Education In Cincinnati

This chapter on education in Cincinnati is divided into three sections; school dropouts, adult education, and functional illiteracy. A fourth section on education in the metropolitan area closes the chapter.

School Dropouts

Figure 7 presents the neighborhood dropout rates. These rates reflect 16-19 year olds that reported in the American Community Survey (ACS) they were not in school and had not graduated.

A comparison of 2005-2009 ACS data (Table 6a) and 1980 data shows the 16 - 19 year old dropout rates increased in 10 neighborhoods. Two of these were in SES I, four in SES II, four in SES III, and none in SES IV. In terms of

> The neighborhoods with the largest numbers as opposed to percentages of dropouts were East Price Hill (296), Westwood (180), Roselawn (178), and Avondale (119).
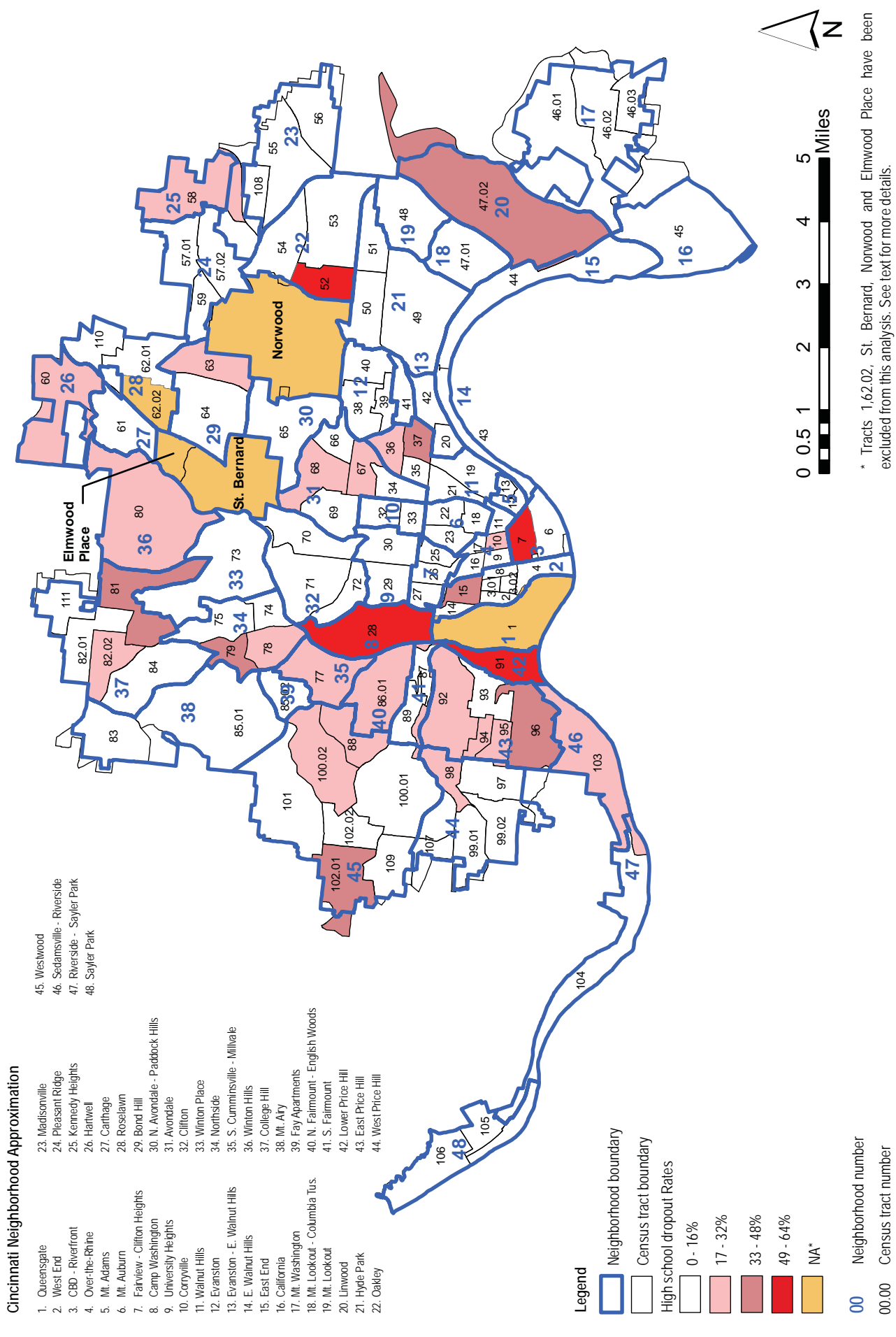
race and ethnicity, the dropout rate increased in five white neighborhoods and in four African American neighborhoods. The white neighborhoods are those which are now or were once on the list of Appalachian neighborhoods and some have growing Hispanic populations. In Table 6a, seventeen neighborhoods show up as having a dropout rate of zero. In 2000, there were only five such neighborhoods. Because of its sample size, the American Community Survey cannot calculate a rate if the number of dropouts falls below about 20.

