

New Resources for People-Centered, Place-Based Research in the Twin Cities Region

An Overview of the Equity Considerations dataset

Tonight's Presentation

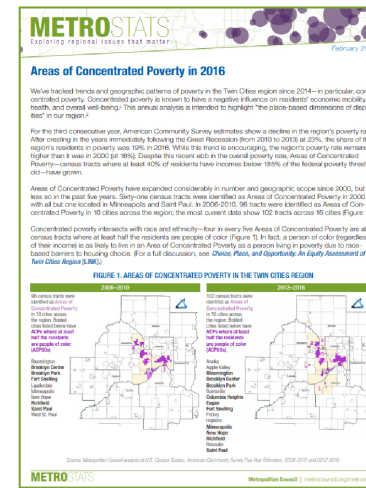
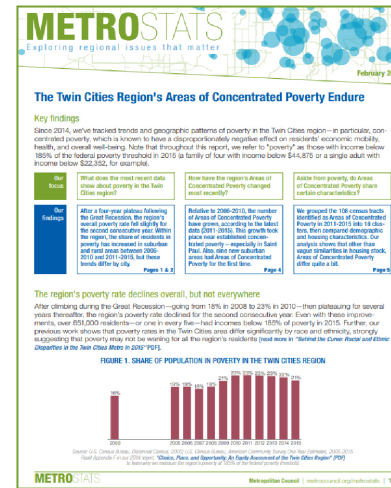
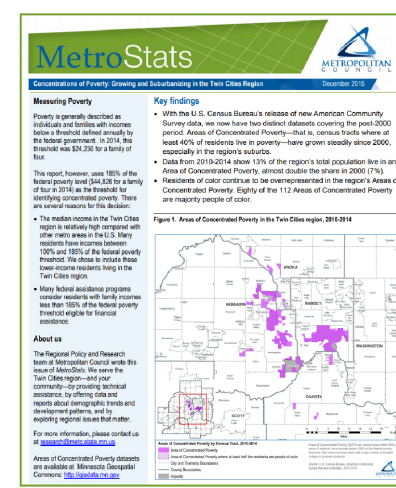
- Overview of the Equity Considerations dataset
 - Why we developed it
 - What's in it now
 - What's next
- How we're spreading the word & next steps
 - Inreach & outreach
 - Tool development
- Q&A/discussion

Today's research frames tomorrow policy



2011–2015

Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grant program require a Fair Housing and Equity Assessment (FHEA), a study of segregation by race & income and its drivers.



2015–2018

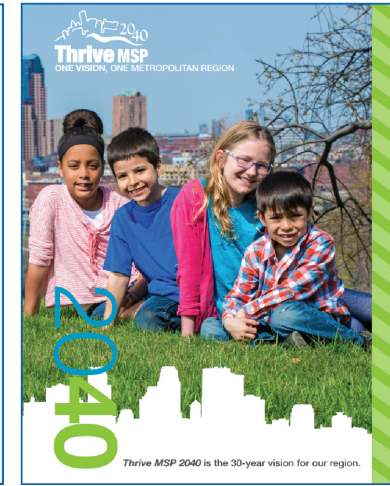
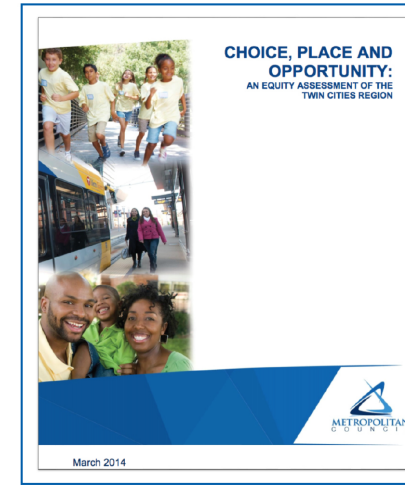
Council researchers publish an annual report and dataset on concentrated poverty.

2020–

Planning for the next regional development is currently underway.

2024

The Council adopts the next regional development guide and systems and policy plans.



2014

The Council adopts its FHEA, *Choice, Place, and Opportunity*, in 2014. The findings influence two regional policy documents, *Thrive MSP 2040* and the 2040 Housing Policy Plan.

2019–2020

Council researchers initiate Rethinking Areas of Concentrated Poverty project.

Are narratives and research tools that center concentrated poverty effective in advancing regional equity?



Rethinking Areas of Concentrated Poverty (2019-2020)

- Listen
 - Council, incl. EAC
 - Jurisdictions
 - Other users
- Reflect
 - Tangible harms on neighborhoods
 - Shift narrative, center engagement
- Respond
 - Equity Considerations

Rethinking Areas of Concentrated Poverty

Place is an important dimension of equity, but how we frame this discussion matters.

Matt Schroeder, Krysten Ryba-Tures & Amy Plambeck
Community Development Research Team | July 13, 2020



[Read the digital report](#)

Themes from Listening Sessions

Important to have shared understanding of equity landscape

- Advance regional understanding
- Council research is an important part of this

Investments versus displacement

- Tension felt especially by local government staff
- Policies/tools that support equitable development
- More data needed on capital flows and investments

Don't reinforce deficit-based narrative

- Balance with concentrated affluence and root causes
- Go beyond poverty rates; include other characteristics
- Provide more specific, disaggregated data

Research needs to reflect all voices

- Use mixed methods
- Lived experience is also valued information: engagement
- Co-own data/results; make products easy to use



METROPOLITAN
C O U N C I L

Response: Develop New Tools & Approaches



[Resource](#) [Categories](#) [Activity Stream](#)

Equity Considerations for Place-Based Advocacy and Decisions in the Twin Cities Region

This dataset provides equity-relevant characteristics for each census tract in the Twin Cities region. Formerly known as the Areas of Concentrated Poverty dataset, it has been expanded to provide a more nuanced portrait of neighborhoods, with data on: multiple income levels and racial/ethnic groups; historical data on discriminatory practices; and housing and transportation patterns. Our intention is to call attention to broader patterns of economic segregation and their root causes, and to show that census tracts are much more multifaceted than a narrow focus on poverty rates would imply.

For more background on this file, please see our StoryMap "Rethinking Areas of Concentrated Poverty," available online: <https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/e61c8e0e54e24485b956601fdc80b63e>

DATA	Esri ArcGIS Server Map Service - ...	Download
DATA	Esri ArcGIS Server Map Service - ...	Download
XLS	MS Excel File	Download
DATA	Esri ArcGIS Server Map Service - ...	Download
DATA	ESRI File Geodatabase	Download
DATA	Shapefile	Download
HTML	Full Metadata Record	View

aca

acp

affluence

affordable

burden

commute

covenants

housing

poverty

race

redlining

rent

value



Why we stopped identifying ACP50s

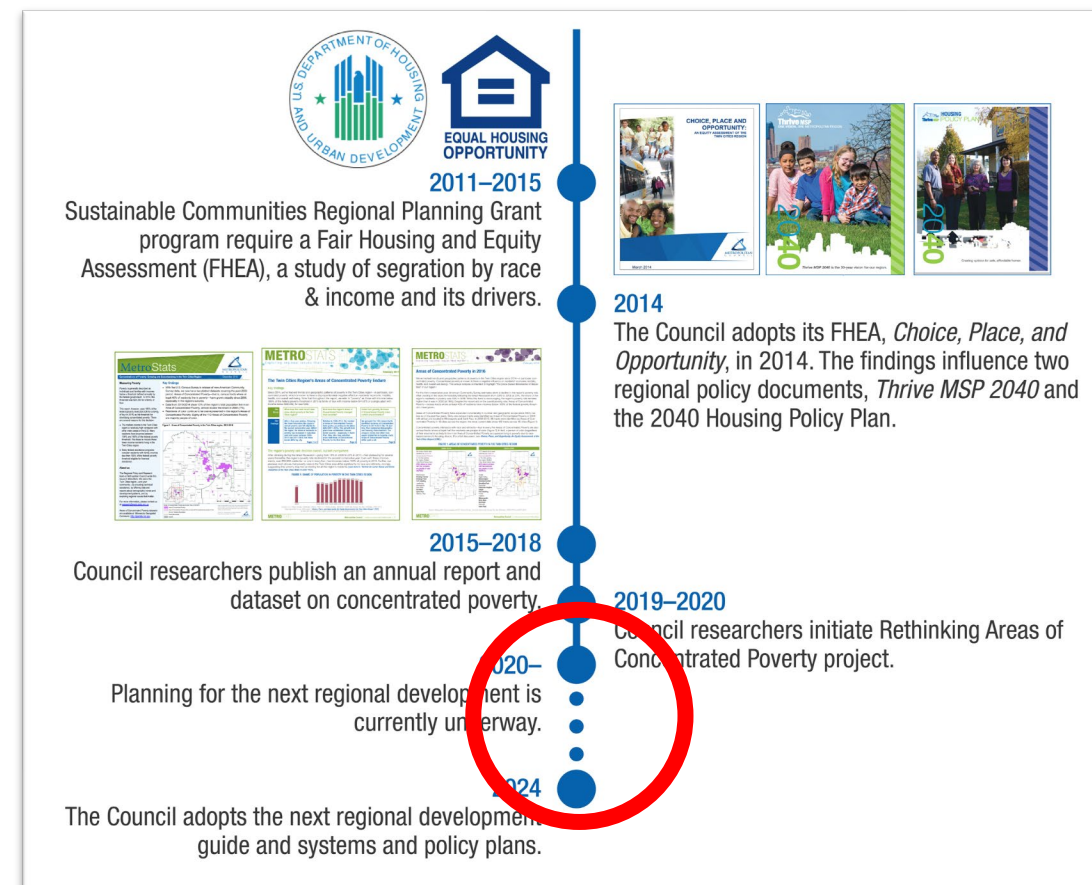
A starting point...

- Snapshot measure of residential segregation (HUD)
- Intended to highlight the disproportionate exposure of BIPOC residents to high-poverty areas

But...

- Rightful objections from the start by advocates and organizers
- Implies that BIPOC people living together is necessarily problematic
- Stigmatizes communities and their residents; tangible harms
- "Spatial shorthand" can substitute for real engagement

From 'Rethinking' to Equity Considerations



2020

- Published 'Rethinking' digital report & initial dataset (without ACP50s)
 - EAC presentation (July)
 - Metropolitan Council presentation (Sept)

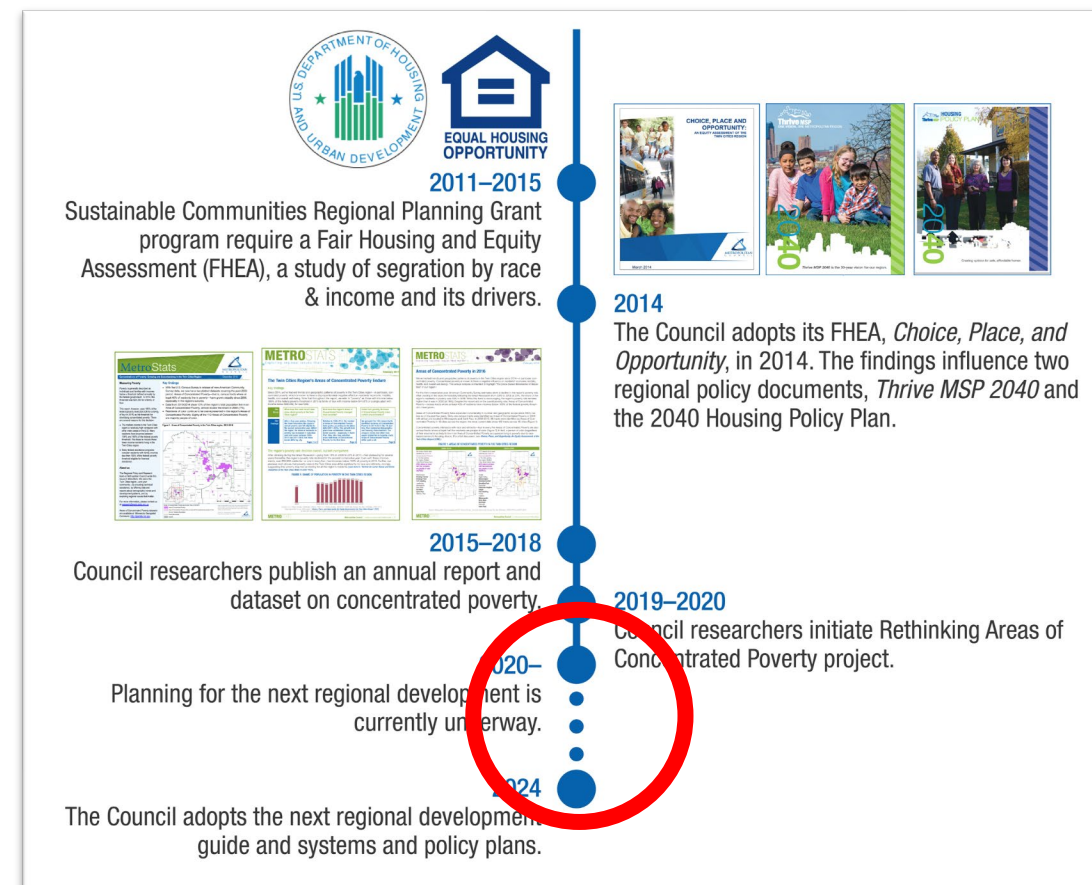
2021

- Full Equity Considerations dataset & User Guide published (Feb)
- Inreach & outreach
- Technical assistance
- Tool development

2022

- Planned update to dataset (Q1)

From 'Rethinking' to Equity Considerations



2020

- Published 'Rethinking' digital report & initial dataset (without ACP50s)
 - EAC presentation (July)
 - Metropolitan Council presentation (Sept)

2021

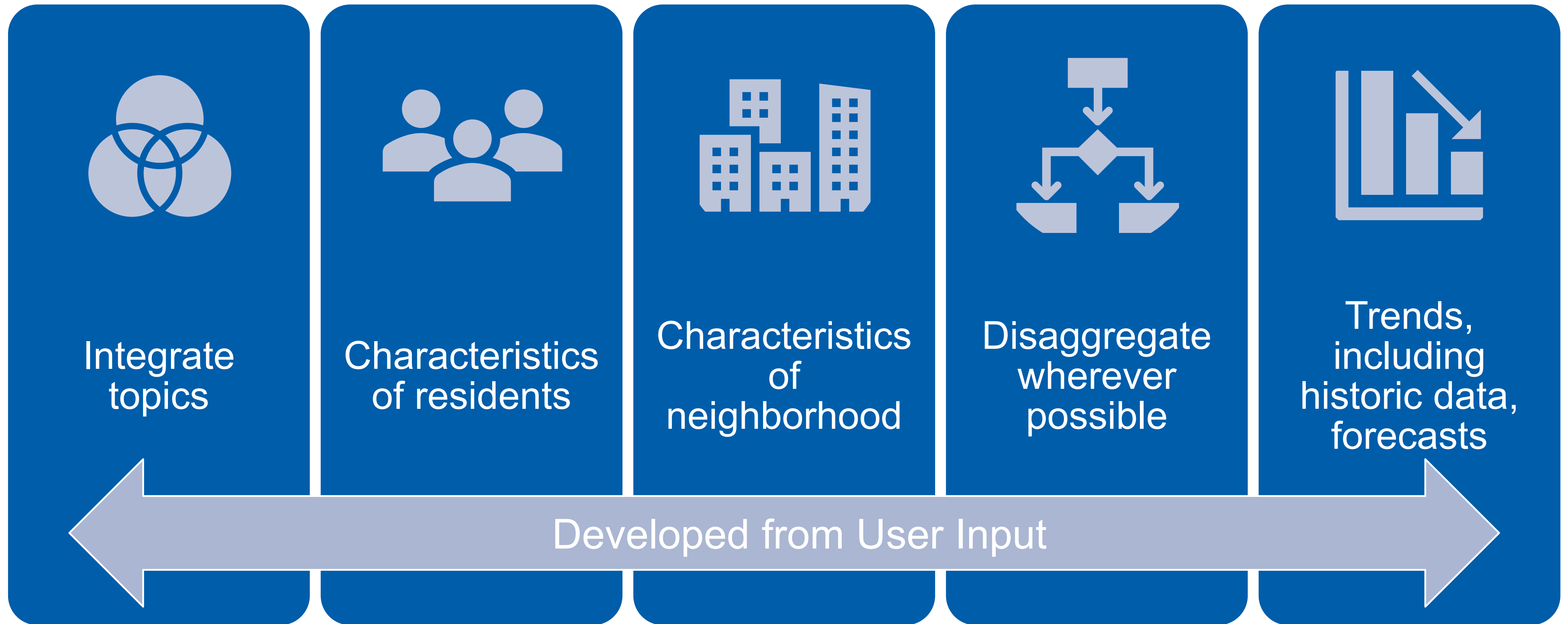
- Full Equity Considerations dataset & User Guide published (Feb)

- Inreach & outreach
- Technical assistance
- Tool development

2022

- Planned update to dataset (Q1)

