

The Impacts of Education on Levels of Income Equality

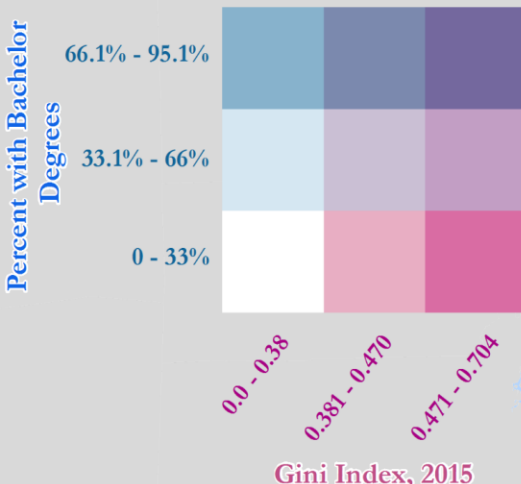
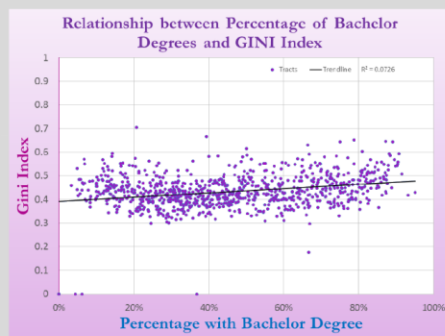
Boston Metropolitan Area

Census Tracts, 2015

This bivariate choropleth map reveals local patterns throughout the Boston Metropolitan Area, focusing on the relationship between education and income equality. A larger percentage of post-secondary education is located within the center of the region while areas with high levels of unfair income distribution are concentrated within the center and northern and southern portions of metropolitan area.

The GINI Index is used to measure the fairness of income distribution spatially. The index coefficients range from 0 to 1 where 0 represents perfect equality while 1 represents inequality.

The Scatterplot indicates a positive trend as the percentage of bachelor degrees increase the GINI index increases. The R Squared = 0.0726



Often times the path to a good education will lead to success and larger income. However, how that income is distributed is a question that needs to be addressed. The average percentage of people with bachelor degrees was 45%. The majority of the observations for the GINI Index coefficient ranged from 0.30 to 0.60 with the average being 0.43. However, the R Square value indicates that the low positive correlation is not statistically significant. The relationship between education and income fairness varies across the Boston Metropolitan Area.

Boston and Cambridge are tremendously educated areas but experience high levels of unfair income distribution. South of Boston there tends to be areas with lower percentage of post secondary education but still have a large range of GINI Index coefficients. Areas north of Cambridge have a high percentage of post-secondary education but still experience an evenly distribution of income.

The area between Cambridge and Boston holds the most renowned universities throughout the nation. However, there are high levels of income inequality regardless of education.