# REGIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

## **QUICK FACTS**

- 19th largest U.S. Metro population approaching 3 million
- 15-county Missouri/Illinois region
- One of the most affordable major metro areas the St. Louis region was the lowest cost of living among 20 largest metros in 2012
- Home to 19 Fortune 1,000 HQs in 2013; Nine of which are Fortune 500
- Home to seven of the largest private companies on Forbes "America's Private Companies", including Enterprise Rent-A-Car, Edward Jones, & World Wide Technology, which is the largest African-American owned company on Black Enterprise magazine's "2012 BE100"

# **ECONOMY**

- Benefits from a diverse economy dependent on no single sector
- Growing strength in financial & information services, health science & services, multimodal logistics, & biosciences
- Recognized as a leading health care center with nationally ranked hospitals & two medical research universities (Washington University in St. Louis ranked 6th best research medical school by U.S. News & World Report, 2012)
- A Midwest Center for retail brokerage with Edward Jones, Scottrade, Stifel Nicolaus, & Wells Fargo Advisors all calling St. Louis home
- Biosciences industry assets include the headquarters of Monsanto (world leader in agricultural biotech), Mallinckrodt, Donald Danforth Plant Science Center, Saint Louis University School of Medicine, Sigma-Aldrich, & Washington University School of Medicine

#### **LOCATION & TRANSPORTATION**

- Central location both in population & geography means that we're within 500 miles of one-third of the U.S. population & within 1,500 miles of 90 percent of the people in North America
- Central location & competitive assets in all modes of transportation make it an important distribution center
- Lambert-St. Louis International Airport is served by 10 airlines with 60 non-stop destinations, including service to all major business centers
- Lambert Airport is aggressively seeking to expand service & continues toward growth, which is proven by the \$70 million renovation project currently underway to help the airport function more efficiently & more user-friendly

## **QUALITY OF LIFE**

- Enjoy a quality of life with recreational and cultural amenities that are typically found in only the largest of cities, many of which are free
- St. Louis' median household income is greater than the national average at \$50,912, according to the "American Community Survey" by U.S. Census Bureau in 2010. Per capita income in St. Louis is also higher than the national average, according to the same survey.
- In 2012, St. Louis had the lowest cost of living among the nation's largest metro areas, according to the Council for Community and Economic Research.

## "AIRPORT OF THE YEAR 2011" LAMBERT ST. LOUIS INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

Transportation Security Administration, 2011

#### "BEST CITIES FOR COLLEGE GRADS" ST. LOUIS BANKS NO. 1

Kiplinger's Personal Finance Magazine, 2012

## "10 BEST ZOOS FOR KIDS" ST. LOUIS ZOO RANKS NO. 3

Parenting Magazine, 2011

## "LOWEST COST OF DOING BUSINESS" ST. LOUIS RANKS NO. 7

KPMG, LLP, 2012

## "10 BEST SCIENCE CENTERS" ST. LOUIS SCIENCE CENTER RANKS NO. 5

Parenting Magazine, 2011

## "LARGE CITIES OF THE FUTURE" ST. LOUIS RANKS NO. 8

Foreign Direct Investment Magazine, 2011-12

## "BEST CITIES FOR HOME BUYERS" ST. LOUIS RANKS NO. 8

Money Magazine, 2011

## "MOST LITERATE CITIES" ST. LOUIS RANKS NO. 8

Central Connecticut State University, 2012

## "VOLUNTEERING IN AMERICA" ST. LOUIS RANKS NO. 10

Corp. for National & Community Service, 2011

## "BEST REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT" ST. LOUIS RANKS NO. 10

Realtor.com, 2012

## "GREAT RETIREMENT CITIES" ST. LOUIS RANKS NO. 10

Kiplinger's Personal Finance Magazine, 2011

## "BEST CITIES FOR FAMILIES" ST. LOUIS RANKS NO. 10

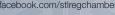
Parenting Magazine, 2011

# "GREAT PLACES IN AMERICA" STREETS: WASHINGTON AVE. DOWNTOWN

American Planning Association, 2011

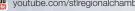








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#### AREA COMPANIES

Like every other community, St. Louis has experienced corporate headquarter expansions, as well as several mergers and acquisitions in recent years - and many have proved positive results. For example:

- · Centene consolidated its headquarters at the new Centene Plaza office center, adding over 460,000 new feet of office space
- General Motors has a \$380 million expansion underway & hired over 435 workers for its Chevy Colorado production
- Post Cereal spinoff from Ralcorp will create at least 150 new jobs
- Nestlé completed a new, \$15 million, four-story, 56,000 square foot Learning & Training Center at its Checkerboard Square headquarters
- Express Scripts recently acquired Medco Health Solutions for \$29.1 billion

## **STARTUPS**

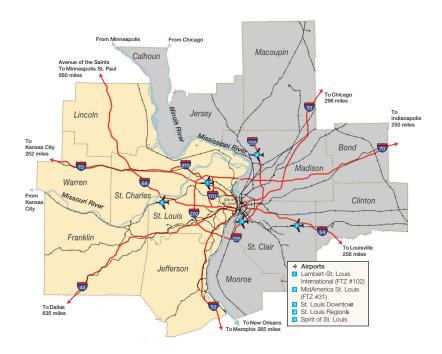
- St. Louis ranked No. 4 in Kiplinger's 2011 list of "Great Cities for Starting a Business," which is based on the amount of private venture capital already invested in startups, patents issued, and cost-of-living scores
- The St. Louis area has 24.5 small businesses per 1.000 residents and ranks 5th on the latest list of small-business climates across the Midwest
- Missouri jumped to 6<sup>th</sup>, from 35<sup>th</sup>, in the 2011 Kauffman "Index of Entrepreneurial Activity", which is a leading indicator for new business creation

#### DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION

- People are moving to St. Louis because of the continued confidence in the city
- Over 13,000 people call downtown home & it is the fastest growing residential neighborhood in the St. Louis region
- \$5 billion in investment has been completed or is underway since 2000
- More than 4,500 residential units have been built & maintain 90 percent occupancy; 150 new shops, restaurants, & services have opened since 2003
- Development highlights include: new Busch Stadium home of the St. Louis Cardinals baseball club (2007), Lumiére Place Casino/Four Seasons Hotel (2007), Gateway Transportation Center (2008), Federal Reserve Bank Expansion (2008), City Garden (2009), Peabody Opera House (2011), Park Pacific (2011) & the St. Louis Central Library (2012)
- Over 1,600 businesses and nearly 80,000 jobs are located downtown, including the region's highest concentration of legal, financial, government, creative, & hospitality sources

# **HIGHER EDUCATION**

- Graduate 25,000+ college students each year from over 30+ universities & colleges in the Metro area
- 29.9 percent of St. Louis adults ages 25 years & older currently hold a bachelor's degree or higher, above the U.S. average.













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