Public
Officials
Directory

East-West Gateway
Council of Governments

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EAST-WEST GATEWAY
Council of Governments

January 2006

Dear Public Official:

The East-West Gateway Council of Governments is pleased to provide you with the enclosed updated 2006 Public Officials Directory. This directory is the only bi-state reference volume of its kind in the St. Louis metropolitan Missouri-Illinois area, and I hope you will find it useful during the coming year. Please note that due to off-year elections and formatting changes, the 2005 edition was postponed until all the information was available and accurate.

The information contained in the Directory is provided by each local jurisdiction and reflects the feedback we received. We strive throughout the year to keep all information up-to-date, and we continually welcome your changes and corrections. Your ongoing input helps us to ensure accuracy of the information contained in the Directory. The Directory is also available online at our website, http://www.ewgateway.org. The website also includes many kinds of information about the region, as well as other publications that we have available.

Please contact Karen Kunkel at 314-421-4220 to purchase additional copies of the Directory, to notify us of any changes or corrections, or to request a new binder for the updates. We encourage you to contact us for any assistance we can provide.

Sincerely,

Les Sterman
Executive Director

Enclosure

EAST-WEST GATEWAY
COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

www.ewgateway.org

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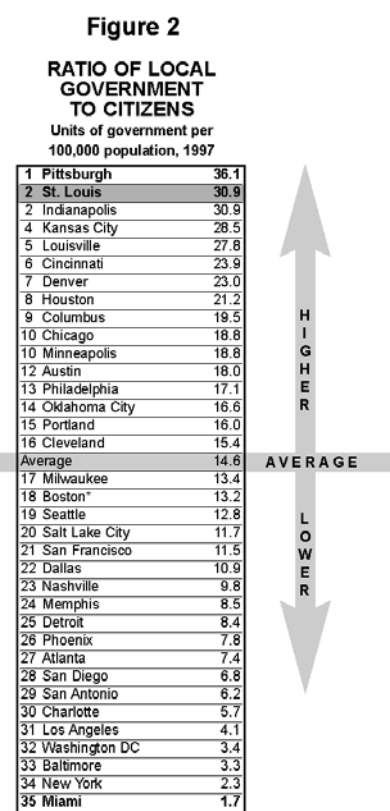
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The Region

As the thickness of this *Public Officials Directory* suggests, local government is big in the St. Louis area. The U.S. Census Bureau reports that there were 795 units of local government in the twelve-county St. Louis Metropolitan Statistical Area in 2002. East-West Gateway's strategic assessment, *Where We Stand*, finds St. Louis second only to Pittsburgh among 35 peer metros in the number of local governments per capita.[1] Figures 1 and 2 illustrate this point.[2]

Figure 1

UNITS OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT
General and special-purpose units of government, 1997

1	Chicago	1456
2	Pittsburgh	858
3	Philadelphia	845
4	Houston	802
5	**St. Louis**	**788**
6	Boston*	765
7	Minneapolis	519
8	Kansas City	482
9	Indianapolis	461
10	Denver	430
11	Cincinnati	381
12	Los Angeles	378
13	Detroit	372
	Average	364
14	Cleveland	345
15	Dallas	331
16	Seattle	286
17	Columbus	282
17	Portland	282
19	Louisville	276
20	Atlanta	263
21	Phoenix	215
22	New York	201
23	Milwaukee	195
24	San Francisco	191
25	Austin	187
26	San Diego	180
27	Oklahoma City	170
28	Washington DC	165
29	Salt Lake City	142
30	Nashville	110
31	Memphis	92
31	San Antonio	92
33	Charlotte	88
34	Baltimore	81
35	**Miami**	**36**

(HIGHER — AVERAGE — LOWER)

Figure 2

RATIO OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT TO CITIZENS
Units of government per 100,000 population, 1997

1	Pittsburgh	36.1
2	**St. Louis**	**30.9**
2	Indianapolis	30.9
4	Kansas City	28.5
5	Louisville	27.6
6	Cincinnati	23.9
7	Denver	23.0
8	Houston	21.2
9	Columbus	19.5
10	Chicago	18.8
10	Minneapolis	18.8
12	Austin	18.0
13	Philadelphia	17.1
14	Oklahoma City	16.6
15	Portland	16.0
16	Cleveland	15.4
	Average	14.6
17	Milwaukee	13.4
18	Boston*	13.2
19	Seattle	12.8
20	Salt Lake City	11.7
21	San Francisco	11.5
22	Dallas	10.9
23	Nashville	9.8
24	Memphis	8.5
25	Detroit	8.4
26	Phoenix	7.8
27	Atlanta	7.4
28	San Diego	6.8
29	San Antonio	6.2
30	Charlotte	5.7
31	Los Angeles	4.1
32	Washington DC	3.4
33	Baltimore	3.3
34	New York	2.3
35	**Miami**	**1.7**

