

School Choice Policy in Michigan

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Agenda

- Who uses school choice in Michigan?
- How do students who use school choice differ from students who remain in their resident district?
- How many years does a choice student use choice?
- How does achievement differ before and after a student uses choice?

Data and Definitions

- 2012-13 to 2016-17 school years
- **Resident District-Student** attending any school in their district of residence; determined by student's geocoded address
- **Non-Resident District-Student** attending any LEA school outside of their resident district (included but not limited to SoC)
- **Charter-Student** attending a PSA school regardless of its location

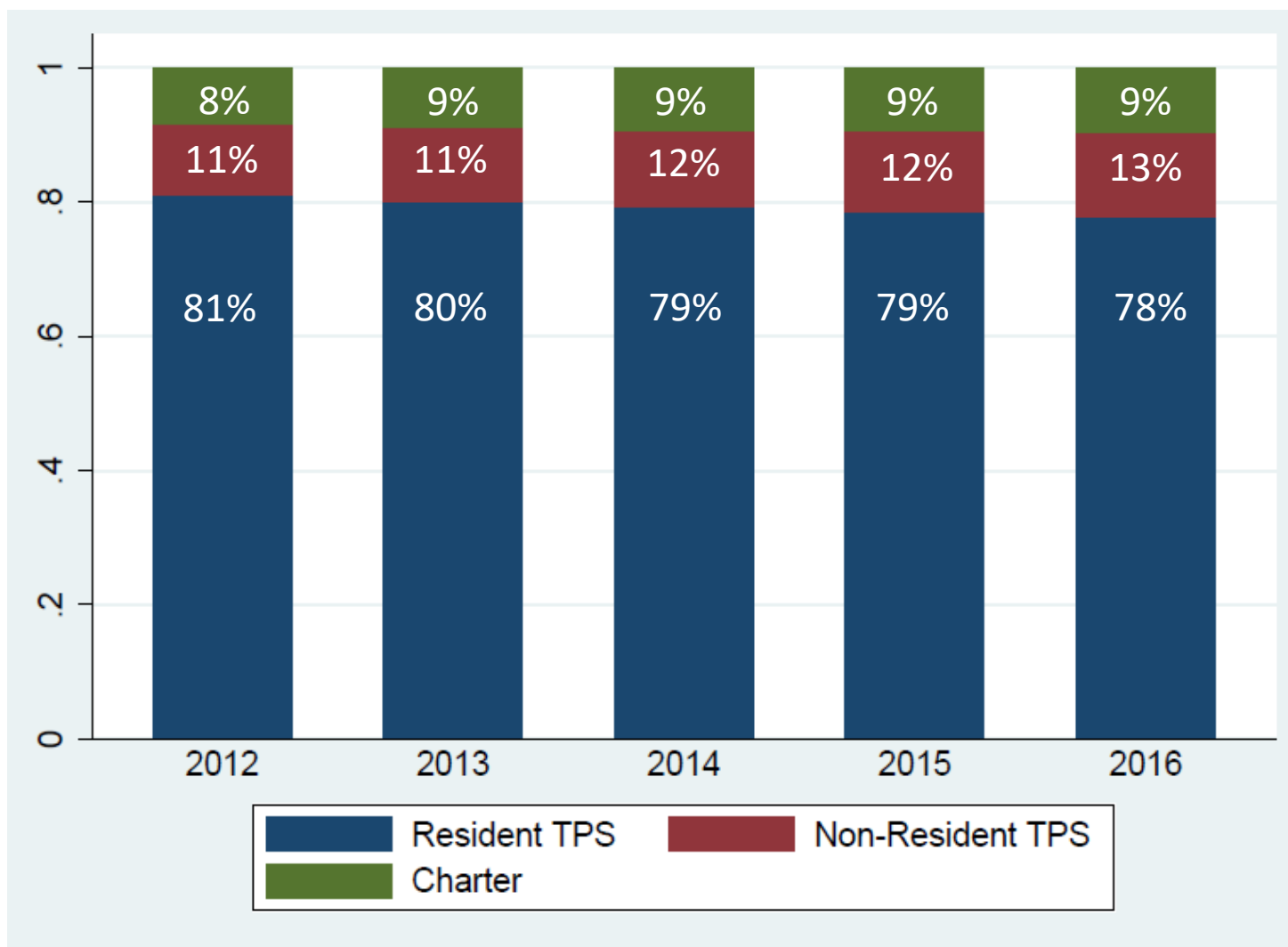


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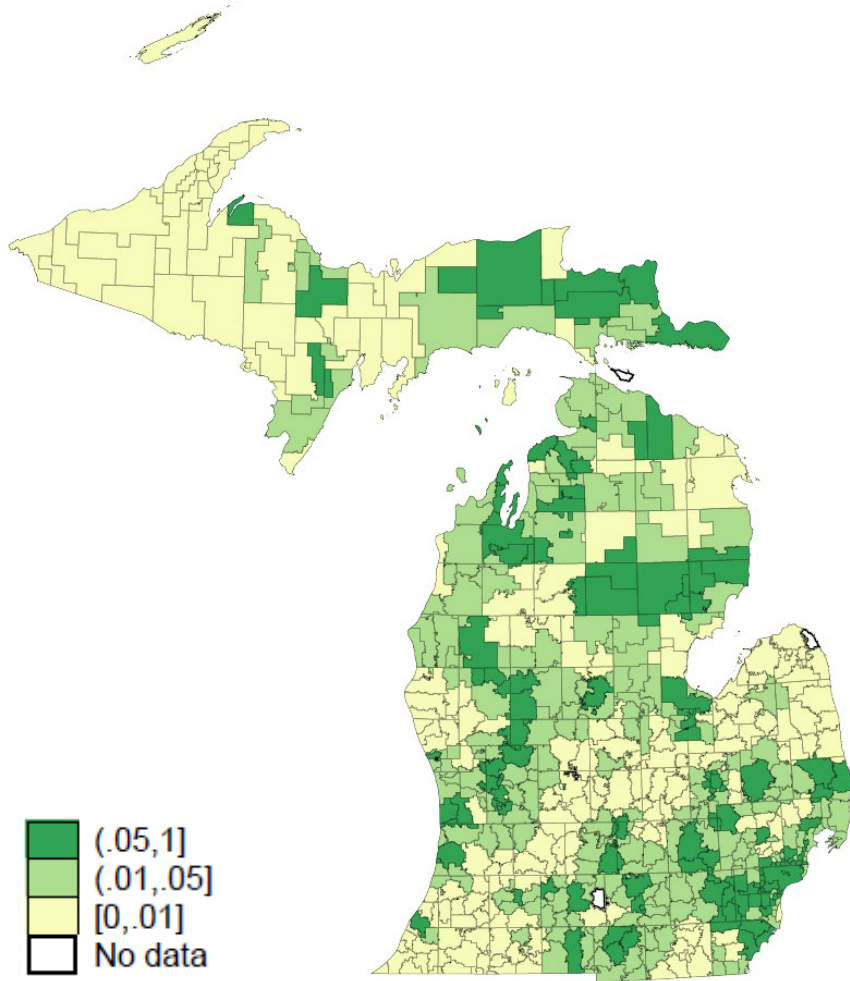