In 2005-2009, the ten neighborhoods with the highest dropout rates (Table 6b) are Lower Price Hill (64 percent), CBD (61 percent), Camp Washington (49 percent), Linwood (46 percent), Hartwell (30 percent), North Fairmount–English Woods (26 percent), Winton Hills (24 percent), Roselawn (23 percent), Sedamsville-Riverside (22 percent), and East Price Hill (22

percent). Half of these were also on the top 10 (12 because of ties) in 2000 but CBD, Hartwell, Winton Hills, Roselawn and East Price Hill are new. South Cumminsville-Millvale, Over-the-Rhine, West End, Fay Apartments, Walnut Hills, and Evanston are no longer on the list. Research is needed to uncover why these shifts in the map of school dropouts have occurred. Some are associated with demographic shifts and related changes in SES, but only three of the high dropout neighborhoods were on the list of high SES losses in Table 2-g2. Others may be due to factors such as opening or closing schools or education reform.

The neighborhoods with the largest numbers as opposed to percentages of dropouts were East Price Hill (296), Westwood (180), Roselawn (178), and Avondale (119).

Figure 7

2005-2009 Cincinnati City High School Dropout Rates

Cincinnati Neighborhood Approximation

1. Queensgate
2. West End
3. CBD - Riverfront
4. Over-the-Rhine
5. Mt. Adams
6. Mt. Auburn
7. Fairview - Clifton Heights
8. Camp Washington
9. University Heights
10. Corryville
11. Walnut Hills
12. Evanston
13. Evanston - E. Walnut Hills
14. E. Walnut Hills
15. East End
16. California
17. Mt. Washington
18. Mt. Lookout - Columbia Tus.
19. Mt. Lookout
20. Linwood
21. Hyde Park
22. Oakley

23. Madisonville
24. Pleasant Ridge
25. Kennedy Heights
26. Hartwell
27. Carthage
28. Roselawn
29. Bond Hill
30. N. Avondale - Paddock Hills
31. Avondale
32. Clifton
33. Winton Place
34. Northside
35. S. Cumminsville - Millvale
36. Winton Hills
37. College Hill
38. Mt. Airy
39. Fay Apartments
40. N. Fairmount - English Woods
41. S. Fairmount
42. Lower Price Hill
43. East Price Hill
44. West Price Hill

45. Westwood
46. Sedamsville - Riverside
47. Riverside - Sayler Park
48. Sayler Park

Legend

Neighborhood boundary

Census tract boundary

High school dropout Rates

0 - 16%

17 - 32%

33 - 48%

49 - 64%

NA*

00 Neighborhood number

00.00 Census tract number

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

0 0.5 1 2 3 4 5 Miles

N

58

TABLE 6A
CINCINNATI NEIGHBORHOODS' DROP-OUT RATES, 1980 TO 2005-2009

Neighborhood	High School Drop-Out Rate							
	1980		1990		2000		2005-2009	
	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number
1st Quartile								
S. Cumminsville-Millvale	12%	62	25%	72	23.9%	70	21.4%	43
Fay Apartments	20%	36	16%	29	30.2%	73	14.7%	17
East Price Hill	32%	493	14%	176	25.7%	323	22.4%	296
Winton Hills	20%	140	26%	127	47.2%	159	23.8%	98
Camp Washington	50%	59	53%	75	34.3%	58	48.8%	40
Riverside - Sayler Park	43%	27	16%	11	26.3%	15	8.5%	14
Avondale	19%	281	14%	146	34.1%	308	13.7%	119
Walnut Hills	24%	165	14%	52	13.7%	47	10.8%	38
Sedamsville-Riverside	50%	125	25%	42	28.4%	19	21.5%	14
N. Fairmount-English Woods	37%	174	14%	54	18.2%	50	25.6%	60
S. Fairmount	47%	144	37%	83	18.9%	45	9.8%	30
Mt. Airy	10%	51	7%	26	0.0%	0	0.0%	0
2nd Quartile								
Bond Hill	13%	97	53%	75	11.0%	69	14.6%	77
Over-the-Rhine	45%	319	31%	148	31.4%	154	11.6%	22
Linwood	37%	41	16%	48	19.1%	13	46.2%	24
Winton Place	18%	32	14%	8	11.7%	21	0.0%	0
Carthage	40%	59	28%	27	40.8%	40	0.0%	0
Evanston	11%	94	45%	74	16.4%	87	8.6%	36
West End	18%	172	28%	207	25.4%	125	4.8%	12
Roselawn	13%	33	4%	8	23.7%	75	23.5%	178
Lower Price Hill	58%	93	45%	47	57.9%	33	64.0%	16
West Price Hill	14%	195	9%	78	12.6%	112	5.2%	55
Corryville	23%	54	49%	42	23.1%	68	0.0%	0
Mt. Auburn	21%	179	31%	68	19.6%	107	4.2%	17
3rd Quartile								
Kennedy Heights	11%	57	5%	17	13.0%	37	16.1%	98
University Heights	1%	26	0%	5	1.1%	21	2.2%	45
Fairview - Clifton	18%	83	8%	42	14.1%	85	1.2%	9
Westwood	15%	246	19%	251	16.5%	281	14.7%	180
Northside	33%	293	26%	172	24.0%	101	12.5%	44
Madisonville	16%	133	37%	92	14.0%	91	3.9%	26
Evanston - E. Walnut Hills	6%	9	14%	16	8.3%	6	0.0%	0
Hartwell	11%	24	9%	12	0.0%	0	30.1%	56
College Hill	12%	135	12%	100	8.2%	75	10.0%	74
N. Avondale - Paddock Hills	2.0%	20	1%	8	1.9%	20	0.0%	0
CBD - Riverfront	6.0%	6	52%	97	49.4%	38	61.4%	78

