

ARC and United Way of Greater Atlanta Regional Economic Mobility Initiatives



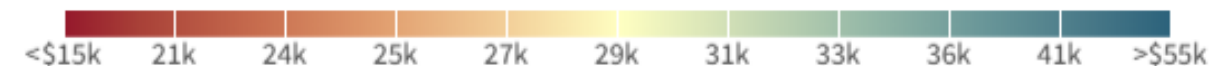
Opportunity Rising:

A long-term regional commitment for the Atlanta Region to
achieve greater economic mobility

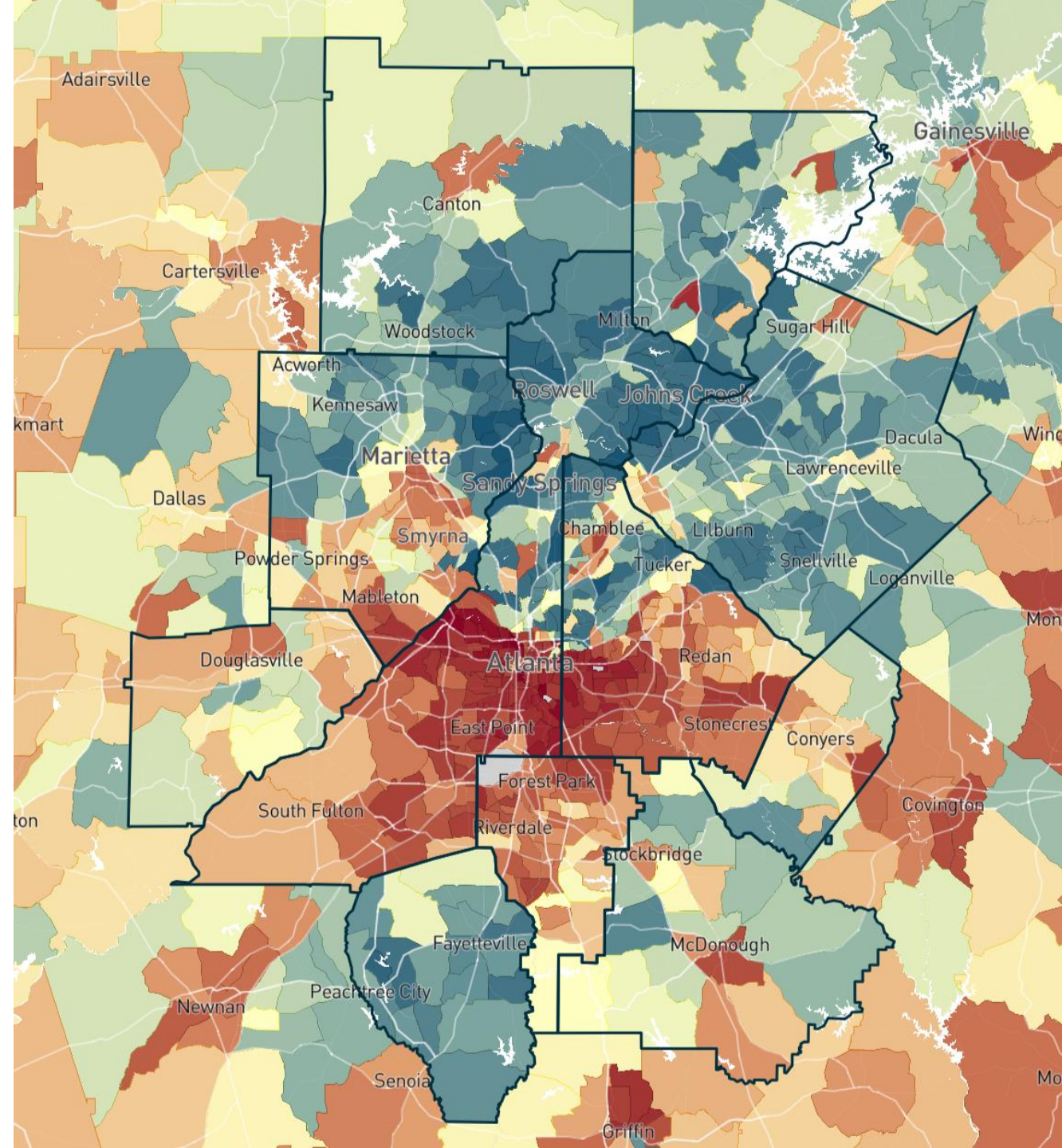
September 2026

Economic mobility is low in the Atlanta region and uneven across neighborhoods

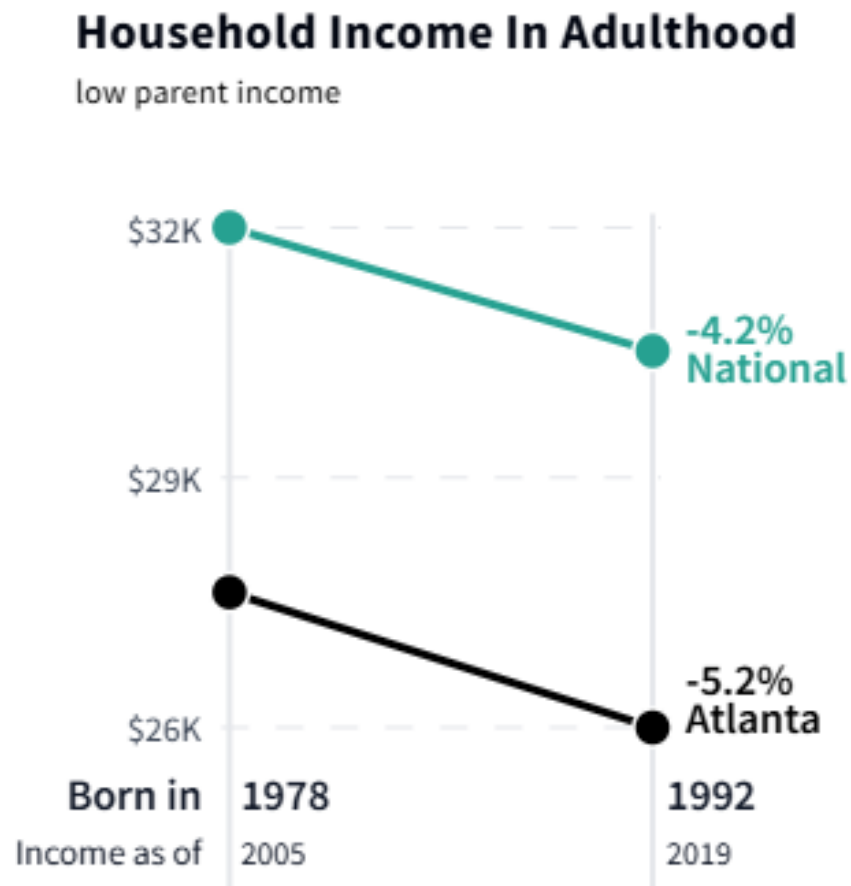
Household income at age 35 for children of low-income parents by census tract



Source: Opportunity Atlas



Economic mobility in Atlanta is declining more than the national average



Nationally, people born in 1992 who grew up in low-income households had an average income of \$30,200 at age 27. In Atlanta, the average income for these children was \$26,200. This represents lower mobility but also a more significant decline from a previous generation of children born in 1978.

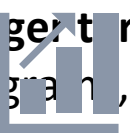
Source: Opportunity Atlas

OUR PURPOSE STATEMENT

Children born in the Atlanta Region are ensured the opportunity to succeed and realize prosperity in adulthood.

Our aspiration is that the Atlanta Region's leaders and community will unite as a collective impact model to transform systems and evolve policies.

 **Short term/pioneering phase (year 1-2) success** depends on relationship building that leads to a shared vision of regional priorities and a shared understanding of what the data say.

 **Longer term success** will be measurable progress on our intermediate indicators, meaningful investment in proven programs, and meaningful evidence-based policy changes.

