

HEADQUARTERS

The Kansas City Region

A High I.Q. for H.Q.'s

The Kansas City region is an ideal location to establish and grow a headquarters operation.

Some of America's most **iconic** brands are homegrown in KC, including Garmin International, Hallmark, H&R Block, Sprint, and American Century Investments.

A variety of **global technology** companies have chosen to locate their world headquarters in the Kansas City region. These companies include Garmin (navigational devices), Cerner (medical information software), Perceptive Software, Inc., and Lexmark Int. (imaging software).

Many companies relocate their headquarters to the Kansas City region for its **central location** and proximity to market and customer base. These include Nordic WindPower (wind energy), Synbiotics Corporation (animal health), Grundfos, Inc. (industrial equipment), and Newport Television (media group).

Listed below are a few more reasons KC is ideal for corporate headquarters.

- ◆ **Talent Rich Environment**

The ability to recruit and retain top tier talent separates the good companies from the great. Kansas City provides corporate headquarter operations the ability to draw the best talent—and keep it. The Kansas City job market is a magnet for over **100,000 students graduating** from regional colleges and universities annually. The Kansas City area provides employers with a **highly educated labor force with 32% of the population possessing a four-year degree**—5% higher than the U.S. average.

- ◆ **Air Service**

KC's **central location** provides business travelers the ability to reach every major market in the U.S. in just **three hours** flight time. Plus, KC is consistently **one of the most affordable** air travel markets in the U.S. **Kansas City International Airport's** passenger-friendly layout makes it easy to get in and out quickly. KCI serves **50 markets** across North America with non-stop air service.

- ◆ **Options**

With **two states, 18 counties** and **50 plus communities**, Kansas City gives executives something all consumers crave—choice. Two state tax structures, double the incentive programs and urban and suburban location options. All offered in one market—**OneKC**.

- ◆ **Cost Competitive and Value Conscious**

Kansas City is consistently ranked among the **most affordable major markets** in which to live and operate a business.

- ◆ **Major League**

Kansas City offers **big-city** advantages without many of the hassles usually associated with major metropolitan areas. KC is synonymous with accessibility and value. Immerse yourself in a world-class arts scene, cheer on major league sports teams, and enjoy exceptional dining and shopping—all in a cosmopolitan setting that has been described as one of the most European of all American cities.

Less Hassles

Commute times in the KC region are 23% less than the U.S. average.

Time lost to traffic delays is 17% below the national norm.

More freeway miles per capita than any other major city in the U.S.

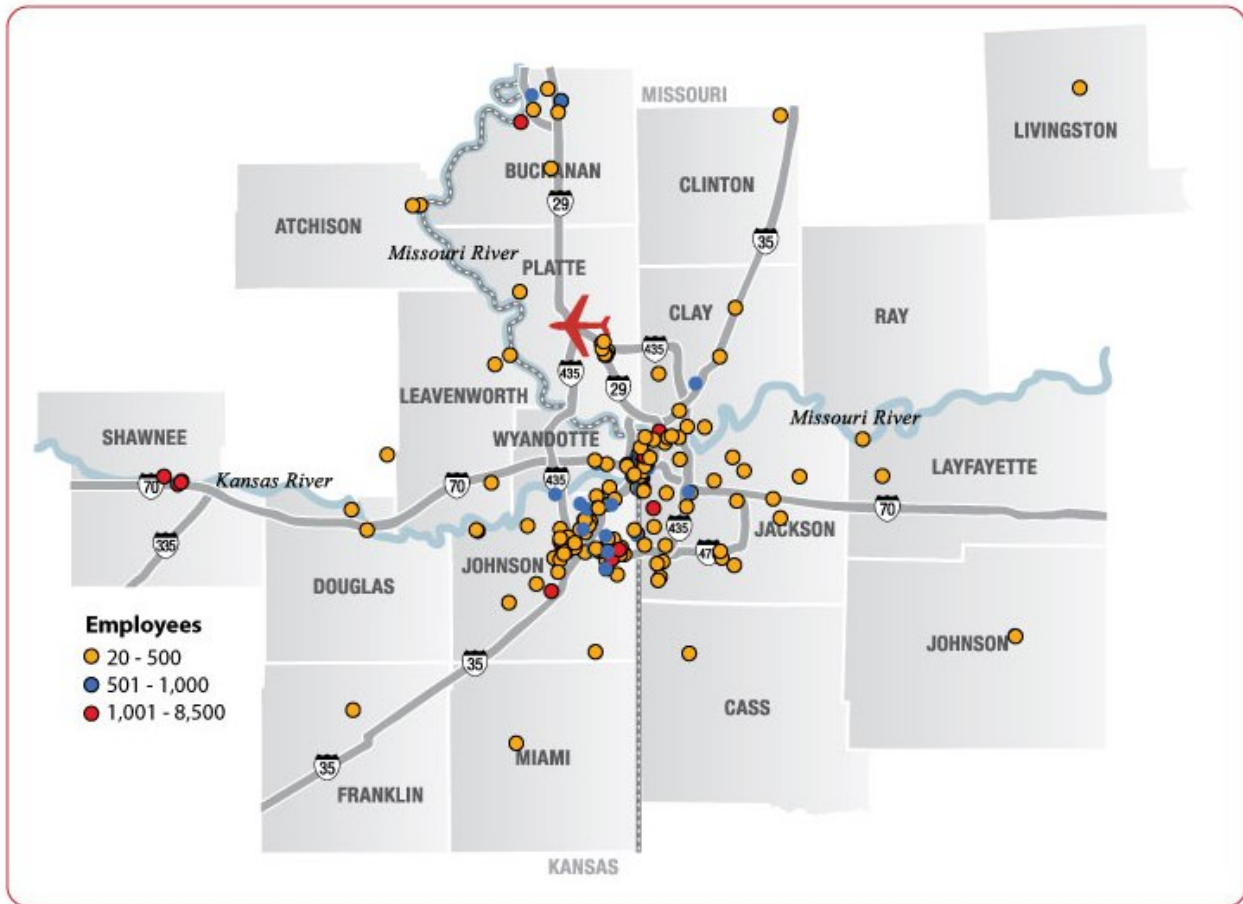
Housing Stat

Kansas City consistently ranks as one of the most affordable major markets for housing in the U.S.

For More
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HEADQUARTERS REGIONAL SNAPSHOT



Select Headquarters in the Kansas City Region

- ◆ AMC Entertainment, Inc.
- ◆ American Century Investments
- ◆ Bayer Healthcare, Animal Health Division
- ◆ Black & Veatch
- ◆ Burns & McDonnell
- ◆ Capital Federal Financial
- ◆ Cerner Corporation
- ◆ Collective Brands
- ◆ Commerce Bancshares
- ◆ DST Systems
- ◆ Farmland Foods
- ◆ Garmin International
- ◆ Gear for Sports
- ◆ George K. Baum & Co.
- ◆ Great Plains Energy, Inc.
- ◆ H&R Block, Inc.
- ◆ Hallmark Cards, Inc.
- ◆ Hill's Pet Nutrition, Inc.
- ◆ JE Dunn
- ◆ Lee Jeans
- ◆ Nordic WindPower
- ◆ Russell Stover Candies, Inc.
- ◆ Seaboard Corporation
- ◆ Sprint
- ◆ UMB Financial Corporation
- ◆ Westar Energy, Inc.

“The one-time trading post of Kansas City has emerged as a major metropolitan city in the Midwest. Famous for its music, food, and ever-present fountains, the “Heart of America” is in the midst of a downtown redevelopment program.”

ESPN Sports Travel
 2008