 2013 (added Hocking and Perry counties)

Percentage of total employment by industry sector, 2015

Metro area	Education and health services	Financial activities	Information	Government
1 San Jose	15.0%	3.4%	7.2%	8.9%
2 Raleigh	11.9%	5.1%	3.4%	16.4%
3 Chicago	15.3%	6.4%	1.8%	12.0%
3 Kansas City	14.1%	7.2%	2.0%	14.1%
4 Columbus	<b>14.5%</b>	<b>7.7%</b>	<b>1.6%</b>	<b>16.0%</b>
5 Orlando	12.4%	6.3%	2.1%	10.3%
5 Austin	11.6%	5.6%	2.8%	17.9%
6 Charlotte	10.3%	7.6%	2.4%	13.4%
6 San Diego	13.9%	5.2%	1.7%	17.0%
7 Nashville	15.4%	6.5%	2.3%	12.3%
8 Indianapolis	14.4%	6.2%	1.6%	12.6%
9 Cincinnati	15.3%	6.5%	1.3%	12.2%
10 Minneapolis	16.3%	7.7%	2.0%	12.8%
11 Jacksonville	15.0%	9.5%	1.4%	11.6%
12 Pittsburgh	20.6%	6.0%	1.6%	10.1%
13 Portland	14.5%	6.0%	2.2%	13.5%
14 Milwaukee	18.9%	6.1%	1.7%	10.1%
15 Cleveland	19.1%	6.2%	1.4%	12.9%
16 Las Vegas	9.6%	4.9%	1.2%	10.7%
17 Louisville	13.5%	7.2%	1.4%	12.1%
18 Sacramento	15.3%	5.6%	1.6%	25.3%
19 San Antonio	15.3%	8.5%	2.2%	16.9%
20 Providence	21.7%	6.2%	1.7%	12.2%

Regions: Red=Midwest; Blue=South; Green=West; Black=NE

Percentage professional and business services, 2015

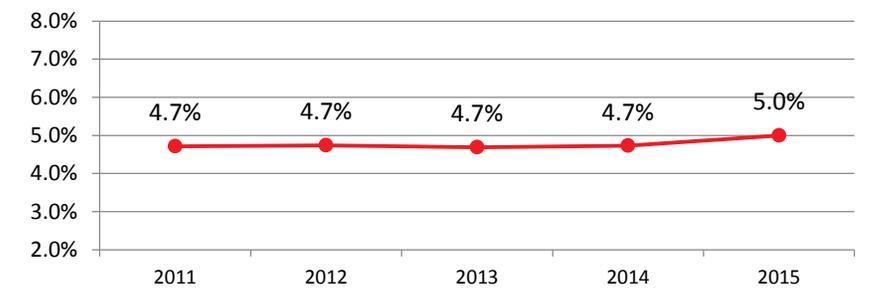


(#) Ranked from highest to lowest

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics

# Indicator 2.01: Industry Sector Employment (2/2)

## Columbus Trends: Percentage transportation and utilities



Note: Columbus MSA boundaries changed in 2013 (added Hocking and Perry counties)

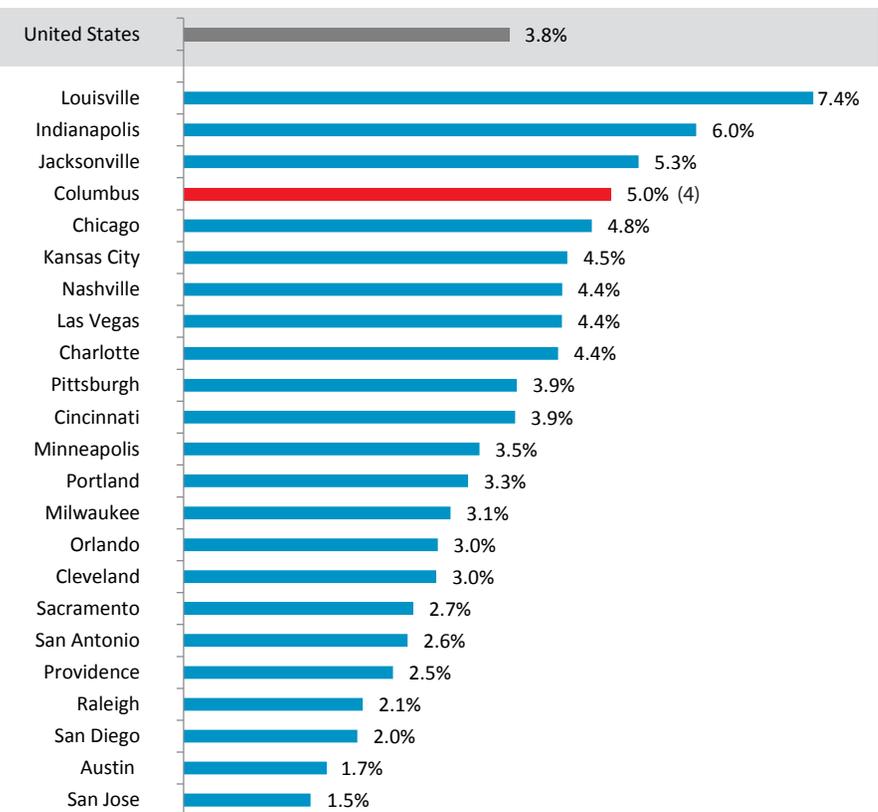
## Percentage of total employment by industry sector, 2015

Metro area	Manufacturing	Retail trade	Wholesale trade	Leisure and hospitality
1 Louisville	11.9%	10.2%	4.5%	10.3%
2 Indianapolis	8.9%	10.5%	4.7%	10.4%
3 Jacksonville	4.6%	11.8%	3.8%	12.3%
4 <b>Columbus</b>	<b>6.9%</b>	<b>9.9%</b>	<b>4.0%</b>	<b>9.9%</b>
5 Chicago	9.0%	10.1%	5.3%	9.8%
6 Kansas City	7.1%	10.4%	4.9%	9.9%
7 Nashville	8.7%	10.4%	4.5%	11.0%
7 Las Vegas	2.4%	11.7%	2.3%	30.8%
7 Charlotte	9.4%	11.1%	5.1%	11.2%
8 Pittsburgh	7.5%	10.9%	3.9%	10.0%
8 Cincinnati	10.7%	10.0%	5.7%	11.0%
9 Minneapolis	10.1%	9.6%	5.0%	9.2%
10 Portland	11.0%	10.3%	5.0%	10.2%
11 Milwaukee	14.2%	9.3%	4.5%	8.8%
12 Orlando	3.6%	12.3%	3.8%	20.7%
12 Cleveland	11.9%	9.7%	4.9%	9.6%
13 Sacramento	4.0%	10.6%	2.7%	10.4%
14 San Antonio	4.8%	11.2%	3.5%	12.6%
15 Providence	9.0%	11.3%	3.5%	11.5%
16 Raleigh	5.8%	11.5%	4.1%	11.1%
17 San Diego	7.6%	10.6%	3.2%	13.3%
18 Austin	6.0%	10.4%	5.1%	12.0%
19 San Jose	15.5%	8.4%	3.5%	9.2%

Regions: Red=Midwest; Blue=South; Green=West; Black=NE

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics

## Percentage transportation and utilities, 2015



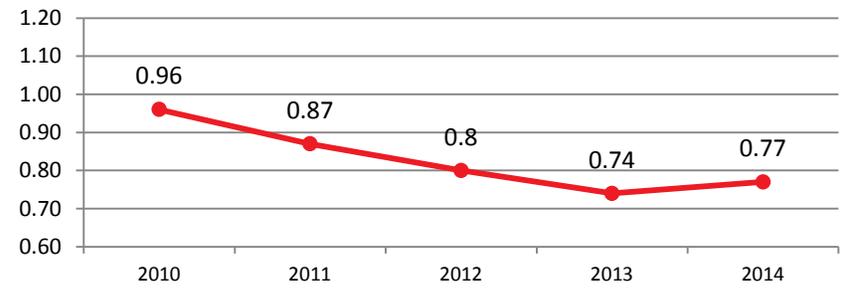
(#) Ranked from highest to lowest

## Indicator 2.02: High Tech Industries

This indicator includes data that provide two perspectives on high tech industries. The first is Bureau of Labor Statistics data on information technology (IT) occupations, which include computer, information systems, and database occupations. The second source is the Milken Institute's High-Tech GDP location quotient (LQ). The LQ is a measure of the extent to which a metro area's high tech concentration is above or below the U.S. concentration (LQ = 1.0).

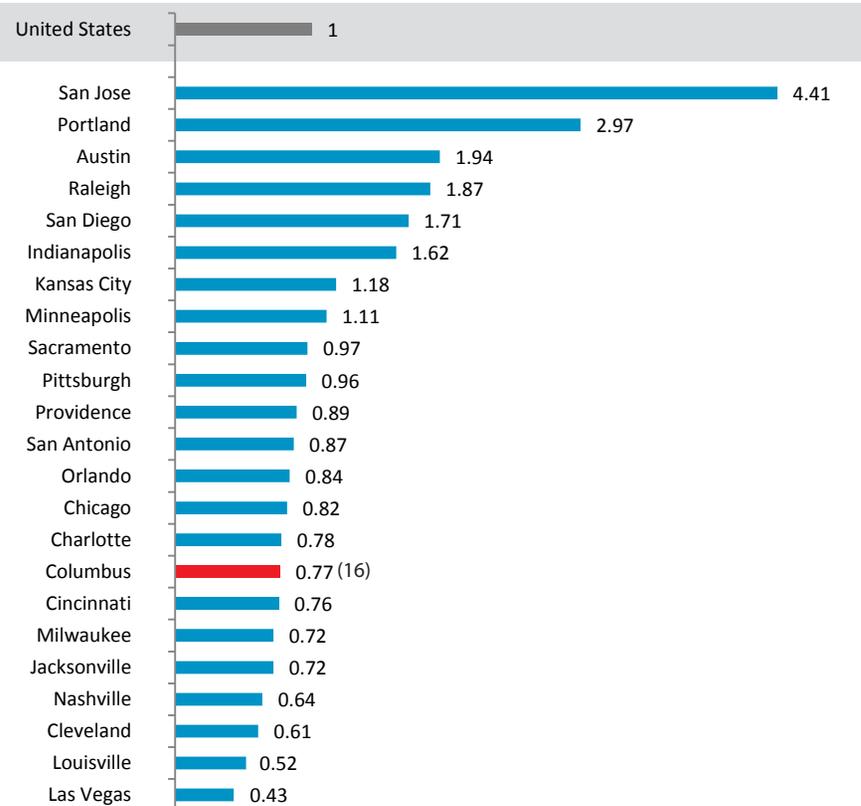
Columbus ranks 5th for percentage of high tech occupations, exceeding that of its Midwest peers, but ranks lower in this indicator when compared to the U.S. concentration as a location quotient.

### Columbus Trends: High-tech GDP location quotient



Note: Columbus MSA boundaries changed in 2013 (added Hocking and Perry counties)

### High-tech GDP location quotient, 2014



(#) Ranked from highest to lowest

### IT occupations, 2014

Metro area	Total IT occupations	IT occupations as a percentage of all
1 San Jose	113,220	11.2%
2 Portland	34,800	3.2%
3 Austin	54,310	5.8%
4 Raleigh	25,430	4.5%
5 San Diego	42,360	3.1%
6 Indianapolis	26,530	2.7%
7 Kansas City	39,960	3.9%
8 Minneapolis	67,680	3.6%
9 Sacramento	28,170	3.2%
10 Pittsburgh	28,660	2.5%
11 Providence	11,790	2.1%
12 San Antonio	23,210	2.4%
13 Orlando	23,100	2.1%
14 Chicago	112,400	3.1%
15 Charlotte	39,250	3.5%
16 <b>Columbus</b>	<b>37,620</b>	<b>3.7%</b>
17 Cincinnati	29,130	2.8%
18 Milwaukee	21,470	2.6%
18 Jacksonville	14,000	2.2%
19 Nashville	17,290	2.0%
20 Cleveland	25,240	2.5%
21 Louisville	12,100	1.9%
22 Las Vegas	11,440	1.3%

Regions: Red=Midwest; Blue=South; Green=West; Black=NE

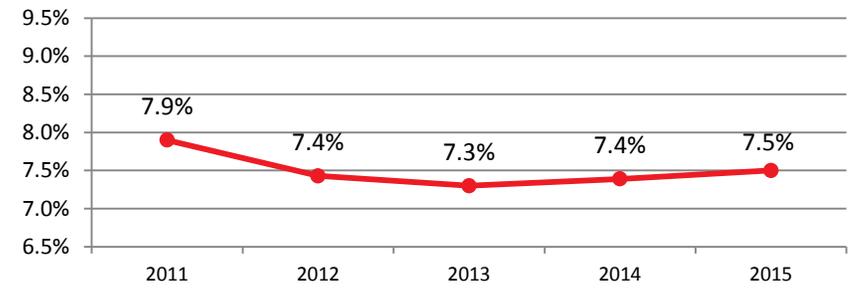
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Occupational Employment Statistics; Milken Institute, Best-Performing Cities

## Indicator 2.03: Entrepreneurship

This indicator uses data from the American Community Survey on self-employment. Workers are considered business owners if they report being self-employed in their own business. Business owners can be classified by incorporation. The indicator measures local business entrepreneurship among the civilian employed population age 16 and older.

Columbus currently ranks in the bottom tier for business ownership among the benchmarking metros. However, Columbus' 7.5% rate of business ownership for 2015 is comparable to the other Midwest metros including Pittsburgh, Cincinnati, Cleveland, and Indianapolis.

### Columbus Trends: Rate of business ownership



Note: Columbus MSA boundaries changed in 2013 (added Hocking and Perry counties)

### Business owners age 16 and older by incorporation, 2015

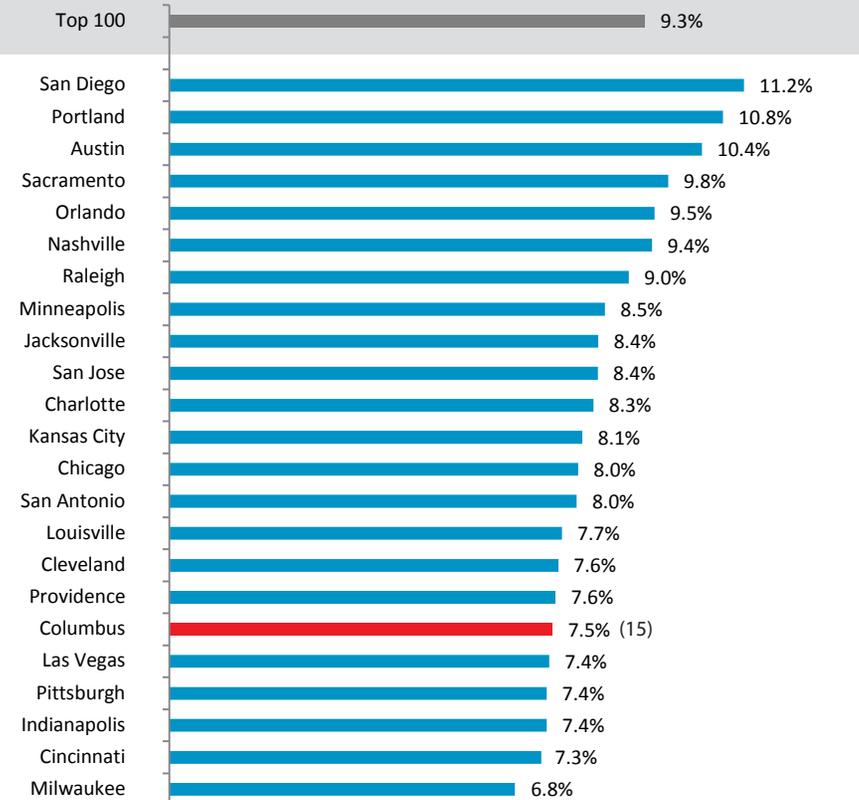
Metro area	Total self-employed in own incorporated business	Total self-employed in own not incorporated business
1 San Diego	52,685	121,970
2 Portland	48,775	80,653
3 Austin	38,061	71,407
4 Sacramento	24,468	74,687
5 Orlando	54,446	54,498
6 Nashville	20,717	66,915
7 Raleigh	24,276	33,744
8 Minneapolis	76,753	86,238
9 Jacksonville	28,869	27,173
9 San Jose	27,374	56,141
10 Charlotte	43,181	54,734
11 Kansas City	36,119	48,905
12 Chicago	178,637	195,211
12 San Antonio	26,405	59,357
13 Louisville	17,845	29,747
14 Cleveland	29,860	44,773
14 Providence	22,741	37,944
15 Columbus	<b>25,992</b>	<b>49,839</b>
16 Las Vegas	27,032	45,475
16 Pittsburgh	31,638	53,394
16 Indianapolis	33,240	39,026
17 Cincinnati	27,162	49,248
18 Milwaukee	22,061	31,654

Regions: Red=Midwest; Blue=South; Green=West; Black=NE

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, American Community Survey

\* Self-employed workers as a percentage of the civilian employed population age 16 and older

### Rate of business ownership, 2015\*



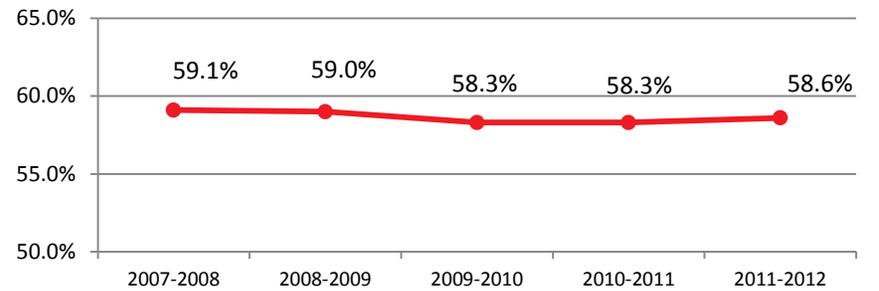
(#) Ranked from highest to lowest

## Indicator 2.04: Small Business Firms

This indicator includes data from the Bureau of the Census on small employer firms. The data include information on small firms and their employment by firm size. A “small business firm” is defined as an employer firm with fewer than 500 employees, and a “very small business” is defined as one with fewer than 20 employees. Very small businesses are critical to economic growth. These data are for metro areas based on 2003 boundaries. The data source has changed for this indicator from the 2013 report.

The percentage of very small business firms to total firms in the Columbus MSA has remained flat over the course of 2007 to 2012, but at 58.6%, Columbus sits last among the cohort metros.

**Columbus Trends: Very small firms, percentage of all firms**



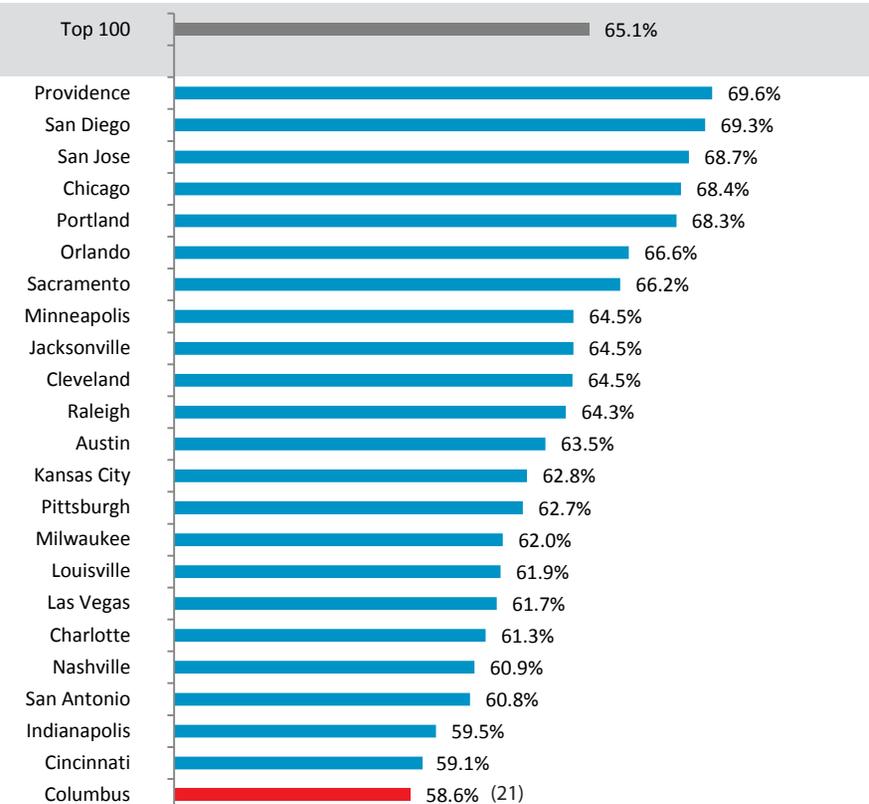
Note: These data use 2003 Columbus MSA boundaries (which do *not* include Hocking and Perry counties)

**Small business firms and their employment, by firm size, 2011-2012**

Metro area	Small firm (<500) employment as a percentage of total employment	Small firms (<500) as a percentage of all employer firms	Very small firm (<20) employment as a percentage of total employment
1 Providence	34.4%	15.4%	19.5%
2 San Diego	31.3%	14.2%	18.0%
3 San Jose	27.2%	14.8%	14.7%
4 Chicago	30.5%	14.4%	16.1%
5 Portland	31.8%	15.6%	19.8%
6 Orlando	21.7%	11.7%	14.8%
7 Sacramento	29.6%	14.7%	19.3%
8 Minneapolis	32.3%	17.5%	14.1%
8 Jacksonville	25.7%	13.0%	16.5%
8 Cleveland	30.8%	16.2%	16.2%
9 Raleigh	31.5%	15.2%	17.7%
10 Austin	32.3%	16.3%	16.7%
11 Kansas City	30.5%	16.3%	15.3%
12 Pittsburgh	30.9%	17.1%	15.7%
13 Milwaukee	32.8%	18.5%	14.4%
14 Louisville	30.2%	16.7%	15.4%
15 Las Vegas	25.4%	15.8%	13.2%
16 Charlotte	27.2%	14.9%	14.8%
17 Nashville	28.5%	15.6%	14.9%
18 San Antonio	28.4%	16.2%	14.7%
19 Indianapolis	29.9%	17.0%	14.2%
20 Cincinnati	29.4%	17.8%	14.0%
21 Columbus	<b>27.5%</b>	<b>17.1%</b>	<b>13.6%</b>

Regions: Red=Midwest; Blue=South; Green=West; Black=NE

**Very small business firms, as a percentage of all employer firms, 2011-2012**



(#) Ranked from highest to lowest

# Indicator 2.05: Small Business Startups

This indicator includes data on employer business establishment births from the Bureau of the Census. "Births" are defined as business establishments that have zero employment in the first quarter of the initial year and positive employment in the first quarter of the subsequent year. An establishment differs from an employer firm in that it represents a physical location where business is conducted, and a firm may include one or more establishments. These data are for metro areas based on 2003 boundaries.

While Columbus lags in small business development, it has seen some growth in the number of small business startups since the 2013 Benchmarking report and is comparative along Midwest peer metros in the cohort.

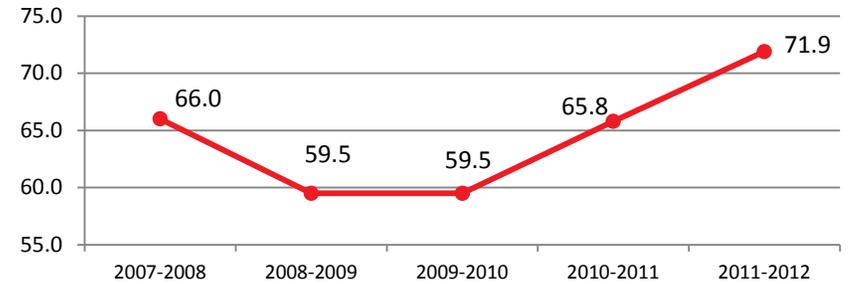
## New business establishments and est. births, 2011-2012

Metro area	Total number of new establishments	Total est. births per 1k establishments	New very small est. (<20 employees)
1 Orlando	7,366	152.7	5,772
2 Las Vegas	5,387	156.9	4,027
3 Austin	5,587	148.7	4,038
4 San Jose	5,388	132.9	4,232
5 San Diego	8,762	130.8	6,840
6 Jacksonville	3,976	132.9	2,959
7 Sacramento	5,080	127.9	3,792
8 Raleigh	3,256	126.9	2,420
9 Portland	6,827	122.7	5,189
10 Charlotte	5,278	134.2	3,603
11 Chicago	23,718	115.3	18,300
12 San Antonio	4,804	129.5	3,165
13 Minneapolis	8,661	111.7	6,505
14 Kansas City	5,225	115.9	3,774
15 Nashville	4,022	118.0	2,761
16 Providence	3,680	101.8	2,906
17 Indianapolis	4,335	114.0	2,921
18 <b>Columbus</b>	<b>3,867</b>	<b>109.1</b>	<b>2,548</b>
19 Louisville	2,749	103.3	1,843
20 Cleveland	4,577	99.2	3,091
21 Cincinnati	4,047	96.6	2,758
22 Pittsburgh	4,794	88.2	3,346
23 Milwaukee	3,162	92.1	2,110

Regions: Red=Midwest; Blue=South; Green=West; Black=NE

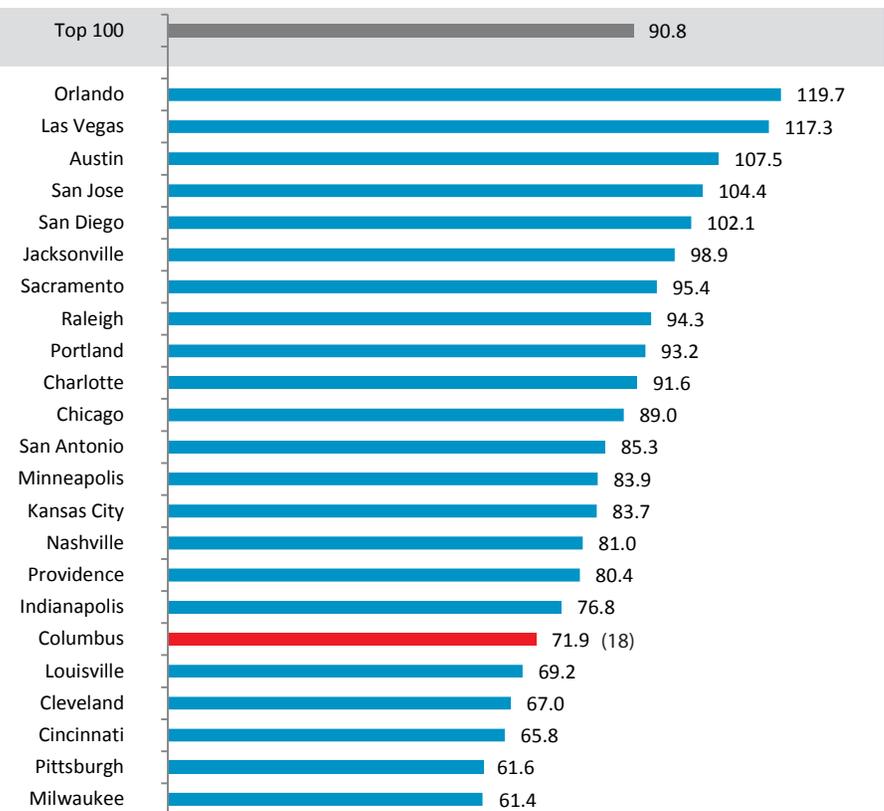
Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Statistics of U.S. Businesses (SUSB)

## Columbus Trends: Very small establishment births per 1,000 est.



Note: These data use 2003 Columbus MSA boundaries (which do not include Hocking and Perry counties)

## Very small business establishment births per 1,000 est., 2011-2012



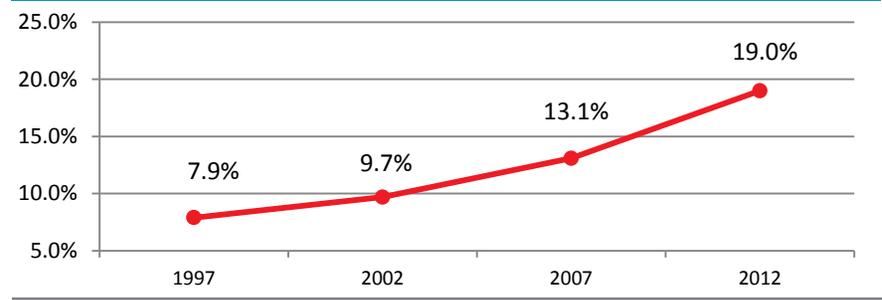
(#) Ranked from highest to lowest

# Indicator 2.06: Minority Business Ownership

This indicator includes data from the Bureau of the Census on minority business ownership. Minority-owned firms are those where the sole proprietor, or at least 51% of the ownership in the case of multiple owners, is Black, Hispanic, Asian, Pacific Islander, or American Indian/Alaska Native. These data are collected every five years and are based on 2003 metro area boundaries.

Columbus is experiencing an encouraging rise in minority-owned businesses, with the proportion rising by 5.9% since the 2013 Benchmarking report.

Columbus Trends: Percentage of minority-owned businesses

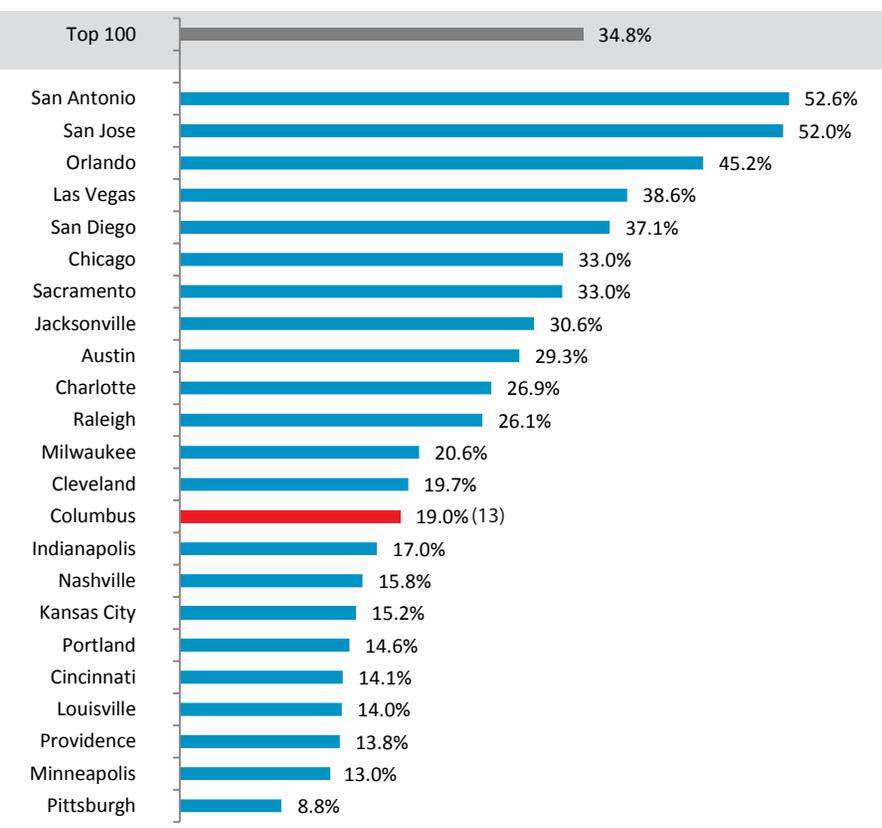


Note: These data use 2003 Columbus MSA boundaries (which do not include Hocking and Perry counties)

Number of businesses by race and ethnicity of owner, 2012

Metro area	Number of Hispanic-owned businesses	Number of racial minority-owned businesses (non-Hispanic)
1 San Antonio	81,126	96,601
2 San Jose	23,913	84,336
3 Orlando	61,157	103,243
4 Las Vegas	28,630	62,564
5 San Diego	62,753	106,432
6 Chicago	89,523	293,106
6 Sacramento	18,194	55,249
7 Jacksonville	7,343	33,724
8 Austin	33,900	52,320
9 Charlotte	11,610	53,357
10 Raleigh	5,868	27,803
11 Milwaukee	4,185	23,381
12 Cleveland	4,742	34,574
13 Columbus	<b>3,599</b>	<b>30,781</b>
14 Indianapolis	4,873	26,336
15 Nashville	6,194	25,875
16 Kansas City	6,310	25,164
17 Portland	9,149	29,592
18 Cincinnati	2,744	22,282
19 Louisville	2,543	13,602
20 Providence	9,494	18,201
21 Minneapolis	7,189	40,824
22 Pittsburgh	1,745	14,987

Minority-owned businesses, percentage of all businesses, 2012



(#) Ranked from highest to lowest

Regions: Red=Midwest; Blue=South; Green=West; Black=NE

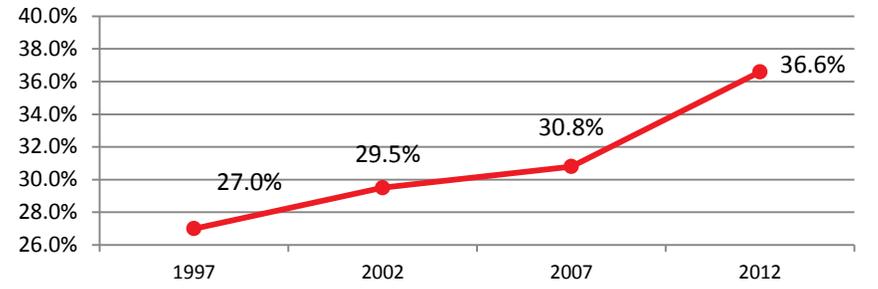
Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Survey of Business Owners

# Indicator 2.07: Women's Business Ownership

This indicator includes data from the Bureau of the Census on the number and percentage of all businesses owned by women. Women-owned firms are those where the sole proprietor or majority owner is a woman. These data are collected every five years and are based on 2003 metro area boundaries.

Columbus is experiencing an encouraging rise in women-owned businesses, increasing by 5.8% since the 2013 Benchmarking report and ranking 10th among the cohort metros.

