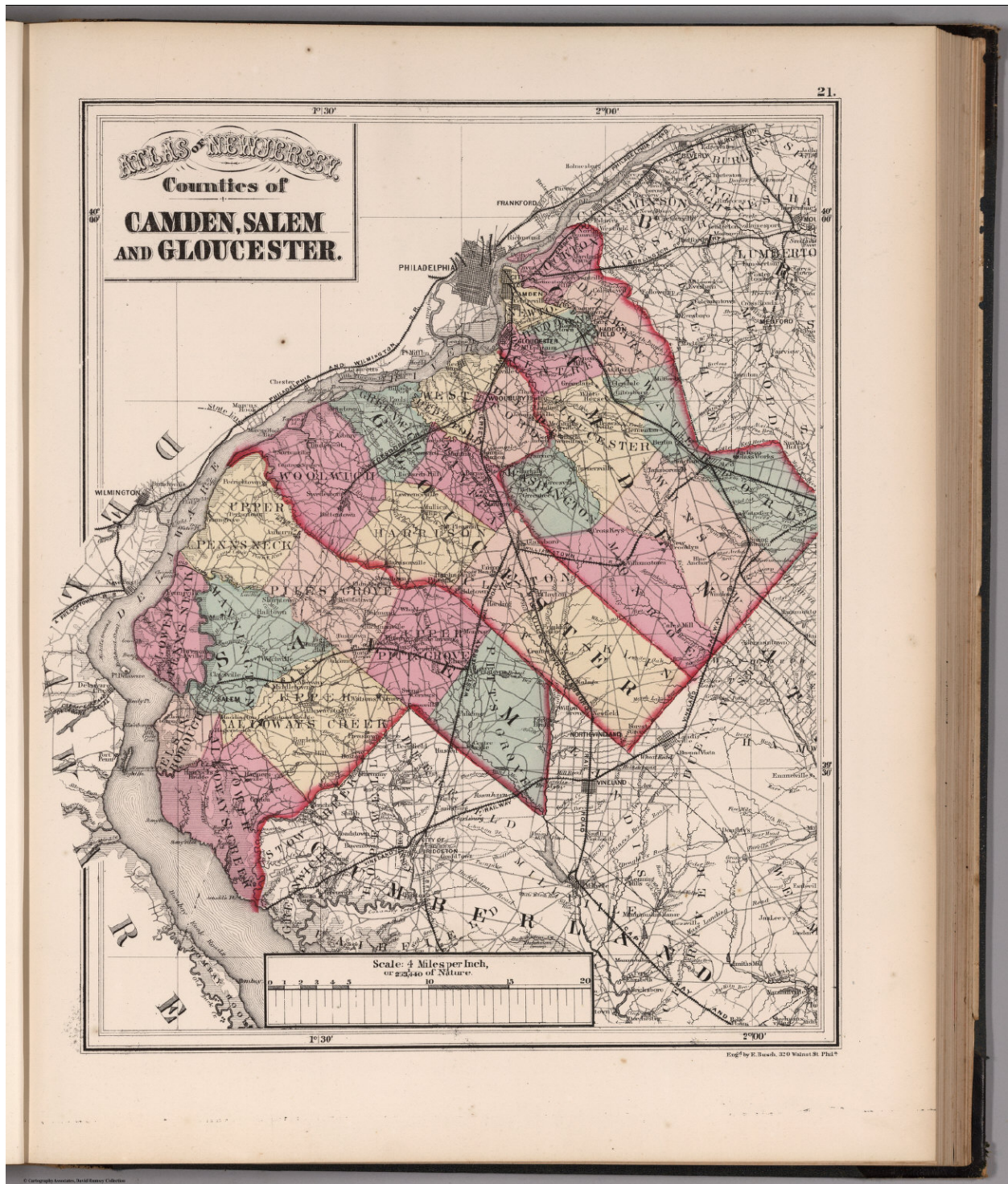


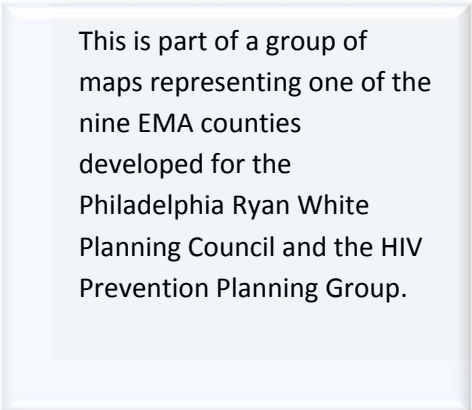
Salem County: Social Determinants- Population Demographic Maps



What are social determinants of health?

