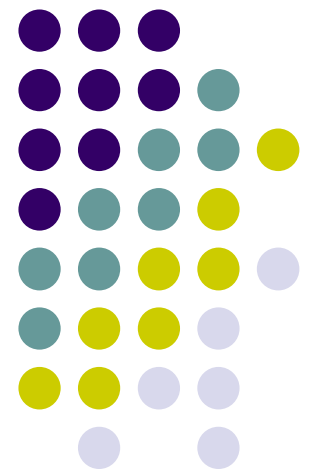


Family Mobility and Neighborhood Change

Preliminary Findings &
Possible Implications

(September 11, 2007)

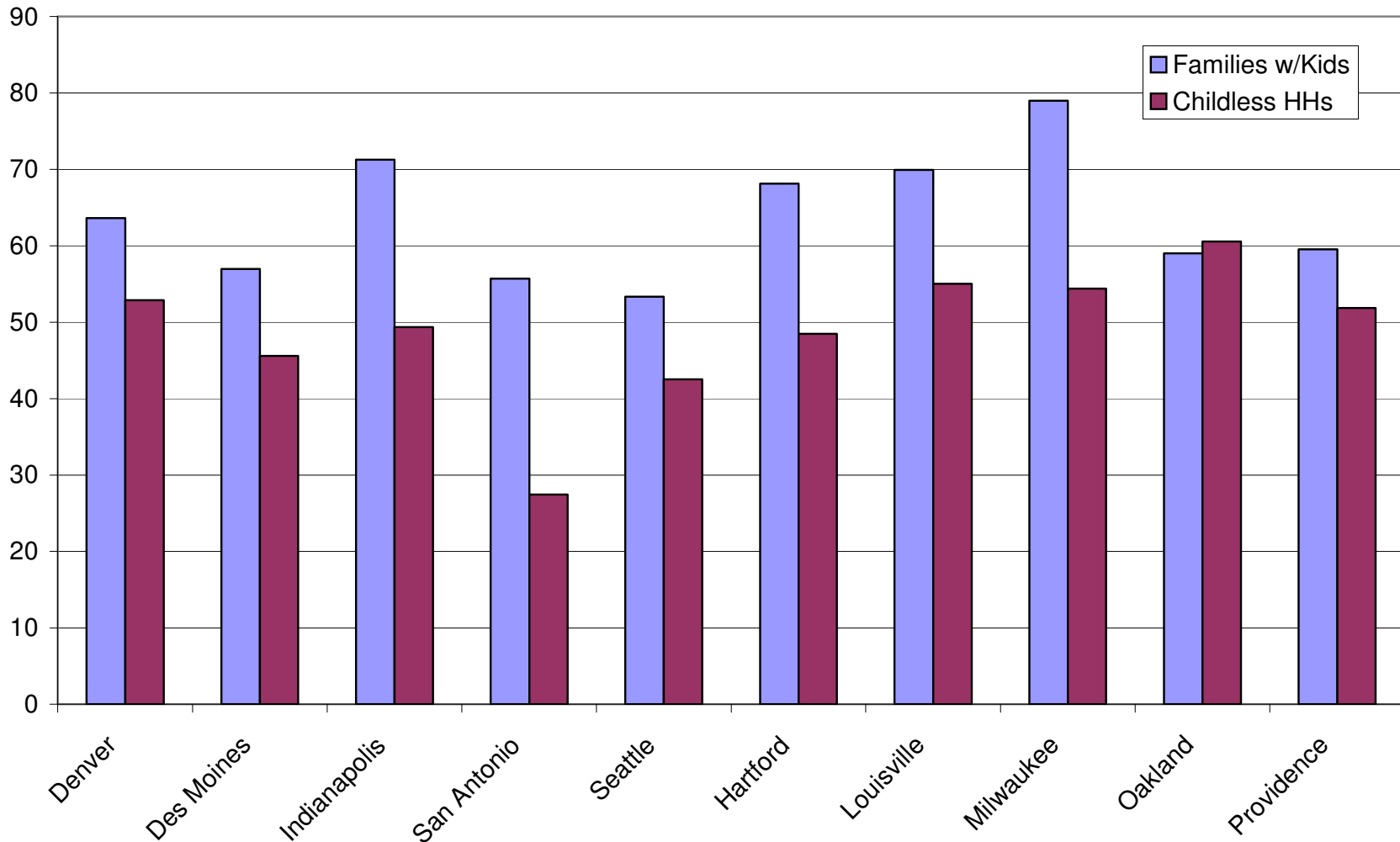
Des Moines



High mobility all sites- about half MC households moved



Percent of Wave 1 Households that Moved





But many moved nearby

- **4 of 10 mover families with kids moved less than 2 miles**
 - Of original families, two thirds are still “in reach” (45% who stayed + 21% who moved nearby – the “near-movers”)
 - The other third moved more than 2 miles (“far-movers”)
- Near-movers still connected to the MC community?
- Still served by MC programs?
- Possible coordination with neighboring programs?

