Neighborhood Inequality, Social Environment, and Health

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The Ohio State University

Ohio State University, COMPAS September 23, 2016

This research was supported by the National Institute on Drug Abuse (5R01DA025415; 1R21DA034960-01), the OSU Institute for Population Research, the W.T. Grant Foundation, and the National Science Foundation.

INSTITUTE FOR POPULATION RESEARCH IPR

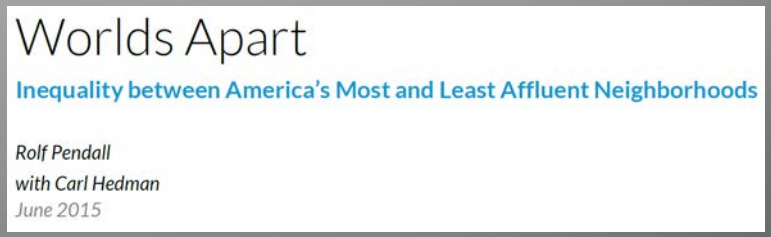
THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

Overview

- The current state of neighborhood inequality
- Why does neighborhood inequality matter? Neighborhood effects on youth outcomes
- The mechanisms of neighborhood influence
- Columbus, OH as a case study - the *Adolescent Health and Development in Context* study

Neighborhood Inequality in the US

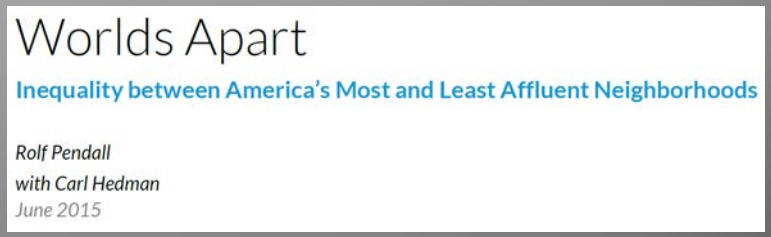
- Profound differences across neighborhoods



	Most advantaged	Least advantaged
Average annual income	$466,000	$16,000
Median housing value	>$900,000	<$40,000
College educated	>90%	6%

Neighborhood Inequality in the US

- Profound differences across neighborhoods



	Chevy Chase, MD	Franklinton Columbus, OH
Average annual income	$466,000	$16,000
Median housing value	>$900,000	<$40,000
College educated	>90%	6%

Consequences of High Poverty Neighborhoods

- Crime/Violence
- STD/HIV
- Teen pregnancy/childbirth
- Low birth weight
- Infant mortality
- Psychological distress
- Reduced physical health
- Diminished educational outcomes/school leaving

Consequences of High Poverty Neighborhoods – MTO

- Long-term economic prospects

The Effects of Exposure to Better Neighborhoods on Children: New Evidence from the Moving to Opportunity Experiment*

Raj Chetty, Nathaniel Hendren, and Lawrence F. Katz
Harvard University and NBER

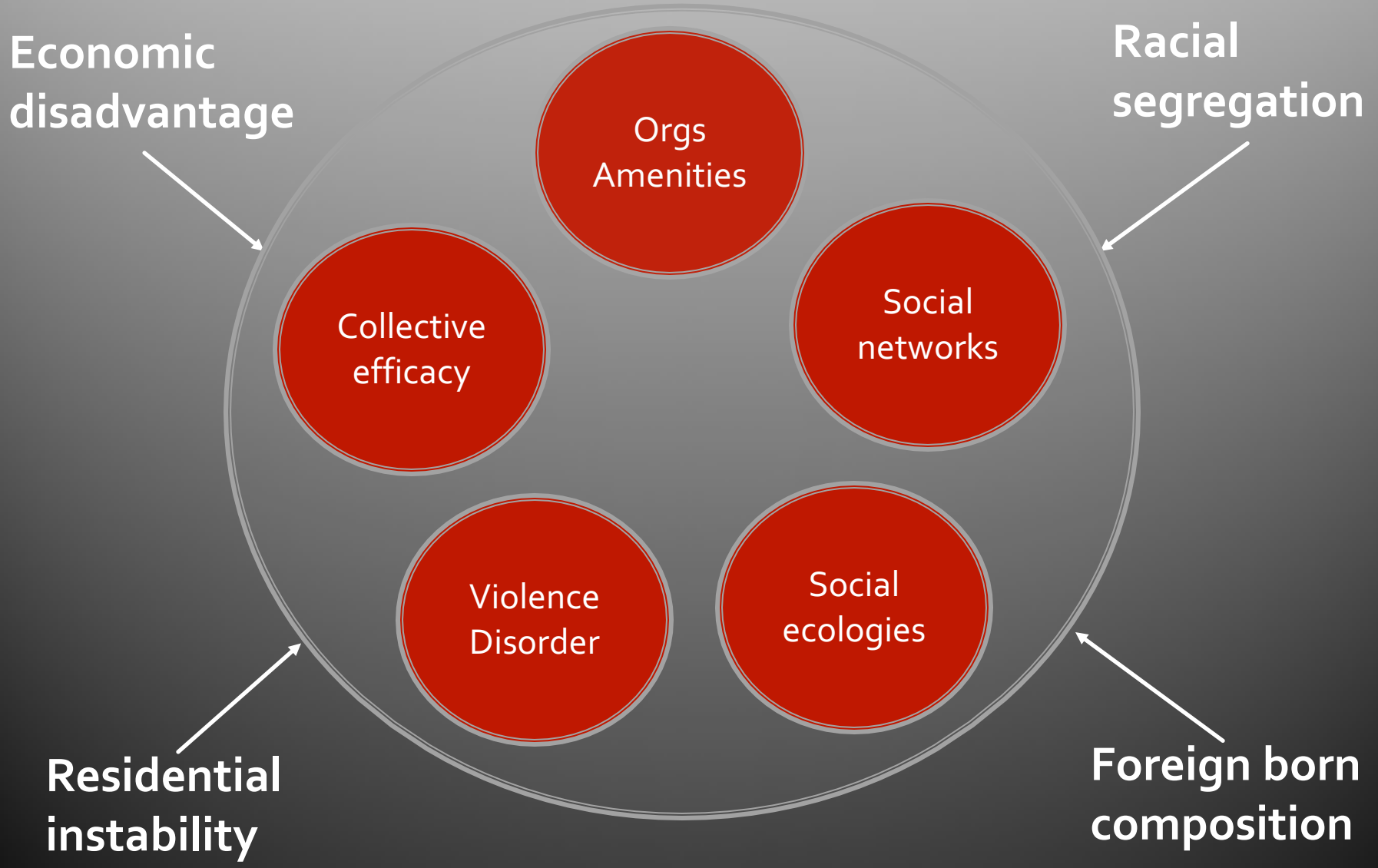
August 2015

Abstract

The Moving to Opportunity (MTO) experiment offered randomly selected families living in high-poverty housing projects housing vouchers to move to lower-poverty neighborhoods. We present new evidence on the impacts of MTO on children's long-term outcomes using administrative data from tax returns. We find that moving to a lower-poverty neighborhood significantly improves college attendance rates and earnings for children who were young (below age 13) when their families moved. These children also live in better neighborhoods themselves as adults and are less likely to become single parents. The treatment effects are substantial: children whose families take up an experimental voucher to move to a lower-poverty area when they are less than 13 years old have an annual income that is $3,477 (31%) higher on average relative to a mean of $11,270 in the control group in their mid-twenties. In contrast, the same moves have, if anything, negative long-term impacts on children who are more than 13 years old when their families move, perhaps because of the disruption effects of moving to a very different environment. The gains from moving fall with the age when children move, consistent with recent evidence that the duration of exposure to a better environment during childhood is a key determinant of an individual's long-term outcomes. The findings imply that offering vouchers to move to lower-poverty neighborhoods to families with young children who are living in high-poverty housing projects may reduce the intergenerational persistence of poverty and ultimately generate positive returns for taxpayers.

