



# The Economic Challenges Facing Milwaukee's Inner City

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## Statistical Snapshots

*UWM Center for Economic Development*



## Milwaukee's "Inner City," 1970-2000: An Economic Snapshot

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	<b>1970</b>	<b>2000</b>
<b>Total Employed Residents</b>	<b>27,643</b>	<b>12,152</b>
<b>Male labor market exclusion</b>	<b>33.9%</b>	<b>56.4%</b>
<b>Total employed in manufacturing</b>	<b>11,290</b>	<b>2,335</b>
<b>% employed in manufacturing</b>	<b>40.8%</b>	<b>19.2%</b>
<b>Poverty rate</b>	<b>25.7%</b>	<b>40.2%</b>
<b>Real median household income</b>	<b>\$21,090</b>	<b>\$18,193</b>

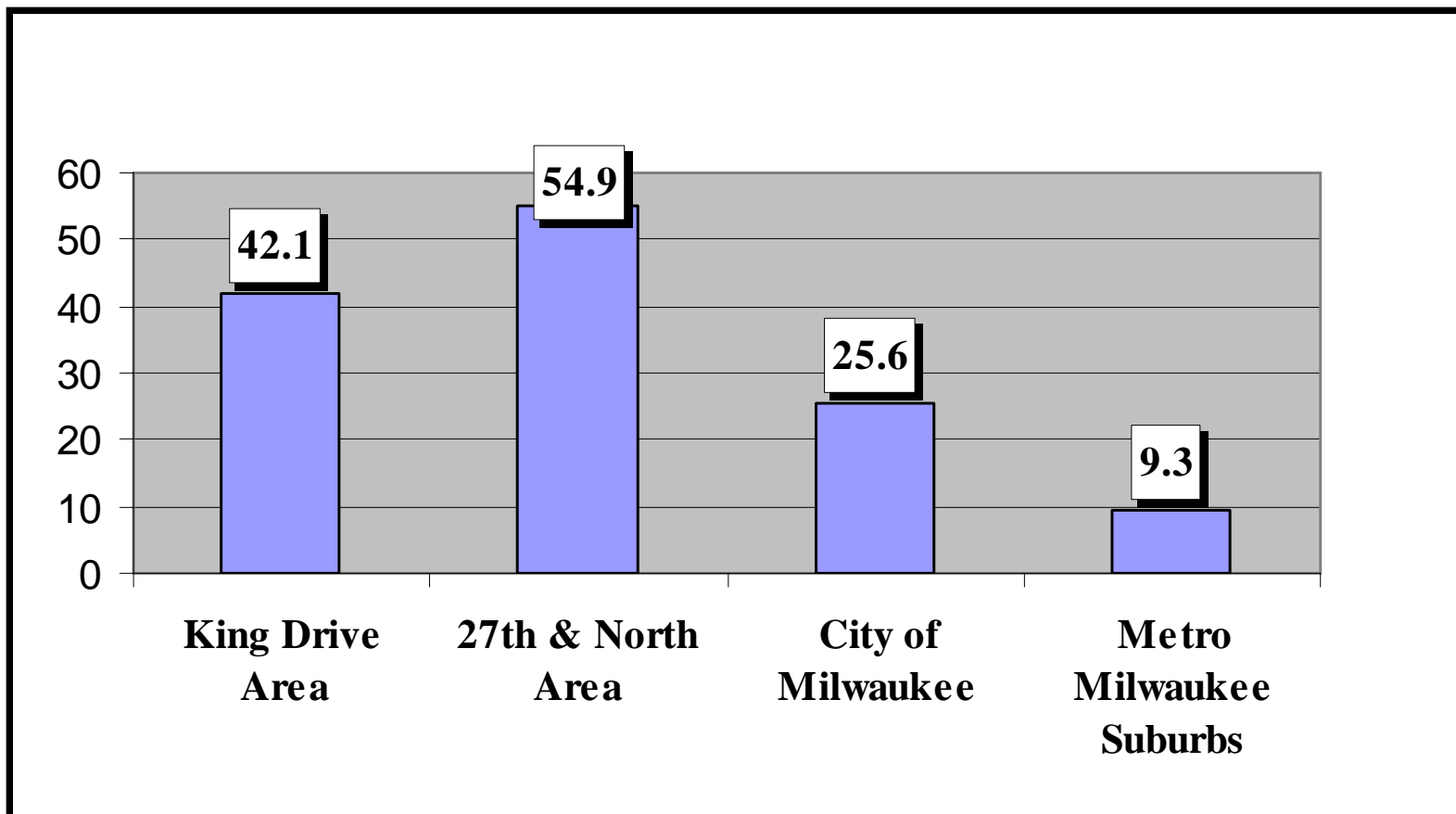


## Geography of Employment Growth in Metro Milwaukee, 1994-2002

Milwaukee County	-5,399	
• Inner City Milwaukee		-3,206
• Downtown Milwaukee		+962
Waukesha County	+37,575	
Washington County	+10,173	
Ozaukee County	+5,937	

# The Employment Crisis in Milwaukee's Inner City

(Percentage of Male Residents, Age 25-54 either Unemployed or Out of the Labor Force in Selected Areas, 2000)





## Pervasive Poverty in Milwaukee

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- 90% of the city's black households live in neighborhoods in which at least 20% of the residents are poor;
- 25% of the city's black households live in neighborhoods in which at least 40% of the residents are poor (extreme poverty);
- While this percentage is down from 1990, when 46% of Milwaukee's black households lived in "extreme poverty" neighborhoods, this is only because Milwaukee's inner city poor began dispersing to the city's Northwest Side (where poverty jumped from 13.3 to 20.9%)
- Thus, Milwaukee now faces a double challenge in the inner city: continuing economic distress in the traditional inner city, and growing distress on the Northwest Side