Confronting Suburban Poverty in the Greater New York Area

CONFRONTING SUBURBAN POVERTY IN AMERICA

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Metropolitan Policy Program
at BROOKINGS

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1 The geography of poverty and opportunity has changed


2 We need a new agenda for metropolitan opportunity

New York-Newark-Jersey City, NY-NJ-PA Metropolitan Area
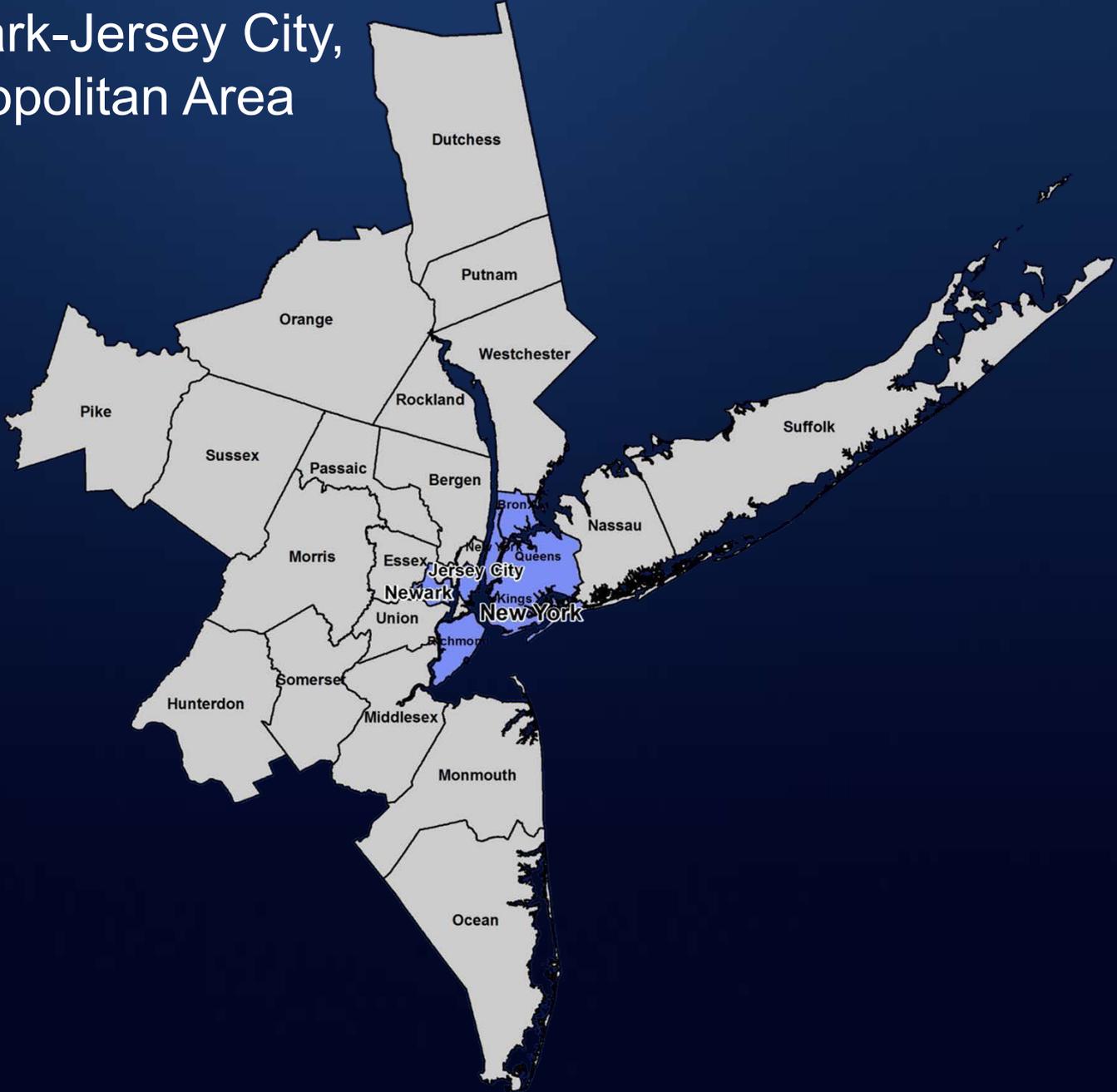
Statistics in this presentation reflect individuals living below the poverty line, which is much less than a "living wage"

Suffolk County, NY: One Adult, One Child

Poverty wage: $7.00

Living wage: $28.60
- Taxes: $3.95
- Other: $1.75
- Transportation: $3.30
- Housing: $9.31
- Medical: $2.92
- Child Care: $4.89
- Food: $2.49

Nationally, suburbs are home to the largest and fastest growing poor population

Source: Brookings analysis of U.S. Census Bureau data
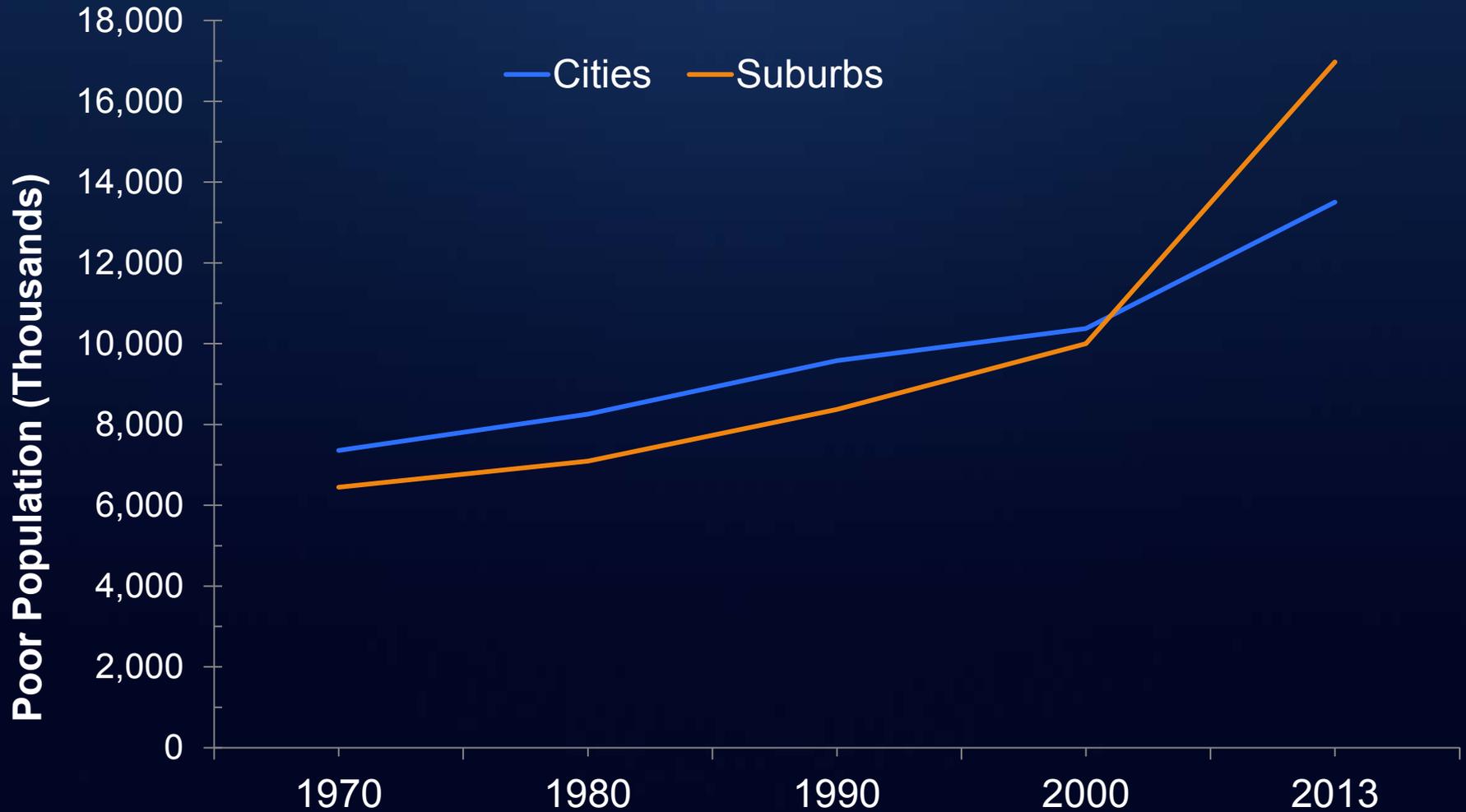
There is more poverty in cities of the New York region, but the number and share of poor is growing faster in the suburbs

