



Housing Mobility and Economic Opportunity

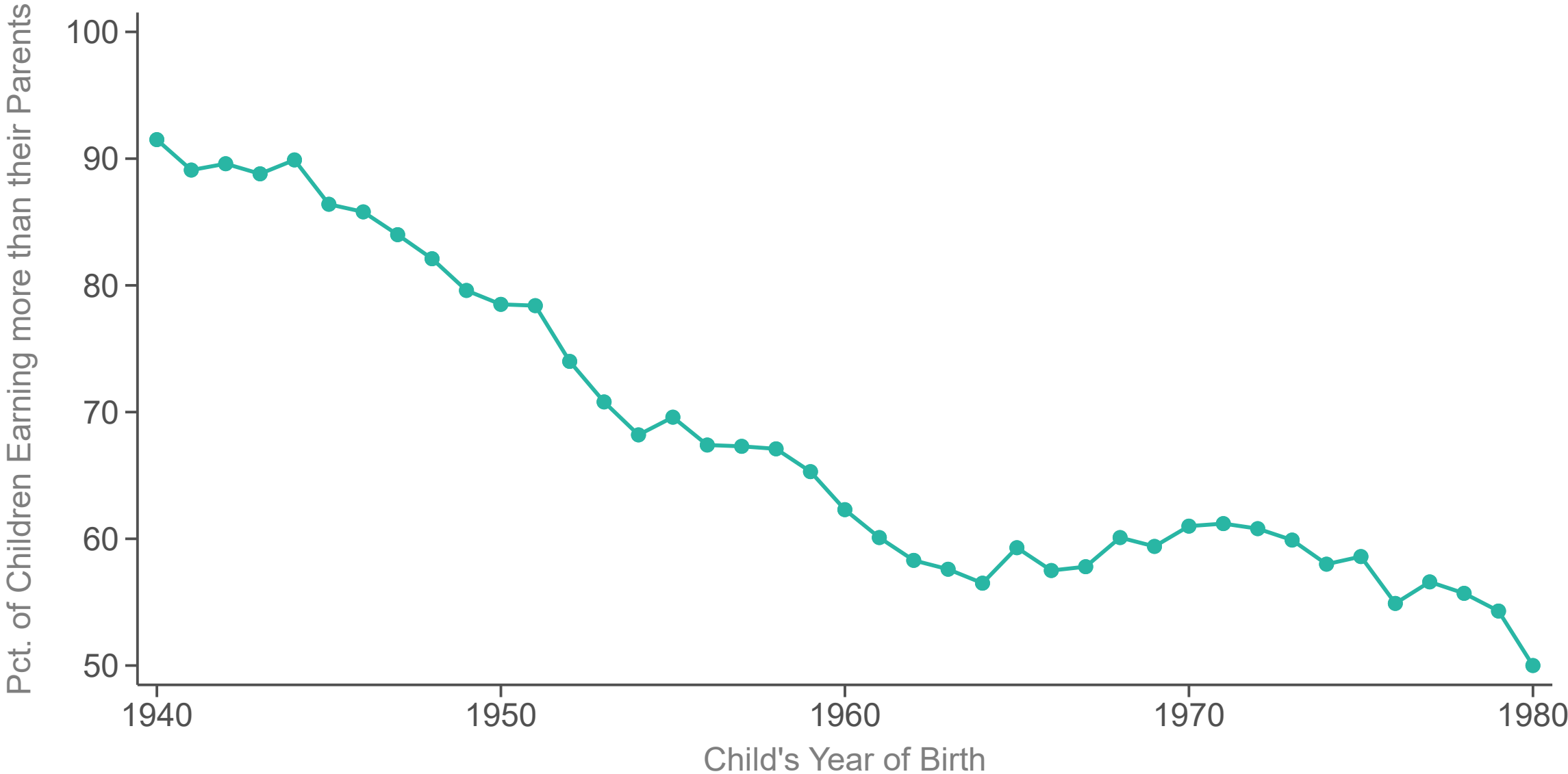
Recent Progress and Future Directions



Raj Chetty
Harvard University

The Fading American Dream

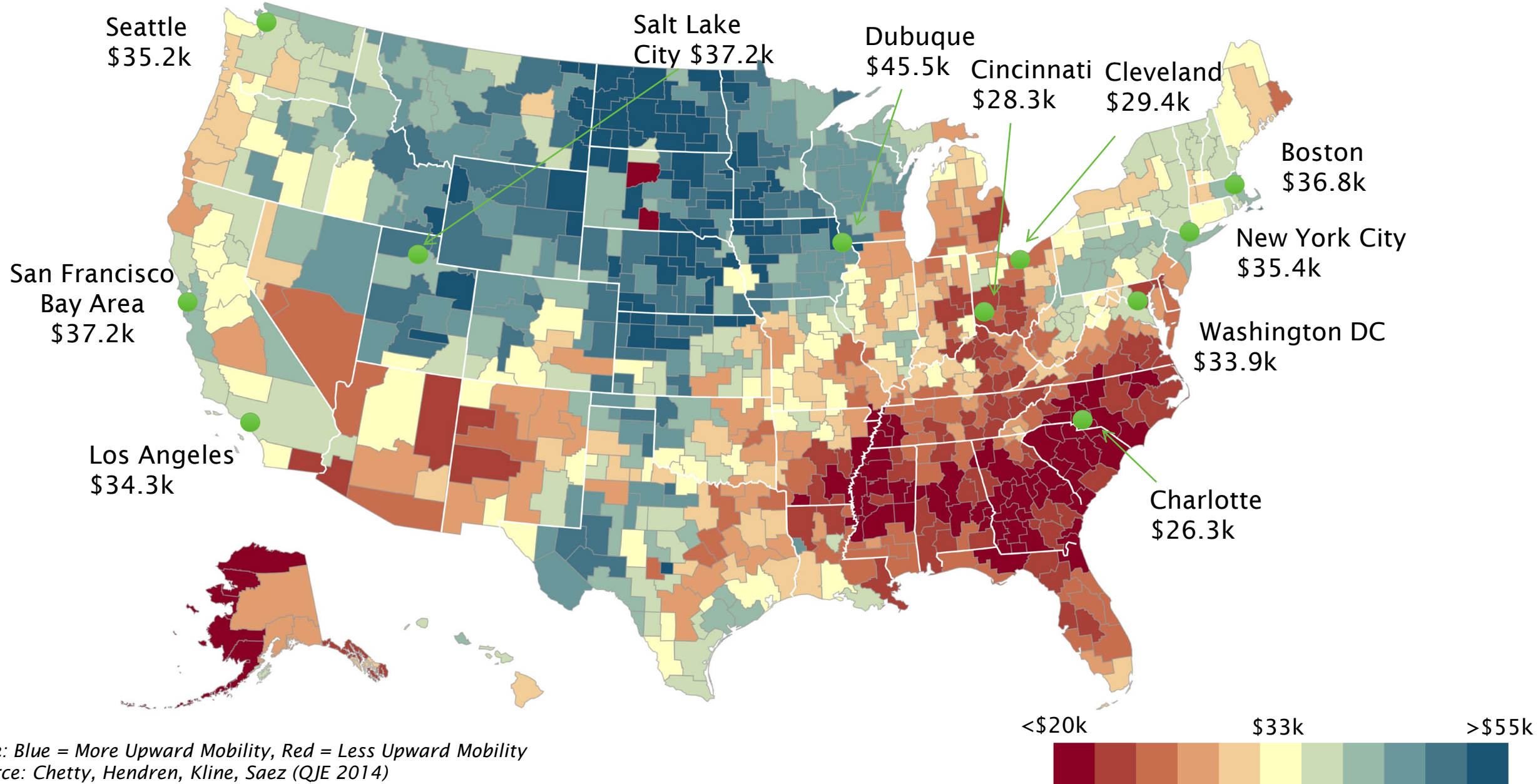
Percent of Children Earning More than Their Parents, by Year of Birth



