Linking the Unemployed to Jobs: Opportunities for integrated transit and workforce development



BUSINESS

Job vacancies in Minnesota rise to highest level since 2001

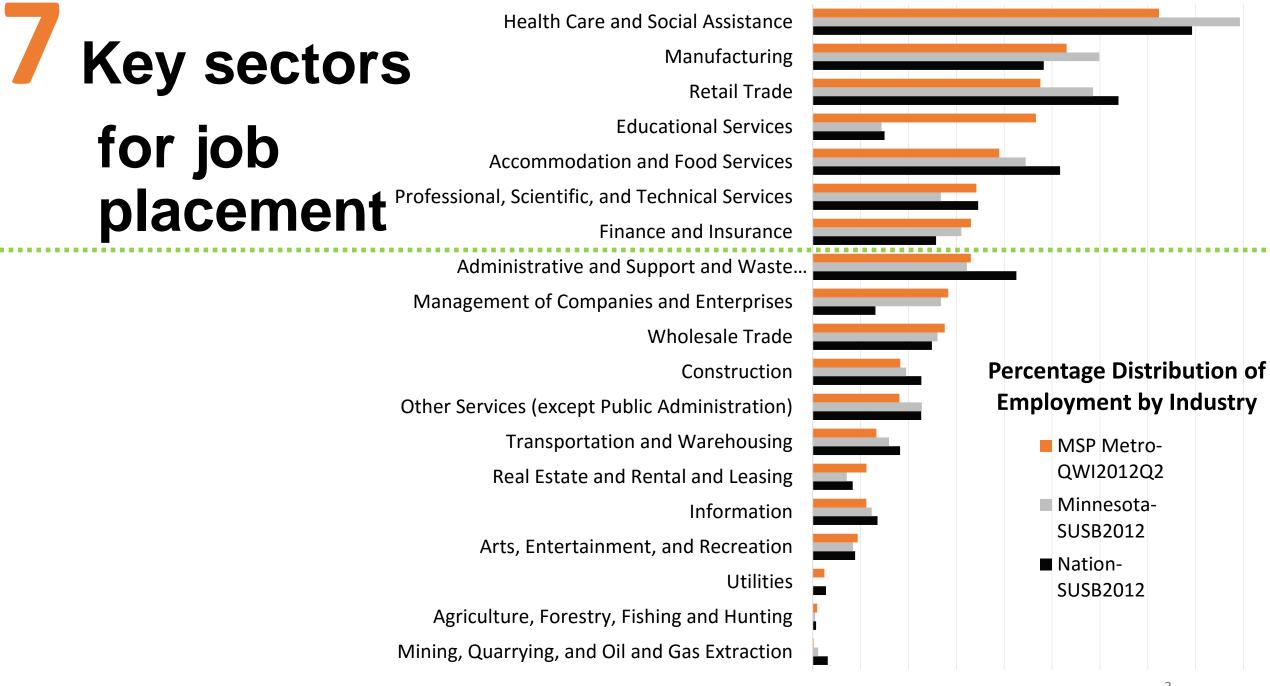
State's labor market continues to tighten, but most of the openings are in low-wage jobs.

By Adam Belz (http://www.startribune.com/adam-belz/158965945/) Star Tribune

MARCH 31, 2015 - 11:45PM

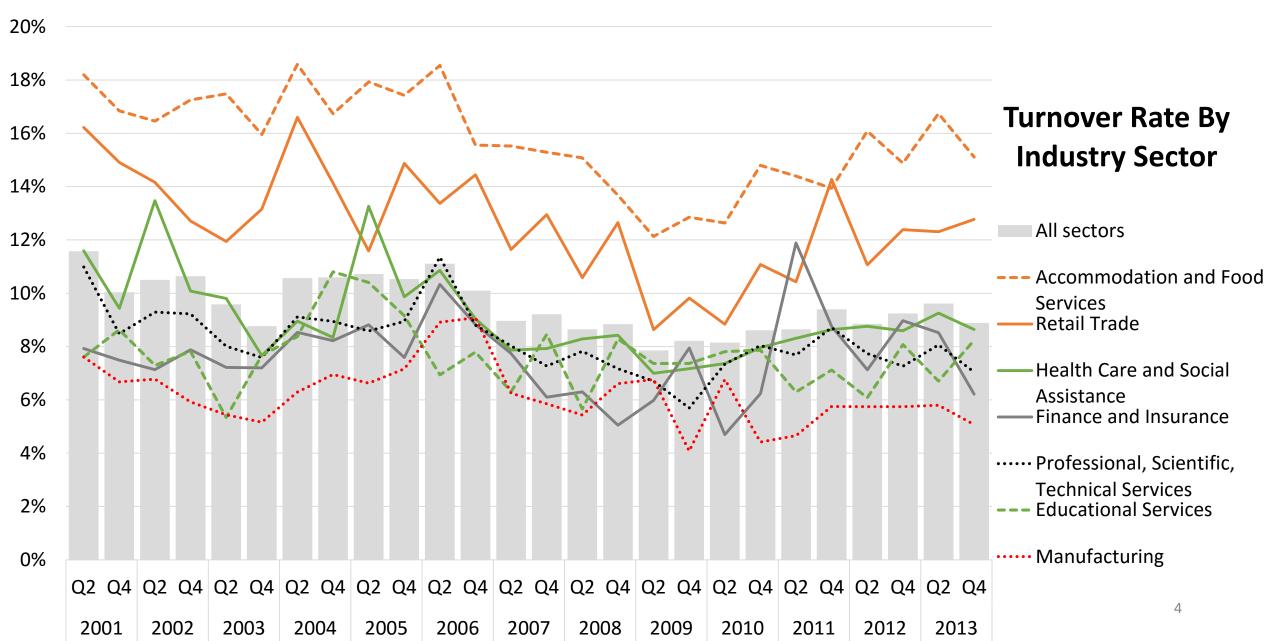
The Twin Cities area now has one job vacancy for every unemployed worker, new state data show, and Minnesota has only slightly fewer openings than unemployed people.

