

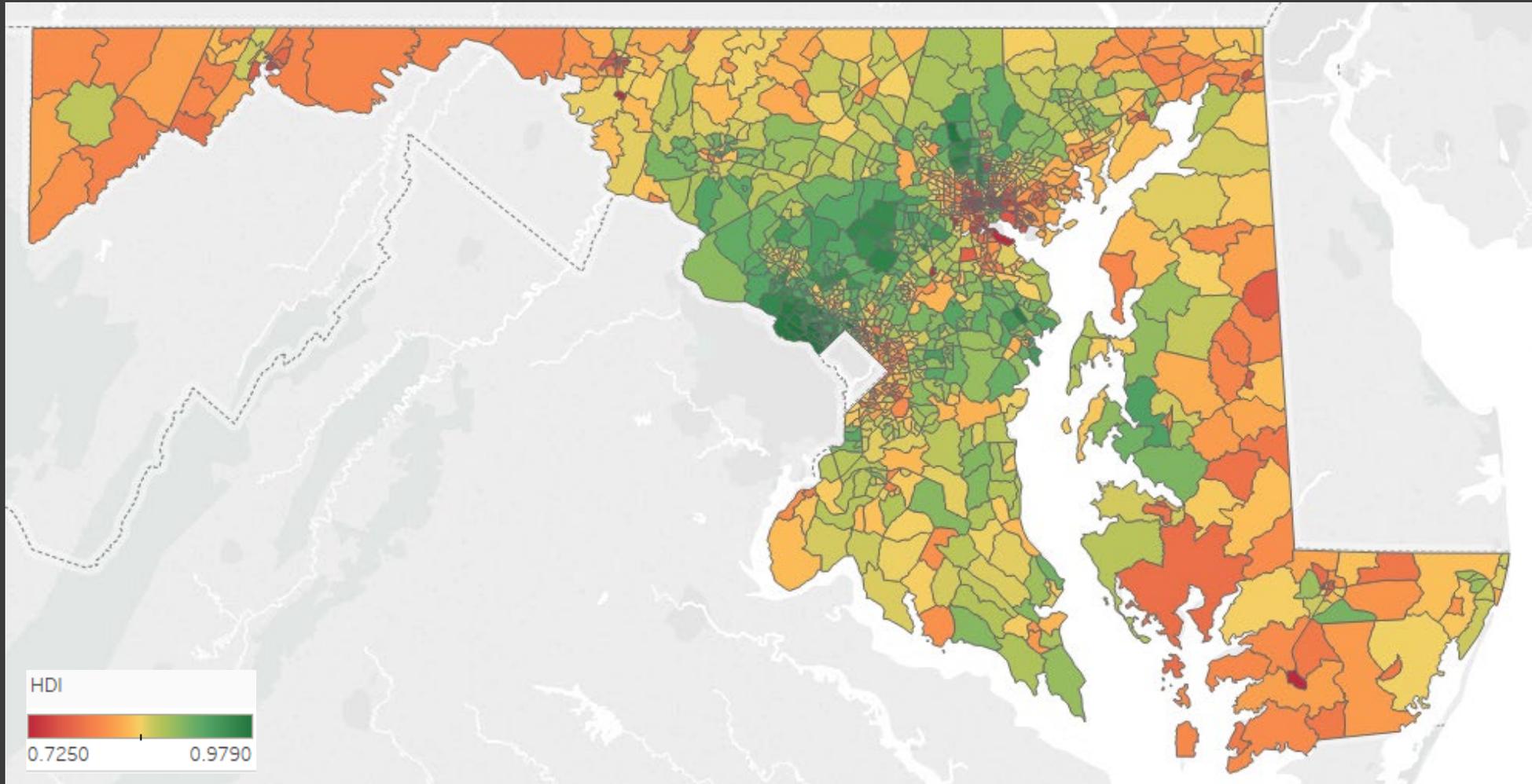
RESI's Roundtable Recap: Identifying Steps to Reduce Local Disparities

Regional Economic Studies Institute
Economic Outlook Forum
November 7, 2019

Towson.edu/RESI



In May, RESI Presented Research on Statewide Disparities in Education, Income, and Life Expectancy...

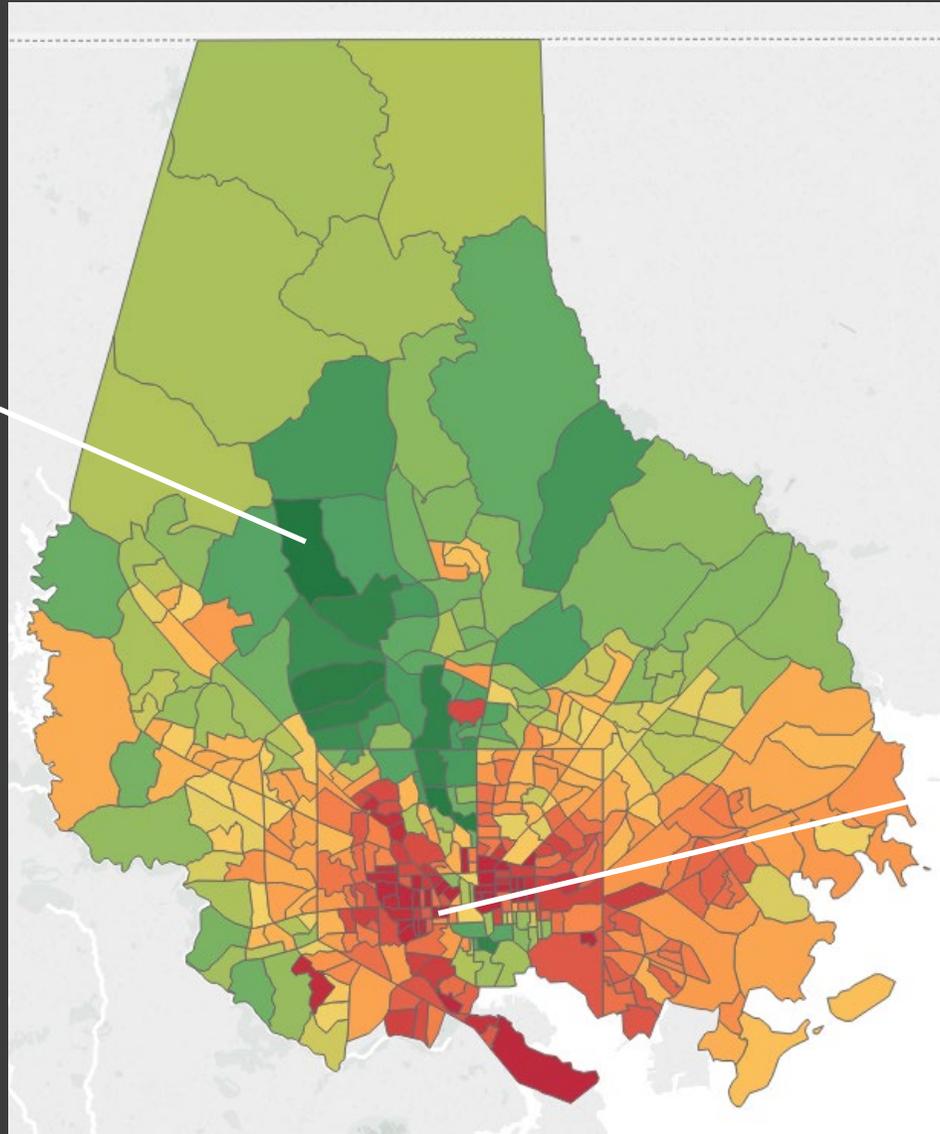


...These Disparities Exist Most Strongly Locally

Worthington Ridge

(Tract 408303)

HDI: 0.9788



Poppleton

(Tract 180100)

