

MEASURING & FOSTERING
THE PROGRESS OF SOCIETIES

Building together

local indicators for societal progress

Construire ensemble

des indicateurs locaux pour le progrès sociétal

MESURER & FAVORISER
LE PROGRÈS DES SOCIÉTÉS

Les indicateurs communautaires aux Etats-Unis

Community Indicators in the United States

31 October, 2008

Ben Warner



**Past President
Community Indicators Consortium**



**President
National Association of Planning
Councils**



**Deputy Director
Jacksonville Community Council Inc.**

ben@jcci.org





BEHIND OUR CURTAIN !

SAM LEACH CREATING THE FUTURE
THAT'S BETTER

2006

QUALITY OF LIFE

PROGRESS REPORT



JCCI

A Guide for Building a Better Community

“In some ways, the best news for Jacksonville is the [Quality of Life Progress] Report itself.

The very premise of the report, and of JCCI, is the belief in Jacksonville as a community where the problems of some are the responsibility of everyone.”

-The Florida Times-Union



“À certains régards, la meilleure nouvelle pour Jacksonville est le [la qualité de la vie Progrès] Rapport lui-même.

Le principe même du rapport, et de JCCI, est la croyance dans Jacksonville en tant que communauté où les problèmes de certains sont de la responsabilité de tout le monde.”

-The Florida Times-Union





“If we could first know where we are and whither we are tending, we could better judge what to do, and how to do it ...”

– Abraham Lincoln

Community Indicators in the United States



**Community indicators
are measured at levels
of:**

- Neighborhood**
- City**
- County**
- Region**
- State**
- Nation**



Image © 2005 EarthSat

© 2005 Google

Pointer 29°53'44.58" N 81°46'13.36" W elev 95 ft

Streaming ||||| 100%

Eye alt 107.41 mi

Community Indicators in the United States



Percentage of persons below poverty line, by age city job surpluses and estimated housing units needed - **Bay Area** Local commuting area job - housing

balances unsheltered homeless population status of bay area land, by level of development brownfield assessment demonstration pilots - number of properties, acres of brownfields total water withdrawal per

capita **Population of Central Valley Subregions** Population Growth in Central Valley Subregions (as a % of 1980 levels) In/Migration in California In/Out Migration in Central Valley Net Migration in the 3 Central Valley Percentage of Ethnic Groups of California's Population

Percentage of Ethnic Groups of California's Population **Shift-Share Analysis of Gateway Region/California** (what much of change in employment is due to larger or local economic

forces) Gateway Cities Residential Building Permits Issued FBI Crime Index - Violation Rate Per 100,000 (1995) to 12th Grade (1998) Performance Measures of Gateway Cities Public Schools Expenditures, Per Pupil, Per Year Cancer Risk From Air Pollution

Number of Contaminated Water Systems Percent of Jobs and Wages in **Humboldt County** due to Natural Resources Number of Major Rivers Suffering From Increased Salinity

Number of Species Listed as Threatened or Endangered Related to Timber and Total Payroll **Census 2000 Participation in Orange County** Compared to Nation, State and Peer Counties

Population by Age Group Percentage of Thru-trippers for All Orange Co Seniors Percent Change in Violent Crime Against Senior Citizens Selected Countywide Senior Citizen Services Spread of urbanized areas **Yearly vehicle Hours of Delay on Sacramento Area Freeways**

Index of Travel to work in factor regions (drive alone, alone ride, transit, bike/walk) **Figure 48 - San Diego Exports by Sector** - percent of total dollar value of exports **Figure 49 - San Diego Exports by Destination** - percent of total dollar value of exports **Figure 50 - Rank Air Transport Capital Outlays Per Capita** **Figure 51 - Capital Outlays For Air Transport**

Crimes per 100,000 in the San Fernando Valley Population Density Per Capita Gallons of Gasoline Consumed Per Capita Per Year Do You Think in Terms of Neighborhood, City, SF Valley, or Bay Area? Level of Giving and Volunteering in the Area Percentage of residents Favoring Cooperative Regional Approach to Preserving Quality of Life and Economic Vitality of Area Number of residents who would "strongly favor" investing in efforts to decrease traffic congestion **MTD Ridership Rides**

prepared by the California Center for Regional Leadership **Management of Waste, Greenwaste and Recycled Material for the California Children and Families Association** **Water Use Per Thousand Population** **Academy Bird Counts** **Real Median Family Income - Santa Barbara County** **Real Average Salary per Worker - Santa Barbara County** **Acres of Grapes and Other Fruits and Nuts** **Habitat Types and Percent Unprotected in the Sierra Nevada** **2003** **Number of Threatened and Endangered Species** **Proportion of coniferous forests that is old growth in the Sierra Nevada** **Percent of Land Base That is Fire Hazard** **Average per Employee Wage, Silicon Valley Industry Clusters** **Average per Employee Wage, Other Silicon Valley Industries** **Silicon Valley R&D and Office Vacancy Rate** **Silicon Valley R&D and Office Average Assembling Rate** **Ventura County Elementary School API SCORE** **Average Class Size** **Various Coastal Monitoring Wells - Levels of Chloride (mg/L) from Stream Runoff** **Beach Closures** **Acres of Urbanized Land** **Urban Densities, Selected California Counties**



Commitment to Progress

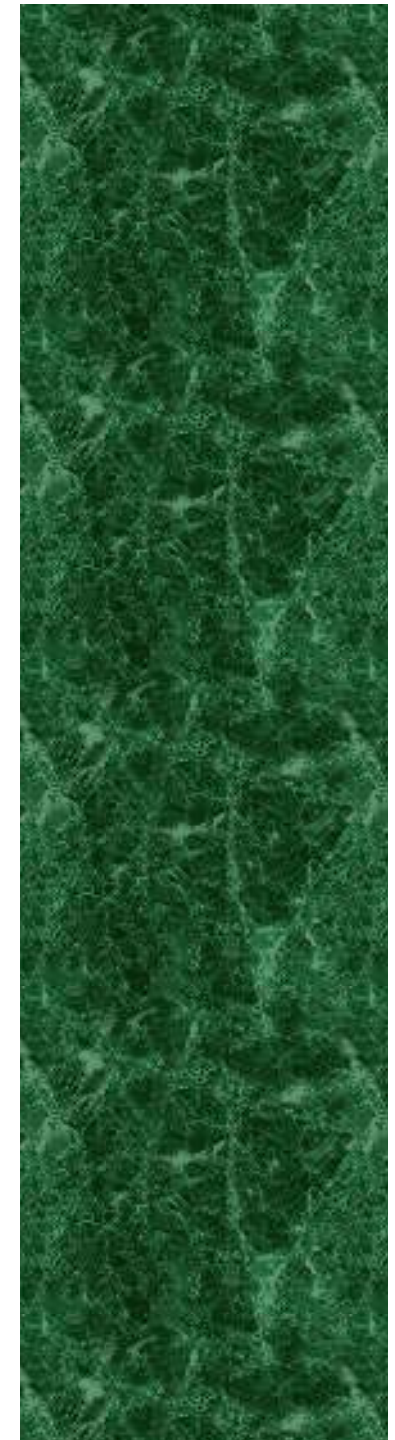
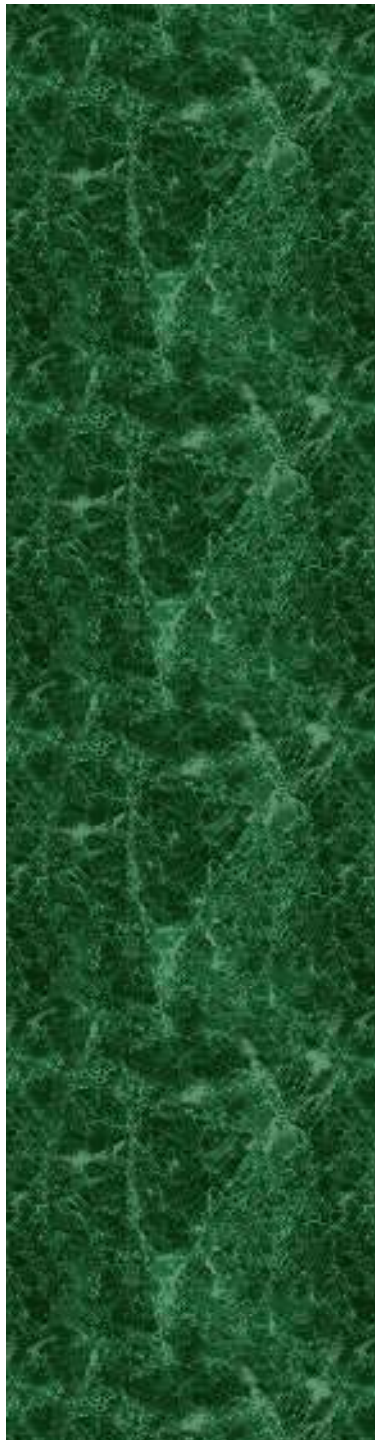
telling our story, measuring our progress:
california's regional quality of life
indicator projects

