



# Sustainable Mobility

August 26, 2007



Charlier Associates, Inc.

# Transportation Policies for a Sustainable Colorado

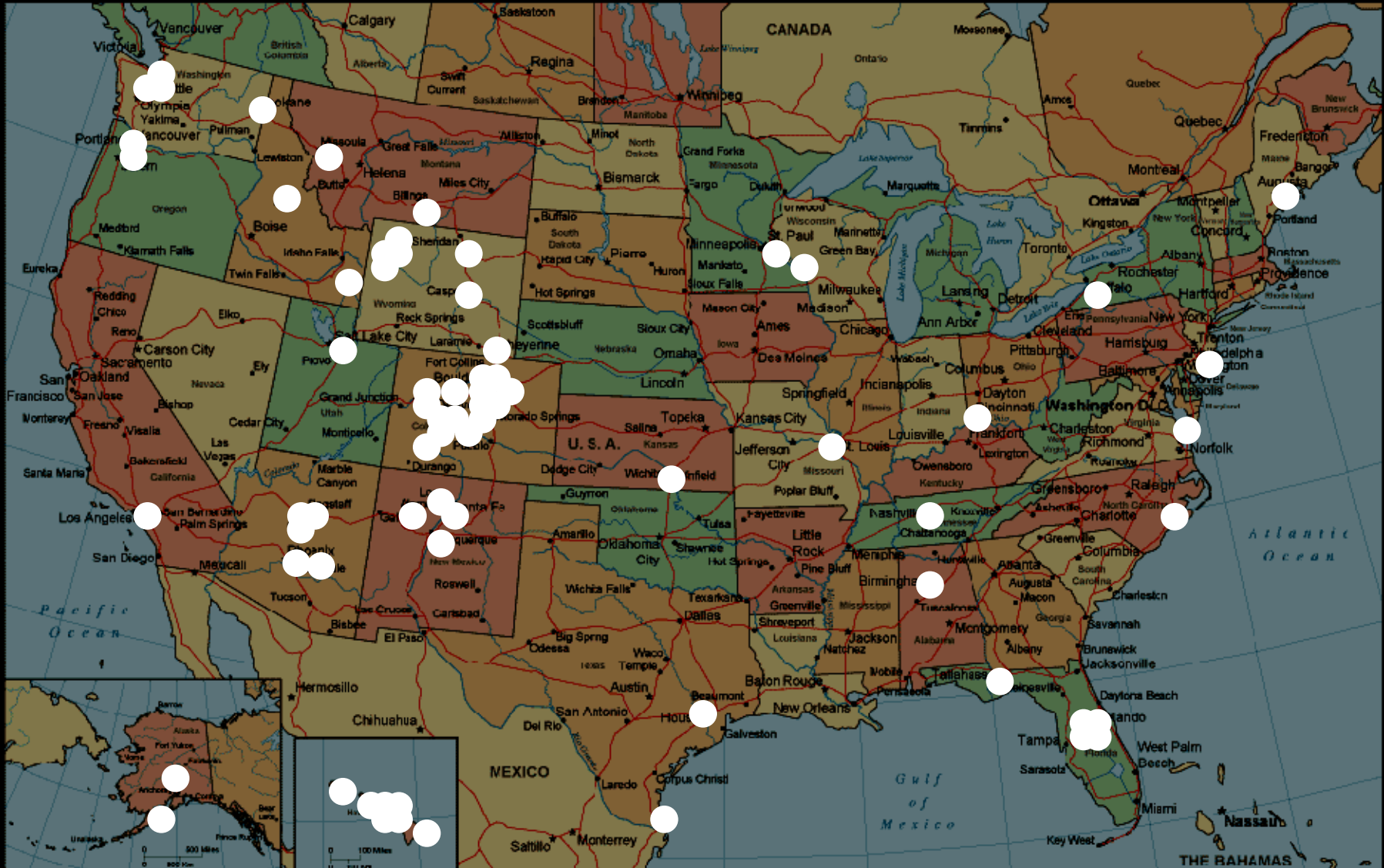
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# Our Work

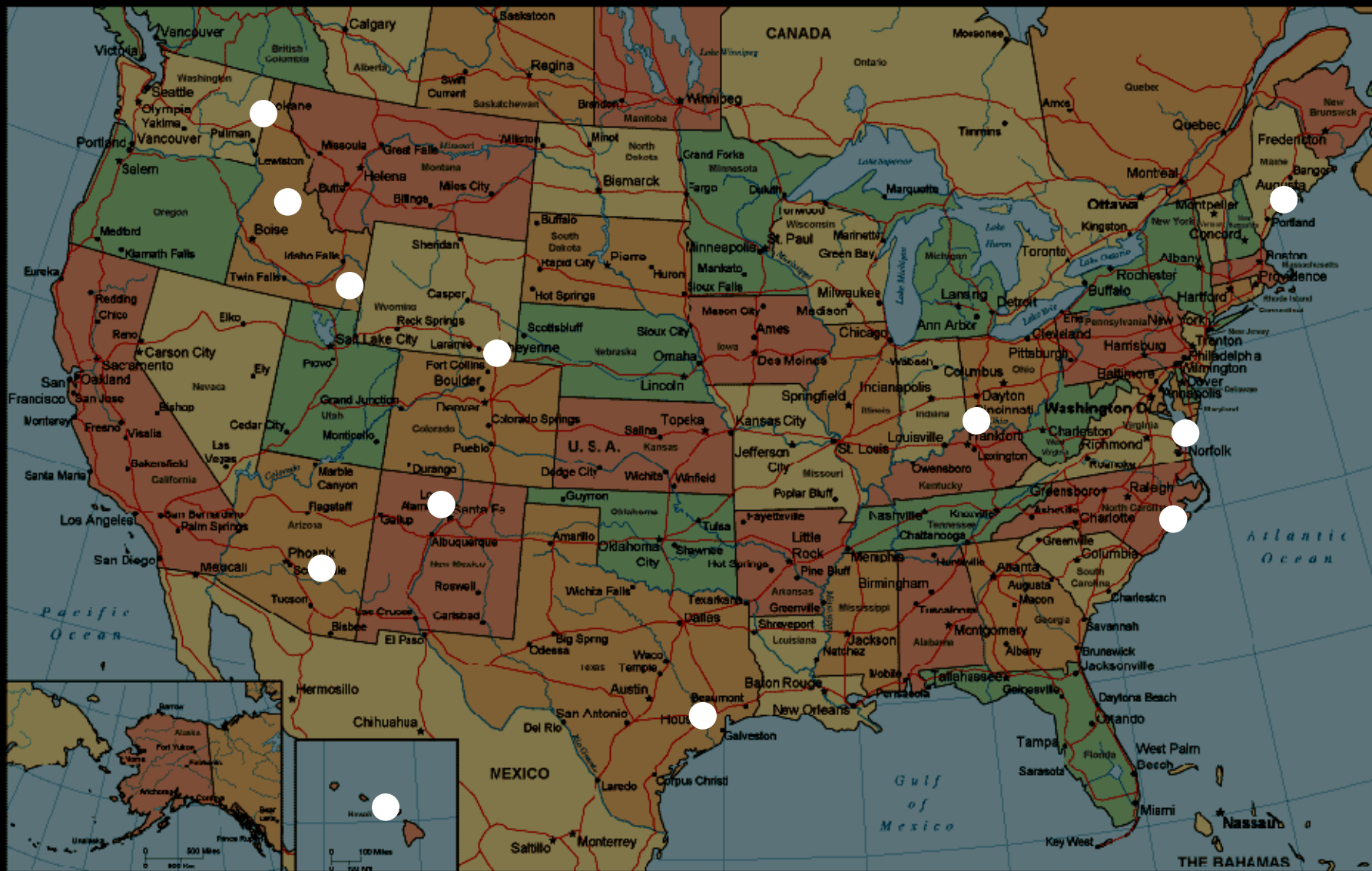


Charlier Associates, Inc.





# EPA Smart Growth Implementation Assistance Program





# “Sustainable Mobility”

## Principles & Policies



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Charlier Associates, Inc.

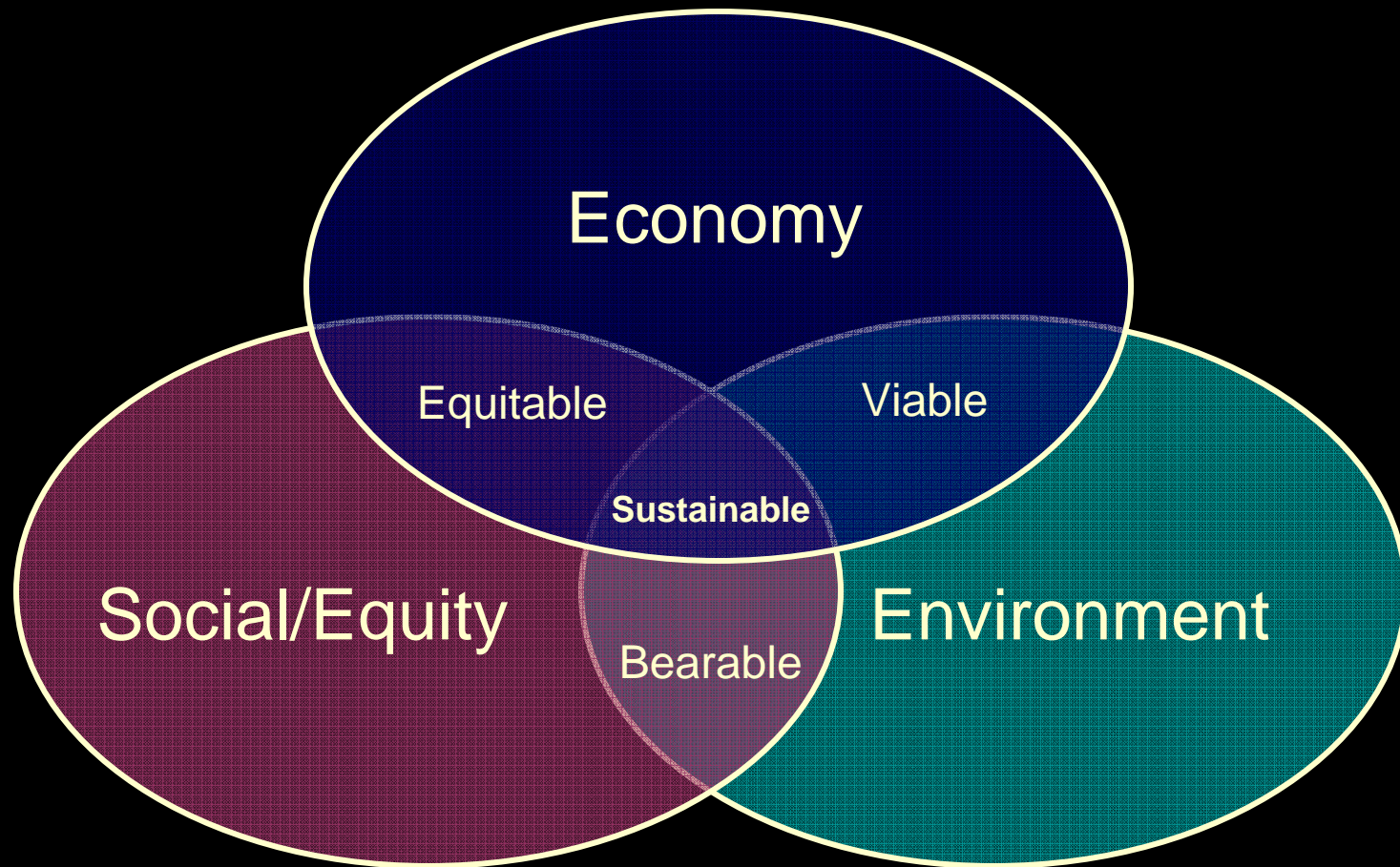
# 10 Principles – Sustainable Transportation

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1. Traffic Growth → Land Use
2. Balanced Mobility → Sprawl
3. Well Connected Networks of Small Streets
4. Scale & Character of Streets → Land Use
5. Limited Value of Traffic Demand Forecasts
6. Public Transit = Choice, Not Congestion Relief
7. Active Living = Personal & Community Health
8. Complete Streets = Multi-Modal Choices
9. Public Empowerment
10. Accountability, Monitoring & Reporting

# Classic Sustainability

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# What matters to Coloradans?

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- Thriving Family
- Personal Freedom
- Safety
- Physical & Mental Health
- Community Engagement
- Economic Opportunity

# Thriving Family



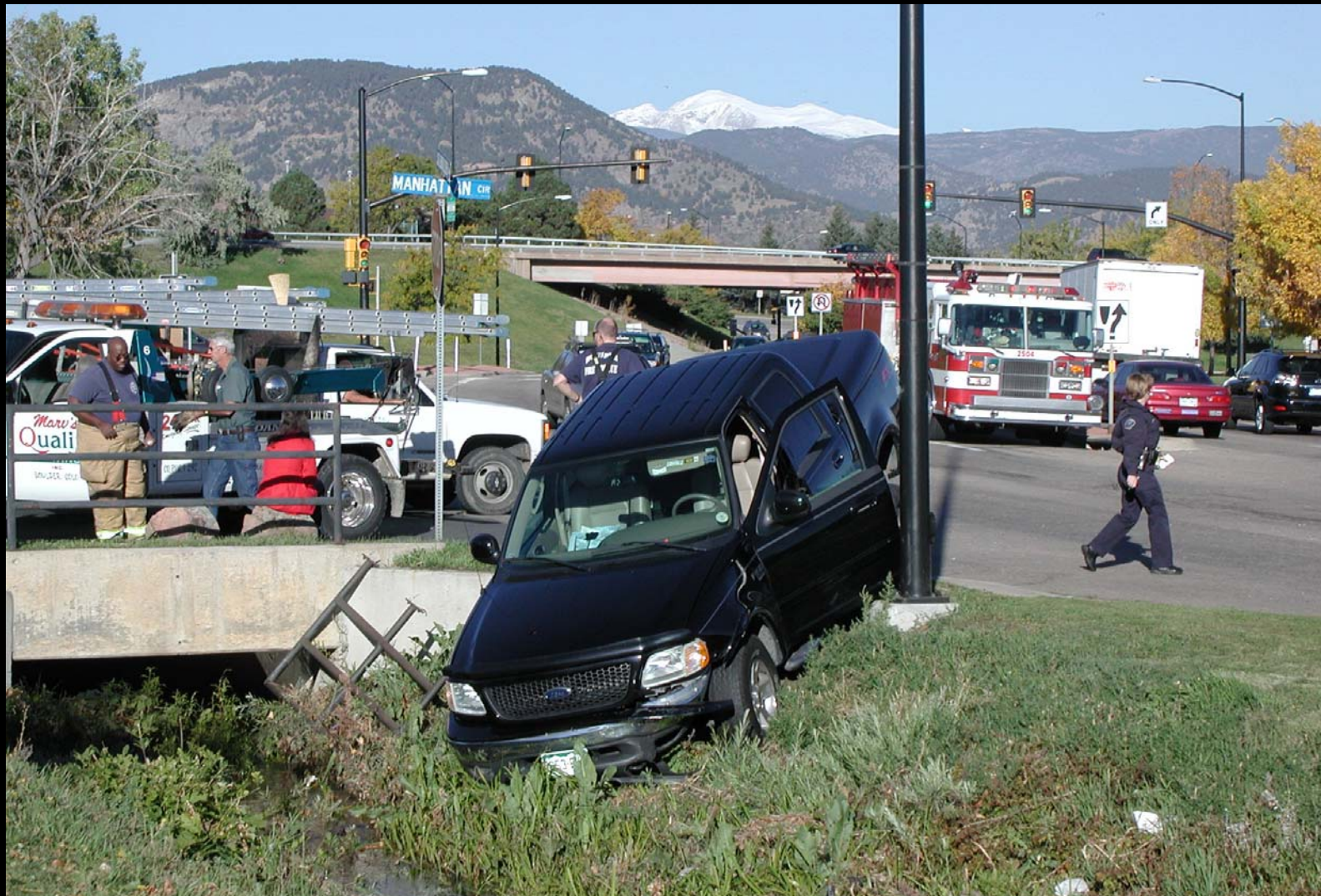


# Personal Freedom





# Safety





# Physical & Mental Health

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# Community Engagement

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# Economic Opportunity

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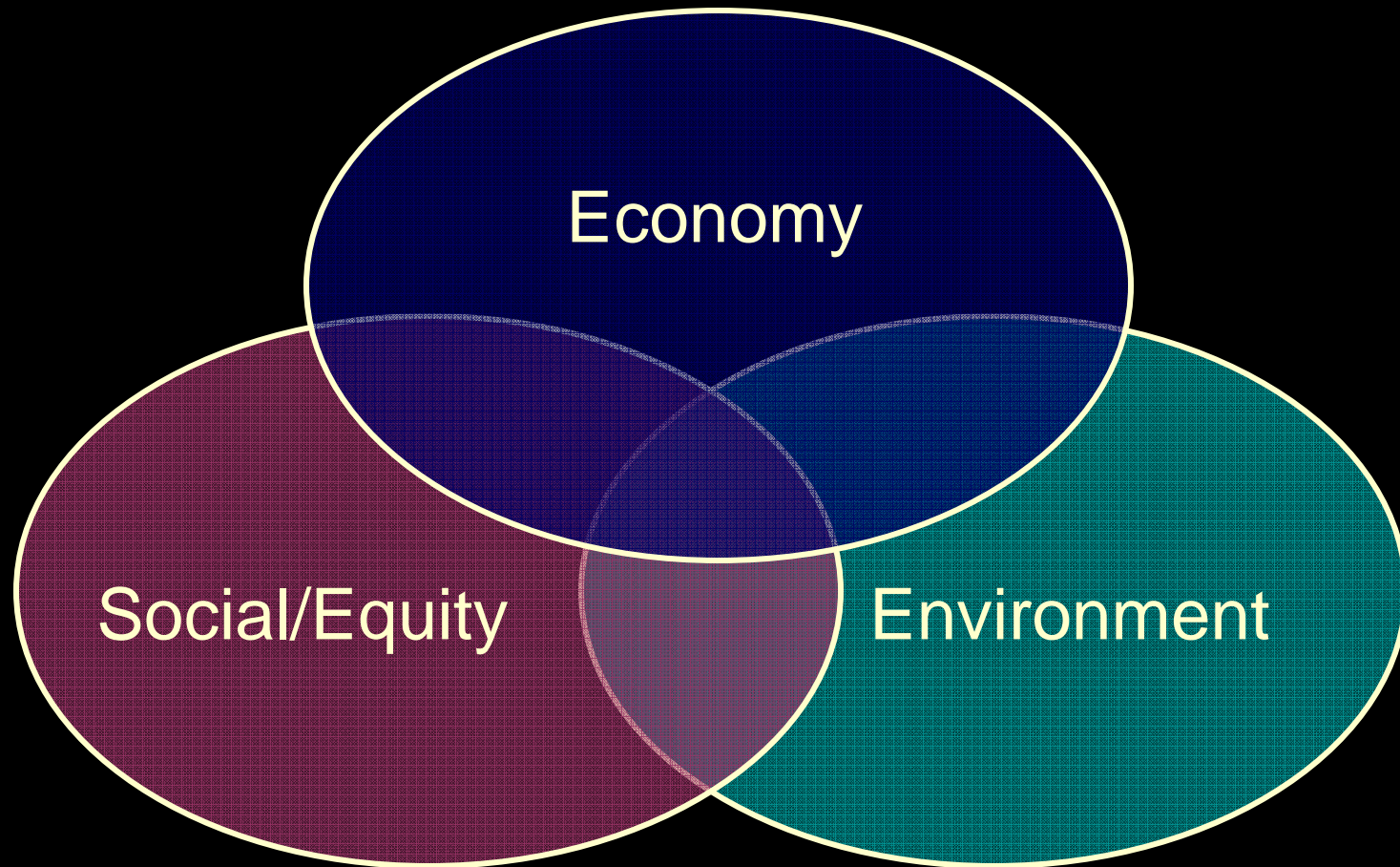
# 10 Principles – Sustainable Transportation

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# “Sustainability”

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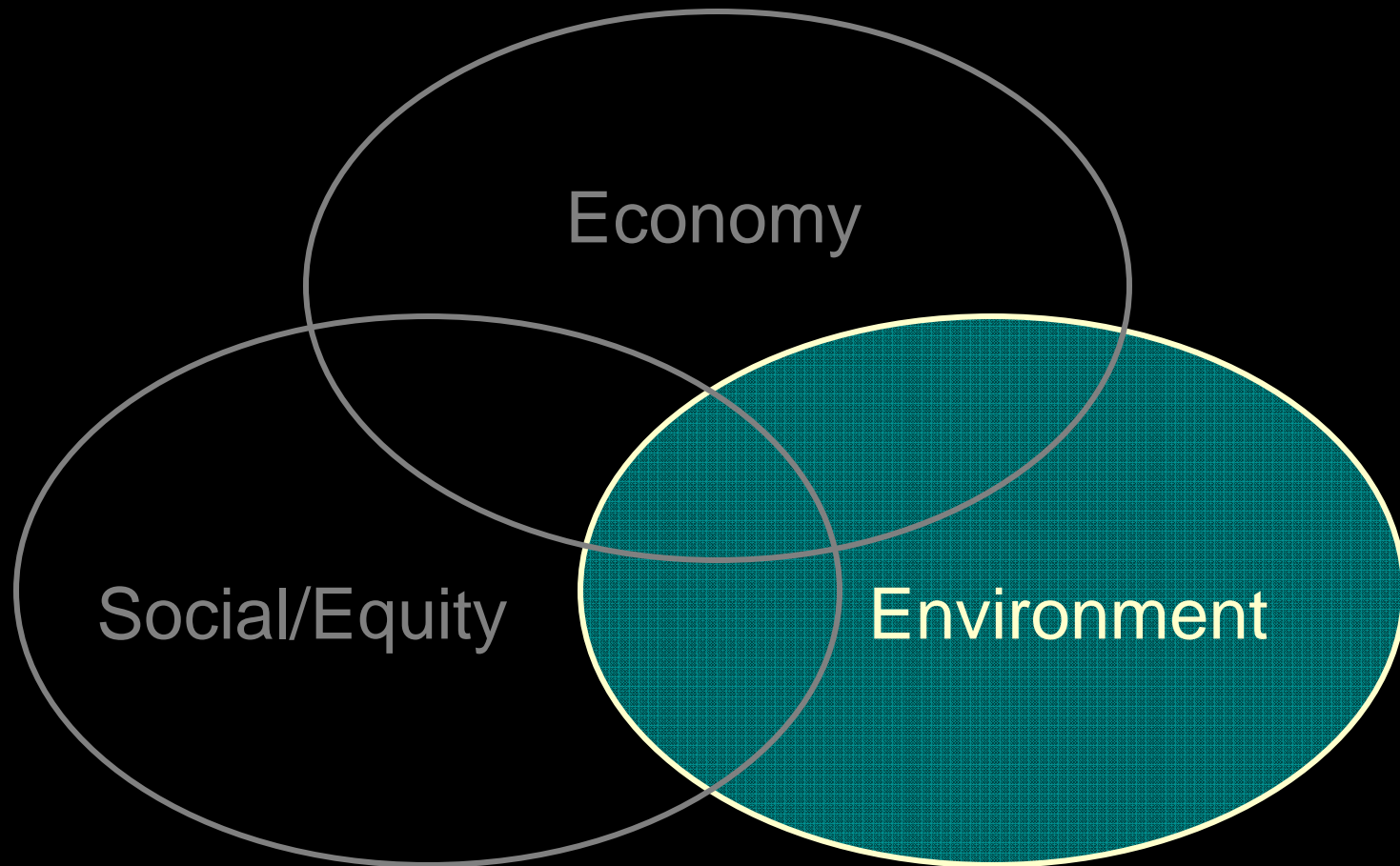


**1st....**



# “Sustainability”

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# Environment

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- A. Climate Change
- B. Pollution
- C. Energy Use
- D. Landscape
- E. Resource Efficiency

Environment

## A. Climate Change



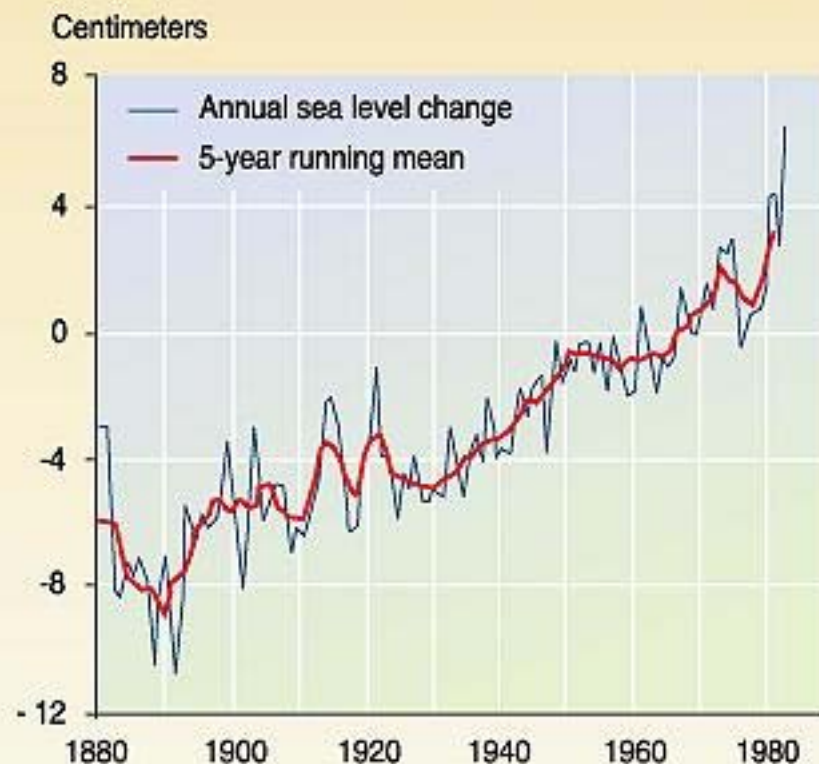




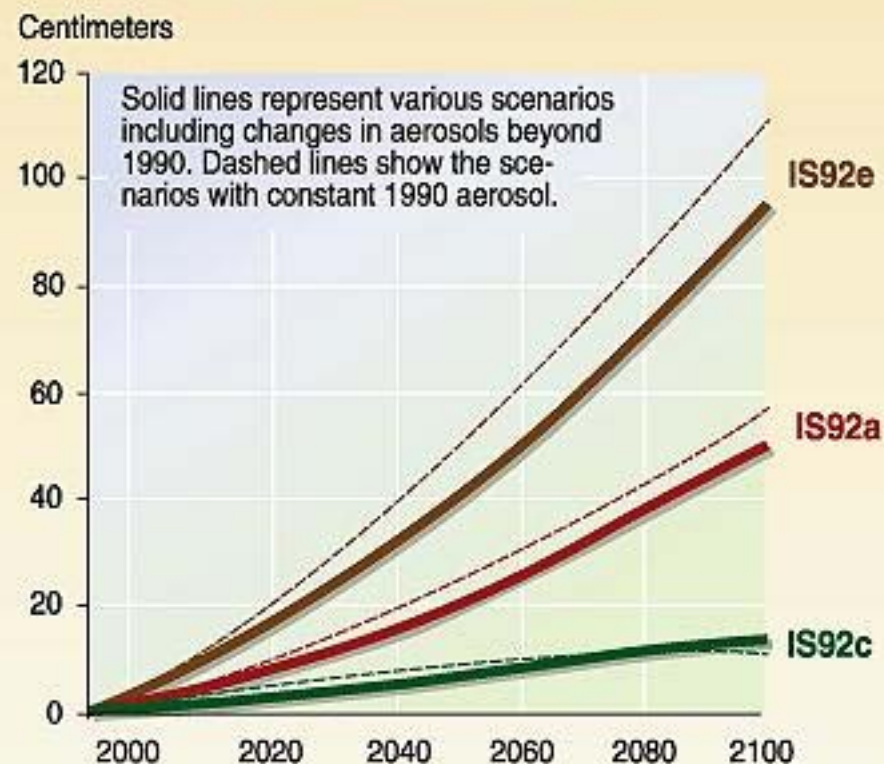


# Sea level rise due to global warming

## Sea level rise over the last century



## Sea level rise scenarios for 2100



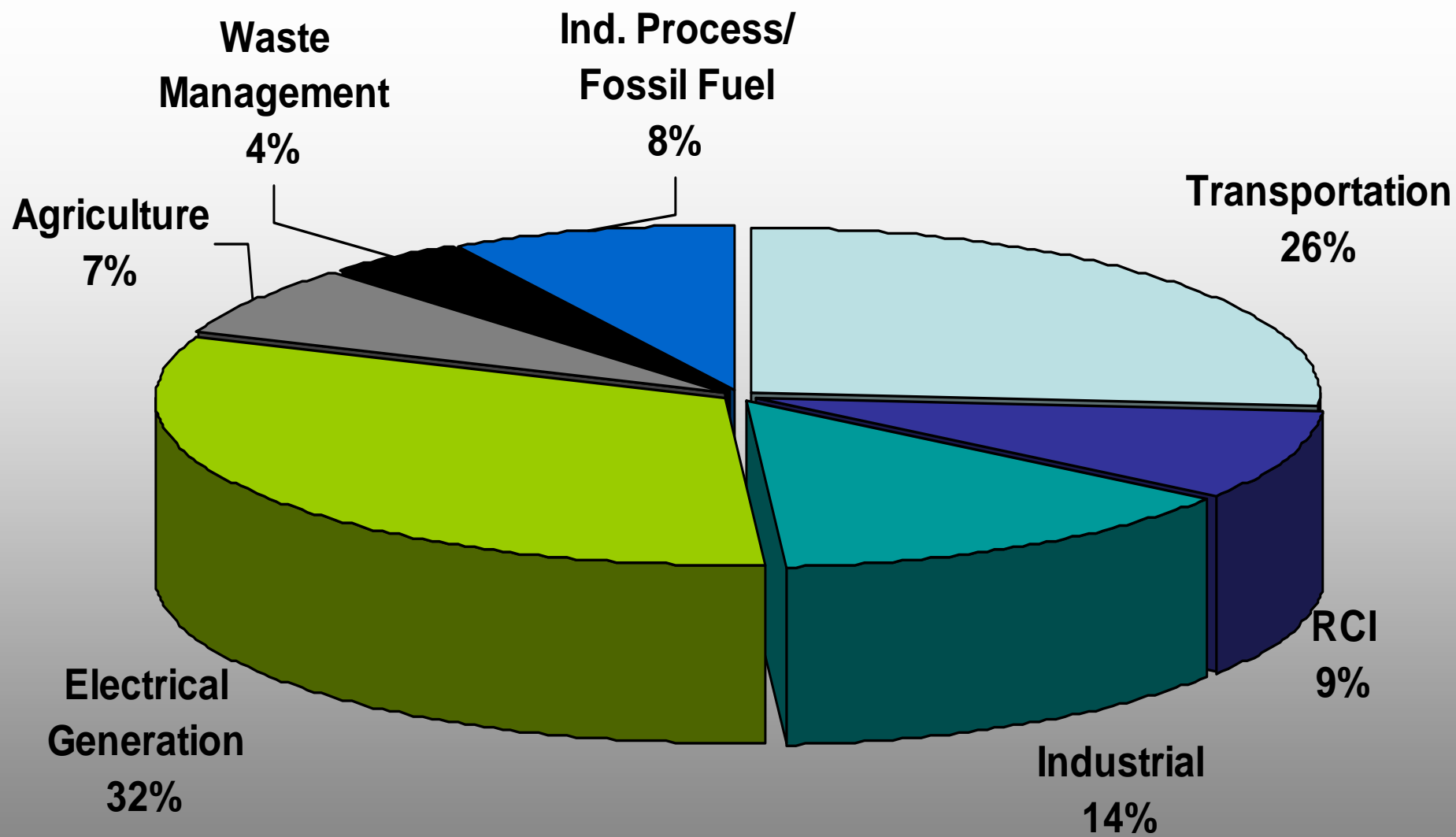
# Kyoto Protocol

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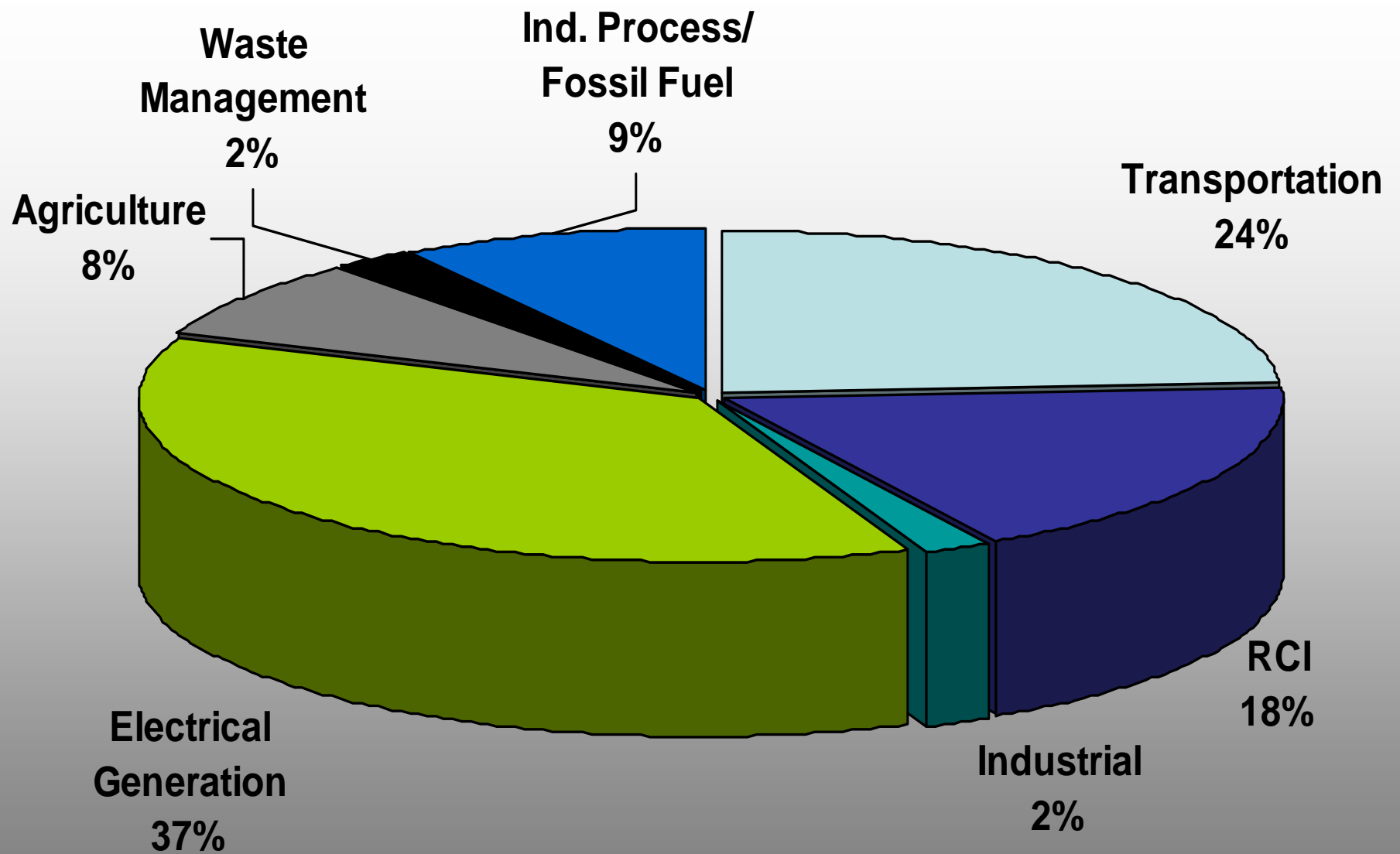
February 2005:

Worldwide goal to reduce emissions  
of carbon dioxide and  
other greenhouse gases (GHGs)  
by at least 5% from 1990 levels  
by year 2012





United States

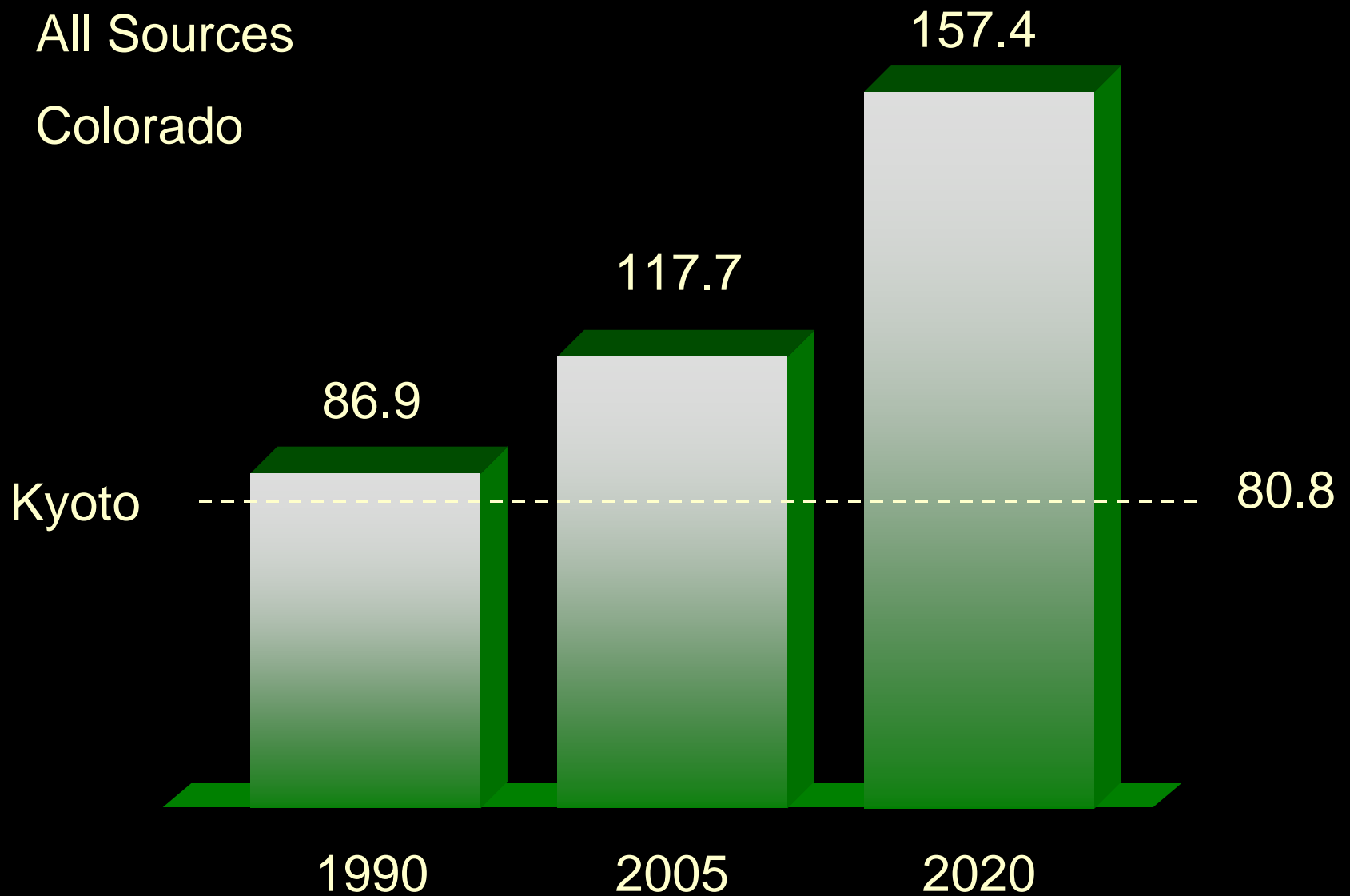


Colorado

# Gross Greenhouse Gas Emissions

All Sources

Colorado



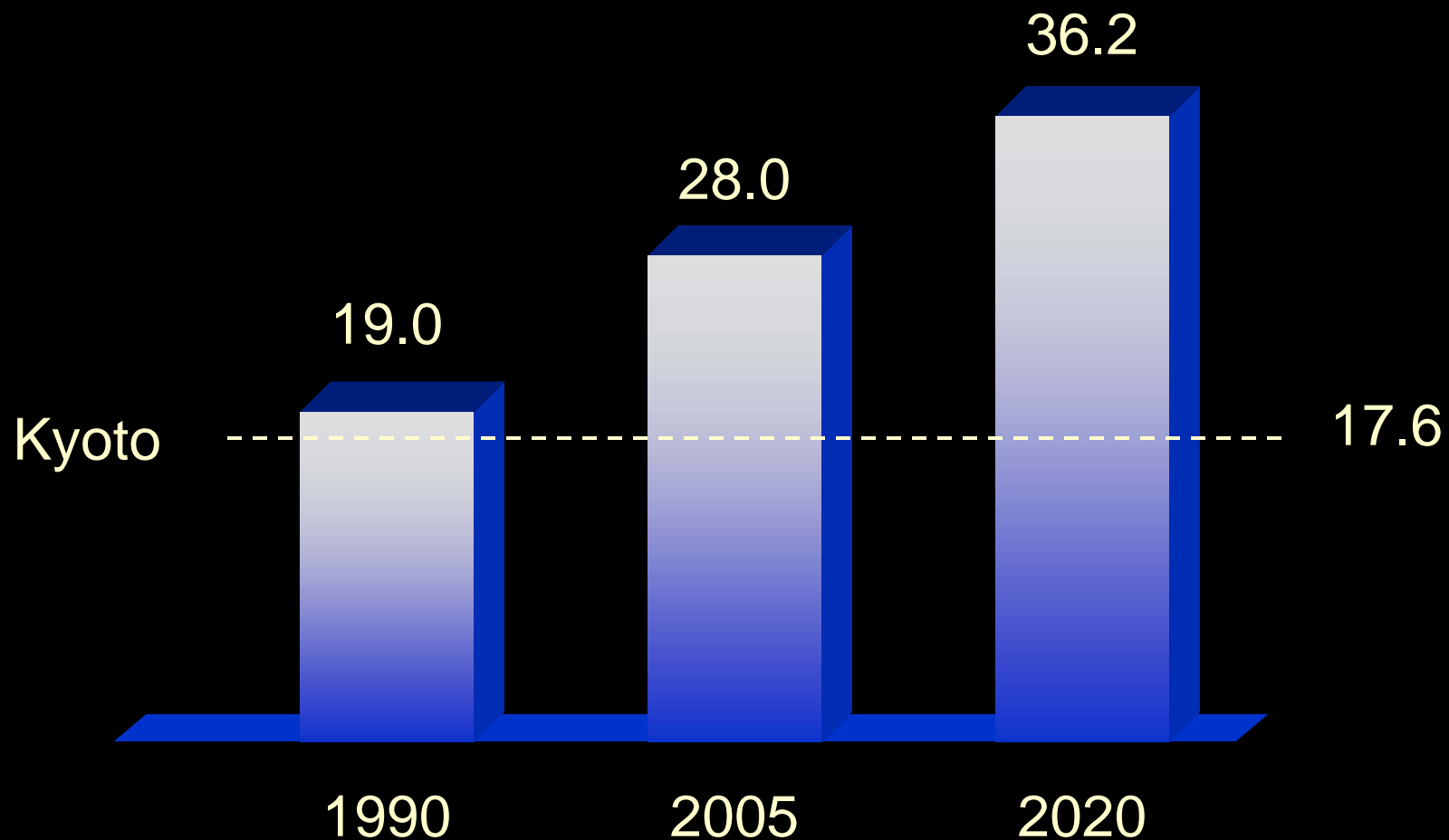


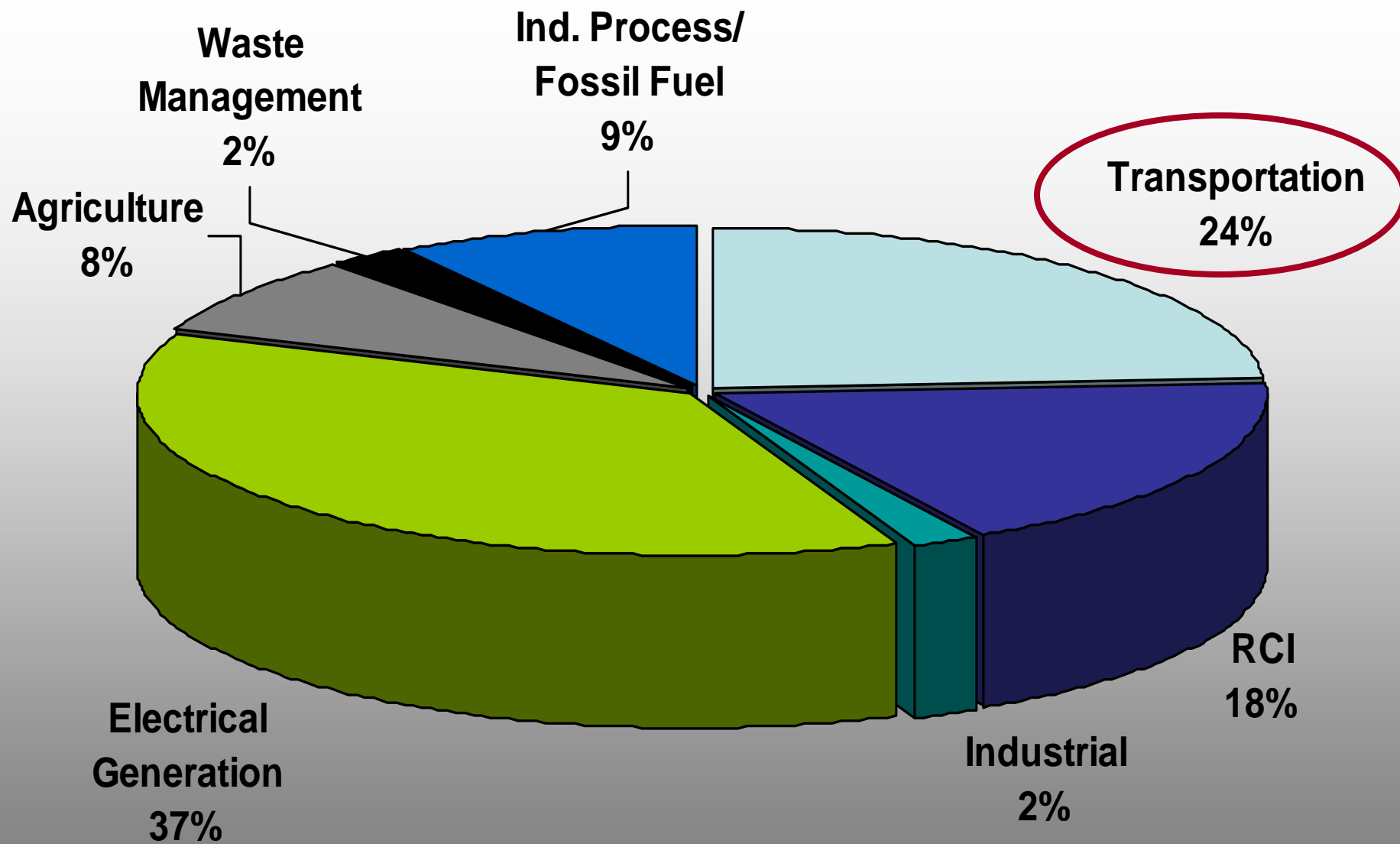
# Gross Greenhouse Gas Emissions

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Transportation

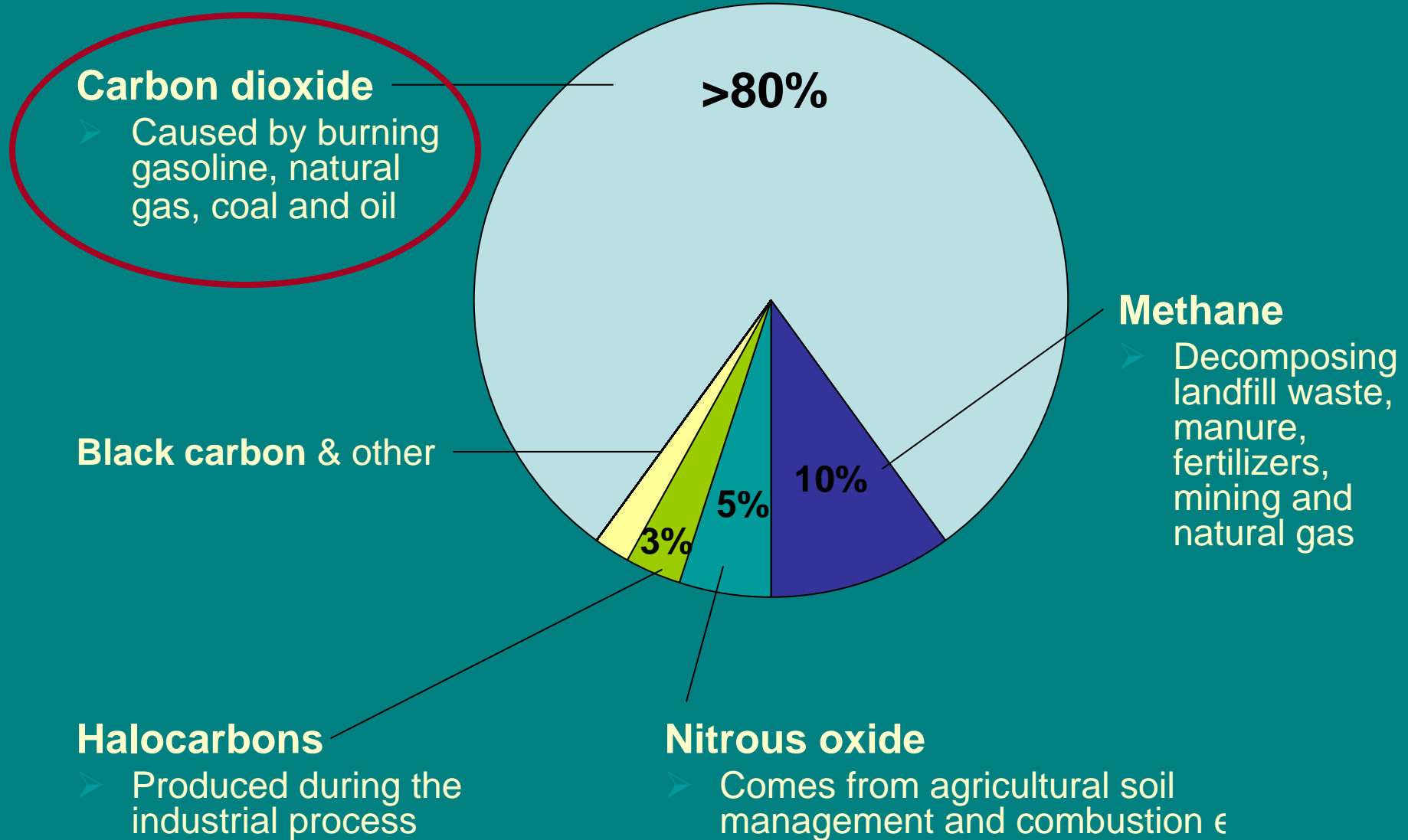
Colorado



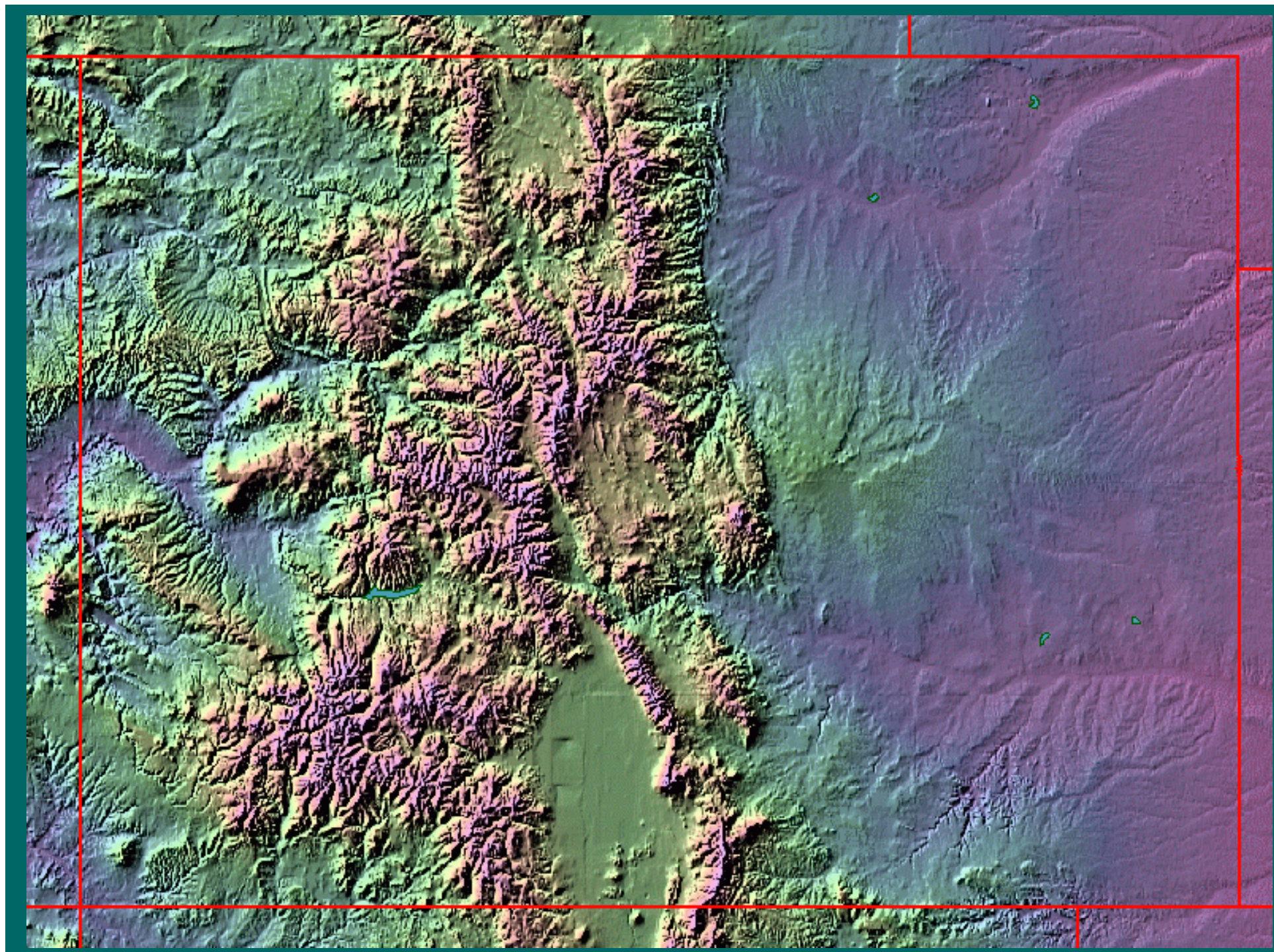


Colorado

# Greatest GHG Concerns

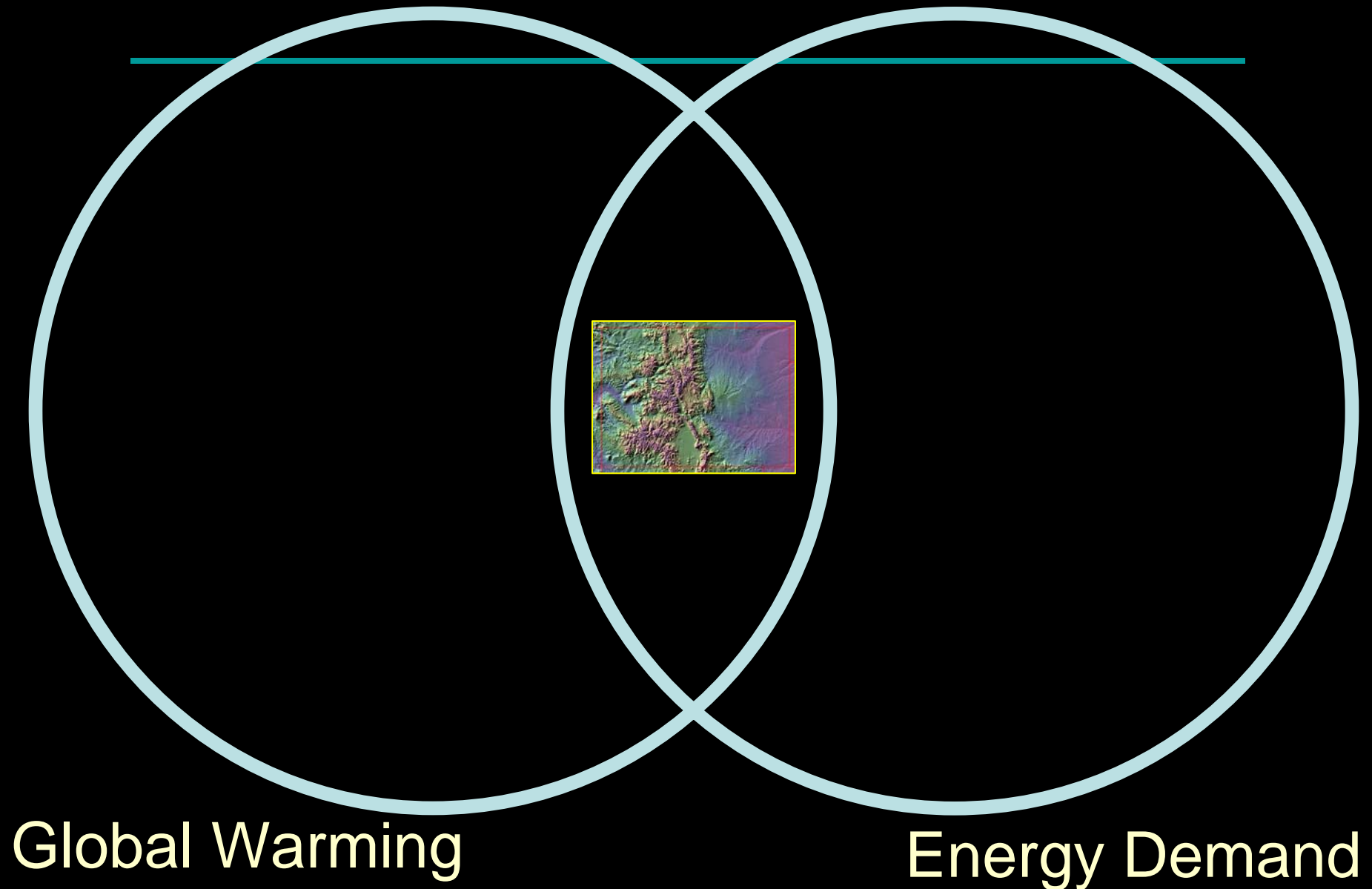




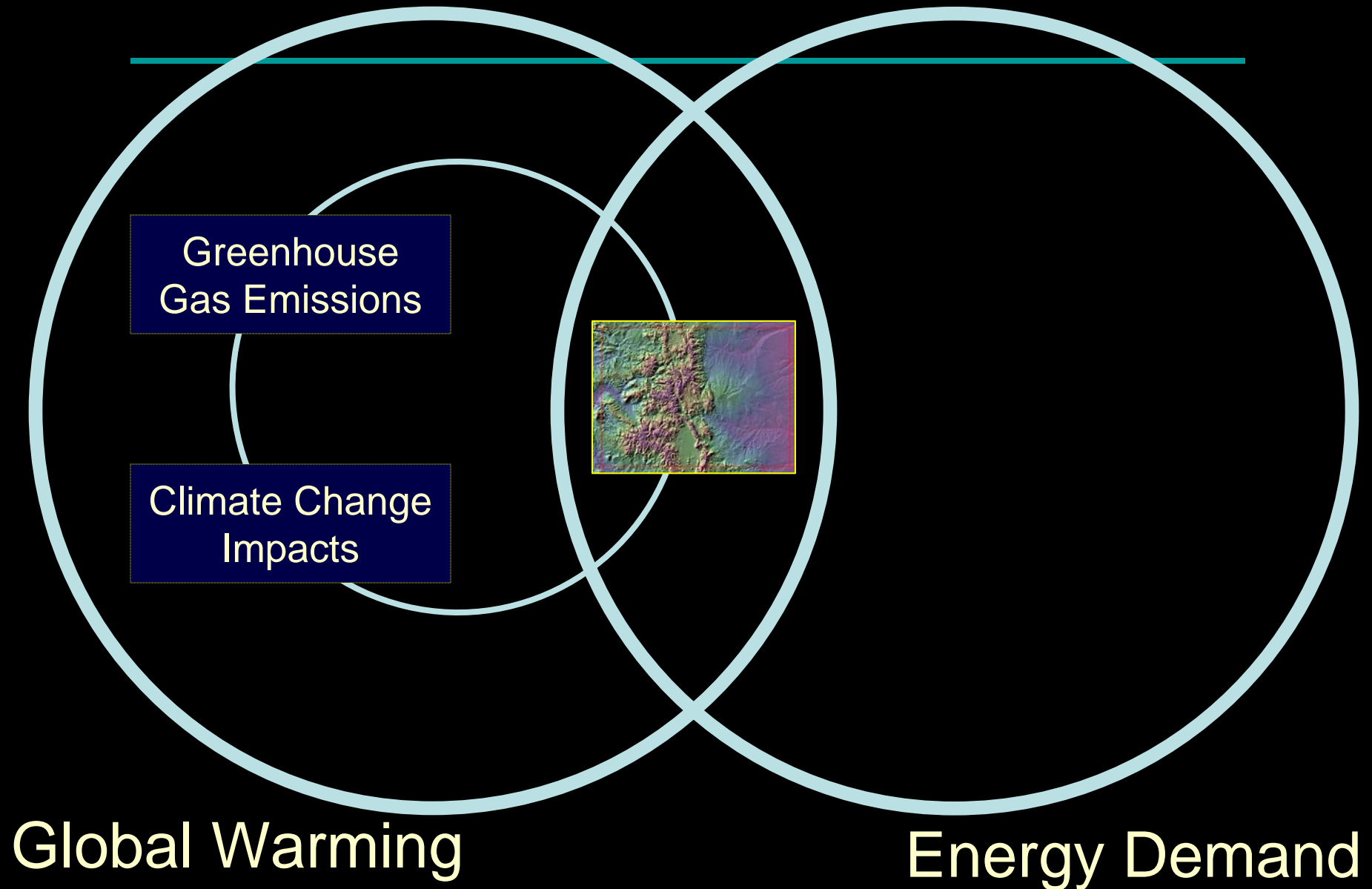




# Interconnected Systems

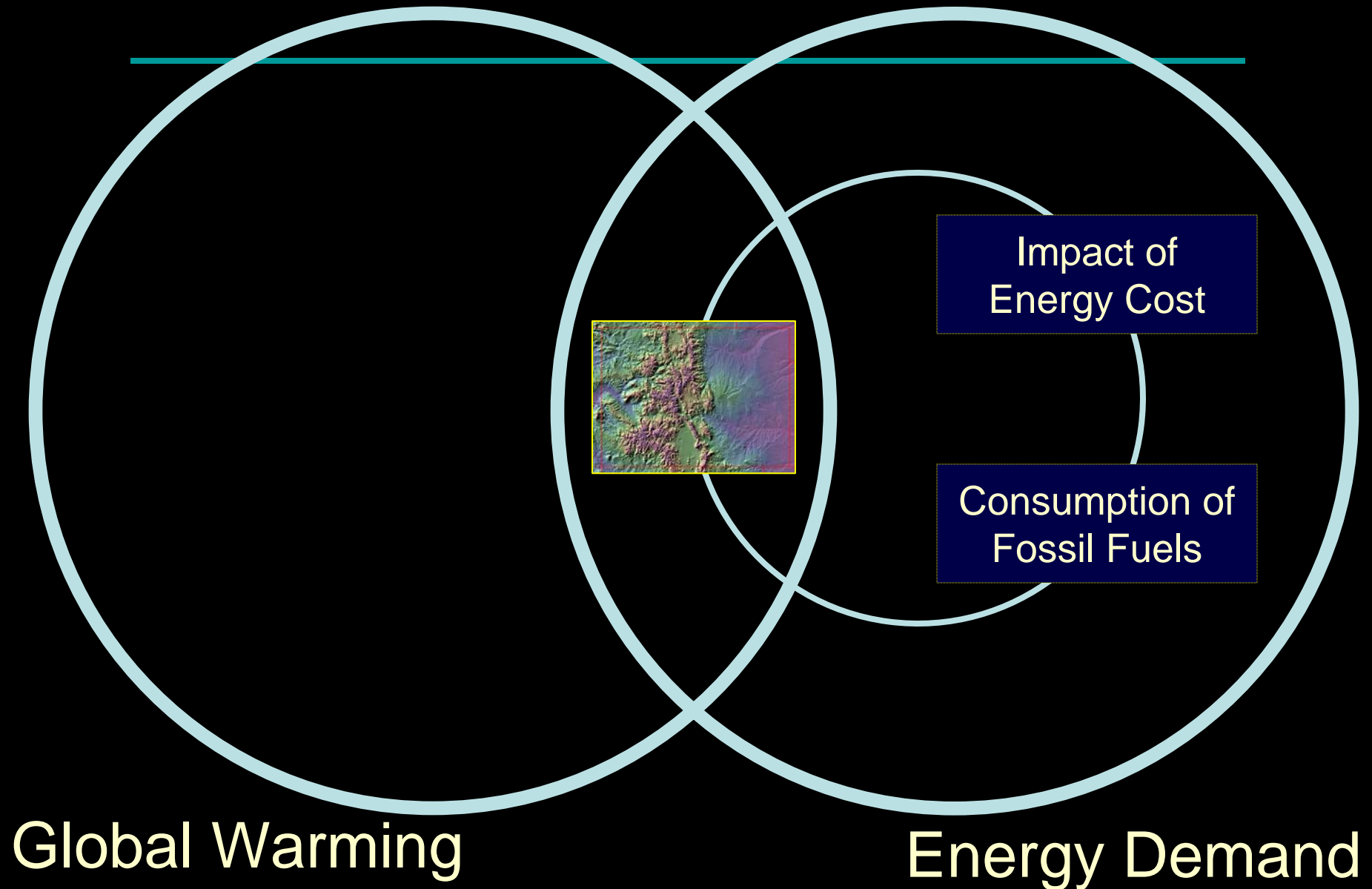


# Interconnected Systems

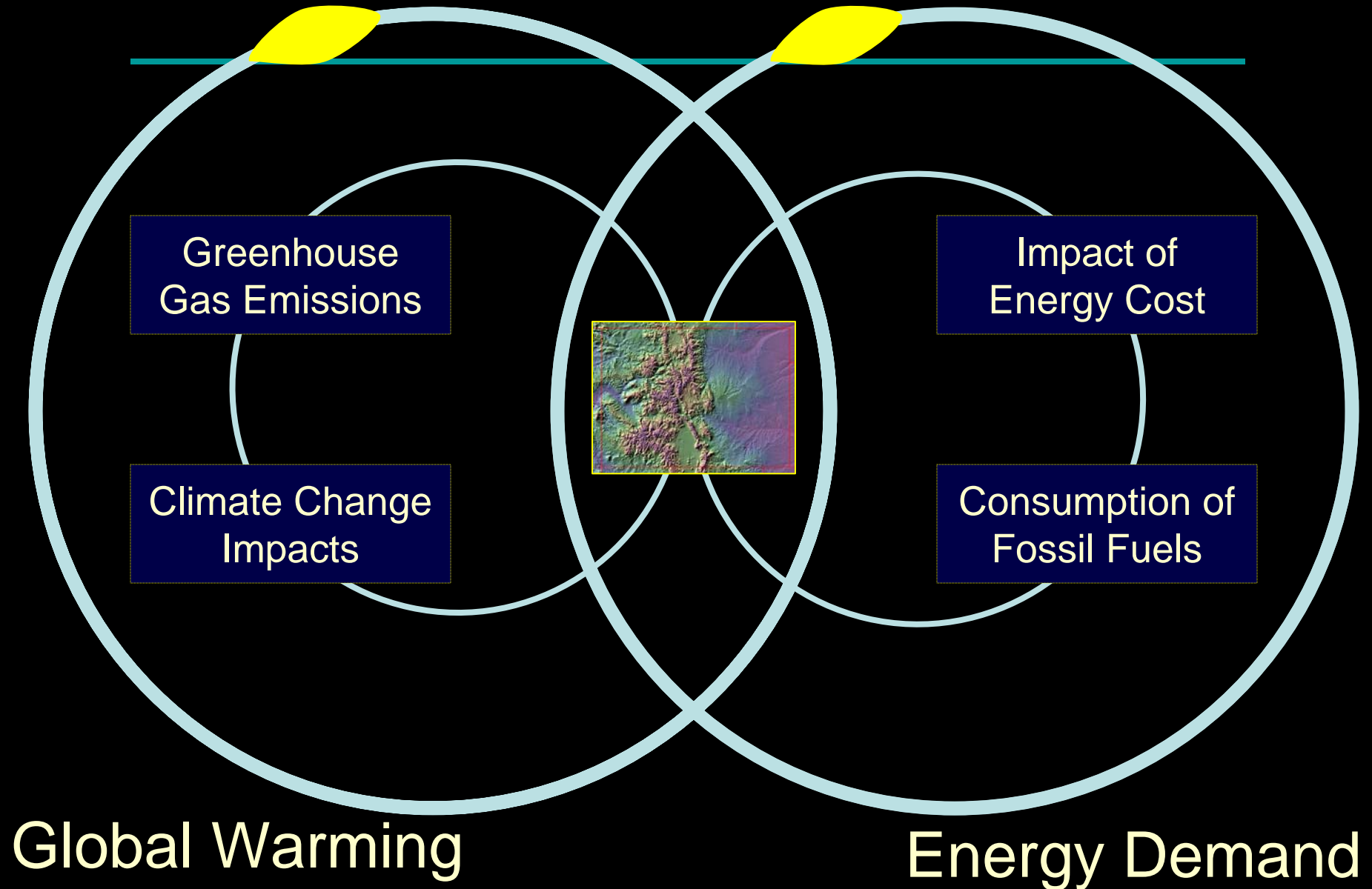




# Interconnected Systems



# Interconnected Systems



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Transportation policy, energy  
policy and climate change policy  
are inseparable.