## Columbus Trends: Percentage of women-owned businesses



Note: These data use 2003 Columbus MSA boundaries (which do *not* include Hocking and Perry counties)

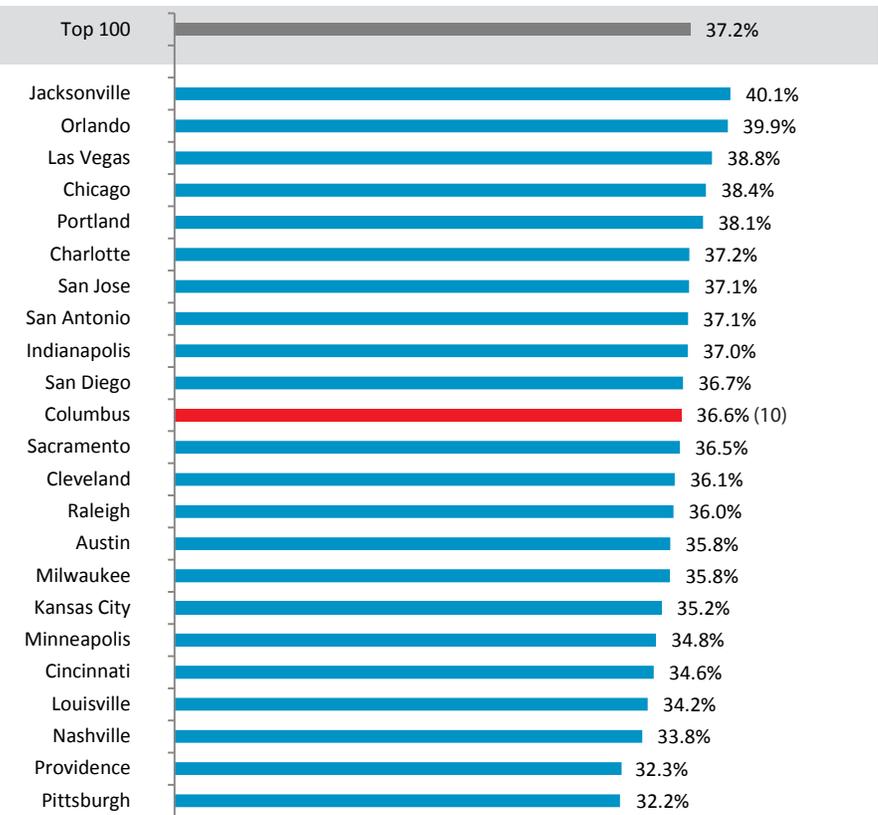
## Number of women-owned businesses, 2012

Metro area	Number of businesses owned by women
1 Jacksonville	44,290
2 Orlando	91,290
3 Las Vegas	62,885
4 Chicago	340,336
5 Portland	77,097
6 Charlotte	73,756
7 San Jose	60,189
7 San Antonio	68,128
8 Indianapolis	57,362
9 San Diego	105,329
10 <b>Columbus</b>	<b>59,239</b>
11 Sacramento	61,073
12 Cleveland	63,378
13 Raleigh	38,337
14 Austin	63,918
14 Milwaukee	40,520
15 Kansas City	58,155
16 Minneapolis	109,300
17 Cincinnati	54,762
18 Louisville	33,222
19 Nashville	55,389
20 Providence	42,559
21 Pittsburgh	54,959

Regions: Red=Midwest; Blue=South; Green=West; Black=NE

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Survey of Business Owners

## Woman-owned businesses, percentage of all businesses, 2012



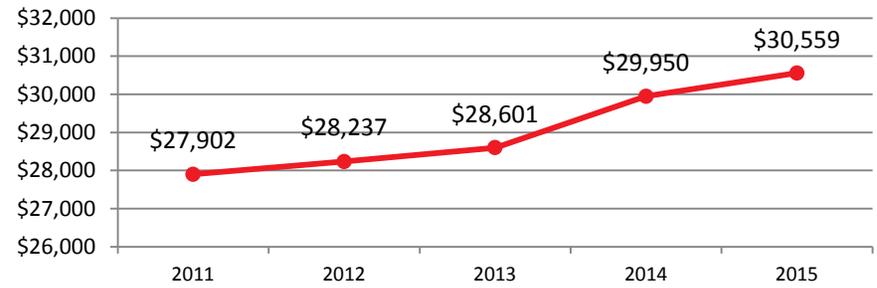
(#) Ranked from highest to lowest

## Indicator 2.08: Income and Wages

This indicator uses data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics and the American Community Survey to compare median hourly wages and per capita income for the metro areas. Per capita income is an average obtained by dividing aggregate income by the total population of an area; it does not reflect income distribution. The Cost of Living Index\* was used to adjust the data on the bar graph to Columbus MSA dollars. This results in a lower per capita income for high cost of living locations such as San Diego and Portland.

Median Per Capita income has risen slowly but steadily in Columbus, by \$2,500 over 5 years (not adjusted for inflation). When adjusted for local cost of living, incomes here rank 4th among the cohort metros.

Columbus Trends: Per capita income



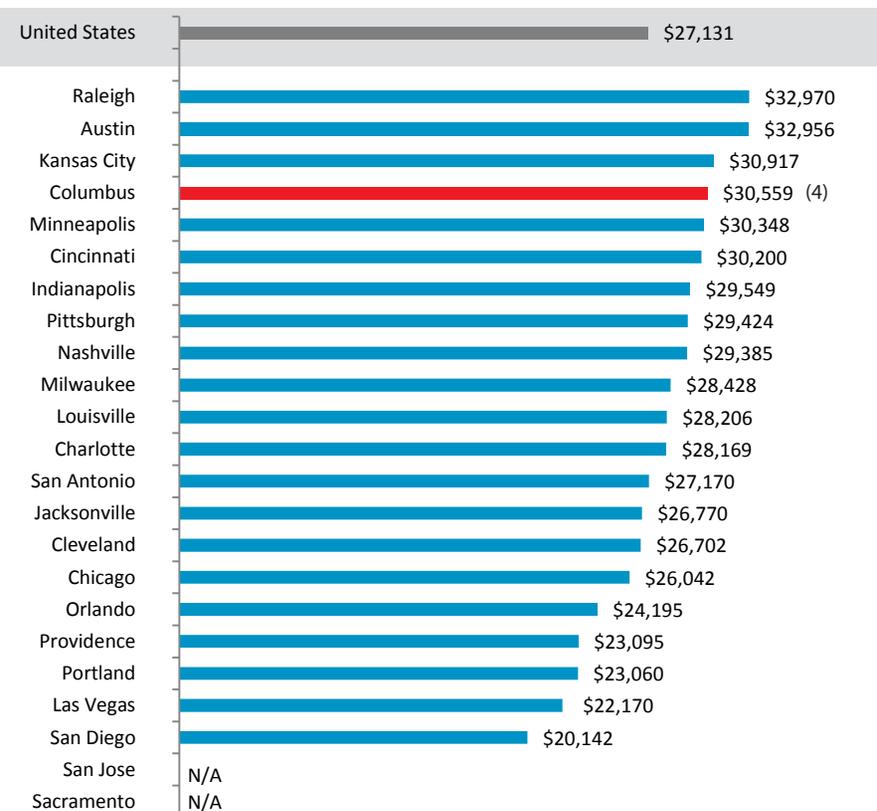
Note: Columbus MSA boundaries changed in 2013 (added Hocking and Perry counties). Figures are not adjusted for inflation.

Median hourly wages and per capita income, 2015

Metro area	Median hourly wage (unadjusted \$)	Per capita income (unadjusted \$)
1 Raleigh	\$17.46	\$32,970
2 Austin	\$17.95	\$34,959
3 Kansas City	\$17.72	\$32,147
4 <b>Columbus</b>	<b>\$17.65</b>	<b>\$30,559</b>
5 Minneapolis	\$20.14	\$36,284
6 Cincinnati	\$17.58	\$30,333
7 Indianapolis	\$16.92	\$29,745
8 Pittsburgh	\$17.41	\$32,058
9 Nashville	\$16.72	\$30,911
10 Milwaukee	\$17.88	\$31,506
11 Louisville	\$16.51	\$28,736
12 Charlotte	\$17.37	\$30,005
13 San Antonio	\$15.68	\$26,209
14 Jacksonville	\$16.07	\$29,284
15 Cleveland	\$17.84	\$29,859
16 Chicago	\$18.39	\$33,437
17 Orlando	\$14.68	\$26,254
18 Providence	\$18.44	\$31,466
19 Portland	\$19.29	\$32,997
20 Las Vegas	\$15.94	\$26,506
21 San Diego	\$19.12	\$32,227
San Jose	\$28.32	\$46,148
Sacramento	\$19.93	\$30,569

Regions: Red=Midwest; Blue=South; Green=West; Black=NE

Per capita income adjusted for Columbus' cost of living, 2015



(#) Ranked from highest to lowest

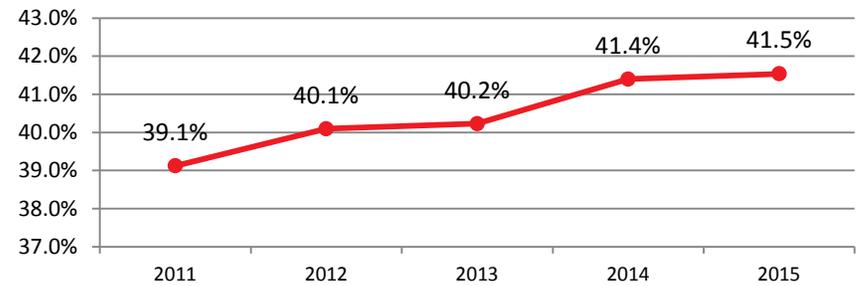
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Occupational Employment Statistics; U.S. Bureau of the Census, American Community Survey; \*Council for Community and Economic Research, Cost of Living Index; 2015 index figures

# Indicator 2.09: Occupations

This indicator includes data from the American Community Survey on the distribution of jobs in five selected major occupational categories. Occupations describe a set of activities or tasks that employees are paid to perform. Some occupations are concentrated in a few particular industries, whereas others are found in many industries. Management, business, science, and arts occupations, also known as white-collar or professional occupations, tend to be higher-paid, salaried jobs.

Management, Business, Science, and Arts account for the primary share of occupations in Columbus, ranking 5th among the cohort metros.

## Columbus Trends: Mgmt, business, science, & arts occupations



Note: Columbus MSA boundaries changed in 2013 (added Hocking and Perry counties)

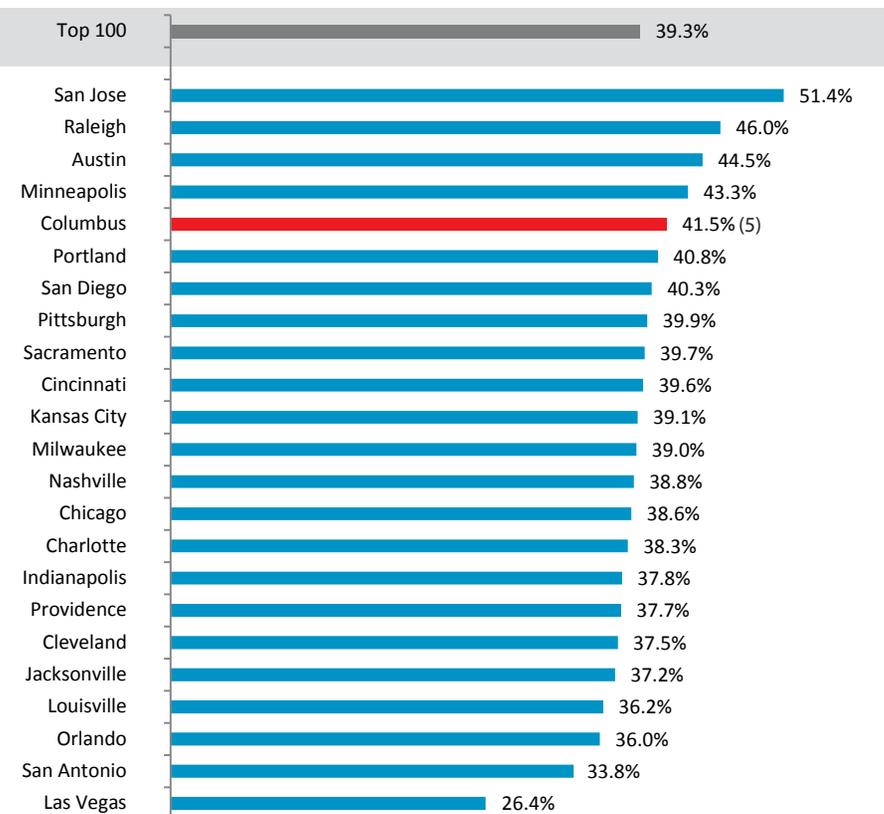
## Percentage of total employment by occupational categories, 2015

Metro area	Service	Sales and office	Natural resources, construction, maint.	Production, transp., material moving
1 San Jose	16.0%	18.0%	6.7%	7.9%
2 Raleigh	14.4%	23.7%	8.1%	7.8%
3 Austin	15.7%	23.4%	8.8%	7.6%
4 Minneapolis	15.5%	23.0%	6.8%	11.4%
5 <b>Columbus</b>	<b>16.2%</b>	<b>24.2%</b>	<b>6.0%</b>	<b>12.1%</b>
6 Portland	17.8%	23.0%	7.4%	11.0%
7 San Diego	20.2%	23.3%	7.8%	8.4%
8 Pittsburgh	16.9%	23.6%	8.2%	11.3%
9 Sacramento	18.8%	24.8%	7.8%	9.0%
10 Cincinnati	16.2%	24.1%	7.0%	13.1%
11 Kansas City	16.5%	24.3%	7.9%	12.2%
12 Milwaukee	17.5%	23.2%	6.3%	14.0%
13 Nashville	15.9%	24.5%	8.1%	12.8%
14 Chicago	17.1%	24.0%	6.9%	13.4%
15 Charlotte	15.5%	24.3%	8.7%	13.2%
16 Indianapolis	15.8%	25.3%	7.7%	13.4%
17 Providence	18.6%	24.2%	7.9%	11.6%
18 Cleveland	17.7%	24.6%	6.7%	13.6%
19 Jacksonville	17.1%	27.4%	8.1%	10.2%
20 Louisville	15.3%	24.3%	7.9%	16.3%
21 Orlando	20.4%	27.3%	7.1%	9.3%
22 San Antonio	19.5%	25.8%	10.5%	10.5%
23 Las Vegas	29.7%	26.3%	8.1%	9.5%

Regions: Red=Midwest; Blue=South; Green=West; Black=NE

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, American Community Survey

## Percentage of mgmt, business, science, & arts occupations, 2015



(#) Ranked from highest to lowest

## Indicator 2.10: Workforce

This indicator uses data from the American Community Survey to describe the working age population. The entry age group consists of the population ages 15 to 24, and the exit age group consists of the population ages 55 to 64. The ratio compares the size of the population in the age group entering the workforce to that of the age group exiting it. The workforce participation rate is the proportion of the population in the labor force, including persons who are employed and those unemployed and looking for work. The 25–34 age bracket represents the population segment that includes young professionals. Persons ages 22 to 54 are considered to be of prime working age.

A young population helps keep Columbus in the top tier for highest proportion of the population of prime working age. Columbus currently ranks 7th for population of prime working age and 3rd for population aged 25 to 34.

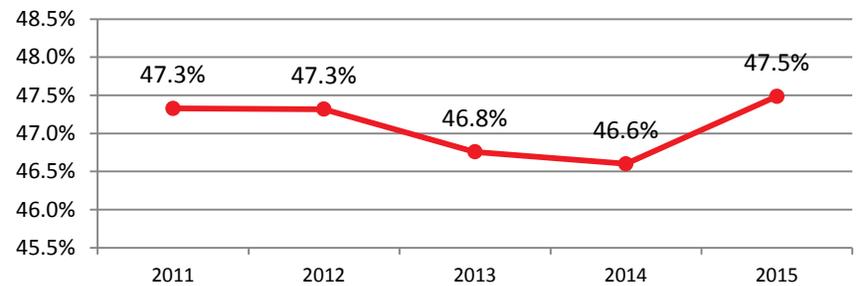
### Workforce entry and exit ratio and participation rate, 2015

Metro area	Ratio of workforce entry (ages 15-24) to exit (55-64) populations	Workforce participation rate (ages 16-64)	Percentage of population ages 25-34
1 Austin	1.31	77.3%	17.2%
2 San Jose	1.07	76.1%	15.2%
3 Raleigh	1.19	76.9%	13.9%
4 Portland	0.96	76.3%	15.0%
5 San Diego	1.26	74.6%	16.2%
6 Nashville	1.11	76.6%	14.6%
7 <b>Columbus</b>	<b>1.11</b>	<b>76.5%</b>	<b>15.5%</b>
8 Charlotte	1.11	76.4%	13.5%
8 Las Vegas	1.10	74.0%	14.8%
9 Minneapolis	0.99	82.4%	14.7%
10 Orlando	1.20	73.9%	14.9%
11 Chicago	1.08	76.2%	14.3%
12 Indianapolis	1.07	77.2%	14.2%
13 Jacksonville	0.98	74.2%	14.4%
14 Kansas City	0.99	78.0%	13.9%
15 San Antonio	1.33	72.1%	14.8%
16 Louisville	0.93	75.1%	13.4%
17 Milwaukee	0.99	77.9%	13.9%
17 Providence	1.04	76.2%	13.1%
18 Sacramento	1.11	71.5%	14.0%
19 Cincinnati	1.02	75.6%	13.2%
20 Pittsburgh	0.80	75.8%	13.2%
21 Cleveland	0.88	76.0%	12.3%

Regions: Red=Midwest; Blue=South; Green=West; Black=NE

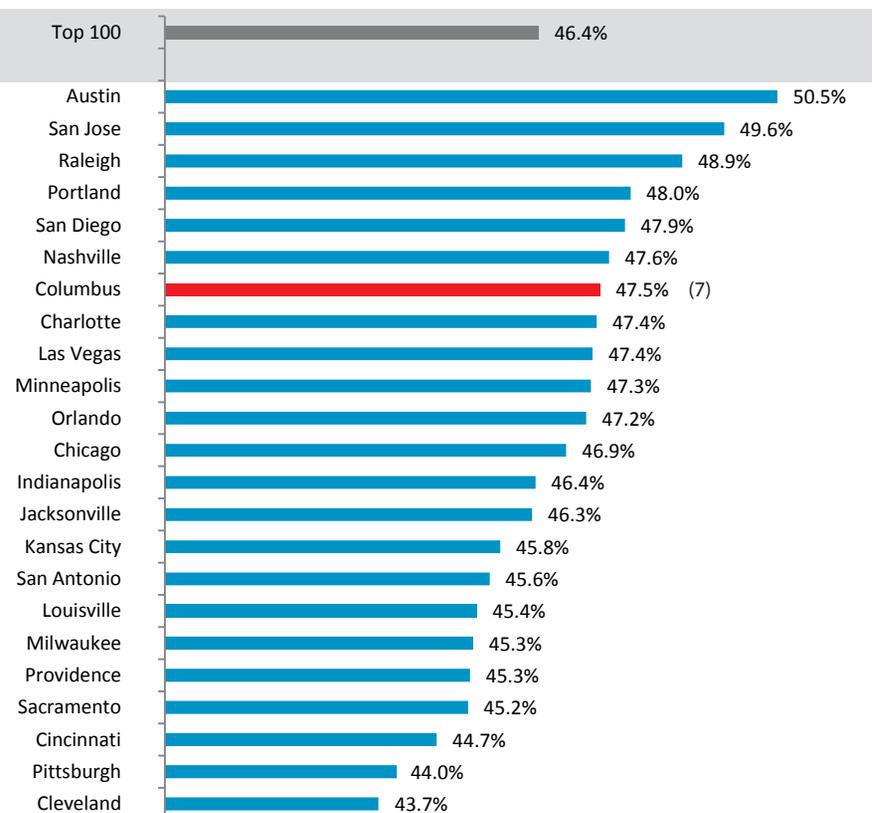
Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, American Community Survey

### Columbus Trends: Percentage of pop. of prime working age



Note: Columbus MSA boundaries changed in 2013 (added Hocking and Perry counties)

### Percentage of population of prime working age, 2015



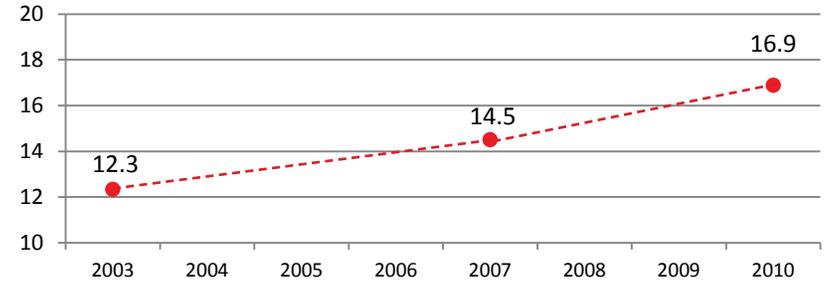
(#) Ranked from highest to lowest

# Indicator 2.11: Clean Jobs

This indicator uses data from the Brookings Institution on clean economy jobs. Brookings defines clean economy jobs as those making goods or providing services that increase environmental sustainability, increase energy efficiency, or facilitate the use of energy from renewable sources as well as jobs enforcing or assisting in the compliance of environmental laws, educating workers for jobs that benefit the environment, or working to conserve natural resources or natural food systems. Other than including data on additional metro areas, new data were not available to update the indicator for the 2016 report.

Despite the presence of added metros, Columbus sits in the bottom tier for clean jobs (2.11), as we did in the 2013 Benchmarking report.

## Columbus Trends: Clean economy jobs per 1,000 jobs



Note: These data use 2003 Columbus MSA boundaries (which do not include Hocking and Perry counties)  
Source data are available at irregular intervals.

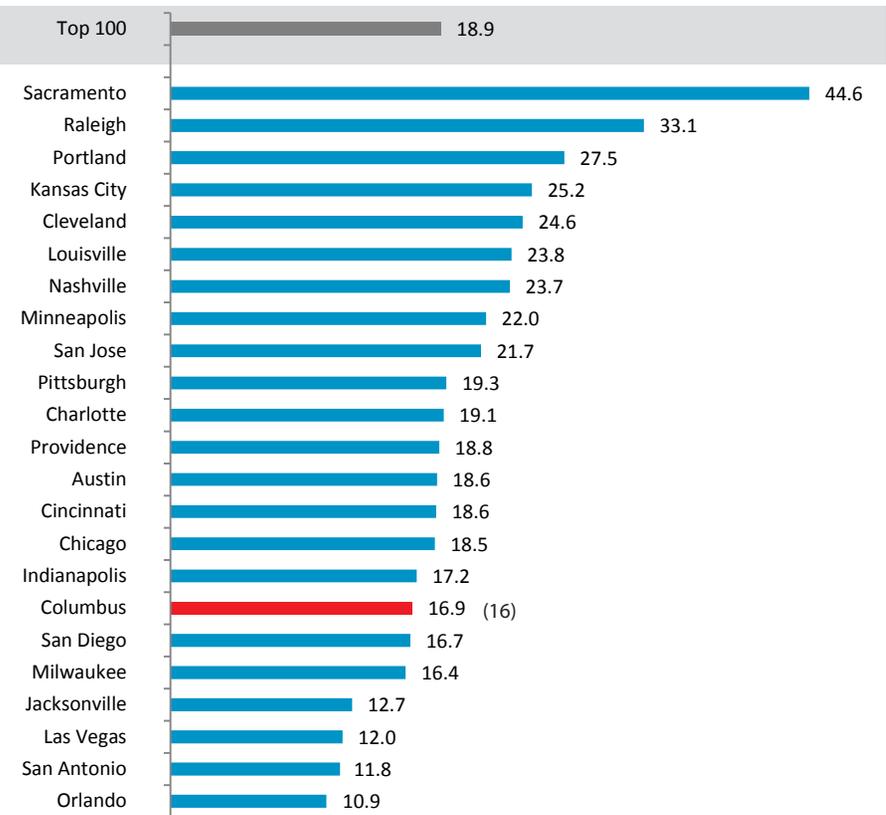
## Clean economy jobs, 2010

Metro area	Total clean economy jobs
1 Sacramento	37,319
2 Raleigh	16,677
3 Portland	27,489
4 Kansas City	25,039
5 Cleveland	24,664
6 Louisville	14,447
7 Nashville	17,913
8 Minneapolis	37,750
9 San Jose	18,868
10 Pittsburgh	21,963
11 Charlotte	15,485
12 Providence	12,904
13 Austin	14,554
13 Cincinnati	18,525
14 Chicago	79,388
15 Indianapolis	15,183
16 Columbus	15,498
17 San Diego	22,862
18 Milwaukee	13,471
19 Jacksonville	7,679
20 Las Vegas	9,797
21 San Antonio	10,634
22 Orlando	11,033

Regions: Red=Midwest; Blue=South; Green=West; Black=NE

Source: Brookings Institution, Sizing the Clean Economy: 2013

## Clean economy jobs per 1,000 jobs, 2010



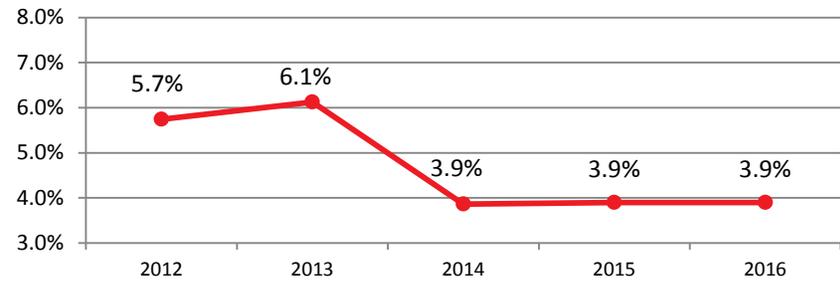
(#) Ranked from highest to lowest

# Indicator 2.12: Unemployment

This indicator uses data on employment and unemployment from the Bureau of Labor Statistics. A person is considered unemployed if he or she is willing and able to work for pay but is unable to find work. The unemployment rate is the percentage of all persons in the civilian workforce who are unemployed.

Columbus has the joint 4th lowest unemployment rate among cohort metros (tied with Kansas City), at 3.9% as of April 2016.

## Columbus Trends: Unemployment rate

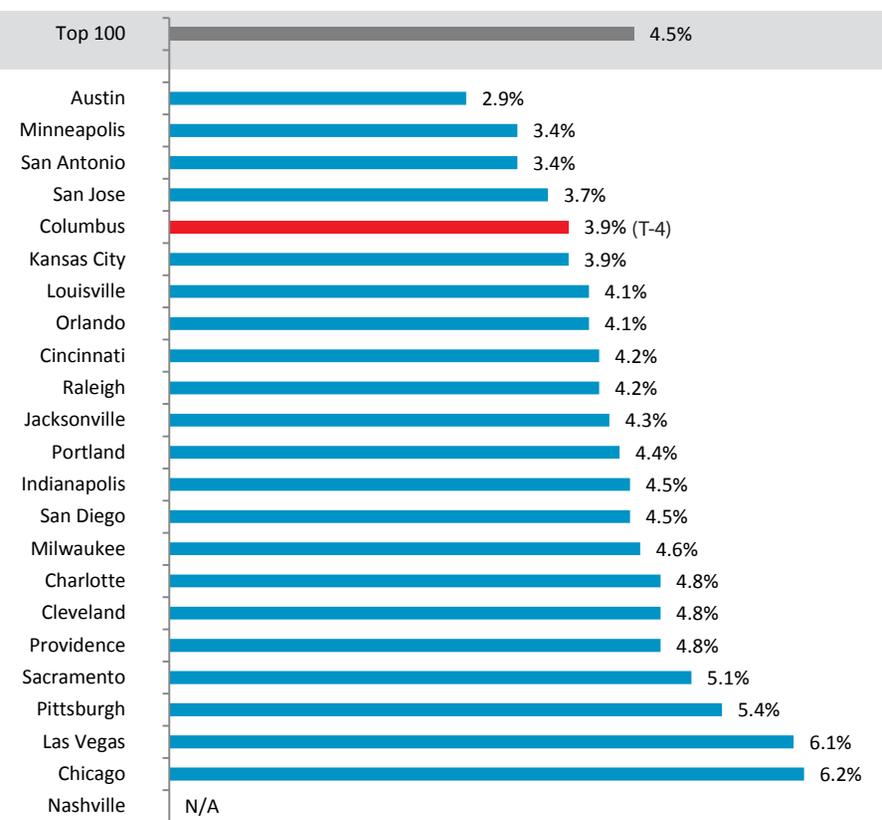


Note: Columbus MSA boundaries changed in 2013 (added Hocking and Perry counties)

## Number in civilian workforce and unemployed, April 2016

Metro area	Number in the workforce	Number unemployed
1 Austin	1,095,908	31,423
2 Minneapolis	1,966,192	66,325
2 San Antonio	1,117,295	37,913
3 San Jose	1,059,665	39,491
4 Columbus	<b>1,051,954</b>	<b>41,529</b>
4 Kansas City	1,121,035	43,169
5 Louisville	633,236	25,917
5 Orlando	1,237,971	51,214
6 Cincinnati	1,080,865	45,032
6 Raleigh	675,157	28,652
7 Jacksonville	727,552	30,994
8 Portland	1,265,884	55,236
9 Indianapolis	1,034,028	46,091
9 San Diego	1,562,609	70,750
10 Milwaukee	824,621	37,785
11 Charlotte	1,265,998	60,803
11 Cleveland	1,039,948	50,408
11 Providence	673,683	32,361
12 Sacramento	1,055,893	53,901
13 Pittsburgh	1,215,448	65,949
14 Las Vegas	1,051,610	64,578
15 Chicago	4,984,649	307,811
Nashville	N/A	N/A

## Unemployment rate, April 2016



(#) Ranked from lowest to highest

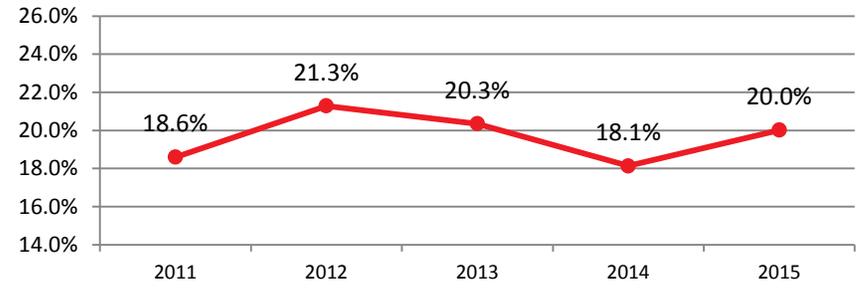
Regions: Red=Midwest; Blue=South; Green=West; Black=NE

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics

# Indicator 2.13: Brain Gain

This indicator includes data from the American Community Survey on the educational attainment of persons age 25 and older who moved into a metro area from a different state or from abroad in the past year. The data for attainment of graduate or bachelor's degrees indicate an area's "brain gain."

**Columbus Trends: Percentage new residents age 25+ with a grad. degree**



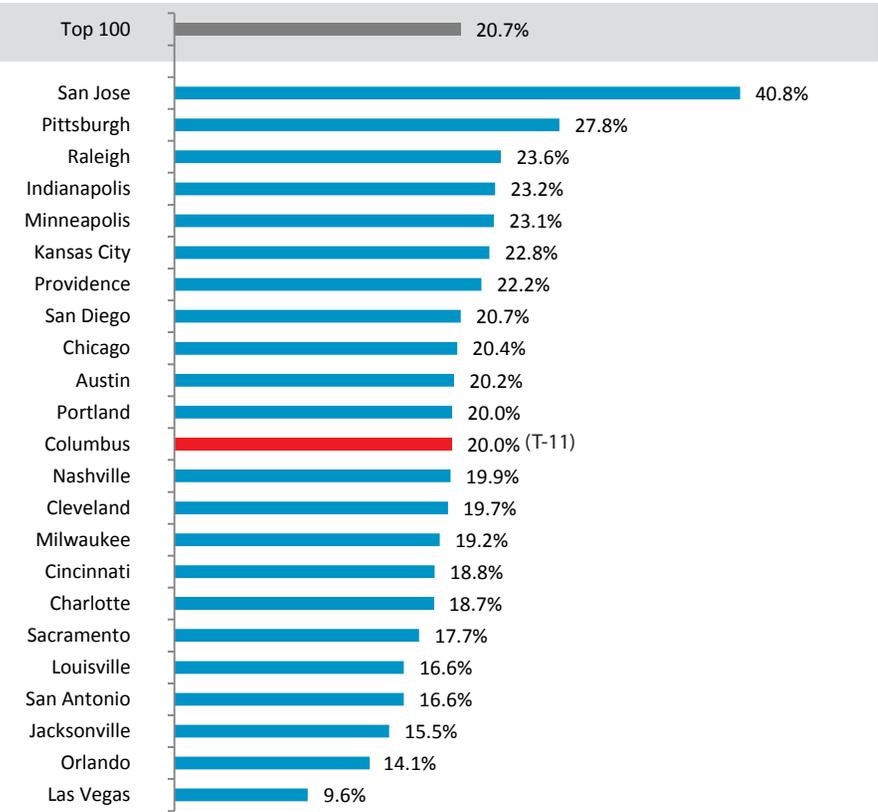
Note: Columbus MSA boundaries changed in 2013 (added Hocking and Perry counties)

**Level of education among new residents age 25+, 2015**

Metro area	Percentage without a HS diploma	Percentage no higher than a HS diploma	Percentage with a Bachelor's degree
1 San Jose	5.7%	7.3%	34.8%
2 Pittsburgh	6.2%	18.6%	27.5%
3 Raleigh	8.8%	19.2%	25.8%
4 Indianapolis	6.9%	19.3%	28.6%
5 Minneapolis	8.9%	15.5%	29.1%
6 Kansas City	8.8%	16.1%	24.9%
7 Providence	7.7%	25.7%	24.8%
8 San Diego	7.0%	11.0%	35.3%
9 Chicago	7.2%	16.8%	33.7%
10 Austin	9.2%	12.2%	37.3%
11 Portland	4.6%	13.6%	30.2%
11 <b>Columbus</b>	<b>10.4%</b>	<b>16.8%</b>	<b>26.5%</b>
12 Nashville	10.5%	13.0%	29.3%
13 Cleveland	11.5%	22.5%	17.9%
14 Milwaukee	10.1%	20.3%	28.7%
15 Cincinnati	9.7%	23.4%	23.2%
16 Charlotte	5.5%	19.6%	33.8%
17 Sacramento	9.2%	21.6%	24.9%
18 Louisville	15.5%	18.7%	23.0%
18 San Antonio	7.4%	19.2%	26.5%
19 Jacksonville	6.7%	21.3%	23.2%
20 Orlando	8.7%	24.4%	25.9%
21 Las Vegas	11.1%	23.7%	22.0%

Regions: Red=Midwest; Blue=South; Green=West; Black=NE

**Percentage new residents age 25+ with a graduate degree, 2015**



(#) Ranked from highest to lowest

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, American Community Survey

# Section 3: Personal Prosperity

This section includes indicators of income, economic equity, homeownership, and housing affordability that describe the prosperity of residents of the metro areas.

