



**Urban Land
Institute**

ok

Home Attainability Index Analysis - Baltimore

TERWILLIGER CENTER FOR HOUSING

FABIOLA YURCISIN
ULI BALTIMORE

JUNE 18, 2025

ULI Terwilliger Center

The mission of the Terwilliger Center is to ensure that everyone has a home that meets their needs at a price they can afford.

The goal of the Terwilliger Center is to catalyze the production and availability of a full spectrum of housing options.



Education

- Research
- Home Attainability Index
- Case Studies
- Awards

Engagement

- Advisory Services
- Technical Assistance
- Roundtables
- Exchange

Awareness

- Housing Opportunity Conference
- Forums
- H2H Symposiums

INTRODUCTION TO THE ULI HOME ATTAINABILITY INDEX

The 2025 Home Attainability Index is a collaborative effort from RCLCO and ULI to deliver stakeholders with affordability, connectivity, racial disparity, and growth insights at the MSA, county, and census tract level

▶ ***The 2025 Index offers increased capabilities:***

- *Change-over-time analysis*
- *Updated interface*
- *Added historic data*
- *Poverty and density variables*

▶ ***There are two ways to access and explore the data:***

- *2025 Home Attainability Index (Excel File)*
 - ❖ *Analysis only at the MSA level*
- *2025 Home Attainability Web App*
 - ❖ *Maps data for enhanced visuals*
 - ❖ *Analysis at the MSA, county, and census tract level*



KEY TAKEAWAYS



**Terwilliger Center
for Housing**



1. COST BURDEN GROWING ACROSS THE COUNTRY

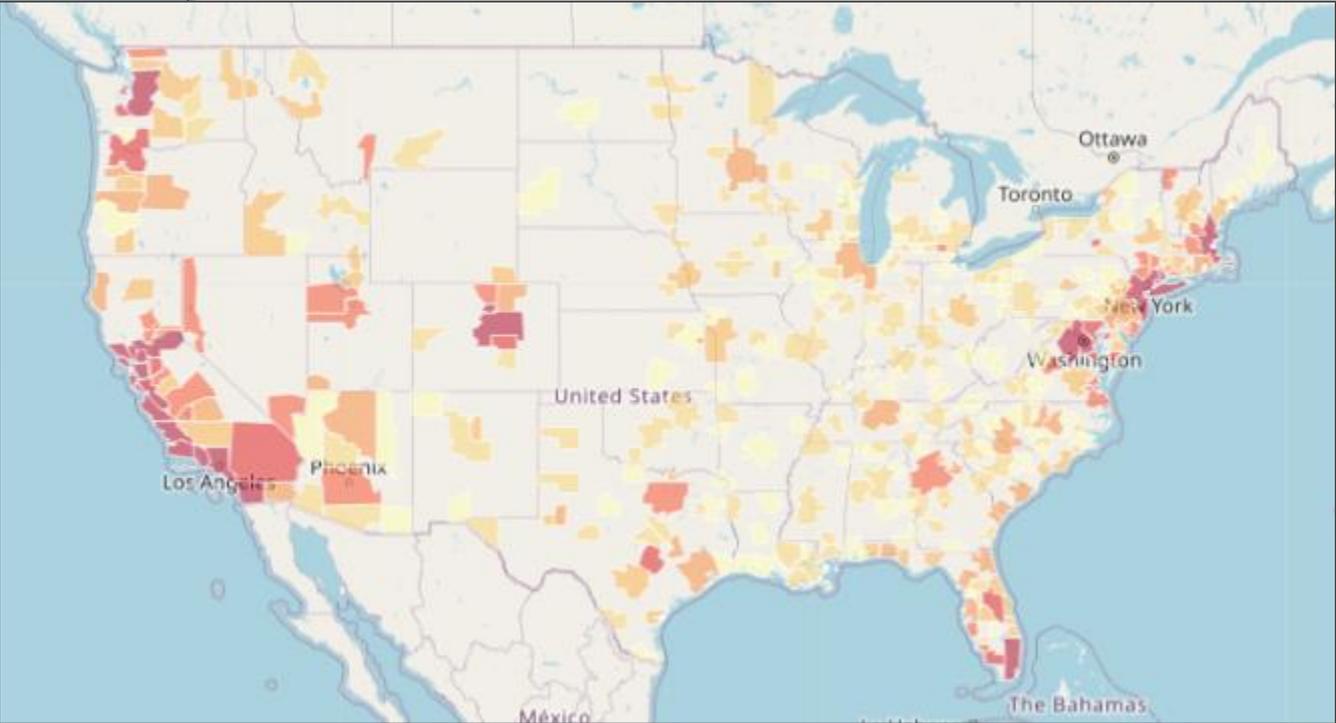
Households earning under \$50,000 are significantly more cost-burdened than 10 years ago in most markets

Percentage of Cost-Burdened Households: U.S. 2015



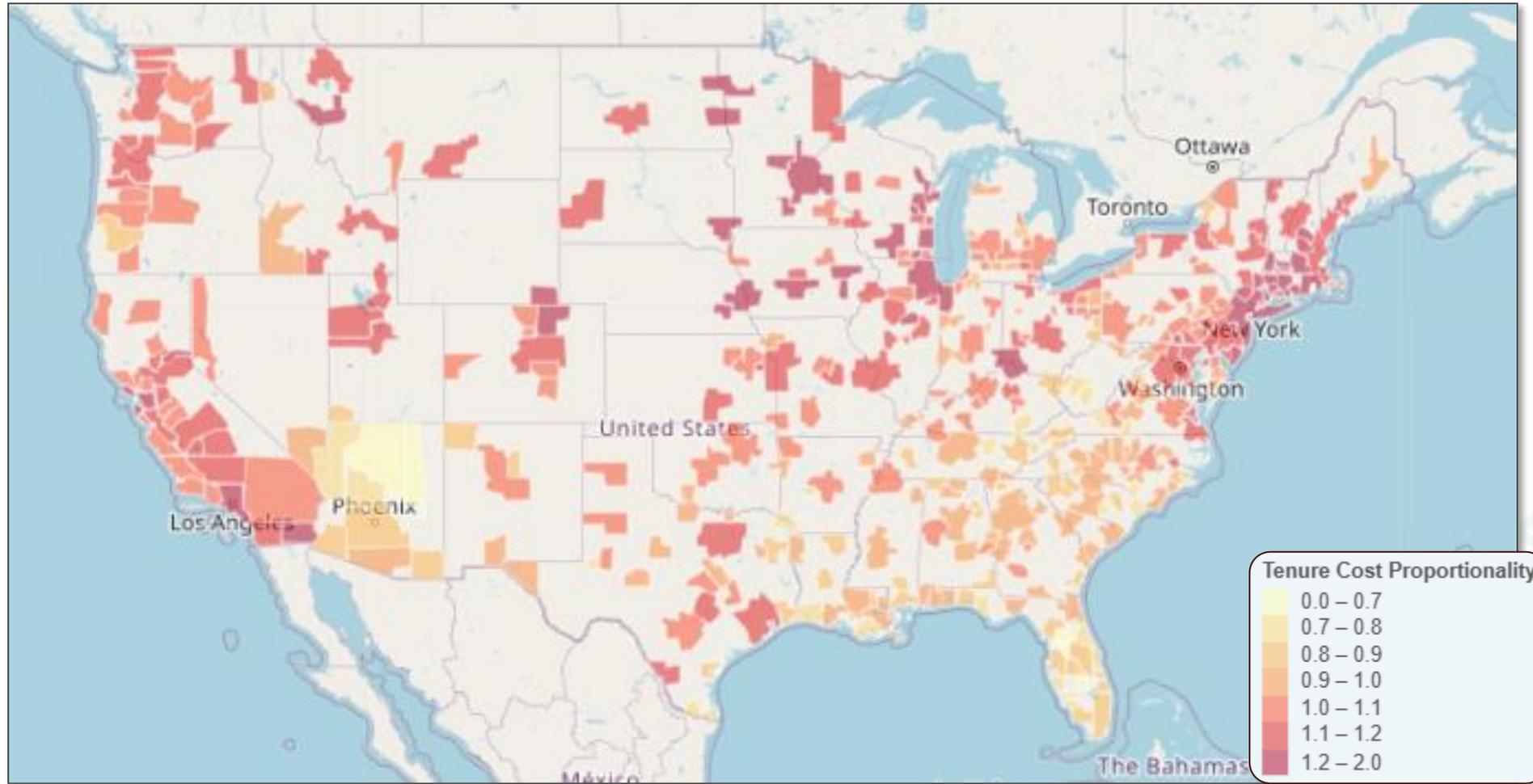
Key Note: Nearly every major market has significantly more cost-burdened households earning under \$50,000

