



## **Metropolitan Mirror: Facts and Trends Reflecting the St. Louis Region**

Posted August 2012

### **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.

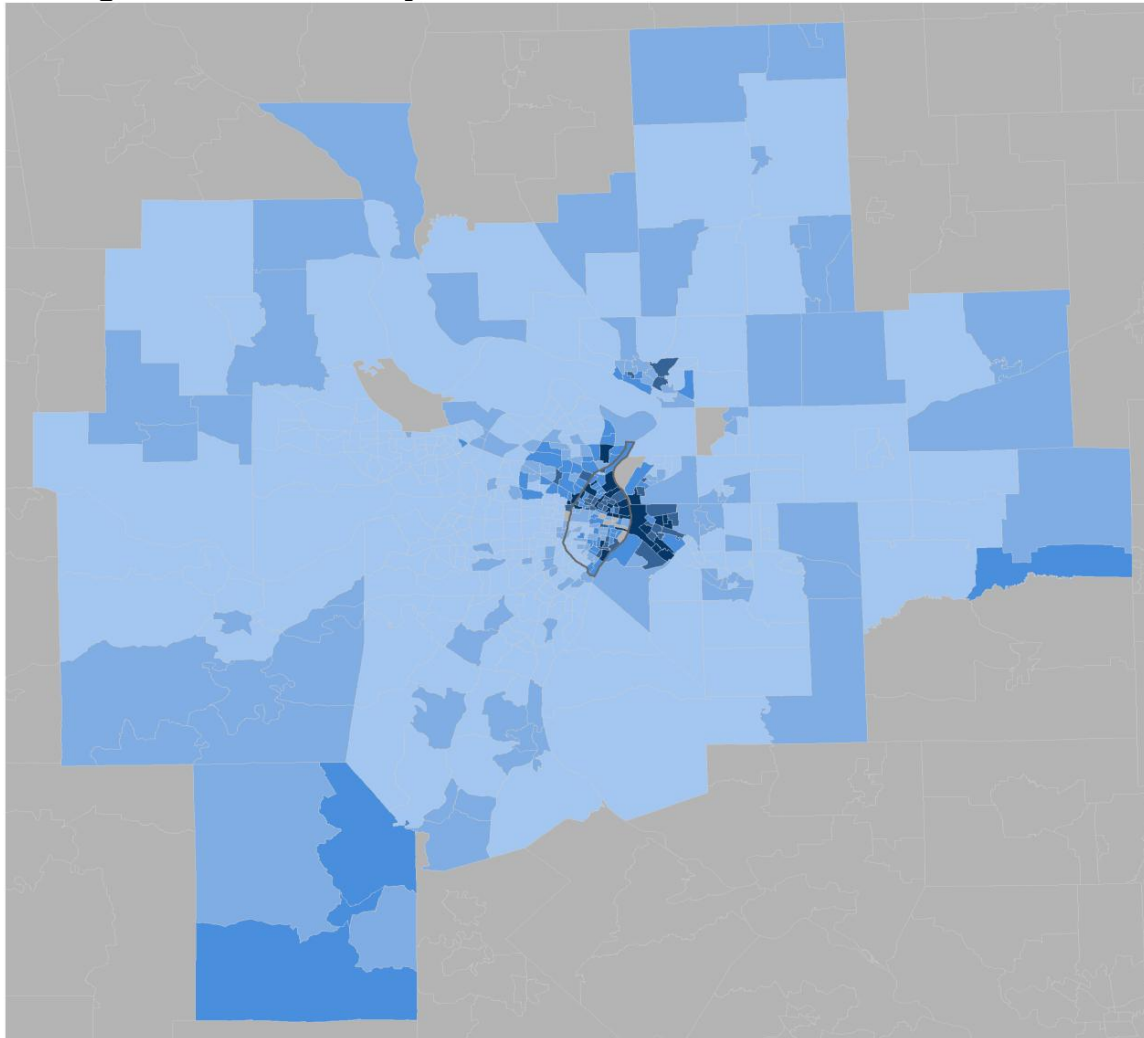
These trends suggest the strong economy of the late 1990s did not permanently resolve the challenge of concentrated poverty. The slower economic growth of the 2000s, followed by the worst downturn in decades, led to increases in neighborhoods of extreme poverty once again throughout the nation, particularly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