Below-Poverty Population
■ 2000 ■ 2013

- Cities: 1,787,276 (2000), 1,865,157 (2013)
- Suburbs: 719,029 (2000), 996,483 (2013)

Poverty Rate
■ 2000 ■ 2013

- Cities: 21.4% (2000), 21.2% (2013)
- Suburbs: 7.0% (2000), 9.2% (2013)
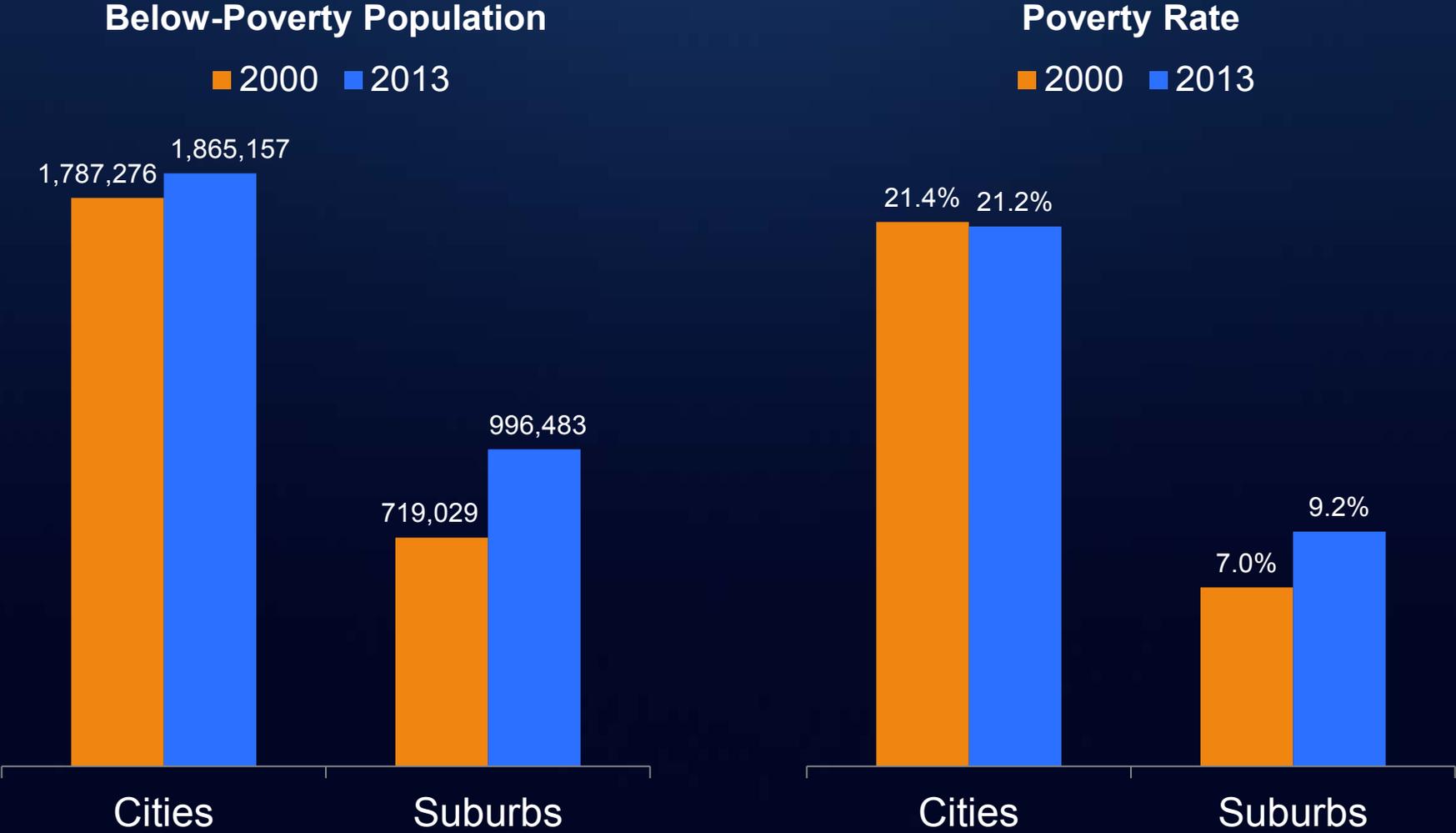
*Source: Brookings analysis of U.S. Census Bureau data*

Poor populations rose significantly in most NYC suburbs over the last decade, but declined in Manhattan and Brooklyn

