

Who Among the Potential Eligible are Not Receiving CalFresh?

Application of Neighborhood and Community- Level CalFresh Participation Measures

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PART I

Objectives of Today's Presentation

- ❖ Show differences in CalFresh access at below county levels – *census tracts, zip codes, neighborhoods, etc.*
- ❖ Highlight population subgroups having CalFresh access lower than expected based on poverty levels.
- ❖ Highlight the causes of spatial dissimilarities in CalFresh access using statistical analysis.
- ❖ Seek further directions on next steps, and taking this analysis outside CDSS.

The Issue!

- **Socio-economic indicators at the county level rarely show significant correlations with CalFresh access.**
- **Existing research methods and capabilities limited our capacity to produce usable information at neighborhood levels.**
- **Geocoding analytics allow us to assemble a rich data set using a variety of resources.**

Objectives of Today's Presentation

- ❖ Show differences in CalFresh access at below county levels – *census tracts, zip codes, neighborhoods, etc* using **geocoding** analytics.
- ❖ Highlight population subgroups having CalFresh access lower than expected based on poverty levels using **geocoding** analytics.

Geocoding

Geocoding is a technique that can help us:

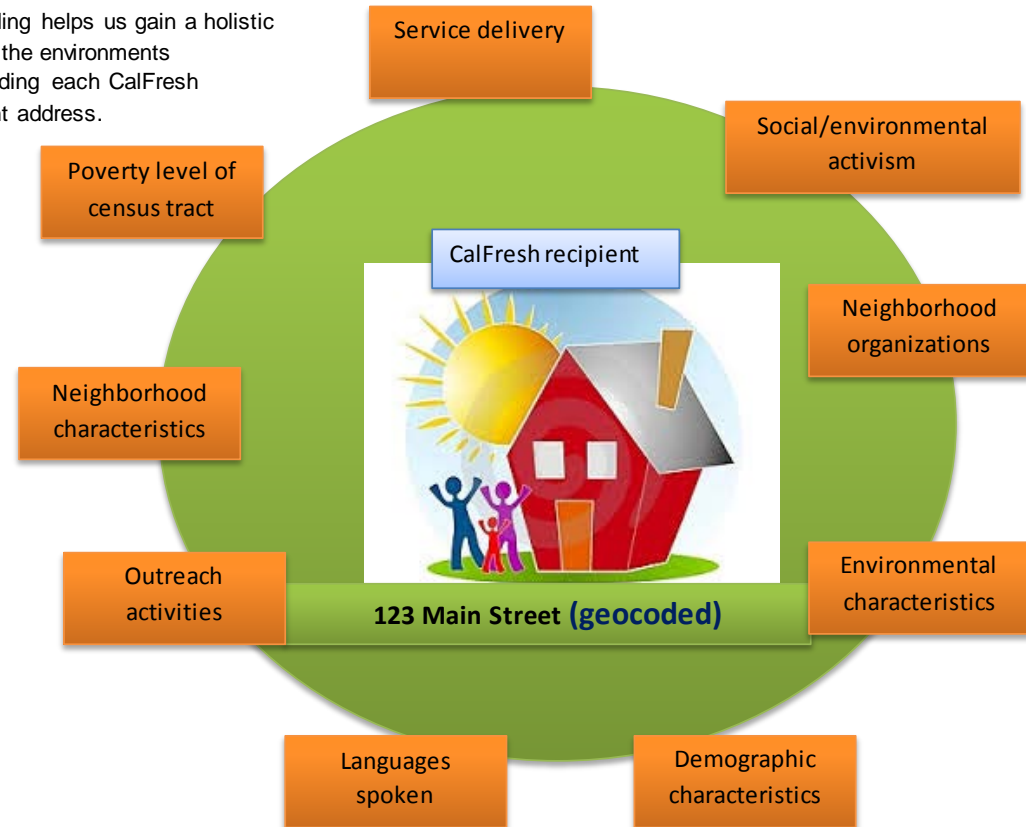
- I. map recipient level data, and
- II. assess CalFresh reach at community levels.

Based on the poverty estimates for an area, this spatial analytical tool will enable us to identify places:

- where potential CalFresh eligibles reside,
- where CalFresh reach is low, and more importantly,
- where more effective and targeted outreach strategies could be directed.

Why geocode?

Geocoding helps us gain a holistic view of the environments surrounding each CalFresh recipient address.



Exploring Causes of Spatial Dissimilarities: A six-county Analysis

- **Background Information**
 - Accounts for roughly a third of the State's total and CalFresh population.
 - Varied socioeconomic characteristics – poverty, language spoken, etc.

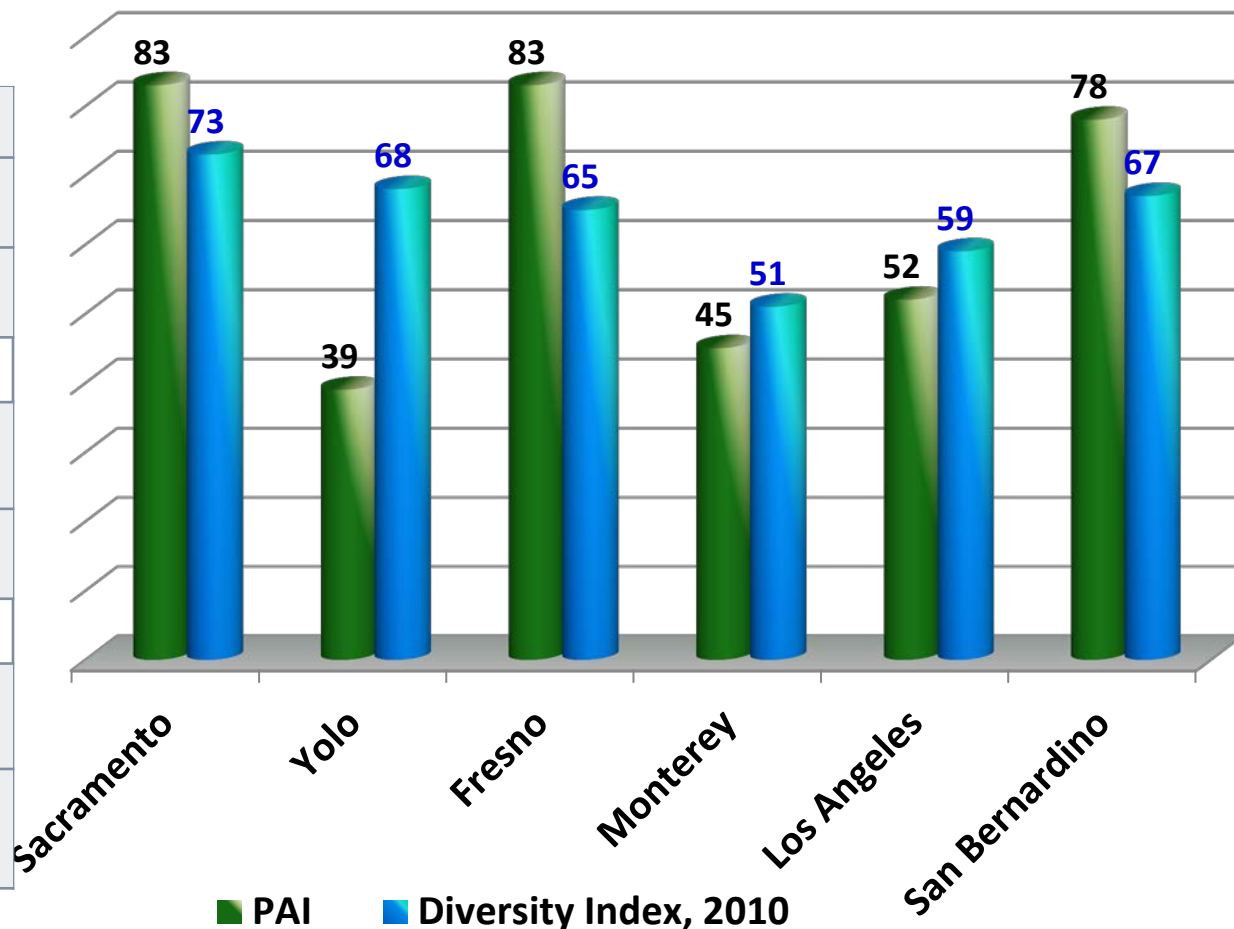
The Six Study Counties

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Diversity Index (2010)* and Program Access Index (2011)**

The six study counties

County		PAI *
North	Sacramento	HIGH
North	Yolo	LOW
County		PAI *
Middle	Fresno	HIGH
Middle	Monterey	LOW
County		PAI *
South	San Bernardino	HIGH
South	Los Angeles	LOW



