How many "Sandtowns" are there nationwide?

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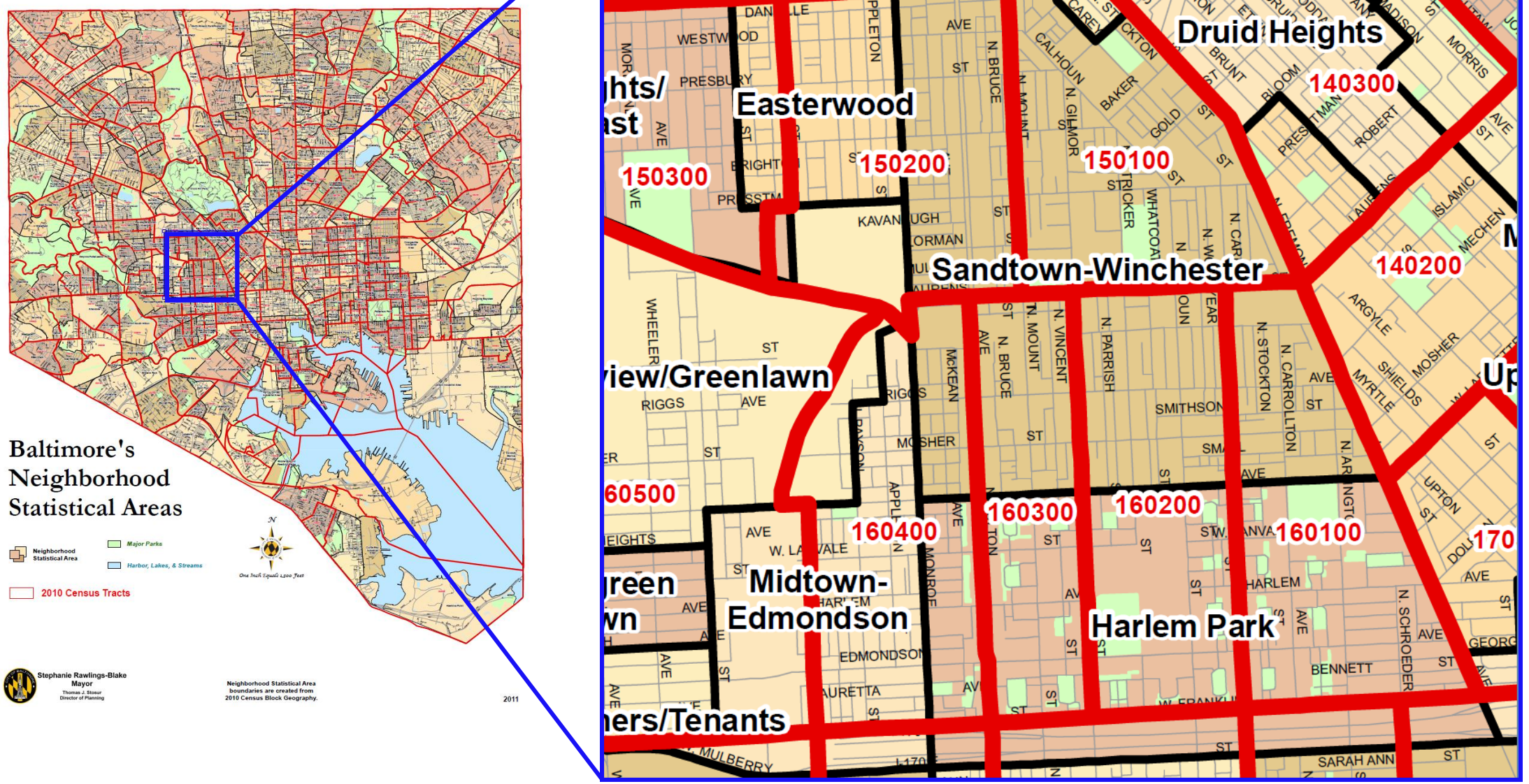
Step 1: Choose a data source

Data source: American Community Survey

- Nationwide coverage
- Data at the “neighborhood” (Census tract) level
- Recent: 2009-13 (5-year average)
- Contains wide array of data
- Publicly available


Baltimore's
Neighborhood
Statistical Areas
Neighborhood Statistical Area
Major Parks
Harbor, Lakes, & Streams
2010 Census Tracts
One Inch Equals 1300 Feet
Stephanie Rawlings-Blake
Mayor
Thomas J. Stosur
Director of Planning
Neighborhood Statistical Area boundaries are created from 2010 Census Block Geography.
2011
Druid Heights
140300
Easterwood
150200
150100
150300
Sandtown-Winchester
140200
160300
160200
160400
160100
Midtown-
Edmondson
Harlem Park
60500
170

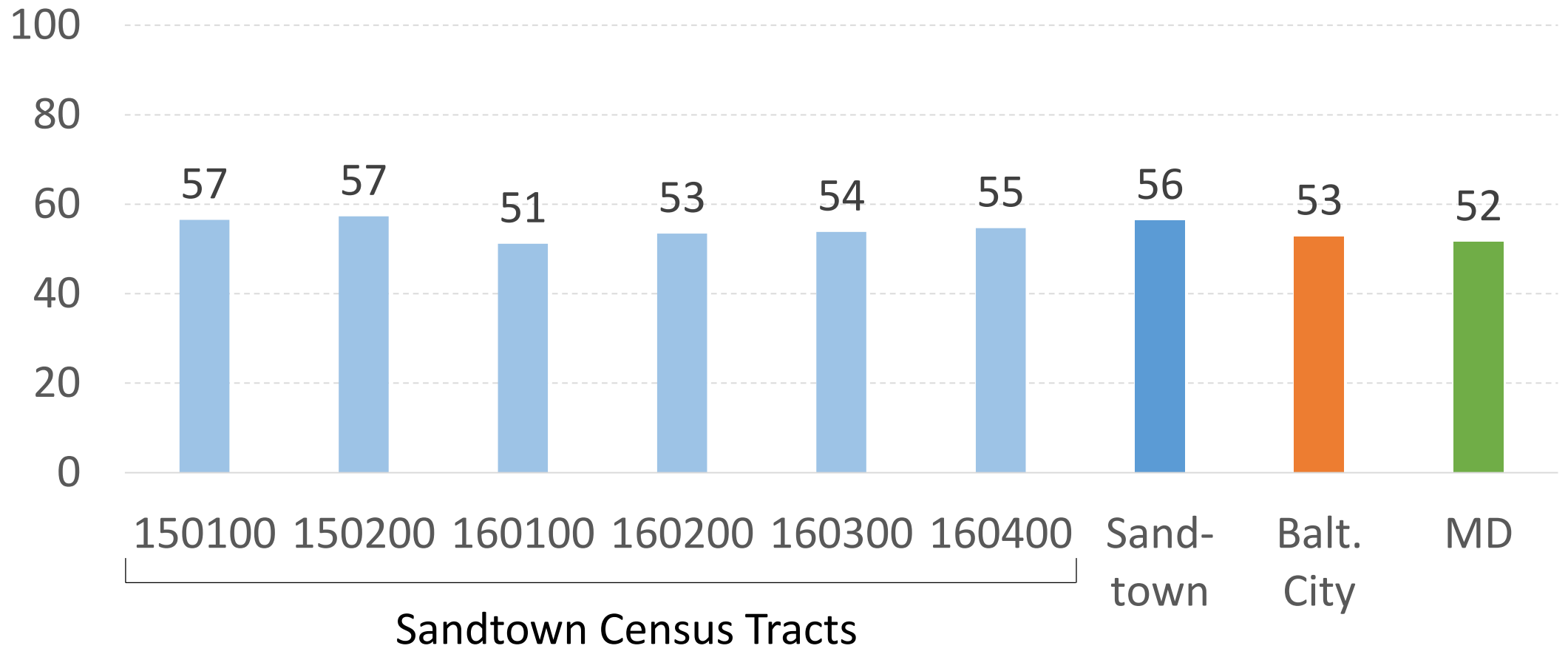
Step 2: Identify indicators that distinguish Sandtown from other neighborhoods in Baltimore City and Maryland

Indicators to flag “Sandtowns”

