Translating Research to Policy Impact
ICPH Beyond Housing 2020 #BH2020

David A. Williams
Opportunity Insights

OPPORTUNITY INSIGHTS

The American Dream?

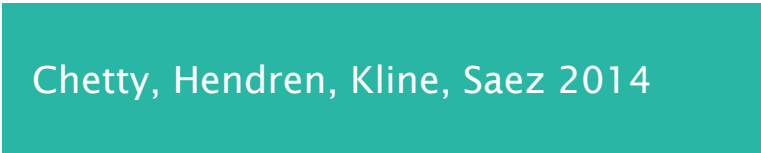Chance that a child born into a low-income family becomes a high-income adult

USA

UK

Denmark

Canada

Sweden

The American Dream?

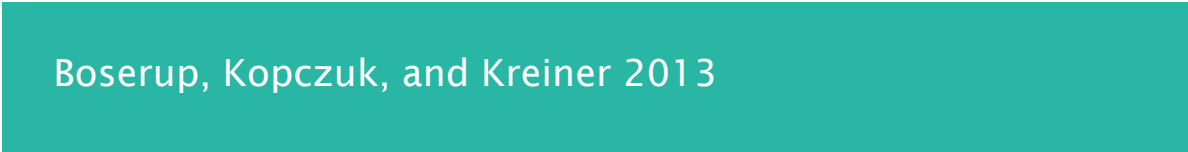Chance that a child born into a low-income family becomes a high-income adult

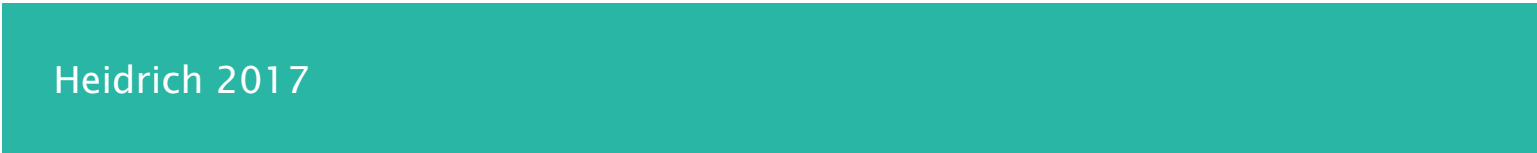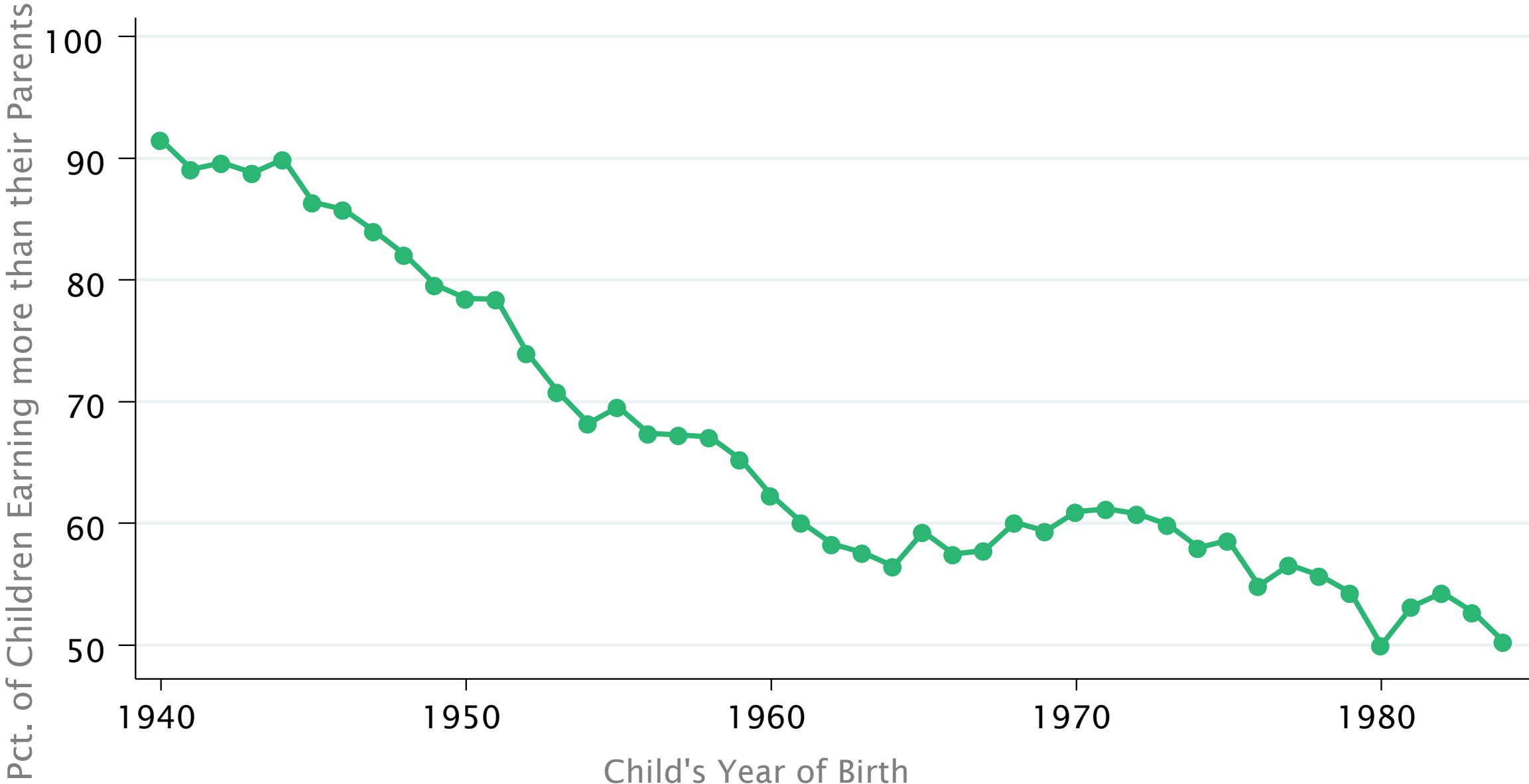|		
USA	Chetty, Hendren, Kline, Saez 2014	7.5%
UK	Blanden and Machin 2008	9.0%
Denmark	Boserup, Kopczuk, and Kreiner 2013	11.7%
Canada	Corak and Heisz 1999	13.5%
Sweden	Heidrich 2017	15.7%

The Fading American Dream

Percent of Children Earning More than Their Parents, by Year of Birth

Source: Chetty, Grusky, Hell, Hendren, Manduca, Narang (Science 2017)
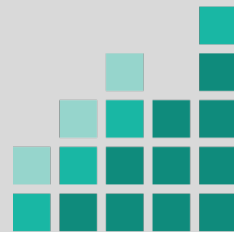
We use big data to study how to increase upward mobility

Analyze a broad range of interventions, from childhood to adulthood

Study the roots of the problem locally to develop tailored solutions

OPPORTUNITY
INSIGHTS

The Opportunity Atlas: How We Produce Our Measure of Economic Mobility

Focus on kids living in low-income families

Determine their childhood neighborhoods

Measure their adult socioeconomic outcomes in recent years

Show averages for each census tract in the U.S.

OpportunityAtlas.org

The Geography of Upward Mobility in the United States

Average Income at Age 35 for Children whose Parents Earned $27,000 (25th percentile)