Context and physiological stress

Structural factors and potential mediators



Adolescent Health & Development in Context (AHDC)

- Effects of sociospatial & institutional exposures on risk behavior, victimization, and health
- Representative sample of urban youth ages 11-17 and caregivers in Franklin County, OH (N=1400).
- Co-investigators
  - Kate Calder (OSU Statistics)
  - Jodi Ford (OSU Nursing)
  - Elizabeth Cooksey (OSU CHRR)
  - Mei-Po Kwan (UIUC Geography)

Challenges to Neighborhood Effects Research

- Which mechanisms are most important in explaining the link between structural disadvantage and wellbeing?
- Do neighborhoods capture exposures?

AHDC Study Design
(Repeated Over 2 Waves)

Visit One: Entrance Survey

- Main Caregiver & Youth Surveys
- Youth: Network Partners
- **Both: Routine Locations**

EMA/GPS Week

- Youth: smartphone for 1 week
- EMA: 5 Short Surveys/Day
- GPS Location Tracking
- **Nightly saliva (cortisol)**

Visit Two: Exit Survey

- Youth: Space/Time Diary
- **Caregiver: Community Survey**
- Hair cortisol Epstein-Barr virus

Measuring Social Environments
AHDC Wave 1 Entrance Survey

- Locations of Routines for AHDC Caregivers

"Now, I would like for you to think of the places you go to during a typical week, including weekends

- Workplace
- School/college
- Library
- Church or other place of worship
- Grocery store
- Relative's house
- Friend's house
- Recreation center/park/sports facility
- Restaurant
- Store or other business
- Civic/neighborhood organization
- Someplace else

AHDC Wave 1 Entrance Survey – Location Generator

PA_LOC_DESC_1

INTERVIEWER READ IF NECESSARY: Can you please help me identify this location on this map?

INTERVIEWER: ENTER THE ADDRESS OF THE LOCATION IN THE LOOKUP FIELD. IF THE DESIRED LOCATION IS NOT PRESENTED, CLICK ON THE GLOBE ICON AND CONDUCT A GOOGLE SEARCH. COPY/PASTE THE SELECTED ADDRESS IN THE LOOKUP FIELD CLICK ON THE LOOKUP BUTTON. CONFIRM THAT THE ADDRESS HAS UPDATED THE ADDRESS FIELDS.

What is this location:

