

Regional Snapshot: The Cost of Living in Metro Atlanta

		EXPENSE / 支出	BALANCE / 结余	NOTE
17/2	Salary	15,000	15,000	
19/2	Home loan	4,200	10,800	
		570	10,230	
		1,000	9,230	
27/2	Interest	850	10,080	

Atlanta Regional Commission, July 2021

For more information, contact:

MCarnathan@atlantaregional.org

In Summary...

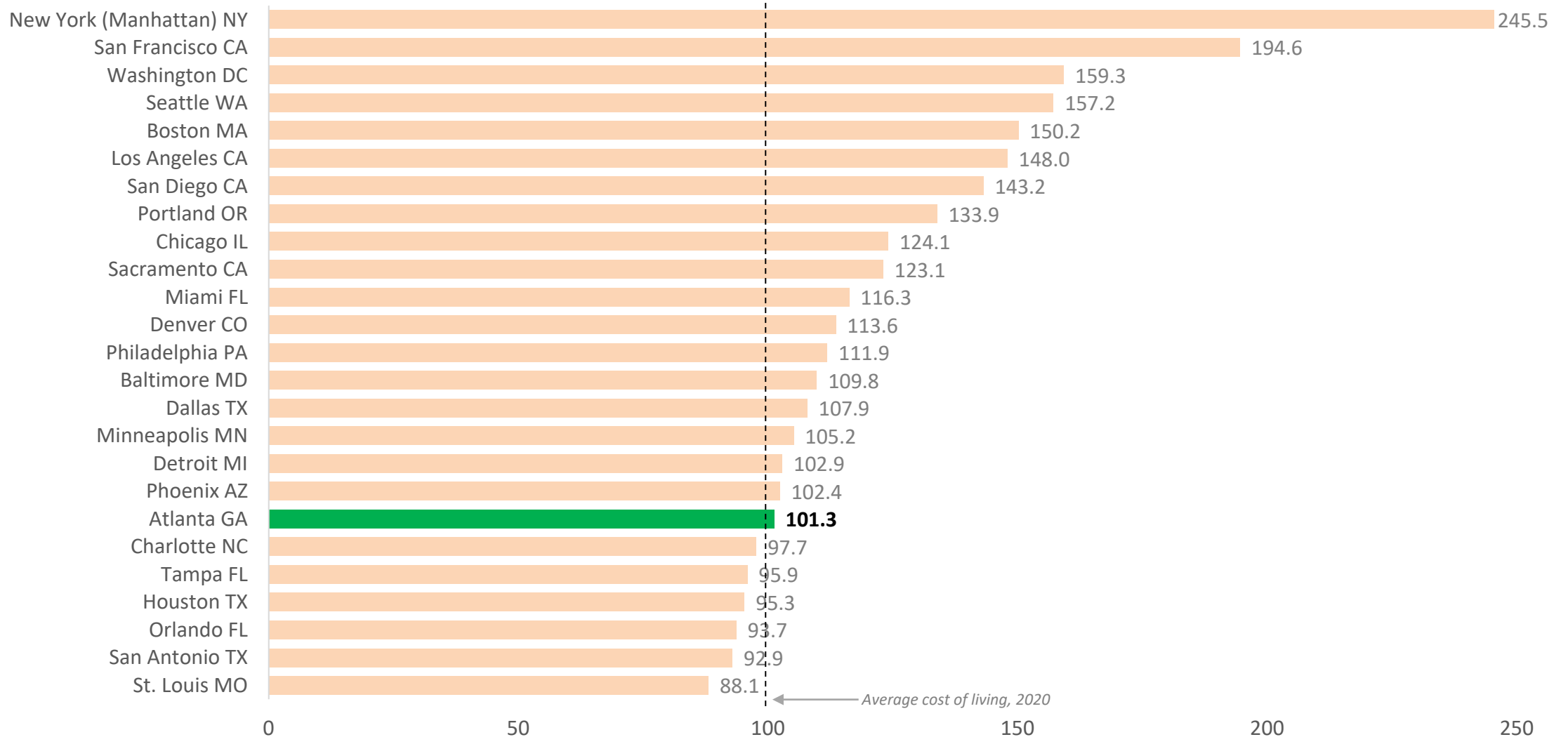
Metro Atlanta's overall cost-of-living is slightly **above** the national average. New York City, not surprisingly, has the highest cost of living.

Someone in metro Atlanta with a \$50,000 salary moving to New York would need to make \$121,200 to have equivalent spending power. A move to San Francisco, requires \$96,100, and a move to Dallas requires \$53,300.

Atlanta's cost of living related to housing is slightly higher than some of its peer metros, but this is offset by its comparatively cheaper utility costs.

When considering individual items, **groceries in metro Atlanta are 5 percent more expensive** than in the average metro area, but **utilities are 15.4 percent less expensive**.

