

The State of the Community

A Report on the Socio-Economic Health of the Greater Cincinnati Region

Third Edition December 10, 2008



LIVE UNITED™



United Way
of Greater Cincinnati



Friends:

In 2004, with the help of other regional organizations, United Way of Greater Cincinnati offered the people of the Greater Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky region the first edition of *The State of the Community*. Now, four years later, we are pleased to offer the third edition of this important report.

Much has changed since the first edition of *The State of the Community*. Leaders from our community's civic, non-profit, business, and governmental sectors have come together to frame an action agenda for the four core counties of Southwest Ohio (Butler, Clermont, Hamilton, and Warren). Known as Agenda 360, the effort is led by the Cincinnati USA Regional Chamber. It's hoped that, by 2020, this initiative will transform Cincinnati USA into a leading metropolitan region for talent, jobs and economic opportunity for all who call the region home. As this agenda emerges, it will be aligned with Vision 2015, a similar initiative already well developed in Northern Kentucky, and with community improvement initiatives in Southeast Indiana to form a comprehensive regional agenda for the Tri-State region.

United Way has been a partner in both Vision 2015 and Agenda 360 from their inceptions and sees them as important vehicles for community transformation. One way to show our support is by shaping *The State of the Community* report to include indicators of high relevance to both those movements – and that is what we have done in this third edition. We were helped in this effort by Myrita Craig of Agenda 360 and Michael Hammons of Vision 2015, both of whom joined the United Way Research Council, which creates this report.

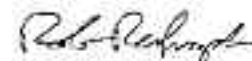
We are deeply indebted to the United Way Research Council and its chair, Dr. James Votruba, president of Northern Kentucky University, for their hard work in conceptualizing and creating this report. The names and organizational affiliations of the talented members of the Council appear on page 6. Likewise, we are grateful for the support given by the Community Research Collaborative – a research partnership of United Way and University of Cincinnati's Institute for Policy Research – to this and many other United Way research projects. Dr. Eric Rademacher, Dr. Kimberly Downing, Mark Carrozza, and their colleagues at the Community Research Collaborative have assembled most of the data supporting the indicators and have helped the Research Council in its work of interpretation.

We are grateful for the ongoing staff support for the United Way Research Council and *The State of the Community* report effort provided by Terry Grundy, director, community impact. Additional valuable help in creating and publishing the report is provided by United Way of Greater Cincinnati's Marketing Team.

We appreciate your support of United Way and your interest in *The State of the Community* and look forward to working with you to make the quality of life in our region as high as it can be for all of our fellow citizens. Turn to this report for understanding, share it with your colleagues and friends and go frequently to the Web-based version of the report at <http://www.crc.uc.edu/> where new data are incorporated as they become available.



Chair, Board of Directors
United Way of Greater Cincinnati



President
United Way of Greater Cincinnati

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A Web-based version of the report, with frequently updated data, is available at <http://www.crc.uc.edu/>.





Introduction to the Third Edition

At this important moment in our region's history, it is essential that we understand how we are faring in certain critical areas – population change, the status of children and youth, the economy, health, education, and social relations. As a comprehensive regional agenda for transformation is formulated, such information will be helpful in charting a future that brings the highest possible quality of life to area residents and that guarantees our region's competitiveness vis-à-vis other similar regions.

As always, the report's key premise is that we can make progress toward solving serious problems and can build on our assets only if we are willing and able to track critical measures of our region's social and economic health over many years. Only in this way will we be able to understand whether the quality of life in our region and sub-regions is improving or not. This knowledge, in turn, will help us assess the effectiveness of our strategies for community improvement.

Those new to *The State of the Community* will find its usefulness enhanced if they know a few key facts about it and the methods used to create it:

- It incorporates 36 high-quality, key indicators of the region's overall socio-economic health in the crucial areas of population, children and youth, educational attainment, health, the economy, and social relations. Where available, supporting data extend to the sub-regions, generally the counties that make up the region.
- The region (2007 estimated population: 2,133,678) encompassed by the study includes:

Brown County, OH	(43,956)
Butler County, OH	(357,888)
Clermont County, OH	(193,490)
Hamilton County, OH	(842,369)
Warren County, OH	(204,390)
Boone County, KY	(112,459)
Bracken County, KY	(8,574)
Campbell County, KY	(86,858)
Gallatin County, KY	(8,035)
Grant County, KY	(25,161)
Kenton County, KY	(156,675)
Pendleton County, KY	(15,058)
Dearborn County, IN	(49,759)
Franklin County, IN	(23,234)
Ohio County, IN	(5,772)

- Each indicator has “stand-alone” value and the entire set of indicators is judged to fairly represent the overall socio-economic health of the region.
- Indicators are chosen, in part, for their strong relevance to public and private sector groups working to increase the community’s quality of life. In this third edition, the indicator set has been modified to align as closely as possible with the civic work of Agenda 360 and Vision 2015.
- Each indicator is accompanied by a brief discussion of *what it is*, *why it matters* and *what the supporting data tell us* – for the region and, where possible, for sub-regions.

Since a key premise of *The State of the Community* is that fundamental indicators of regional well-being must be tracked over time, the publication of a third edition invites us to ask where we’re improving and where we’re losing ground as a regional community. The Executive Summary spells out where we have made progress and where we can improve.

As a community, we should be pleased that our region is doing well in several key areas, compared to the nation as a whole:

- Our region’s **Percent of Population in Poverty** is lower than the national average.
- Our **Violent Crime Rate** and **Murder Rate** are comparatively low.
- Our **Housing Affordability Ratio** and **Average Commute Times** are better than national averages.
- The region’s **Percentage of Workforce 20-35 Years Old** continues to grow, adding a high degree of vigor, productivity and creativity to our regional economy.

However, we need to point out a few areas that should be of concern to all of us:

- The Cincinnati region’s **Population** is growing more slowly than the national average, and regional growth is uneven. This growth rate has very serious regional implications.
- Our region’s **Infant Mortality Rate** continues to exceed the nation’s infant mortality rate.
- Two critical health measures, **Persons Lacking Health Insurance** and **Lack of a Regular Health Care Provider**, show us diverging from national Healthy People 2010 goals.
- The rate of people **Overweight or Obese** in our region diverges from the national goal called for in Healthy People 2010.
- **Unemployment Rates** in the region exceed the nation’s and the **Poverty Rate** is rising.
- In our region, most intergroup contact is between Blacks and Whites as friends, neighbors and/or colleagues. However, **Intergroup Relations** measures show emerging racial and ethnic groups in our region are more isolated.





The State of the Community report does not recommend strategies to solve regional problems nor which organizations should take responsibility. Instead, it is a “tool of understanding” for organizations that care about our regional community and its sub-regions.

Since the first edition, we have been heartened to see several partnerships emerge to address the critical issues identified in *The State of the Community*. In addition to Agenda 360 and Vision 2015, these include the many organizations committed to United Way’s regional *Agenda for Community Impact*, the regional Strive education partnership, BRIDGES for a Just Community, GO Cincinnati, and Better Together Cincinnati, to name just a few. Their work and the work of many other groups are contributing to the progress we are making. We are sure that civic, human service, educational, governmental, and business groups will continue to come together in strategic interventions to address the troubling issues revealed in this edition of *The State of the Community*.

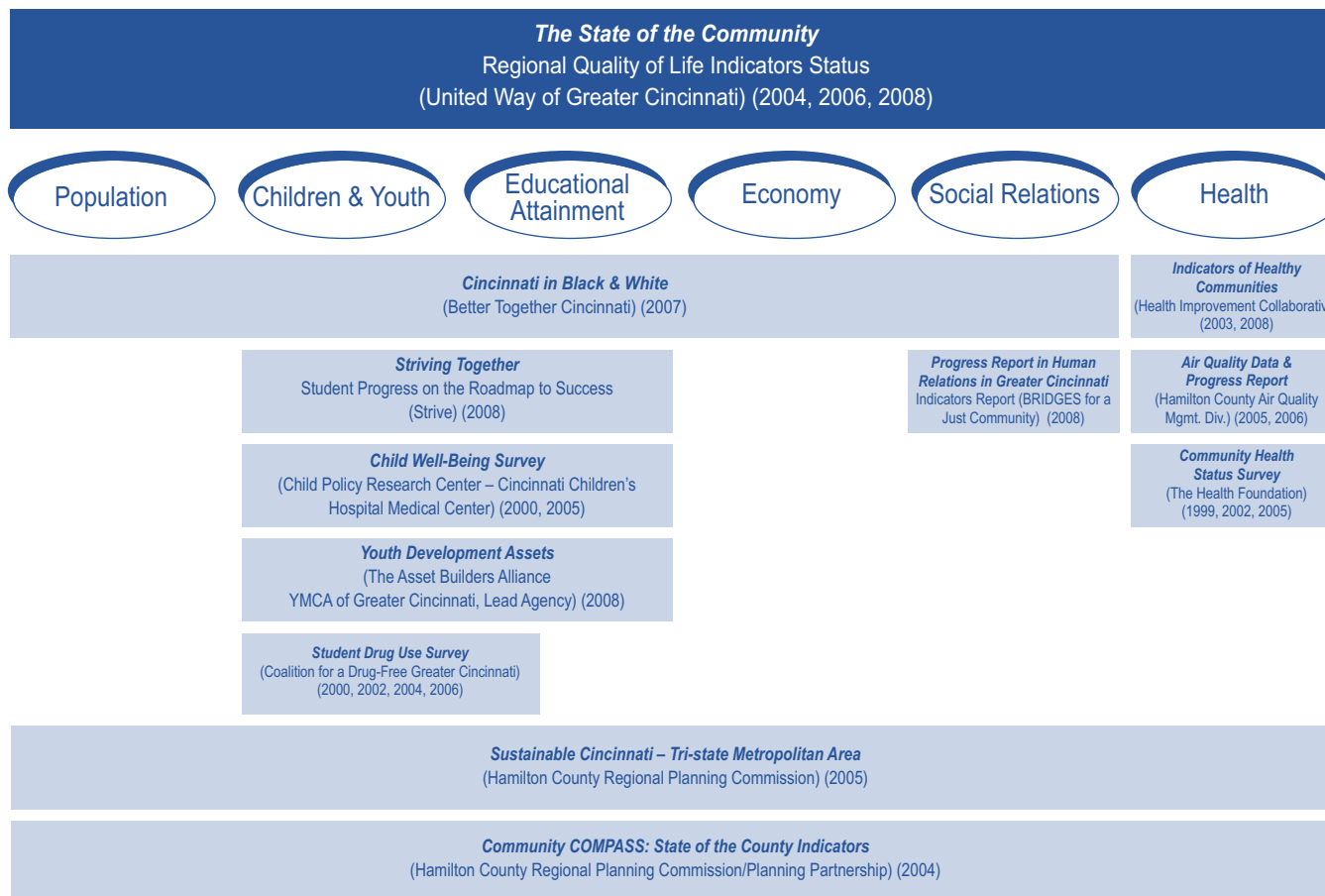
Our Region's Indicators Reports

The Greater Cincinnati Region boasts a wealth of high-quality, timely research and benchmarking reports. These efforts focus on a range of topics including population change, the well-being of our children and youth, educational attainment, the vitality of the region's economy, social relations, and the health status of our community. Each report is anchored to the United Way's *The State of the Community* report, which provides a framework for understanding our community's overall status.

While it is very comprehensive, *The State of the Community* is designed to measure progress only at a very high level. Other organizations working on specific issues must identify more detailed and specific sets of indicators to measure progress in their area of interest and influence.

Periodically measuring a consistent set of indicators at intervals over time will help our community determine whether or not we are making progress — whether we are “moving the needle” in a positive direction in key areas of individual and community well-being.

This “map” illustrates the scope and diversity of regional benchmarking reports.





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Changes Since the Second Edition

In order to continue to provide the most comprehensive assessment of the region's socio-economic health, United Way's Research Council has adopted six new indicators for the third edition of *The State of the Community*:

Newly Added Indicators

- Old-Age Dependency Ratio
- High-Tech Jobs
- Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Degrees
- Water Quality
- Solid Waste
- Intergroup Relations

The indicators **High-Tech Jobs** and **STEM Degrees** are particularly relevant to the work of Agenda 360 and Vision 2015, which seek to attract additional high-skill, high-paying jobs to our regional economy and are added in support of those important community efforts. The indicators **Water Quality** and **Solid Waste** amplify the environmental dimension of the report and likewise align with the work of Agenda 360 and Vision 2015 in the area of insuring a high-quality regional environment.

The United Way Research Council is pleased finally to be able to include a well-developed indicator on **Intergroup Relations**, thanks to a collaborative research effort with BRIDGES for a Just Community. This indicator appeared as a placeholder in the first two editions of *The State of the Community*.

This edition of the report continues to carry three indicators as placeholders: **Early Childhood School Readiness**, **Grade-Level Assessment Tests (4th and 8th grade)** and **High School Graduation**. The United Way Research Council challenges our community and our states to develop data that will meet standards of validity and reliability and allow for regional comparability.

It should be noted that indicators based on United States Census data (which come out every 10 years) could not be updated, though some indicators were updated by using data from the American Community Survey and/or the Current Population Survey.

Indicators No Longer Included in the Report

- Percent of College-Age Persons Attending College
- Enrollment Count of Local Colleges & Universities





Executive Summary

No community indicators study can possibly do justice to the community it hopes to describe. No matter how carefully chosen and wisely interpreted the indicators may be, they cannot capture the rich texture and diversity of a metropolitan region. Critical issues will remain unexplored and significant assets will remain undescribed.

Nevertheless, it is essential to take an honest look at how our region is doing in critical areas of health, education, the environment, the local economy, social relations, and civic participation – and overall. Of course, our community is constantly changing, improving in some areas and losing ground in others, so it is also essential to study key measures over time so that we can discern trends, whether good or bad.

Then, too, it is helpful to see how our sub-regions are doing compared to one another and how our region compares to other regions and to national trends. Armed with these facts, we are in a much better position to decide where to put our community-improvement efforts – separately and collectively.

The purpose of *The State of the Community* is to provide us with that kind of honest look at how our region and sub-regions are doing. This edition of the report includes 36 indicators of the region's socio-economic health which, in the opinion of the United Way Research Council, illuminate critical dimensions of our community's life and which, taken together, can be said to represent fairly how our regional community is doing overall.

We believe the data in the report show that our region as a whole continues to be generally strong and moving in the right direction. Reviewing the 23 indicators for which there are trend lines and national comparisons, we see that we are at or above national averages in 13 (57 percent).

We are strong in seven areas:

- Per Capita Income (especially in Hamilton County)
- Percent of Population in Poverty
- Housing Affordability
- Commuting Time
- Violent Crime
- Murder Rate
- Percent of Workforce 20-35

In 2008, the region's trend is positive for 11 of the 27 indicators (41 percent) for which trendable local data are available and for which there is an agreed-upon desired trend direction – with seven indicators showing no change. Three measures are newly constructed and lack year-over-year data sufficient to determine a trend direction. Summarizing the measures in table form provides a useful overview.

Category & Indicator	How Our Region Compares With National Averages		Our Region's Trend	
	2006 Report	2008 Report	2006 Report	2008 Report
Population:				
• Percent Population Change	At national average	At national average	Slightly positive	Slightly positive
• Race	Slightly below average	Slightly below average	_____	_____
• Ethnicity (Hispanic)	Below average	Below average	_____	_____
• Old Age Dependency Ratio	Not in 2006 report	At national average	Not in 2006 report	No change
Children & Youth:				
• Infant Mortality Rate	Worse	Worse	No change	Negative
• Low Birth Weight	At national average	At national average	No change	No change
• Early Childhood School Readiness	No national data	No national data	Not in 2006 report	Insufficient data to show trend
• Grade-Level Assessment Tests (Ohio)	No national data	No national data	Not in 2006 report	Insufficient data to show trend
• Grade-Level Assessment Tests (Kentucky)	No national data	No national data	Not in 2006 report	Insufficient data to show trend
• Grade-Level Assessment Tests (Indiana)	No national data	No national data	Not in 2006 report	Insufficient data to show trend
• High School Graduation Rates	<i>Placeholder</i>	<i>Placeholder</i>	<i>Placeholder</i>	<i>Placeholder</i>





Category & Indicator	How Our Region Compares With National Averages		Our Region's Trend	
	2006 Report	2008 Report	2006 Report	2008 Report
Educational Attainment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Years of Education for Persons 25+ 	At national average	At national average	No change	Slightly positive
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • STEM Degrees Awarded 	Not in 2006 report	No national data	Not in 2006 report	Insufficient data to show trend
Health: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health Status Index SF-12 	At national average	At national average	No change	No new data
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Underage Substance Abuse 	No national data	No national data	Positive	Positive
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Percent of Adults Smoking 	Worse	Worse	Positive	No new data
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air Quality 	No national data	No national data	No change	Slightly negative
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water Quality 	Not in 2006 report	No national data	Not in 2006 report	Insufficient data to show trend
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Solid Waste 	Not in 2006 report	No national data	Not in 2006 report	Slightly negative
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overweight or Obese 	Slightly worse	Slightly worse	Negative	No new data
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Percent Uninsured 	Incomplete national data	Incomplete national data	Negative	No new data
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of Access to a Regular Health Care Provider 	Incomplete national data	Incomplete national data	Negative	No new data

Category & Indicator	How Our Region Compares With National Averages		Our Region's Trend	
	2006 Report	2008 Report	2006 Report	2008 Report
Economy:				
• Business Starts	No national data	No national data	No change	Positive
• High-Tech Jobs	Not in 2006 report	Slightly worse	Not in 2006 report	No change
• Percent of Job Gain or Loss	Slightly worse	Slightly worse	Positive	Negative
• Percent of Workforce 20-35 Years Old	Slightly worse	Slightly better	Slightly negative	Slightly positive
• Per Capita Income	Better	At national average	Positive	Positive
• Unemployment Rate	Slightly worse	Slightly worse	No change	No change
• Percent of Population in Poverty	Slightly better	Slightly better	Slightly negative	Slightly negative
• Housing Affordability Ratio	Better	Better	No new data	No new data
Social Relations:				
• Average Commute Time	Better	Better	No change	No change
• Residential Segregation	Worse	Worse	No new data	No new data
• Intergroup Relations	Placeholder in 2006 report	Better	Placeholder in 2006 report	Insufficient data to show trend
• Violent Crime	Better	Better	Slightly positive	No new data
• Non-violent Crime	Slightly worse	Slightly worse	No change	No new data
• Murder Rate	Better	Better	Slightly positive	No new data
• Juvenile Crime	No national data	No national data	Negative	Positive
• Voting	Better	Better	Positive	No new data





Areas for Improvement

While Greater Cincinnati shows strength as a region in some areas, we have much work to do as a community. We are worse than the national average on eight of 23 indicators (35 percent) for which there are comparable local and national data and a generally agreed-upon desired trend direction:

- Infant Mortality Rate
- Percent of Adults Smoking
- Overweight or Obese – slightly worse
- High-Tech Jobs – slightly worse
- Percent of Job Gain or Loss – slightly worse
- Unemployment Rate – slightly worse
- Residential Segregation
- Non-violent Crime – slightly worse

The trend line is going in the wrong direction on nine indicators:

- Overweight or Obese
- Infant Mortality
- Percent Uninsured
- Lack of Access to Regular Health Care Provider
- Percent of Population in Poverty
- Housing Affordability
- Percent of Job Gain or Loss
- Solid Waste
- Air Quality

And, as in many metropolitan areas, our region's urban core lags behind the rest of the region in many indicators for which City of Cincinnati data are available.