“The social determinants of health are the conditions in which people are born, grow, live, work and age. These circumstances are shaped by the distribution of money, power and resources at global, national and local levels.” **World Health Organization**

http://www.who.int/social_determinants/thecommission/finalreport/key_concepts/en/



This is part of a group of maps representing one of the nine EMA counties developed for the Philadelphia Ryan White Planning Council and the HIV Prevention Planning Group.

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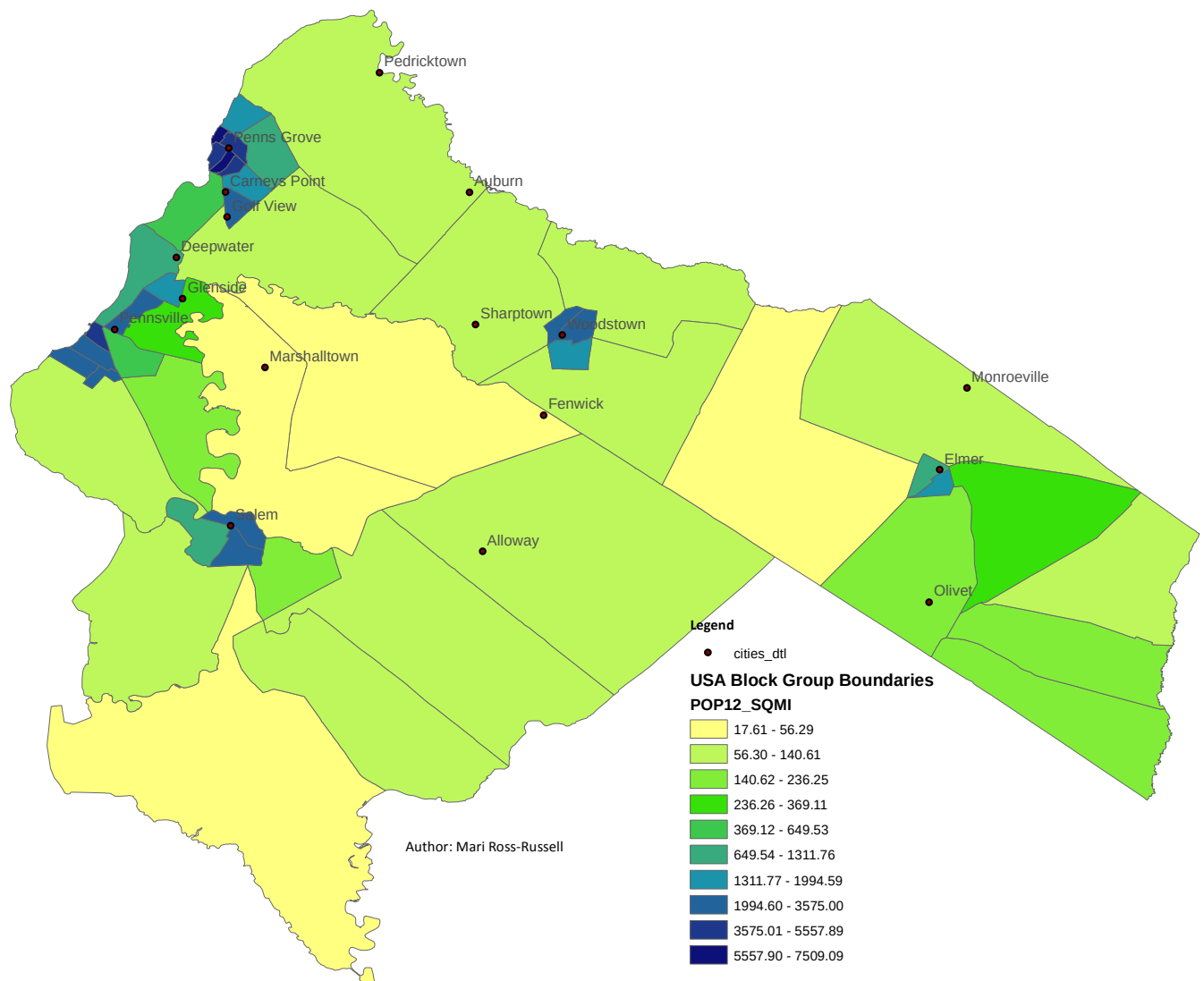
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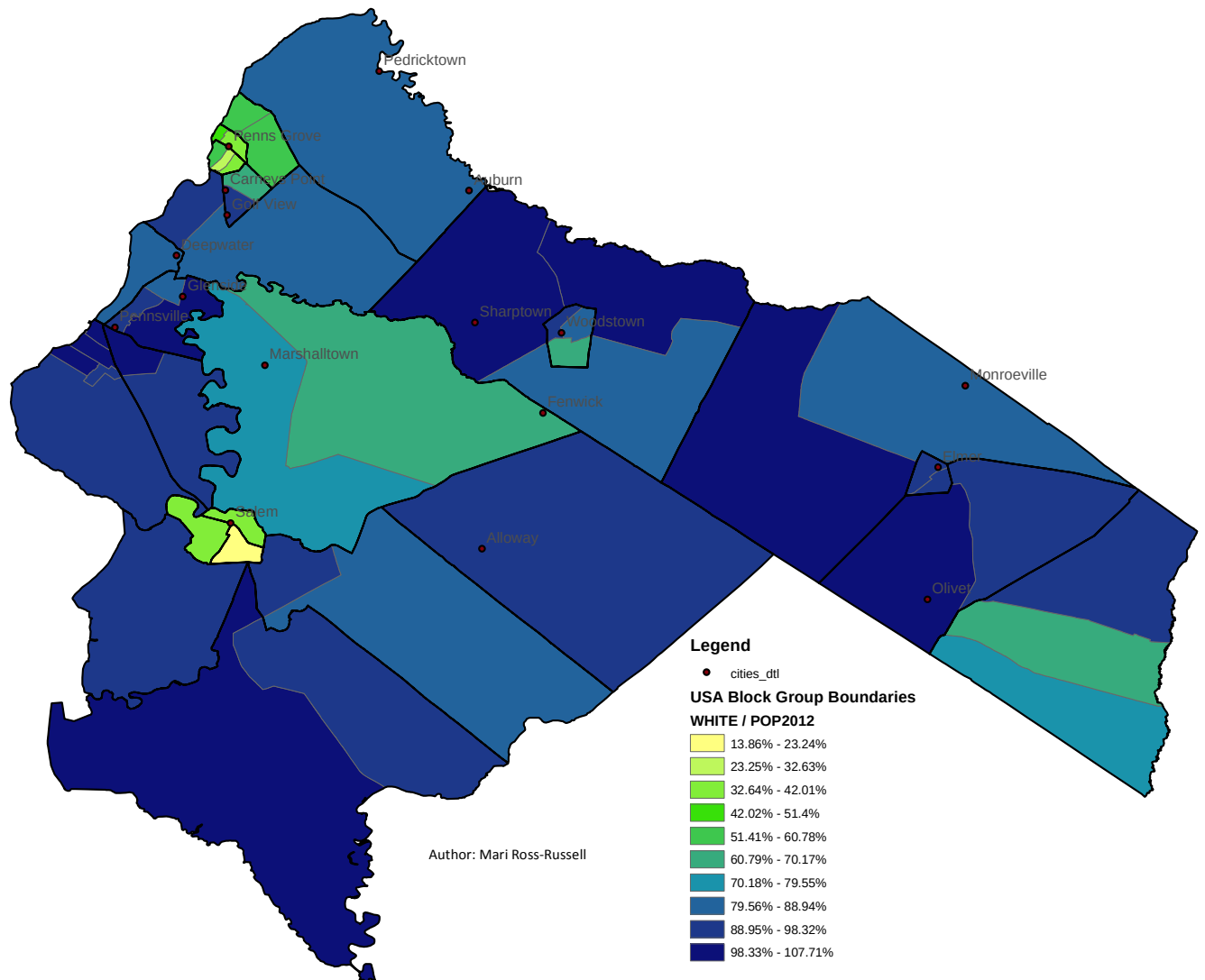
	County by census tract, 2012	
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Salem New Jersey 2012 Population per square mile*



