

## Neighborhood Profile

# West Boulevard: Wide and Winding

By Terry Lenahan

West Boulevard was once the site of a 2,000-acre farm owned by Leonard Case, founder of Case School of Applied Science, later known as Case Institute of Technology.\* Its namesake boulevard divides this neighborhood in half, connecting Edgewater Park to the north with Brookside Park to the south. West Boulevard was once envisioned as part of a parkway system that would encircle Cleveland. The winding roadway's 130-foot right-of-way is one of Cleveland's widest.

West Boulevard, a west-side neighborhood bordered by four SPAs (Jefferson, Cudell, Detroit-Shoreway, and Stockyards) and two suburbs (Brooklyn and Linndale), is located between Interstate 90 near its northern border and Interstate 71 near its southern border. Two landmark buildings on Lorain Avenue, its northern border, are St. Ignatius Catholic Church, built in 1930, and Cleveland Christian Home for Children, built in 1924.

West Boulevard reached its peak population in 1930, with nearly 23,000 persons. Over the next 40 years, this stable neighborhood lost less than 1,000 people, but lost 3,800 in the 1970s. Between 1980 and 2000, it lost another 900, a 5 percent decrease compared to Cleveland's overall loss of 16.5 percent. The residents were 73 percent White, 15 percent Other Race or two or more races, 10 percent African-American, and 2 percent Asian. About 18 percent of its residents were of Hispanic ethnicity. Excluding African-Americans, this neighborhood had higher percentages of minorities compared to Cleveland overall and Cuyahoga County.

Fourteen of every 100 of West Boulevard's residents age 25 and older had an associate's degree or higher in 2000, less than Cleveland's 16 percent

average and much less than Cuyahoga County's 30 percent average. Yet economic indicators, such as poverty level, Medicaid recipients, and the percentage of 65 and older households with incomes less than \$15,000, were lower than Cleveland's average.

Teen births and child maltreatment rates in West Boulevard were lower than Cleveland's averages. But this neighborhood's HIV/AIDS rate was higher than Cleveland's overall rate.

West Boulevard's juvenile and adult property crime rates were lower than Cleveland's averages, as were the percentage of residents renting their home and the percentage of tax-delinquent parcels. Median age of housing is 82 years, the same as Cleveland's.

More information is available in our *Social Indicators* series: *Education, Employment, and Income; Children and Families; Community Health; Older Persons; Housing; and Public Safety*. The reports are available for free from our Website, [www.fcp.org](http://www.fcp.org), as are previous *Planning & Action* neighborhood profiles. For more information, contact Terry Lenahan at (216) 781-2944, ext. 101 ([tlenahan@fcp.org](mailto:tlenahan@fcp.org)). Neighborhood history includes information gathered from NHLink, Cleveland Neighborhood Housing Information, [www.nhlink.net/neighborhoodtour/](http://www.nhlink.net/neighborhoodtour/). ■

**Maps and tables follow on pages 4-7.**

Terry Lenahan is a policy and planning associate on the Federation's Research team.