Insights from the Indicator Sets

While *The State of the Community* report's indicators show some of the areas in which we are improving as a community and how we compare to other regions and national trends in specific areas, it doesn't select the areas requiring community mobilization. However, the United Way Research Council believes it can offer useful perspectives, rooted in the data summarized in the report:

Population

Most experts agree that our region's net population gain is a good thing. Indeed, a region whose population growth stalls or which loses population while competitor regions continue to grow loses political clout and economic opportunities. Our region's

population continues to grow but at a rate that is only average compared to competitor regions in the Midwest and in other parts of the country.

Most troubling, however, is that growth is slowing, even in sub-regions that experienced explosive growth – with accompanying “growing pains” – in the early 2000s.

Children and Youth

While it is undeniably the case that our community is becoming more mobilized to achieve acceptable outcomes for children and youth, we continue to lack consistent, reliable data to measure children’s readiness for school, grade-level achievement and high school graduation. With respect to measuring children’s readiness for school, some progress has been made by the **Success By 6®** program in Boone County and, using a different method, by the public schools in Ohio (piloted in the Cincinnati Public Schools with the support of Success By 6® - Hamilton County). As a regional community, however, we need to press forward and achieve one consistent method to assess the school readiness of all children in the region.

While school districts conduct various grade-level achievement testing, the timing and content of these evaluations differ widely across states. As with measuring children’s readiness for school, local school districts are launching grade-level assessment testing regimens that are dissimilar, meaning that it will be difficult to compare the performance of school districts in our sub-regions. Local school districts are only just beginning to implement the testing requirements called for by federal *No Child Left Behind* legislation so we are not yet able to show trends.

Educational Attainment

Compared to many regions, Greater Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky has a relatively well-educated population – though, as with other measures, educational attainment is relatively high in our suburban communities while we continue to lose ground in many of our urban core communities. **Putting higher education within reach of everyone in our region is critical to guaranteeing that we have a robust and competitive economy and thus achieve the highest possible standard of living for all our residents.** Programs like the recently announced Strive strategy which hopes to guarantee access to higher education to all graduates of the Cincinnati, Newport and Covington Public Schools are very commendable and should attract wide support.

Likewise, we need to redouble our efforts to make our region’s colleges and universities magnets for bright students from all over the world. For the first time in this edition of *The State of the Community*, we report the number of STEM degrees awarded by our region’s colleges and universities.

It goes without saying that we must bring down the percentage of adults in our region with less than a high school education since graduating from high school is the minimum educational level providing entry to decent jobs.

Health

As reported in the second edition, our region continues to be at national norms on self-rated evaluations of physical and mental health. However, our smoking rates, while declining, continue to be higher than national norms and far higher than national





health attainment goals. **Rates of obesity and being overweight continue to rise in our region and exceed national norms – and those health experts who claim that it is a full-fledged health emergency do not seem to be exaggerating.**

As in the second edition, two of the most troubling findings of this report are the upturn in the percentages of local residents without health insurance and without access to a regular health care provider. Both of these increases are notable and signify trends that must be reversed.

Economy

Our region's economic performance is one of the bright spots in the report. As was mentioned in the first edition of *The State of the Community*, our economy benefits from its diversity. The Ohio counties of the region continue to generate a significant number of new business starts and our regional income growth tracks and even exceeds the nation's in some sub-regions. It should be noted that the national and local economic issues of 2008 are not reflected in this report's data.

Our unemployment rate has remained steady and in line with the U.S. as a whole and the region's poverty rate is lower than the national average. However, it is in the area of the economy that we encounter the greatest gaps between our urban core and prosperous suburban communities.

Unemployment is pervasive in many inner-city communities, just as the poverty rates in those communities are stubbornly high. The poverty rate is likewise high in some of our rural counties.

Social Relations

The social relations measures in *The State of the Community* are broad and diverse and are included because each in some way measures the social capital of the people in our region's communities, i.e., the strength and quality of their social relations. Because the data show significant differences among our sub-regions, it is difficult to make many useful generalizations. However, it is encouraging that crime rates in our region are generally similar to, or below, national averages. On the other hand, **we should be unsettled by the trend line that shows juvenile crime increasing overall since 2000.**

Our region continues to be troubled in the area of race relations and different social outcomes for different racial groups. With respect to settlement patterns, our region continues to be more racially segregated than the U.S. as a whole – though housing segregation does seem to be on the decline in many parts of the region.

In 2007, United Way and BRIDGES for a Just Community adopted a survey method that measures both the contacts residents have with members of racial groups other than their own and the context in which those contacts occur. It is encouraging that Intergroup Relations measures found contact between Whites and Blacks as friends, neighbors and/or colleagues. However, these measures also show emerging racial and ethnic groups in our region, such as Asians and Hispanics, to be more isolated.

Challenges and Opportunities Ahead

Since the publication of the first edition of *The State of the Community* in 2004, the Greater Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky region has experienced a remarkable heightening of civic energies and an alignment of civic effort. Civic, business and government leaders in all parts of the region have recognized that it has the potential to be one of the most economically vibrant regions in the country, with an enviable quality of life.

At the same time, they have recognized that our region and its sub-regions will reach their potentials only if we draw on the enthusiasm and good will of a broad base of local residents and direct those energies to achieving high priority, actionable ideas. That work – the work of raising civic energy and directing it to what is most worth doing – is the work of Agenda 360 and Vision 2015.

The emergence of these two movements is cause for optimism since both are efforts to create and implement a “common civic agenda” in their respective sub-regions. Even more encouraging is the commitment by the leaders of both efforts to align their action areas, strategies and success-tracking methods so that the Greater Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky region has a common, agreed-upon blueprint for revitalization.

United Way is proud that both Agenda 360 and Vision 2015 have adopted *The State of the Community* as a source of key tracking indicators for their efforts. The United Way Research Council will continue to work closely with both initiatives to help them identify additional measures relevant to their work areas.

The emergence of community-wide civic movements like Vision 2015 and Agenda 360 is a very wholesome turn of events for our region and United Way encourages all area citizens to give these movements their support. On a more somber note, this edition of *The State of the Community* comes to publication during a time of crisis in the financial markets and a downturn in the broader economy. Our region already is beginning to experience the effects of both of these and, as a result, we are sure to confront significant economic and social challenges in the months and even years ahead. We will need to amplify the good energies that have arisen in Agenda 360 and Vision 2015 to meet and overcome these challenges. This will take hard, persevering work from all of us and United Way will be there to support our region’s families, children and communities, as it has for more than 90 years.



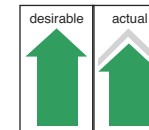


How to Read *The State of the Community*

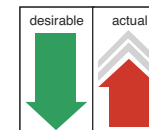
The *State of the Community* will read much more easily if you keep the following in mind:

- Each indicator is reported on its own page with regional trend data on the left and a data table on the right. Below the graph is a brief commentary which includes a definition of the indicator, a statement of what the indicator contributes to the report and comments interpreting the significance of the data for the community.
- In the upper corner of each page is a pair of arrows. The left-hand arrow indicates the direction that most members of the community would agree is the direction in which the indicator should be moving. The right-hand arrow indicates the direction and degree (slightly, moderately or strongly) in which the indicator has been moving during the years shown on the graph. The color of the arrow reinforces whether the indicator is moving as it should (green) or needs attention (red). For example:

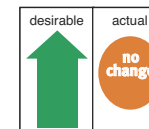
- This pair of arrows shows that the indicator should be moving upward and that its trend is moving moderately upward.



- This pair, on the other hand, shows that the desired direction for the indicator is downward but it is actually moving slightly upward – contrary to what is desired.



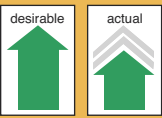
- The movement of some indicators is characterized by an orange circle labeled “no change.” This indicates that either the indicator has shown no change over time or that the change is negligible



- Certain health indicators refer to a benchmark called the “Healthy People 2010 Goal.” These benchmarks were established by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Additional information is available at <http://www.healthypeople.gov>.
- The initials MSA used on several charts stand for Metropolitan Statistical Area, a term used by the United States Census Bureau and other government agencies to mean a large, multi-county metropolitan area. Our MSA is made up of Brown, Butler, Clermont, Hamilton, and Warren Counties in Ohio, Boone, Bracken, Campbell, Gallatin, Grant, Kenton, and Pendleton Counties in Kentucky and Dearborn, Franklin and Ohio Counties in Indiana.
- Some indicators are labeled as “placeholder” indicators, meaning that, while those measures are considered important to the community, reliable and/or valid data measurements are not yet available for them.
- The sources of data are listed at the end of the report.

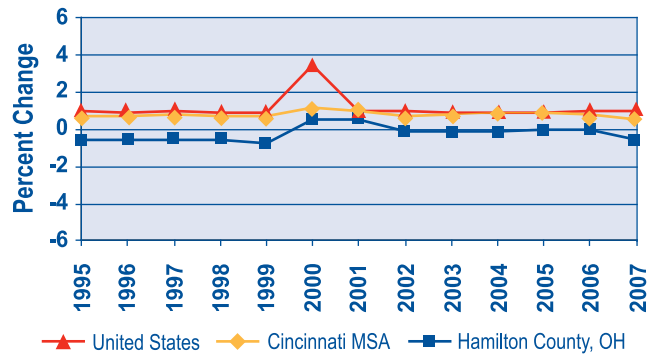


The State of the Community Indicators



Population: Percent Population Change

Regional Performance



Local Differences

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
United States	1.0	0.9	1.0	0.9	0.9	3.5	1.0	1.0	0.9	0.9	0.9	1.0	1.0
Cincinnati-Middletown, OH-KY-IN MSA	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.7	0.7	1.2	1.0	0.7	0.8	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.6
Brown County, OH	1.5	1.7	1.9	1.7	1.9	2.4	0.4	1.0	0.7	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.4
Butler County, OH	1.3	1.3	1.1	1.0	0.8	0.1	0.9	0.7	0.8	0.9	1.0	1.3	1.3
Clermont County, OH	1.8	1.7	1.9	1.7	1.7	-0.3	1.0	1.2	1.1	1.5	1.1	1.3	1.1
Hamilton County, OH	-0.6	-0.5	-0.5	-0.5	-0.8	0.5	0.6	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	0.0	0.0	-0.6
Warren County, OH	3.1	3.0	3.8	4.3	5.0	5.2	3.7	4.0	3.9	3.7	3.4	2.3	2.4
Boone County, KY	3.6	4.1	4.5	4.8	4.5	4.4	3.6	3.3	3.5	4.2	4.4	3.3	2.9
Bracken County, KY	0.3	1.2	1.2	0.9	0.7	-2.2	1.0	1.1	-0.1	2.6	-0.5	-0.6	0.0
Campbell County, KY	0.9	0.1	0.5	-0.2	-0.1	1.7	0.0	-0.3	-0.7	-0.7	-0.1	-0.3	0.1
Gallatin County, KY	1.9	4.3	5.6	5.8	3.6	5.7	1.3	-1.9	2.0	-0.1	0.8	-0.2	0.0
Grant County, KY	4.2	3.4	2.4	2.6	2.4	8.4	2.4	1.8	1.6	1.3	0.9	1.4	1.5
Kenton County, KY	0.4	0.0	0.7	0.4	0.3	3.0	0.2	-0.2	0.4	0.3	0.4	1.0	1.0
Pendleton County, KY	1.5	2.3	0.9	-0.8	1.6	3.9	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.0	0.5	0.7	0.2
Dearborn County, IN	2.6	2.1	2.5	1.7	1.8	-3.5	0.9	0.8	1.3	1.2	0.7	1.1	1.1
Franklin County, IN	3.7	1.6	0.8	1.6	1.4	0.5	0.3	0.7	0.9	0.6	0.8	0.5	0.8
Ohio County, IN	-0.7	0.3	-0.2	0.2	0.2	3.4	0.6	1.3	0.2	1.0	0.7	-0.3	-1.1
City of Cincinnati	-1.2	-1.2	-1.1	-1.2	-1.5	-0.1	0.0	-0.1	0.2	0.0	-0.1	0.1	0.2

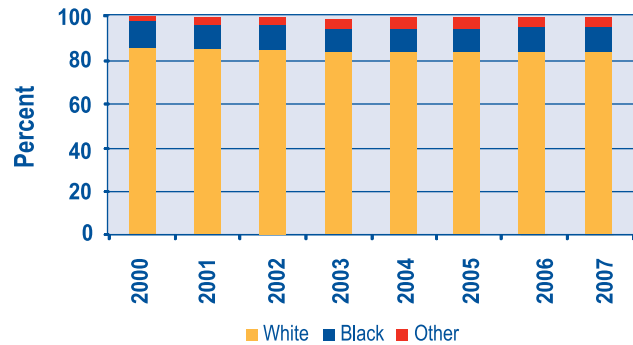
What it is: This indicator shows the population for a given year minus the population for the immediately preceding year, divided by the population for the immediately preceding year and multiplied by 100.

Why it matters: Population change reflects the social and economic health of the community. Regions with growing populations can attract more federal and state revenues and often have stronger labor and retail markets and greater local tax revenues.

What it tells us: The Cincinnati region is growing at a slightly slower pace than the national average. Regional growth is uneven and lags behind the nation.

Population: Percent Population by Race

Regional Performance



Local Differences*

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
United States	19.9%	19.1%	19.3%	19.4%	19.6%	19.7%	19.9%	20.0%
Cincinnati-Middletown, OH-KY-IN MSA	13.4%	14.2%	15.1%	14.5%	14.7%	14.8%	15.0%	15.1%
Brown County, OH	1.8%	1.9%	2.0%	2.1%	2.1%	2.2%	2.3%	2.3%
Butler County, OH	8.1%	8.5%	8.7%	9.1%	9.4%	9.8%	10.1%	10.4%
Clermont County, OH	2.5%	2.8%	2.9%	3.0%	3.1%	3.1%	3.2%	3.3%
Hamilton County, OH	26.6%	26.8%	27.1%	27.3%	27.6%	27.8%	28.1%	28.3%
Warren County, OH	4.9%	5.3%	5.6%	6.1%	6.5%	6.9%	7.3%	7.6%
Boone County, KY	3.9%	4.4%	4.7%	4.8%	5.1%	5.4%	5.7%	6.1%
Bracken County, KY	1.2%	1.3%	1.4%	1.4%	1.4%	1.5%	1.6%	1.6%
Campbell County, KY	3.0%	3.3%	3.4%	3.5%	3.7%	3.9%	3.9%	4.1%
Gallatin County, KY	2.7%	2.9%	3.0%	3.0%	3.0%	3.2%	3.4%	3.4%
Grant County, KY	5.6%	5.8%	6.1%	6.2%	6.5%	6.7%	7.0%	7.1%
Kenton County, KY	1.3%	1.5%	1.7%	1.8%	1.9%	1.9%	2.0%	2.2%
Pendleton County, KY	1.1%	1.2%	1.4%	1.4%	1.5%	1.5%	1.6%	1.6%
Dearborn County, IN	1.8%	1.9%	1.9%	2.0%	2.1%	2.2%	2.2%	2.3%
Franklin County, IN	0.9%	1.0%	1.1%	1.2%	1.4%	1.4%	1.4%	1.5%
Ohio County, IN	1.2%	1.3%	1.3%	1.3%	1.3%	1.3%	1.9%	1.9%
City of Cincinnati								

*Percent non-white

What it is: This indicator shows the percentage of the region's total population made up of people who are White, Black or of another race.

Why it matters: Planning our region's future demands that we understand how our population is evolving over time. This shows the change in the region's racial diversity over time.

What it tells us: The Cincinnati region is very stable and has maintained almost identical racial percentages since 2000. The regional racial make-up is very close to the national average, but is driven by the high percentage of the Hamilton County population that is Black.