The following are the Personal Prosperity indicator categories:

- 3.01 Household Income
- 3.02 Income Gap
- 3.03 Pay Equality
- 3.04 Poverty
- 3.05 Low-Income Population
- 3.06 Income Supports
- 3.07 Earned Income Tax Credit
- 3.08 Homeownership
- 3.09 Foreclosures
- 3.10 Housing & Transportation Costs

# Section Overview

This section includes economic indicators measuring financial wellbeing and cost of living. Indicators include income equality, poverty, self-sufficiency, homeownership, and affordability. These indicators help describe the prosperity and quality of life among metro area residents.

The table page 3-4 shows where the rankings in this section fall. Columbus tends to rank in the middle tier, suggesting work to be done to move metro area residents toward greater prosperity. Among the indicator rankings, this section overview looks at the prevalence of women in corporate leadership positions in Columbus, poverty rates, and Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) claims. As in the 2013 report, the Housing and Transportation Affordability Index indicates that Columbus is unaffordable when taking transportation costs into consideration. However, with the addition of the new metro areas in this report, Columbus moves in ranking from the bottom tier to the middle on this measure.

## Equality

Columbus' median household income ranks in the middle tier across all racial and ethnic groups, and with an overall \$58,192 median income, sits 11th out of the benchmarking cities, above the United States median of \$55,775 (3.01). Also mid-tier is the income gap ratio in Columbus (3.02). With no real change in gender pay equity since 2011, women in Columbus were paid 80.6 cents on the dollar to men in 2015, near the U.S. average of 80.5 (3.03).

Other equality-related indicators are more encouraging. Columbus has the 3rd highest proportion of women in corporate leadership positions, with 24.3% women Fortune 1,000 board members compared to the United States percentage of 17.8% (Section 5, Community Wellbeing, 5.09). And the percentage of women-owned businesses in Columbus rose from 30.8% in 2007 to 36.6%, but still remains slightly below the top 100 MSA figure of 37.2% (Section 2, Economic Strength, 2.07).

## Poverty and Low Income

Columbus saw a dip in poverty rates from 15.4% in 2011 to 14.2% in 2015 (3.04). Despite this, poverty rates in Columbus remain high, only exceeded by Cleveland across the benchmarking cities in the Midwest, which also has the lowest median household income among the cohort metros (3.01). Additionally, the proportion of low-income population (about 30%) has not seen much year-over-year movement (3.05).

Columbus also ranks joint 8th highest for percentage of households receiving public assistance in 2015, tied with Chicago (3.06). Tax returns for Columbus show 18.1% claimed EITC in 2013, roughly on par with our Ohio peers of Cincinnati and Cleveland, but below the top 100 MSA figure of 20.1% (3.07). According to research conducted by Budget and Policy Priorities, the EITC helped lift over 6 million people out of poverty nationwide in 2015<sup>1</sup>. Following the 2016 State of the Union Address, the White House issued a statement that about 80% of eligible families claim EITC, leaving millions of families without this proven method of assistance<sup>2</sup>.

## Housing and Affordability

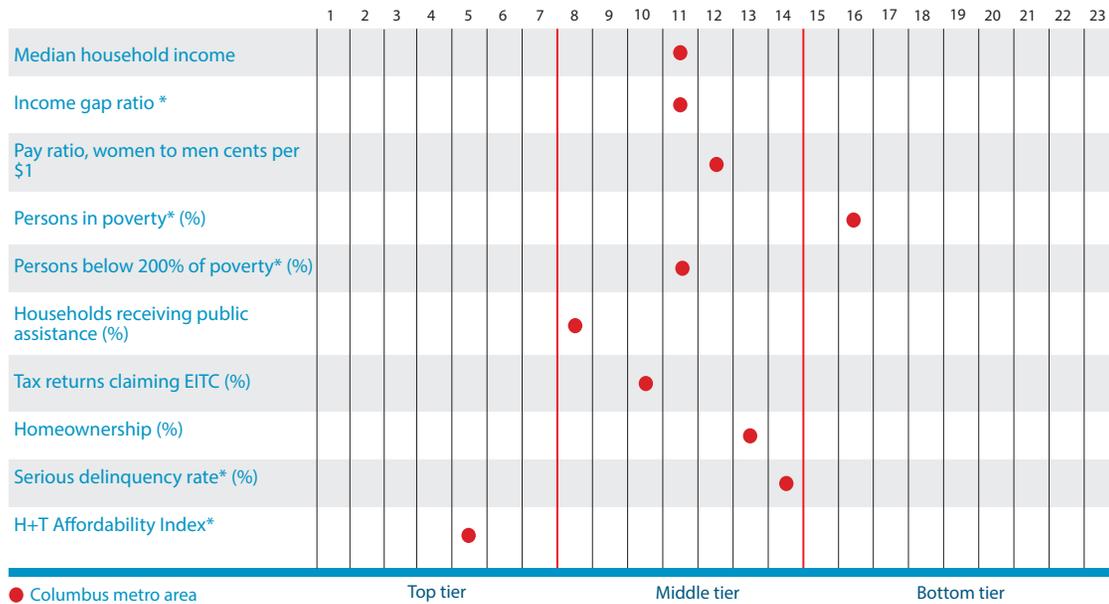
While the percentage of owner-occupied housing units in Columbus is in line with the top 100 MSA figure, both mortgage payment delinquency and foreclosure rates place Columbus 6th highest (3.09). Columbus' Housing & Transportation (H+T) Affordability Index ranks 14th overall (3.10). Although Columbus' housing costs of 28% of income are deemed affordable by the H+T measure (less than 30%), these relatively high delinquency and foreclosure rates are at odds with that assessment. It is notable that according to the H+T measure, unaffordable average transportation costs, at 23% of income, push Columbus over the combined affordability threshold of 45% of household income toward housing and transportation. Only two cohort metros, San Jose and Minneapolis, come close to achieving this affordability threshold.

1. <http://www.cbpp.org/research/federal-tax/policy-basics-the-earned-income-tax-credit>

2. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/blog/2016/01/29/earned-income-tax-credit-encouraging-work-boosting-incomes-and-reducing-poverty>



# Personal Prosperity Ranking



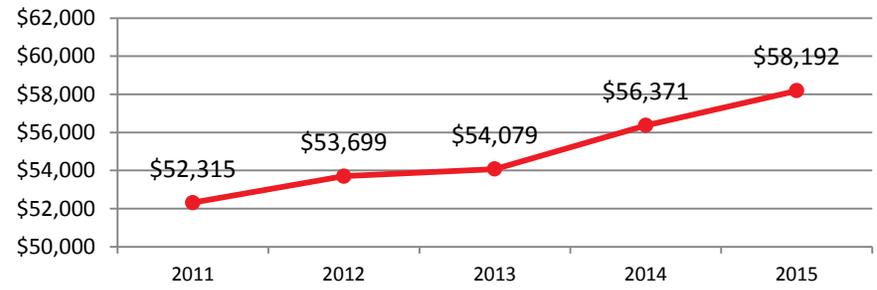
These indicators are ranked from highest (1) to lowest (23), except (\*) ranked lowest (1) to highest (23).

# Indicator 3.01: Household Income

This indicator includes data from the American Community Survey on median household income for the metro area populations and selected racial and ethnic groups. Median household income is the income at the middle of the range of incomes in an area, splitting all the households in an area between two halves, one with income above the median and the other below. Household income includes: wages and salary; interest; dividends; Social Security; Supplemental Security Income; public assistance or welfare payments; and any other sources of income received regularly, such as unemployment compensation, child support, or alimony.

Columbus' median household income ranks in the middle tier across all racial and ethnic groups, and with an overall \$58,192 median income, sits 11th out of the benchmarking metros, above the United States median of \$55,775.

## Columbus Trends: Median household income



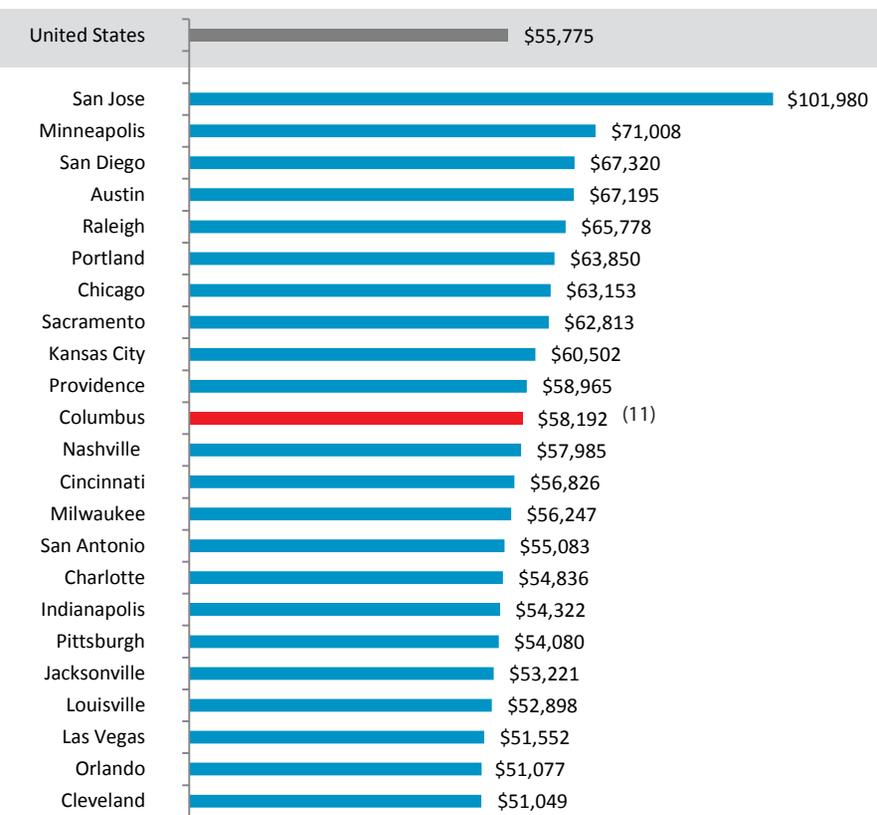
Note: Columbus MSA boundaries changed in 2013 (added Hocking and Perry counties). Figures are not adjusted to inflation.

## Median household income by race and ethnicity, 2015

Metro area	White	Black or African American	Asian	Hispanic origin (of any race)
1 San Jose	\$101,926	\$70,765	\$125,546	\$64,944
2 Minneapolis	\$75,707	\$31,767	\$75,562	\$45,475
3 San Diego	\$68,691	\$52,322	\$87,339	\$50,932
4 Austin	\$70,427	\$49,144	\$88,138	\$48,160
5 Raleigh	\$73,096	\$44,523	\$99,173	\$39,728
6 Portland	\$65,393	\$34,716	\$77,559	\$50,597
7 Chicago	\$72,533	\$35,155	\$81,332	\$49,695
8 Sacramento	\$67,219	\$40,261	\$66,138	\$50,227
9 Kansas City	\$65,225	\$36,938	\$67,309	\$44,919
10 Providence	\$62,719	\$38,221	\$60,601	\$33,313
11 Columbus	<b>\$63,514</b>	<b>\$35,940</b>	<b>\$71,253</b>	<b>\$45,014</b>
12 Nashville	\$62,006	\$36,755	\$68,207	\$45,224
13 Cincinnati	\$61,990	\$30,013	\$67,248	\$42,781
14 Milwaukee	\$63,842	\$28,879	\$73,046	\$39,790
15 San Antonio	\$56,262	\$49,348	\$63,385	\$45,879
16 Charlotte	\$61,659	\$36,339	\$79,663	\$40,879
17 Indianapolis	\$60,288	\$32,674	\$71,685	\$36,586
18 Pittsburgh	\$57,187	\$26,330	\$58,756	\$42,324
19 Jacksonville	\$59,437	\$35,910	\$69,528	\$46,448
20 Louisville	\$57,049	\$31,156	\$65,601	\$45,653
21 Las Vegas	\$55,716	\$36,508	\$59,149	\$44,751
22 Orlando	\$53,636	\$39,936	\$64,116	\$40,516
23 Cleveland	\$58,904	\$29,315	\$70,841	\$36,822

Regions: Red=Midwest; Blue=South; Green=West; Black=NE

## Median household income, 2015



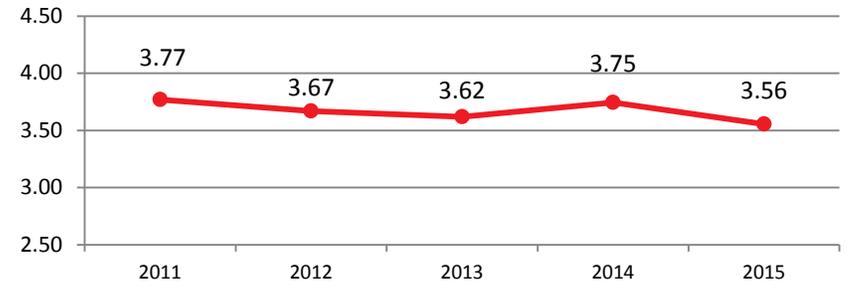
(#) Ranked from highest to lowest

# Indicator 3.02: Income Gap

This indicator includes data from the American Community Survey on household income distribution and the gap between those in the highest income (top 20%, or the 80th percentile) and lowest income (bottom 20%, or the 20th percentile) groups. The income gap ratio is the difference between the income levels at the 80th and 20th percentiles divided by the income level at the 20th percentile. The higher the ratio, the greater the gap, or disparity, between the top and bottom 20% of households.

Columbus ranks in the middle tier of income gap ratios among the benchmarking metros, as we did in the 2013 Benchmarking report.

**Columbus Trends: Income gap ratio, 80th and 20th percentiles**



Note: Columbus MSA boundaries changed in 2013 (added Hocking and Perry counties)

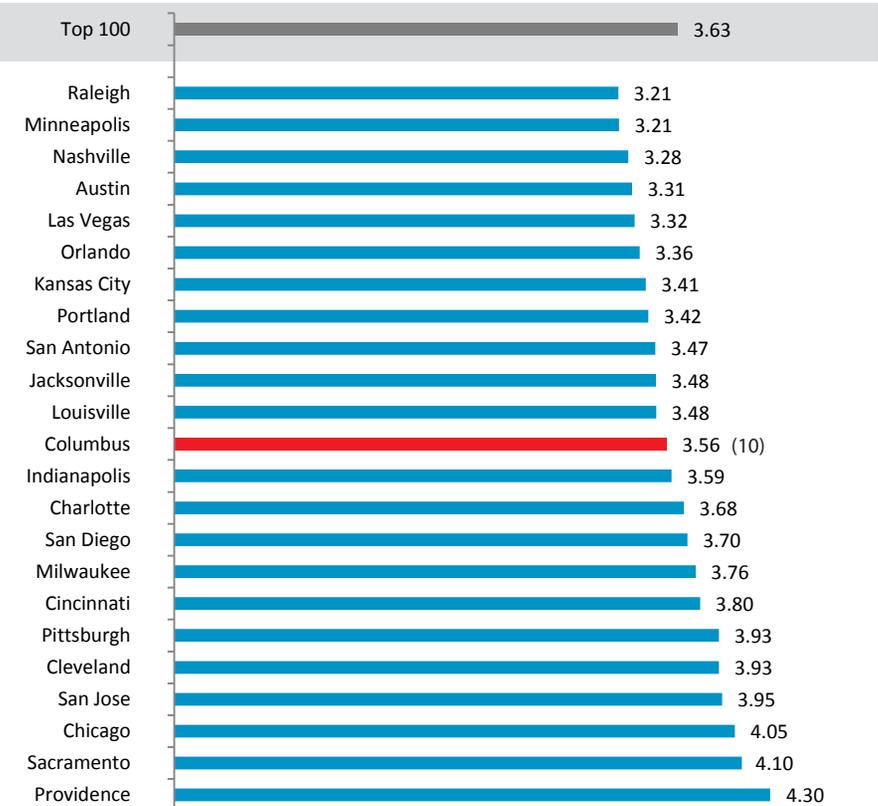
**Household incomes at 20th and 80th percentiles, 2015**

Metro area	Income level, 20th percentile	Income level, 80th percentile
1 Raleigh	\$30,012	\$126,241
1 Minneapolis	\$31,165	\$131,261
2 Nashville	\$25,771	\$110,262
3 Austin	\$30,280	\$130,357
4 Las Vegas	\$22,962	\$99,285
5 Orlando	\$22,689	\$98,958
6 Kansas City	\$26,043	\$114,725
7 Portland	\$27,540	\$121,788
8 San Antonio	\$23,893	\$106,867
9 Jacksonville	\$23,524	\$105,324
9 Louisville	\$22,653	\$101,464
10 <b>Columbus</b>	<b>\$24,525</b>	<b>\$111,726</b>
11 Indianapolis	\$23,686	\$108,714
12 Charlotte	\$23,741	\$111,095
13 San Diego	\$27,964	\$131,558
14 Milwaukee	\$23,057	\$109,839
15 Cincinnati	\$23,393	\$112,233
16 Pittsburgh	\$21,681	\$106,935
16 Cleveland	\$20,805	\$102,630
17 San Jose	\$40,638	\$201,338
18 Chicago	\$25,325	\$127,811
19 Sacramento	\$24,390	\$124,338
20 Providence	\$21,831	\$115,740

Regions: Red=Midwest; Blue=South; Green=West; Black=NE

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, American Community Survey

**Income gap ratio, 80th and 20th percentiles, 2015**



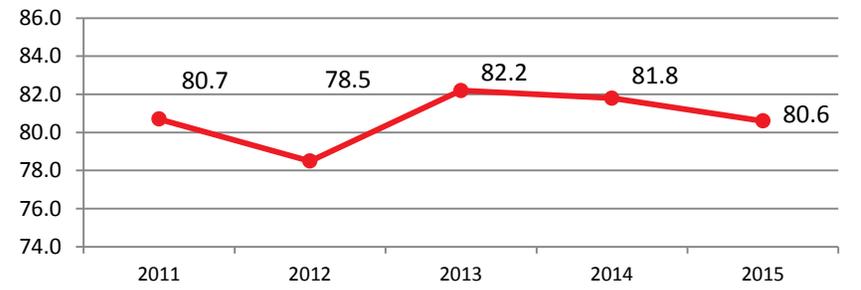
(#) Ranked from lowest to highest

# Indicator 3.03: Pay Equality

This indicator includes data from the American Community Survey on disparities in median income between men and women working “full-time, year-round” (FTYR). It measures women’s pay equality with that of men for the same amount of work in terms of cents on the dollar.

With no real change in gender pay equity since 2011, women in Columbus were paid 80.6 cents on the dollar to men in 2015, near the U.S. average of 80.5. Columbus’ ranking has dropped among benchmarking metros since the 2013 Benchmarking report, as some metros (such as Raleigh and Charlotte) have made greater improvements and new metros were added to the cohort.

## Columbus Trends: Pay ratio, women to men, cents per \$1



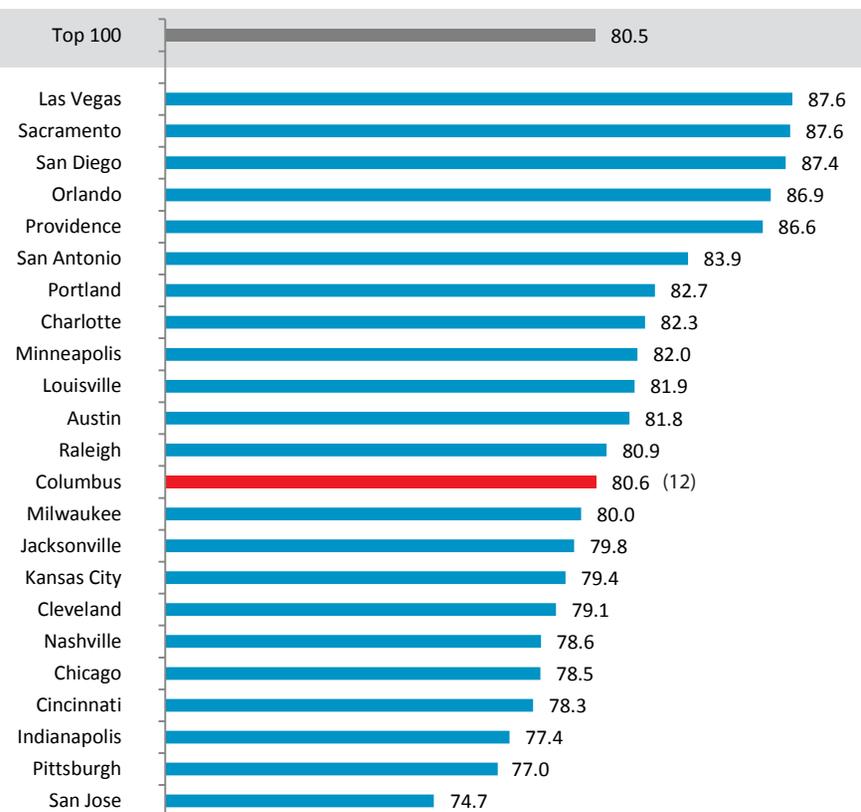
Note: Columbus MSA boundaries changed in 2013 (added Hocking and Perry counties)

## Women’s median earnings, 2015

Metro area	Median earnings for all workers who are women	Median earning for FTYR workers who are women
1 Las Vegas	\$27,380	\$36,670
1 Sacramento	\$29,737	\$46,419
2 San Diego	\$27,616	\$43,984
3 Orlando	\$25,743	\$35,232
4 Providence	\$30,093	\$45,014
5 San Antonio	\$25,002	\$35,283
6 Portland	\$27,381	\$43,527
7 Charlotte	\$27,396	\$39,106
8 Minneapolis	\$31,882	\$46,857
9 Louisville	\$26,708	\$38,656
10 Austin	\$30,607	\$41,400
11 Raleigh	\$31,047	\$42,293
12 Columbus	<b>\$28,263</b>	<b>\$41,158</b>
13 Milwaukee	\$29,042	\$41,637
14 Jacksonville	\$26,674	\$36,736
15 Kansas City	\$29,422	\$40,712
16 Cleveland	\$26,508	\$40,451
17 Nashville	\$27,685	\$37,772
18 Chicago	\$29,622	\$43,913
19 Cincinnati	\$27,055	\$40,460
20 Indianapolis	\$26,956	\$39,578
21 Pittsburgh	\$26,676	\$40,236
22 San Jose	\$36,766	\$60,459

Regions: Red=Midwest; Blue=South; Green=West; Black=NE

## Pay ratio, women to men, cents per \$1, 2015



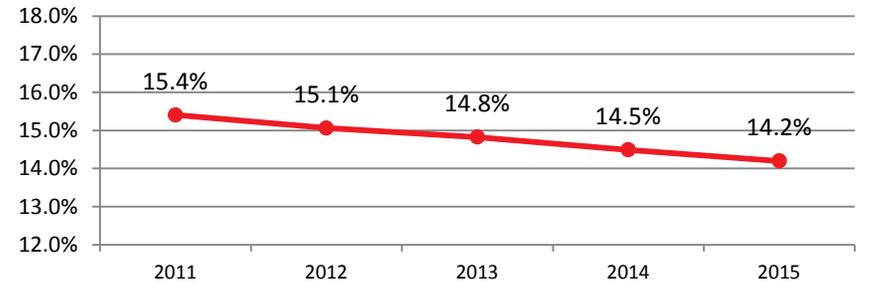
(#) Ranked from highest to lowest

# Indicator 3.04: Poverty

This indicator includes data from the American Community Survey on poverty rates of the metro area populations and selected racial and ethnic groups. The poverty rate is the percentage of the population in households living below the federal poverty level as defined by the U.S. Census Bureau. Here, the percentages are based on the population for whom the poverty status is determined, which is the population in households.

Columbus saw a dip in poverty rates from 15.4% in 2011 to 14.2% in 2015. Despite this, poverty rates here remain high, only exceeded by Cleveland across the benchmarking metros in the Midwest.

## Columbus Trends: Percentage of the population below poverty level



Note: Columbus MSA boundaries changed in 2013 (added Hocking and Perry counties)

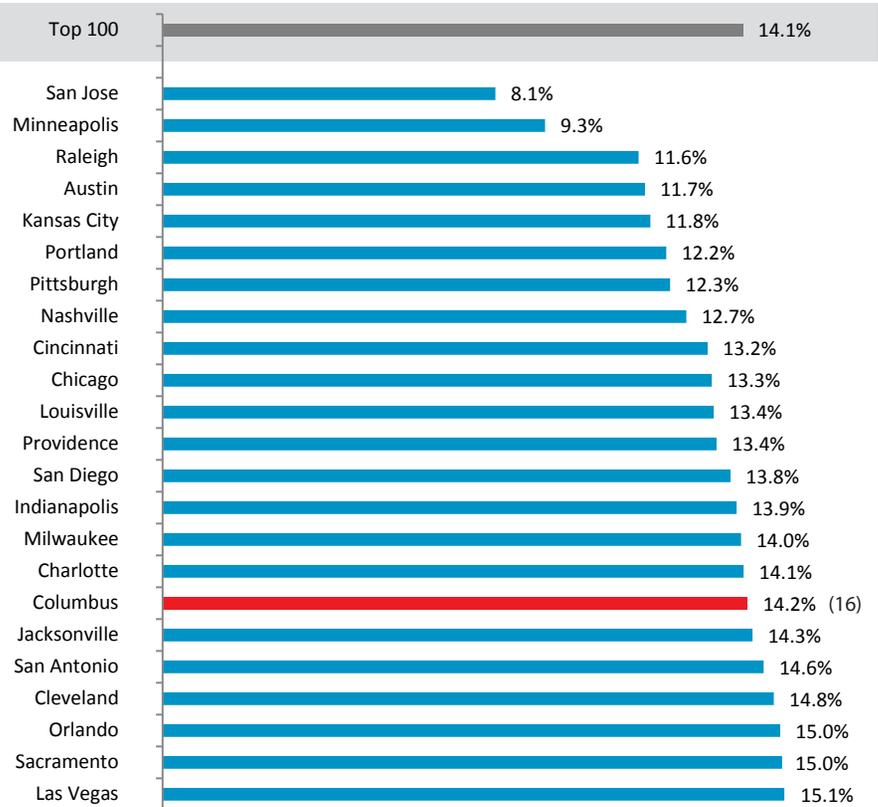
## Percentage population below poverty level by race/ethnicity, 2015

Metro area	White	Black or African American	Asian	Hispanic origin (of any race)
1 San Jose	7.1%	9.2%	7.2%	12.0%
2 Minneapolis	6.2%	30.0%	16.1%	19.2%
3 Raleigh	9.2%	17.5%	10.1%	34.0%
4 Austin	10.7%	18.2%	7.1%	18.3%
5 Kansas City	8.6%	26.6%	13.7%	22.9%
6 Portland	11.1%	28.8%	11.1%	24.0%
7 Pittsburgh	9.9%	32.5%	18.4%	20.4%
8 Nashville	10.6%	21.9%	11.2%	23.0%
9 Cincinnati	10.3%	29.3%	10.1%	27.8%
10 Chicago	9.1%	26.8%	10.7%	19.0%
11 Louisville	10.4%	30.3%	3.7%	24.4%
11 Providence	10.6%	23.2%	17.5%	32.4%
12 San Diego	13.4%	18.1%	10.3%	19.4%
13 Indianapolis	11.0%	25.7%	10.4%	29.4%
14 Milwaukee	8.7%	33.1%	13.8%	27.0%
15 Charlotte	10.6%	21.2%	12.3%	25.5%
16 Columbus	<b>10.6%</b>	<b>29.1%</b>	<b>13.2%</b>	<b>24.5%</b>
17 Jacksonville	11.4%	24.0%	9.7%	19.0%
18 San Antonio	14.2%	18.0%	11.1%	18.4%
19 Cleveland	9.2%	33.4%	15.6%	26.0%
20 Orlando	13.6%	18.9%	9.9%	20.9%
20 Sacramento	12.2%	26.5%	17.5%	20.4%
21 Las Vegas	12.8%	25.3%	9.4%	20.5%

Regions: Red=Midwest; Blue=South; Green=West; Black=NE

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, American Community Survey

## Percentage of the population below poverty level, 2015



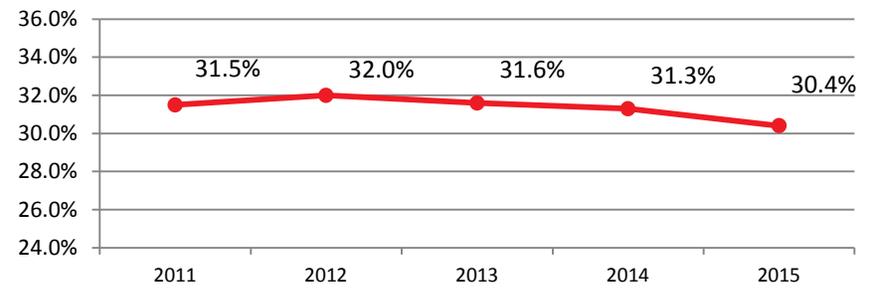
(#) Ranked from lowest to highest

# Indicator 3.05: Low-Income Population

This indicator includes data from the American Community Survey on persons living in households with incomes below 200% of the federal poverty level (FPL), a common threshold for identifying low-income households. Furthermore, eligibility for public assistance to low-income households is typically capped at or near 200% FPL. Here, the percentages are based on the population for whom the poverty status is determined, which is the population in households.

Holding steady at around 30%, the proportion of the low-income population in Columbus has not seen much year-over-year movement.

**Columbus Trends: Percentage of the population living below 200% FPL**

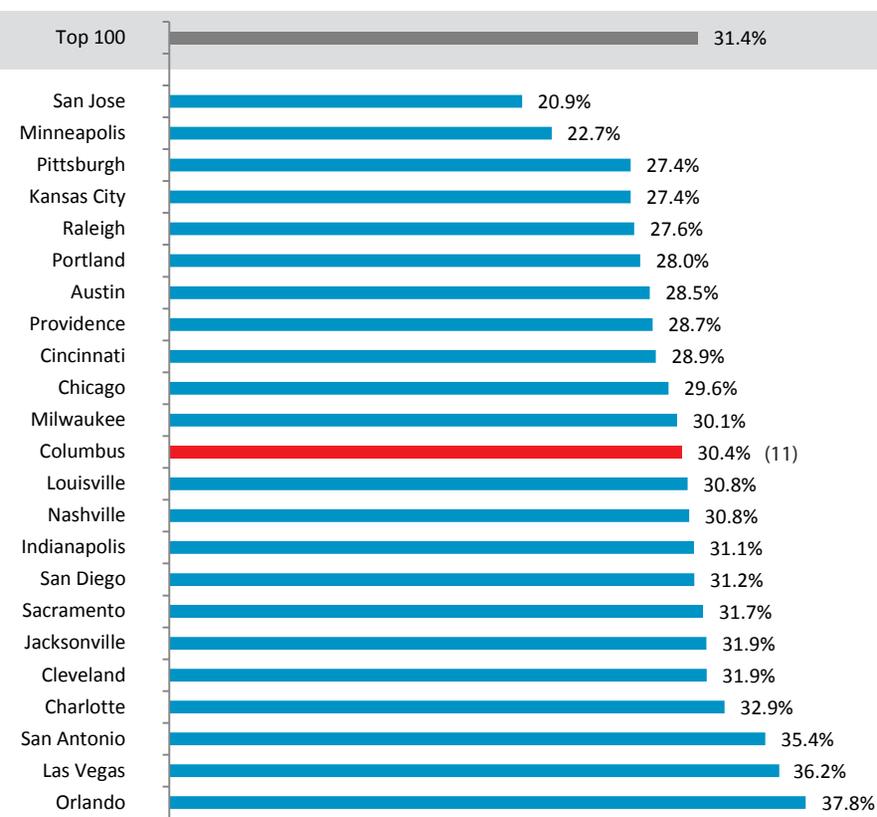


Note: Columbus MSA boundaries changed in 2013 (added Hocking and Perry counties)

**Population living below 200% FPL, 2015**

Metro area	Population for whom poverty status is determined	Number of persons in households with incomes below 200% FPL
1 San Jose	1,945,840	407,341
2 Minneapolis	3,464,823	786,057
3 Pittsburgh	2,294,560	628,157
3 Kansas City	2,055,803	562,972
4 Raleigh	1,248,080	344,388
5 Portland	2,356,147	658,578
6 Austin	1,959,300	558,617
7 Providence	1,556,522	446,305
8 Cincinnati	2,111,092	609,498
9 Chicago	9,396,317	2,783,787
10 Milwaukee	1,543,910	465,218
11 Columbus	<b>1,968,194</b>	<b>598,619</b>
12 Louisville	1,253,866	385,718
12 Nashville	1,795,655	553,881
13 Indianapolis	1,944,922	605,394
14 San Diego	3,222,190	1,004,003
15 Sacramento	2,241,728	710,215
16 Jacksonville	1,421,313	453,060
16 Cleveland	2,018,867	643,703
17 Charlotte	2,389,106	787,154
18 San Antonio	2,342,831	828,470
19 Las Vegas	2,088,802	756,170
20 Orlando	2,342,948	884,485

**Percentage of the population living below 200% FPL, 2015**



(#) Ranked from lowest to highest

Regions: Red=Midwest; Blue=South; Green=West; Black=NE

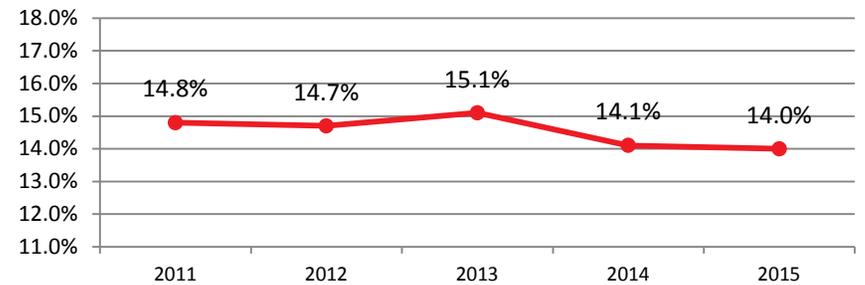
Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, American Community Survey

# Indicator 3.06: Income Supports

This indicator includes data from the American Community Survey on households that received government income supports in the previous 12 months. Income supports include public assistance payments from state or local government, food stamps, and Supplemental Security Income (SSI).

