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For our data challenge project, we decided to look into the effects universities have on low-income housing, mixed-income housing, and opportunity zones. The tool we have used is ArcGIS to map all of these layers, in addition to colleges and universities in the US. We are trying to make a connection between currently outlined opportunity zones and the presence of past LIHTC projects. One additional factor that we are looking into is mapping to see the overlap between the presence of public and private university with LIHTC housing and opportunity zones and to see if it is more likely that public universities to be located in or near an opportunity zone and LIHTC housing projects. This insight could further inspire policies surrounding opportunity zones, showing areas that may need it the most. The insights from these findings could also point out public universities that may need funding for mentorship programs for low-income elementary school students who may be falling behind in their classes. If a public university falls in an opportunity zone (or near) and is closely located to LIHTC housing, it could be a good candidate for funding a mentorship program with low-income students (in elementary, middle or high school). An example of a type of program to be instituted would be America Read, America Counts, and/or Partners-in-Print. These are all programs hosted by US universities where undergraduate "mentors" facilitate reading and math learning for low-income students that may be falling behind the classroom curve.

Our findings also show the general distribution of low-income and mixed-income LIHTC housing options.