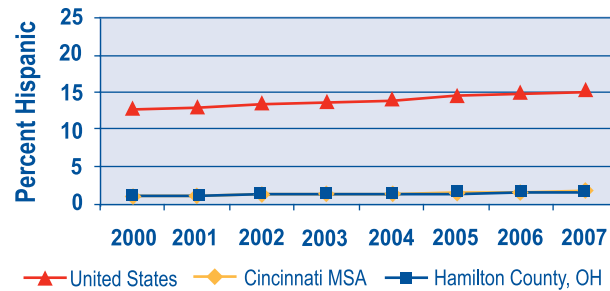
Note: Census data from before the 2000 census are not comparable due to changes in race/ethnicity questions on the 2000 census.



Population: Percent Population by Ethnicity (Hispanic)



Regional Performance



Local Differences

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
United States	12.6%	13.0%	13.3%	13.7%	14.0%	14.4%	14.7%	15.0%
Cincinnati-Middletown, OH-KY-IN MSA	1.1%	1.2%	1.3%	1.4%	1.5%	1.6%	1.7%	1.8%
Brown County, OH	0.4%	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%
Butler County, OH	1.4%	1.6%	1.7%	1.9%	2.0%	2.2%	2.4%	2.5%
Clermont County, OH	0.9%	0.9%	1.0%	1.0%	1.0%	1.1%	1.1%	1.2%
Hamilton County, OH	1.1%	1.2%	1.3%	1.3%	1.4%	1.5%	1.6%	1.7%
Warren County, OH	1.0%	1.1%	1.2%	1.3%	1.4%	1.5%	1.7%	1.7%
Boone County, KY	2.0%	2.1%	2.2%	2.3%	2.5%	2.6%	2.8%	2.9%
Bracken County, KY	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%	0.6%	0.6%	0.6%	0.6%
Campbell County, KY	0.9%	0.9%	1.0%	1.1%	1.1%	1.2%	1.2%	1.3%
Gallatin County, KY	1.0%	1.5%	1.5%	1.6%	1.8%	2.0%	2.3%	2.4%
Grant County, KY	1.1%	1.2%	1.3%	1.4%	1.5%	1.6%	1.7%	1.8%
Kenton County, KY	1.0%	1.1%	1.1%	1.1%	1.2%	1.2%	1.3%	1.3%
Pendleton County, KY	0.7%	0.7%	0.8%	0.8%	0.9%	0.9%	1.1%	1.1%
Dearborn County, IN	0.6%	0.6%	0.6%	0.6%	0.7%	0.7%	0.7%	0.7%
Franklin County, IN	0.5%	0.7%	0.7%	0.7%	0.7%	0.7%	0.7%	0.7%
Ohio County, IN	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%	0.6%	0.6%	0.6%	0.6%
City of Cincinnati								

What it is: This indicator shows the percentage of people in the region who are Hispanic.

Why it matters: The Hispanic population is the fastest growing ethnic group and will soon be the largest minority group in the United States.

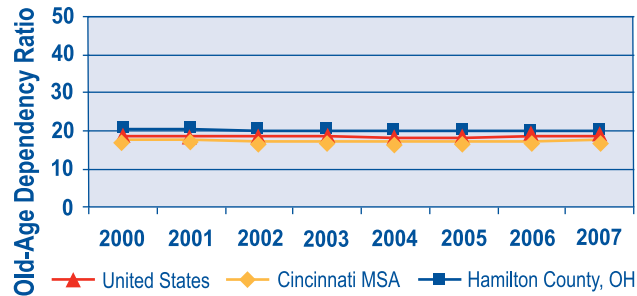
What it tells us: The Cincinnati region's Hispanic population is growing slightly but well below the national average. The percentage of people who are Hispanic is highest in Boone, Butler and Gallatin Counties.

Note: Census data from before the 2000 census are not comparable due to changes in race/ethnicity questions on the 2000 census.



Population: Old-Age Dependency Ratio

Regional Performance



Local Differences

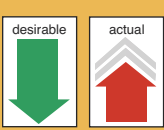
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
United States	18.8	18.7	18.6	18.6	18.5	18.5	18.6	18.7
Cincinnati-Middletown, OH-KY-IN MSA	17.6	17.6	17.5	17.5	17.5	17.5	17.5	17.6
Brown County, OH	17.7	17.9	18.0	18.4	18.6	18.7	18.9	19.1
Butler County, OH	15.8	15.8	15.8	15.8	15.9	16.0	16.1	16.2
Clermont County, OH	14.1	14.3	14.5	14.8	15.1	15.3	15.5	15.9
Hamilton County, OH	20.7	20.5	20.4	20.4	20.3	20.2	20.1	20.1
Warren County, OH	13.9	14.0	13.8	13.8	13.8	13.9	14.1	14.3
Boone County, KY	11.9	12.0	12.0	12.3	12.3	12.3	12.5	12.8
Bracken County, KY	20.7	20.6	20.2	20.6	20.0	19.7	19.6	19.4
Campbell County, KY	19.1	19.0	18.9	18.9	19.0	18.9	19.0	19.1
Gallatin County, KY	15.6	15.6	15.9	15.9	15.9	16.0	16.2	16.5
Grant County, KY	14.3	14.0	13.8	13.8	14.0	14.3	14.6	14.9
Kenton County, KY	16.5	16.3	16.2	16.1	16.1	16.0	15.9	15.8
Pendleton County, KY	15.7	15.8	15.7	15.6	15.7	16.1	16.5	17.1
Dearborn County, IN	16.9	17.1	16.9	17.1	17.1	17.2	17.3	17.4
Franklin County, IN	19.4	19.8	19.9	19.6	19.6	19.7	19.9	20.1
Ohio County, IN	20.9	20.9	20.9	22.1	21.7	20.8	20.0	19.6
City of Cincinnati								

What it is: This indicator shows the number of people aged 65 years and older relative to the total number of people 15-64 years of age (working age).

Why it matters: A rising dependency ratio is a concern in areas that are facing an aging population, since it becomes difficult for pension and Social Security systems to provide for a significantly older non-working population. A higher old-age dependency ratio may indicate higher demand on public resources, stress on the available labor pool and strain on available health resources.

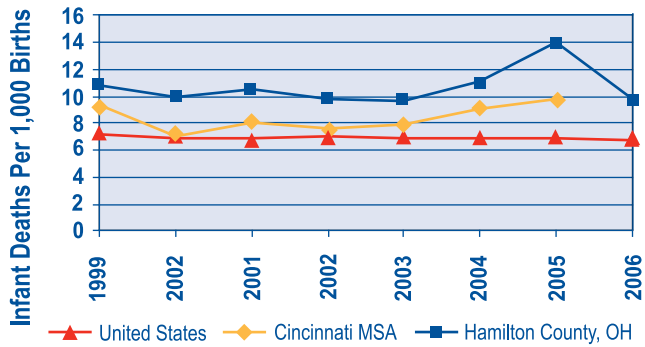
What it tells us: The Cincinnati region tracks closely to the national rate of old-age dependency. The old-age dependency ratio has remained unchanged in the Cincinnati region and in Hamilton County since 2000.





Children & Youth: Infant Mortality Rate

Regional Performance



Local Differences

	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
United States	7.1	6.9	6.8	7.0	6.8	6.8	6.9	6.7
Cincinnati-Middletown, OH-KY-IN MSA	9.3	7.0	8.0	7.6	7.8	9.0	9.7	
Brown County, OH	10.1	11.9	9.2	5.3	3.4	7.0	1.8	7.0
Butler County, OH	10.1	6.7	8.5	7.0	8.0	9.2	8.6	9.0
Clermont County, OH	8.3	6.1	4.1	5.2	4.5	5.8	6.6	6.2
Hamilton County, OH	10.8	9.9	10.5	9.8	9.6	11.0	13.9	9.7
Warren County, OH	6.4	3.6	4.4	5.0	3.8	6.8	5.0	8.1
Boone County, KY	8.1	2.1	2.9	6.5	3.8	7.8	3.0	
Bracken County, KY	9.4	26.5	0.0	9.3	9.5	0.0	0.0	
Campbell County, KY	6.0	4.0	5.4	8.1	7.9	10.4	9.6	
Gallatin County, KY	0.0	71.4	0.0	0.0	7.5	0.0	7.1	
Grant County, KY	2.5	0.0	10.9	0.0	10.5	2.6	7.0	
Kenton County, KY	7.2	2.9	6.2	8.3	11.6	8.5	9.3	
Pendleton County, KY	0.0	0.0	9.1	5.3	13.3	5.2	5.5	
Dearborn County, IN	13.8	1.5	9.5	0.0	1.6	6.2	9.2	8.5
Franklin County, IN	10.9	3.2	4.3	0.0	7.6	12.2	7.0	3.4
Ohio County, IN	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
City of Cincinnati								

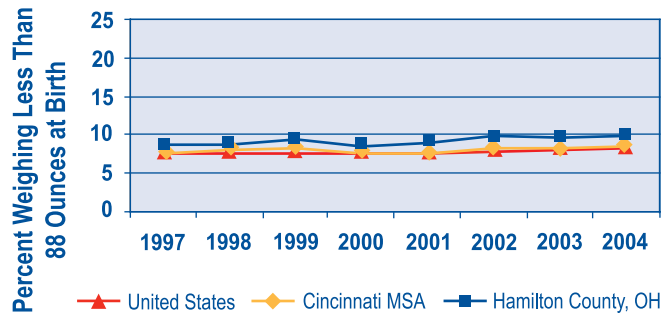
What it is: This indicator measures the number of deaths to infants under one year of age per 1,000 live births in a given year. Kentucky data for 2006 were incomplete at press time and are not presented.

Why it matters: Infant mortality is widely viewed as the single best summary measure of health status for a community or a nation. It is relatively easy to measure, and it correlates with other indicators of population health.

What it tells us: Our region's overall infant mortality rate is considerably higher than the U.S. rate (6.7 in 2006) and is comparable to Russia and Costa Rica in international rankings. The region's rate is driven by persistently high infant mortality in Hamilton County, but other MSA counties (Butler, Campbell, Kenton) with older urban centers also demonstrate rates above the nation, with the gap growing larger in recent years. There is wide variation among rural counties due in part to the relatively small number of births and infant deaths in these areas.

Children & Youth: Low Birth Weight

Regional Performance



Local Differences

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
United States			7.5	7.6	7.6	7.6	7.7	7.8	7.9	8.1		
Cincinnati-Middletown, OH-KY-IN MSA			7.5	7.9	8.2	7.7	7.7	8.1	8.2	8.5		
Brown County, OH	7.3	7.3	5.6	8.4	6.8	6.6	6.5	6.0	6.6	7.0	9.7	9.1
Butler County, OH	6.6	6.9	6.7	7.4	7.2	8.2	6.8	7.2	7.0	8.1	7.9	7.7
Clermont County, OH	7.3	5.9	7.3	6.7	6.7	7.0	6.1	6.9	6.5	6.8	6.9	7.5
Hamilton County, OH	8.5	8.4	8.6	8.8	9.4	8.5	9.0	9.7	9.6	9.9	10.0	10.1
Warren County, OH	6.0	6.3	6.7	5.9	7.3	6.2	7.0	6.0	6.3	6.3	6.7	7.6
Boone County, KY			5.8	6.5	6.9	5.7	5.9	5.9	6.1	7.4	6.9	
Bracken County, KY			10.0	8.1	12.3	11.5	12.6	9.3	9.5	7.0	8.8	
Campbell County, KY			6.1	7.5	6.8	7.6	6.3	8.6	7.9	8.1	9.9	
Gallatin County, KY			8.8	15.7	7.8	7.9	9.5	4.3	11.3	11.0	9.9	
Grant County, KY			7.4	6.5	6.9	7.7	7.4	8.3	12.3	9.5	7.5	
Kenton County, KY	7.8	8.2	6.2	8.0	8.1	6.6	7.3	7.3	7.1	7.7	8.3	
Pendleton County, KY			7.5	7.7	8.3	8.4	7.7	8.6	7.3	10.3	7.2	
Dearborn County, IN												
Franklin County, IN												
Ohio County, IN												
City of Cincinnati												

What it is: This indicator shows the percentage of children weighing less than 2,500 grams (88 ounces) at birth.

Why it matters: Low birth weight is an important indicator of the overall health of a region and reflects the quality and availability of health care, especially for pregnant women. High rates also correlate with high health care costs.

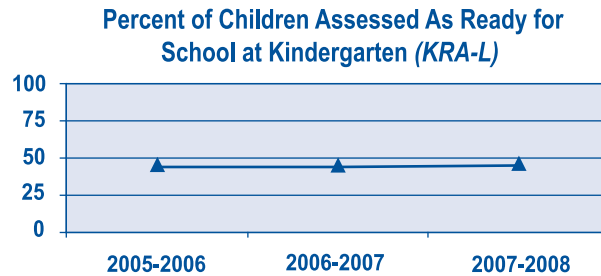
What it tells us: The region's low birth weight rate closely tracks the national average and shows slight improvement since 2000. Hamilton County's rate is slightly higher than the region's and the nation's, with the gap continuing to grow. Most researchers agree that smoking, and drug and alcohol abuse are among the causes.



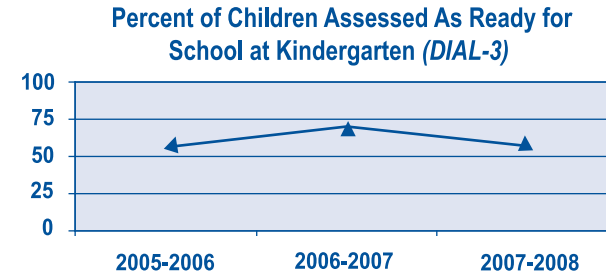


Children & Youth: Early Childhood School Readiness (Placeholder)

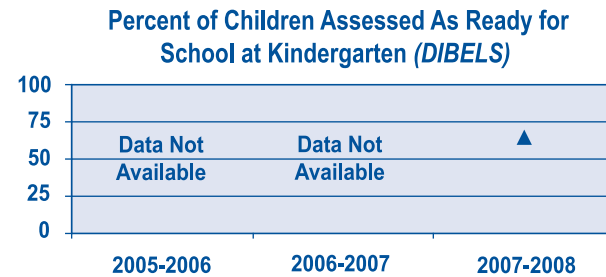
Cincinnati Public Schools, KRA-L Assessment



Newport Independent Schools, DIAL-3 Screen



Covington Independent Schools, DIBELS Assessment



What it is: This indicator shows the percentage of children who, at kindergarten entry, are determined to have the skills necessary to be “ready for school.”

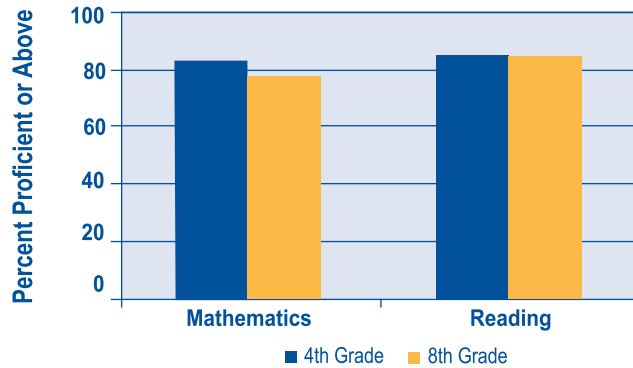
Why it matters: If our region’s children are to be successful in later life, we must place emphasis on helping them be prepared before they reach kindergarten. Every early experience frames a child’s social, psychological and intellectual development. Assessment results at kindergarten entry provide a perspective on how many children are prepared when they begin their formal school experience.

What it tells us: Many children in the Greater Cincinnati region are not prepared when they enter kindergarten. These children will most likely require additional instructional support and may never catch up with their peers. We have provided examples of three different assessments that are used by school districts. The results cannot be compared as they measure different aspects of readiness. The region could benefit from development of a common measure as it would allow for valid comparisons of early childhood school readiness across the entire region.



Children & Youth: Grade-Level Assessment Tests (Ohio) (Placeholder)

Regional Performance



Local Differences

Mathematics Proficiency	2006-07	
	4th Grade	8th Grade
Ohio Counties	82.8%	77.9%
Brown County, OH	82.0%	75.3%
Butler County, OH	82.1%	77.4%
Clermont County, OH	84.7%	79.9%
Hamilton County, OH	73.6%	71.8%
Warren County, OH	91.5%	85.2%
Reading Proficiency	2006-07	
	4th Grade	8th Grade
Ohio Counties	85.0%	85.3%
Brown County, OH	83.4%	84.7%
Butler County, OH	85.5%	85.1%
Clermont County, OH	86.8%	85.4%
Hamilton County, OH	76.3%	80.1%
Warren County, OH	92.8%	91.2%

What it is: This indicator shows the percent of students in Ohio who were assessed as “proficient” or above on state mathematics and reading tests. These data represent a weighted average of all school districts on a county-wide basis.

Why it matters: It is essential to track the development of children in core academic areas at key points during their elementary and secondary school years – to understand their needs and ensure continuous growth and development and to evaluate the effectiveness of schools.

What it tells us: Students from Ohio are performing well on math and reading proficiency exams. Ohio, Kentucky and Indiana use different assessments to measure achievement; therefore, the data are not comparable across states. The region could benefit from development of a common measure as it would allow for valid comparisons of proficiency across the entire region.

