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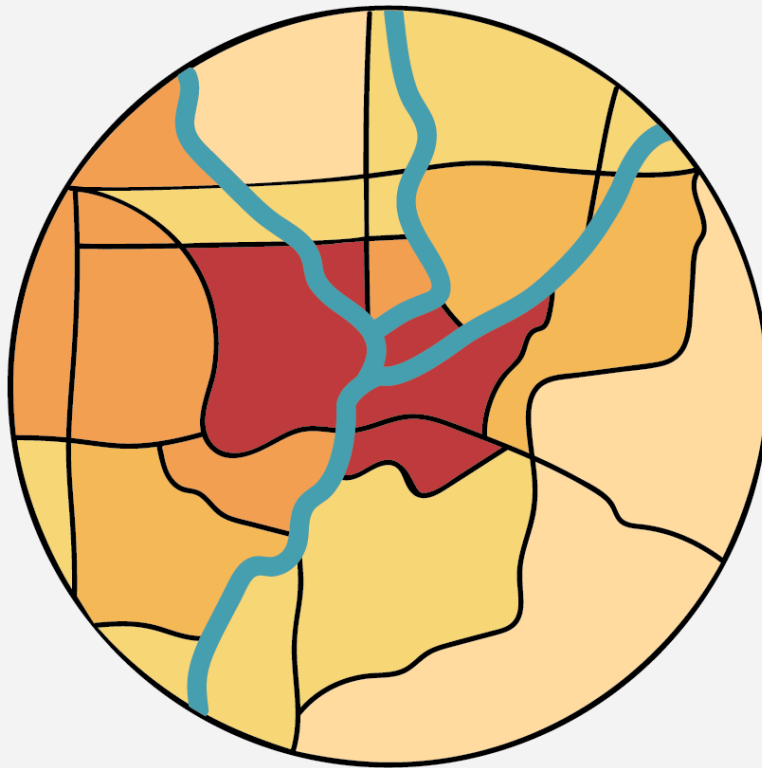
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4-2022

The Common Good in a Divided City: Racism, the Church and the Challenge of Regional Solidarity

University of Dayton, Fr. William J. Ferree Chair of Social Justice

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THE COMMON GOOD IN A DIVIDED CITY

Racism, The Church, and the
Challenge of Regional Solidarity

April 1-3, 2022

University of Dayton

Sponsored by The Fr. William J. Ferree Chair of Social Justice, The Fitz Center for Leadership in Community, and the Gudorf Chair in Catholic Theology and Culture

Conference Schedule

Friday April 1 - Sunday April 3

Friday, April 1

7-8:30 p.m., Beginning the Conversation



Keynote: **Brother Raymond Fitz, S.M., Ph.D.** University of Dayton, Heck Courtroom
Bro. Ray will talk about his journey, with members of the University and Greater Dayton Community, to address systemic injustices of racism and poverty. Bro. Ray seeks to challenge the University and our Community partners to continue to enrich and institutionalize this dialogue on Catholic social tradition and to help our Community advance regional solidarity.

8:30-9:30 p.m., Reception, Keller Hall Atrium

Saturday, April 2

7:30-8:30 a.m., Warming Up, Continental Breakfast in the Keller Hall Atrium



9-10:15 a.m., Maureen O'Connell, Ph.D., LaSalle University, Heck Courtroom

Excavating her Catholic family's entanglements with race and racism from the time they immigrated to America to the present, Maureen O'Connell traces, by implication, how the larger Catholic population became white and why. Despite the tenets of their faith, many white Catholics have lukewarm commitments to racial justice.

Darryl Fairchild, Methodist Minister, Manager of Chaplain Services at Dayton Children's Hospital, and City of Dayton Commissioner, will provide a local response to Dr. O'Connell.

10:30-11:30 a.m., Participant Dialogue Groups

11:45 a.m.-12:45 p.m., Lunch, Kennedy Union Torch Lounge



1-2:15 p.m., Korie Little Edwards, Ph.D., Ohio State University, Heck Courtroom

Korie Edwards will consider the tension between the racial justice goals of Faith-based Community Organizations and the subtle ways that white concerns and culture dominate these movements, even against their best intentions.

Kateri Dillon, Program Coordinator at Brunner Literacy Center, Assistant Head of Spirituality for the Marianist Lay Communities of North America, and a member of the Dayton Marianist Family Council will provide a local response to Dr. Edwards.

2:30-3:30 p.m., Participant Dialogue Groups



3:45-5 p.m., Rich Wood, Ph.D., University of New Mexico, Heck Courtroom

Rich Wood will discuss the successful practices of churches that engage in racial justice work and a consideration of the skills and practices religious communities need to further develop in order to more effectively bring about a just, multiracial society.

Chuck Mingo, Teaching Pastor at Crossroads Church in Cincinnati, founder and CEO of LivingUNDIVIDED and WorkingUNDIVIDED, a program that takes participants through moments of racial healing and catalyzes them to pursue solidarity and systemic equity, will provide a local response to Dr. Wood.

