

## Educational Opportunity in King County

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These six maps display the educational opportunity in each city of King County. The map covers the overall opportunity. The other five maps displays the the indicators for the index: Reading Proficiency, Math Proficiency, Student Poverty Rate, Teacher Qualifications and Prompt Graduation rates for High School students.

Opportunity mapping has the potential to display many forms of opportunities other than education, such include economy, housing quality , transportation and health/environment.

The composite map of King County here shows two clusters of very low educational opportunity on the left the map where Seatac, Seattle, Renton and Kent may be located. There they are surrounded by low to moderate opportunity areas, but mostly low. The further out of that area particularly in the eastern side of Seattle, but the far southeast and Northeast are mainly moderate.

The reading proficiency map is based on fourth grade WASL scores, the math proficiency map is based on the fourth grade WASL scores as well both for each school district. The Student Poverty Rate map, and the map for teachers with a Master's degree or higher gathered data from three elementary schools near the census tract center. Prompt graduation rates for King County were recorded based on three high schools near the center of the census tract radius.

On the Reading Proficiency map it looks very similar to the composite map except for a few areas particularly in the southeast area which was moderate in the composite map. There are two clusters of very low opportunity that are connected to a line of very low opportunity area, same with the Student Poverty Map with having very high poverty, but in the math proficiency map the line is thicker. Then in the Prompt Graduation Map, there are three clusters of very low numbers in the same area. Interestingly enough, the Teacher Qualifications Map, shows very low numbers in southwestern and northern parts, the area I have been describing in each map displays more high and very high areas. There are very low numbers of in areas of very high and moderate numbers of teachers with Master's degrees or higher.

I hypothesize that these maps are displayed this way due to a variety of factors. One being cost of living, particularly with high housing costs and low minimum wages.

Which leads to student poverty with parents working more and spending less time at home, students then struggle since they don't have anyone to help them with homework, hence the reading and math proficiency being very low in these areas. Also, for prompt graduation rates I believe it could be several possibilities such as students dropping out of educational struggle or to work and help family with expenses. For teacher qualifications, that area is moderate to very high especially in Seattle, possibly because of the schools that offer graduate studies such as University of Washington, and so recent Master's degree recipients may work downtown to gain experience and since it may be cheaper to hire an low experienced teacher. In the Northeast part though, it's very low and not moderate to very high like in the other maps. Again it could be the schools in Seattle, those who earn graduate degrees recently may have end up starting near where they were going to school or whichever area that offers a higher paying teaching position. The five lowest education composite scores were: -1.56, -1.52, -1.51, -1.42, -1.41 and the highest five being: 1.23, 1.20, 1.66, 1.16, 1.15. While analyzing the maps I also realized that the area I mostly talked about is mostly small and possibly densely populated in contrast to the bigger areas that might have less people.

