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Unpacking the Census

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UNPACKING

THE

CENSUS

2020 Decennial Census and 2016-2020 ACS Updates

Prepared by Sarah Murtaugh, '23, with Dr. Kyle Redican, Director, Spatial Analysis Lab, University of Richmond



UNPACKINGTHECENSUS.ORG





Understanding the Data

The Decennial Census and American Community Survey

What is the Decennial Census?

Census 2020

- Began in 1790
- Data collected every ten years
- Counts every person living in the United States
- Asks a short set of questions such as age, sex, race, etc.



What is the American Community Survey?



- Began in 2005
- Data collected every day
- Counts a sample of people in the United States
- Asks more demographic questions



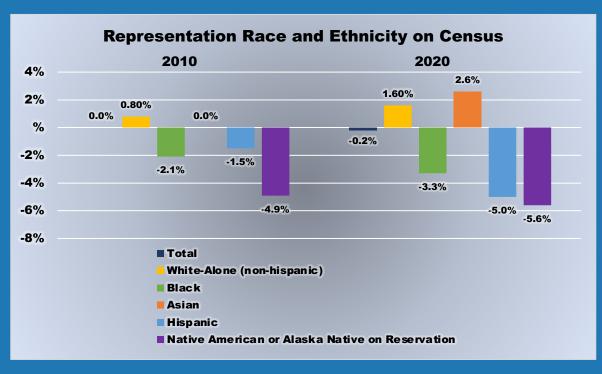
The ACS is an estimate

- Period estimates
 - Produced by combining data collected across a specific time period
- The ACS does not represent a single year.
- Shows us the characteristics of an area over the entire data collection period



Who's left out?

- Black and Latinx populations undercounted in the Census
- White and Asian populations overcounted
- ACS experienced lower response rate than previous years
- Undocumented immigrants often fear legal ramifications



Source: Pew Research Center (June, 2022), using U.S. Census Post-Enumeration Surveys (2010, 2020)

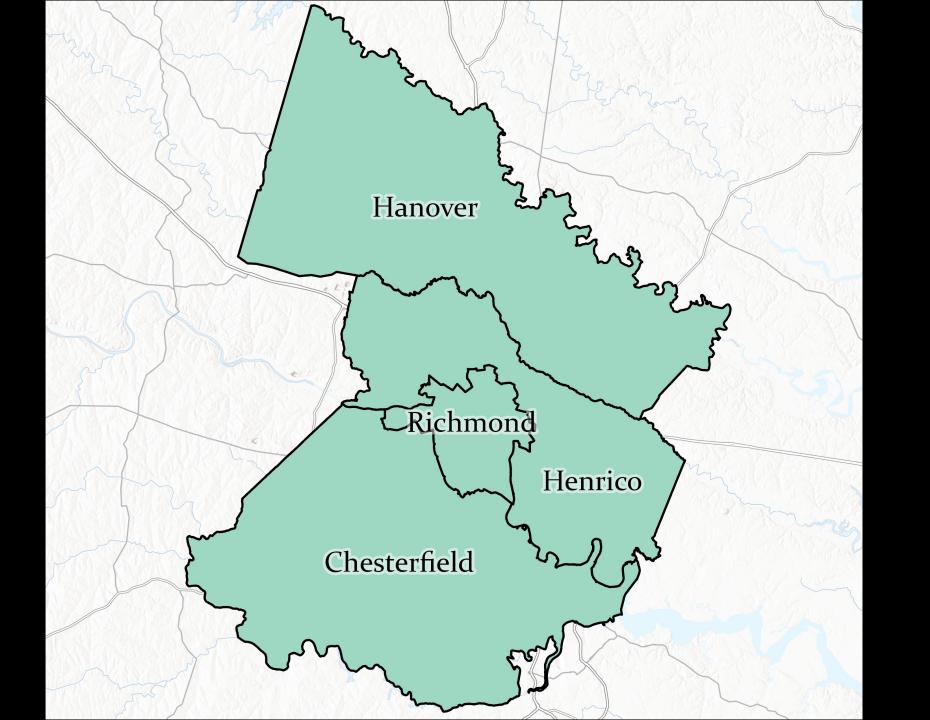


Race and Ethnicity

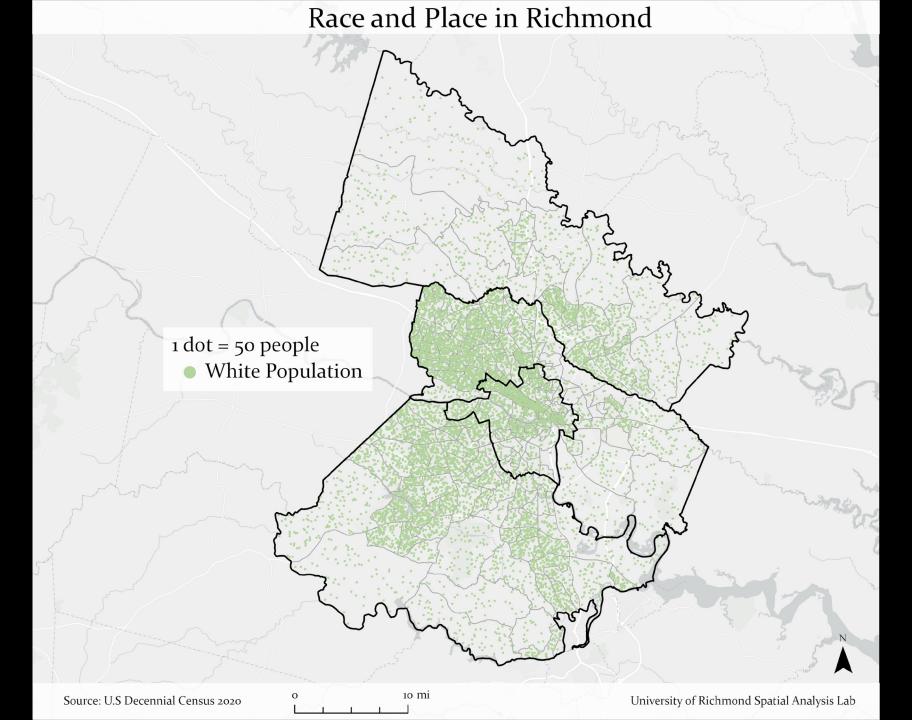
- Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin" is not a race
- Each person who selects
 Hispanic/Latino must also
 choose a "race"

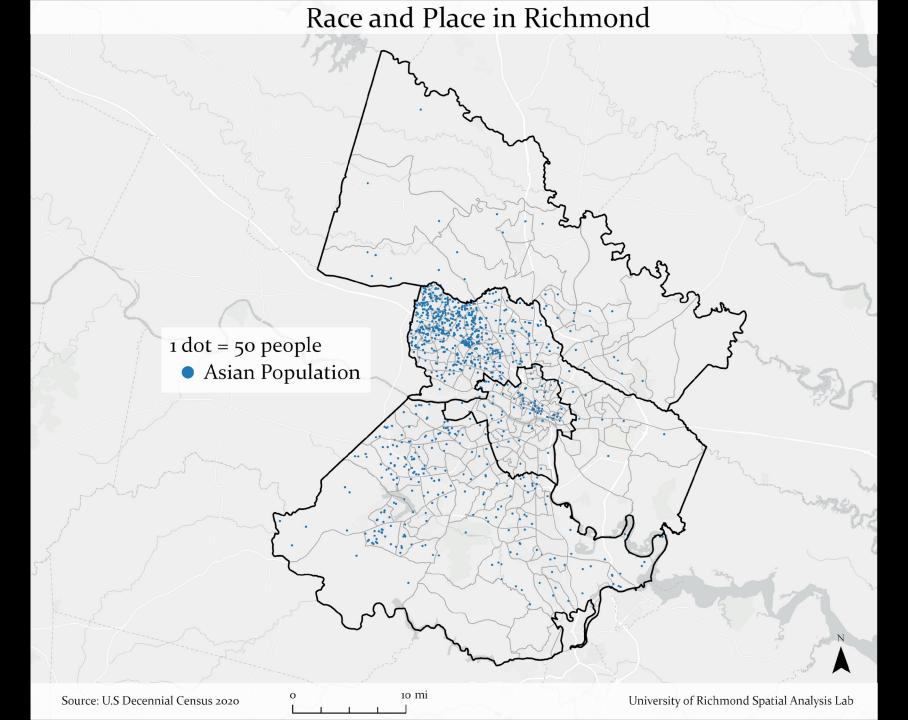
→	NOTE: Please answer BOTH Question 8 about Hispanic origin and Question 9 about race. For this census, Hispanic origins are not races.																		
8.	Is Person 1 of Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin?																		
	No, not of Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin Yes, Mexican, Mexican Am., Chicano Yes, Puerto Rican Yes, Cuban Yes, Cuban Yes, another Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin — Print origin, for example, Argentinean, Colombian, Dominican, Nicaraguan, Salvadoran, Spaniard, and so on.																		
>																			
		 □ White □ Black, African Am., or Negro □ American Indian or Alaska Native — Print name of envolled or principal tribe. 														. 7			
		Asian Indian Chinese Korean Filipino Other Asian — Print race, for example, Hmong, Laotian, Thai, Pakistani, Cambodian, and so on.									 Native Hawaiian Guamanian or Chamorro Samoan Other Pacific Islander — Print race, for example, Fijian, Tongan, and so on.								
		Some	othe	r ra	ce -	— <i>F</i>	Prin	t ra	ce.	Z									

