WHERE WE STAND

The Strategic Assessment of the St. Louis Region

East-West Gateway Coordinating Council — 1996

WHERE WE STAND

The preparation of this document was financed in part by the East-West Gateway Coordinating Council, the Illinois Department of Transportation and the United States Department of Transportation, through the Federal Highway Administration and the Federal Transit Administration. This report reflects the view of the authors who are responsible for the accuracy of the facts presented therein. The contents do not necessarily reflect the official views or policies of the funding agencies.

The Strategic Assessment of the St. Louis Region

East-West Gateway Coordinating Council — 1996

Table of Contents

WHERE
WE
STAND

BACKGROUND
- To the Reader 3
- Measuring Where We Stand 5
- Reading the Tables 7

I. DEMOGRAPHICS
- Population and Population Change 10
- Racial Composition 12
- Age Distribution 14
- Household Composition 16

II. REGIONAL ECONOMIC WELL-BEING
- Macroeconomic Indicators 20
- Jobs and Business 22
- Income and Wealth 24

III. LEADERSHIP, GOVERNANCE & PUBLIC SERVICE
- Government Units 28
- Government Expenditures 30

IV. INDIVIDUAL & FAMILY WELL-BEING
- Poverty and Teenage Births 34
- Health and Mortality 36
- Housing and Mobility 38

V. EDUCATIONAL VITALITY
- Educational Attainment 42
- Educational Enrollments and Expenditures 44

VI. CRIME AND SOCIAL DISORDER
- Metropolitan and City Crime 48
- Components of Crime 50

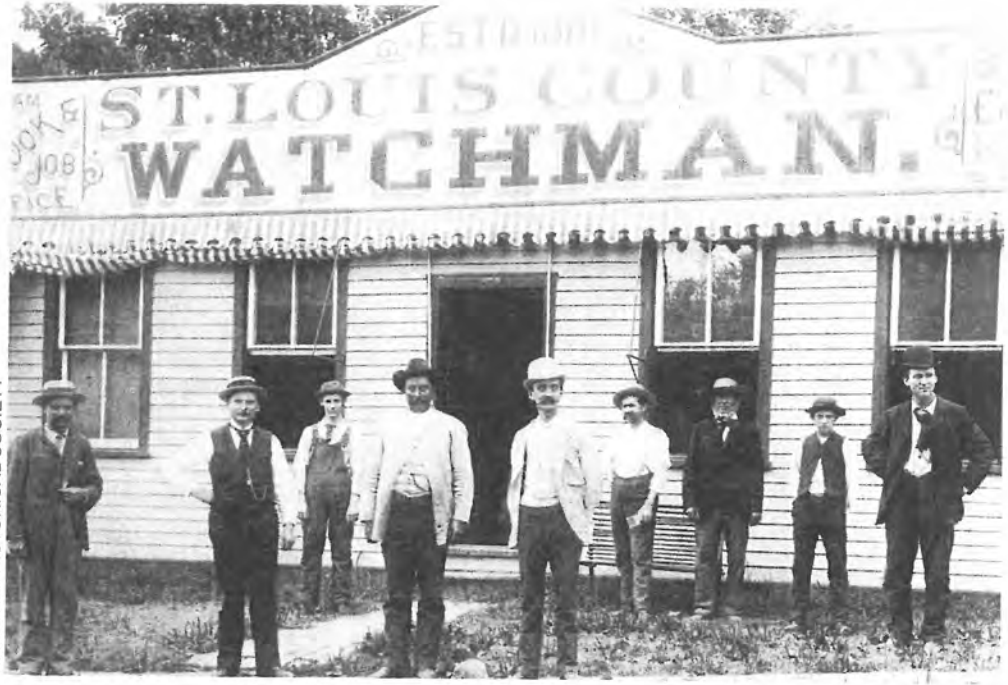
VII. URBAN FORM & QUALITY OF LIFE
- Urban Form 54
- Quality of Life 56

ST. LOUIS TRENDS: 1992-1996 63

CONCLUSION 75

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS 77

Background



MISSOURI HISTORICAL SOCIETY

To the Reader

The most profound economic transformation since the Industrial Revolution is well underway in our nation. At speeds so fast that we can hardly comprehend it, information and information technologies have replaced the old machinery that was once the underpinning of America's prosperity. Businesses and firms are now linked in a global marketplace, and governments are challenged to achieve the new efficiencies that are so highly valued in a technology-based world. In the new marketplace, not cities and not states, but metropolitan regions are the engines of the global economy. The regions that thrive will be the ones that can adapt to new marketplace realities and compete by global standards.

We must observe that, in this context, rivalries between political jurisdictions, neighborhoods, or agencies make little sense. They hold us back. The real competition is not between our jurisdictions — it is between the St. Louis metropolitan area and the other regions of the nation such as those described in this report. This is the first theme of *Where We Stand.*

The second theme of *Where We Stand* is that our people are our most valuable asset. We know that when businesses consider locating in St. Louis, one of the first things they examine are our schools and our neighborhoods and the quality of our labor force. These qualities are becoming increasingly important as time goes on. Natural resources and locational advantage made St. Louis one of the nation's most prosperous commercial centers a Century ago, but we cannot rely on these attributes to take us into a high-tech future. In the next Century, it will be our human capital — innovation, energy, and ideas — that makes us strong.

There is an old truism that we too often forget: the chain is only as strong as its weakest link. As the reader already knows, St. Louis excels among metropolitan areas in the number of units of local government. Our cities and towns and counties are the links in the metropolitan chain. This report will describe a number of indicators of well-being in which our communities are not uniformly strong. What does this mean to regional vitality? The implications of regional disparity is the third theme of *Where We Stand.*

In the pages that follow, the reader will have the opportunity to consider the St. Louis region's position in the global marketplace in relationship to more than 80 indicators of vitality. It is as if we have taken the region in for a check-up. East- West Gateway and our partners have assembled the data without prejudice, using the most timely and reliable sources at hand. We leave the conclusions to the reader. At the end of the report, we will ask you to become the catalyst for action, to ensure that — as a region — we are in fact standing just where we want to be.

We look forward to hearing your response.

Sincerely,

Les Sterman
Executive Director

National Marketplace

As Defined for the Regional Strategic Assessment

East-West Gateway Coordinating Council

Measuring Where We Stand

In 1992, the East-West Gateway Coordinating Council undertook the first strategic assessment of the St. Louis region, working in collaboration with a variety of partners. Under the banner of "A Region Responds," 29 individuals from various sectors of the community formed a steering committee to guide this regional self-examination. This committee established a process to compare the region to other major metropolitan areas around the country with which St. Louis competes for population and for jobs. Metropolitan regions were chosen for comparison if they met one of the following two criteria: the area had a population of 950,000 or more *and* was within 500 miles of St. Louis, or the area had an economic function similar to that of the St. Louis region.

A framework was designed which focused the self-assessment on seven major challenge areas: population dynamics, regional economic vitality, leadership and governance, individual and family well-being, education, crime and urban form and quality of life. A subcommittee was formed for each of these areas, and they identified relevant indicators and guided the overall process of self assessment. Indicators were chosen which related to regional prosperity and competitiveness, expressing underlying themes rather than symptoms. Between seven and eleven indicators were selected for each of the challenge areas.

This process established the foundation for an insightful and dispassionate assessment of St. Louis. The resulting report, *Where We Stand*, stimulated discussion and concern throughout the region about a number of important issues. It was clear that the regular updating of this assessment would play a pivotal role in clarifying and solving regional problems. With this impetus, a committee was again formed in the summer of 1996, which comprised businesspeople, educators, public officials, human service providers and community volunteers. Based on the previously established process, the committee again guided the direction of this updated evaluation.

Two important changes were made to the report. First, five metropolitan areas were added to the comparison list: Austin, Charlotte, Salt Lake City, San Antonio, and San Diego. Although four of these regions are smaller than St. Louis, they were identified as areas of rapid growth, both demographically and economically, whose importance in the national arena is growing. Second, a number of new indicators were added, bringing the total to 85. These new indicators measure critical aspects of regional vitality such as foreign exports and health insurance coverage. With these additions, the resulting report provides an updated assessment of the St. Louis region, presenting an informative and expanded analysis of where we stand.

The St. Louis Region

Reading the Tables

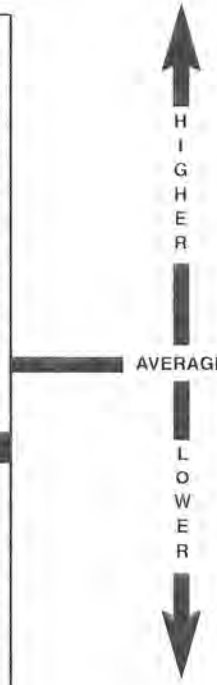
The data used in the assessment are portrayed in a series of tables like the one at right. Each table depicts one indicator. The body of the tables are made up of horizontal bars that represent each of the 35 metropolitan areas. They are stacked according to their rank from 1 to 35. In a few cases data were not available for all areas and the bottom rank will be less than 35. The horizontal bars contain three pieces of information: the metropolitan area name, its rank, and the value on which the rank is based. Thus, the table at right shows that St. Louis, with 2,547,686 people, has the 14th largest population of the 35 metropolitan areas.

The directional scale to the right of the table signifies whether the data are ranked according to highest and lowest values, or better and worse values. This distinction is important because with indicators such as poverty the highest numeric value is actually the "worst" value, and will appear at the bottom of the table. The directional scale also locates the average value of the 35 metropolitan areas, which is displayed as a horizontal line across the page.

There are seven broad categories of indicators in the assessment. Each category of indicators is divided into two or more sections, with four or five tables in each section. Accompanying each section of tables is an explanatory page to guide the reader. A page of technical and source notes follows each category of indicators.

MSA POPULATION

1	**Los Angeles**	**9,138,789**
2	New York	8,570,212
3	Chicago	7,724,770
4	Boston	5,768,968
5	Philadelphia	4,950,866
6	Washington DC	4,509,932
7	Detroit	4,320,203
8	Houston	3,710,844
9	Atlanta	3,431,983
10	Dallas	2,957,910
11	Minneapolis	2,723,137
12	San Diego	2,644,132
13	Phoenix	2,563,582
14	**St. Louis**	**2,547,686**
15	Baltimore	2,469,985
16	Pittsburgh	2,394,702
17	Cleveland	2,224,974
18	Seattle	2,197,451
19	Miami	2,031,336
20	Denver	1,831,308
21	Portland	1,710,260
22	Kansas City	1,663,453
23	San Francisco	1,645,815
24	Cincinnati	1,591,837
25	Indianapolis	1,476,865
26	San Antonio	1,460,809
27	Milwaukee	1,457,939
28	Columbus	1,437,512
29	Charlotte	1,289,177
30	Salt Lake City	1,199,323
31	Nashville	1,093,836
32	Memphis	1,068,891
33	Oklahoma City	1,015,174
34	Austin	999,936
35	**Louisville**	**987,102**



MSA Total population, 1995

In developing the indicators, three criteria were established for the use of data: the data must be reliable; the data must be consistently collected among and comparable for all metropolitan areas; and the data must be available at regular intervals to allow for assessment updates. In general, these criteria were best met by U.S. Government sources. For most indicators, data sources used in the 1992 assessment were used again here, with a few exceptions.

All data contained in the report are for Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs) and Primary Metropolitan Statistical Areas (PMSAs), unless stated in the notes. An MSA is a core area containing a large population nucleus, together with adjacent communities which have a high degree of economic and social integration with that core. The St. Louis metropolitan statistical area is a twelve county, bi-state, region. The Missouri portion incorporates the City of St. Louis and Franklin, Jefferson, Lincoln, St. Charles, St. Louis and Warren counties. The Illinois portion is comprised of Clinton, Jersey, Madison, Monroe and St. Clair counties.

Demographics

More than 2.5 million people lived in the St. Louis region in 1995. The region ranks 14th largest among the 35 metropolitan areas examined. During the first five years of this decade the region's population grew by over 55,000, a net growth rate of 2.2 percent. Although that rate is among the lowest of any major metropolitan area, it is a more promising growth rate than the region experienced in the 1970s, when population actually declined, or in the 1980s, when the region's population increased by only 78,000 (3.2 percent) over the entire decade.

The region's growth rate since 1990, however, masks a significant population dynamic: migration. The net migration rate reconciles two components of population change — natural increase (the balance of births and deaths) and migration (people moving into or out of an area). If no one moved into or out of an area, the change in population would simply equal the natural increase. The difference between the change in population and the natural increase, whether positive or negative, indicates the net level of migration. Based on that calculation, the St. Louis region had a net out migration of some 29,000 people between 1990 and 1995. While this was the 9th highest rate of loss among the 35 metropolitan areas, it does represent an improvement for the region. During the 1980s out migration in the region exceeded 95,000 people.

Related to the issue of migration, but at the intra-regional level, is the declining share of the metropolitan population found in central cities. Central cities in 34 of the 35 metropolitan areas examined (Charlotte excepted) saw their share of regional population drop during the first four years of the 1990s. The decline in the City of St. Louis's share was larger than all but three other metropolitan areas, and the City's portion of regional population is now at an historic low. Further, from 1990 to 1994, the City of St. Louis had the largest percent loss in population of any central city.

Demographics *Population and Population Change*

WHERE WE STAND

(Tables are ranked from higher to lower values)

MSA POPULATION

1	**Los Angeles**	**9,138,789**
2	New York	8,570,212
3	Chicago	7,724,770
4	Boston	5,768,968
5	Philadelphia	4,950,866
6	Washington DC	4,509,932
7	Detroit	4,320,203
8	Houston	3,710,844
9	Atlanta	3,431,983
10	Dallas	2,957,910
11	Minneapolis	2,723,137
12	San Diego	2,644,132
13	Phoenix	2,563,582
14	**St. Louis**	**2,547,686**
15	Baltimore	2,469,985
16	Pittsburgh	2,394,702
17	Cleveland	2,224,974
18	Seattle	2,197,451
19	Miami	2,031,336
20	Denver	1,831,308
21	Portland	1,710,260
22	Kansas City	1,663,453
23	San Francisco	1,645,815
24	Cincinnati	1,591,837
25	Indianapolis	1,476,865
26	San Antonio	1,460,809
27	Milwaukee	1,457,939
28	Columbus	1,437,512
29	Charlotte	1,289,177
30	Salt Lake City	1,199,323
31	Nashville	1,093,836
32	Memphis	1,068,891
33	Oklahoma City	1,015,174
34	Austin	999,936
35	**Louisville**	**987,102**

MSA Total population, 1995

MSA POPULATION CHANGE

1	**Austin**	**18.2**
2	Atlanta	16.0
3	Phoenix	14.5
4	Portland	12.9
5	Denver	12.8
6	Salt Lake City	11.9
7	Houston	11.7
8	Nashville	11.0
9	Charlotte	10.9
10	Dallas	10.5
11	San Antonio	10.3
12	Seattle	8.1
13	Minneapolis	7.3
14	Indianapolis	7.0
15	Washington DC	6.8
16	Columbus	6.8
17	Memphis	6.1
18	Oklahoma City	5.9
19	San Diego	5.8
20	Kansas City	5.1
21	Miami	4.9
22	Cincinnati	4.3
23	Chicago	4.2
24	Louisville	4.0
25	Baltimore	3.7
26	Los Angeles	3.1
27	San Francisco	2.6
28	**St. Louis**	**2.2**
29	Milwaukee	1.8
30	Boston	1.5
31	Detroit	1.3
32	Cleveland	1.0
33	Philadelphia	0.6
34	New York	0.3
35	**Pittsburgh**	**0.0**

Percent change in MSA population, 1990-1995

MSA NET MIGRATION

1	**Atlanta**	**301**
2	Phoenix	194
3	Houston	145
4	Portland	137
5	Denver	116
6	Dallas	108
7	Austin	99
8	Charlotte	79
9	Seattle	76
10	Minneapolis	56
11	San Antonio	50
12	Salt Lake City	40
13	Washington DC	38
14	Indianapolis	37
15	Columbus	31
16	Miami	21
17	Oklahoma City	19
18	Kansas City	17
19	Louisville	12
20	Cincinnati	10
21	Memphis	8
22	Nashville	6
23	San Francisco	3
24	Baltimore	-1
25	Pittsburgh	-15
26	Milwaukee	-28
27	**St. Louis**	**-29**
28	Cleveland	-37
29	San Diego	-47
30	Chicago	-75
31	Boston	-100
32	Detroit	-105
33	Philadelphia	-121
34	New York	-323
35	**Los Angeles**	**-413**

MSA Net migration (thousands), 1990-1995

CENTRAL CITY SHARE OF MSA POPULATION

1	**New York**	**85.5**
2	San Antonio	69.7
3	Memphis	58.2
4	Austin	53.2
5	Indianapolis	51.5
6	Nashville	47.1
7	Houston	46.6
8	Oklahoma City	45.9
9	San Francisco	44.7
10	Columbus	44.7
11	San Diego	43.8
12	Milwaukee	42.4
13	Phoenix	42.4
14	Los Angeles	37.7
15	Chicago	35.6
16	Dallas	35.3
17	Charlotte	34.7
18	Philadelphia	30.8
19	Baltimore	28.6
20	Louisville	27.6
21	Denver	27.5
22	Kansas City	26.9
23	Portland	26.9
24	Seattle	23.9
25	Detroit	23.0
26	Cincinnati	22.6
27	Cleveland	22.2
28	Miami	18.4
29	Pittsburgh	14.9
30	Salt Lake City	14.6
31	**St. Louis**	**14.5**
32	Minneapolis	13.2
33	Washington DC	12.7
34	Atlanta	11.9
35	**Boston**	**9.6**

Central city population as a percent of MSA population, 1994

CENTRAL CITY POPULATION CHANGE

1	**Charlotte**	**10.6**
2	Austin	10.4
3	Salt Lake City	7.5
4	San Antonio	6.8
5	Phoenix	6.6
6	Denver	5.5
7	Houston	4.4
8	Oklahoma City	4.2
9	Miami	4.0
10	San Diego	3.7
11	Nashville	3.3
12	Indianapolis	2.9
13	Portland	2.7
14	Kansas City	2.1
15	Dallas	1.5
16	San Francisco	1.5
17	Seattle	0.9
18	Atlanta	0.5
19	Columbus	0.5
20	Louisville	0.3
21	New York	0.1
22	Memphis	-0.7
23	Los Angeles	-1.1
24	Cincinnati	-1.6
25	Milwaukee	-1.8
26	Chicago	-1.9
27	Cleveland	-2.5
28	Pittsburgh	-3.0
29	Detroit	-3.5
30	Minneapolis	-3.7
31	Philadelphia	-3.9
32	Baltimore	-4.5
33	Boston	-4.6
34	Washington DC	-6.6
35	**St. Louis**	**-7.2**

Percent change in central city population, 1990-1994

HIGHER

AVERAGE

LOWER

There has been no significant change in the racial make-up of the St. Louis region since the 1992 Where We Stand report. Approximately 81 percent of the region's 1994 population was white and 17.5 percent was black, ranking 20th and 13th, respectively. The proportion of other minority groups in the region (less than two percent overall) was well below that of other metropolitan areas. Minorities remain concentrated in the central portion of the region. The City of St. Louis, for example, has only about 14 percent of the region's total population but contains 40 percent of the region's minority population.

Nationally, minority groups are the fastest growing segments of the population. This is also true in the St. Louis region, where there was a five percent increase in the nonwhite population between 1990 and 1994 but only a 0.9 percent increase in the white population. Although the growth rate for minorities in the region was five times higher than the rate for whites, the five percent nonwhite growth rate was the 3rd lowest of the 35 metropolitan areas. If minority groups are anticipated to be the source of future population growth, the region's relatively low level of minority growth could have a significant impact on its ability to sustain and increase its population.

It should be noted here that "Hispanic" is an ethnic distinction, not a racial category. A person can be either white or black - racial categories - as well as Hispanic - an ethnic distinction. Thus, the first four percentages on the opposite page do not sum to the entire population. There are persons of other races in the region who are not represented in the charts.

