

Strengthening Communities Through Neighborhood Data



Baltimore Data Day 2015

BNIA

**BALTIMORE NEIGHBORHOOD
INDICATORS ALLIANCE**

Jacob France Institute

#BaltimoreDataDay

#VitalSigns13

@bniajfi

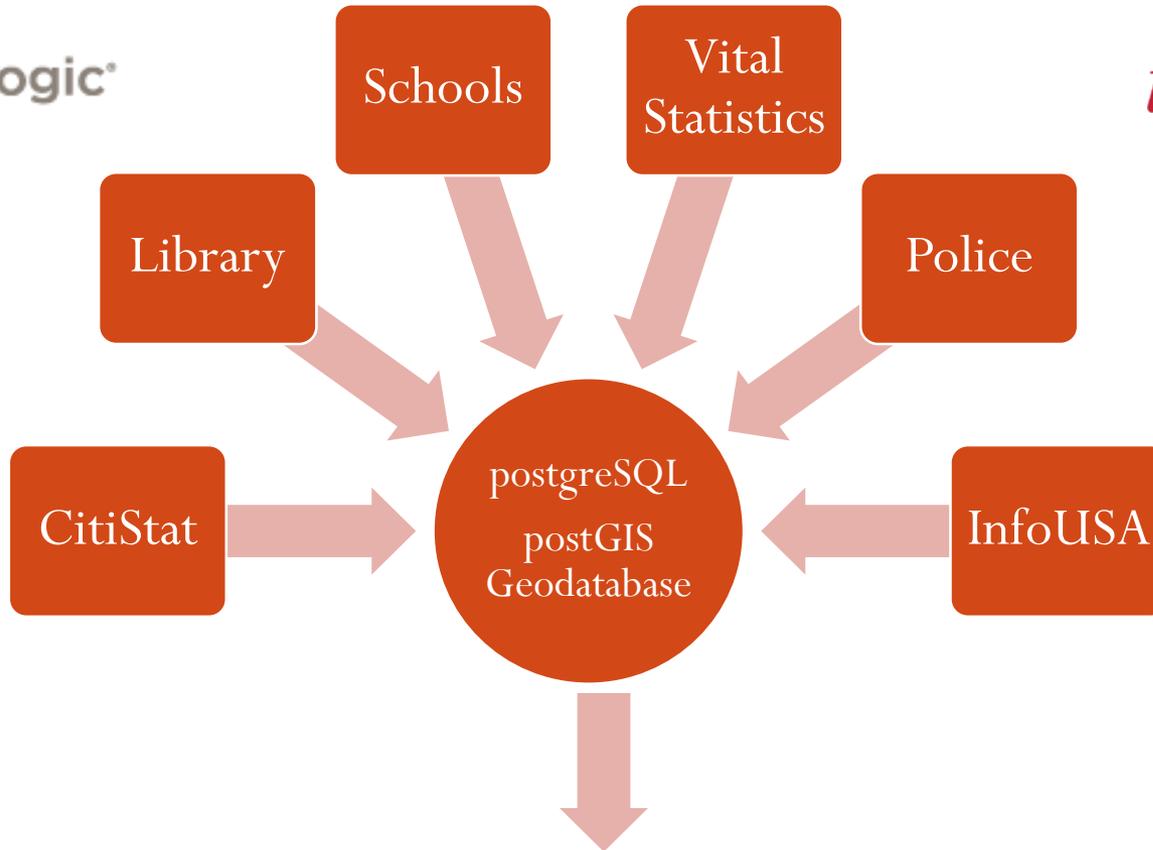
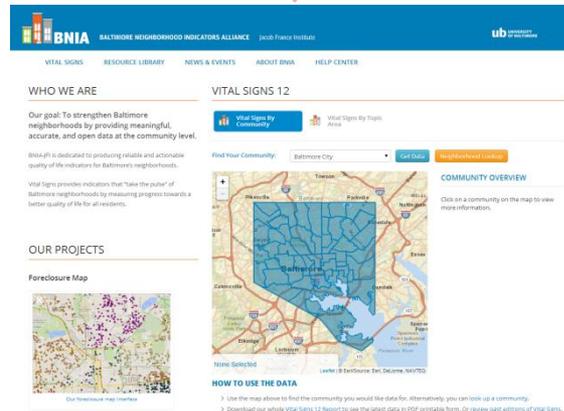
www.bniajfi.org

ub UNIVERSITY
OF BALTIMORE

Role as Baltimore's Data Intermediary

- “Democratization of Data” Overcome the resistance of local public agencies to sharing data
- Established in 2000 as a project within Association of Baltimore Area Grantmakers (ABAG)
- “Taking the Pulse” through continuous monitoring of Baltimore’s neighborhoods
- Advanced information systems with integrated and recurrently updated information on neighborhood conditions in their cities
- Baltimore one of the first partner-cities
 - Now 36 partners
- Moved to the Jacob France Institute in 2007



BNIA BALTIMORE NEIGHBORHOOD INDICATORS ALLIANCE Jacob France Institute ub UNIVERSITY OF BALTIMORE

VITAL SIGNS RESOURCE LIBRARY NEWS & EVENTS ABOUT BNIA HELP CENTER

WHO WE ARE

Our goal: To strengthen Baltimore neighborhoods by providing meaningful, accurate, and open data at the community level.

BNIA is dedicated to producing reliable and accessible quality of life indicators for Baltimore's neighborhoods.

Vital Signs provides indicators that "take the pulse" of Baltimore neighborhoods by measuring progress towards a better quality of life for all residents.

OUR PROJECTS

Foreclosure Map

VITAL SIGNS 12

Vital Signs By Community Vital Signs By Tract Area

Find Your Community: Baltimore City Get Data Neighborhood Links

COMMUNITY OVERVIEW

Click on a community on the map to view more information.

How to Use the Data

- Use the map above to find the community you would like the data for. Alternatively, you can look up a community.
- Download our whole Vital Signs 12 Report to see the latest data in PDF printable form. Or review past editions of Vital Signs.

Baltimore City

CSAs

2010 - - -

Number - 55

Based on 2010 Census boundaries

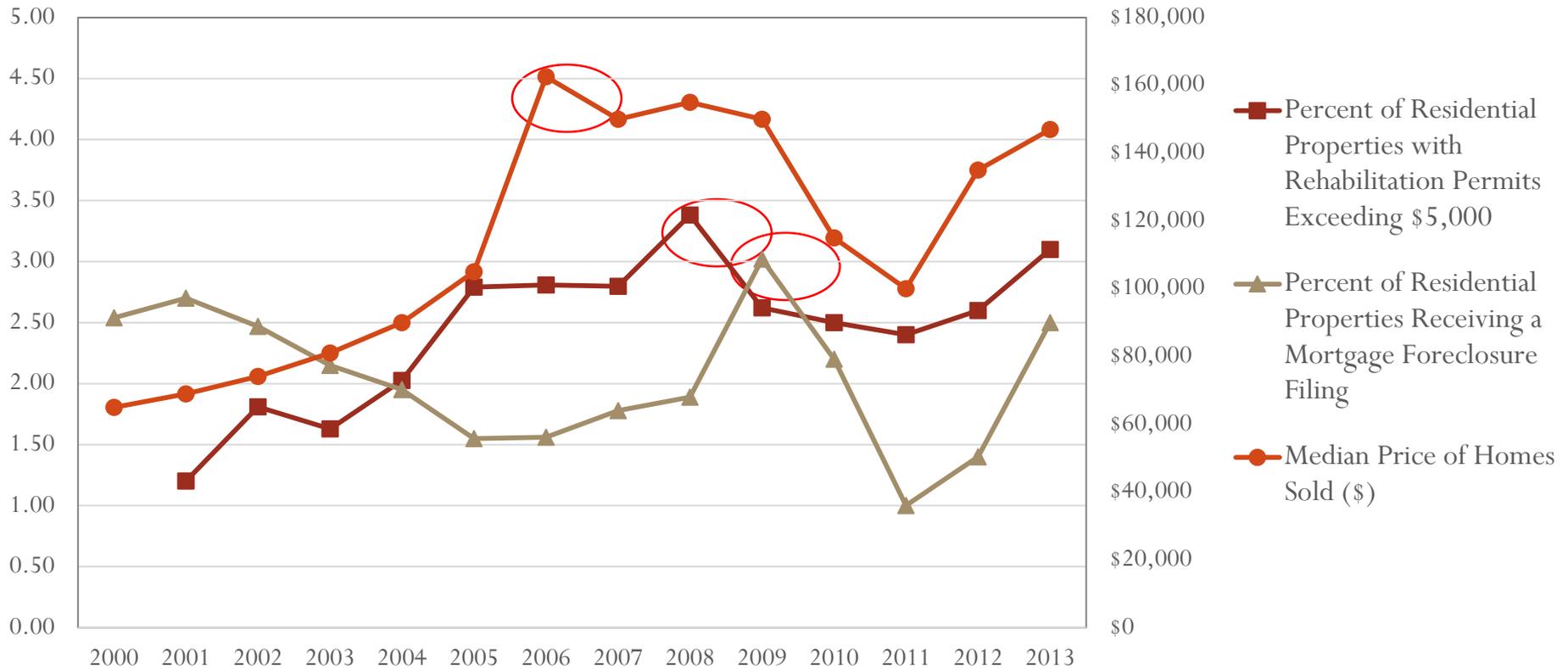
Aggregations of Census tracts
(respectful of neighborhoods)



