

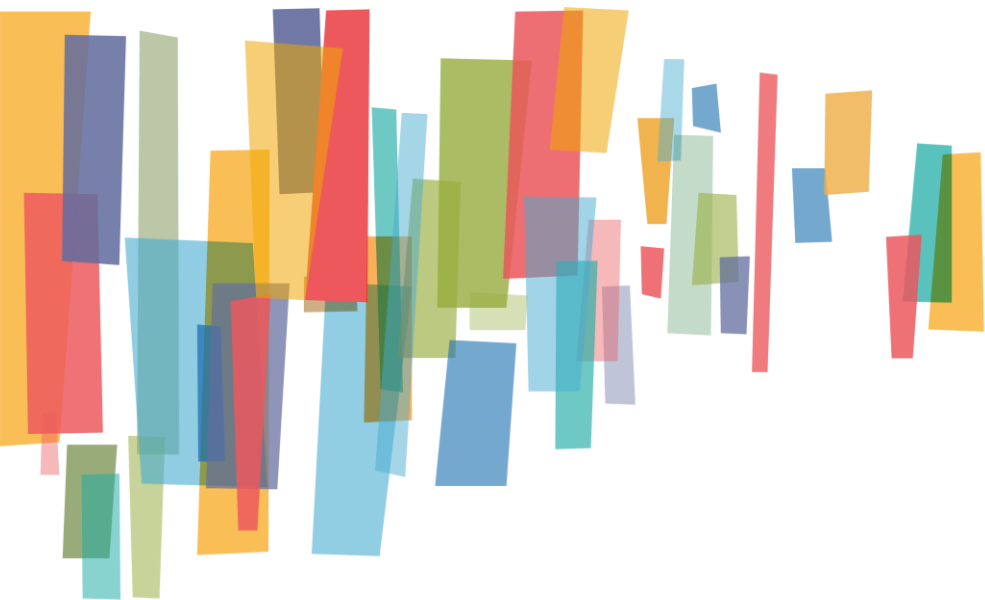


# Gazing The Crystal Ball

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# In Summary...

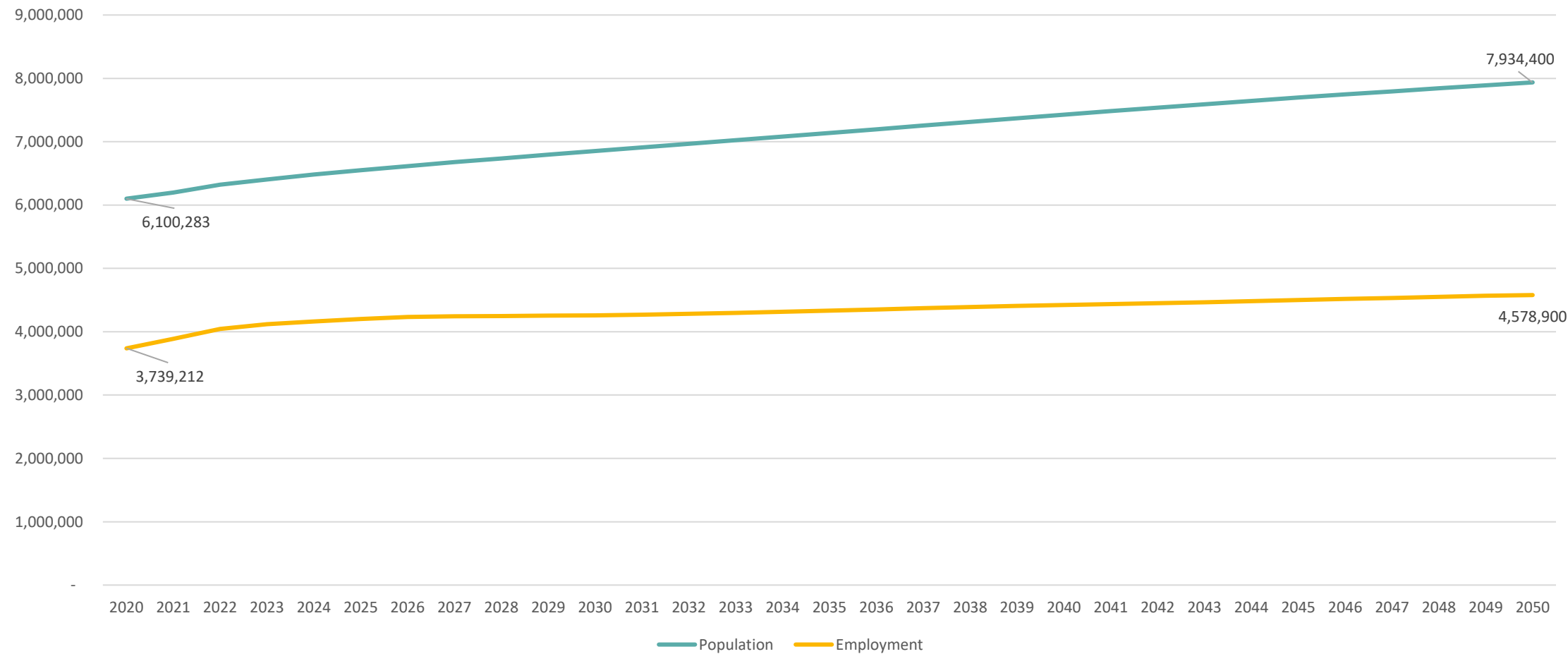
- Diversity will drive the region's growth. Virtually all the net growth will come from populations of color. For example, Hispanic and Latino residents are forecast to account for 21% of the region's population in 2050, compared to 12% today
- The region's population of older adults will grow at fast rate: In 2050, nearly 12% of the region's population, more than 900,000 people, will be aged 75 or older. That compares to a share of less than 5% today.
- Growth to remain strong, but slower than previously forecast. The new 2050 population forecast is about 700,000 below what was forecast in the previous series adopted in 2020. Driving the slower growth are declining fertility rates and a drop in "in-migration" – that is, people moving to metro Atlanta from other parts of the country or from abroad. Both of these trends accelerated during the Covid-19 pandemic.
- Fastest growth to occur in outer counties. The fastest-growing counties in the 21-county region through 2050 are forecast to be Forsyth (79%), Barrow (71%), Paulding (60%), Cherokee (53%), Walton (51%), and Coweta (51%).
- Strong growth in region's core, too: The region's five core counties (Fulton, Gwinnett, Cobb, DeKalb, and Clayton, are forecast to add a total of 812,000 people by 2050, representing nearly half of the region's total growth. And the areas inside the I-285 will "densify" the most.
- Employment in the Professional, Business and Technical Services sector will pace job growth in the region.



