

Hispanic Settlement Patterns: The Latinization of Middletown, NY

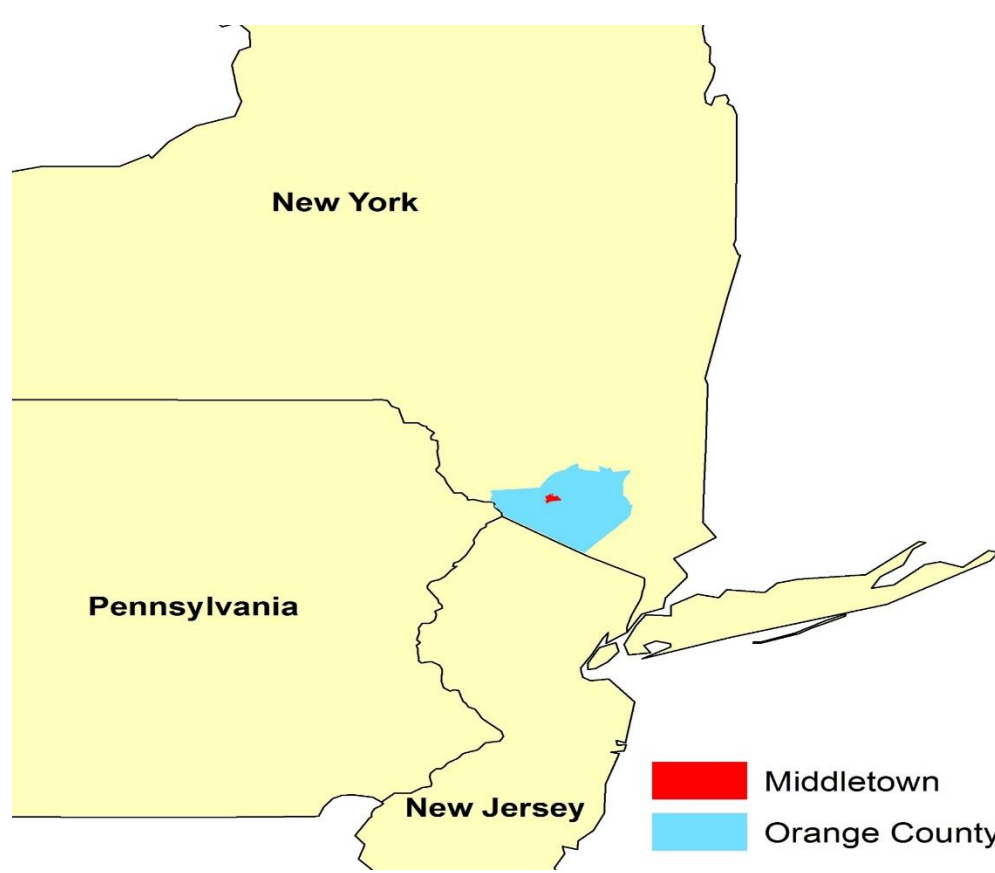
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Introduction

- The influx of Hispanic immigrants arriving in the United States each year and the migration of Puerto Ricans and Mexicans are affecting the spatial patterns of settlement in different locations.
- Recent studies suggest that Hispanics are moving from established Hispanic places, such as gateway cities and long-term barrios, to new destinations outside of major metropolitan areas.
- The city of Middletown in Orange County, NY has seen major changes in its population settlements due to the great influx of Hispanic groups in recent decades.
- I examine characteristics of Hispanic immigrants and migrants to better understand their settlement patterns Middletown

Study Area

- Middletown is a city located in Orange County, about 60 miles north of New York City
 - Orange county has a lot of factories and warehouses, thus factory jobs are a major pull factors.
- Population is about 28,085 people.
- Population has increased 10.6% since 2000
- Hispanic population has seen a 9.3% increase since 2000
- Non-Hispanic White population has decreased from 20,418 people in 2000 to 15,846 people in 2014



