



# ***Environmental Advisory Board***

## **Meeting Agenda**

July 23, 2025 3:00 P.M.

Centennial II HR Conference Room B

805 Central Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

Virtual Attendance through Microsoft Teams

### **Order of Business**

- I. Public Comment**
- II. Call to Order**
- III. Administrative Action\***
  - Approval of June 25, 2025 – Meeting minutes
- IV. Office of Environment and Sustainability Comments**
  - TBD
- V. Information/Updates**
  - None
- VI. Items for Vote\***
  - None
- VII. Presentations**
  - Climate Migration Workshop – Anna Marandi
- VIII. Open Discussion**
  - i. TBD
- IX. Next Meeting**
  - August 27, 2025 at 3pm; Centennial II HR Conference Room B; 805 Central Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio 45202
- X. Adjournment**

*\*Board Action Requested*

### **Agenda Packet Materials:**

- Draft meeting minutes from 6/25/2025

# Environmental Advisory Board

## Minutes of June 25, 2025

### Members Present:

- **In person:** Dave Schmitt; Douglas Walton; Kylie Johnson; Rico Blackman
- **Virtual:** Andrew Musgrave; Ashlee Young; Emmy Schroder; Ericka Copeland; Julie Shifman; Nathan Alley; Monica Perdomo; Susan Sprigg; Van Sullivan

### Members Absent: Nayana Shah

**Staff Present:** Oliver Kroner; Amanda Testerman; Erin Kabel; Ben Russ; EllieAnna Shanklin; Jake Grimmer; Jamiya Barnett; Max McGill; Renata Dashevsky

**Meeting:** A meeting of the Environmental Advisory Board was held on May 25, 2025 at 3:00 PM at Centennial II HR Conference Room B, 805 Central Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio 45202.

### Meeting Agenda:

- I. **Public Comment**
- II. **Call to Order at 3:05 PM**
- III. **Administrative Action\***
  - Approval of May 28, 2025 – Meeting minutes
- IV. **Office of Environment and Sustainability Comments**
  - OES welcomes Sustainability Fellows
  - FY26 Budget has passed
  - Federal Budget
  - Seeds of Change Awardees named.
    - 2025 Youth Climate Action: <https://www.cincinnati-oh.gov/oes/green-cincinnati-plan/seeds-of-change-grant-program/april-youth-grant-awardees-2025/>
    - 2025 Spring Open Call: <https://www.cincinnati-oh.gov/sites/oes/assets/June-2025-Awardees.pdf>
- V. **Information/Updates**
  - Meeting with Councilmember Meeka Owens – Kylie Johnson
    - Discussion included Plan Cincinnati, Futures Commission, Connected Communities, Green Workforce, and Building Performance Standards
- VI. **Items for Vote\***
  - None
- VII. **Presentations**
  - None
- VIII. **Open Discussion**
  - How does EAB support GCP Action CA.3: Support codification of climate justice and racial equity in City decision-making mechanisms?
  - The Board discussed feedback from the prior presentations from Fair Shake in April and from OES on how the GCP includes Equity in May and how it relates to codifying environmental justice. The Board discussed generally: heat islands, air quality, housing, gardens/food, EAB role in sharing best practices, infrastructure and the prior EJ ordinance regarding land use, defining 'codify' as more than just law/ordinances/rules and also as programming, suggestion to join Welcoming America coalition, Bridge Forward, reliance hubs and overlap between programs, green workforce, connecting with Hispanic community, 5 types of equity.
- I. **Next Meeting**
  - Wednesday July 23, 2025 at 3:00 PM
- II. **Adjournment at 4:25 PM**





# ENVISIONING SUSTAINABLE GROWTH IN THE METRO CINCINNATI REGION





**Bamidele Osamika**



**Nobi Kennedy**



**Van Sullivan**



# CITY OF CINCINNATI

- Who We Are
  - Office of Environment and Sustainability
  - Mission: Building a sustainable, equitable, and resilient future for Cincinnati
  - Director: Ollie Kroner