# ARC's Series 17 Forecasts: *Population*

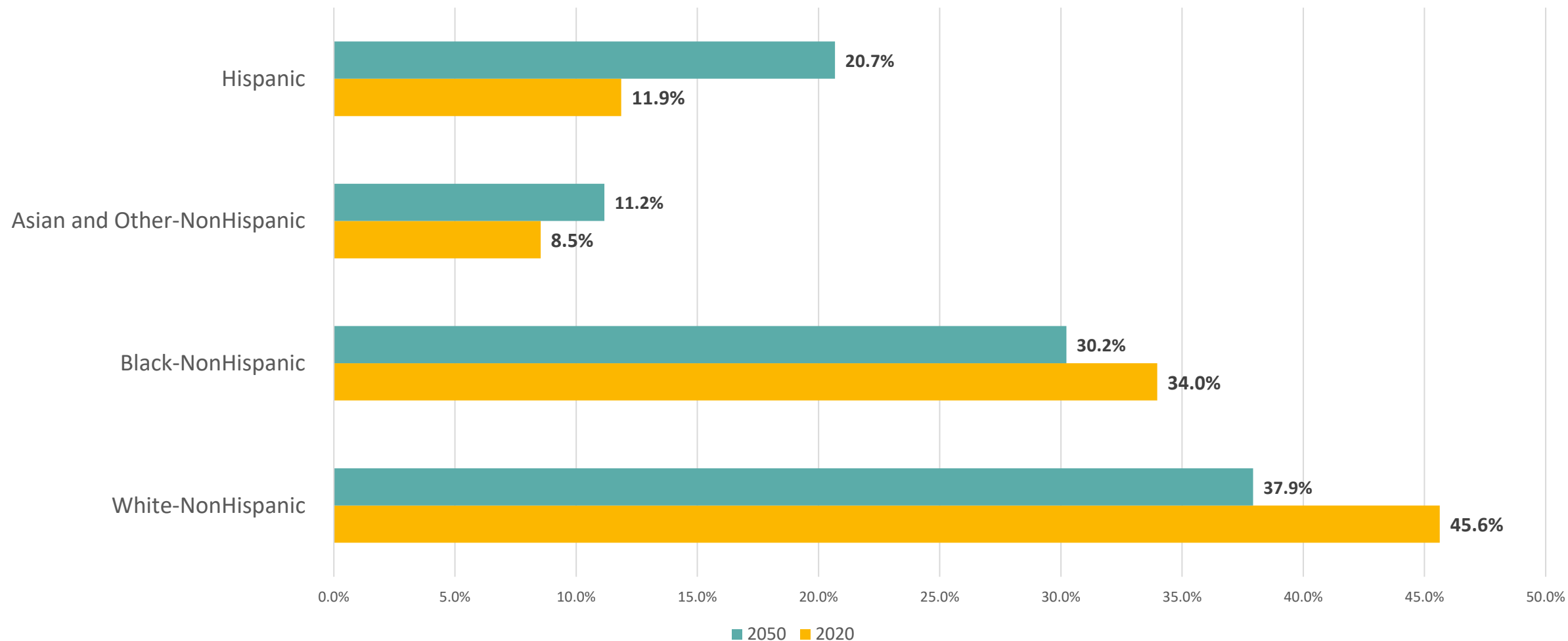
# ARC Regional (21-County) Forecasts

ARC's Series 17 Population and Employment Forecasts



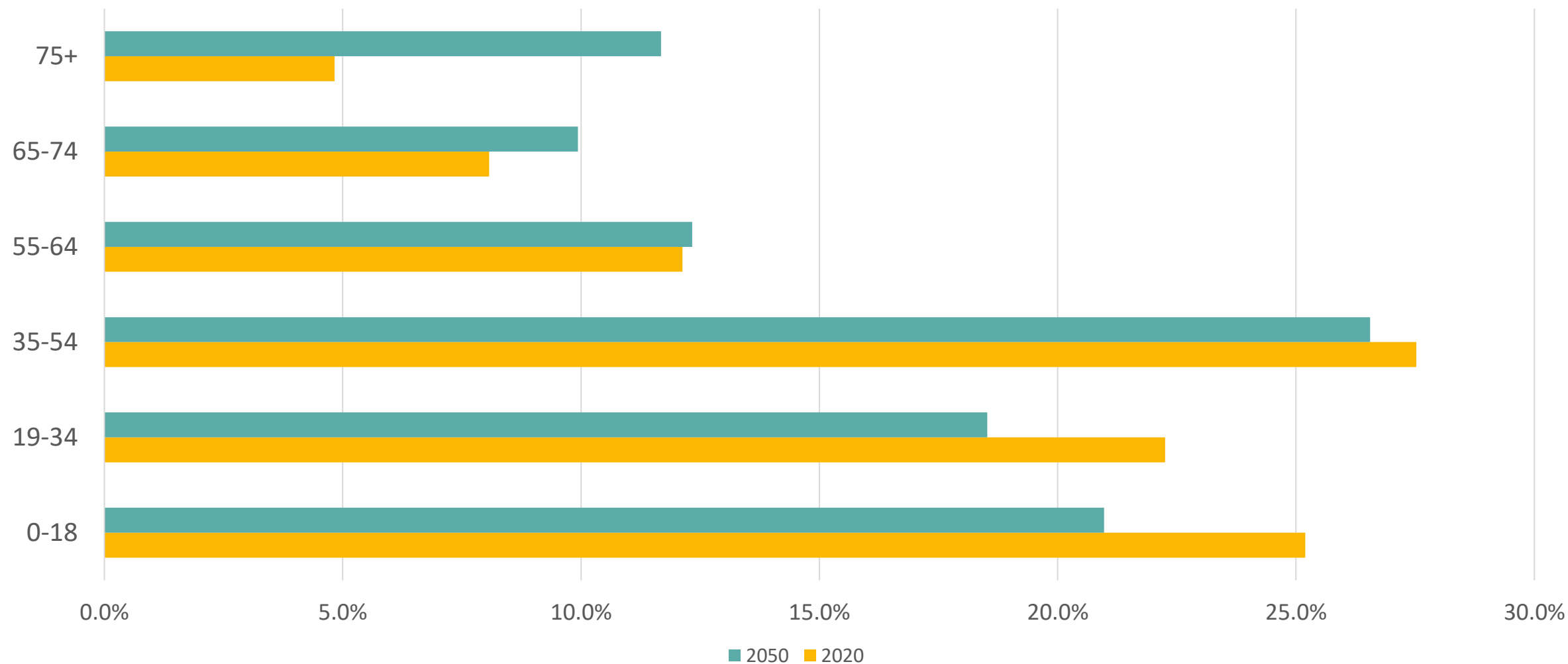
# Composition of Future Growth Changing Too

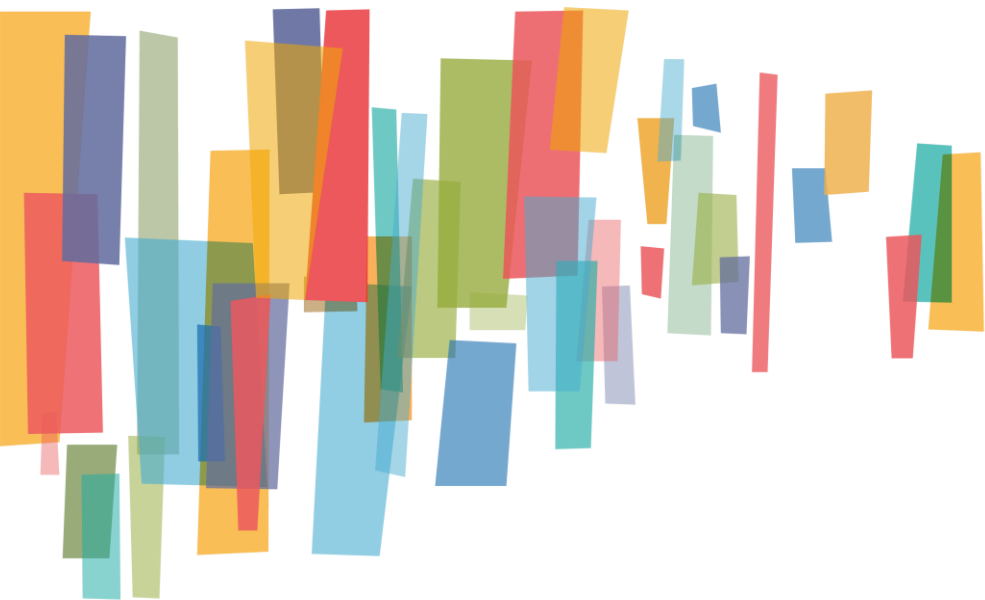
