Chapter 4 Questions and Exercises

Land Values and Land Use in Metropolitan Areas

1. In the metropolitan area closest to you, or another one of your choice, where are largest manufacturing firms located? How about the largest financial industry firms and the largest retail businesses (for food, clothes, and for other goods bought by families)? How, if at all, can you relate the patterns you find to the Alonso model of land costs and land use? How, if at all, do the patterns you find reflect the location of the markets for the industries? How, if at all, do they reflect access to railroads, highways, airports, or harbors? How, if at all, do they reflect agglomeration economies?

The Rise of the Suburbs

1. This chapter discusses the construction of highways that connected cities to suburbs and suburbs to other suburbs. Go to the following website: [www.mapquest.com](http://www.mapquest.com).

Type in the name of a city of your choice and look at the road map MapQuest provides. Identify the major routes used by commuters traveling by automobile. How many of these routes are interstates (identifiable by a red, white, and blue shield)? How do you think access to interstate roadways has affected the growth of communities in your area?

The Relocation of Industry and Workforces to Other Metro Areas

The Bureau of the Census has data on the mean and median center of population of the United States. Go to the following Web address: <https://www.census.gov/dataviz/visualizations/050>.

1. How has this center of population changed since 1900? Which factors caused this movement?

Metro Areas and Immigration After World War II

1. Using US census data, select any five cities in the United States and develop a chart indicating the percentage of foreign-born individuals from 1970 through 2010. Taking the city with the largest foreign-born population, consider what factors might have attracted these immigrants to this city.