

# Visualizing Regional Racial Disparities

October 17, 2018

Committee of the Whole



# Census data powers the online tool

- American Community Survey data released (Sept 13)
  - A portrait of 2016, based on a sample of 2% of housing units
  - Available for geographic areas with at least 65,000 people
  - Metropolitan areas, not census tracts

# Racial disparities: a well-known story

- Our metro area has some of the *highest overall rates* of employment and homeownership in the country
- Our metro area also has some of the *largest disparities by race and ethnicity* in the country
  - Disparities are particularly striking between Black residents compared with White residents

# Recent Council research on racial disparities

**MetroStats**  
 Prosperity Imbalanced: The Twin Cities Metropolitan Area in 2013  
 September 2014

**Summary**

- Newly released data from the U.S. Census Bureau, based on household surveys collected throughout 2013, allows the Minneapolis-Saint Paul-Bloomington metropolitan statistical area (MSP) to be compared with other large metropolitan areas.
- Overall, MSP has some of the highest rates of educational attainment, employment and homeownership in the country.
- However, not all residents share in this prosperity. MSP has some of the largest racial and ethnic disparities in socioeconomic outcomes in the nation.

**MSP holds the top ranking for education, employment and homeownership**

The Minneapolis-Saint Paul-Bloomington metropolitan statistical area (MSP) has an impressive social and economic profile. Ninety-three percent of the area's adults have a high school diploma or equivalent, 77% of civilians between 16 and 64 years old are employed, and nearly 70% of householders own their homes (Figure 1). These are the highest such rates among the 25 most populous metropolitan areas in America.

Furthermore, nearly nine in ten residents have family incomes sufficient to lift them above the federal poverty threshold (which was \$23,550 for a family of four in 2013). This is the second lowest poverty rate of large metropolitan areas in America after Washington D.C. (see page 5). While MSP's per capita income is lower than large metropolitan areas like Boston, New York and San Francisco that have more of the "super-rich," it is still among the top third of large metropolitan areas.

**Figure 1. How MSP compares to other metropolitan areas in 2013**

|  | Minneapolis-Saint Paul-Bloomington, MN-WI MSA <sup>1</sup> | Rank among 25 largest metro areas (1=highest) |
|--|--|---|
| Percentage of population age 25+ with a high school diploma or equivalent  | 93.0%  | 1   |
| Percentage of civilian working-age population (age 16-64) that is employed | 77.0%  | 1   |
| Percentage of individuals with income at or above poverty threshold        | 89.7%  | 2 (tied)                                      |
| Per capita income (2013 dollars)   | \$34,029   | 7   |
| Percentage of householders who own their homes                             | 69.5%  | 1 (tied)                                      |

<sup>1</sup> See page 3 for a description of the 16-county Minneapolis-Saint Paul-Bloomington, MN-WI Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSP).  
 Source: Metropolitan Council staff calculations based on U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013.

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- Prosperity Imbalanced report
- MSP has the largest disparities in employment, poverty, and homeownership in 2013

