

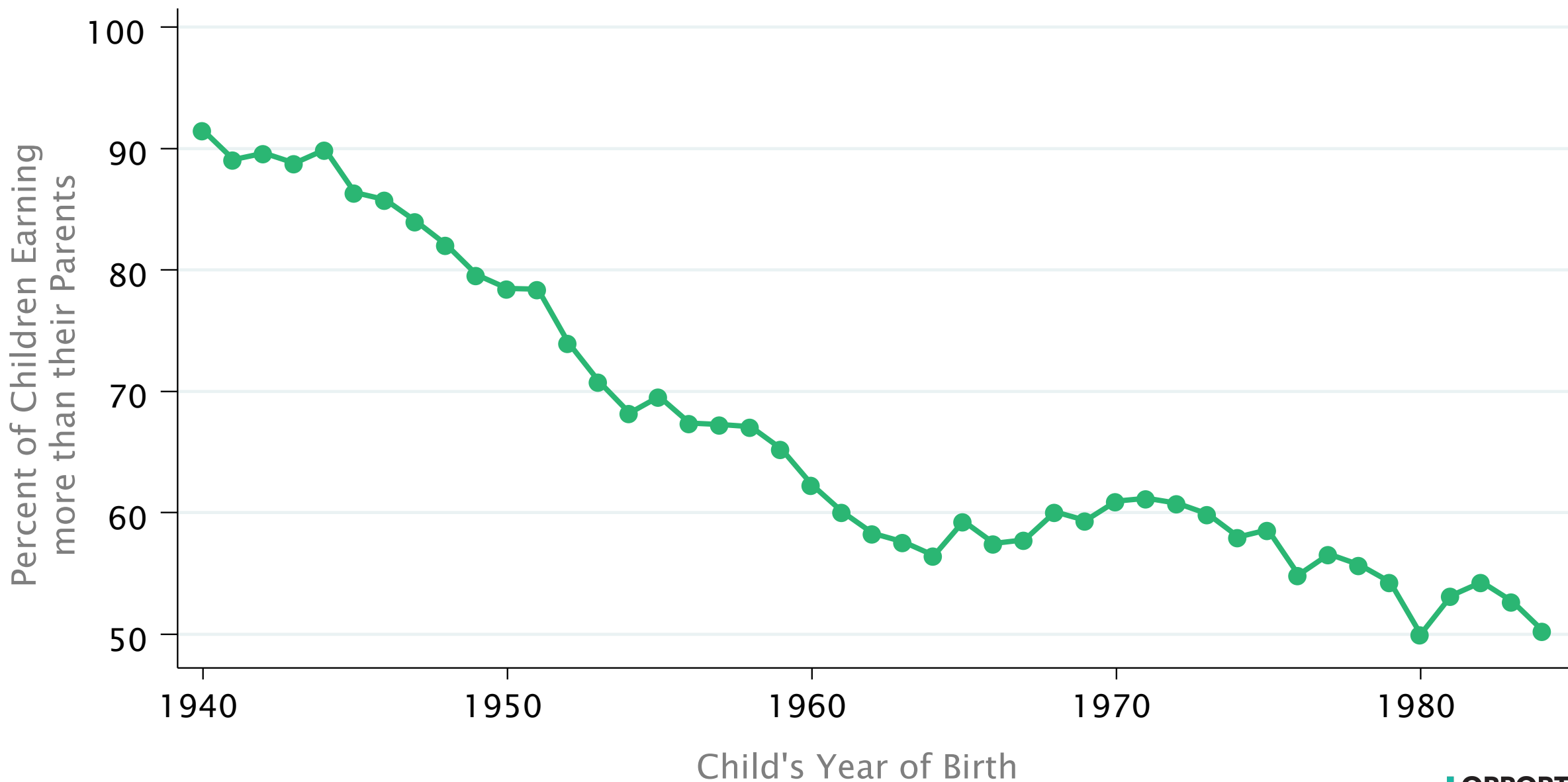


HACU Virtual Capitol Forum

April 2020
David A. Williams

The Fading American Dream

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





We use big data to study how to increase upward mobility



Analyze a broad range of policy areas and interventions



Starting point: sharp local differences in rates of opportunity mobility



The Opportunity Atlas: Measuring Economic Mobility



Identify individuals
that grew up in low-
income families



Determine their
childhood
neighborhoods



Measure their income
and other outcomes in
adulthood



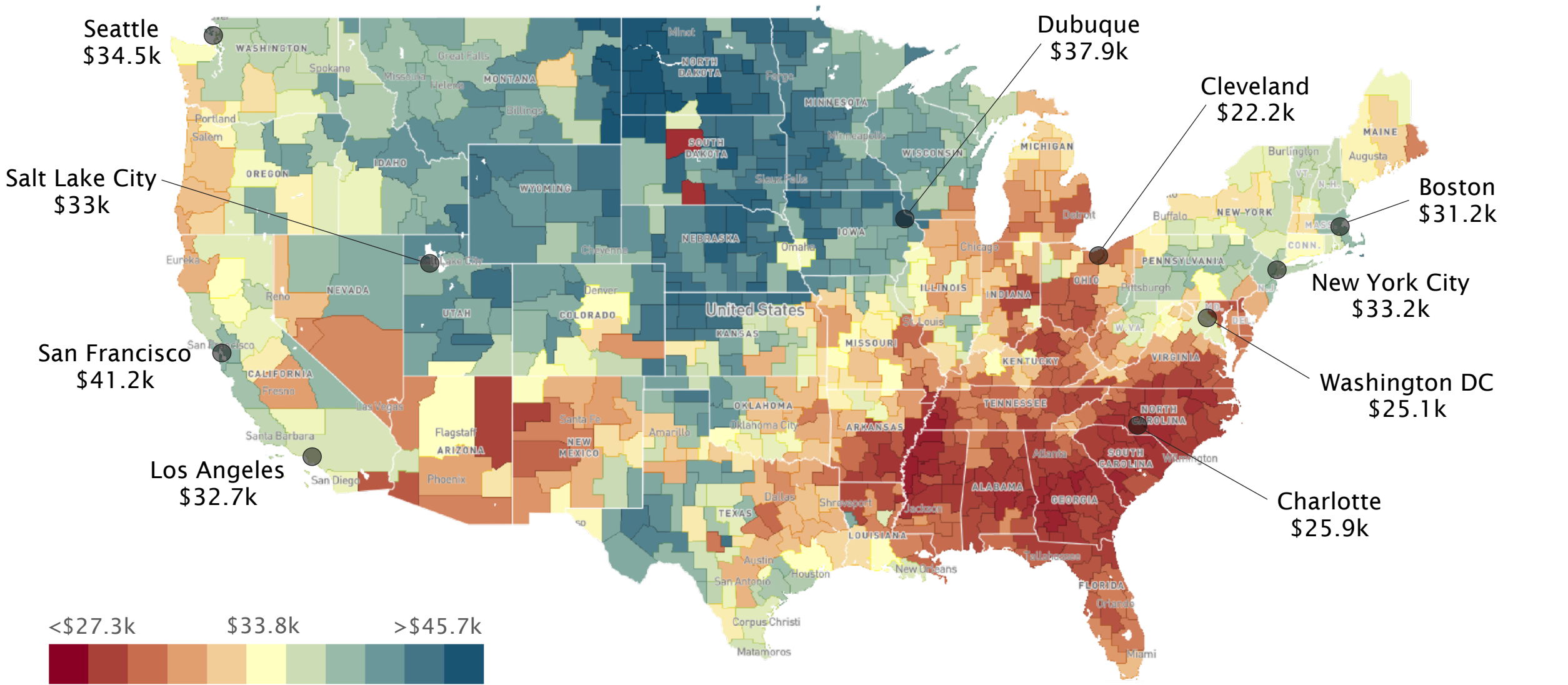
Show averages for
each census tract in
the United States