22% of Michigan Students attend schools to which they are not zoned

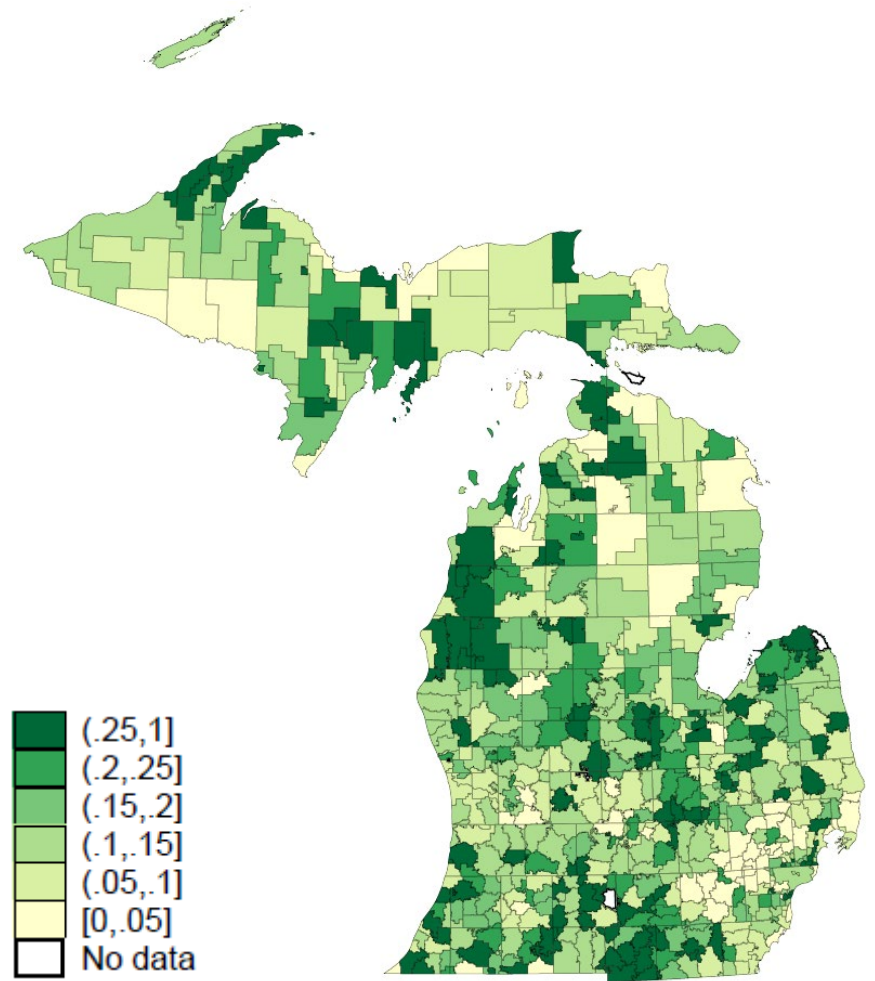


School choice across the state

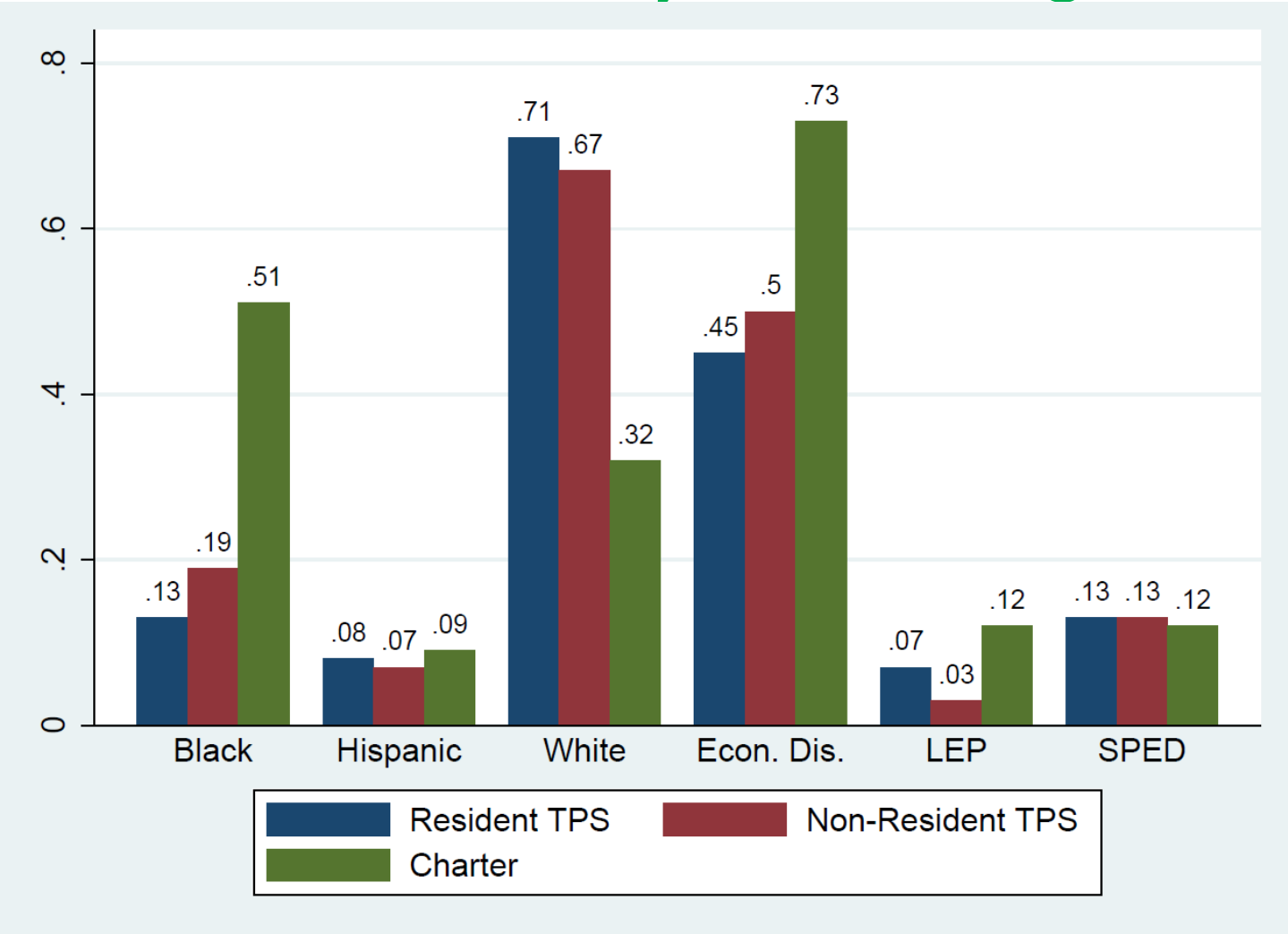
% Students attending charter schools by resident district



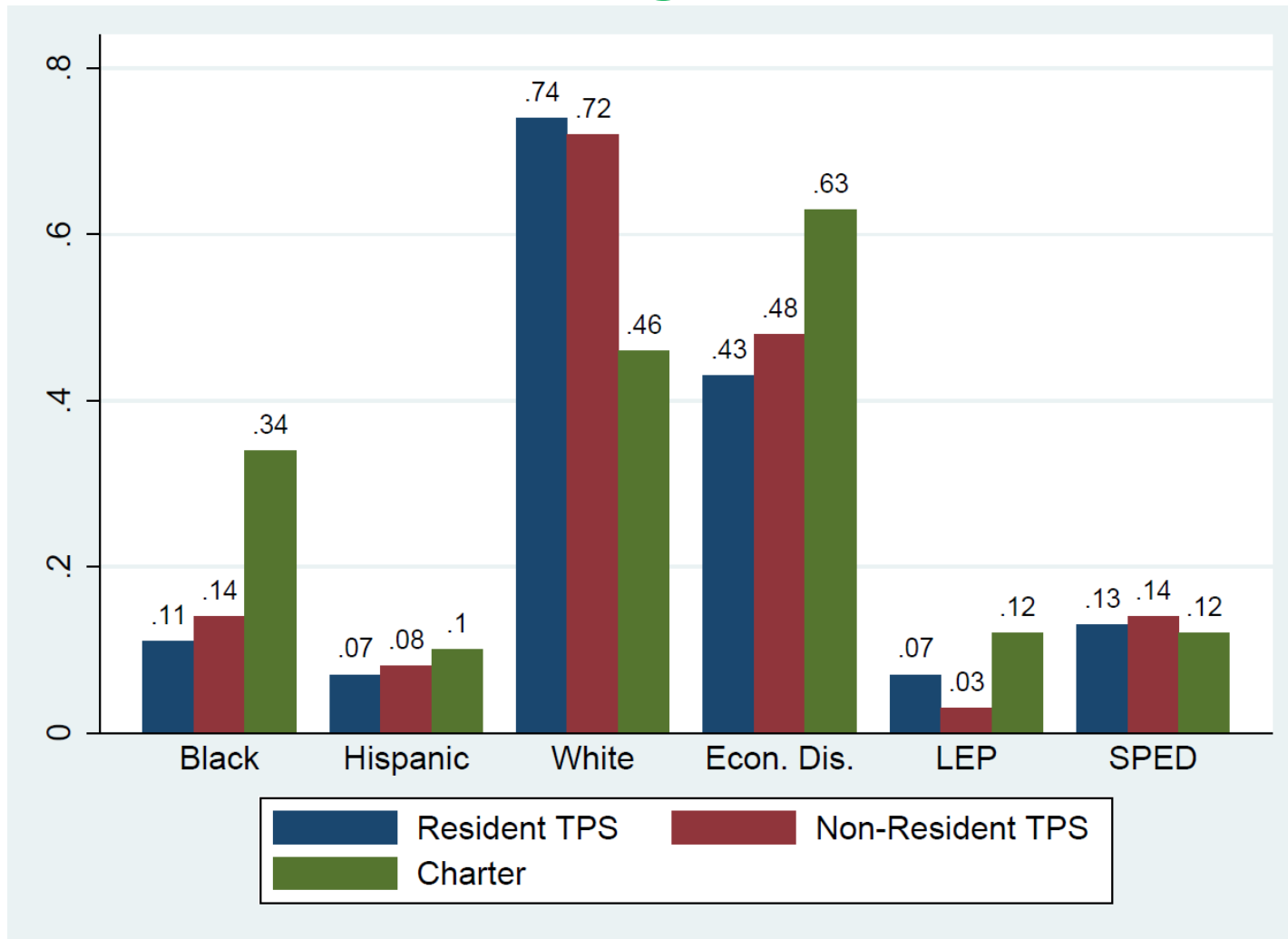
% Students attending a TPS outside their resident district



Students who use choice are more likely to be black and economically disadvantaged



