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Measuring Need for Youth Services in D.C.

Comparing Poverty and TANF Data

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KEY FINDINGS

- More than half of Washington, D.C.'s poor children live east of the Anacostia River in wards 7 and 8. Three neighborhood clusters—two of them east of the river and one in ward 1—are home to 30 percent of all poor children.
- The majority of children receiving TANF live east of the Anacostia River, although neighborhood clusters outside wards 7 and 8 also have large numbers of child TANF recipients.
- As measures of relative need, the share of children receiving TANF and the share of children in poverty are closely correlated, and so lead to similar conclusions regarding the targeting of services by neighborhood.

Research suggests that neighborhood characteristics, including the availability of local services, can positively affect the well-being of children and youth. Providing effective services in neighborhoods where poor children face a host of challenges is critical. Poor children are more likely to repeat grades or drop out of school. They experience significantly more serious emotional and behavioral problems, particularly during adolescence, including depression, low self-esteem, and antisocial behaviors. Poor children are also twice as likely as nonpoor children to suffer stunted growth and lead poisoning. All these negative effects on health and development appear to be cumulative, in that they keep those born into poverty within the ranks of the poor, even into adulthood (Lichter and Crowley 2002).

Neighborhood-based programs may prevent children from engaging in at-risk activities and encourage greater program participation (Chapin Hall 2002). But do such services exist with adequate capacity in the neighborhoods and communities where they are needed the most? This brief attempts to answer part of that question by documenting where poor children and children on public assistance live in the District of Columbia.

In this brief, DC Agenda and the Urban Institute examine the location of children in poverty by age and race in the District of Columbia and compare this information to the numbers and locations of children receiving welfare assistance. Overall, the number of poor children in the District rose to more than 35,000 in 2000. This increase has serious consequences for the city as a whole, as child poverty is associated with lower academic achievement, which results in lower skills and lifetime earnings and a higher incidence of social problems. Moreover, concentrations of poverty can have debilitating effects on both people and neighborhoods, making attempts at economic development, community revitalization, and family strengthening more difficult (Ellen and Turner 1997).

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) is the current federal welfare program providing income subsidies to poor people and families. While poverty has been increasing, the number of persons benefiting from TANF in the District has declined from a recent high of 72,330 people in 1994 to 44,077 in 2001—a decrease of about one-third.[1] A number of factors may have led to this shrinking of TANF rolls, particularly increased work requirements, the expansion of work-focused services, and a stronger economy in the late 1990s.

These two developments—the increase in child poverty and the decrease in families receiving basic welfare assistance—have led many policymakers and local nonprofits to be concerned about whether sufficient services are available to help families move out of poverty. This report intends to shed light on this question by documenting the location of poor children in relation to the location of children

receiving TANF benefits in the District. Better information at the neighborhood level can help providers and funders geographically target their resources so that children in poverty can take advantage of the programs and services most likely to address their needs. Of course, location is not the only factor that affects the accessibility and usefulness of services. Nevertheless, a more comprehensive map of poor children will help provide a more complete picture for providers, local governments, and local funders to assist them with future planning and needs assessment efforts.

The data presented in this report show definite concentrations of children in need in certain areas of the city, most notably east of the Anacostia River and in the Columbia Heights and Mount Pleasant neighborhoods. While the locations of poor children tend to correlate closely with the locations of those receiving TANF, the correlation is not exact. Some areas with high rates of child poverty, such as neighborhoods with large Latino populations, may have relatively lower rates of TANF enrollment compared to other high-poverty neighborhoods. This must be taken into account when attempting to direct services and programs to particular populations.

Data Sources and Notes

This report is the first in a series of briefs that will draw on data from the DC Data Warehouse to highlight issues of importance to citizens and policymakers in the District. The DC Data Warehouse is a joint effort of DC Agenda and the Urban Institute to compile a wide variety of data on neighborhoods from both public sources (like the U.S. Census) and administrative sources (like city agencies). For this report, we rely on 1990 and 2000 poverty data from the U.S. Census Bureau and July 2001 TANF case records from the D.C. Department of Human Services (DCDHS).[2]