Source: Chetty, Grusky, Hell, Hendren, Manduca, Narang (Science 2017)

The Geography of Upward Mobility in the United States

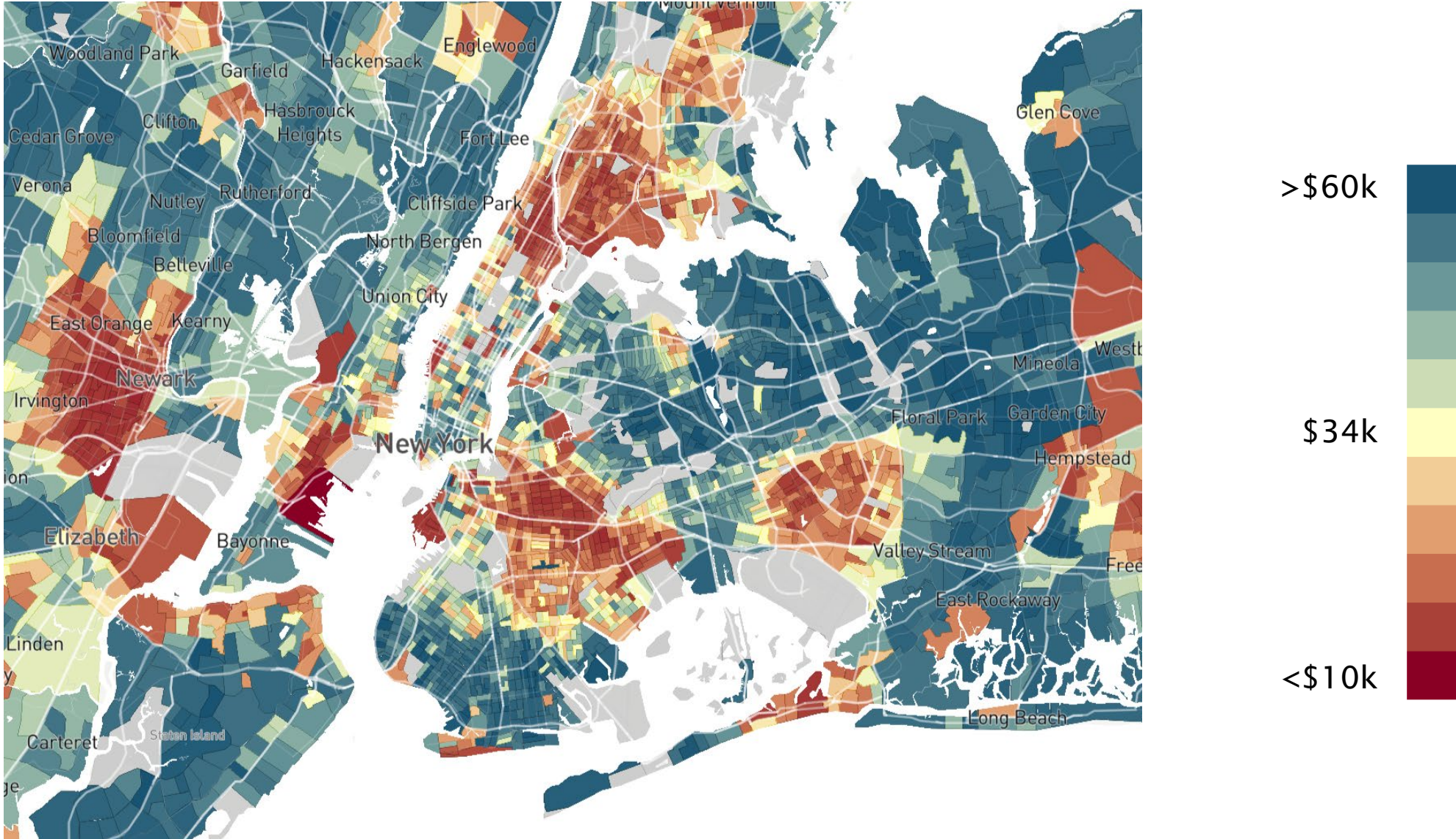
Average Household Income at Age 35 for Children whose Parents Earned \$27k (25th pctile)