Seattle
$35.2k

Salt Lake
City $37.2k

Dubuque
$45.5k

Chicago
$30.6k

Cleveland
$29.4k

Boston
$36.8k

San Francisco
Bay Area
$37.2k

New York City
$35.4k

Washington DC
$33.9k

Los Angeles
$34.3k

Charlotte
$26.3k

<$27k $33k   >$44k

Note: Blue = More Upward Mobility, Red = Less Upward Mobility
Source: Chetty, Friedman, Hendren, Jones, Porter 2018
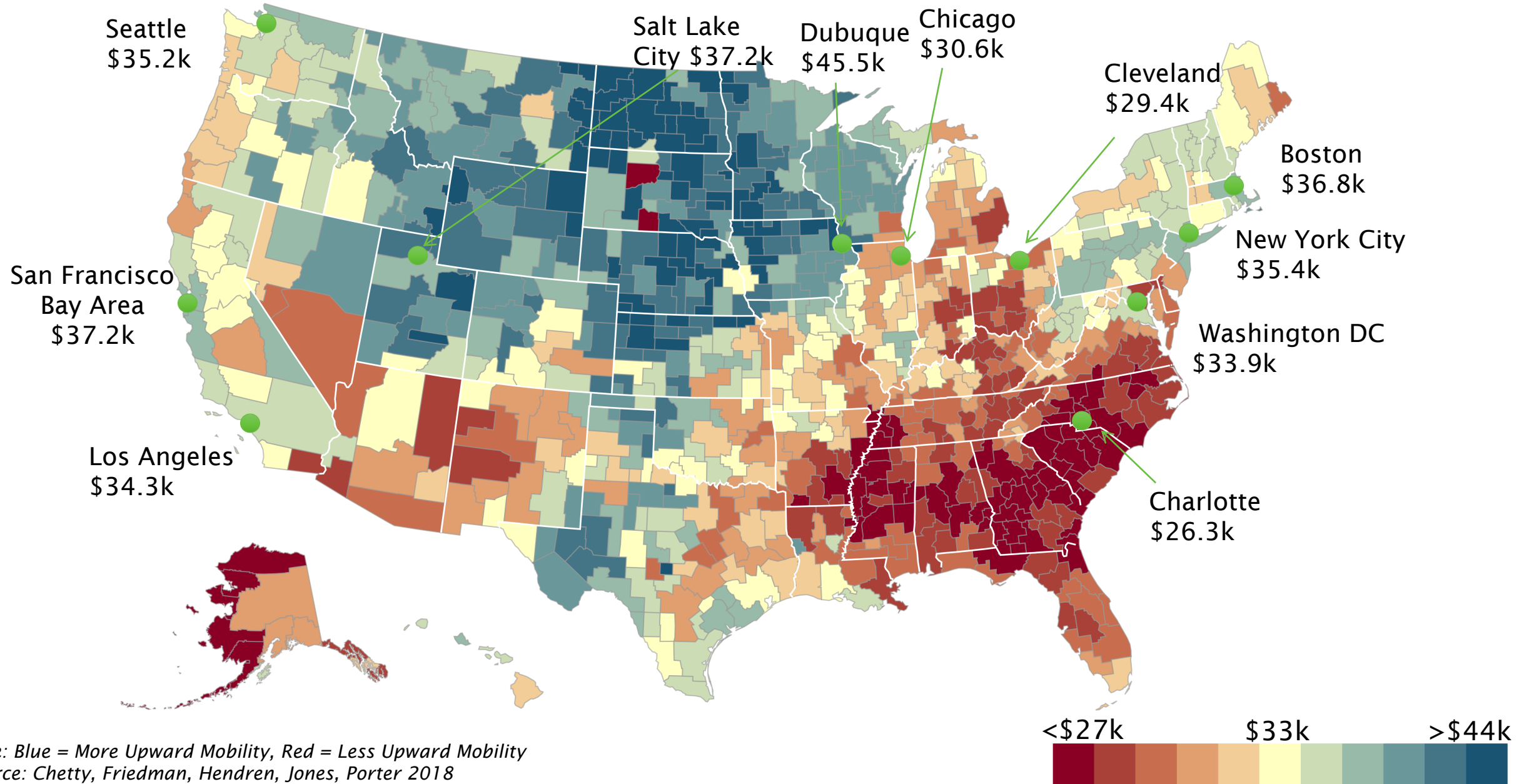
Two Americas: The Geography of Upward Mobility For Black vs. White Men
Average Individual Earnings at Age 35 For Men Whose Parents Earned $27,000 (25th percentile)
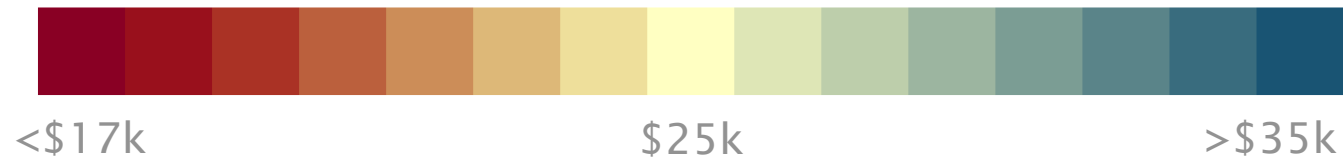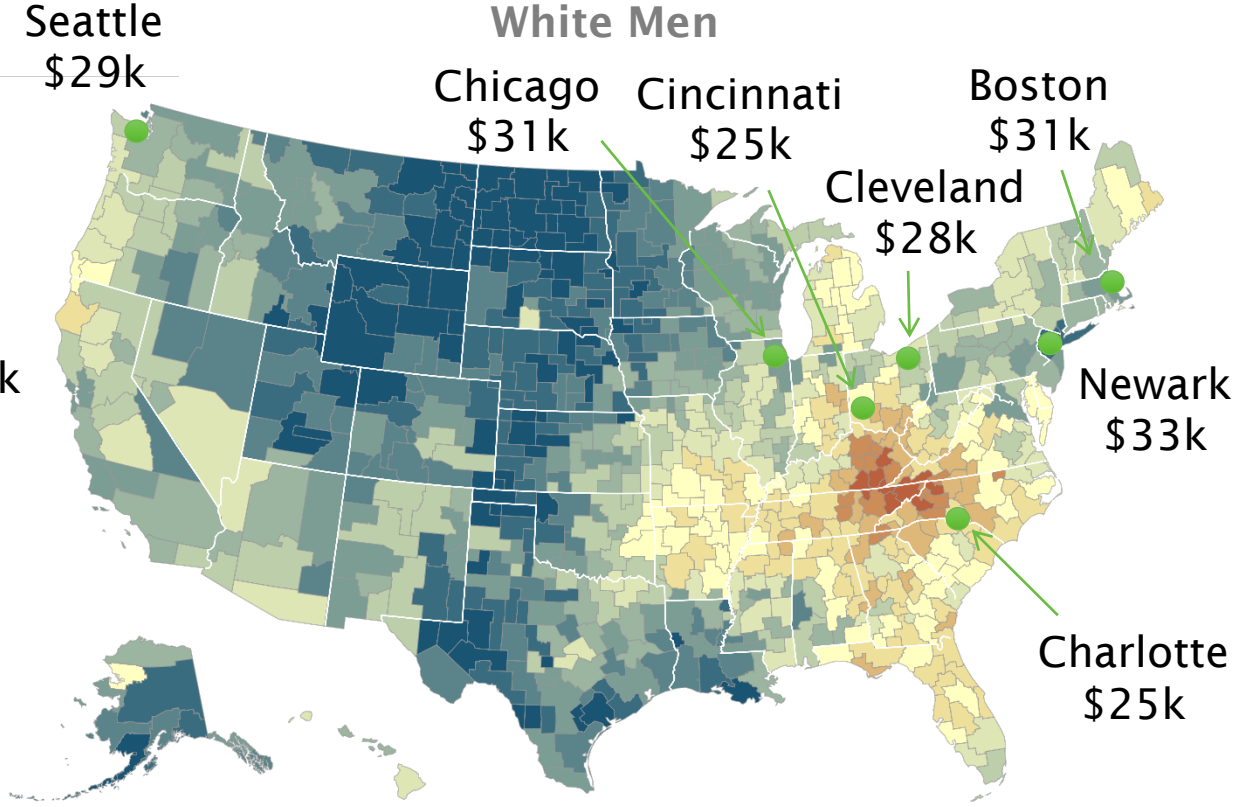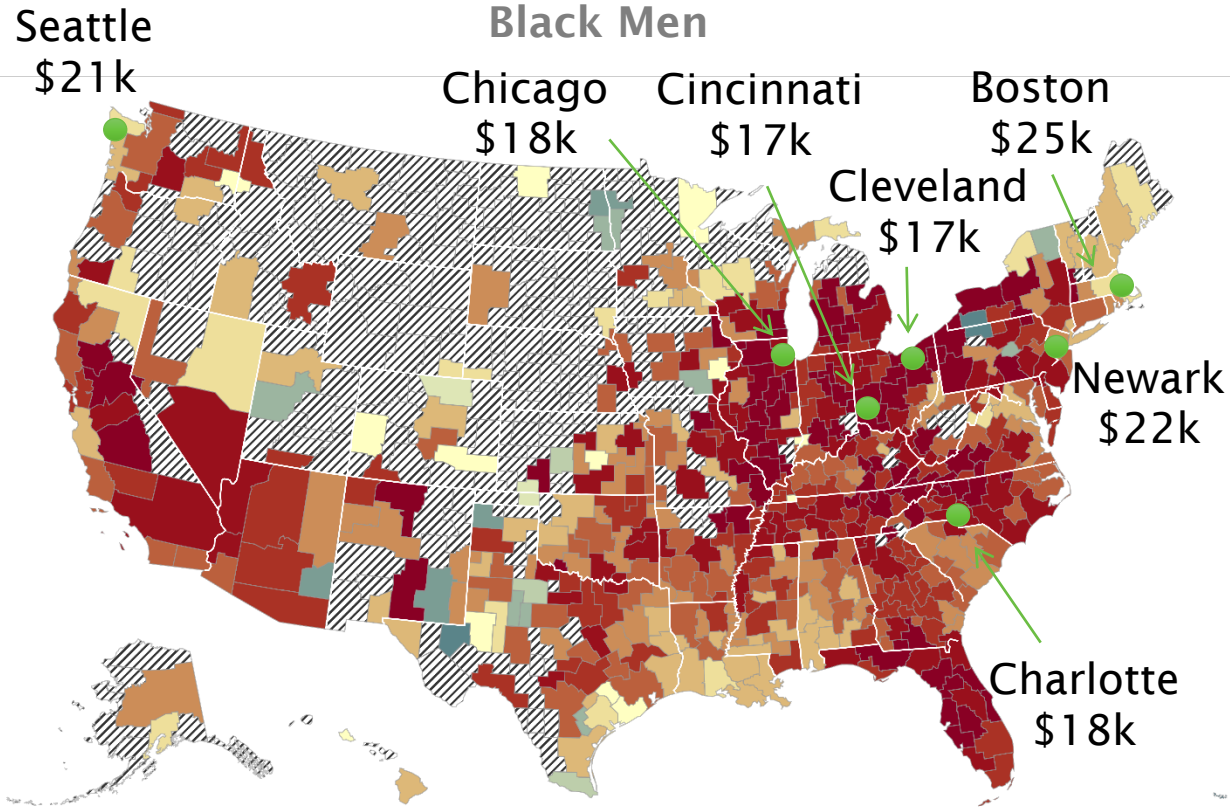
Black Men

Seattle
$21k

Chicago
$18k

Cincinnati
$17k

Boston
$25k

Cleveland
$17k

Newark
$22k

Charlotte
$18k

White Men

Seattle
$29k

Chicago
$31k

Cincinnati
$25k

Boston
$31k

Cleveland
$28k

Newark
$33k

Charlotte
$25k

<$17k $25k   >$35k

Note: Blue = More Upward Mobility, Red = Less Upward Mobility
Source: Chetty, Hendren, Jones, Porter 2018
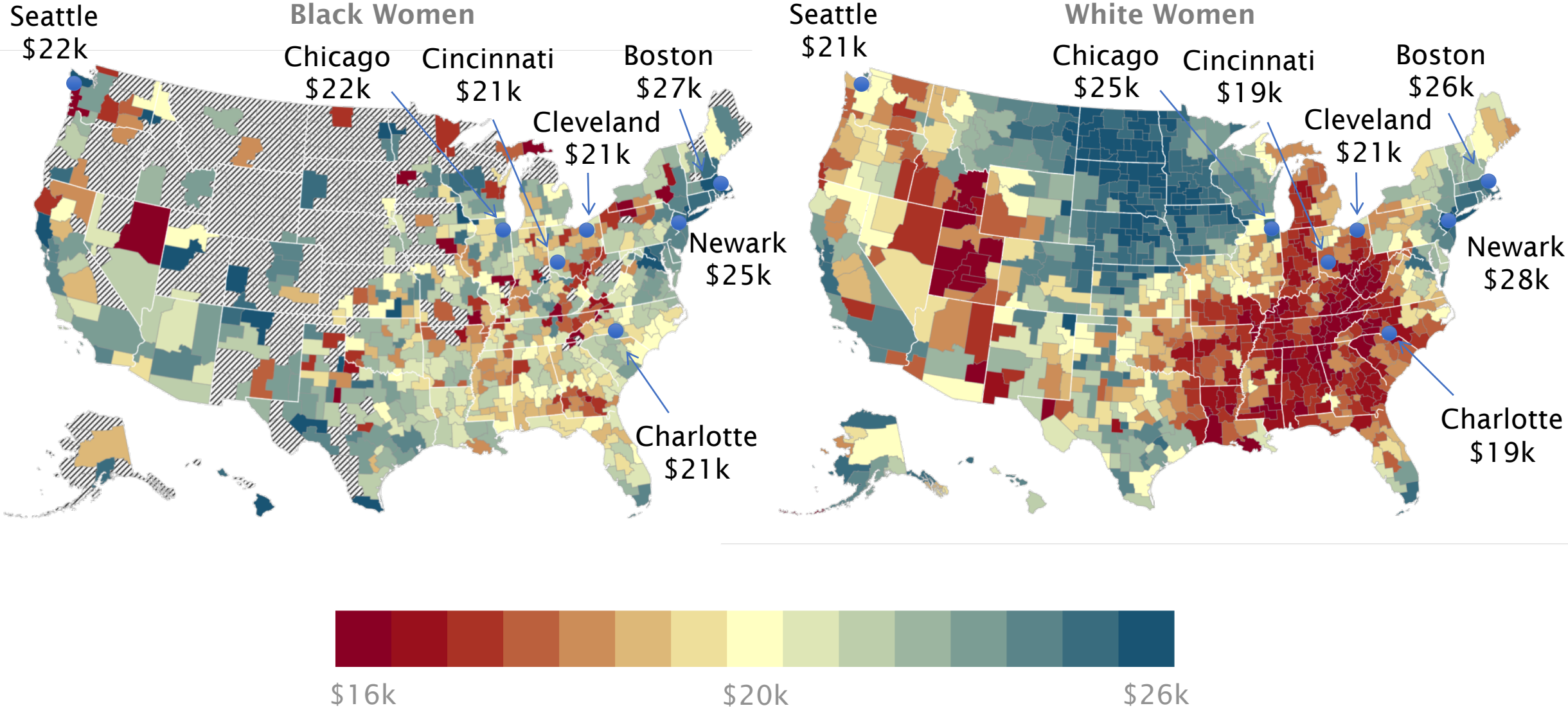
Two Americas: The Geography of Upward Mobility For Black vs. White <u>Women</u>
Average Individual Earnings at Age 35 For Women Whose Parents Earned $27,000 (25th pctile)

Black Women

Seattle
$22k

Chicago
$22k

Cincinnati
$21k

Boston
$27k

Cleveland
$21k

Newark
$25k

Charlotte
$21k

White Women

Seattle
$21k

Chicago
$25k

Cincinnati
$19k

Boston
$26k

Cleveland
$21k

Newark
$28k

Charlotte
$19k

$16k $20k $26k

Note: Blue = More Upward Mobility, Red = Less Upward Mobility
Source: Chetty, Hendren, Jones, Porter 2018

Income Mobility for Black vs. White Men Raised in High-Income Families

Follow the lives of these **19,940** Americans and see where they end up as adults:

	BLACK MEN	WHITE MEN
Grew up rich → Rich adult	852 (26%)	1,411 (43%)
Upper-middle-class adult	705 (22%)	741 (23%)
Middle-class adult	646 (20%)	488 (15%)
Lower-middle-class adult	541 (17%)	298 (9%)
Poor adult	554 (17%)	254 (8%)

