

Tennessee Leaders Action Platform



global action
platform
food+health+prosperity

Zone 7: Jackson-Martin

Competitiveness and Clusters Factbook 2026



**CLUSTER
MAPPING**
A Strategy and Competitiveness Associates project

Made possible through the generous support of the
John R. Ingram Advised Fund of the Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee.

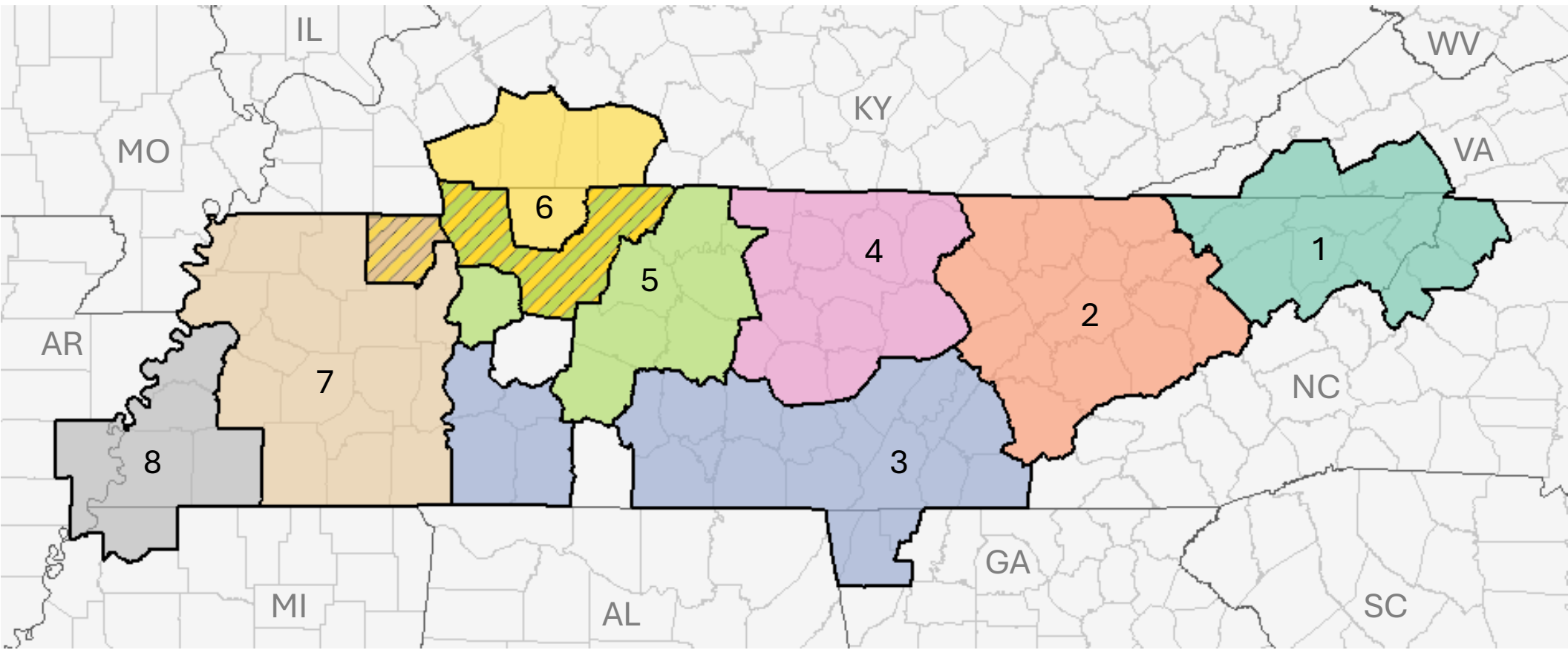
Introduction

The research and publication of the Tennessee Competitiveness Scorecard and the Regional Competitiveness and Cluster Factbooks are made possible through the generous support of the **John R. Ingram Advised Fund of the Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee** to provide a data-driven foundation for regional competitiveness .

Global Action Platform has organized the Tennessee Leaders Action Platform to advance the competitiveness and guide the eight major cluster economies anchored in Tennessee and adjacent states. This Competitiveness and Cluster Factbook is provided to the Fellows of the Porter Development Initiative Fellows Academy to advance data-driven strategies and decisions for regional development. The Academy gives Tennessee leaders access to cutting-edge ideas, metrics, and practical strategies to create shared prosperity for their communities and supports initiatives that connect creation of globally competitive innovation hubs with education and research, regional collective impact collaboration, and quality of life.

Strategy and Competitiveness Associates has leveraged data from the US Cluster Mapping Project to assemble factbooks customized for each of the eight Tennessee Leaders Action Platform (TLAP) regions. These factbooks are structured around the four major themes for the inaugural TLAP conference to be held in June 2026: Innovation Hub Development, Education and Workforce, Collaborative Governance, and Quality of Life. This work owes much to our long collaboration with Prof. Michael E. Porter at Harvard Business School, especially around his insights on the foundational role of Traded Clusters in regional economic development and on the role of public-private partnerships in support of the quality of regional business environments surrounding clusters and in support of social progress for all citizens.

Tennessee Leaders Action Platform: Eight Zones Organized



- Zone 1: Tri-Cities
- Zone 2: Knoxville-Oak Ridge
- Zone 3: Chattanooga
- Zone 4: Cookeville-Crossville
- Zone 5: Nashville
- Zone 6: Clarksville-Fort Campbell
- Zone 7: Jackson-Martin
- Zone 8: Memphis

Note: The Clarksville-Fort Campbell Zone overlaps with two other zones.

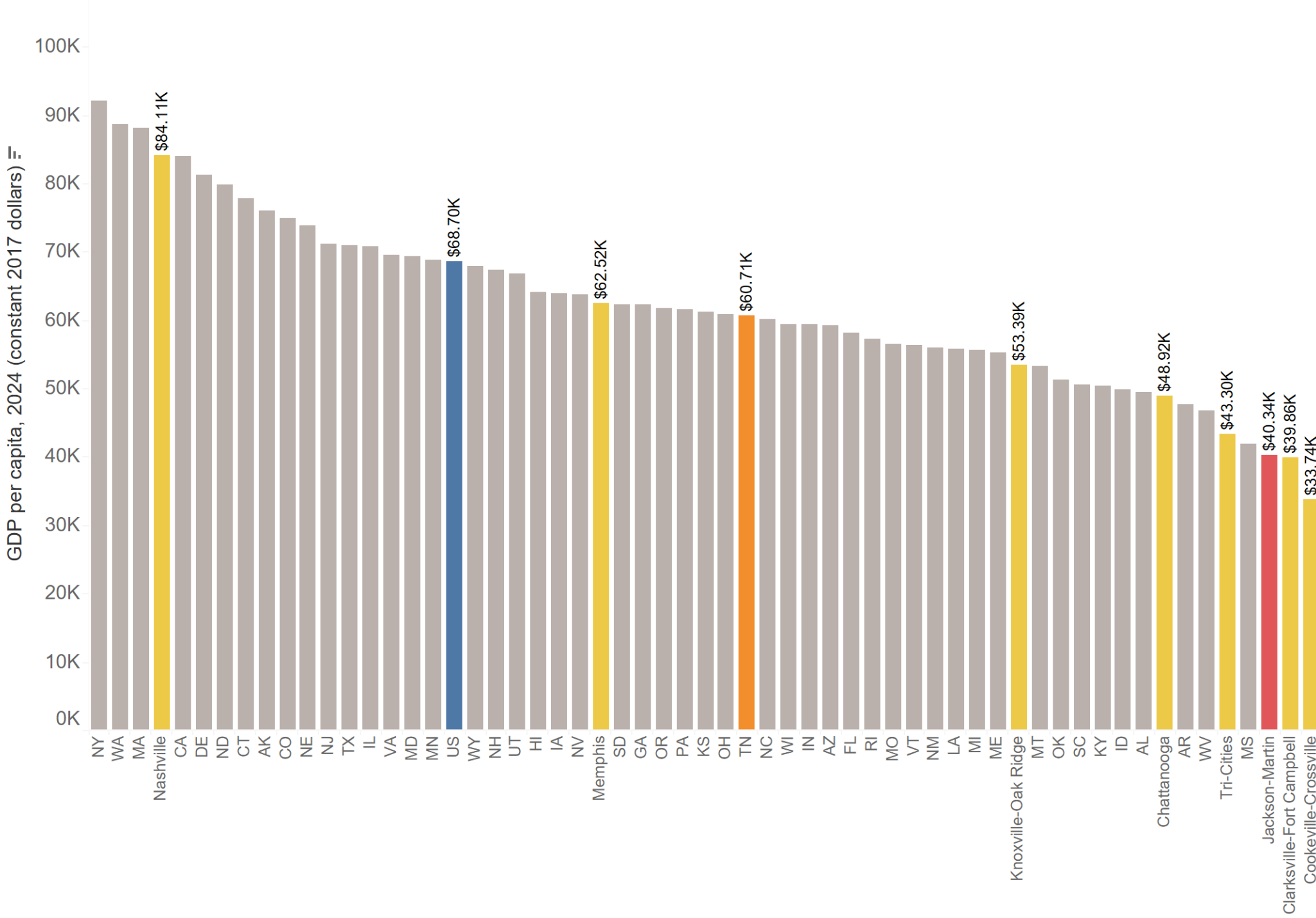
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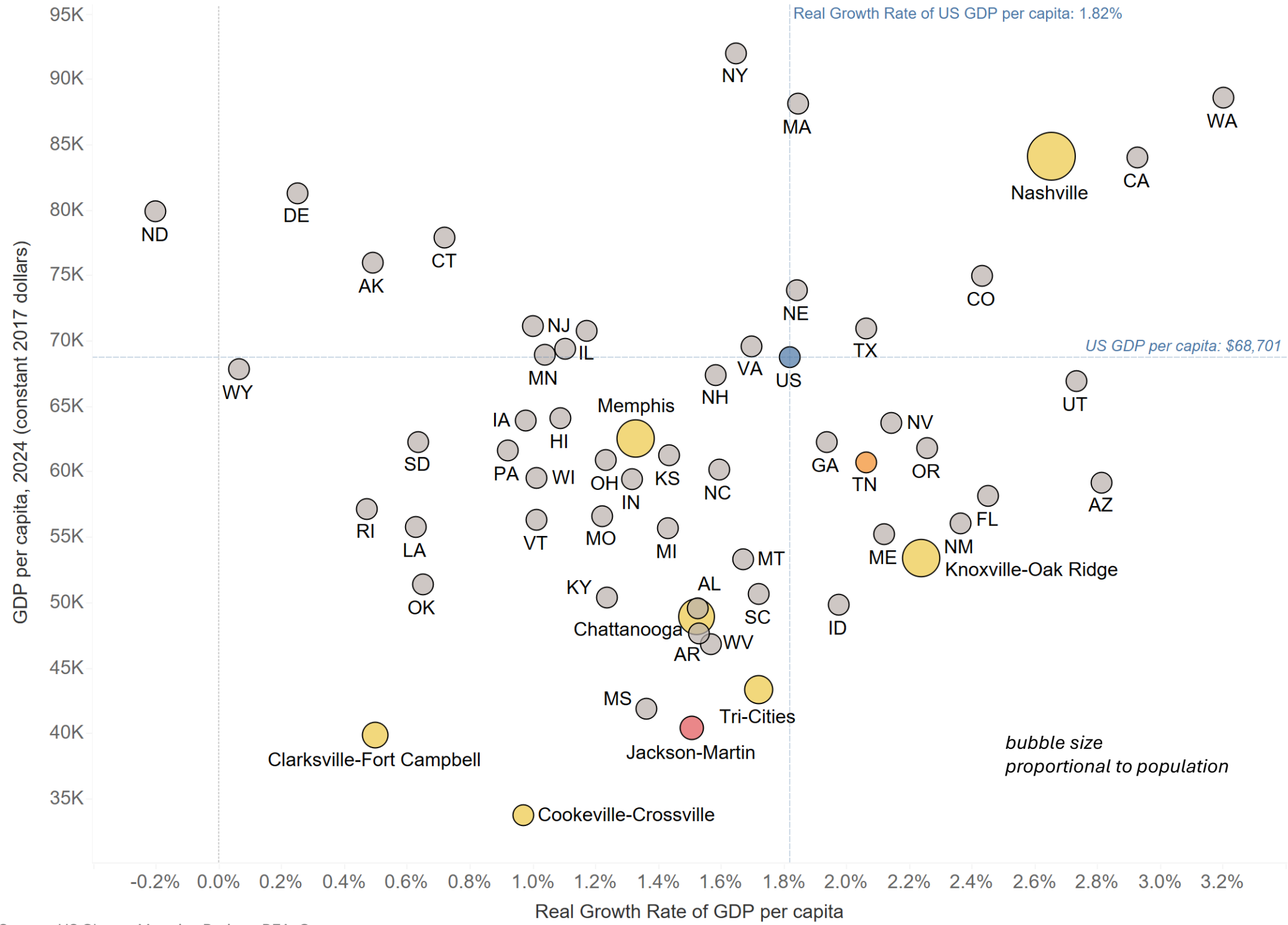
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GDP per capita, 2024