OpportunityAtlas.org



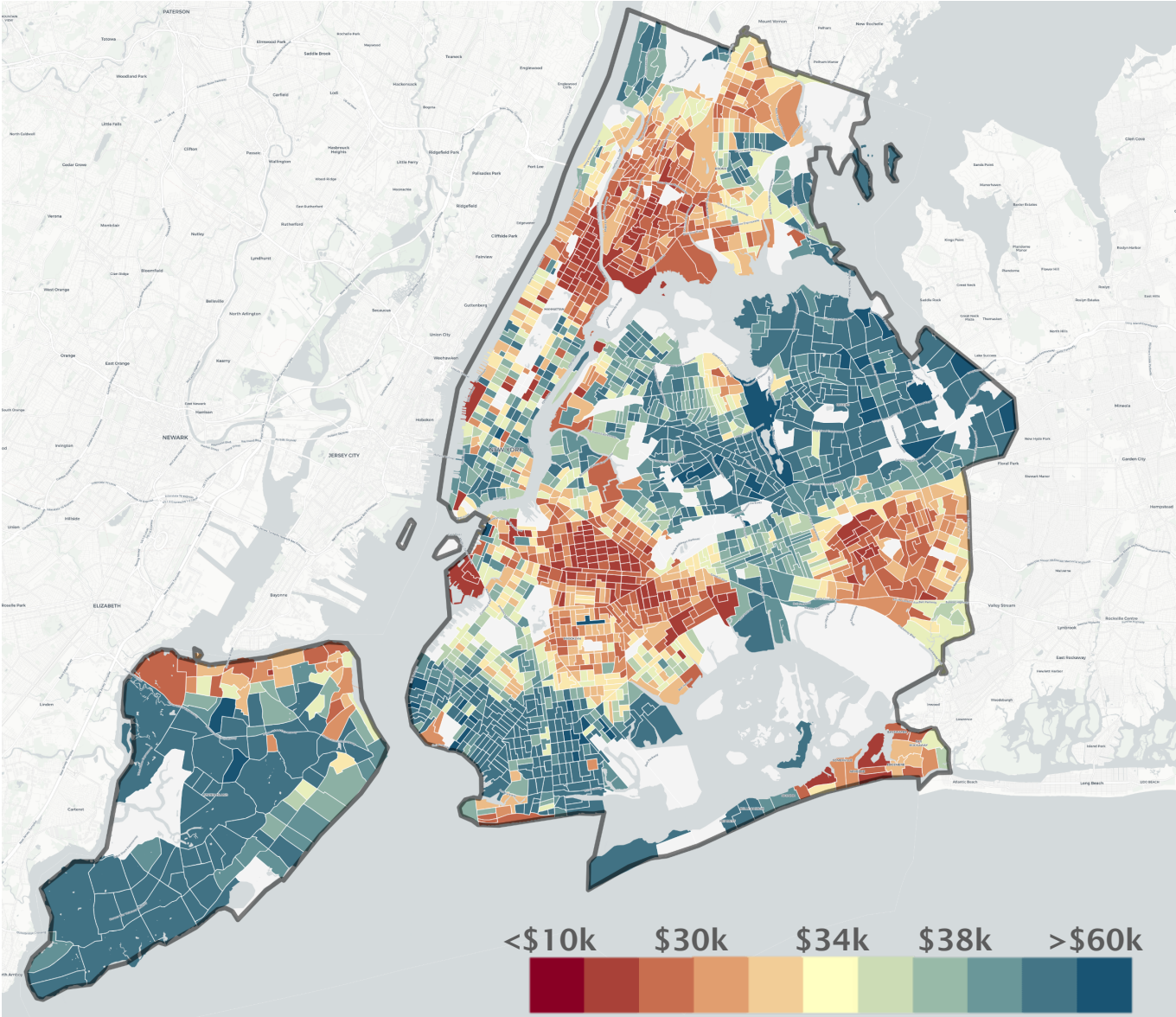
The Geography of Upward Mobility

Mean Household Income at Age 35 for Children with Parents Earning \$27,000 (25th Percentile)



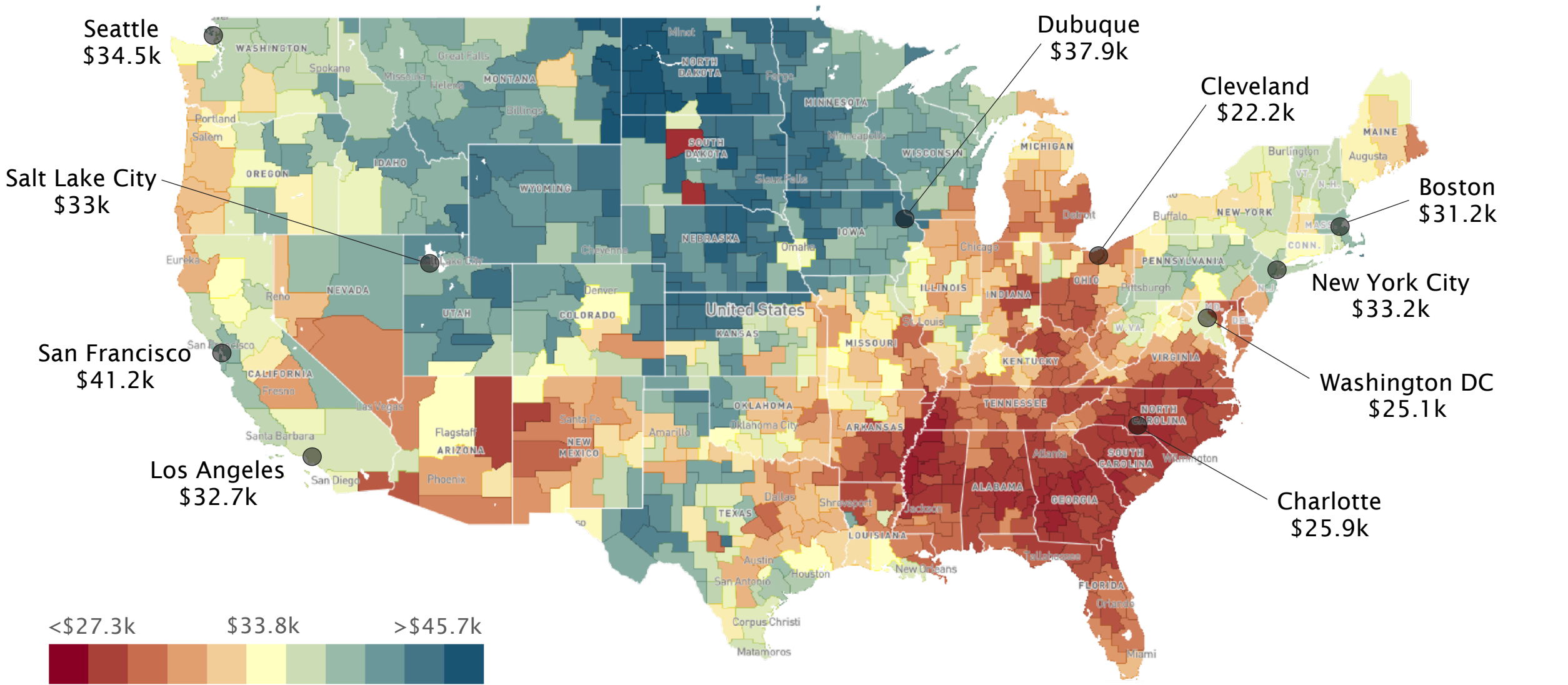
Mobility Estimates for Low-income Children from New York

