

# *Why Do We Need Mobility Counseling?*

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OPEN COMMUNITIES  
**ALLIANCE**

*Embracing Diversity to Strengthen Connecticut*

# THE GOAL IS CHOICE!

## Foundational Points

Discussions about race & place can be hard.

We believe all places should be great places to live – cities, suburbs, rural areas.

The way to achieve that is:

- Equitable policies and strategic Investments in places that are under-resourced.
- Opening up areas that have been off limits for lower income families for generations due to intentionally segregating policies.

There are many reasons long-time residents of under-resourced areas might want to stay or a voucher family might want to move in:

- Connections to friends, family, community
- Connections to faith or other cultural institutions
- Greater comfort in areas with certain demographic profiles
- Access to transportation
- Many more.

Focus of today is those families that have expressed an interest in moving to higher resource areas.

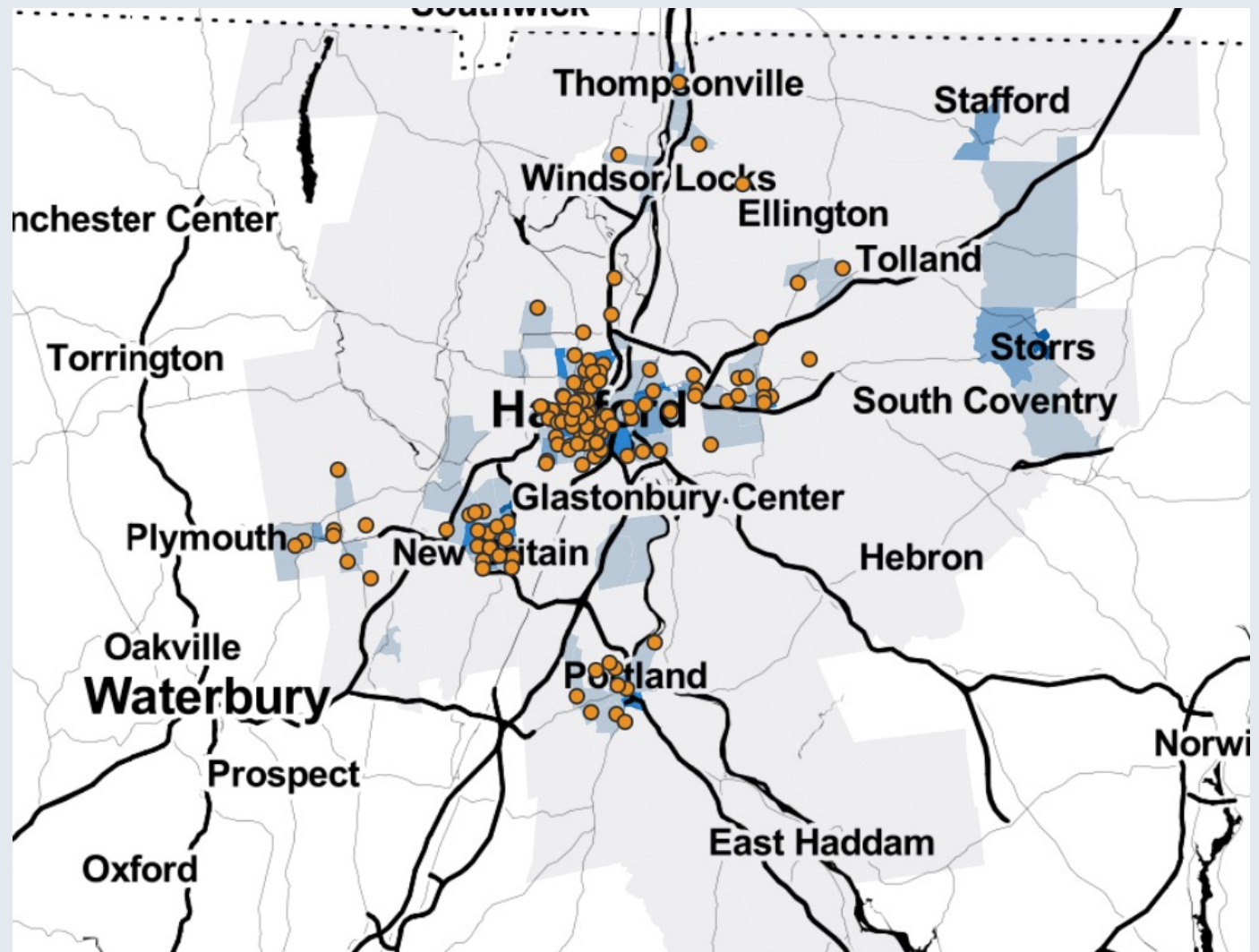
# WHERE FAMILIES WITH VOUCHER LIVE

The darker the blue shading, the higher the poverty rate.

