

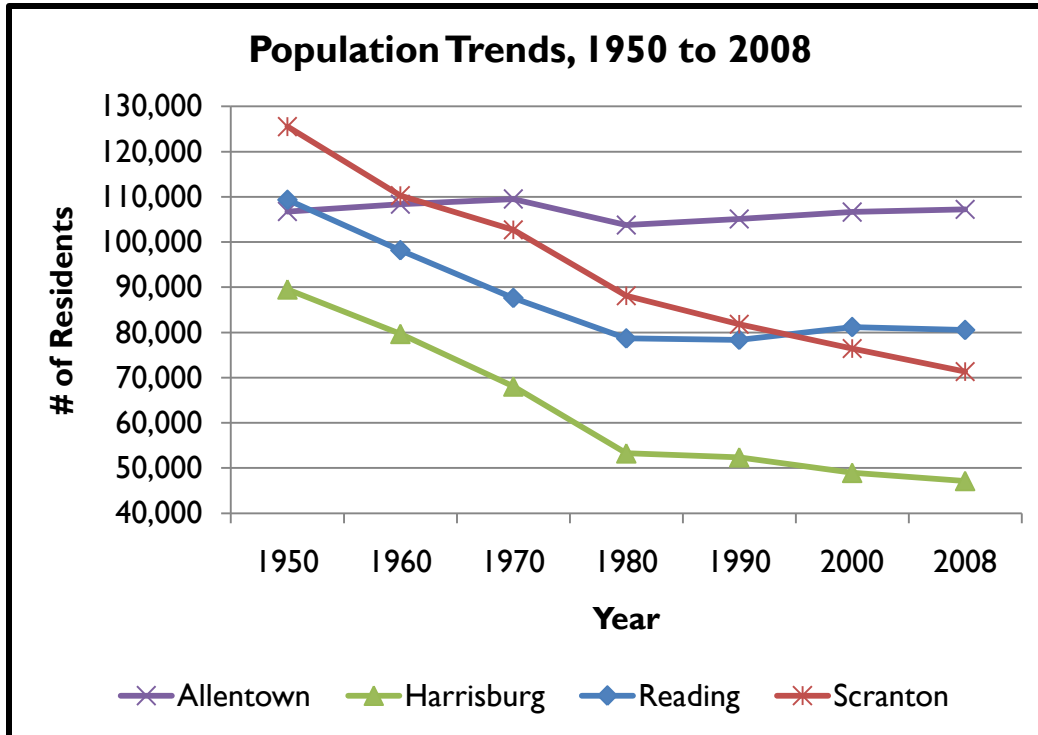
Redevelopment Authority of the City of Allentown

Karen Beck Pooley
Executive Director

Agency Mission

- The Redevelopment Authority's mission is to **prevent and eliminate blight** within the City of Allentown, particularly in the city's Focus and Rehabilitation Areas (those center city neighborhoods adjacent to downtown).

Population Trends



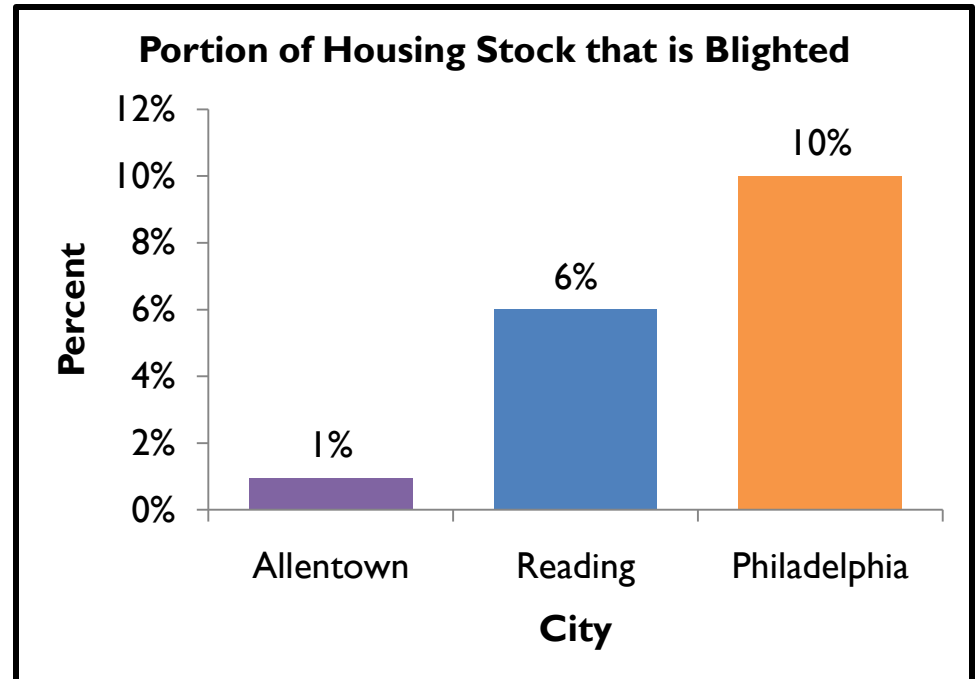
Between 1950 and 2008...