■ Black men
■ White men

Source: Chetty, Hendren, Jones, Porter 2018; New York Times 2018
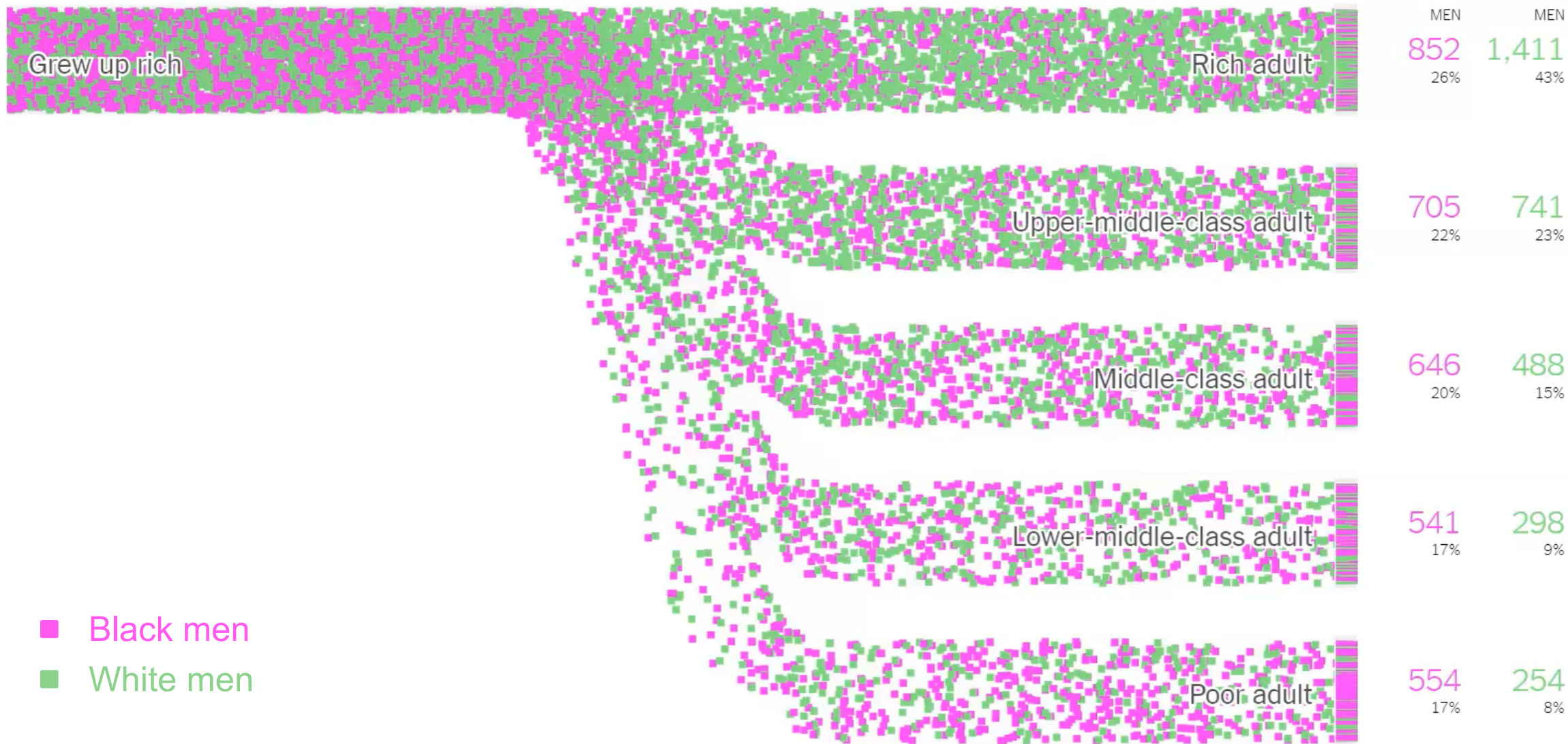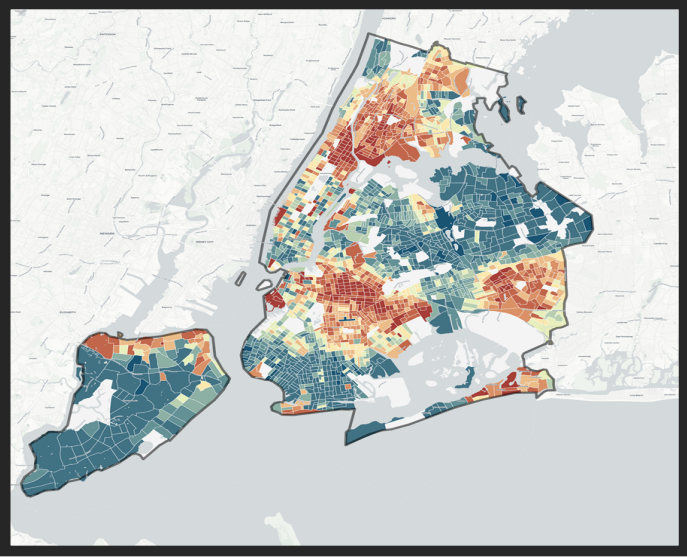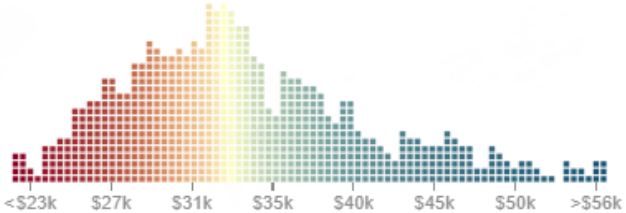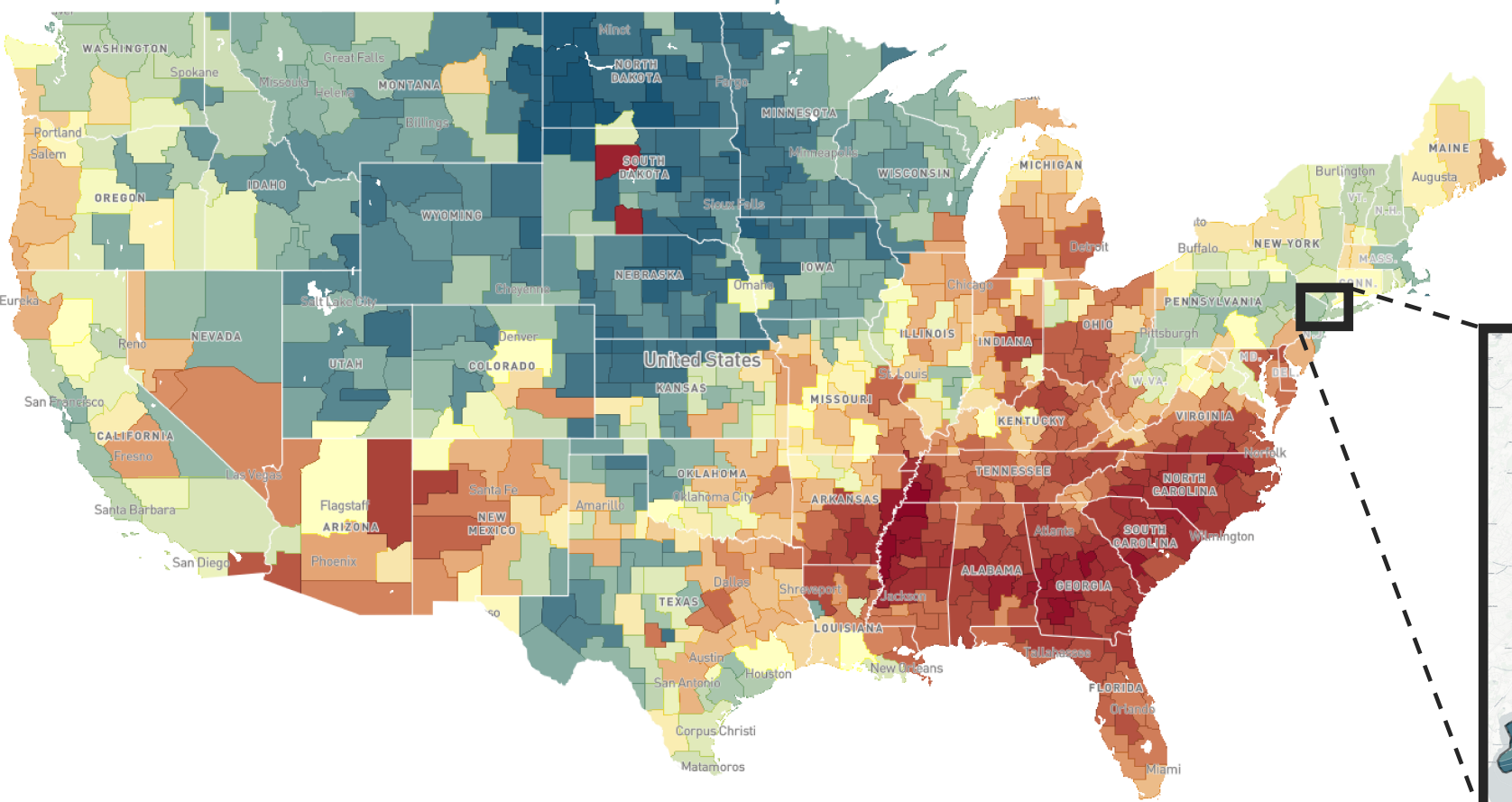
The Geography of Upward Mobility in New York City