Note: Blue = More Upward Mobility, Red = Less Upward Mobility
Source: Chetty, Hendren, Kline, Saez (QJE 2014)

The Geography of Upward Mobility in New York

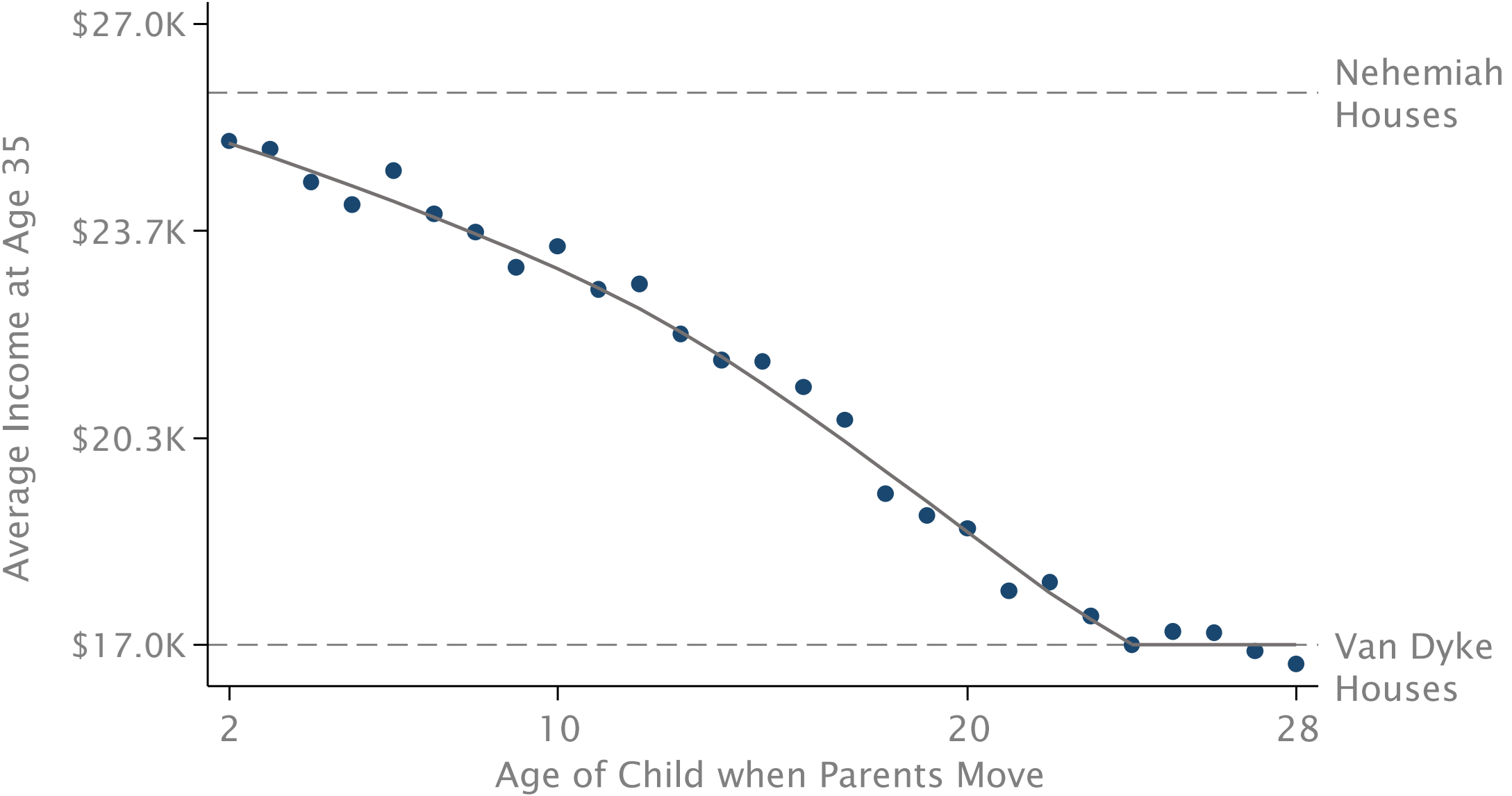
Average Income at Age 35 for Children whose Parents Earned \$27,000 (25th percentile)



