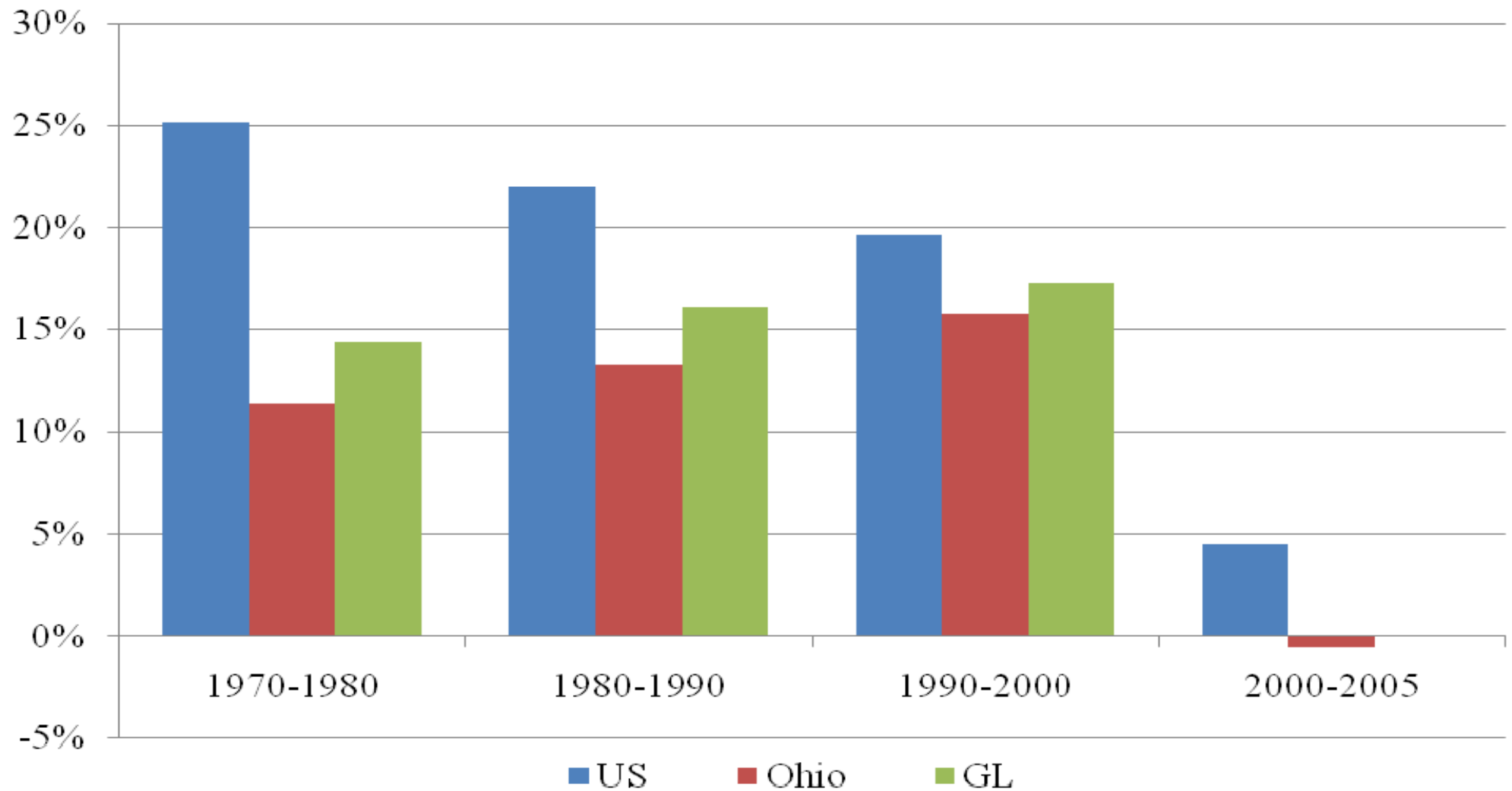


Restoring Our Prosperity

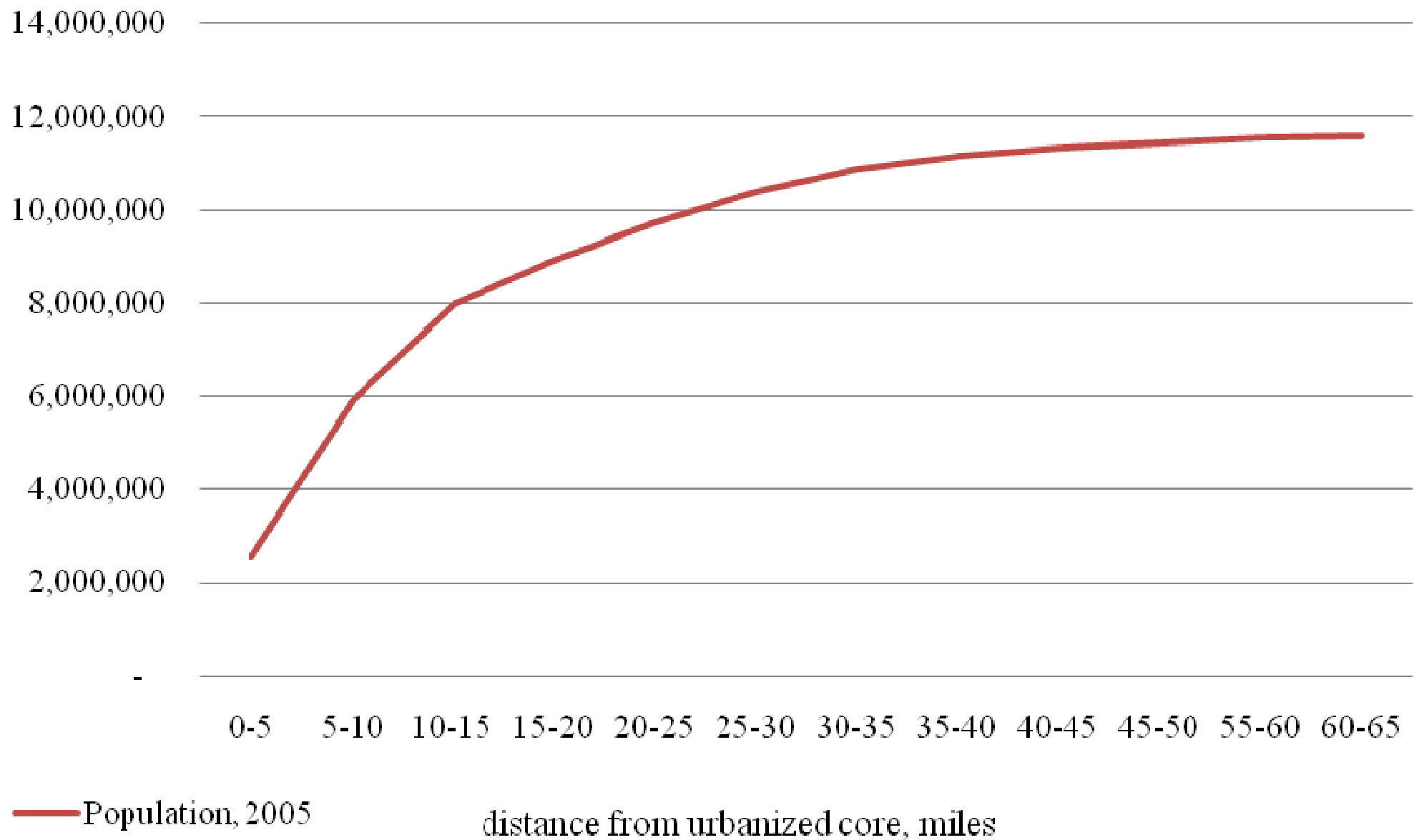
The State Role in Revitalizing
Ohio's Core Communities



