

For statistical purposes, we considered the south metropolitan region of Chicago to consist of 20 townships, 5 in the southern most part of Cook County, Illinois and the remaining 15 in the eastern part of Will County, Illinois. Table "X" presents a demographic profile of the south metropolitan region of Chicago, compiled from data from Census of the U.S. Population, 2000. The table also presents a comparable demographic profile for the entire Chicago metropolitan area.

In the year 2000, the south metropolitan area of Chicago had a population of about 830,000 people, which was 10% of the entire Chicago metropolitan area. Both the south metropolitan region and the entire Chicago metropolitan area have diverse populations. In the south metro area, 8% of the population are Hispanic and 28% were non-Hispanic African Americans. Thus, the population in the south metro area are more likely to African Americans and less likely to Hispanic than in Chicago metropolitan areas as a whole. In the south metropolitan area, 6% of the population was foreign-born, which was considerably less than the entire Chicago metropolitan area. In the south metro area, 8% of the population had incomes less than the poverty level and an addition 12% had incomes less than twice the poverty level. People in the south metro area were somewhat less likely to be below poverty or near poverty than in the rest of the Chicago metropolitan area. Compared to the entire metropolitan region, people in the south metro area were more likely to have at least a high school diploma and were less likely to be college graduates. Six percent of the adult population in the south metropolitan area were unemployed, the same as in the entire metropolitan region.

There is considerable variation in the population characteristics among the various communities in the south metro area. Of the 20 townships that comprise the south metro area, 3 are completely rural (i.e., they have not urbanized areas). In certain communities, are almost all the population is African American; and in others communities, the vast majority of the population is Hispanic. Some communities have high rates of poverty and unemployment, while others have very little.

Table X: Demographic Profiles of the South Metropolitan Area of Chicago and the Entire Chicago Metropolitan Region

	South Metro Area of Chicago	Entire Chicago Metropolitan Area
<u>Total Population</u>	830,000	8,270,000
<u>Race/Ethnicity</u>		
Non-Hispanic, White	61%	58%
Non-Hispanic, Black	28%	19%
Non-Hispanic, Other	3%	6%
Hispanic	8%	17%
<u>% Foreign-born</u>	6%	17%
<u>Age Distribution</u>		
0 - 20	32%	31%
21 - 64	56%	58%
65+	11%	11%
<u>% Rural</u>	3%	2%
<u>Ratio of Income to Poverty Level</u>		
< 1.0	8%	11%
1.0 -2.0	12%	14%
> 2.0	80%	76%
<u>Educational Attainment (age 25 and over)</u>		
< High School Graduate	16%	19%
High School Graduate	30%	24%
Some College	33%	27%
College Degree (bachelors or higher)	21%	30%
<u>% Unemployment</u>	6%	6%

Source: U.S. Census of Population, 2000. Compiled from American FactFinder, at <http://factfinder.census.gov>