## Market Opportunity for Supporting Small Scale Development

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Photo Credit: © 2022 Copyright West Highlands ATL



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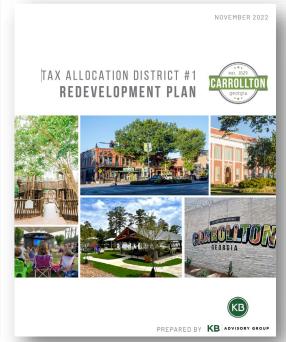
## Bridging economic, real estate, and local policy perspectives to help create better places.

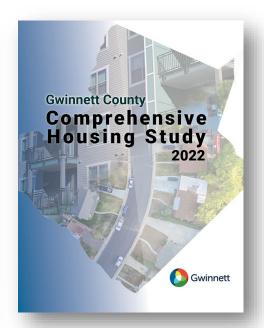
#### **Areas of Practice Expertise:**

- 1. Real Estate Markets
- 2. Development Economics
- 3. Public Financing/Tax Increment Financing
- 4. Economic Impacts
- 5. Housing Analysis

















14 Census Tracts

Table P-1.—GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE POPULATION, BY CENSUS TRACTS: 1960

[Asterisk (\*) denotes statistics based on 25-percent sample. Population per household not shown where less than 50 persons in households. Median not shown where base is less than 200]

	TOTAL SMSA <sup>1</sup>	DE KALB COUNTY			FULTON COUNTY				CLAYTON	COBB COUNTY		
SUBJECT		TOTAL	ATLANTA (PART)	BALANCE	TOTAL <sup>1</sup>	ATLANTA (PART)	EAST POINT	BALANCE	COUNTY	TOTAL	MARI~ ETTA	BALANCE
RACE AND COUNTRY OF ORIGIN TOTAL POPULATION	1 017 188 785 019 231 474 695	256 782 234 370 22 171 241	41 332 34 449 6 869 14	215 450 199 921 15 302 227	556 326 362 923 193 024 379		35 633 31 111 4 505 17	74 570 65 626 8 924 20	46 365 41 595 4 745 25	114 174 106 096 8 032 46	25 565 21 814 3 739 12	88 609 84 282 4 293 34
BORN IN PUERTO RICO*	260 126	39 21	• • • •	39 21	204 75	170 50	20 5	14 20	•••	13 30	5 4	8 26
TOTAL FOREIGN STOCK*  FOREIGN BORN  NATIVE, FOR. OR MIXED PARENTAGE.  UNITED KINGDOM  IRELAND (EIRE)  NORWAY  SWEDEN  GERMANY  POLAND  CZECHOSLOVAKIA  AUSTRIA  HUNGARY  U.S. S.R.  ITALY  CANADA  MEXICO  ALL OTHER AND NOT REPORTED	32 196 8 995 23 201 5 120 1 050 4 436 743 4 240 2 218 534 926 574 3 401 1 505 3 292 156 8 001	8 766 1 928 352 136 277 1 400 956 221 334 218 1 355 509 1 372	228 63 7 12 223 236 17 38 27 411 29 158	480 1 214 32	236 509 282 1 954 835 1 459	694 1 156 35		1 808 518 1 290 400 55 52 351 58 24 51 30 922 83 214 11		108 354 18	567 194 373 164  7 8 68 19 17 11  36 29 82	68 30 39 70 44 79 272
HOUSEHOLD RELATIONSHIP POPULATION IN HOUSEHOLDS	37 614 218 534 336 308 126 744 20 665 23 570 7 545	73 013 66 580 6 433 60 272 90 627 24 662 3 350 4 858 1 323	13 153 11 174 1 979 9 369 11 296 6 097 918 499	59 860 55 406 4 445 50 903 79 331 18 565 2 432 4 359	163 478 135 810 27 668 111 277 167 114 81 575 15 445 17 437 5 694	132 762 107 829 24 933 86 322 128 082 68 590 13 862 16 505 5 125	10 179 9 333 846 8 255 12 555 4 062 461 121		12 067 11 431 636 10 589 18 786 4 355 4 467 101 65	30 996 29 001 1 995 26 593 43 632 1 090 925 250	2 531 433 158 40	23 604 22 358 1 246 20 783 34 391 8 407 657 767 210

POPULATION PER HOUSEHOLD

3.41



## What does the modern American household look like?

## **ChatGPT Says:**



(lol)



The "modern American household" today reflects a rich diversity in structure, culture, and lifestyle, **often different from the traditional nuclear family idealized in the mid-20th century**.