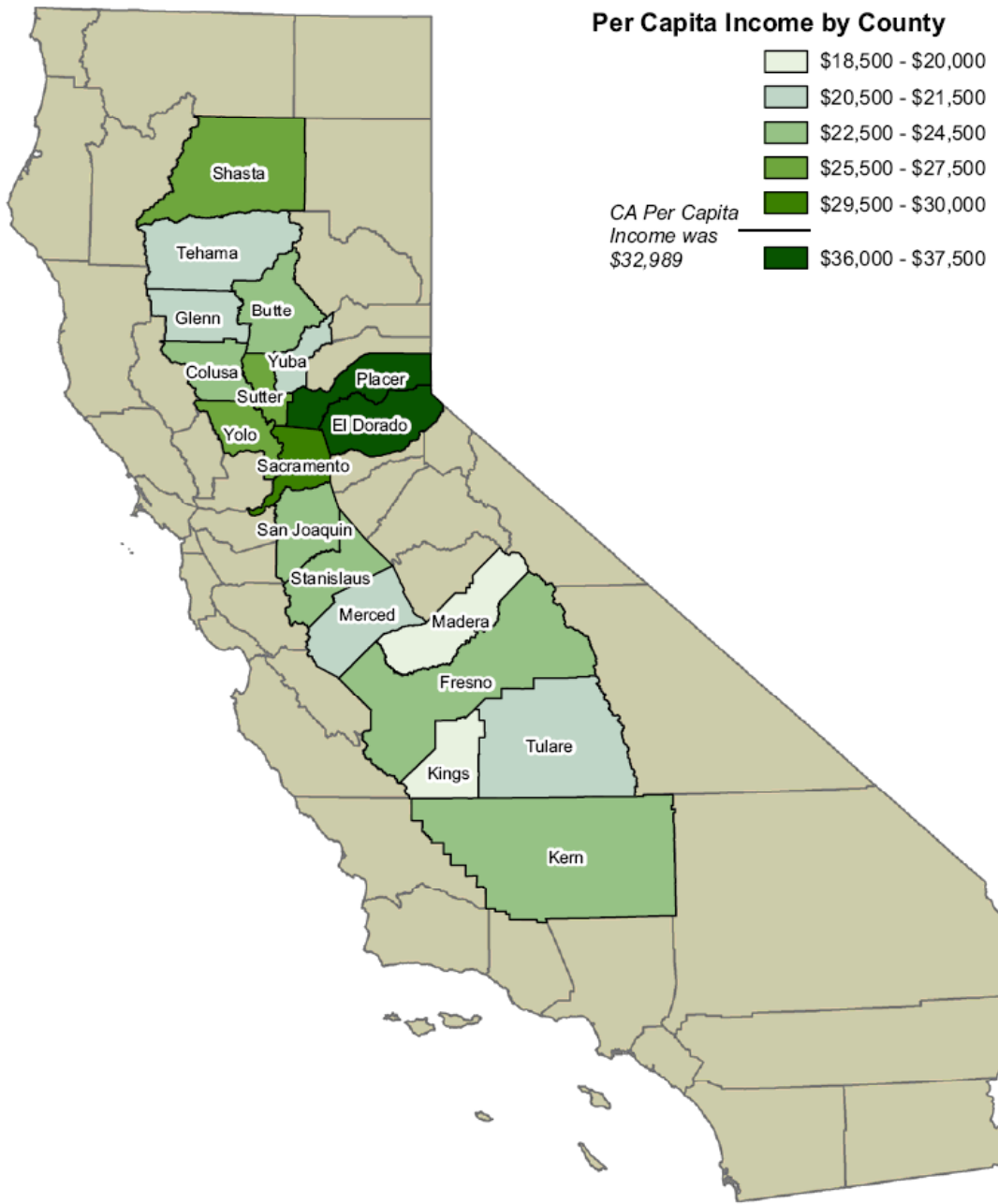
In a time when our neighbors listen to elected officials or other established leaders and wonder who to believe, indicator reports serve as a civic-based tool to re-build this country's social capital ... our trust in each other, our willingness to find common vision and values, our engagement in collaborative civic work to solve problems that confront us. But most of all, they help to build a commitment to stewardship, to pass along to our children and grandchildren a country of many regions that are much improved over those left to us. **Such commitment to progress is also a commitment to *measure our progress* ... honestly and with open hearts and minds.**

This is the promise of the regional indicator movement in our state and our country.