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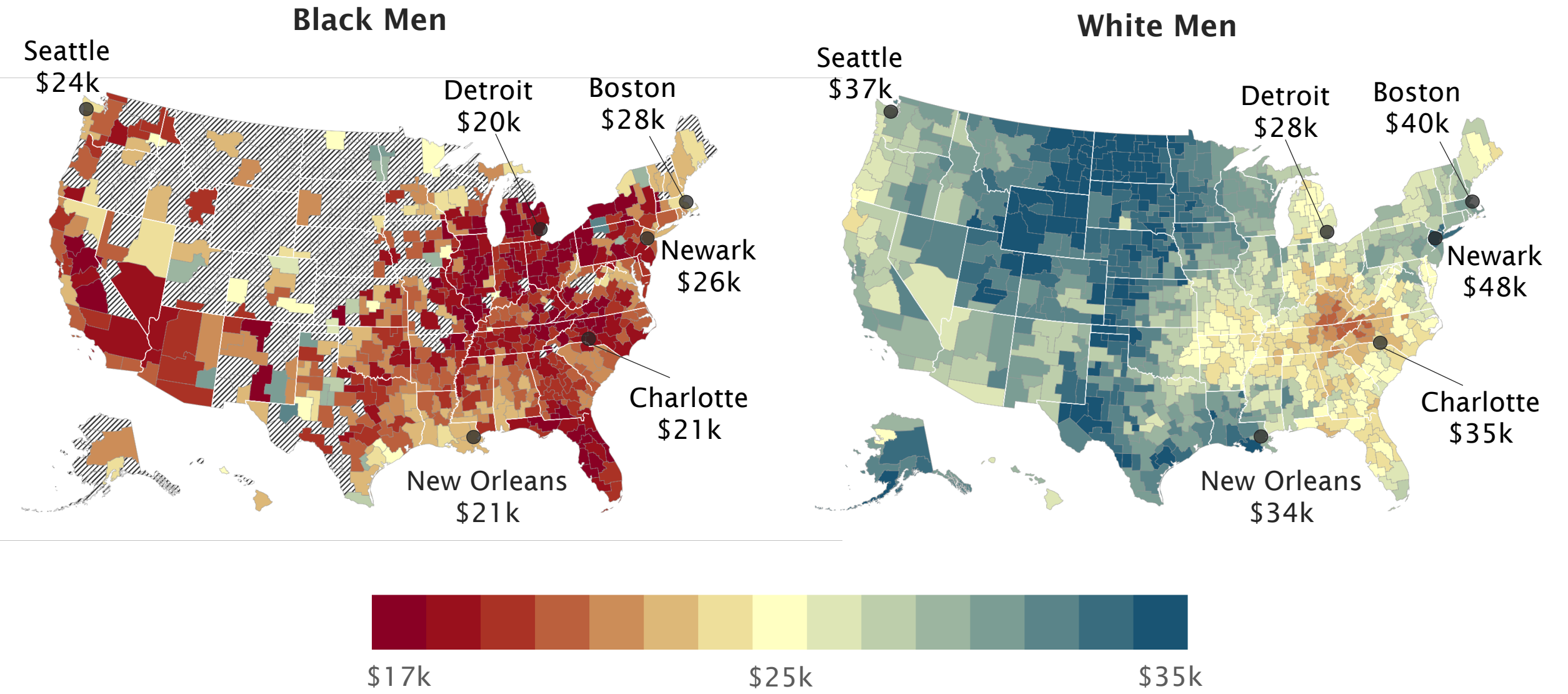
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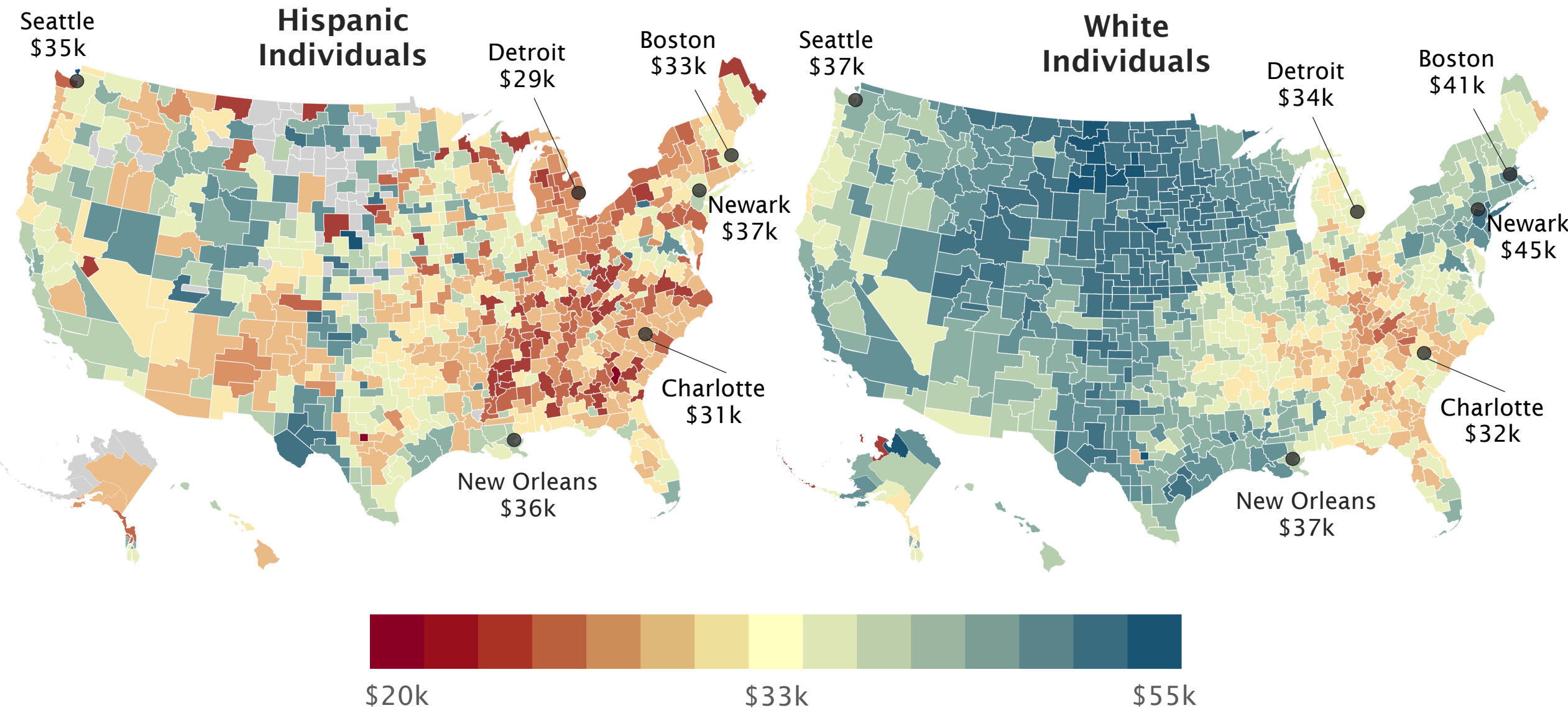
Two Americas: The Geography of Upward Mobility For Black vs. White Men

Average Income at Age 35 For Men Whose Parents Earned \$27,000 (25th percentile)