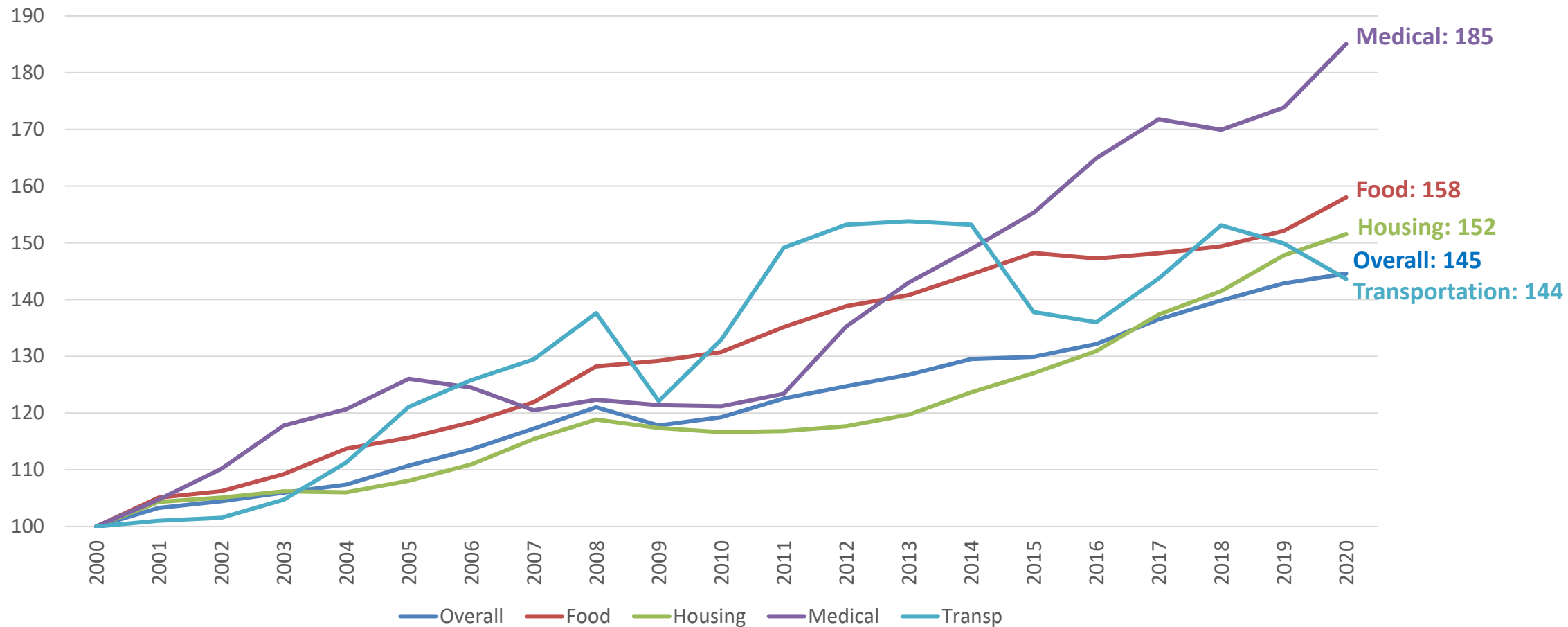
Cost of Living for 25 Most Populous Metros