Columbus ranks joint 8th highest for percentage of households receiving public assistance in 2015, tied with Chicago. The percentage of households with benefits has seen little movement since 2011.

**Columbus Trends: Percentage of households receiving public assistance**



Note: Columbus MSA boundaries changed in 2013 (added Hocking and Perry counties)

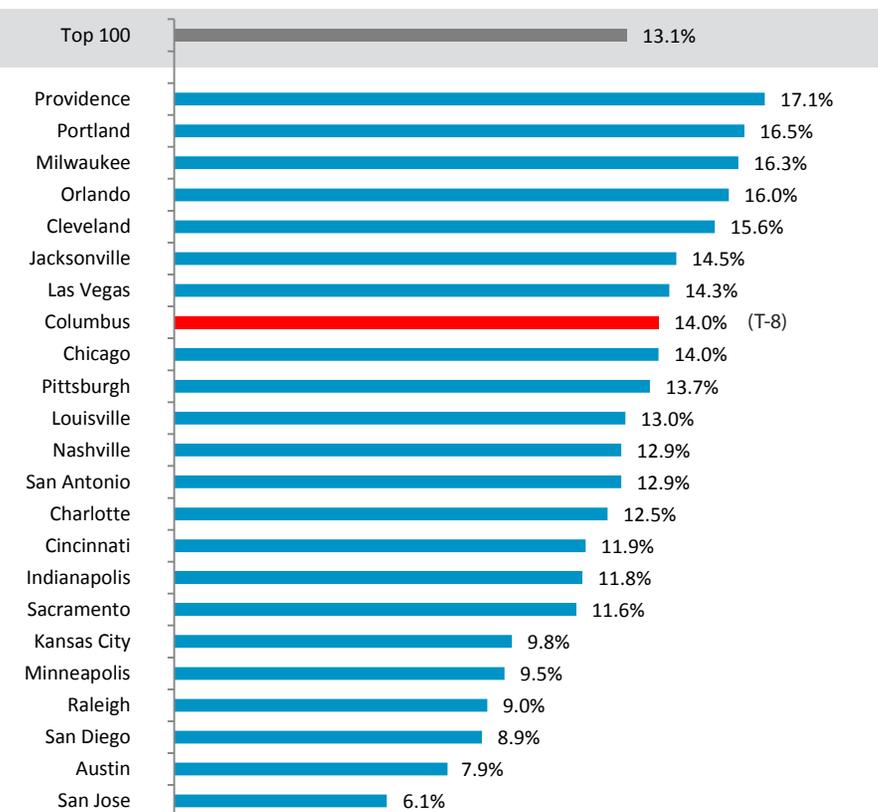
**Households receiving SSI, cash assistance, and food stamps, 2015**

Metro area	Number receiving SSI	Number receiving cash public assistance	Number receiving food stamps
1 Providence	44,583	21,338	100,567
2 Portland	41,206	34,392	140,299
3 Milwaukee	33,715	14,385	98,479
4 Orlando	43,537	16,661	131,258
5 Cleveland	52,010	24,101	127,567
6 Jacksonville	27,139	13,869	74,830
7 Las Vegas	31,436	23,461	99,528
8 <b>Columbus</b>	<b>36,195</b>	<b>18,748</b>	<b>104,326</b>
8 Chicago	160,800	80,369	462,927
9 Pittsburgh	60,411	29,194	129,354
10 Louisville	28,268	11,315	61,941
11 Nashville	27,754	22,389	85,119
11 San Antonio	46,471	12,093	98,858
12 Charlotte	37,838	15,481	109,444
13 Cincinnati	42,426	25,555	92,660
14 Indianapolis	33,750	12,621	85,899
15 Sacramento	53,726	33,659	86,652
16 Kansas City	35,157	14,881	75,394
17 Minneapolis	54,419	49,924	118,254
18 Raleigh	13,698	6,283	41,078
19 San Diego	58,932	28,843	88,450
20 Austin	20,306	8,324	53,284
21 San Jose	33,978	12,937	34,197

Regions: Red=Midwest; Blue=South; Green=West; Black=NE

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, American Community Survey

**Percentage of households receiving public assistance, 2015**



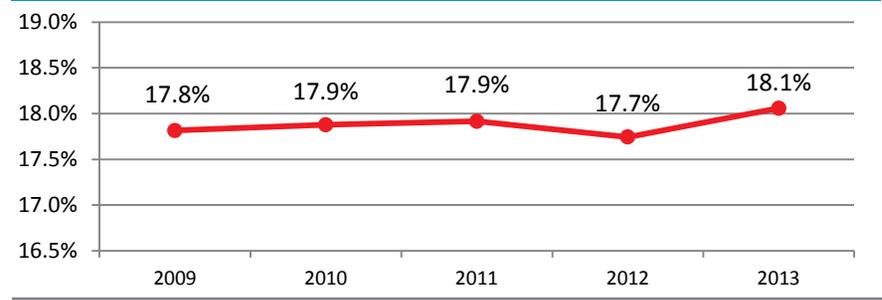
(#) Ranked from highest to lowest

# Indicator 3.07: Earned Income Tax Credit

This indicator includes data from the Brookings Institution on tax returns claiming the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC). The EITC is a federal income tax credit for low-income workers that reduces the amount of tax an individual owes and may be returned in the form of a refund. The study was based on an analysis of tax data compiled by the Internal Revenue Service. These data for 2013 are based on current MSA boundaries. Previous trend point data are based on 2003 MSA boundaries.

Tax returns for Columbus show 18.1% claimed EITC in 2013, roughly on par with Ohio peers Cincinnati and Cleveland, but below the top 100 metro figure of 20.1%.

**Columbus Trends: Percentage of tax returns claiming the EITC**



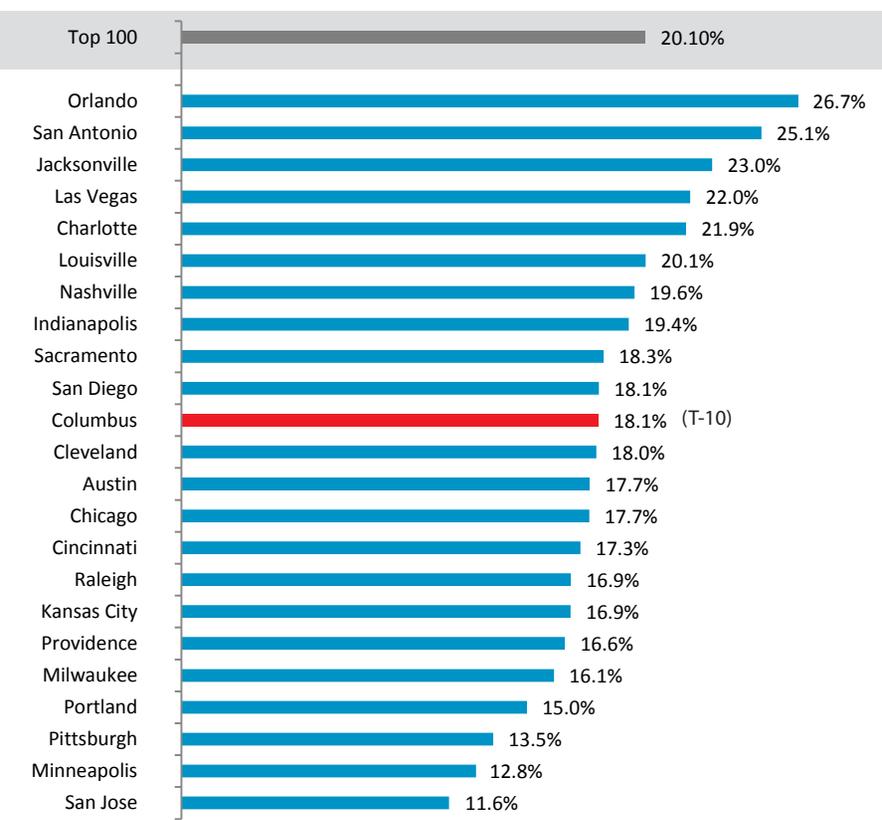
Note: Columbus MSA boundaries changed in 2013 (added Hocking and Perry counties)

**Number of tax returns, 2013**

Metro area	Total number of tax returns	Number of tax returns claiming EITC
1 Orlando	989,410	264,462
2 San Antonio	937,700	235,563
3 Jacksonville	607,691	139,742
4 Las Vegas	841,237	185,432
5 Charlotte	961,606	210,193
6 Louisville	559,944	112,603
7 Nashville	762,100	149,561
8 Indianapolis	872,064	168,991
9 Sacramento	887,185	162,246
10 San Diego	1,337,222	241,793
10 <b>Columbus</b>	<b>890,145</b>	<b>160,741</b>
11 Cleveland	960,533	172,620
12 Austin	872,525	154,428
12 Chicago	4,203,805	742,756
13 Cincinnati	954,567	164,949
14 Raleigh	503,255	84,901
14 Kansas City	885,627	149,327
15 Providence	731,648	121,545
16 Milwaukee	716,734	115,653
17 Portland	981,203	146,815
18 Pittsburgh	1,126,217	152,133
19 Minneapolis	1,594,748	203,661
20 San Jose	811,869	94,156

Regions: Red=Midwest; Blue=South; Green=West; Black=NE

**Percentage of tax returns claiming the EITC, 2013**



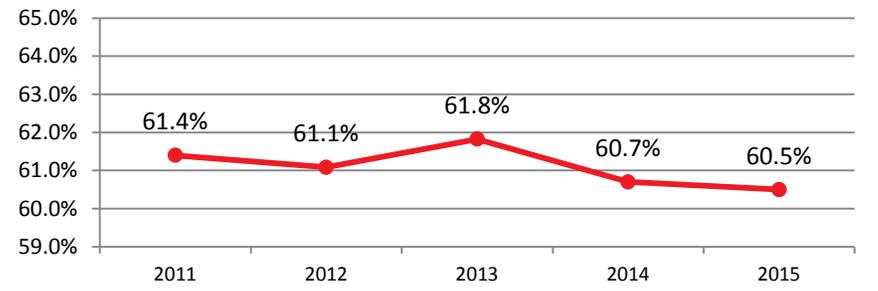
(#) Ranked from highest to lowest

Source: Brookings Institution, Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) interactive and resources

# Indicator 3.08: Homeownership

This indicator includes data on homeownership from the American Community Survey, which considers a housing unit to be owner-occupied if the owner or co-owner lives in the unit, even if it is mortgaged or not fully paid for.

## Columbus Trends: Percentage of owner-occupied housing units



Note: Columbus MSA boundaries changed in 2013 (added Hocking and Perry counties)

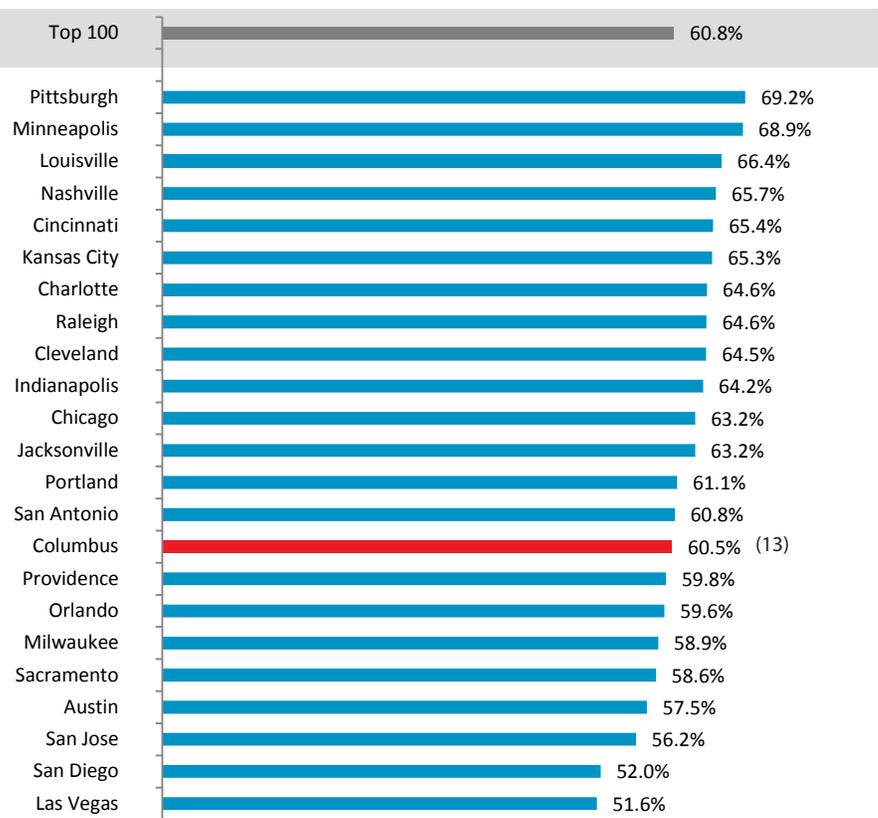
## Owner-occupied housing units, 2015

Metro area	Total occupied housing units	Total owner-occupied housing units
1 Pittsburgh	990,355	685,167
2 Minneapolis	1,354,766	933,390
3 Louisville	496,455	329,512
4 Nashville	686,640	451,109
5 Cincinnati	832,607	544,289
6 Kansas City	814,092	531,255
7 Charlotte	905,696	585,399
7 Raleigh	470,527	303,885
8 Cleveland	849,475	548,250
9 Indianapolis	755,100	484,654
10 Chicago	3,470,993	2,195,149
10 Jacksonville	536,299	339,134
11 Portland	901,402	550,790
12 San Antonio	791,273	481,236
13 <b>Columbus</b>	<b>772,304</b>	<b>467,291</b>
14 Providence	622,607	372,228
15 Orlando	845,295	503,804
16 Milwaukee	627,842	369,539
17 Sacramento	809,295	474,156
18 Austin	723,914	416,469
19 San Jose	651,352	366,317
20 San Diego	1,113,610	579,465
21 Las Vegas	740,966	382,183

Regions: Red=Midwest; Blue=South; Green=West; Black=NE

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, American Community Survey

## Percentage of owner-occupied housing units, 2015



(#) Ranked from highest to lowest

# Indicator 3.09: Foreclosures

This indicator includes data on foreclosure activity from the National Housing Conference and the Urban Land Institute. Traditional measures typically only include properties that have already gone into foreclosure. The Serious Delinquency Rate was designed to better assess the level of mortgage distress by combining the percentage of all home mortgage loans in foreclosure with those that are 90 or more days delinquent but have not yet entered foreclosure. These data are for metro areas based on June 2003 boundaries. This indicator has been modified from the 2013 report.

While the percentage of owner-occupied housing units in Columbus is in line with the top 100 metro figure, both mortgage payment delinquency and foreclosure rates place Columbus among the lowest in the cohort.

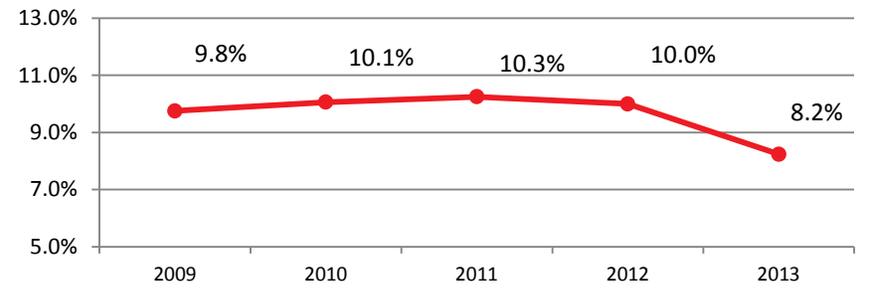
## Foreclosures and home mortgage delinquencies, 2013

Metro area	Percentage of all home mortgage loans in foreclosure	Percentage of all home mortgage loans 90 or more days delinquent
1 Austin	1.3%	1.4%
2 Minneapolis	1.9%	1.5%
3 San Jose	2.3%	1.7%
4 San Diego	2.4%	2.2%
4 Raleigh	2.5%	2.2%
5 Sacramento	2.7%	2.4%
5 San Antonio	2.6%	2.7%
6 Charlotte	2.9%	2.9%
7 Kansas City	3.1%	2.9%
8 Portland	3.9%	2.2%
9 Nashville	3.4%	3.0%
10 Pittsburgh	4.0%	2.7%
11 Louisville	4.3%	2.8%
12 Milwaukee	4.4%	3.2%
13 Cincinnati	4.9%	3.1%
14 Indianapolis	4.9%	3.2%
14 <b>Columbus</b>	<b>5.0%</b>	<b>3.3%</b>
15 Chicago	6.0%	3.2%
16 Providence	4.9%	5.0%
17 Cleveland	6.2%	4.2%
18 Jacksonville	8.6%	4.6%
19 Las Vegas	7.9%	5.7%
20 Orlando	10.0%	4.0%

Regions: Red=Midwest; Blue=South; Green=West; Black=NE

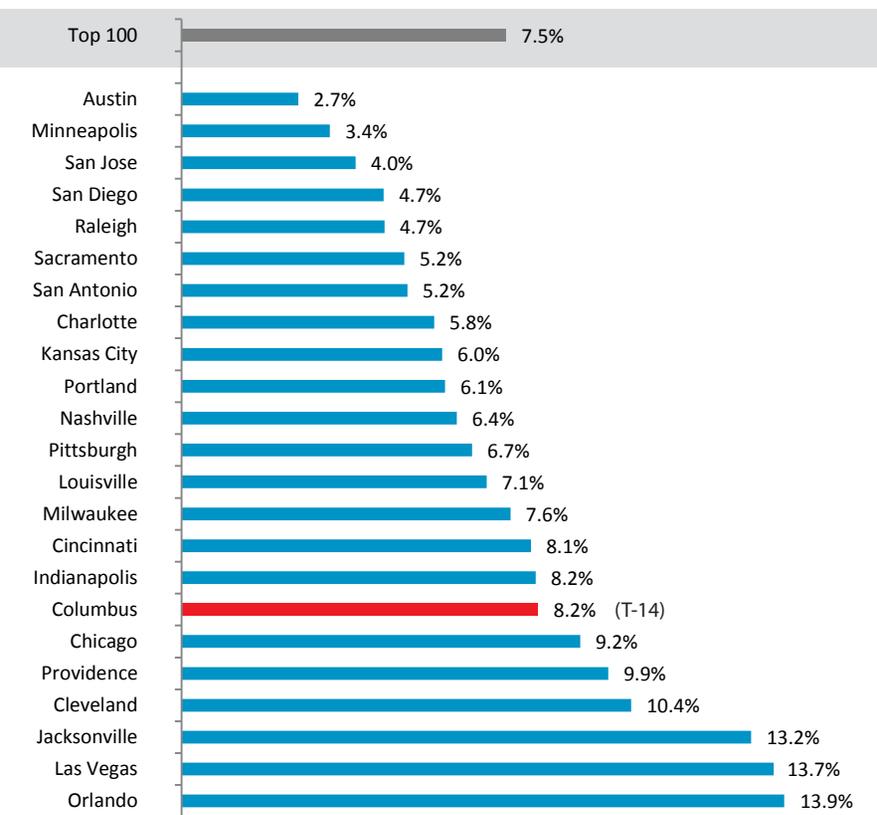
Source: National Housing Conference, Urban Land Institute, Foreclosure-Response.org

## Columbus Trends: Serious delinquency rate



Note: These data use 2003 Columbus MSA boundaries (which do *not* include Hocking and Perry counties)

## Serious delinquency rate, 2013



(#) Ranked from lowest to highest

# Indicator 3.10: Housing & Transportation

This indicator includes data on housing and transportation costs from the Center for Neighborhood Technology. Traditional definitions of affordability include housing costs but not transportation costs. The H+T Affordability Index was designed to measure true affordability by adding together housing and transportation costs as a percentage of household income. Housing costs are based on selected monthly owner costs and gross rent from the American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates. Transportation costs are a function of motor vehicle ownership and use, transit use, and the costs associated with those variables. Due to rounding, bar chart figures may differ slightly from data in the table. No trend data are available.

The H+T Affordability Index ranks Columbus 14th among the cohort metros. Although Columbus' housing costs of 28% of income are deemed affordable by the H+T measure (less than 30%), the relatively high delinquency and foreclosure rates (indicator 3.09) are at odds with that assessment. It is notable that according to the H+T measure, unaffordable average transportation costs, at 23% of income, push Columbus over the combined affordability threshold of 45% of household income toward housing and transportation. Only two cohort metros, San Jose and Minneapolis, come close to achieving this affordability threshold.

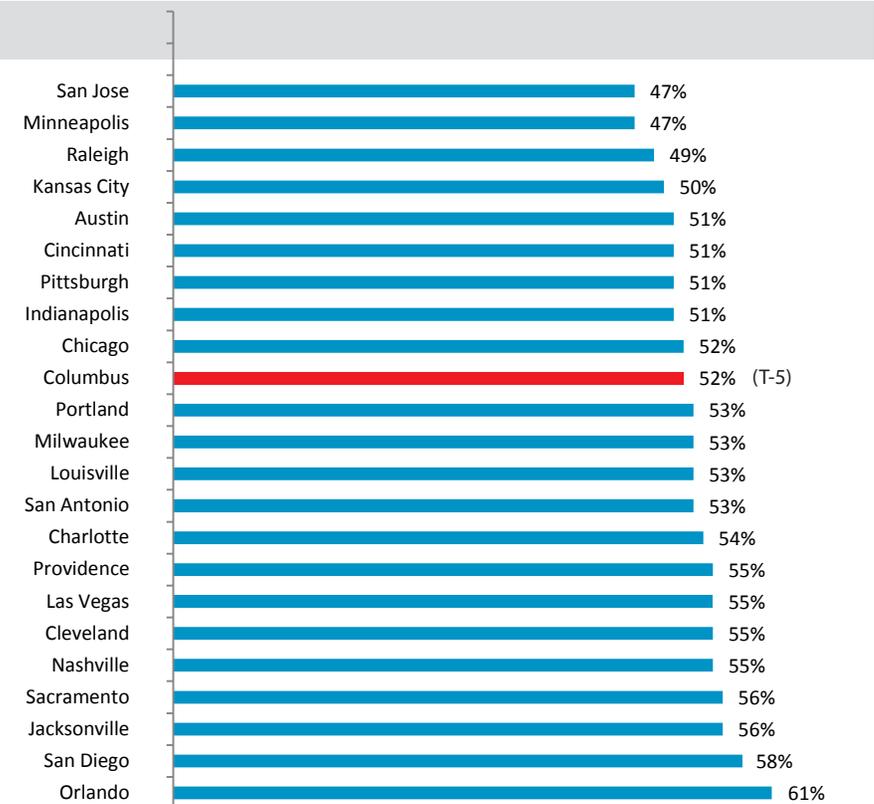
Housing and transportation affordability, 2005-2013

Metro area	Housing costs as a percentage of median household income	Transportation costs as a percentage of median household income
1 San Jose	32%	15%
1 Minneapolis	28%	20%
2 Raleigh	26%	22%
3 Kansas City	27%	23%
4 Austin	30%	22%
4 Cincinnati	27%	24%
4 Pittsburgh	27%	24%
4 Indianapolis	27%	25%
5 Chicago	33%	19%
5 Columbus	<b>28%</b>	<b>23%</b>
6 Portland	31%	21%
6 Milwaukee	31%	22%
6 Louisville	27%	25%
6 San Antonio	28%	25%
7 Charlotte	29%	25%
8 Providence	33%	22%
8 Las Vegas	32%	23%
8 Cleveland	30%	24%
8 Nashville	29%	26%
9 Sacramento	34%	22%
9 Jacksonville	31%	24%
10 San Diego	37%	21%
11 Orlando	35%	26%

Regions: Red=Midwest; Blue=South; Green=West; Black=NE

Source: Center for Neighborhood Technology, H+T Affordability Index

H+T Affordability Index, 2005-2013



(#) Ranked from lowest to highest

# Section 4: Lifelong Learning

This section includes indicators of literacy, school engagement, educational attainment, and access to research and learning that describe the educational resources of the metro areas.

The following are the Lifelong Learning indicator categories:

- 4.01 High School Attendance
- 4.02 Educational Attainment
- 4.03 Pre-K Enrollment
- 4.04 School Lunch Assistance
- 4.05 Libraries
- 4.06 Research Universities

# Section Overview

This section includes indicators measuring educational attainment, school attendance and enrollment, access to free or reduced-price lunch, library utilization, and academic research activity. These figures help provide a picture of the academic and educational potential of the metro area populations. Strong academic engagement and supports, plus good access to educational resources positively impact a metro area's competitiveness.

The table on page 4-4 shows where the rankings in this section fall. Comparatively, Central Ohio ranks well in school engagement, access to resources, and has an educated population. However, low rankings in early school engagement hint at challenges on the horizon.

## Degrees and Dropouts

Columbus has the joint 3rd lowest dropout rate for students aged 16 to 19, with the 2nd lowest percentage of 16 to 19 year olds not in school or in the workforce (4.01) across the comparison metros. Columbus ranks in the middle tier for percentage of the population with degrees and ranks among the lowest for percentage of the population without a high school diploma (4.02). Columbus ranks 8th for the number of doctoral degrees awarded per 100,000 people, with 683 degrees granted in 2014 (4.06).

## Educational Resources

Currently, Columbus ranks 10th for library visits per capita and ranks 5th for registered borrowers despite ranking only 15th for overall population size (4.05). Columbus is long-recognized as having a strong library system. With considerable investment in new library buildings and resources across the city in the past couple of years, it will be interesting to track potential upticks in library visits and circulation as a result of this expansion.

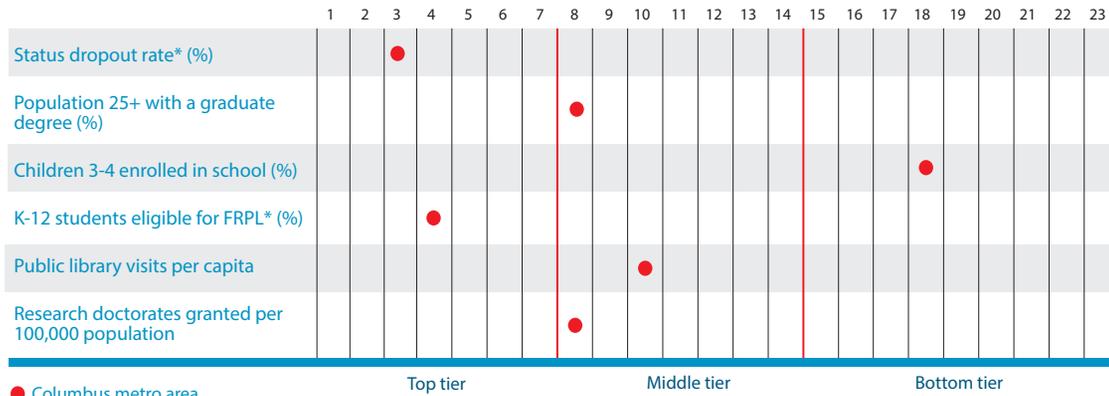
## Pre-K Enrollment

The percentage of children ages 3-4 enrolled in school in Columbus in 2015 is 43.5%, a slight drop from 48.5% in 2011 (4.03). Pre-K enrollment is comparatively low in Columbus, below the top 100 MSA figure of 50.2% and ranking 18th overall across the benchmarking cities. Lower enrollment in early childhood education is often an indicator of challenges in affordability and accessibility. To add a global context to pre-k enrollment, in 2013, 54% of 3 to 4 year-olds in the United States were enrolled in school. In countries where pre-k education is both mandatory and free, such as France and Israel, enrollment is near 100%<sup>1</sup>.

1. [http://nces.ed.gov/programs/coe/indicator\\_cfa.asp](http://nces.ed.gov/programs/coe/indicator_cfa.asp)



# Lifelong Learning Ranking



These indicators are ranked from highest (1) to lowest (23), except (\*) ranked lowest (1) to highest (23).

# Indicator 4.01: High School Attendance

This indicator includes data from the American Community Survey on high school attendance. It measures the percentage of teens ages 16 to 19 who are neither currently enrolled in school nor hold a high school diploma. This is known as the status dropout rate. High school dropouts are less likely to have the minimum skills and credentials needed to function in society and are more likely to live in poverty and require government assistance. The idle teen rate is another measure of high school attendance. This is the percentage of the same age group who neither are currently enrolled in school nor are in the labor force. Idle teens may or may not also be high school dropouts.

Columbus has the joint 3rd lowest dropout rate for students aged 16 to 19, with the 2nd lowest percentage of 16 to 19 year olds not in school or in the workforce among benchmarking metros.

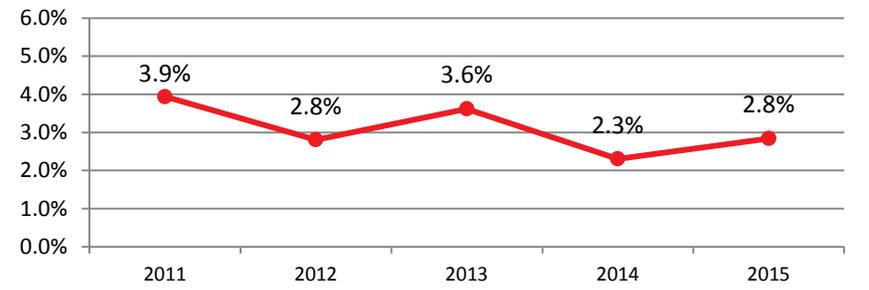
## Idle teens, ages 16 to 19, 2015

Metro area	Percentage of population ages 16-19 not in school and not in labor force
1 San Diego	3.1%
1 San Jose	2.8%
2 Minneapolis	2.3%
3 Pittsburgh	3.4%
3 Sacramento	5.1%
3 Columbus	<b>2.6%</b>
4 Indianapolis	2.6%
5 Chicago	3.6%
5 Nashville	3.5%
5 Louisville	3.4%
6 Cincinnati	4.1%
6 Milwaukee	3.6%
7 Orlando	5.4%
8 Charlotte	4.6%
9 Austin	4.5%
9 Providence	4.0%
10 Kansas City	5.3%
11 Raleigh	3.6%
12 Portland	4.4%
13 Cleveland	3.7%
14 Jacksonville	5.9%
15 San Antonio	4.9%
16 Las Vegas	7.1%

Regions: Red=Midwest; Blue=South; Green=West; Black=NE

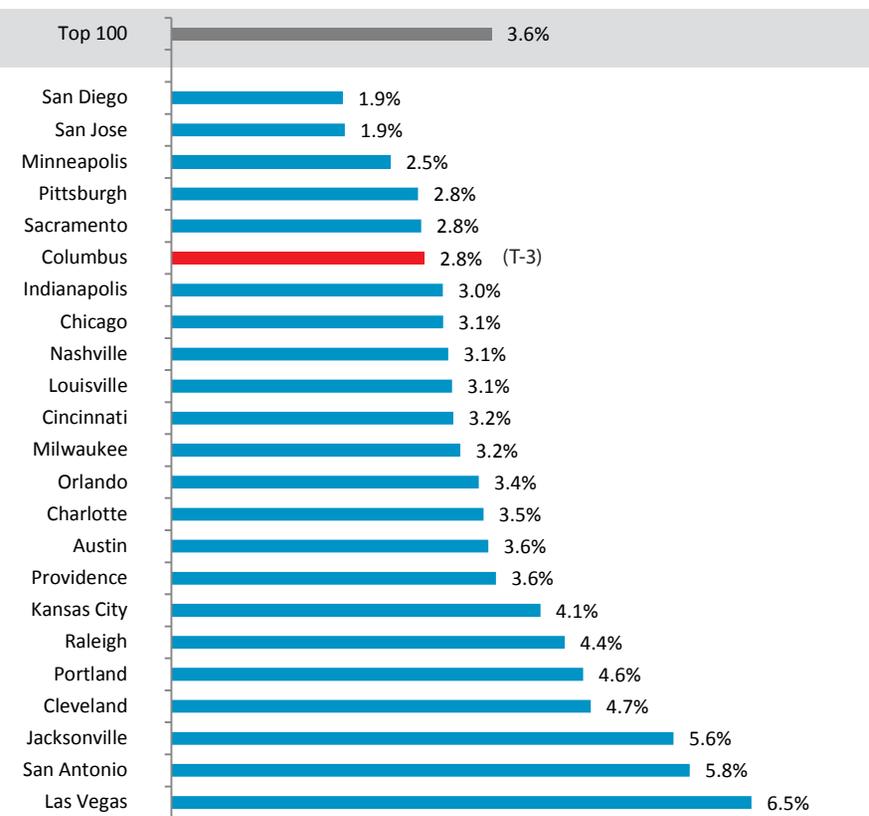
Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, American Community Survey

## Columbus Trends: Status dropout rate, ages 16 to 19



Note: Columbus MSA boundaries changed in 2013 (added Hocking and Perry counties)

## Status dropout rate, ages 16 to 19, 2015



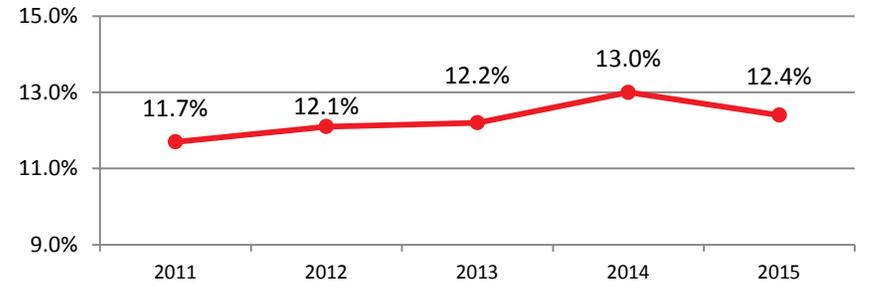
(#) Ranked from lowest to highest

# Indicator 4.02: Educational Attainment

This indicator includes data from the American Community Survey on the educational attainment of the adult population (persons age 25 years and older). This indicator differs from indicator 2.13: Brain Gain in that Brain Gain only represents new residents, while Educational Attainment looks at all residents with graduate degree.

Columbus ranks in the middle tier for percentage of the population with either a bachelor's or graduate degree and ranks among the lowest for percentage of the population without a high school diploma.