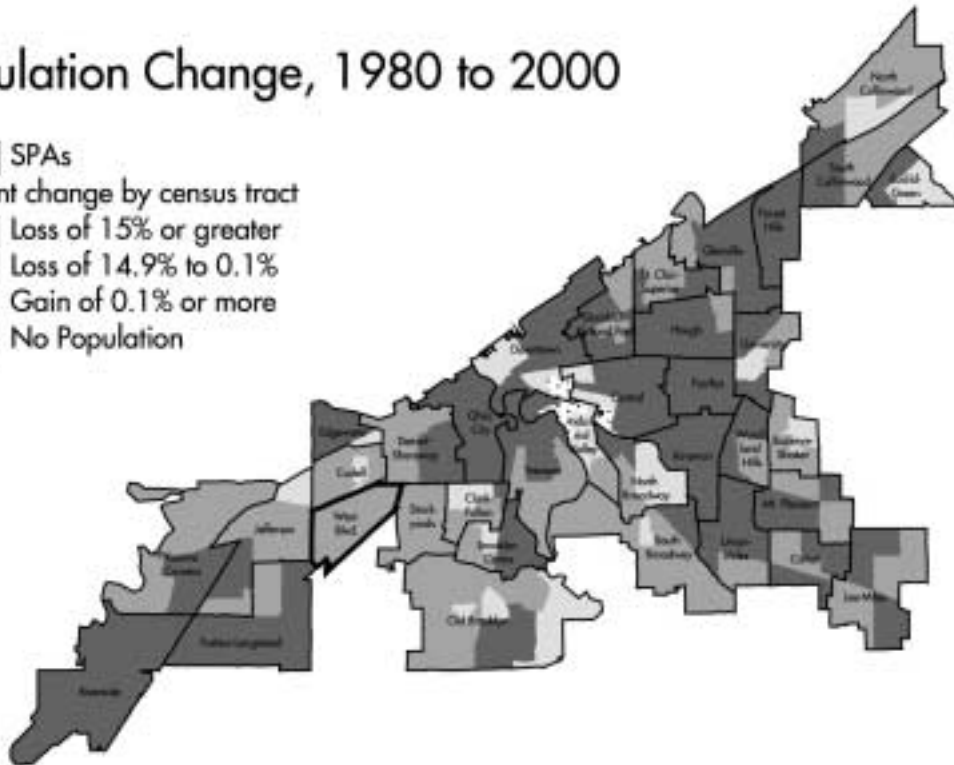
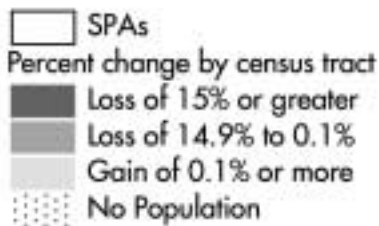
\* Case Institute of Technology was federated with Western Reserve University in 1967 and became Case Western Reserve University.

## West Boulevard Statistical Planning Area Profile with Comparisons to Cleveland and Cuyahoga County

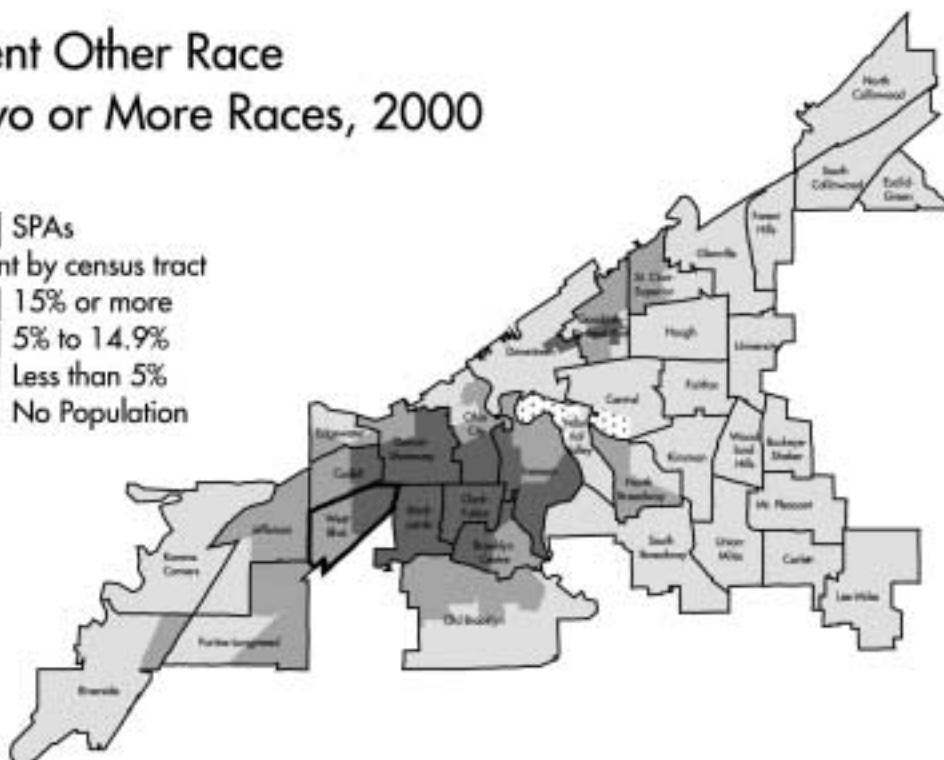
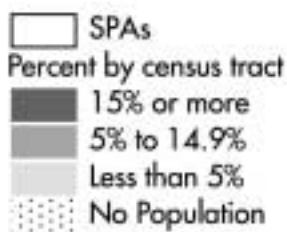
	West Boulevard SPA	Cleveland	Cuyahoga County
<b>Community Demographics</b>			
Population Trends (1,000s)			
1980	18.2	572.8	1,498.3
1990	17.4	505.8	1,412.1
2000	17.3	478.4	1,394.0
Percent Change 1980 to 1990	-4.3	-11.7	-5.8
Percent Change 1990 to 2000	-0.5	-5.4	-1.3
Racial Group Percentage Distribution			
One Race			
White	72.7	41.5	67.4
Black	9.7	51.0	27.4
Asian	2.3	1.3	1.8
Other	10.6	3.9	1.7
Two or More Races	4.8	2.2	1.7
Percent Hispanic Ethnicity	17.8	7.3	3.4
Age Group Percentage Distribution			
Less than Age 18	29.7	28.5	25.0
Ages 18 to 64	61.3	59.0	59.5
Age 65 and Older	9.0	12.5	15.6
Average Household Size	2.6	2.5	2.4
<b>Socioeconomic Characteristics</b>			
Educational Attainment Percentages, Population 25 and Older			
High School Graduate or More	70.1	69.0	81.6
Associate's Degree or More	14.0	15.8	30.4
Percent in Civilian Labor Force (Age 16+)	60.8	57.3	62.4
Percent below Federal Poverty Level	18.5	26.3	13.1
Percent Households Age 65+			
With Income Less than \$15,000	28.4	40.2	27.6
Percent Medicaid Recipients, April 2002			
Of Total Population	28.2	32.2	17.0
Of Age 65 and Older Population	6.4	10.7	6.5
<b>Children and Families</b>			
Births, 1996-2001 Average			
To Females Ages 15-44	305	8,387	18,935
Per 1,000 Females Ages 15-44	74.9	76.0	63.1
To Females Ages 15-17	18	634	891
Per 1,000 Females Ages 15-17	52.6	66.1	32.5
Child Maltreatment Cases, 2001			
Total	204	6,695	9,526
Per 1,000 Children Less than 18	39.7	49.1	27.4
Percent Female Head of Household With Children	19.7	26.5	15.7

