

Region 2 Planning Commission

Serving Hillsdale, Jackson and Lenawee Counties

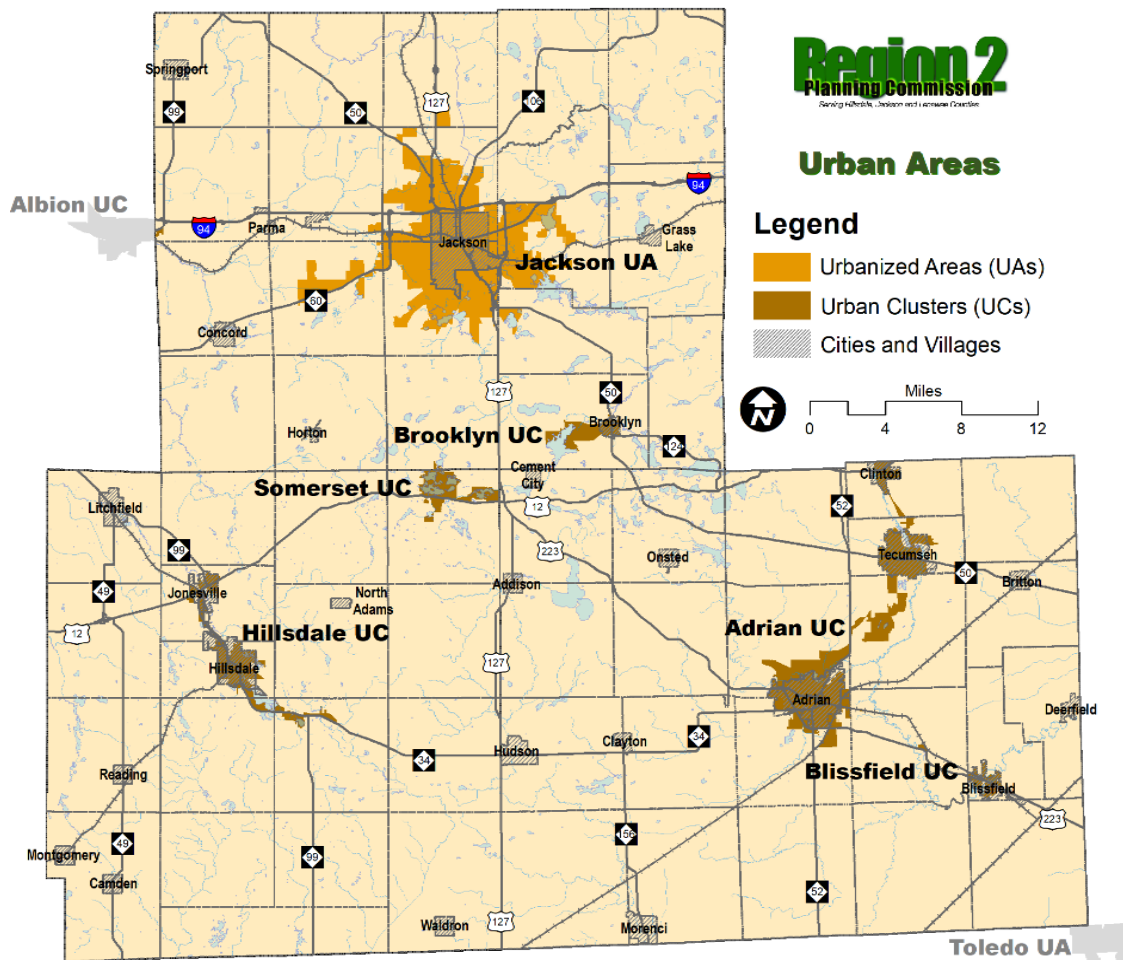
To: Region 2 Planning Commissioners
Municipal and County Planning Commissioners in the Region 2 Area
Economic Development Organizations (EDOs) & Other Interested Parties

From: Grant E. Bauman, R2PC Principal Planner

Date: June 24, 2020

Subject: **Urban and Rural Areas**

When asked to describe the Region 2 Area, most people are likely to speak of its rural/agricultural nature. This is certainly true given the metropolitan areas it borders: Lansing to the north, Ann Arbor/Metro Detroit to the east, and Toledo to the southeast. However, it is important to note that although urban areas only cover approximately 4.8% of the Region 2 Area, an estimated 50% of its population lived in one of them in 2018.



The Jackson UA—including significant portions of surrounding townships— comprises approximately 59% of the total square mileage of Region 2's urban areas. The Adrian UC—including Tecumseh, Clinton, and portions of surrounding townships— comprises approximate 25% and the Hillsdale UC—including Jonesville and portions of surrounding townships— another approximately 8%. UCs centered on smaller villages and/or residential lake developments comprise the remaining approximately 8% of the square mileage.

It is important to note that the approximately 87 acres of the Albion UC that extends into western Jackson County, and its associated population, are not included in this analysis.

Urban and Rural Areas

	Popula- tion	Square Miles	People/ Sq. Mile	% of Pop- ulation	% of Area
Urban Areas*	152,758	97.5	1,567.5	50.4%	4.8%
Rural Area	150,161	1,952.2	76.9	49.6%	95.2%
	302,919	2,049.7	147.8	100.0%	100.0%

Urban Areas*

	Popula- tion	Square Miles	People/ Sq. Mile	% of Pop- ulation	% of Area
Jackson (Jackson UA)	88,059	57.8	1,524.8	57.6%	59.3%
Adrian/Tecumseh/Clinton (Adrian UC)	43,974	24.0	1,831.2	28.8%	24.6%
Hillsdale/Jonesville (Hillsdale UC)	11,722	7.5	1,557.6	7.7%	7.7%
Lake LeAnn/Lake Somerset (Somerset UC)	3,163	3.4	942.3	2.1%	3.4%
Blissfield/Palmyra (Blissfield UC)	3,105	1.8	1,685.9	2.0%	1.9%
Brooklyn/Lake Columbia (Brooklyn UC)	2,735	3.0	922.7	1.8%	3.0%
	152,758	97.5	1,567.5	100.0%	100.0%

* The small portion of the Albion Urban Cluster extending into Jackson County is not included in this analysis.

Source: 2018 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-Year Estimates

The U.S. Census Bureau defines an urban area as *a densely settled core of census tracts and/or census blocks that meet minimum population density requirements, along with adjacent territory containing non-residential urban land uses as well as territory with low population density included to link outlying densely settled territory with the densely settled core. To qualify as an urban area, the territory identified according to criteria must encompass at least 2,500 people, at least 1,500 of which reside outside institutional group quarters.* The Bureau identifies two types of urban areas:

- Urbanized Area (UA) = at least 50,000 people
- Urban Cluster (UC) = 2,500-49,999 people