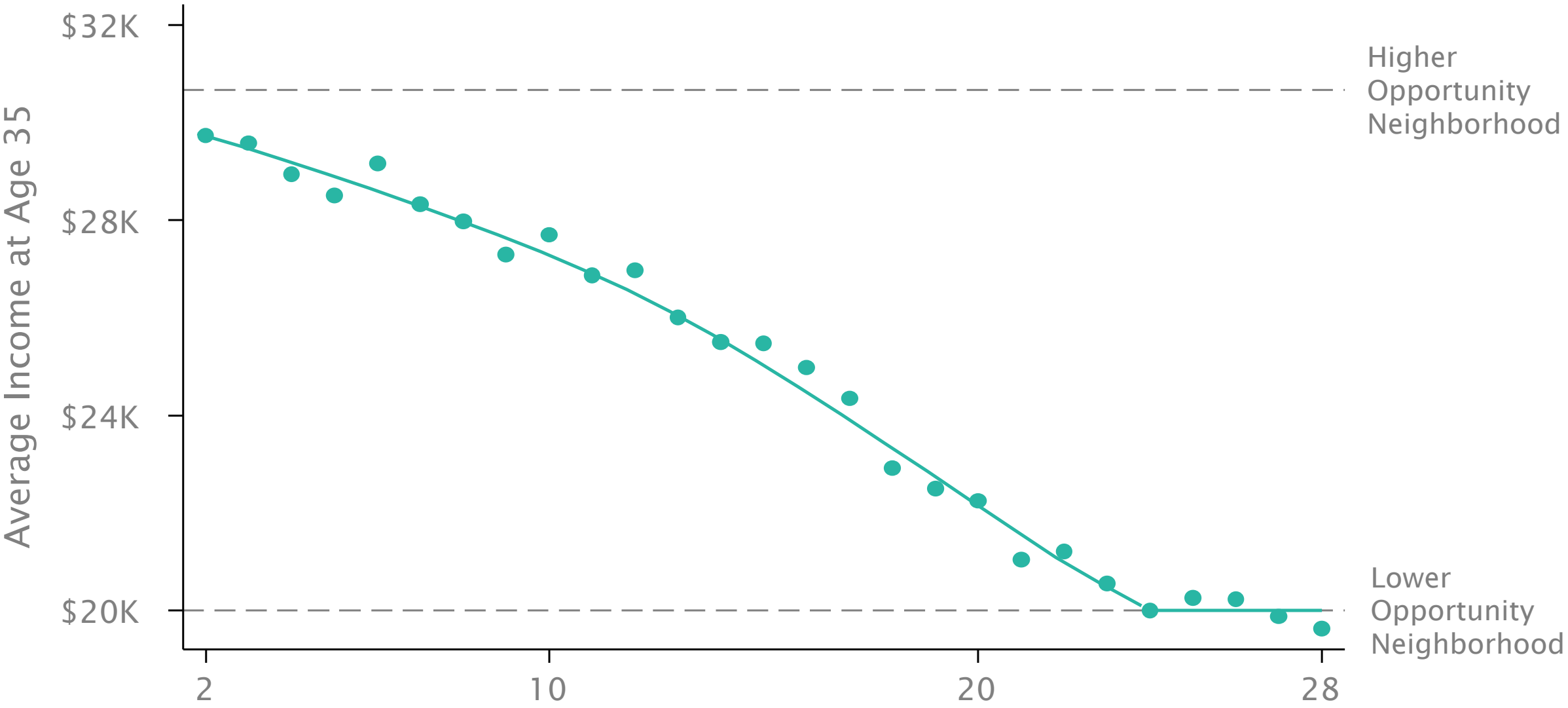
Two Americas: The Geography of Upward Mobility

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



Potential Income Gained from Moving Between Neighborhoods, by Age

Length of Exposure is More Important Than the Age of the Child at the Time of the Move



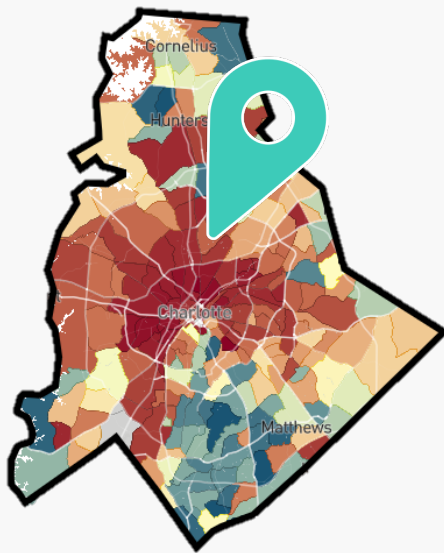
Opportunity Insights' Policy Focus Area with Communities

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

Parent Incomes and Student Outcomes

Measuring the Economic Mobility of Colleges



Use attendance and income data on all college students from 1999-2013 from Treasury and Dept. of Education

- **Parents:** Measure household incomes when students are teenagers
- **Students:** Measure earnings in the mid-30s for enrolled students

Rank students and parents relative to others in the same cohort

Mobility Rates – A Product of College Success and College Access

Measuring the Economic Mobility of Colleges



A college's *mobility rate* is the fraction of its students who come from bottom fifth **and** end up in top fifth. This can be broken down into two key components:

Access rate – fraction of students who come from the bottom fifth (\$25,000 and below)

Success rate – fraction of students from the bottom fifth who make it to the top fifth (\$58,000 and above)

$$\text{Mobility Rate} = \text{Access} \times \text{Success}$$

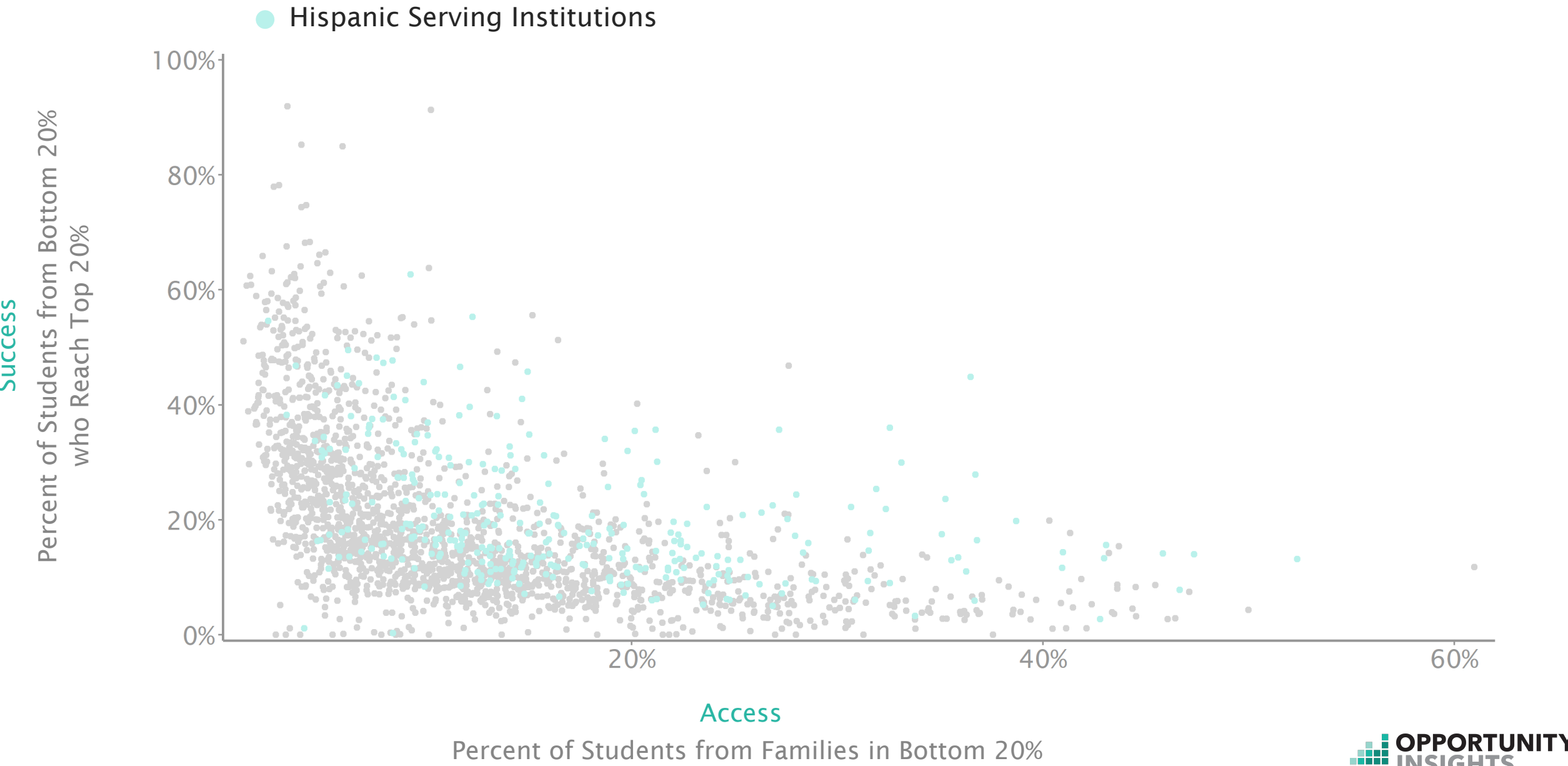
Which Colleges Help Move Low-Income Students to the Top of Income Ladder?