Varied Family Structures

**Economic Pressures and Smaller Family Sizes** 

Urban, Suburban, and Rural Differences

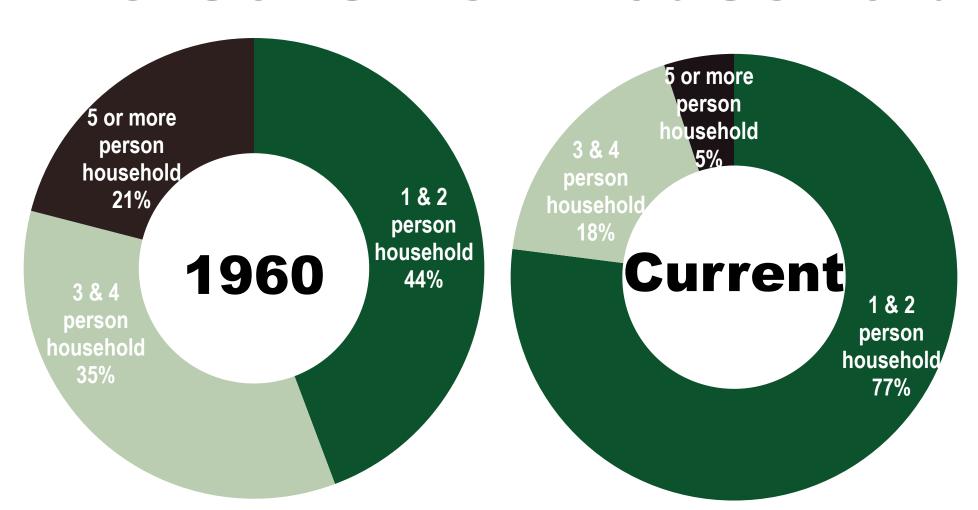
**Cultural and Ethnic Diversity** 

"... no longer defined by a single image but by a vibrant array of forms that reflect the **broad spectrum** of experiences in America today"

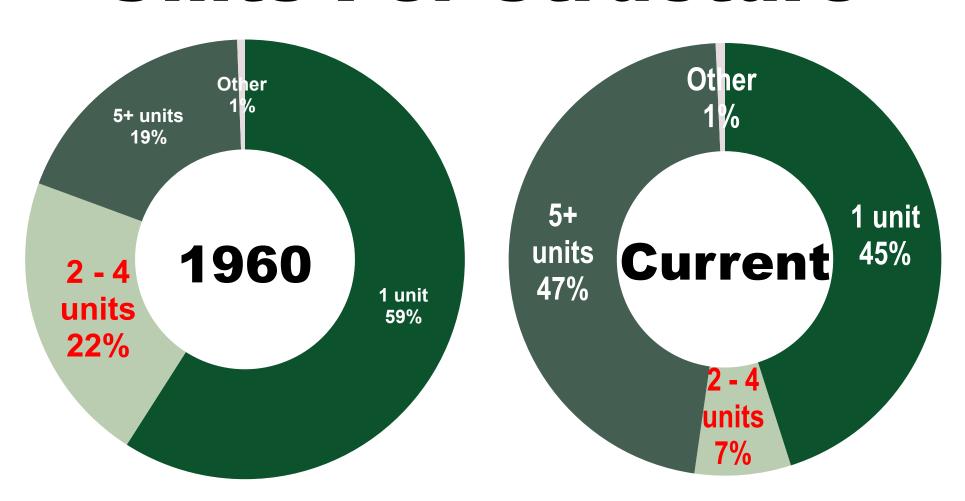
The average number of **people per household** in the Atlanta MSA is **2.7**, which is about 10% higher than the national average of **2.5** 

In the City of Atlanta, the average number of people per household is **2.03** 

# Atlanta: Persons Per Household



# Atlanta: Units Per Structure





2023 Update to Affordable Atlanta (2018)

Presented by:



KB ADVISORY GROUP

Presented for:



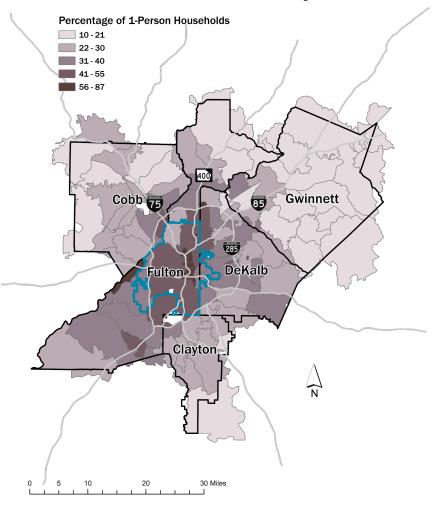
Livable Communities Council (LCC)