Demographics *Racial Composition*

(Tables are ranked from higher to lower values)

WHERE WE STAND

POPULATION BY RACE: WHITES

1	**Salt Lake City**	**95.1**
2	Portland	92.0
3	Phoenix	91.6
4	Minneapolis	91.6
5	San Antonio	91.3
6	Boston	91.2
7	Pittsburgh	90.9
8	Denver	90.2
9	Austin	86.9
10	Seattle	86.4
11	Louisville	86.3
12	Cincinnati	86.2
13	Indianapolis	85.4
14	Columbus	85.2
15	Kansas City	85.0
16	Nashville	83.0
17	Milwaukee	82.8
18	San Diego	82.7
19	Oklahoma City	82.2
20	**St. Louis**	**81.2**
21	Cleveland	80.7
22	Dallas	80.4
23	Charlotte	78.1
24	Miami	77.2
25	Philadelphia	77.2
26	Chicago	76.1
27	Houston	76.1
28	Detroit	75.3
29	Los Angeles	75.3
30	Atlanta	72.0
31	Baltimore	70.6
32	Washington DC	68.4
33	San Francisco	68.1
34	New York	62.8
35	**Memphis**	**57.4**

Whites as a percent of total population, 1994

POPULATION BY RACE: BLACKS

1	**Memphis**	**41.4**
2	New York	29.1
3	Baltimore	26.9
4	Atlanta	25.6
5	Washington DC	25.4
6	Detroit	22.8
7	Miami	21.0
8	Charlotte	20.3
9	Philadelphia	20.0
10	Chicago	19.6
11	Houston	18.9
12	Cleveland	18.0
13	**St. Louis**	**17.5**
14	Dallas	15.9
15	Nashville	15.6
16	Milwaukee	15.0
17	Indianapolis	13.5
18	Kansas City	13.1
19	Louisville	12.8
20	Cincinnati	12.8
21	Columbus	12.8
22	Los Angeles	11.6
23	Oklahoma City	10.8
24	Austin	9.9
25	Pittsburgh	8.1
26	San Francisco	7.8
27	San Antonio	6.8
28	San Diego	6.7
29	Denver	6.3
30	Boston	5.6
31	Seattle	4.4
32	Minneapolis	4.3
33	Phoenix	3.9
34	Portland	3.0
35	**Salt Lake City**	**1.2**

Blacks as a percent of total population, 1994

POPULATION BY RACE: ASIANS

1	**San Francisco**	**23.6**
2	Los Angeles	12.5
3	San Diego	9.6
4	Seattle	8.0
5	New York	7.8
6	Washington DC	5.9
7	Houston	4.7
8	Portland	4.0
9	Chicago	4.0
10	Minneapolis	3.1
11	Dallas	3.1
12	Boston	3.0
13	Salt Lake City	2.8
14	Austin	2.7
15	Philadelphia	2.6
16	Denver	2.6
17	Baltimore	2.2
18	Oklahoma City	2.2
19	Atlanta	2.2
20	Phoenix	2.0
21	Columbus	1.8
22	Milwaukee	1.6
23	Miami	1.6
24	Detroit	1.6
25	San Antonio	1.5
26	Kansas City	1.4
27	Nashville	1.2
28	Charlotte	1.2
29	Cleveland	1.2
30	**St. Louis**	**1.2**
31	Memphis	1.0
32	Indianapolis	0.9
33	Cincinnati	0.9
34	Pittsburgh	0.9
35	**Louisville**	**0.7**

Asians as a percent of total population, 1994

POPULATION BY ETHNICITY: HISPANICS*

1	**Miami**	**52.9**
2	San Antonio	49.8
3	Los Angeles	40.8
4	New York	24.5
5	San Diego	23.1
6	Houston	22.7
7	Austin	22.6
8	Phoenix	18.4
9	San Francisco	16.1
10	Dallas	14.9
11	Denver	13.7
12	Chicago	12.7
13	Salt Lake City	6.5
14	Washington DC	6.4
15	Boston	5.0
16	Oklahoma City	4.1
17	Milwaukee	4.1
18	Philadelphia	4.1
19	Portland	3.9
20	Seattle	3.2
21	Kansas City	3.2
22	Cleveland	2.6
23	Atlanta	2.3
24	Detroit	2.2
25	Minneapolis	1.9
26	Baltimore	1.6
27	**St. Louis**	**1.2**
28	Charlotte	1.1
29	Indianapolis	1.0
30	Nashville	1.0
31	Memphis	1.0
32	Columbus	0.9
33	Louisville	0.7
34	Pittsburgh	0.7
35	**Cincinnati**	**0.6**

Hispanics as a percent of total population, 1994

GROWTH IN NONWHITE POPULATION

1	**Salt Lake City**	**26.9**
2	Minneapolis	23.8
3	Austin	20.8
4	Portland	20.7
5	Phoenix	20.2
6	Seattle	18.0
7	Denver	17.9
8	Boston	15.8
9	Atlanta	14.9
10	Houston	14.8
11	San Diego	13.5
12	San Antonio	13.2
13	Dallas	11.6
14	San Francisco	11.5
15	Columbus	11.4
16	Milwaukee	10.5
17	Charlotte	10.4
18	Nashville	10.0
19	Miami	8.8
20	Pittsburgh	8.8
21	Washington DC	8.8
22	Indianapolis	8.4
23	Kansas City	8.3
24	Baltimore	8.2
25	Los Angeles	7.6
26	Chicago	6.8
27	Oklahoma City	6.6
28	Memphis	6.4
29	Cincinnati	6.3
30	Philadelphia	5.7
31	New York	5.5
32	Cleveland	5.1
33	**St. Louis**	**5.0**
34	Detroit	4.2
35	**Louisville**	**3.3**

Percent increase in nonwhite population, 1990-1994

HIGHER

AVERAGE

LOWER

*Note: Hispanic is an ethnic, not racial, category.

As with racial composition, there has been little significant change in the age distribution of the St. Louis region since 1990. The median age of the region's population was 34.0 years in 1993, which ranks 12th highest among the 35 metropolitan areas.

The region has an interesting age distribution. Most metropolitan areas that have a high proportion of children also have a low proportion of older people, and vice versa. St. Louis has a relatively high proportion of both. The region ranks 13th in the percent of its population below the age of 18 (26.7 percent) and 8th in the percent of its population 65 and older (12.9 percent). As a result, St. Louis ranks 30th in the percent of its population between the ages of 18 and 64 (60.4 percent) — the prime working years. Given the proportion of population that is either younger or older than the prime working years, the region's population can be characterized as more "dependent" than most other metropolitan areas.

The Change in Dependency Ratio attempts to capture the direction of that phenomenon over a period of time. It measures the percent change in the dependent proportion of the total population between 1980 and 1993. For this measure, the dependent population is comprised of people younger than 15 and older than 64, which is the definition used by the National Center for Health Statistics. The dependency ratio in the St. Louis region increased by almost three percent over the 13 year period. This increase, which falls just below the average for all 35 metropolitan areas, ranks the region 16th. Several regions, such as Atlanta and New York, had a decrease in the dependent proportion of the population over this time, while Pittsburgh experienced a nine percent growth in the portion of the population considered dependent.

Demographics *Age Distribution*

WHERE WE STAND

(Tables are ranked form higher to lower values)

MEDIAN AGE

1	**Pittsburgh**	**37.6**
2	San Francisco	36.3
3	Cleveland	35.3
4	Miami	35.0
5	Louisville	34.7
6	Philadelphia	34.6
6	Portland	34.6
8	New York	34.6
9	Baltimore	34.2
10	Seattle	34.1
11	Boston	34.1
12	**St. Louis**	**34.0**
13	Detroit	33.9
14	Kansas City	33.8
15	Charlotte	33.6
16	Milwaukee	33.5
17	Denver	33.5
18	Indianapolis	33.4
19	Cincinnati	33.3
19	Nashville	33.3
21	Washington DC	33.2
22	Chicago	33.1
23	Phoenix	32.9
24	Oklahoma City	32.8
25	Minneapolis	32.3
26	Columbus	32.3
27	Atlanta	32.2
28	Memphis	32.1
29	San Diego	31.6
30	Los Angeles	31.4
31	San Antonio	31.3
31	Dallas	31.3
33	Houston	31.1
34	Austin	30.3
35	**Salt Lake City**	**28.3**

Median age of population (years), 1993

CHILD POPULATION

1	**Salt Lake City**	**35.9**
2	San Antonio	29.5
3	Houston	29.4
4	Memphis	28.4
5	Dallas	27.6
6	Cincinnati	27.3
7	Oklahoma City	27.0
8	Minneapolis	26.9
9	Phoenix	26.8
10	Milwaukee	26.8
11	Los Angeles	26.8
12	Kansas City	26.7
13	**St. Louis**	**26.7**
14	Indianapolis	26.5
15	Atlanta	26.5
16	Chicago	26.4
17	Detroit	26.4
18	Denver	26.3
19	Austin	26.3
20	Portland	26.1
21	Louisville	25.6
22	Nashville	25.6
23	Columbus	25.5
24	Cleveland	25.4
25	Charlotte	25.2
26	San Diego	25.2
27	Philadelphia	24.9
28	Miami	24.7
29	Baltimore	24.6
30	Seattle	24.3
31	Washington DC	24.3
32	New York	23.6
33	Boston	23.3
34	Pittsburgh	22.4

Percent of population under 18 years, 1993

WORKING AGE POPULATION

1	**San Francisco**	**67.2**
2	Washington DC	67.0
3	Austin	65.7
4	Atlanta	65.4
5	Seattle	64.7
6	Columbus	64.3
7	Dallas	64.2
8	Denver	64.2
9	Charlotte	63.7
10	Boston	63.7
11	Baltimore	63.7
12	San Diego	63.7
13	Nashville	63.6
14	New York	63.5
15	Houston	63.4
16	Los Angeles	63.3
17	Minneapolis	63.1
18	Chicago	62.1
19	Indianapolis	61.9
20	Oklahoma City	61.8
21	Portland	61.7
22	Detroit	61.6
23	Louisville	61.6
24	Philadelphia	61.5
25	Kansas City	61.5
26	Miami	61.2
27	Memphis	61.1
28	Milwaukee	60.6
29	Cincinnati	60.5
30	**St. Louis**	**60.4**
31	Phoenix	60.4
32	Pittsburgh	60.3
33	Cleveland	60.2
34	San Antonio	59.9
35	**Salt Lake City**	**55.4**

Percent of population aged 18-64, 1993

ELDERLY POPULATION

1	**Pittsburgh**	**17.3**
2	Cleveland	14.4
3	Miami	14.0
4	Philadelphia	13.6
5	San Francisco	13.4
6	Boston	13.0
7	New York	12.9
8	**St. Louis**	**12.9**
9	Phoenix	12.8
10	Louisville	12.8
11	Milwaukee	12.6
12	Cincinnati	12.3
13	Portland	12.2
14	Detroit	12.1
15	Kansas City	11.8
16	Baltimore	11.7
17	Indianapolis	11.6
18	Chicago	11.4
19	Oklahoma City	11.2
20	San Diego	11.2
21	Charlotte	11.1
22	Seattle	11.0
23	Nashville	10.8
24	San Antonio	10.6
25	Memphis	10.5
26	Columbus	10.2
27	Minneapolis	10.0
28	Los Angeles	9.9
29	Denver	9.5
30	Washington DC	8.8
31	Salt Lake City	8.7
32	Dallas	8.2
33	Atlanta	8.1
34	Austin	8.0
35	**Houston**	**7.3**

Percent of population over 64 years, 1993

CHANGE IN DEPENDENCY RATIO

1	**Pittsburgh**	**9.1**
2	Cleveland	6.6
3	San Diego	5.7
4	Denver	5.1
5	Milwaukee	5.1
6	Seattle	4.6
7	Philadelphia	4.6
8	Baltimore	4.2
9	Salt Lake City	3.7
10	San Francisco	3.6
11	Phoenix	3.4
12	Kansas City	3.3
13	Portland	3.3
14	Oklahoma City	3.3
15	Houston	3.0
16	**St. Louis**	**2.9**
17	Detroit	2.9
18	Cincinnati	2.8
19	Chicago	2.6
20	Minneapolis	2.5
21	Los Angeles	2.2
22	Louisville	2.1
23	San Antonio	1.9
24	Memphis	1.3
25	Indianapolis	1.2
26	Miami	0.8
27	Austin	0.7
28	Columbus	0.5
29	Nashville	0.1
30	Washington DC	-0.2
31	Boston	-0.6
32	Charlotte	-0.9
33	Dallas	-1.2
34	New York	-1.8
35	**Atlanta**	**-3.9**

Percent change in the dependent proportion of the population (persons under 15 or older than 64), 1980 - 1993

HIGHER

AVERAGE

LOWER

Under Census Bureau definition, a household includes all the persons who occupy a single housing unit, whether they are related or not. There were more than 942,000 households in the St. Louis region in 1990. This ranks St. Louis 13th among the 35 metropolitan areas in the number of households, slightly above its population rank of 14. Growth in the number of households is also related to population growth. There was a 9.9 percent growth in the number of households between 1980 and 1990, giving St. Louis a rank of 25, well below the average of other regions.

Households are of two basic types. Family households consist of individuals related by birth, marriage or adoption. Nonfamily households consist of unrelated individuals residing together, or a single person living alone. St. Louis has a high proportion of families, with almost 660,000 family households throughout the region. This equates to 70 percent of all households being family households in the St. Louis region.

Of these family households, almost 118,000 (or 17.8 percent) are headed by females, which ranks St. Louis 14th, slightly higher than the average of all metropolitan areas. The growth of female headed families is also slightly above average. There was a 16.2 percent increase in the proportion of family households that were headed by females between 1980 and 1990. This growth rate is comparable to rates in Minneapolis, Columbus and Dallas during this period.

This moderate number of female headed households hides a racial disparity which exists in the St. Louis region. Less than twelve percent of all white family households are headed by females, while almost 49 percent of all black family households are headed by females.

Demographics *Household Composition*

WHERE WE STAND

(Tables are ranked from higher to lower values)

HOUSEHOLDS

1	**New York**	**3,252,399**
2	Los Angeles	2,989,552
3	Chicago	2,671,540
4	Philadelphia	1,801,159
5	Boston	1,779,971
6	Detroit	1,580,063
7	Washington DC	1,523,420
8	Houston	1,193,305
9	Atlanta	1,102,578
10	Dallas	1,001,750
11	Minneapolis	960,170
12	Pittsburgh	947,248
13	**St. Louis**	**942,119**
14	San Diego	887,403
15	Baltimore	880,145
16	Phoenix	846,714
17	Cleveland	845,186
18	Seattle	809,292
19	Miami	692,355
20	Denver	649,404
21	San Francisco	642,504
22	Kansas City	608,459
23	Portland	589,441
24	Cincinnati	574,602
25	Milwaukee	537,722
26	Indianapolis	529,814
27	Columbus	513,498
28	San Antonio	458,502
29	Charlotte	440,670
30	Nashville	375,831
31	Oklahoma City	367,775
32	Memphis	365,450
33	Louisville	360,651
34	Salt Lake City	347,531
35	**Austin**	**325,995**

Number of households, 1990

GROWTH IN HOUSEHOLDS

1	**Austin**	**53.8**
2	Phoenix	47.7
3	Atlanta	39.6
4	Dallas	34.0
5	San Diego	32.4
6	Portland	30.5
7	San Antonio	29.2
8	Charlotte	28.7
9	Seattle	27.7
10	Washington DC	25.1
11	Nashville	24.5
12	Houston	21.8
13	Minneapolis	21.7
14	Denver	20.4
15	Salt Lake City	20.1
16	Columbus	16.9
17	Baltimore	14.9
18	Memphis	14.4
19	Oklahoma City	14.4
20	Kansas City	13.8
21	Miami	13.5
22	Indianapolis	13.1
23	Boston	12.3
24	Cincinnati	10.3
25	**St. Louis**	**9.9**
26	Los Angeles	9.5
27	Philadelphia	8.4
28	Louisville	8.0
29	Milwaukee	7.4
30	Chicago	5.4
31	San Francisco	4.8
32	Detroit	3.9
33	Cleveland	2.9
34	New York	1.7
35	**Pittsburgh**	**1.4**

Percent increase in the number of households, 1980-1990

FAMILY HOUSEHOLDS

1	**Salt Lake City**	**75.4**
2	San Antonio	73.9
3	Charlotte	72.4
4	Memphis	71.6
5	Detroit	70.9
6	Atlanta	70.6
7	Louisville	70.6
8	Baltimore	70.5
9	Nashville	70.4
10	**St. Louis**	**70.0**
11	Houston	70.0
12	Philadelphia	69.9
13	Cincinnati	69.8
14	Indianapolis	69.6
15	Miami	69.5
16	Chicago	69.4
17	Cleveland	69.4
18	Pittsburgh	69.4
19	Kansas City	69.3
20	Oklahoma City	69.2
21	Washington DC	69.0
22	Milwaukee	68.8
23	Dallas	68.3
24	San Diego	68.2
25	Phoenix	68.2
26	Minneapolis	67.6
27	Boston	67.4
28	Columbus	67.4
29	Los Angeles	67.4
30	Portland	67.0
31	Denver	64.7
32	Seattle	64.2
33	New York	63.1
34	Austin	62.9
35	**San Francisco**	**56.4**

Family households as percent of all households, 1990

FEMALE HEADED FAMILIES

1	**New York**	**27.0**
2	Memphis	25.0
3	Detroit	21.6
4	Miami	21.5
5	Baltimore	20.7
6	Philadelphia	19.6
7	Los Angeles	19.4
8	Louisville	19.4
9	Chicago	19.0
10	Cleveland	19.0
11	Milwaukee	18.9
12	San Antonio	18.4
13	Atlanta	18.2
14	**St. Louis**	**17.8**
15	Cincinnati	17.8
16	Houston	17.6
17	Columbus	17.3
18	Nashville	17.3
19	San Francisco	17.1
20	Washington DC	17.1
21	Indianapolis	16.9
22	Dallas	16.6
23	Boston	16.6
24	Pittsburgh	16.5
25	Oklahoma City	16.5
26	Charlotte	16.3
27	Kansas City	16.2
28	Denver	16.2
29	Austin	15.6
30	San Diego	15.5
31	Phoenix	15.0
32	Portland	14.4
33	Minneapolis	14.3
34	Seattle	14.0
35	**Salt Lake City**	**12.7**

Female headed families as a percent of all family households, 1990

GROWTH IN FEMALE HEADED FAMILIES

1	**Houston**	**30.4**
2	Portland	26.3
3	Oklahoma City	25.9
4	Phoenix	25.0
5	Milwaukee	24.2
6	Miami	24.2
7	Detroit	21.8
8	Cleveland	21.6
9	Pittsburgh	20.2
10	Cincinnati	19.4
11	Denver	18.9
12	Louisville	18.8
13	Kansas City	18.7
14	Memphis	17.8
15	San Antonio	17.6
16	Nashville	17.4
17	Salt Lake City	17.4
18	Indianapolis	16.4
19	Minneapolis	16.3
20	Columbus	16.3
21	Dallas	16.2
22	**St. Louis**	**16.2**
23	Austin	15.8
24	Seattle	11.0
25	New York	10.4
26	Baltimore	10.1
27	Chicago	10.1
28	Philadelphia	9.1
29	Charlotte	8.1
30	Atlanta	6.8
31	Los Angeles	6.5
32	Boston	6.1
33	San Diego	5.1
34	San Francisco	2.6
35	**Washington DC**	**0.5**

Percent increase in the proportion of family households which are headed by females, 1980-1990

HIGHER

AVERAGE

LOWER

MSA Population & Central City Population: Source: Population Estimates for Metropolitan Areas and for Cities, July 1, 1990 to July 1, 1995, Population Distribution and Population Estimates Branches, U.S. Bureau of the Census.

Net Migration: Net migration is an attempt to reconcile two different components of population change - natural increase (births minus deaths) and migration (people moving into or out of the region). If there was no in or out migration, population change would equal the natural increase. However, when the natural increase is greater than the population change, this indicates out migration from the region. Thus, in the St. Louis region, the natural increase of population from 1990 to 1995 was 29,000 greater than the actual population change over this period, indicating an out migration of 29,000. Source: Time Series of State and County Population Estimates and Components of Population Change, 1990-95, Population Distribution and Population Estimates Branches, U.S. Bureau of the Census.

Population by Race and Ethnicity: Note that Hispanic is an ethnic category, not a racial one. For example, a person can be white (by race) *and* Hispanic (by ethnic origin). Hispanics are therefore also accounted for in one of the racial categories. Source: Estimates of the Population of Counties by Age, Sex, Race and Hispanic Origin: 1990 to 1994, Administrative Records and Methodology Research Branch, U.S. Bureau of the Census.

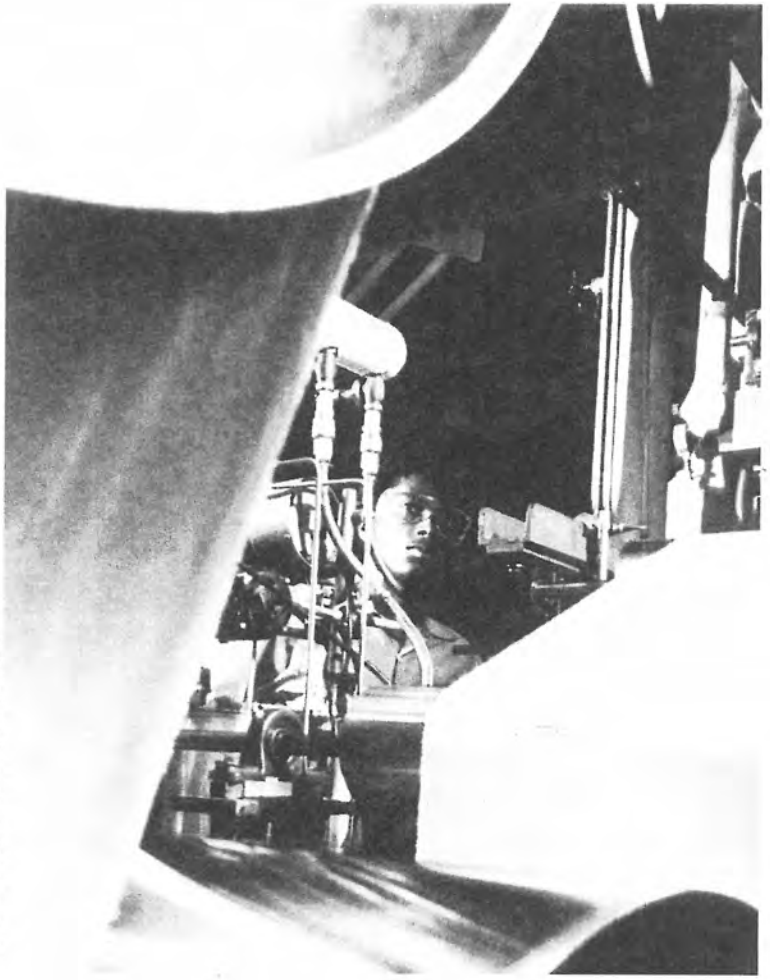
Growth in Nonwhite Population: This is the percent increase (between 1990 and 1994) in the proportion of the total population which is nonwhite. Source: Estimates of the Population of Counties by Age, Sex, Race and Hispanic Origin: 1990 to 1994, Administrative Records and Methodology Research Branch, U.S. Bureau of the Census.

