

Neighborhood Profile

Central: The Heart of the City

by Terry Lenahan

With this month's issue of *Planning & Action*, we begin a series of profiles of Cleveland's neighborhoods (also known as Statistical Planning Areas, or SPAs). Each month we will feature one of Cleveland's 36 SPAs, with comparisons to the City of Cleveland, and to Cuyahoga County. Profiles will include demographics and socioeconomic characteristics about children and families, health, public safety, and housing issues. The data will be as recent as possible, either from the 2000 census or from other sources used in our series of Social Indicators reports. Maps will highlight the differences in Cleveland neighborhoods.

The first neighborhood of the series is the Central SPA. Near downtown and I-77, this neighborhood is indeed central to the heart of the city. But this also means it harbors many inner-city problems. Compared to Cleveland, three times as many of its residents live below the federal poverty level. Half of its residents are Medicaid recipients, compared to about one-fourth in Cleveland.

Compared to Cleveland, Central has a higher percentage of persons under age 18 and a corresponding lower percentage of persons age 65 and older. But while Central's percentage decrease in total population was more than twice as large as Cleveland's in the past two decades, the birth rate, notably the teen birth rate, is higher. Infant death rates and child maltreatment rates are also higher. Twice as many households with children are headed by females, at 56 percent, compared to 27 percent in Cleveland.

Over 90 percent of Central residents are African-American, compared to an average of 51 percent in

Cleveland and 27 percent in Cuyahoga County.

Only 43 percent of residents age 25 and older have graduated from high school, compared to 59 percent in Cleveland and 74 percent in Cuyahoga County. The percentage of residents with higher education is less than half that of Cleveland's already low 12 percent.

Violent delinquency and property delinquency rates are higher than Cleveland's, as are property crimes. While only about half of Cleveland residents rent their property, 94 percent rent in Central. The median age of housing stock is over a century, compared to 81 years in Cleveland, and half a century in Cuyahoga County.

In the 2001 Cuyahoga County Family Health Survey, special attention was given to surveying Central residents. A significantly higher percentage of residents rate their own health as poor or fair compared to the rest of the city and county respondents. Overall, age-adjusted mortality rates are higher in Central than in Cleveland and the county.

More information and the sources for this profile are available in our Social Indicators series: Children and Families, Community Health, Older Persons, Housing, and Public Safety. The reports are available for free from our Website, www.fcp.org. For more information, contact Terry Lenahan at (216) 781-2944, ext. 101 (tlenahan@fcp.org). ■

Maps and tables follow on pages 16-19.

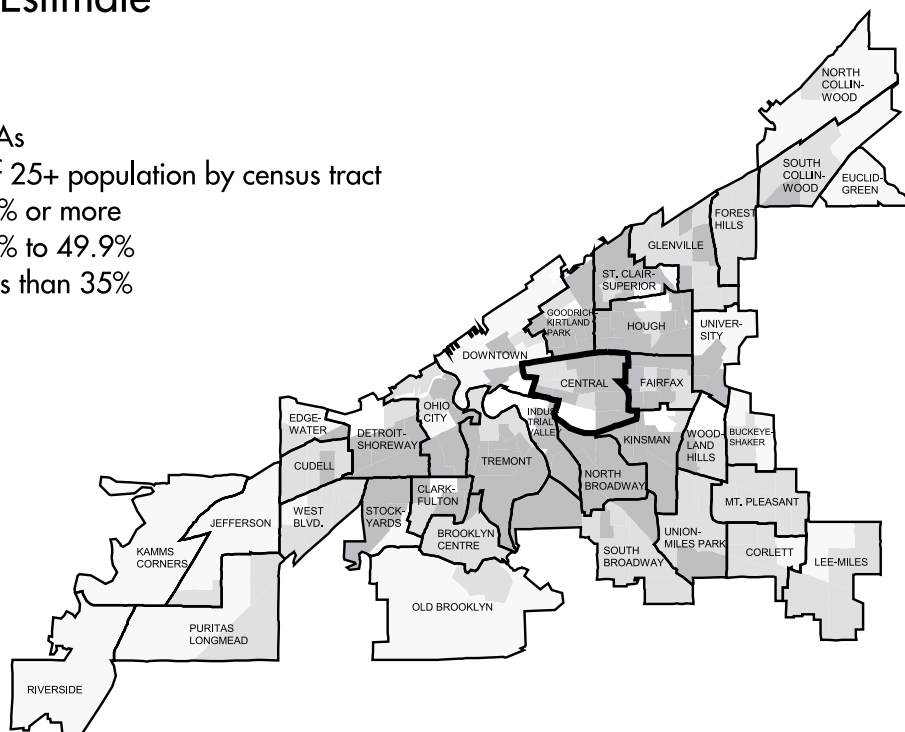
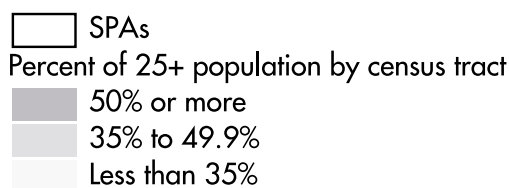
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Central Statistical Planning Area Profile with Comparisons to Cleveland and Cuyahoga County