# The Re-Emergence of Concentrated Poverty in the 2000s

St. Louis, MO-IL Metropolitan Area

## I. Neighborhood Poverty Rates in 2005-09



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

### 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*

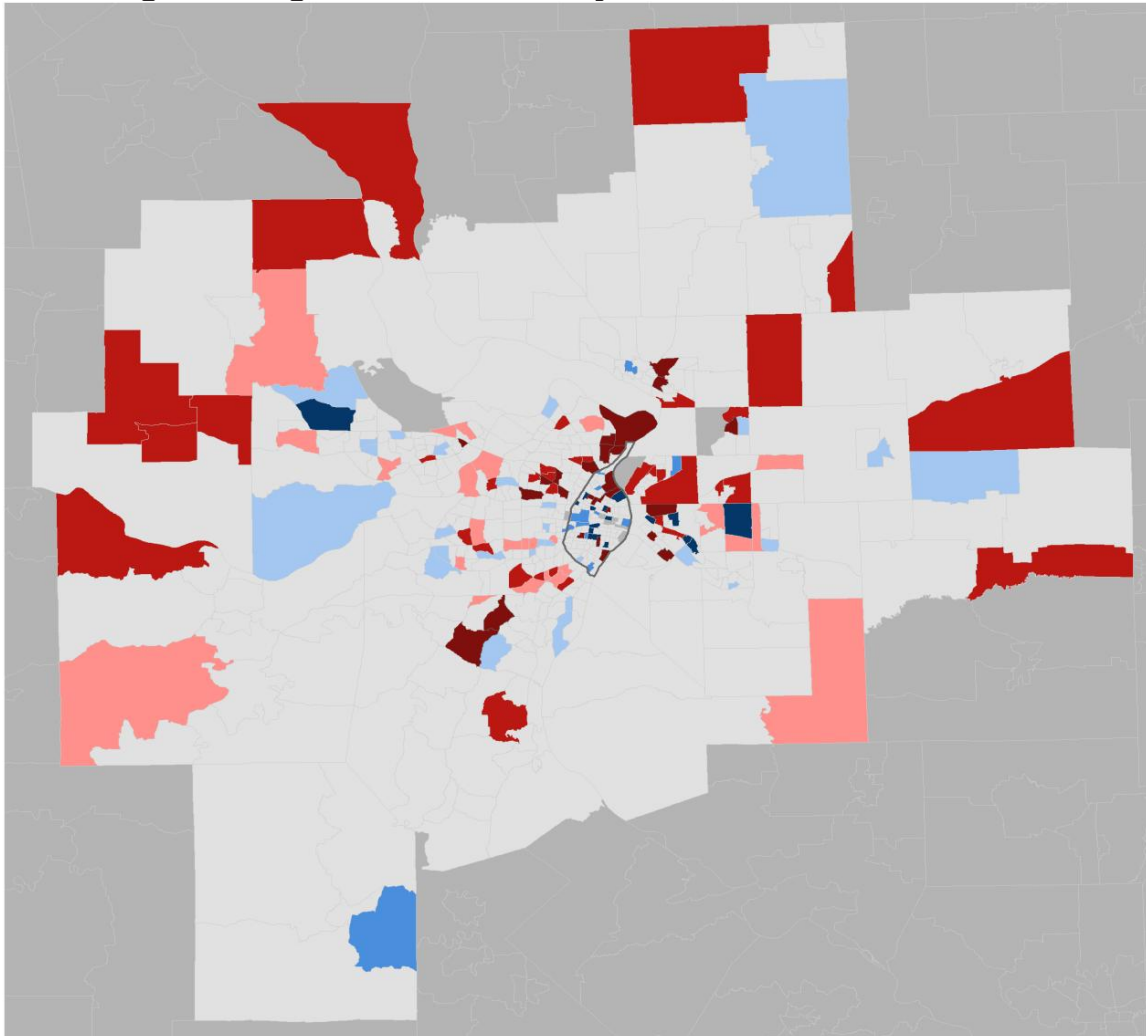
*Extreme-Poverty Tracts: Census tracts with poverty rates of 40% and over*

*Source: Brookings Institution analysis of 2005-09 American Community Survey five-year estimates*

# The Re-Emergence of Concentrated Poverty in the 2000s

St. Louis, MO-IL Metropolitan Area

## II. Change in Neighborhood Poverty Rates, 2000 to 2005-09



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

### 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-poverty 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*