Vital Signs 13

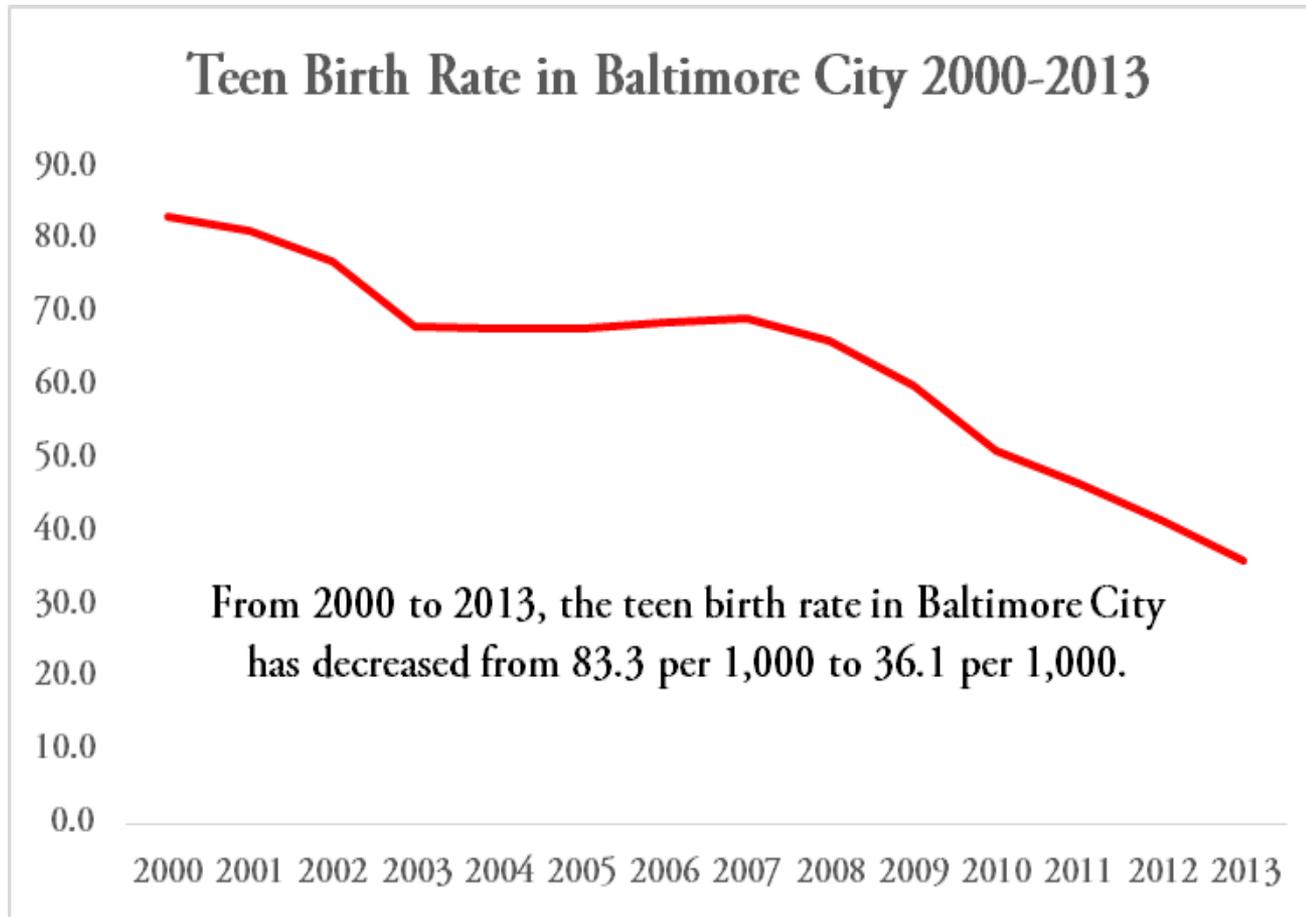
Long Term Housing Trends in Baltimore

Housing Indicator Trends in Baltimore City, 2000-2013

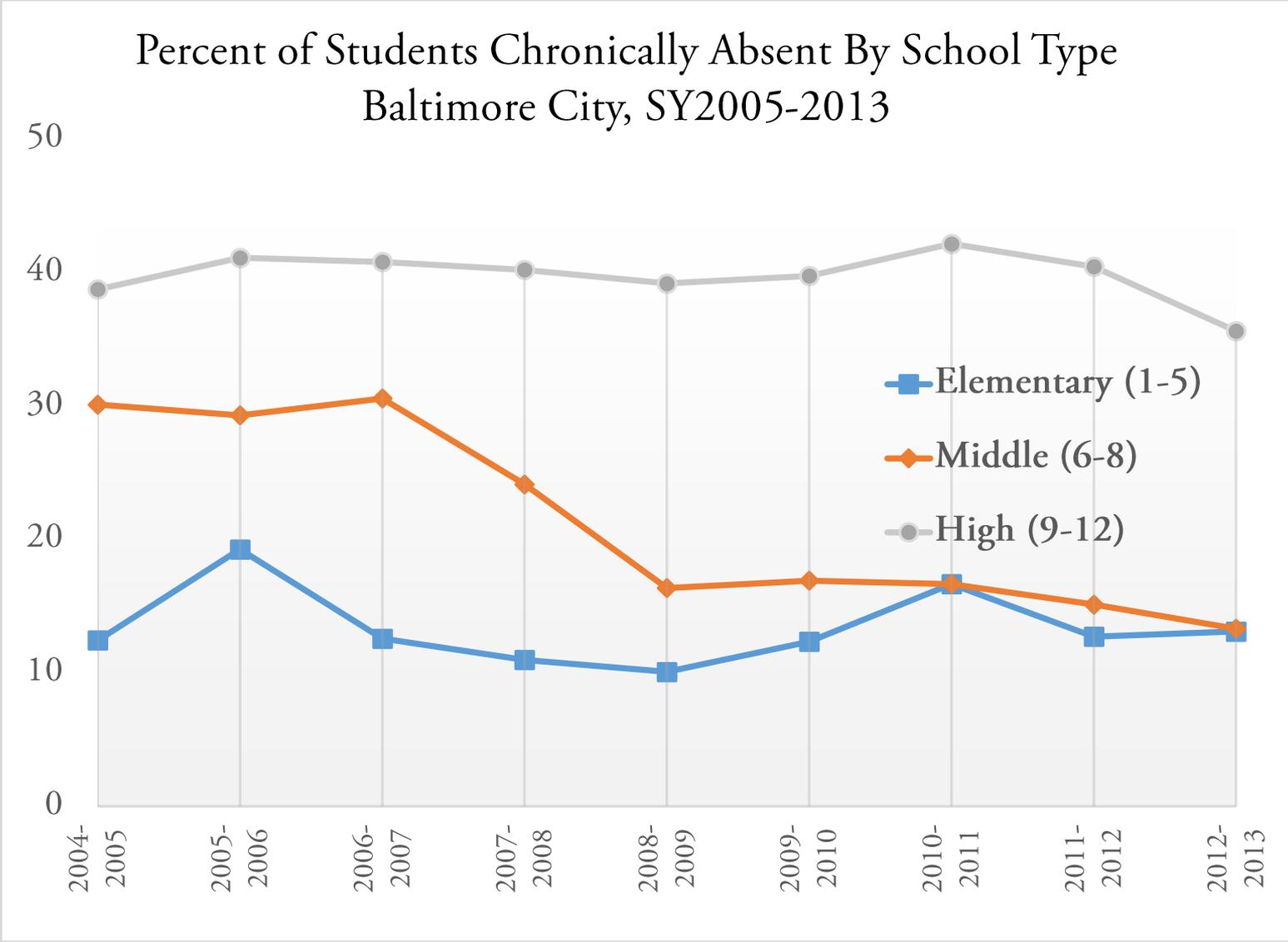


Sources: First American Real Estate Solutions (FARES), Baltimore Housing Tidemark Permit Data, Baltimore City Circuit Court, Maryland Judiciary Case Search System

Positive Measures for Baltimore's Youth



Positive Measures for Baltimore's Youth



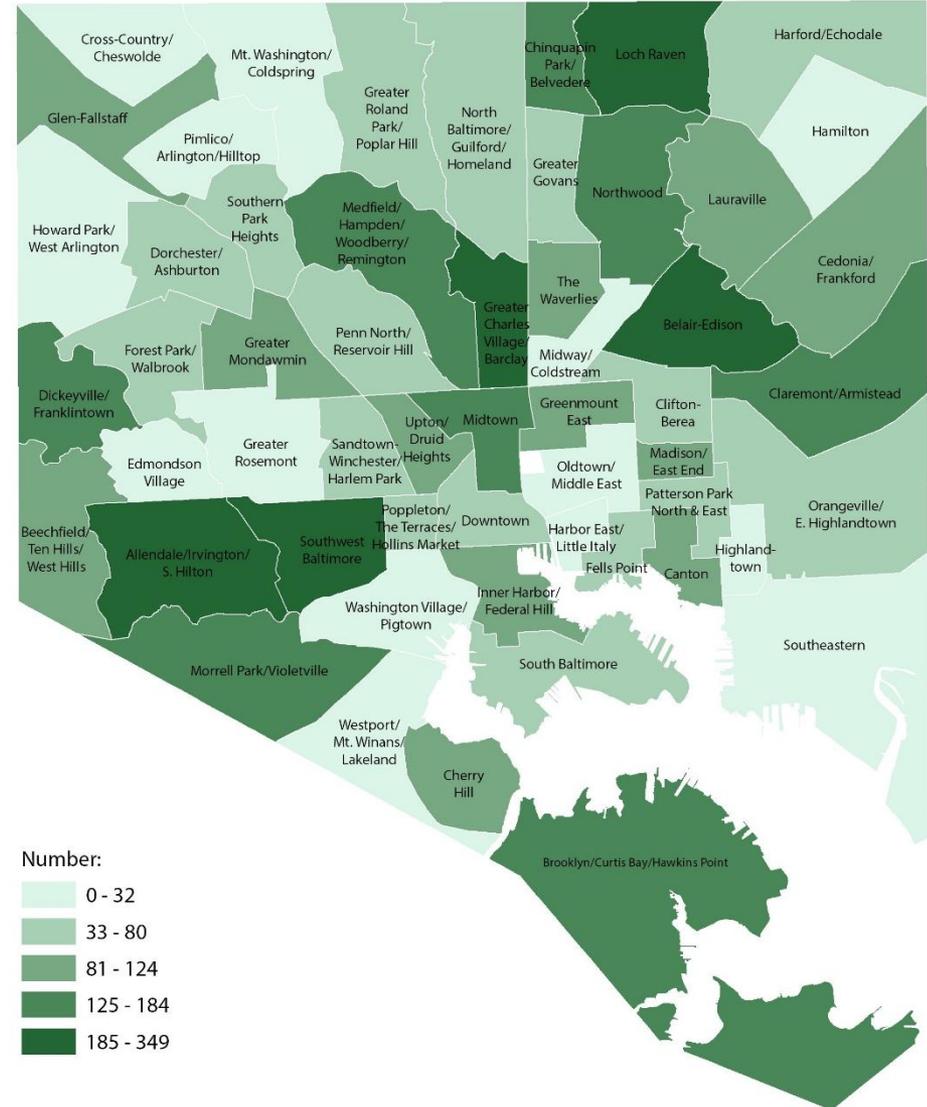
New Indicators in *Vital Signs 13*

Sustainability: In 2013, there were **6,194 trees planted** in Baltimore, which is helping the City reach its goal of 40% tree canopy.

Five Highest CSAs Trees Planted:

1. Allendale/Irvington/S. Hilton
2. Loch Raven
3. Greater Charles Village/Barclay
4. Belair-Edison
5. Southwest Baltimore

Number of Trees Planted, 2013



Justice

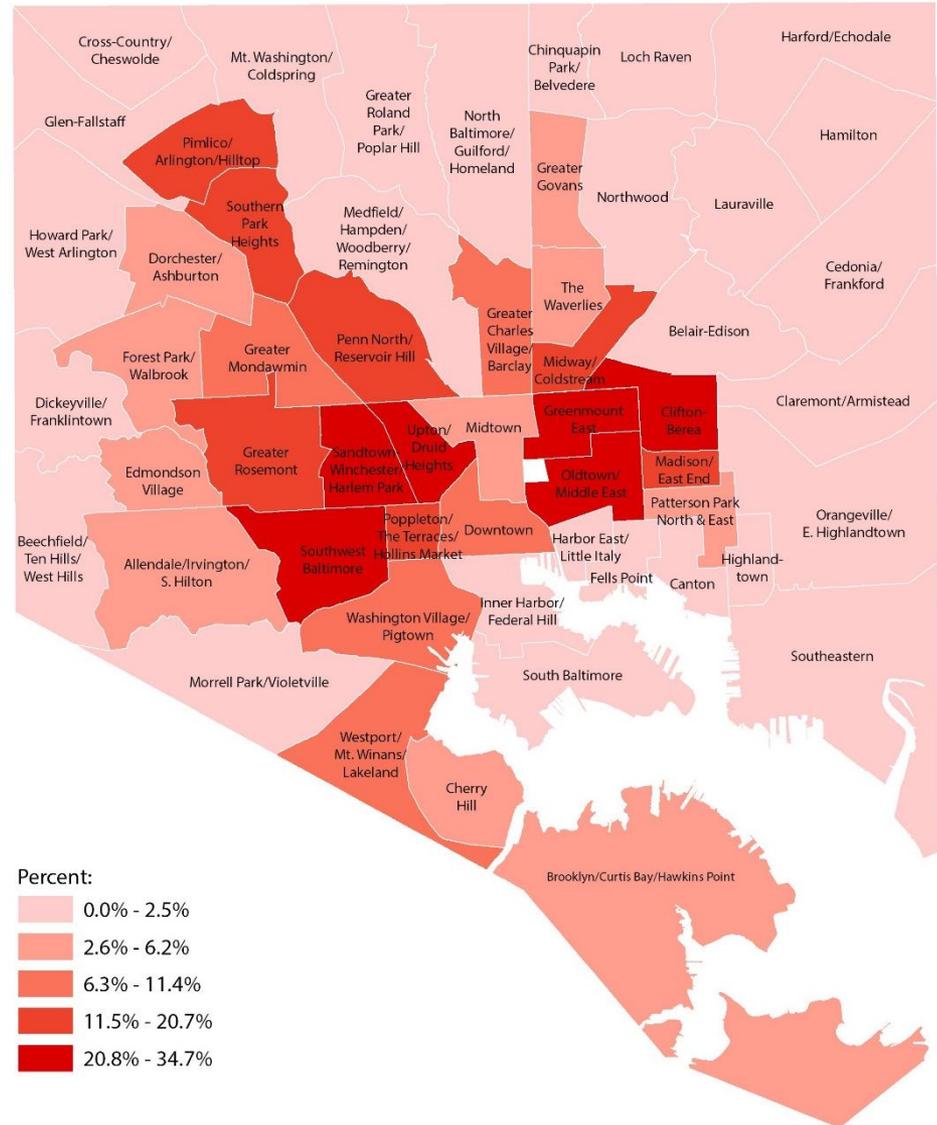
- <https://vimeo.com/132902415>

Vacant & Abandoned Housing

8% of City residential properties have a vacant house notice

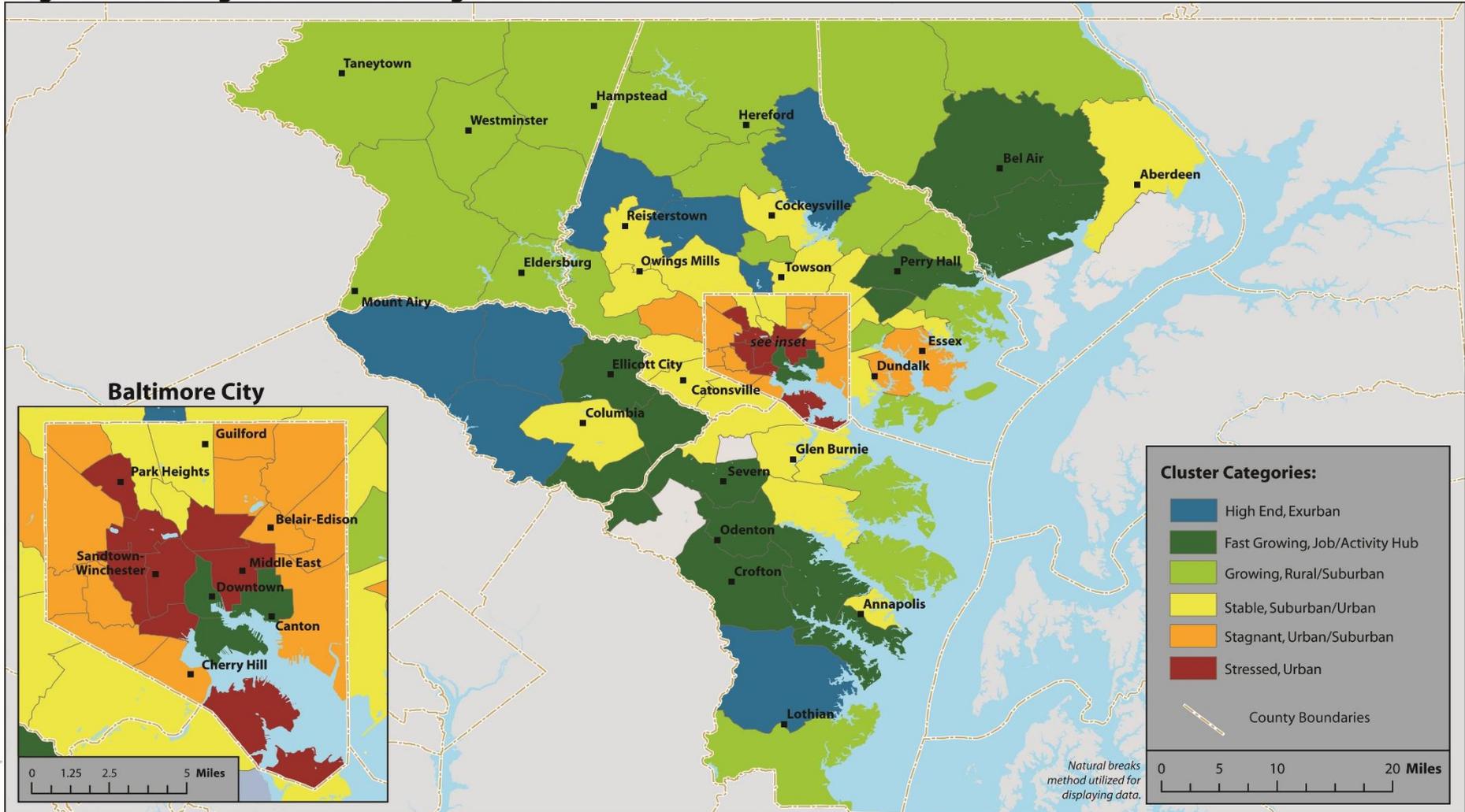
Highest CSA:
Oldtown/Middle East
(35.2%)

