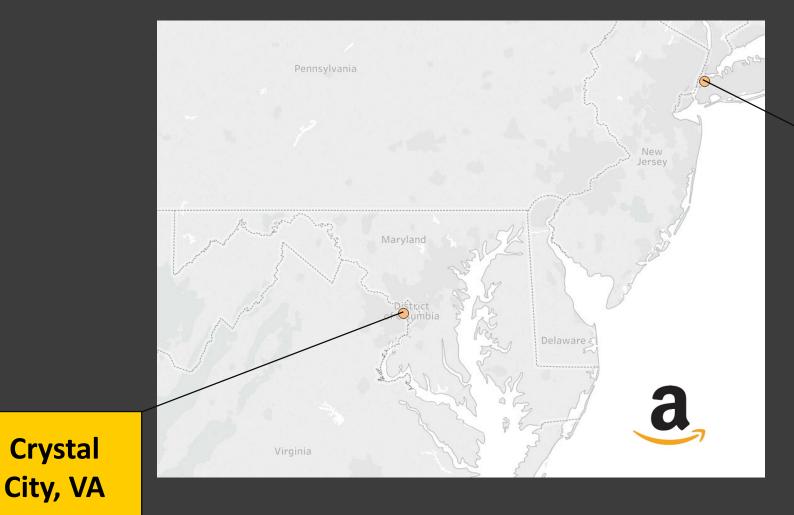
Measuring Disparities in Human Development Across Maryland

Michael Siers Director of Research Regional Economic Studies Institute



Towson.edu/RESI

Economic Development Is Workforce Development

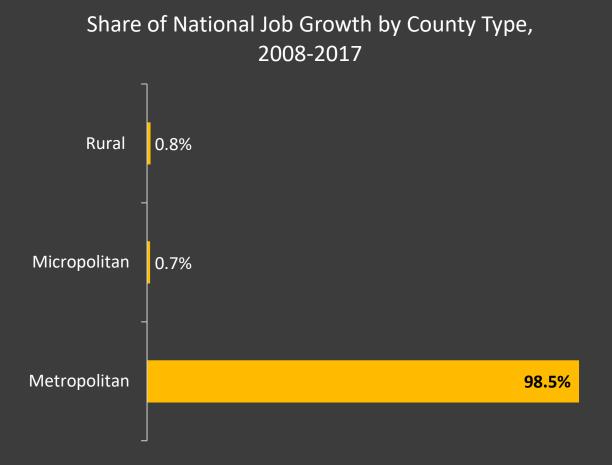


Long Island City, NY*

© Regional Economic Studies Institute of Towson University

Job Creation Patterns Driven by Feedback Loops

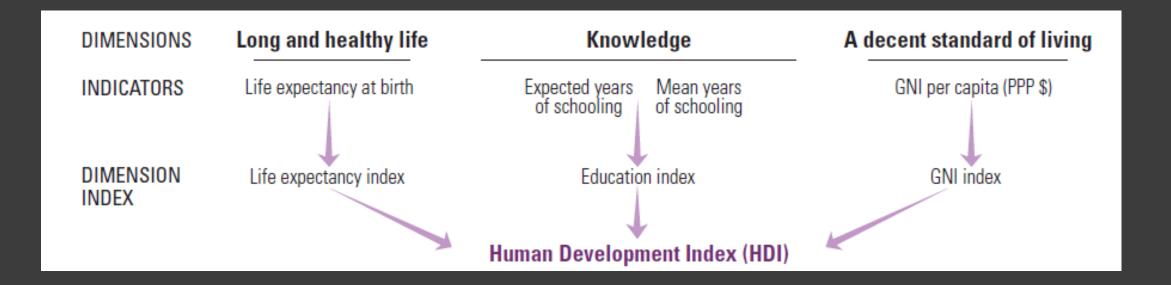
- Major employers and drivers of economic growth are attracted to areas where talent is already located.
- Introduction of a new large employer further increases the disparity between the high and low development areas.



Gaps in Opportunity Take Many Forms

- Different types of disparities:
 - Economic Disparities (i.e. wealth and income inequality)
 - Health Disparities (i.e. healthy births, mortality rates, illness)
 - Criminal Justice Disparities
- Split among different lines:
 - Racial Disparities
 - Gender Disparities
 - Geographic Disparities

The Human Development Index (HDI) Measures Well-Being at the Country Level.



In 2016, the USA ranked 10th in HDI. In 2017/2018, the USA ranked 13th in HDI.

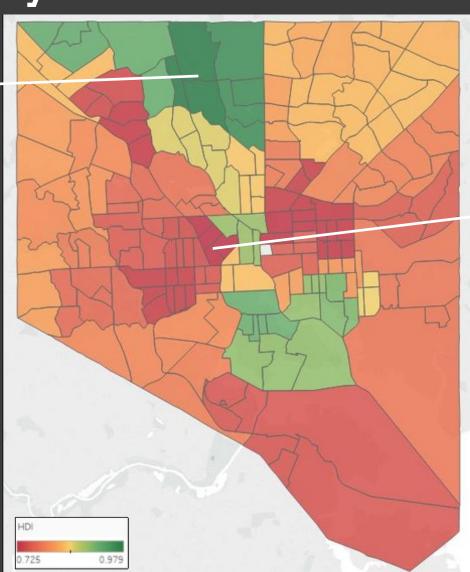
HDI Component	US Value	Global Rank
Life Expectancy	79.5 years	33
Expected Years of Schooling	16.5 years	20
Mean Years of Schooling	13.4 years	3
Gross National Income per Capita	\$54,941	11

Human Development Index Disparities in Baltimore City

Greater Roland Park/Poplar Hill

HDI: 0.979

Theoretical World Ranking: 1 Closest Comparison: Norway (0.949)



Upton/Druid Heights HDI: 0.725 Theoretical World Ranking: 97 Closest Comparison: Tunisia (0.725)

RESI Expanded the Analysis by Calculating HDI for Each Census Tract in Maryland

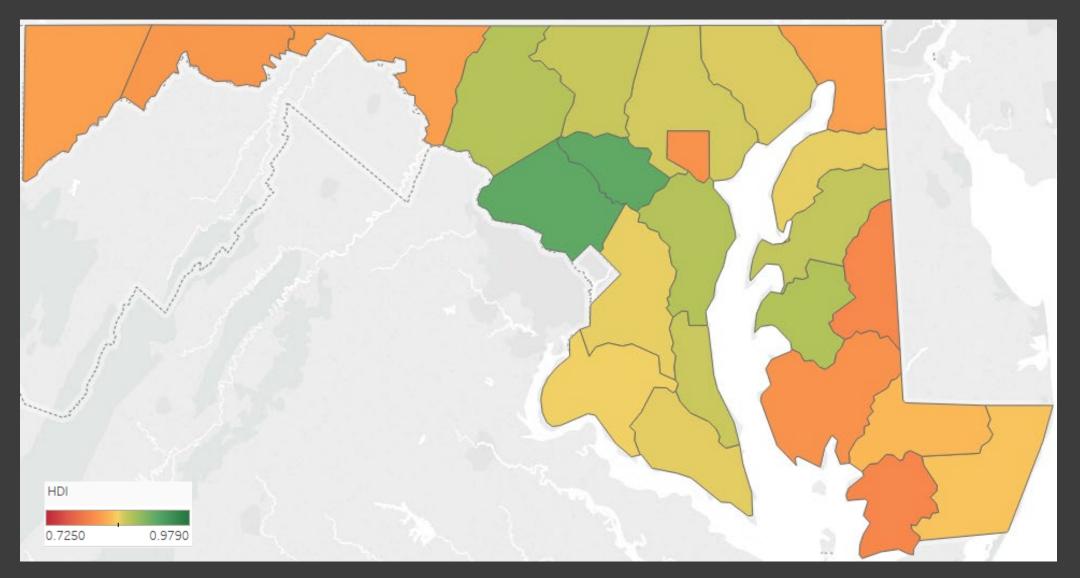
Metric	Statistic Used	Source	
Long and Healthy Life	Life Expectancy	U.S. Small-area Life Expectancy Estimates Project— Centers for Disease Control and Prevention	
Knowledge	Mean Years of Schooling	2013-2017 American Community Survey	
	Expected Years of Schooling		
Standards of Living	Income per Capita	2013-2017 American Community Survey	

