

Demographic Shifts

Planning for a diverse region





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4 About the Demographic Shifts snapshot

8 Components of regional population change

Recent population growth lags behind peer regions

Decreased immigration

Declining births

Declining domestic migration

Migration into and out of the Chicago metropolitan area

14 Tracking trends

Median income

Education

Unemployment

16 Population shift within the region

Age trends in peer regions

Regional immigration trends

32 Increased diversity

36 Outcomes by race

About the Demographic Shifts snapshot

Selected data used in the development of this report can be found at
<https://datahub.cmap.illinois.gov/group/on-to-2050-report-data>.

Metropolitan Chicago is home to 8.5 million residents whose backgrounds and needs are diverse and whose contributions are essential to the region’s overall success. Analyzing trends in age, race, income, and immigration helps to illustrate upcoming needs and opportunities. The trends also have strong impacts on planning at both the regional and local levels.

This snapshot report looks closely at data on population and the changing characteristics of the region’s residents. It highlights four key themes that will inform the development of ON TO 2050: our region’s population growth has slowed due to a declining birth rate and continued domestic outmigration; our region is aging, but so are peer regions; there are changing immigration patterns where Asian immigrants are the fastest growing immigrant group; and our region is increasingly diverse with divergent outcomes for different races and ethnicities.

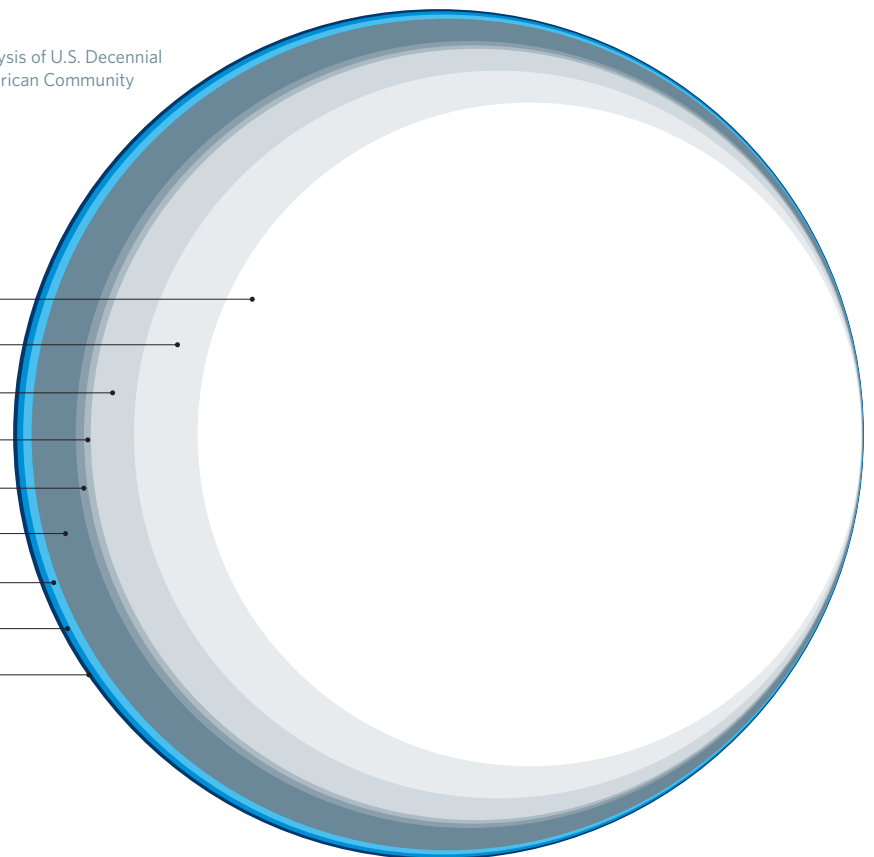
Note: In some cases, this report uses varying geographies when referring to the Chicago region depending on the availability of data. In some instances, the term may be referring to the seven-county CMAP region or the Chicago Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA). In addition, there may be variation in the data presented within the same topic due to different U.S. Census datasets used for the analysis. References to “2010-14” refers to data from the most recent five-year American Community Survey.

CMAP region population, 1950 to 2010-14

Source: Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning analysis of U.S. Decennial Census Population Estimates data, 1950-2010 and American Community Survey estimates 2005, 2010, and 2015.

YEAR	POPULATION
------	------------

1950	5,189,983	
1960	6,238,453	
1970	7,005,321	
1980	7,140,826	
1990	7,300,589	
2000	8,146,264	
2005	8,296,523	
2010	8,431,386	
2015	8,524,670	



Four factors are
affecting our regional
population trends.



Population growth has slowed.

Our region is aging.

Immigration patterns are changing.

Our region is increasingly diverse.



Components of regional population change

Many factors drive population change. Looking at underlying demographic components offers one way to understand which factors might be most critical. Changing birth and death rates in the region reflect generational shifts in childbearing and an aging population. Other components tracked by the census, like net domestic and international migration, are driven by the region's overall economic conditions and quality of life.

Population change in the region has slowed, and the region's population has had recent small declines. For some time, metropolitan Chicago's population grew because of natural increase (the balance of births and deaths) and international migration. Like many older, urbanized areas, the region consistently lost residents domestically.

The drivers of population change are not the same region-wide — Cook County's growth has historically been fueled by both natural increase and international immigration. The rest of the region grew from a mix of factors, but the other counties are experiencing net domestic outmigration for the first time. Renewed growth will depend on a strong regional economy and vibrant, livable communities.

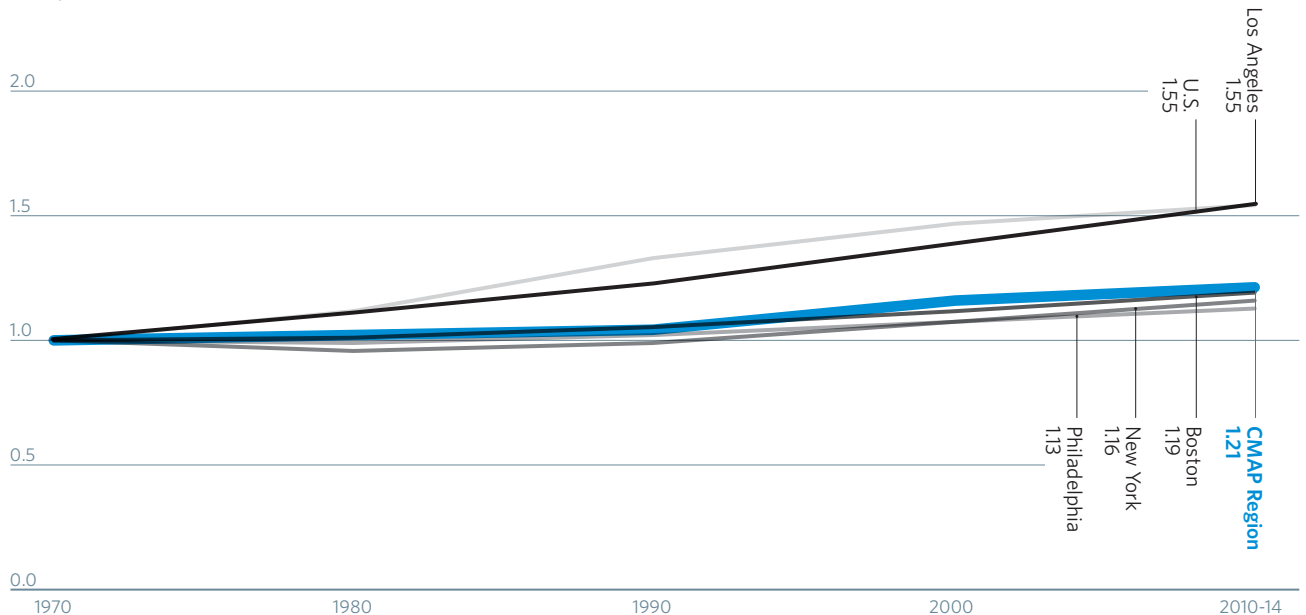
Recent population growth lags behind peer regions

Historically, metropolitan Chicago's population growth has been similar to that of older, established regions. But, in more recent years, this growth has lagged that of our peers, with the region ranking 45th among metropolitan areas with 1 million or more residents according to the U.S. Census Annual Population Estimates Program. For comparison, the region has grown 1.1 percent since 2010, while the New York and Los Angeles regions have grown 3.1 and 4.0 percent, respectively.

This slower population growth matches the region's slower economic growth compared to the nation and our peers. Metropolitan Chicago's slower recovery from the recession, as well as the broader state fiscal condition, is likely contributing to slower population growth. Initiatives that could improve the region's economic position include regional collaboration on economic development, workforce training, business development, and infrastructure investment.

Population growth in peer metropolitan regions indexed to 1970, 1970 to 2010-14

Source: Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning analysis of U.S. Decennial Census data 1970, 1980, 1990, 2000, and American Community Survey data 2010-2014

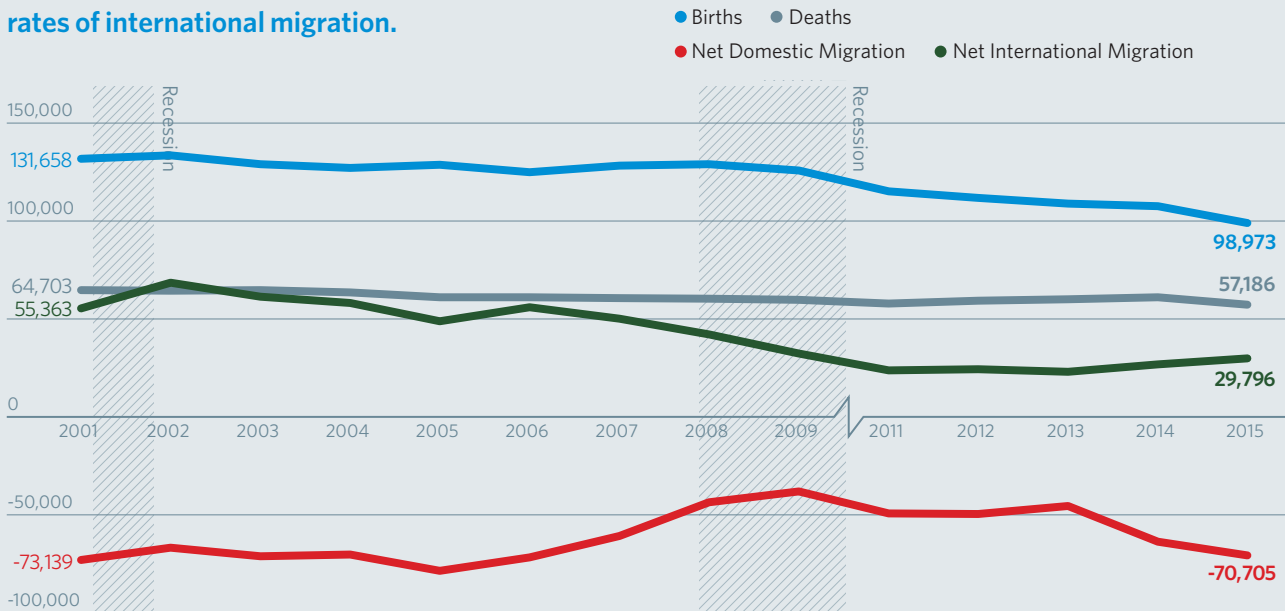


Components of regional population change

The region has recently lost population. While this loss is small, it is due to slowing birth rates, increased domestic outmigration, and lower rates of international migration.

CMAP region components of population change, 2001-15

Source: Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning analysis of U.S. Census Population Estimates data 2001-2015.