In examining the location of children in need, we use two primary geographic areas. First, we report data based on *wards*, the eight political jurisdictions that cover the entire city of Washington, D.C. Wards are familiar to District policymakers and residents and are commonly used for reporting data at the sub-city level. To get an even finer look at the geographic concentrations of children and programs, we also report data by *neighborhood clusters*. The D.C. Office of Planning, in consultation with community organizers and citizens, has defined 39 neighborhood clusters, consisting of three to five neighborhoods each, that it uses for neighborhood planning.[3] These clusters provide a useful means of summarizing data at the neighborhood level that will be meaningful to District residents and could also contribute to the neighborhood planning process.[4]

Throughout this brief, we present both *shares* and *rates* of children living in poverty and receiving TANF. *Shares* describe the fraction of all poor children or children receiving TANF who live in a given ward or neighborhood cluster. *Rates* refer to the fraction of children in a particular ward or cluster who are in poverty or receiving TANF. For example, 67 percent of children in the Near Southeast neighborhood cluster are poor; hence, this cluster has a 67 percent child poverty *rate*. Because very few children live there, however, the *share* of poor children in Near Southeast is only 3 percent of all poor children in the District. While both shares and rates are important indicators, we emphasize the *shares* of poor children and children receiving TANF in this report as a measure of the relative need for child and family services. In other words, we focus on where the greatest number of children in need live within the District.

Children in Poverty

More than half of the city's poor children live east of the Anacostia River in wards 7 and 8. Three neighborhood clusters—two of them east of the river—are home to 30 percent of all poor children: Congress Heights (#39) in ward 8, Columbia Heights/Mt. Pleasant (#2) in ward 1, and Marshall Heights (#33) in ward 7.

Overall, more than 114,000 children live in the eight wards of the District of Columbia, with 39 percent of all children living in wards 7 and 8. These two wards have the largest numbers of children, with more than 25,500 in ward 8 and 19,700 in ward 7. Ward 2, which includes the downtown

area, has the smallest number of children, at just over 5,400 (5 percent of the total). The distribution of children in the District is generally skewed to poorer sections of the city, such as wards 7 and 8, which have also lost population over the past 10 years.

Analysis of the 2000 Census shows that more than 31 percent of the children in the District are in poverty——an increase of 24 percent since 1990 (see table 1). Furthermore, poverty rates for children have increased as well, from 25 percent in 1990 to 32 percent in 2000. This means that one out of every three children in the District currently lives in poverty. Overall, children represented more than half (51 percent) of the total poverty change in the District between 1990 and 2000.

To put the District's higher child poverty rates in perspective, among central cities[5] with the greatest poverty rate increases between 1990 and 2000, Washington, D.C. had the highest percentage point increase of children in poverty. Children in poverty make up a larger share of the poor population today than they did in 1990 and will be the largest share by the next census if the trend continues.

The vast majority of poor children in the District are African American and their numbers increased during the 1990s. The number of poor African-American children rose by 19 percent in 2000, representing about 89 percent of all children in poverty. Poverty rates for African-American children also went up, from 29 to 38 percent.

The second largest racial/ethnic group among children in poverty is Latinos, who make up 8 percent of all poor children in the District. Their numbers rose by 66 percent between 1990 and 2000. The poverty rate for Latino children remained stable, however, at 26 percent.

Whites and Asians/Pacific Islanders are the next largest groups, but they have only slightly more than 1 percent each of the share of poor children. Nevertheless, the number of poor Asian/Pacific Islander children is growing faster than all other groups, and their poverty rate is now equal to that of Latinos.

The geographic distribution of poverty in the District is not uniform, with poor children more concentrated in certain parts of the city. Figure 1 shows the numbers of poor children and adults in 2000 by ward; table 2 indicates the share of poor children living in each ward. Taken together, wards 7 and 8, which are home to 39 percent of all children in the District, have more than half of the city's poor children. Ward 1 has the third highest share of all poor children in the city at 12 percent, and the highest totals of poor Latino and Asian children.