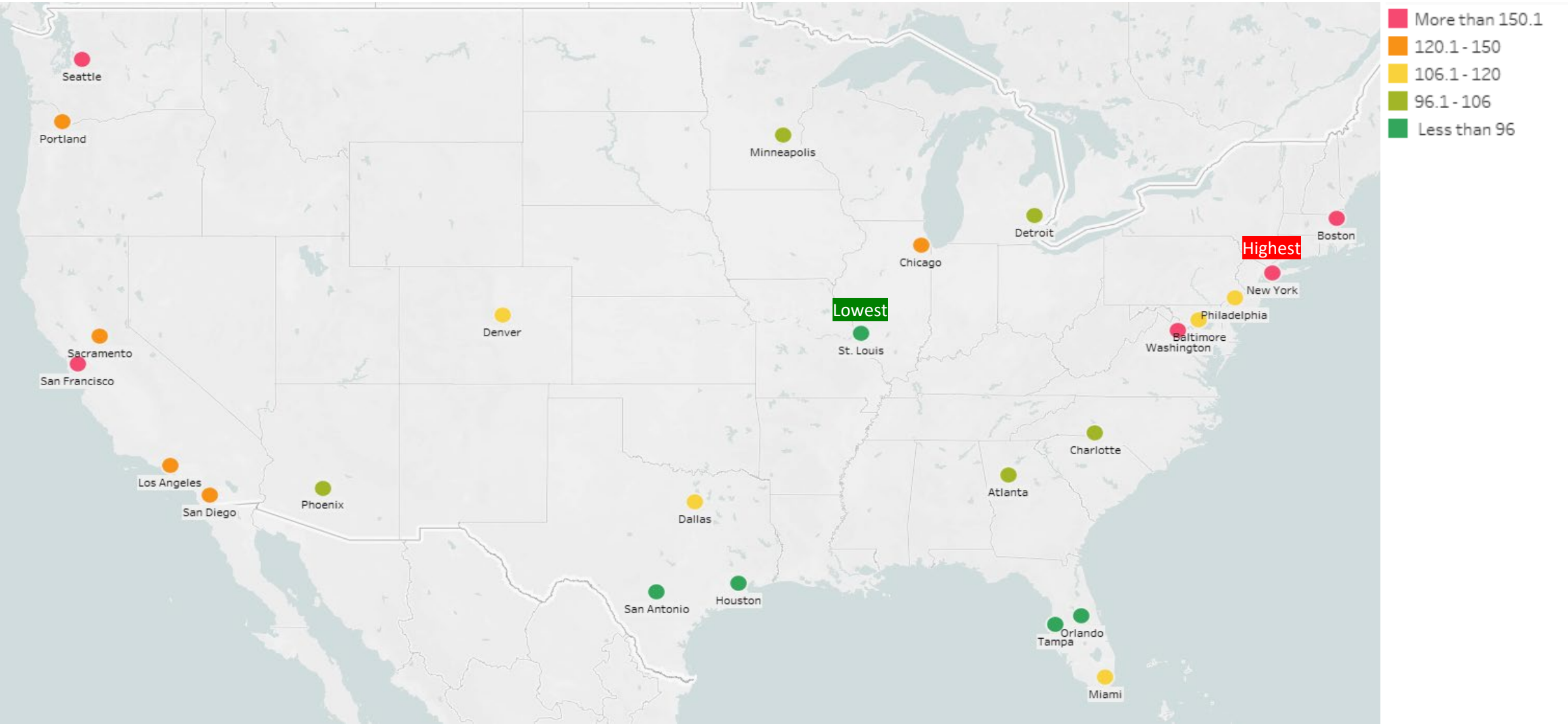
Atlanta Consumer Price Over Time

(2000 = 100)

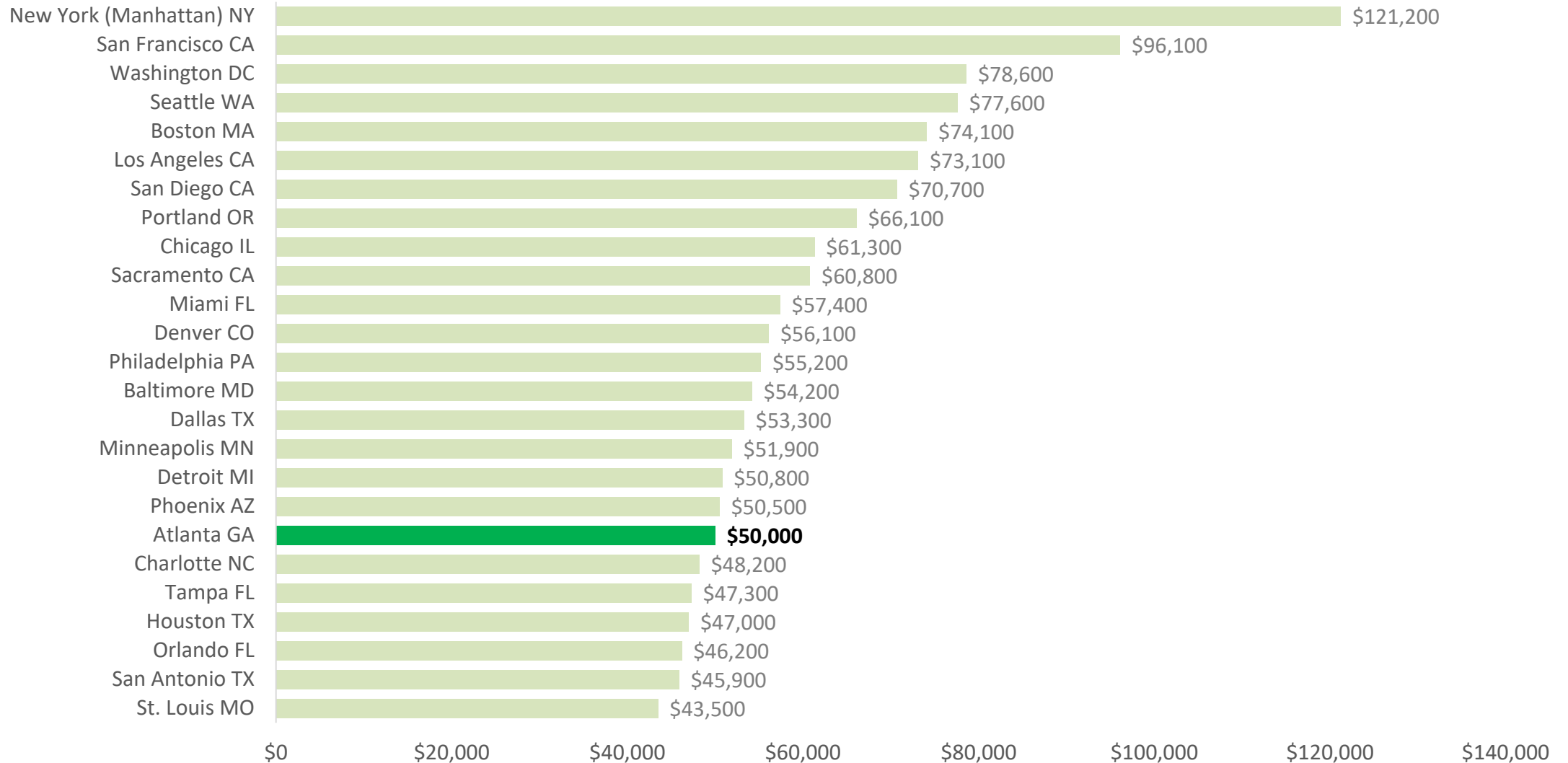
Atlanta MSA Consumer Price Index (CPI)
2000-2020