Neighborhood	High School Drop-Out Rate							
	1980		1990		2000		2005-2009	
	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number
4th Quartile								
Oakley	20%	131	13%	51	20.7%	61	9.5%	21
Sayler Park	22%	63	22%	37	25.6%	46	0.0%	0
East End	36%	9	49%	67	11.1%	11	0.0%	0
Mt. Washington	20%	121	14%	60	9.6%	48	0.0%	0
Pleasant Ridge	18%	82	12%	56	2.4%	9	0.0%	0
East Walnut Hills	14%	11	28%	31	13.8%	16	0.0%	0
Clifton	16%	79	5%	18	15.1%	32	0.0%	0
California	27%	13	50%	6	28.2%	11	0.0%	0
Mt. Adams	0%	0	0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0
Mt. Lookout - Columbia Tusculum	15%	23	8%	13	0.0%	0	0.0%	0
Hyde Park	4%	30	3%	14	1.7%	6	0.0%	0
Mt. Lookout	9%	14	0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0

Table 6a
Cincinnati Neighborhoods' Drop-Out Rates, 1980 to 2005-2009

Table 6b						
Cincinnati Neighborhoods: Education Level of Adults, 2005-2009						
Neighborhood	High School Drop-Out Rate		Less Than High School Diploma		Functional Illiteracy Rate	
	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number
1st Quartile						
S. Cumminsville - Millvale	21%	43	42%	527	14%	176
Fay Apartments	15%	17	33%	241	2%	12
East Price Hill	22%	296	35%	3871	9%	1018
Winton Hills	24%	98	32%	643	8%	163
Camp Washington	49%	40	44%	433	12%	115
Riverside - Sayler Park	8%	14	23%	218	7%	65
Avondale	14%	119	27%	2104	6%	490
Walnut Hills	11%	38	30%	1301	7%	315
Sedamsville - Riverside	22%	14	50%	625	7%	91
N. Fairmount - English Woods	26%	60	39%	668	8%	128
S. Fairmount	10%	30	27%	518	9%	177
Mt. Airy	0%	0	22%	1367	8%	468
2nd Quartile						
Bond Hill	15%	77	21%	1103	6%	306
Over-the-Rhine	12%	22	29%	810	2%	59
Linwood	46%	24	57%	318	7%	38
Winton Place	0%	0	21%	314	6%	91
Carthage	0%	0	23%	364	8%	120
Evanston	9%	36	18%	822	3%	161
West End	5%	12	29%	1525	4%	228
Roselawn	23%	178	24%	1711	7%	514
Lower Price Hill	64%	16	48%	214	11%	51
West Price Hill	5%	55	19%	2280	4%	431
Corryville	0%	0	9%	129	3%	37
Mt. Auburn	4%	17	22%	725	5%	178
3rd Quartile						
Kennedy Heights	16%	98	15%	659	2%	70
University Heights	2%	45	14%	528	2%	86
Fairview - Clifton	1%	9	13%	443	6%	204
Westwood	15%	180	18%	4719	4%	1167
Northside	13%	44	15%	931	6%	391
Madisonville	4%	26	16%	1322	3%	253
Evanston - E. Walnut Hills	0%	0	14%	187	7%	93
Hartwell	30%	56	17%	661	8%	326
College Hill	10%	74	13%	1540	3%	320
N. Avondale - Paddock Hills	0%	0	14%	511	5%	176
CBD - Riverfront	61%	78	23%	716	4%	142

TABLE 6B CINCINNATI NEIGHBORHOODS: EDUCATION LEVEL OF ADULTS, 2005-2009						
4th Quartile						
Oakley	10%	21	7%	728	2%	160
Sayler Park	0%	0	12%	296	7%	174
East End	0%	0	20%	227	8%	92
Mt. Washington	0%	0	12%	1290	4%	399
Pleasant Ridge	0%	0	7%	503	1%	90
East Walnut Hills	0%	0	12%	345	3%	100
Clifton	0%	0	7%	435	2%	102
California	0%	0	4%	30	0%	0
Mt. Adams	0%	0	2%	30	1%	17
Mt. Lookout-Columbia Tusculum	0%	0	5%	113	0%	0
Hyde Park	0%	0	1%	88	0%	27
Mt. Lookout	0%	0	0%	11	0%	0

The following is from the Fourth Edition. It is somewhat outdated but describes some important history:

The dropout rate for Cincinnati Public Schools (CPS) rose during the 1990s. In January 1996, the district's dropout rate was reported as a record 54.2 percent (citation 2). In May 2003 graduation rates had fallen to a low of 13% at one senior high school and the overall graduation rate was 60 percent (up from 47 percent in 1999, the year the census was taken). Even these dismal statistics do not reveal how bad the situation can be in some neighborhoods. The 2004 report cited a 73 percent loss of CPS students grades 9-12 in the Oyler attendance area (internal memo, author's files).

If the city wide dropout rate now approaches 40-50 percent, we believe that rates in some areas must be approaching 100 percent. Even in 1990, an analysis of block group data(3) showed that there were 9 block groups with 100 percent dropout rates. Seven were Appalachian areas (Over-The-Rhine tract 10, Linwood, Carthage, and East End) or Appalachian pockets in white areas (Westwood). Four additional block groups in Linwood, Camp Washington, and Northside had dropout rates of more than 70 percent. There were 32 block groups with dropout rates higher than 50 percent. These were about equally divided between Appalachian and African American areas.

