

KEY FINDINGS:

- Between 1970 and 2005, while Greater Boston added 467,000 jobs to grow by 51 percent, the Gateway Cities as a group lost more than 11,000 jobs, or 3 percent of their job base.
- Greater Boston contains 40 percent of the state's population and 50 percent of its private jobs but generates 60 percent of the state's total payroll. Conversely, the Gateway Cities contain 15 percent of the state's population and 13 percent of the state's jobs but generate less than 10 percent of the state's payroll.
- Greater Boston contains 52 percent of the state's college graduates and about 70 percent of its knowledge-industry employment. As a result, these 75 towns enjoy per-capita incomes 74 percent higher than the Gateway Cities and a median household income 68 percent higher.
- While Greater Boston increased its share of the state's 4,000-plus high-technology firms between 1991 and 2004 from 53 to 60 percent, the share in the Gateway Cities dropped from 8.1 to 6.3 percent, and the share in Gateway regions fell from 28.6 to 26.6 percent.
- Twenty-eight percent of Greater Boston's jobs and 43 percent of its payroll falls within four high-value, high-pay "knowledge" clusters—financial services, health care, information technology, and knowledge creation. Meanwhile, only 20 percent of jobs in Gateway Cities lie in these knowledge clusters, generating only 27 percent of the cities' payroll.
- The 11 Gateway Cities' combined loss of 134,000 manufacturing jobs since 1960 accounts for more than one-third of the state's total decline in such industries.

- Between 1980 and 2000, the gap in per-capita income between Greater Boston and the rest of the state increased from 18 percent to 28 percent.
- Just 16.5 percent of Gateway City residents and 24.6 percent of Gateway region residents now possess a four-year college degree, compared with the 42 percent Greater Boston mark.
- The 11 Gateway Cities are home to 30 percent of all state residents living below the poverty line, even though they account for only 15 percent of the state's population.

- There is a high level of concentrated poverty in the Gateway Cities. Springfield and Holyoke have among the most entrenched poverty problems in the country, with 34 and 51 percent of their poor living in high-poverty neighborhoods. By comparison, New Orleans had a concentrated poverty rate of 38 percent on the eve of Hurricane Katrina.
- Between 1994 and 2005, real median home prices in Greater Boston increased by 112 percent to reach almost \$429,000. Gateway City homes had a median value of just \$225,000, a little more than half of

Boston's mark. However, homes in Gateway Cities have actually out-appreciated Greater Boston in percentage terms since 2000, rising 78 percent versus 37 percent.

- Average annual housing unit production over the last three years in the 11 Gateway Cities rose 57 percent, an increase twice as large as the state's. Lawrence, Lowell, and Springfield all doubled their production while Brockton and New Bedford saw gains of 82 and 90 percent, respectively.