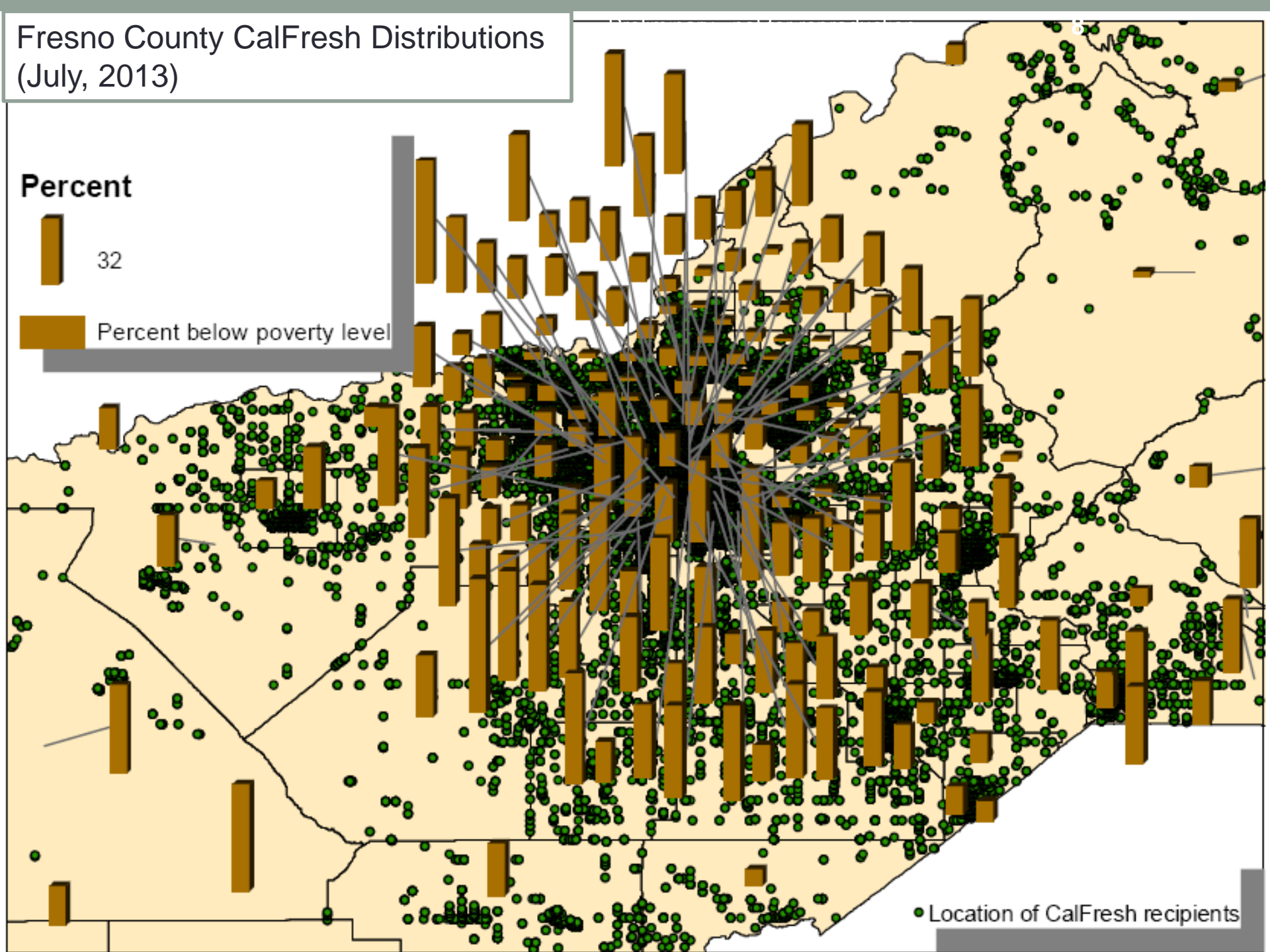
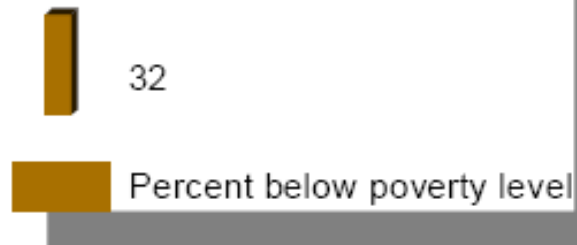
* We followed the methodology used by the Public Policy Institute of California (PPIC) in their calculation of the 1990 and 2000 index .
 "Who's Your Neighbor? Residential Segregation and Diversity in California" By Juan Onésimo Sandoval, Hans P. Johnson, and Sonya M. Tafoya
 Public Policy Institute of California , California Counts Population Trends And Profiles, Volume 4 Number 1 • August 2002

*Based on calculations by the Research Services Branch, CDSS

PAI : Program Access Index.

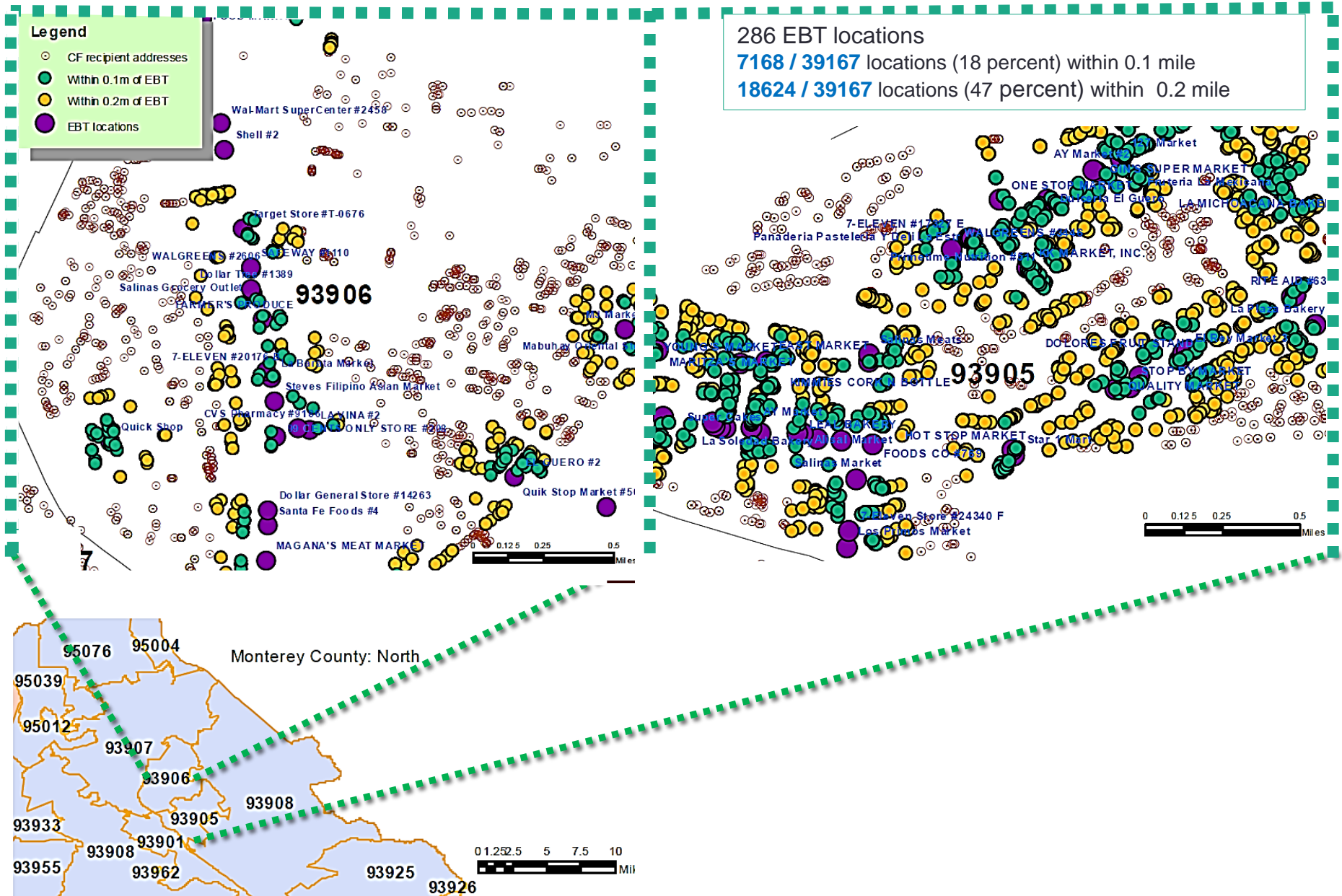
Fresno County CalFresh Distributions (July, 2013)

Percent



• Location of CalFresh recipients

Monterey County: CalFresh Recipient Addresses and Distance from EBT Locations (Zip Codes 93905 and 93906)



Measuring CalFresh Access

County: Program Access Index (PAI)

VS.

Neighborhood: Program Reach Index (PRI)

Program Access Index (PAI)

$$PAI = \frac{(\text{CalFresh Participants}) - (\text{Disaster CalFresh Program Participants})}{(\text{Individuals with Income} < 125\% \text{ Poverty Threshold}) - (\text{FDPIR Participants}) - (\text{SSI Recipients})}$$

Where:

FDPRI: Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations

SSI: Supplemental Security Income

Source: <http://www.fns.usda.gov/sites/default/files/PAI2011.pdf>

Program Reach Index (PRI) *

$$PRI = \frac{\text{Census Tract CalFresh Participants}}{\text{Tract pop size} \times \text{Tract proportion below poverty level} \times 1.3 - SSISP}$$

* Geography-based or population-based

Advantages of Using PRI

- ❖ **Measure CalFresh access at below county levels.**
- ❖ **Measure differences in access among population subgroups.**
- ❖ **Use results to devise targeted CalFresh outreach activities.**
- ❖ **Help uncover the limitations of PAI methodology.**

Application Example: LA County on the Map

**Potential Eligible – Below 130 percent
Poverty**

vs.

