

SOUTHEAST FLORIDA DATACOMMON



A Report to the Miami-Dade Economic Advocacy Trust

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By the South Florida Regional Planning Council

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Miami-Dade Economic Advocacy Trust

Community Development



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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

In October 2012, the Miami-Dade Economic Advocacy Trust (MDEAT) contributed to sponsored research and a regional conversation around the possible creation of a Southeast Florida DataCommon. DataCommons across the Nation host official data from national, state, municipal, and community sources. As an interactive platform for collecting and exploring data on a larger than local scale, engaged indicator analysis, and technical assistance, the DataCommon is a vehicle for overcoming issue and organizational silos to enhance shared data, understanding, learning, and cohesiveness on a local and regional scale.

A Southeast Florida DataCommon would further MDEAT's objective of creating a community information system as one of its "do-able deeds," and support its mission to ensure the equitable participation of Blacks in Miami-Dade County's economic growth. A key objective of this research was to more fully understand how participation in a regional data collaborative such as a DataCommon can add value to and further the work and investments of individual public, private, nonprofit, and civic partners such as MDEAT.

MDEAT has engaged in significant work to improve community level data to further community and economic development in Miami-Dade's Target Urban Areas. One example is its ground-breaking Miami-Dade CityDNA initiative with Social Compact. This web-based Geographic Information System (GIS) provides demographic, statistical and visualization of data of neighborhoods across Miami-Dade County. It can generate data, charts, reports, and trends within a neighborhood's economy to support learning and advocacy. The Disparity Analysis created by Social Compact is one example of an initial step to understand the different living conditions that Miami-Dade residents experience. What more might be possible if MDEAT's work was part of a larger regional resource of data and leaning environment augmented by collaborative partners, performance indicators, professional analysis, technical assistance, and additional visualization tools?

Following months of work, on April 25, 2013 a DataCommon Focus Group meeting was held at the South Florida Regional Planning Council's offices. The purpose of the meeting was to explore with a small group of stakeholders that routinely collect and use data in their work whether they felt that a Southeast Florida DataCommon would add value to their work and if so, if they would be interested in working collaboratively to explore the opportunity further. The answer was a resounding "yes!"

As explored in this report, because many of the issues that locally-based organizations are working with often transcend local governmental jurisdictional boundaries, these issues are oftentimes better understood and addressed when data at a larger than local scale is also considered. DataCommons can support community dialogue and improved decision making by providing a venue for the collection, aggregation and analysis of data contributed by different sources. For example, integrating MDEAT's work with Social Compact to create the Miami City DNA with other data such as the recent Equity Profile of the Southeast Florida Region by PolicyLink and the Program for Environmental and Regional Equity (PERE) in a web-based visualization environment could potentially increase community stakeholder and

community participation and insight into the interrelationship of issues and how they may play out in a target community.

MDEAT's constituents will benefit from the implementation of a DataCommon through the process of exploring their communities, as well as from the policies that are influenced through increased data, information, and understanding of the interrelationships of issues and critical investments. When a wide variety of indicators can be dynamically viewed, a new perspective of linkages between them can be drawn to create an enhanced understanding of desirable public and private investment to encourage transformational change.

We are deeply appreciative to MDEAT for sponsoring this research and regional conversation and look forward to working collaboratively with MDEAT and other partners and stakeholders on next steps to move this conversation forward to make the Southeast Florida DataCommon a reality.

INTRODUCTION

The proposed DataCommon project promotes the development of a regional data portal that features an interactive platform for exploring data and a collaborative space for engaged indicator analysis. The goal is to enhance data and understanding about community and regional policy issues on a broader scale through access to, and sharing of, up-to-date spatial data, visualization tools, and technical assistance and support opportunities. It would be implemented through a regional partnership working together to create the resource and enhance understanding of the challenges and opportunities of using data to drive positive change in Southeast Florida.

From April 23-25, 2013, three meetings were held at the South Florida Regional Planning Council (SFRPC) office to present initial ideas related to community-based data and tools; engage related parties; and collect feedback. These meetings were:

- Community Indicator Focus Group for the City of Hollywood
- Community Indicator Focus Group for the City of Opa-locka
- DataCommon Focus Group Conversation for Southeast Florida Region

OPPORTUNITY STATEMENT

Working together, public, private, nonprofit, civic, and philanthropic organizations can develop a Southeast Florida DataCommon that will provide the region with greater data, information, and understanding about key issues and opportunities in Southeast Florida. A DataCommon is an online application and interactive resource of information. It brings data into a new environment that allows data comparisons to be made and trends to be observed. It provides visualization tools that enable new levels of analysis that would not otherwise be possible.

DataCommons across the Nation host official data from national, state, and municipal sources as well as community sources. DataCommons allow users of varying skills, capacity and experience to access information at different levels of geography and to illustrate the data and relationships between issues. This can enhance communication, improve policy making, support the development of grant proposals, highlight issues of community importance, and enhance meaningful community participation and engagement in policy making. Because issues such as economic and community development, transportation, education, health, and housing often transcend local governmental jurisdictional boundaries, these issues are oftentimes better understood and addressed when data at a larger than local scale is also considered. Robust DataCommons can support community dialogue and enhanced decision making by providing a venue for technical assistance and training that allows diverse users to access and work with data, and communicate information to others.

STATEMENT OF CURRENT CONDITIONS

While public, private, nonprofit, civic, and philanthropic organizations within the seven-county Southeast Florida region (Monroe to Indian River counties) are collecting data and information about their respective communities, service areas, and constituencies, data is not easily shared among organizations in the Region. As a result, data, analysis, and the lessons learned from the data largely reside in organizational “silos.” This limits shared learning, regional understanding of the interconnectedness of the region and issues impacting the region, and the creation of regional identity and cohesiveness. With limited sharing of data, analysis, and interpretation, it is more difficult to understand and address in a holistic and comprehensive manner the opportunities and challenges facing Southeast Florida, its communities and residents, and future sustainability. There is an inherent inefficiency related to multiple organizations collecting the same time-dated information time and time again. Through a collaborative effort of stakeholders, this information could be collected by one organization and shared with all partners. This would make it possible for partner organizations to use their limited resources in the collection of more detailed information and analysis in focused issue areas. This could in turn be contributed to or accessed through the DataCommon to enhance learning and understanding regionally.

DATACOMMON CONVERSATION

MEETING PURPOSE:

The purpose of the meeting was to convene a small focus group of stakeholders from the region that routinely collect and work with data for a presentation and discussion about web-based data application typologies including DataCommons. SFRPC staff sought to gauge whether these regional partners felt that a Southeast Florida Regional DataCommon would add value to their work and if so, whether they would be interested in working collaboratively to explore the opportunity further. This facilitated discussion made it possible to gather input, feedback and advice from key partners.

Diverse Partners Connected by a Common Goal

Focus group participants were carefully selected to highlight a range of potential issues and types of data. Invitees included public, private, nonprofit, and philanthropic leaders representing issue areas such as community development, finance, transportation, housing and health. The diversity of the participants resulted in an engaging conversation that was rich in content. The discussion raised issues related to current conditions, challenges, opportunities and next steps. The following organizations participated in the meeting:

- CITI Community Development ([Sponsor](#))
- Miami-Dade Economic Advocacy Trust (MDEAT) ([Sponsor](#))
- Carras Community Investment
- Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT IV)
- Federal Reserve Bank

- Catalyst Miami
- Children's Trust
- Cambridge Systematics
- Health Council of South Florida (HCSF)
- Memorial Healthcare System (MHS)
- Broward Workshop
- South Florida Hospital & Healthcare Association (SFHHA)
- Neighborhood Housing Services of South Florida (NHSSF)
- South Florida Smart Growth Land Trust
- Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance
- Broward Regional Health Planning Council (BRHPC)
- South Florida Regional Transportation Authority (SFRTA)
- Florida Center for Environmental Studies at Florida Atlantic University (CES)
- Economic Development Research Institute (EDRI)
- Children's Services Council of Broward County (CSC Broward)

Welcome and Introductions: Collaboration Is Key

Isabel Cosio Carballo, SFRPC director of Public Affairs, welcomed the guests and thanked them for taking time out of their busy schedules to be part of the morning's discussion. She thanked Citi Community Development and the Miami Dade Economic Advocacy Trust (MDEAT) for their sponsorship and support of the DataCommon discussion. She invited the sponsors to say a few words. Ms. Barbara Romani, South Region Manager with Citi Community Development, expressed Citi's desire to see that people have access to information that is reliable and can be used to inform and enhance policy decisions. Isabel also recognized MDEAT's generous contribution to the project and their interest in supporting improved data, information, and policy making at the local and regional level. She paused to remember and acknowledge the late Tom Zuniga of DSG Community Management Systems, who originally approached the SFRPC with the idea of working collaboratively to create a regional DataCommon.

Isabel gave a quick overview of the relationship between the Southeast Florida Regional Partnership's Seven50 initiative (the Fair Housing Equity Assessment and Data Warehouse); Citi Community Development's Community Indicators Pilot Project (Hollywood and Opa-locka); the DataCommon project, the web-based visualization tool Weave; and the extensive and varied data collection, analysis and indicator efforts underway in the region. From its preliminary work and research, the SFRPC believes that a Southeast Florida DataCommon would be a great asset to the region. The purpose of this meeting is to share information with the key partners gathered together, gauge their interest, and seek their input and guidance before making a decision on whether to proceed with additional work. Moving ahead after this focus group meeting, the intent would be to broaden the discussion to include additional stakeholders not present at the meeting today.

Isabel recognized the great work that is being accomplished in Southeast Florida by all of the organizations present, and others who were not able to attend. She asked participants if they had any early questions that they wanted to make sure were addressed in the course of the conversation. Isabel also referred to the draft Data Websites Primer and asked for everyone's review and comment. She

mentioned that this is an initial draft “work in progress” and encouraged the group to please provide additional examples, information, and links that they believe are important to include in the Primer. MDEAT Board Member Ron Butler joined the meeting and was recognized and thanked as a key sponsor. Isabel then introduced Holly St. Clair and Susan Brunton from the Boston Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC); Keren Bolter, a doctoral candidate with Florida Atlantic University assisting the SFRPC with research; Richard Ogburn, Director of Research at the SFRPC; and John Kaliski, principal of Cambridge Systematics and the meeting facilitator.

Mr. Kaliski greeted everyone and then reviewed the meeting agenda and objectives. He stated that he would be working to get the group to agreement on next steps moving forward by the end of the meeting. He then welcomed Holly St. Clair, the presenter for the meeting.

What Kinds of Data Do We Need to Inform Our Decisions?

Holly St. Clair, the director of Data Services from the Boston MAPC, requested that each participant introduce themselves and share the types of data that they work with. The participants identified demographic data, hospital admissions data, transportation data, property (value and taxes) data, stock data, foreclosure data, and census statistics. Participants described how they used data in planning and policy work. There was conversation related to the reliability, scale, timing, source, access, and cost of data. Participants were then asked to voice initial responses to the draft Primer that had been distributed earlier (see Appendix A).

Democratization of Data and Enhanced Citizen Participation through Innovative Methods

A key objective of a DataCommon is to offer a learning and sharing environment for contributors and users that can encourage community dialogue and empower citizen participation in decision-making processes. Through increased access to information and analysis on issues of importance, citizens and community stakeholders can “arm themselves with the power knowledge gives” and participate more fully in their communities, decision-making processes, and democracy.

“A popular Government without popular information or the means of acquiring it is but a Prologue to a Farce or a Tragedy or perhaps both. Knowledge will forever govern ignorance, and a people who mean to be their own Governors, must arm themselves with the power knowledge gives.” - James Madison, 1822

What is a DataCommon?

A DataCommon is an online application that serves as a portal to data, an interactive platform for exploring data and a collaborative space for engaged indicator analysis. A DataCommon is different from other data and information sites in that it is inquiry-based, interactive, and promotes sharing, partnerships and a collaborative learning environment for contributors and users. A DataCommon platform allows hosting of official data from national, state, municipal and community sources and can receive additional datasets by users for collaborative community analysis. In general, indicators, or “benchmarks”, are used to track progress. The DataCommon is distinct from a data warehouse because

information is provided within a policy context. Users can access data and tools to develop their unique perspective in an informed manner.