Differences in choice use are smaller when excluding Detroit

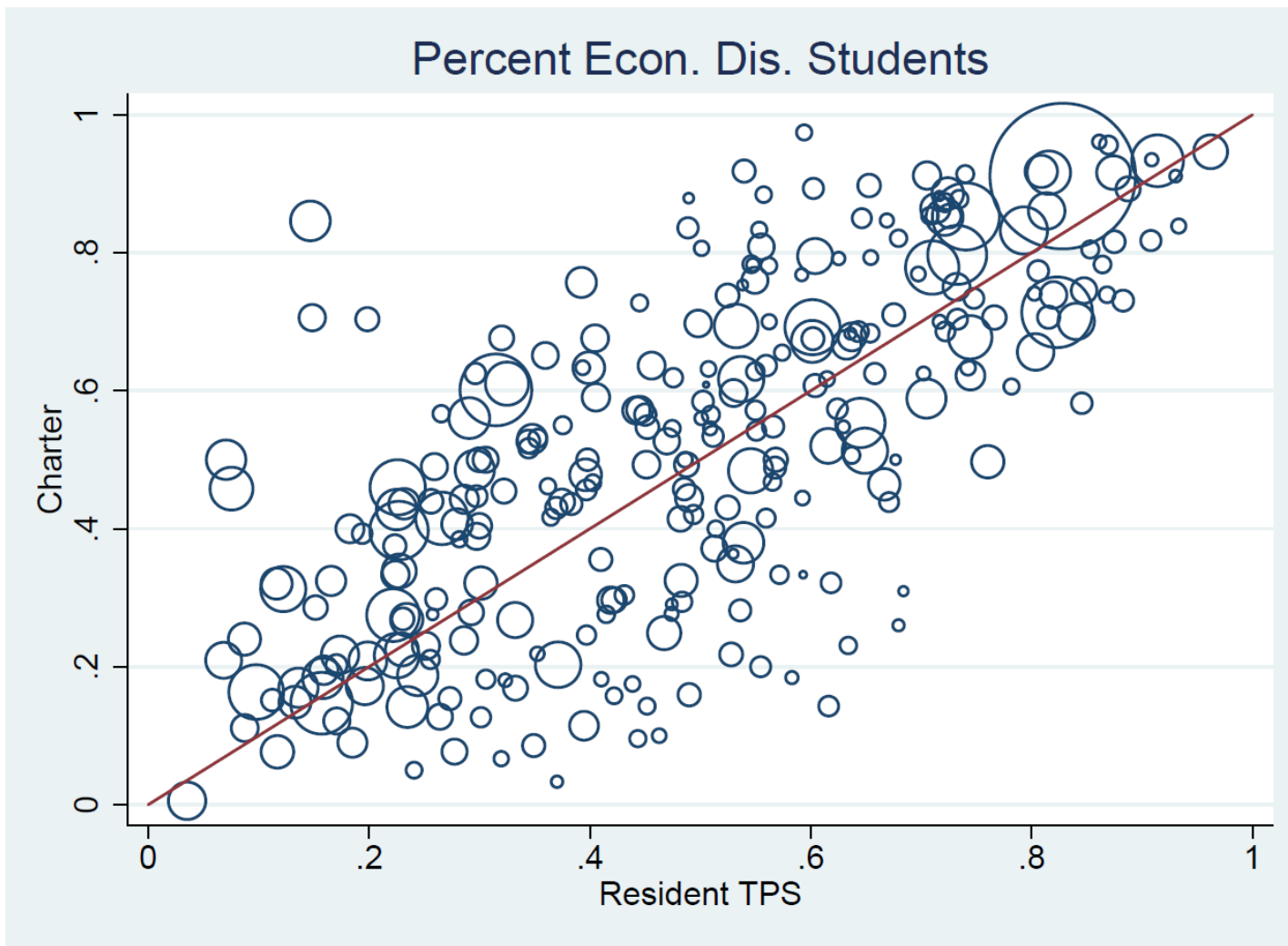


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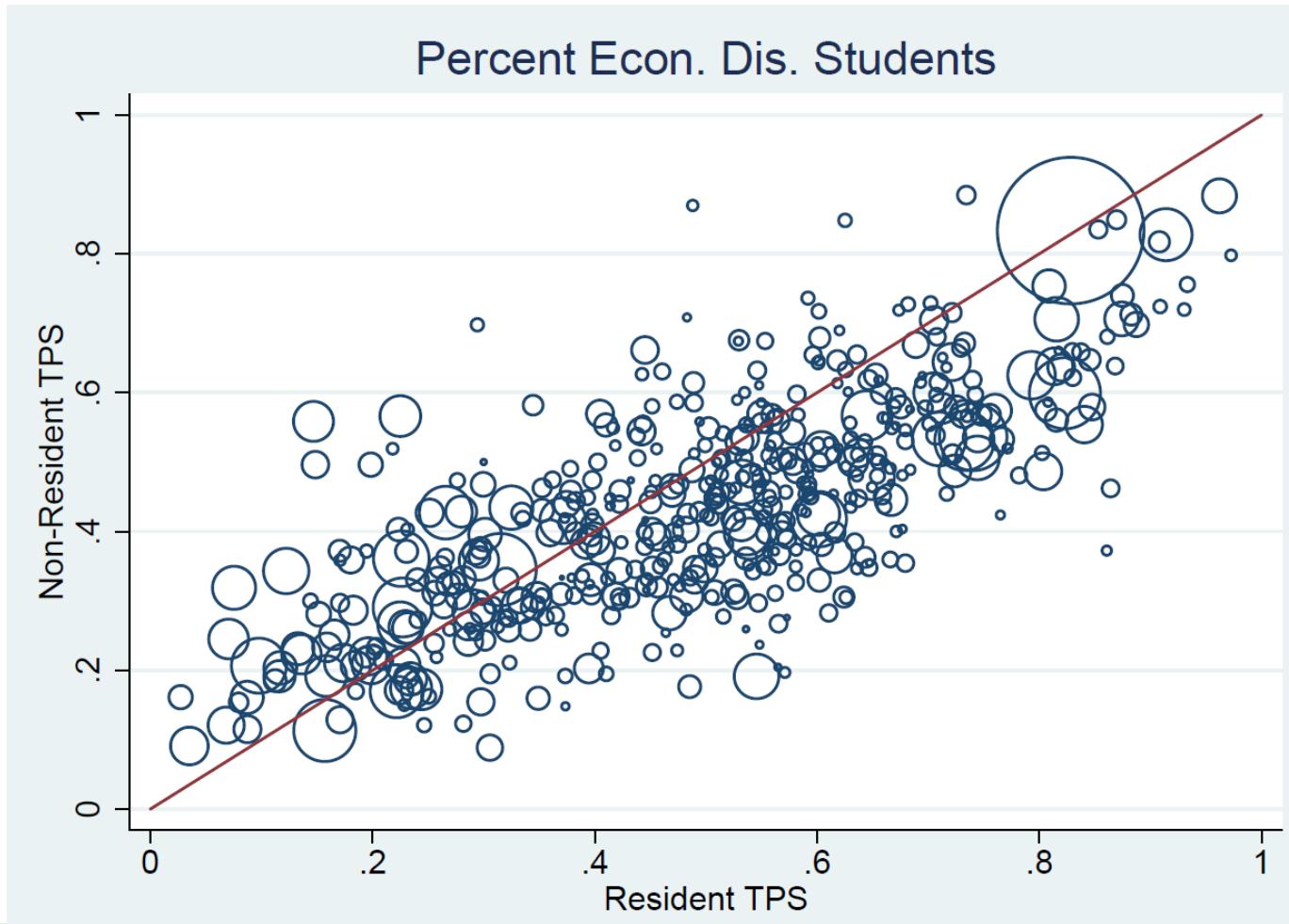
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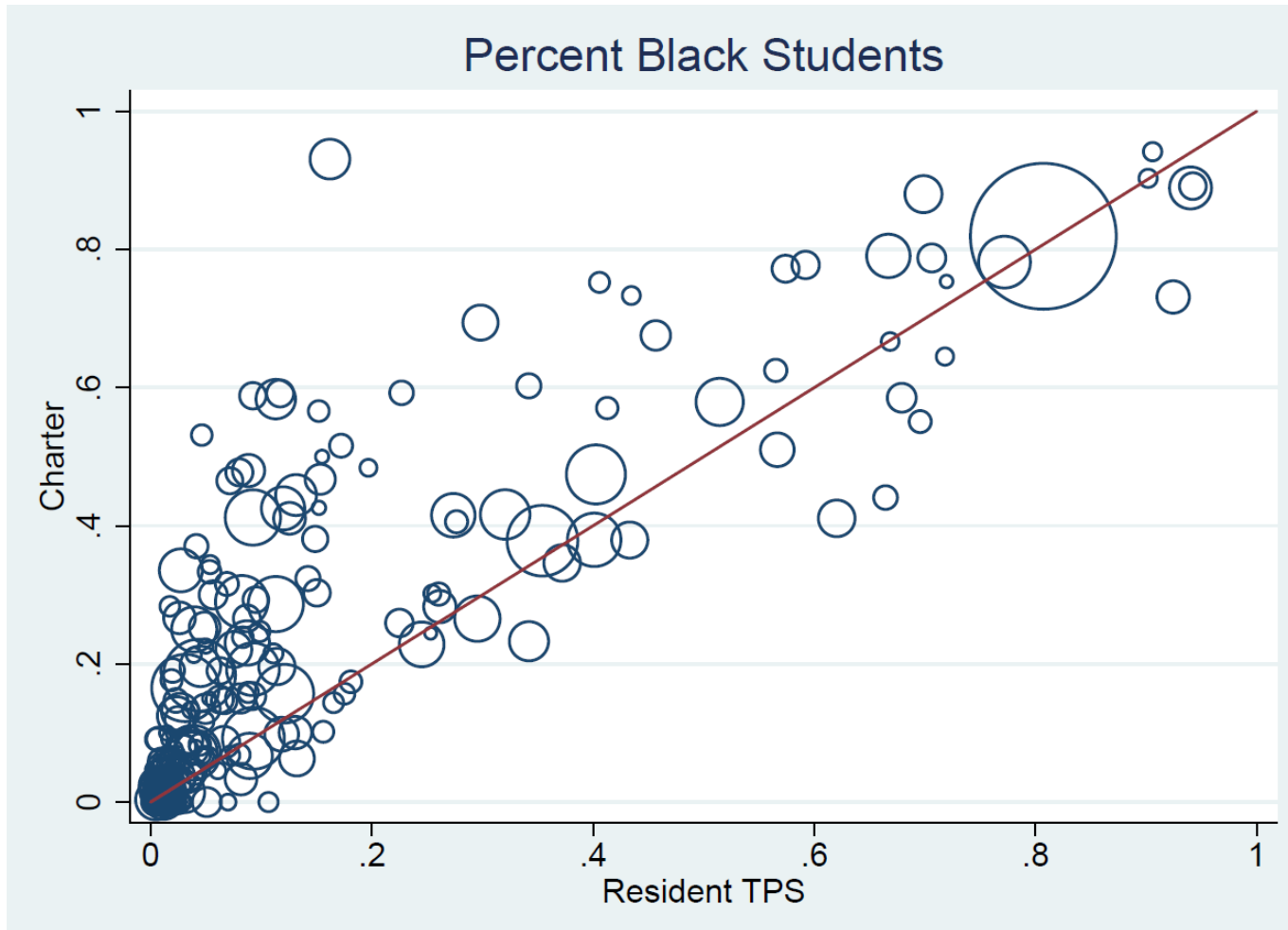
Charters don't clearly serve more or less economically disadvantaged students