HDI: 0.6763

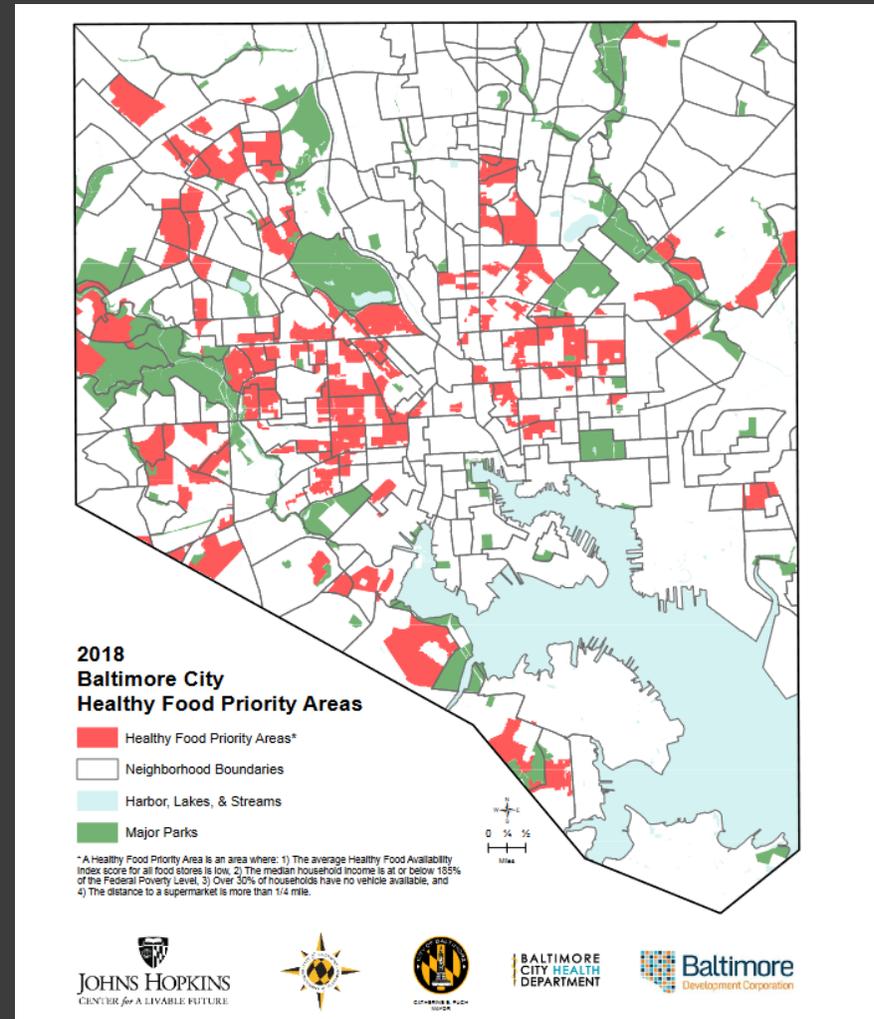
This Work Inspired Roundtable Discussions With Local Leaders...

- Food insecurity
- Education
- Access to employment
- Public transportation

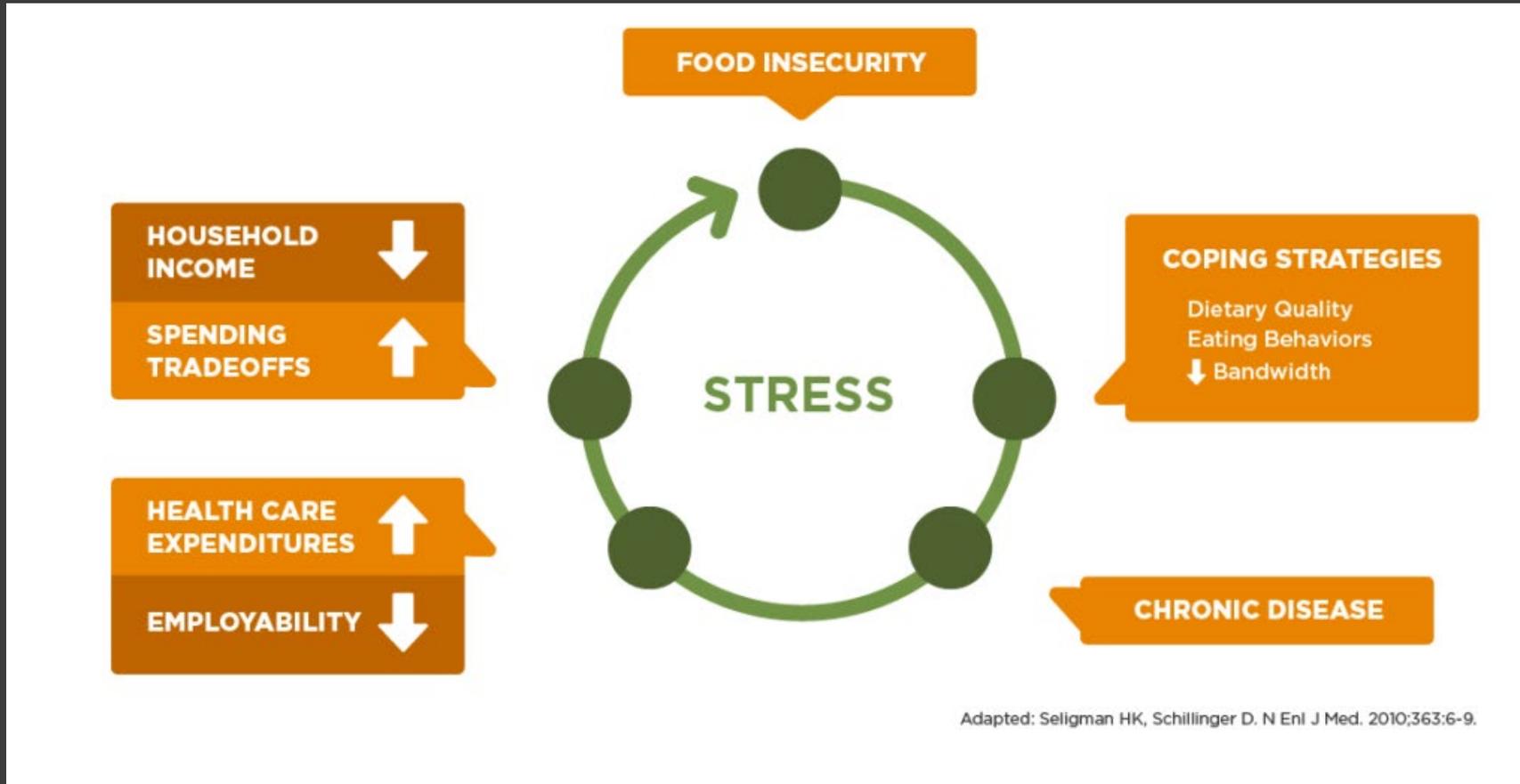
...Which in Turn Led to the Development of Four Policy Briefs

- Summer SNAP
- Increasing Maryland's High School Graduation Rate
- Public-Private Partnerships
- Bike Commuting

23.5 percent of Baltimore City residents live in Healthy Food Priority Areas



The Vicious Cycle of Food Insecurity





*“SNAP is the **most important and effective** program we have to reduce food insecurity.”*

- Roundtable Participant

What is Summer SNAP?

- \$100 per child per year in increased SNAP (food stamps) benefits
 - \$30/month during the summer months
 - \$10/month during winter break
- **\$200,000** in State funding with matching funds from local governments
- Original language authorized **\$2 million** in funding

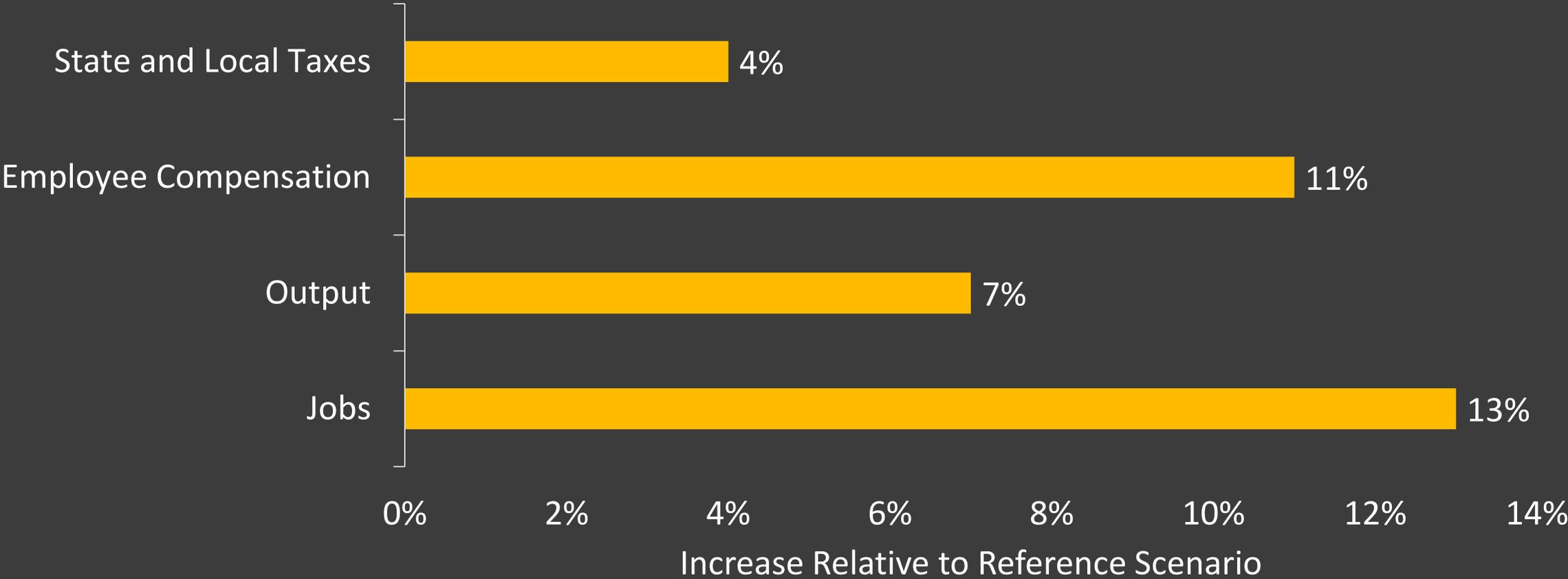
What is the Impact of Funding the Original Allocation for Summer SNAP?