See estimates for other cities at [The Opportunity Atlas: www.opportunityatlas.org](http://www.opportunityatlas.org)

Income Gain from Moving to a Better Neighborhood

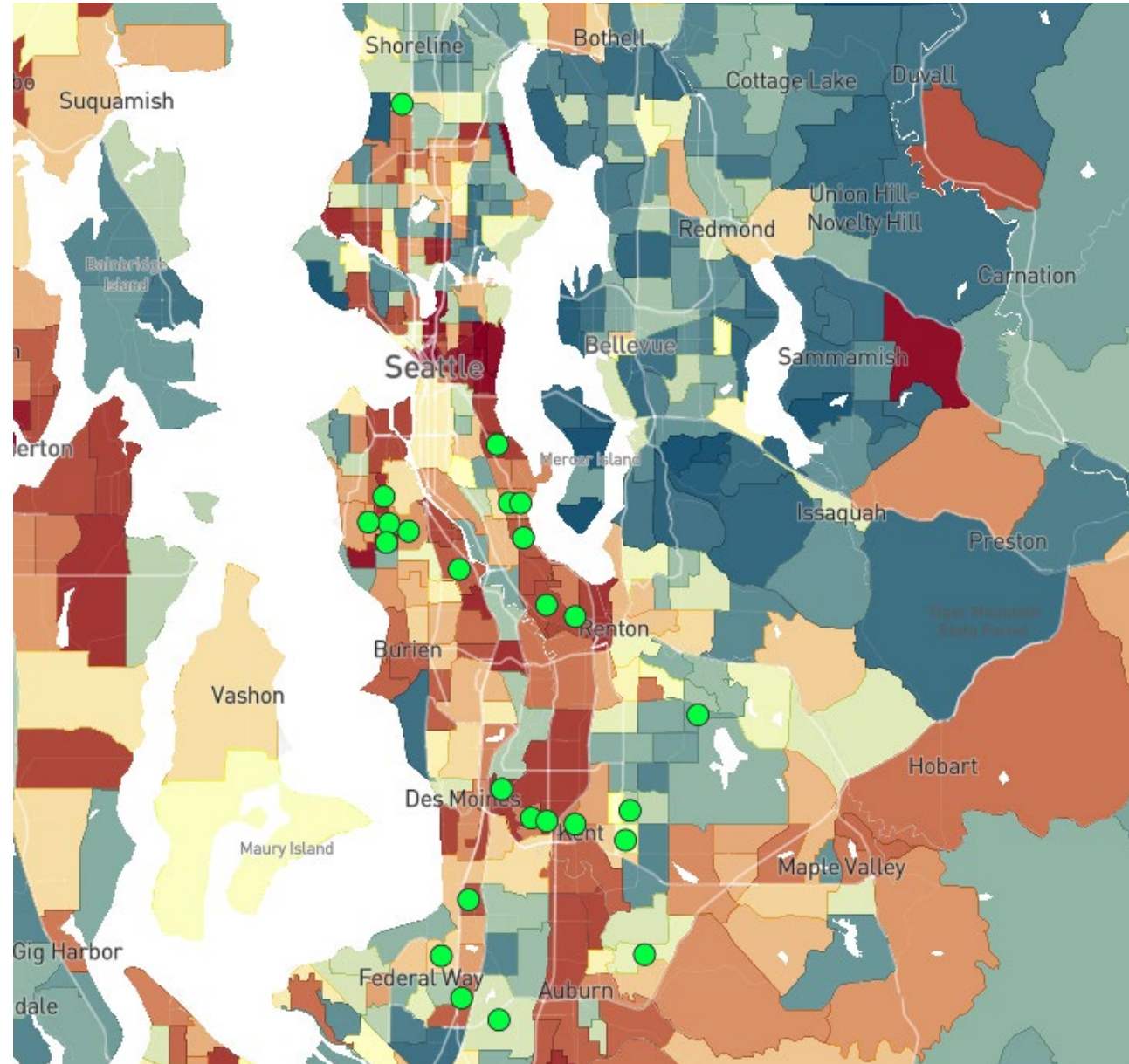
By Child's Age at Move



Source: Chetty and Hendren (QJE 2018)

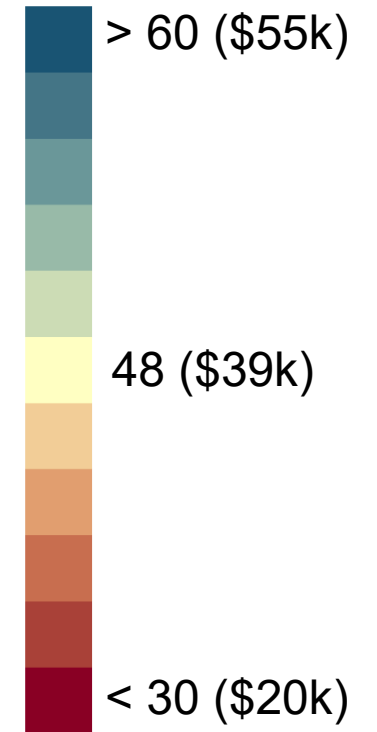
The Geography of Upward Mobility in Seattle