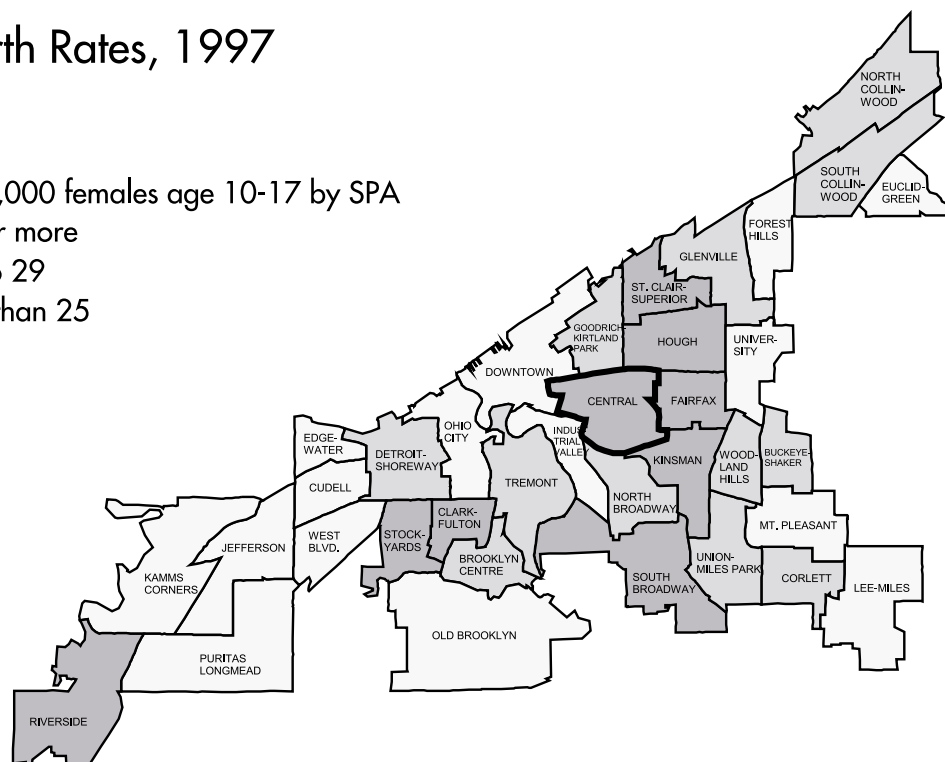
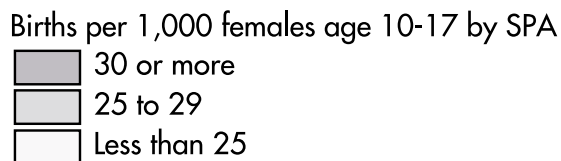
	Central SPA	Cleveland	Cuyahoga County
Community Demographics			
Population Trends (1000s)			
1980	19.4	572.8	1,498.3
1990	13.8	505.8	1,412.1
2000	12.1	478.4	1,394.0
Percent Change 1980 to 1990	-28.8	-11.7	-5.8
Percent Change 1990 to 2000	-12.2	-5.4	-1.3
Racial Group Percentage Distribution			
One Race			
White	5.2	41.5	67.4
Black	92.4	51.0	27.4
Asian	0.4	1.3	1.8
Other	0.6	3.9	1.7
Two or More Races	1.5	2.2	1.7
Percent Hispanic Ethnicity	1.3	7.3	3.4
Age Group Percentage Distribution			
Less Than Age 18	41.0	28.5	25.0
Ages 18 to 64	51.7	59.0	59.5
Age 65 and Older	7.3	12.5	15.6
Average Household Size	2.7	2.5	2.4
Socioeconomic Characteristics			
Educational Attainment Percentages 2000 Population 25 and Older Estimate			
High School Graduate or More	42.9	59.0	74.3
Associate's Degree or More	5.1	12.4	25.5
Percent Below Federal Poverty Level 2000 Estimate	74.8	25.8	11.7
Percent Medicaid Recipients, 2000	49.6	26.7	13.7
Children and Families			
Births, 1997			
To Females Age 15-44	265	8,333	18,476
Per 1,000 Females Age 15-44	83.5	78.0	65.1
To Females Age 10-17	34	732	1,033
Per 1,000 Females Age 10-17	34.3	24.9	14.3
Child Maltreatment Cases, 1999			
Total	240	4,924	6,817
Per 1,000 Children Less Than 18	48.4	36.1	19.6
Percent Female Head of Household With Children, 2000	55.7	26.5	16.0

