

Neighborhoods, Race, and Health: Neighborhood Distress & Maternal Health in Pittsburgh

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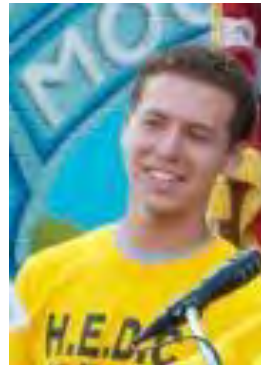


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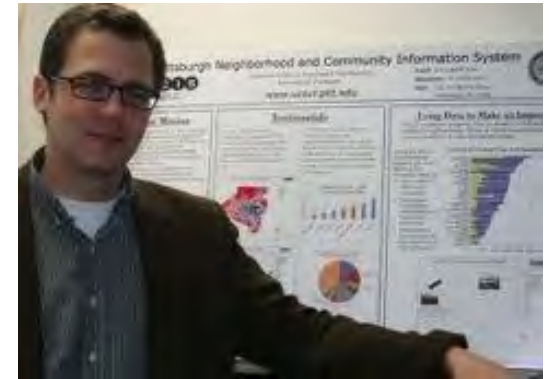
Acknowledgements



Waverly Duck
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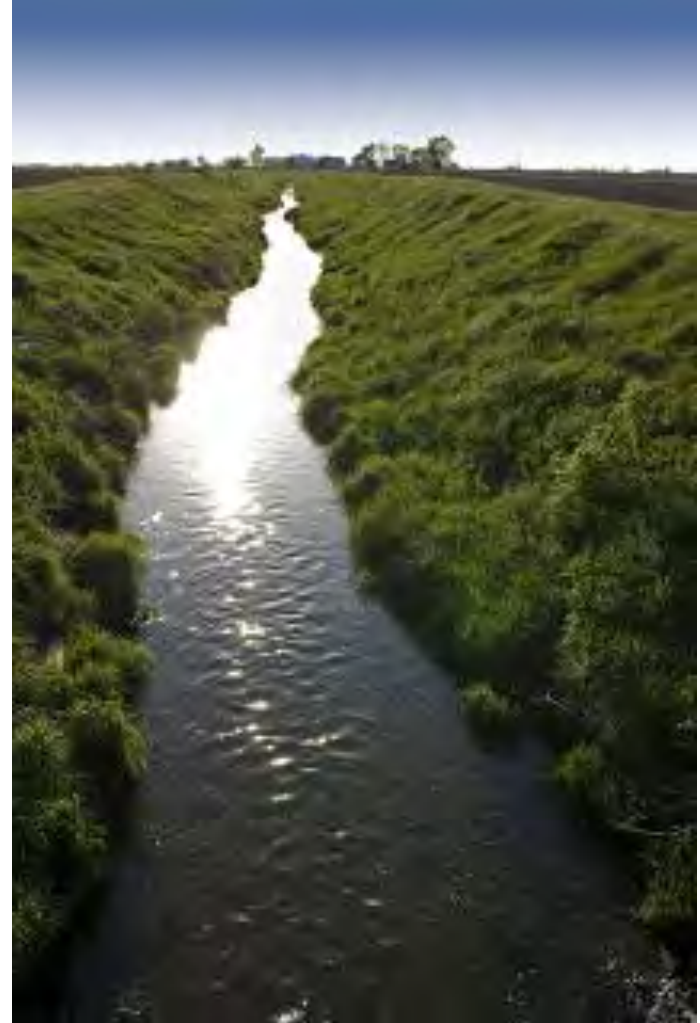
Ricky Hopkinson
Urban Studies
Research Assistant



Bob Gradeck
UCSUR / Pittsburgh
Neighborhood &
Community
Information System
(PNCIS)

Perspective: The Upstream Factors

We need to incorporate the
neighborhood context
AND
social policies & programs
into our discussion of racial
disparities in health.

