The National Neighborhood Indicators Partnership & the 5-Year ACS

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What is NNIP?

- Local data intermediaries in 35 cities
- Goal: "democratize information"
- 3 driving principles:
  - Build/operate integrated neighborhood data systems.
  - Facilitate use of data by community & city leaders for policy making.
  - Use info to build capacities of organizations and residents in distressed neighborhoods.
- UI organizes and operates the network.

Location of NNIP Partners

Atlanta
Baltimore
Boston
Camden
Chattanooga
Chicago
Cleveland
Columbus
Dallas
Denver
Des Moines
Detroit
Grand Rapids
Hartford
Indianapolis
Kansas City
Louisville
Memphis
Miami
Milwaukee
Minneapolis-St. Paul
Nashville
New Haven
New Orleans
New York City
Oakland
Philadelphia
Pittsburgh
Portland
Providence
Sacramento
Saint Louis
San Antonio
Seattle
Washington, D.C.
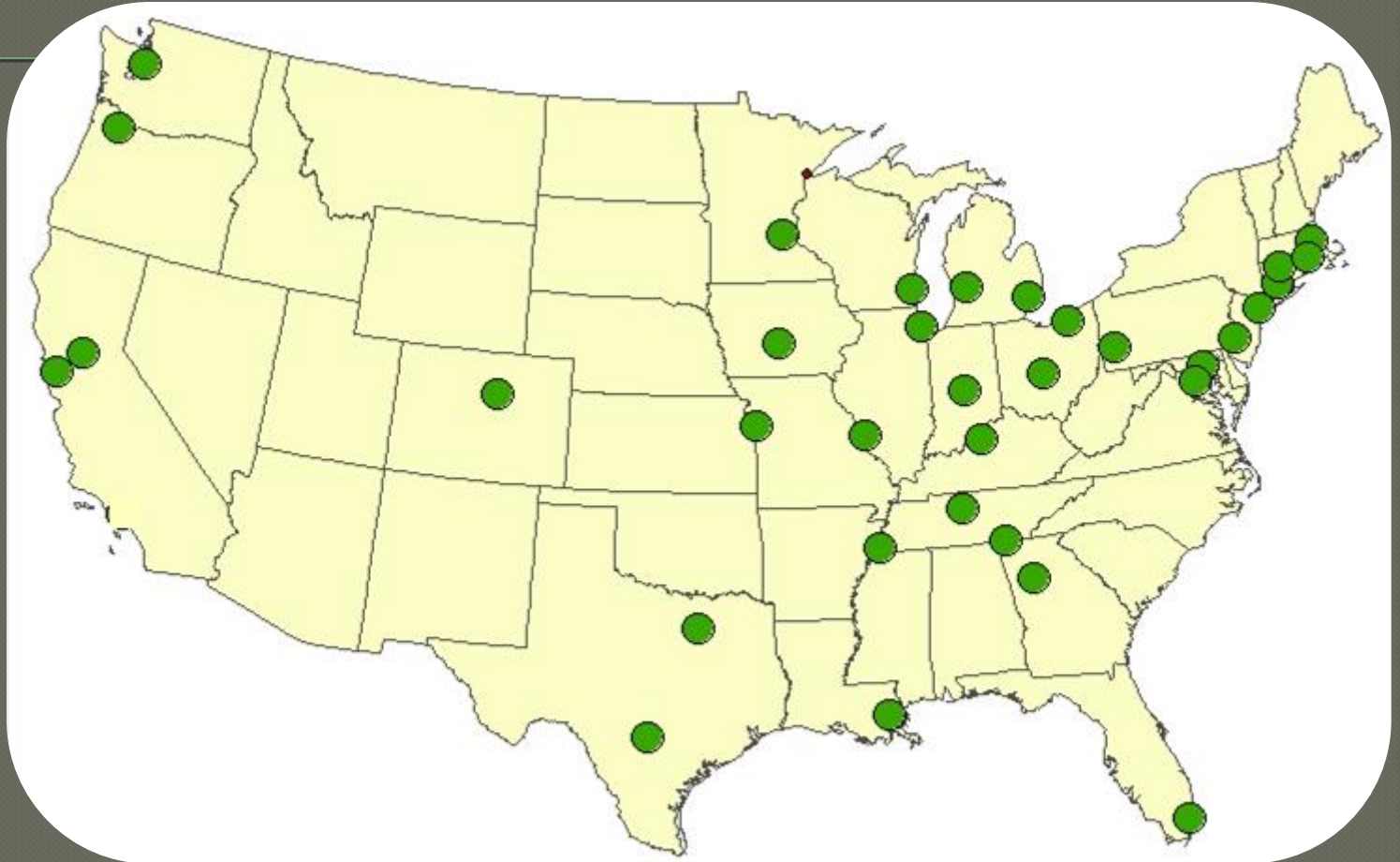
NNIP Partner Audiences & Their Info Needs