© Regional Economic Studies Institute of Towson University

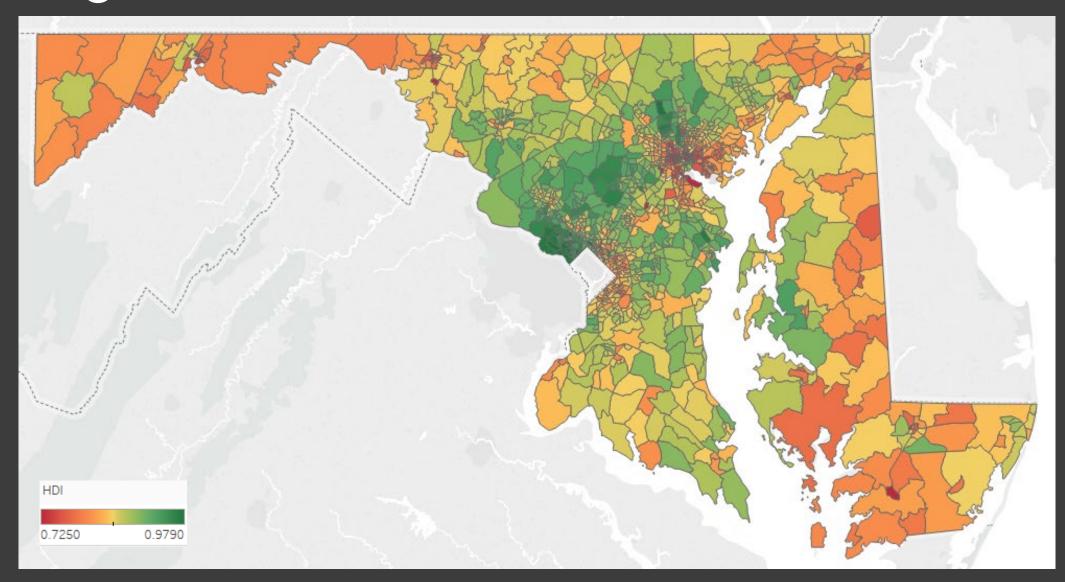




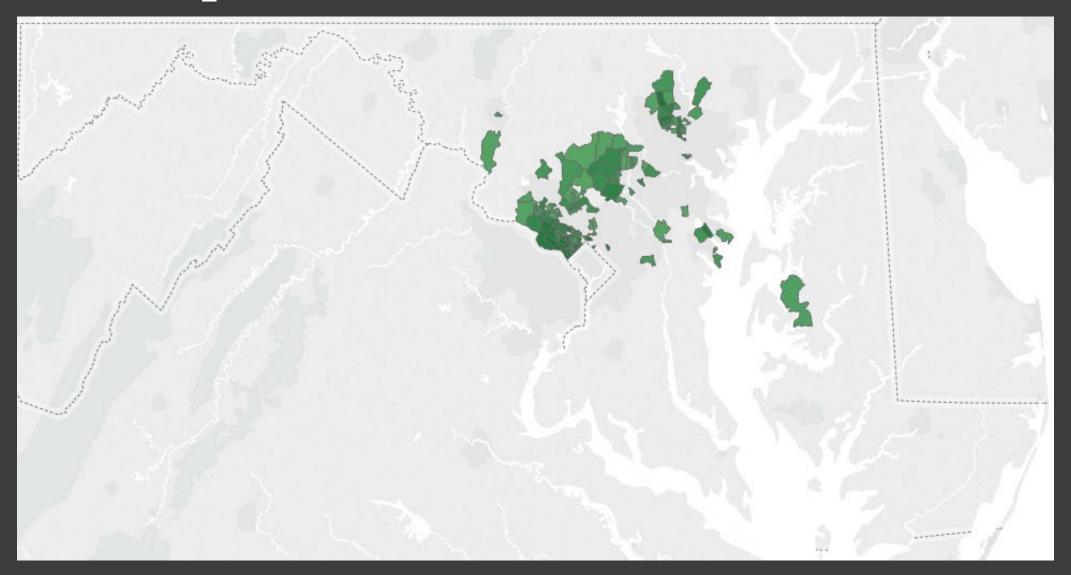
Counties Provide More Detail



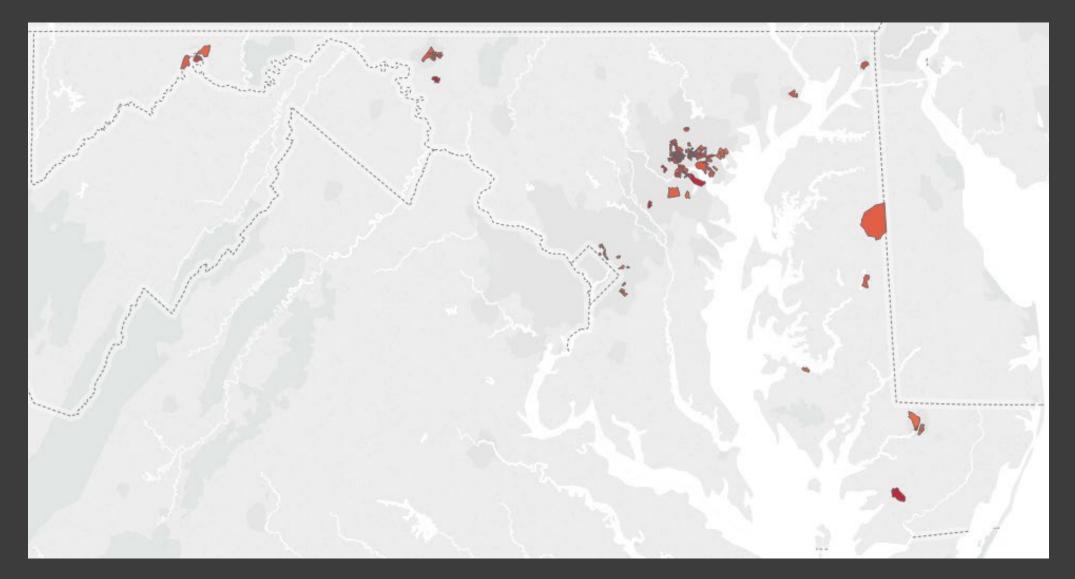
Neighborhood Data Illustrates Local Variations