- Modeled **\$2 million in increased household income** for households earning \$15k - \$30k
- But Maryland would spend this money anyway.
- Compare to a reference scenario of \$2 million in household spending for households earning the median amount in Maryland.

Every Dollar Invested in Summer SNAP Yields \$1.18 in Economic Output

Impact Type	Impacts of Summer SNAP Funded to \$2 Million
Jobs	16
Output	\$2,353,630
Employee Compensation	\$702,490
State and Local Taxes	\$147,700

Summer SNAP Generates Positive Economic Returns Relative to Other Options



Summer SNAP Also Leads to a Number of Non-Economic Benefits

- Lower incidences of obesity and chronic disease
- Increased school attendance
- Improved school performance

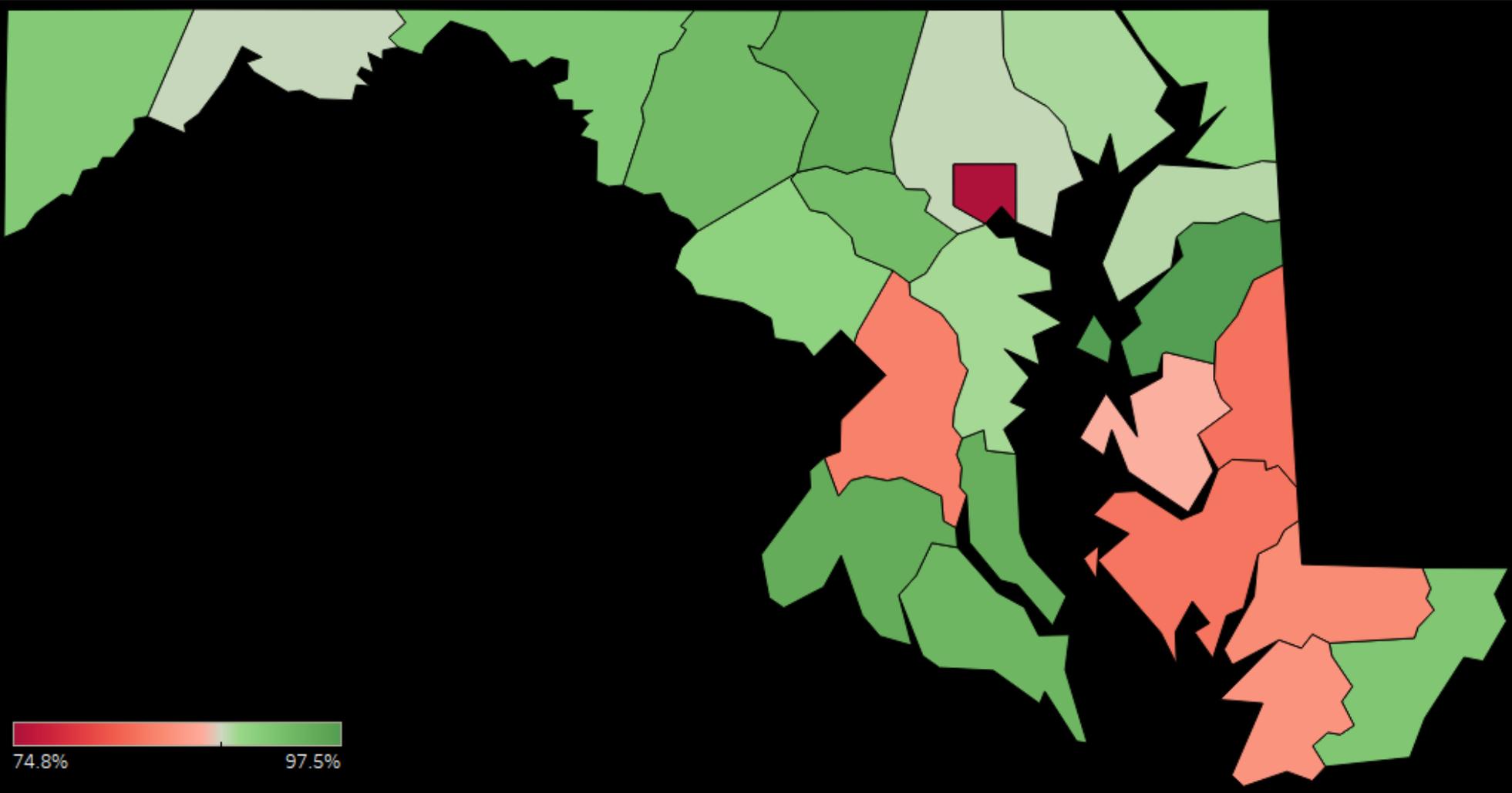


*“The Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Education was charged by Gov. Larry Hogan and the General Assembly with developing policy recommendations that would enable Maryland schools to perform **at the level of the best-performing school systems in the world.**”*

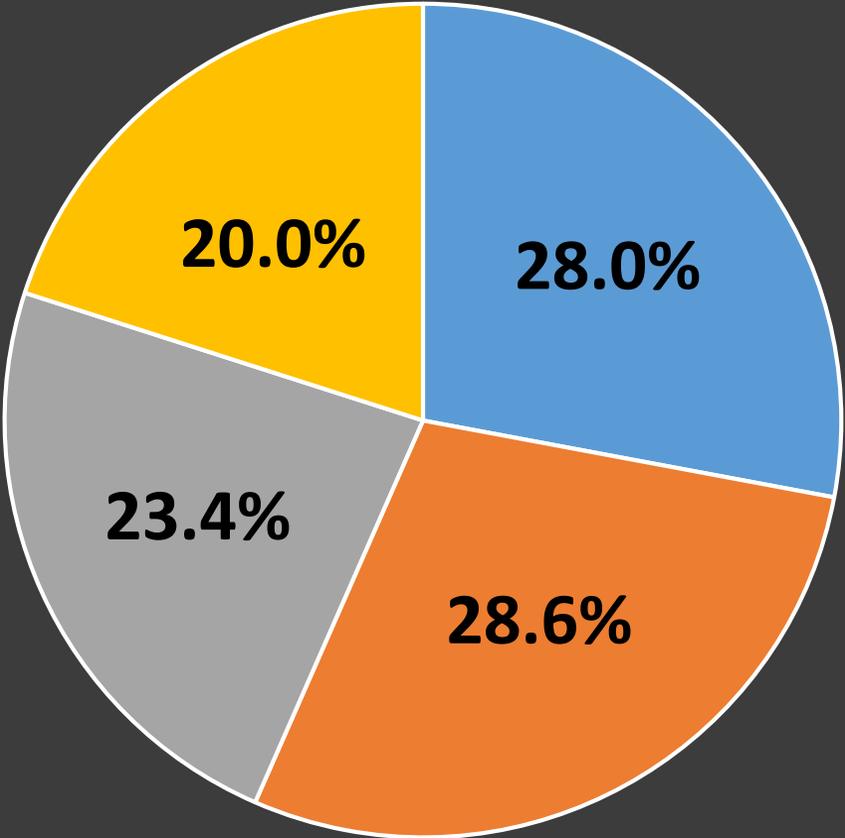
- Dr. William E. “Brit” Kirwan



What if Maryland Had the Highest High School Graduation Rate in the U.S.?