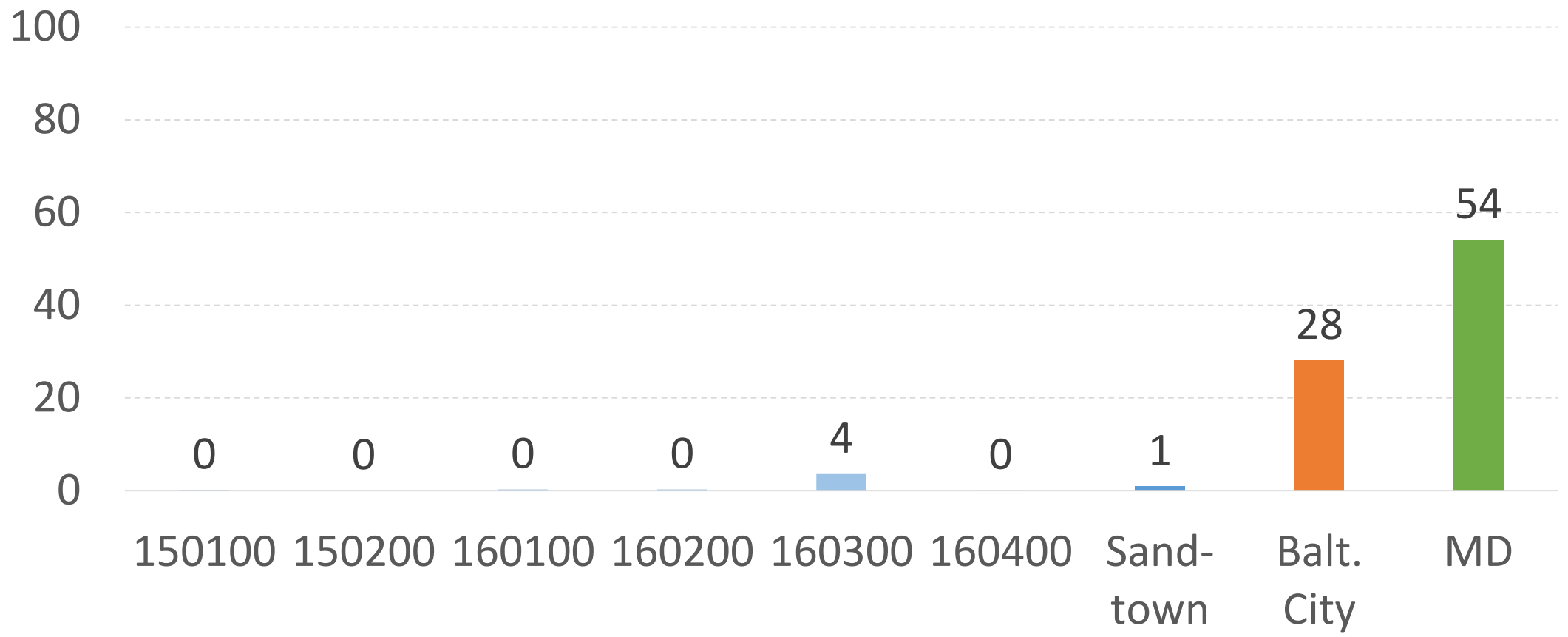
- Examined over 1,500 potential indicators
- Identified 15 indicators that:
  - Showed substantial differences between Sandtown (weighted average of 6 Census tracts), Baltimore City, and Maryland
  - We judged as important
  - Addressed various aspects of community

Indicators distinguish **between** Sandtown and other geographies, but—for some indicators—substantial variation exists **within** Sandtown

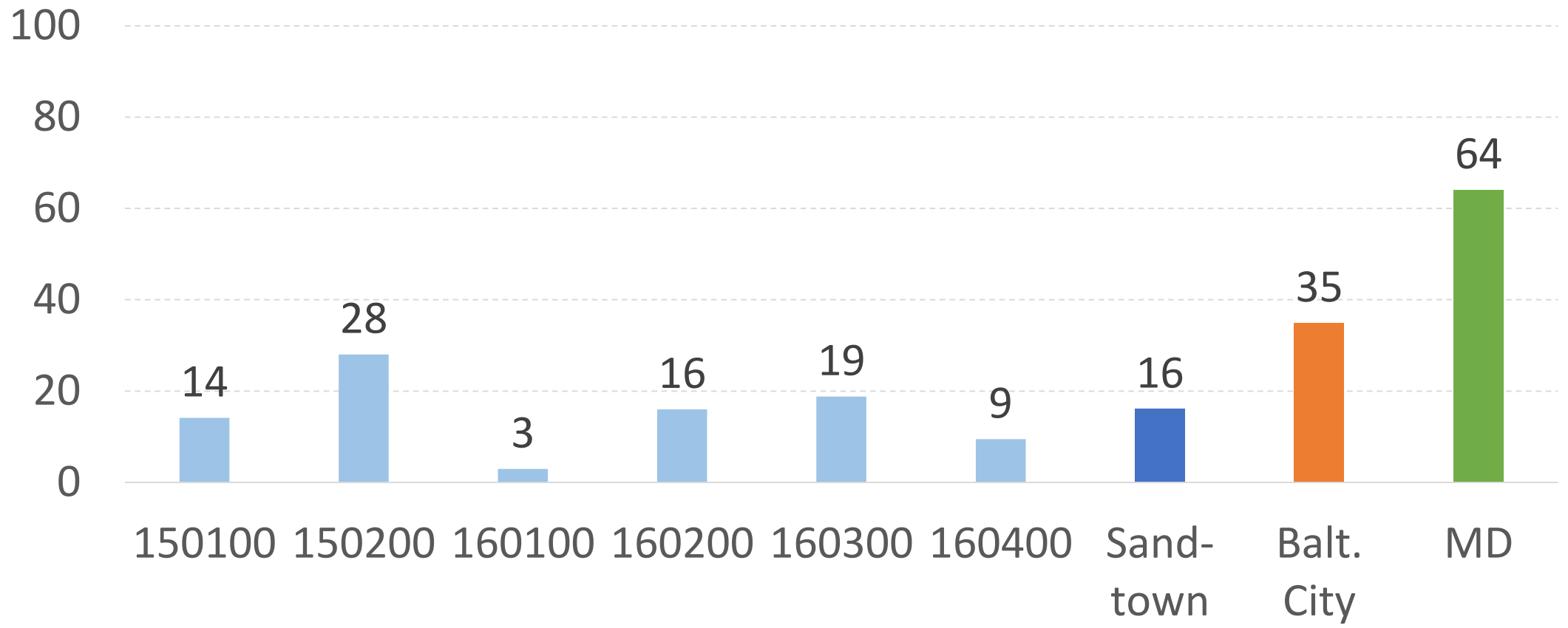
Percentage of total population that is female



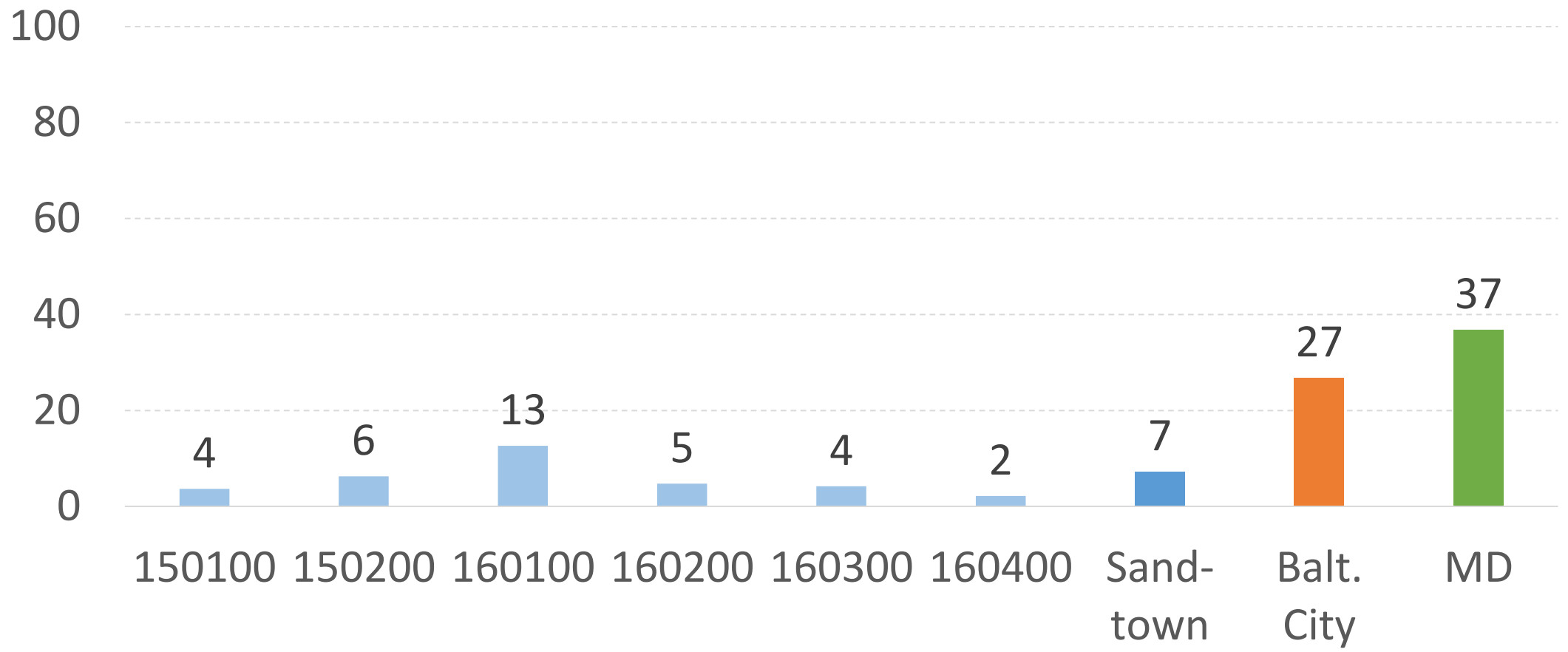
Percentage of total population that is white