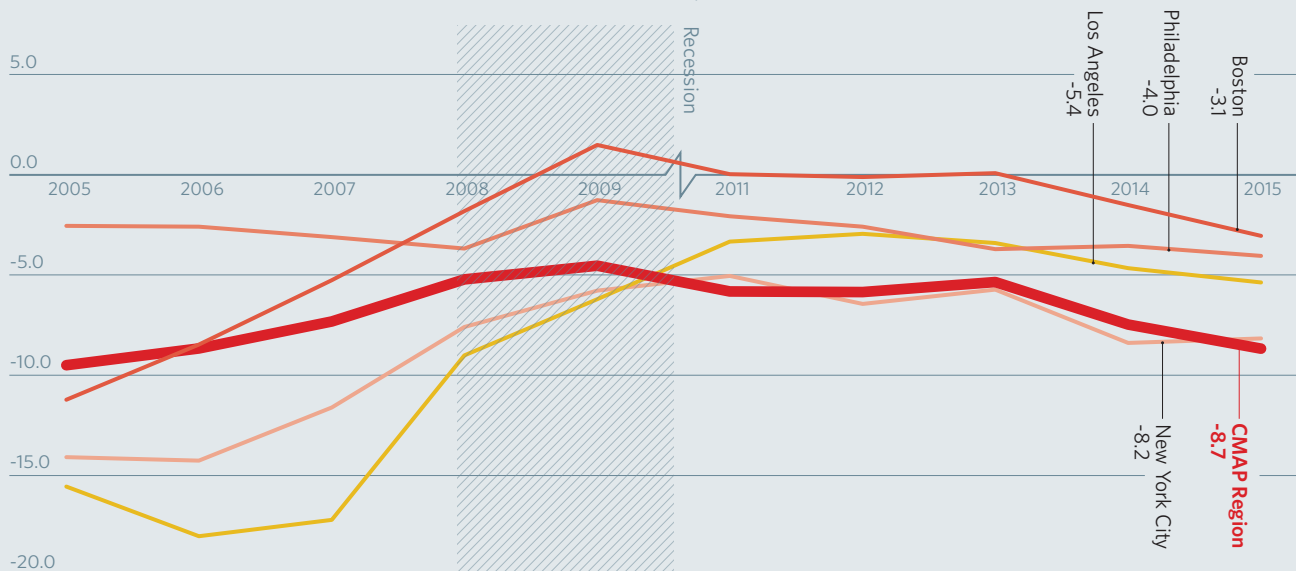


Declining domestic migration

The region's domestic migration has returned to pre-recession levels.

Annual domestic migration rate (per 1000 residents) for peer MSAs, 2005-15

Note: Full data is not available for 2010, and is not included in the chart.
Source: Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning analysis of U.S. Census Population Estimates data 2005-2015.

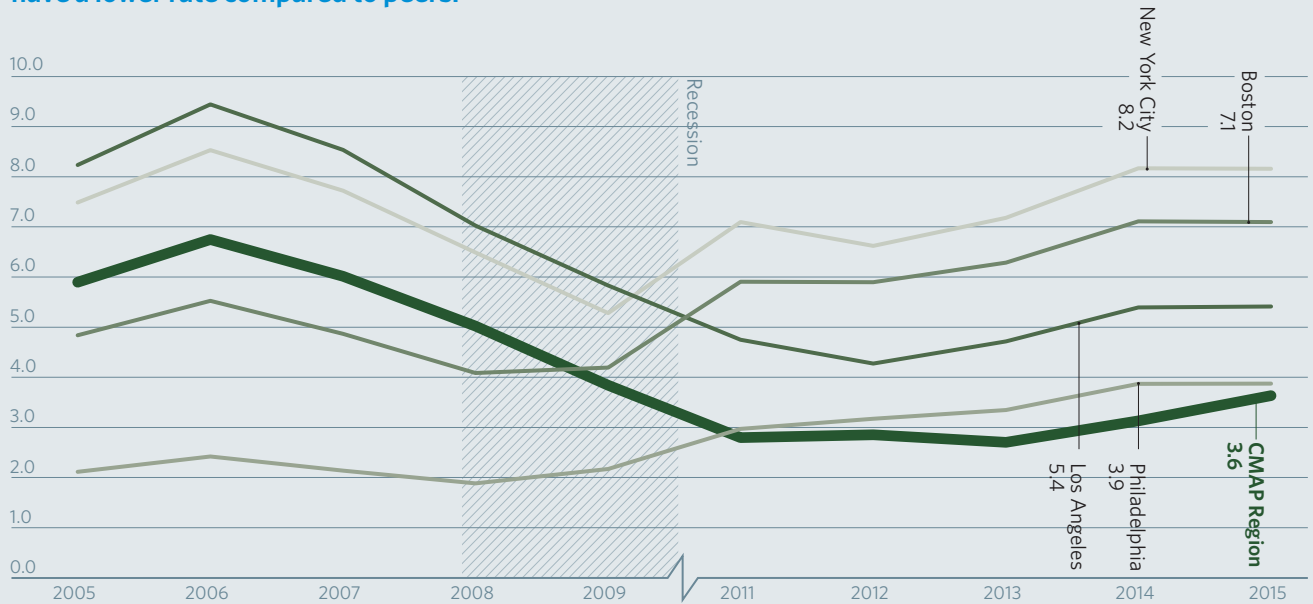


Decreased immigration

The region's international migration rate decreased significantly beginning in 2006 and continues to have a lower rate compared to peers.

Net international migration per 1,000 residents for peer regions, 2005-14

Note: Full data is not available for 2010, and is not included in the chart.
Source: Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning analysis of U.S. Census Population Estimates data 2005-2015.

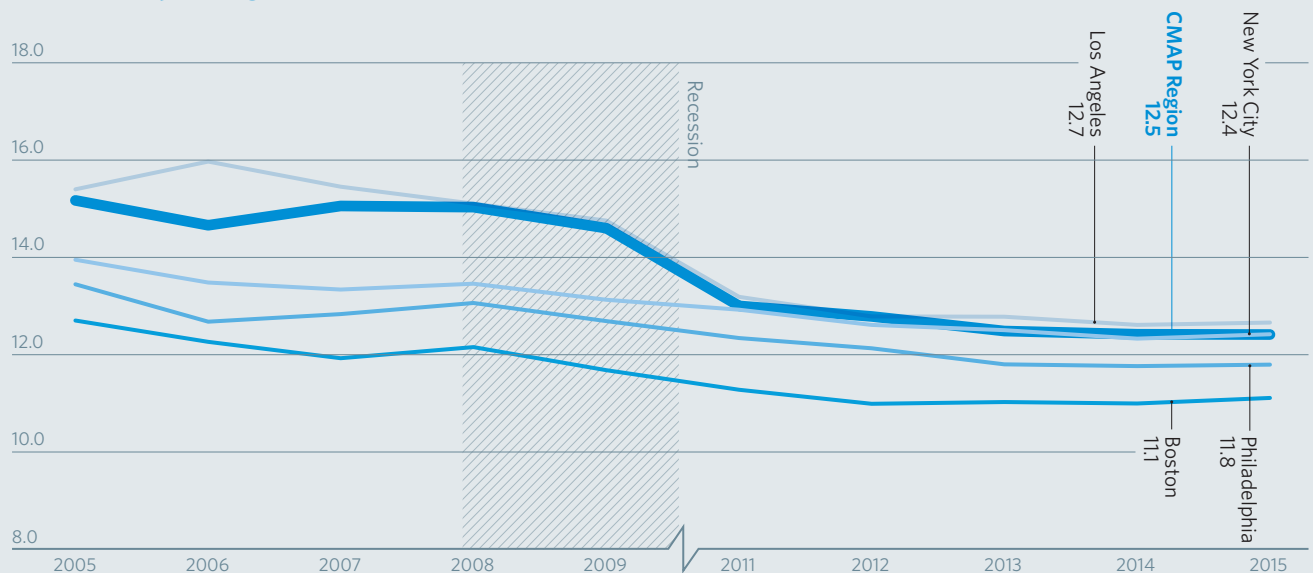


Declining births

The Chicago region's decline in natural population increase is driven by a declining birth rate, a trend also seen in peer regions.

Births per 1,000 residents for peer regions, 2005-15

Note: Full data is not available for 2010, and is not included in the chart.
Source: Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning analysis of U.S. Census Population Estimates data 2005-2015.



Migration into and out of the Chicago metropolitan area

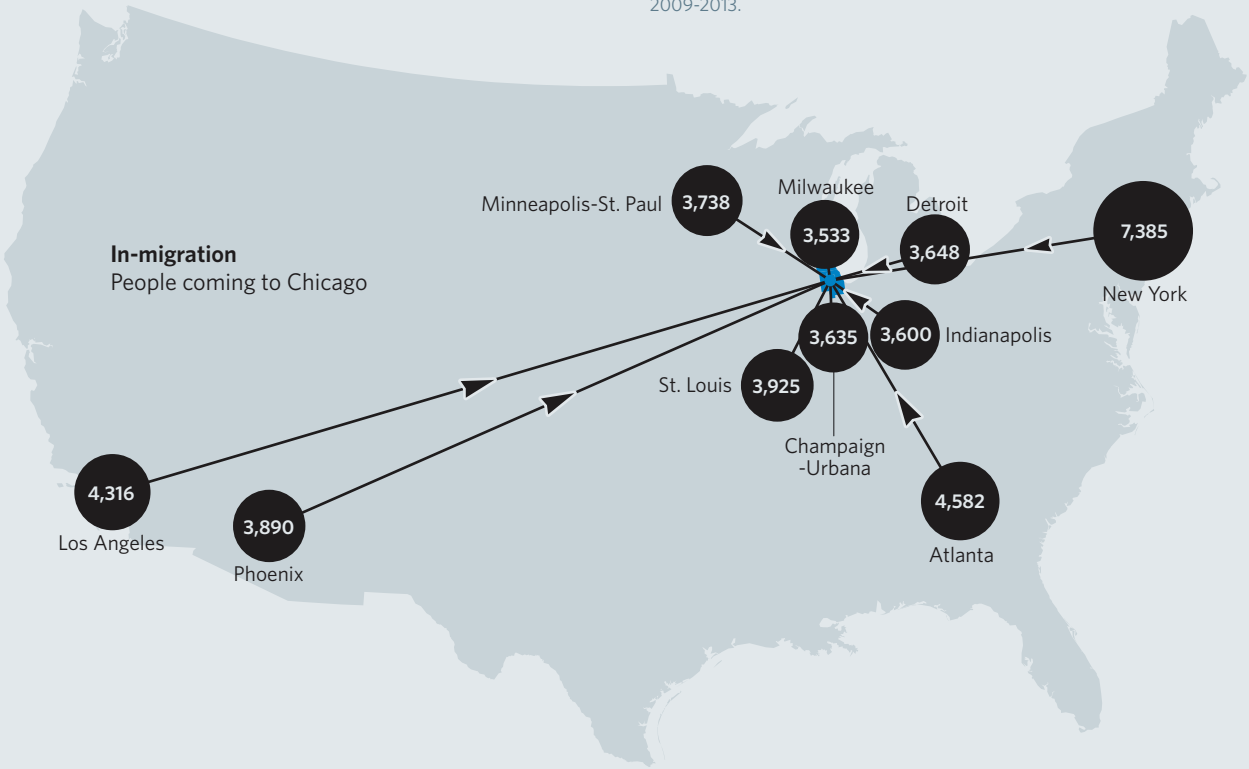
Residents leaving the region are predominantly heading for college towns (such as Champaign-Urbana), peer cities, and sunbelt regions (such as Phoenix). Ten percent of the region's in-migration population came from rural locations outside of metropolitan areas. The largest share of in-migration, 23 percent, came from outside the U.S.



Top 10 metropolitan regions for migration into and out of the Chicago MSA, 2009-13

Note: Excludes migration flows from outside metropolitan areas as well as international migration. The Census Metro Area-to-Metro Area Migration Flows dataset provides metro area migration flows that identify where people lived one year ago as well as where they moved from and to. The dataset also tracks moves from or to a foreign region or outside a metropolitan area in the U.S.

Source: Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning analysis of U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey Metro Area-to-Metro Area Migration Flows, 2009-2013.



Tracking trends

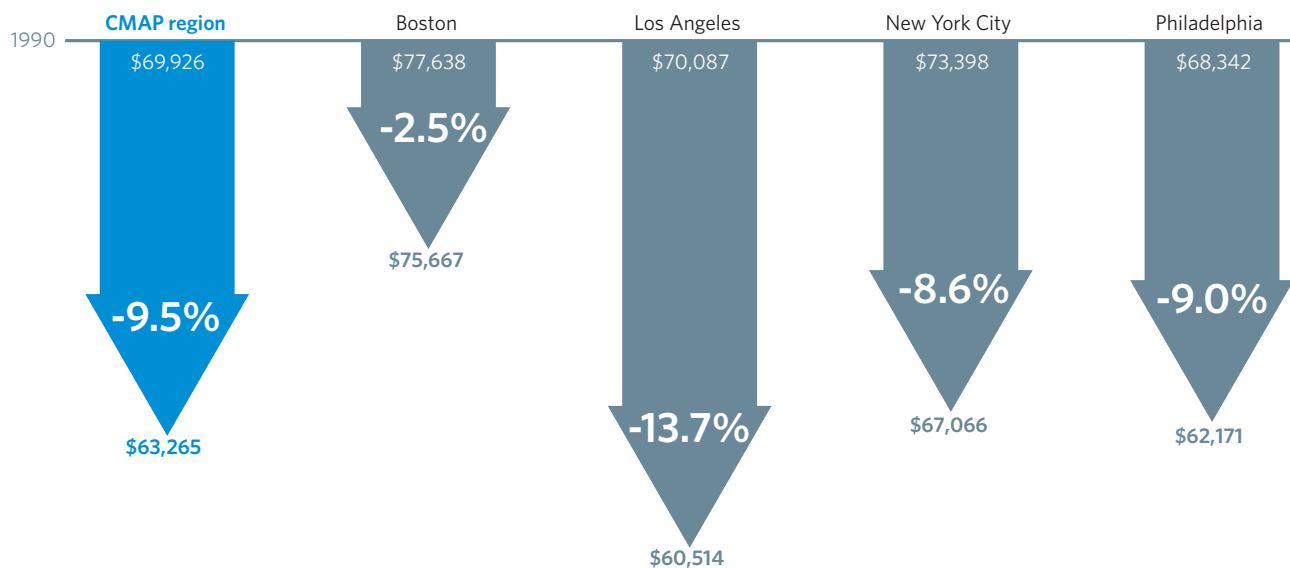
A key factor influencing population growth for any region is the economy. The following trends look at select metrics to understand how the Chicago region's economy is faring compared to our peers.