Literature Review

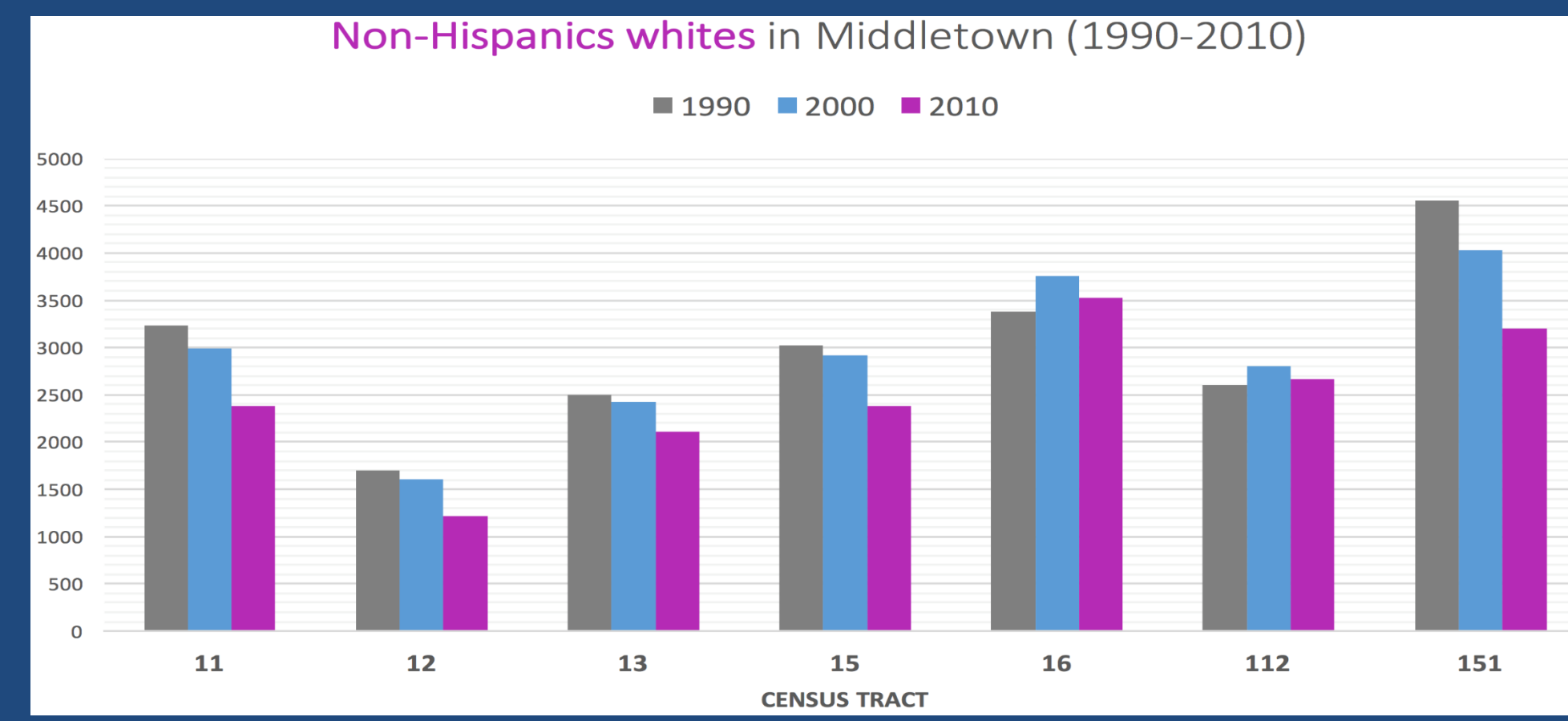
- Hispanic Migration to New Places
 - There has been a shift of Hispanic immigrants moving towards New Destinations usually found in rural areas and micropolitan areas. (Johnson and Lichter, 2008; Wahl et. al, 2007)
 - There has been an increase of Hispanic migrants moving towards the Great Plains regions due to the number of jobs available in the meat processing industry (Ravuri, 2003)
 - Hispanics counted for over 50% of the rural population increase in many areas over the past decades (Johnson and Lichter, 2008)
- Residential Segregation and Spatial Assimilation
 - Rapid growth of Hispanics in New Destinations create a sense of "threat" to the Non-Hispanic residents, usually leading to White flight. (Winsberg, 1983)
 - Annual income can determine the type of residency Hispanics will be able to obtain in these new destinations
 - Higher educated Hispanics tend to have better paying jobs and chose to move out of metropolitan areas.
 - Language proficiency can determine the rate of assimilation of Hispanics in New Destinations. (Lichter et. al, 2010)

Hypotheses

- Ho1: Levels of income do not determine Puerto Rican and Mexican settlements in Middletown, NY
- Ho2: Level of education does not determine Hispanic Puerto Rican and Mexican settlements in Middletown, NY.
- Ho3: There is no distinct difference between Mexican and Puerto Rican tenure of homes.