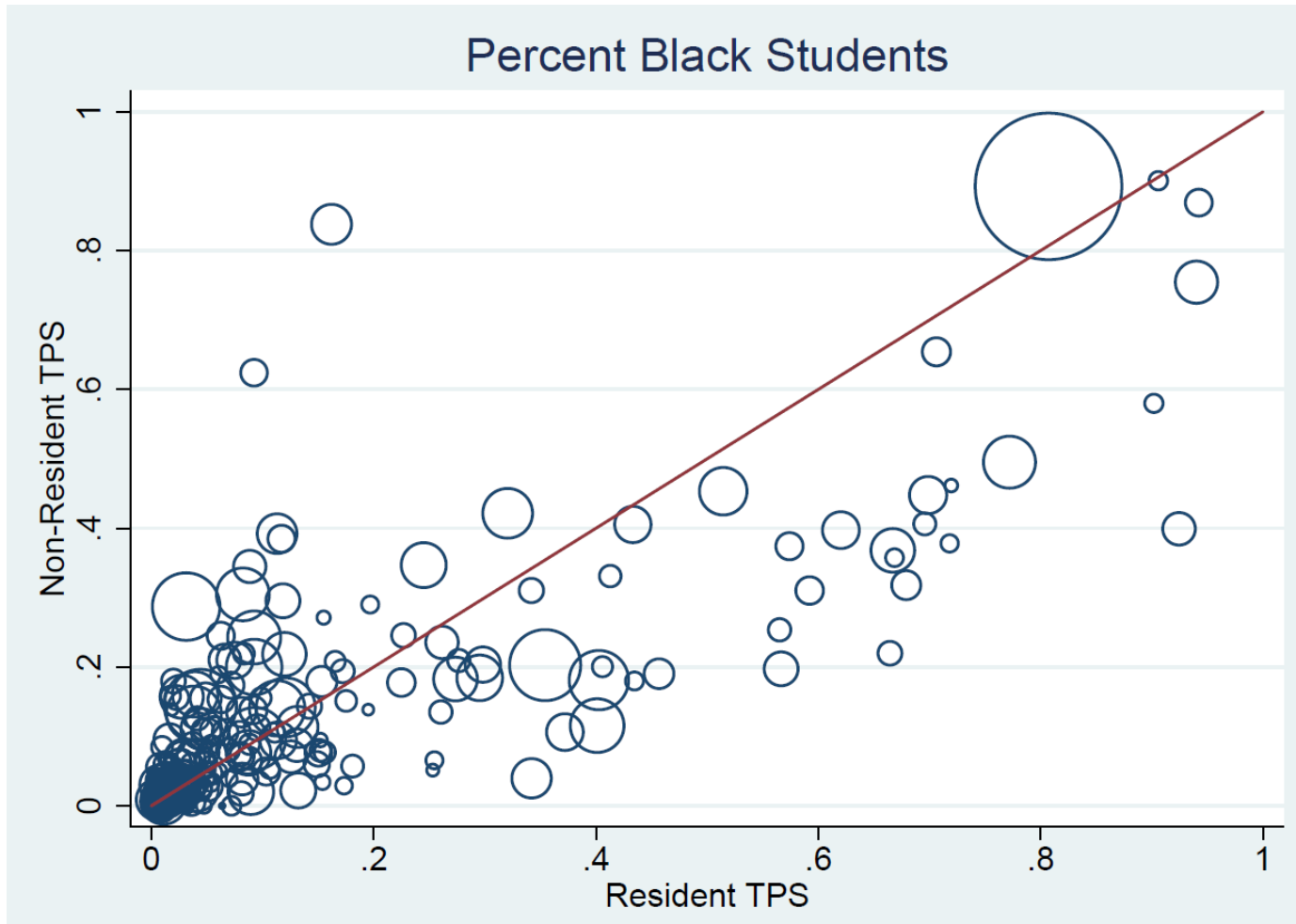
In districts with higher levels of poverty, those who attend a non-resident district are slightly less likely to be disadvantaged



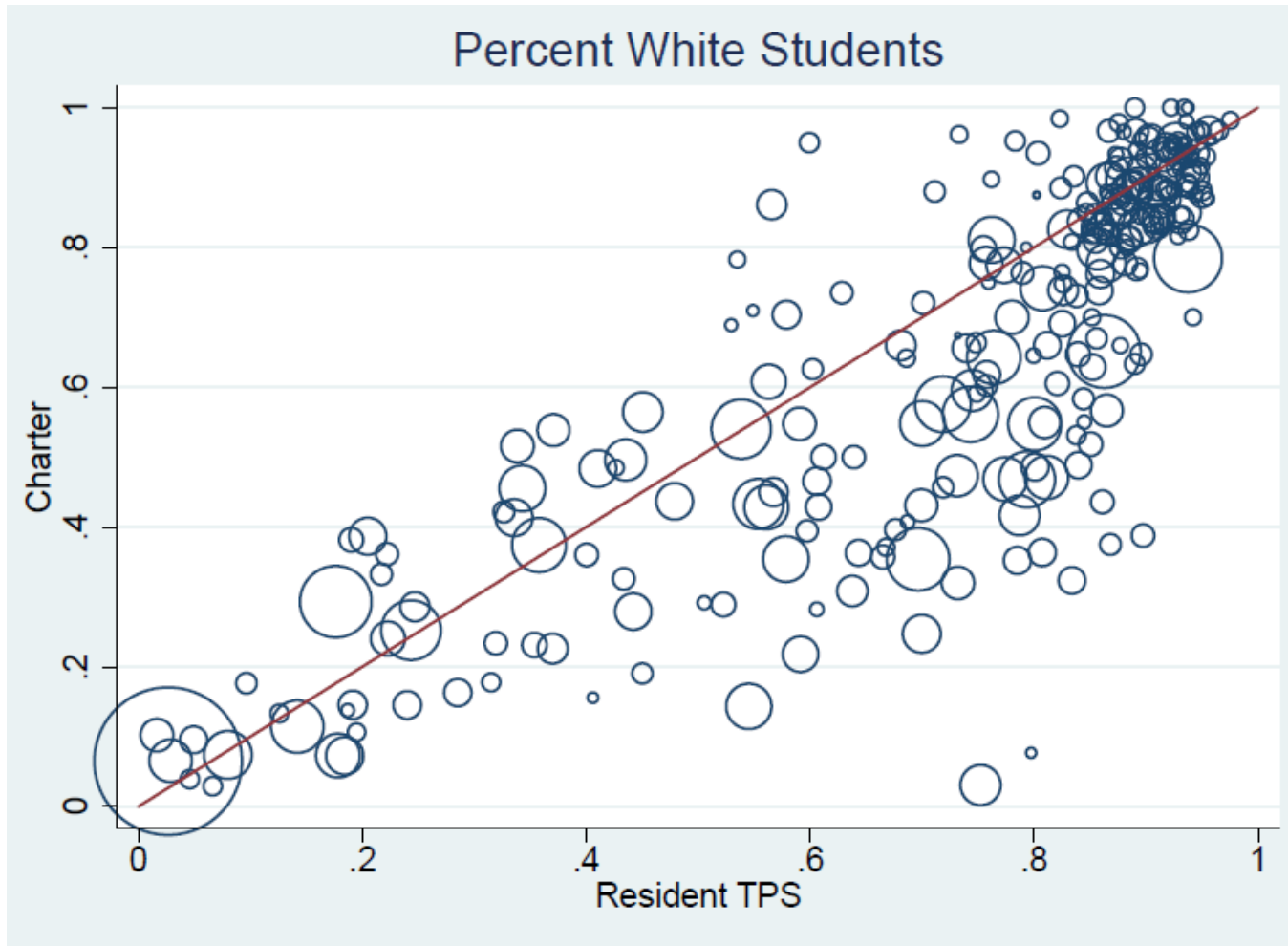
Black students more likely to use charters (particularly where more students are white)