Percent of Properties that are Vacant and Abandoned, 2013



Map of Regional Housing Submarkets

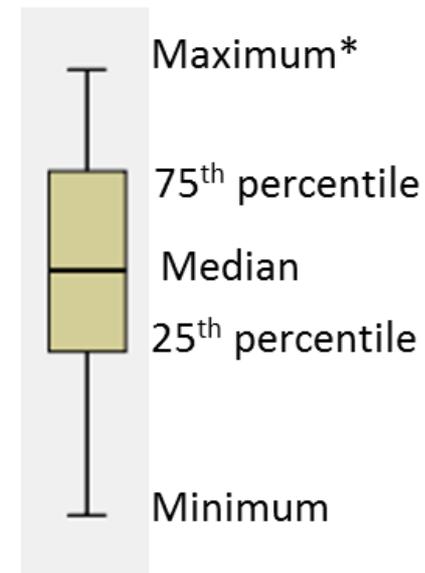
Regional Planning Districts - Housing Clusters



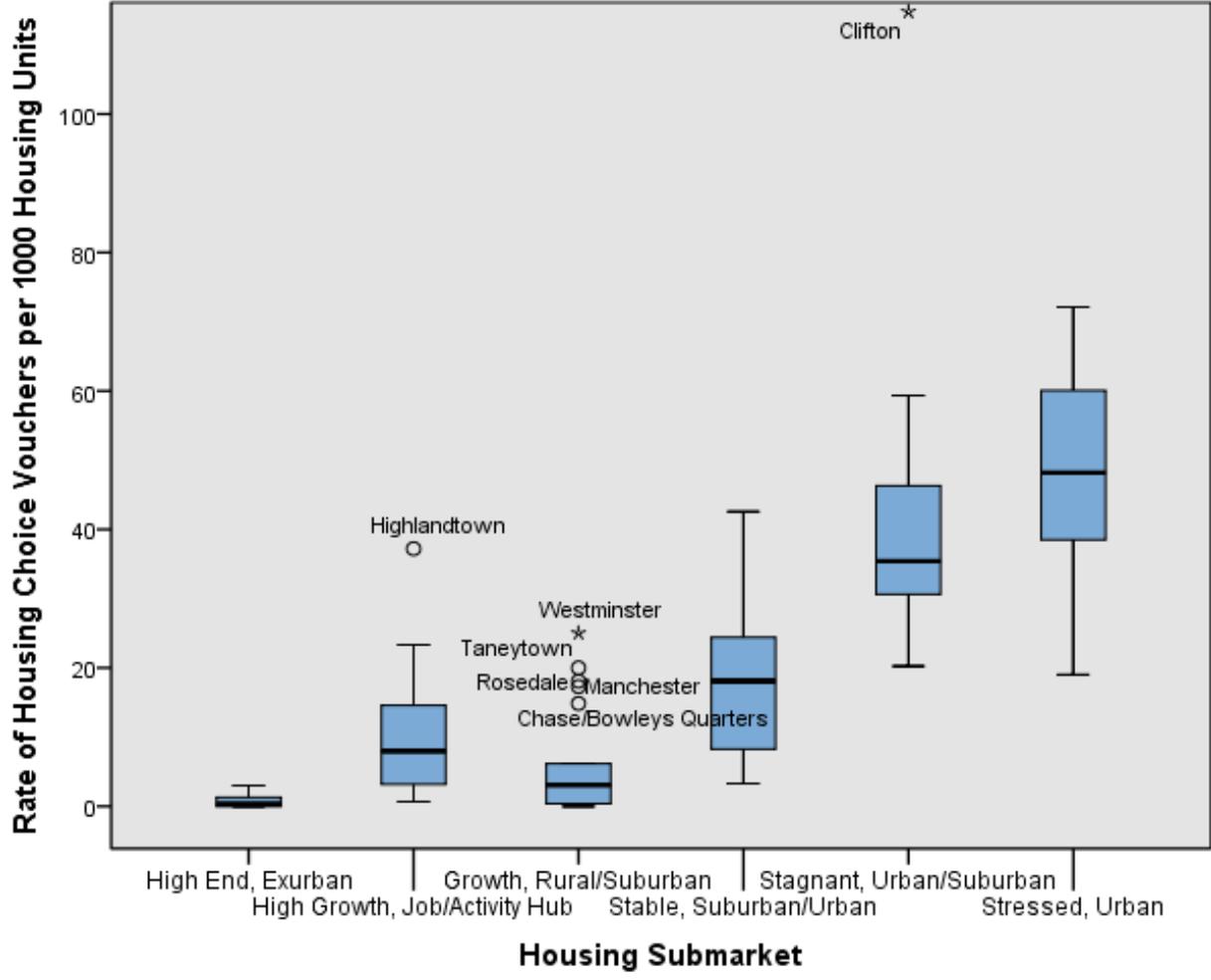
Baltimore Regional Housing Submarkets

- High End, Exurban
- Fast Growing, Job/Activity Hub
- Recent Growth, Rural/Suburban
- Stable, Suburban/Urban
- Pivotal, Urban/Suburban
- Stressed, Urban

- ★ * Extreme Outlier (3 box-lengths from the median)
- * Outlier (1.5 box-lengths from the median)

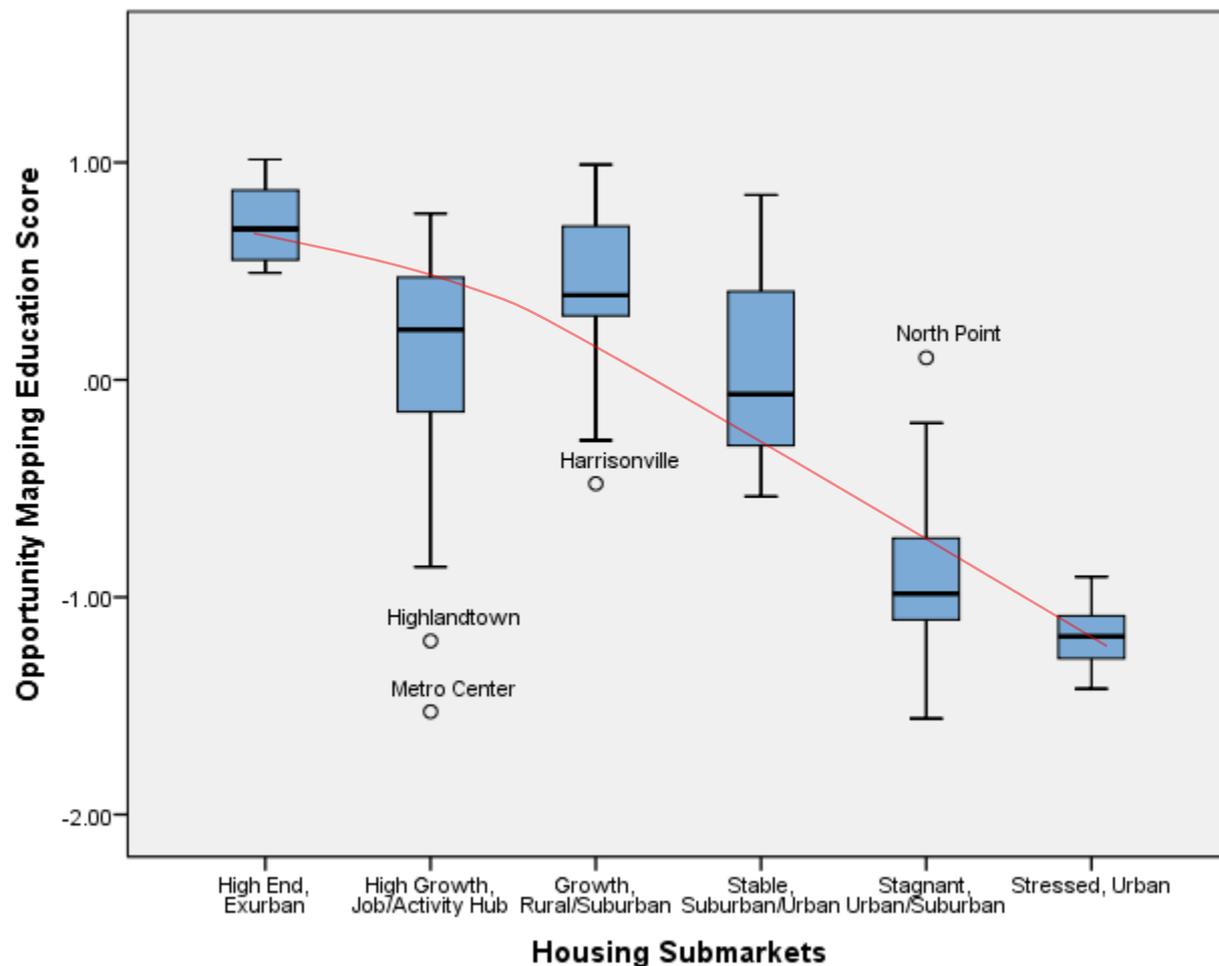


Distribution of Housing Choice Voucher Rates by Submarket



- The rate of housing voucher use is highest in the region's *Stressed* and *Pivotal* submarkets.

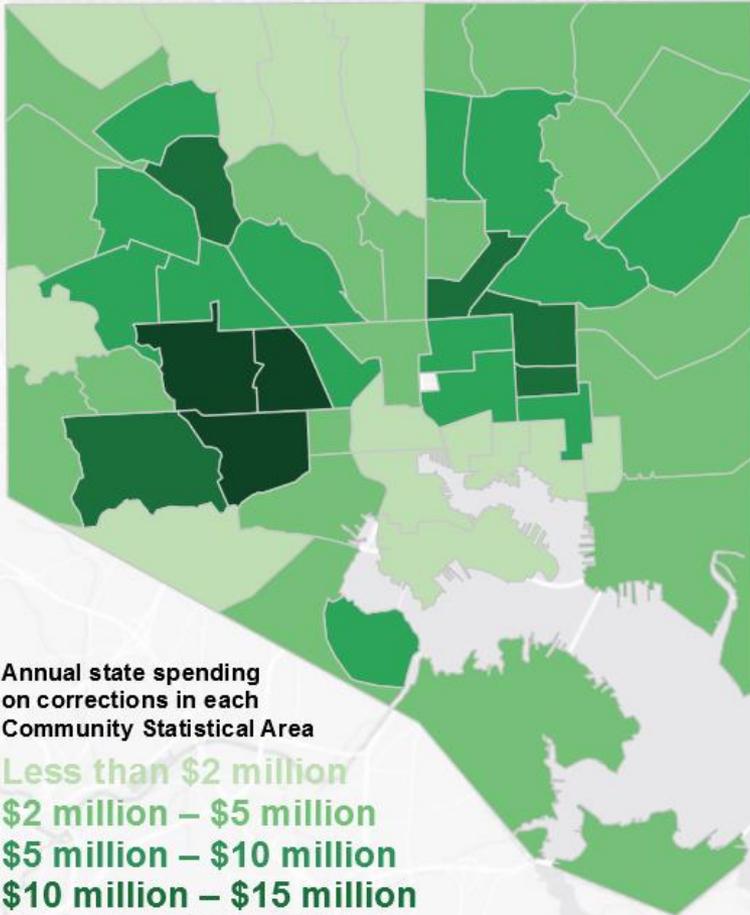
Opportunity Through Education



- Education opportunity scores steadily decrease from the *High End* to the *Stressed* submarkets.

The Right Investment?

MARYLAND TAXPAYER SPENDING ON CORRECTIONS IN BALTIMORE



Annual state spending on corrections in each Community Statistical Area

- Less than \$2 million
- \$2 million – \$5 million
- \$5 million – \$10 million
- \$10 million – \$15 million
- More than \$15 million

THE COST TO INCARCERATE ONE PERSON FROM BALTIMORE

COULD BUY 1 MONTH OF HOUSING FOR 30 FAMILIES

\$37,000/yr



\$1,252 ea.