Median income

The average median household income in the region decreased by 9.5 percent between 1990 and 2014, a trend mirrored in peer regions, which have all had net negative change in median incomes since 1990.

Median household income in peer regions, 1990-2014, 2014 dollars

Source: Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning analysis of U.S. Decennial Census data 1990 and American Community Survey data 2014.



Education

The proportion of the region's population age 25 years and older with an associate's degree or higher increased 14.3 percentage points between 1990 and 2014. Forty-four percent of the region's population over 25 now have an associate's degree or higher. The percentage of population in the Chicago region and in peer regions with an associate's degree has increased over time and at similar rates.

Unemployment

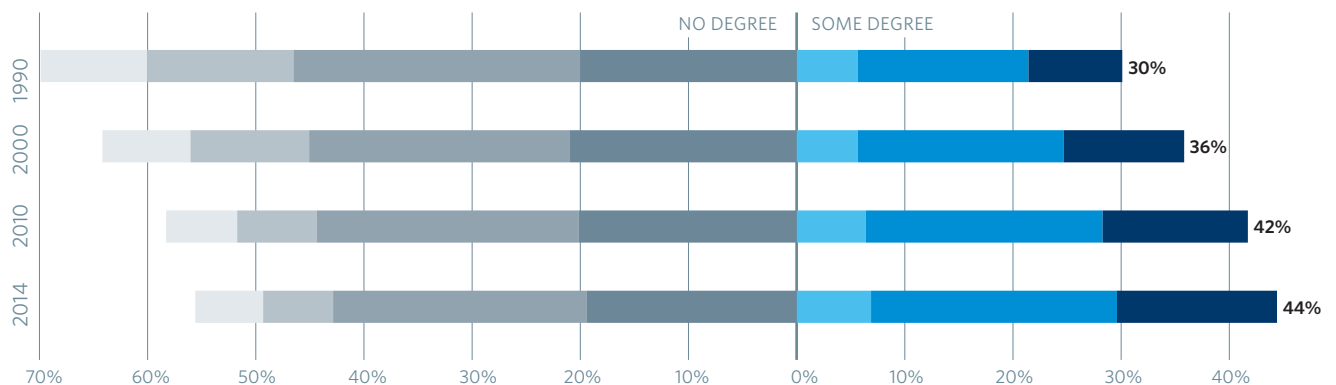
Chicago's unemployment rate has recovered significantly since the recession. While not quite reaching pre-recession unemployment levels, the unemployment rate is steadily declining and in line with other peer regions.

Educational attainment in the CMAP region, 1990 to 2014

- Less than 9th grade
- 9th to 12th grade, no diploma
- High school graduate or GED
- Some college, no degree
- Associate's degree or higher
- Bachelor's degree
- Graduate or professional degree

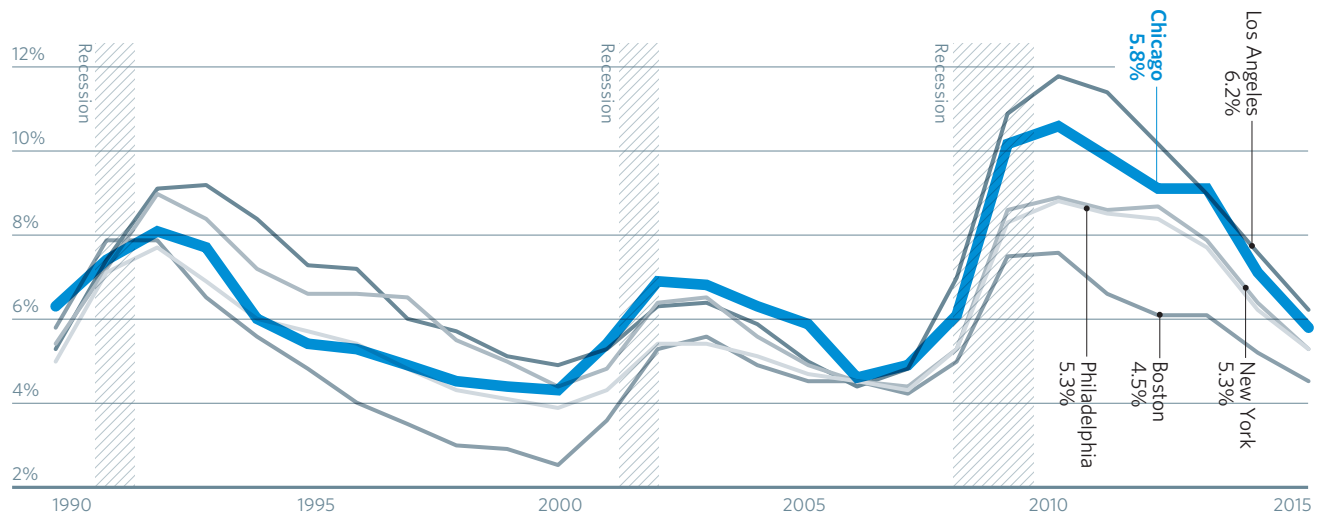
Note: of population 25 and older.

Source: Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning analysis of U.S. Decennial Census data 1990, 2000, and 2010, and American Community Survey data 2010-2014.



Chicago and peer MSA unemployment rate, 1990-2015

Source: Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning analysis of U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics data 1990, 1995, 2000, 2005, 2010, and 2015.



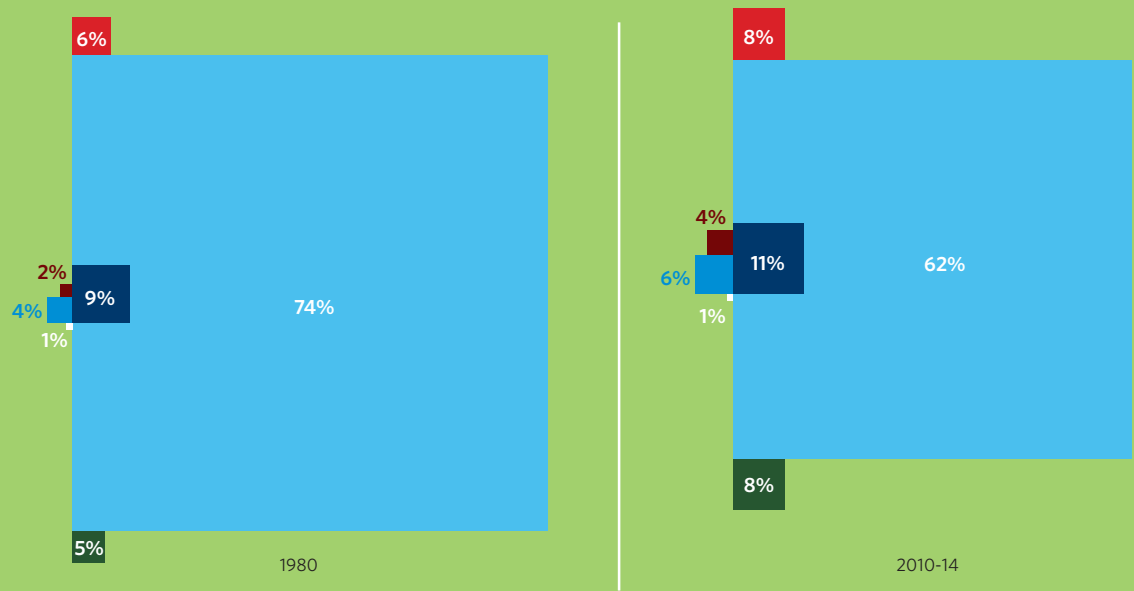
Population shift within the region

Within the region, population has been shifting from Cook County to the collar counties (DuPage, Kane, Kendall, Lake, McHenry, and Will) over the last several decades. This pattern is mirrored in many peer regions and has resulted in a substantial shift in the Chicago area’s population: In 1980, Cook County had 74 percent of the population, while in 2014 it retained only 62 percent. Will, McHenry, Lake, and Kane counties have seen the greatest population increases.

Proportion of population by county, 1980 to 2010-14

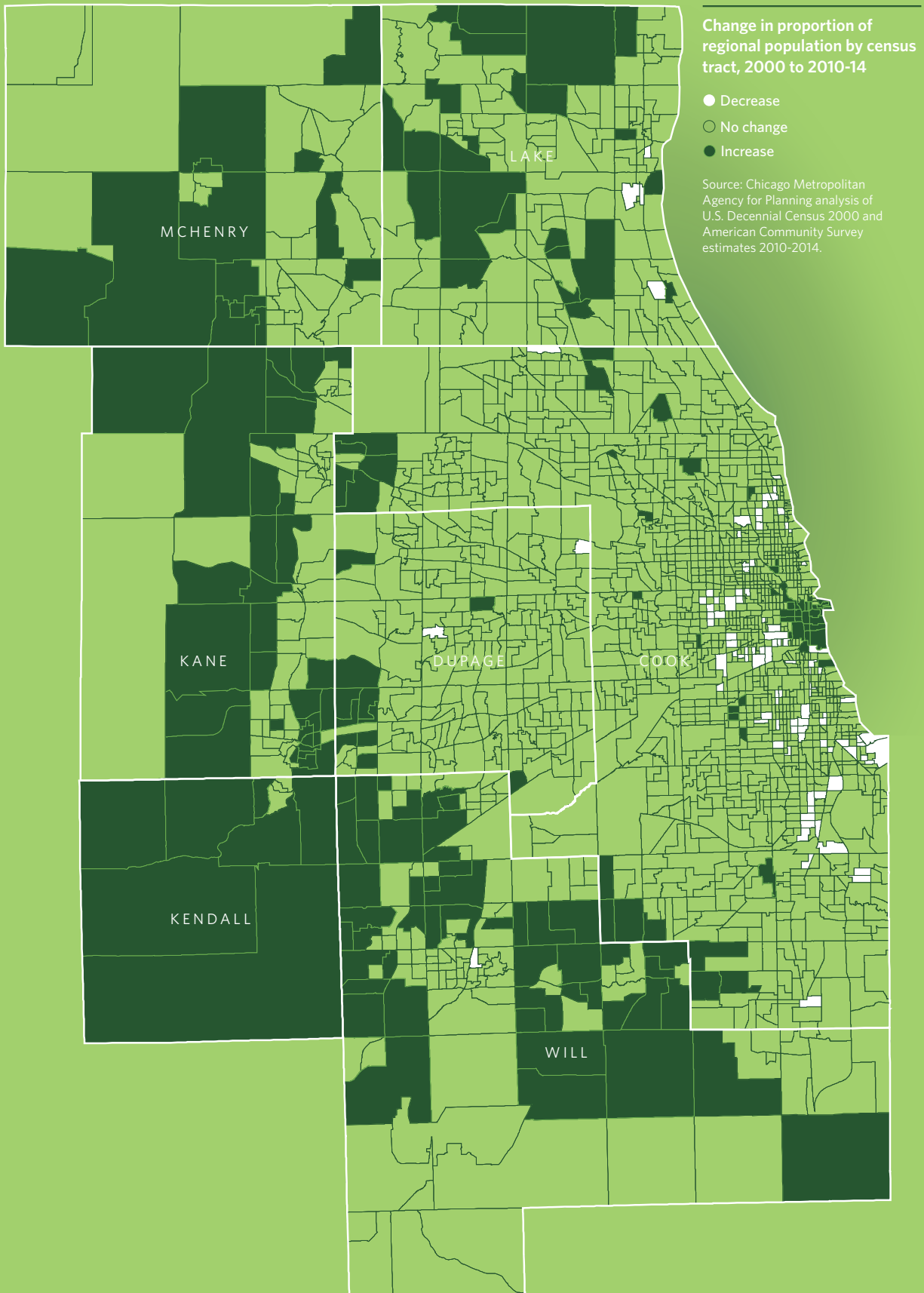
Source: Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning analysis of U.S. Decennial Census data 1980 and American Community Survey data 2010-2014.