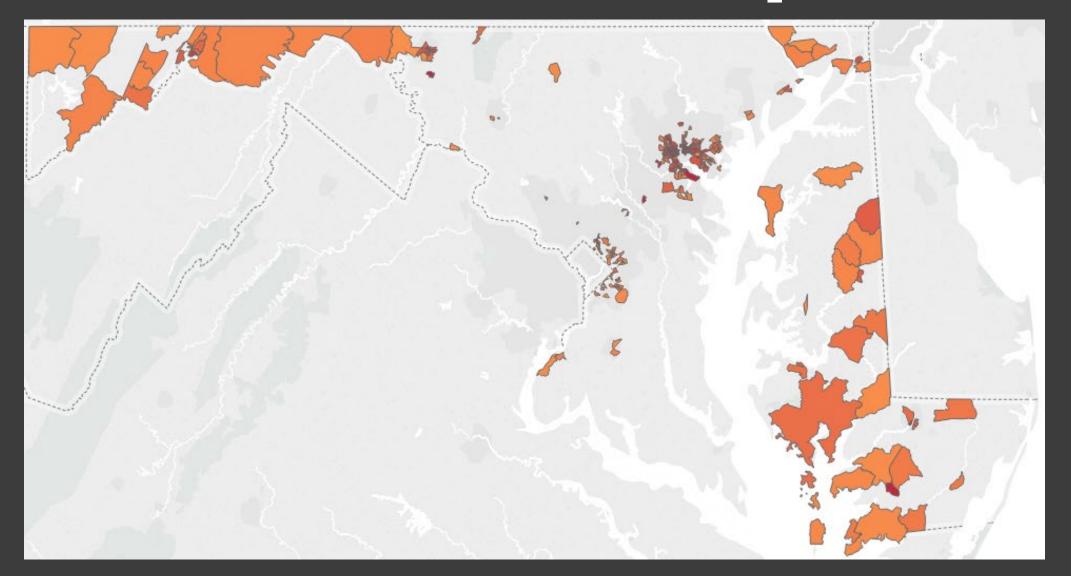
The Top Census Tracts Are Concentrated



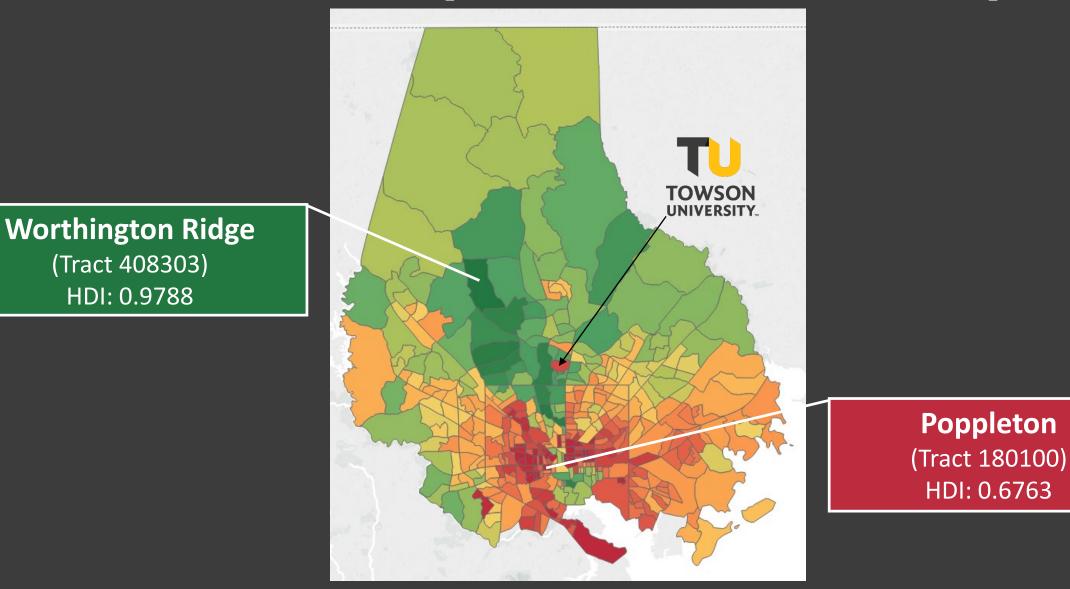
As Are the Lowest



But Issues are Still Widespread



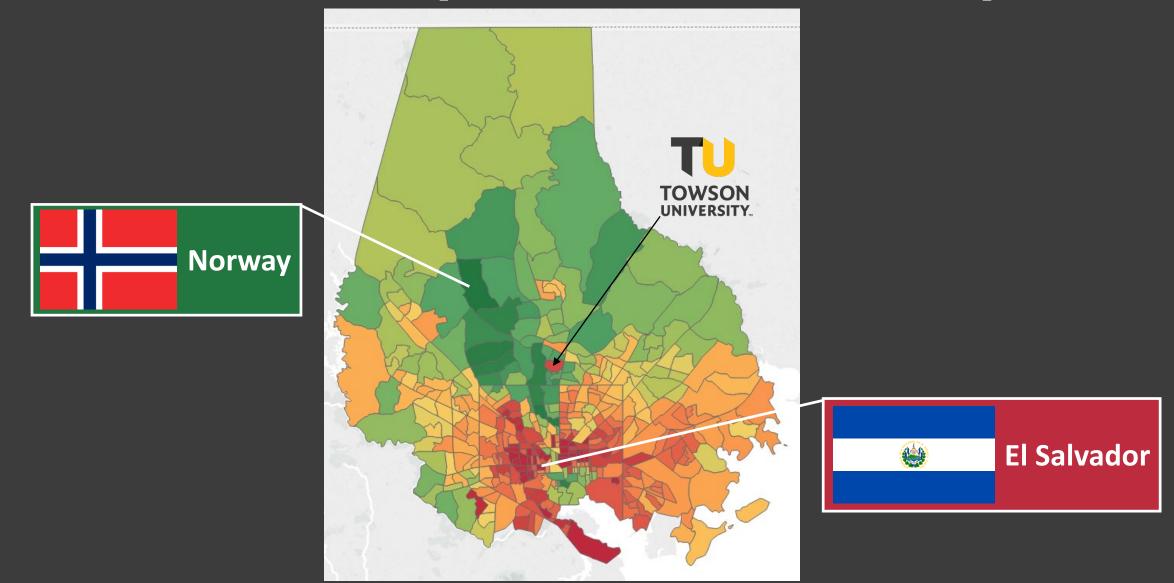




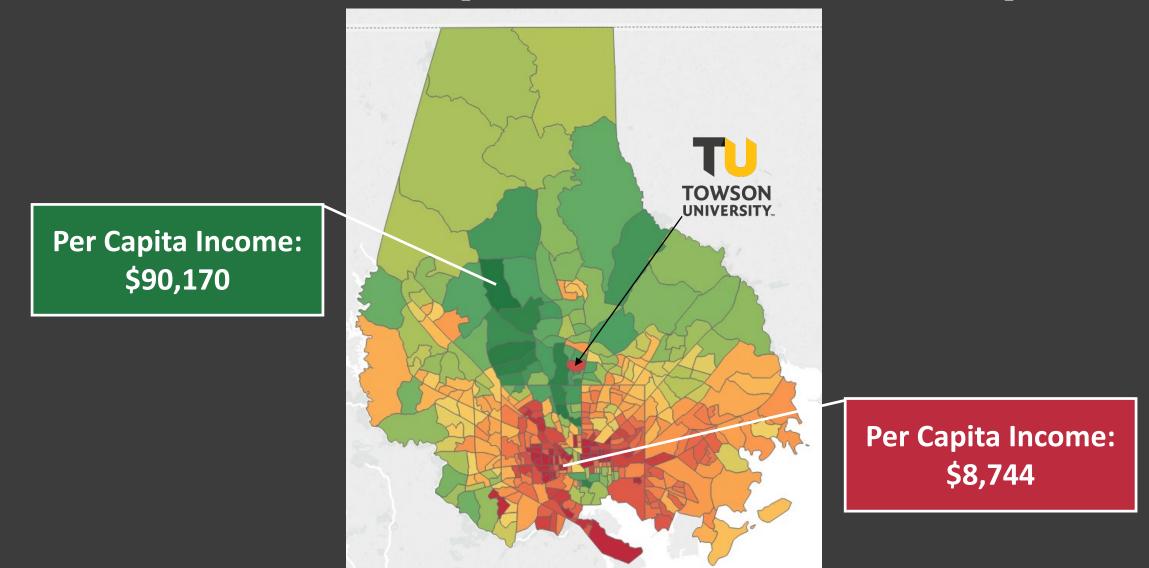
(Tract 408303)

