

# Auckland and the age of cities

**Geoff Cooper**

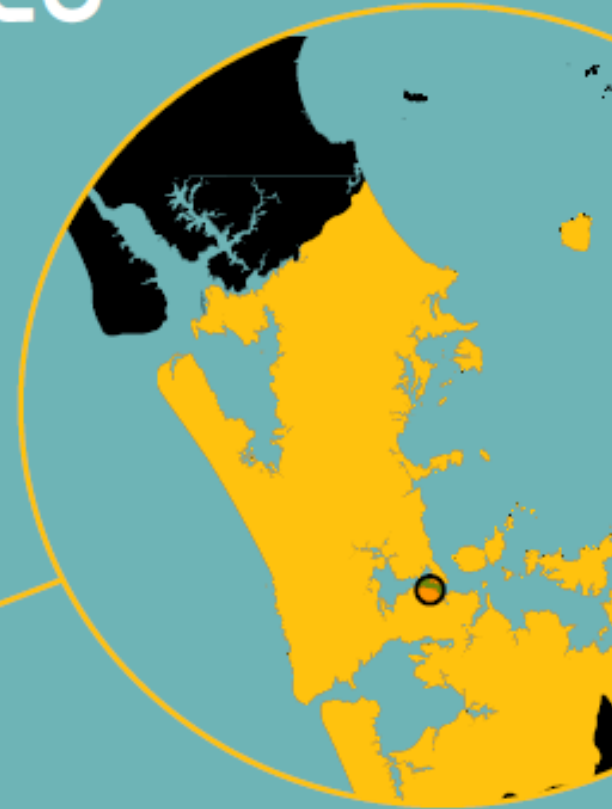
*Chief Economist, Auckland Council*

9<sup>th</sup> June 2014

# 2014 World City Prize: Suzhou, China

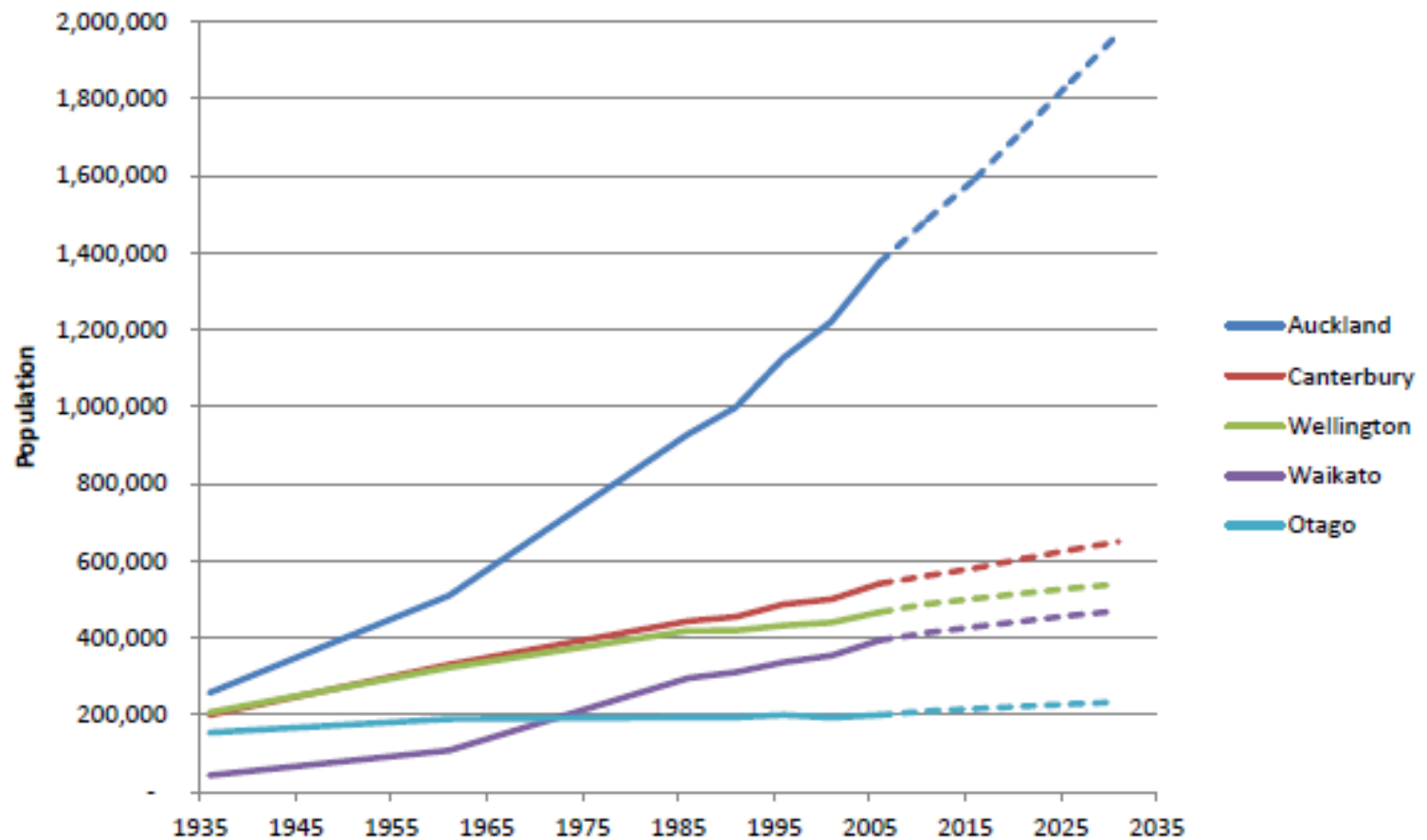