Percentage Change in Total Employment in the U.S., Ohio and the Great Lakes (less OH)

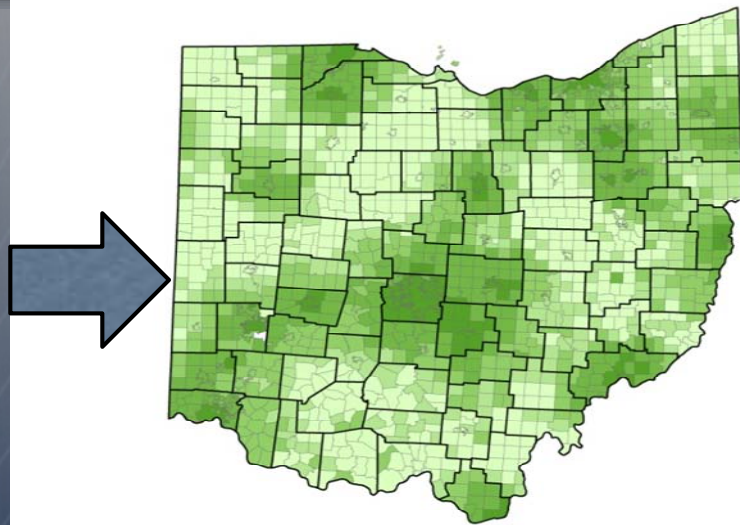


Estimated Ohio Population from all Ohio's Urbanized Center Cores (cumulative), 2005