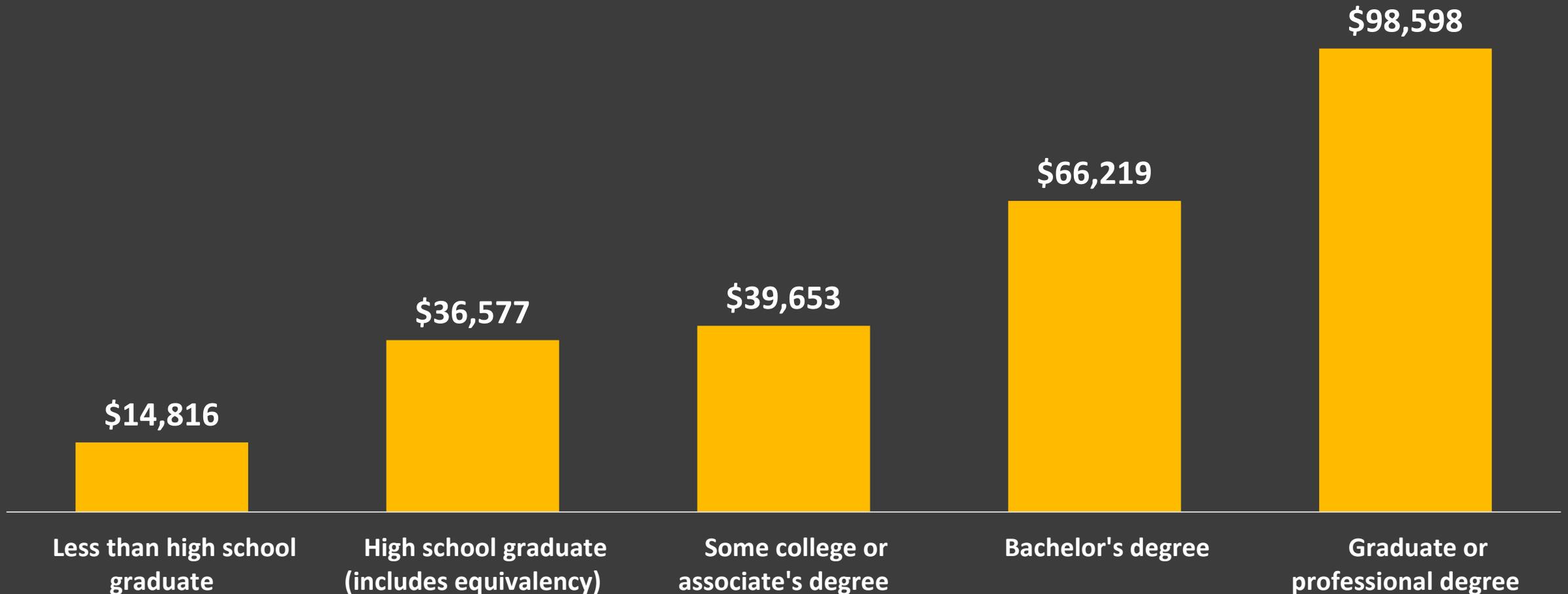
A High School Diploma Often Leads to Additional Schooling...