# CINCINNATI REGIONAL CHAMBER

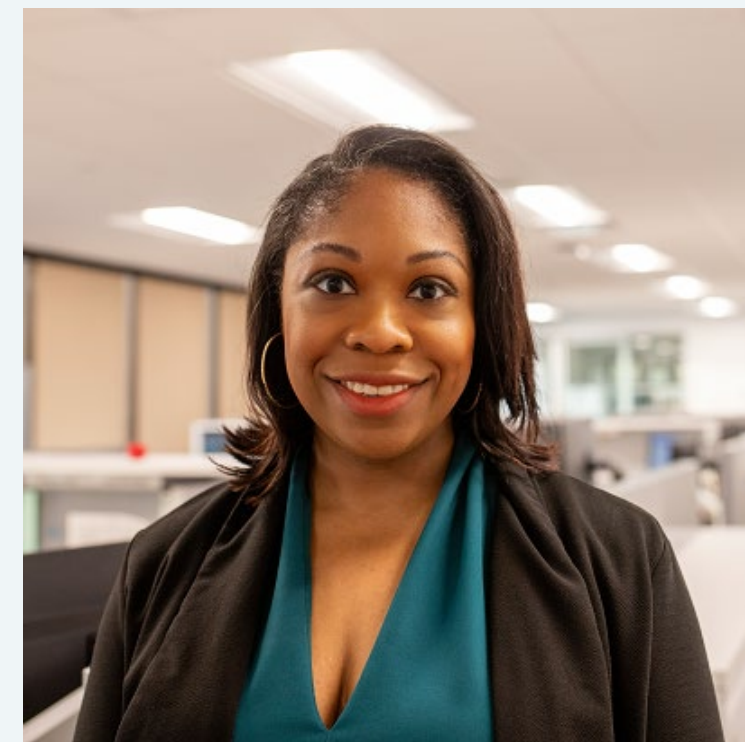
- Who We Are
  - Center for Research & Data
  - Initiative to deliver data-driven analysis regarding vital regional indicators and outcomes.
  - Lead: Brandon Rudd
  - Co-lead: Sabina Hordinski