Mobility Rates: Success Rate Versus Access Rate by Institution



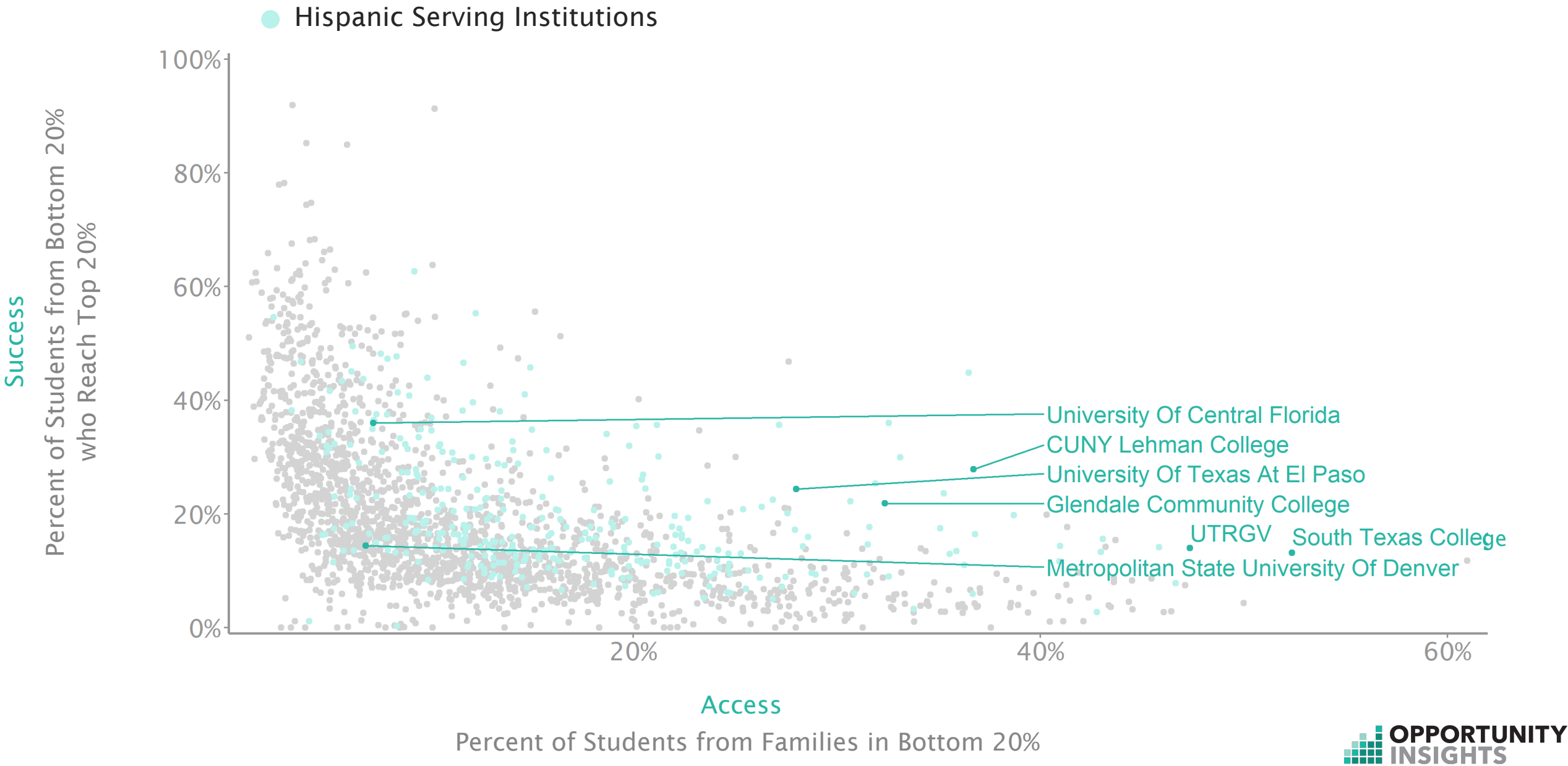
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