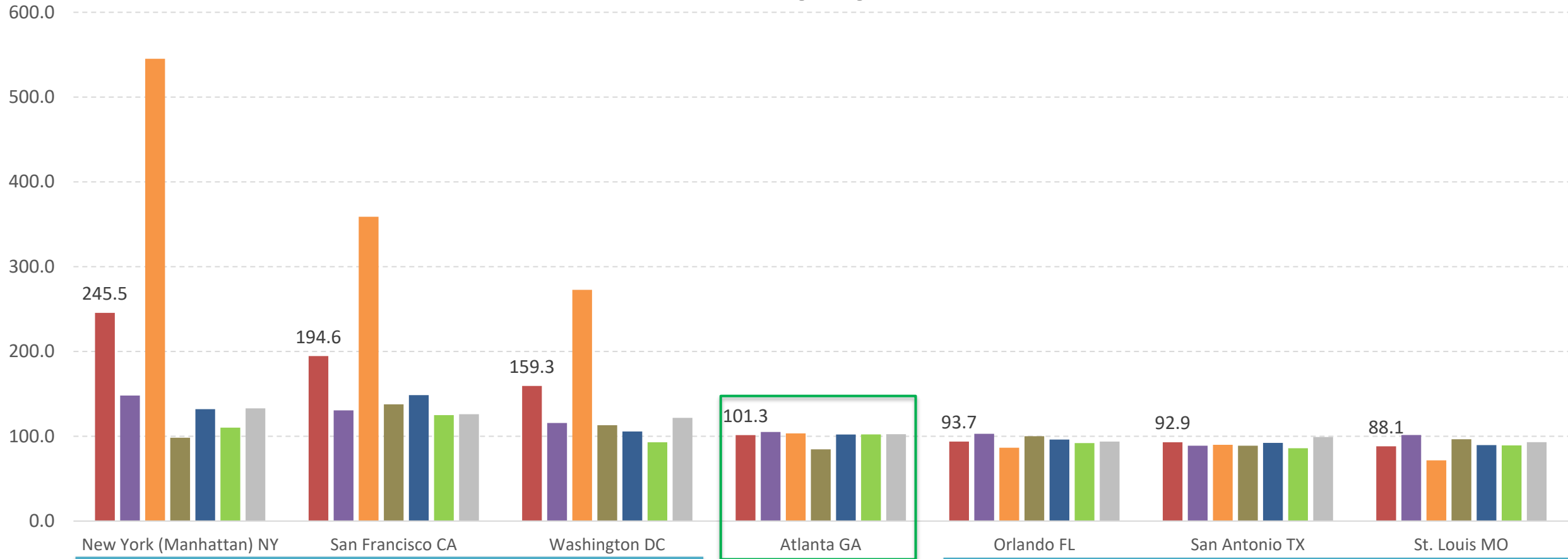
Mapping Cost of Living



Income needed for equivalent of \$50,000 in Atlanta



Comparing highest vs. lowest COLI in the 25 most populous metros