- Cook County
- DuPage County
- Kane County
- Kendall County
- Lake County
- McHenry County
- Will County



A closer look at population shift

This map shows the shift in population from 2000 to 2010-14. Recent growth has been concentrated within the region's urban core, as well as Lake, McHenry, Kane, Kendall, and Will Counties.



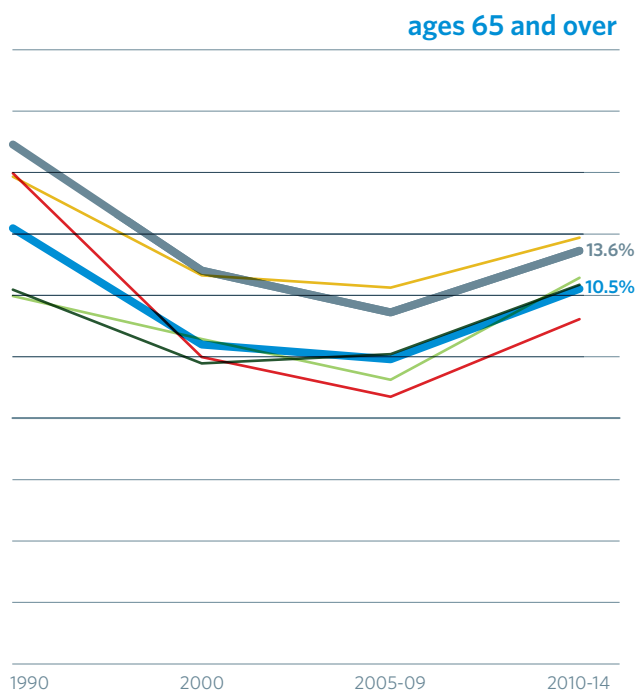
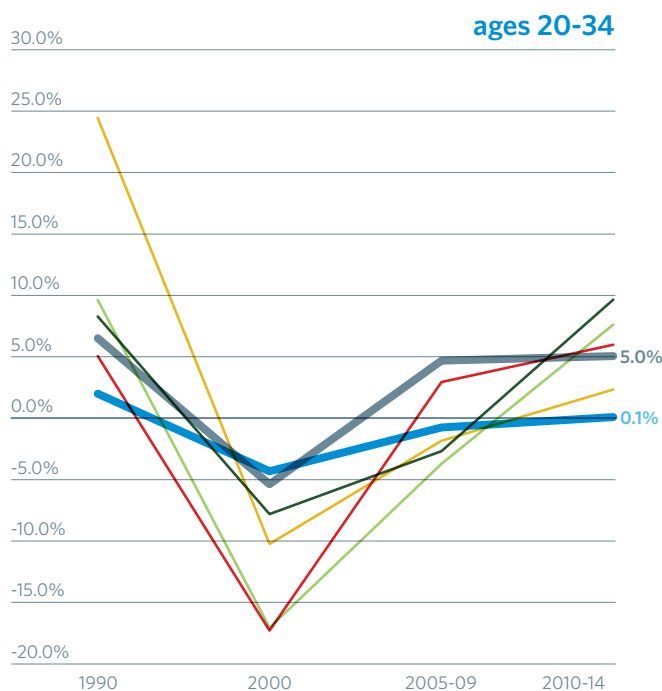
Age trends in peer regions

Metropolitan Chicago is aging, and so are most of its peers. Today, the region has over 1 million residents who are 65 and older. In both the CMAP region and peer regions, growth in the proportion of population over 65 is increasing. However, metropolitan Chicago's growth rate in the 20-34 age bracket lags peer regions. Currently, the region has about 1.8 million residents aged 20-34. Both of these age groups have important implications in planning for a vibrant region. An aging population indicates a need for different land use, transportation, and housing options, whereas attracting residents in the 20-34 age group is critical for continuing to grow a strong workforce.

Population shift, ages 20-34 and 65 and over, rate of population change from the prior period, 1980 to 2010-14

Source: Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning analysis of U.S. Decennial Census data 1980, 1990, 2000, and American Community Survey data 2005-2009 and 2010-2014.

- CMAP Region ● Boston ● Philadelphia
- United States ● New York City ● Los Angeles



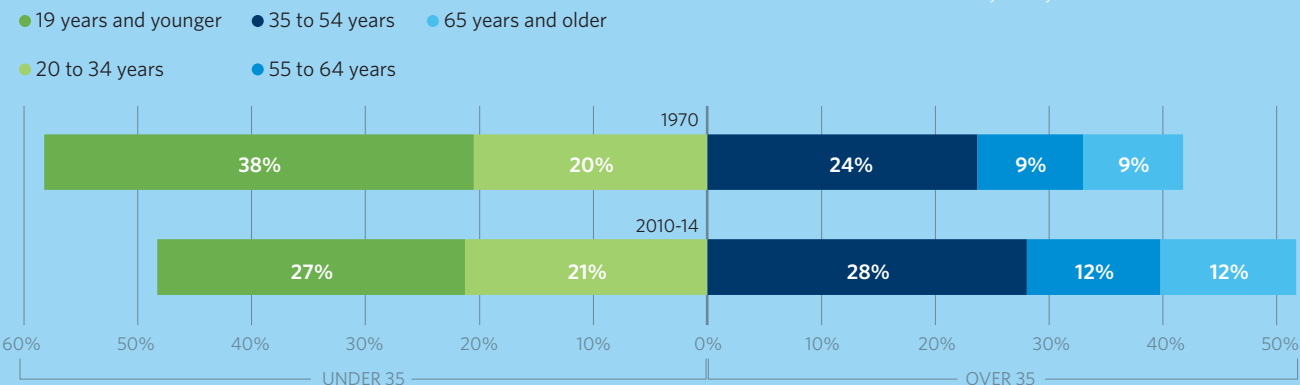


An aging population in the Chicago region

Beginning in 2011, the baby boom generation (those born between 1946 and 1964) began to age into the senior demographic. As this generation continues to age, residents age 65 and over will continue to represent a growing proportion of the nation's and region's populations. While this growth is currently occurring most strongly in the inner and outer ring suburbs, much of the region is seeing an increase in senior residents.

Aging in the CMAP region, 1970 to 2010-14

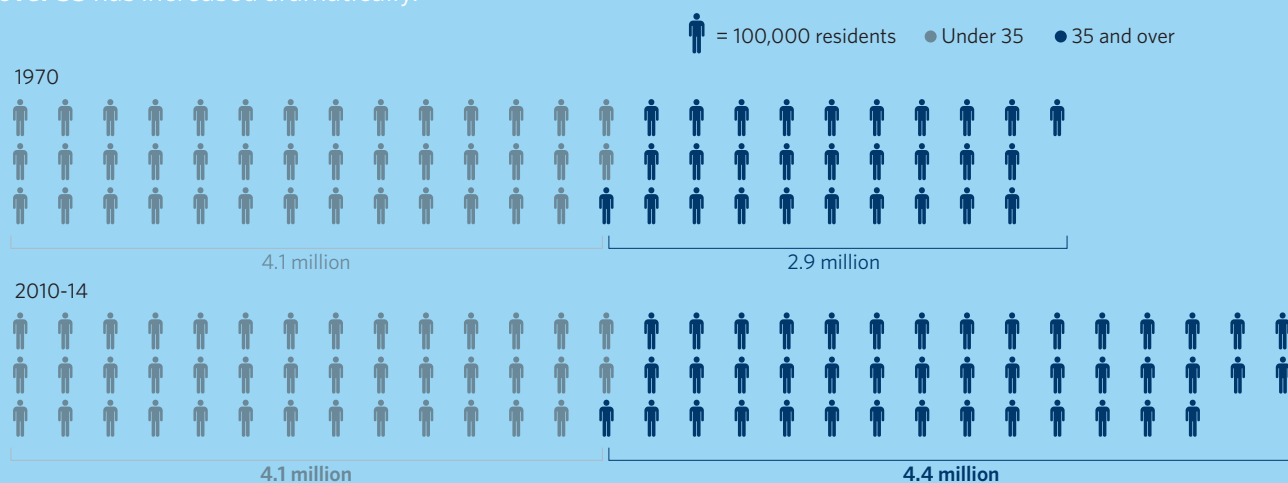
Source: Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning analysis of U.S. Decennial Census data 1970 and American Community Survey data 2010-2014.



In 1970, a majority of residents were **under 35**. Today, the region has about the same number of residents under 35, but the number of residents **over 35** has increased dramatically.

Number of residents under and over 35, 1970 and 2010-14

Source: Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning analysis of U.S. Decennial Census data 1970 and American Community Survey data 2010-2014.



The following map illustrates the proportion of the population age 65 and over by township in 2010-14. A majority of the 25 townships with the highest proportion of seniors in the Chicago region are concentrated in north and far west areas of the region. The areas of the region with comparatively low proportions of seniors were primarily in the fast-growing southwestern suburbs.



Strong international immigration to the region over the long term

The Chicago region has been a major attractor of international immigration in North America, with 1.6 million, or 19.1 percent, foreign-born residents. The region's continued growth depends on immigrants, and that is also true for most of its peer regions. Since 1990, the CMAP region has grown by about 1.2 million people, or 16.3 percent, and foreign-born immigrants accounted for 62 percent of that population growth.

Yet immigration has slowed in recent years. This slowdown may be a result of slow recovery from the recent recession, quality of life factors, or a broader shift in patterns for the immigrant populations that have traditionally fueled growth. The foreign-born population grew by 61 percent from 1990-2000, but this population group has seen an increase of just 14 percent since 2000.

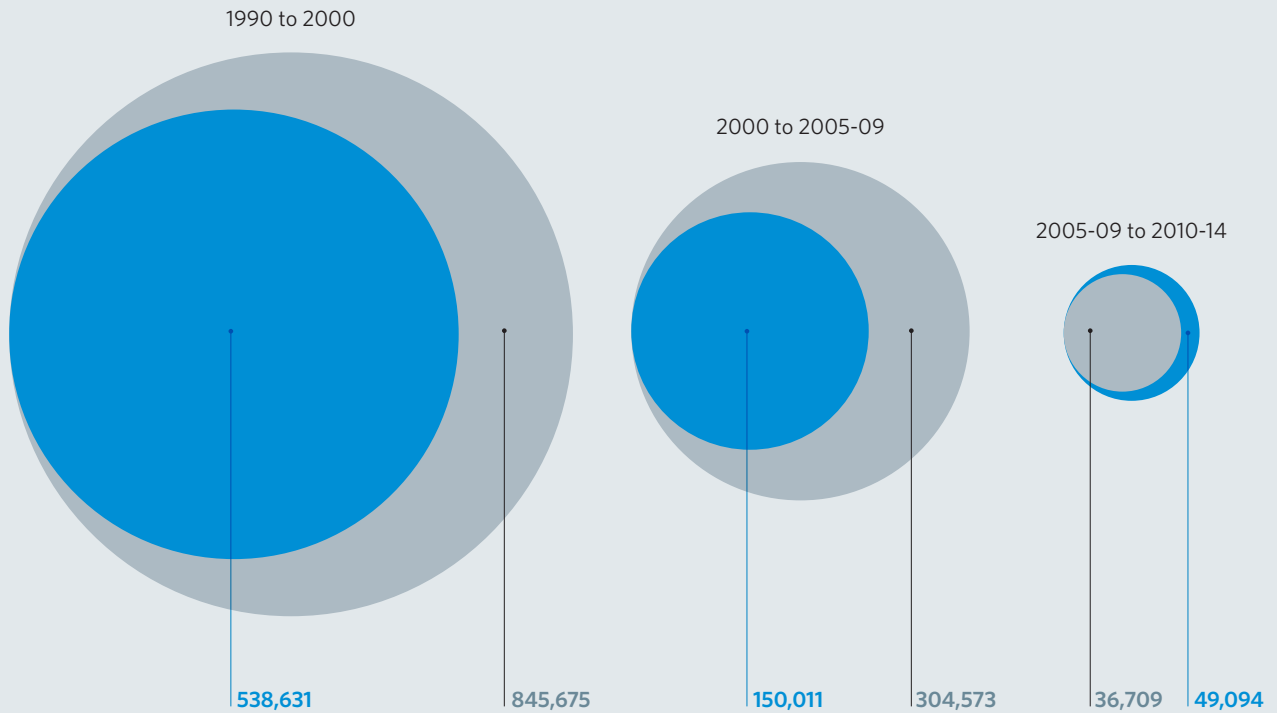
The region has added almost 1.2 million residents since 1990. Over 700,000 of them were foreign born.

The region has only seen 14 percent growth in foreign-born residents since 2000. However over the last ten years, the foreign-born population growth was larger than total population growth.

Population growth in foreign-born and non-foreign-born population over time

Source: Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning analysis of U.S. Decennial Census data 1990, 2000, and American Community Survey data 2010-2014.