5:15-6:15 p.m., Participant Dialogue Groups

6:15-7:15 p.m., Reception, Keller Hall Atrium

Sunday, April 3

Morning, Services in local houses of worship

10 a.m., Catholic mass, University of Dayton Chapel

11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Brunch, Kennedy Union Torch Lounge

12:30-2:30 p.m., Organizing for Action: A Facilitated Conversation



The Divided City: An Introduction

Home to Native Americans

As we gather to reflect on and respond to the history of division and exclusion in the Miami River Valley, we must recall the colonial history of expulsion and exclusion and its contemporary legacies for Indigenous peoples.

The land we call Ohio today has been the territory of many different American Indian cultures since time immemorial. Many tribes have been stewards of these lands throughout their long history, including the Myaamia, Shawnee, and Potawatomi.

The land in which Dayton currently lies was ceded after the Battle of Fallen Timbers in the Treaty of Greenville in 1795. Tribes were forcibly removed from this area and many others through the Indian Removal Act of 1830. Nevertheless, many Indigenous peoples remain and continue to assert the vitality of their communities and to fight for their sovereignty.

At the University of Dayton, there are ongoing efforts to build and sustain meaningful and reciprocal relationships with the First Peoples of this region and beyond, and to develop ways for the university to support their self-defined aims.



The Great Serpent Mound, Peebles, Ohio.

Annexation and Incorporation: a few highlights

Drawn from Nathalie Wright, "Historic Context," on Dayton, in Ohio History Connection's "Ohio Modern: Preserving Our Recent Past." <https://www.ohiohistory.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/rp-23.pdf>

1803: Montgomery County was formed.

1805: Dayton was incorporated.

By the mid-19th century, Centerville, Oakwood, Trotwood, Vandalia, Fairborn, and Osborn were settled and connected to Dayton by turnpikes.

1907: The village of Oakwood was first incorporated.

1913: Great Dayton Flood. Many hundreds of Daytonians died and tens of thousands were displaced, ushering in a new era of city planning.

1924: Dayton developed a plan to annex 22 square miles of surrounding territory.

1930: Dayton has managed to annex only 6.5 square miles. Attempts to annex Oakwood met with resistance and were defeated.

1940s: Both African-American and white populations grew, as local businesses and the region's role in aviation brought in workers from the South. Federally funded housing for those workers as well as the redlining of any areas in which Blacks resided cemented a pattern of racial segregation, divided by the river.

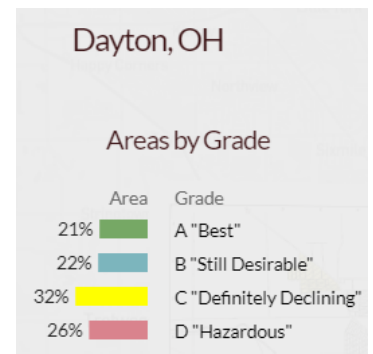
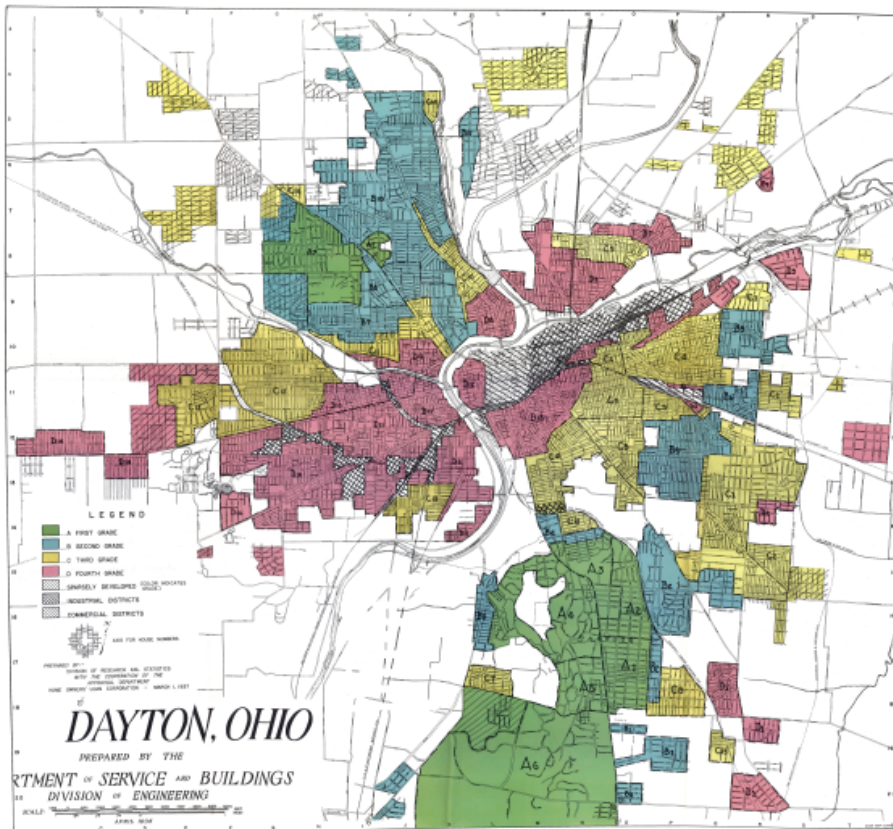
1946: A new plan to expand Dayton by annexing 31 square miles was developed. But by 1950, only 4.2 square miles to the north had been gained. Southern Hills organized the Southern Hills Civic Organization to resist annexation.