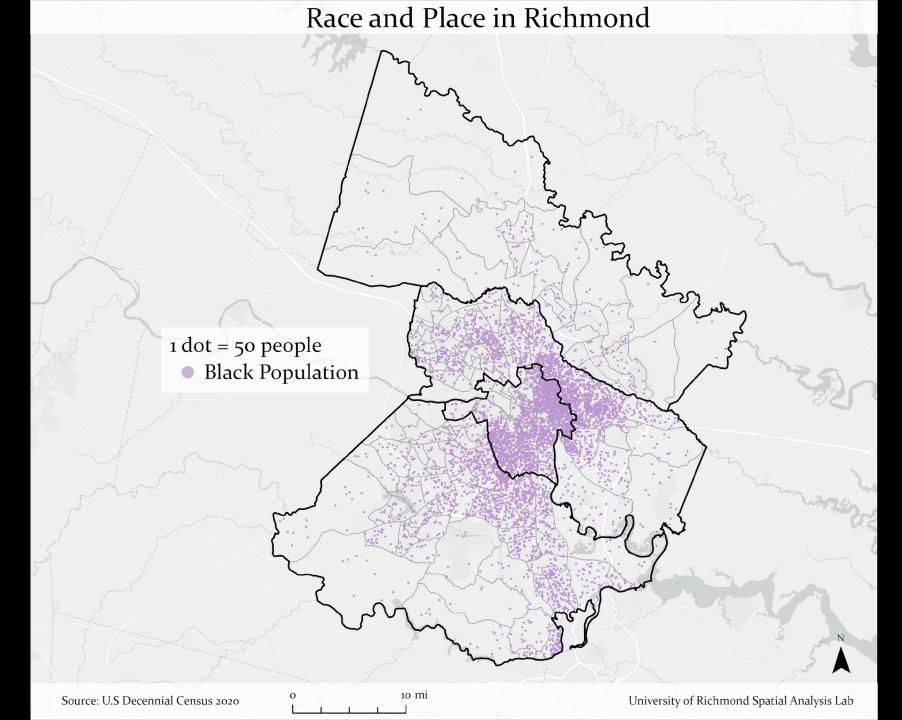


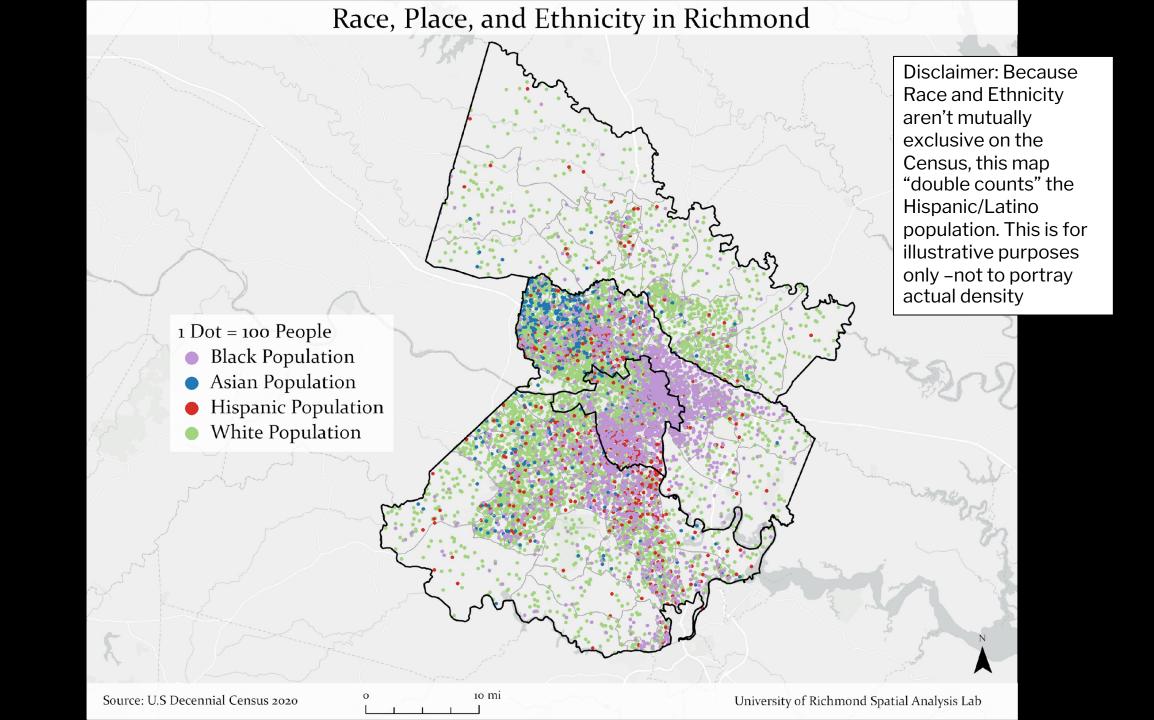


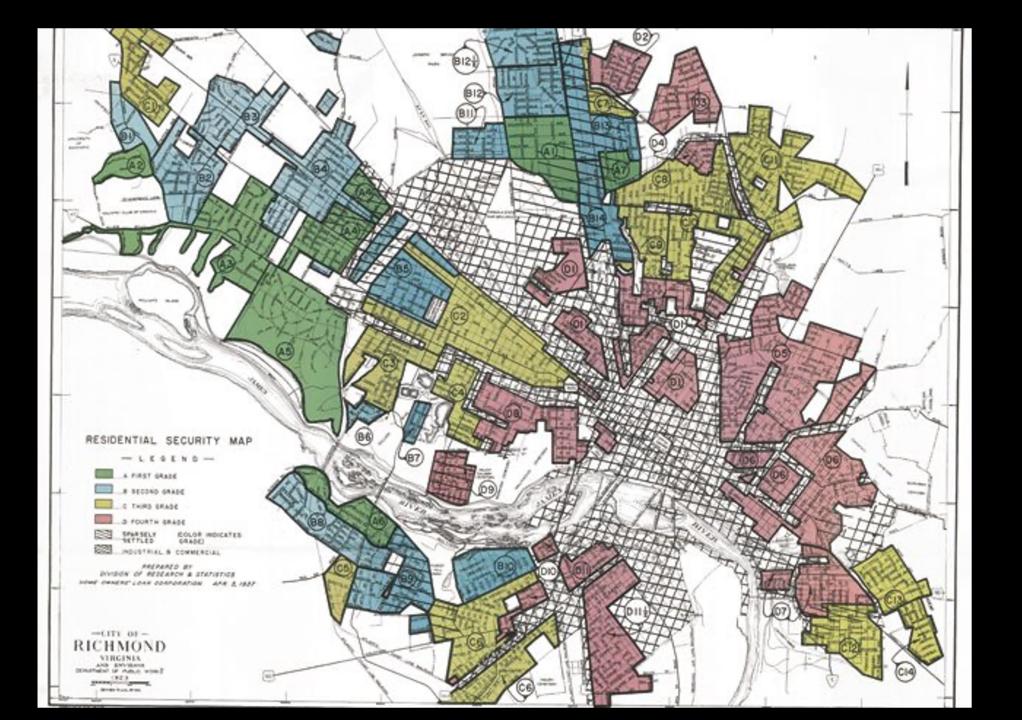
Race in the 2020 Census



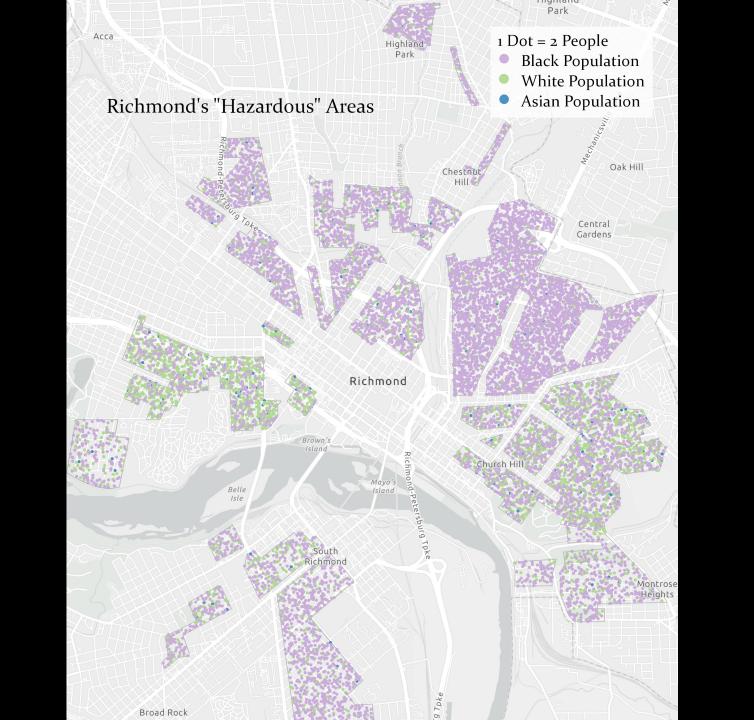




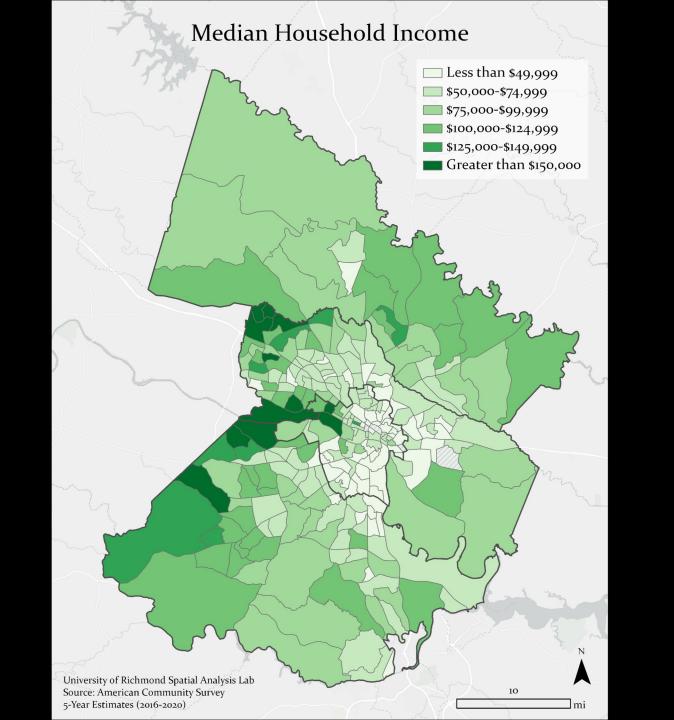


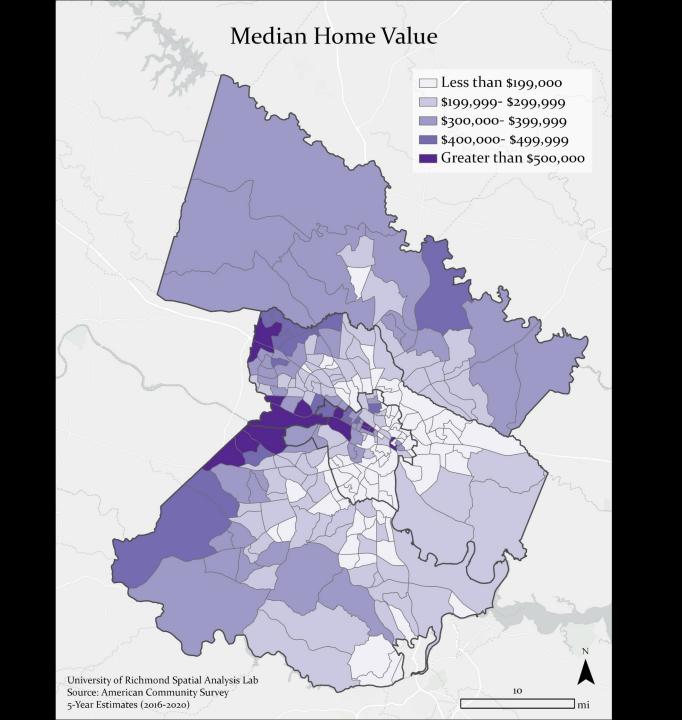


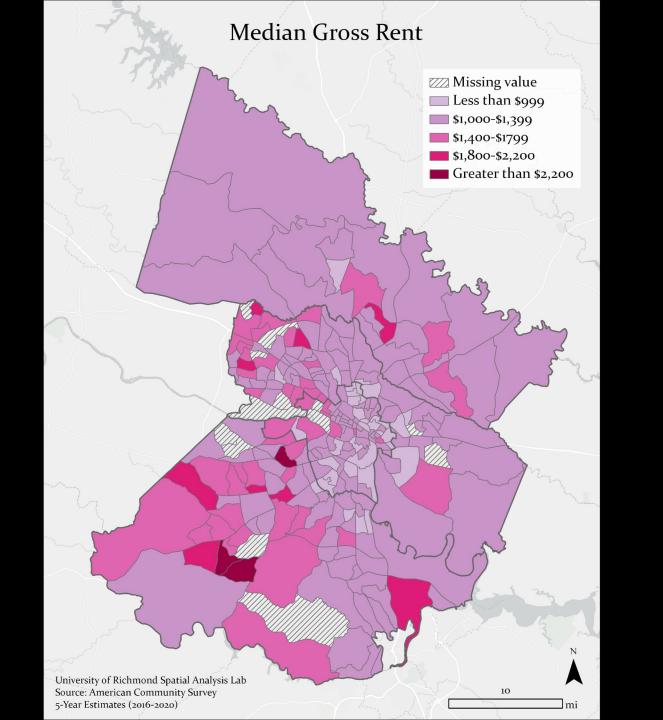


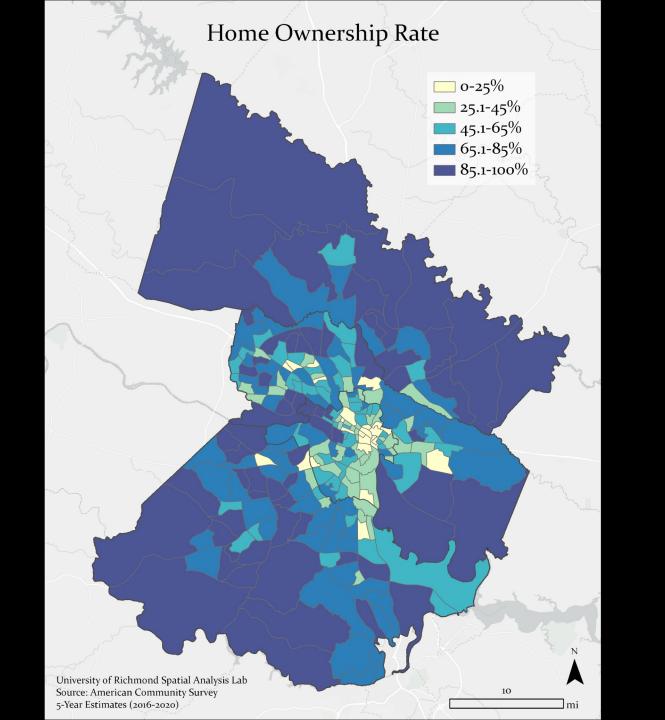


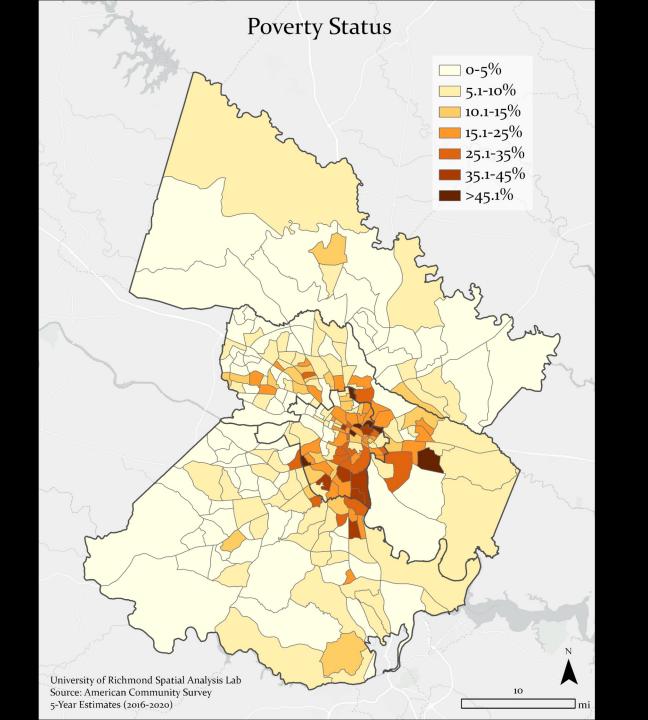
Socio-Economic Indicators in the ACS