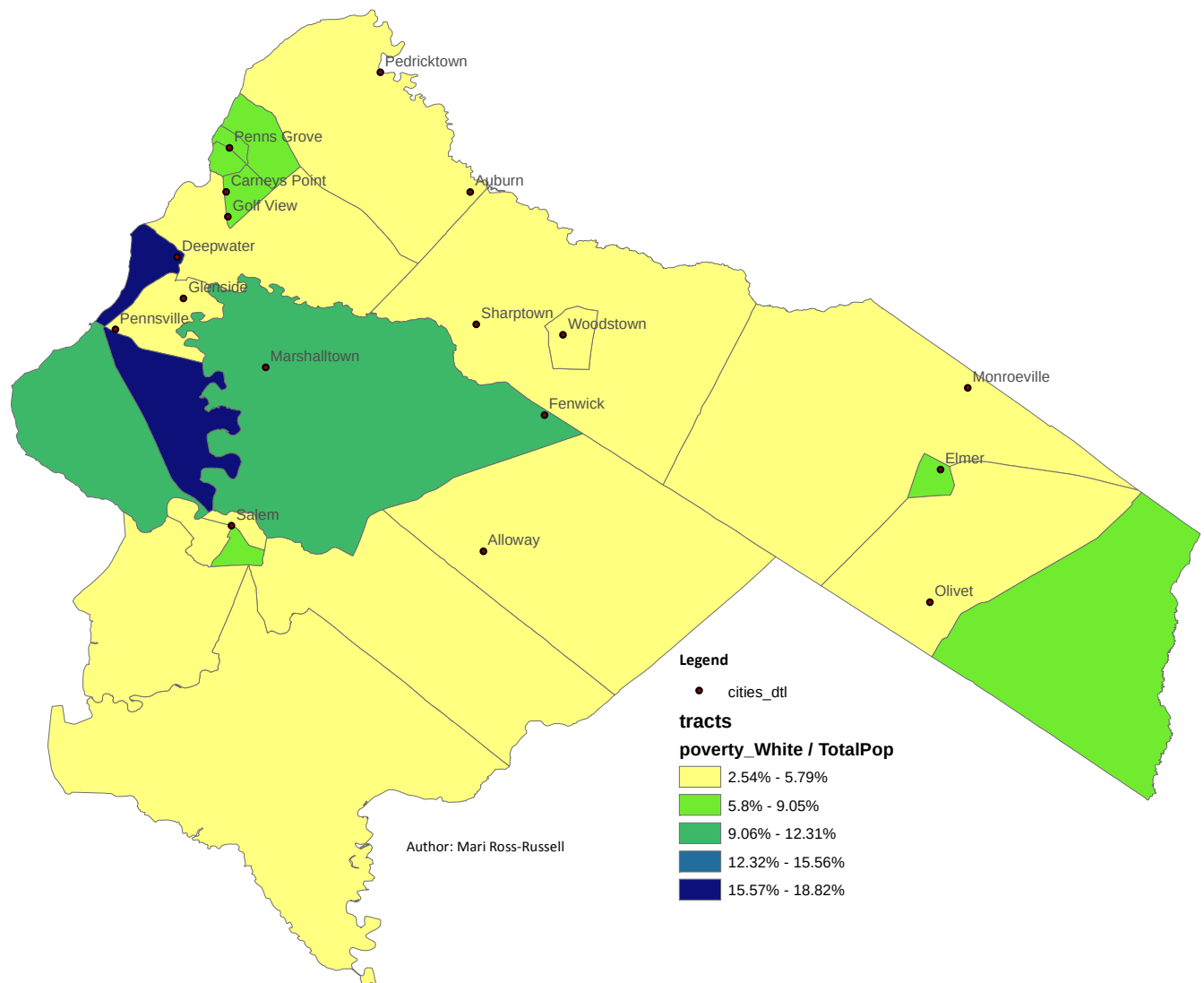
This map was included to illustrate how small the population is within the county of Salem New Jersey. The lightest color (yellow) represents between 17 and 56 people within one square mile or on average a ten city block by ten city block area when using a Philadelphia city block as the example. Approximately 81,213 acres or 40% of the county is farmland.