Data & Methods

- Data acquisition:
- 2000 & 2010 US Census
 - 2014 & 2011 American Community Survey
 - Survey and Interviews (primary data)
 - Photography by Emmely Aldave and Russell Aldave
- Data analysis:
- Correlation analysis using R
 - ArcGIS
 - Microsoft Excel



Census Tract	Population older than 25	Education Level Obtained (%)				
		Less than 9th grade	High School Degree	Associate Degree	Bachelor Degree	Graduate or Professional Degree
11	3,014	13.4	30.4	9.4	8.9	4
12	1,700	17.8	27.5	2.5	6.7	3.6
13	2,310	6.5	23.2	14.3	15.6	16.1
15	3,281	9	34.9	7.7	12.8	4.3
16	4,335	3.3	33.5	9.9	12.9	8.2
112	3,186	2.3	30.8	7.5	16.8	14.1
151	3,141	13.1	31.7	7.8	8.9	7.4

Table 1 - Percentage of Education Level Obtained by Census Tract (Source: U.S Census)



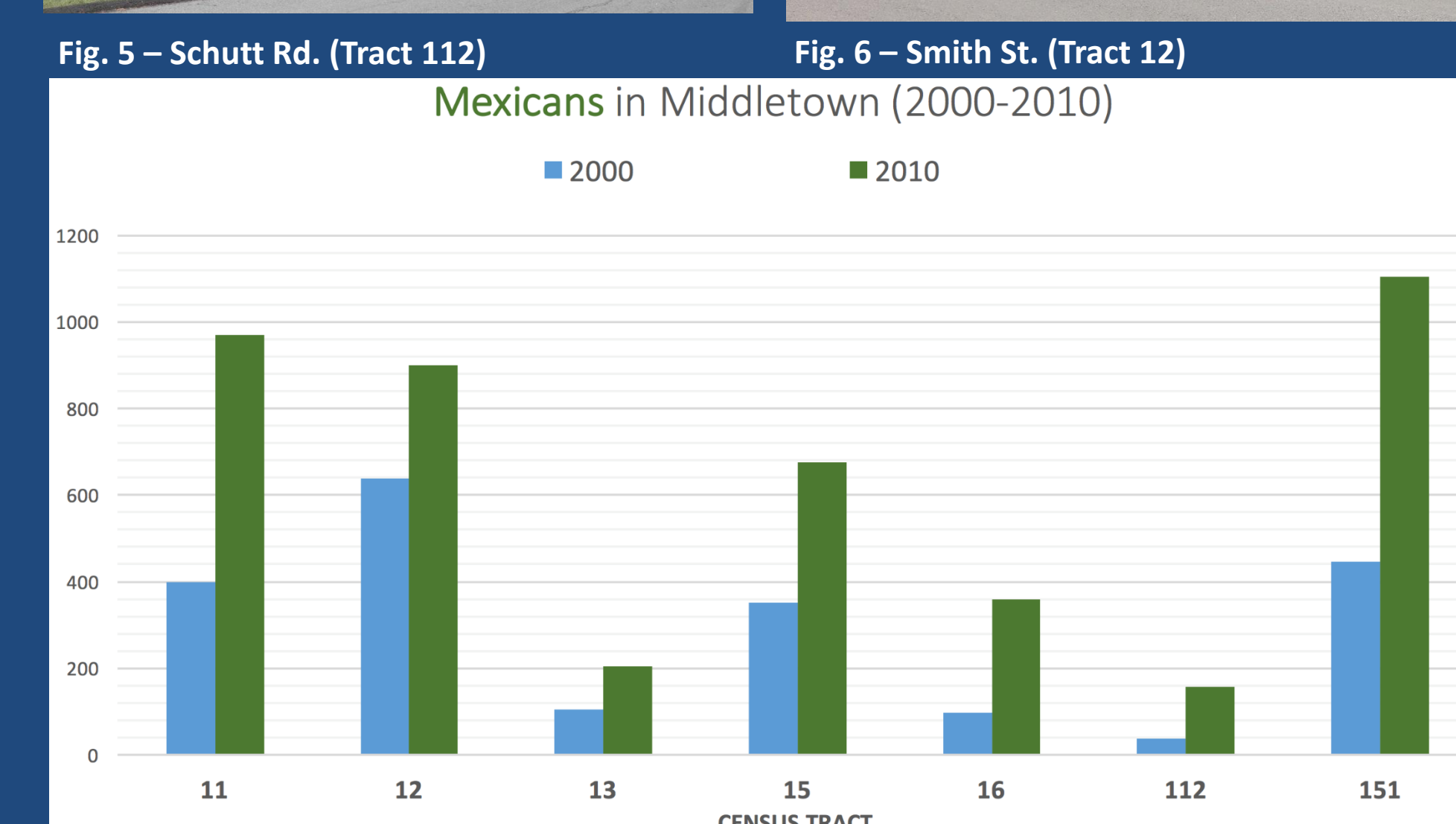
Fig. 1 - Davidge Rd. (Tract 13) Fig. 2 - South Aspen Rd. (Tract 16)