Percentage of Cost-Burdened Households: U.S. 2023



2. COST TO OWN VS. COST TO RENT

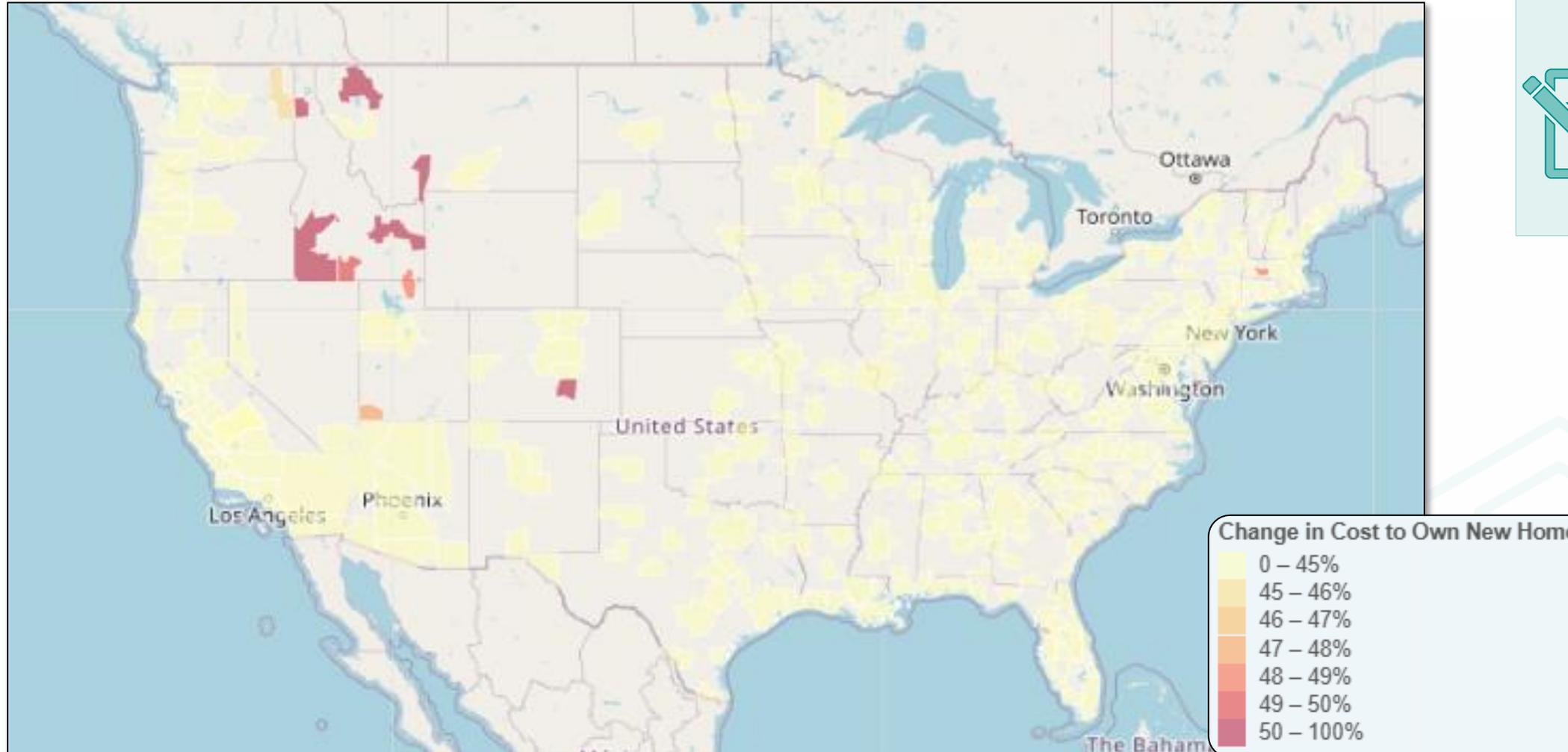
Compared to renting, it's relatively cheaper to own in the Southeast



Key Note: Tenure cost proportionality measures whether it is relatively cheaper to own or rent when compared to all markets in the United States

3. INCREASE IN NEW HOME PRICES

The Mountain West, including many smaller but high-growth markets, has seen dramatic run up in home values since 2020



Key Note: Boise, Kalispell, and Bozeman top the list for largest increase in new home prices since 2020

4. HOUSING DEVELOPMENT AND RENT GROWTH

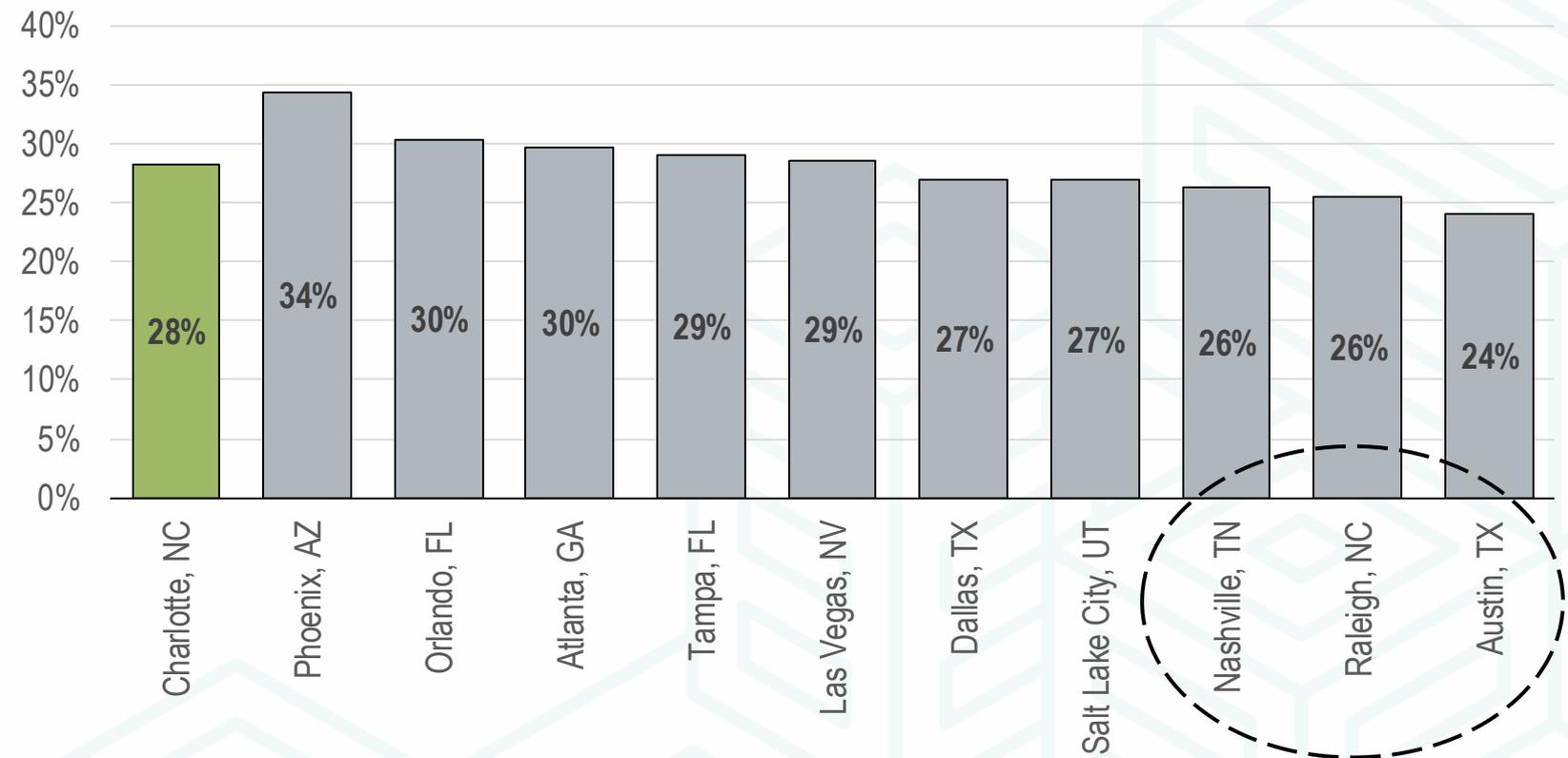
Markets with significant production have, in fact, experienced more limited rent growth