Figure 1. Percentage of the White population residing in Salem County by block group, 2012



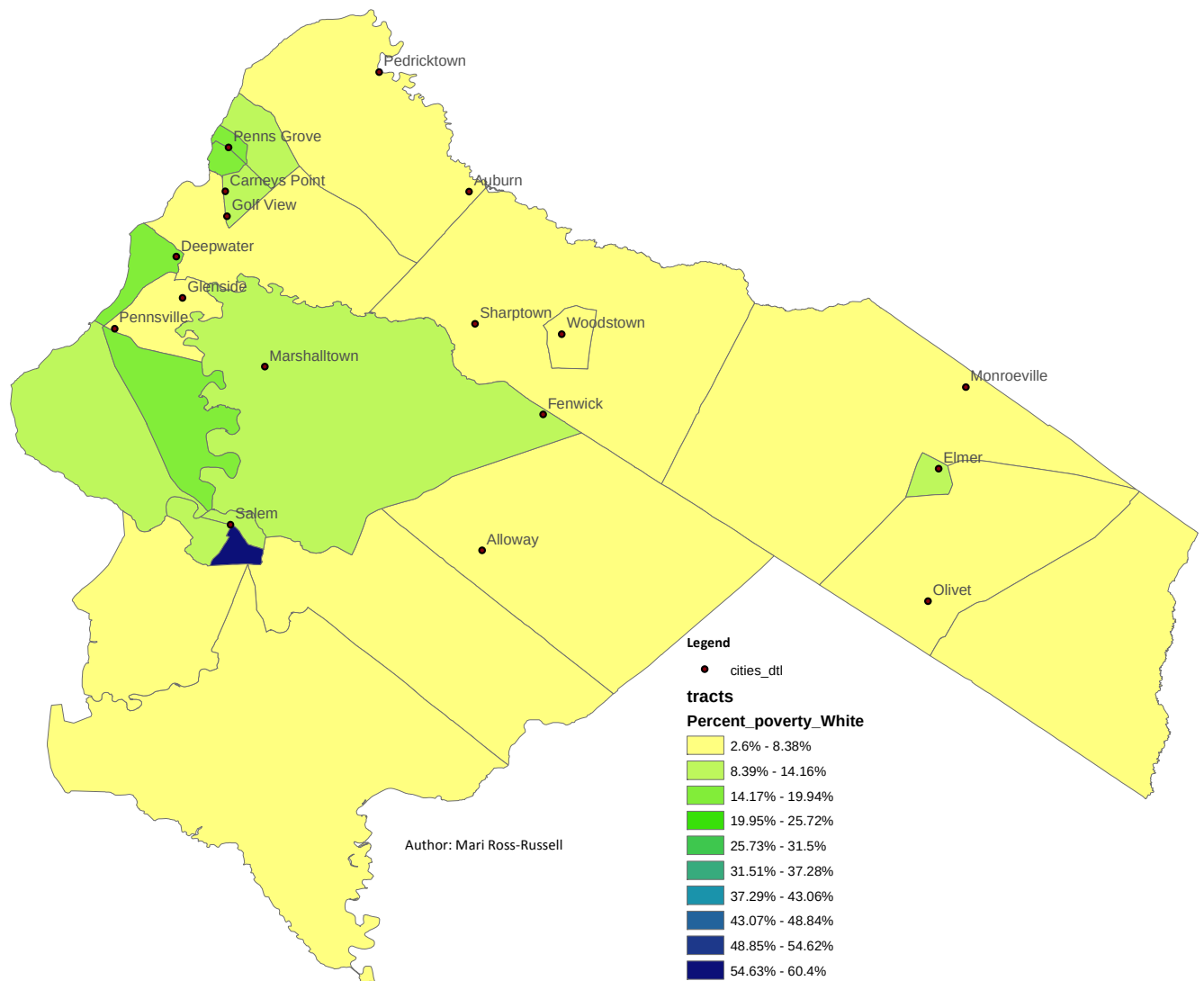
Source: ArcMap 10.2

Figure 2. Percentage of the White population residing in Salem County at or below 100% of the Federal Poverty level as compared to the total population by census tract, 2012