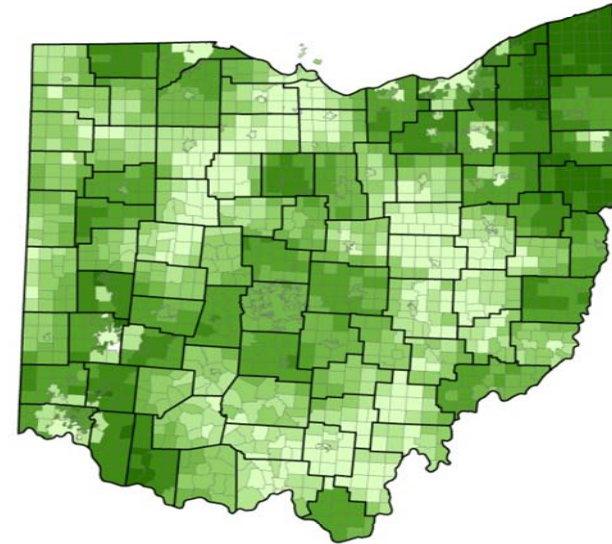


Ohio Shares a Common Future

Percent of Ohio Workers Commuting to...

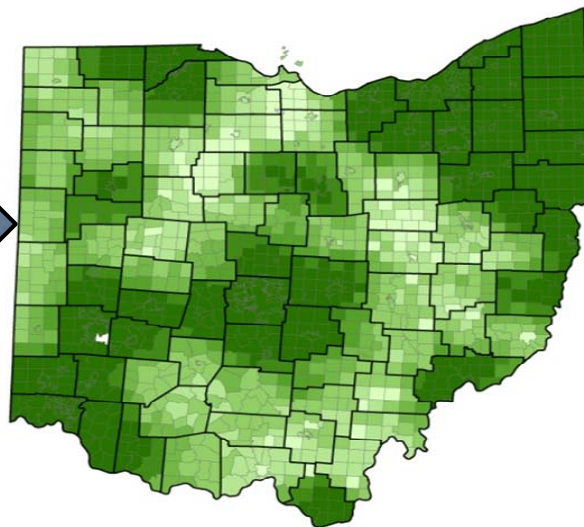
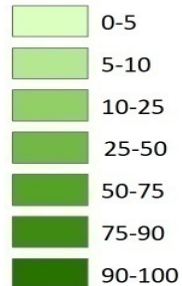