HDI: 0.9788

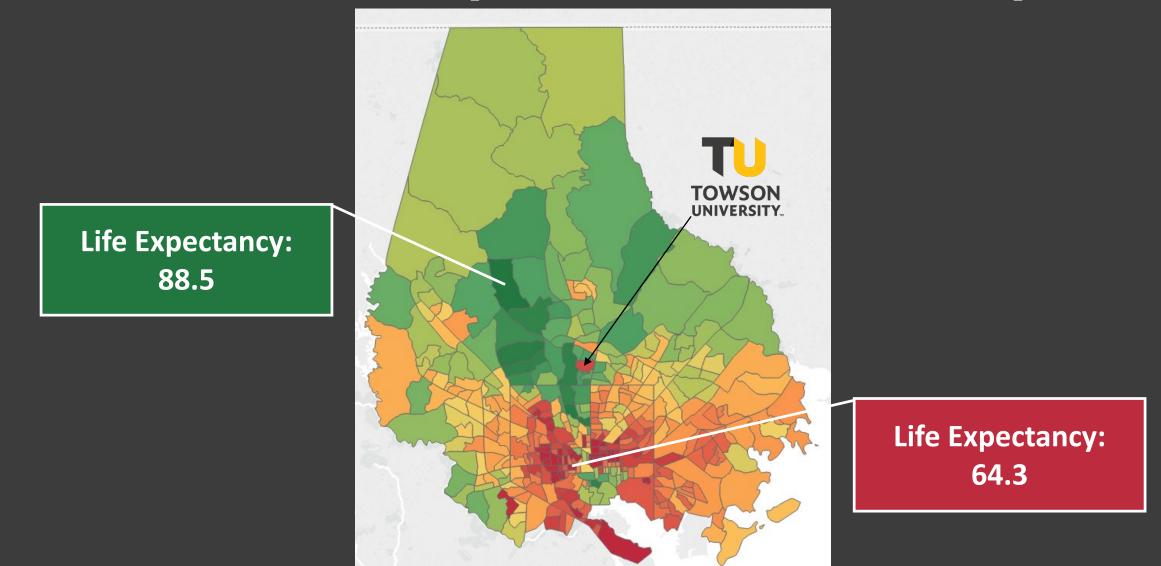






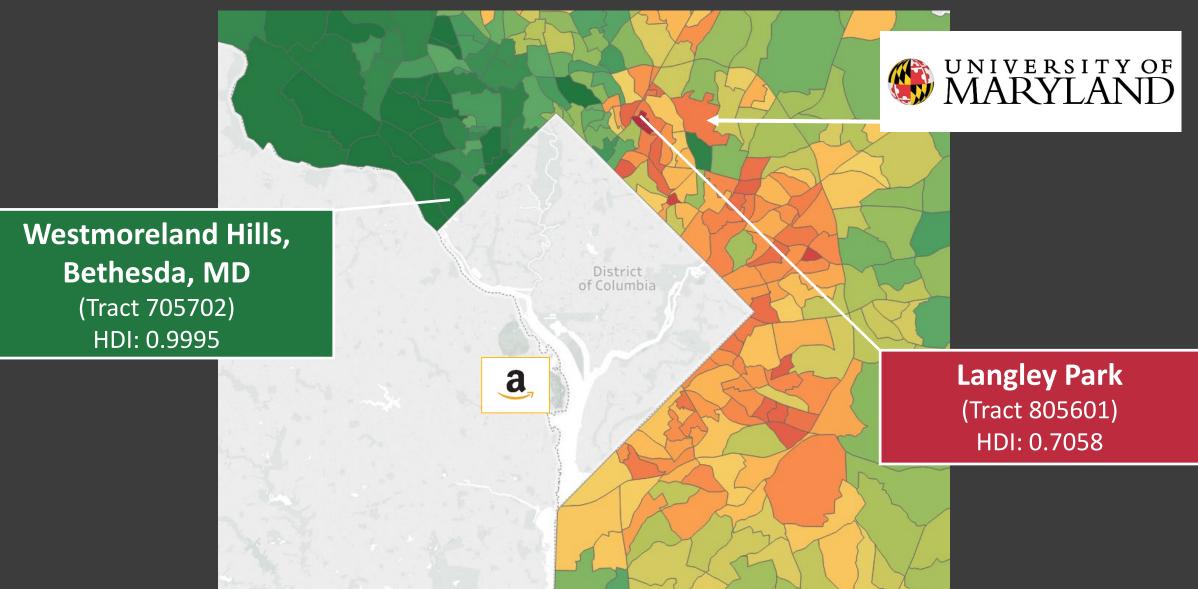




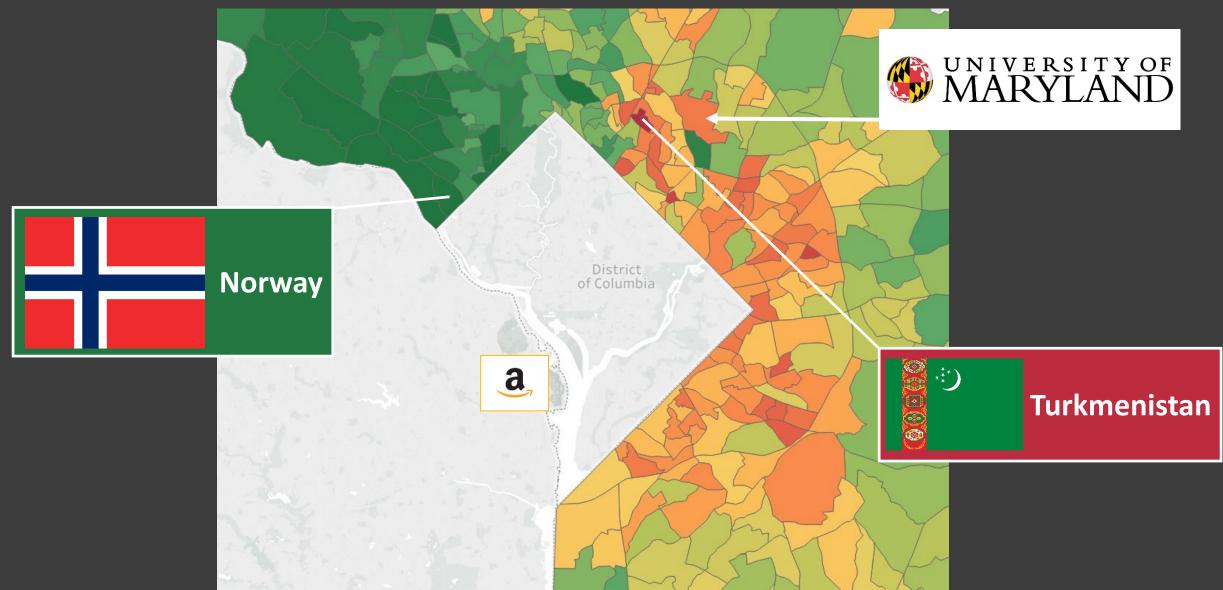


Ē

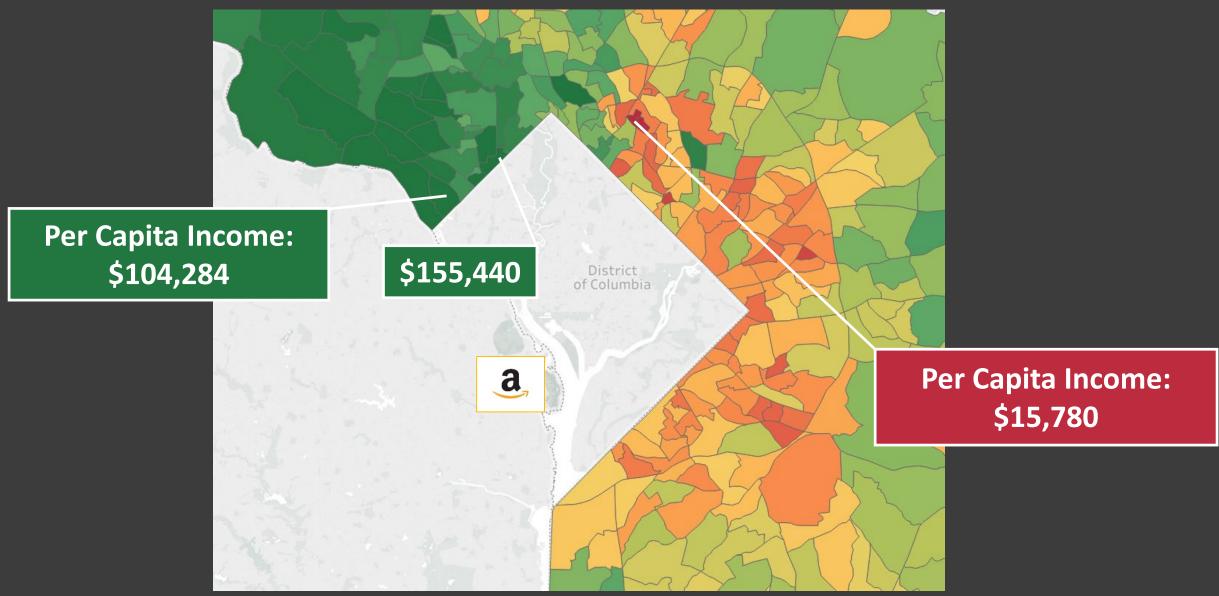
DC Suburbs



