



Merging Municipalities: The Case of Toronto

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UNIVERSITY OF
TORONTO



Back to the Future

- From one tier to two tier to one tier
- Amalgamation in 1998 resulted in a city that is “too big and too small”
- Were there cost savings?
- Did taxes decrease?





Figure 1: Fire Expenditures Per Household - 1988-2008

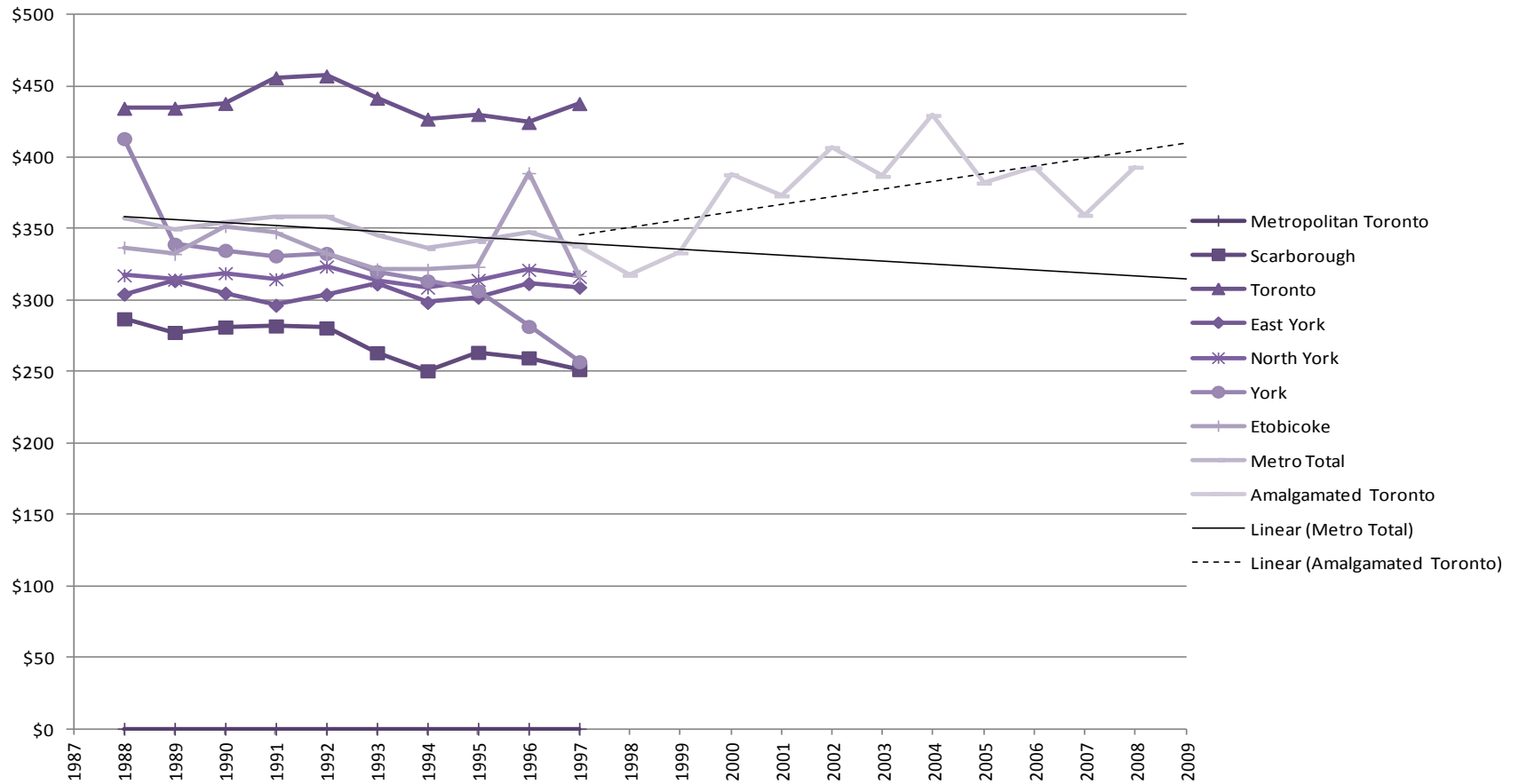


Figure 2: Garbage Collection Expenditures Per Household - 1988-2008

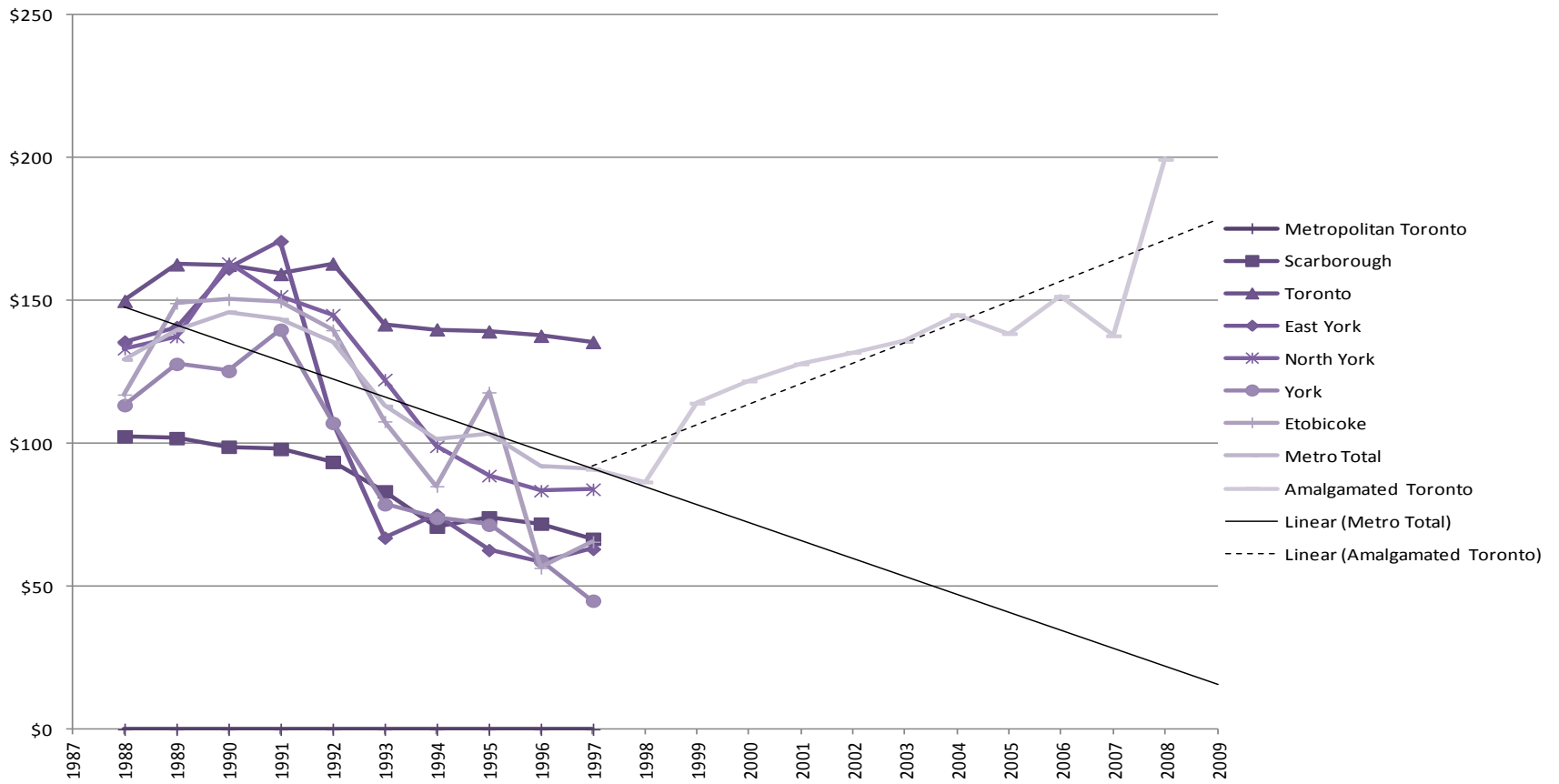


Figure 3: Parks & Recreation Expenditures Per Household - 1988-2008