JusticePolicy.org/TheRightInvestment

New Indicators in Vital Signs 13

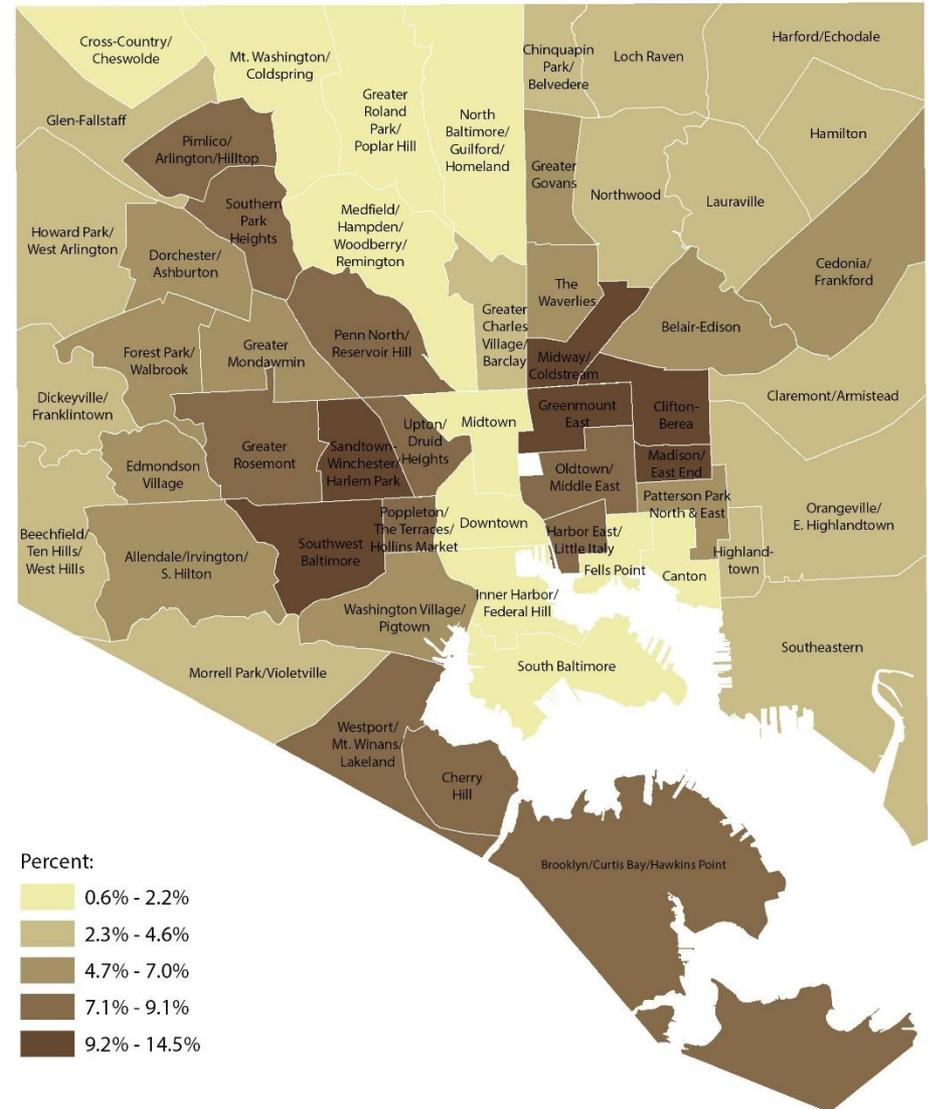
Workforce & Economic

Development: In 2013 the percent of adult population under community supervision such as parole or probation was 5.3%; this indicator is highly correlated with the unemployment rate by neighborhood.

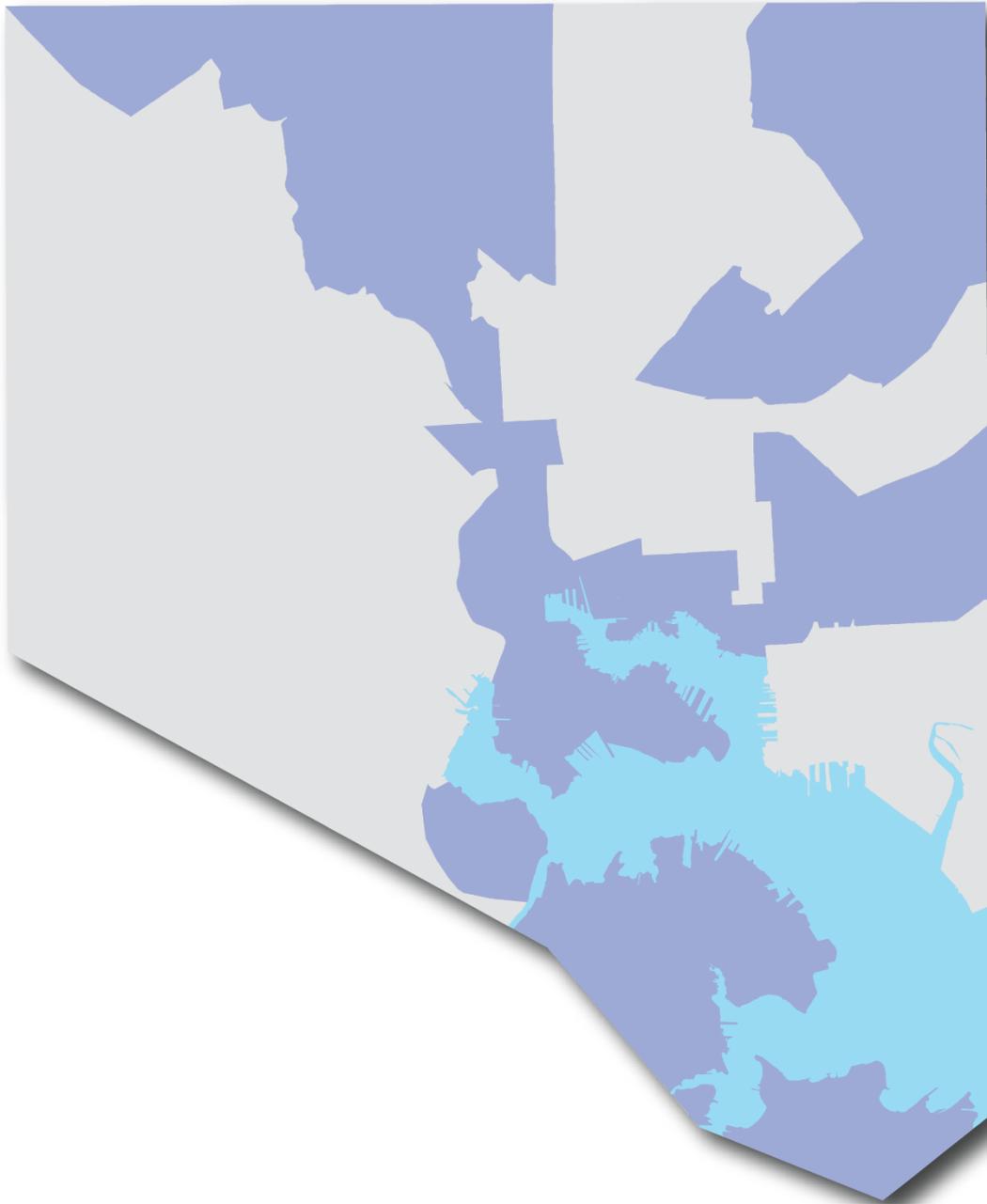
Five Highest Parole/Probation:

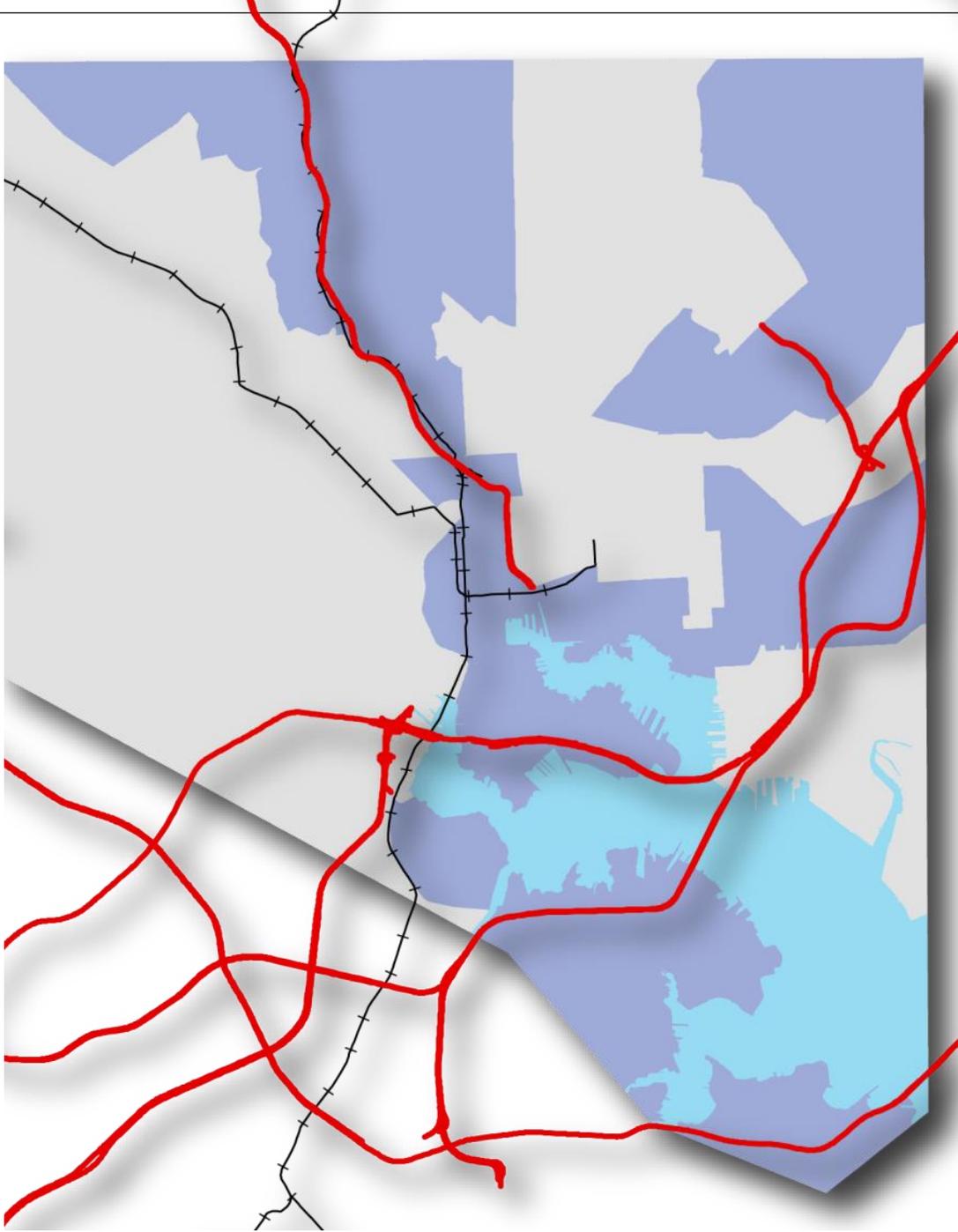
1. Madison/East End
2. Greenmount East
- Southwest Baltimore
3. Clifton-Berea
4. Sandtown-Winchester/Harlem Park

Percent of the Adult Population that is on Parole or Probation, 2013



Equity



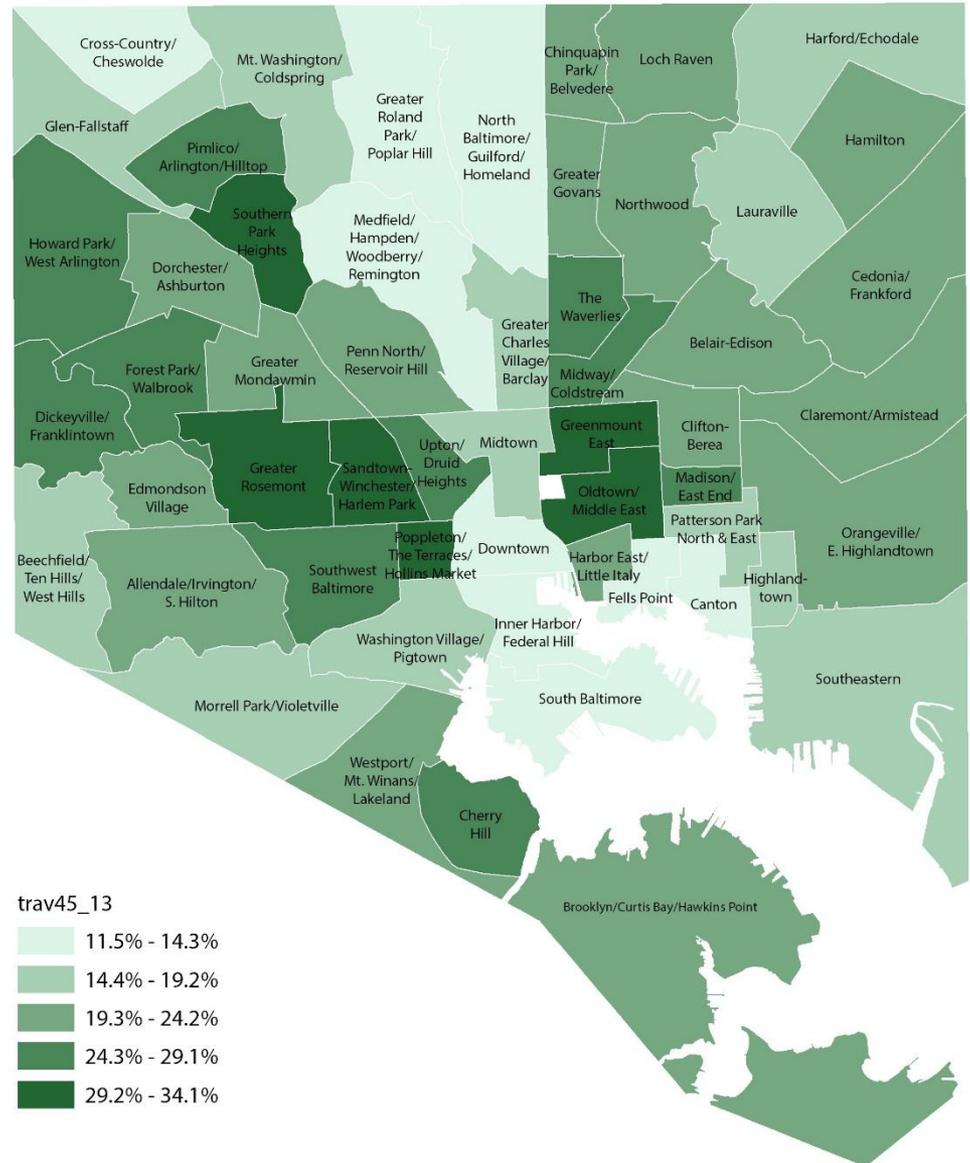


Accessibility

20.2% of City Residents commute more than 45+ minutes

Highest CSA:
Sandtown-Winchester/Harlem Park (35.2%)

Percent of the Population that Travels More than 45 Minutes to Work, 2009-2013



Grow Baltimore

What made you want to live where you live?