Share of Race and Ethnicity in 2020 and 2050: 21-County Region



# Oh, And We're Getting Older

Age Bands: 2020 and 2050





# ARC's Series 17 Forecasts: *County Population Trends*

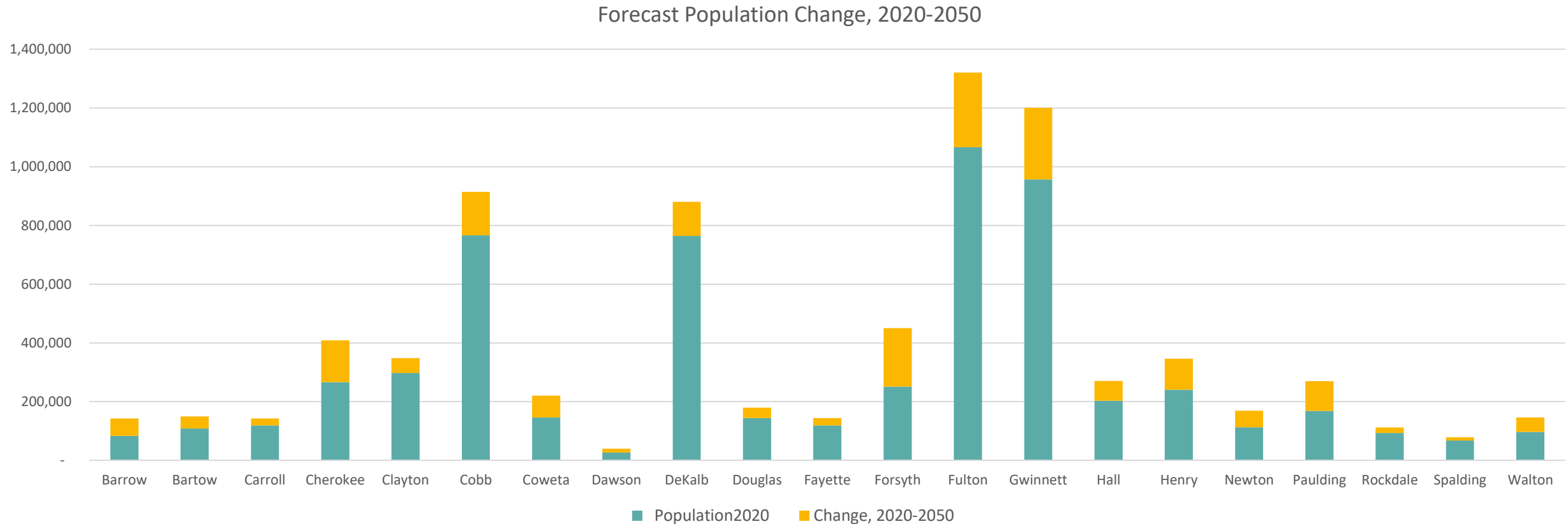
# Forecast Population Growth By County: Just the Numbers

