BALTIMORE HEALTHY START
Our Babies Are More Precious Than Gold

The Housing Affordability Crisis in Baltimore

More than half of Baltimore's renters live in housing they cannot afford; 57 percent pay more than 30 percent of their income for housing and, staggeringly, 33 percent pay more than half.

And it's getting worse.

Rising rents and stagnant incomes have forced more and more families to spend more of their budget on housing, increasing financial insecurity and the risk of eviction or foreclosure. **Burdens of this magnitude force families to cut down on other necessary expenses, and can have negative effects on child outcomes and quality of life.**

Female-headed households with kids suffer under the largest housing burdens — 65 percent live in housing they cannot afford and 45 percent pay more than half their income to housing. These statistics are particularly troubling given that families with children generally must spend more on basic necessities and thus experience the effects of a housing-cost burden more severely.

Baltimore's lowest income families have long suffered from enormous housing cost burdens, but over the last two decades more and more middle and working class families have begun to struggle.

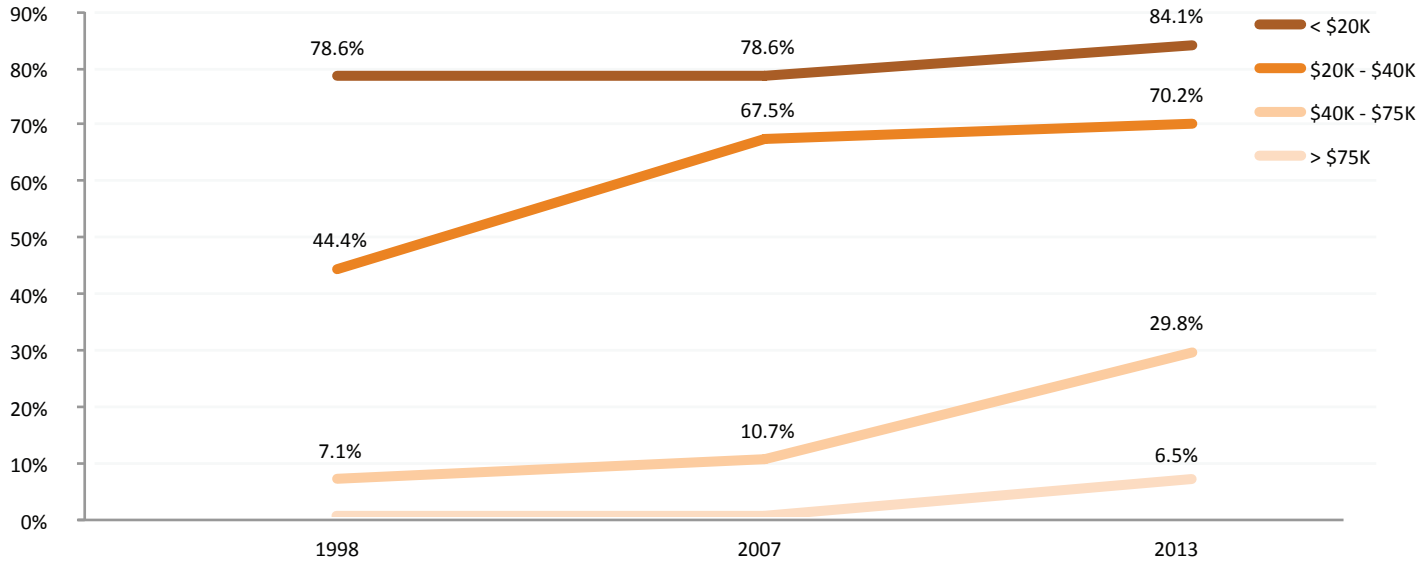
65%

of Baltimore's female-headed households with kids live in rental housing they cannot afford