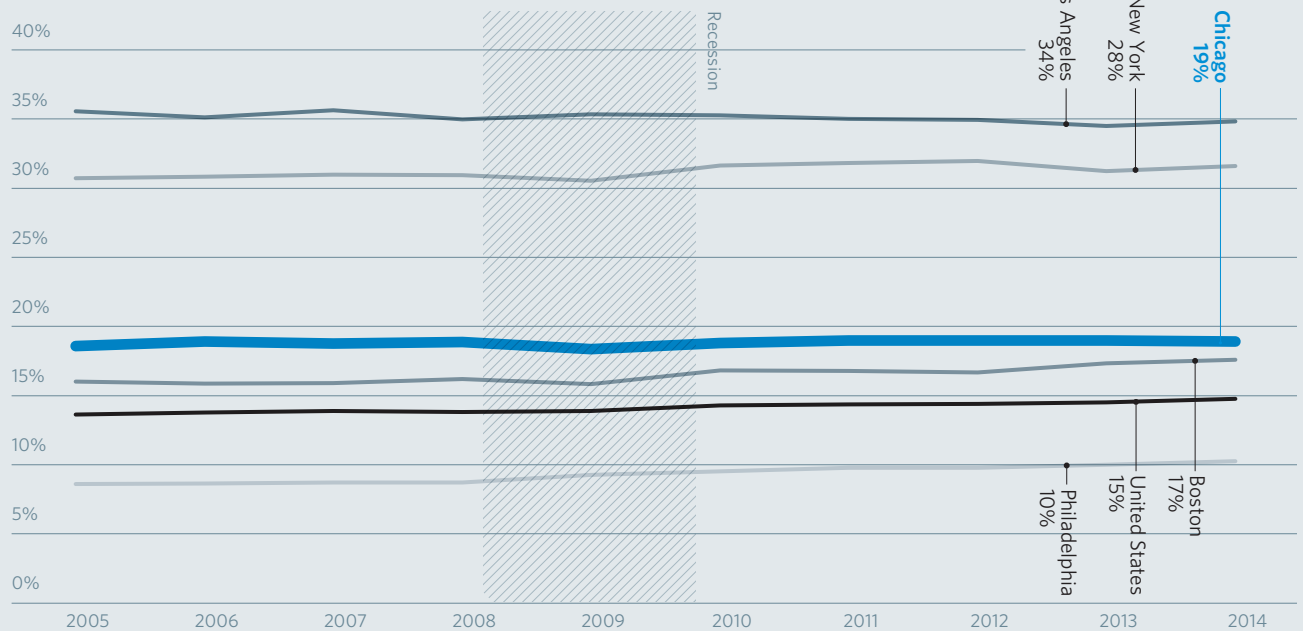
- Total population
- Foreign-born population



In recent years, growth in the proportion of the population that is foreign born has been stable in all peer regions and nationally.

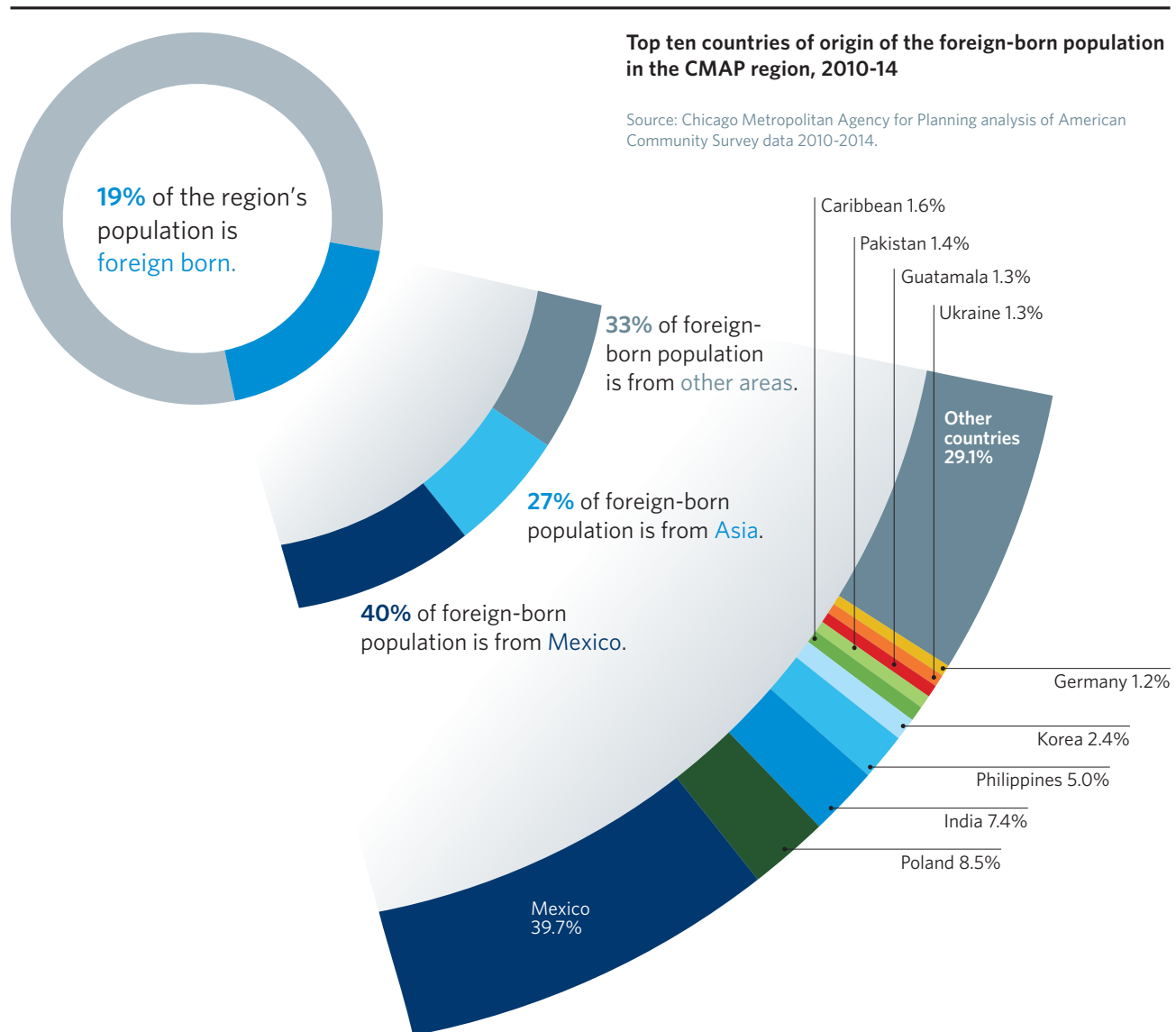
Proportion of the population that is foreign born for peer MSAs and the U.S., 2005-14

Source: Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning analysis of American Community Service data 2005 through 2014.



Immigration growth has been driven by Mexican and Asian immigrants

To ensure the delivery of services and meet the needs of immigrants, it is important to know where they are from. While newcomers have come from all parts of the world, as of 2010-14, 40 percent, or about 640,000 people, of all foreign-born immigrants in the region are from Mexico, making up 8 percent of the regional population. Other top countries of origin are Poland, India, Philippines, Korea, and the Caribbean.

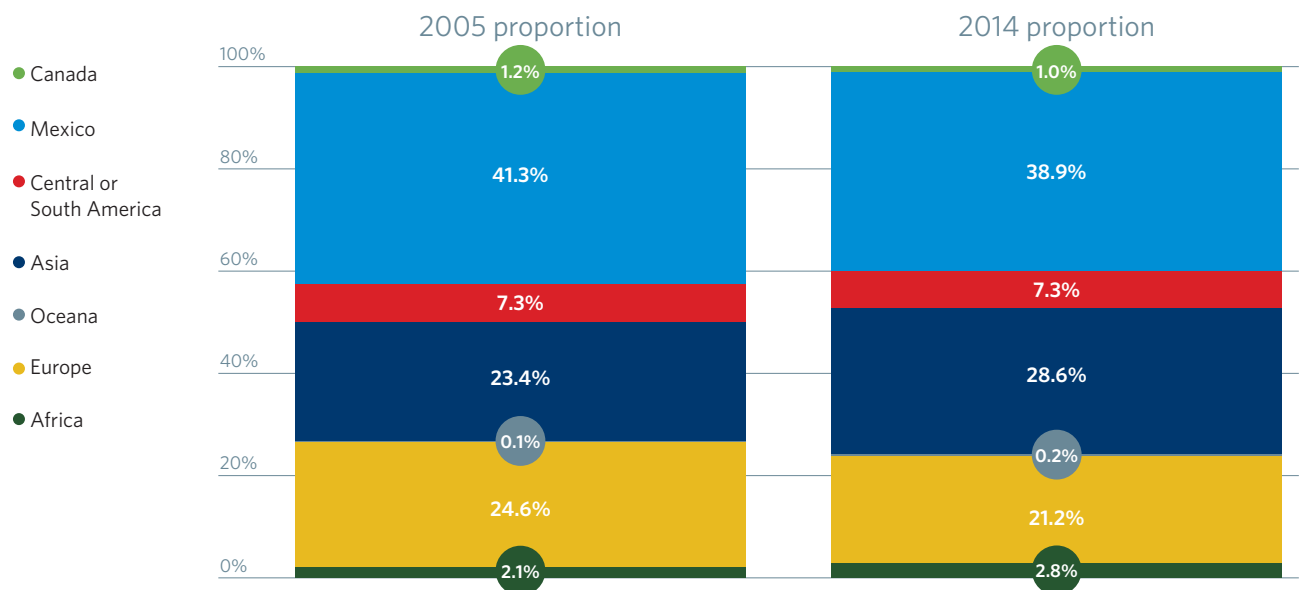


Growth in Asian immigrants

Immigration from Mexico slowed between 2005-14. More recently, immigrants from all parts of Asia, particularly India and South Central Asia, have become the region's and nation's fastest growing immigrant group. Metropolitan Chicago added approximately 100,000 residents from Asia between 2005-14.

**Proportion of foreign-born residents in the Chicago MSA
by place of birth, 2005 and 2014**

Source: Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning analysis of American Community Survey data 2005 and 2014.



Foreign-born population by county

Together, the region's collar counties are home to just over 500,000 foreign-born immigrants. Another million immigrants live in the City of Chicago and suburban Cook County. Since 2000, Kendall County has experienced the greatest percentage of total population growth—about 115 percent—and the largest percent increase in foreign-born population. During the same timeframe, Will County's total population grew by 36 percent, and its foreign-born population grew by 126 percent. Kane, Lake, and McHenry's total population all grew and had major growth in their foreign-born population. Unlike the collar counties, Cook County has had negative growth in total population since 2000, with its overall population decreasing by 3 percent despite an increase of 3 percent in its foreign-born population.

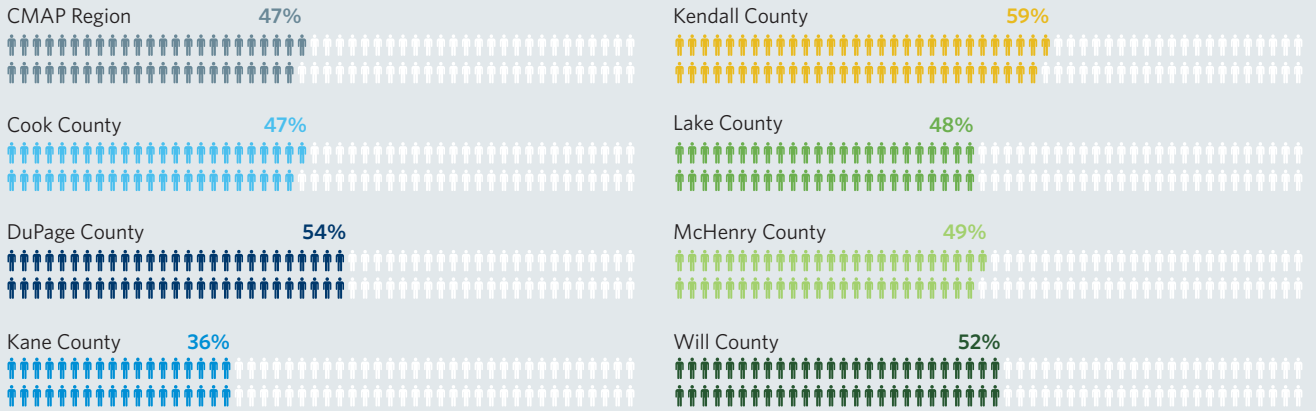
Naturalized immigrants

The Census definition of foreign born includes both naturalized individuals and those that have not been naturalized. Naturalized immigrants have gone through the extensive process to become U.S. citizens. This means that these immigrants are able to fully participate in civic life in the U.S., which includes voting and all the rights and responsibilities set forth by the U.S. Constitution and Bill of Rights.