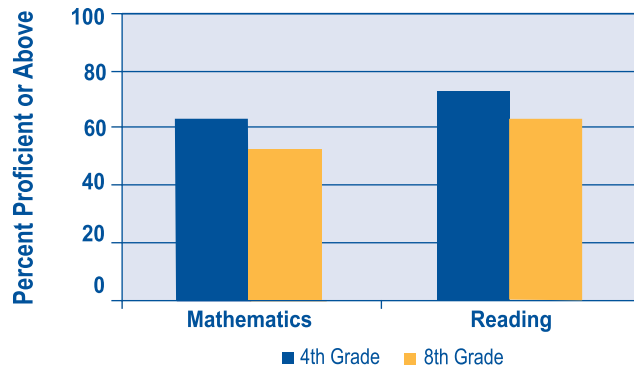




Children & Youth: Grade-Level Assessment Tests (Kentucky) (Placeholder)



Regional Performance



Local Differences

Mathematics Proficiency	2006-07	
	4th Grade	8th Grade
Kentucky Counties	63.3%	53.2%
Boone County, KY	72.0%	61.0%
Bracken County, KY	46.5%	43.9%
Campbell County, KY	63.2%	58.1%
Gallatin County, KY	53.0%	43.0%
Grant County, KY	62.3%	65.5%
Kenton County, KY	59.5%	41.1%
Pendleton County, KY	50.0%	64.0%

Reading Proficiency	2006-07	
	4th Grade	8th Grade
Kentucky Counties	73.5%	64.9%
Boone County, KY	80.0%	71.0%
Bracken County, KY	58.8%	67.0%
Campbell County, KY	71.2%	63.8%
Gallatin County, KY	82.0%	64.0%
Grant County, KY	77.2%	70.1%
Kenton County, KY	69.9%	58.6%
Pendleton County, KY	65.0%	69.0%

What it is: This indicator shows the percent of students in Kentucky who were assessed as “proficient” or above on state mathematics and reading tests. These data represent a weighted average of all school districts on a county-wide basis.

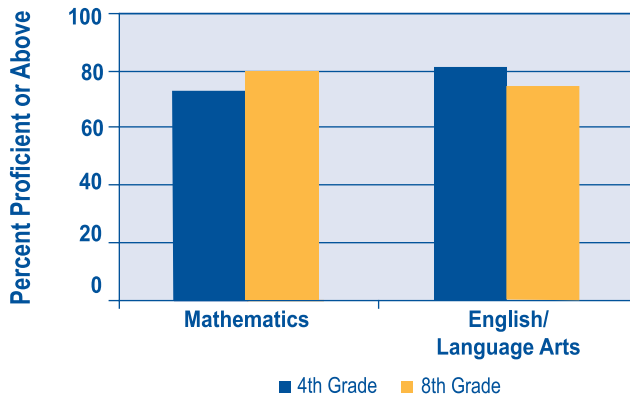
Why it matters: It is essential to track the development of children in core academic areas at key points during their elementary and secondary school years – to understand their needs and ensure continuous growth and development and to evaluate the effectiveness of schools.

What it tells us: Students from Kentucky are doing well on math and reading proficiency exams. However, in a number of counties in Kentucky, proficiency is lower in 8th than 4th grade. Ohio, Kentucky and Indiana use different assessments to measure achievement; therefore, the data are not comparable across states. The region could benefit from development of a common measure as it would allow for valid comparisons of proficiency across the entire region.



Children & Youth: Grade-Level Assessment Tests (Indiana) (Placeholder)

Regional Performance



Local Differences

Mathematics Proficiency	2006-07	
	4th Grade	8th Grade
Indiana Counties		
Dearborn County, IN	72.9%	80.2%
English/Language Arts Proficiency	2006-07	
	4th Grade	8th Grade
Indiana Counties		
Dearborn County, IN	81.5%	75.1%



What it is: This indicator shows the percent of students in Indiana who were assessed as “proficient” or above on state mathematics and English tests for Dearborn County, Indiana.

Why it matters: It is essential to track the development of children in core academic areas at key points during their elementary and secondary school years – to understand their needs and ensure continuous growth and development and to evaluate the effectiveness of schools.

What it tells us: Students from Dearborn County are doing well on math and English proficiency exams. Ohio, Kentucky and Indiana use different assessments to measure achievement; therefore, the data are not comparable across states. The region could benefit from development of a common measure as it would allow for valid comparisons of proficiency across the entire region.



Children & Youth: High School Graduation Rates (Placeholder)



Regional Performance

No Regional Data Available

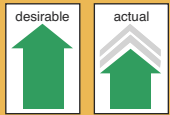
Local Differences

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
United States									
Cincinnati-Middletown, OH-KY-IN MSA									
Brown County, OH									
Butler County, OH									
Clermont County, OH									
Hamilton County, OH									
Warren	No Small-Area Data Available								
Boone									
Bracken County, KY									
Campbell County, KY									
Gallatin County, KY									
Grant County, KY									
Kenton County, KY									
Pendleton County, KY									
Dearborn County, IN									
Franklin County, IN									
Ohio County, IN									
City of Cincinnati									

Why it matters: High school graduation rates are a key indicator of educational delivery and attainment and must be included in future editions of *The State of the Community*.

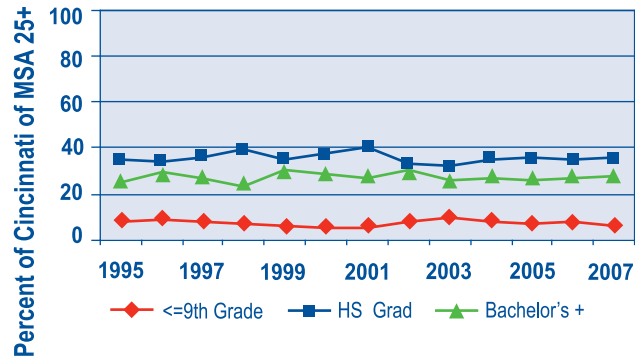
Data in many U.S. communities, including ours, still do not meet strict criteria for validity and reliability. States use different methods for calculating high school graduation rates and school districts must track student mobility on their own – with the result that there is no standard method or consistency.

Many students, especially in urban areas, move between high schools within or between districts, making accurate calculation difficult and expensive. The ideal method would be for states to implement a standard four-year adjusted cohort graduation rate. Ohio, Kentucky and Indiana have committed to adopting such a calculation in the future, although, in order to do so, more comprehensive statewide data tracking systems would have to be implemented.



Educational Attainment: Years of Education for Persons Age 25+

Regional Performance



Grade-Level Differences

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
<=9th Grade													
United States	10.8	10.5	10.2	9.7	9.2	9.1	8.8	9.0	9.9	8.4	8.4	8.1	7.8
Cincinnati-Middletown, OH-KY-IN MSA	8.4	8.8	8.1	7.0	6.0	5.1	5.1	8.5	9.8	8.4	7.3	7.7	6.2
High School Grad													
United States	33.9	33.6	33.8	33.8	33.3	33.1	32.6	32.1	30.4	32.0	32.2	31.7	31.6
Cincinnati-Middletown, OH-KY-IN MSA	35.0	33.8	36.1	39.1	35.1	38.0	40.6	33.6	31.9	34.9	35.6	34.8	35.6
Bachelor's +													
United States	23.0	23.6	23.9	24.4	25.2	25.6	26.1	26.7	23.7	27.8	27.7	28.0	28.7
Cincinnati-Middletown, OH-KY-IN MSA	25.1	29.6	26.9	23.9	30.3	28.3	26.8	30.5	25.9	27.2	26.1	26.6	27.9

What it is: This indicator shows the highest level of education attained by individuals age 25 and over, expressed as a percentage of that age group.

Why it matters: Years of education for those 25 and over is a crucial measure of socio-economic progress because it correlates strongly with income and job status and is a good measure of workforce quality. A region with high post-secondary education attainment is better able to attract and retain high-value jobs and compete in the global economy.

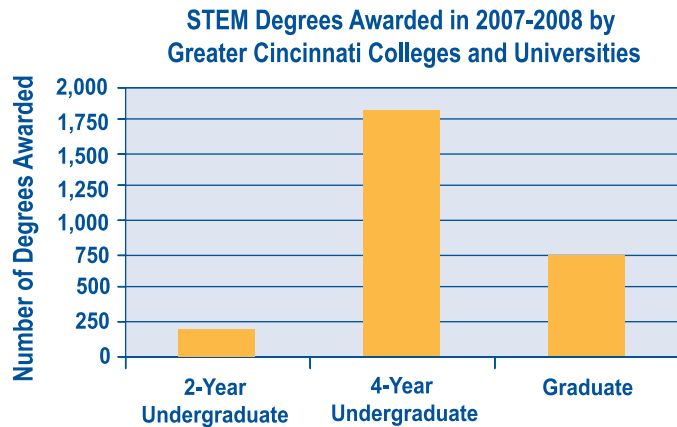
What it tells us: The region tracks closely to the nation and is improving, although progress is slow. Educational attainment has increased slightly, with a drop in persons stopping at or below 9th grade and an increase in High School and Bachelor's degree attainment. Local (county) data are not available.





Educational Attainment: STEM Degrees Awarded

Regional Performance



Local Differences

STEM Degrees	2007-2008
	Number of Degrees Awarded
	2,732
Graduate Degrees	733
4-Year Undergraduate Degrees	1,798
2-Year Undergraduate Degrees	201

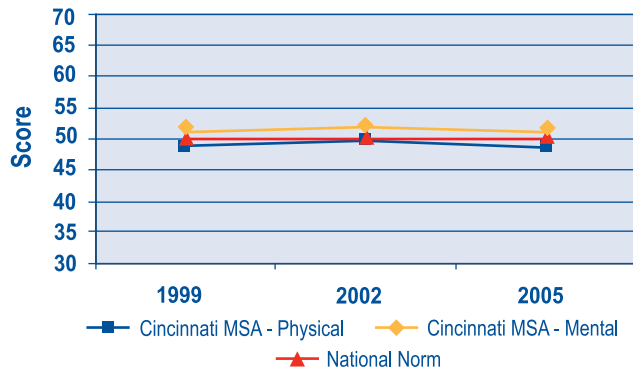
What it is: This indicator shows the number of undergraduate and graduate degrees awarded in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields by the colleges and universities in our region.

Why it matters: Competitiveness in the global economy requires high levels of mathematics and science knowledge and skill. STEM degrees also often result in high wage jobs. There is great demand in the global economy for highly skilled workers. In order for our region to remain competitive, it is important that the region become both a STEM training ground and a future home for a highly skilled STEM workforce.

What it tells us: In 2007-2008, 2,732 STEM degrees were awarded by Greater Cincinnati colleges and universities. Continued growth in this area, and retention of degree earners, are important as the region seeks to compete with other regions as a home for high-skill, high-paying jobs.

Health: Health Status Index SF-12

Regional Performance



Local Differences

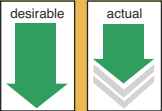
	Physical Score			Mental Score		
	1999	2002	2005	1999	2002	2005
United States	50.0	50.0	50.0	50.0	50.0	50.0
Cincinnati-Middletown, OH-KY-IN MSA	48.8	49.6	48.8	51.0	52.0	51.1
Hamilton County Suburb	50.1	50.4	49.8	52.0	51.8	51.7
Butler/Clinton/Warren			49.0			51.9
Adams/Brown/ Clermont/Highland			47.4			50.8
Boone/Campbell/ Grant/Kenton			49.1			52.0
Bracken/Carroll/Owen/ Gallatin/Pendleton			46.1			48.5
Dearborn/Franklin/ Ohio/Ripley/Switzerland			48.3			51.1
City of Cincinnati	48.8	49.0	48.1	50.0	51.7	48.4

What it is: The SF-12 Health Assessment Questionnaire items define two health status summary scales: a physical health scale and a mental health scale. The questions are combined and scored, with lower scores representing poorer physical or mental health. Scores are calculated to yield an average score of 50 for the general U.S. population; thus, scores above 50 are above the national average and scores below 50 are below the average.

Why it matters: SF-12 scores reflect quality of life or functioning as influenced by physical or mental health conditions.

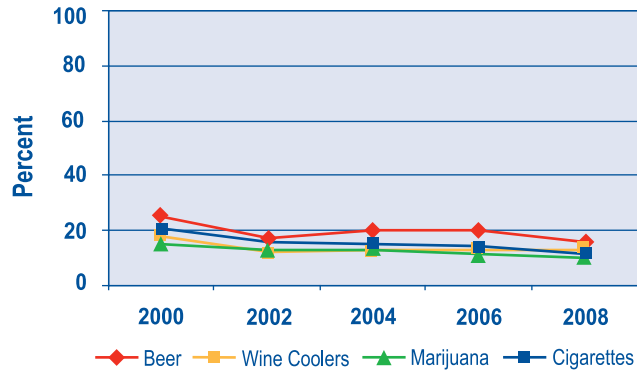
What it tells us: Greater Cincinnati is close to the national score in both physical and mental health. There is little variation by sub-region.





Health: Underage Substance Abuse

Regional Performance



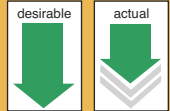
Local Differences

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
United States									
Cincinnati-Middletown, OH-KY-IN MSA									
Brown County, OH									
Butler County, OH									
Clermont County, OH									
Hamilton County, OH									
Warren Boone	No Small-Area Data Available								
Bracken County, KY									
Campbell County, KY									
Gallatin County, KY									
Grant County, KY									
Kenton County, KY									
Pendleton County, KY									
Dearborn County, IN									
Franklin County, IN									
Ohio County, IN									
City of Cincinnati									

What it is: This indicator shows the percent of those under 18 years of age reporting monthly or more frequent use of cigarettes, beer, wine coolers, or marijuana.

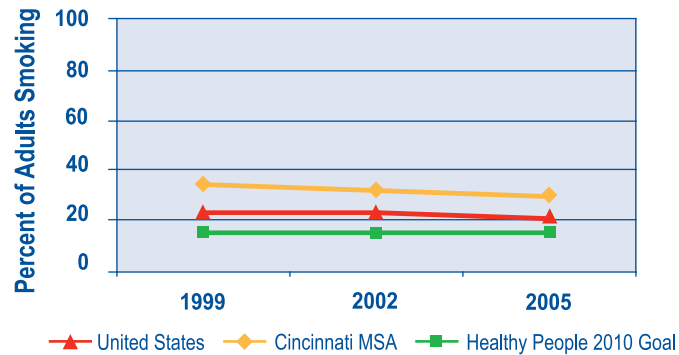
Why it matters: Underage substance abuse is strongly associated with other youth risk behaviors and poor school performance.

What it tells us: The Cincinnati region has shown a decrease in underage substance abuse from 2000 to 2008.



Health: Percent of Adults Smoking

Regional Performance



Local Differences

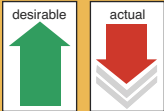
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
United States					23.2			23.0			21.0
Cincinnati-Middletown, OH-KY-IN MSA					34.5			32.0			30.0
Hamilton County Suburbs					27.5			24.9			30.1
Butler/Clinton/Warren											21.9
Adams/Brown/Clermont/Highland											35.0
Boone/Campbell/Grant/Kenton											32.1
Bracken/Carroll/Gallatin/Owen/Pendleton											39.8
Dearborn/Franklin/Ohio/Ripley/Switzerland											35.6
City of Cincinnati					38.8			32.3			32.9



What it is: This indicator shows the percent of adults who currently smoke cigarettes.

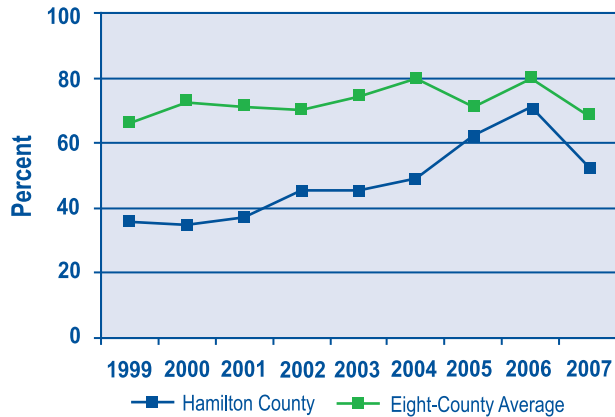
Why it matters: Smoking is a proven cause of cancer and other illnesses and second-hand smoke is considered a major public health threat.

What it tells us: Although Greater Cincinnati's smoking rates are improving steadily, the region still rates above the national average and well above the Healthy People 2010 goal. Greater Cincinnati's smoking rate is partly attributable to Cincinnati's location in the "tobacco growing belt."



Health: Air Quality

Regional Performance



Local Differences

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
United States									
Cincinnati-Middletown, OH-KY-IN MSA									
Brown County, OH									
Butler County, OH									
Clermont County, OH									
Hamilton County, OH									
Warren County, OH	No Small-Area Data Available								
Boone County, KY									
Bracken County, KY									
Campbell County, KY									
Gallatin County, KY									
Grant County, KY									
Kenton County, KY									
Pendleton County, KY									
Dearborn County, IN									
Franklin County, IN									
Ohio County, IN									
City of Cincinnati									

What it is: This indicator reports the number of days measuring “good” on the Environmental Protection Agency’s Air Quality Index, as a percentage of total days monitored in the given year.

Why it matters: Air quality has direct public health effects, both short-term and longer-term. Individuals with asthma, emphysema and other respiratory ailments are particularly sensitive to air quality. Air quality also affects the region’s potential for economic development.

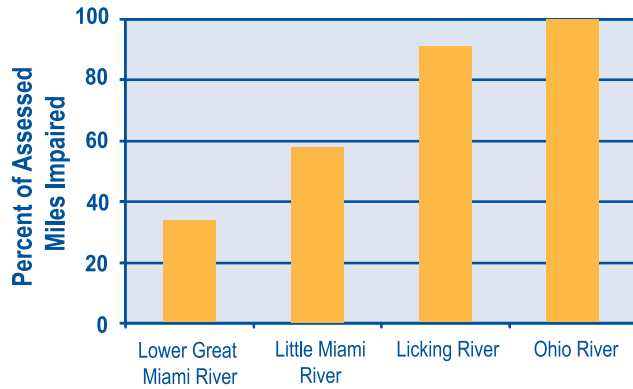
What it tells us: The regional trend over time has been positive, with a negative downturn in 2007. This indicator should be monitored to determine if the most recent data represent a short-term anomaly or indicate a longer-term negative change.