A word cloud of reasons for moving to Baltimore. The words are arranged in a roughly circular pattern, with the most prominent words in the center and smaller words towards the edges. The colors range from light blue to dark blue.

good public school
lower taxes
lower insurance
activities for kids trees
house features house accessibility
lower home cost pool planned community
drivability racial diversity parks
cleaner streets privacy green space
transportation no rats parking grass
space family friendly
access to thoroughfare
quiet neighborhood
sense of community
convenient amenities

Source: Focus Group of Movers out of Baltimore 2014, Schaefer Center,
University of Baltimore

Connecting People to Place

Culture, social wellbeing, and neighborhood change

Mark J. Stern

Social Impact of the Arts Project

University of Pennsylvania

July 2015



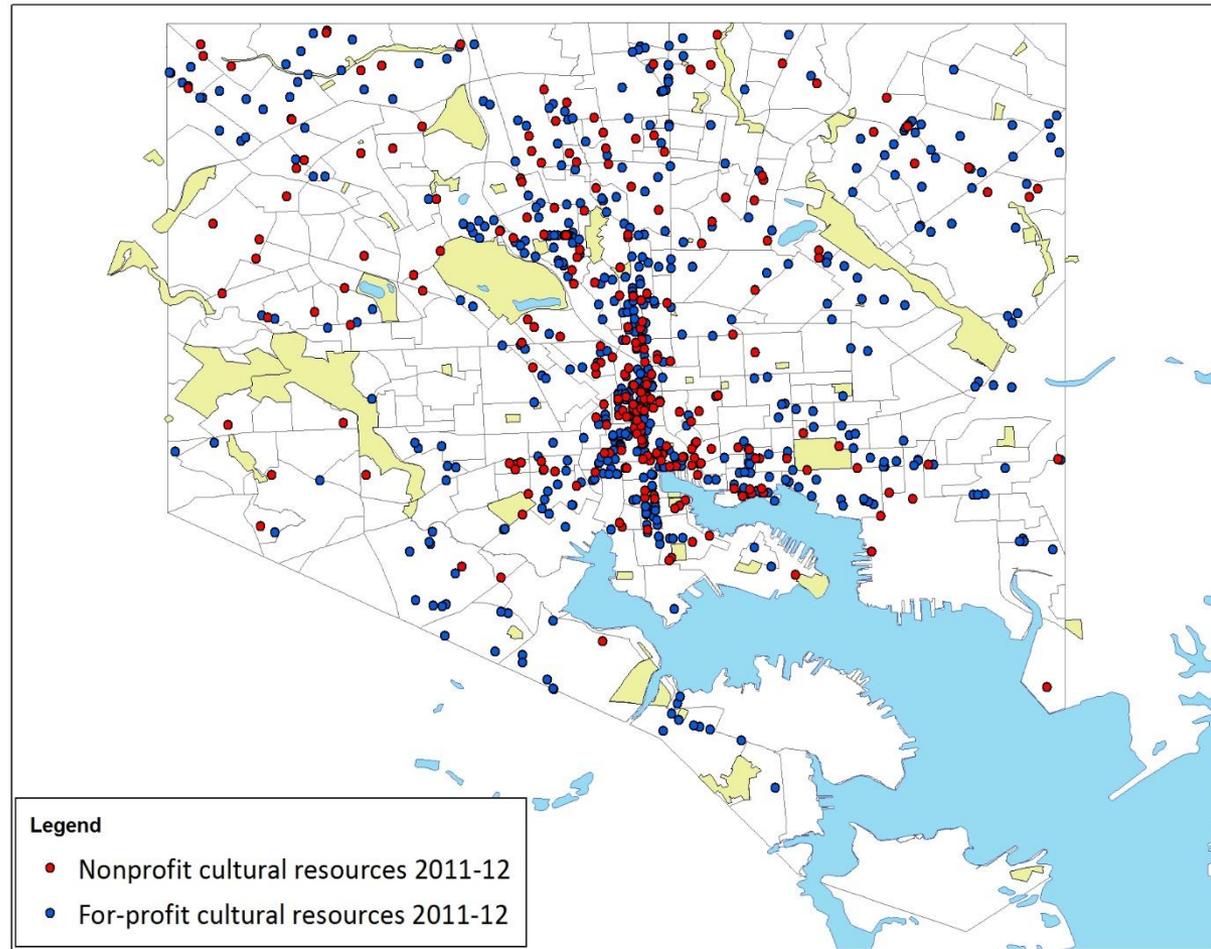
Two propositions

- Tracking arts and cultural resources is a critical element of a neighborhood's "vital signs."
 - It takes a neighborhood. Community groups, academic researchers, and advocates—all have a role to play to discovering the community impacts of the arts and culture.
-

Why measure neighborhoods' cultural assets?

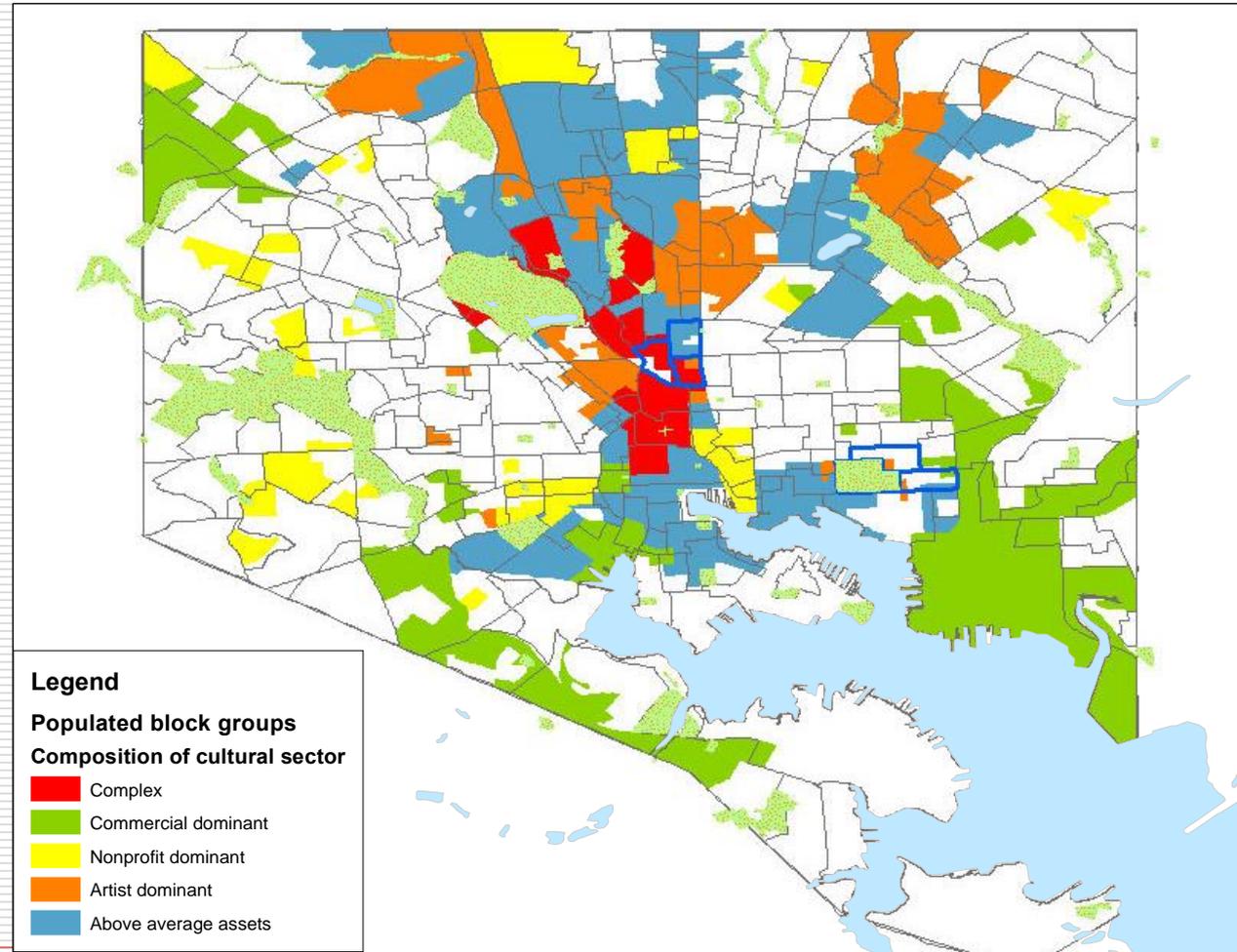
Often we have a one-sided view of low-asset communities.

- Not just an aggregation of a set of social problems.
- Community-based cultural providers offer a more balanced view of a neighborhood's assets and challenges.
- Neighborhood cultural resources are often "hidden" —a cluster of small groups can have a big impact.



Placing the arts in space & place

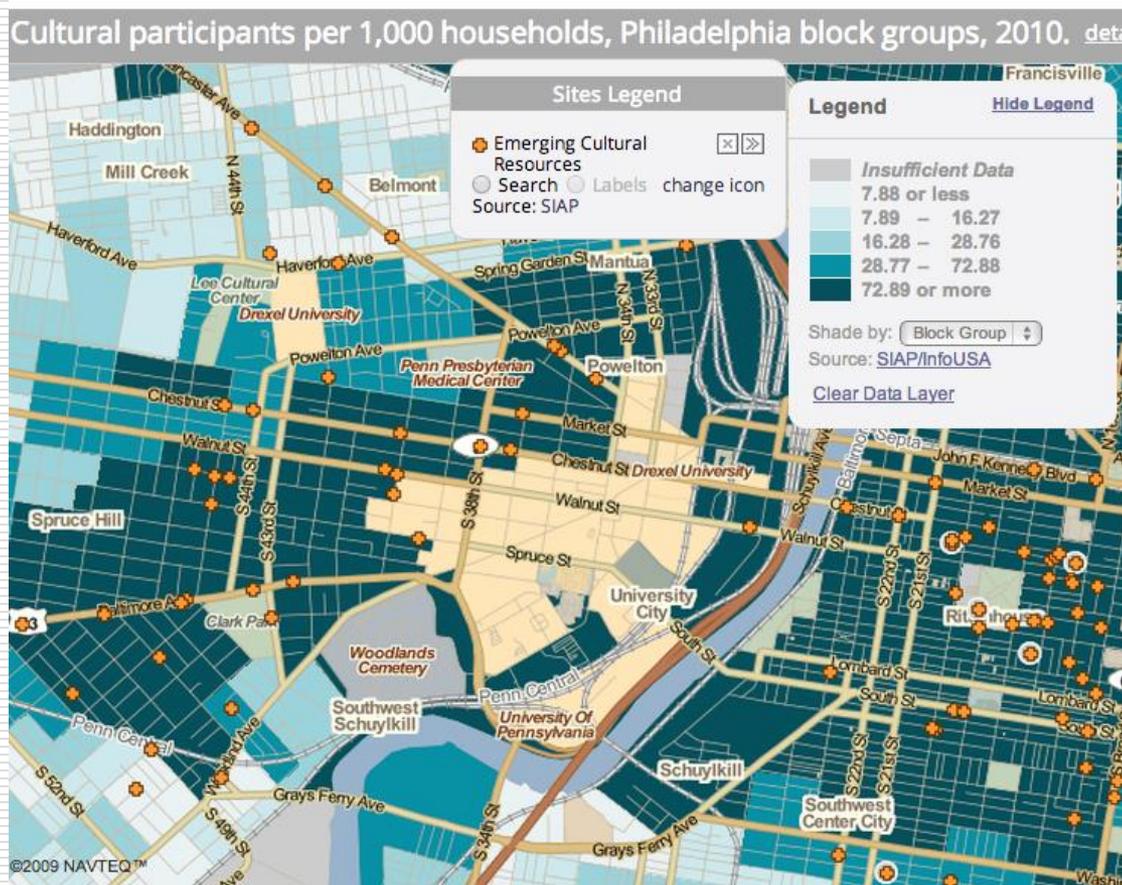
The cultural sector is not just individuals & organizations. The clustering of cultural resources—what we call its **cultural ecology**—has a strong influence on the internal structure of art worlds & their impact on neighborhoods & regions. **“Natural” cultural districts** are critical to the arts’ social impact.