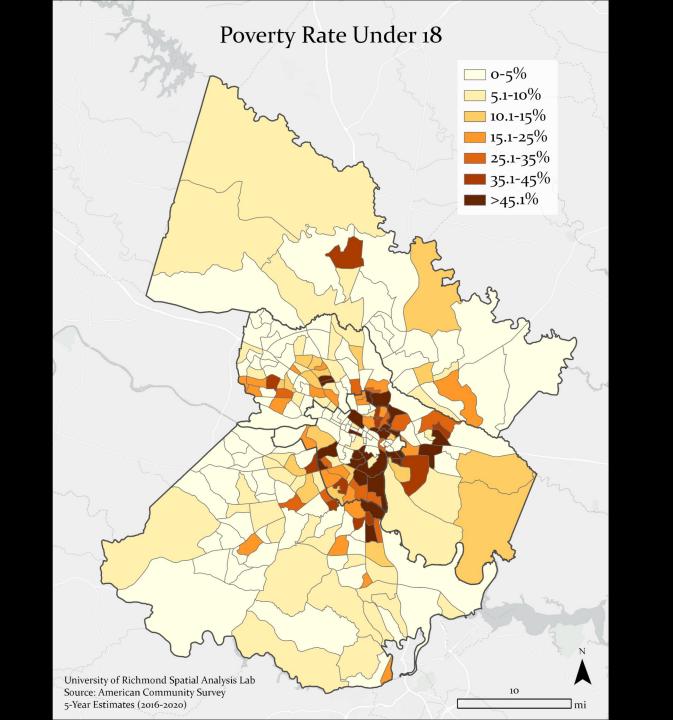


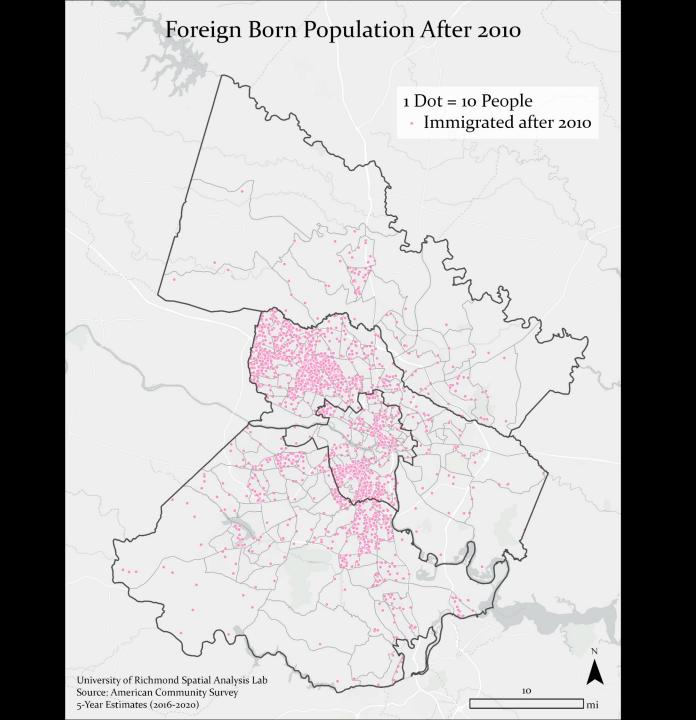


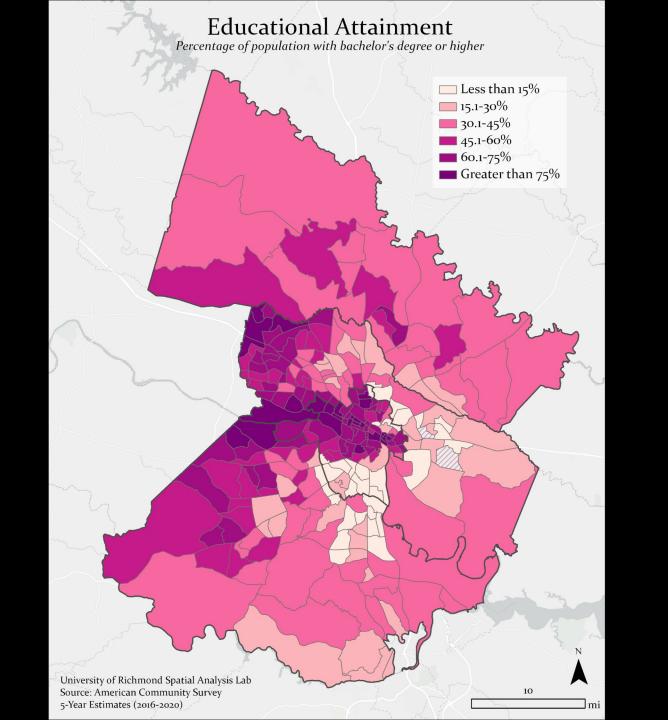


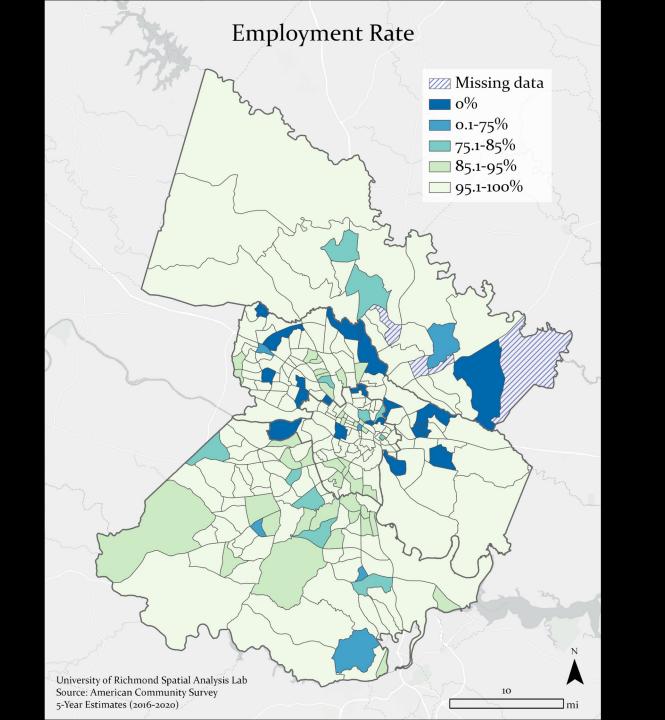


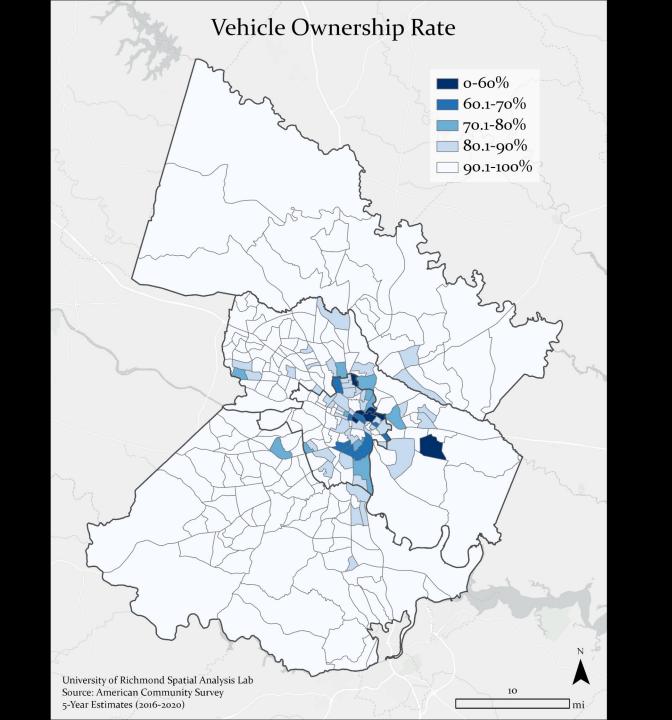






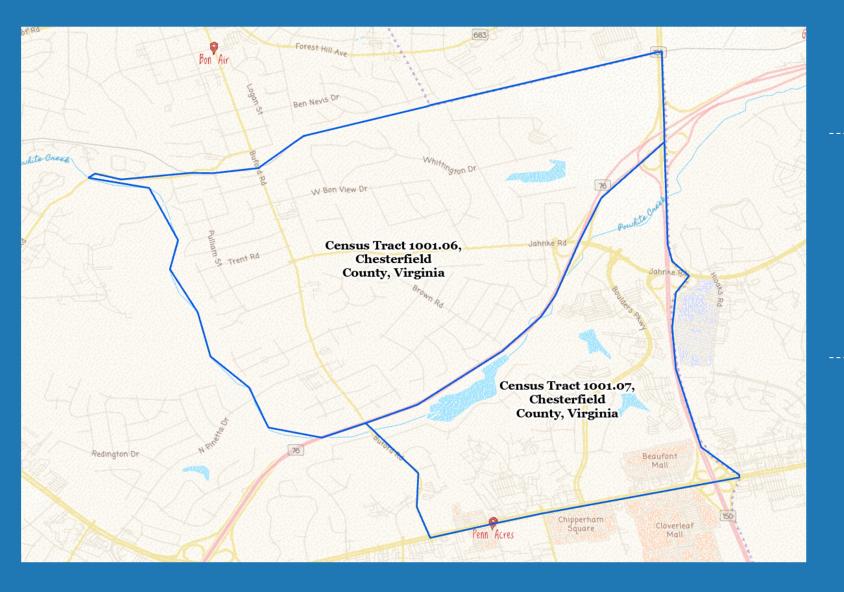








Tale of Two Tracts



Census Tract 1001.06

(One of the highest SEP Tracts)

- 3,867 people
- ~13.78% Non-White
- ~92.04% Home Ownership
- MHI= \$116,061
