

## Regional Jobs Strategy Standard of Living Dashboard Appendix

*September 29, 2016*

A limited number of economic metrics are organized into three dashboards to each be released separately: Business & Tax Climate, Affordability, and Standard-of-Living. All three dashboards will be incorporated into the final Regional Jobs Strategy and tracked to ensure accountability as a region.

The competitor metropolitan areas (metros) were selected for competitiveness in the traded economies in which the San Diego region specializes.

- Austin-Round Rock, TX
- Boston-Cambridge-Newton, MA-NH
- Denver-Aurora-Lakewood, CO
- Los Angeles-Long Beach-Anaheim, CA
- Portland-Vancouver-Hillsboro, OR-WA
- Raleigh, NC
- San Diego-Carlsbad, CA
- San Francisco-Oakland-Hayward, CA
- San Jose-Sunnyvale-Santa Clara, CA
- Seattle-Tacoma-Bellevue, WA

Unless otherwise stated, San Diego data presented in this dashboard is county-wide. Because the geographic boundaries of the San Diego metro, as defined by the Census Bureau, are identical to those of the County, the terms may be used interchangeably within this document.

### Recreation

**Acres of Park per 1,000 People:** In April of 2015, The Trust for Public Land released the most recent edition of "City Park Facts," which they describe as "an almanac of the parks and recreation systems of the 100 most populous cities." This data source presents data by city rather than metropolitan area. The City of San Diego ranked first with 35.7 acres of parkland per 1,000 residents. The City's more than 48,000 acres of developed and undeveloped open space includes Balboa Park, Mission Trails Regional Park and Mission Bay and more than 26 miles of shoreline.

The idea of San Diego being the leader in terms of recreational opportunity is further supported when looking at parkland and open space within the broader borders. County-wide there are approximately 700,000 acres of parkland, largely

due to the Cuyamaca and Palomar State parks. This calculates out to over 200 acres of developed or undeveloped open space per 1,000 residents.

	Acres of Parkland	Population	Acres of Parkland per 1,000 Residents	Rank
<b>San Diego, CA</b>	<b>48,405</b>	<b>1,355,896</b>	<b>35.7</b>	<b>1</b>
Austin, TX	27,096	885,400	30.6	2
Raleigh, NC	12,970	431,746	30.0	3
Portland, OR	14,442	609,456	23.7	4
San Jose, CA	16,004	998,537	16.0	5
Seattle, WA	6,541	652,405	10.0	6
Los Angeles, CA	36,177	3,884,307	9.3	7
Denver, CO	5,884	649,495	9.1	8
Boston, MA	4,919	645,966	7.6	9
San Francisco, CA	5,693	837,442	6.8	10

**Days of Sunshine:** Twelve months of data (September 2015 to August 2016) were collected from the National Weather Service [Monthly Weather Summary](#). Days of Sunshine were defined as days with clear skies and partly cloudy days. San Diego, as observed at Lindbergh Field, ranked fifth among competitor metros with 283 days of sunshine.

Metro	Days	Rank
Los Angeles, CA	342	1
San Jose, CA	322	2
San Francisco, CA	304	3
Denver, CO	302	4
<b>San Diego, CA</b>	<b>283</b>	<b>5</b>
Austin, TX	270	6
Boston, MA	266	7
Raleigh, NC	239	8
Portland, OR	210	9
Seattle, WA	195	10

**Days of Extreme Temperature:** Twelve months of data (September 2015 to August 2016) were collected from the National Weather Service [Monthly Weather Summary](#). Days of Extreme Temperature was defined as days in which the high temperature was 90 degrees or higher, or the low temperature was 32 or lower. San Diego, as observed at Lindbergh Field, ranked second with only seven days of extreme temperature within the last year.

Metro	Days	Rank
San Francisco, CA	4	1
<b>San Diego, CA</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>2</b>
San Jose, CA	17	3
Seattle, WA	21	4
Los Angeles, CA	29	5
Portland, OR	36	6
Boston, MA	95	7
Raleigh, NC	112	8
Austin, TX	147	9
Denver, CO	199	10

**Bicycle Paths and Lanes:** According to data reported in the Alliance for Biking & Walking 2016 Benchmarking Report, "[Show Your Data: Trends at the City Level](#)" the City of San Diego had 2.2 miles of bicycle infrastructure per square mile when the 2014 survey was performed. Several miles of new facilities have been added since and are not yet reflected.