Note: The eight-county average in the chart above includes Butler, Clermont, Hamilton, Warren Counties in Ohio; Dearborn County in Indiana; and Boone, Campbell, and Kenton Counties in Kentucky



Health: Water Quality

Regional Performance



Local Differences

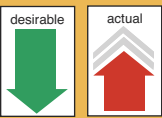
Percentage of Assessed Miles Impaired	2006
Lower Great Miami River	33.6%
Little Miami River	57.9%
Licking River	90.6%
Ohio River	100.0%

What it is: This indicator shows the percentage of assessed stream miles of the Ohio River, Great Miami River, Little Miami River, and Licking River that are impaired, falling short of state and federal water quality standards.

Why it matters: Protecting the health of our region's streams and rivers is critical to the region's economy, health and quality of life.

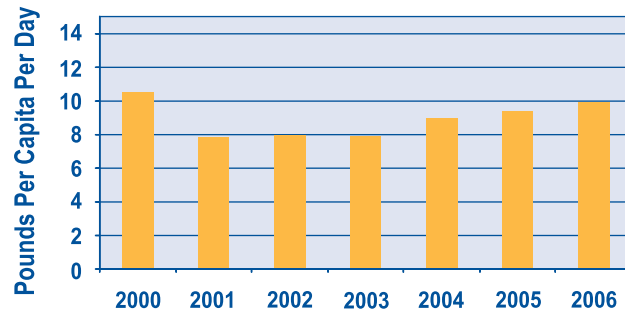
What it tells us: The Ohio River, the region's signature waterway, fails to meet state and federal water quality standards. The Ohio River has fish consumption impairments, due to PCBs and dioxins, in all river miles running through our region. Bacteria monitoring has also resulted in classifying portions of river miles in our region as impaired for contact recreation.





Health: Solid Waste

Regional Performance



Local Differences

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Adams/Clermont	1,133,294	496,407	589,026	614,552	762,156	784,241	735,839
Butler	587,614	504,639	484,697	512,801	525,092	532,777	615,016
Hamilton	1,274,089	1,215,942	1,173,290	1,140,849	1,314,291	1,292,788	1,362,532
Warren	214,379	150,350	126,675	131,023	184,188	159,871	263,433
Boone, Campbell, Kenton Counties	374,284	322,741	386,025	346,027	379,791	575,723	583,746

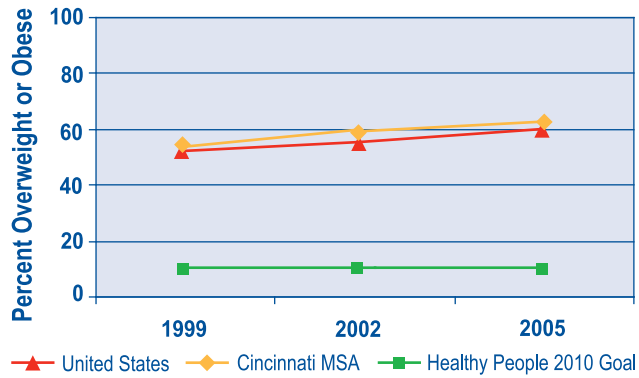
What it is: This indicator shows the amount of solid waste disposed (including residential, commercial and industrial solid waste), in tons, in our region.

Why it matters: The amount of solid waste disposed is one indicator of the community's efforts to produce less solid waste, including through recycling efforts.

What it tells us: On average, about 10 pounds of solid waste is disposed of on a daily basis for each resident of our region.

Health: Overweight or Obese

Regional Performance



Local Differences

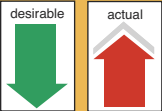
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
United States					53.3			55.6			60.0
Cincinnati-Middletown, OH-KY-IN MSA					55.1			59.3			61.9
Hamilton County Suburbs					57.3			55.7			58.7
Butler/Clinton/Warren											61.7
Adams/Brown/Clermont/Highland											66.5
Boone/Campbell/Grant/Kenton											64.4
Bracken/Carroll/Gallatin/Owen/Pendleton											61.6
Dearborn/Franklin/Ohio/Ripley/Switzerland											63.6
City of Cincinnati					50.8			63.1			60.0

What it is: This indicator is the percent of adults whose Body Mass Index (BMI) indicates that they are overweight or obese. BMI is computed from self-reports of height and weight.

Why it matters: Obesity is the largest emerging threat to population health, as it correlates with a wide range of life-threatening diseases such as high blood pressure, stroke, cardiovascular disease, and diabetes in both children and adults. Rising health care costs will be exacerbated by increased obesity-related illnesses.

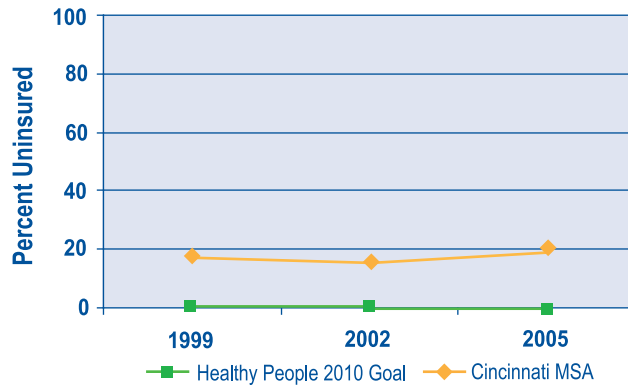
What it tells us: The problem is slightly worse in Greater Cincinnati than nationwide. Both the regional and national populations are getting worse relative to the Healthy People 2010 goal.





Health: Percent Uninsured

Regional Performance



Local Differences

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
United States								18.3		18.0	
Cincinnati-Middletown, OH-KY-IN MSA					17.2			15.3			19.8
Hamilton County Suburbs					13.7			11.4			16.9
Butler/Clinton/Warren											17.1
Adams/Brown/Clermont/Highland											26.7
Boone/Campbell/Grant/Kenton											18.8
Bracken/Carroll/Gallatin/Owen/Pendleton											26.5
Dearborn/Franklin/Ohio/Ripley/Switzerland											22.2

What it is: This indicator reports the percent of adults saying that they lacked health insurance coverage at any time during the past 12 months.

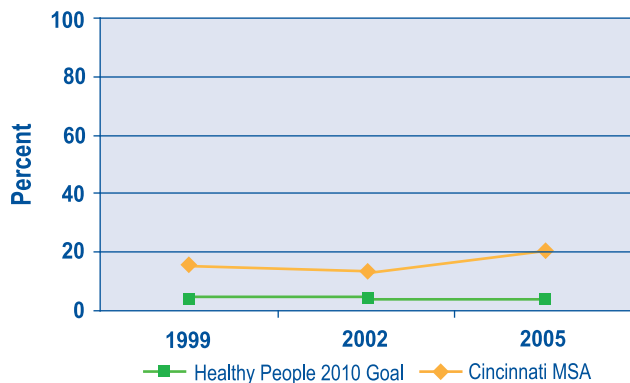
Why it matters: Lack of medical insurance correlates strongly with poor health status and stress on the health care system. Roughly 18,000 unnecessary deaths each year in the United States are attributable to lack of health insurance.

What it tells us: The percent of people uninsured in the Cincinnati area has increased notably since 2002. Greater Cincinnati needs to make considerable efforts to reach the Healthy People 2010 goals, though any solution to this issue may depend on changed federal and/or state policies.



Health: Lack of Access to a Regular Health Care Provider

Regional Performance



Local Differences

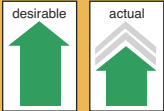
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
United States					12.6			13.6			
Cincinnati-Middletown, OH-KY-IN MSA					15.7			13.5			20.3
Hamilton County Suburbs					12.6			12.1			16.0
Butler/Clinton/Warren											26.5
Adams/Brown/Clermont/Highland											23.0
Boone/Campbell/Grant/Kenton											16.0
Bracken/Carroll/Gallatin/Owen/Pendleton											18.6
Dearborn/Franklin/Ohio/Ripley/Switzerland											16.7
City of Cincinnati					17.8			12.4			20.4



What it is: This indicator shows the percent of the adult population who report that they do not have a regular health care provider.

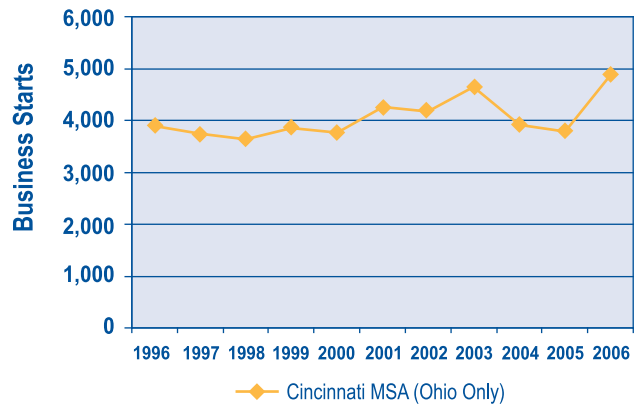
Why it matters: Access to a regular health care provider is important for prevention of disease and for reducing the burden on hospital emergency rooms. It is also a proxy for overall health care access.

What it tells us: The percent of people reporting lack of access to health care in Greater Cincinnati has increased considerably since 2002 and is still well above the Healthy People 2010 goal.



Economy: Business Starts

Regional Performance



Local Differences*

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
United States												
Cincinnati-Middletown, OH-KY-IN MSA (Ohio Only)	3,897	3,737	3,643	3,843	3,760	4,255	4,182	4,655	3,915	3,780	4,877	3,667
Brown County, OH	82	99	120	111	113	115	134	126	107	103	118	66
Butler County, OH	698	677	666	815	770	881	908	1,027	789	854	1,115	799
Clermont County, OH	367	346	322	346	329	419	450	433	345	311	468	317
Hamilton County, OH	2,437	2,257	2,184	2,199	2,188	2,408	2,263	2,551	2,200	2,066	2,600	2,062
Warren County, OH	313	358	351	372	360	432	427	518	433	446	576	423
Boone County, KY												
Bracken County, KY												
Campbell County, KY												
Gallatin County, KY												
Grant County, KY												
Kenton County, KY												
Pendleton County, KY												
Dearborn County, IN												
Franklin County, IN												
Ohio County, IN												
City of Cincinnati												

*Initial data only for 2007

What it is: This indicator shows the number of new business starts for the State of Ohio (based on the total number of for-profit businesses with at least one employee active in July or August of each year) attributable to the Ohio counties of the region. Indiana and Kentucky do not report business starts.

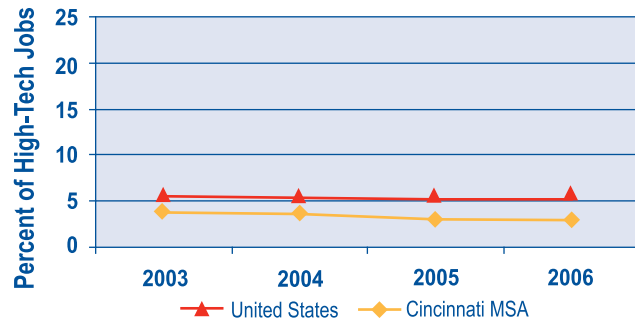
Why it matters: Business starts are a good indicator of the vitality of the local economy. Businesses that are successful bring economic security to their owners and provide jobs to area residents.

What it tells us: The Ohio counties of the region show irregular growth in business starts. Since 2002 there is continued growth in Butler and Warren counties, while Hamilton County has sustained a high rate of business starts.

Economy: High Tech Jobs



Regional Performance



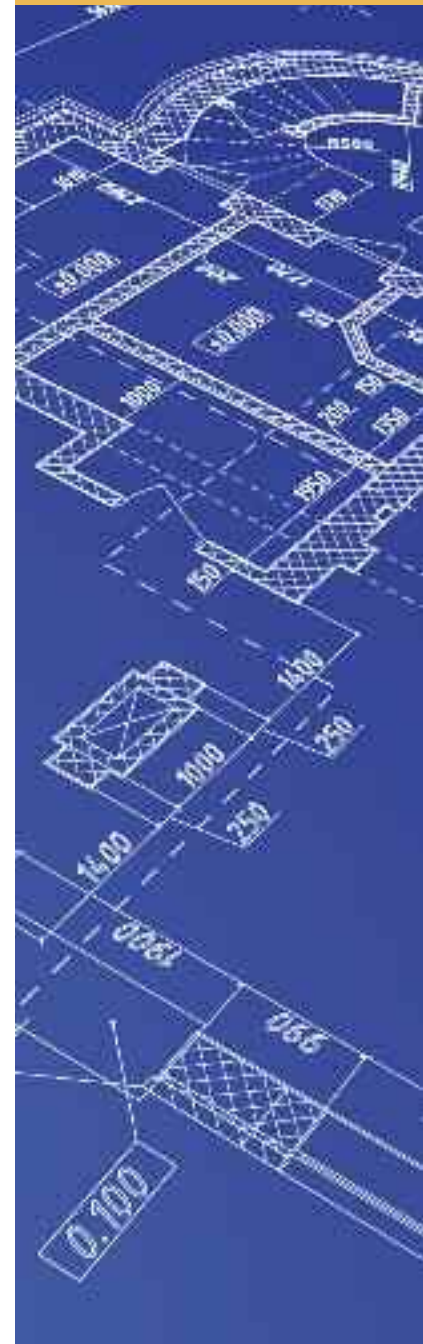
Local Differences

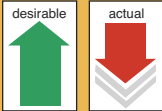
	2003	2004	2005	2006
United States	5.5	5.3	5.2	5.2
Cincinnati-Middletown, OH-KY-IN MSA	4.4	4.2	3.8	3.6

What it is: This indicator shows the percentage of High-Tech jobs, including in biomedical industries, as a percentage of total employment.

Why it matters: High-Tech jobs are high-wage jobs that attract and retain a highly skilled workforce. High-Tech jobs are an important component of the global economy and a source of technological innovation.

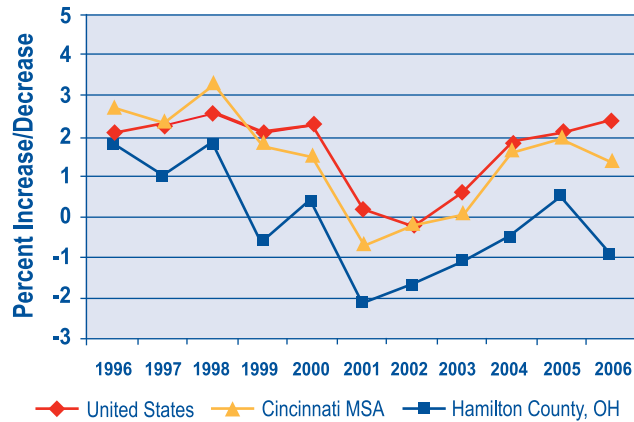
What it tells us: The Cincinnati region lags the rest of the nation in High-Tech jobs. Improvement in this area is important as the region seeks to compete with other regions as a home for high-skill, high-paying jobs.





Economy: Percent of Job Gain or Loss

Regional Performance



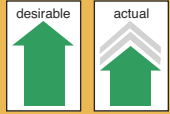
Local Differences

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
United States		2.1	2.3	2.6	2.1	2.3	0.2	-0.2	0.6	1.8	2.1	2.4
Cincinnati-Middletown, OH-KY-IN MSA		2.7	2.4	3.3	1.8	1.5	-0.7	-0.2	0.1	1.6	1.9	1.4
Brown County, OH		-0.7	4.3	17.1	3.9	2.0	1.0	0.2	2.5	3.2	4.8	1.9
Butler County, OH		1.9	5.2	4.5	4.0	2.9	0.9	1.6	1.2	4.1	3.0	5.4
Clermont County, OH		3.0	2.8	9.9	4.6	3.1	2.4	0.6	2.2	6.1	1.9	6.1
Hamilton County, OH		1.8	1.0	1.8	-0.6	0.4	-2.1	-1.7	-1.1	-0.5	0.5	-0.9
Warren County, OH		6.5	5.5	5.1	7.2	2.7	1.7	3.4	1.8	6.1	5.1	4.2
Boone County, KY		6.7	6.2	6.4	7.5	3.8	0.3	2.4	2.7	4.1	3.3	-1.7
Bracken County, KY		6.3	0.1	-5.7	4.6	1.1	-2.9	0.3	0.7	2.2	0.4	3.3
Campbell County, KY		3.1	1.2	2.3	4.5	1.5	-2.9	2.3	4.0	2.8	1.5	2.0
Gallatin County, KY		11.1	6.9	1.7	7.5	6.8	-0.9	-5.0	3.0	2.3	3.0	0.3
Grant County, KY		3.3	4.8	1.5	8.1	4.5	-1.6	1.9	-2.4	0.9	0.3	1.7
Kenton County, KY		3.9	0.8	1.8	3.7	1.7	1.0	-0.5	-0.1	0.6	4.4	4.8
Pendleton County, KY		-0.5	-3.6	-4.6	2.9	3.3	-2.1	0.6	-4.8	-0.5	1.8	4.0
Dearborn County, IN		4.2	9.1	11.7	1.2	2.6	5.1	0.4	0.7	1.7	2.7	2.1
Franklin County, IN		6.0	2.7	2.3	-1.0	2.2	0.4	-0.9	0.9	3.8	0.9	1.6
Ohio County, IN		32.5	62.9	4.8	-4.4	-1.7	-1.9	-1.8	-1.8	-2.1	0.9	-0.6
City of Cincinnati												

What it is: This indicator shows the annual percent increase or decrease of jobs in our region and its counties.