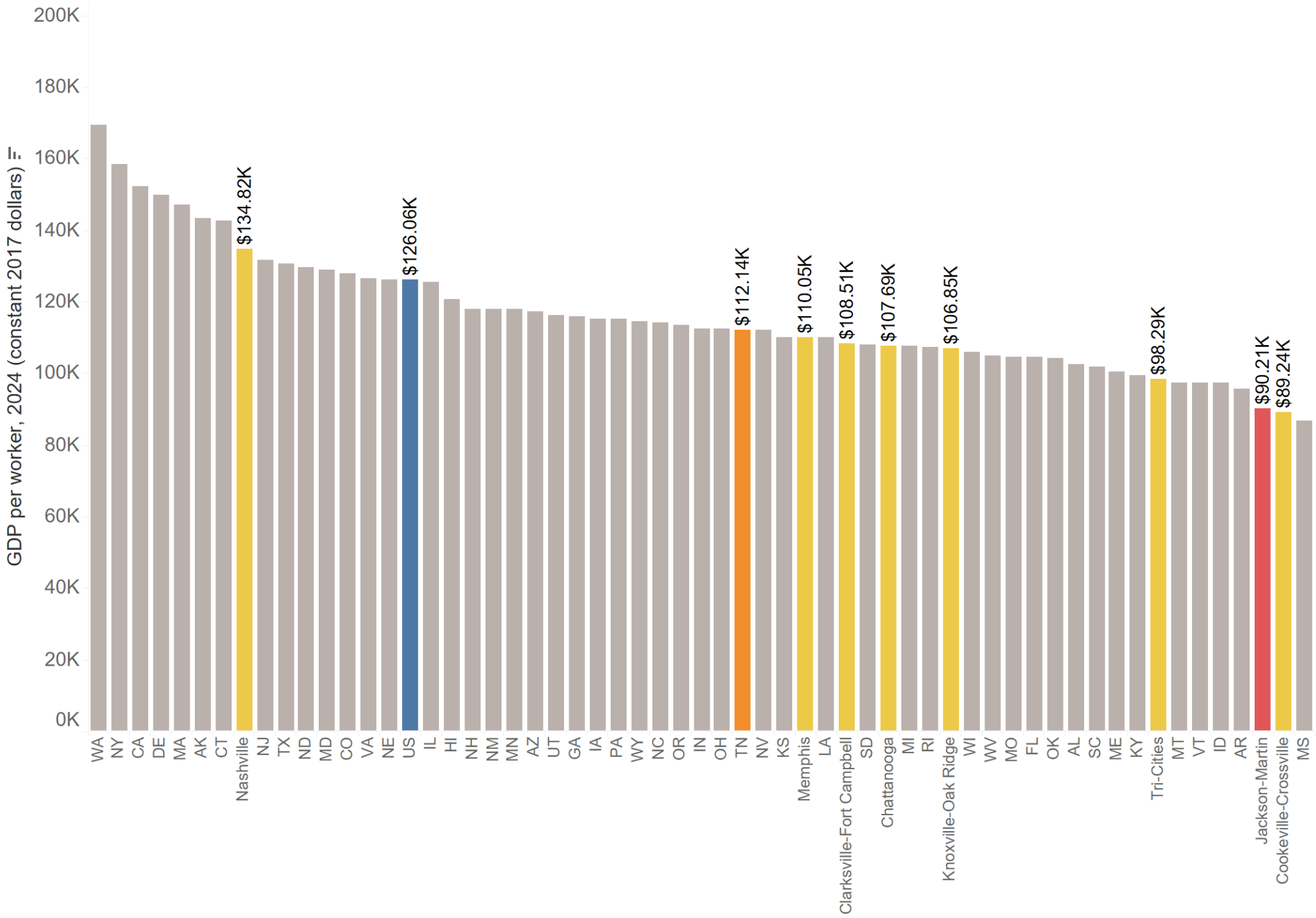


GDP Per Capita and Real Growth Rate, 2014-2024



Source: US Cluster Mapping Project; BEA; Census

GDP per worker, 2024

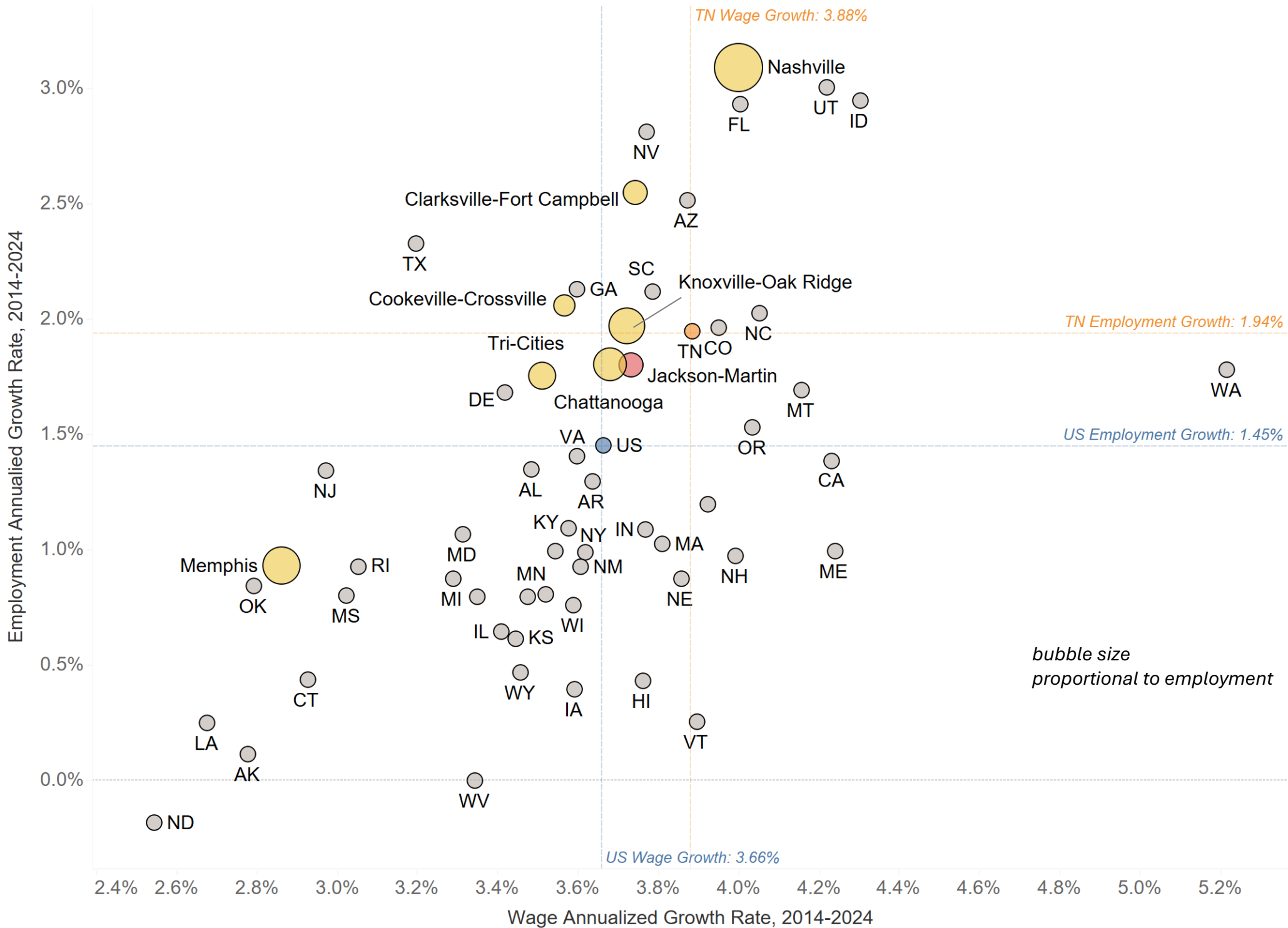


Source: US Cluster Mapping Project; BEA; Census

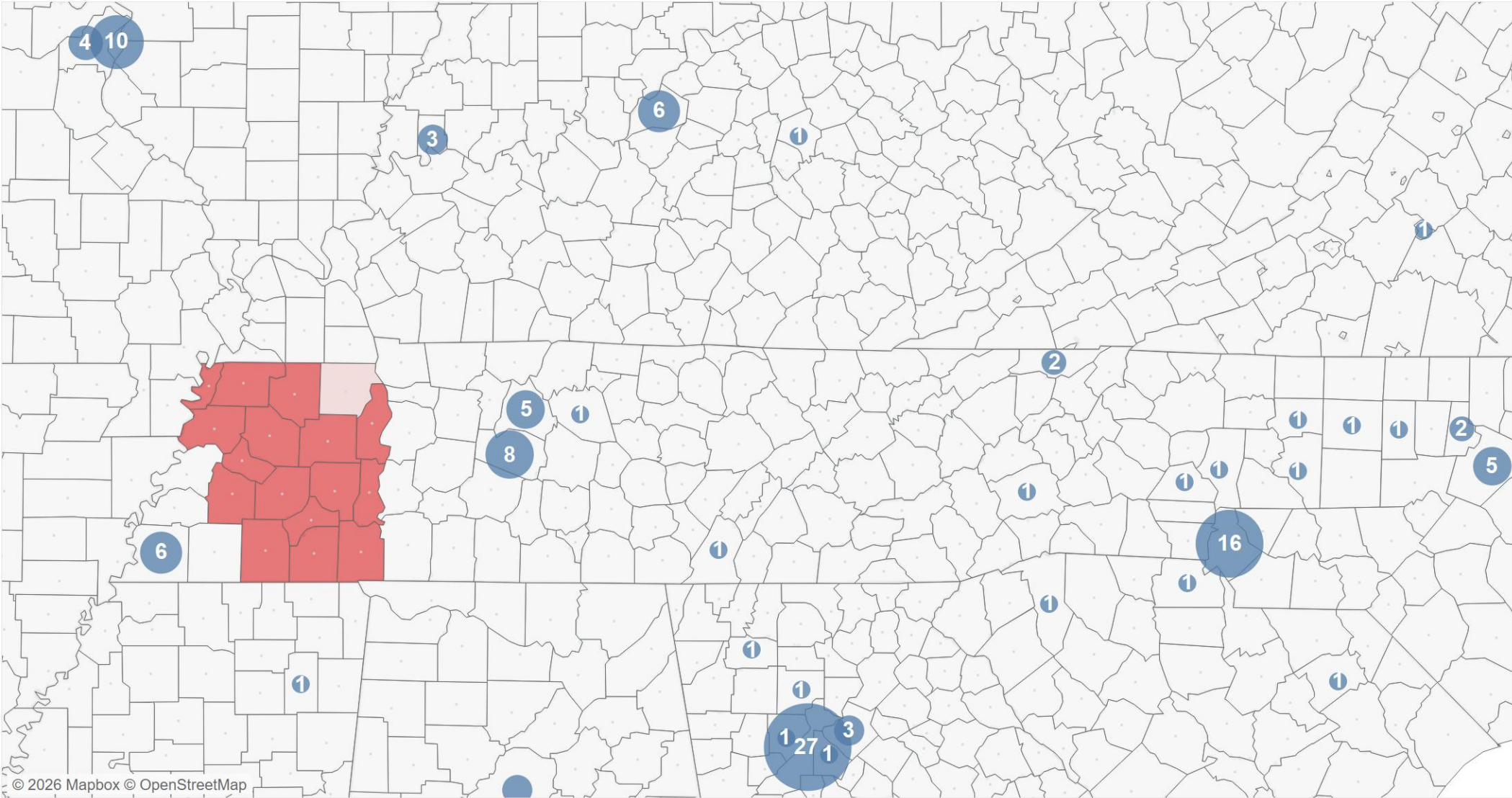
Average Wage and Wage Growth, 2014-2024



Employment Growth and Wage Growth, 2014-2024



Fortune 1000 Company Headquarters Locations



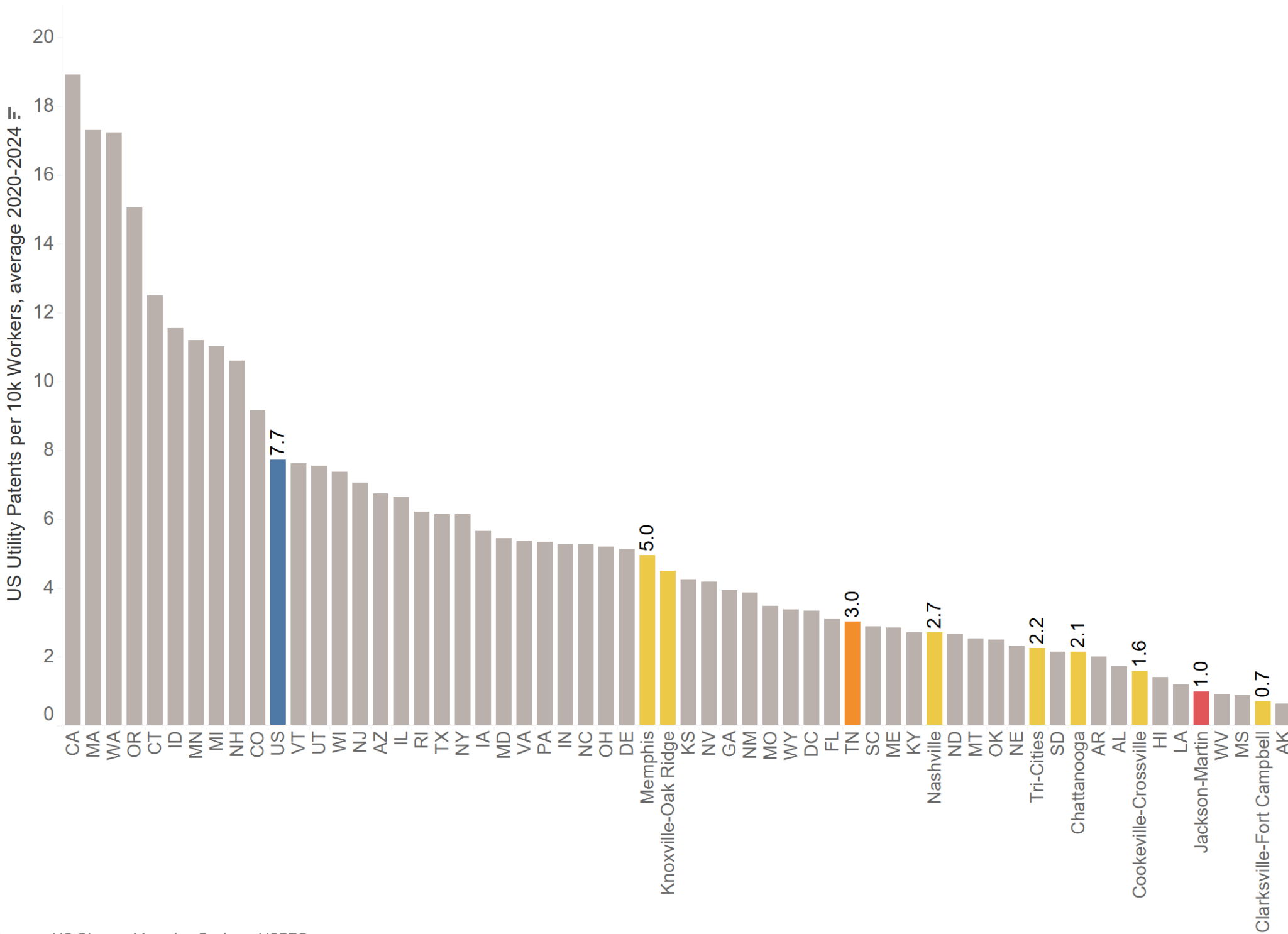
Zone 7: Jackson-Martin

Number of HQs by county

Innovation Inputs

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Patenting Intensity, 2020-2024



Source: US Cluster Mapping Project; USPTO

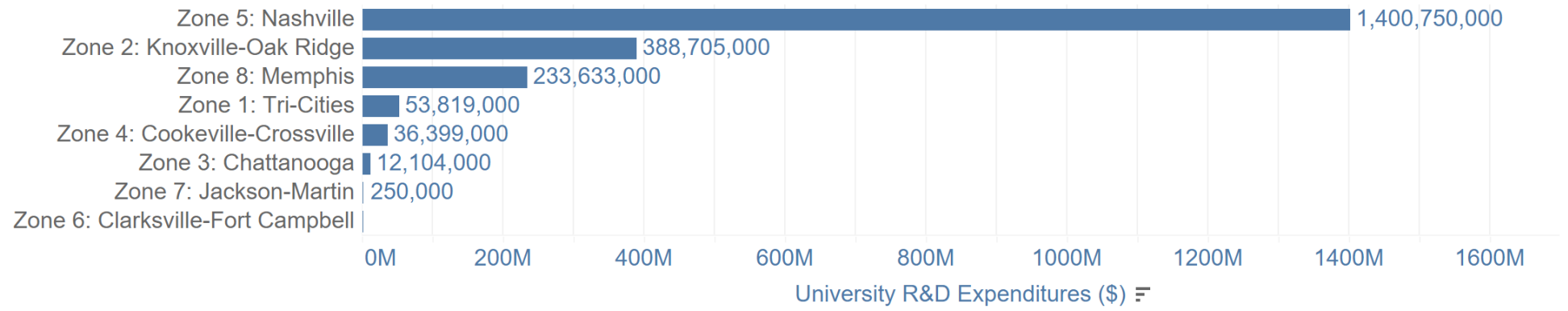
Utility Patents by Organization, 2020-2024

Zone 7: Jackson-Martin

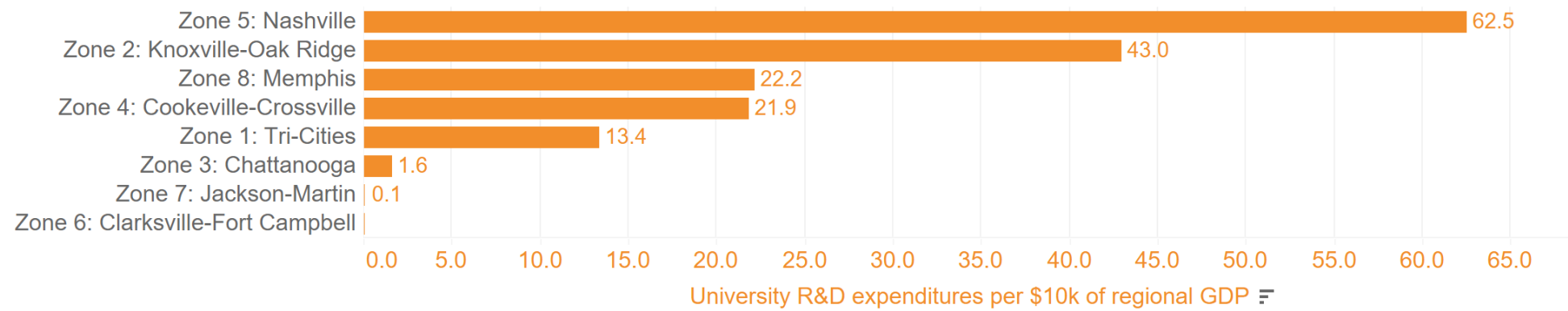
HARBOR FREIGHT TOOLS USA, INC.	21
STETRIX, INC.	15
BLACK & DECKER, INC.	6
PIONEER HI-BRED INTERNATIONAL, INC.	5
VIREO SYSTEMS, INC.	5
DANA AUTOMOTIVE SYSTEMS GROUP, LLC	4
MUELLER INTERNATIONAL, LLC	4
RAD TECHNOLOGY MEDICAL SYSTEMS LLC	4
SERTAINTY CORPORATION	3
TEKNOR APEX COMPANY	3
AADG, INC.	2
ASC ENGINEERED SOLUTIONS, LLC	2
ENGINEERED SPRAY COMPONENTS LLC	2
ENVISION TECHNOLOGIES, LLC	2
ST. JUDE CHILDREN'S RESEARCH HOSPITAL, INC.	2
THE CARLSTAR GROUP LLC	2
WESTINGHOUSE AIR BRAKE TECHNOLOGIES CORPORATION	2

Note: Showing organizations with at least 2 patents 2020-2024 and in top 25 for region.
Location is assigned by address of the first listed inventor and may differ from organization location.
Source: US Cluster Mapping Project; USPTO.

University R&D Expenditures by TLAP Region, 2024



University R&D Intensity by TLAP Region, 2024

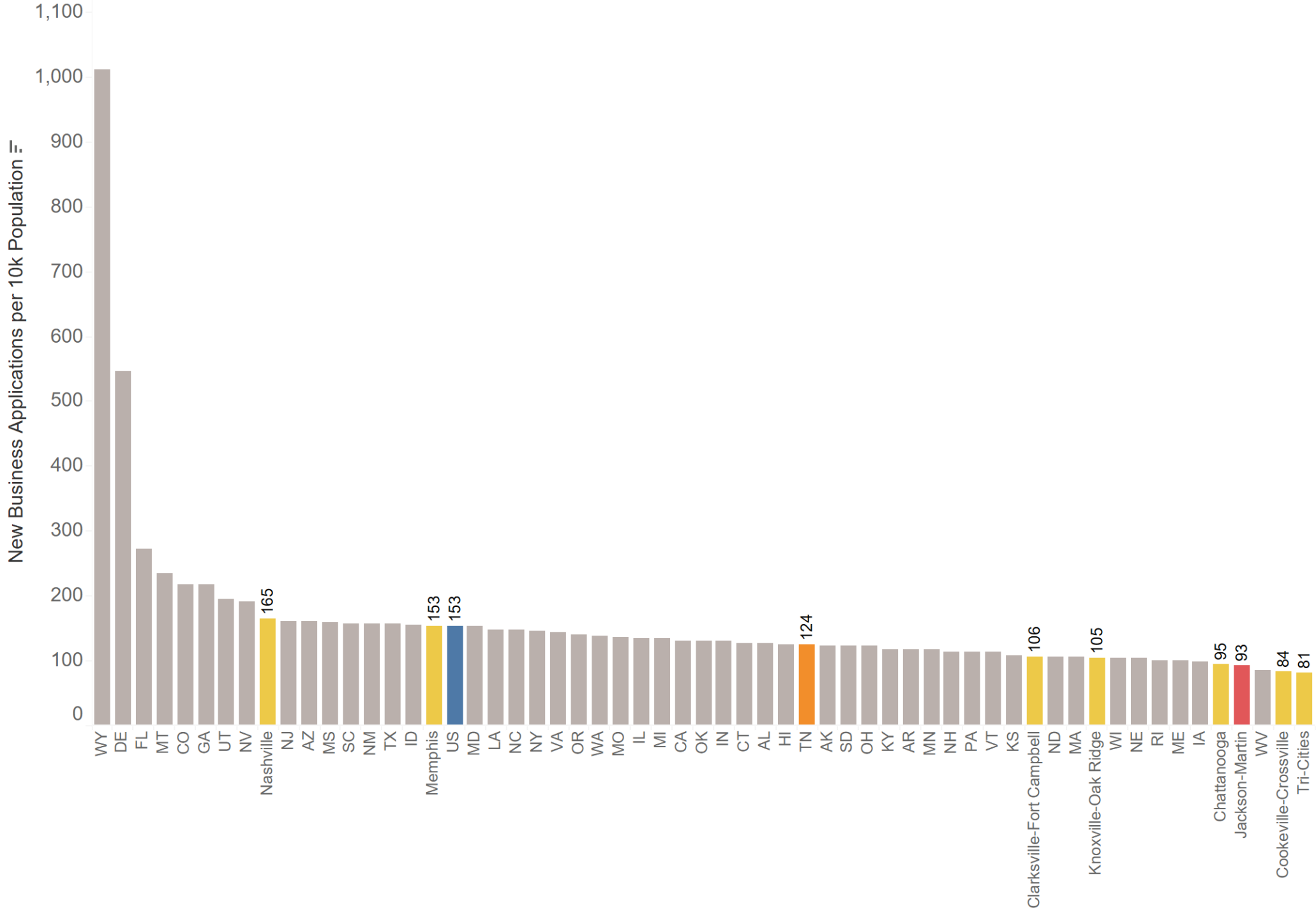


R&D Expenditure by University, 2024

Zone 1: Tri-Cities	East Tennessee State U.	\$42,526,000
	Appalachian State U.	\$11,293,000
Zone 2: Knoxville-Oak Ridge	U. Tennessee, Knoxville	\$386,949,000
	Lincoln Memorial U.	\$1,756,000
Zone 3: Chattanooga	U. Tennessee, The, Chattanooga	\$12,104,000
Zone 4: Cookeville-Crossville	Tennessee Technological U.	\$36,399,000
Zone 5: Nashville	Vanderbilt U. and Vanderbilt U. Medical Center	\$1,327,870,000
	Tennessee State U.	\$35,017,000
	Meharry Medical C.	\$23,691,000
	Middle Tennessee State U.	\$8,736,000
	Fisk U.	\$3,425,000
	Lipscomb U.	\$2,011,000
Zone 7: Jackson-Martin	U. Tennessee, The, Martin	\$250,000
Zone 8: Memphis	U. Tennessee, Health Science Center	\$124,771,000
	U. Memphis	\$108,862,000