1950s: Some townships, including Kettering and Moraine, resist annexation to Dayton by incorporating. By 1958 Dayton was the richest of Ohio's eight major metropolitan areas, but growth was concentrated in residential subdivisions located in surrounding areas.

1962: Montgomery County has more students in schools outside of the city than inside. The schools in the area were almost entirely segregated, and racial tensions played a significant role in movement from the city into the surrounding areas.

Redlining

Beginning in the 1930s, the government-sponsored Home Owners' Loan Corporation and the Federal Home Loan Bank Board used maps to rank the financial risk of investment in particular areas. Areas considered too risky to receive federally insured mortgages were marked in red. Any neighborhood in which African Americans resided was automatically classed as "hazardous" for investment. This has had long-lasting and disastrous impacts on these neighborhoods and on rates of African American homeownership.



Learn more about redlining and engage in community work to overcome its legacy at the *Imagining Community Symposium*, coming up at the Hub Powered by PNC at the Dayton Arcade on April 7th-8th.

Registration for the Symposium is free and open to the public.

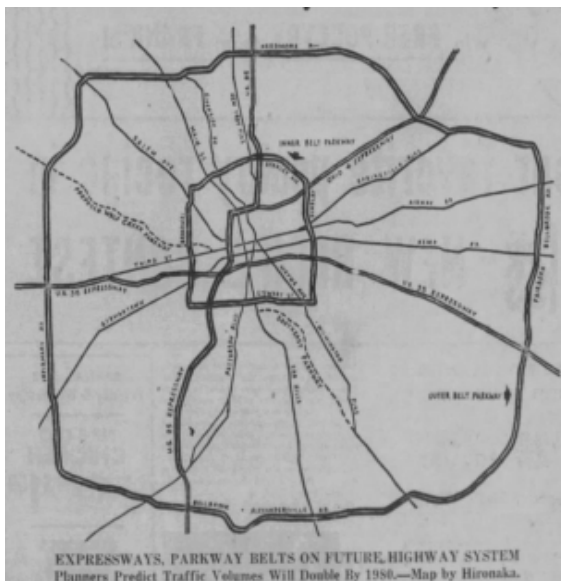
**Scan the QR code to register or visit: udayton.co/S2U/
For more information, email Leslie.Picca@udayton.edu**



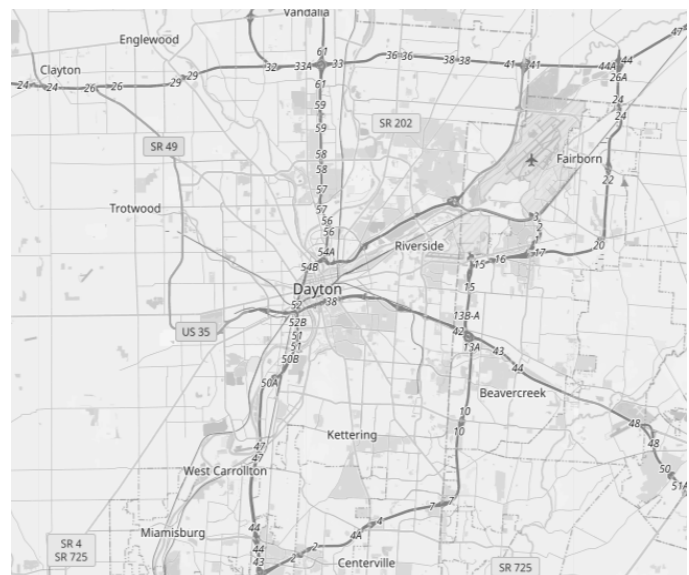
Highway construction

Information provided by Dr. Janet Bednarek and kirwaninstitute.osu.edu

Dayton began planning what would become I-75 in the 1940s. At stake in its placement was which areas would be demolished and which areas would grow. For example, Roberts Blvd. downtown had once been a fashionable middle-class area, but by the 1950s was home to lower-income residents including African Americans. I-75 was routed to demolish that neighborhood and divide downtown from the mostly African American west side, cutting off the vibrant African American district on W. 5th St. from the city center. At the same time, it preserved scenic views of the river from places like the Dayton Art Institute. I-75 also cut through Carillon and Edgemont neighborhoods, which were functioning as what Todd Michney has called “surrogate suburbs” for many African American families.