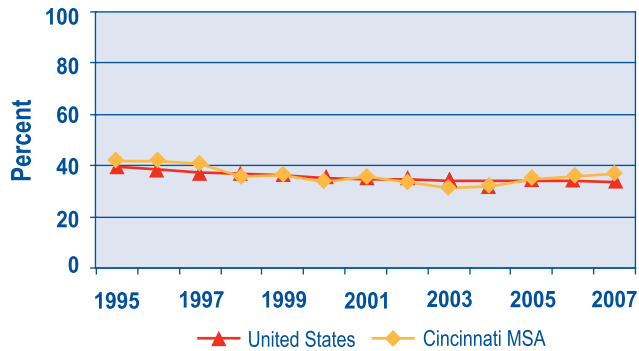
Why it matters: A growing job base is essential to provide employment to a region's growing population. Job growth is also a strong proxy for regional economic performance.

What it tells us: The Cincinnati region experienced job gains between 2001 and 2005, following a national trend. However, job gains region-wide slowed from 2005 to 2006. This indicator should be monitored to determine if the most recent data represent a short-term anomaly or are indicative of a longer-term negative change. In some suburban counties, job gains continue to outpace those experienced nationwide. However, Hamilton County has experienced job loss in nearly every year this decade.



Economy: Percentage of Workforce 20-35 Years Old

Regional Performance



Local Differences

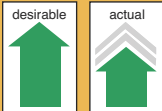
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
United States	39.4	38.6	37.4	36.7	36.1	35.3	34.8	34.7	33.9	34.1	33.9	33.9	33.6
Cincinnati-Middletown, OH-KY-IN MSA	41.8	42.0	40.4	35.8	36.3	33.7	35.7	33.6	31.4	31.9	34.6	35.9	36.9

What it is: This indicator shows the percent of the local workforce that is age 20-35.

Why it matters: Many demographers and economists believe that persons in the 20-35 age group constitute the most “creative” or entrepreneurial people in a workforce, adding a high degree of vigor, productivity and creativity. Workforces deficient in this age group often under-perform compared to those with higher percentages. This has significant implications for our regional economy and its performance.

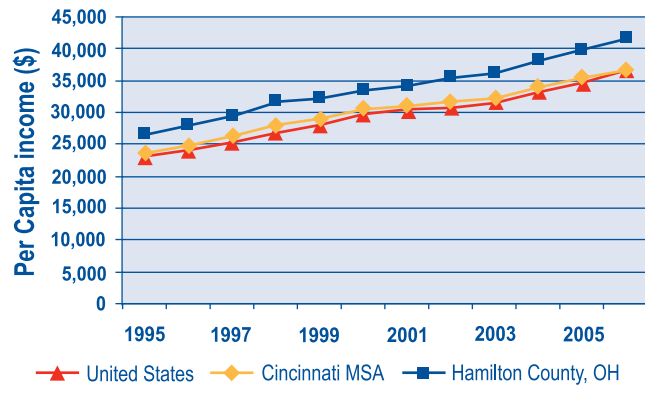
What it tells us: Data show that the overall U.S. population is aging and that 20-35-year-olds make up an ever-diminishing part of it. Fortunately, in Greater Cincinnati, the trend has increased since 2002 and the percentage of the 20-35-year-old workforce is now greater in our region than in the U.S.





Economy: Per Capita Income

Regional Performance



Local Differences

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
United States	23,076	24,175	25,334	26,883	27,939	29,845	30,574	30,821	31,504	33,123	34,757	36,714
Cincinnati-Middletown, OH-KY-IN MSA	23,567	24,787	26,299	28,058	29,057	30,472	31,001	31,749	32,281	33,901	35,326	36,650
Brown County, OH	17,031	17,833	19,789	20,322	20,951	21,939	22,568	22,757	23,549	24,676	25,684	26,547
Butler County, OH	22,104	22,948	24,531	26,079	27,475	28,610	28,902	29,311	30,047	30,978	32,138	33,130
Clermont County, OH	20,300	21,172	23,662	24,927	27,378	29,066	29,567	30,150	30,472	31,987	33,343	34,201
Hamilton County, OH	26,642	28,072	29,395	31,712	32,262	33,553	34,298	35,367	36,043	38,223	39,804	41,477
Warren County, OH	23,289	24,571	26,721	28,283	29,529	30,676	31,579	31,661	31,628	33,100	34,800	36,134
Boone County, KY	22,136	23,433	24,825	26,274	27,709	29,741	29,819	30,133	30,464	30,579	31,646	32,260
Bracken County, KY	15,425	16,701	18,238	18,812	19,374	21,323	20,847	20,483	21,352	21,866	22,967	24,290
Campbell County, KY	19,941	21,078	22,246	23,632	24,748	26,556	27,111	27,764	28,562	30,230	31,912	33,378
Gallatin County, KY	15,272	16,149	17,066	17,471	18,159	20,419	19,740	20,982	21,398	22,755	22,950	23,759
Grant County, KY	15,961	16,566	17,741	18,164	18,930	21,161	20,656	20,857	21,257	21,997	23,126	23,832
Kenton County, KY	21,583	23,248	24,513	25,742	26,979	29,188	29,382	30,874	31,251	33,620	35,579	37,414
Pendleton County, KY	15,525	16,369	17,426	18,453	19,047	20,819	20,119	20,383	20,401	20,891	21,663	22,637
Dearborn County, IN	20,228	21,552	23,146	24,946	25,733	27,477	27,631	28,900	29,539	30,614	30,957	31,877
Franklin County, IN	18,104	19,867	21,951	23,608	23,916	25,431	26,366	26,306	26,350	27,185	28,368	29,821
Ohio County, IN	18,573	19,435	20,530	21,695	21,849	23,814	23,623	22,688	23,495	24,460	25,740	26,927
City of Cincinnati												

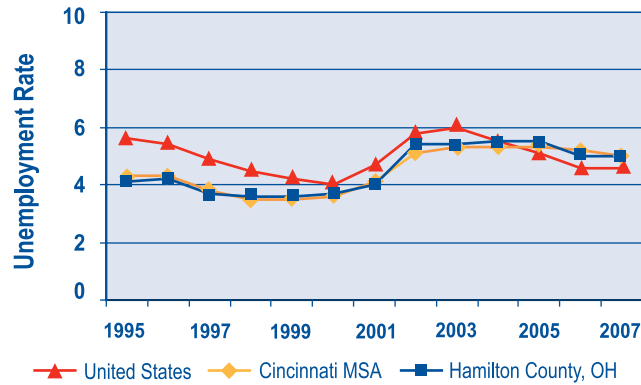
What it is: Per capita income is the mean income computed for every person and is derived by dividing the total income of the group by its total population.

Why it matters: Per capita income is considered a key measure of the performance of a region's economy.

What it tells us: Per capita income in Greater Cincinnati and Hamilton County continues to compare favorably with the national average. Hamilton County continues to have the highest per capita income in the region while per capita incomes in Clermont, Warren, Campbell, and Kenton counties are increasing rapidly. In general, rural counties have much lower per capita incomes.

Economy: Unemployment Rate

Regional Performance



Local Differences

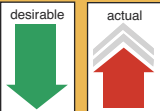
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
United States	5.6	5.4	4.9	4.5	4.2	4.0	4.7	5.8	6.0	5.5	5.1	4.6	4.6
Cincinnati-Middletown, OH-KY-IN MSA	4.3	4.3	3.8	3.5	3.5	3.6	4.1	5.1	5.3	5.3	5.3	5.2	5.0
Brown County, OH	5.9	6.1	5.7	5.1	5.4	5.1	5.8	6.9	7.1	6.9	6.8	6.8	6.4
Butler County, OH	4.1	4.2	3.5	3.4	3.2	3.6	4.0	5.3	5.4	5.4	5.2	5.6	5.1
Clermont County, OH	4.3	4.5	4.2	3.6	3.7	3.6	4.0	5.4	5.5	5.4	5.3	5.0	5.0
Hamilton County, OH	4.1	4.2	3.7	3.6	3.6	3.7	4.0	5.4	5.4	5.5	5.5	5.0	5.0
Warren County, OH	3.9	3.8	3.1	3.0	2.9	3.3	3.7	4.7	5.0	4.9	4.7	4.9	4.6
Boone County, KY	4.2	3.9	3.5	2.8	2.8	3.0	3.9	4.1	5.0	4.5	4.9	4.8	4.5
Bracken County, KY	6.1	5.9	6.1	4.2	4.1	3.6	4.8	5.1	6.3	5.9	6.5	5.8	6.0
Campbell County, KY	4.6	4.4	4.0	3.5	3.4	3.3	4.4	4.4	5.1	4.9	5.5	5.2	5.0
Gallatin County, KY	6.0	5.5	5.6	3.8	3.6	4.0	4.7	5.7	5.8	5.8	6.0	4.9	5.3
Grant County, KY	5.4	5.7	5.3	4.5	4.0	3.9	5.1	5.5	6.1	5.5	5.6	5.5	5.5
Kenton County, KY	4.4	4.1	3.8	3.2	3.3	3.3	4.3	4.4	4.9	4.7	5.2	5.1	4.8
Pendleton County, KY	4.9	5.0	7.0	3.7	4.0	3.5	4.6	5.0	6.3	5.0	5.8	5.7	5.8
Dearborn County, IN	6.2	4.9	3.6	3.1	3.0	3.2	3.8	5.2	5.2	5.3	5.6	5.3	5.0
Franklin County, IN	6.0	4.4	3.6	2.9	3.2	3.3	4.4	5.7	5.8	5.6	6.3	5.7	5.4
Ohio County, IN	5.5	5.0	3.3	3.1	3.1	3.3	3.6	4.3	4.9	5.4	5.2	5.2	4.9
City of Cincinnati	5.9	6.0	5.3	5.1	5.2	5.3	5.8	7.8	6.1	6.2	6.1	5.5	5.5

What it is: This indicator shows the percent of employable people actively seeking work, divided by the total number of employable people.

Why it matters: The inability to find employment is devastating to individuals and families. Unemployment rates also are a critical measure of the performance of a region's economy.

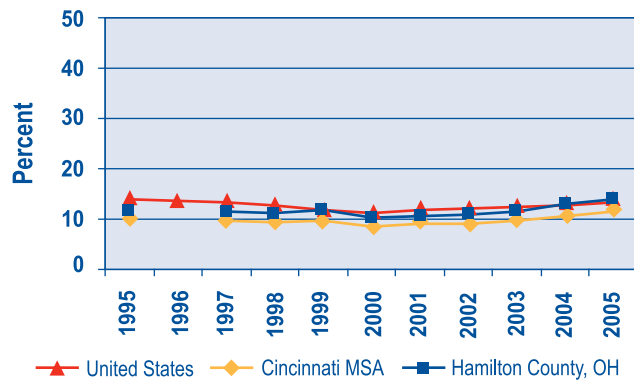
What it tells us: Greater Cincinnati's unemployment rate traditionally has been lower than the national average, usually by about one percent. Since 2005, however, the region's unemployment rate has been slightly above the national average. These data do not reflect downturns in the regional economy in 2008.





Economy: Percent of Population in Poverty

Regional Performance



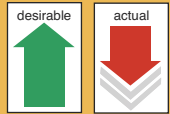
Local Differences

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
United States	13.8	13.7	13.3	12.7	11.9	11.3	11.7	12.1	12.5	12.7	13.3		
Cincinnati-Middletown, OH-KY-IN MSA	10.1		9.8	9.4	9.7	8.5	9.0	9.0	9.6	10.6	11.4		
Brown County, OH	12.1		12.0	11.1	11.2	10.4	10.8	10.3	10.5	11.9	14.1		
Butler County, OH	8.0		8.1	7.7	8.3	7.2	7.9	8.1	8.9	9.8	11.8		
Clermont County, OH	7.1		6.7	6.8	7.5	6.5	6.9	6.8	6.9	7.8	8.4		
Hamilton County, OH	11.7		11.4	11.3	11.9	10.3	10.6	10.8	11.6	13.1	14.0		
Warren County, OH	5.4		5.6	5.2	5.2	4.7	5.0	4.8	5.1	5.3	5.0		
Boone County, KY	7.1		6.3	6.2	6.1	5.5	6.2	6.3	7.1	7.7	7.0		
Bracken County, KY	17.5		15.8	15.1	12.2	11.4	11.9	11.7	11.7	12.8	12.8		
Campbell County, KY	13.3		10.0	9.6	9.3	8.6	9.4	9.6	10.3	10.9	12.1		
Gallatin County, KY	16.3		15.9	13.7	13.1	14.1	15.8	16.1	15.3	17.2	17.3		
Grant County, KY	14.8		13.1	13.3	11.8	11.2	12.3	12.5	12.5	13.3	12.5		
Kenton County, KY	11.2		10.1	9.6	9.1	8.6	9.5	9.6	10.7	11.3	11.1		
Pendleton County, KY	15.5		14.4	13.7	12.1	11.1	12.4	12.1	12.1	13.6	14.7		
Dearborn County, IN	7.4		7.1	7.2	6.6	6.3	6.2	6.3	6.8	7.4	8.1		
Franklin County, IN	7.7		7.6	8.9	7.6	7.3	7.1	7.6	8.0	8.8	8.9		
Ohio County, IN	6.8		6.5	7.0	6.4	6.7	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.6	8.2		
City of Cincinnati								23.2	21.1	19.6	25.0	27.8	23.5

What it is: This indicator shows the percent of residents in the region whose incomes fall below the federal poverty line.

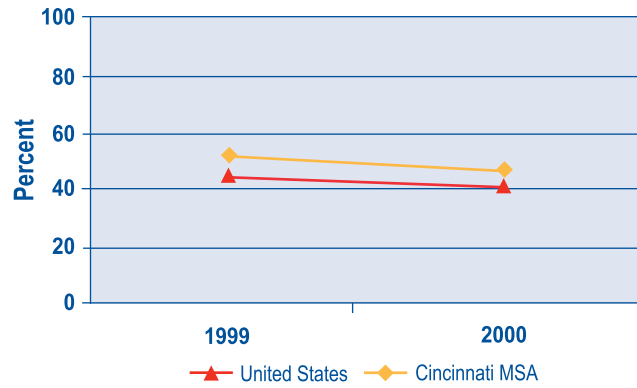
Why it matters: The percentage of the population living in poverty is a crucial socio-economic measure that strongly correlates with other social problems including health, educational outcomes, crime, safety, and others.

What it tells us: Our region is doing relatively well, with poverty consistently lower than the U.S. average, though the rate is also following a national increase since 2000. Our suburban counties and the suburban areas of central counties have relatively few people living in poverty. In our region, poverty is concentrated in specific rural and urban pockets: Bracken, Brown, Gallatin, Grant, Hamilton, and Pendleton counties. Poverty in the City of Cincinnati is alarmingly high, with about one in four below the federal poverty line.



Economy: Housing Affordability Ratio

Regional Performance



Local Differences

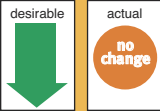
	1990	2000
United States	44.9	41.8
Cincinnati-Middletown, OH-KY-IN MSA	52.8	47.4
Brown County, OH	58.9	47.9
Butler County, OH	53.3	46.7
Clermont County, OH	51.2	46.4
Hamilton County, OH	52.0	48.0
Warren County, OH	52.4	45.5
Boone County, KY	52.5	46.4
Bracken County, KY	62.0	54.1
Campbell County, KY	56.6	51.0
Gallatin County, KY	58.3	47.2
Grant County, KY	58.1	45.8
Kenton County, KY	56.0	50.1
Pendleton County, KY	62.7	54.8
Dearborn County, IN	59.7	45.4
Franklin County, IN	60.6	46.9
Ohio County, IN	67.4	50.3
City of Cincinnati	44.1	40.4

What it is: This indicator uses median family income divided by median home value as a proxy to measure housing affordability, with a higher number indicating higher levels of affordability.

Why it matters: Higher costs of home ownership tighten competition in the rental market, driving up rental prices. Lack of affordable rental housing often leads to overcrowded or unsafe housing conditions and seriously impacts the ability of low- to moderate-income families to meet other basic needs. The housing shortage leads to longer and more congested commutes, more air pollution, diminished productivity, and less family time. Comparatively affordable housing also confers economic competitiveness on a region because it helps to attract new residents.

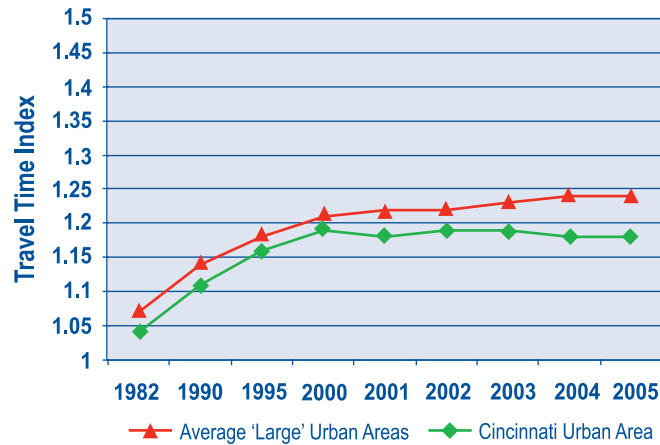
What it tells us: Housing prices in Greater Cincinnati are relatively low compared to other regions in the U.S. While home prices have been falling in recent years, home ownership remains a challenge for families throughout our region. These data do not reflect the dramatic downturn in the region's housing market during 2007-2008.