Forty-seven percent of international immigrants in the region have become naturalized citizens.

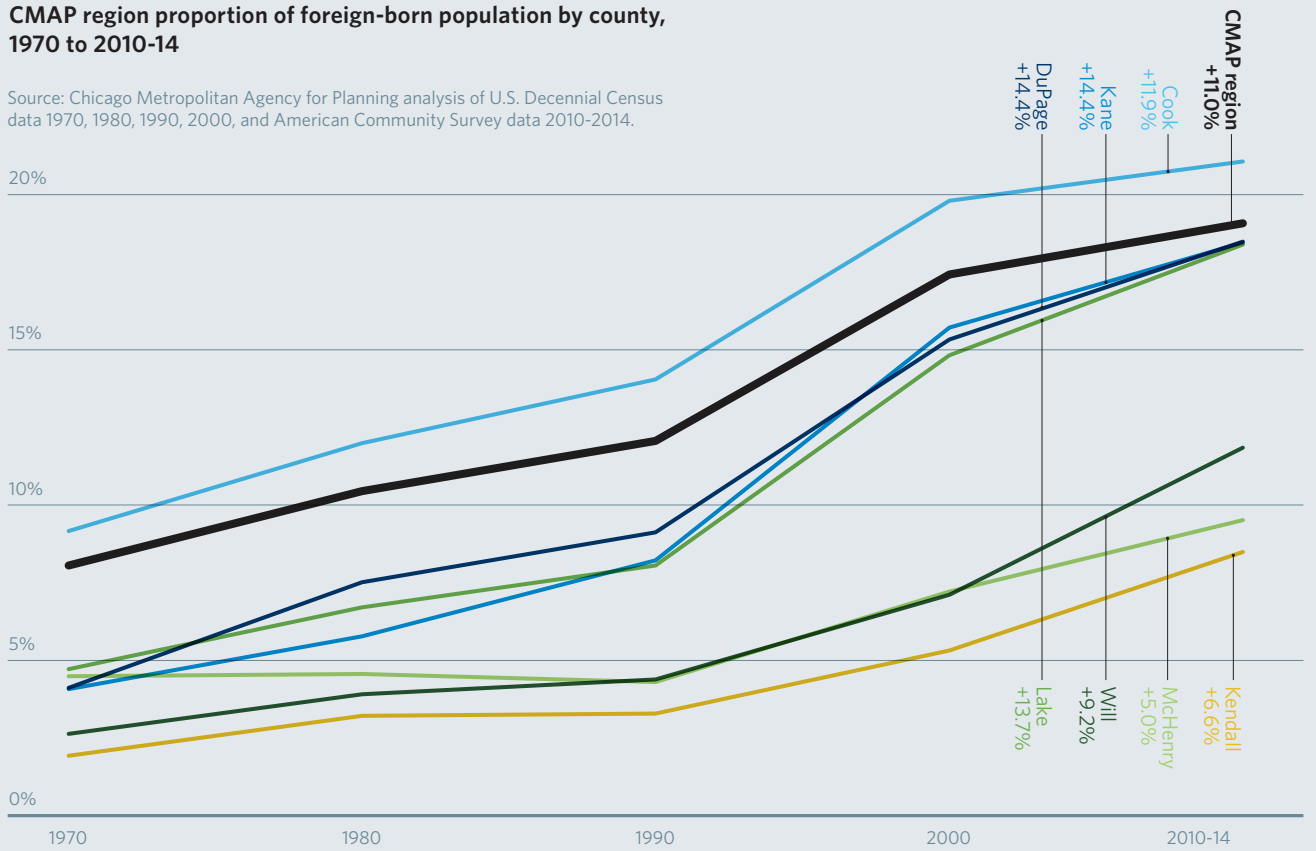
Percent foreign-born who are naturalized citizens, 2010-14

Source: Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning analysis of American Community Survey data 2010-2014.



CMAP region proportion of foreign-born population by county, 1970 to 2010-14

Source: Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning analysis of U.S. Decennial Census data 1970, 1980, 1990, 2000, and American Community Survey data 2010-2014.

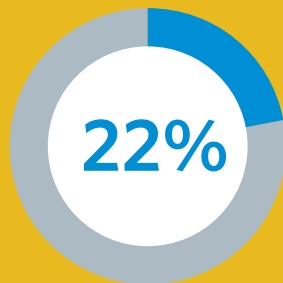


Latinos in the region

Hispanics are the second largest population group by race/ethnicity in the region. Including both native born and immigrants, this population group experienced the highest growth between 1990 and 2010-14 and now makes up 22 percent of metropolitan Chicago's population. The collar counties experienced the largest growth of Hispanic population, contributing to the increasing diversification of the region's suburbs. However, Hispanic population growth has slowed in recent years.

Growth of Latino population in the CMAP region, 1990 to 2010-14

Source: Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning analysis of U.S. Decennial Census data 1990, 2000, and American Community Survey data 2010-2014.



22% of the region's population is Hispanic.

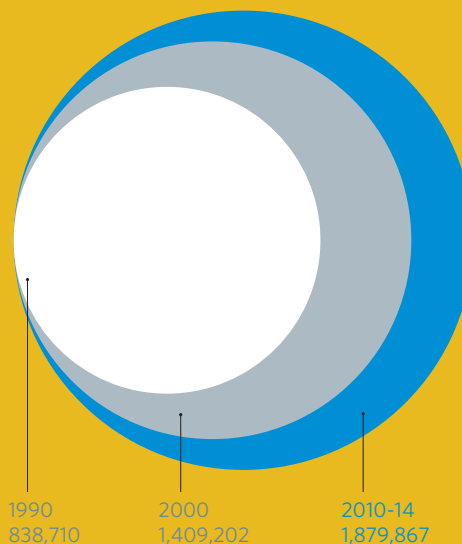


About one in every five residents.

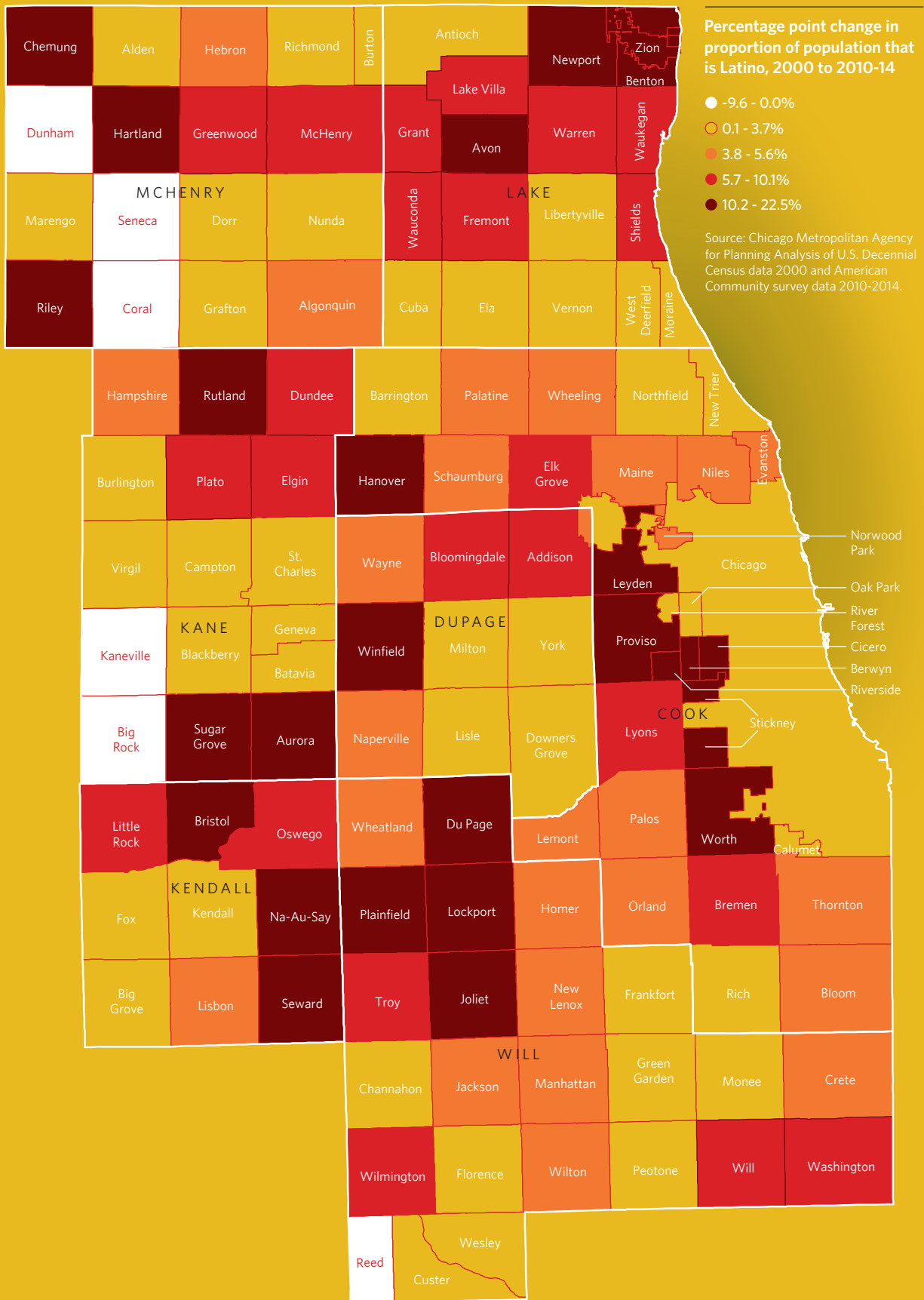


About one in every three children under 19.

The Hispanic population has grown 33% since 2000.



Suburban areas of the region, especially the collar counties and suburban Cook County, experienced the largest growth in the Hispanic population since 2000, contributing to the increasing diversification of the region's suburbs.

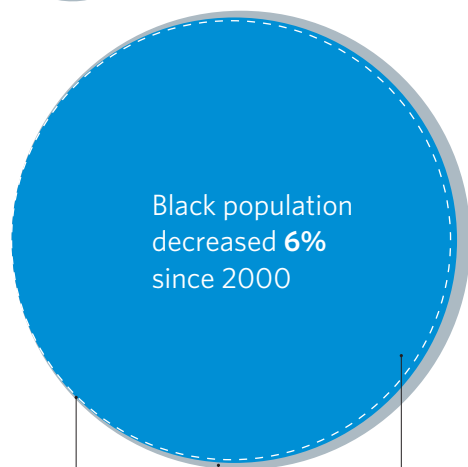
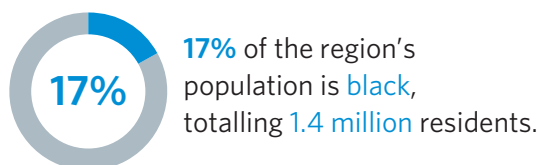


Asians and African Americans in the region

The black population is the third largest population group in metropolitan Chicago. Historically, the region's black population has been its second largest population group by race/ethnicity. However, in recent decades, the region has lost black residents and also experienced a large increase in the Hispanic population, resulting in the flip between the two groups. The Asian population has seen the largest percent increase in recent years, steadily gaining population since 1990. Asians are now the fastest growing immigrant group in the region.

Change in black population in the CMAP region, 1990 to 2010-14

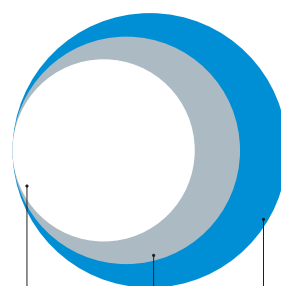
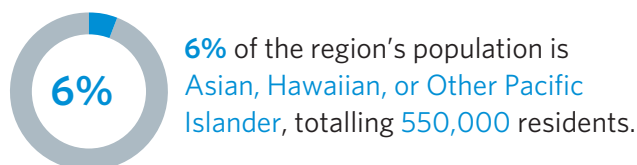
Source: Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning analysis of U.S. Decennial Census data 1990, 2000, and American Community Survey data 2010-2014.



Year	Population
1990	1,406,648
2000	1,537,534
2010-14	1,448,521

Change in Asian population in the CMAP region, 1990 to 2010-14

Source: Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning analysis of U.S. Decennial Census data 1990, 2000, and American Community Survey data 2010-2014.

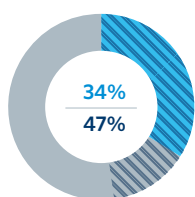


Year	Population
1990	242,642
2000	378,170
2010-14	550,926

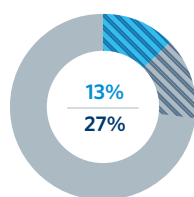
Proportion of population that are people of color in select metropolitan regions, 1990 and 2010-14

Source: Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning analysis of U.S. Decennial Census data 1990 and American Community Survey data 2010-2014.