The Geography of Upward Mobility in New York City

Legend: <$10k $30k $34k $38k >$60k

OPPORTUNITY INSIGHTS

The Geography of Upward Mobility in New York City

<$10k $30k $34k $38k   >$60k

OPPORTUNITY
INSIGHTS
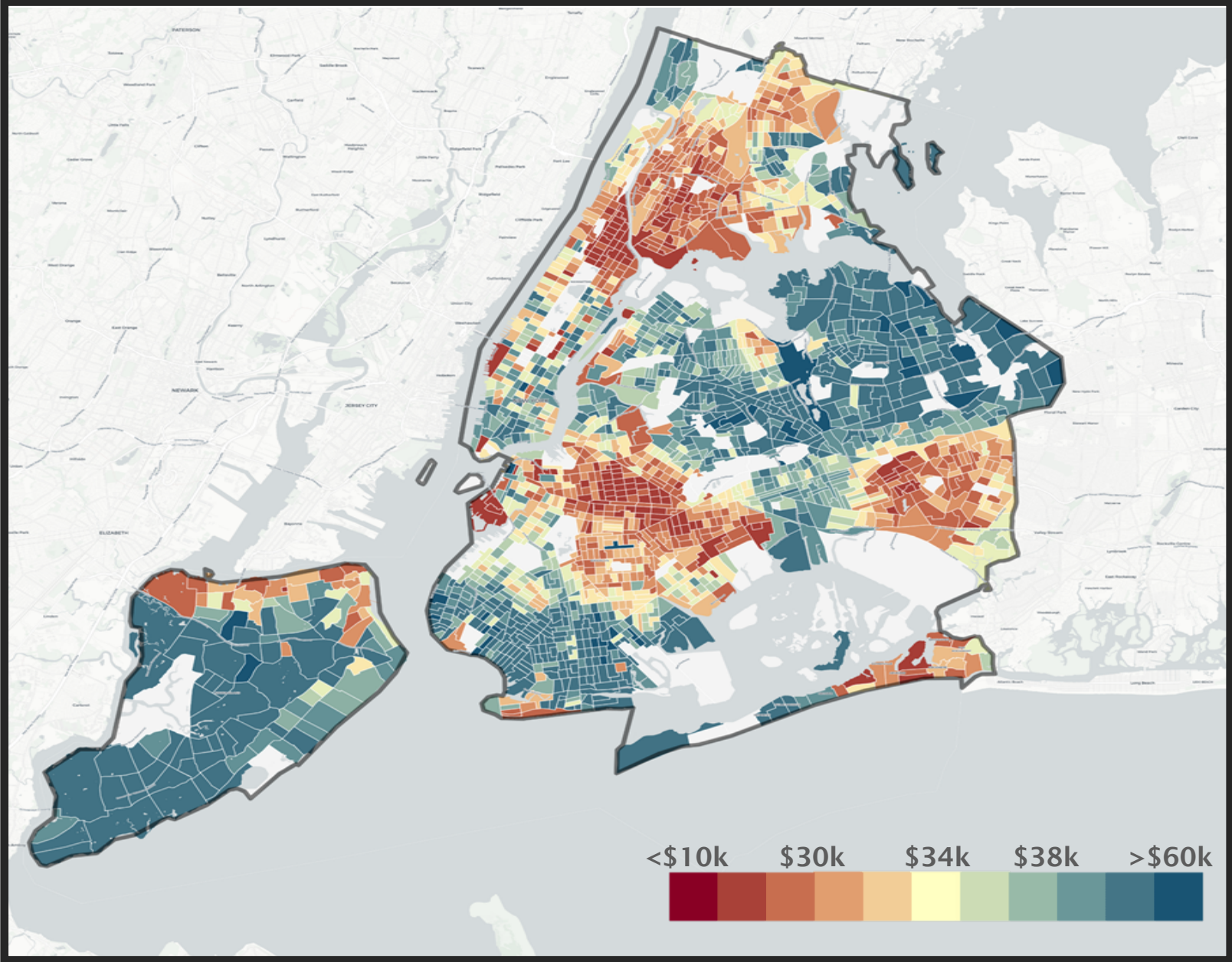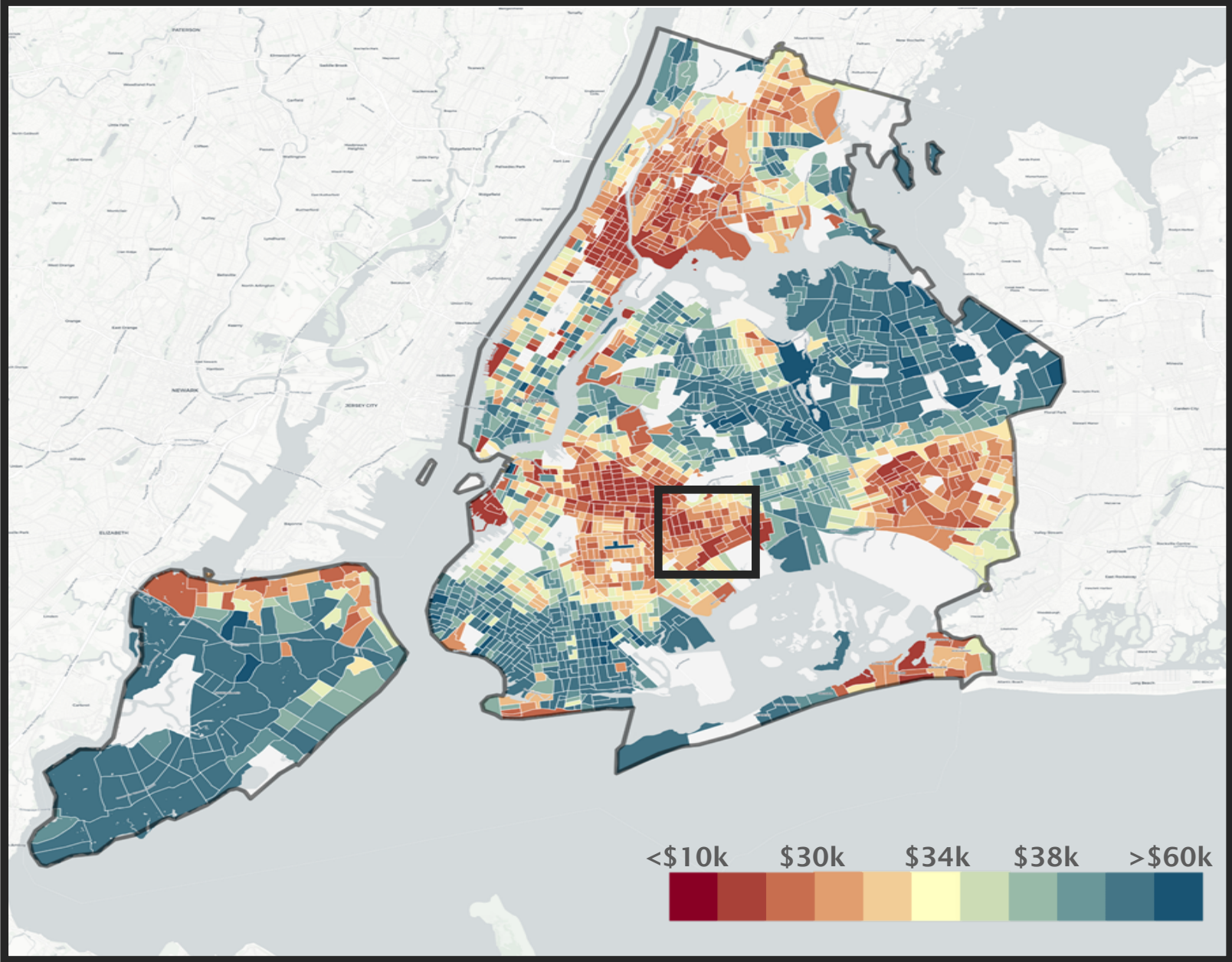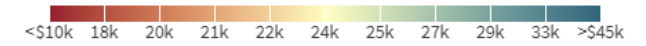
Low-Income Children in NYC Grow Up to Make about the National Median

<$10k $30k $34k $38k   >$60k

OPPORTUNITY INSIGHTS

Household Income
for Black Children of Low Income Parents

Legend: <$10k | 18k | 20k | 21k | 22k | 24k | 25k | 27k | 29k | 33k | >$45k

BROWNSVILLE

Glenmore Ave
Pitkin Ave
Grace Playground
Belmont Ave
Sutter Avenue Ballfield
Belmont Ave
Sutter Ave
Blake Ave
Dumont Ave
Thomas Jefferson High School
Livonia Ave
Public School 13
Riverdale Ave
New Lots Ave

Watkins St
Osborn St
Christopher Ave
Sackman St
Powell St
Junius St
Van Sinderen Ave
Sutter Ave
Sheffer Ave
Hinsdale St
Williams Ave
Alabama Ave
Georgia Ave
Sheffield Ave
Pennsylvania Ave
New Jersey Ave
Vermont St
Wyona St
Bradford St
Miller Ave
Schenck Ave
Barbey St
Dumont Ave
Osborn St
Sackman St
Georgia Ave

United States Census Bureau | OPPORTUNITY INSIGHTS

Household Income
for Black Children of Low Income Parents

<$10k 18k 20k 21k 22k 24k 25k 27k 29k 33k >$45k

$17K

BROWNSVILLE

Developed by Darkhorse Analytics | © Mapbox © OpenStreetMap

Household Income
for Black Children of Low Income Parents

<$10k 18k 20k 21k 22k 24k 25k 27k 29k 33k >$45k

Dumont Avenue

BROWNSVILLE

Developed by Darkhorse Analytics | © Mapbox © OpenStreetMap

United States Census Bureau

OPPORTUNITY INSIGHTS

Household Income
for Black Children of Low Income Parents
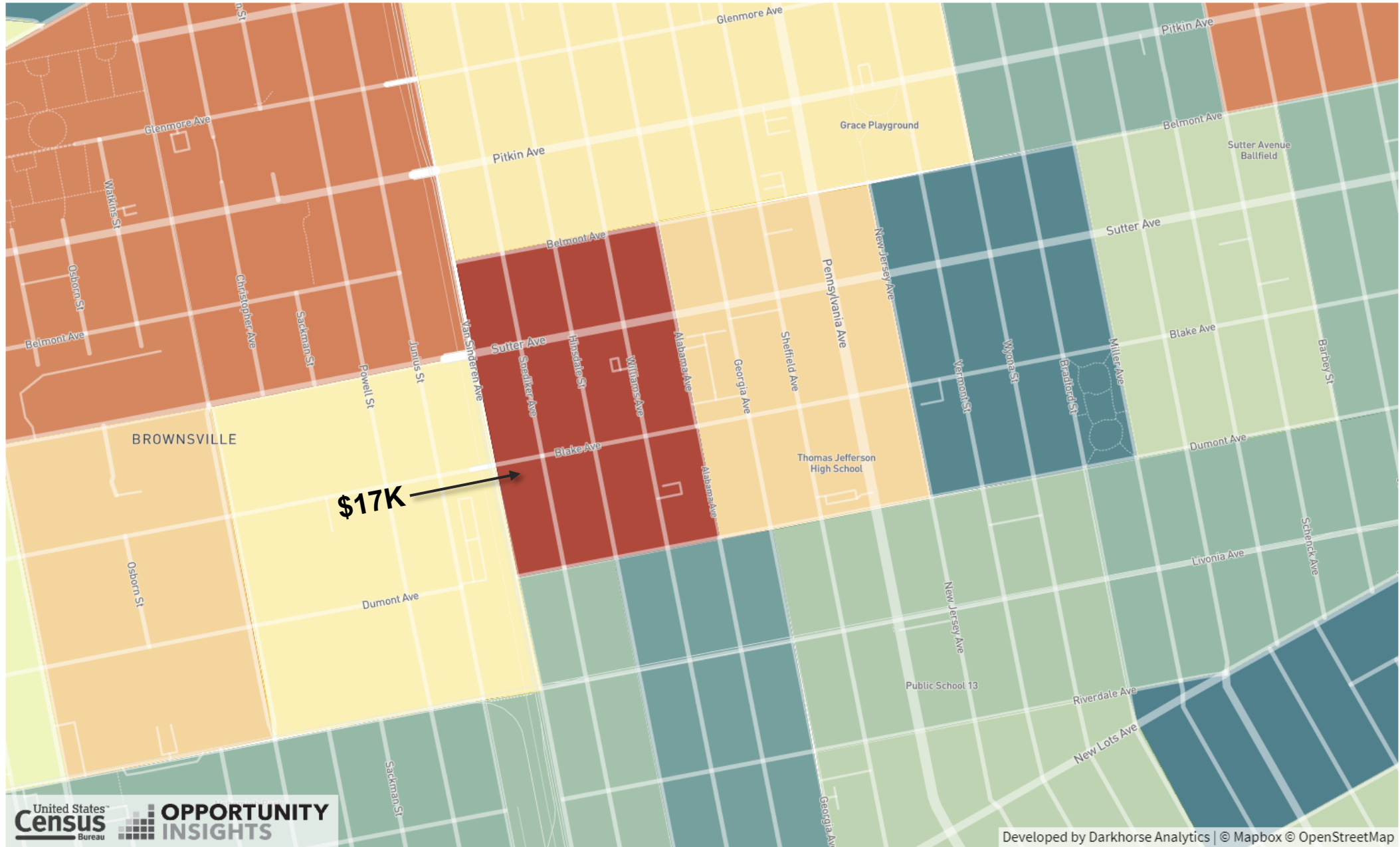
<$10k 18k 20k 21k 22k 24k 25k 27k 29k 33k >$45k