45%

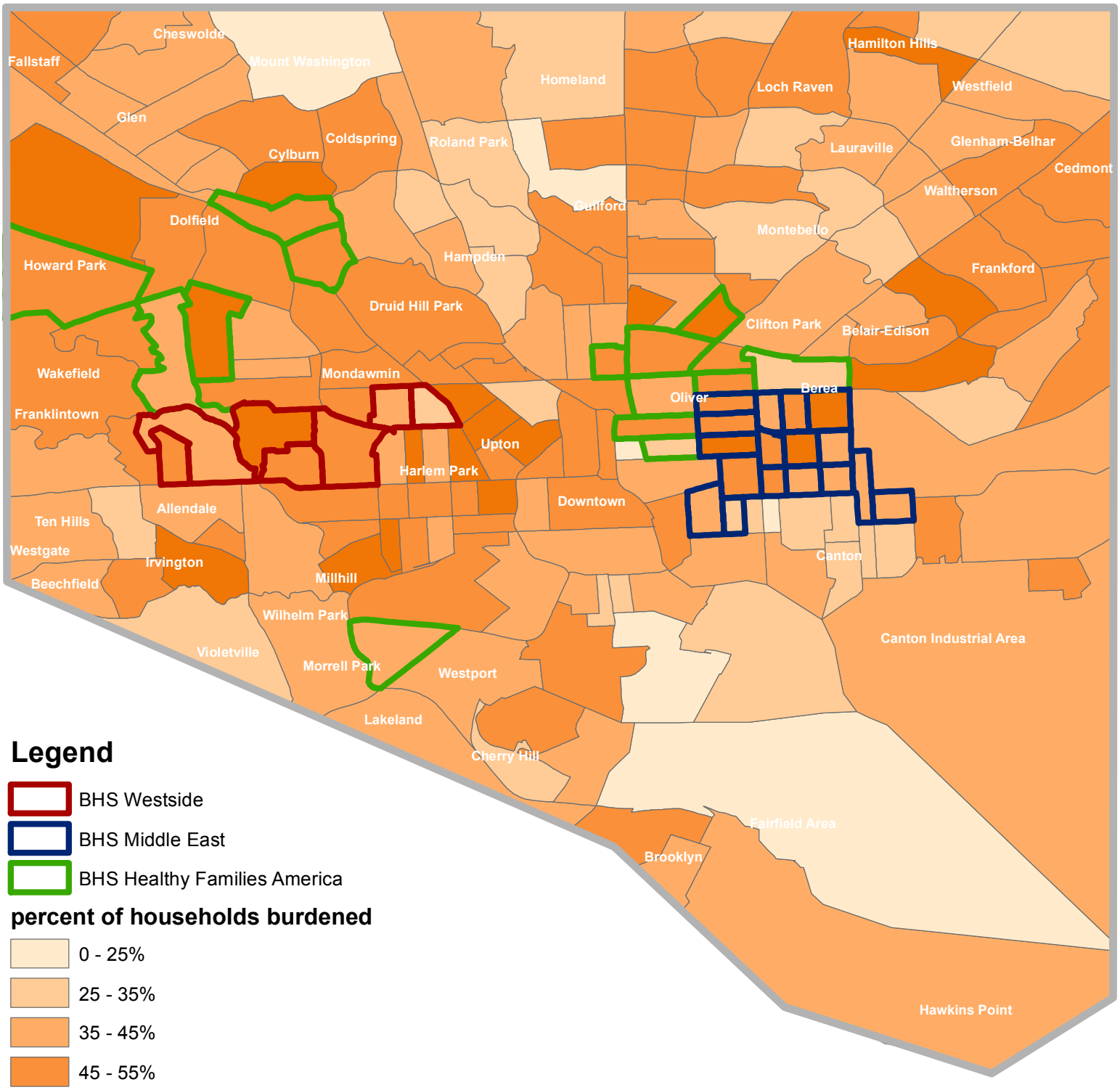
pay more than half their income for housing

Percent of Renter Housholds Burdened, by Income



Prepared by Philip ME Garboden for Baltimore Healthy Start, Inc. For a full report on housing affordability in Baltimore, funded by the Abell Foundation, see www.abell.org. All dollar amounts are inflation adjusted. Data come from American Community Survey and American Housing Survey.

Percent of Households Spending >30 Percent Of Their Income On Housing



Legend

- BHS Westside
- BHS Middle East
- BHS Healthy Families America

percent of households burdened

- 0 - 25%
- 25 - 35%
- 35 - 45%
- 45 - 55%
- 55% or more

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Source: American Community Survey 2009-2013