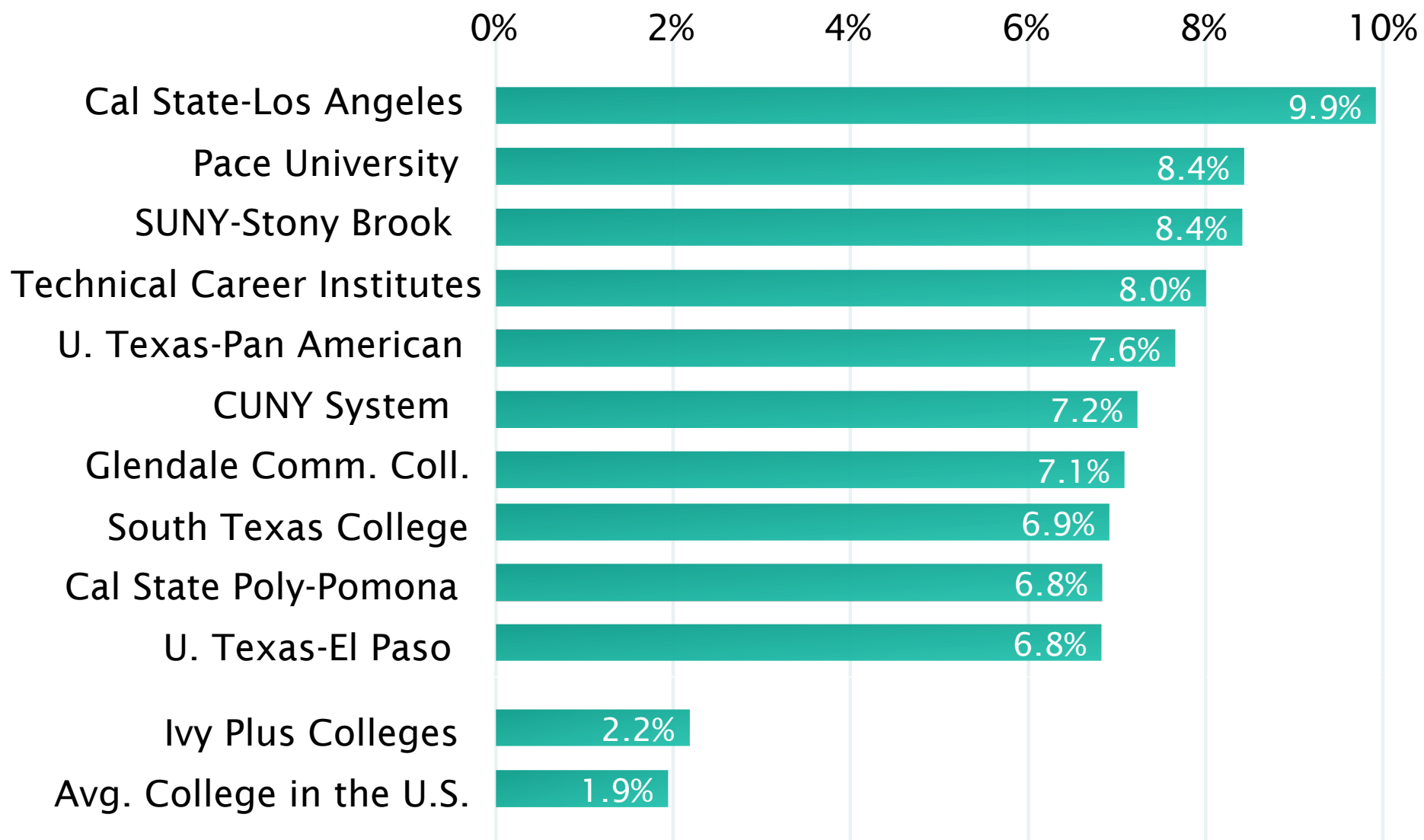
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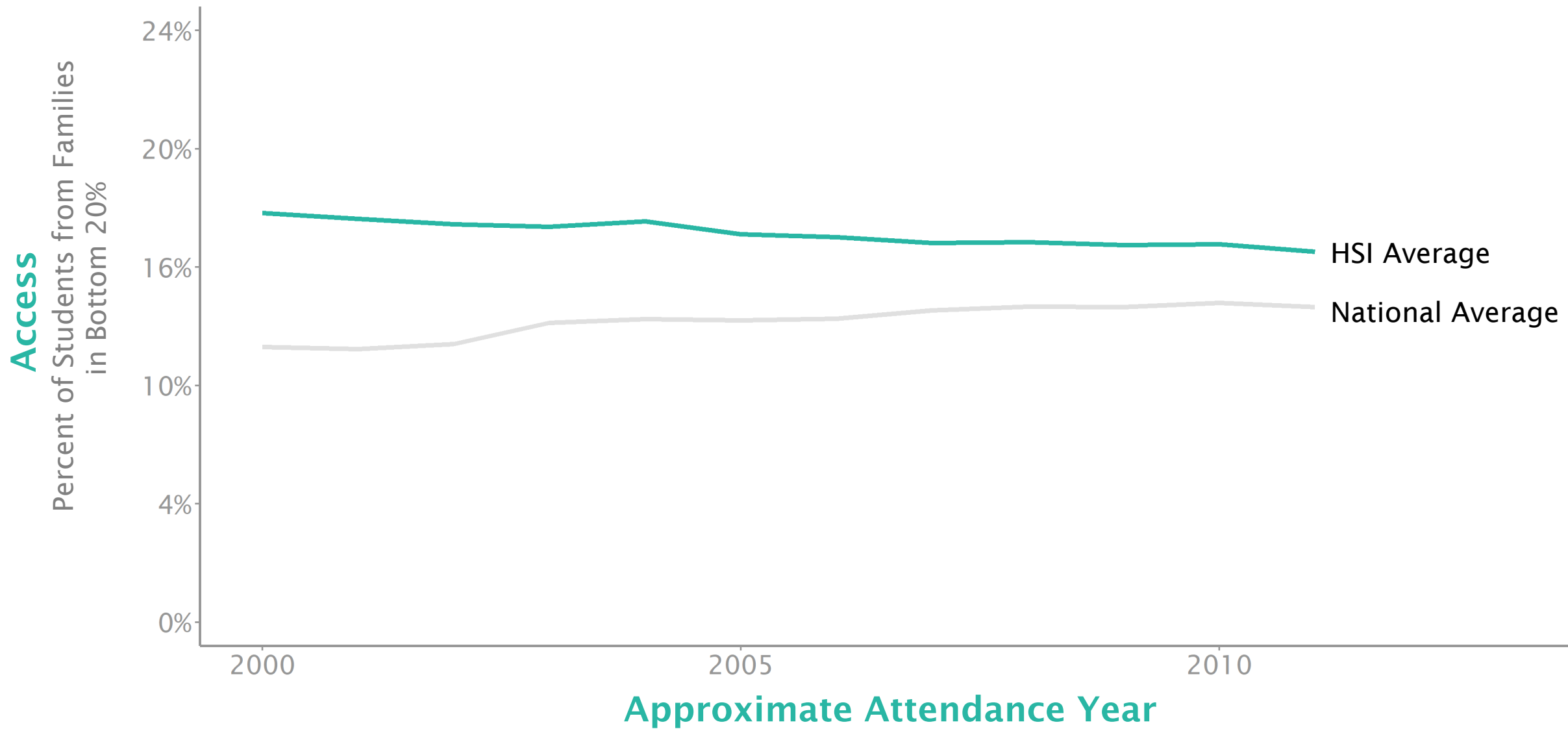
Top 10 Colleges in America