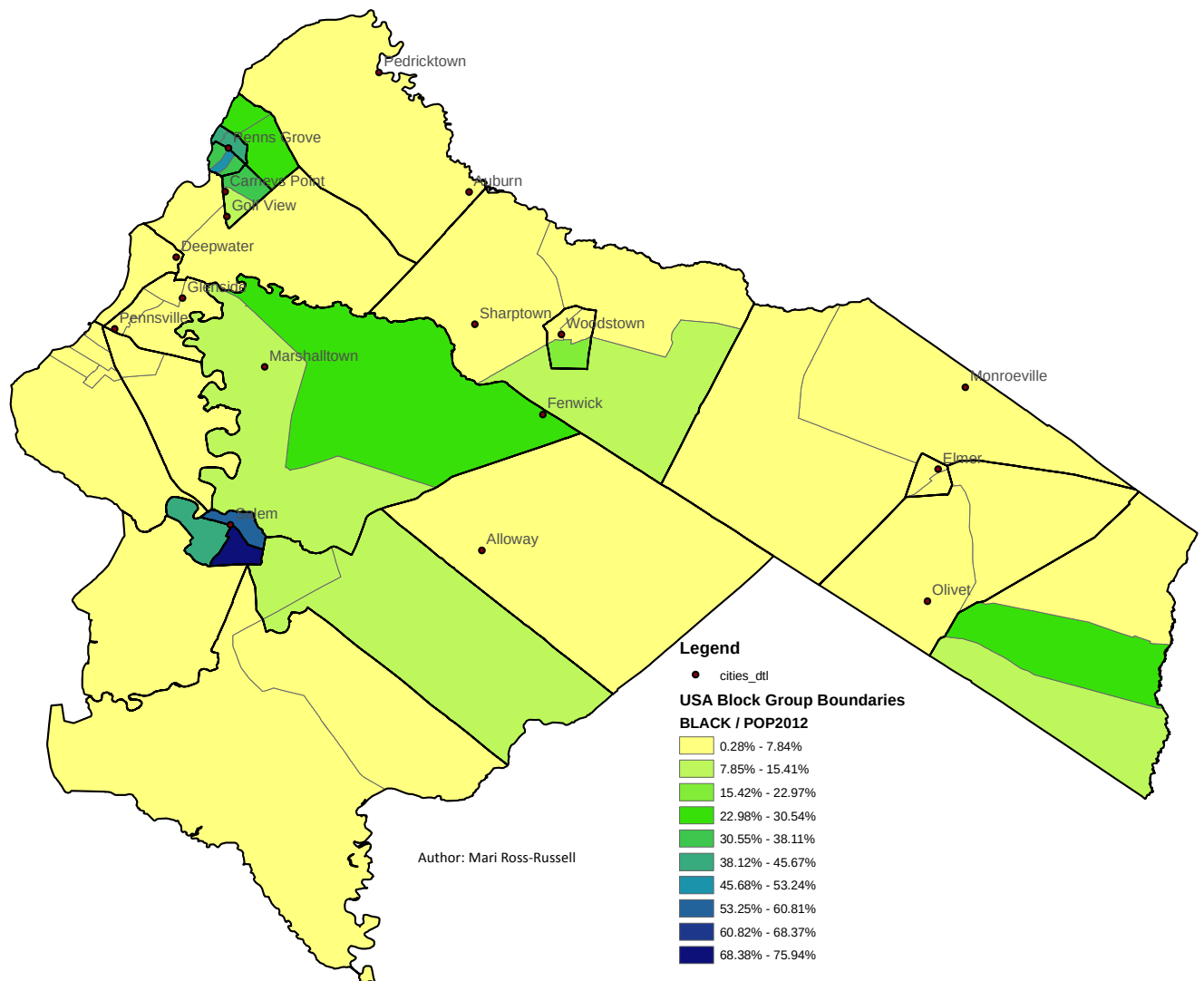
Source: Census Table S1701

Figure 3. Percentage of the White population alone, who reside in Salem County at or below 100% of the Federal Poverty level by census tract, 2012



