



Underreported Pedestrian Crashes

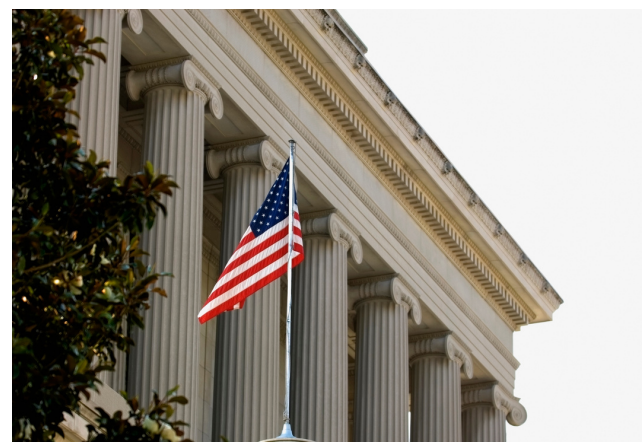
Are Pedestrian Injuries Under-reported
in Disadvantaged Communities?

What if communities with high rates of pedestrians being struck by motor vehicles are never reported to the police?



Communities

Resources are distributed to communities where incidents of struck pedestrians are high.




Policymakers

Crash reports are used by policymakers to allocate these resources.



Assistance

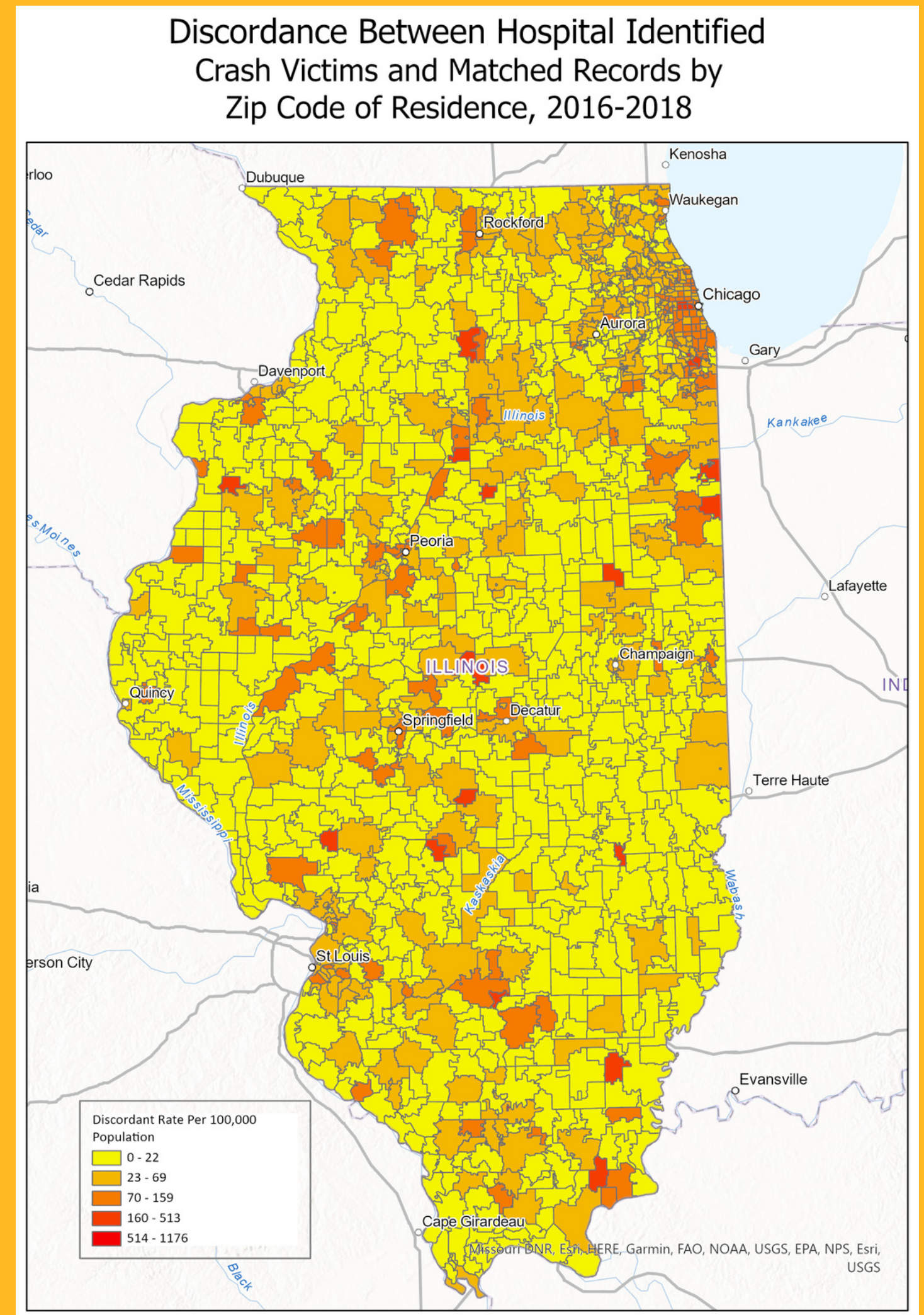
Communities with high areas of under-reporting may not receive the resources they need.