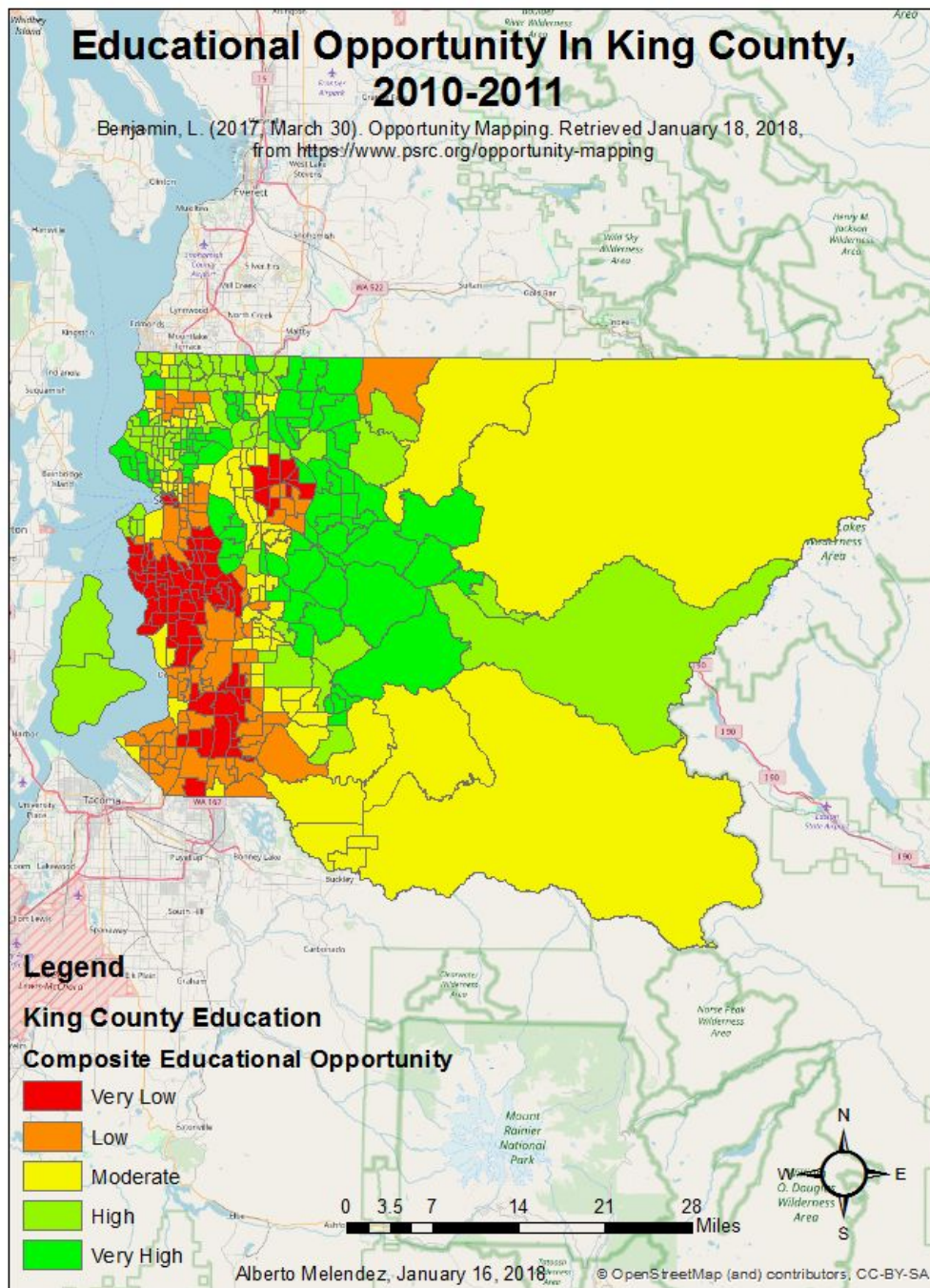
In conclusion, the composite map reveals a great deal of inequitable educational opportunity with east of Seattle mainly having the highest and downtown itself down to Renton and Seatac facing very low opportunities with Student Poverty possibly being the culprit to reading and math proficiency issues, and very low graduation rates. The teacher qualifications are varied however, but it is possible that these low opportunity do not have the funding to hire high quality teachers with years of experience.

### **Reference(s):**

- A) Benjamin, L. (2017, March 30). Opportunity Mapping. Retrieved January 18, 2018, from <https://www.psrc.org/opportunity-mapping>
- B) Reece, J., Norris, D., Olinger, J., Holley, K., Martin, M.(2015, September 5).Place Matters: Using Mapping to Plan for Opportunity, Equity, and Sustainability. Retrieved January, 2018, from [http://kirwaninstitute.osu.edu/wp-content/uploads/2013/09/FINAL\\_OM\\_9-5.pdf](http://kirwaninstitute.osu.edu/wp-content/uploads/2013/09/FINAL_OM_9-5.pdf)