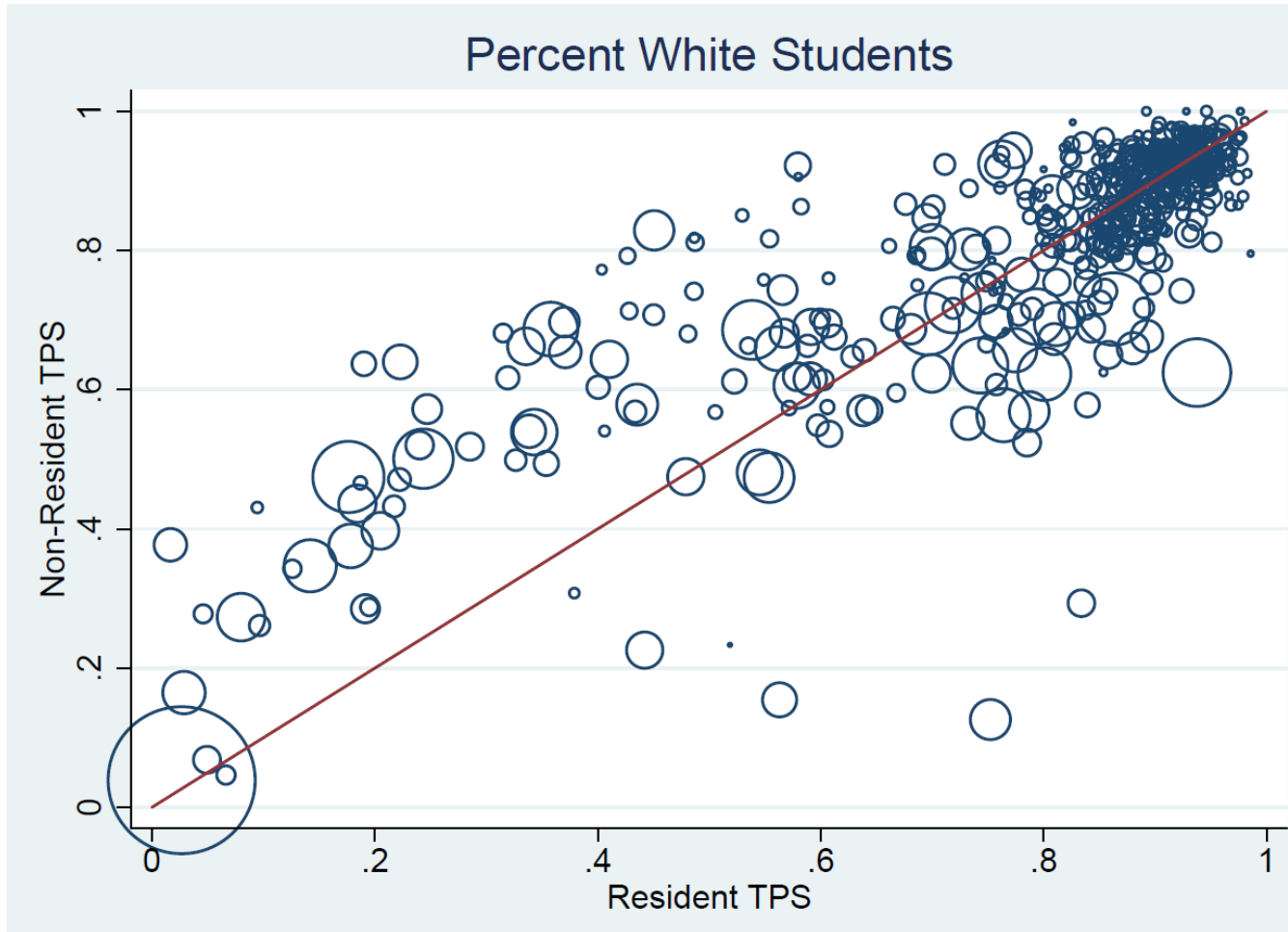
Black students in predominantly black districts are less likely to use choice



White students in predominantly white districts are less likely to attend charters



White students use inter-district choice when they are a minority population in their resident district



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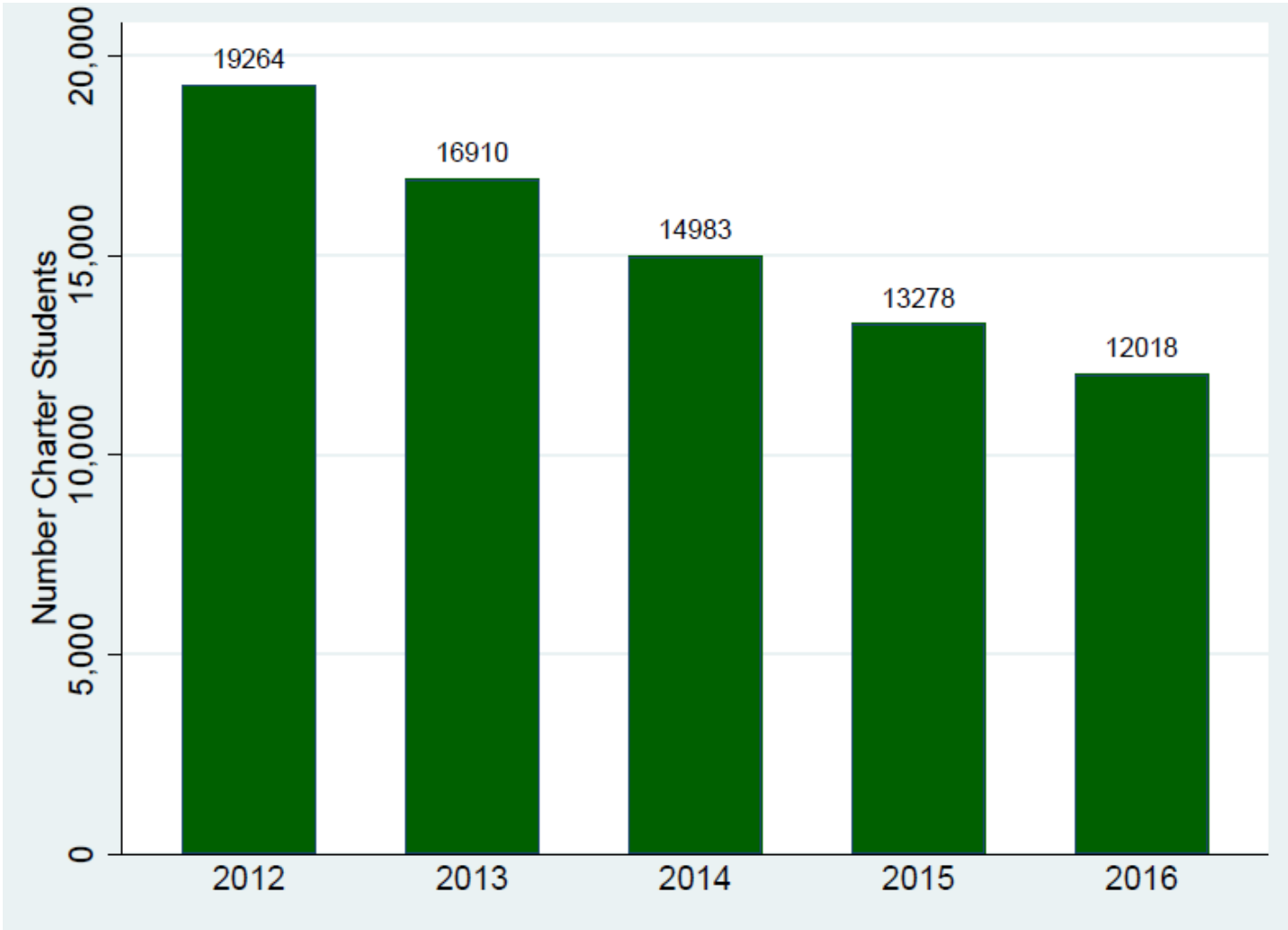
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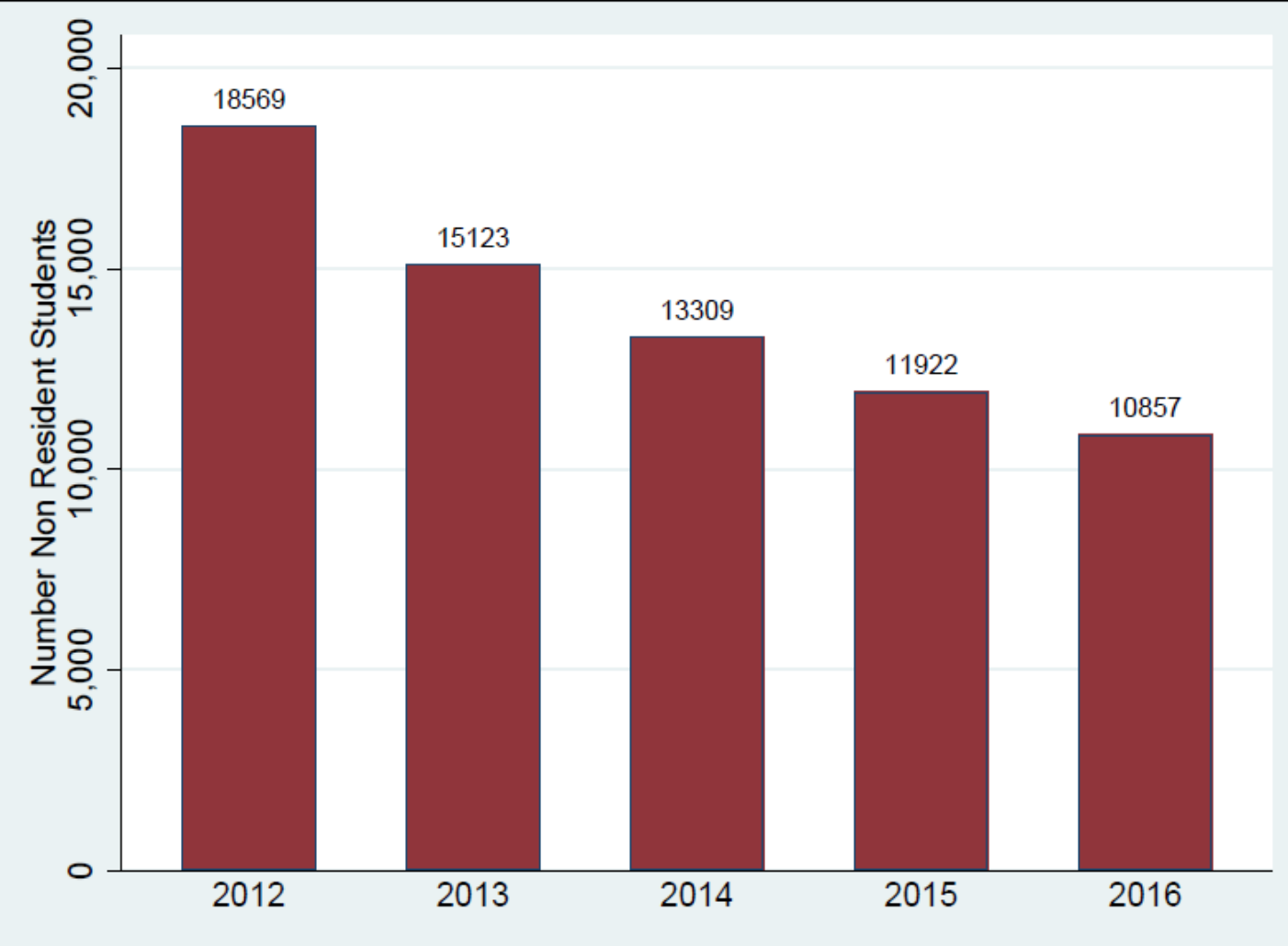
On average, those who use choice attend a non-zoned school for about 3.4 years out of 5