*Prospective highway layout,
Dayton Daily News, June 23rd, 1955.*



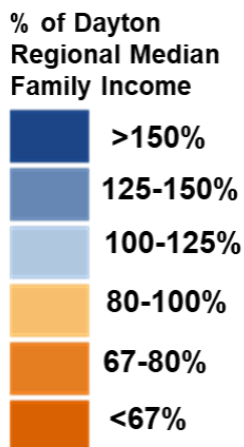
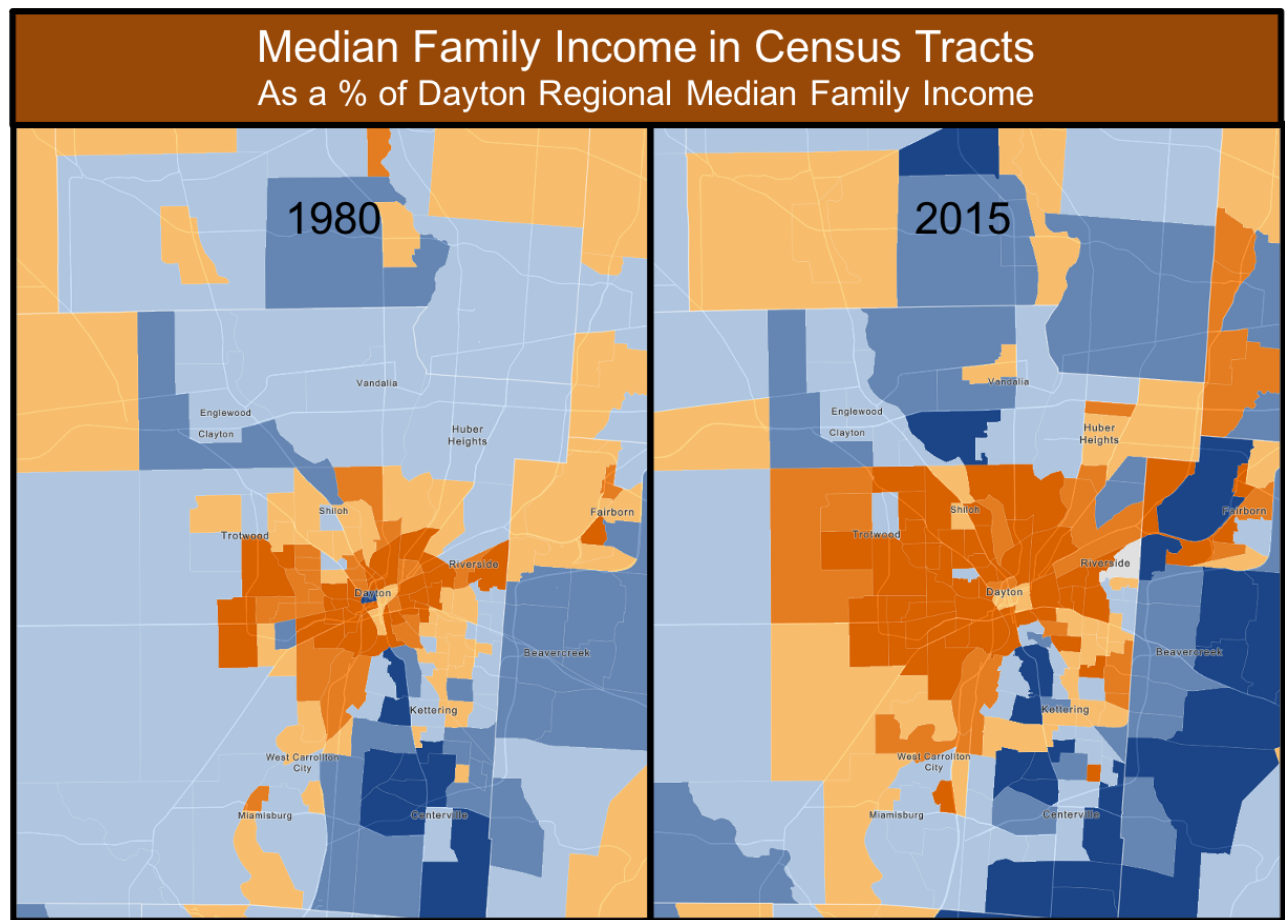
*Map showing Dayton area interstates and highways,
2022, OpenStreetMap.org*

During the 1970s and early 1980s, the construction of I-675 became a major political issue. Originally, the state highway department planned an I-70 / I-75 bypass on the west side of the city. That plan was changed to instead call for an east-side bypass, due mainly to pressure from Wright Patterson Air Force Base. The city then tried to annex the base, but in 1983 lost that effort in the US Circuit Court. Mayor James McGee, Dayton’s first African American mayor, feared that I-675 would draw development away from Dayton and into the surrounding suburbs, and he fought to find ways to funnel some of the development into Dayton and/or West Dayton. A federally supported 1979 report by the Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission assessing the impact of the project on the region also acknowledged that completing I-675 East could separate the community in numerous ways over time.

