

Mapping Poverty Levels in Support of Economic Development Projects

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PURPOSE

The following analysis serves as an example of conveying the geographic need as it relates to poverty concentration in support of applying for funding economic development grant funding.

The process/method used serves as a framework for community and economic professionals seeking to communicate need.

METHOD OF ANALYSIS

To support funding applications for economic development projects, we analyzed Census Bureau population and income data (from the most current American Communities Survey).

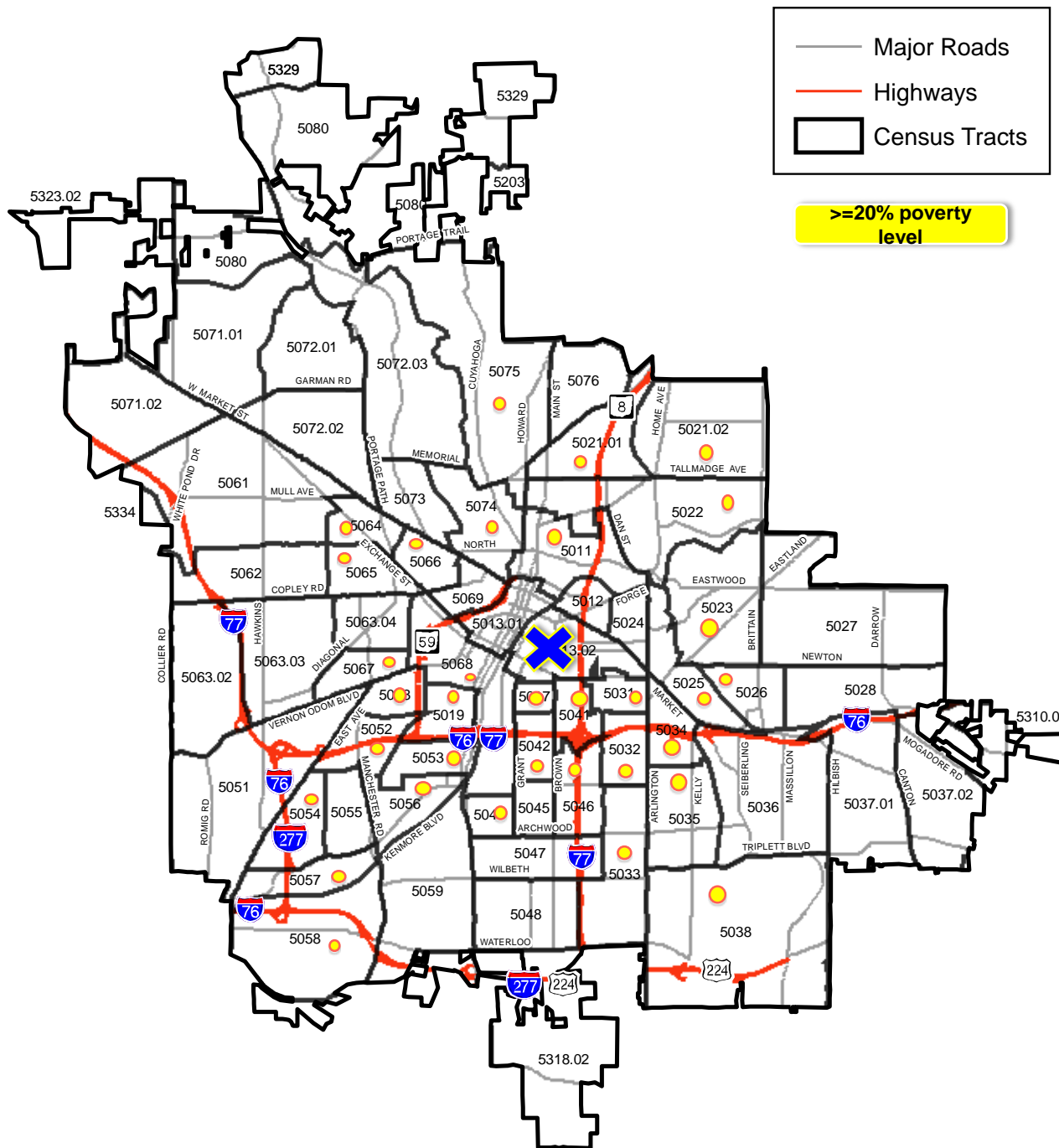
These data were converted into percentages of people in poverty by Census Tract to find areas of at least a 20% overall poverty level.

The poverty percentages were converted to absolute numbers of people whose incomes were below the poverty rate for the prior 12 months.

The geographical areas of the Census Tracts were measured from central city location in 1 mile increments (1, 2, 3, 4, +4).

The Census Tracts were then geographically split into distance, with the population assumed to be distributed equally across each geography.