Principles of Equity Considerations data



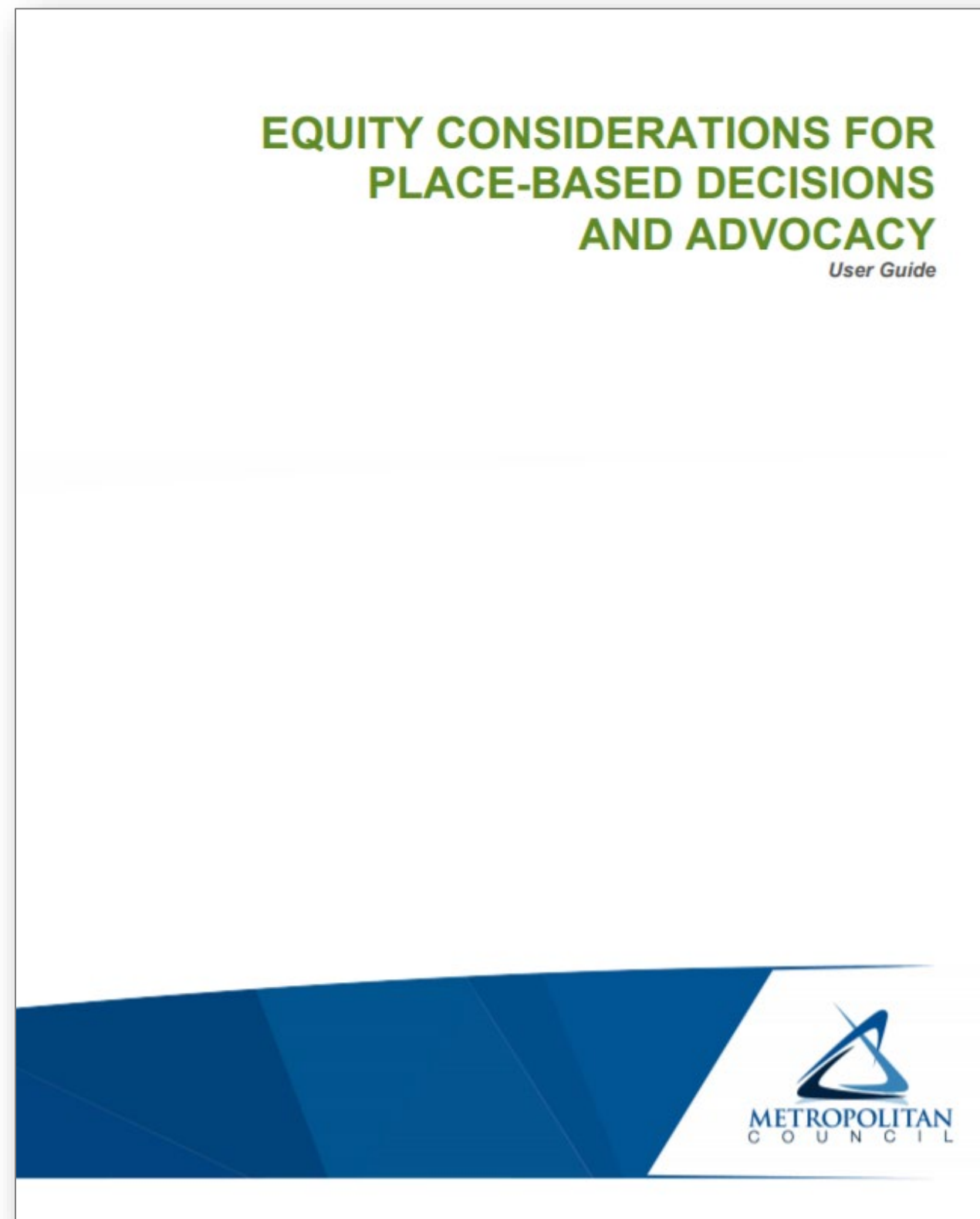
Powerful pairing: data & engagement

Alone, this (or any) dataset is incomplete and inadequate for advancing regional equity.

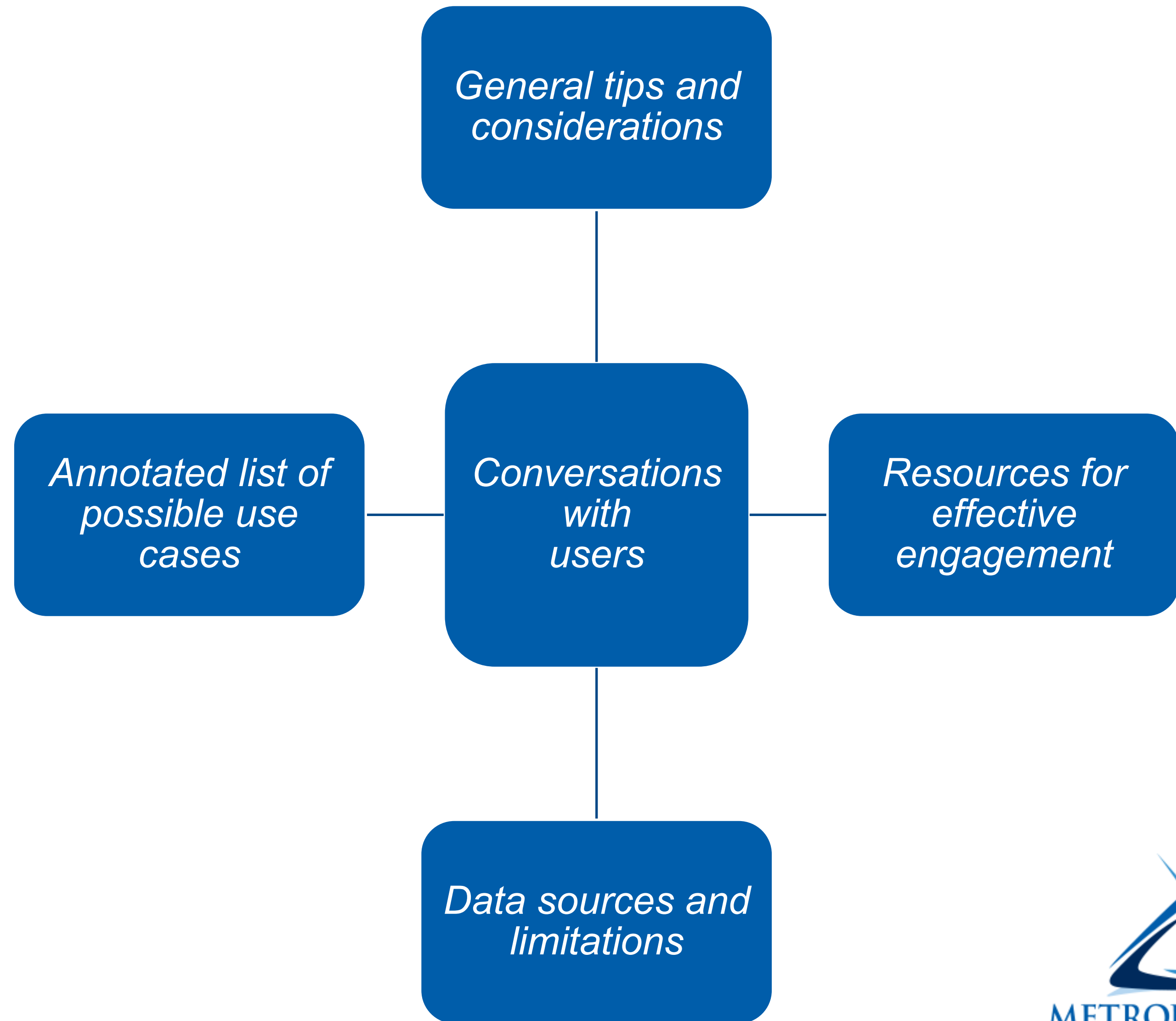
“...without pairing our data with community engagement, without pursuing qualitative methods, without tapping into and bringing forward the wisdom of community members themselves—there would be limits to our shared understanding and therefore to the ideas and policies and decisions that could improve the lives of people through place-based strategies.”

We're providing guidance and assistance

"This is a great resource,
but what do I do with it?"



[Link to website/resources](#)



Equity Considerations dataset overview

Over 300 fields of data for the region's census tracts

- Geographies
- Expanded demographics
- Migration
- Disability status
- Socioeconomic characteristics
- Housing stock, costs/affordability
- Land use
- Environment and climate
- Amenities
- Employment
- Transportation and commuting

The screenshot shows the Minnesota Geospatial Commons website. The header includes navigation links for Resource, Categories, and Activity Stream, along with the Minnesota Geospatial Commons logo. The main title is "Equity Considerations for Place-Based Advocacy and Decisions in the Twin Cities Region". Below the title is a descriptive paragraph about the dataset, followed by a link to the Metro Council website for more background. At the bottom, there is a list of data formats with corresponding download buttons: Esri ArcGIS Server Map Service, ESRI File Geodatabase, Esri ArcGIS Server Map Service, Shapefile, MS Excel File, and Full Metadata Record.

Resource Categories Activity Stream

MINNESOTA
GEOSPATIAL COMMONS

Equity Considerations for Place-Based Advocacy and Decisions in the Twin Cities Region

This dataset provides equity-relevant characteristics for each census tract in the Twin Cities region. Formerly known as the Areas of Concentrated Poverty dataset, it has been greatly expanded to provide a more nuanced portrait of neighborhoods, with data on: demographic and socioeconomic characteristics (including multiple income levels); racial/ethnic/cultural groups; historical data on discriminatory practices; facets of housing markets; land use, environment/climate, amenities, and employment/commuting patterns. Our intention is to call attention to broader patterns of economic segregation and their root causes, and to show that census tracts are much more multifaceted than a narrow focus on poverty rates would imply.

For more background on this file, please see our website (<https://metro council.org/research/place-basedequity>), particularly the linked StoryMap "Rethinking Areas of Concentrated Poverty."

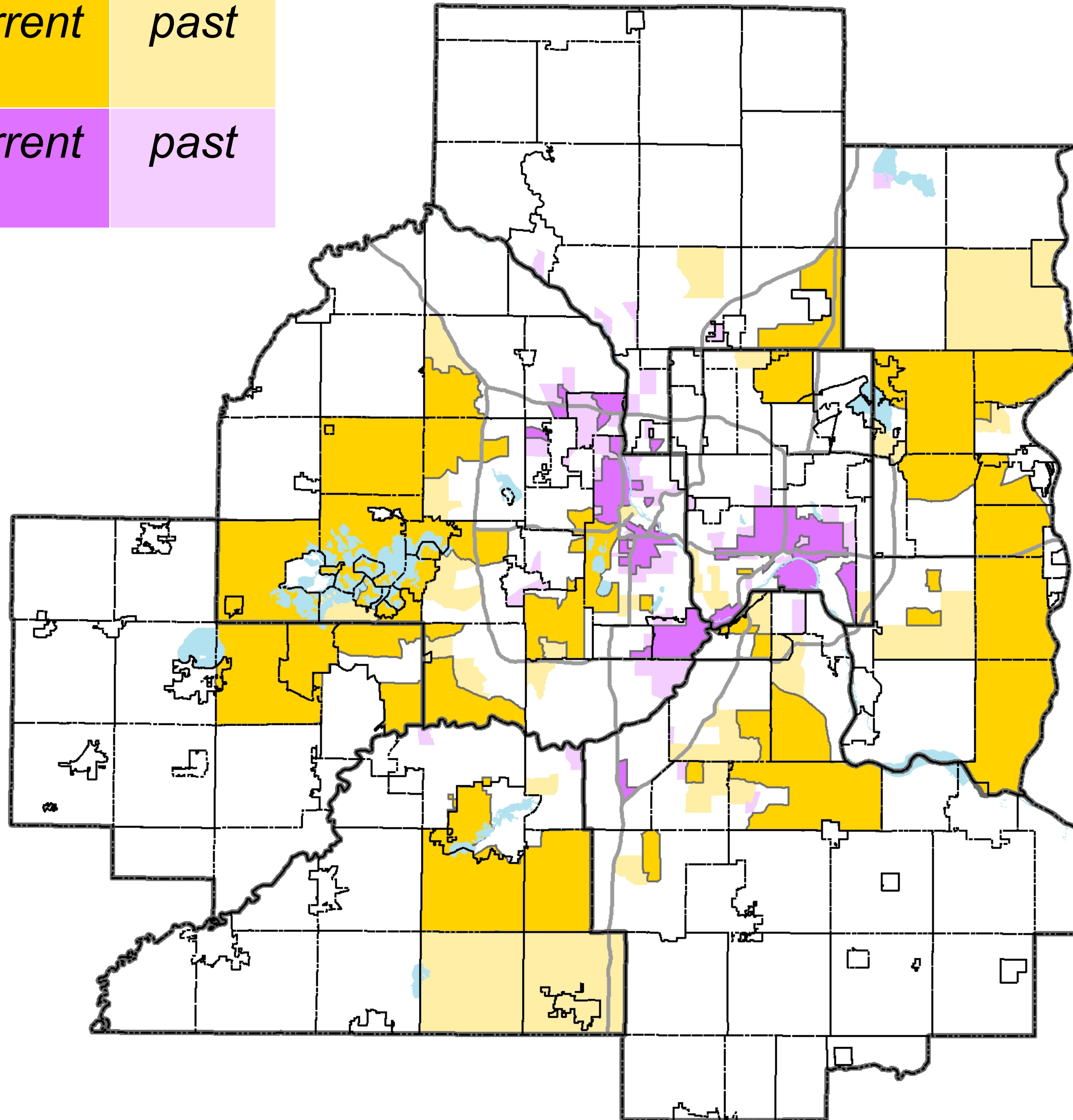
Finally, we encourage consulting the User Guide and Methodology for this dataset, available at ([https://metro council.org/Data-and-Maps/Research-and-Data/Place-based-Equity-Research/Equity-Considerations-Guide-and-Methodology-\(Febru.aspx\)](https://metro council.org/Data-and-Maps/Research-and-Data/Place-based-Equity-Research/Equity-Considerations-Guide-and-Methodology-(Febru.aspx))).

DATA	Esri ArcGIS Server Map Service - ...	Download
DATA	ESRI File Geodatabase	Download
DATA	Esri ArcGIS Server Map Service - ...	Download
DATA	Shapefile	Download
XLS	MS Excel File	Download
HTML	Full Metadata Record	View

[Link to website/resources](https://metro council.org/research/place-basedequity)

Add parity, refocus on systems' outcomes

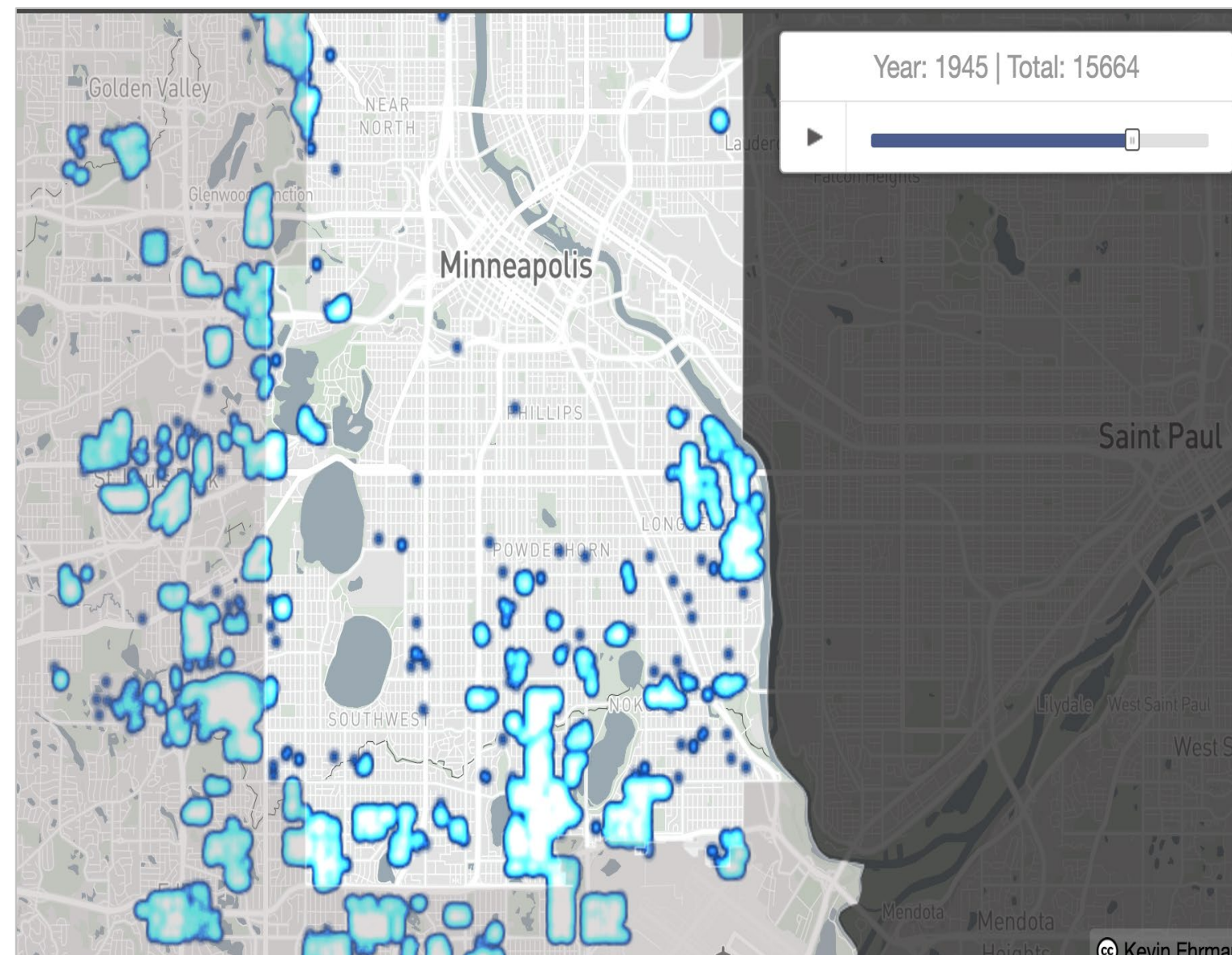
Concentrated Affluence	<i>current</i>	<i>past</i>
Concentrated Poverty	<i>current</i>	<i>past</i>