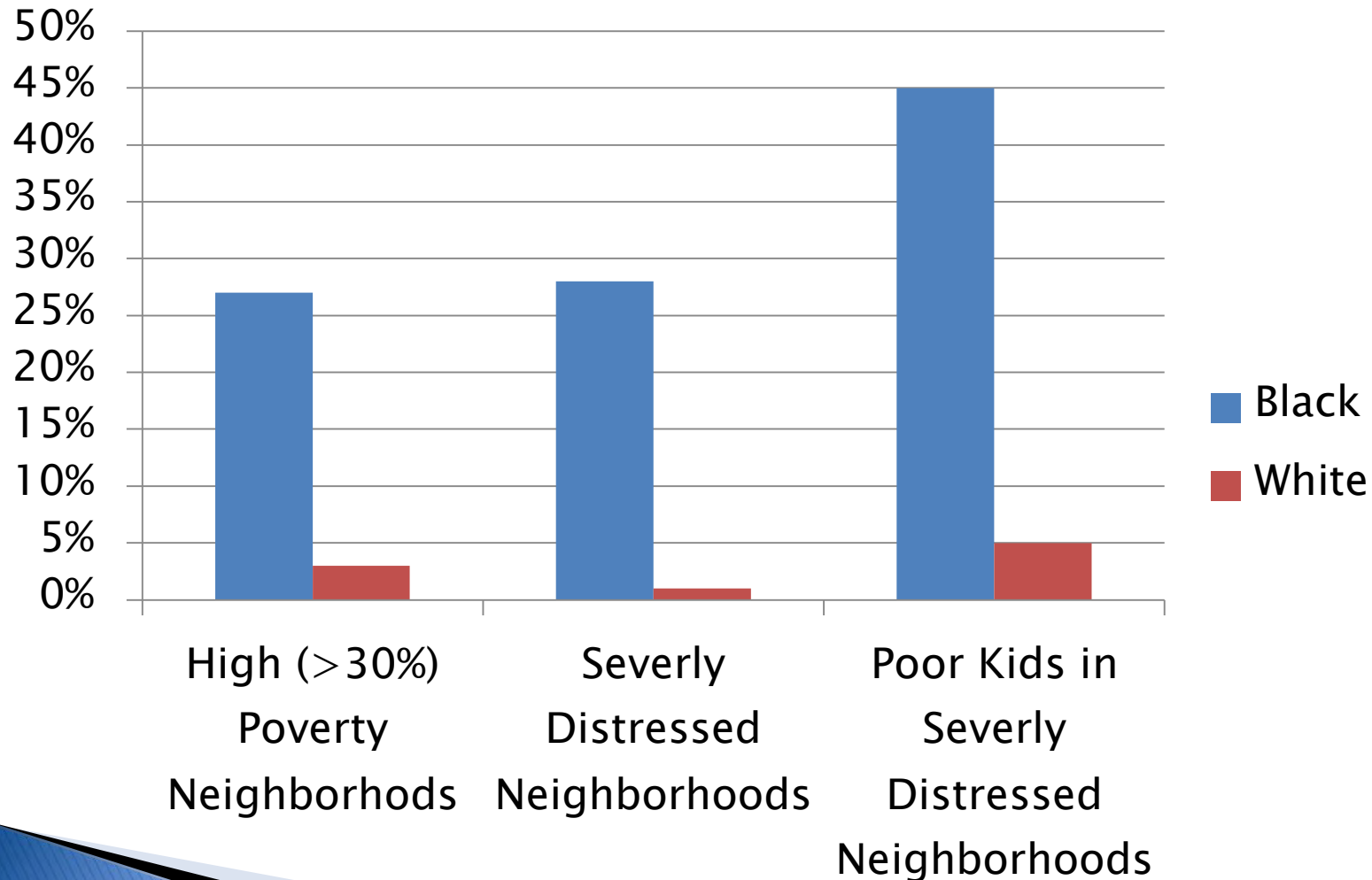


Racial Disparities in Birth Outcomes in the U.S.

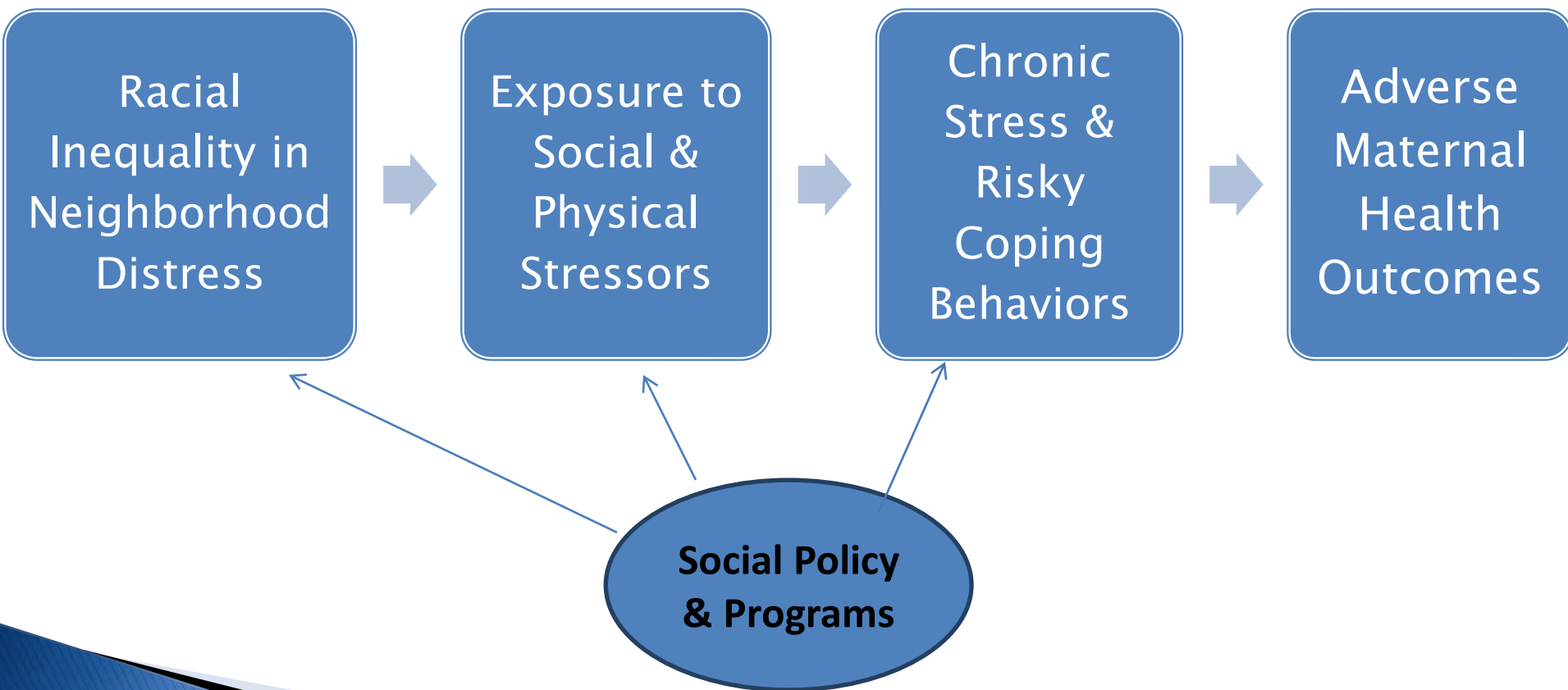
	White	Black
Infant Mortality Rate	5.2	11.6
Low birth weight	7.1%	13.5%
Preterm birth	10.8%	17.1%