(HIGHER — AVERAGE — LOWER)

A Variety of Local Governments

The reader may be interested to learn that municipalities and counties account for only 31 percent of the local governments in the metro area. School districts comprise 15 percent. Townships are 9 percent. The remaining 45 percent are special purpose districts that are customarily established to provide for a single, discrete service, such as fire districts, ambulance districts, transit districts, parks and recreation districts, sewer districts, and more. Figures 3 and 4 confirm that St. Louis is near the top of the *Where We Stand* charts in the number of our municipalities and school districts, as well.

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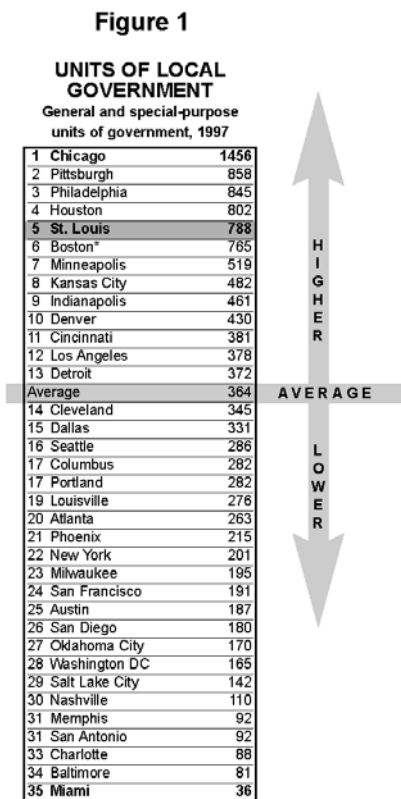
[1] Peer regions are those that have a population of 950,000 or more and are within 500 miles of St. Louis, or that have an economic function similar to St. Louis. See *Where We Stand: The Strategic Assessment of the St. Louis Region.* 4th edition, 2002.

[2] These charts are based on data from the Census of Governments, which is conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau every five years, in the years ending in 2 and 7.

Figure 3

METRO AREA MUNICIPALITIES
Municipalities per 100,000 population, 1997

1	Louisville	13.0
2	Pittsburgh	10.0
3	St. Louis	8.9
4	Kansas City	8.2
5	Cincinnati	8.0
6	Minneapolis	6.9
7	Oklahoma City	6.6
8	Indianapolis	5.5
9	Columbus	5.2
10	Cleveland	5.1
11	Dallas	4.8
	Average	4.0
12	Milwaukee	4.0
13	Nashville	3.8
13	Austin	3.8
13	Chicago	3.8
16	Memphis	3.7
17	Charlotte	3.4
17	Salt Lake City	3.4
19	Portland	3.2
20	Atlanta	3.0
21	Philadelphia	2.9
22	Detroit	2.6
23	Seattle	2.5
24	San Antonio	2.2
25	Houston	2.1
26	Washington DC	2.0
27	San Francisco	1.9
28	Denver	1.7
29	Miami	1.3
30	Phoenix	1.2
31	Los Angeles	1.0
32	Baltimore	0.8
33	Boston*	0.7
33	San Diego	0.7
35	New York	0.6

HIGHER — AVERAGE — LOWER

Special purpose units of government have been growing at a significant rate across the United States in recent decades, a trend that St. Louis has followed. Between 1952 and 2002, the number of local special purpose districts increased by 300 percent, nationwide. During that same time period, school districts were consolidating and reorganizing, with the number of independent units actually shrinking. Municipalities grew in number by 16 percent, and the number of counties in the nation remained relatively steady.[3]
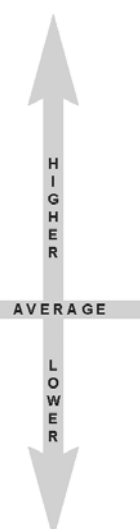
Local Government Finance
Local governments have responsibility and authority for a wide range of public services that citizens and businesses depend upon. These include education, public health, public safety, infrastructure and transportation, environmental protection, and more.
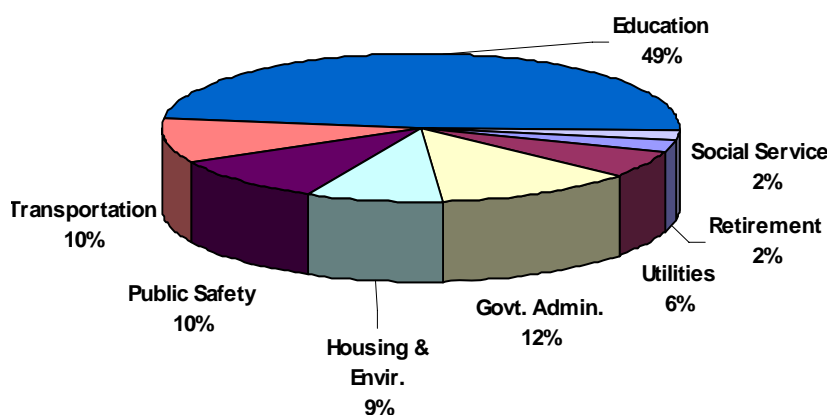
Figure 4

