



Creating Opportunity in Philadelphia

New Insights from Big Data

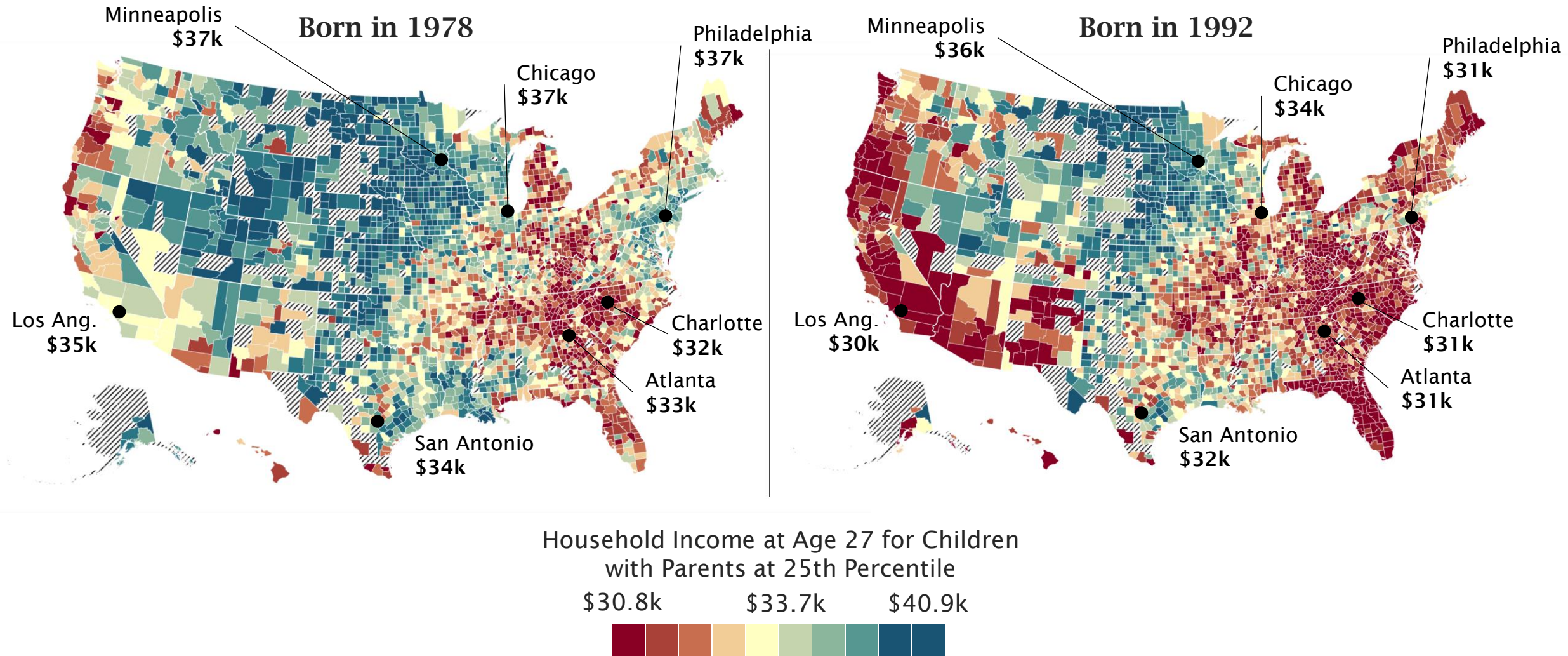
Raj Chetty
Harvard University

October 2024



The Geography of Economic Opportunity in America

White Children with Low-Income Parents

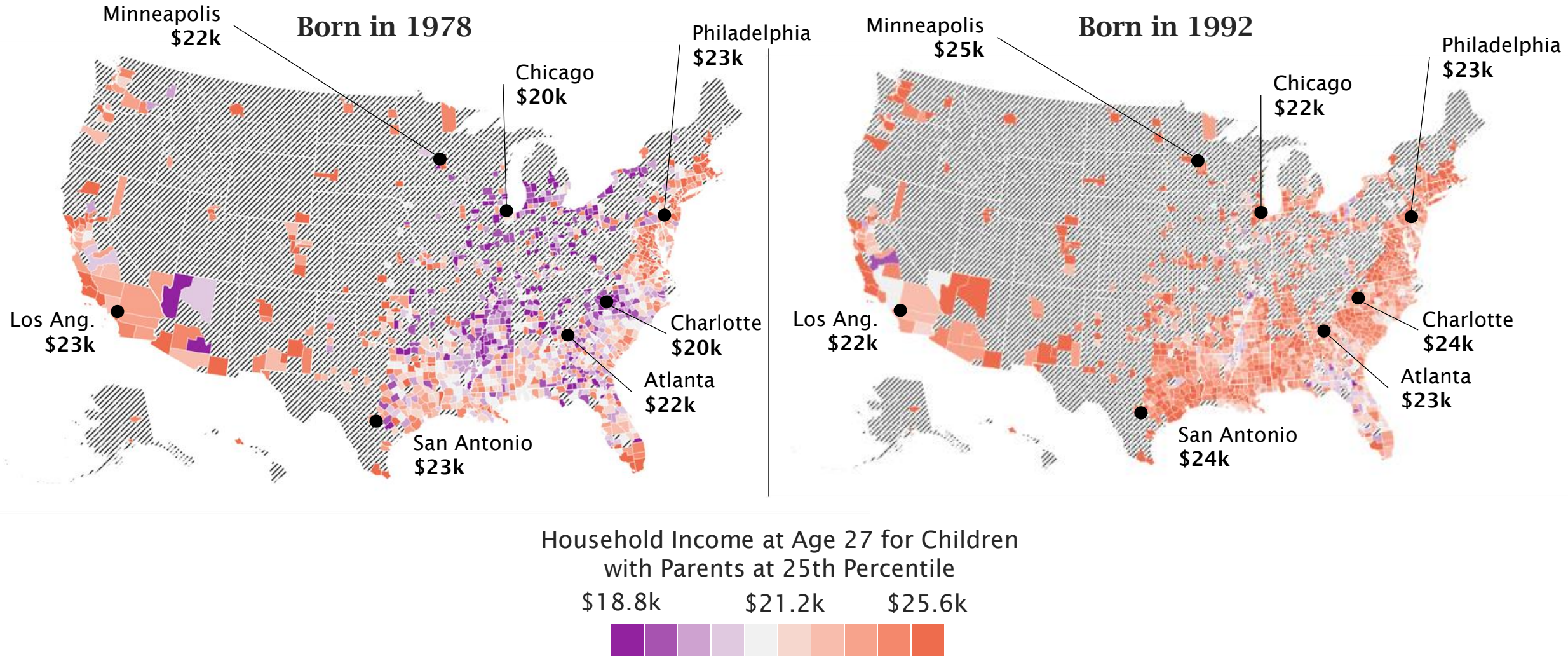


Source: Chetty, Dobbie, Goldman, Porter, Yang (2024)