CLEVELAND STATISTICAL PLANNING AREAS

Percent of 25+ Population with Less than High School Education 2000 Estimate



Teen Birth Rates, 1997



Central Statistical Planning Area Profile with Comparisons to Cleveland and Cuyahoga County

	Central SPA	Cleveland	Cuyahoga County
Health			
Low Weight Births, 1997	31	954	1,670
Low Weight Births per 100 Births, 1997	11.5	11.4	9.0
Infant Deaths, 1997	5	126	202
Infant Deaths per 1,000 Births, 1997	18.5	15.0	10.9
Age-Adjusted Mortality Rates Per 100,000 Persons, 1994-1998 Averages			
All Causes	1,188*	1,056	957
Heart Disease	438*	365	335
Cancer	248	249	231

**Rest of
Cuy. Cty.****

Cuyahoga County Family Health Survey

	Central SPA	Rest of Cuy. Cty.**	Cuyahoga County
Sample Size	281	620	1,506
Adult Health Care (Percent)			
Working Without Insurance (18-64)	6.7	1.5	1.6
Poor-Fair Health (18+)	40.4*	21.7	22.1
One or More Chronic Conditions (18+)	38.7	38.9	39.0
No Medical Home (18+)	19.4	17.7	17.8
ED as Primary Source of Care (18+)	6.0	4.1	4.2

Public Safety

	Central SPA	Cleveland	Cuyahoga County
Per 1,000 Juveniles Age 10-17, 1999			
Violent Delinquency Cases	47.9	33.1	21.8
Property Delinquency Cases	64.3	38.7	27.8
Per 1,000 Residents, 1999			
Property Crimes	80.3	57.6	37.9

Housing

	Central SPA	Cleveland	Cuyahoga County
Percent Renters, 1990	94.0	52.1	38.0
Percent Tax Delinquent Parcels, 2000	26.9	18.1	9.7
Median Age in Years	101	81	51

City/County Data

	Central SPA	Cleveland	Cuyahoga County
Unemployment Rate, October, 2001	n/a***	8.7	4.5

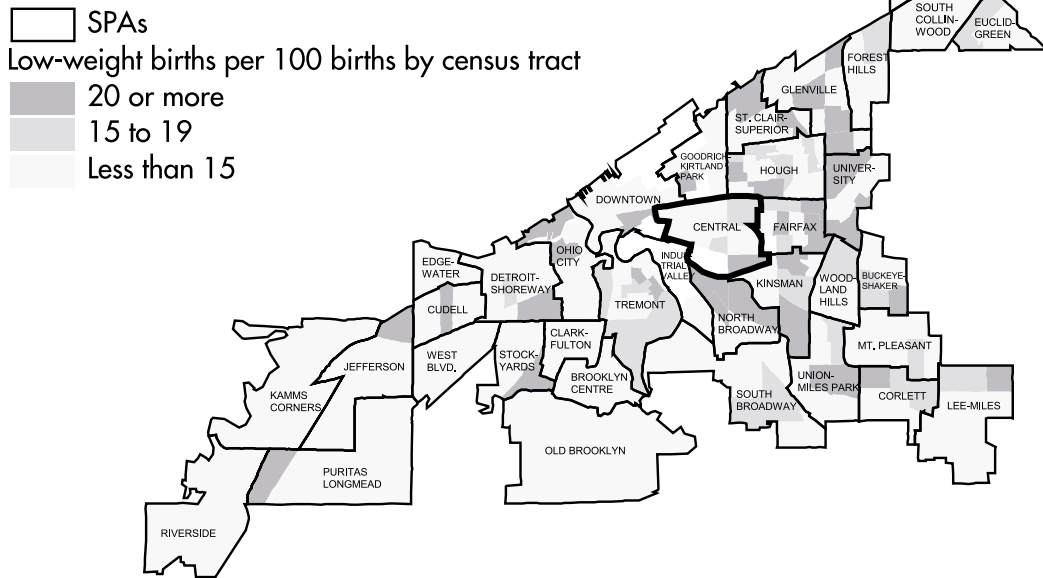
* Significant difference from county at the 95% confidence interval

** Excludes Detroit-Shoreway and Mt. Pleasant SPAs, which were surveyed separately, as was Central.

*** Not available at the SPA level

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Low-Weight Birth Rates, 1997



Juvenile Property Delinquency Rates 1997-1999 Averages