DC Suburbs



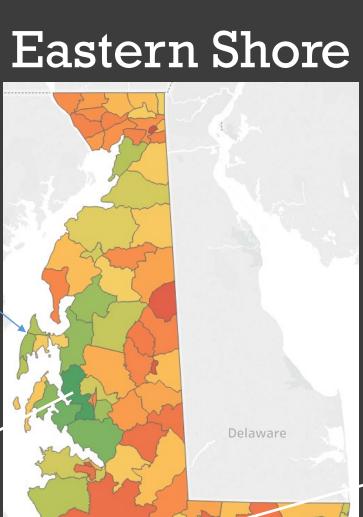
DC Suburbs







Easton / Unionville (Tract 960201) HDI: 0.9317



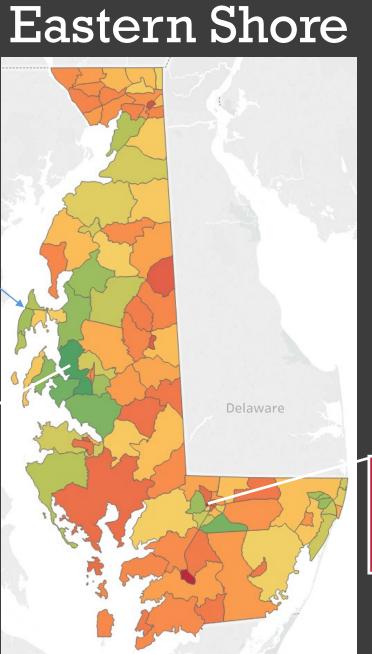
West Salisbury (Tract 000300) HDI: 0.7348