Newcomers now very important to MC neighborhoods



- **Half of all households at Wave 2 had moved in since Wave 1**
 - 53% families with kids
 - 47% childless households
- Are they becoming integrated into the community?
- Are MC programs reaching them?

Households moving in & out differ from those staying



Percent	MC neighborhood families with kids			
	Stayers	Near - movers	Far- movers	New- comers
2 parent families	48	25	41	50
Foreign born	24	27	18	34
White (non-Hispanic)	45	23	58	38
Black (non-Hispanic)	30	46	23	26
Hispanic	17	20	14	33

- Initiatives serving both stable and dynamic populations?

Stayers more connected to the neighborhood as homeowners



MC families with kids

Percent at Wave 1	MC families with kids		
	Stayers	Near - movers	Far- movers
Homeowners	38	9	17
Long term resident	54	43	20
Say neighborhood good for kids	74	65	74
getting better	50	56	51
Volunteer in neigh	68	76	76

- But no more optimistic or engaged than movers

High employment all groups, but stayers & far movers have more savings, benefits



MC neighborhood families with kids

Percent at Wave 2	Stayers	Near - movers	Far- movers	New- comers
Resp./spouse employed	81	86	81	82
Income from employment	90	94	94	89
Health benefits for family	52	41	61	42
Savings account	55	48	50	48
Food hardship	33	22	20	25

Wave 1-2 change in key economic indicators mostly negative



- *Jump in employment rate for near-movers a bright spot*

		MC neighborhood families with kids			
Percent		Stayers	Near - movers	Far- movers	New- comers
Respondent/spouse employed	W1	85	80	80	-
	W2	81	86	81	82
Health benefits for family	W1	62	47	57	-
	W2	52	41	61	42
Have savings account	W1	61	63	54	-
	W2	55	48	50	48

Group differences help explain neighborhood story Wave 1 to 2



- Stable employment rate (79% to 81%)
 - Decline for stayers mostly offset by gain for near-movers newcomers coming in with high rate
- Drop in health benefit rate (58% to 46%)
 - Declines for residents attenuated as newcomers come in far below neighborhood average
- Drop in % with savings account (58% to 52%)
 - Decline for stayers and movers plus newcomers coming in at low level



Wave 1-2 change for other indicators: mixed directions

- *but also promising for near-movers*

		MC neighborhood families with kids			
Percent		Stayers	Near - movers	Far- movers	New- comers
Food hardship	W1	22	24	25	-
	W2	33	22	20	25
Took civic action civic action	W1	45	40	44	-
	W2	39	48	23	27