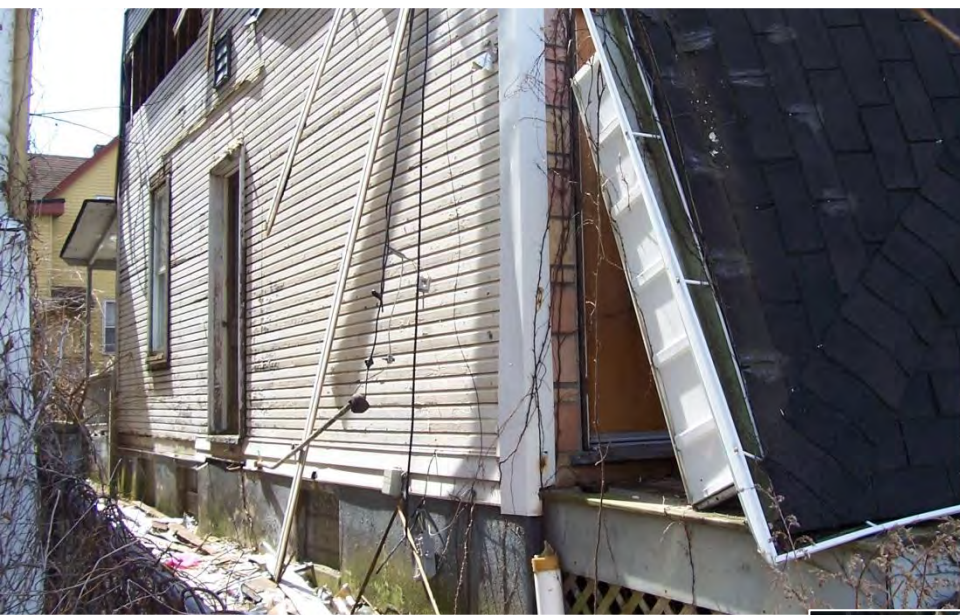
Source: National Vital Statistics Report, CDC, 2010 data

Race & Neighborhood Distress among Children in the U.S.



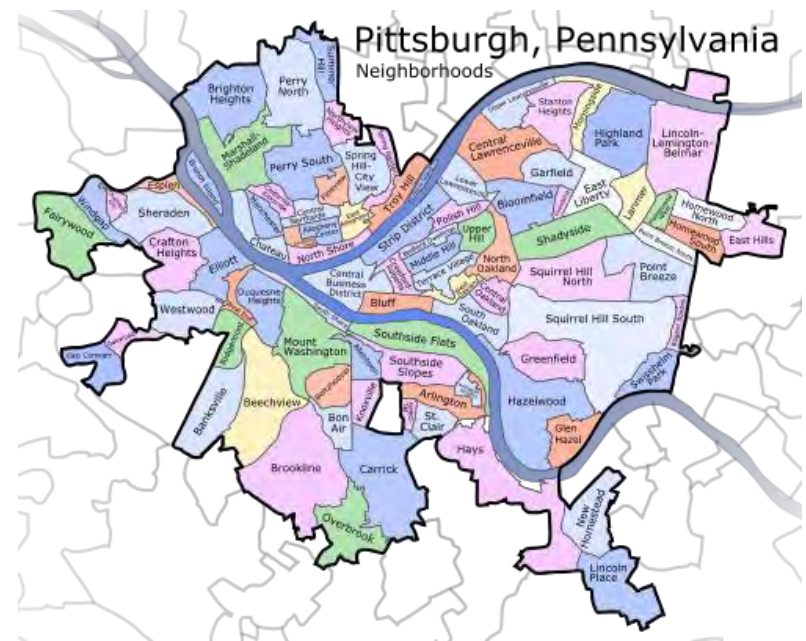
Neighborhood Distress and Racial Disparities in Maternal Health





Photos provided by Samantha Teixeira

The Pittsburgh Neighborhood Distress & Health (PghNDH) Study



- Gain a deeper understanding of the relationship between place and racial disparities in health
- Target service delivery to neighborhoods in need
- Inform place-based social policies

Data

- ▶ Health Outcomes (Allegheny Co. Health Dept)
 - Birth Records (2006–10)
 - Death Records (2006–10)
- ▶ Neighborhood Disadvantage (ACS 2005–09)
 - Poverty
 - Unemployment
 - High School Dropout
 - Single–mother families

And Local Data...