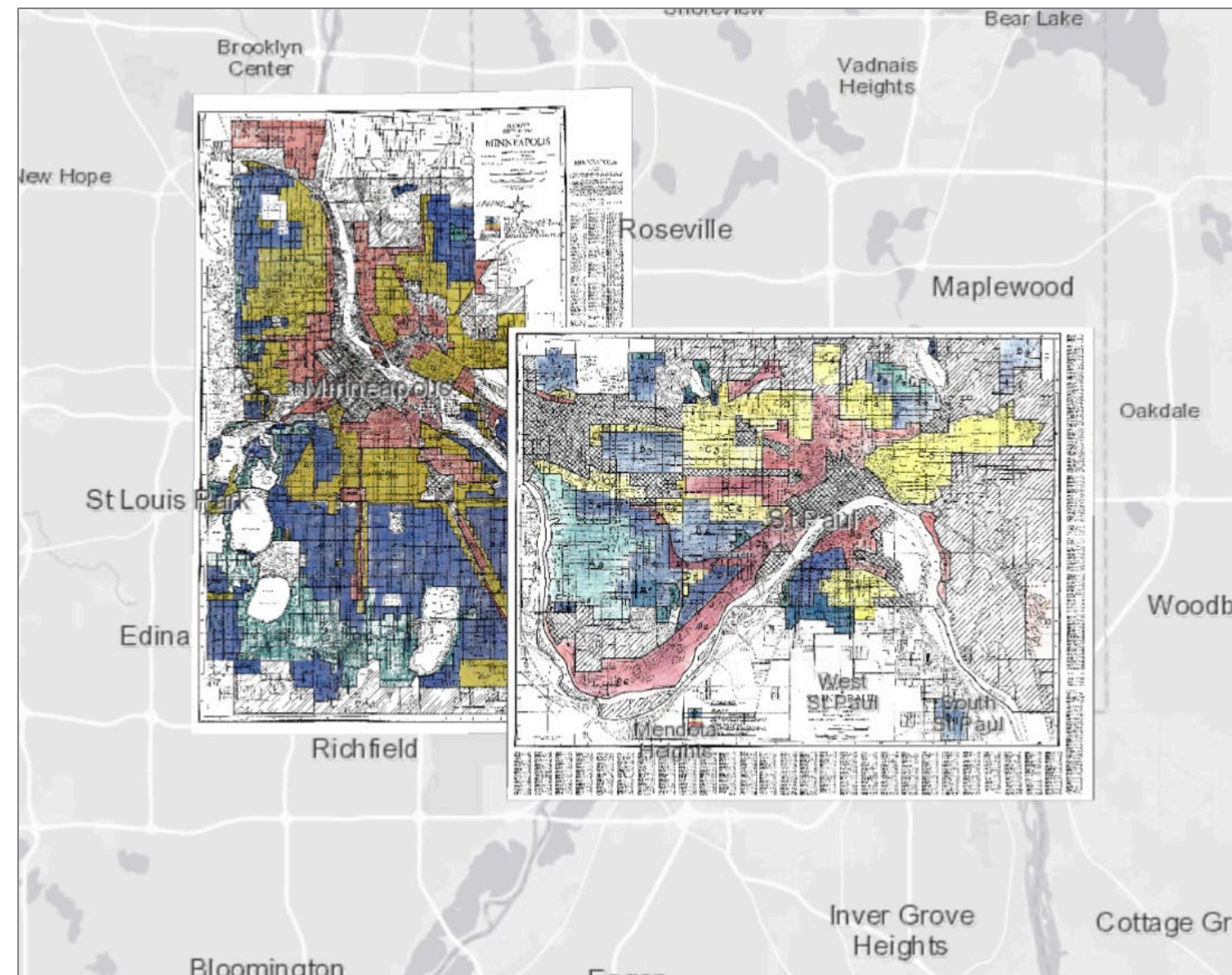
Source: Analysis of U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey five-year estimates (2015-2019) in Metropolitan Council's Equity Considerations dataset (2021).

- Same systems that create concentrated poverty also produce concentrated affluence
- Shifts focus from concentrated poverty to these patterns across places
- Recommend consistently pairing these fields

Make historic data accessible, relevant

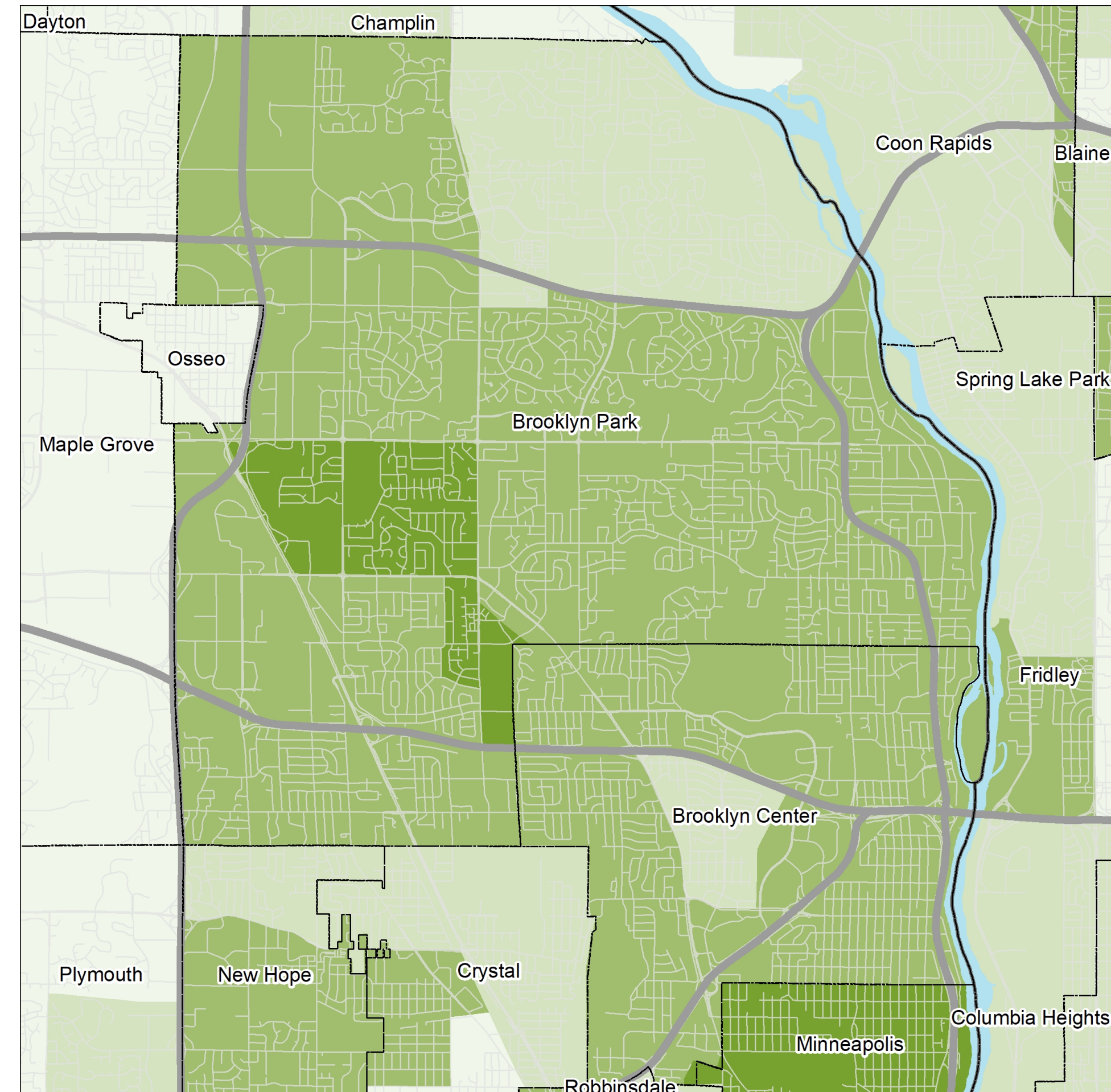
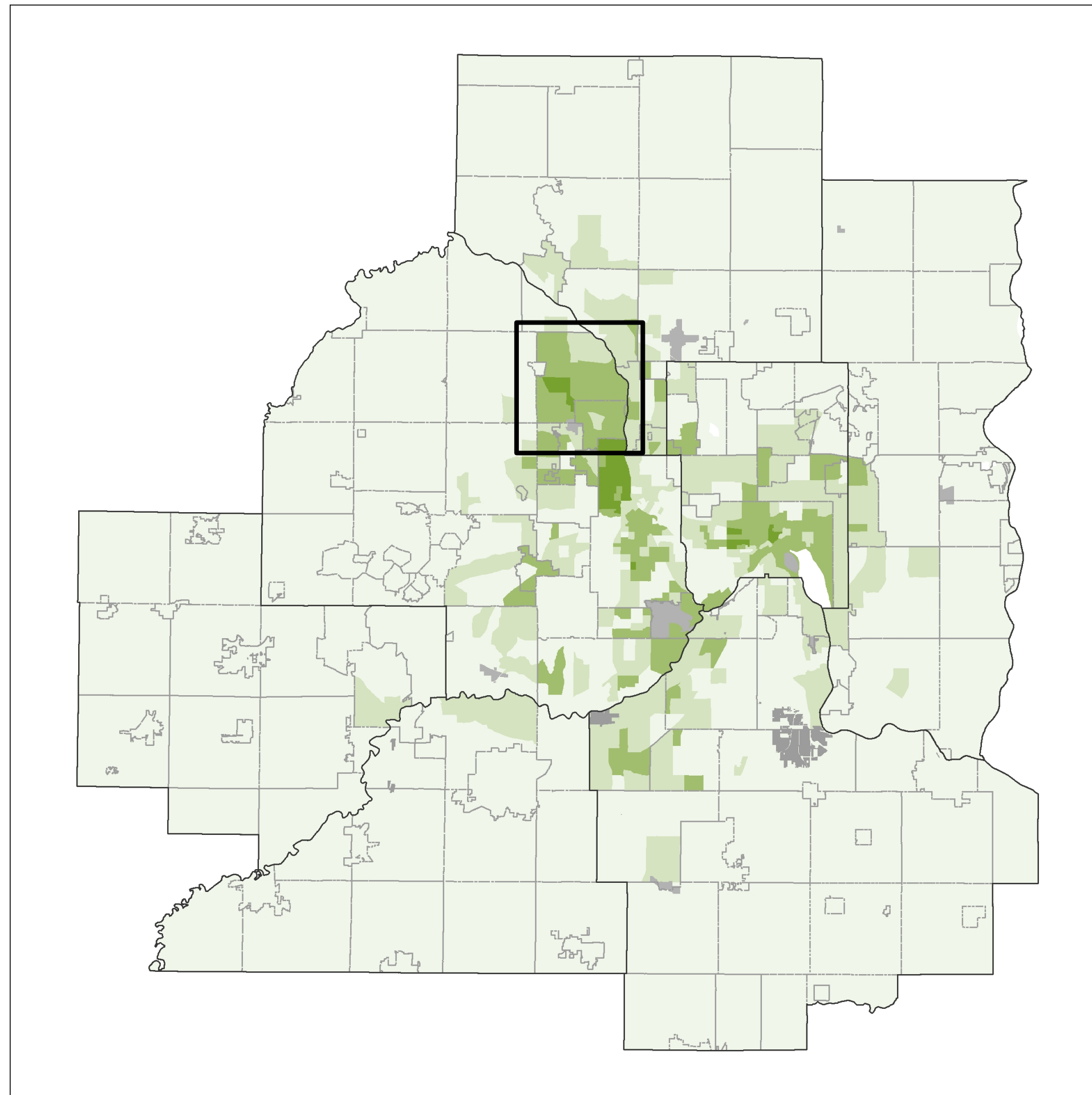


- Number of racially restrictive covenants by census tract
- Provided by Mapping Prejudice Project



- Share of census tract by Home Owners Loan Corporation (HOLC) "grades"
- Minneapolis and Saint Paul

Demographics: Percent African American



Percent sub-Saharan African

25.0% or more

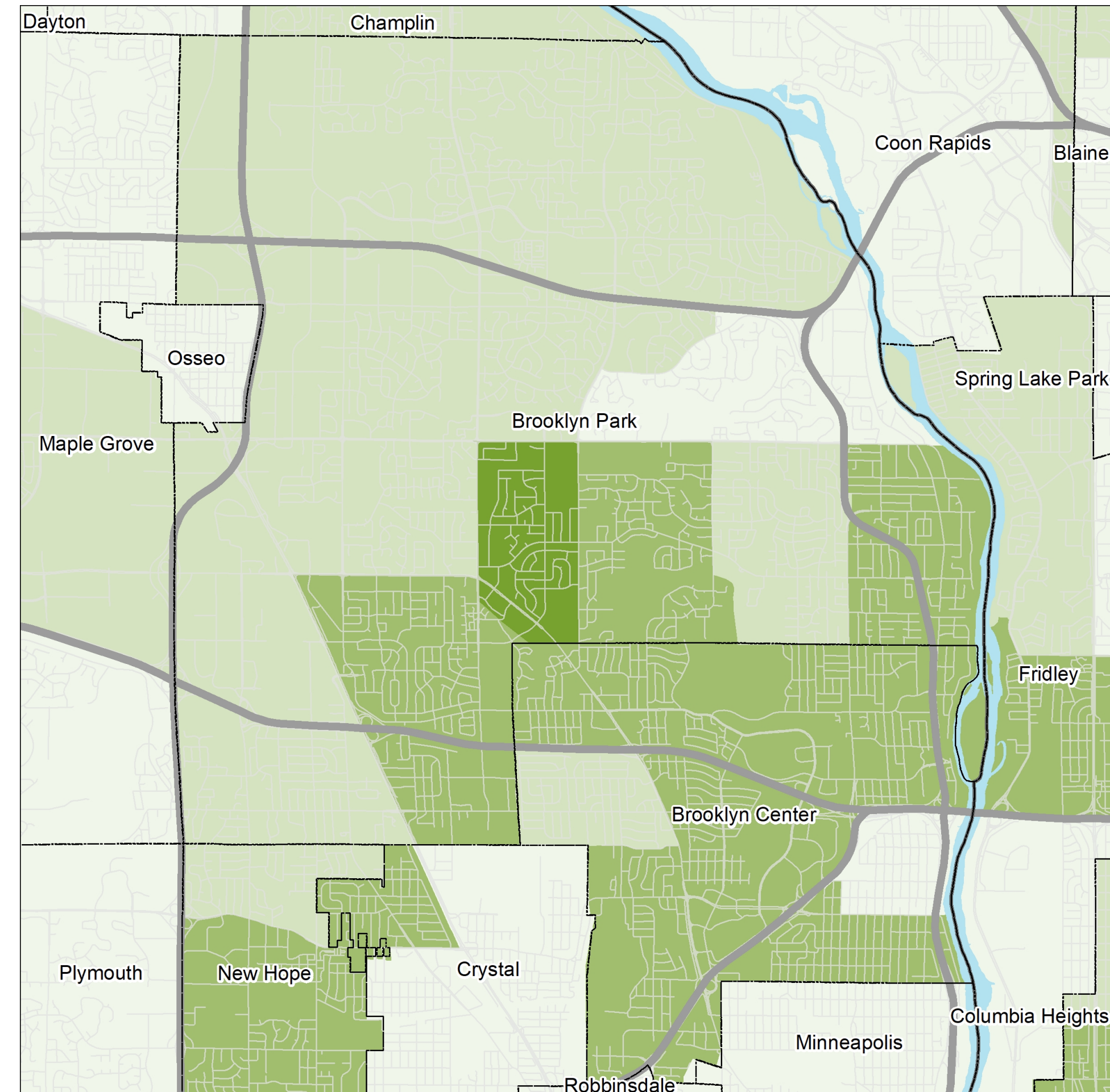
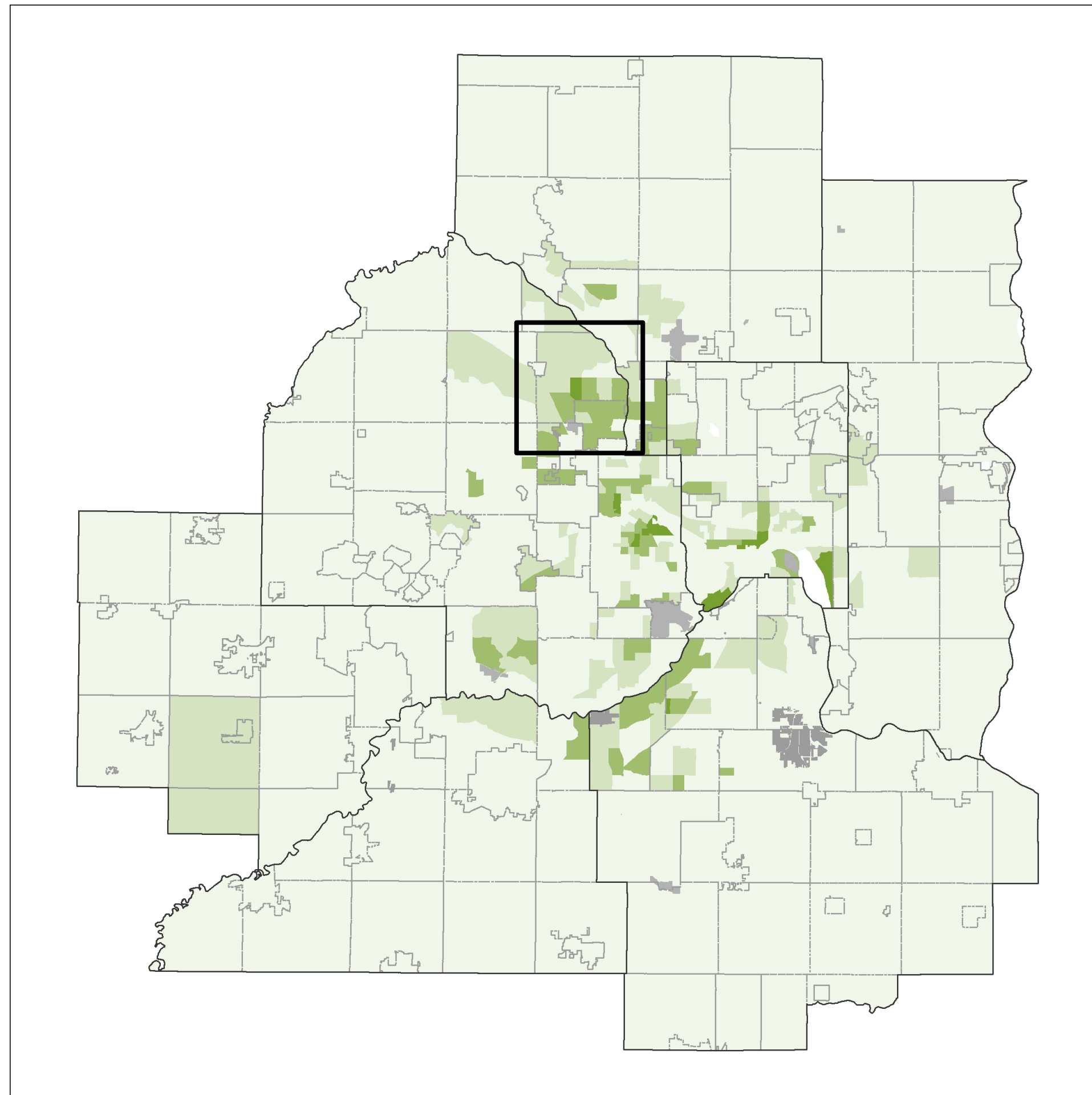
10.0% to 24.9%