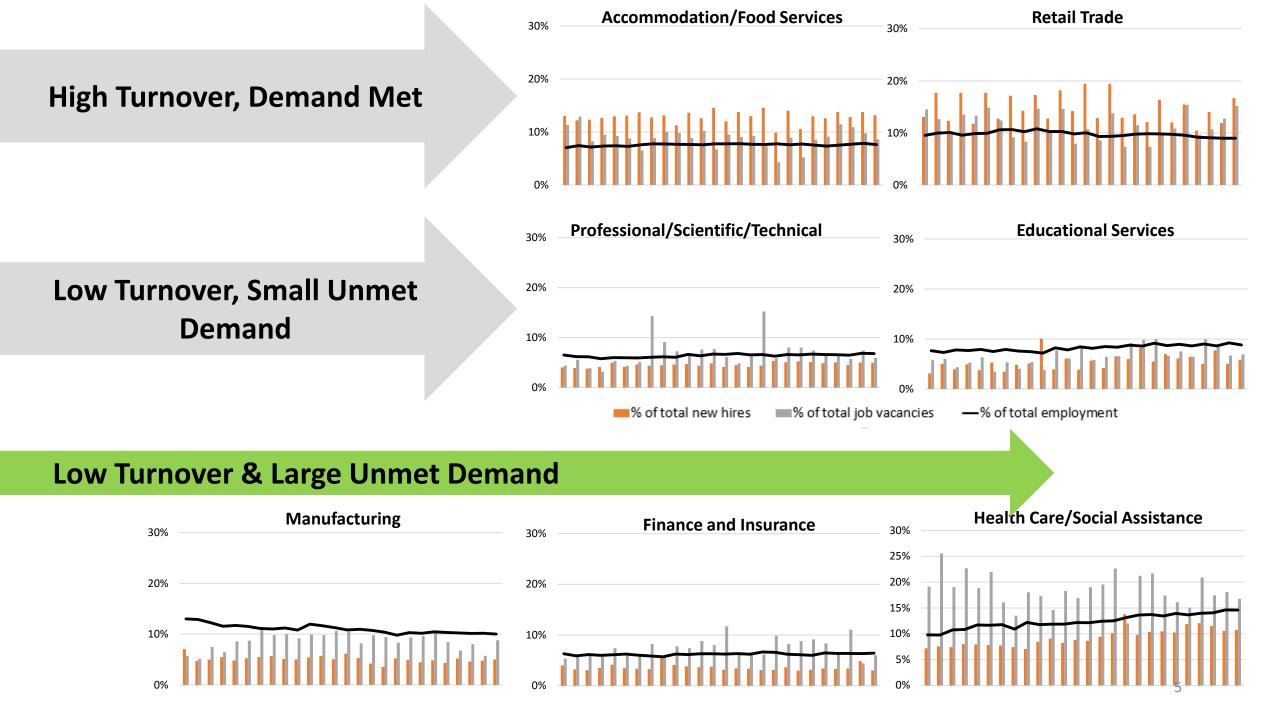
The number of vacancies in the state rose to 88,900 at the end of 2014, a 47 percent increase from a year earlier and the highest level since the summer of 2001, according to figures released Tuesday by the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development.