Figure 4: Libraries Expenditures Per Household - 1988-2008





Figure 5: Residential Taxes Per Household - 1988-2008

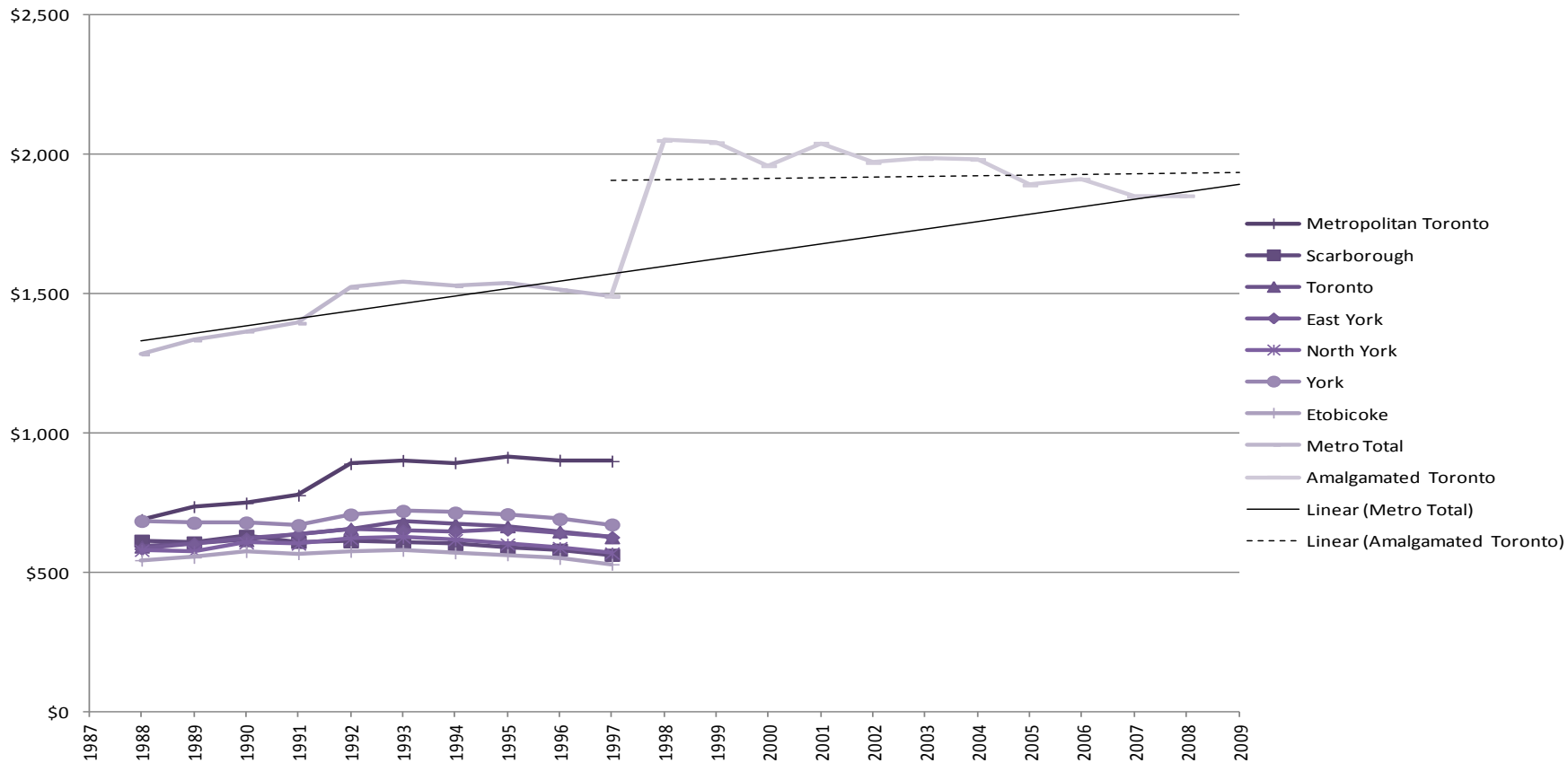
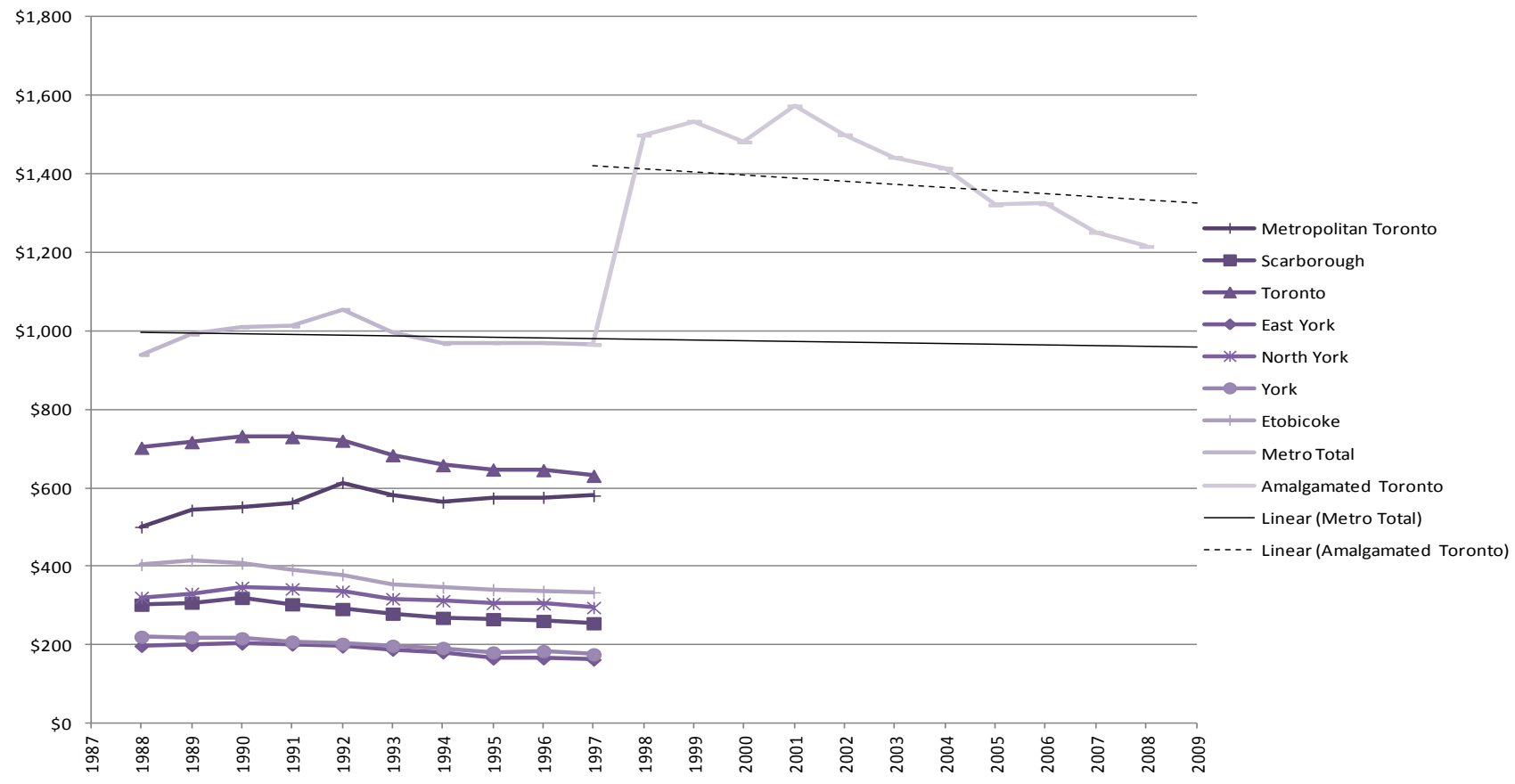




Figure 6: Business Taxes Per Household - 1988-2008





Final Observations

- Expenditures did not decrease
- Taxes decreased, especially for business properties
- Fairer sharing of the tax base
- Equalized service levels



Final Observations (cont'd)

- A city that is too big and too small
- Reduced opportunity for citizen participation
- Did not solve regional problems