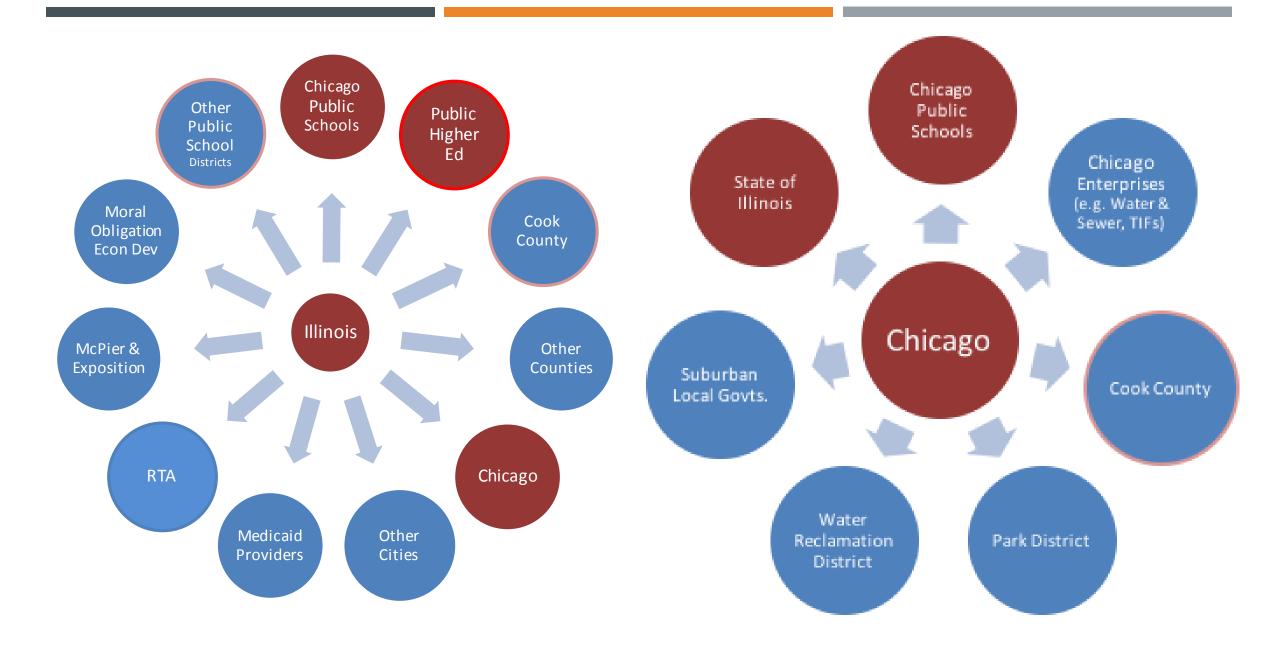
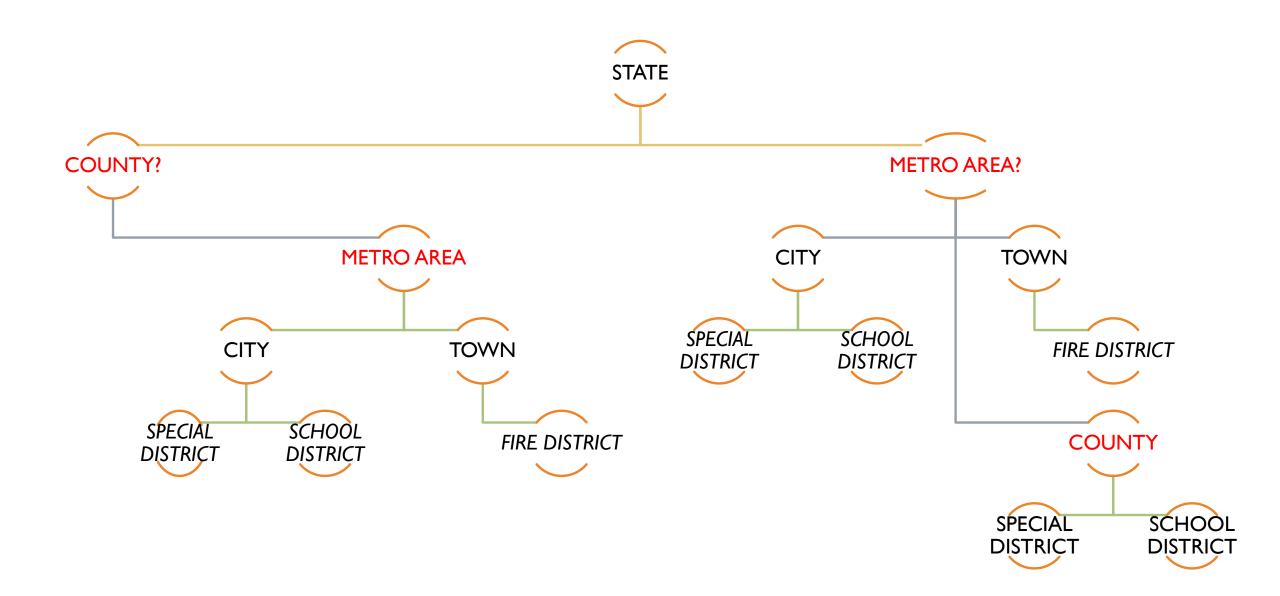
CREDIT CLUSTER AND CONTAGION RISK RELATED TO DISTRESSED MUNICIPALITIES