- Audiences:
  - Local nonprofits, government and funders
- Audiences' Information Needs:
  - Understand neighborhood context
  - Advocate around local policies
  - Demonstrate need for grant applications
  - Make decisions about:
    - Prioritizing issues within a community
    - Targeting services and program placement
  - Evaluate Programs

Poll Results from NNIP Meeting

- 100% polled are using the ACS, nearly 3 out of 4 regularly.
- Most have used the 5-Year Data, 80% using summary tables, & 25% calculating change from 2000 with SEs.
- 72% used in fact sheets, 30% in online mapping tools; 45% in analysis/reports
- Use of Standard Errors in ACS Analysis:
  - 31% always
  - 25% in certain cases
  - 34% want to, but don't know how to explain to their audience
  - < 10% don't use SEs

ACS 5-Year Data Strategies

- Don't give up – think about intended use Educate – community trainings
  - Almost 1 out 5 partners polled have held a training, plus 35% are planning to
  - People understand MOE concept – walk them through plausible scenarios
  - Provide cautions
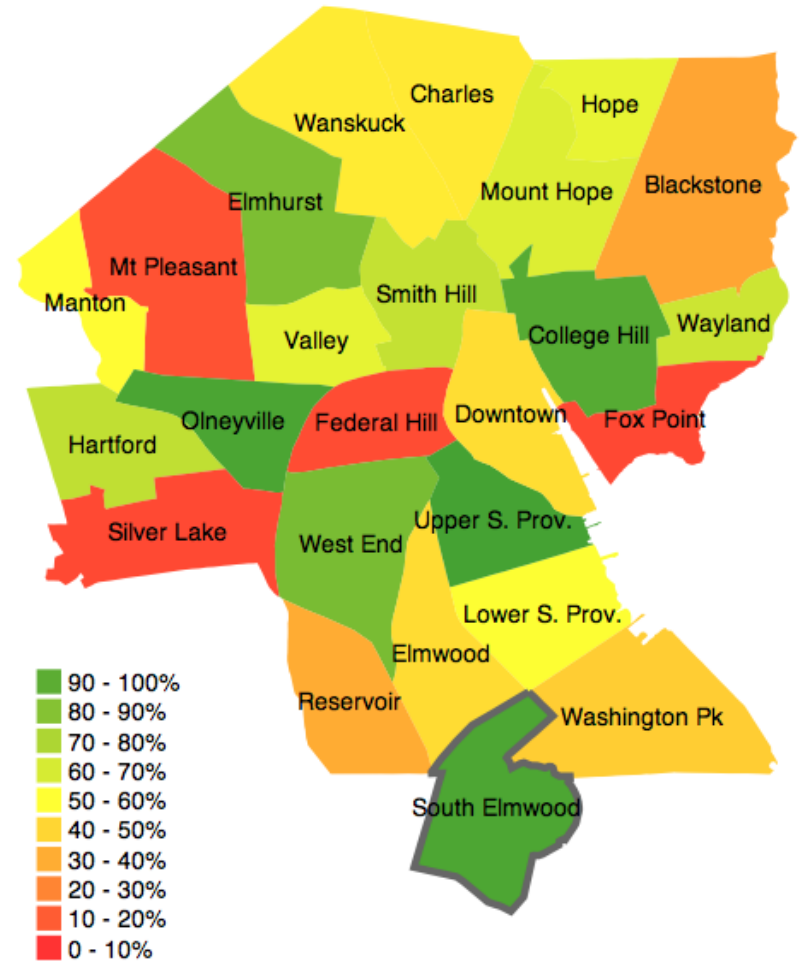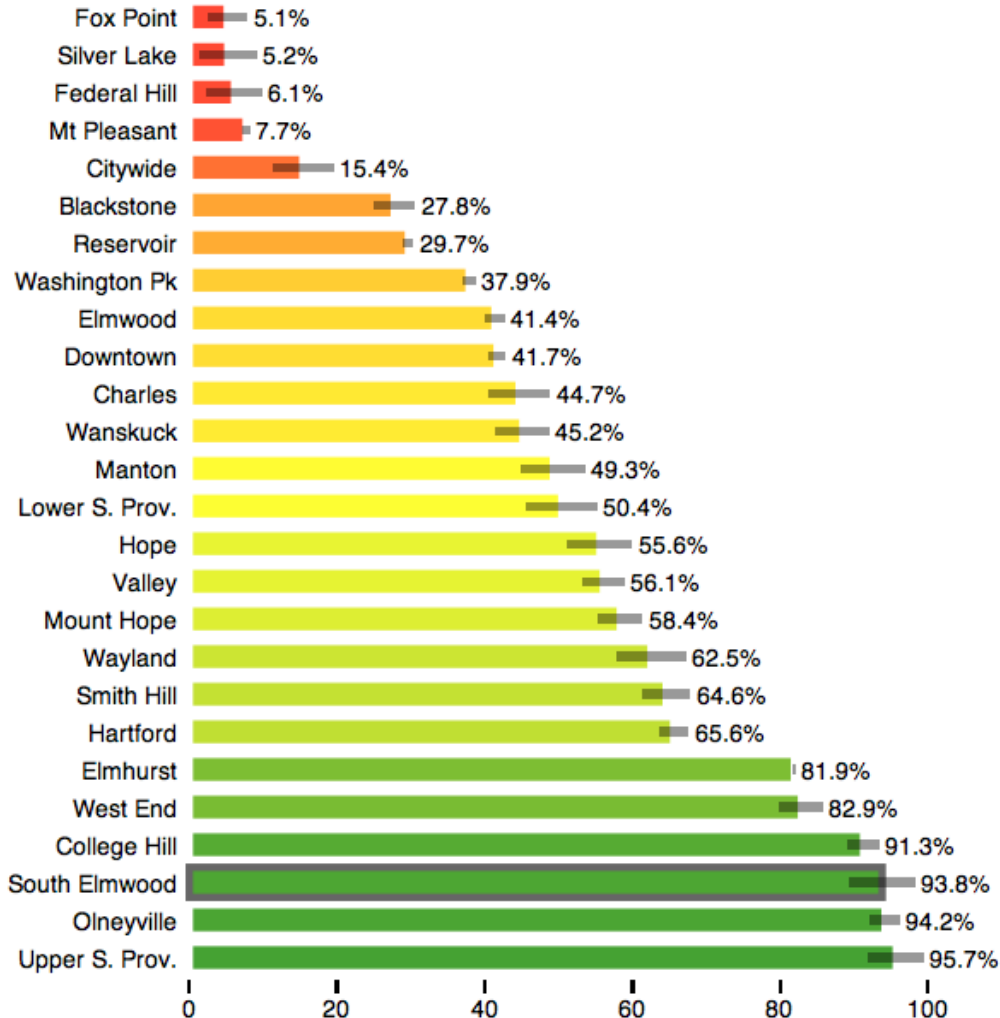 - Point out ways that misuse of data could backfire