5.0% to 9.9%

Less than 5.0%

Source: Analysis of U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey five-year estimates (2015-2019) in Metropolitan Council's Equity Considerations dataset (2021).

Demographics: Percent sub-Saharan African



Percent sub-Saharan African

25.0% or more

10.0% to 24.9%

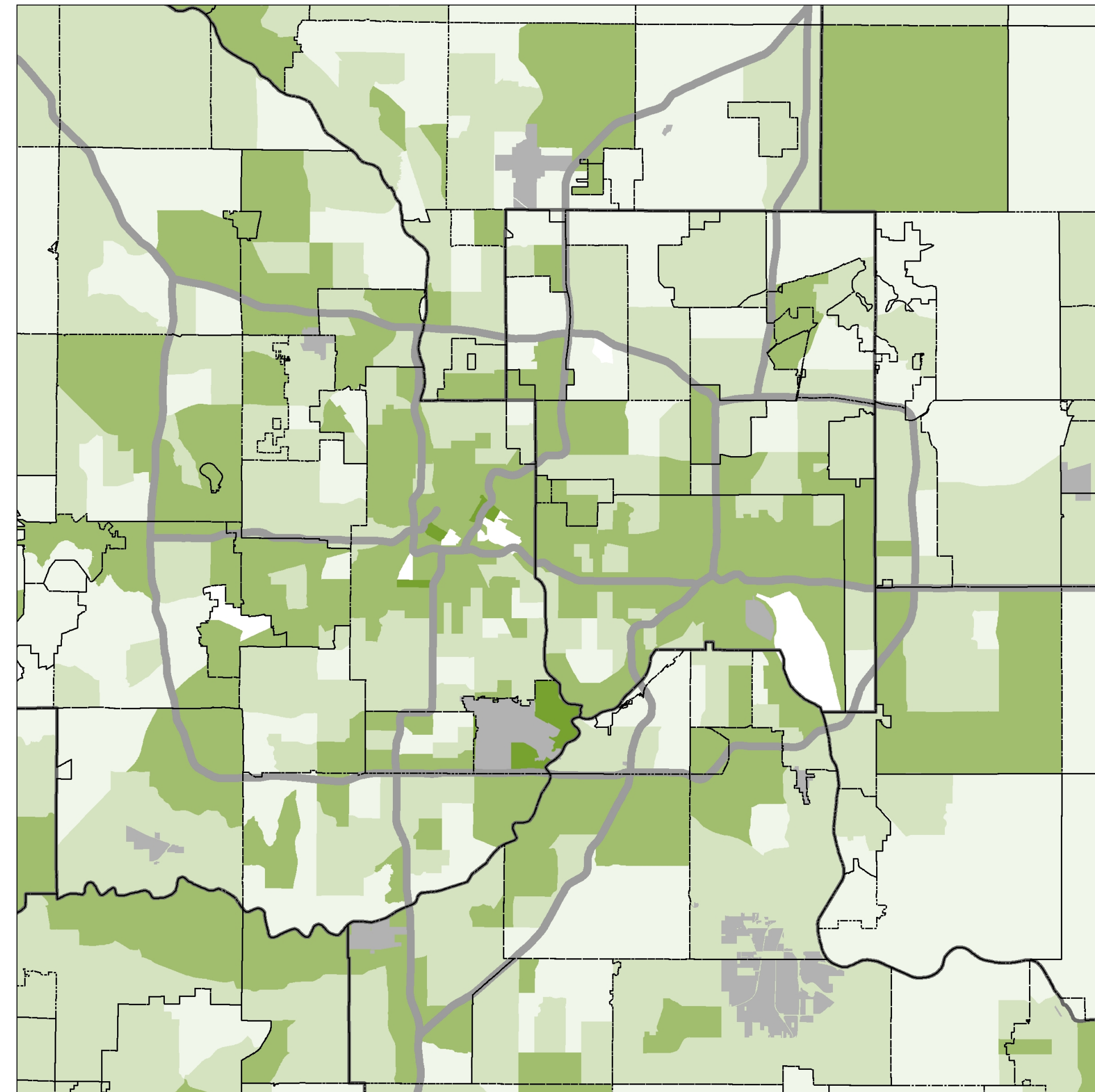
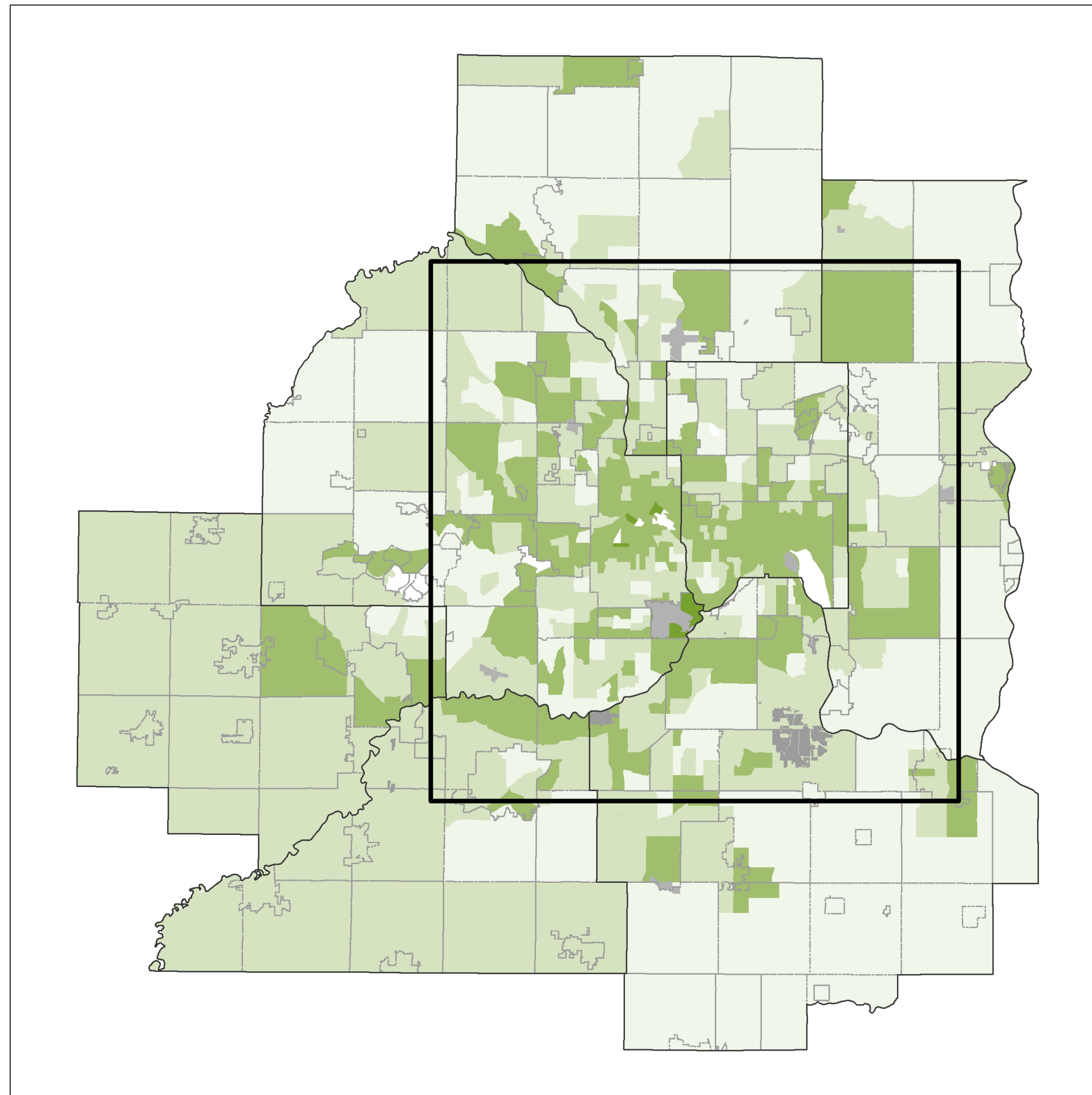
5.0% to 9.9%

Less than 5.0%

Source: Analysis of U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey five-year estimates (2015-2019) in Metropolitan Council's Equity Considerations dataset (2021).



Migration: When moved into current home

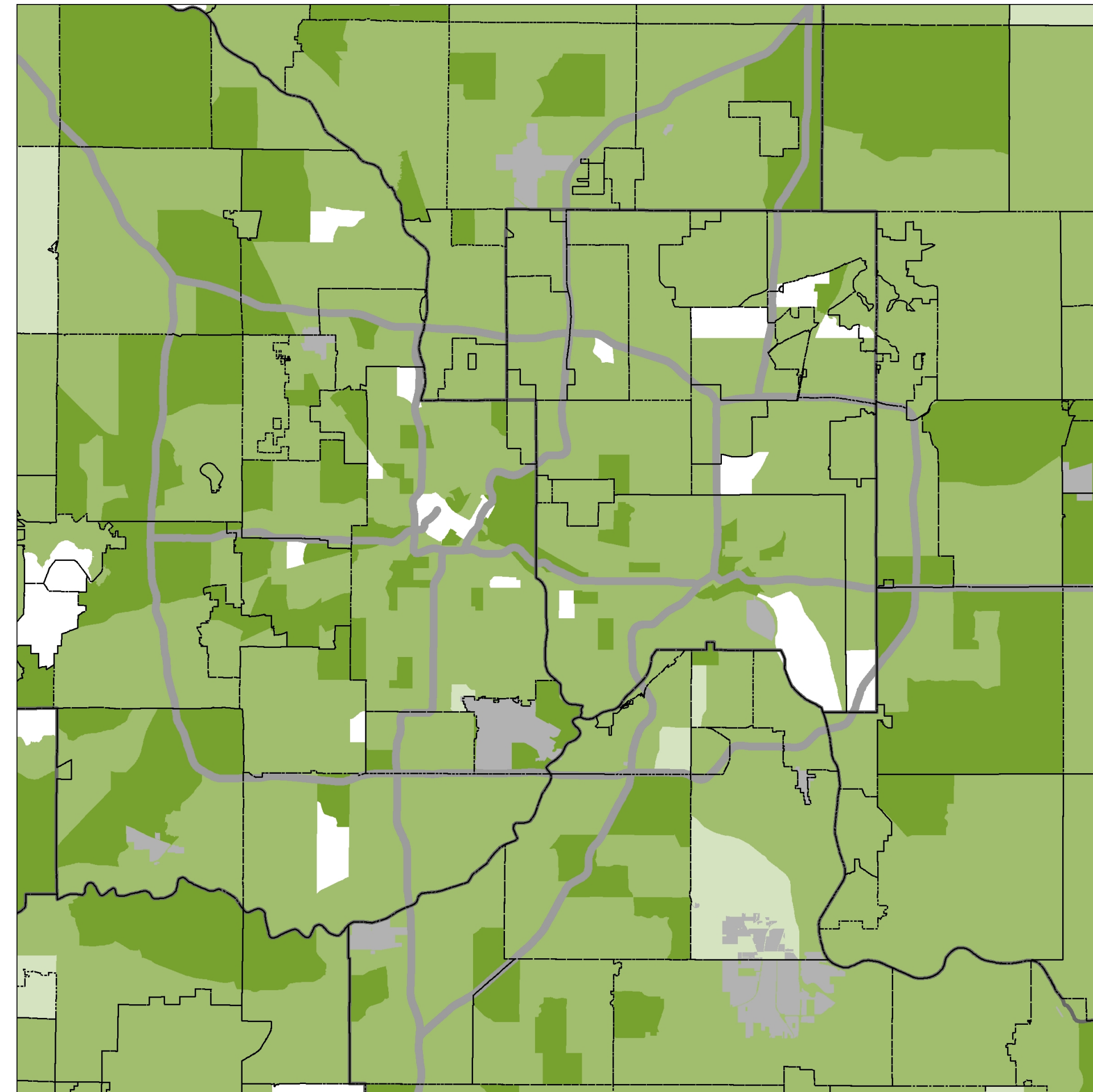
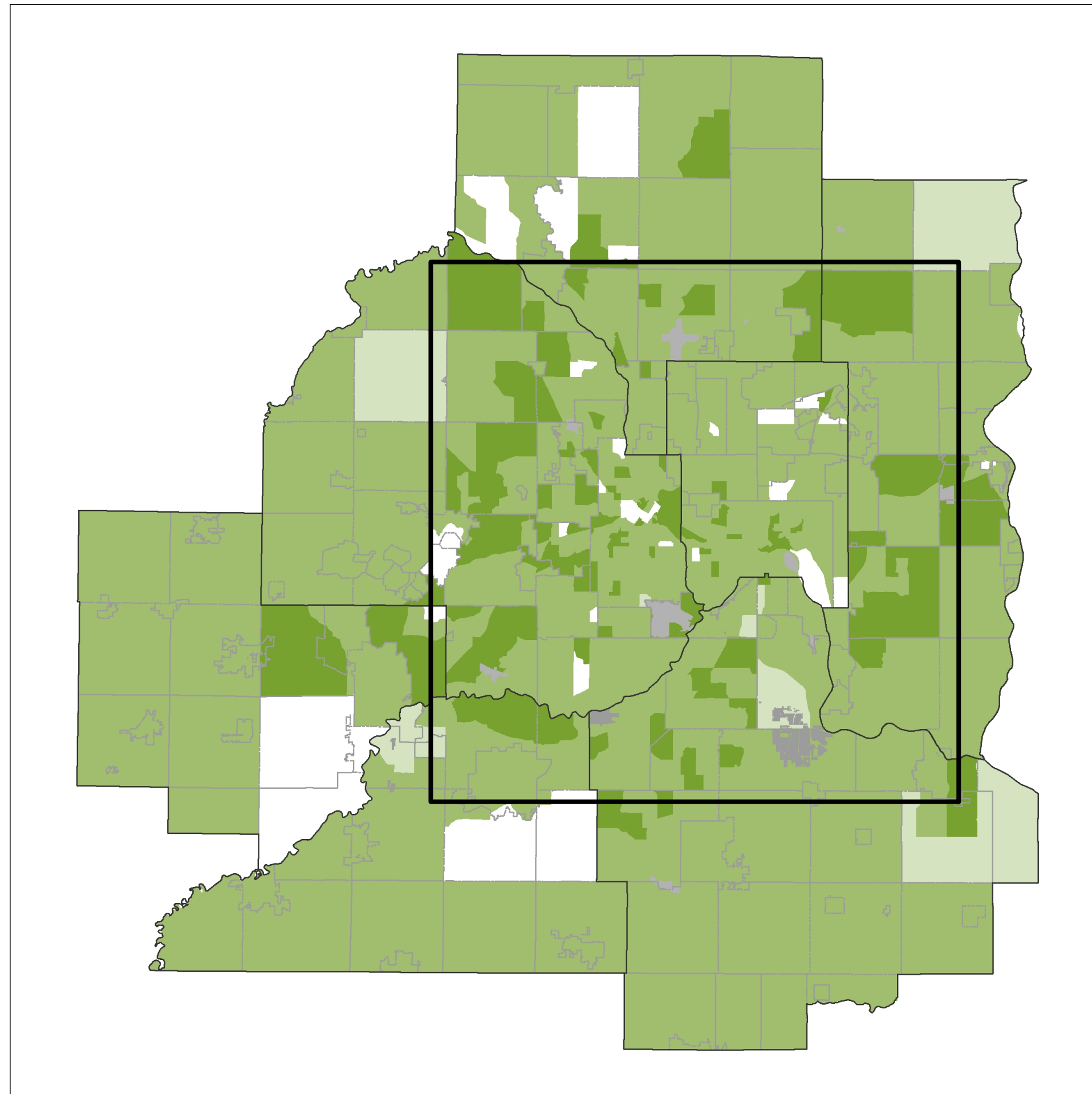


At least half the population moved into current home...

