

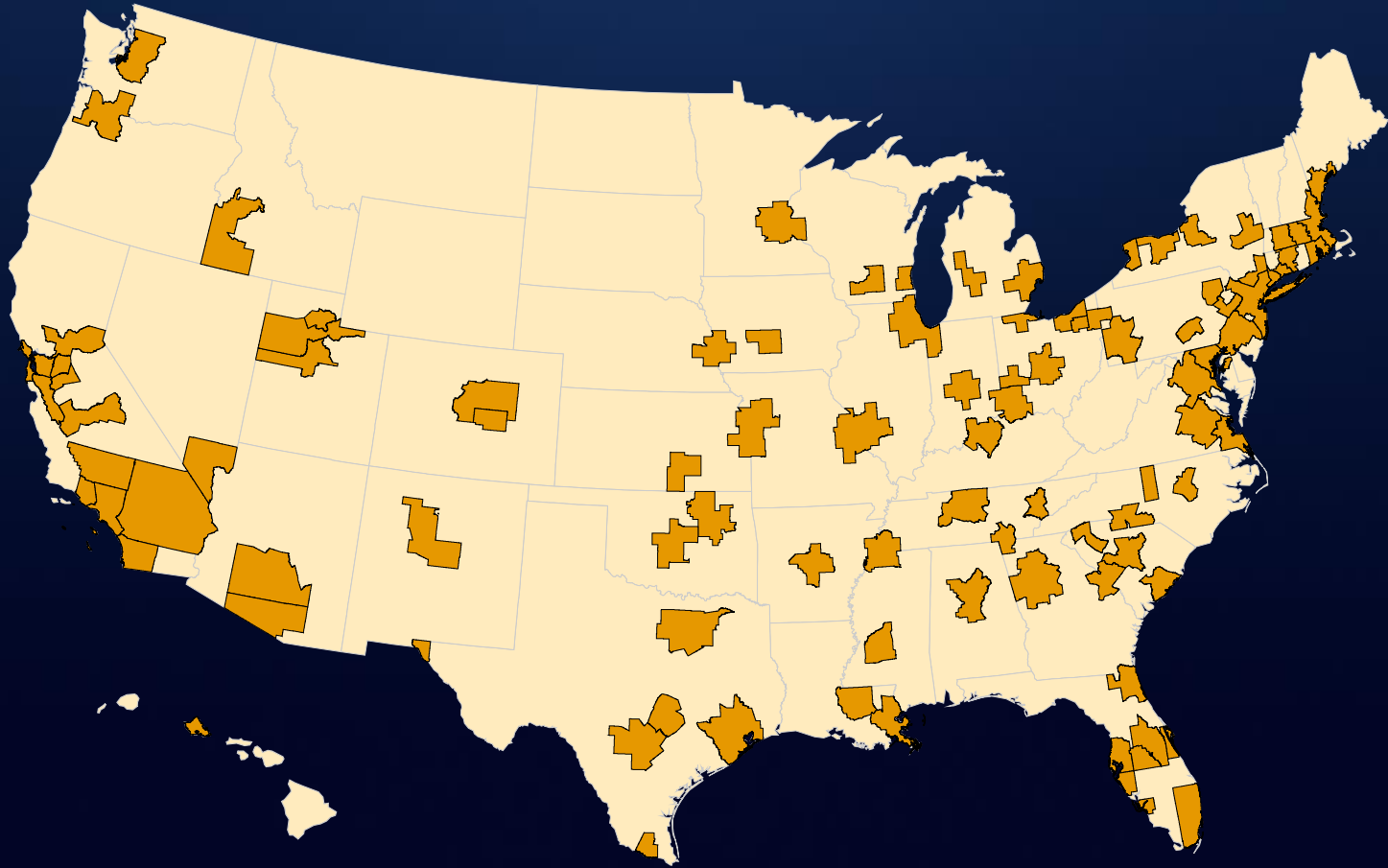
# CONFRONTING SUBURBAN POVERTY IN METROPOLITAN LAS VEGAS



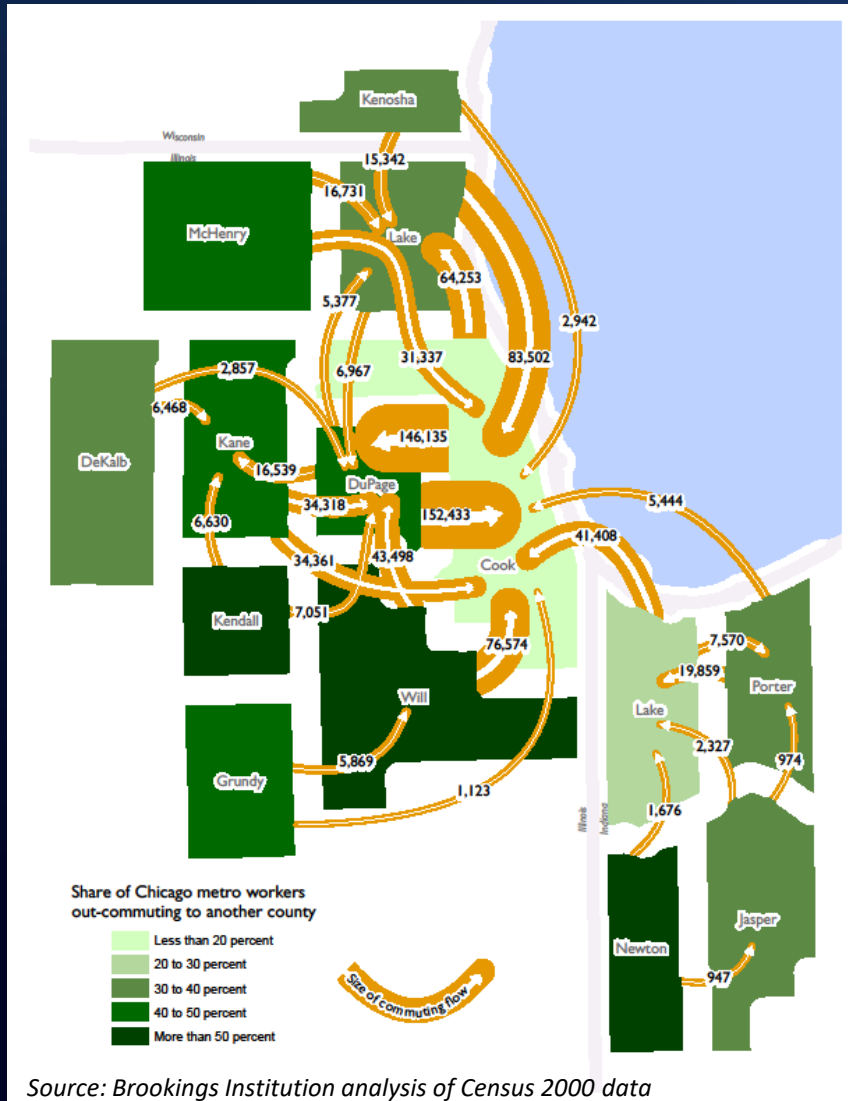
## CONFRONTING SUBURBAN POVERTY IN AMERICA

Elizabeth Kneebone and Alan Berube

**Much of our work focuses on the country's 100 largest metropolitan statistical areas, which house two-thirds of the nation's population**