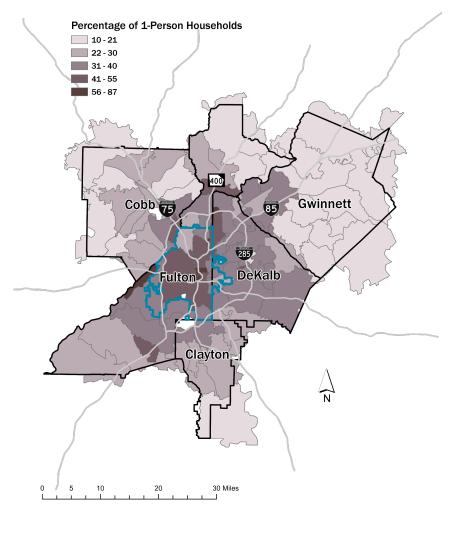


#### **Small Households**

1-Person Households									
	2017	2021							
Clayton County	26%	26%							
Cobb County	24%	25%							
DeKalb County	33%	34%							
Fulton County	36%	35%							
Gwinnett County	20%	21%							
City of Atlanta	47%	46%							

- In all the core counties, oneperson households represent anywhere between a quarter and half of all households.
- DeKalb County saw the greatest increase in oneperson households.

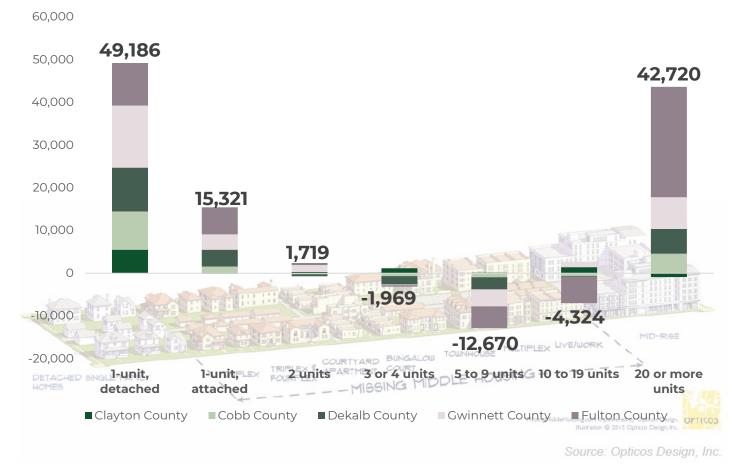




**Loss of Missing Middle Housing Types** 

- Housing production should be aimed at restoring the diversity of housing in terms of form, which translates to price, geographic accessibility and choice.
- The 5-county area gained nearly the same amount of single-family and large multifamily units between 2017 and 2021 while losing nearly 20,000 "missing middle" housing units.
- The loss of small multifamily housing, often representing naturally occurring affordable housing (NOAH), poses a threat to the stability of communities.

Change in Housing Type by County, 2017-2021



#### **Loss of Affordable Units**

- From 2017 to 2021 there was a **total loss of** over 130,000 housing units with a monthly cost of less than \$1,000.
- Change in housing units, both rented and owned homes, by monthly costs reflects both new construction units as well as price increases of existing units, and to a lesser extent, demolition of housing units.
- The largest increase is seen in units that cost between \$1,500-\$1,999.
- While changes in local investment initiatives and market driven price pressures have contributed to the upward movement of housing costs, another key part of the equation has been the destruction of missing middle housing types and the infeasibility of replacing units of this variety.

#### Change in Housing Units by Price, 2017-2021, Atlanta 5-County Core



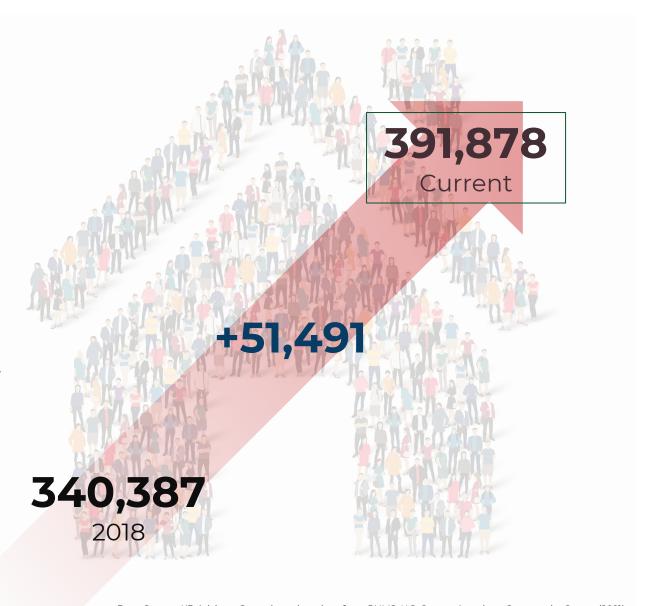
## Quantifying Need

#### Affordable housing need =

the number of cost-burdened households that earn at or below 80% of the median income of the region.