high rates of migration, poor schools, unsafe neighborhoods

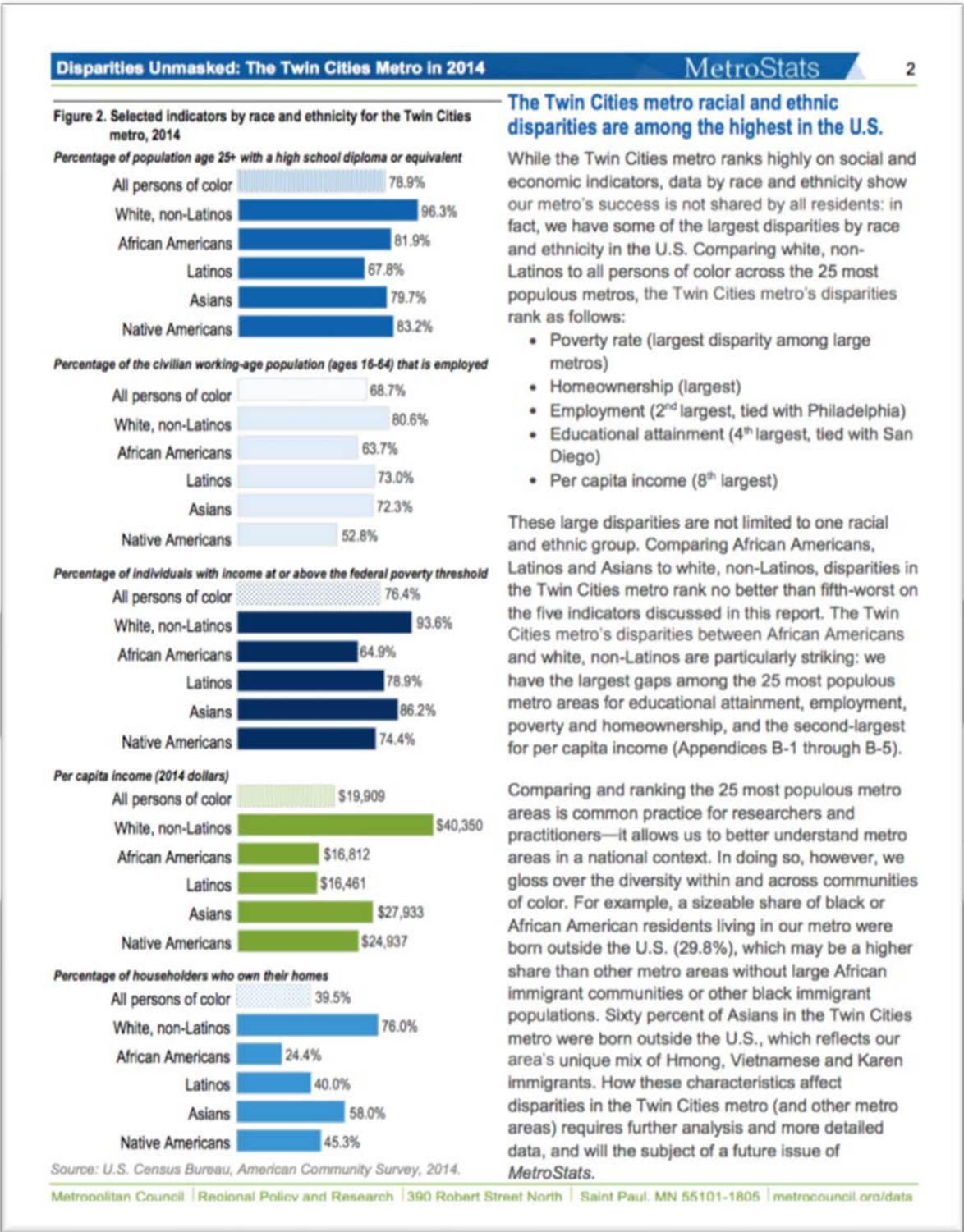
- Creating and expanding real opportunities for housing, transportation, and recreation