Change in poor population, 2000 to 2011-13

Cities

NJ Suburbs

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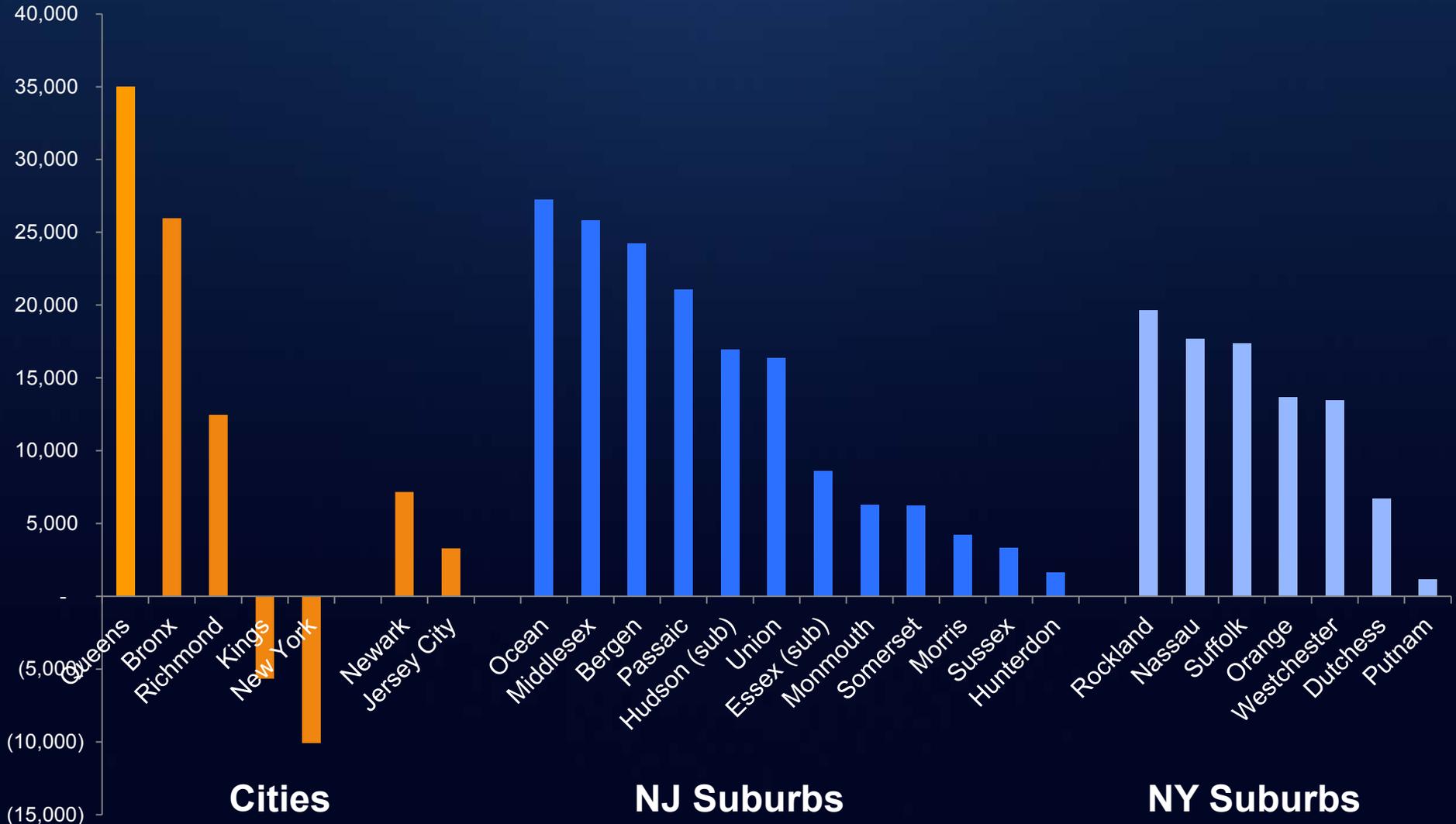
Source: Brookings analysis of U.S. Census Bureau data

Neighborhood Poverty in the Greater New York Area, 1990

Share of Tract Population Below the Poverty Line, 1990

- Less than 10%
- 10% to 20%
- 20% to 30%
- 30% to 40%
- Above 40%
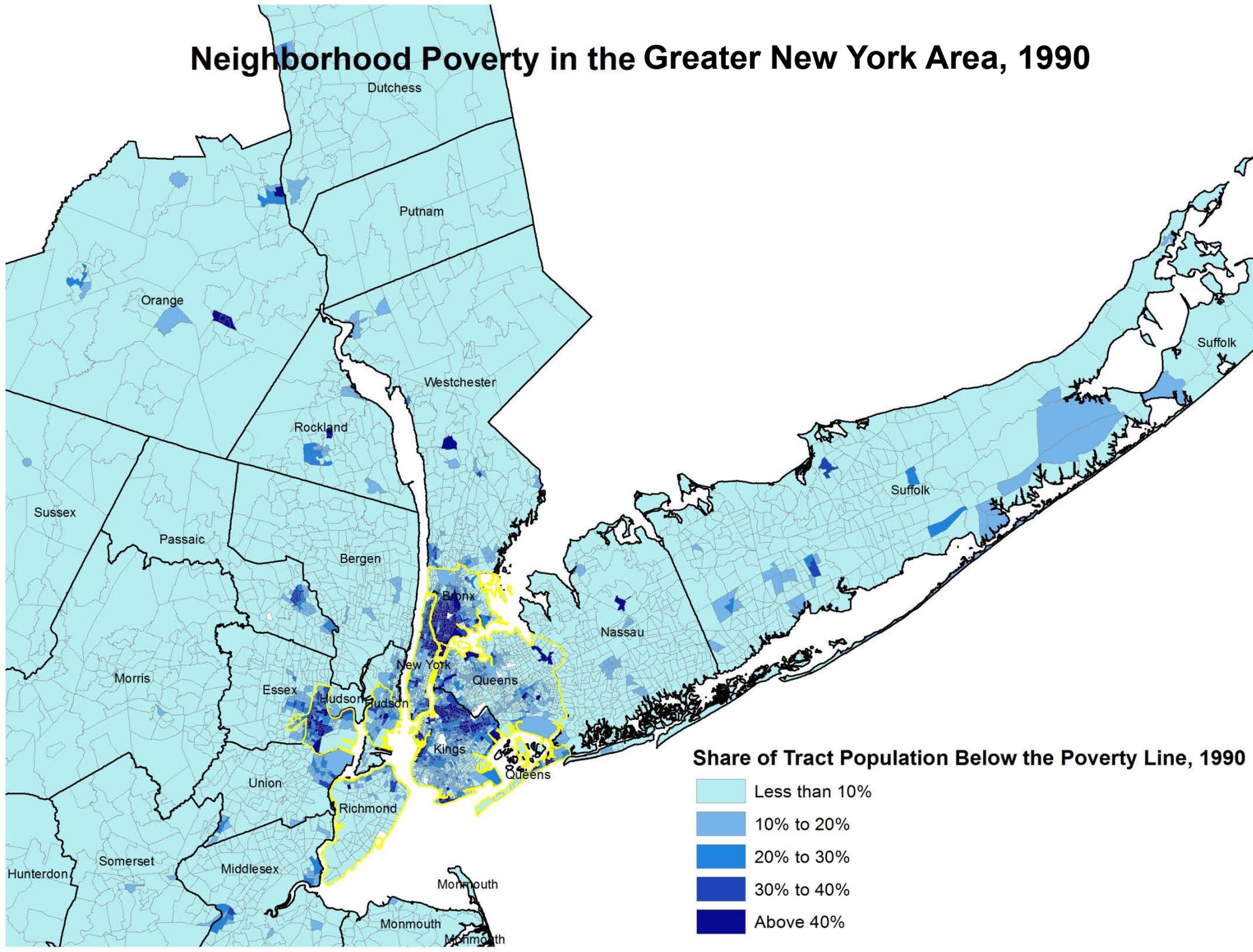
Neighborhood Poverty in the Greater New York Area, 2009-13

