

Core City Urban Patterns

Core City is the most important city in a metropolitan area

Age

Major institutions were originally established in core cities

Federal)

Government institutions: several levels of government (local, state,

Financial: Banks, Brokerage Firms, etc (think Wall Street)

Social: Churches, Festivals, Community events

Centrality

Core City has:

Better transportation access

the city center

Major roads, highways, and rail connections radiate from

Most major cultural institutions

Sports arenas and stadiums

Theaters and concert venues

Museums

Festivals

Function

Core city gives the region identity

Suburbs are lumped with core city:

Detroit area = poor view by outsiders

Denver area = positive view by outsiders

Most major functions take place in the city

Core City's importance has declined over the past 50 years

Population has moved into the suburbs

Core cities are landlocked and no longer grow

Suburbs have increased their political clout

Suburbs are trying to create amenities to compete with cities

Suburbs have problems funding large ticket items like stadiums and arenas

Lack of centrality makes it harder to attract people