A DataCommon has the potential to allow users to:

- Upload and download data sets for collaborative community analysis;
- Explore, visualize, interpret and share data in spatial and statistical forms;
- Publish data visualizations and interpretations onto the data visualization gallery to share with the DataCommon community; and
- Build on others' visualizations and re-publish with their new or augmented interpretations of the data.

How Is Data Used in Planning and Policy Work across the Nation?

Holly St. Clair presented and discussed various types of web-based data application typologies across the country, and then demonstrated the MetroBoston DataCommon. The National Neighborhood Indicators Partnership (NNIP) brings together several dozen partners, some of whom have interactive sites in several states across the country. Additional national examples include Chicago Metropulse, Data Driven Detroit, Connecticut Data Collaborative, Neighborhood Nexus in Atlanta, and Rhode Island Data Hub. Each of these organizations has a unique approach to collecting, sharing, and presenting data. These organizations are working to build capacity for non-profit, public, private, civic, and other partner organizations in their communities.

Holly then reviewed the partnership history of the organizations from Boston who have been working collaboratively for more than a decade to create a Boston Metropolitan Area Regional Data Repository and to “democratize data.” She highlighted a few of the “lessons learned” along the way.

The Boston Metropolitan Area Regional Data Repository: How Change Happens

The Boston Metropolitan Area Regional Data Repository began as a partnership between the Boston Foundation and the Metropolitan Area Planning Council. The goal of the 10-year partnership was to develop tools to share information and create greater understanding of interrelationship of social, community, infrastructure and regional growth issues in Metropolitan Boston. The Data Repository development process has been one of continuous improvement over time and has featured the creation of several data sites and partnerships, and experimentation with different approaches. These are reviewed briefly below.

The Boston Children and Families Data Base: Lessons Learned

The Boston Children and Families Data Base (1991) reflected census and administrative data from eight public agencies. The data was geocoded to census tracts and block groups. A lesson learned from this effort was that administrative data is often “deficit” or “challenge oriented” and tends to paint a negative picture that obscures the existing strengths and assets of communities. The data base had a lot of data but not meaning. The importance of providing a context of vision, goals, and values, as well as the need for “user friendliness,” became apparent through this effort.

The Boston Indicators Project “Measuring What We Value”: Lessons Learned

An initiative of the Boston Foundation, The Boston Indicators Project (www.bostonindicators.org/) is a project of Boston’s Civic Community. This project is undertaken in partnership with the City of Boston, Boston Redevelopment Authority and Metropolitan Area Planning Council. The Boston Indicators Project is an online data portal that features indicators, visualizations, and analysis about Boston and its region. It is an excellent resource for anyone who wants to learn more about the economy, housing, demographics, and culture of Boston and its region.

For more than ten years, The Boston Indicators Project has been a primary data resource for the Greater Boston community, providing a rich online portal of data while tracking change in ten sectors. The goal of the project is to “engage the general public, civic and community-based institutions, media, business, and government in better understanding Boston’s key challenges and opportunities.” It attempts to bridge the gap between objectivity and advocacy to create and support a broad-based civic agenda.

Lessons learned from the Boston Indicators Project include understanding how indicators can create common ground for community and civic dialogue, action, and be used to track progress. This community resource creates a “container” for a great variety of reports including public, private, and community data and research.

MetroBoston DataCommon: Lessons Learned

The MetroBoston DataCommon is a partnership of the Metropolitan Area Planning Council and the Boston Indicators Project at the Boston Foundation. The MetroBoston DataCommon provides tools for creating data visualizations. It provides a wealth of information about the region’s people and communities through a variety of topics - from arts and education to the environment and transportation - and serves as a resource for all those seeking to understand how the region is changing.

The Boston partners collect, store, serve data and track topical indicators on sub-neighborhood, neighborhood, municipal, sub-regional, and regional levels. The DataCommon helps residents, stakeholders, planners, city and town officials, educators and journalists explore data and make better informed decisions.

The DataCommon features expanded partnerships and collaborations; data warehouse and portal; searchable, mappable, on-line tools; user training; data services; analysis; and benchmarks and indicators to track progress. The highly interactive nature of the DataCommon makes it possible for users to explore data and community snapshots and create their own visualizations and reports. The interactive site facilitates the access of users with varying levels of expertise to the data and tools on the site and facilitates the engagement of residents, civic leaders, private sector, nonprofits and academics in creating community and regional agendas. Training is provided to users to facilitate their navigation of the Web-based Analysis and Visualization Environment (Weave) interface irrespective of existing expertise. Metropolitan Area Planning Council staff is also available to answer questions that users of the site may have regarding specific issue areas.

Open Indicators Consortium

The Open Indicators Consortium (OIC) is a fifteen-member national collaborative of public and nonprofit organizations working to improve access to more and higher quality data through the development of the open source platform Weave (BETA 1.0). Weave (Web-based Analysis and Visualization Environment) is being developed by the OIC in collaboration with the Institute for Visualization and Perception Research at the University of Massachusetts, Lowell.

Since 2008, the OIC has brought together technical and academic experts, data providers and data users. The OIC's goal is to transform publicly available data into visually compelling and actionable indicators to inform public policy and community-based decision-makers. The OIC seeks to spur the democratization and use of high quality data and data-driven problem-solving within and across neighborhoods, municipalities, sectors, states, regions and nations.

Weave (BETA 1.0) is a new, web-based visualization platform designed to enable visualization of any available data by anyone for any purpose. Weave is an application development platform supporting multiple levels of user proficiency – novice to advanced – as well as the ability to integrate, disseminate and visualize data at “nested” levels of geography.

With the support of Citi Community Development, the South Florida Regional Planning Council joined the OIC as a governing member in 2011 and representative of the Southeast Florida Regional Partnership.

Summary of “Lessons Learned”

- Focus on Partnerships and Collaboration: No one organization can do everything
 - Acknowledge each organization's assets and limitations
 - Clarify the roles and responsibilities for each organization
 - Engage users in the design of the data resource
- Create compelling data stories
- Balance the immediate need for data with long-term needs
- Include data at multiple geographies to provide context
- Clarify goals, vision, and values to give context to the data
- Construct data services to address future needs

DATACOMMON OPPORTUNITY IN SOUTHEAST FLORIDA

Discussion of Benefits of a DataCommon for Southeast Florida

After Holly's presentation, there was a group conversation about how the national examples might apply, be enhanced, and adapted for use in our region. Southeast Florida is fortunate to have a wealth of data and information about trends impacting the region through the good work of many regional stakeholders. The Southeast Florida Regional Partnership's Seven50: SE Florida Prosperity Plan development process includes the development of a Data Warehouse with information on a broad array of issues. Because a DataCommon serves as a portal for data and spatial analysis that can be easily

accessed and understood by a diverse user group, the Seven50 Warehouse data and tools should be imported into a shared DataCommon to serve a more permanent and applicable purpose. Enhancing data and visualization tools to illustrate linkages between physical, social, geographic, and economic indicators would support a learning community engaged in the common goals of meaningful data interpretation and community action.

The development of a Southeast Florida DataCommon can also help to clarify appropriate “ground” for community action by broad-based coalitions. Conditions and trends can be placed into a larger context where the interrelationships between issues can be highlighted and the appropriate level of action identified (community, city, county, sub-regional, regional, etc.). A fact-based, data-driven approach can enhance collaboration across and within geographic boundaries and communities to define and achieve shared goals and objectives.

The SFRPC’s partnership with the national Open Indicators Consortium (OIC) provides an opportunity to work with MAPC and other national partners that have created DataCommons to learn from their experiences and best practices.

We Become Great When We Work Together

Regions that work together are more successful and economically competitive than those that do not. To create a shared vision for the Region, we must build on the region’s strengths and address challenges and opportunities. The vision is focused on striving for resilient communities. Resilience is achieved when organizations, residents, and policymakers are committed to building healthy, vibrant, sustainable, and equitable regions. This requires that every one of the region’s residents have the opportunity to fully participate in the economic, social and political life of the region, regardless of race, ethnicity, income, age, gender or locality.

Issues that can be explored through a DataCommon include, but are not limited to:

- Demographics
- Arts & culture
- Civic vitality & governance
- Economy
- Education
- Environment & energy
- Housing
- Land use & zoning
- Public health
- Public safety
- Technology
- Transportation

Web-based Analysis and Visualization Environment (Weave) Demonstration

The Web-based Analysis and Visualization Environment (Weave) under development by the national Open Indicators Consortium (OIC) was demonstrated using community level data linked to the regional Seven50 Fair Housing and Equity Assessment (FHEA) for the cities of Opa-locka and Hollywood. The Community Indicators Pilot Project was sponsored by Citi Community Development to showcase the dynamic features of the Weave tool and to test whether presenting information in this interactive environment would assist policymakers in decision-making.

Richard Ogburn, the Director of Research at the South Florida Regional Planning Council, prefaced the demonstration by describing how the associated data was collected and integrated into the Weave visualization for the two pilot cities. The pilot methodology focused on the large city of Hollywood and the smaller city of Opa-locka in order to better understand how issues related to the scale and reliability of the data might be affected by population size. The information gathered was based on the FHEA indicators using American Community Survey (ACS) data. ACS data is a valuable tool for performing analysis of cities and neighborhoods and developing policy alternatives to address policy issues. Richard explained the caveats related to ACS data including margins of error.

The data was imported into the Weave tool and used to display two unique and compelling stories, illustrated in Figures 1 and 2 for the City of Hollywood. Along with Keren Bolter, who greatly assisted in the development of GIS base maps and creating the Weave visualizations, Richard illustrated how Weave allows for an inquiry-based, interactive, and engaging experience. The Weave template permits the simultaneous viewing of four windows composed of maps, scatterplots and bar charts. The data in each window is connected spatially by geography (in this case census block group), which allows associated indicator relationships to be observed in all four windows by highlighting the block group data point in any one of the windows. For example, hovering over a block group on the map will cause the block group shape, along with all associated data points in other windows, to be highlighted with a white outline (figure 3). A text box also pops up additional information about the selected block group.

Figure 1: Weave story for Hollywood Housing Affordability for Owners and Renters

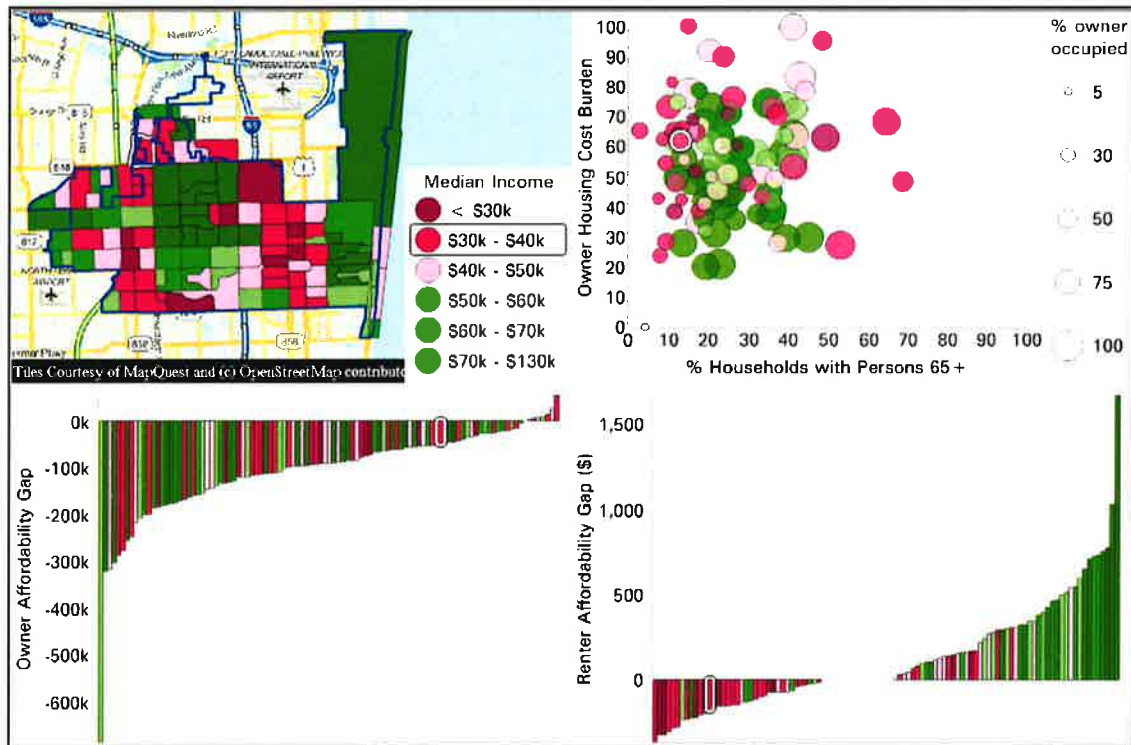


Figure 2: Weave story for Hollywood Education, Employment, and Income for Families and Labor Force