Median Family Income

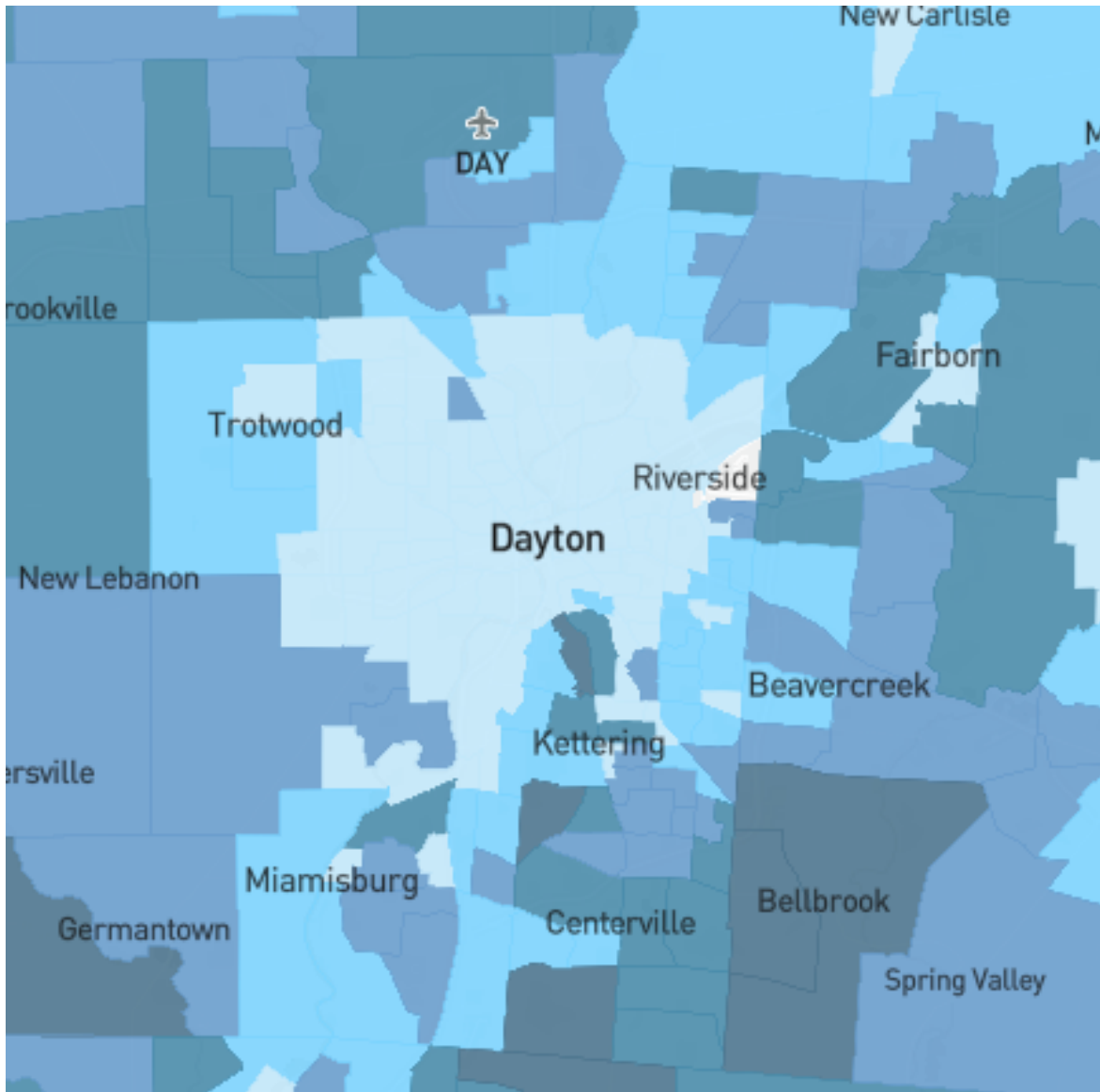
These images show that “urban sprawl has resulted in increased segregation by family income. There is a growth of low median family income neighborhoods in the urban center and the movement of more affluent neighborhoods to the periphery of the region.”

Excerpted from “A Social Analysis of the Dayton Metropolitan Region: “A Fractured City” and “The Silent Violence of Poverty,”” Bro. Raymond Fitz, SM



In light of the information about highway construction on the preceding page, note the correlation of the data represented on this map with the construction of I-675, completed in 1987.