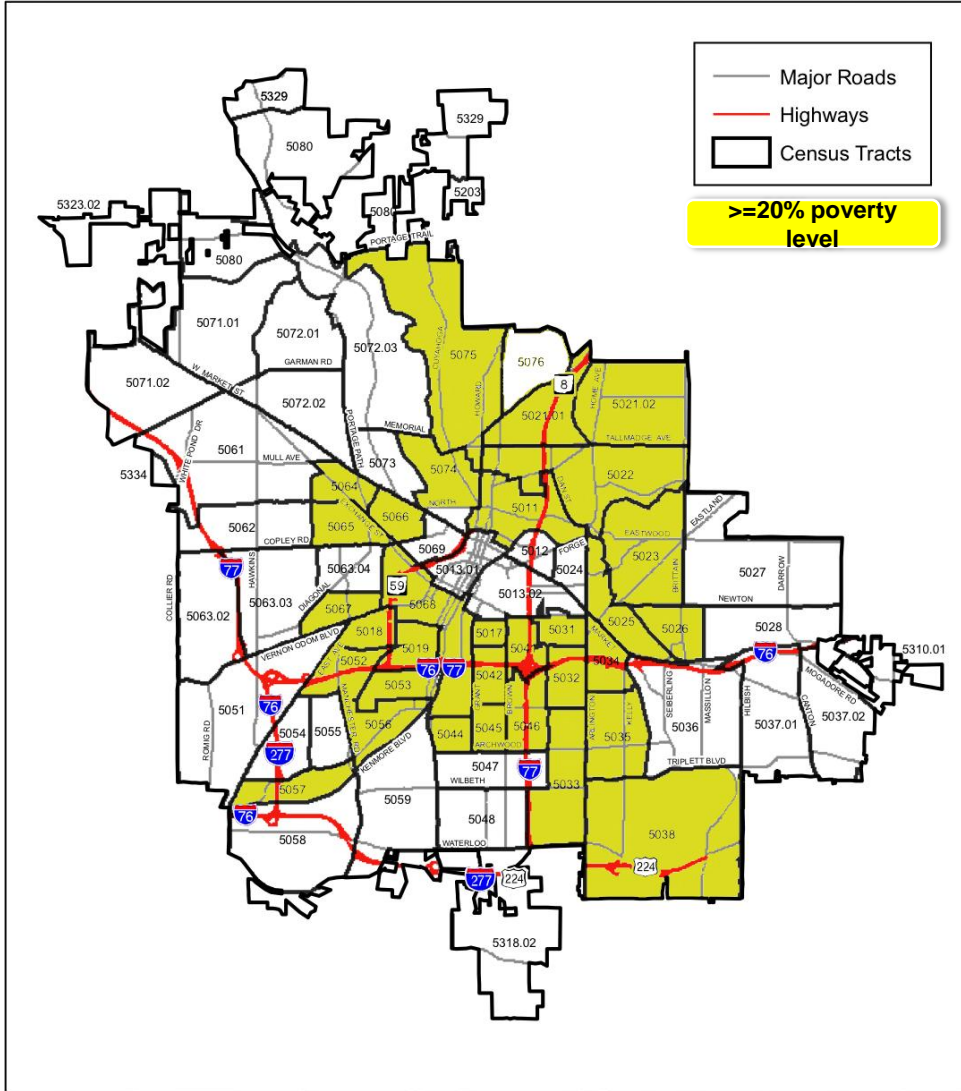
For the areas with at least a 20% overall poverty rate, we calculated the number of persons in poverty over the past 12 months by distance from central city.



A focus on development plans that takes place in a number of locations near the center of (shown with a blue x in the diagram) can create job opportunities that reach into the surrounding areas of the city.

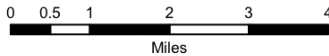
Yellow dots indicate areas that have a 20% or greater percentage of people whose incomes are less than the poverty level over the past 12 months.