Best Buy

Address

5800 Britton Parkway

City

Dublin

State/Region/Province

Ohio

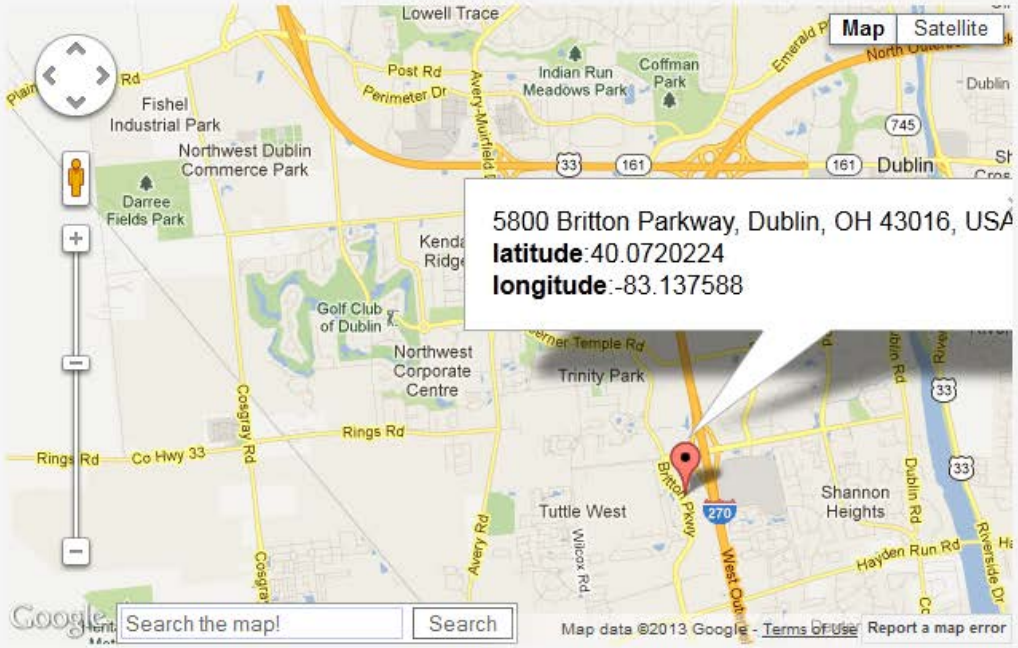
Postal Code

43016

Country

United States

Update Map Restart

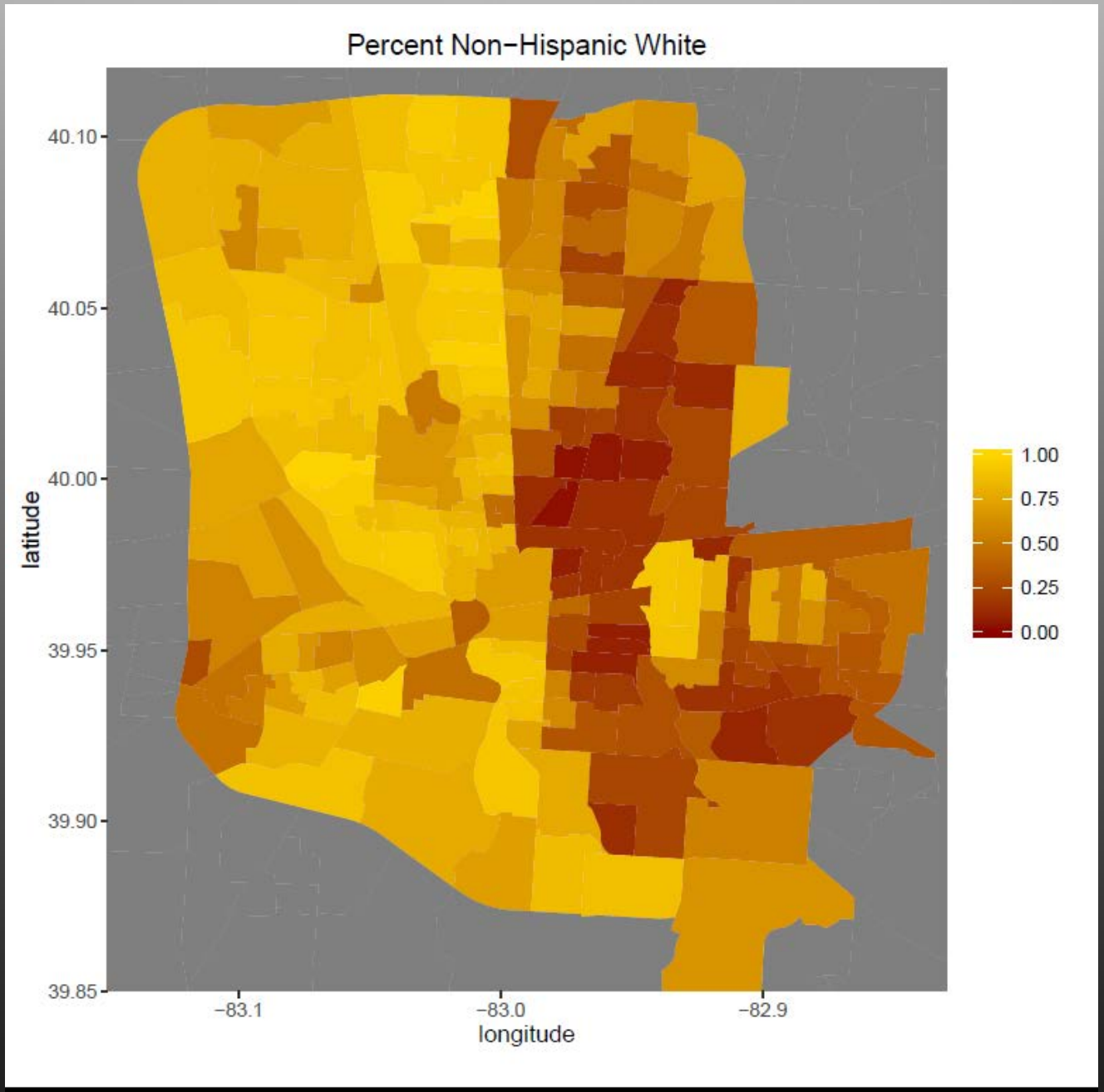


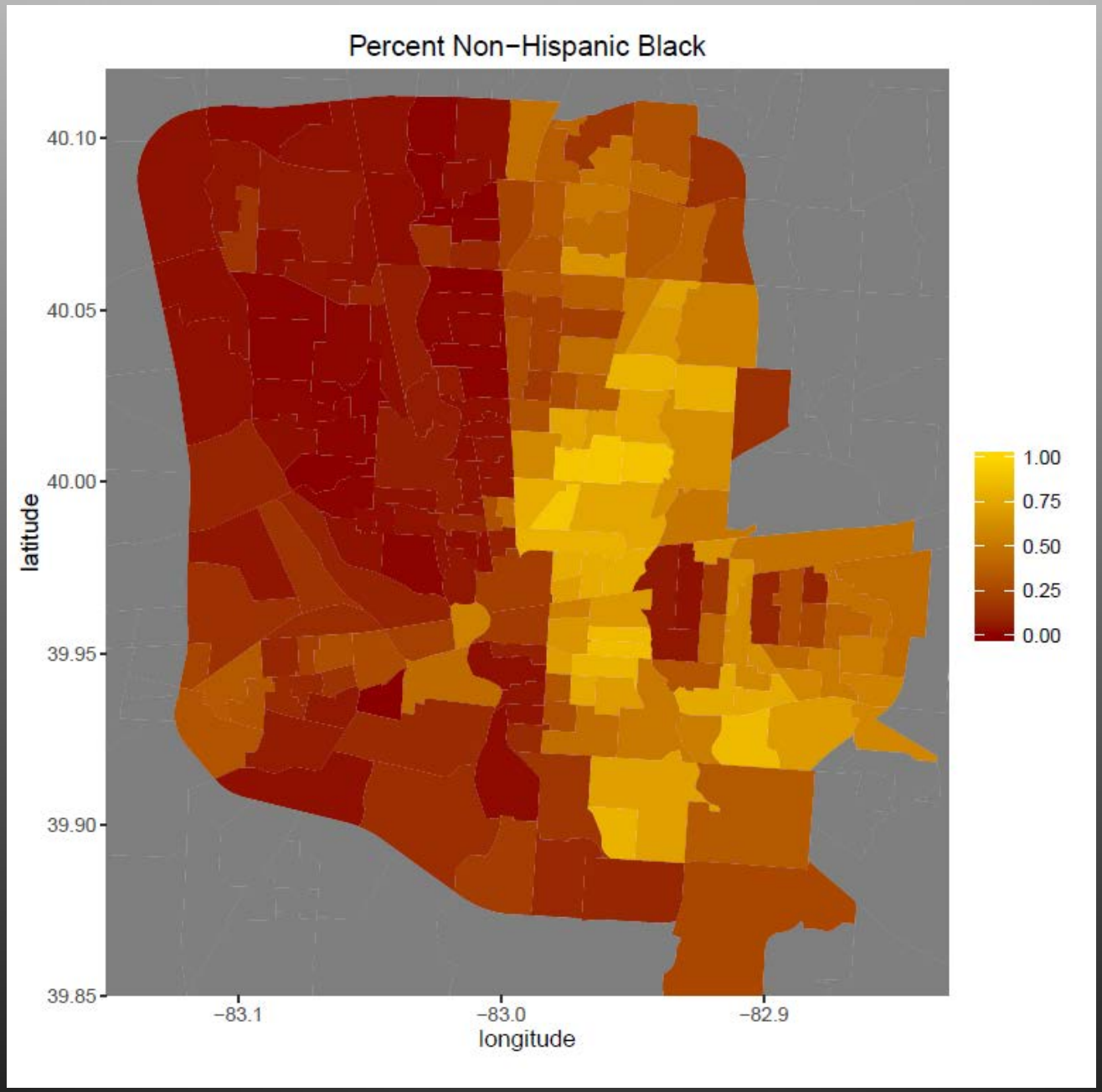
Collect XY coordinate data for routine activity locations