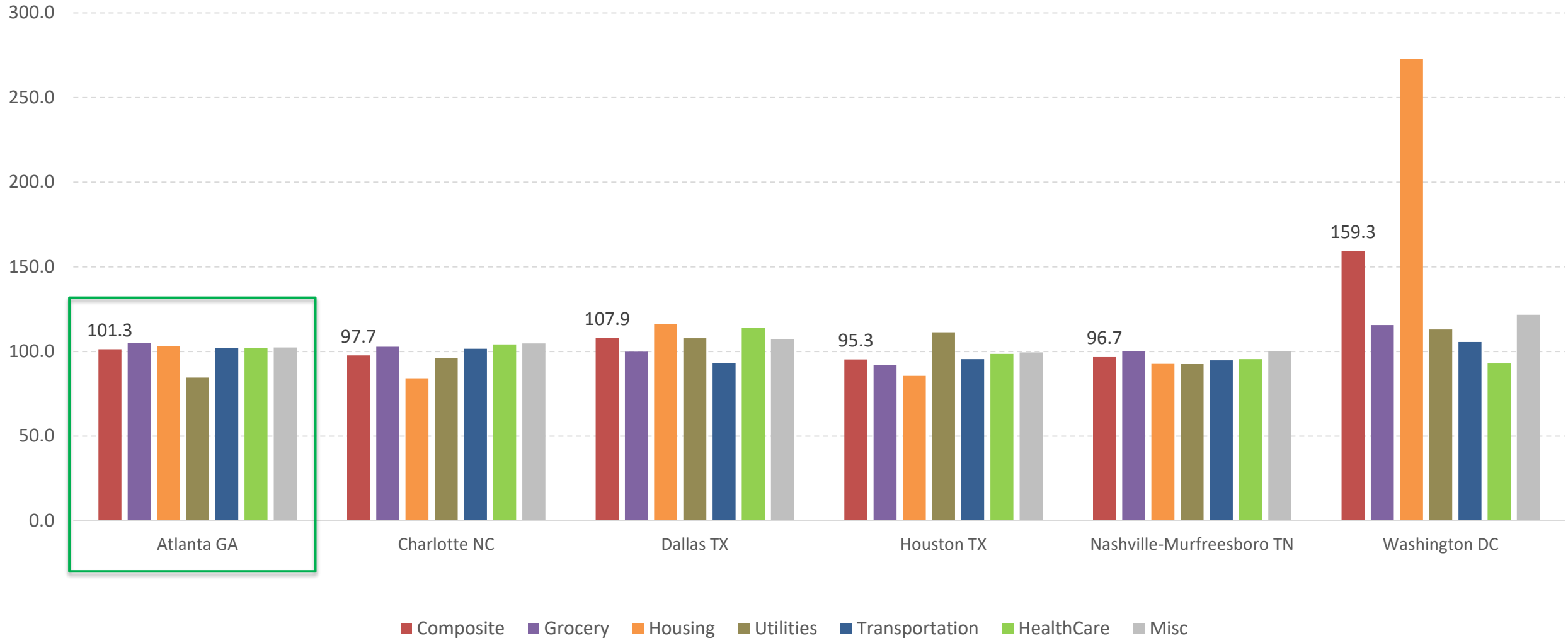


Three highest COLI metros

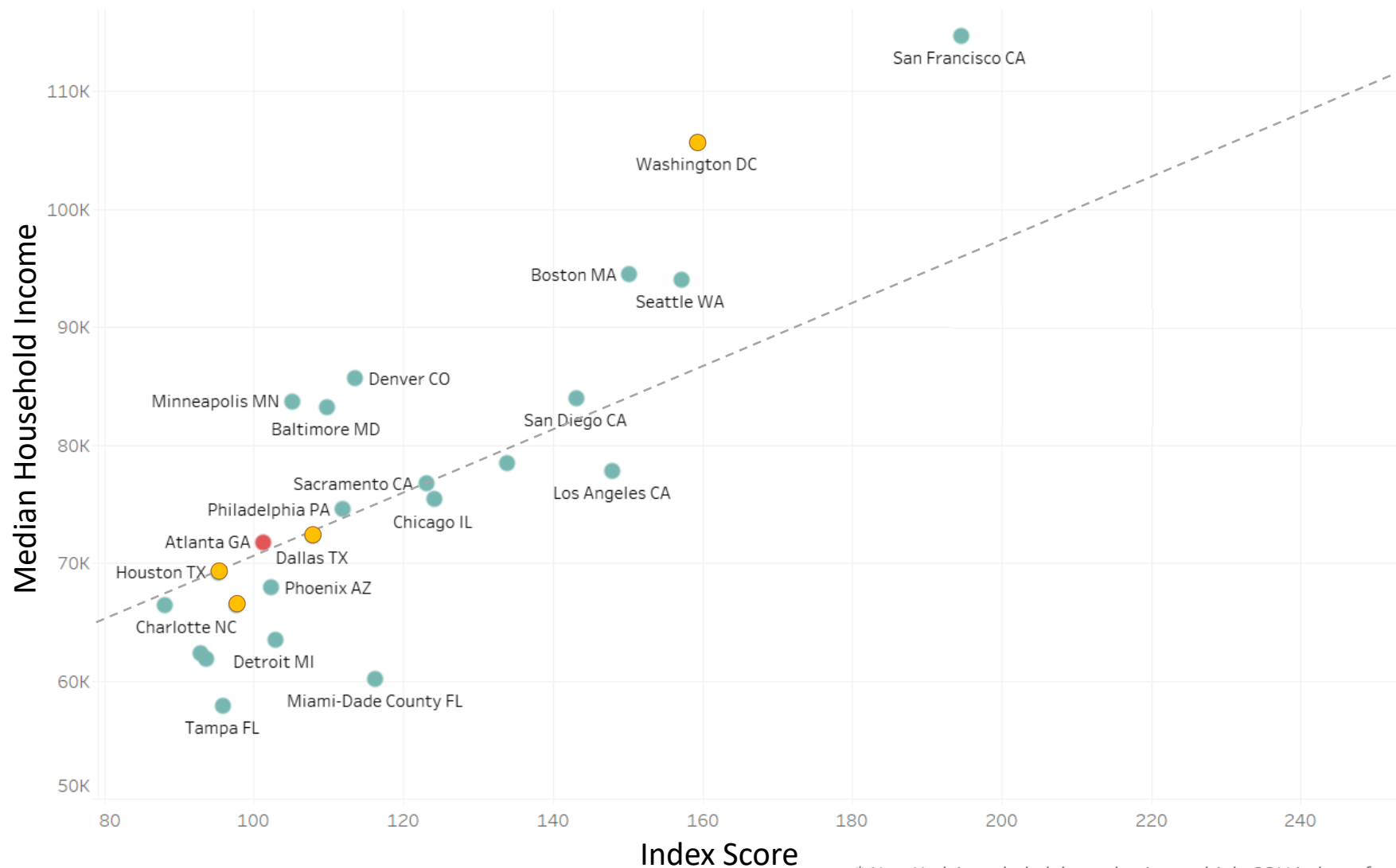
Three lowest COLI metros