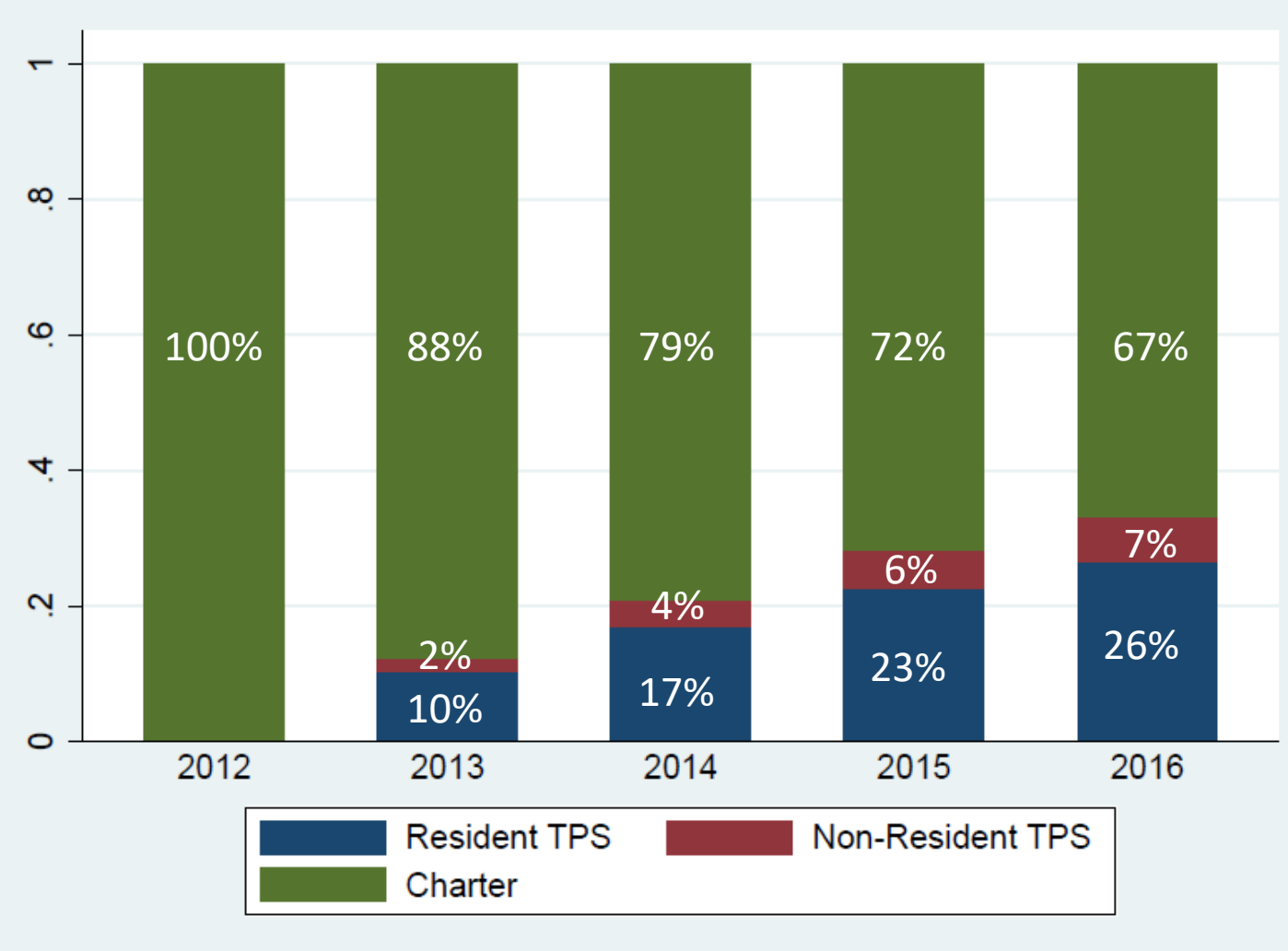
About 3 out of 5 students who attended a non-zoned school remained in choice all 5 years



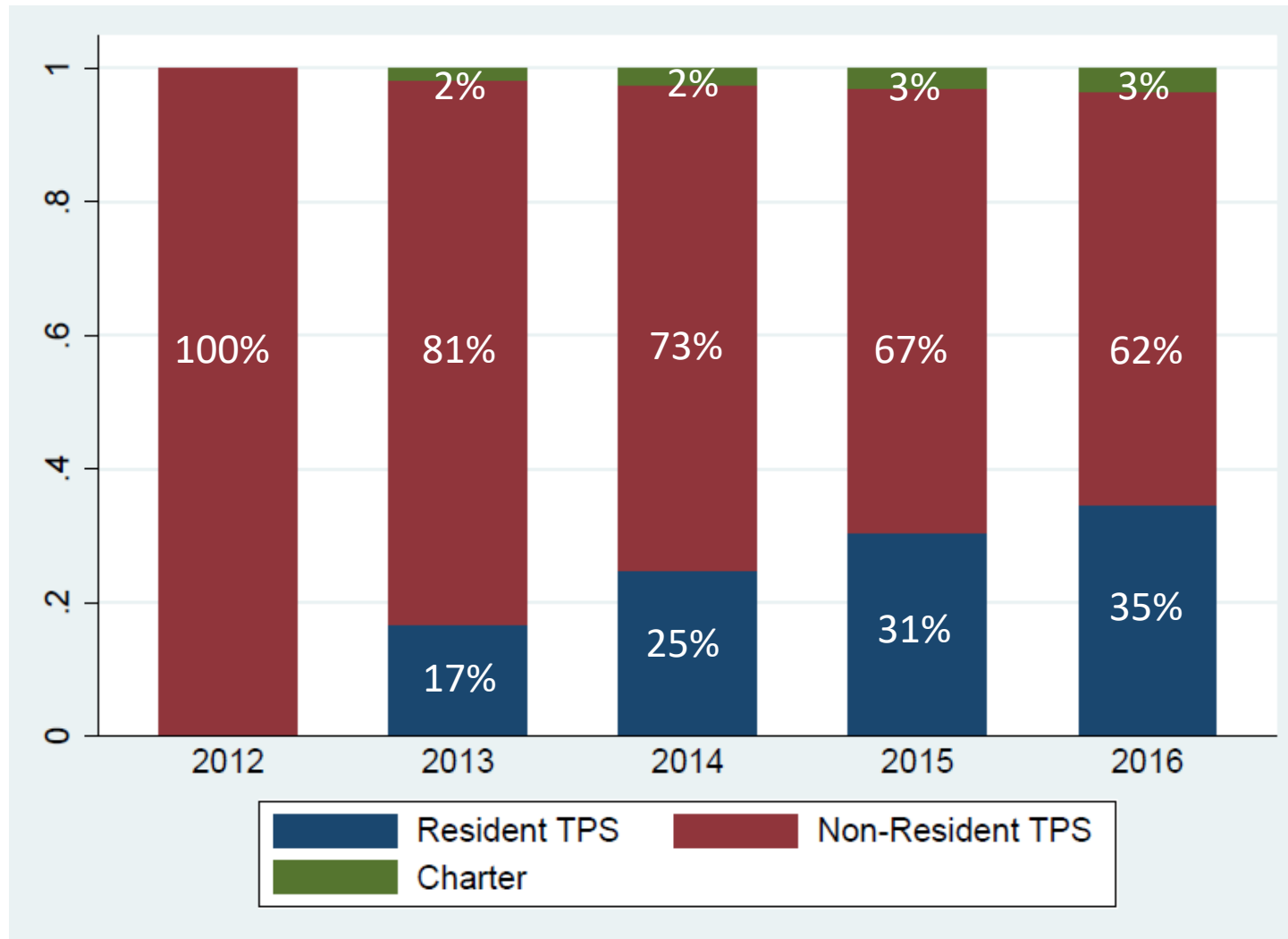
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Those who exit choice return to their resident district