Changes in Opportunity for Black Americans

Black Children with Low-Income Parents

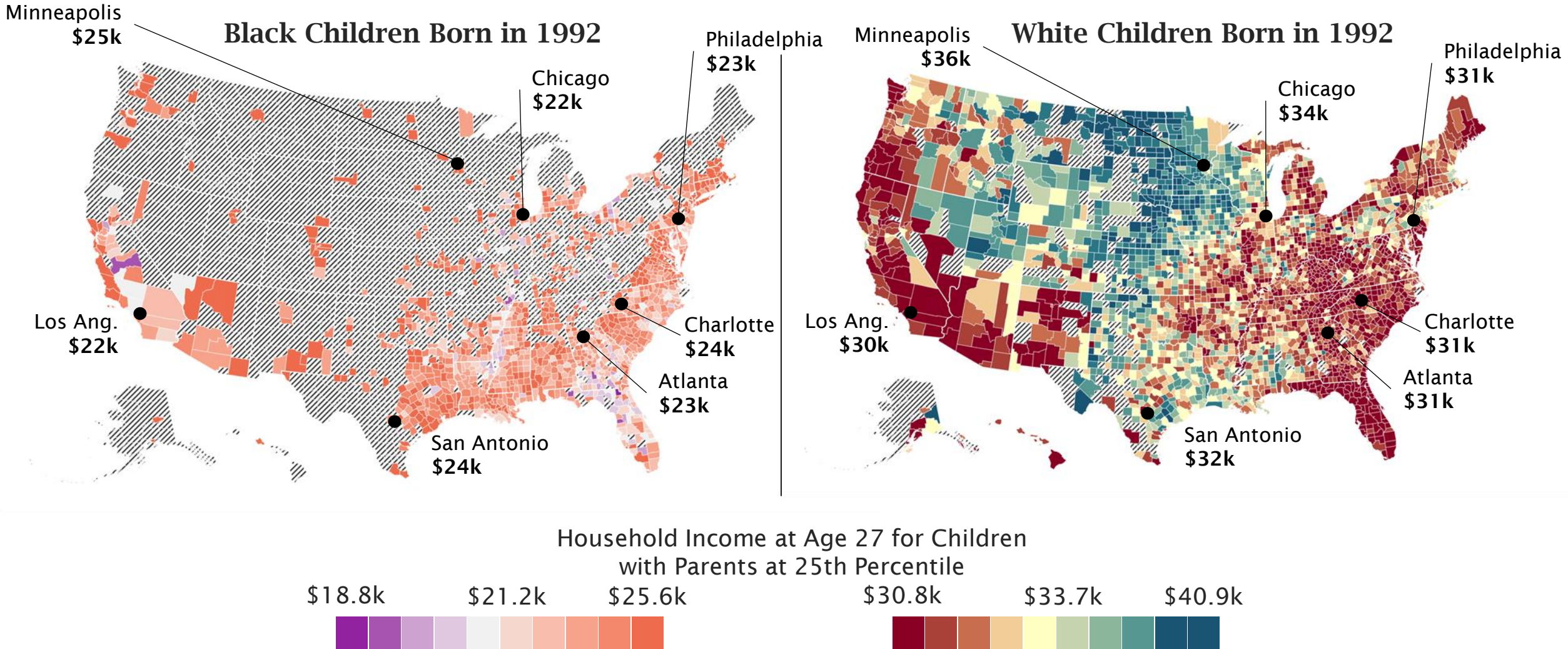


Source: Chetty, Dobbie, Goldman, Porter, Yang (2024)



The Geography of Upward Mobility by Race

Children born in 1992 to Low-Income Parents

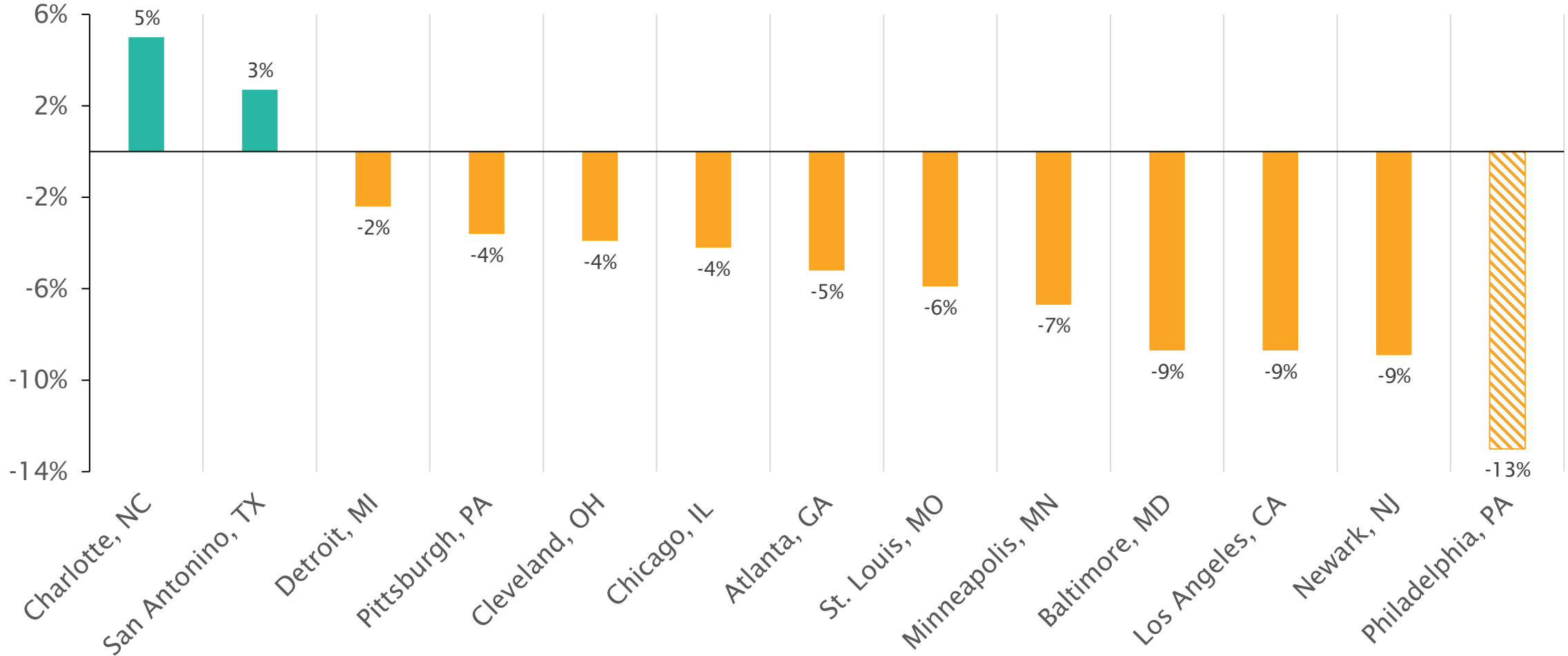


Source: Chetty, Dobbie, Goldman, Porter, Yang (2024)



Changes in Upward Mobility in the United States

Average Change in Household Income at Age 27 for Children born in 1978 vs. 1992 to Low-Income Parents