■ Composite ■ Grocery ■ Housing ■ Utilities ■ Transportation ■ HealthCare ■ Misc

Cost of Living Comparison: Peer Metros

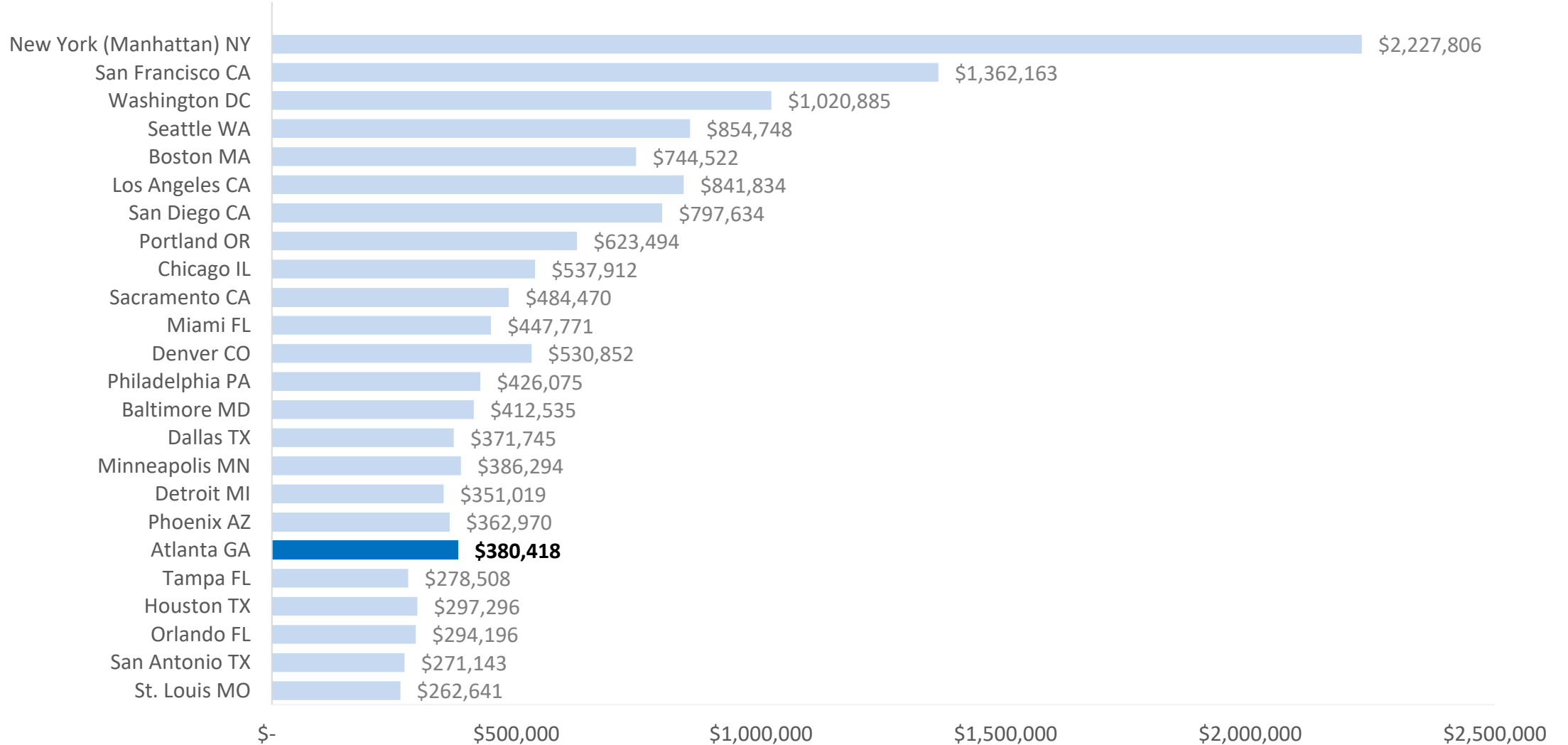