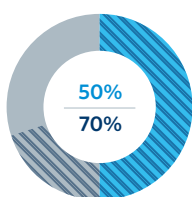
● White ● People of color 1990 ▨ People of color 2014



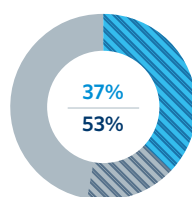
CMAP region



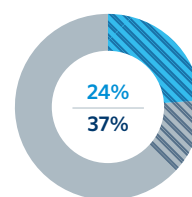
Boston



Los Angeles



New York



Philadelphia



Forty-seven percent
of the region's
population are people
of color.

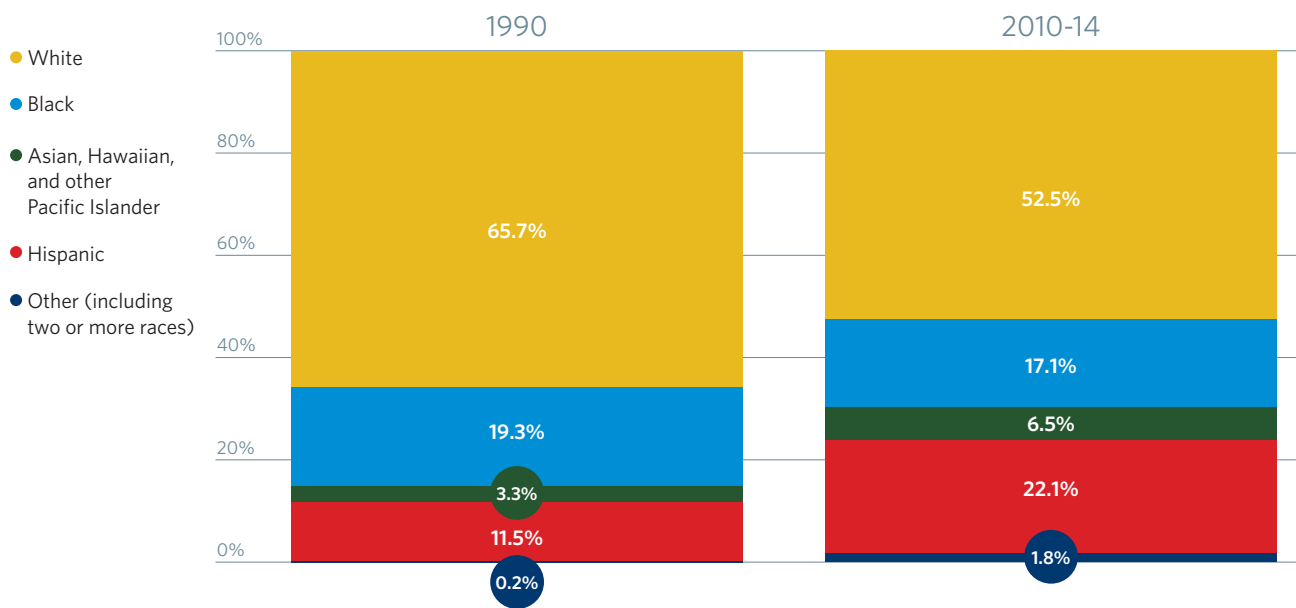
Increased diversity

Metropolitan Chicago is diversifying. Between 1990 and 2010-14, people of color in the region increased by 61 percent, now representing almost half of the region’s population.

The proportion of the region’s population consisting of persons of color has increased 34 percent since 1990. This is derived primarily from growth in the Hispanic population, which was the second largest population group in the region in 2014 after white residents. The Asian, Native Hawaiian, or Other Pacific Islander population has also increased as a percentage of total population. Black residents continue to represent a significant proportion of the population in all major U.S. metropolitan areas, including Chicago. However, the number of black residents in the CMAP region has been decreasing, and blacks are now the third largest population group by race/ethnicity in the region behind Hispanics. Both the number and proportion of the white population has also significantly declined, decreasing by 13 percentage points since 1990. Four peer metropolitan regions—Boston, Los Angeles, New York, and Philadelphia—have experienced similar increases in people of color.

Population by race in the CMAP region, 1990 to 2010-14

Source: Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning analysis of U.S. Decennial Census data 1990 and American Community Survey data 2010-2014.



Changing diversity

The people of color population continues to grow as a proportion of all population. This is occurring in all areas of the region, with the exception of the City of Chicago, where the share of white and person of color population remained relatively unchanged since 2000.

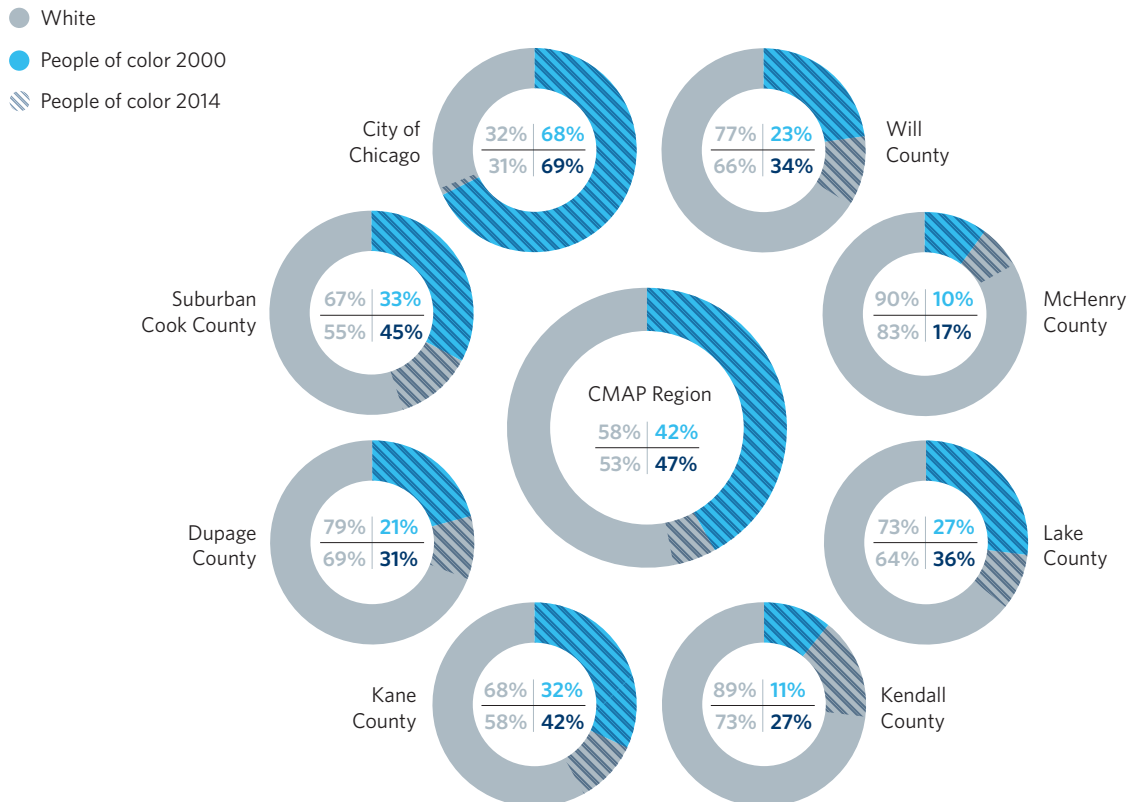
These shifting demographics have many implications for regional and local planning. Racial and ethnic population groups may hold varying preferences and face different challenges in housing, transportation, education, employment opportunities, and other factors that impact quality of life.