The debate rages about how to fix the dropout problem in urban high schools. The future of cities may depend on its resolution. Educators often blame poverty or lack of parental involvement. Alternately, there are the disparities in state and local funding which allow the richest districts to spend more than $13,500 per pupil while the poorest spend $3,500. Critics of the schools blame school bureaucracy, teachers, unions, or the fact that schools are too large and impersonal to respond to the needs of today's students. Still others see the deterioration of
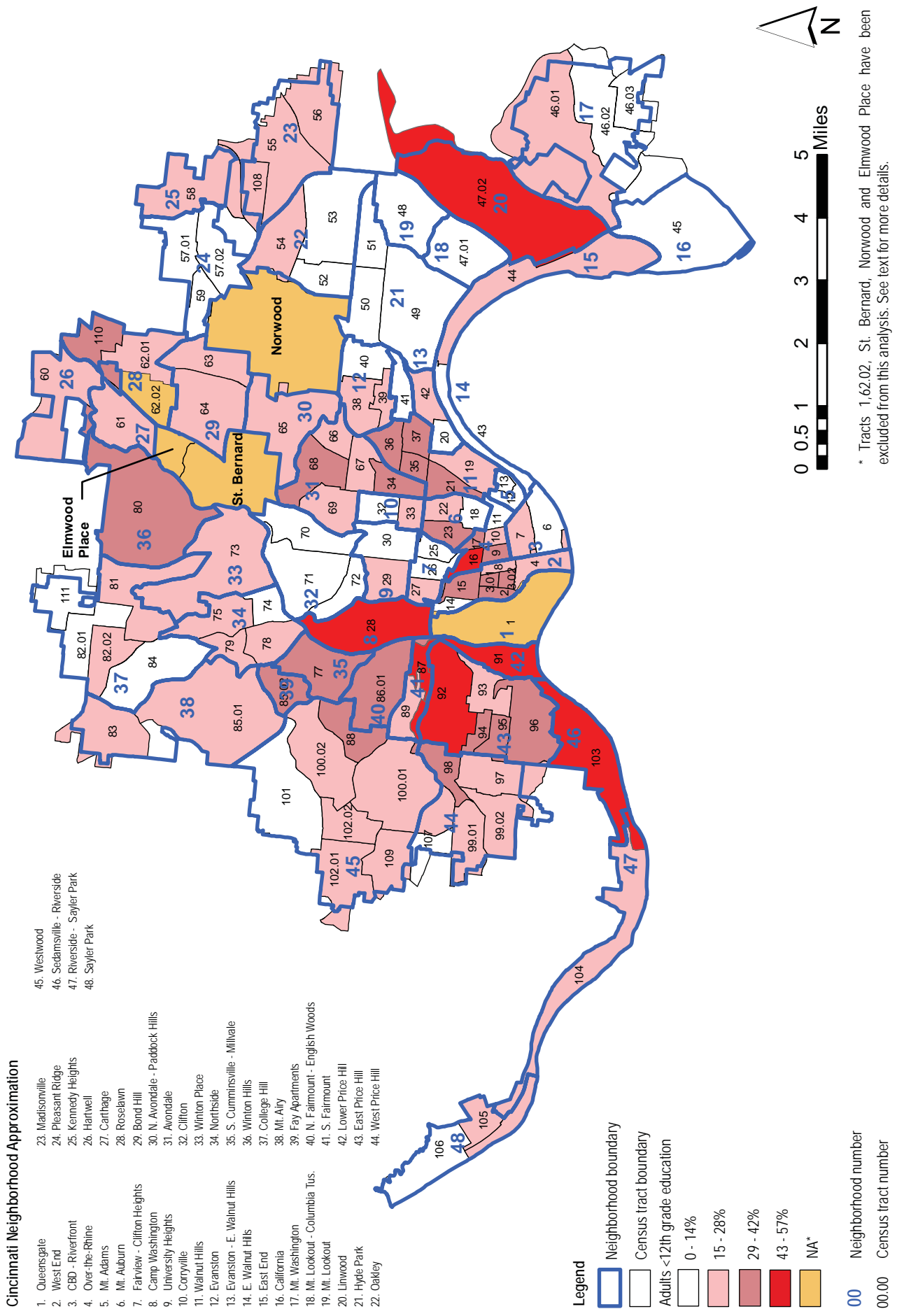
Low-income Appalachian and African American areas show up in the two quartiles with darker shading (high rates of non-completion).

urban public schools as another manifestation of the growing bifurcation of society between an inner city abandoned by the affluent, corporations, and even churches and a suburbia that continues to expand and waste resources duplicating infrastructure which already exists in the core city.