After 2015
2011-2015
2006-2010
2005 or before

Source: Analysis of U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey five-year estimates (2015-2019) in Metropolitan Council's Equity Considerations dataset (2021).

Migration: When moved into current home (renters)

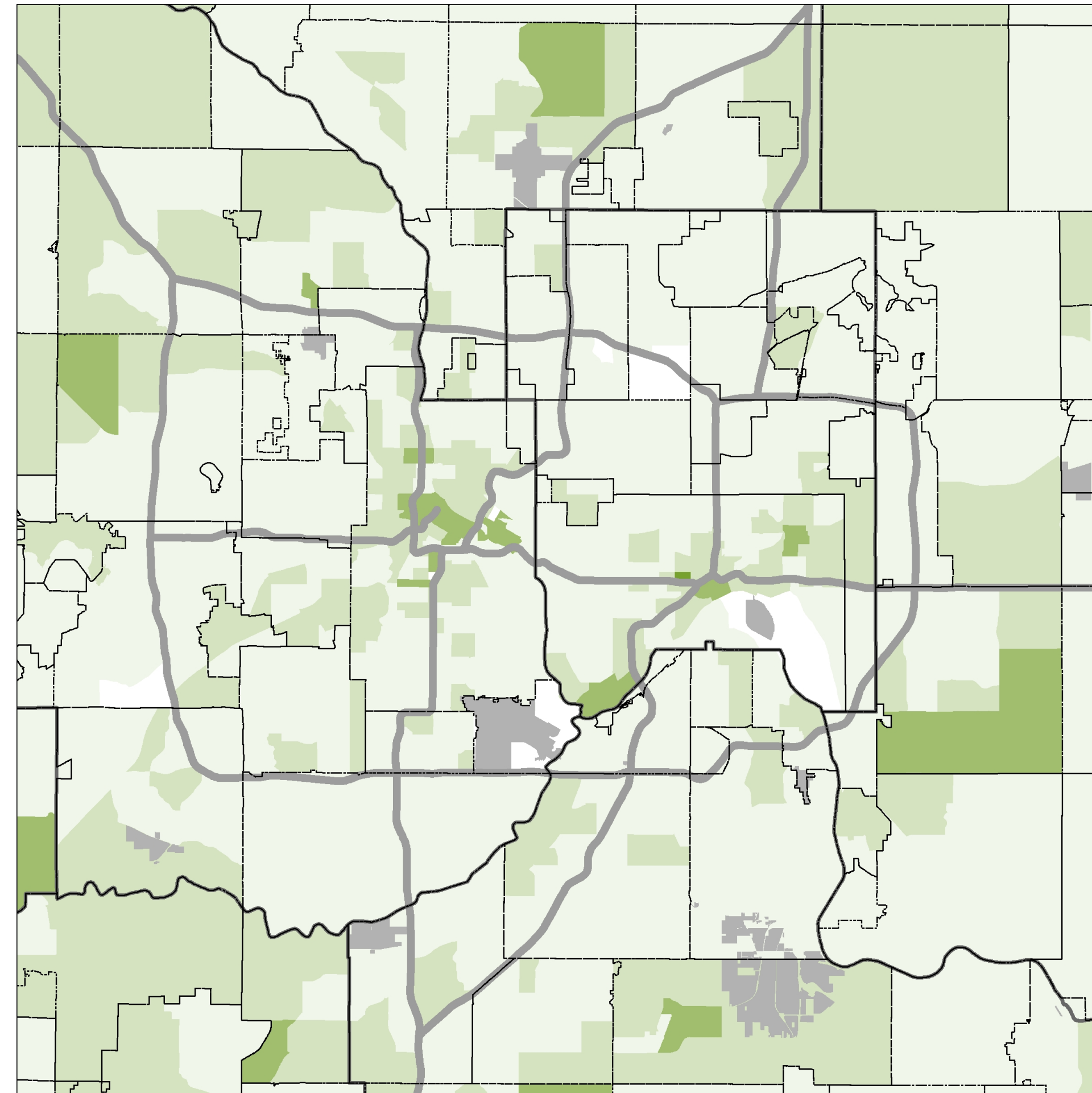
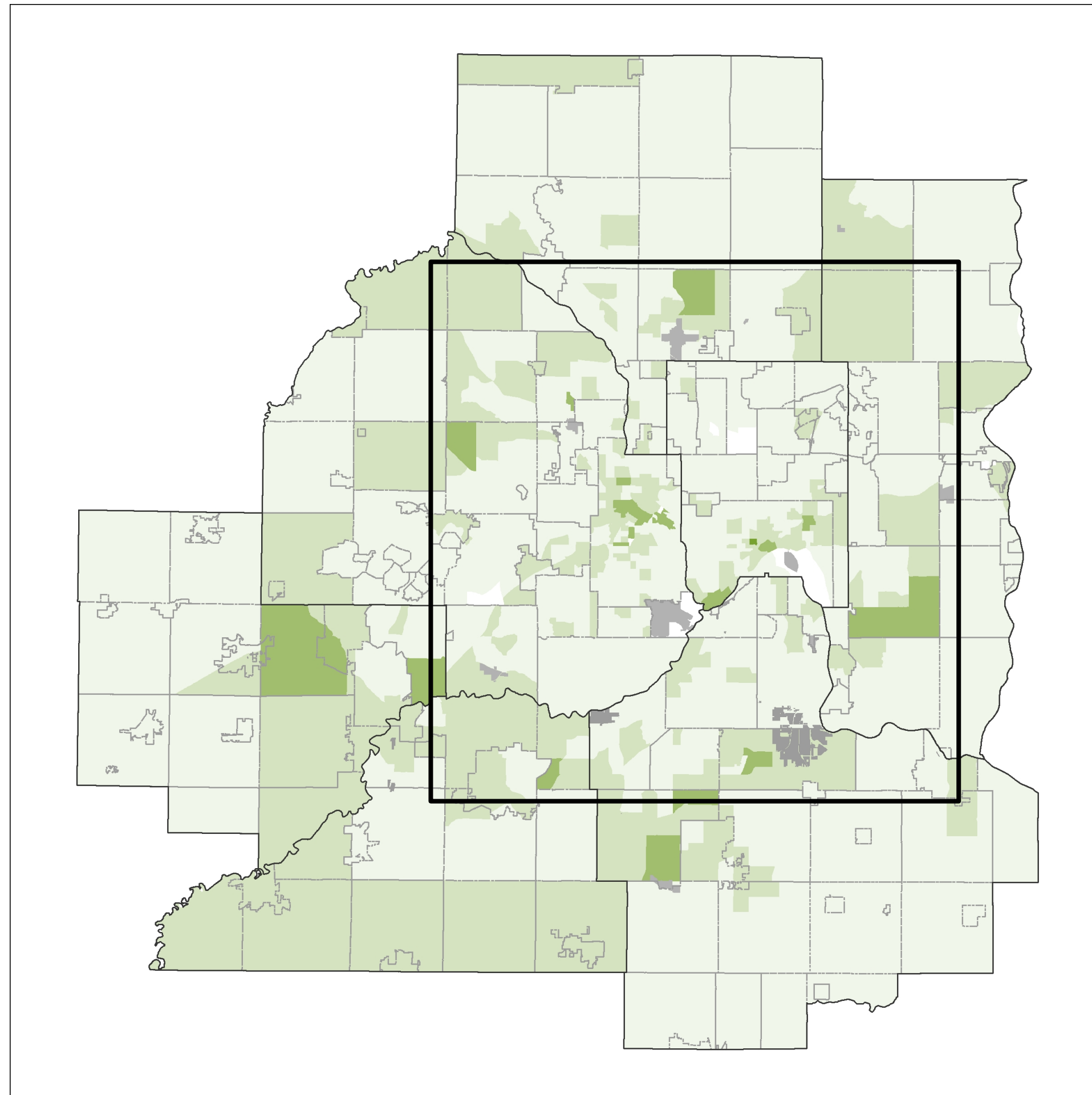


At least half the population moved into current home...

After 2015
2011-2015
2006-2010
2005 or before
(no renters)

Source: Analysis of U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey five-year estimates (2015-2019) in Metropolitan Council's Equity Considerations dataset (2021).

Migration: When moved into current home (homeowners)

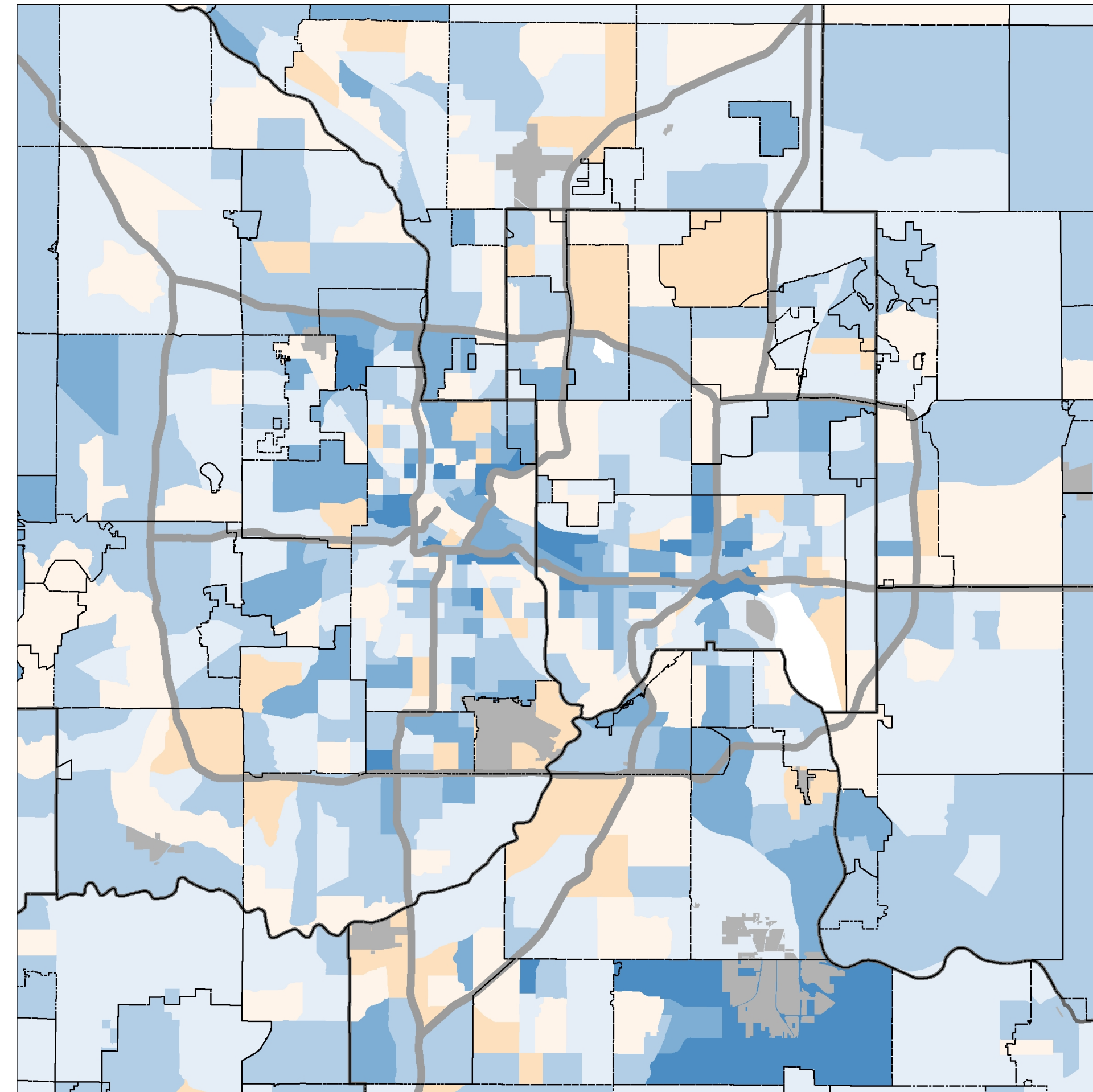
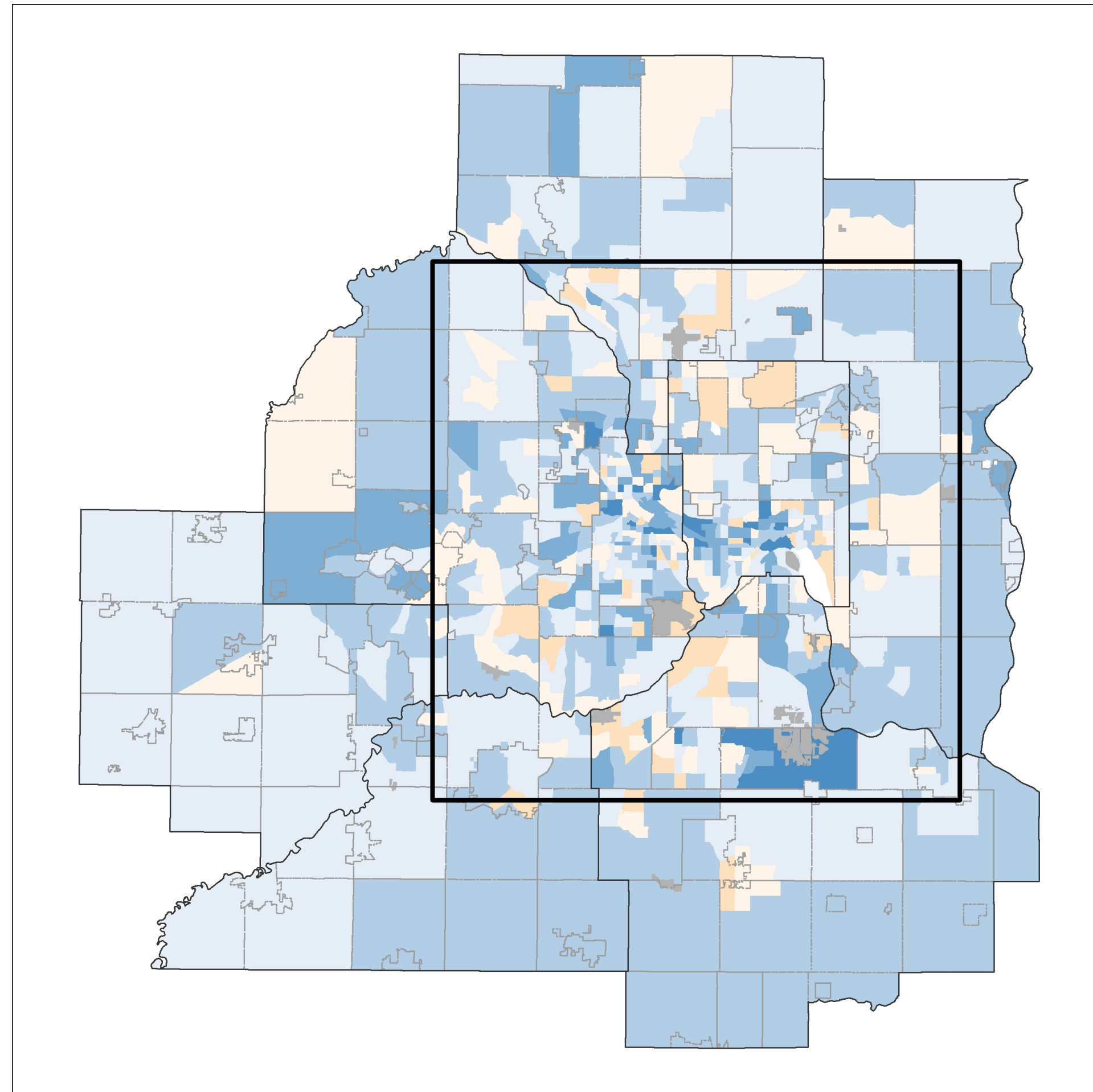


At least half the population moved into current home...

After 2015
2011-2015
2006-2010
2005 or before
(no homeowners)

Source: Analysis of U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey five-year estimates (2015-2019) in Metropolitan Council's Equity Considerations dataset (2021).