# THE IMPORTANCE OF CITIES IN A GLOBAL CONTEXT

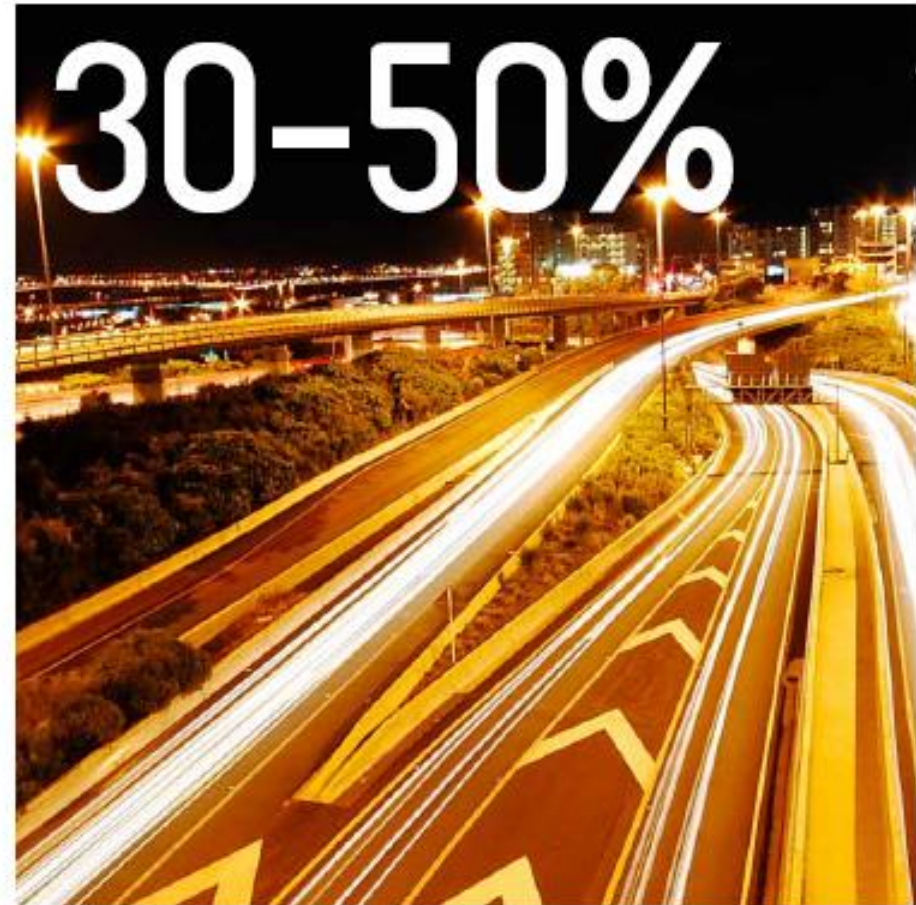


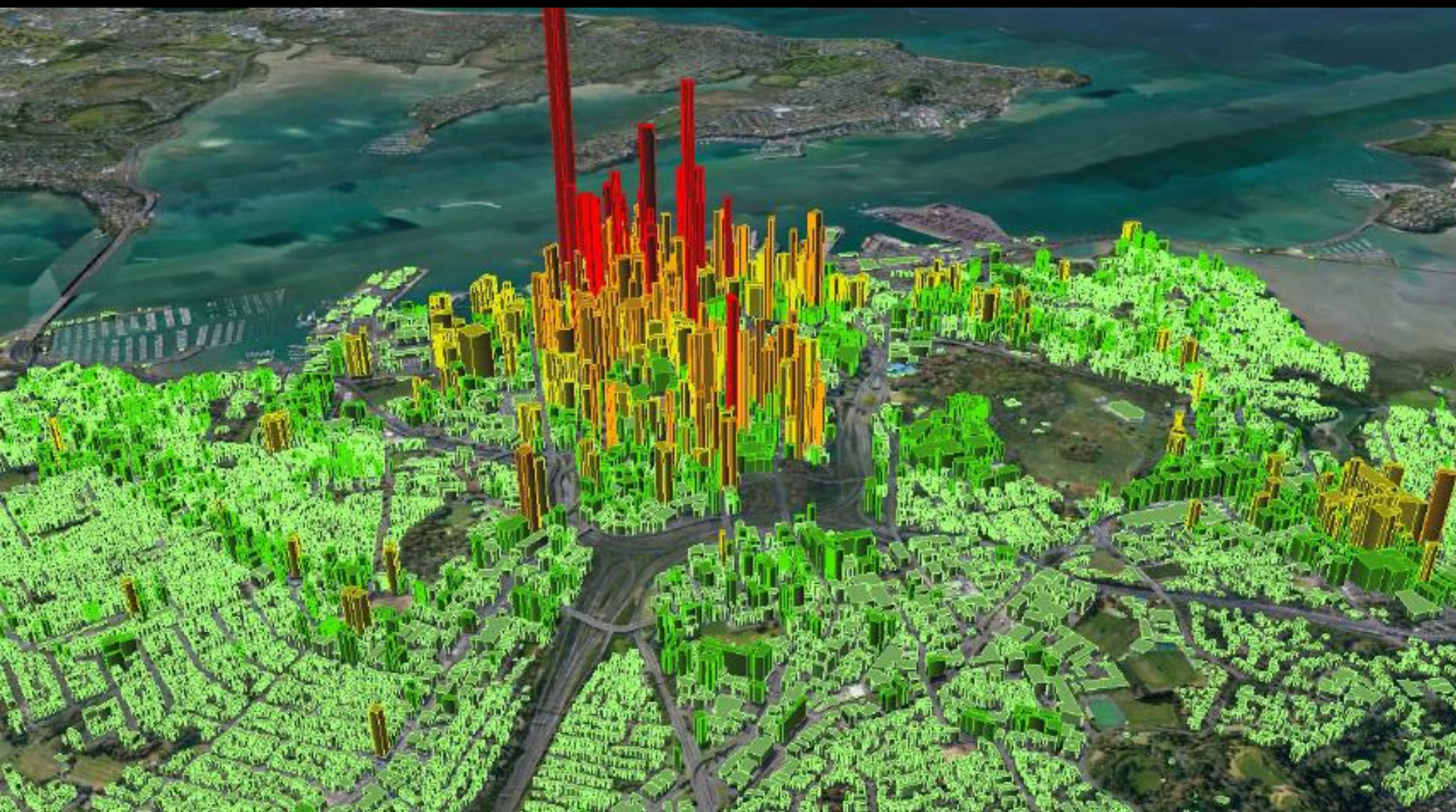
# RISE OF THE CITY

POPULATION GROWTH, LARGEST IN NEW ZEALAND



# AUCKLAND'S PRODUCTIVITY PREMIUM





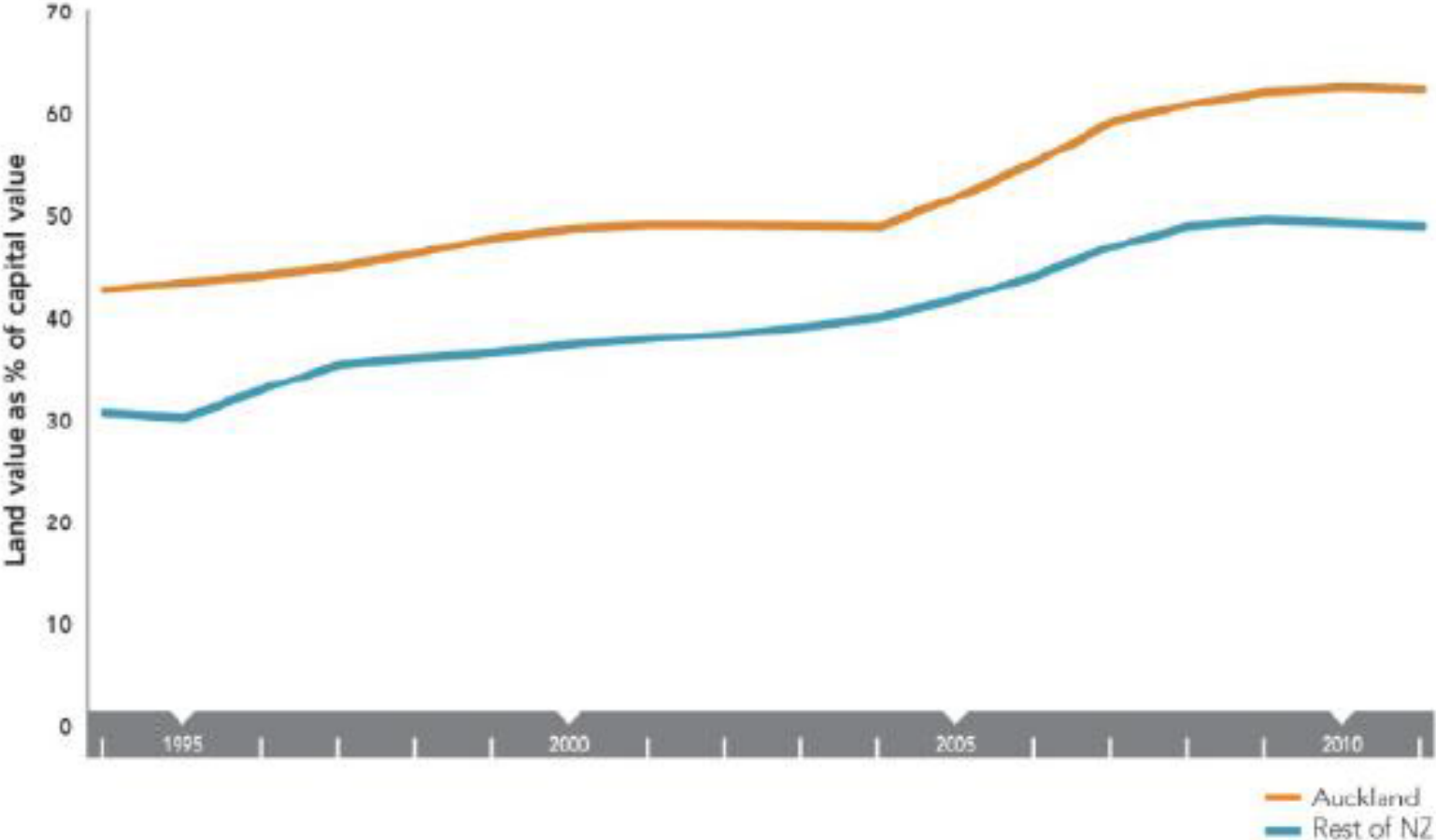


**AGGLOMERATION**

SKILLED  
EMPLOYEES

YOUR  
WAGES

# LAND IS INCREASINGLY VALUABLE





# TRADING OFF SPACE



# Summary

- Urban competitiveness will strengthen in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century
- Knowledge is more important than space
- Some cities will prosper, others will decline
- Auckland will continue to be New Zealand's most competitive city
- But its global competitiveness is less certain
- For growing cities, urban policy is extremely important