

Unemployment And Joblessness

The data in this report allow us to track the impact of economic changes and trends such as welfare reform (1998), the 1980s surge in poverty, the 1990s boom years, the recession of 2000 and the beginnings of the 2008 Great Recession. Table 8a shows the 2005-2009 situation and Table 8b shows the 40 year picture. We also show how the distribution of high unemployment and joblessness have changed over time.

Definitions

The Census Bureau considers a person “employed” if he or she had a job or worked even part time at a family farm or business during the week the census was taken. A person is considered “unemployed” if he or she (a civilian 16 years or older) did not have a job but had looked for a job within the past four weeks and was available for work. A frequent criticism of this definition of “unemployment” is that it may exclude the discouraged worker, the person who has simply quit actively looking for work due to past failures or current labor market conditions. The employed and the unemployed together comprise the “civilian labor force.” The unemployment rate is expressed as a percent of the civilian labor force. Those classified as “not in the civilian labor force” include inmates of institutions, students, others under 65, and others over 65. Presumably it is in the category “others under 65 not in the civilian labor force” where we would find discouraged workers. A combination of those unemployed and those “under 65 not in the civilian labor force” are classified as jobless in Table 8a. And finally, “under-employed” or “sub employed” are terms used to designate those persons who may be working but who do not earn enough to support themselves and/or their families.

Neighborhood Data for Cincinnati

In 1970, less than half of Cincinnati’s 48 neighborhoods had equal to or less than the citywide unemployment rate of 4.7 percent. In 2000 there was about the same number below the citywide average of 9.0 percent unemployed. In 2000 there were six communities with unemployment rates double the city average compared to eleven in 1990, seven in 1980 and five in 1970. African American and Appalachian neighborhoods made up all those with higher unemployment.

In 2005-2009, the pattern of unemployment and poverty (Figure 12) is very similar to that of the 2004 edition of this study. The tract mean for unemployment

The tract mean for unemployment in 2000 was 9 percent. In 2005-2009 it was 12 percent, higher than the national average.

in 2000 was 9 percent. In 2005-2009 it was 12 percent, higher than the national average. One difference between the two decades is that the current Figure 12 shows more areas of high unemployment outside the high poverty tracts. These include Kennedy Heights and Roselawn, and three census tracts on the west. Recent changes in Over-the-Rhine, the West End and the CBD are also reflected in Figure 12. Three tracts there no longer have above average poverty and several are no longer in the high unemployment area.

Table 8a shows joblessness and unemployment for Cincinnati neighborhoods in 2005-2009. In SES I rates range from 8 percent in Riverside-Sayler Park to 34 percent in Fay Apartments. In SES II rates range from 6 percent in Corryville to 37 percent in Lower Price Hill. In SES III University Heights, Kennedy Heights, Madisonville, and College Hill had rates in the 10 to 16 percent range. In the 48 neighborhoods, highest numbers of unemployed were in Westwood (1,791), West Price Hill (902), East Price Hill (1,416), and College Hill (896) and Avondale (827). See Table 8a.

TABLE 8A
CINCINNATI NEIGHBORHOODS' JOBLESSNESS AND UNEMPLOYMENT RATES, 2005-2009

Neighborhood	Jobless Persons		Unemployed Persons	
	Percent	Number	Percent	Number
1st Quartile				
S. Cumminsville - Millvale	57%	919	27%	266
Fay Apartments	71%	713	34%	181
East Price Hill	44%	5,268	17%	1,416
Winton Hills	61%	1,439	28%	391
Camp Washington	65%	656	14%	57
Riverside - Sayler Park	27%	291	8%	68
Avondale	44%	3,734	15%	827
Walnut Hills	47%	1,965	16%	440
Sedamsville - Riverside	62%	673	27%	157
N. Fairmount - English Woods	48%	966	20%	271
S. Fairmount	45%	944	16%	223
Mt. Airy	34%	2,159	10%	484
2nd Quartile				
Bond Hill	40%	1,906	19%	699
Over-the-Rhine	38%	1,198	12%	267
Linwood	44%	237	9%	30
Winton Place	36%	666	7%	88
Carthage	43%	564	9%	73
Evanston	46%	2,020	21%	713
West End	44%	2,271	12%	419
Roselawn	67%	4,869	12%	363
Lower Price Hill	66%	338	37%	109
West Price Hill	32%	4,103	9%	902
Corryville	39%	1,080	6%	100
Mt. Auburn	42%	1,823	10%	286