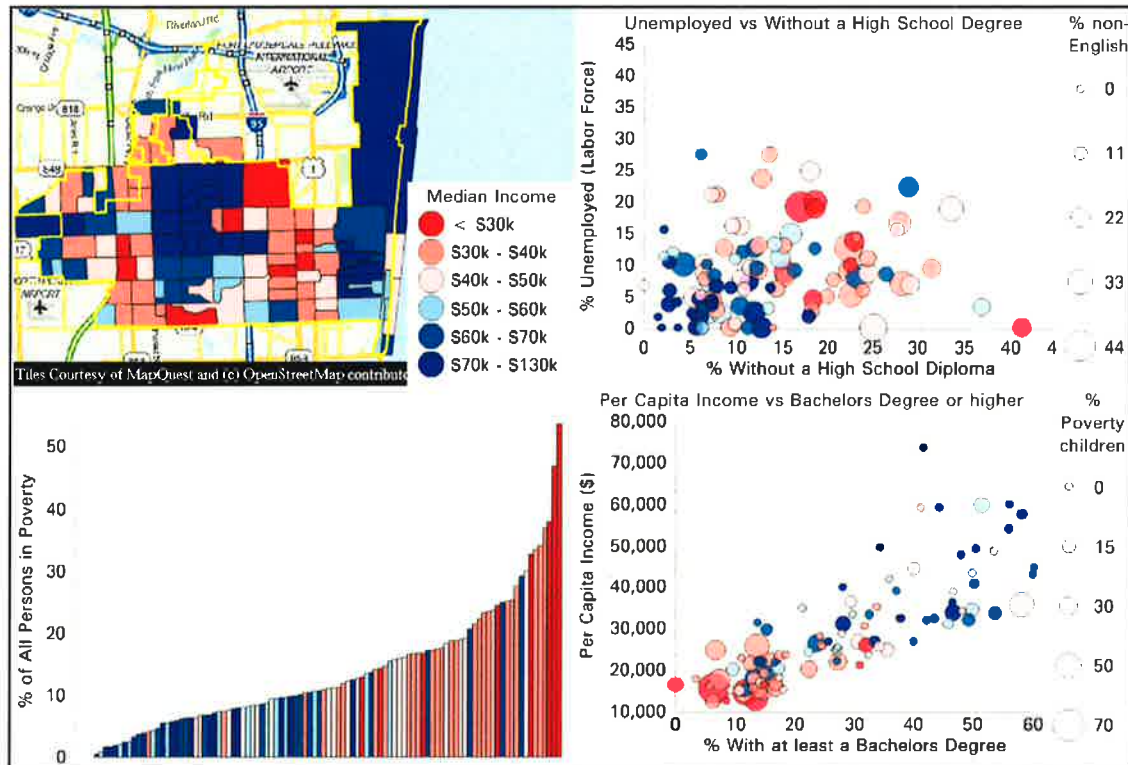
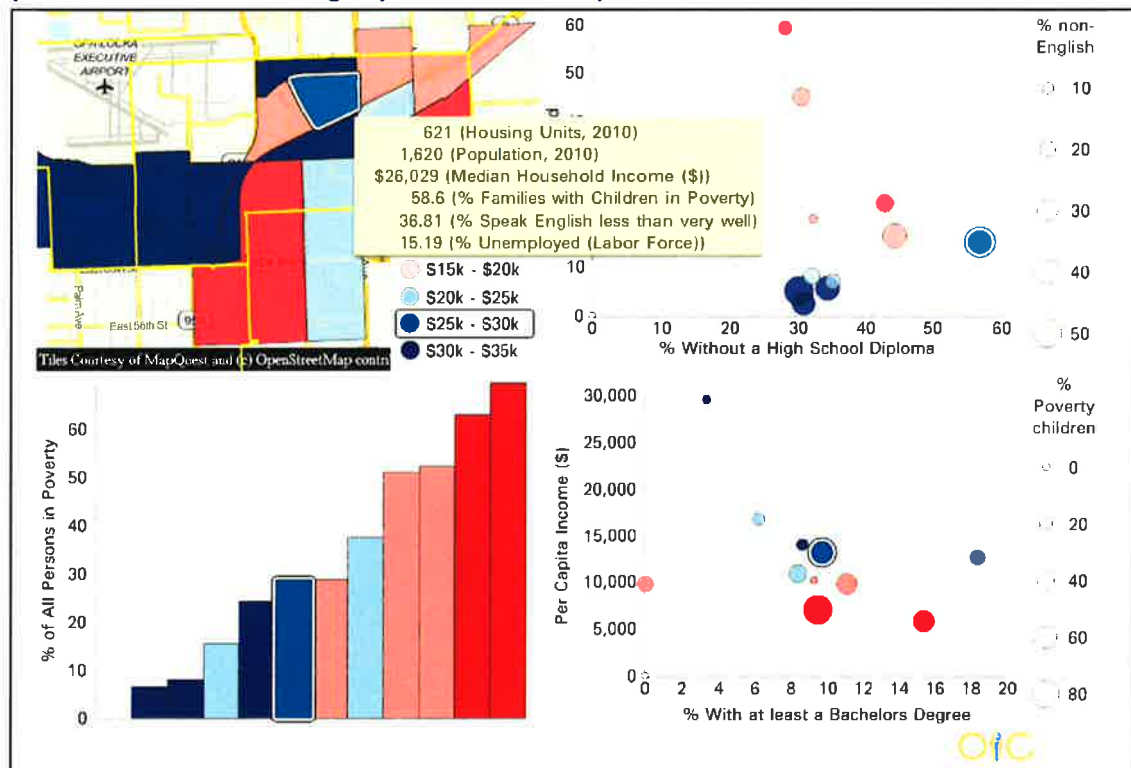


Figure 3: Weave story in action for Opa-locka Education, Employment, and Income for Families and Labor Force (medium blue colored block group has been selected)



Comments from Meeting

While there is a great deal of data and information available from countless sources, there is not currently a forum or mechanism by which data users and providers across the region can work together to create potentially new and useful data sets, analytical visualizations, and presentations. A DataCommon offers a unique shared learning environment where users and providers can access technical assistance and work collaboratively with the aim of improving information, creating economies of scale, and highlighting pressing policy issues. Participants were intrigued at the idea of coming together to create a DataCommon and unanimously agreed that it was important to move the discussion forward. The enthusiasm for being part of the conversation stemmed from insights about how we can collectively use innovative tools for accessing and viewing data in a new environment that allows for comparison and trend analysis. Participants were eager for the opportunity to collect, integrate and visualize data sets in new ways to tell “compelling stories.” These data stories can spur policy making, community support and strategic investment in the region’s human, physical, and natural infrastructure to create transformational change and maximize outcomes.

Distinct observations when discussing the idea of creating a DataCommon for Southeast Florida included the following points:

- Significant resources are being expended in the region by myriad organizations to compile, analyze and use data; many organizations collect the same base information;
- Many public, private, nonprofit, philanthropic, and educational organizations maintain databases rich with information that are not generally shared with, or easily available to, other agencies and organizations;
- Collection, preparation, and analysis of data in a consumable form for use in decision-making can be time-consuming and costly;
- Data collection alone is not sufficient; reliable interpretation of the data requires experience and expertise;
- Many decision-makers and stakeholders do not have access to the data and analysis they need to drive positive change in communities due to insufficient staff capacity or resources;
- Data sets often cannot be compared or cross-referenced because common indexes do not exist;
- Critical data on pressing policy issues is not generally available on a local, larger than local, or regional scale because the information is not collected uniformly;
- Limited resources are repeatedly spent collecting the same information time and time again; resources that could perhaps be put to better use if there was a central location at which to access basic data, analysis, and technical assistance;
- We need to create an education community to explore the differences in how people define where they live; and
- Engagement can be fostered through infographics and other tools to present complex information quickly and clearly.

“Capacity building is a powerful tool. We create an appetite for people that want more information”

- Representative from Catalyst Miami

As the conversation transitioned into applying the national examples to a Southeast Florida regional initiative, questions ranged from strategic to technical issues. From a tactical viewpoint, creating a user-friendly website that stimulates feedback is crucial in order to create broad buy-in. We must focus on establishing dialogue with community and user groups. Public access, as well as public input, can be accomplished by creating surveys, message boards, and other methods that give people some ability to come to the site and leave input and information that will add to the DataCommon and be accessible to others. Technical issues include concerns about cost, permission to share data, and opportunities for funding. Overall, participants agreed enthusiastically that with all of these considerations appropriately addressed, this tool would be of great benefit and value to the community and to data users. Having evidence-based decision data is very meaningful, but no one organization can pull together the wide array of data that is needed. The process therefore requires a collaborative effort to develop a joint strategy for creating and sharing a regional resource of information, tools, and technical assistance.

Next Steps to Move the Southeast Florida DataCommon Conversation Forward

Participants agreed to reconvene in a working group that includes broader participation to begin identifying important issues and develop a plan of “next steps” for action. Other plans include additional research of DataCommon models, including how to create and sustain a partnership, technical needs, staffing, and software/hardware to support the DataCommon. A strategy must be developed to integrate and add value to the work of different regional partners and communities. Additional issues include defining the scope of the data utilization; the user community; broader engagement of key partners; and “low-hanging” fruit to produce “wins” for all partners.

There is a need to build on what we already have and add value to it by how it is accessed and integrated. It will be a challenging and ambitious process, but the benefits are noteworthy and create powerful results. People need information to make decisions. Data and analysis supports knowledge, understanding, and action. In times when resources are scarce, collaborative partnerships create efficiency, new possibilities, better outcomes than that which can be accomplished by any one entity working alone, and shared success.

The key values of the DataCommon that goals must be shaped towards are:

- Provide a visualization tool that enables a new level of inquiry based analysis
- Reduce duplicative efforts in data extraction and processing across the region
- Connect our learning community and enabling informed decision-making
- Offer a monitoring tool to support an equity-driven growth model based on fairness and opportunity
- Focus on a broader vision with detailed components that enable a foundation for creating equity

Technical Goals

The first key goal is to make the data and interface available in an efficient way that makes it easily accessible. The virtual server with the data has been transferred to SFRPC, and a pilot website linked to SFRPC’s website has been set up to showcase 8 interfaces that show the stories from figures 1-4 from two different timespans. The Weave interface has been created representing 2 datasets from the

American Community Survey (ACS) to explore linkages for the 2 most recent ACS 5-year spans. As more data becomes available, it is important to have a coding system in place to process the data in the most efficient manner. It is also beneficial to adjust the way data is imported in a way that saves time and resources. MAPC has a methodology that is automated, and we will apply their data processing program for our benefit. The data assemblage is an ongoing process that requires a platform and host for storage and access. A website and account have been created and will continue to expand.

Increasing Partnerships and the Learning Community

Another important next step is to set up a series of meetings with the initial working group to discuss strategies for creating value in the DataCommon. Initial ideas include surveys of existing DataCommon groups with specific questions that pinpoint what methods have been of most value for them and how we can most efficiently set and reach our goals. Long-term goals include expanding our work groups to engage more key stakeholders, particularly champions and leaders. It was discussed to find a way to integrate the Good Government Initiative, a program based at the University of Miami that empowers leaders towards excellence (www.goodgov.net).

A long-term goal in this realm is to create a diverse learning community that is regionally unified. This progression will enable a wide range of users to combine efforts in visualizing data. The individual effort of obtaining, processing, and displaying data is an intensive process. This duplication of work among the myriad entities that use data creates redundancy and discord. Our efforts can reduce this so called "reinvention of the wheel" to ensure that our regional data handling is unified and efficient. The benefit of a regional model is that it crosses county boundaries and can be correlated to other county and regional benchmarks, such as those included in the Six Pillars framework. The Six Pillars program uses six stand-alone indicators to measure progress towards the six individual objectives. With Weave, we can show that these pillars actually intersect and correlate to each other, and are possibly dependent on each other in various ways. If we can find linkages between them, we can understand our region more comprehensively.