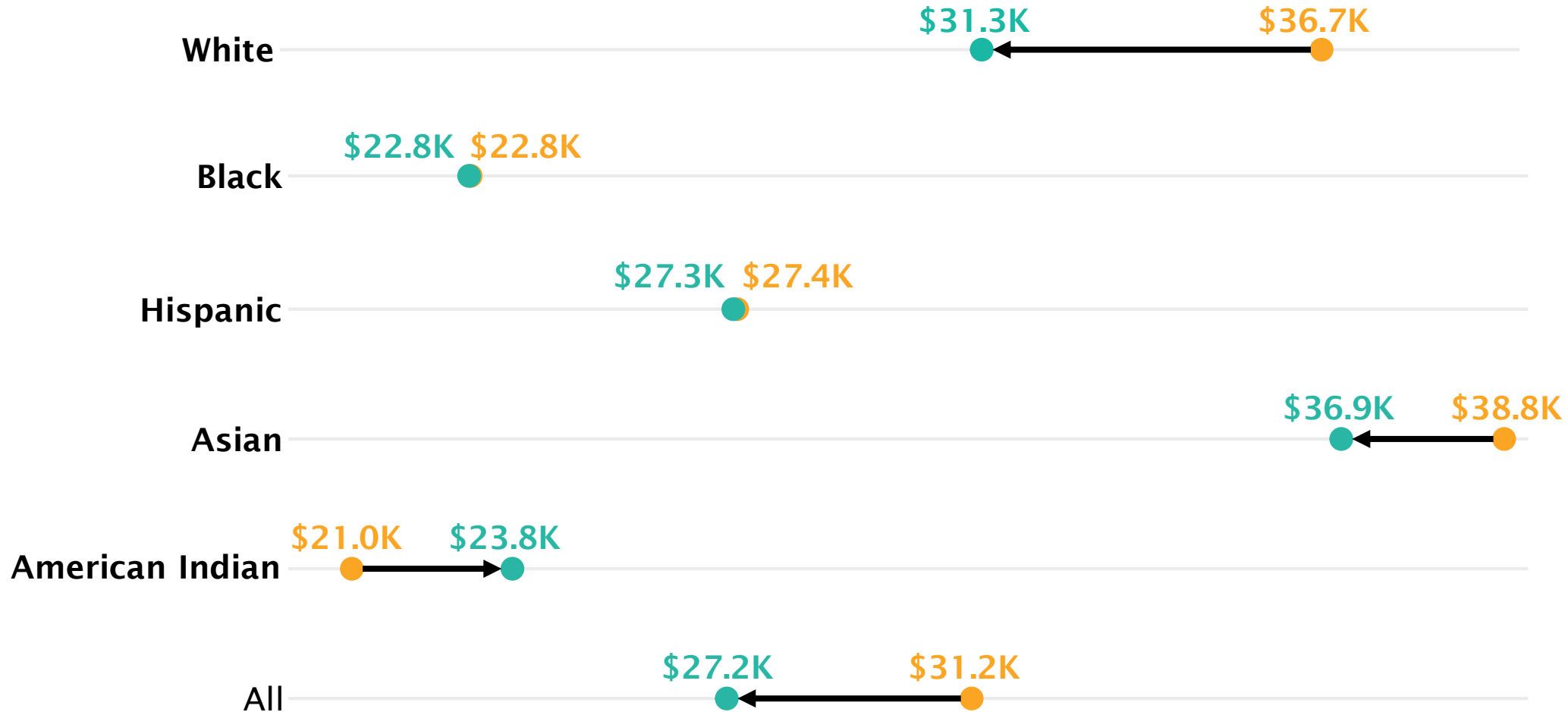
Source: Chetty, Dobbie, Goldman, Porter, Yang (2024)



Trends in Economic Mobility by Group in Philadelphia

Average Change in Household Income at Age 27 for Children born in 1978 vs. 1992 to Low-Income Parents

● Born in 1978 ● Born in 1992



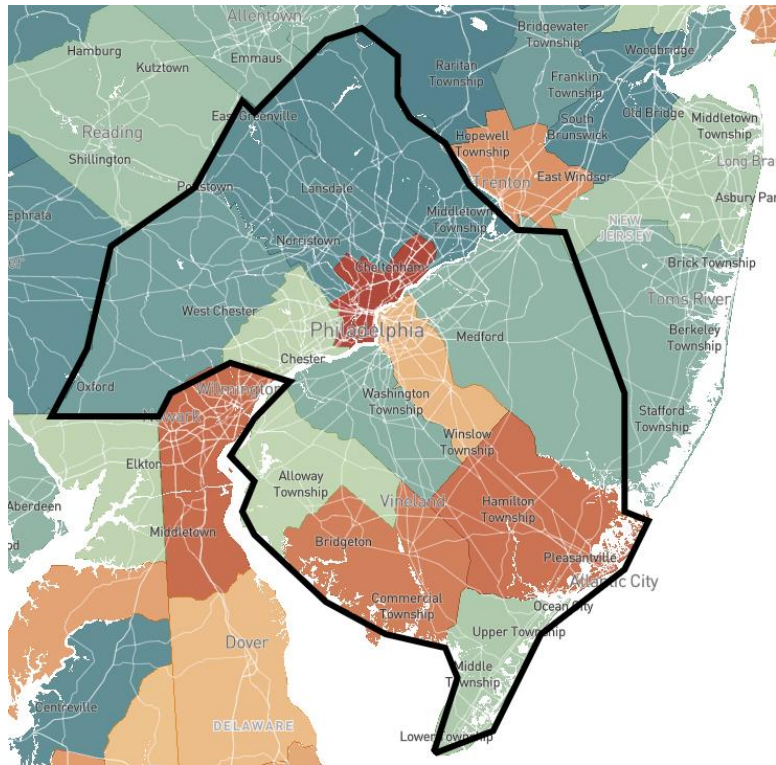
Source: Opportunity Atlas, Opportunity Insights and the US Census Bureau



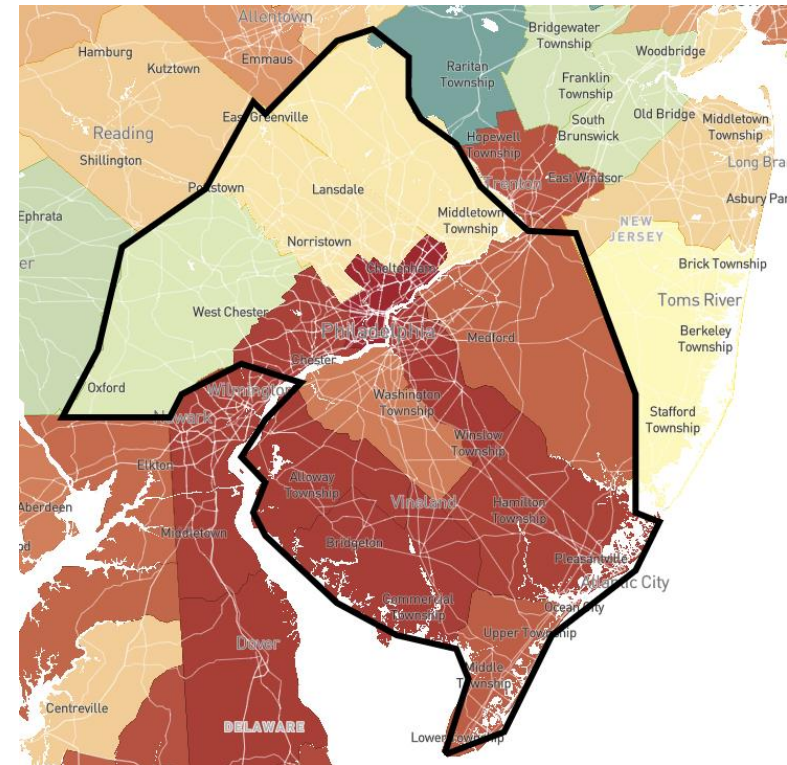
Changes in Upward Mobility in the Philadelphia Region

Average Household Income at Age 27 for Children born in 1978 vs. 1992 to Low-Income Parents