Mayor's Greenprint Denver Advisory Council

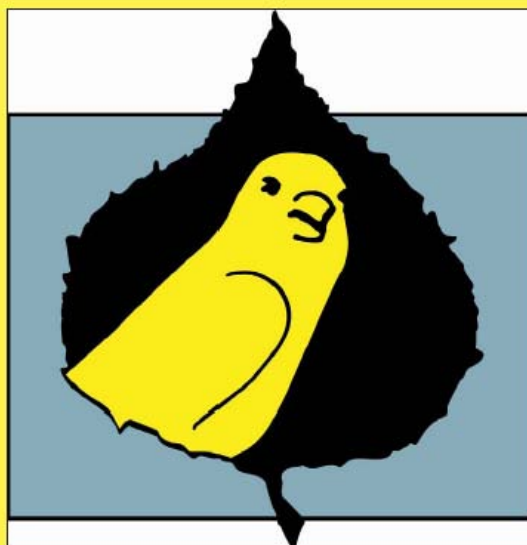
MAY 2007

## CITY OF DENVER CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

RECOMMENDATIONS TO MAYOR HICKENLOOPER



Draft for Public Input



City of Aspen Canary Initiative

Climate Action Plan  
2007-2009





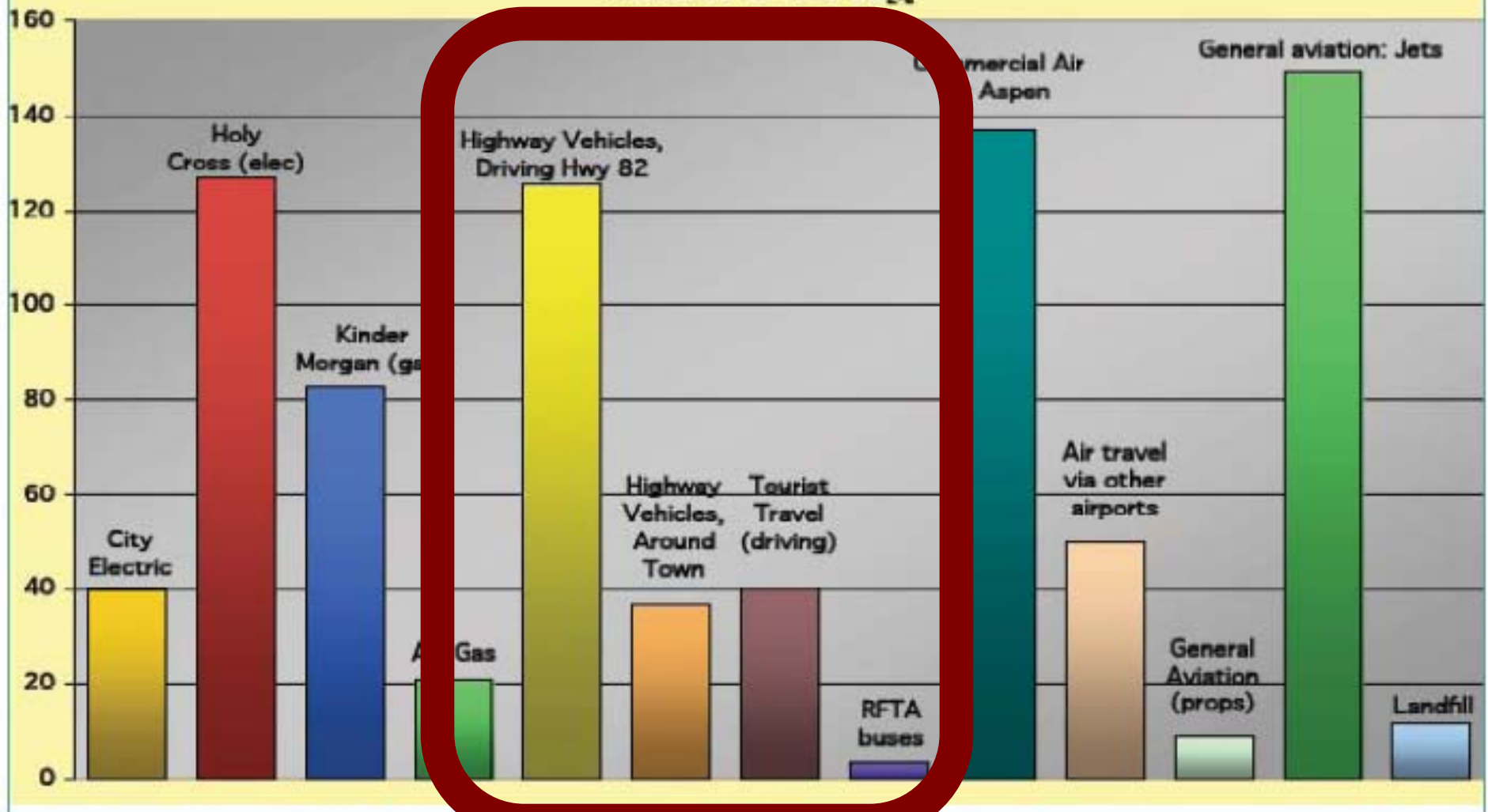


# Aspen, CO

- economically dependent on winter snow for recreation
- economically dependent on summer snow pack for water supply

## Aspen Emissions: Major Sources 2004

Thousands of Tons CO<sub>2</sub>-e



Aspen Greenhouse Gas Emissions 2004: Richard Heede, Climate Mitigation Services.

# Aspen Transportation Objectives

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1. Reduce volume of single occupancy traffic
2. Create mass transit-oriented transportation alternatives
3. Increase use of highly fuel-efficient vehicles and low emissions-fuel engines
4. Require all new development projects have a net decrease in transportation related emissions
5. Reduce emissions from air travel

Environment

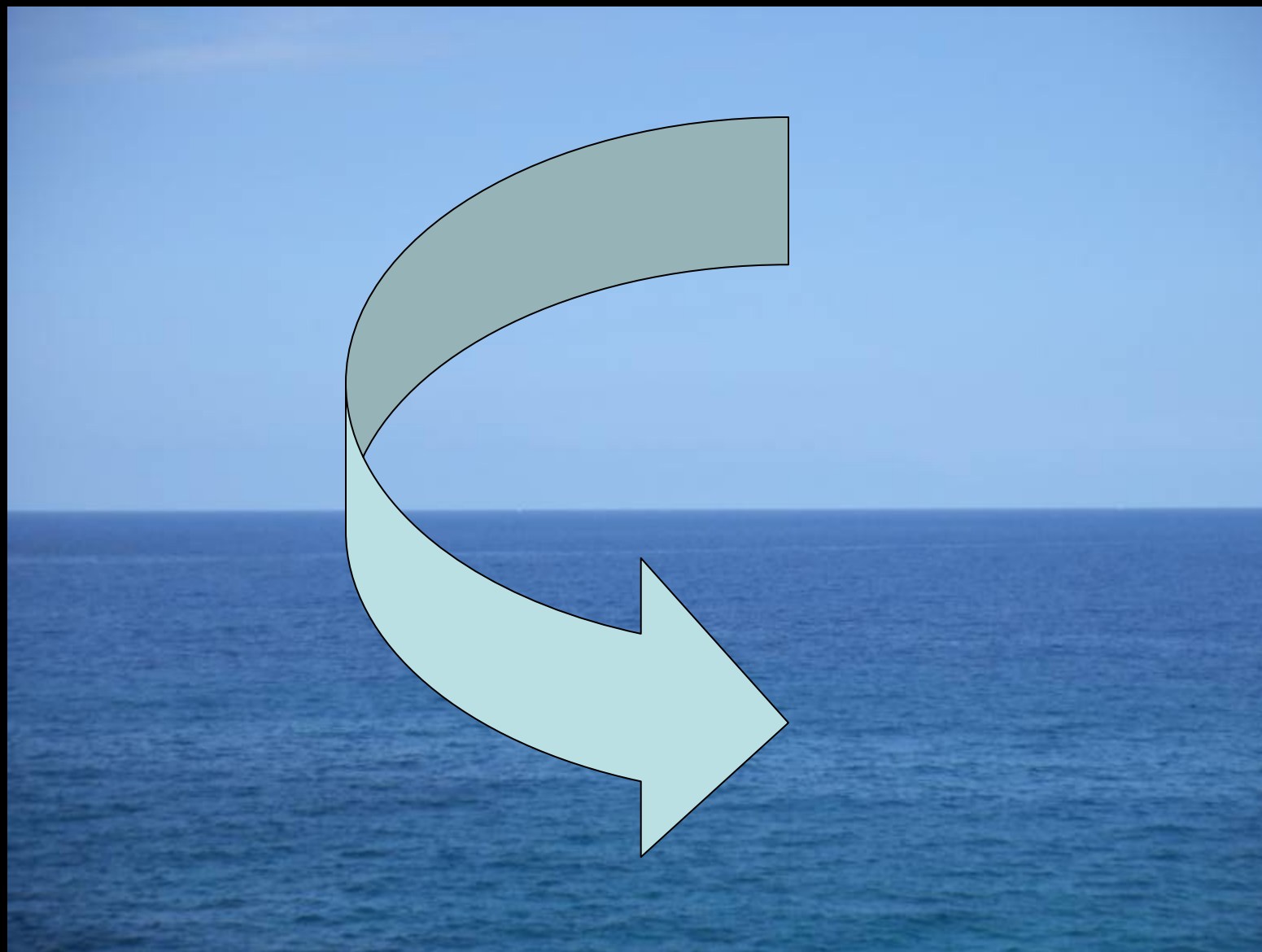
## B. Pollution



# Transportation & Pollution

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- Air Quality
- Water Quality



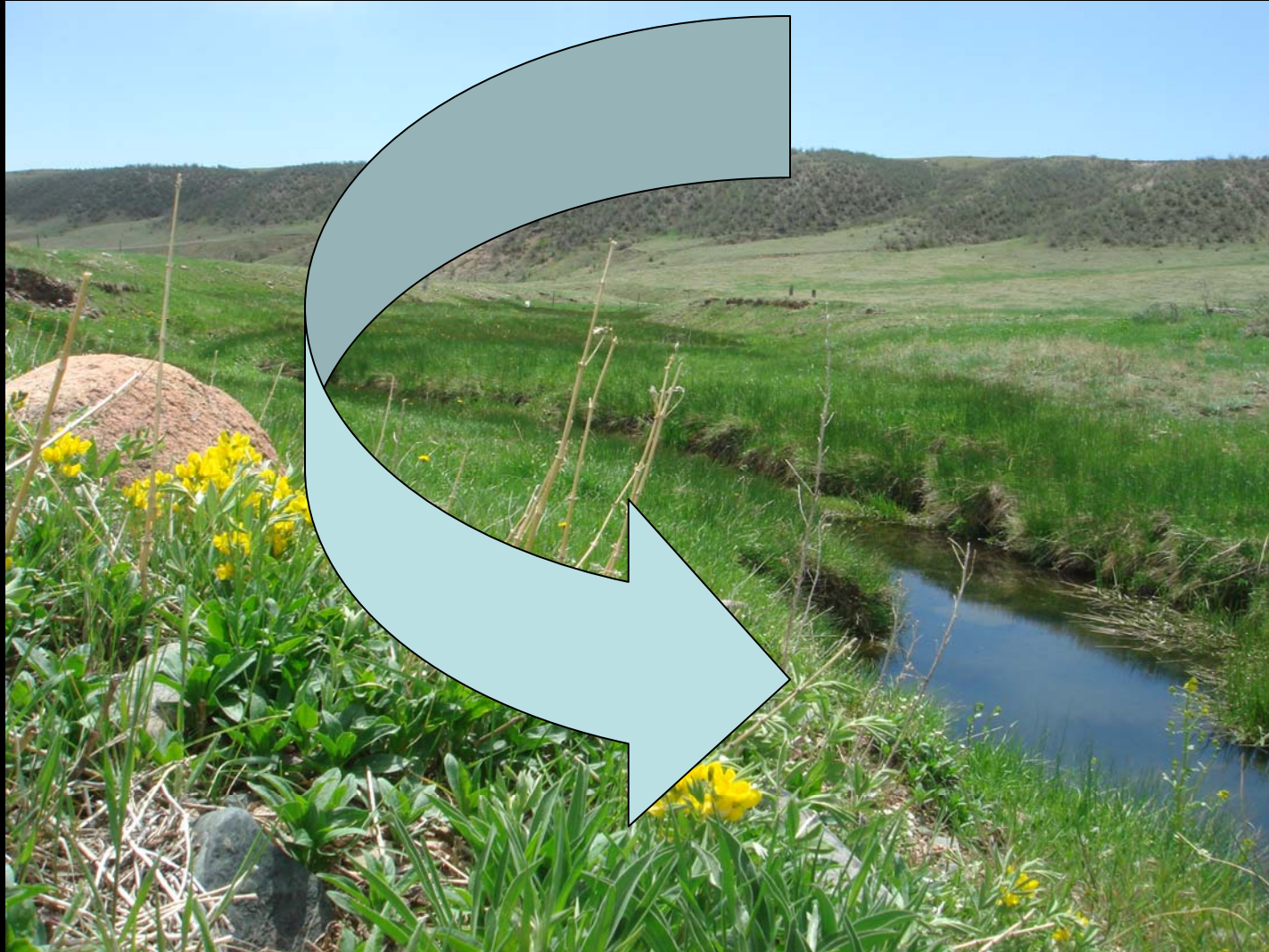
# Criteria Air Pollutants

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- Carbon Monoxide
- Ozone
  - Hydrocarbons
  - NO<sub>x</sub> – Nitrous Oxides
- Particulate Matter

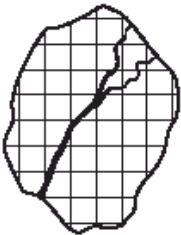


# Land and Water

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# At the watershed level...

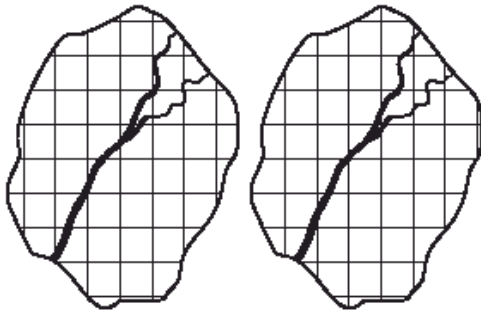
Scenario A	Scenario B	Scenario C
		
1 unit/acre	4 units/acre	8 units/acre
10,000 houses built on 10,000 acres produce: 10,000 acres x 1 house x 18,700 ft <sup>3</sup> /yr of runoff = <b>187 million ft<sup>3</sup>/yr of stormwater runoff</b> <b>Site: 20% impervious cover</b> <b>Watershed: 20% impervious cover</b>	10,000 houses built on 2,500 acres produce: 2,500 acres x 4 houses x 6,200 ft <sup>3</sup> /yr of runoff = <b>62 million ft<sup>3</sup>/yr of stormwater runoff</b> <b>Site: 38% impervious cover</b> <b>Watershed: 9.5% impervious cover</b>	10,000 houses built on 1,250 acres produce: 1,250 acres x 8 houses x 4,950 ft <sup>3</sup> /yr of runoff = <b>49.5 million ft<sup>3</sup>/yr of stormwater runoff</b> <b>Site: 65% impervious cover</b> <b>Watershed: 8.1% impervious cover</b>

Accommodating  
10,000 units on a  
10,000 acre  
watershed at  
different  
densities

The lower density  
scenario creates  
more run-off and  
consumes more  
land that the  
higher density  
scenario

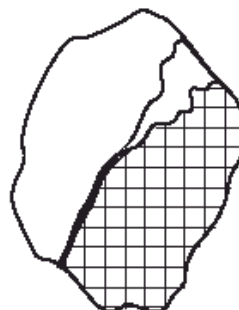
# By 2020...

## Scenario A



**1 unit/acre**  
20,000 houses accommodated on 20,000 acres at a density of 1 house per acre will consume 2 watersheds.

## Scenario B



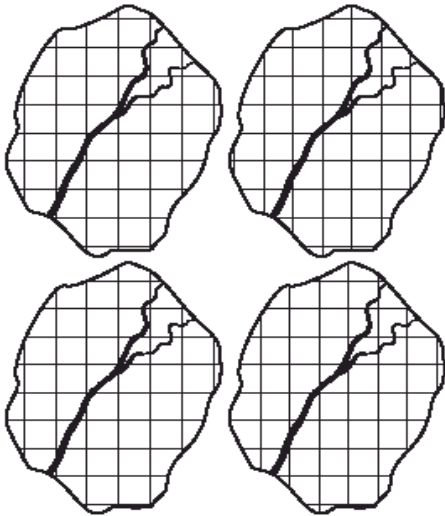
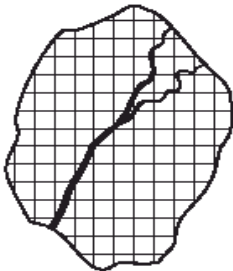
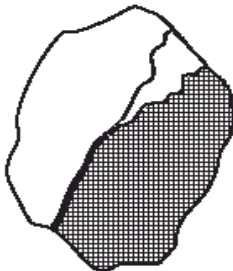
**4 units/acre**  
20,000 houses accommodated on 5,000 acres at a density of 4 houses per acre will consume ½ of 1 watershed.

## Scenario C



**8 units/acre**  
20,000 houses accommodated on 2,500 acres at a density of eight houses per acre will consume ¼ of 1 watershed.

# And By 2040...

Scenario A	Scenario B	Scenario C
		
40,000 houses on 40,000 acres at a density of 1 house per acre will consume 4 watersheds.	40,000 houses on 10,000 acres at a density of 4 houses per acre will consume 1 watershed.	40,000 houses on 5,000 acres at a density of 8 houses per acre will consume ½ of 1 watershed.

# Which is better for watershed water quality?

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Low Density

OR

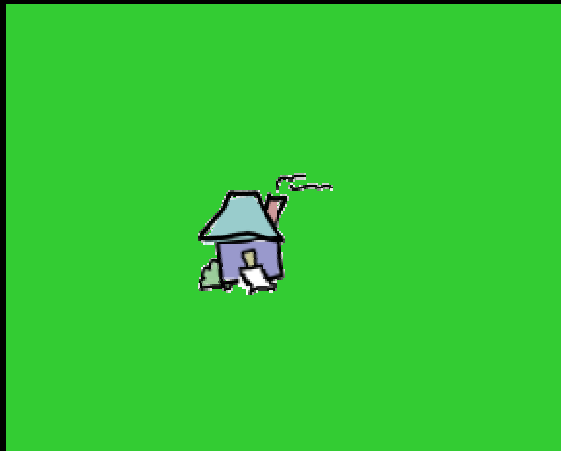


Higher Density



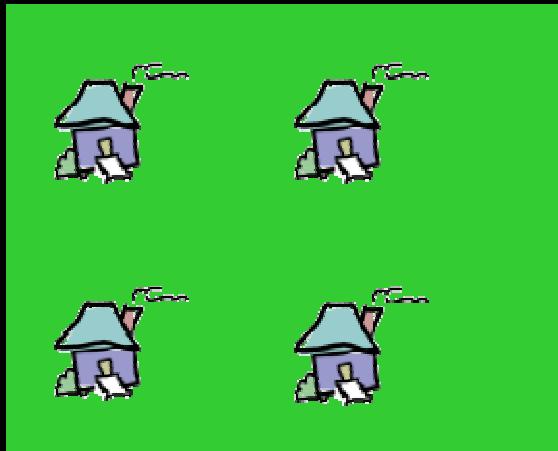
# EPA Research: Smart Growth & Water

*Scenario A:  
1 unit/acre*



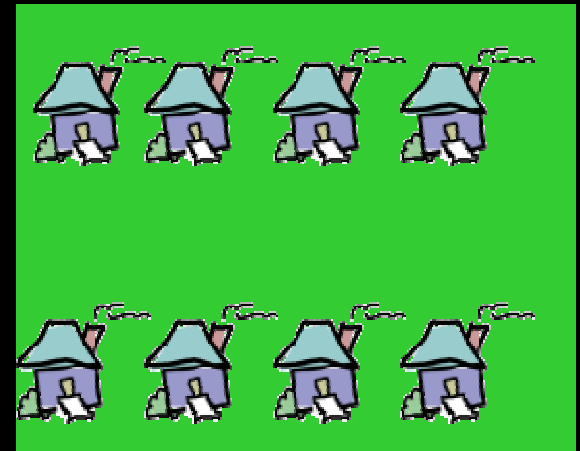
Impervious cover = 20%  
Runoff/acre = 18,700 ft<sup>3</sup>/yr  
Runoff/unit = 18,700 ft<sup>3</sup>/yr

*Scenario B:  
4 units/acre*



Impervious cover = 38%  
Runoff/acre = 24,800 ft<sup>3</sup>/yr  
Runoff/unit = 6,200 ft<sup>3</sup>/yr

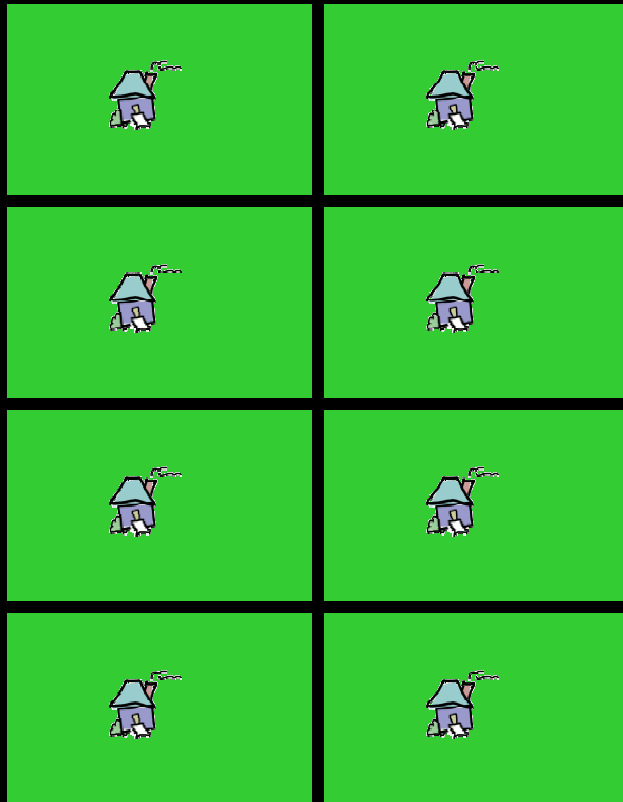
*Scenario C:  
8 units/acre*



Impervious cover = 65%  
Runoff/acre = 39,600 ft<sup>3</sup>/yr  
Runoff/unit = 4,950 ft<sup>3</sup>/yr

# Accommodating 8 homes at varying densities

## Scenario A: 1 unit/acre



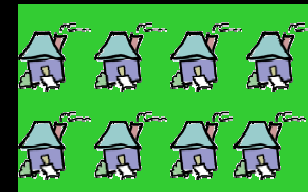
Impervious cover = 20%  
Total runoff = 149,600 ft<sup>3</sup>/yr  
Runoff/house = 18,700 ft<sup>3</sup>/yr

## Scenario B: 4 units/acre



Impervious cover = 38%  
Total runoff = 49,600 ft<sup>3</sup>/yr  
Runoff/house = 6,200 ft<sup>3</sup>/yr

## Scenario C: 8 units/acre



Impervious cover = 65%  
Total runoff = 39,600 ft<sup>3</sup>/yr  
Runoff/house = 4,950 ft<sup>3</sup>/yr

# Managing Pollution

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- Reducing vehicle miles of travel per capita
  - Providing full set of travel modes
  - Developing mixed use land patterns
- Reducing stormwater flows into surface water (streams & lakes)
  - Reducing impervious area
  - Detaining flows in rain gardens, etc.

Environment

## C. Energy Use



# Are we running out of gas?



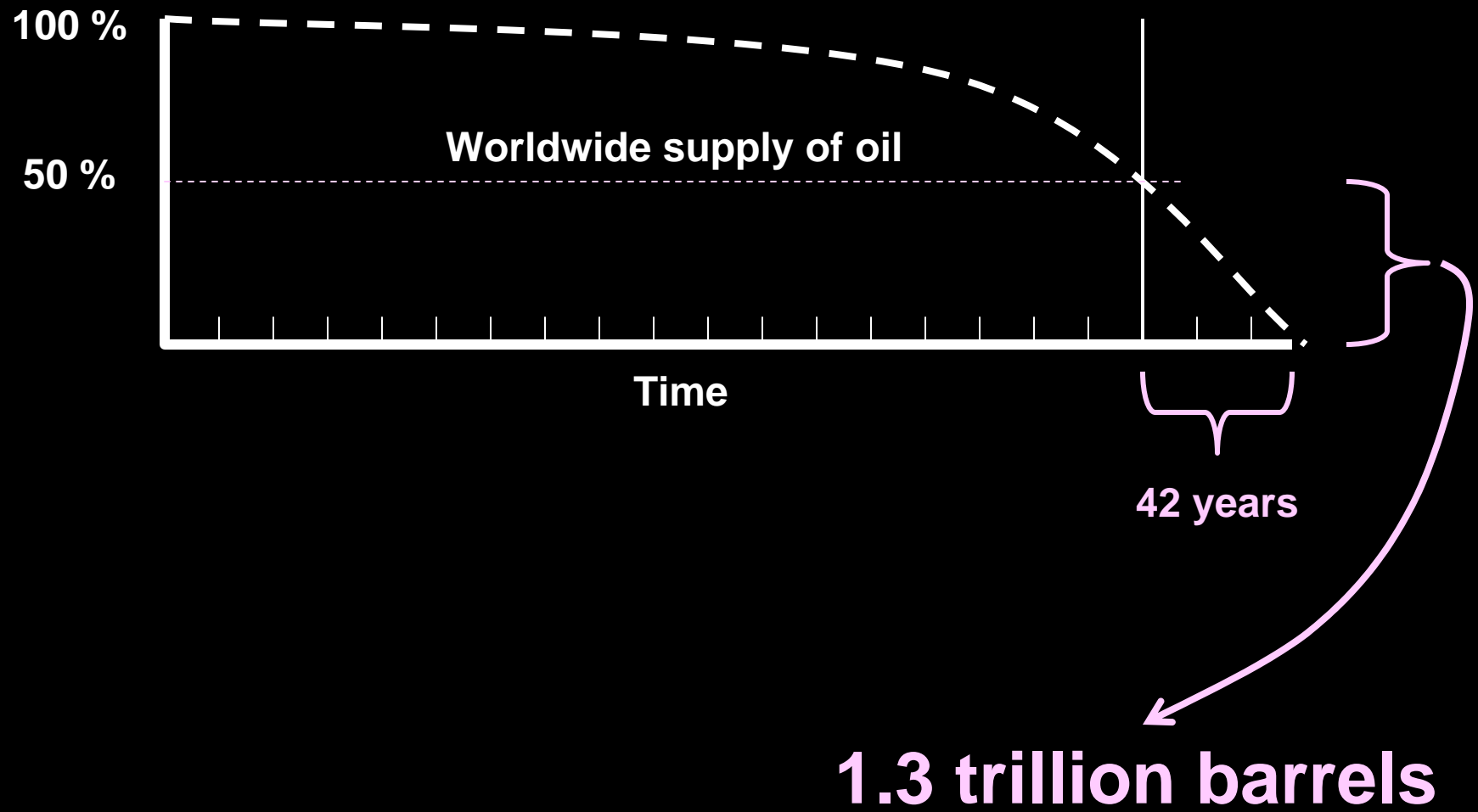
The stone age did not end...  
...because we ran out of stones





The end of the age of...