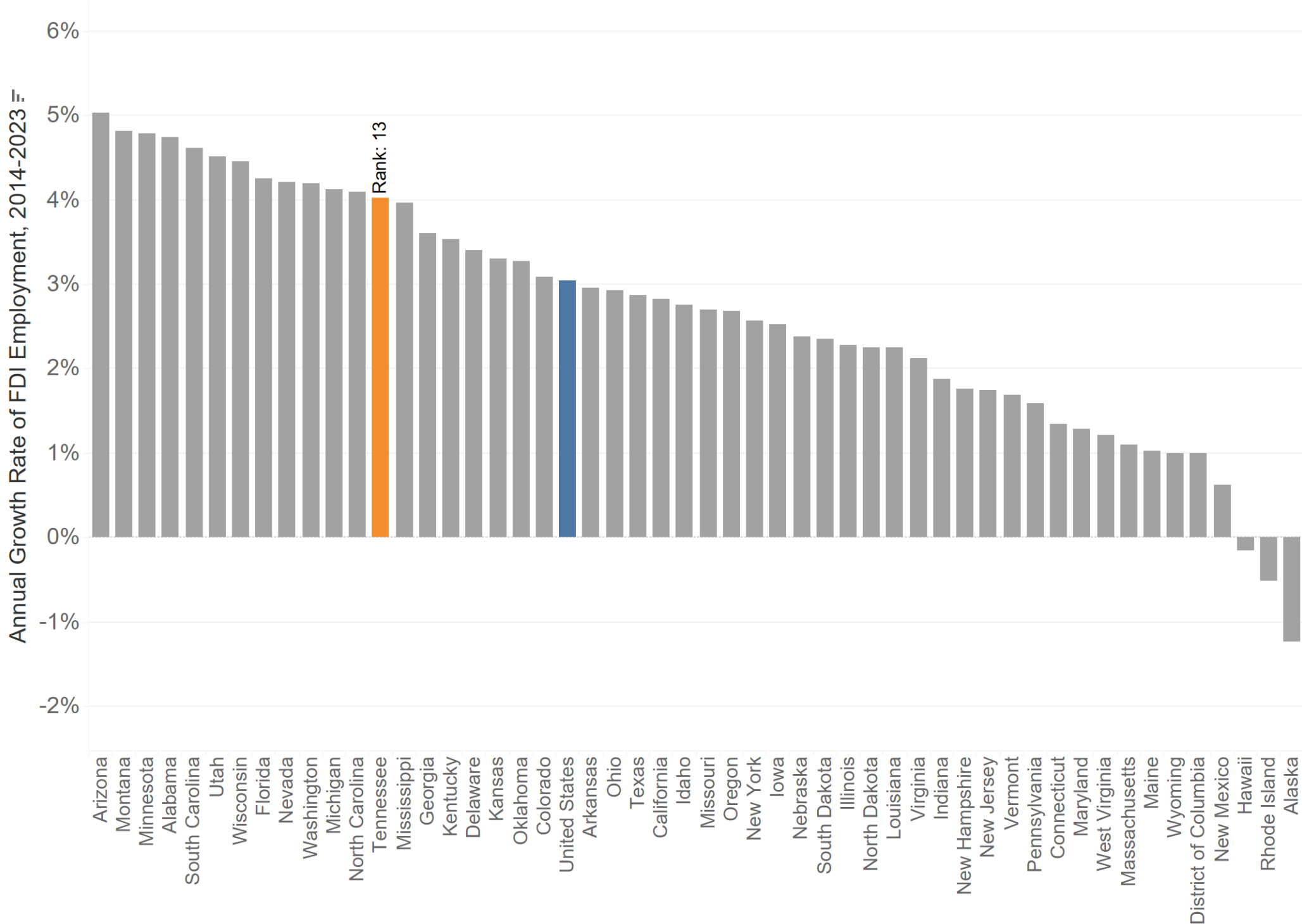
Source: US Cluster Mapping Project; NSF NCSES

New Business Formation, 2024



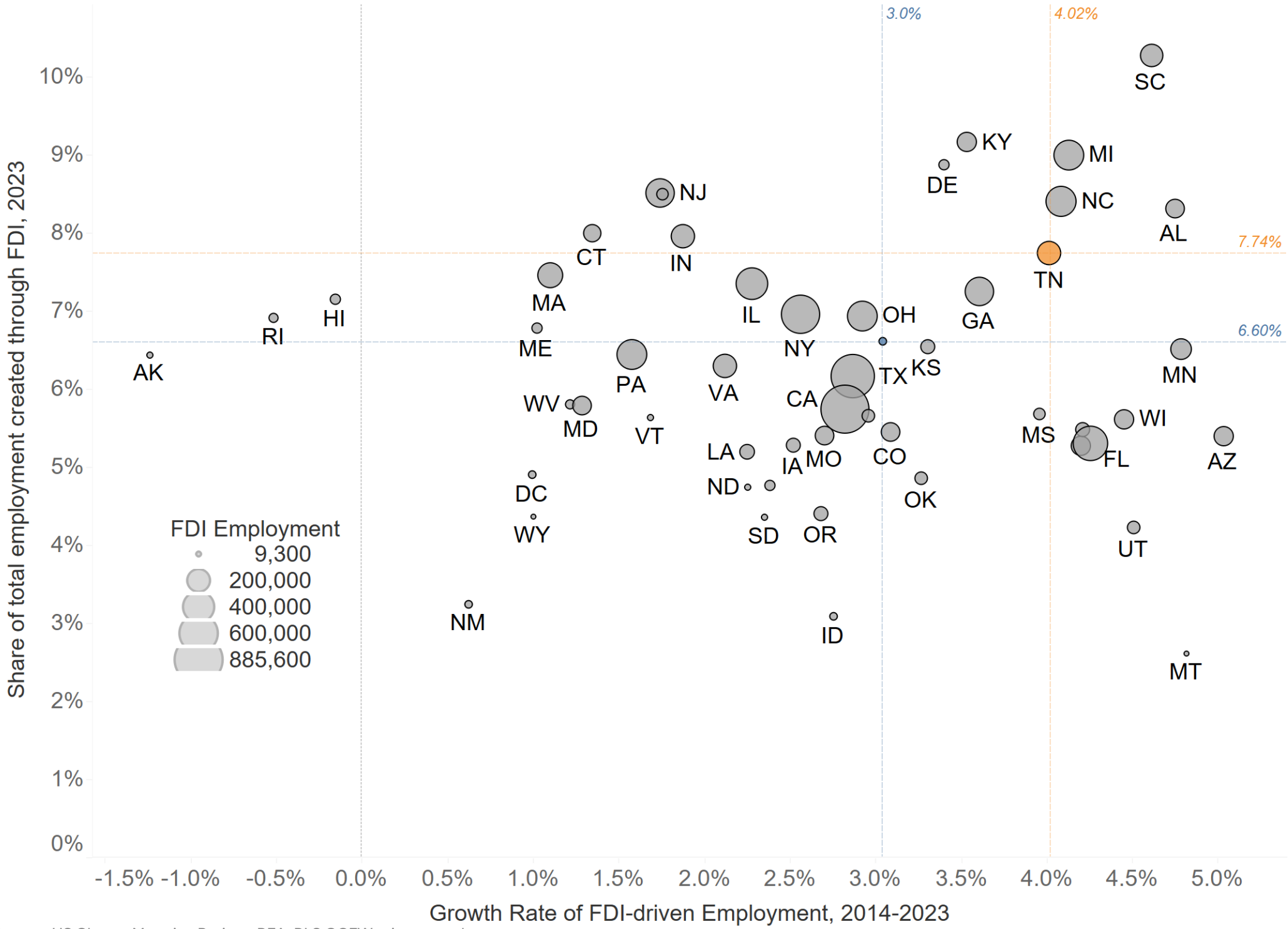
Source: US Cluster Mapping Project; BEA; Census

Growth Rate of FDI-driven Employment, 2014-2023



Source: US Cluster Mapping Project; BEA

Foreign Direct Investment, 2014-2023



Source: US Cluster Mapping Project; BEA; BLS QCEW private employment

Export Intensity and Rate of Growth, 2014-2024

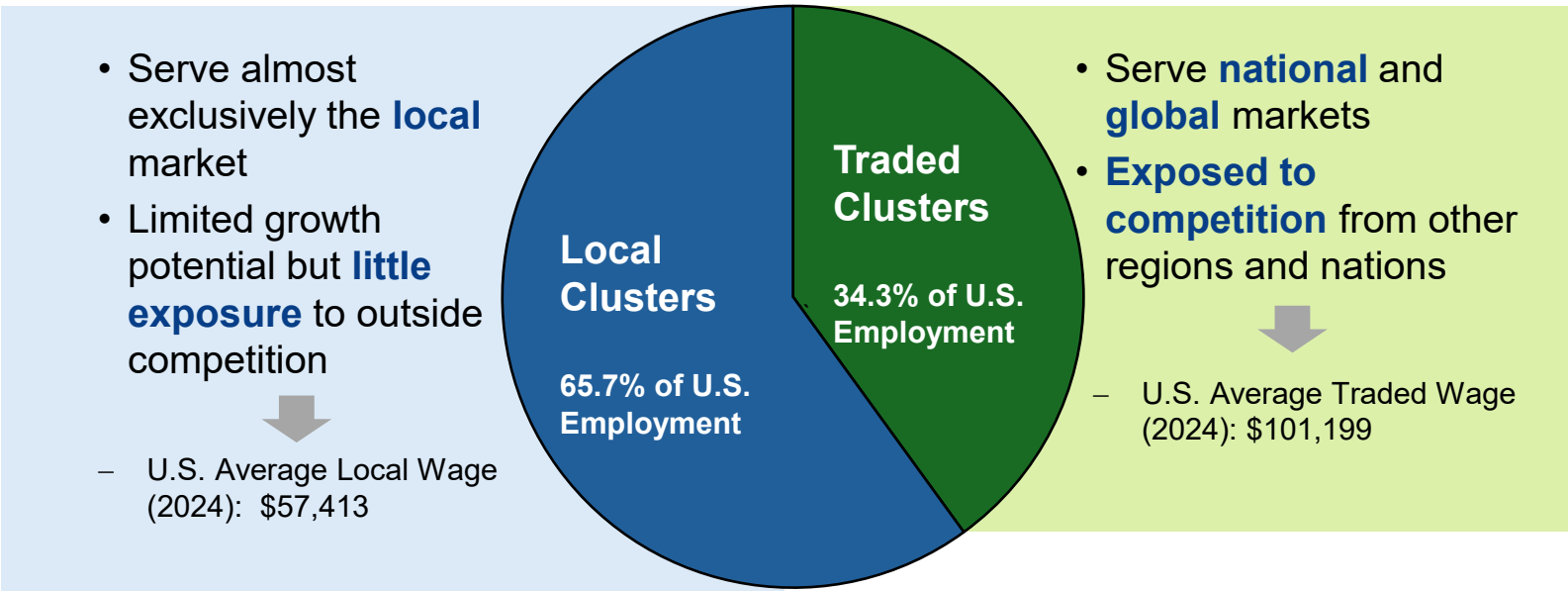


Source: US Cluster Mapping Project; BEA; USATrade. Nominal values.

Cluster Composition

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Tri-Cities: Traded versus Local Clusters

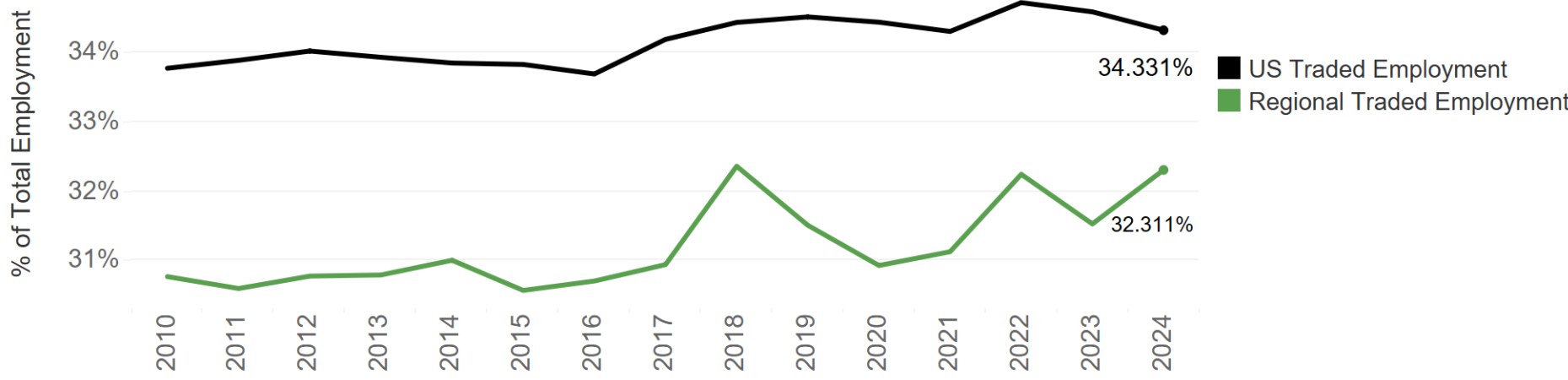


Traded Employment Share, 2024

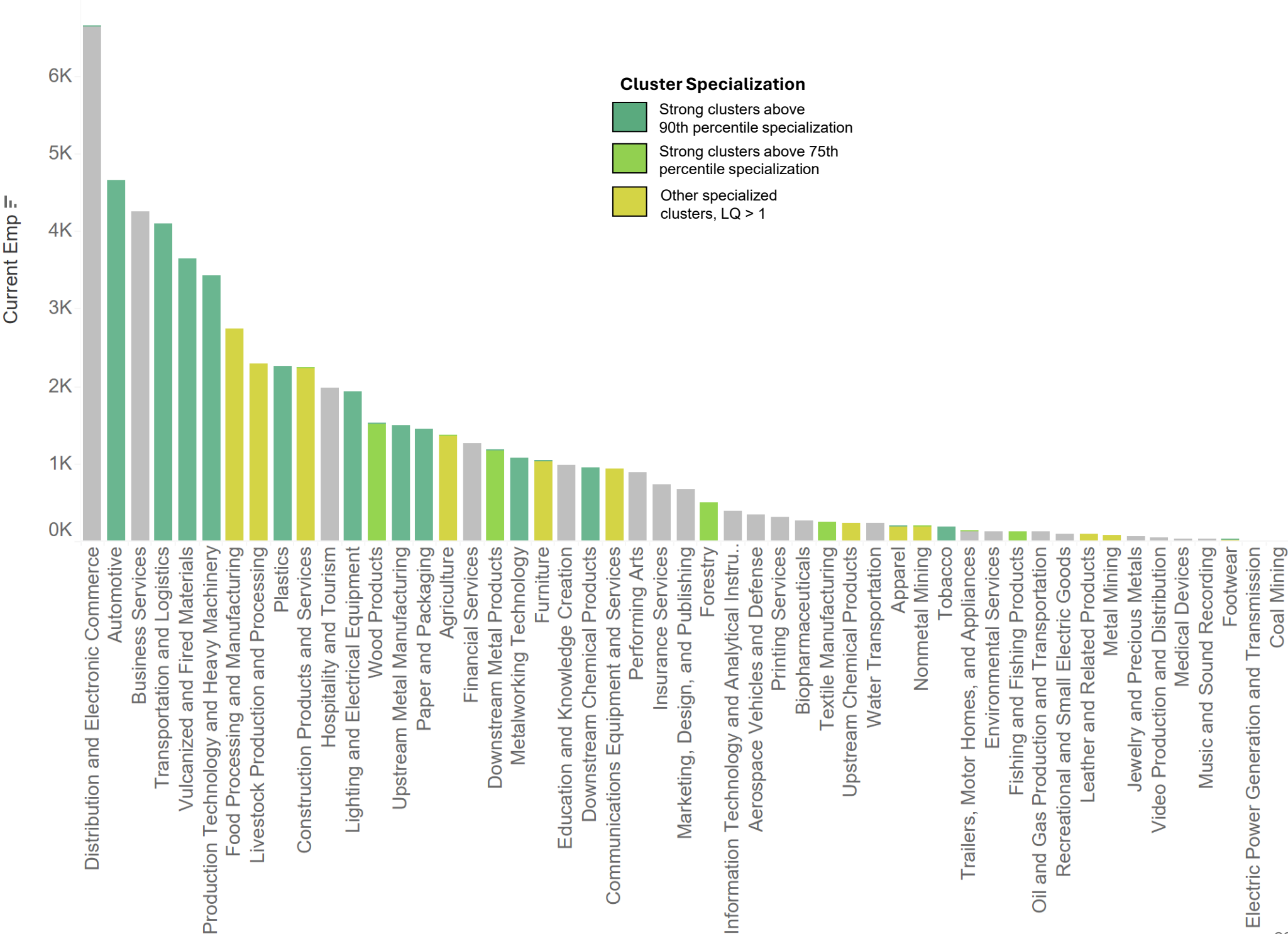
	Local	Traded
Regional Employment	67.7%	32.3%
US Employment	65.7%	34.3%

Jackson-Martin Relative Wages, 2024

	Local	Traded	Total
Regional Wage	45,567	62,663	52,536
US Wage	57,413	101,199	72,465
Percent of US	79.4%	61.9%	72.5%