■ High school graduate (includes equivalency)
■ Bachelor's degree

■ Some college or associate's degree
■ Graduate or professional degree

...And Average Earnings are Much Higher for Those With More Education



A Better Education Can Lead To Higher Lifetime Earnings



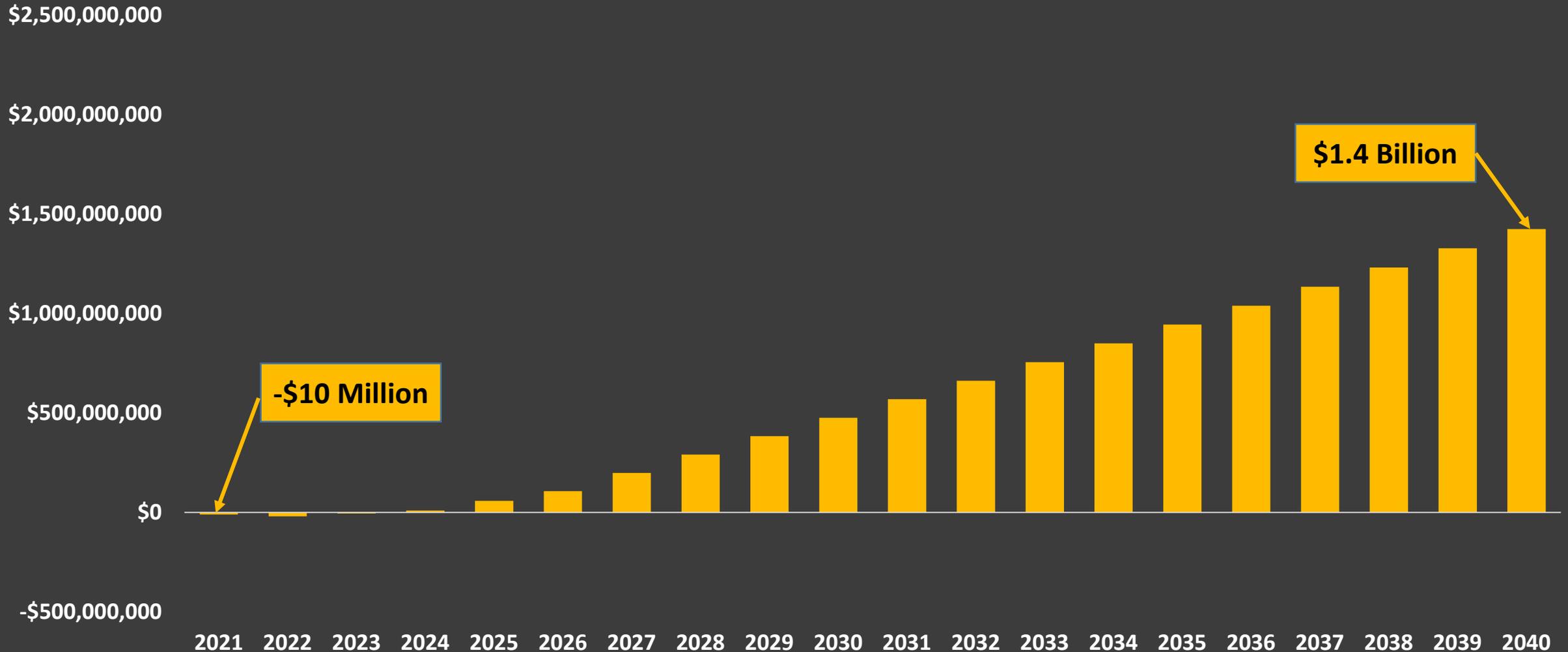
\$1,813,021

**Class of 2021:
2,432 New Graduates**

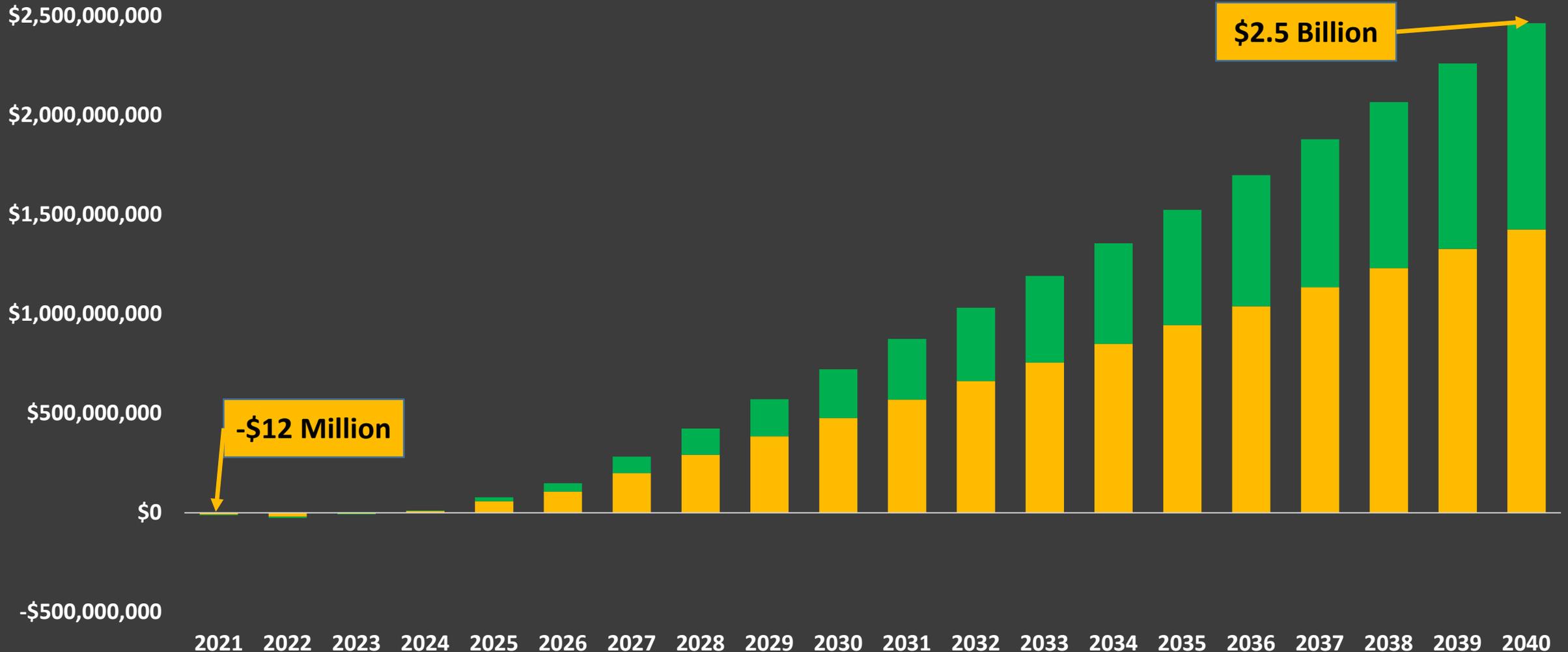


\$4,408,410,252

Increased Annual Graduate Earnings Rise Over Time



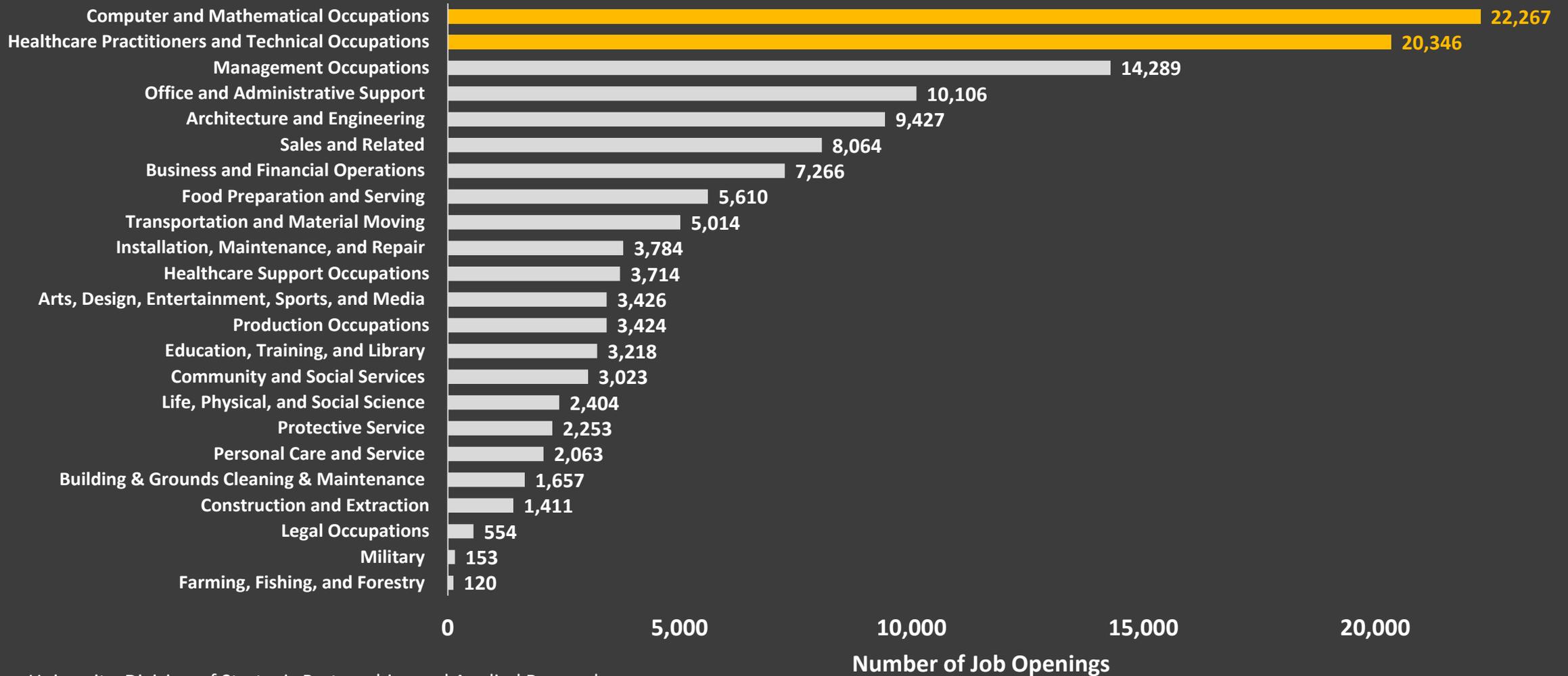
Graduate Earnings Result in Additional Statewide Personal Income



What Does This Analysis Not Cover?

- Reduced State Spending on Social Services
 - Decreased incarceration
 - Decreased health care costs
 - Decreased homelessness
- Direct economic benefits from spending
 - Increased teacher salaries
 - School construction/renovation
 - Program expansion
- Non-economic benefits

Improvements in Education Benefit Tomorrow's Workforce, But What About Today?



Job Training Through Public-Private Partnerships

- Public-Private Partnerships connect employers and local governments to provide better outcomes for Maryland residents
- Employers help with job placement
- Government provides funding
- Workers gain access to new skills

*“What would be helpful are concrete **examples of successful** public-private partnerships we can use.”*

-Roundtable Participant

RESI Examined 4 Public-Private Partnerships From Across the U.S.

1. The Center for Workforce Innovation
 - Atlanta, GA
2. Project QUEST
 - San Antonio, TX
3. Johns Hopkins Project REACH
 - Baltimore, MD
4. Colorado Workforce Development Council
 - Colorado

The Center for Workforce Innovation (Atlanta)

- Anchor employers support workforce training tailored specifically to their needs.
- Offers three tracks **tailored to the anchor partners**:
 - Aviation
 - Information Technology
 - Skilled Trades
- Includes on-campus career development coaching and apprenticeships/internships for students.



Project QUEST (San Antonio)



- Pinpoints the most in-demand occupations in collaboration with the city, county, and local business leaders.
- Provides **significant wraparound support services:**
 - Guidance counseling
 - Utility assistance
 - Childcare
 - Transportation assistance

Project REACH (Baltimore)



- Designed to help current Hopkins employees gain the necessary skills and knowledge to fill critically understaffed healthcare positions within the organization.
- Fully funded tuition, and **employees receive their full wages and benefits** while dedicating 16 hours each week to attending classes.
- Graduates saw average annual wage gains of \$9,800 to \$11,300.