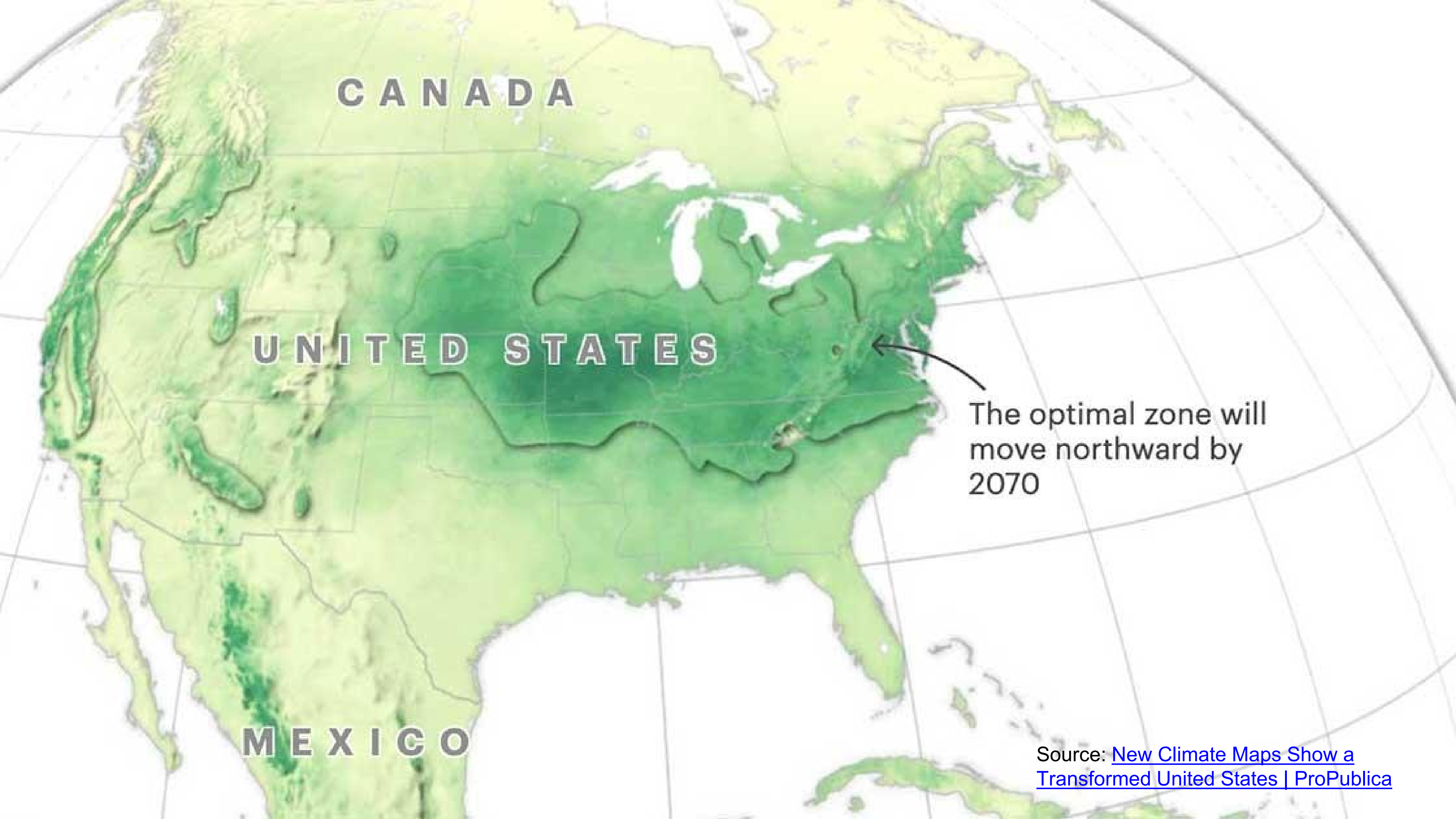




# HDR ENGINEERING

- Who We Are
  - Design and Engineering Firm
  - Partner with our clients to deliver integrated solutions that consider resource efficiency, resilience, and our communities.
  - Lead: Anna Marandi
  - Co-lead: Ameerah Palacios





CANADA

UNITED STATES

MEXICO

The optimal zone will  
move northward by  
2070

Source: [New Climate Maps Show a Transformed United States | ProPublica](#)