Age Distribution: *Change in Dependency Ratio* is the percent change (between 1980 and 1993) in the proportion of the total population which is considered dependent (persons younger than 15 and older than 64). Thus, as a proportion of the total population, the dependent population has increased by three percent between 1980 and 1993. Source of age distribution data: 1996 MSA Profile, Woods & Poole Economics, Inc. (copyright.)

Households Composition, 1990: 1990 Census of Population and Housing: Summary Population and Housing Characteristics, General Population Characteristics, and Selected Population and Housing Characteristics for Metropolitan Areas (Release CB91-229), U.S. Bureau of the Census; and County and City Data Book, 1994, U.S. Bureau of the Census.

Household Composition, 1980: State and Metropolitan Area Data Book, 1986, U.S. Bureau of the Census; and County and City Data Book, 1988, U.S. Bureau of the Census.

Regional Economic Vitality



MERCANTILE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

To understand the vitality of the region's economy, it is important to examine a range of macroeconomic indicators. Each of the indicators on the opposite page tells us something different, and, taken together, they give us a broad picture of how well the economy is performing.

The St. Louis economy remains one of the largest in the nation. Based on a composite measure of economic output, the region's economy was the 13th largest in 1992. On a per capita basis, however, the region's economic output ranking falls to 16th, with an output of almost $47,000 per person.

Although manufacturing has declined in its dominant role over the past several decades, both in St. Louis and throughout the nation, it still has a major role to play in the regional economy. The value of shipments from manufacturers accounted for 36 percent of St. Louis's total economic output. Only Louisville and Milwaukee had a larger share of their economy related to manufacturing.

From 1991 through 1995 the average annual unemployment rate in St. Louis was 5.7 percent. This ranks the region in the middle third of the 35 metropolitan areas. While St. Louis's unemployment rate over those five years is slightly worse than the average rate for all areas — and nearly two percentage points higher than the lowest rate — it is far below the high rates experienced in Miami, New York, and Los Angeles.

Capital availability, which is measured by calculating the total loan-to-deposit ratio of banks in metropolitan areas, suggests the degree to which banks are willing to loan their cash reserves for investment purposes. A high loan-to-deposit ratio reflects aggressive investment practices. St. Louis ranks 23rd in capital availability. It is unclear whether St. Louis's standing suggests a lack of optimism about the local economy or simply reflects a more conservative investment climate.

The value of private construction is a more direct measure of investment in a region. From 1990 through 1995, St. Louis ranked 22nd in the per capita value of private construction — below the average of the 35 metropolitan areas. While the value of construction in St. Louis is characteristic of other areas with only modest population growth, St. Louis does rank ahead of two areas with much higher rates of population growth (Houston and San Antonio).

Almost $3.7 billion in goods were exported from St. Louis to foreign countries during 1994. This figure ranks St. Louis 20th, several places below its economic output ranking of 16th. The relatively low export ranking, along with the discrepancy between the region's rank on economic output and exports, indicates an opportunity for St. Louis to expand capacity to compete effectively in the global marketplace.

Regional Economic Vitality *Macroeconomic Indicators*

WHERE WE STAND

(Tables are ranked from better to worse values)

ECONOMIC OUTPUT

1	**Houston**	**64,733**
2	Charlotte	61,562
3	Dallas	59,448
4	Seattle	59,312
5	Atlanta	58,803
6	Louisville	54,247
7	Cincinnati	54,034
8	Chicago	53,422
9	Detroit	53,375
10	Kansas City	53,025
11	Minneapolis	51,891
12	Memphis	50,053
13	Portland	49,536
14	San Francisco	49,326
15	Denver	47,589
16	**St. Louis**	**46,781**
17	Los Angeles	46,108
18	Nashville	45,674
19	Milwaukee	44,809
20	New York	43,999
21	Indianapolis	43,775
22	Cleveland	43,170
23	Philadelphia	42,374
24	Columbus	39,038
25	Oklahoma City	37,921
26	Baltimore	36,217
27	Pittsburgh	35,614
28	Miami	35,362
29	Salt Lake City	34,855
30	Austin	33,805
31	Phoenix	33,615
32	Washington DC	32,176
33	Boston	28,569
34	San Diego	26,371
35	**San Antonio**	**25,366**

Per capita economic output ($), 1992

UNEMPLOYMENT

1	**Austin**	**3.74**
2	Minneapolis	3.90
3	Salt Lake City	3.94
4	Nashville	4.14
5	Columbus	4.26
6	Milwaukee	4.38
7	Denver	4.44
8	Indianapolis	4.46
8	Charlotte	4.46
10	Washington DC	4.58
11	Oklahoma City	4.78
12	Kansas City	4.90
13	Phoenix	4.94
14	Atlanta	5.04
15	Louisville	5.06
16	Portland	5.10
17	Cincinnati	5.20
18	San Antonio	5.40
18	Memphis	5.40
20	San Francisco	5.42
21	Dallas	5.68
22	**St. Louis**	**5.70**
23	Seattle	5.82
24	Boston	6.24
25	Cleveland	6.30
26	Chicago	6.40
27	Houston	6.42
28	Pittsburgh	6.48
29	Philadelphia	6.58
30	Baltimore	6.60
31	San Diego	6.92
32	Detroit	7.26
33	Miami	8.52
34	New York	8.70
35	**Los Angeles**	**9.02**

Average annual unemployment rate, (%) 1991-1995

CAPITAL AVAILABILITY

1	**Cincinnati**	**116.3**
2	Phoenix	114.2
3	Cleveland	109.3
4	Atlanta	108.8
5	Portland	108.5
6	Columbus	107.0
7	Detroit	106.6
8	Charlotte	106.5
9	Seattle	106.0
10	Louisville	101.2
11	Indianapolis	99.7
12	Pittsburgh	97.3
13	Minneapolis	96.7
14	Salt Lake City	94.9
15	Memphis	94.1
16	Milwaukee	92.7
17	San Francisco	92.1
18	Dallas	91.3
19	Philadelphia	85.7
20	Nashville	85.0
21	New York	84.8
22	Baltimore	82.6
23	**St. Louis**	**79.9**
24	Chicago	78.8
25	Kansas City	72.8
26	Boston	72.6
27	Miami	72.4
28	Denver	72.2
29	San Diego	70.2
30	Washington DC	69.9
31	Houston	69.8
32	Oklahoma City	66.1
33	Los Angeles	65.4
34	Austin	52.8
35	**San Antonio**	**51.4**

Bank loan to deposit ratio, 1996

VALUE OF PRIVATE CONSTRUCTION

1	**Phoenix**	**7,427**
2	Atlanta	6,879
3	Charlotte	6,367
4	Indianapolis	6,111
5	Portland	5,669
6	Seattle	5,481
7	Nashville	5,477
8	Minneapolis	5,159
9	Dallas	5,150
10	Columbus	5,072
11	Austin	5,036
12	Salt Lake City	4,863
13	Denver	4,799
14	Memphis	4,688
15	Louisville	4,227
16	Kansas City	4,206
17	Washington DC	3,971
18	Cincinnati	3,849
19	Milwaukee	3,690
20	San Diego	3,444
21	Miami	3,254
22	**St. Louis**	**3,171**
23	Baltimore	3,082
24	Houston	3,050
25	Cleveland	3,033
26	Detroit	2,868
27	Chicago	2,856
28	Oklahoma City	2,740
29	San Antonio	2,123
30	Pittsburgh	2,041
31	Philadelphia	2,026
32	San Francisco	1,905
33	Los Angeles	1,846
34	Boston	1,063
35	**New York**	**643**

Per capita value of private construction ($), 1990-1995

EXPORTS

1	**Detroit**	**27,470**
2	New York	23,544
3	Los Angeles	22,225
4	Seattle	21,753
5	Chicago	17,334
6	Houston	13,388
7	San Francisco	9,304
8	Miami	9,267
9	Minneapolis	8,864
10	Washington DC	7,969
11	Boston	7,095
12	Philadelphia	6,546
13	Portland	6,449
14	Dallas	5,680
15	Phoenix	5,561
16	San Diego	4,867
17	Atlanta	4,739
18	Cleveland	4,093
19	Cincinnati	4,057
20	**St. Louis**	**3,673**
21	Pittsburgh	3,151
22	Indianapolis	3,004
23	Milwaukee	2,914
24	Memphis	2,729
25	Kansas City	2,579
26	Austin	2,129
27	Baltimore	1,869
28	Salt Lake City	1,809
29	Louisville	1,799
30	Charlotte	1,783
31	Nashville	1,310
32	Columbus	1,295
33	Denver	1,090
34	San Antonio	656
35	**Oklahoma City**	**489**

Foreign export of goods ($millions), 1994

BETTER

AVERAGE

WORSE

There were approximately 55,000 more full- and part-time jobs in the St. Louis region in 1994 than there were in 1989. That translates into a job growth rate of almost four percent. While the job growth rate was almost double the region's rate of population growth, it was sufficient only to rank St. Louis in the lower third of the 35 metropolitan areas. St. Louis stands slightly behind Pittsburgh, Miami and Chicago in the rate of job growth, but well above New York and Los Angeles, both of which had significant job losses over the five year period. In contrast, Austin and Salt Lake City, which are rapidly growing metropolitan areas, had job creation rates five to seven times higher than the St. Louis region.

Despite its overall job growth, the region lost a significant number of goods sector jobs. Most of those losses were in manufacturing industries, which traditionally have offered high wages to both skilled and unskilled workers. Between 1989 and 1994 the region added 82,000 service sector jobs and lost some 27,000 goods sector jobs. Thus, service sector job growth was one and a half times greater than the region's net job growth over the five year period, ranking St. Louis 27th, or third from last among those regions with job growth (six of the regions lost jobs over the period).

There is some concern about the impacts of service sector jobs replacing goods-producing sector jobs. While there are high paying jobs in the service sector, a large number of service sector jobs are low wage or part-time. There are questions, therefore, about the effect of these employment changes on the financial stability of households. In 1994, average earnings per job in the region were $29,398. That earnings level ranks the St. Louis region 18th.

St. Louis had 3,000 more businesses in 1994 than in 1989, a growth rate of almost 5 percent. This growth rate, which ranks 26th, was only a little more than half the average rate of growth for all metropolitan areas. Relative to other regions, it appears that minorities wanting to start or maintain businesses in St. Louis face significant challenges. In 1992, there were 177 black-owned firms for every 100,000 blacks in the St. Louis region, which is the 8th lowest rate among the 35 metropolitan areas.

Regional Economic Vitality *Jobs and Business*

WHERE WE STAND

(Tables are ranked from better to worse values)

JOB GROWTH

1	**Austin**	**27.5**
2	Salt Lake City	20.6
3	Portland	16.1
4	Nashville	15.9
5	Atlanta	14.1
6	San Antonio	13.8
7	Denver	13.7
8	Houston	13.3
9	Phoenix	13.0
10	Louisville	11.6
11	Indianapolis	11.2
12	Minneapolis	10.6
13	Dallas	10.4
14	Oklahoma City	10.3
15	Columbus	10.1
16	Charlotte	9.9
17	Seattle	9.6
18	Cincinnati	8.0
19	Kansas City	8.0
20	Memphis	7.4
21	Milwaukee	6.1
22	Pittsburgh	5.3
23	Miami	4.9
24	Chicago	4.6
25	**St. Louis**	**3.9**
26	Cleveland	3.4
27	Detroit	3.0
28	Washington DC	2.8
29	San Diego	0.3
30	Baltimore	-0.8
31	Philadelphia	-1.6
32	San Francisco	-4.3
33	Boston	-4.7
34	New York	-6.4
35	**Los Angeles**	**-9.4**

Percent increase in jobs, 1989-1994

SERVICE SECTOR JOB GROWTH

1	**Austin**	**76.2**
2	Salt Lake City	79.5
3	Houston	82.8
4	Portland	83.9
5	Nashville	86.2
6	Louisville	86.5
7	Oklahoma City	86.7
8	Atlanta	89.7
9	Phoenix	89.7
10	San Antonio	89.9
11	Denver	91.1
12	Kansas City	93.1
13	Indianapolis	96.0
14	Memphis	96.2
15	Minneapolis	96.5
16	Dallas	96.8
17	Milwaukee	97.2
18	Columbus	99.9
19	Charlotte	104.4
20	Cincinnati	106.5
21	Seattle	112.6
22	Chicago	115.2
23	Pittsburgh	118.9
24	Detroit	123.2
25	Miami	125.8
26	Cleveland	139.0
27	**St. Louis**	**149.4**
28	Washington DC	164.9
29	San Diego	1067.9
30	Baltimore	*
31	Philadelphia	*
32	San Francisco	*
33	New York	*
34	Los Angeles	*
35	**Boston**	*

Service sector job growth as a percent of net job growth, 1989 - 1994
(= Job Loss)*

BUSINESS GROWTH

1	**Austin**	**25.19**
2	Portland	19.43
3	Salt Lake City	17.76
4	Denver	17.02
5	Atlanta	15.46
6	Seattle	14.11
7	Minneapolis	13.56
8	Indianapolis	12.96
9	Houston	12.75
10	Oklahoma City	12.64
11	Dallas	12.29
12	Phoenix	12.29
13	Nashville	11.59
14	San Antonio	11.46
15	Louisville	11.44
16	Miami	9.57
17	Charlotte	9.19
18	Columbus	8.94
19	Chicago	8.29
20	Washington DC	7.90
21	Kansas City	7.89
22	Cincinnati	7.88
23	Baltimore	6.96
24	Milwaukee	6.87
25	Cleveland	6.51
26	**St. Louis**	**4.97**
27	Memphis	4.95
28	Detroit	4.32
29	Pittsburgh	2.46
30	San Diego	0.98
31	Philadelphia	0.43
32	New York	-1.22
33	Boston	-2.06
34	Los Angeles	-3.10
35	**San Francisco**	**-3.30**

Percent change in business establishments, 1989-1994

MINORITY FIRMS

1	**Seattle**	**405.1**
2	San Francisco	389.4
3	Portland	359.4
4	Salt Lake City	333.6
5	Denver	322.5
6	Minneapolis	310.9
7	Indianapolis	282.5
8	San Antonio	275.5
9	Phoenix	274.5
10	Los Angeles	273.1
11	Nashville	270.1
12	Atlanta	261.1
13	Columbus	255.7
14	Houston	251.4
15	Austin	247.9
16	Washington DC	243.9
17	Dallas	227.7
18	Miami	214.0
19	Charlotte	209.5
20	San Diego	206.5
21	Kansas City	204.1
22	Cincinnati	203.0
23	Memphis	191.0
24	Pittsburgh	190.1
25	Oklahoma City	186.6
26	Louisville	184.0
27	Milwaukee	178.0
28	**St. Louis**	**176.8**
29	Cleveland	168.4
30	Baltimore	159.3
31	Chicago	151.6
32	Detroit	151.5
33	Philadelphia	148.5
34	Boston	119.9
35	**New York**	**108.9**

Black-owned firms (with employees) per 100,000 blacks, 1992

EARNINGS

1	**New York**	**43,930**
2	San Francisco	39,088
3	Detroit	35,074
4	Washington DC	34,829
5	Los Angeles	34,053
6	Chicago	33,939
7	Houston	33,028
8	Boston	32,930
9	Seattle	32,633
10	Philadelphia	32,548
11	Dallas	31,797
12	Atlanta	30,837
13	Cleveland	30,682
14	Minneapolis	29,954
15	Baltimore	29,710
16	Denver	29,680
17	Pittsburgh	29,665
18	**St. Louis**	**29,398**
19	Indianapolis	28,944
20	Charlotte	28,708
21	Milwaukee	28,600
22	Portland	28,374
23	San Diego	28,275
24	Cincinnati	28,238
25	Miami	27,940
26	Memphis	27,935
27	Kansas City	27,876
28	Nashville	27,840
29	Columbus	27,418
30	Phoenix	26,889
31	Louisville	26,542
32	Austin	25,641
33	San Antonio	24,832
34	Salt Lake City	24,520
35	**Oklahoma City**	**23,834**

Average earnings per job ($), 1994

BETTER

AVERAGE

WORSE

The importance of analyzing broad economic and business trends is based on the assumption that greater economic activity is a key to an improved standard of living and quality of life for all people. One way of examining that assumption is to analyze the income people derive from the economy.

Total personal income is one of the most comprehensive measures of the benefit individual's derive from economic activity. Personal income has three main components: earnings, primarily wages and salaries; income earning assets, such as dividends, interest, and rent; and transfer payments, such as social security and public assistance income. Per capita personal income from all of the above sources in the St. Louis region was $23,676 in 1994. That is the 14th highest income level among the 35 metropolitan areas. When per capita personal income is adjusted for cost of living, however, the region's rank improves significantly. Because St. Louis has a very affordable cost of living (especially related to housing), its per capita personal income when adjusted for the cost of living rises to $24,227. That improves the region's ranking to 3rd, behind only Nashville and Minneapolis.

The region's ability to sustain such high levels of personal income into the next century may be limited. Between 1990 and 1994 there was only a 3.6 percent increase in per capita personal income in St. Louis. While that value is slightly above the average for all metropolitan areas, the region's current 17th rank in the indicator is a substantial decline from its 5th ranking in the 1992 *Where We Stand*. Thus, the relative pace of income growth in St. Louis appears to be slowing.

The makeup of total personal income in the St. Louis region is unusual. Almost 59 percent of the region's total personal income came from wages and salaries in 1994 (ranking St. Louis 30th), while the 18 percent of regional income that came from assets ranks 2nd, behind only San Francisco. The importance of assets in St. Louis is related to several factors: the number of business owners in the region with large accumulations of assets; the affordability of housing (which makes rental investments attractive); and the number of retired people who live off their investments.

Regional Economic Vitality *Income and Wealth*

WHERE WE STAND

(Tables are ranked from better to worse values)

PERSONAL INCOME

1	**San Francisco**	**34,355**
2	New York	28,843
3	Washington DC	28,773
4	Seattle	27,152
5	Boston	26,094
6	Chicago	25,857
7	Philadelphia	25,234
8	Minneapolis	25,224
9	Denver	24,742
10	Detroit	24,698
11	Dallas	24,451
12	Baltimore	24,055
13	Milwaukee	23,946
14	**St. Louis**	**23,676**
15	Atlanta	23,617
16	Cleveland	23,503
17	Indianapolis	23,178
18	Houston	23,034
19	Nashville	23,022
20	Portland	22,886
21	Pittsburgh	22,747
22	Kansas City	22,640
23	Cincinnati	22,285
24	Louisville	22,083
25	Columbus	22,041
26	Charlotte	21,950
27	San Diego	21,635
28	Los Angeles	21,591
29	Memphis	21,576
30	Phoenix	20,987
31	Austin	20,575
32	Miami	20,044
33	Oklahoma City	19,012
34	Salt Lake City	18,608
35	**San Antonio**	**18,517**

Per capita personal income ($), 1994

INCOME GROWTH

1	**Nashville**	**10.3**
2	Salt Lake City	7.1
3	Louisville	6.9
4	Memphis	6.5
5	Detroit	6.3
6	Columbus	6.0
7	Indianapolis	5.9
8	Milwaukee	5.8
9	Austin	5.8
10	Pittsburgh	5.7
11	Dallas	4.8
12	San Antonio	4.6
13	Portland	4.4
14	Kansas City	4.1
15	Cleveland	4.1
16	Cincinnati	3.7
17	**St. Louis**	**3.6**
18	Denver	3.6
19	Charlotte	3.5
20	Seattle	3.5
21	Minneapolis	3.5
22	Philadelphia	3.4
23	New York	3.1
24	Phoenix	3.0
25	Chicago	2.7
26	Oklahoma City	2.4
27	Houston	2.3
28	San Francisco	2.1
29	Boston	1.8
30	Atlanta	1.2
31	Washington DC	0.6
32	Miami	-0.1
33	Baltimore	-0.5
34	San Diego	-3.9
35	**Los Angeles**	**-8.4**

Percent change in per capita personal income, 1990-1994

INCOME ADJUSTED FOR COST OF LIVING

1	**Nashville**	**25,306**
2	Minneapolis	24,289
3	**St. Louis**	**24,227**
4	Indianapolis	24,161
5	Louisville	24,154
6	Atlanta	24,034
7	Dallas	23,796
8	Houston	23,704
9	Washington DC	23,317
10	Denver	23,265
11	Kansas City	23,250
12	Baltimore	23,041
13	Charlotte	22,851
14	Cincinnati	22,790
15	Seattle	22,570
16	Milwaukee	22,369
17	Cleveland	22,346
18	Memphis	22,096
19	San Francisco	21,758
20	Detroit	21,309
21	Chicago	21,264
22	Portland	21,250
23	Columbus	21,224
24	Austin	20,598
25	Phoenix	20,502
26	Oklahoma City	20,470
27	Pittsburgh	20,077
28	Philadelphia	19,556
29	San Antonio	19,149
30	Boston	19,071
31	Miami	18,624
32	Salt Lake City	18,270
33	Los Angeles	17,483
34	San Diego	17,246
35	**New York**	**12,634**

Per capita personal income adjusted for cost of living ($), 1994

INCOME SOURCES: WAGES AND SALARIES

1	**Charlotte**	**68.6**
2	Washington DC	68.5
3	Dallas	67.7
4	Atlanta	67.2
5	Minneapolis	66.7
6	Salt Lake City	66.2
7	Austin	65.5
8	Indianapolis	65.3
9	Columbus	65.2
10	Denver	64.7
11	New York	64.3
12	Los Angeles	63.9
13	Houston	63.7
14	Nashville	63.7
15	San Francisco	63.5
16	Seattle	63.3
17	Memphis	63.0
18	Milwaukee	63.0
19	Kansas City	62.8
20	Miami	62.7
21	Detroit	62.4
22	Cincinnati	62.4
23	Chicago	62.3
24	Boston	61.0
25	Louisville	60.3
26	Oklahoma City	60.0
27	Phoenix	59.8
28	Cleveland	59.5
29	Portland	59.3
30	**St. Louis**	**58.7**
31	San Antonio	58.0
32	Baltimore	56.4
33	Philadelphia	55.3
34	San Diego	54.3
35	**Pittsburgh**	**53.2**

Percent of total personal income from wages and salaries, 1994

INCOME SOURCES: ASSETS

1	**San Francisco**	**22.6**
2	**St. Louis**	**18.1**
3	Miami	17.7
4	San Diego	17.5
5	Cincinnati	17.2
6	Louisville	16.7
7	New York	16.7
8	Philadelphia	16.6
9	Phoenix	16.2
10	Pittsburgh	16.2
11	Milwaukee	16.2
12	Chicago	16.2
13	Portland	16.1
14	Cleveland	15.7
15	Seattle	15.6
16	Denver	15.5
17	Detroit	15.5
18	Boston	15.5
19	Kansas City	15.1
20	Baltimore	14.6
21	Washington DC	14.5
22	Minneapolis	14.1
23	Austin	13.8
24	Indianapolis	13.7
25	Atlanta	13.5
26	Oklahoma City	13.4
27	San Antonio	13.2
28	Dallas	13.2
29	Los Angeles	13.1
30	Columbus	12.9
31	Charlotte	12.8
32	Nashville	12.8
33	Salt Lake City	12.4
34	Houston	12.4
35	**Memphis**	**11.2**

Percent of total personal income from dividends, interest and rent, 1994

BETTER

AVERAGE

WORSE

Per Capita Regional Economic Output: Economic Output is the sum of manufacturing value of shipments, retail and wholesale sales, service receipts (from taxable service industries), and the net value of construction. 1992 Economic Census - Report Series Disc 1H (CD-EC92-1H), released May 1996.