- MHV= \$294,500

All RVA Census Tracts

- Average ~3,901 people per tract
- ~ 45.4% Non-White
- Average 64.7% Home Ownership
- Average MHI = \sim \$72,054
- Average MHV = ~\$220,450

Census Tract 1001.07

(One of the lowest SEP Tracts)

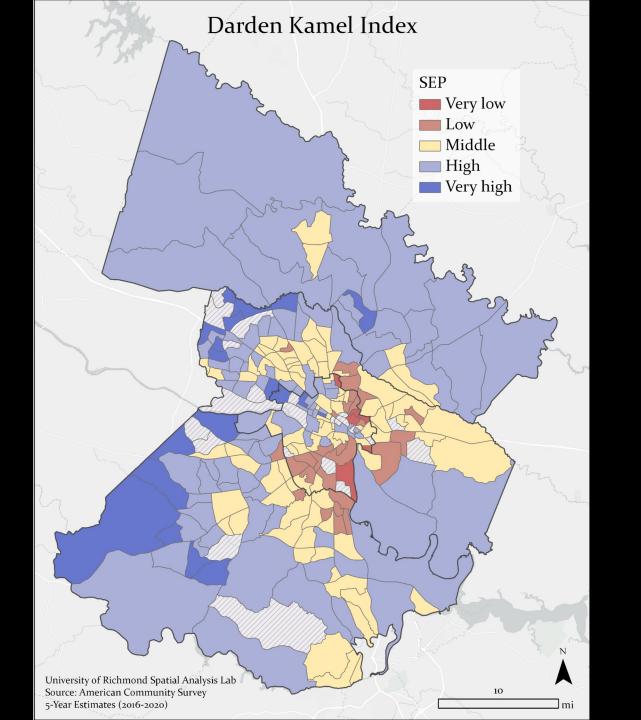
- 2,467 people
- ~77.42% Non-White
- 13.2% Home Ownership
- MHI = \$44,951
- MHV = \$170,000

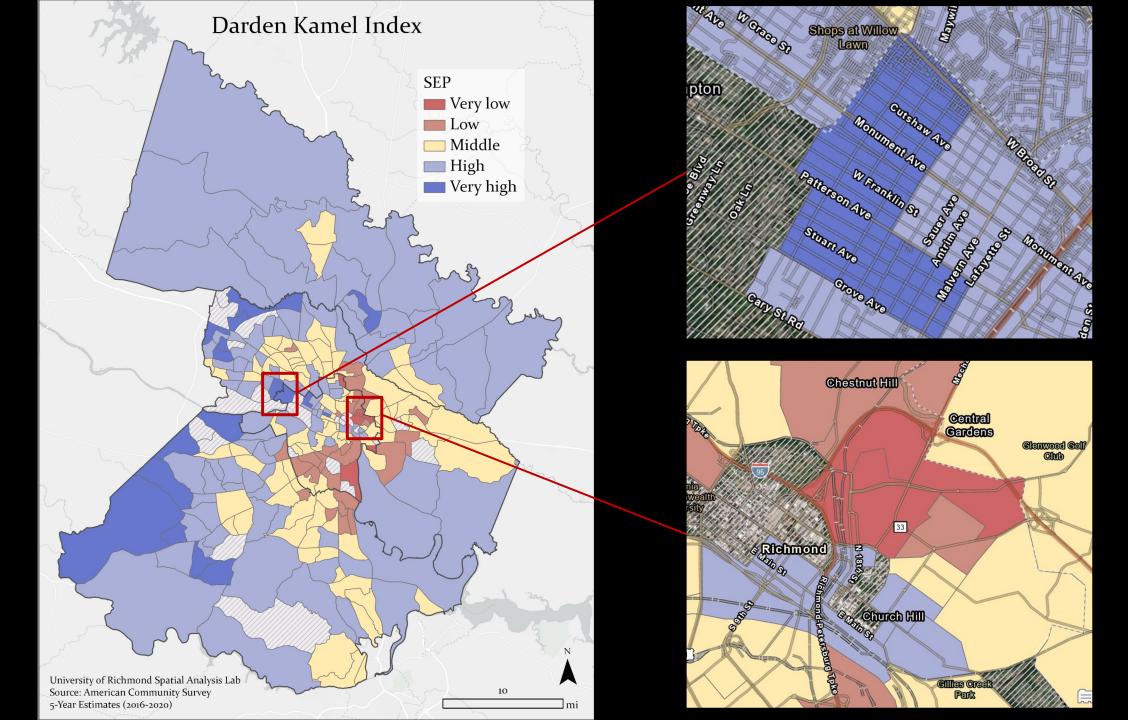
Darden Kamel Index