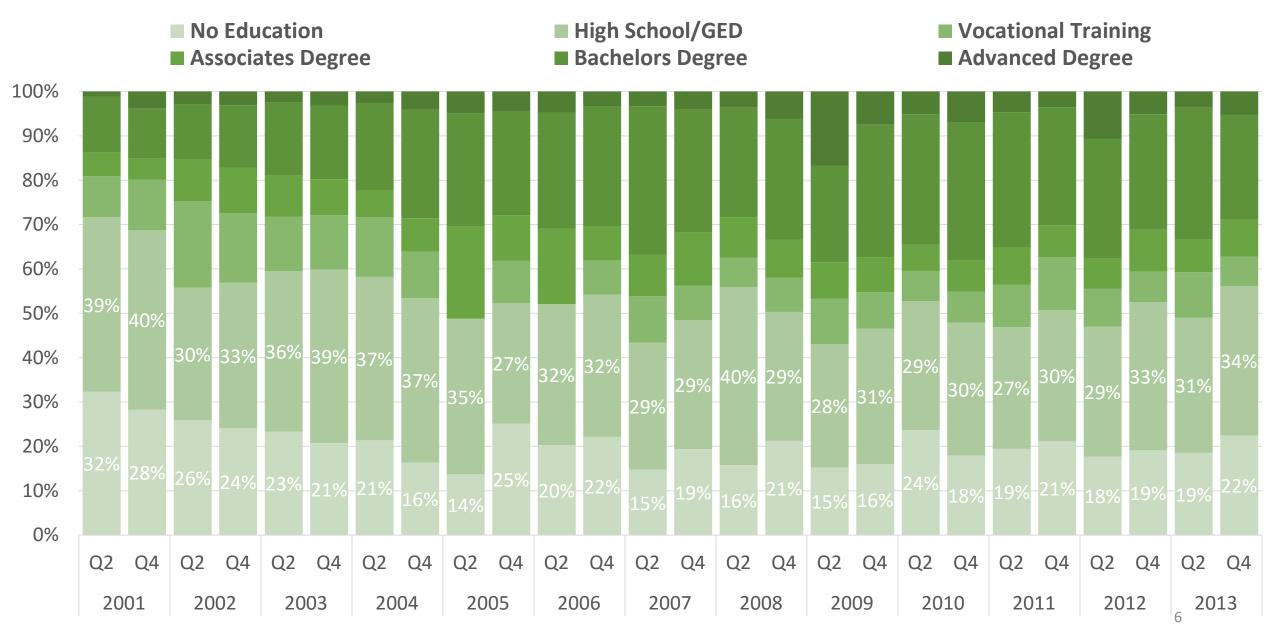
0% 2% 4% 6% 8% 10% 12% 14%³ 16% 18%

Job Turnover Rates of the 7 Sectors





Job Vacancies by Education Requirement





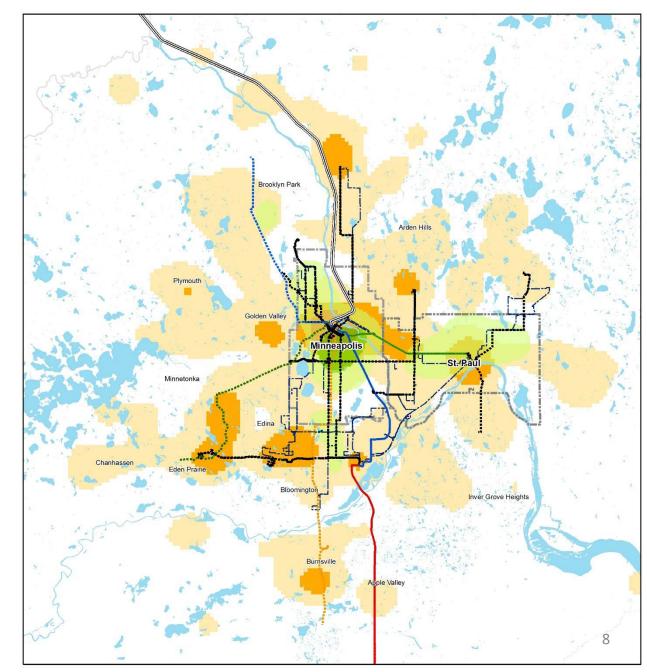
Accommodation & Food

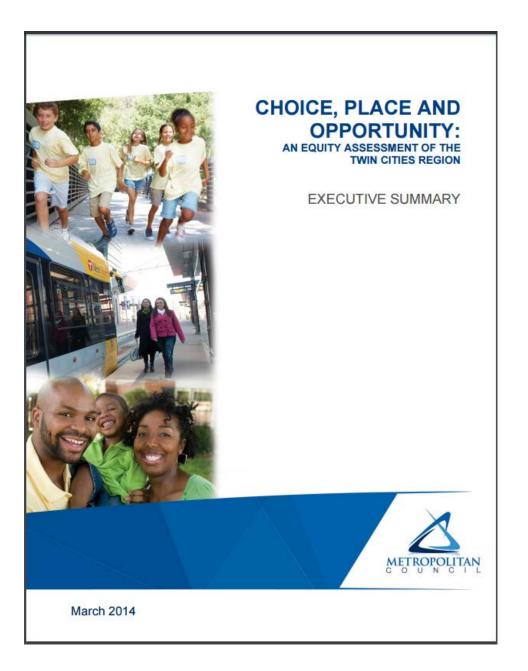
Retail Trade

Concentration of Job Vacancies and Unemployment in the Context of Planned Transit Corridors