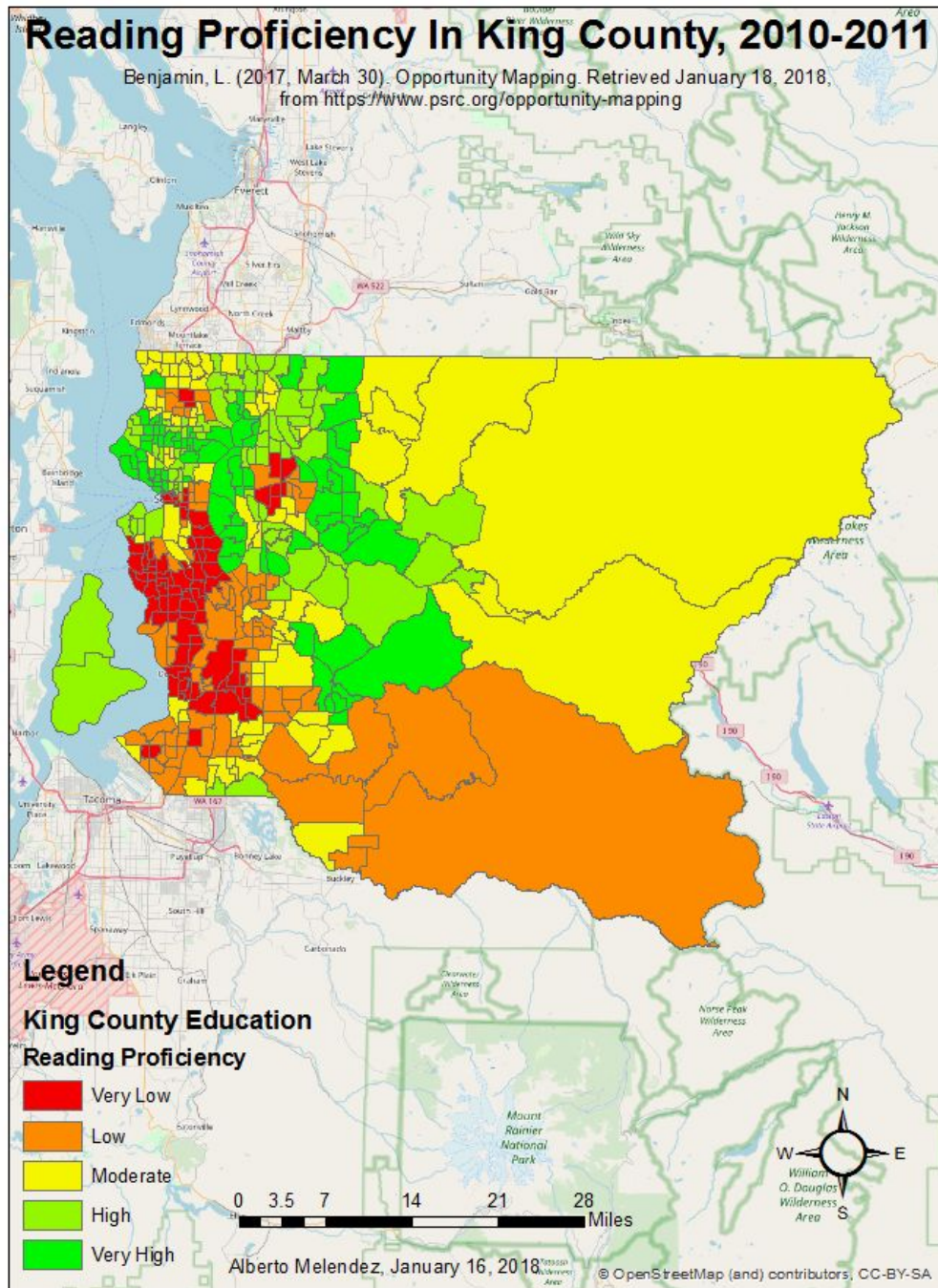
# Educational Opportunity In King County, 2010-2011

Benjamin, L. (2017, March 30). Opportunity Mapping. Retrieved January 18, 2018, from <https://www.psrc.org/opportunity-mapping>



