

Pioneer Valley Plan for Progress
7. Land Use



January 2003

Prepared by the Plan for Progress Data Analysis Work Team
and the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission

Communities with the largest increase in developed acres between 1971 and 1999.



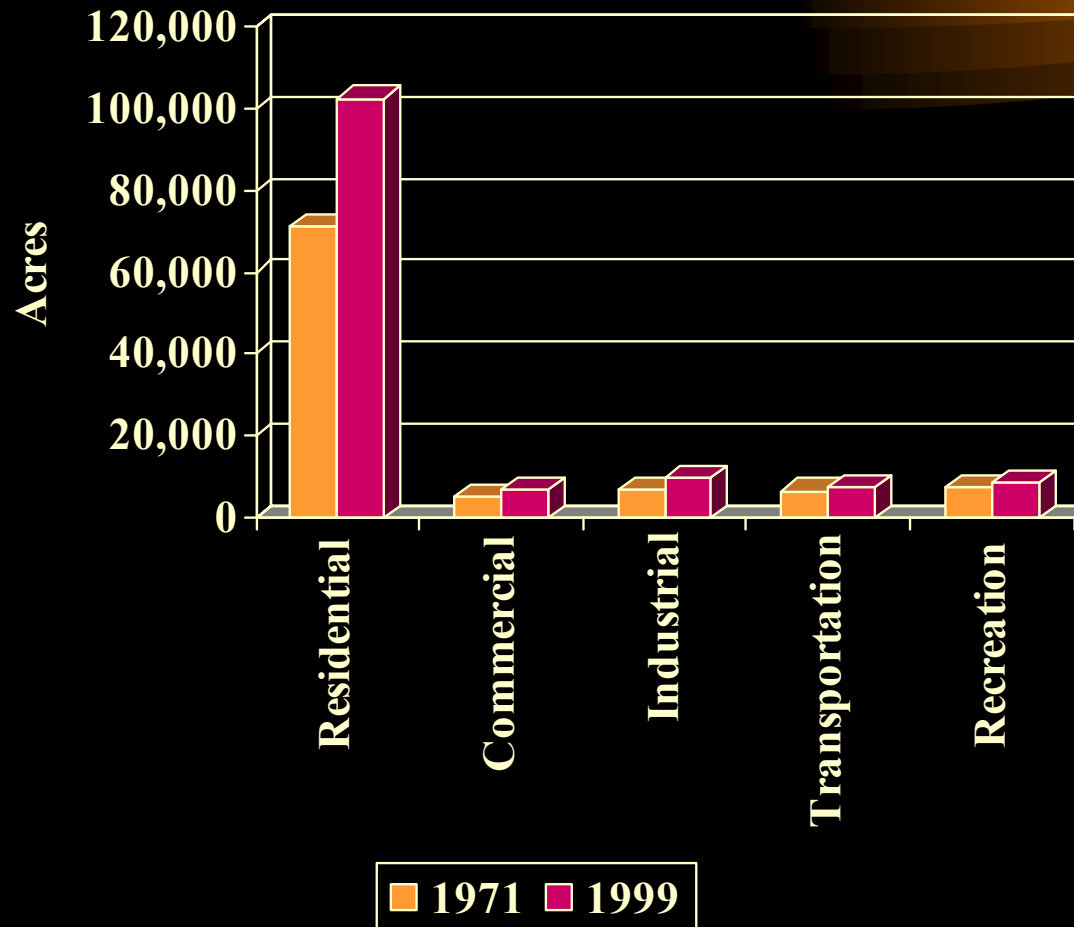
	Percent increase in developed acres
• Belchertown	142.6%
• Plainfield	97.8
• Middlefield	85.7
• Southampton	83.2
• Southwick	80.7
• Montgomery	80.7
• Westhampton	79.8
• Chesterfield	77.3

Communities with the most new residential development, in acres, 1985 to 1999.