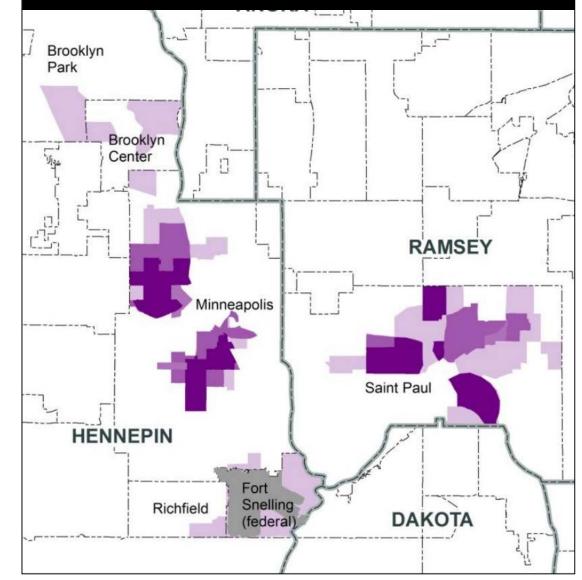
Spatial Mismatch

Unemployed Job vacancies

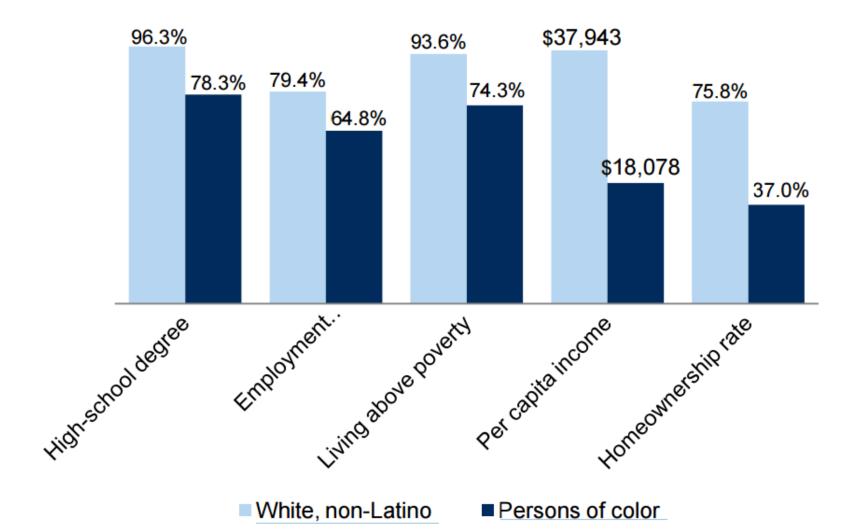


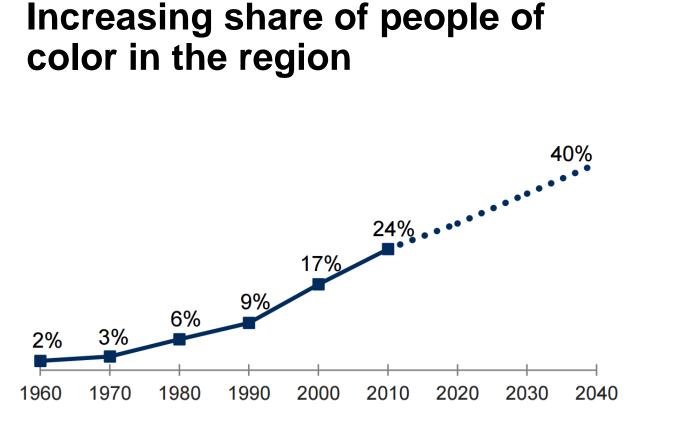


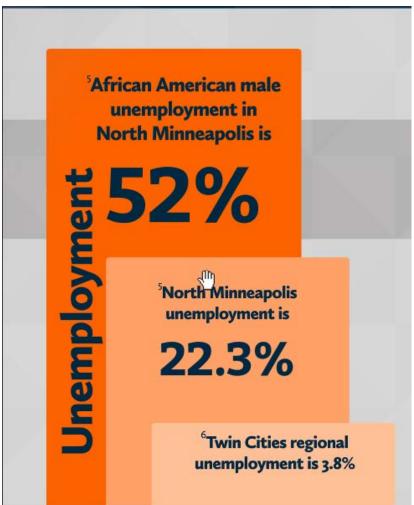
ACP-50 from 1990, 2000, to 2007-2011



A thriving region threatened by racial and ethnic disparities



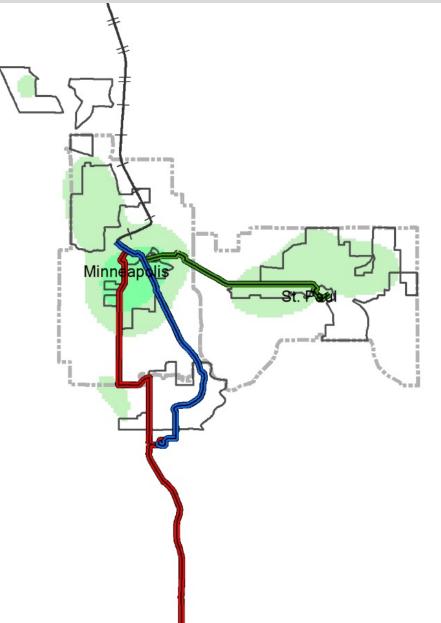




