The Re-Emergence of Concentrated Poverty in the 2000s:
St. Louis, Mo - IL Metropolitan Area

Findings
An analysis of data on neighborhood poverty from the 2005–09 American Community Surveys and Census 2000 reveals that:

• After declining in the 1990s, the population in extreme-poverty neighborhoods—where at least 40 percent of individuals live below the poverty line—rose by one-third from 2000 to 2005–09.
• Concentrated poverty nearly doubled in Midwestern metro areas from 2000 to 2005–09, and rose by one-third in Southern metro areas
• The population in extreme-poverty neighborhoods rose more than twice as fast in suburbs as in cities from 2000 to 2005–09.
• The shift of concentrated poverty to the Midwest and South in the 2000s altered the average demographic profile of extreme-poverty neighborhoods.
• The recession-induced rise in poverty in the late 2000s likely further increased the concentration of poor individuals into neighborhoods of extreme poverty.

These trends suggest the strong economy of the late 1990s did not permanently resolve the challenge of concentrated poverty. The slower economic growth of the 2000s, followed by the worst downturn in decades, led to increases in neighborhoods of extreme poverty once again throughout the nation, particularly in suburban and small metropolitan communities and in the Midwest.

The maps on the following pages show the re-emergence of concentrated poverty in the 2000s for the St. Louis-, Mo - IL Metropolitan Area. This information was provided by the Metropolitan Policy Program at Brookings.
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I. Neighborhood Poverty Rates in 2005-09

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Metric</th>
<th>Total Metro</th>
<th>City(ies) Only</th>
<th>Suburbs Only</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Concentrated Poverty Rate</td>
<td>12.7%</td>
<td>26.6%</td>
<td>7.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rank (of 100)</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Extreme-Poverty Tracts</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>People in Extreme-Poverty Tracts</td>
<td>89,917</td>
<td>51,445</td>
<td>38,472</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poor People in Extreme-Poverty Tracts</td>
<td>39,867</td>
<td>22,016</td>
<td>17,851</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Tract Poverty Rate, 2005-09:
- Under 10%
- 10 to 20%
- 20 to 30%
- 30 to 40%
- 40% and Over
- Primary City
- Data Excluded

Concentrated Poverty Rate: The share of the poor population in extreme-poverty tracts

Extreme-Poverty Tracts: Census tracts with poverty rates of 40% and over

Source: Brookings Institution analysis of 2005-09 American Community Survey five-year estimates
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II. Change in Neighborhood Poverty Rates, 2000 to 2005-09

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Total Metro</th>
<th>City(ies) Only</th>
<th>Suburbs Only</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Change in Concentrated Poverty Rate</td>
<td>0.7%</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
<td>2.3% *</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rank</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Change in Number of Extreme-Poverty Tracts</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Change in People in Extreme-Poverty Tracts</td>
<td>24,489 *</td>
<td>6,150 *</td>
<td>18,339 *</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Change in Poor People in Extreme-Poverty Tracts</td>
<td>8,431 *</td>
<td>489</td>
<td>7,942 *</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Change in Tract Poverty Rate, 2000 to 2005-09:

- 10% and Above
- 5 to 10%
- 0 to 5%
- No Significant Change
- -5 to 0%
- -10 to -5%
- -10 and Below

Primary City Data Excluded

Concentrated Poverty Rate: The share of the poor population in extreme-poor tracts

Extreme-Poverty Tracts: Census tracts with poverty rates of 40% and over

* Change is significant at the 90% confidence level

Source: Brookings Institution analysis of Census 2000 and 2005-09 American Community Survey five-year estimates

This data is provided through the Applied Research division of the University of Missouri–St. Louis’s Public Policy Research Center.