2014



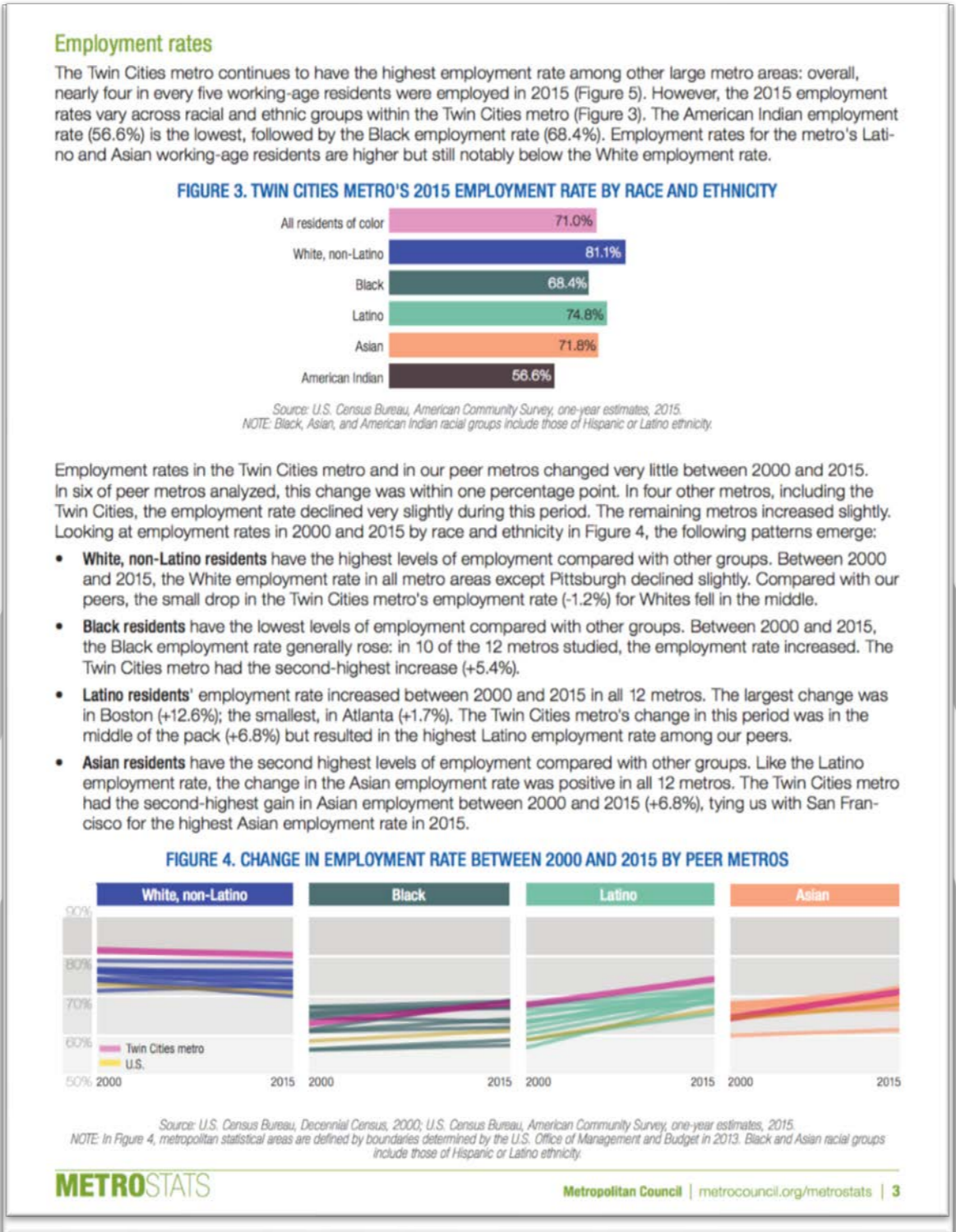
# Recent Council research on racial disparities

- *Disparities Unmasked* report
- Heightened attention to differences in disparities between White residents and specific racial groups