Impact of Transit Corridors

Unemployed and Existing Transit Corridors

Significant overlap between ACP-50s and unemployment concentration.



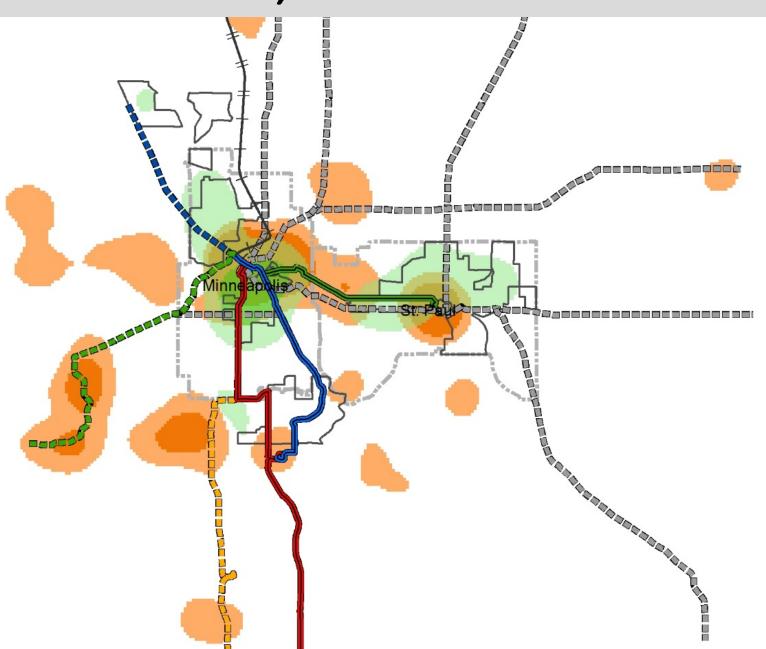
Unemployed and Job Vacancies

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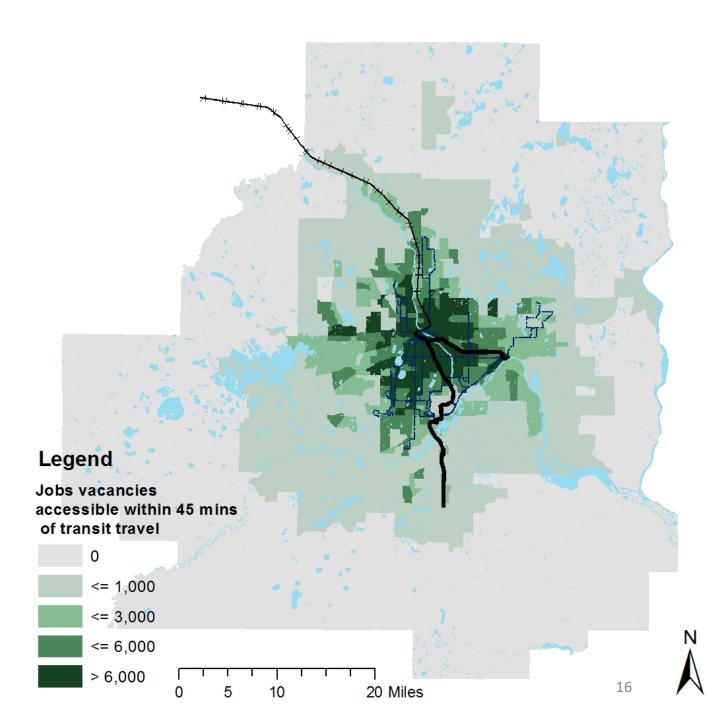
Significant disconnect between job vacancies and the unemployed.