TABLE 8A
CINCINNATI NEIGHBORHOODS' JOBLESSNESS AND UNEMPLOYMENT RATES, 2005-2009

Neighborhood	Jobless Persons		Unemployed Persons	
	Percent	Number	Percent	Number
3rd Quartile				
Kennedy Heights	37%	1,501	14%	432
University Heights	43%	3,142	16%	786
Fairview - Clifton	38%	2,612	8%	371
Westwood	32%	7,958	9%	1,791
Northside	30%	1,806	8%	387
Madisonville	28%	2,266	11%	763
Evanston - E. Walnut Hills	34%	394	8%	65
Hartwell	26%	915	5%	131
College Hill	30%	3,260	10%	896
N. Avondale - Paddock Hills	56%	3,904	9%	321
CBD - Riverfront	51%	1,735	3%	56
4th Quartile				
Oakley	15%	1,381	4%	351
Sayler Park	37%	913	7%	136
East End	28%	313	5%	42
Mt. Washington	26%	2,655	5%	469
Pleasant Ridge	24%	1,665	7%	401
East Walnut Hills	34%	838	7%	145
Clifton	24%	1,532	8%	433
California	30%	261	5%	31
Mt. Adams	19%	288	1%	7
Mt. Lookout - Columbia Tusculum	17%	419	1%	15
Hyde Park	18%	1,976	2%	195
Mt. Lookout	20%	507	1%	22

Figure 12 2005-2009 Cincinnati City Areas of High Unemployment and Areas of Poverty