Social Relations: Average Commute Time

Regional Performance



Local Differences

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
United States									
Cincinnati-Middletown, OH-KY-IN MSA									
Brown County, OH									
Butler County, OH									
Clermont County, OH									
Hamilton County, OH									
Warren Boone	<i>No Small-Area Data Available</i>								
Bracken County, KY									
Campbell County, KY									
Gallatin County, KY									
Grant County, KY									
Kenton County, KY									
Pendleton County, KY									
Dearborn County, IN									
Franklin County, IN									
Ohio County, IN									
City of Cincinnati									

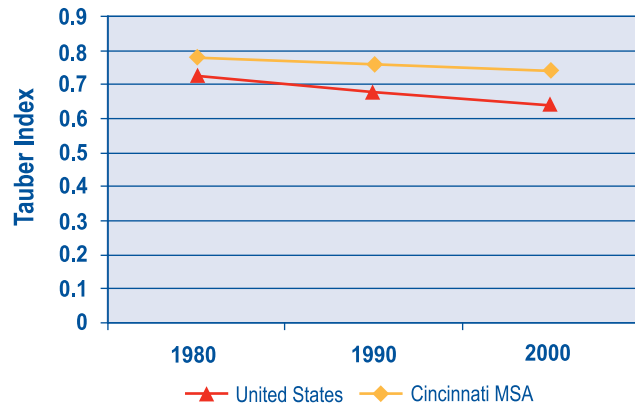
What it is: Average commute time is reported as the Travel Time Index, a measure of the additional time required to make a trip because of congestion on roadways. For example, an index value of 1.25 indicates that it takes 25 percent more time to make a trip during peak periods than at normal (“free-flow”) times.

Why it matters: Commute time is an indicator of economic, social and physical health. Greater commute time correlates negatively with civic participation and desired health outcomes. Commute time has been related to increased stress levels and “road rage.”

What it tells us: Greater Cincinnati’s commute time is lower than the national average, giving Greater Cincinnati a comparative advantage over other large urban areas.

Social Relations: Residential Segregation

Regional Performance



Local Differences

	1980	1990	2000
United States	0.727	0.678	0.640
Cincinnati-Middletown, OH-KY-IN MSA	0.781	0.761	0.739

What it is: The Tauber Index of Dissimilarity is a commonly used measure of residential segregation based on U.S. Census data. Looking at housing patterns, it measures segregation on a 0 to 1 scale with a higher number indicating higher levels of segregation between two groups – in this case, Whites and Blacks. The indicator does not measure intergroup relations per se.

Why it matters: Highly segregated housing patterns correlate with racial tensions in a community. Members of minority groups often have fewer educational and economic opportunities in communities with segregated housing patterns.

What it tells us: The data show that residential segregation in Greater Cincinnati is decreasing, though not as quickly as in the U.S. as a whole.

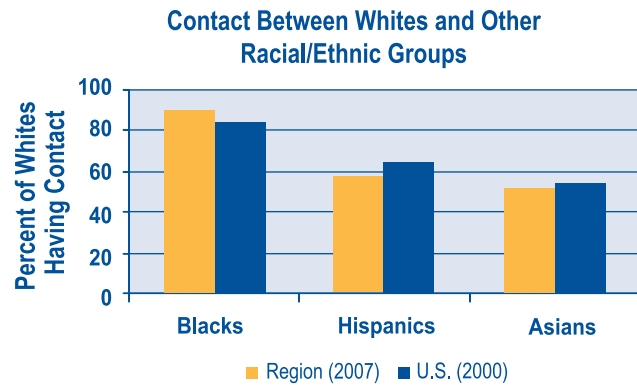




Social Relations: Intergroup Relations



Regional Performance



Local Differences

	Region	U.S.
	2007	2000
Whites Contact with Blacks	90.1%	83.2%
Whites Contact with Hispanics	56.2%	64.2%
Whites Contact with Asians	51.3%	53.8%
Blacks Contact with Whites	95.7%	90.3%
Blacks Contact with Hispanics	52.8%	68.8%
Blacks Contact with Asians	42.3%	48.7%
Hispanic Contact with Whites	73.8%	82.8%
Hispanic Contact with Blacks	55.4%	66.0%
Hispanic Contact with Asians	26.4%	43.8%
Whites Contact with Blacks as Friends	68.3%	60.5%
Whites Contact with Hispanics as Friends	28.8%	40.5%
Whites Contact with Asians as Friends	24.8%	46.6%
Blacks Contact with Whites as Friends	84.8%	70.6%
Blacks Contact with Hispanics as Friends	27.4%	46.6%
Blacks Contact with Asians as Friends	23.7%	22.5%
Hispanic Contact with Whites as Friends	48.6%	70.1%
Hispanic Contact with Blacks as Friends	31.4%	51.7%
Hispanic Contact with Asians as Friends	15.5%	27.6%

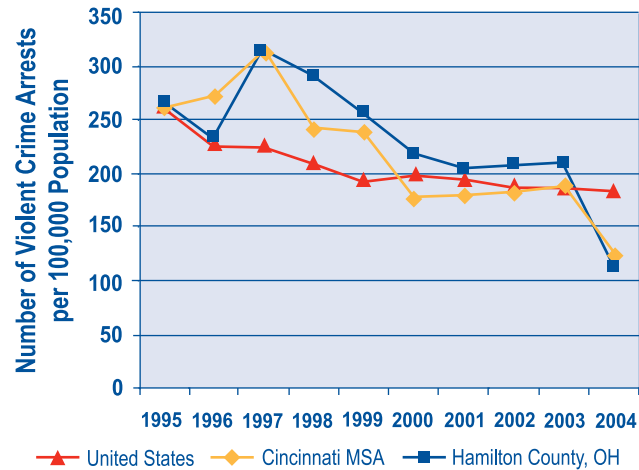
What it is: This indicator shows the percent of contact members of one group have with members of other racial or ethnic groups.

Why it matters: Research on race relations in the United States has identified contact with members of different racial groups as important to promoting positive race relations. This has been called the "contact hypothesis" and states that contact with members of different racial groups promotes positive, tolerant attitudes. Having some interaction with persons from other racial and ethnic groups is a necessary condition for developing a sense of closeness and acceptance of that group.

What it tells us: The level of contact is largely a function of group size. The smaller the group, the less contact other groups will have with its members. In the Greater Cincinnati region, both Blacks and Whites report more contact with each other than is the case in the U.S. as a whole. However, Blacks' and Whites' contact with Asians and Hispanics is less than in the U.S. as a whole. Hispanics in Greater Cincinnati report the most contact with Whites, followed by Blacks. Hispanics are less likely to have contact with Asians. Hispanics here have less contact with Whites, Blacks and Asians than do Hispanics nationwide.

Social Relations: Violent Crime

Regional Performance



Local Differences

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
United States	260.1	226.3	224.0	208.6	193.3	197.7	196.1	187.7	185.1	182.2
Cincinnati-Middletown, OH-KY-IN MSA	261.2	272.2	314.8	241.7	237.7	177.2	180.1	181.7	187.7	125.0
Brown County, OH	85.2	83.8	84.7	81.8	73.2	73.3	51.9	7.1	9.2	9.1
Butler County, OH	158.2	141.0	150.7	123.7	103.0	152.7	242.5	174.3	196.7	146.3
Clermont County, OH	103.2	142.8	118.0	105.5	113.4	110.1	87.8	115.1	89.7	102.5
Hamilton County, OH	266.4	231.3	314.3	289.3	255.7	217.4	203.4	206.5	209.1	114.9
Warren County, OH	81.7	71.9	85.0	66.2	31.4	55.6	38.3	50.2	42.1	52.2
Boone County, KY	145.7	406.4	459.8	443.2	219.6	196.5	254.3	181.4	163.0	155.4
Bracken County, KY				119.8	176.3	48.3	48.0	83.5	175.8	140.4
Campbell County, KY	641.6	809.5	626.2	429.3	623.3	222.3	193.0	290.8	341.0	215.6
Gallatin County, KY	308.2	404.4	309.4	293.3	304.5	177.9	227.4	263.5	177.6	136.6
Grant County, KY	395.5	496.4	388.9	320.5	371.2	183.2	222.1	273.5	159.9	128.4
Kenton County, KY	737.6	926.7	710.9	478.0	676.0	233.7	205.4	329.9	382.8	248.5
Pendleton County, KY	328.1	422.7	339.4	289.6	304.6	173.7	228.0	260.8	167.7	131.6
Dearborn County, IN	56.4	39.8	181.1	36.3	54.7	114.9	32.3	109.2	27.3	39.4
Franklin County, IN				81.8	139.0	134.4	95.4	18.9	14.1	9.3
Ohio County, IN	147.3	165.3	220.8	109.3	91.5	124.5	88.4	122.9	102.8	121.3
City of Cincinnati										

What it is: This indicator shows the number of arrests for violent crime per 100,000 population in a given year.

Why it matters: The reality and perception of safety are important elements in decisions people make about where to live, with high crime rates acting as a strong disincentive to in-migration. Crime of all kinds has significant economic costs – to businesses and to government – and puts a significant burden on taxpayers. Crime also acts as a deterrent to civic participation.

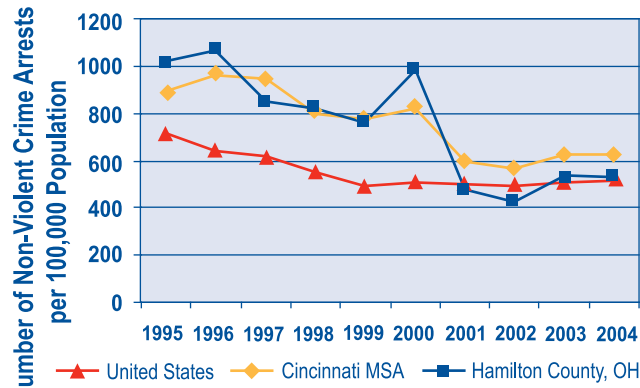
What it tells us: Greater Cincinnati stayed about average compared to the national trend until 2004 when both the region and Hamilton County crime rates dropped notably. The large local drop in violent crime in 2004 is highly suspect (Hamilton County jurisdictions reported a 65 percent drop in aggravated assaults) and likely reflects missing data more than a significant drop in violent crime. It is likely that these data will be modified in future releases from the FBI. Extreme variation at the county level makes interpretation difficult.





Social Relations: Non-Violent Crime

Regional Performance



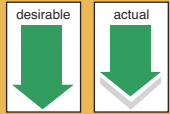
Local Differences

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
United States	712.6	643.9	620.6	550.8	493.8	505.2	498.4	493.5	508.0	511.9
Cincinnati-Middletown, OH-KY-IN MSA	891.3	962.3	949.1	797.8	776.5	820.1	596.0	569.7	629.3	628.8
Brown County, OH	302.0	495.0	513.3	419.1	402.8	413.9	238.4	35.3	71.2	52.4
Butler County, OH	665.9	794.1	796.8	637.8	620.4	717.0	765.2	757.2	713.0	813.3
Clermont County, OH	901.9	1124.9	924.0	868.3	755.8	745.8	834.5	940.0	916.5	
Hamilton County, OH	1024.6	1065.0	852.1	820.8	757.0	982.1	478.8	425.2	536.4	529.8
Warren County, OH	299.5	416.0	412.2	353.0	199.2	312.0	223.4	218.0	226.3	279.9
Boone County, KY	808.7	1005.1	1127.2	1104.0	1042.9	767.5	847.4	803.9	936.5	800.6
Bracken County, KY				335.3	446.7	253.7	228.1	322.1	457.0	444.7
Campbell County, KY	1244.1	1232.1	1438.6	1130.1	1417.2	977.3	903.1	853.6	944.5	894.2
Gallatin County, KY	875.9	917.7	898.8	850.4	678.1	470.1	619.0	602.3	469.3	447.2
Grant County, KY	962.1	977.4	1030.3	926.4	854.8	571.8	684.0	661.8	395.6	381.0
Kenton County, KY	1353.0	1317.0	1573.0	1350.6	1665.5	1099.9	1016.0	970.1	1070.6	1009.0
Pendleton County, KY	894.8	947.5	974.7	845.4	674.5	430.9	594.1	576.4	429.4	414.7
Dearborn County, IN	417.2	413.2	532.6	486.6	338.5	453.3	355.8	372.6	413.7	305.2
Franklin County, IN				264.6	460.0	479.8	362.6	156.3	46.9	37.2
Ohio County, IN	442.0	772.3	441.5	327.8	292.9	302.3	300.6	280.9	239.8	277.2
City of Cincinnati										

What it is: This indicator shows the number of arrests for non-violent crime per 100,000 population in a given year.

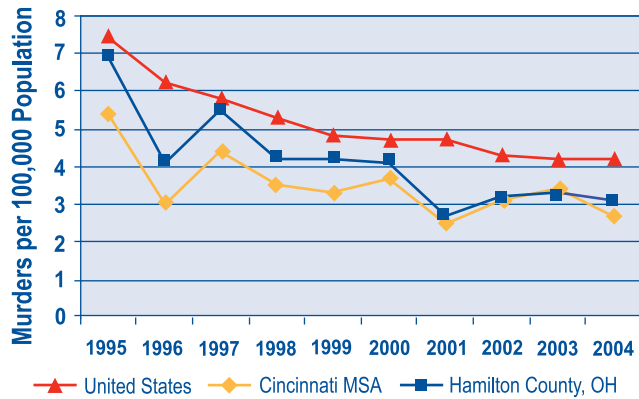
Why it matters: The reality and perception of safety are important elements in decisions people make about where to live, with high crime rates acting as a strong disincentive to in-migration. Crime has significant economic costs – to businesses and to government – and puts significant burdens on taxpayers. Crime also acts as a deterrent to civic participation.

What it tells us: The latest measures show Greater Cincinnati and Hamilton County slightly above the national non-violent crime average with a relatively flat trend since 2001. The extreme variation at the county level makes interpretation difficult.



Social Relations: Murder Rate

Regional Performance



Local Differences

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
United States	7.4	6.2	5.8	5.3	4.8	4.7	4.7	4.3	4.2	4.2			
Cincinnati-Middletown, OH-KY-IN MSA	5.4	3.0	4.4	3.5	3.3	3.7	2.5	3.1	3.4	2.7			
Brown County, OH	2.6	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.4	2.4	2.4	0.0	0.0	0.0			
Butler County, OH	3.1	2.2	3.4	2.4	1.5	3.0	3.6	2.1	2.9	2.0			
Clermont County, OH	1.8	3.5	2.3	1.2	4.6	6.2	4.5	5.6	3.3	2.7			
Hamilton County, OH	6.9	4.1	5.5	4.2	4.2	4.1	2.7	3.2	3.3	3.1			
Warren County, OH	3.8	1.5	4.3	1.4	0.0	1.9	0.0	0.0	1.2	0.6			
Boone County, KY	0.0	1.4	1.3	6.5	1.2	3.5	0.0	3.4	2.1	3.1			
Bracken County, KY	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0			
Campbell County, KY	9.2	2.3	3.4	4.5	5.7	3.4	1.1	5.6	6.7	4.5			
Gallatin County, KY	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0			
Grant County, KY	5.3	5.2	5.1	5.0	4.9	0.0	0.0	4.4	4.2	4.1			
Kenton County, KY	9.6	2.8	2.7	6.1	6.1	4.6	1.3	4.6	7.8	3.9			
Pendleton County, KY	7.5	0.0	7.2	7.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0			
Dearborn County, IN	4.5	0.0	2.2	0.0	0.0	2.2	6.5	4.3	6.3	6.2			
Franklin County, IN	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0			
Ohio County, IN	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0			
City of Cincinnati **						6.6	16.9	21.1	21.7	19.6	23.8	25.6	20.2

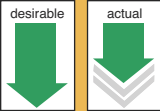
What it is: This indicator shows the number of murders per 100,000 population in a given year.

Why it matters: The reality and perception of personal and family safety are important elements in decisions people make about where to live, with high crime rates acting as a strong disincentive to in-migration. Crime has significant economic costs – to businesses and to government – and puts a burden on taxpayers. Fear of crime also acts as a deterrent to civic participation.

What it tells us: Both national and local trends are improving, with Greater Cincinnati's and Hamilton County's rates lower than the national average. Though there are some cities in the country with even higher murder rates, the City of Cincinnati's rate is alarmingly high compared to the rest of our region.

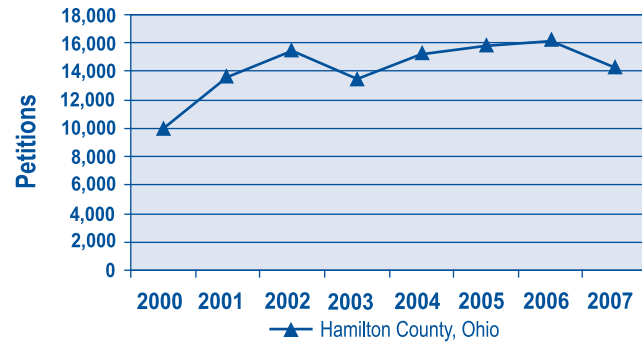
** Note: Data from Cincinnati Police Department.





Social Relations: Juvenile Crime

Regional Performance



Local Differences

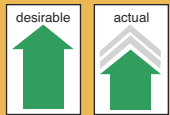
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
United States								
Cincinnati-Middletown, OH-KY-IN MSA								
Brown County, OH	266	301	321	483	424	362	446	398
Butler County, OH	3,005	3,261	3,188	3,099	3,147	2,853	3,060	3,064
Clermont County, OH	1,240	1,205	1,139	1,186	1,210	1,088	1,146	1,372
Hamilton County, OH	10,011	13,645	15,482	13,438	15,180	15,800	16,192	14,313
Warren County, OH	1,031	1,055	1,207	1,170	1,127	1,255	1,415	1,271
Boone County, KY	443	429	375	408	387	372	604	431
Bracken County, KY	89	90	104	97	110	91	66	81
Campbell County, KY	1,597	1,513	1,578	1,142	873	848	957	722
Gallatin County, KY	86	60	82	59	63	54	109	90
Grant County, KY	300	340	327	377	322	365	412	345
Kenton County, KY	2,101	2,370	2,391	2,517	2,584	2,548	2,527	1,674
Pendleton County, KY	205	211	207	117	99	61	51	86
Dearborn County, IN								
Franklin County, IN								
Ohio County, IN								
City of Cincinnati								

What it is: This indicator shows the number of petitions filed alleging juvenile delinquency in a given year. (Note: Kentucky is all juvenile district court filings, not simply delinquency.)