Location Reports

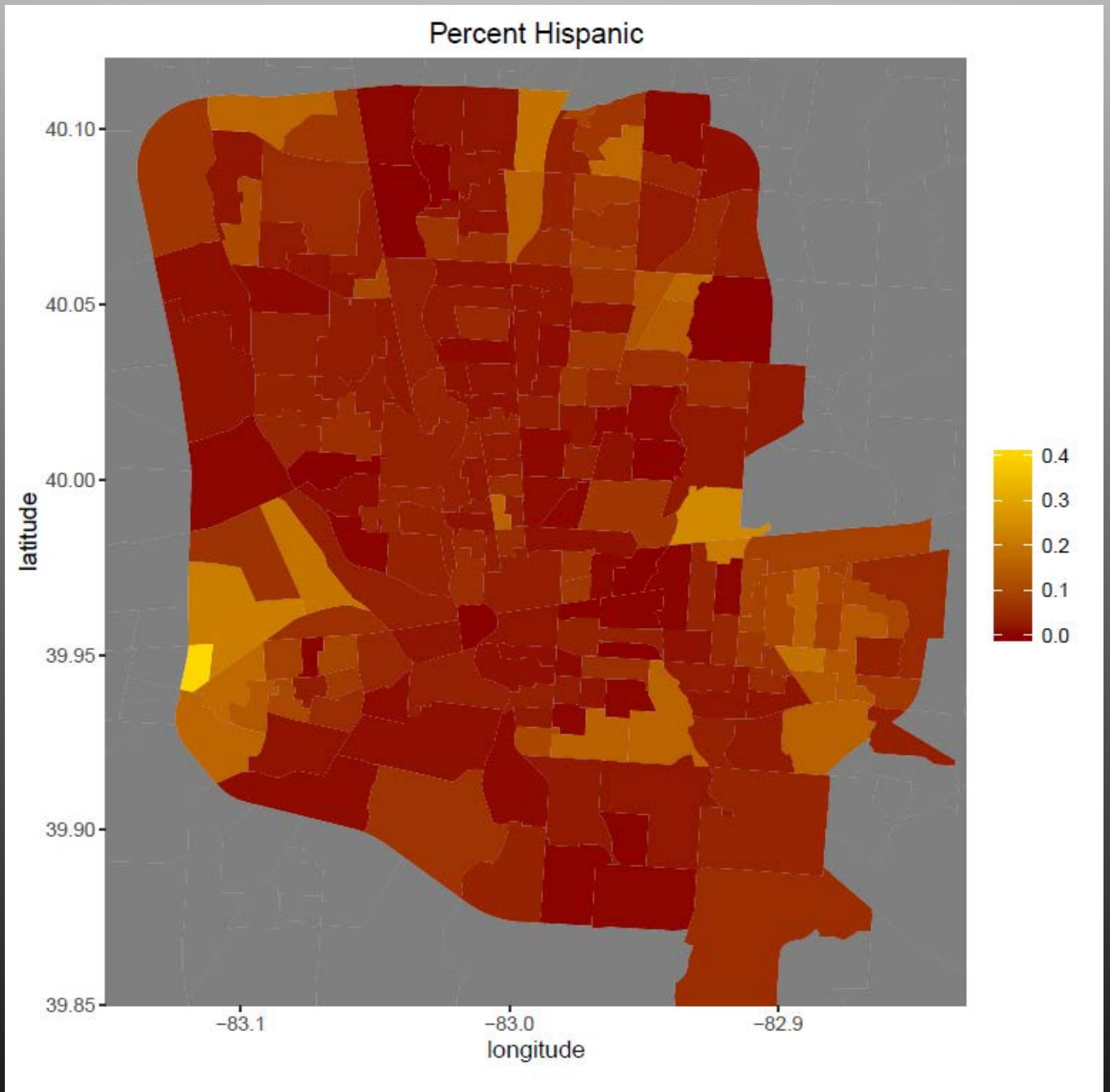
- 8,579 location reports from ~1400 CGs

Study area – within I270

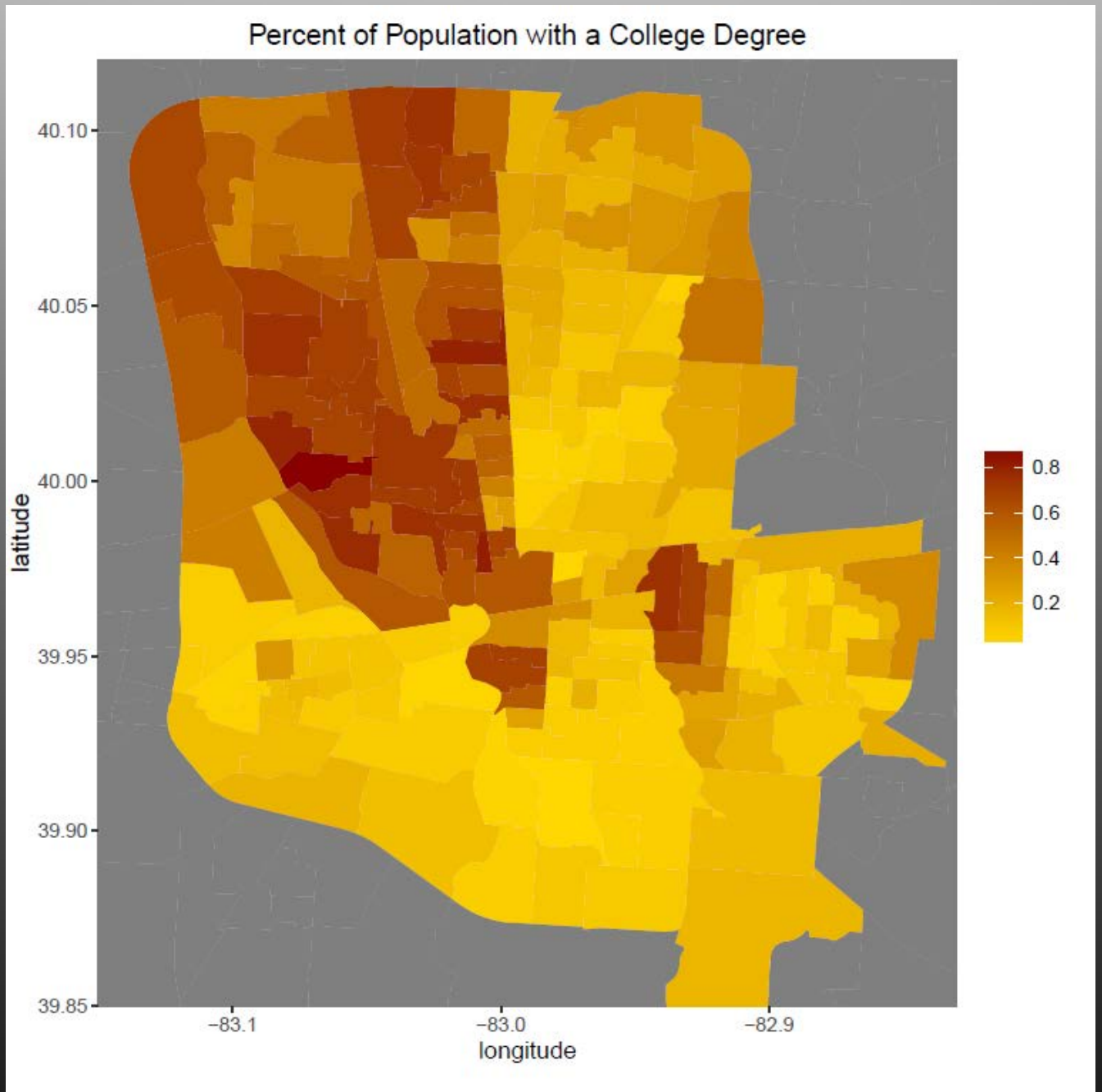



Percent Non−Hispanic Black
40.10
40.05
40.00
39.95
39.90
39.85
latitude
−83.1
−83.0
−82.9
longitude
1.00
0.75
0.50
0.25
0.00

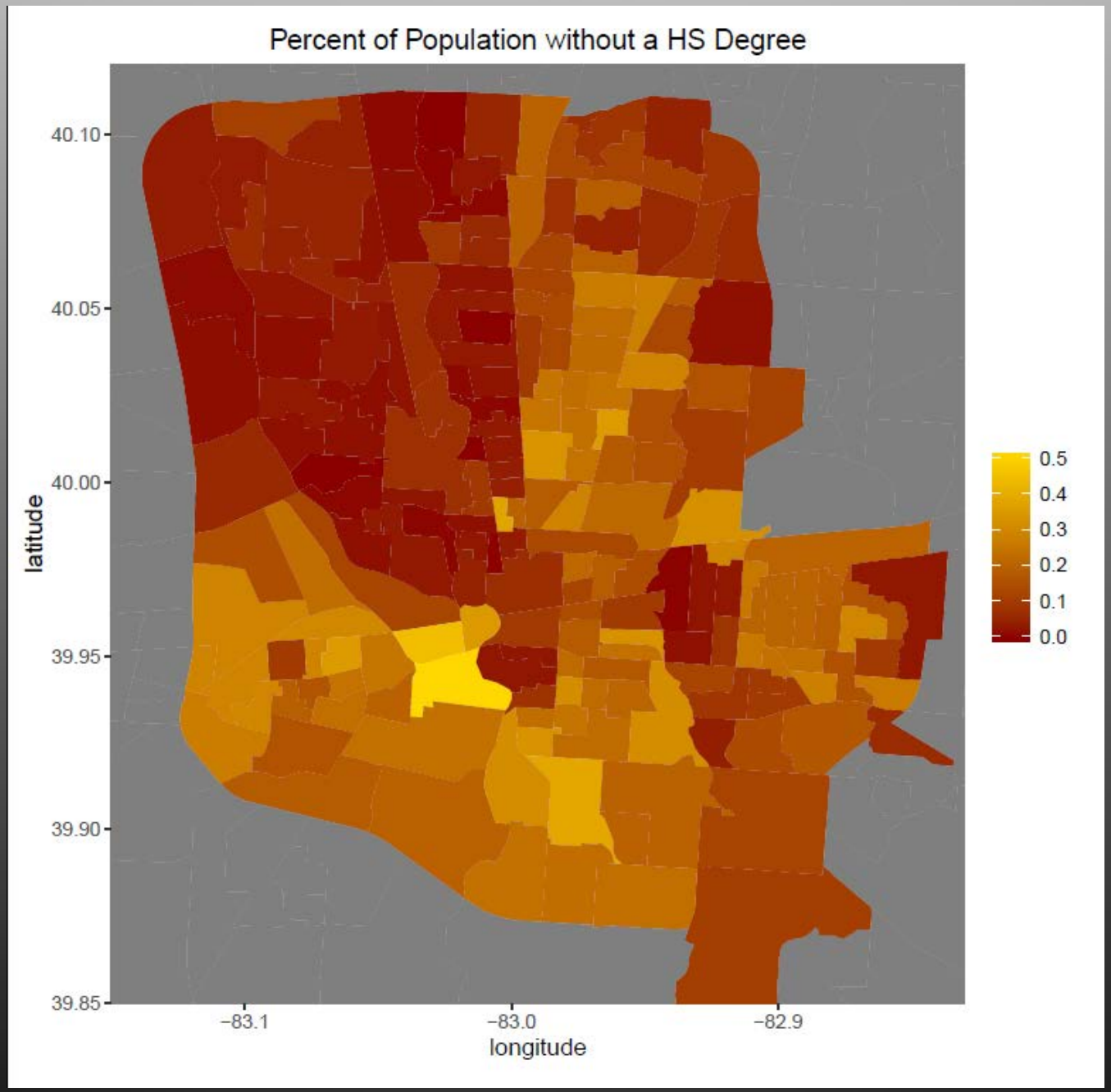
Mean = .30


Percent Hispanic
40.10
40.05
40.00
39.95
39.90
39.85
latitude
−83.1
−83.0
−82.9
longitude
0.4
0.3
0.2
0.1
0.0