# Metropolitan areas are statistical representations of “commuter sheds” and, by extension, labor markets



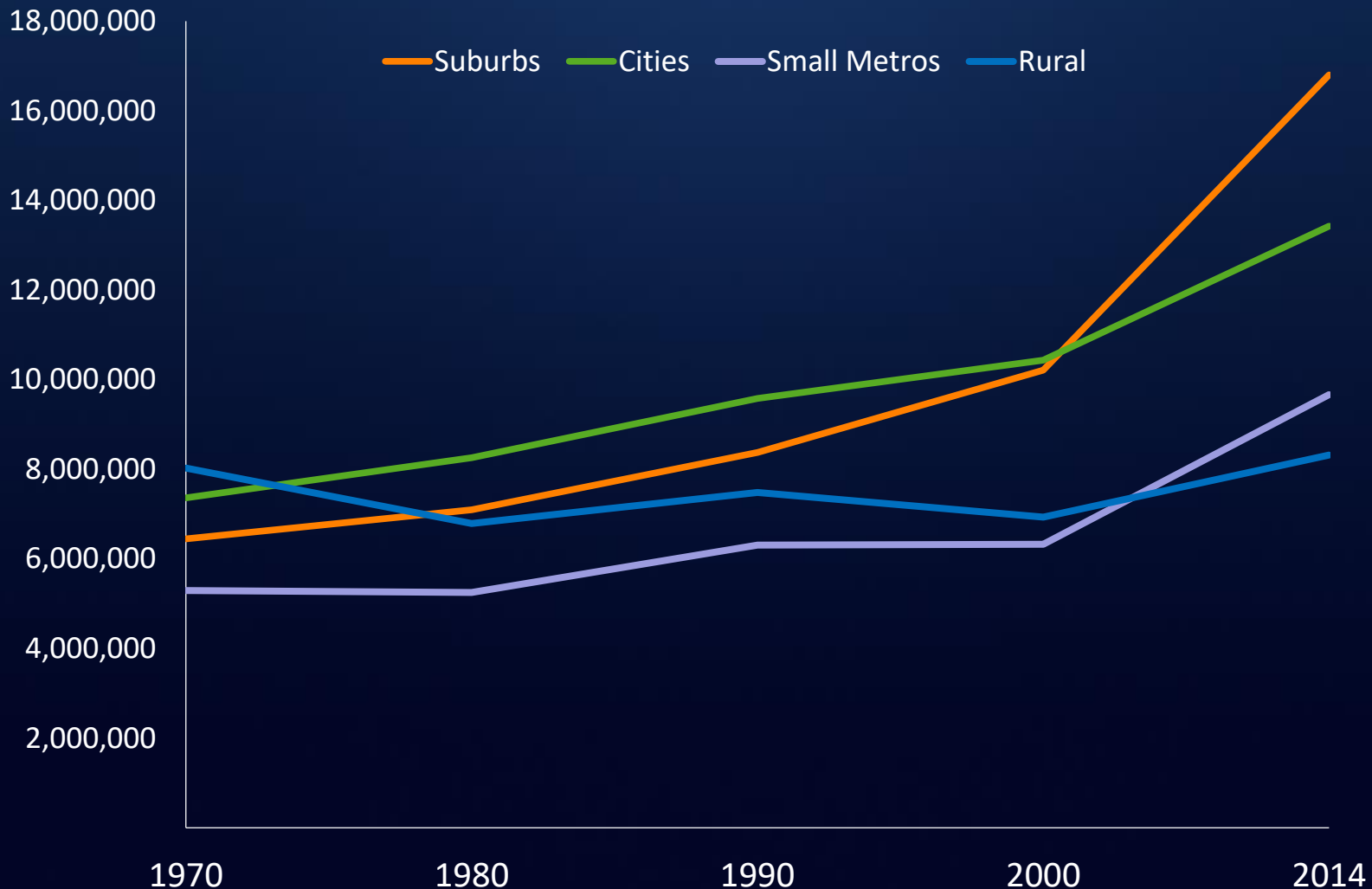
**PRIMARY CITY** in the 100 largest metro areas: First city in the MSA name; Any other named city with a population over 100,000

**SUBURBS** in the 100 largest metro areas: Remainder of the MSA outside the primary city or cities

**SMALL METRO AREA:** Any other MSA not in the top 100

**RURAL:** Any county not in an official MSA

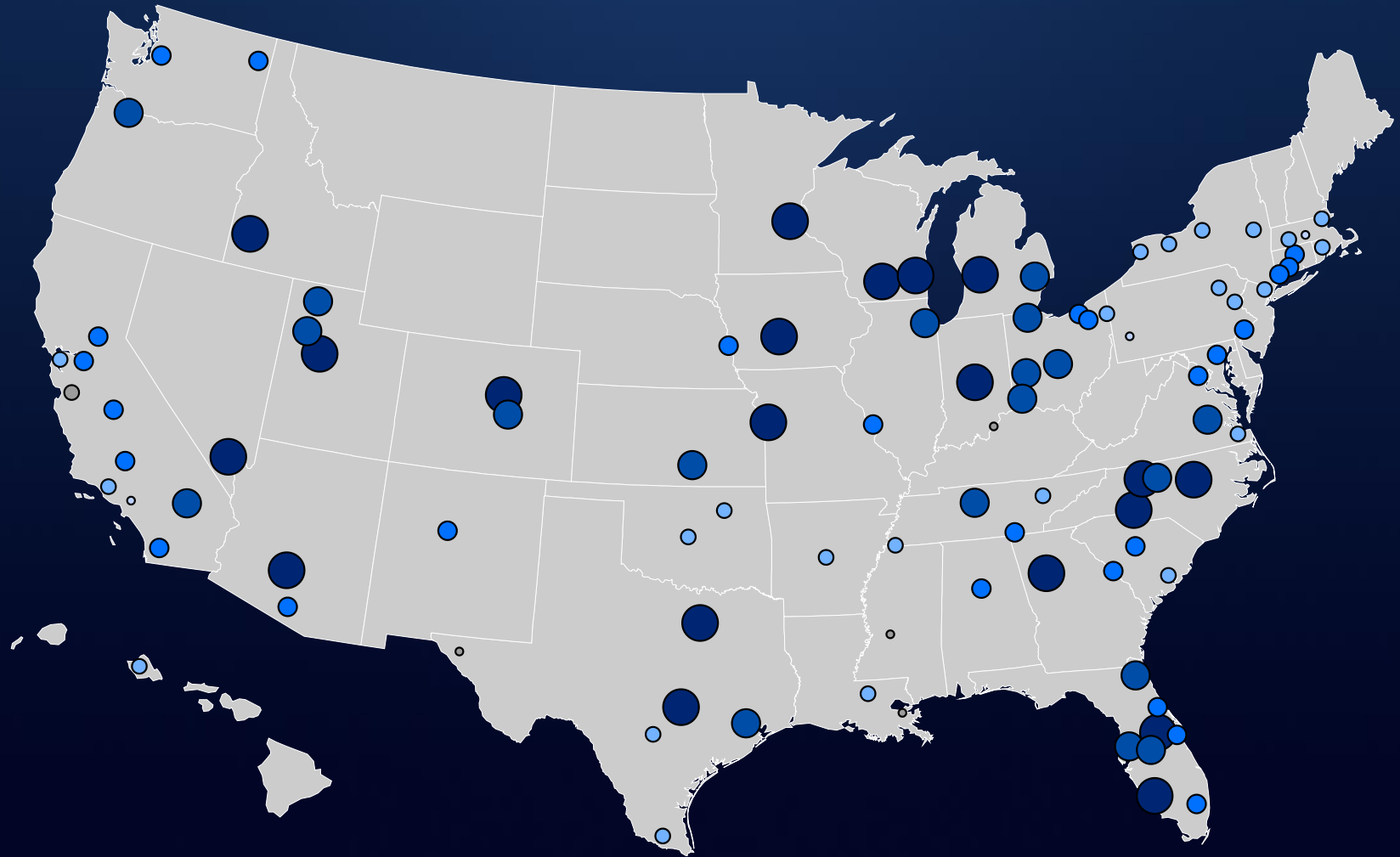
# Today, suburbs are home to the nation's largest and fastest growing poor population