...cheap oil





100 %

50 %

Worldwide supply of oil

Time

mbbls/day

90

45

Daily production capacity

Daily demand

Time

mbbl/day

\$900

\$450

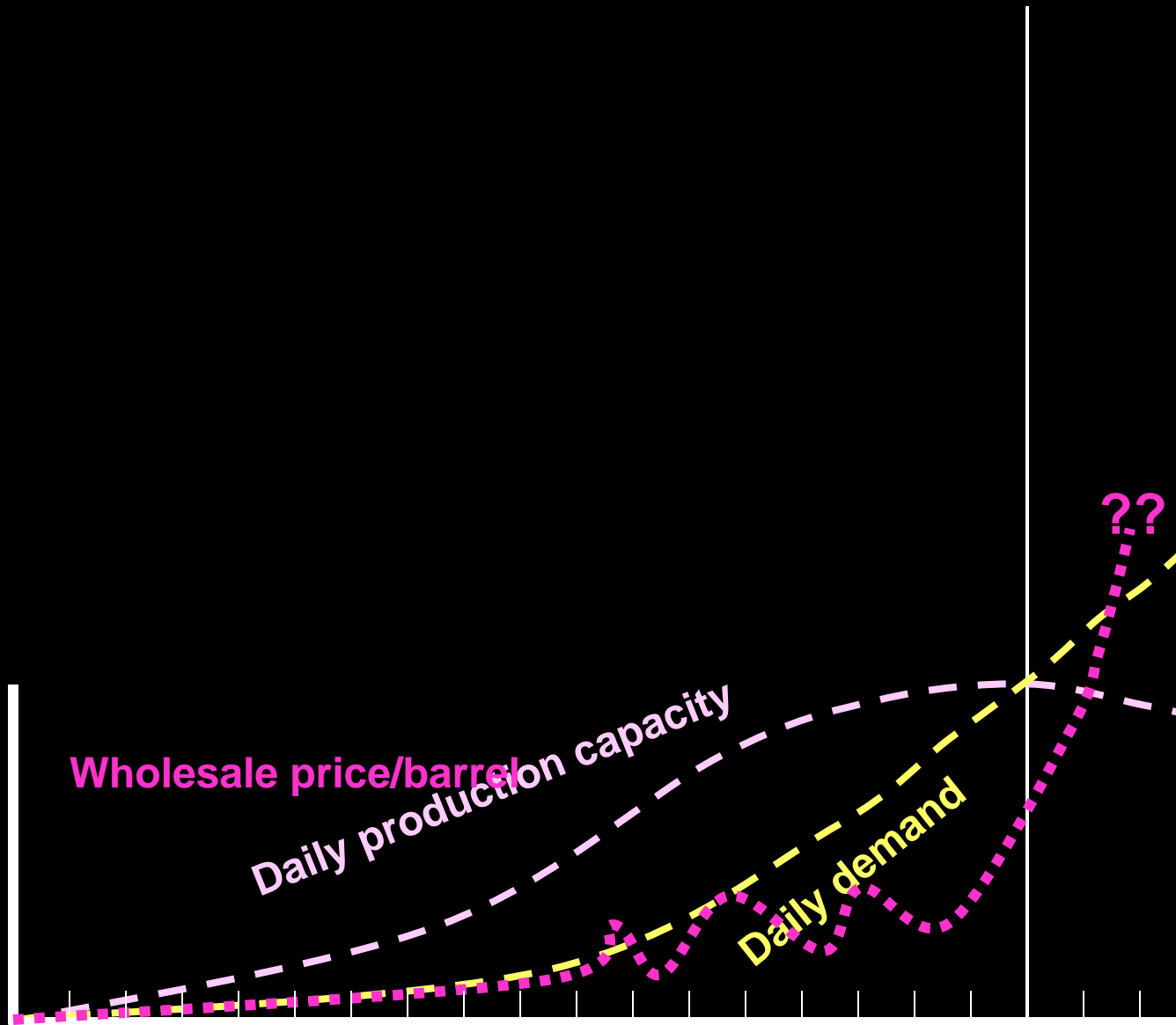
Wholesale price/barrel

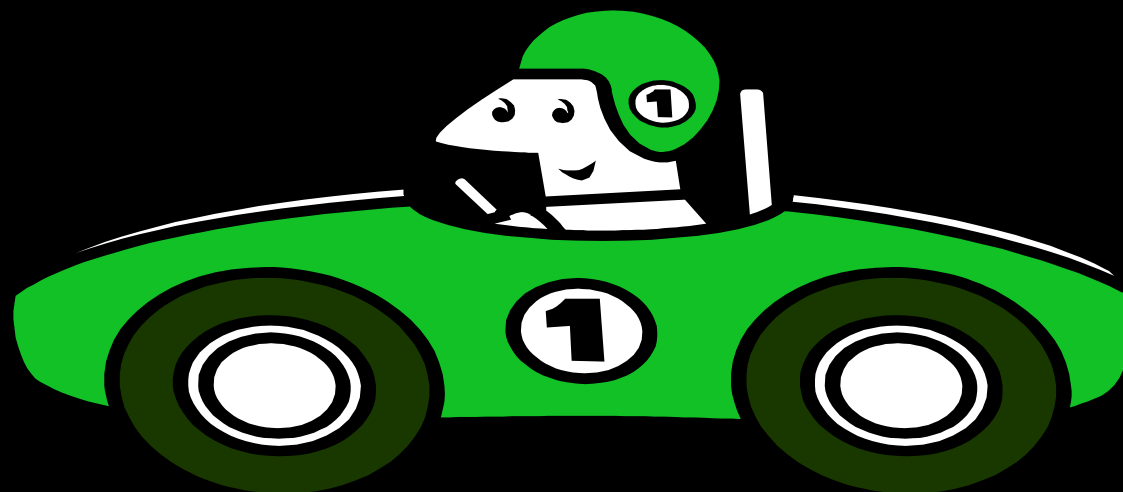
Daily production capacity

Daily demand

Time

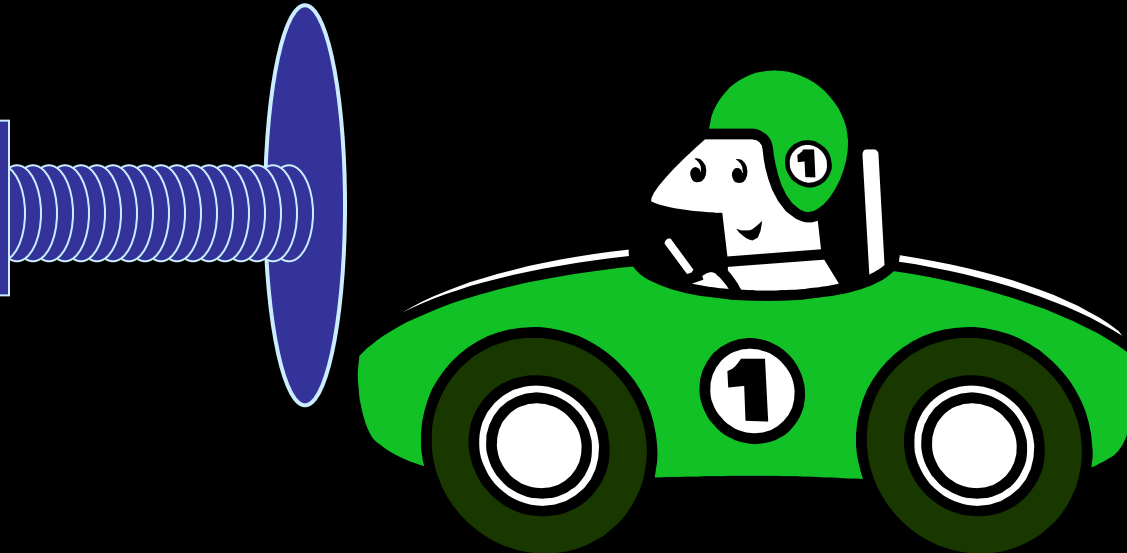
??





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Resource  
Depletion





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Resource  
Depletion



Air & Water  
Pollution

Cost of Travel

Resource  
Depletion



Air & Water  
Pollution

Greenhouse Gas  
Emissions

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# Reduce the Need to Travel

# Conventional



## Traditional











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Where's the  
connectivity?

# Impacts of Poor Connectivity

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- Massive, congested arterials
- Increased VMT/household
- Transit voids
- Inactive living
- Poor emergency service access
- Reduced travel safety





**Streets are the principal infrastructure  
for all modes of travel**



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“You can’t get there  
from here . . .”

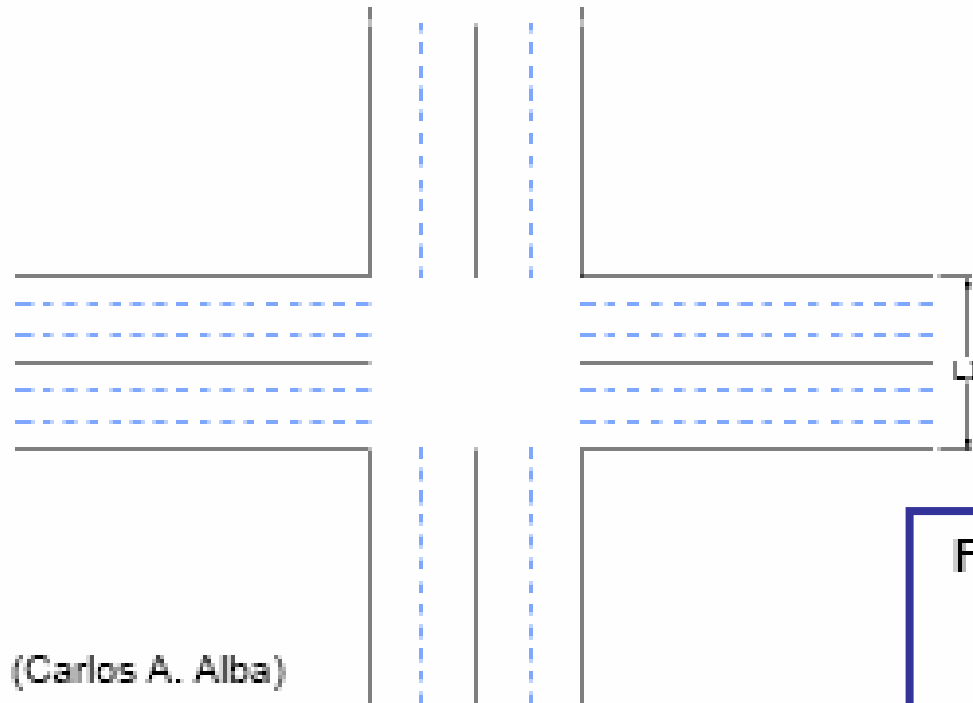
(without driving)



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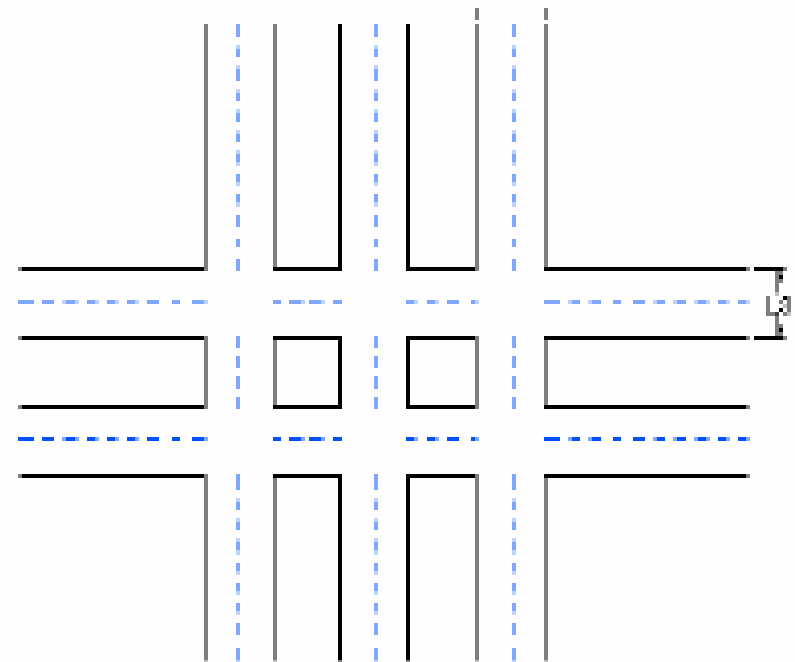
A well-connected network of small streets provides better mobility, is safer and is more efficient than a poorly-connected network of wide streets

Figure No 3 (Conventional Design)



(Carlos A. Alba)

Figure No 4 (Neotraditional Design)

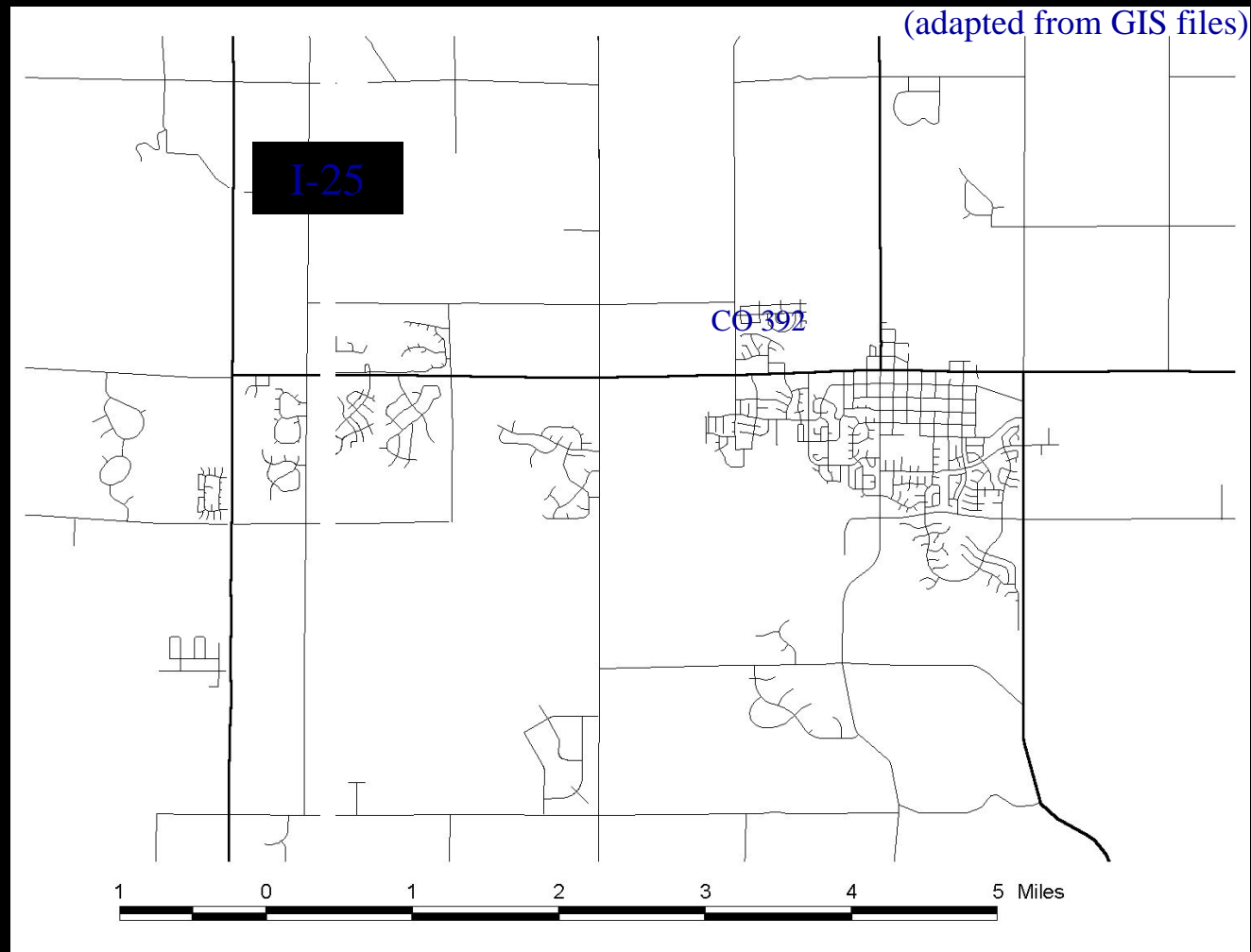


(Carlos A. Alba)

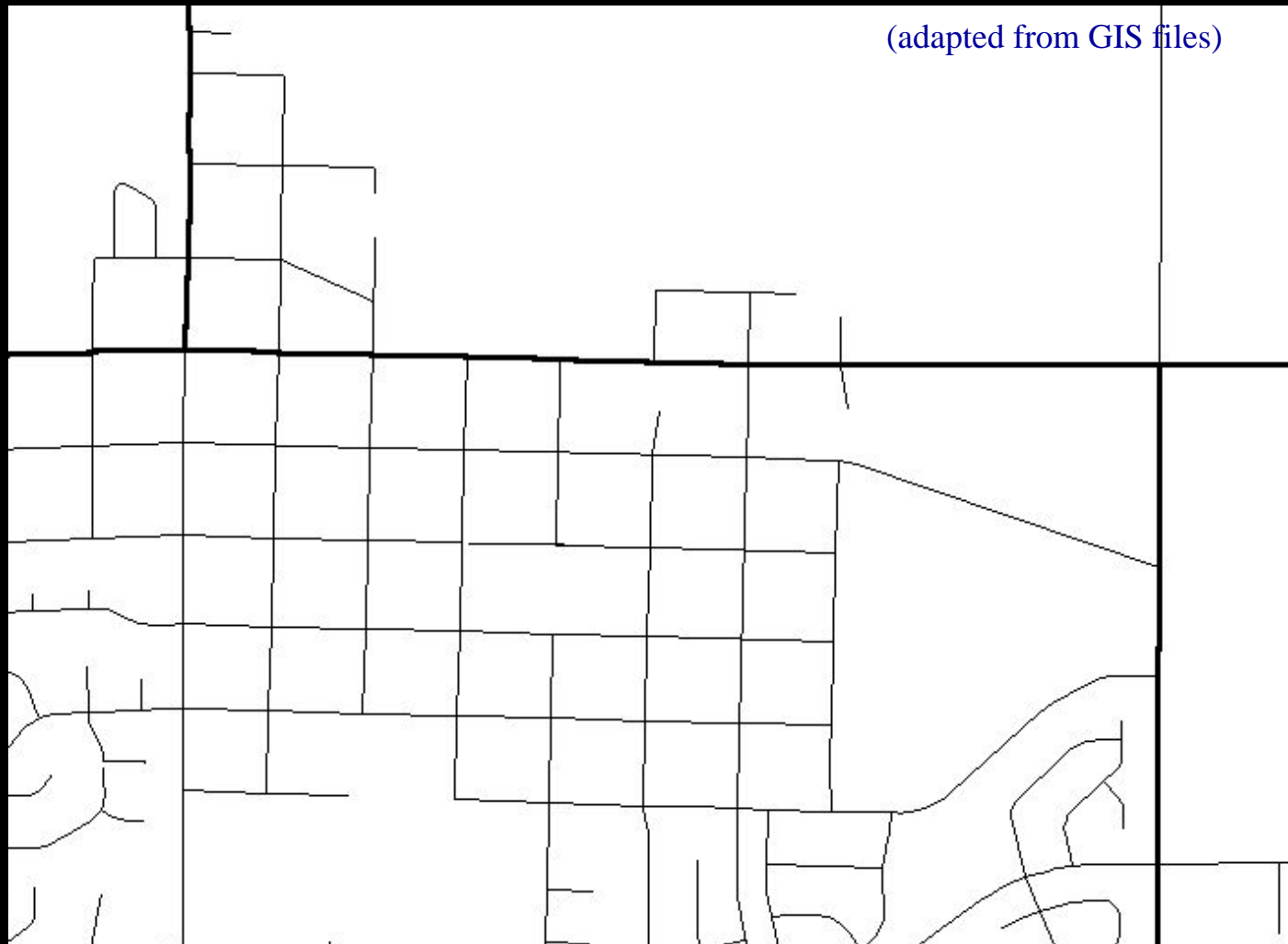
How Does This  
Happen?



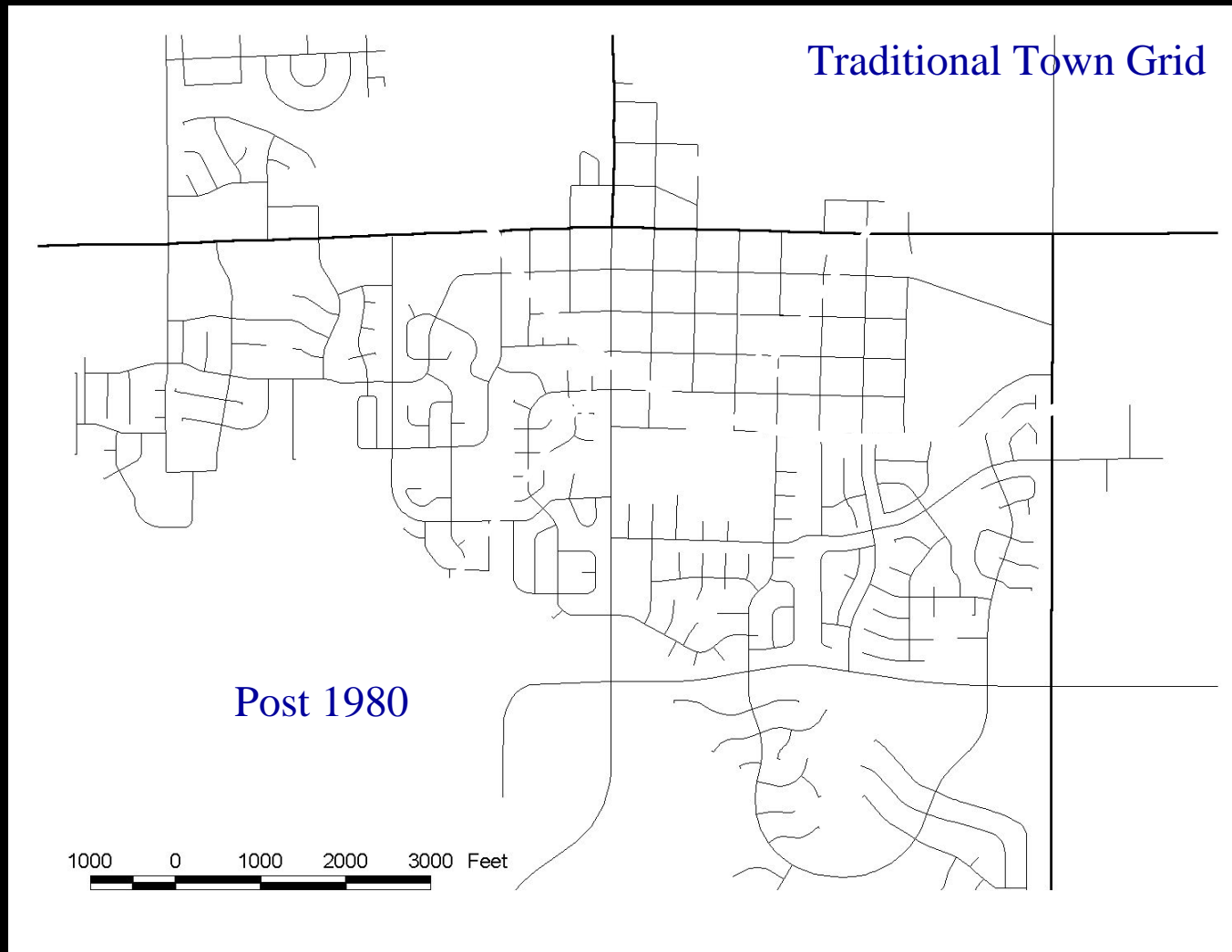
# A Colorado Community



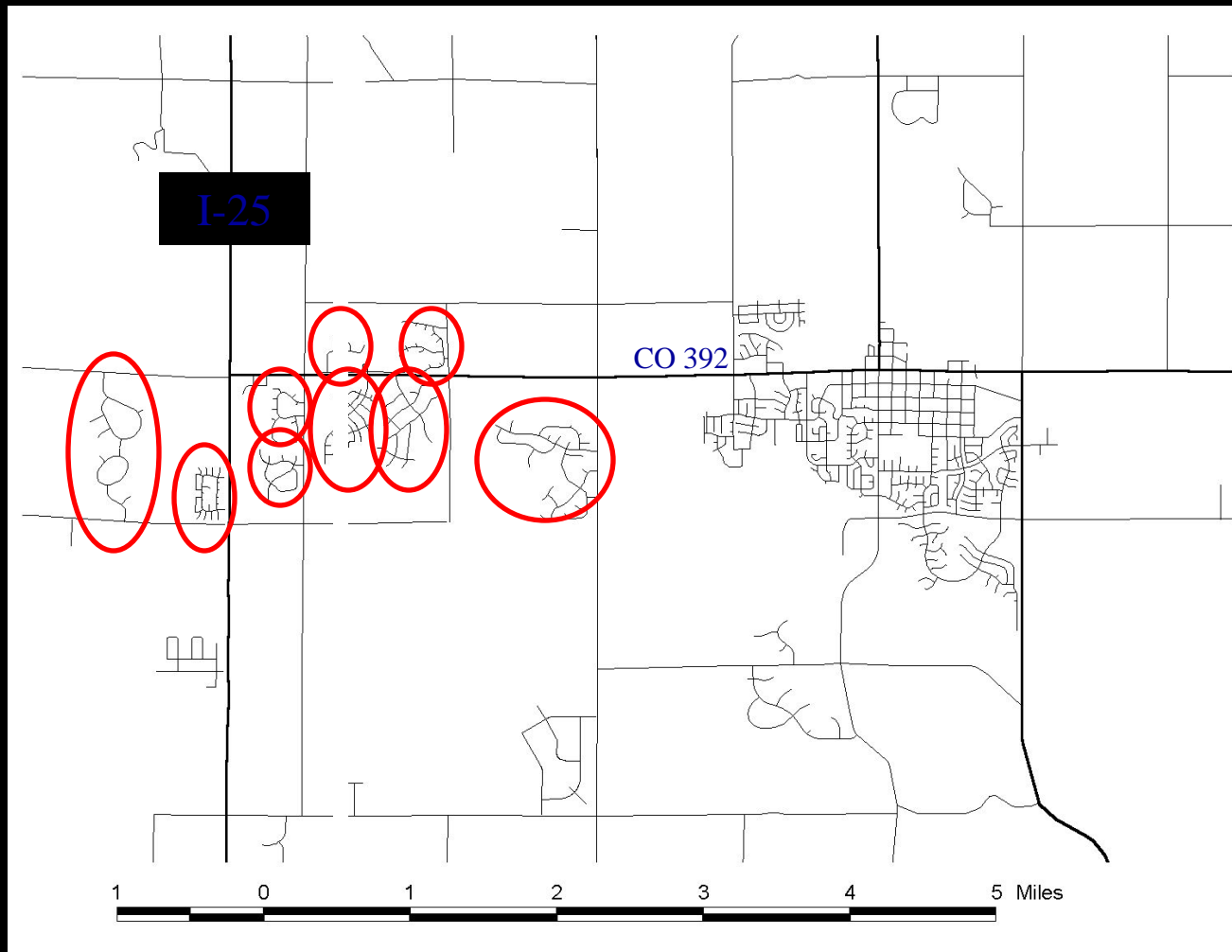
# The Original Town



# First Tier - New Development

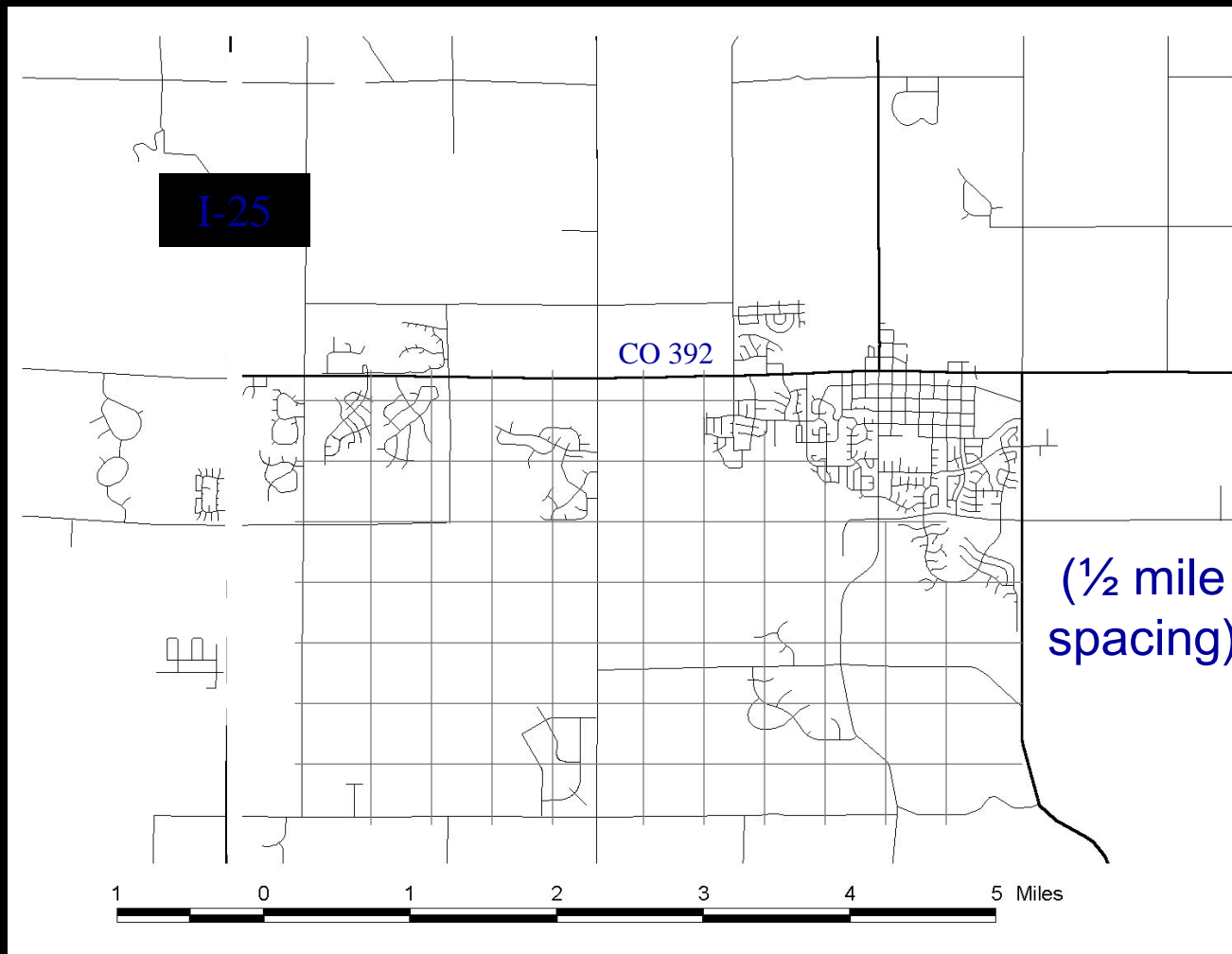


# 1990s Invasion of the “Pods”



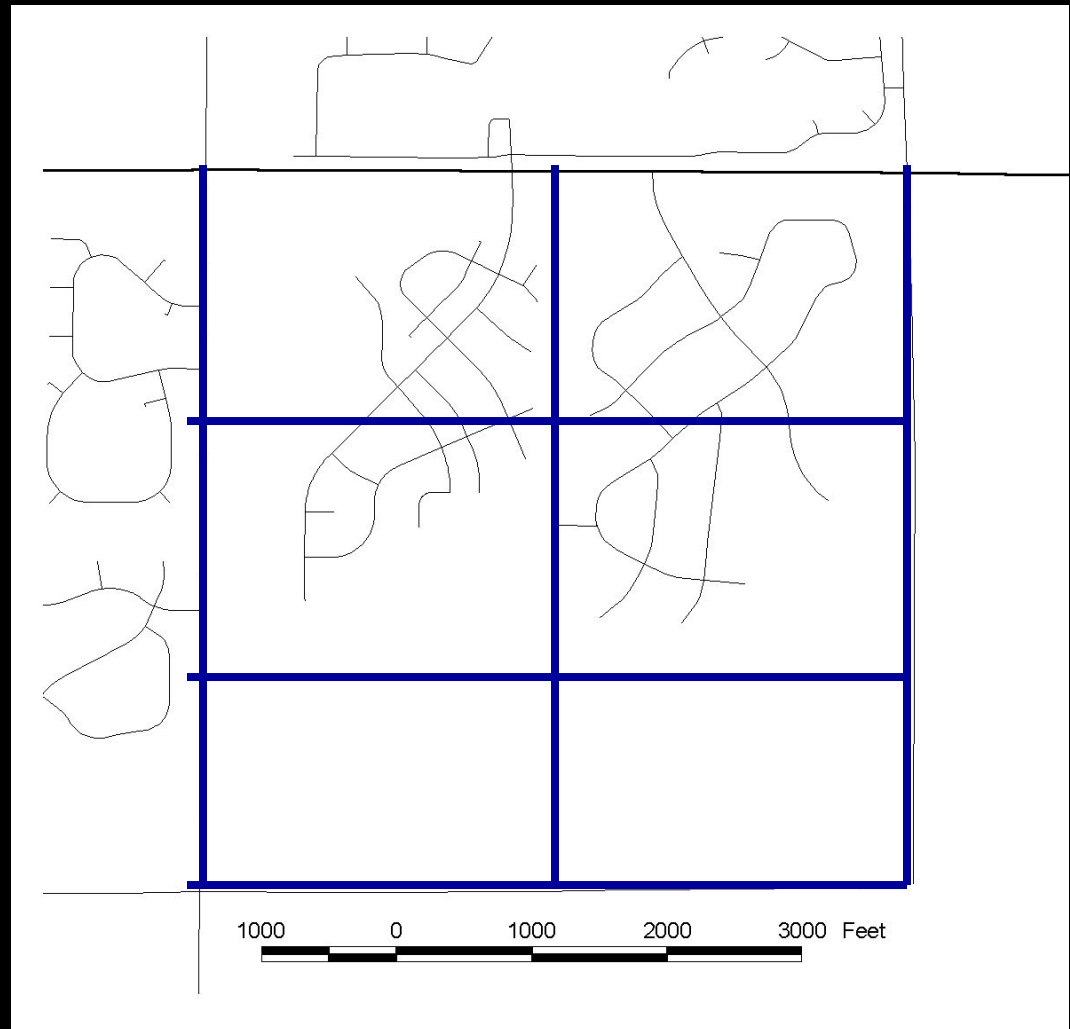


# A 40-Year Look: Collectors



# Lost Opportunity

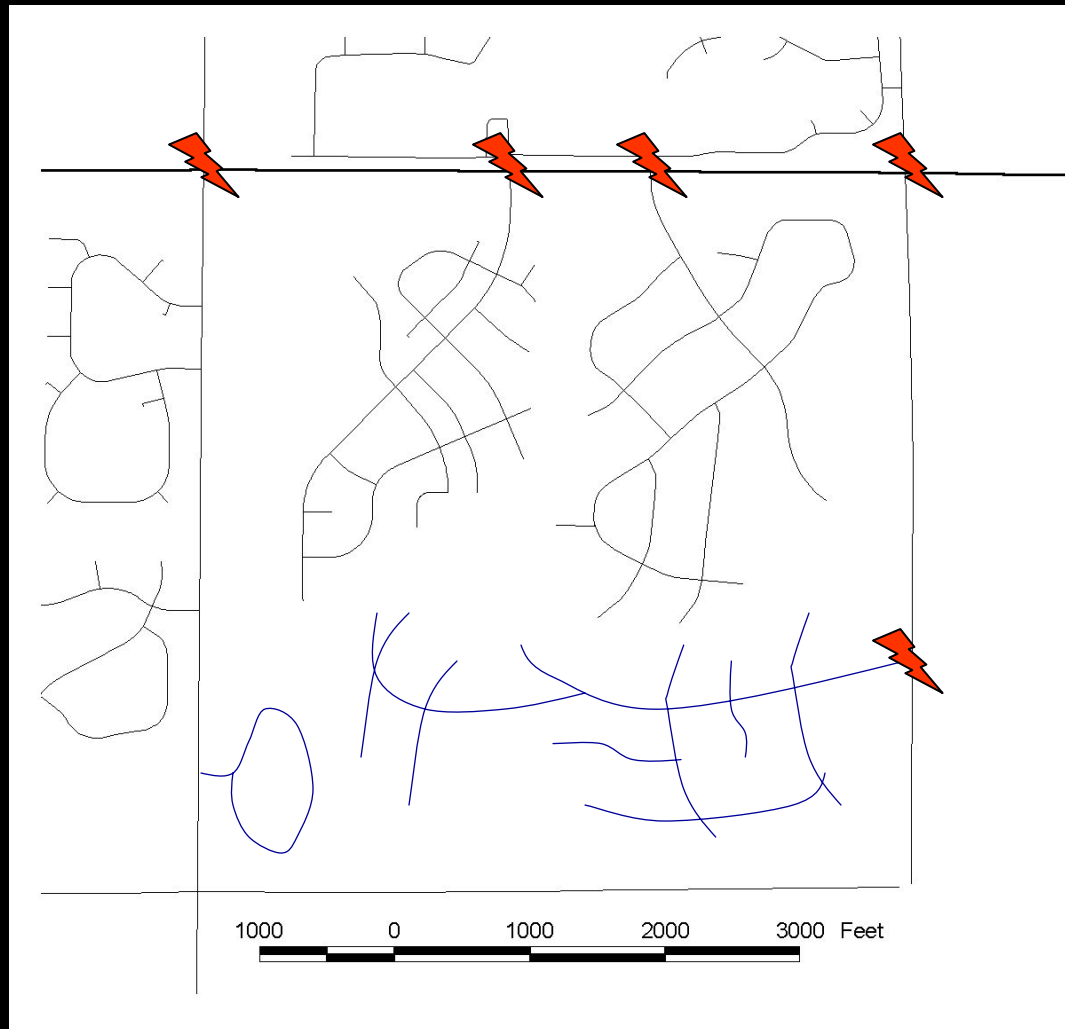
Pods take access from the arterial highway and collectors are no longer feasible.