<b>Metro</b>	<b>Miles per Square Mile</b>	<b>Rank</b>
Boston, MA	4.4	1
Portland, OR	3.1	2
San Francisco, CA	3.1	3
San Jose, CA	3.1	4
Denver, CO	2.6	5
<b>San Diego, CA</b>	<b>2.2</b>	<b>6</b>
Seattle, WA	1.9	7
Los Angeles, CA	1.8	8
Austin, TX	0.8	9
Raleigh, NC	0.8	10

**Walkability:** [WalkScore.com](http://WalkScore.com) produces the patented Walk Score metric which is used regularly by real estate websites as well as urban planning and public health researchers. According to their website, the metric measures "walkability" based on hundreds of walking routes to grocery stores, schools, parks, restaurants, and other destinations in addition to measuring "pedestrian friendliness" including population density and road metrics.

On walkability, the City of San Diego is tied for the 7th ranking with San Jose with a Walk Score of 50 which corresponds to "Somewhat Walkable: Some errands can be accomplished on foot."

<b>Metro</b>	<b>Walk Score</b>	<b>Rank</b>
San Francisco, CA	86	1
Boston, MA	81	2
Seattle, WA	73	3
Los Angeles, CA	66	4
Portland, OR	64	5
Denver, CO	60	6
<b>San Diego, CA</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>7</b>
San Jose, CA	50	7
Austin, TX	39	9
Raleigh, NC	30	10

## Health & Safety

**Obesity Rankings:** The source for the data used for comparing obesity among our selected metros is the Gallup – Healthways Well-Being Index report “[State of American Well Being: 2014 Obesity Rankings](#).” The report provides obesity rates as measured by the Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index survey of 2.2 million people. Within the survey, respondents were asked to self-report their height and weight. Calculated Body Mass Indexes of 30 or higher were classified as obese. When comparing only with our competitor metros, San Diego ranks sixth in obesity.

Metro	Rank Among 100 Reported Communities	Rank Among 10 Competitor Metros
Raleigh, NC	66	1
Austin, TX	23	2
Portland, OR	14	3
Los Angeles	13	4
Seattle, WA	12	5
<b>San Diego, CA</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>6</b>
San Francisco, CA	10	7
Boston, MA	7	8
Denver, CO	3	9
San Jose, CA	2	10

**Violent Crime Rate:** The source for the reported Violent Crime Rate per 100,000 inhabitants is the FBI Uniform Crime Reports 2014 Crime in the United States report [Table 6](#). The rankings presented here are not intended to provide insight into the many factors that impact crime rates which vary substantially from place to place, the level of public funding for, or the performance of, the many parties responsible, in one way or another, for keeping inhabitants safe. Data for Boston and Raleigh are not reported either because fewer than 75 percent of the agencies within the metro reported data to the FBI, or because the principal city/cities submitted incomplete data.

Among the eight metros for which data was reported, San Diego had the fifth highest crime rate. San Francisco was the clear outlier with a violent crime rate over 50 percent higher than San Diego.

Metro	Violent Crime Rate	Rank
San Francisco, CA	498	1
Los Angeles, CA	369	2
Denver, CO	331	3
Seattle, WA	327	4
<b>San Diego, CA</b>	<b>325</b>	<b>5</b>
Austin, TX	291	6
Portland, OR	259	7
San Jose, CA	250	8
Boston, MA	NR	--
Raleigh, NC	NR	--

**Property Crime Rate:** The source for the reported Property Crime Rate per 100,000 inhabitants is also the FBI Uniform Crime Reports 2014 Crime in the United States report [Table 6](#). Again, the rankings presented here are not intended to provide insight into the many factors that impact crime rates which vary substantially from place to place, the level of public funding for, or the performance of, the many parties responsible, in one way or another, for keeping inhabitants safe. Data for Boston and Raleigh are not reported either because fewer than 75 percent of the agencies within the metro reported data to the FBI, or because the principal city/cities submitted incomplete data. Data for Denver was not presented by the FBI because it was determined that the data were underreported.