How SIAP measures cultural resources

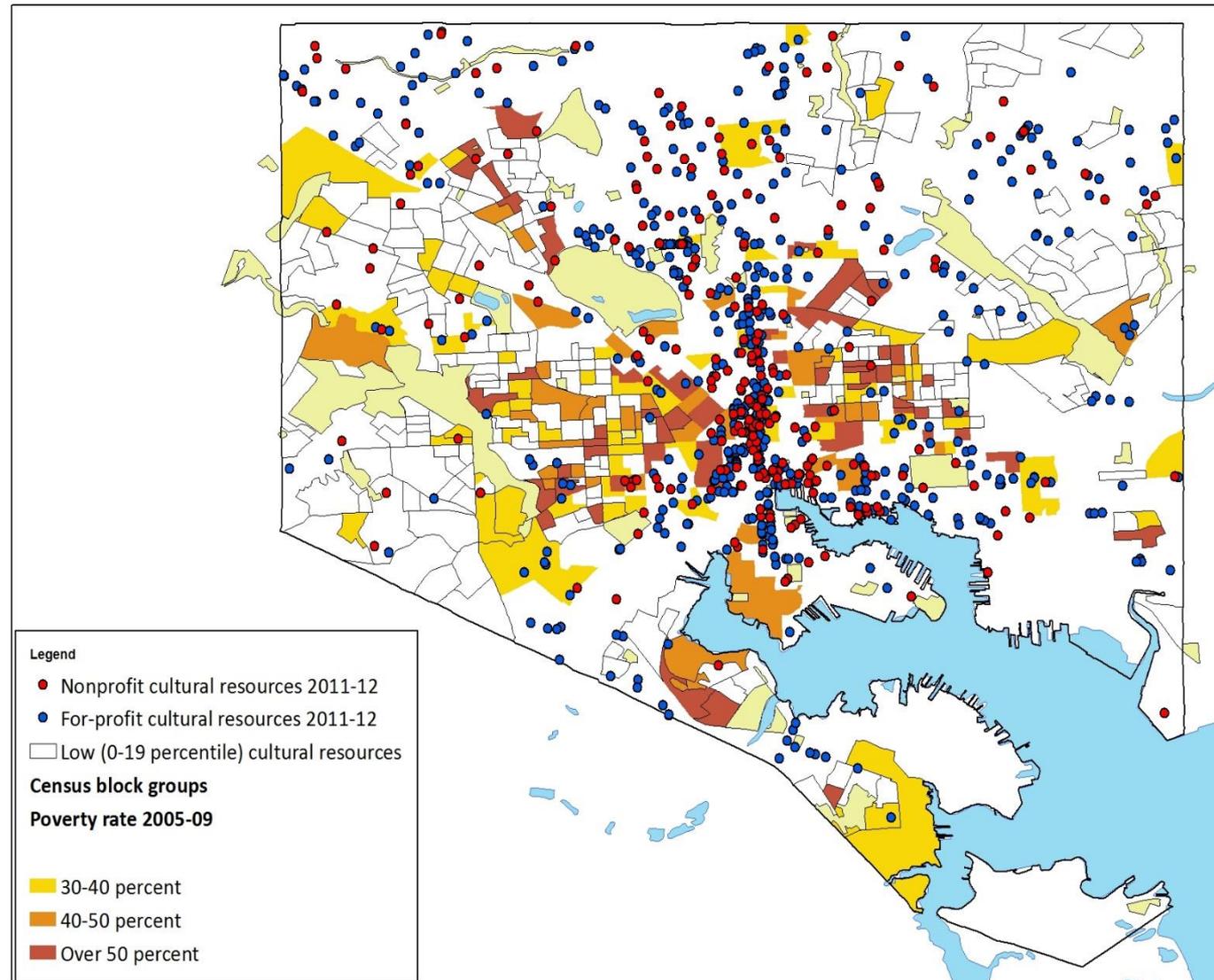
Four types of cultural resources:

- Nonprofit cultural programs (whether 501c3 orgs or not)
- Commercial cultural firms
- Resident artists
- Cultural participants



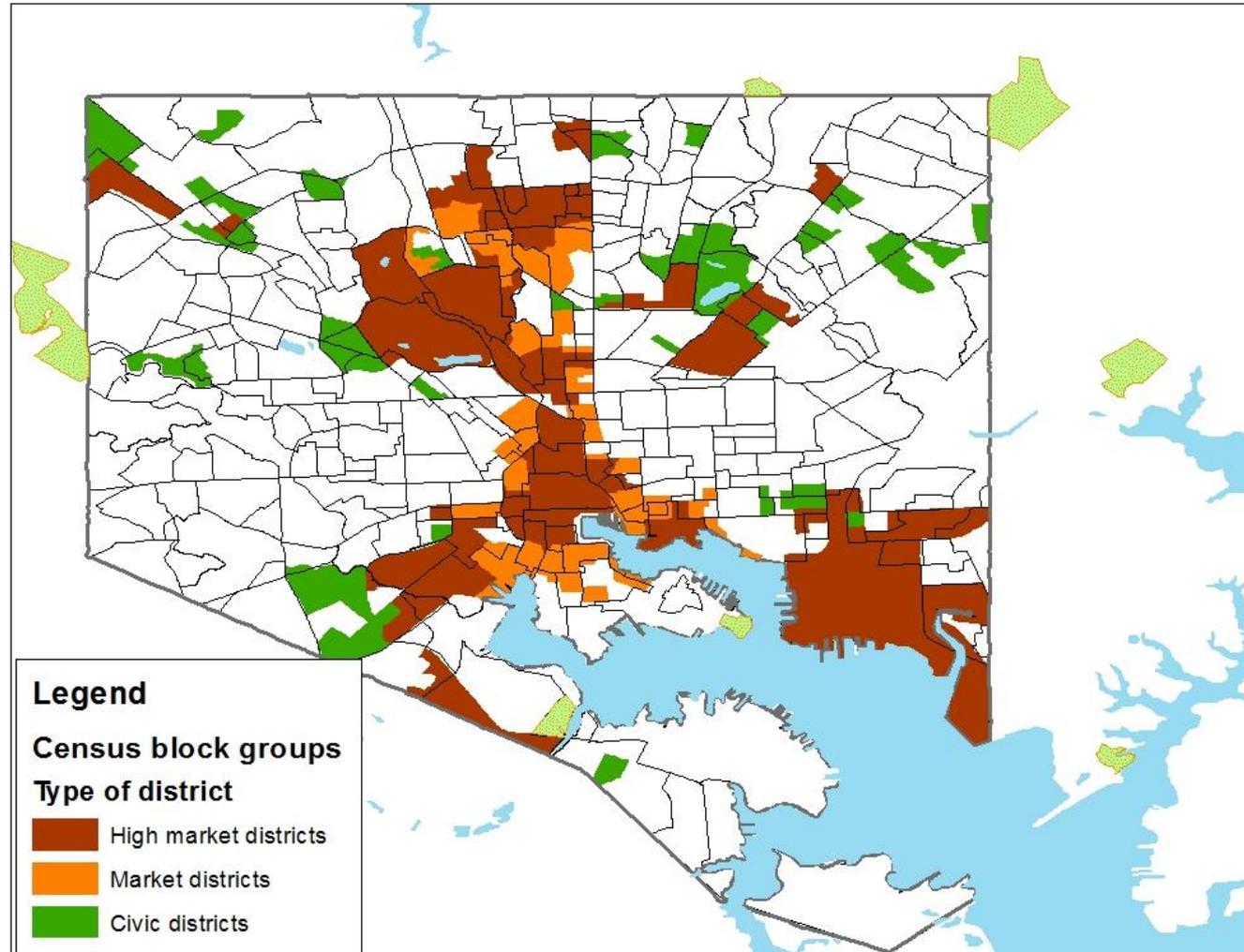
A right to culture: a public responsibility

Although many neighborhoods with few cultural resources have high poverty rates, the “fit” between poverty and cultural resources is far from absolute.



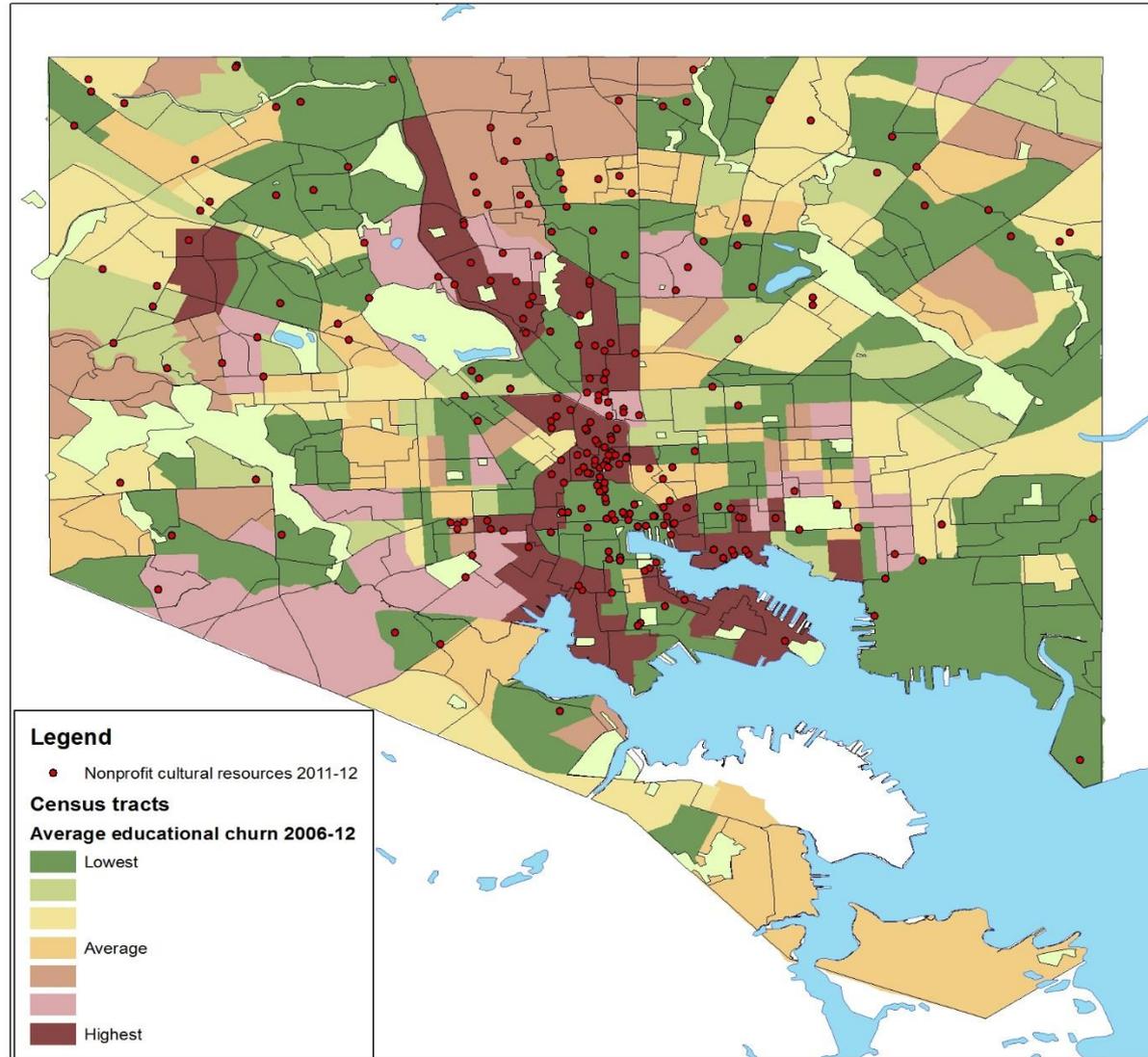
The “spill-over” effect of “natural” cultural districts

Philadelphia neighborhoods with concentrations of cultural resources—including many low-income areas—enjoyed non-economic benefits including lower morbidity and better school outcomes. Developing cultural indicators for Baltimore would allow researchers to estimate their impact here.



Social displacement, population turnover, and the arts

SIAP has been developing measures of social displacement. “Education churn” measures the extent to which residents with a high-school diploma or less are leaving a neighborhood and residents with at least a college degree are moving in.



It takes a community to integrate culture into “vital signs.”

Until government takes on the task of documenting cultural engagement, it will require cooperation between:

- community organizations
- researchers and
- regional funders

to develop evidence of equitable access and opportunity in the arts and culture and their role in building community and revitalizing neighborhoods.