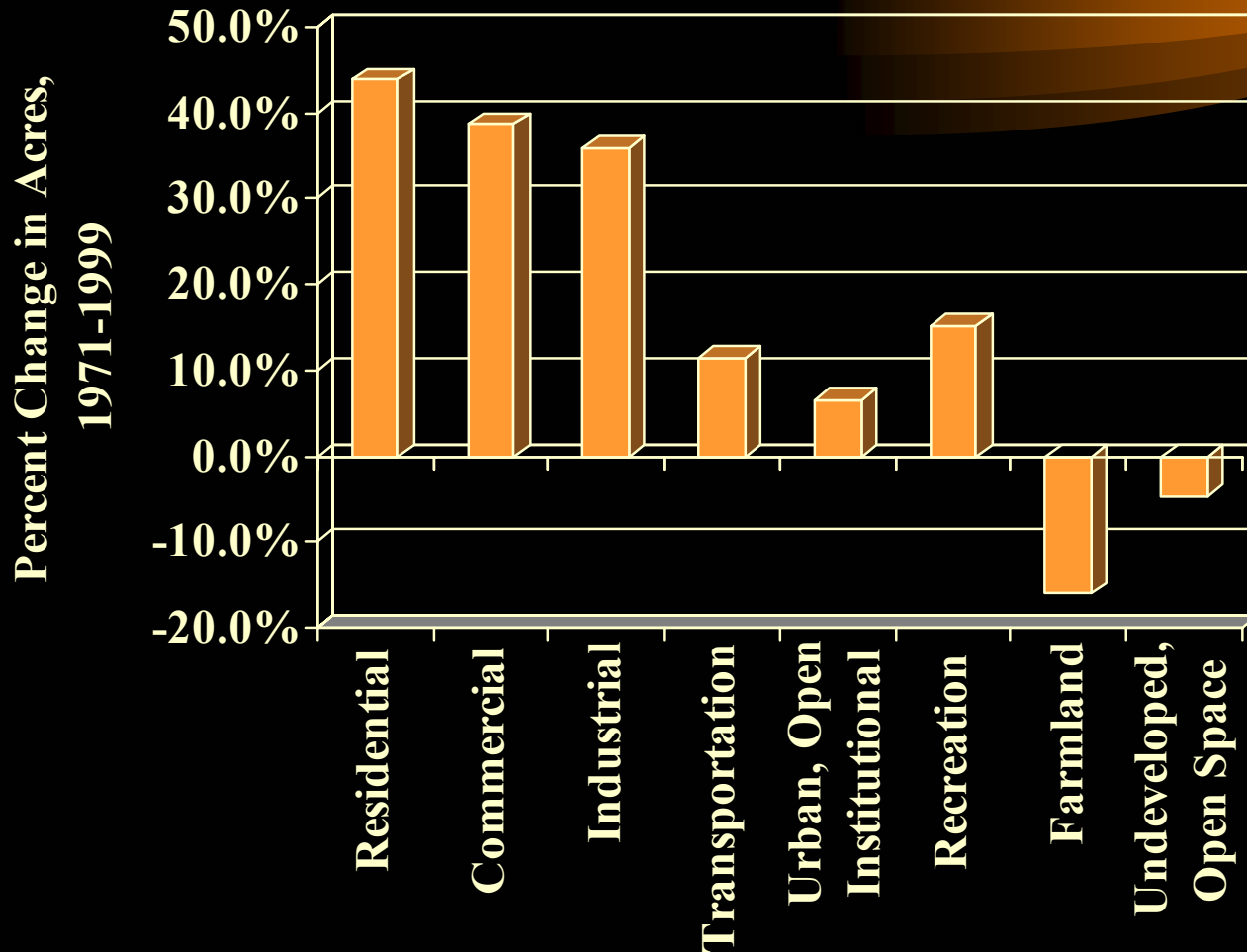
Percent increase in residential acres

- Plainfield 61.2%
- Middlefield 54.9
- Belchertown 54.6
- Southwick 47.9
- Wales 43.9
- Westhampton 40.9