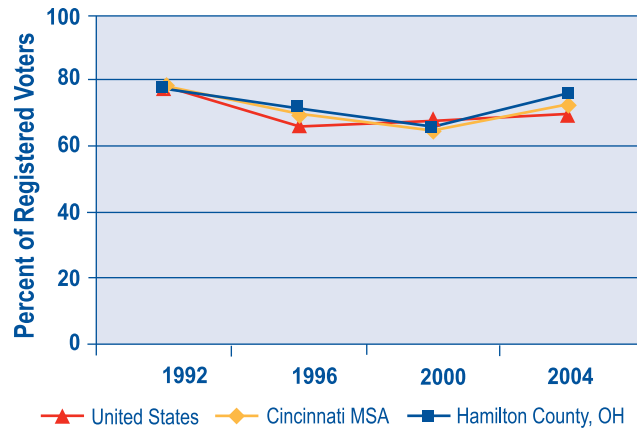
Why it matters: Our future depends on our children and youth. While it is best for youth not to be drawn into the juvenile justice system, it is essential that those who are drawn into the system be helped to overcome the circumstances which created problematic behavior and to learn to live more productive lives without re-offending.

What it tells us: Petitions for declaration of juvenile delinquency have climbed steadily since 2000, with a decrease in 2007. More than 50 percent of the petitions filed annually are filed in Hamilton County.

Social Relations: Voting



Regional Performance



Local Differences

	1992	1996	2000	2004
United States	78.0%	66.0%	67.5%	70.0%
Cincinnati-Middletown, OH-KY-IN MSA	77.8%	69.3%	64.7%	72.2%
Brown County, OH	77.4%	66.6%	62.6%	70.1%
Butler County, OH	76.7%	66.6%	64.3%	71.0%
Clermont County, OH	80.8%	70.6%	62.4%	71.4%
Hamilton County, OH	77.1%	71.3%	65.6%	75.5%
Warren County, OH	79.3%	72.3%	72.6%	76.3%
Boone County, KY	79.8%	68.4%	67.8%	69.3%
Bracken County, KY	72.5%	56.4%	53.8%	62.2%
Campbell County, KY	79.6%	66.7%	64.7%	70.0%
Gallatin County, KY	73.0%	54.3%	50.6%	58.1%
Grant County, KY	76.4%	61.6%	57.0%	61.7%
Kenton County, KY	80.1%	65.9%	62.8%	67.0%
Pendleton County, KY	71.9%	56.6%	56.5%	63.0%
Dearborn County, IN	79.7%	66.7%	51.0%	58.0%
Franklin County, IN	76.5%	65.4%	59.0%	61.0%
Ohio County, IN	74.1%	66.6%	59.0%	60.0%
City of Cincinnati	71.5%	64.1%	57.9%	69.4%



What it is: This indicator shows the percent of registered voters who actually voted in presidential elections.

Why it matters: Voter turnout is a strong measure of social capital/civic participation and high turnout often allows elected officials to advance policies supported by a strong citizen mandate.

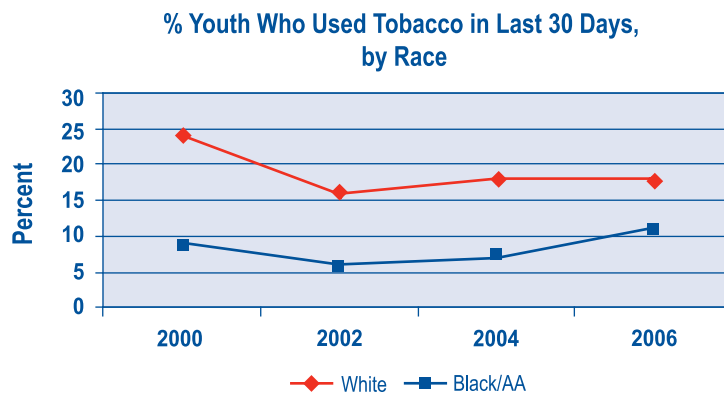
What it tells us: The Cincinnati region has voted at a rate near, or above, the national average in each of the past four presidential elections.

Demographic Differences and Disparities

Just as *The State of the Community* indicators provide insight into the social, political and economic health of our whole region, the measures also can provide telling illustrations of the differences among demographic groups in our region.

Although detailed demographic comparisons are beyond the intent and regional focus of *The State of the Community*, demographic and additional geographic measures for *The State of the Community*'s indicators have been developed by the Community Research Collaborative and are available at <http://www.crc.uc.edu>.

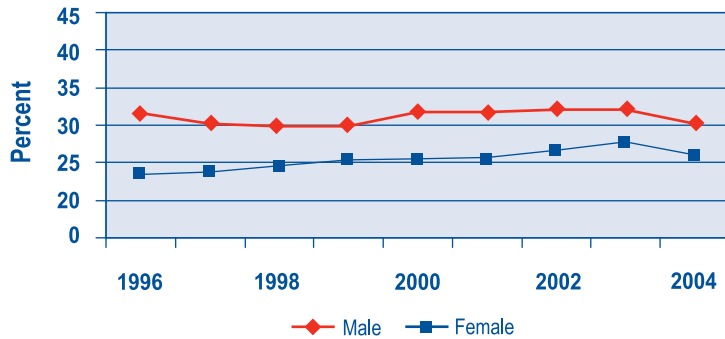
These data can be used to delve deeper into *The State of the Community*, as in the examples that follow.



Differences by Race: Underage substance abuse, including cigarette and other tobacco use, is strongly associated with other youth risk behaviors and poor school performance.

While White students have been nearly twice as likely to report smoking/having smoked cigarettes, Black students, unfortunately, are beginning to close that gap.

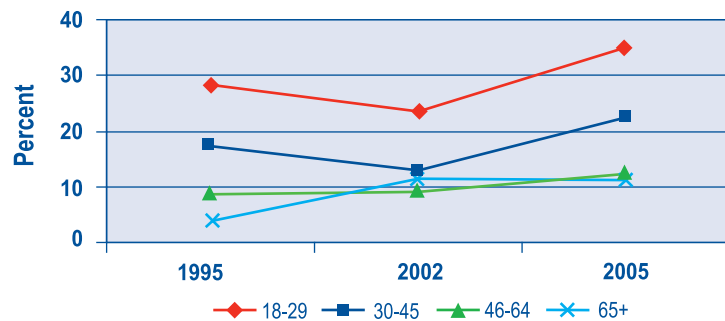
% of Persons 25+ with at least a Bachelor's Degree, by Sex



Differences by Sex: Years of education for those 25 and over is a crucial measure of both individual socio-economic progress and workforce quality.

A lower percentage of our region's women (25 years and older) have Bachelor's degrees. Fortunately, in the last decade, this educational differential has narrowed.

% of Adults with No Usual Place of Care, by Age



Differences by Age: Access to a regular health care provider is important for the prevention of disease as well as ensuring a healthy and productive workforce.

Lack of access to health care in Greater Cincinnati has increased considerably since 2002 and, as seen here, can be attributed in part to changes in health care access for one of our region's most important economic resources, younger workers.

Criteria for Selecting Indicators

The United Way Research Council has adopted strict criteria for selecting indicators to be used in *The State of the Community*. While it is not possible to assure that every criterion applies equally well to all indicators, the Research Council has worked hard to assure that all indicators selected, except for the “placeholder” indicators, fulfill at least most of the following criteria:

1. The indicator must have policy relevance for many stakeholders and be changeable to a significant degree by local action.
2. The data item must reflect a salient outcome or measure of well-being and be a valid and reliable measure of the concept.
3. The data item must be easily understandable to local stakeholders.
4. Except for U.S. Census data, the statistical indicator must be updated no less than every two or three years.
5. Data must be from a reliable source, i.e., they should be published or released by an authoritative source to the public in some other form before we use them.
6. The data item should have a relatively unambiguous interpretation and there should be widespread agreement as to what constitutes a good or bad trend direction.
7. There must be comparable national benchmarks.
8. The statistical indicator must be available and consistent across most if not all of Greater Cincinnati’s states and counties; and, over time.
9. All or almost all of the indicators must be inexpensive to gather and report.
10. There should be a high probability that the measure will continue to be produced over the next decade.
11. Since the second edition of *The State of the Community*, United Way has adopted an additional criterion, i.e., that indicators in the report should have relevance to the community improvement work of Agenda 360 and Vision 2015.

Definitions and Data Sources

Population:

Percent Population Change shows the population for a given year minus the population for the immediately preceding year, divided by the population for the immediately preceding year and multiplied by 100. SOURCE: United States Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program, available online at <http://www.census.gov/popest/estimates.php>.

Race shows the percentage of people who are White, Black or of another race, divided by the total population. SOURCE: United States Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program, available online at <http://www.census.gov/popest/estimates.php>.

Ethnicity shows the percentage of people in the region who are Hispanic. SOURCE: United States Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program, available online at <http://www.census.gov/popest/estimates.php>.

Old-Age Dependency Ratio shows the number of people aged 65 years and older relative to the total number of people 15-64 years of age (working age). SOURCE: United States Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program.

Children & Youth:

Infant Mortality Rate shows the number of deaths in a year of children less than one year of age, per 1000 live births. SOURCE: Center for Disease Control and Prevention, available online at <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/>. State data are drawn from individual state infant mortality data, found at: Indiana (<http://www.in.gov/isdh/19096.htm>); Kentucky (<http://chfs.ky.gov/dph/vital/vitalstats.htm>); and Ohio (<http://dwhouse.odh.ohio.gov/datawarehousev2.htm>).

Low Birth Weight shows the percentage of children weighing less than 2,500 grams (88 ounces) at birth. SOURCE: Center for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics, accessed online at <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/>.

Early Childhood Readiness shows the percentage of children who, at kindergarten entry, are determined to have the skills necessary to be “ready for school.” For the Cincinnati Public Schools, KRA-L “assesses oral language, rhyming, letter identification and alliteration-elements identified as essential for reading” (for more information about KRA-L, see <http://www.ohreadytoread.org/kraliteracy.htm>). For the Covington Independent Schools, DIBELS “measures were specifically designed to assess the Big Ideas of early literacy: Phonological Awareness, Alphabetic Principle, Fluency with Connected Text, Vocabulary, and Comprehension” (for more information about DIBELS, see <https://dibels.uoregon.edu/dibelsinfo.php>). For the Newport Independent Schools, DIAL-3 Screen “assess(es) children in Motor, Concepts, Language, Self-Help Development, and Social Development” (for more information about the DIAL-3 Screen, see <http://www.kaplanco.com>). SOURCE: Strive, Striving Together: Student Progress on the Roadmap to Success Report; Success By 6®, INNOVATIONS, Cincinnati Public Schools, Covington Independent Schools; Newport Independent Schools.

Grade-Level Assessment Tests (Reading, English/Language Arts and Mathematics) shows the percent of students in Indiana (English/Language Arts and Math), Kentucky (Reading and Math), and Ohio (Reading and Math) who were determined to be proficient or above in math on state tests. *The content of the exams given in each state are different and results cannot be compared across state lines.* SOURCE: Indiana, Kentucky and Ohio Departments of Education.

Educational Attainment:

Years of Education for Persons Age 25+ shows the highest level of education attained by individuals age 25 and over, expressed as a percentage of that age group. SOURCE: United States Census Bureau, Current Population Survey.

STEM Degrees shows the number of undergraduate and graduate degrees awarded in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields by the colleges and universities in our region. SOURCE: Colleges and universities in the Greater Cincinnati region. Compiled by UWGC-CRC staff.

Health:

Health Status Index, Physical SF-12 and Mental SF-12 are calculated so that an average score is 50 for the general U.S. population; thus, scores above 50 are above the national average and scores below 50 are below the average. SOURCE: The Health Foundation of Greater Cincinnati’s Greater Cincinnati Community Health Status Survey.

Underage Substance Abuse shows the percent of youth under 18 years of age reporting monthly or more frequent use of cigarettes, beer, wine coolers, or marijuana. SOURCE: Coalition for a Drug-Free Greater Cincinnati, Personal Drug Use Survey.

Percent of Adults Smoking shows the percent of adults who currently smoke cigarettes. SOURCE: The Health Foundation of Greater Cincinnati's Greater Cincinnati Community Health Status Survey.

Air Quality reports the number of days measuring "good" on the Environmental Protection Agency's Air Quality Index, as a percentage of total days monitored in the given year. SOURCE: United States Environmental Protection Agency, Air Quality Index (may not include 365 days for each county).

Water Quality shows the percentage of assessed stream miles of the Ohio River, Great Miami River, Little Miami River, and Licking River that are impaired, falling short of state and federal water quality standards. SOURCE: United States Environmental Protection Agency, available online at <http://www.epa.gov/waters/ir/>; and Ohio River Valley Water Sanitation Commission (ORSANCO) 2006 Biennial Assessment of Ohio River Water Quality Conditions, available online at <http://www.orsanco.org/rivinfo/305b.asp>.

Solid Waste shows the amount of solid waste disposed (including residential, commercial and industrial solid waste), in tons, in our region. SOURCE: Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, Hamilton County Solid Waste Management District, Northern Kentucky Solid Waste Management District.

Overweight or Obese is the percent of individuals whose Body Mass Index (BMI) indicates that they are overweight or obese. BMI is computed from self-reports of height and weight. SOURCE: The Health Foundation of Greater Cincinnati's Greater Cincinnati Community Health Status Survey.

Percent Uninsured reports the percentage of persons saying that they lacked health insurance coverage at any time during the past 12 months. SOURCE: The Health Foundation of Greater Cincinnati's Greater Cincinnati Community Health Status Survey.

Lack of Access to Regular Health Care shows the percent of the adult population who report that they do not have a regular health care provider. SOURCE: The Health Foundation of Greater Cincinnati's Greater Cincinnati Community Health Status Survey.

Economy:

Business Starts shows the number of new business starts for the State of Ohio (based on the total number of for-profit businesses with at least one employee active in July or August of each year). Indiana and Kentucky do not report business starts. SOURCE: Office of Strategic Research, Ohio Department of Development, Ohio County Indicators.

High-Tech Jobs shows the percentage of High-Tech jobs, including in biomedical industries, as a percentage of total employment. SOURCE: United States Census Bureau, County Business Patterns.

Percent of Job Gain or Loss shows the annual percent increase or decrease of jobs in our region and its counties. SOURCE: Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Information System.

Percentage of Workforce 20-35-Years-Old shows the percent of the local workforce that is age 20-35. SOURCE: United States Census Bureau, Current Population Survey.

Per Capita Income is the mean income computed for every person in a particular group and is derived by dividing the total income of the group by its total population. SOURCE: Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Information System.

Unemployment Rate shows the percent of employable people actively seeking work, divided by the total number of employable people. SOURCE: United States Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Unemployment Statistics, available online at: <http://www.bls.gov/lau/#data>.

Percent of Population in Poverty shows the percent of residents in the region whose incomes fall below the federal poverty line. SOURCE: Housing and Household Economics Statistics, Small Area Estimates Branch, available online at: <http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/saie/county.html>.

Housing Affordability Ratio uses median family income divided by median home value as a proxy to measure housing affordability, with a higher number indicating higher levels of affordability. SOURCE: United States Census Bureau, Census of Population and Housing.

Social Relations:

Average Commuting Time is reported as the Travel Time Index, a measure of the additional time required to make a trip because of congestion on roadways. For example, an index value of 1.25 indicates that it takes 25 percent more time to make a trip during peak periods than at normal ("free-flow") times. SOURCE: Texas Transportation Institute, Urban Mobility Report, available on-line at: http://mobility.tamu.edu/ums/congestion_data/tables/cincinnati.pdf.

Residential Segregation is measured using the Tauber Index of Dissimilarity based on U.S. Census data. Looking at housing patterns, it measures segregation on a 0 to 1 scale with a higher number indicating higher levels of segregation between two groups – in this case Whites and Blacks. The indicator does not measure inter-group relations per se. SOURCE: United States Census Bureau, Census of Population and Housing.

Intergroup Relations shows the percent of contact members of one group have with members of other racial or ethnic groups. SOURCE: The National Conference for Community and Justice, Taking America's Pulse II Report; BRIDGES for a Just Community, BRIDGES Progress Report on Human Relations in Greater Cincinnati.

Violent Crime shows the number of arrests for violent crime per 100,000 population in a given year. SOURCE: Federal Bureau of Investigation, Uniform Crime Report.

Non-Violent Crime shows the number of arrests for non-violent crime per 100,000 population in a given year. SOURCE: Federal Bureau of Investigation, Uniform Crime Report.

Murder Rate shows the number of murders per 100,000 population in a given year. SOURCE: Federal Bureau of Investigation, Uniform Crime Report.

Juvenile Crime shows the number of petitions filed alleging juvenile delinquency in a given year (Kentucky data represents all juvenile filings, not just juvenile delinquency). SOURCE: Kentucky Supreme Court, Ohio Supreme Court.

Voting shows the percent of registered voters who actually voted in presidential elections. SOURCE: Federal Election Commission, Indiana Secretary of State, Kentucky Secretary of State, Ohio Secretary of State.



Photo by Miles Wolf

United Way of Greater Cincinnati

Regional Center

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