Key Note: Austin, Nashville, and Raleigh are top 15 markets for new housing built relative to their size; these metros have had the least rent growth relative to peer markets

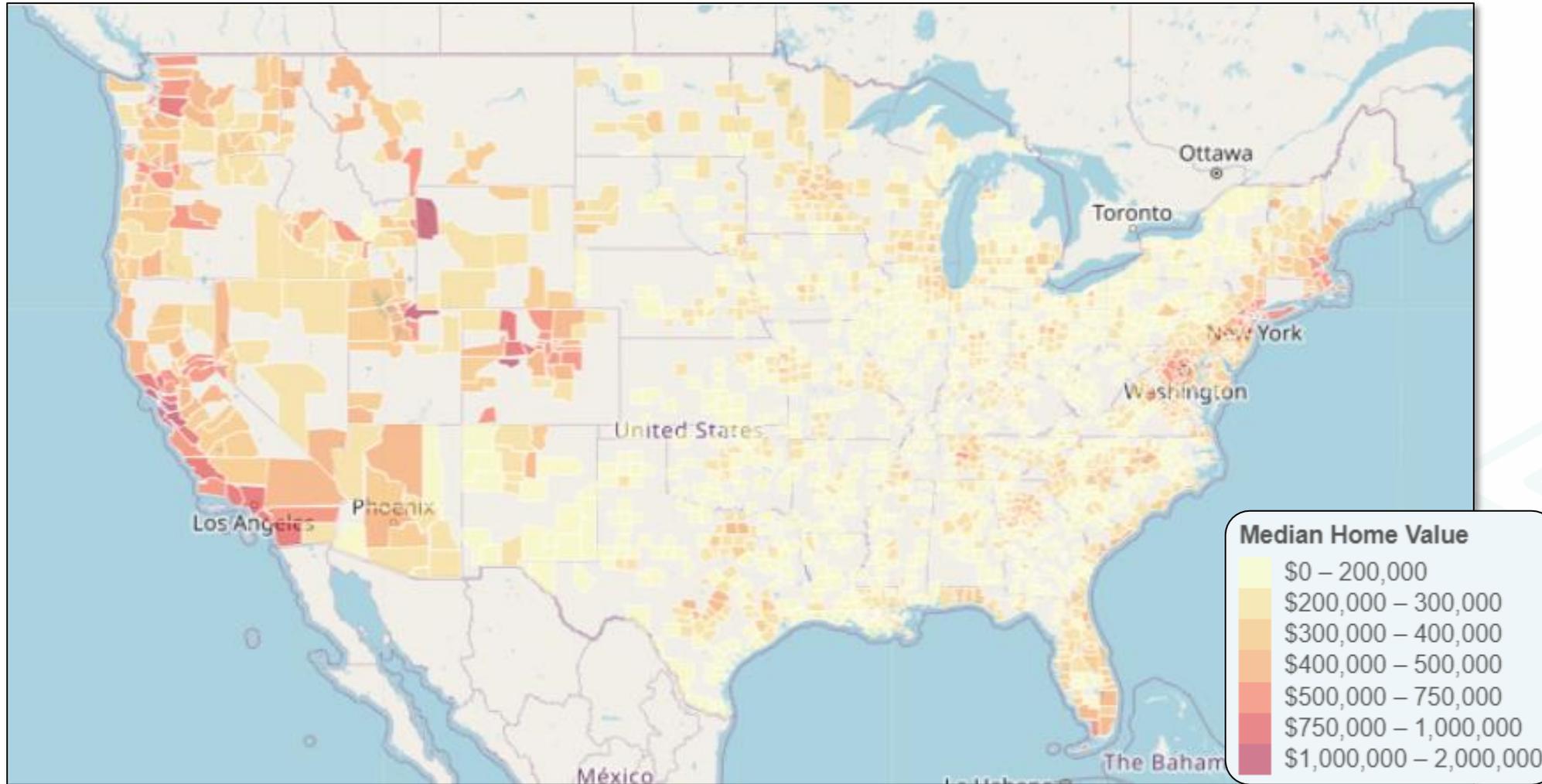
New Housing Units Since 2015 – Top 15 Markets		
Rank	MSA	Count
1	Austin, TX	4.3%
2	Cape Coral, FL	3.9%
3	Provo, UT	3.7%
4	Boise City, ID	3.7%
5	Fresno, CA	3.6%
6	Charleston, SC	3.3%
7	Orlando, FL	3.1%
8	North Port, FL	3.1%
9	Lakeland, FL	3.0%
10	Nashville, TN	3.0%
11	Las Vegas, NV	3.0%
12	Deltona, FL	3.0%
13	Raleigh, NC	2.9%
14	Jacksonville, FL	2.9%
15	San Antonio, TX	2.7%

Change in Cost to Rent (2020 – 2023)



5. HOME VALUE DISPARITY

The country is deeply divided between high-cost, often coastal markets where median home values are routinely over \$500,000, and large sections of the country where the median home value is below \$200,000



Key Note: Median home prices range from \$1.5 M in San Mateo County (Southern San Francisco) to \$60,000 in the most affordable counties

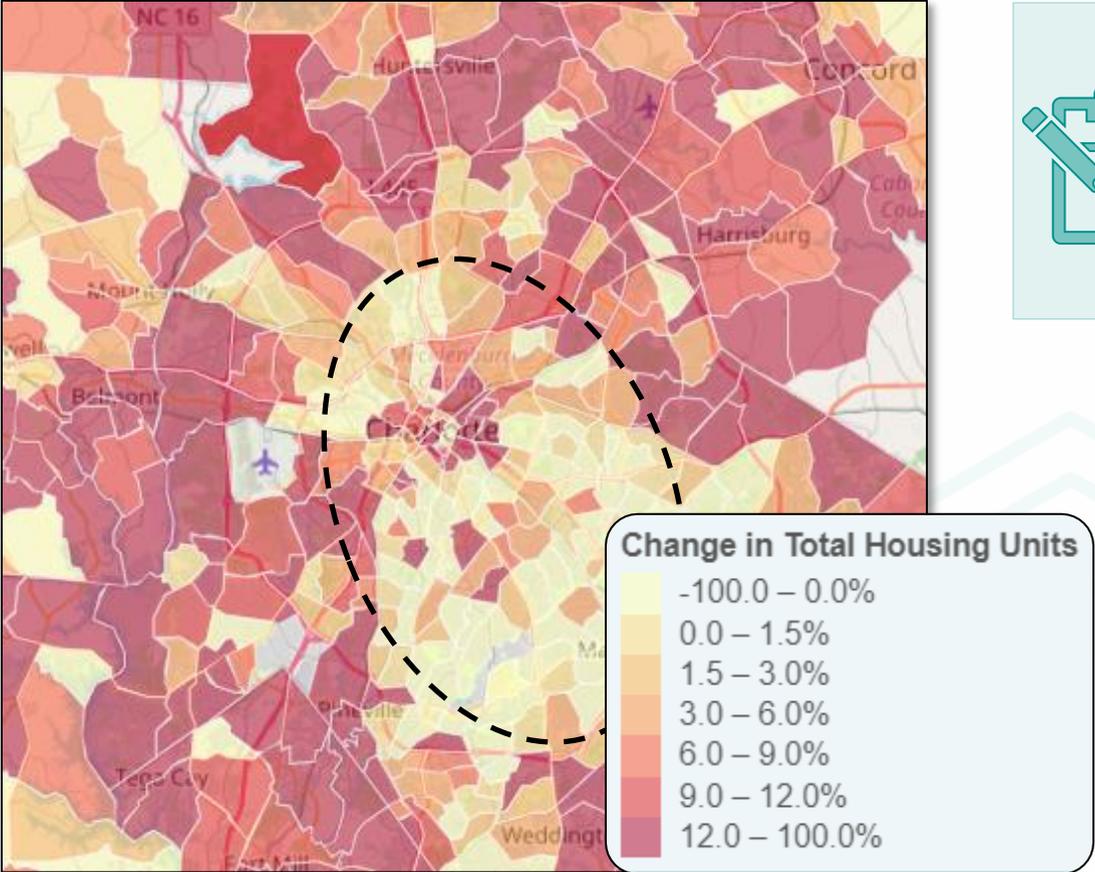
6. REGIONAL PATTERNS IN HOUSING DEVELOPMENT