	Population 2020	Population 2050	Change, 2020-2050	Avg Annual % Change
Barrow	83,505	142,904	59,399	2.4%
Bartow	108,901	149,854	40,953	1.3%
Carroll	119,148	142,613	23,465	0.7%
Cherokee	266,620	408,837	142,217	1.8%
Clayton	297,595	348,006	50,411	0.6%
Cobb	766,149	914,448	148,299	0.6%
Coweta	146,158	220,225	74,067	1.7%
Dawson	26,798	39,758	12,960	1.6%
DeKalb	764,382	880,195	115,813	0.5%
Douglas	144,237	179,227	34,990	0.8%
Fayette	119,194	143,785	24,591	0.7%
Forsyth	251,283	450,124	198,841	2.6%
Fulton	1,066,710	1,321,079	254,369	0.8%
Gwinnett	957,062	1,200,534	243,472	0.8%
Hall	203,136	270,132	66,996	1.1%
Henry	240,712	346,392	105,680	1.5%
Newton	112,483	169,013	56,530	1.7%
Paulding	168,661	270,096	101,435	2.0%
Rockdale	93,570	112,397	18,827	0.7%
Spalding	67,306	78,826	11,520	0.6%
Walton	96,673	145,977	49,304	1.7%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>6,100,283</b>	<b>7,934,422</b>	<b>1,834,139</b>	<b>1.0%</b>

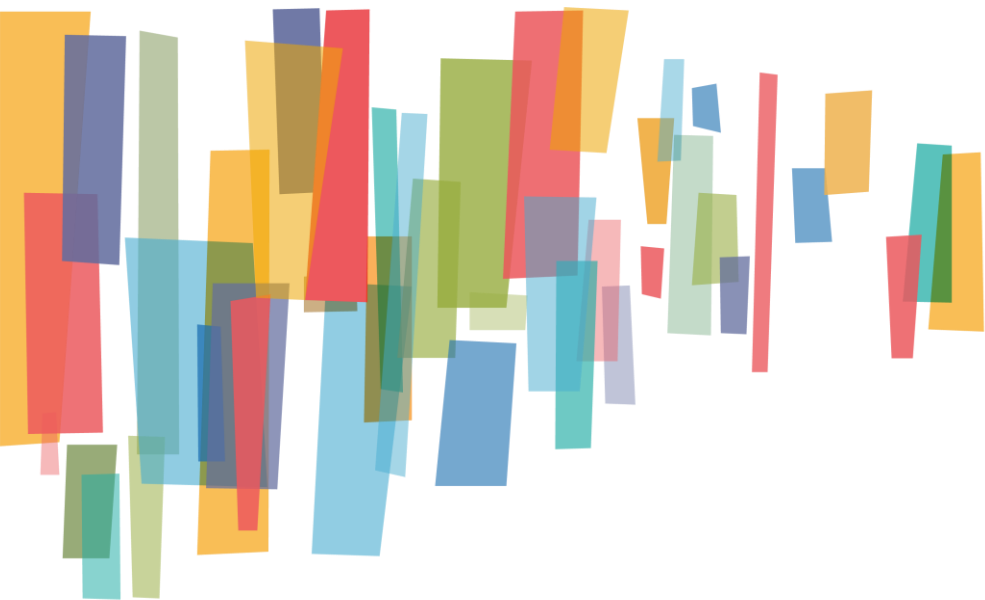
Fulton will remain the largest county in the region in 2050. In terms of average annual percent change, outer counties (which start from a lower base) like Barrow and Forsyth will experience the greatest percentage changes on an annual basis.



# Forecast Population Growth By County



The orange sections on top of the bars represent change from 2020-2050. Every jurisdiction will experience some level of growth over the horizon.