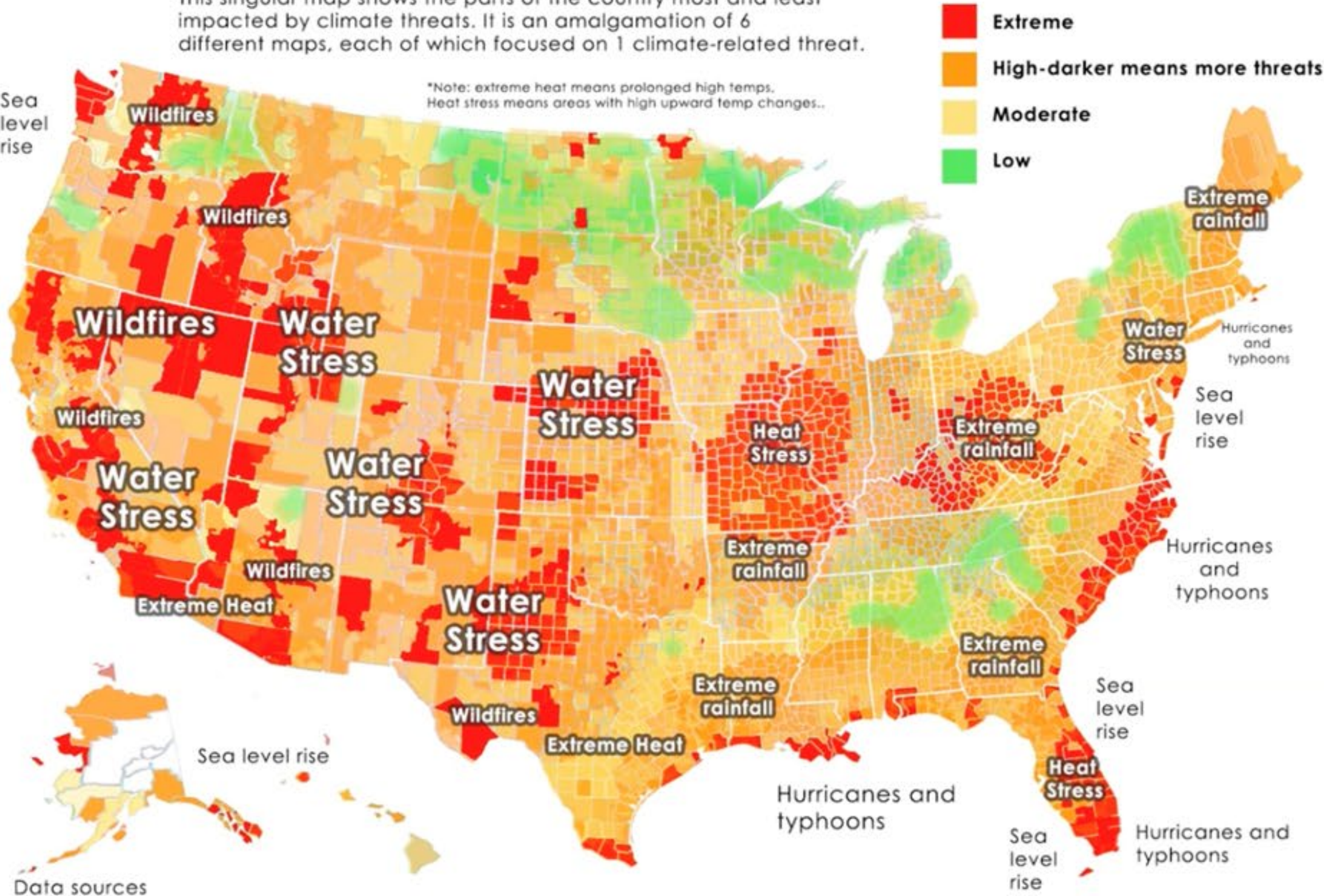


# Impacts of climate change across the US

## Climate change threats across the USA

This singular map shows the parts of the country most and least impacted by climate threats. It is an amalgamation of 6 different maps, each of which focused on 1 climate-related threat.

\*Note: extreme heat means prolonged high temps.  
Heat stress means areas with high upward temp changes..



Source: Fifth Third Bank



# CLIMATE IMPACTS AND MIGRATION

- Communities are increasingly impacted by climate change
- Residents often need to evacuate suddenly and cannot return home
- Some affected residents choose to relocate in advance

**Access to resources is crucial, providing options for adaptation or relocation.**



Sunny day flooding – Miami, Florida (2016).  
Society for Historical Archaeology



# HOUSEHOLD RELOCATION

- Most residents do not relocate ***solely*** due to climate change.
- Household relocation decisions also involve housing, employment, one's network, and amenities.
- *Most* residents – whether under duress or not – tend to make regional moves (to where they have friends and family).

# MIGRATION/ RELOCATION – PUSH AND PULL FACTORS

- **Push Factors:**

**(Drive people/businesses away)**

- Lack of employment
- Declining industry
- Housing costs
- High taxes
- Exposure to natural disasters (e.g. hurricanes, wildfires).

- **Pull Factors:**

**(Attract people/businesses towards)**

- Employment opportunities
- Affordable housing
- Parks, culture, access to nature, other amenities
- Safe, walkable communities
- Less exposure to natural disasters



# WHAT MAKES CINCINNATI A GOOD CLIMATE DESTINATION?



- Less exposure to high-risk climate impacts
- Abundant fresh water supply
- More affordable housing than other regions (currently!)
- Committed investments to resilience and sustainability
- Expressed desire to grow
- Culture of collaboration across the region

# RESILIENCE AND "WELCOMING" MAKE SENSE

- Cincinnati region is **not** immune to climate impacts, but it faces **fewer risks** than other regions
- Communities that mitigate risk and prepare their residents fare better under stress
- Welcoming new residents **benefits existing communities** and makes economic sense
- A “welcoming infrastructure” framework can help regions prepare and thrive



# WHAT IS A “WELCOMING CITY”?

Welcoming infrastructure enhances:

- Civic engagement
- Connected and safer communities
- Economic development
- Resident Leadership
- Social cohesion and belonging

Learn more: [climatemigrationtool.org](https://climatemigrationtool.org)

WELCOMING  
AMERICA





# CINCINNATI, OHIO

Proactively preparing for climate impacts by building resilience and investing in equitable and sustainable solutions.

Specifically:

- Green Cincinnati Plan since 2008
- Engaged thousands of residents
- Secured \$54.1M to fund implementation



Green Cincinnati Plan  2023



# THE METRO REGION

Strong regional collaboration across sectors

- Example: Green Umbrella since 1998

Specifically:

- First Regional Plan: ThriveTogether
- Successes to date
- \$3.1B secured, but at risk

