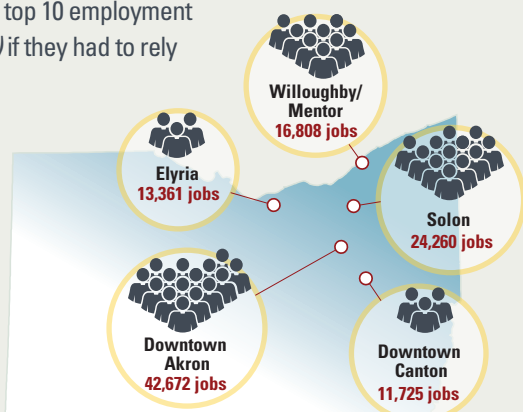


# A Long Ride to Work: Job Access and Public Transportation in Northeast Ohio

In an analysis published in November 2015 by the Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland's Community Development Department, the authors find that the largest share of Northeast Ohio's workforce—workers with only high school diplomas—experiences the lowest levels of job access. Also, in most outlying counties, less than 10 percent of regional jobs can be accessed by public transit in 90 minutes or less. The authors conclude that continued efforts to better connect workers with jobs are needed. Here are more of their findings.

## WHERE JOBS AND LABOR FORCE MEET—OR DON'T

85% of the regional workforce could not work in half of the top 10 employment centers (see map) if they had to rely on public transit.



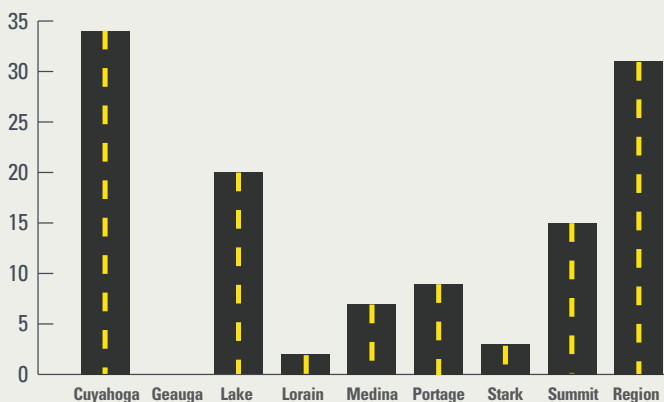
There are **108,826** total jobs within these employment centers. The good news is that 34% of the workforce *can* reach the top employment center by public transit. With **177,157** total jobs, Downtown—University Circle—Ohio City is unparalleled in Ohio in terms of job density.

## TRANSIT ACCESS LACKING, BUT NOT EVERYWHERE AND NOT FOR ALL INDUSTRIES

The Cleveland metropolitan statistical area (MSA) ranks in the top 20 among major metro transit systems for service frequency (i.e., the typical wait time during rush hour for a bus or train) in both the city and its suburbs, but it's in the bottom half of MSAs in terms of jobs accessible by transit.

Less than one-third (31%) of the jobs in Northeast Ohio are transit accessible, or can be accessed by public transit in 90 minutes or less.

Percent of jobs that are transit accessible, by county



## THE MOST TRANSIT-ACCESSIBLE INDUSTRIES IN CUYAHOGA COUNTY ARE, IN DESCENDING ORDER

1. Healthcare
2. Arts & entertainment
3. Educational services
4. Management
5. Professional services

## MINORITY WORKERS ARE MORE LIKELY TO BE EMPLOYED AT TRANSIT-ACCESSIBLE JOBS

Around 47% of black workers and 37% of Hispanic workers have jobs that are accessible by transit in 90 minutes or less, compared to 28% of white workers.

Read it all: <http://tinyurl.com/jrvjtjl>

## WHAT CAN LEADERS DO TO IMPROVE JOB ACCESS?

- Target investment to improve transit and pedestrian facilities at key suburban employment centers
- Increase intercounty transit options
- Develop innovative and collaborative funding strategies to promote accessible communities across the region



The Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland's community development team conducts applied research, analyzes data and trends, provides technical assistance to organizations, and convenes meetings to bring together key players in community and economic development. The aim is to promote economic growth and financial stability, especially in low- and moderate-income areas, and to deepen the understanding of issues affecting communities.

Search a comprehensive collection of Federal Reserve community development resources related to affordable housing, neighborhood revitalization, workforce development, and more at [fedcommunities.org](http://fedcommunities.org).

The views expressed here are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the views of the Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland or the Federal Reserve System.

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