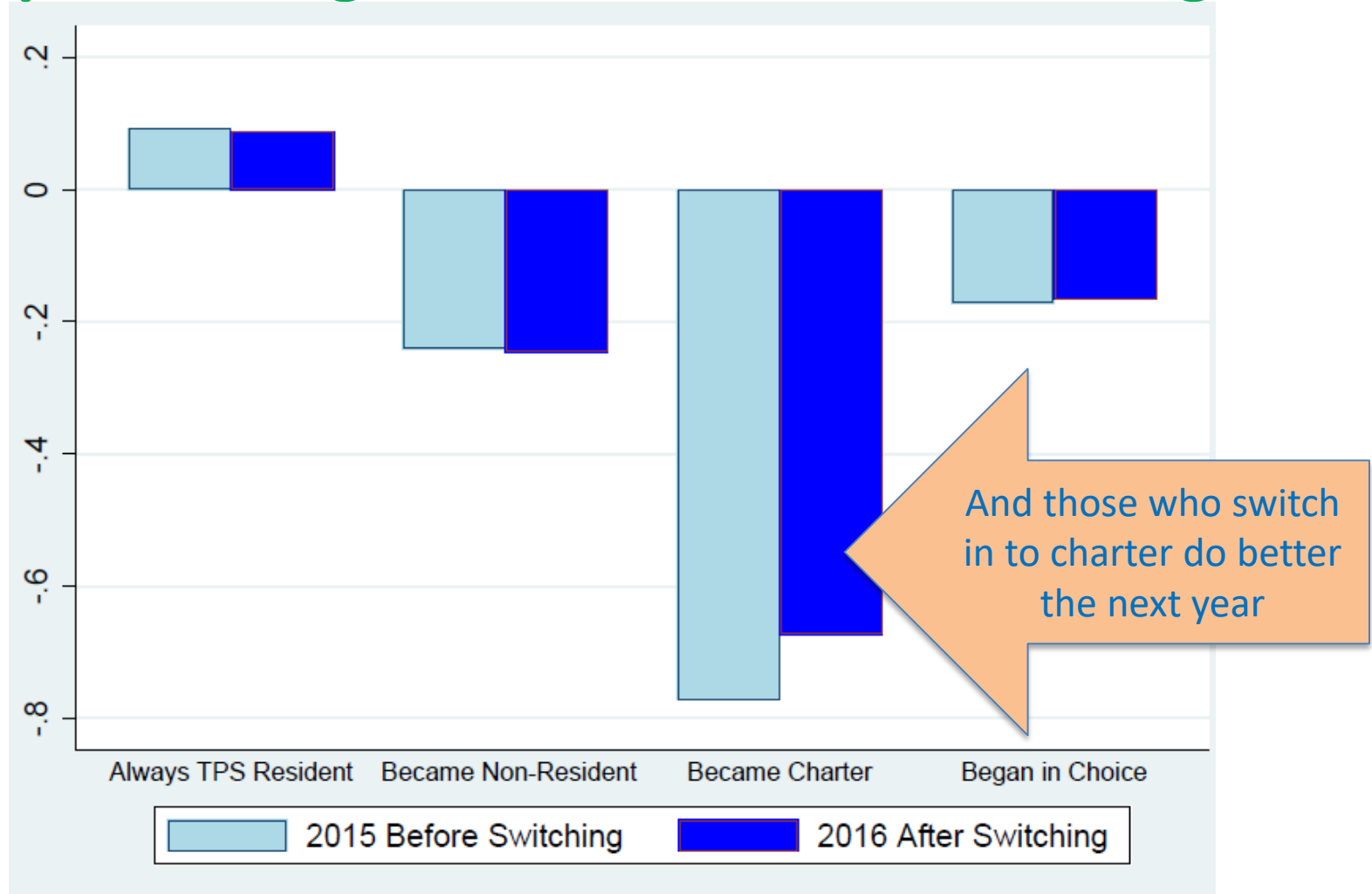
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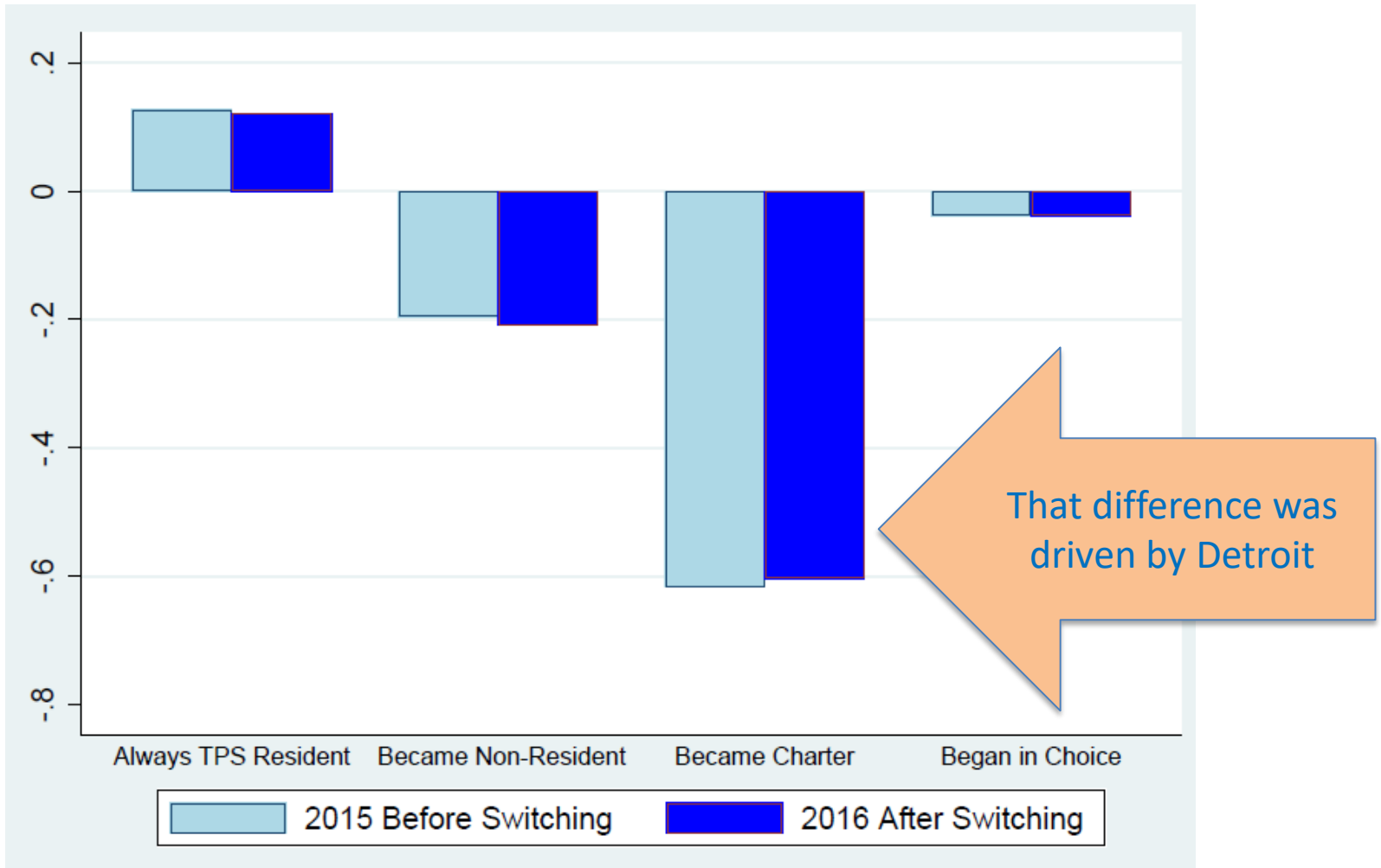
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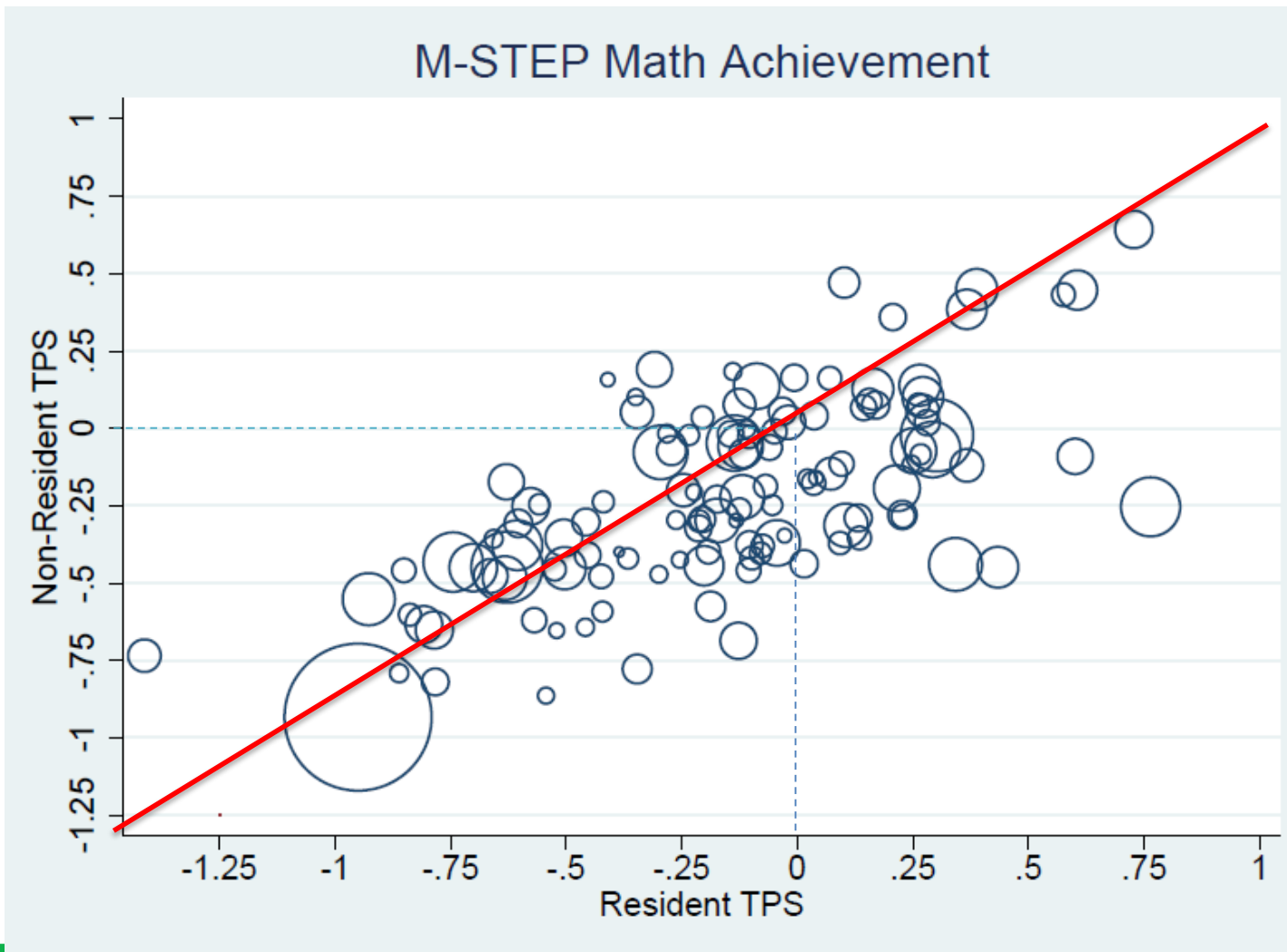
Students who exercise school choice are lower-performing, before and after switching



