

AP Human Geography Mini DBQ – Urban

Directions: The following question is based on the accompanying Documents 1-5. (The documents have been edited for the purpose of this exercise.) Answer the question to the best of your ability.

This question is designed to test your ability to work with and understand historical and geographic documents. Write a free response essay (containing no thesis, introduction, or conclusion) that uses ALL the documents.

* You may cite relevant evidence from your outside knowledge of world history and geography in addition to the documents provided.

Question:

The development of suburbs in North American metropolitan areas accelerated from the 1950s to the 1990s. However, beginning in the 1990s, the central business and residential districts of cities in the United States became the focus of a revitalization process. This process has drawn many people back to the metropolitan centers, while at the same time; many suburban areas continue to expand.

Using all the documents:

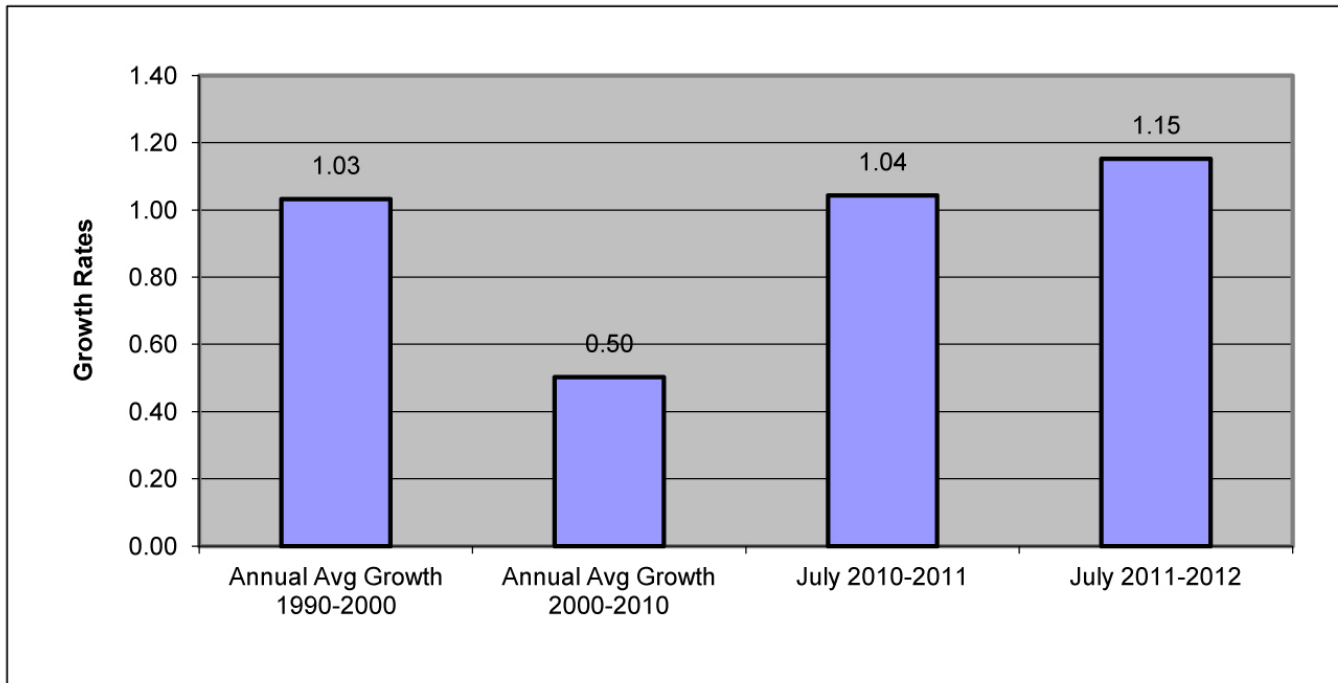
A. Discuss how TWO of the following contributed to the development of suburbs from 1950 to 1990:

- (1) Transportation
- (2) Housing production
- (3) Landscape preferences
- (4) Social and demographic trends

B. Discuss how TWO of the following contributed to the revitalization of city central business and residential districts from 1990 to the present:

- (1) Economic factors
- (2) Demographic composition
- (3) Urban policy
- (4) Sense of place