Unemployment: Percent of the labor force which is unemployed. Five year average is based on annual rates. Source: State and Metro Area Employment and Unemployment, Local Area Unemployment Statistics Branch, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Capital Availability: This ratio is calculated by dividing total bank loans by total deposits for insured commercial banks. This gives an indication of the availability of financing/capital within a metropolitan area. A low ratio implies "tight" money - a conservative investment climate or lack of optimism about the local economy. Data are from an unpublished table of bank loans and deposits from the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, 1996.

Value of Private Construction: Value of private residential and nonresidential construction authorized through building permits. Building Permits, 1980-1995. Data obtained from the Building Permits Branch, Manufacturing and Construction Division of the U.S. Bureau of the Census.

Exports: Exports here refer to the sum of goods exported to foreign countries, from the point of sale. Metro Area Exporters Ranked by 1994 Export Value, Export Assistance Center, U.S. Bureau of the Census, 1996.

Job Growth, Service Sector Job Growth, Earnings, Personal Income, Income Growth and Income Sources: The source of data for these indicators is Regional Economic Information System, 1969 - 1994, Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Department of Commerce. **Jobs** refer to full and part-time positions existing during the calendar year. **Service Sector Jobs** include all employment categories except mining, construction, and manufacturing. A value over 100 percent on service sector job growth indicates a net job loss in goods sector jobs. **Earnings** refer to the sum of wage and salary income, other labor income, and proprietors' income. It is used as a proxy for income generated from current production. Average earnings per job was calculated by dividing total earnings for all employment categories by the number of jobs in all categories. **Total personal income** includes wages, salaries and other labor income, proprietor's income, rental income, personal dividend and interest income, and government and business transfer payment, less personal contributions for social security.

Business Growth: County Business Patterns (1990 & 1994 editions), U.S. Bureau of the Census.

Minority Firms: Refers to the number of black-owned businesses per 100,000 blacks. 1992 Economic Census: Survey of Minority-Owned Businesses, U.S. Bureau of the Census.

Cost of Living Index, 1994: Costs of Living Index, American Chamber of Commerce Researchers Association (copyright). Index is based on the cost differential for a mid-management standard of living in metropolitan areas, with the national average equal to 100. Some metropolitan area data are for previous quarters.

Leadership, Governance and Public Service

The structure of local government in a metro area influences regional vitality. The St. Louis region had 771 units of local government in 1992, which was a five percent increase since 1987. This large number of governments ranks St. Louis the 5th highest of the 35 metropolitan areas, behind Chicago, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh and Houston. When units are adjusted for geographic area, St. Louis ranks 9th, with over 12 government units for every 100 square miles. When adjusted for population, St. Louis had almost 31 government units per 100,000 people. This ranks the region second only to Pittsburgh, a region with more than 36 units per 100,000 people.

Closer examination of the government data highlights the decentralization of public sector functions for specialized purposes in the St. Louis region. A full 40 percent of all government units in the St. Louis region are generalized county, municipal, or township governments. The remaining 60 percent perform specialized functions, such as housing authorities and ambulance districts. This ranks St. Louis among the top third of all regions in the proportion of its public sector units that exist solely to perform specialized functions. Given these facts, it is not surprising to see that St. Louis ranks first in the number of local government units with taxing authority, with 26.8 taxing units per 100,000 people.

School districts are among these specialized government entities. The St. Louis region has 119 independent public school districts. This translates into 4.7 school districts per 100,000 people — double the average for all metropolitan areas — ranking the region 3rd, behind only Oklahoma City and Portland. St. Louis ranks 29th in the number of students per district (3,300).

Readers could reasonably draw varying conclusions from the above data. A large number of local governments may help ensure that governance is closer and more accountable to its citizens, more sensitive to their needs and concerns. However, a vast and overlapping array of public sector units and taxing authorities may also fragment decision-making processes and inhibit cooperative initiatives and resource sharing in the public sphere.

(Tables are ranked from higher to lower values)

GOVERNMENT UNITS

1	**Chicago**	**1421**
2	Philadelphia	877
3	Pittsburgh	875
4	Houston	802
5	**St. Louis**	**771**
6	Boston	745
7	Minneapolis	516
8	Kansas City	468
9	Denver	405
10	Indianapolis	390
11	Detroit	360
11	Cincinnati	360
13	Cleveland	339
14	Los Angeles	337
15	Dallas	331
16	Portland	300
17	Seattle	281
18	Louisville	275
19	Columbus	272
20	Atlanta	248
21	New York	201
22	Phoenix	199
23	Austin	181
24	San Diego	177
25	Milwaukee	174
25	San Francisco	174
27	Oklahoma City	172
28	Washington DC	159
29	Salt Lake City	131
30	Nashville	104
31	San Antonio	94
32	Memphis	90
33	Charlotte	85
34	Baltimore	68
35	**Miami**	**35**

Units of local government, 1992

GOVERNMENT UNITS PER 100,000 POPULATION

1	**Pittsburgh**	**36.4**
2	**St. Louis**	**30.6**
3	Kansas City	29.0
4	Louisville	28.5
5	Indianapolis	27.4
6	Denver	23.6
7	Cincinnati	23.1
8	Houston	22.8
9	Austin	20.1
10	Minneapolis	19.7
11	Columbus	19.6
12	Chicago	18.8
13	Portland	18.7
14	Philadelphia	17.8
15	Oklahoma City	17.5
16	Cleveland	15.3
17	Seattle	13.2
18	Boston	13.1
19	Milwaukee	12.0
20	Dallas	11.8
21	Salt Lake City	11.6
22	San Francisco	10.7
23	Nashville	10.2
24	Memphis	8.7
25	Phoenix	8.5
26	Detroit	8.4
27	Atlanta	7.9
28	Charlotte	7.0
29	San Antonio	6.8
30	San Diego	6.8
31	Los Angeles	3.7
32	Washington DC	3.7
33	Baltimore	2.8
34	New York	2.4
35	**Miami**	**1.7**

Units of local government per 100,000 population, 1992

SCHOOL DISTRICTS PER 100,000 POPULATION

1	**Oklahoma City**	**6.2**
2	Portland	5.2
3	**St. Louis**	**4.7**
4	Cincinnati	4.5
5	Chicago	4.4
6	Pittsburgh	4.4
7	Kansas City	4.3
8	Cleveland	3.8
9	Philadelphia	3.8
10	Columbus	3.6
11	Milwaukee	3.6
12	Indianapolis	3.4
13	Austin	3.3
14	Phoenix	3.2
15	Minneapolis	3.2
16	Dallas	2.9
17	San Francisco	2.8
18	Detroit	2.6
19	Boston	2.1
20	San Antonio	1.9
21	San Diego	1.8
22	Seattle	1.7
23	Houston	1.4
24	Louisville	1.3
25	Los Angeles	1.0
26	Denver	1.0
27	Atlanta	0.9
28	New York	0.7
29	Salt Lake City	0.6
30	Memphis	0.6
31	Charlotte	0.3
32	Nashville	0.2
33	Miami	0.1
34	Washington DC	0.0
35	**Baltimore**	**0.0**

Independent public school districts per 100,000 population, 1992

GOVERNMENT UNITS WITH TAXING POWERS PER 100,000 POPULATION

1	**St. Louis**	**26.8**
2	Louisville	23.7
3	Kansas City	21.8
4	Pittsburgh	21.7
5	Cincinnati	20.7
6	Indianapolis	19.2
7	Minneapolis	18.6
8	Columbus	18.1
9	Denver	17.3
10	Chicago	17.2
11	Houston	15.8
12	Portland	15.7
13	Austin	14.9
14	Cleveland	14.5
15	Oklahoma City	13.9
16	Philadelphia	12.0
17	Seattle	11.1
18	Milwaukee	11.0
19	Salt Lake City	10.0
20	Dallas	10.0
21	San Francisco	9.3
22	Boston	8.8
23	Phoenix	8.5
24	Detroit	7.8
25	San Diego	5.8
26	San Antonio	5.6
27	Memphis	5.4
28	Charlotte	5.3
29	Atlanta	4.9
30	Nashville	4.9
31	Los Angeles	2.9
32	Washington DC	2.8
33	Baltimore	2.3
34	New York	2.2

Local government units with taxing powers per 100,000 population, 1992

HIGHER

AVERAGE

LOWER

In 1992, local governments in the St. Louis region spent a total of $4.7 billion, or $1,859 for every person in the region. This level of spending ranks the region 33rd, above only Louisville and Oklahoma City. Per capita government spending in St. Louis was $870 lower per person than the overall average and almost three times lower than New York, which spent more than five thousand dollars per person in 1992. Local outlays were consistently low across expenditure categories, including capital investment in buildings, equipment, and roads. Governments in the St. Louis region spent $235 per person on capital improvements in 1992. This level of capital spending ranks the region 29th.

Local expenditures must be evaluated within in the context of government revenue and personal income. Local governments in the region raised $3.2 billion in local revenue from taxes, utility revenues, and other charges during 1992. St. Louis ranks 21st in total revenue but 33rd in per capita revenue. The total revenue raised by local governments in the region, however, accounted for only 5.8 percent of total personal income, a percent that ranks St. Louis 35th, or last among all the 35 metropolitan areas. Thus, local government revenue in the St. Louis region is the lowest of any metropolitan area when revenues are compared to an area's capacity to pay for government outlays. In line with the region's relatively low revenue and expenditures levels is a corresponding low public debt. With a local government debt equivalent to only 86 percent of total annual revenue, St. Louis ranks 33rd, slightly above Cleveland and Boston.

In contrast to local spending, federal spending in the St. Louis region continues to be high. In 1995, $6,569 was spent from federal sources for every person in the region. This makes St. Louis the third highest recipient of federal funds, behind Philadelphia and Washington D.C. St. Louis has maintained its high ranking despite a decline of $525 per person in federal defense funds since 1990. Defense funds, however, still account for almost half of all federal spending in the region.

(Tables are ranked from more to less values)

LOCAL GOVERNMENT SPENDING

1	New York	5,422
2	San Francisco	3,781
3	Los Angeles	3,744
4	Washington DC	3,363
5	Austin	3,258
6	Minneapolis	3,238
7	Seattle	3,069
8	Milwaukee	3,021
9	Miami	2,980
10	San Diego	2,955
11	Phoenix	2,924
12	Denver	2,919
13	Philadelphia	2,815
14	Memphis	2,775
15	Chicago	2,715
16	Cleveland	2,675
17	Portland	2,669
18	Atlanta	2,655
19	Detroit	2,594
20	San Antonio	2,569
21	Charlotte	2,524
22	Nashville	2,510
23	Kansas City	2,507
24	Dallas	2,439
25	Indianapolis	2,412
26	Salt Lake City	2,319
27	Houston	2,295
28	Pittsburgh	2,288
29	Boston	2,281
30	Columbus	2,251
31	Cincinnati	2,145
32	Baltimore	2,028
33	St. Louis	1,859
34	Louisville	1,830
35	Oklahoma City	1,750

Per capita local government expenditures ($), 1992

GOVERNMENT REVENUE AS A PERCENT OF TOTAL INCOME

1	New York	15.5
2	Austin	14.7
3	Miami	12.6
4	Memphis	11.6
5	Phoenix	10.8
6	San Antonio	10.8
7	Los Angeles	10.3
8	Nashville	10.1
9	Salt Lake City	10.1
10	Atlanta	9.8
11	Washington DC	9.3
12	Chicago	9.1
13	Kansas City	9.1
14	Dallas	8.9
15	Minneapolis	8.8
16	Denver	8.7
17	San Diego	8.7
18	Portland	8.7
19	Cleveland	8.6
20	San Francisco	8.5
21	Detroit	8.4
22	Houston	8.2
23	Milwaukee	8.0
24	Philadelphia	7.9
25	Charlotte	7.8
26	Seattle	7.7
27	Indianapolis	7.7
28	Columbus	7.3
29	Cincinnati	7.0
30	Pittsburgh	6.9
31	Oklahoma City	6.8
32	Boston	6.6
33	Baltimore	6.4
34	Louisville	6.0
35	St. Louis	5.8

Local government revenue as a percent of total personal income, 1992

LOCAL GOVERNMENT DEBT

1	Salt Lake City	3.53
2	Austin	2.60
3	San Antonio	2.54
4	Phoenix	2.49
5	Denver	2.40
6	Pittsburgh	2.29
7	Minneapolis	2.08
8	Houston	2.04
9	Louisville	1.99
10	Philadelphia	1.85
11	Atlanta	1.78
12	Kansas City	1.75
13	Dallas	1.68
14	Oklahoma City	1.65
15	Nashville	1.54
16	Miami	1.47
17	Cincinnati	1.42
18	Columbus	1.40
19	Baltimore	1.37
20	Washington DC	1.35
21	Charlotte	1.35
22	Seattle	1.34
23	Los Angeles	1.34
24	New York	1.16
25	Milwaukee	1.15
26	Indianapolis	1.15
27	Memphis	1.10
28	Chicago	1.09
29	San Francisco	0.97
30	Portland	0.96
31	San Diego	0.91
32	Detroit	0.91
33	St. Louis	0.86
34	Cleveland	0.81
35	Boston	0.81

Ratio of local government debt to local revenue, 1992

FEDERAL FUNDING

1	Philadelphia	13,749
2	Washington DC	12,974
3	St. Louis	6,569
4	San Diego	6,223
5	Baltimore	6,077
6	San Antonio	5,624
7	Boston	5,546
8	Pittsburgh	5,531
9	Austin	5,456
10	Oklahoma City	5,420
11	Denver	5,354
12	New York	5,301
13	San Francisco	4,943
14	Kansas City	4,726
15	Cleveland	4,647
16	Memphis	4,629
17	Columbus	4,604
18	Cincinnati	4,598
19	Seattle	4,476
20	Los Angeles	4,402
21	Nashville	4,294
22	Atlanta	4,264
23	Indianapolis	4,254
24	Miami	4,244
25	Phoenix	4,218
26	Salt Lake City	4,117
27	Detroit	4,074
28	Louisville	3,975
29	Milwaukee	3,895
30	Minneapolis	3,887
31	Chicago	3,842
32	Dallas	3,701
33	Portland	3,661
34	Houston	3,524
35	Charlotte	2,928

Federal funding per capita ($), 1995

CHANGE IN DEFENSE FUNDING

1	Atlanta	300
2	Washington DC	88
3	Columbus	86
4	Nashville	12
5	Charlotte	-15
6	New York	-34
7	Oklahoma City	-42
8	Pittsburgh	-51
9	Chicago	-53
10	Milwaukee	-72
11	Detroit	-73
12	Houston	-97
13	Miami	-102
14	Kansas City	-102
15	Louisville	-120
16	Memphis	-127
17	Austin	-135
18	Portland	-136
19	Cleveland	-153
20	Dallas	-176
21	Philadelphia	-187
22	San Francisco	-198
23	San Antonio	-205
24	Seattle	-239
25	San Diego	-288
26	Baltimore	-366
27	Indianapolis	-369
28	Minneapolis	-375
29	Los Angeles	-449
30	St. Louis	-525
31	Salt Lake City	-526
32	Boston	-781
33	Phoenix	-808
34	Cincinnati	-987

Change in per capita federal defense funding($), 1990-1995

MORE

AVERAGE

LESS

Units of Local Government, School Districts, Government Units with Taxing Powers: 1992 Census of Governments: Government Organization, vol. 1, No. 1, U.S. Bureau of the Census.

Per Capita Local Government Spending: Refers to total direct expenditures. 1992 Census of Governments: Government Finances, vol. 4, Compendium of Government Finances, no. 5, U.S. Bureau of the Census.

Government Revenue as a Percent of Total Income: Revenue refers only to income from local taxes or other local sources. 1992 Census of Governments: Government Finances, vol. 4, Compendium of Government Finances, no. 5, U.S. Bureau of the Census. Personal Income: Regional Economic Information System, 1969 - 1994, Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Department of Commerce.

Ratio of Local Government Debt to Local Revenue: Revenue refers only to income from local taxes or other local sources. 1992 Census of Governments: Government Finances, vol. 4, Compendium of Government Finances, no. 5, U.S. Bureau of the Census.

Federal Funding: Total federal funding includes grant awards, salaries and wages (defense and nondefense), direct payments to individuals, procurement contracts and loans. Consolidated Federal Funds Report: Fiscal Year 1995, U.S. Bureau of the Census, for the Office of Management and Budget.

Federal Defense Funding: Total federal funding for defense. Consolidated Federal Funds Report (Fiscal Years 1990 and 1995), U.S. Bureau of the Census, for the Office of Management and Budget.

MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, BELLEVILLE, IL

Poverty rates are among the primary traditional measures of social well-being. More than 263,000 residents of the St. Louis region were living below the poverty level in 1990 — that is, they lived in households with incomes of $12,674 or less for a family of four. These individuals accounted for 10.8 percent of the total population. This poverty rate ranks 15th among the 35 metropolitan areas.

Poverty is not uniformly distributed through the population, however. In 1990, 15.6 percent of all children in the region lived in households with incomes below the poverty level. This rate again ranks St. Louis in the middle third of the distribution (16th). While children make up only 26 percent of the St. Louis region's population, they account for 38 percent of all individuals in poverty.

In contrast, older persons in St. Louis fare slightly better than the overall population. In 1990, there were just more than 31,000 older persons living below the poverty level in the region. This translates into a rate of 10.4 percent, which again ranks St. Louis 16th. Persons 65 and older in the region make up both 12 percent of the total population and 12 percent of those in poverty.

Two other trends highlight the economic issues facing a number of the region's families with children. Nationally, female-headed families with children are six times as likely to live in poverty and to receive public assistance as married couple families with children. In St. Louis, births to both teenage parents and to unwed parents, as a percentage of all births, are well above the average for all metropolitan areas and rank the region 11th and 8th highest, respectively. The rate of births to unwed parents is growing rapidly in the St. Louis region, increasing from 30.1 percent of all births in 1988 to 36.5 percent four years later. The rate of births to teenage mothers is more stable, increasing from 13.2 to 13.9 percent of all births over the same period.