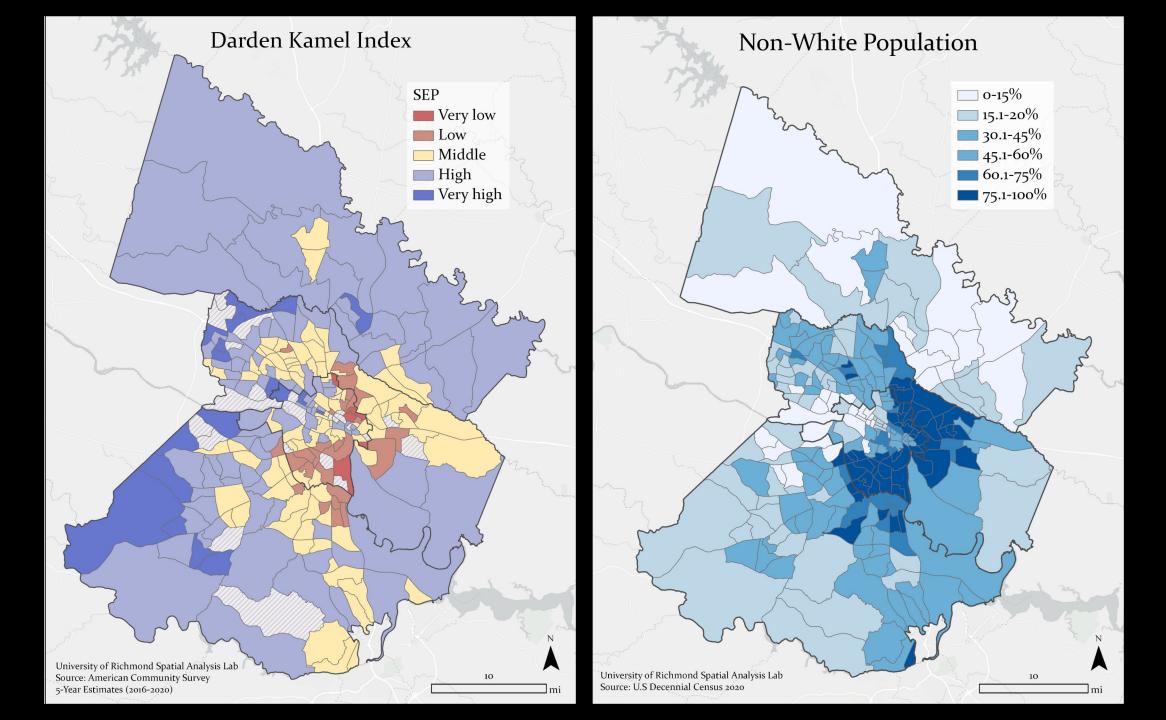
- Combining Census Data together makes it a lot more interesting and than just by itself
- Darden and Kamel (2000) provided 9 variables that represented Socio-economic Position from Census Data
- Get the z-scores for all the variables and then add them up to get that single value
- Larger Values = Higher Socioeconomic Position
- Lower (and negative) Values = Lower Socio-economic Position