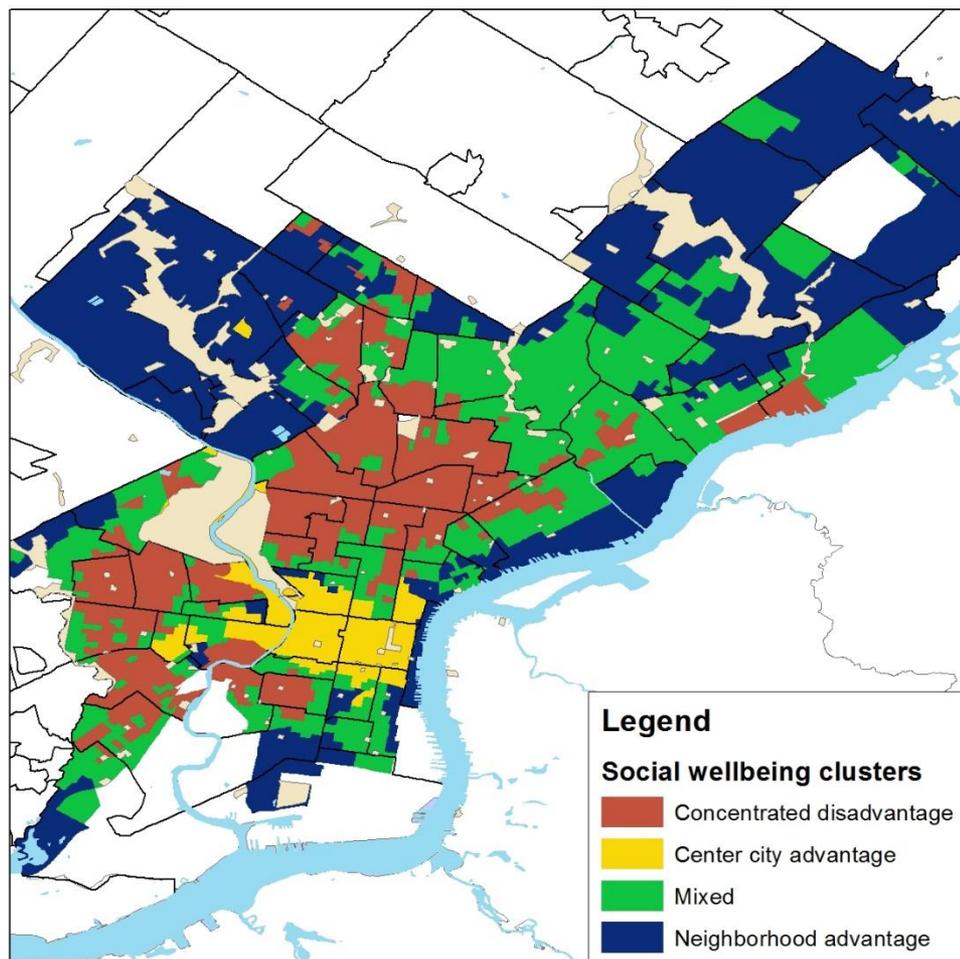
Two approaches to community-based data development

- *Organizational data gathering.* Individual organizations can contribute to understanding the relationship of culture to community vitality by developing systems for tracking program participation and using qualitative methods to document the broader connection of culture and wellbeing.
- *Regional database development.* Once a system is in place to gather participant, artist, and institutional network data, a regional entity (a funder, arts council, government agency, or university) can develop a means of integrating these data into a unified database.

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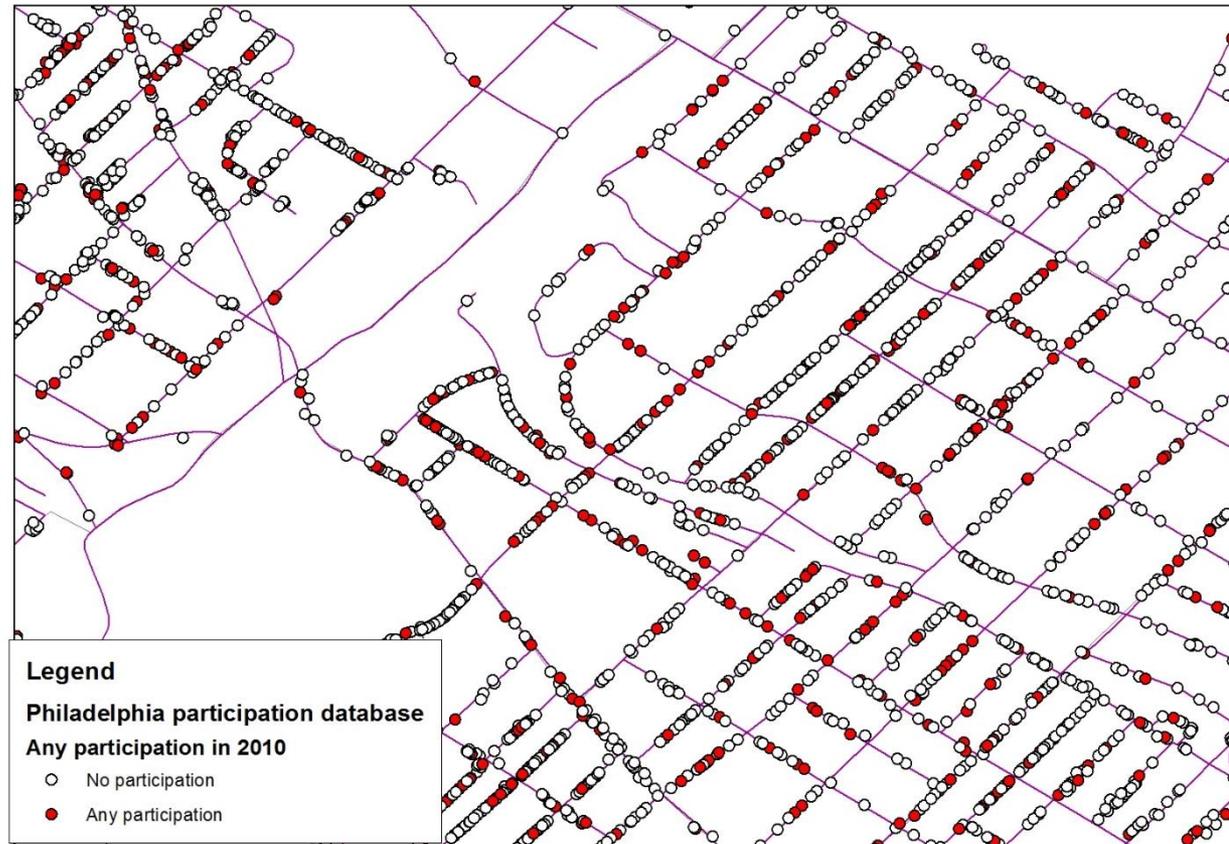
From data to policy impact

An integrated database provides the opportunity to examine the aggregate impact of cultural engagement on region-wide measures of social wellbeing. In addition, through the use of a geographic information system (GIS), this approach allows policymakers to link data on cultural engagement to other socio-economic and neighborhood data



Encouraging organizational-level data gathering

- Much participant data is **already being collected** (subscribers, student registration)
- Need incentive for sharing data at regional level
- List cooperative provides structure to bring many organizations' data together



It doesn't have to be fancy

Free events (or small groups or embedded programs) could incorporate sign-in sheets (with address) into their procedures. Over time sign-in can provide important clues about who is involved and where they live.



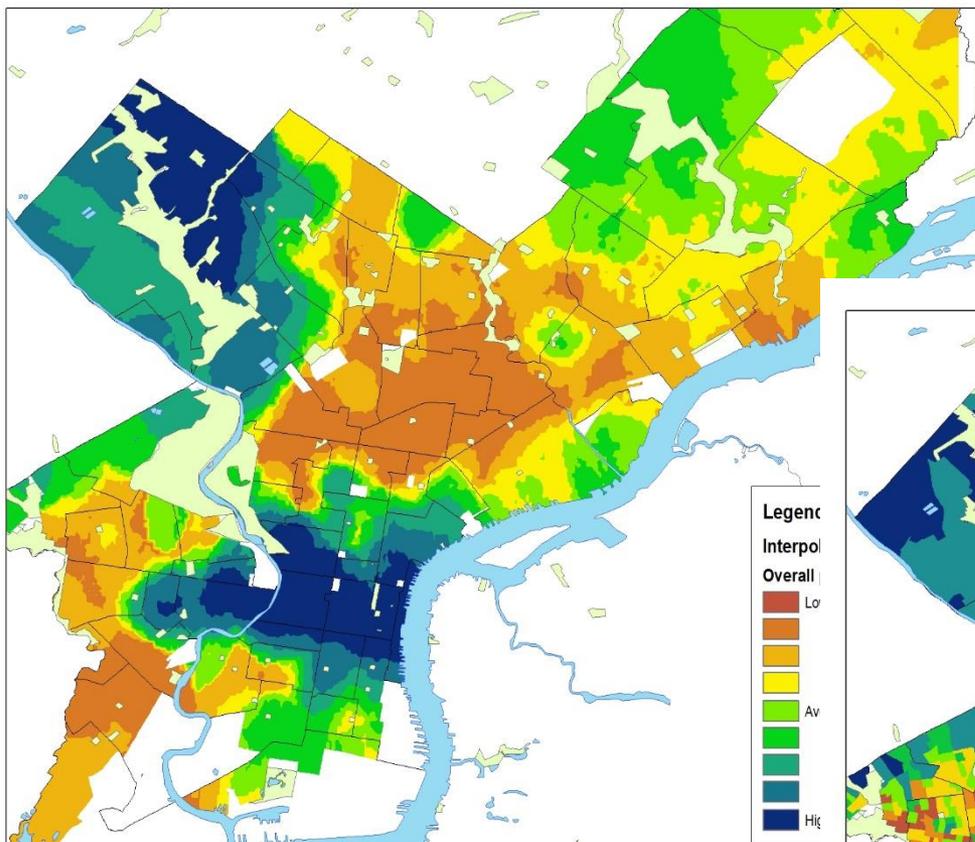
TALLER
PUERTO RIQUEÑO
El Corazón Cultural Del Barrio
The Cultural Heart of Latino Philadelphia

Name of Event *Bohemia*
 Subtitle *Vereda Cultural*
 Date of Event *08-10-07*
 Time of Event *08-9M*

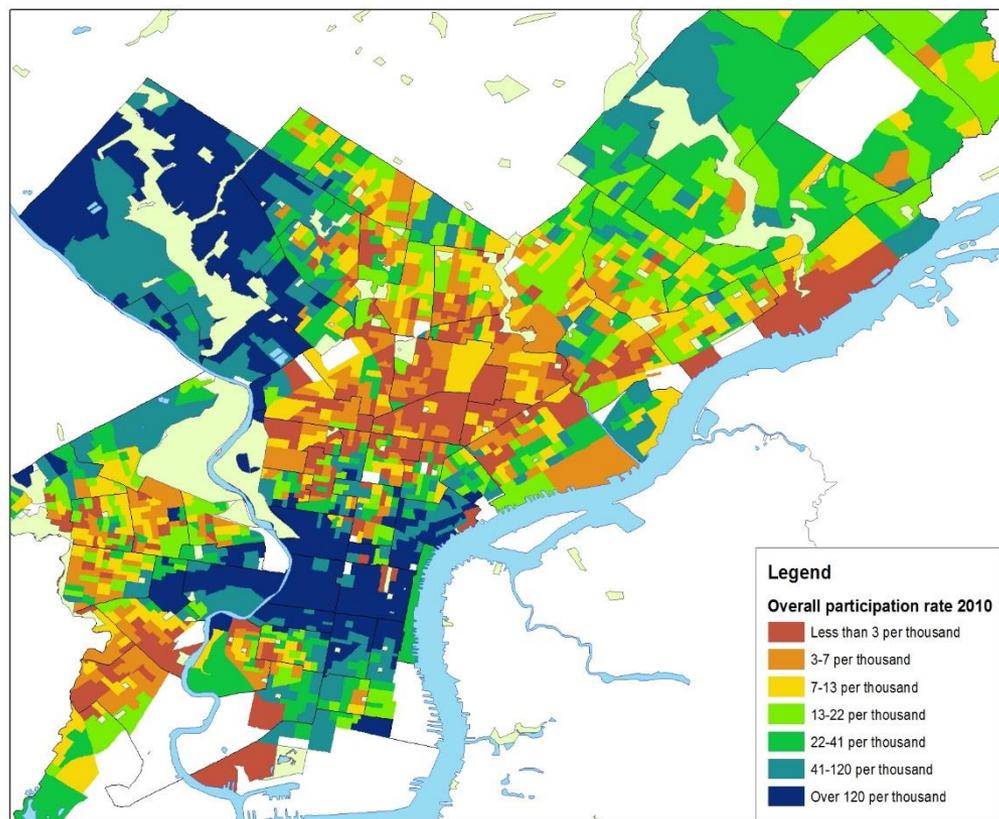
NAME	ADDRESS/CITY/STATE/ZIP CODE	E-MAIL	HOW DID YOU LEARN OF THIS EVENT? *NEWSPAPER *INVITATION *WORD OF MOUTH *E-MAIL * OTHER
	<i>[redacted] Whitaker ave</i>	<i>(215) 457-[redacted]</i>	<i>Email [redacted]@AOL.com</i>
	<i>[redacted] Esomas rd MT Laurel NJ 08054</i>	<i>[redacted].5@Yahoo.com</i>	<i>85695-[redacted]</i>
	<i>[redacted] E. Clearfield St</i>	<i>25 (4) 23-[redacted]</i>	
	<i>[redacted] N Meade rd</i>	<i>[redacted]@ntonline.org</i>	
	<i>[redacted] N Rose St</i>	<i>[redacted]@ad.com friend</i>	
	<i>[redacted] Weibel st</i>	<i>[redacted]@Yahoo.com friend</i>	

From dots to analysis

For analysis, we aggregate individual observations to some standard geography (typically block group) to link to census and other data sources.