Individual and Family Well-Being *Poverty and Teenage Births*

WHERE WE STAND

(Tables are ranked from better to worse values)

POVERTY RATE

1	**Washington DC**	**6.4**
2	Seattle	7.6
3	Boston	8.0
4	Minneapolis	8.1
5	San Francisco	9.0
6	Salt Lake City	9.4
7	Charlotte	9.6
8	Denver	9.7
9	Kansas	9.8
10	Portland	9.9
11	Indianapolis	9.9
12	Baltimore	10.1
13	Atlanta	10.1
14	Philadelphia	10.4
15	**St. Louis**	**10.8**
16	Chicago	11.3
17	Nashville	11.3
18	San Diego	11.3
19	Milwaukee	11.6
20	Cincinnati	11.6
21	Columbus	11.9
22	Cleveland	12.0
23	Pittsburgh	12.1
24	Dallas	12.3
25	Phoenix	12.9
26	Louisville	13.1
27	Detroit	13.1
28	Oklahoma City	13.9
29	Los Angeles	15.1
30	Houston	15.1
31	Austin	15.9
32	New York	17.5
33	Miami	17.9
34	Memphis	18.5
35	**San Antonio**	**19.5**

Percent of all persons in poverty, 1989

CHILD POVERTY RATE

1	**Washington DC**	**7.5**
2	Seattle	9.0
3	Boston	10.7
4	Minneapolis	10.8
5	Salt Lake City	10.9
6	San Francisco	11.4
7	Portland	11.8
8	Charlotte	12.5
9	Denver	13.2
10	Kansas	13.4
11	Atlanta	13.7
12	Indianapolis	13.9
13	Baltimore	14.0
14	Nashville	14.7
15	Philadelphia	14.7
16	**St. Louis**	**15.6**
17	San Diego	15.7
18	Columbus	15.7
19	Dallas	16.1
20	Cincinnati	16.3
21	Chicago	16.6
22	Pittsburgh	17.5
23	Phoenix	17.9
24	Cleveland	18.1
25	Austin	18.2
26	Oklahoma City	18.3
27	Louisville	18.6
28	Milwaukee	19.2
29	Detroit	19.7
30	Houston	19.9
31	Los Angeles	21.4
32	Miami	24.0
33	Memphis	26.6
34	New York	26.9
35	**San Antonio**	**27.5**

Percent of persons under 18 in poverty, 1989

ELDERLY POVERTY RATE

1	**San Diego**	**6.3**
2	Milwaukee	7.1
3	Seattle	7.2
4	Salt Lake City	7.7
5	San Francisco	8.0
6	Minneapolis	8.3
7	Washington DC	8.7
8	Phoenix	9.2
9	Los Angeles	9.2
10	Portland	9.4
11	Denver	9.5
12	Cleveland	9.6
13	Boston	9.7
14	Chicago	10.1
15	Indianapolis	10.3
16	**St. Louis**	**10.4**
17	Pittsburgh	10.4
18	Philadelphia	10.4
19	Columbus	10.5
20	Detroit	10.5
21	Kansas	11.2
22	Cincinnati	11.4
23	Baltimore	11.6
24	Louisville	12.8
25	Oklahoma City	13.1
26	Dallas	13.5
27	Austin	14.2
28	Atlanta	14.7
29	Charlotte	15.2
30	New York	15.3
31	Houston	16.0
32	Nashville	16.6
33	San Antonio	17.4
34	Miami	20.0
35	**Memphis**	**21.7**

Percent of persons 65 and older in poverty, 1989

TEENAGE BIRTHS

1	**Boston**	**6.4**
2	San Francisco	6.8
3	Seattle	7.2
4	Minneapolis	7.6
5	Washington DC	7.9
6	Pittsburgh	9.4
7	New York	9.7
8	Portland	10.0
9	Philadelphia	10.7
10	San Diego	10.8
11	Salt Lake City	11.1
12	Denver	11.2
13	Baltimore	11.2
14	Miami	11.4
15	Cleveland	11.7
16	Los Angeles	12.1
17	Austin	12.3
18	Atlanta	12.4
19	Detroit	12.5
20	Columbus	12.6
21	Chicago	12.8
22	Kansas City	12.9
23	Milwaukee	13.1
24	Cincinnati	13.5
25	**St. Louis**	**13.9**
26	Nashville	13.9
27	Dallas	14.0
28	Indianapolis	14.2
29	Phoenix	14.3
30	Houston	14.7
31	Charlotte	14.8
32	Louisville	15.2
33	Oklahoma City	15.3
34	San Antonio	16.3
35	**Memphis**	**17.9**

Births to teenagers as a percent of total births, 1992

BIRTHS TO UNWED PARENTS

1	**Austin**	**12.7**
2	Salt Lake City	17.9
3	San Antonio	18.0
4	Dallas	18.8
5	Houston	20.6
6	Seattle	22.0
7	Minneapolis	23.1
8	Boston	24.7
9	Portland	25.0
10	Denver	25.3
11	San Francisco	27.4
12	Pittsburgh	29.8
13	Columbus	29.9
14	San Diego	30.2
15	Washington DC	30.3
16	Nashville	30.4
17	Oklahoma City	30.6
18	Kansas City	30.7
19	Charlotte	30.9
20	Cincinnati	31.7
21	Atlanta	31.9
22	Indianapolis	32.2
23	Baltimore	33.2
24	Detroit	33.6
25	Phoenix	34.5
26	Louisville	35.1
27	Philadelphia	36.3
28	**St. Louis**	**36.5**
29	Milwaukee	36.6
30	Cleveland	36.8
31	Chicago	37.3
32	Miami	38.8
33	Los Angeles	42.2
34	New York	42.9
35	**Memphis**	**48.3**

Births to unmarried women as a percent of total births, 1992

BETTER

AVERAGE

WORSE

Health indicators are also an important gauge of social well-being. Access to health care insurance is one of them. Estimates of health insurance coverage from the Census Bureau's 1996 Current Population Survey indicate that almost 74 percent of all persons in the St. Louis region are covered by some form of health insurance. While that percent ranks St. Louis 23rd, it is slightly above the average for all 35 metropolitan areas. The data indicate that at any given point in time about one-quarter of all St. Louisians are without the benefits of health insurance.

The provision of primary health care plays an essential role in the treatment of illness and the prevention of disease. In 1995, there were 2,457 primary care physicians in the region (which accounts for one third of all physicians, comparable to other metropolitan areas). This equates to 96 primary care physicians for every 100,000 people, which ranks the region 19th.

Death rates are widely-used indicators of health and social vitality. Three rates are presented in the charts: infant, adult and accident deaths. Infant mortality is in large part sensitive to the poverty levels of parents, prenatal health care, and nutritional, educational and environmental factors. The infant mortality rate in the St. Louis region for 1991 was 10.9 deaths per 1,000 live births, compared to 9.6 deaths three years earlier. The 1991 rate ranks St. Louis 30th, comparable to New York and the 5th worst rate among metropolitan areas. The death rate for adults under the age of 65 was also worse than average in St. Louis, ranking the region 26th. Finally, there were more than 900 accidental deaths in 1991, ranking St. Louis 34th, or second worst. A significant number of these were related to motor vehicle crashes.

Individual and Family Well-Being *Health and Mortality*

WHERE WE STAND

(Tables are ranked from better to worse values)

HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE

1	**Pittsburgh**	**84.2**
2	Detroit	83.3
3	Indianapolis	82.8
4	Salt Lake City	82.7
5	Milwaukee	82.3
6	Minneapolis	82.1
7	Columbus	81.2
8	Kansas City	81.1
9	Portland	80.9
10	Seattle	80.3
11	Boston	78.1
12	Cincinnati	78.0
13	Louisville	78.0
14	Nashville	77.5
15	Charlotte	77.1
16	Chicago	76.6
17	San Francisco	76.0
18	Cleveland	75.8
19	Washington DC	74.8
20	Dallas	74.7
21	Austin	74.6
22	Memphis	74.0
23	**St. Louis**	**73.8**
24	San Diego	73.3
25	Philadelphia	73.2
26	Denver	71.5
27	Oklahoma City	71.3
28	Phoenix	70.3
29	Baltimore	69.0
30	Atlanta	65.3
31	New York	58.3
32	Houston	54.0
33	Los Angeles	53.8
34	San Antonio	51.2
35	**Miami**	**49.9**

Percent of population covered by health plans, 1996

PRIMARY CARE PHYSICIANS

1	**San Francisco**	**165.0**
2	New York	157.6
3	Baltimore	135.8
4	Miami	118.7
5	Philadelphia	113.6
6	Washington DC	113.5
7	Seattle	112.4
8	Chicago	106.9
9	Milwaukee	105.6
10	Nashville	105.4
11	Minneapolis	105.2
12	Indianapolis	103.8
13	Denver	103.4
14	Cleveland	103.1
15	Cincinnati	101.8
16	Louisville	99.9
17	Pittsburgh	98.8
18	Memphis	97.9
19	**St. Louis**	**96.4**
20	Boston	96.0
21	Los Angeles	93.8
22	Detroit	93.0
23	Kansas City	90.2
24	Columbus	89.0
25	Portland	86.5
26	Houston	86.0
27	San Diego	84.9
28	San Antonio	82.8
29	Salt Lake City	82.2
30	Atlanta	80.6
31	Oklahoma City	78.3
32	Phoenix	75.3
33	Austin	74.1
34	Dallas	72.3
35	**Charlotte**	**71.9**

Nonfederal Primary Care Physicians per 100,000 population, 1995

INFANT MORTALITY RATE

1	**Austin**	**5.7**
2	Boston	6.1
3	San Francisco	6.4
4	Salt Lake City	6.6
5	Seattle	6.7
6	San Antonio	7.0
7	San Diego	7.1
8	Miami	7.6
9	Minneapolis	7.7
9	Dallas	7.7
11	Los Angeles	7.8
12	Houston	8.0
13	Phoenix	8.3
14	Portland	8.4
15	Kansas City	8.5
16	Nashville	8.7
16	Denver	8.7
18	Baltimore	8.8
19	Columbus	9.2
20	Cincinnati	9.3
20	Milwaukee	9.3
22	Pittsburgh	9.5
23	Indianapolis	9.6
24	Charlotte	9.7
25	Atlanta	10.0
26	Philadelphia	10.4
27	Louisville	10.7
28	Washington DC	10.8
28	Oklahoma City	10.8
30	**St. Louis**	**10.9**
30	New York	10.9
32	Cleveland	11.3
33	Detroit	11.4
34	Chicago	12.1
35	**Memphis**	**13.8**

Infant deaths per 1,000 live births, 1991

ADULT DEATH RATE

1	**Boston**	**154**
2	Salt Lake City	179
3	Minneapolis	182
4	Austin	186
5	Portland	186
6	Seattle	201
7	Denver	224
8	San Diego	225
9	Phoenix	232
10	Milwaukee	238
11	Washington DC	243
12	Indianapolis	245
13	Dallas	249
14	San Antonio	252
15	Cleveland	253
16	Pittsburgh	254
17	Cincinnati	256
18	Columbus	258
19	Chicago	260
20	Oklahoma City	262
21	Los Angeles	263
22	Atlanta	264
23	Kansas City	265
24	Nashville	275
25	Houston	281
26	**St. Louis**	**287**
27	Charlotte	296
28	Louisville	301
29	Philadelphia	306
30	Detroit	317
31	Baltimore	322
32	Miami	322
33	Memphis	327
34	San Francisco	352
35	**New York**	**395**

Deaths of persons under 65 per 100,000 population, 1991

ACCIDENT DEATH RATE

1	**Boston**	**14.9**
2	Washington DC	23.0
3	Chicago	25.0
4	Baltimore	25.5
5	Portland	25.6
6	Columbus	26.0
7	Indianapolis	26.2
8	Salt Lake City	26.7
9	Pittsburgh	26.9
10	Seattle	27.2
11	Minneapolis	27.3
12	San Diego	27.5
13	Dallas	27.7
14	Austin	27.9
15	San Antonio	28.0
16	Cincinnati	28.1
17	Detroit	28.5
18	Los Angeles	28.5
19	Milwaukee	29.5
20	New York	30.2
21	Denver	30.3
22	Phoenix	31.1
23	Louisville	31.2
24	Cleveland	31.2
25	Atlanta	31.3
26	San Francisco	31.4
27	Kansas City	32.6
28	Philadelphia	32.8
29	Houston	34.1
30	Miami	34.2
31	Nashville	34.6
32	Charlotte	35.6
33	Oklahoma City	35.9
34	**St. Louis**	**35.9**
35	**Memphis**	**38.0**

Accidental deaths per 100,000 population, 1991

BETTER

AVERAGE

WORSE

Quality of life is strongly tied to our ability to successfully interact with the urban environment. It is linked to both the availability of adequate and affordable housing and the ease with which individuals can travel around the region to access social and economic opportunities.

The housing market in St. Louis has long been recognized as among the most affordable in the country, and the three indicators which pertain to housing affordability show continued support for this conclusion. The median sales price of existing one family homes in the St. Louis region was $85,000 in 1994, the sixth lowest price among the 35 metropolitan areas. Furthermore, 77 percent of homes are affordable to families with the median household income, giving St. Louis the 6th best housing opportunity index. Kansas City heads this list, at 85.4 percent.

The housing affordability index measures the proportion of all households that spend more than 35 percent of their income on housing, which is widely regarded as the upper limit of affordability. Eighteen percent of households in the St. Louis region spend 35 percent or more of their income on housing. This ranks the St. Louis region 9th best. Disparities in the indicator persist between renters and homeowners in the region. Housing costs exceed the acceptable level for 35 percent of renters but only 11 percent of owners.

Compared to other metropolitan regions, the quality of the housing stock in St. Louis is good. With only 3.5 percent of all houses having physical problems, St. Louis ranks 6th, slightly behind San Diego and Salt Lake City.

The region ranks favorably on mobility indicators relevant to travel by auto: road capacity and congestion indices. For transit riders, the region continues to have a below average mobility index when compared to other areas. The index — calculated by dividing the number of hours of annual transit service by the number of households that have no vehicle — provides a measure of transit service relative to the potential need for such service. In 1994, there were 16.4 hours of transit service for every household without a vehicle. That value, which ranks the region 24th, is significantly below the average for all metropolitan areas.

(Tables are ranked from better to worse values)

HOME PRICES

1	**Oklahoma City**	**66.7**
2	San Antonio	78.2
3	Houston	80.5
3	Louisville	80.5
5	Pittsburgh	80.7
6	**St. Louis**	**85.0**
7	Memphis	86.3
8	Detroit	87.0
9	Kansas City	87.1
10	Indianapolis	90.7
11	Phoenix	91.4
12	Atlanta	93.6
13	Columbus	94.8
14	Dallas	95.0
15	Austin	96.2
16	Cincinnati	96.5
16	Nashville	96.5
18	Salt Lake City	98.0
19	Cleveland	98.5
20	Minneapolis	101.5
21	Miami	103.2
22	Charlotte	106.5
23	Milwaukee	109.0
24	Baltimore	115.4
25	Denver	116.8
26	Portland	116.9
27	Philadelphia	119.5
28	Chicago	144.1
29	Seattle	155.9
30	Washington DC	157.9
31	New York	173.2
32	San Diego	176.0
33	Boston	179.3
34	Los Angeles	189.1
35	**San Francisco**	**255.6**

Median sales price of existing one-family homes ($ thousands), 1994

HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

1	**Kansas City**	**85.4**
2	Minneapolis	82.0
3	Washington DC	80.3
4	Oklahoma City	79.7
5	Atlanta	78.6
6	**St. Louis**	**77.0**
7	Cincinnati	76.4
8	Columbus	75.7
9	Cleveland	75.2
10	Milwaukee	74.7
11	Memphis	74.5
12	Denver	74.4
13	Nashville	72.8
14	Baltimore	72.6
15	Louisville	71.2
16	Indianapolis	71.0
17	Phoenix	70.9
17	Pittsburgh	70.9
19	Boston	70.4
20	Houston	67.3
21	Charlotte	66.4
22	Miami	64.4
23	Seattle	63.0
24	Detroit	62.8
25	Dallas	61.7
26	Chicago	61.0
27	Philadelphia	60.4
28	Salt Lake City	57.5
29	San Antonio	55.2
30	Los Angeles	52.9
31	Austin	49.8
32	San Diego	47.0
33	New York	42.3
34	Portland	40.4
35	**San Francisco**	**26.4**

Percent of homes affordable for median income, 1996

HOUSING AFFORDABILITY

1	**Kansas City**	**14.9**
2	Salt Lake City	15.2
3	Cincinnati	15.8
4	Louisville	16.1
5	Columbus	16.2
6	Charlotte	16.4
7	Oklahoma City	16.8
8	Indianapolis	17.0
9	**St. Louis**	**18.0**
10	Cleveland	18.3
11	Pittsburgh	18.5
12	Minneapolis	18.5
13	Portland	18.6
14	Houston	18.8
15	Nashville	18.8
16	San Antonio	19.4
17	Detroit	19.9
18	Baltimore	20.0
19	Atlanta	20.2
20	Seattle	20.2
21	Dallas	20.2
22	Philadelphia	21.0
23	Milwaukee	21.3
24	Memphis	21.6
25	Denver	22.3
26	Phoenix	22.3
27	Washington DC	22.6
28	Chicago	23.4
29	Austin	24.8
30	Boston	25.0
31	New York	28.7
32	Miami	29.7
33	Los Angeles	30.8
34	San Francisco	31.1
35	**San Diego**	**31.9**

Percent of households paying over 35% of income for housing, 1990-1994

HOUSES WITH PHYSICAL PROBLEMS

1	**Denver**	**2.6**
2	Minneapolis	2.9
3	Boston	3.1
4	Salt Lake City	3.4
5	San Deigo	3.5
6	**St. Louis**	**3.5**
7	Seattle	3.6
8	Milwaukee	3.6
9	Portland	3.8
10	Phoenix	4.1
11	Indianapolis	4.2
12	Kansas City	4.2
13	Cleveland	4.2
14	Columbus	4.3
15	Cincinnati	4.4
16	Washington DC	4.5
17	Baltimore	4.7
18	Detroit	4.7
19	Pittsburgh	4.8
20	Chicago	4.9
21	Atlanta	5.0
22	Oklahoma City	5.7
23	Miami	6.3
24	Philadelphia	6.6
25	San Francisco	6.7
26	Los Angeles	6.9
27	Dallas	7.9
28	Memphis	8.1
29	New York	10.2
30	Houston	11.9
31	**San Antonio**	**20.5**

Percent of occupied housing units with physical problems, 1990-1994

MOBILITY INDEX

1	**Salt Lake City**	**52.0**
2	San Antonio	44.8
3	Portland	41.3
4	San Francisco	41.2
5	Austin	39.2
6	Seattle	37.3
7	Denver	36.5
8	Dallas	33.7
9	Houston	32.5
10	Los Angeles	32.2
11	Atlanta	30.8
12	Washington DC	29.8
13	Chicago	26.6
14	New York	24.0
15	Minneapolis	22.8
16	Milwaukee	21.5
17	San Diego	21.0
18	Boston	20.1
19	Philadelphia	19.1
20	Columbus	18.7
21	Cleveland	18.4
22	Baltimore	17.8
23	Louisville	17.4
24	**St. Louis**	**16.4**
25	Phoenix	15.9
26	Kansas City	15.5
27	Pittsburgh	14.6
28	Miami	14.4
29	Cincinnati	14.2
30	Detroit	12.6
31	Indianapolis	11.5
32	Oklahoma City	11.1
33	Memphis	11.0
34	Nashville	10.9
35	**Charlotte**	**10.0**

Transit hours of travel per households with no vehicle, 1994

BETTER

AVERAGE

WORSE

Poverty Rates: The poverty rate in 1989 is based on a threshold of $6,310 for individuals and $12, 674 for a family of four. 1990 Census of Population and Housing: Summary Tape File 3, U.S. Bureau of the Census.

Birth Statistics: Data on births to unwed mothers and teenage mothers are based on the percent of live births. Vital Statistics of the United States, 1992: vol 1, Natality, National Center for Health Statistics, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Health Insurance Coverage: Metropolitan area estimates of the percent of persons currently covered by some type of health plan. Current Population Survey, 1996, March Supplement, U.S. Bureau of the Census.

Primary Care Physicians: Primary Care Physicians include family practitioners, general practitioners, internal medicine physicians, obstetricians, gynecologists and pediatricians. Includes only those physicians not employed by the federal government. Physician Characteristics and Distribution Within the U.S., American Medical Association, 1996.

Death Rates: Infant mortality is based on the number of deaths among infants less than one year old per 1,000 live births. Adult death rate for persons under 65 is based on deaths for all causes per 100,000 population. Accident deaths include both deaths related to motor vehicle accidents and other accidents or adverse effects. Vital Statistics of the United States: Mortality, 1991, National Center for Health Statistics, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Home Prices: Based on the median sales price of existing one-family homes in 1994. Statistical Abstract of the United States, 1995, U.S. Bureau of the Census.

Housing Opportunity: This index estimates the percent of a region's housing stock that a household with the median regional income could afford to buy. Housing Economics, National Association of Home Builders, first quarter 1996. (copyright). (Charlotte's figure was last quarter 1995).

Housing Affordability: The percent of all households which pay over 35 percent of their income (the upper acceptable limit) on housing. American Housing Survey for metropolitan areas, 1990-1994, U.S. Bureau of the Census and U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Houses with Physical Problems: Percent of all occupied housing units with moderate or severe physical problems. American Housing Survey for metropolitan areas, 1990-1994, U.S. Bureau of the Census and U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Mobility Index: Transit hours are revenue, or in-service, hours of vehicle travel. Transit Profiles for Agencies in Urbanized Areas Exceeding 200,000 Population, Federal Transit Administration. Households with no vehicle: American Housing Survey for metropolitan areas, 1990-1994, U.S. Bureau of the Census and U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Educational Vitality

RUSS SMITH

Providing the conditions necessary for excellence in educational achievement is one of the most important challenges facing a metropolitan region. A high school diploma has long been regarded as a basic essential to success in the workplace, equipping people with the skills necessary to find a job, undertake post-secondary education, and attain financial security. In 1995, 82 percent of the region's adult population had completed high school or obtained qualifications equivalent to high school completion. While this represents an improvement over the 76 percent in 1990, the 1995 figure only ranks the region 22nd.

As high school completion rates have risen, the proportion of adults with less than 9th grade education has declined from 10.4 percent in 1990 to 7.6 percent in 1995. This again places St. Louis in the middle third of the distribution, with a rank of 23rd. The region's ranking does improve, however, relative to the high school dropout rate. In 1990, the region's dropout rate for persons between 16 and 19 years of age was 11.3 percent. This was slightly better than the average for all 35 metropolitan areas and ranked St. Louis 17th.