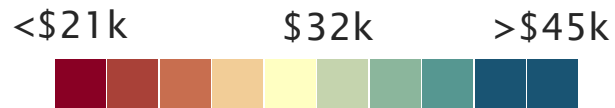
1978



1992

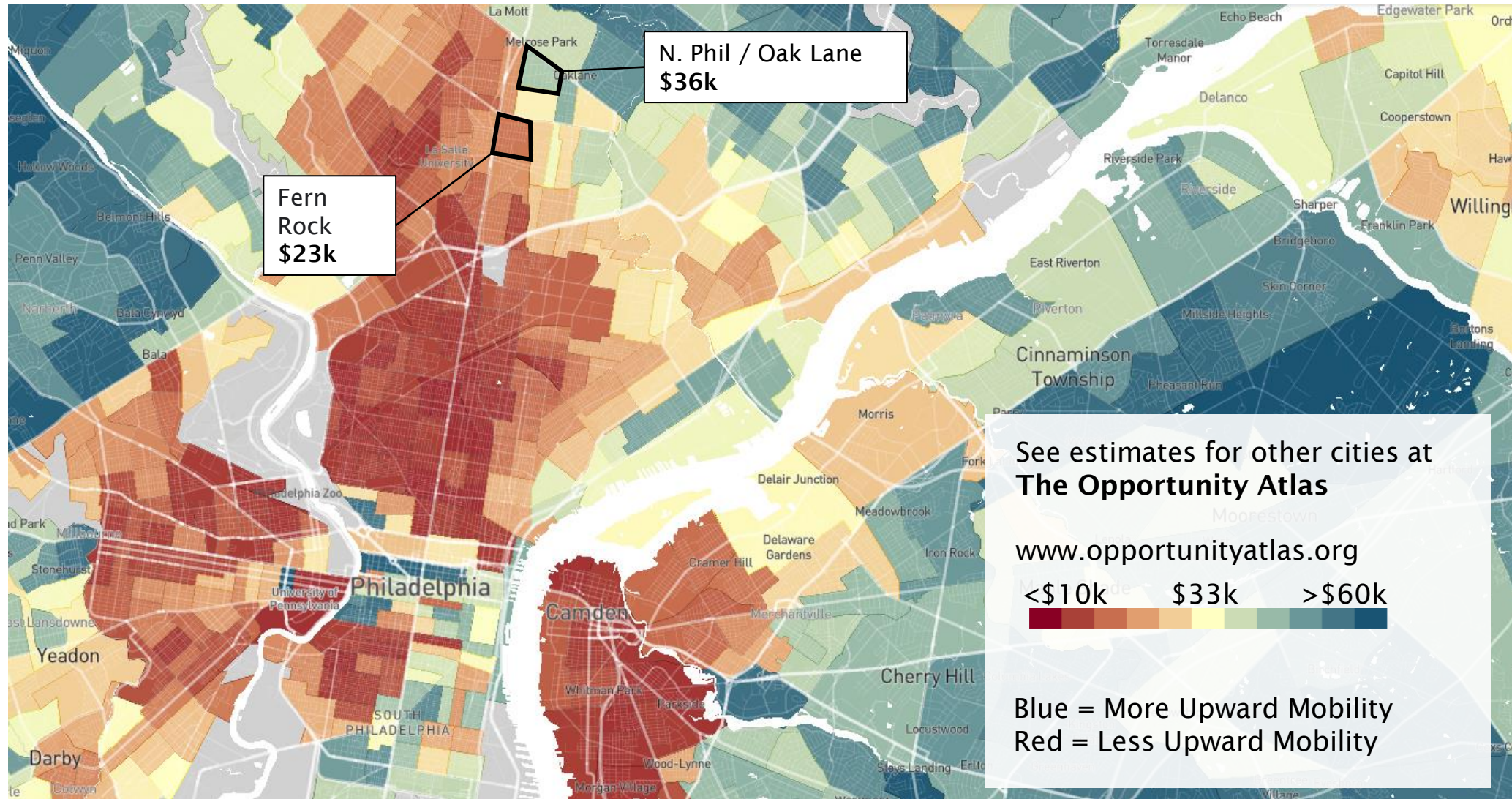


Household Income at Age 27



The Geography of Upward Mobility in Philadelphia

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



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



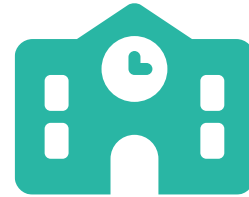
Characteristics of High-Mobility Neighborhoods