Colorado Workforce Development Council



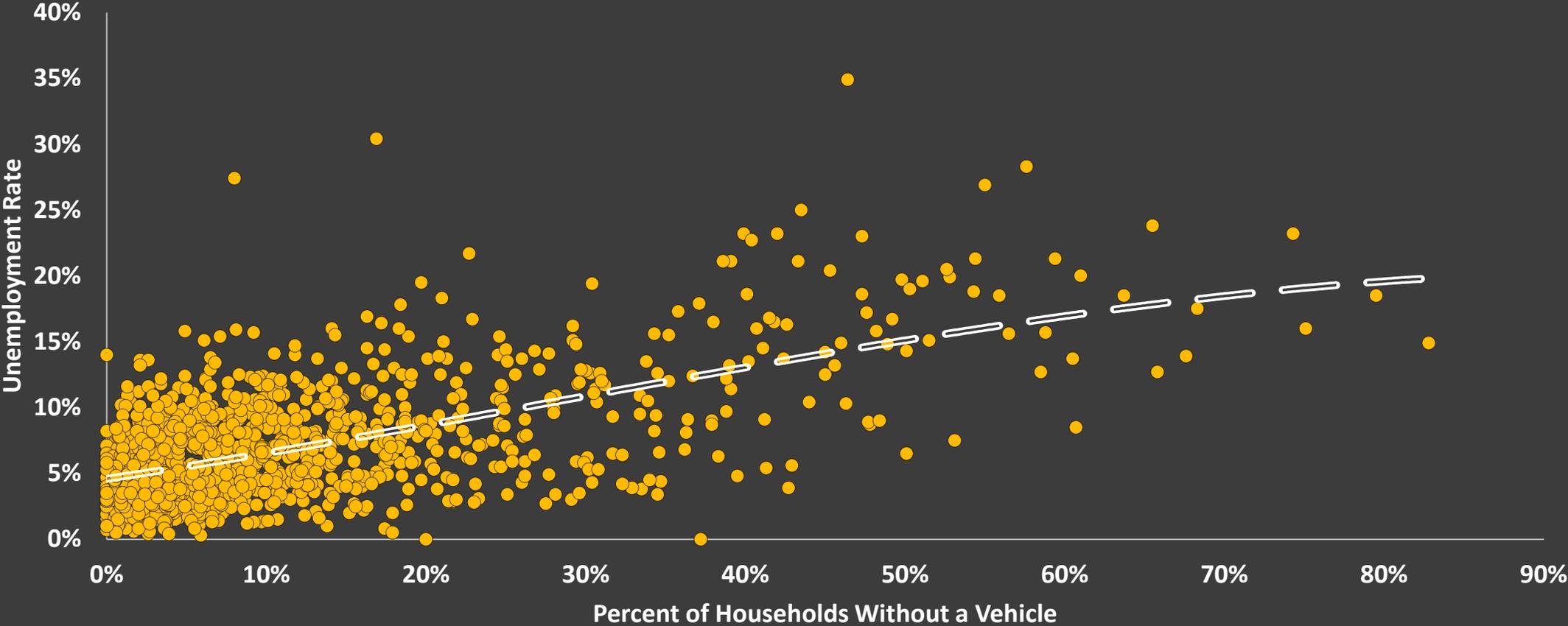
Colorado Workforce
Development Council

- Over 750 businesses have partnered with CWDC to provide internships, apprenticeships, and other forms of learning to increase the pipeline of trained employees.
- Public partners such as universities and trade schools focus their programs to address the demands of private partners.
- **CWDC acts as a central hub** to convene these partners and the local, regional, and state level.

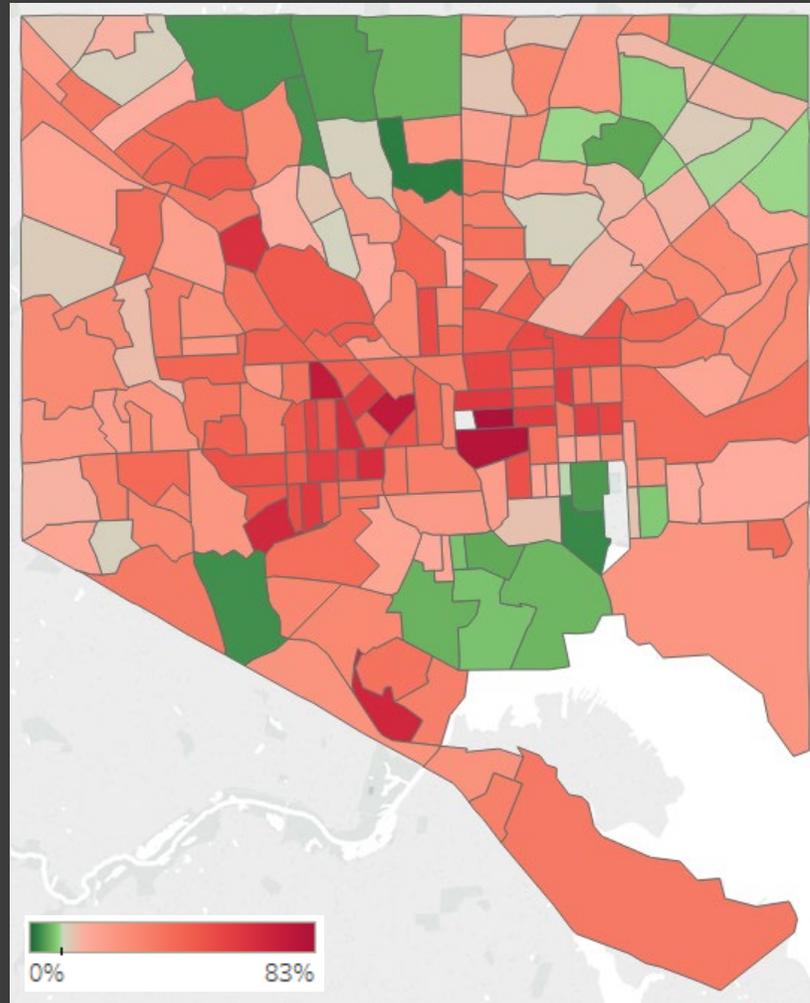
Lessons Learned for Local Leaders

- Support services to assist with childcare, transportation, and work schedules are crucial to the success of program participants.
- Advising and counseling can impact students that enter programs without having formal educational or technological experience.
- Partnerships should be tailored to the available partners