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



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

Percentile Rank in Adulthood

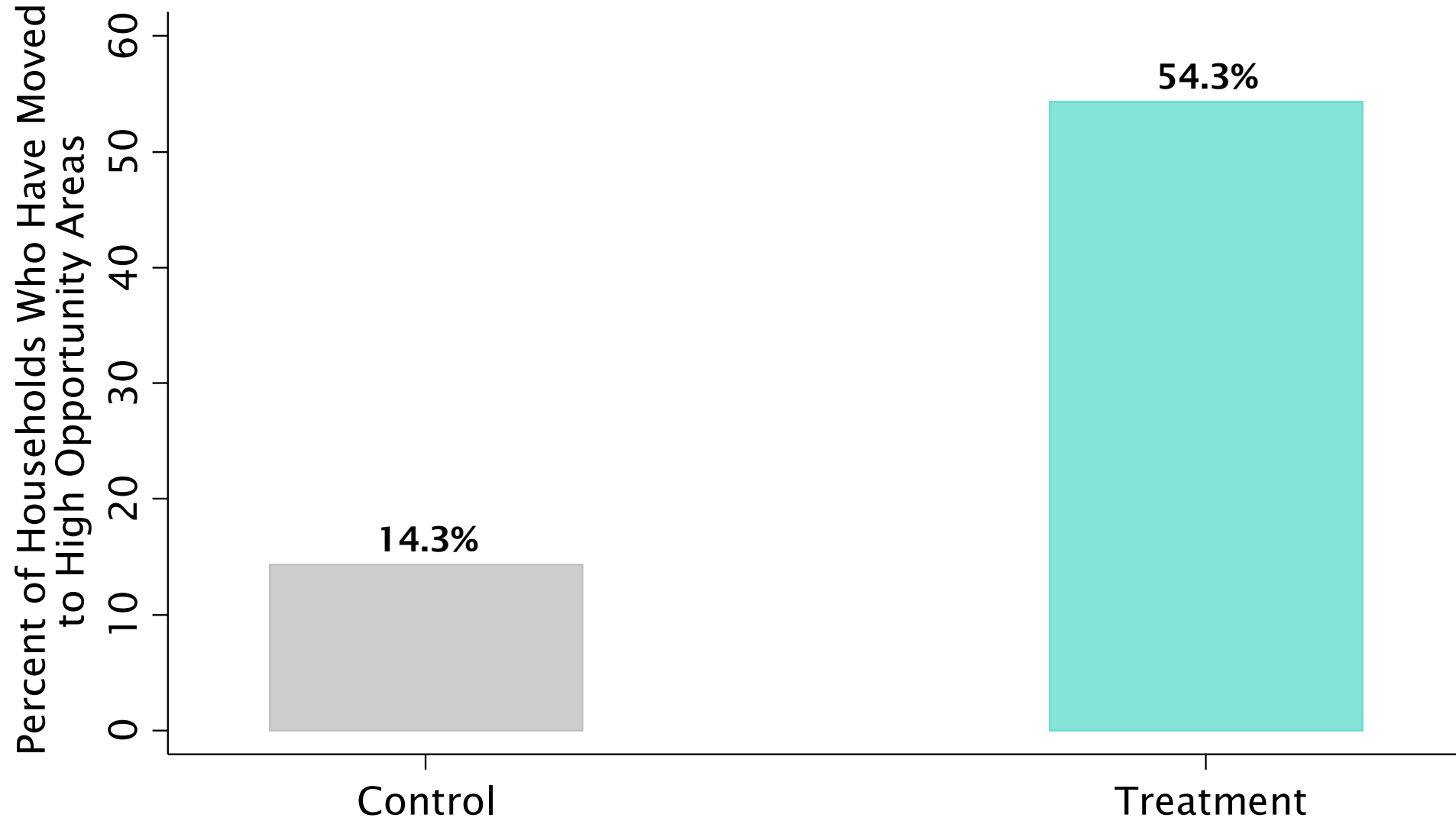


Creating Moves to Opportunity in Seattle

Randomized trial to help families with housing vouchers move to high-opportunity neighborhoods by providing customized counseling, connections to landlords, and financial support



Fraction of Families Who Leased Units in High-Opportunity Areas



Difference: **40.0 pp**
SE: (5.2)

Source: Bergman, Chetty, DeLuca, Hendren, Katz, Palmer (AER 2023)

Qualitative Evidence on Mechanisms Underlying Impacts of CMTO



Emotional/Psychological Support

“It was this whole flood of relief. It was this whole flood of, “I don’t know how I’m going to do this” and “I don’t know what I’m going to do” and “This isn’t working,” and yeah...I think it was just the supportive nature of having lots of conversations with Megan.” –Jackie



Brokering with Landlords

“When you find a place, I will come with you, and we will help you to fill out the application. I will talk with the landlord, I will help you to do a lot of stuff, that maybe sometimes will be complicated.” –Leah