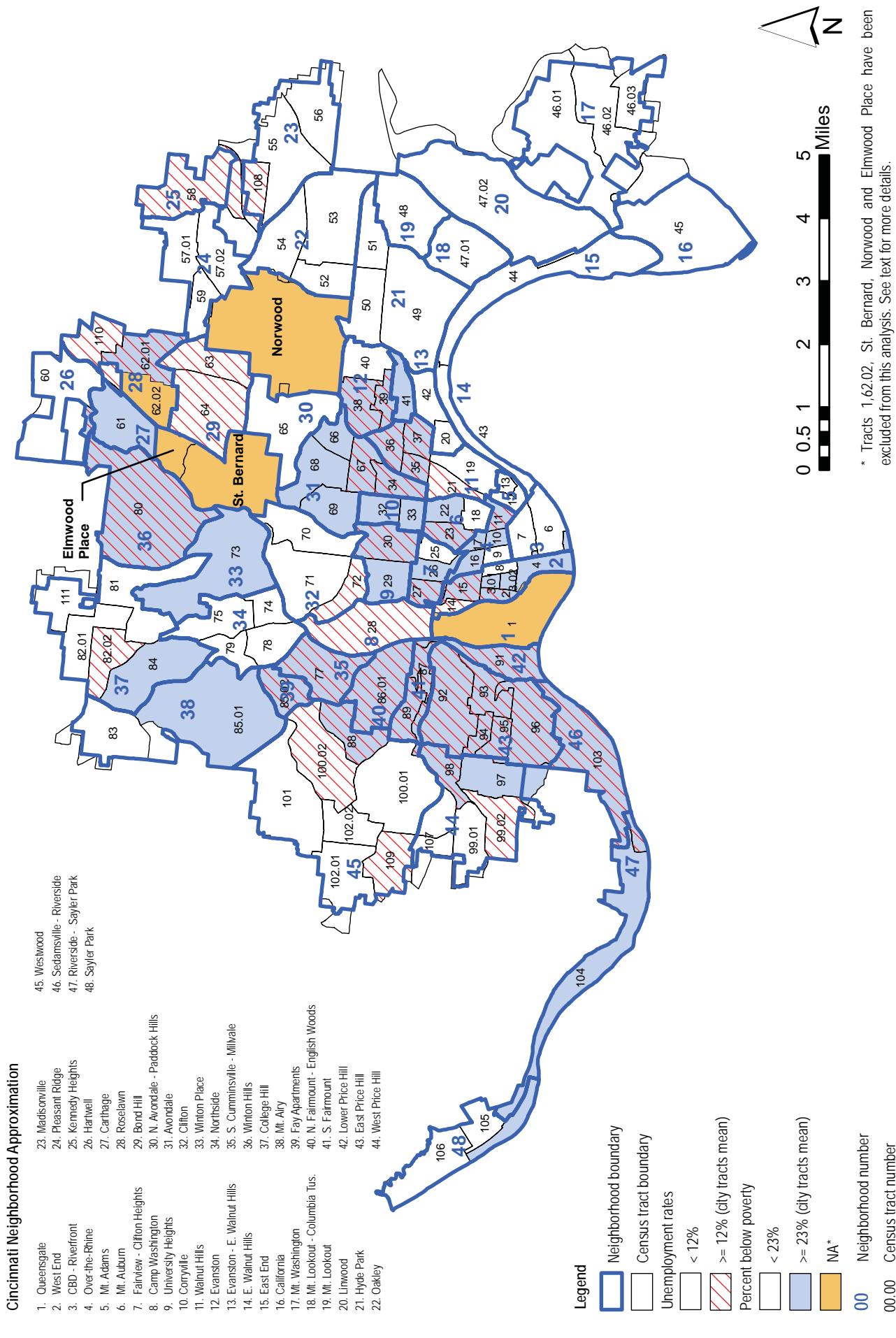


Table 8b shows the thirty year trends for joblessness and unemployment. The most dramatic increases in percent unemployment were in Fay Apartments (311%), Sedamsville-Riverside (111%), Bond Hill (165%), Mt. Airy (149%), and Roselawn (209%). In the 2005-2009 period the percent increase was more than 50 percent in three SES I neighborhoods, 4 in SES II, 5 in SES III, and 6 in SES IV. Between 1990 and 2000 unemployment rates went down in more than half of the 48 neighborhoods. In 2005-2009 only 13 saw their rates decline. The 1990s was a period of relatively healthy national economy. The figures for the 2000s reflect the mixed effects of welfare reform, which might explain the drop in rates for some neighborhoods, and the counter effects of the 2000 and 2008 recessions. The big decreases in Over-the-Rhine and West End are in keeping with their rising SES index levels (Chapter 4). Some declines (Avondale, for example) could be a reflection of “the discouraged worker” syndrome which causes people to quit looking for a job. As in

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previous decades unemployment patterns in Cincinnati neighborhoods are affected by the national economy as well as local community development efforts and migration trends.

The working climate of Cincinnati is worse than the statistics portray. Many of the jobs that are available now are minimum wage service positions with little or no hope of advancement. Many of the working poor are underemployed and are living below the poverty level. The implications of this trend toward more low paying service positions is that the economic situation becomes more and more critical and destabilizes families; hence poverty becomes more profound. Competition for jobs will become even keener. A growing number of jobless (discouraged workers) can be expected.

In Chapter 12, we will discuss alternatives to high unemployment and joblessness.

The working climate of Cincinnati is worse than the statistics portray. Many of the jobs that are available now are minimum wage positions with little or no hope of advancement.

Table 2b shows how the unemployment rate varied in the four social areas over the forty year period of this study. Between 1970 and 2005-2009 unemployment went from 9 percent to 16 percent in SES I, doubled in SES II and III and almost doubled in SES IV. Unemployment and joblessness continue to haunt us and are not just a problem in the inner city.