A low-angle, slightly blurred photograph of several pedestrians crossing a street. The focus is on their legs and feet as they move across white-painted crosswalk lines on asphalt. A metal tram track runs parallel to the crosswalk. The scene is brightly lit, suggesting daytime.

6,447

instances of a pedestrian being
struck by a motor vehicle and
showing up at the hospital without
reporting it to the police

Where is this happening?



Statewide Pedestrian Crash Statistics

Cook County had a lower discordance rate than the rest of Illinois; 50% compared to 60%.

Nearly 64%
of unreported struck pedestrians
occurred in Cook County, with
33.5% of them in Chicago.

44% White Victims

35.3% Black Victims

14.3% Hispanic/Latino Victims

Statewide Statistics



Age

In Cook County and throughout the state, kids had lowest discordance rate.



Race

Black people had the highest discordance rate both inside and outside of Cook County.



Intoxicating Substances

Some 6.4% of unreported cases statewide were diagnosed as having intoxicating substance in their system at the hospital.

Cannabis, Alcohol and Race



*Intoxicating substances
may be a contributing
factor in under-reporting.*

Race & Cannabis

Blacks made up 40.6% of unreported pedestrian crash cases in Cook County, but 50% of those who had cannabis in their system.

Whites made up 33.2% of unreported pedestrian cases in Cook County, and 24.2% of those who had cannabis in their system.