- ▶ Crime (Pittsburgh Police Dept.; 2006–10)
- ▶ Physical Abandonment
 - Vacant Parcels (Allegheny Co. Assessment; 2008–12)
- ▶ Fiscal Abandonment
 - Tax delinquency (City of Pittsburgh Finance; 2004–10)
 - Fires in Vacant Parcels
- ▶ Housing Market Conditions
 - Housing transactions (County Assessment; 2008–11)

Initial Results: City of Pittsburgh

Total Population: 313,327

- 68% White
- 25% Black
- 22% Poverty

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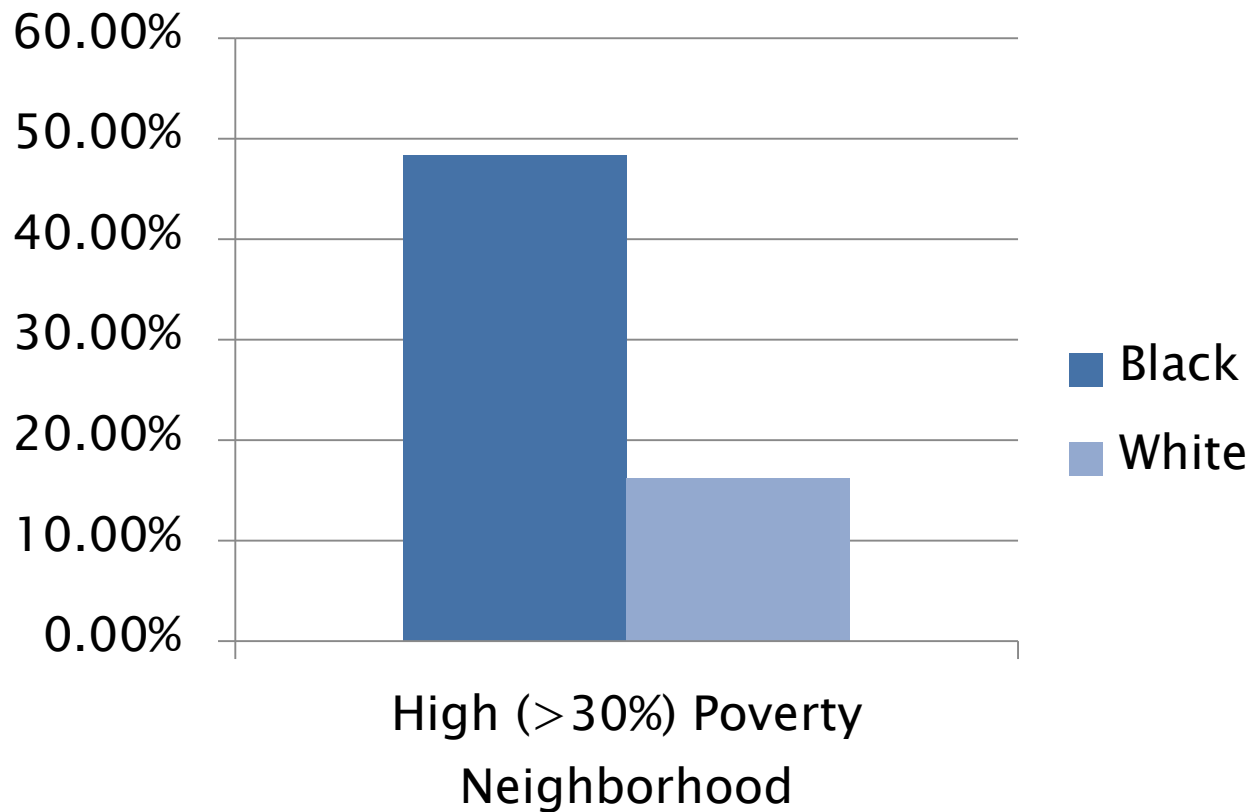
Birth Outcome by Race	Black	White
Infant Mortality Rate	17.72	4.25
Preterm Birth	15.8%	9.2%
Low Birth Weight	15.2%	7.1%

Notes:

Data from the Allegheny County Health Department (2006–2010)