# Reading Proficiency In King County, 2010-2011

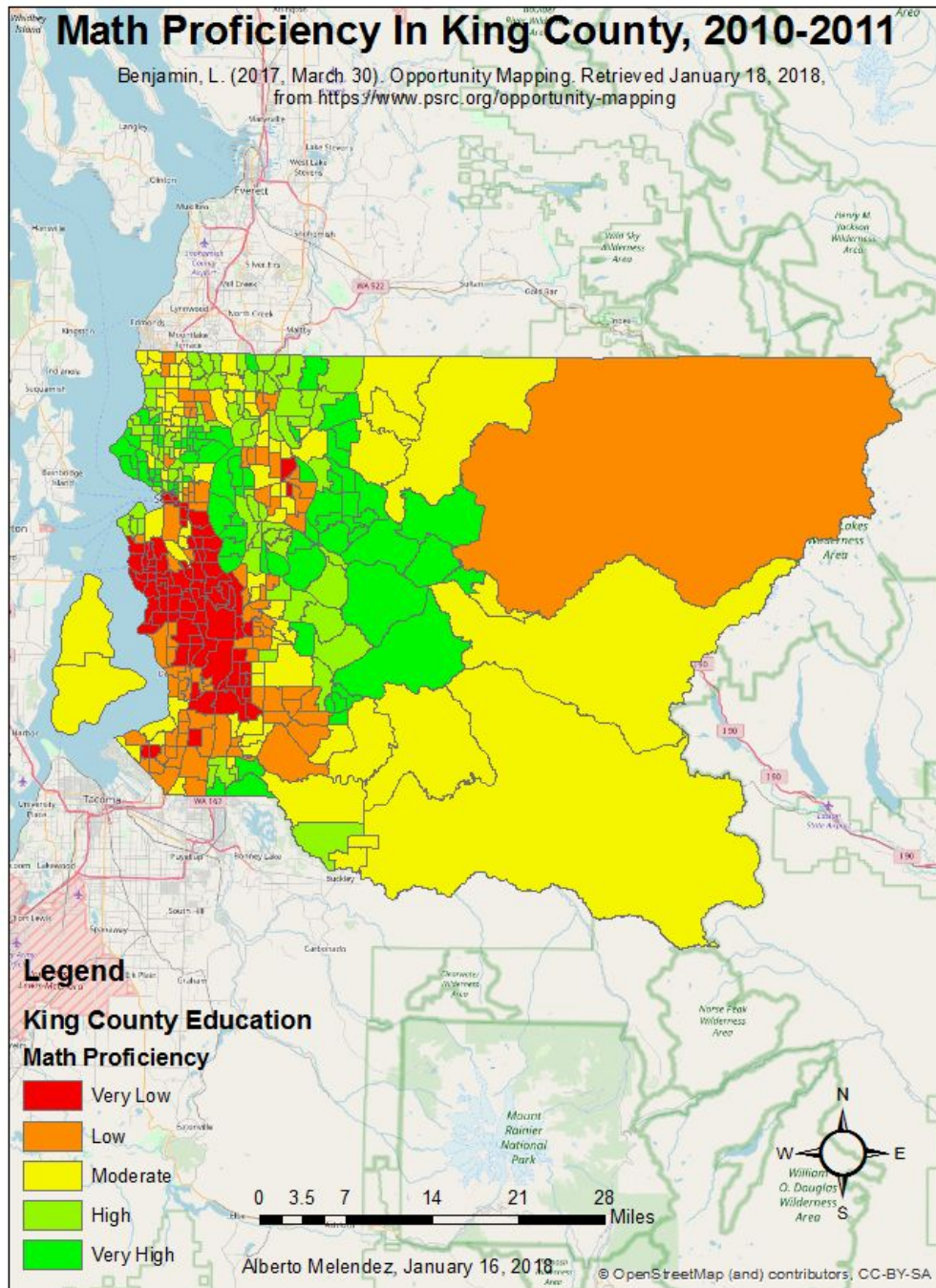
Benjamin, L. (2017, March 30). Opportunity Mapping. Retrieved January 18, 2018, from <https://www.psrc.org/opportunity-mapping>