CalFresh Access – PRI

Preliminary - not for reproduction

Legend

Elig. (130 pcnt)

- 5 - 250
- 251 - 500
- 501 - 1000
- 1001 - 2000
- Above 2000

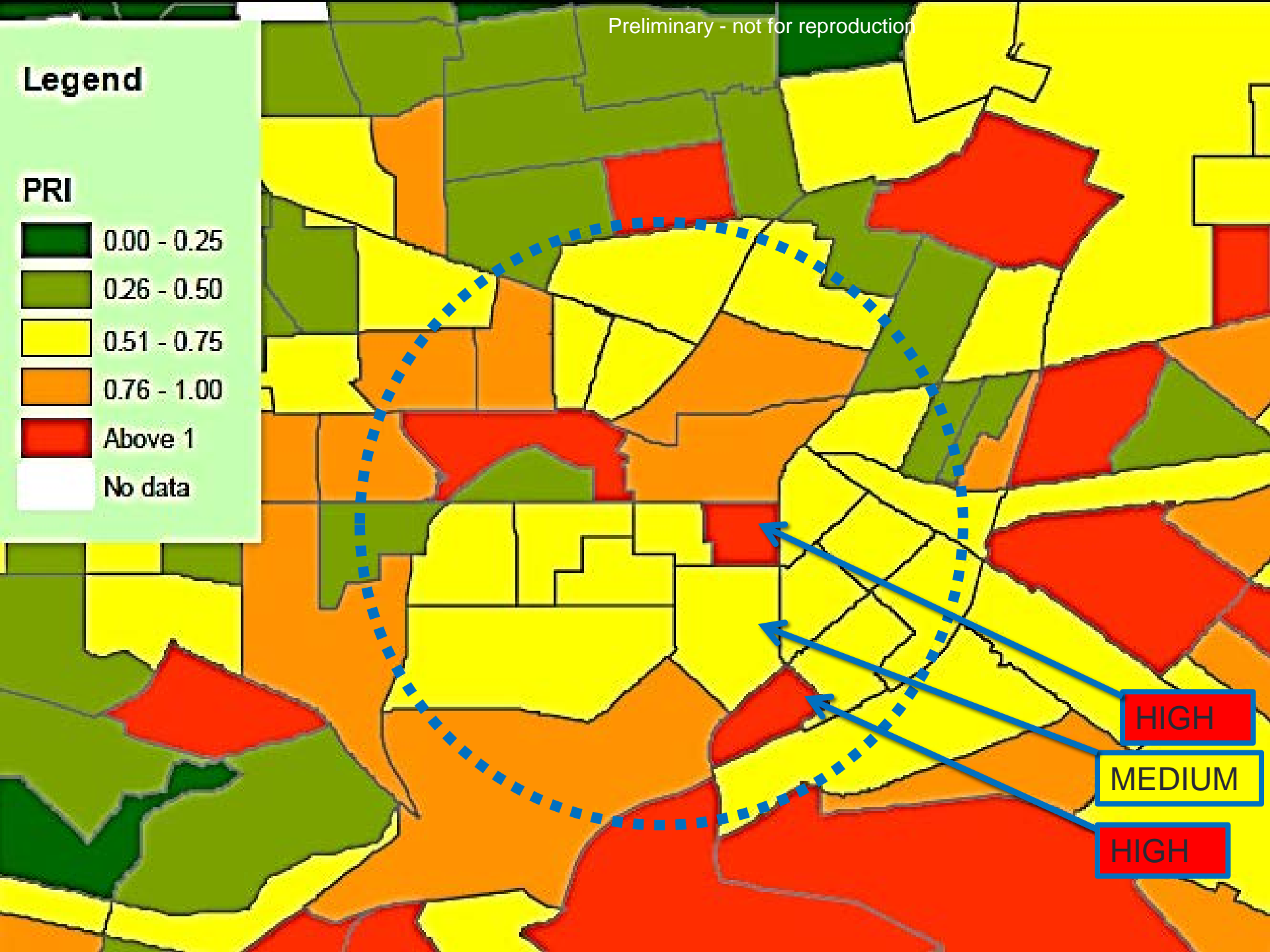
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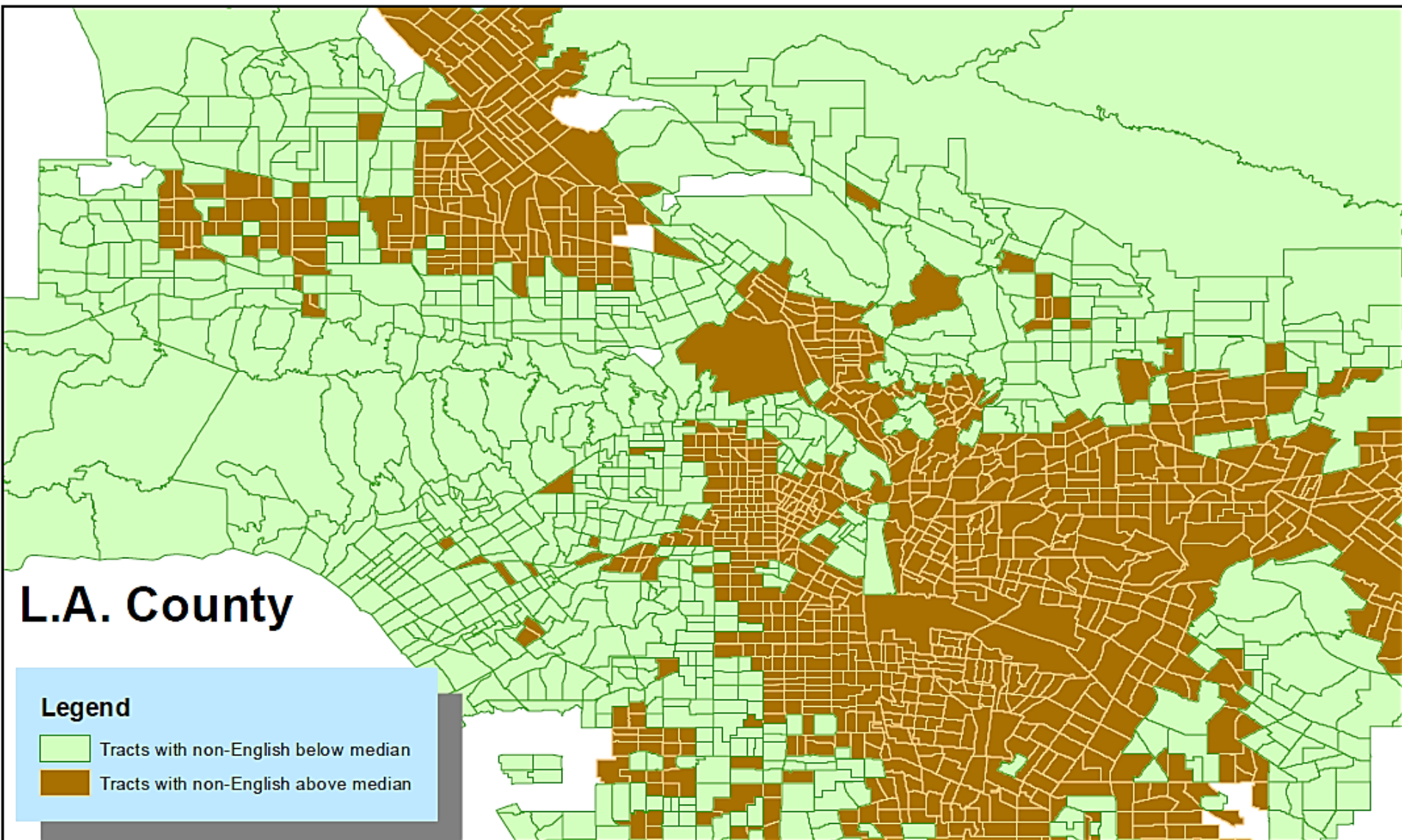
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PRI



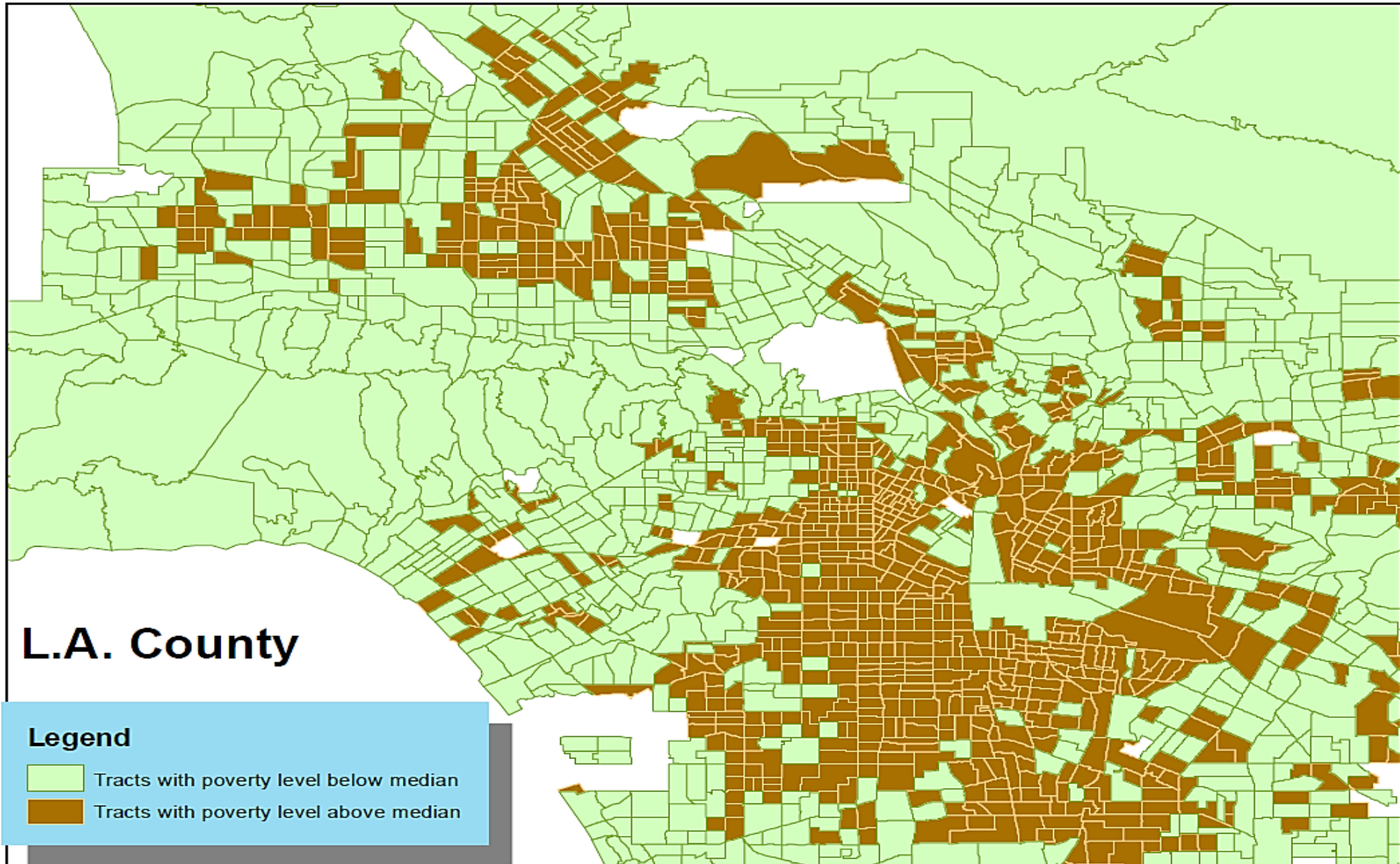
L.A. County Tracts: Percent Speaking Languages other than English by Position Above or Below Median