Overall Childhood Opportunity



Childhood Opportunity Levels

Overall COI by Census Tract, nationally-normed for 2015

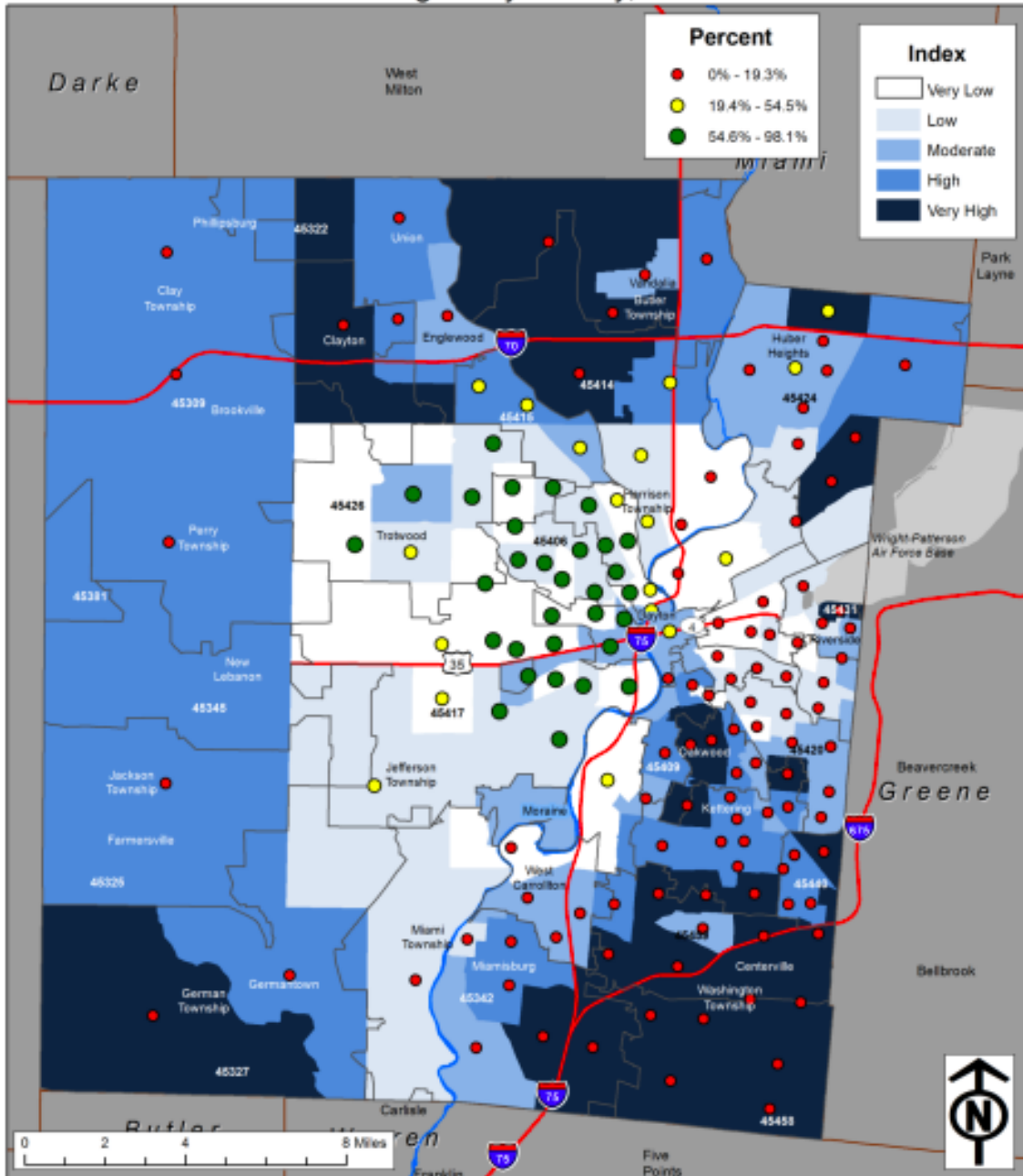


2022 diversitydatakids.org Report Data, Institute for Child, Youth and Family Policy, Heller School for Social Policy and Management, Brandeis University. Waltham, MA.