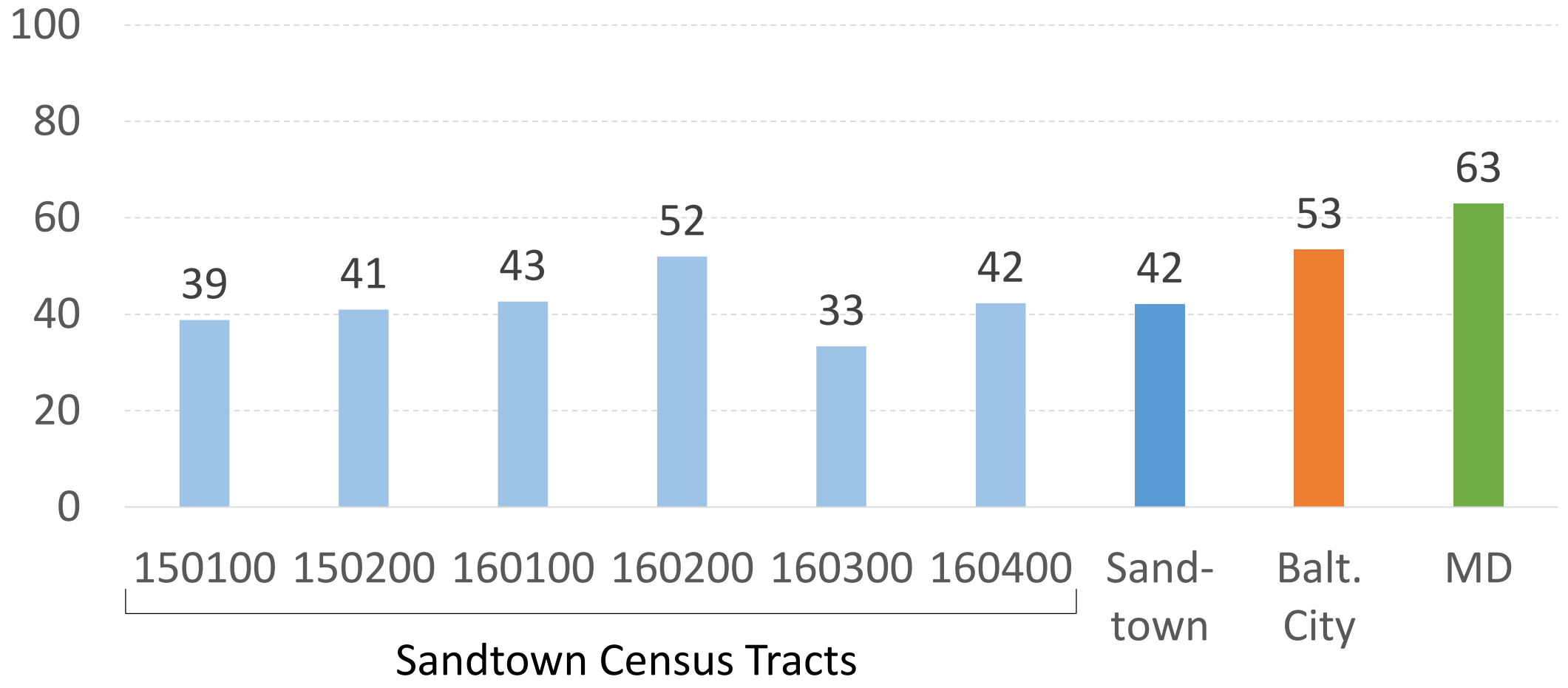
Percentage of households with one or more child headed by a married couple



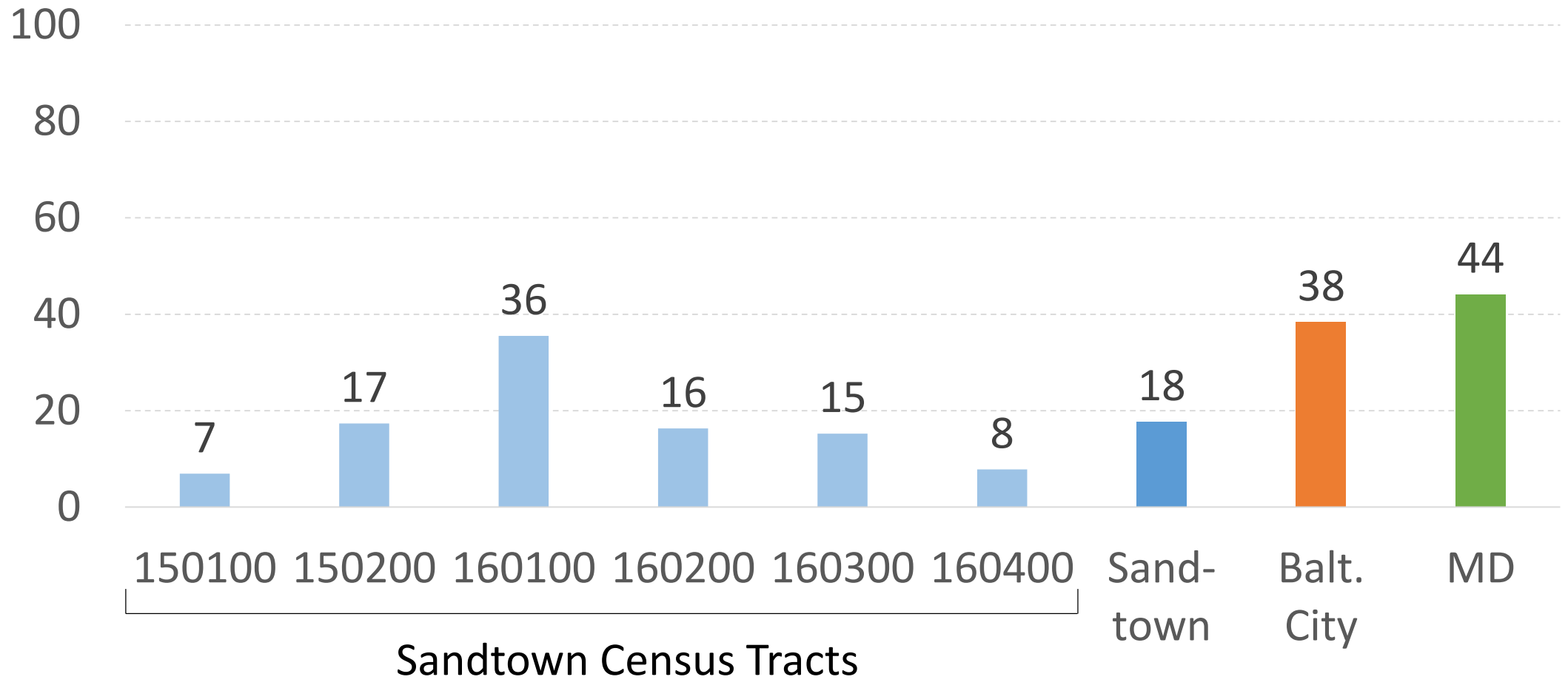
Percentage of adults age 25 and above with a bachelor's degree or higher



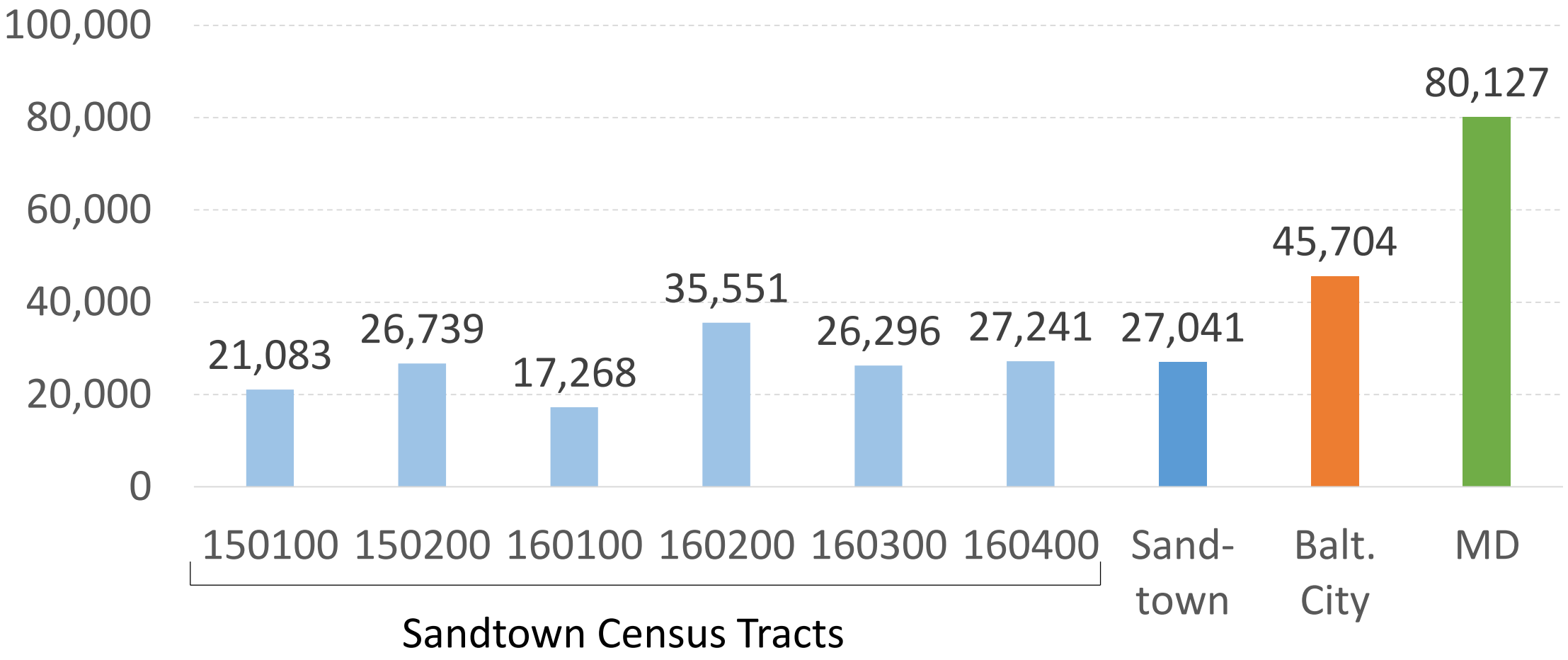
Percentage of population age 16 and above that is employed