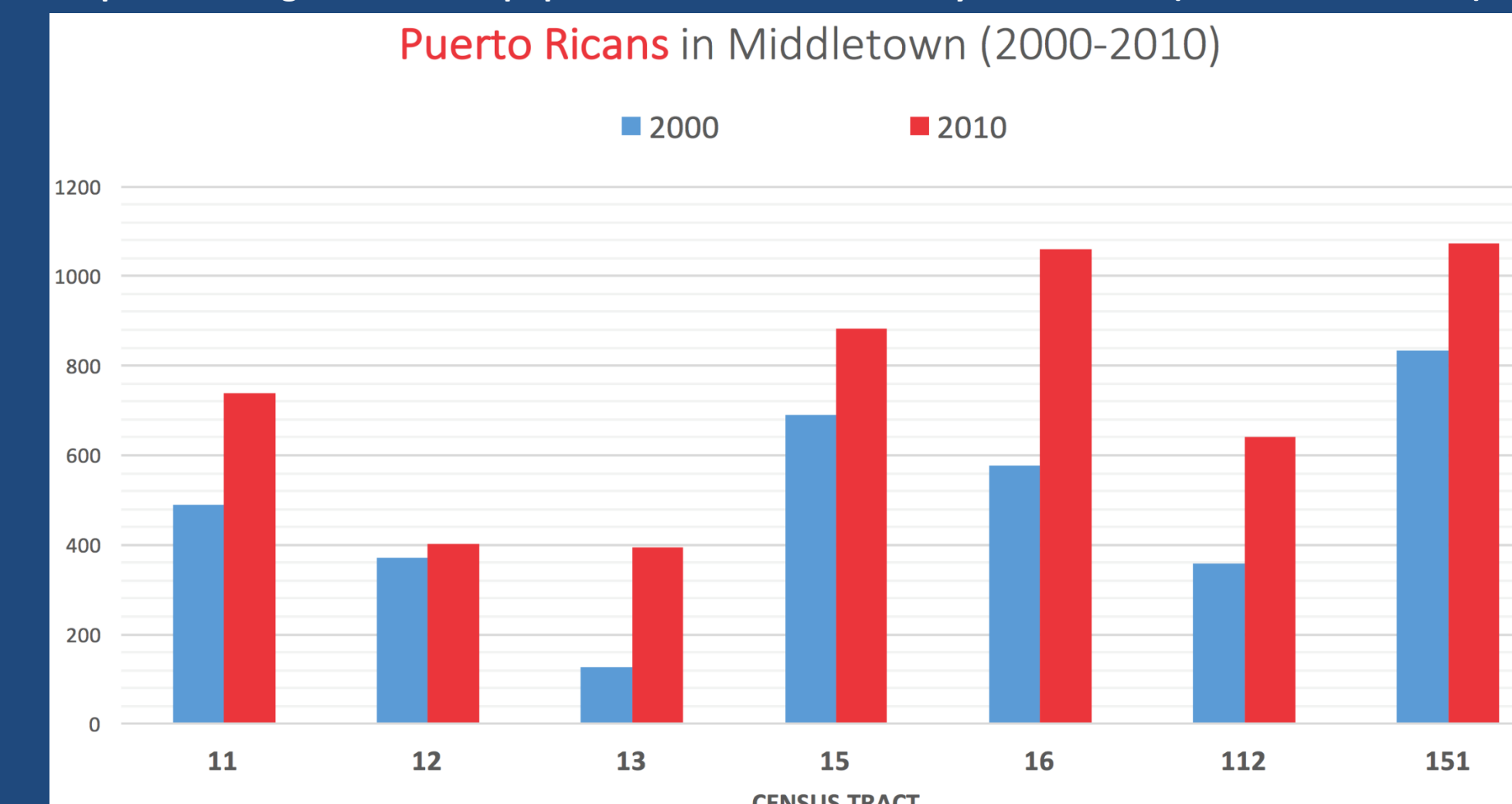
Fig. 3 - Linden Av. (Tract 12) Fig. 4 - Courtland St. (Tract 11)



