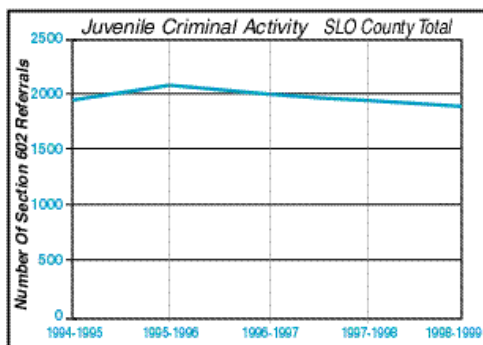


## PUBLIC SAFETY ISSUES ACTION GOAL:

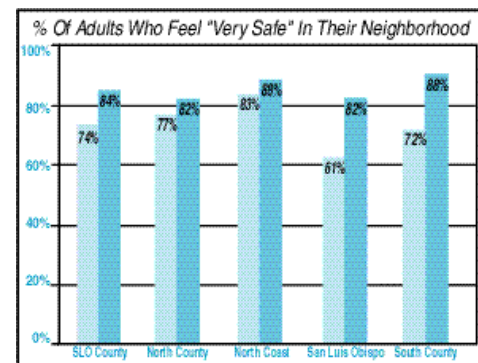
*All persons feel and are safe in their homes, schools, workplace, and communities.*

**Juvenile Criminal Activity** This indicator measures the number of juveniles who are apprehended in connection with any type of crime, from minor offenses to felonies. The number of juveniles committing crimes is a sign of how well a community (families, schools, and other organizations) is rearing its young people, as well as how many youths might be headed toward a life of crime. The level of juvenile criminal activity in San Luis Obispo County has been steady to slightly declining since 1994-95.



Source: County Probation Department, Juvenile Services Unit, 2001

**Adult Safety Perceptions** Apart from police-based crime statistics, this indicator reports how safe county residents actually feel in their neighborhoods. Residents who responded to the ACTION For Healthy Communities survey were asked, "How safe would you say you feel in your neighborhood?" In 2001, more than five out of six say they feel "very safe" in their neighborhood. This represents statistically significant improvement from the 1999 results. Safety perceptions have improved most dramatically in the City of San Luis Obispo area. The low 1999 results for the City of San Luis Obispo are likely due to the fact that the 1999 survey was conducted at a time when the disappearance of three students was receiving widespread news coverage.

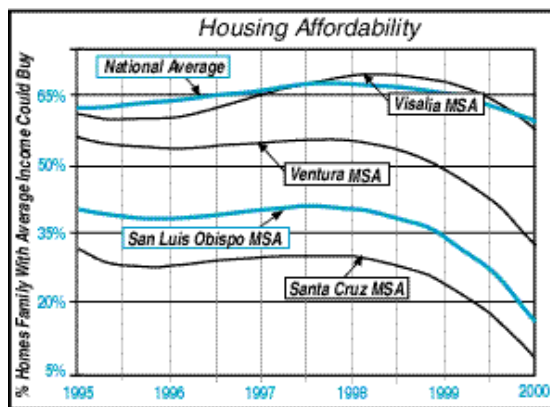


Source: ACTION for Healthy Communities telephone surveys 1998 & 2001

## ECONOMIC ISSUES ACTION GOAL:

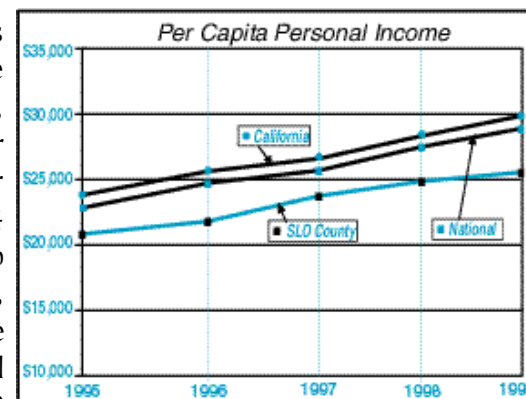
*All persons have employment opportunities & support services that enable them to achieve their highest individual level of self-sufficiency.*