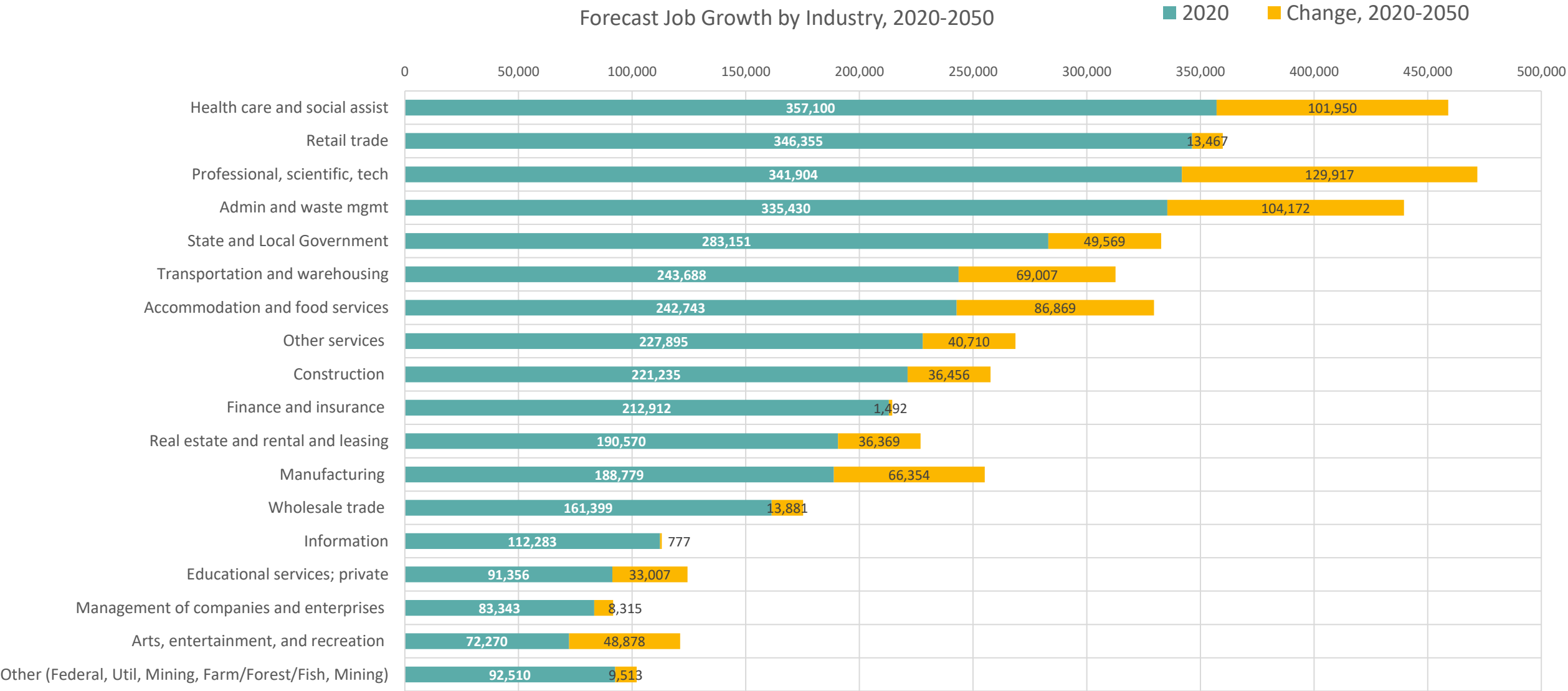
# ARC's Series 17 Forecasts: *Employment*

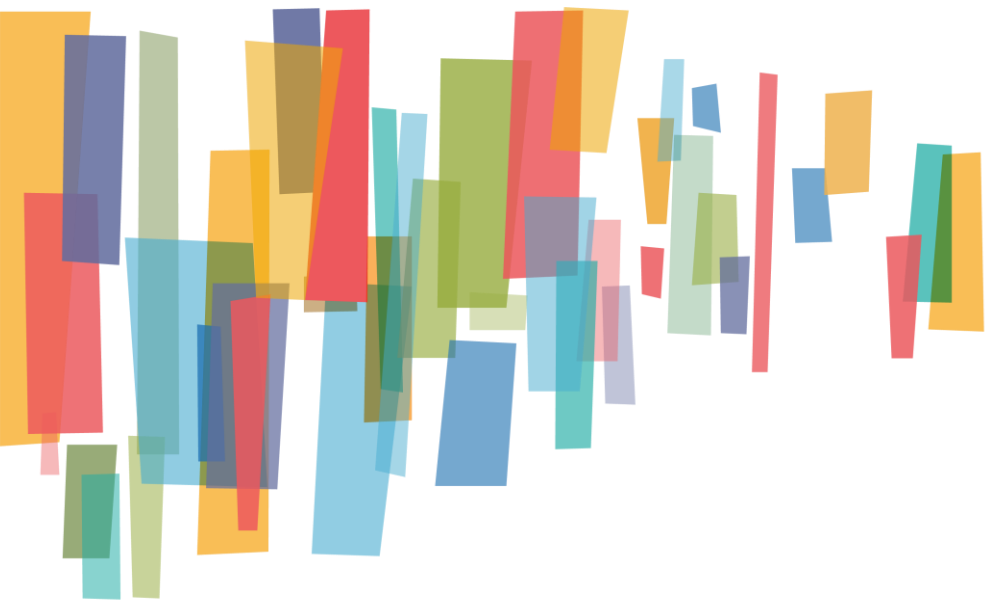
# Forecast Job Growth By County: Just the Numbers

Source: ARC Series 17 Forecasts

County	Employment 2020	Employment 2050	Change, 2020-2050	Average Annual % Change
Barrow	22,400	26,600	4,200	0.6%
Bartow	43,600	55,800	12,200	0.9%
Carroll	51,400	60,100	8,700	0.6%
Cherokee	72,900	96,100	23,200	1.1%
Clayton	145,100	167,400	22,300	0.5%
Cobb	415,100	495,400	80,300	0.6%
Coweta	47,000	61,200	14,200	1.0%
Dawson	10,200	11,300	1,100	0.4%
DeKalb	378,700	452,700	74,000	0.7%
Douglas	52,700	67,100	14,400	0.9%
Fayette	52,800	65,600	12,800	0.8%
Forsyth	87,300	106,200	18,900	0.7%
Fulton	907,000	1,115,400	208,400	0.8%
Gwinnett	410,200	494,900	84,700	0.7%
Hall	97,000	113,400	16,400	0.6%
Henry	69,800	89,300	19,500	0.9%
Newton	31,400	38,900	7,500	0.8%
Paulding	32,600	40,700	8,100	0.8%
Rockdale	41,700	50,200	8,500	0.7%
Spalding	28,700	38,200	9,500	1.1%
Walton	27,300	33,200	5,900	0.7%
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,024,800</b>	<b>3,679,700</b>	<b>654,900</b>	<b>0.7%</b>