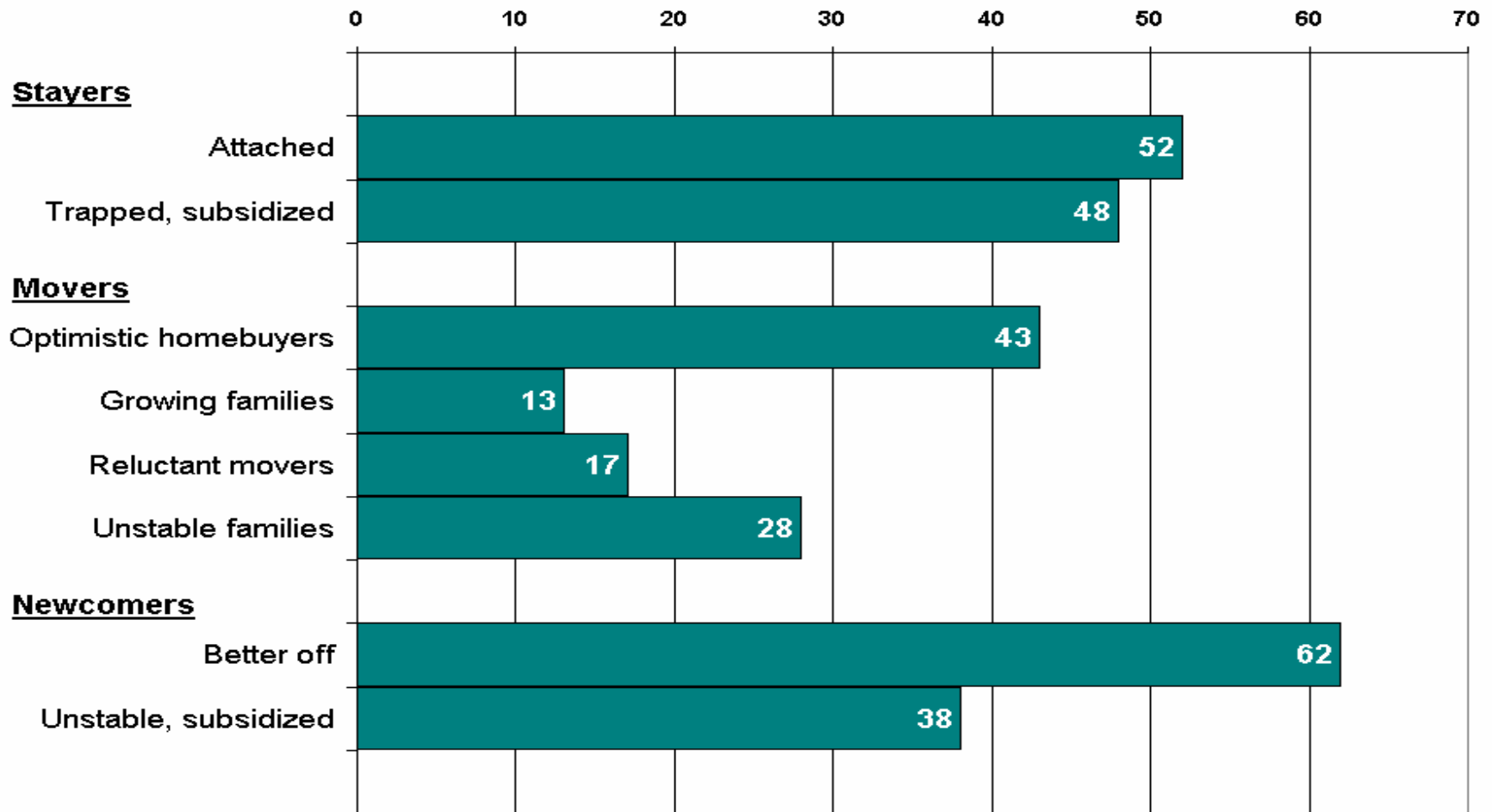
Group differences help explain neighborhood story (continued)



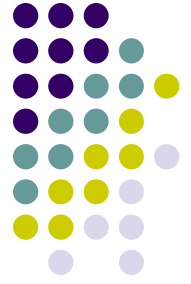
- Increase in food hardship rate (25% to 30%)
 - Increase for stayers partially offset as newcomers have come in at a lower rate
- Drop in share taking civic action (44% to 31%)
 - Modest decline for stayers part offset by improvement for near-movers but newcomers have much lower rate