In Maryland, Car Ownership is Strongly Linked With Unemployment



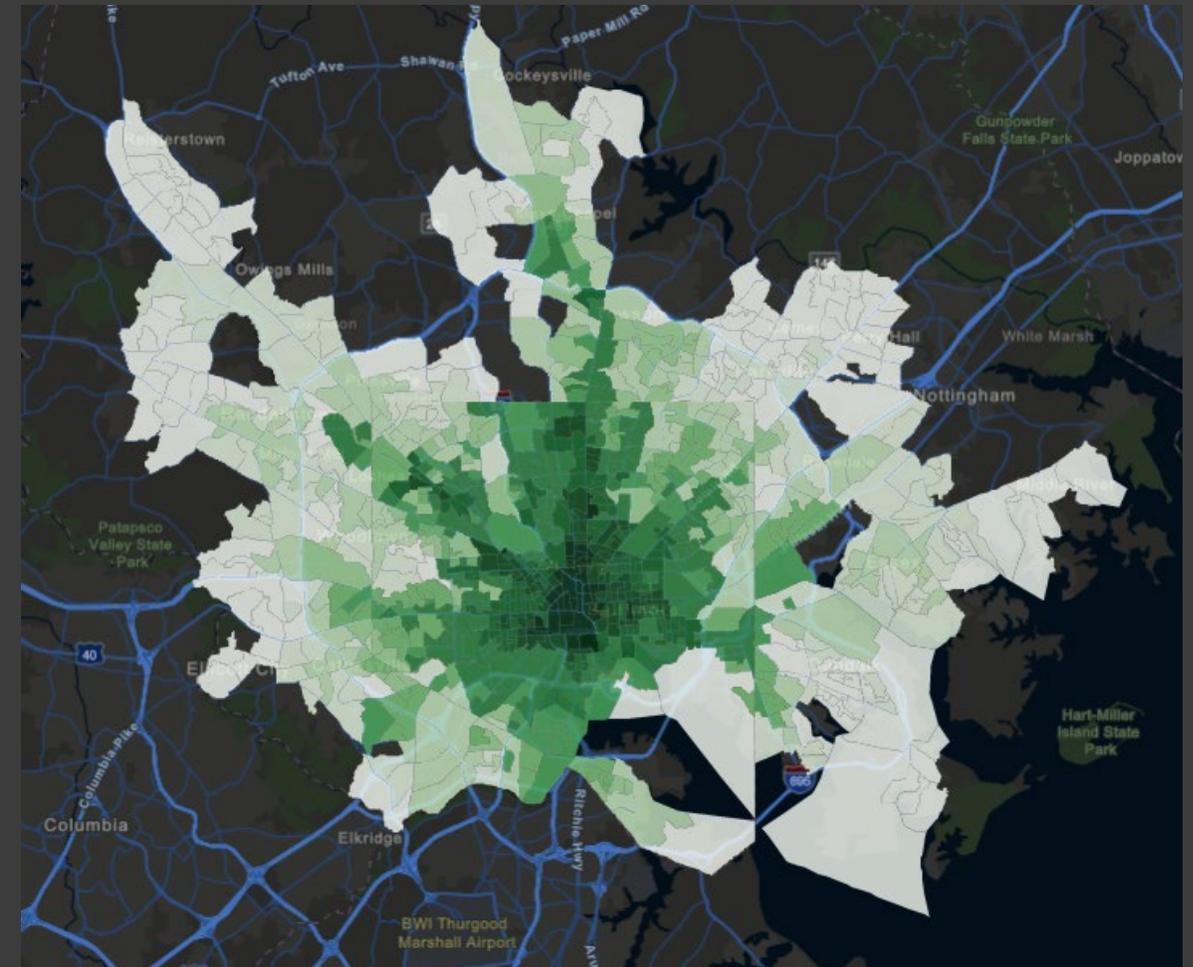
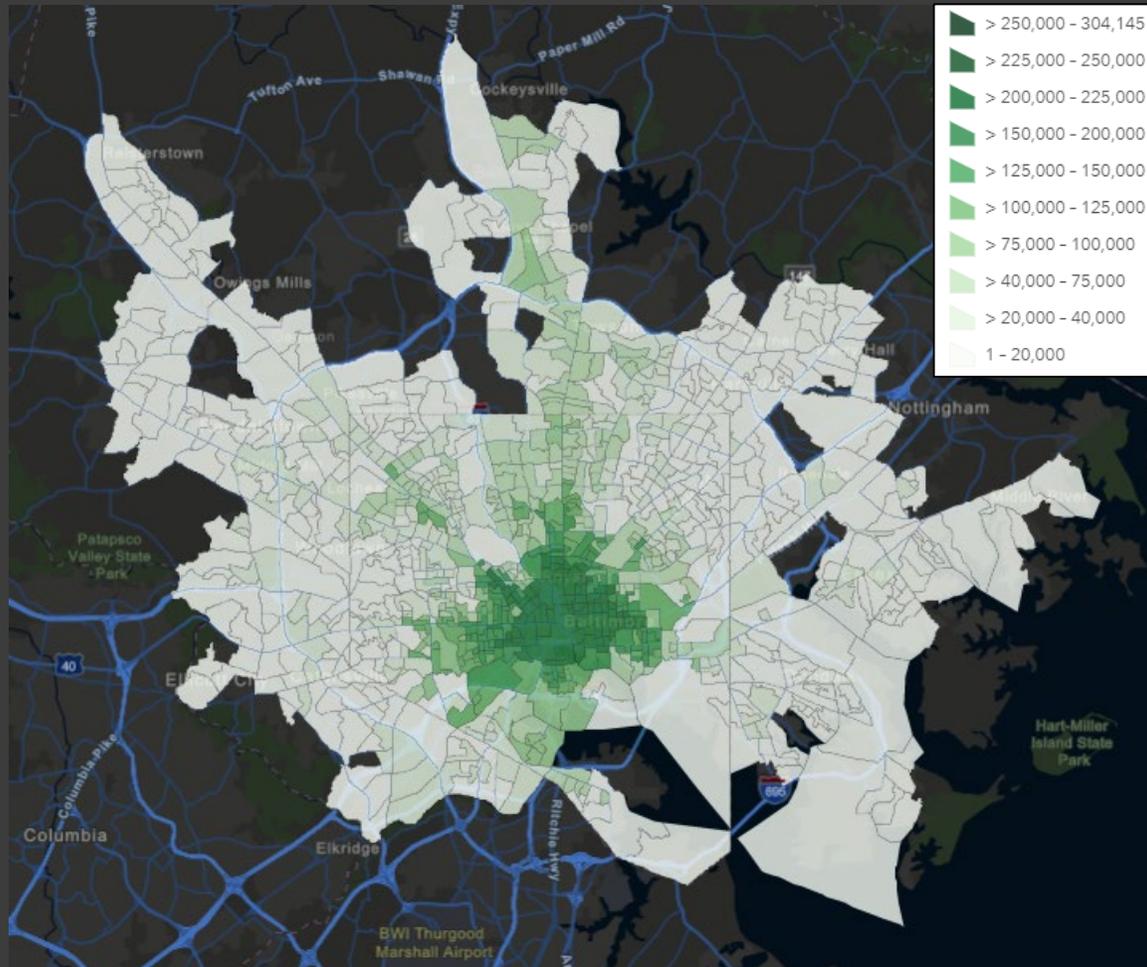
In Baltimore City, Low Rates of Car Ownership Force Residents to Seek Alternative Modes



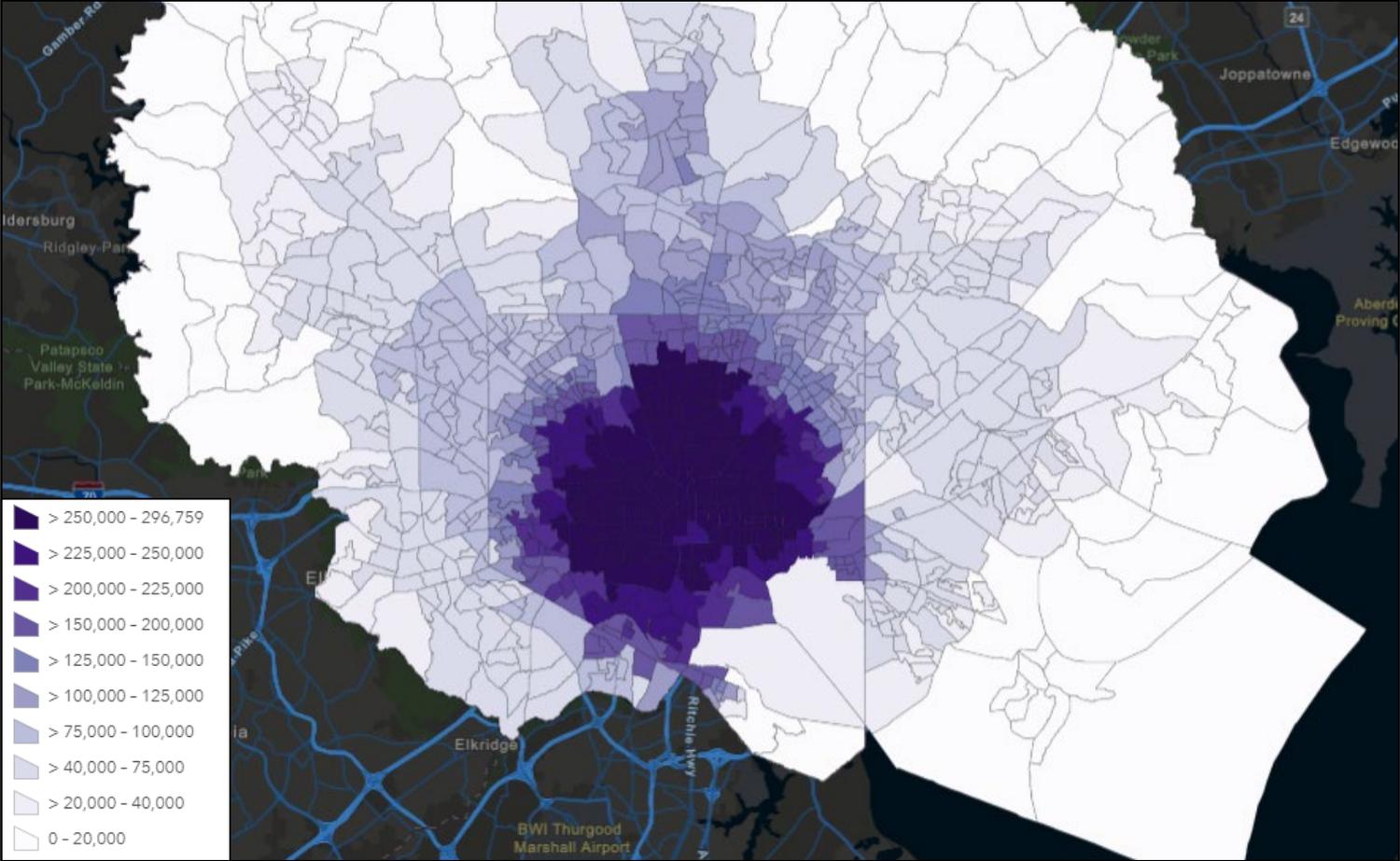
How Do We Connect the Most People to the Most Jobs?

