About the Social Capital Atlas

The Social Capital Atlas is a data visualization platform that is part of a broader research project on social capital led by Opportunity Insights at Harvard University that uses social network data to measure and analyze social capital in the United States. The research and accompanying data tool are the result of a partnership between researchers Raj Chetty of Harvard University, Matthew O. Jackson of Stanford University and the Santa Fe Institute, Theresa Kuchler and Johannes Stroebel of New York University, and Mike Bailey of Meta. Two papers on this research, Social Capital I: Measurement and Associations with Economic Mobility and Social Capital II: Determinants of Economic Connectedness were published in Nature on August 1, 2022.

The Social Capital Atlas is intended as a tool for researchers, policymakers, practitioners, and others to explore different forms of social capital in their own communities, understand how these measures are associated with income mobility and other outcomes, and inform evidence-based policy solutions. Privacy protected data on social capital measures can be visualized on the Social Capital Atlas or downloaded for further analyses from Meta’s Data for Good program.

Opportunity Insights

Opportunity Insights is a non-partisan, not-for-profit organization at Harvard University that seeks to translate insights from rigorous, scientific research to policy change by harnessing the power of “big data” using an interdisciplinary approach. Its mission is to identify barriers to economic opportunity and develop scalable solutions that will empower people throughout the United States to move out of poverty and achieve better life outcomes.

Meta Data For Good

Data for Good at Meta empowers partners with tools built from privacy-protected data that strengthens communities and advances social issues. When data is shared responsibly with the communities that need it, it can improve wellbeing and save lives. Timely and relevant insights and data can improve how nonprofits do their work, how researchers learn, and how public officials develop local policy. Data for Good builds maps, surveys, and insights that support the work of over 550 partners in over 70 countries around the world.

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