**NOTE: The federal poverty threshold for a family of four was \$24,230 in 2014**

Source: Brookings analysis of U.S. Census Bureau data

# Between 2000 and 2014, the suburban poor population increased in 92 of the top 97 metros

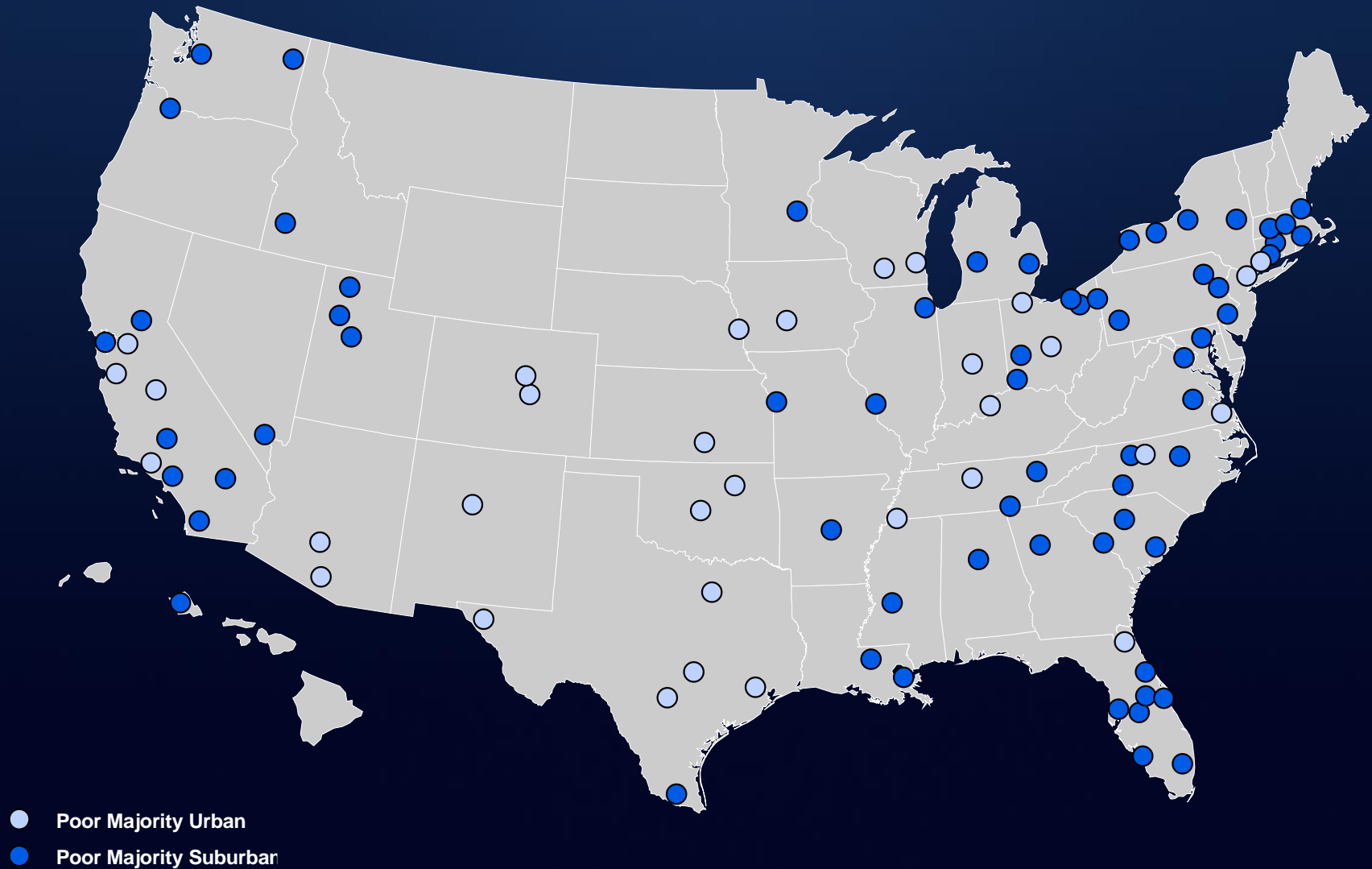


Percent Increase in Suburban Poor Population, 2000 to 2014

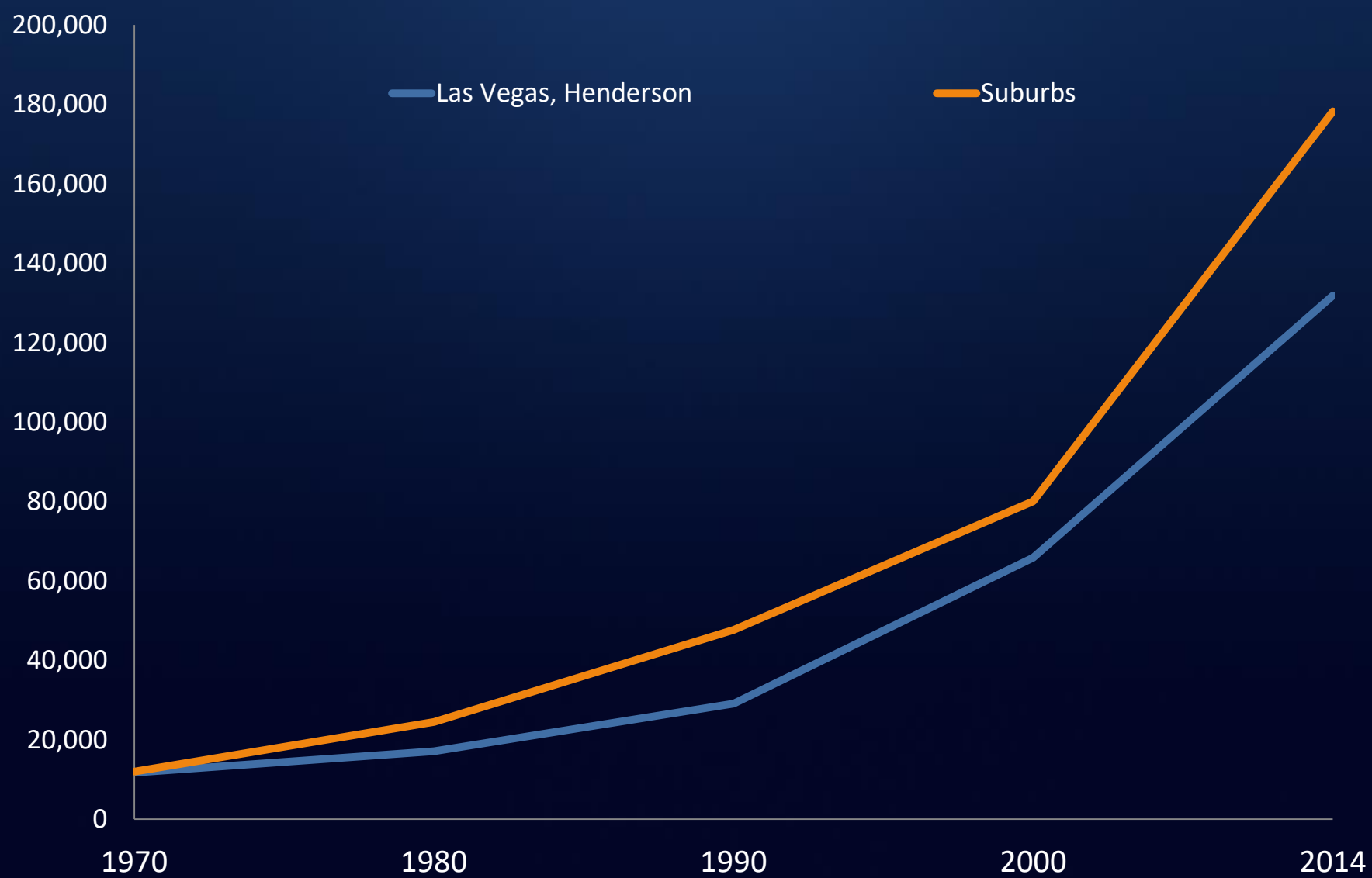
• +13% to +25%    • +25% to +50%    • +50% to +75%    • +75% to +100%    • +100% to +186%