(Median = 58.3)



L.A. County Tracts: Percent Below Poverty by Position Above or Below Median

(Median = 11.2)



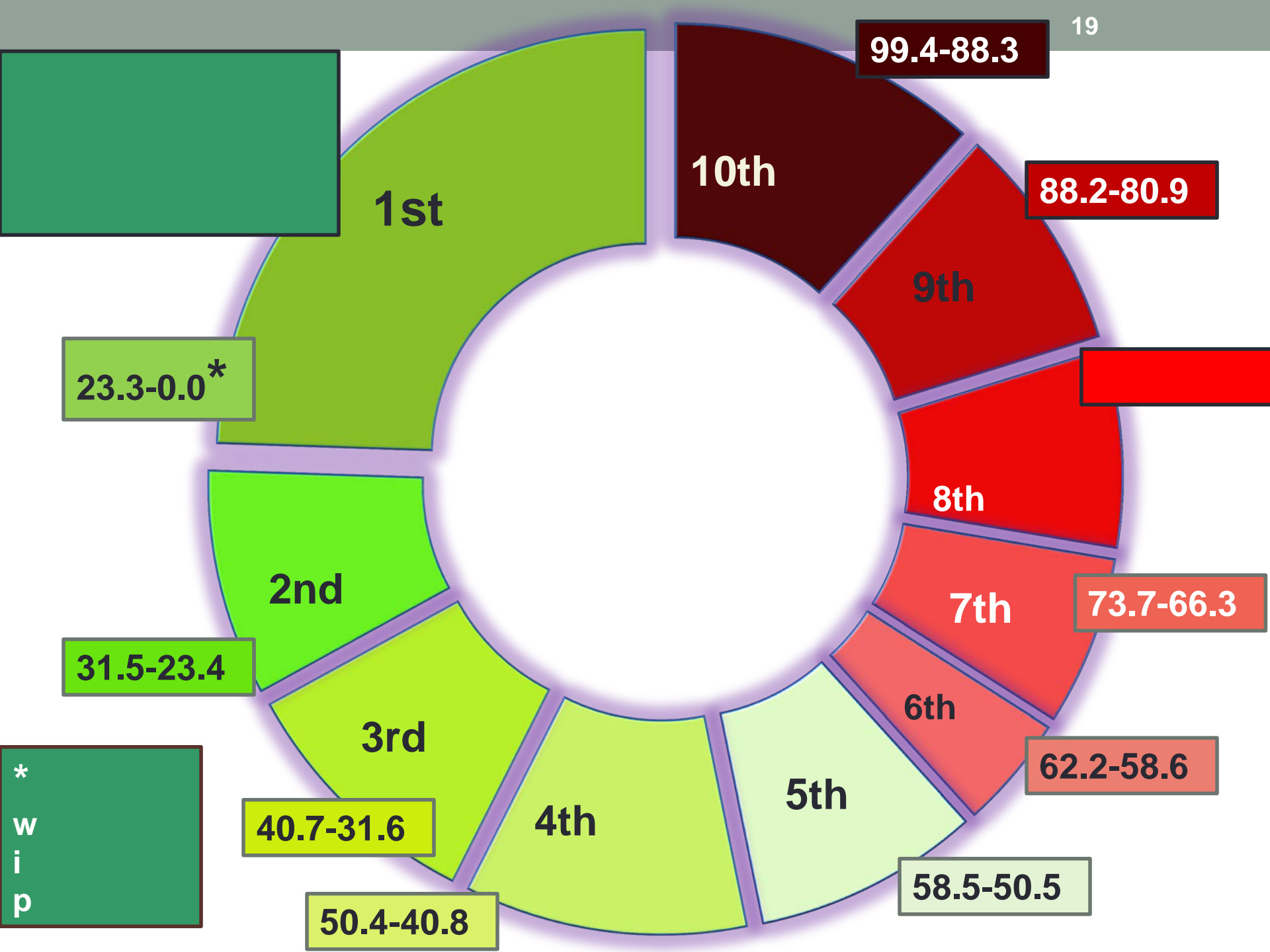
(* Poverty median = 11.2)

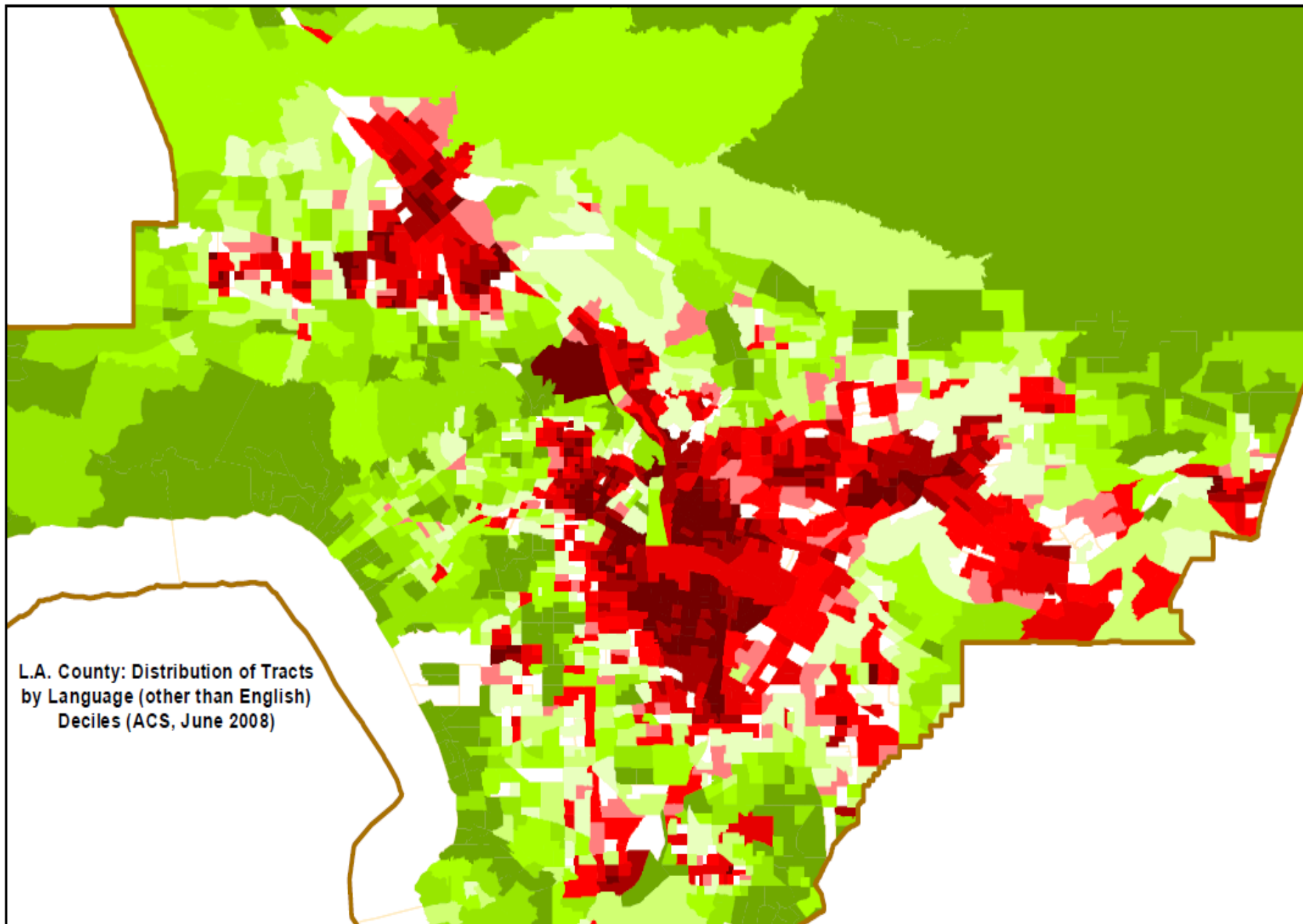
Tracts with percent below poverty lower than county median *