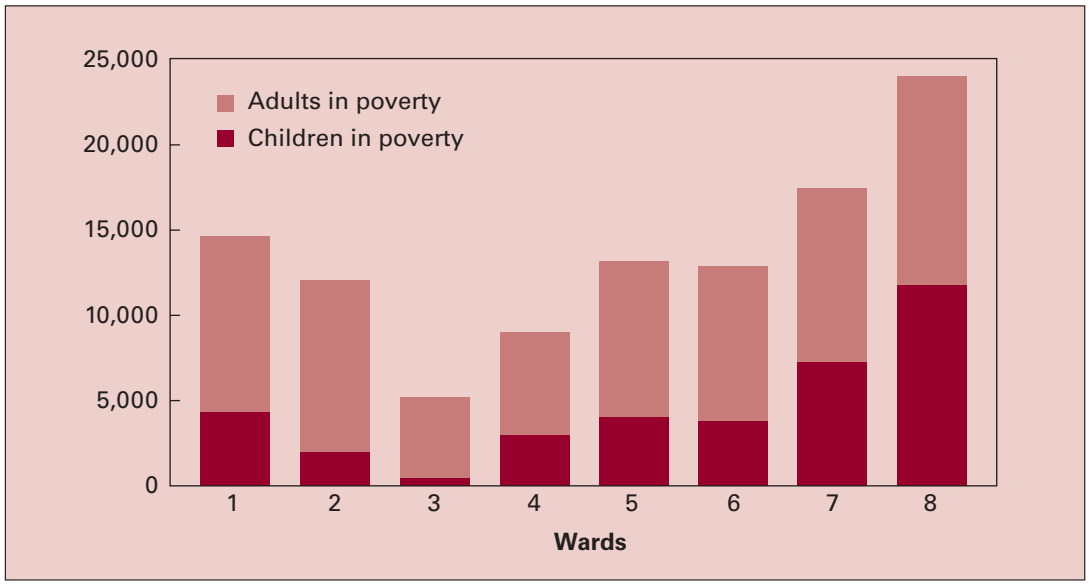
By neighborhood cluster, Congress Heights (#39) in ward 8 has the largest share of poor children at 4,814, followed by Columbia Heights/Mt. Pleasant (#2) in ward 1 with 3,434 and Marshall Heights (#33) in ward 7 with 2,267 children (see table 3).[6] These clusters have different

TABLE 1. Children in Poverty by Race/Ethnicity, 1990–2000, District of Columbia

	Children in poverty				Child poverty rates (percentage)	
	1990	2000	Change	Change (percentage)	1990	2000
Children (age 0–17)						
Total	28,610	35,367	6,757	24	25	32
African American	26,339	31,427	5,088	19	29	38
White	799	496	–303	–38	5	4
Asian/Pacific Islander	232	431	199	86	16	26
Latino	1,677	2,786	1,109	66	26	26

Source: DC Data Warehouse analysis of data from U.S. Census.
Notes: Race categories for 2000 include only those choosing a single race.
White population includes Latinos in 1990 but excludes them in 2000. Latinos may be of any race.
Total includes persons of other races not shown in this table; therefore counts by race do not add up to the total.

FIGURE 1. Number of Adults and Children in Poverty, 2000, District of Columbia



Source: DC Data Warehouse analysis of data from U.S. Census.

ethnic compositions: Congress Heights and Marshall Heights are overwhelmingly African American (97 and 98 percent, respectively), while Columbia Heights is ethnically diverse, with significant immigrant populations (51 percent African American, 30 percent Latino, and 13 percent white).

Poor Children by Age

In determining the relative need for services, it is important to consider not only the numbers of poor children overall but also their distribution according to age. Families with children of different ages need specific kinds of services. For example, many preschool children require some sort of child care arrangement during hours that parents are working. This is especially important to families who are poor or receiving TANF benefits, as child care expenses may affect whether a family is able to work itself out of poverty or must

TABLE 2. Children Receiving TANF and in Poverty by Ward, District of Columbia

	Number of children		Share of children (percentage)		Share of children in poverty (2000) (percentage)			Poverty rate (2000) (percentage)		
Ward	Receiving TANF (2001)	In poverty (2000)	Receiving TANF (2001)	In poverty (2000)	Age 0–4	Age 5–11	Age 12–17	Age 0–4	Age 5–11	Age 12–17
Total	31,879	35,367	100	100	100	100	100	33	33	29
1	2,926	4,334	9	12	13	11	13	35	33	36
2	2,173	1,326	7	4	4	3	4	23	24	31
3	19	252	0	1	1	1	1	3	3	3
4	2,345	2,457	7	7	7	6	8	19	16	15
5	3,892	4,142	12	12	11	12	13	28	30	25
6	3,540	4,064	11	11	10	12	12	34	39	34
7	7,423	7,036	23	20	19	20	21	39	37	34
8	9,561	11,755	30	33	36	35	28	52	48	41

Source: DC Data Warehouse analysis of data from D.C. Department of Human Services (TANF) and U.S. Census (poverty).