**Lower
Poverty Rates**



**More Stable
Family Structure**



**Better
School Quality**

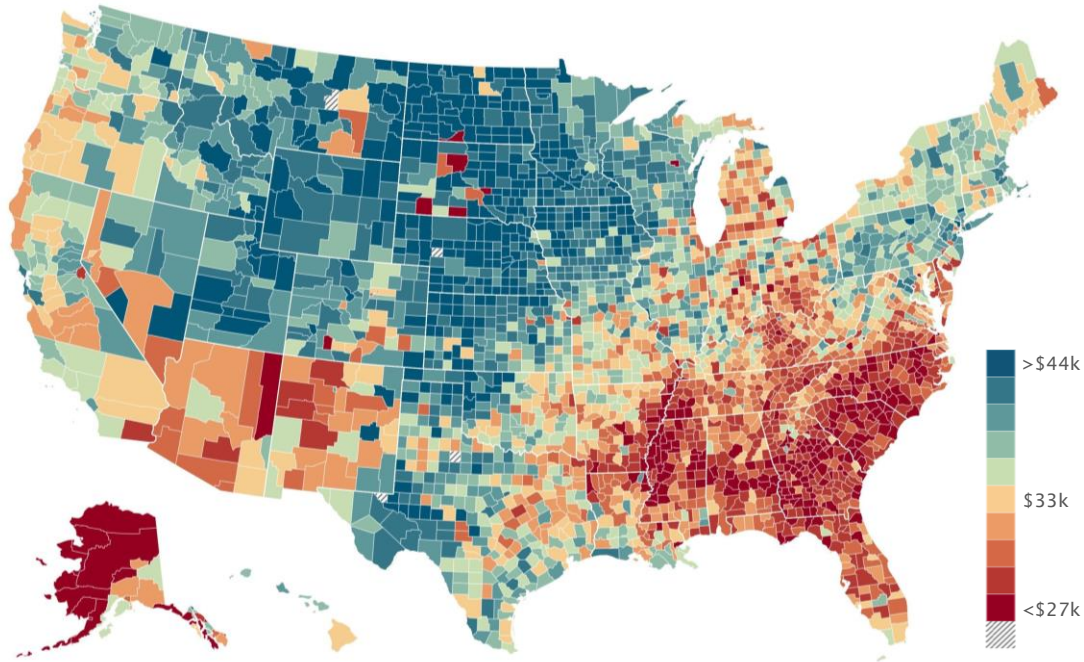


**Greater
Social Capital**



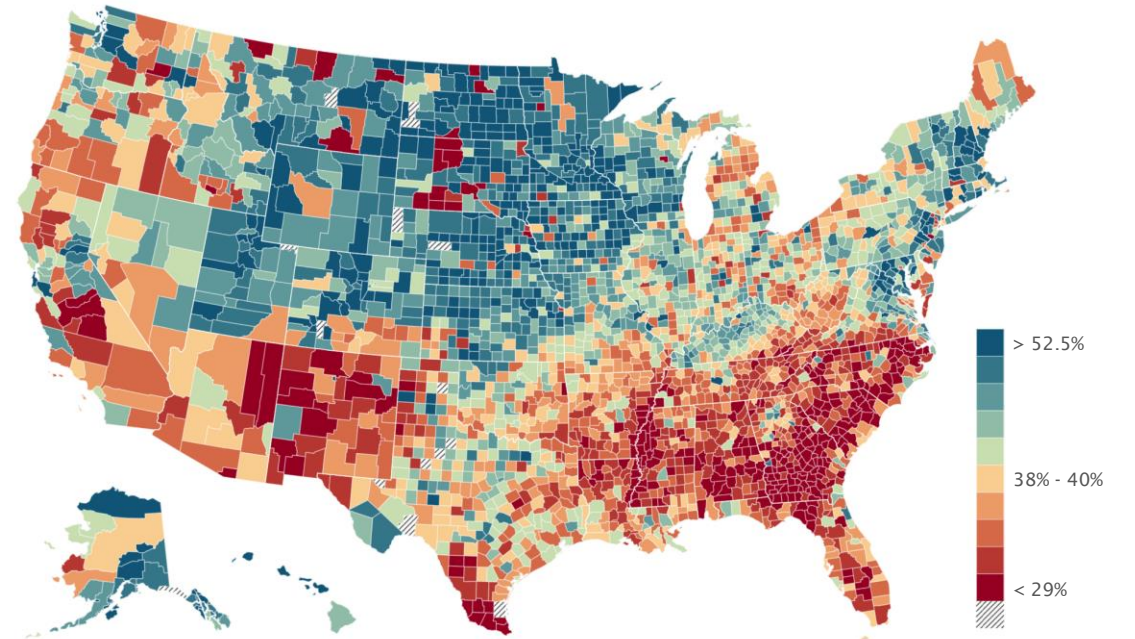
Economic Opportunity and Social Capital

Upward Mobility Based on Tax Records



Average Household Income at Age 35
for Children whose Parents Earned \$27k

Economic Connectedness Based on Facebook Data



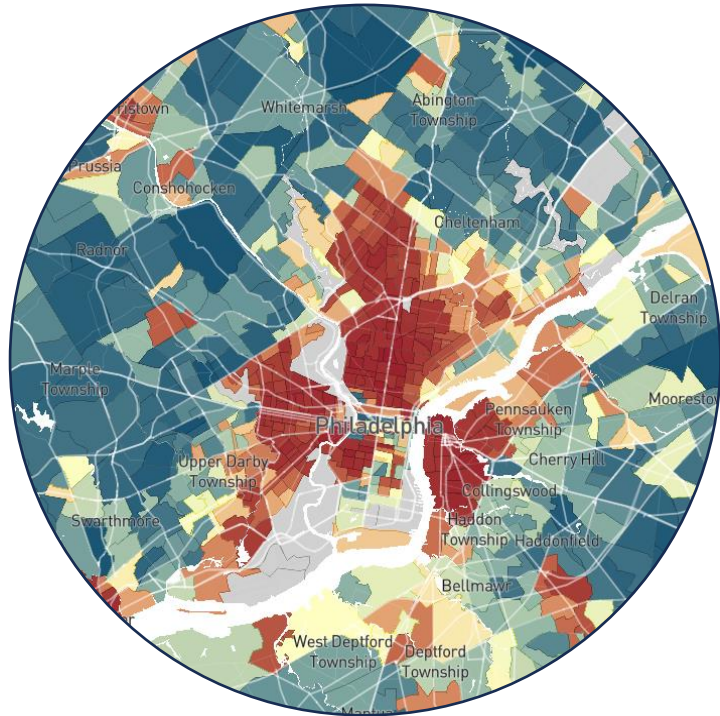
Share of Above-Median-Income Friends
among Below-Median-Income People



Economic Opportunity and Social Capital

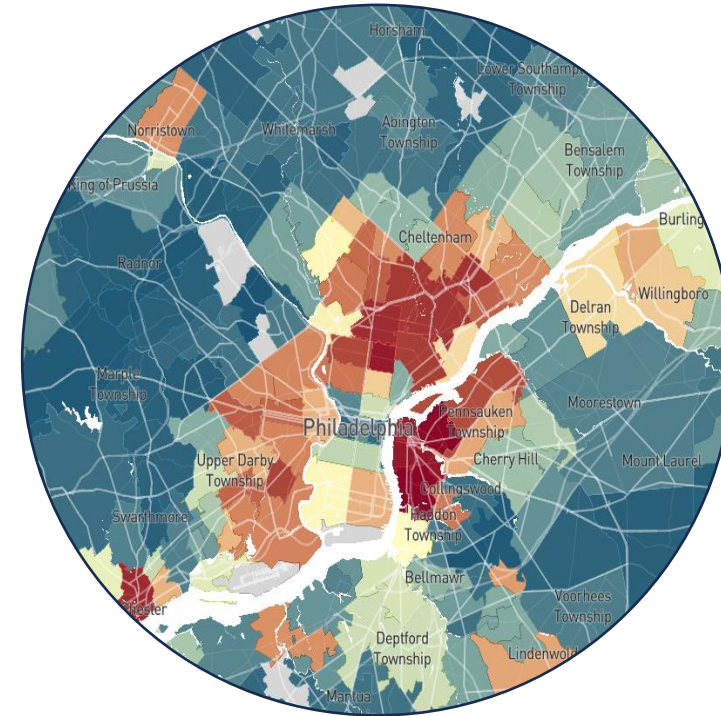
Philadelphia, PA

Upward Mobility Based on Tax Records



Average Household Income at Age 35
for Children whose Parents Earned \$27k

Economic Connectedness Based on Facebook Data



Share of Above-Median-Income Friends
among Below-Median-Income People



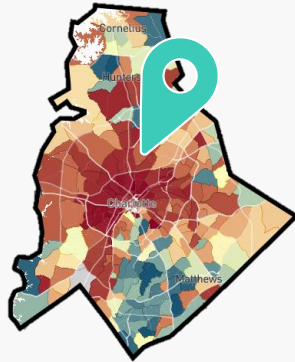
Three Policy Approaches to Increasing Upward Mobility

Reducing Segregation



Help Low-Income Families Move to High-Opportunity Areas

Place-Based Investments



Increase Upward Mobility in Low-Opportunity Areas

Higher Education & Workforce Training



Amplify Impacts of Colleges on Mobility



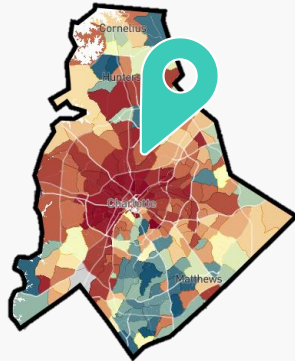
Three Policy Approaches to Increasing Upward Mobility

