



**PATHWAYS TO URBAN SUSTAINABILITY
LESSONS FROM THE ATLANTA METROPOLITAN
REGION
A NATIONAL ACADEMIES WORKSHOP**

**CAROL A. COUCH
COLLEGE OF ENVIRONMENT AND DESIGN
UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA**

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

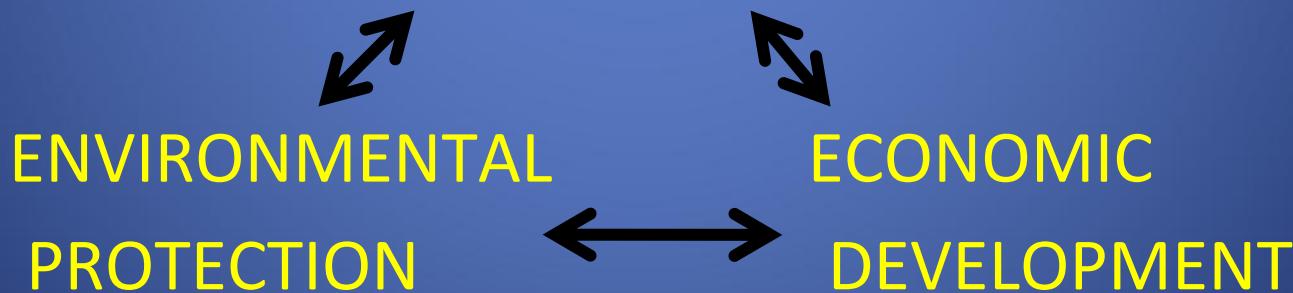
- “development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.”
- Source: “Our Common Future” 1987, World Commission on Environment and Development, also known as the Brundtland Report

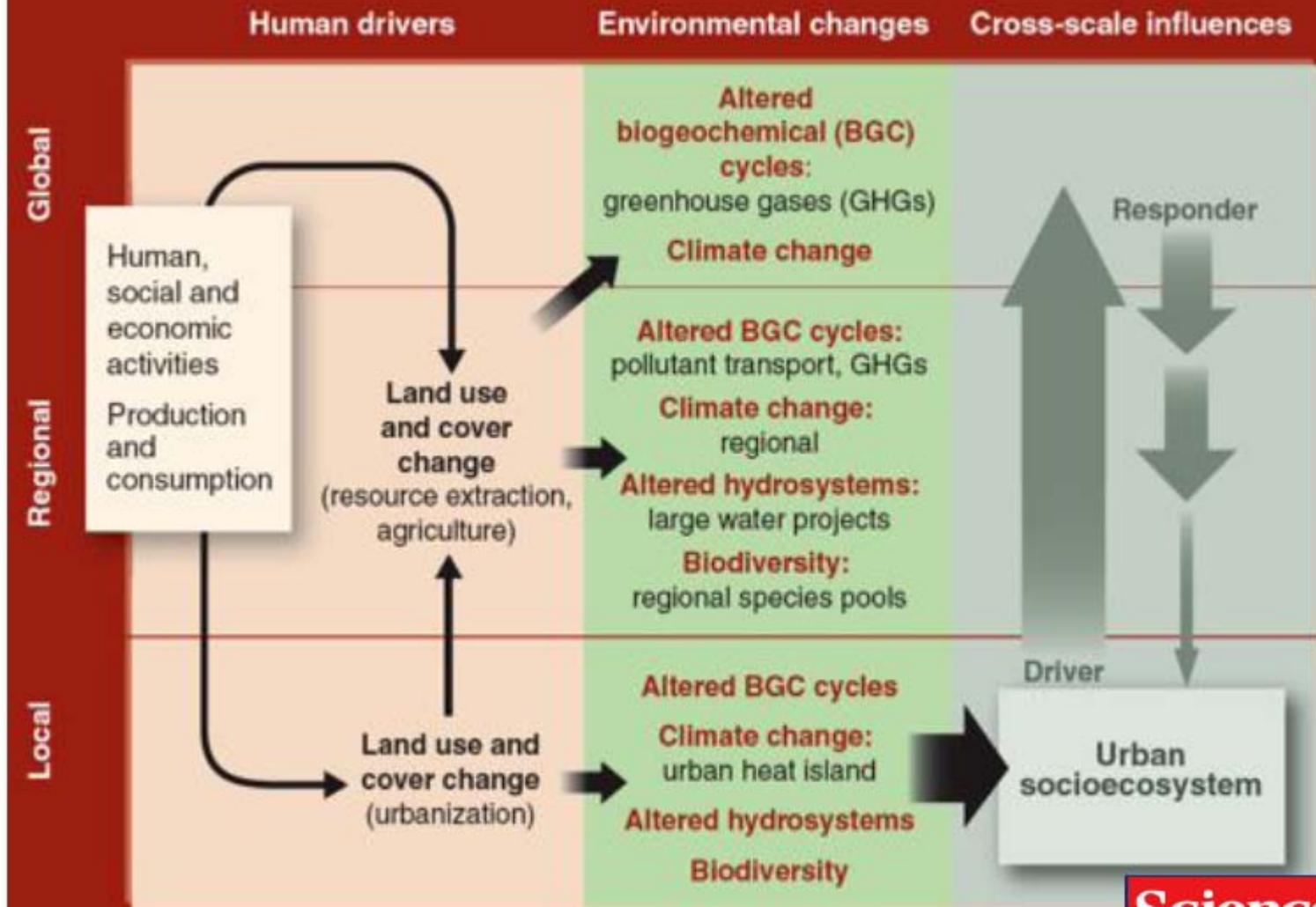
SOLUTIONS REQUIRE RE-FRAMING THE PROBLEM