The darkest blue shown indicates poverty rates of between 30-40%.



Each orange dot = 100  
voucher households



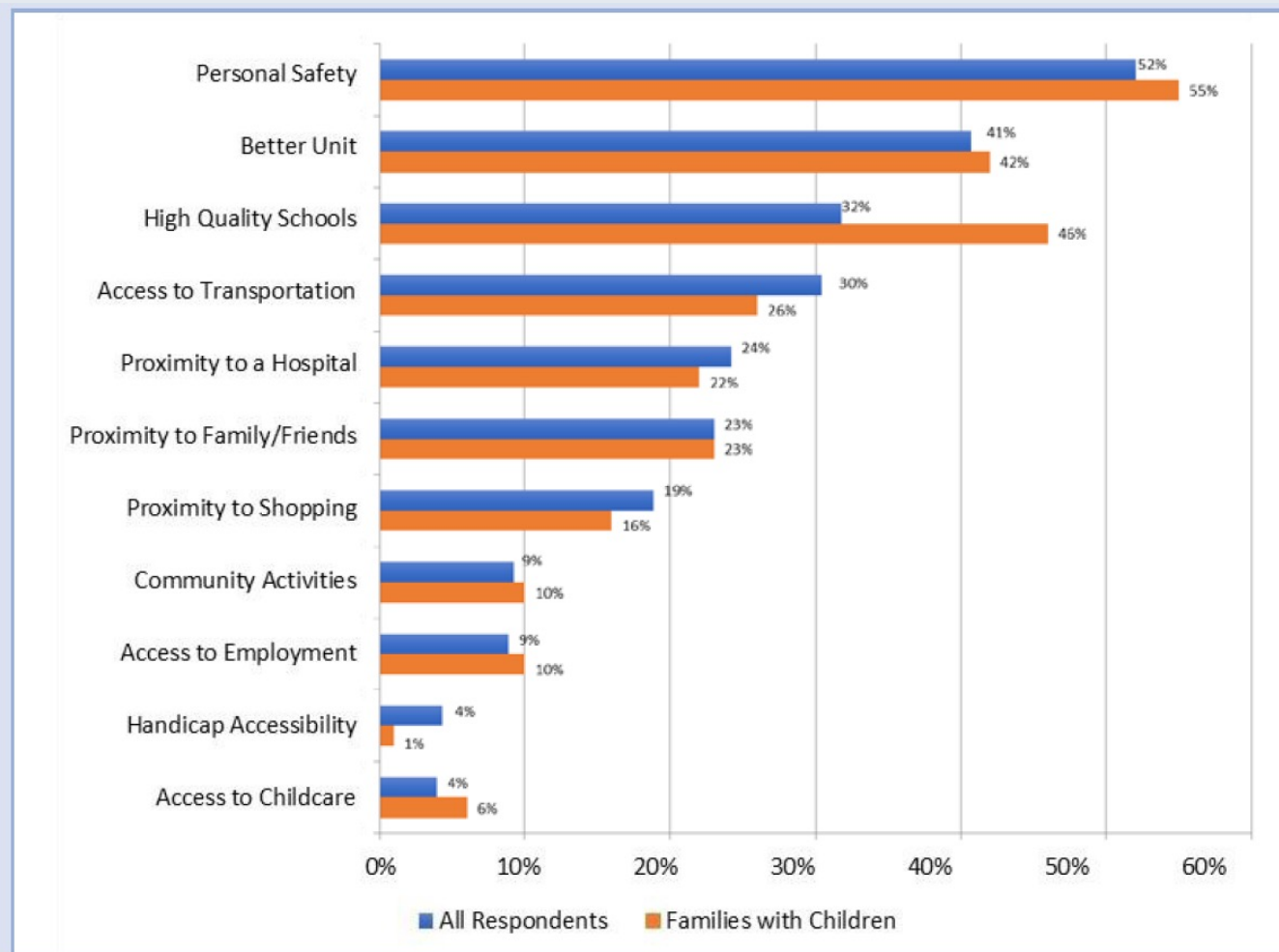
# What Do Families Want?