Among the seven metros for which data was reported, San Diego had the lowest property crime rate.

<b>Metro</b>	<b>Rate</b>	<b>Rank</b>
Seattle, WA	4,189	1
San Francisco, CA	3,370	2
Portland, OR	2,898	3
Austin, TX	2,879	4
San Jose, CA	2,247	5
Los Angeles, CA	2,050	6
<b>San Diego, CA</b>	<b>1,814</b>	<b>7</b>
Boston, MA	NR	--
Denver, CO	NR	--
Raleigh, NC	NR	--

## Unemployment, Poverty, & Opportunity

**Unemployment:** The unemployment rates by metropolitan areas are an annual average for 2015 and were last updated on April 15, 2016. The source of data for this analysis came from the Bureau of Labor Statistics Local Area Unemployment Statistics, [Unemployment Rates for Metropolitan Areas Table](#). The annual average unemployment rate for the San Diego metropolitan area is 5.2%, which is slightly under the United States rate of 5.3% and substantially lower than the California rate of 6.2%. The rates shown are for the percentage of the labor force that is unemployed. The San Diego metropolitan area ranks 3<sup>rd</sup> highest when compared to the 10 selected competitor metropolitan areas.

Metro	Rate	Rank
Los Angeles, CA	6.2%	10
Portland, OR	5.3%	9
<b>San Diego, CA</b>	<b>5.2%</b>	<b>8</b>
Seattle, WA	4.9%	7
Raleigh, NC	4.8%	6
Boston, MA	4.5%	5
San Jose, CA	4.3%	4
San Francisco, CA	4.3%	3
Denver, CO	3.7%	2
Austin, TX	3.4%	1

**Veteran Unemployment:** The source for this metric is the Census 2015 ACS 1-Year Estimates "Veteran Status" [Table S2101](#). Having the largest percentage of veterans in our workforce compared to our competitor metros (as identified in the Regional Jobs Strategy [Business & Tax Climate Dashboard](#)), does not translate to lower unemployment levels for veterans in San Diego. At 6.0 percent, San Diego's veteran unemployment rate is nearly double that of Austin, TX.

Metro	Unemployment		Labor Force Participation	
	Rate	Rank	Rate	Rank
Los Angeles, CA	7.5%	1	76.5%	8
San Francisco, CA	7.4%	2	75.5%	10
Portland, OR	6.1%	3	76.2%	9
<b>San Diego, CA</b>	<b>6.0%</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>79.7%</b>	<b>4</b>
Denver, CO	5.7%	5	82.4%	2
San Jose, CA	5.6%	6	77.8%	7
Boston, MA	5.6%	6	78.5%	6
Seattle, WA	4.6%	8	79.6%	5
Raleigh, NC	3.7%	9	80.0%	3
Austin, TX	3.1%	10	82.8%	1

**Female Unemployment:** The source for this metric is the Census 2015 ACS 1-Year Estimates "Employment Status" [Table S2301](#). Consistent with the findings of the Regional Jobs Strategy [Business & Tax Climate Dashboard](#), that women in San Diego make up the smallest percentage of the workforce when compared to our competitor metros, women also face the highest unemployment rate here in San Diego at 6.8 percent.

Metro	Unemployment		Labor Force Participation	
	Rate	Rank	Rate	Rank
<b>San Diego, CA</b>	<b>6.8%</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>71.4%</b>	<b>9</b>
Los Angeles, CA	6.5%	2	69.8%	10
Portland, OR	5.5%	3	73.7%	6
Seattle, WA	5.3%	4	73.5%	7
San Jose, CA	5.2%	5	72.4%	8
San Francisco, CA	5.2%	5	74.3%	4
Raleigh, NC	5.0%	7	74.4%	3
Boston, MA	4.6%	8	77.9%	1
Denver, CO	4.3%	9	76.6%	2
Austin, TX	4.2%	10	73.9%	5

**Poverty:** The source for this metric is the Census 2015 ACS 1-Year Estimates "Poverty Status in the Past 12 Months" [Table S1701](#). The poverty metric used here is the official poverty metric used by the federal government. Whether you look at the overall poverty rate, poverty rate amongst seniors 65 and older, young children under five, or all youth under 18, San Diego consistently has one of the highest poverty ranks among our competitor metros.