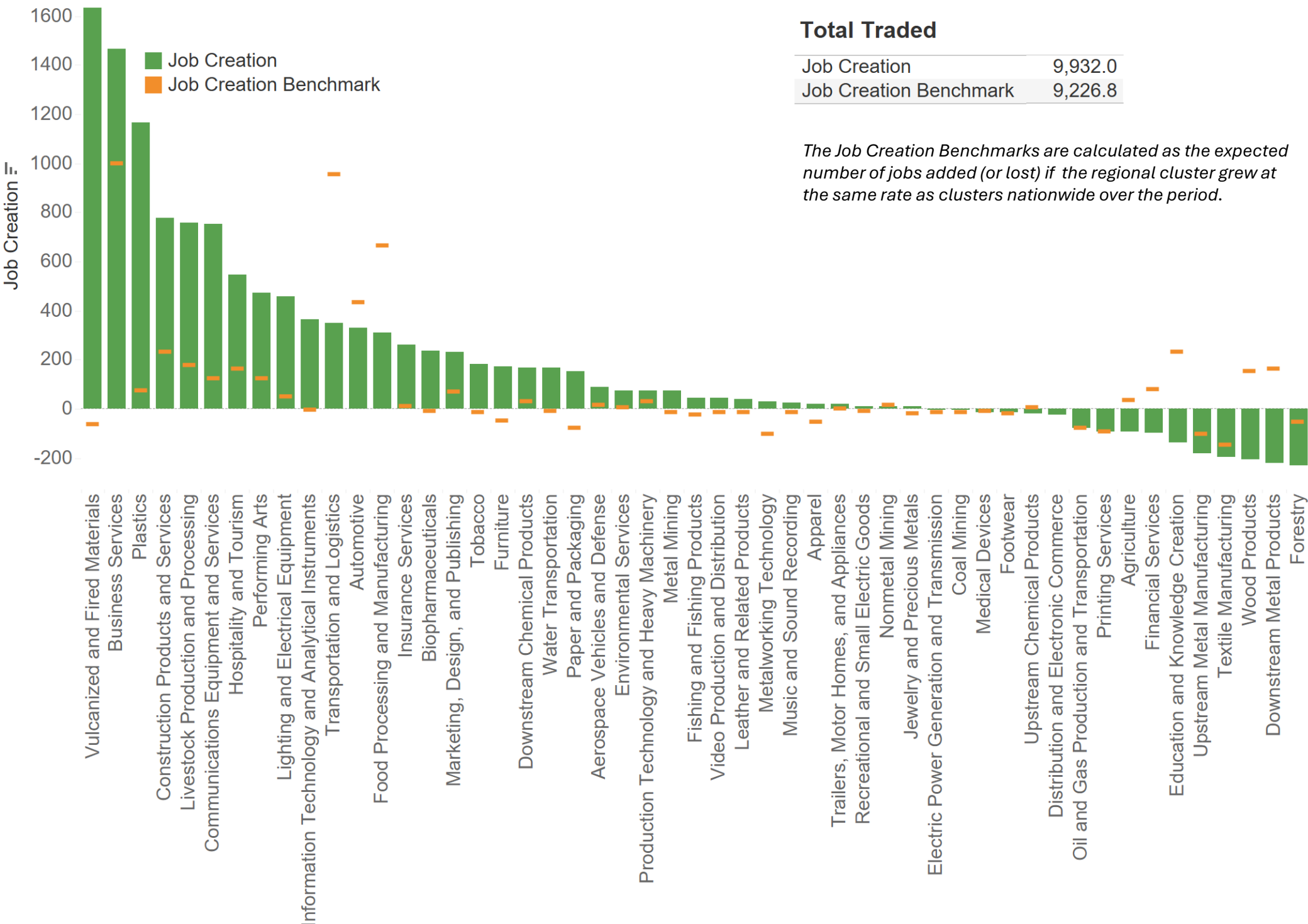


Jackson-Martin - Employment in Traded Clusters, 2024

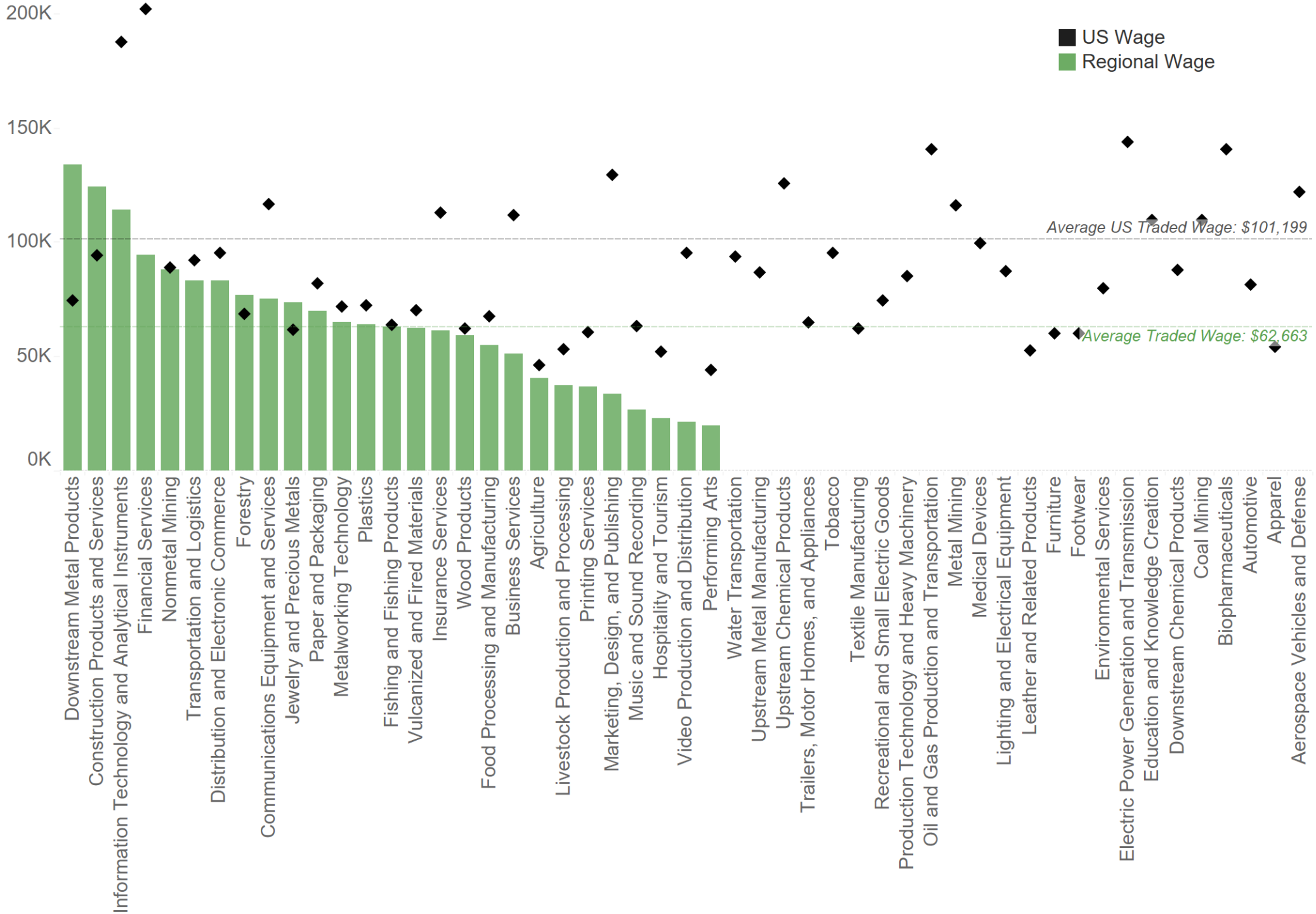


Source: US Cluster Mapping Project; BLS QCEW; Census NES – private employment

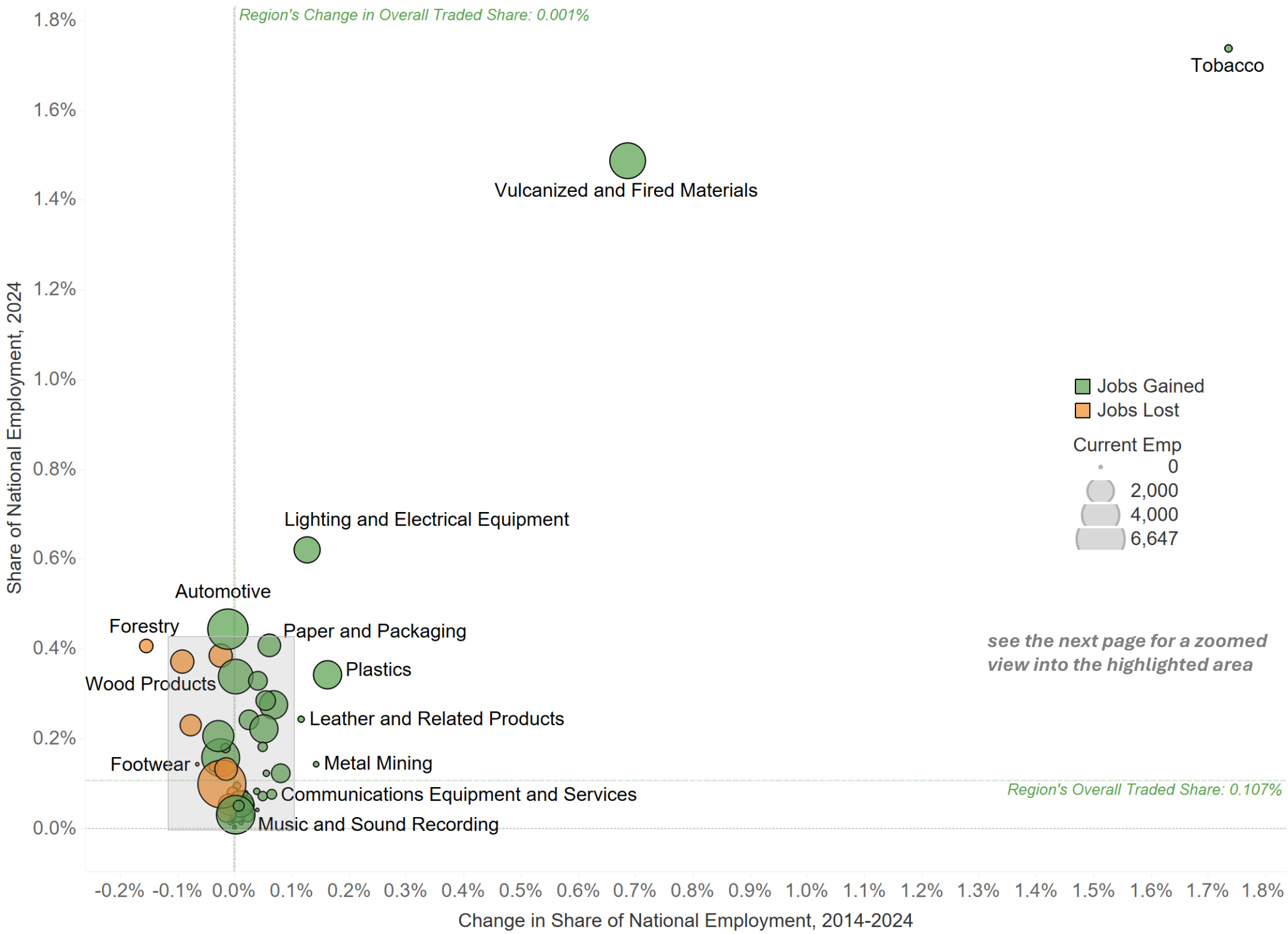
Jackson-Martin - Job Creation in Traded Clusters, 2014-2024



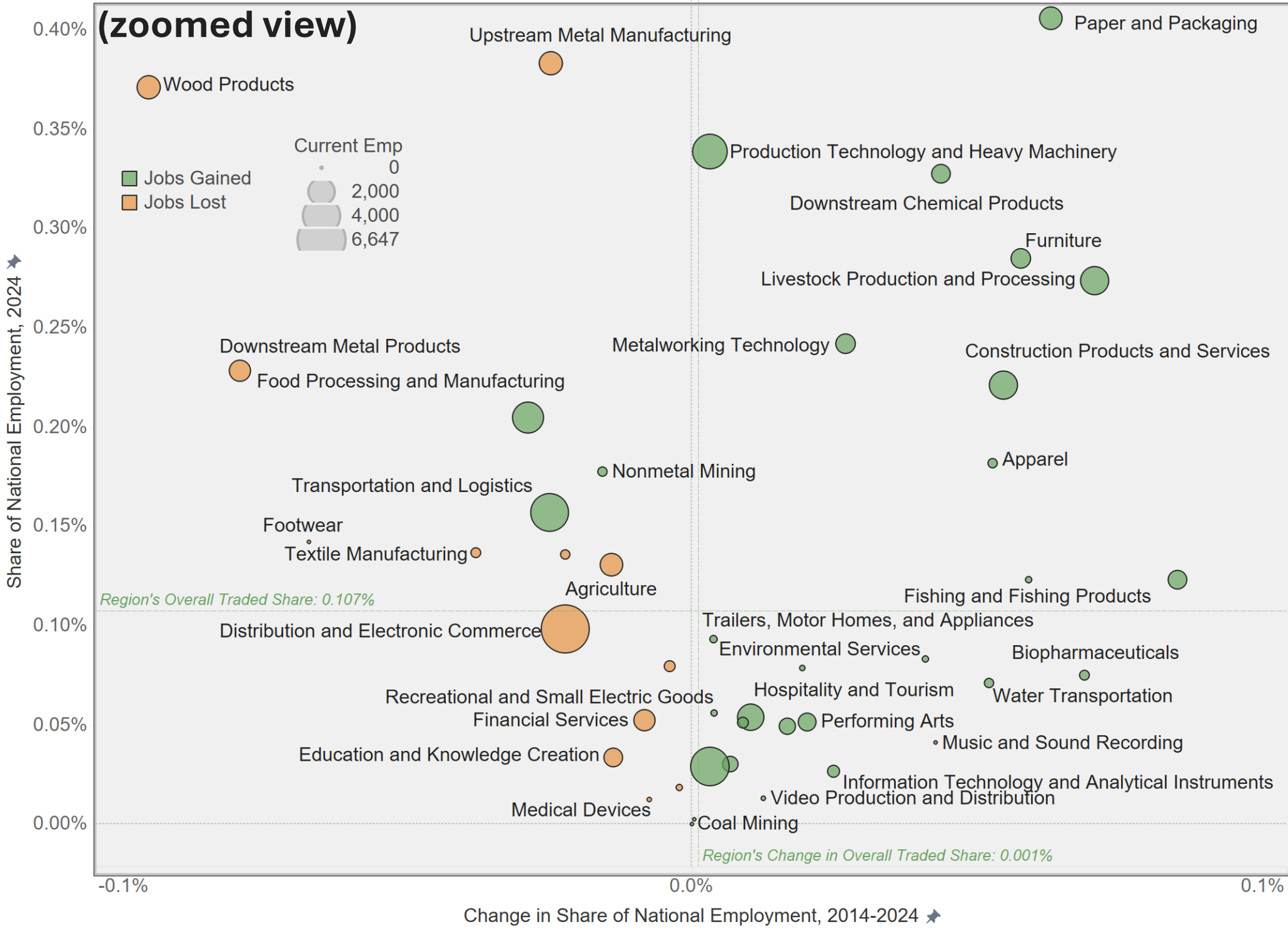
Jackson-Martin - Wages in Traded Clusters, 2024



Zone 7: Jackson-Martin - Specialization in Traded Clusters, 2014-2024

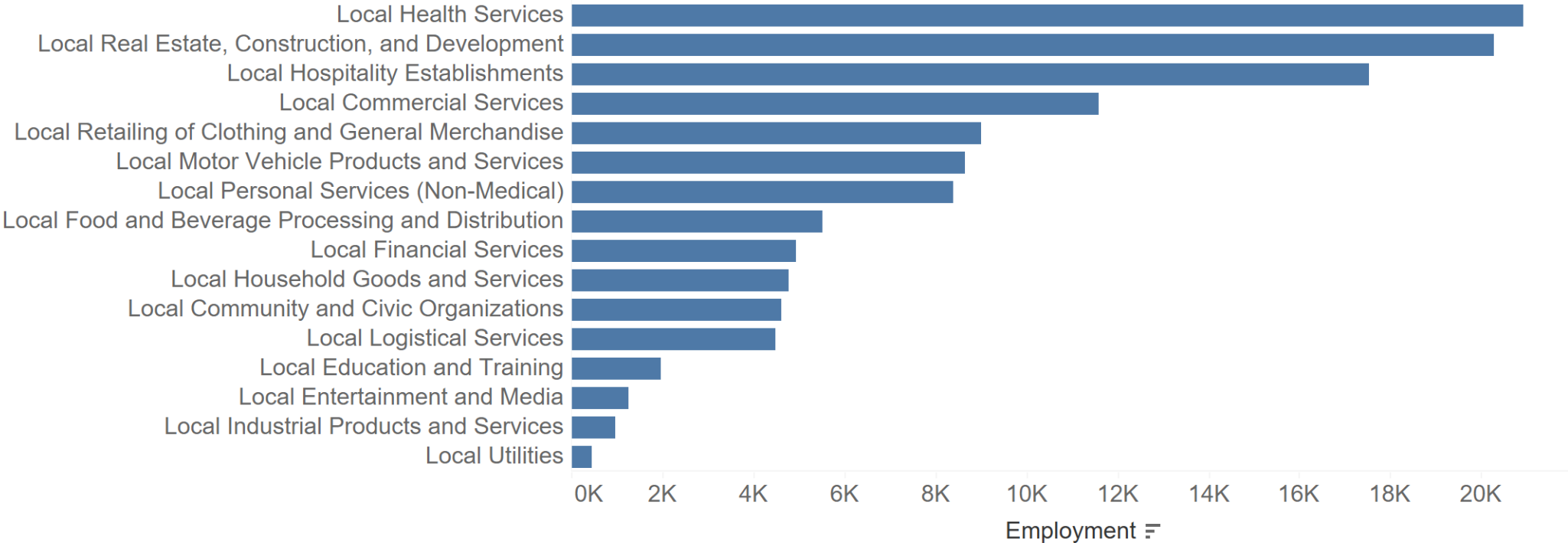


Zone 7: Jackson-Martin - Specialization in Traded Clusters, 2014-2024

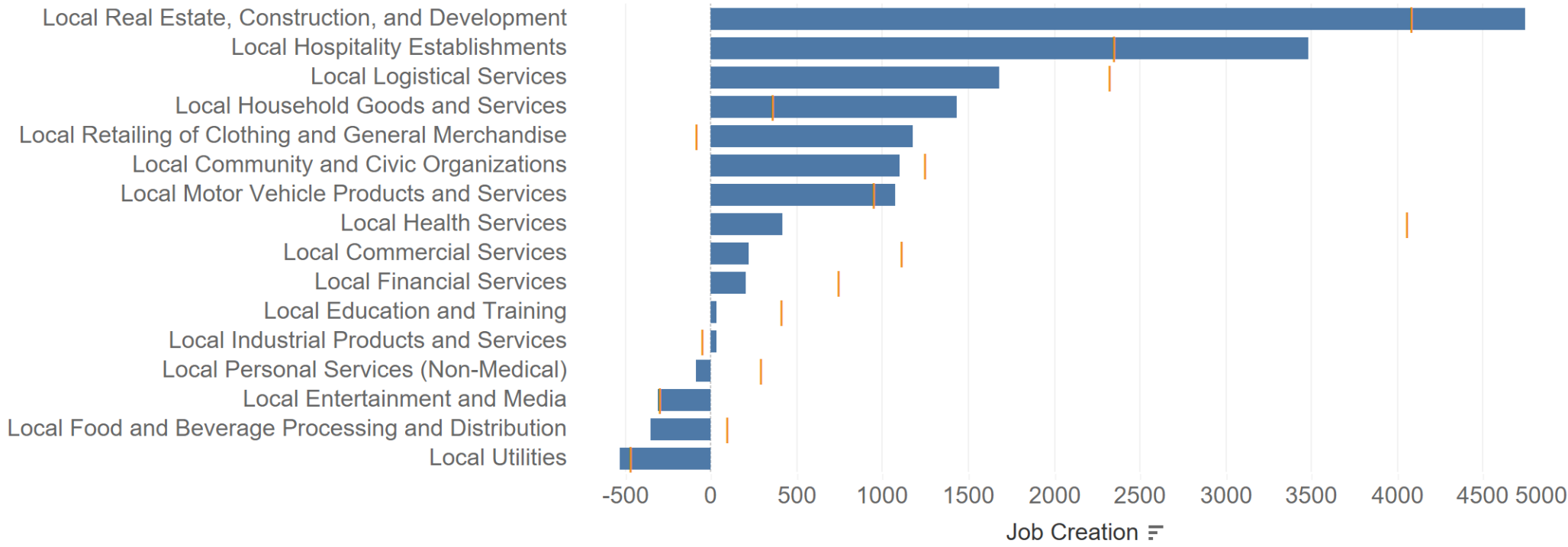


Source: US Cluster Mapping Project; BLS QCEW; Census NES – private employment

Jackson-Martin - Employment in Local Clusters, 2024



Jackson-Martin - Job Creation in Local Cluster, 2014-2024



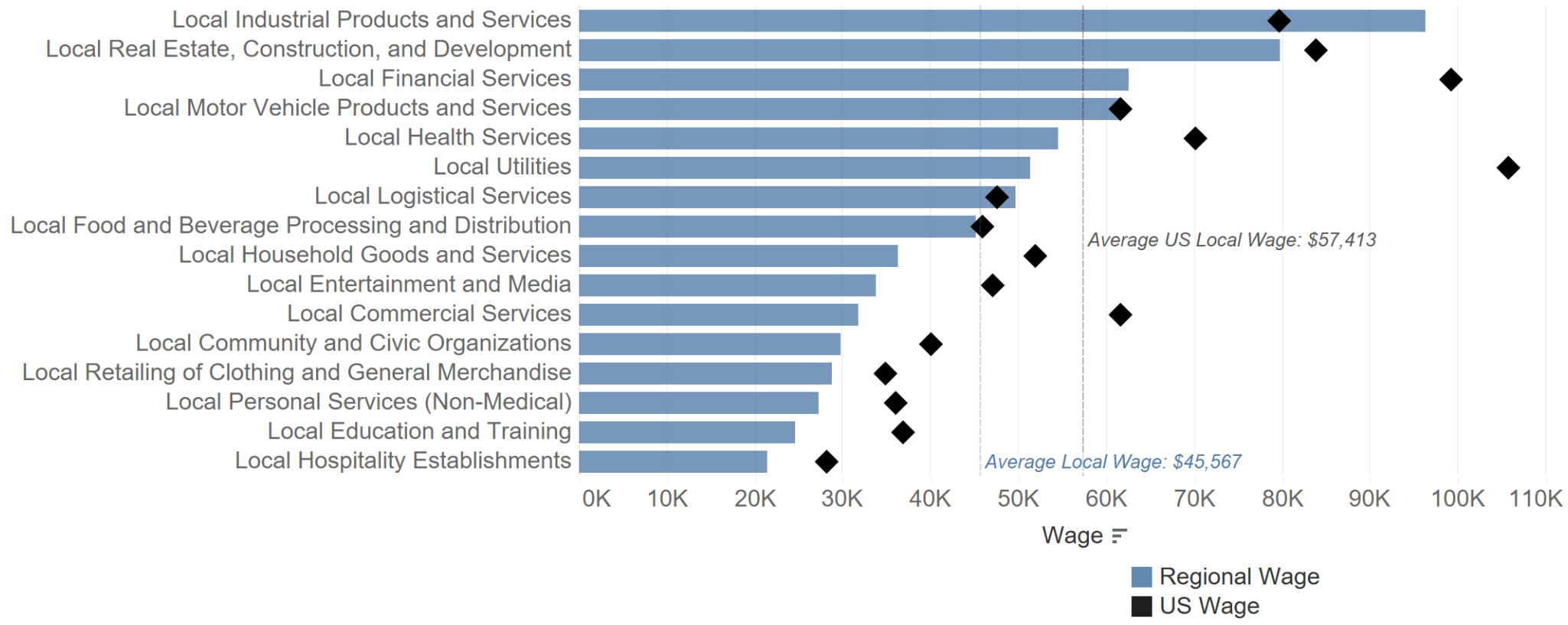
Total Local

Job Creation	14,299
Job Creation Benchmark	17,785

■ Job Creation
■ Job Creation Benchmark

The Job Creation Benchmarks are calculated as the expected number of jobs added (or lost) if the regional cluster grew at the same rate as clusters nationwide over the period.