Unemployed, Job Vacancies, Planned Transit Corridors

Planned transit corridors, especially the Blue and Green Line Extensions, appear to make important connections.

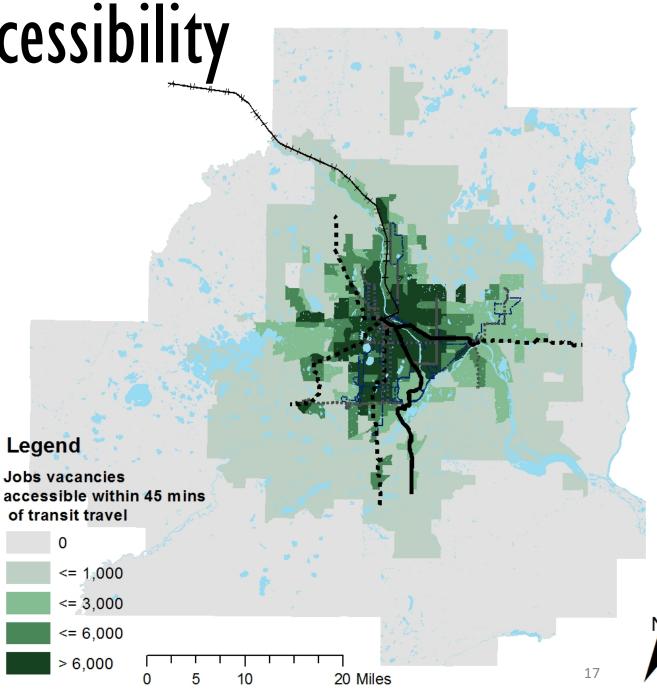


Current Accessibility



Current vs. Future Accessibility

Limited region-wide effect



Accessibility Changes

Limited region-wide effect Large local benefits

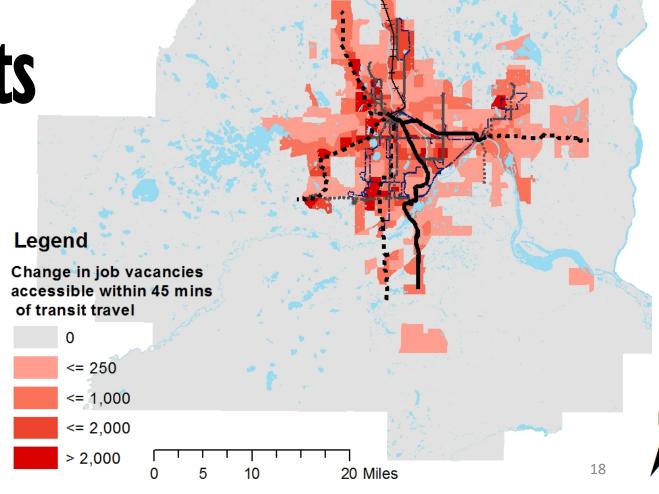
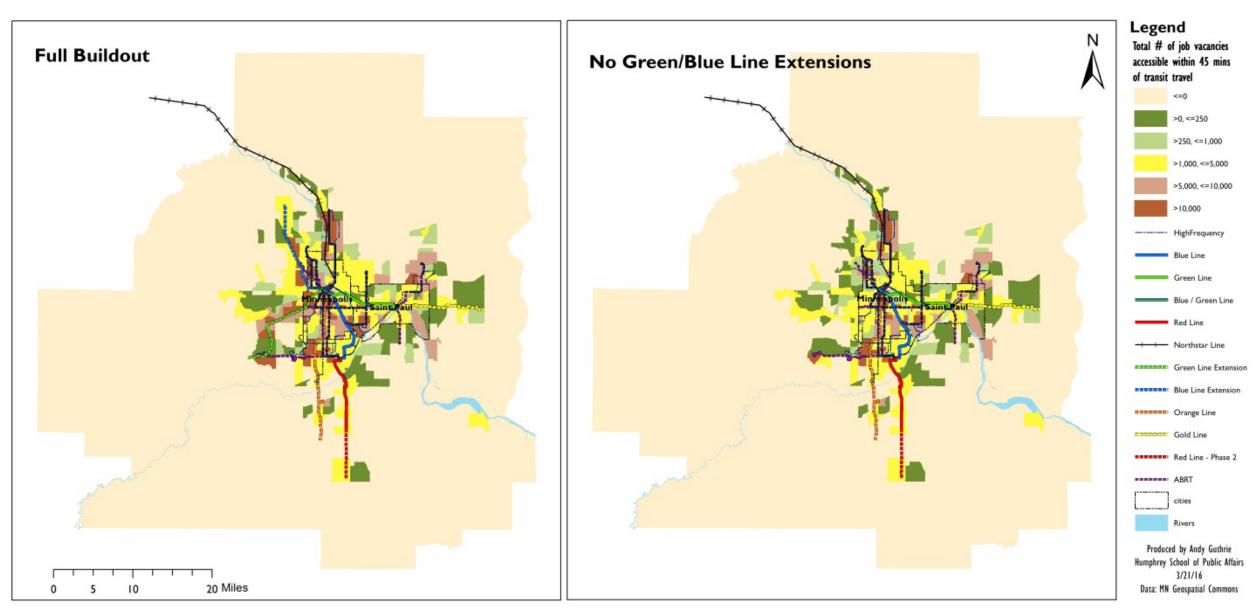
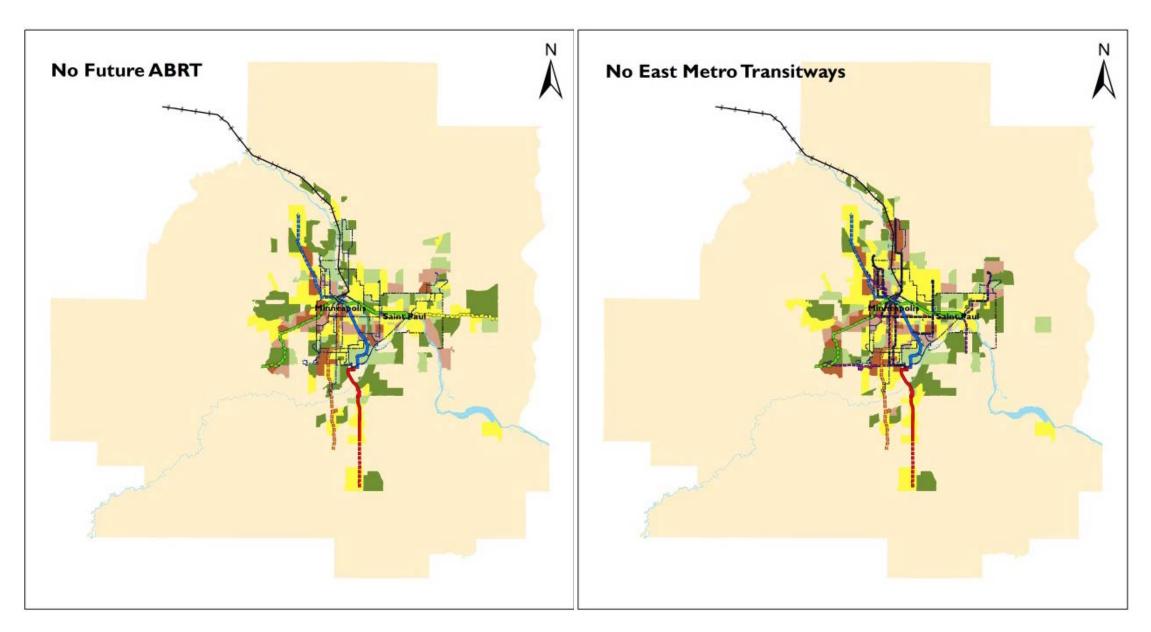