In the future, we will expand this project to include visualizations from more cities in the region. As we create more community profiles, the website will need to adapt to have more dropdown menus for selecting among the 121 municipalities in the region's seven counties. These profiles will be organized by the kinds of data displayed and by geographic area. The long term vision works towards creating deeper understanding of our people, environment, and economy.

We are currently working on developing funding proposals to support the continued development of the DataCommon. An initial DataCommon Work Group was held on November 21, 2013 with more than 15 area organizations in attendance. The meeting went very well with participants expressing their interest and desire to contribute to the DataCommon effort. Meeting proceedings are being developed. The DataCommon Work Group is expected to reconvene at the beginning of 2104.

Appendix A: DataCommon Conversation Agenda

DataCommon Conversation

Thursday, April 25th, 2013
9:15 a.m. -12:40 p.m.
South Florida Regional Planning Council
3440 Hollywood Boulevard, Suite 140
Hollywood, FL 33021

Purpose of the meeting:

To understand the challenges and opportunities of using data to drive change in Southeast Florida to improve the quality of life and gauge collective interest in creating a regional DataCommon.

9:15 a.m.	Welcome and Introductions
10:00 a.m.	How Data Are Used in Planning and Policy Work across the Nation
10:30 a.m.	The Boston Example
11:00 a.m.	Break
11:10 a.m.	Southeast Florida Context
11:40 a.m.	Discussion of a DataCommon Opportunity in Southeast Florida
12:30 p.m.	Next steps
12:40 Noon	Adjourn

Desired Outcomes:

- An understanding of what makes a DataCommon unique from other data and information sites.
- An understanding of the benefits of a DataCommon for Southeast Florida.
- Knowledge of other DataCommon models from across the nation.
- An understanding of the common interests and diverse data resources of organizations in the room
- A list of next steps to continue the Southeast Florida DataCommon conversation

This project has been made possible by the generous support and assistance of Citi Community Development, the Miami-Dade Economic Advocacy Trust, and Boston MAPC

Community Development



Miami-Dade Economic
Advocacy Trust (MDEAT)



Appendix B: Data Websites Primer Draft – Updated/Expanded



Data Websites Primer

WEB-BASED DATA APPLICATION TYPOLOGIES

DataCommon

A DataCommon is an online application that serves as a storage space for data, an interactive platform for exploring data, and a collaborative space for engaged indicator analysis. DataCommons host official data from national, state and municipal sources, as well as community sources. Users can:

- Upload datasets for collaborative community analysis
- Explore, visualize, interpret and share data in spatial and statistical forms
- Publish data visualizations and interpretations onto the data visualization gallery to share with the DataCommon community
- Build on others' visualizations and re-publish with their new or augmented interpretations of the data

GIS Portal

GIS Portals are online mapping sites that use a geographic information system platform to map spatial data. GIS Portals are commonly used by regions or towns to show municipal level data that are useful to their citizens, such as assessor's data and zoning boundaries. This mapping-only platform is interactive, although it may not have a user-friendly interface. GIS Portals typically do not provide space for collaborative analysis or interpretation of data. Florida examples include Miami-Dade e-Maps, Miami-Dade GIS and Florida CHARTS.

Data Warehouse / Data Catalogue

A Data Warehouse or Catalogue is a clearinghouse for datasets. These sites make data available for download without any type of visualization or interpretation. While these sites are a valuable

resource for collecting municipal and regional data and provide value neutral information, they have no interactive capacity. A Florida example is the Florida Geographic Data Library.

Indicators Website

Indicators websites are place-based sites dedicated to evaluating a pre-defined set of demographic and civic data, setting goals, and monitoring changes over time. Indicators websites have a specific civic agenda in mind, but do not have the collaborative features of a DataCommon. The selection, interpretation, visualization and benchmarking of indicators is developed by the agency or organization publishing the website. Florida examples include the Jacksonville Indicators Project and Sarasota Indicators Project.

Dashboard / Scorecard

Dashboard and Scorecard sites are issue-based sites that present civic and demographic data in statistical format. These sites often provide detailed interpretations of data, as well as grades and desired outcomes, hence the scorecard title. While providing valuable data and information, they typically have limited interactive capacity. Florida examples include Miami Matters, Palm Beach County Counts, and the Florida Scorecard.

EXAMPLES OF WEB-BASED INTERACTIVE INDICATOR DATA

MetroBoston DataCommon | Metropolitan Boston, Massachusetts

<http://metrobostondatacommon.org/>

MAPC's interactive data portal and online mapping tool provides a wealth of information about the Boston region's people, communities and neighborhoods through a wide variety of topics – from arts and education to the environment and transportation. The DataCommon uses Weave to power many of its features. It is a resource to help residents, stakeholders, planners, city and town officials, educators and journalists understand how the region is changing and make informed decisions.

Communities Count | King County, Seattle

<http://www.communitiescount.org/index.php?page=interactive-15-demographic-breakdowns>

Communities Count provides interactive data on a widely accepted set of indicators that monitor the health and well-being of King County communities, inform funding decisions, engage citizens, and complement King County's existing economic and environmental indicators. The project's

mission is to emphasize prevention and long-term change while using data to enhance understanding of what sustains healthy communities and families.

Connecticut Data Collaborative | Hartford, Connecticut | <http://ctdata.org/>

A project of the New Connecticut Foundation, the Connecticut Data Collaborative site is a central portal where organizations and residents can access data from federal, state, local and private sources relating to the health, well-being and economy of the residents of the State of Connecticut. The portal utilizes Weave to help users analyze the data collected from state agencies, nonprofit think tanks, and issue-based coalitions.

Data Driven Detroit | Detroit, Michigan

<http://datadrivendetroit.org>

Data Driven Detroit provides accessible, high-quality information and analysis to drive informed decision-making. D3 believes that direct and practical use of data by grassroots leaders and public officials promotes thoughtful community building and effective policymaking. As a “one-stop-shop” for data about the city of Detroit and the metro area, D3 provides opportunity for collaboration and capacity building in Southeast Michigan.

Greater Portland Pulse | Portland, Oregon

<http://portlandpulse.org/>

Greater Portland Pulse uses data and dialogue to encourage coordinated action for better outcomes across the region. With Weave as the main analytical platform, the site uses indicator data to show where the region is successful and where it's lagging behind in the areas of economy, education, health, safety, the arts, civic engagement, environment, housing and transportation. The indicators often reflect who's being left behind and how communities and the region are impacted as a result.

Neighborhood Nexus | Atlanta, Georgia

<http://www.neighborhoodnexus.org>

Neighborhood Nexus was created in 2009 to bring better data to the thousands of decision-makers throughout metro Atlanta. Rapid change in the area drives the need for more and better information. Despite significant research expertise in the metro area, there is a gap in affordable, accurate neighborhood-level data that is compiled in one place and updated on a regular basis. Neighborhood Nexus provides that space and utilizes the Weave platform to allow users to visualize data and tell their own stories.

PolicyMap | Community Development @ Citi

<http://www.policymap.com/citicommunitydevelopment.html>

PolicyMap is national interactive data mapping application that is available to the public in limited capacity. Subscribers gain access to an expanded set of data and features. Community Development @ Citi, a community engagement branch of Citigroup, hosts a PolicyMap-based site that houses data available through national sources such as the Census Bureau and the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The interactive platform allows users to visualize data spatially with limited interactive capabilities.

PROJECT CONTEXT

Seven50 | Southeast Florida | seven50.org

Seven50 (“seven counties, 50 years”) is a blueprint for growing a more prosperous, more desirable Southeast Florida during the next 50 years and beyond. The plan is being developed to help ensure socially inclusive communities, a vibrant and resilient economy, and stewardship of the fragile ecosystem in what is quickly becoming one of the world’s most important mega-regions.

Spearheaded by the South Florida and Treasure Coast Regional Planning Councils and the Southeast Florida Regional Partnership (Partnership), a unique collaboration of more than 200 public, private, and civic stakeholders, Seven50 will support the best-possible quality of life for the more than six million existing residents, and future residents, of Monroe, Miami-Dade, Broward, Palm Beach, Martin, St. Lucie and Indian River counties.

The plan is being devised through a series of public summits, workshops, online outreach and high-impact studies led by the region’s top thinkers. Seven50 has been made possible by a grant from the US Department of Housing & Urban Development’s Sustainable Communities Initiative and significant contributions of time and resources from the Partnership members.

Seven50 SPARC Data | <http://seven50.sparcdata.com/map-gis?clist=Seven50>

Seven50 hosts regional Southeast Florida data on their Data Warehouse, an online mapping and analysis tool. The SPARC site offers the first parcel-level land-use database using a unified scheme for all seven counties and 120 cities, and is a valuable resource for the region. This data warehouse presents an opportunity to leverage existing data for the DataCommon.

Weave | Web-based Analysis and Visualization Environment

<http://www.oicWeave.org/>

Weave (BETA 1.0) is a new, web-based visualization platform designed to enable visualization of any available data by anyone for any purpose. Weave is an application development platform supporting multiple levels of user proficiency – novice to advanced – as well as the ability to integrate, disseminate and visualize data at “nested” levels of geography.

Weave was developed at the Institute for Visualization and Perception Research of the University of Massachusetts, Lowell in partnership with the Open Indicators Consortium, a fifteen-member national collaborative of public and nonprofit organizations working to improve access to more and higher quality data.

Since 2008, the Open Indicators Consortium (OIC) has brought together technical and academic experts, data providers and data users. The Open Indicator Consortium’s goal is to transform publicly available data into visually compelling and actionable indicators to inform public policy and community-based decision-makers.



FGDL METADATA EXPLORER



Web Application		Application Type		Scale		Interactive Capacity		Collaborative Opportunities		Community Sourced Data		Data Downloads		Interpretation of Data		Civic Agenda		Multi or Single Issue		Ease of Use		Free	
<u>Broward GIS</u>	GIS Portal	County	GIS	No	No	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No	Multi	Low	Not all			
<u>Broward Regional Health Planning Council GIS Data</u>	Data Warehouse	County	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	Multi	Medium	Yes			
<u>Bureau of Economic & Business Research</u>	Economic Statistics	State	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	Multi	Medium	Yes			
<u>Central Florida Healthy Measures</u>	Indicators	Region	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Multi	Medium	Yes			
<u>Central Florida Scorecard</u>	Scorecard	Region	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	Multi	High	Yes			
<u>Coordinating Council of Broward</u>	Indicators	County	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	PDF Reports	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Multi	High	Yes			
<u>Environmental Public Health Tracking</u>	Indicators	National	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	Single	Low	Yes			
<u>FIU GIS Center</u>	Data Guide	Inter-national	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	Multi	High	Not all			
<u>FIU Map Imagery User Services</u>	GIS Portal	State	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	Multi	Medium	Yes			
<u>Florida CHARTS</u>	GIS Portal	State	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	Single	Low	Yes			
<u>Florida Geographic Data Library</u>	Data Warehouse	State	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	Multi	Medium	Yes			
<u>Florida Property Value</u>	Portal	State	No	No	No	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Excel	Excel	No	No	No	No	No	Single	Low	Yes			
<u>Florida Tax Roll</u>	Portal	State	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Excel	Excel	No	No	No	No	No	Single	Low	Yes			

Web Application	Application Type	Scale	Interactive Capacity	Collaborative Opportunities	Community Sourced Data	Data Downloads	Interpretation of Data	Civic Agenda	Multi or Single Issue	Ease of Use	Free
Florida Prospector	GIS Portal	Region	Yes	No	Yes	Excel PDF	No	No	Single	Medium	Yes
Florida Trend	Yearbook	State	No	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Single	High	Yes
FPL Powering Florida	GIS Portal	State	Yes	No	No	Excel PDF	No	No	Single	Medium	Yes
Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance Information Center	Local Facts & Statistics	County	Yes	No	Yes	PDF	Yes	Yes	Multi	Medium	Yes
Health Care Agency Performance Measures	Gauge for Health Care Quality	State	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	No	Single	Low	Yes
Health Data Interactive: CDC	Health Statistics	National	Yes	No	Yes	Excel	No	No	Single	Medium	Yes
Health Data Tools and Statistics	Data Library & Guide	National	No	Yes	Yes	Excel	Yes	No	Single	Medium	Yes
Health Profiles Series	Health Statistics	County	No	No	Yes	Excel	No	No	Single	Medium	Yes
Health Rankings by County	County Comparison	State	Yes	No	Yes	PDF	No	No	Multi	Medium	Yes
Healthy Americans: Florida	Health Statistics	State	No	No	Yes	No	No	No	Single	High	Yes
Healthy Communities Network	Community Dashboard Provider	National	Yes	No	No	PDF	No	No	Multi	N/A	No