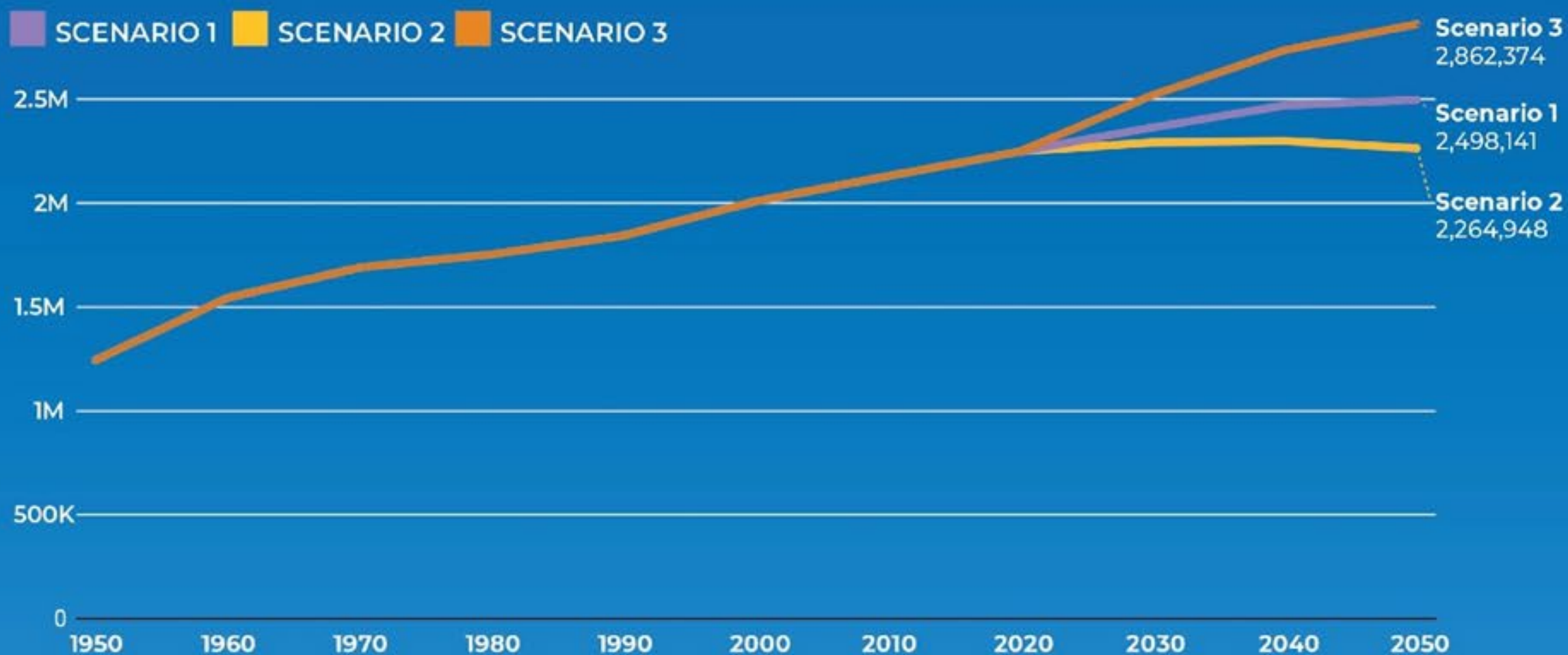


## ThriveTogether

A Sustainability Playbook  
for Greater Cincinnati



# REGIONAL POPULATION GROWTH & PROJECTIONS



The Cincinnati region has steadily grown over the decades, increasing from a region of just over 1.2 million people in 1950, to one with almost 2.3 million people and counting.