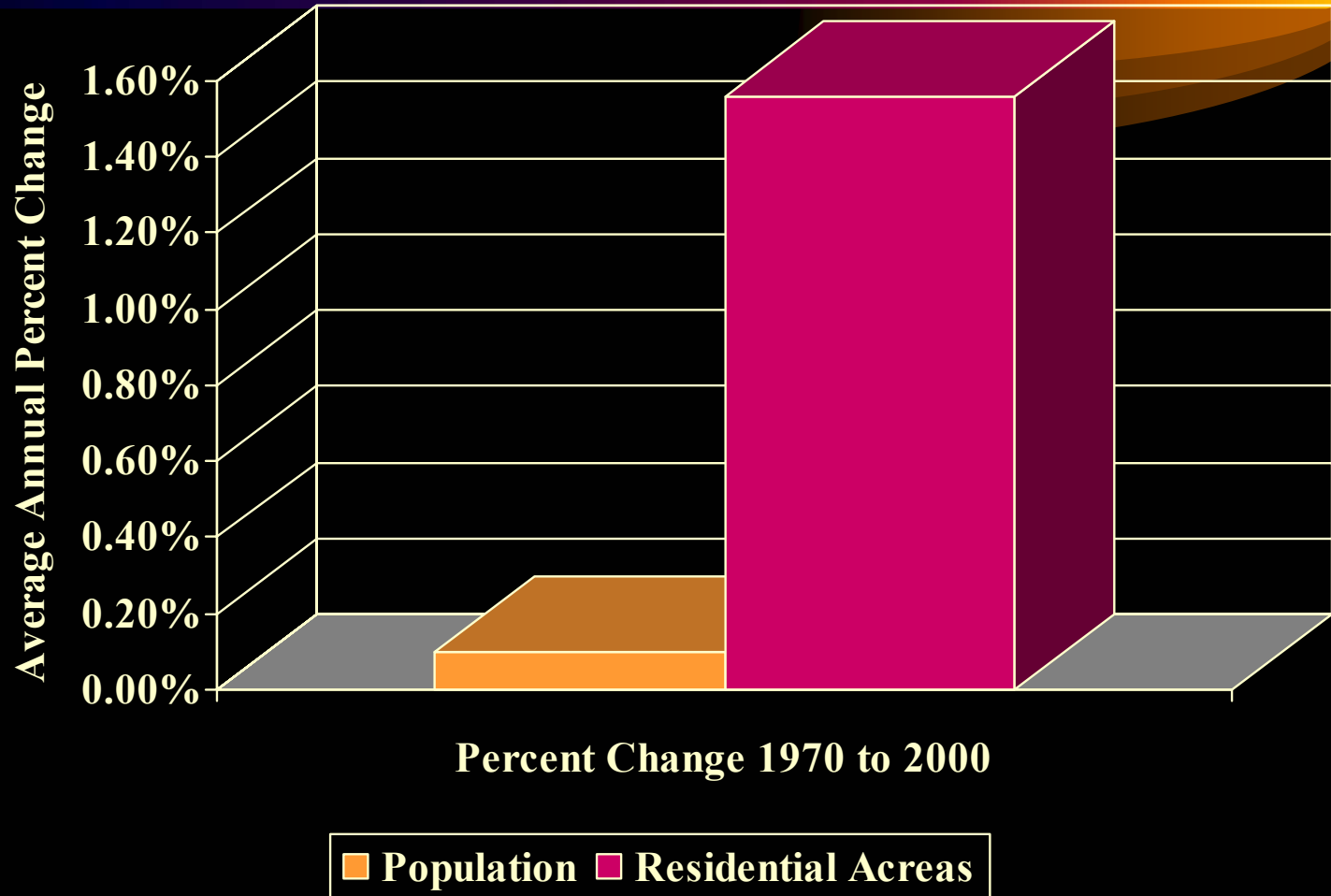
Acres of developed land increased for all categories of development, 1971-1999.



Residential development has increased the most while farmland decreased the most.



Residential development has far out-paced population growth in the last thirty years.

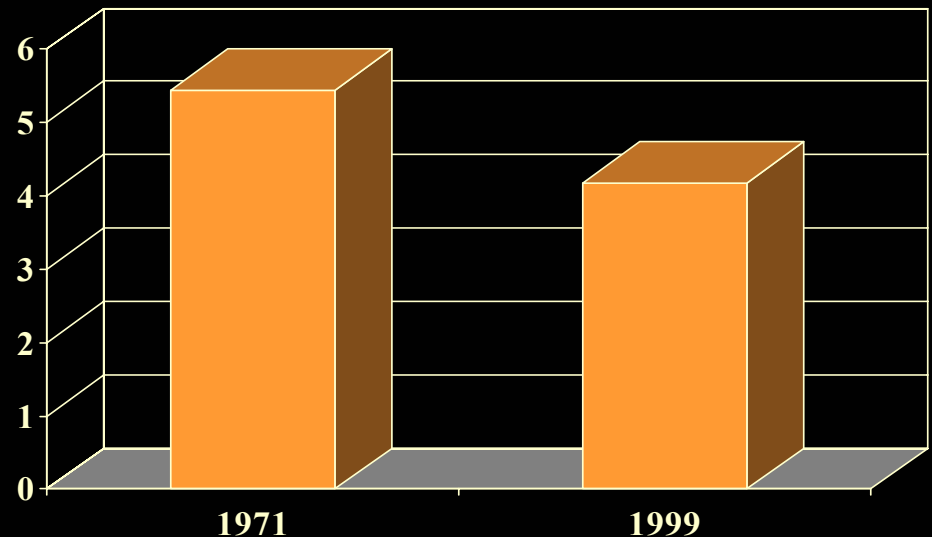


■ Population ■ Residential Areas

Persons per acre of developed land has decreased dramatically.