Reducing Segregation



Help Low-Income Families Move to High-Opportunity Areas

Place-Based Investments



Increase Upward Mobility in Low-Opportunity Areas

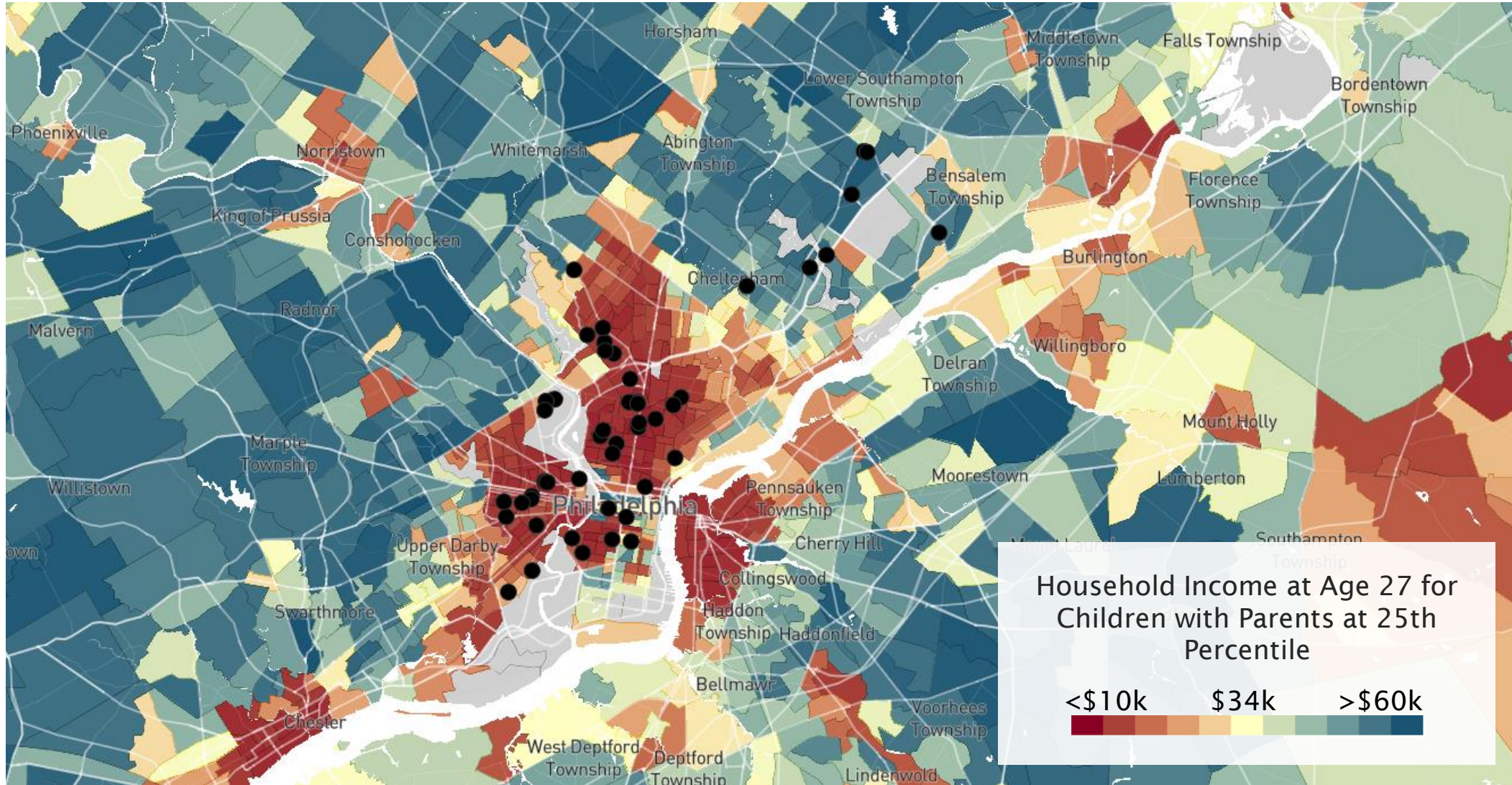
Higher Education & Workforce Training



Amplify Impacts of Colleges on Mobility



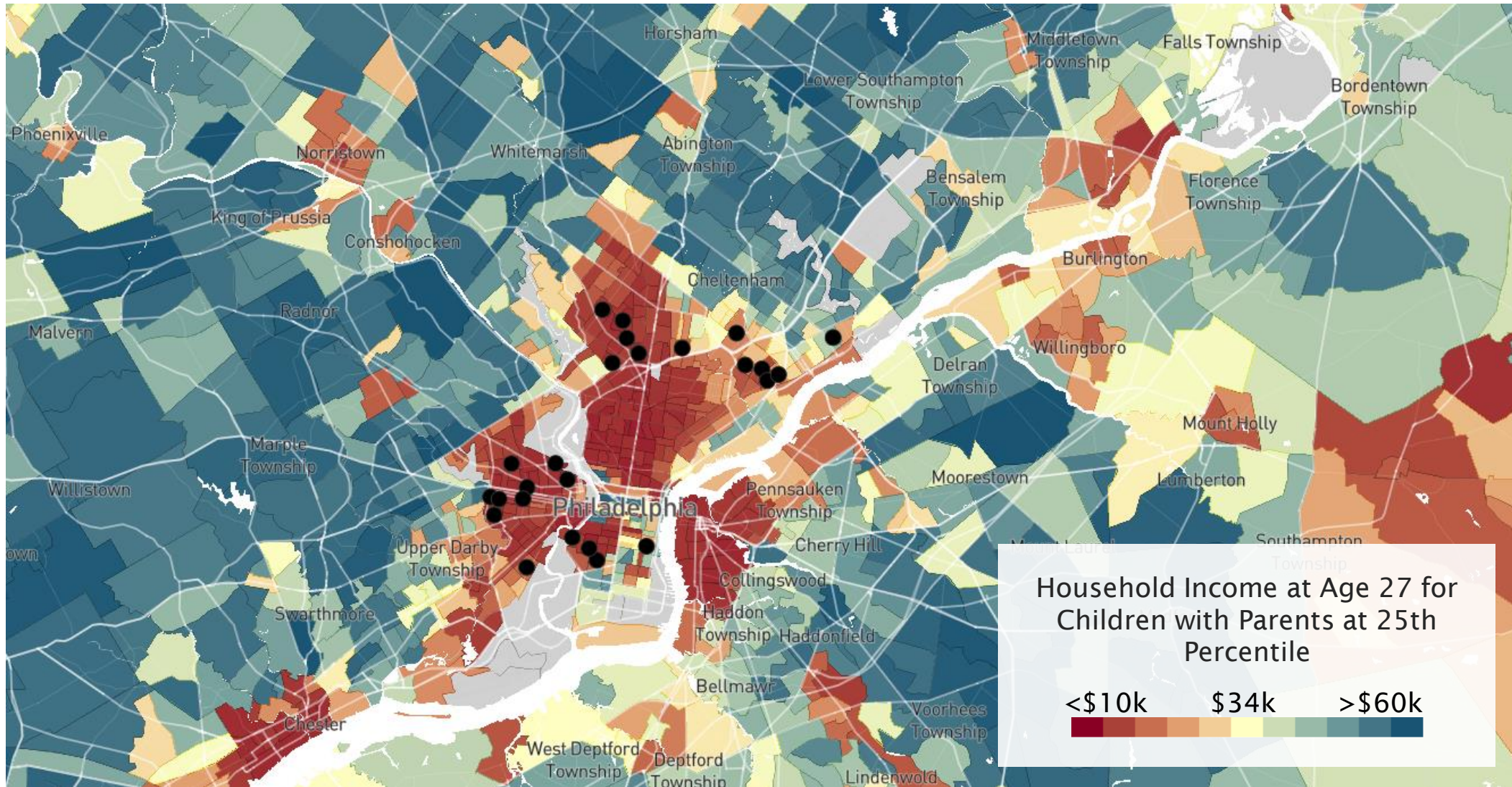
Low-Income Housing Tax Credit Properties in Philadelphia



Source: Opportunity Atlas, Opportunity Insights and the US Census Bureau; <https://lihtc.huduser.gov/>



Most Common Locations for Housing Voucher Holders in Philadelphia



Source: Opportunity Atlas, Opportunity Insights and the US Census Bureau; Department of Housing and Urban Development



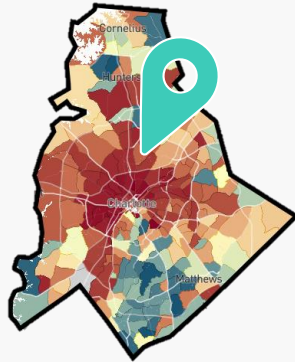
Three Policy Approaches to Increasing Upward Mobility

Reducing Segregation



Help Low-Income Families Move to High-Opportunity Areas

Place-Based Investments



Increase Upward Mobility in Low-Opportunity Areas

Higher Education & Workforce Training



Amplify Impacts of Colleges on Mobility



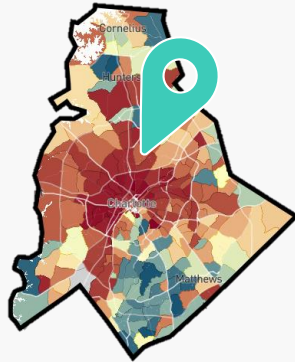
Three Policy Approaches to Increasing Upward Mobility