Web Application		Application Type	Scale	Interactive Capacity	Collaborative Opportunities	Community Sourced Data	Data Downloads	Interpretation of Data	Civic Agenda	Multi or Single Issue	Ease of Use	Free
Jacksonville Indicators Project	Indicators	City	Yes	No	Limited	PDF	Yes	Yes	Yes	Multi	Medium	Yes
Kidstats and Maps	Indicators	Region	Yes	Yes	Yes	PDF	Yes	Yes	Yes	Single	Medium	Yes
Miami City DNA Social Compact	Indicators	County	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Multi	Low	Yes
Miami-Dade E-Maps	GIS Portal	County	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	No	Multi	Low	Yes
Miami-Dade GIS	GIS Portal	County	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Multi	Low	Not all
Miami-Dade Matters	Indicators	County	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Multi	Medium	Yes
Northeast Florida Counts	Indicators	Region	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Multi	Medium	Yes
Palm Beach County Counts	Indicators	County	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Multi	Medium	Yes
Pinellas GIS	GIS Portal	County	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Multi	Low	Not all
Pinellas Indicators	Indicators	County	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Multi	Medium	Yes
SCOPE Sarasota Indicators Project	Indicators	County	Yes	No	Limited	PDF	Yes	Yes	Yes	Multi	Medium	Yes
Seven50 SPARC Data Warehouse	Warehouse Mapping	Region	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No	Multi	Medium	Yes



Web Application		Application Type	Scale	Interactive Capacity	Collaborative Opportunities	Community Sourced Data	Data Downloads	Interpretation of Data	Civic Agenda	Multi or Single Issue	Ease of Use	Free
Tampa Bay Community Dashboard		Indicators	Region	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Multi	Medium	Yes
The Florida Scorecard		Scorecard	State	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Multi	High	Yes
Zoom Prospector		Community Network	National	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	No	Single	Medium	Yes

List of Websites from matrix:



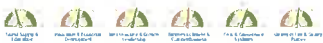
FGDL METADATA EXPLORER



Florida Trend



Broward GIS	http://gis.broward.org
Broward Regional Health Planning Council GIS Data	http://healthdata.brhpc.org
Bureau of Economic & Business Research	www.bebr.ufl.edu/data/county/summaries
Central Florida GIS	www.cfgis.org
Central Florida Healthy Measures	www.cflhealthymeasures.org
Central Florida Scorecard	www.myregion.org
Coordinating Council of Broward	www.theccb.org
Environmental Public Health Tracking	http://ephtracking.cdc.gov
FIU GIS Center	http://gis.fiu.edu
FIU Map Imagery User Services	http://metacat.fiu.edu/metadata
Florida CHARTS	www.floridacharts.com
Florida Geographic Data Library	www.fgd.org
Florida Property Value	http://dor.myflorida.com/dor/property/rp/databk.html
Florida Tax Roll	http://dor.myflorida.com/dor/property/resources/data.html
Florida Prospector	www.floridapro prospector.com
Florida Trend	www.floridatrend.com/economic-yearbook/florida-indicators-map
FPL Powering Florida	www.poweringflorida.com/map
Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance Information Center	www.gflliance.org
Health Care Agency Performance Measures	http://apps.ahca.myflorida.com/dashboard
Health Data Interactive: CDC	www.cdc.gov/nchs/hdi.htm



<u>Health Data Tools and Statistics</u>	http://phpartners.org/health_stats.html
<u>Health Profiles Series</u>	www.healthcouncil.org/healthprofiles.asp
<u>Health Rankings by County</u>	www.countyhealthrankings.org/app/florida
<u>Healthy Americans: Florida</u>	http://healthyamericans.org/states/?stateid=FL
<u>Healthy Communities Network</u>	www.healthycommunitiesinstitute.com/healthy-communities-network-2/
<u>Jacksonville Indicators Project</u>	http://jcci.org/jcciwebsite/snapshot/atlas.html
<u>Kidstats and Maps</u>	http://maps.thechildrenstrust.org
<u>Miami City DNA Social Compact</u>	www.socialcompact.org/Miami
<u>Miami-Dade E-Maps</u>	http://gisims2.miamidade.gov/emaps
<u>Miami-Dade GIS</u>	http://gisweb.miamidade.gov/GISSelfServices
<u>Miami-Dade Matters</u>	www.miamidadematters.org
<u>Northeast Florida Counts</u>	www.nefloridacounts.org
<u>Palm Beach County Counts</u>	www.pbccounts.org
<u>Pinellas GIS</u>	http://gis.pinellascounty.org/gisData
<u>Pinellas Indicators</u>	www.pinellasindicators.org/dataviews/
<u>SCOPE Sarasota Indicators Project</u>	www.scopexcel.org/community-data.html
<u>Seven50 SPARC Data Warehouse</u>	http://seven50.sparcdata.com/map-gis?cllist=Seven50
<u>Tampa Bay Community Dashboard</u>	www.healthytampabay.com
<u>The Florida Scorecard</u>	www.thefloridascorecard.com/
<u>Zoom Prospector</u>	http://zoomprospector.com

Appendix C: DataCommon Conversation Presentation on Regional Planning and Equity Indicators



APRIL 25TH, 2013

SOUTHEAST FLORIDA DATA COMMON

Components of a DataCommon Program

- CIVIC AGENDA
- INDICATORS TO TRACK PROGRESS
- DATA WAREHOUSE
- BENCHMARKS



Data

OUR PHILOSOPHY

Coordinated planning, efficient infrastructure investments, and successful development policies all require access to pertinent, accurate, and timely data.

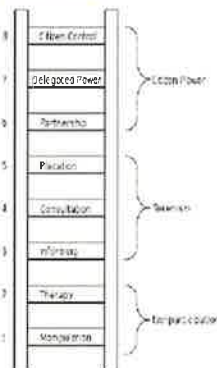
Expanded access to information will help residents and other stakeholders to participate more fully and more effectively in planning efforts.

A more comprehensive understanding of regional conditions is necessary to assess progress toward MetroFuture objectives and to support advocacy and organizing around implementation.



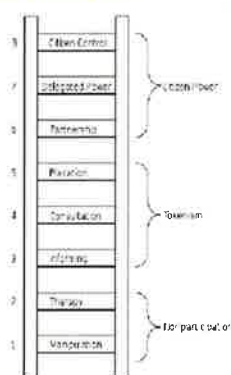
Decision-Making Power

ARNSTEIN'S LADDER



Decision-Making Power

ARNSTEIN'S LADDER



Current Conditions

Decision-makers and stakeholders do not have timely access to the data they need

Many public agencies maintain databases rich with information, but do not make it available to other agencies

Data sets often cannot be compared or cross-referenced because common indexes do not exist

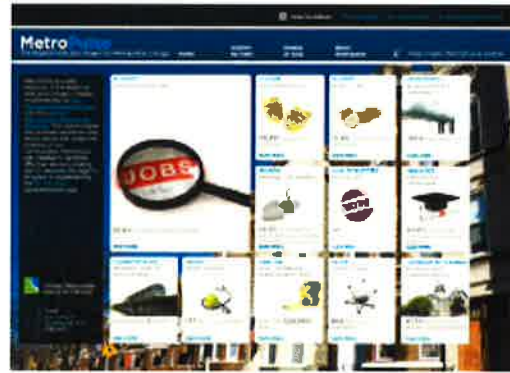
Critical data on pressing policy issues are simply not available because the information is not collected consistently





National Examples

CHICAGO'S METROPULSE



National Examples

DATA DRIVEN DETROIT



National Examples

DATA DRIVEN DETROIT



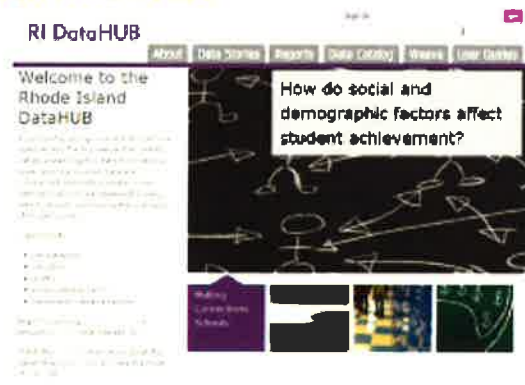
National Examples

CONNECTICUT DATA COLLABORATIVE



National Examples

RHODE ISLAND DATA HUB



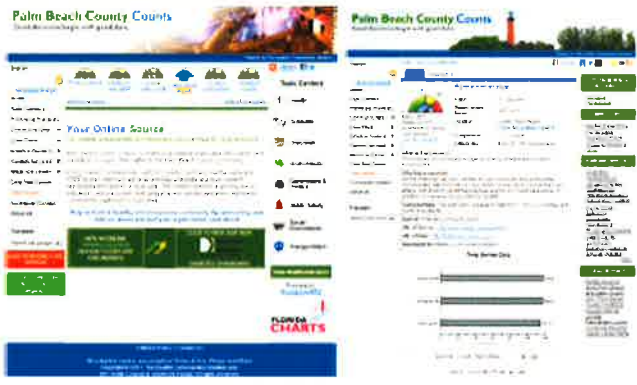
Local Examples

MIAMI-DADE MATTERS



Local Examples

PALM BEACH COUNTY COUNTS



Southeast Florida Data Websites

COMPARATIVE MATRIX

City/County	Website	Year	Population	Area (sq mi)	Population Density	Area Density	Population Density	Area Density	Population Density	Area Density
City of Miami	www.miami.gov	2010	350,000	36	9,722	270	270	9,722	270	9,722
City of Fort Lauderdale	www.fortlauderdale.gov	2010	180,000	100	1,800	18	18	1,800	18	1,800
City of Broward	www.broward.org	2010	1,900,000	1,400	1,357	10	10	1,357	10	1,357
City of Palm Beach	www.palmbeach.com	2010	110,000	100	1,100	11	11	1,100	11	1,100
City of West Palm Beach	www.westpalmbeach.com	2010	120,000	100	1,200	12	12	1,200	12	1,200
City of Deltona	www.deltona.com	2010	20,000	100	200	2	2	200	2	200
City of Kissimmee	www.kissimmee.com	2010	50,000	100	500	5	5	500	5	500
City of Lake Wales	www.lakewales.com	2010	10,000	100	100	1	1	100	1	100
City of Oviedo	www.oviedo.com	2010	15,000	100	150	1.5	1.5	150	1.5	150
City of Winter Springs	www.wintersprings.com	2010	10,000	100	100	1	1	100	1	100
City of Winter Park	www.winterpark.com	2010	10,000	100	100	1	1	100	1	100
City of Winter Haven	www.winterhaven.com	2010	10,000	100	100	1	1	100	1	100
City of Sebring	www.sebring.com	2010	10,000	100	100	1	1	100	1	100
City of Leesville	www.leesville.com	2010	10,000	100	100	1	1	100	1	100
City of Palmetto	www.palmetto.com	2010	10,000	100	100	1	1	100	1	100
City of Arcadia	www.arcadia.com	2010	10,000	100	100	1	1	100	1	100
City of Zephyrus	www.zephyrus.com	2010	10,000	100	100	1	1	100	1	100
City of The Woodlands	www.thewoodlands.com	2010	10,000	100	100	1	1	100	1	100
City of Spring Hill	www.springhill.com	2010	10,000	100	100	1	1	100	1	100
City of Dunwoody	www.dunwoody.com	2010	10,000	100	100	1	1	100	1	100
City of Alpharetta	www.alpharetta.com	2010	10,000	100	100	1	1	100	1	100
City of Marietta	www.marietta.com	2010	10,000	100	100	1	1	100	1	100
City of Roswell	www.roswell.com	2010	10,000	100	100	1	1	100	1	100
City of Atlanta	www.atlanta.com	2010	450,000	300	1,500	15	15	1,500	15	1,500
City of Columbus	www.columbus.com	2010	600,000	600	1,000	10	10	1,000	10	1,000
City of Charlotte	www.charlotte.com	2010	700,000	700	1,000	10	10	1,000	10	1,000
City of Dallas	www.dallas.com	2010	1,200,000	1,200	1,000	10	10	1,000	10	1,000
City of Houston	www.houston.com	2010	2,300,000	1,100	2,100	19	19	2,100	19	2,100
City of Phoenix	www.phoenix.com	2010	1,500,000	1,500	1,000	10	10	1,000	10	1,000
City of San Antonio	www.sanantonio.com	2010	1,500,000	1,500	1,000	10	10	1,000	10	1,000
City of San Diego	www.sandiego.com	2010	1,400,000	1,400	1,000	10	10	1,000	10	1,000
City of San Jose	www.sanjose.com	2010	1,000,000	1,000	1,000	10	10	1,000	10	1,000
City of San Francisco	www.sanfrancisco.com	2010	800,000	100	8,000	80	80	8,000	80	8,000
City of New York	www.newyork.com	2010	20,000,000	100	200,000	2,000	2,000	200,000	2,000	200,000
City of Los Angeles	www.losangeles.com	2010	18,000,000	100	180,000	1,800	1,800	180,000	1,800	180,000

Questions?