© Regional Economic Studies Institute of Towson University







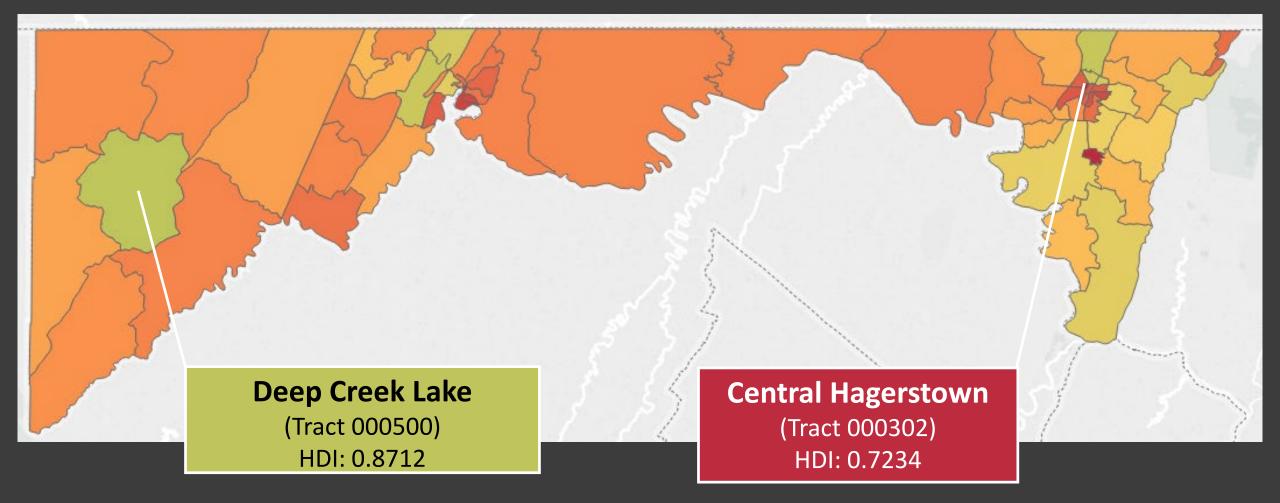




© Regional Economic Studies Institute of Towson University

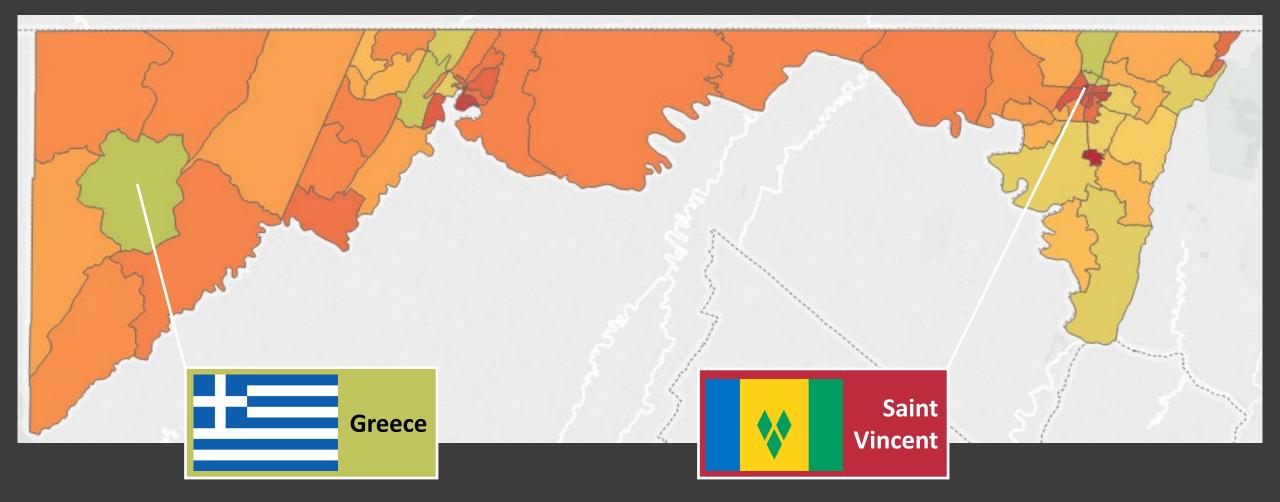


Western Maryland





Western Maryland

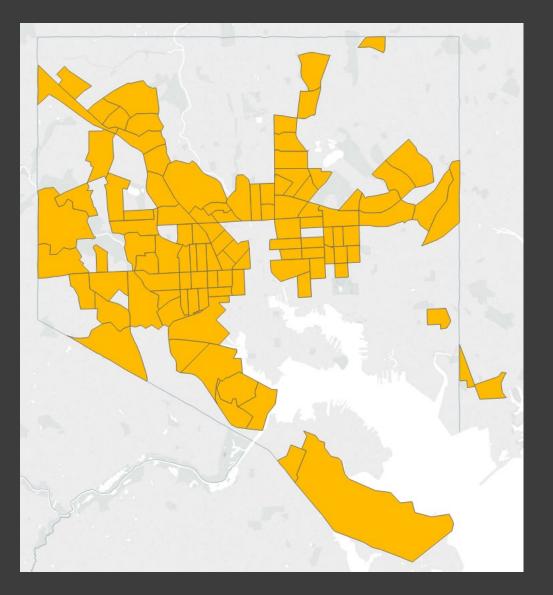


© Regional Economic Studies Institute of Towson University

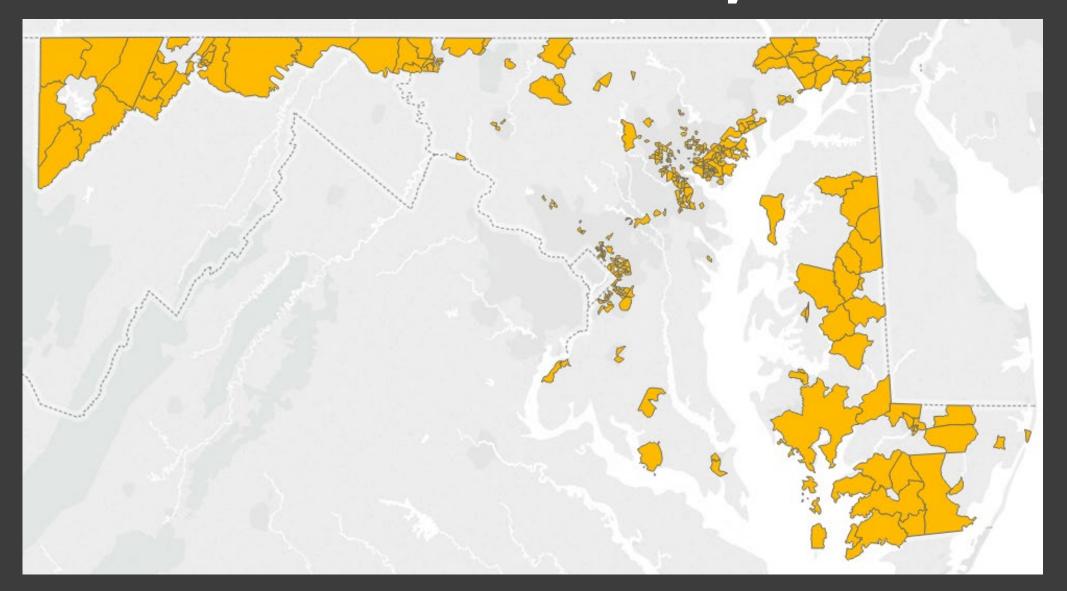
Identifying Patterns With a Cluster Analysis

- Cluster analysis identifies how census tracts are alike and groups similar tracts together.
- How are the bottom third of census tracts different?
 - Will the same solutions work in every tract?
- Variety of statistical techniques and variables used consistently identified two clusters

Cluster 1: Urban Core



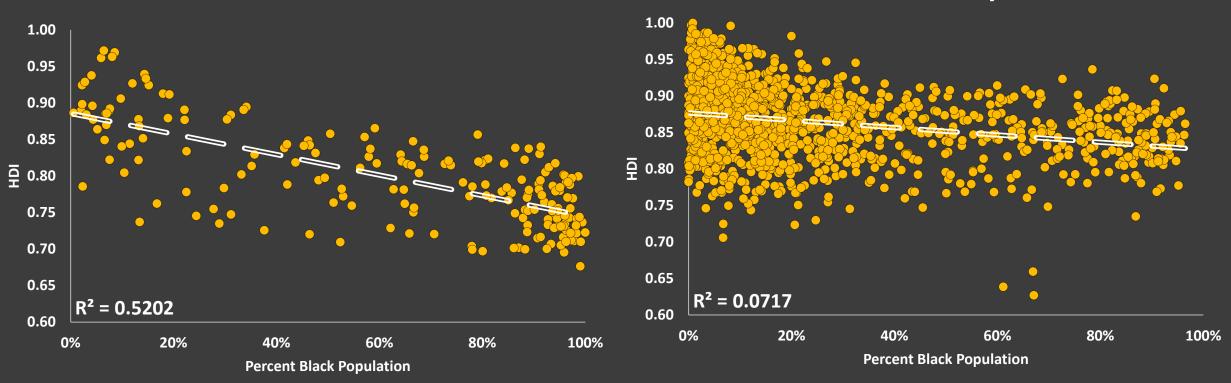
Cluster 2: Wider Maryland



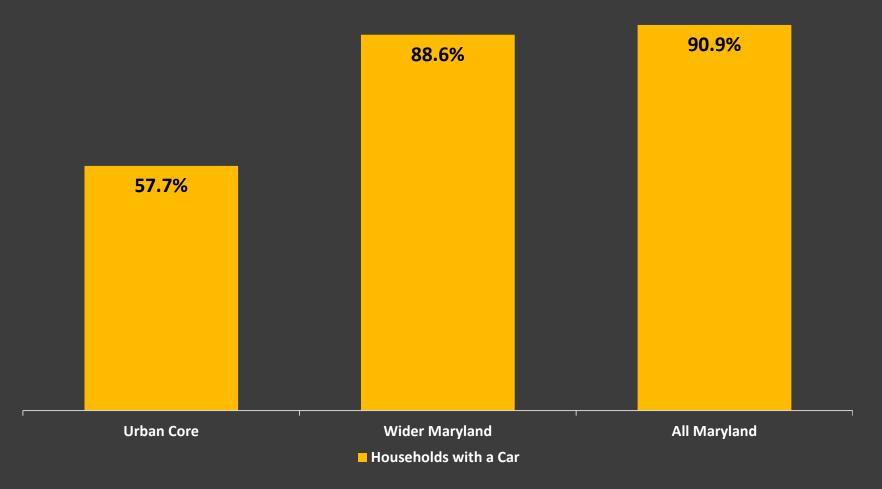
Redlining and Persistent Segregation Create Issues Unique to Baltimore