	<i>1971 Persons per Acre</i>	<i>1999 Persons per Acre</i>	<i>Percent Change</i>
Residential	8.18	5.93	-27.4%
Commercial	114.75	86.41	-24.7%
Industrial	82.95	63.71	-23.2%

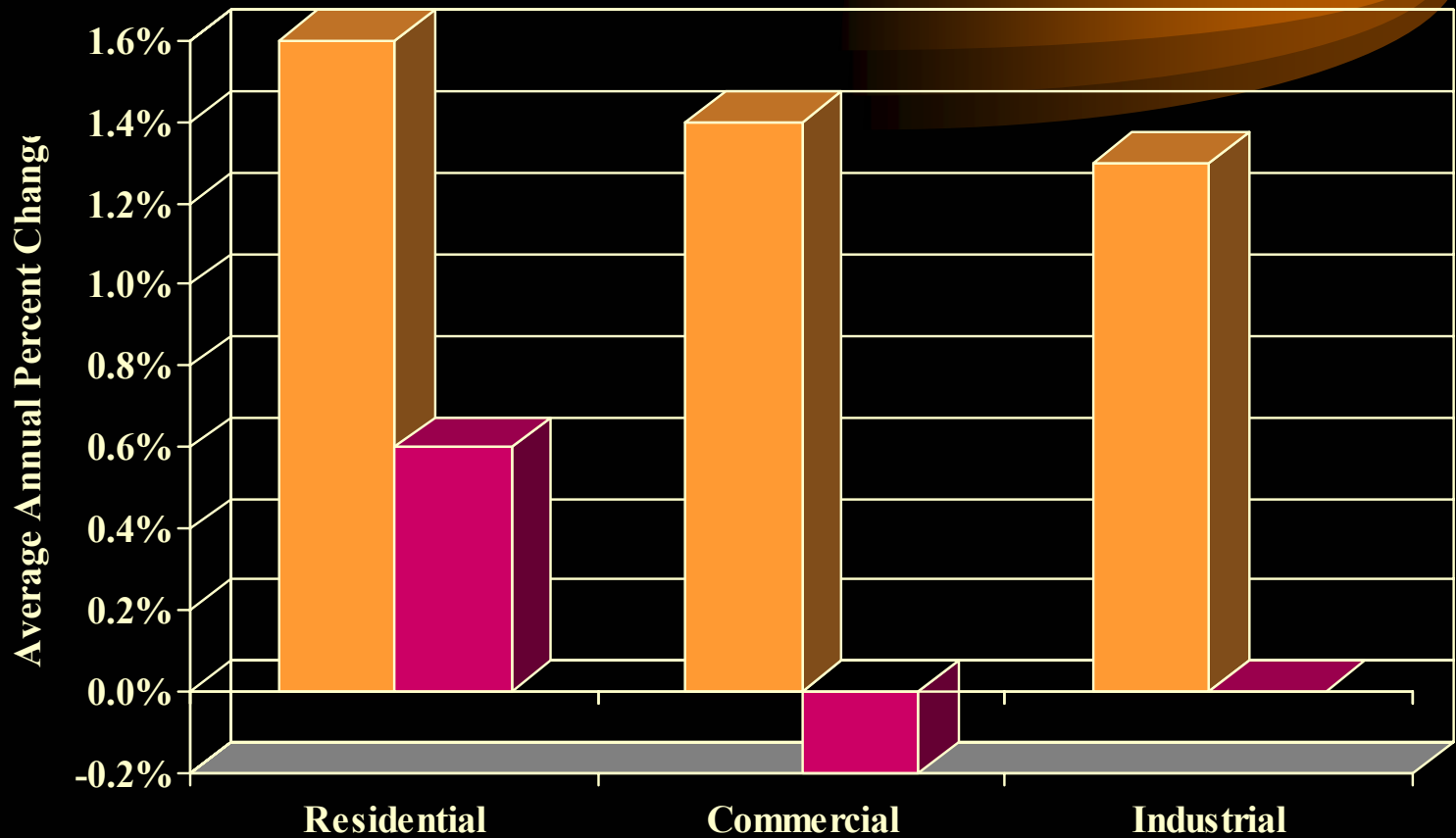
Persons per Acre of Developed Land



As the number of residential parcels grew, commercial and industrial shrank.



Larger average parcels - acres developed has increased much more than number of parcels.



■ Acres ■ Parcels