Notably different types of families within stayer/mover categories

- Cluster analysis shows



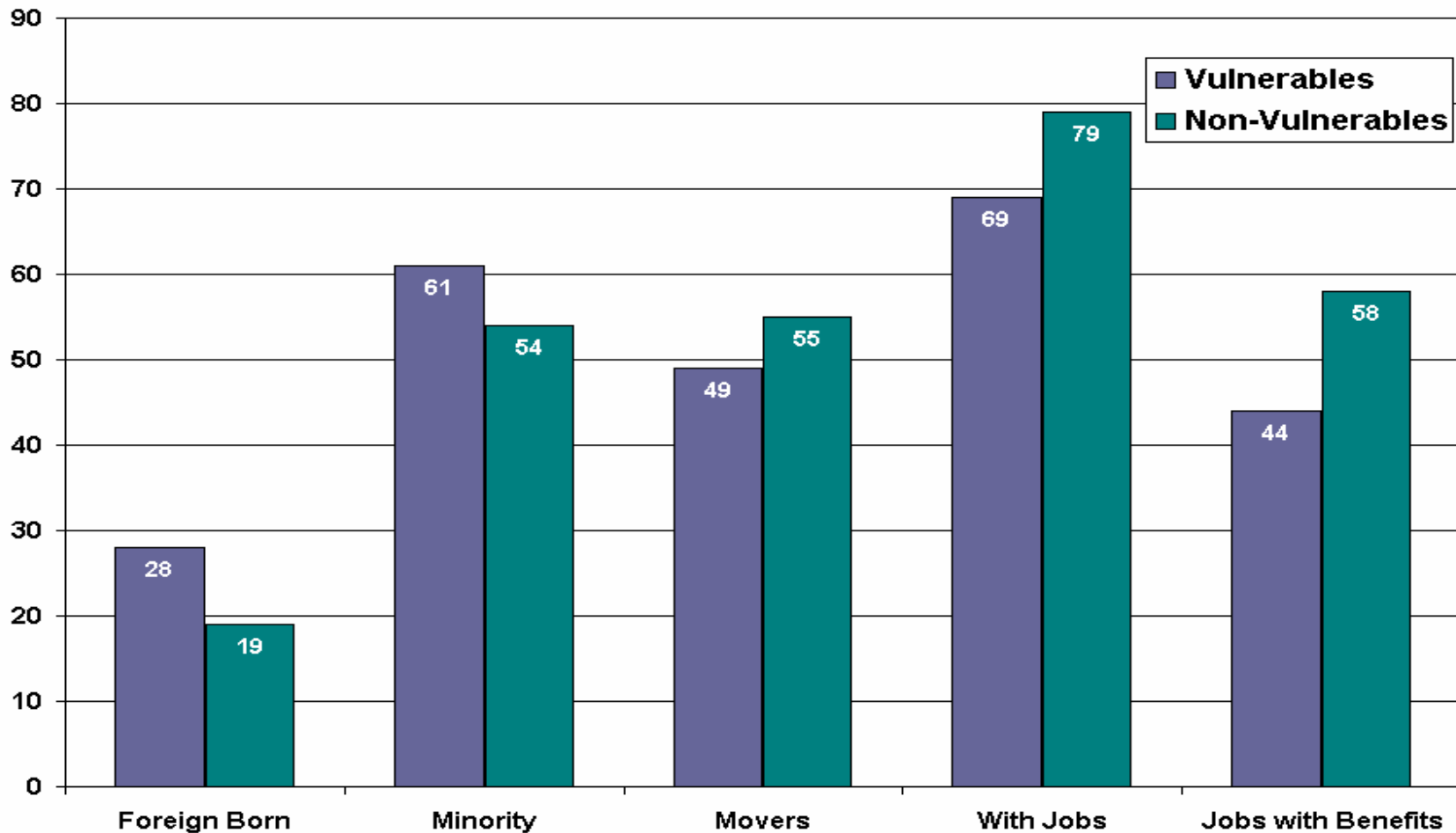
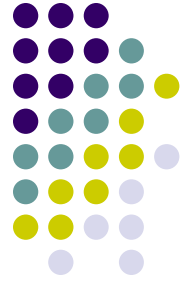
Focus on vulnerable families with children



- **Survey shows changes in average conditions for any group**
 - Not what happens to vulnerables
- **Trial definition of vulnerables**
 - Disabled, lacks HS diploma, lacks English proficiency, or child with poor health/disability
 - No stable employment (full time job for one year or more)
- **For Des Moines by this definition**
 - 45% with one of basic conditions, minus 14% with stable jobs = 31% vulnerable at Wave 1 (drop to 28% Wave 2)
 - 32% Wave 2 newcomers are vulnerables