Fig. 5 - Schutt Rd. (Tract 112) Fig. 6 - Smith St. (Tract 12)



Graph 2 - Change of Mexican population from 2000-2010 by census tract (Source: U.S Census)



Graph 3 - Change of Puerto Rican population from 2000-2010 by census tract (Source: U.S Census)

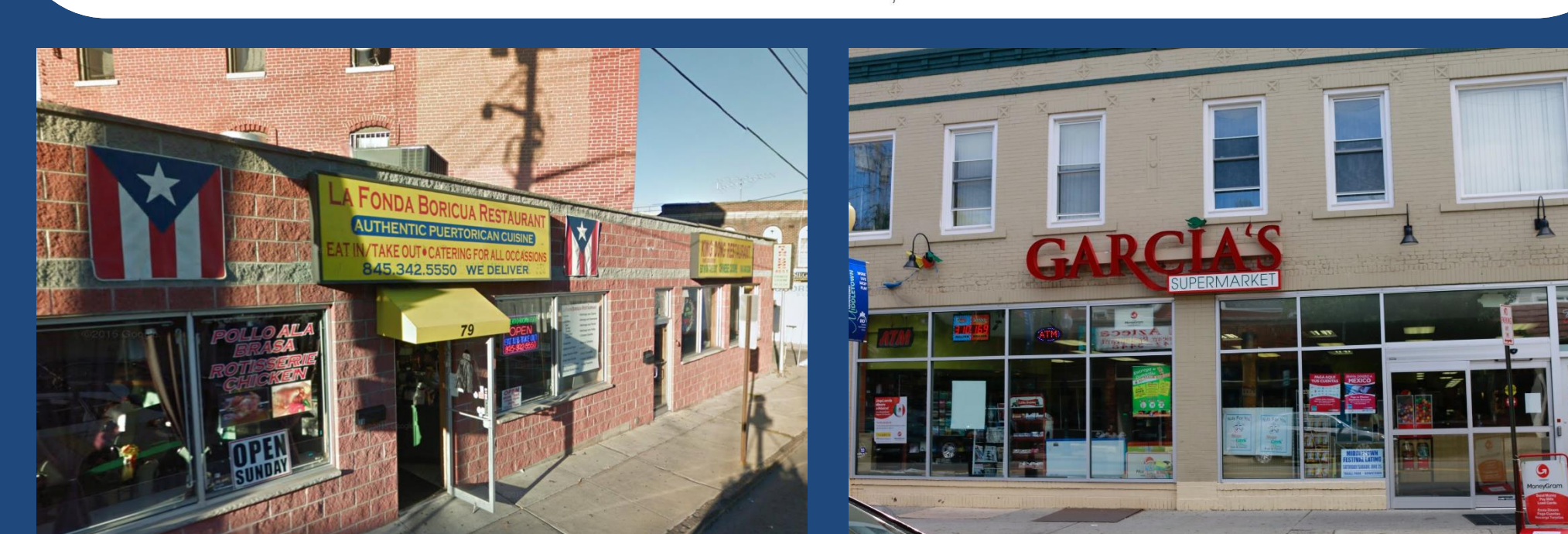