Map 1
2000 Census Tracts
City of Akron, OH
2009 Consolidated Plan

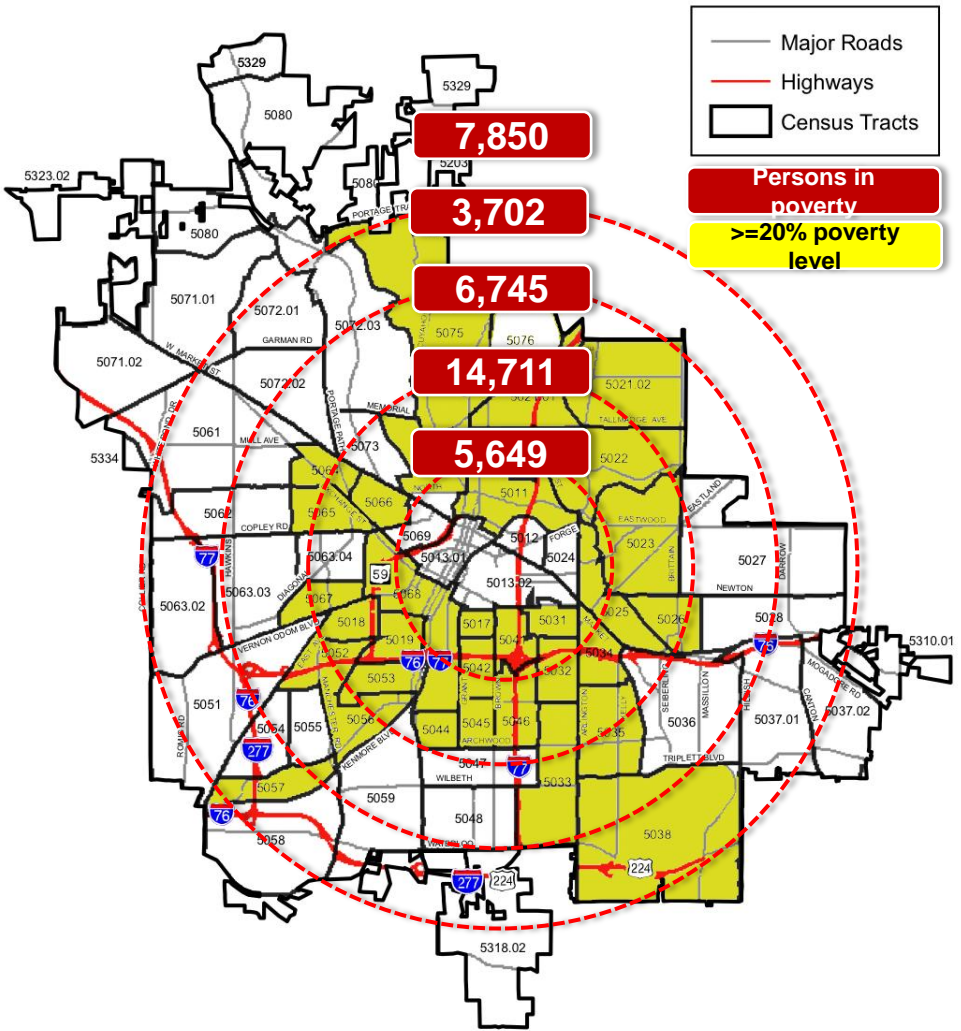


The highlights show the areas with high pockets of poverty

Census tract	Below poverty level	Above poverty level	Census tract	Below poverty level	Above poverty level
5011	26.8%	73.2%	5058	27.8%	72.2%
5017	81.0%	19.0%	5059	13.6%	86.4%
5018	48.1%	51.9%	5061	14.6%	85.4%
5019	49.0%	51.0%	5062	12.8%	87.2%
5021.01	31.6%	68.4%	5064	37.5%	62.5%
5021.02	24.1%	75.9%	5065	33.1%	66.9%
5022	24.7%	75.3%	5066	33.2%	66.8%
5023	21.9%	78.1%	5067	23.2%	76.8%
5025	41.4%	58.6%	5068	50.0%	50.0%
5026	21.5%	78.5%	5071.01	7.9%	92.1%
5027	9.8%	90.2%	5071.02	7.5%	92.5%
5028	8.9%	91.1%	5072.01	5.8%	94.2%
5031	53.5%	46.5%	5072.02	4.6%	95.4%
5032	36.9%	63.1%	5072.03	6.5%	93.5%
5033	34.0%	66.0%	5073	10.9%	89.1%
5034	27.0%	73.0%	5074	30.4%	69.6%
5035	38.8%	61.2%	5075	24.5%	75.5%
5036	8.0%	92.0%	5076	9.4%	90.6%
5037.01	10.8%	89.2%	5080	16.1%	83.9%
5037.02	8.7%	91.3%	5083.01	65.3%	34.7%
5038	46.0%	54.0%	5083.99	30.8%	69.2%
5041	49.6%	50.4%	5086	29.4%	70.6%
5042	51.2%	48.8%	5088	27.1%	72.9%
5044	33.7%	66.3%	5089	56.8%	43.2%
5045	28.7%	71.3%	5090	52.5%	47.5%
5046	32.4%	67.6%	5203.01	1.7%	98.3%
5047	11.4%	88.6%	5310.01	n/a	n/a
5048	8.2%	91.8%	5310.02	0.0%	100.0%
5052	45.1%	54.9%	5311.01	0.0%	100.0%
5053	40.8%	59.2%	5318.01	n/a	n/a
5054	22.9%	77.1%	5318.02	2.0%	98.0%
5055	15.2%	84.8%	5322.02	n/a	n/a
5056	51.0%	49.0%	5323.02	0.0%	100.0%
5057	33.2%	66.8%	5329.01	n/a	n/a
5058	27.8%	72.2%	5329.02	1.9%	98.1%
			5330	n/a	n/a
			5334	30.5%	69.5%
			Akron City	23.9%	76.1%



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Our analysis shows that the number of persons in poverty in mile increments is

*0-1 miles: 5,649
 1-2 miles: 14,711
 2-3 miles: 6,745
 3-4 miles: 3,702
 +4 miles: 7,850*

**Total = 38,657*

*(*excluding the persons in poverty in areas that do not have at least a 20% overall poverty rate)*



QUESTIONS?