TABLE 8B
CINCINNATI NEIGHBORHOODS' CHANGES IN JOBLESSNESS AND UNEMPLOYMENT RATES, 1980 TO 2005-2009

Neighborhood	Joblessness Rate			Percent Change			Unemployment Rate			Percent Change						
	1980	1990	2000	2005-2009	1980-1990	1990-2000	2000-2009	1980-2009	1980	1990	2000	2005-2009	1980-1990	1990-2000	2000-2009	1980-2009
1st Quartile																
S. Cumminsville-Millvale	57%	64%	58%	57%	13%	-10%	-2%	0%	16%	29%	20%	27%	90%	-32%	34%	73%
Fay Apartments	34%	61%	54%	71%	79%	-12%	32%	109%	8%	23%	29%	34%	171%	27%	19%	311%
East Price Hill	35%	34%	34%	44%	-2%	0%	28%	26%	9%	8%	9%	17%	-15%	10%	97%	85%
Winton Hills		61%	56%	61%	----	-9%	9%	----	17%	25%	26%	28%	48%	2%	8%	62%
Camp Washington	67%	51%	64%	65%	-24%	26%	1%	-3%	18%	15%	14%	14%	-18%	-9%	2%	-23%
Riverside-Sayler Park	32%	30%	32%	27%	-6%	7%	-16%	-16%	5%	7%	13%	8%	32%	79%	-38%	45%
Avondale	42%	44%	47%	44%	6%	6%	-6%	6%	15%	17%	13%	15%	10%	-21%	12%	-3%
Walnut Hills	43%	44%	44%	47%	3%	0%	7%	10%	16%	14%	13%	16%	-12%	-4%	20%	1%
Sedamsville-Riverside	48%	46%	28%	62%	-5%	-38%	118%	28%	13%	17%	9%	27%	33%	-45%	190%	111%
N. Fairmount - English Woods	58%	61%	60%	48%	6%	-3%	-20%	-17%	20%	19%	25%	20%	-3%	30%	-19%	2%
S. Fairmount	37%	45%	49%	45%	22%	9%	-8%	23%	9%	16%	14%	16%	83%	-12%	12%	81%
Mt. Airy	26%	19%	27%	34%	-26%	42%	25%	32%	4%	4%	4%	10%	-1%	6%	137%	149%
2nd Quartile																
Bond Hill	0%	29%	34%	40%	-----	17%	19%	----	7%	10%	7%	19%	44%	-33%	176%	165%
Over-the-Rhine	66%	66%	59%	38%	0%	-11%	-34%	-42%	28%	24%	24%	12%	-13%	-2%	-52%	-59%
Linwood	52%	42%	34%	44%	-20%	-19%	28%	-16%	15%	18%	8%	9%	18%	-58%	18%	-41%
Winton Place	24%	31%	27%	36%	30%	-14%	34%	50%	7%	10%	6%	7%	40%	-43%	20%	-4%
Carthage	33%	30%	33%	43%	-9%	11%	31%	32%	9%	7%	6%	9%	-20%	-16%	48%	-1%
Evanston	45%	41%	38%	46%	-9%	-6%	20%	2%	15%	12%	13%	21%	-18%	3%	69%	43%
West End	58%	64%	57%	44%	10%	-11%	-23%	-24%	21%	24%	21%	12%	13%	-11%	-42%	-42%
Roselawn	0%	23%	30%	67%	----	29%	122%	----	4%	5%	8%	12%	23%	70%	47%	209%
Lower Price Hill	57%	59%	50%	66%	3%	-15%	33%	15%	19%	21%	16%	37%	8%	-23%	133%	94%
West Price Hill	28%	24%	24%	32%	-13%	-2%	37%	16%	5%	4%	4%	9%	-23%	-9%	167%	88%
Corryville	44%	36%	35%	39%	-17%	-5%	13%	-11%	8%	12%	7%	6%	44%	-41%	-17%	-30%
Mt. Auburn	47%	36%	41%	42%	-23%	14%	2%	-10%	20%	13%	11%	10%	-37%	-9%	-13%	-50%