Darden-Kamel Index Variables

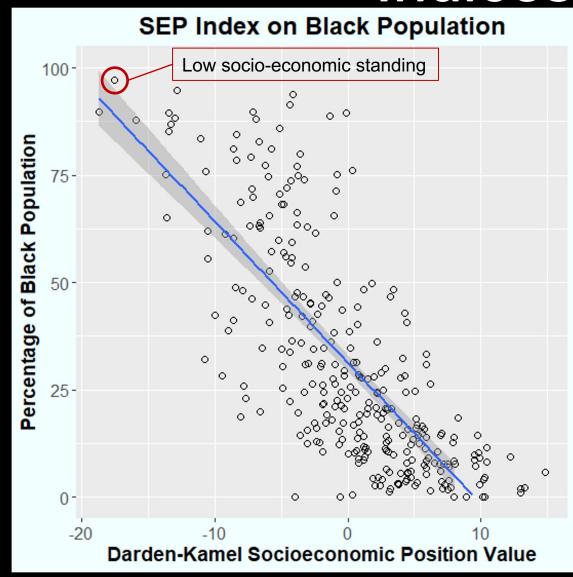
- 1) Median Household Income (\$)
- 2) Median Home Value (\$)
- 3) Median Gross Rent (\$)
- 4) Percentage (25+) of Bachelor's Degree or higher (%)
- 5) Percentage of Managerial Occupations (%)
- 6) Percentage Home Ownership (%)
- 7) Percentage Vehicle Ownership (%)
- 8) Percentage Above Poverty (%)
- 9) Percentage of Labor Force Employed (%)