Dutchess

Putnam

Westchester

Suffolk

Rockland

Sussex

Passaic

Bergen

Suffolk

Morris

Bronx

Nassau

Essex

Hudson

Hudson

New York

Queens

Hunterdon

Union

Kings

Queens

Somerset

Richmond

Middlesex

Monmouth

Monmouth

Monmouth

Share of Tract Population Below the Poverty Line, 2009-13

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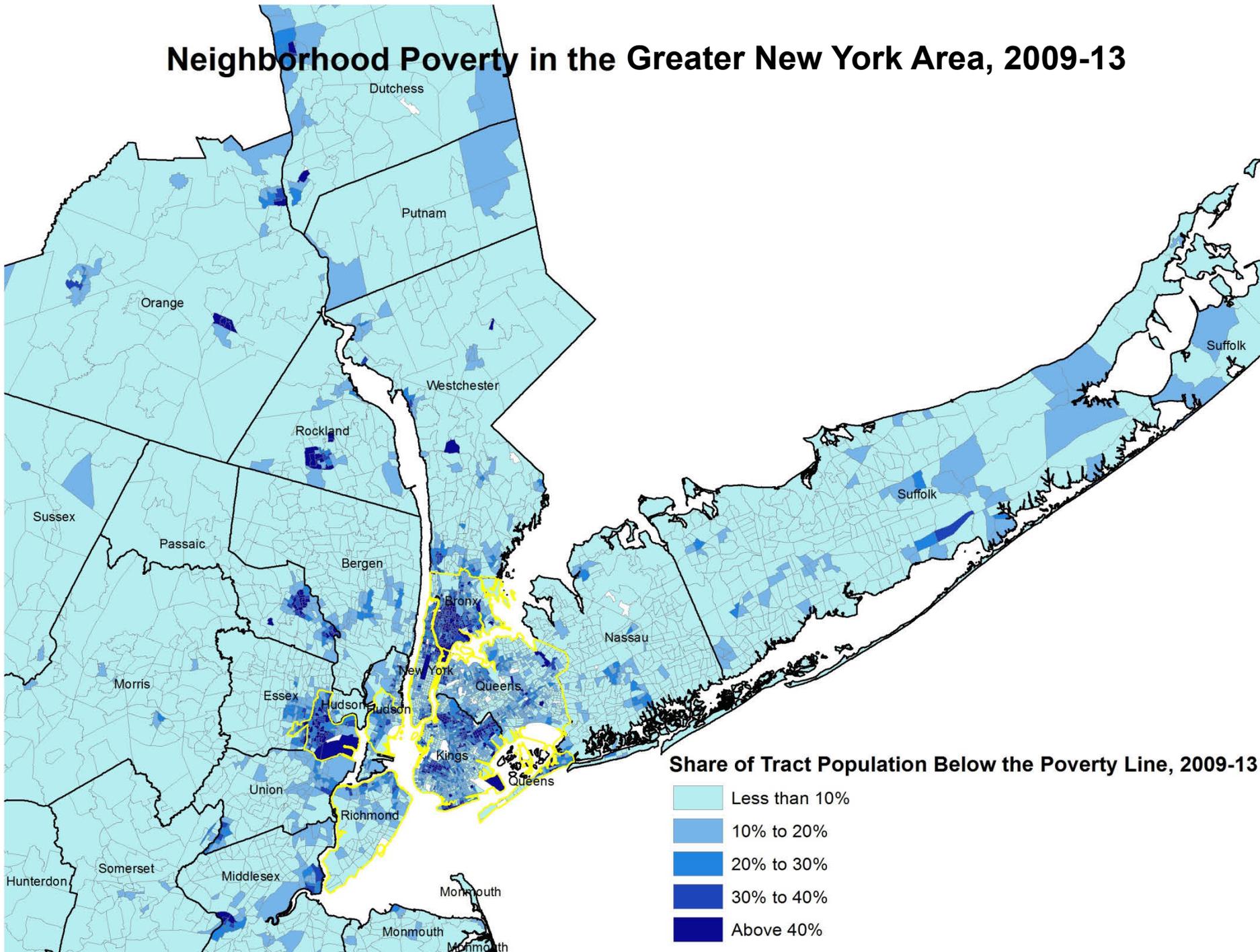
Change in Neighborhood Poverty in the Greater New York Area, 1990 to 2009-13
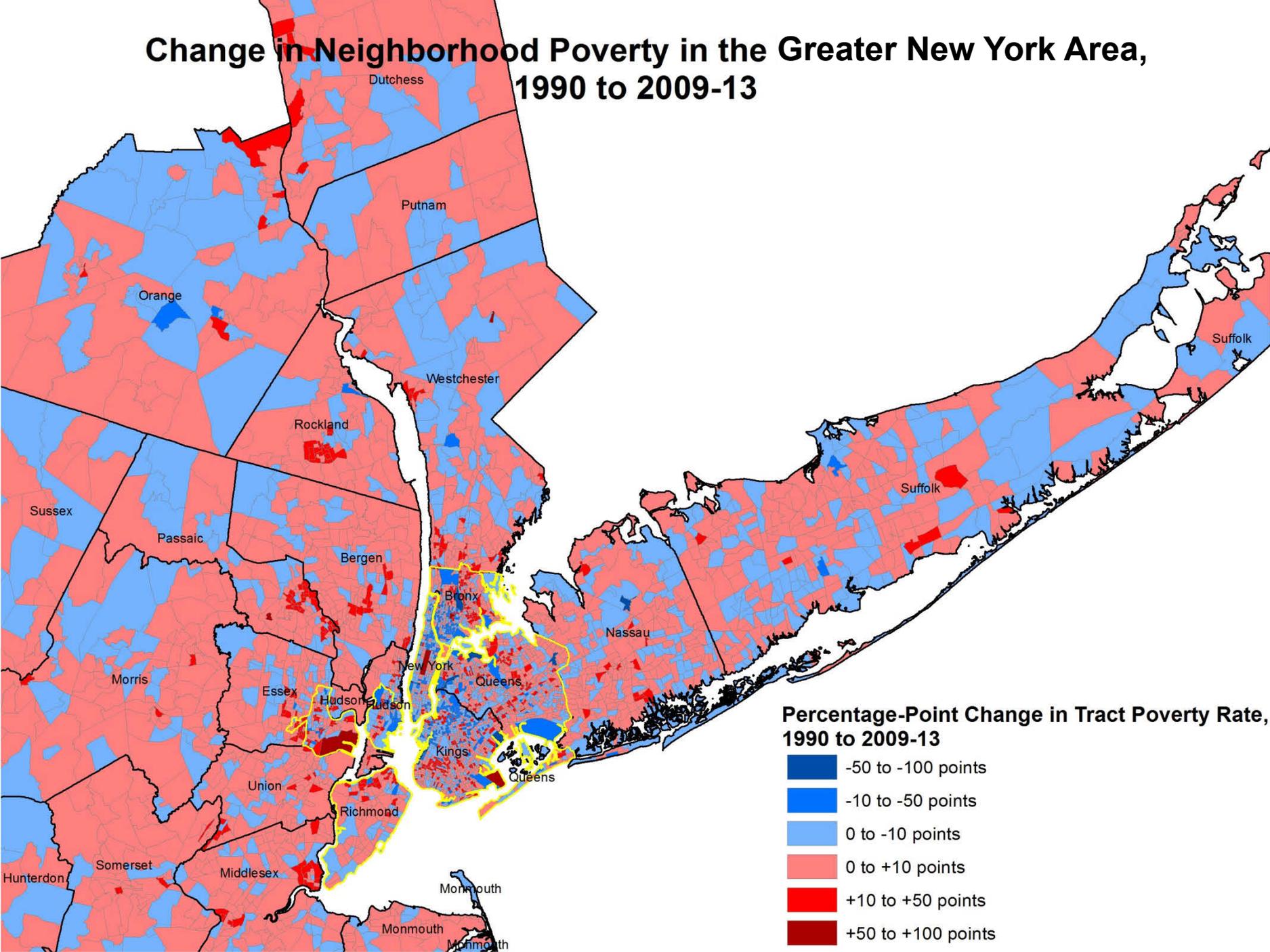
Percentage-Point Change in Tract Poverty Rate, 1990 to 2009-13