# Professional, Scientific, Tech Jobs To Be Largest Industry



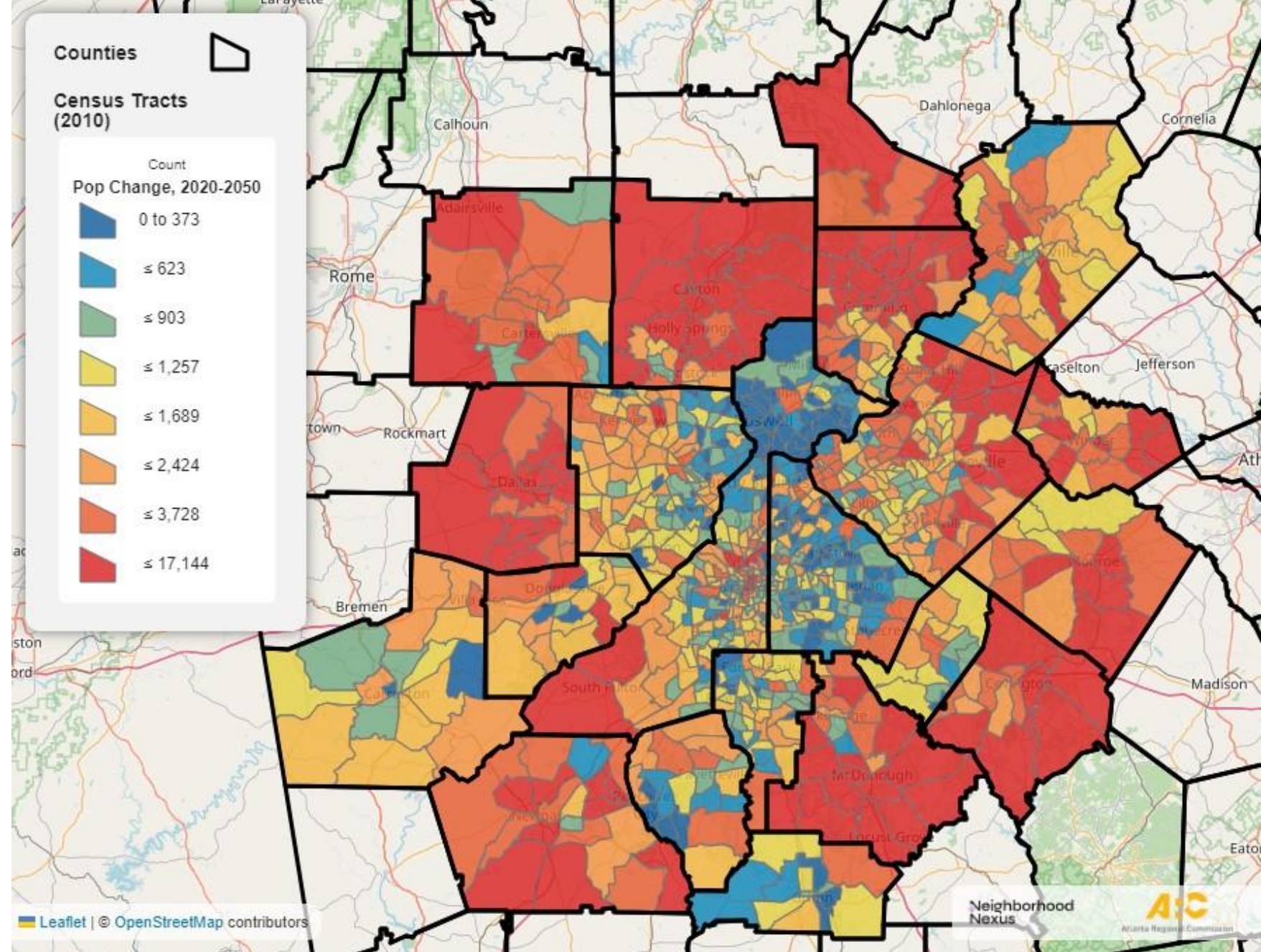


# ARC's Series 17 Forecasts: *Maps!*

# Total Population Change, 2020 - 2050

This map looks at total population change at the census tract level.

As can be seen, the outlying areas have the highest levels of total growth, but these areas also have the largest census tracts, so it is to be expected to see large numerical gains in these areas. There are, however, several tracts in the urban core that are “red”, meaning that these areas, too, are expected to gain significant population growth in the future.