## Columbus Trends: Population age 25+ with a graduate degree



Note: Columbus MSA boundaries changed in 2013 (added Hocking and Perry counties)

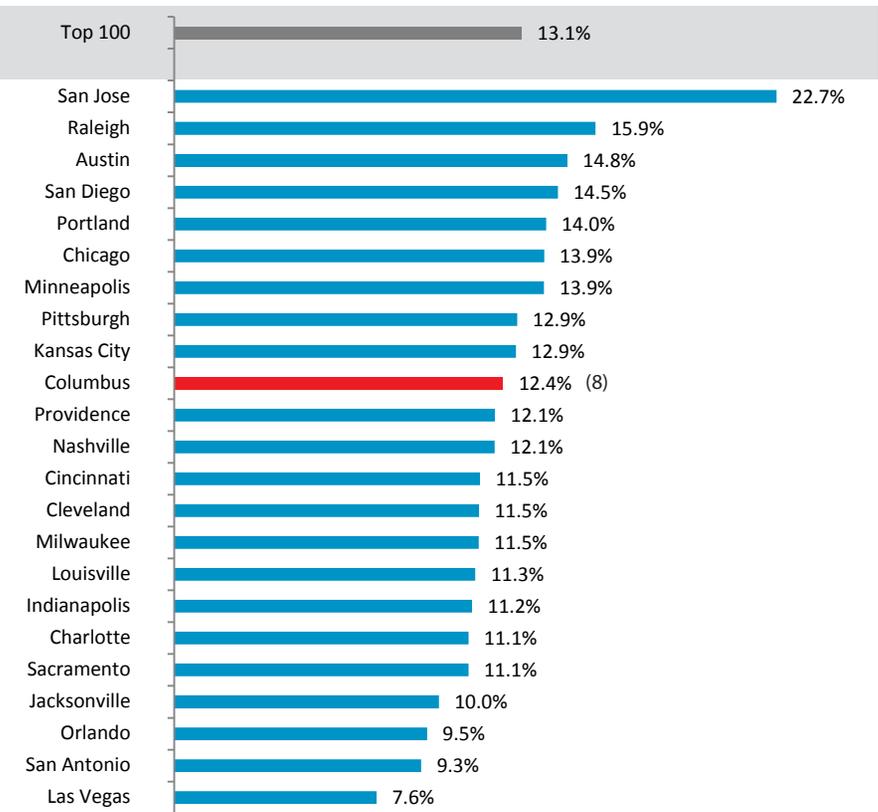
## Educational attainment, population 25 years and older, 2015

Metro area	Percentage without a high school diploma	Percentage with no higher than a high school diploma	Percentage with a bachelor's degree or higher
1 San Jose	12.9%	27.9%	48.7%
2 Raleigh	9.1%	28.4%	44.4%
3 Austin	10.8%	30.5%	42.6%
4 San Diego	13.4%	32.2%	37.2%
5 Portland	9.2%	29.3%	37.9%
6 Chicago	12.1%	36.7%	36.0%
6 Minneapolis	6.8%	28.7%	40.3%
7 Pittsburgh	7.0%	41.0%	33.0%
7 Kansas City	8.8%	35.1%	35.8%
8 Columbus	<b>9.1%</b>	<b>37.5%</b>	<b>35.1%</b>
9 Providence	13.5%	42.2%	30.6%
9 Nashville	11.0%	38.9%	33.6%
10 Cincinnati	9.5%	39.5%	32.1%
10 Cleveland	10.3%	40.1%	29.4%
10 Milwaukee	9.5%	35.5%	33.9%
11 Louisville	10.4%	40.9%	28.7%
12 Indianapolis	11.1%	39.6%	32.9%
13 Charlotte	12.1%	36.7%	33.5%
13 Sacramento	11.2%	32.7%	32.2%
14 Jacksonville	9.9%	38.1%	30.0%
15 Orlando	10.2%	37.3%	29.9%
16 San Antonio	15.9%	42.7%	26.6%
17 Las Vegas	14.9%	43.2%	23.1%

Regions: Red=Midwest; Blue=South; Green=West; Black=NE

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, American Community Survey

## Percentage of population age 25+ with a graduate degree, 2015



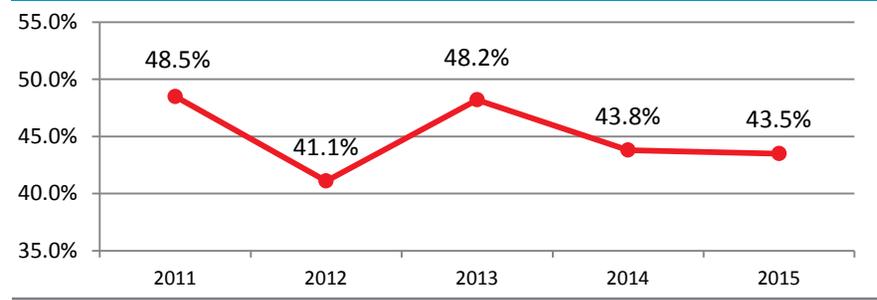
(#) Ranked from highest to lowest

# Indicator 4.03: Pre-K Enrollment

This indicator includes data from the American Community Survey on school enrollment for children ages 3 and 4, including the type of school (public or private). The data do not represent all nursery and preschool enrollment because these education levels include children outside the age range of 3 to 4.

The percentage of children ages 3-4 enrolled in school in Columbus in 2015 is 43.5%, a slight drop from 48.5% in 2011. Pre-K enrollment is comparatively low, below the top 100 metro figure of 50.2% and ranking 18th overall across the benchmarking metros. Lower enrollment in early childhood education is often an indicator of challenges in affordability and accessibility.

**Columbus Trends: Percentage of children ages 3-4 enrolled in school**



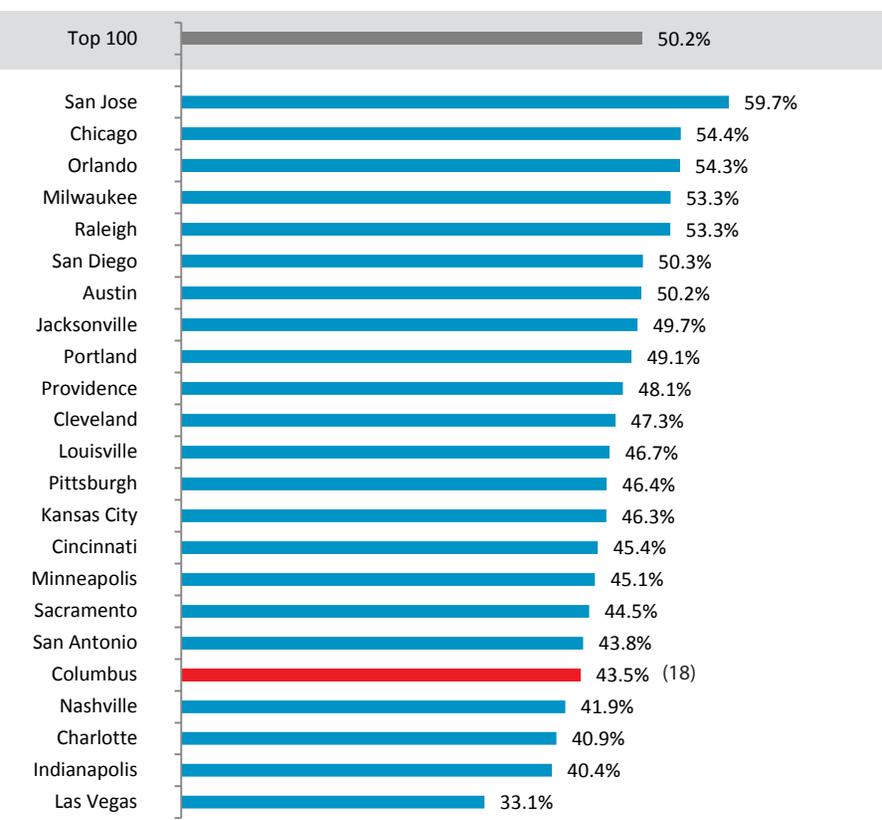
Note: Columbus MSA boundaries changed in 2013 (added Hocking and Perry counties)

**Number of children ages 3-4 enrolled in school, 2015**

Metro area	Number of children ages 3-4 enrolled in public school	Number of children ages 3-4 enrolled in private school
1 San Jose	10,075	19,388
2 Chicago	78,933	57,913
3 Orlando	20,847	11,234
4 Milwaukee	11,593	9,809
4 Raleigh	6,891	9,090
5 San Diego	22,945	19,830
6 Austin	13,509	12,193
7 Jacksonville	8,350	9,646
8 Portland	12,435	16,986
9 Providence	8,870	7,340
10 Cleveland	11,372	11,991
11 Louisville	7,811	6,454
12 Pittsburgh	9,590	12,906
13 Kansas City	13,243	12,048
14 Cincinnati	15,003	11,706
15 Minneapolis	22,929	19,848
16 Sacramento	15,238	9,469
17 San Antonio	16,087	10,752
18 Columbus	<b>11,067</b>	<b>12,259</b>
19 Nashville	7,723	10,548
20 Charlotte	11,923	13,187
21 Indianapolis	10,552	12,054
22 Las Vegas	12,859	5,097

Regions: Red=Midwest; Blue=South; Green=West; Black=NE

**Percentage of children ages 3-4 enrolled in school, 2015**



(#) Ranked from highest to lowest

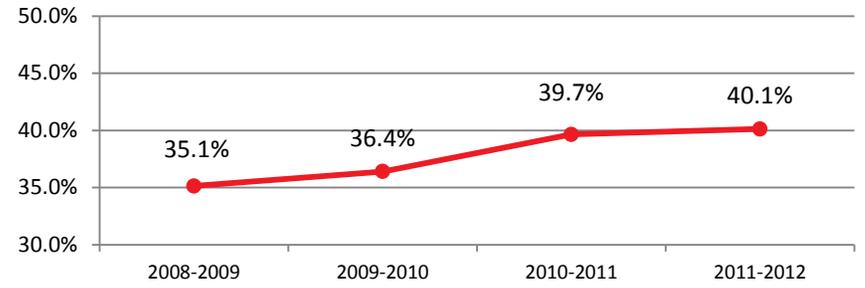
Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, American Community Survey

# Indicator 4.04: School Lunch Assistance

This indicator includes data from the National Center for Education Statistics on K-12 students who are eligible for free or reduced-price lunch (FRPL).

The percentage of eligible students in Columbus increased slightly from the 2013 Benchmarking report, but the proportion remains one of the lowest among the benchmarking metros.

**Columbus Trends: Percentage of K-12 students eligible for FRPL**



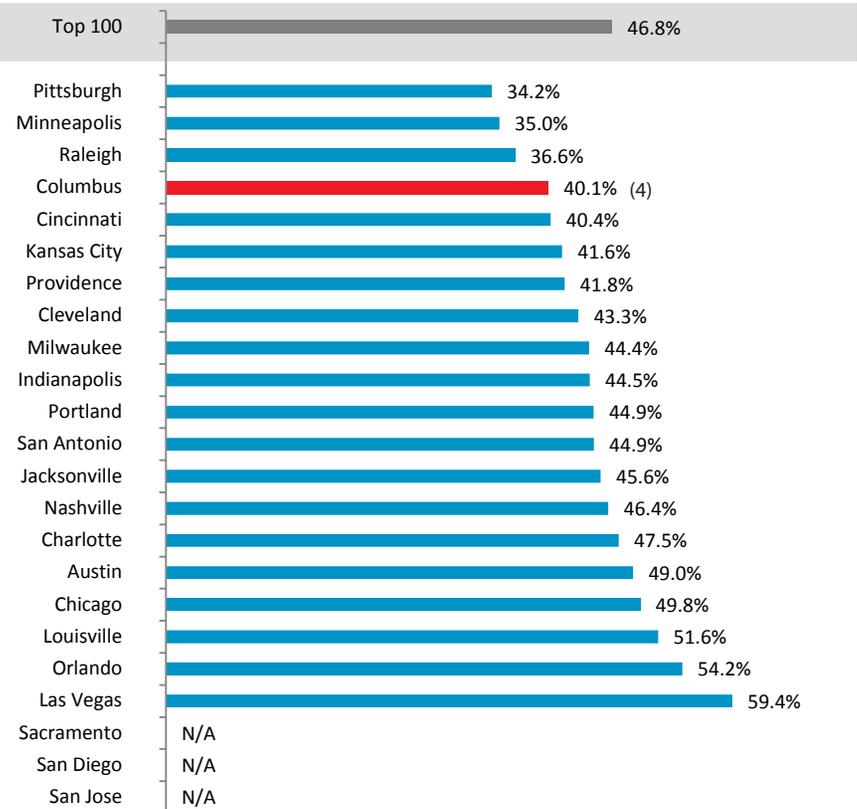
Note: These data use 2003 Columbus MSA boundaries (which do *not* include Hocking and Perry counties)

**K-12 students eligible for free or reduced-price lunch, 2011-2012**

Metro area	Number of K-12 students eligible for free lunch	Number of K-12 students eligible for reduced-price lunch
1 Pittsburgh	92,673	16,070
2 Minneapolis	155,319	33,399
3 Raleigh	62,095	10,263
4 <b>Columbus</b>	<b>107,648</b>	<b>14,348</b>
5 Cincinnati	112,480	16,136
6 Kansas City	119,998	22,847
7 Providence	80,108	12,839
8 Cleveland	113,333	15,373
9 Milwaukee	93,809	10,867
10 Indianapolis	114,164	21,775
11 Portland	131,106	21,996
11 San Antonio	155,435	33,272
12 Jacksonville	84,204	11,304
13 Nashville	105,332	14,609
14 Charlotte	112,453	31,397
15 Austin	131,988	20,345
16 Chicago	364,386	422,346
17 Louisville	85,383	13,145
18 Orlando	159,961	25,921
19 Las Vegas	160,512	25,697
Sacramento	N/A	N/A
San Diego	N/A	N/A
San Jose	N/A	N/A

Regions: Red=Midwest; Blue=South; Green=West; Black=NE

**Percentage of K-12 students eligible for FRPL, 2011-2012**



(#) Ranked from lowest to highest

Source: National Center for Education Statistics, Common Core of Data, Elementary/Secondary Information System

# Indicator 4.05: Libraries

This indicator includes data from the Institute of Museum and Library Services on public library statistics. A public library is a library accessible to the public and generally funded from public sources.

Columbus ranks 10th for library visits per capita and 5th for registered borrowers despite ranking only 15th for overall population size. Columbus is long-recognized as having a strong library system. With considerable investment in new library buildings and resources across the city in the past couple of years, it will be interesting to track potential upticks in library visits and circulation as a result of this expansion.

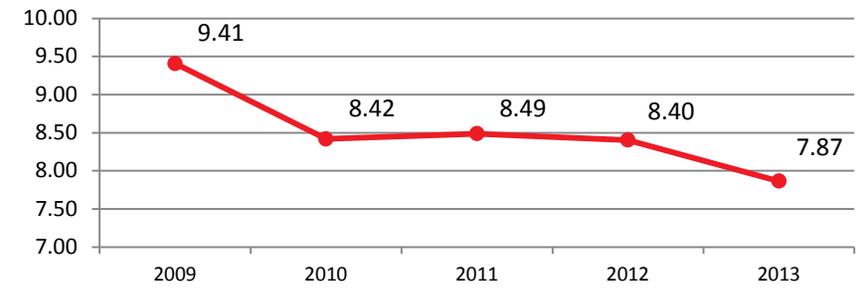
## Circulation, attendance, library cards, and visits, 2013

Metro area	Total annual circulation (thousands)	Total annual program attendance (thousands)	Total registered borrowers (thousands)	Total annual library visits (thousands)
1 Indianapolis	27,741	928	1,070	10,317
2 Providence	10,308	500	713	8,572
3 Kansas City	22,940	826	1,346	12,239
4 Las Vegas	17,007	625	867	8,153
5 Orlando	20,238	717	974	8,918
6 Cleveland	50,371	1,311	2,167	21,149
7 Minneapolis	37,980	735	3,236	15,686
8 Portland	46,515	881	1,241	13,819
9 Louisville	6,481	433	632	5,078
10 Columbus	<b>31,037</b>	<b>886</b>	<b>1,605</b>	<b>15,500</b>
11 Nashville	9,417	571	804	6,704
12 Cincinnati	33,709	1,152	1,444	15,202
13 Chicago	98,476	3,867	5,953	60,837
14 Sacramento	12,884	360	1,121	7,148
15 San Jose	29,737	682	1,158	13,373
16 Pittsburgh	14,628	1,033	967	11,815
17 Austin	11,249	444	932	6,580
18 Raleigh	12,120	338	472	4,334
19 San Diego	22,376	1,296	2,140	14,820
20 Charlotte	11,713	628	1,537	6,827
21 Jacksonville	9,833	300	855	5,785
22 Milwaukee	15,218	469	1,008	8,760
23 San Antonio	9,768	422	1,151	7,264

Regions: Red=Midwest; Blue=South; Green=West; Black=NE

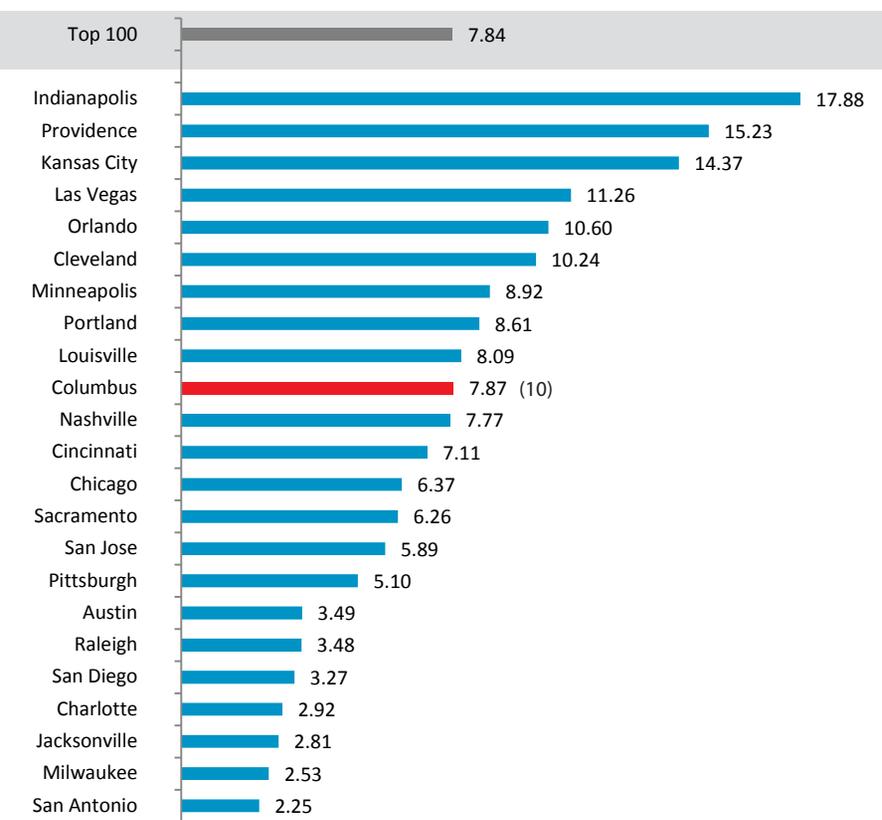
Source: Institute for Museum and Library Services, Public Libraries in the United States Survey

## Columbus Trends: Annual public library visits per capita



Note: 2009 and 2010 use 2003 Columbus MSA boundaries for the population figure; 2011-2013 use current MSA boundaries for the population figure.

## Annual public library visits per capita, 2013



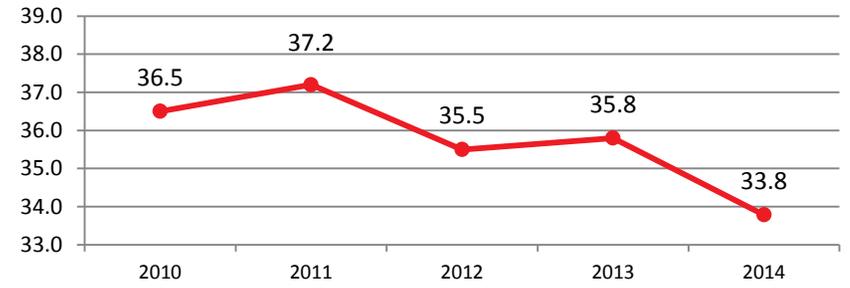
(#) Ranked from highest to lowest

# Indicator 4.06: Research Universities

This indicator includes data from the National Science Foundation on doctorate-granting institutions. It measures the annual number of research doctoral degrees (which excludes all professional doctoral degrees, such as doctorates in medicine and law) awarded at area colleges and universities.

Columbus ranks 8th for the number of doctoral degrees awarded per 100,000 people, with 683 degrees granted in 2014. The presence of new metros and strides made by universities in Minneapolis, Austin, Nashville, and Raleigh led to Columbus slipping from its number 1 ranking in the 2013 Benchmarking report.

## Columbus Trends: Research doctoral degrees per 100,000 population



Note: Columbus MSA boundaries changed in 2013 (added Hocking and Perry counties)

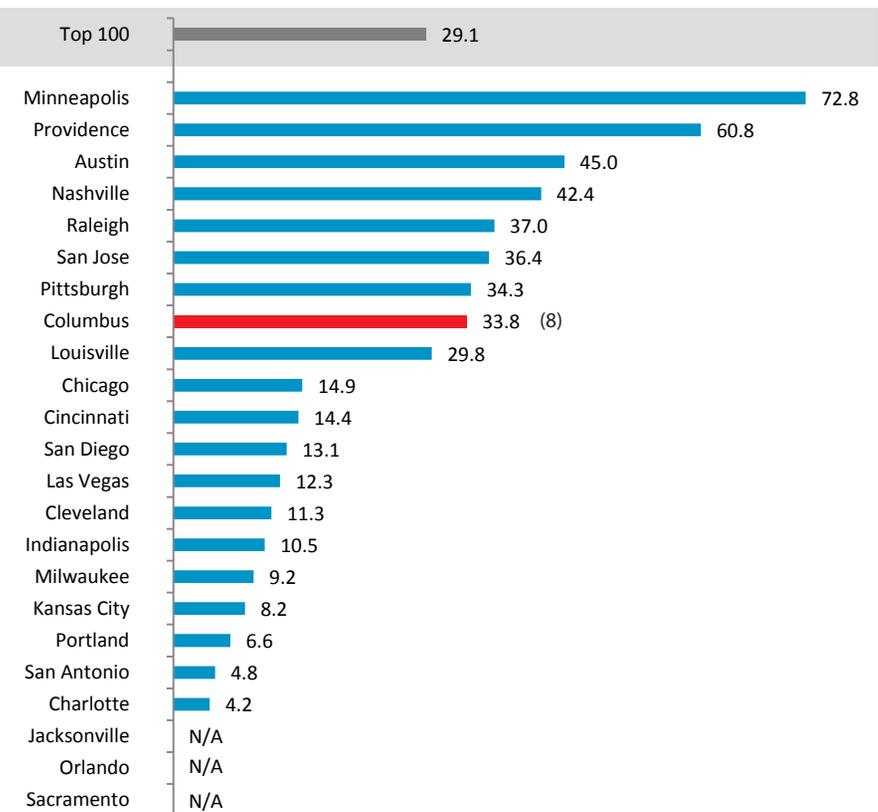
## Research degrees and research universities, 2014

Metro area	Number of research doctoral degrees awarded	Number of institutions granting research doctoral degrees
1 Minneapolis	1,333	3
2 Providence	356	4
3 Austin	901	2
4 Nashville	364	4
5 Raleigh	470	2
6 San Jose	799	3
7 Pittsburgh	819	3
8 Columbus	<b>683</b>	<b>1</b>
9 Louisville	191	2
10 Chicago	1,420	14
11 Cincinnati	311	3
12 San Diego	608	5
13 Las Vegas	90	1
14 Cleveland	233	2
15 Indianapolis	61	1
16 Milwaukee	326	4
17 Kansas City	71	1
18 Portland	106	2
19 San Antonio	159	4
20 Charlotte	102	1
Jacksonville	N/A	N/A
Orlando	N/A	N/A
Sacramento	N/A	N/A

Regions: Red=Midwest; Blue=South; Green=West; Black=NE

Source: National Science Foundation, Survey of Earned Doctorates: 2014

## Research doctoral degrees awarded per 100,000 population, 2014



(#) Ranked from highest to lowest

# Section 5: Community Wellbeing

This section includes indicators of health, safety, civic life, transportation, environmental quality, and cultural opportunities that describe the wellbeing of the metro areas.

The following are the Community Wellbeing indicator categories:

- 5.01 Local Foods
- 5.02 Obesity
- 5.03 Diabetes
- 5.04 Asthma
- 5.05 Infant Mortality
- 5.06 Charitable Giving
- 5.07 Volunteering
- 5.08 Women in Political Leadership
- 5.09 Women in Corporate Leadership
- 5.10 Crime
- 5.11 Road Safety
- 5.12 Traffic Congestion
- 5.13 Commute Time
- 5.14 Commute Mode
- 5.15 Walking and Biking
- 5.16 Public Transportation
- 5.17 Air Travel
- 5.18 Festivals and Celebrations
- 5.19 Air Quality
- 5.20 Carbon Footprint

# Section Overview

A variety of indicators are used here to assess the general state of the community wellbeing, including measures of health and safety, civic engagement, transportation, and environmental quality. A healthy and engaged citizenry, safe and clean environments, and efficient infrastructure all impact the quality of life within a metro area, helping to attract and retain both residents and businesses.

The table on page 5-4 shows where the rankings in this section fall. Central Ohio continues to be characterized by relatively clean and safe environments, but is challenged by mediocre health performance and transportation barriers.

## Transportation choices

The Columbus commuter experienced an annual average of 41 hours of delay in 2014, on par with the figure for the top 100 Metro Areas (5.12). Columbus has the 3rd shortest average commute time by car across the benchmarking comparison cities and 7th shortest public transport commute time (5.13). Over the past 5 years, commuting by alternate means has remained consistent, with 16.9% in 2011 and 17.5% in 2015. Usage of public transportation as a primary means of commute remains relatively low, at 2%. Columbus sits among other Midwest cities with the 3rd lowest percentage of the population carpooling to work (5.14).

Columbus ranks in the bottom tier for daily flight departures, as it did in the 2013 Benchmarking report (5.17). As plans for terminal expansion at John Glenn Columbus International Airport take shape however, future Benchmarking reports may tell a different story.

Columbus has a walk score of 40.4, ranking 12th overall while ranking 13th for prevalence of on-street bike lanes and multi-use paths per square mile (5.15). While the percentage of commuters by bike remains small at 0.4% (5.14), the City of Columbus invested heavily in expanding protected bike lanes on major roads such as Summit and 4th in 2015, linking downtown and OSU Campus, with further expansion planned<sup>3</sup>. In addition, the CoGo Columbus city bike share initiative was launched in 2013 to offer downtown commuters a network of 300 bicycles and 30 stations<sup>4</sup>, which may impact bike commuting in the future.

## Health and Wellness

Infant deaths per 1,000 live births in Columbus decreased from 8.65 in 2009 to 7.99 in 2013. However, the racial disparity in infant mortality rates worsened, with infant deaths increasing from 12.87 to 13.72 per 1,000 live births for Black or African American mothers (5.05). Columbus ranks 20th for adult obesity, higher than the US State Median (5.02). Prevalence of type 1 and type 2 diabetes among adults is comparatively lower than most other benchmarking Midwest cities, with Columbus ranking joint 6th compared with Cincinnati, Cleveland, and Pittsburgh all ranking near the bottom (5.03).

Columbus ranks 9th for access to local farms with direct sales to final consumers, in line with the top 100 MSA percentage (5.01). Data from the U.S. Department of Agriculture shows that Ohio had 315 active farmer's markets in 2014, including 27 in Franklin County<sup>1</sup>, making Ohio the fifth highest state in the U.S. for number of farmer's markets. It is hoped that further investment in programs like Veggie Snaps, which provides a dollar SNAP match for the purchase of fresh produce for farmer's markets, may help increase access to healthy food among lower-income households<sup>2</sup>.

## Community Participation

Half of Columbus residents donated to charity in 2014, placing Columbus 13th highest (5.06) among the comparison metro areas. Since the 2013 Benchmarking Report, the median charitable contribution increased from \$2,062 to \$3,208. While Columbus' volunteer rate ranks 7th, it ranks 1st for volunteer retention, with 74.7% of volunteers in 2013 returning to volunteer in 2014 (5.07). Columbus also ranks 1st for the prevalence of community festivals and celebrations, with 9.09 community celebrations per 1,000,000 people (5.18). This shows another side of Columbus, which could well be named the festival capital of the Midwest.

1. <https://www.ams.usda.gov/local-food-directories/farmersmarkets>

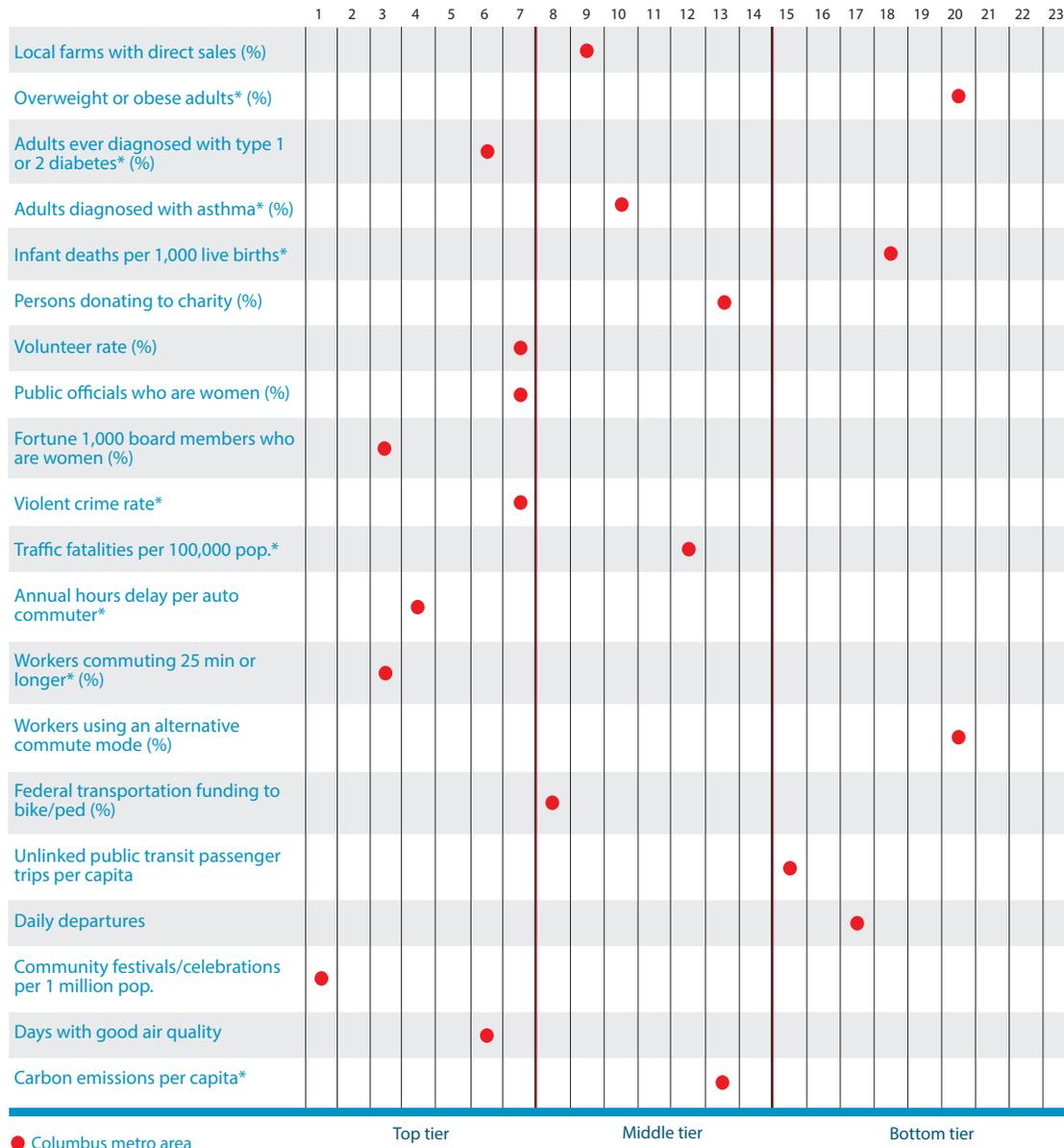
2. <https://veggiesnaps.org/about-2>

3. <https://www.columbus.gov/publicservice/bicycle-program/Protected-Bike-Lanes>

4. <https://www.columbus.gov/recreationandparks/programs/CoGo-Bike-Share-Program/>



# Community Wellbeing Ranking



These indicators are ranked from highest (1) to lowest (23), except (\*) ranked lowest (1) to highest (23).

# Indicator 5.01: Local Foods

This indicator includes data from the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Food Environment Atlas on farms and farmers’ markets. The percentage of local farms selling goods directly to final consumers—whether at rural farm stands or urban farmers’ markets—is a measure of sustainability in local food economies. New data were not available to update the indicator for the 2016 report, however the 2007 data were re-analyzed according to updated MSA boundaries and the additional Metro areas. Trending data are not available.

Columbus ranks 9th for access to local farms with direct sales to final consumers, in line with the top 100 metro percentage.