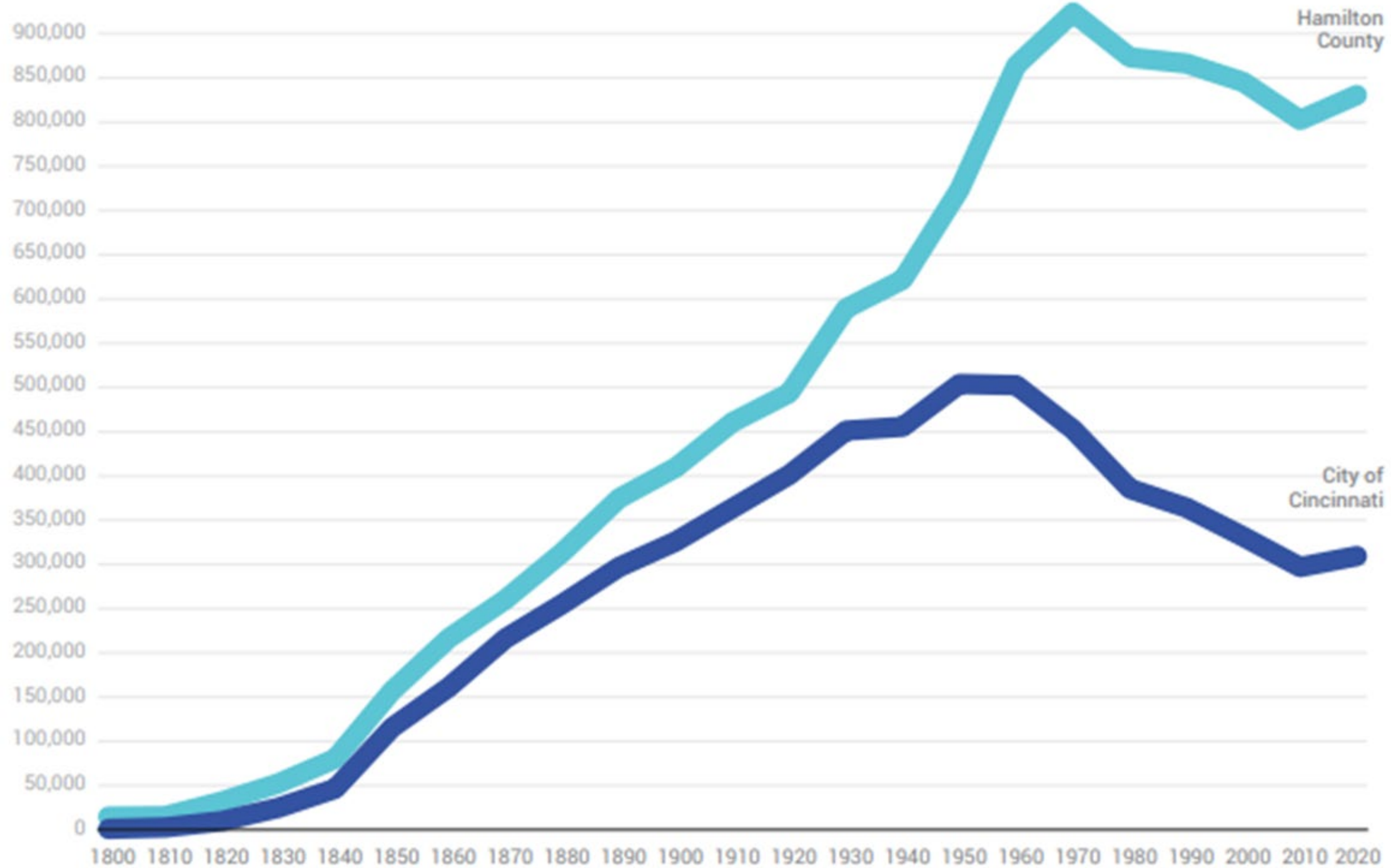
For this 2024 report, the Center for Research & Data has updated its population projection scenarios first calculated in 2023. These three scenarios show what the Cincinnati region might look like in 2050 when considering variations in the overall business climate.

New this year, the Center is drilling down on these projections to present county level growth scenarios for each of the region's fifteen counties.