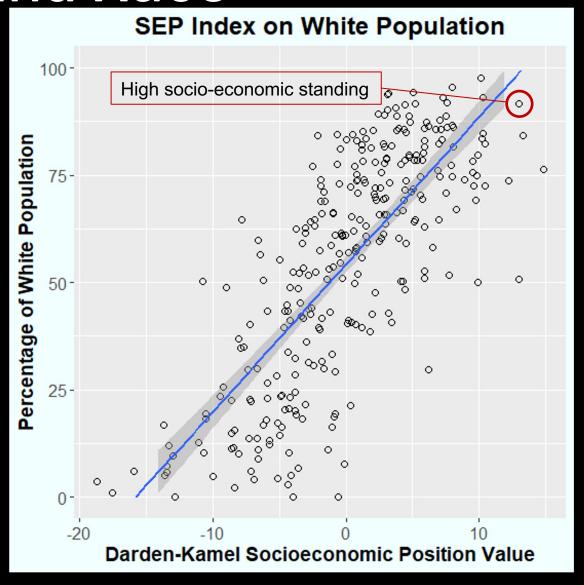




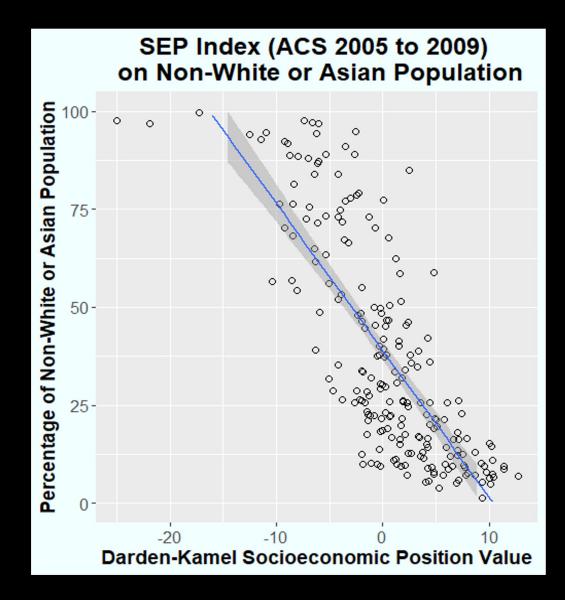


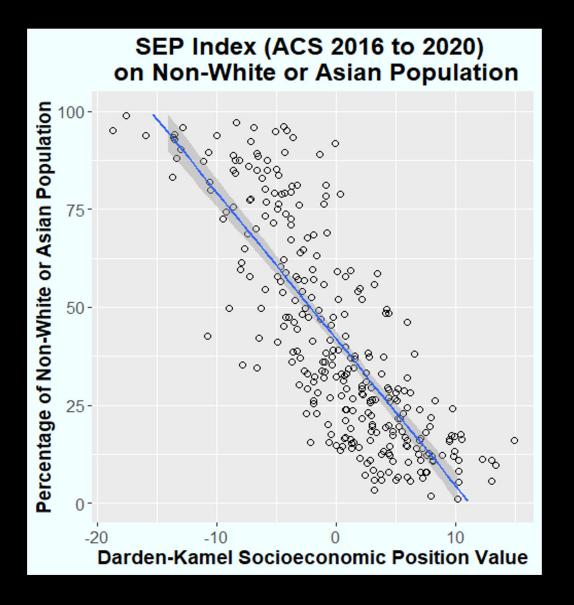
Indices and Race

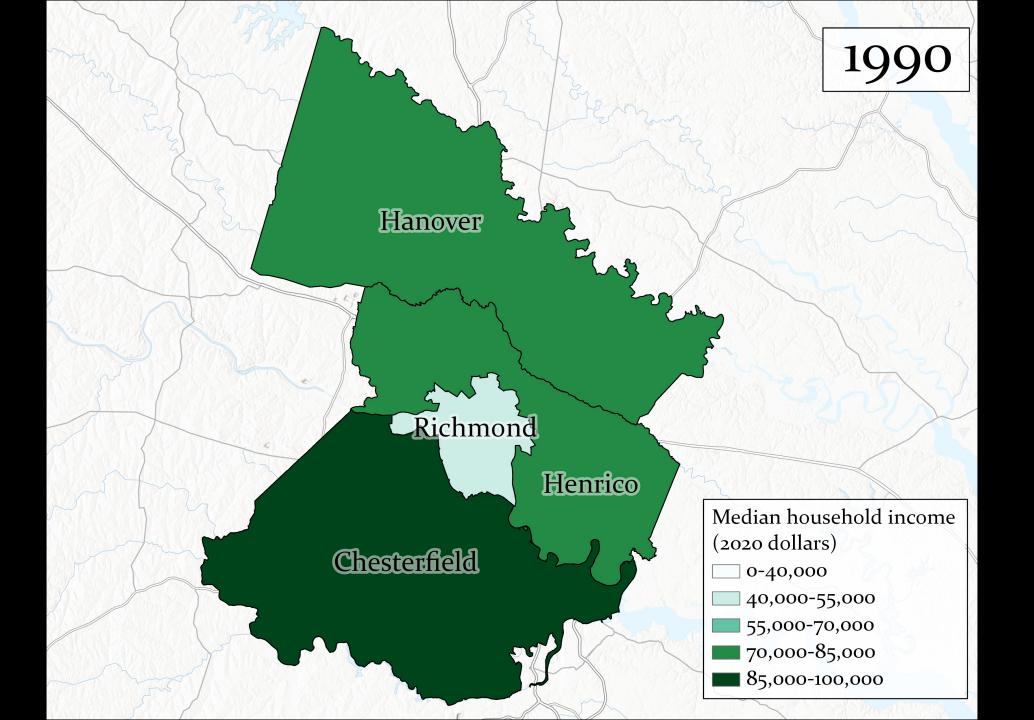


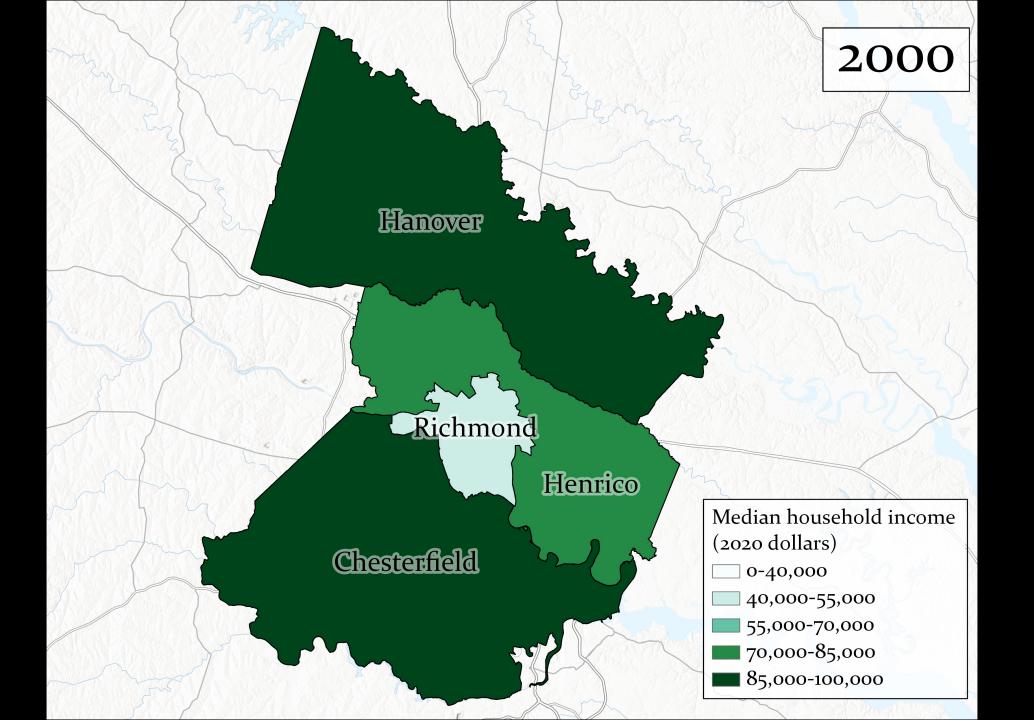


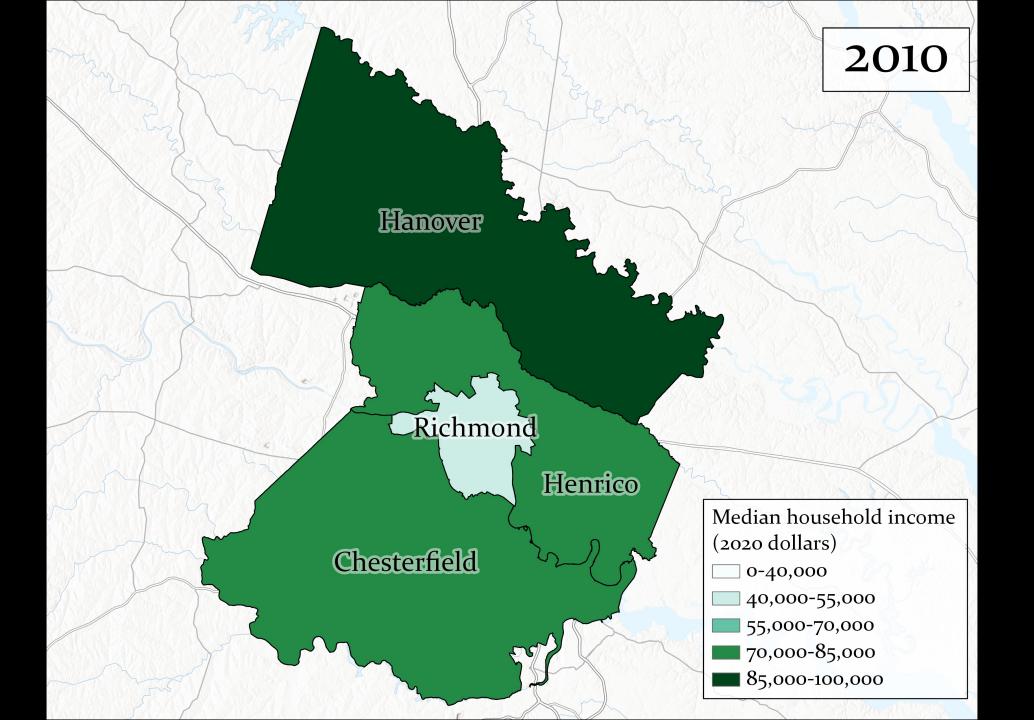
Indice Temporal Comparison

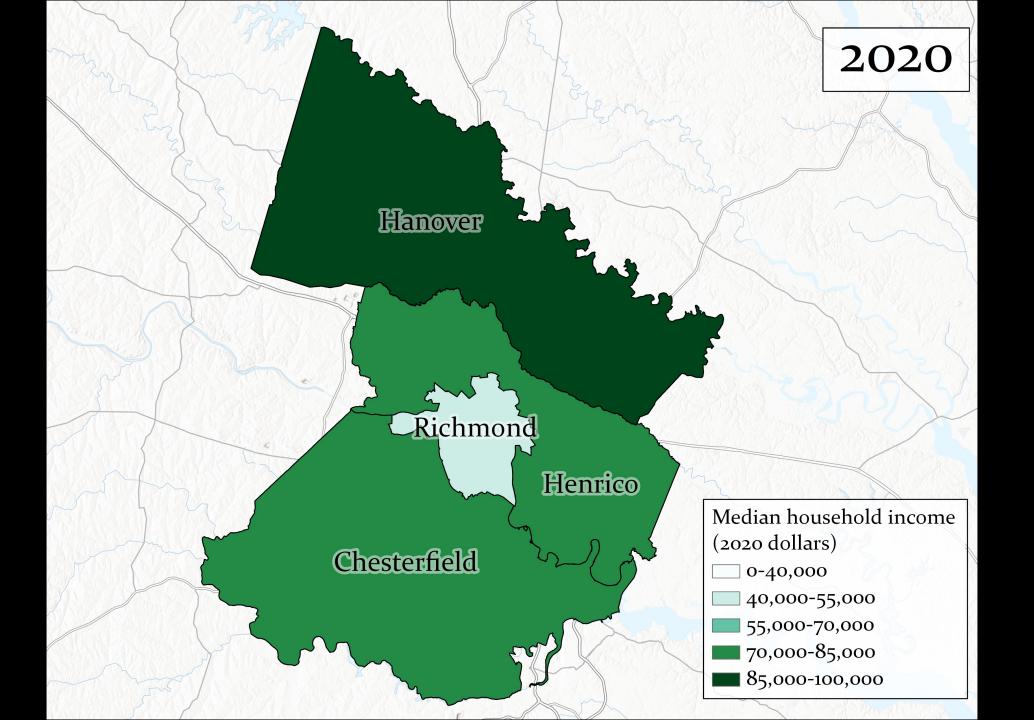


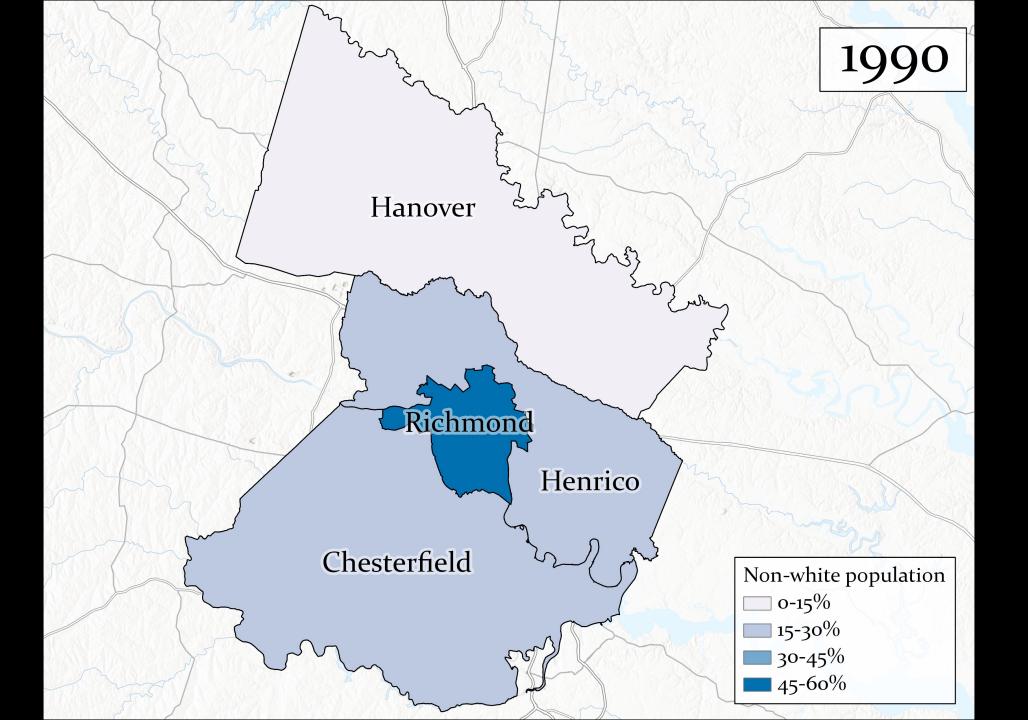