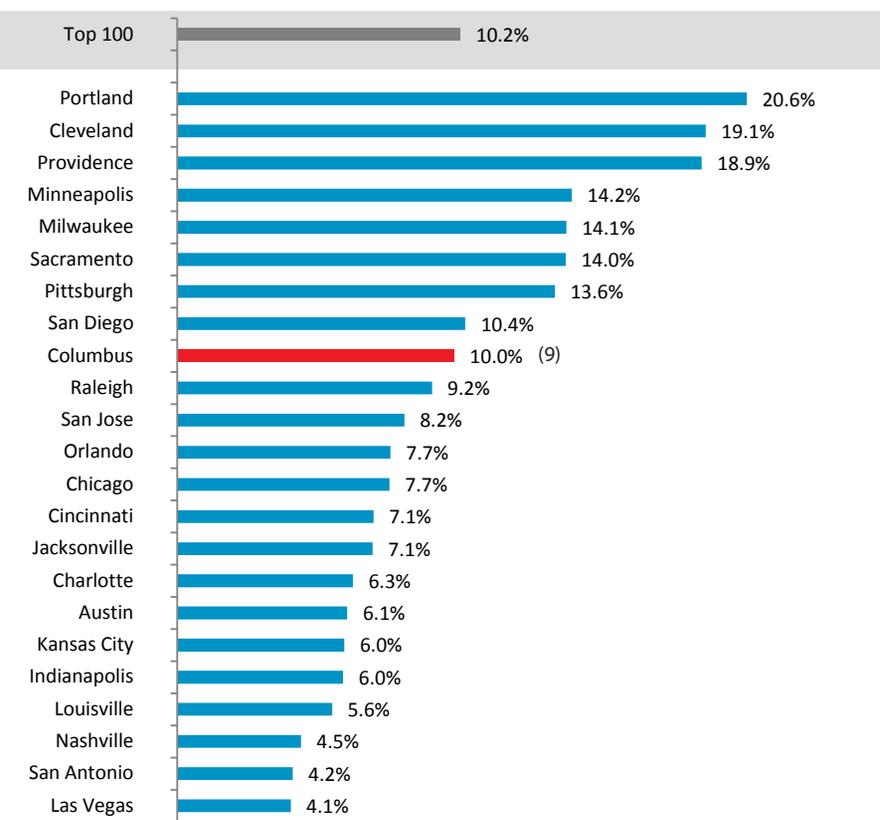
Local farms with direct sales to final consumers, 2007

Metro area	Total number of local farms	Number of local farms with direct sales to final consumers
1 Portland	10,882	2,237
2 Cleveland	3,113	594
3 Providence	2,139	405
4 Minneapolis	9,394	1,338
5 Milwaukee	1,808	254
6 Sacramento	5,226	733
7 Pittsburgh	7,660	1,044
8 San Diego	6,683	695
9 Columbus	<b>7,900</b>	<b>790</b>
10 Raleigh	2,674	246
11 San Jose	1,817	149
12 Orlando	3,377	260
12 Chicago	6,954	533
13 Cincinnati	10,682	757
13 Jacksonville	1,813	128
14 Charlotte	7,517	477
15 Austin	8,436	518
16 Kansas City	13,956	842
16 Indianapolis	6,827	409
17 Louisville	10,066	563
18 Nashville	16,192	724
19 San Antonio	14,156	591
20 Las Vegas	195	8

Regions: Red=Midwest; Blue=South; Green=West; Black=NE

Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food Environment Atlas

Percentage of local farms with direct sales to final consumers, 2007



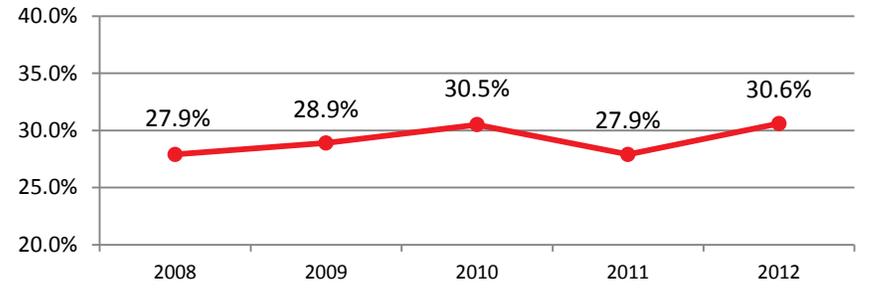
(#) Ranked from highest to lowest

# Indicator 5.02: Obesity

This indicator includes data on the percentage of adults reporting in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's survey a Body Mass Index (BMI) of 25.0 or greater. BMI is calculated as weight (in kilograms) divided by height (in meters) squared. A BMI of 25.0 to 29.9 indicates the individual is overweight, and a BMI of 30.0 or greater indicates obesity. The BRFSS is administered by the Ohio Department of Health in conjunction with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. These data are for metro areas based on 2003 boundaries and represent the most recent data available.

Columbus ranks 20th for adult obesity, higher than both the US State Median and peers in Cleveland and Cincinnati.

## Columbus Trends: Percentage adults who are obese



Note: These data use 2003 Columbus MSA boundaries (which do not include Hocking and Perry counties)

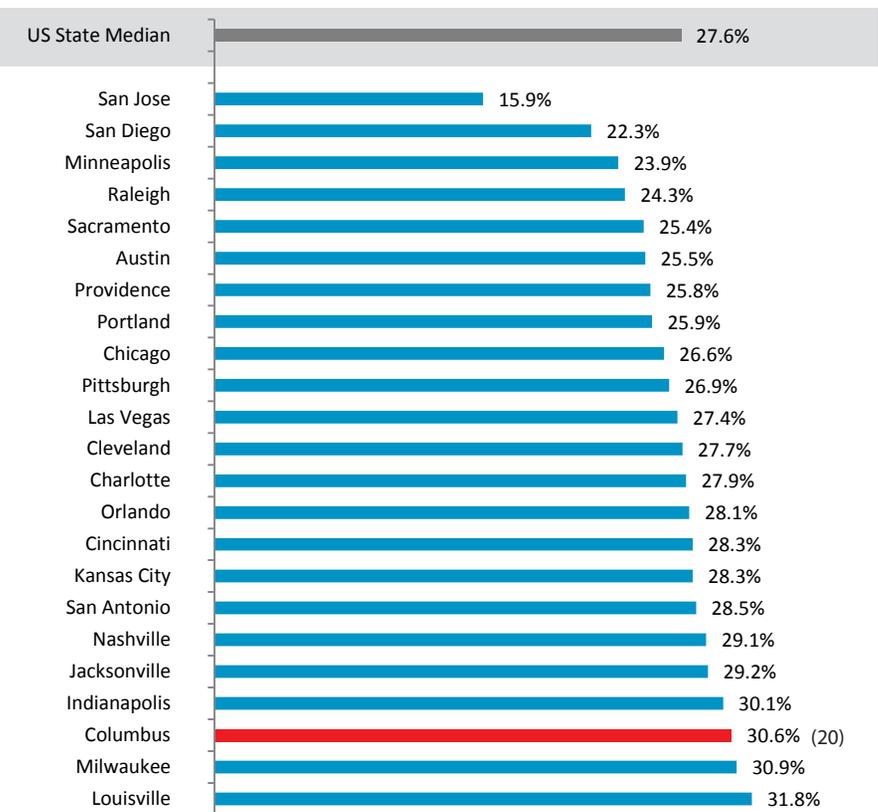
## Percentage adults who are overweight or obese (BMI 25.0 or higher), 2012

Metro area	Percentage adults who are overweight or obese
1 San Jose	48.9%
2 San Diego	59.1%
3 Minneapolis	60.9%
4 Raleigh	61.0%
5 Sacramento	61.4%
6 Austin	61.3%
7 Providence	62.6%
8 Portland	60.3%
9 Chicago	62.3%
10 Pittsburgh	64.4%
11 Las Vegas	63.9%
12 Cleveland	64.5%
13 Charlotte	64.3%
14 Orlando	63.8%
15 Cincinnati	63.6%
15 Kansas City	64.0%
16 San Antonio	67.0%
17 Nashville	63.4%
18 Jacksonville	65.9%
19 Indianapolis	64.9%
20 Columbus	<b>63.6%</b>
21 Milwaukee	66.2%
22 Louisville	67.7%

Regions: Red=Midwest; Blue=South; Green=West; Black=NE

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System

## Percentage of adults who are obese (BMI 30 or greater), 2012



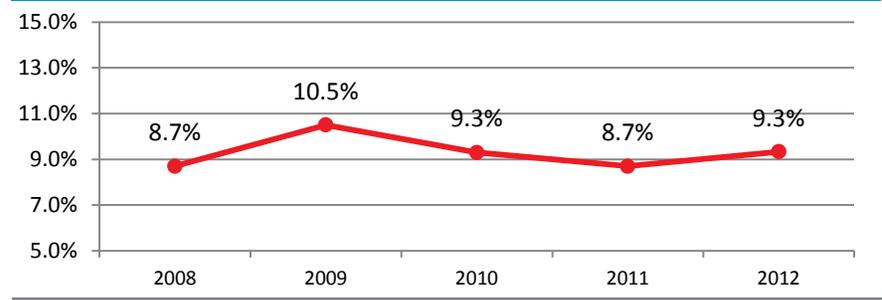
(#) Ranked from lowest to highest

# Indicator 5.03: Diabetes

This indicator includes data on the percentage of adults reporting in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s survey that they have ever been diagnosed with diabetes. The BRFSS is administered by the Ohio Department of Health in conjunction with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. These data are for metro areas based on 2003 boundaries and represent the most recent data available.

In contrast to obesity, prevalence of type 1 and type 2 diabetes among adults is comparatively lower than most other benchmarking Midwest cities, with Columbus ranking joint 6th compared with Cincinnati, Cleveland, and Pittsburgh all ranking near the bottom.

**Columbus Trends: Percentage of adults ever diagnosed with Type 1 or 2 diabetes**

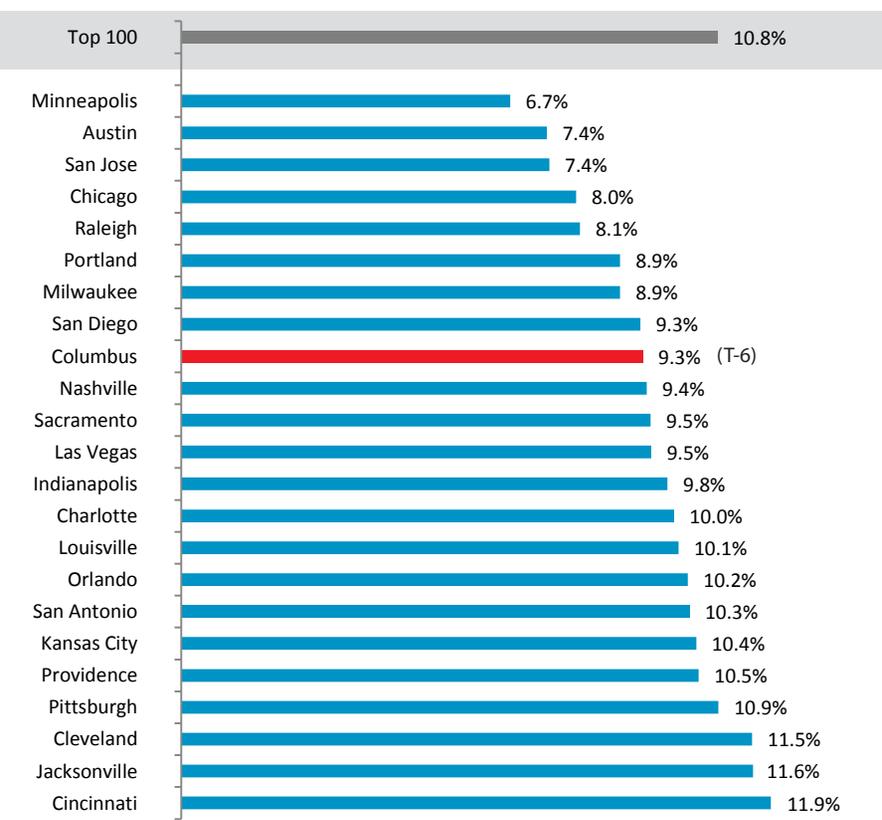


Note: These data use 2003 Columbus MSA boundaries (which do not include Hocking and Perry counties)

**Adults ever diagnosed with prediabetes or gestational diabetes, 2012\***

Metro area	Percentage of adults ever diagnosed with prediabetes	Percentage of adult women ever diagnosed with gestational diabetes
1 Minneapolis	1.3%	1.4%
2 Austin	N/A	N/A
2 San Jose	4.0%	N/A
3 Chicago	1.2%	1.2%
4 Raleigh	N/A	N/A
5 Portland	1.0%	1.8%
5 Milwaukee	N/A	N/A
6 San Diego	N/A	N/A
6 Columbus	N/A	N/A
7 Nashville	1.4%	N/A
8 Sacramento	1.8%	N/A
8 Las Vegas	1.0%	N/A
9 Indianapolis	1.2%	0.8%
10 Charlotte	1.4%	1.0%
11 Louisville	1.1%	N/A
12 Orlando	N/A	N/A
13 San Antonio	N/A	N/A
14 Kansas City	2.1%	1.1%
15 Providence	1.0%	1.1%
16 Pittsburgh	1.2%	0.4%
17 Cleveland	0.8%	N/A
18 Jacksonville	N/A	N/A
19 Cincinnati	1.0%	1.4%

**Percentage of adults ever diagnosed with Type 1 or 2 diabetes, 2012**



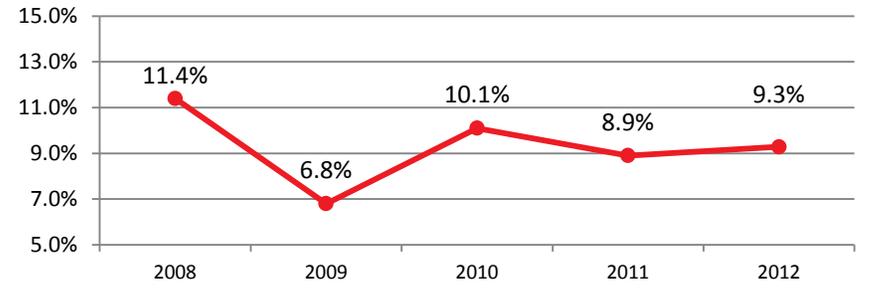
Regions: Red=Midwest; Blue=South; Green=West; Black=NE

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System \* Does not include adults who have also ever been diagnosed with Type 1 or 2 diabetes. (#) Ranked from lowest to highest

# Indicator 5.04: Asthma

This indicator includes data on the percentage of adults reporting in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's survey that currently have asthma, as diagnosed by a physician. The BRFSS is administered by the Ohio Department of Health in conjunction with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. These data are for metro areas based on 2003 boundaries and represent the most recent data available.

## Columbus Trends: Percentage of adults currently diagnosed with asthma



Note: These data use 2003 Columbus MSA boundaries (which do *not* include Hocking and Perry counties)

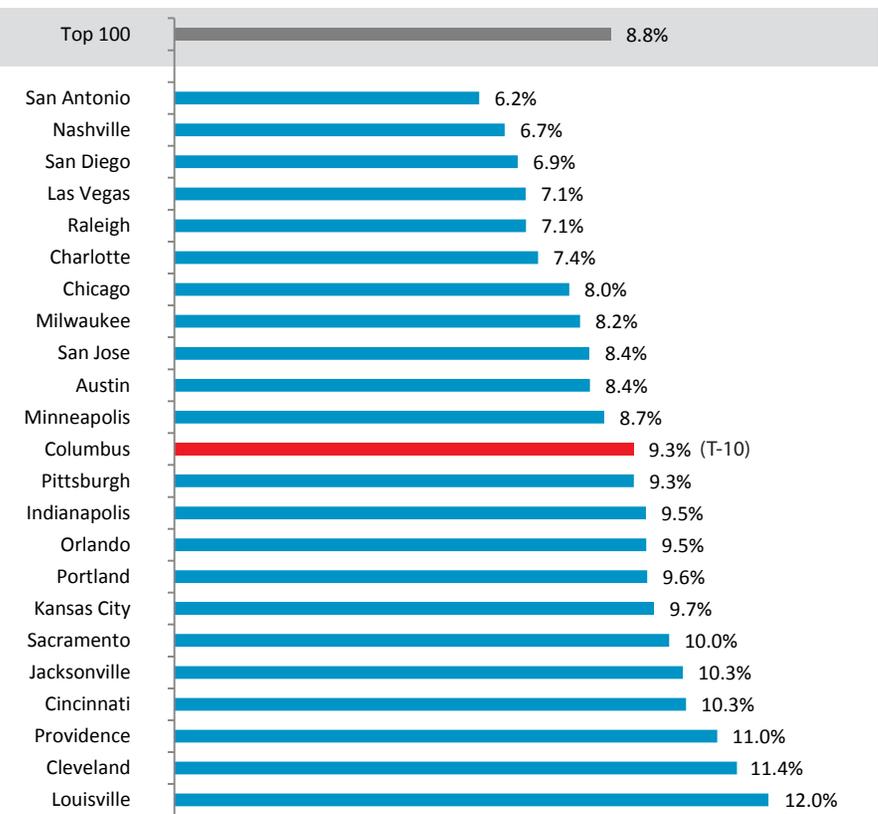
## Percentage of adults that have ever been diagnosed with asthma, 2012

Metro area	Percentage of adults ever diagnosed with asthma
1 San Antonio	10.6%
2 Nashville	10.4%
3 San Diego	11.5%
4 Las Vegas	11.3%
4 Raleigh	11.1%
5 Charlotte	11.4%
6 Chicago	12.4%
7 Milwaukee	11.4%
8 San Jose	13.7%
8 Austin	12.4%
9 Minneapolis	12.0%
10 Columbus	<b>12.8%</b>
10 Pittsburgh	12.5%
11 Indianapolis	13.8%
11 Orlando	17.4%
12 Portland	16.1%
13 Kansas City	13.7%
14 Sacramento	16.2%
15 Jacksonville	13.9%
15 Cincinnati	14.5%
16 Providence	15.5%
17 Cleveland	14.5%
18 Louisville	16.5%

Regions: Red=Midwest; Blue=South; Green=West; Black=NE

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System

## Percentage of adults currently diagnosed with asthma, 2012



(#) Ranked from lowest to highest

# Indicator 5.05: Infant Mortality

This indicator includes data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) on deaths of children under one year of age. Linked birth and death records are tied to the county of the mother’s residence rather than the county of an infant’s birth or death. The CDC only reports county-level infant death data for counties with populations larger than 250,000. Race and ethnicity data are limited to those counties in which there are 10 or more deaths reported for a particular racial or ethnic group. The metro area figures below are for only those counties within the metro areas that meet these criteria.

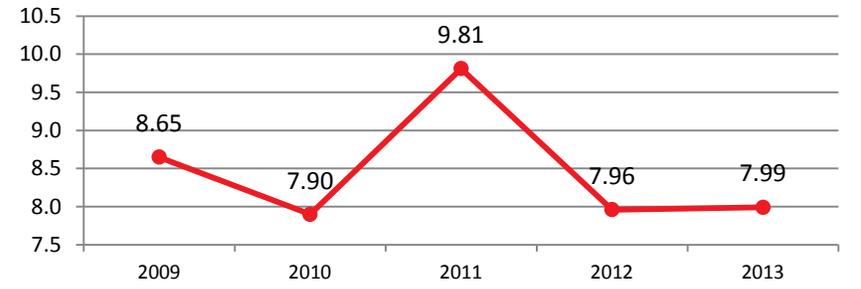
Although overall infant mortality rates in Columbus have decreased since 2009, the racial disparity has worsened. Among Black or African American mothers the rate increased from 12.87 to 13.72 per 1,000 live births.

## Infant deaths per 1,000 live births, by mother’s race, 2013

Metro area	White	Black or African American
1 San Jose	4.16	N/A
2 Austin	3.74	N/A
3 Portland	4.04	N/A
4 San Diego	4.07	7.98
5 Las Vegas	3.93	5.02
6 Louisville	3.39	9.35
7 Sacramento	5.01	8.47
8 Kansas City	8.92	3.83
9 Raleigh	3.73	8.81
9 Minneapolis	4.63	10.61
10 Pittsburgh	4.95	13.83
11 Chicago	4.18	13.14
12 Charlotte	4.21	9.52
13 San Antonio	5.99	10.70
14 Providence	8.03	9.19
15 Nashville	6.15	9.77
16 Orlando	6.44	10.82
17 Cleveland	5.17	12.92
18 Columbus	<b>5.53</b>	<b>13.72</b>
19 Jacksonville	5.57	5.69
20 Cincinnati	7.37	13.07
21 Indianapolis	8.15	11.56
22 Milwaukee	6.44	16.35

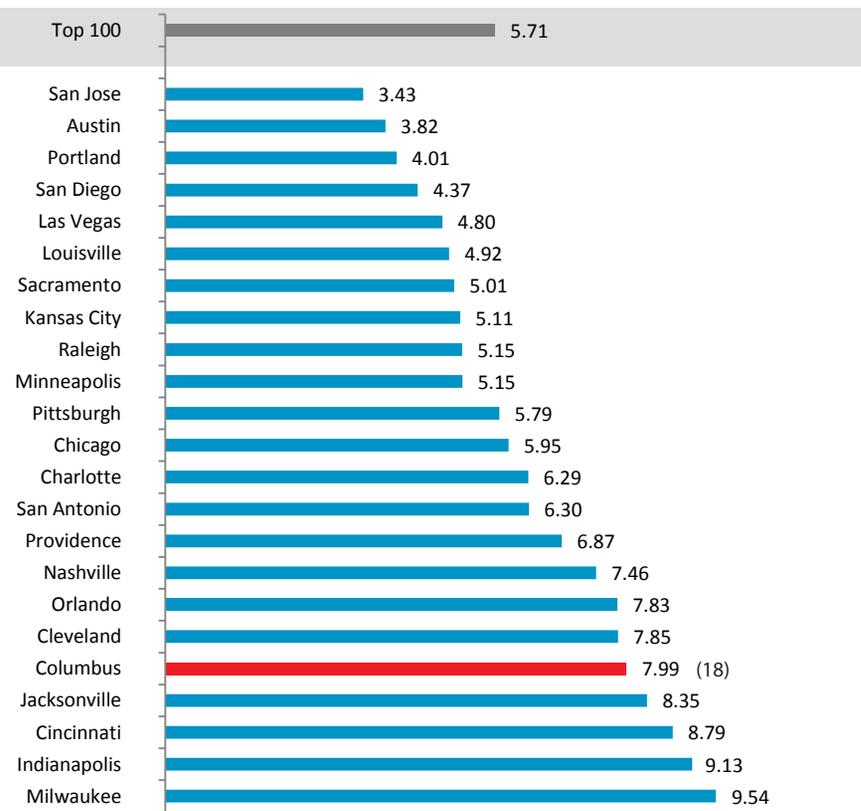
Regions: Red=Midwest; Blue=South; Green=West; Black=NE

## Columbus Trends: Infant deaths per 1,000 live births



Note: These data use 2003 Columbus MSA boundaries (which do not include Hocking and Perry counties)

## Infant deaths per 1,000 live births, 2013



(#) Ranked from lowest to highest

## Indicator 5.06: Charitable Giving

This indicator includes data on charitable giving. The first set of data, from the *Chronicle of Philanthropy*, is based on tax returns. The giving ratio is defined as charitable contributions as a percentage of adjusted gross income. The second, from the Corporation for National & Community Service, is based on a survey of adults who reported donating money, assets, or property with a combined value of more than \$25 to charitable or religious organizations in the prior year. These data are for metro areas based on 2003 boundaries.

Half of Columbus residents donated to charity in 2014, ranking 13th highest among the benchmarking metros. Since the 2013 Benchmarking Report, the median charitable contribution increased from \$2,062 to \$3,208, a change of over 55%.

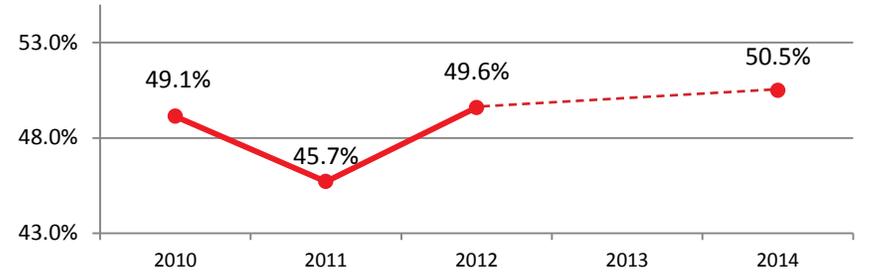
### Charitable contributions and giving ratio, 2012

Metro area	Median charitable contribution	Total adjusted gross income (millions)	Giving ratio
1 Milwaukee	\$2,364	\$40,718	2.78
2 Kansas City	\$4,422	\$29,732	3.95
3 Louisville	\$3,447	\$35,113	3.26
4 Indianapolis	\$3,478	\$40,588	3.41
4 Minneapolis	\$2,762	\$44,374	2.46
5 San Jose	\$1,835	\$31,269	1.98
6 Portland	\$2,741	\$32,836	3.12
7 Charlotte	\$2,934	\$88,826	2.96
8 Chicago	\$2,661	\$95,683	2.63
9 Providence	\$3,329	\$29,196	3.40
10 San Diego	\$2,925	\$22,806	3.37
11 Nashville	\$2,731	\$41,661	2.53
12 Cleveland	\$2,700	\$52,282	2.74
13 <b>Columbus</b>	<b>\$3,208</b>	<b>\$43,289</b>	<b>3.21</b>
14 Pittsburgh	\$3,598	\$31,353	3.29
15 Sacramento	\$3,970	\$23,609	4.08
16 Las Vegas	\$2,834	\$43,139	2.69
17 San Antonio	\$3,338	\$29,351	3.23
18 Raleigh	\$2,485	\$35,669	2.72
19 Jacksonville	\$3,404	\$44,904	2.71
20 Cincinnati	\$2,822	\$72,943	2.68
21 Austin	\$2,643	\$244,894	2.75
22 Orlando	\$2,674	\$37,865	2.76

Regions: Red=Midwest; Blue=South; Green=West; Black=NE

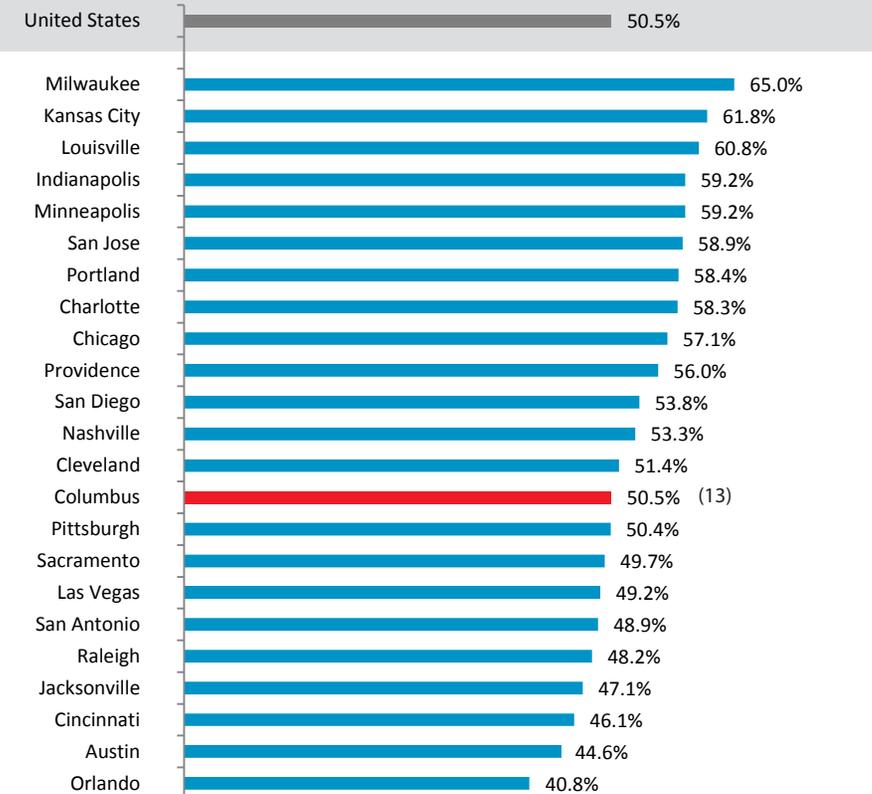
Source: Corporation for National and Community Service, Volunteering and Civic Life in America; The Chronicle of Philanthropy, "How America Gives"

### Columbus Trends: Percentage donating > \$25 to charity



Note: These data use 2003 Columbus MSA boundaries (which do *not* include Hocking and Perry counties). Data were not available for 2013.

### Percentage adults donating > \$25 to charity in the past year, 2014



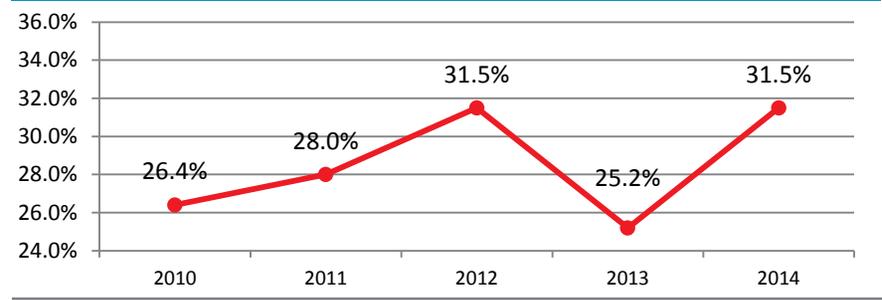
(#) Ranked from highest to lowest

# Indicator 5.07: Volunteering

This indicator uses data from the Corporation for National & Community Service’s Volunteering and Civic Life in America program. These data are based on responses to the Current Population Survey’s Volunteer Supplement. The overall volunteer rate is the percentage of adults who reported they had performed unpaid volunteer activities at any point during the 12-month period that preceded the survey.

While Columbus’ volunteer rate ranks 7th, it ranks 1st for volunteer retention, with 74.7% of volunteers in 2013 returning to volunteer in 2014.

## Columbus Trends: Overall volunteer rate



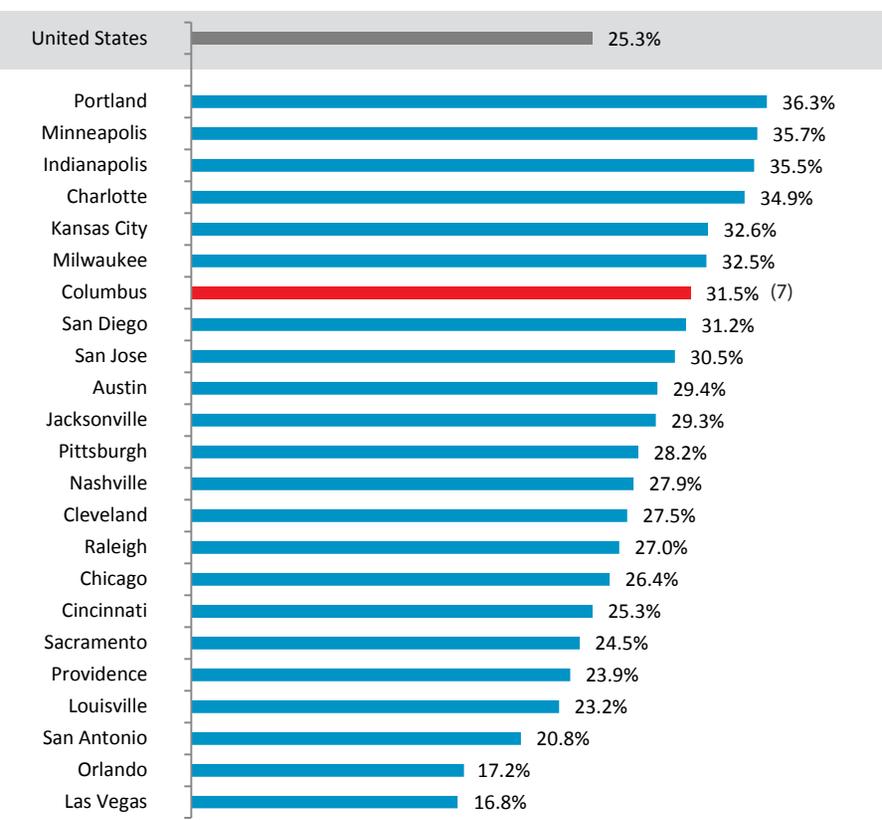
Note: Columbus MSA boundaries changed in 2013 (added Hocking and Perry counties)

## Volunteer retention rates and average annual hours, 2014

Metro area	Average annual volunteer hours per resident	Volunteer retention
1 Portland	29.9	66.5%
2 Minneapolis	32.8	71.6%
3 Indianapolis	22.5	65.3%
4 Charlotte	40.1	70.6%
5 Kansas City	39.3	69.0%
6 Milwaukee	30.8	70.4%
7 <b>Columbus</b>	<b>32.3</b>	<b>74.7%</b>
8 San Diego	43.1	70.3%
9 San Jose	48.9	67.9%
10 Austin	N/A	67.7%
11 Jacksonville	N/A	67.8%
12 Pittsburgh	28.3	66.4%
13 Nashville	37.1	57.8%
14 Cleveland	41.3	59.1%
15 Raleigh	N/A	65.1%
16 Chicago	25.1	64.1%
17 Cincinnati	23.3	68.5%
18 Sacramento	34.2	64.2%
19 Providence	19.1	65.1%
20 Louisville	27.2	62.7%
21 San Antonio	29.6	56.8%
22 Orlando	N/A	50.3%
23 Las Vegas	17.9	57.8%

Regions: Red=Midwest; Blue=South; Green=West; Black=NE

## Overall volunteer rate, 2014



(#) Ranked from highest to lowest

Source: Corporation for National and Community Service, Volunteering and Civic Life in America

# Indicator 5.08: Women in Political Leadership

This indicator includes data from the U.S. Conference of Mayors, the United States House of Representatives, and individual city websites on the number of major public officials who are women. Here, major public officials include members of city council for the primary urbanized area of the metro area, mayors of cities and towns with a population of 100,000 or more within the metro area, and U.S. House Representatives. This indicator has been modified from the 2013 Benchmarking report.