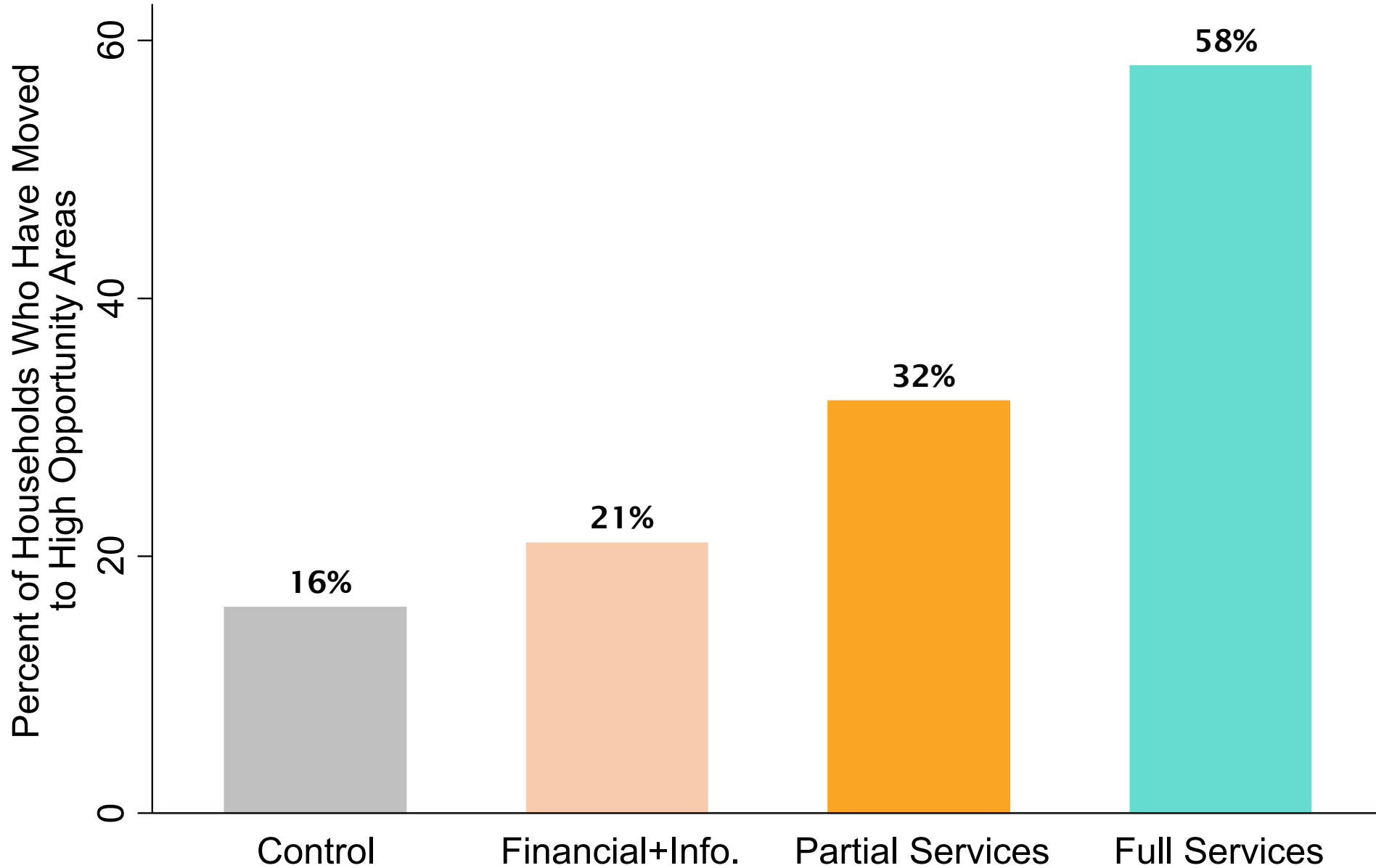


Short-Term Financial Assistance

*“I’m not going to be able to pay here and then there [in the new apartment] ...**They were able to get me more money**, so that they would pay more of my first portion of my rent. Because **they understood the situation that I was in.**” –Jennifer*

Fraction of Families Who Leased Units in High-Opportunity Areas

Phase II of CMTO Pilot Study



From Research to Policy: Impacts on Federal Affordable Housing Policies

Housing Choice Voucher Mobility Demonstration Act (2018)

115TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 5793

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 11, 2018

Received; read twice and referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

AN ACT

To authorize the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to carry out a housing choice voucher mobility demonstration to encourage families receiving such voucher assistance to move to lower-poverty areas and expand access to opportunity areas.

- 1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
- 2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

Family Stability and Opportunity Vouchers Act (2023)

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1257

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.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 25, 2023

Mr. VAN HOLLEN (for himself and Mr. YOUNG) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

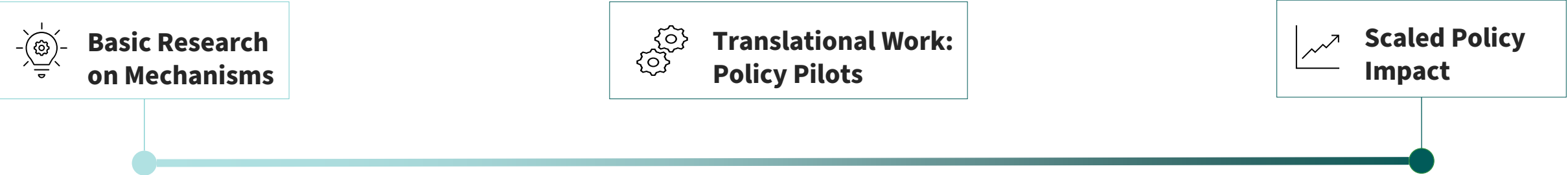
A BILL

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 2023”.