ACS 5-Year Data Strategies

- Be creative and smart about indicator choices
  - Aggregate geography when possible
  - Identify indicators with higher reliability
  - Verify & backstop data with other sources
- Consider how presentation of data could lead users astray
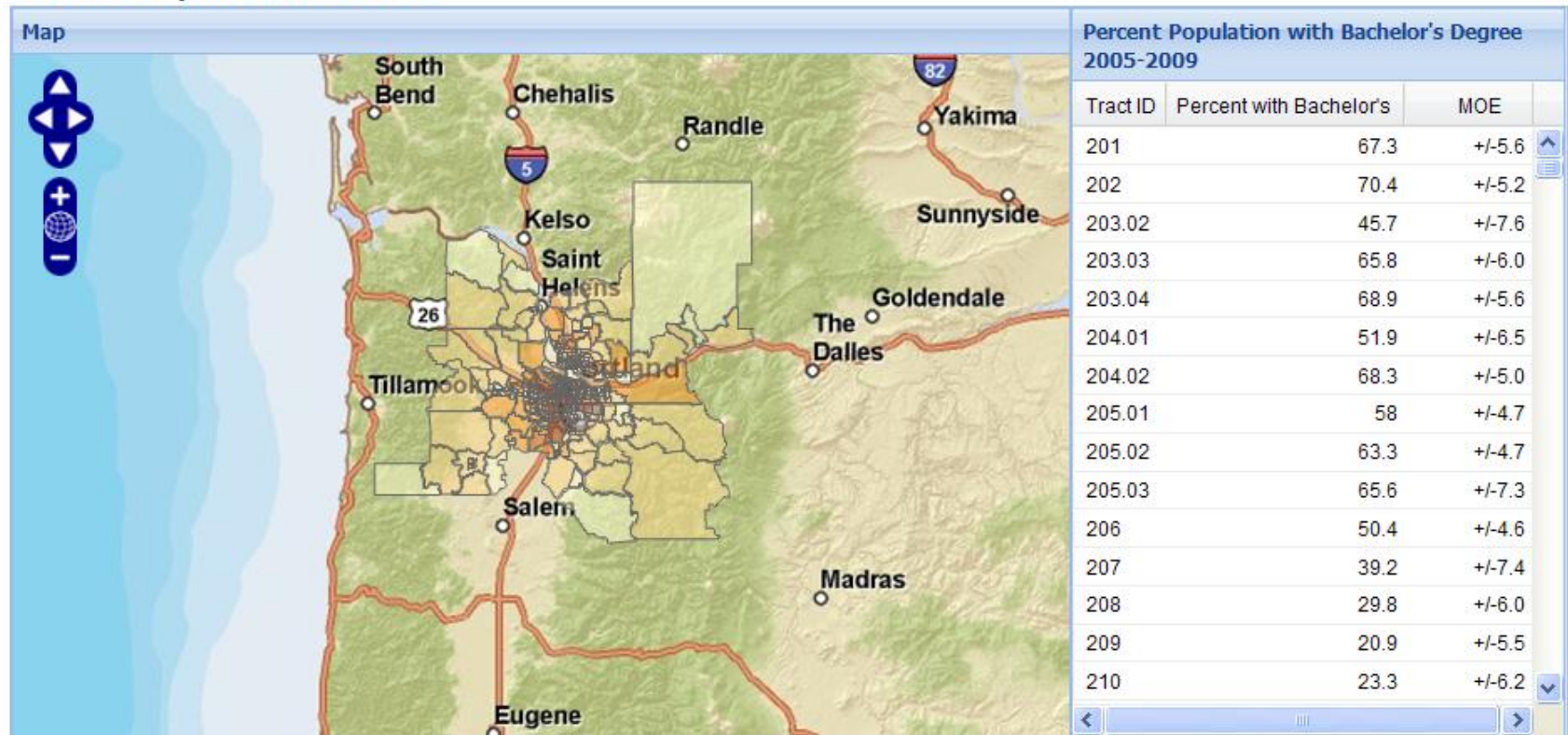 - Rankings
  - Raw tables of estimates

Just Say MOE
Optional Second Line

Providence, RI

Example - Portland

Clickable Map of Census Tracts

Tract ID	Percent with Bachelor's	MOE
201	67.3	+/-5.6
202	70.4	+/-5.2
203.02	45.7	+/-7.6
203.03	65.8	+/-6.0
203.04	68.9	+/-5.6
204.01	51.9	+/-6.5
204.02	68.3	+/-5.0
205.01	58	+/-4.7
205.02	63.3	+/-4.7
205.03	65.6	+/-7.3
206	50.4	+/-4.6
207	39.2	+/-7.4
208	29.8	+/-6.0
209	20.9	+/-5.5
210	23.3	+/-6.2

Percent Population with Bachelor's Degree 2005-2009

http://mkn.research.pdx.edu/2011/01/census-data-show-regional-disparities-in-educational-attainment/

UI Plans to Support the Partnership

- ACS page on new NNIP website
  - Presentations, reports, examples
  - http://www2.urban.org/nnip/nnipacs.html
- ACS sessions at future NNIP meetings
- Webinars for NNIP partners
- Census 2000 support materials
  - To aid in calculating SEs.
- Publishing data (created indicators)
  - http://www.metrotrends.org/natdata/acs/index.cfm

What resources would be helpful?

- Forum for ACS users
- Collection of good examples of use
- Guide on communication of meaning and limitation of data for various purposes
  - Parallel to COMPASS guides