# DEEP DIVE

## POPULATION GROWTH | 1800-2020





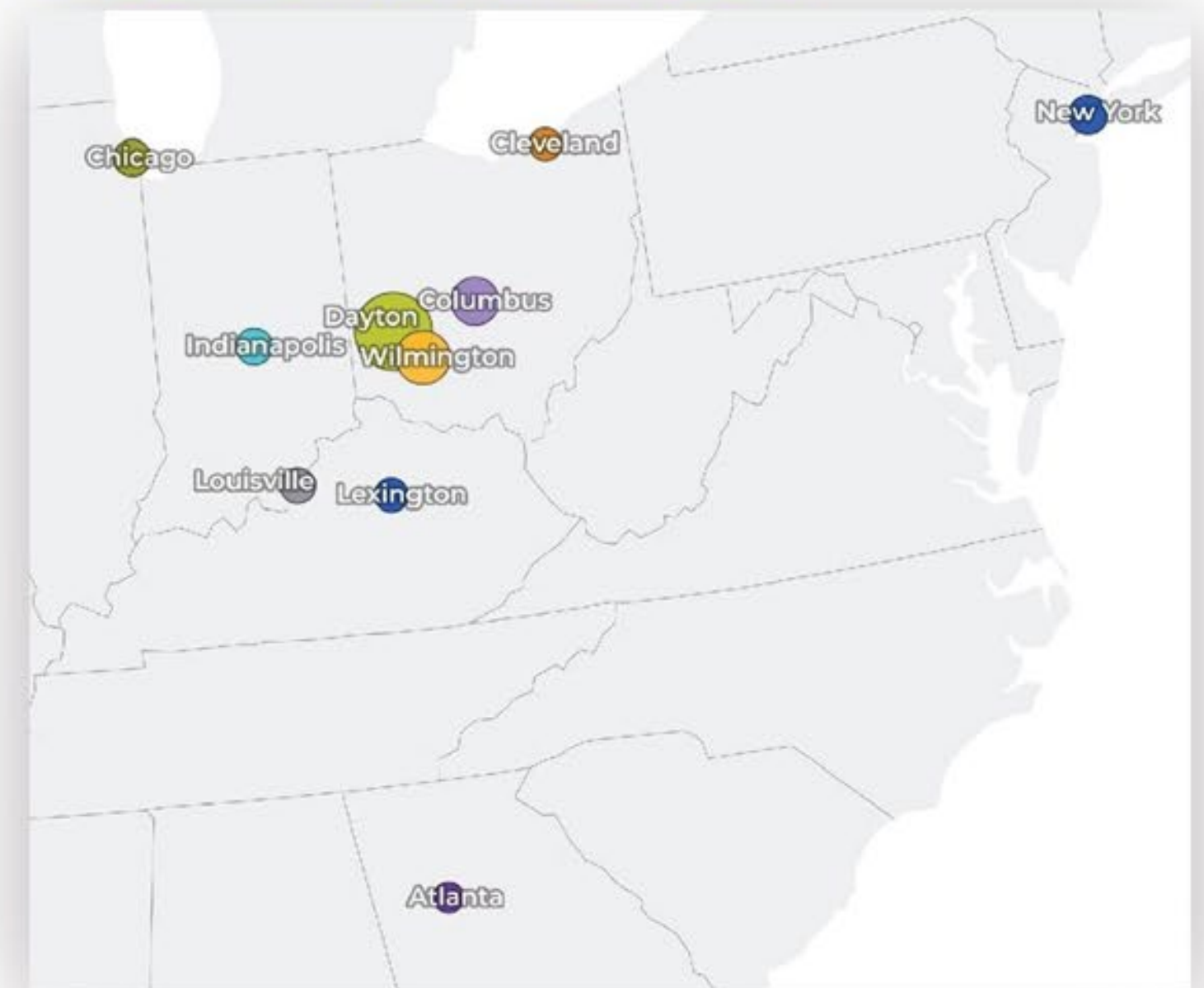
# DOMESTIC MIGRATION

Source: Internal Revenue Service (2021)

Location	Inbound Migraton 2021
Dayton, OH	4,604
Columbus, OH	2,129
New York City, NY	1,618
Chicago, IL	1,047
Indianapolis, IN	973
Louisville, KY	907
Lexington, KY	827
Cleveland, OH	796
Atlanta, GA	710
Wilmington, OH	627

Location	Net Migration 2021
New York City, NY	935
Cleveland, OH	178
Lexington, KY	152
Los Angeles, CA	135
Toledo, OH	135
Washington, DC	113
Ann Arbor, MI	98
Pittsburgh, PA	93
Chicago, IL	93
Albany, NY	87