Since 2018, all households within the 5-county area grew 9%.

Growth in cost burdened households outpaced overall household growth increasing 15%.



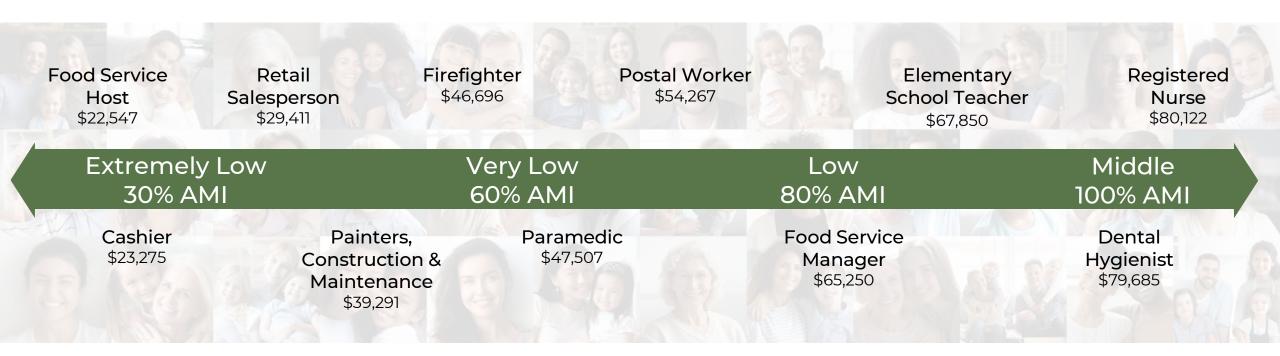
Data Source: KB Advisory Group based on data from PUMS, U.S. Census American Community Survey (2021)



## Spectrum of Housing: Affordable to Whom?

Data from the Atlanta Region Local Workforce Development Area, which includes our five core counties, reveals that many essential workers in the Atlanta region are classified as extremely low to middle income earners.

Providing adequate, affordable housing to all income levels is key in the stability of Atlanta's economy and quality of life.



\*Also known as Atlanta Region Local Workforce Development Area, which includes Cherokee, Cobb, Clayton, DeKalb, Douglass, Fayette, Fulton, Gwinnett, Henry, Rockdale Source: KB Advisory Group with data from the Georgia Department of Labor Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages by Region (2022)



#### **Challenges for Small-Scale Developers**

#### Low Capacity

There is often a shortage of experienced small-scale developers, particularly in less populated or economically disadvantaged areas. Even when local developers exist, they may move on to larger projects that offer better returns, leaving a gap in expertise for small-scale projects

#### Economic Viability & Competitive Disadvantage

• Smaller projects often fail to meet conventional rates of return, making it difficult to attract investors and secure funding. They also have higher per-unit costs due to similar pre-development expenses as larger projects but without the economies of scale to offset these costs.



**Challenges for Small-Scale Developers** 

#### Less Access to Necessary Capital

 Small-scale developers often struggle to secure funding. Traditional banks may be reluctant to lend due to the developers' limited track records or the smaller scale of their projects. This makes accessing pre-development and construction financing particularly difficult

#### Zoning & Permitting

Local zoning laws, including parking minimums, historic landmark reviews, and building code requirements, can be prohibitively expensive and time-consuming for small-scale developers. The permitting process can also be challenging, particularly for those with less experience.

**Lifting Barriers for Small-Scale Developers** 

#### Emerging Developer Funds

These programs provide grants to cover predevelopment soft costs, which include insurance, legal fees, utilities, and design fees. Such initiatives help small-scale developers overcome financial barriers that may typically hinder their projects.

#### Tax Incentives & Grants

 Offering tax incentives and grants can lower the financial burden on small-scale developers. These incentives can include property tax abatements, tax increment financing, historic preservation tax credits, and grants for energyefficient upgrades.

#### Streamlined Permitting Processes

Simplifying and expediting the permitting process can significantly reduce the time and cost for small-scale developers. Some communities are working to make these processes less cumbersome and more transparent, allowing for new entrants into the development space to navigate these systems more easily.



**Lifting Barriers for Small-Scale Developers** 

#### Zoning Reforms & Transportation Alternatives

Adjustments to zoning laws, such as reducing parking minimums or allowing for more mixed-use developments, can create a more favorable environment for small-scale projects, particularly in areas with access to quality transportation alternatives.







## KB ADVISORY GROUP

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### Full ULI Housing Study here:



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