Baltimore City

Rest of Maryland

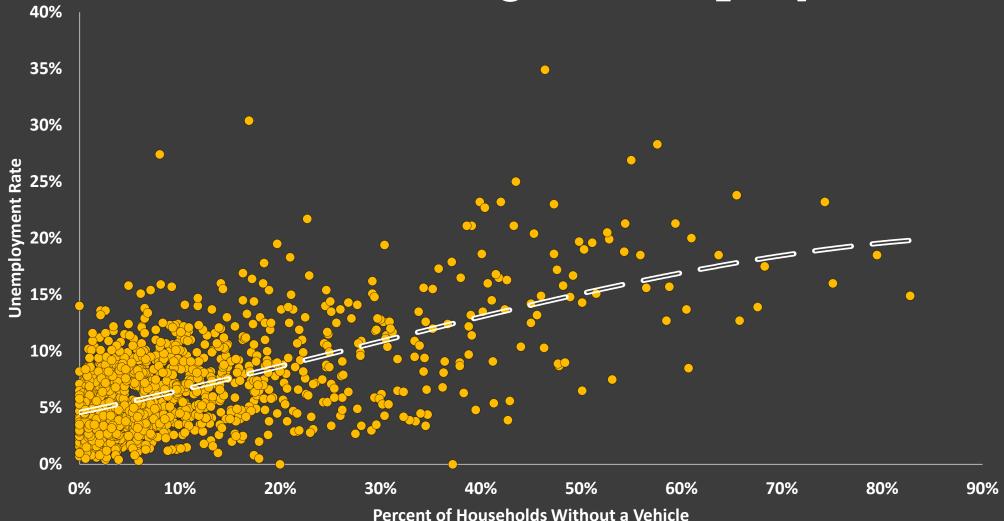


Households in the Urban Core Are Much Less Likely to Have Access to a Car



© Regional Economic Studies Institute of Towson University

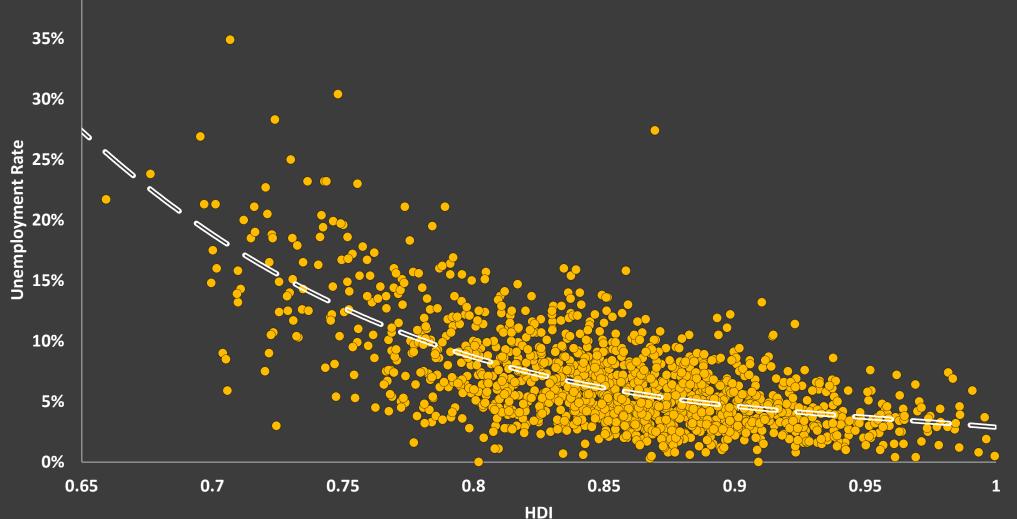
Lack of Vehicle Access is Strongly Correlated with High Unemployment



© Regional Economic Studies Institute of Towson University

Sources: RESI, US Census Bureau

High Unemployment is Strongly Correlated with Low HDI

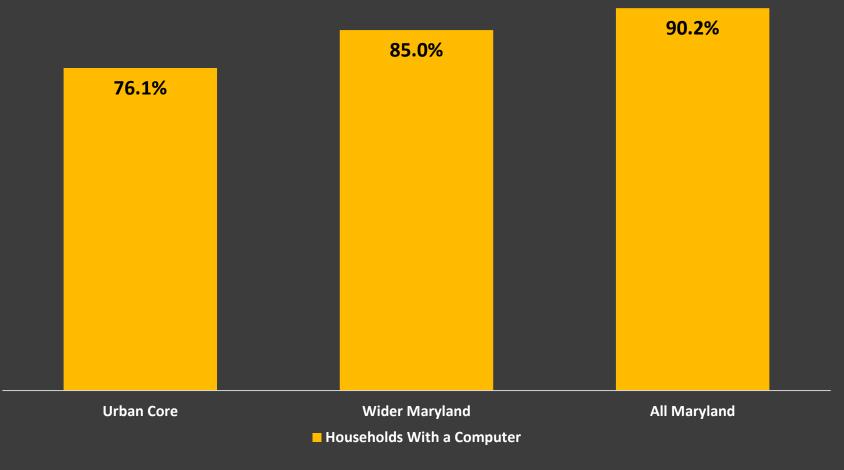






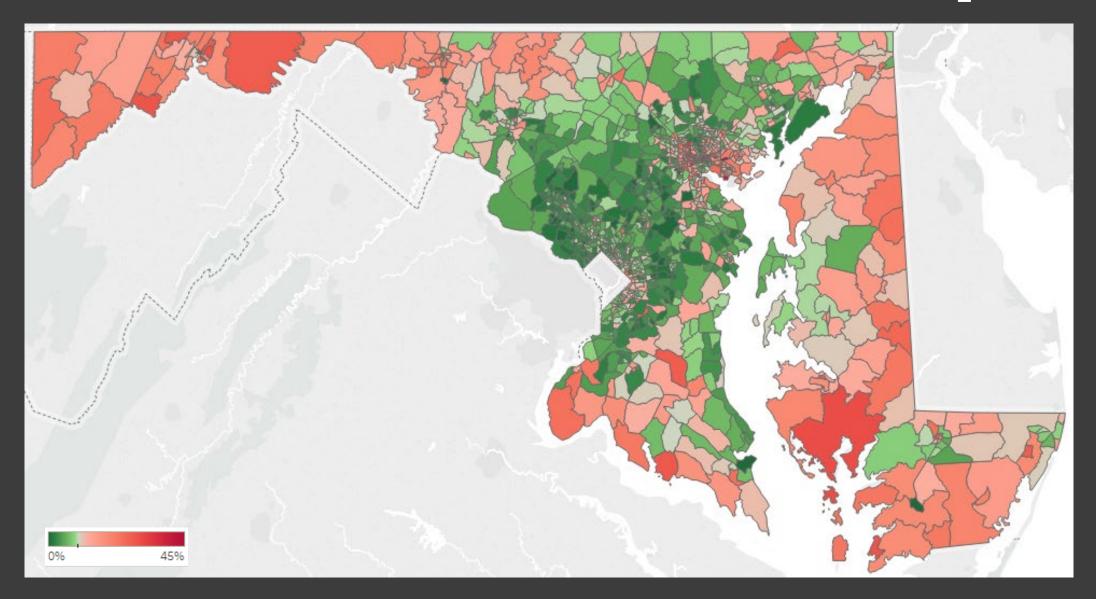
- Provides vehicles to low-income families
- Access to a car improves quality of life
 - 75 percent of recipients get better jobs or increased earnings
 - \$7,000 average increased earnings for families who get a car through VFC
 - Average length of commute declines by 90 minutes
 - Increased access to routine medical care and after-school activities