• Change not significant

# By 2014, 65 of the top 97 metros found the majority of their region's poor located in the suburbs

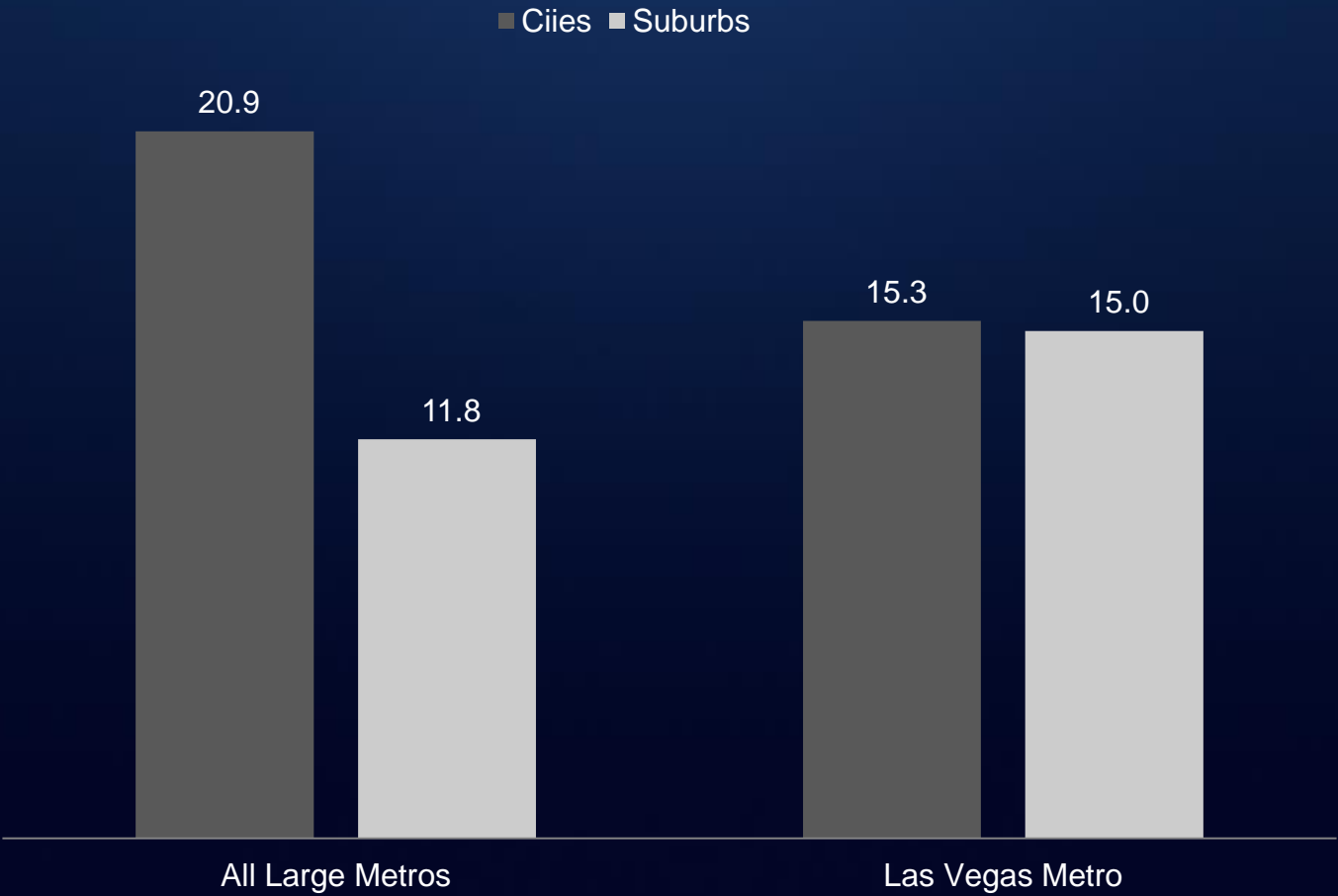


# In metro Las Vegas, the suburban poor population grew by almost 123 percent between 2000 and 2014



Number in poverty, central cities versus suburbs, 1970-2014. Source: Brookings analysis of U.S. Census Bureau data.