- -50 to -100 points
- -10 to -50 points
- 0 to -10 points
- 0 to +10 points
- +10 to +50 points
- +50 to +100 points

Many factors have driven suburbanizing poverty


Population Change

Immigration

Housing

Job Location

Regional Economic Change

Region-wide, poverty increased fastest among U.S.-born suburban residents

Urban and Suburban Poor Population by Nativity (1000s),
2000 and 2013

Cities — Native-Born: 1,176 / 1,188; Foreign-Born: 611 / 677

Suburbs — Native-Born: 527 / 721; Foreign-Born: 192 / 275
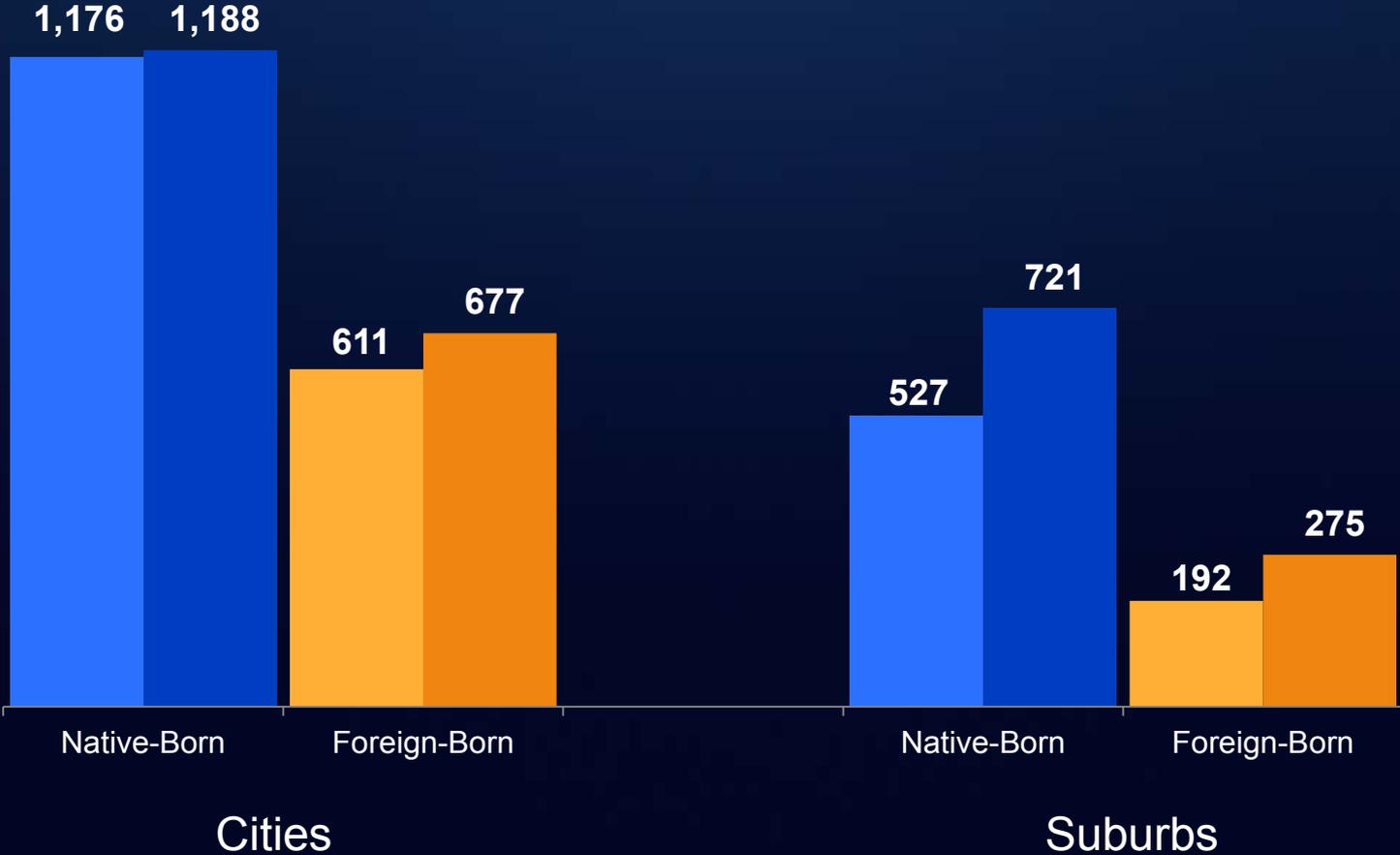
Housing costs have risen faster in New York City than in surrounding suburbs

Change in Median Gross Rent, 2000 to 2011-13 (2013$)