TABLE 8B
CINCINNATI NEIGHBORHOODS' CHANGES IN JOBLESSNESS AND UNEMPLOYMENT RATES, 1980 TO 2005-2009

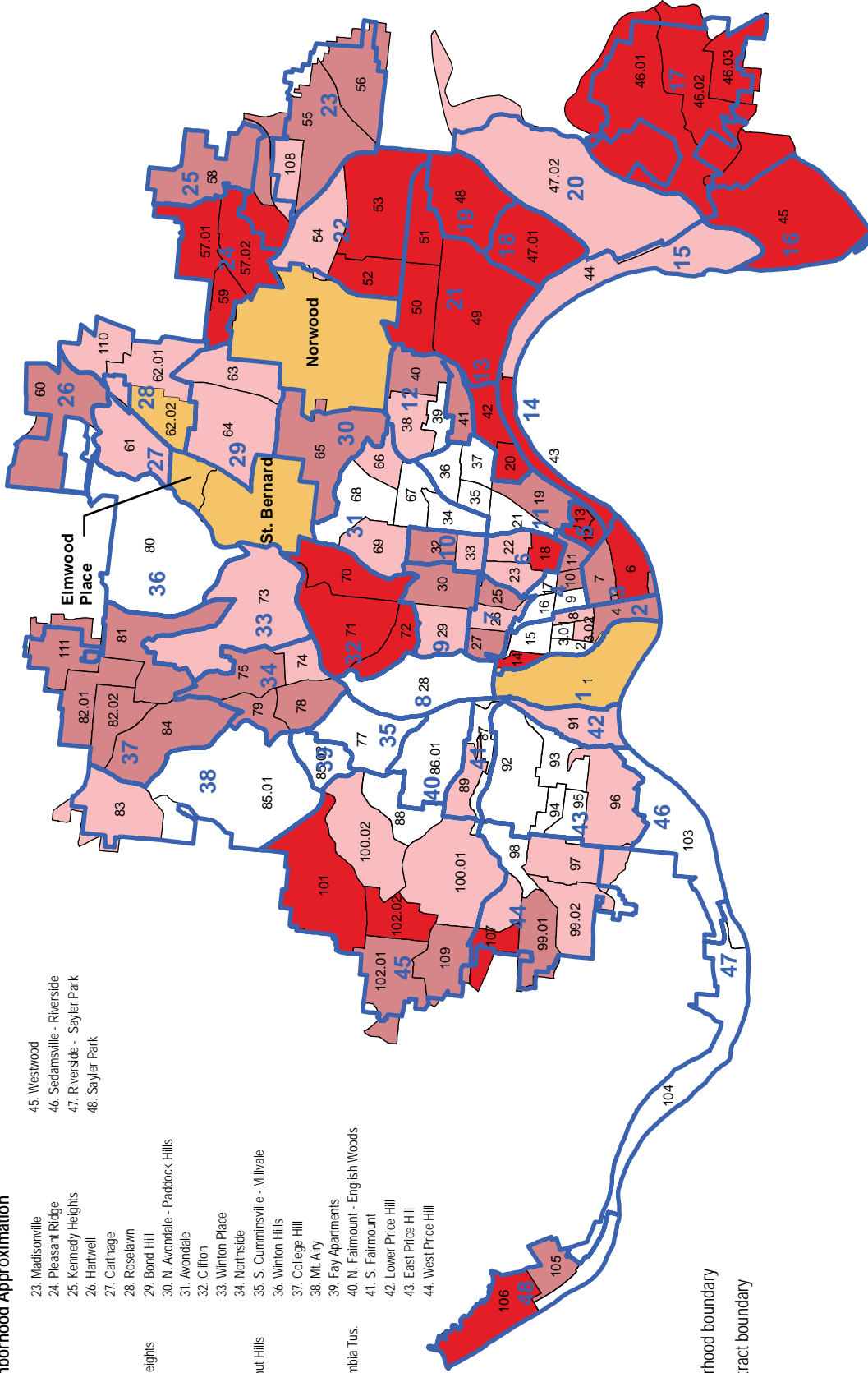
Neighborhood	Joblessness Rate			Percent Change			Unemployment Rate			Percent Change		
	1980	1990	2000	1980-1990	1990-2000	2000-2009	1980	1990	2000	1980-1990	1990-2000	2000-2009
3rd Quartile												
Kennedy Heights	29%	26%	27%	-12%	4%	41%	29%	7%	6%	-33%	-17%	144%
University Heights	51%	43%	42%	-16%	0%	1%	-16%	6%	11%	-9%	70%	46%
Fairview-Clifton	36%	31%	30%	-15%	-1%	26%	7%	5%	7%	-30%	49%	9%
Westwood	0%	23%	26%	----	15%	24%	----	4%	5%	56%	-8%	85%
Northside	37%	32%	28%	-13%	-12%	5%	-19%	9%	7%	0%	-22%	18%
Madisonville	36%	33%	28%	-7%	-17%	-1%	-23%	10%	6%	-24%	-42%	93%
Evanston-E. Walnut Hills	40%	33%	32%	-19%	0%	3%	-16%	8%	10%	-20%	22%	-22%
Hartwell	29%	23%	20%	-19%	-14%	28%	-11%	4%	5%	-28%	39%	-16%
College Hill	26%	25%	29%	-2%	12%	4%	15%	7%	6%	13%	-15%	73%
N. Avondale - Paddock Hills	25%	29%	37%	14%	28%	52%	124%	8%	5%	40%	-35%	76%
CBD-Riverfront	0%	31%	61%	----	95%	-16%	----	9%	16%	-33%	167%	-80%
4th Quartile												
Oakley	25%	18%	17%	-29%	-5%	-14%	-42%	3%	3%	-56%	-22%	61%
Sayler Park	31%	26%	20%	-16%	-25%	90%	20%	4%	3%	-53%	-22%	152%
East End	50%	50%	32%	-1%	-35%	-13%	-44%	12%	7%	-25%	-40%	-33%
Mt. Washington	23%	21%	20%	-9%	-5%	28%	11%	3%	4%	-32%	41%	47%
Pleasant Ridge	0%	21%	22%	----	3%	12%	----	6%	3%	-23%	-28%	110%
East Walnut Hills	26%	23%	24%	-13%	6%	41%	30%	4%	4%	-29%	4%	65%
Clifton	26%	22%	23%	-15%	2%	8%	-6%	4%	3%	-12%	-20%	151%
California	40%	28%	22%	-29%	-23%	38%	-24%	8%	2%	-19%	-77%	152%
Mt. Adams	12%	11%	10%	-11%	-3%	81%	55%	0%	2%	-84%	416%	-78%
Mt. Lookout-Columbia Tusculum	34%	25%	16%	-28%	-34%	8%	-49%	3%	3%	-68%	14%	-77%
Hyde Park	22%	17%	17%	-24%	1%	5%	-20%	2%	2%	-51%	2%	20%
Mt. Lookout	28%	20%	16%	-30%	-21%	26%	-30%	3%	1%	-46%	-9%	-22%