Overall Opportunity & Black Population



Montgomery County, Ohio



Source: American Community Survey, 2009-2013

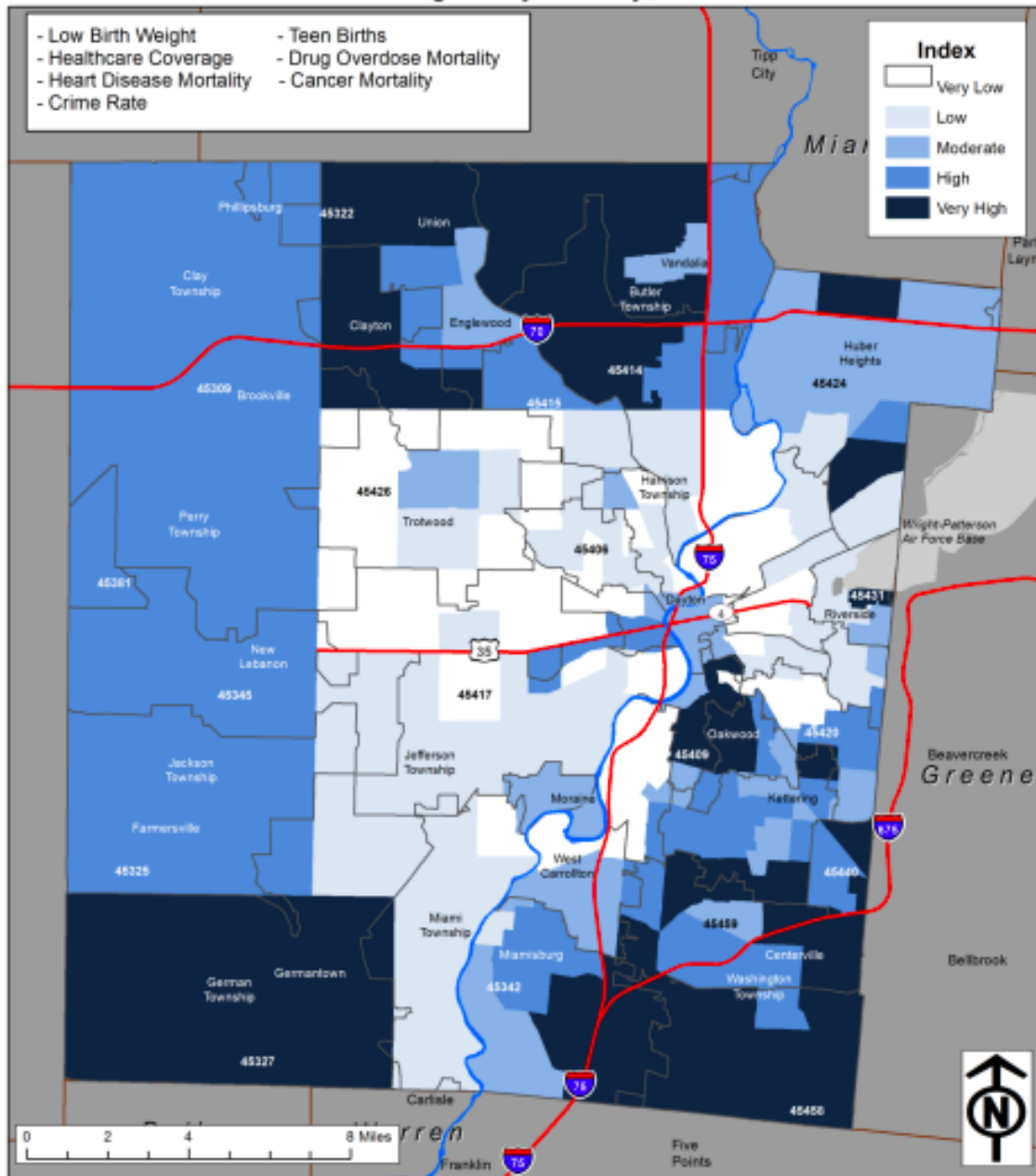
Montgomery County Opportunity Map, Dayton and Montgomery County Public Health, May 2015

