

Appendix 10
**Indicators:
Sustainable Cincinnati**

*Sustainable Cincinnati 2002:
A Regional Indicators Project Measuring the
Economic, Environmental, and Social Health
of the Tri-state Metropolitan Area*

In 1999 the League of Women Voters convened a small group of organizations to explore the idea of developing a indicators project of the Cincinnati metropolitan region. This evolved into a coalition of 59 organizations from the region that includes local governments, nonprofit organizations, universities, businesses, and faith-based groups. Over a two-year period the coalition heard from national experts, met many times and finally decided on 14 key indicators for the region.

The participants in the development of this indicator project were “rooted in the concept of sustainable community – recognizing the interdependence of the environment, economic development, and social equity”. The mission statement for the Project further explains the parameters of a Sustainable Community:

A sustainable community meets its present needs without sacrificing the ability of others, now and in the future, to meet their own needs. These needs include economic prosperity, quality of life, and healthy, functioning ecosystems. The foundation of sustainability is ensuring that economic prosperity, quality of life, and healthy ecosystems are enduring values for our region.

The introduction to this report states that for as many indicators as possible five years of data or more were collected. The intent was to publish this report annually in order to closely monitor trends for specific indicators. However, for some indicators that were best suited to reflect sustainability, good data was not available. These indicators were labeled “under construction”, with the goal to pursue more complete data in the future.

Regional Indicators

(Sustainable Cincinnati 2002. A Regional Indicators Project Measuring the Economic, Environmental, and Social Health of the Tri-state Metropolitan Area)

ECONOMIC PROSPERITY

	INDICATOR	DATA SOURCE
1	Entrepreneurial spirit as measured by new business starts	Cluster Mapping Project, Institute for Strategy and Competitiveness, Harvard Business School
2	Percent of workforce between 20 and 35 years of age	U S Census
3	Cumulative percent of students who finish high school and are "work ready" or prepared for higher education	<i>Under Construction</i> — http://measuringup.highereducation.org/
4	The percent of the eligible workforce earning enough to be self-sufficient	<i>Under Construction</i> —U S Census

HEALTHY ECOSYSTEMS

	INDICATOR	DATA SOURCE
5	Percent of land in the region devoted to people, habitat, car habitat, wildlife habitat, and agriculture	OKI Regional Council of Governments
6	Pounds of waster per capita sent to landfills or other disposal	Hamilton County Solid Waste District
7	Number of days that air quality is unhealthy based on national standards	Hamilton County's Department of Environmental Services' Air Quality Monitoring Network, Kentucky Division of Air Quality, Dearborn County
8	Percent of stream miles meeting state water quality standards	2002 Kentucky Report to Congress on Water Quality; Ohio EPA; Indiana Department of Environmental Management

HEALTHY PEOPLE AND HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

	INDICATOR	DATA SOURCE
9	Healthy People Index	"Indicators of Healthy Communities" by the Health Improvement Collaborative of Greater Cincinnati, www.the-collaborative.org .
10	Sense of community measured by the Social Capital Index	Robert D. Putnam, <i>Bowling Alone: The Collapse and Revival of American Community</i> , 2000 (national trends), Social Capital Community Benchmark Survey, www.cfsv.org (comparison among metropolitan areas), "Social Capital in Greater Cincinnati", Institute for Policy Research (comparison among different groups in the Cincinnati area), voter statistics from Secretaries of State websites.
11	Violent crime rate in the region	FBI Violent Crime Statistics-1999, 2000
12	Number of people using public transportation	Office of Strategic Research, Ohio Department of Development: Ohio County Indicators

...AND JUSTICE FOR ALL

INDICATOR	DATA SOURCE
13 Percent of population that feels treated with fairness and respect in public interactions, reported by race, ethnicity, sexual orientation and disability status	<i>Under Construction—</i>
14 Racial and income segregation in the region measured by the index of dissimilarity	<i>Under Construction—</i> Census, "Racial and Ethnic Residential Segregation in the United States: 1990-2000" (Report No. CENSR-3). Census Bureau poverty data.