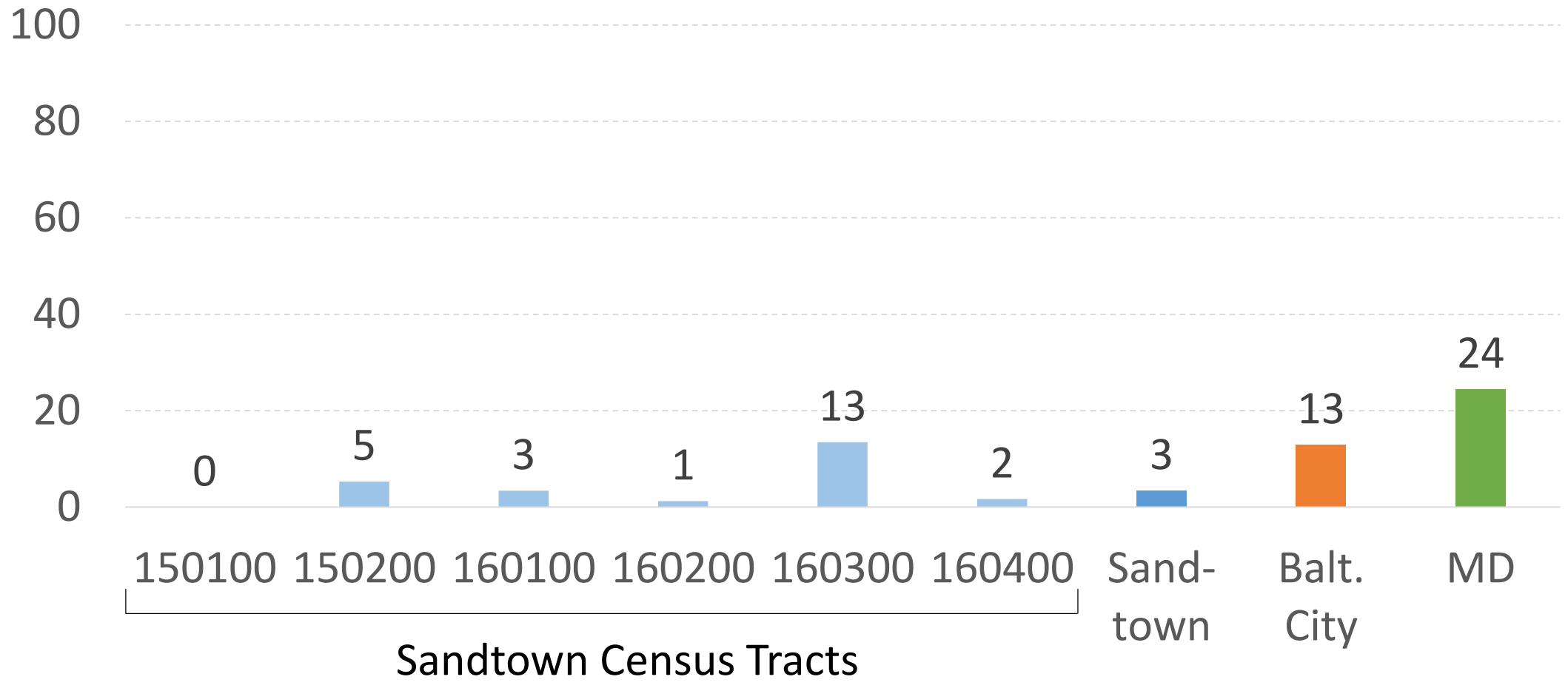
Percentage of employed population age 16 and up working in white collar occupations



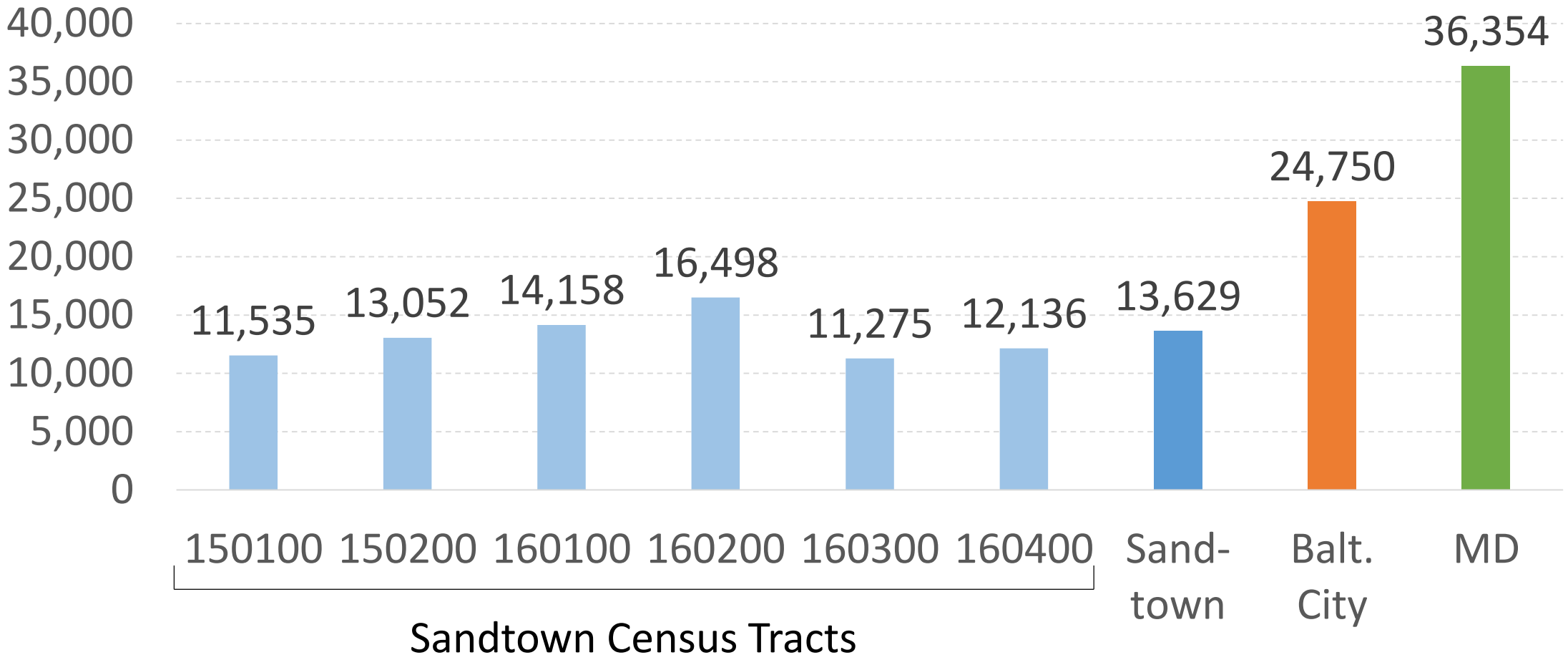
Median household income



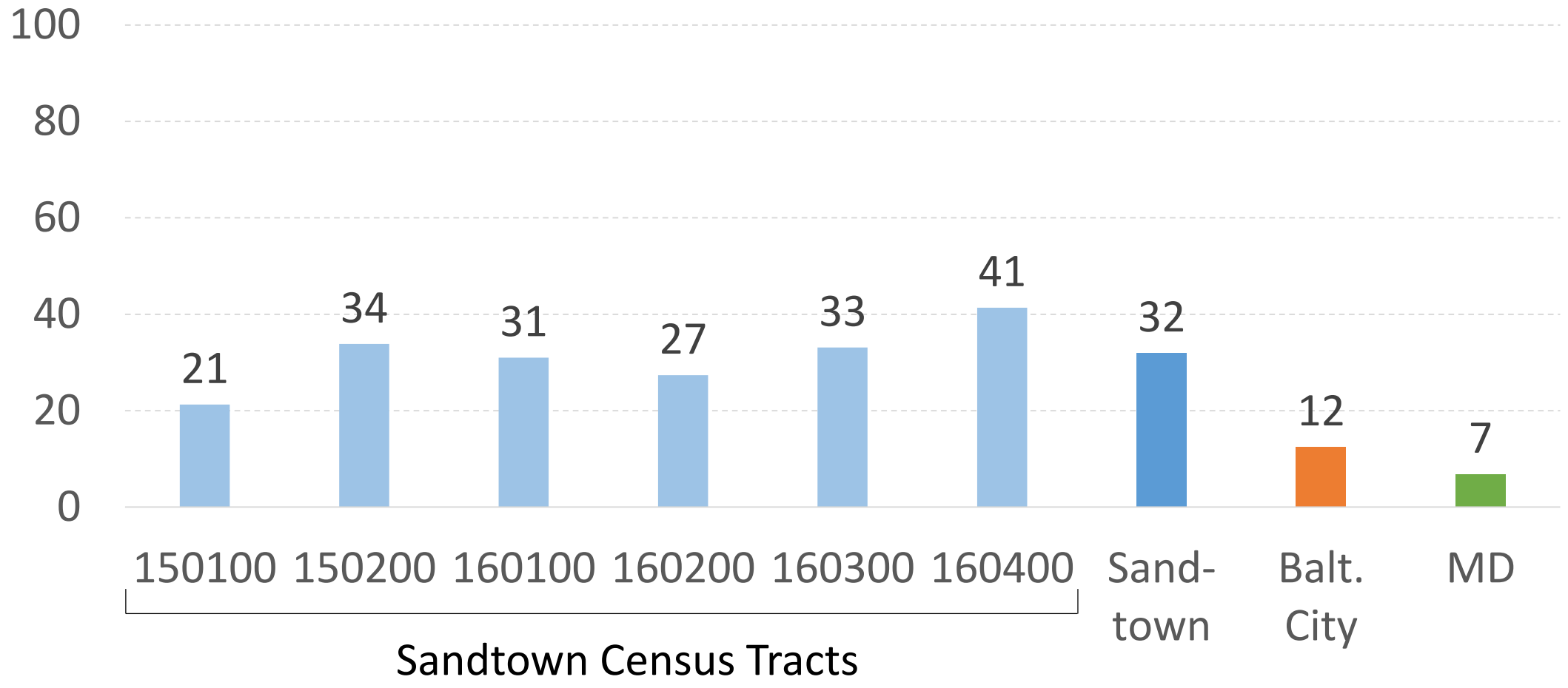
Percentage of households with interest, dividends, or net rental income