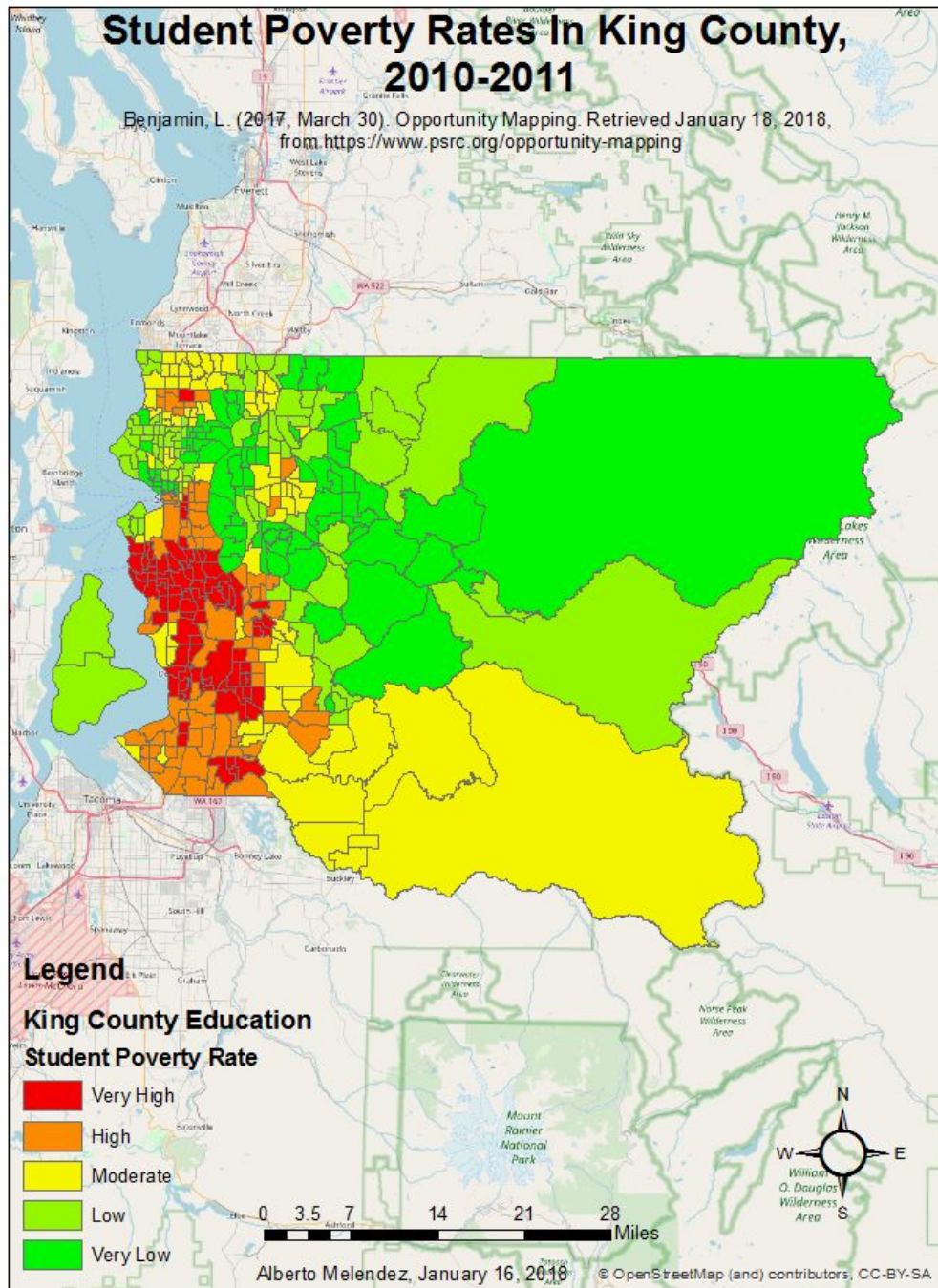
# Math Proficiency In King County, 2010-2011

Benjamin, L. (2017, March 30). Opportunity Mapping. Retrieved January 18, 2018, from <https://www.psrc.org/opportunity-mapping>