Relationship Between Income and Cost of Living



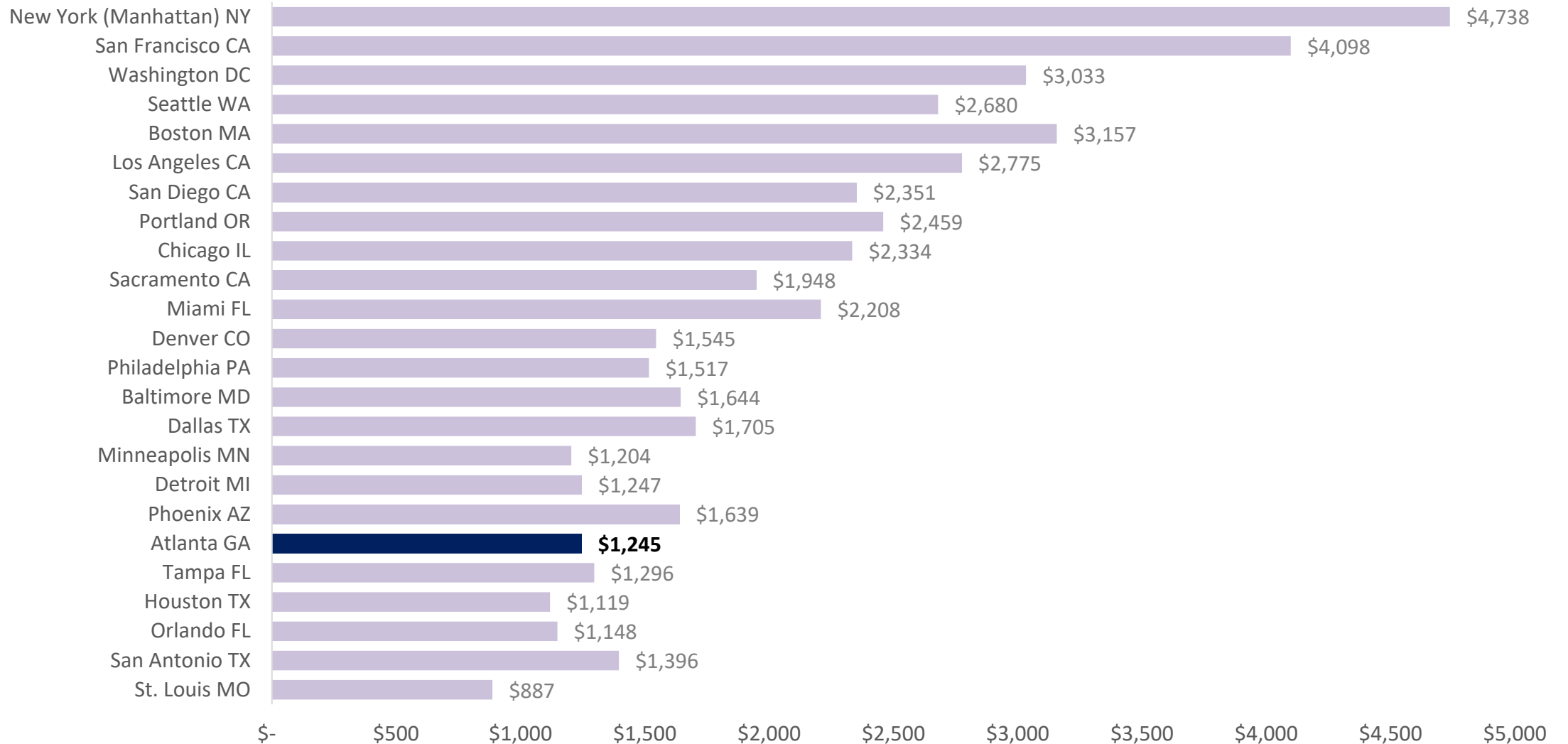
* New York is excluded due to having multiple COLI indexes for different parts of its metro area