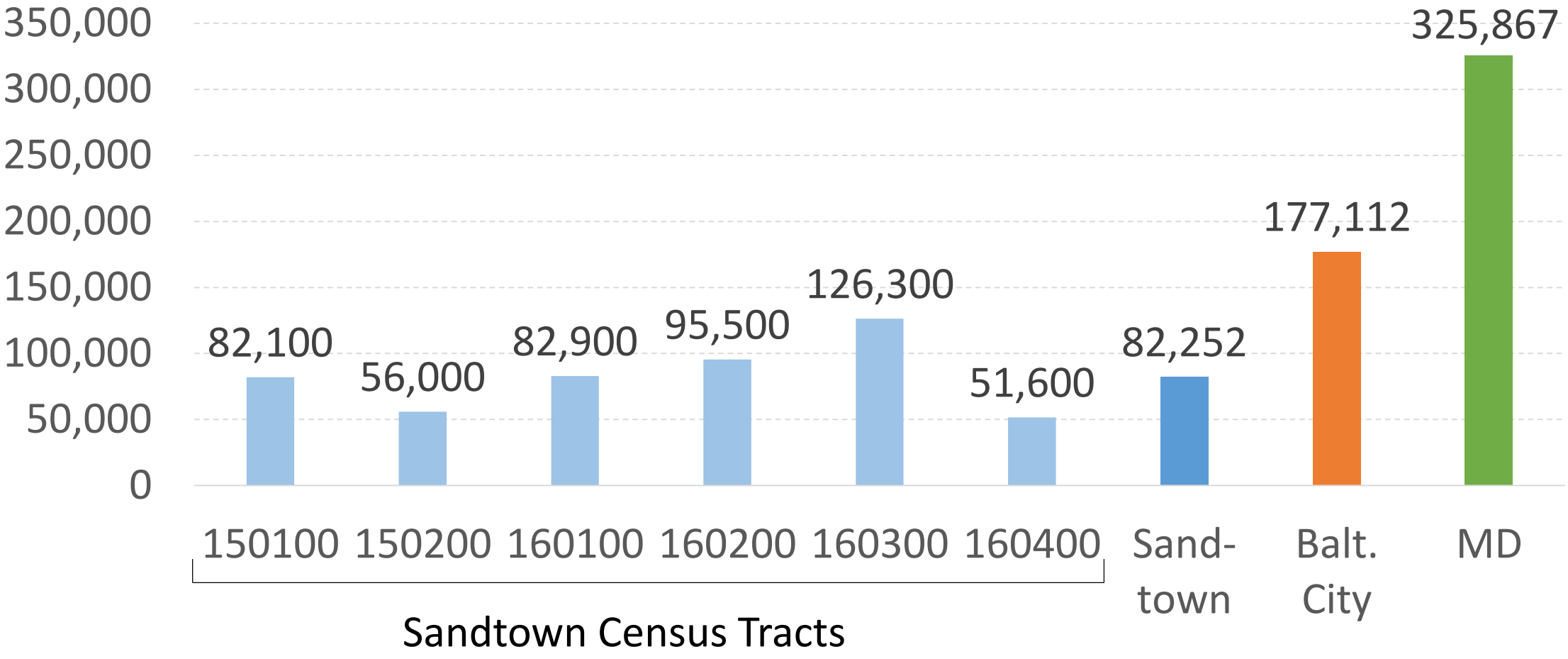
Income per capita



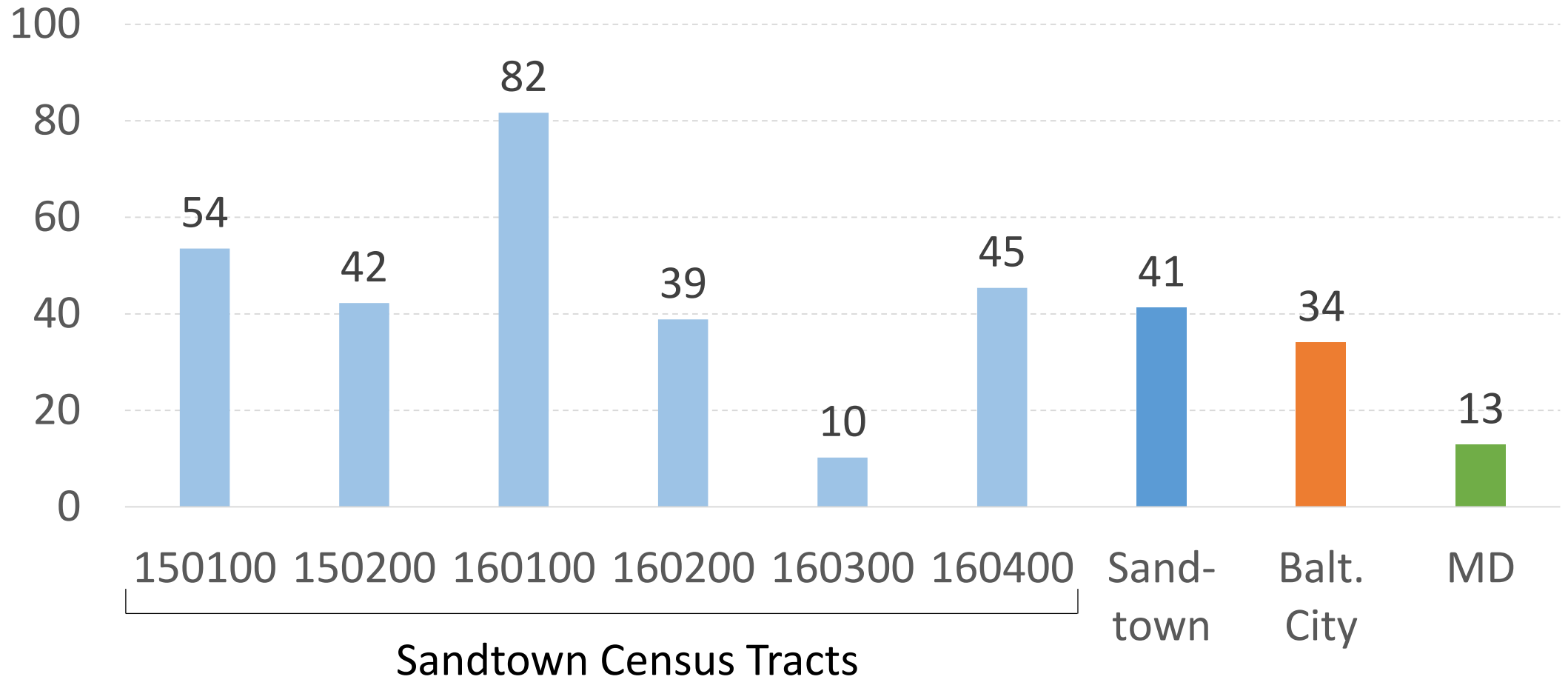
Percentage of housing units that are vacant and not for rent or sale