Race & Neighborhood Poverty

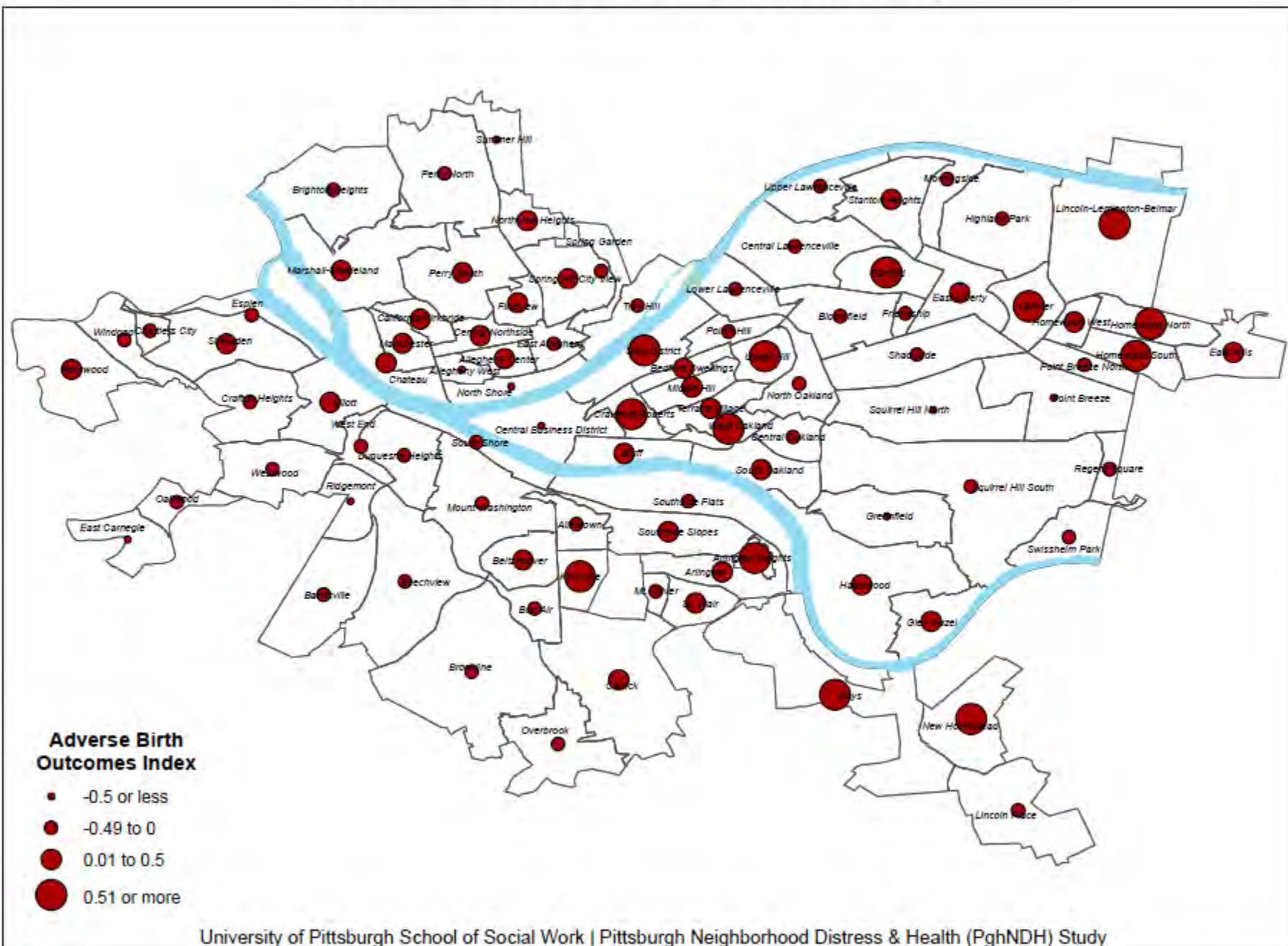
► City of Pittsburgh



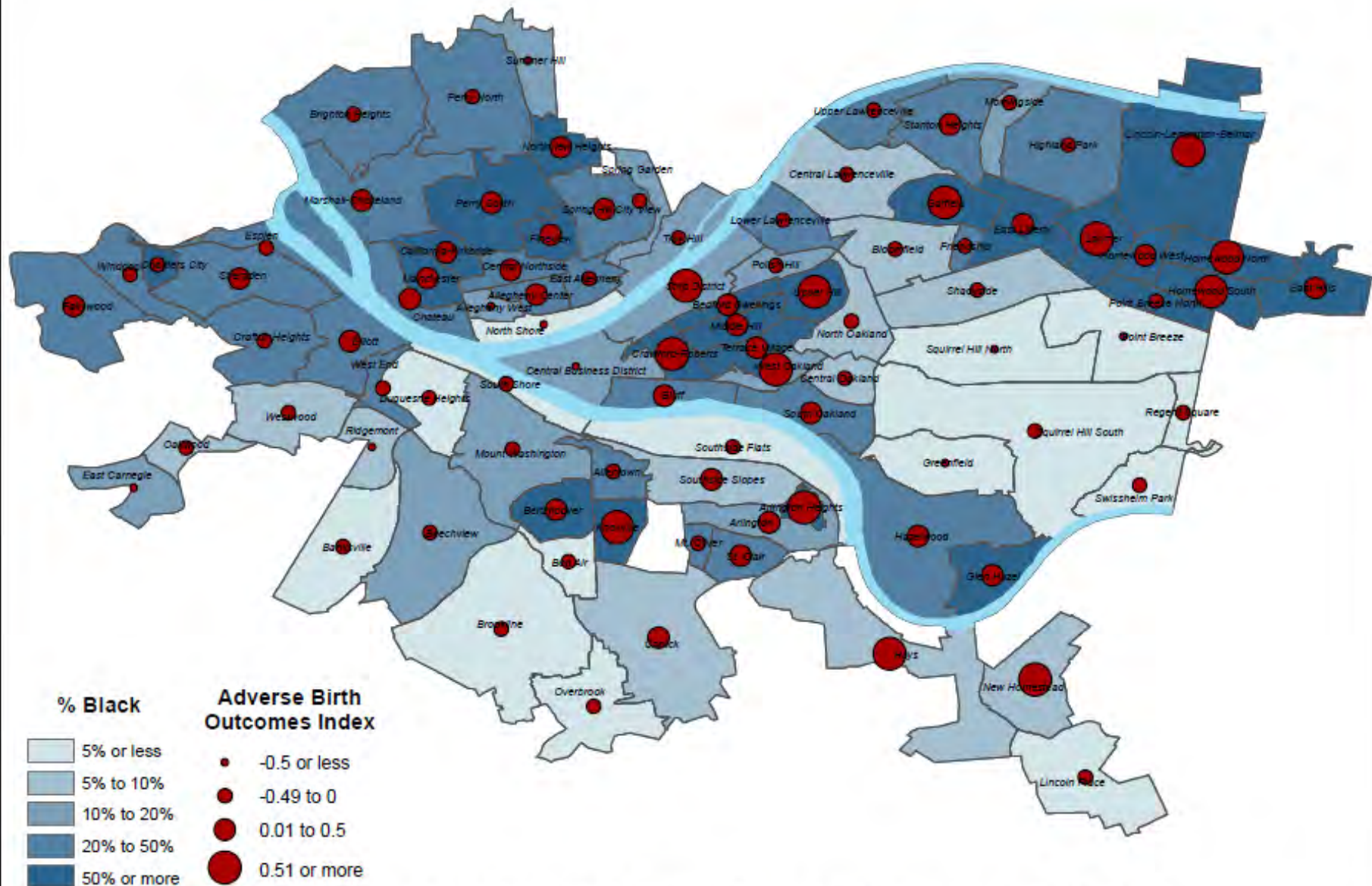
Research Question

- ▶ How are adverse birth outcomes spatially distributed across neighborhoods in the city of Pittsburgh?

Adverse Birth Outcomes (2006-10)



Adverse Birth Outcomes (2006-10) by Race



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Research Question

- ▶ Are adverse birth outcomes spatially clustered in distressed neighborhoods? Does it vary by different measures of distress?

