EconSouth 2011

Grassroots: Augusta, Georgia; Lafayette, Louisiana; Muscle Shoals, Alabama

Discussion questions

1. What are the leading industries for each of the three metro areas featured in the Grassroots articles? What are the similarities and differences among the metro areas?
2. How do the unemployment rates of these metro areas compare to that of their states as well as the nation’s?
3. Using the data from the U.S. Census Bureau featuring metro population, median household income, and median owner occupied home values how do these metro areas compare and contrast?
4. What are potential costs versus benefits derived from the Lafayette city-owned high-speed fiber optic networks? How might this network address the issue of the digital divide as cited by Susan P. Crawford, Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law professor?
5. Identify the sources of economic growth in each of the metro areas. What are similarities among the three, if any?

Related links

Bureau of Labor Statistics
The Augusta Metro Chamber of Commerce
Greater Lafayette Chamber of Commerce
Shoals Chamber of Commerce
Kia Motors (Westport, Georgia)