• ENVIRONMENT VS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN URBAN GROWTH

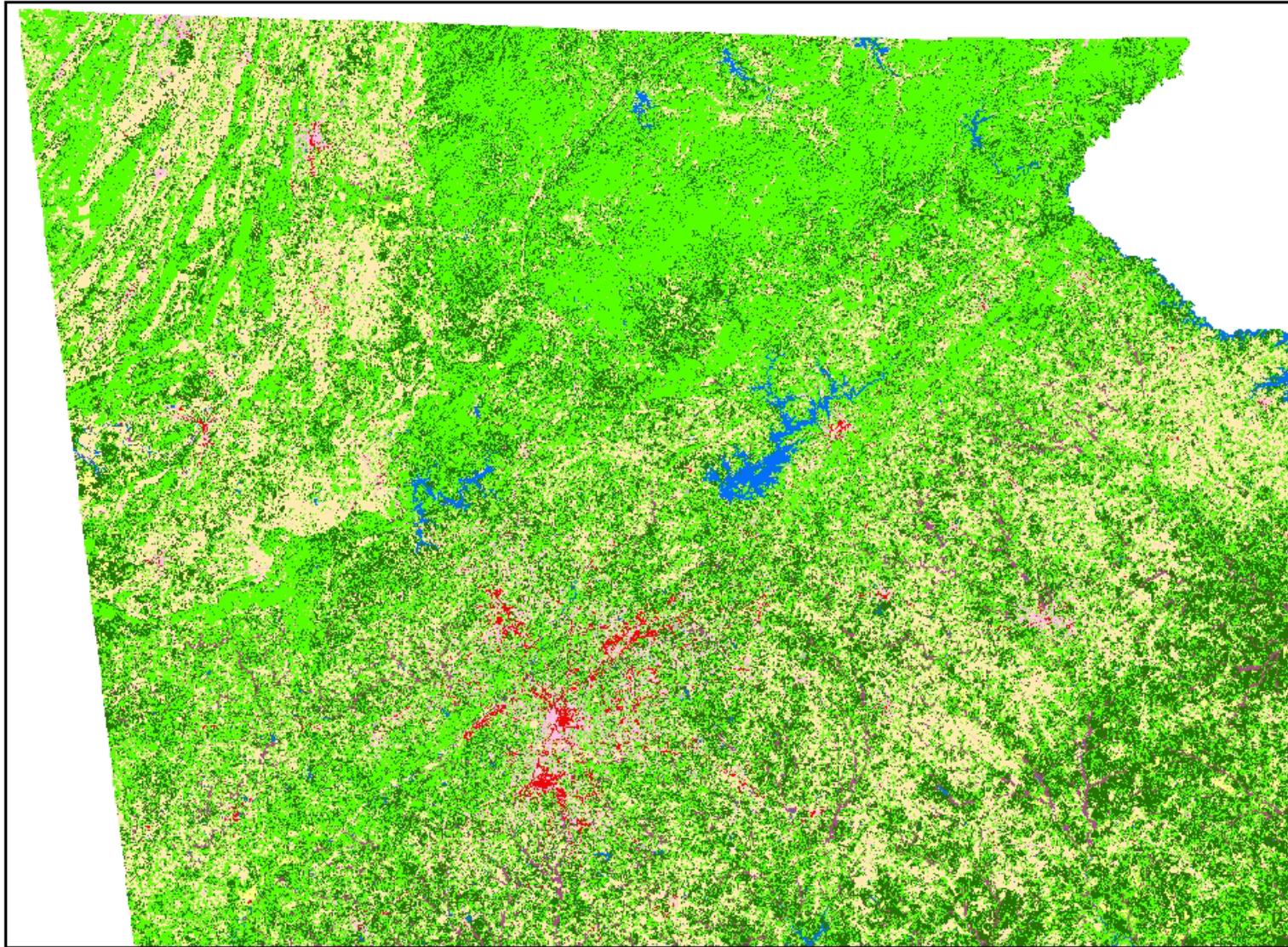
• INSTITUTIONS MUST ADAPT TO :