TABLE 3. Children Receiving TANF and in Poverty by Neighborhood Cluster, District of Columbia

Cluster number	Cluster name	Number of children		Share of children (percentage)		Share of children in poverty (2000) (percentage)		
		Receiving TANF (2001)	In poverty (2000)	Receiving TANF (2001)	In poverty (2000)	Age 0–4	Age 5–11	Age 12–17
Total		31,879	35,367	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1	Kalorama Heights, Adams Morgan, Lanier Heights	155	368	0.5	1.0	0.8	1.1	1.2
2	Mt. Pleasant, Columbia Heights, Pleasant Plains, Park View	2,388	3,434	7.5	9.7	11.1	8.5	10.0
3	Howard University, Cardozo/Shaw, Le Droit Park	383	437	1.2	1.2	1.2	0.9	1.8
4	Burleith, Hillandale, Georgetown	7	248	0.0	0.7	0.9	0.6	0.7
5	West End, Foggy Bottom, GWU	*	19	*	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0
6	Dupont Circle, Connecticut Ave/K St.	65	106	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.4
7	Logan Circle, Shaw	683	1,054	2.1	3.0	3.1	2.5	3.6
8	Downtown, Penn Quarters, Chinatown, Mount Vernon Square, North Capitol St.	777	646	2.4	1.8	2.1	1.7	1.7
9	Southwest Employment Area, Southwest Waterfront, Buzzard Point, Ft. McNair	641	749	2.0	2.1	1.6	2.4	2.1
10	Chevy Chase, Barnaby Woods, Hawthorne, Forest Heights	*	25	*	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.1
11	Friendship Heights, Tenleytown, American University Park	*	17	*	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2
12	North Cleveland Park, Van Ness, Forest Hills	*	56	*	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.4
13	Foxhall Crescent, Foxhall Village, Georgetown Reservoir, Palisades, Spring Valley, Wesley Heights	*	59	*	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.0
14	Cathedral Heights, McLean Gardens, Glover Park,	*	71	*	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.3
15	Cleveland Park, Mass. Ave. Heights, Woodley Park, Woodland-Normanstone Terrace	*	6	*	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1
16	North Portal Estates, Colonial Village, Shepherd Park	18	47	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2
17	Brightwood, Manor Park, Takoma	445	580	1.4	1.6	1.9	1.5	1.6
18	Brightwood Park, Crestwood, Petworth, 16th St. Heights	1,564	1,725	4.9	4.9	5.1	4.3	5.6
19	Fort Totten, Lamond Riggs, Pleasant Hill, Queens Chapel	318	164	1.0	0.5	0.3	0.4	0.8
20	North Michigan Park, Michigan Park, University Heights	191	189	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.2	1.3
21	Edgewood, Bloomingdale, Eckington, Truxton Circle	1,210	1,340	3.8	3.8	3.1	4.1	4.1
22	Brookland, Langdon, Brentwood	650	710	2.0	2.0	1.7	2.0	2.4
23	Arboretum, Ivy City, Trinidad, Carver Langston	1,497	1,560	4.7	4.4	5.0	4.7	3.4
24	Woodridge, Fort Lincoln, South Central, Gateway	344	271	1.1	0.8	0.2	0.8	1.3
25	Union Station, Stanton Park, Kingman Park	1,501	1,367	4.7	3.9	3.2	3.9	4.5
26	Capitol Hill, Lincoln Park	350	380	1.1	1.1	0.7	1.3	1.1
27	Near Southeast, Arthur Capper, Carrollsburg, Navy Yard	752	1,038	2.4	2.9	2.6	3.0	3.2
28	Historic Anacostia	937	871	2.9	2.5	3.0	2.3	2.1
29	Kenilworth, Eastland Gardens	391	400	1.2	1.1	0.9	1.1	1.6
30	Mayfair, Hillbrook, Mahaning Heights	630	648	2.0	1.8	1.4	2.1	1.9
31	Deanwood, Burrville, Lincoln Heights, Grant Park, Fairmont Heights	1,841	1,604	5.8	4.5	3.6	5.0	4.8
32	River Terrace, Benning, Greenway, Fort Dupont	1,361	1,206	4.3	3.4	3.6	3.3	3.3
33	Capitol View, Marshall Heights, Benning Heights	2,004	2,267	6.3	6.4	6.5	6.8	5.6
34	Twining, Penn Branch, Fairlawn, Randle Highlands, Ft. Davis Park, Dupont Park	868	672	2.7	1.9	1.8	1.5	2.7
35	Hillcrest, Fairfax Village, Naylor Gardens	328	449	1.0	1.3	1.5	1.0	1.5
36	Woodland, Garfield Heights, Knox Hill	1,260	1,397	4.0	4.0	4.5	3.8	3.6
37	Barry Farm, Hillsdale, Sheridan, Fort Stanton	1,950	2,142	6.1	6.1	6.3	6.8	4.6
38	Douglass, Shipley Terrace	1,594	2,077	5.0	5.9	6.0	7.0	4.3
39	Congress Heights, Bellevue, Washington Highlands	4,757	4,814	14.9	13.6	14.7	14.5	11.0
—	Noncluster areas	*	154	*	0.4	0.1	0.2	1.2