❖ Average percent below poverty = 5.0 percent

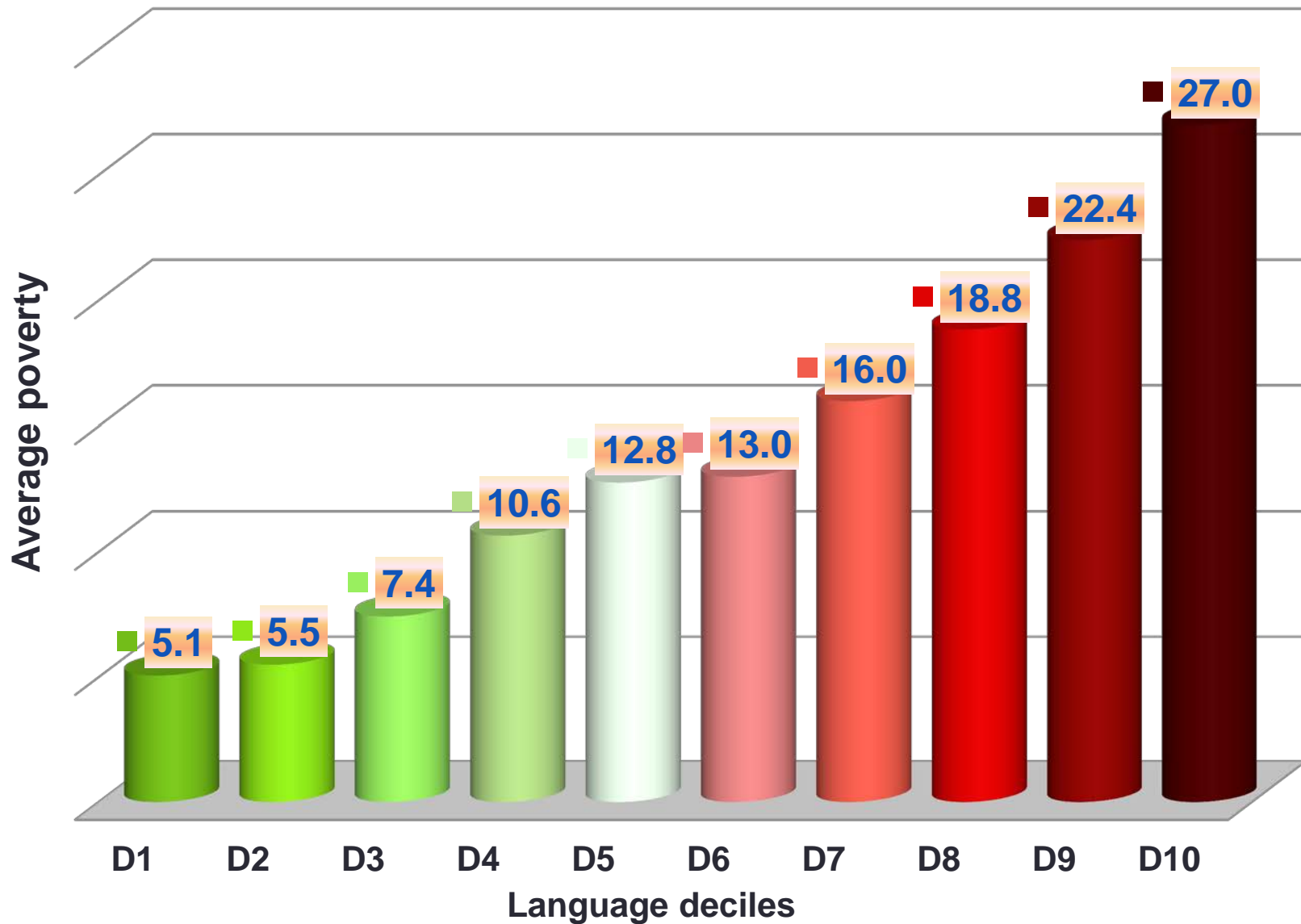
Tracts with percent below poverty higher than county median