Adult Education
Figure 8 shows concentrations of adults (over age 25) who have less than a high school education. This map, when compared to Figure 2, illustrates a high degree of correlation between education and socioeconomic status. Low-in-

Figure 8

2005-2009 Cincinnati City Adult Education Levels

Cincinnati Neighborhood Approximation

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

Legend

- Neighborhood boundary
- Census tract boundary

Adults <12th grade education
- 0 - 14%
- 15 - 28%
- 29 - 42%
- 43 - 57%
- NA*

00 Neighborhood number
00.00 Census tract number

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

0 0.5 1 2 3 4 5 Miles

TABLE 6C
CINCINNATI NEIGHBORHOODS: CHANGES IN EDUCATION LEVELS OF ADULTS, 1970 TO 2005-2009

Neighborhood	Less than High School Diploma					Percent Change	Functional Illiteracy Rate				Percent Change
	1970	1980	1990	2000	2005-2009	1970 to 2005-2009	1980	1990	2000	2005-2009	1980 to 2005-2009
1st Quartile											
S. Cumminsville-Millvale	83.0%	72.0%	59.0%	49.4%	41.8%	-41.2%	33.0%	18.0%	11.1%	14.0%	-19.0%
Fay Apartments	50.0%	41.0%	53.0%	44.3%	33.2%	-16.8%	16.0%	6.0%	3.7%	1.7%	-14.3%
East Price Hill	69.0%	56.0%	44.0%	35.1%	35.0%	-34.0%	30.0%	14.0%	9.2%	9.2%	-20.8%
Winton Hills	72.0%	50.0%	44.0%	36.1%	31.7%	-40.3%	17.0%	9.0%	6.2%	8.0%	-9.0%
Camp Washington	85.0%	72.0%	53.0%	59.7%	44.4%	-40.6%	51.0%	22.0%	25.6%	11.8%	-39.2%
Riverside - Sayler Park	72.0%	47.0%	38.0%	21.3%	22.7%	-49.3%	11.0%	11.0%	2.9%	6.8%	-4.2%
Avondale	65.0%	55.0%	46.0%	35.4%	26.6%	-38.4%	29.0%	19.0%	9.6%	6.2%	-22.8%
Walnut Hills	72.0%	62.0%	43.0%	42.4%	30.2%	-41.8%	33.0%	15.0%	12.7%	7.3%	-25.7%
Sedamsville - Riverside	81.0%	68.0%	56.0%	46.4%	49.9%	-31.1%	33.0%	22.0%	12.5%	7.3%	-25.7%
N. Fairmount - English Woods	76.0%	70.0%	58.0%	49.8%	39.4%	-36.6%	43.0%	20.0%	9.0%	7.5%	-35.5%
S. Fairmount	84.0%	68.0%	51.0%	42.2%	27.3%	-56.7%	37.0%	22.0%	14.3%	9.3%	-27.7%
Mt. Airy	33.0%	27.0%	20.0%	17.4%	22.0%	-11.0%	22.0%	5.0%	4.5%	7.5%	-14.5%
2nd Quartile											
Bond Hill	41.0%	43.0%	31.0%	26.8%	21.4%	-19.6%	20.0%	10.0%	5.2%	5.9%	-14.1%
Over-the-Rhine	88.0%	79.0%	53.0%	45.1%	28.8%	-59.2%	47.0%	19.0%	8.8%	2.1%	-44.9%
Linwood		70.0%	57.0%	48.0%	56.9%	56.9%	41.0%	26.0%	19.6%	6.8%	-34.2%
Winton Place	66.0%	32.0%	39.0%	24.3%	21.3%	-44.7%	26.0%	13.0%	5.0%	6.2%	-19.8%
Carthage	76.0%	59.0%	48.0%	35.6%	22.8%	-53.2%	37.0%	20.0%	8.5%	7.5%	-29.5%
Evanston	69.0%	54.0%	42.0%	36.6%	17.8%	-51.2%	28.0%	14.0%	9.3%	3.5%	-24.5%
West End	83.0%	75.0%	58.0%	45.1%	29.0%	-54.0%	41.0%	20.0%	9.1%	4.3%	-36.7%
Roselawn	32.0%	32.0%	25.0%	21.7%	23.7%	-8.3%	29.0%	8.0%	6.5%	7.1%	-21.9%
Lower Price Hill	85.0%	77.0%	70.0%	62.0%	47.8%	-37.2%	53.0%	27.0%	25.0%	11.4%	-41.6%
West Price Hill	53.0%	40.0%	31.0%	21.2%	18.8%	-34.2%	20.0%	9.0%	4.9%	3.5%	-16.5%
Corryville	61.0%	43.0%	33.0%	24.4%	9.2%	-51.8%	22.0%	14.0%	5.3%	2.6%	-19.4%
Mt. Auburn	69.0%	50.0%	36.0%	28.0%	22.2%	-46.8%	27.0%	11.0%	3.5%	5.5%	-21.5%