Socioeconomics: Median household income



Change, 2010-
2014 period to
2015-2019 period

Gain, 50% or more

Gain, 25% to 49%

Gain, 10% to 24%

Gain, under 10%

Loss, under 10%

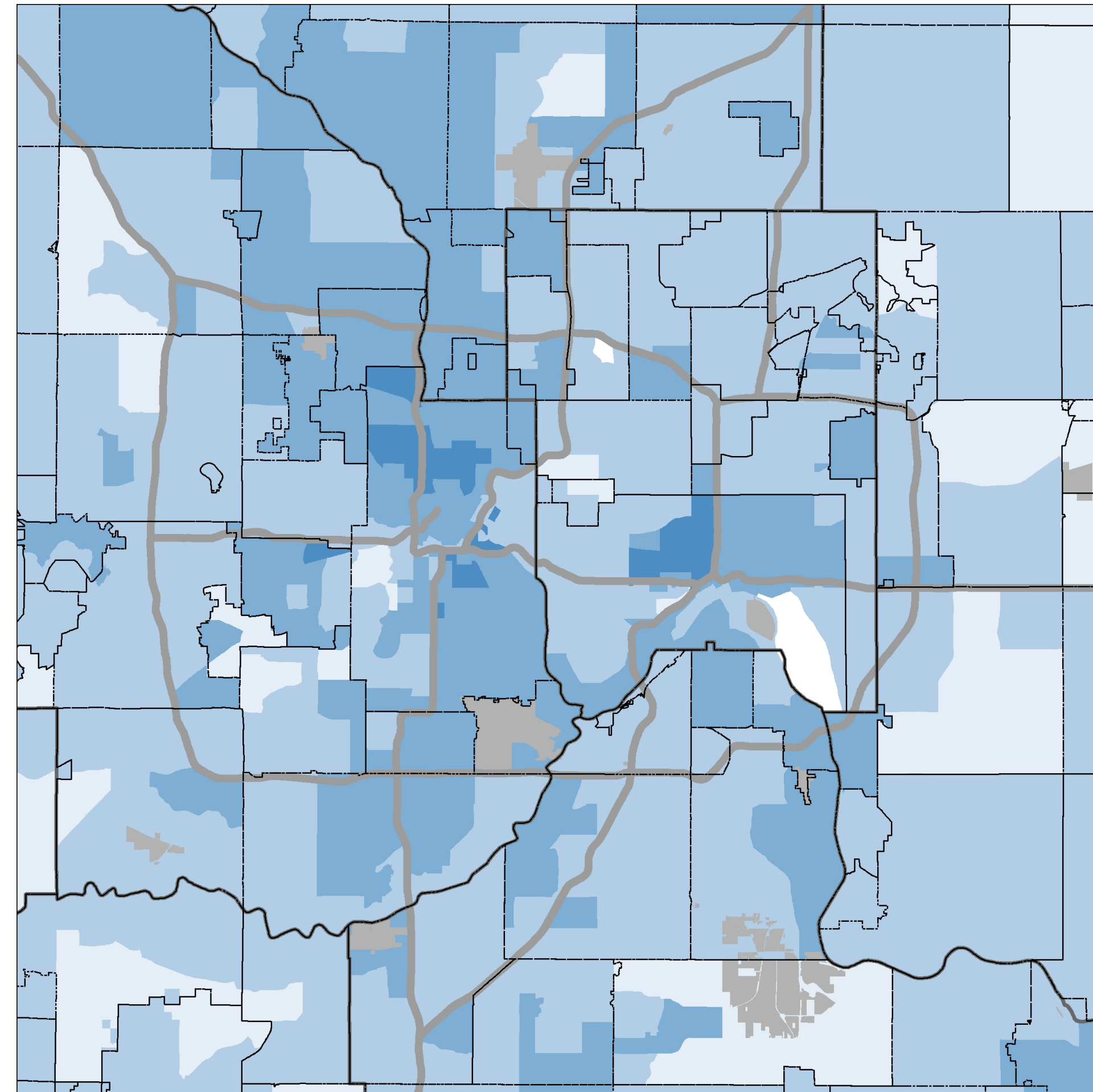
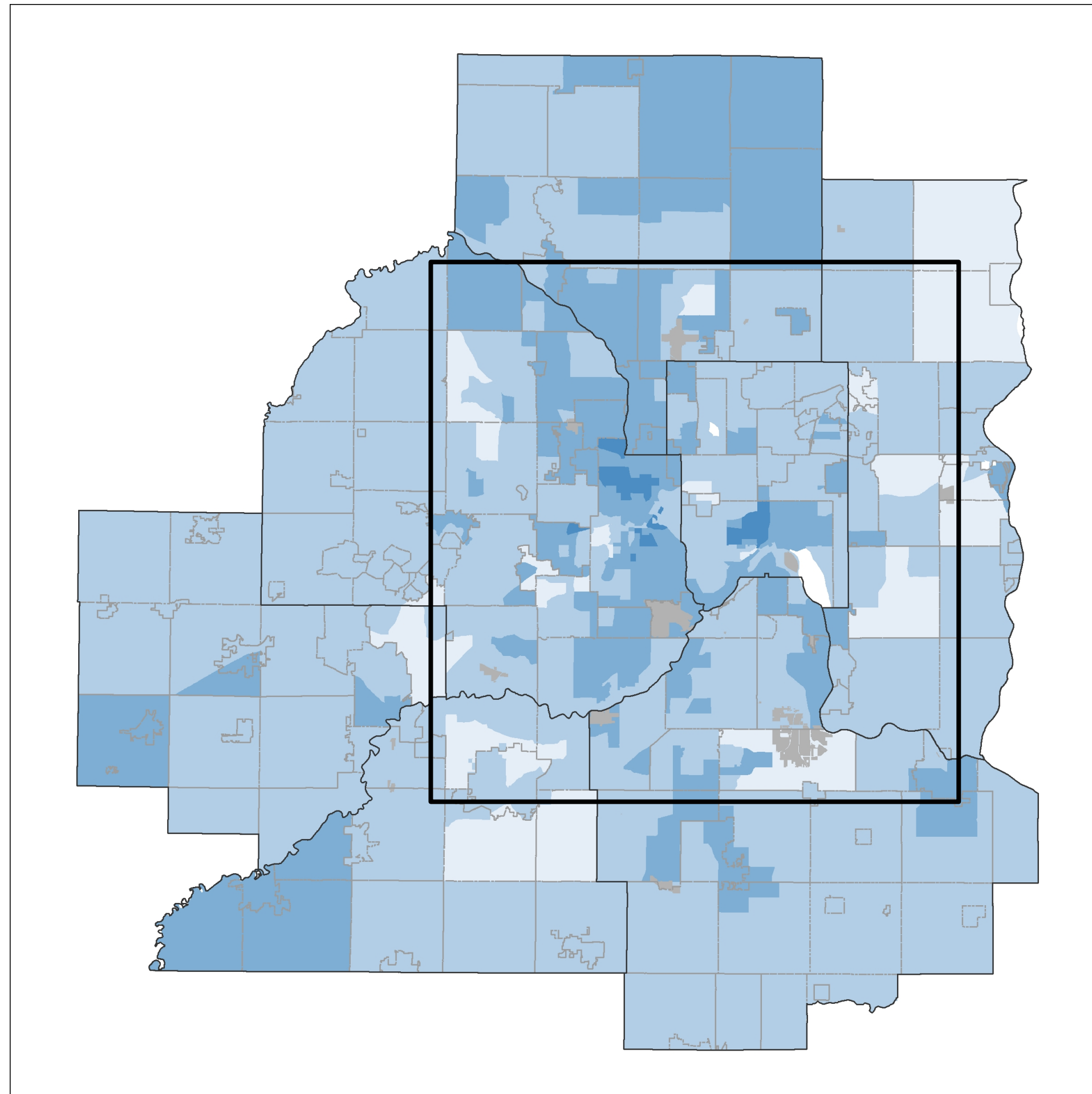
Loss, 10% or more

Source: Analysis of U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey five-year estimates (2015-2019) in Metropolitan Council's Equity Considerations dataset (2021).



METROPOLITAN
C O U N C I L

Housing: Estimated market value

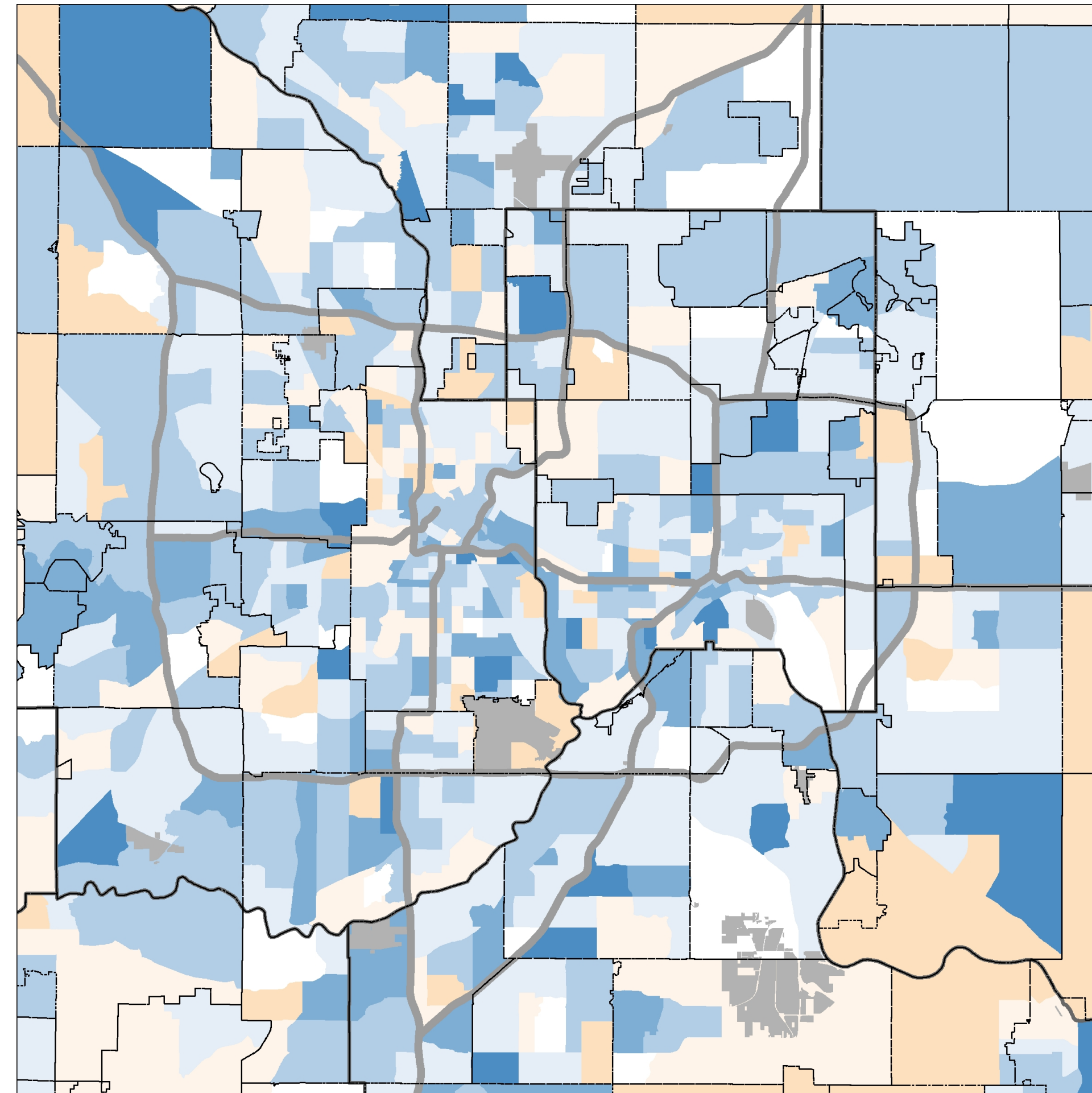
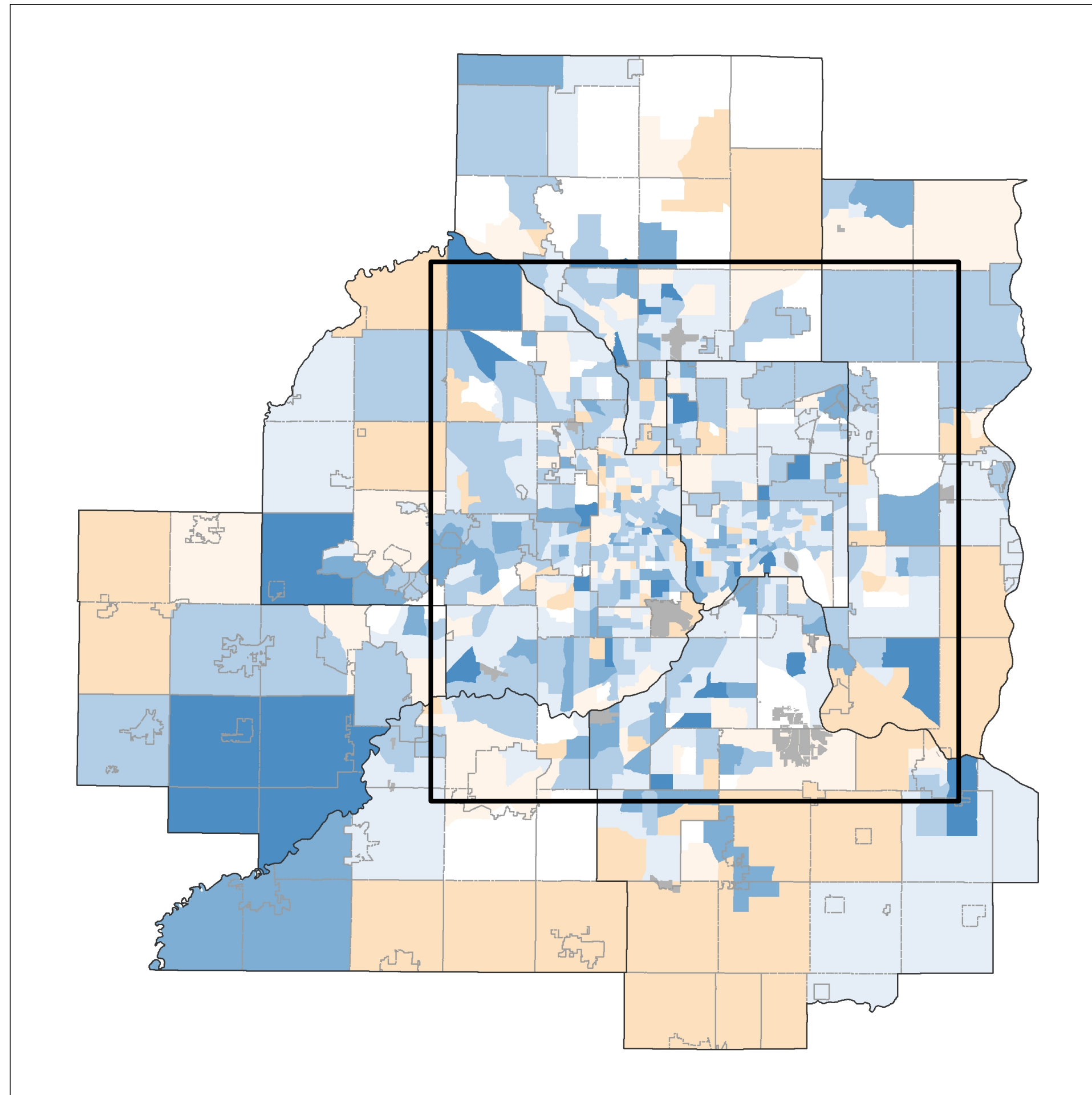


Change,
2014 to 2019

Gain, 50% or more
Gain, 25% to 49%
Gain, 10% to 24%
Gain, under 10%

*Source: Analysis of
MetroGIS Regional
Parcel Dataset in
Metropolitan Council's
Equity Considerations
dataset (2021).*