Source: DC Data Warehouse analysis of data from D.C. Department of Human Services (TANF) and U.S. Census (poverty).
Note: An * indicates fewer than 10 children receiving TANF.

continue to rely on some sort of public assistance. Furthermore, since under current TANF provisions families no longer have an unlimited option to move back and forth between welfare and work, access to adequate and affordable child care becomes even more critical (Capizzano, Tout, and Adams 2000; Giannarelli and Barsimantov 2000).

At school age, children begin to make critical choices about their personal behaviors, and research has shown that the availability of services offered to this group can affect their health, safety, and overall development. Recent studies have shown that unstructured hours spent with little or no supervision can put children at risk of physical injury, emotional and psychological harm, and poor physical, social, and intellectual development (Kerrebrock and Lewit 1999; Peterson 1989).

Teens are a unique segment of the overall population because the most serious threats to their health and safety are preventable. Threats result from such risk-taking behaviors as fighting, substance abuse, suicide, and sexual activity, rather than from illnesses. A comprehensive approach to preventing such behaviors requires not only more information about where teens live but also better neighborhood information about the influences and trends that are affecting their lives (Lindberg et al. 2000).

Table 2 indicates the shares of poor children by ward for three age groups (0–4, 5–11, and 12–17), while table 3 provides the same information by neighborhood cluster. Overall, we found very little difference in the geographic distribution of poor children by age. Ward 8 had the greatest share of poor children in the District for all three age groups, followed by ward 7. Wards 1 and 5 had the third greatest share of poor children depending on the age group, but these wards had only half the share of ward 8.

Children Receiving TANF

The majority of children receiving TANF live east of the Anacostia River, although neighborhood clusters outside wards 7 and 8, such as Columbia Heights (#2), also have large numbers of child TANF recipients.

Looking at the second indicator of children's need—share of children (of all ages) receiving TANF subsidies—we find these children concentrated in areas similar to those of children living in poverty. Of the 114,000 children in the District, 28 percent receive TANF.[7] The majority of these children live in wards 7 and 8 (53 percent). More than 30 percent of all children in ward 8 alone receive TANF (see map 1).

The highest concentration in ward 8 is in the Congress Heights neighborhood cluster (#39), which has 4,757 child TANF recipients living within its boundaries (see table 3). To put that in context, Congress Heights alone has more children receiving TANF than wards 1 through 6—the wards west of the Anacostia River—combined.