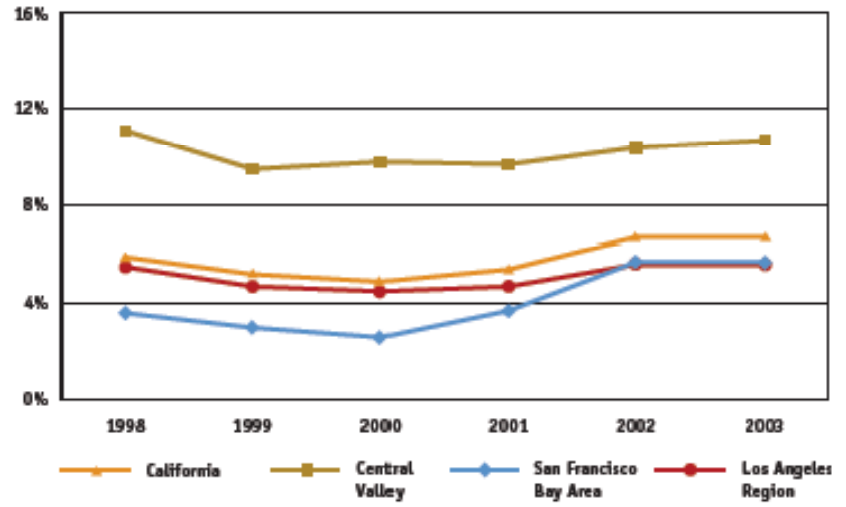
Becky Morgan, Morgan Family Foundation

Regional Indicator Reports in California



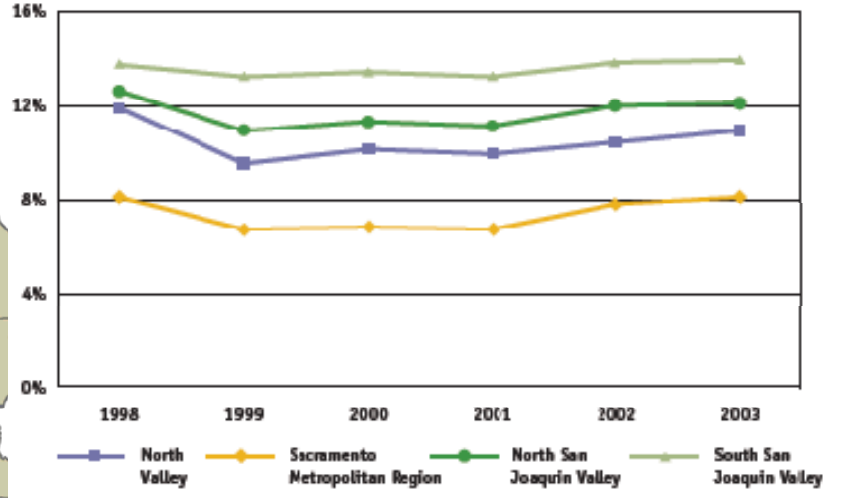


Unemployment Rate in California and its Regions 1998-2003



Source: Employment Development Department, Labor Market Information Division

Unemployment Rate in the Central Valley Subregions 1998-2003



Source: Employment Development Department, Labor Market Information Division

Community Indicators in the United States



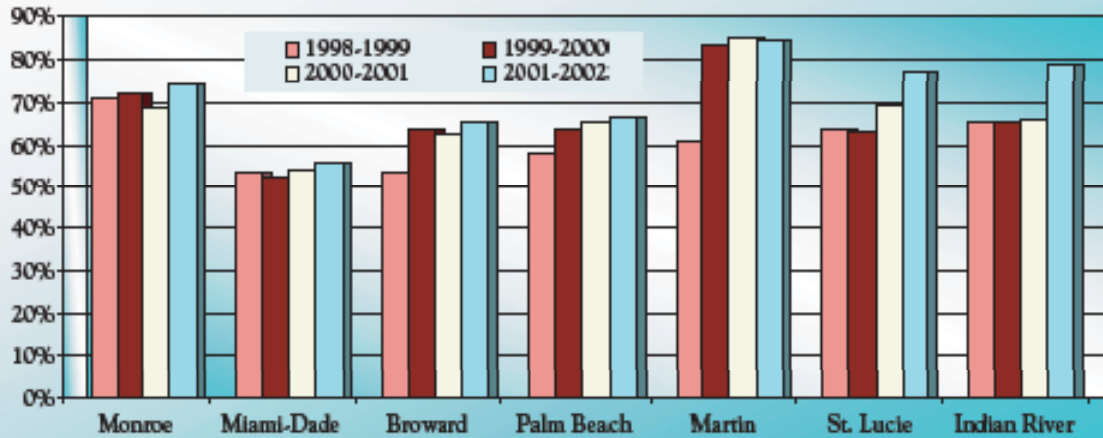
Regional *Shift*



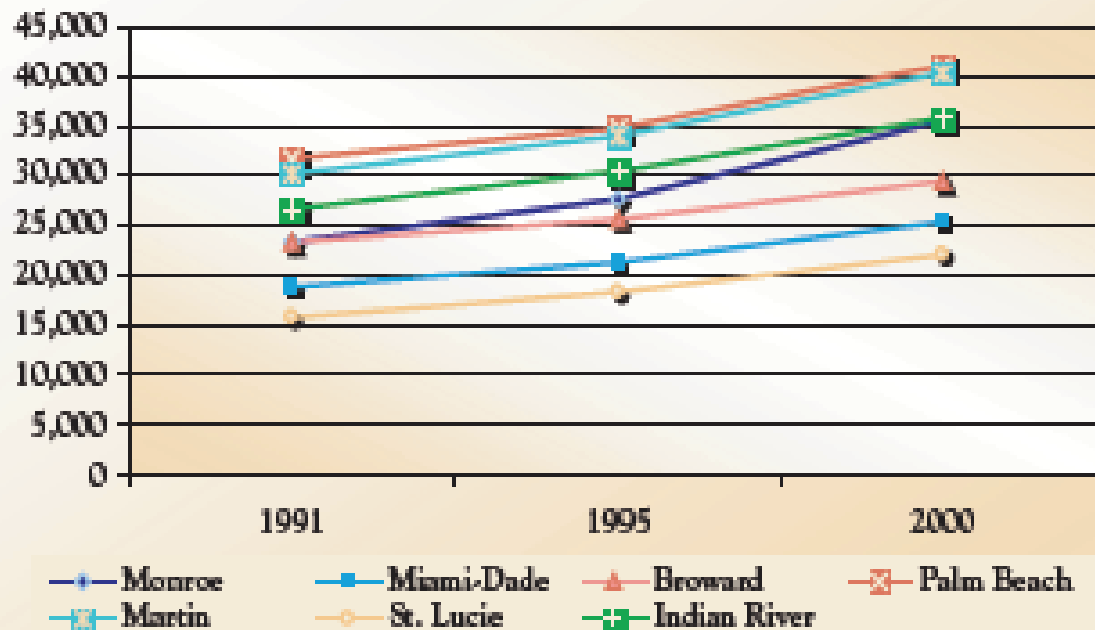
South Florida in Transition

Creating
Identity

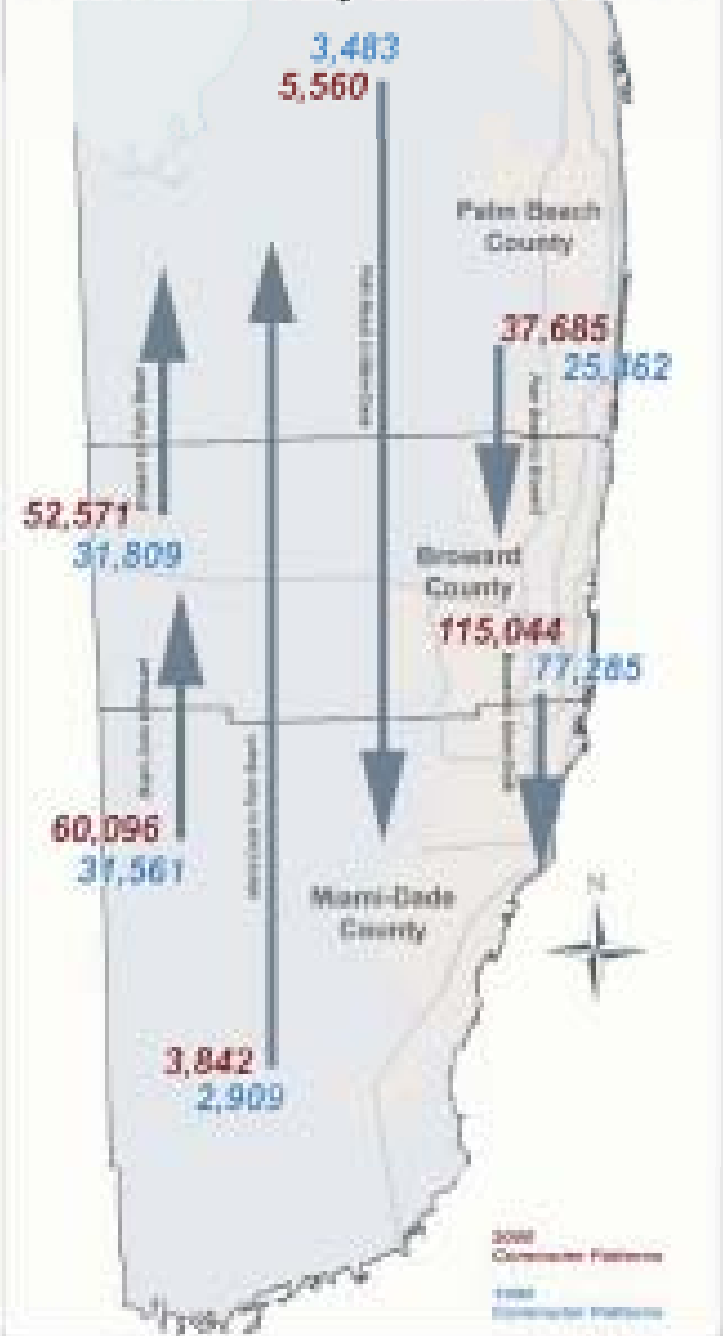
Graduation Rates for Public Schools by District, 1998-2002



Per Capita Income, 1991-2000



South Florida Daily Commuter Patterns



Community Indicators in the United States



Shaping Policy



Sustainable Seattle

The process of developing and selecting indicators is at least as important as publishing them.

The process of debating the design of indicators shapes the players' thinking about the policies. Agreement on indicators helps get agreement on policy.