The geographic scope of “the Atlanta Region” depends on what we decide to accomplish. We can go deep on a smaller area and/or inspire and seed a larger area

STRUCTURE

A Backbone and four interconnected Alliances will allow the Atlanta Region to rise up from last and become a vanguard on economic mobility.



Strategic Backbone

Establishes a clear, shared articulation of what success looks like for children, families, and communities across the region.

1

Research & Data Indicators

Sets long-term north star metrics for the region, identifies key drivers and determinants of economic mobility for Atlanta, aligns on and selects indicators, creates a data dashboard to track progress, evaluates interventions to inform policy and investment.

2

Policy, Systems, & Advocacy

Identifies the determinants and interventions where coordinated policy and systems change will move indicators most effectively, translates evidence into an actionable regional policy playbook.

3

Capital Alignment

Aligns philanthropic, corporate, and public funding to the indicators, uses the dashboard as a shared lens so that investment, programs, and policy pull in one direction.

4

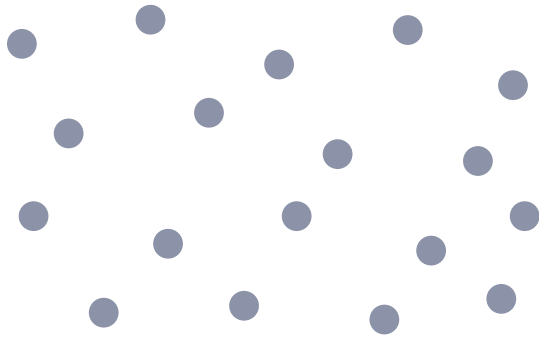
Community Voice & Outreach

Ensures resident experience and local context inform regional learning, strategy, and policy, while building trust across institutions.

Why a regional backbone?

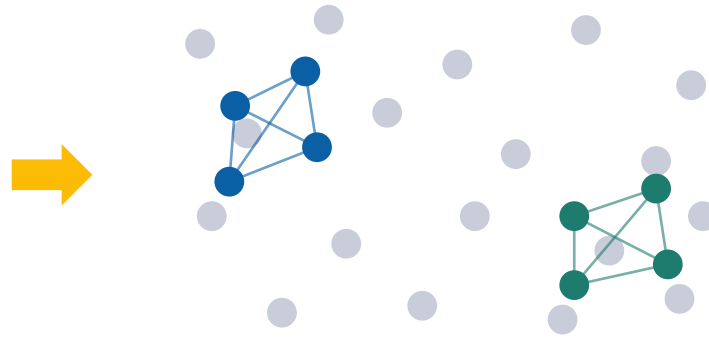
Good work is already happening. Even well-coordinated work stays local unless something connects it.

TODAY



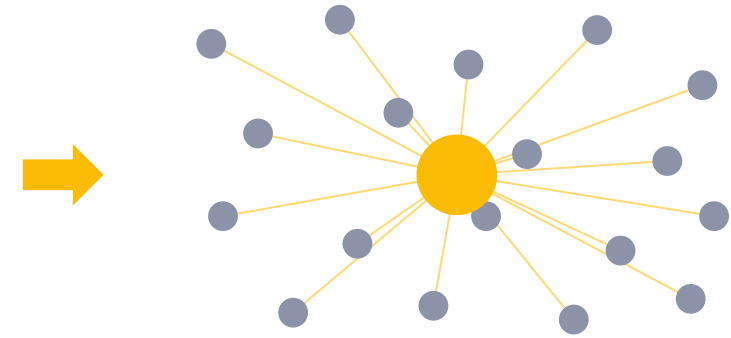
Hundreds of strong programs across 13 counties. Separate data, separate priorities. Progress is lost in the handoffs.

WHAT WE ARE BUILDING NOW



Eighteen Summers and NRI are each standing up a place-based backbone. Once activated, each will coordinate its own neighborhoods well and create two models of alignment in a 13-county region.

WITH A REGIONAL BACKBONE



One connected system: shared data, aligned policy, coordinated capital, community voice so what works in one place can travel.

Built by United Way, ARC, the City of Atlanta, and the Arthur M. Blank Family Foundation