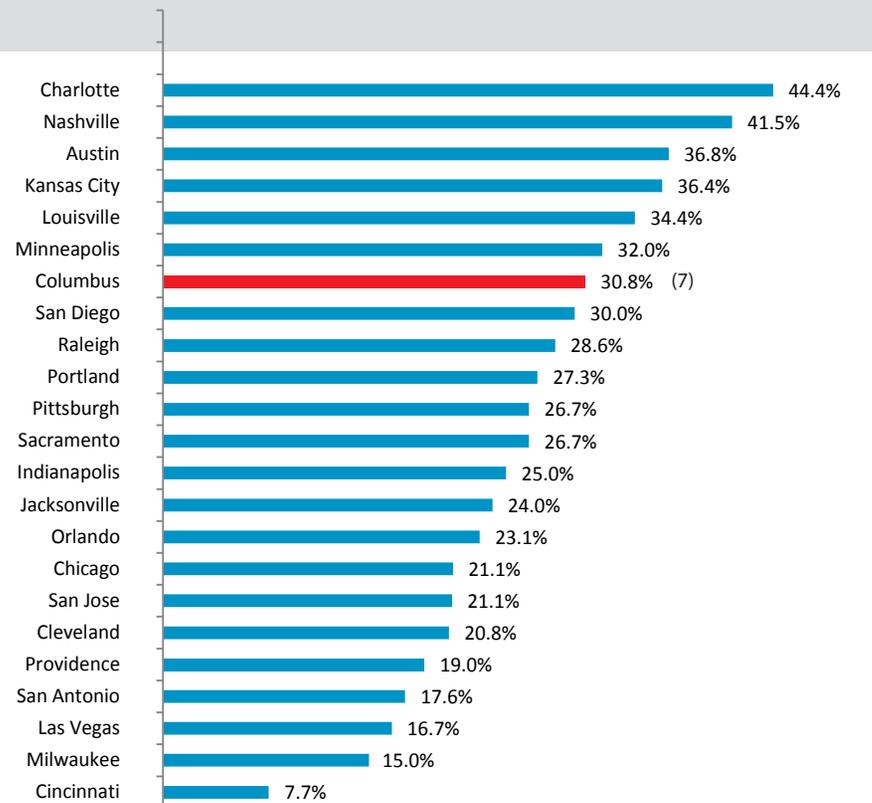
Major public officials who are women, by office, 2016

Metro area	City council (for primary urban area)	Representatives	Mayors (cities >= 100k population)
1 Charlotte	5	2	1
2 Nashville	15	2	0
3 Austin	7	0	0
4 Kansas City	5	2	1
5 Louisville	11	0	0
6 Minneapolis	6	1	1
7 Columbus	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>
8 San Diego	4	1	1
9 Raleigh	2	1	1
10 Portland	1	2	0
11 Pittsburgh	4	0	0
11 Sacramento	1	2	1
12 Indianapolis	7	1	0
13 Jacksonville	5	1	0
14 Orlando	2	1	0
15 Chicago	12	3	0
15 San Jose	2	2	0
16 Cleveland	3	2	0
17 Providence	4	0	0
18 San Antonio	2	0	1
19 Las Vegas	1	1	0
20 Milwaukee	2	1	0
21 Cincinnati	1	0	0

Regions: Red=Midwest; Blue=South; Green=West; Black=NE

Source: See Data Sources, p. 6-2 and 6-3

Percentage of major public officials who are women, 2016



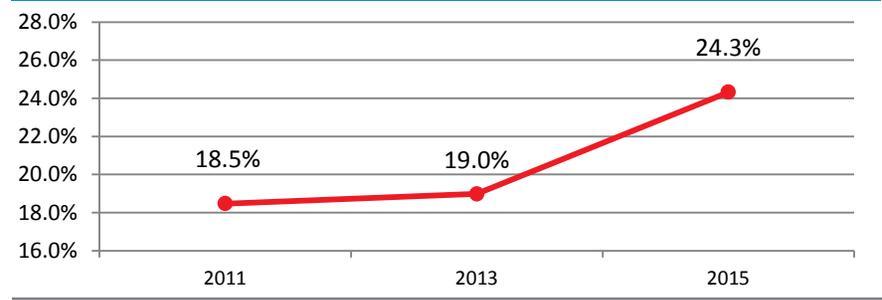
(#) Ranked from highest to lowest

# Indicator 5.09: Women in Corporate Leadership

This indicator includes data on women serving on the boards of directors of local Fortune 1,000 companies from 2020 Women on Boards and from Geo Lounge. Data is compiled in two-year intervals.

Columbus has the 3rd highest proportion of women in corporate leadership positions, with 24.3% women Fortune 1,000 board members compared to the United States percentage of 17.8%.

Columbus Trends: Fortune 1,000 board directors who are women



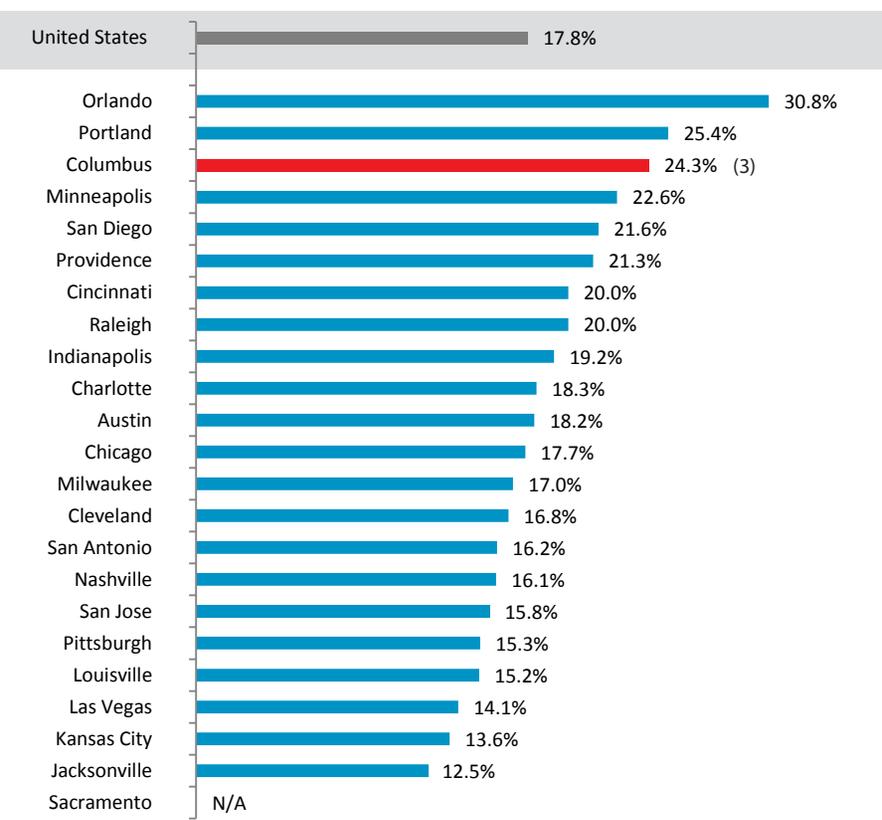
Note: Columbus MSA boundaries changed in 2013 (added Hocking and Perry counties)

Fortune 1,000 board directors, 2015

Metro area	Total board members	Total board members who are women
1 Orlando	26	8
2 Portland	67	17
3 Columbus	148	36
4 Minneapolis	221	50
5 San Diego	37	8
6 Providence	75	16
7 Cincinnati	155	31
7 Raleigh	10	2
8 Indianapolis	78	15
9 Charlotte	82	15
10 Austin	11	2
11 Chicago	582	103
12 Milwaukee	135	23
13 Cleveland	143	24
14 San Antonio	68	11
15 Nashville	93	15
16 San Jose	184	29
17 Pittsburgh	131	20
18 Louisville	46	7
19 Las Vegas	71	10
20 Kansas City	66	9
21 Jacksonville	40	5
Sacramento	N/A	N/A

Regions: Red=Midwest; Blue=South; Green=West; Black=NE  
 Source: 2020 Women on Boards, 2020 Gender Diversity Directory; Geo Lounge, Geography of Fortune 1,000 Companies in 2015

Percentage Fortune 1,000 board directors who are women, 2015

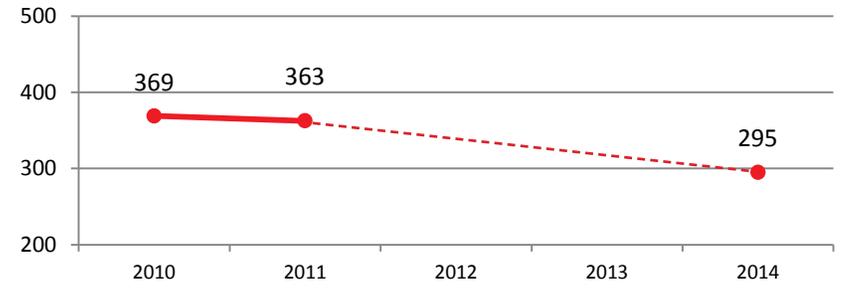


(#) Ranked from highest to lowest

# Indicator 5.10: Crime

This indicator includes data on violent and property crime from the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Uniform Crime Reporting Program (UCR). The UCR defines violent crimes as those involving force or threat of force. Violent crimes include criminal homicide, forcible rape, robbery, and aggravated assault. Property crimes include the offenses of burglary, larceny-theft, motor vehicle theft, and arson. Cleveland and Raleigh data were not volunteered in 2014.

## Columbus Trends: Violent crimes per 100,000 population



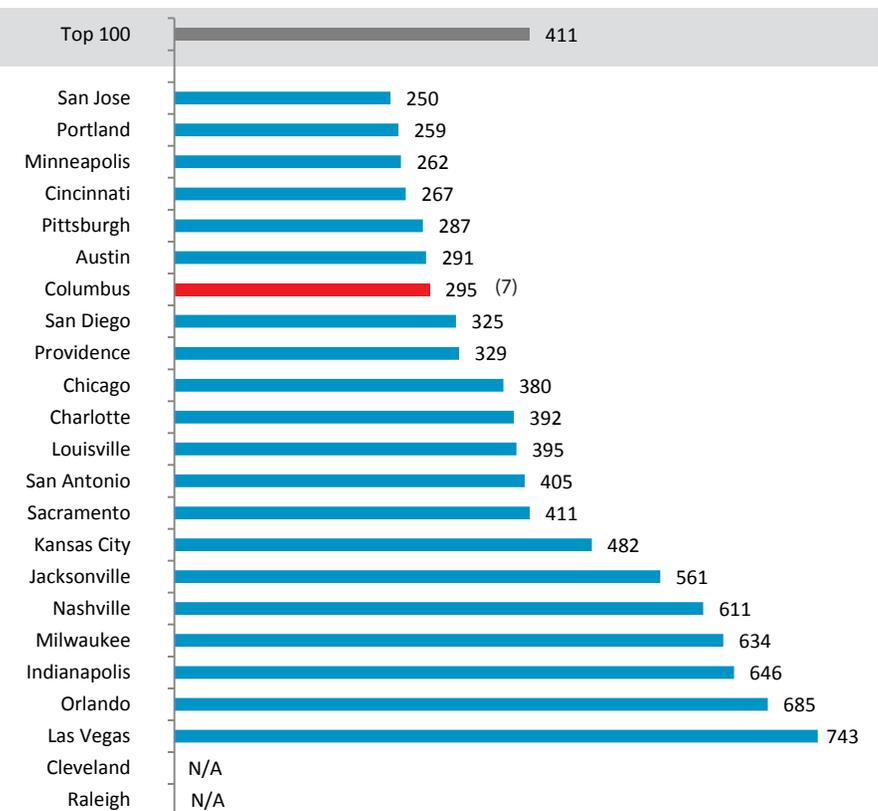
Note: Columbus MSA boundaries changed in 2013 (added Hocking and Perry counties). Columbus data were not volunteered in 2012 and 2013.

## Property crime and violent crime, 2014

Metro area	Number of property crimes	Property crimes per 100,000 population	Number of violent crimes
1 San Jose	43,820	2,247	4,872
2 Portland	67,979	2,898	6,068
3 Minneapolis	87,153	2,496	9,138
4 Cincinnati	63,461	2,958	5,734
5 Pittsburgh	42,968	1,820	6,783
6 Austin	55,800	2,879	5,639
7 <b>Columbus</b>	<b>61,508</b>	<b>3,098</b>	<b>5,855</b>
8 San Diego	59,059	1,813	10,590
9 Providence	34,357	2,133	5,297
10 Chicago	203,854	2,135	36,281
11 Charlotte	66,891	2,822	9,297
12 Louisville	41,775	3,289	5,016
13 San Antonio	97,664	4,198	9,420
14 Sacramento	55,534	2,475	9,214
15 Kansas City	62,354	3,017	9,962
16 Jacksonville	48,665	3,433	7,955
17 Nashville	45,794	2,567	10,898
18 Milwaukee	47,383	3,012	9,974
19 Indianapolis	63,940	3,243	12,742
20 Orlando	93,082	4,012	15,901
21 Las Vegas	57,690	2,792	15,354
Cleveland	N/A	N/A	N/A
Raleigh	N/A	N/A	N/A

Regions: Red=Midwest; Blue=South; Green=West; Black=NE

## Violent crimes per 100,000 population, 2014



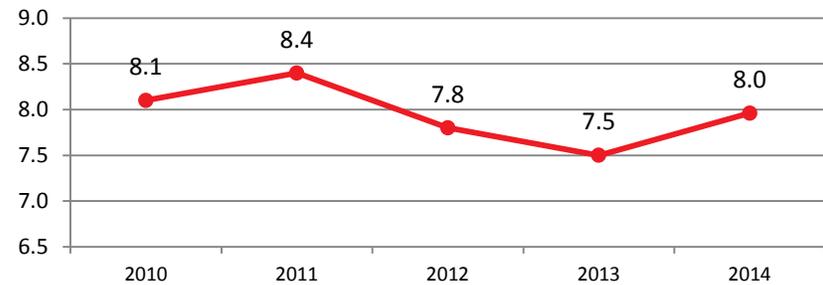
(#) Ranked from lowest to highest

Source: U.S. Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Uniform Crime Reporting Program, Crime in the United States

# Indicator 5.11: Road Safety

This indicator includes data from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration on fatalities resulting from a motor vehicle traffic accident. A fatality is counted when a motorist's or nonmotorist's death occurs within 30 days of a crash involving at least one motor vehicle in transport. Nonmotorists included here are pedestrians and bicyclists; this data is from the Alliance for Biking and Walking.

**Columbus Trends: Traffic fatalities per 100,000 population**

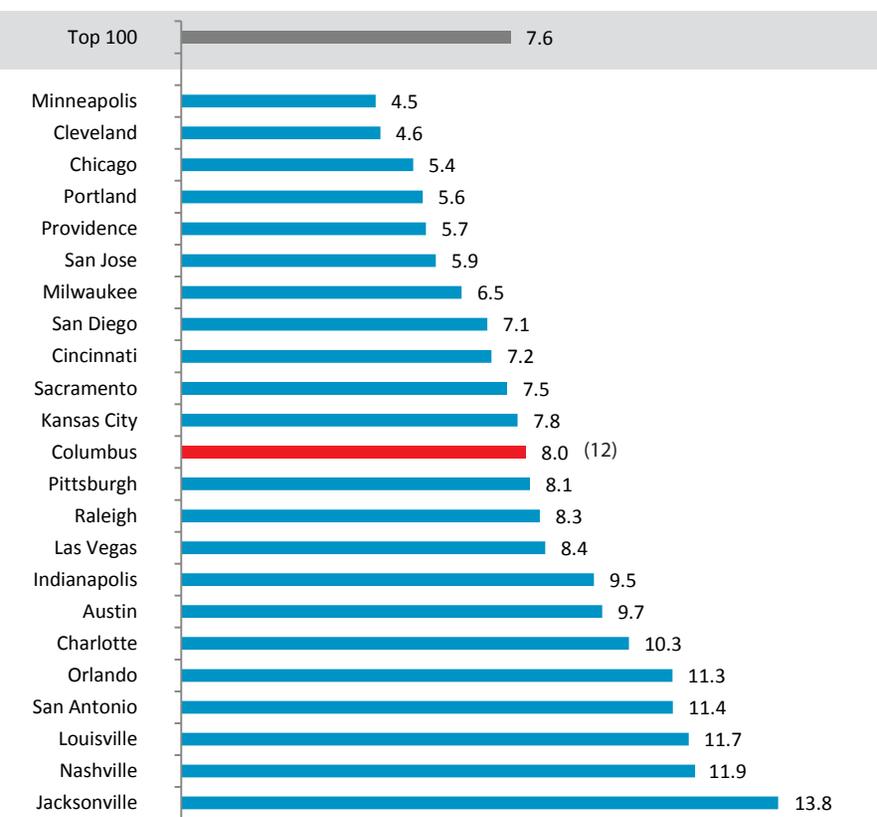


Note: Columbus MSA boundaries changed in 2013 (added Hocking and Perry counties)

**Total, pedestrian, and bicycle traffic fatalities, 2014**

Metro area	Total traffic fatalities	Pedestrians as a percentage of all traffic fatalities	Bicycle fatalities as a percentage of all traffic fatalities
1 Minneapolis	157	22%	7%
2 Cleveland	95	18%	2%
3 Chicago	512	28%	4%
4 Portland	131	30%	6%
5 Providence	91	N/A	N/A
6 San Jose	115	33%	4%
7 Milwaukee	102	29%	1%
8 San Diego	231	27%	4%
9 Cincinnati	154	N/A	N/A
10 Sacramento	169	30%	5%
11 Kansas City	161	17%	1%
12 <b>Columbus</b>	<b>159</b>	<b>21%</b>	<b>3%</b>
13 Pittsburgh	190	24%	1%
14 Raleigh	103	24%	3%
15 Las Vegas	174	25%	3%
16 Indianapolis	188	18%	3%
17 Austin	189	29%	2%
18 Charlotte	246	23%	3%
19 Orlando	264	N/A	N/A
20 San Antonio	265	24%	2%
21 Louisville	149	19%	2%
22 Nashville	213	17%	2%
23 Jacksonville	196	21%	4%

**Traffic fatalities per 100,000 population, 2014**



Regions: Red=Midwest; Blue=South; Green=West; Black=NE

Source: U.S. Department of Transportation, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Fatality Analysis Reporting System; Alliance for Biking and Walking, Bicycling & Walking in the United States: Benchmarking Report

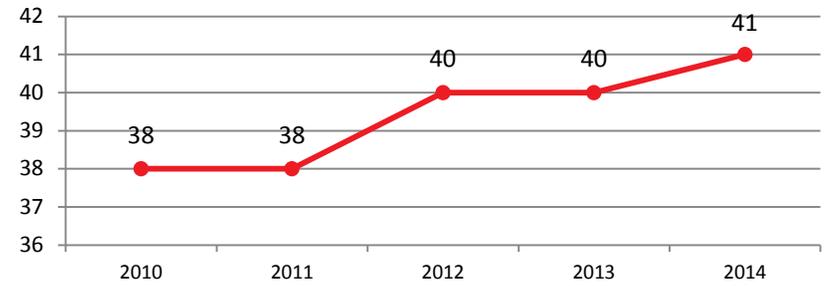
(#) Ranked from lowest to highest

# Indicator 5.12: Traffic Congestion

This indicator includes data from the Texas A&M Transportation Institute on traffic congestion. Hours of delay per auto commuter is the sum of all extra travel time due to traffic congestion over the course of one year divided by the number of auto commuters. Other measures include the percentage of all automobile travel (measured in Vehicle-Miles Traveled, or VMT) congested during peak hours and the percentage of the freeway system (measured in lane-miles) that is congested during peak hours. The metro area figures below are for Census-defined urban areas within the metro areas. Due to changes in data source methodology, previous years' figures have been revised.

Columbus commuters experienced an average of 41 hours of delay in 2014, gradually increasing from prior years but on par with the top 100 Metro Areas.

## Columbus Trends: Annual hours of delay per auto commuter



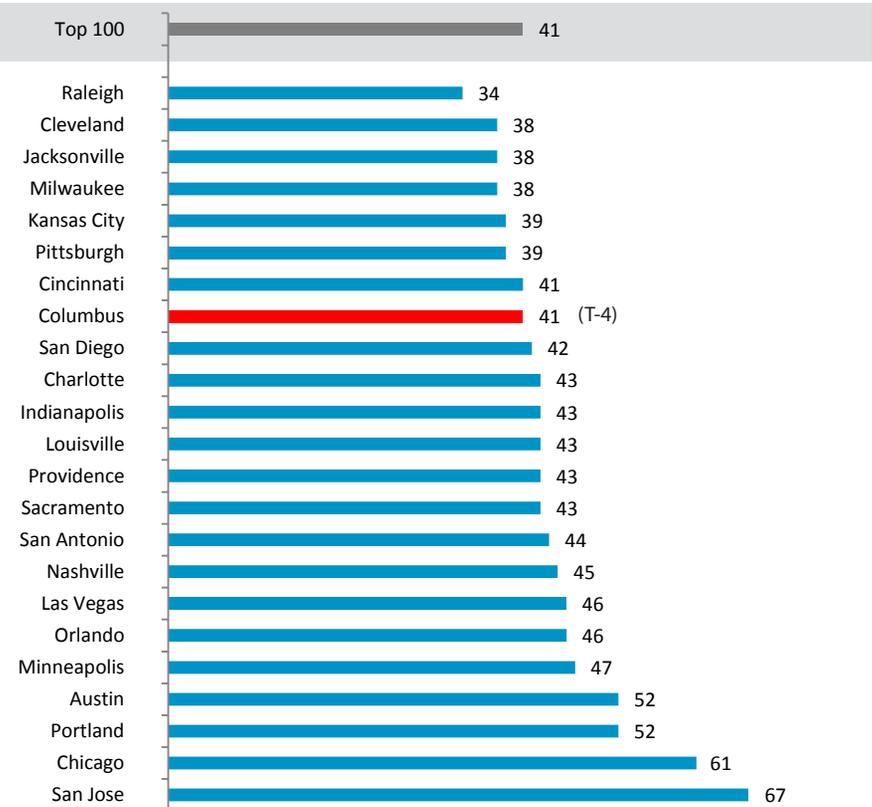
Note: These data are for the Columbus urban area *within* the metro area.

## Percentage VMT and lane-miles congested during peak hours, 2014

Metro area	Congested travel (% of VMT)	Congested system (% lane-miles)
1 Raleigh	24%	20%
2 Cleveland	20%	19%
2 Jacksonville	24%	21%
2 Milwaukee	22%	19%
3 Kansas City	22%	21%
3 Pittsburgh	23%	22%
4 Cincinnati	25%	20%
4 <b>Columbus</b>	<b>28%</b>	<b>27%</b>
5 San Diego	36%	32%
6 Charlotte	31%	24%
6 Indianapolis	23%	21%
6 Louisville	30%	26%
6 Providence	27%	20%
6 Sacramento	35%	32%
7 San Antonio	38%	34%
8 Nashville	29%	24%
9 Las Vegas	40%	43%
9 Orlando	28%	22%
10 Minneapolis	40%	28%
11 Austin	37%	28%
11 Portland	44%	33%
12 Chicago	35%	26%
13 San Jose	52%	44%

Regions: Red=Midwest; Blue=South; Green=West; Black=NE

## Annual hours of delay per auto commuter, 2014



(#) Ranked from lowest to highest

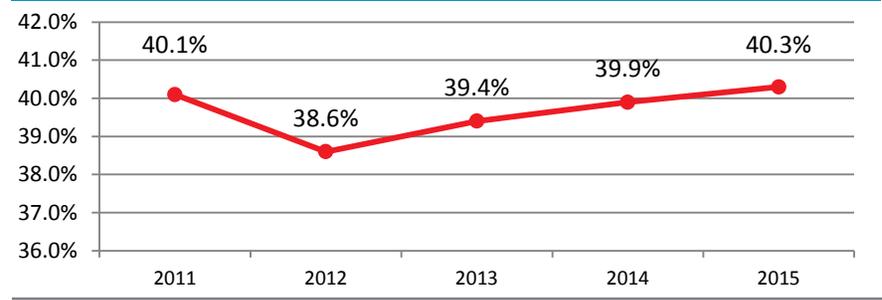
Source: Texas A&M Transportation Institute, Annual Urban Mobility Report

# Indicator 5.13: Commute Time

This indicator uses data from the American Community Survey on travel to work times. Commute time is reported for two groups: (1) persons who travel by car (including company cars but excluding taxicabs), truck (of one-ton capacity or less), or van and (2) persons who travel by public transportation (bus or trolley bus, streetcar or trolley car, subway or elevated railway, or ferryboat). The percentage of workers commuting 25 minutes or longer is reported for all workers 16 years and older, regardless of mode.

Columbus has the 3rd shortest average commute time by car across the benchmarking comparison cities and 7th shortest public transport commute time.

## Columbus Trends: Workers commuting 25 minutes or longer



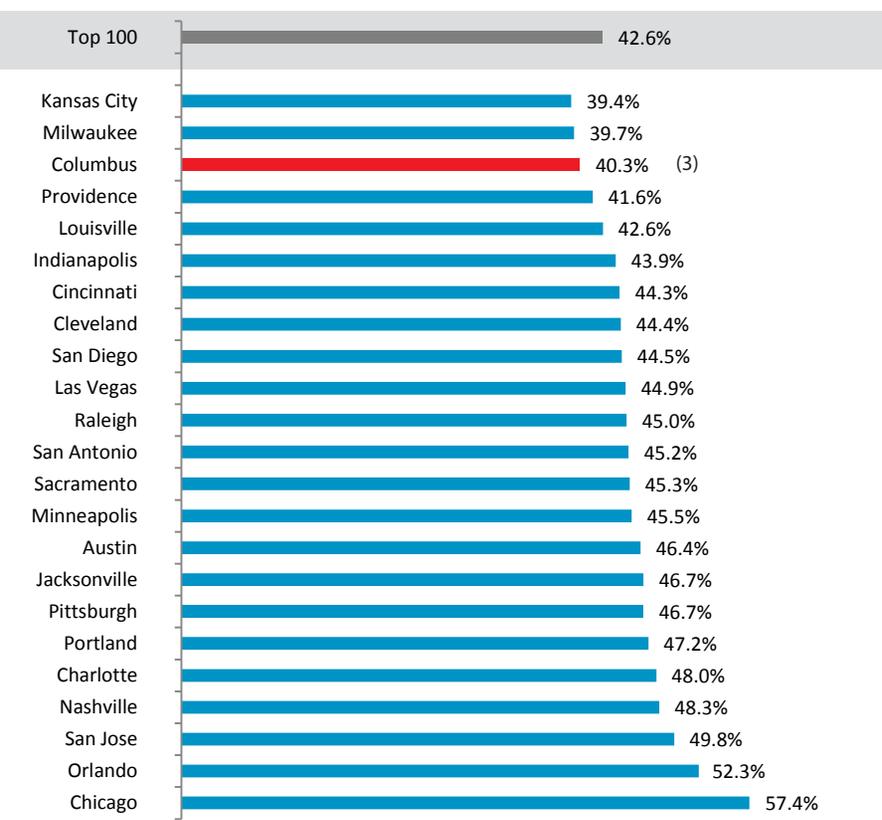
Note: Columbus MSA boundaries changed in 2013 (added Hocking and Perry counties)

## Average commute time by mode, 2015

Metro area	Average commute time by traveling alone (min)	Average commute time by public transportation (min)
1 Kansas City	22.6	39.2
2 Milwaukee	22.7	40.8
3 <b>Columbus</b>	<b>23.4</b>	<b>41.1</b>
4 Providence	25.3	58.6
5 Louisville	23.9	43.0
6 Indianapolis	24.8	50.4
7 Cincinnati	24.8	43.4
8 Cleveland	24.0	48.5
9 San Diego	25.1	50.3
10 Las Vegas	23.5	56.3
11 Raleigh	25.2	48.9
12 San Antonio	25.6	54.0
13 Sacramento	26.1	51.7
14 Minneapolis	24.7	40.5
15 Austin	26.0	40.2
16 Jacksonville	25.5	51.9
16 Pittsburgh	26.2	39.5
17 Portland	24.9	45.3
18 Charlotte	26.2	47.9
19 Nashville	27.1	39.4
20 San Jose	26.8	56.7
21 Orlando	27.2	54.2
22 Chicago	29.6	50.3

Regions: Red=Midwest; Blue=South; Green=West; Black=NE

## Percentage of workers commuting 25 minutes or longer, 2015



(#) Ranked from lowest to highest

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, American Community Survey

# Indicator 5.14: Commute Mode

This indicator includes data from the American Community Survey on the usual mode of transportation to work for commuters age 16 and over. Alternative commute modes include all means of getting to work except driving a car, truck, or van alone. The percentages in the data table do not total 100% because there are additional alternative commute modes, including taxicab and motorcycle.

Commuting by alternate means has remained consistent in Columbus, with 16.9% in 2011 and 17.5% in 2015. Commute by public transportation remains relatively low, at 2%. Columbus sits among other Midwest metros with the 3rd lowest percentage of the population carpooling to work.

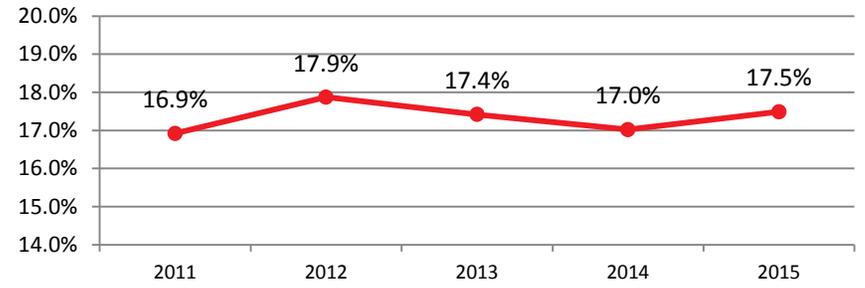
## Alternative commute modes for workers age 16 and over, 2015

Metro area	Carpooling to work	Using public transit to work	Walking to work	Biking to work	Working from home
1 Portland	9.4%	6.9%	3.6%	2.5%	6.4%
2 Chicago	7.6%	12.0%	3.1%	0.7%	4.6%
3 San Jose	10.2%	4.1%	2.1%	2.0%	4.7%
4 San Diego	8.2%	3.5%	2.8%	0.6%	6.9%
5 Austin	9.3%	2.3%	1.7%	0.8%	7.7%
6 Pittsburgh	8.4%	5.4%	3.7%	0.3%	4.5%
7 Sacramento	9.2%	2.6%	2.0%	1.6%	6.0%
8 Minneapolis	8.0%	4.7%	2.2%	1.0%	5.4%
9 Las Vegas	9.5%	4.2%	1.8%	0.3%	3.6%
10 Raleigh	8.9%	0.9%	1.1%	0.3%	8.6%
11 Providence	9.4%	2.9%	3.4%	0.3%	3.3%
12 Milwaukee	7.9%	3.8%	2.8%	0.7%	3.6%
13 Orlando	9.0%	2.2%	0.7%	0.4%	5.4%
14 San Antonio	10.0%	2.1%	1.5%	0.1%	4.5%
15 Charlotte	8.9%	1.8%	1.5%	0.1%	5.2%
16 Nashville	9.7%	1.3%	1.2%	0.1%	4.8%
17 Cleveland	7.1%	3.3%	2.2%	0.3%	3.8%
18 Louisville	8.8%	1.9%	2.0%	0.2%	3.7%
19 Jacksonville	8.7%	1.4%	1.2%	0.6%	4.3%
20 Columbus	<b>7.7%</b>	<b>1.9%</b>	<b>2.2%</b>	<b>0.4%</b>	<b>4.4%</b>
21 Cincinnati	7.8%	2.0%	2.1%	0.1%	4.2%
22 Kansas City	8.3%	1.1%	1.3%	0.1%	5.1%
23 Indianapolis	7.8%	0.9%	1.6%	0.4%	4.1%

Regions: Red=Midwest; Blue=South; Green=West; Black=NE

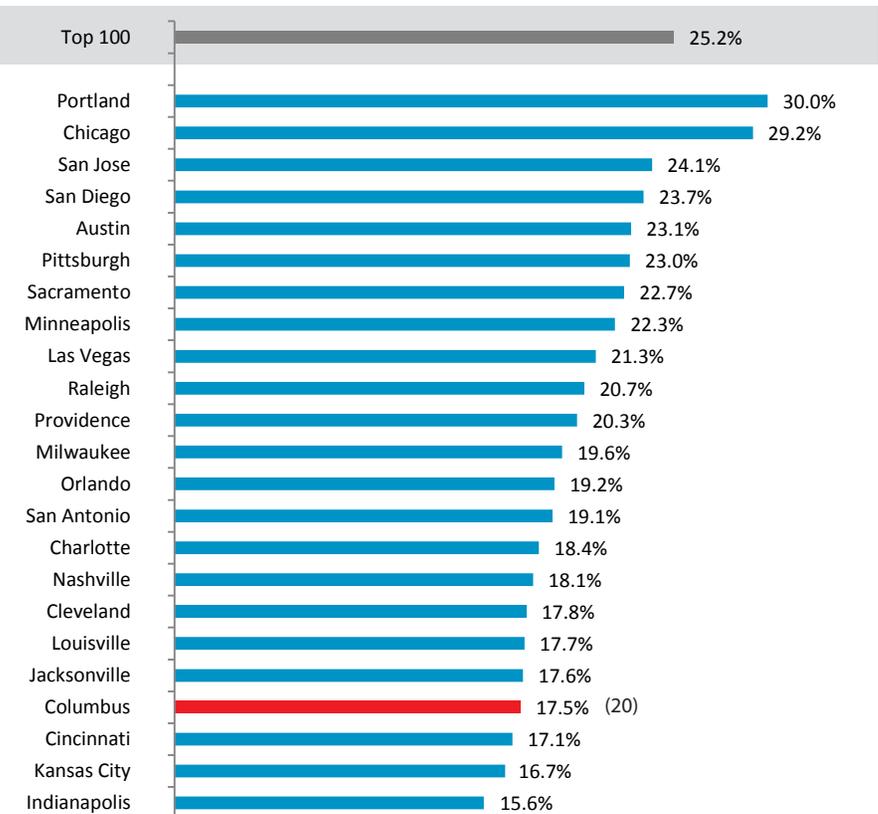
Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, American Community Survey

## Columbus Trends: Workers using an alternative commute mode



Note: Columbus MSA boundaries changed in 2013 (added Hocking and Perry counties)

## Percentage of workers using an alternative commute mode, 2015



(#) Ranked from highest to lowest

## Indicator 5.15: Walking and Biking

This indicator includes data that provide multiple perspectives on bicycle and pedestrian accessibility. The first, from Walk Score, measures walkability on a scale from 0 to 100 based on the presence of sidewalk infrastructure and walking distance to amenities such as retail establishments, schools, and parks. The second data set, from the Alliance for Biking and Walking, includes the number of miles of bicycle facilities per square mile. These two datasets consider only the principal city in each metro area. The third source is the Federal Highway Administration. It includes the percentage of all federal transportation funding obligated to bicycle and pedestrian projects, including improvement and safety programs. No trending data were available.

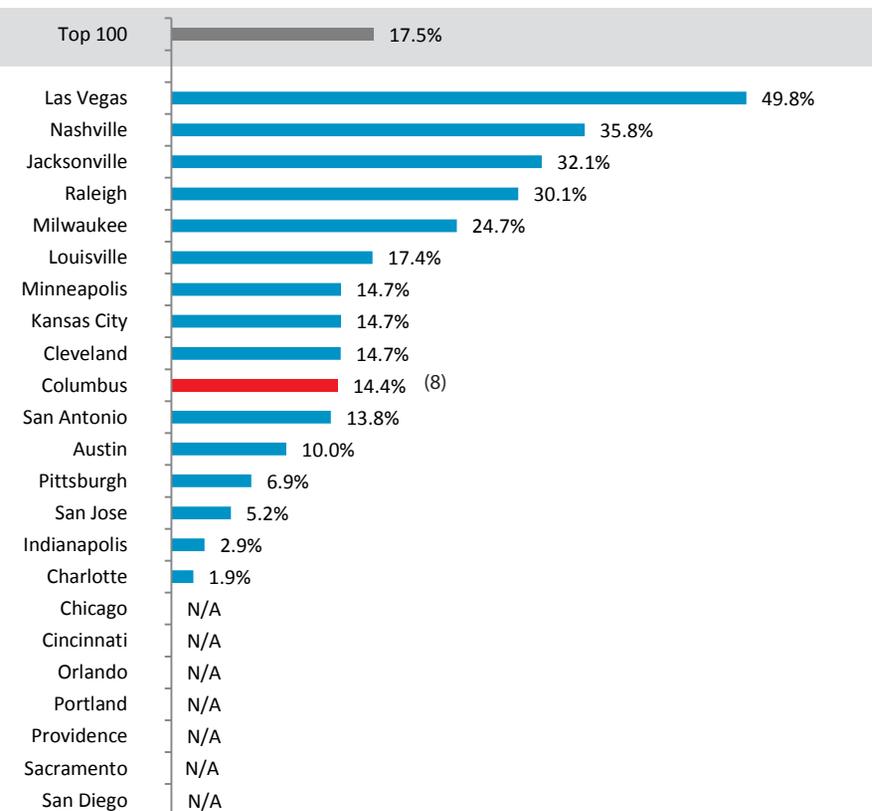
Columbus has a walk score of 40.4, ranking 12th overall while ranking 13th for prevalence of on-street bike lanes and multi-use paths per square mile.