SOCIAL EQUITY



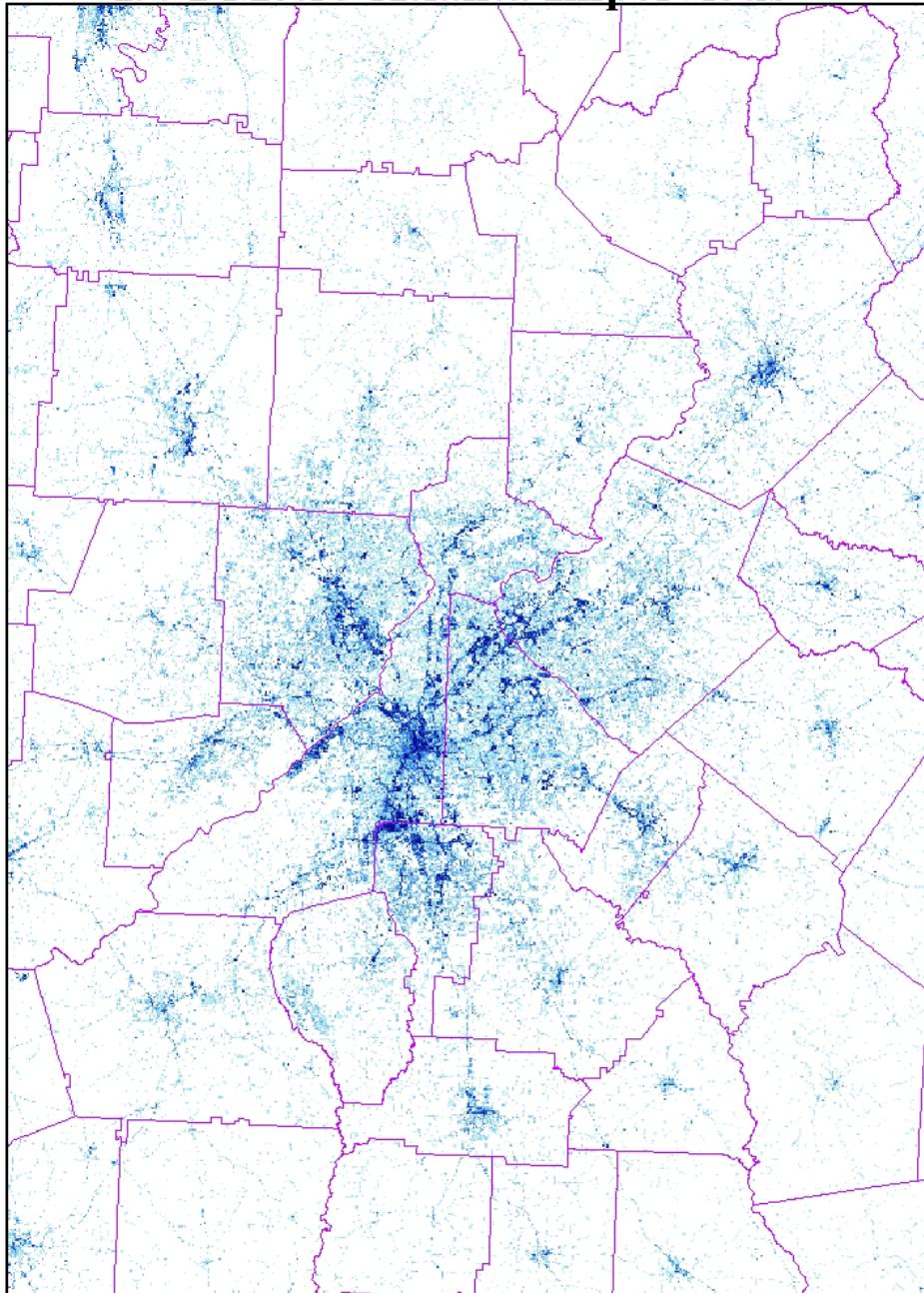


1974



1785

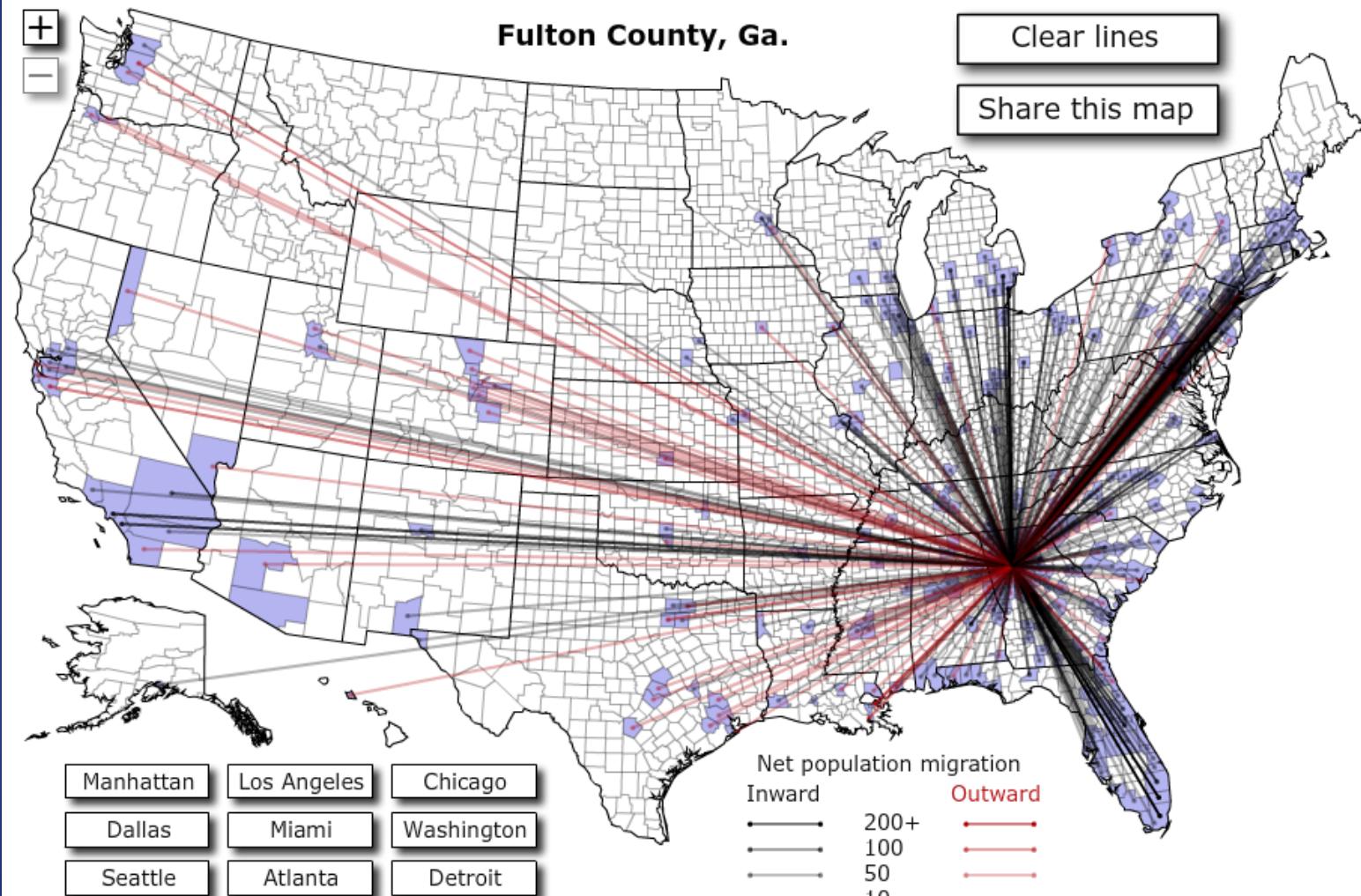
1991 Metro-Atlanta Impervious