It is widely believed by economists that the official poverty measure is of limited value as it does not consider the varying cost of living across different geographies, or the value of safety net programs. There is no other widely used poverty metric available for all competitor metro areas. At this point, the Census Bureau is considering an additional measure for future census surveys. According to the Public Policy Institute of California, the actual poverty rate in San Diego County was estimated at 21.5 percent as recently as 2013.

Metro	Rate	Rank
Los Angeles, CA	15.7%	1
<b>San Diego, CA</b>	<b>13.8%</b>	<b>2</b>
Portland, OR	12.2%	3
Austin, TX	11.7%	4
Raleigh, NC	11.6%	5
San Francisco, CA	10.6%	6
Denver, CO	10.3%	7
Boston, MA	10.2%	8
Seattle, WA	10.2%	9
San Jose, CA	8.1%	10

**Homelessness:** The source for homeless data by Continuums of Care (CoC) was collected from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development ([HUD Exchange](#)). The population estimates used to calculate rates of homelessness are from the Census Bureau "Total Population" American Community Survey, [2015 Population Estimates](#).

CoC boards across the nation represent areas that vary by size, population, density, climate, and a number of other qualities that have an impact not only on homelessness, but also on the ability to count homeless people on the given day in which the Point-In-Time count is completed. Caution should be taken when making conclusions on the basis of comparing CoC homelessness rates. For example, San Francisco and Boston face a different level of homelessness simply because their footprints are substantially more urban than Wake County, North Carolina.

CoC	Total Homeless	CoC Service Area Population	Rate Per 10,000	Rank (Rate)
Boston CoC	6,492	667,137	97	1
San Francisco CoC	6,775	864,816	78	2
Portland-Gresham-Multnomah County CoC	3,801	790,294	48	3
Seattle/King County CoC	10,122	2,117,125	48	4
Los Angeles City & County CoC	41,174	10,170,292	40	5
San Jose/Santa Clara City & County CoC	6,556	1,918,044	34	6
<b>San Diego City and County CoC</b>	<b>8,742</b>	<b>3,299,521</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>7</b>
Metropolitan Denver Homeless Initiative	5,335	3,077,326	17	8
Austin/Travis County CoC	1,832	1,176,558	16	9
Raleigh/Wake County CoC	904	1,024,198	9	10

Because several areas across the nation have found it possible to essentially eliminate chronic homelessness, this may be another appropriate indicator.

CoC	Chronically Homeless	Chronically Homeless Per 10,000	Rank (Rate)
San Francisco CoC	1,629	19	1
Boston CoC	957	14	2
Los Angeles City & County CoC	14,173	14	3
Portland-Gresham-Multnomah County CoC	1,033	13	4
San Jose/Santa Clara City & County CoC	2,207	12	5
<b>San Diego City and County CoC</b>	<b>1,689</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
Austin/Travis County CoC	494	4	7
Seattle/King County CoC	823	4	8
Metropolitan Denver Homeless Initiative	842	3	9
Raleigh/Wake County CoC	90	1	10



**Disconnected Youth:** Youth Disconnection by Metro Area was reported in the June 2015 study "[Zeroing In on Place and Race Youth Disconnection in America's Cities](#)" produced by the nonprofit Social Science Research Council through the Measure America project. Disconnected youth is defined in the report as "teenagers and young adults between the ages of 16 and 24 who are neither working nor in school." Disconnection is a measure of opportunity-scarcity in communities. Disconnected youth are nearly twice as likely to live in poverty according to the study.

In San Diego, youth disconnection is nearly 50 percent higher than in Boston. Portland however, has a youth disconnection rate that is nearly 100 percent higher than Boston.