- **Allentown's** population stayed constant
- **Harrisburg** and **Scranton** lost nearly 1 in 2 residents
- **Reading** lost 1 in 4 residents

Place	Population in 1950	Population in 2008	Change (1950-2008)	% Change (1950-2008)
Allentown	106,756	107,250	494	0%
Harrisburg	89,544	47,148	-42,396	-47%
Reading	109,320	80,560	-28,760	-26%
Scranton	125,536	71,336	-54,200	-43%

Blighted Properties

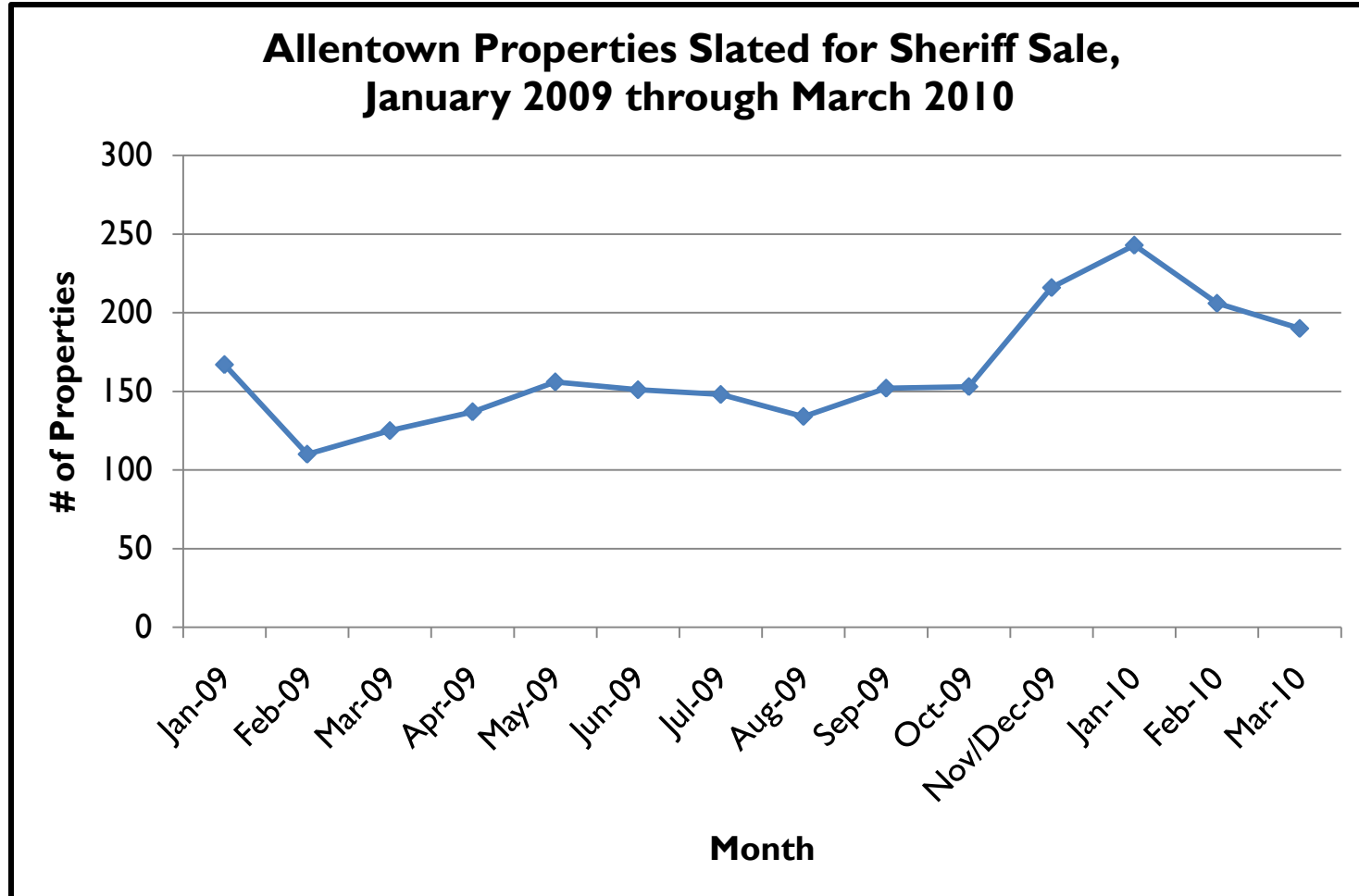
- Allentown has roughly 200 blighted properties – meaning **less than 1% of the city's stock is blighted.**
- Reading has identified 1,400 blighted properties.
- Philadelphia has identified more than 60,000 vacant properties (including 27,000 abandoned residential structures).



Blighted Property Review Process



Foreclosures



Collaboration with the City's Bureau of Building Standards and Safety

- Current:
 - Systematic and Rental Inspections
 - Landlord Hall of Shame
- Future:
 - Vacant Property Ordinance
 - Conservatorship
 - Homesteading

Biggest Challenge/Opportunity

