

Unpacking Poverty and Its Impact on Student Success

Bob Balfanz

Center for Social Organization of
Schools, Johns Hopkins University
School of Education

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Success, organized by the Pathways from Poverty Consortium

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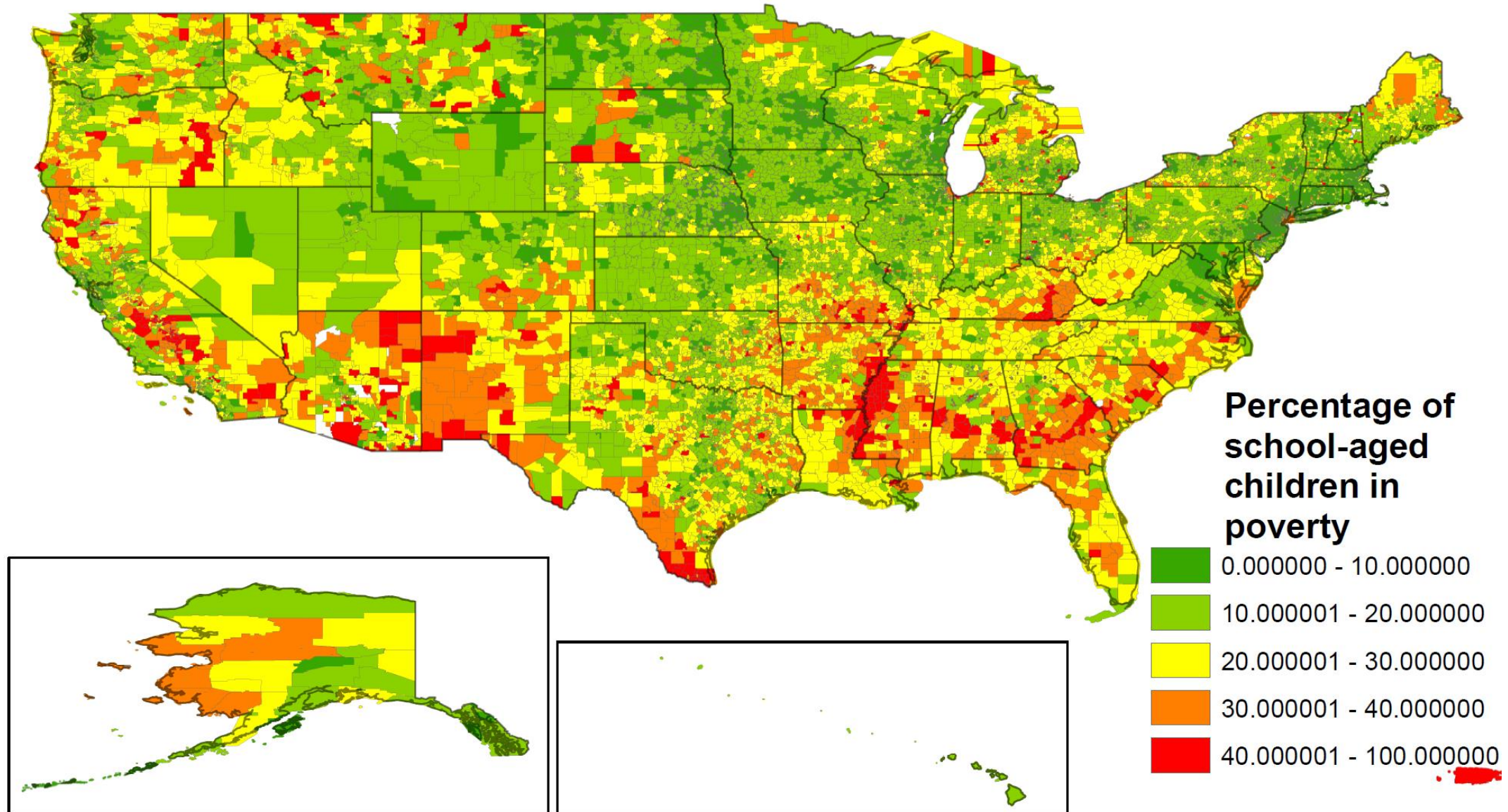
Schools and Poverty

- In 15% of school districts, 30% or more of school aged children live in poverty
- 21% of all school aged children live in one of these districts
- Throughout the last decade the number and percent of public school students who live in poverty or near poverty has increased

