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Comparison of Four Metropolitan Areas On Adjusted Median Household Income

Nashville and Davidson County surpass New York City, Los Angeles and Chicago when Median Household Income is adjusted for the Cost of Living Index of each area. Nashville's suburban counties are also wealthier than most of the other's suburban counties. Some Chicago suburbs come out ahead, but then there's the weather.

City / County	Median Household Income	Cost of Living Index	Adjusted Median Household Income
Nashville	\$ 45,540	89.4	\$ 50,940
Davidson County	\$ 46,413	86.7	\$ 53,533
Suburban Counties			
Williamson County	\$ 93,166	90.7	\$ 102,719
Wilson County	\$ 59,796	86.1	\$ 69,449
Cheatham County	\$ 56,602	85.5	\$ 66,201
Sumner County	\$ 55,305	85.6	\$ 64,609
Rutherford County	\$ 54,335	85.6	\$ 63,475
Robertson County	\$ 48,055	83.8	\$ 57,345



City / County	Median Household Income	Cost of Living Index	Adjusted Median Household Income
New York City	\$ 50,033	161.9	\$ 30,904
Counties			
Richmond County	\$ 72,557	147.4	\$ 49,225
New York County	\$ 68,402	170.1	\$ 40,213
Queens County	\$ 55,599	155.2	\$ 35,824
Kings County	\$ 43,172	170.0	\$ 25,395
Bronx County	\$ 35,108	164.4	\$ 21,355
Suburban Counties			
Nassau County	\$ 94,856	142.7	\$ 66,472
Putnam County	\$ 88,929	139.6	\$ 63,703
Suffolk County	\$ 85,091	142.4	\$ 59,755
Rockland County	\$ 84,076	143.6	\$ 58,549
Westchester County	\$ 79,195	147.5	\$ 53,692
Orange County	\$ 70,345	136.1	\$ 51,686
Dutchess County	\$ 68,752	136.4	\$ 50,405

City / County	Median Household Income	Cost of Living Index	Adjusted Median Household Income
Chicago	\$ 45,734	108.3	\$ 42,229
Cook County	\$ 54,559	106.3	\$ 51,325
Suburban Counties			
Kendall County	\$ 85,630	103.9	\$ 82,416
McHenry County	\$ 79,656	102.8	\$ 77,486
Lake County	\$ 78,617	103.9	\$ 75,666
Will County	\$ 76,561	101.3	\$ 75,578
DuPage County	\$ 77,040	105.5	\$ 73,024
Kane County	\$ 66,834	103.2	\$ 64,762
La Salle County	\$ 49,617	78.0	\$ 63,612
Grundy County	\$ 60,738	101.0	\$ 60,137
DeKalb County	\$ 55,266	101.8	\$ 54,289
Kankakee County	\$ 49,987	99.3	\$ 50,339

City / County	Median Household Income	Cost of Living Index	Adjusted Median Household Income
Los Angeles City	\$ 48,617	135.2	\$ 35,959
Los Angeles County	\$ 55,452	137.9	\$ 40,212
Suburban Counties			
Ventura County	\$ 76,190	122.4	\$ 62,247
Santa Barbara County	\$ 60,645	101.3	\$ 59,867
San Luis Obispo County	\$ 60,088	110.7	\$ 54,280
Kern County	\$ 44,716	84.8	\$ 52,731
Riverside County	\$ 57,590	113.6	\$ 50,695
San Diego County	\$ 62,820	128.1	\$ 49,040
San Bernardino County	\$ 54,768	113.5	\$ 48,254

2008 Median Household Income (MHI) Data from US Census Bureau. 2009 ACCRA Cost of Living Index via City-Data.com. Adjusted MHI calculated.