Socioeconomics: Median gross rent

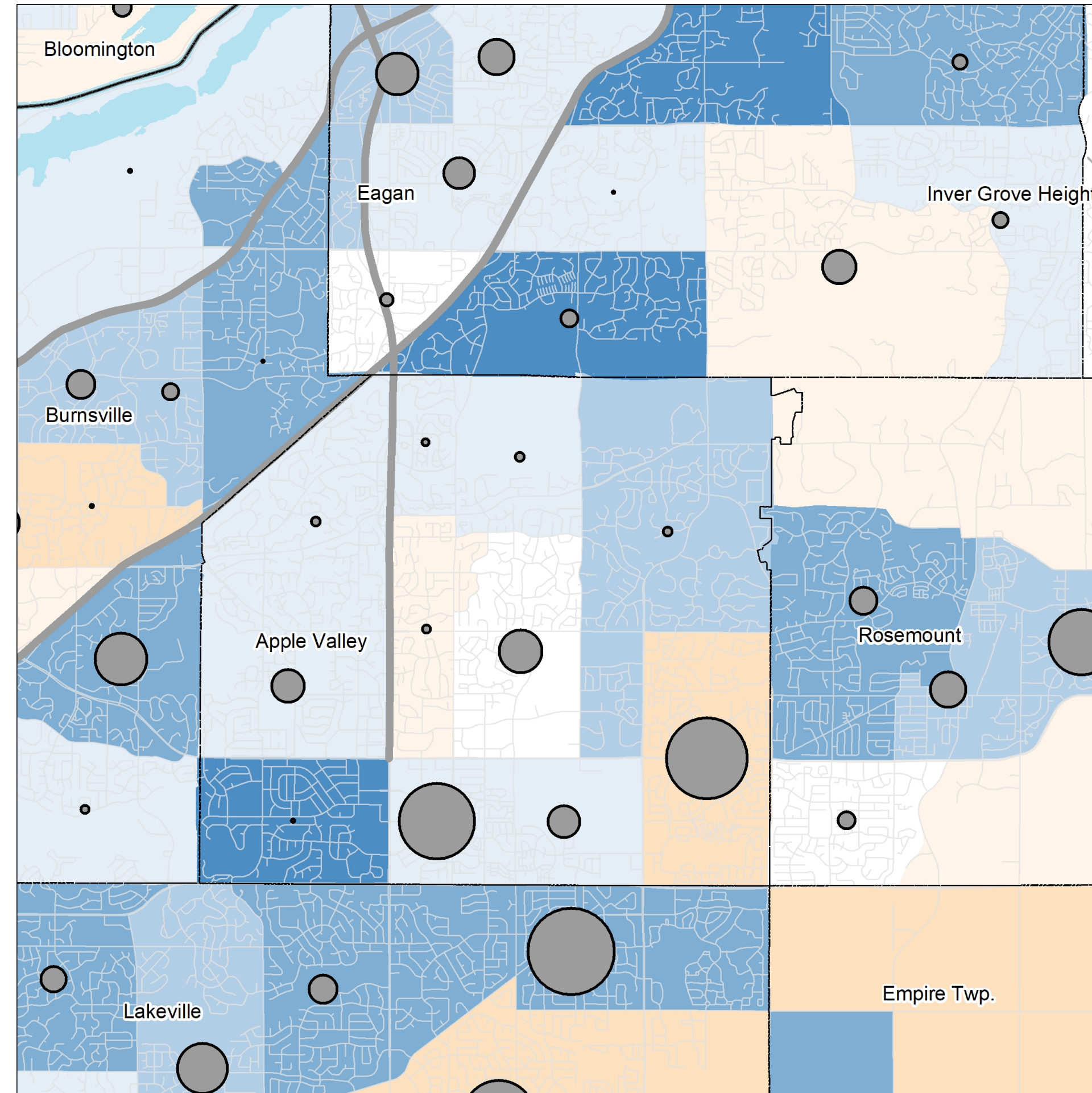
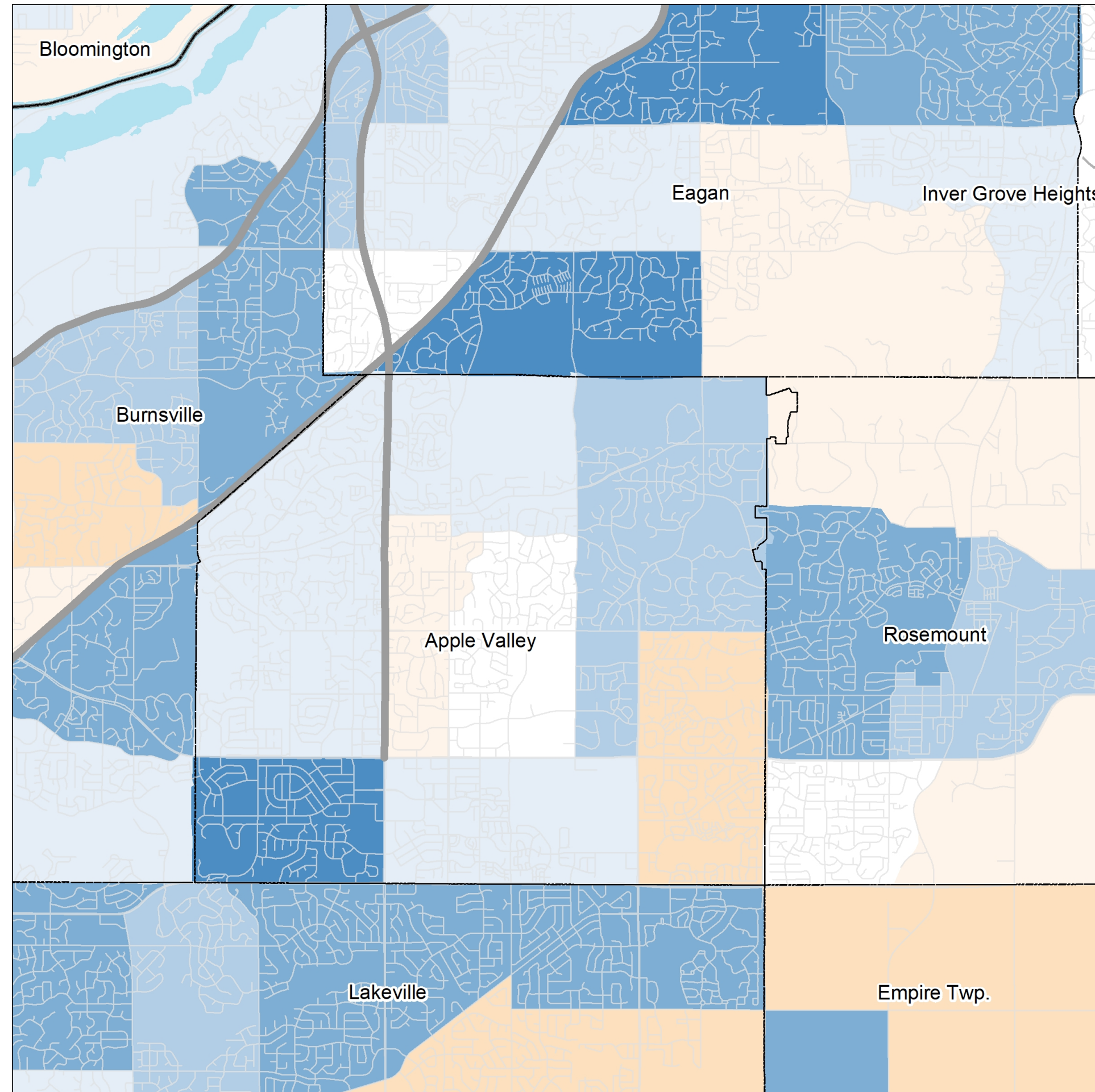


Change, 2010-2014 period to 2015-2019 period

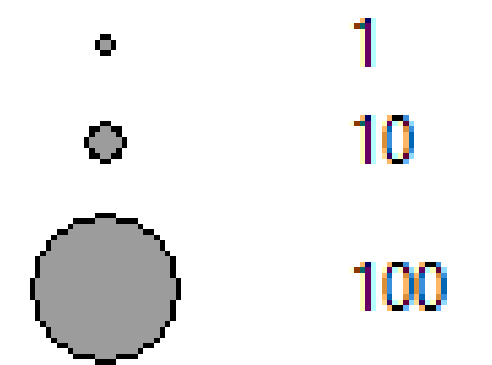
Gain, 50% or more
Gain, 25% to 49%
Gain, 10% to 24%
Gain, under 10%
Loss, under 10%
Loss, 10% or more

Source: Analysis of U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey five-year estimates (2015-2019) in Metropolitan Council's Equity Considerations dataset (2021).

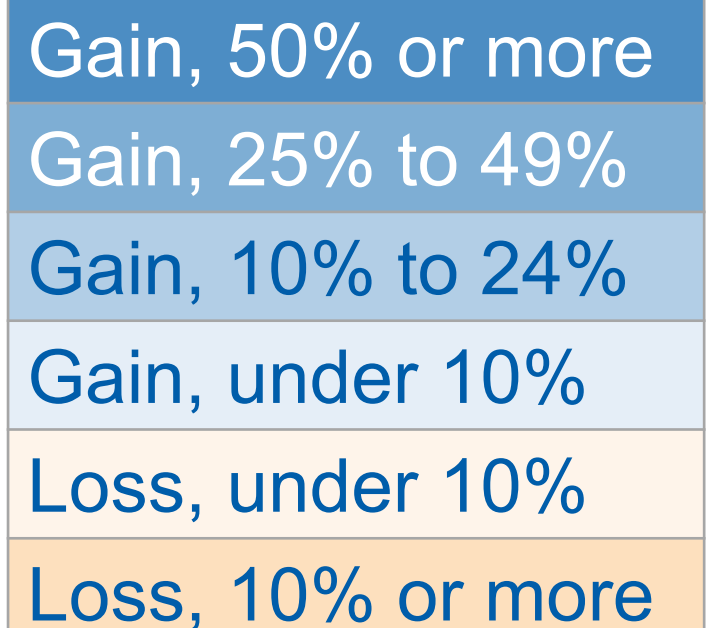
Patterns: Rent change and residential construction



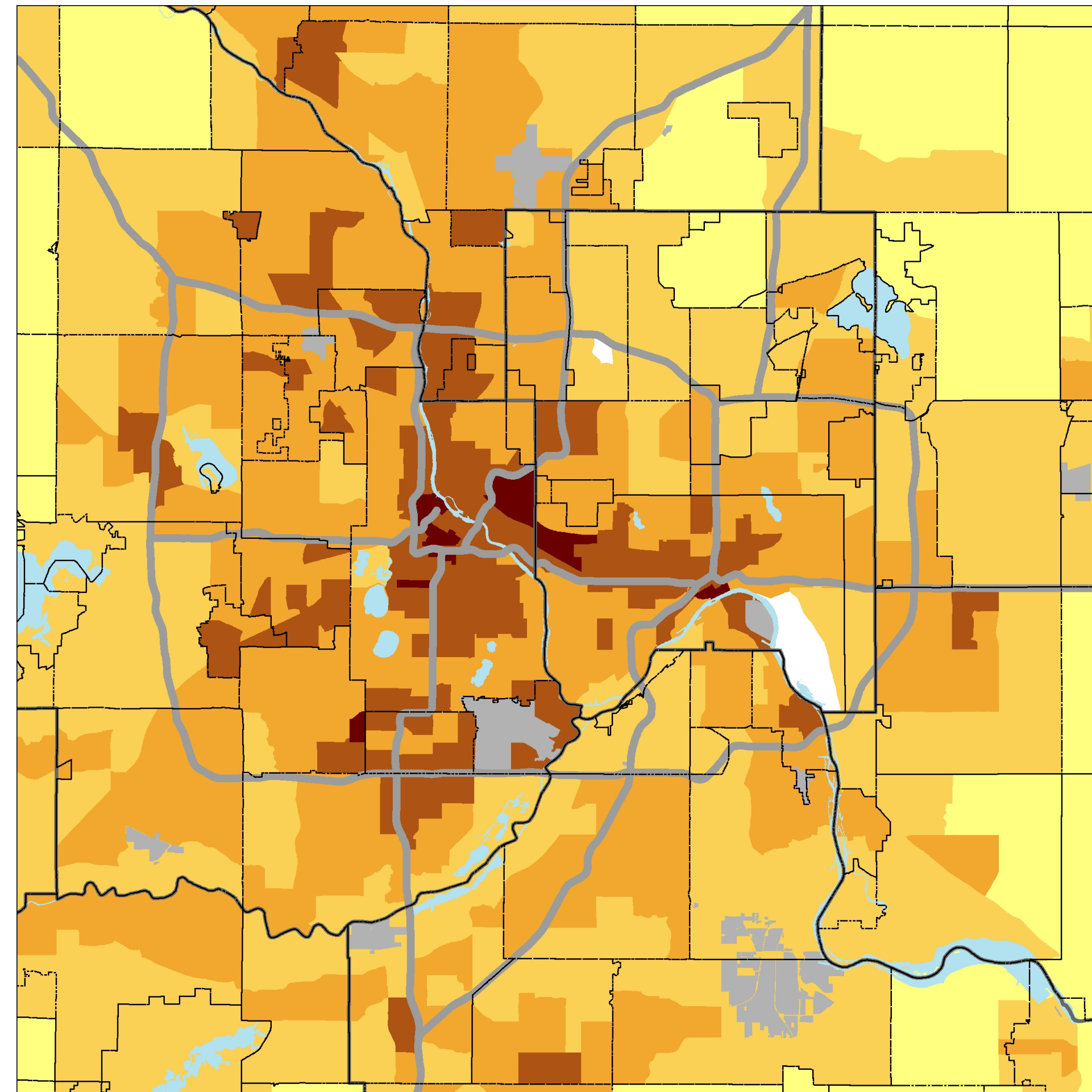
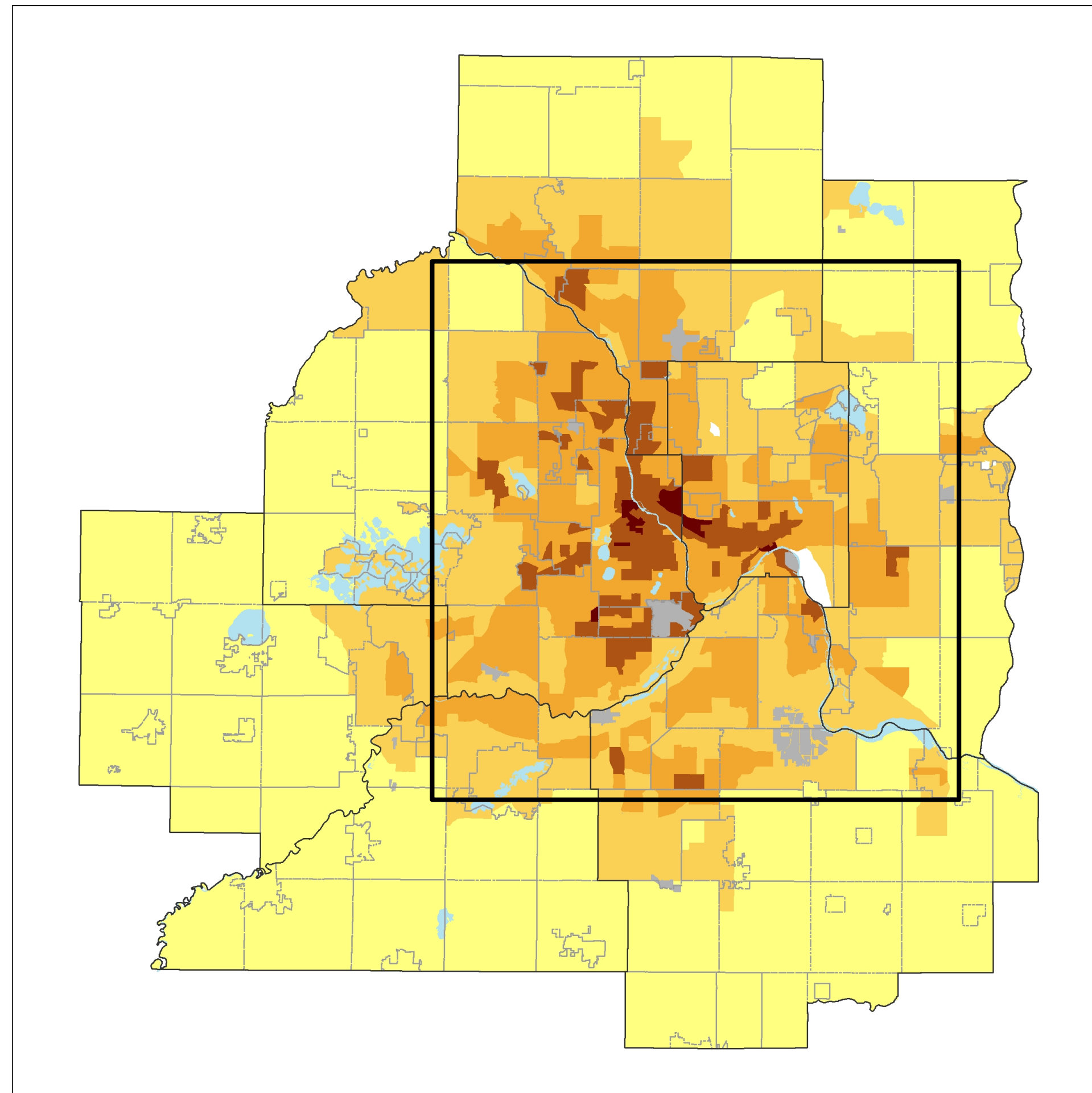
Change in housing units, 2010-2019