Housing development in America continues to be most highly concentrated in the suburbs

Housing Development 2020 – 2023; Austin



Housing Development 2020 – 2023; Charlotte

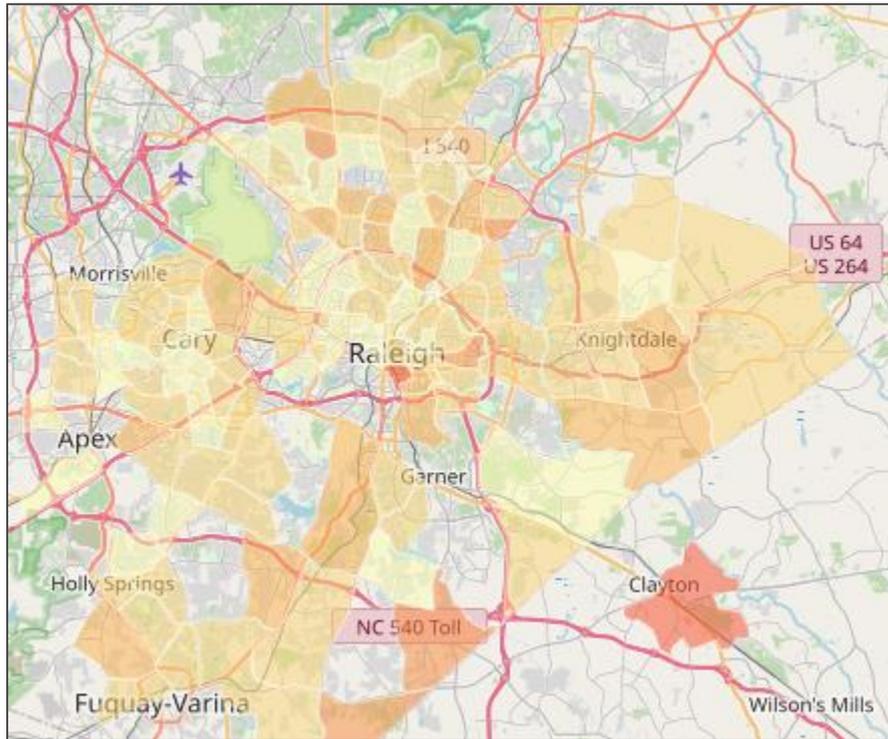


Key Note: Many established markets are built out, with new development pushing outside the downtown core and into first-ring suburbs

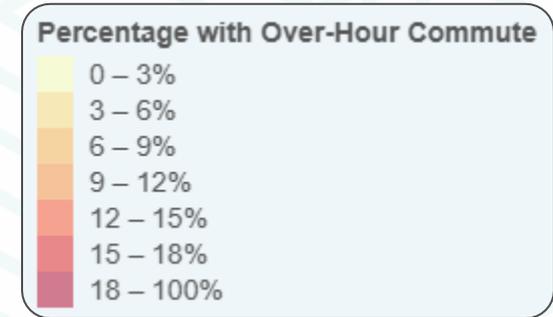
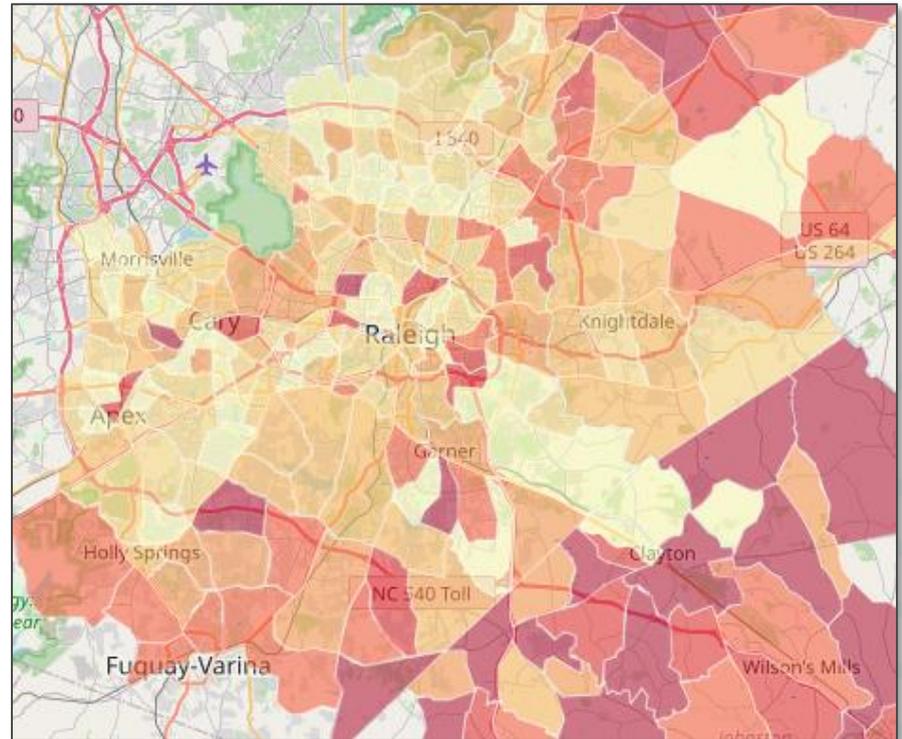
7. CONNECTIVITY & COMMUTE TIMES

Markets that have historically had short commute times are now seeing more traffic and longer drive-times to work

Percentage with Over Hour Commute: Raleigh, 2015



Percentage with Over Hour Commute: Raleigh, 2023



MARKET COMPARISONS AND TREND: BALTIMORE, MA



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CONTEXT SETTING: WHO NEEDS ATTAINABLE HOUSING

Affordable housing is a workforce issue: housing is where jobs go at night

Income Category	Occupations with Wages Typically in This Income Category	Median Annual Wage
<\$35,000/year	Childcare Workers	\$27,670
	Home Health and Personal Care Aides	\$28,170
	Waiters and Waitresses	\$28,275
	Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	\$28,750
	Retail Salespersons	\$29,315
	Janitors and Cleaners, except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	\$30,135
	Security Guards	\$30,330
\$35,000–\$50,000/year	Nursing Assistants	\$35,315
	Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	\$35,915
	Emergency Medical Technicians	\$36,160
	Automotive Service Technicians and Mechanics	\$47,180
	Bus Drivers, Transit and Intercity	\$47,530
\$50,000–\$75,000/year	Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	\$49,870
	Two-Income Households (Janitor and Security Guard)	\$60,465
>\$75,000/year	Middle School Teachers, except Special and Career/Technical Education	\$61,320
	Two-Income Households (Truck Driver and Home Health Aide)	\$78,040
	Registered Nurses	\$79,120
	Two-Income Households (Childcare Worker and Middle School Teacher)	\$88,990