Neighborhood	Less than High School Diploma					Percent Change 1970 to 2005-2009	Functional Illiteracy Rate				Percent Change 1980 to 2005-2009
	1970	1980	1990	2000	2005-2009	1970 to 2005-2009	1980	1990	2000	2005-2009	1980 to 2005-2009
3rd Quartile											
Kennedy Heights	39.0%	29.0%	23.0%	15.2%	15.4%	-23.6%	10.0%	5.0%	3.0%	1.6%	-8.4%
University Heights	49.0%	26.0%	17.0%	17.5%	13.9%	-35.1%	15.0%	8.0%	5.9%	2.3%	-12.7%
Fairview-Clifton	72.0%	41.0%	22.0%	16.0%	12.8%	-59.2%	25.0%	10.0%	3.3%	5.9%	-19.1%
Westwood	49.0%	37.0%	24.0%	18.9%	18.0%	-31.0%	16.0%	8.0%	4.3%	4.4%	-11.6%
Northside	68.0%	54.0%	40.0%	25.6%	15.2%	-52.8%	32.0%	13.0%	7.4%	6.4%	-25.6%
Madisonville	57.0%	51.0%	34.0%	20.2%	16.3%	-40.7%	24.0%	10.0%	5.6%	3.1%	-20.9%
Evanston-E. Walnut Hills	60.0%	47.0%	34.0%	23.8%	13.8%	-46.2%	26.0%	9.0%	4.9%	6.8%	-19.2%
Hartwell	58.0%	38.0%	31.0%	19.0%	17.0%	-41.0%	22.0%	12.0%	5.9%	8.4%	-13.6%
College Hill	39.0%	31.0%	20.0%	17.4%	12.8%	-26.2%	4.0%	6.0%	3.9%	2.7%	-1.3%
N. Avondale-Paddock Hills	31.0%	21.0%	15.0%	14.5%	14.0%	-17.0%	8.0%	3.0%	2.6%	4.8%	-3.2%
CBD-Riverfront	53.0%	33.0%	23.0%	25.1%	22.7%	-30.3%	19.0%	7.0%	9.3%	4.5%	-14.5%
4th Quartile											
Oakley	58.0%	41.0%	23.0%	16.3%	6.8%	-51.2%	21.0%	8.0%	4.8%	1.5%	-19.5%
Sayler Park	56.0%	41.0%	27.0%	19.7%	11.5%	-44.5%	17.0%	7.0%	3.8%	6.8%	-10.2%
East End	85.0%	72.0%	65.0%	43.9%	19.8%	-65.2%	45.0%	22.0%	12.6%	8.0%	-37.0%
Mt. Washington	33.0%	26.0%	17.0%	11.3%	11.6%	-21.4%	10.0%	5.0%	3.0%	3.6%	-6.4%
Pleasant Ridge	37.0%	27.0%	21.0%	14.5%	7.2%	-29.8%	11.0%	8.0%	4.9%	1.3%	-9.7%
East Walnut Hills	42.0%	26.0%	21.0%	14.5%	11.6%	-30.4%	14.0%	7.0%	3.3%	3.4%	-10.6%
Clifton	30.0%	16.0%	9.0%	9.1%	7.4%	-22.6%	9.0%	4.0%	2.2%	1.7%	-7.3%
California	83.0%	44.0%	36.0%	12.9%	3.7%	-79.3%	21.0%	10.0%	3.0%	0.0%	-21.0%
Mt. Adams	55.0%	19.0%	7.0%	5.6%	1.8%	-53.2%	6.0%	2.0%	0.0%	1.0%	-5.0%
Mt. Lookout - Columbia Tusculum			15.0%	5.6%	4.7%	4.7%	12.0%	4.0%	1.2%	0.0%	-12.0%
Hyde Park	28.0%	15.0%	7.0%	4.1%	0.8%	-27.2%	7.0%	2.0%	1.2%	0.2%	-6.8%
Mt. Lookout	24.0%	9.0%	4.0%	1.8%	0.4%	-23.6%	5.0%	1.0%	0.0%	0.0%	-5.0%

TABLE 6D-1
TEN CENSUS TRACTS WITH THE HIGHEST RATE OF ADULTS WITHOUT A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA, 2000-2009

Rank	Predominant Ethnic Composition	Census Tract	Neighborhood	Number of Adults Without HS Diploma	Percent in 2000	Percent in 2009
1	White Appalachian	47.02	Linwood	318	48.0%	56.9%
2	White Appalachian	103	Sedamsville-Riverside	625	46.4%	49.9%
3	White Appalachian	91	Lower Price Hill	214	62.0%	47.8%
4	White Appalachian	87	South Fairmount	348	46.7%	47.5%
5	African American	16	Over-the-Rhine	404	48.6%	45.8%
6	White Appalachian	28	Camp Washington	433	59.7%	44.4%
7	White	92	East Price Hill	1,361	34.6%	42.1%
8	African American	77	S. Cumminsville - Millvale	527	49.4%	41.8%
9	African American	36	Walnut Hills	332	53.1%	41.1%
10	African American	35	Walnut Hills	184	52.9%	39.7%

come Appalachian and African American areas show up in the two quartiles with darker shading (high rates of non-completion).

Of the ten neighborhoods with the highest rate of non-high school completion, (Table 6c) four were predominantly white Appalachian and five were predominantly African American. Eight of these neighborhoods showed improvement in the rate of high school completion since 2000 but Linwood's and Sedamsville-Riverside's rates of non-completion went up in 2005-2009. The neighborhoods with high dropout rates should be a key target area for expanded adult education programs. Beyond that, all of the areas in red or dark pink on Figure 8 are areas of very high need where from 29 to 57 percent of the adult population lack a high school education.

Table 6b shows the percent of adults without a high school diploma by the neighborhood and SES quartile. Within SES I noncompletion rates range between 22 percent for Mt. Airy to 50 percent for Sedamsville-Riverside. In SES II the range is from 9 percent for Corryville to 57 percent for Linwood. In SES III the range is from 13 percent in Fairview-Clifton Heights to 23 percent in CBD-Riverfront. Progress can be measured by comparing rates for the neighborhoods for 1970 and 2000 in Table 6c. Some of

the highest rates in 1970 were Over-the-Rhine (88%), East End (85%) and South Cumminsville-Millvale (83%).

From 1990 to 2000 every neighborhood but Camp Washington saw improvement in adult education levels. From 2000 through 2005-2009, adult education levels continued to improve but seven neighborhoods saw an increase in the percentage of adults without a high school education (education index). These were Riverside-Sayler Park (to 22.7), Sedamsville-Riverside (to 49.9), Mt. Airy (to 22.0), Linwood (to 56.9), Roselawn (to 23.7), Kennedy Heights (to 15.4) and Mt. Washington (to 11.6). The overall perspective, however, is that the education levels of Cincinnatians have improved greatly since 1970.

