

Reference Material about Local Economic Development

The following reference materials provide more information and/or support of the points made in Chapter One of LASER.

1. The vast majority of new jobs are created by small and medium sized firms, not large employers.

The U.S. Small Business Administration tracks new job growth, and has the data on the role that small business play on their FAQ web site:

<http://www.sba.gov/advo/stats/sbfaq.pdf>

2. New markets, jobs, capital, technology, and economic expansion are generated when cities start to produce goods and services that were previously provided by distant exporters.

Cohen, Michael, et al. **Preparing for the Urban Future: Global Pressures and Local Forces.** (Woodrow Wilson Press, 1996)

<http://www.amazon.com/Preparing-Urban-Future-Pressures-Woodrow/dp/094387579X/>

Jacobs, Jane. **Cities and the Wealth of Nations: Principles of Economic Life.** (Vintage Books, 1985)

<http://www.amazon.com/Cities-Wealth-Nations-Vintage-Jacobs/dp/0394729110>

Maki, Wilbur R. **Urban Regional Economics: Concepts, Tools, Applications.** (Iowa State University Press, 2000)

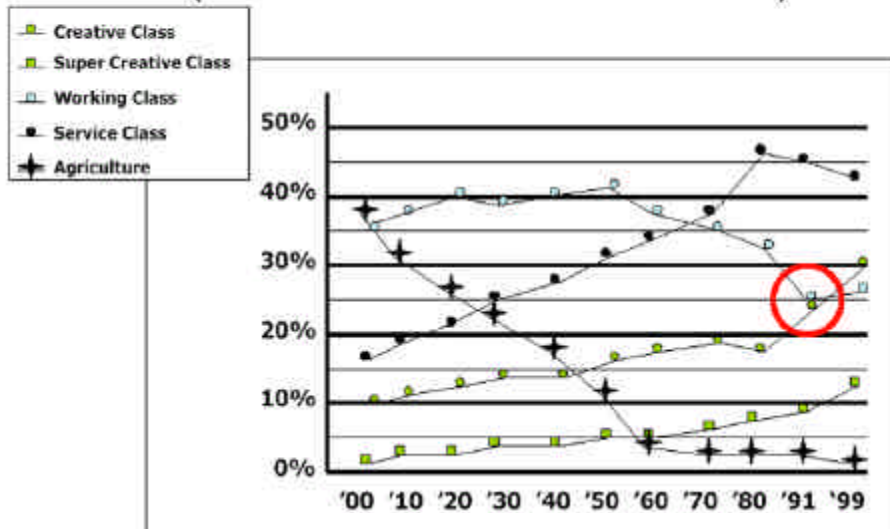
<http://www.amazon.com/Urban-Regional-Economics-Concepts-Applications/dp/0813826799/>

Schuman, Michael H. **Going Local: Creating Self-Reliant Communities in a Global Age.** (Routledge, 1998)

<http://www.amazon.com/Going-Local-Creating-Self-Reliant-Communities/dp/0415927684/>

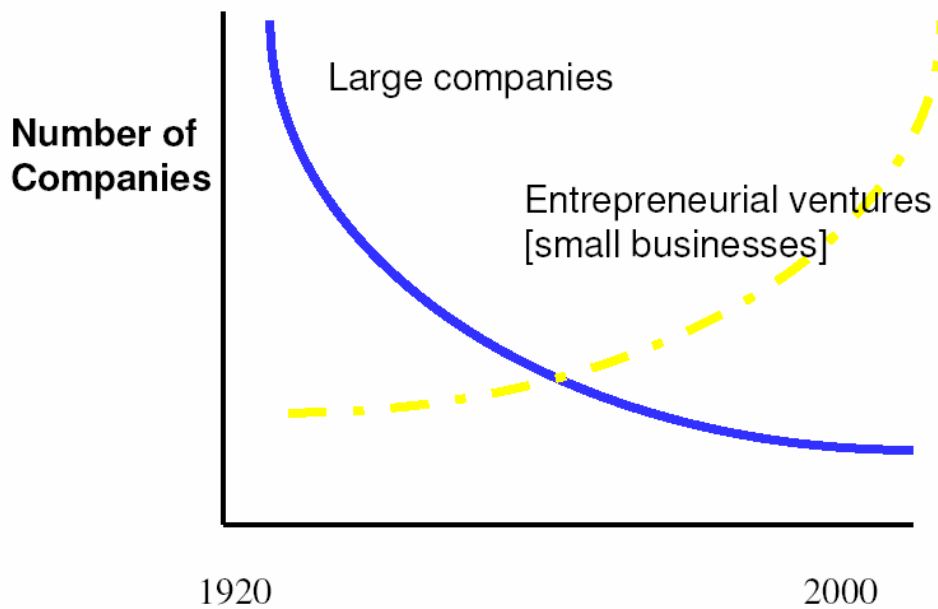
3. Start-up, innovative, entrepreneurial enterprises are on the increase in the 21st Century, while many of the large manufacturers that dominated the economies of the 19th and 20th Centuries are declining.

The Class Structure, 1900-1999 (Percent of Work Force)



Source: University of Illinois at Urbana: Academy for Entrepreneurial Leadership (UIUC AEL)

Changing Landscape



Source: University of Illinois at Urbana: Academy for Entrepreneurial Leadership (UIUC AEL)

- 4. Local long-term wealth creation and economic security are dependent on local ownership of productive capacity; simply receiving wages for employment while the profits are exported to distant corporate centers robs the local economy of the capital it needs to succeed.**

Green, Gary Paul and Haines, Anna. **Asset Building and Community Development.** (Sage Publications, 2002).

Henton, Douglas, Melville, John G. Melville, Walesh, Kimberly. **Grassroots Leaders for a New Economy: How Civic Entrepreneurs Are Building Prosperous Communities** (Jossey Bass Nonprofit & Public Management Series, 1997)

Wolman, William and Colamosca, Anne. **The Judas Economy: the triumph of capital and the betrayal of work.** (Perseus Books, 1997)

- 5. An over-reliance on export-led development will undermine the long-term economic health of a community. Equal attention must be paid to local needs and markets. Similarly, communities that develop local exchange systems and reduce reliance on the national currency can enhance long-term local wealth creation.**

Lietaer, Bernard. **The Future of Money: Creating New Wealth, Work, and a Wiser World.** (Random House, 2001)

Solomon, Lewis D. **Rethinking our Centralized Monetary System: The Case for a System of Local Currencies.** (Praeger Publishers, 1996)

- 6. Companies that are not locally owned are much less sensitive to community needs and environmental conditions, and can make communities vulnerable to sudden downturns when one large externally-owned or managed employer cuts back or goes out of business.**

Foust, Dean. **Blues for a Company Town: R.J. Reynolds' latest layoffs will leave a gaping hole in Winston-Salem's economy.** (Business Week, October 6, 2003)
http://www.businessweek.com/magazine/content/03_40/b3852061.htm

Kirsch, Max H. **In the Wake of the Giant: Multinational Restructuring and Uneven Development in a New England Community.** (SUNY Press, 1998)

Mayer, Henry J. and Greenberg, Michael R., **Coming Back from Economic Despair: Case Studies of Small- and Medium-Size American Cities.** (Economic Development Quarterly, 2001) <http://edq.sagepub.com/cgi/content/abstract/15/3/203>

Moore, Thomas S. and De Gruyter, Aldine. **The Disposable Workforce: Worker Displacement and Employment Instability in America.** (Questia Press, 1996)
<http://www.questia.com/PM.qst?a=o&d=11203912>