Glenmore Ave

Pitkin Ave

Grace Playground

Belmont Ave

Sutter Avenue
Ballfield

Sutter Ave

Belmont Ave

Glenmore Ave

Pitkin Ave

Belmont Ave

Sutter Ave

Blake Ave

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Christopher Ave

Sackman St

Junius St

Powell St

Van Sinderen Ave

Sutter Ave

Snediker Ave

Hinsdale St

Williams Ave

Alabama Ave

Georgia Ave

Sheffield Ave

Pennsylvania Ave

New Jersey Ave

Vermont St

Wyona St

Bradford St

Miller Ave

Schenck Ave

BROWNSVILLE

Blake Ave

Thomas Jefferson
High School

Dumont Ave

Dumont Avenue

Osborn St

Dumont Ave

$26K

Livonia Ave

New Jersey Ave

Public School 13

Riverdale Ave

Sackman St

New Lots Ave

Georgia Ave

UNITED STATES
Census
Bureau

OPPORTUNITY
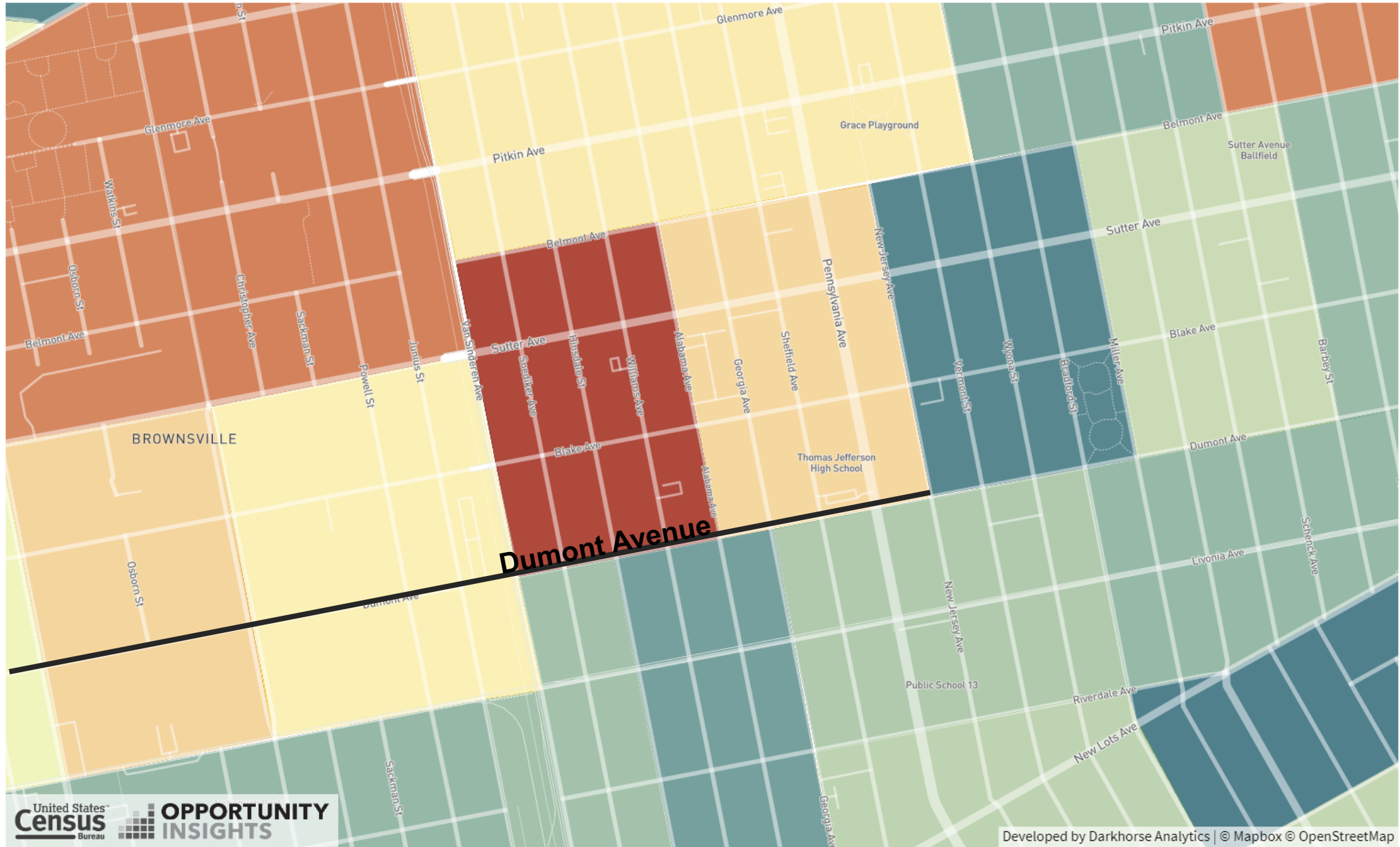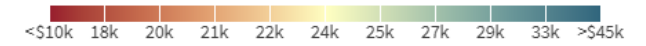INSIGHTS

Developed by Darkhorse Analytics | © Mapbox © OpenStreetMap
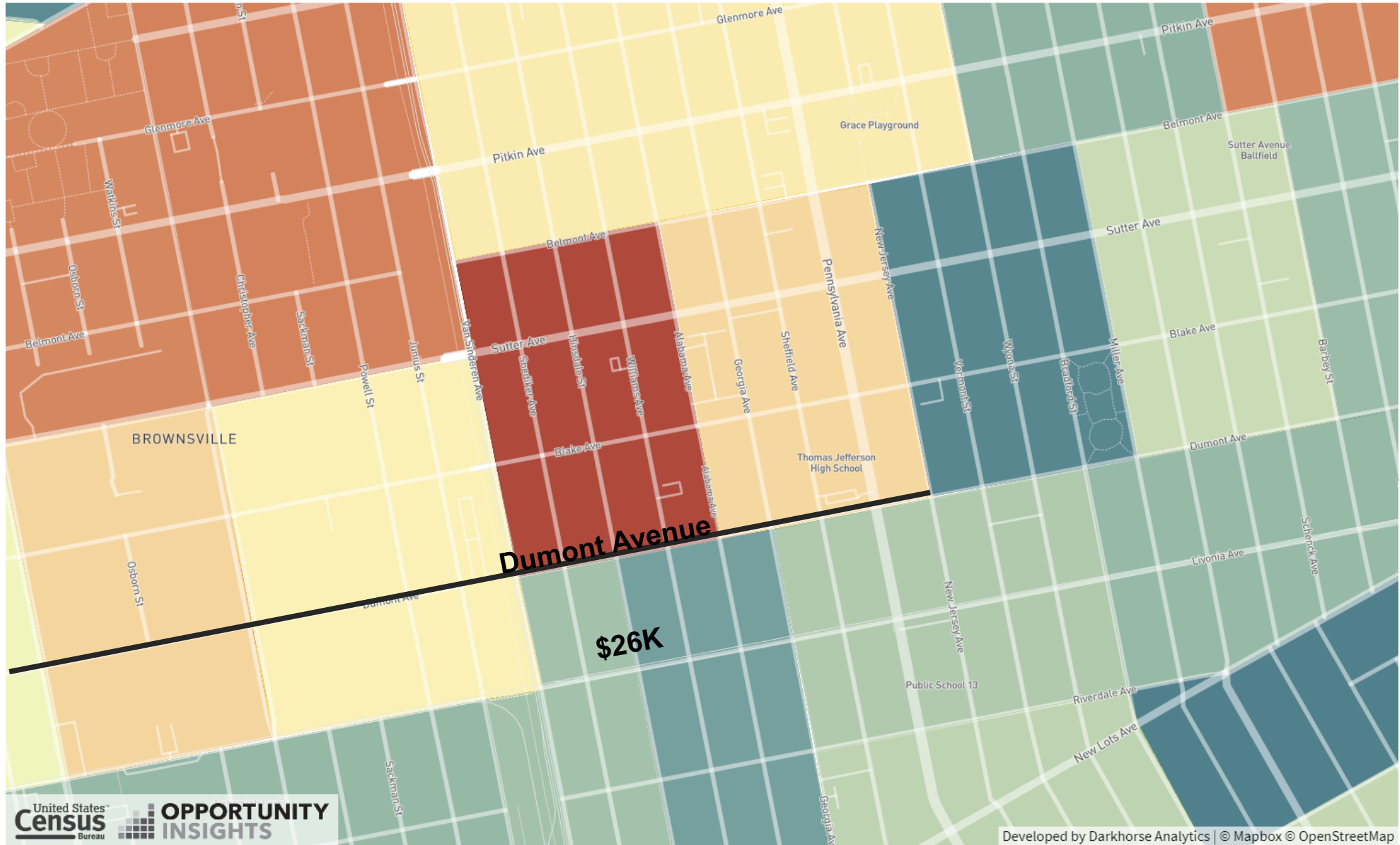
Household Income
for Black Children of Low Income Parents

Legend: <$10k 18k 20k 21k 22k 24k 25k 27k 29k 33k >$45k

Dumont Avenue

$26K

BROWNSVILLE

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Watkins St

United States Census Bureau | OPPORTUNITY INSIGHTS

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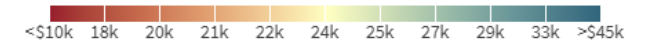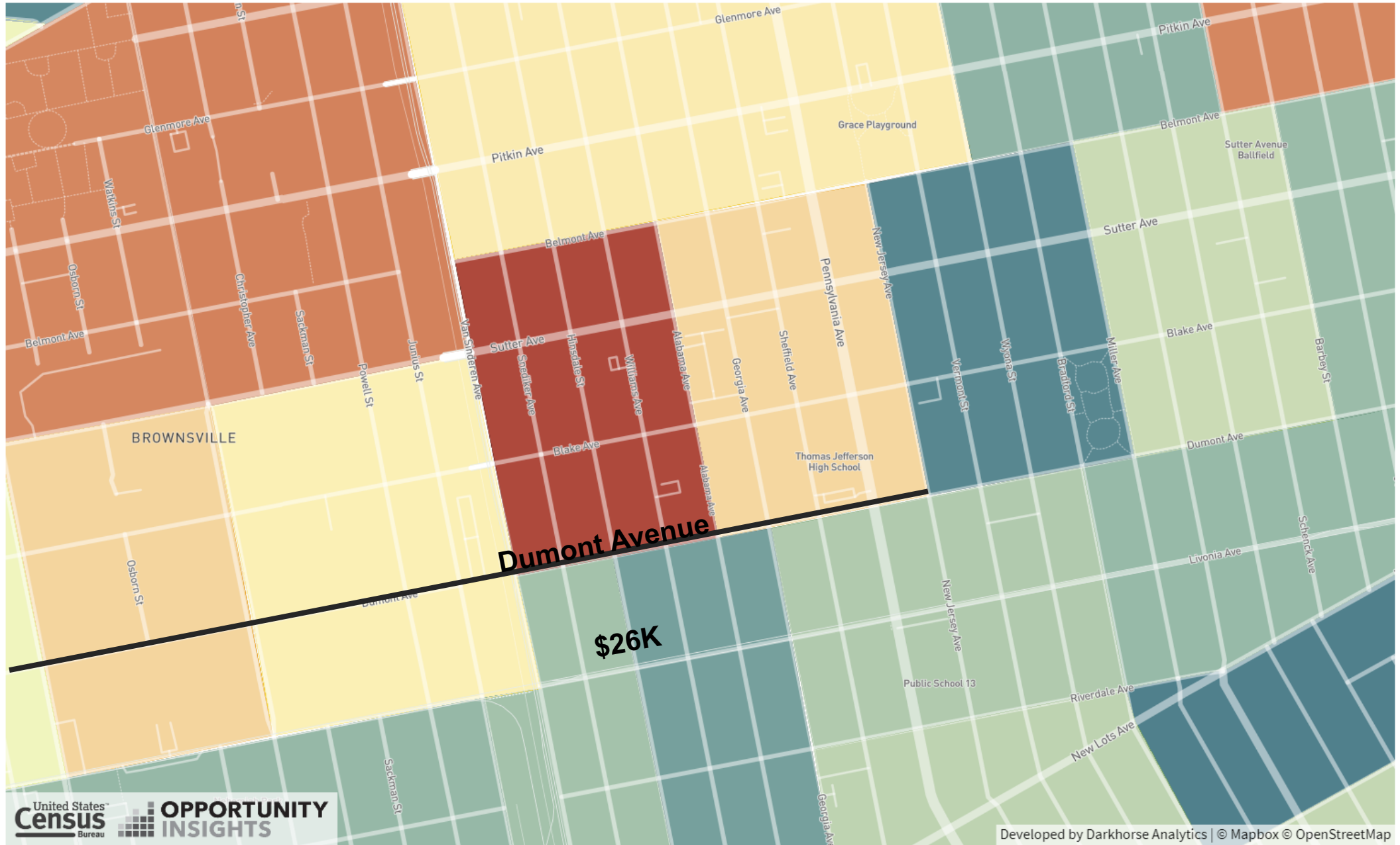
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Grace Playground

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$26K

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United States Census Bureau

OPPORTUNITY INSIGHTS

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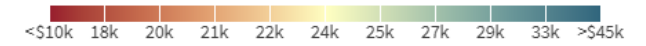
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$17K

BROWNSVILLE

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Livonia Ave

Schenck Ave

Barbey St

New Jersey Ave

Public School 13

Riverdale Ave

Sackman St

Georgia Ave

New Lots Ave

Income Gain from Moving to a Better Neighborhood
By Child's Age at Move

Average Income at Age 35

$27.0K

$23.7K

$20.3K

$17.0K

Nehemiah
Houses

Brownsville

2 — 10 — 20 — 28

Age of Child when Parents Move

Income Gain from Moving to a Better Neighborhood
By Child's Age at Move

$27.0K

Nehemiah Houses

● Move at age 2 from Brownsville to the Nehemiah Houses
→ average earnings of $25,000