Census and ACS Survey data may be giving us too benign a picture however. As we enter the second decade of this century, the Schott Foundation for Public Education's 2010 Yes We Can study reports a 33 percent graduation rate for black males and a 54 percent graduation rate for white males for Cincinnati. The data is for the 2007-8 school year.

Table 6d-2
Ten Neighborhoods with Highest Rates of Non-High School Completion, 2005-2009[a]

Rank	Neighborhood	Percent in 2005-2009
1	Linwood	56.9%
2	Sedamsville-Riverside	49.9%
3	Lower Price Hill	47.8%
4	Camp Washington	44.4%
5	S. Cumminsville-Millvale	41.8%
6	N. Fairmount-English Woods	39.4%
7	East Price Hill	35.0%
8	Fay Apartments	33.2%
9	Winton Hills	31.7%
10	Walnut Hills	30.2%

[a] Queensgate has a high school non-completion rate of 31.1%

Functional illiteracy defined as persons with an eighth grade education or less, is also high-

> Table 6e shows that adult education levels are improving in both the central city and in the SMSA, though somewhat more rapidly in the latter.

est in Campbell County. Kenton County has the second highest rate. Hamilton County with 19,328 persons in this category has the second

lowest rate of functional illiteracy. Those interested in targeting adult education can either use census tract or block group data to manage data distribution in the metro area or use the SES I area in Figure 13 as an approximation.

SMSA in this chapter refers to the metropolitan area as defined in 1970 – the Ohio counties of Hamilton, Warren and Clermont, the Kentucky counties of Kenton, Campbell and Boone and Dearborn County in Indiana.

Table 6e
Trends in High School Graduates and Dropouts, 1970 to 2005-2009

Area	Percent High School Graduates (25 Years and Older)					Dropout Rates (16 to 19 Years Old)			
	1970	1980	1990	2000	2005-2009	1980	1990	2000	2005-2009
Cincinnati	50.9%	57.9%	80.7%	77.0%	82.4%	18.0%	13.8%	16.3%	8.6%
SMSA	48.4%	63.3%	84.2%	83.0%	87.3%	13.1%	10.3%	9.7%	5.4%

Functional Illiteracy

Tables 6b and 6c as well as Figure 9 show the distribution of functional illiteracy. Since the census bureau provides no precise definition of functional illiteracy an eighth grade education level is commonly used as a surrogate variable. There are of course many persons with eighth grade education who can read newspapers, fill out job applications and read directions on medicine bottles. These are the skills lacked by the functionally illiterate. (Unfortunately there are also some persons with more than one year of high school who lack these skills). The functional illiteracy distribution is similar to that of dropouts and adult education. Hence the eighth grade cutoff is reasonably useful.

> From 2000 through 2005-2009, adult education levels continued to improve but seven neighborhoods saw an increase in the percentage of adults without a high school education (education index).

Note the highest rates are in South Cumminsville-Millvale, Lower Price Hill, Camp Washington, and East Price Hill.

Education as a Metropolitan Concern

One of the major reasons that education is a concern for the entire Cincinnati region is that regional prosperity is ultimately dependent upon the education and the skills of the labor force. Another reason is the presumed relationship between education and the maintenance of quality of our democratic institutions and related personal quality of life.

Table 6e shows that adult education levels are improving in both the central city and in the SMSA, though somewhat more rapidly in the latter. Table 11g shows the trend of 16-19 year old dropouts and those who are 25 without a high school diploma. Kenton County with 575 dropouts had both the highest number of dropouts outside Hamilton County and the highest rate of all the counties. Clearly the dropout problem is not confined to the city of Cincinnati. In 2005-2009 as in other decades the major-

ity of dropouts in the seven county region lived in Hamilton County.