Walkability and bikeability, 2014

Metro area	Walk Score	On-street bike lanes and multi-use paths (miles per sq. mi)
1 Las Vegas	40.4	22.6
2 Nashville	27.9	3.0
3 Jacksonville	26.3	7.0
4 Raleigh	29.9	8.9
5 Milwaukee	61.2	33.3
6 Louisville	32.9	7.0
7 Minneapolis	68.2	42.8
7 Kansas City	33.7	7.3
7 Cleveland	58.9	27.7
8 Columbus	<b>40.4</b>	<b>7.8</b>
9 San Antonio	36.5	10.5
10 Austin	39.2	9.7
11 Pittsburgh	61.0	37.8
12 San Jose	49.8	39.3
13 Indianapolis	29.2	4.5
14 Charlotte	25.5	7.7
Chicago	77.5	37.2
Cincinnati	50.2	N/A
Orlando	40.5	N/A
Portland	63.9	22.0
Providence	N/A	N/A
Sacramento	45.7	25.2
San Diego	49.9	5.9

Regions: Red=Midwest; Blue=South; Green=West; Black=NE

Percentage federal transport funds to bicycle and pedestrian projects, 2014

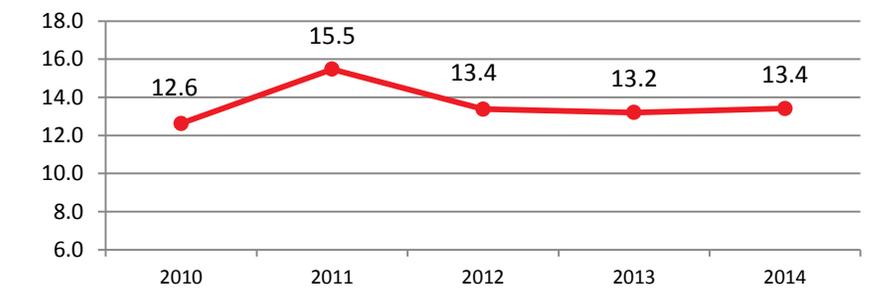


Source: Walk Score, City and Neighborhood Walkability Rankings; Alliance for Biking and Walking, Bicycling & Walking in the United States; Benchmarking Report; U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal-Aid Highway Program Funding for Pedestrian and Bicycle Facilities and Programs (#) Ranked from highest to lowest

# Indicator 5.16: Public Transportation

This indicator includes data from the American Public Transportation Association on the frequency of public transit use. Unlinked passenger trips are defined as the number of passengers who board public transportation vehicles. Passengers are counted each time they board a vehicle no matter how many vehicles they use to travel from their origin to their destination. These data are for urban areas *within* the metro areas.

**Columbus Trends: Unlinked passenger trips per capita**



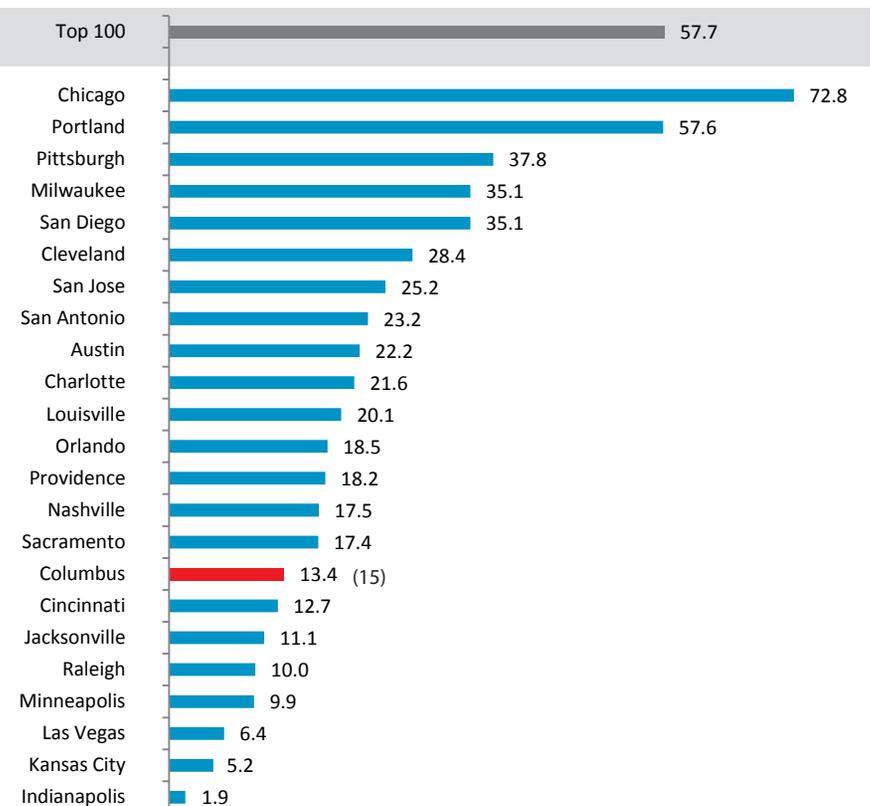
**Urban area population and unlinked passenger trips, 2014**

Metro area	Urban area population	Unlinked passenger trips (millions)
1 Chicago	8,608,208	632.4
2 Portland	1,849,898	112.4
3 Pittsburgh	1,733,853	66.0
4 Milwaukee	2,956,746	109.7
4 San Diego	2,650,890	97.6
5 Cleveland	1,886,011	65.5
6 San Jose	1,376,476	43.1
7 San Antonio	1,780,673	50.1
8 Austin	1,664,496	44.5
9 Charlotte	1,362,416	34.2
10 Louisville	1,758,210	44.1
11 Orlando	1,249,442	29.7
12 Providence	1,510,516	30.3
13 Nashville	1,190,956	21.6
14 Sacramento	1,723,634	31.3
15 <b>Columbus</b>	<b>972,546</b>	<b>15.3</b>
16 Cincinnati	1,368,035	19.5
17 Jacksonville	1,624,827	20.9
18 Raleigh	1,065,219	12.6
19 Minneapolis	1,519,417	17.4
20 Las Vegas	884,891	9.9
21 Kansas City	969,587	10.4
22 Indianapolis	1,487,483	10.7

Regions: Red=Midwest; Blue=South; Green=West; Black=NE

Source: American Public Transportation Association, Public Transportation Fact Book

**Unlinked passenger trips per capita, 2014**



(#) Ranked from highest to lowest

# Indicator 5.17: Air Travel

This indicator includes data from the Bureau of Transportation Statistics on air travel from area airports. Daily departures and passenger boardings are averages based on annual figures.

Columbus ranks in the bottom tier for daily departures, as it did in the 2013 Benchmarking report. As plans for terminal expansion at John Glenn Columbus International Airport take shape however, future Benchmarking reports may tell a different story.

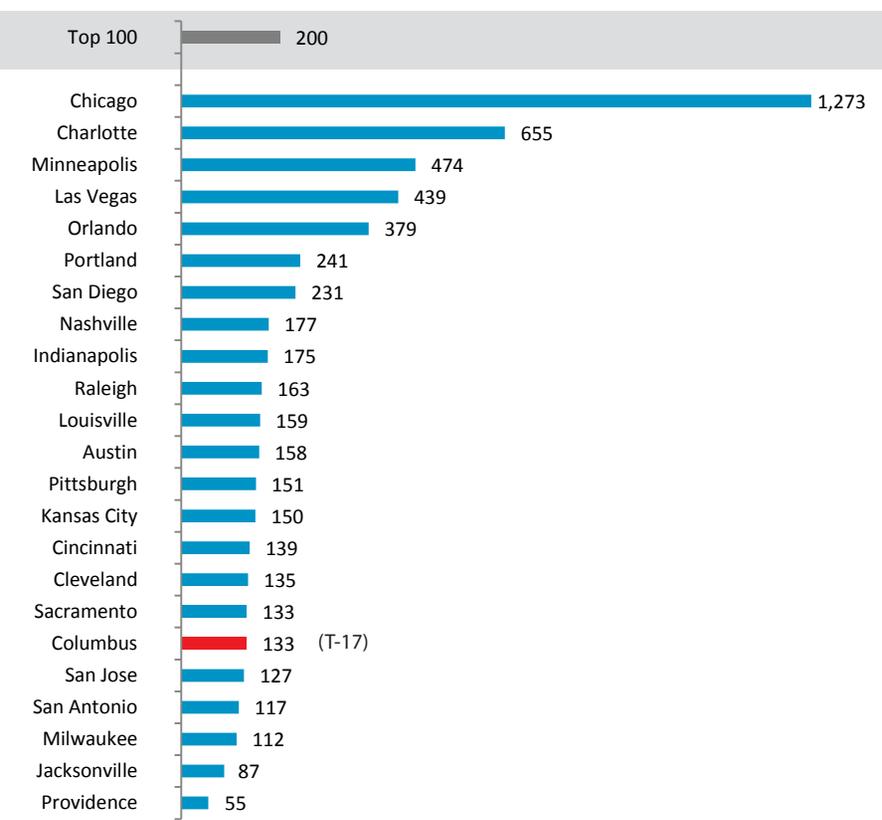


### Daily nonstop passenger boardings, 2015-2016

Metro area	Daily passenger boardings
1 Chicago	113,386
2 Charlotte	55,679
3 Minneapolis	44,951
4 Las Vegas	55,424
5 Orlando	48,784
6 Portland	22,458
7 San Diego	26,666
8 Nashville	15,860
9 Indianapolis	10,863
10 Raleigh	13,595
11 Louisville	4,482
12 Austin	15,827
13 Pittsburgh	10,419
14 Kansas City	14,170
15 Cincinnati	8,189
16 Cleveland	10,689
17 Sacramento	12,866
17 <b>Columbus</b>	<b>9,362</b>
18 San Jose	12,871
19 San Antonio	10,564
20 Milwaukee	8,803
21 Jacksonville	7,452
22 Providence	4,819

Regions: Red=Midwest; Blue=South; Green=West; Black=NE  
 Source: U.S. Department of Transportation, Bureau of Transportation Statistics, TranStats, Data Elements

### Daily departures, 2015-2016



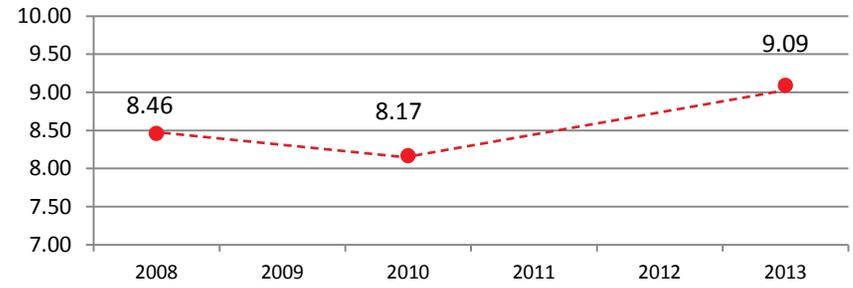
(#) Ranked from highest to lowest

# Indicator 5.18: Festivals and Celebrations

This indicator includes data from the Urban Institute's National Center for Charitable Statistics on nonprofit community festivals and celebrations. These are defined to include fairs and festivals (including antique fairs, county and state fairs, street fairs, festivals, and parades but excluding ethnic and music festivals); commemorative events (activities that celebrate, memorialize, and sometimes recreate important events in history, such as Fourth of July parades and battle reenactments); and community celebrations (community and public celebratory events such as arts festivals and First Night events).

Columbus ranks 1st for the prevalence of community festivals and celebrations, with 9.09 community celebrations per 1,000,000 people. This shows another side of Columbus, which could well be named the festival capital of the Midwest.

**Columbus Trends: Festivals and celebrations per 1,000,000 population**



Note: Columbus MSA boundaries changed in 2013 (added Hocking and Perry counties). Source data are collected irregularly.

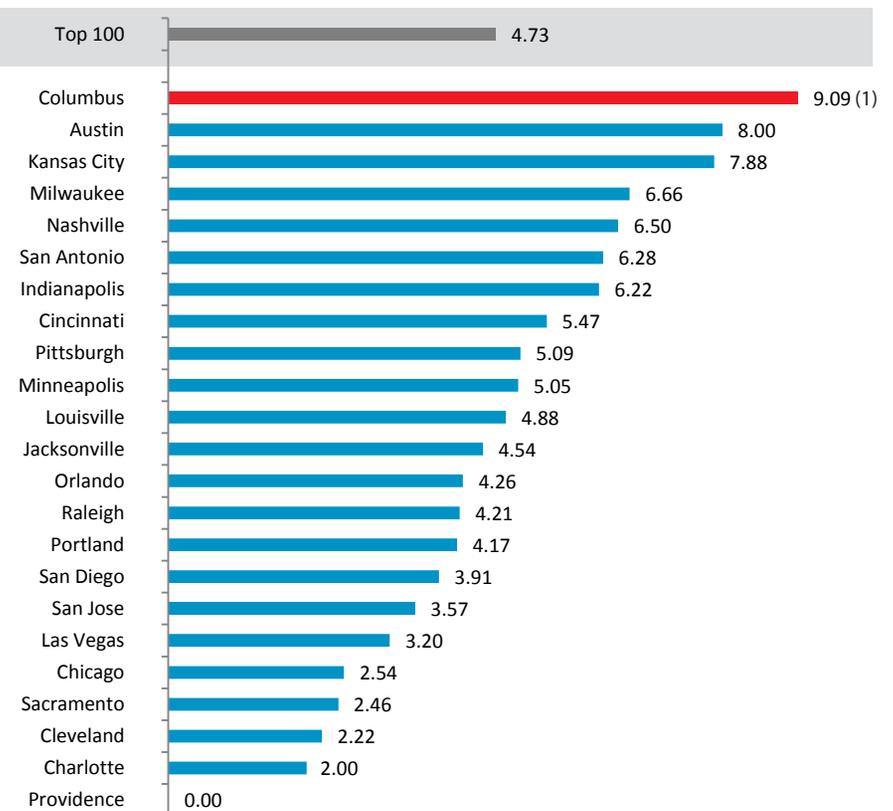
**Nonprofit community festivals and celebrations, 2013**

Metro area	Fairs and festivals	Commemorative events	Community celebrations	Total nonprofit community festivals
1 <b>Columbus</b>	7	5	2	14
2 <b>Austin</b>	6	4	0	10
3 <b>Kansas City</b>	9	4	1	14
4 <b>Milwaukee</b>	5	5	0	10
5 <b>Nashville</b>	7	1	0	8
6 <b>San Antonio</b>	7	3	0	10
7 <b>Indianapolis</b>	7	3	0	10
8 <b>Cincinnati</b>	5	3	1	9
9 <b>Pittsburgh</b>	7	5	0	12
10 <b>Minneapolis</b>	7	7	1	15
11 <b>Louisville</b>	3	2	0	5
12 <b>Jacksonville</b>	5	0	0	5
13 <b>Orlando</b>	5	1	1	7
14 <b>Raleigh</b>	3	1	1	5
15 <b>Portland</b>	3	5	0	8
16 <b>San Diego</b>	8	3	0	11
17 <b>San Jose</b>	5	1	0	6
18 <b>Las Vegas</b>	3	2	0	5
19 <b>Chicago</b>	16	4	1	21
20 <b>Sacramento</b>	2	1	1	4
21 <b>Cleveland</b>	2	2	1	5
22 <b>Charlotte</b>	0	2	1	3
23 <b>Providence</b>	0	0	0	0

Regions: Red=Midwest; Blue=South; Green=West; Black=NE

Source: Urban Institute, National Center for Charitable Statistics

**Community festivals and celebrations per 1,000,000 population, 2013**

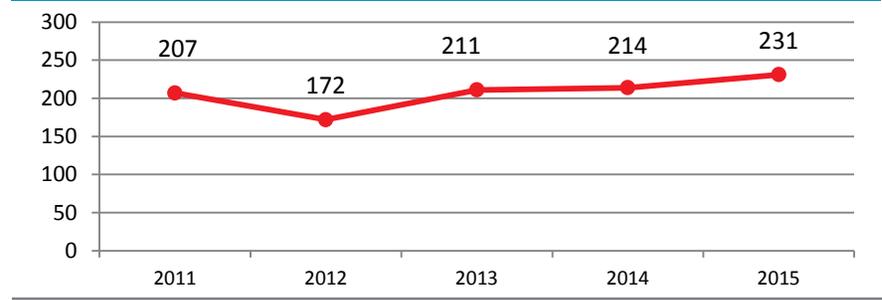


(#) Ranked from highest to lowest

# Indicator 5.19: Air Quality

This indicator includes data from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Air Quality Index (AQI). The AQI is used to report the level of pollution in the air, including ground-level ozone, particle pollution, carbon monoxide, sulfur dioxide, and nitrogen dioxide. An AQI between 0 and 50 is considered good air quality. Values between 51 and 100 are considered moderate pollution levels. A value between 101 and 150 is unhealthy for "sensitive groups," including people with lung disease, older adults, and children. An AQI greater than 150 is considered unhealthy for everyone. These data are for metro areas based on 2003 boundaries.

## Columbus Trends: Number of days with good air quality



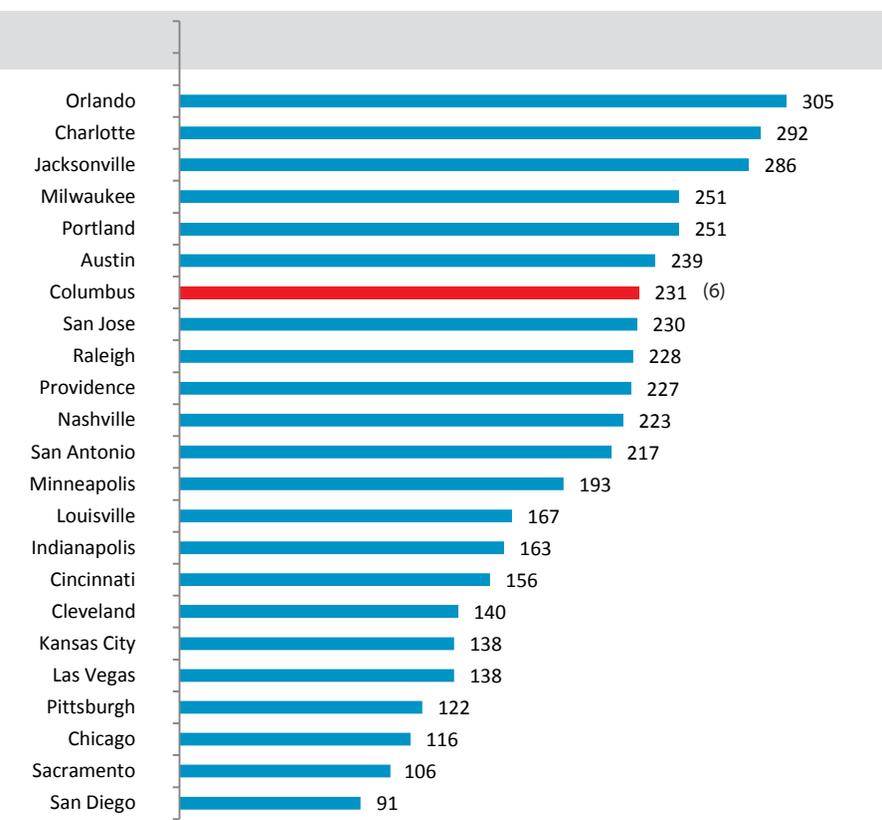
Note: These data use 2003 Columbus MSA boundaries (which do *not* include Hocking and Perry counties)

## Number of days with unhealthy air quality, 2015

Metro area	Number of days with unhealthy air quality for sensitive groups	Number of days with unhealthy air quality for everyone
1 Orlando	1	0
2 Charlotte	11	0
3 Jacksonville	1	0
4 Milwaukee	5	0
4 Portland	4	3
5 Austin	10	0
6 <b>Columbus</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>
7 San Jose	7	0
8 Raleigh	3	0
9 Providence	9	2
10 Nashville	1	0
11 San Antonio	11	3
12 Minneapolis	6	0
13 Louisville	10	4
14 Indianapolis	4	1
15 Cincinnati	12	1
16 Cleveland	19	1
17 Kansas City	41	0
17 Las Vegas	22	1
18 Pittsburgh	30	2
19 Chicago	11	3
20 Sacramento	40	6
21 San Diego	40	1

Regions: Red=Midwest; Blue=South; Green=West; Black=NE

## Number of days with good air quality (AQI 0-50), 2015



(#) Ranked from highest to lowest

Source: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Air Quality Index Report

# Indicator 5.20: Carbon Footprint

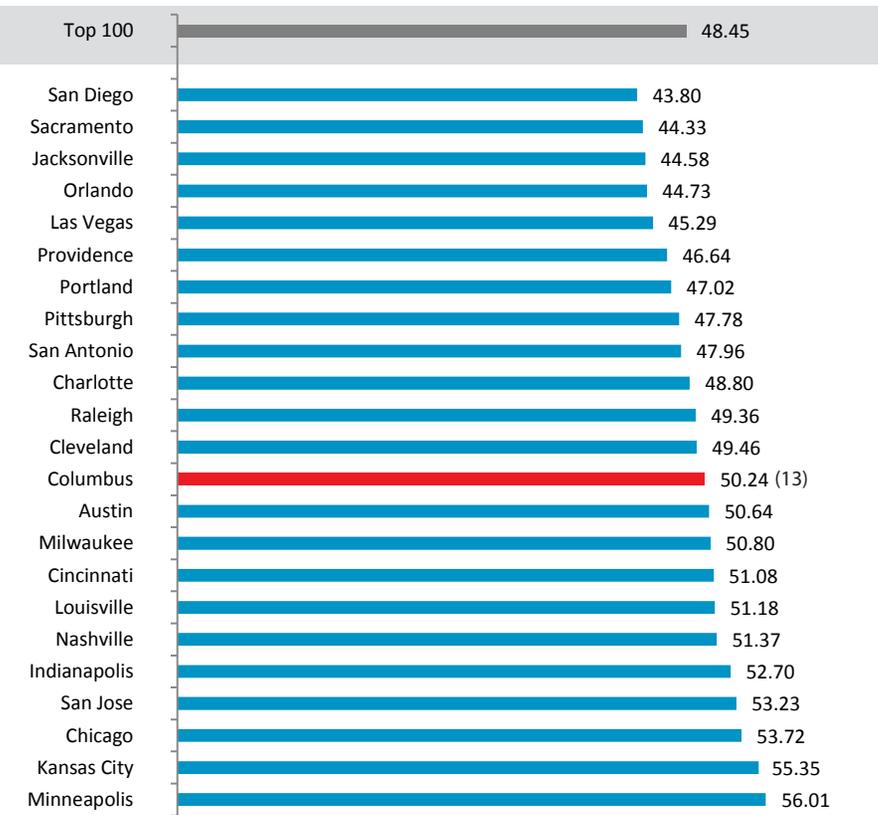
This indicator includes data from the CoolClimate Network at the University of California, Berkeley, on the average household carbon footprint. It measures carbon dioxide emissions in tons per year. The model includes both direct emissions from the consumption of fossil fuels used to run cars and heat homes as well as indirect emissions embodied in the production of electricity, water, waste, food, goods, and services. Carbon dioxide is a greenhouse gas that contributes to climate change. These data are for metro areas based on 2003 boundaries. No trending data are available.

Average household carbon footprint, 2013

Metro area	Transportation (tons)	Housing (tons)	Food (tons)	Goods (tons)	Services (tons)
1 San Diego	15.98	7.49	8.18	5.72	6.43
2 Sacramento	16.25	8.35	7.92	5.56	6.25
3 Jacksonville	14.62	11.17	7.61	5.27	5.90
4 Orlando	14.55	11.35	7.72	5.26	5.86
5 Las Vegas	14.22	11.63	7.93	5.44	6.08
6 Providence	15.10	12.90	7.47	5.26	5.90
7 Portland	16.50	11.07	7.62	5.56	6.28
8 Pittsburgh	13.23	17.13	7.11	4.87	5.43
9 San Antonio	16.26	12.53	8.32	5.18	5.67
10 Charlotte	16.12	13.09	7.65	5.60	6.34
11 Raleigh	16.67	12.55	7.59	5.86	6.70
12 Cleveland	13.86	17.03	7.39	5.26	5.92
13 <b>Columbus</b>	<b>15.05</b>	<b>16.22</b>	<b>7.38</b>	<b>5.44</b>	<b>6.15</b>
14 Austin	17.94	12.61	7.72	5.79	6.58
15 Milwaukee	15.42	16.15	7.50	5.50	6.22
16 Cincinnati	15.74	16.28	7.56	5.41	6.09
17 Louisville	16.17	16.71	7.38	5.15	5.77
18 Nashville	17.15	15.37	7.49	5.34	6.01
19 Indianapolis	16.71	16.75	7.51	5.51	6.23
20 San Jose	19.89	8.26	8.83	7.51	8.74
21 Chicago	15.32	17.53	8.17	5.95	6.74
22 Kansas City	15.89	20.18	7.53	5.51	6.24
23 Minneapolis	16.91	18.47	7.67	6.04	6.92

Regions: Red=Midwest; Blue=South; Green=West; Black=NE

Total average household carbon footprint (tons/year), 2013



(#) Ranked from lowest to highest

Source: University of California, Berkeley, CoolClimate Network

# Data Sources

The following are the web addresses for the data sources used in this report:

## 1.01 Population Growth

U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Population Estimates  
<http://www.census.gov/popest/>

## 1.02 – 1.06

U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, American Community Survey  
<http://factfinder2.census.gov/>

## 1.07 Urban Density

Center for Neighborhood Technology, H+T Affordability Index  
<http://htaindex.cnt.org/>  
U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, American Community Survey  
<http://factfinder2.census.gov/>

## 2.01 Industry Sector Employment

U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics  
<http://www.bls.gov/sae/home.htm>

## 2.02 High Tech Industries

U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Occupational Employment Statistics  
<http://www.bls.gov/oes/home.htm>  
Milken Institute, Best-Performing Cities  
<http://best-cities.org/bestcities.taf?rankyear=2015&type=large-cities-rankings>

## 2.03 Entrepreneurship

U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, American Community Survey  
<http://factfinder2.census.gov/>

## 2.04 Small Business Firms & 2.05 Small Business Startups

U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Statistics of U.S. Businesses (SUSB)  
<https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/susb.html>

## 2.06 Minority Business Ownership & 2.07 Women's Business Ownership

U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Survey of Business Owners  
<http://www.census.gov/econ/sbo/>

## 2.08 Income and Wages

Council for Community and Economic Research, Cost of Living Index  
<http://www.coli.org/>  
U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Occupational Employment Statistics  
<http://www.bls.gov/oes/home.htm>

## 2.09 Occupations & 2.10 Workforce

U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, American Community Survey  
<http://factfinder2.census.gov/>

## 2.11 Clean Jobs

Brookings Institution, Metropolitan Policy Program, Sizing the Clean Economy: 2013  
<https://www.brookings.edu/>

## 2.12 Unemployment

U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics  
<http://www.bls.gov/lau/home.htm>

## 2.13 – 3.06

U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, American Community Survey  
<http://factfinder2.census.gov/>

## 3.07 Earned Income Tax Credit

Brookings Institution, Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) interactive and resources  
<http://www.brookings.edu/research/interactives/eitc>

## 3.08 Homeownership

U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, American Community Survey  
<http://factfinder2.census.gov/>

## 3.09 Foreclosures

National Housing Conference, Urban Land Institute  
<http://www.foreclosure-response.org/>

## 3.10 Housing and Transportation Costs

Center for Neighborhood Technology, H+T Affordability Index  
<http://htaindex.cnt.org/>

# Data Sources

The following are the web addresses for the data sources used in this report:

## 4.01 – 4.03

U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, American Community Survey  
<http://factfinder2.census.gov/>

## 4.04 School Lunch Assistance

U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences,  
National Center for Education Statistics, Common Core of Data, Elementary/Secondary Information System  
<http://nces.ed.gov/ccd/elsi/>

## 4.05 Libraries

Institute for Museum and Library Services, Public Libraries in the United States Survey  
[http://www.ims.gov/research/public\\_libraries\\_in\\_the\\_united\\_states\\_survey.aspx](http://www.ims.gov/research/public_libraries_in_the_united_states_survey.aspx)

## 4.06 Research Universities

National Science Foundation, Survey of Earned Doctorates: 2014  
<http://www.nsf.gov/statistics/2016/nsf16300/data-tables.cfm>

## 5.01 Local Foods

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Economic Research Service, Food Environment Atlas  
<http://www.ers.usda.gov/data-products/food-environment-atlas.aspx#.UWcJcZPqIDA>

## 5.02 - 5.04

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Office of Surveillance, Epidemiology, and Laboratory Services, Public Health Surveillance Program, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, Selected Metropolitan/Micropolitan Area Risk Trends  
<http://www.cdc.gov/brfss/>

## 5.05 Infant Mortality

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics, National Vital Statistics System, Linked Birth and Infant Death Data  
<http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/linked.htm>

## 5.06 Charitable Giving

Corporation for National and Community Service, Volunteering and Civic Life in America  
<http://www.volunteeringinamerica.gov/>  
The Chronicle of Philanthropy, "How America Gives" (Interactive Tool)  
<https://www.philanthropy.com/interactives/how-america-gives#search>

## 5.07 Volunteering

Corporation for National and Community Service, Volunteering and Civic Life in America  
<http://www.volunteeringinamerica.gov/>

## 5.08 Women in Political Leadership

U.S. Conference of Mayors, Meet the Mayors  
<http://usmayors.org/meetmayors/mayorsatglance.asp>

U.S. House of Representatives, Directory of Representatives  
<http://www.house.gov/representatives/>

## City councils:

### Austin, TX

<http://www.austintexas.gov/government>

### Charlotte, NC

<http://charlottenc.gov/CityCouncil/Pages/Default.aspx>

### Chicago, IL

<http://www.chicagotribune.com/ct-the-chicago-city-council-meet-the-members-20150516-htmlstory.html>

### Cincinnati, OH

<http://www.cincinnati-oh.gov/council/council-members/>

### Cleveland, OH

<http://www.clevelandcitycouncil.org/council-members>

### Columbus, OH

<https://www.columbus.gov/council/members/>

### Indianapolis, IN

<http://www.indy.gov/eGov/Council/Councillors/Biography/Documents/2016publiccouncilist.pdf>

### Jacksonville, FL

[http://downtownjacksonville.org/Media/Contact\\_Jacksonville\\_City\\_Council.aspx](http://downtownjacksonville.org/Media/Contact_Jacksonville_City_Council.aspx)

### Kansas City, MO

<http://kcmo.gov/city-officials/city-council-members/>

### Las Vegas, NV

[http://www.lasvegasnevada.gov/portal/faces/home/our-city/oc-government?\\_adf.ctrl-state=16brkb5z1i\\_97&\\_afLoop=294632841113151](http://www.lasvegasnevada.gov/portal/faces/home/our-city/oc-government?_adf.ctrl-state=16brkb5z1i_97&_afLoop=294632841113151)

### Louisville, KY

<https://louisvilleky.gov/government/metro-council/districts-1-26>

### Milwaukee, WI

<http://city.milwaukee.gov/CommonCouncil#.WAZm648rKUK>

# Data Sources

The following are the web addresses for the data sources used in this report:

Minneapolis, MN

<http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/council/>

Nashville, TN

<http://www.nashville.gov/Metro-Council/Metro-Council-Members.aspx>

Orlando, FL

<http://www.cityoforlando.net/council/>

Pittsburgh, PA

<http://www.pittsburghpa.gov/council/>

Portland, OR

<http://www.portlandoregon.gov/25999>

Providence, RI

<http://council.providenceri.com/members>

Raleigh, NC

<http://www.raleighnc.gov/government/content/BoardsCommissions/Articles/CityCouncil.html>

Sacramento, CA

<http://www.cityofsacramento.org/Mayor-Council>

San Antonio, TX

<https://www.sanantonio.gov/council>

San Diego, CA

<https://www.sandiego.gov/citycouncil>

San Jose, CA

<http://www.sanjoseca.gov/index.aspx?NID=146>

5.09 Women in Corporate Leadership

2020 Women on Boards, 2020 Gender Diversity Directory

<http://www.2020wob.com/companies/>

Geo Lounge, Geography of Fortune 1000 Companies in 2015

<https://www.geolounge.com/fortune-1000-companies-list-for-2015/>

5.10 Crime

U.S. Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigation,

Uniform Crime Reporting Program, Crime in the United States

<http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr>

5.11 Road Safety

U.S. Department of Transportation, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration,

Fatality Analysis Reporting System

<http://www.fars.nhtsa.dot.gov/Main/index.aspx>

Alliance for Biking and Walking, Bicycling & Walking in the United States: Benchmarking Report

[www.bikewalkalliance.org/benchmarking](http://www.bikewalkalliance.org/benchmarking)

5.12 Traffic Congestion

Texas A&M University, Texas A&M Transportation Institute, Urban Mobility Information,

Annual Urban Mobility Report

<http://mobility.tamu.edu/ums/>

5.13 Commute Time & 5.14 Commute Mode

U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, American Community Survey

<http://factfinder2.census.gov/>

5.15 Walking and Biking

Walk Score, City and Neighborhood Walkability Rankings

<http://www.walkscore.com/rankings/cities/>

Alliance for Biking and Walking, Bicycling & Walking in the United States: Benchmarking Report

[www.bikewalkalliance.org/benchmarking](http://www.bikewalkalliance.org/benchmarking)

U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, Office of Human Environment,

Bicycle & Pedestrian Program, Federal-Aid Highway Program Funding for Pedestrian and Bicycle Facilities and Programs

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