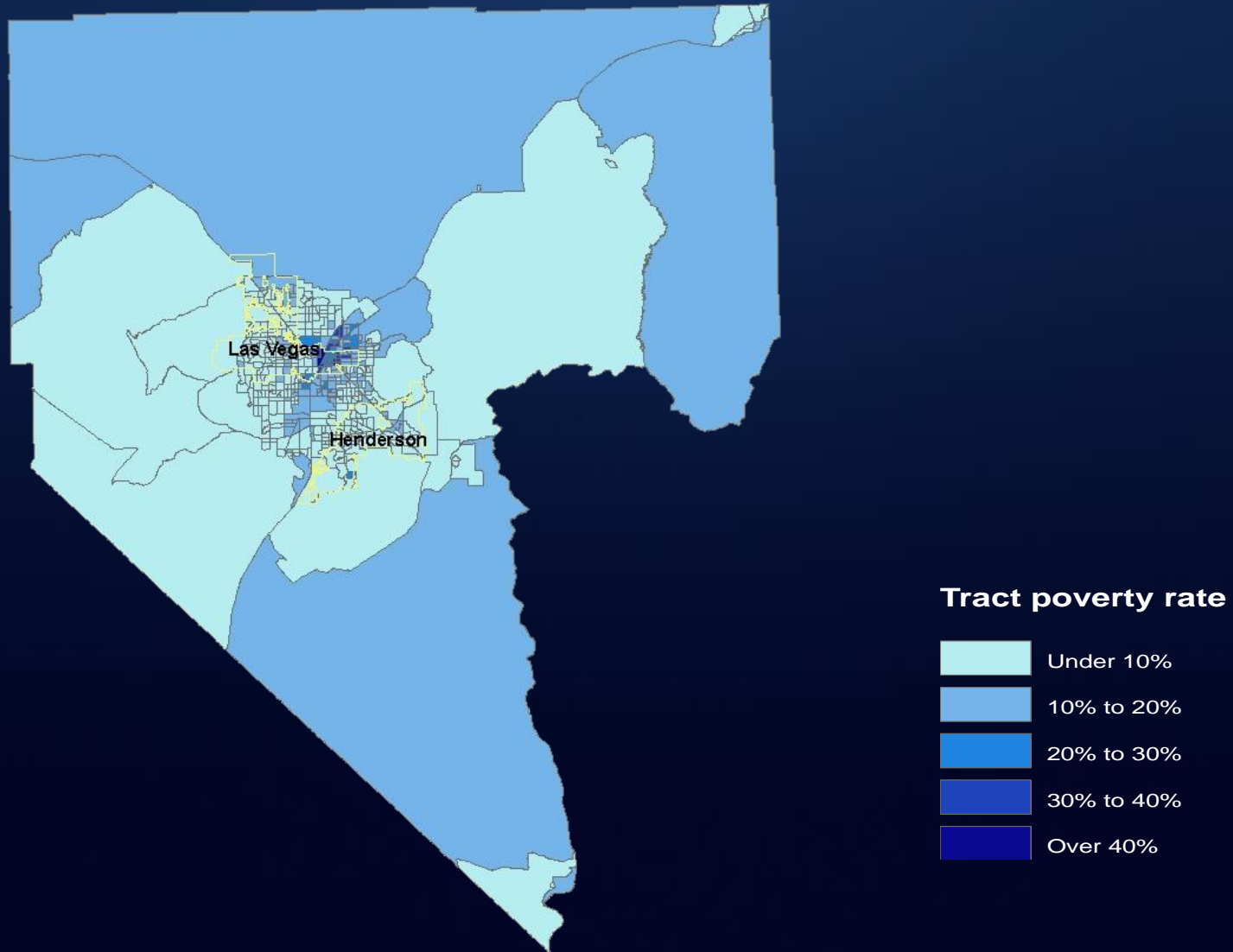
# A similar share of urban and suburban residents in the Las Vegas region live below the poverty line



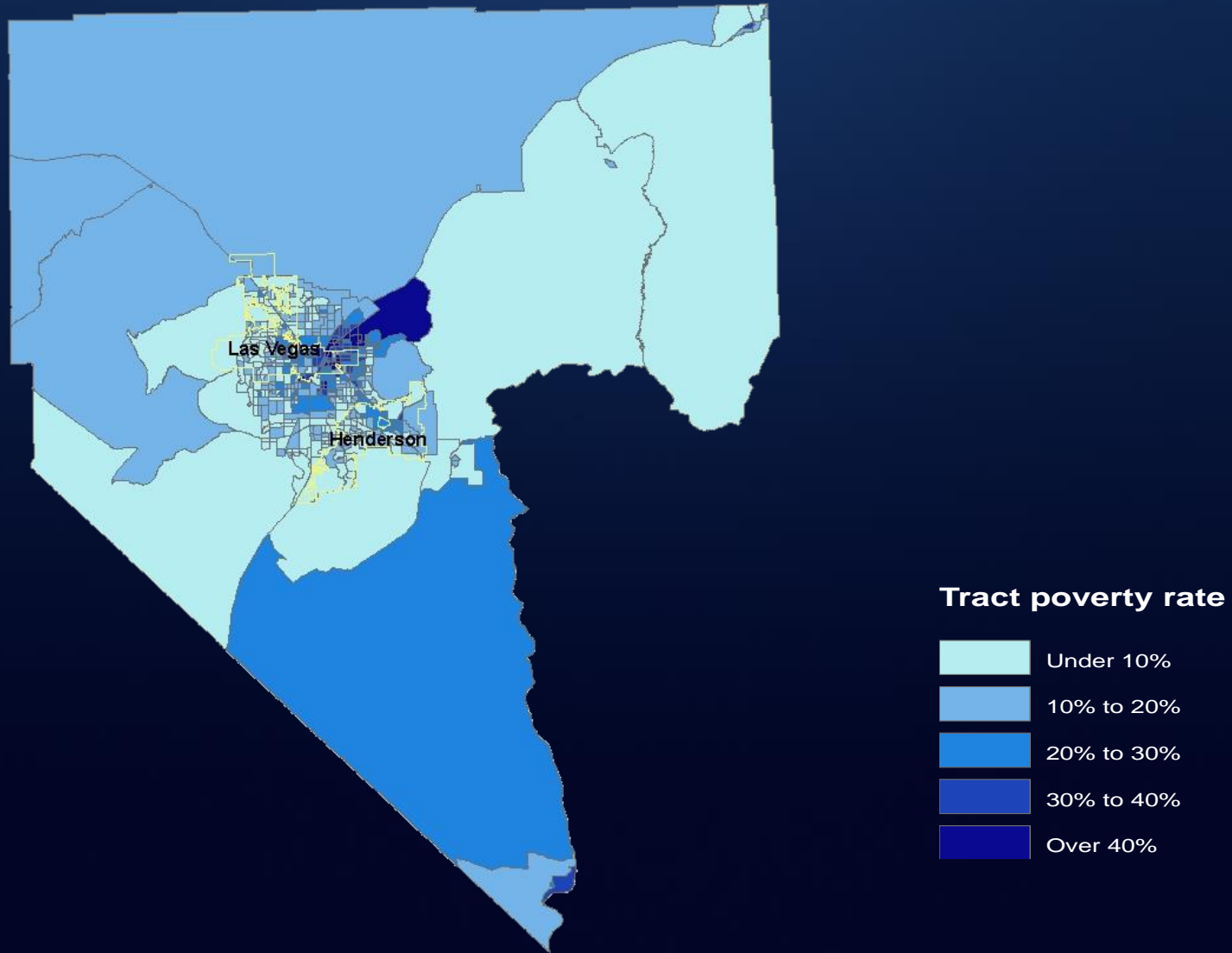
Poverty rate, central cities versus suburbs, 2014. Source: Brookings analysis of U.S. Census Bureau data.