Survey of 300 tenant-based voucher holders revealed:

*45% of those Housing Choice Voucher holders surveyed shared that they would consider “high” or “very high opportunity” areas as a first choice for a new home.*

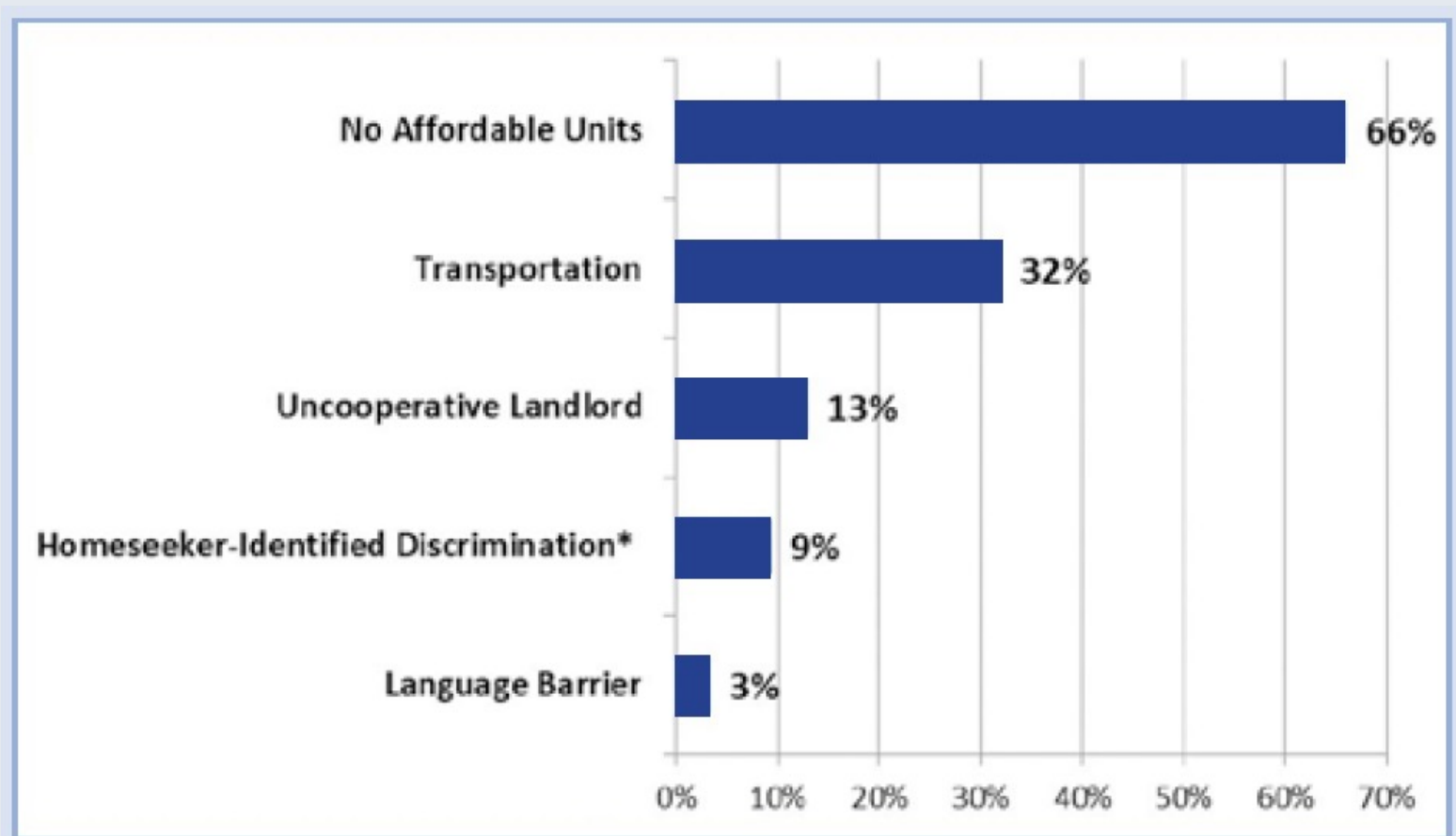
# What do Families Want?

Families wanted to move because...



# What do Families Want?

Families who wanted to couldn't move because...



# Long term analysis of Mobility: Chetty et al.

Outcomes for children who  
moved before age 13:

Greater chance of going to  
college, and a higher quality  
college

30% higher income

Girls were 26% less likely to  
become single parents

*We estimate that [a move]  
out of public housing to a  
low-poverty area when  
young (at age 8 on  
average) ... will increase  
the child's total lifetime  
earnings by about  
\$302,000.*

Second Chetty et al. study showed that the longer a child can be in a lower poverty area the greater the positive outcomes.





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