■ 2000 ■ 2011-13

New York City: $954 (+27%), $1,210

New York Suburbs: $1,173 (+15%), $1,353
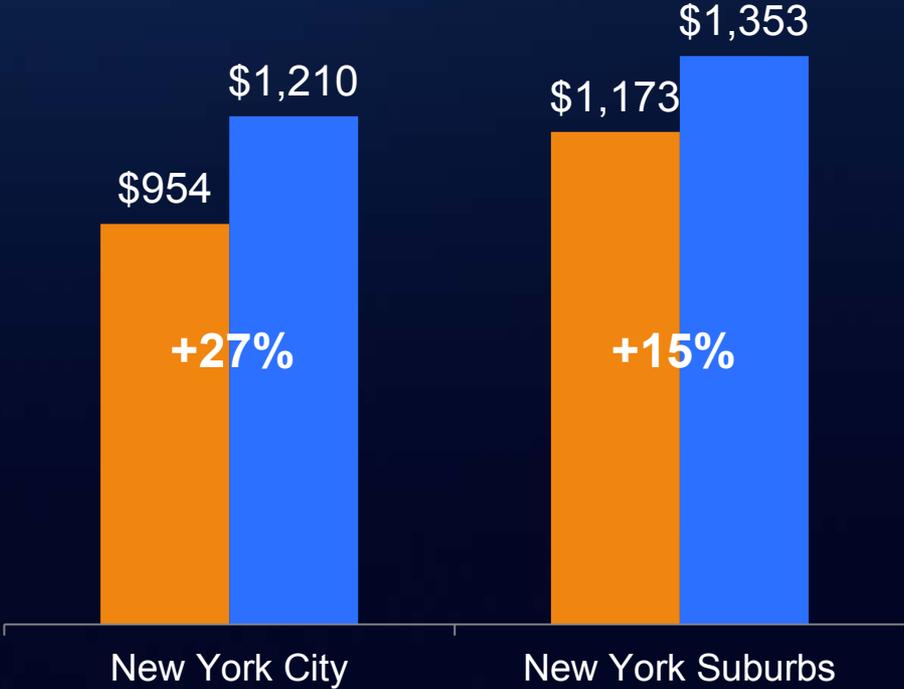
Nearby jobs declined in inner-ring suburbs from 2000 to 2012, and expanded in the urban core

Change in the number of nearby jobs, 2000–2012

+164,047
+131,237
+98,428
+65,619
+32,809
+0
-32,809
-65,619
-98,428
-131,237
-164,047

Primary city/cities

Map options
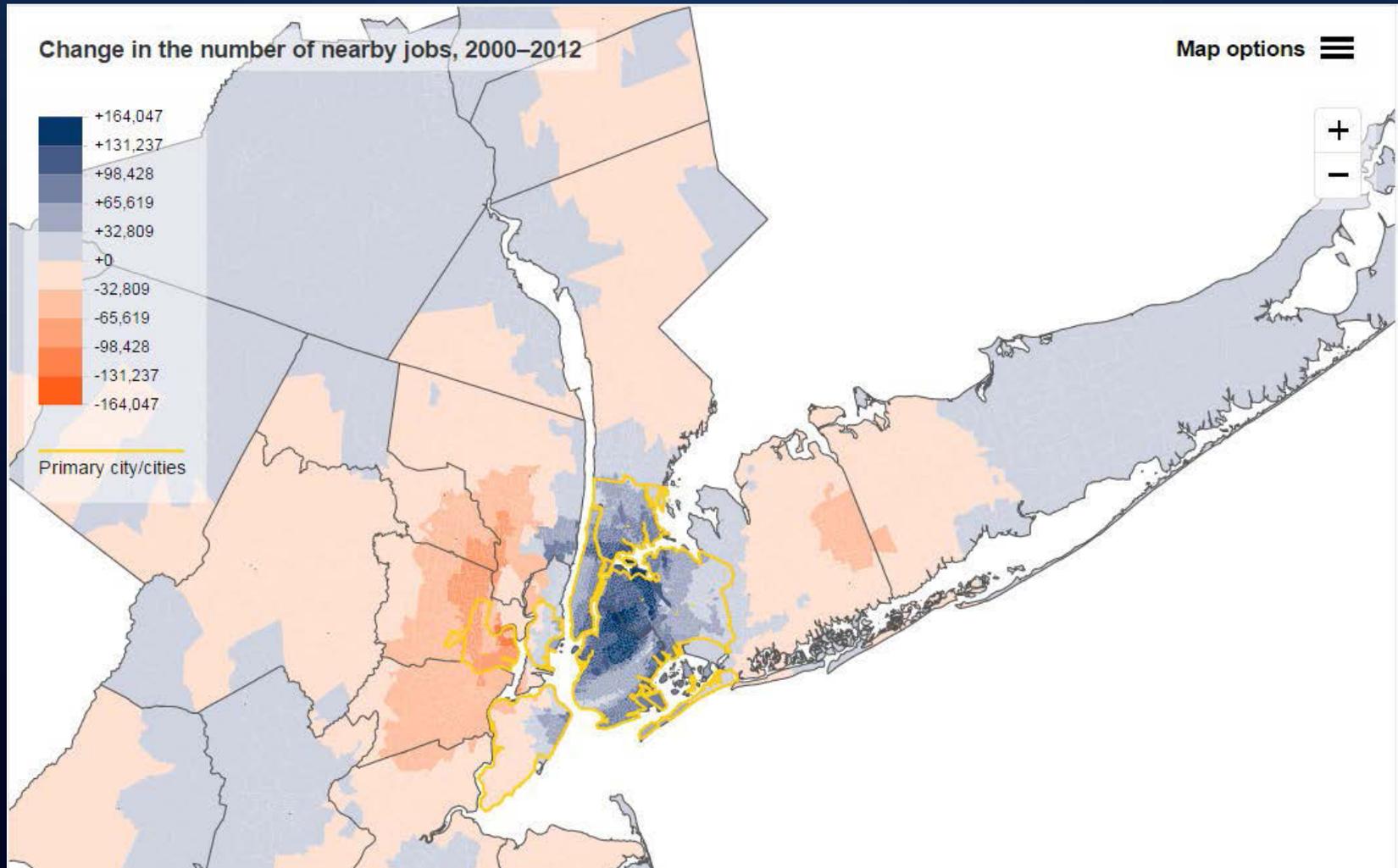
And suburban poverty brings added challenges

Limited Transit Access


Strained Local Services

Limited Philanthropic Resources

Change in School Populations

Most NY Metro suburbs have some form of transit, but suburban residents can reach far fewer jobs via transit than city residents