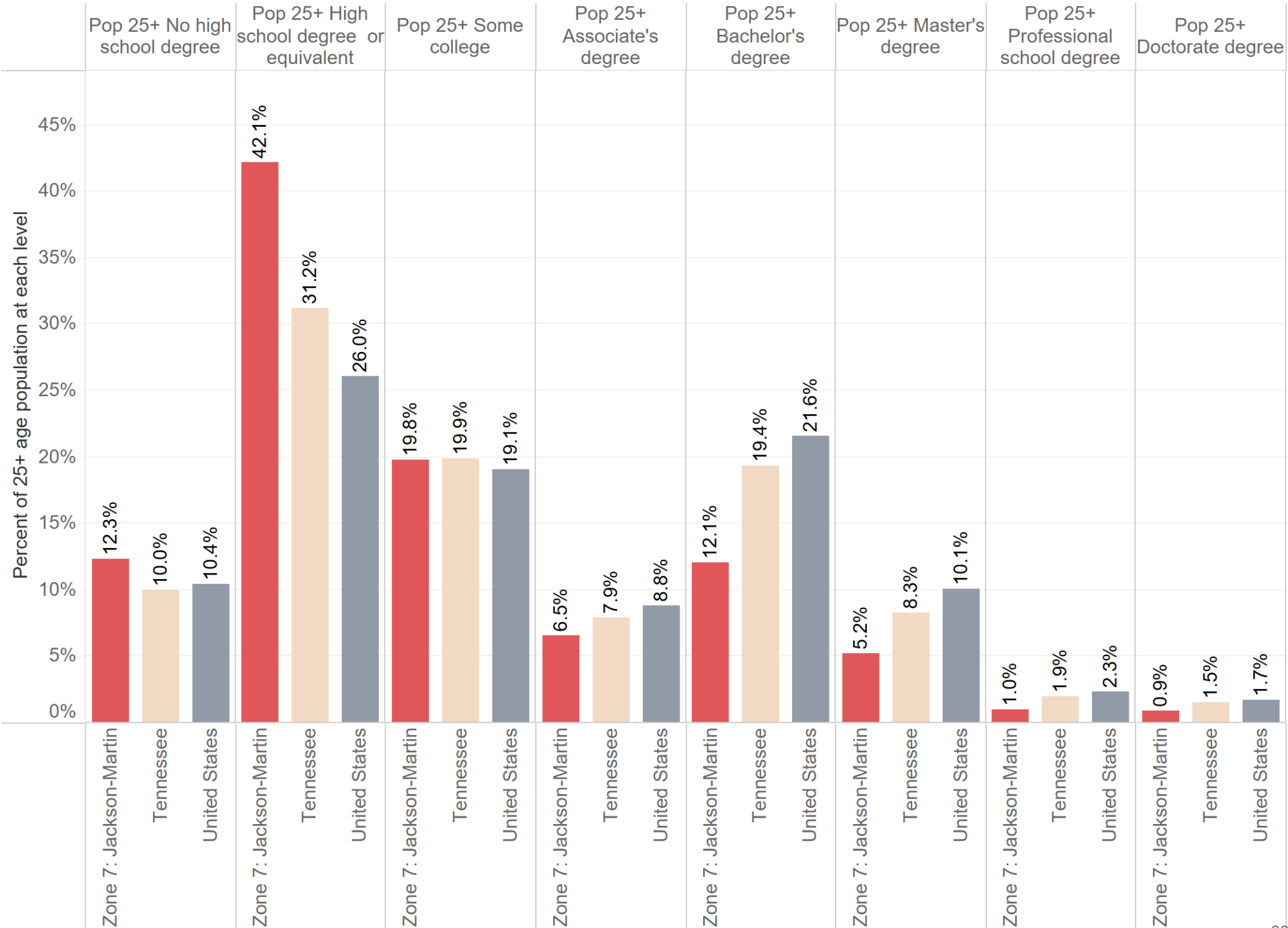
Jackson-Martin - Wages in Traded Clusters, 2024



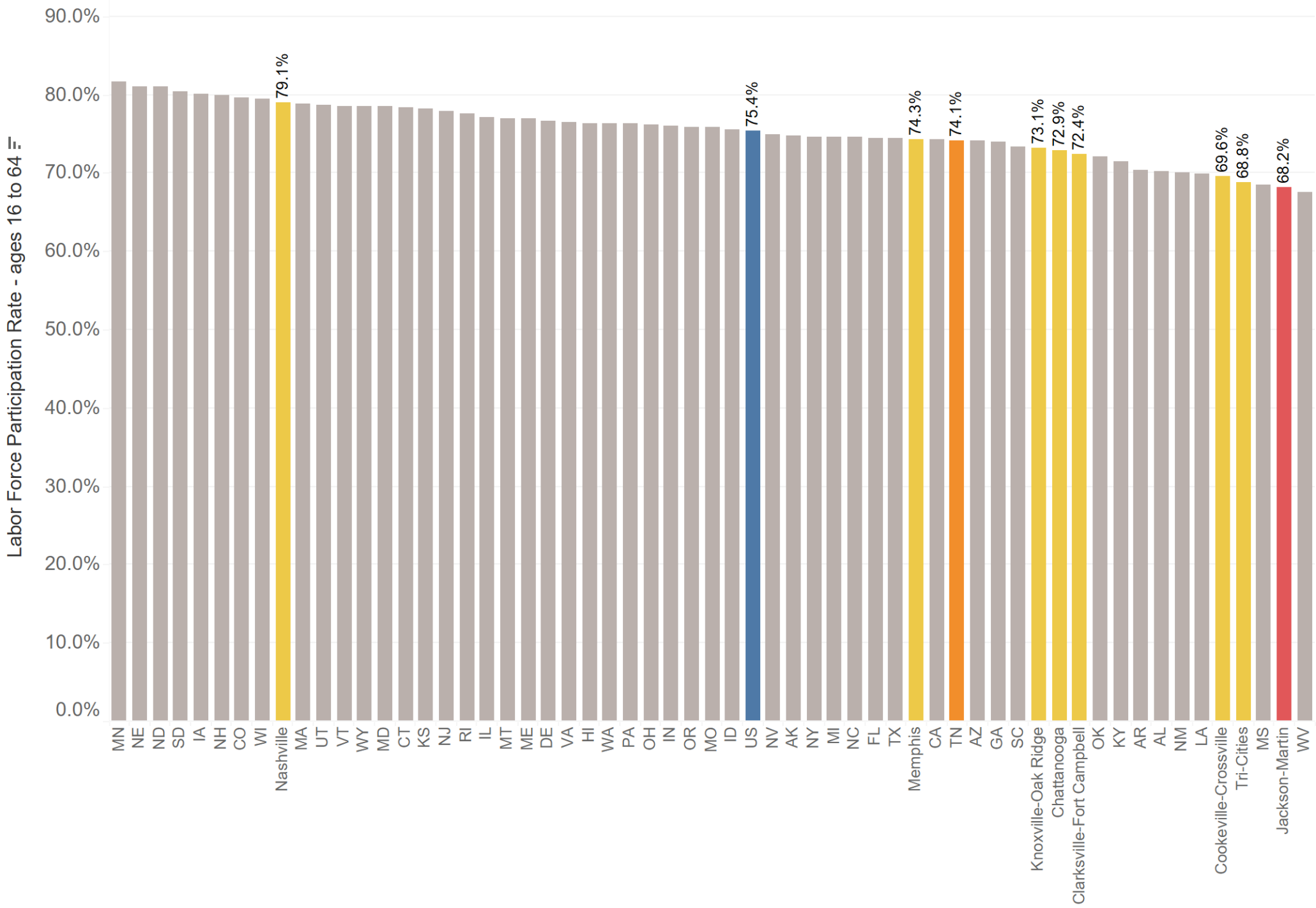
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Educational Attainment, 2024

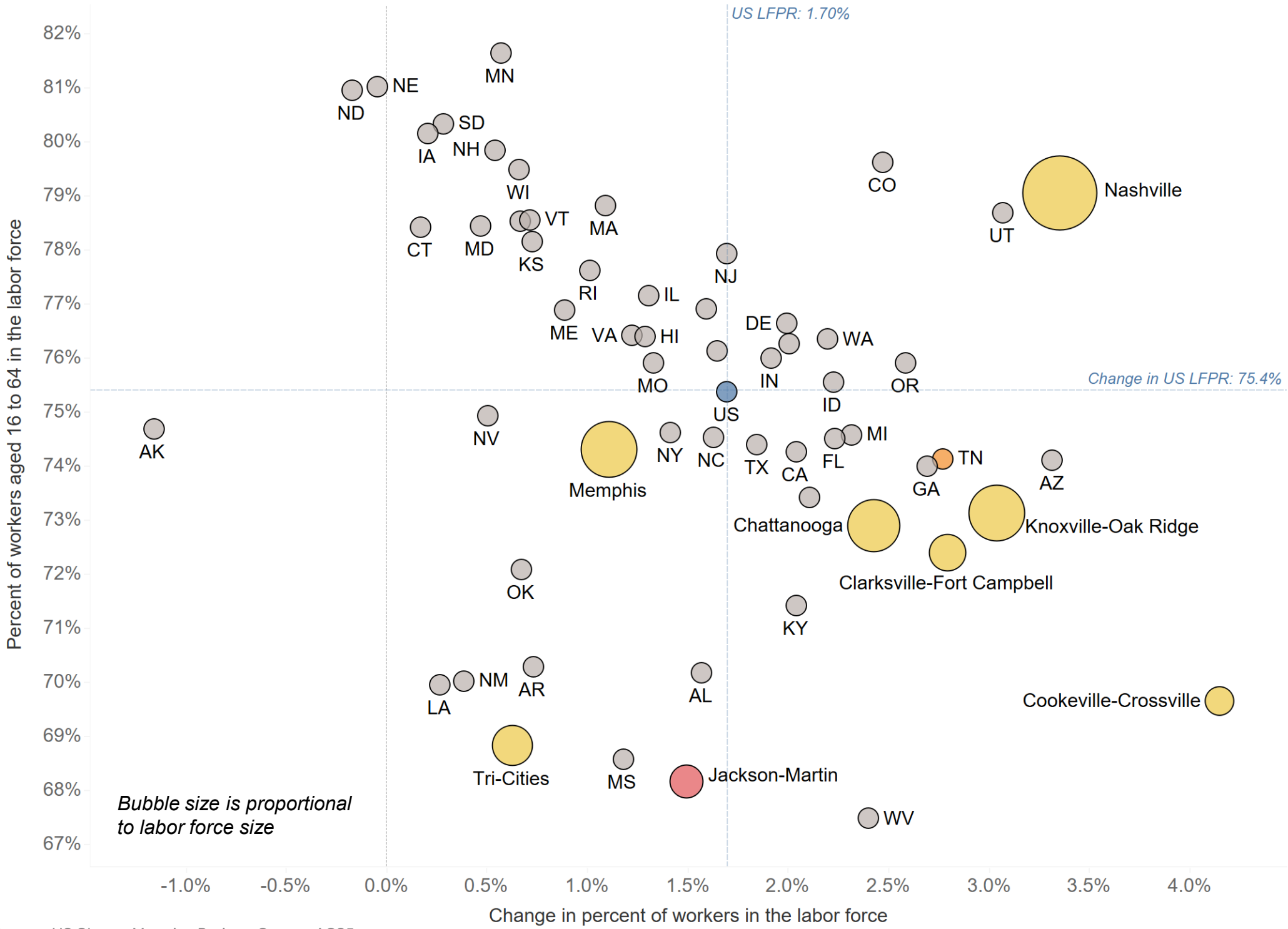


Labor Force Participation Rate - ages 16 to 64, 2024



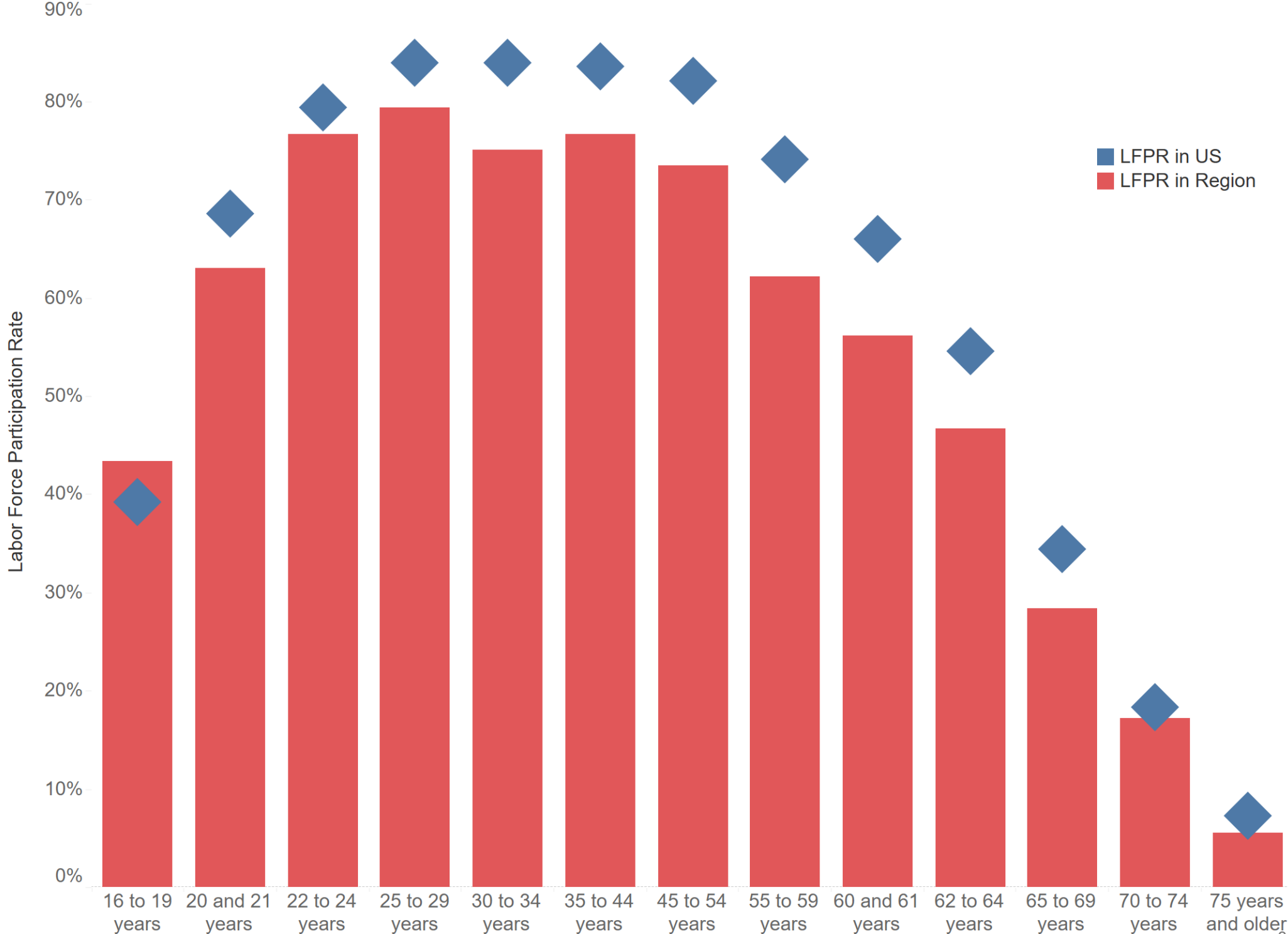
Source: US Cluster Mapping Project; Census ACS5

Labor Force Participation Rate - ages 16 to 64, 2014-2024



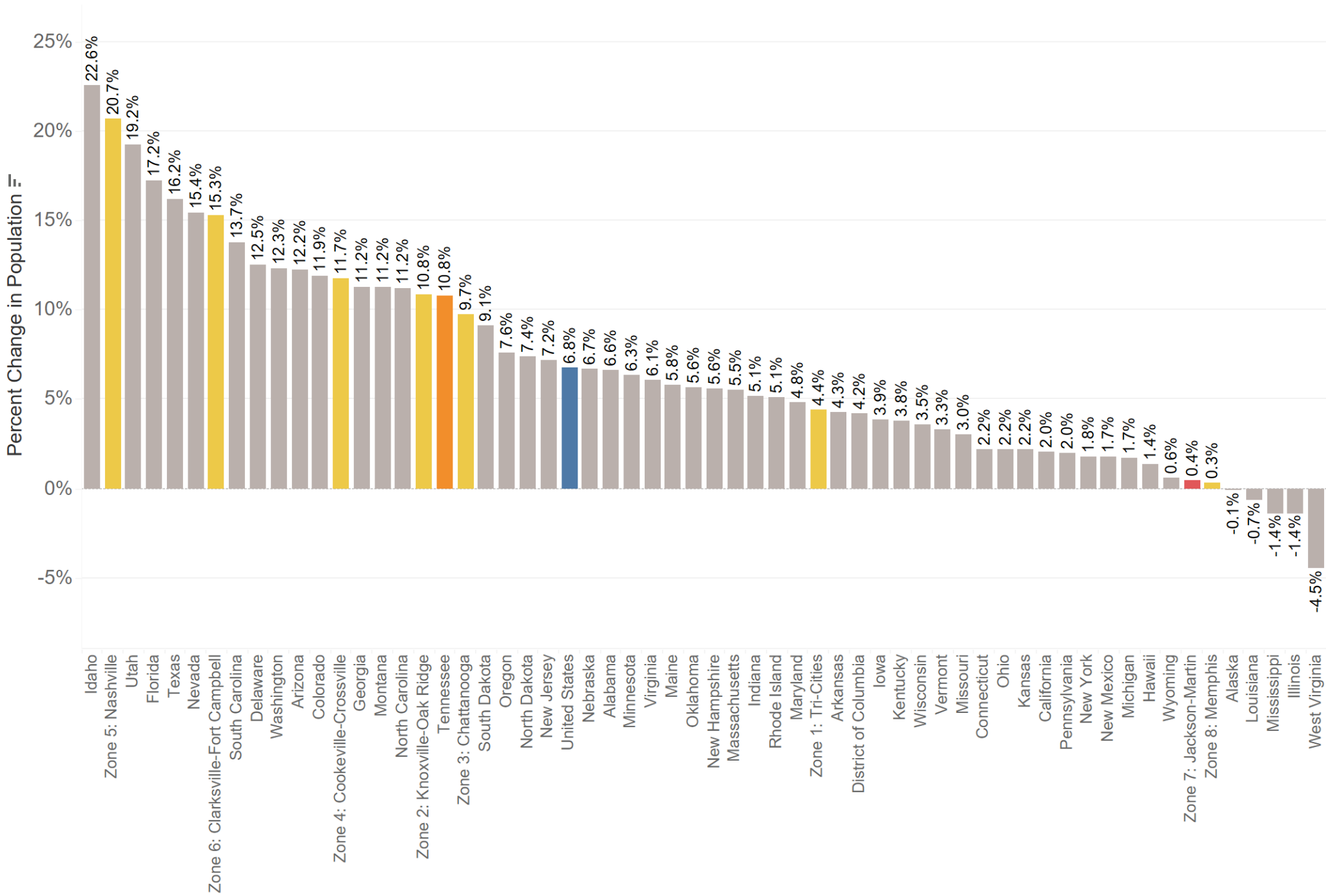
Source: US Cluster Mapping Project; Census ACS5