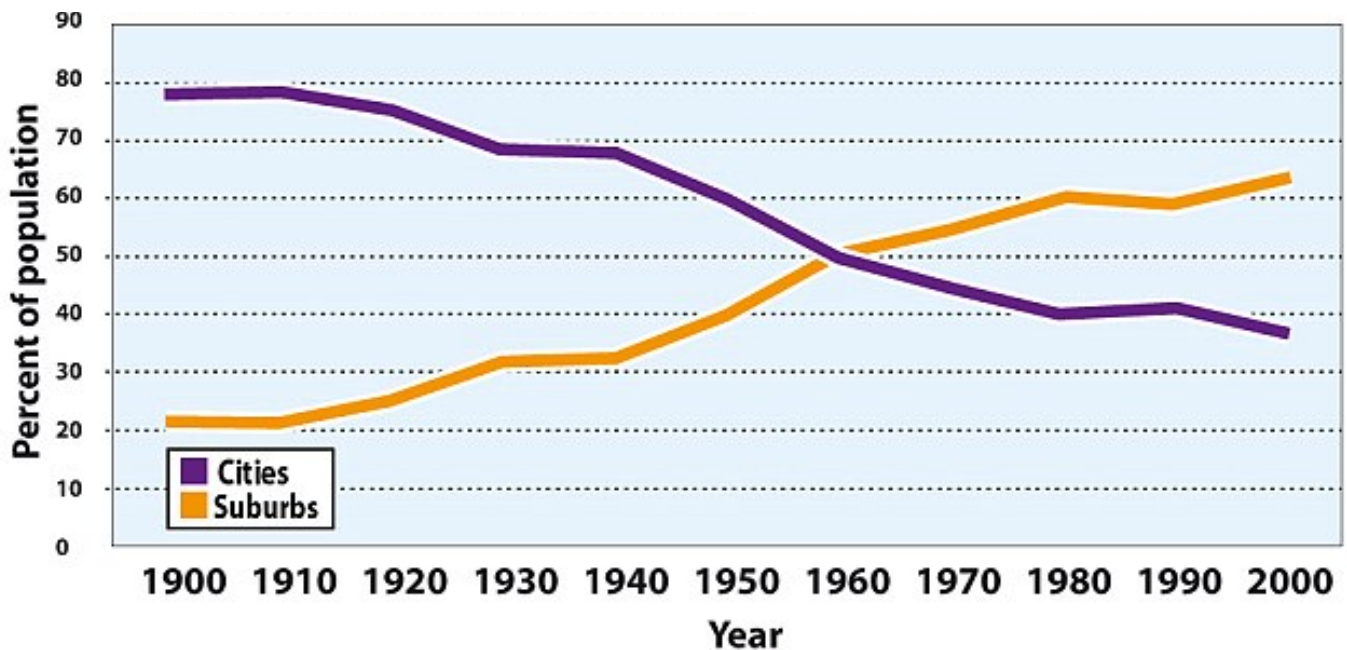
Document 1: Big City Growth



*cities over one half million population

Source: US Census Bureau analysis of 2000, 2010 Decennial Censuses and Census Bureau Estimates July 2010-2012, released May 23, 2013.

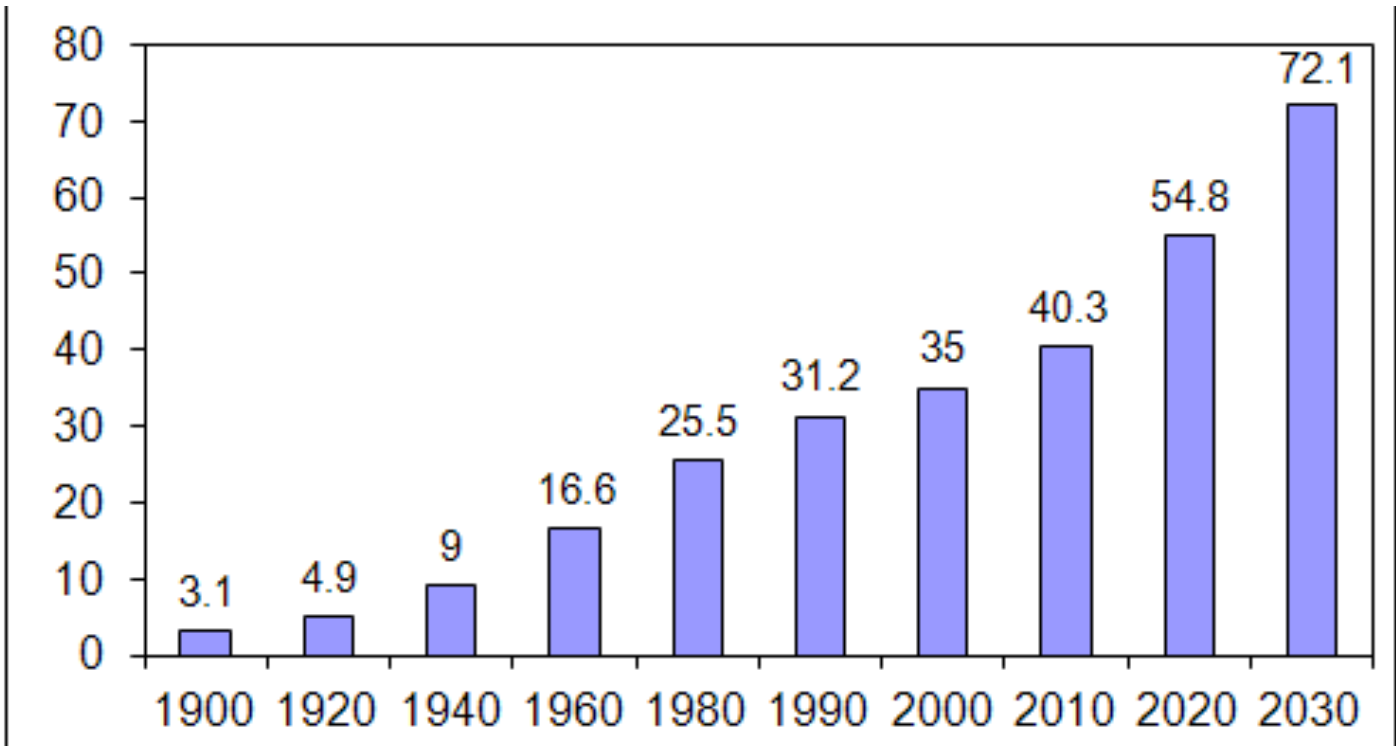
Document 2: Expansion and Decline of Suburban Growth Rates (in the United States)