The capacity of students to succeed in post-secondary schooling is of greater concern today than in previous decades. Sweeping economic and technological changes mean that fewer jobs are to be found in the manufacturing and construction industries, and that competition for good paying jobs in the information sector and other high tech service industries is on the rise. In this context, a greater emphasis on the completion of postsecondary qualifications is warranted. In 1995, some 25 percent of the region's adults had obtained a bachelor's degree, compared to only 21 percent in 1990. While this rate is sufficient only for a 20th rank, it is an improvement over the region's 23rd ranking in the previous *Where We Stand*.

The completion of graduate and professional studies, which produces highly skilled and specialized graduates, also tells us something about a region's capacity to respond to a changing economic environment. On the percent of adults having completed master's, professional or doctorate degrees, St. Louis ranks 31st, above only Los Angeles, Cleveland, San Antonio and Charlotte. Thus while the state of the region's educational vitality continues to improve, St. Louis struggles to improve its standing among other metropolitan areas and to attract the caliber of workers it will need going into the twenty-first century.

Educational Vitality *Educational Attainment*

(Tables are ranked from better to worse values)

WHERE WE STAND

EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT: HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES

1	**Seattle**	**94.6**
2	Denver	93.2
3	Salt Lake City	91.3
4	Columbus	90.0
5	Boston	89.4
6	Minneapolis	89.3
7	San Francisco	88.6
8	Memphis	88.5
9	Washington DC	88.0
10	Portland	87.3
11	Oklahoma City	86.9
11	Kansas City	86.9
13	Milwaukee	86.6
14	Atlanta	86.5
15	Louisville	83.3
16	Phoenix	82.9
17	Austin	82.8
18	Cleveland	82.7
19	Pittsburgh	82.6
20	Dallas	82.4
21	Philadelphia	82.3
22	**St. Louis**	**82.2**
23	Detroit	82.2
24	Chicago	81.9
25	Cincinnati	81.6
26	San Diego	81.5
27	Nashville	79.6
28	Houston	79.3
29	Baltimore	78.7
30	New York	78.5
31	Charlotte	77.4
32	Indianapolis	77.3
33	Los Angeles	73.0
34	San Antonio	71.0
35	**Miami**	**69.2**

Percent of persons 25 and older with high school degree or higher, 1995

EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT: COLLEGE GRADUATES

1	**Washington DC**	**39.7**
2	San Francisco	37.0
3	Seattle	36.4
3	Austin	36.4
5	Denver	34.4
6	Boston	33.7
7	Minneapolis	32.9
8	Atlanta	32.7
9	Kansas City	31.6
10	Dallas	30.8
11	Portland	30.0
12	Houston	29.1
13	Chicago	29.0
14	Milwaukee	28.2
15	Columbus	27.1
16	Philadelphia	26.9
17	New York	26.8
18	Cincinnati	26.0
19	Memphis	25.7
20	**St. Louis**	**25.0**
21	San Diego	25.0
22	Oklahoma City	24.7
23	Salt Lake City	24.6
24	Indianapolis	24.3
25	Baltimore	23.0
26	Cleveland	22.8
27	Louisville	22.4
28	Charlotte	22.1
29	Los Angeles	22.0
30	Pittsburgh	21.3
31	Nashville	20.7
32	Phoenix	20.5
33	Detroit	20.4
34	Miami	19.4
35	**San Antonio**	**16.7**

Percent of persons 25 and older with college degree or higher, 1995

EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT: HIGHER EDUCATION GRADUATES

1	**Washington DC**	**15.5**
2	San Francisco	14.8
3	Seattle	11.9
4	Boston	11.5
5	Denver	11.3
6	New York	10.8
7	Atlanta	10.6
8	Philadelphia	10.6
9	Austin	10.1
10	Chicago	9.9
11	Minneapolis	9.5
12	Indianapolis	9.3
13	Cincinnati	9.1
14	Louisville	9.1
15	Memphis	9.0
16	Columbus	8.8
17	Portland	8.8
18	Baltimore	8.8
19	Milwaukee	8.7
20	Houston	8.5
21	Salt Lake City	8.5
22	Kansas City	8.5
23	Nashville	8.2
24	Oklahoma City	8.1
25	Pittsburgh	8.1
26	Dallas	8.0
27	San Diego	7.9
28	Miami	7.5
29	Phoenix	7.0
30	Detroit	6.5
31	**St. Louis**	**6.4**
32	Los Angeles	6.4
33	Cleveland	6.4
34	San Antonio	5.7
35	**Charlotte**	**5.6**

Percent of persons 25 and older with master's, professional, or doctorate degrees, 1995

ADULT ILLITERACY

1	**Seattle**	**1.3**
2	Columbus	2.2
3	Salt Lake City	2.2
4	Minneapolis	3.1
5	Denver	3.3
6	Atlanta	3.9
7	Memphis	4.1
8	Cleveland	4.3
9	Boston	4.6
10	Kansas City	4.9
11	Milwaukee	5.0
12	Portland	5.2
13	Washington DC	5.2
14	Philadelphia	5.3
15	Louisville	5.7
16	Oklahoma City	5.9
17	Detroit	6.3
18	Charlotte	6.5
19	San Francisco	6.5
20	Cincinnati	6.9
21	Nashville	7.4
22	Phoenix	7.5
23	**St. Louis**	**7.6**
24	Pittsburgh	7.8
25	Indianapolis	7.9
26	Austin	8.1
27	Chicago	8.5
28	Dallas	8.7
29	San Diego	9.3
30	Baltimore	9.3
31	New York	10.4
32	Houston	10.5
33	Los Angeles	16.7
34	San Antonio	16.9
35	**Miami**	**18.9**

Percent of persons 25 and older with less than 9th grade education, 1995

HIGH SCHOOL DROPOUTS

1	**Pittsburgh**	**6.9**
2	Minneapolis	7.1
3	Boston	8.3
4	Milwaukee	9.0
5	Seattle	9.0
6	San Francisco	9.1
7	Washington DC	9.1
8	Cleveland	9.8
9	Philadelphia	10.0
10	Cincinnati	10.3
11	Austin	10.3
12	Columbus	10.4
13	Salt Lake City	10.7
14	Kansas City	10.9
15	Louisville	10.9
16	Denver	10.9
17	**St. Louis**	**11.3**
18	Oklahoma City	11.6
19	San Antonio	11.6
20	Portland	11.6
21	Chicago	11.7
22	Detroit	11.8
23	San Diego	12.0
24	Memphis	12.0
25	New York	12.5
26	Nashville	12.6
27	Atlanta	13.1
28	Baltimore	13.2
29	Miami	13.2
30	Charlotte	14.0
31	Indianapolis	14.1
32	Houston	14.2
33	Dallas	15.1
34	Phoenix	15.3
35	**Los Angeles**	**17.3**

Percent of persons 16-19 who are high school dropouts, 1990

BETTER

AVERAGE

WORSE

In 1995, over 14 percent of adults 18-44 years of age in the St. Louis region were enrolled in some form of post-secondary education. This ranks St. Louis 11th among the 35 metropolitan areas, up from 17th in 1990. This enrollment rate is comparable to that of Detroit, Louisville and Chicago, and almost double the rate of Charlotte and Memphis. St. Louis ranks highly on child enrollments as well, with 67.5 percent of all children aged 3-5 enrolled in some form of full or part-time preprimary schooling, placing the region well in the top third of all the metropolitan areas.

In 1993, the region's 392,000 elementary and secondary school students were taught by almost 23,000 teachers. This means there were 17.3 teachers for every student in the region, giving St. Louis the 10th best student to teacher ratio. St. Louis ranks below average, however, on overall spending per pupil. Its $5,530 per pupil expenditure ranks 19th. Though its spending is far below the more than $7,000 per pupil spent in Columbus, San Francisco and Philadelphia, it is considerably above the $3,150 spent in Salt Lake City.

Relative to the region's capacity to pay for education, St. Louis's educational spending as a percent of total personal income in 1992 was below four percent. This ranks the region 24th. The region's percent of income spent on education increased by less than one percent between 1987 and 1992.

This overview presents a mixed picture of the quality of education in the St. Louis region. We appear capable of sustaining and improving enrollments for both adults and children over time, as the social value of education increases and the demands of the workplace require a higher set of skills. However, higher demand for education places a greater burden on existing resources.

Educational Vitality *Enrollments and Expenditures*

WHERE WE STAND

(Tables are ranked from more to less values)

EDUCATIONAL ENROLLMENT: ADULTS

1	**San Antonio**	**18.1**
2	Oklahoma City	18.0
3	Austin	17.7
4	Minneapolis	17.7
5	Salt Lake City	15.5
6	Pittsburgh	15.4
7	New York	15.1
8	Boston	14.9
9	Phoenix	14.6
10	Detroit	14.5
11	**St. Louis**	**14.2**
12	Louisville	14.0
13	Chicago	14.0
14	Dallas	13.9
15	Philadelphia	13.8
16	Kansas City	13.7
17	Washington DC	13.5
18	San Diego	13.1
19	Columbus	12.7
20	Indianapolis	12.6
21	Miami	12.4
22	Milwaukee	12.3
23	Atlanta	12.1
24	Nashville	11.8
25	Cleveland	11.8
26	Portland	11.8
27	Baltimore	11.4
28	San Francisco	11.0
29	Houston	10.5
29	Denver	10.5
31	Los Angeles	10.4
32	Cincinnati	10.3
33	Seattle	8.3
34	Charlotte	7.6
35	**Memphis**	**7.6**

Percent of persons 18-44 enrolled in post-secondary education, 1995

EDUCATIONAL ENROLLMENT: PRE-PRIMARY

1	**Baltimore**	**82.9**
2	Cincinnati	77.9
3	Detroit	76.5
4	San Antonio	74.1
5	Portland	73.4
6	Kansas City	71.8
7	Washington DC	71.1
8	Milwaukee	67.7
9	**St. Louis**	**67.5**
10	Dallas	65.6
11	Chicago	65.3
12	Pittsburgh	65.1
13	Charlotte	64.9
14	Phoenix	63.9
15	New York	63.6
16	Boston	63.1
17	Minneapolis	63.0
18	San Francisco	62.8
19	Denver	62.0
20	Philadelphia	60.6
21	Atlanta	60.2
22	Cleveland	60.0
23	San Diego	60.0
24	Oklahoma City	59.1
25	Houston	59.1
26	Salt Lake City	58.8
27	Columbus	58.5
28	Los Angeles	56.9
29	Seattle	55.3
30	Austin	54.1
31	Miami	48.6
32	Nashville	46.2
33	Louisville	45.4
34	Memphis	42.9
35	**Indianapolis**	**39.8**

Percent of children 3-5 enrolled in pre-primary education, 1995

PUPIL TO TEACHER RATIO

1	**Austin**	**15.26**
2	San Antonio	15.84
3	Kansas City	15.86
4	Atlanta	16.59
5	Oklahoma City	16.64
6	Dallas	16.72
7	Houston	16.86
8	Charlotte	16.87
9	Cincinnati	17.10
10	**St. Louis**	**17.29**
11	Milwaukee	17.39
12	Philadelphia	17.50
13	Baltimore	17.55
14	Cleveland	17.55
15	Louisville	17.56
16	Nashville	17.59
17	Phoenix	17.88
18	Chicago	18.19
19	Pittsburgh	18.21
20	Indianapolis	18.51
21	Minneapolis	18.53
22	Columbus	18.57
23	Denver	19.23
24	Memphis	19.35
25	Miami	20.20
26	Portland	20.39
27	Seattle	20.83
28	Detroit	21.63
29	San Francisco	22.32
30	Salt Lake City	24.46
31	San Diego	24.73
32	**Los Angeles**	**25.92**

Elementary and secondary school students per teacher, 1993

EDUCATION SPENDING PER PUPIL

1	**Columbus**	**7,831**
2	San Francisco	7,470
3	Philadelphia	7,110
4	Pittsburgh	6,972
5	Detroit	6,941
6	Miami	6,718
7	Milwaukee	6,717
8	Washington DC	6,616
9	Cleveland	6,597
10	Portland	6,450
11	Boston	6,279
12	Chicago	6,107
13	Kansas City	6,062
14	Seattle	5,965
15	Minneapolis	5,947
16	Los Angeles	5,930
17	Baltimore	5,577
18	San Diego	5,562
19	**St. Louis**	**5,530**
20	Indianapolis	5,432
21	Cincinnati	5,383
22	Phoenix	5,377
23	Atlanta	5,215
24	Charlotte	5,184
25	Denver	5,095
26	Austin	4,932
27	Houston	4,790
28	San Antonio	4,709
29	Dallas	4,582
30	Louisville	4,260
31	Oklahoma City	3,954
32	Nashville	3,786
33	Memphis	3,629
34	**Salt Lake City**	**3,150**

Educational expenditures per pupil ($), 1992

EDUCATION SPENDING AS A PERCENT OF TOTAL INCOME

1	**Miami**	**6.17**
2	San Antonio	5.39
3	Portland	5.27
4	Kansas City	4.98
5	Milwaukee	4.92
6	Detroit	4.90
7	Austin	4.82
8	Phoenix	4.78
9	Cleveland	4.65
10	Salt Lake City	4.65
11	Columbus	4.59
12	Minneapolis	4.44
13	Pittsburgh	4.40
14	Los Angeles	4.35
15	Houston	4.35
16	San Diego	4.33
17	Philadelphia	4.27
18	Charlotte	4.26
19	New York	4.18
20	Indianapolis	4.18
21	Cincinnati	4.00
22	Oklahoma City	3.98
23	Chicago	3.98
24	**St. Louis**	**3.96**
25	Denver	3.88
26	Baltimore	3.85
27	Washington DC	3.83
28	Atlanta	3.79
29	Dallas	3.75
30	Seattle	3.57
31	Boston	3.41
32	Memphis	3.37
33	Louisville	3.28
34	Nashville	2.86
35	**San Francisco**	**2.41**

Educational expenditures as a percent of total personal income, 1992

MORE

AVERAGE

LESS

High School, College and Higher Education Graduates: These percentages are based on persons 25 and over. Current Population Survey, 1995, March Supplement, obtained through the National Center for Education Statistics, U.S. Department of Education.

Adult Illiteracy: Percent of persons 25 years and over with less than ninth grade education. Current Population Survey, 1995, March Supplement, obtained through the National Center for Education Statistics, U.S. Department of Education.

High School Dropouts: High school dropouts in this sense refer to the percent of youth aged 16-19 who are not currently in school and who have not completed high school. 1990 Census of Population and Housing: Summary Tape File 3, U.S. Bureau of the Census.

Adult and Pre-primary Enrollments: Current Population Survey, 1995, March Supplement, obtained through the National Center for Education Statistics, U.S. Department of Education.

Pupil to Teacher Ratio: The number of students divided by the number of teachers, in public elementary and secondary schools. Directory of Public Elementary and Secondary Education Agencies, 1993-94, National Center for Education Statistics, U.S. Department of Education.

Educational Spending per Pupil: Enrollment: Directory of Public Elementary and Secondary Education Agencies, 1993-94, National Center for Education Statistics, U.S. Department of Education. Expenditures: 1992 Census of Governments: Government Finances, vol. 4, Compendium of Government Finances, no. 5, U.S. Bureau of the Census.

Education Spending as a Percent of Total Income: Expenditures: 1992 Census of Governments: Government Finances, vol. 4, Compendium of Government Finances, no. 5, U.S. Bureau of the Census. Income in this sense refers to total personal income: Regional Economic Information System: 1969-1994, Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Department of Commerce.

Crime and Social Disorder

ST. LOUIS COUNTY POLICE

The level of crime and social disturbance a community experiences is strongly connected to quality of life, and in some ways a low crime rate is as important for an area as having good schools and well paying jobs.

In 1995, approximately 149,000 crimes were reported in the St. Louis region, or 5,922 crimes for every 100,000 people. This crime rate ranks St. Louis 12th, worse than San Francisco, New York and Houston, but better than the average for the 35 metropolitan regions. In comparison, the FBI reports that the national crime rate was 5,278 crimes per 100,000 people in 1995. Only four of the 35 metropolitan regions had crime rates lower than the national average.

Crime has been steadily declining over the past five years, with the FBI reporting a national crime rate 10.5 percent lower in 1995 than in 1991. In many urban regions, however, the decline has not been nearly as dramatic. In the St. Louis area, the total crime rate declined 6.5 percent over that time period, or an average of 1.5 percent each year. Although this level of decline is sufficient for only a 15th ranking out of 25 metropolitan regions, it is a significant improvement over the average annual 4.4 percent *increase* that the St. Louis region experienced between 1988 and 1991. Although the crime rate in the St. Louis metropolitan region is declining, the rate of decline is not as fast as in several other metropolitan areas across the country.

What continues to set St. Louis apart is the level of disparity between certain portions of the region with respect to crime. In 1995, St. Louis City had a crime rate almost four times greater than that of surrounding suburban areas. This ranks St. Louis City 28th — or last — in terms of central city/suburban crime rate disparities. This ratio hides several important factors. First, criminal activity in St. Louis is not focused on the downtown business district, but is instead concentrated in regions of the City to the north and south of downtown. Second, the City crime rate showed an average increase of less than one percent per year between 1991 and 1995. Although this is sufficient for only a 21st rank (with 19 central cities showing an actual decline in their crime rate), it represents an improvement over the City's average annual increase of 6.3 percent between 1988 and 1991.

(Tables are ranked from better to worse values)

MSA CRIME RATE

1	**Boston**	**4,325**
2	Cincinnati	4,429
3	Louisville	4,973
4	San Diego	5,031
5	Minneapolis	5,287
6	Milwaukee	5,420
7	Washington DC	5,590
8	Denver	5,591
9	Houston	5,634
10	New York	5,670
11	San Francisco	5,834
12	**St. Louis**	**5,922**
13	Austin	6,051
14	Los Angeles	6,142
15	Detroit	6,143
16	Columbus	6,165
17	Dallas	6,571
18	San Antonio	6,697
19	Charlotte	6,703
20	Portland	6,738
21	Salt Lake City	7,200
22	Atlanta	7,225
23	Nashville	7,262
24	Baltimore	7,449
25	Oklahoma City	7,906
26	Memphis	8,159
27	Phoenix	8,809
28	**Miami**	**12,319**

Total MSA crimes per 100,000 population, 1995

5 YEAR MSA CRIME TREND

1	**San Antonio**	**-10.53**
2	Dallas	-9.90
3	Austin	-8.57
4	New York	-7.97
5	San Diego	-7.26
6	Cincinnati	-5.94
7	Boston	-5.54
8	Los Angeles	-5.23
9	Charlotte	-4.42
10	Denver	-4.05
11	San Francisco	-3.59
12	Atlanta	-3.45
13	Columbus	-2.63
14	Milwaukee	-2.51
15	**St. Louis**	**-1.51**
16	Washington DC	-1.28
17	Miami	-0.76
18	Oklahoma City	-0.37
19	Portland	-0.06
20	Baltimore	0.63
21	Memphis	1.33
22	Salt Lake City	1.94
23	Phoenix	2.07
24	Louisville	2.64
25	**Nashville**	**3.24**

Average annual percent change in total MSA crime rate, 1991-1995

CENTRAL CITY TO SUBURBAN CRIME RATIO

1	**San Diego**	**1.2**
2	Denver	1.3
3	Miami	1.4
4	Los Angeles	1.5
5	Phoenix	1.5
6	Louisville	1.7
7	New York	1.8
8	Dallas	1.9
9	Houston	1.9
10	Salt Lake City	2.0
11	San Antonio	2.0
12	San Francisco	2.1
13	Charlotte	2.1
14	Cincinnati	2.1
15	Memphis	2.2
16	Austin	2.2
17	Oklahoma City	2.4
18	Columbus	2.5
19	Portland	2.5
20	Washington DC	2.6
21	Baltimore	2.6
22	Nashville	2.6
23	Minneapolis	2.7
24	Milwaukee	2.7
25	Detroit	2.7
26	Boston	2.8
27	Atlanta	2.9
28	**St. Louis**	**3.9**

Ratio of central city to suburban crime rate, 1995

5 YEAR CENTRAL CITY CRIME TREND

1	**Dallas**	**-10.74**
2	San Antonio	-10.18
3	San Diego	-10.15
4	New York	-9.83
5	Austin	-7.39
6	Pittsburgh	-6.93
7	Charlotte	-6.44
8	Cincinnati	-6.31
9	Los Angeles	-5.67
10	Miami	-3.79
11	Seattle	-3.76
12	Cleveland	-3.22
13	Boston	-3.16
14	San Francisco	-3.04
15	Kansas City	-2.71
16	Atlanta	-2.42
17	Denver	-2.29
18	Columbus	-2.25
19	Milwaukee	-1.56
20	Salt Lake City	0.26
21	**St. Louis**	**0.35**
22	Minneapolis	0.60
23	Memphis	0.89
24	Philadelphia	1.18
25	Oklahoma City	1.26
26	Portland	1.93
27	Phoenix	2.45
28	Louisville	2.92
29	Washington DC	3.29
30	Baltimore	4.06
31	**Nashville**	**5.73**

Average annual percent change in total central city crime rate, 1991-1995

BETTER

AVERAGE

WORSE

While crime continues to be of major concern to both citizens and local leaders, total crime rates can be misleading. The FBI distinguishes between violent crimes against people (murder, forcible rape, robbery and aggravated assault) and crimes against property (burglary, larceny-theft and motor vehicle theft). For every violent crime nationwide, there are more than six property crimes. Since these crimes are different in nature and have different quality of life implications, it is appropriate to examine them separately.