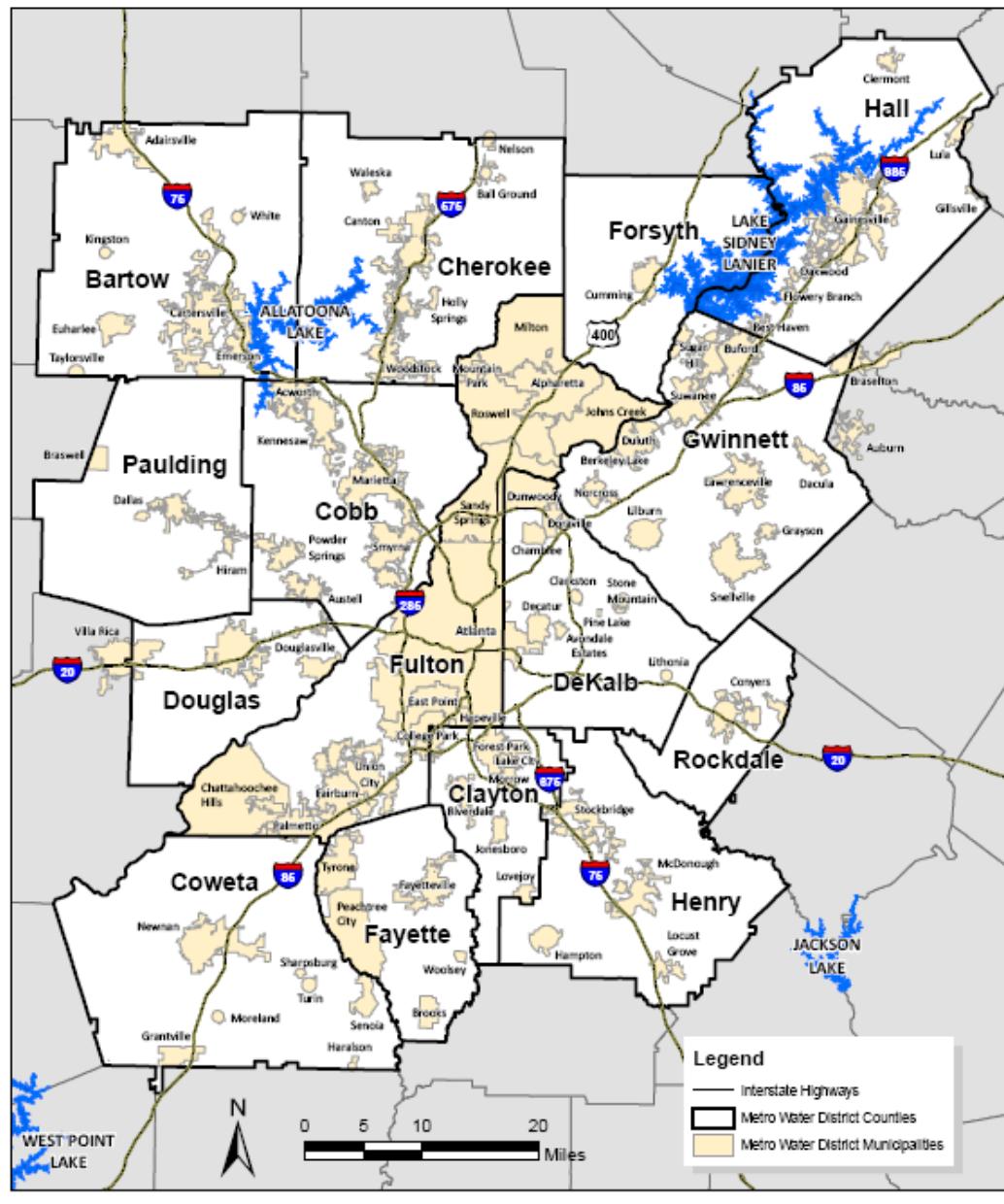
Map: Where Americans Are Moving

Jon Bruner

More than 10 million Americans moved from one county to another during 2008. The map below visualizes those moves. Click on a county to see comings and goings: black lines indicate net inward movement, red lines net outward movement.