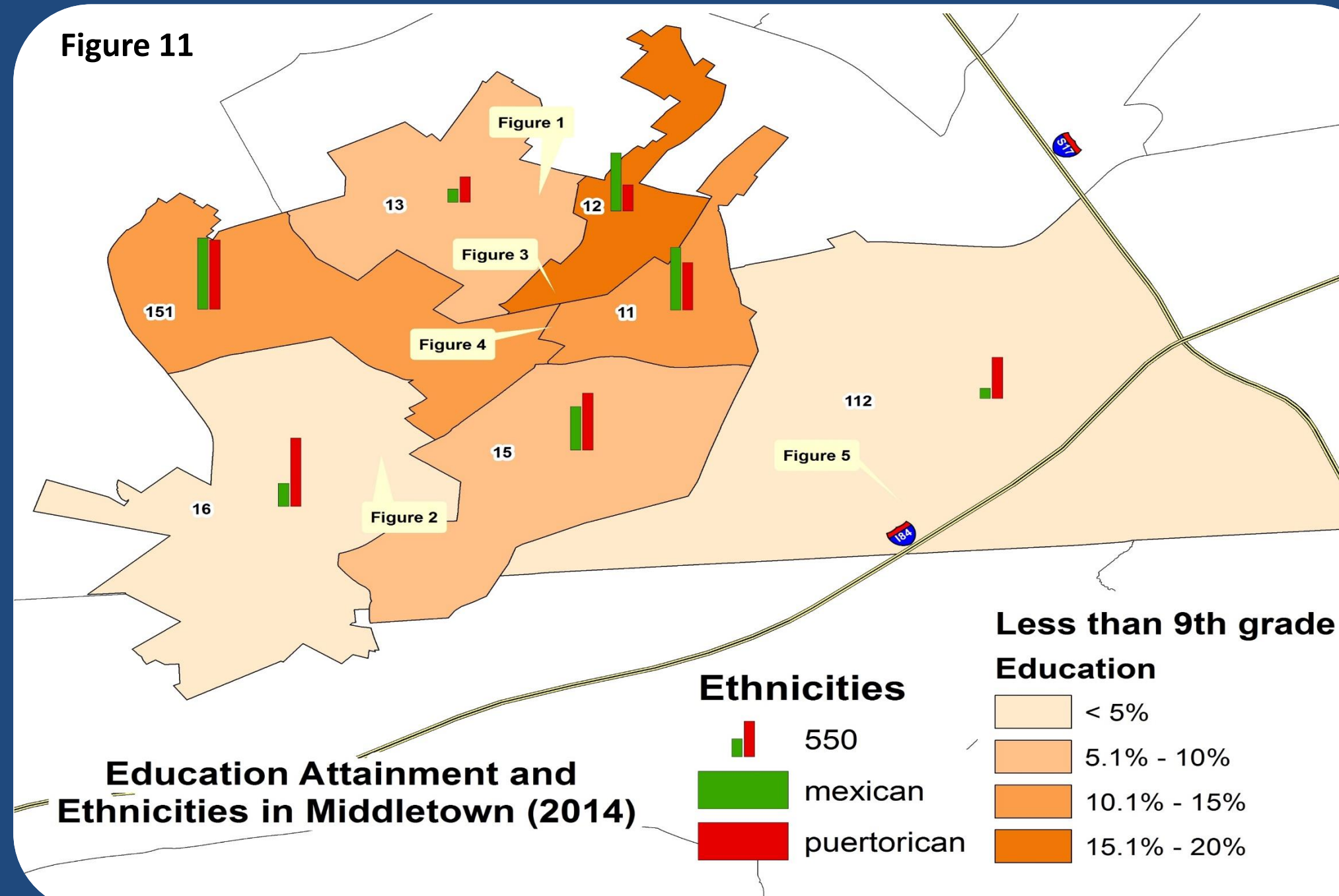
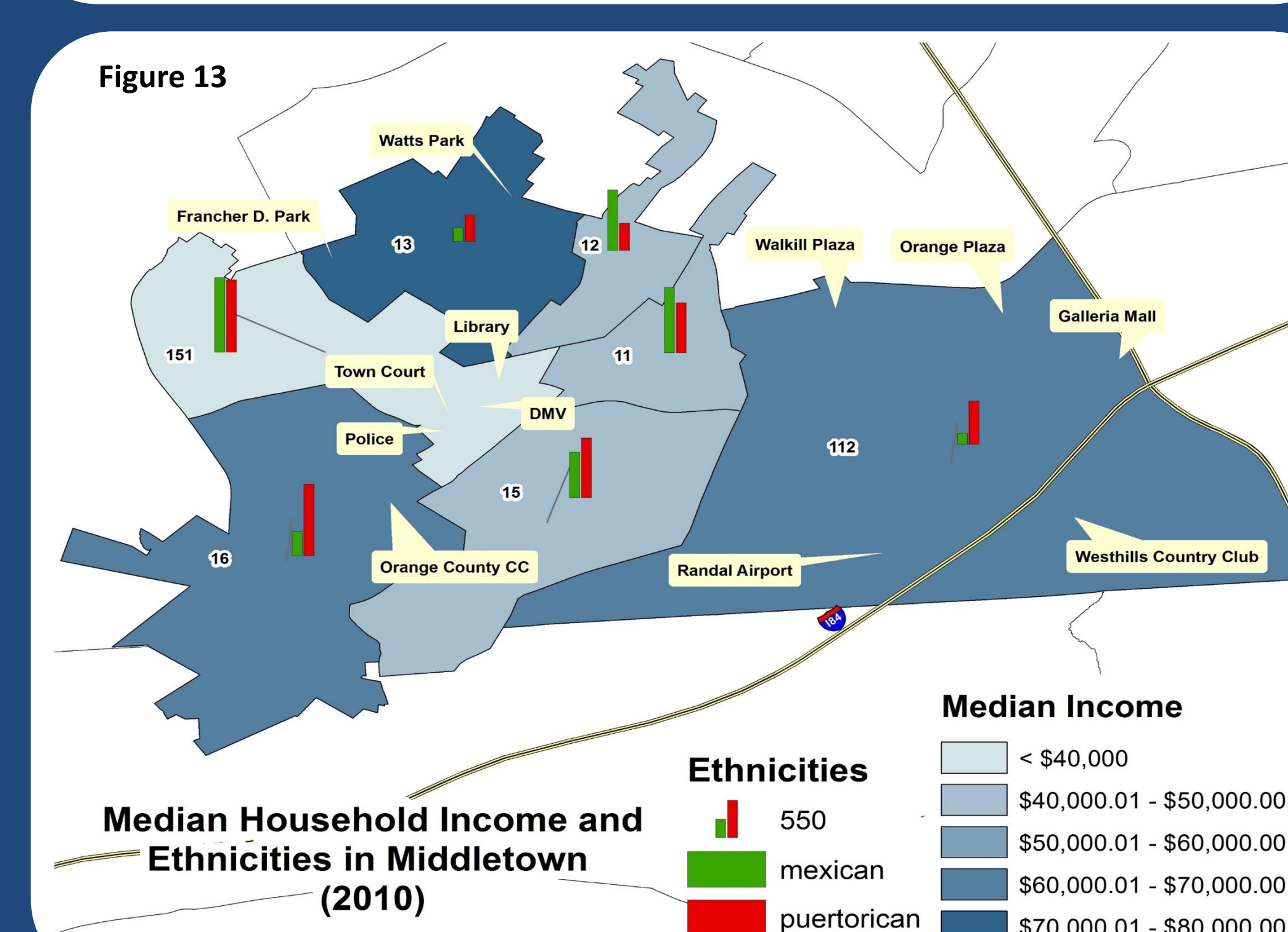
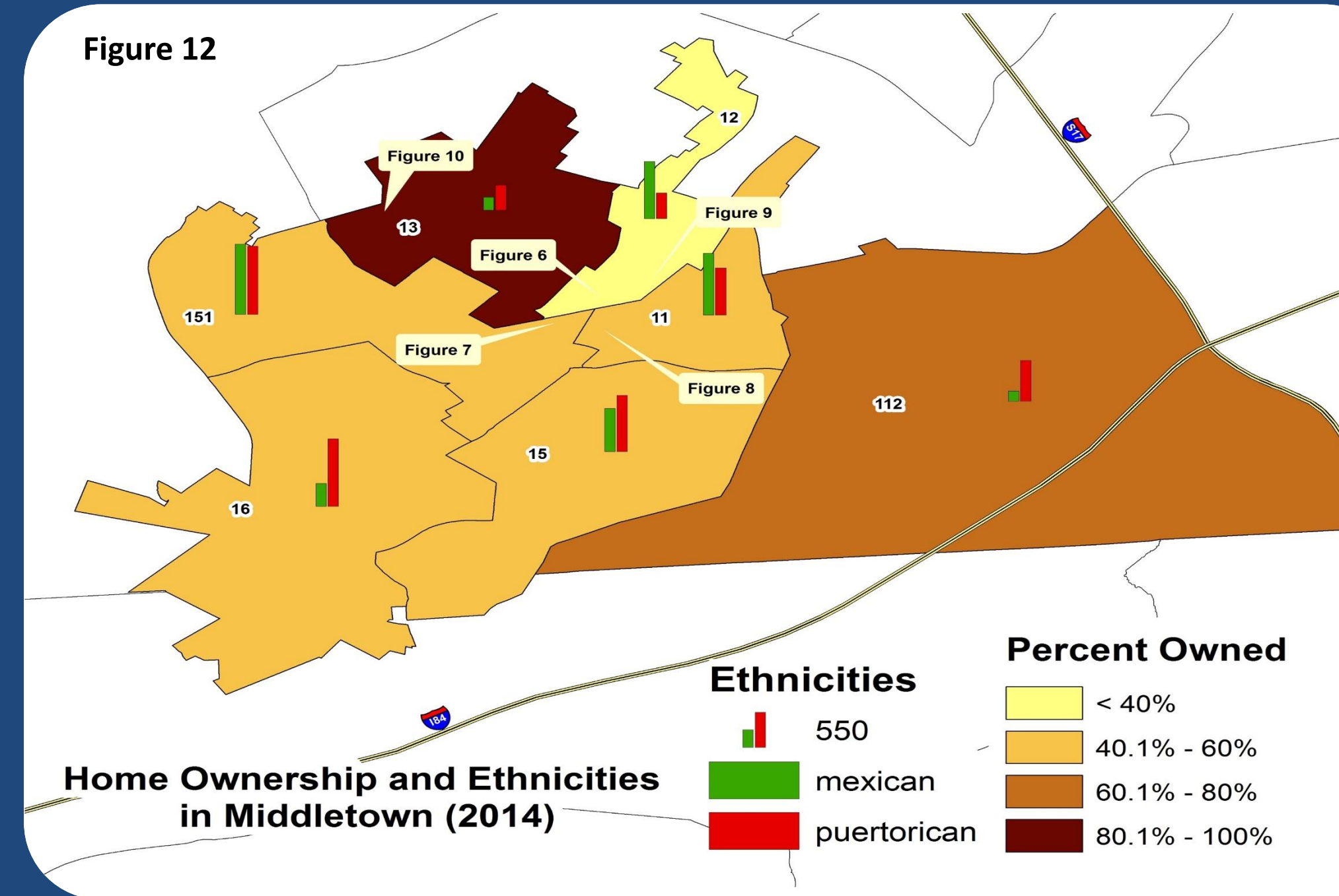