SCHOOL DISTRICTS
Independent school districts per 100,000 population, 1997

1	Oklahoma City	6.2
2	St. Louis	4.7
3	Pittsburgh	4.5
4	Cincinnati	4.4
5	Chicago	4.3
6	Kansas City	4.1
7	Philadelphia	3.8
7	Cleveland	3.8
9	Milwaukee	3.6
10	Columbus	3.5
11	Indianapolis	3.3
12	Portland	3.2
13	Austin	2.9
14	Minneapolis	2.8
14	San Francisco	2.8
14	Phoenix	2.8
17	Dallas	2.6
18	Detroit	2.5
	Average	2.3
19	Boston*	2.0
20	San Diego	1.8
21	Seattle	1.6
22	San Antonio	1.5
23	Louisville	1.3
23	Houston	1.3
25	Los Angeles	1.0
26	Denver	0.9
27	Atlanta	0.8
28	New York	0.6
28	Salt Lake City	0.6
28	Memphis	0.6
31	Charlotte	0.3
32	Nashville	0.2
33	Miami	0.1
34	Washington DC	0.0
34	Baltimore	0.0

HIGHER — AVERAGE — LOWER

Local governments in the St. Louis metro area spent more

Figure 5
Public Expenditures: St. Louis Region, 2002
$8.3 Billion Total Expenditures

Education 49%
Social Services 2%
Retirement 2%
Utilities 6%
Govt. Admin. 12%
Housing & Envir. 9%
Public Safety 10%
Transportation 10%

than $8.3 billion on these services in 2002.

As indicated in Figure 5, almost half (49 percent) of this went to education. The next largest categories of expenditure were government administration (12 percent), public safety (10 percent), transportation (10 percent), and housing and environment (9 percent).
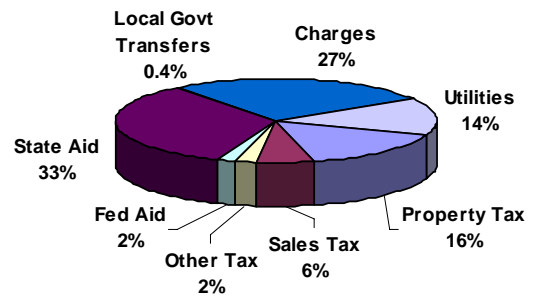
[3] "Government Units in 2002" U.S. Census Bureau. July 2002.

Many local governments also make significant investments in economic development by means of taxes that are abated, diverted, or refunded for the purpose of stimulating economic activity. These are not included in the totals provided by the Census.

Funds to support public services are generated through a variety of mechanisms, the principal ones being taxes, charges, and intergovernmental revenues which are funds transferred under formal agreement from one level of government or one unit of government to another. In the St. Louis metro area, the means by which revenues are secured by the 229 municipalities varies considerably according to the state in which the city is located. A full 33 percent of municipal revenue for governments in Illinois comes from transfers from the state largely because of how sales taxes are collected and distributed in Illinois. Direct sales and gross receipts comprise only 6 percent of revenues in Illinois municipalities, compared to 23 percent of those in the Missouri portion of the region. Missouri cities depend on the state for only 11 percent of their income. Figures 6 and 7 illustrate these and other differences and similarities.