# Cleveland Statistical Planning Areas

## Population Change, 1980 to 2000



## Percent Other Race or Two or More Races, 2000



## West Boulevard Statistical Planning Area Profile with Comparisons to Cleveland and Cuyahoga County

	West Boulevard SPA	Cleveland	Cuyahoga County
<b>Health</b>			
Low-Weight Births, 1996-2001			
Average Annual	27	964	1,733
Low-Weight Births per 100 Births	9.0	11.5	9.2
Infant Deaths, 1997-2001 <sup>1</sup>			
Average Annual	3	109	180
Infant Deaths per 1,000 Births	10.0	13.2	9.6
HIV/AIDS Prevalence per 100,000 Persons, 2001 and 2002 <sup>2</sup>			
Living HIV Cases	172.1	140.7	98.2
Living AIDS Cases	284.4	242.9	106.1
Total Living AIDS/HIV Cases	456.5	383.6	204.3
Age-Adjusted Mortality Rates per 100,000 Persons, 1997-2001 Average <sup>1</sup>			
All Causes	1,096.5	1,142.6	932.2
Heart Disease	392.0	394.8	322.4
Coronary Heart Disease	311.6	307.9	249.2
All Cancer	253.4	260.7	222.5
<b>Public Safety</b>			
Per 1,000 Juveniles Ages 10-17, 2001 <sup>3</sup>			
Violent Delinquency Cases	25.6	38.5	22.9
Property Delinquency Cases	28.9	34.9	23.2
Per 1,000 Residents, 2001			
Property Crimes	43.9	59.6	37.9 <sup>4</sup>
<b>Housing</b>			
Percent Renters	42.7	51.5	36.8
Percent Tax Delinquent Parcels	10.3	18.1	9.7
Median Age in Years	82	82	52
<b>City/County Data</b>			
Unemployment Rate, July, 2003	n/a <sup>5</sup>	12.3	6.6

Note: Data are for year 2000 unless otherwise stated.