A Model for Social Science Research and Policy

From Big Data Research to Collaborative Work with Practitioners to Policy Impact



Directions for Future Research and Policy

Current Research Projects at Opportunity Insights



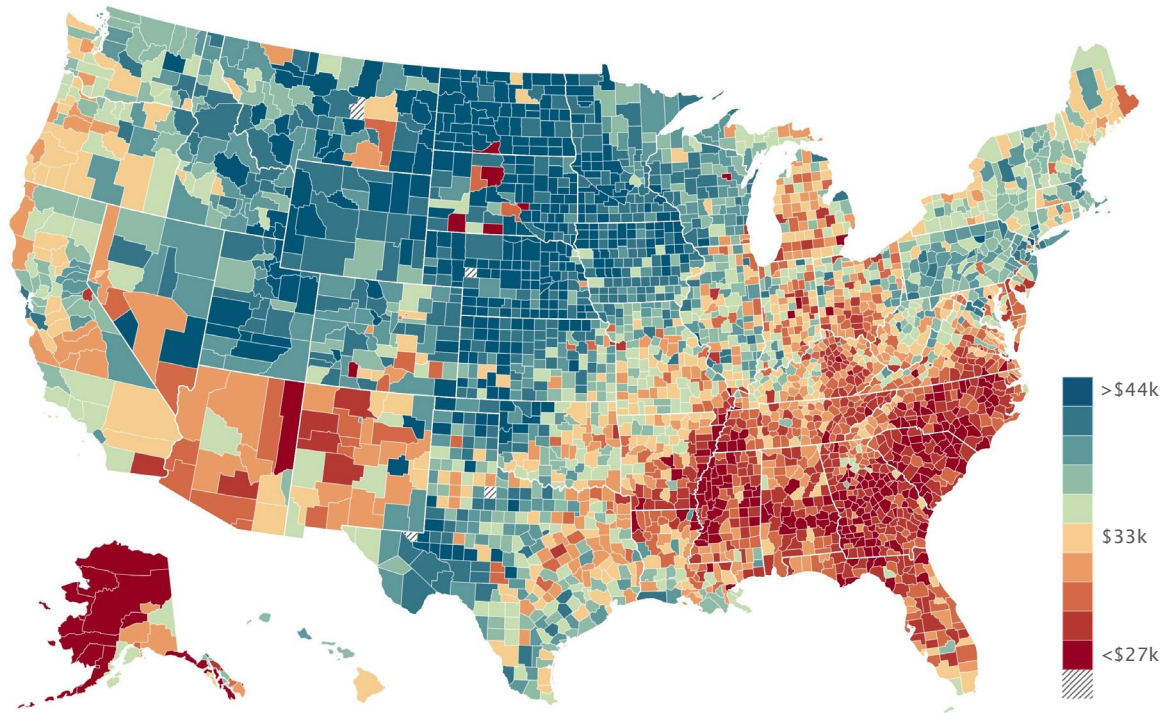
Mechanisms: The Science of Economic Opportunity

Why do some neighborhoods give kids better chances of rising up than others?

Opportunity Atlas

Upward Mobility Based on Income Tax Records

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



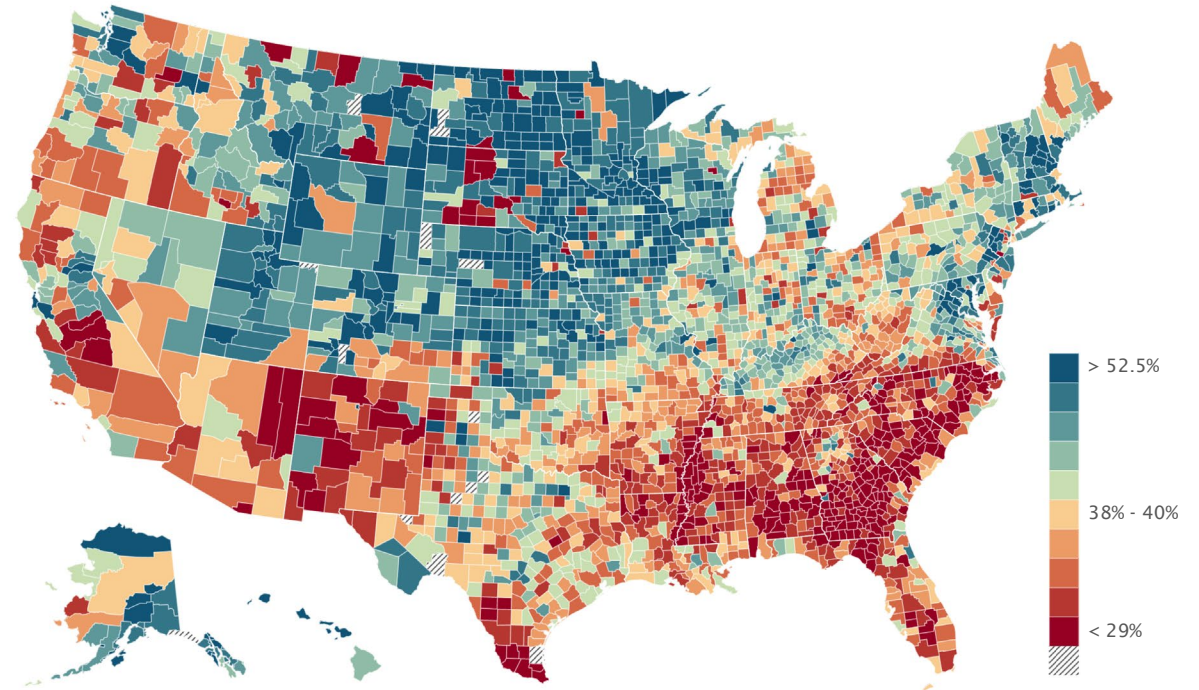
Blue: More Upward Mobility
Red: Less Upward Mobility