a. To a MSA, central place

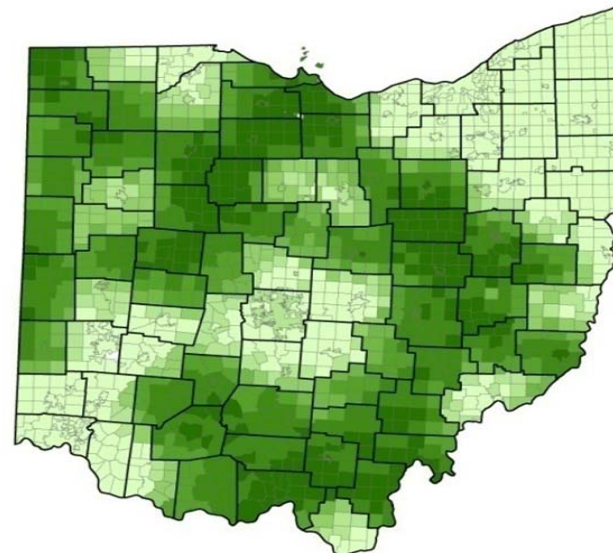


b. To a MSA, non-central place

Percent of Workers



c. To an MSA



d. To an Non-MSA

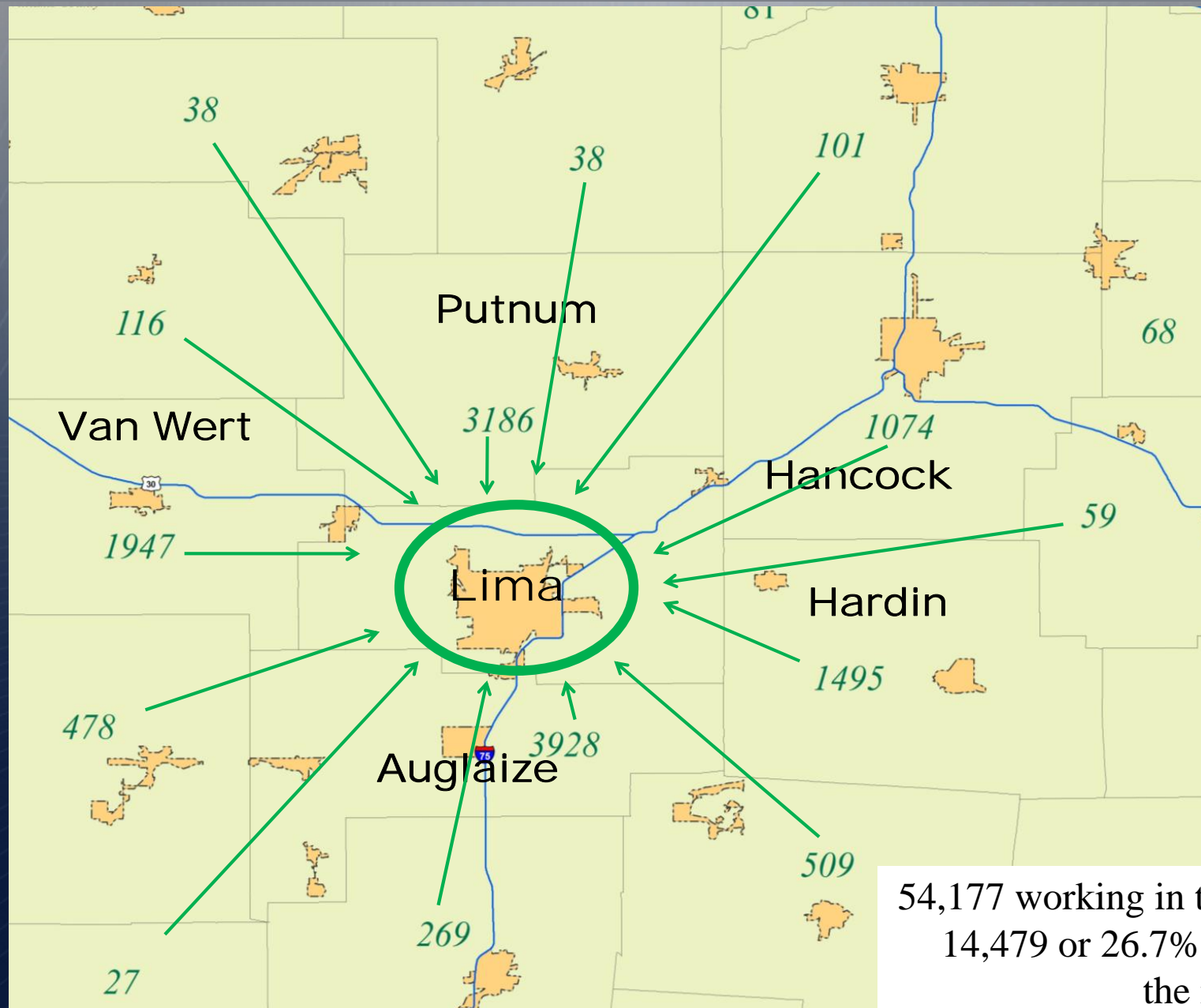
0 15 30 60 Miles

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau





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Lima/Allen County In-Commute Pattern, 2000




Regions are not just for the 3 C's



Why Does Ohio Need Regional Approaches?

-  Ohio has become so interconnected. It is pointless to separate rural & urban; suburban and central city. We are all in this together.
-  Commuting for employment, economic development, land-use planning, transportation extend across regions.
-  Public services and infrastructure provision are regional issues.
-  Shared service delivery means collaboration and regional approaches save tax money.

Why Does Ohio Need Regional Approaches—cont.

-  Fewer duplicative services, less gov't overhead & reduced destructive tax poaching would lower costs.
-  Maybe the biggest gain from regionalism is local gov't would be more transparent and accountable.
-  The punch line is Ohio does not control its weather or the national economy, etc. but it can have the most effective local & regional governance to be globally competitive.

Recommendations



1. Local governments should more effectively share revenue so that entire regions receive the benefits and pay the costs of development. The Metropolitan Council from Minnesota is one model to follow.



2. Streamline local governments and create more effective regional planning & economic development authorities. The state gov't study commission is one way to begin a critical assessment for an Ohio solution.

Recommendations—cont.



3. Ohio can incentivize reform: As a way to “grease the wheels,” consider more effective state revenue sharing with Ohio’s regions only after they have undergone needed reforms for effective regional governance.



4. Provide state infrastructure funding on a regional basis. Funds should be prioritized to projects that make entire regions more competitive rather than scattering money among individual communities.