Jackson-Martin: Labor Force Participation Rate by Age, 2024

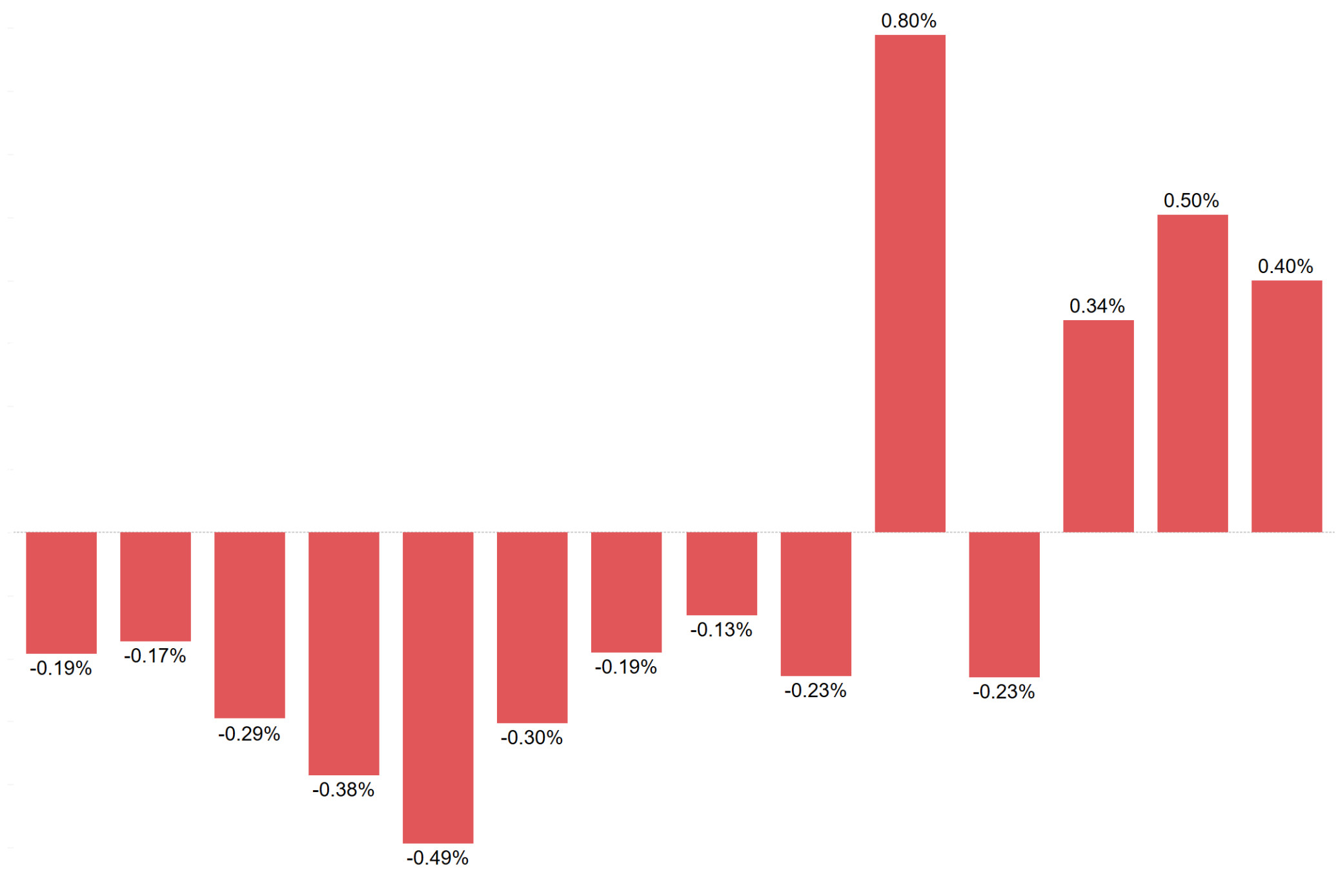


Source: US Cluster Mapping Project; Census ACS5

Population Percent Change, 2014-2024



Zone 7: Jackson-Martin - Change in Population by Year



Source: US Cluster Mapping Project; Census ACS5

Unemployment Rate and Change, 2014-2024

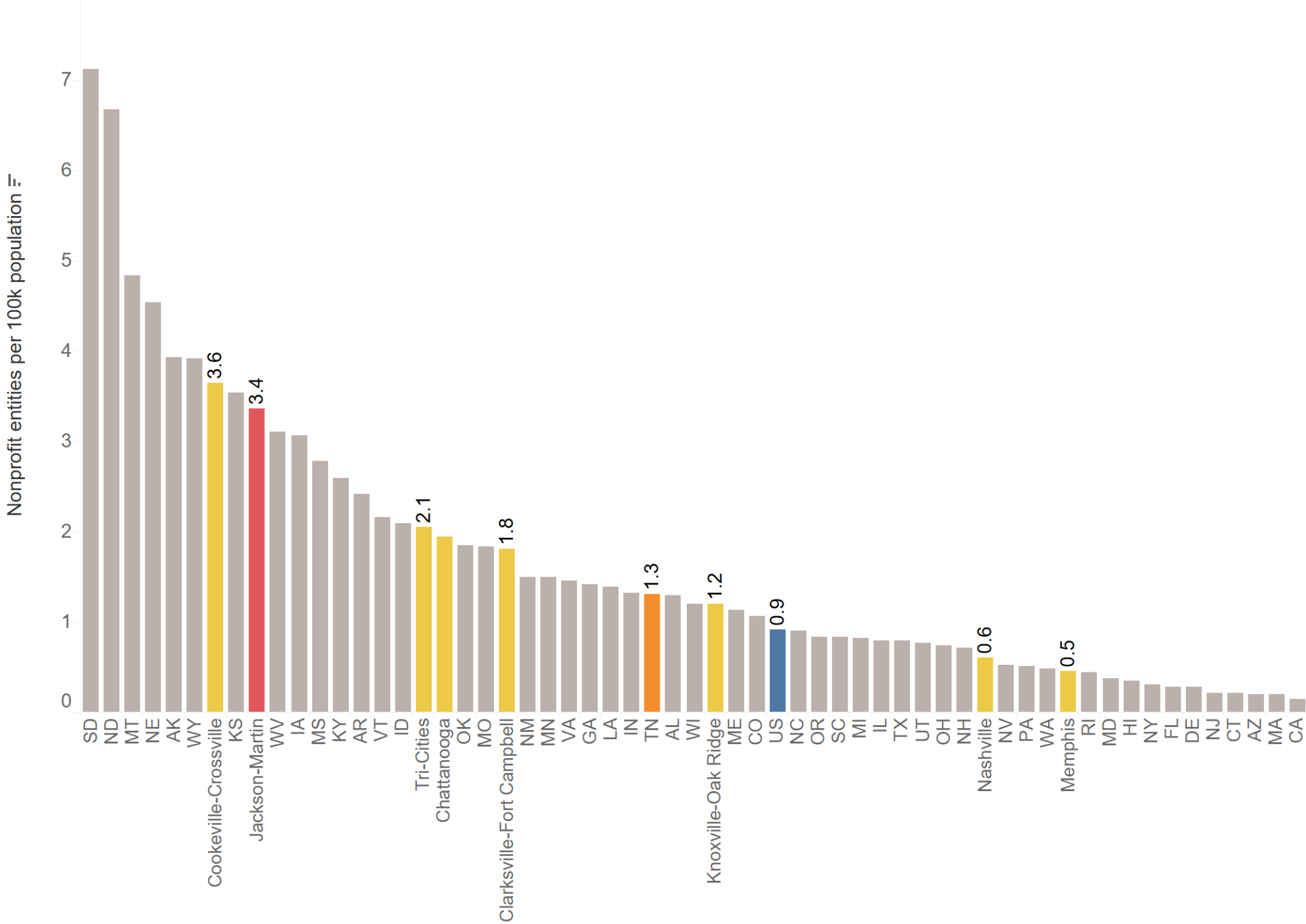


Source: US Cluster Mapping Project; BLS LAUS

Collaborative Governance

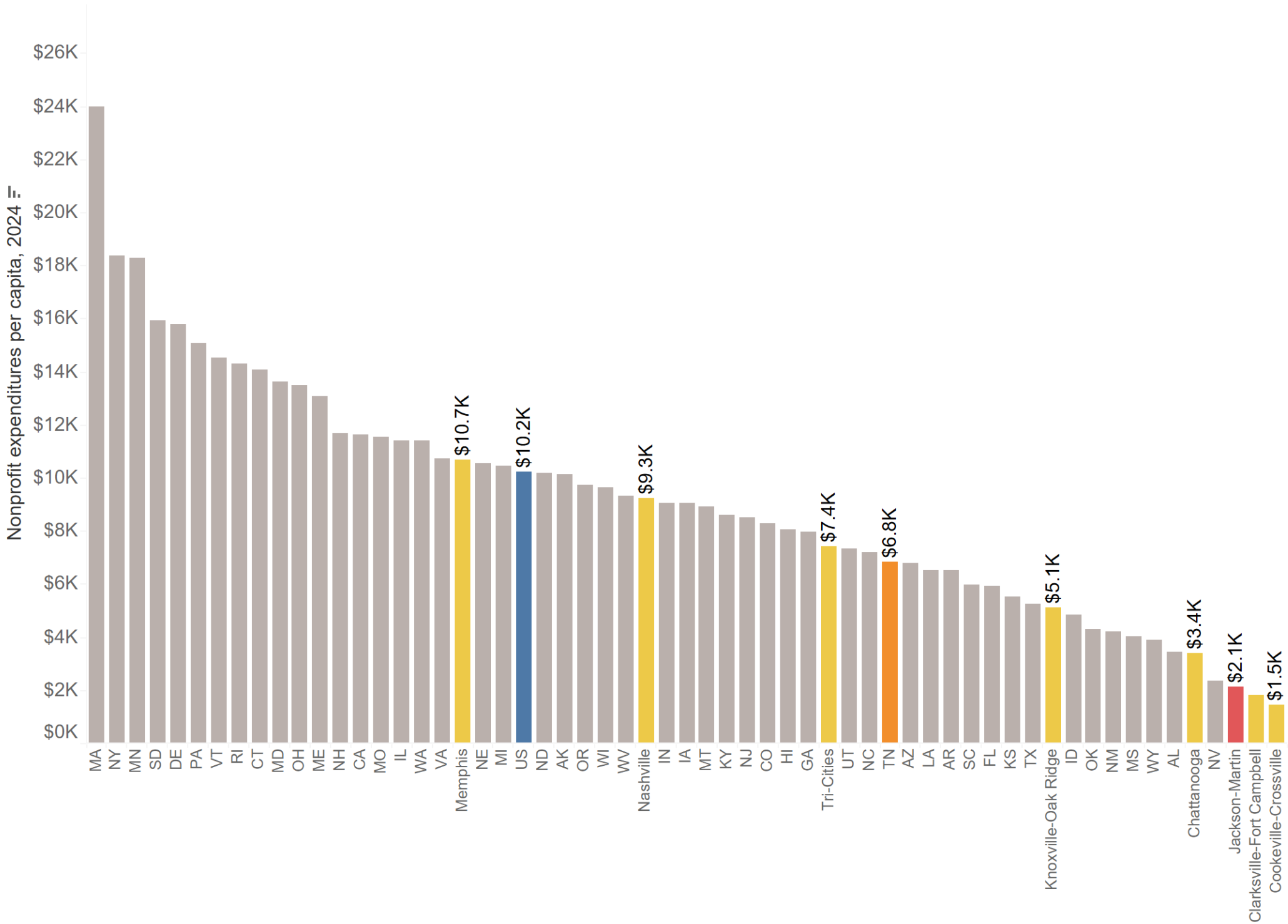
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Nonprofits per capita, 2024



Source: US Cluster Mapping Project; IRS 990, Census

Nonprofit Expenditures per Capita, 2024



Source: US Cluster Mapping Project; IRS 990, Census

Jackson-Martin: Nonprofits by Expenditures, 2024

	Expenditures (\$)
SOUTHWEST TENNESSEE ELECTRIC MEMBERSHIP ..	124,196,770
GIBSON ELECTRIC MEMBERSHIP CORP	113,730,721
UNION UNIVERSITY	95,382,990
LEADERS CREDIT UNION	60,458,045
FREED-HARDEMAN UNIVERSITY	59,667,208
BETHEL UNIVERSITY	50,917,037
PICKWICK ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE	50,261,358
BAPTIST MEMORIAL HOSPITAL UNION CITY INC	49,485,513
LANE COLLEGE	35,998,090
BAPTIST MEMORIAL HOSPITAL HUNTINGDON	28,236,514
MADISON-HAYWOOD COUNTY DEVELOPMENTAL SE..	22,479,324
HARDIN COUNTY REGIONAL HEALTH CENTER	21,974,000
NORTHWEST TENNESSEE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMEN..	21,940,586
JACKSON UTILITY DIVISION BENEFITS PROGRAM TR..	18,075,145
NORTHWEST TENNESSEE HUMAN RESOURCE AGEN..	17,081,991
TRINITY CHRISTIAN ACADEMY INCORPORATED	16,451,213
NORTHWEST TENNESSEE DEVELOPMENT	15,764,328
UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF JACKSON	15,524,360
CAREY COUNSELING CENTER INC	14,212,543
EXCHANGE CLUB-CARL PERKINS CENTER FOR THE ..	10,770,376
JACKSON CHRISTIAN SCHOOL INCORPORATED	9,385,631
WEST TENN REGIONAL BLOOD CENTER INC	9,144,820
HARDEMAN COUNTY COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER	8,437,537
DISCOVERY PARK OF AMERICA INC	8,069,838
QUINCO MENTAL HEALTH CENTER	7,888,479
WEST TENNESSEE HEALTHCARE FOUNDATION	6,587,122
WEST TENNESSEE LEGAL SERVICES INCORPORATE..	5,856,098
WOMENS RESOURCE & RAPE ASSISTANCE PROGRA..	5,546,194
DYERSBURG-DYER COUNTY UNION MISSION	5,506,884
RURAL LIFE FOUNDATION INC	5,480,706
HMC PHYSICIAN SERVICES INC	5,108,744
JOHNSONVILLE TVA EMPLOYEES CREDIT U	4,853,007
FOUNDATION FOR WORLDWIDE INTERNATIONAL ST..	4,835,513
T A M B OF JACKSON TENNESSEE INC	4,657,633
CITIZENS OF LAKE COUNTY FOR HEALTH CARE INC	4,563,941

Excluding Heath Care and Education

	Expenditures (\$)
LEADERS CREDIT UNION	60,458,045
MADISON-HAYWOOD COUNTY DEVELOPME..	22,479,324
NORTHWEST TENNESSEE ECONOMIC DEV..	21,940,586
NORTHWEST TENNESSEE HUMAN RESOUR..	17,081,991
NORTHWEST TENNESSEE DEVELOPMENT	15,764,328
CAREY COUNSELING CENTER INC	14,212,543
EXCHANGE CLUB-CARL PERKINS CENTER ..	10,770,376
DISCOVERY PARK OF AMERICA INC	8,069,838
QUINCO MENTAL HEALTH CENTER	7,888,479
WOMENS RESOURCE & RAPE ASSISTANCE..	5,546,194
DYERSBURG-DYER COUNTY UNION MISSIO..	5,506,884
FOUNDATION FOR WORLDWIDE INTERNATI..	4,835,513
YOUTH TOWN OF TENNESSEE INC	4,081,976
STAR CENTER INC	4,029,324
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH INITIATIVES INC	3,229,132
JACKSON AREA COUNCIL ON ALCOHOLISM..	2,614,382
WEST TENNESSEE PUBLIC TV COUNCIL INC	2,458,115
KONTAKTMISSION U S A	2,189,054
TENNESSEE HOMELESS SOLUTIONS	1,814,151
PIONEER MISSIONS GLOBAL	1,728,327
DYER COUNTY OFFICE ON AGING INC	1,461,908
JACKSON SYMPHONY ASSOCIATION	1,261,265
JONAH AFFORDABLE HOUSING ORGANIZA..	1,117,536
DREAM CENTER OF JACKSON	1,112,689
POPVOX FOUNDATION	1,058,255
HOPE RECOVERY CENTER	1,001,524
CARJAN CORPORATION	969,175
MEET MINISTRY	822,685
BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF JACKSON INC	819,270
COMPANION PET RESCUE AND TRANSPOR..	749,420
WARRIORS CENTER BOLIVAR	744,623
LA OLA MINISTRIES-THE WAVE	739,821
PARIS-HENRY COUNTY HEALTHCARE FOU..	720,597
AREA RELIEF MINISTRIES	705,204
FORTIFY YOUR FAITH FOUNDATION INC	683,127

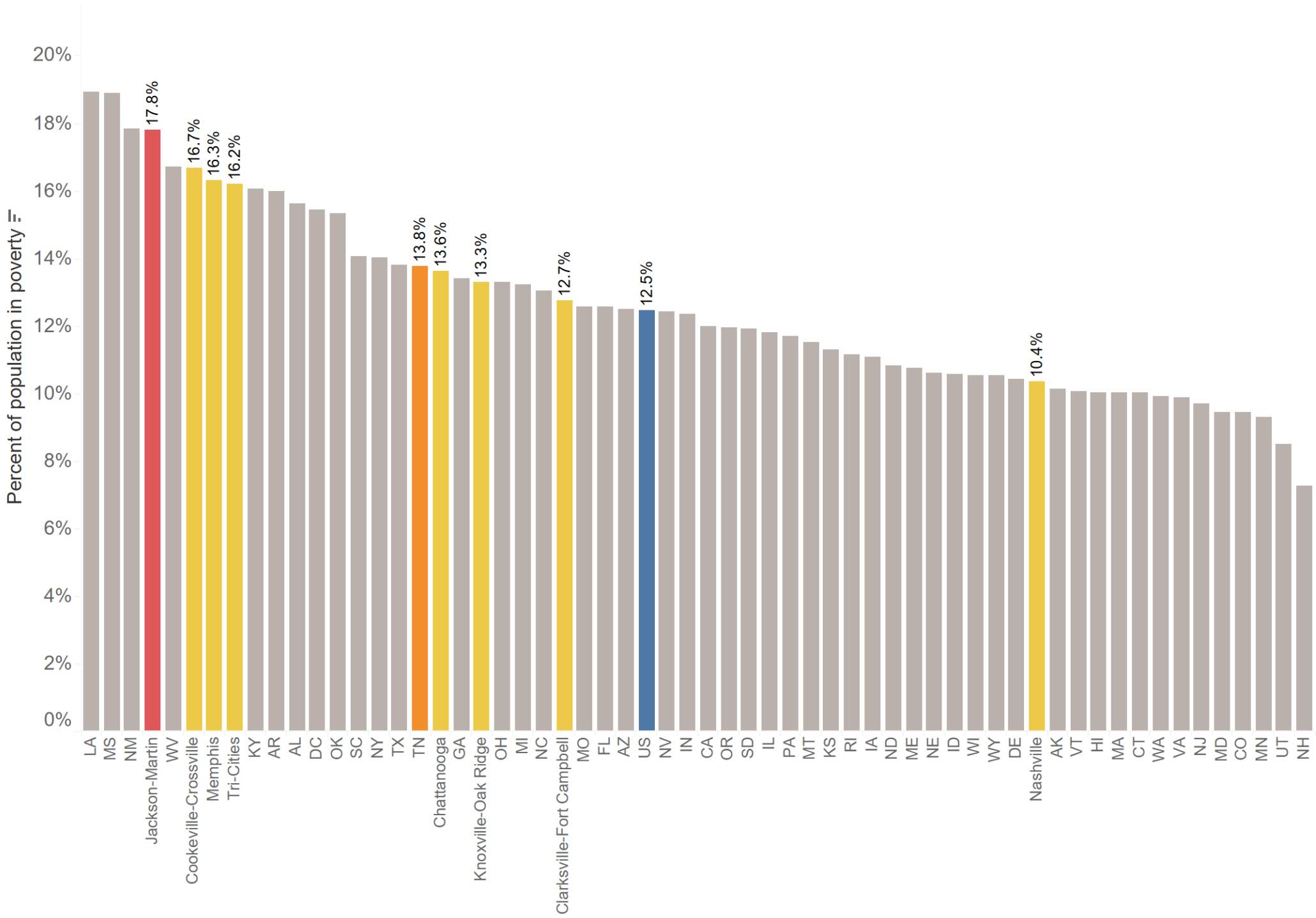
Jackson-Martin: TLAP Collaborative Governance Regional Inventory