■ City ■ Suburbs

- Transit Coverage: City 100%, Suburbs 81%
- Job Access: City 49%, Suburbs 22%

Number of jobs
within 30 minutes
by walking and transit,
averaged 7–9 AM

■	Rivers/Lakes
■	0–1,000
■	1,000–2,500
■	2,500–5,000
■	5,000–7,500
■	7,500–10,000
■	10,000–25,000
■	25,000–50,000
■	50,000–75,000
■	75,000–100,000
■	100,000–250,000
■	250,000–500,000
■	500,000–750,000
■	750,000–1,000,000
■	1,000,000+
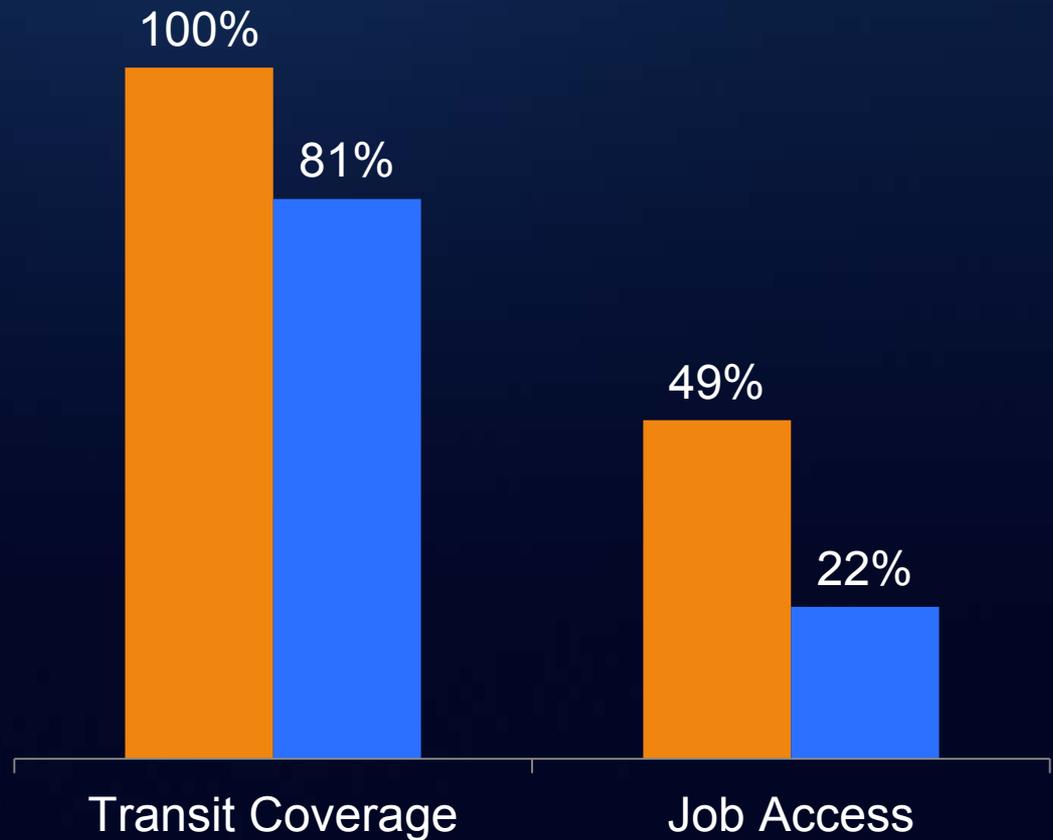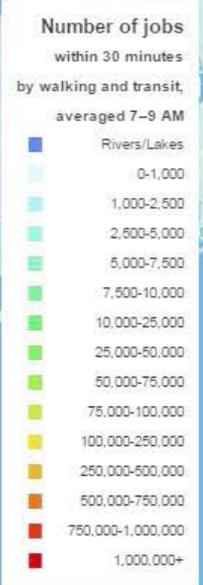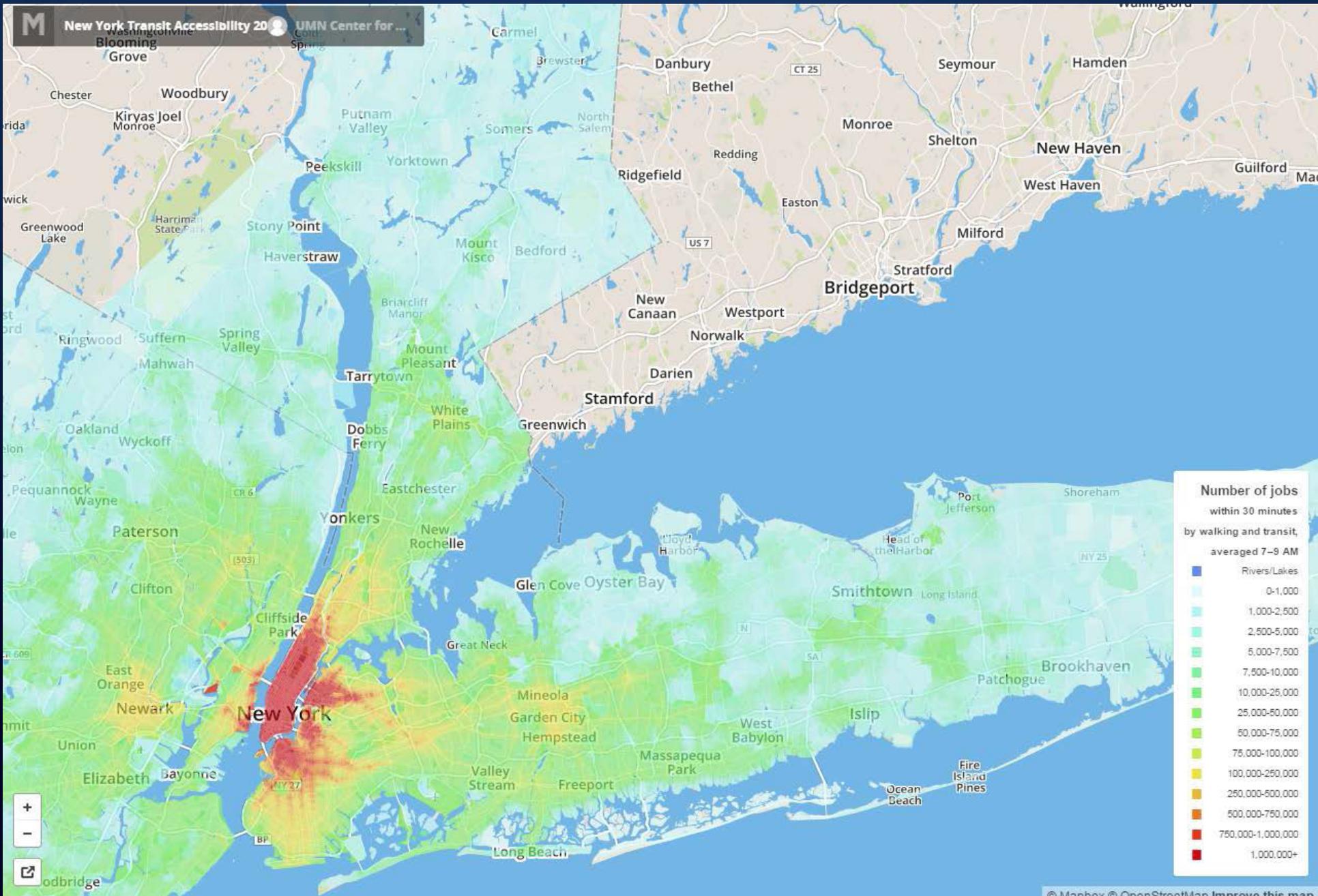
The share of students on low incomes has declined in New York City public schools, but grown in New York suburbs