Race & Alcohol

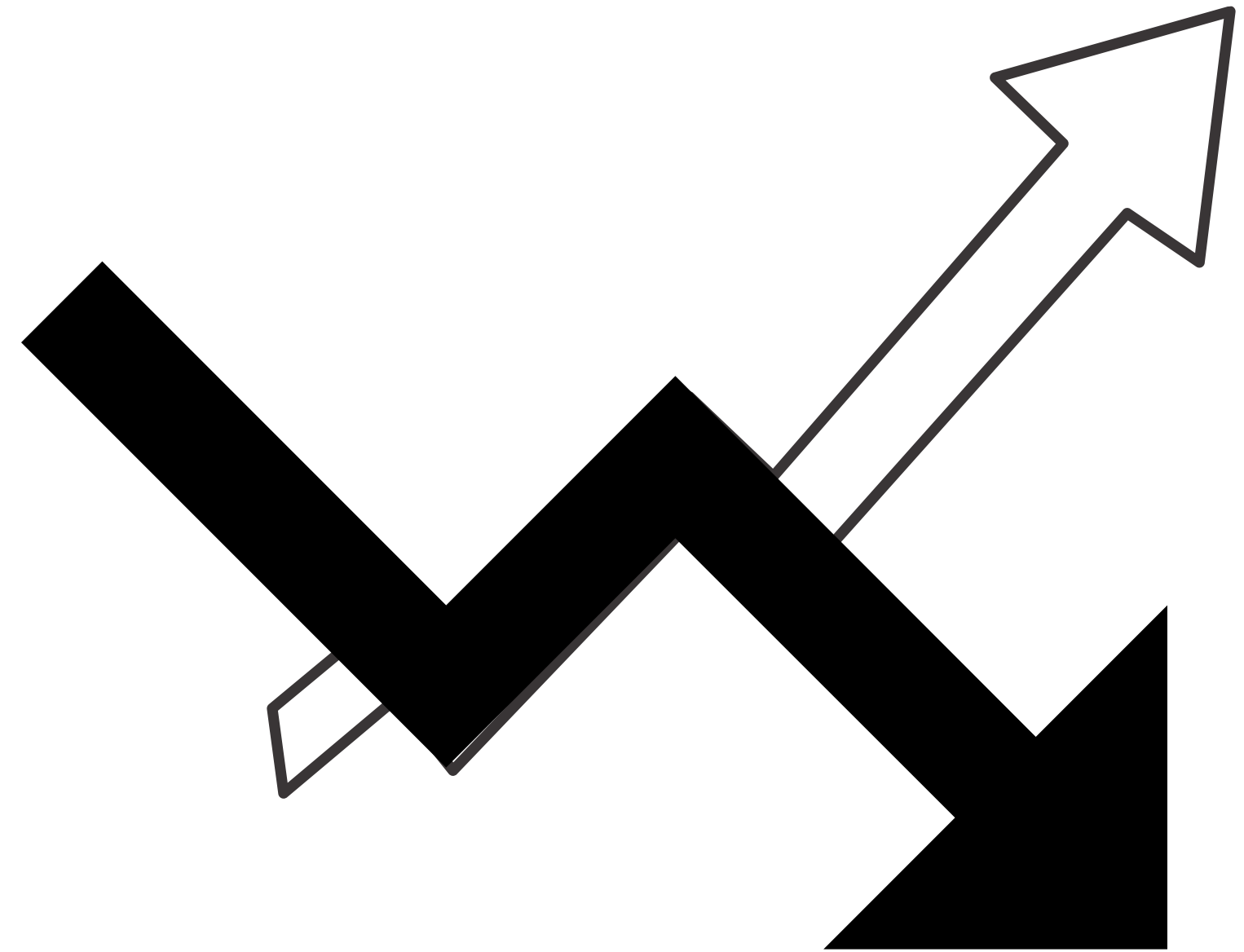
Whites made up 39% of cases of those diagnosed at the hospital as positive for alcohol in their system.

Blacks were underrepresented in cases involving alcohol.

Injury Severity

As injury severity increased
the discordance rate
decreased.

Pedestrian crash victims with serious upper
body injuries had a discordance rate over
50% outside of Cook County.