Table 6-3: Weighted Average Accessibility by Case

Case	Current System	Proposed Future	Change
Brooklyn Park	1,365	I,677	23%
Gateway Corridor	1,270	1,489	17%
Golden Triangle	616	625	1%
Mall of America	2,930	3,364	15%
North Minneapolis	5,609	6,617	18 %
Phillips	9,810	10,800	10%
Shakopee	78	78	0%





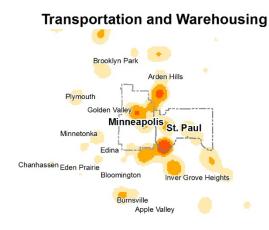


Localized Opportunities

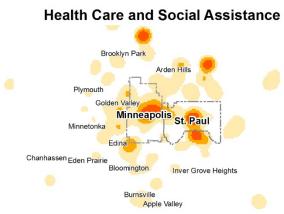


Job Vacancies by Sector





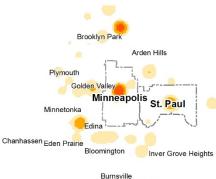




Professional, Scientific, Technical Services



Finance and Insurance



Apple Valley

Management of Companies and Enterprises



Top Industries with Job vacancies by City

Legend

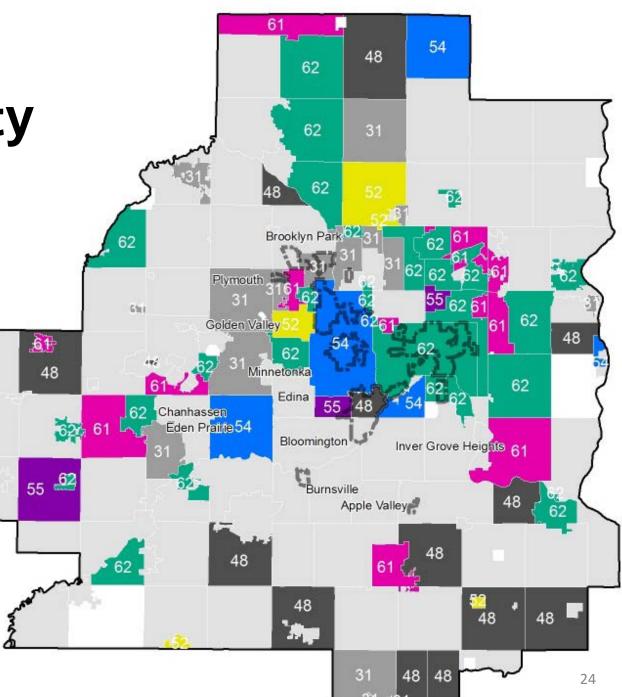
AreasOfConcentratedPoverty

Industry

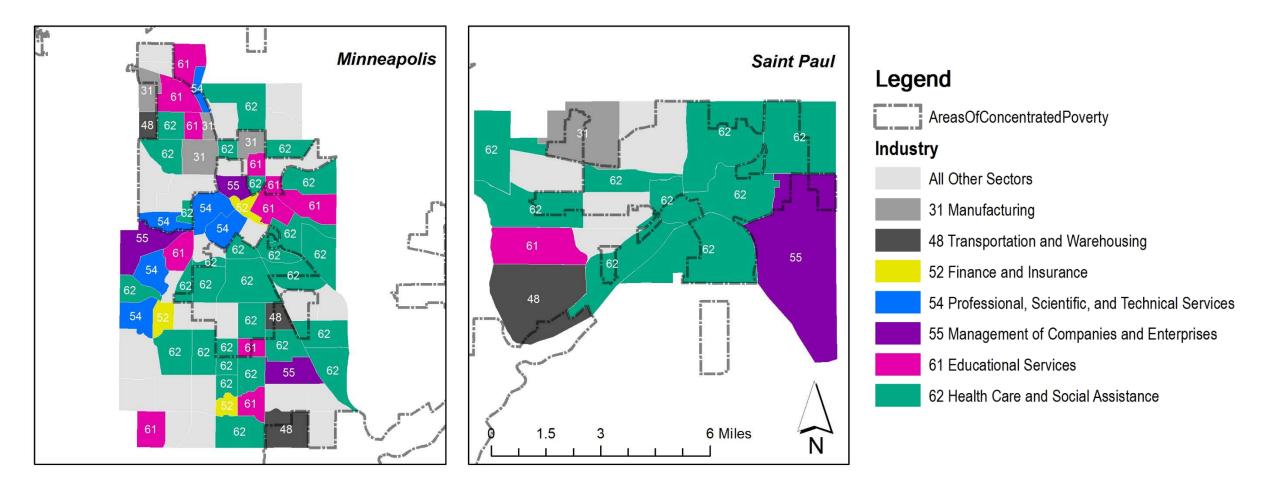
- All Other Sectors 31 Manufacturing 48 Transportation and Warehousing
 - 52 Finance and Insurance
 - 54 Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services

-5

- 55 Management of Companies and Enterprises
- 61 Educational Services
- 62 Health Care and Social Assistance



Top Industries with Job vacancies by Neighborhood

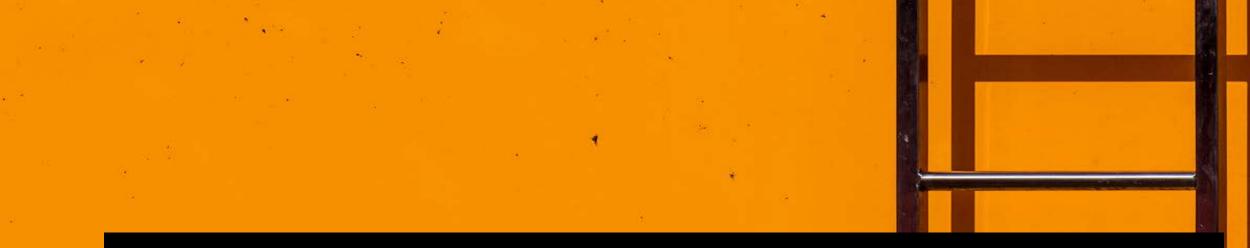


Area Advantages

- North Metro
 - Manufacturing
- St Paul:
 - Transportation & Warehousing
 - Healthcare & Social Assistance
- U of M surrounding areas
 - Educational Services
- Minneapolis
 - Healthcare & Social Assistance
 - Finance & Insurance
 - Professional, Technical, & Scientific Services
 - Management of companies and enterprises

Residential segregation and geographic disparities are part of the problem that had lead to spatial mismatch.

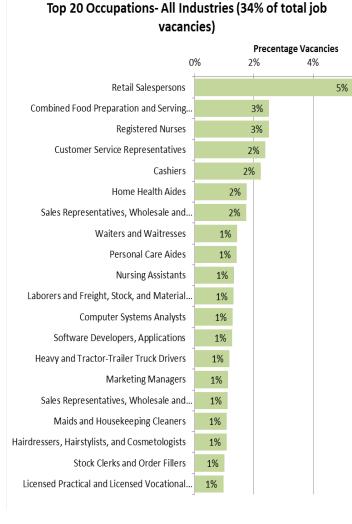
> They also point to the particular importance of spatially targeted and localized strategies for eliminating disparities.



Occupations in Demand: Sweet spots for workforce development?



Top Occupations by Industry (2011-2014)



Manufacturing

6%

Industrial Engineers
HelpersProduction Workers
Mechanical Engineers
Computer-Controlled Machine Operators
Machinists
ransportation and Warehousing
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers
Bus Drivers, School or Special Client
Laborers and Freight and Material Movers
Counter and Rental Clerks
Bus Drivers, Transit and Intercity
ducational Services
Teacher Assistants
Elementary School Teachers
Coaches and Scouts
Secondary School Teachers
Teachers and Instructors, All Other
lealth Care and Social Assistance
Registered Nurses
Home Health Aides
Nursing Assistants
Personal Care Aides
Licensed Practical and Vocational Nurses

Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services

Sales Representatives Database Administrators Marketing Managers **Electrical Engineers Financial Managers Finance and Insurance Customer Service Representatives** Personal Financial Advisors **Insurance Sales Agents** Tellers **Computer Systems Analysts Management of Companies and Enterprises Computer Systems Analysts** Management Analysts Marketing Managers Accountants and Auditors Market Research Analysts/Specialists