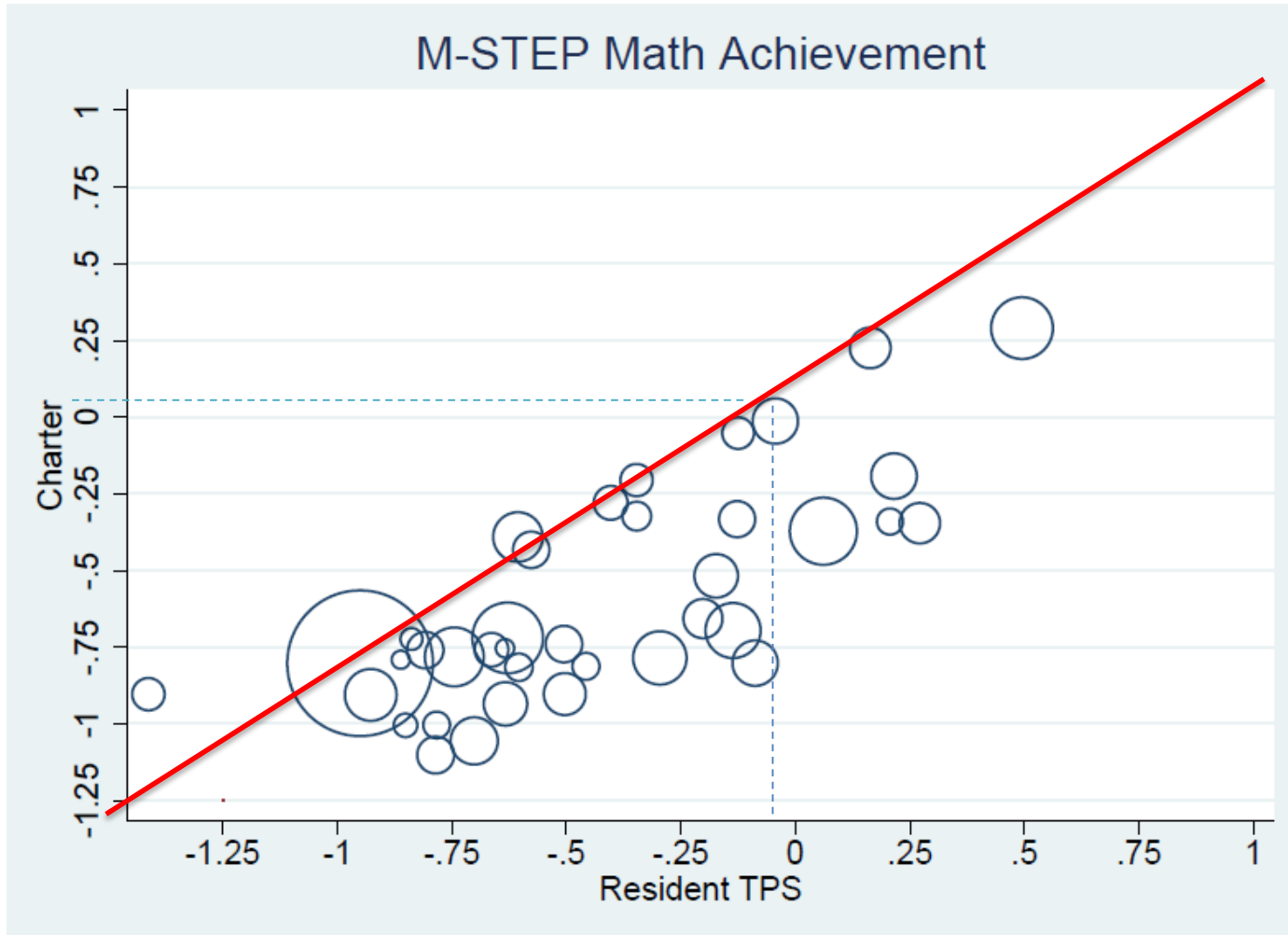
Differences in performance slightly subside after excluding Detroit students



In high performing districts, stayers out-perform



Charter students are lower achieving than their resident counterparts and they live in lower achieving districts



Earlier Research

- Dynarski, Hubbard, Jacob and Rowles (2018)
 - Randomized lottery design: NHA increases math achievement
 - Effects concentrated in non-poor, non-urban areas
- Cowen and Creed (2017)
 - No net gain/loss in test scores due to Schools of Choice
- Cowen, Creed and Keesler (2015)
 - Statewide, inter-district choice used by historically disadvantaged students
 - Except in districts that are struggling.



Next Steps at EPIC

- How does school closure impact the decision to choose?
- How do teachers and teaching differ in charter schools?
- What role does access to transportation play improving/hindering access to quality choices?
- What role do oversight/enrollment rules play in improving/hindering access to quality choices?
- What information do parents use to choose?



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Additional Slides



Deep dive Detroit:

1 in 5 Detroit students leave the city for school

Grade	School Type	N	% Attending
3	Inside Detroit	7,512	81%
	Outside Detroit	1,723	19%
	TOTAL	9,235	
6	Inside Detroit	7,021	83%
	Outside Detroit	1,425	17%
	TOTAL	8,446	
9	Inside Detroit	7,664	78%
	Outside Detroit	2,156	22%
	TOTAL	9,820	
3, 6 and 9 Combined	Inside Detroit	22,197	80%
	Outside Detroit	5,304	20%
	TOTAL	27,501	

Source: EPIC calculations based on data provided by the Michigan Department of Education, the Center for Educational Performance and Information, and the U.S. Census Bureau.



Deep dive Detroit: Students leaving Detroit attend higher quality schools

Grade	Accountability Rating		Chronic Absenteeism Rate		Student Teacher Ratio		Graduation Rate	
	Nearest School (Any)	Nearest DPSCD School	Nearest School (Any)	Nearest DPSCD School	Nearest School (Any)	Nearest DPSCD School	Nearest School (Any)	Nearest DPSCD School
3	3.86	7.87	-6.75	-16.42	-0.12	-0.38		
6	3.19	8.12	-9.16	-20.07	-0.02	-0.23		
9	5.31	7.27	-2.79	-13.84	6.32	6.87	8.96	13.81

Note: Differences in Absenteeism and Graduation Rates are percentage point differences. Differences in Accountability Rating are reported in accountability points. Points range from 0 to 100. Source: EPIC calculations based on data provided by the Michigan Department of Education, the Center for Educational Performance and Information, and the U.S. Census Bureau. Calculations include all schools attended by students in Detroit, both inside and outside the city limits.