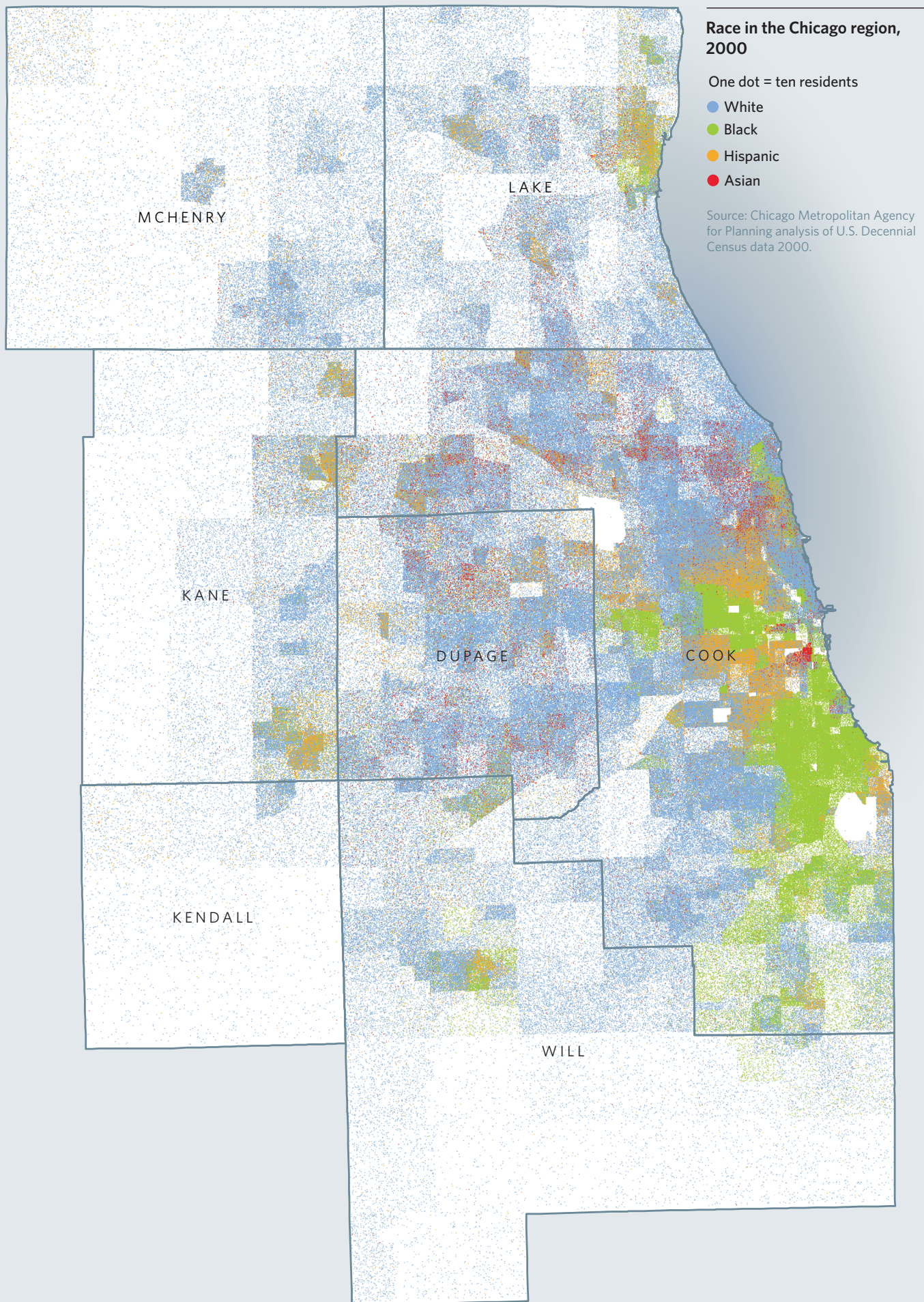
Geography of race

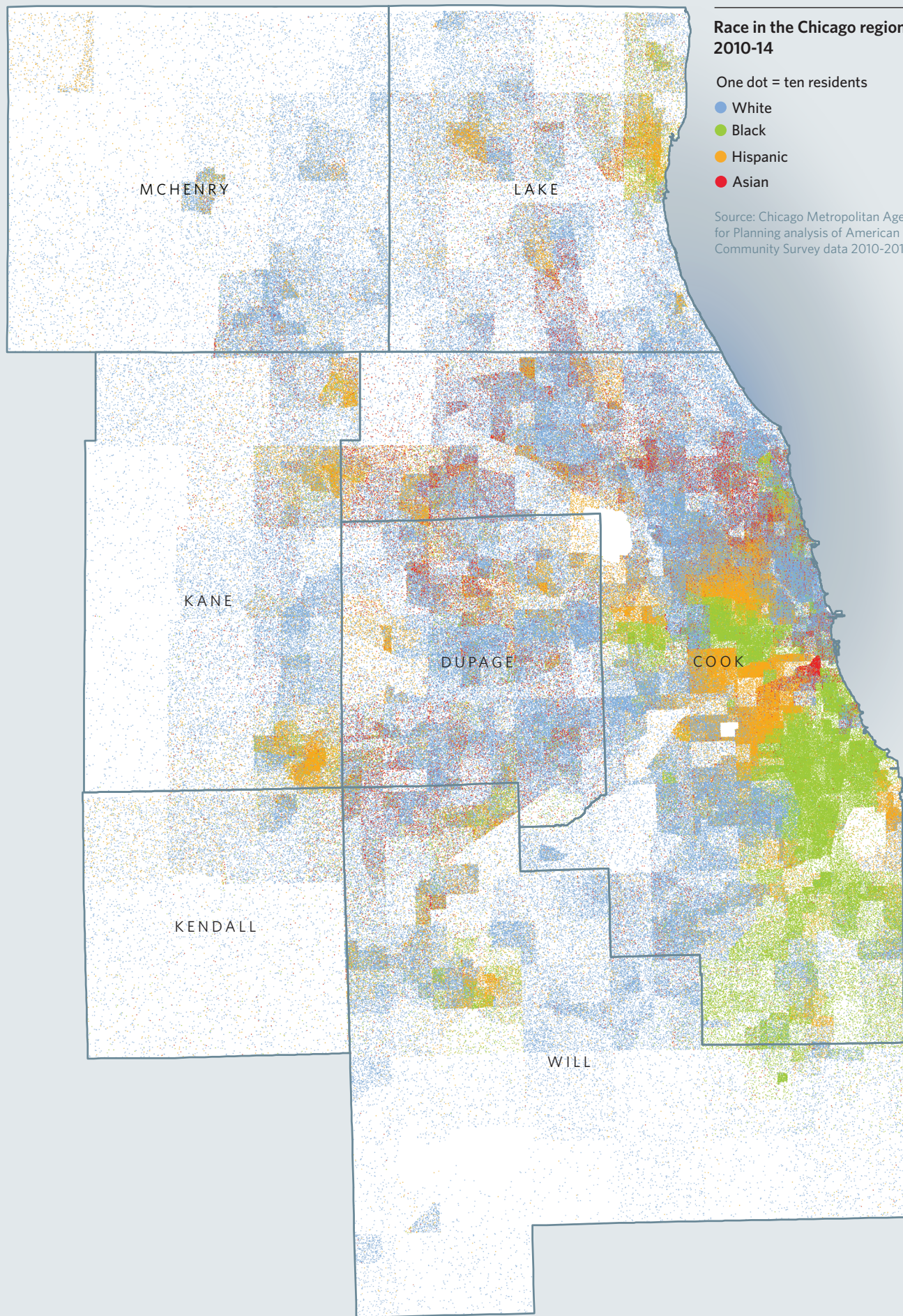
The maps on pages 34 and 35 illustrate the distinct spatial concentrations of different racial and ethnic populations in both 2000 and 2010-14. Over this time period, migration patterns of people of color within the region, particularly Asian and Hispanic residents, have led to increasing diversification of the region's suburban areas.

White and people of color populations as a percentage of regional population, 2000 and 2010-14

Source: Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning analysis of U.S. Decennial Census data 2000 and American Community Survey data 2010-2014.







Outcomes by race

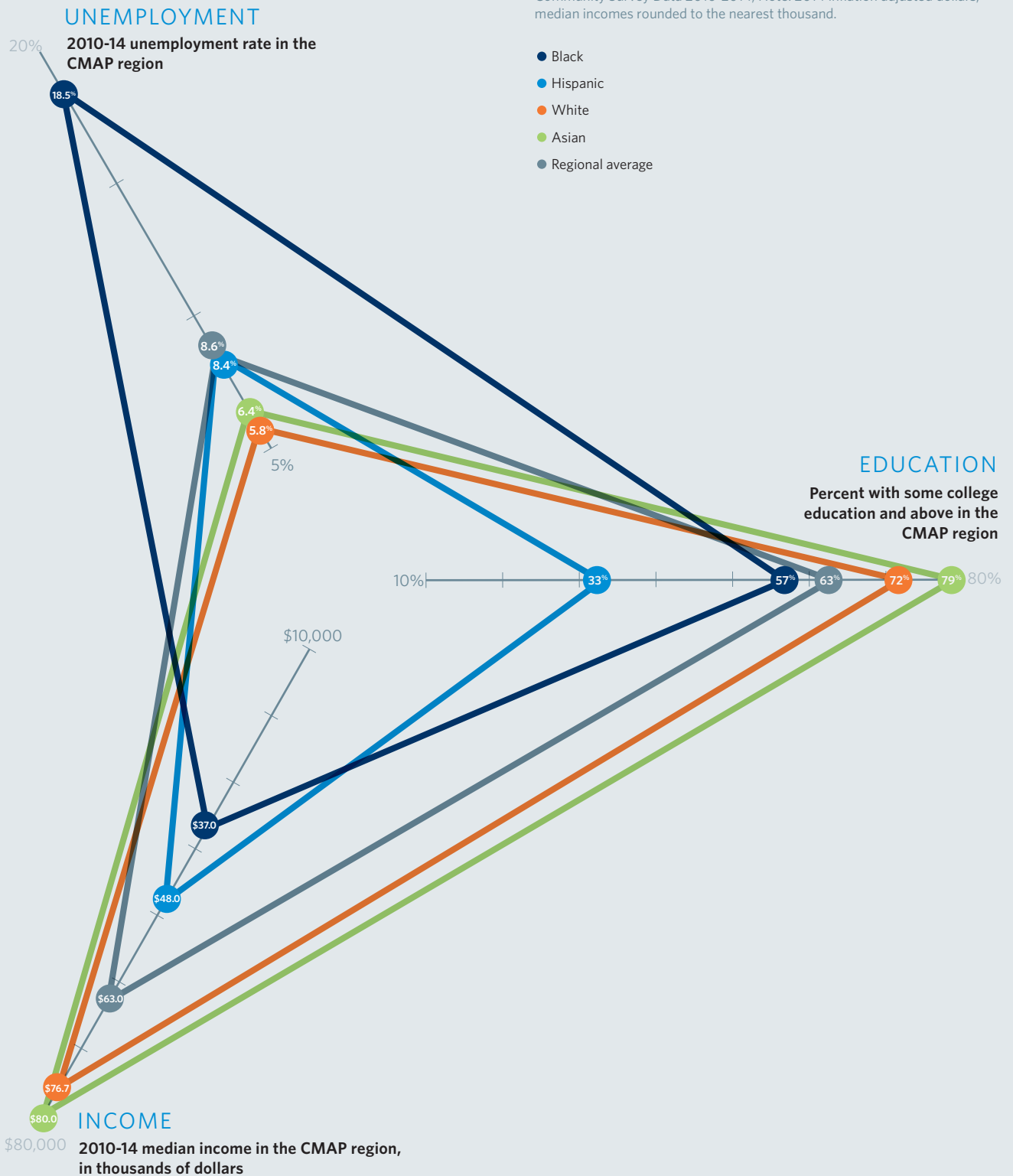
Just as in the nation as a whole, metropolitan Chicago resident's income, education, and employment outcomes differ by race and ethnicity. As of 2010-14, Asian and white residents have higher educational attainment and lower unemployment rates than the regional averages. Similarly, Asian and white households have median household incomes higher than the regional median.

Black and Hispanic residents have educational attainment rates lower than the regional average and have unemployment rates that are higher than the regional average. Black and Hispanic households have median incomes that are substantially lower than the regional median. Given the regional trend of increasing diversification, the disparate outcomes for education, income, and employment based on race and ethnicity have implications for the economic health and wellbeing of the region.

Disparate outcomes by race/ethnicity in the Chicago region, 2010-14

Note: Unemployment is for population 16 and above. The Bureau of Labor Statistics provides regional unemployment rates used in other CMAP products. Census unemployment is behind current rates, but is the most appropriate source to analyze unemployment by race.

Source: Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning analysis of American Community Survey Data 2010-2014; Note: 2014 inflation adjusted dollars; median incomes rounded to the nearest thousand.



Moving ON TO 2050

An understanding of demographic trends, both nationally and within the seven counties and 284 municipalities of metropolitan Chicago, will underpin virtually every recommendation that will ultimately be part of the ON TO 2050 comprehensive plan.

As a region, we would ignore at our peril such factors as the region's slowing population growth, changing international immigration patterns, patterns of diversifying race and ethnicity, aging population, and seemingly persistent obstacles for people of color.

To plan for renewed growth and a vibrant population, ON TO 2050 will include a number of policies (see opposite page) aimed at improving the region's economic position and quality of life to attract new residents.

By implementing any of these policies, the region can make progress toward the vision of sustainable prosperity for all residents; by implementing the plan as a whole, that vision can become reality.

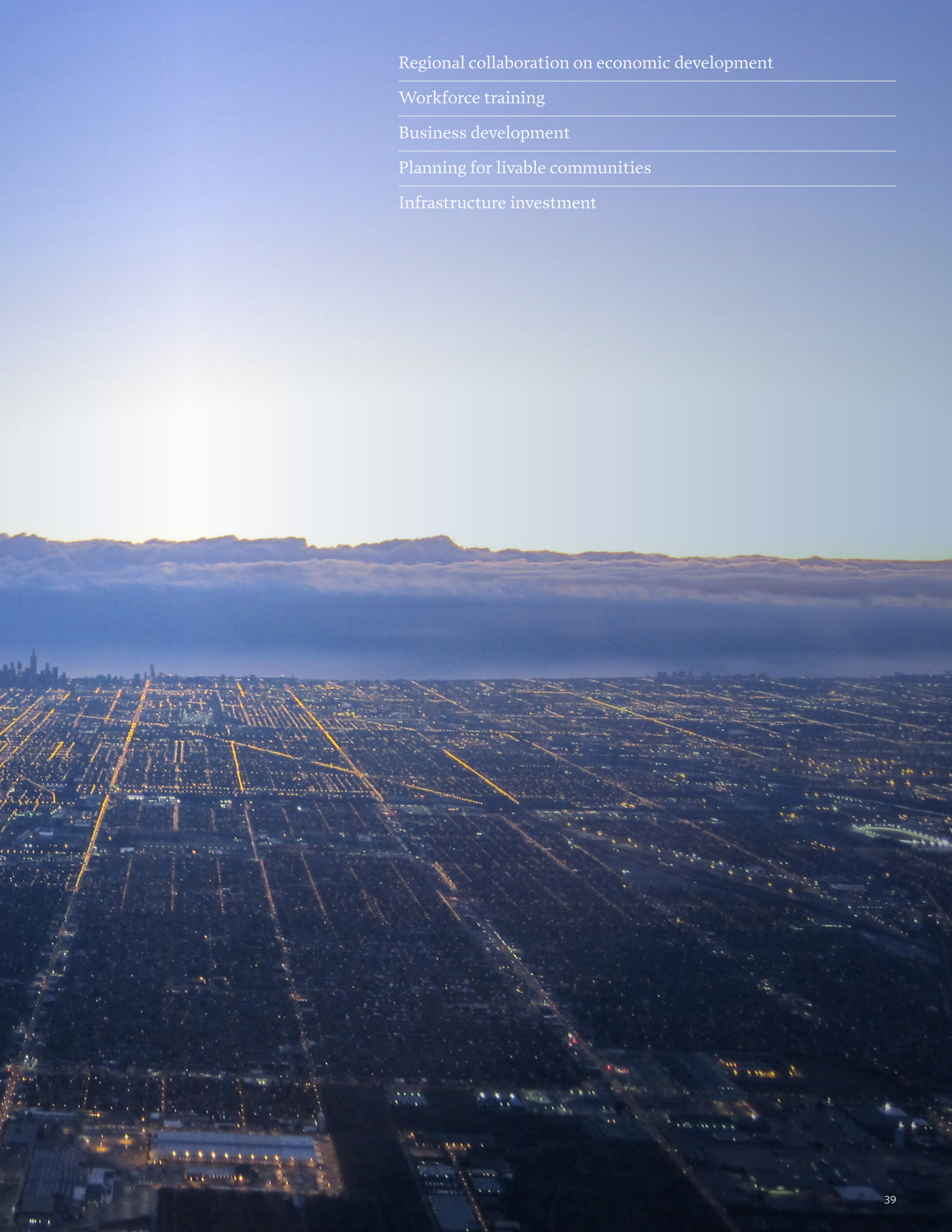
Regional collaboration on economic development

Workforce training

Business development

Planning for livable communities

Infrastructure investment



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The Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) is our region's comprehensive planning organization. The agency and its partners are developing ON TO 2050, a new comprehensive regional plan to help the seven counties and 284 communities of northeastern Illinois implement strategies that address transportation, housing, economic development, open space, the environment, and other quality-of-life issues. See www.cmap.illinois.gov for more information.

ON TO 2050 snapshot reports will offer data-driven summaries of regional trends and current conditions. These documents — as well as strategy papers — will define further research needs as the plan is being developed prior to adoption in October 2018.