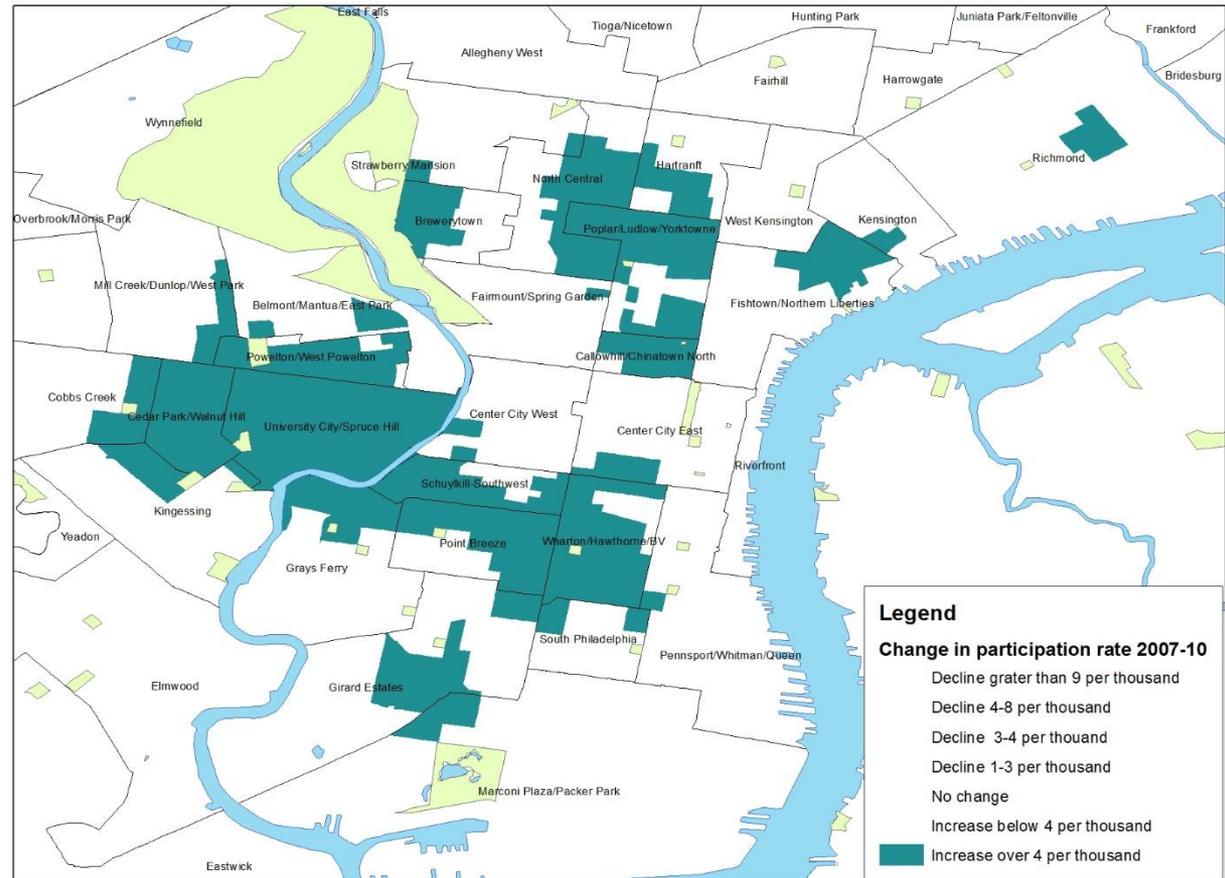


Sometimes it's helpful to use slightly fancier procedures to reduce the noise in the data (above).

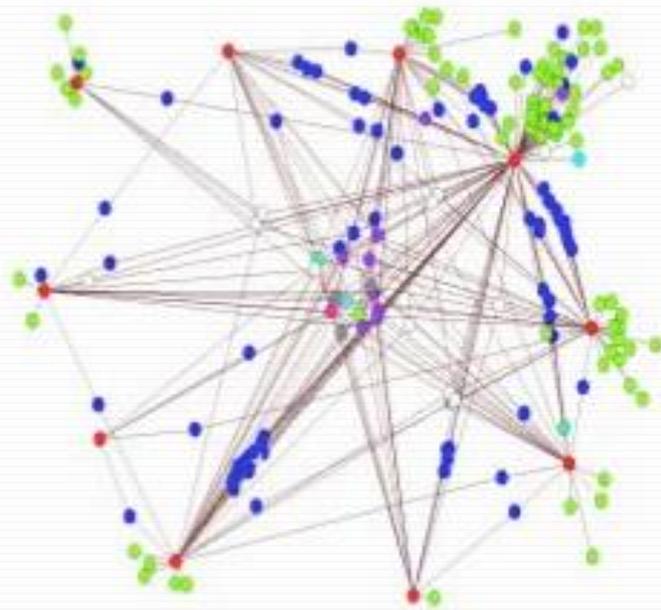


Tracking neighborhoods—changing cultural ecology—instead of individuals over time

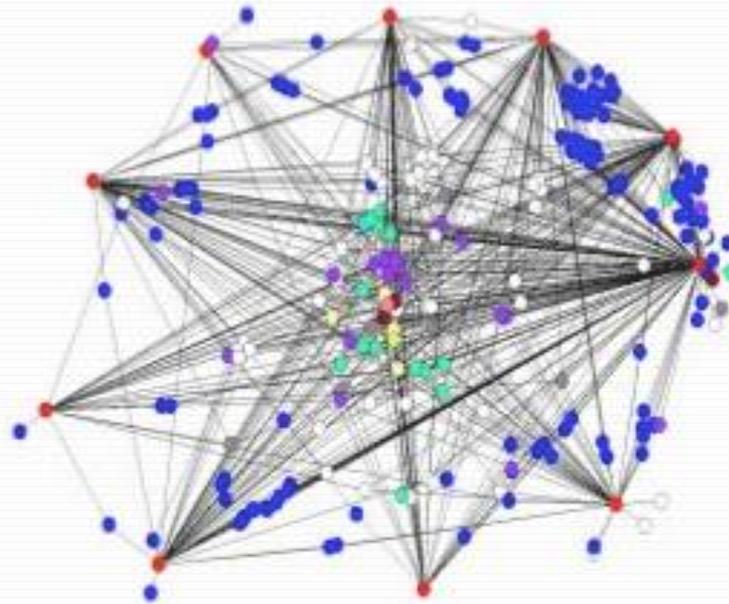
Although an ecological approach doesn't allow for longitudinal estimates at the individual level, it does provide stable estimates of how the geography of participation changes over time.



Institutional & artists networks



Institutional networks 1997

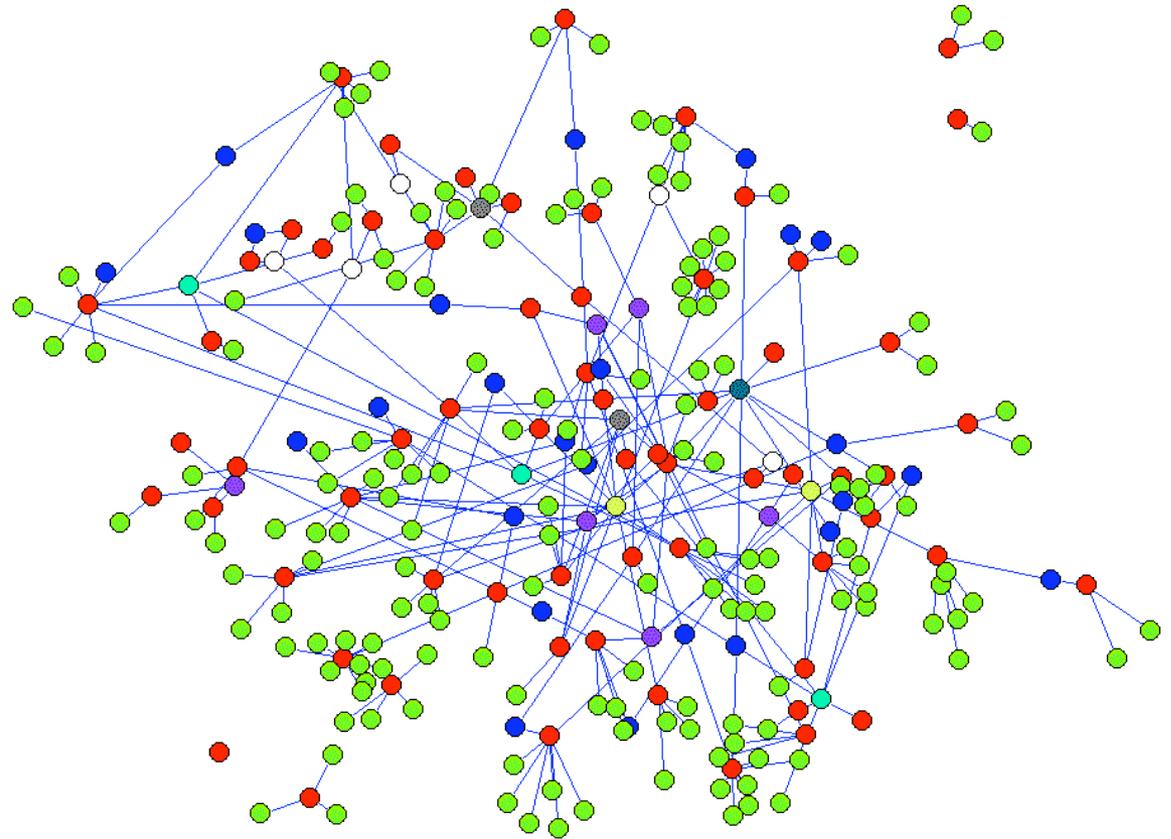


Institutional networks 2000

We found that participation in a community arts initiative greatly expanded the range of organizations with which grantees interacted.

Artists serve as often-invisible connectors between community-based organizations

We interviewed 60 artists about the places they worked during the previous year. The red dots represent artists and the blue and green dots their organizational contacts.



Bottom line

- Cultural resources are an important dimension of community assets. The arts provide opportunities for cultural and creative expression, stimulate social connection and community engagement, and build networks within and between neighborhoods.
 - A combination of bottom-up and top-down efforts can develop the data needed to incorporate cultural assets into community policy and planning.
-

Data Users Survey

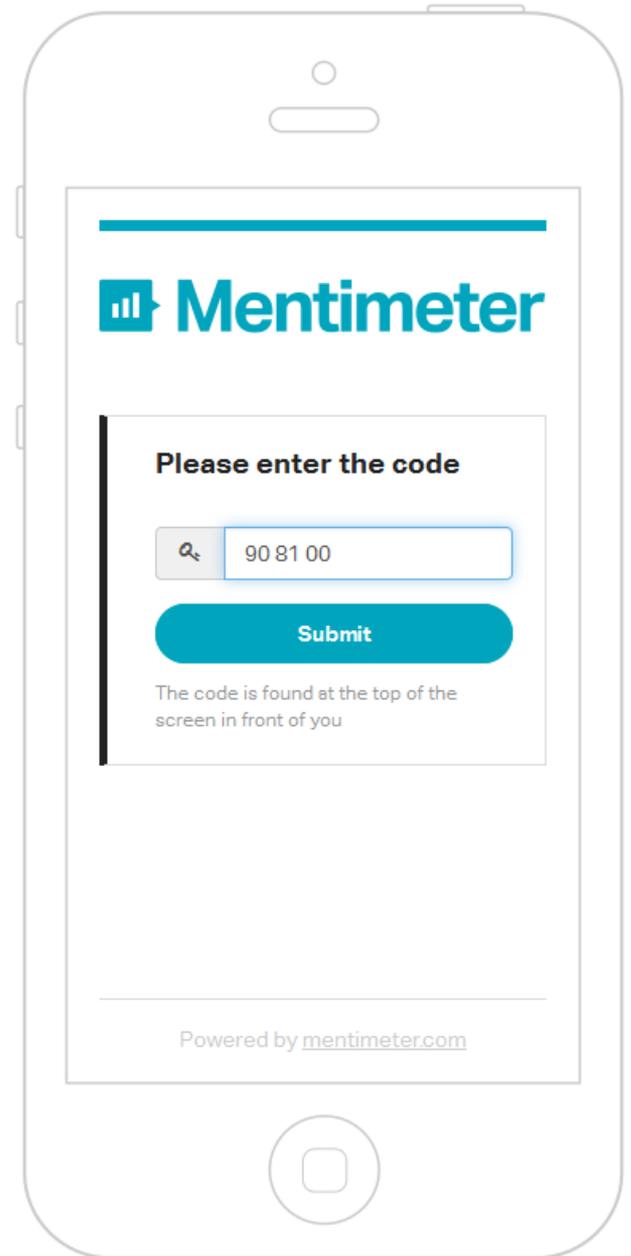
Assessing Data Use and Access

- Examine current successes in data usage
 - Which indicators are most useful?
 - How is the *Vital Signs* data being used?
- Gain a better understanding of gaps
 - What data is needed but not currently accessible?
 - What skills/resources are needed to better utilize data for community benefit?

Data User Survey

Vote www.govote.at

Code 90 81 00



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