Metro Water District Area



SOCIAL COMPLEXITY

METROPOLITAN NORTH GEORGIA WATER PLANNING DISTRICT

15 COUNTIES

91 CITIES

7 WATER AUTHORITIES

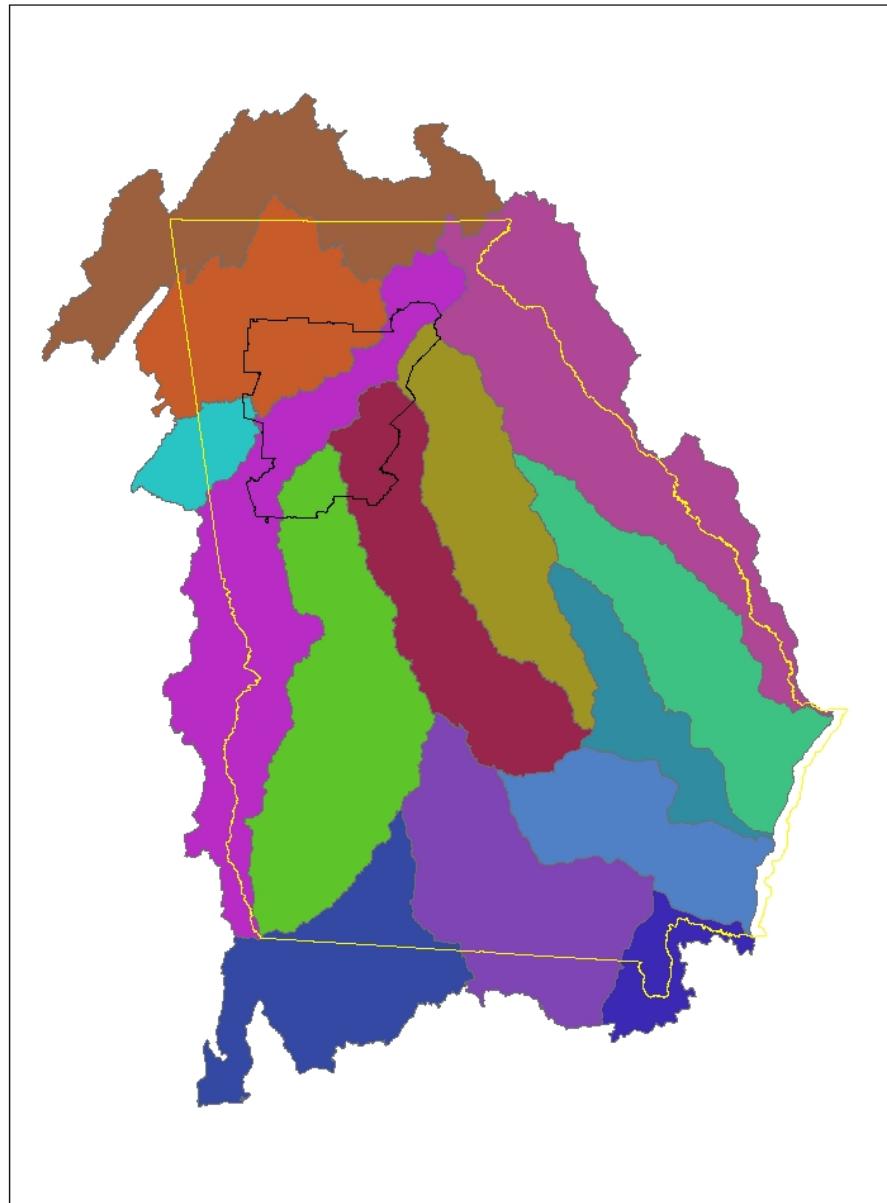
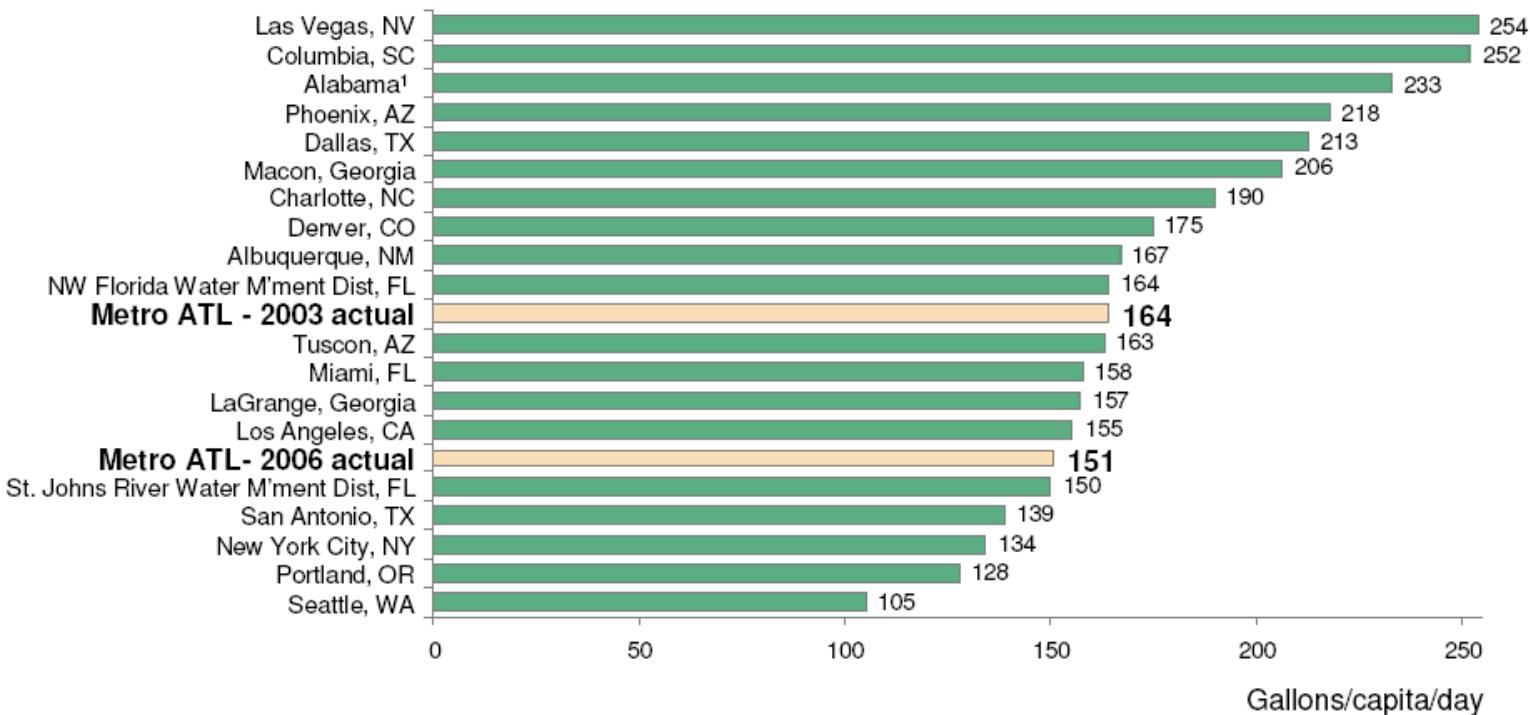


