

# state of the region 05

## regional economic indicators

**Population growth.** The population of the seven-county Twin Cities metropolitan area grew by 98,929 from 2000 to 2003. The pace of growth is comparable to what was observed 1990-2000. (Source: Metropolitan Council.)

**Labor force participation.** Adults active in the labor market: 77.3 percent in 2002. Share of adults employed: 73.8 percent. Twin Cities ranks 1<sup>st</sup> among 25 largest MSAs. (Source: US BLS, Geographic Profile of Employment & Unemployment.)

**Unemployment.** Twin Cities labor force without jobs: 4.3 percent in 2004. Twin Cities ranked 6<sup>th</sup> lowest among 25 largest MSAs. (Source: US BLS, LAUS estimates.)

**Gross Metro Product.** GMP was \$135 billion in 2003, the 12<sup>th</sup> largest metro economy in the U.S.—and larger than the national economy of Argentina. (Source: U.S. Conference of Mayors.)

**GMP growth.** Annual growth was 5.4 percent in 2003; Twin Cities ranked 9<sup>th</sup> among 25 largest MSAs. This was an improvement over the two previous years: Growth averaged 1.7 percent from 2000 to 2002; Twin Cities ranked 22<sup>nd</sup> among 25 largest during that period. (Source: U.S. Conference of Mayors.)

**Per capita income.** Income per resident: \$37,787 in 2002. Twin Cities ranked 7<sup>th</sup> among 25 largest. The high level of prosperity is due to the combination of good-paying jobs and the nation's highest level of labor force participation

(73.8 percent of adults work). Controlling for regional differences in cost of living, Twin Cities ranked 4<sup>th</sup> among 25 largest.

(Source: US DOC/BEA, Regional Economic Accounts; and ACCRA, Cost of Living Index.)

**PCI annual growth.** Annual growth in income per resident: 1.3 percent average during 2000-2002. Twin Cities ranked 13<sup>th</sup> among 25 largest. (Source: US DOC/BEA, Regional Economic Accounts.)

### **Median wage for jobs in metro area.**

Median wage: \$16.83 per hour in the seven-county metro area, November 2003. Twin Cities (13-county area) ranked 8<sup>th</sup> among 25 largest MSAs. Controlling for regional differences in cost of living, Twin Cities ranked 5<sup>th</sup>.

(Source: Minnesota DEED, OES program; and ACCRA, Cost of Living Index.)

### **Jobs paying more than \$11 per hour.**

Jobs paying more than \$11 per hour: 77 percent in the seven-county metro area, November 2003. Twin Cities (13-county area) ranked 5<sup>th</sup> among 25 largest MSAs.

(Source: Minnesota DEED, OES program.)

**Employment growth.** In 2004: +16,000 jobs (or +0.9 percent). Cumulative job loss in this decade: -18,000 (or -1.0 percent) since end of 2000. Twin Cities is 14<sup>th</sup> among 25 largest MSAs in performance since 2000.

(Source: US BLS, CES estimates for December of each year.)

**Fortune 500 companies.** Headquartered in Twin Cities: 15 companies on the 2004 list: Target, UnitedHealth, Best Buy, Supervalu, US Bancorp, General Mills, Northwest Airlines, CHS Inc, Xcel Energy, Medtronic, Thrivent Financial, Land O'Lakes, Nash Finch, CH Robinson, and PepsiAmericas. (Source: *Fortune* magazine.)

**Distinguishing industries.** Twin Cities has 1.3 percent of all jobs in the nation in 2003, but larger shares in 10 distinguishing industries. Twin Cities is gaining national share in 5 of these 10 distinguishing industries.

(Source: US BLS, CES estimates, annual averages.)

- Medical equipment and supplies manufacturing, from 3.6% in 2000 to 3.8% in 2003
- Printing, from 2.8% in 2000 to 2.9% in 2003
- Computer equipment and electronics (includes medical devices) manufacturing: from 2.5% to 2.8%
- Publishing: from 2.0% to 2.1%.
- Insurance carriers: from 2.0% to 2.1%.

**Venture capital investment.** After three consecutive years of decline, regional VC investment rose to more than \$300 million in 2004. Region's VC investment

represents 1.8 percent of national total; highest national share since 1995. Twin Cities ranked 13<sup>th</sup> in 2004 investment value. (Source: PWC/Venture Economics/NVCA MoneyTree Survey.)

**Gaining young adults.** Net migration of people born 1966-75: +25 percent. The number of 25-34 year-olds in 2000 was 25 percent larger than the number of 15-24 year-olds in 1990. Twin Cities ranked 5<sup>th</sup> among 25 largest MSAs. (Source: Brookings Institution analysis of Census 2000.)

**Brain gain.** Bachelor's degree-holders as share of 25-34 year-olds: 40 percent in 2000. Twin Cities ranked 3<sup>rd</sup> among 25 largest MSAs.. (Source: Brookings Institution analysis of Census 2000.)

**Gross housing production.** Measured through building permits: 21,166 in the seven-county metro area, 2003. A similar number is expected for 2004. (Source: Metropolitan Council, replaces previous preliminary estimates.)

**Housing affordability.** Share of homes affordable to median income family: 68 percent in 3Q 2004. Twin Cities ranked 6<sup>th</sup> most affordable among 25 largest MSAs. (Source: NAHB-Wells Fargo, Housing Opportunity Index, 3Q 2004.)