Opportunity related to Health & Safety



Dayton & Montgomery County

Montgomery County, Ohio

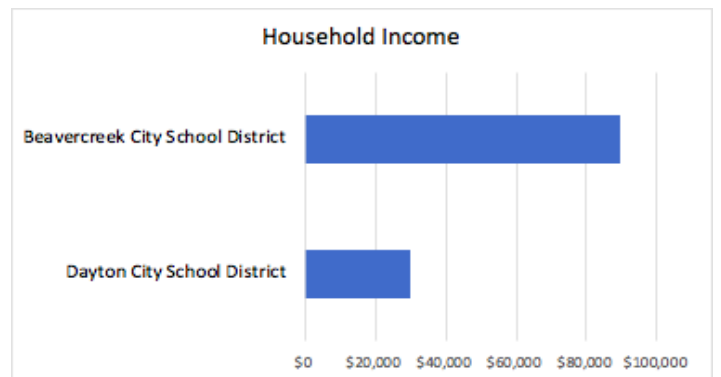
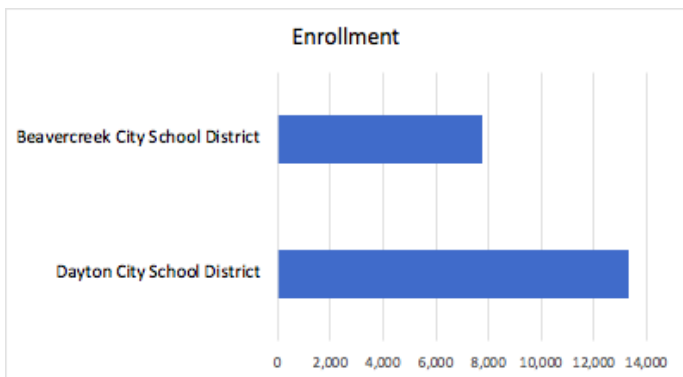
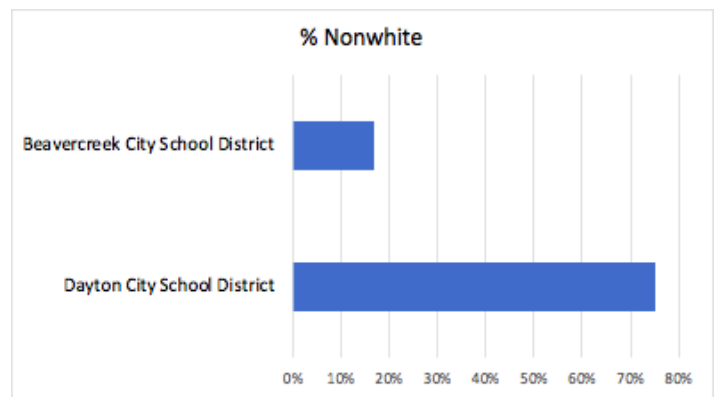
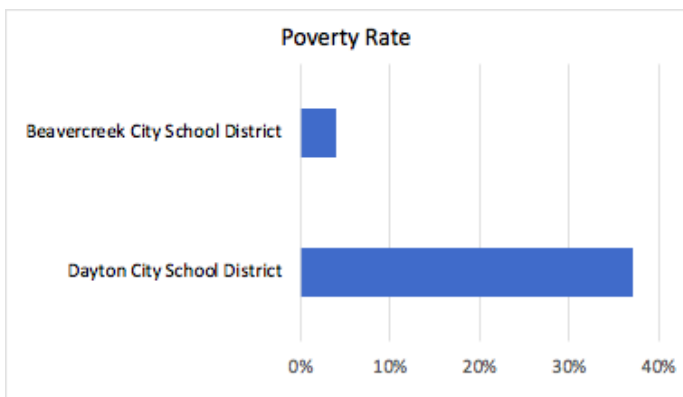


School District Inequality

Edbuild, an organization promoting reform of school funding, collected information on boundaries of school systems in the US that demonstrate high rates of inequality.

In their 2015 data, the boundary between the Dayton City School District and the Beavercreek City School District was the 29th most unequal in the United States.

See <https://edbuild.org/content/fault-lines/data>.



NOTES

NOTES

Dialogue Groups

After each keynote and response, we will break into groups for dialogue. You can find the number of your assigned group on the back of your nametag. Groups will meet in the following locations:

Group 1: Room 101 (directly across the lobby from the courtroom)

Group 2: Room 201 (take the stairs or elevator and walk across the lobby)

Group 3: Room 114 (at the east side of the first floor)

Group 4: Room 222 (take the stairs or elevator; go to the east side of the building)

Group 5: Room 223 (take the stairs or elevator; go to the east side of the building)

Group 6: Human Rights Center A main meeting space (take the elevator to the third floor; turn right and then left)

Group 7: Human Rights Center B conference room (take the elevator to the third floor; turn right and then left)

“Dialogue” isn’t just any conversation. It is a particular kind of communication in which people with different perspectives seek mutual understanding. Participants in a dialogue need not agree with each other, nor do they need to convince each other which views are right. They do not need to resolve differences or decide on action. If at the end, participants understand their own views, each other’s views, and the topics they are exploring with greater depth and clarity, they have had a successful dialogue.

We will move toward collaborative action in our lunchtime session on Sunday. On Saturday, we concentrate on dialogue to build the basis from which any successful collaboration grows: deeper understanding of each other.



For Brother Raymond Fitz, S.M., in appreciation of his tireless efforts to build the common good.

Our thanks to our many partners whose assistance has made this conference possible:

Sandy McGuire, Jessica Poprocki, Mary Beth Miller, Lee Ann Ross, Steve Streck, John Badders, Rich Taste Catering, Garrett Conti, Carroll Schleppe, Margaret Lisjak, Annette Mitchell, Marva Gray, Tommy Kettlehake, UD Catering Services, Andrew Musgrave, Sara Seligman, Matt Dunn, Jim Vogt, Jason Combs, Julio Quintero, Yana Crossland, Megan Woolf, Sandra Yocum, Ramón Stern, Paul Morrow, Tracey Jaffe, Maureen Anderson, Una Cadegan, Janet Bednarek, Tereza Szeghi, Leslie Picca, Heidi Gauder, Amy Lee, Rebecca Henry, Holly O'Hara, Tyler Campbell, Caitlin Cipolla-McCulloch, Dom Sanfilippo, The Office of Karl L. Keith, Montgomery County Auditor, and the incomparable Laurie Eloe.

The Common Good in a Divided City Conference is part of a week-long series of events promoting work to address historic injustices in this region. Participants are encouraged to continue the conversation April 7-8 at the [Imagining Community: Shaping a More Equitable Dayton Symposium](#) at the Hub Powered by PNC at the Dayton Arcade.