Southeast Florida Regional Partnership
 Indian River • St. Lucie • Martin
 Palm Beach • Broward • Miami-Dade • Monroe



Moment of Opportunity

DEVELOP A TOOL TO SUPPORT AND INFORM
 A REGIONAL GROWTH STRATEGY/10-YEAR
 PLAN FOR METROPOLITAN BOSTON

The Boston Metropolitan Area Regional Data Repository

HOLLY ST. CLAIR
 Metropolitan Area Planning Council

A Ten Year Partnership

THE BOSTON FOUNDATION

Greater Boston's community foundation with assets of over 600 million

METROPOLITAN AREA PLANNING COUNCIL

Regional planning agency that serves the 101 municipalities in the metropolitan Boston



Partnership History in the Democratization of Data

A LEARNING PROCESS

Boston Children and Families Database

Boston Indicators Project

MetroBoston DataCommon

Regional Indicators Program

Open Indicators Consortium: WEAVE



Boston Children & Families Database

1991....

Administrative data from 8 public agencies

Census data

Geocoded to census tracts and block groups



Lessons Learned

BCFD

Administrative data is often deficit-oriented

Contains data but not meaning

Not attached to goals, vision, values

Importance of user friendliness



Boston Indicator's Project

A PROJECT OF BOSTON'S CIVIC COMMUNITY

Coordinated by the Boston Foundation in partnership with the City of Boston, Boston Redevelopment Authority & Metropolitan Area Planning Council

GOAL

To engage the general public, civic & community based institutions, media, business, and government in better understanding Boston's key challenges and opportunities



Boston Indicators Project

1997 - 1999

300 participants identify "what we value and want to measure"

Draft released to 1000 people

2000

First Boston Indicators Report released at a Boston Citizens Seminar with 350 participants

7500 copies distributed

2001

Systems thinking

Boston Citizens Seminar: "Metro Boston in the New Global Era". Malcolm Gladwell, The Tipping Point

2002

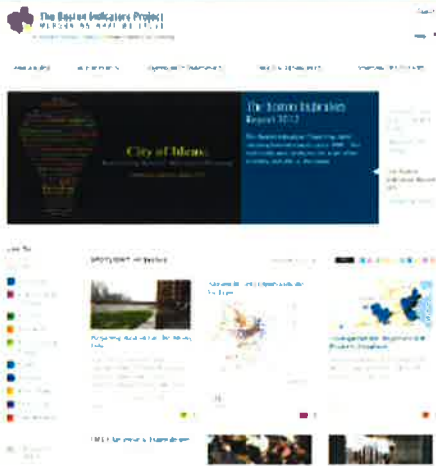
Scenario Planning Workshop

Sector convening on key trends

FEBRUARY 2003

Release of Boston Indicators 2002 report - Creativity and Innovation: A Bridge to the Future





Lessons Learned

INDICATORS CAN:

Create common ground for community and civic dialogue and action

Track progress

Create a "container" for a great variety of reports, public, private and community data and research

Transcend the tension between "objectivity" and "advocacy": a civic agenda



..... and the importance of:

PARTNERSHIPS AND COLLABORATION

CLARIFYING OF ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

ENGAGING USERS IN THE DESIGN

INCLUDING DATA AT MULTIPLE GEOGRAPHIES TO PROVIDE CONTEXT



MetroBostonDataCommon

EXPANDED PARTNERSHIP AND COLLABORATIONS

DATA WAREHOUSE AND PORTAL

SEARCHABLE, MAPPABLE, EXTRACTABLE ON-LINE TOOL

USER TRAINING

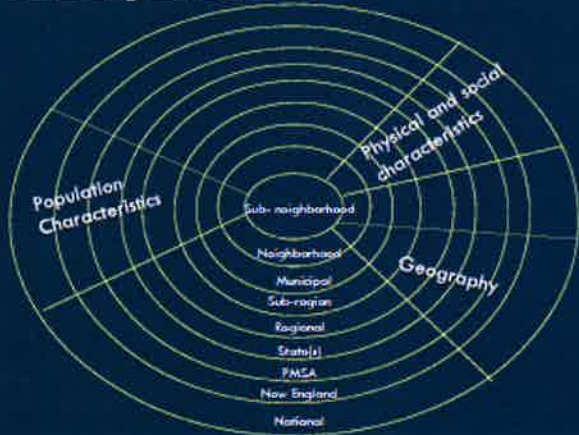
DATA SERVICES

ENGAGEMENT OF RESIDENTS, CIVIC LEADERS, PRIVATE SECTOR, AND ACADEMICS IN CREATING A REGIONAL AGENDA

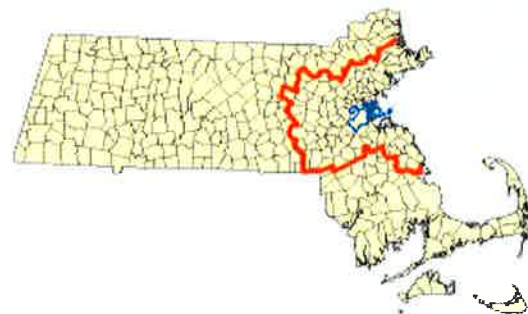
BENCHMARKS OF PROGRESS (INDICATORS)



Nesting Indicators



Massachusetts and the Metropolitan Area Planning Council Region



Metropolitan Area Planning Council Region and Boston



Boston and Neighborhoods



Nesting Indicators

- Puts conditions in context
- Clarifies appropriate "ground" for community action
- Reflects real world thinking and action

Partners

- THE BOSTON FOUNDATION
- BOSTON METROPOLITAN AREA PLANNING COUNCIL
- 101 MUNICIPALITIES (INCLUDING BOSTON)
- MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE TECHNOLOGY
- UMASS BOSTON

What we hope to achieve.....

- WELL INFORMED, ENGAGED PARTICIPANTS IN PLANNING
- GREATER COLLABORATION ACROSS SECTORS AND MUNICIPALITIES
- INTEGRATION OF SERVICES
- ECONOMIES AND EFFICIENCIES OF SCALE
- A HIGH-LEVERAGE REGIONAL GROWTH STRATEGY

MetroBoston Data Common User Profiles



CZARINA BITON
Regional Emergency Preparedness Coordinator

GOALS
Public Health Emergency Preparedness
Social Justice & Civic Engagement
Visualizing Community Assets

TOOLS UTILIZED
Community Snapshots
DataMap Tool

MetroBoston Data Common User Profiles

JOHN FITTERER
Nuestra Comunidad CDC



GOALS
Neighborhood foreclosure crisis analysis
Explore connections between lending & race/ethnicity
Proactive, hands-on community analysis
Develop a way to tell story to funders

DATA UTILIZED
Subprime lending data
Foreclosure data
Transit, schools and other neighborhood facilities



What is MetroFuture?



65 goals



13 Implementation Strategies



5,000 "plan builders"



The MetroFuture Vision

Be responsible stewards of our resources, paying attention to environmental, financial, and social responsibility to our children

Ensure that all residents fairly share the costs and benefits of the region's growth.

Build safe, healthy, and welcoming communities

Give people affordable and convenient options for where they live, work, and play

Give people affordable and convenient options for where they live, work, and play

Ensure that all residents fairly share the costs and benefits of the region's growth.

Create a world class region that is healthy, competitive, and connected.

Measuring Progress to MetroFuture

MetroFuture will have 65 goals, and 13 implementation strategies. Each goal and strategy is supported by a set of indicators. The indicators are used to measure progress towards the goals and strategies.

- Goals describe the MetroFuture vision in general terms.
- Objectives support each of the goals. They are more specific and largely numeric.
- Indicators are tied to as many of the objectives as possible. They are regularly collected data points.



Measuring Progress

Goal #23: All neighborhoods will have adequate access to safe and well-maintained parks, community gardens, and appropriate play spaces for children and youth.



Objective: No more than 20% of the region's households will have limited access to open space (less than 50 acres per 1,000 people)



Indicator: Open space per capita



Selecting Indicators

- ASSEMBLE "UNIVERSE" OF POTENTIAL INDICATORS
- ASSESS INDICATORS FOR CREDIBILITY
- ASSESS INDICATORS FOR AVAILABILITY
- DETERMINE FINAL LIST OF INDICATORS TO TRACK





Lessons Learned

STORY TELLING AND FRAMEWORK FOR FINDINGS

DON'T FORGET THE "INFORMATION INFRASTRUCTURE" COMPONENT OF YOUR PLAN OR CHANGE AGENDA

IMPARTIAL DATA PROVIDER VS. ADVOCACY AGENDA

CAPACITY BUILDING



1.2 What's the Plan?

METROFUTURE IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY: DEMOCRATIZING INFORMATION

ALIGH DATA COLLECTION AND POLICYMAKING
Evaluate programs

IMPROVE STATE AND LOCAL CAPACITY TO UTILIZE PLANNING AND DECISION

SUPPORT TOOLS
Harness new visualization and modeling tools

SUPPORT STATE AND REGIONAL DATA INTERMEDIARIES
Fund MassGIS, MAPC's Data Services, etc

BUILD AND MAINTAIN STRONG "INFORMATION INFRASTRUCTURE"
Provide public access to government data, collect more data



Top Ten Wanted Data Sets

1. REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT DATABASE
2. HOUSEHOLD TRAVEL SURVEY
3. MCCONNELL LAND USE COVERAGE
4. SEWER AND WATER INFRASTRUCTURE COVERAGE
5. REGION-WIDE ZONING MAP WITH OVERLAY DISTRICTS COVERAGE
6. LOCAL EMPLOYMENT DYNAMICS (LED) DATABASE
7. STATE DATA CENTER ANNUAL POPULATION ESTIMATES
8. DEMOGRAPHIC SUMMARIES OF STATE INCOME TAX FILINGS BY TOWN
9. STATE-WIDE PERMIT TRACKING DATABASE
10. BROWN FIELDS DATABASE



Capacity Building

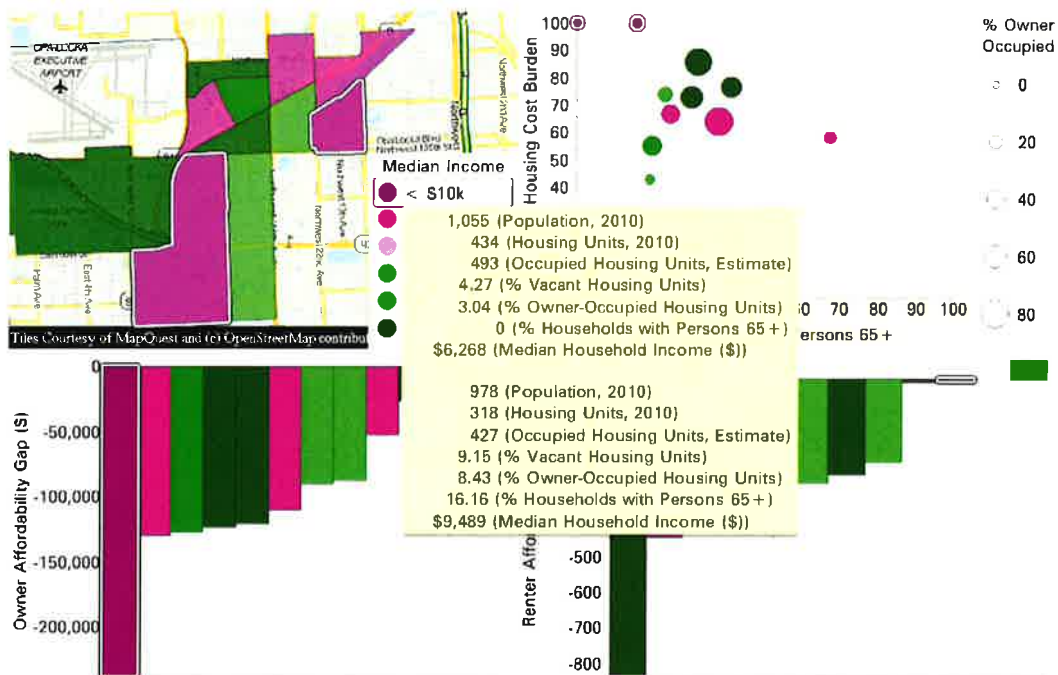


Appendix D: DataCommon Conversation Presentation on Regional Planning and Equity Indicators