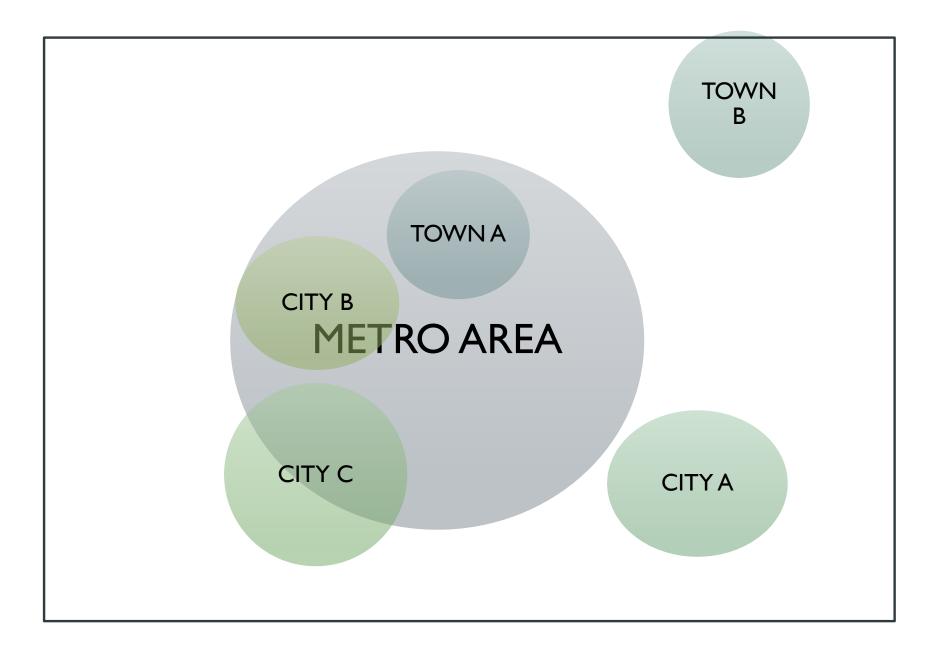
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Focus

- Cluster and contagion risk
- Interdependencies (e.g., economic base, intergovernmental fiscal relationships)

Contribution

- Substantial improvement over our current understanding of financial condition analysis
- Model can be used by local governments to identify interdependencies and manage contagion risk
- States could manage risk exposure (e.g., state guaranteed tax-supported debt, pension liabilities)
- Limitation(s)
 - Defining the relevant economic base and fiscal interdependencies
 - Model specification particularly on the fiscal interdependencies
 - Access to good data
 - Broader application may be limited (non-regional governments, small rural communities)