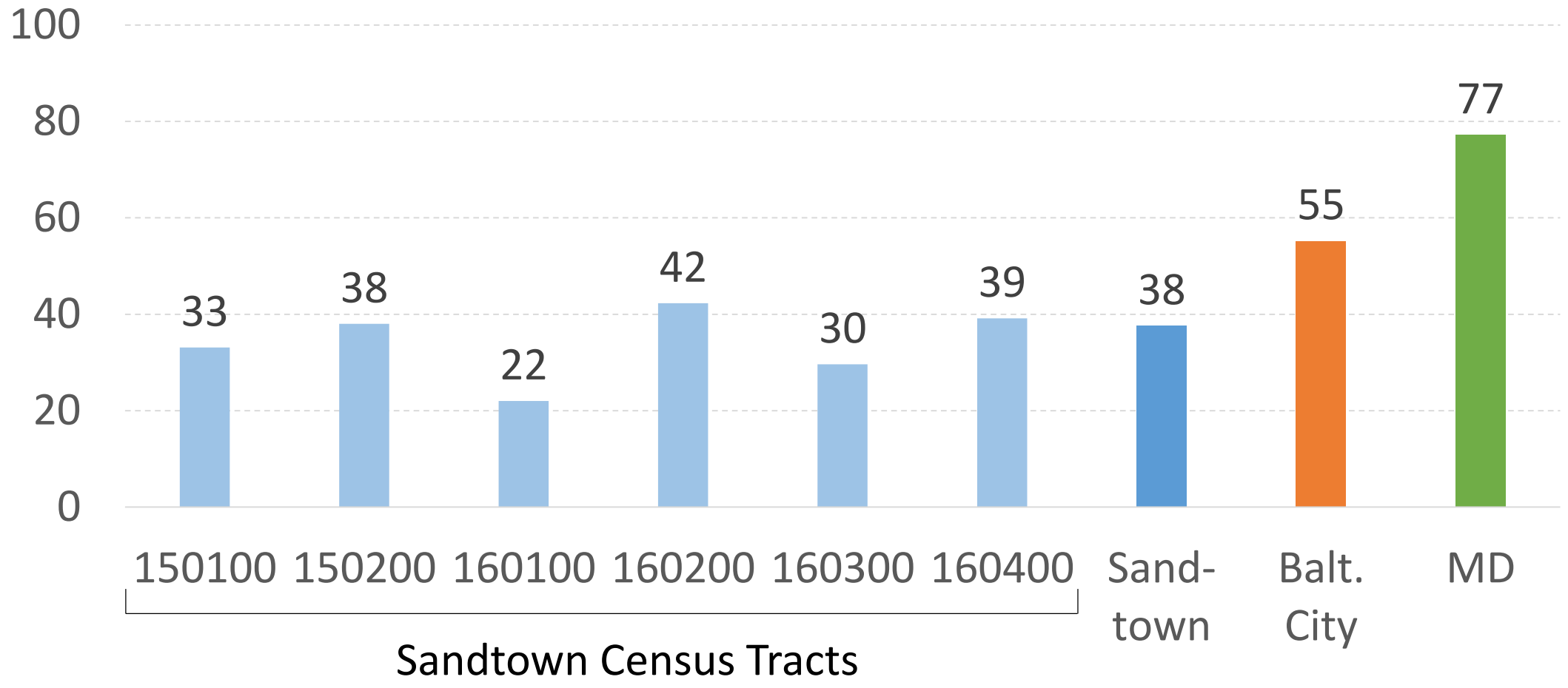
Median value of owner-occupied housing units



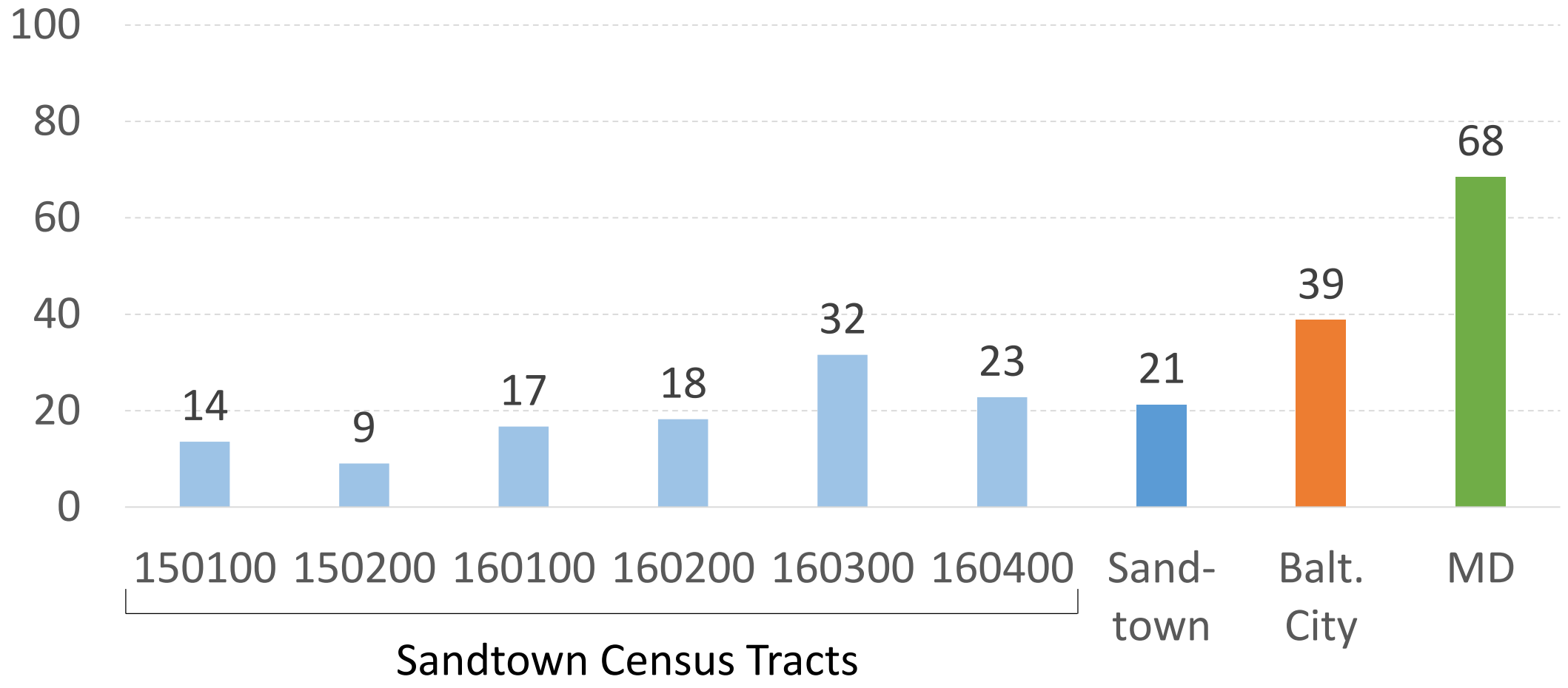
Percentage of children ages 0-17 living in poverty



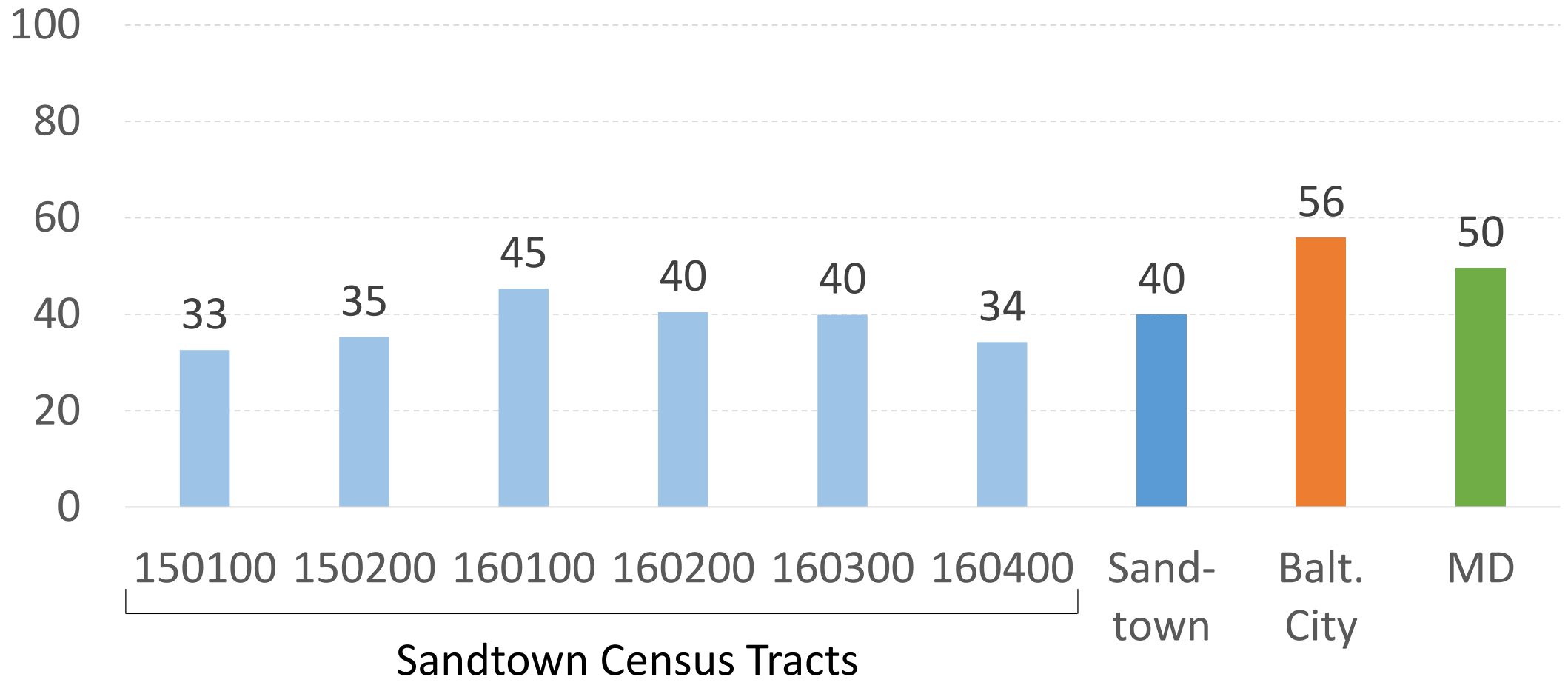
Percentage of total population living at or above 200 percent of poverty