Judith Innes

Community Indicators in the United States



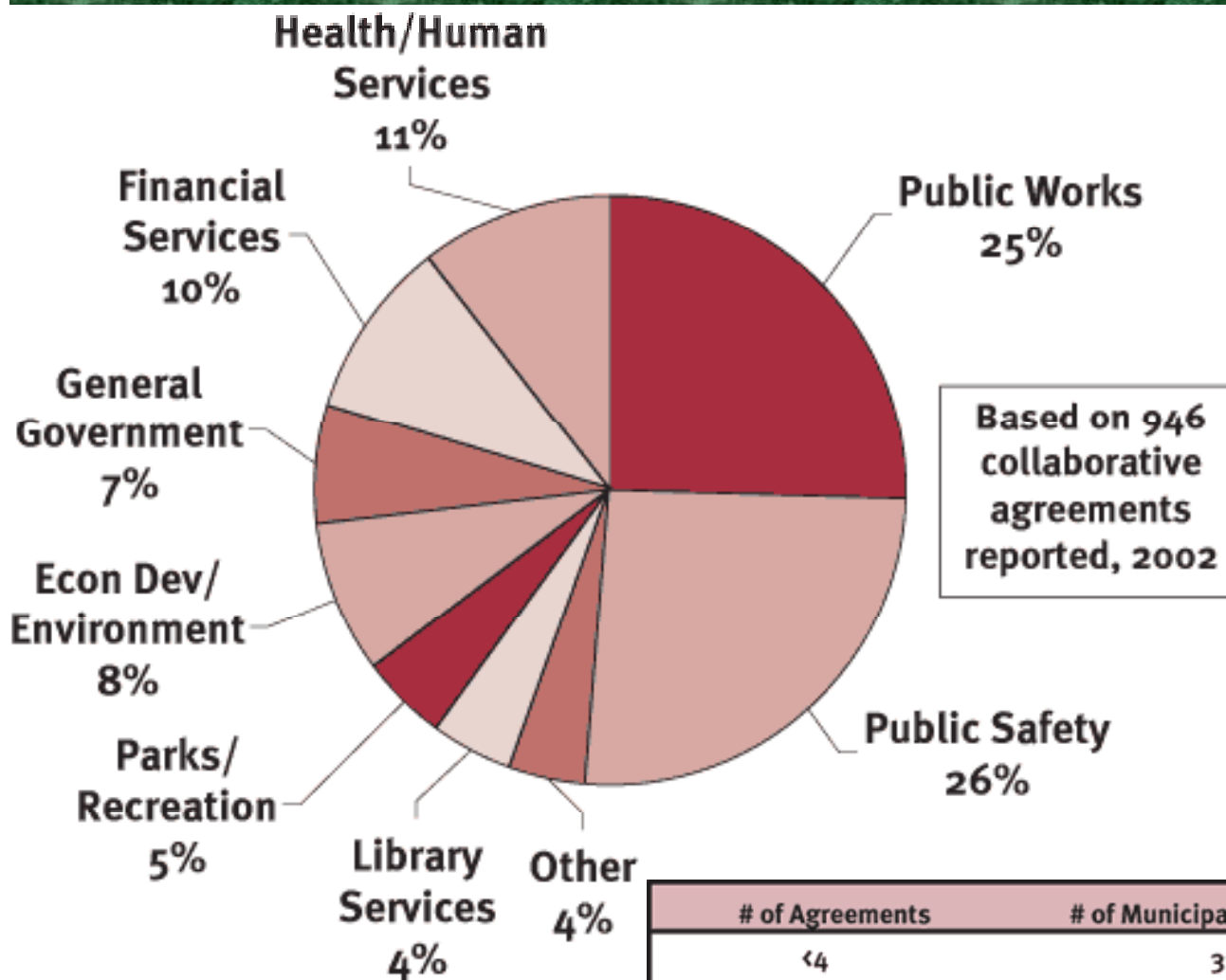
State of the Region

Regional Performance in the Buffalo Niagara Region



Building
Connections

Municipal Cooperative Agreements



# of Agreements	# of Municipalities Reporting	% of Municipalities
<4	32	25%
4-5	23	18%
6 to 10	40	31%
11 to 15	23	18%
16 to 25	9	7%

Community Indicators in the United States



S U S T A I N A B L E P I T T S B U R G H

S O U T H W E S T E R N P E N N S Y L V A N I A R E G I O N A L I N D I C A T O R S R E P O R T 2 0 0 4

An aerial photograph of the Pittsburgh skyline, showing a dense cluster of skyscrapers and buildings. The prominent PPG Place tower is on the left. The city is situated on a hillside overlooking the Allegheny River. A bridge spans the river in the foreground, and a large ship is visible on the water.

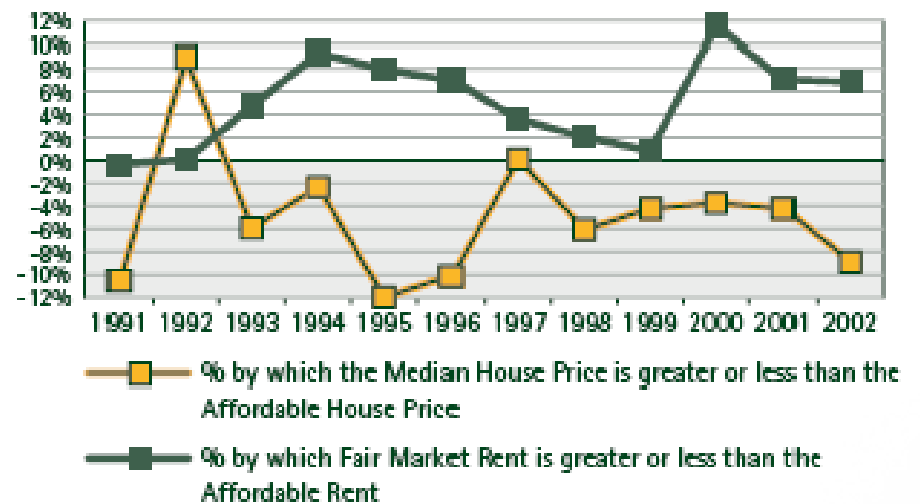
Better Tools

Affordable Housing



AFFORDABILITY OF RENTS & MORTGAGES

Percentage Difference 1991-2002 (Pittsburgh MSA)



GOAL: GOOD AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING FOR ALL

STATUS: OWNING A HOME IS AFFORDABLE, AND GETTING MORE SO ...
BUT LOW-INCOME RENTERS FACE PERSISTENTLY HIGH RENTS

INDICATOR

Home ownership and rental affordability for low-income people

TREND

House price affordability improving since 2000, rents stable at an unaffordable level.

WHAT WE MEASURE

For this indicator, we consider a typical lower-income family of four, and calculate the percentage difference between what a normal house costs and what the family can afford to pay. The costs take into account the prevailing interest rates for each year. We do the same type of calculation to compare average rents and with what lower income renters can afford. FMR refers to Fair Market Rents. Data and affordability standards come from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

WHAT IT MEANS

On these graphs, rising lines are not a good sign. A decade of mostly improving conditions in the 1990s ended with an upturn that left the gap between rents and incomes stable at an unaffordable level.

Meanwhile, home ownership, relatively quite affordable for most of the decade, has been getting more so the last two years, meaning that median (typical) house prices are below the level considered affordable and moving lower.

This situation is rare in U.S. cities, where in most cases housing prices have risen sharply and are usually relatively less affordable than rental units. For reference, the median house price in 2002 was \$156,000, whereas the affordable house price was \$170,000 for a low-income median family income of \$36,800/year. For the same year, affordable rent for the median personal income of \$26,046 was \$521/mo, but the Housing and Urban Development ("HUD") estimate of fair market rents ("FMR") that year is \$557 (average of rents for 1 or 2 bedroom apartments).



Buying a house is becoming more affordable, but renting is less affordable.

Community Indicators in the United States



QUALITY OF LIFE | *It matters to us all.*



Setting
Policy

Two states. 16 counties. 2.7 million people.

region.

RegionWise is committed to reducing the gap between what we know and what we do. It seeks to be part of a **continuous regional improvement process in which practice informs research, research informs public policy, and public policy informs practice.** To this end, RegionWise builds bridges and facilitates interaction between service providers, policy makers, and researchers – to frame research questions and processes, interpret data, articulate its practical implications, identify indicators of progress, and champion change.