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

Social Capital Atlas

Economic Connectedness Based on Facebook Data

Share of Above-Median-SES Friends Among Below-Median-SES People by County



Blue: More Economic Connectedness
Red: Less Economic Connectedness

Source: Source: Chetty, Jackson, Kuchler, Stroebel et al. (Nature 2022)

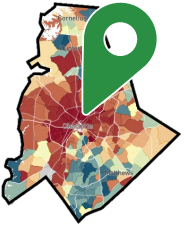
Directions for Future Research and Policy

Current Research Projects at Opportunity Insights



Mechanisms: The Science of Economic Opportunity

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Creating High-Opportunity Neighborhoods

How can we bring opportunity to people rather than bringing people to opportunity?

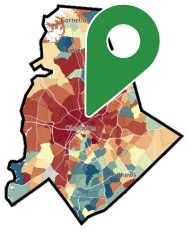
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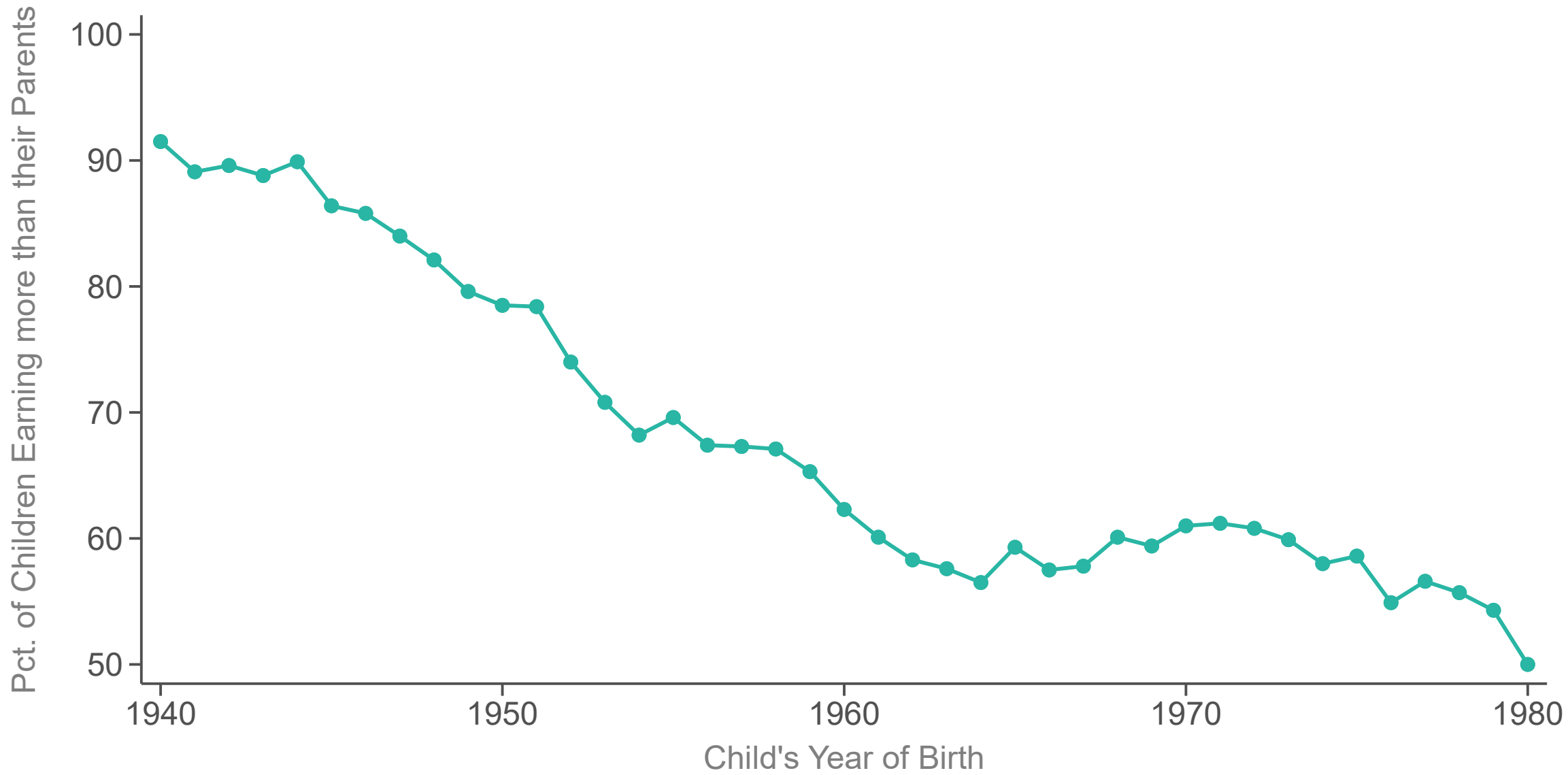


Analyzing Trends in Opportunity by Race and Class

Where and for whom is opportunity deteriorating vs. improving?

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)



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



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Questions?
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