$23.7K

Average Income at Age 35

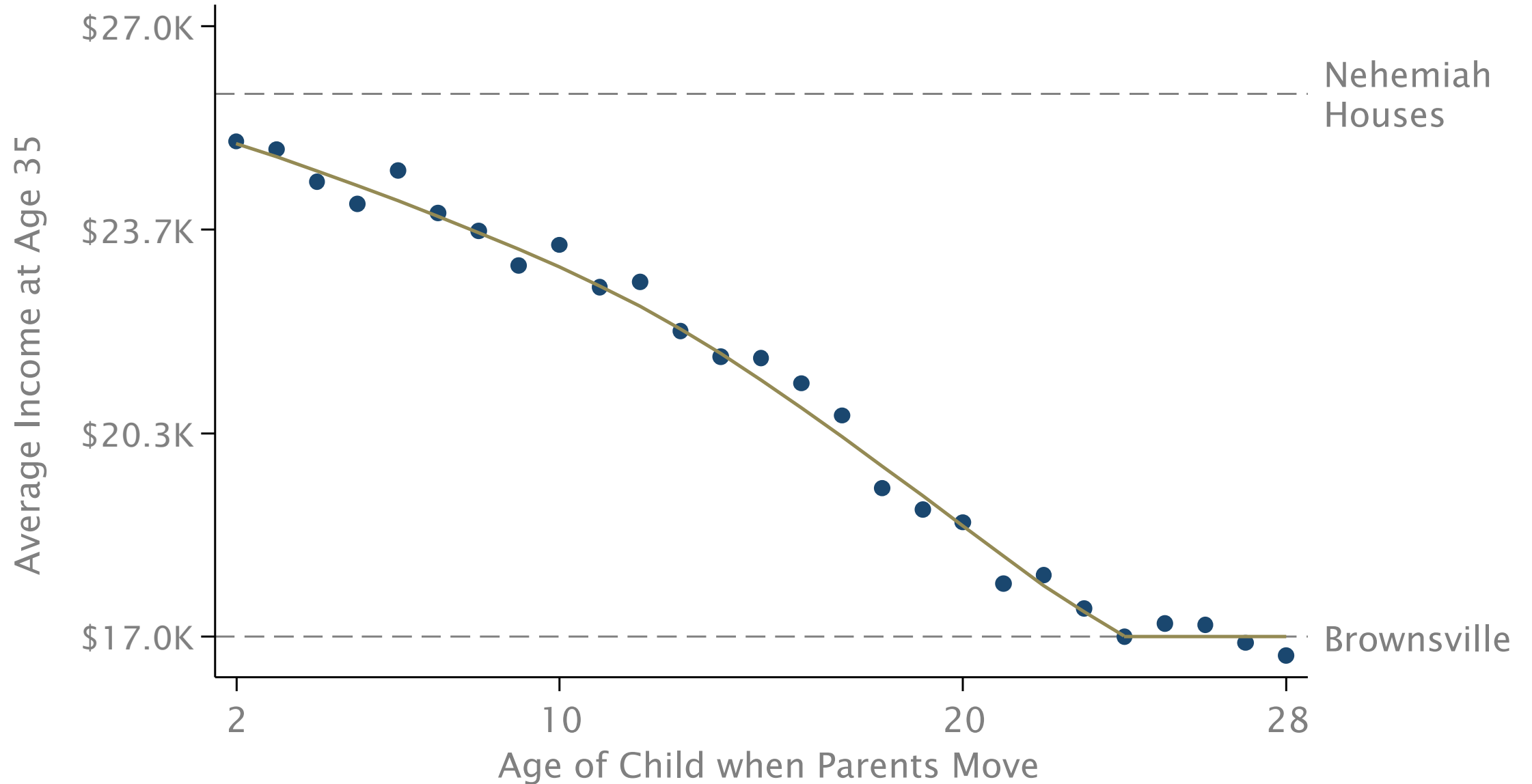$20.3K

$17.0K

Brownsville

2
10
20
28

Age of Child when Parents Move

Source: Chetty, Friedman, Hendren, Jones, Porter 2018

# Income Gain from Moving to a Better Neighborhood
By Child's Age at Move

Nehemiah Houses

Brownsville

$27.0K

$23.7K

$20.3K

$17.0K

Average Income at Age 35

Age of Child when Parents Move

2   10   20   28

Income Gain from Moving to a Better Neighborhood
By Child's Age at Move

Nehemiah Houses

Brownsville

Average Income at Age 35

$27.0K

$23.7K

$20.3K

$17.0K

Age of Child when Parents Move

2

10

20

28

From Research to Policy: Three Pillars

Reducing Segregation

Help Low-Income Families Move to High-Opportunity Areas

Place-Based Investments
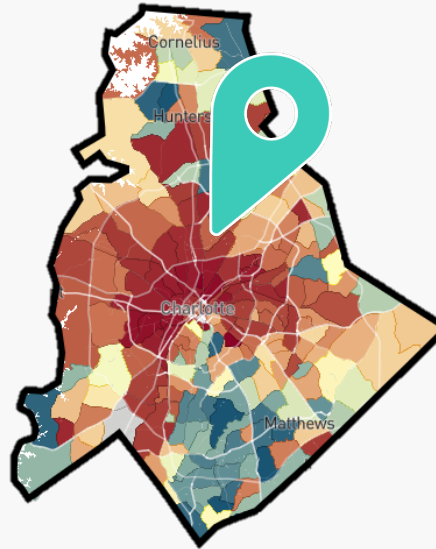
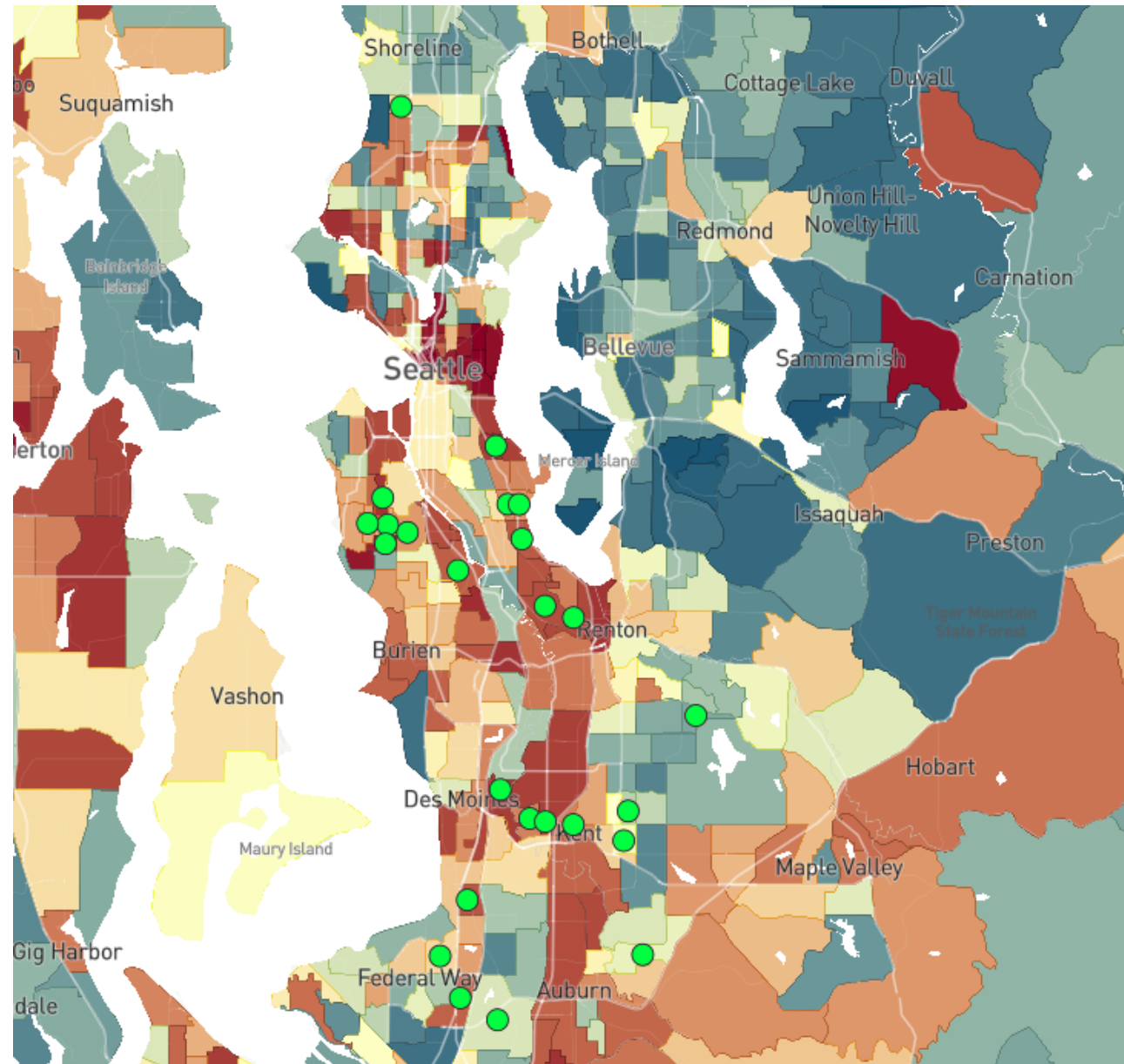Increase Upward Mobility in Low-Opportunity Areas
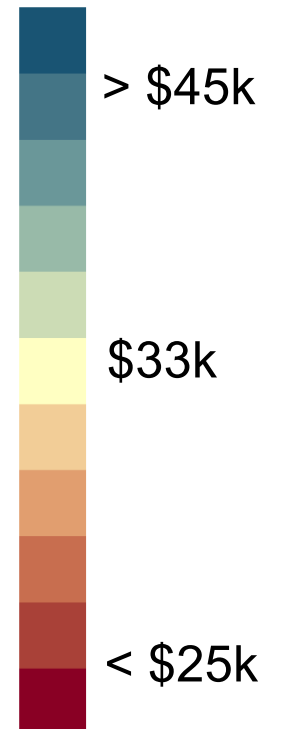
Improving Higher Education

Amplify Impacts of Colleges on Mobility

Is Housing Policy Maximizing Opportunities for Upward Mobility?
Most Common Current Locations of Families Receiving Housing Vouchers in Seattle

25 most common tracts where voucher holders lived in 2015-17

> $45k

$33k

< $25k

Source: Chetty, Friedman, Hendren, Jones, Porter (2018)

Creating Moves to Opportunity in Seattle

*Randomized trial to help families with housing vouchers move to high-opportunity neighborhoods*

Housing search assistance, landlord recruitment, short-term financial assistance

Source: Bergman, Chetty, DeLuca, Hendren, Katz, Palmer (2019)