❖ Average percent below poverty = 24.0 percent

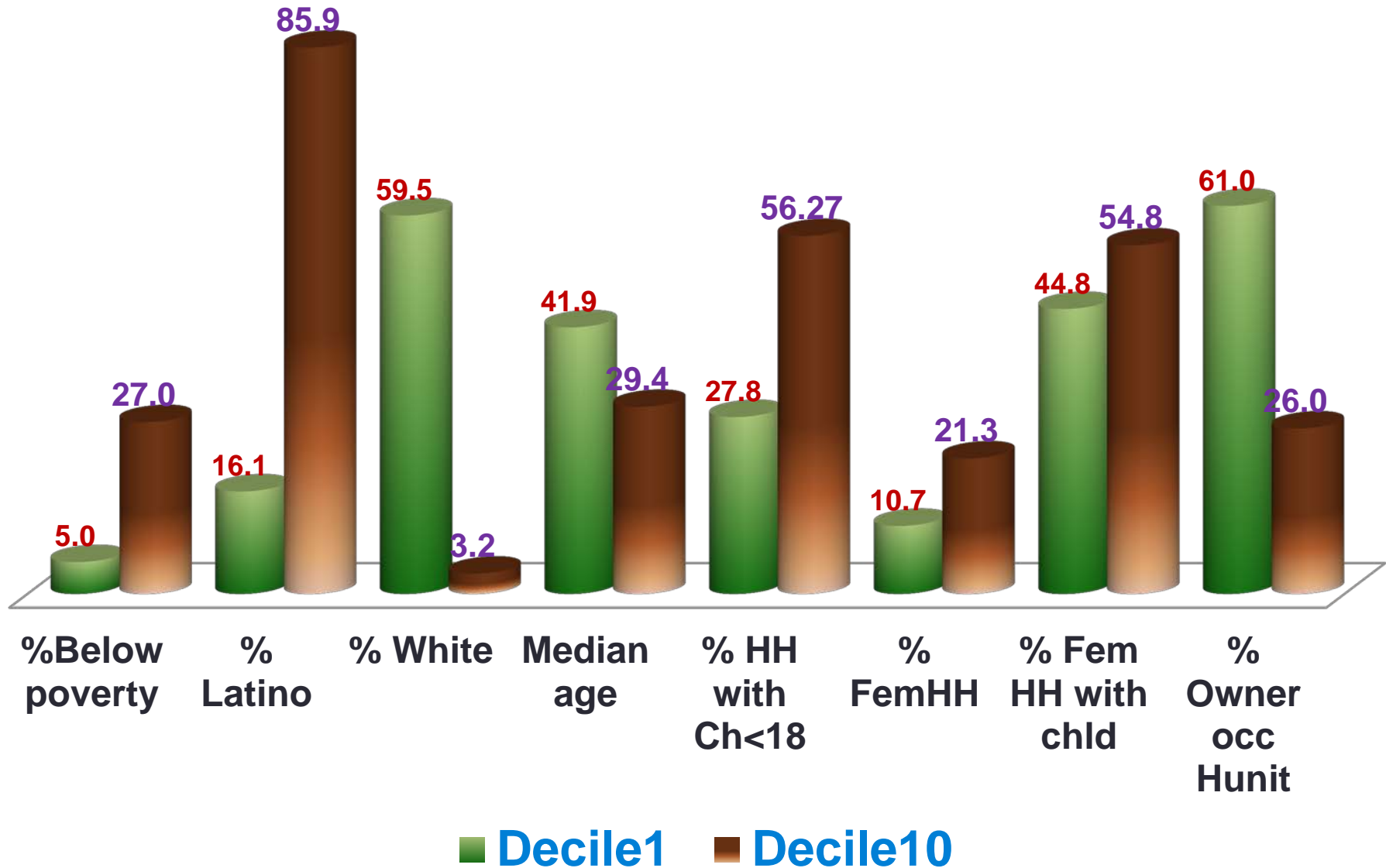


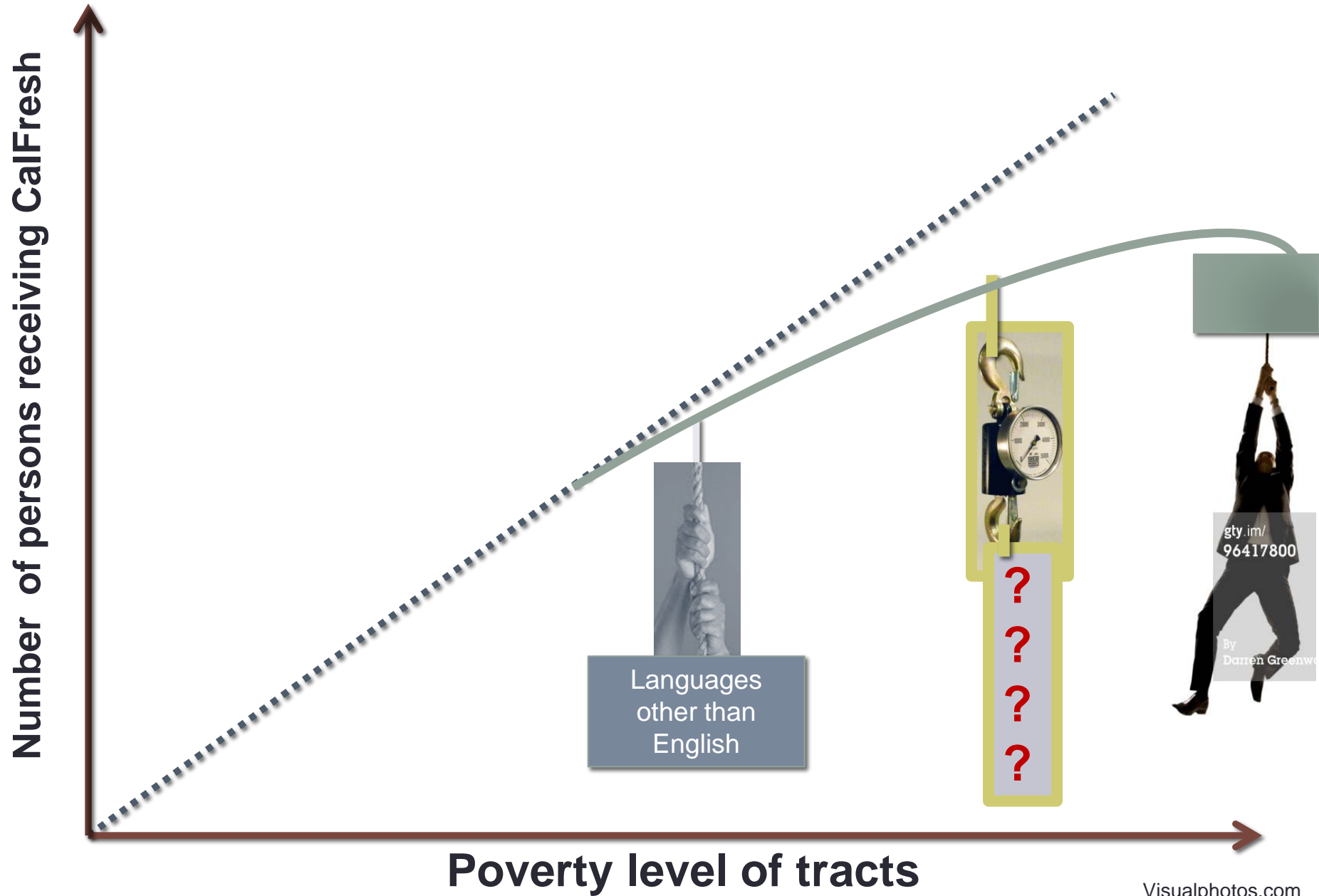


L.A. County: Average Poverty Level Tract by Language (other than English) Deciles



Socioeconomic Characteristics, Decile-level Averages: Decile1 vs. Decile10





PART II

1. Re-evaluation of existing measurement tools

- Denominator adjustments.

2. Picking the low-hanging fruits (Medi-Cal recipients currently not receiving CalFresh)

- Based on aid-code analysis, extract the addresses of Medi-Cal recipient that appear to be eligible to receive CalFresh benefits.

1. Denominator Adjustment

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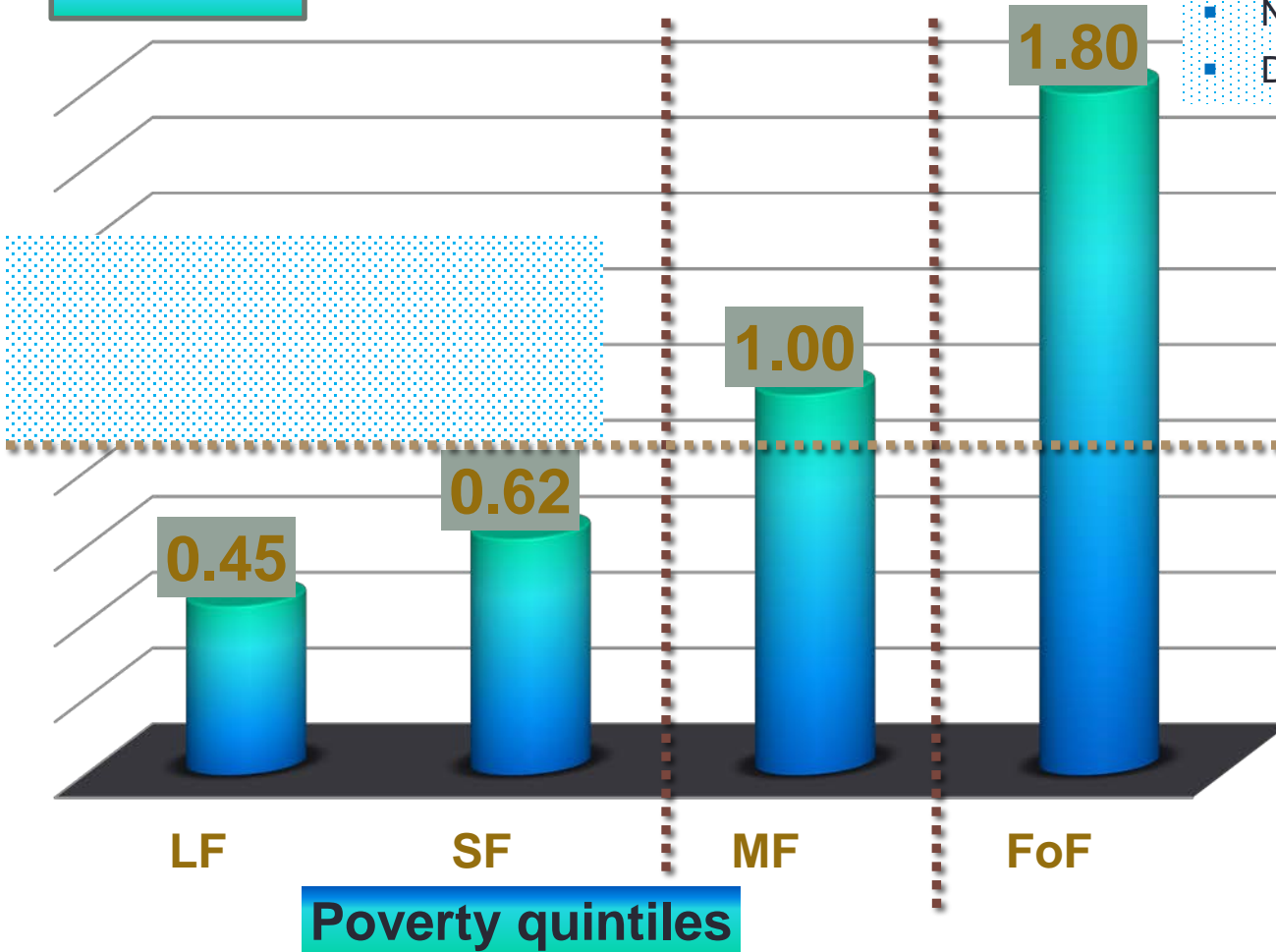
Fresno PRI (all ages)

PAI: 0.89

Fresno

The problem:

- Numerator: **Low**
- Denominator: **Low**

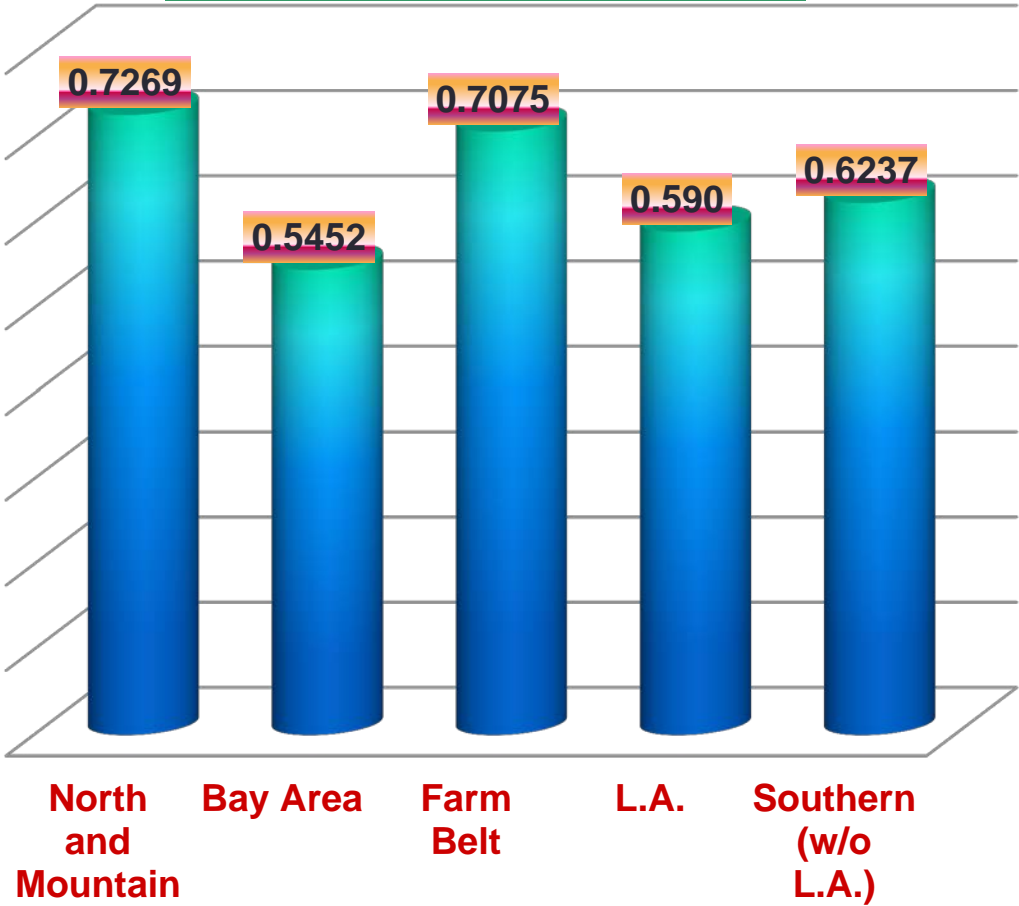


Solution #1
Remove SSI/SSP

LF	10,879
SF	9,204
MF	8,164
FoF	5,059
HF	2,301

Proportion of Child-only Households in Counties With High CalFresh Access

PAI by Region, 2010



Proportion of Child-only households (June, 2013)