Data story: Housing Affordability for the City of Opa-locka's Owners and Renters

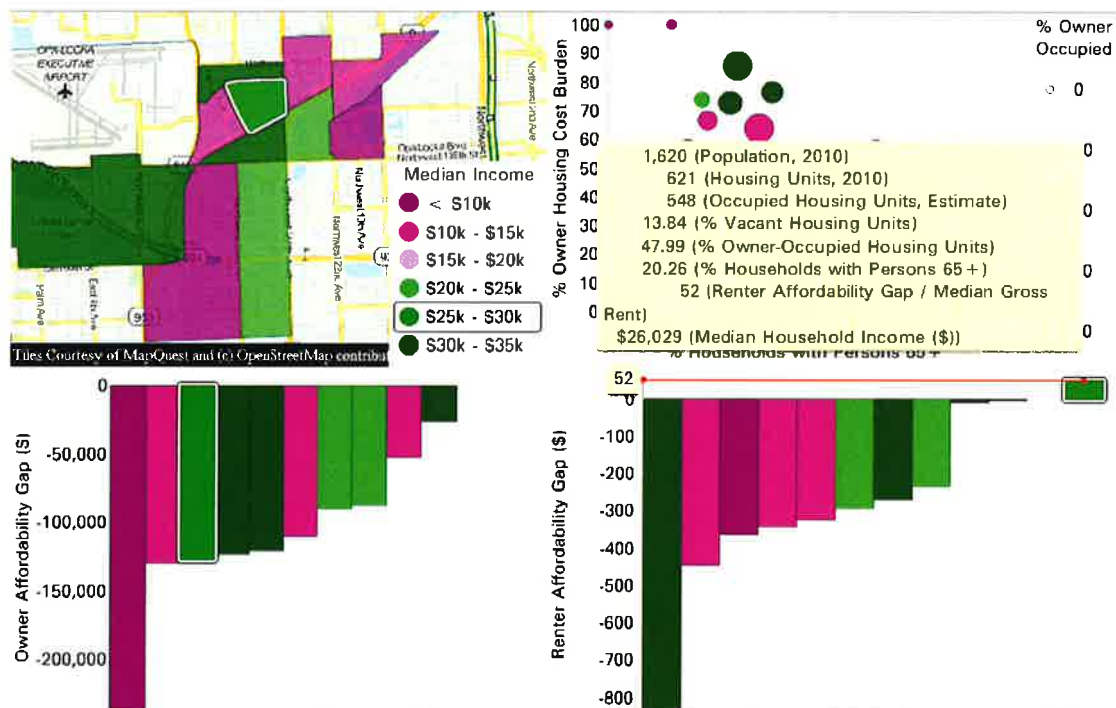
Housing affordability is a major issue in our region. The lack of affordable housing is a significant hardship for low-income households, preventing them from meeting their other basic needs, such as nutrition and healthcare, or saving for their future and that of their families. The goal of this data story is to explore the relationship between indicators related to income and housing affordability for the [City of Opa-locka](#).

Our story starts with a look at the ranges of income in Opa-locka. The Census Bureau's 2010 American Community Survey estimated that the median household income for City block groups ranges from \$6,286 to \$32,895. Household income represents the combined earnings of all persons living in a household, whether those persons are related or not. The City median was \$20,379, less than half of the County median of \$43,605. Two of the eleven block groups with housing units had median household incomes below \$10,000 per year (shown in dark purple on the map). These two block groups also presented over 60% of the population living in poverty, as well as ownership rates below 10%.



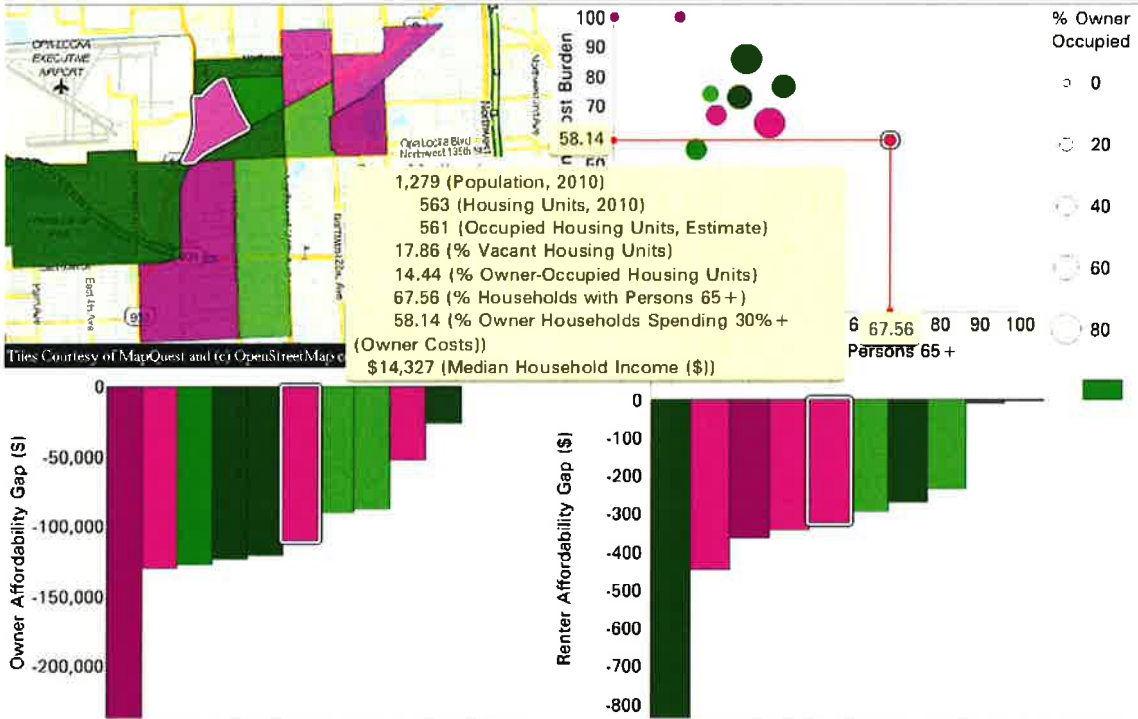
A common benchmark for housing affordability is whether a household is paying 30% or more of their income towards housing – those that do are classified as “cost burdened.” Examining the affordability to homeowners and renters is an important first step to developing policies to address the cost burden in our communities.

The indicators shown in the lower two frames are the Owner Affordability Gap and the Renter Affordability Gap, both shown in dollar amounts. The Renter Affordability Gap is estimated by taking 30% of the median household income, divided by 12 to get a monthly amount, and subtracting the median gross monthly rent. A value below zero indicates that rents are more than 30% of household income, and the absolute amount reflects the gap between actual rents and “affordable” rents in the block group. Only one of the eleven block groups did not have a renter affordability gap using this measure, and eight had gaps of greater than \$200 per month (lower right quadrant in the figure below). Note that gaps do not occur only in block groups with the lowest incomes – the highest Renter Affordability Gap (\$834 per month) is in a block group that falls in the highest range of median household income.



The Owner Affordability Gap uses a similar standard. As a rule of thumb, to maintain affordability of lending costs, the purchase price of a home should not exceed three times the buyer’s annual household income. The median household income multiplied by 3, minus the median housing value, gives us the Owner Affordability Gap (lower left quadrant in the figure above). All of the block groups had an Owner Affordability Gap, and in six of the eleven the gap was greater than \$100,000 – in other words, the median value of owner-occupied housing in the block groups was more than \$100,000 higher than the median household income in the block group could afford.

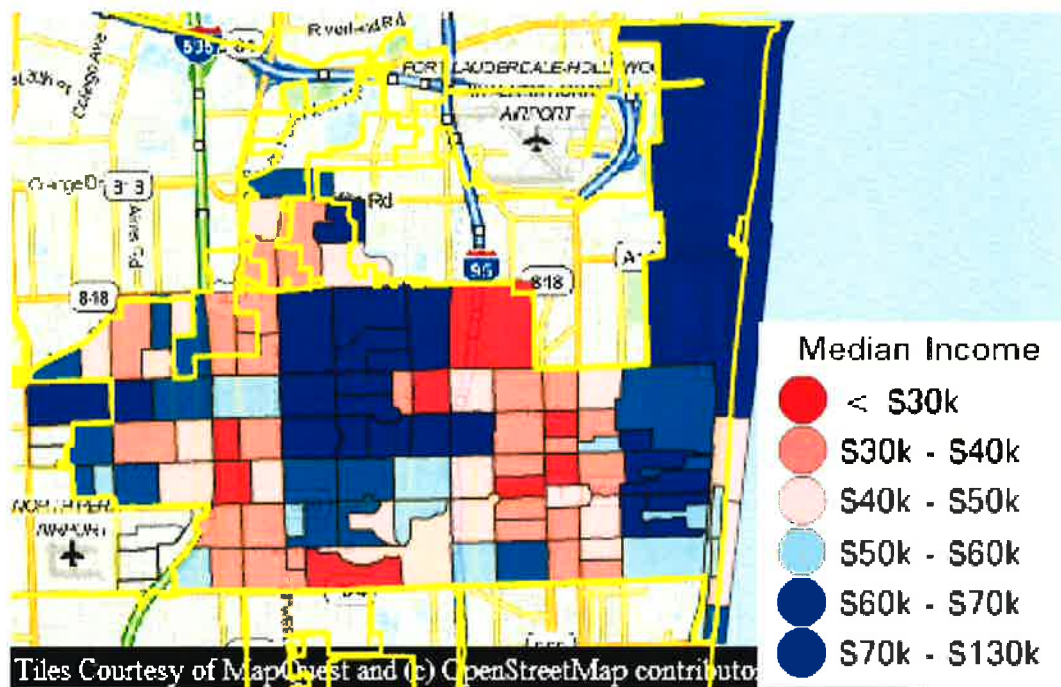
An important factor that should be taken into consideration in this analysis is the age of the population that resides in the block group. A high proportion of elderly residents could mean that relatively higher median housing values can coexist with relatively lower incomes if many of the owner-occupied units have elderly owners who have paid off the mortgages and therefore have much lower housing costs. The upper right quadrant shows the percentage of owners who spend more than 30% of their income on owner costs (on the vertical axis) and the percentage of households that have a person 65 years or older on the horizontal axis. The highlighted block group in the figure below had two-thirds of the households with an elderly resident, but a relatively low percentage of the households had an owner cost burden (58%).



Addressing the housing affordability gap requires multiple policy strategies: boosting incomes, increasing housing production, and creating additional subsidized housing. Decisions to implement these strategies can be informed through careful data analysis.

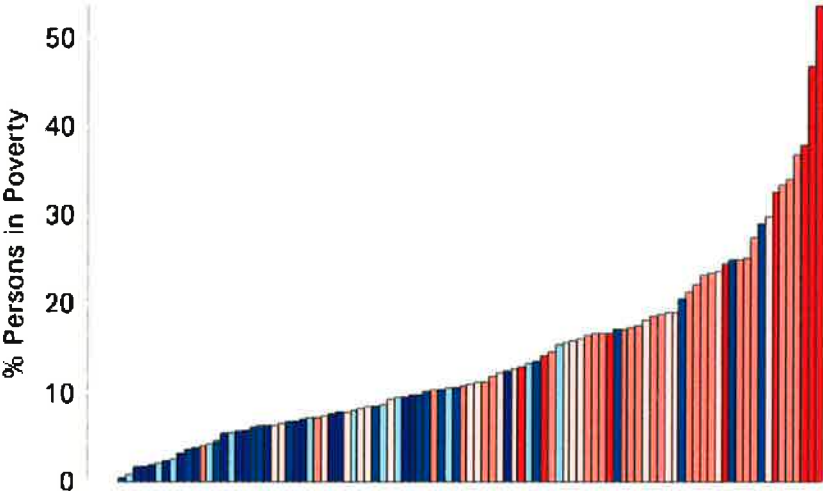
City of Hollywood – The connection between income, educational attainment and employment

Can we use data to understand the links between higher levels of education and higher income in the city of Hollywood? What about employment? Let's explore the economic, employment, and education indicators to see. The Census Bureau's American Community Survey for 2006-10 reported on 103 block groups in the City of Hollywood, ranging from small (223 households) to large (1,727 households). Annual median household income by block group ranged from \$17k to \$126k, a difference of over \$100k, which shows the large spatial variation of income levels in the City (see map below). Notice that these values are organized roughly in vertical bands from west to east, from low income (pink) to high (blue) to low and then high again.