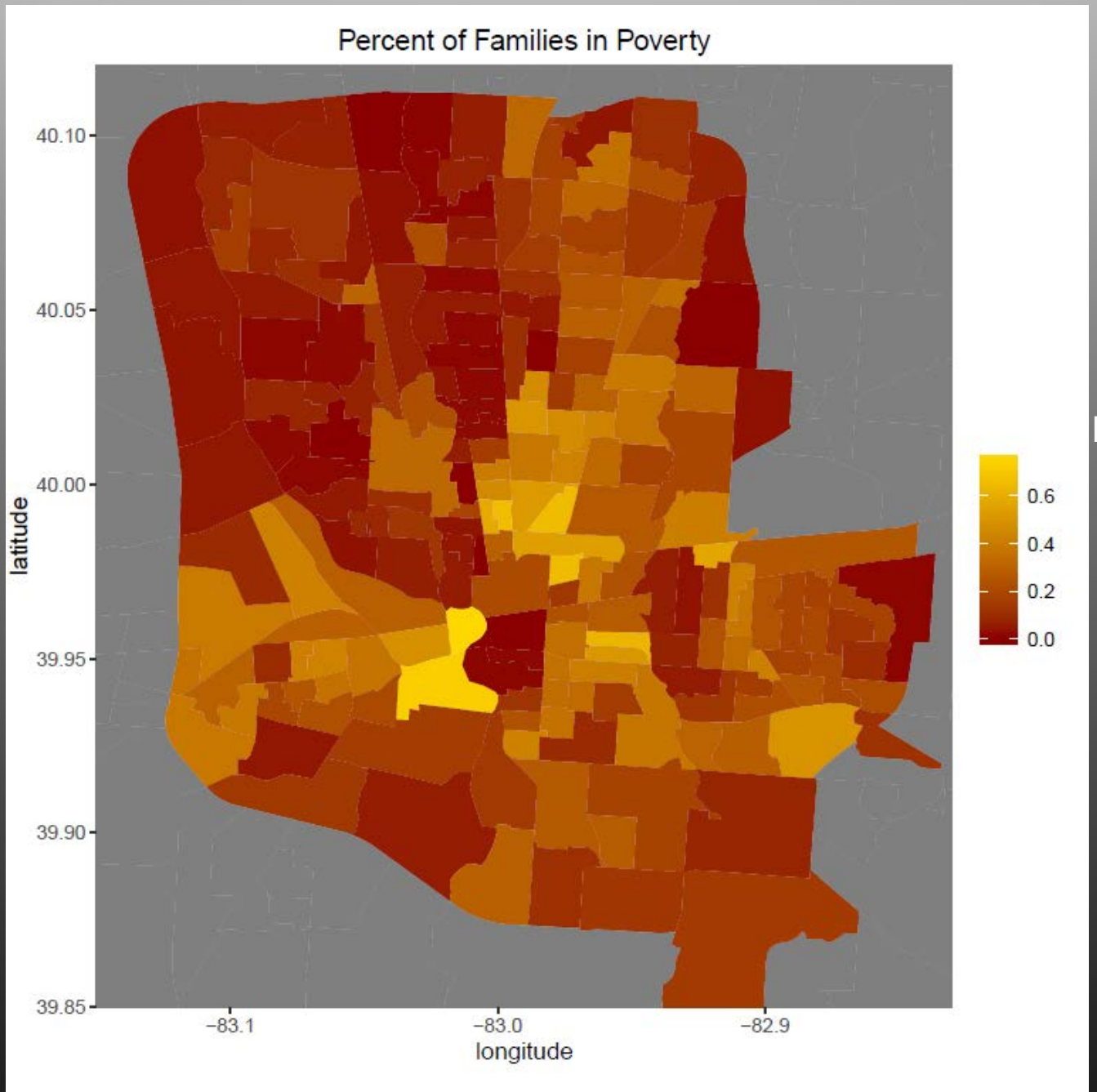
Mean = .05


Percent of Population with a College Degree
40.10
40.05
40.00
39.95
39.90
39.85
latitude
−83.1
−83.0
−82.9
longitude
0.8
0.6
0.4
0.2

Mean = .32

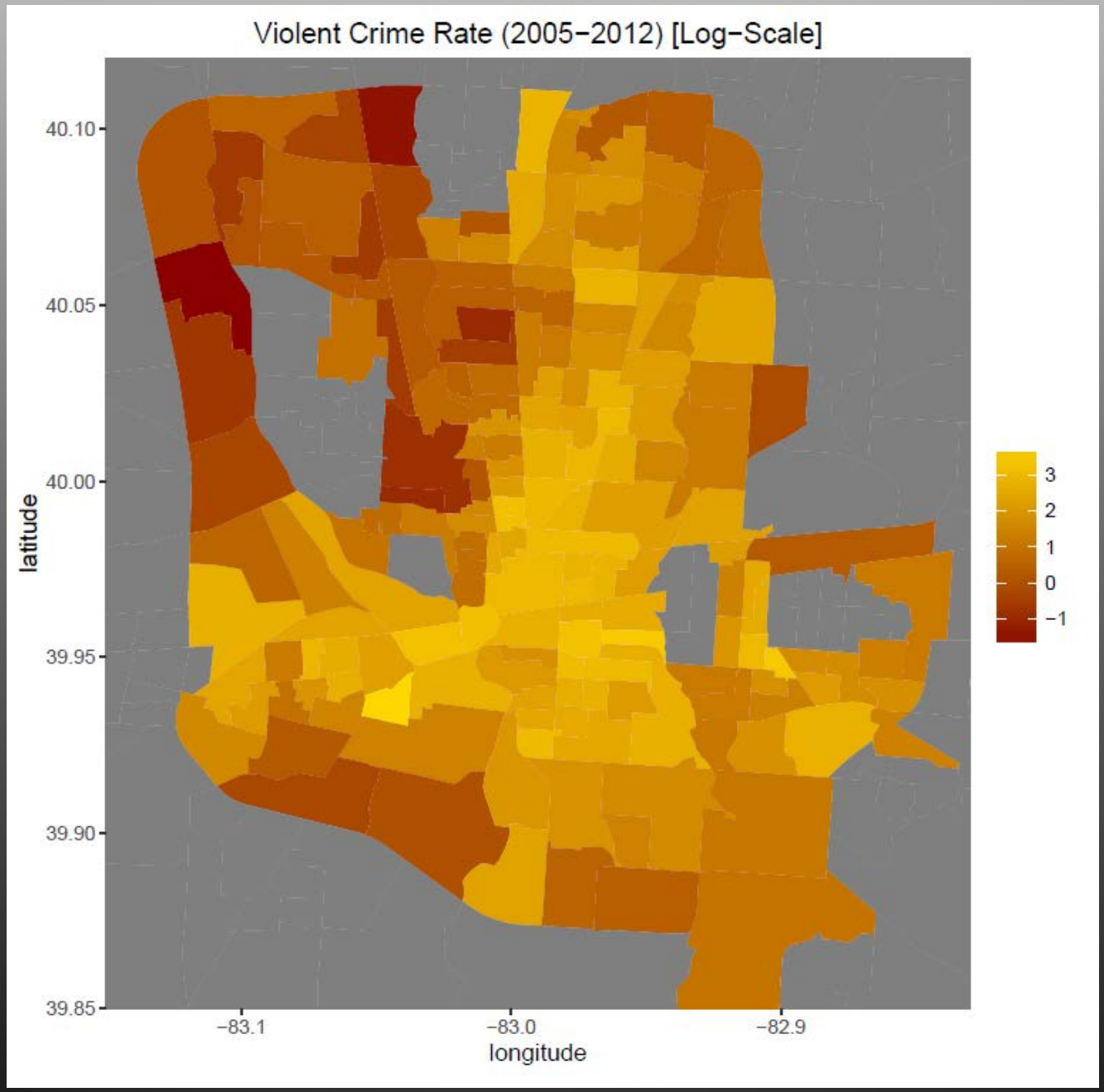

Percent of Population without a HS Degree
40.10
40.05
40.00
39.95
39.90
39.85
latitude
−83.1
−83.0
−82.9
longitude
0.5
0.4
0.3
0.2
0.1
0.0