# Poverty has moved beyond inner ring suburbs



# Poverty has moved beyond inner ring suburbs



# Many factors drive suburbanizing poverty



Population Change



Immigration



Housing



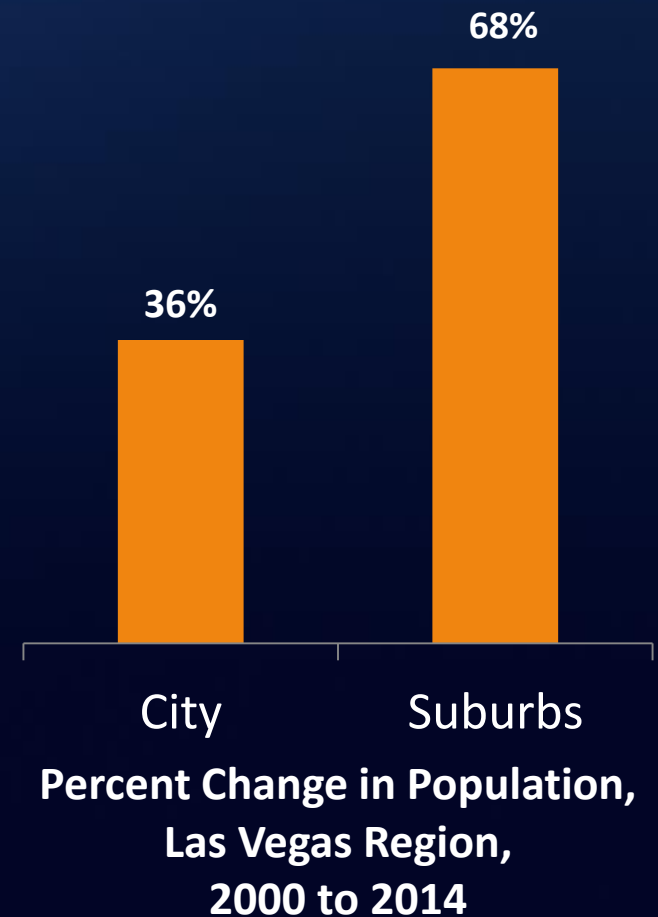
Job Location



Regional Economy



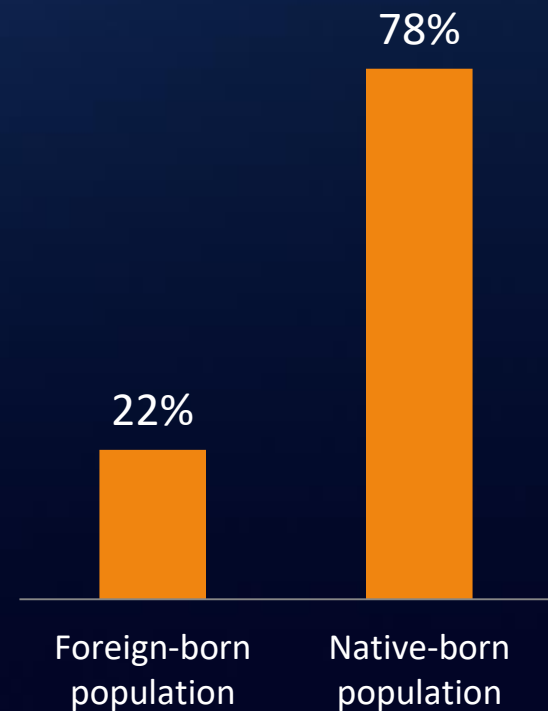
# Overall population grew faster in the suburbs



# Immigrants contributed to the growth

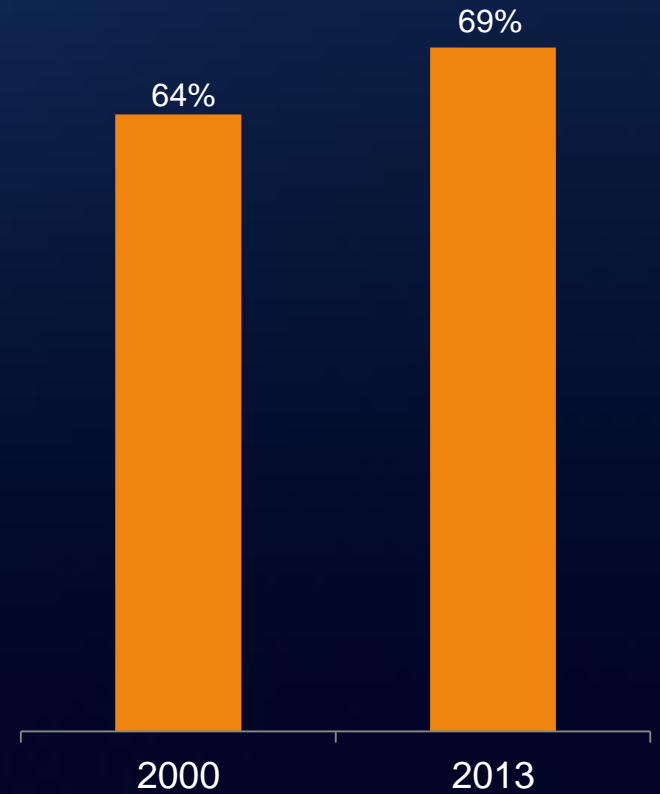


## Immigration



**Contribution to Growth in  
Suburban Poor Population,  
2000 to 2014**

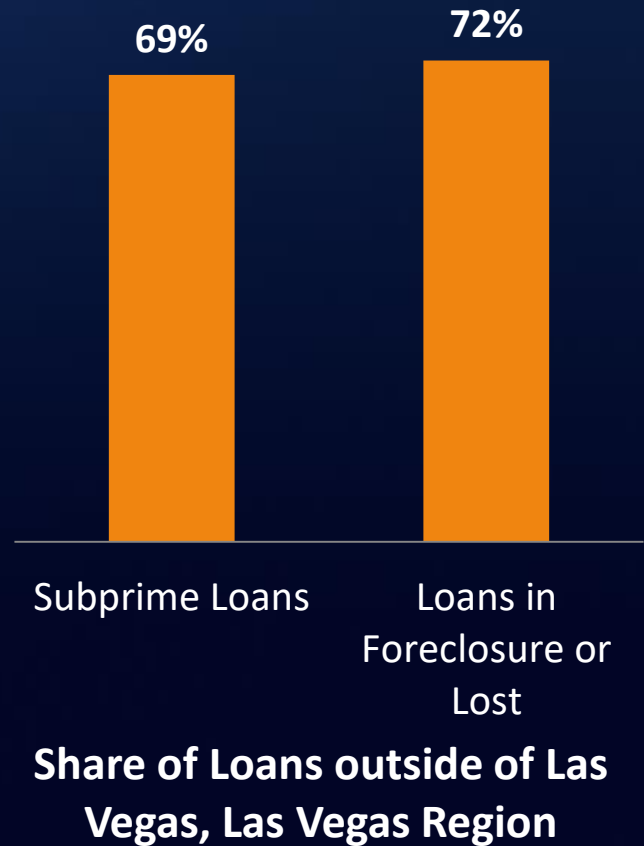
# Shifts in the regional housing market helped shape these trends