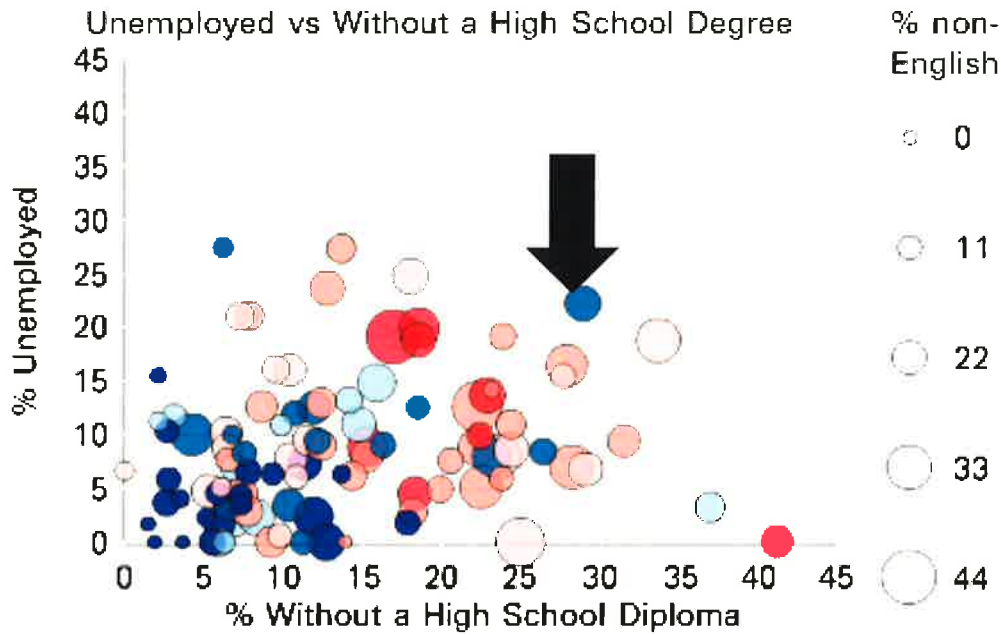
The bar chart below shows the percentage of residents in each block group who lived in households with incomes below the federal poverty level. Poverty levels are determined for each household based on the number of members in the household – if the household income is below the poverty threshold, every member of the household is counted as part of the population below the poverty level. The percent of all persons in poverty ranges from a low of .4% to a high of 54% across the 103 block groups in Hollywood. As in the map above, the colors of the bars reflect median household income. Notice that hovering over a bar in the chart identifies the block group on the map.

We can visualize the strong link between the two measures – median income and poverty. Most of the bars on the right part of the chart, tied to block groups with a high percentage of poverty, are at the low median income range. However, it is not a completely smooth transition. Block groups to the left of the distribution with low median incomes (pink) or to the right of the distribution with high median incomes (blue) may be targets for additional inquiry to try to understand other characteristics of the block group that might explain the apparent discrepancy. One common explanation is that these block groups may include different sub-areas, with very different characteristics, such as the race/ethnic and age composition.

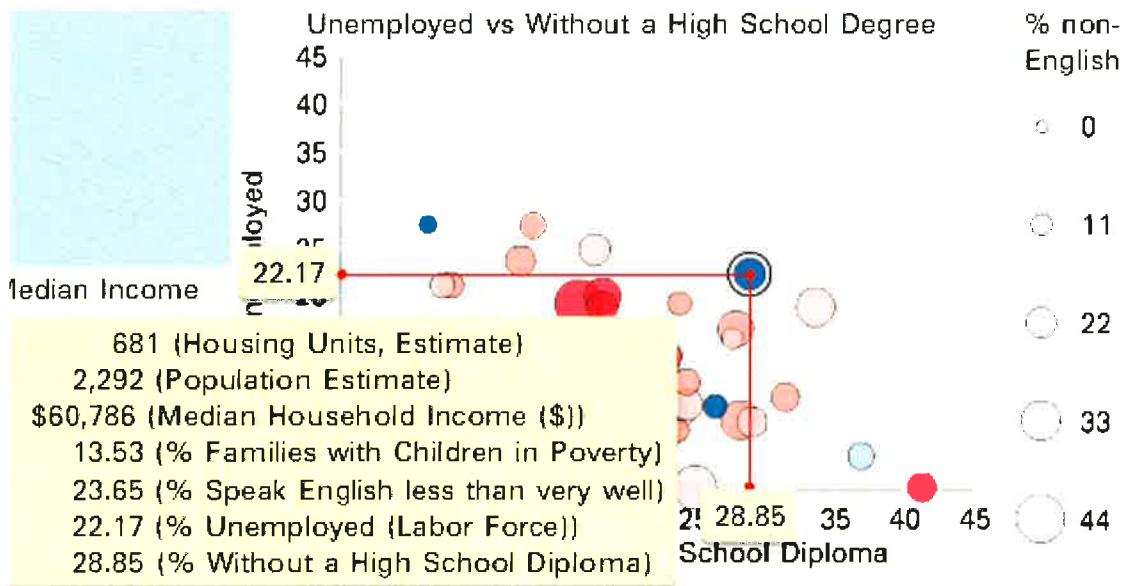


The next window shows a scatter plot that ties together 4 separate indicators:

- 1) The Y axis shows the % of the labor force that is unemployed.
- 2) The X axis shows the % of adults without a high school diploma.
- 3) The size of each circle increases with the increasing percent of the population that does not speak English well.
- 4) The final indicator is the color scheme of pink to blue for the median household income.



Notice that the dark blue points are clustered at low unemployment and a low percentage without a high school diploma. But there is an outlier in blue. Let's look a little deeper.

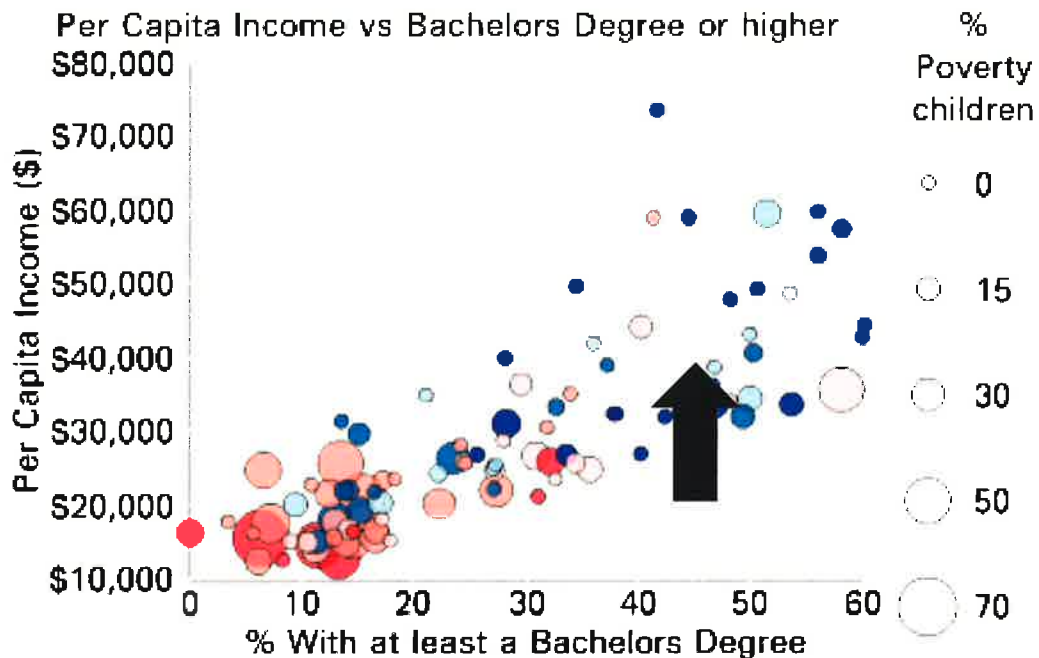


The block group we have selected not only has high unemployment, but it is also at the higher end of the percent of the population without a high school diploma. Also, nearly a quarter of the residents do not speak English well. With a median household income over \$60k, this block group falls in the second highest tier. Median household income represents the income level where half of all households receives more while the other half receives less. It is less skewed

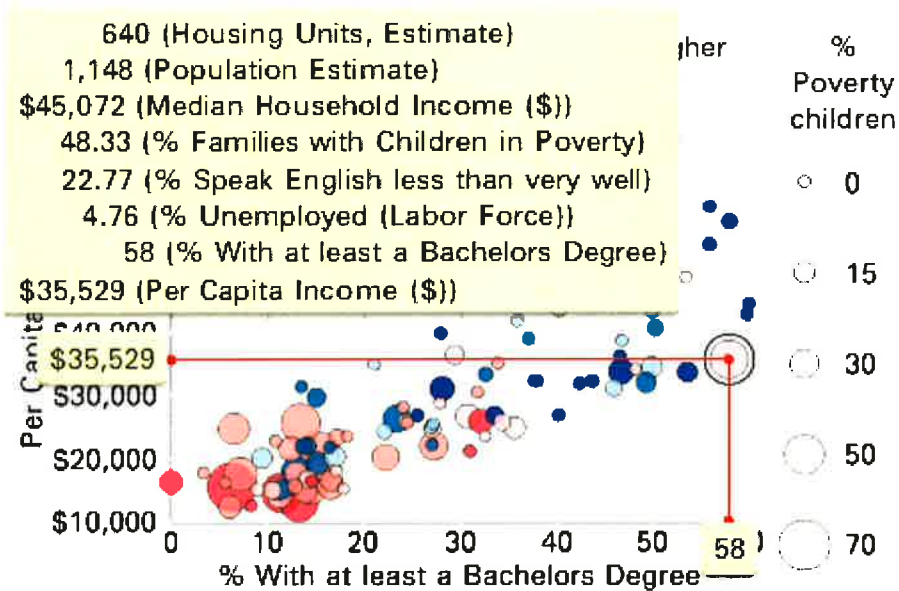
by dramatically higher or lower incomes (outliers) and is thus often considered a more useful income indicator than average income. Note that the block group is bounded on the north and east by areas with a lower median household income – it is possible that this block group has distinct neighborhoods with different characteristics.

The last window in the story is another scatter plot that reflects 4 more indicators:

- 1) The Y axis shows average (per capita) income.
- 2) The X axis shows the % of adults with at least a bachelor's degree.
- 3) The size of each circle increases with the increasing percent of families with children living below the poverty threshold.
- 4) The final indicator is the color scheme of pink to blue for the median household income.



This graph is more clustered than the previous scatter plot, with almost all of the pink points clumped at low per capita income and a low percent with a bachelor's degree. Still, the selected pink outlier has a \$45k median household income, 48% of families with children in poverty, and 58% with at least a bachelor's degree. The block group, which is in downtown Hollywood, could be home for two different sub-groups: well-educated, middle-class retirees, and young low-income families with children. In addition, with only 640 housing units, the statistical margin of error of the estimates may be relatively high for this area. It would be a good idea to do some "ground-truthing" with someone familiar with the area, to try to understand these apparent contradictions.



In summary, can this data answer the original questions? Can we use data to link higher levels of education to higher income in the city of Hollywood? What about employment? There are certainly trends in the data where the higher income levels are connected to higher levels of education and employment. Other factors, such as English speaking and a high percent of families with children living below the poverty threshold might also have some influence in the big picture. Overall, this data could be used to support an argument that increasing levels of educational attainment can have a positive effect on income and employment.

Another conclusion is that the City of Hollywood appears to have block groups (and neighborhoods) that have different sub-areas with significant differences in composition that co-exist.