Figure 6
Illinois Municipal Revenues:
St. Louis Region, 2002 ($425 Million)

Figure 7
Missouri Municipal Revenues:
St. Louis Region, 2002 ($1.43 Billion)

Figure 8

LOCAL GOVERNMENT REVENUE
Total annual revenue as a percent of total personal income, 1997

#	City	Value
1	New York	14.4
2	Austin	12.1
3	Miami	11.5
4	Memphis	10.8
5	Los Angeles	10.7
6	San Antonio	9.5
7	Nashville	9.4
8	Washington DC	9.0
9	Phoenix	8.9
10	San Francisco	8.6
10	Salt Lake City	8.6
12	Chicago	8.4
12	Charlotte	8.4
	Average	8.3
14	Kansas City	8.3
15	Atlanta	8.1
15	Cleveland	8.1
17	Seattle	8.0
17	Indianapolis	8.0
19	Milwaukee	7.9
20	Dallas	7.8
21	Denver	7.7
21	Philadelphia	7.7
23	Portland	7.6
23	San Diego	7.6
25	Columbus	7.3
25	Houston	7.3
27	Minneapolis	7.2
27	Cincinnati	7.2
29	Baltimore	7.1
30	Oklahoma City	6.9
31	Pittsburgh	6.6
32	Detroit	6.4
33	Louisville	6.1
34	Boston*	5.8
34	St. Louis	5.8

HIGHER

AVERAGE

LOWER

The Local Tax Burden
St. Louis has a reputation for being a very affordable community. The data suggest that this is true particularly in terms of citizens' tax burden. Figure 8 demonstrates that St. Louis ranks last among the 35 *Where We Stand* metros in the percent of personal income that is paid in local taxes. The

region is also last in the amount of local government debt, and close to the bottom in local government spending, as Figures 9 and 10 confirm.

East-West Gateway's Publications for Local Governments
This *Public Officials Directory* is the 'Who's Who' of the government sector in the eight counties that are at the core of the St. Louis Metropolitan Area. It is a resource for members of the public (who make the ultimate decisions about how government is structured and financed), elected officials (who make the decisions about how resources are spent), and government employees (who administer the decisions made by both). East-West Gateway staff will make every effort to keep the information in this document as up-to-date as possible.

Readers may be interested in other directories and reports that describe local governments in the region. These include:

Community Close-Up, which contains a full page of information describing each of the municipalities in the region (April 2004).

St. Louis Trends: A Statistical Snapshot of the St. Louis Region, which summarizes information about the region from the 2000 Census and other sources (January 2004).

Both are available on East-West Gateway's web site, www.ewgateway.org, and through our publications office.

Figure 9

LOCAL GOVERNMENT DEBT
Ratio of local government debt to local revenue, 1997

1	Salt Lake City	2.83
2	Pittsburgh	2.44
3	Denver	2.27
4	Phoenix	2.26
5	Louisville	2.24
6	Austin	2.16
7	Houston	2.11
8	San Antonio	2.08
9	Minneapolis	1.96
10	Philadelphia	1.75
11	Miami	1.62
12	Atlanta	1.58
	Average	1.55
13	Kansas City	1.51
14	San Diego	1.47
15	Seattle	1.46
16	Los Angeles	1.45
17	Portland	1.43
18	Nashville	1.42
19	Dallas	1.41
20	Indianapolis	1.40
21	Charlotte	1.35
22	Washington DC	1.31
23	New York	1.29
24	Oklahoma City	1.28
25	Detroit	1.24
26	Milwaukee	1.20
27	San Francisco	1.19
28	Chicago	1.15
29	Baltimore	1.14
30	Columbus	1.12
31	Cleveland	1.08
32	Cincinnati	1.07
33	Memphis	1.00
34	Boston*	0.96
35	St. Louis	0.90

HIGHER — AVERAGE — LOWER

Figure 10

LOCAL GOVERNMENT SPENDING
Total direct expenditures per capita, 1997

1	New York	6,451
2	San Francisco	4,955
3	Los Angeles	4,441
4	Miami	4,073
5	Seattle	3,907
6	Washington DC	3,871
7	Milwaukee	3,619
8	Portland	3,605
9	Minneapolis	3,597
10	San Diego	3,585
11	Austin	3,574
12	Memphis	3,452
13	Chicago	3,434
14	Philadelphia	3,396
15	Denver	3,359
16	Nashville	3,351
	Average	3,330
17	Detroit	3,247
18	Phoenix	3,246
19	Cleveland	3,206
20	Atlanta	3,178
21	Kansas City	3,064
22	Indianapolis	3,044
23	San Antonio	3,010
24	Dallas	2,900
25	Salt Lake City	2,860
26	Columbus	2,853
27	Pittsburgh	2,823
28	Houston	2,818
29	Charlotte	2,807
30	Boston*	2,735
31	Cincinnati	2,729
32	Baltimore	2,532
33	St. Louis	2,356
34	Louisville	2,339
35	Oklahoma City	2,137

HIGHER — AVERAGE — LOWER

4