# Build Out

What will  
actually  
happen . . .

 Trouble  
intersections



Environment

D. Landscape

# Colorado Landscapes

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# Landscape

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- Plant trees, grasses and vegetation as part of transportation projects
- Provide public access to open space
- Preserve and respect the value of viewsheds
- Limit development that is not sensitive to its setting and/or subtracts value from adjacent properties

Environment

# E. Resource Efficiency

“cradle to cradle”  
design

“Being less bad is not  
being good.”

- William McDonough

# “Cradle to Grave” Design



**TAKE**  
raw material  
extraction  
and  
synthesis



**MAKE**  
manufacturing  
production  
distribution  
use

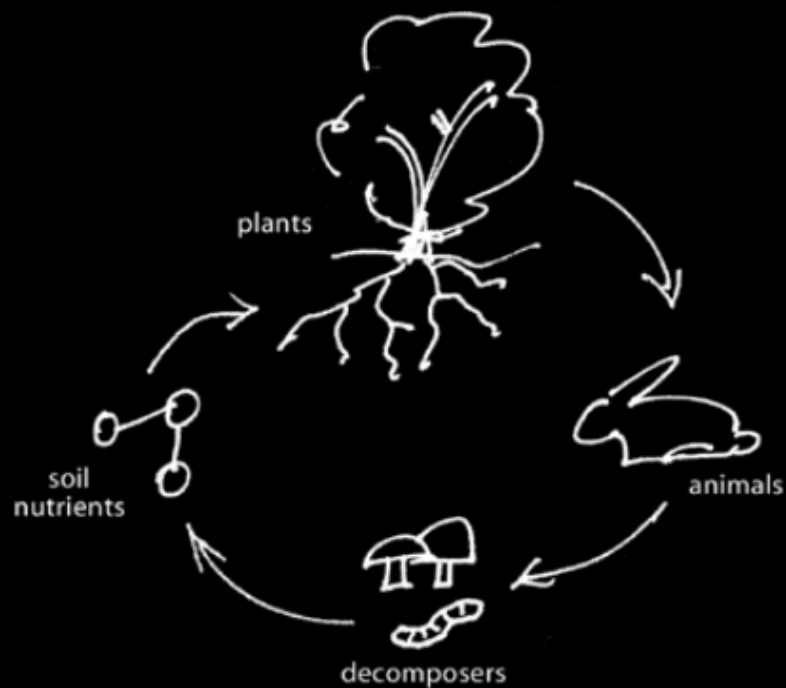


**WASTE**  
landfill  
incineration



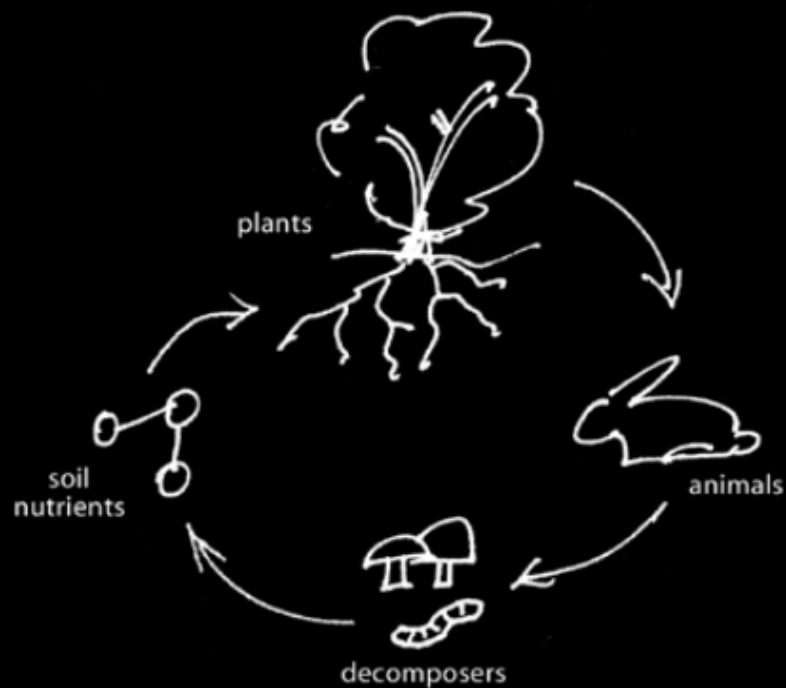
# “Cradle to Cradle” Design

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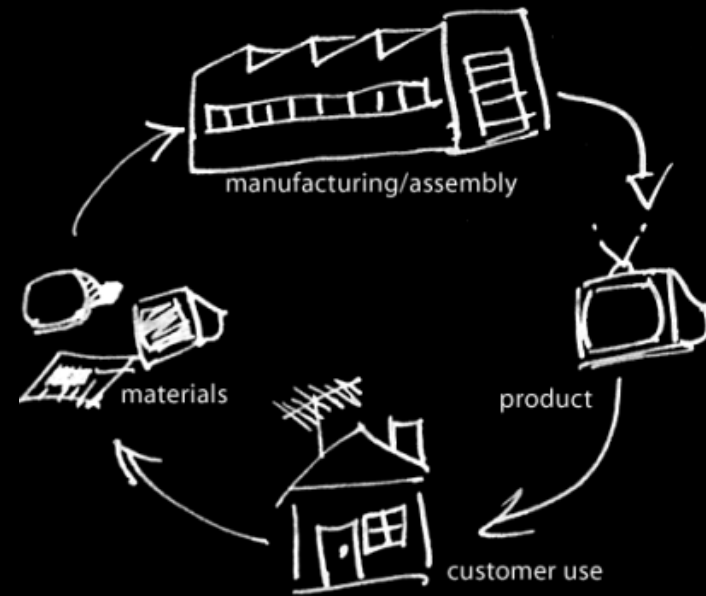


**biological nutrient cycle**

# “Cradle to Cradle” Design



**biological nutrient cycle**



**technical nutrient cycle**

# Cradle to Cradle Goals

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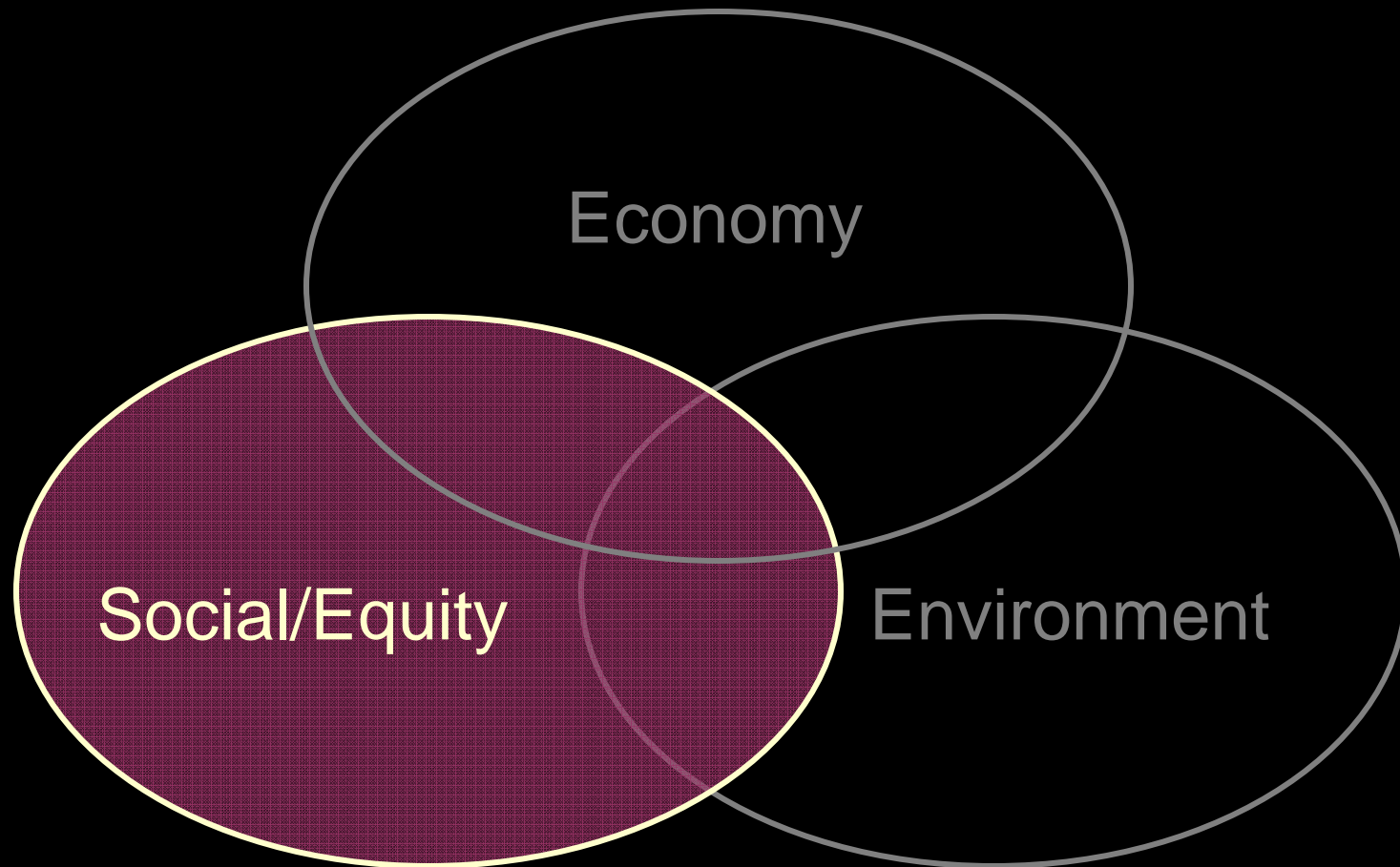
- Power by the sun in all its forms
- Design building to optimize natural energy flows
- Use materials that can be endlessly recycled
- Recycle nutrients
- Positively impact environmental, social, and economic systems

**Next....**



# “Sustainability”

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# Social/Equity

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A. Mobility Choices

B. Healthy Societies

C. Community Legacy

Social/Equity

## A. Mobility Choice

# Mobility Elements

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Travel – Moving over distances

Circulation – Moving within areas

Access – Getting in the door

# Facilities

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**Travel –** Freeways, arterials, rail transit, express bus lanes

**Circulation –** Collectors, connectors, transit routes, bike trails and lanes

**Access –** Local streets, parking, sidewalks and crosswalks

Built for...



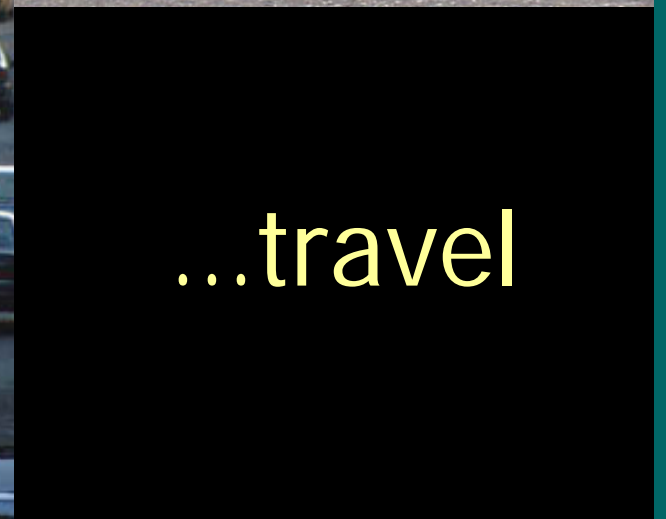
Seattle



Redmond



...travel





Built for...

Denver



Boulder



...travel

# Built for...



Flagstaff



Redmond

# ...circulation



Built for...

Portland



Boulder



...circulation



# Built for...

## Boulder



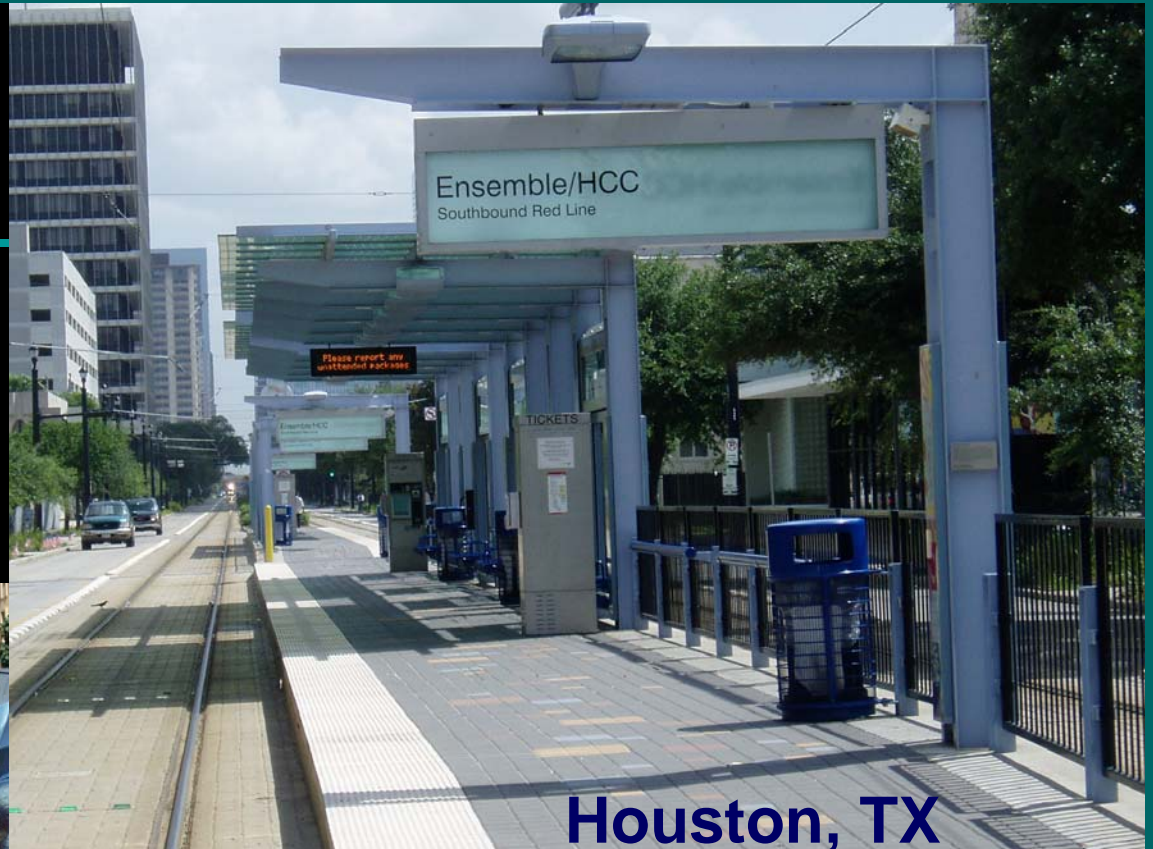
## Winter Park, FL

## ...access





Built for...



Houston, TX

...access



Minneapolis



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We build  
too much for travel  
and  
too little for circulation  
and access

Honolulu



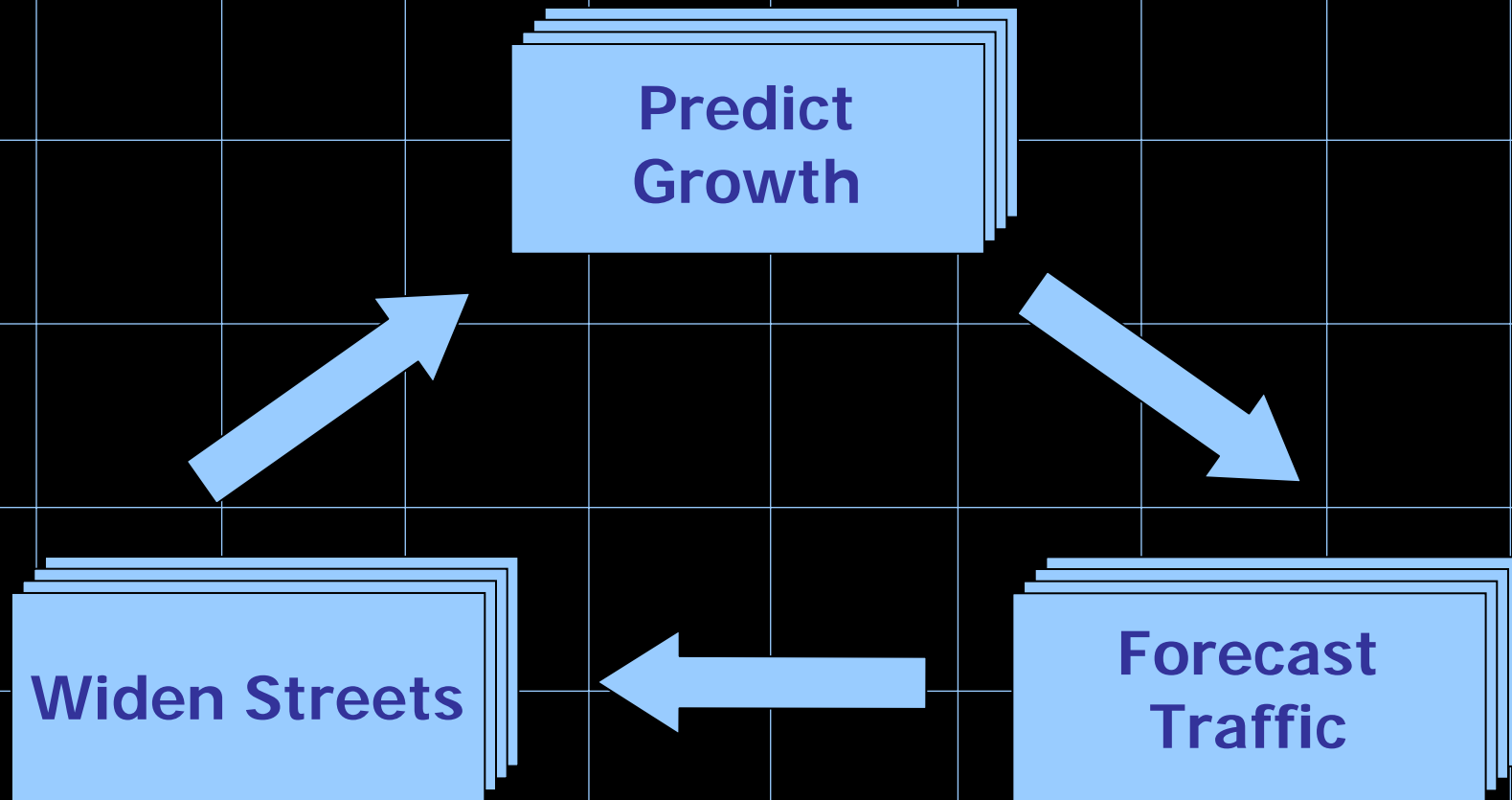


Credit: Richard E. Killingsworth

Traffic Forecasting  $\neq$  Planning

# Have you ever noticed...?

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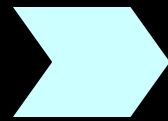


# Rational “Planning”

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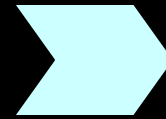
1.

What do  
we  
want?



2.

How  
much  
traffic  
will there  
be?



3.

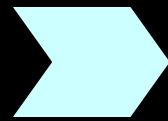
What  
should  
we do?

# Actual “Planning”

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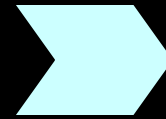
1.

What do  
we  
want?



2.

How  
much  
traffic  
will there  
be?



3.

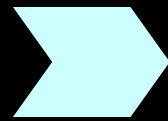
What  
should  
we do?

# Actual “Planning”

---

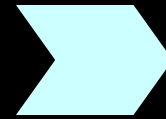
1.

How  
much  
traffic  
will there  
be?



2.

What  
should  
we do?



3.

What do  
we get?

# Induced Traffic



# Types of Induced Traffic

---

Changes in travel route ..... Immediate

Changes in mode of travel ..... < 6 months

Changes in time of travel ..... < 6 months

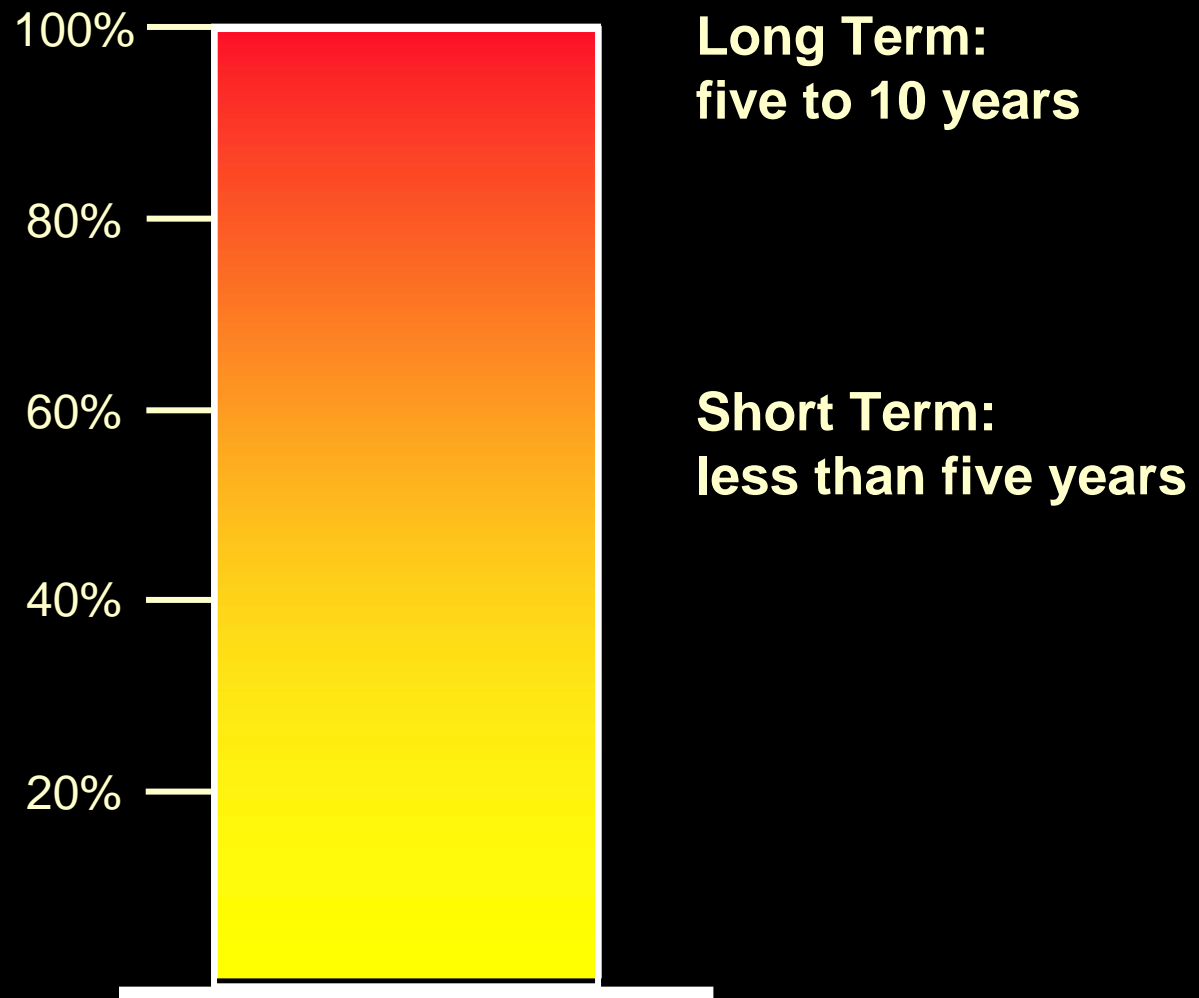
Changes in amount of travel ..... < 6 months

Changes in origins & destinations ..... < 10 years



# % of new capacity consumed by induced traffic...

---





If you build it . . .

. . . they will come



If you build it . . .  
. . . they will come



Are we responding to traffic  
growth...

...or are we causing it?