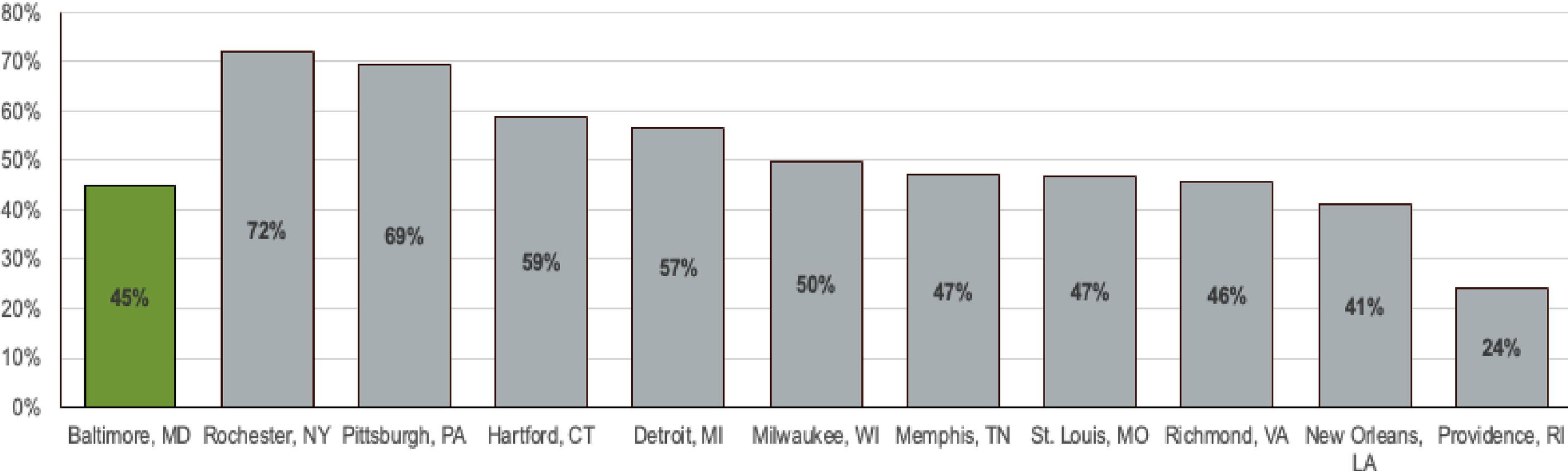
80% of Median Income or Less

120% of Median Income or Less

MARKET COMPARISONS – HOMEOWNERSHIP TRENDS

Higher Percentage of Affordable Homes in Other Similar Markets

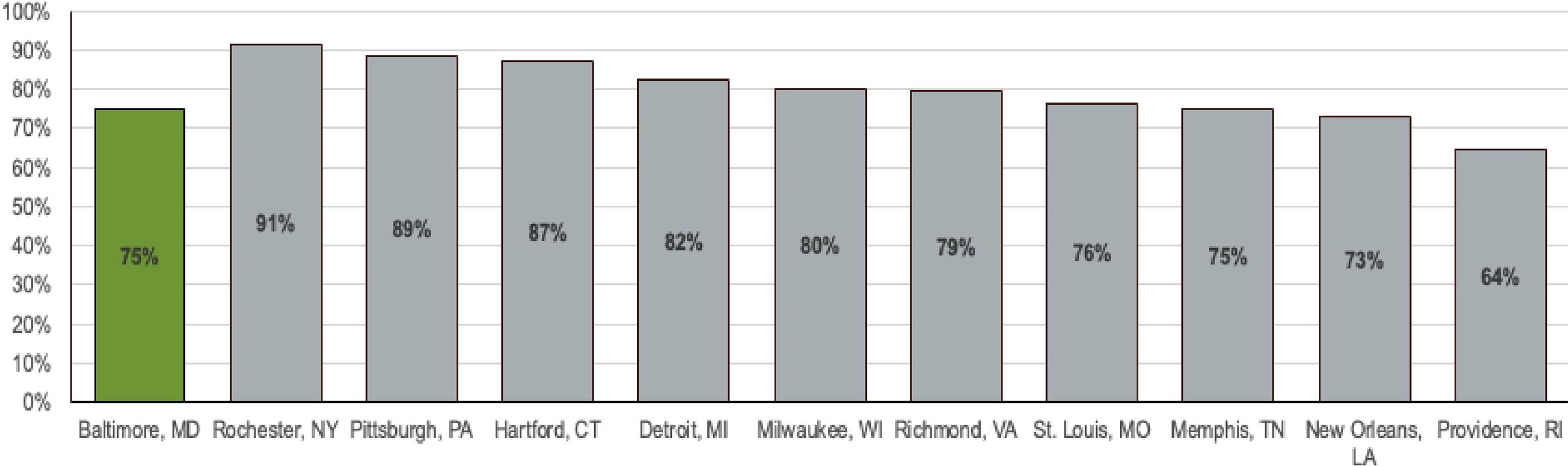
Percentage of Homes Affordable to Buy (80% AMI)



MARKET COMPARISONS – HOMEOWNERSHIP TRENDS

Difficult to Purchase, even for Middle-Income and Upper-Middle-Income Households

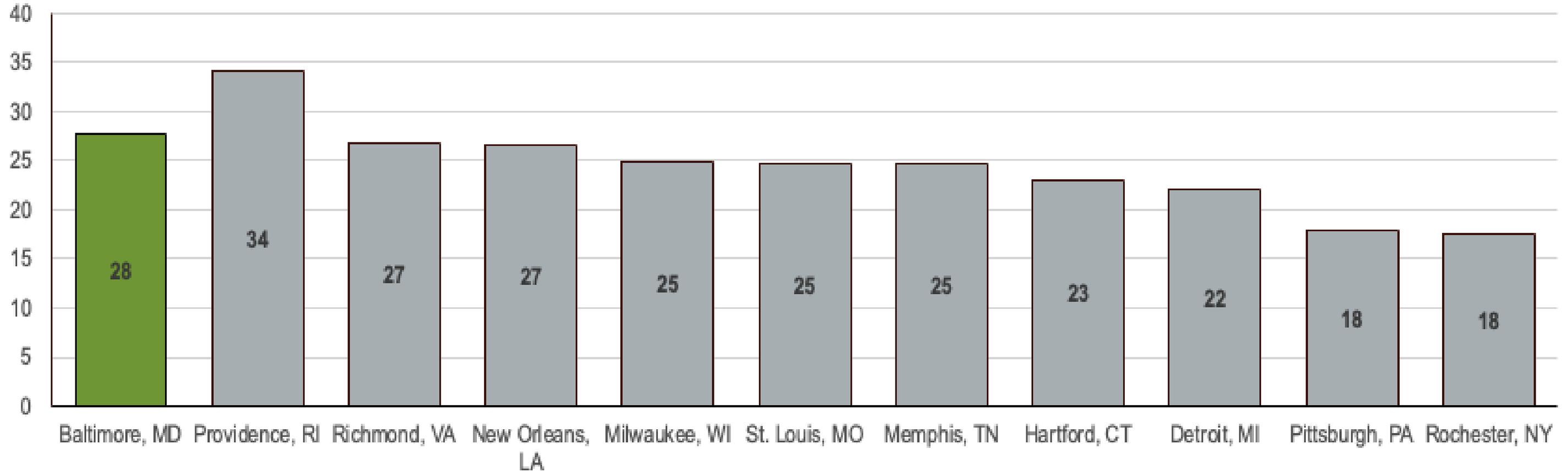
Percentage of Homes Affordable to Buy (120% AMI)



MARKET COMPARISONS – HOMEOWNERSHIP TRENDS

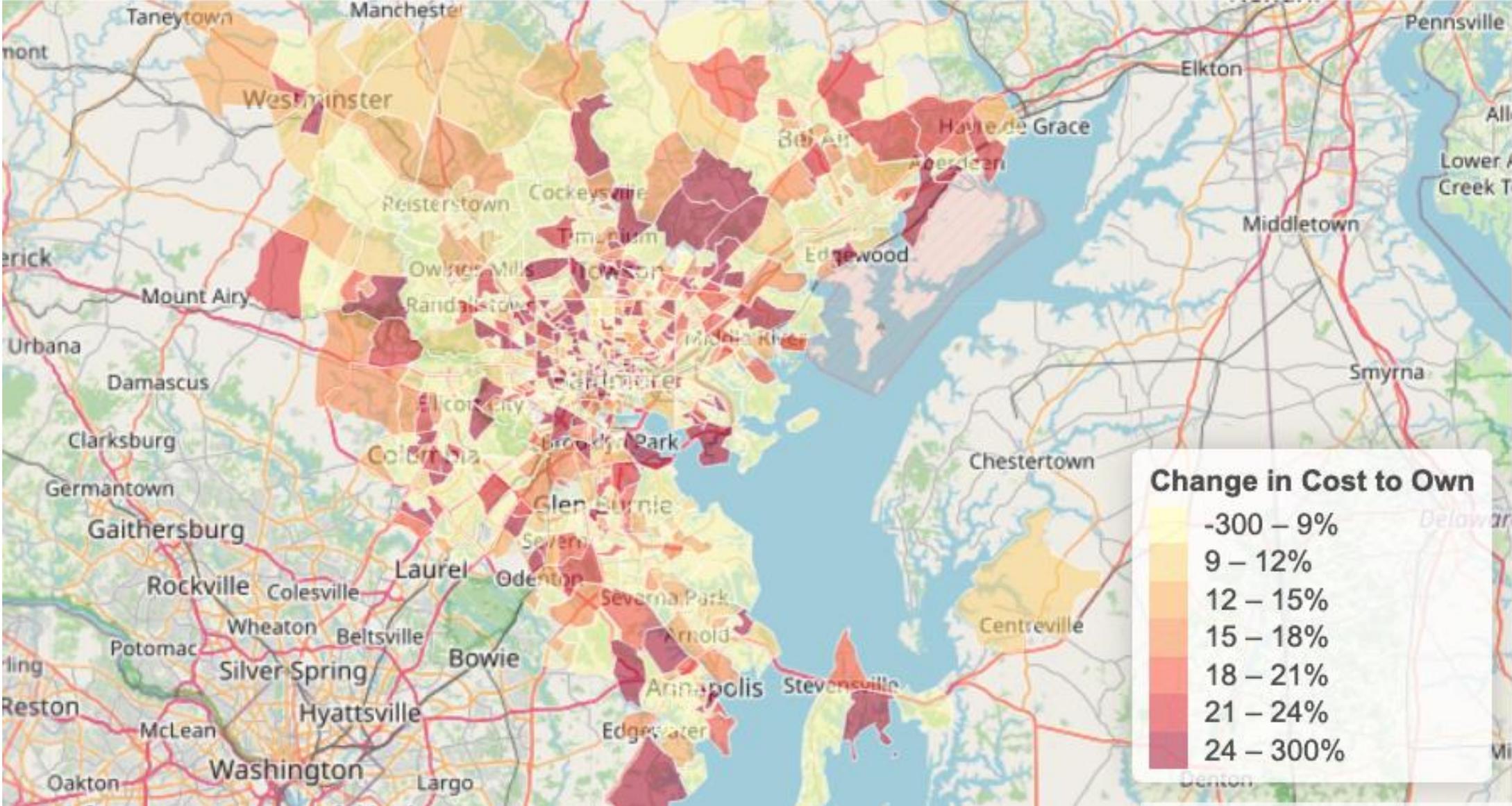
Market Movement is Constrained by Homeownership Costs