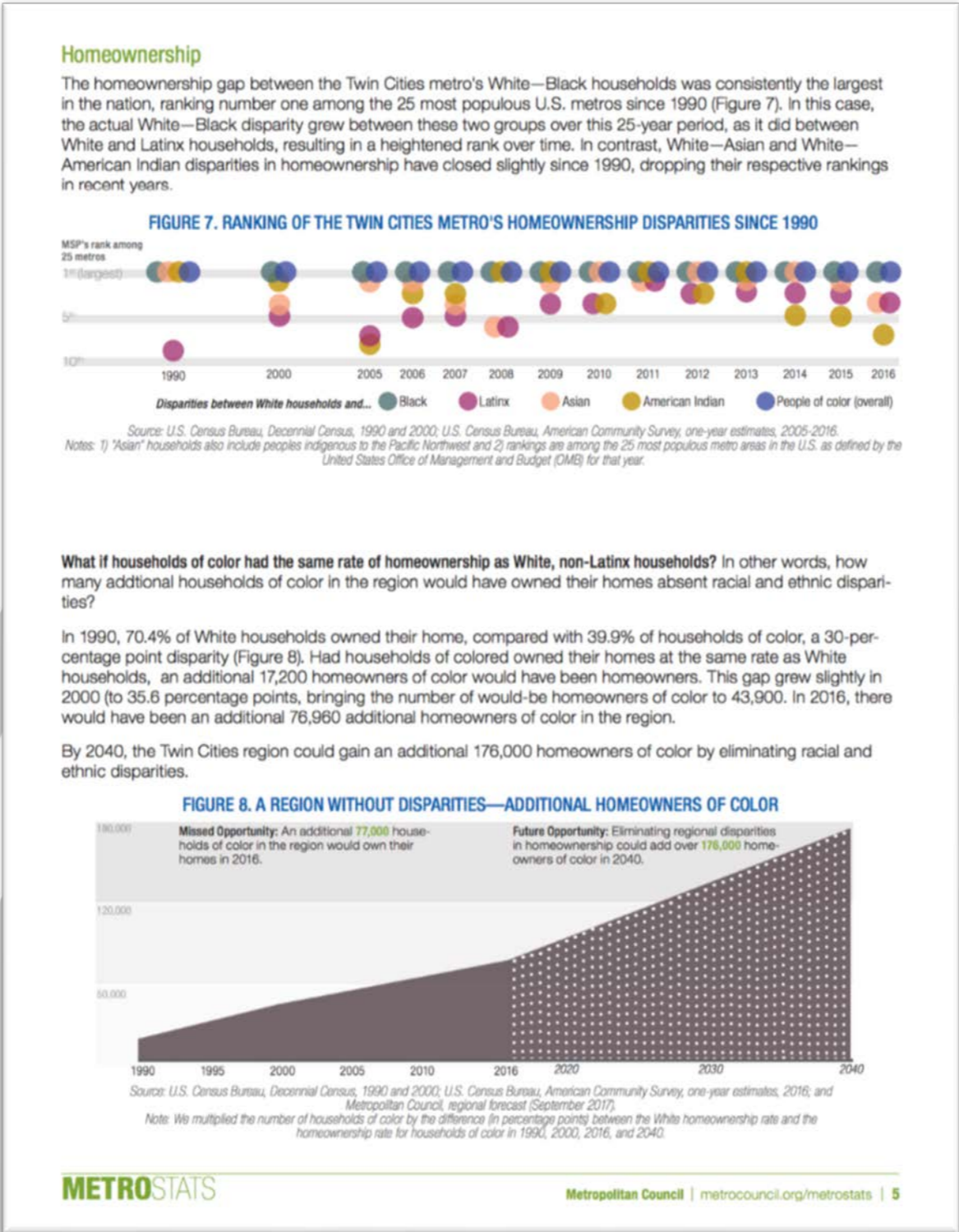
# Recent Council research on racial disparities

- *Behind the Curve* report
- MSP's poverty and homeownership rates for our metro's Black, Latinx, and Asian residents **did not improve** between 2000 and 2015 as much as they did in some of our peer metros.



# Recent Council research on racial disparities

- *Missing Opportunities* report
- Lifting up the economic benefits of eliminating racial disparities; what the region stands to gain (or miss out on) by 2040.



# Recent Council research on racial disparities

- *Visualizing Regional Racial Disparities*
- Online, interactive data “story” that can answer users’ questions



2018





# Information to explore

- Metro rankings in poverty, income, employment, and homeownership between 1990 and 2017
- Metro rankings in racial and ethnic disparities
- Outcomes by race and ethnicity
- What the Twin Cities region stands to gain from resolving racial and ethnic disparities

# Live demonstration

- Available at [metro council.org/disparities](https://metro council.org/disparities)

# Visualizing Regional Racial Disparities

## Questions?

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