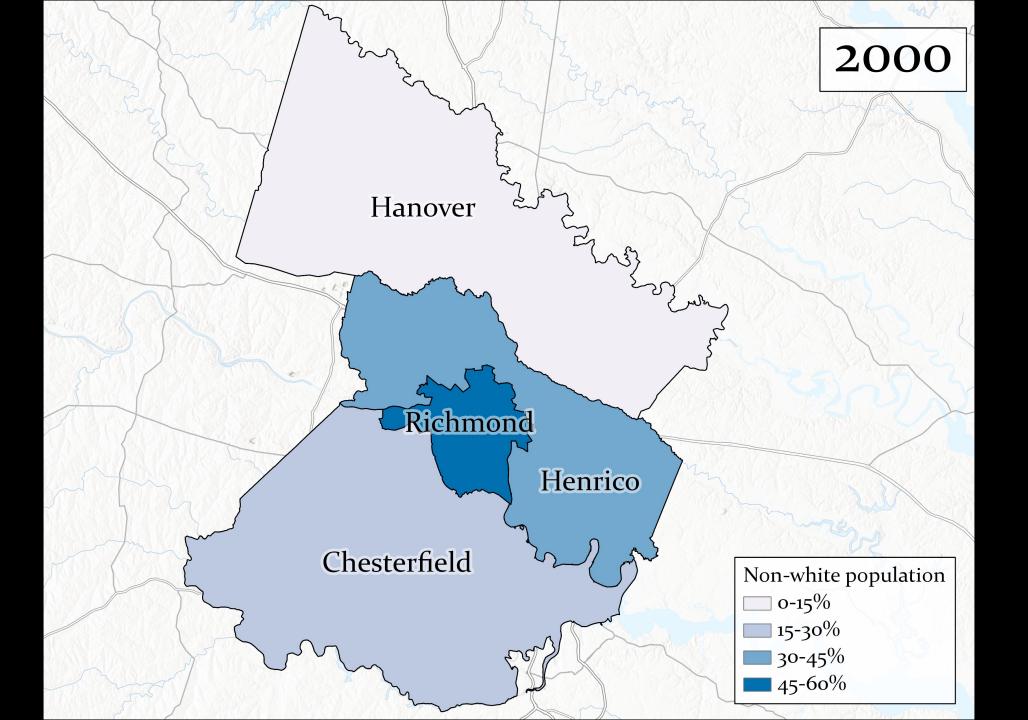


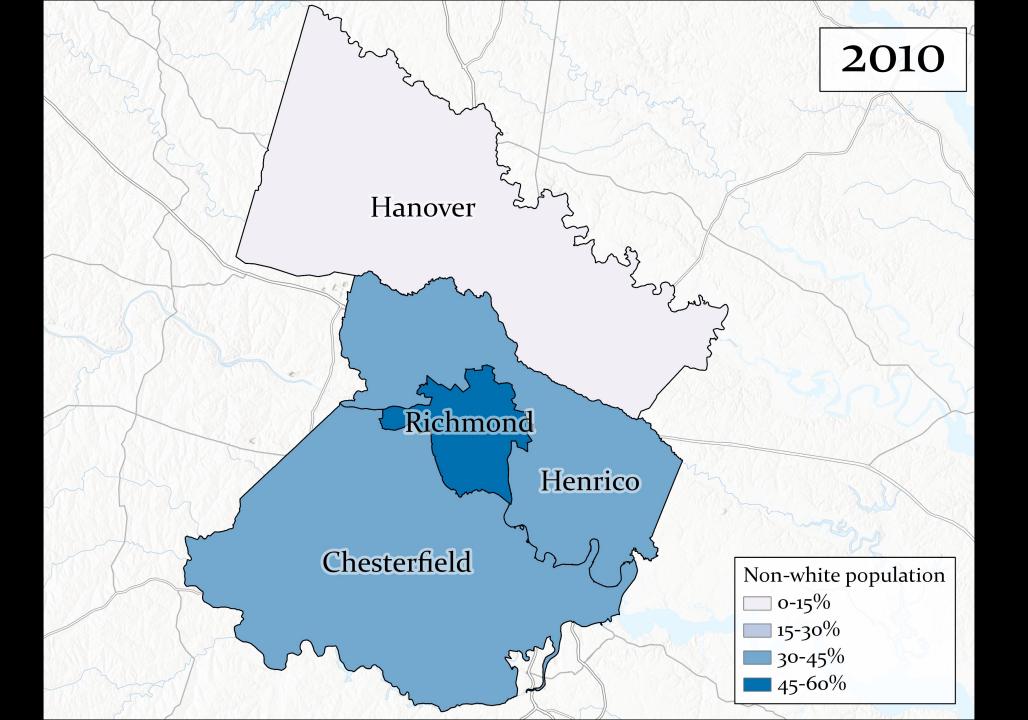


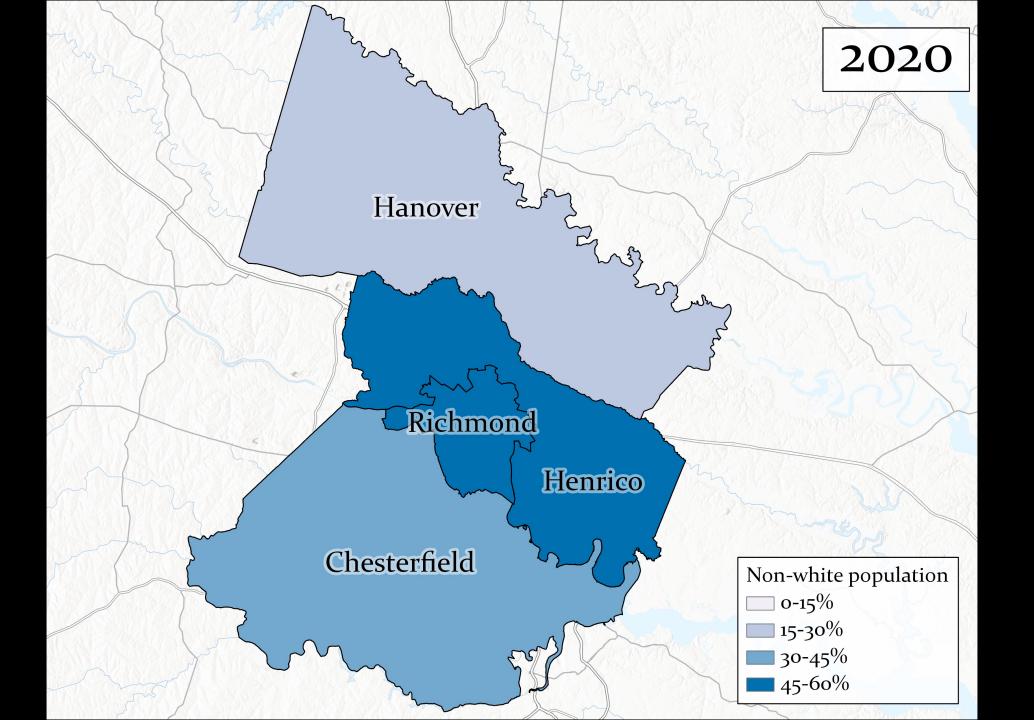














"Knowledge can make a difference. You need to first know if you're completely oblivious to something, if it's out of your realm of thinking. You can't fix something you're not aware of."

John V. Moeser

Thank you!