**Housing Affordability** This indicator reports on the percentage of homes sold that a family with an average income could afford to buy. A shortage of homes that families can afford causes them to use a greater percentage of their income on housing, to commute farther, or leave the area entirely. Typically, high home prices are also reflected in high rents, both for houses and apartments. Housing affordability, which was already poor, has taken a dramatic turn for the worse since 1998, making the San Luis Obispo MSA the sixth least affordable in the nation. Nationally, families could afford to buy 58 percent of the homes sold in their areas. The San Francisco and Santa Cruz MSAs are the least affordable in the nation.



Source: National Association of Home Builders, 2001

**Personal Income** This indicator tracks the average income of people in the county, adjusted for inflation, on a per person basis. Personal income for county residents has increased 24 percent over the past five years to \$25,888. The county still, however, trails the statewide average of \$29,856 and national average of \$28,546. In 1999 transfer payments and dividend income, both usually associated with retirement, accounted for 43 percent of all income received by county residents.



Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, 2001

*ACTION for Healthy Communities is a cooperative, collaborative effort of organizations, that are committed to improving the overall quality of life of San Luis Obispo County. ACTION completed its first benchmark study of community issues in 1999. This report represents the first time comparative results are available for a number of criteria that measure local community health and well-being.*

*In 1999 and again in 2001 telephone surveys were conducted with random-digit-dialing samples drawn proportionately from all active phone exchanges in the County, to survey county residents on their concerns, needs and quality of life. A total of 809 people were interviewed in 2001, yielding 95 percent confidence that the opinions of survey respondents reflect those of the general population within approximately +/- 3.5 percent. When wording and methodology were identical, statistical comparisons were made between the 1999 and 2001 survey results (544 people were interviewed in 1999).*

### ACTION for Healthy Communities Collaborative Partners

Adult Services Policy Council  
 Area Agency on Aging  
 Arroyo Grande Community/French Hospital Medical Ctr.  
 Atascadero Community Link  
 Atascadero Youth Task Force  
 Children's Services Network  
 City of San Luis Obispo Human Relations Commission  
 Community Health Centers of the Central Coast  
 County of San Luis Obispo:  
 Department of Social Services  
 Health Agency  
 Library  
 Planning Department  
 Probation Department  
 Economic Opportunity Commission  
 Economic Vitality Corporation  
 Environmental Center of San Luis Obispo  
 Foundation for Community Design  
 Paso Robles Health Collaborative  
 People's Self Help Housing Corporation  
 SLOCO Access  
 San Luis Obispo Chamber of Commerce  
 San Luis Obispo Childcare Planning Council  
 San Luis Obispo Community Health Foundation  
 San Luis Obispo County Community Foundation  
 San Luis Obispo County Health Commission

San Luis Obispo County HIV CARE Consortium  
 San Luis Obispo County Medical Society  
 San Luis Obispo County Office of Education  
 San Luis Obispo County YMCA  
 Taylor Consulting Group  
 Tenet Health Systems  
 United Way of San Luis Obispo County

### Financial Sponsors

Area Agency on Aging  
 Arroyo Grande Community/French Hospital Medical Ctr.  
 Children & Families Commission of SLO County  
 Community Health Centers of the Central Coast  
 County of San Luis Obispo:  
 Health Agency  
 Department of Social Services  
 Planning Department  
 Probation Department  
 Economic Opportunity Commission of SLO County  
 San Luis Obispo Community Health Foundation  
 San Luis Obispo County Community Foundation  
 Sierra Vista Regional Medical Center  
 The California Endowment  
 United Way of San Luis Obispo County



For information: [www.unitedwayslo.org](http://www.unitedwayslo.org) or c/o San Luis Obispo County Community Foundation, Phone (805) 543-2323