Social/Equity

## B. Healthy Societies





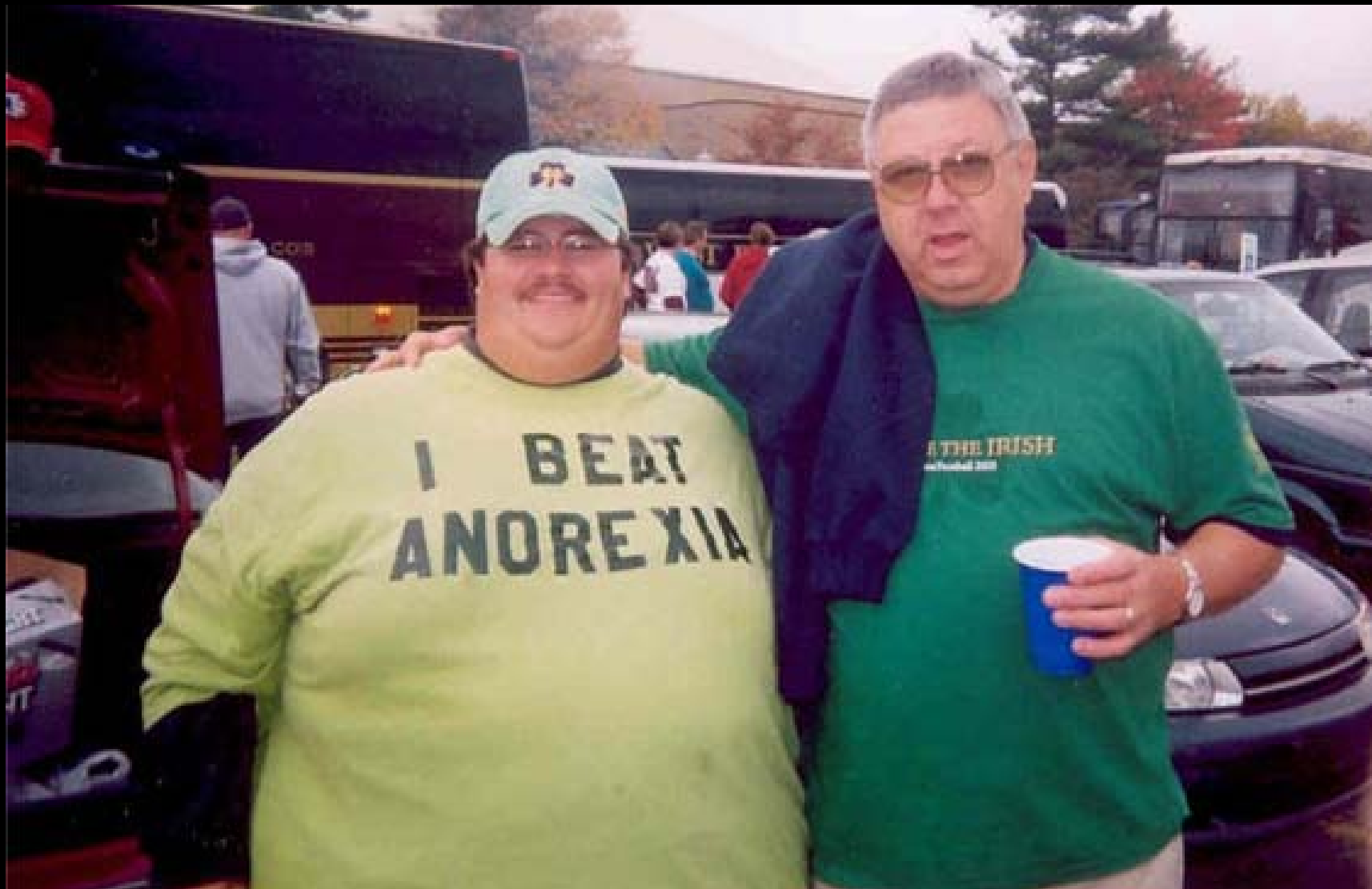


# Human History



# We cannot escape our DNA...

---





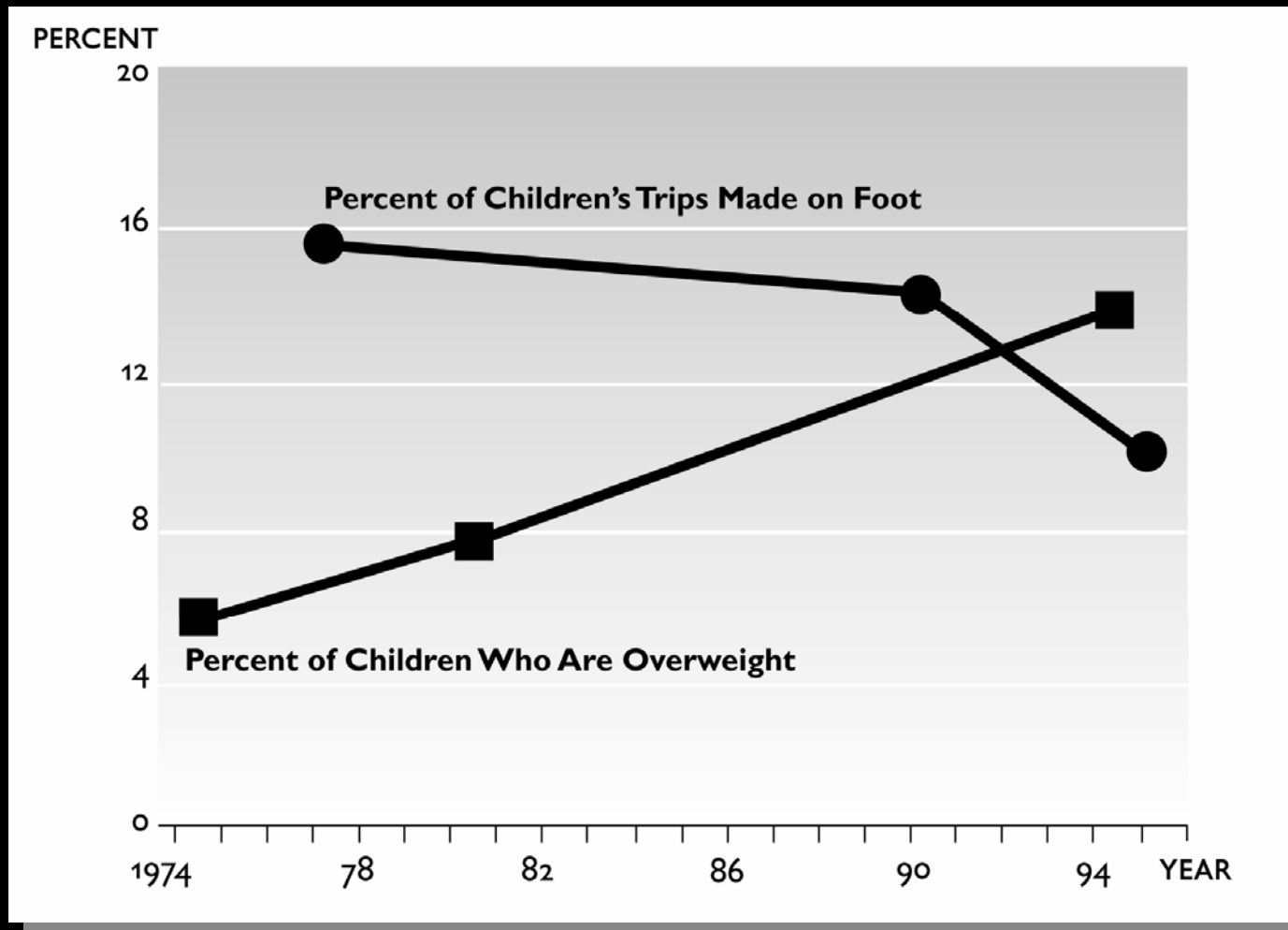
...no matter how hard we try





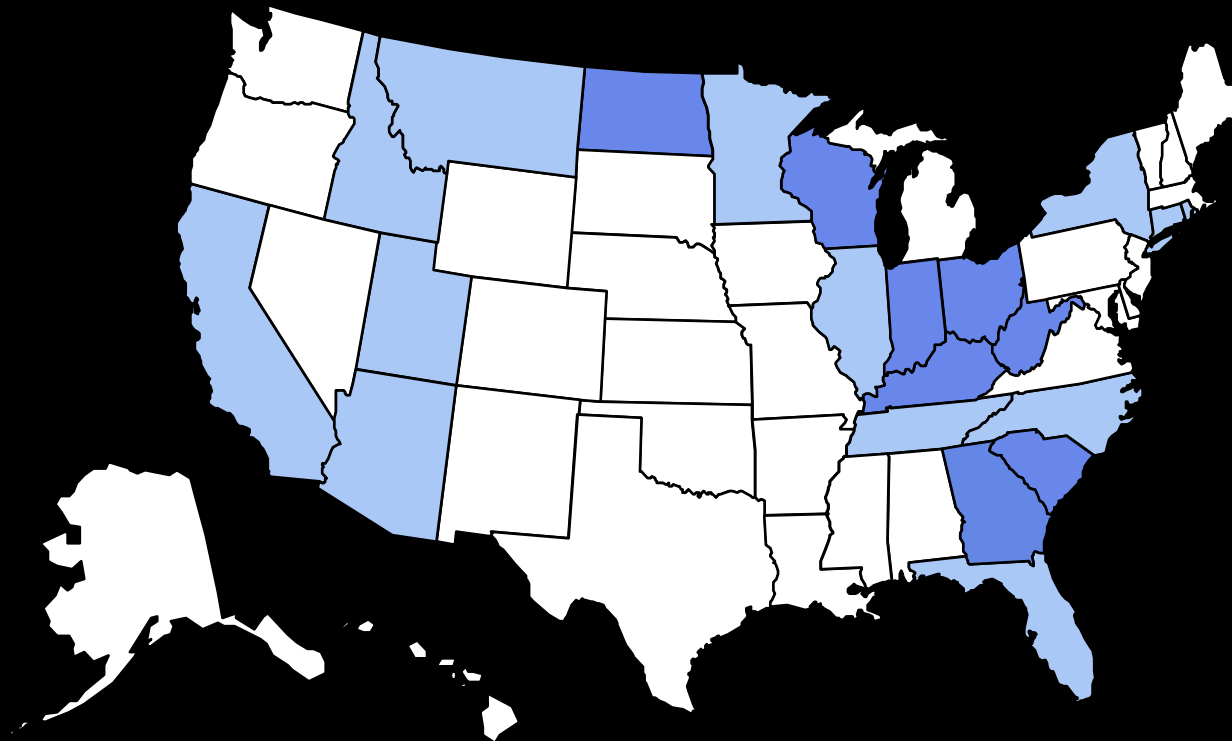


# Children Are Walking Less and Becoming Increasingly Overweight



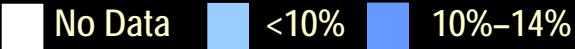
# 1985

# Obesity Trends\* Among U.S. Adults



No Data
  <10%
  10%–14%

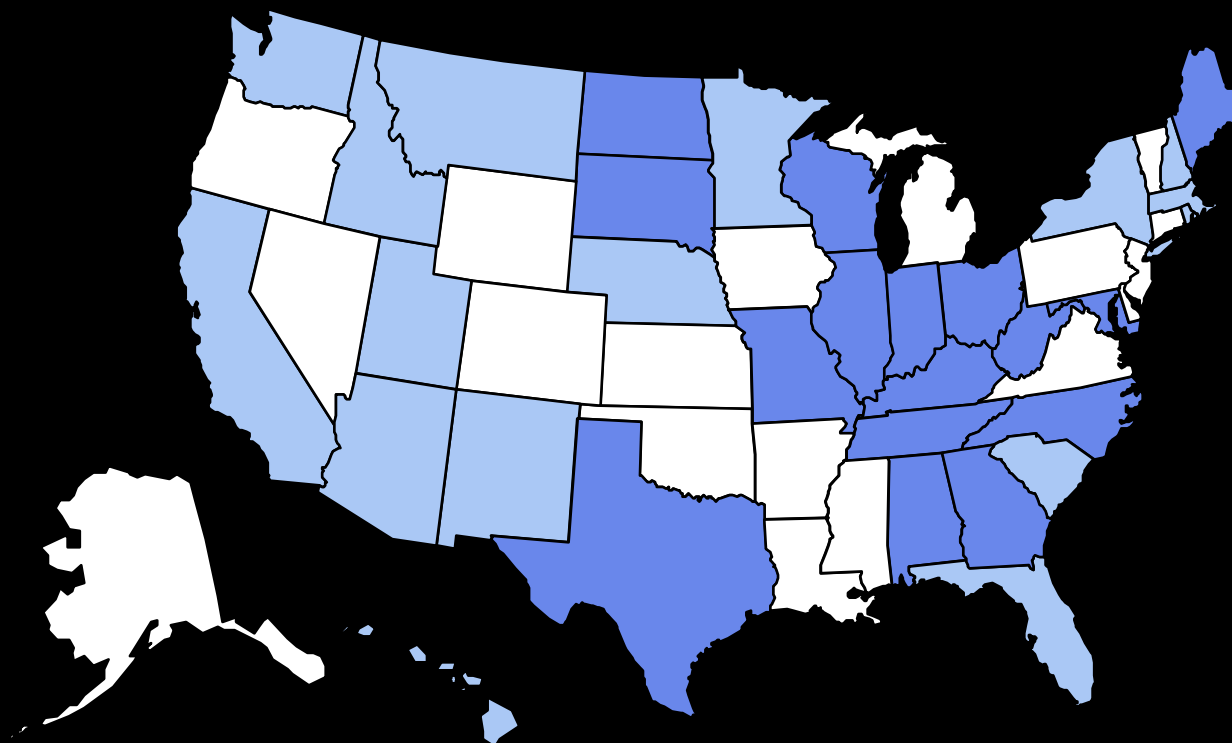
\_\_\_\_\_



 <10%

10%–14%

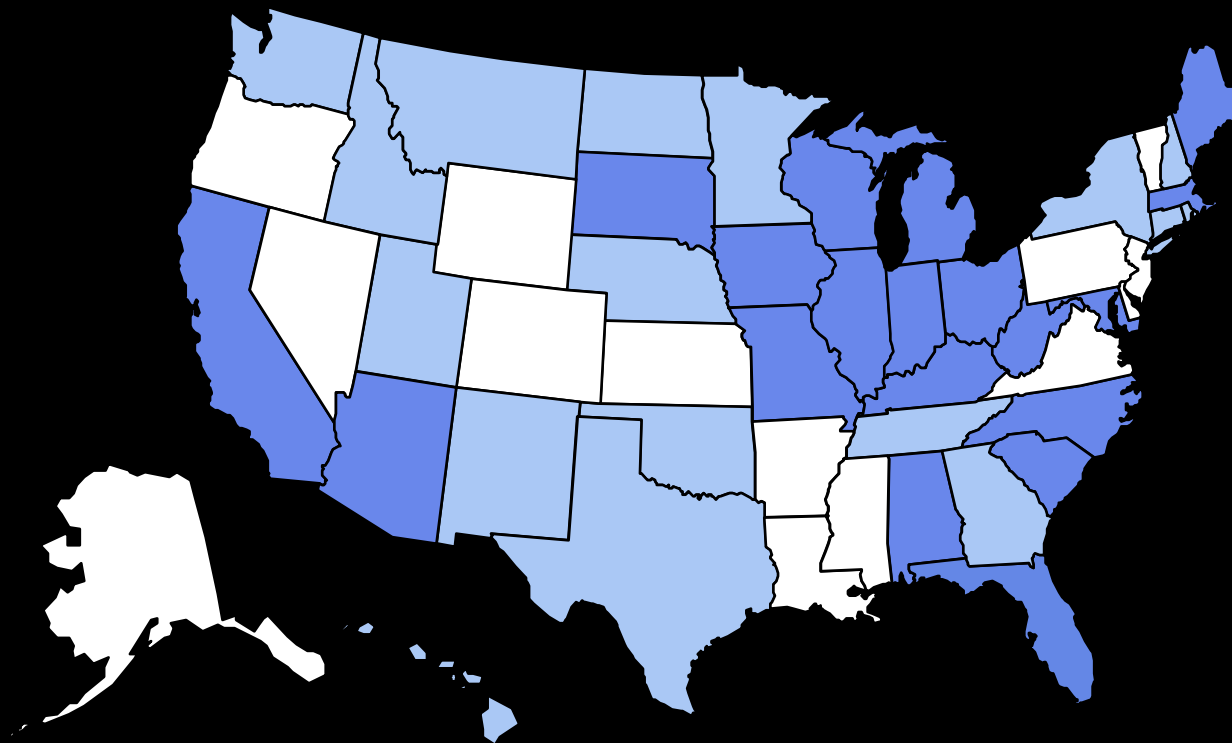
No Data
  <10%
  10%–14%





# 1988

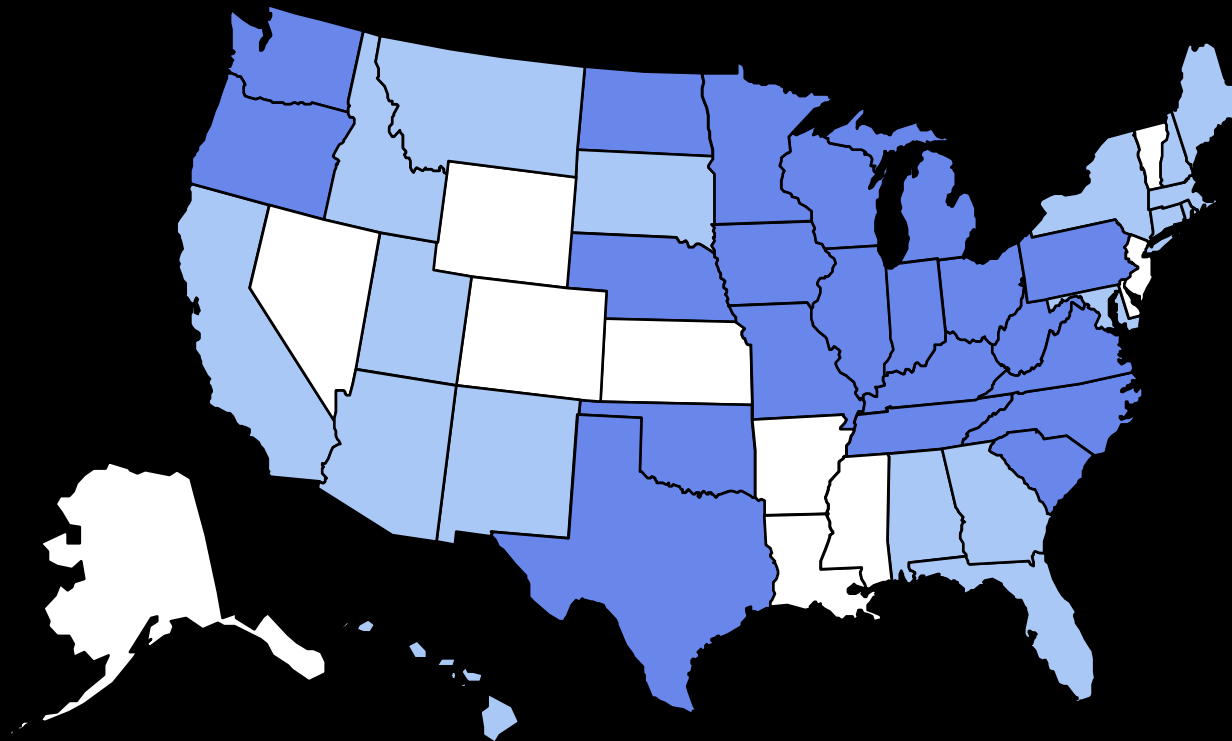
---



■ No Data   ■ <10%   ■ 10%-14%

# 1989

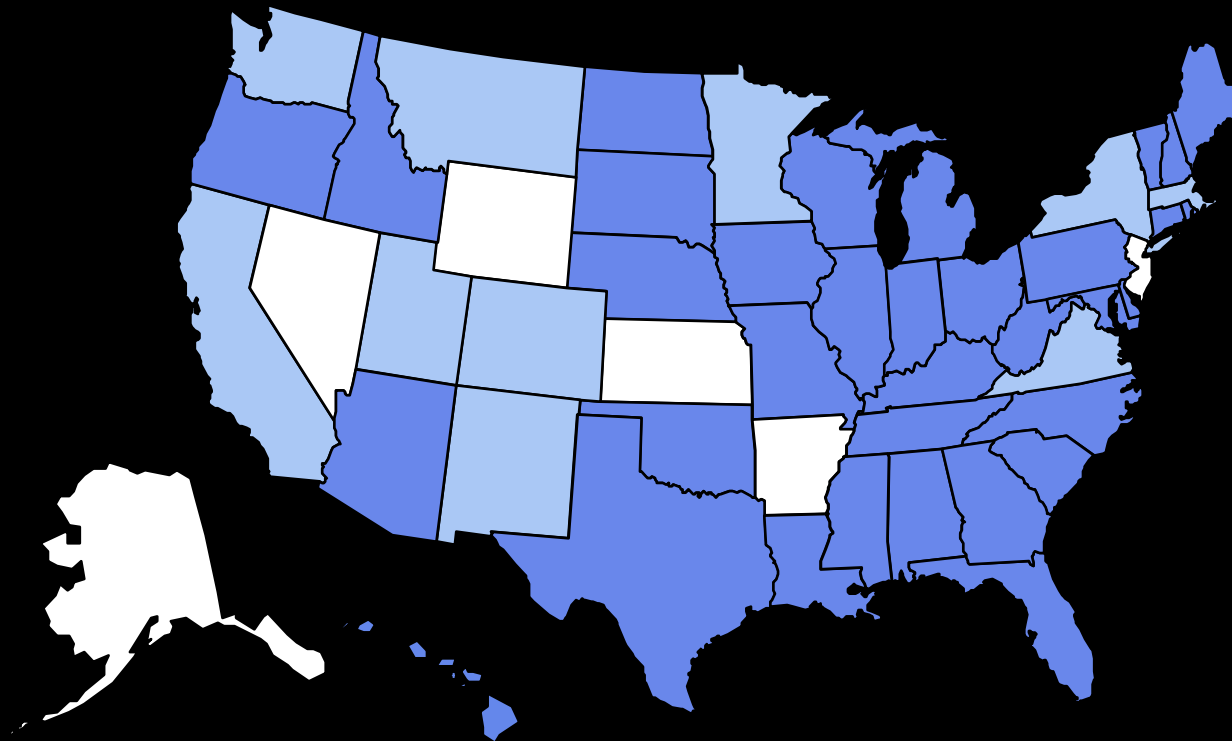
---



■ No Data   ■ <10%   ■ 10%-14%

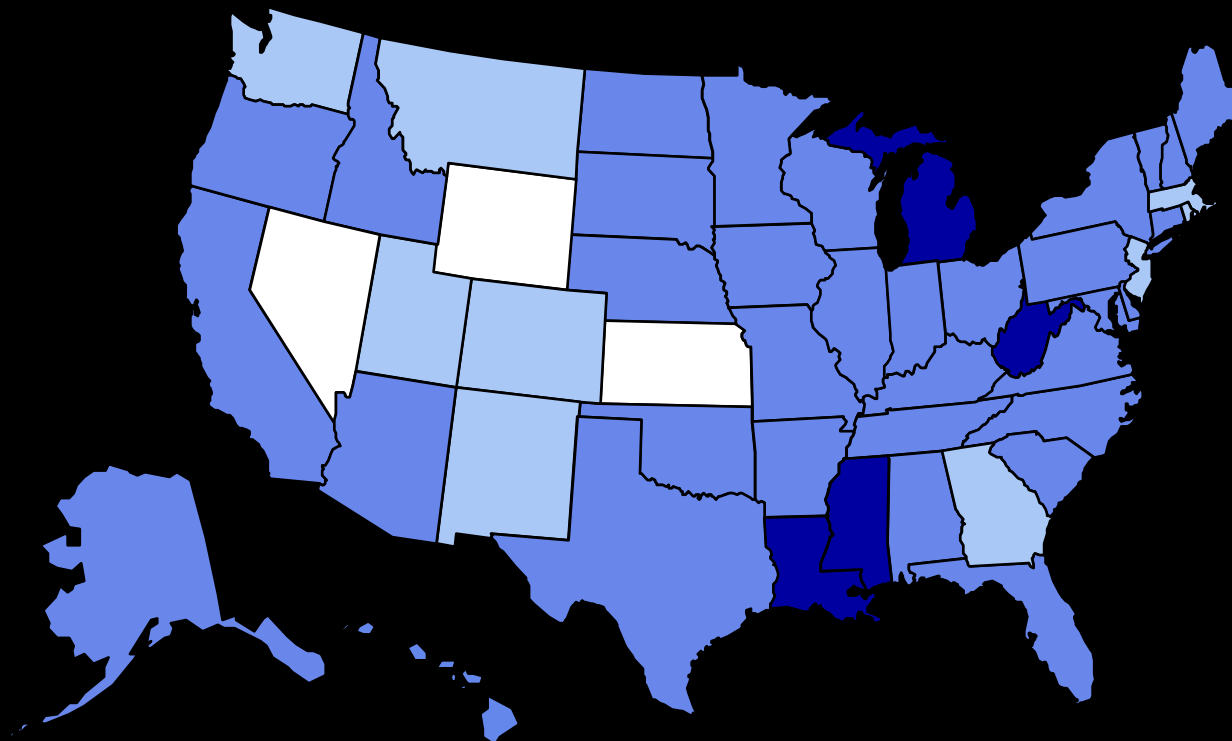
# 1990

---



■ No Data   ■ <10%   ■ 10%-14%

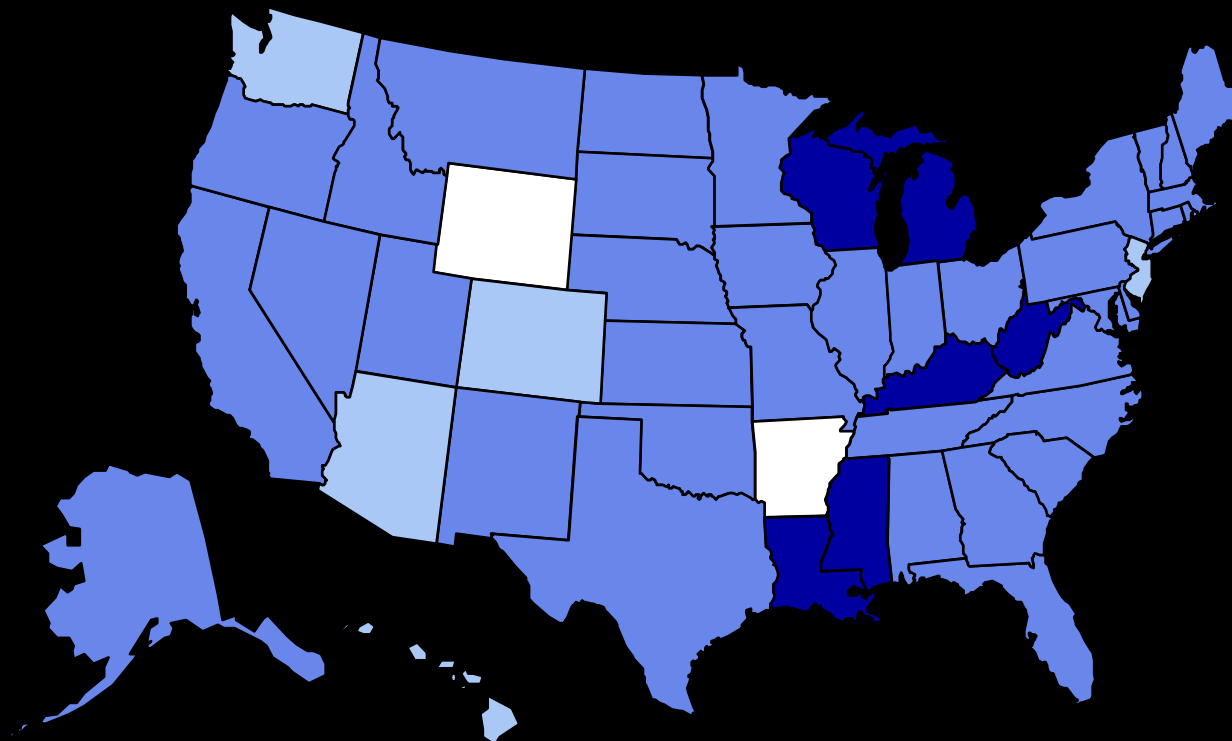
# 1991



■ No Data   ■ <10%   ■ 10%-14%   ■ 15%-19%

# 1992

---

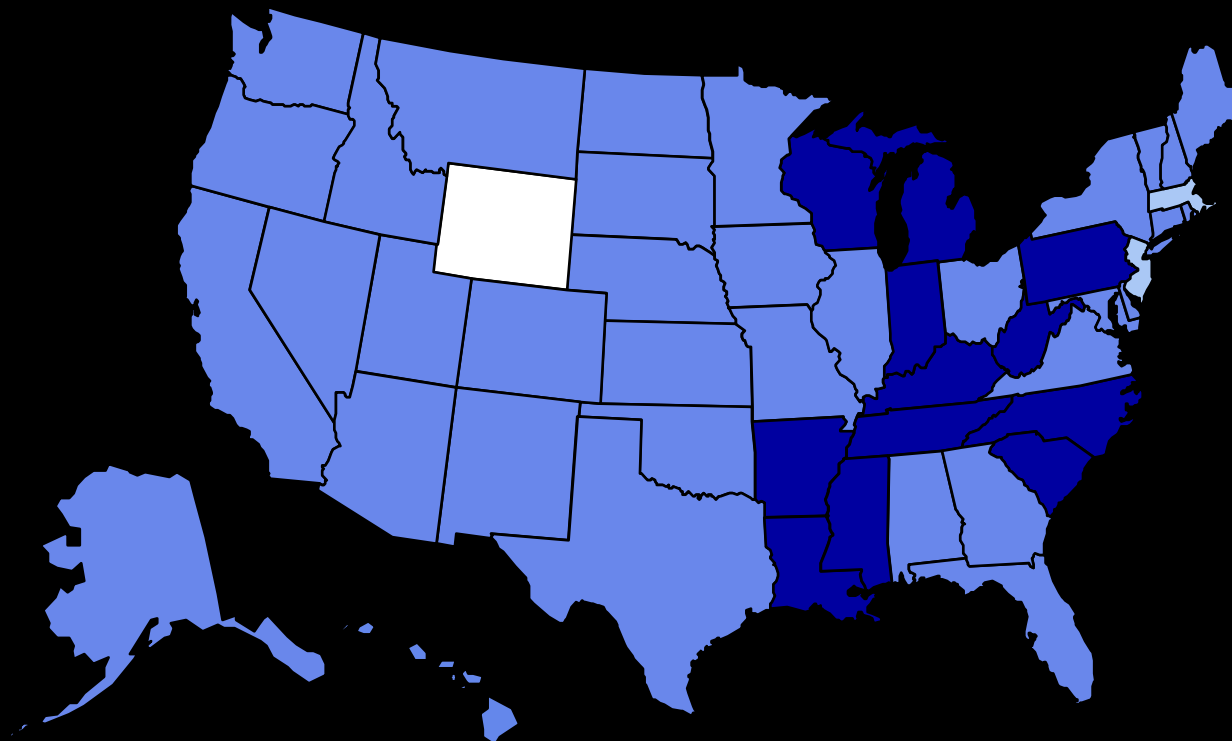


■ No Data   ■ <10%   ■ 10%-14%   ■ 15%-19%



# 1993

---



■ No Data ■ <10% ■ 10%–14% ■ 15%–19%

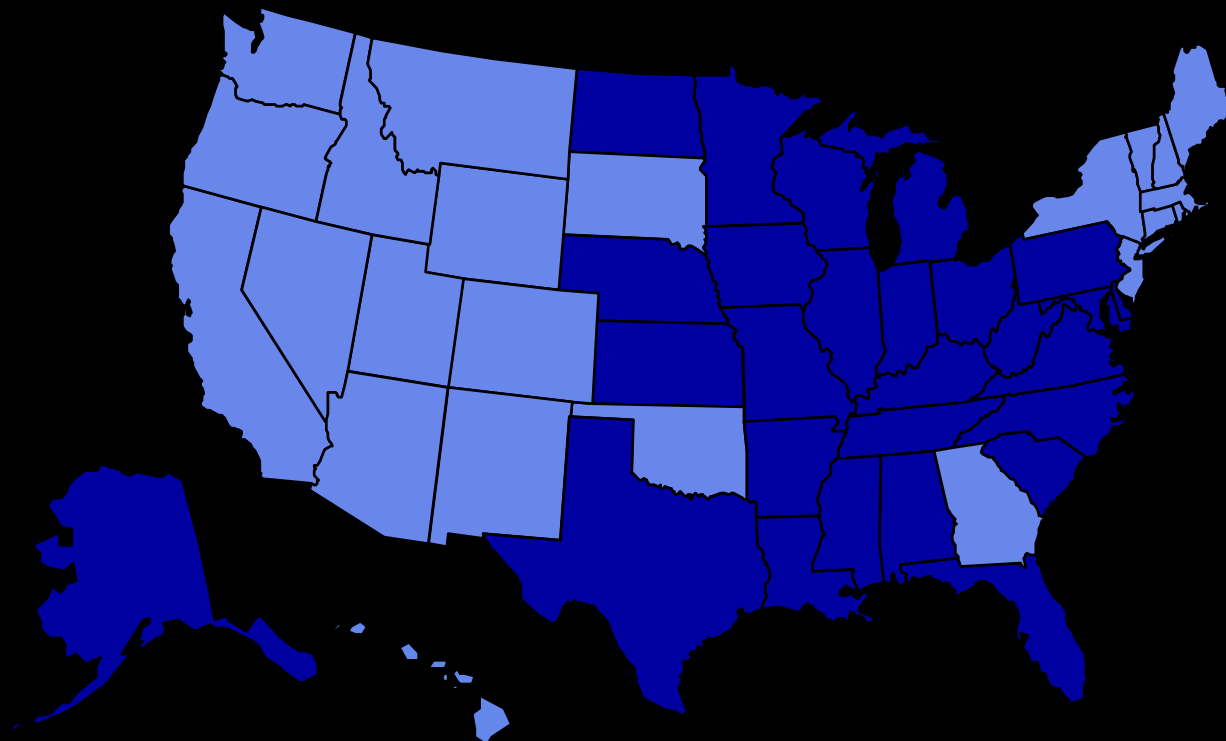
\_\_\_\_\_



15%–19%

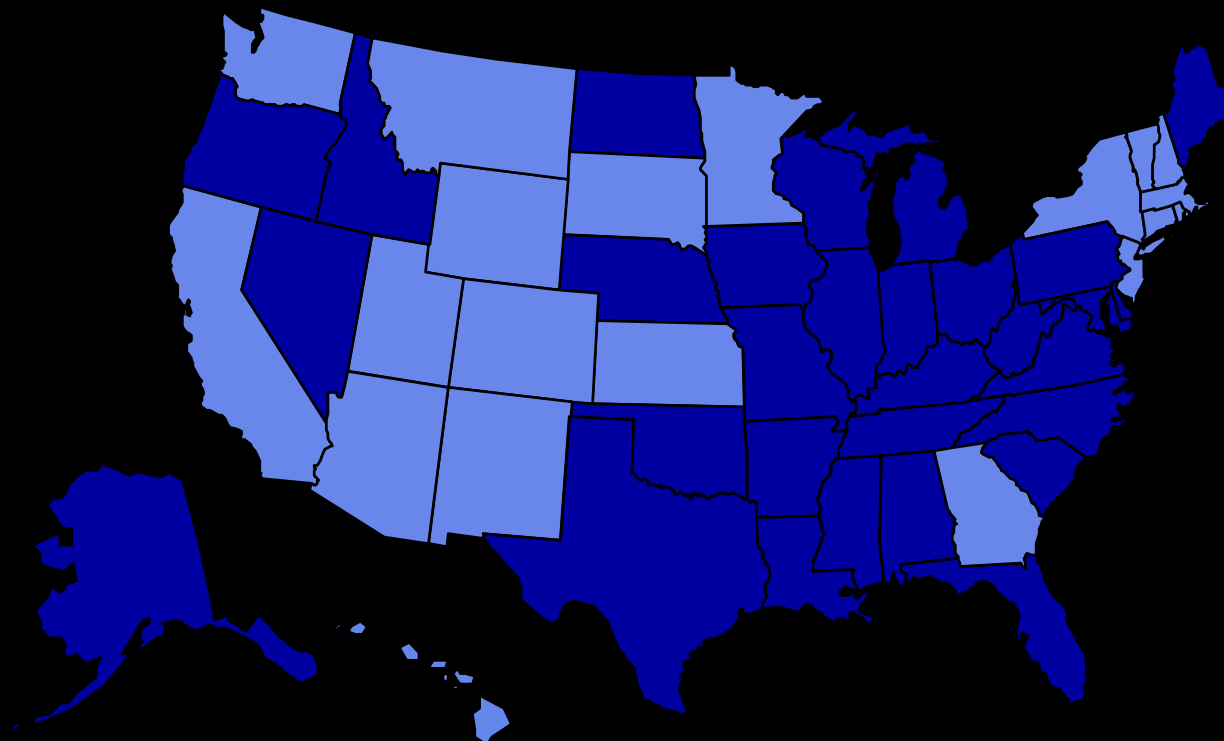
# 1995

---



■ No Data   ■ <10%   ■ 10%-14%   ■ 15%-19%

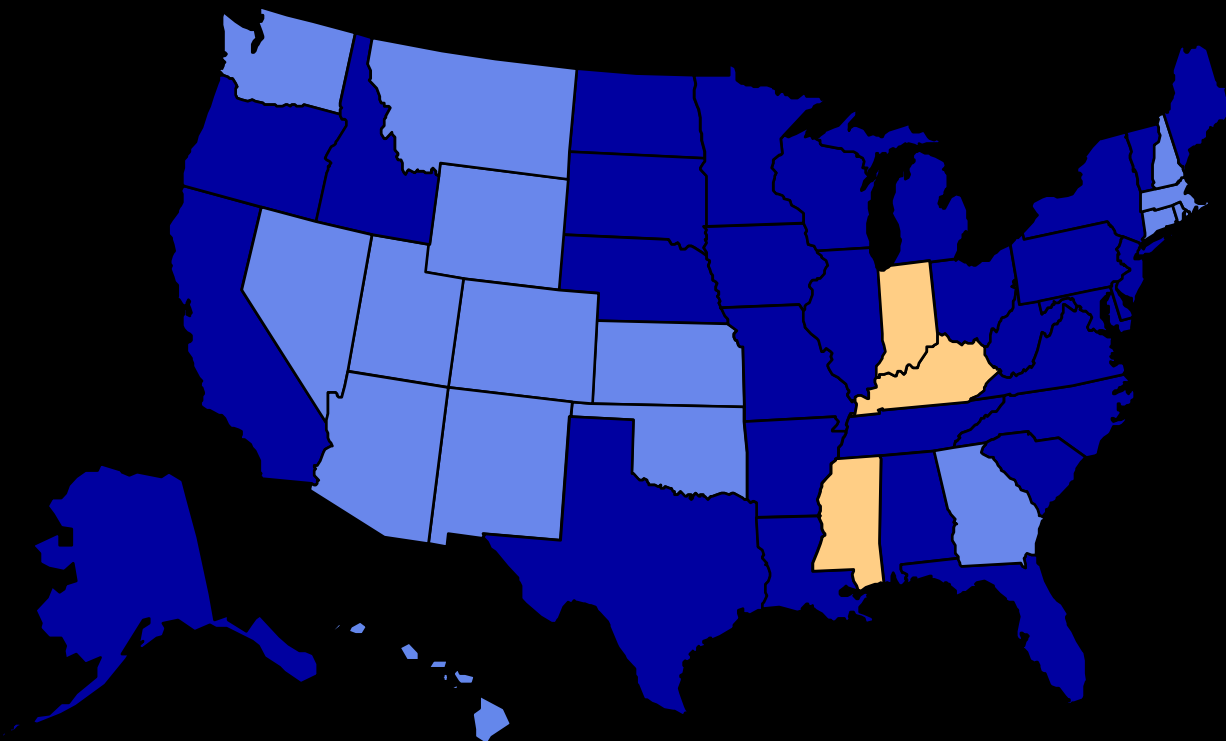
# 1996



■ No Data   ■ <10%   ■ 10%-14%   ■ 15%-19%

# 1997

---

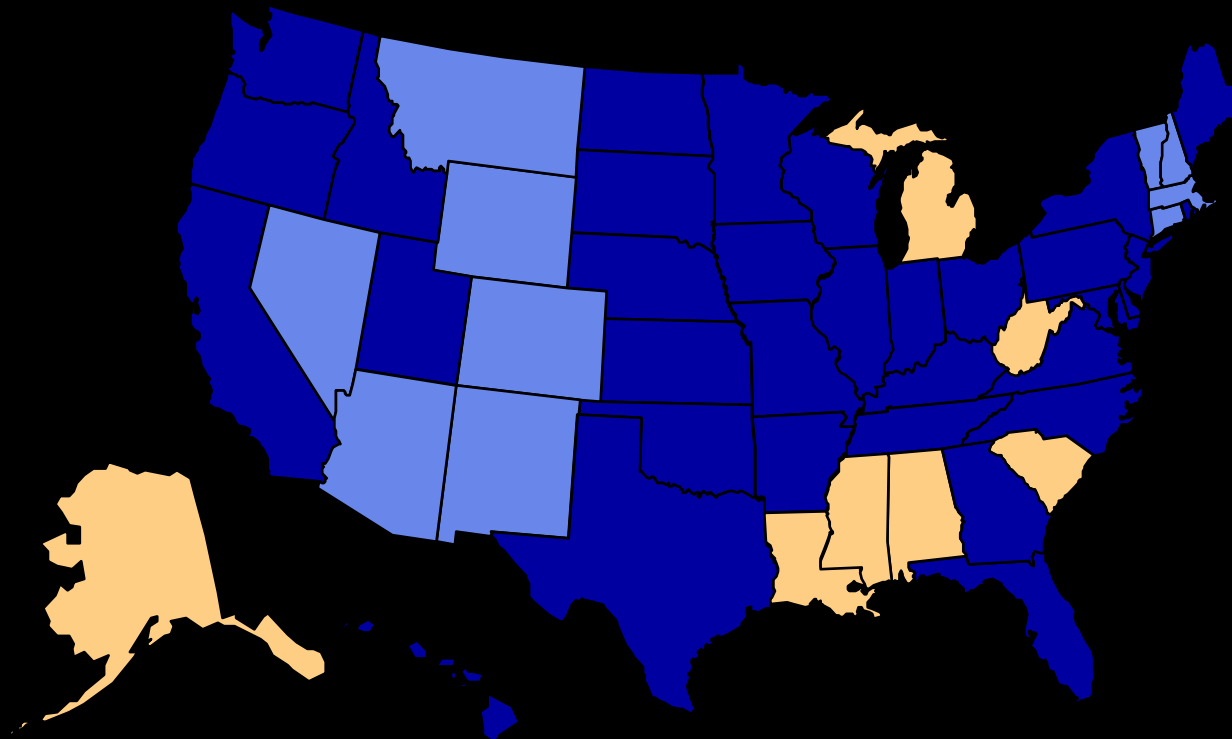


■ No Data   ■ <10%   ■ 10%–14%   ■ 15%–19%   ■ ≥20%



# 1998

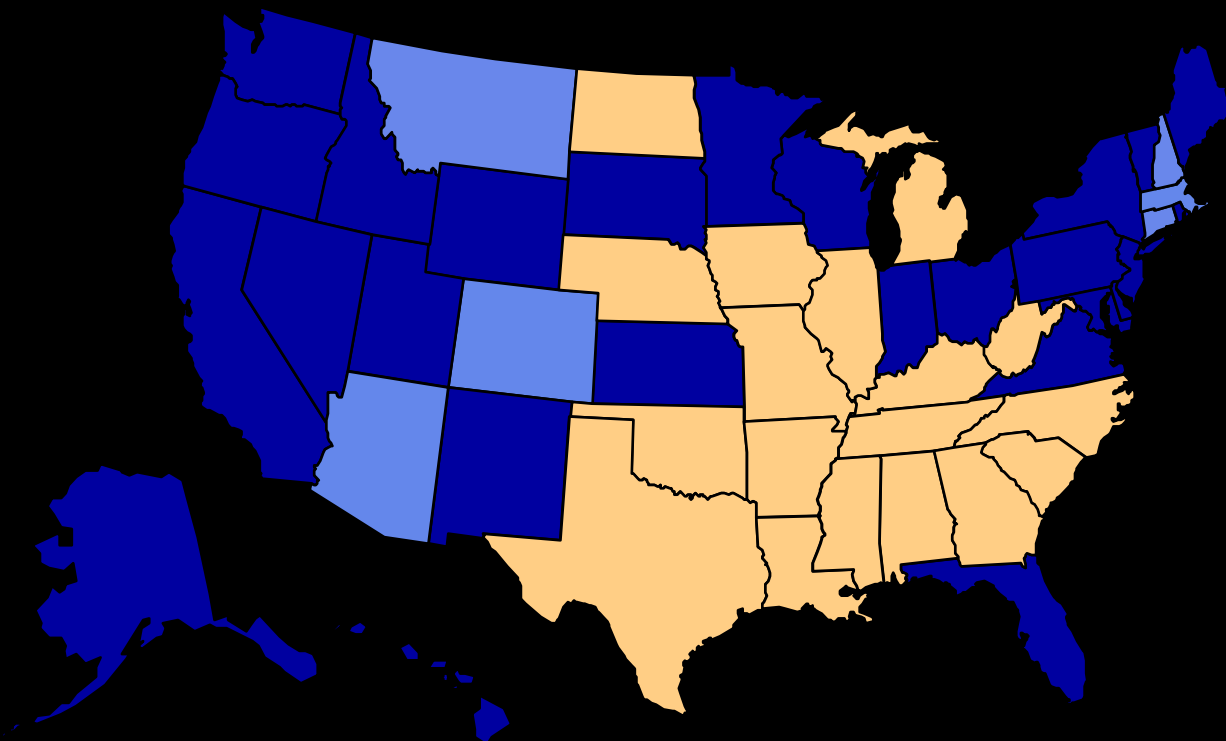
---



■ No Data   ■ <10%   ■ 10%–14%   ■ 15%–19%   ■ ≥20%

# 1999

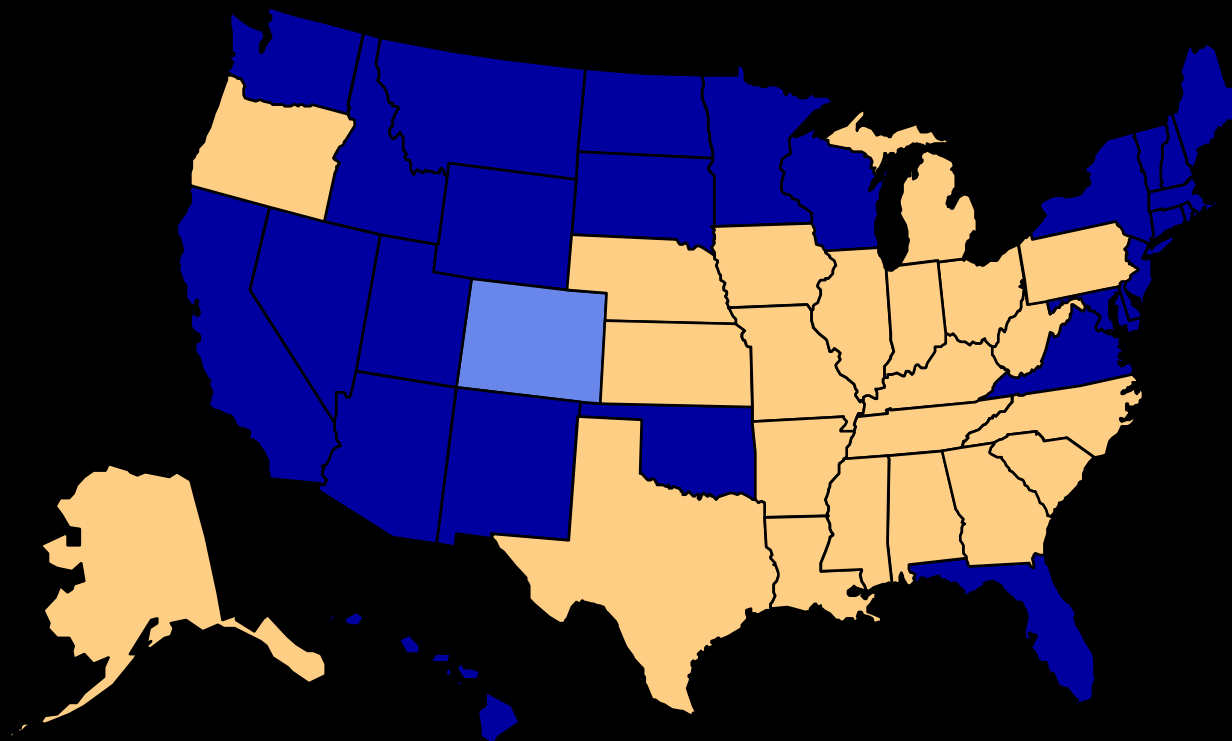
---



■ No Data   ■ <10%   ■ 10%–14%   ■ 15%–19%   ■ ≥20%

# 2000

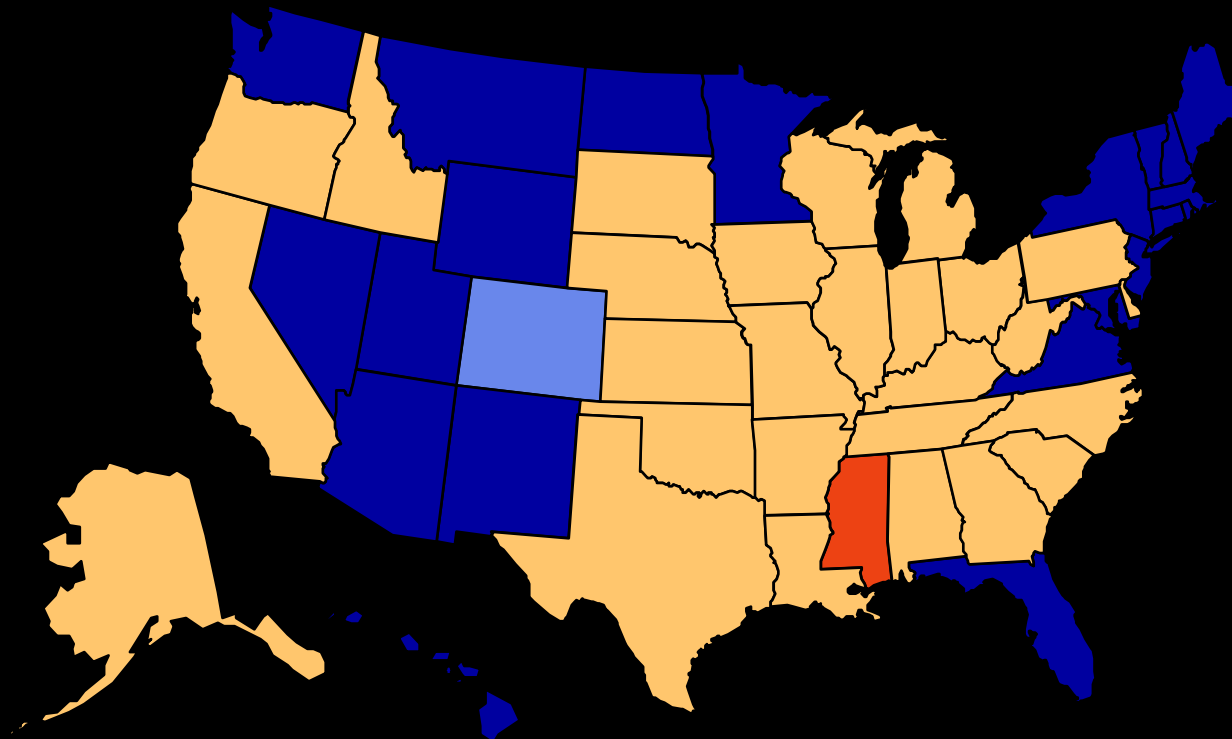
---



■ No Data ■ <10% ■ 10%–14% ■ 15%–19% ■ ≥20%

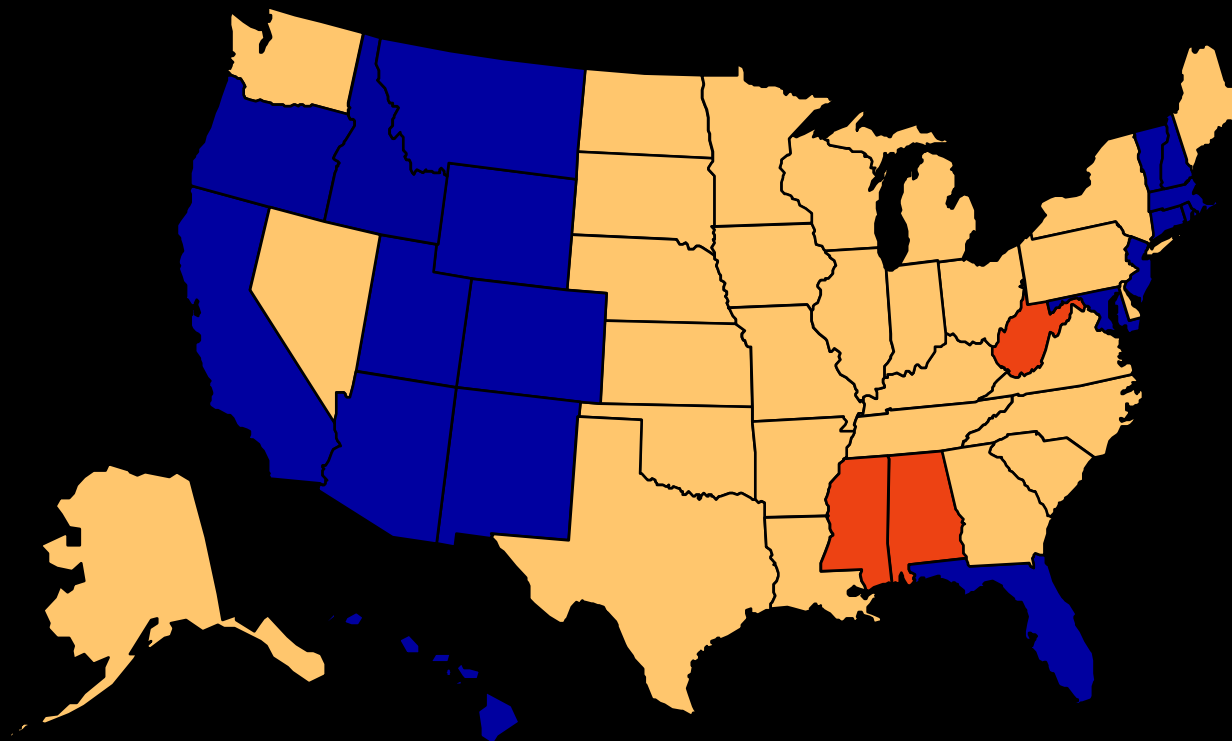
# 2001

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■ No Data ■ <10% ■ 10%–14% ■ 15%–19% ■ 20%–24% ■ ≥25%

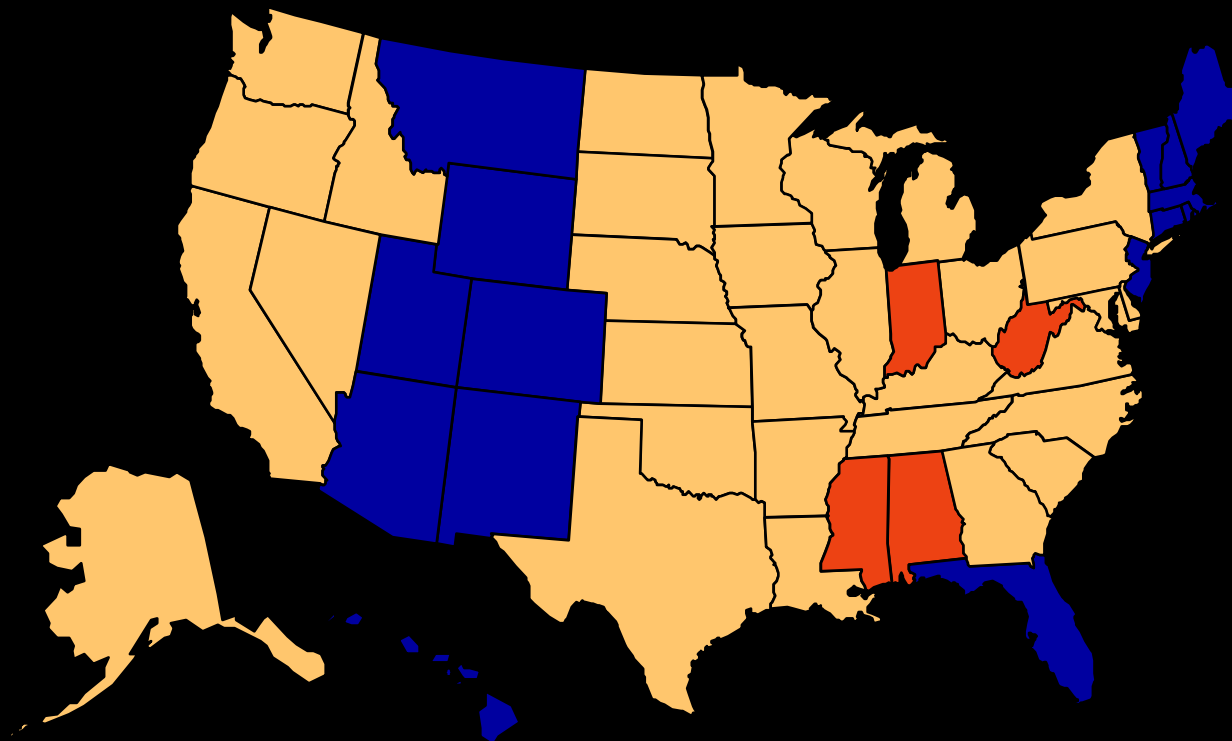
# 2002



■ No Data ■ <10% ■ 10%–14% ■ 15%–19% ■ 20%–24% ■ ≥25%

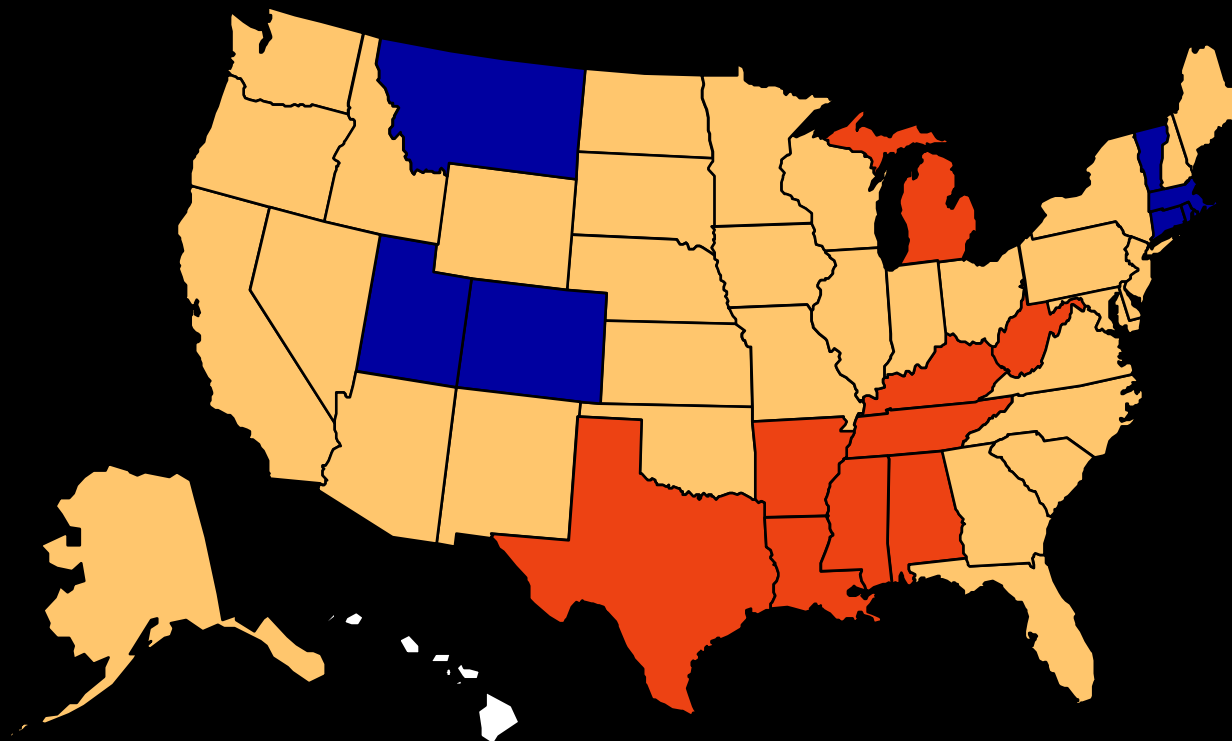


# 2003



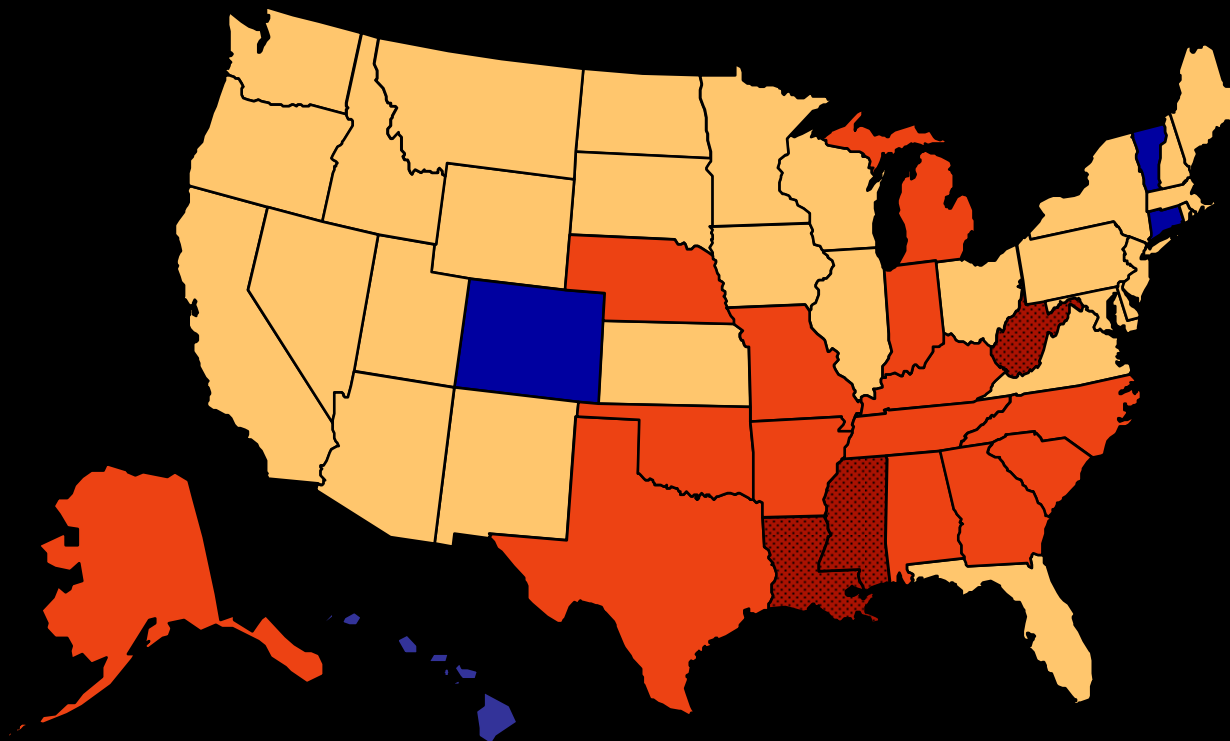
No Data   <10%   10%-14%   15%-19%   20%-24%   ≥25%

# 2004



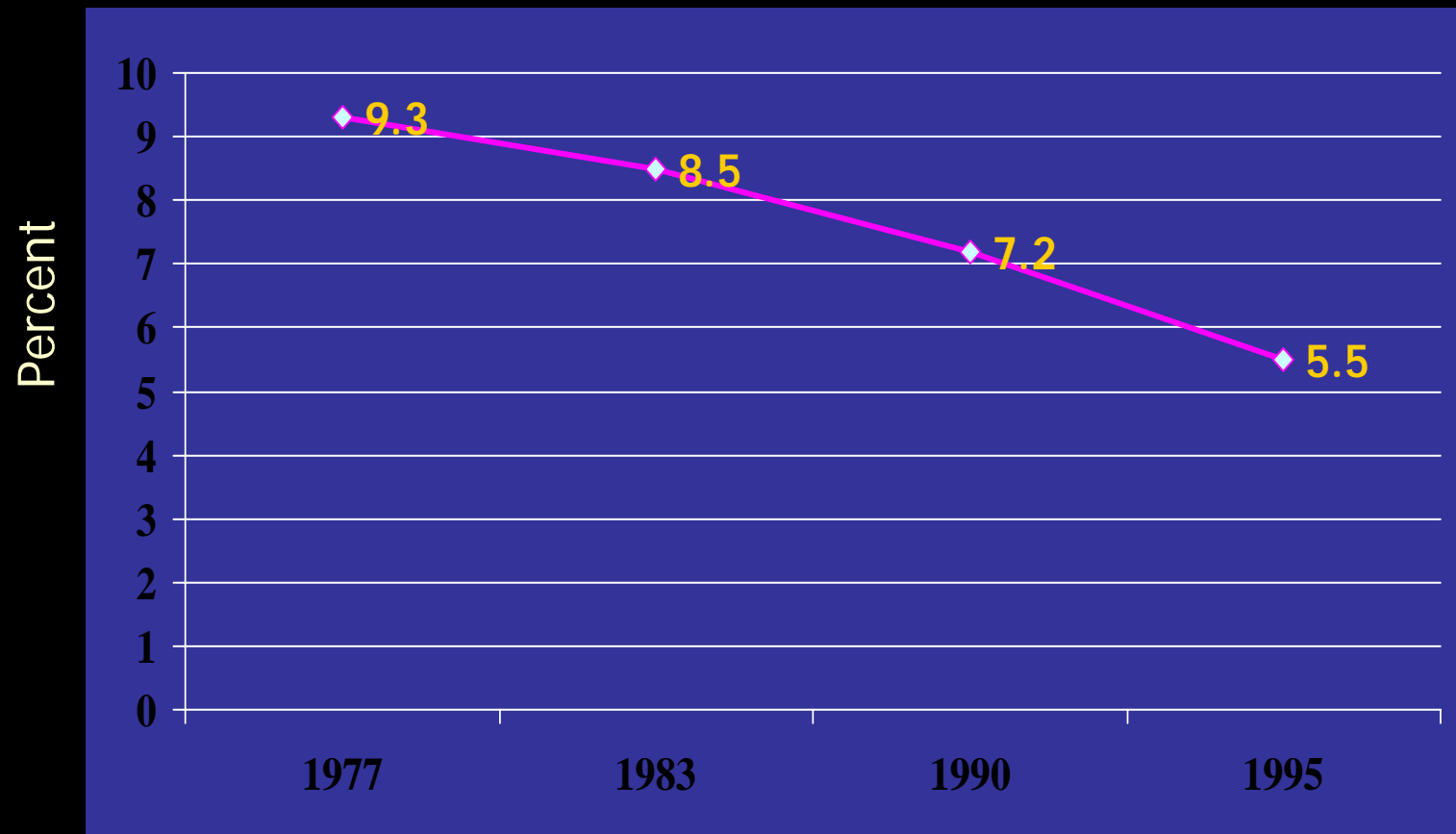