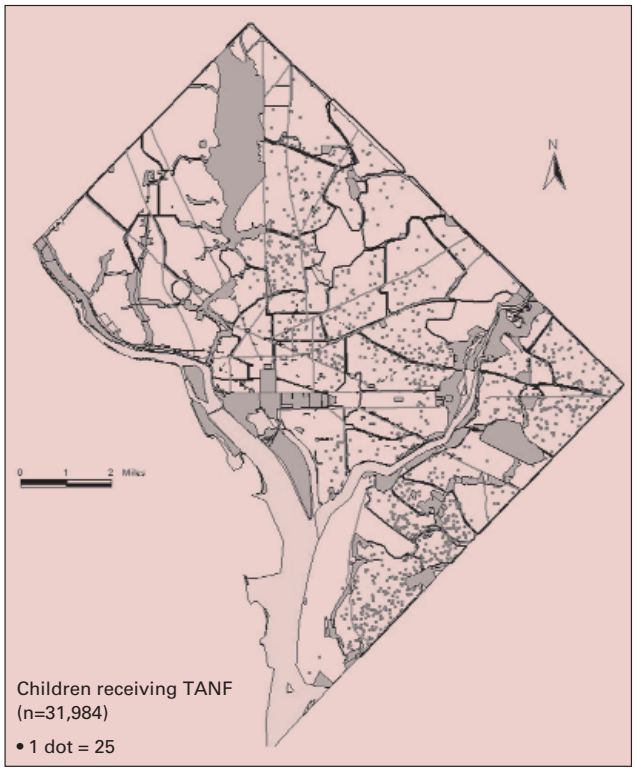
While wards 7 and 8 have the greatest shares of children receiving TANF, other areas in the District have relatively large numbers as well. In the northwest quadrant, the Columbia Heights/Mt. Pleasant cluster (#2) in ward 1 and the Brightwood Park cluster (#18) in ward 4 together have nearly 4,000 children receiving TANF. The areas including the Edgewood (#21) and Ivy City (#23) clusters in ward 5 and the Union Station cluster (#25) in ward 6 are also home to more than 4,000 children who receive TANF.

Comparing Measures of Need

As measures of relative need, the share of children receiving TANF and the share of children in poverty are closely correlated, and so lead to similar conclusions regarding the targeting of services by neighborhood.

As noted in the introduction, both the share of poor children and the share of children receiving TANF benefits in a ward or neighborhood cluster can be used as measures of relative need for various types of child and family services. If, for instance, one cluster is home to

MAP 1. Density of Children Receiving TANF by Neighborhood Cluster, 2001, District of Columbia



Source: DC Data Warehouse analysis of data from D.C. Department of Human Services.

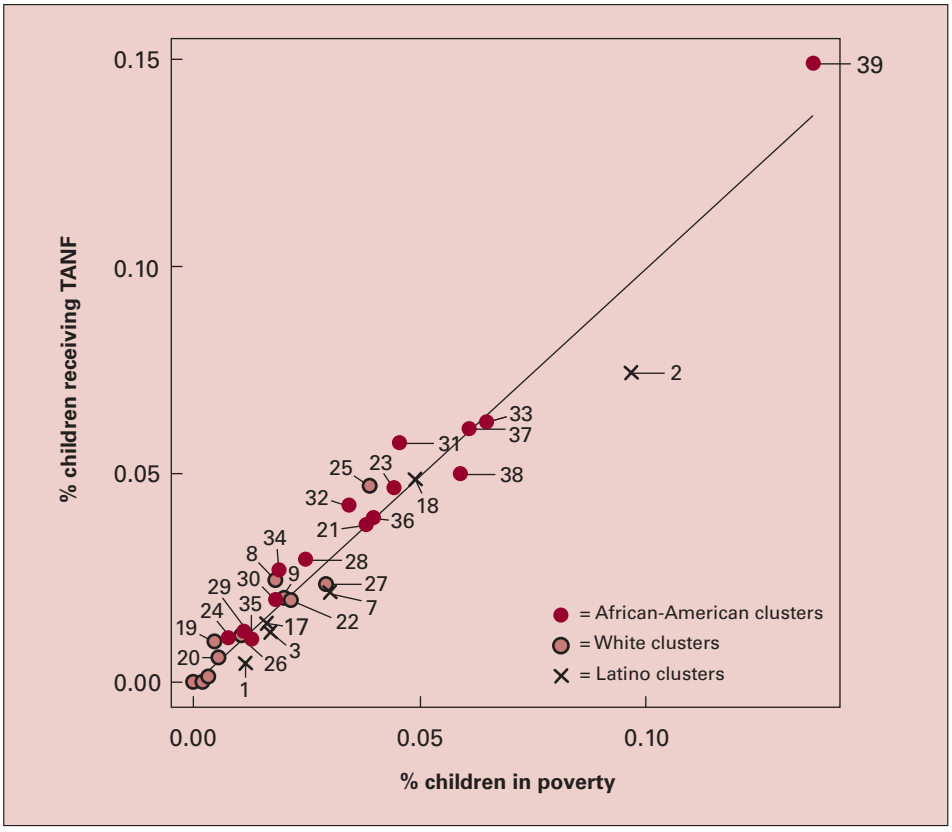
10 percent of all poor children in the city, while a second cluster has only 5 percent, then the first cluster could be said to have twice as much need as the second. As measures of relative need, it should not be surprising that the two indicators yield similar results, since one would anticipate higher rates of TANF use in areas of higher poverty. Nevertheless, one might also expect differences between the two indicators, because certain populations are less likely to receive TANF benefits than others and the initial TANF eligibility requirements accept only those living approximately 50 percent below the federal poverty level. Therefore, using one indicator over the other might result in slightly different relative measures of numbers of children in need.