Fraction of Bottom-to-Top Success Stories



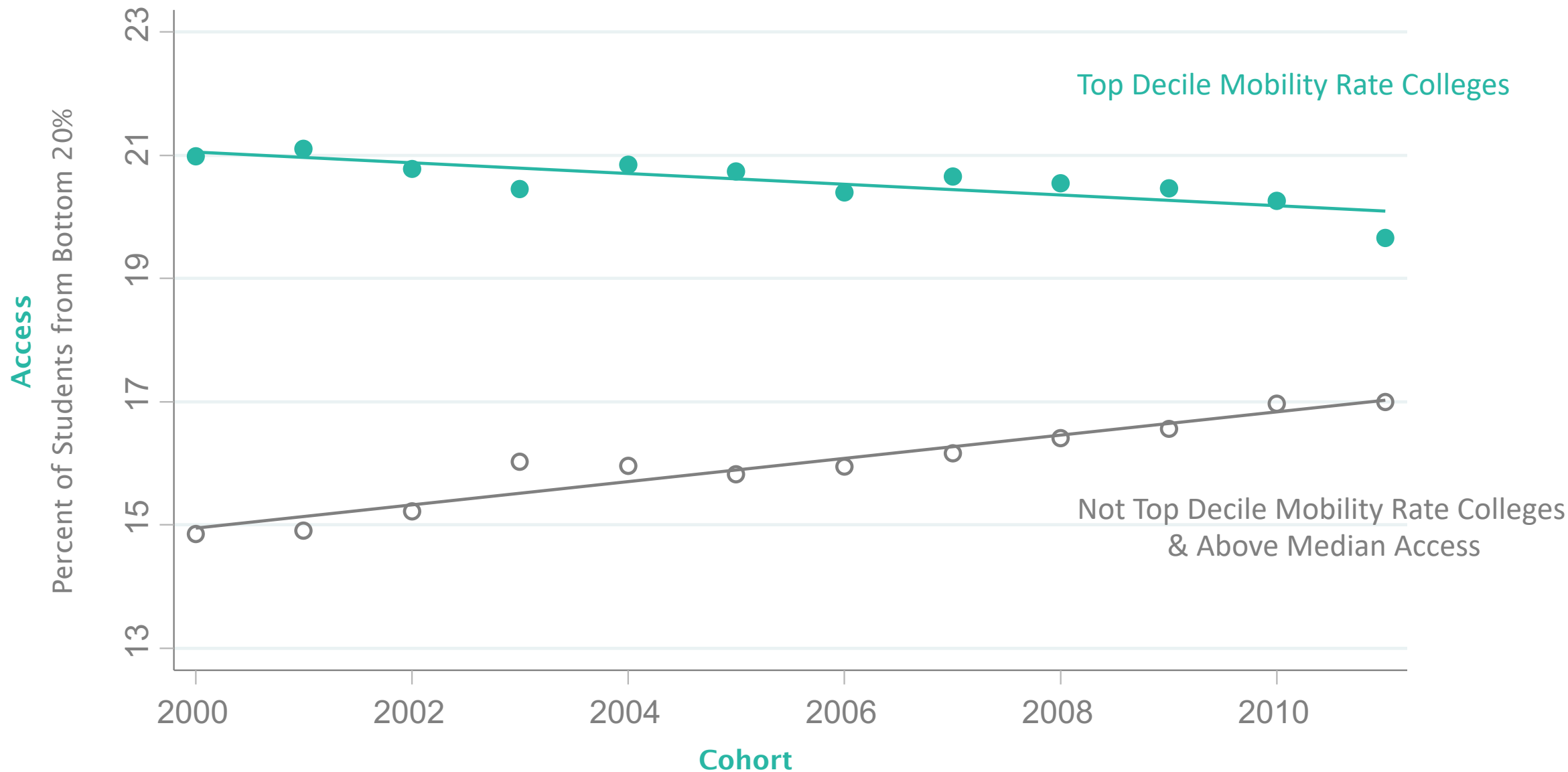
Comparing Access Over Time for all Schools and HSIs

Access Rate: Percent of Students from Families in the Bottom 20% of the income distribution



The Share of Low-Income Students at Colleges Changes Over Time

Changes in Access at High Mobility Rate Colleges



Year in Which Students Were Age 20 Attending a College or University

Collegiate Leaders in Increasing Mobility





CLIMB is a **partnership** between Opportunity Insights and **400 colleges** across the U.S. that seeks to help colleges improve the economic mobility of their students by:

- Increasing access to low-income students to college
- Ensuring the success of students from disadvantaged backgrounds at college

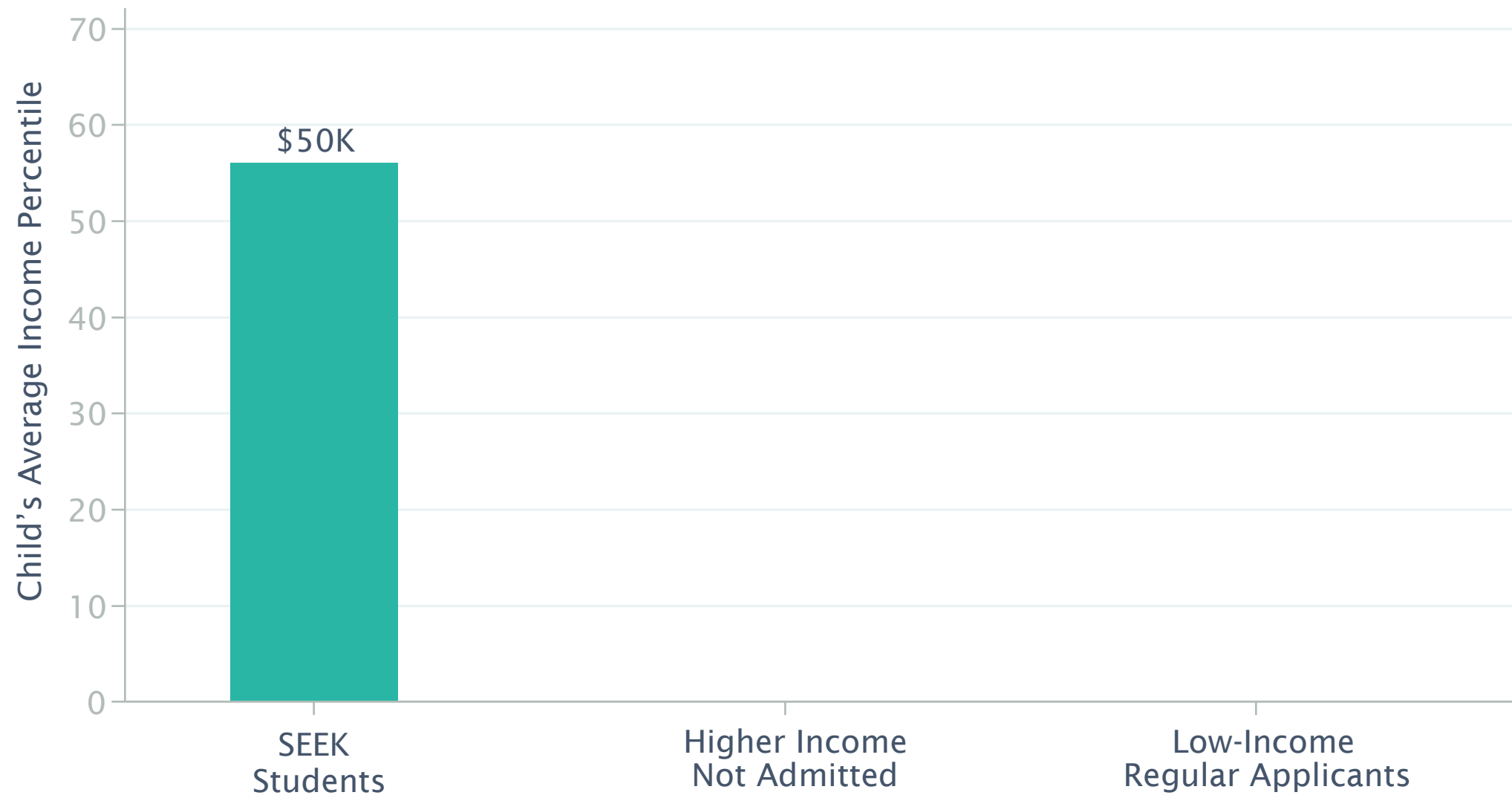


City University of New York's SEEK Program Structure

1	Students	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ 250k students■ 11 CUNY campuses  
2	Program Eligibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Admission to 4 year CUNY based on Academic Index (AI) – GPA, SAT, coursework■ Eligible only if below AI <i>and</i> income cutoffs (~\$45k for a family of 4)
3	Academic Supports	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ 6 week summer program prior to entry■ Individual/small group tutoring■ Access to “opportunity counselors”