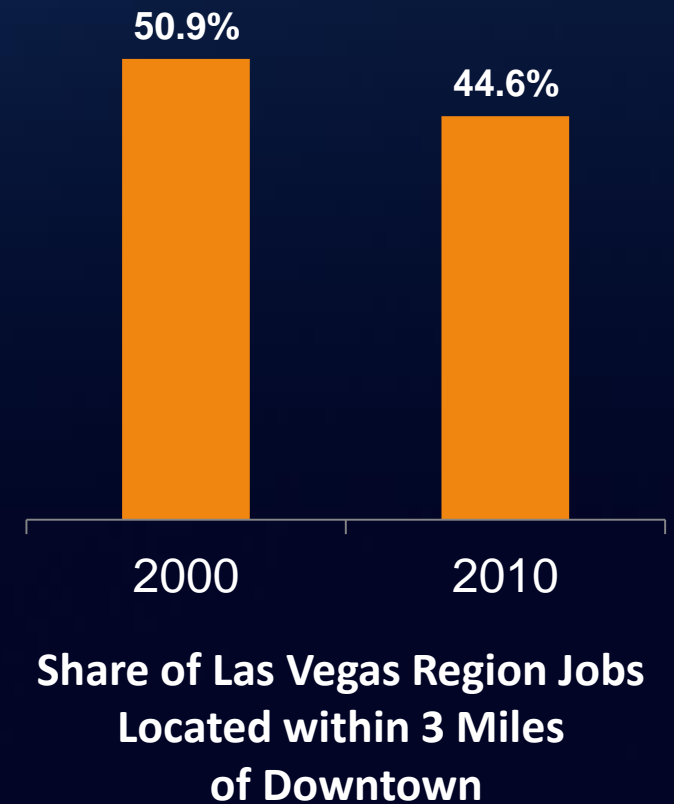
**Share of Housing Vouchers in Suburbs, Las Vegas Region, 2000 and 2013**



