Human Capital in Cities and Suburbs

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Research Question

• What (if any) is the impact on regional economic performance from the distribution of human capital within metro regions?
Background

• More Human Capital (BA+) $\rightarrow$ greater economic performance (income, housing)

• Central city versus suburbs?
• Share (%) of population versus density (per sq km)?
• Differing impacts by size (population) of region?
## Results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Human Capital Location/Measure</th>
<th>Income Impact</th>
<th>Housing Value Impact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Overall</td>
<td>↑</td>
<td>↑</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suburbs</td>
<td>↑↑↑↑↑</td>
<td>↑↑↑↑</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central City</td>
<td>↑↑↑↑↑</td>
<td>↑↑↑</td>
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<tr>
<td>Metro Areas &gt; 1 million</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Central City</td>
<td>↑↑↑↑↑</td>
<td>↑↑↑</td>
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<tr>
<td>Metro Areas &lt; 1 million</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Suburbs (Density)</td>
<td></td>
<td>↑↑↑↑↑↑</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Policy Implications

• Concentration of Human Capital
  • Suburbs slightly better
    • Especially smaller metros (< 1 million)
  • Center city slightly better (> 1 million)
  • Any concentration is better than spreading evenly

• Football metaphor
Thank You

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