More than 126,000 property crimes were reported in the St. Louis region during 1995 — just over 5,000 crimes for every 100,000 people. This ranks St. Louis 12th, behind Milwaukee and San Francisco. That rate represents a six percent decrease over the property crime rate of 1991. There were also more than 22,000 violent crimes reported in the St. Louis region in 1995, or 886 for every 100,000 people. Although this represents a 5.4 percent decrease in violent crime since 1991, this rate still ranks St. Louis 21st. Thus the decline in violent crime in the region over the past five years has not been as rapid as the drop in property crime.

Murders are one of several types of violent crime. However they are very significant indicators of criminal activity. The murder rate in the St. Louis region was about average for the 35 metropolitan regions in 1995, at 12.4 murders for every 100,000 people. This ranks St. Louis 20th. Although the region has shown notable improvement in the murder rate over time (down from 16.5 in 1991), its ranking relative to other regions has not improved.

Although suicide rates are not strictly indicators of crime, they bear some relation to the level of social cohesion and integration within a society. As such, they are indicators more of social disorder than of crime. Suicide rates in St. Louis were slightly better than the average for all the regions, at 12.1 suicides per 100,000 people. This ranks the region 18th. Although this represents an improvement over the rate in 1988, it is still twice that of such regions as Boston and Washington DC.

(Tables are ranked from better to worse values)

MSA PROPERTY CRIME RATE

1	**Boston**	**3,680**
2	Cincinnati	3,962
3	San Diego	4,236
4	Louisville	4,245
5	New York	4,277
6	Los Angeles	4,719
7	Houston	4,778
8	Minneapolis	4,797
9	Washington DC	4,874
10	Milwaukee	4,887
11	San Francisco	4,949
12	**St. Louis**	**5,036**
13	Denver	5,078
14	Detroit	5,263
15	Austin	5,472
16	Columbus	5,493
17	Charlotte	5,665
18	Dallas	5,752
19	Portland	6,011
20	Baltimore	6,114
21	Nashville	6,174
22	San Antonio	6,213
23	Atlanta	6,417
24	Salt Lake City	6,789
25	Memphis	6,907
26	Oklahoma City	7,097
27	Phoenix	8,044
28	**Miami**	**10,433**

Property crimes per 100,000 population, 1995

MSA VIOLENT CRIME RATE

1	**Salt Lake City**	**411**
2	Cincinnati	467
3	San Antonio	484
4	Minneapolis	490
5	Denver	513
6	Milwaukee	533
7	Austin	580
8	Boston	645
9	Columbus	671
10	Washington DC	716
11	Portland	727
12	Louisville	728
13	Phoenix	765
14	San Diego	795
15	Atlanta	808
16	Oklahoma City	809
17	Dallas	819
18	Houston	856
19	Detroit	881
20	San Francisco	884
21	**St. Louis**	**886**
22	Charlotte	1,039
23	Nashville	1,088
24	Memphis	1,253
25	Baltimore	1,336
26	New York	1,393
27	Los Angeles	1,423
28	**Miami**	**1,886**

Violent crimes per 100,000 population, 1995

MSA MURDER RATE

1	**Portland**	**3.7**
2	Boston	4.0
3	Salt Lake City	4.1
4	Cincinnati	4.3
5	Austin	5.6
6	Minneapolis	5.7
7	Columbus	6.5
8	Louisville	6.7
9	Denver	6.9
10	San Diego	7.5
11	San Francisco	8.5
12	Milwaukee	10.0
13	Atlanta	10.5
14	San Antonio	10.9
15	Charlotte	11.5
16	Phoenix	11.9
17	Dallas	11.9
18	Nashville	12.0
19	Houston	12.0
20	**St. Louis**	**12.4**
21	Detroit	13.0
22	Washington DC	13.4
23	New York	14.2
24	Miami	15.1
25	Baltimore	15.8
26	Los Angeles	18.3
27	Memphis	20.0
28	**Oklahoma City**	**24.2**

Murders per 100,000 population, 1995

MSA SUICIDE RATE

1	**Boston**	**5.4**
2	Washington DC	6.6
3	Chicago	7.6
4	New York	8.6
5	Baltimore	9.7
6	Philadelphia	9.7
7	Columbus	9.9
8	Cleveland	10.2
9	Pittsburgh	10.8
10	Los Angeles	10.9
11	Austin	11.0
12	Milwaukee	11.1
13	Charlotte	11.2
14	Minneapolis	11.4
15	Memphis	11.5
16	Portland	11.5
17	Detroit	12.0
18	**St. Louis**	**12.1**
19	Houston	12.2
20	Cincinnati	12.6
21	Seattle	12.7
22	Atlanta	12.9
23	Dallas	13.5
24	Louisville	13.7
25	San Diego	13.7
26	Oklahoma City	13.9
27	Indianapolis	13.9
28	San Antonio	14.1
29	Kansas City	15.0
30	Phoenix	15.1
31	San Francisco	15.4
32	Miami	15.7
33	Nashville	15.8
34	Denver	16.9
35	**Salt Lake City**	**17.1**

Suicide deaths per 100,000 population, 1991

BETTER

AVERAGE

WORSE

Sources and Notes

Crime Rates: Crime rates are based on the number of crimes per 100,000 population. The central city to suburban crime ratio is the product of the central city's total crime rate divided by the crime rate in the balance of the metropolitan region. Crime data were obtained from Crime in the United States (Annual), Federal Bureau of Investigation, U.S. Department of Justice. This publication contained crime data for the St. Louis metropolitan region for 1991 and 1992 only. Metropolitan crime data for St. Louis for 1993 through 1995 was obtained from: "Crime by County", unpublished tables from the Federal Bureau of Investigation (for the Missouri portion) and Crime in Illinois (Annual), Illinois State Police (for the Illinois portion).

Suicide Rate: Based on the number of suicides per 100,000 population. Vital Statistics of the United States, 1991: vol 2, Mortality, National Center for Health Statistics, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Urban Form and Quality of Life

Dramatic changes have taken place in the urban environment over the past few decades, not just in St. Louis but across the country. Changes in population density, land use, and in the natural environment affect everything from lifestyle patterns to the nature of business growth — although the outcomes are often difficult to measure. The indexes in this section (made up of combinations of related indicators) attempt to measure changes to the structure of urban environments, and thus indirectly assess their impact on quality of life.

The urban sprawl index measures the extent to which population and business growth has expanded beyond the primary urban core over time. This has meant more business growth and a suburban lifestyle for many, but it also signifies higher infrastructure and transportation costs, loss of green space, and the dispersion of social and economic opportunities away from those at the center of the region. St. Louis ranks 31st among the 35 metropolitan regions in the urban sprawl index.

The quality of the natural environment is something that affects all residents of the region. St. Louis's performance is poor in the environmental index, ranking 30th. Our low ranking is in large measure a function of problems related to air quality and toxic chemical sites. On 13 days during 1994, air quality reached levels considered unhealthy.

St. Louis ranks 15th in the housing quality index, together with Boston. This rank is largely due to comparatively few physical problems in the region's housing stock. St. Louis also falls in the middle third of the distribution on the infrastructure index, at 21st. This low ranking is largely influenced by relatively few public transit revenue hours per capita, and lower-than-average government investment in capital outlays.

Urban Form and Quality of Life *Urban Form*

(Tables are ranked from better to worse values)

URBAN SPRAWL INDEX

1	**Philadelphia**	**2.40**
1	New York	2.40
3	San Francisco	3.20
3	Cleveland	3.20
3	Salt Lake City	3.20
3	Pittsburgh	3.20
7	Kansas City	3.60
7	Boston	3.60
9	Charlotte	3.80
10	Detroit	4.00
10	Atlanta	4.00
12	Denver	4.40
13	Oklahoma City	4.60
13	Minneapolis	4.60
13	San Diego	4.60
13	Portland	4.60
17	Baltimore	4.80
17	Chicago	4.80
19	Washington DC	5.00
20	Columbus	5.20
20	Phoenix	5.20
20	Miami	5.20
23	Dallas	5.40
23	Cincinnati	5.40
23	Memphis	5.40
23	Milwaukee	5.40
27	Nashville	5.60
27	San Antonio	5.60
29	Louisville	5.80
29	Seattle	5.80
31	**St. Louis**	**6.00**
32	Los Angeles	6.40
32	Houston	6.40
34	Indianapolis	6.60
35	**Austin**	**8.00**

ENVIRONMENTAL INDEX

1	**San Antonio**	**2.75**
2	Austin	4.25
3	Columbus	7.50
4	Atlanta	8.00
5	Kansas City	8.25
6	Charlotte	10.50
7	Boston	11.00
8	Indianapolis	11.75
9	Dallas	12.25
10	Portland	12.75
11	Oklahoma City	13.50
12	Denver	14.00
13	Miami	14.25
13	Memphis	14.25
13	Cleveland	14.25
13	Cincinnati	14.25
17	San Diego	15.75
17	Minneapolis	15.75
19	San Francisco	16.00
20	Nashville	16.50
21	Louisville	17.50
21	Pittsburgh	17.50
23	Salt Lake City	17.75
24	Washington DC	18.00
24	Detroit	18.00
26	Seattle	19.25
27	Baltimore	20.25
28	Phoenix	21.50
29	Milwaukee	21.75
30	**St. Louis**	**24.75**
31	New York	25.00
32	Los Angeles	27.50
33	Chicago	29.75
34	Houston	31.00
35	**Philadelphia**	**32.50**

HOUSING QUALITY INDEX

1	**Denver**	**2.33**
1	Atlanta	2.33
3	Charlotte	2.50
3	Nashville	2.50
3	Phoenix	2.50
6	Salt Lake City	2.67
6	Dallas	2.67
8	Oklahoma City	2.83
8	Kansas City	2.83
8	San Diego	2.83
11	Louisville	3.00
11	Minneapolis	3.00
11	Columbus	3.00
14	Washington DC	3.17
15	**St. Louis**	**3.33**
15	Boston	3.33
17	Memphis	3.50
17	Baltimore	3.50
17	Austin	3.50
20	Seattle	3.67
20	Detroit	3.67
20	Philadelphia	3.67
23	Cincinnati	3.83
23	Miami	3.83
23	Indianapolis	3.83
26	Cleveland	4.00
26	Milwaukee	4.00
28	Portland	4.17
28	Pittsburgh	4.17
30	Chicago	4.50
31	San Antonio	5.17
32	Houston	5.33
33	Los Angeles	6.00
34	San Francisco	7.17
35	**New York**	**7.67**

INFRASTRUCTURE INDEX

1	**New York**	**3.14**
2	Denver	4.14
3	San Francisco	4.71
3	Austin	4.71
5	Salt Lake City	5.00
5	Kansas City	5.00
7	Dallas	5.14
7	Miami	5.14
7	Phoenix	5.14
7	San Antonio	5.14
11	Houston	5.43
12	Seattle	5.57
12	Minneapolis	5.57
12	Milwaukee	5.57
12	Washington DC	5.57
12	Chicago	5.57
17	Philadelphia	5.86
17	Pittsburgh	5.86
17	Los Angeles	5.86
17	Memphis	5.86
21	**St. Louis**	**6.14**
22	Portland	6.29
22	San Diego	6.29
24	Cleveland	6.57
24	Cincinnati	6.57
24	Louisville	6.57
27	Baltimore	6.71
27	Nashville	6.71
27	Detroit	6.71
30	Columbus	6.86
30	Oklahoma City	6.86
32	Atlanta	7.00
33	Boston	7.43
34	Indianapolis	7.71
34	**Charlotte**	**7.71**

AVERAGE

BETTER

WORSE

Refer to Notes overleaf for composition of indicators.

Quality of life can be measured in many different ways. For instance, the level of civic participation, the possibilities for recreational and leisure pursuits, and access to a range of opportunities are critical indicators of the health and vitality of a metropolitan region. The following four indicators, like the previous four, are indexes.

In the "sense of community" index, St. Louis ranks 4th, together with Cleveland. This is in large part related to significant levels of owner occupied housing and high voter turnouts. Philanthropic giving, residential stability and municipal government representation also contribute.

The region ranks 25th on the culture and recreation index. San Francisco, Seattle and Minneapolis head the list. In line with other public expenditures, local spending on natural resources and recreation in St. Louis is lower than in many other regions, however, this ranking also incorporates fine arts and recreational opportunities. This ranking is a reflection of the *number* of different cultural and recreational opportunities relative to population size; it does not measure the *quality* of those opportunities.

The final two indexes are related. On the racial disparity index (which compares the region's black population to the region's white population on a number of indicators of well-being), St. Louis ranks fourth from last, above Detroit, Memphis and Milwaukee. In the economic disparity index (between central city and suburban residents), St. Louis ranks a little higher at 27th, slightly better than Atlanta, Philadelphia and Cincinnati.

These two indexes are linked because of the concentration of blacks in the central city (42 percent of all blacks live in the central city, compared to nine percent of all whites). Compared to whites, blacks experience infant mortality rates three times as high, births to unmarried mothers four times as high, and unemployment rates four times as high. Moreover, St. Louis has the 10th highest degree of racial isolation among the 35 metropolitan regions. With respect to economic disparity, the St. Louis ranking is largely influenced by the differences in both income and housing affordability between the central city and suburbs. These two indexes, together with the urban sprawl index, suggest a declining investment in the inner urban core of the region and the residents who live there.

Urban Form and Quality of Life *Quality of Life*

WHERE WE STAND

(Tables are ranked from better to worse values)

SENSE OF COMMUNITY INDEX

1	**Minneapolis**	**2.40**
2	Louisville	2.50
3	Pittsburgh	2.60
4	Cleveland	3.40
4	**St. Louis**	**3.40**
6	Cincinnati	3.60
6	Kansas City	3.60
8	Milwaukee	3.80
9	Columbus	4.20
9	Seattle	4.20
11	Indianapolis	4.60
12	Salt Lake City	5.00
12	Detroit	5.00
14	Chicago	5.40
14	Atlanta	5.40
14	Oklahoma City	5.40
14	Charlotte	5.40
14	Philadelphia	5.40
19	Portland	5.60
20	Memphis	5.80
20	Baltimore	5.80
22	Denver	6.00
22	Nashville	6.00
24	San Francisco	6.20
25	Dallas	6.40
25	Boston	6.40
27	Washington DC	6.60
27	Houston	6.60
29	New York	7.60
30	Miami	7.80
30	Austin	7.80
30	Phoenix	7.80
30	San Antonio	7.80
34	San Diego	8.00
35	**Los Angeles**	**8.60**

CULTURE AND RECREATION INDEX

1	**San Francisco**	**3.21**
2	Seattle	4.40
3	Minneapolis	5.12
4	Denver	5.23
5	Phoenix	5.29
6	Milwaukee	5.56
7	Chicago	5.56
8	Los Angeles	5.60
9	Washington DC	5.75
10	Portland	5.99
11	Miami	6.07
12	Charlotte	6.41
13	Cincinnati	6.42
14	Kansas City	6.42
15	San Diego	6.51
16	Columbus	6.62
17	Oklahoma City	6.90
18	Indianapolis	6.95
19	Cleveland	6.95
20	New York	7.06
21	Salt Lake City	7.12
22	Baltimore	7.20
23	Memphis	7.28
24	Austin	7.28
25	**St. Louis**	**7.48**
26	San Antonio	7.67
27	Philadelphia	7.76
28	Houston	7.84
29	Detroit	8.14
30	Nashville	8.20
31	Atlanta	8.31
32	Dallas	8.50
33	Boston	8.53
34	Louisville	8.56
35	**Pittsburgh**	**8.58**

RACIAL DISPARITY INDEX*

1	**Salt Lake City**	**3.00**
2	Phoenix	3.20
3	Los Angeles	3.27
4	Seattle	3.62
5	San Antonio	3.80
6	San Diego	4.07
7	Denver	4.13
8	Nashville	4.57
9	Columbus	4.73
10	Houston	4.87
10	Miami	4.87
12	Portland	4.93
13	Oklahoma City	5.13
13	New York	5.13
15	San Francisco	5.23
16	Boston	5.33
17	Cincinnati	5.40
17	Dallas	5.40
19	Austin	5.57
20	Pittsburgh	5.67
21	Louisville	5.70
22	Philadelphia	5.80
23	Kansas City	5.87
23	Washington DC	5.87
25	Charlotte	5.90
26	Cleveland	6.00
27	Chicago	6.07
28	Baltimore	6.13
29	Atlanta	6.20
29	Indianapolis	6.20
31	Minneapolis	6.73
32	**St. Louis**	**6.80**
33	Detroit	7.07
34	Memphis	7.47
35	**Milwaukee**	**7.67**

ECONOMIC DISPARITY INDEX*

1	**San Diego**	**2.20**
2	Charlotte	2.40
2	Oklahoma City	2.40
4	Nashville	2.80
5	Phoenix	3.00
5	Los Angeles	3.00
5	Austin	3.00
8	Seattle	3.20
9	Indianapolis	3.80
9	Kansas City	3.80
9	Portland	3.80
12	Dallas	4.00
13	Denver	4.20
13	San Francisco	4.20
13	San Antonio	4.20
16	Columbus	4.40
16	Pittsburgh	4.40
18	Salt Lake City	4.60
19	Houston	4.80
20	New York	5.00
21	Memphis	5.20
21	Boston	5.20
23	Louisville	5.40
24	Washington DC	5.60
24	Minneapolis	5.60
24	Miami	5.60
27	**St. Louis**	**6.00**
28	Atlanta	6.40
29	Philadelphia	6.60
29	Cincinnati	6.60
31	Chicago	7.60
32	Baltimore	8.60
33	Cleveland	8.80
34	Detroit	9.40
35	**Milwaukee**	**9.80**

BETTER

AVERAGE

WORSE

*** Black vs. white disparity**

*** Central City vs. suburban disparity**

Refer to Notes overleaf for composition of indicators.

Sources and Notes

The preceding indexes were formed using multiple variables. In compiling all but the Environmental Index, each variable within an index was assigned a decile score. To obtain the decile score, the range of values (highest to lowest) for each individual variable among the 35 metropolitan areas was divided into ten percent increments. The highest or best ten percent increment was given a value of one, the lowest or worst was given a value of ten. Each metropolitan region was then assigned a decile score of 1 to 10 for each variable, depending on the increment into which an area's value fell. The decile scores for all variables within an index were then summed for each region, and divided by the number of variables to obtain an index value. That index value was used for ranking the 35 regions from best to worst on each index.

The use of composite indexes such as these may be controversial. There may be questions concerning the way they were constructed, the selection of variables, the lack of weighting, or the sources of data. However, they remain useful indications of the region's standing, relative to other metropolitan areas.

Urban Sprawl Index: Based on five variables. **1-2.** Percent change in the distribution of population and employment outside the principal urban county, 1990-1994. Population figures from Time Series of State and County Population Estimates and Components of Population Change, Population Distribution and Population Estimates Branches, U.S. Bureau of the Census. Employment figures from County Business Patterns, U.S. Bureau of the Census. **3.** Ratio of jobs per person inside and outside of the principal urban county, 1994. County Business Patterns, U.S. Bureau of the Census. **4.** Vehicle miles of travel per square mile, 1994: Highway Statistics, 1994, Federal Highway Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation. **5.** Percent change in travel time to work, 1980- 1990: 1990 Census of Population and Housing: Summary Tape File 3, U.S. Bureau of the Census. The principal urban county is defined as the largest county in each metropolitan area that contains all or part of the central city. In cases where an independent central city is not part of a county (St. Louis and Baltimore), or a central city is not part of or does not constitute the largest county in an area (Washington DC), the population and employment of the central city is combined with that of the largest bordering county. Where applicable, CMSA data was used for items based on the principal urban county.

Environmental Index: Four variables were used. The first three are environmental quality variables from the "Green Metro Areas Index" that measures and ranks the environmental quality and performance of 74 metro areas: **Water quality violations:** the number of violations reported for the presence of contaminants in drinking water; **Toxic releases:** the amount of toxic chemicals reported released into the environment or transferred to other sites for treatment and disposal; **Superfund sites:** the number of identified sites contaminated by past releases of toxic chemicals. Source: The 1994 Information Please Environmental Almanac, compiled by World Resources Institute, Houghton Mifflin (1995) (copyright). The fourth variable is **acute air pollution:** the number of days the

pollutant standards index (PSI) reached levels considered unhealthy. Source: National Air Quality and Emissions Trends Report 1994, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The index score is the sum of a region's ranking (from 1 to 35) for all variables, divided by the number of variables.

Housing Quality Index: Based on six variables. **1-6.** Percent of housing units built prior to 1940; percent lacking complete plumbing facilities; percent lacking complete kitchen facilities; percent with 1.01 or more persons per room; percent with physical problems; percent with neighborhood problems. American Housing Survey for metropolitan areas, 1990-1994, U.S. Bureau of the Census and U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Infrastructure Index: Based on seven variables. **1-2.** Local government debt per capita and local government capital outlays per capita: 1992 Census of Governments: Government Finances, vol. 4, Compendium of Government Finances, no. 5, U.S. Bureau of the Census. **3-4.** Percent of housing units attached to public or private water systems and percent attached to public sewer systems: American Housing Survey for metropolitan areas, 1990-1994, U.S. Bureau of the Census and U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. **5-6.** Highway congestion index and miles of roadway per square mile: Data from Highway Statistics, 1994, Federal Highway Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation. Congestion index methodology from Roadway Congestion in Major Urban Areas, 1982-87, Texas Transportation Institute, October, 1989. **7.** Transit revenue hours of travel per capita. Transit Profiles for Agencies in Urbanized Areas Exceeding 200,000 Population, 1994, Federal Transit Administration.