# Shifts in the regional housing market helped shape these trends

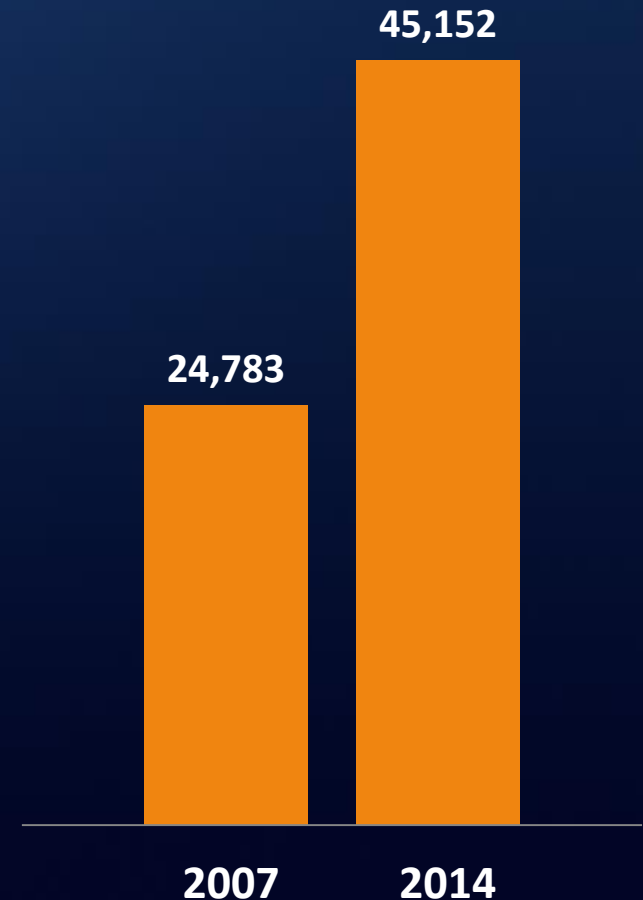


# Jobs are shifting away from the urban core





# The economic downturn left many unemployed in the suburbs



**Number of Suburban  
Unemployed,  
Las Vegas Region**

# Suburban poverty brings added challenges



Transit Access



Strained Local Services

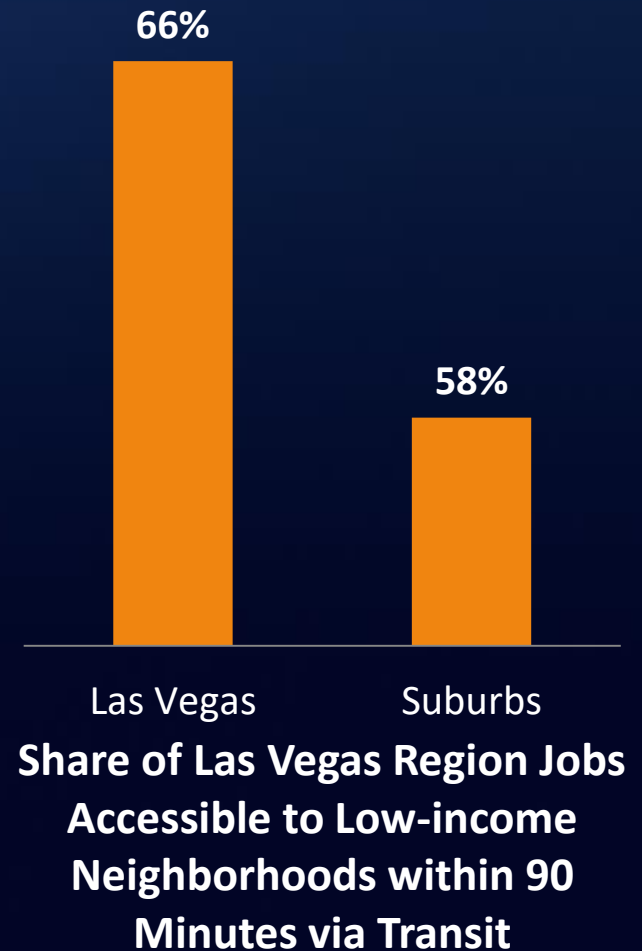


Limited Philanthropic Resources



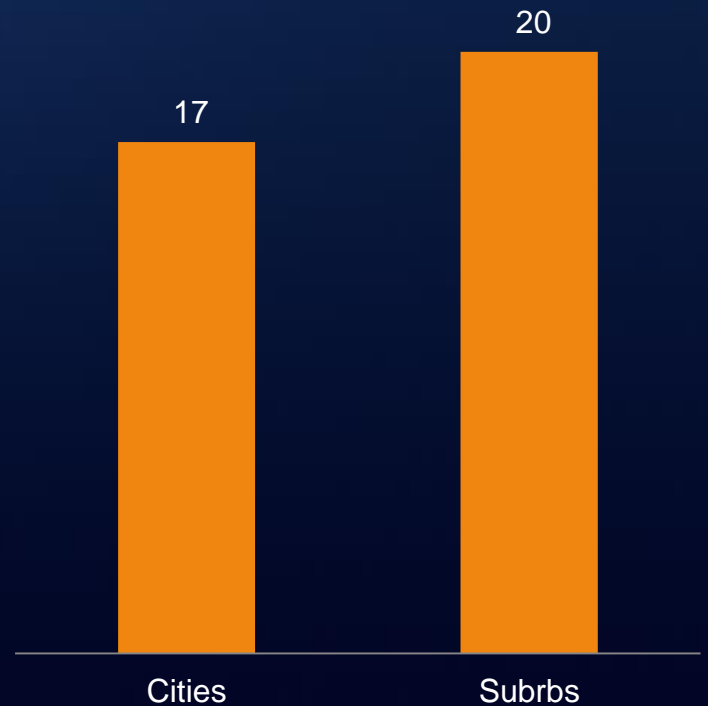
Change in School Populations

# Suburban commuters with transit can't reach as many jobs





# Suburban non-profit providers are stretched thin

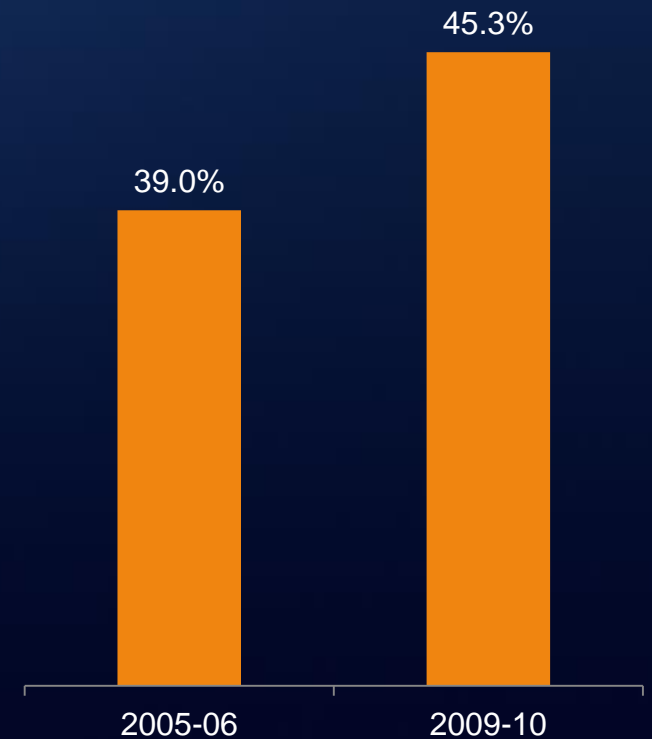


**Number of Low-Income Serving  
Registered Nonprofits, Las Vegas  
Region, 2012\***

Source: National Center for Charitable Statistics.

\*Using criteria for low-income serving nonprofit providers used in Allard and Roth, "Strained Suburbs: The Social Service Challenges of Rising Suburban Poverty," (2010)

# Schools are seeing low-income populations multiply



**Percentage of Students Enrolled in  
Free and Reduced Price Lunch,  
Outside of Las Vegas, Las Vegas Region  
2005-6 to 2009-10**

# Suburbs face additional challenges

Lack of Capacity



Governance Challenges



Inflexible, Unreliable Funding



# The legacy system of place-based anti-poverty programs does not map easily onto the suburban landscape

\$82 billion

81 federal programs

10 agencies

## Housing

Emergency Food and Shelter Program; Tenant-based Rental Assistance; Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grant Program; Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) Family Self-Sufficiency; Housing Counseling Assistance

## Food Assistance

Child and Adult Care Food Program; The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP); Summer Food Service Program; Commodity Supplemental Food Program; WIC Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (FMNP)

## Social Services

Substance Abuse Treatment Block Grant; Social Services Block Grant; Substance Abuse Prevention Block Grant; Community Mental Health Services Block Grant (MHSBG); Access to Recovery (ATR)

## Health

Consolidated Health Centers (Community Health Centers, Migrant Health Centers, Health Care for the Homeless, Public Housing Primary Care, and School Based Health Centers); Affordable Care Act (ACA) Grants for Capital Development in Health Centers; Title V Maternal and Child Health Services Block Grant Program; Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program

## Job Training

Job Corps; WIA Dislocated Worker Employment and Training Activities; WIA Youth Appropriation; WIA Adult Program; WIA Dislocated Worker National Emergency Grants; YouthBuild; Learn and Serve America; School and Community Based Programs; Supported Employment State Grants; Work Opportunity Tax Credit; Child Care and Development Block Grant

## Education

Title I — Improving The Academic Achievement Of The Disadvantaged; Head Start and Early Head Start; Improving Teacher Quality State Grants; Adult Basic and Literacy Education State Grants; TRIO: Upward Bound; Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs (GEAR UP); Teacher Incentive Fund; TRIO: Student Support Services; College Access Challenge Grant Program; Mathematics and Science Partnerships; TRIO: Talent Search; Race to the Top -- Early Learning Challenge; TRIO: Educational Opportunity Centers; TRIO: Upward Bound Math Science; Parental Information and Resource Centers; Advanced Placement Program (Advanced Placement Test Fee; Advanced Placement Incentive Program Grants); School Leadership Program; Innovative Approaches to Literacy; Assets for Independence (AFI); IRS Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA); 21st Century Community Learning Centers; Child Care Access Means Parents in School Program; Advanced Placement Incentive Program Grants; Qualified zone academy bonds (QZAB); Charter Schools Program

## Economic Development

New Markets Tax Credit; Renewal Community Tax Incentives; Community Development Financial Institutions Program; ARRA- Investments for Public Works and Economic Development; Recovery Zone Bonds; ARRA- Economic Adjustment Assistance; Economic Development; Support for Planning Organizations; Community Development; Bank Enterprise Award; Economic Development; Technical Assistance; Community Services Block Grant; Community Services Block Grant; Discretionary Awards



# Yet innovators across the country are finding creative ways to navigate this system



Metropolitan **Planning Council**





## Housing

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**Achieve Scale**

**Collaborate and Integrate**

**Fund Strategically**

# Neighborhood Centers

## Metropolitan Houston



- Has an annual budget of more than \$275 million, 70 different sites, and a staff of over 1,000
- Coordinates resources from 35 federal programs, state, local, and private sources to provide a seamless continuum of services
- Collaborates with other area providers

# Neighborhood Opportunity Network

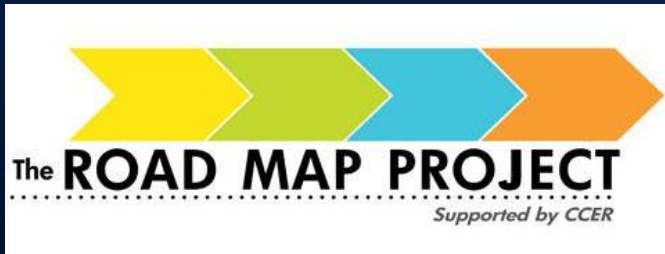
Montgomery County, MD



- A collaboration between the County, nonprofits, faith based community, and local philanthropy
- Targets high need areas with integrated and culturally competent services
- Builds awareness and community networks through door knocking, Neighbors Exchange, and Neighbor Circles

# The Road Map Project

South Seattle and South King County suburbs

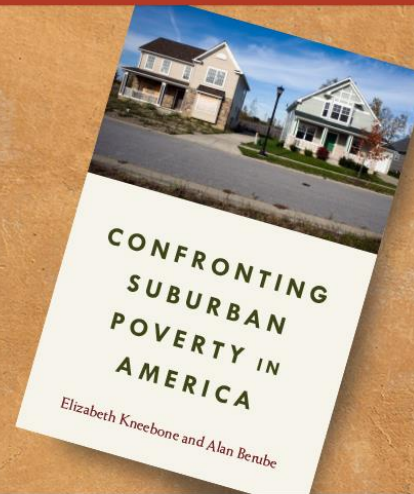


- Uses a collective impact, cradle to career model to close achievement gaps and improve outcomes, and relies on a consortium of public, private, and nonprofit stakeholders
- Works across seven school districts, including the city of Seattle and six suburban districts
- Employs a common set of metrics to track progress toward agreed upon goals



## A New Perspective on Poverty in America

GET THE BOOK



### STORIES OF SUBURBAN POVERTY



East Contra Costa County



Lakewood



Tukwila

[www.ConfrontingSuburbanPoverty.org](http://www.ConfrontingSuburbanPoverty.org)



Metropolitan Policy Program  
at BROOKINGS

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