Years to Save for Downpayment (80% AMI)



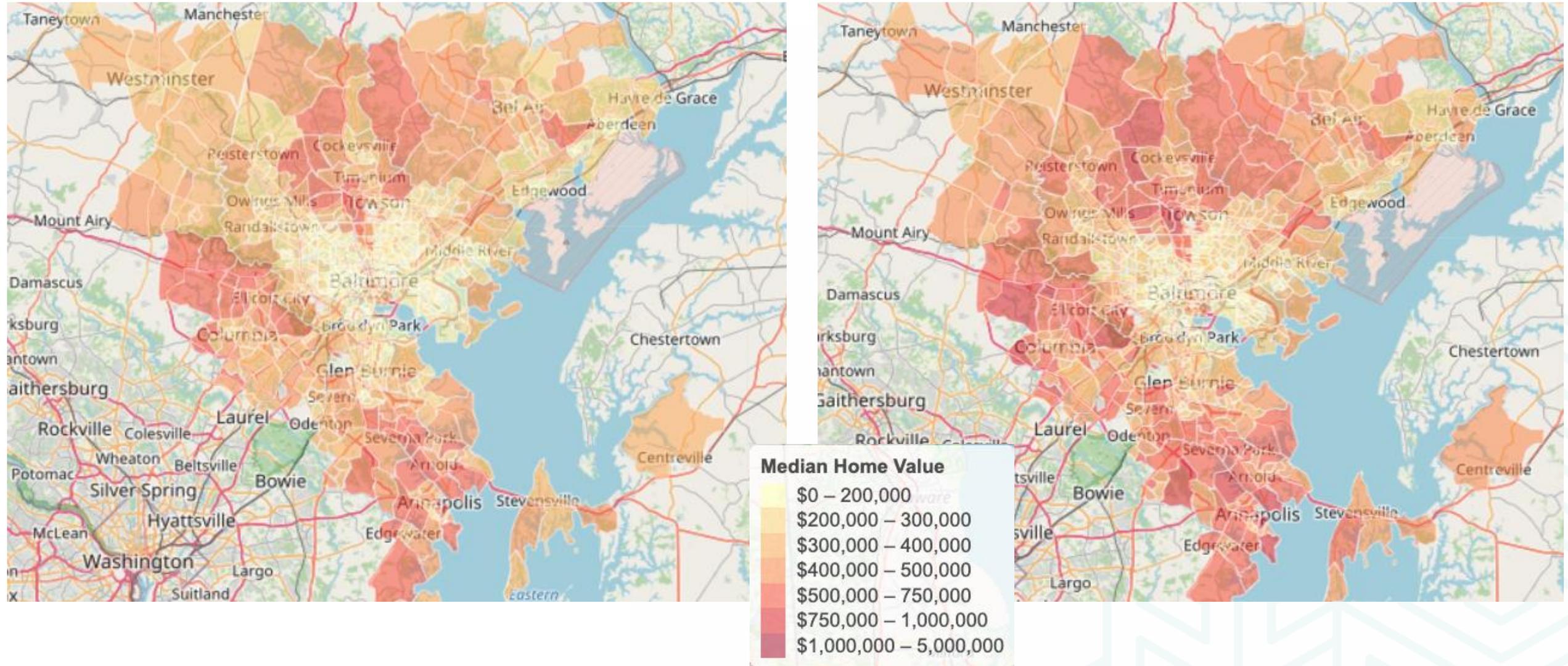
HOMEOWNERSHIP LESS ATTAINABLE THAN THREE YEARS AGO

Change in Cost to Own a Home, 2020-2023



HOME VALUES INCREASING IN SHORT PERIODS OF TIME

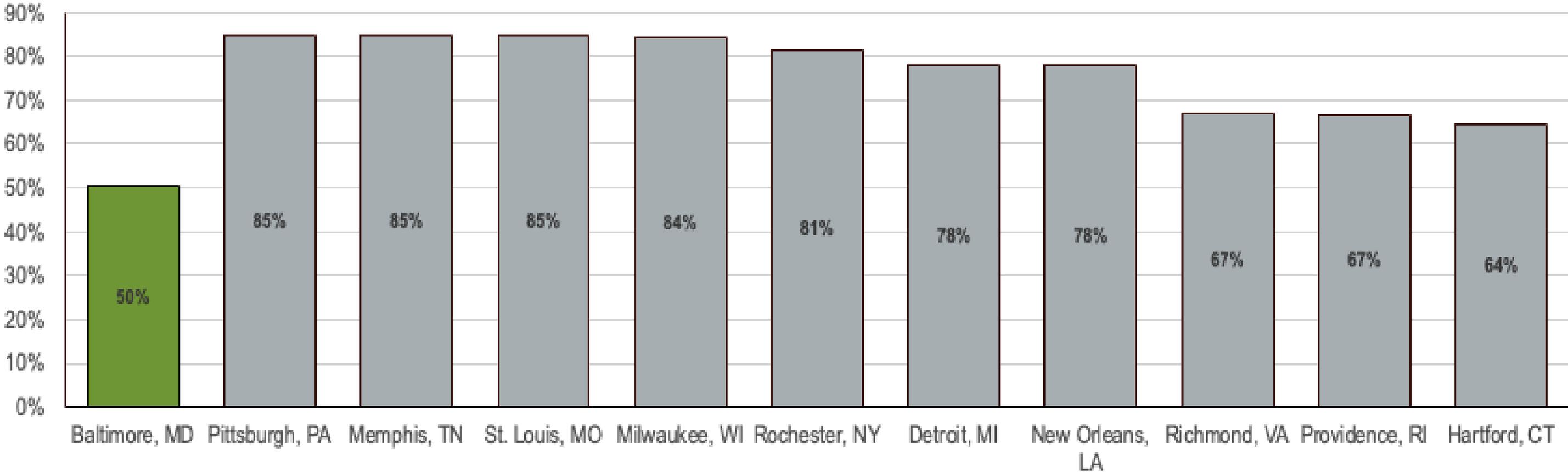
Median Home Value, 2020 vs. 2023



MARKET COMPARISONS – RENTAL TRENDS

Rental Market Performing Worse than Peer Markets

Percentage of Affordable Rentals (80% AMI)