Richard Kurz, Chair

Community Indicators in the United States



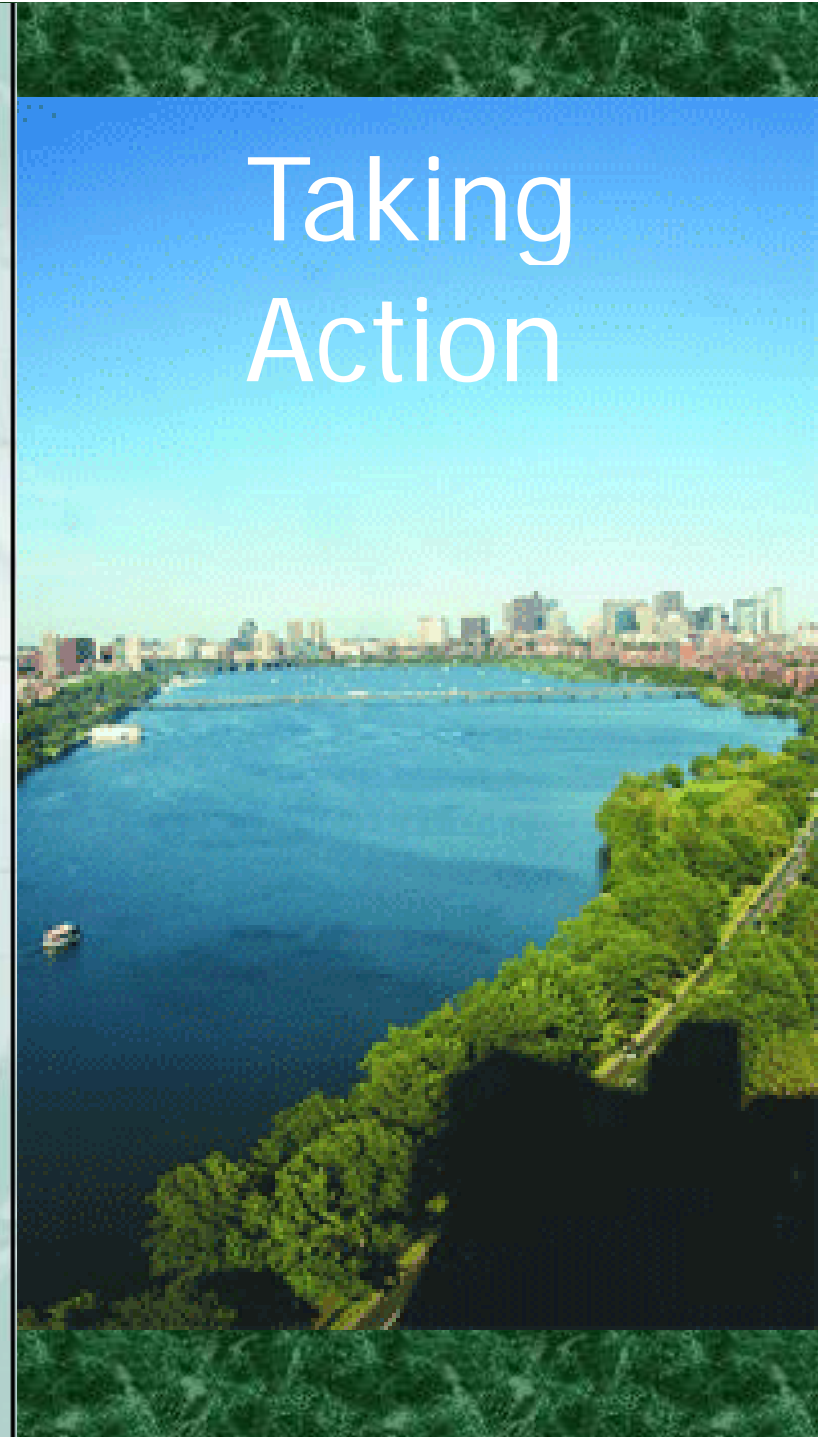
Thinking Globally/Acting Locally
A Regional Wake-Up Call



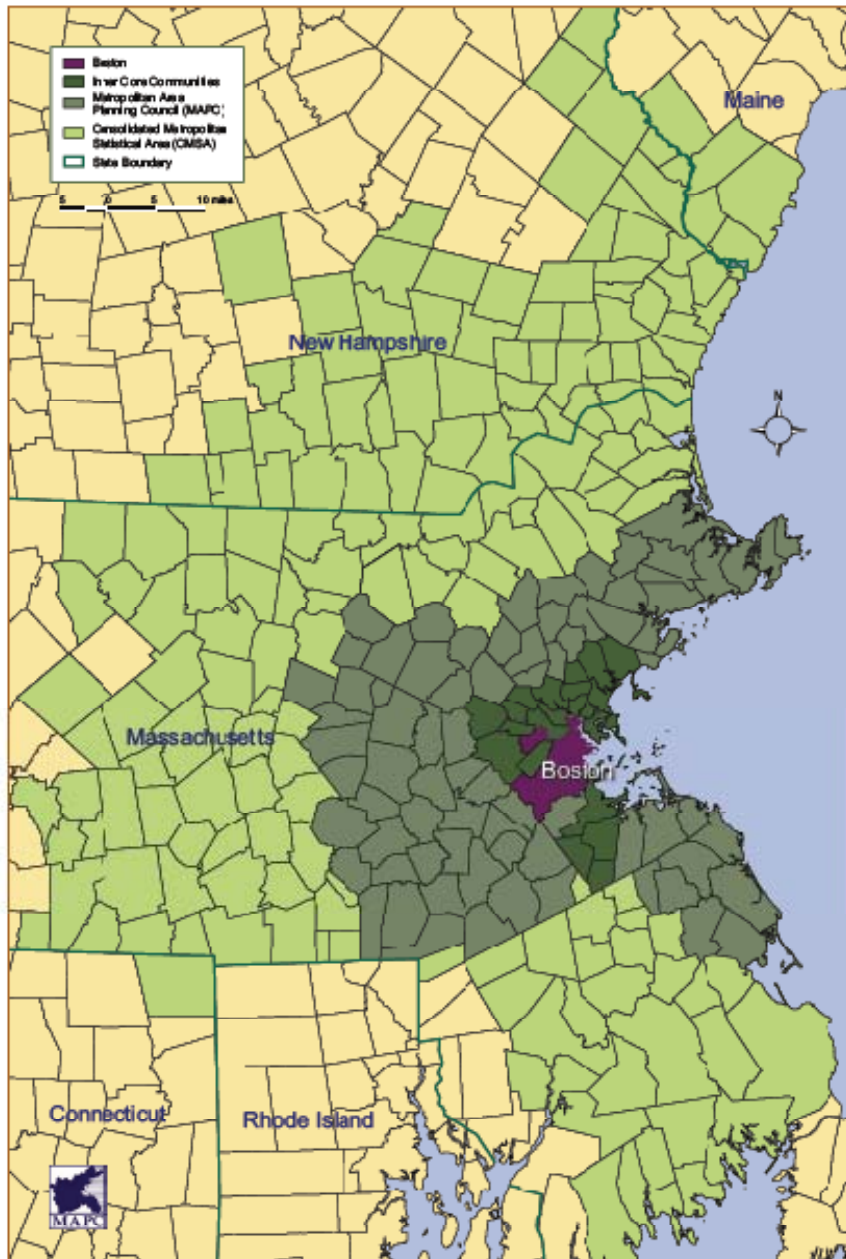
A Summary of the
Boston Indicators Report
2002 – 2004

www.bostonindicators.org

Taking
Action



Boston Consolidated Metropolitan Statistical Area



Source: Metropolitan Area Planning Council

Boston Neighborhoods



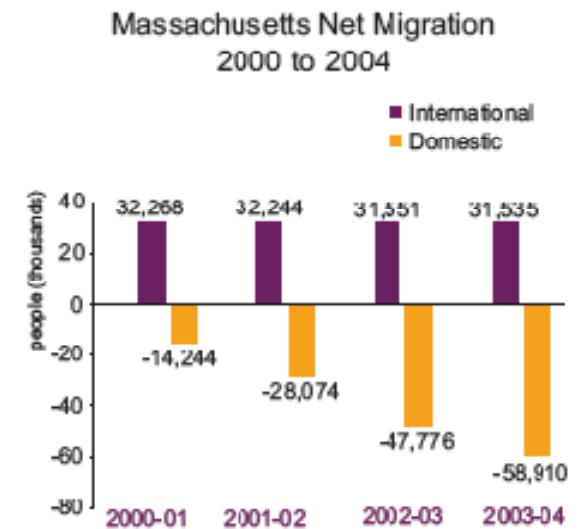
Source: Boston Redevelopment Authority

The High Cost of Inaction

Northeastern University labor economist Paul Harrington calls New England the “Europe of America” because it closely mirrors Europe’s slow labor market growth and aging population. At the same time, however, the regional economies of New England—particularly the Boston metropolitan region—depend on young and well-educated workers to seed their knowledge economies. The region’s future success depends on reversing the preventable loss and waste of talent—nurturing and rooting home-grown talent, while also continuing to attract immigrants, students and other mobile groups.