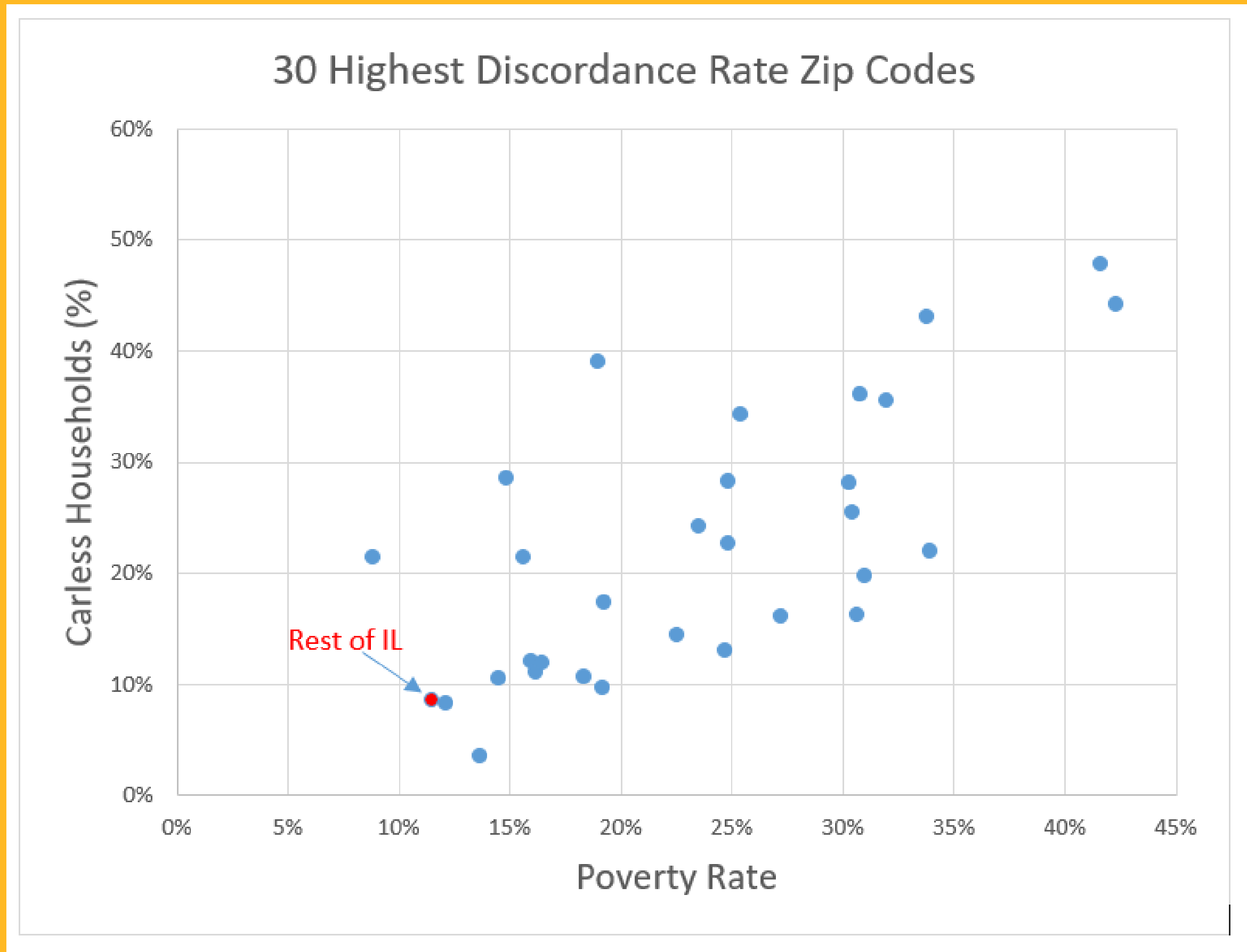


Serious head injury discordance rates were
in the mid to upper 40% range both
within and outside of Cook County.


Do Places with High Discordance Rates Have Anything in Common?

Yes.

Areas with **high rates of poverty** & **high rates of carless households** are where cases go unreported.



How do hospital charges differ between linked and unlinked cases?



\$2,500 less in charges

Unlinked cases had average charges that were about \$2,500 less than linked cases.

Shorter Hospital Stays

Unlinked cases stayed in the hospital about a half day shorter on average compared to linked cases.

Higher Costs & Longer Stays

Linked cases showed higher costs and longer stays, which may be related to the severity of these cases.

WHAT CAN BE DONE?

- Reach out to Communities with High Cases of Unreported Crashes to encourage incident reporting.
- Use discordance rates and crash reports to equitably distribute resources.
- Implement interventions to help lower the risk of pedestrians in Illinois communities.