Initiative	Mission Summary	Lead Organization	Counties Covered
Southwest Tennessee Development District (SWTDD) & Regional Council of Governments	Oversee cross-county planning, resource coordination, and economic/community development programs in West Tennessee under an inter-local governance structure.	Southwest Tennessee Development District (Council of Governments)	Chester, Decatur, Hardeman, Hardin, Haywood, Henderson, Madison, McNairy; via REDI (regional economic initiative), also covers Fayette, Gibson, Lauderdale, Tipton among others
Greater Memphis Local Workforce Development Board and Northwest/Southwest Workforce Innovations	Govern regional workforce service delivery, sector partnerships, and integration with economic development under WIOA governance.	Greater Memphis LWDB (via Workforce Innovations, Inc.)	All listed counties via Greater Memphis, NW TN, and SW TN workforce areas; includes TIPTON, Lauderdale, Gibson, others
GROWWTH (Growing Relational & Occupational Wealth in West Tennessee)	A cross-sector initiative to uplift low-income households through workforce coaching, microenterprise supports, and integrated services across the region.	University of Memphis – Center for Regional Economic Enrichment in partnership with regional workforce boards and community partners	21 county West Tennessee region, including all listed counties
Wolf River Conservancy (Watershed-Based Regional Environmental Collaboration)	Act as a multi-sector coalition to preserve and restore the Wolf River watershed, coordinating government, civic, and conservation agencies across regional boundaries.	Wolf River Conservancy (501(c)(3))	Fayette, Hardeman (TN), Benton County, Mississippi—and influences adjacent counties for greenway planning
Delta HRA Public Transit (Regional Rural Mobility Collaboration)	Coordinate public transportation services across multiple West TN counties for economic access and mobility—including workforce access and social services coordination	Delta Human Resource Area Public Transit (nonprofit transit provider)	Tipton, Fayette, Lauderdale, plus rural Shelby County—but serving broader connectivity needs across the region
Tennessee Workforce–Transportation Collaborative (Innovation Grants & Design Coordination)	Align industry, transit, government, and academia to design equitable transportation solutions supporting major industrial hubs across the state.	Vanderbilt University (ISIS) with Memphis, Knoxville, Chattanooga universities, transit agencies, employers, and state DOTs	Regions including West Tennessee industrial areas served via the collaborative workshop framework isis.vanderbilt.edu

Quality of Life

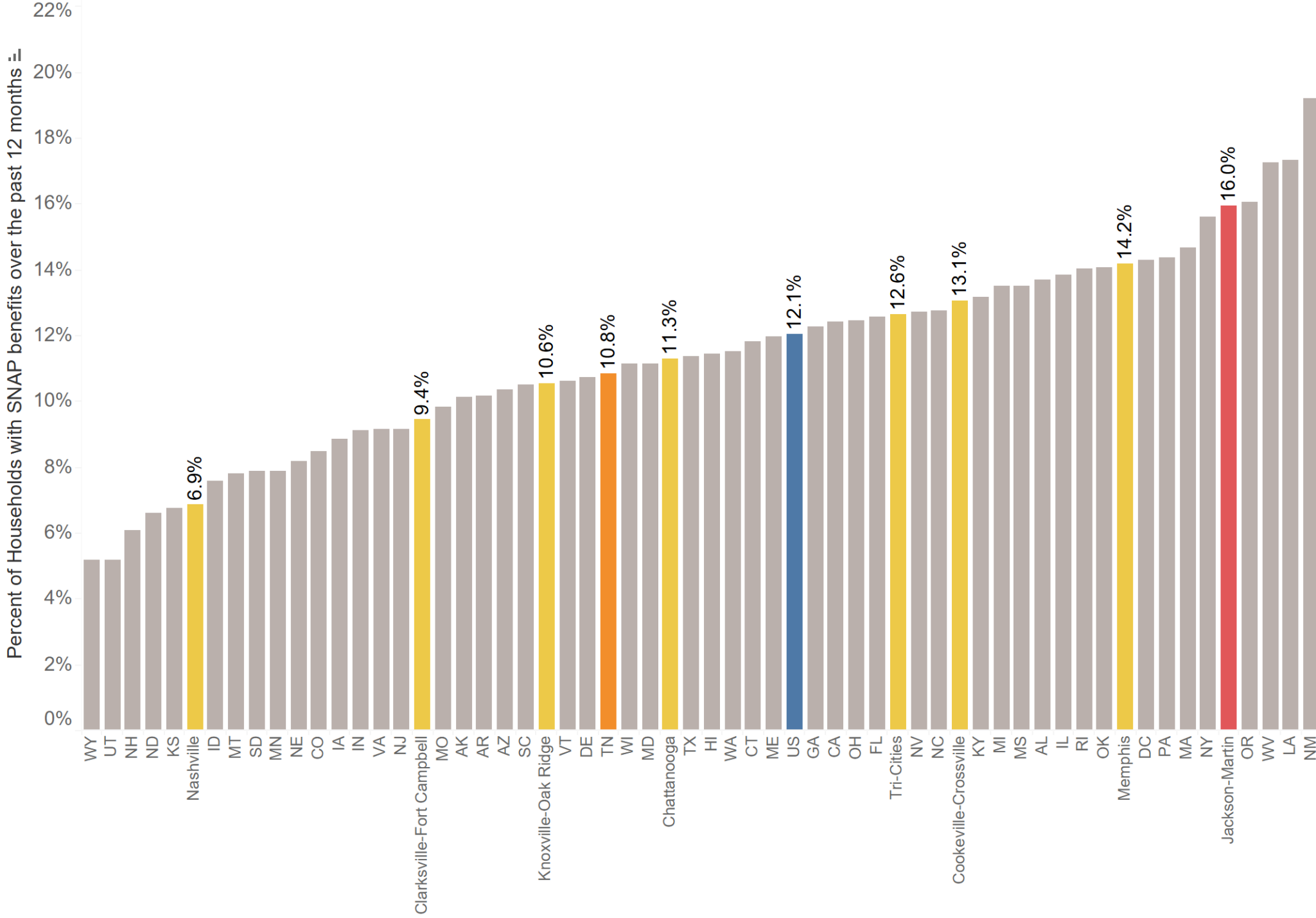
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Poverty Rate, 2024



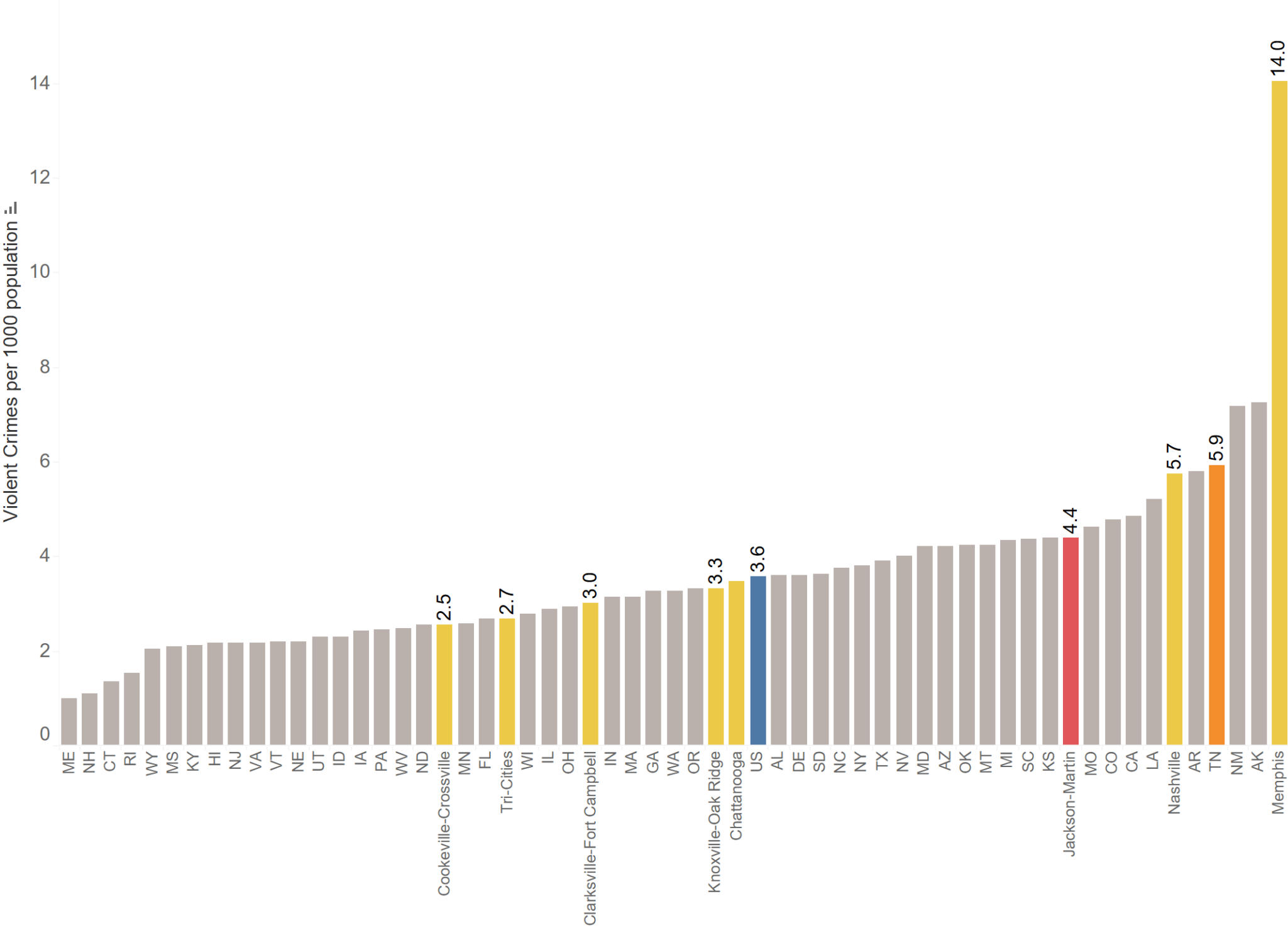
Source: US Cluster Mapping Project; ACS5

Households Receiving SNAP Benefits, 2024



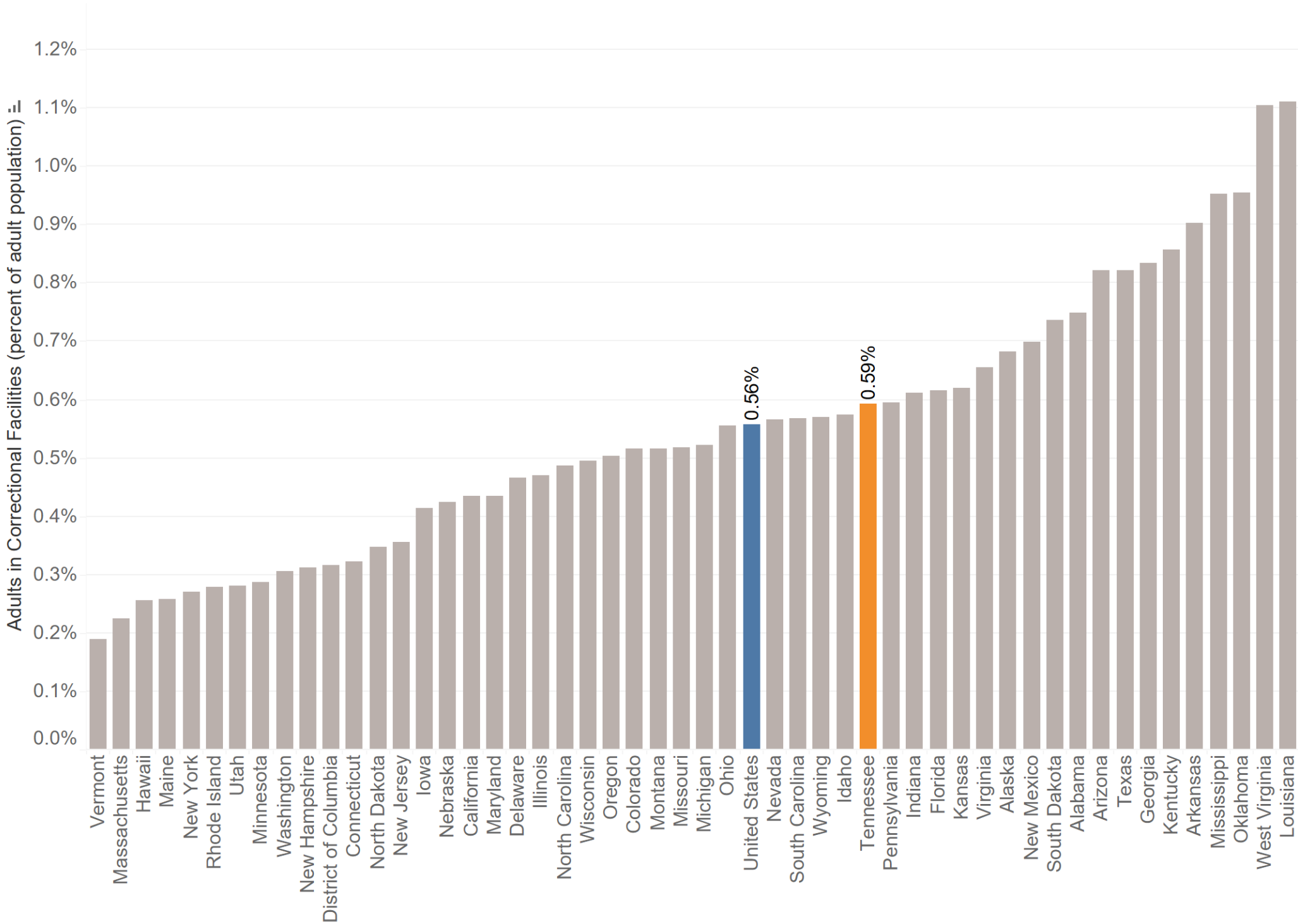
Source: US Cluster Mapping Project; Census ACS5

