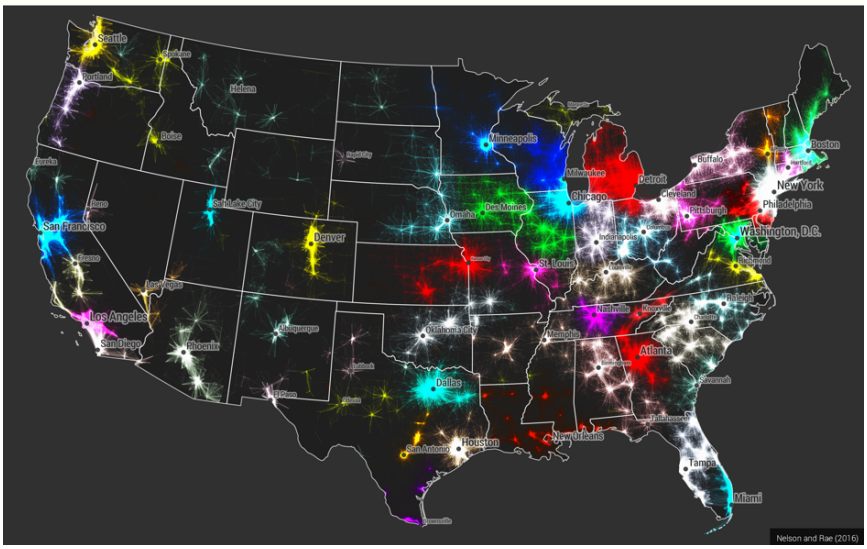
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY - updated June 2022

Commuter Megaregions of the United States



ANALYZE THE SPATIAL INEQUALITY TRENDS IN THE U.S. MEGAREGIONS

There have been growing concerns around the world over the rising spatial inequality (SI) and persistent efforts to reduce SI. This report presents an effort to benchmark the conditions of spatial inequality in the territorial scale of megaregions. In addition, the study explored the role of high-speed rail (HSR) as an infrastructure investment approach to reshape, or desirably to reduce SI.

Three megaregion cases, The Texas Triangle (USA), The Northern Powerhouse (UK), and The Mid-Yangtze River City Cluster, were selected to analyze the effects of HSR in modifying the level and distribution of accessibility to employment and wealth. HSR elevates mobility by reducing travel times. Yet its role in reducing spatial inequality is contingent on the geographic coverage of HSR network, the pre-existing level of mobility of the served region, and the integration with other transportation systems to reach non-HSR locations.

The report demonstrates that multi-continental studies contribute to the knowledge base on strategic spatial planning and improve understanding of both the effectiveness and limitations of major transportation investments (HSR in this case) to address SI challenges under different national and regional context.

CM² Cooperative Mobility for Competitive Megaregions

Analyze the Spatial Inequality Trends in the U.S. Megaregions (Ziqi Liu) (CM2-74)

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Project Information Form: shorturl.at/inJKN

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