Mean = .14

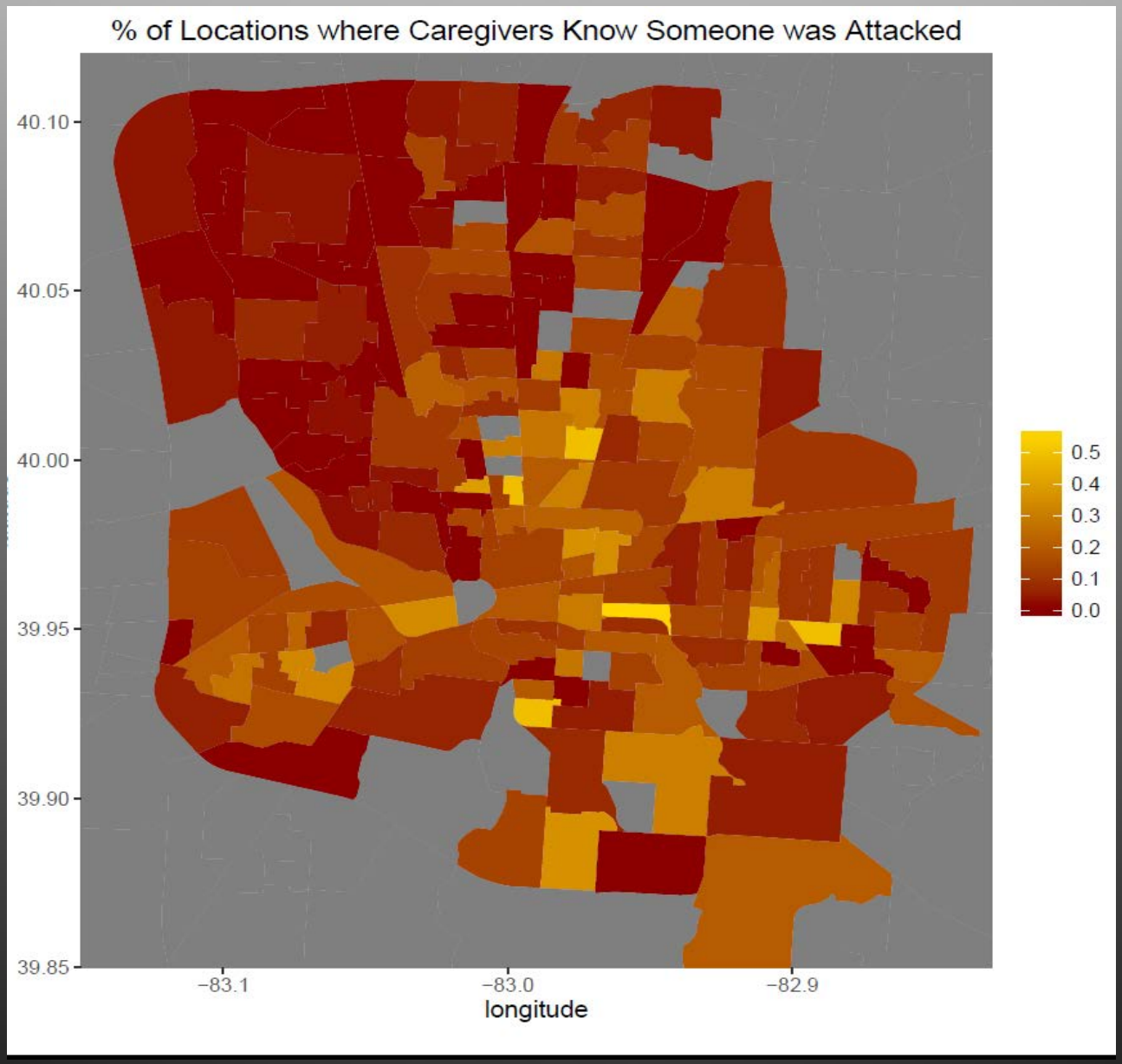

Percent of Families in Poverty
40.10
40.05
40.00
39.95
39.90
39.85
latitude
−83.1
−83.0
−82.9
longitude
0.6
0.4
0.2
0.0

Mean = .21

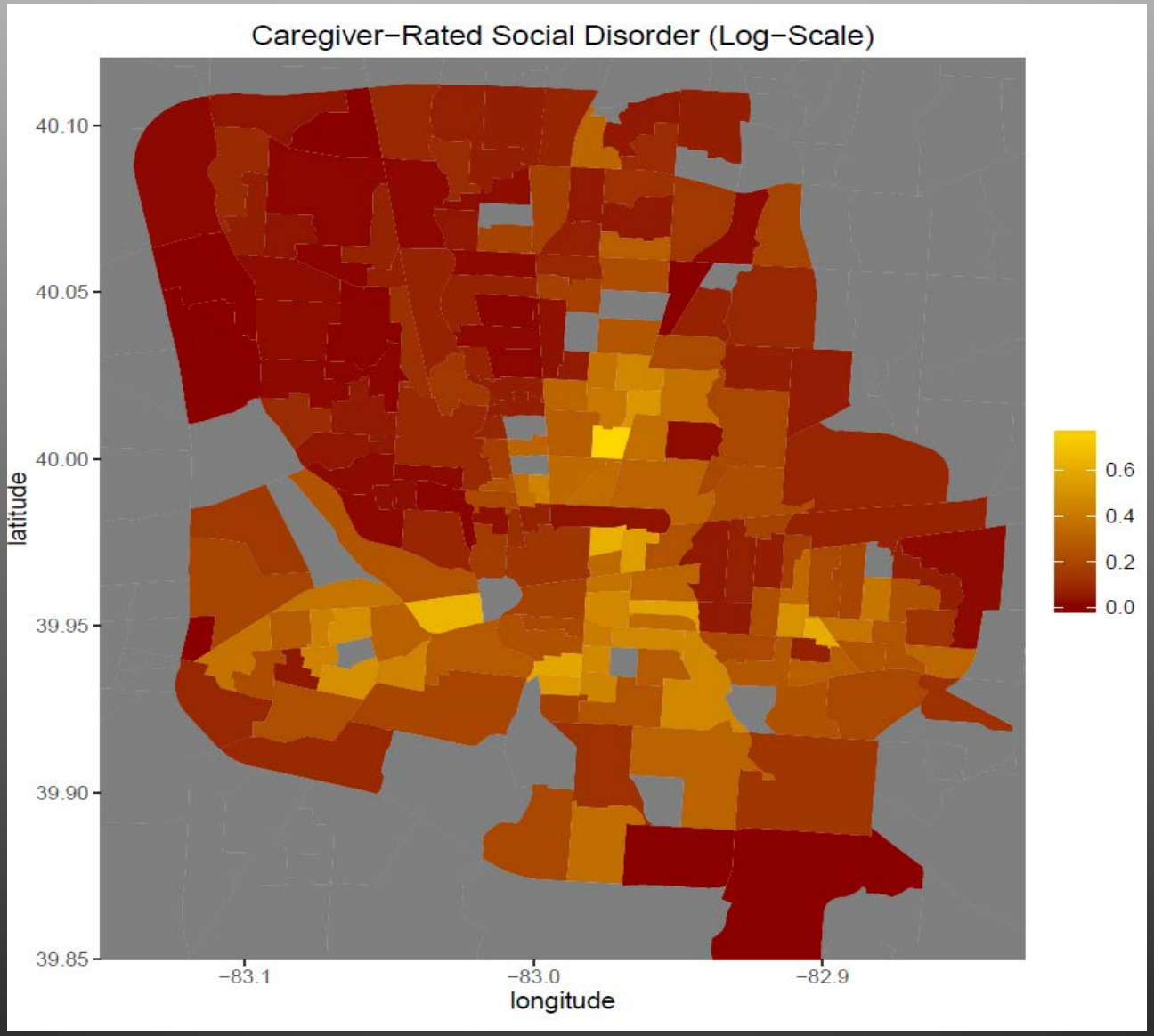
Potential mechanisms – violence/disorder