Share of Students Qualifying for Free or Reduced-Price Lunch

■ 2005-06 ■ 2012-13

74%
66%
21%
30%

New York City   New York suburbs
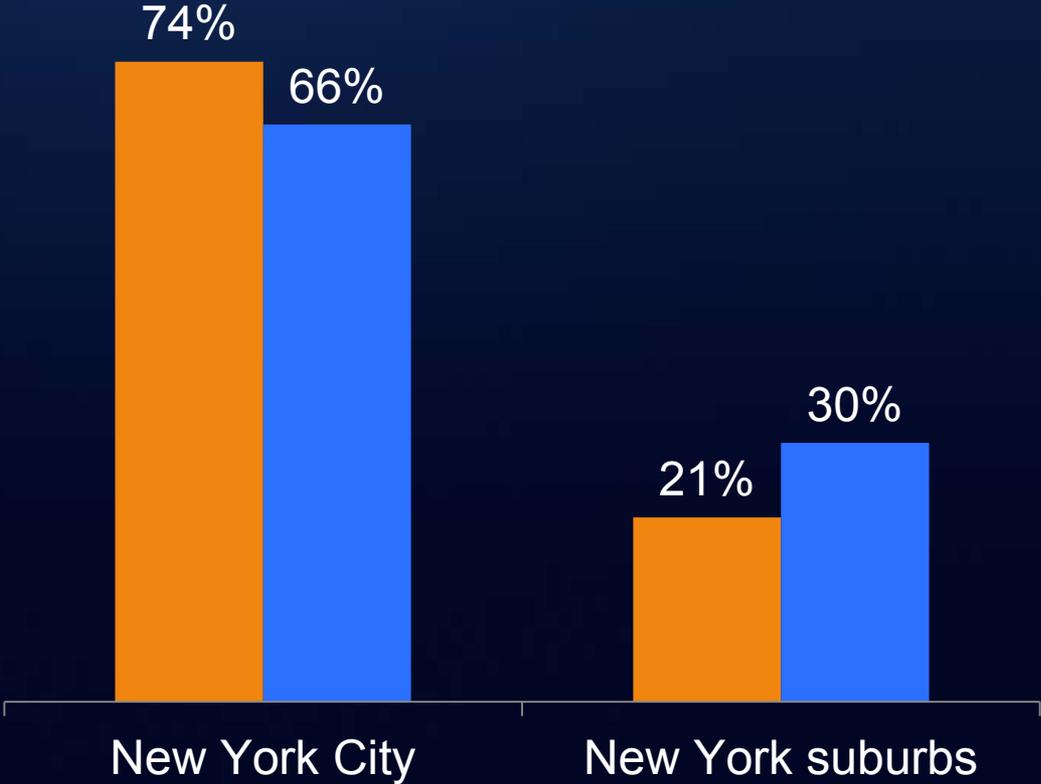
The legacy system of place-based anti-poverty programs developed over decades does not map easily onto the suburban landscape

$82 billion
10 agencies
81 federal programs

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 Facilities; Recovery Zone Bonds; ARRA- Economic Adjustment Assistance; Economic Development: Support for Planning Organizations; Community Economic Development; Community Assistance; 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

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Philanthropy is helping organizations confront the new geography of poverty and opportunity in metro areas

Achieve Scale

Possess the capacity to provide more than one type of service in more than one place at the same time

Collaborate and Integrate

Work across jurisdictional and programmatic boundaries to address multidimensional regional issues

Fund Strategically

Invest at the enterprise level; fund outcomes versus outputs; blend dollars from multiple sources

IFF
Greater Midwest

- Community development lender, real estate consultant, and public policy research provider

- Works in cities and suburbs across five Midwestern states (IL, IN, IA, MO, WI)

- **Grand Victoria Foundation** (suburban Chicago) supported a needs assessment and provided subsequent funding around early childhood education in 11 underserved Chicago suburbs

The Road Map Project
South Seattle and King County suburbs
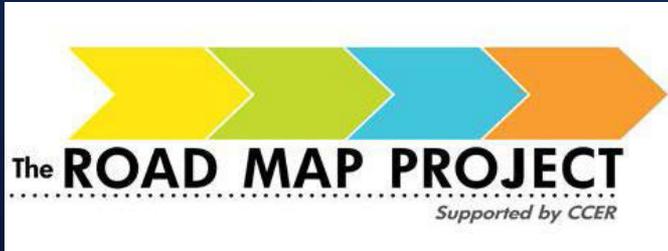
- Uses a collective impact, cradle to career model to close achievement gaps and improve outcomes, and relies on a consortium of public, private, and nonprofit stakeholders

- Works across seven school districts, including the city of Seattle and six suburban districts

- **Seattle Foundation** incubated Community Center for Education Results, the quarterback organization for the Road Map Project

Latin American Youth Center
Washington, DC and MD suburbs
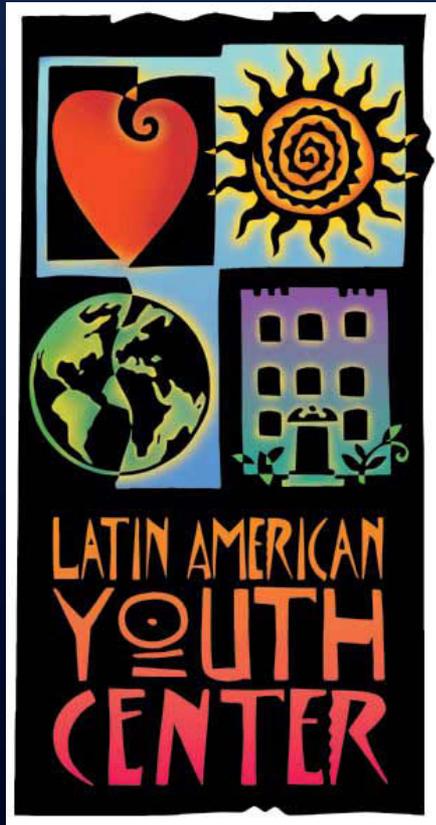
- Provides a comprehensive portfolio of services to young people (education, job training, housing, entrepreneurship)

- Uses "Efforts to Outcome" software to align practices across its locations

- **Venture Philanthropy Partners** provided significant multi-year operating support to enable LAYC and other high-performing DC-based nonprofits to expand into nearby MD suburbs

Creating a Metropolitan Opportunity Challenge could help bring these solutions to scale in regions across the country

Federal Place-Based Anti-Poverty Programs

$82 Billion; 81 Programs; 10 Agencies

Re-purpose 5% : $4 billion

www.ConfrontingSuburbanPoverty.org

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