Figure 2

2005-2009 Cincinnati City SES Quartiles

Cincinnati Neighborhood Approximation

- | | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Queensgate | 23. Madisonville | 45. Westwood |
| 2. West End | 24. Pleasant Ridge | 46. Sedamsville - Riverside |
| 3. CBD - Riverfront | 25. Kennedy Heights | 47. Riverside - Saylor Park |
| 4. Over-the-Rhine | 26. Hartwell | 48. Saylor Park |
| 5. Mt. Adams | 27. Carthage | |
| 6. Mt. Auburn | 28. Roselawn | |
| 7. Fairview - Clifton Heights | 29. Bond Hill | |
| 8. Camp Washington | 30. N. Avondale - Paddock Hills | |
| 9. University Heights | 31. Avondale | |
| 10. Coryville | 32. Clifton | |
| 11. Walnut Hills | 33. Winton Place | |
| 12. Evanston | 34. Northside | |
| 13. Evanston - E. Walnut Hills | 35. S. Cumminsville - Millvale | |
| 14. E. Walnut Hills | 36. Winton Hills | |
| 15. East End | 37. College Hill | |
| 16. California | 38. Mt. Airy | |
| 17. Mt. Washington | 39. Fay Apartments | |
| 18. Mt. Lookout - Columbia Tus. | 40. N. Fairmount - English Woods | |
| 19. Mt. Lookout | 41. S. Fairmount | |
| 20. Linwood | 42. Lower Price Hill | |
| 21. Hyde Park | 43. East Price Hill | |
| 22. Oakley | 44. West Price Hill | |



- Legend
- Neighborhood boundary
 - Census tract boundary
- SES Quartiles
- SES I
 - SES II
 - SES III
 - SES IV
 - NA*

- Neighborhood number
- Census tract number



*Tracts 1,62.02, St. Bernard, Norwood and Elmwood Place have been excluded from this analysis. See text for more details.