Fig. 7 - Whickham Av. (Tract 112) Fig. 8 - North St. (Tract 11)



Fig. 9 - North St. (Tract 12) Fig. 10 - Francher D. Park (Tract 13)



Results

- Middletown's non-Hispanic white population has decreased in the past decade, while the Mexican and Puerto Rican population significantly increased.
- Income determines settlement patterns of Mexicans and Puerto Ricans. Tracts 11, 12, 15 and 151 have the lowest percentages of income, which are predominantly Mexican and Puerto Rican.
- The lowest rates of education are associated with Mexicans and Puerto Rican neighborhoods.
- The null hypothesis can be rejected because home ownership cannot determine settlement patterns amongst Puerto Ricans and Mexicans, but it can be concluded that Mexican home ownership is lower than those of Puerto Ricans (Figure 12). The highest percentage of home ownership occurs in Tract 13, which also holds the biggest Non-Hispanic White population. Even though tracts 13 and 12 are adjacent to each other, there are a lot of differences when comparing neighborhood qualities (See Figures 1 and 6).

Implications

- When analyzing data within the Hispanics group, Puerto Ricans surpass Mexican's in earnings, such as in tracts 11 and 12. Examples of Puerto Rican and Mexican neighborhoods are illustrated in Figures 3, 4 and 6 (Refer to Figure 13).
- Despite the fact that Mexicans have the lowest SES, they have the greatest number of ethnic entrepreneurs (Refer to Figures 8 and 9).
- In Tract 12, 17.8% of the population had an educational attainment that only reached 9th grade, while the population that obtained a Bachelor or Graduate degree was only 6.7% and 3.6% respectively. See Table 1 and Figure 11 for Mexican and Puerto Rican residential patterns.
- Educational attainment differs between Mexican and Puerto Ricans due to legal documentation. Because Puerto Ricans are US Citizens, they have much more economic opportunities than Mexicans, such as scholarships and loans (Table 1 and Figure 11).
- The biggest differences in educational attainment occur graduate degrees and 9th grad. In Hispanic neighborhoods, the quality of the neighborhoods is positive correlated with household income.
- There has been an increase in the construction of affordable condominium residences in Tract 16, allowing more people to be able to afford housing in this area, regardless of ethnicity. In tracts where the income gap is less noticeable, there are a lot of condominiums being built in order to accommodate the population living there (See Figure 2).

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