Change in gross rent, 2010-2014 period to 2015-2019 period



Environment: Heat wave temperatures

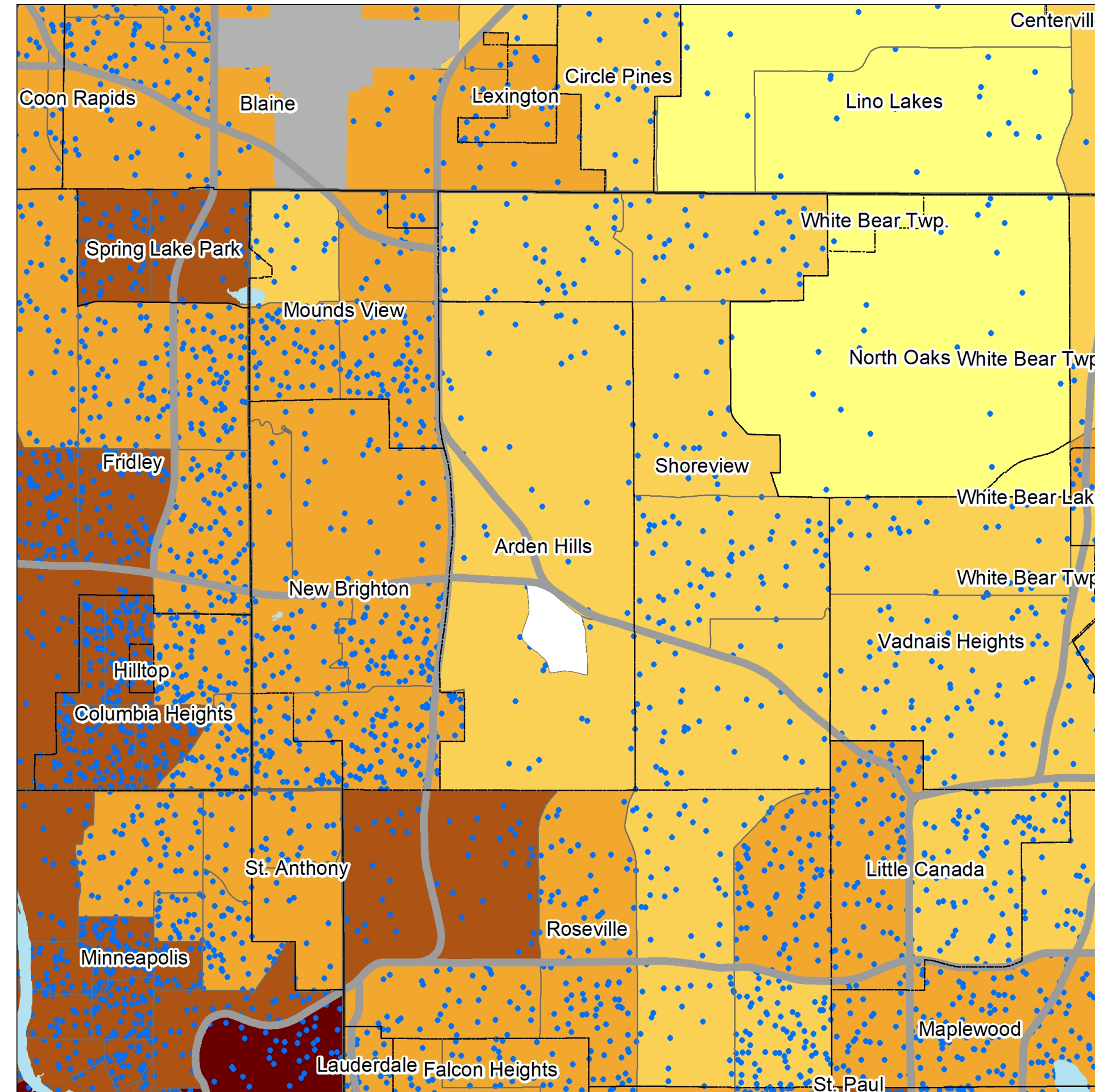
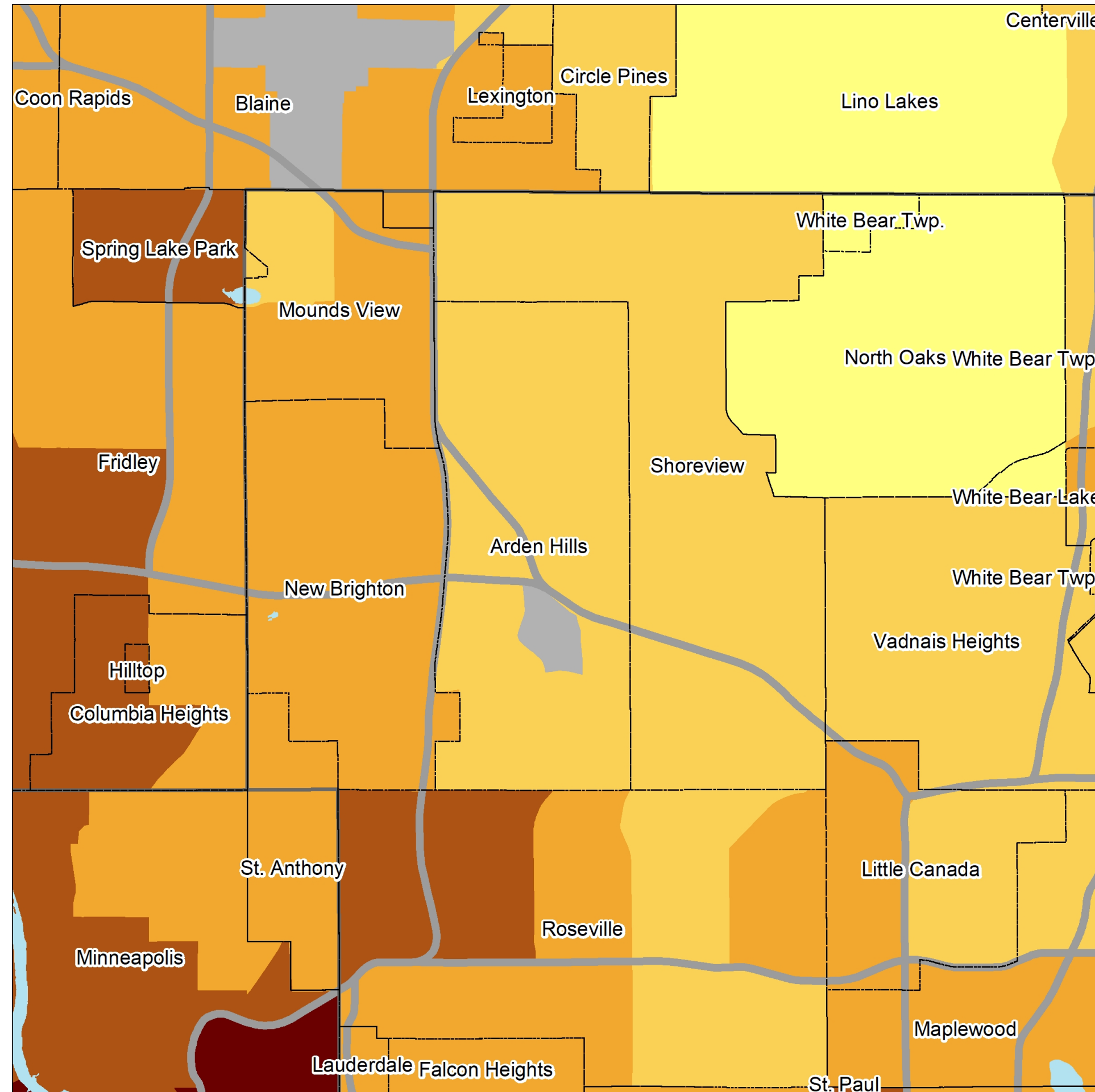


Temperature
in degrees
Fahrenheit

100 or more
95.0 to 99.9
90.0 to 94.9
85.0 to 89.9
Under 85.0

*Source: Analysis of
Metropolitan Council's
Land Surface
Temperature data in
Metropolitan Council's
Equity Considerations
dataset (2021).*

Patterns: Heat waves and BIPOC residents



Number of BIPOC residents

■ = 25 BIPOC residents

Temperature in degrees Fahrenheit

100 or more

95.0 to 99.9

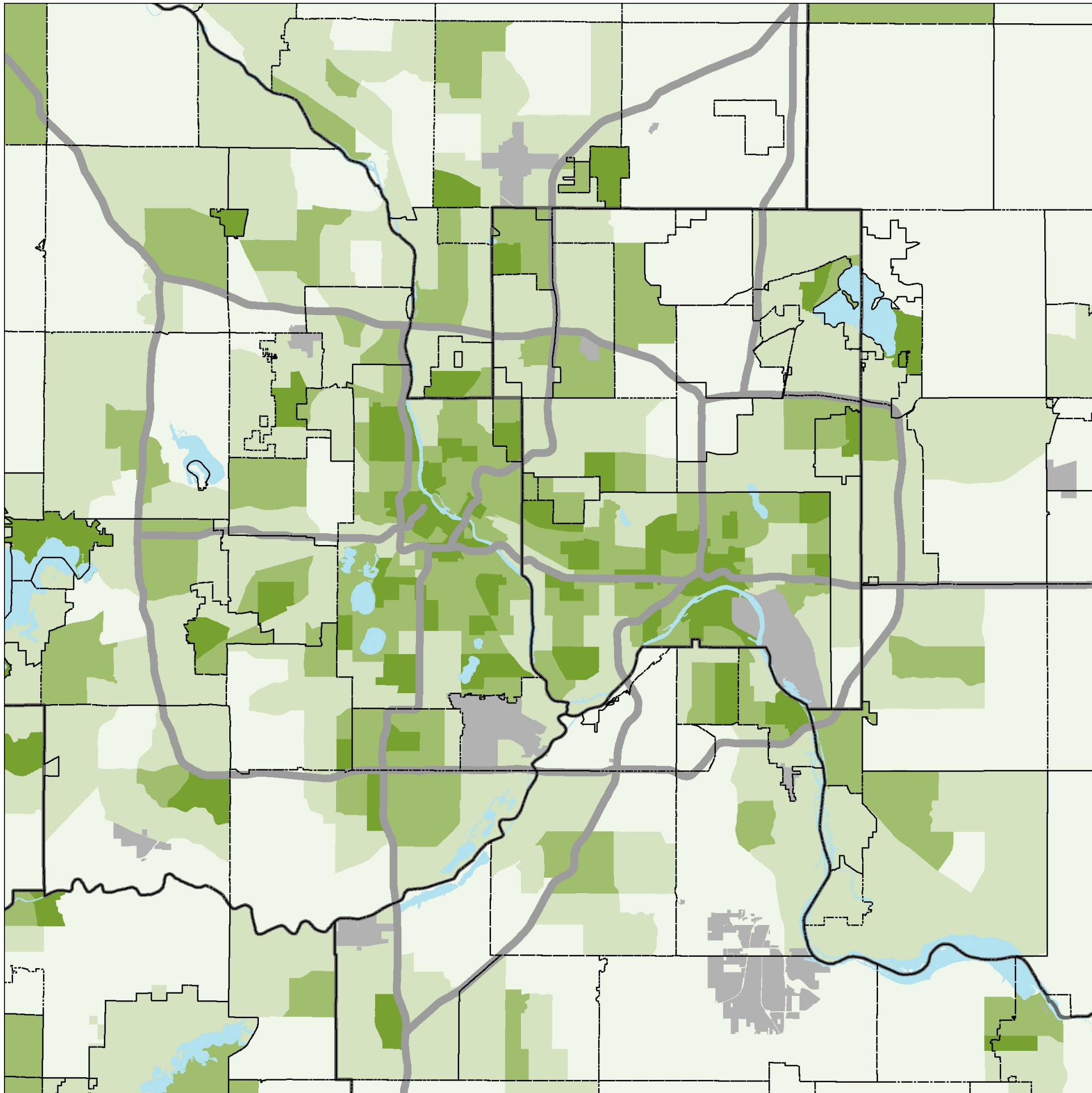
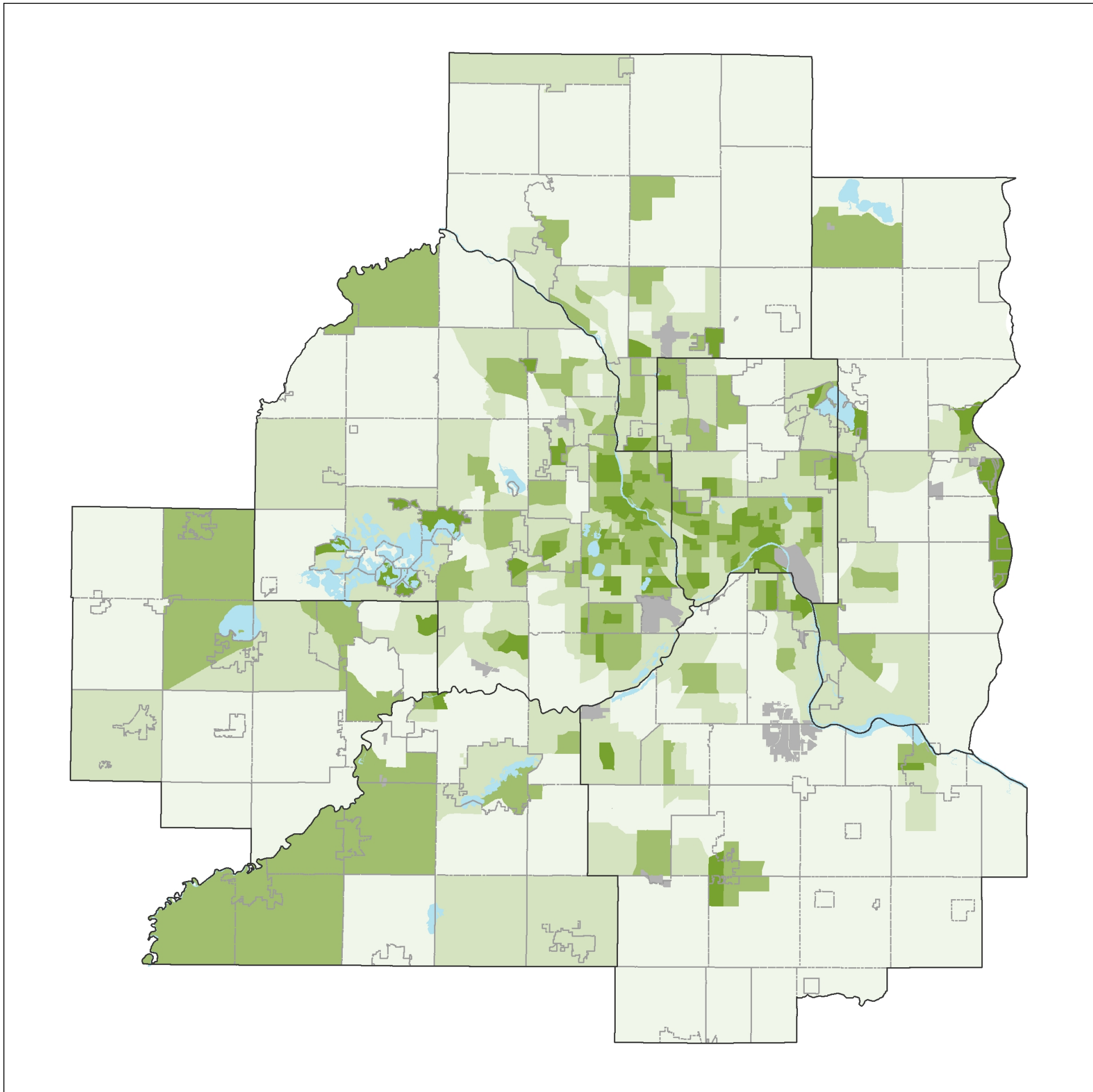
90.0 to 94.9

85.0 to 89.9

Under 85.0



Amenities: Proximity to libraries



The average tract resident lives this far from the closest library:

- Less than 0.5 miles
- 0.50-0.99 miles
- 1.00-1.99 miles
- 2+ miles

Source: Analysis of Metropolitan Council's landmark data in Metropolitan Council's Equity Considerations dataset (2021).



What's next in data development

Early 2022

- Updated census data (2020 Census + American Community Survey)
- Additional geographies
- Mortgage loans and home sales
- Businesses (especially smaller immigrant businesses)
- Climate vulnerability (tree canopy, paved surfaces)
- Additional amenities

Early 2023

- School demographics
- Trends in home values and ownership
- Public health info
- **Your ideas here!**

Spreading the Word: Inreach & Outreach

- Over a dozen presentations to Council staff & policymakers
 - All divisions
 - All departments in CD-MTS planning + Metro HRA
 - TAB, MPSOC, BIPOC Council workgroup
- Jurisdiction staff, Hennepin County planners, SWLRT
- Minnesota Climate Adaptation Partnership, Hamline Affordable Housing program, APA Minnesota Chapter (Nov)

RETHINKING AREAS OF CONCENTRATED POVERTY

Date: Wednesday, October 21, 2020

Council researchers to shift focus, elevate community voices

A chorus of community voices and a growing internal unease about how we frame data on poverty has led our research team to change the way we will characterize areas of concentrated poverty in our ongoing research about income, race, and g

NEW REGIONAL DATASET HAS EQUITY FOCUS

Date: Thursday, May 20, 2021

PlanIt

Researchers Matt Schroeder and Krysten Ryba-Tures talk about the Equity Considerations dataset and its applications for local planning in the latest PlanIt podcast.



Examples of Equity Considerations Use

Priority Waters List being developed



Water Resources Planning staff are working on the Priority Waters Project to help the Metropolitan Council and the region most effectively manage its lakes, rivers, and streams.

The Water Resources group (ES) is using *Equity Considerations* in their project to create a Priority Waters list for region. The data helped identify the near areas that meet certain characteristics related to transportation, environmental, and social equity.

The LCA team (CD) created "Project Data Profiles" for LCA applicants. These profiles compile data such as ethnic backgrounds of nearby residents, housing cost burden, job wages, and transportation modes to provide applicants with more context about their project area. These data points help grantees answer application questions about community impacts, particularly the new equity scoring criteria for LCDA and TOD grants.

Notes from last July's discussion

Deeper understanding of investment impact

- Data on capitol flows within and across community borders

More qualitative research

- Engage community organizations
- Find ways to allow community members to contribute their wisdom, lived experience

Make data easier to use

- Interactive web-based tools
- Clear, plain language resources

Questions?



Contact us

Matt Schroeder | Principal Researcher
matt.schroeder@metc.state.mn.us

Krysten Ryba-Tures | Senior Researcher
krysten.ryba-tures@metc.state.mn.us

