The Lab

Following a method created by the University of Toronto Centre for Urban and Community Studies, we found an average income for the Chicago seven-county region for six time periods, and then divided the per capita income of each census tract by the corresponding regional average income of that time period. Next, we identified five income categories to describe how the census tract's average income compared to the region's aggregate average income.

As illustrated by our research, between the nearly fifty-year time period, poverty and wealth has substantially increased while middle-income earning populations have largely declined.

The Lab

- Set up your workspace
- Download and import Longitudinal Tract Database (LTDB) data
- Join decennial datasets together
- Query out tracts within the Chicago region
- Normalize income by regional average income
- Typologize tracts based upon income change and income distribution
- Add recent census demographics and determine who is exposed to which types of neighborhood change