The same can be said regarding the distribution of persons over 25 without a high school diploma. The highest rate of non-completion was in Campbell County and the second highest was in Clermont County. As with dropouts the highest absolute numbers of persons without a diploma reside in Hamilton County.
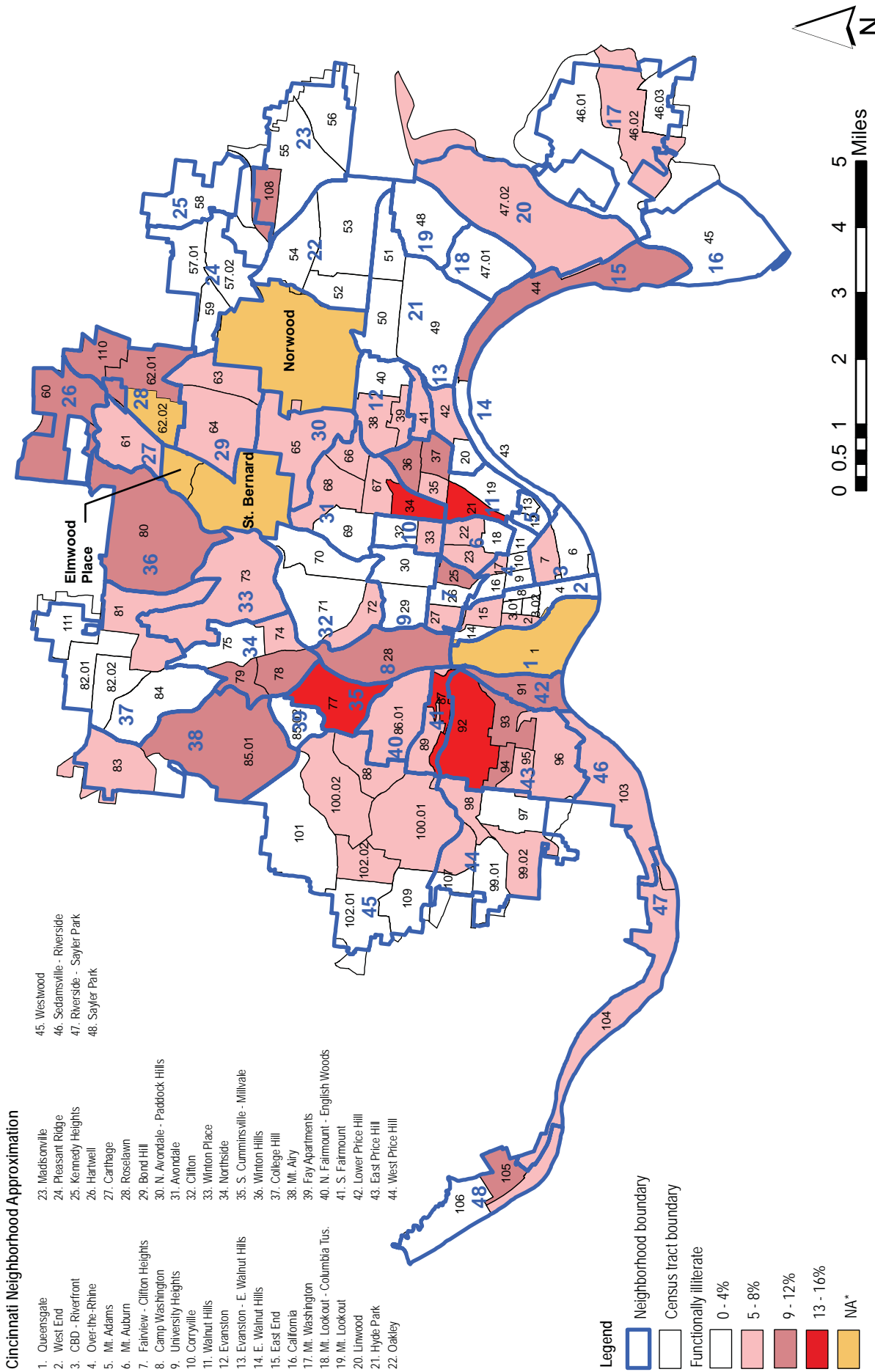
Functional illiteracy defined as persons with an eighth grade education or less, is also highest in Campbell County. Kenton County has the second highest rate. Hamilton County with 19,328 persons in this category has the second lowest rate of functional illiteracy. Those interested in targeting adult education can either use census tract or block group data to manage data distribution in the metro area or use the SES I area in Figure 13 as an approximation.

SMSA in this chapter refers to the metropolitan area as defined in 1970 – the Ohio counties of Hamilton, Warren and Clermont, the Kentucky counties of Kenton, Campbell and Boone and Dearborn County in Indiana.

Table 6e shows that adult education levels are improving in both the central city and in the SMSA, though somewhat more rapidly in the latter. Table 11g shows the trend of 16-19 year old dropouts and those who are 25 without a high school diploma. Kenton County with 575 dropouts had both the highest number of dropouts outside Hamilton County and the highest rate of all the counties. Clearly the dropout problem is not confined to the city of Cincinnati. In 2005-2009 as in other decades the majority of dropouts in the seven county region lived in Hamilton County.

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Figure 9

2005-2009 Cincinnati City Functional Illiteracy Levels

Cincinnati Neighborhood Approximation

1. Queensgate
2. West End
3. CBD - Riverfront
4. Over-the-Rhine
5. Mt. Adams
6. Mt. Auburn
7. Fairview - Clifton Heights
8. Camp Washington
9. University Heights
10. Corryville
11. Walnut Hills
12. Evanston
13. Evanston - E. Walnut Hills
14. E. Walnut Hills
15. East End
16. California
17. Mt. Washington
18. Mt. Lookout - Columbia Tus.
19. Mt. Lookout
20. Linwood
21. Hyde Park
22. Oakley

23. Madisonville
24. Pleasant Ridge
25. Kennedy Heights
26. Hartwell
27. Carthage
28. Roselawn
29. Bond Hill
30. N. Avondale - Paddock Hills
31. Avondale
32. Clifton
33. Winton Place
34. Northside
35. S. Cumminsville - Millvale
36. Winton Hills
37. College Hill
38. Mt. Airy
39. Fay Apartments
40. N. Fairmount - English Woods
41. S. Fairmount
42. Lower Price Hill
43. East Price Hill
44. West Price Hill

45. Westwood
46. Sedamsville - Riverside
47. Riverside - Sayler Park
48. Sayler Park

Legend

- Neighborhood boundary
- Census tract boundary

Functionally illiterate

- 0 - 4%
- 5 - 8%
- 9 - 12%
- 13 - 16%
- NA*

00 Neighborhood number
00.00 Census tract number

Elmwood Place

St. Bernard

Norwood

0 0.5 1 2 3 4 5 Miles

N

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