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Decennial Censuses, 1900-2000

Document 3: Number of Persons 65+ from 1900-2030

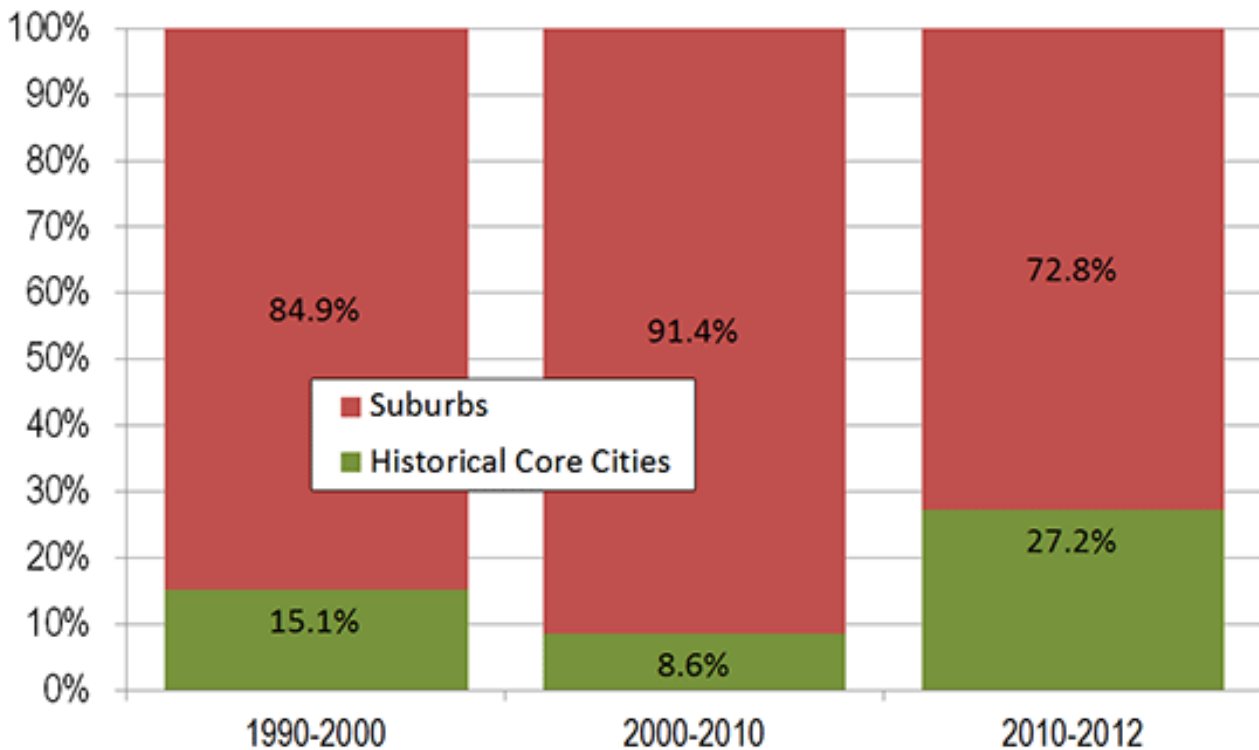
Numbers in Millions



Source: Population Reference Bureau and the US Census Bureau

Document 4: Historic Core City and Suburban Growth

Major Metropolitan Areas: 1990-2012



Source: US Census Bureau

Document 5: Urban vs. Suburban Growth in Selected Metros (2002-2012)

Top 5 Metros Where Urban Growth Outpaced Suburban Growth

U.S. Metro	Urban Growth	Suburban Growth	Difference: Urban minus Suburban
Memphis, TN	0.92%	0.42%	0.50%
New York, NY	0.58%	0.27%	0.31%
Chicago, IL	0.31%	0.26%	0.06%
San Jose, CA	0.73%	0.71%	0.02%
Pittsburgh, PA	0.44%	0.43%	0.01%

Top 5 Metros Where Suburban Growth Most Outpaced Urban Growth

U.S. Metro	Urban Growth	Suburban Growth	Difference: Urban minus Suburban
San Antonio, TX	0.40%	2.46%	-2.07%
Oklahoma City, OK	0.38%	1.87%	-1.49%
Houston, TX	0.44%	1.91%	-1.48%
Austin, TX	0.88%	2.13%	-1.25%
Detroit, MI	-0.94%	0.20%	-1.14%

Note: among largest 50 metros.

Source: Trulia.com (an online residential real estate site)