Increase of Poverty Since 2000

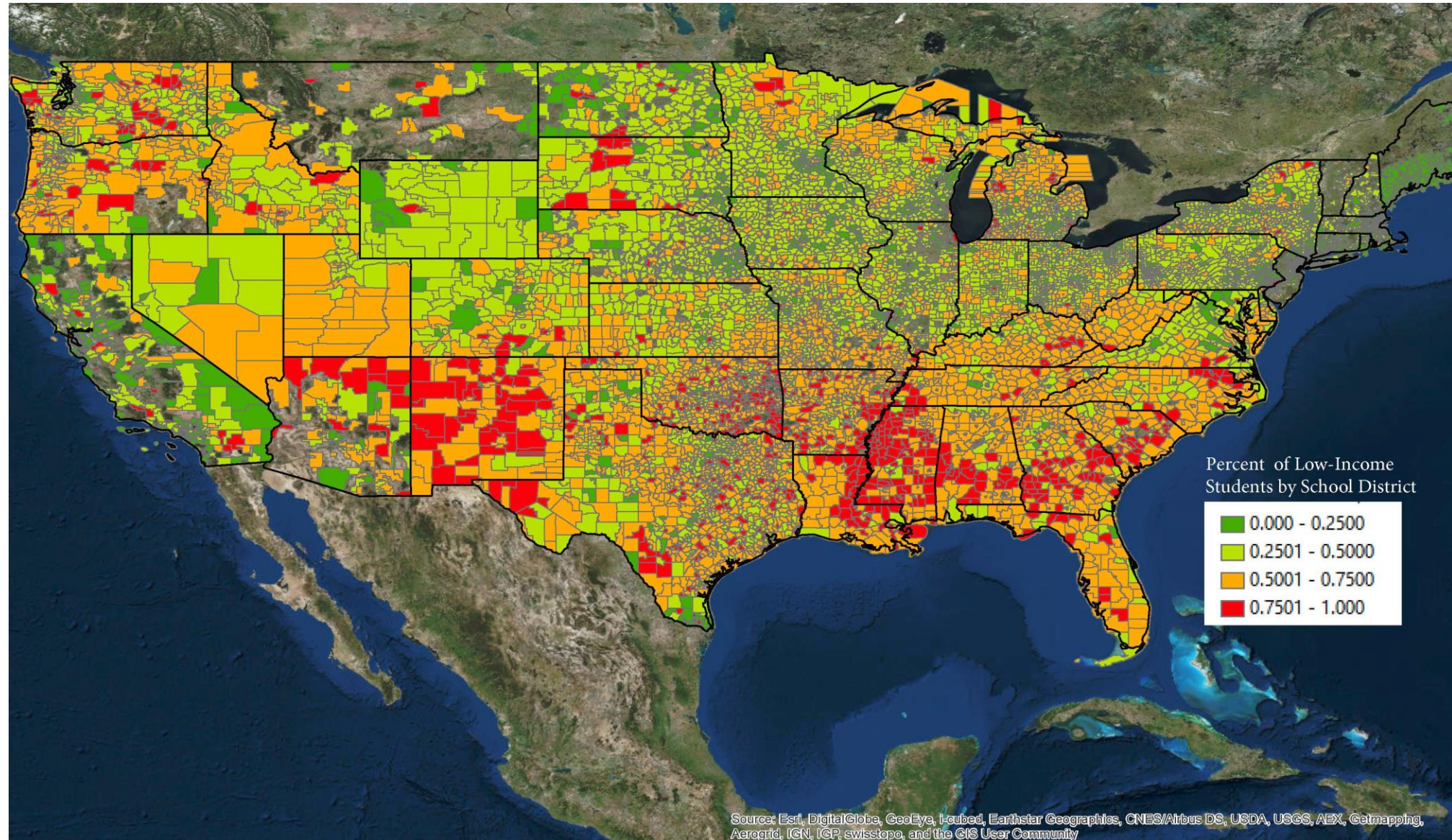
- The number of distressed neighborhoods climbed by nearly three-quarters since 2000
- By 2008-2012, the concentrated poverty rate reached 12.2 percent, up from 9.1 percent in 2000
- Poverty has become more clustered and concentrated in distressed and high-poverty neighborhoods causing a “double burden”
- Southern suburbs experienced some of the steepest increases in concentrated poverty

School-Aged Child Poverty by District: 2012



SOURCE: Census TIGER/Line Shape Files and Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates.

Percentage of Free and Reduced Price Lunch Students by School District



Why We Need to Unpack Poverty

- The current debate around poverty and schools is often not productive-at the extremes its viewed as crippling or an excuse
- One way to try and break the logjam is to unpack poverty to better understand the impact of its components on school and student success
- The goal is having unpacked poverty, we can organize schools and community/family supports to lessen its impact

How to Unpack Poverty and its Impact on School Success

- Break poverty down to its constituent elements-how is life different for poor and non-poor students?
- Examine the educational impacts of the different elements of poverty
- Determine how these elements and impacts of poverty vary by place and from school to school
- Try to understand upper bound intensities-in the most impacted schools, what percent and number of students are impacted?
- Identify existing solutions to scale or new solutions to develop based on level, type, and location of need

Unpacking Poverty Colloquiums and Website

- Over next two years will hold a series of colloquiums on key components of poverty
- Will examine for each component, its scale, location, magnitude, educational impacts, and what is known about effective solutions
- Will post what is being learned on Unpacking Poverty Website-housed at the Everyone Graduates Center website
www.every1graduates.org

Our Eight Working Mechanisms of How Poverty Impacts Student Success

- Lacking the basics (food, clothing, & shelter)
- Violence & Crime
- Health
- Social Service Agency involvement
- Families, homes, and school-interface
- Neighborhood (distressed, social capital, lack of role models)
- Psychological/Cognitive Development (Stress, Scarcity, Shame, Hopelessness)
- School Organization/Quality

Unpacking Poverty: An Example



Pathways from Poverty Consortium

Contact Information

Bob Balfanz, PhD

Research Professor & Director of the Everyone
Graduates Center
Center For Social Organization of Schools
Johns Hopkins University School of Education
rbalfanz@jhu.edu

Richard Lofton, PhD

Post-Doctoral Fellow
Center For Social Organization of Schools
Johns Hopkins University School of Education
rlofton1@jhu.edu

Daniel Princiotta

PhD Student
Johns Hopkins University School of Education
dprinciotta@jhu.edu
@dprinciotta

Maxine Wood, EdD

Director/Senior Advisor for the Pathways from
Poverty Consortium
Center For Social Organization of Schools
Johns Hopkins University School of Education
mwood@jhu.edu



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