# Student Poverty Rates In King County, 2010-2011

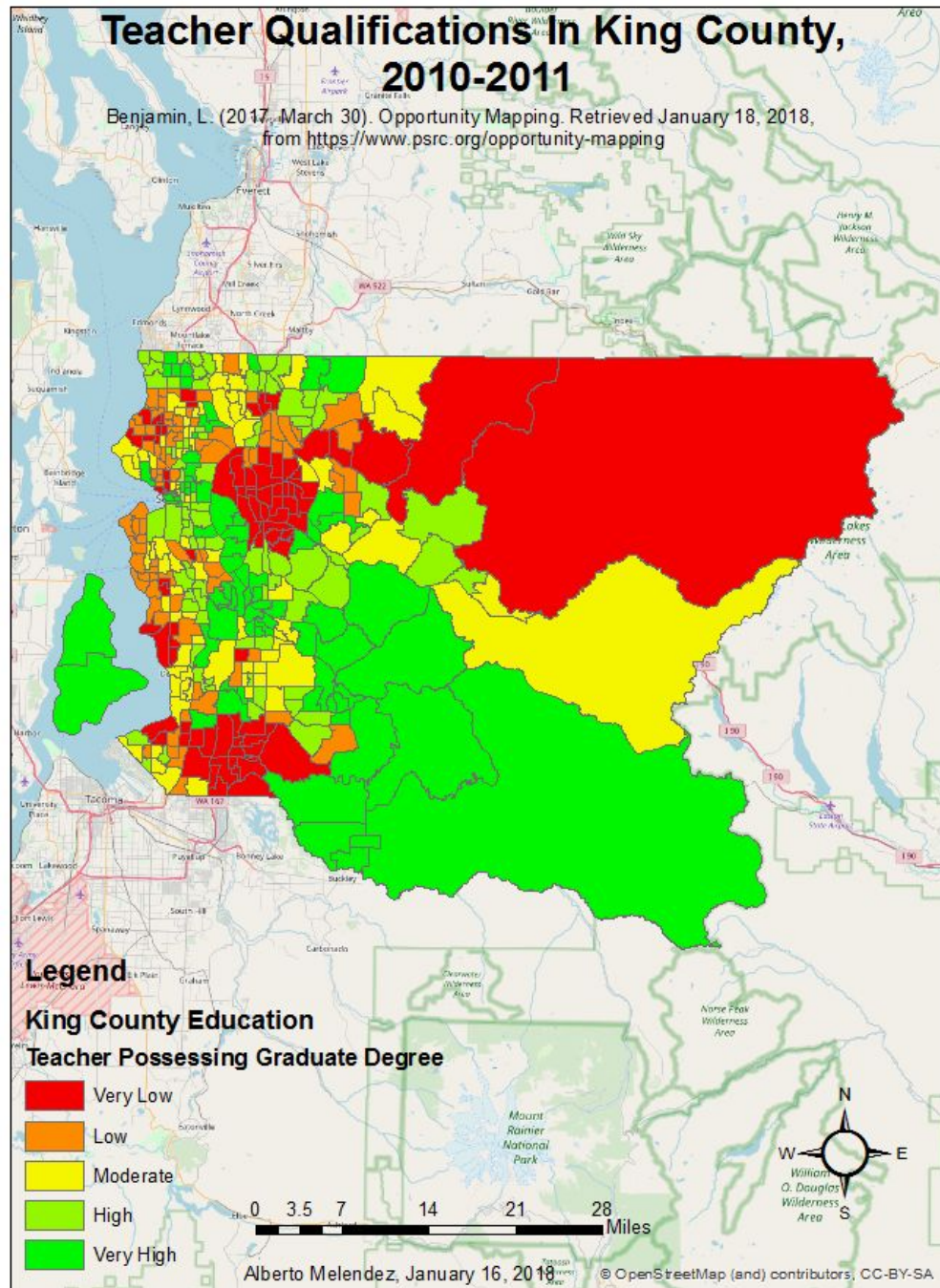
Benjamin, L. (2017, March 30). Opportunity Mapping. Retrieved January 18, 2018, from <https://www.psrc.org/opportunity-mapping>





# Teacher Qualifications In King County, 2010-2011

Benjamin, L. (2017, March 30). Opportunity Mapping. Retrieved January 18, 2018, from <https://www.psrc.org/opportunity-mapping>



# Prompt High School Graduation Rates in King County, 2010-2011

Benjamin, L. (2017, March 30). Opportunity Mapping. Retrieved January 18, 2018, from <https://www.psrc.org/opportunity-mapping>