Violent Crime Rate, 2024



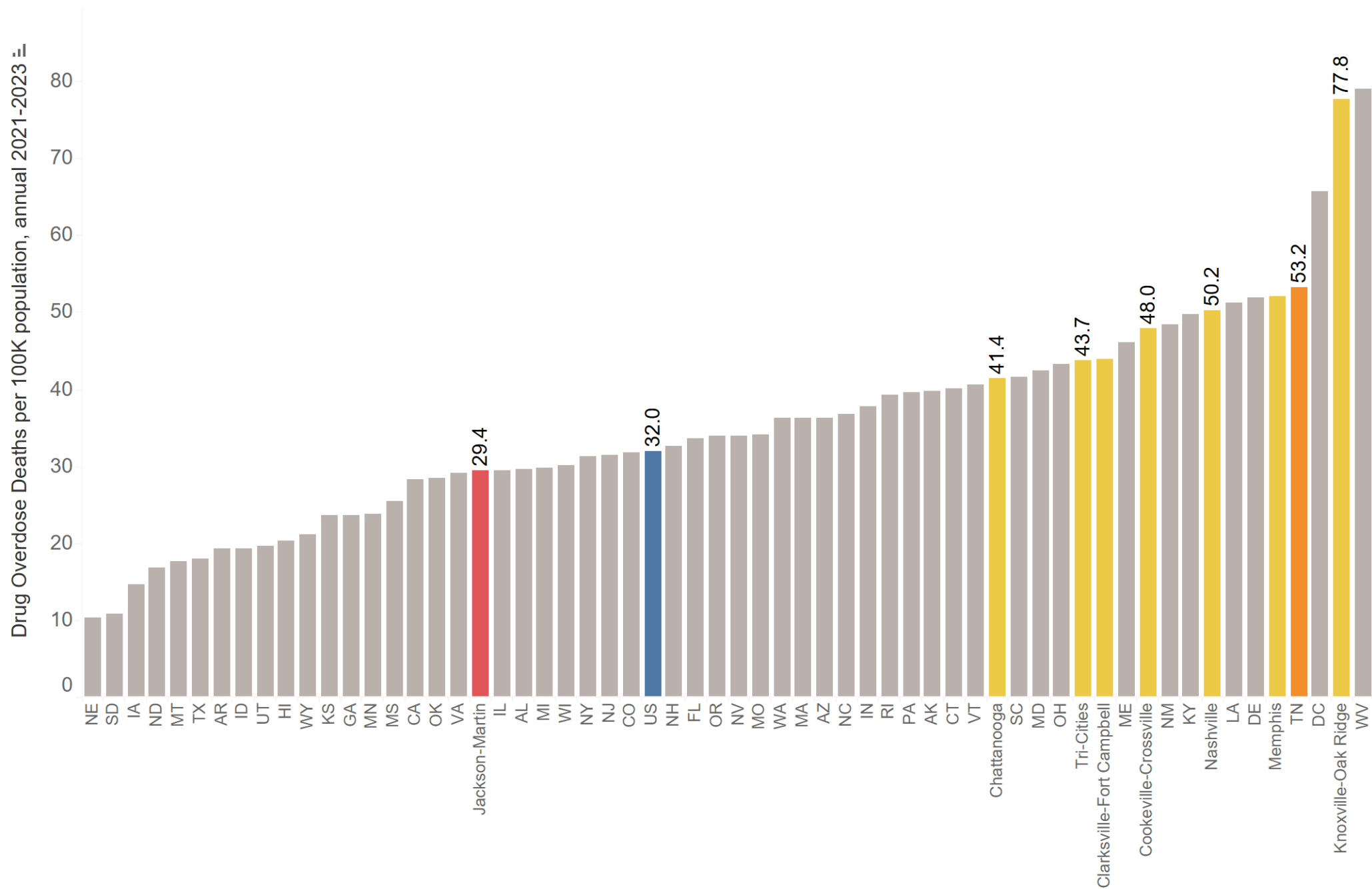
Source: US Cluster Mapping Project; FBI

Adults in Correctional Facilities, 2024

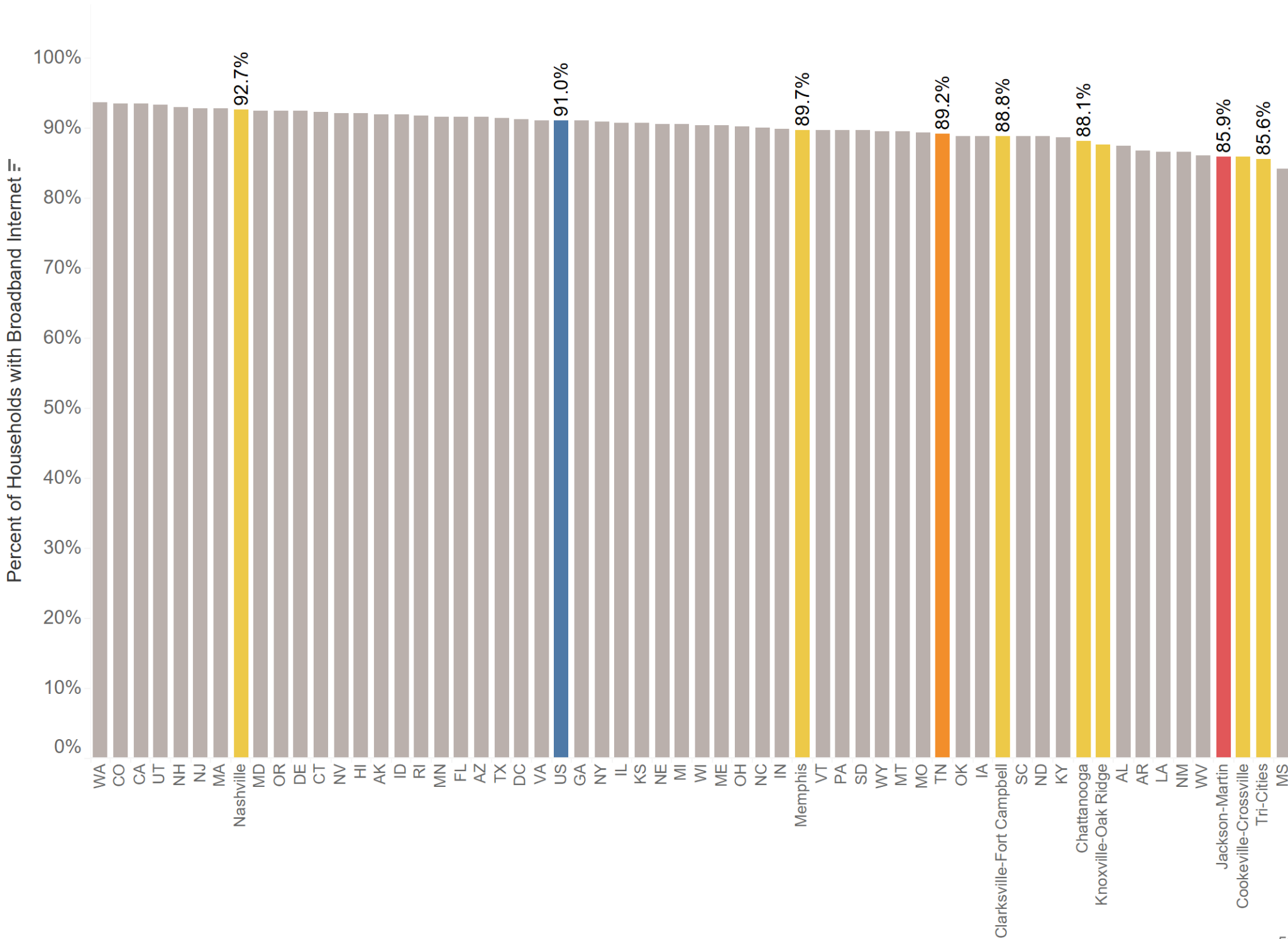


Source: US Cluster Mapping Project; EIA SEDS

Drug Overdose Deaths per 100k Population average annual 2021-2023

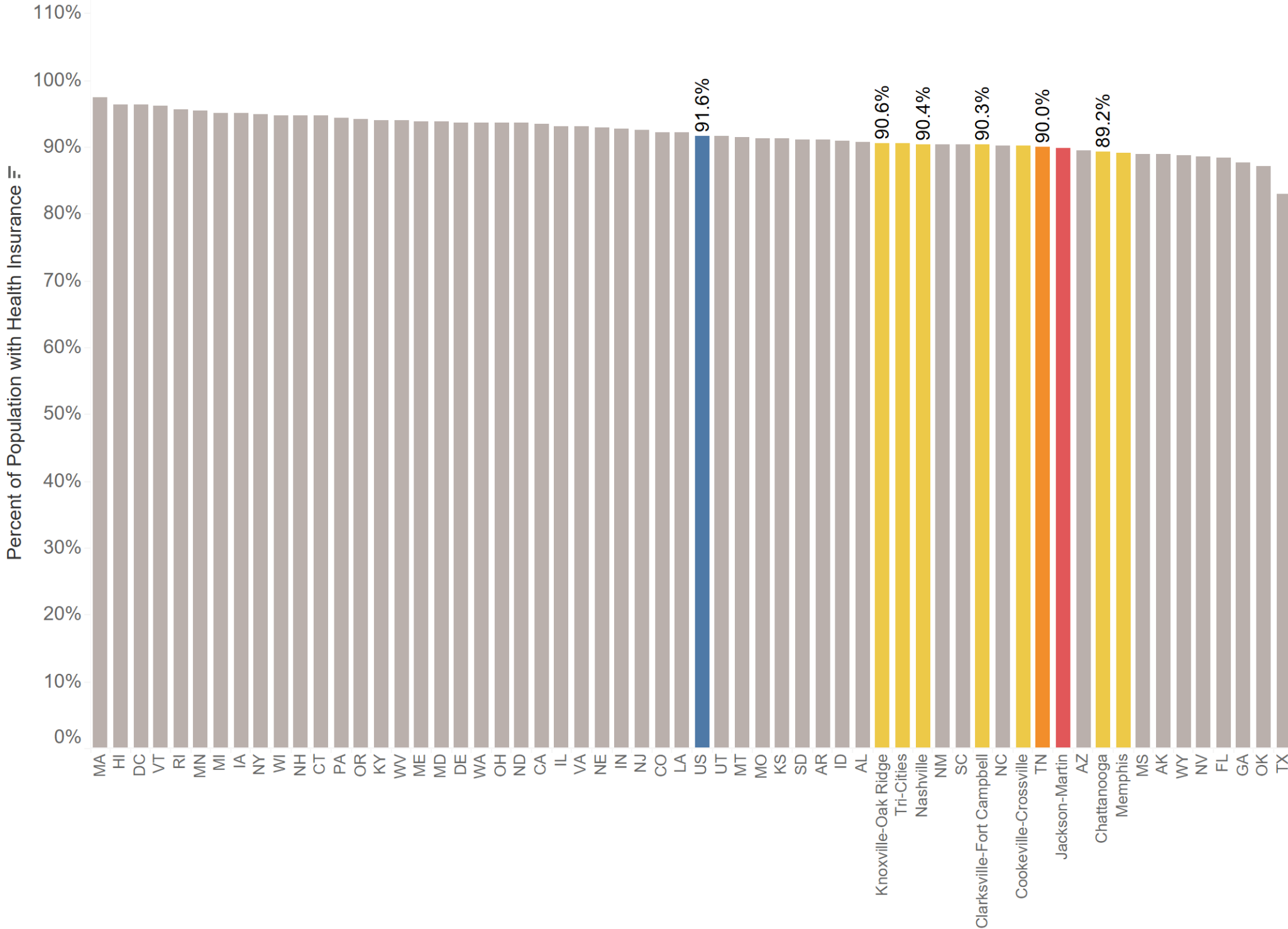


Broadband Adoption, 2024



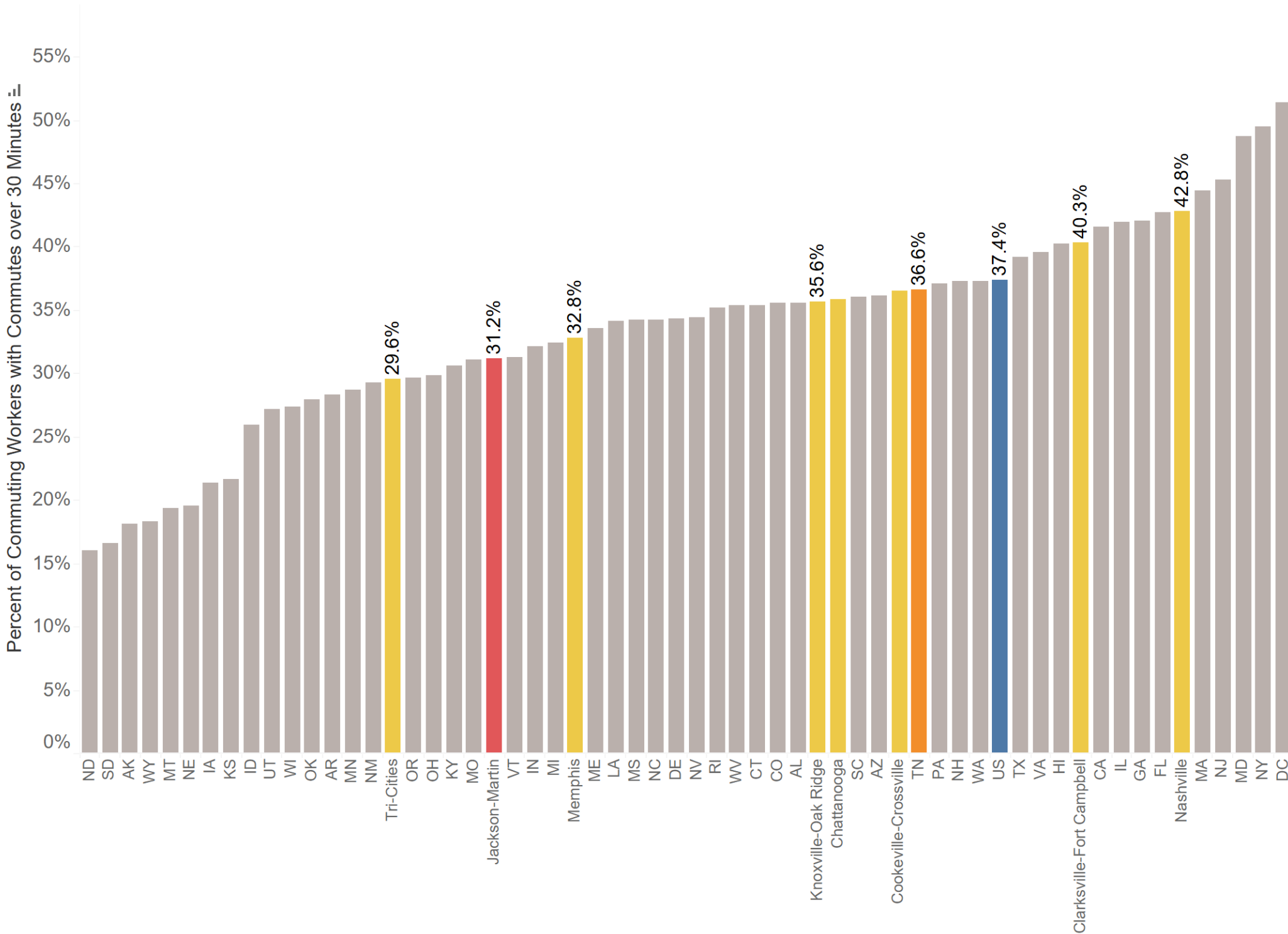
Source: US Cluster Mapping Project; Census ACS5

Health Insurance Coverage Rate, 2024



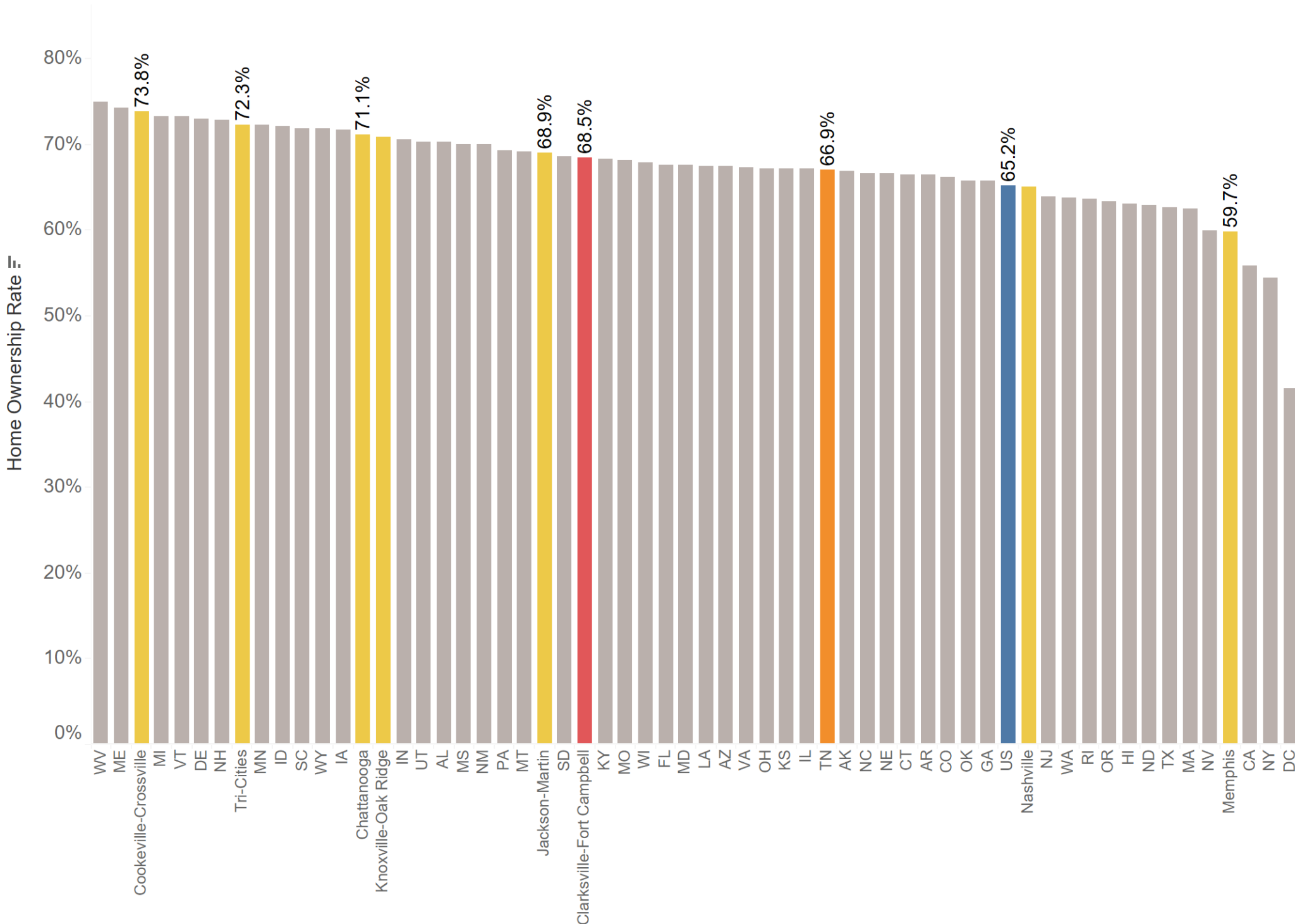
Source: US Cluster Mapping Project; Census ACS5

Percent of Workers with Long Commutes, 2024



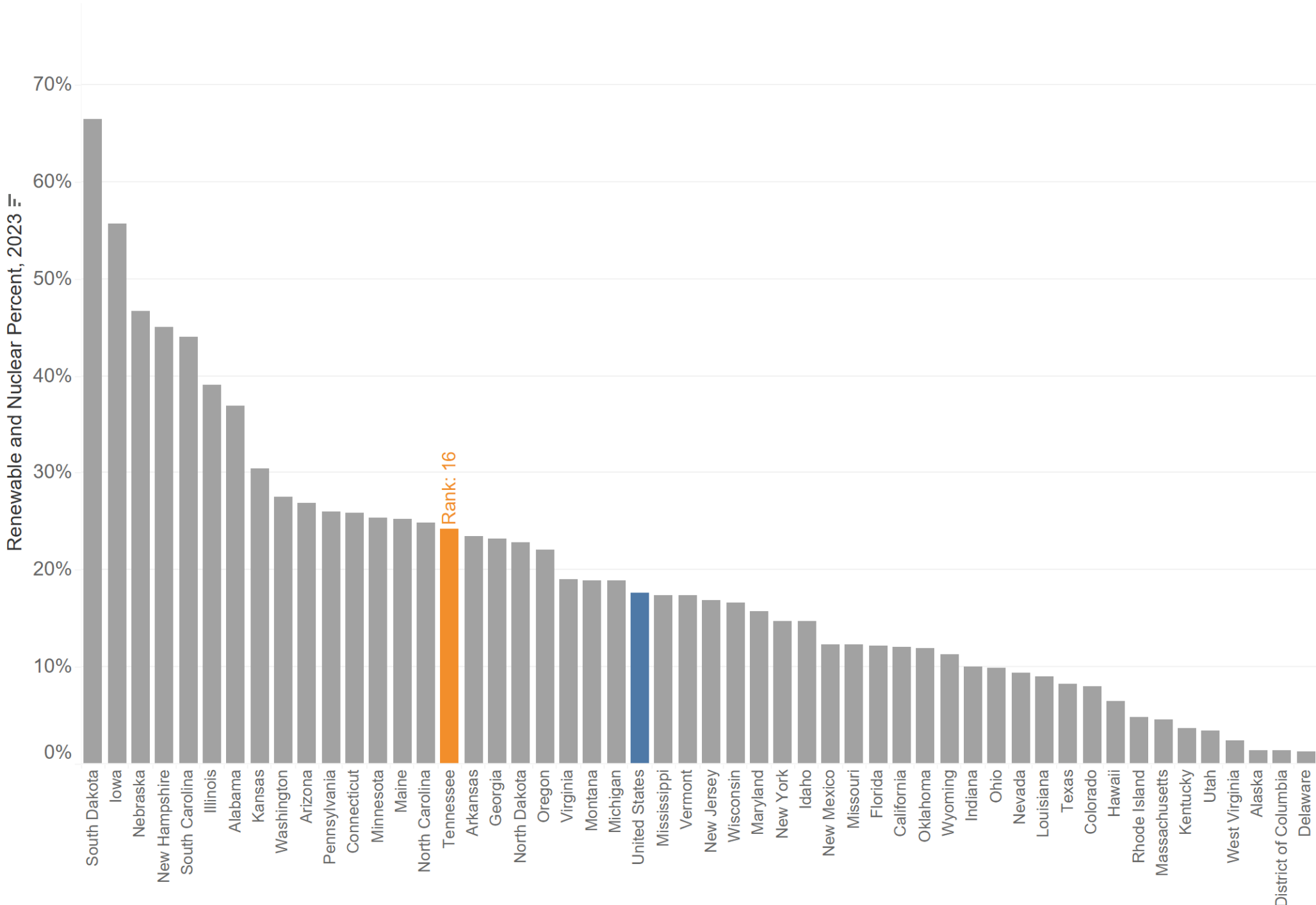
Source: US Cluster Mapping Project; Census ACS5

Home Ownership Rate, 2024



Source: US Cluster Mapping Project; Census ACS5

Renewable and Nuclear Energy Production as a Percent of Consumption, 2023



Source: US Cluster Mapping Project; EIA SEDS

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