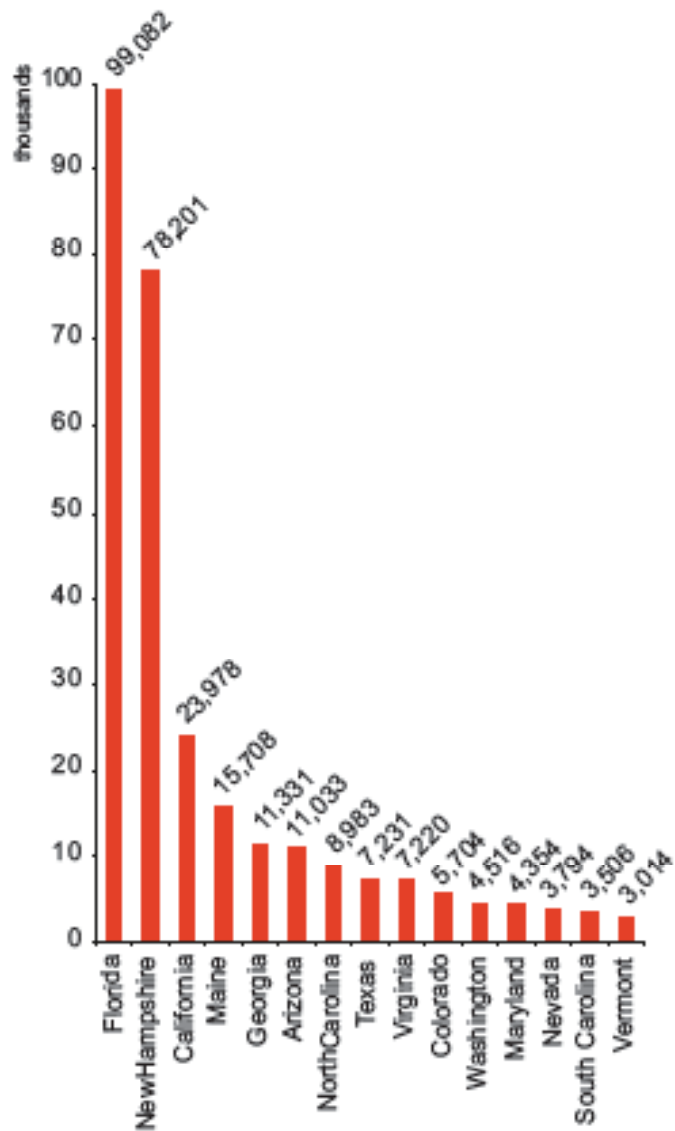
Here are some demographic snapshots to be concerned about:

[Out]-Migrating Massachusetts Residents



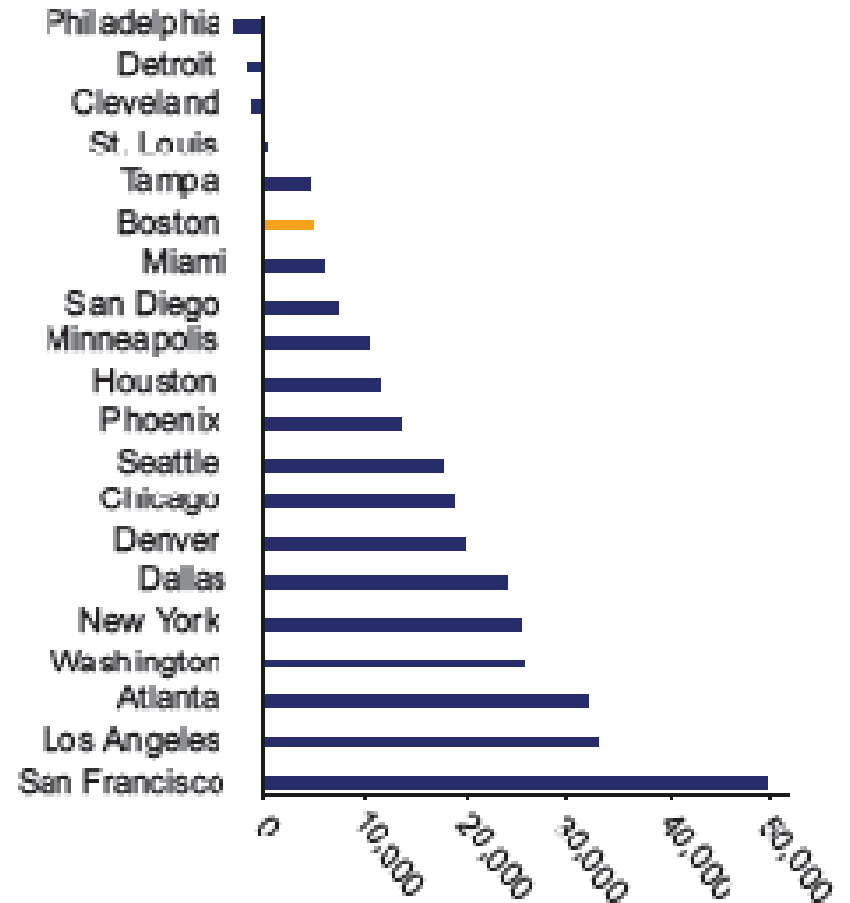
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, State Population Estimates,
Components of Population Change
<http://www.census.gov/popest/states>

Net Migration from Massachusetts to Other States: 1990 - 2002



Source: Nakosteen et al., *Mass Migration*, MassINC, 2003, based on IRS tax return data.

Net Domestic Migration Young, Single, & College-Educated 20 Largest Metro Regions: 1995-2000



Note: ages 25 to 39.
Source: R.S. Franklin, *Migration of the Young, Single and College Educated: 1995 to 2000*, U.S. Census Bureau.




GOAL:

Breakthrough models in human development—from world class pre-K-16 education to lifelong learning for everyone to healthy child development and aging—that support a dynamic workforce, a high quality of life, and a shared sense of belonging, safety and well-being

2030 VISION: Greater Boston creates an entirely new, powerful and cost-effective model of human development by aligning health and education in early intervention strategies and public education campaigns, which employ public/private partnerships. With gradually improving health outcomes for all ages, the Commonwealth begins to redirect resources in a virtuous cycle of upstream health promotion and child development, early education, teacher training, K-12 educational excellence, after school enrichment, adult basic education, workforce training and higher education. Meanwhile, health costs in competitor states continue to soar, eclipsing resources for all other sectors. The Commonwealth's breakthrough "upstream" approach to health and education eliminates historic disparities, garnering international recognition and replication. With its highly educated, healthy and flexible workforce, the region attracts a constant stream of research initiatives and new industries.

STRATEGIC MILESTONE:

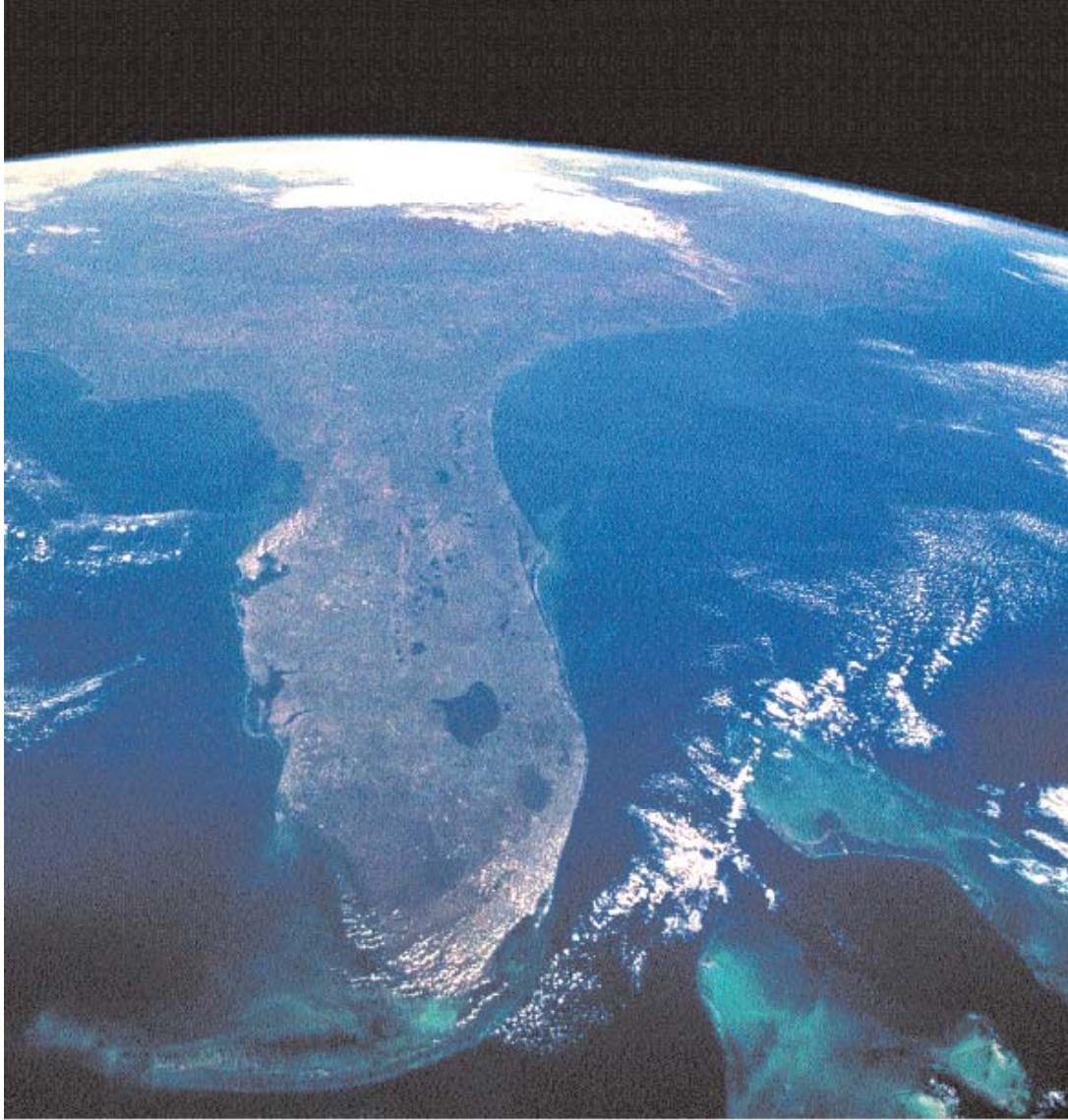
Educational excellence, as indicated by all third graders reading at the third-level