As it turns out, in the District these two measures of relative need are highly correlated. The *correlation coefficient* is a standard statistical measure of how closely two indicators are related. A correlation coefficient of 1.0 would indicate that two indicators are perfectly correlated; that is, they follow each other exactly. The correlation coefficient between our two indicators—a neighborhood cluster's overall share of children in poverty and its share of children receiving TANF—is 0.98, a nearly perfect correlation.

Nevertheless, while the correlation is high, the relationship is not equally strong in all clusters. Figure 2 is a scatter plot showing the relationship between the share of children living in poverty and the share of children receiving TANF for each neighborhood cluster, with each symbol on the chart representing a different cluster. (For clarity, not all the clusters have been labeled.) The line running through the graph indicates where the two shares are equal. Most neighborhood clusters do not fall on the line, signifying that, in these cases, the two indicators do not yield the same relative measure of need. The farther a symbol lies from the line, the greater the difference between the two indicators for that cluster.

Two notable examples of this difference are the Columbia Heights/Mt. Pleasant cluster (#2) and the Congress Heights cluster (#39)—the two clusters with the largest shares of children receiving TANF and children living in poverty. The Columbia Heights cluster's share of children living in poverty (10 percent) is higher than its share of children receiving TANF (7 percent), while in the Congress Heights cluster (#39) the opposite is true: the share of TANF recipients (15 percent) is higher than the share of children in poverty (14 percent). While these differences are slight, they seem to reflect a pattern in which the race or ethnicity of the people living in the neighborhood clusters influences whether the two indicators have the same result. As we can see, three of the six Latino clusters fall below the equality line, indicating that they have higher shares of poverty than TANF recipients.[8] Again, the difference is slight, but it does support other research that shows that Latino populations have relatively lower rates of TANF enrollment than other high-poverty communities (Zedlewski 2002). The fact that none of the Latino neighborhood clusters falls above the equality line (that is, has higher shares of TANF than shares living in poverty) also supports this finding. Past research has noted several possible reasons for the lower TANF participation rates in Latino communities; for example, immigration and residency status, a five-year federal ban on welfare receipt by most immigrants, confusion about rules as to who qualifies for benefits, and fears about the legal consequences of requesting assistance.[9]

FIGURE 2. Scatter Plot of Share of Children in Poverty (2000) and Share of Children Receiving TANF (2001) by Neighborhood Cluster, District of Columbia



Source: DC Data Warehouse analysis of data from D.C. Department of Human Services.

In contrast, almost half of the majority African-American clusters fall above the equality line; that is, these clusters have greater shares of children receiving TANF than children living in poverty. All remaining clusters, except one, tend to fall on the line, indicating that the shares are equal.

One reason that some neighborhood clusters fall above the line may be that they include child-only TANF cases. In these cases, adults apply for TANF subsidies exclusively for children under their care but not for themselves and, in certain situations, the adult's income is not used to determine TANF eligibility. For example, the District excludes a stepparent's income when determining a child's eligibility for TANF benefits. The Census Bureau, however, includes such income when assessing a household's poverty status. Therefore, it is possible for a child in such a household to receive TANF benefits, even if the household's total income places it above the federal poverty level.

Nevertheless, while there is variation in the two indicators, it should be emphasized that they are very closely correlated overall and, in terms of the general distribution of children in need, tell a very similar story.

Implications

The majority of poor children and children receiving TANF live east of the Anacostia River, a finding supported in earlier research on the capacity and needs assessments for youth services in the District (Chaplin et al. 1999). Many of these children are concentrated in a few neighborhoods, particularly the Congress Heights neighborhood cluster (#39) in ward 8.