Percentage of the population under age 17 with private health insurance

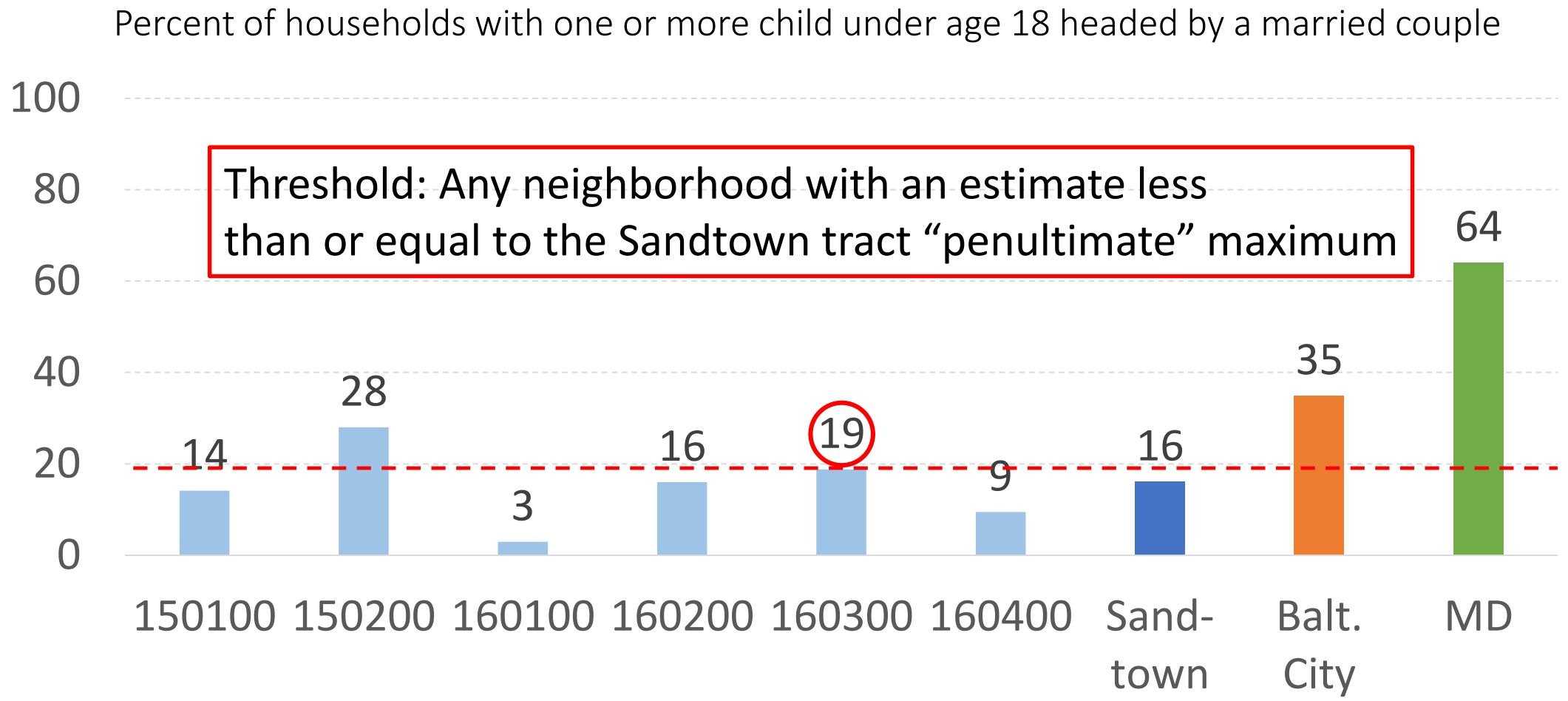


Percentage of commuters ages 16 and above who travel to work in 30 minutes or less



Step 3: Choose thresholds for each indicator

Threshold: penultimate maximum example



Thresholds (penultimate max/min)

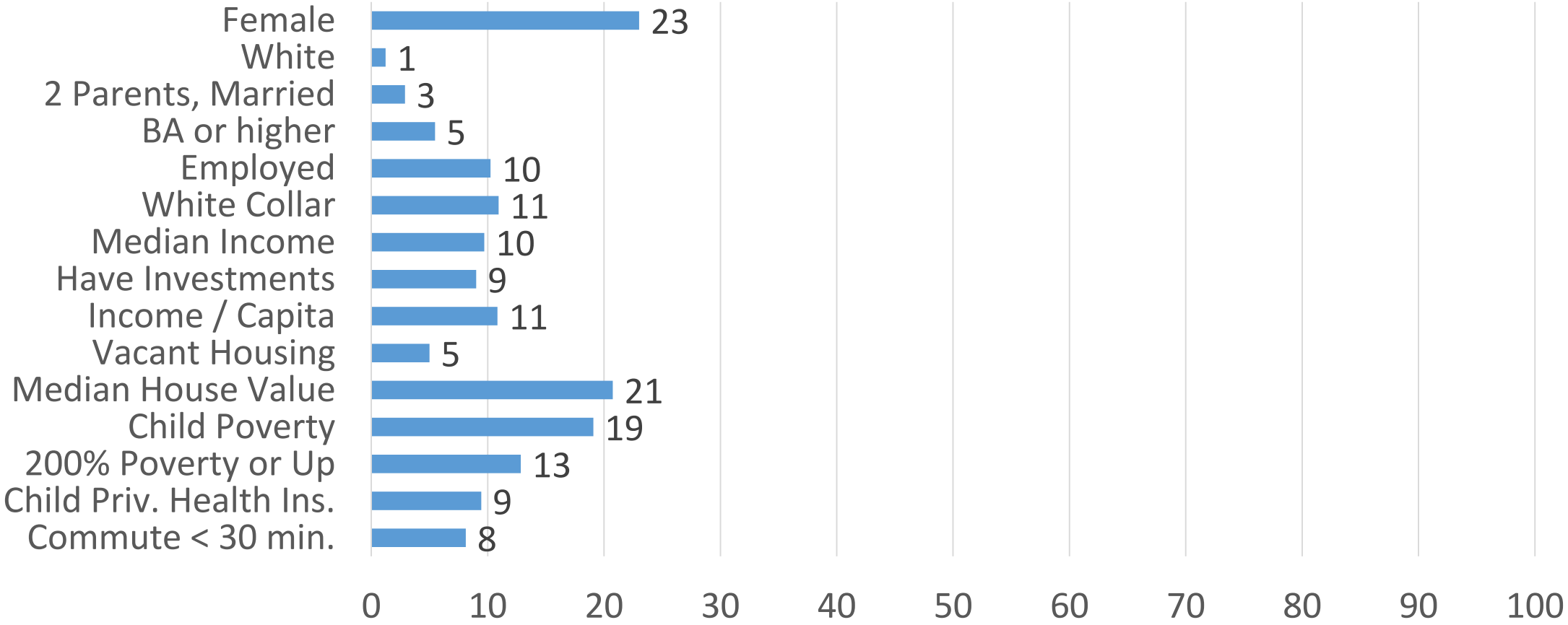
Indicator		Threshold
Female	>=	53.43
White	<=	0.27
2 Parents, Married	<=	18.78
BA or higher	<=	6.30
Employed	<=	42.64
White Collar	<=	17.37
Median Income	<=	27,241.00
Have Investments	<=	5.34

Indicator		Threshold
Income / Capita	<=	14,158.00
Vacant Housing	>=	27.37
Median House Value	<=	95,500.00
Child Poverty	>=	38.86
200% Poverty or Up	<=	39.17
Child Private Health Insurance	<=	22.80
Commute under 30 minutes	<=	40.44

Step 4: Choose a criteria for being a "Sandtown"

What percentage of neighborhoods meet individual thresholds?