Reducing Segregation



Help Low-Income Families Move to High-Opportunity Areas

Place-Based Investments



Increase Upward Mobility in Low-Opportunity Areas

Higher Education & Workforce Training

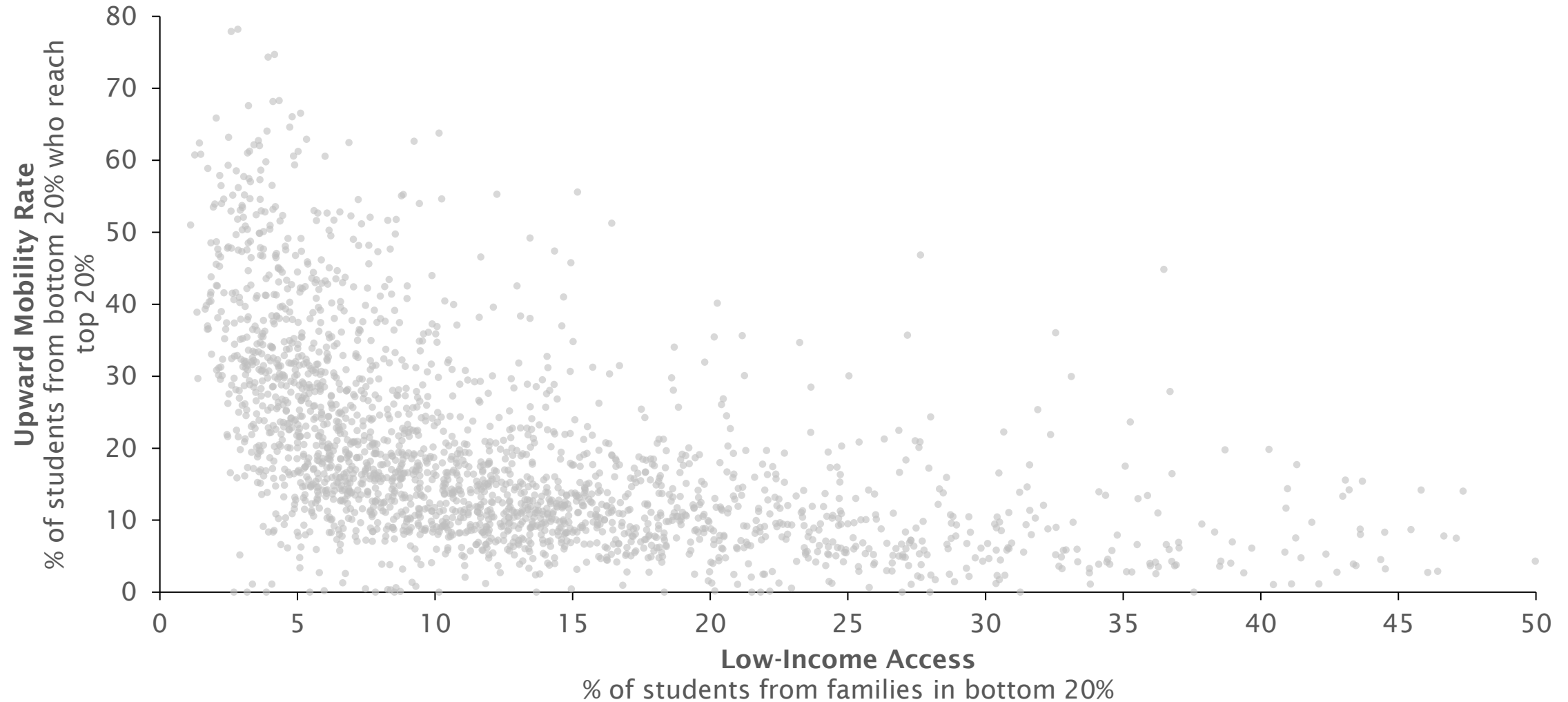


Amplify Impacts of Colleges on Mobility



The Contribution of Colleges to Economic Mobility

Upward Mobility vs. Low-Income Access

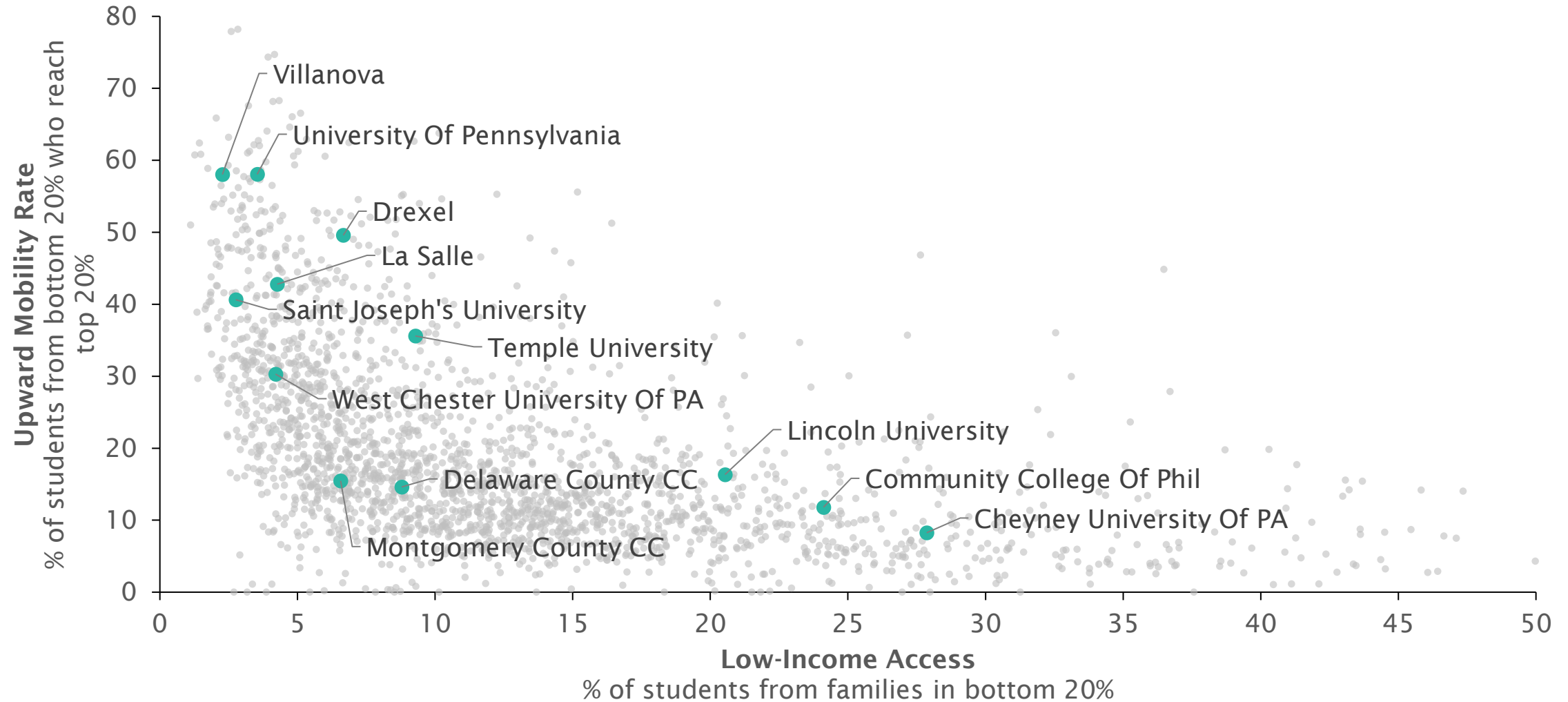


Source: Chetty, Friedman, Saez, Turner, Yagan (2020)