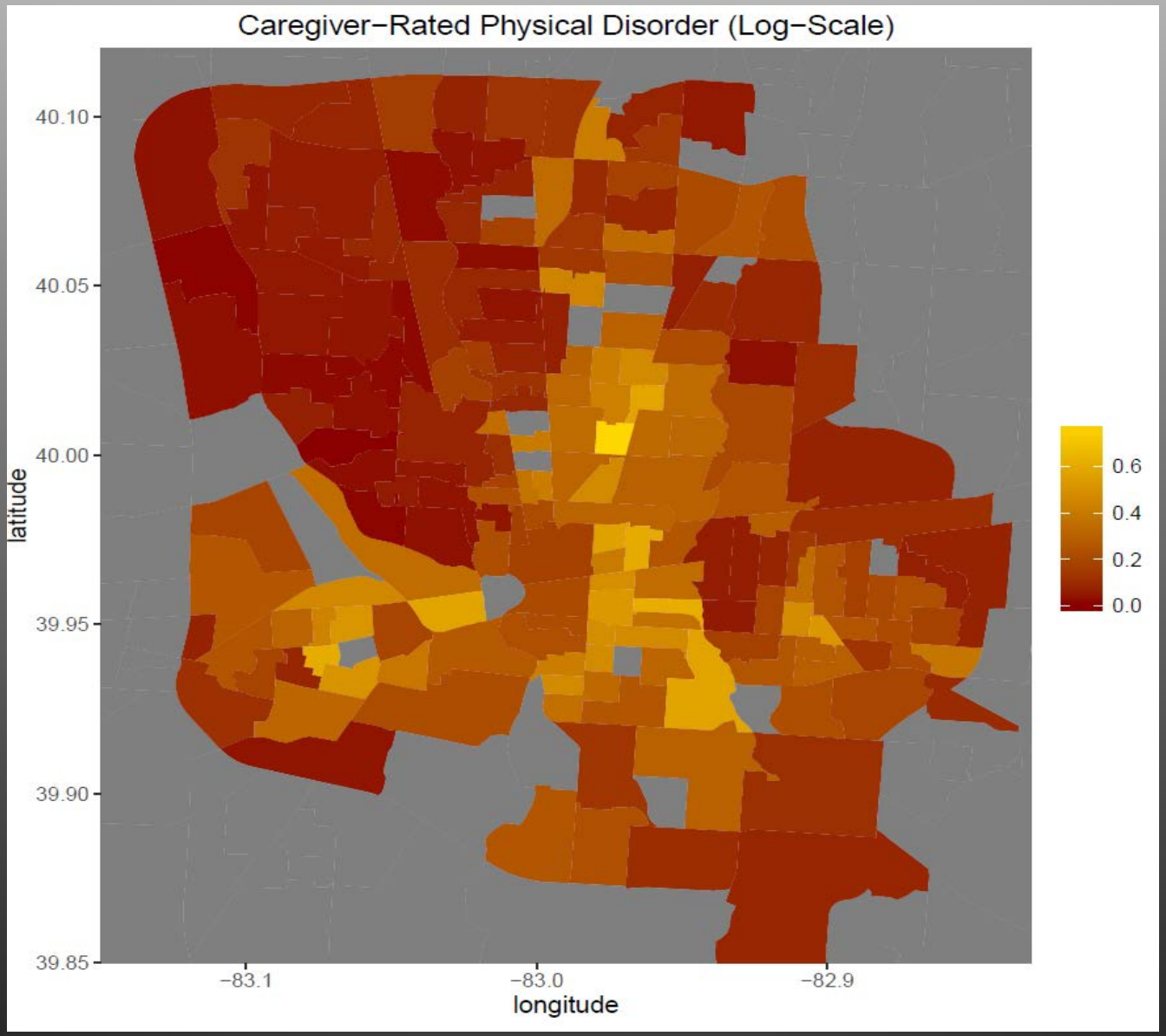
Potential mechanisms – violence/disorder



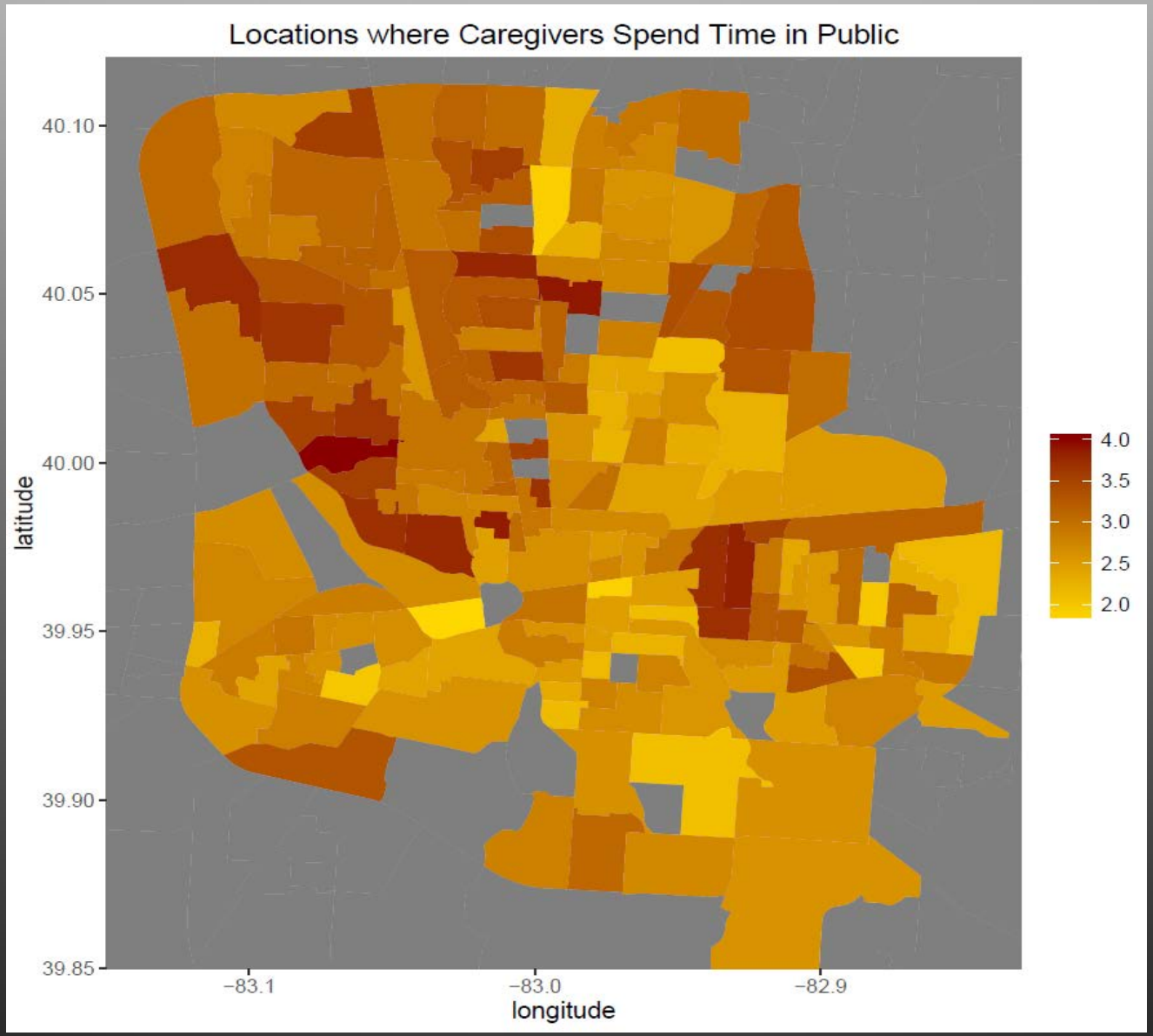
Potential mechanisms – violence/disorder