MARKET COMPARISONS – RENTAL TRENDS

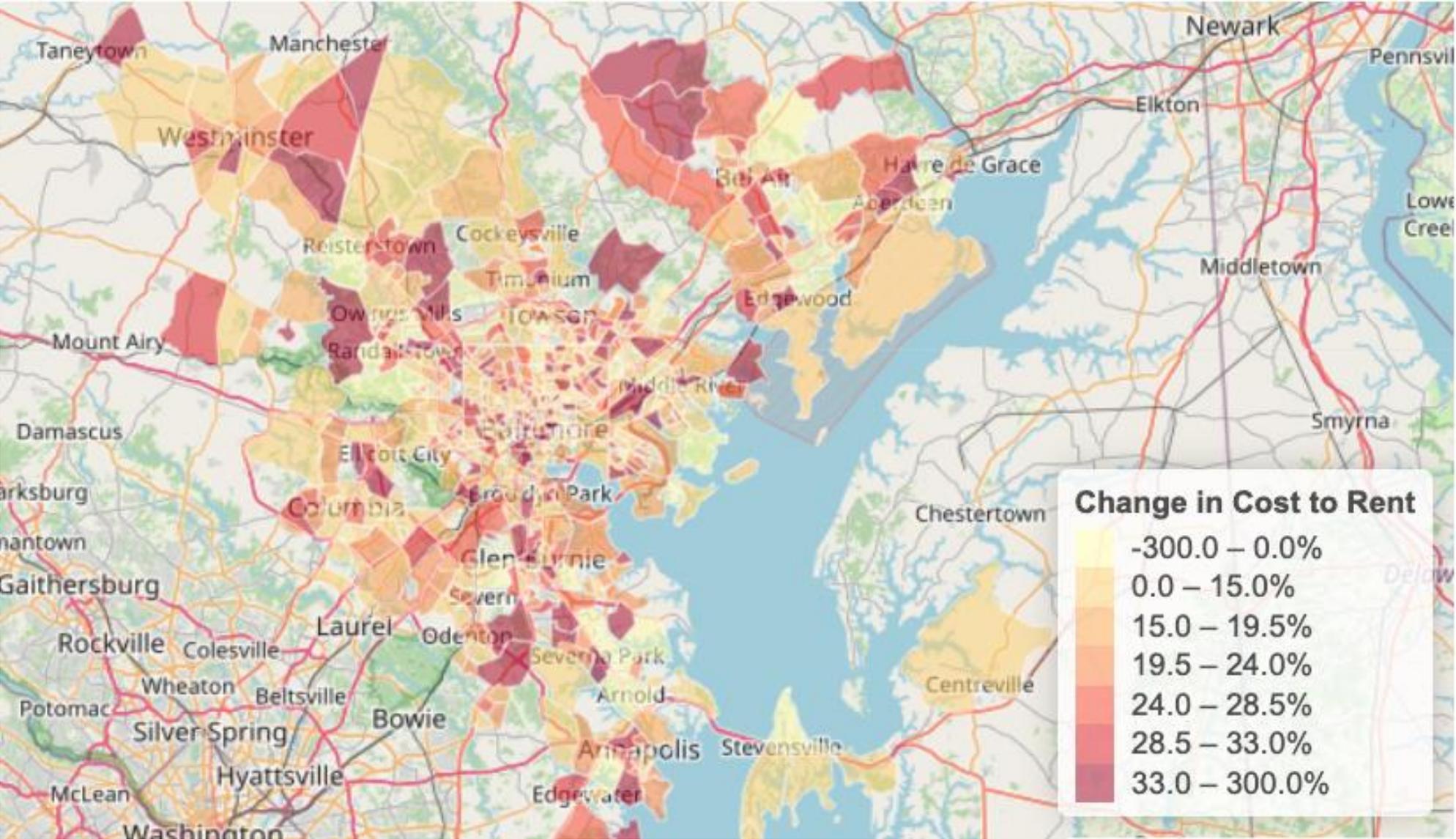
Moving Costs Constrain Filtering

Months Savings for Rent



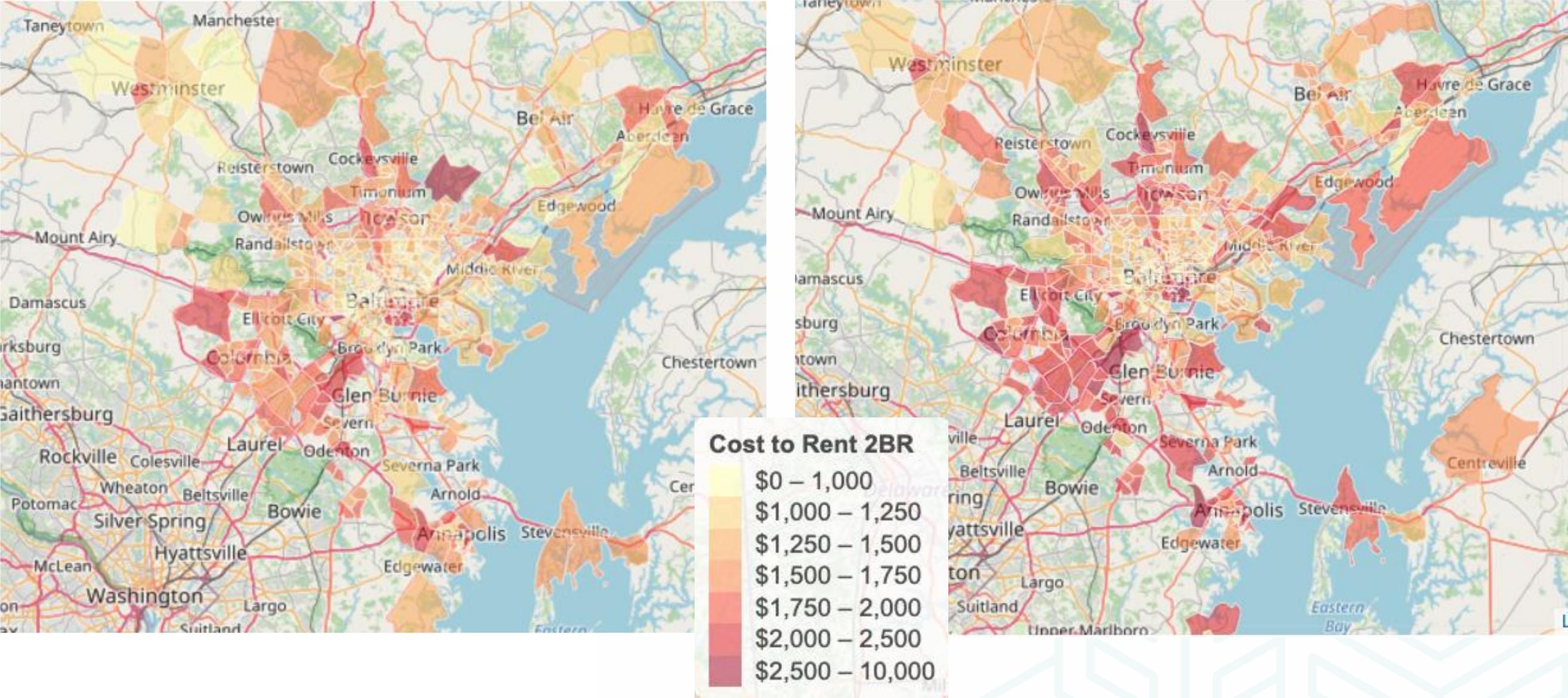
RENTAL UNAFFORDABILITY

Change in Cost to Rent, 2020-2023



RENT COSTS GROWING & SPREADING OUTWARD

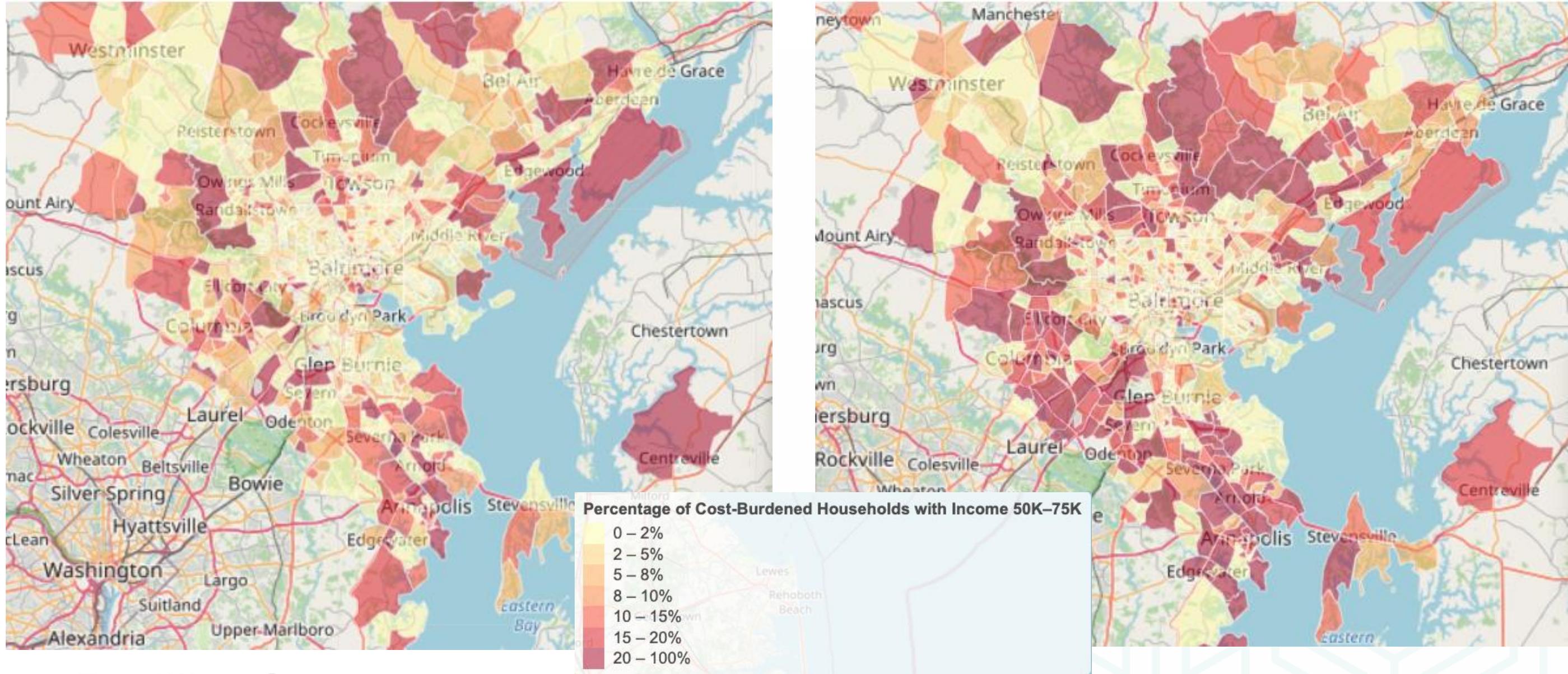
Cost to Rent a 2 Bedroom, 2020 vs. 2023



WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU DON'T BUILD

WORKFORCE STRUGGLING TO ACCESS TO HOUSING

Middle-Class Cost Burdened, 2020 vs 2023



REMINDER: WHO WE ARE TALKING ABOUT

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POLICY SOLUTIONS

What are some ways to tackle the country's housing shortage?





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REFORM zoning and other regulations to unleash housing production

CONNECT resources that maximize the impact of housing investments

LEVERAGE land, finance, and the adaptive reuse of outmoded buildings to create new opportunities for residential development.

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Nate Stallings for deChase Miksis

REFORM

Update zoning and other regulations to unleash housing production

Implement Zoning Reform

Legalize more housing

- **Boise, Idaho's updated zoning code** allows for higher residential density in various parts of the city-- including multifamily housing in areas that were previously restricted to single-family homes.
- **Bozeman, Montana's Community Housing Action Plan** supports a variety of housing solutions such as ADUs, tiny homes, and cohousing developments.
- **Florida's Live Local Act** requires local governments to allow multifamily and mixed-use residential developments in commercial, industrial, and mixed-use zones without requiring zoning changes, special exceptions, or comprehensive plan amendments.



Rion Rizxo/Creative Sources



Sightline Institute Middle Homes Photo Library

Make Infill Easy

Add accessory dwelling units

- **Arlington County, Virginia** reduced restrictions on lot sizes, setbacks, and parking requirements for ADUs to make it easier to build them.
- **Colorado** offers financial support for ADUs such as grants, low-interest loans, and tax incentives for homeowners who construct ADUs for long-term rental to low- and middle-income tenants.
- **Washington State** streamlined the approval process for ADUs, making it easier for homeowners to add these units to their properties.

Small Regulatory Changes, Big Impacts

Modest changes can transform housing supply

- Minneapolis rezoned commercial corridors as priority locations for higher residential density, leading to the redevelopment of 40- to 50-unit buildings.
- Portland, Oregon's Housing Regulatory Relief Project includes a set of zoning code amendments that temporarily waive or reduce some zoning code standards for five years, along with more permanent amendments to zoning regulations.
- In Texas, the "Shot Clock" law aims to expedite local review processes for new residential construction, by requiring local decisions on permit applications within two weeks of review deadlines. If they fail to do so, developers can take their applications to a third-party reviewer.



Brianne Rothstein



Aaron Locke

CONNECT

Link resources to expand the impact of housing investments

Connect Housing and Transit

Fostering vibrant and economically robust communities

- In Austin, Texas, equitable transit-oriented development aligns transportation investments with tools and policies aimed at supporting community access to economic opportunities.
- Colorado limits minimum parking requirements in developments near bus and rail lines if municipalities are located in metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs) and in applicable transit service areas.