1. Excludes 1998 data due to data coding issues
2. 2001 data for Cuyahoga County, 2002 data for Cleveland and SPAs
3. Based on residence of juvenile
4. 1999 data for reporting municipalities only (excludes 12 east-side and 7 west-side municipalities)
5. Not available at the SPA level

#### Sources:

Center on Urban Poverty & Social Change, CWRU, using CAN DO, data from:  
 Cuyahoga County Dept. of Children & Family Services (*Children & Families: Child Maltreatment*)  
 Cuyahoga County Juvenile Court (*Public Safety: Violent Delinquency, Property Delinquency*)  
 Cleveland Division of Police (*Public Safety: Property Crimes*)  
 ODJFS monthly case and individual extract files from CRISE (*Socioeconomic Characteristics: Medicaid Recipients*)

Center on Urban Poverty & Social Change, CWRU, data from Cleveland Division of Police; Cuyahoga Regional Information System;  
 FBI Uniform Crime Reports (*Public Safety: Property Crimes, Cuyahoga County*)

Cleveland Department of Public Health, Office of Biostatistics (*Health: AIDS/HIV Rates*)

Levin College of Urban Affairs, CSU, data from Cuyahoga County Auditor tax billing data files (*Housing: Tax Delinquency, Median Age*)

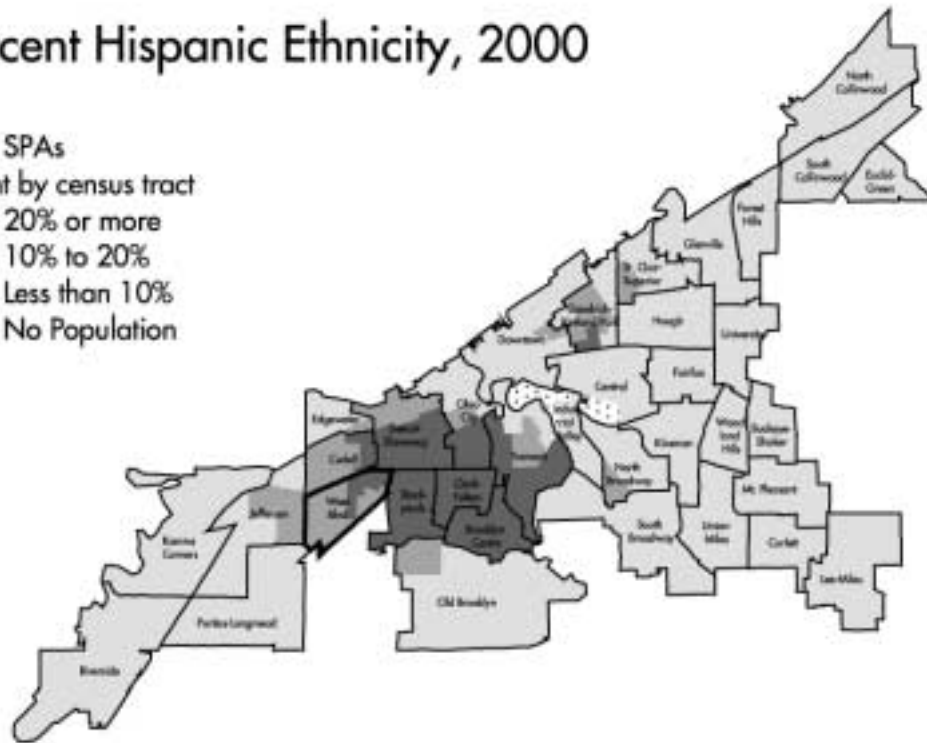
Ohio Dept. of Health Office of Vital Statistics, death certificate files (*Health: Infant Deaths, Age-Adjusted Mortality Rates*);  
 birth certificate files (*Children & Families: Births, Teen Births; Health: Low-Weight Births*)

Ohio Dept. of Job and Family Services Internet Website: [www.state.oh.us/odhfs/](http://www.state.oh.us/odhfs/) (*City/County Data: Unemployment Rate*)

U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 Summary File 1, 100-Percent Data (*Community Demographics: All; Socioeconomic Characteristics: Educational Attainment, Civilian Labor Force Rates 16+, Federal Poverty Level, Medicaid Recipients; Children & Families: Birth Rates Females Ages 15-44 and Females Ages 15-17, Child Maltreatment Rates, Female Head of Household with Children; Health: HIV/AIDS Rates, Age-Adjusted Mortality Rates; Housing: Renters*)

# Cleveland Statistical Planning Areas

## Percent Hispanic Ethnicity, 2000



## HIV/AIDS Rate, 2002