Effect of CMTO on Fraction of Families who Moved to High-Opportunity Areas

Share of Households Who Have Moved to High Opportunity Areas

60

50

40

30

20

Historical mean
rate: 11.6%

10

0

Effect of CMTO on Fraction of Families who Moved to High-Opportunity Areas

Share of Households Who Have Moved to High Opportunity Areas

14.3%

Historical mean rate: 11.6%
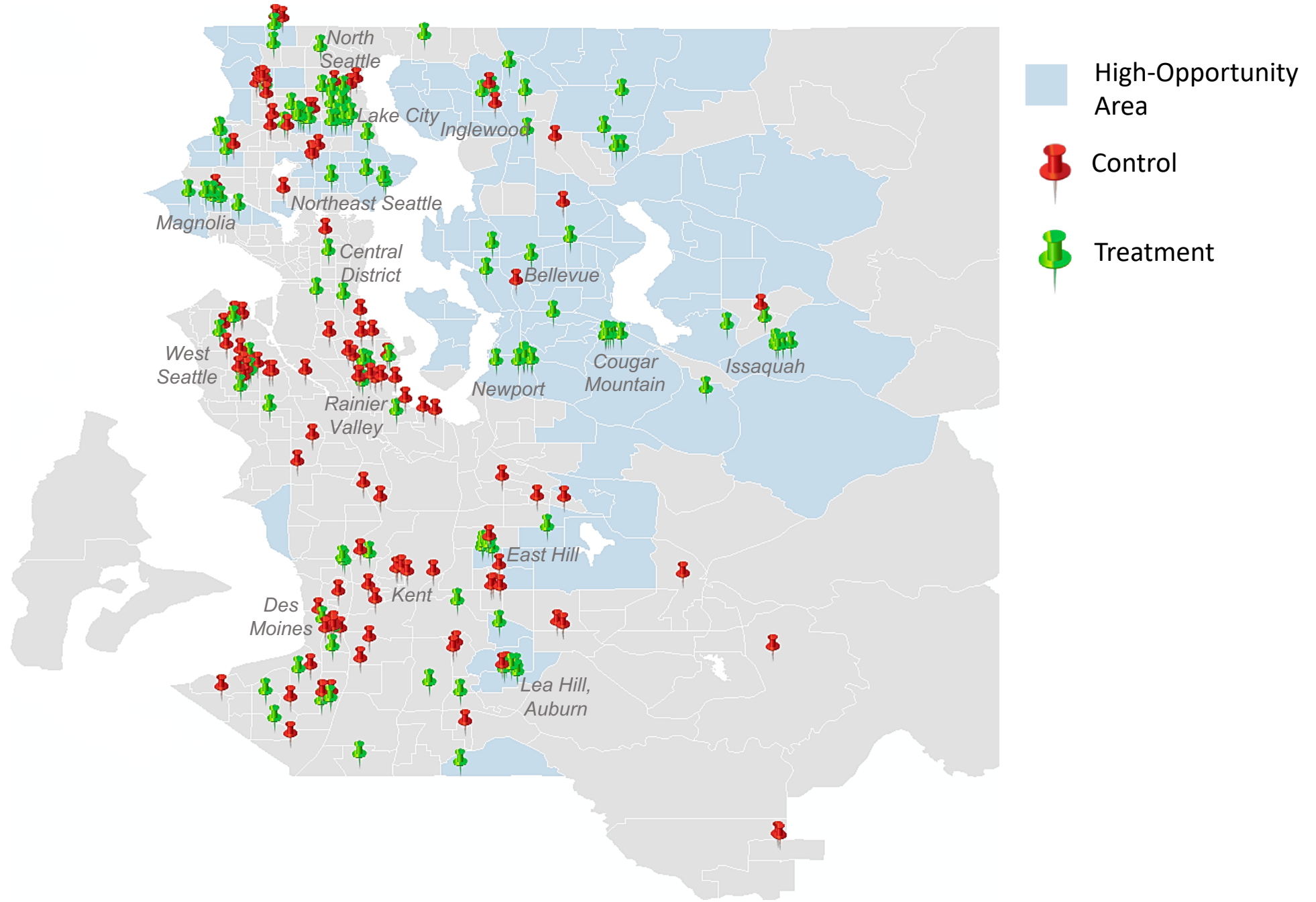
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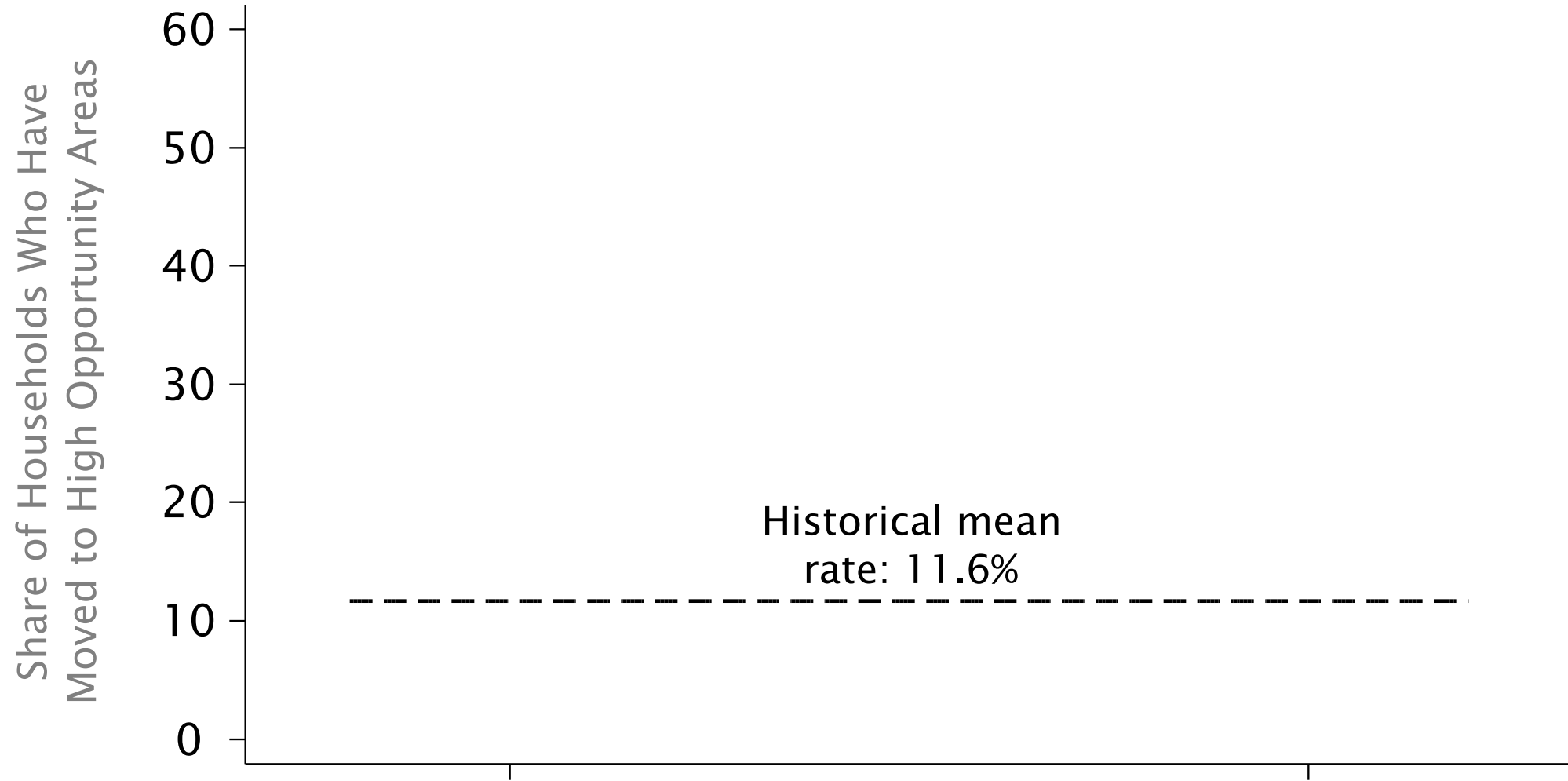
OPPORTUNITY INSIGHTS
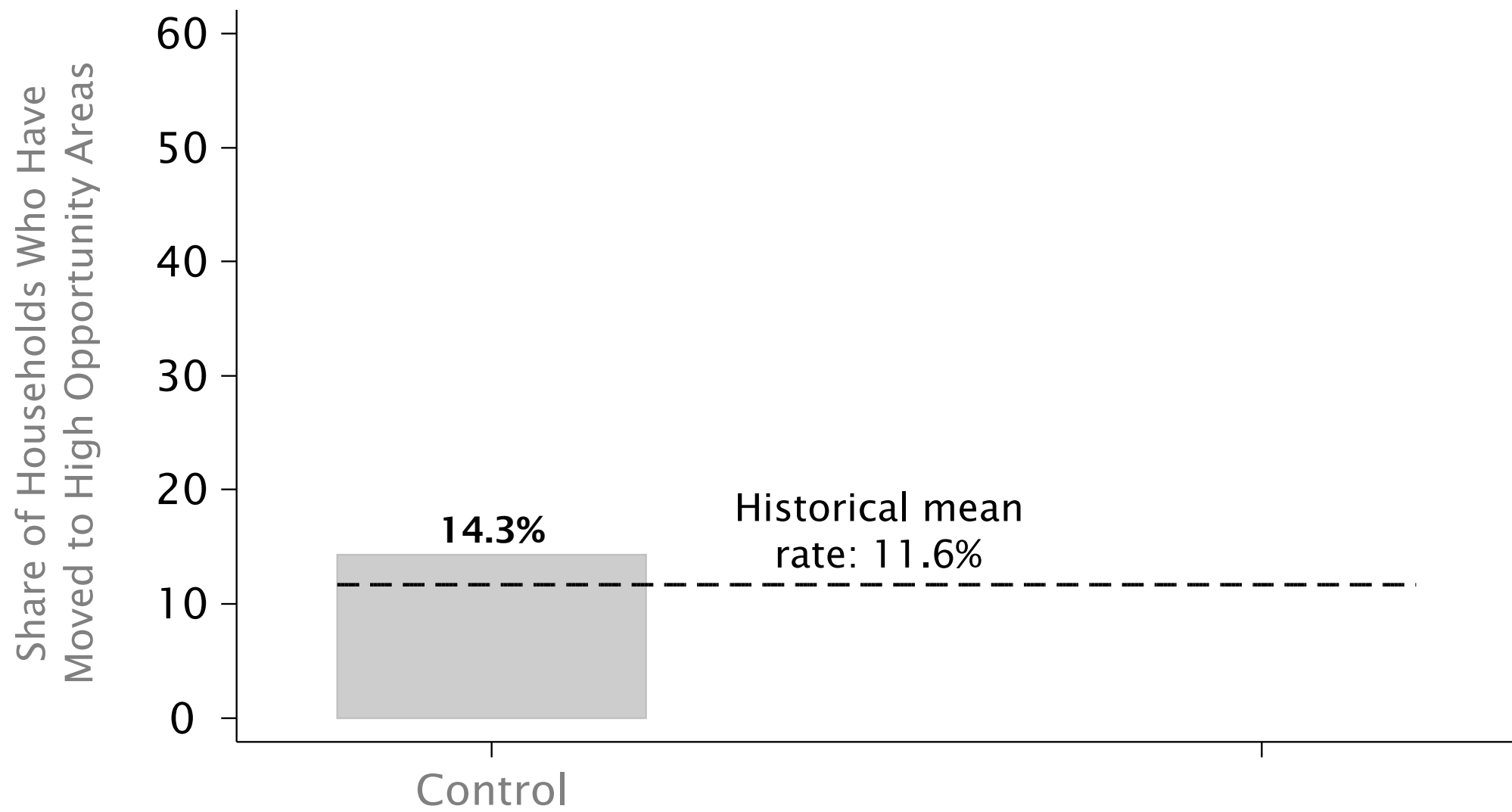
Effect of CMTO on Fraction of Families who Moved to High-Opportunity Areas
Treatment Families Are Nearly 4x More Likely to Move to High Opportunity Neighborhoods
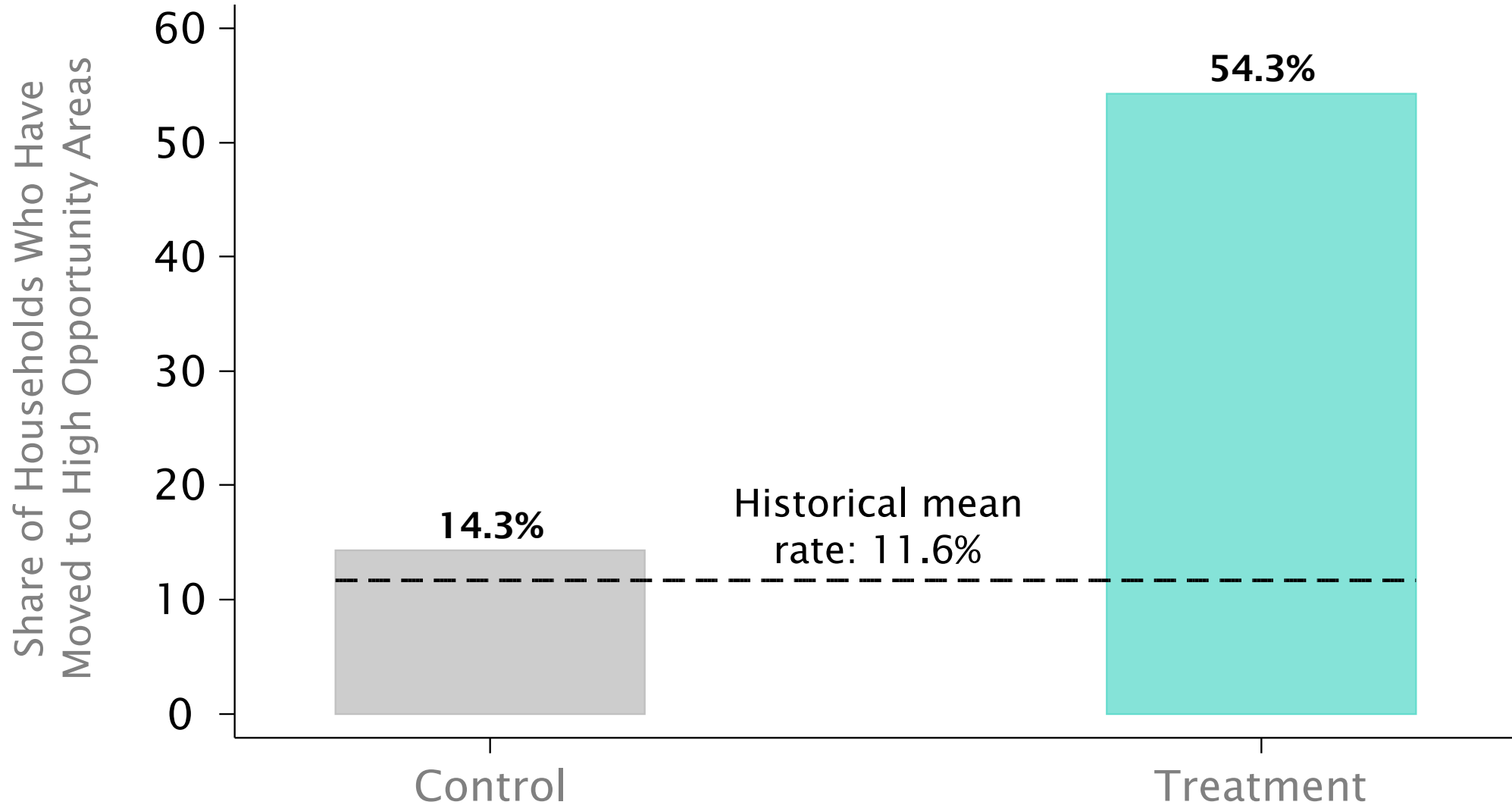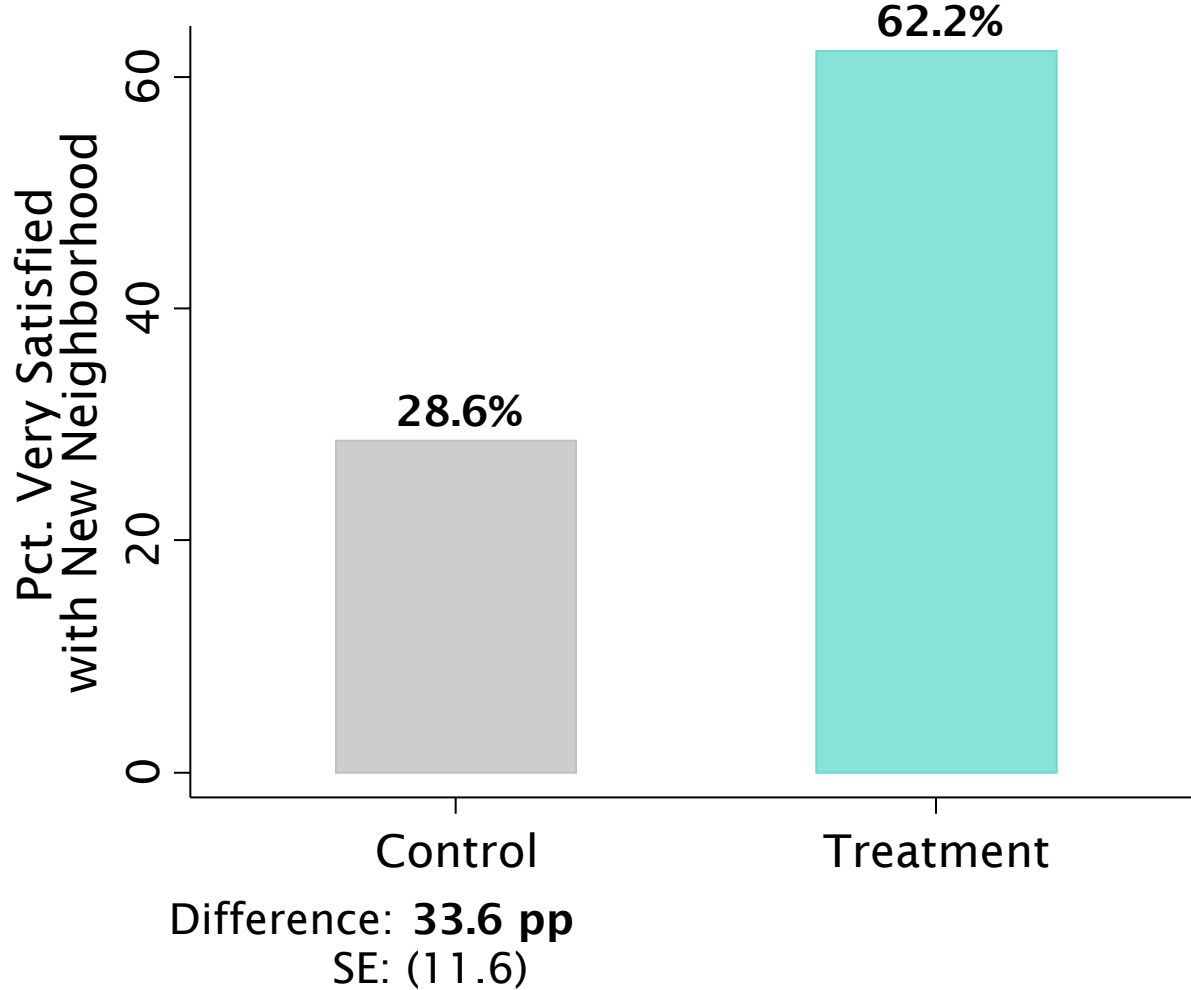
Neighborhoods Chosen by Families in Control vs. Treatment Group