- The Massachusetts MBTA Communities Act requires 177 municipalities served by the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority to create zoning districts within a half mile of public transportation to allow multifamily housing development.





Bruce Martin

Ensure Local Compliance with State Housing Laws

Strategies Ranging from Technical Assistance to Enforcement

- **California's Housing Strike Force** is staffed by deputy attorneys general with a broad range of expertise in housing, consumer protection, tenants' rights, land use, environmental justice, and civil rights.
- The **Massachusetts attorney general** issued an **advisory** explaining that communities covered under the MBTA Communities Zoning Law cannot opt out of or avoid their obligations by choosing to forego state funding.
- **Oregon's Housing Accountability and Production Office (HAPO)** will be prepared to receive and respond to official inquiries, requests, and complaints from local governments and housing developers and offer solutions to implement state housing laws effectively.



Paige Shinn Photography

LEVERAGE

Maximize opportunities for residential development with land, finance, and adaptive reuse

Leverage Land

Make land more widely available for housing development

- Atlanta's mayoral **Affordable Housing Strike Force** is designed to bring together city agencies to collaboratively make available hundreds of underused or vacant acres for housing development. Participating agencies include the city of Atlanta, MARTA, Atlanta Public Schools, Atlanta BeltLine, Atlanta Housing, Invest Atlanta, Metro Atlanta Land Bank, and the Atlanta Land Trust.
- In Chicago, the **Chi Block Builder** program simplifies the purchase and redevelopment of vacant city-owned lots with a user-friendly online portal and clear guidelines. A dedicated website includes a map of over 2,200 vacant lots the city has made ready for sale.

David Wakely Photography

Money Matters

Boost housing production with state and local funding incentives

- **Cleveland, Ohio's updated Residential Tax Abatement Program** makes new construction homes built in the city's weaker markets eligible for 15-year, 100 percent tax abatements on the improvements if they meet permitting and green building standards. Single-family homes, multifamily buildings, and condominiums are all eligible.
- **Michigan's Housing Tax Increment Financing (TIF)** program makes funds available for nearly any type of for-sale or rental residential development on brownfield sites around the state.
- **New York State's Pro-Housing Communities Program** provides grants and increased funding allocations to municipalities that adopt pro-housing policies such as zoning reform or expedited permitting.



Michigan Community Capital

Explore Potential for Office-to-Residential Conversions

Adaptive reuse to expand housing supply

- Chicago's LaSalle Street Reimagined initiative seeks to transform the Loop into a mixed-use neighborhood. The city has offered \$150 million in tax increment financing to convert four old office buildings to include residences.
- Denver has launched an adaptive reuse pilot program in Upper Downtown to support the residential conversion from office space, providing technical assistance to navigate the city's site development review and permitting process.
- In San Francisco, the report *From Workspace to Homebase* identifies various types of office spaces suitable for conversion, including older office buildings with outdated infrastructure, vacant floors within buildings, and low-demand office districts.

From Workspace to Homebase

Exploring the viability of office-to-residential conversion in San Francisco's changing real estate market



THANK YOU
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