



*Suburbanization and migrant entrepreneurship in the U.S.*

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It is well documented that U.S. metropolitan areas have experienced significant spatial, economic and demographic changes, with increasing minority and immigrant populations living in the suburbs. At the same time, minority-owned businesses have seen substantial growth over the years and play important roles in serving unmet markets, hiring minority workers and generating local economic development. However, we know little about the shifting spatial distribution and relative impact of ethnic and migrant entrepreneurship in different communities on an intra-metropolitan scale. Are migrant-owned businesses following their respective populations to the suburbs? This presentation uses national business datasets to examine the spatial patterns of migrant entrepreneurship and the performance of businesses as indicated by the number of firms, employees, sales and receipts, and total annual payrolls for cities and suburbs over time across a broad array of Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs). This will shed light on the national trend as well as variations among different types of MSAs. Atlanta will serve as a case study site for more detailed analysis.