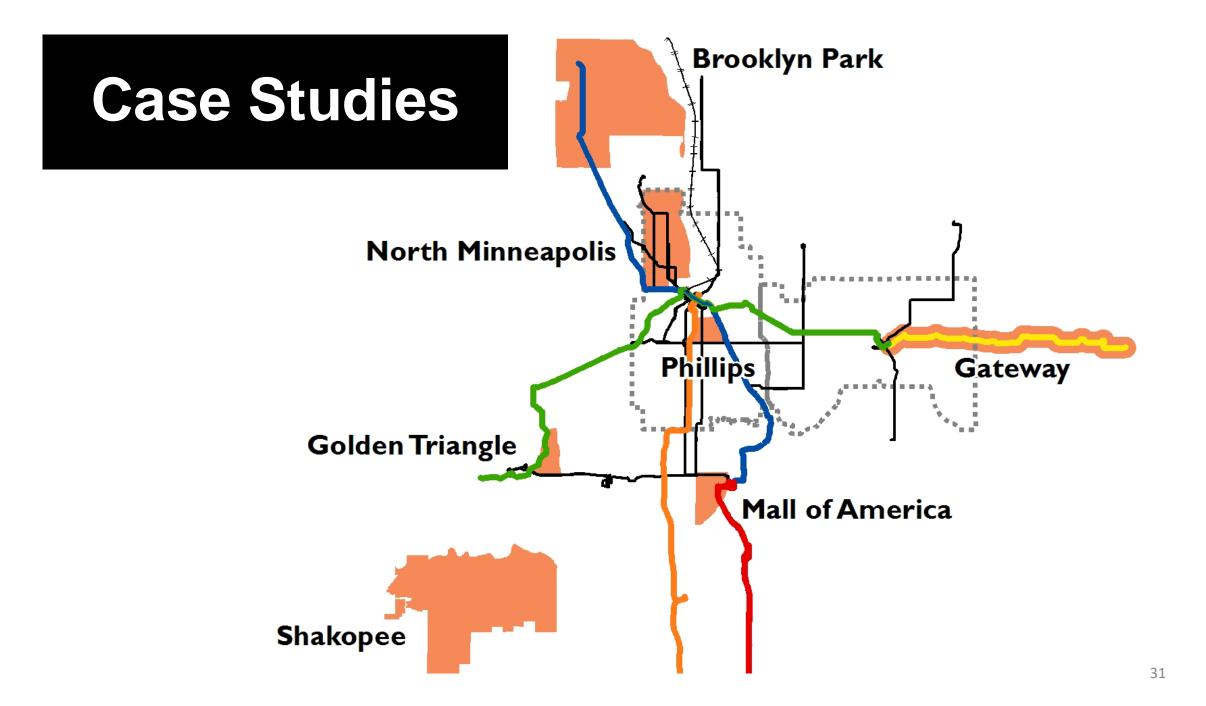
The Job Vacancy Word Cloud





Cases – Transit – Improvements





Case Selection			Transit Services		
			Poor	Poor, planned improvements	Good
	mismatch	Ample jobs, limited affordable housing nearby	Shakopee	Golden Triangle/ Gateway	Mall of America
	Spatial/skills mismatch	Ample affordable housing, limited suitable jobs nearby	N/A	North Mpls/ Brooklyn Park	Phillips

Interviews

- Semi-structured
- Questions tailored to subjects

Positions		Organizations	
Workforce Development Professionals	4	Local/State Government	6
Workforce & Economic Development Professionals	3	Transit Agency	7
Transit Planners	8	Private/Non-Profit Sector	2

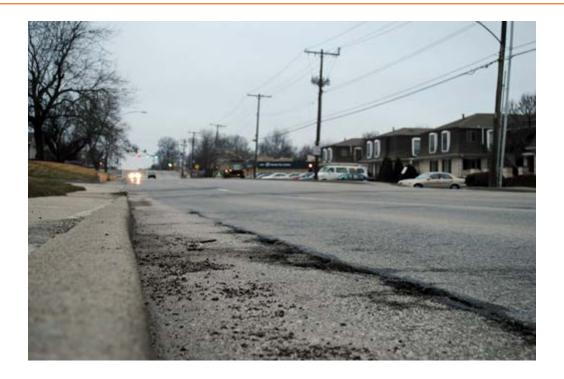
Top Coding Intersections – Brooklyn Park

Transit Planning

First Mile-Last Mile, Coordination w/ Workforce Development, Healthcare Job Accessibility, Manufacturing Job Accessibility

Workforce Development

Soft Skills, Benefits of Transit, Spatial Mismatch, Healthcare (Occupation), Manufacturing (Occupation)



Top Coding Intersections – North Minneapolis

Transit Planning

Coordination w/ Workforce Development, Healthcare Job Accessibility, Mechanic Job Accessibility

Workforce Development

Spatial Mismatch, Commute Length, Soft Skills, Coordination w/ Transit Planning, Healthcare (Occupation)



Top Coding Intersections –	op Coding Intersections – Gateway Corridor	
Transit Planning	Need Transit, First Mile-Last Mile, Affordable Housing, Labor Supply, Spatial Mismatch	
Workforce Development	Transit Benefits (Park and Ride), Spatial Mismatch, Manufacturing Employment	



Top Coding Intersections – Golden Triangle	
Transit Planning	First Mile-Last Mile, Coordination w/ Workforce Development, Coordination w/ Economic Development
Workforce Development	Non-Transportation Barriers, Back Office Employment, Wages, Transit Difficulties, Work Schedules



Case Study Findings

• Stronger coordination desired, needed

- Especially needed to connect urban workers, suburban jobs
- Can't just hand out bus cards
 - Non-transportation barriers
 - Work schedules
 - Soft skills
 - Job training programs targeting specific sectors and occupations

• First mile-last mile

- Key problem
- Key place to benefit from coordination

Take Away Messages

Transitways important for localized accessibility

Esp. rapid, regional service Areas of intense disadvantage benefit Need locally-tailored workforce development

Room to coordinate **much** more

Inter-agency Public-private-non profit

Corridors an opportunity—"Leverage points"



The best prospects would be efforts that target specific communities and focus on sweet spot jobs that are transit accessible.

Look at the entire pipeline: Job seekers' skills and interests, available training, jobs reachable by transit, and interested employers.

Reach out to employers who might partner, such as suburban companies struggling to hire and keep staff.

Provide frequent, rapid, regional services as the transit backbone, plus small-vehicle local services near worksites.

Pursue transit-oriented economic development to direct long-term job growth to transit-friendly areas.

Understand the existing skills assets in disadvantaged areas: geospatial data on skills and community strengths.