Fundamentally, therefore, whether looking at poverty or welfare caseloads, this is where the largest needs in the District are found. By categorizing poor children into three age categories: 0–4, 5–11, and 12–17, providers can geographically target specific resources, such as day care services and after-school programs, to specific populations. Each age category has its own needs; this report shows the demand and the location of those needs.

Other areas of the city beside ward 8 also have their share of poor children, and slight differences in relative needs can be seen by looking at the two different need indicators—poverty and TANF enrollment. Wards 1, 5, and 6 each have about 4,000 children in poverty and all have high numbers of children receiving TANF. The Columbia Heights/Mt. Pleasant cluster (#2) in ward 1 has 3,434 children in poverty, the second largest number among all neighborhood clusters. This cluster, which has the highest percentage of Latinos in the city, also has almost one-quarter of its children receiving TANF—a high rate of enrollment but not as high as those in wards 7 and 8.

MAP 2. Neighborhood Clusters in the District of Columbia, 2000

Like Columbia Heights/Mt. Pleasant, other clusters with high percentages of Latinos have lower TANF rates and are therefore slightly underrepresented when looking at the number of children receiving TANF relative to the number of children living in poverty. Although the difference is not enormous, efforts that use numbers and locations of TANF recipients as a means of targeting programs and services for particular populations should take this fact into account.

As noted earlier, this report examines only the first part of the question of whether services are located in areas with the most need: the question of where the greatest needs are. In a subsequent DC Data Warehouse brief, DC Agenda and the Urban Institute plan to present information on the location of service providers with programs intended to help children, youth, and families, so that the location and capacity of available services can be compared with the analysis of needs presented here.

Notes

1. The number of recipients for January 1994 is from "Total TANF Recipients by State," U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families web site. http://www.acf.dhhs.gov/news/stats/caseload.htm (accessed November 6, 2002). The number of recipients for January 2001 is from the D.C. Department of Human Services (DCDHS).
2. The U.S. Census Bureau measures poverty using a set of income thresholds that vary by family size and composition but not geographically. The poverty threshold for a single parent with one child under age 18 was $11,483 in 1999, the year to which the 2000 Census poverty results apply.
3. Wards consist of the following neighborhood clusters: ward 1 = clusters 1-3; ward 2 = clusters 4-8; ward 3 = clusters 10-15; ward 4 = clusters 16-19; ward 5 = clusters 20-24; ward 6 = clusters 9 and 25-27; ward 7 = clusters 29-35; ward 8 = clusters 28 and 36-39.

4. Because the actual cluster names are lengthy, in the text we refer to clusters by one or two key neighborhood names only, followed by the cluster number in parentheses. Table 3 has a complete list of the neighborhoods in each cluster. Map 2 shows the locations of neighborhood clusters. To compile data at the cluster level, we used aggregations of 2000 Census tracts and block groups following a methodology approved by the D.C. Office of Planning. The cluster boundaries in map 2 correspond to these tract and block group aggregations.
5. See Berube and Frey (2002). The Office of Management and Budget designates the city with the largest population in each metropolitan area as a central city. Additional cities qualify for this designation if specific requirements are met.
6. Complete statistics for all neighborhood clusters appear in table 3.
7. Data include all children receiving TANF as of July 2001.
8. The neighborhood clusters with a Hispanic population of at least 10 percent are numbers 1, 2, 3, 7, 17, and 18.
9. See Fix and Passel (2002).

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To obtain more data on neighborhoods in the District, or to download an electronic version of this report, please visit the DC Agenda Neighborhood Information Service web site at **http://www.dcagenda.org/nis/**.

The DC Data Warehouse, a cooperative effort of the Urban Institute's Metropolitan Housing and Communities Center and DC Agenda's Neighborhood Information Service (NIS), is a comprehensive database containing information about the District of Columbia and its neighborhoods. It is funded by the Annie E. Casey Foundation to increase the capacity of funders, policymakers, and community groups to use data to track outcomes for children, youth, and families at the neighborhood level. Additional support is provided by the Meyer Foundation. The Discussion Brief series is intended to illustrate how information from the DC Data Warehouse can be used to shed light on issues of importance to the District and its residents.

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