■ No Data ■ <10% ■ 10%–14% ■ 15%–19% ■ 20%–24% ■ ≥25%

# 2005



■ No Data ■ <10% ■ 10%–14% ■ 15%–19% ■ 20%–24% ■ 25%–29% ■ ≥30%

# U.S. Walk Trips 1977-1995



Source: Nationwide Personal Transportation Survey, 1995

# Moms Become Cab Drivers

## Everything is a Drive Away

Suburban mothers spend  
**17 full days a year**  
behind the wheel, more than the  
average parent spends dressing,  
bathing and feeding a child

Source: Surface Transportation Policy Project

Home

Recreation

Workplace





Social/Equity

## C. Community Legacy

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How can we meet the  
needs of today and  
also allow future generations  
to meet their needs?









# The public is empowered when...

...they have access to the information they want, not just the information **we think** they need





# The public is NOT empowered when....

...the project  
schedule  
cannot be  
revised



# The public is NOT empowered when....

...standards  
prevent  
creative  
design  
solutions



# The public is NOT empowered when...

...the project must  
fit within or fully  
spend a  
predetermined  
budget



# The Tools of Power

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- Budgets
- Schedules
- Standards

---

Most public process in  
transportation planning and  
design today strives to obtain  
consent rather than to enlist the  
public in creative development of  
their own communities



# Process → Results

---

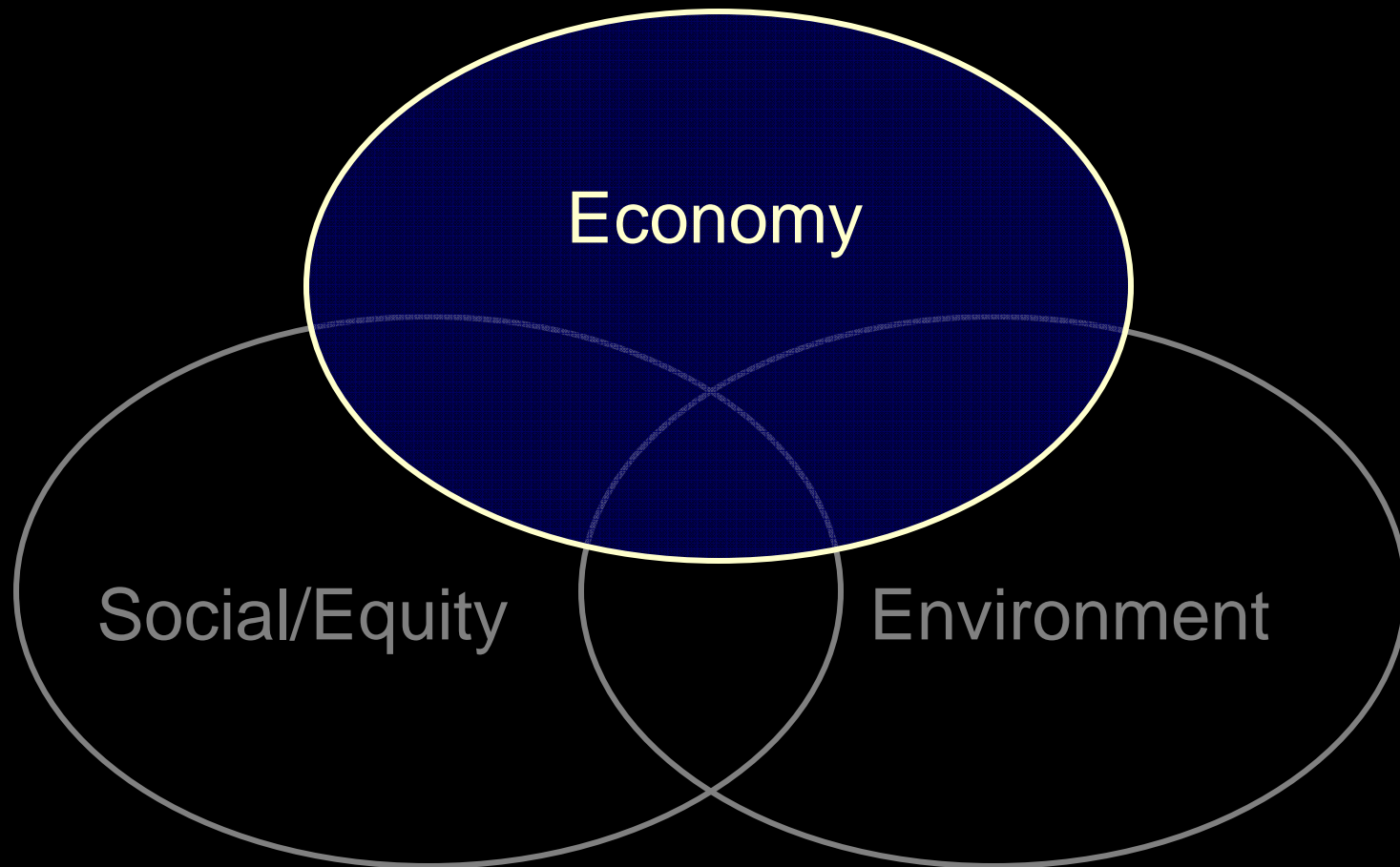
- Preserving cultural & historic resources
- Maintaining community character and a strong sense of place
- Creating “great streets” and “complete streets”
- Ensuring equitable access to resources

**Next....**



# “Sustainability”

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# Economy

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A. Access to Jobs

B. Economic Resiliency

# Economy

---

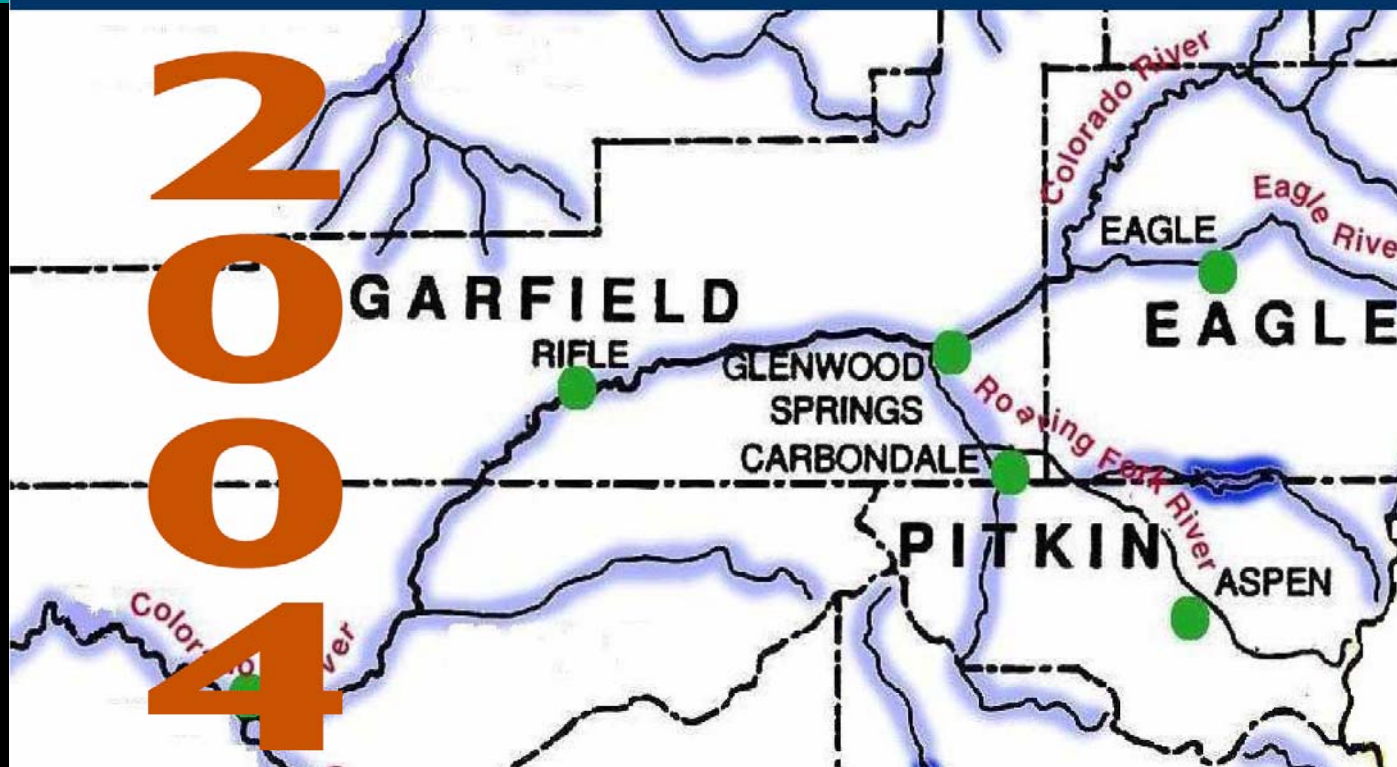
- Developing in a way that benefits the community
- Avoiding infrastructure deficits
- Supporting resiliency & viability of local commerce
- Avoiding sharp cycles – “boom & bust”
- Avoiding unnecessary local tax burden
- Ensuring jobs & personal opportunity



