



Metropolitan Mirror: Facts and Trends Reflecting the St. Louis Region

Posted January 2013

Growth of the Metropolitan St. Louis Economy in Comparative Perspective, 2001-2010

The metropolitan St. Louis economy grew 30.8 percent during the nine-year period 2001 to 2010. As shown in Table 1 annual growth was strongest at the beginning of the period at 5 percent, declined to 2.2 percent four years later and ended at 2.7 percent. The impact of the Great Recession from December 2007 to June 2009 was a contraction of the metropolitan economy by 2.2 percent.

Table 1
Percent Change in Metropolitan St. Louis Gross Domestic Product¹

	2001- 2002	2002- 2003	2003- 2004	2004- 2005	2005- 2006	2006- 2007	2007- 2008	2008- 2009	2009- 2010
% change	0.050	0.044	0.034	0.036	0.022	0.043	0.040	-0.022	0.027

Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis

Comparing metropolitan St. Louis to other metropolitan areas in the Midwest or of similar size and economic structure, St. Louis had less economic expansion than 7 of the 8 metropolitan economies. As shown in Table 2 Baltimore had the most robust growth, increasing by 47.4 percent from 2001 to 2010, ahead of Indianapolis with a 44.8 percent increase and Denver with 43.2 percent. Both Baltimore and Indianapolis grew continuously through the period. They were not negatively impacted by the Great Recession. St. Louis had the third largest metropolitan economy of this group in 2001, but Baltimore's rapid growth enabled it to bump St. Louis into 4th place. Nationally, St. Louis had the 20th largest metropolitan economy in 2010.

Table 2
Metropolitan Gross Domestic Product 2001-2010

Metropolitan Area	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	% in- crease
Baltimore-Towson, MD	98,234	102,823	107,081	114,773	121,610	128,248	134,090	137,237	139,118	144,789	0.474
Cleveland-Elyria-Mentor, OH	85,272	87,763	91,153	95,599	98,472	100,205	103,611	104,665	102,200	105,625	0.239
Denver-Aurora-Broomfield, CO	110,064	114,793	117,780	123,261	132,997	141,060	147,331	154,936	153,327	157,567	0.432
Indianapolis-Carmel, IN	72,632	74,848	78,531	84,231	88,667	93,035	97,699	99,053	100,456	105,163	0.448
Kansas City, MO-KS	78,157	81,081	83,912	88,029	91,985	95,762	101,175	104,254	103,529	105,968	0.356
Louisville-Jefferson County, KY-IN	43,325	44,740	45,654	47,857	50,308	53,125	55,490	56,270	56,047	58,572	0.352
Minneapolis-St. Paul-Bloomington, MN-WI	144,668	149,085	156,926	167,622	176,706	182,400	189,584	193,814	191,191	199,596	0.380
Pittsburgh, PA	85,118	87,812	90,945	95,422	98,644	103,504	108,003	111,175	109,814	115,752	0.360
St. Louis, MO-IL	99,202	104,164	108,777	112,461	116,489	119,008	124,126	129,137	126,287	129,734	0.308

Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis

¹ As defined by the Bureau of Economic Analysis Gross Domestic Product (GDP) by metropolitan area is the sub-state counterpart of the U.S. GDP. GDP by metropolitan area is derived as the sum of the GDP originating in all the industries in the metropolitan area.