## INBOUND MIGRATION (2021)



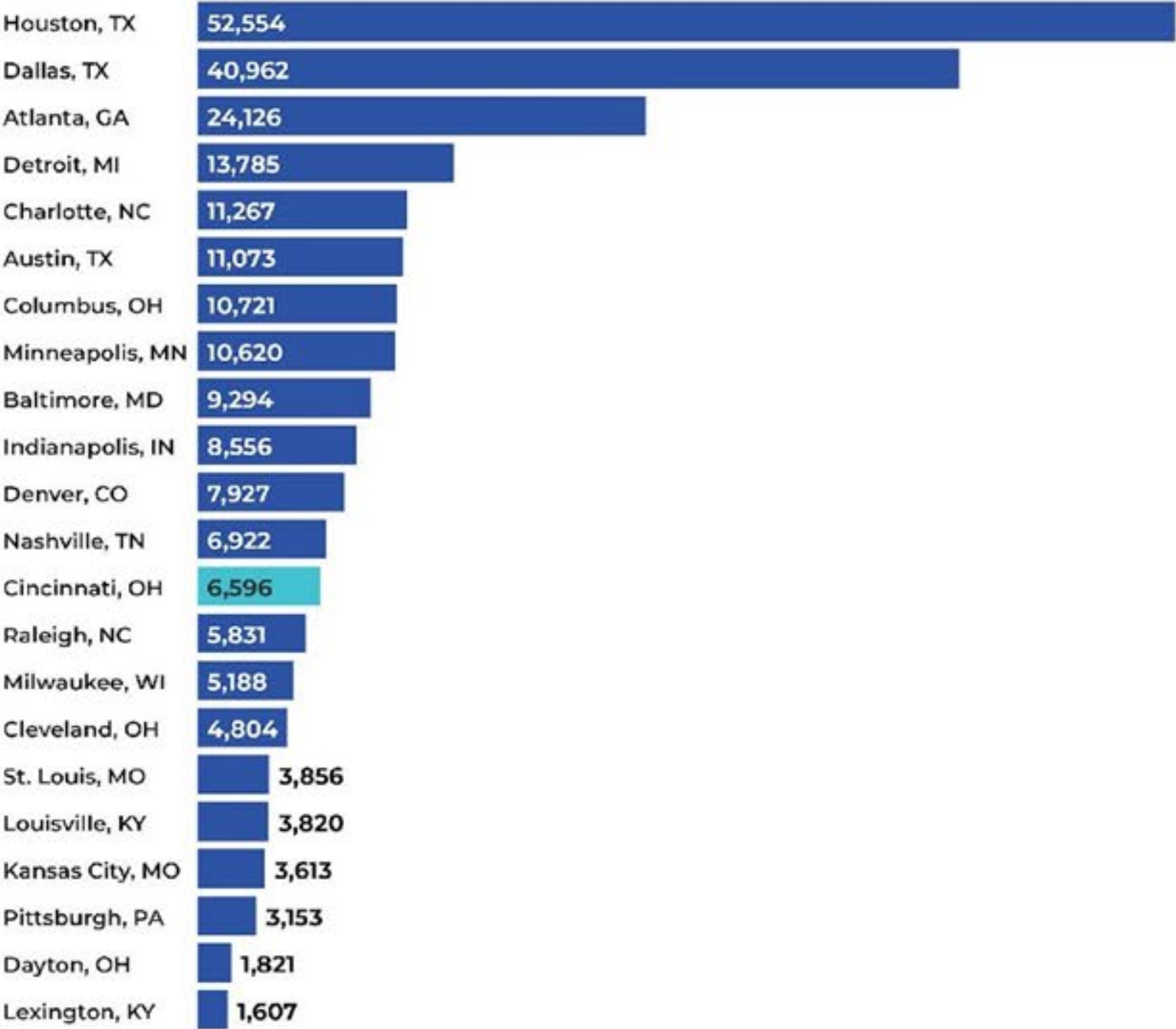




# INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION

Source: US Census Bureau (2022, 2023)

## INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION (2022 - 2023)



## TOTAL FOREIGN-BORN POPULATION BY COUNTRY

Country	Number of Residents
India	16,102
Mexico	10,498
China	9,514
Guatemala	5,666
Philippines	3,494
Vietnam	3,279
Canada	3,127
United Kingdom	2,647
Bhutan	2,415
Japan	2,216



# Opportunities: Growth

Job growth and economies of scale

Increased tax base and more regional revenue

Growth can help right-size underutilized infrastructure.

- City built for 500K
- Currently at 315K

Cultural vibrancy, food, music

Entrepreneurship and innovation

- Hamilton Co built for 1M
- Currently at 830K

# Risks: Unmanaged Growth

Displacement and housing affordability/ availability

Impacts on quality of life (parks, amenities), transportation, and other services

Lack of social cohesion between existing and new residents, language barriers, cultural isolation

Increased demand for electricity and transportation leading to higher GHG emissions, pollution, and congestion

## Infrastructure Challenges:

- Drinking water supply
- Wastewater/sewage
- Waste management
- Public transportation
- Bridges and roads
- Hospitals
- Public safety
- Schools





# HOW CAN THE REGION PREPARE?

- Regional Agencies/ Local Governments
- Housing
- Social Services
- Transportation/ Utilities
- Employers and Anchor Institutions
- Economic and Urban Development





Discussion