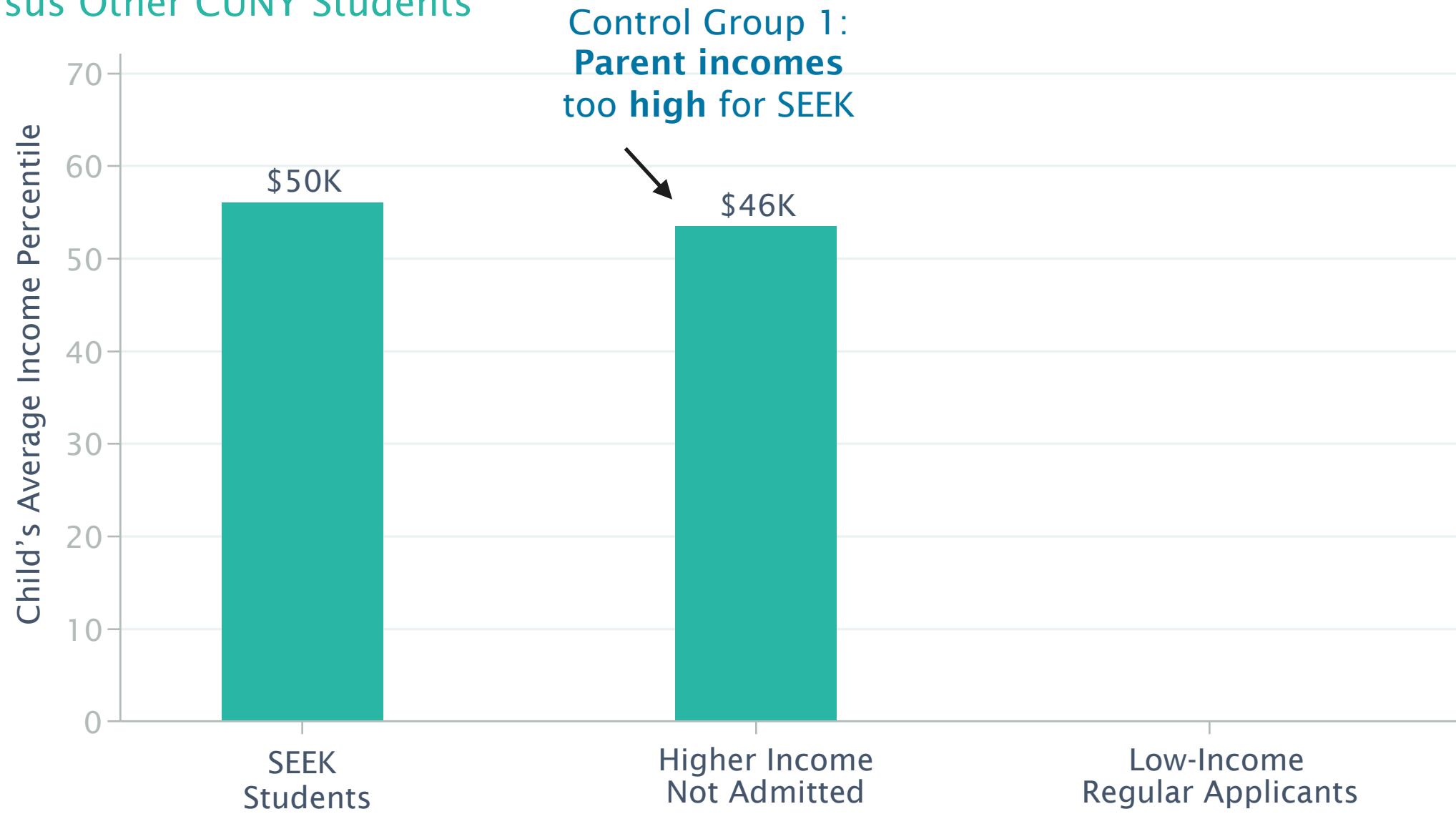
Student Earnings Outcomes

SEEK Versus Other CUNY Students



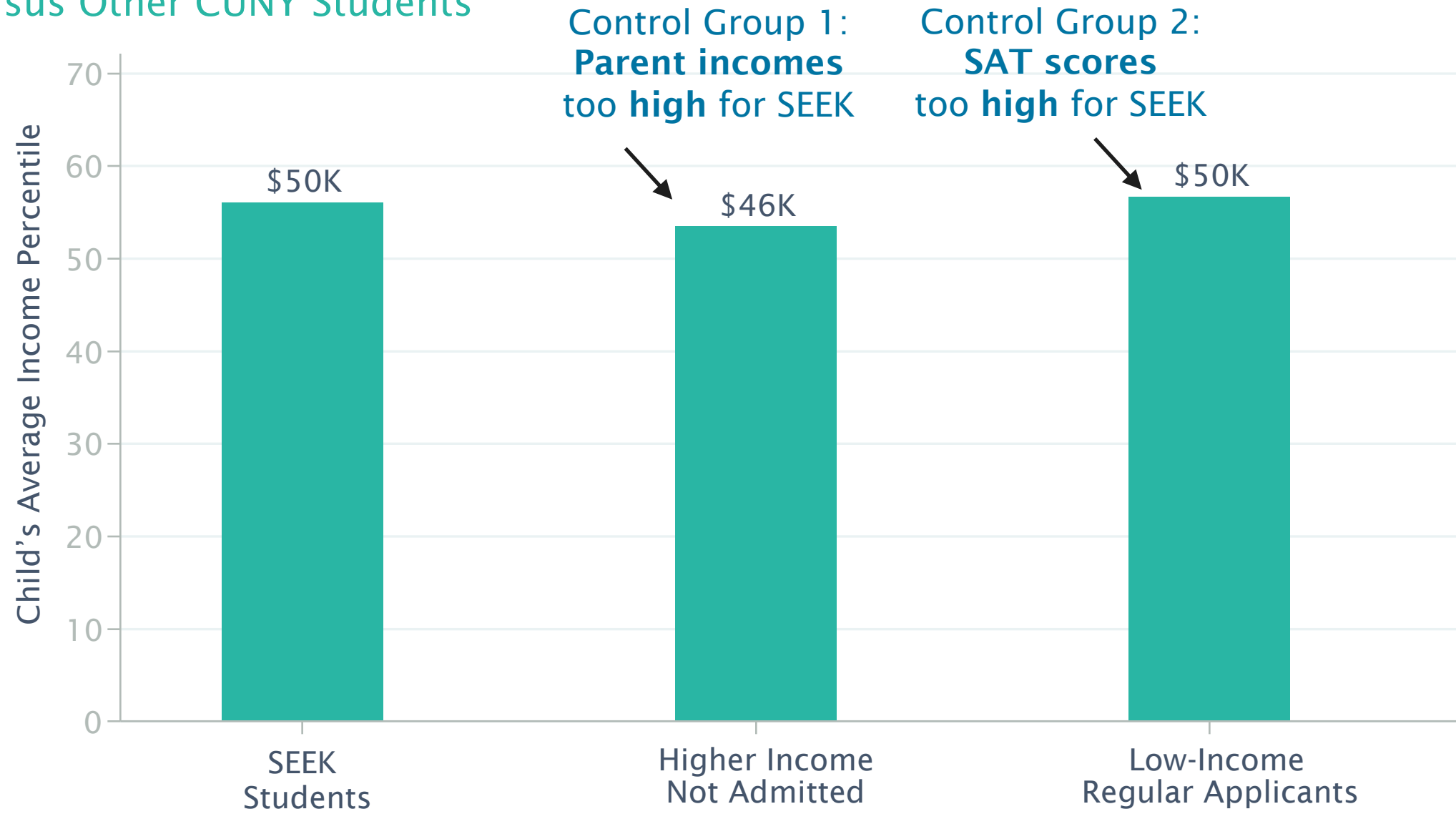
Student Earnings Outcomes

SEEK Versus Other CUNY Students



Student Earnings Outcomes

SEEK Versus Other CUNY Students





OPPORTUNITY INSIGHTS



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