Figure 3: Overall District water usage levels

Per capita public supply use, by metro areas— showing Metro ATL 2003 and 2006 actual usages



1. State average; data not available for individual cities in AL

Note: Overall per capita is calculated by dividing total gallons of water produced by water provider by the population served, where total gallons of water produced includes use for residential, commercial, industrial, irrigation, and non-revenue water

Source: Georgia EPD analysis with data collected from 2000 - 2008

Georgia
Comprehensive State-wide
Water Management Plan



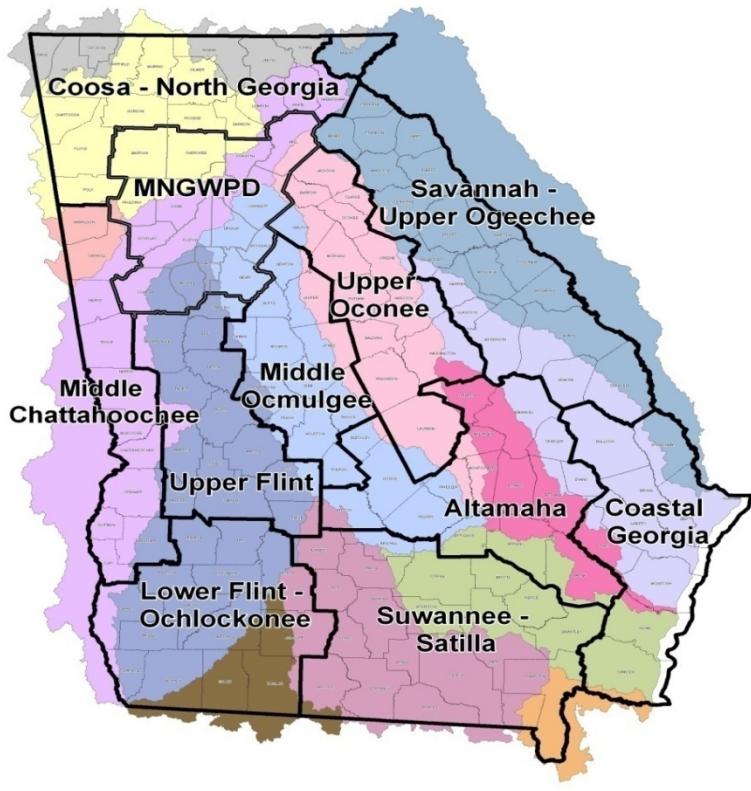
Water Policies

Water Resource Assessments

Regional water planning

Management Practices

Final Delineation of Water Planning Regions



Region: Atlanta, GA ▾ Region

Typical Household: Regional Median Income: \$51,948

Size: 2.6 People

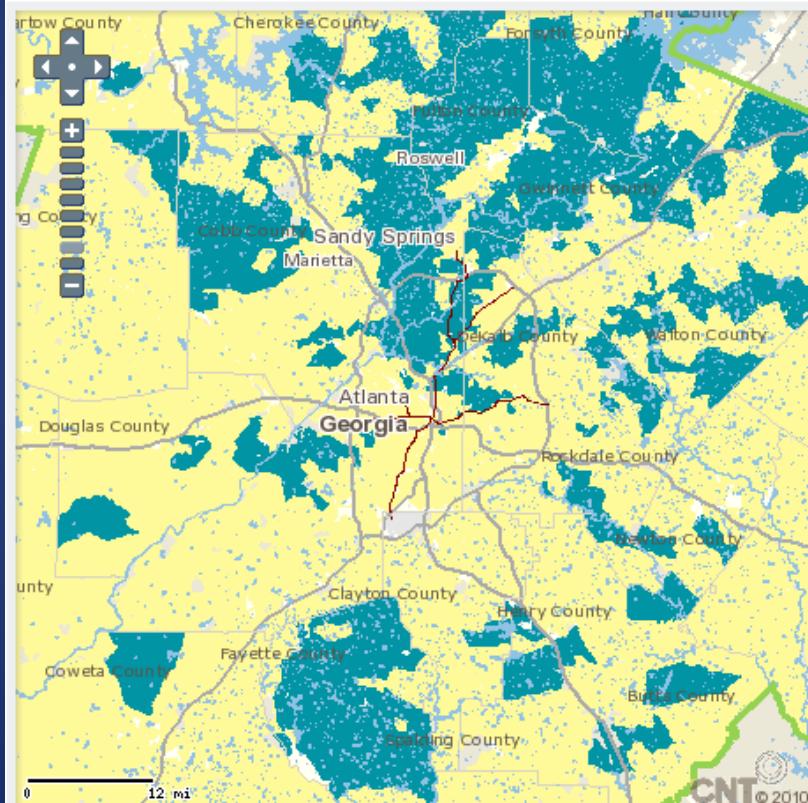
Commuters: 1.2 Workers

Display: Legend and Description ▾ Change

Housing Costs - % Income ▾ Change

- Data Not Available
- Less than 30%
- 30% and Greater

Housing Costs factored as a percent of income has widely been utilized as a measure of affordability. Traditionally, a home is considered affordable when the costs consume no more than 30% of household income.



Housing and Transportation Costs - % Income ▾ Change

- Data Not Available
- Less than 45%
- 45% and Greater

H+T has been developed as a more complete measure of affordability beyond the standard method of assessing only Housing Costs. By taking into account both the cost of housing as well as the cost of transportation associated with the location of the home, H+T provides a more complete understanding of affordability. Dividing these costs by Representative Regional Incomes illustrates the

