

LED: A potential tool for tracking local equity indicators for Portland's Sub geographies

Question your work tried to answer	To establish baseline values for <i>Local Indicators or Measures of Progress</i> in Portland's sub geographies and then use the LED tool to track progress- all aimed to reduce disparities and foster Citywide equity and prosperity.
Local Employment Dynamics data sources used	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OnTheMap <input type="checkbox"/> QWI <input type="checkbox"/> Industry Focus <input type="checkbox"/> Raw data files from CD or VRDC <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
Other data sources used	ESRI Business Analyst
Software/ data processing tools used	Microsoft Excel ArcView GIS
Brief description of methodology (if someone wanted to do a similar analysis, how should they approach it?)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Determine relevant sub geographies within the study area Note: In case of Portland, carving these sub geographies was a huge effort. The central idea was to carve areas called "20-minute neighborhoods" or places with convenient, safe and pedestrian-oriented access to places people need to go to and the services people use every day: transit, shopping, healthy food, school, parks and social activities. ▪ Determination of Citywide and Local Measures of Progress Note: In case of Portland, the creation of Indicators list was also a big project. The effort was coordinated with Metro, the regional planning agency and also with the IBM Corp. ▪ Use OnTheMap and ESRI Business Analyst to establish baseline values of relevant indicators. Both these programs are capable of importing 'shape files' and accommodate custom geographies and running performance analysis helps to get to the following measures: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Employment Growth ○ Unemployment ○ Most workers commute less than 30 minutes ○ Associate degree attainment
Benefits of methodology/ data	Very useful to get descriptive employment data/patterns for custom geographies. While the ESRI Business Analyst provides comparable data, the software is expensive and can impose a cost

	burden on a researcher.
Drawbacks/problems with methodology/data	<p><u>Methodology:</u></p> <p>Custom geographies by their very nature are non-standard and so there is this inherent weakness. Similarly, indicators are also insufficient- for instance an area may see employment growth but if the jobs are not well paying then is it real progress?</p> <p><u>Data:</u></p> <p>Due to the synthetic nature of the data, the values are not necessarily 'true values' and with inability to apply a Margin of Error (MOE) or Confidence Levels, the interpretations of progress or lack there off, need to be thought through carefully.</p>
Anything else?	The weakness in methodology or the data should not be treated as a deterrent to making equitable investments that expand opportunities for communities of color.
Who and how to contact for more information:	Uma Krishnan – uma.krishnan@portlandoregon.gov