Percentage of neighborhoods meeting individual “Sandtown” thresholds



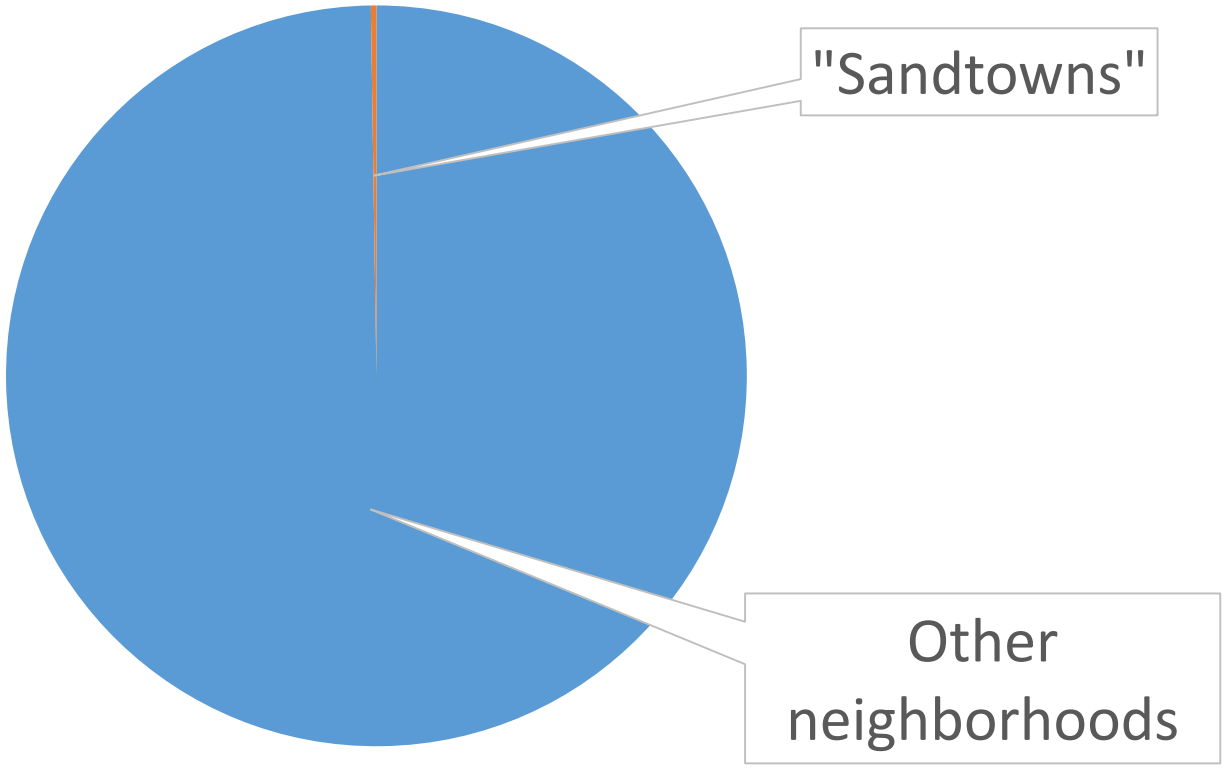
“Sandtown” Criteria

- Meet thresholds for 12 out of 15 (80 percent) indicators

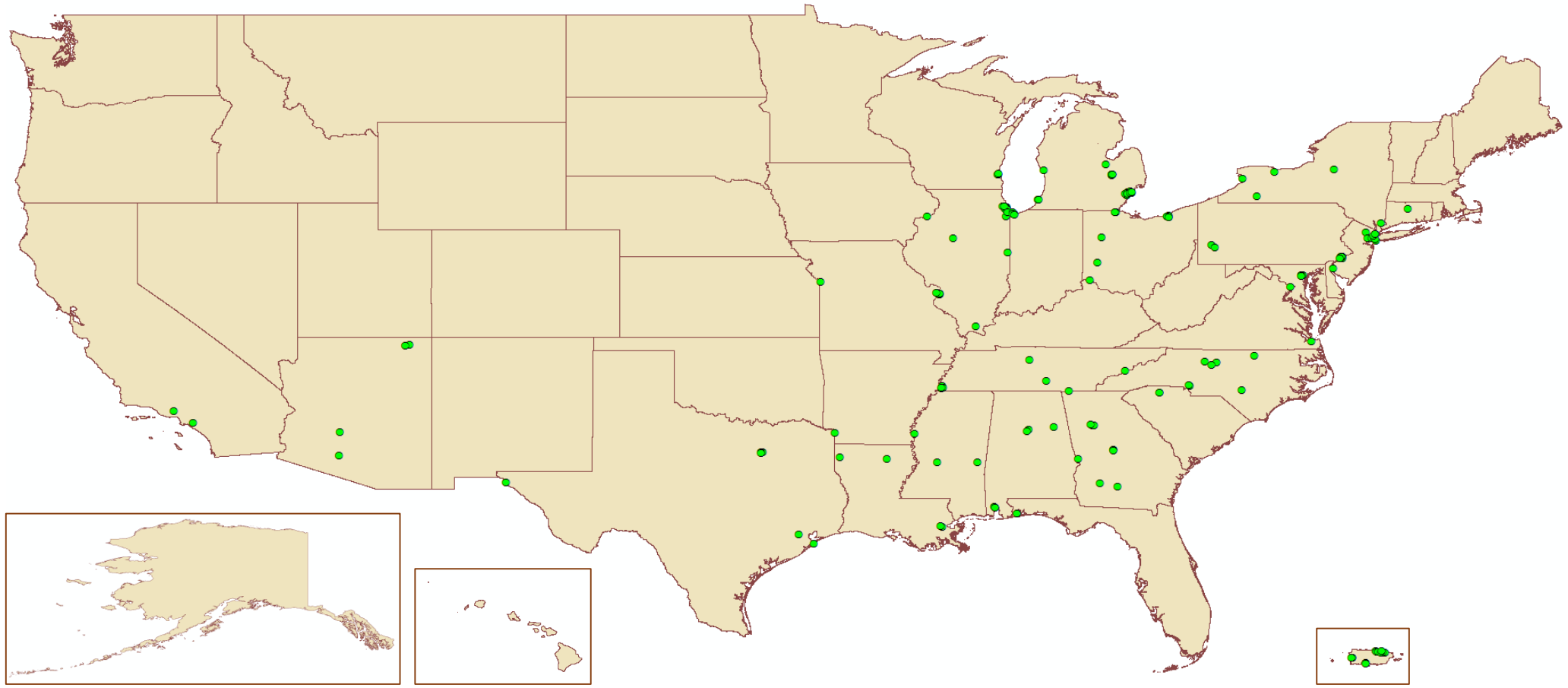
“Sandtowns” nationwide

- 177 “Sandtowns” out of 73,285 neighborhoods
- 0.24% of all neighborhoods
- Located in 81 counties
- Located in 25 states/territories

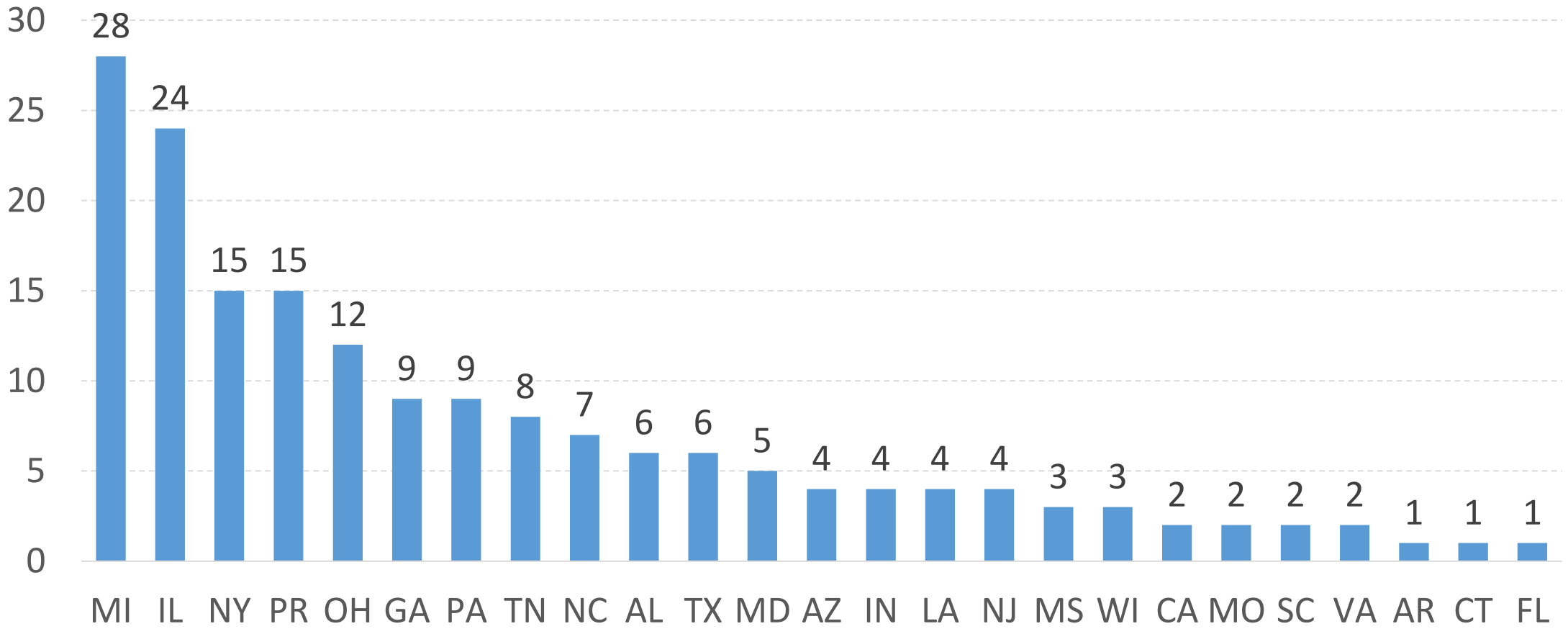
- For comparison: 3,570 concentrated (40%+) poverty neighborhoods



“Sandtowns” nationwide



“Sandtowns” by state



Top 11 “Sandtown” counties

County	“Sandtowns”
Wayne County, Michigan	18
Cook County, Illinois	16
Philadelphia County, Pennsylvania	7
Cuyahoga County, Ohio	6
Genesee County, Michigan	6
San Juan Municipio, Puerto Rico	6
Baltimore city, Maryland	5
Kings County, New York	4
Lake County, Indiana	4
Shelby County, Tennessee	4
St. Clair County, Illinois	4

Summary & takeaways

- Few neighborhoods face the specific constellation of challenges that Sandtown does
- Comparable neighborhoods do exist, in some cases in even higher numbers than in Baltimore (e.g., Chicago, Detroit)
- Analysis underscores:
  - The multitude of challenges facing communities
  - The importance of unpacking poverty