



WICHITA STATE
UNIVERSITY

W. FRANK BARTON
SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

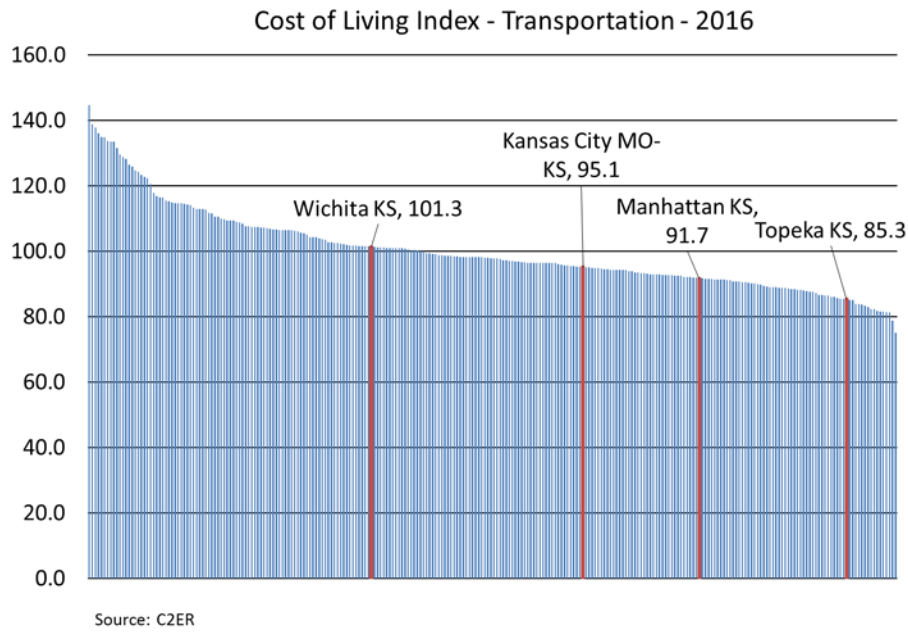
Center for Economic Development
and Business Research

Cost of Living Transportation Index

2016 Annual Average

The Cost of Living Index, from The Council for Community and Economic Research (C2ER), measures regional differences in the cost of consumer goods and services, excluding taxes and non-consumer expenditures, for professional and managerial households in the top income quintile. This index includes more than 90,000 prices covering 60 different items collected each quarter. The index measures the relative price levels in participating areas. The average for all participating places equals 100, and each area's index is a percentage of the average for all areas.

One of the index components measures the relative price of transportation between areas. The majority of the areas included in the index, 59 percent, had transportation prices below the national average in 2016. However, the 41 percent of places with transportation prices above the national average were well above the national average. The three Kansas metropolitan areas included in the index, averaged 3.5 percent below the national average when weighted by population.



The metropolitan areas of the country with the highest transportation prices were in the western part of the United States, with the exception of New York. The top ten most expensive urban areas for groceries in 2016 were on average 35.9 percent above the national average. Four of the ten metropolitan areas with the lowest prices for transportation were in Oklahoma. The ten least expensive urban areas in 2016 for groceries were on average 19.2 percent below the national average.

Ten Most Expensive Urban Areas - 2016

Ranking	Urban Areas	COLI
1	Kodiak AK	144.7
2	Seattle WA	138.7
3	Orange County CA	137.7
4	San Francisco CA	135.9
5	Hilo HI	134.8
6	Juneau AK	134.8
7	New York (Manhattan) NY	133.6
8	Los Angeles-Long Beach CA	133.5
9	Honolulu HI	133.4
10	San Diego CA	131.4

Source: C2ER

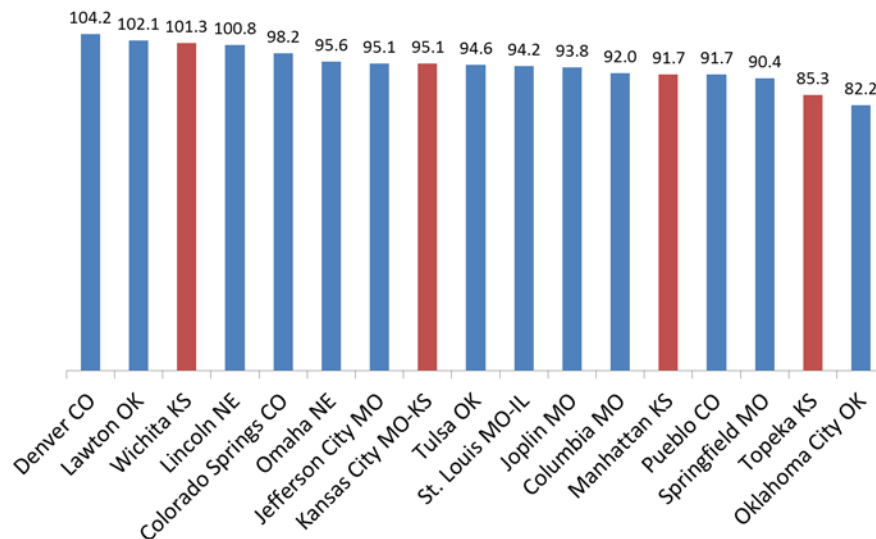
Ten Least Expensive Urban Areas - 2016

Ranking	Urban Areas	COLI
1	Thomasville-Lexington NC	74.9
2	Augusta-Aiken GA-SC	78.7
3	Norman OK	81.2
4	Cleveland TN	81.3
5	Mason City IA	81.5
6	McAllen TX	81.5
7	Knoxville TN	81.7
8	Muskogee OK	82.2
9	Oklahoma City OK	82.2
10	Stillwater OK	82.8

Source: C2ER

Transportation costs within the five state region surrounding Kansas were generally below the national average. Across the three metropolitan areas in Colorado, the cost of transportation was the highest in the region, 2.5 percent above the national average, when weighted by population. The cost of transportation in the two Nebraska metropolitan areas was three percent below the national average, followed by the three Kansas metropolitan areas at 3.5 percent below the national average. The five Missouri metropolitan areas had a weighted average cost of transportation 5.8 percent below the national average. The three Oklahoma metropolitan areas had the lowest weighted average cost of transportation at 11.9 percent below the national average.

Cost of Living Index - Transportation - 2016



Source: C2ER