County*

Amador

Bute

Calaveras

Del Norte

Humbolt

Inyo

Lake

Lassen

Mariposa

Mendocino

Modoc

Nevada

Plumas

Shasta

Siskiyou

Tehama

Tuolumne

Average

Median

* Alpine, Mono, Sierra and Trinity are excluded

Program Reach Index (PRI) Child-only Method

$$\text{PRI} = \frac{\text{Census Tract CalFresh Participants}}{\text{Tract pop size} \times \text{Tract proportion below poverty level} \times 1.3 - (\text{SSISSP} + \text{No.ChildOnlyHHs} \times .94 \times F)}$$

F: Adjustment factor

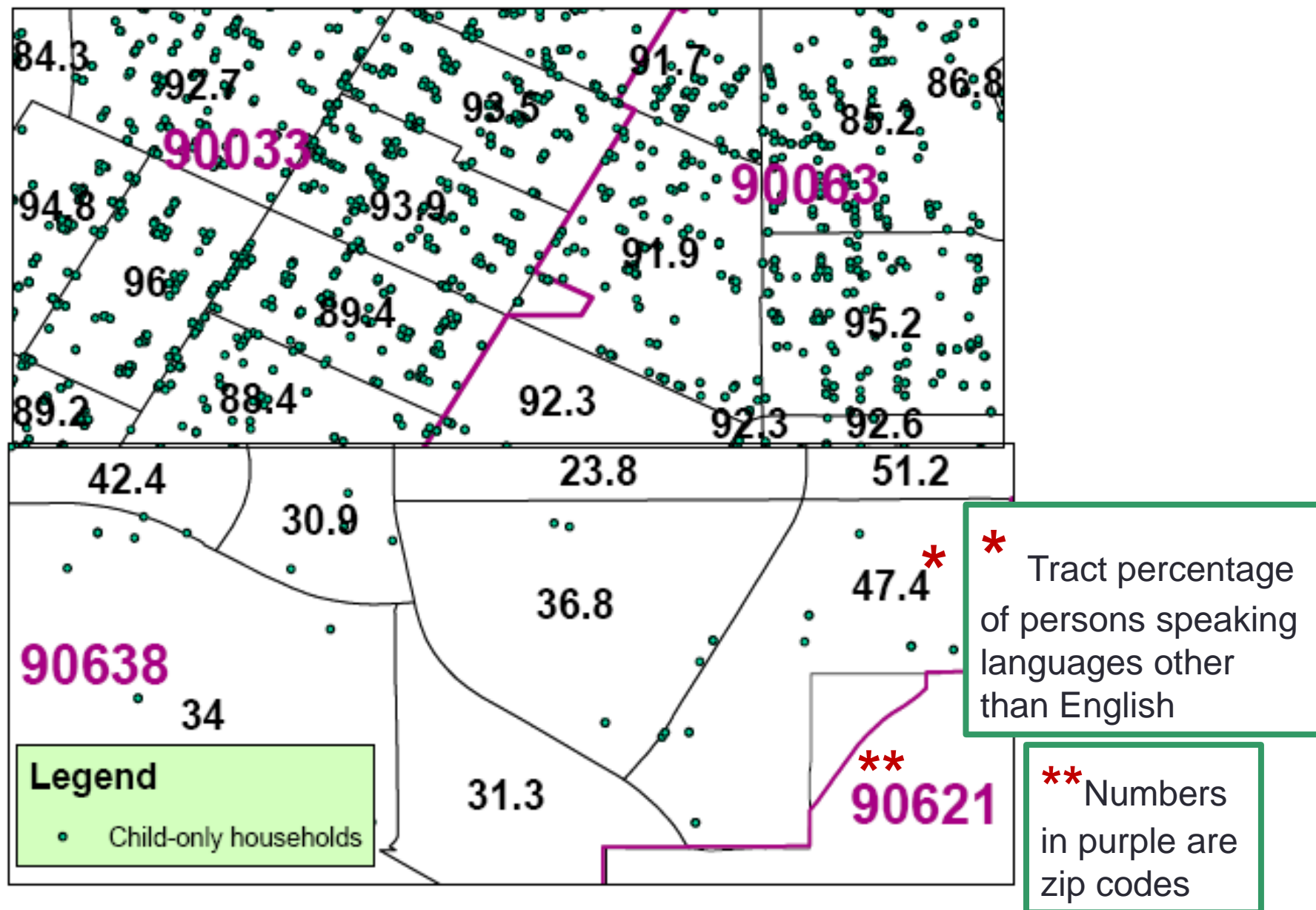
F = Total number of families \div number of families with own children under 18

Denominator Adjustments....contd. ²⁸

**Total CalFresh Households and Child-only CalFresh Households
(Top 10 counties for Child-only cases), June 2013**

County	Child-only CalFresh households	Total CalFresh households	Percent
L.A. County	108,602	541944	20 percent
Orange	27,567	99,489	28 percent
San Bernardino	20,698	148807	14 percent
Riverside	16,178	110752	15 percent
San Diego	14,322	105565	14 percent
Fresno	12,619	88114	14 percent
Santa Clara	11,066	52382	21 percent
Kern	10,286	56,382	18 percent
Sacramento	9,645	88674	11 percent
Alameda	9,040	62192	15 percent

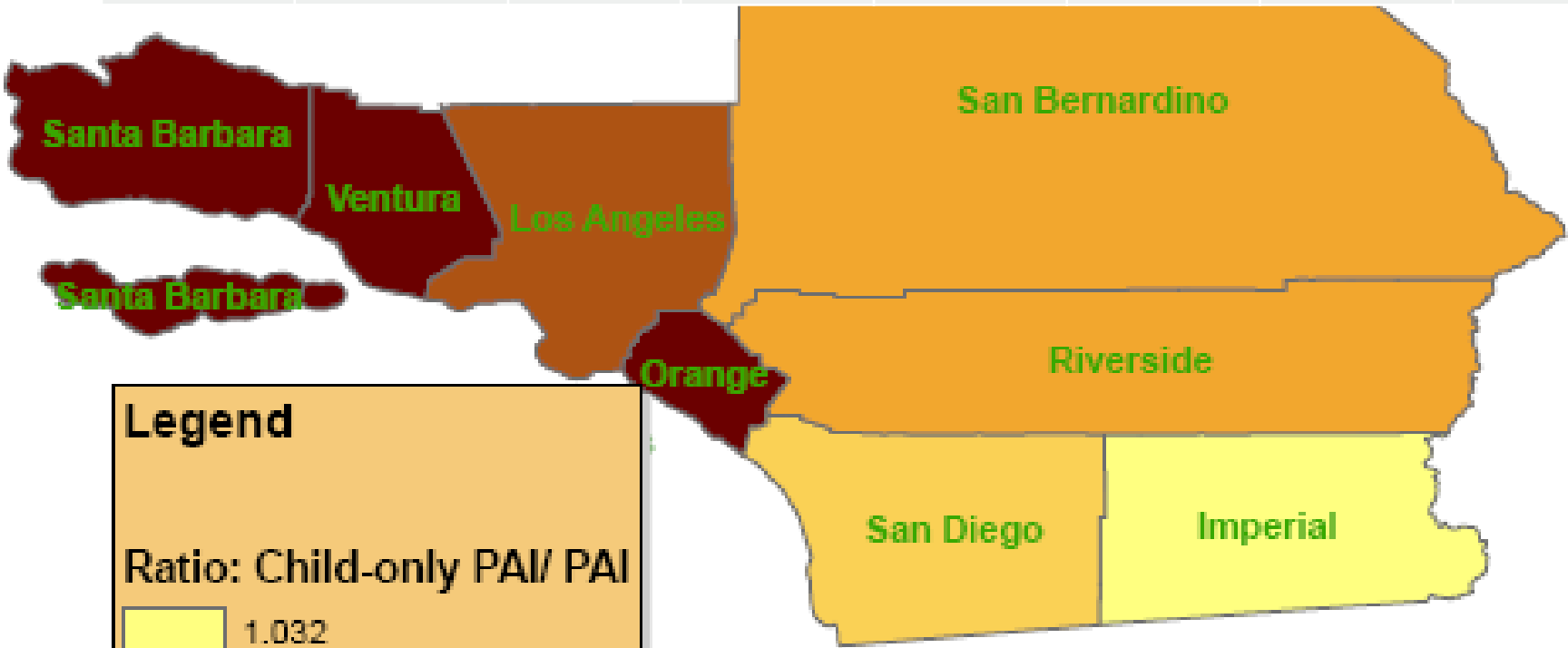
L.A. County: Location of Child-only Households by Tract Percentage of People Speaking Languages Other than English, June 2013



The Ratio of Adjusted PAI (Child-only method) to PAI, by County (June 2011)

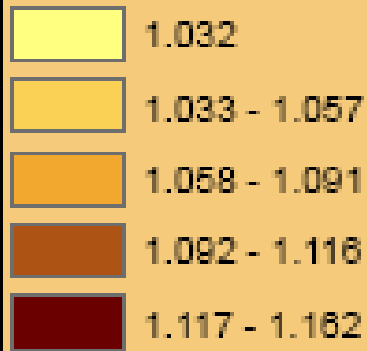
Southern California (map) and top 16 “gainers” (list)

Madera	Santa Cruz	Santa Barbara	Ventura	Orange	Santa Clara	Monterey	Los Angeles
1.190	1.162	1.160	1.156	1.155	1.144	1.144	1.128
Solano	San Francisco	Sonoma	Napa	Fresno	Marin	Alameda	San Benito
1.126	1.126	1.124	1.124	1.110	1.110	1.108	1.107