Community Indicators in the United States



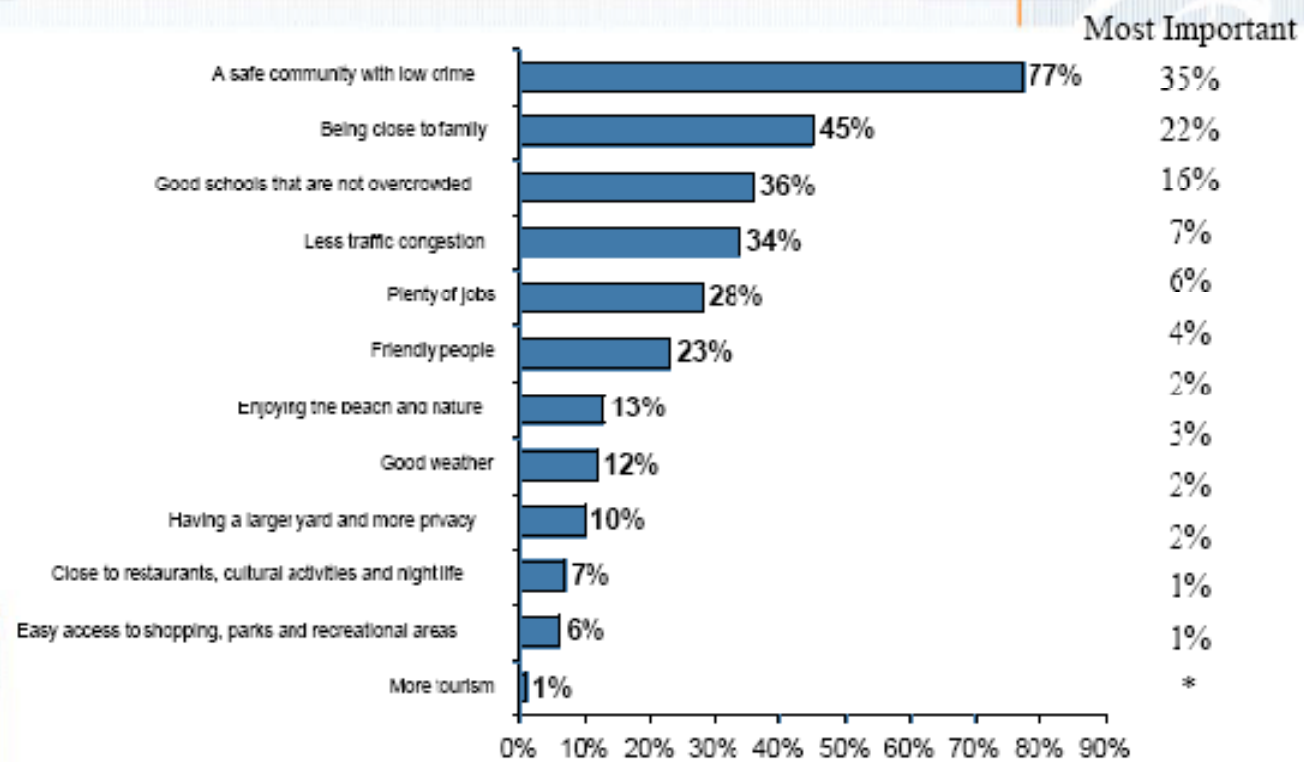
THE NEW REGIONAL AGENDA



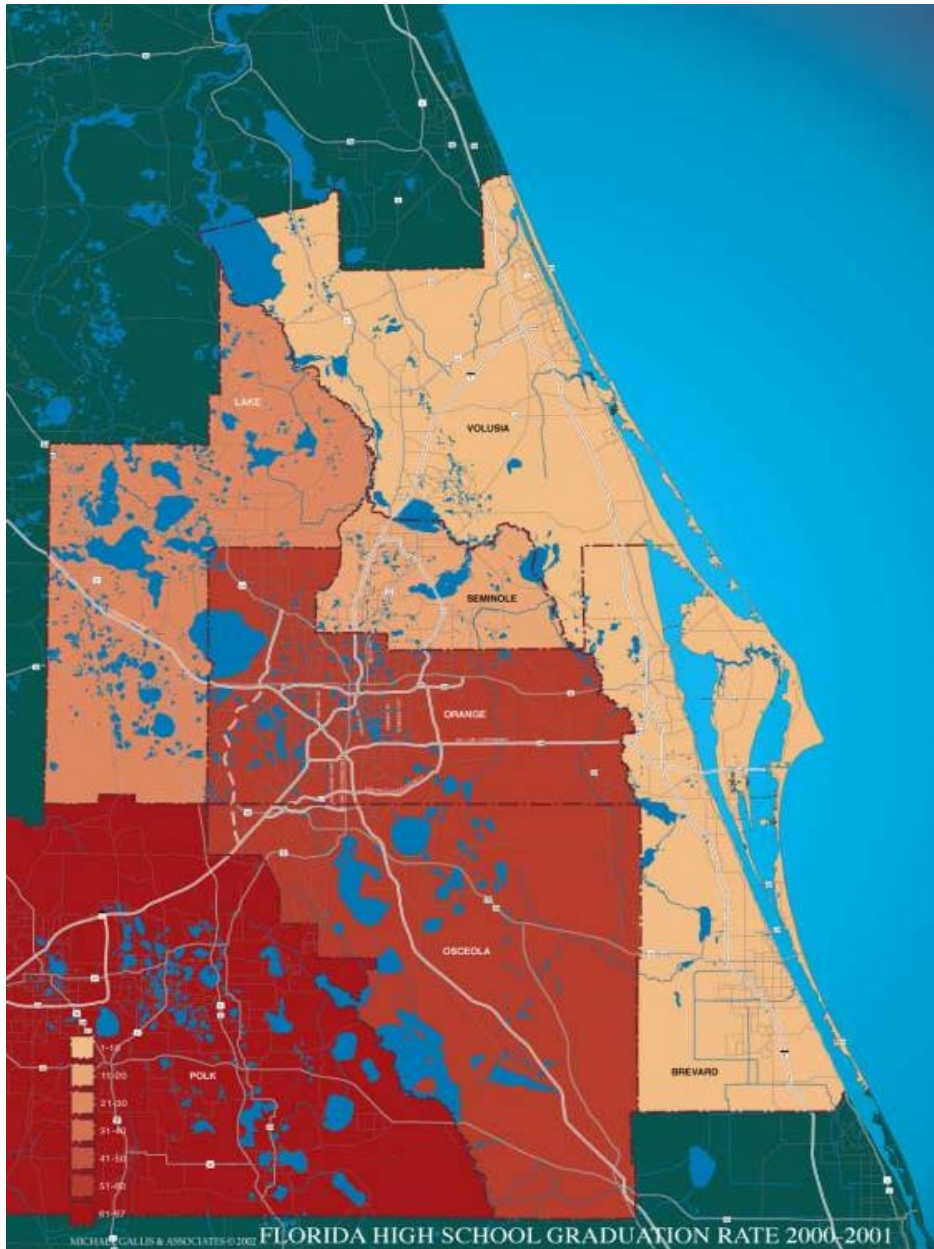
CENTRAL FLORIDA

Monitor
Progress

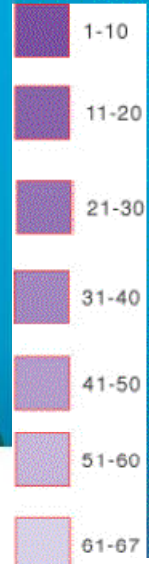
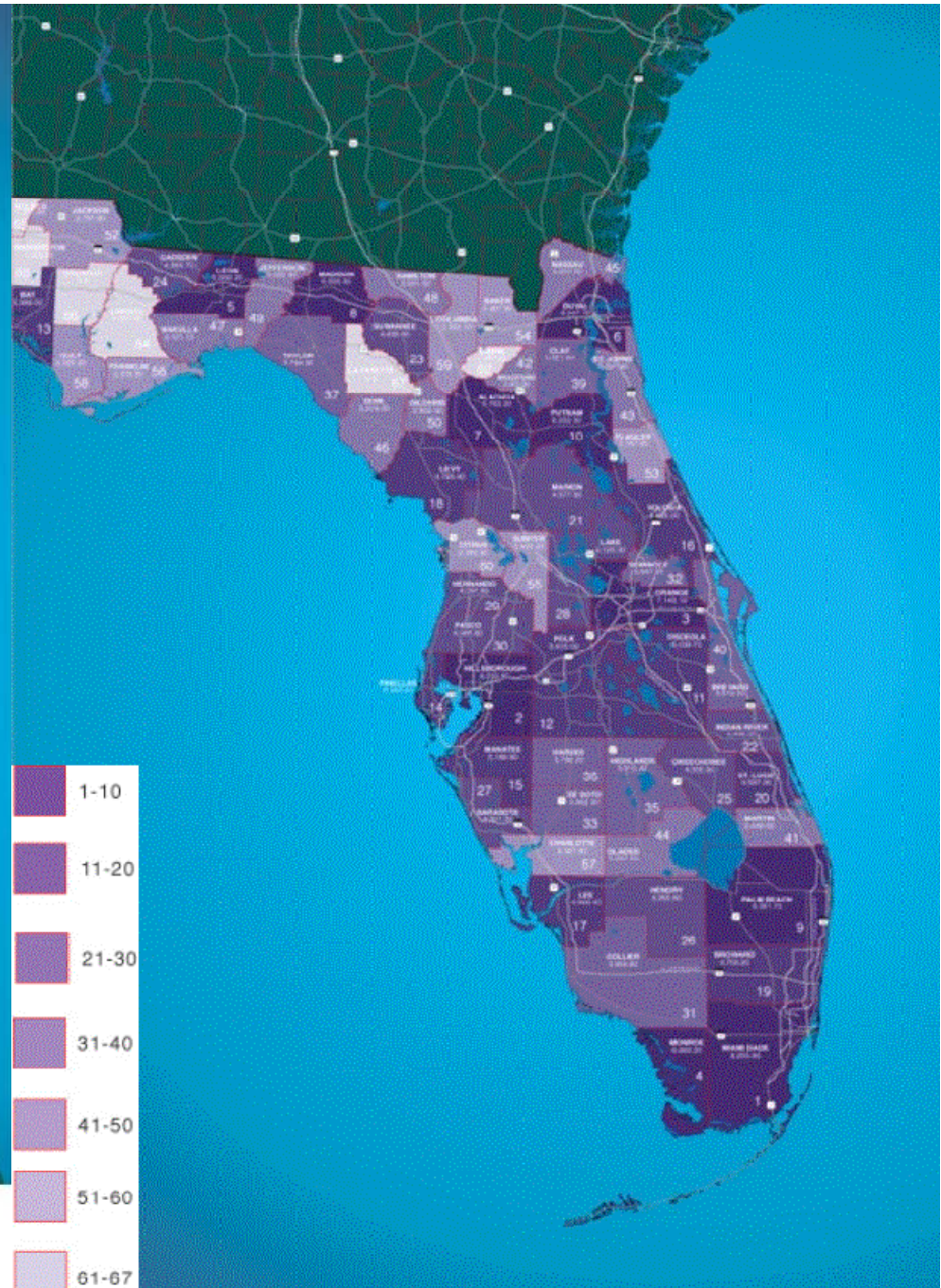
General Public Quality of Life Priorities: Safe community most important; family, schooling and congestion secondary



GP n=505



FLORIDA HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE 2000-2001
(Counties Ranked by Graduation Rate)

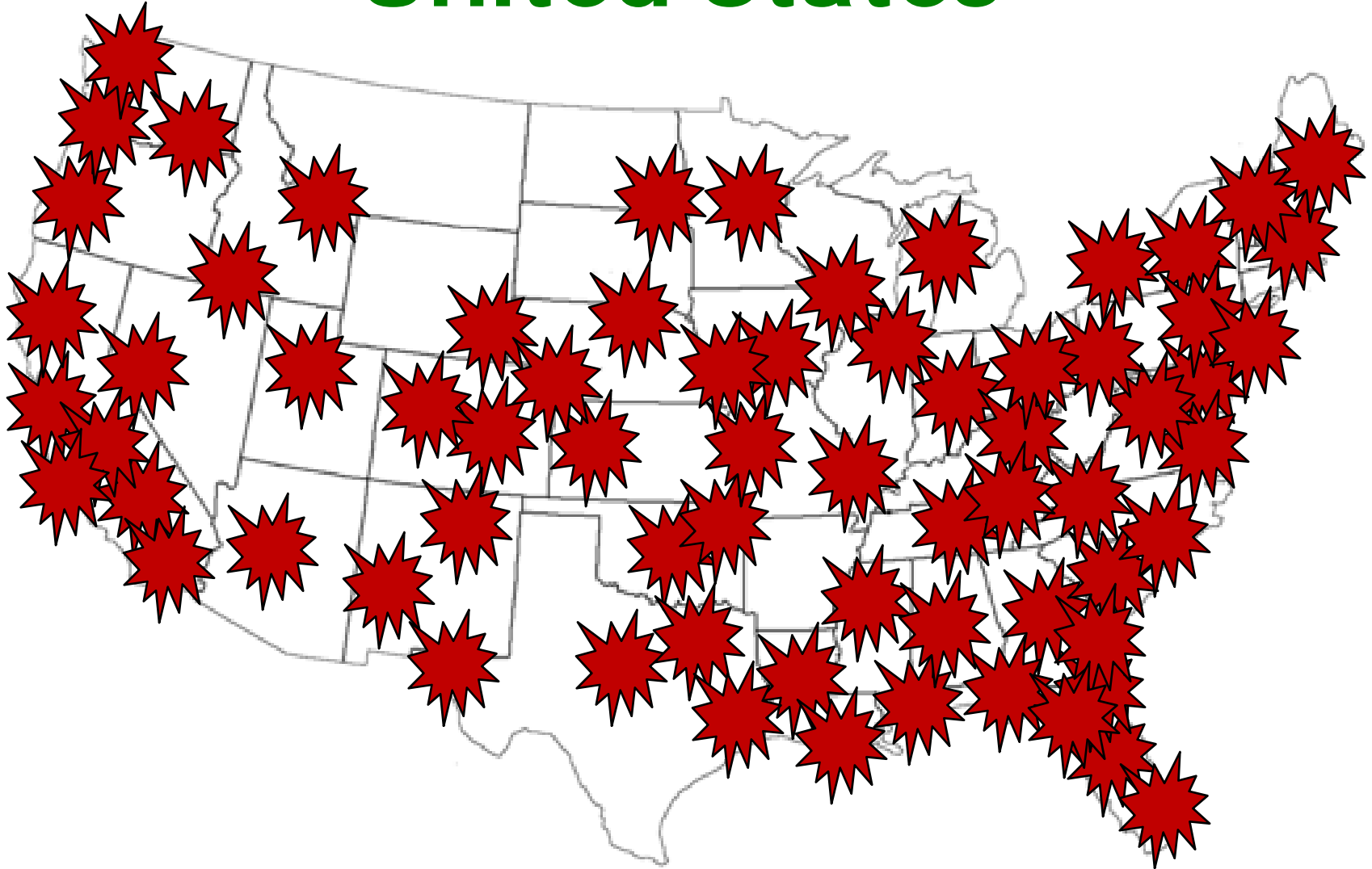


Florida Counties Crime Index: 2000
County Rank and Index Rank Per 100,000

Indicators a society chooses to report to itself about itself are surprisingly powerful. They reflect collective values and inform collective decisions. **A nation that keeps a watchful eye on its salmon runs or the safety of its streets makes different choices than does a nation that is only paying attention to its GNP.** The idea of citizens choosing their own indicators is something new under the sun – something intensely democratic.

Kent E. Portney

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Ben Warner

ben@jcci.org

www.jcci.org

communityindicators.blogspot.com

www.communityindicators.net

www.communityplanning.org