Sense of Community Index: Based on five variables.**1.** Municipal governments per 100,000 persons: 1992 Census of Governments: Government Organization, vol. 1, No. 1, U.S. Bureau of the Census. **2.** Percent of eligible population voting in the 1992 general election: Richard M. Scammon and Alice V. McGillvray, America Votes, 1993, Elections Research Center. **3.** Percent owner-occupied housing units: American Housing Survey for metropolitan areas, 1990-1994, U.S. Bureau of the Census and U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. **4.** Percent of persons living in same house or same county in 1990 as in 1985: 1990 Census of Population and Housing: Summary Tape File 3, U.S. Bureau of the Census. **5.** Ranking of philanthropic giving per capita: Elizabeth Greene, Bruce Miller & Jennifer Moore, The Chronicle of Philanthropy vol 7, no. 9 (February 22, 1994)

Culture and Recreation Index: Based on three variables. **1-2.** An Arts index including measures for fine arts broadcasting, public library holdings and acquisitions, museums and galleries, and cultural events; and a Recreation index including measures for recreational facilities, events, and opportunities: Indexes are derived from Richard Boyer and David Savageau, Places Rated Almanac, Prentice Hall, New York (1993). (copyright). **3.** Per capita local government expenditures for natural resources, parks and recreation: 1992 Census of Governments: Government Finances, vol. 4, Compendium of Government Finances, no. 5, U.S. Bureau of the Census.

Racial Disparity Index: Based on 15 variables. Except for the segregation index, all variables are based on the ratio between values for blacks and whites. Where possible, whites of Hispanic origin have been removed from the white data to improve the comparability of data in St. Louis to those metropolitan regions with large Hispanic populations. **1.** Segregation Index, which measures the potential interaction of minority group members with members of the majority population, 1990: D. Massey & N. Denton, "The Dimensions of Residential Segregation", Social Forces, 67: 281-315. **2-3.** Percent of regional population by race living in central city and percent of housing units with incomes below the poverty level: 1990 Census of Population and Housing: Summary Population and Housing Characteristics, U.S. Bureau of the Census. **4-7.** Percent housing units with physical problems, with neighborhood problems, with housing costs exceeding 35 percent of income, and occupied by owners: American Housing Survey for metropolitan areas, 1990-1994, U.S. Bureau of the Census and U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. **8-9.** Percent labor force by race employed as executives, administrators, managers and in professional specialty occupations, and percent employed as operators, fabricators, laborers and in service occupations: Geographic Profile of Employment and Unemployment, 1993, Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor. **10-11.** Infant death rate and percent births to unwed mothers: Vital Statistics of the United States, Natality (1992) and Mortality (1991), National Center for Health Statistics, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. **12.** Percent unemployed: Geographic Profile of Employment and Unemployment, 1993, Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor. **13-15.** Percent high school graduates, percent college graduates, and per capita income: 1990 Census of Population and Housing: Summary Tape File 3, U.S. Bureau of the Census.

Economic Disparity Index: Based on five variables, all based on the ratio between values for the central city and for the balance of the metropolitan area. **1.** Percent housing units with costs exceeding 35 percent of income: American Housing Survey for metropolitan areas, 1990-1994, U.S. Bureau of the Census and U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. **2-5.** Percent unemployed, percent persons below the poverty level, percent growth in 1979-1989 per capita income, percent of households receiving public assistance income: 1990 Census of Population and Housing: Summary Tape File 3, U.S. Bureau of the Census.

Trends

St. Louis Trends: 1992 - 1996

Where We Stand was originally published in 1992, and the rankings it contained provide some critical benchmarks against which the current and future performance of the St. Louis region can be measured. The purpose of this section is to describe changes in St. Louis's performance between 1992 and 1996 relative to the 29 regions in the original comparison. Regular tracking of the region's performance against the social and economic benchmarks of the original *Where We Stand* should play a pivotal role in continual evaluation and improvement.

In these comparisons, the 1996 St. Louis rank out of the original 30 regions is compared with the previous report's rank for each indicator. The five regions which were added to the current report (Austin, Charlotte, Salt Lake City, San Antonio and San Diego) have been omitted for the purpose of these comparisons. Thus the reader may find differences between the 1996 ranks in the following pages and those ranks reported in the previous sections of this report. This has been done to preserve consistency between the current ranks and those of the original benchmarks reported in 1992. It is also important to note that what is being compared here is the *relative* improvement or decline in the performance of the St. Louis region compared to other regions, not the absolute change. For instance, although the actual population of the St. Louis region increased during the period 1990-1995, the population rank relative to the other 30 regions declined from 12th to 13th, as Phoenix exhibited higher grow and overtook St. Louis's population during this time period.

How can the performance of the St. Louis region since the previous report be summarized? As can be seen from the table below, in those five areas which are ranked on better-to-worse scales, there has been improvement in 20 indicators, with declines in 22. Declines have outweighed improvements most noticeably in Regional Economic Vitality and in Urban Form/ Quality of Life. However, a full understanding of the changes in the St. Louis region relative to other regions requires closer analysis of each section.

	No. of changed ranks	Type of change observed
Demographics	6	increase in 3; decline in 3*
Economics	12	improvement in 5; decline in 7
Governance	3	increase in 1; decline in 2*
Well-Being	10	improvement in 5; decline in 5
Education	8	improvement in 5; decline in 3
Crime	4	improvement in 3, decline in 1
Urban Form/ Quality of Life	8	improvement in 2, decline in 6

*values were ranked from highest to lowest, rather than from better to worse.

When reading the following pages:

- Notice the scoring system of each section before perusing the ranks - most sections are ranked from better (=1) to worse (=30), although some sections are ranked from higher values (=1) to lower values (=30). These latter sections are those in which the determination of *better* or *worse* is open to some debate. For a few indicators in which there was missing information for some regions (most noticeably in Crime and Social Disorder) the comparison regions have not been ranked out of 30. Instead, the ranking will appear as follows: 17/29 (meaning: 17th out of 29 regions).

- Several indicators were not present in the previous report, however they have been included in the current report because of their significance as measures of regional well-being. These indicators are marked *na* in the 1992 column.

- Due to limitations of available data, 1990 figures were used for a few indicators in both the 1992 and 1996 reports, and thus there appears no change in the rank for these indicators. These indicators are marked with an *.

- Also, 1996 ranks may represent data that are one or more years old and may not reflect very recent trends.

Demographics

In general, the rankings in St. Louis with respect to population and population change have remained fairly constant since the 1992 *Where We Stand*. There have been slight changes in six of the 20 indicators, although the general position of St. Louis in the distribution remains essentially the same. Although St. Louis slipped slightly in the population rank (due to the very rapid growth of a few regions), its ranks have improved on population increase and net migration.

Indicator {1 = high value; 30 = low value}	1992 Report Rank	1996 Report Rank
MSA Population	12	13
MSA Population Change	24	23
MSA Net Migration	24	23
Central City Share of MSA Population	na	26
Central City Population Change	28	30
Population by Race: White	15	16
Population by Race: Blacks	12	12
Population by Race: Asians	na	25
Population by Ethnicity: Hispanics	23	23
Growth in Nonwhite Population	na	28
Median Age	12	12
Child Population	10	11
Working Age Population	28	27
Elderly Population	8	8
Change in Dependency Ratio	na	14
Households	13	13*
Growth in Households	20	20*
Family Households	7	7*
Female Headed Families	13	13*
Growth in Female Headed Families	20	20*

** 1990 figures were used for both reports*
na = not applicable, indicator was not used in previous report

- St. Louis now ranks 13th in **population** out of the 30 comparison regions, having been overtaken by Phoenix since 1990.
- The St. Louis rank on **net migration** shifted from 24 to 23, as the rate of out migration from the region between 1990 and 1995 slowed relative to several other regions.
- St. Louis now ranks 11th in the proportion of the population which is **under 18** (down from 10th) and 27th in the proportion of the population which is of **working age** (up from 28).

Regional Economic Vitality

There are changes in many of the region's economic rankings since the 1992 *Where We Stand*. There have been improvements in five of these indicators, with declines in seven. Improvements in economic activity and capital availability, coupled with a lower unemployment ranking, show promise for the continued growth of the region. However, rankings on both job and business growth are lower, and lower income growth and earnings rankings (possibly related to a greater loss of manufacturing and construction jobs) also make the region a slightly less attractive place for workers relative to other regions. Minorities also face declining opportunities to enter into business in St. Louis, relative to the comparison regions.

Indicator (1= best score; 30 = worst score)	1992 Report Rank	1996 Report Rank
Economic Output	17	15
Unemployment	22/29	18
Capital Availability	24	21
Value of Private Construction	17/29	18
Exports	na	19
Job Growth	19	21
Service Sector Job Growth	12	23
Business Growth	21	22
Minority Firms	19	23
Earnings	15	18
Personal Income	16	14
Income Growth	5	14
Income Adjusted for Cost of Living	na	3
Income Sources: Wages and Salaries	23	27
Income Sources: Assets	5	2

na = not applicable, indicator was not used in previous report

• Greater economic production in the St. Louis region resulted in a per capita **economic output** ranking of 15, up from 17 in the 1992 report. However **business growth** slowed slightly, as St. Louis fell from 21 to 22. **Job growth** also slowed slightly, shifting the St. Louis rank from 19 to 21.

• **Unemployment** slightly improved relative to several other regions, changing the St. Louis rank from 22 to 18.

• The availability of **capital** for investment (bank loan to deposit ratio) improved relative to the 30 other regions, pushing the rank up from 24 to 21.

• Per capita **income** in the St. Louis region increased from $20,200 to $23,676, improving the St. Louis rank from 16 to 14. However, there were drops in both **earnings** (from 15 to 18) and in **income growth** (from 5 to 14).

• Continued losses of manufacturing and construction jobs, coupled with sizeable increases in the service sector economy, resulted in the **service sector job growth** rank shifting from 12 to 23.

• Changes were also noted in the makeup of total income. St. Louis dropped from 23 to 27 on the proportion of income from **wages and salaries**, and increased its rank from 5 to 2 on the proportion of income from **assets**.

• The St. Louis rank on **black owned businesses** dropped slightly from 19 to 23.

Leadership, Governance and Public Service

No significant changes have been observed since the 1992 *Where We Stand* with respect to governance and public service in the St. Louis region. The region continues to exhibit an unusually large number of local government entities, although a decreased level of local spending relative to other regions.

Indicator {1 = high value; 30 = low value}	1992 Report Rank	1996 Report Rank
Government Units	4	5
Government Units per 100,000 Pop	2	2
School Districts per 100,000 Pop	4	3
Taxing Units per 100,000 Pop	na	1
Local Government Spending	28	28
Revenue as a % of Income	29	30
Local Government Debt	28	28
Federal Funding	3	3
Change in Defense Funding	na	26

na = not applicable, indicator was not used in previous report

There were slight shifts in three of the St. Louis ranks:

- On the number of **government units**, St. Louis fell from 4 to 5, having been overtaken by Pittsburgh.
- The number of **school districts** per 100,000 slightly increased, pushing St. Louis from 4 to 3.
- St. Louis dropped slightly(into 30th place from 29) on local **government revenue** expressed as a percent of total personal income.

Individual and Family Well-Being

Since the 1992 *Where We Stand*, St. Louis experienced changes in nearly every health and well-being indicator relative to other regions, with improvements in five indicators and declines in five. Of principal note here is the declining situation of children (as signified by the infant mortality ranking and births to unwed mothers) and a decline in housing affordability for some segments of the population.

Indicator (1= best score; 30 = worst score)	1992 Report Rank	1996 Report Rank
Poverty Rate	13	13*
Child Poverty Rate	14	14*
Elderly Poverty Rate	14	14*
Teenage Births	22	22
Births to Unwed Parents	20	23
Health Insurance Coverage	na	20
Primary Care Physicians	20	19
Infant Mortality	13	25
Adult Death Rate	19	22
Accident Death Rate	26	29
Home Prices	11	5
Housing Opportunity	13	6
Housing Affordability	4	7
Houses with Physical Problems	7/26	4/28
Mobility Index	21	20

** 1990 figures were used for both reports*
na = not applicable, indicator was not used in previous report

• The relative number of primary care **physicians** grew slightly, taking the St. Louis rank from 20 to 19, however there were increases in **adult deaths** (19 to 22), **accident deaths** (26 to 29) and a worsening in the **infant mortality** rank (13 to 25).

• While the St. Louis rank on births to teen mothers remained constant (at 22), **births to unwed parents** increased, shifting the St. Louis rank from 20 to 23.

• Relative to other regions, there is some indication that housing affordability is improving for home buyers in St. Louis. Sizeable improvements were noted with respect to **home prices** (11 to 5) and the **housing opportunity** for buyers (13 to 6). However, the **housing affordability** index, which assesses housing costs for both renters and owners, declined with respect to other regions, pushing the St. Louis rank from 4 to 7.

• The proportion of occupied housing units free from **physical problems** improved in St. Louis relative to other regions, shifting the rank from 7 to 4.

• There was a slight improvement in the **mobility index** of St. Louis, from 21 to 20.

Educational Vitality

Relative to other metro areas, there have been shifts in several of St. Louis's educational rankings since 1992, with improvements in five indicators and declines in three. Educational spending (as a proportion of income) is improving, as is the rank on pupil to teacher ratios. Adult enrollment in post-secondary education has also shown considerable improvement.

Indicator {1= best score; 30 = worst score}	1992 Report Rank	1996 Report Rank
High School Graduates	17	20
College Graduates	23	19
Higher Education Graduates	22	28
Adult Illiteracy	26	21
High School Dropouts	15	15*
Post-secondary Enrollments	17	8
Pre-primary Enrollments	6	8
Pupil to Teacher Ratio	12/29	7/27
Education Spending per Pupil	19	18/29
Spending as a % of Income	23	19

** 1990 figures were used for both the 1992 and 1996 report*

• Relative to other regions, there has been a decline in the number of **high school graduates** (from 17 to 20), however an increase in the number of **college graduates** (from 23 to 19). The number of **higher education graduates** has also declined, from a rank of 23 in 1992, to 28 in 1996.

• **Adult literacy** (the proportion of persons over 25 who completed nine or more years of schooling) has improved relative to other regions (from 26 to 21).

• The enrollment of adults in **post-secondary education** has greatly improved (from 17 to 8), however **pre-primary enrollments** have declined relative to other regions (from 6 to 8).

• The St. Louis **pupil-to-teacher ratio** in elementary and secondary schools, while still ranking high, has shown some decline, falling from 1st to 7th position.

• The **education spending** rank per pupil has remained constant since 1992. However, as a **proportion of total personal income**, education spending in the St. Louis region has improved relative to other regions, from 23rd to 19th position in the distribution.

Crime and Social Disorder

Direct comparisons with 1992 crime indicators are difficult because information for several regions was not available both for the 1992 and 1996 *Where We Stand* reports. However, some comparisons can be made. Improvements in the rankings of both the metropolitan and central city crime trends over the past five years are encouraging.

Indicator {1= best score; 30 = worst score}	1992 Report Rank	1996 Report Rank
MSA Crime Rate	11/29	11/23
5 Year MSA Crime Trend	24/28	11/20
Central City: Suburban Crime Ratio	29/29	23/23
5 Year Central City Crime Trend	26/28	16/26
MSA Property Crime Rate	10/30	11/23
MSA Violent Crime Rate	17/29	17/23
MSA Murder Rate	21	15/23
MSA Suicide Rate	17	16

- Although the **metropolitan crime** ranking has shown no improvement over the past four years (11th out of 29 in 1992; 11th out of 23 in 1996), there has been a relative improvement in the **metropolitan five year crime trend**. In 1992, there was a four percent average annual increase in crime (placing the St. Louis region 24th out of 28), while in 1996 there was a two percent decline (now placing the St. Louis region 11th out of 20).

- Although the **central city to suburban crime ratio** remains essentially unchanged (with St. Louis City in last position in both reports), there has been a significant improvement in the ranking of the **City's 5 year crime trend**. In the 1992 report, a six percent average annual increase in crime was reported (ranking St. Louis City 26th out of 28), while by 1996 there was less than a one percent increase (sufficient to rank St. Louis City 16th out of 26 regions).

- There is evidence of an increase in the metropolitan **property crime** rank (from 10th out of 30 regions in 1992 to 11th out of 23 regions in 1996), while the **violent crime** rank has also shown no improvement (with the St. Louis region ranking 17th out of 29 regions in 1992, and 17th out 23 regions in 1996).

- There is no clear change to the ranking of the St. Louis metropolitan **murder rate** (from 21 out of 30 in 1992, to 15 out of 23 in 1996). However, there has been a slight improvement in the metropolitan **suicide rank** (from 17th to 16th).

Urban Form and Quality of Life

Changes have been noted in each of the urban form and quality of life measures (these are composite indexes, each made up of a number of different indicators.) The shifts in St. Louis's position on these indexes highlight the continuing challenges facing the region in terms of improving the condition of the urban environment and the overall quality of life for its citizens.

Indicator {1= best score; 30 = worst score}	1992 Report Rank	1996 Report Rank
Urban Sprawl	22	27
Environment	20	25
Housing Quality	8	12
Infrastructure	15	18
Sense of Community	3	4
Culture and Recreation	24	21
Racial Disparity	26	27
Economic Disparity	24	22

• Comparable declines were observed in St. Louis's rank for each of the urban form indexes: **urban sprawl** (22nd to 27th position); **environment** (20th to 25th position); **housing quality** (8th to 12th position) and **infrastructure** (15th to 18th).

• Slight declines were observed in the Quality of Life indexes of **sense of community** (3rd to 4th position) and **racial disparity** (26th to 27th position).

• Moderate improvements were noted in the Quality of Life indexes of **culture and recreation** (24th to 21st position) and **economic disparity** between the city and suburbs (24th to 22nd position).

Conclusion

In conclusion, we return the conversation to the reader.

- From your vantage point — government, business, citizen, clergy, professional, student — where *does* the region stand in a competitive marketplace?
- What are the most immediate and pressing indicators — if any — that must be strengthened? What assets will we build upon to improve them?
- What is our most significant strength as a metropolitan area? What strategies will we put in place to maximize that advantage?
- Where do *you* stand in relationship to these issues? What will be *your* response?

Please let us hear from you.

Acknowledgements

Steering Committee Members

Frank Bush
Daniel & Henry Company

Lynn Courier
St. Louis County

Claudia Daugherty
Metropolitan Association for Philanthropy

Mary Domahidy
St. Louis University

Lori Fiegel
St. Louis County

Roger Fritz
Leadership by Design

Ralph Korte
Korte Construction Company

William Kuehling
Stolar Partnership

Robert Lee
Laclede Gas Company

Tim Monger
Regional Commerce and Growth Association

Kay Monks
Missouri Department of Labor and Industrial Relations

Jennifer Olmstead
Regional Commerce and Growth Association

Michael Pulliam
Missouri Department of Labor and Industrial Relations

Mary Renick
Office of Congressman Richard Gephardt

Alan Richter
Murphy Company

Dennis Sharpe
Leadership by Design

Steven Taylor
Regional Commerce and Growth Association

Lottie Wade
United Way of Greater St. Louis

Other Advisors

Cheryl Adelstein
Village of Swansea

Henry Bettendorf
Thompson & Coburn

Joe Cavato
Boatmen's Bank

Chris Craig
Rebuild St. Louis

Scott Decker
University of Missouri-St. Louis

Tim Fischesser
St. Louis County Municipal League

Dan Lang
City of St. Charles

Dan LeHockey
Sustainable St. Louis

Kent Leichliter
City of Crestwood

Mark Levin
City of Maryland Heights

Chuck Kindleberger
St. Louis Community Development Agency

Mike McDowell
City of Creve Coeur

MaryAnn McGovern
St. Louis Economic Conversion Project

Ed Scanlon
Washington University

Michael Sherraden
Washington University

Rosella Wamser
St. Clair County Regional Office of Education

Errata Sheet

WHERE WE STAND

Racial Disparity Index: the following chart should replace the Racial Disparity Index on page 57 of *Where We Stand*, 1996. The ranks of *only* the top five metropolitan regions have changed.

RACIAL DISPARITY INDEX*

1	San Antonio	2.92
2	Salt Lake City	3.00
3	Phoenix	3.20
4	Los Angeles	3.27
5	Seattle	3.62
6	San Diego	4.07
7	Denver	4.13
8	Nashville	4.57
9	Columbus	4.73
10	Miami	4.87
10	Houston	4.87
12	Portland	4.93
13	New York	5.13
13	Oklahoma City	5.13
15	San Francisco	5.23
16	Boston	5.33
17	Dallas	5.40
17	Cincinnati	5.40
19	Austin	5.57
20	Pittsburgh	5.67
21	Louisville	5.70
22	Philadelphia	5.80
23	Washington DC	5.87
23	Kansas City	5.87
25	Charlotte	5.90
26	Cleveland	6.00
27	Chicago	6.07
28	Baltimore	6.13
29	Indianapolis	6.20
29	Atlanta	6.20
31	Minneapolis	6.73
32	St. Louis	6.80
33	Detroit	7.07
34	Memphis	7.47
35	Milwaukee	7.67

BETTER

AVERAGE

WORSE

*Black vs. white disparity

East-West Gateway Coordinating Council
10 Stadium Plaza
St. Louis, Missouri 63102-1714

(314) 421-4220
(618) 274-2750
Fax (314) 231-6120
Email sysop@ewgateway.org
Bulletin Board Service (314) 231-6121