Economy

## A. Access to Jobs

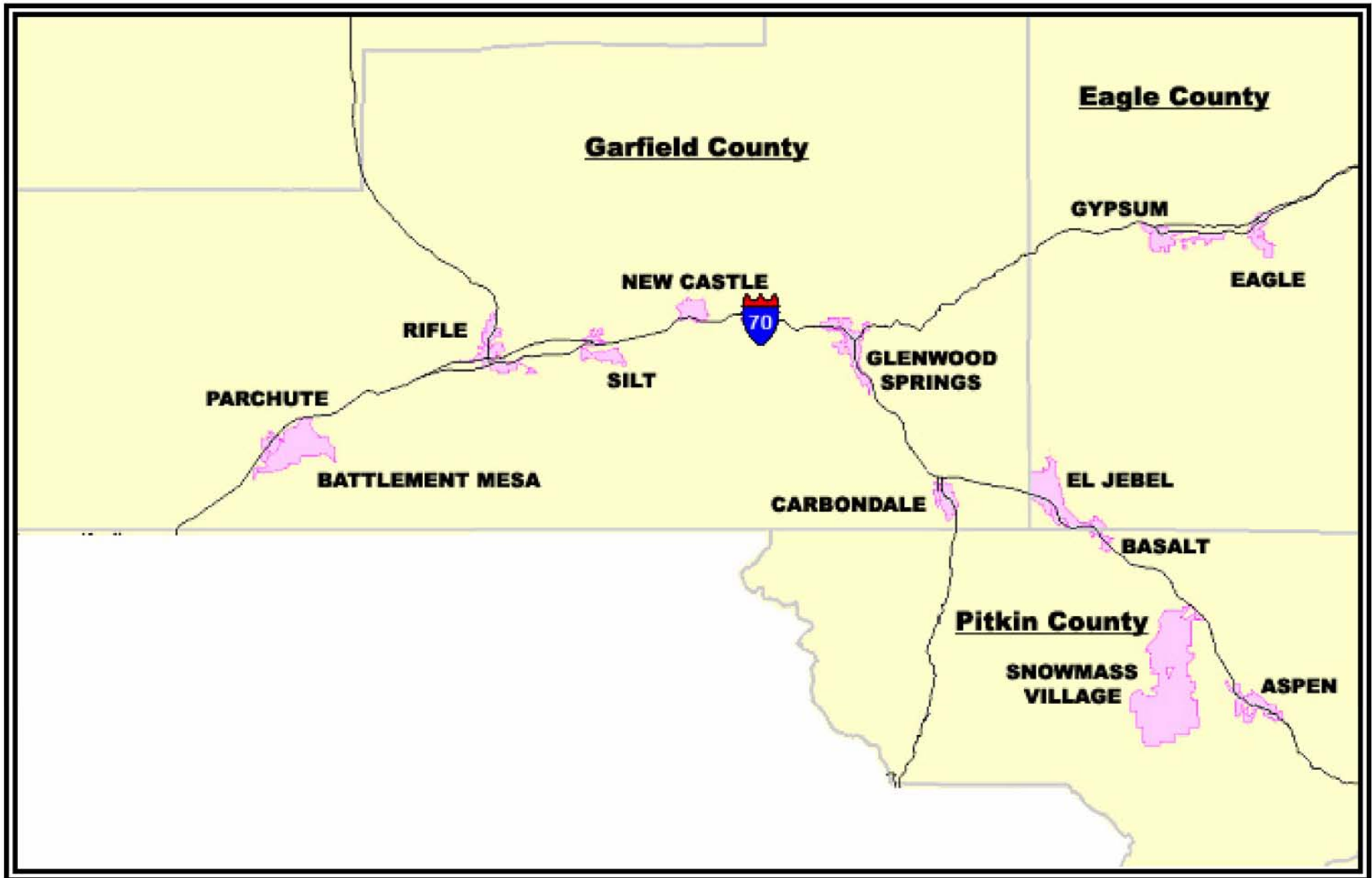
# LOCAL & REGIONAL TRAVEL PATTERNS STUDY



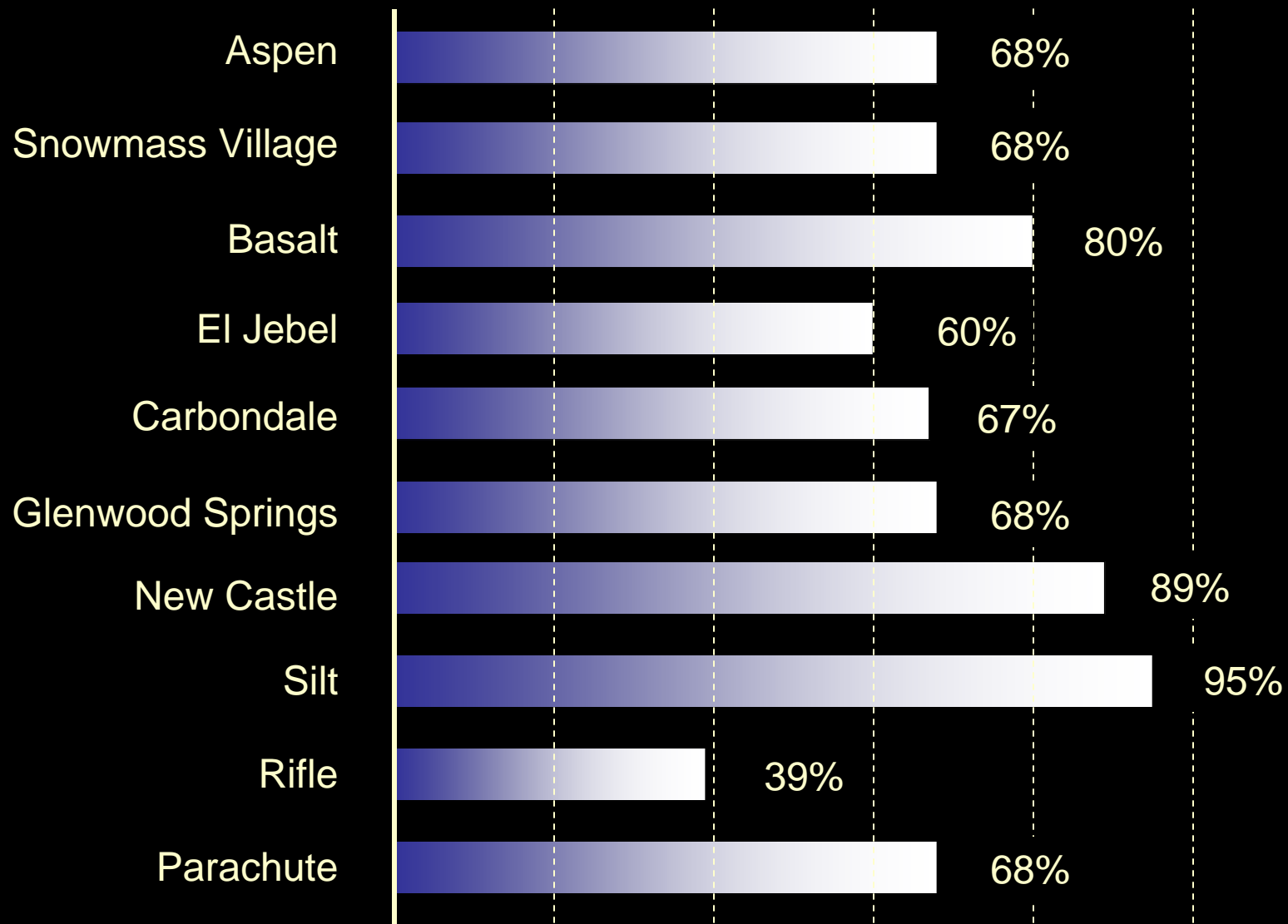
Examining how, why, when, and where people travel  
in the Roaring Fork and Colorado River Valleys.

Prepared by: RRC Associates, Charlier Associates &  
Healthy Mountain Communities

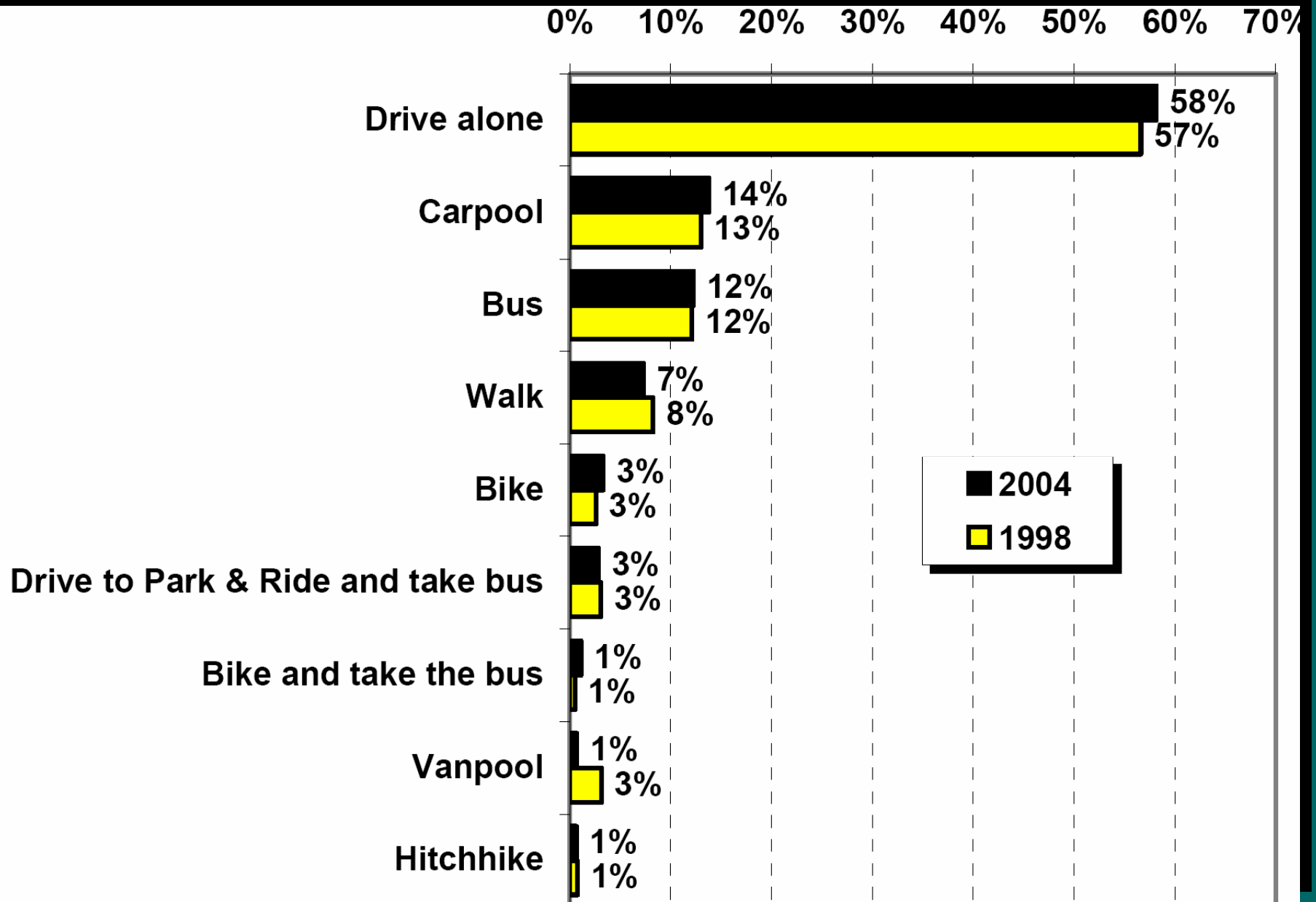
# Study Area



# % of Workers Imported from Other Towns (2004)

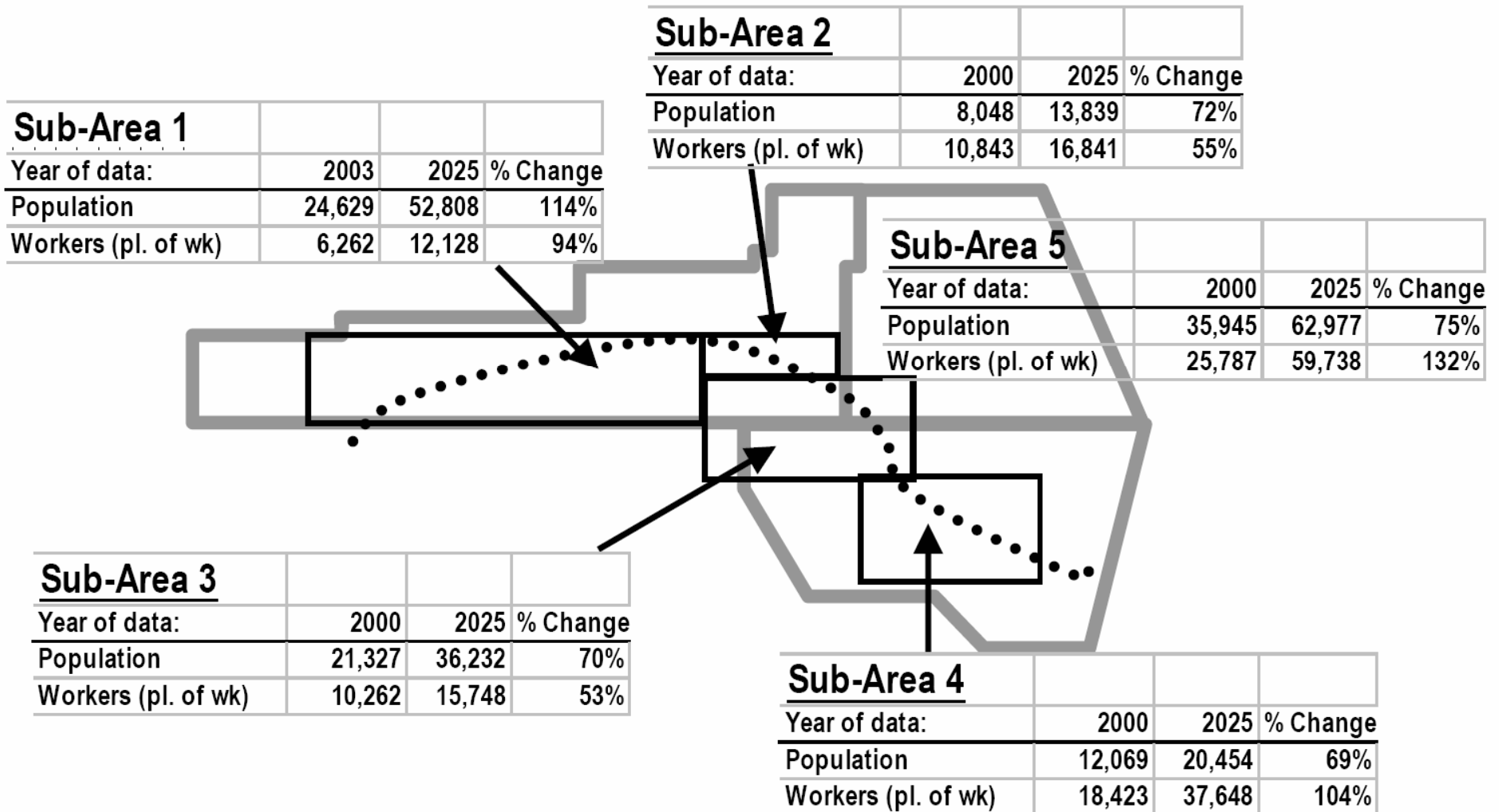


# Mode Share – Work Commute

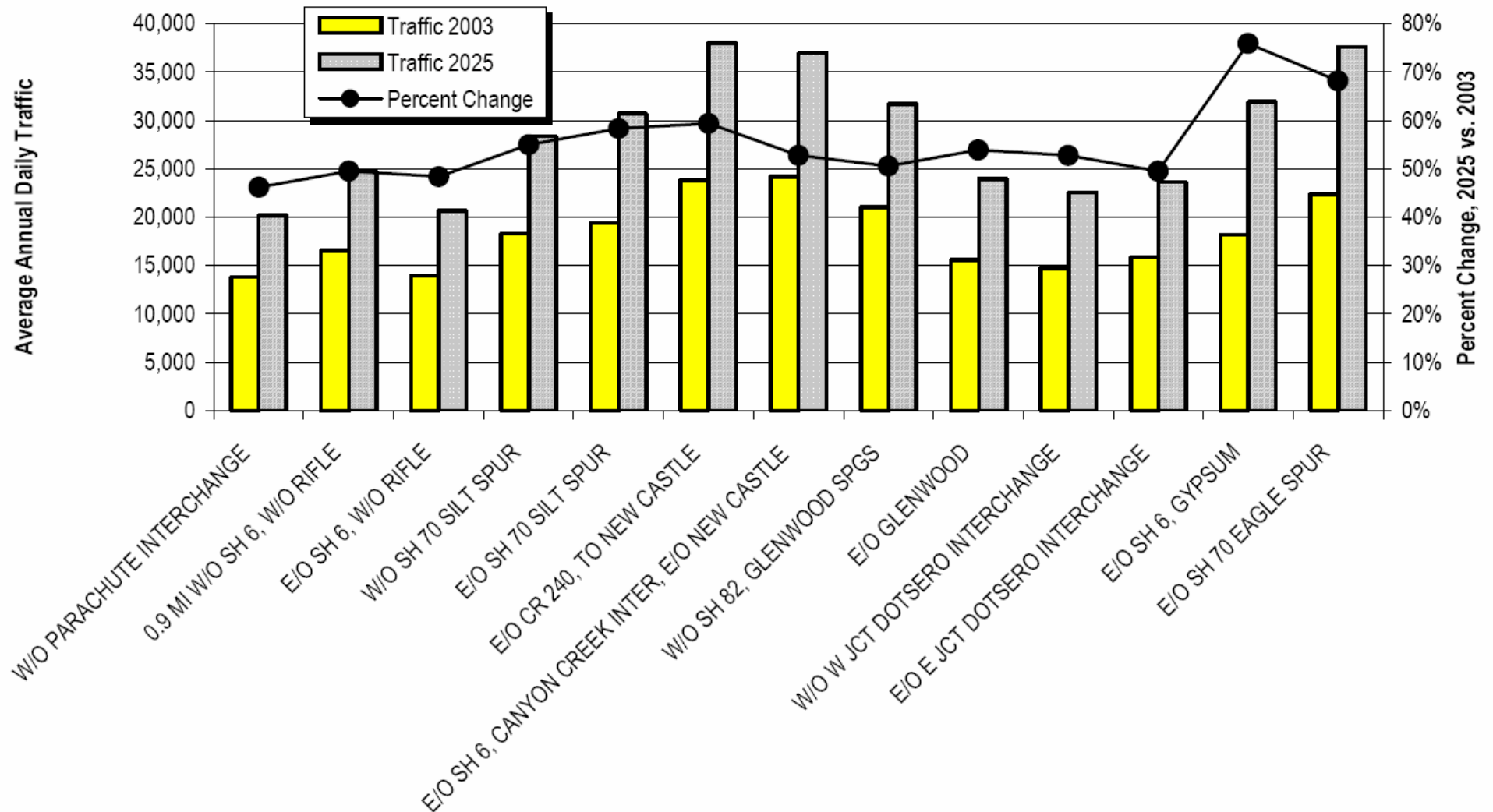




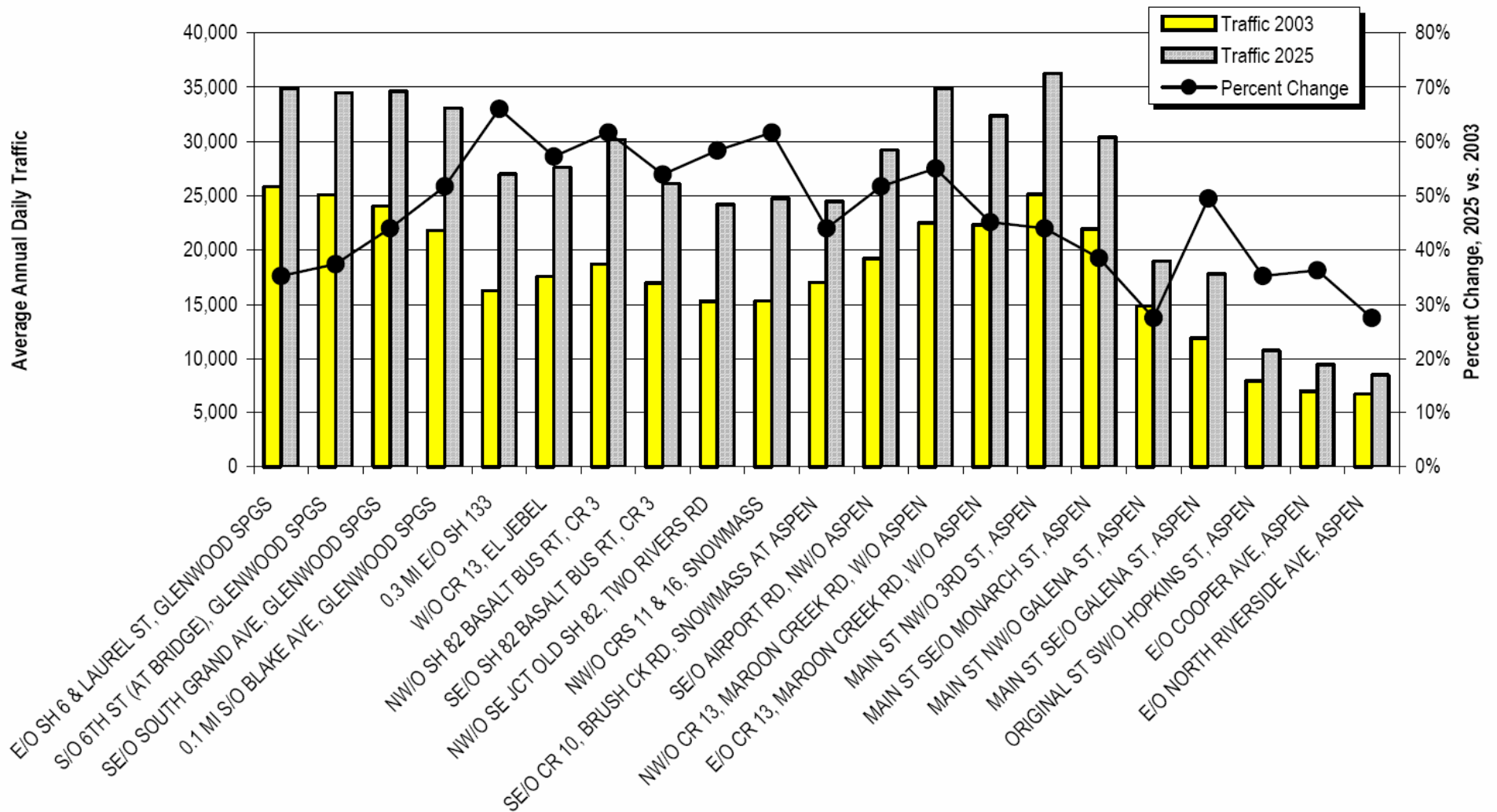
**Figure 4.2.6. Population & Workforce Forecasts Map**



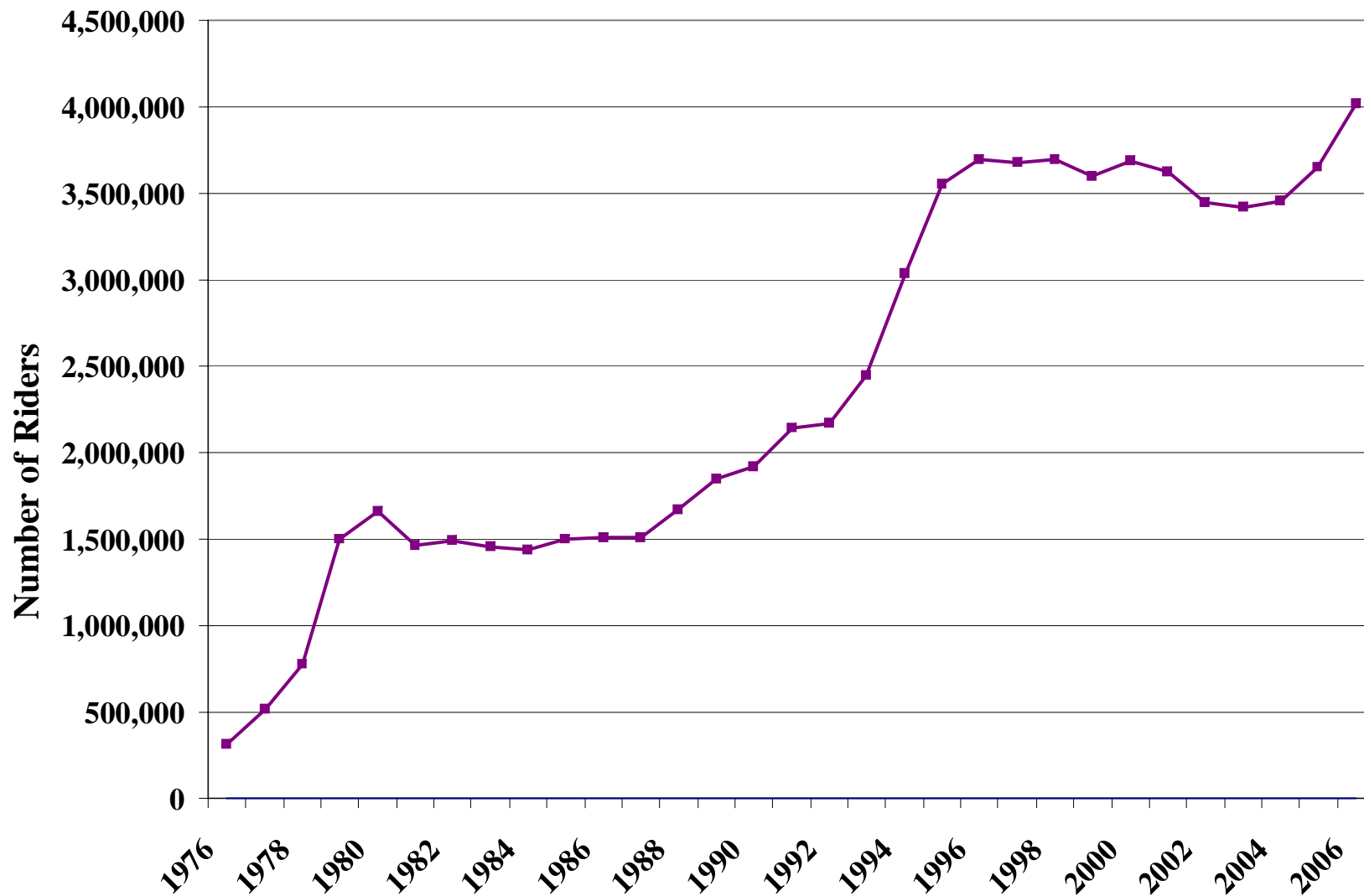
**Figure 4.3.1. I-70: 2003 Traffic Counts vs. 2025 Traffic Projections**



**Figure 4.3.2. State Highway 82: 2003 Traffic Counts vs. 2025 Traffic Projections**



# RFTA Transit Ridership – Annual



# Summary of Findings

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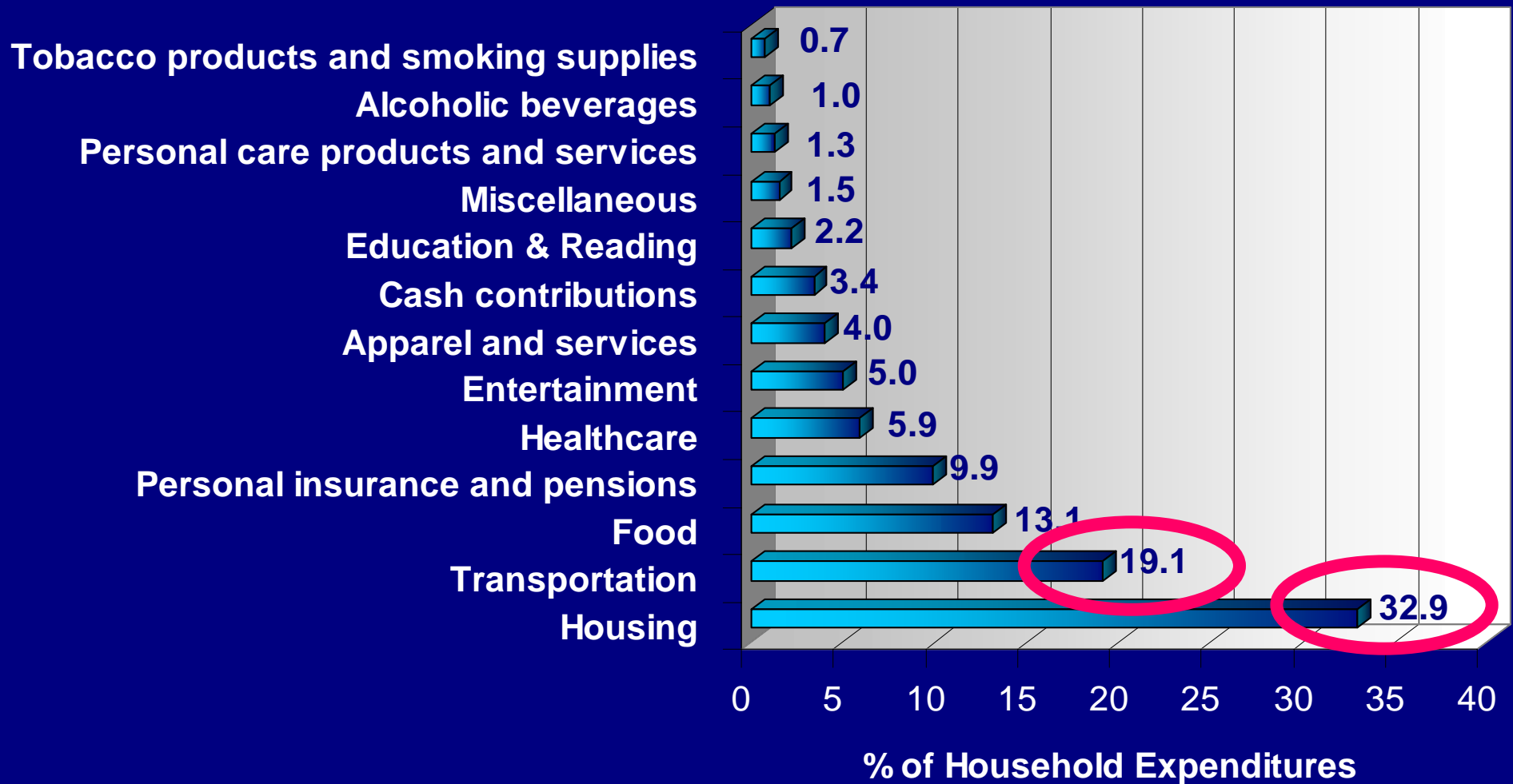
- Dramatic Population & Job Growth
- The % of Workforce Commuting Between Towns Will Increase
- Traffic on Regional Highways Will Grow by 50 – 80% by 2025
- No Highway Expansion Program Could Possibly Keep Up With Traffic Growth
- The Demand for Regional Transit Will Grow by 50 – 100% by 2025



Economy

## B. Economic Resiliency

# Household Expenditures



# Three Car Family

	Mom	Dad	Daughter
Monday	SOV	SOV	SOV
Tuesday	SOV	SOV	SOV
Wednesday	SOV	SOV	SOV
Thursday	SOV	SOV	SOV
Friday	SOV	SOV	SOV
Saturday	--	SOV	--
Sunday	varies	varies	varies

# Two Car Family

	Mom	Dad	Daughter
Monday	SOV	Transit	SOV
Tuesday	SOV	SOV	Bike
Wednesday	SOV	Transit	SOV
Thursday	SOV	SOV	Bike
Friday	Bike	Transit	SOV
Saturday	--	SOV	--
Sunday	varies	varies	varies

---

One less car = - \$4,000/yr.  
(net about \$3,500)\*

At least \$50,000 in additional  
mortgage capacity

\* assumes 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> car for household













# Thank You



# Suggested Resources

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- ULI – Urban Land Institute  
[www.uli.org](http://www.uli.org)
- CNU – Congress for New Urbanism  
[www.cnu.org](http://www.cnu.org)
- Healthy Mountain Communities  
[www.hmcnews.org](http://www.hmcnews.org)
- New Century Transportation Foundation  
[www.newcenturytrans.org](http://www.newcenturytrans.org)



[www.charlier.org](http://www.charlier.org)