1. Percent Poverty

2. Neighborhood Disadvantage Index

3. Built and Social Environment Measures

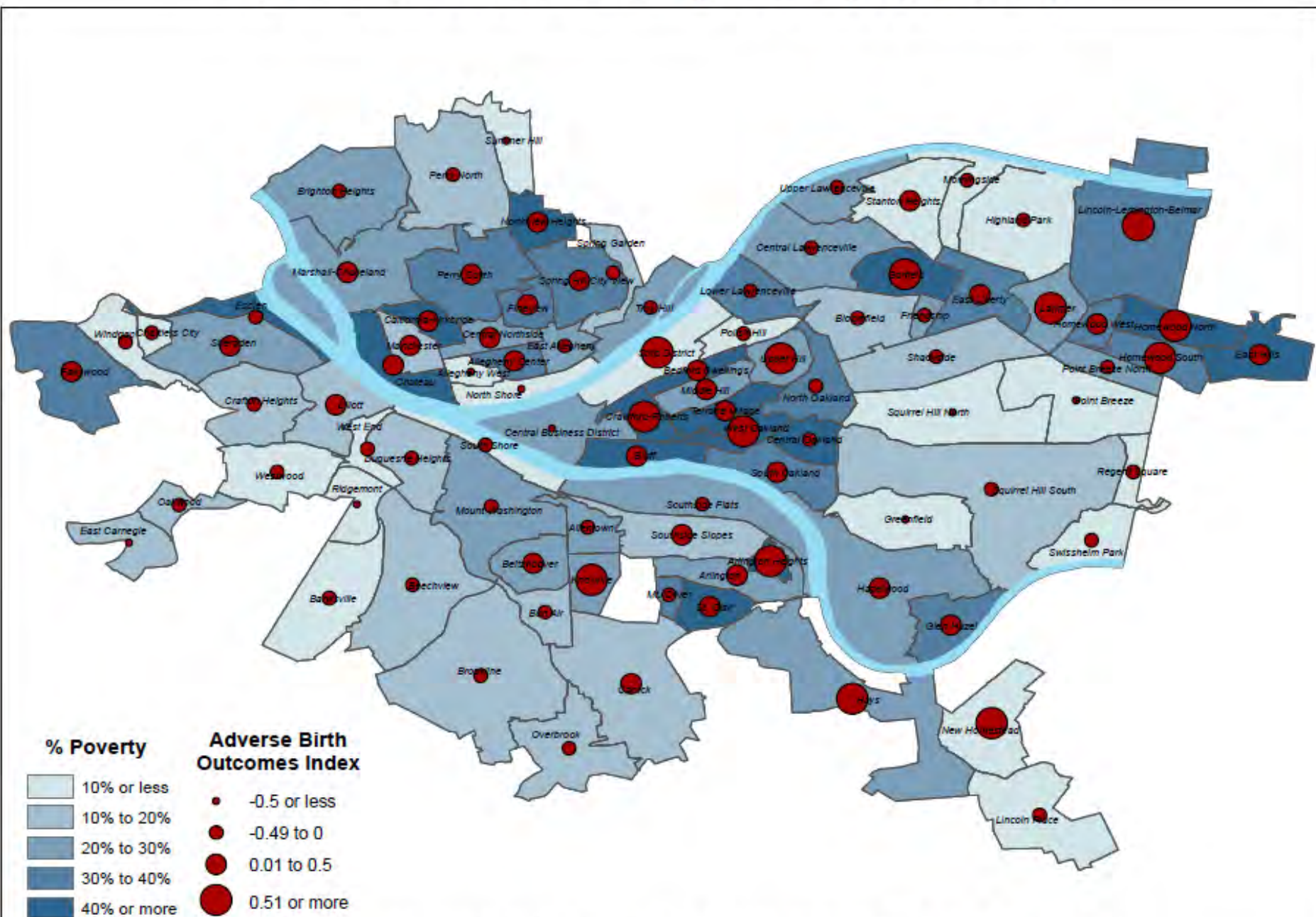
- a. Crime

- b. Vacancy

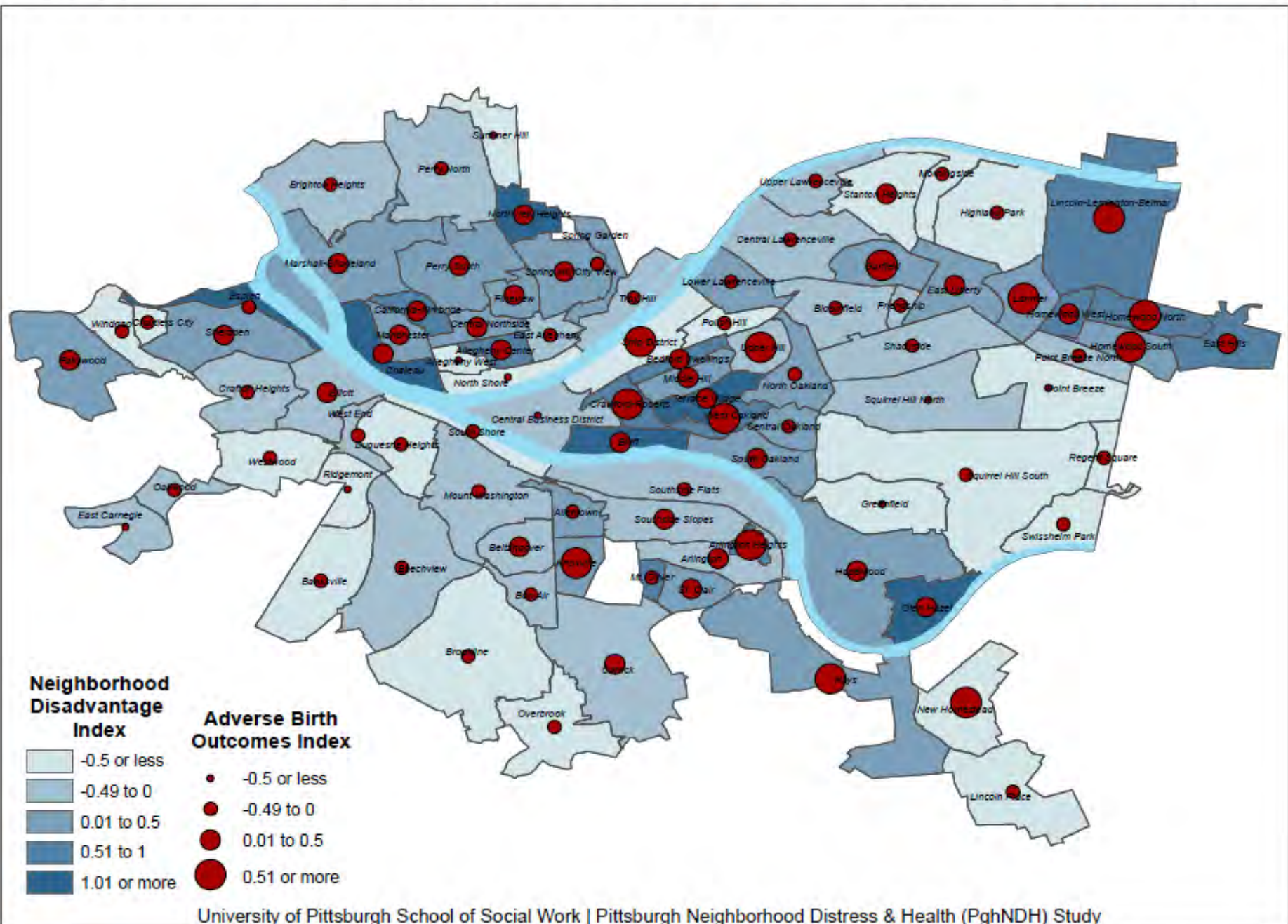
- c. Tax Delinquency



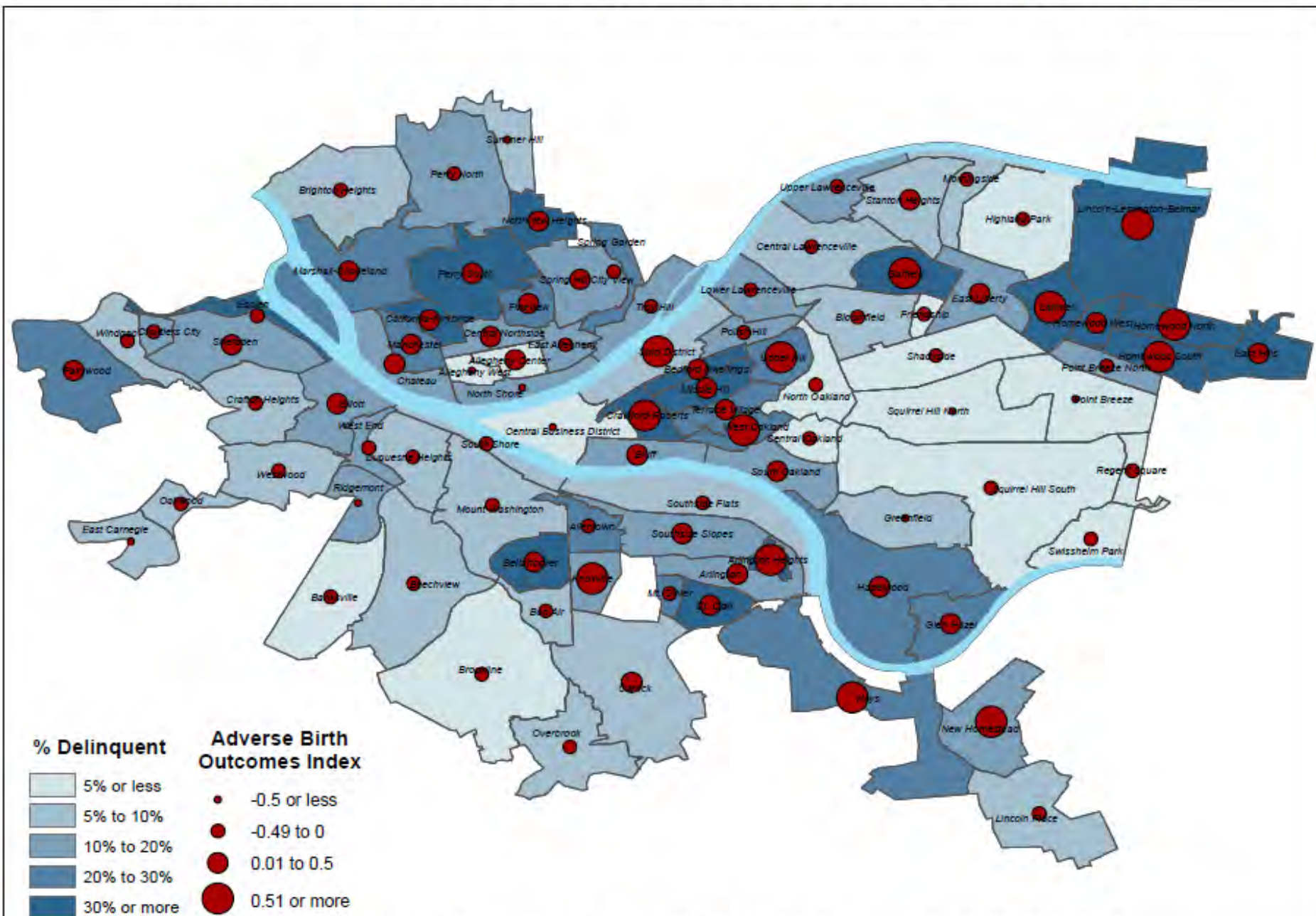
Adverse Birth Outcomes (2006-10) by Poverty



Adverse Birth Outcomes (2006-10) by Neighborhood Disadvantage



Adverse Birth Outcomes (2006-10) by Tax Delinquency



Next Steps

- ▶ Understanding the role of tax delinquency
 - A lack of wealth?
 - A symbol of hopelessness?
- ▶ Looking at measures of “abandonment”

Policy and Program Implications

- ▶ **Focusing Upstream:** Aiming at distress to reduce racial disparities in health
 - Improve housing conditions
 - Anti-violence and safety programs
 - Community-building efforts
- ▶ Targeting programs

Thanks!