Legend:
- High-Opportunity Area
- Control
- Treatment

Map labels: North Seattle, Lake City, Inglewood, Northeast Seattle, Magnolia, Central District, Bellevue, Cougar Mountain, Issaquah, West Seattle, Newport, Rainier Valley, East Hill, Kent, Des Moines, Lea Hill, Auburn
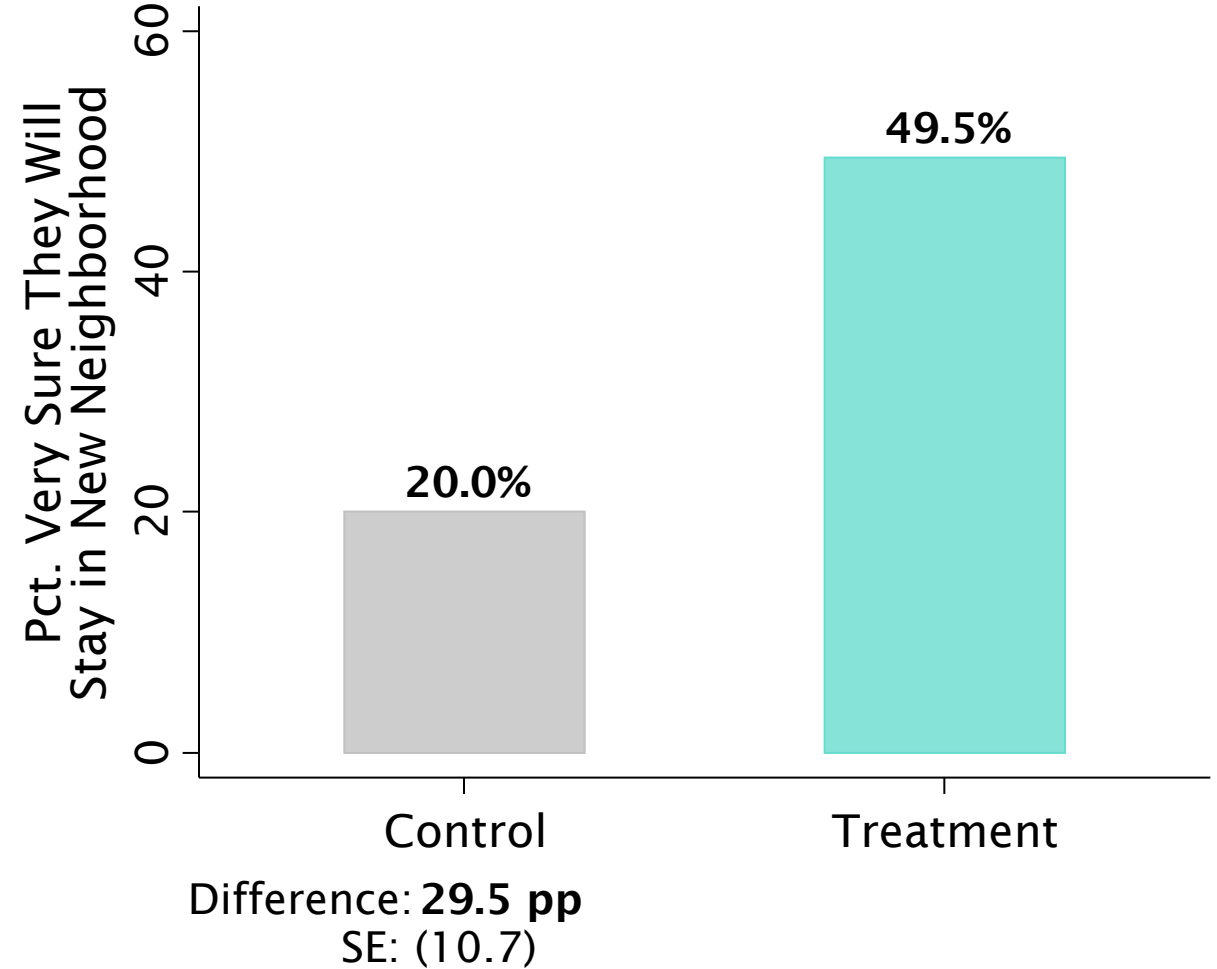
Satisfaction with New Neighborhoods
Based on Surveys Conducted Six Months After Move

"Very Satisfied" with New Neighborhood?

Pct. Very Satisfied with New Neighborhood

Control: 28.6%
Treatment: 62.2%

Difference: **33.6 pp**
SE: (11.6)

"Very Sure" Will Stay?

Pct. Very Sure They Will Stay in New Neighborhood

Control: 20.0%
Treatment: 49.5%

Difference: **29.5 pp**
SE: (10.7)

CMTO Replication and Expansion

Family Stability and Opportunity Vouchers Act of 2019

- Introduced by U.S. Senators Chris Van Hollen (D-Md.) and Todd Young (R-Ind.) in December 2019
- Creates an additional **500,000 housing vouchers** for low-income, high-need families with young children
- Families qualify if they have a **history of homelessness** or housing instability
- Provides supports for families to move to **high opportunity neighborhoods**

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. YOUNG (for himself and Mr. VAN HOLLEN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on ____

A BILL

To authorize a new type of housing choice voucher to help achieve the goals of ending homelessness among families with children, increasing housing opportunities, and improving life outcomes of poor children.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*
3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**
4   This Act may be cited as the "Family Stability and
5 Opportunity Vouchers Act of 2019".

SC4 7R 264

From Jasmine, 7 years old, whose family moved to a high-opportunity area in Seattle in the Creating Moves to Opportunity study

OPPORTUNITY INSIGHTS

Web: www.opportunityinsights.org

Twitter: @OppInsights @Dawill333

Email: policy@opportunityinsights.org