Future Trends

**Mobility**

- **U.S. Gas Prices**
  - 2000: $1.07
  - 2002: $1.38
  - 2005: $2.31
  - 2008: $3.50
  - 2011: $4.00

- **Car Sales**
  - 2000-2010
  - 30% decrease
  - Honda Civic: 50%
  - Toyota Prius: 70%

- **U.S. workers carpool**
  - 12%: lowest since 1980's

- **U.S workers use public transit**
  - 5%: maintained since 1990

**Technology**

- **Cloud Technology** has allowed for increased networking systems, making it more possible to work from home.

- **Telecomuting**: A work arrangement where the employee enjoys the flexibility in working location and hours. Also referred to as:
  - **Nomad Workers**
  - **Web Comuters**

- **8 out of 10 employees would work from home**

- **42% employers have allowed staff to work from home**

- **20 million** work from home at least one day per week, up 75% since 2005

**Specilization**

- **Brand Diversification**
  - John Deere in recent years has begun to expand into fields related to farming and farm equipment, specifically landscaping. Where possible John Deere has sought to buyout existing landscape nurseries within local communities often keeping the same employees and location. The company has also begun to offer lines of credit to landscape professionals and retail customers.

**Standarization**

- **Regionalization**
  - Oct 14, 2010
  - Wal-Mart announces Global Sustainable Agriculture Goals
  - Support Farmers and their Communities
  - Produce more food with less resources and less water
  - Sustainably source key agricultural products

  - “In the U.S., Walmart’s Heritage Agriculture program will help the company double the sale of locally grown food.”

As of March 2011, Walmart’s presence in Tennessee includes:
- **Supercenters**: 107
- **Discount Stores**: 2
- **Neighborhood Markets**: 6
- **Sam’s Clubs**: 16
- **Distribution Centers**: 2