The Contribution of Colleges to Economic Mobility

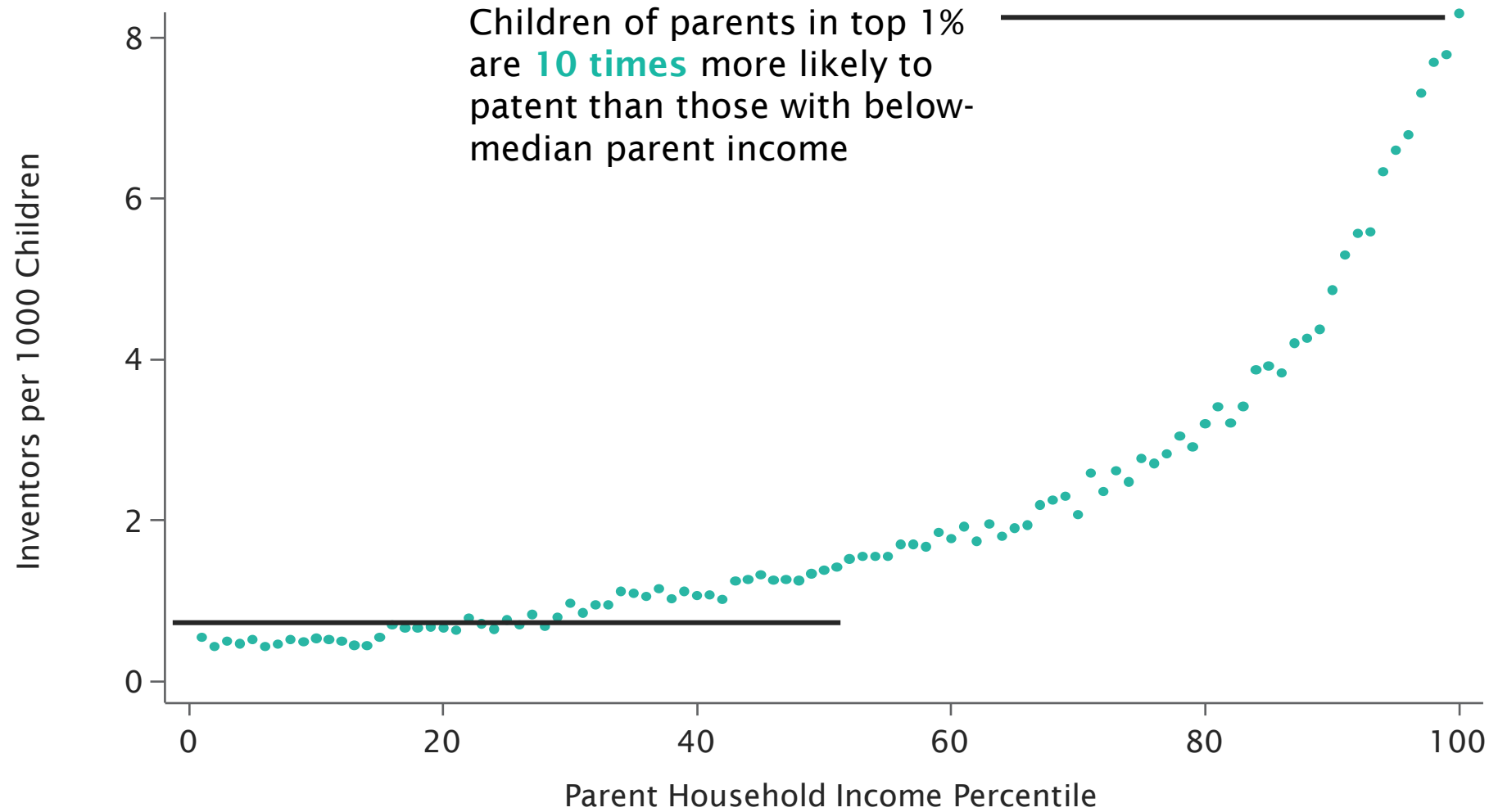
Upward Mobility vs. Low-Income Access: Select Pennsylvania Colleges



Source: Chetty, Friedman, Saez, Turner, Yagan (2020)



Patent Rates vs. Parent Income



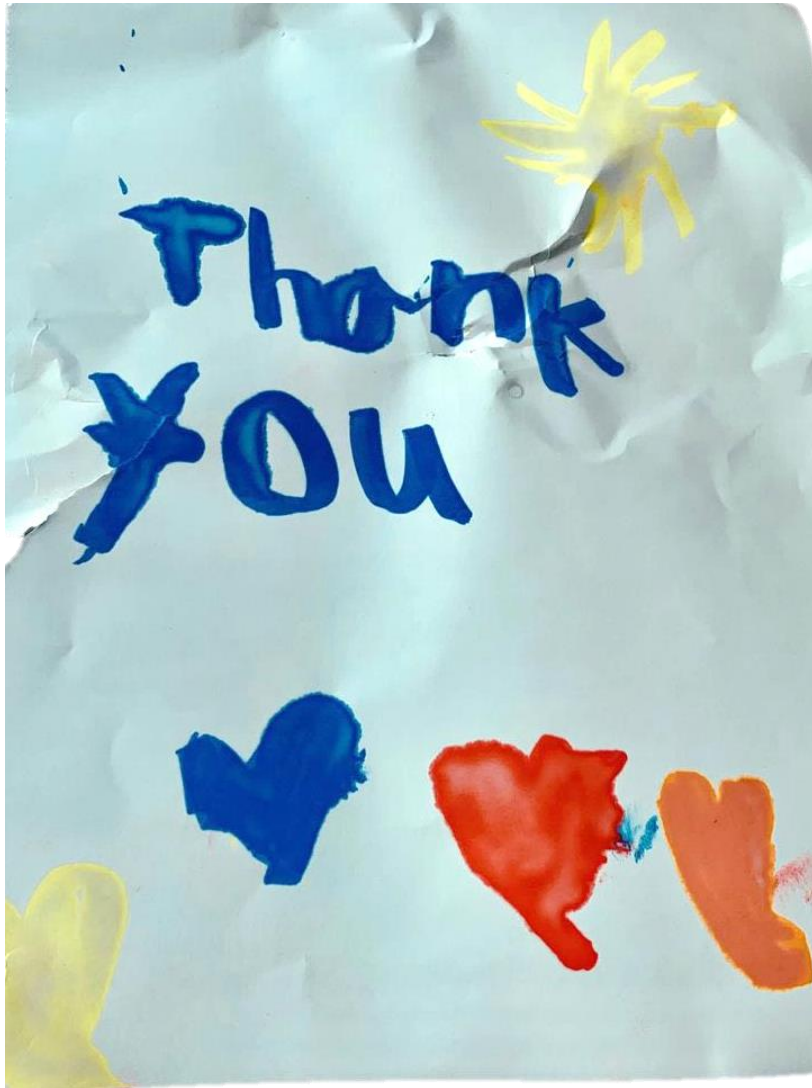
Lost Einsteins

4x



If women, minorities, and children from low-income families invent at the same rate as high-income white men, the innovation rate in America would **quadruple**





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



Research studies and summaries
www.opportunityinsights.org



Explore your community's data
Opportunity Atlas: www.opportunityatlas.org
Social Capital Atlas: www.socialcapital.org



Follow our latest work on Twitter
[@oppinsights](https://twitter.com/oppinsights)



Questions?
info@opportunityinsights.org