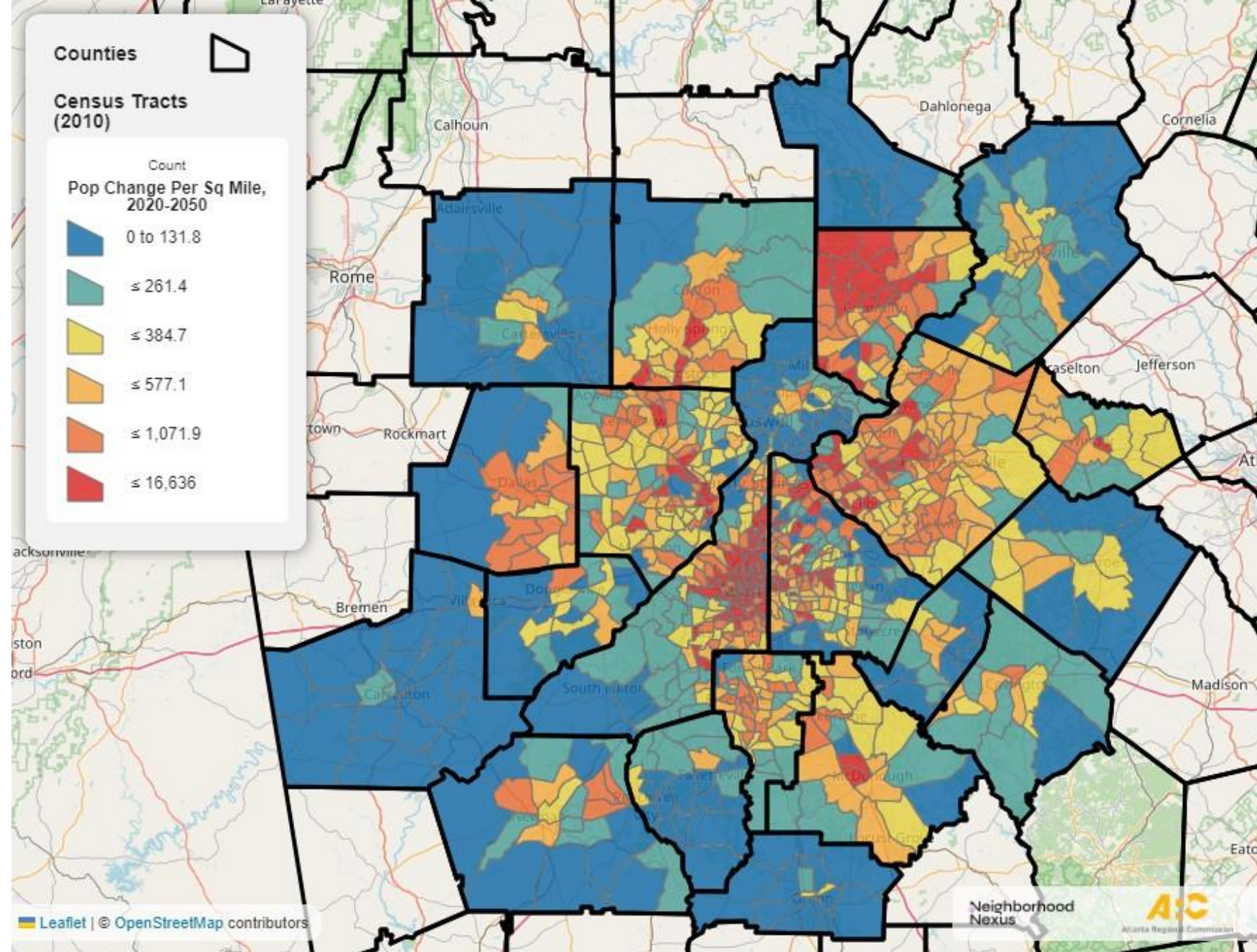


## Population Change Per Sq. Mile, 2020 - 2050

This map looks at population change per square mile at the census tract level. Therefore this is looking at which areas will densify the most.

As can be seen, this map serves as a stark contrast to the previous map as this normalizes for the size of the tract. Here we see that the urban core – in the city of Atlanta, areas surrounding Decatur in DeKalb, areas near the Vinings area in Cobb all will see significant densification in the upcoming years. This includes more suburban areas like Gwinnett, Forsyth and Cherokee (particularly near Woodstock) as well.

Finally, we see that many of those outlying areas there were “red” in the previous map are now blue because of the normalization by size of tract.