- Calculate travel time during morning rush hour between each block group in Baltimore region and every other block group
 - Biking versus public transportation
- Merge results with US Census data on job numbers and characteristics

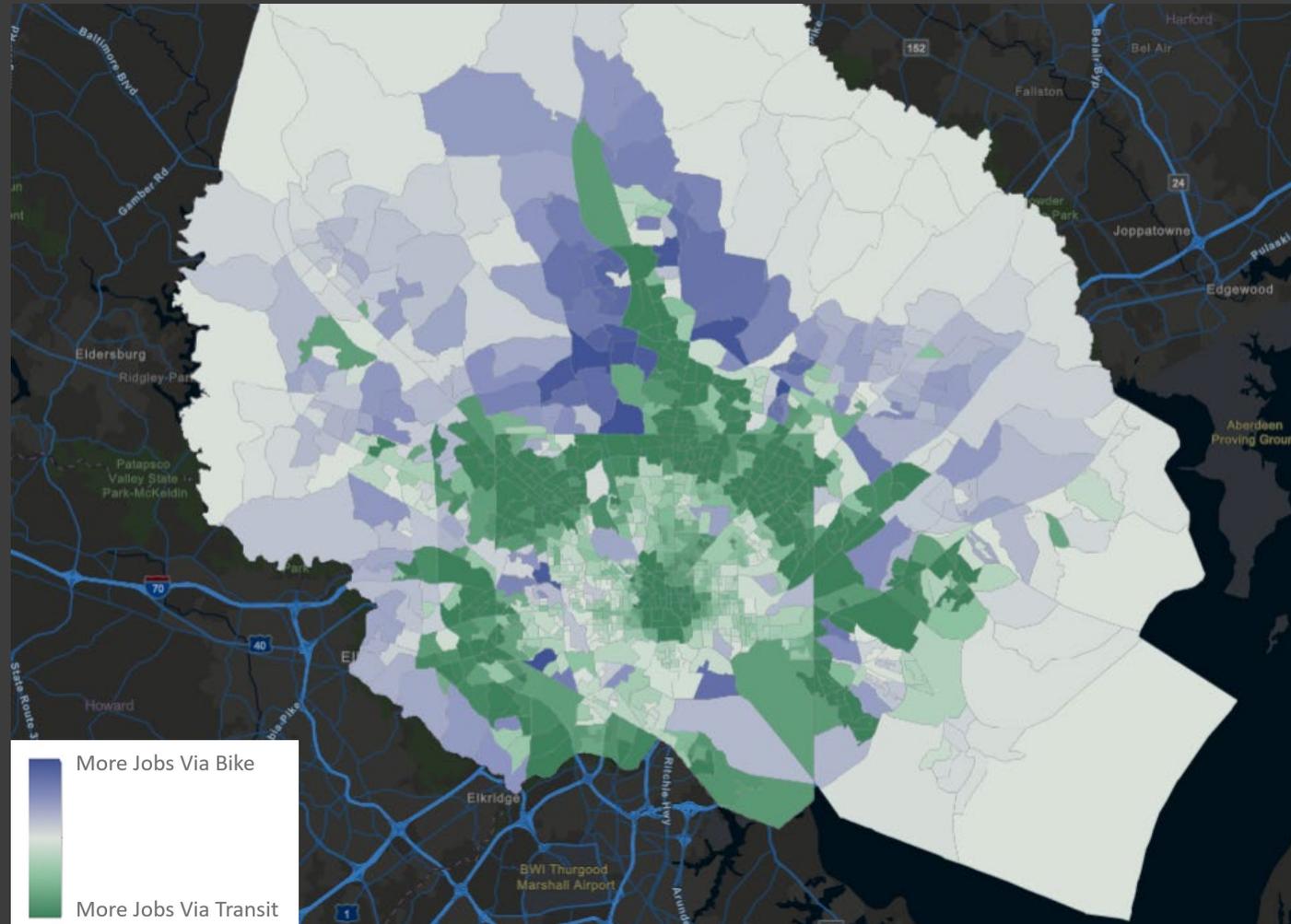
Total Jobs Accessible in 30 Minutes vs 45 Minutes on Public Transportation



Total Jobs Accessible in 30 Minutes by Bicycle



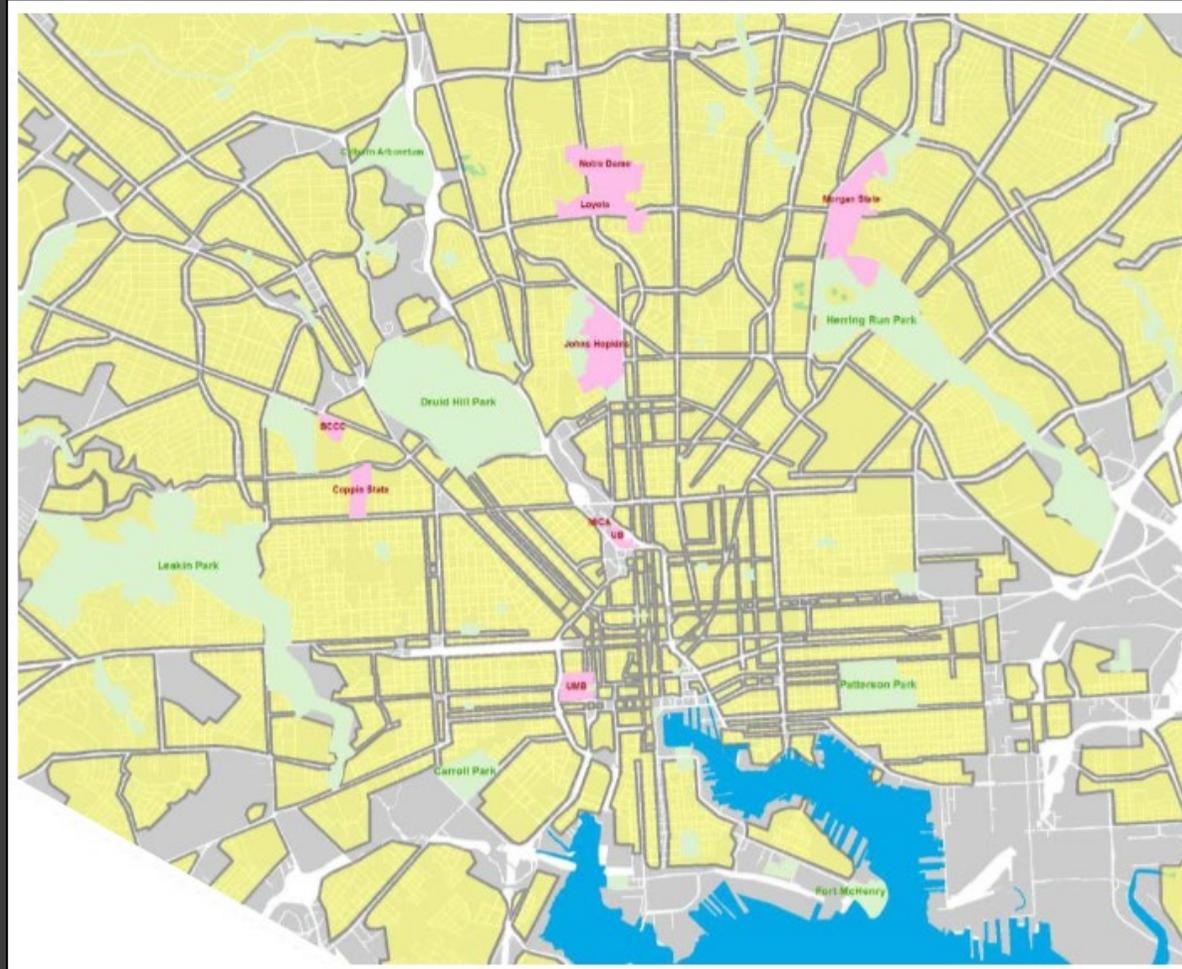
Total Jobs Accessible By Biking in 30 Minutes vs Public Transit in 60 Minutes



Given its Advantages, Why Don't More People Bike?

- Safety
- Cost
- Logistics
- Practicality

There Are Many Barriers to Connectivity When Biking Downtown



Baltimore Already Has Existing Plans to Draw Upon

- 2015 Biking Master Plan
- 2017 Addendum to the Master Plan
 - Separated Bike Lane Network
- Complete Streets Ordinance

So...What are the Next Steps?

- You get to start with some light reading 😊
- Policy briefs represent preliminary research which can be expanded
- Continue the conversation in your community

Q&A

Keep the conversation going:

msiers@towson.edu

[Towson.edu/RESI](https://towson.edu/RESI)