Average Home Price: 25 Largest Metros













Average Monthly Apartment Rent: 25 Largest Metros






Cost of Select Groceries for Selected Metros

		 Ground Beef	 Half-Gallon Milk	 Dozen Eggs	 Bananas	 Coffee	 Wine	 Beer	 Sugar	
Three highest COLI metros	Selected Metro	COLI Index								
	New York (Manhattan) NY	245.5	\$ 6.40	\$ 3.11	\$ 2.92	\$ 0.83	\$ 5.90	\$ 11.63	\$ 12.01	\$ 4.87
	San Francisco CA	194.6	\$ 3.64	\$ 2.83	\$ 3.16	\$ 0.79	\$ 6.63	\$ 8.56	\$ 10.50	\$ 3.62
	Washington DC	159.3	\$ 4.41	\$ 2.46	\$ 1.80	\$ 0.58	\$ 4.77	\$ 11.38	\$ 10.08	\$ 2.82
	Atlanta GA	101.3	\$ 4.61	\$ 1.99	\$ 1.25	\$ 0.55	\$ 4.92	\$ 13.70	\$ 10.05	\$ 2.09
Three lowest COLI Metros*	Orlando FL	93.7	\$ 4.46	\$ 2.39	\$ 1.31	\$ 0.44	\$ 3.91	\$ 9.04	\$ 9.23	\$ 2.58
	San Antonio TX	92.9	\$ 4.00	\$ 1.63	\$ 1.66	\$ 0.47	\$ 3.93	\$ 7.86	\$ 9.43	\$ 2.14
	St. Louis MO-IL	88.1	\$ 4.13	\$ 1.86	\$ 1.46	\$ 0.50	\$ 4.45	\$ 8.29	\$ 9.38	\$ 2.35
	All Metro Average		\$ 4.28	\$ 2.05	\$ 1.47	\$ 0.55	\$ 4.35	\$ 9.12	\$ 9.41	\$ 2.38

*Of the 25 most populous metros






Cost of Select Medicals for Selected Metros

			 Optometrist Visit	 Doctor Visit	 Prescription Drug	Ibuprofen
Three highest COLI metros	Selected Metro	COLI Index				
	New York (Manhattan) NY	245.5	\$ 108.08	\$ 106.72	\$ 442.91	\$ 12.90
	San Francisco CA	194.6	\$ 144.57	\$ 149.63	\$ 448.87	\$ 12.00
	Washington DC	159.3	\$ 79.25	\$ 109.41	\$ 402.41	\$ 10.49
Three lowest COLI metros	Atlanta GA	101.3	\$ 110.27	\$ 119.80	\$ 459.02	\$ 8.71
	Orlando FL	93.7	\$ 100.39	\$ 83.46	\$ 462.36	\$ 10.40
	San Antonio TX	92.9	\$ 97.83	\$ 86.07	\$ 440.60	\$ 8.72
	St. Louis MO-IL	88.1	\$ 76.71	\$ 75.53	\$ 467.53	\$ 10.71
	All Metro Average		\$ 108.12	\$ 115.88	\$ 471.18	\$ 9.74

*Of the 25 most populous metros



Cost of Select Other Items for Selected Metros

	Selected Metro	COLI Index	 Haircut	 Boy Jeans	 Women Slacks	 Newspaper	 Energy Cost
Three highest COLI metros	New York (Manhattan) NY	245.5	\$ 23.25	\$ 22.24	\$ 42.86	\$ 8.94	\$ 157.70
	San Francisco CA	194.6	\$ 22.38	\$ 25.80	\$ 45.46	\$ 12.42	\$ 267.84
	Washington DC	159.3	\$ 30.90	\$ 25.89	\$ 37.72	\$ 9.17	\$ 204.75
	Atlanta GA	101.3	\$ 21.00	\$ 24.79	\$ 29.80	\$ 6.19	\$ 120.82
Three lowest COLI metros	Orlando FL	93.7	\$ 20.89	\$ 14.05	\$ 16.88	\$ 9.58	\$ 164.06
	San Antonio TX	92.9	\$ 22.97	\$ 25.64	\$ 33.54	\$ 14.87	\$ 133.50
	St. Louis MO-IL	88.1	\$ 17.58	\$ 26.09	\$ 12.80	\$ 8.02	\$ 149.35
	All Metro Average		\$ 18.88	\$ 24.94	\$ 31.48	\$ 11.01	\$ 166.22

*Of the 25 most populous metros

Southern Region Consumer Expenditure by Income

Percent Share of Average Expenditures by Income Before Taxes,
Southern Region Consumer Expenditure Survey, 2018-2019