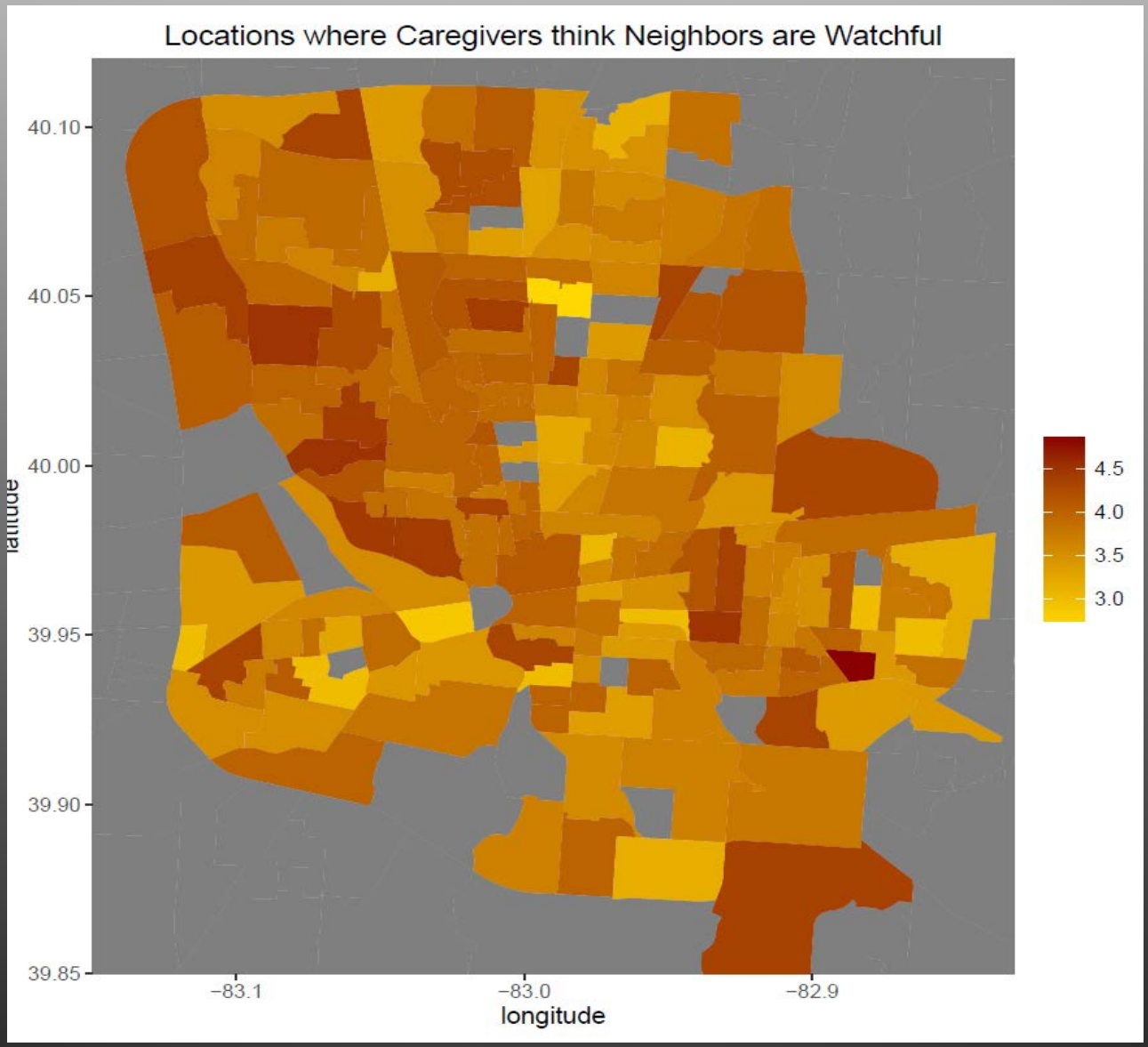
Potential mechanisms – violence/disorder



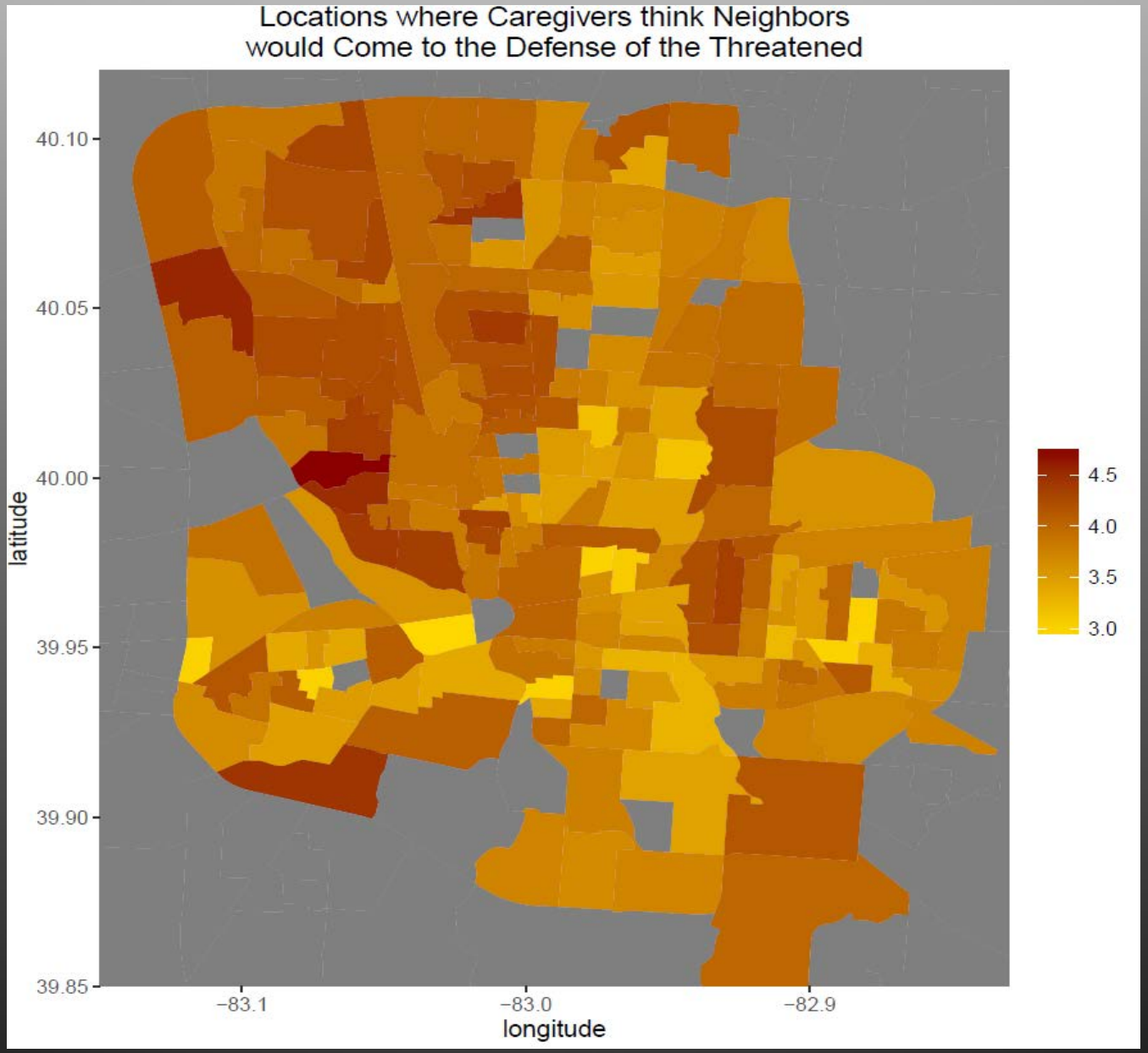
Potential mechanisms – ecologies



Potential mechanisms – collective efficacy / monitoring



Potential mechanisms – collective efficacy / willingness to intervene



Potential mechanisms – collective efficacy / trust

Potential mechanisms – social networks