Legend

Ratio: Child-only PAI/ PAI



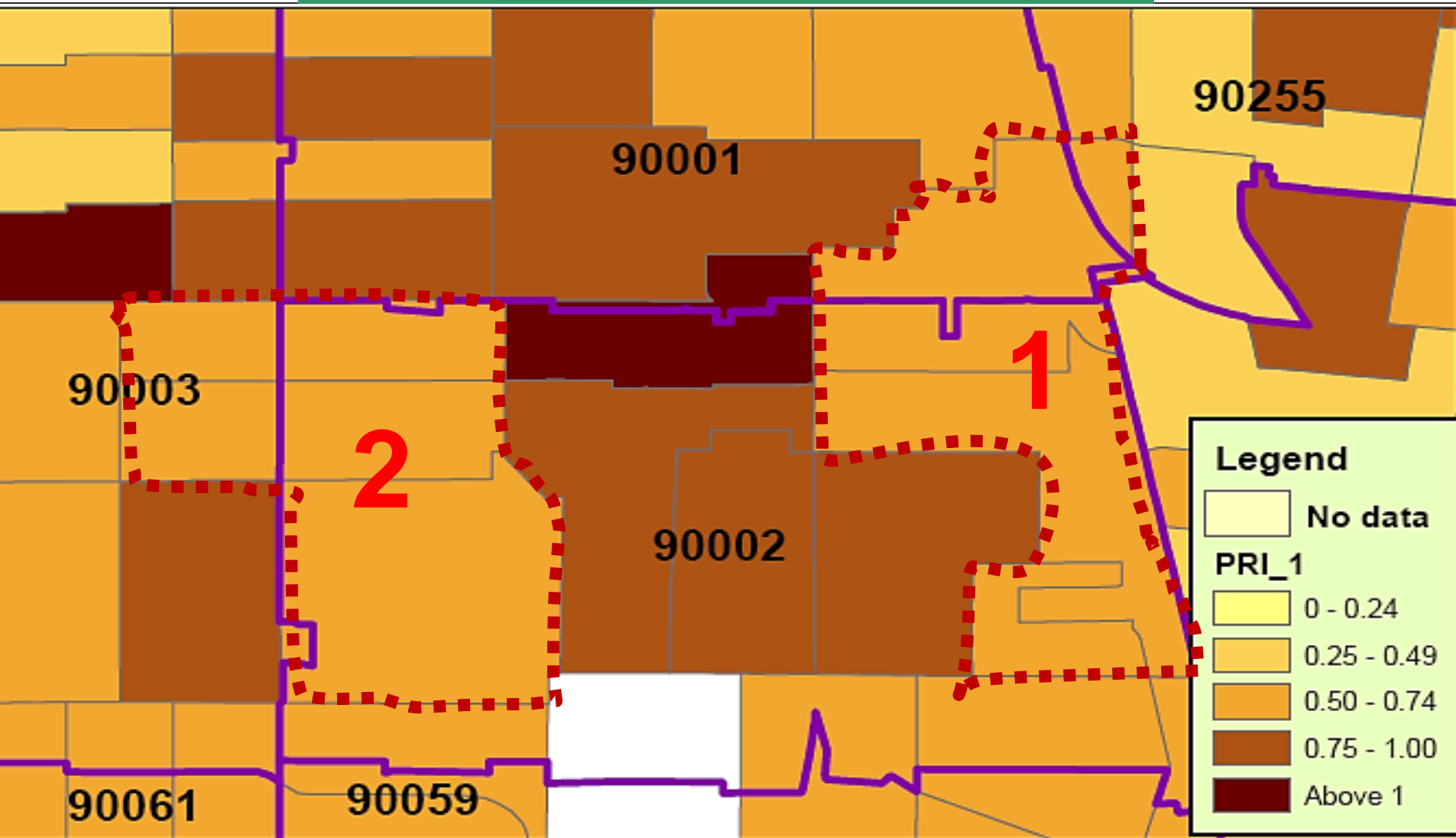
0 15 30 60 90 120 Miles

Program Reach Index (PRI), Child-only Households Method L.A. County, Decile10

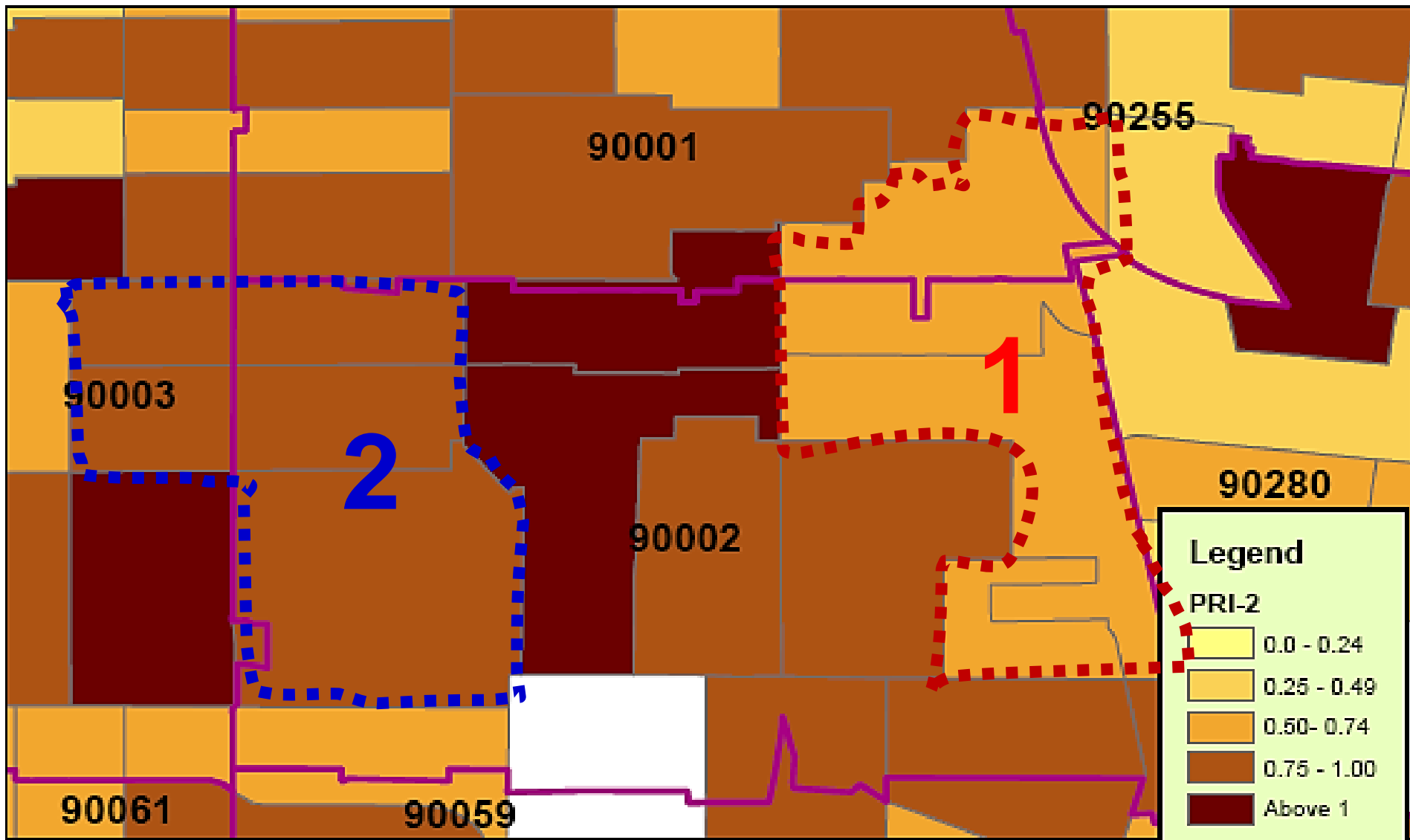
CalFresh Total	178,020
Total Eligible	341,012
SSI/SSP*.5	22,174

No. Child-only HHs	27,836
All HHs/HHs with Chld.	235,761 / 109,670 = 2.15
Estimated Ineligibles	59,840
PRI I	0.558
PRI II	0.687
Difference	0.129

Selected Zip codes: L.A. County



Selected Zip codes: L.A. County



Fresno PRI (Child-only method), by Poverty Quintiles : Lowest fifth

Total CalFresh	108,668
Total eligible	188,930
SSI-SSP*.5	32,750
Child-only*.94	10,388
All HHs/ HHs with<18	47,054 / 22,537 = 2.087
“Estimated” Ineligibles	21,680
PRI - LF	0.69

Medi-Cal Recipient Analysis³⁵

Potential CalFresh Enrollees Currently Receiving Medi-Cal
(Top 10 Counties)

County	Number	Percent
Los Angeles	565,680	37.38
Orange	101,147	6.68
San Bernardino	81,395	5.38
San Diego	79,436	5.25
Riverside	77,584	5.13
Santa Clara	56,328	3.72
Sacramento	50,417	3.33
Fresno	46,138	3.05
Alameda	44,347	2.93
Kern	44,304	2.93

- **The Program Reach Index (PRI) is as useful an indicator of CalFresh access at the county level as the Program Access Index (PAI).**
- **The ability to apply PRI at below county levels makes it much more valuable in accessing CalFresh reach at community and neighborhood levels.**
- **The PRI can help target outreach activities through mapping techniques that highlight areas needing benefits the most.**
- **Use of the CalFresh Child-only households method provided a sensible refinement by enabling the removal of some ineligible individuals from the denominator.**