Households in Both Clusters Are Less Likely to Own a Computer



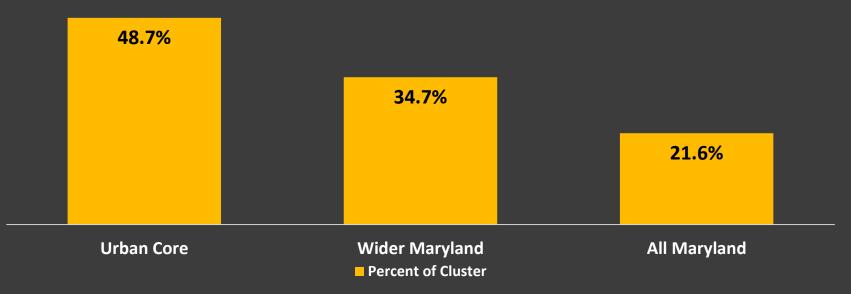
© Regional Economic Studies Institute of Towson University

Households Across MD are Without a Computer

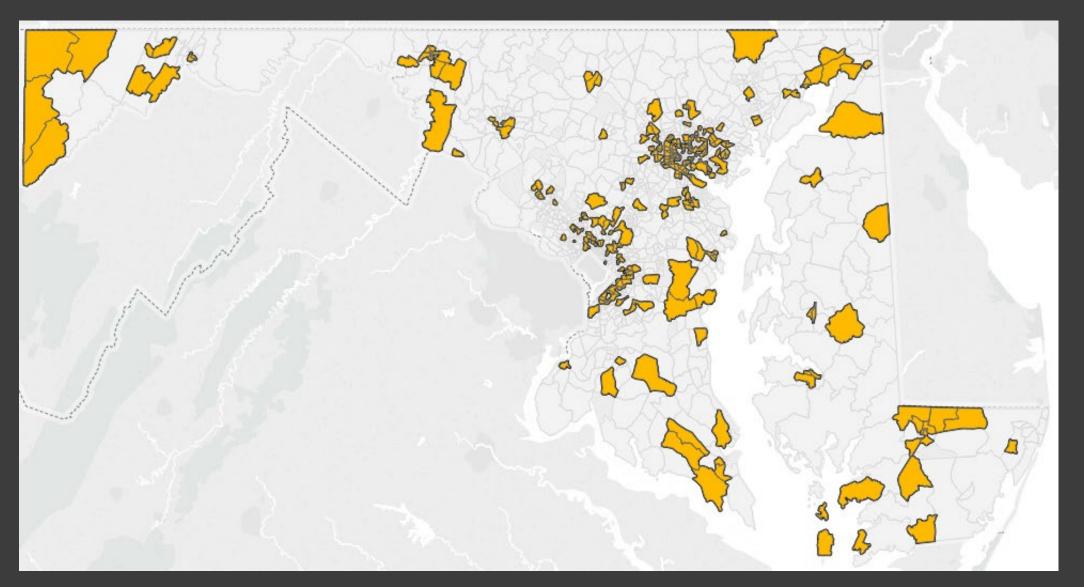




Food Deserts Are More Common in Low HDI Tracts, Especially in the Urban Core



But Food Deserts Exist All Over the State









- Provides weekend food packages to children identified as food insecure
- Largest sponsor of afterschool meals program in Baltimore City

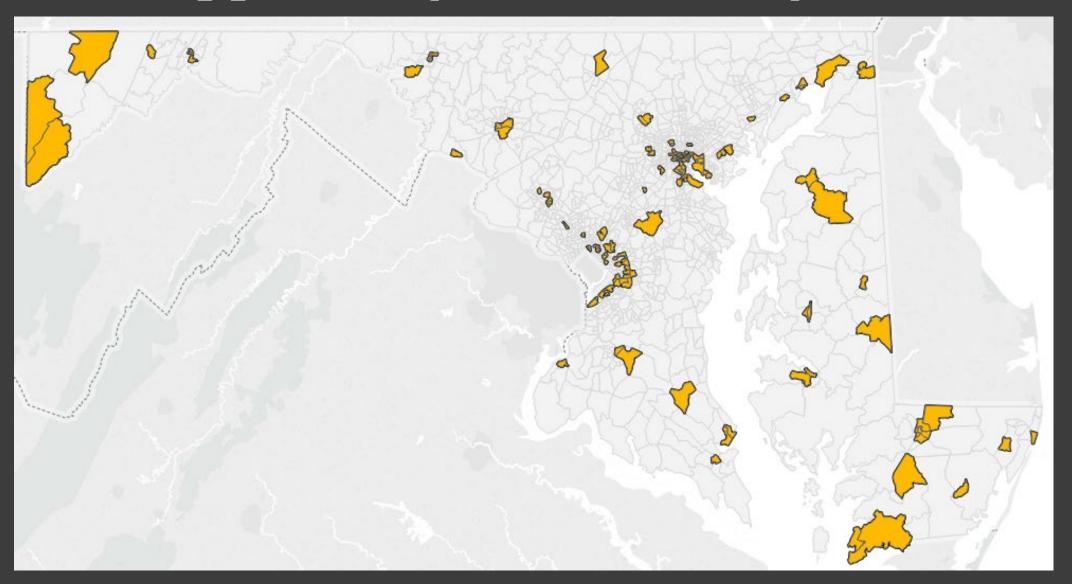
80 percent of children in Baltimore City Public Schools are enrolled in the free-lunch program, according to MSDE statistics.



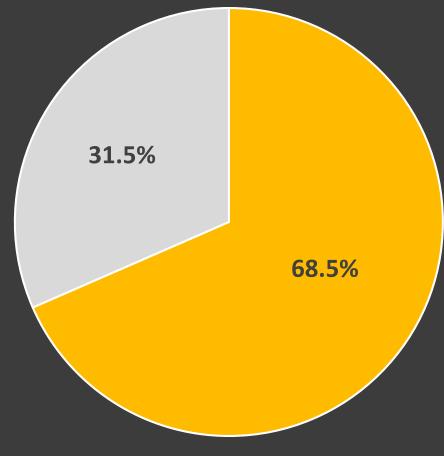
Opportunity Zones Offer the "Opportunity" for Long-Term Growth

- Provides tax incentives for long-term investment in low-income census tracts
- 149 census tracts in Maryland are currently designated as opportunity zones

Opportunity Zones in Maryland



Opportunity Zones are Concentrated in Low HDI Areas



Low HDI Zones Rest of Maryland

Another Approach to Developing Wider Maryland: Placemaking



 While opportunity zones focus on bringing businesses in, placemaking focuses on attracting people.

• Example: Downtown Frederick Revitalization

Conclusion

- Local Variations
- Causes for variations are not the same across the state
 - Different causes require different solutions
- Emphasis on unemployment
 - Is it getting access to existing jobs or bringing new jobs to a region?

Conclusion

• Opportunity Zones vs Placemaking

- Resource needs
 - Access to car
 - Computer
 - High speed internet
 - Healthy food
- Complicated problems require an "all hands" approach
 - This includes you!



msiers@towson.edu



Towson.edu/RESI