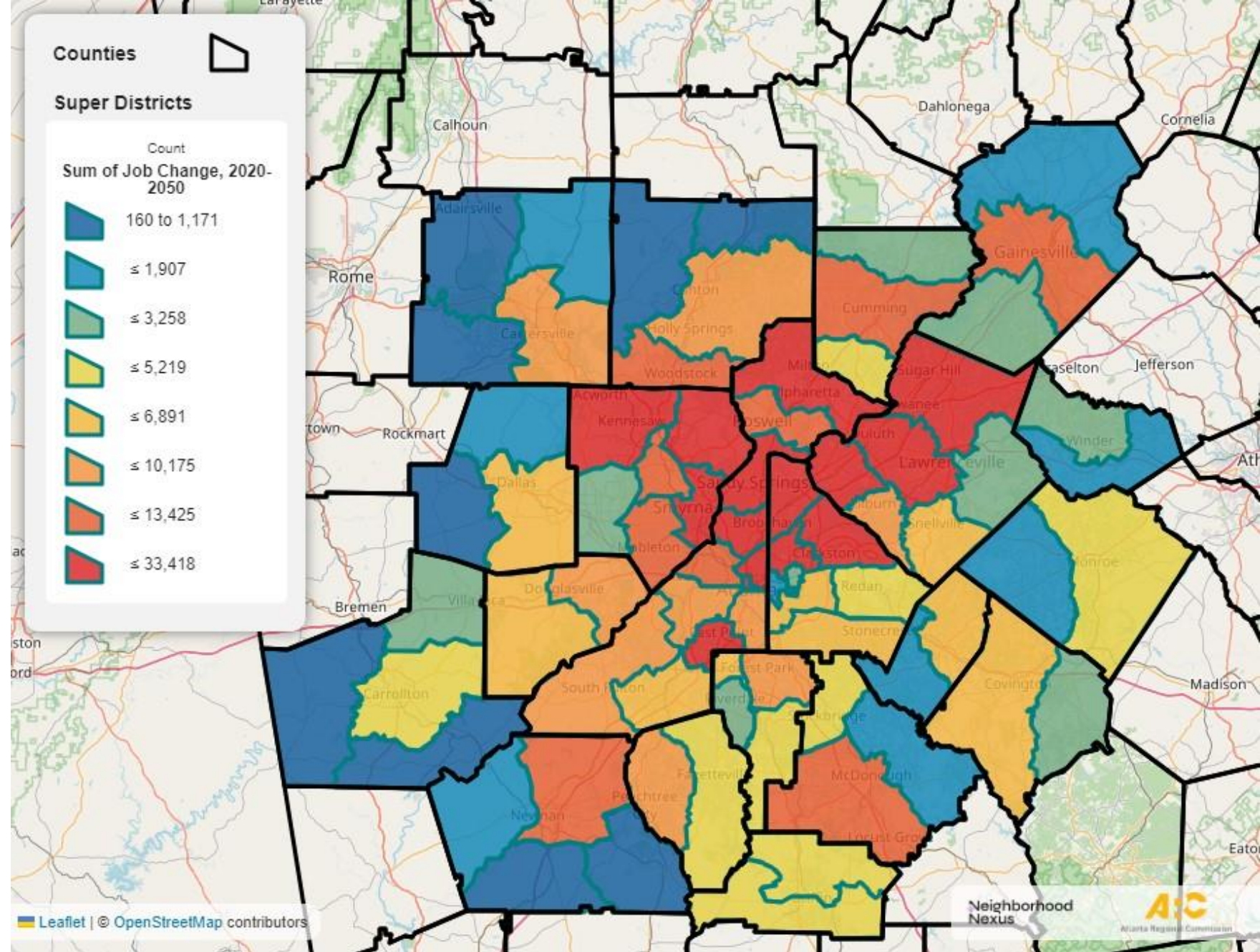




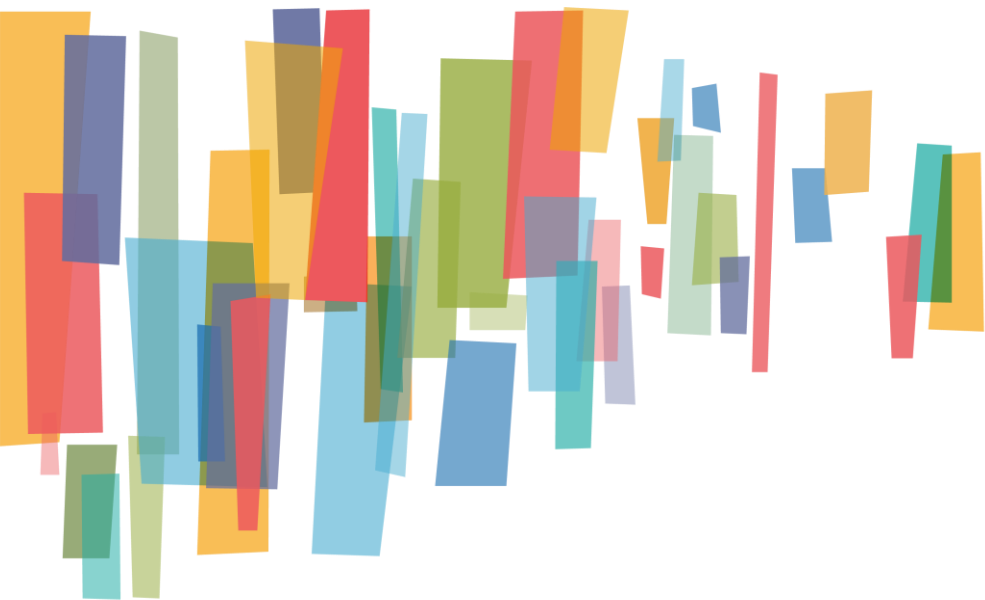
## Total Job Change, 2020 - 2050

This map looks at job change at the ARC's Superdistrict level. Superdistricts were created by ARC to be a consistent small area geography over time. They are made up of aggregations of census tracts.

As can be seen, most of the forecast job growth will go to the northern parts of the region, continuing a historical trend. There are areas south, particularly around the Airport and in Henry County where job growth will be robust as well.







# ARC's Series 17 Forecasts: *See For Your Self!*



## Atlanta Regional Commission Series 17 Forecast

This dashboard summarizes the Atlanta Regional Commission's most recent population and employment forecasts: Series 17, covering 2020-2050, and adopted in February 2024.

The dashboard provides information about population (totals, by race and ethnicity, and by age group) and employment (totals and by sector).

For more information about Series 17, please visit the Atlanta Regional Commission's web page: <https://atlantaregional.org/atlanta-region/population-employment-forecasts/>

## Gazing the Crystal Ball: New ARC Forecasts to 2050

By Mike Carnathan | February 14th, 2024 | [Age and Generations](#), [Economic Development](#), [Economy](#), [Other Demographics](#), [Population](#), [Race and Diversity](#), [Regional Snapshot](#) | [Comments Off](#)

With the adoption of a new Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) this month (February 2024), ARC has a new adopted series of *subregional* forecasts (that support that MTP project planning) to share! These Series 17 small-area forecasts are produced for population, employment (jobs) by sector, age, and race. The published population and job forecasts go down to the census tract level. The race and age data are provided at the county level. Now, we previously issued these forecasts **at the regional level** but as you'll see below, we can offer way more geographic and substantive detail now than we could **then**!

Here are the highlights for our Series 17 subregional forecasts:

- Diversity will drive the region's growth. Virtually all the net growth will come from racial and ethnic minority groups. For example, Hispanic and Latino residents are forecast to account for 21% of the region's population in 2050, compared to 12% today
- The region's population of older adults will grow at fast rate: In 2050, nearly 12% of the region's population, more than 900,000 people, will be aged 75 or older. That compares to a share of less than 5% today.
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- Employment in the Professional, Business and Technical Services sector will pace job growth in the region.

To investigate this new series further, we offer quite a few options. First, you could take a look at our **Series 17 small-area summary in PDF form**. Alternatively, you could scroll down and check out the slideshare presentation below. For (more) maps/ charts and downloadable data, visit our **ARC forecast webpage**. And finally, for interactive exploration, check out our **Series 17 forecast data dashboard**!



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# Population & Employment Forecasts

ARC has developed a new series of population and employment forecasts for the 21-county region through the year 2050. The forecasts help inform the development of the Atlanta Region's Plan, a long-range blueprint that details the investments that will be made in the next 30 years to improve the Atlanta region's quality of life.

## EXPLORE RESEARCH AND DATA

- **Population & Employment Forecasts**
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