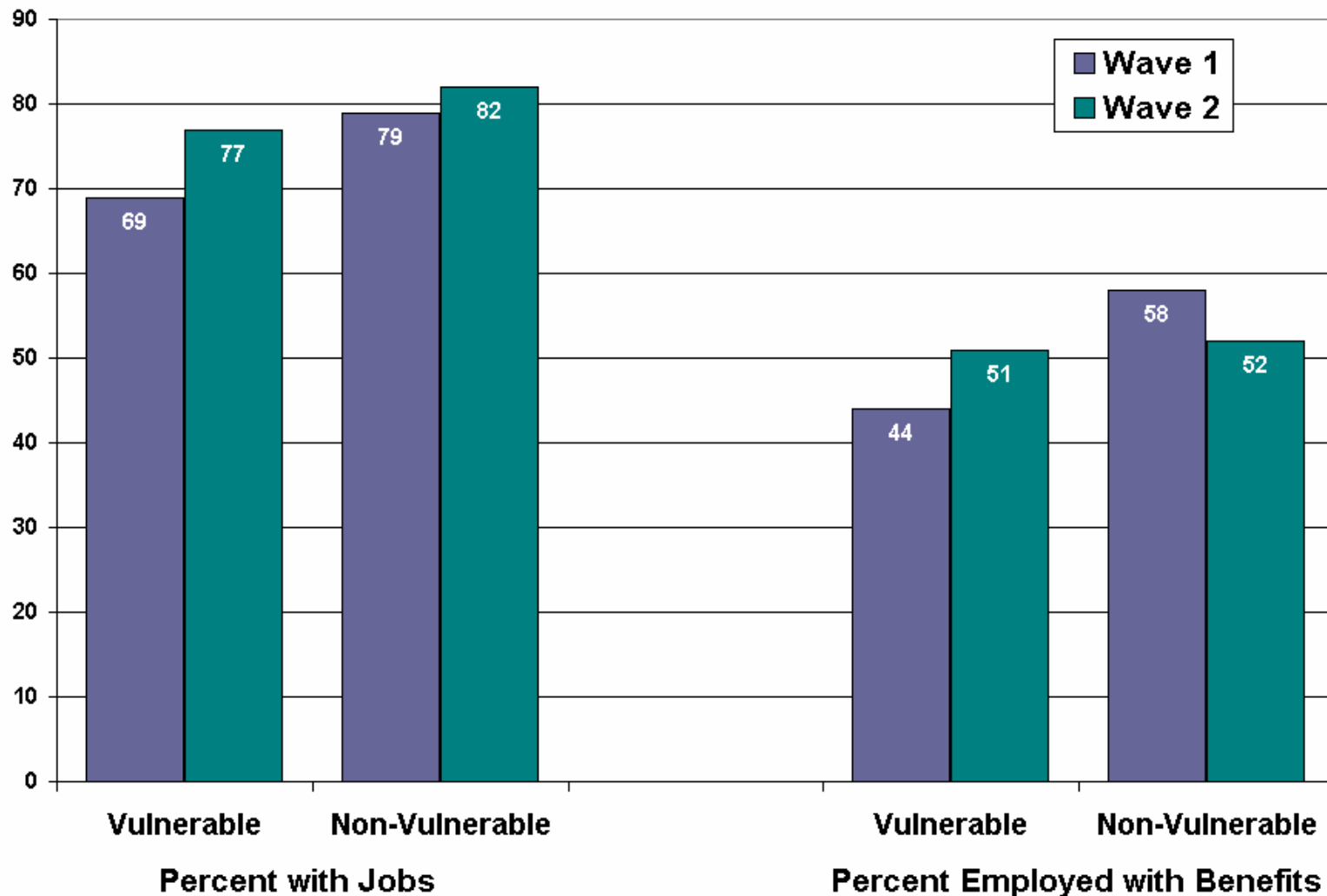
Vulnerables

- *larger shares foreign born, minority*
- *smaller shares movers, with jobs/benefits*



Vulnerables

- *Wave 1-2, more improvement than non-vulnerables in employment, benefits*



Trial conclusions and implications



- **Des Moines MC neighborhoods not comparatively unstable overall, but there are causes for concern**
 - Sizeable group at risk of unwanted mobility
 - Newcomers not getting connected
- **Large number of external moves are positive (steps on ladders to prosperity)**
 - Goals should not be to prevent these, but to make neighborhood more attractive so fewer want to move out over time
- **Need to keep mobility and vulnerability in mind as operate all key MC initiatives**
 - Sharpen focus on vulnerables in outreach and intake
 - Linkage to service providers in other neighborhoods
 - Social networks to engage vulnerables and help “make connections”

Secure stable housing for vulnerable/unstable families



- **Dominant among near-movers, but also latent groups among stayers and newcomers**
 - Increasing view that solving residential instability essential for other improvement efforts to be effective
- **Growing experience with “homelessness prevention” strategies**
 - Outreach to identify and contact families (use intake mechanisms from other programs)
 - Case management to target appropriate help
 - Mix of supportive services and housing in some cases
 - Mediation in eviction cases
 - Temporary cash assistance
 - Role for social networks