<b>Metro</b>	<b>Percent</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Rank</b>
Portland, OR	16.1%	46,657	1
Los Angeles, CA	12.7%	222,396	2
Denver, CO	12.5%	40,399	3
Seattle, WA	12.4%	50,593	4
<b>San Diego, CA</b>	<b>12.1%</b>	<b>54,278</b>	<b>5</b>
Austin, TX	11.5%	27,959	6
San Francisco, CA	10.4%	50,593	7
Raleigh, NC	10.3%	15,621	8
San Jose, CA	9.7%	20,242	9
Boston, MA	8.2%	49,229	10

**Economic Mobility:** Economic Mobility was calculated and reported by Commuting Zone in the June 2014 study "[Where is the Land of Opportunity? The Geography of Intergenerational Mobility in the United States](#)" by the Harvard and Berkley Researchers on behalf of the National Bureau of Economic Research. The data was reported in Table III "Intergenerational Mobility in the 50 Largest Commuting Zones." Commuting zones are similar to metros except that data is reported for rural areas in addition to more urban ones. The report ranks community zones by "Absolute Upward Mobility" which measures the mean income rank of children with parents in the bottom half of the income distribution. On this measure of upward mobility, San Diego ranks fourth among our competitor areas, although within a relatively close proximity to the top of the demonstrated range among the competitor areas (a mere five percent difference exists between top ranking San Jose, and San Diego).

<b>Community Zone</b>	<b>Absolute Upward Mobility</b>	<b>Upward Mobility Rank</b>
San Jose, CA	44.7	1
Boston, MA	44.6	2
San Francisco, CA	44.4	3
<b>San Diego, CA</b>	<b>44.3</b>	<b>4</b>
Los Angeles, CA	43.4	5
Seattle, WA	43.2	6
Denver, CO	42.2	7
Portland, OR	41.3	8
Austin, TX	40.4	9
Raleigh, NC	36.9	10

## Overall Standard of Living Index

The source for the data used for the overall standard of living comparison among our selected metros is the Gallup – Healthways Well-Being Index report "[State of American Well Being: 2015 Community Well-Being Rankings and Access to Care.](#)" According to the report, the survey included 353,983 telephone interviews with adults across the U.S. between January 2, 2014 and December 30, 2015.

The overall rank reflects five categories including: purpose, social, financial, community, and physical each defined as follows:

**Purpose:** *Liking what you do each day and being motivated to achieve your goals*

**Social:** *Having supportive relationships and love in your life*

**Financial:** *Managing your economic life to reduce stress and increase security*

**Community:** *Liking where you live, feeling safe and having pride in your community*

**Physical:** *Having good health and enough energy to get things done daily*

San Diego ranks 21st among the 190 communities ranked by the Gallup – Healthways Well-Being Index report, and third among the selected competitor metros.

Metro	Well-Being Index Score	Rank
San Jose, CA	63.7	1
Austin, TX	63.5	2
<b>San Diego, CA</b>	<b>63.3</b>	<b>3</b>
San Francisco, CA	63.0	4
Raleigh, NC	62.9	5
Los Angeles	62.8	6
Denver, CO	62.5	7
Boston, MA	62.3	8
Portland, OR	61.7	9
Seattle, WA	61.1	10



### ***About the Regional Jobs Strategy***

The Regional Jobs Strategy is an initiative of the San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce in Partnership with the City of San Diego, the County of San Diego, SANDAG, and dozens of other groups that are all focused on job creation. Through dashboards, a regional inventory of job creation initiatives, a “Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats” analysis, and ultimately a final report, the Regional Jobs Strategy is designed to place the attention of the entire business community on proven strategies and the issues that matter most for job creation.

### ***About the San Diego Regional Chamber Foundation***

The San Diego Regional Chamber Foundation is a 501(c)3 foundation. The Foundation’s mission is to create the most business-friendly region in California through investment in research, education, and leadership. The Foundation focuses its research, education, and leadership cultivation around the issues that influence San Diego’s business climate: workforce development, cross-border business, veterans employment, infrastructure, and quality of life.