

2019

State of E Report

A PUBLICATION OF
 FOR EVANSVILLE

Unless you love the place you live, you can never be an agent in its transformation. Do you love Evansville? Listening is the first act of love each of us can do for our city. What are the needs and dreams of our city? What holds us back?

The purpose of the State of E Report is to coalesce and communicate our city's most pressing needs so that individuals like you can leverage it to solve those needs.

While there are many needs worth addressing, we intend this report to highlight the ones that have an exponential effect on the flourishing of every person.

In 2019, we set out to establish a preview of what we hope will become a trusted guide in subsequent years for navigating our community's needs and dreams. We hope you'll read it, digest it, pull people together, and act on it.

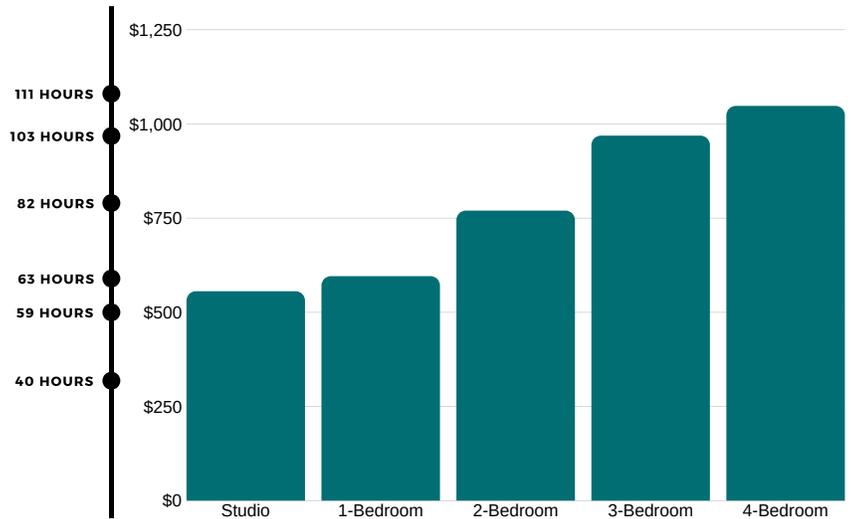
Download the full pilot report at www.forevansville.org/stateofe.

HOUSING STABILITY

One of the five areas we are highlighting in the pilot report that exponentially impacts individual flourishing is housing.

Without stable housing, individuals, children, and families struggle to survive. Insecure housing is more concentrated in neighborhoods with higher levels of poverty, which are typically characterized by older, less energy-efficient houses.

"Stable housing" means housing that is available, safe, and affordable. As the graph to the right illustrates, someone making minimum wage would have to work 82 hours per week to afford a two-bedroom apartment, which equates to two full time jobs.



MARKET RENT AND HOURS OF WORK NEEDED PER WEEK AT MINIMUM WAGE

21%

OF EVSC 3RD GRADERS FAILED THE I-READ EXAM

BETWEEN 2008 AND 2017 THE NUMBER OF NEGLECTFUL CHILD ABUSE CASES INCREASED BY

43%

CHILD WELFARE

Just over 1 in 5 third graders are not reading at grade level, and it is something our community must prioritize. The students in that 21% are four times less likely to graduate from high school.

Child welfare includes third grade literacy, child homelessness, education, health, and abuse. Though sexual and physical abuse decreased between 2008 and 2017, neglect cases increased by 43%.

Children often face the unintended consequences of adult decisions and actions and have little power to change their situation. A city for everyone makes the most vulnerable populations the most cared for populations.

RACIAL UNITY

A flourishing city is one where racial unity is realized and expressed. In Evansville, it is clear we are largely divided across minority populations. Empathy, listening, patience, and understanding are needed to have racial unity.

Segregation of events, churches, and neighborhoods contribute to a lack of racial unity. As minority populations increase and the majority population decreases, we must learn to work together with trust as a unified community.



**PERCENTAGE OF MINORITY POPULATION
ACROSS CENSUS TRACTS**

25.1%+

14.01 - 25%

6.01 - 14%

0 - 6%

20%

**HIGHER RATE OF DRUG
OVERDOSE DEATHS THAN THE
STATE OF INDIANA**

MENTAL WELLNESS

Mental health issues can be constant inhibitors to the flourishing of every person. Without proper treatment, they can prevent people from maintaining employment or caring for their children.

Our substance abuse crisis is well-documented, but it is often dismissed as the consequence of individual decisions, despite the negative effects it is having on our families and community. The shame and social stigma of addiction and other mental health issues often drives those most in need of community further into isolation.

ECONOMIC POTENTIAL

Jobs, income, and the ability to flourish are intertwined, and Evansville families are wrestling with financial insecurity at alarming rates. 1 in 10 people in the city have a household income of less than \$10,000 per year. This is significantly below the poverty level, and it is five times less than a livable wage.

Although thousands of jobs are available in the region, many factors keep people from filling those jobs. For our city to flourish, we need the right jobs, the right workforce, and the right pay. Businesses and workers need to make the necessary investments in each other to increase economic flourishing.

40%

**of Evansville families live
pay check to pay check**

10%

**of Evansville households
earn less than \$10,000 a year**

FULL & FUTURE REPORTS

Thank you for reading through this brief summary of our pilot report for 2019. We hope exploring a highlight of these five issues leads you to a better understanding of our city and a clearer focus for where to invest your time, talent, and resources. Future reports will also help you discern how you can make those investments.

You can download the free full report at www.forevansville.org/stateofe.

In order to build a trusted resource of synthesized, actionable data and insight for our community, we are looking to coordinate and collaborate with local research experts for the 2020 State of E Report (i.e. foundations, consultants, and businesses).

If you or your organization would like to help us improve, support, and verify future reports, please contact us at info@forevansville.org.

ABOUT FOR EVANSVILLE

We are a social entrepreneurial organization committed to cultivating collaboration between the Church and the City around the city's needs and dreams that align with the mission of Jesus Christ.

We want to see Evansville be a city where every person:

- experiences love and gives love
- prioritizes the holistic well-being of all people
- and has work that provides community value and individual purpose.

That kind of city is for everyone.

Citywide flourishing happens when every person in the city flourishes. We pursue the flourishing of every person by bringing people together to solve our city's most pressing needs.

We do that by convening church and community leaders, cultivating the mindsets and language necessary for transformative impact, and storytelling about the way things are and the way things could be.

We believe there is an enormous amount of opportunity for people of different backgrounds and perspectives to work together toward common passions.



FOR EVANSVILLE