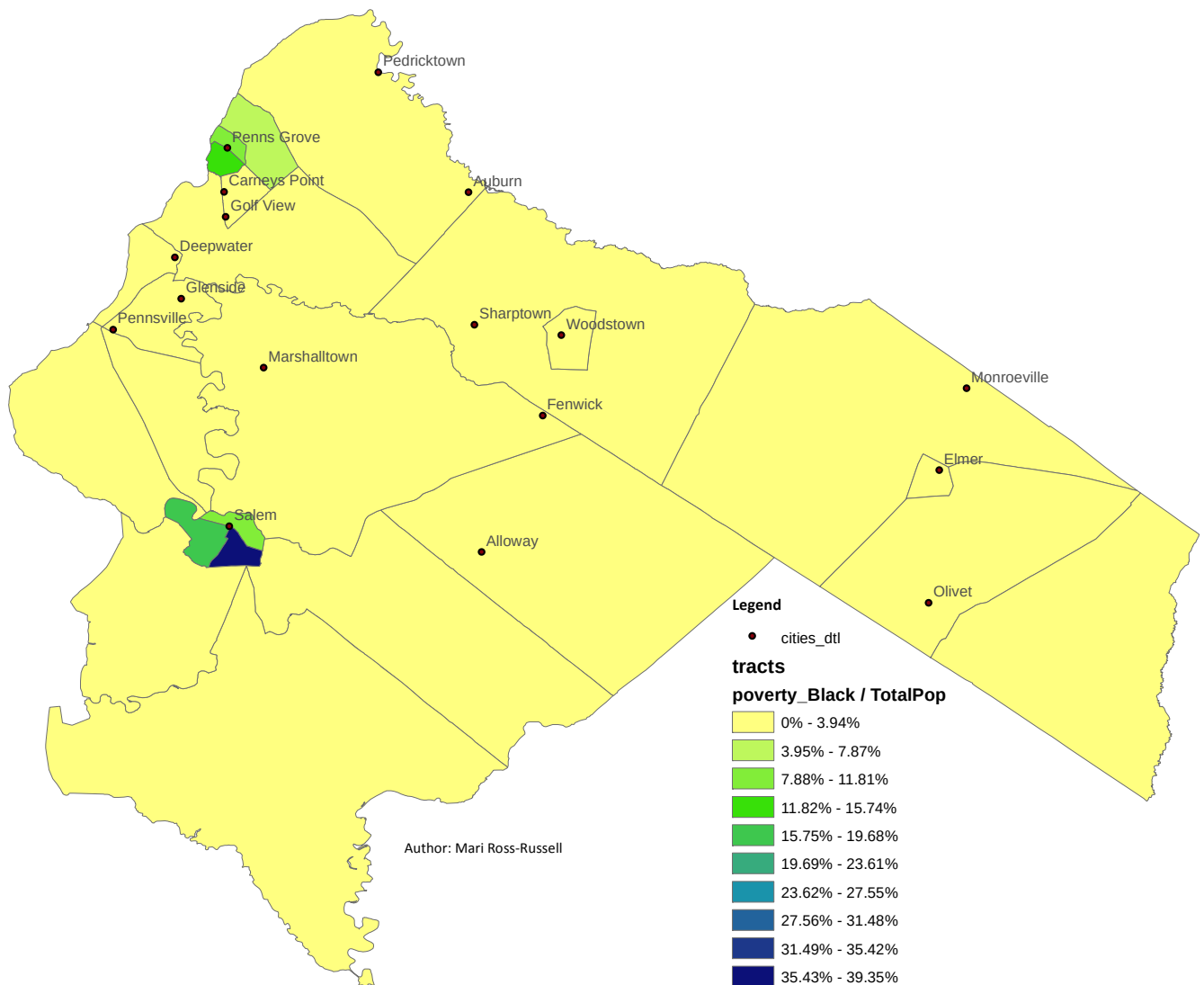
Source: Census Table S1701

Figure 4. Percentage of the Black population residing in Salem County by block group, 2012



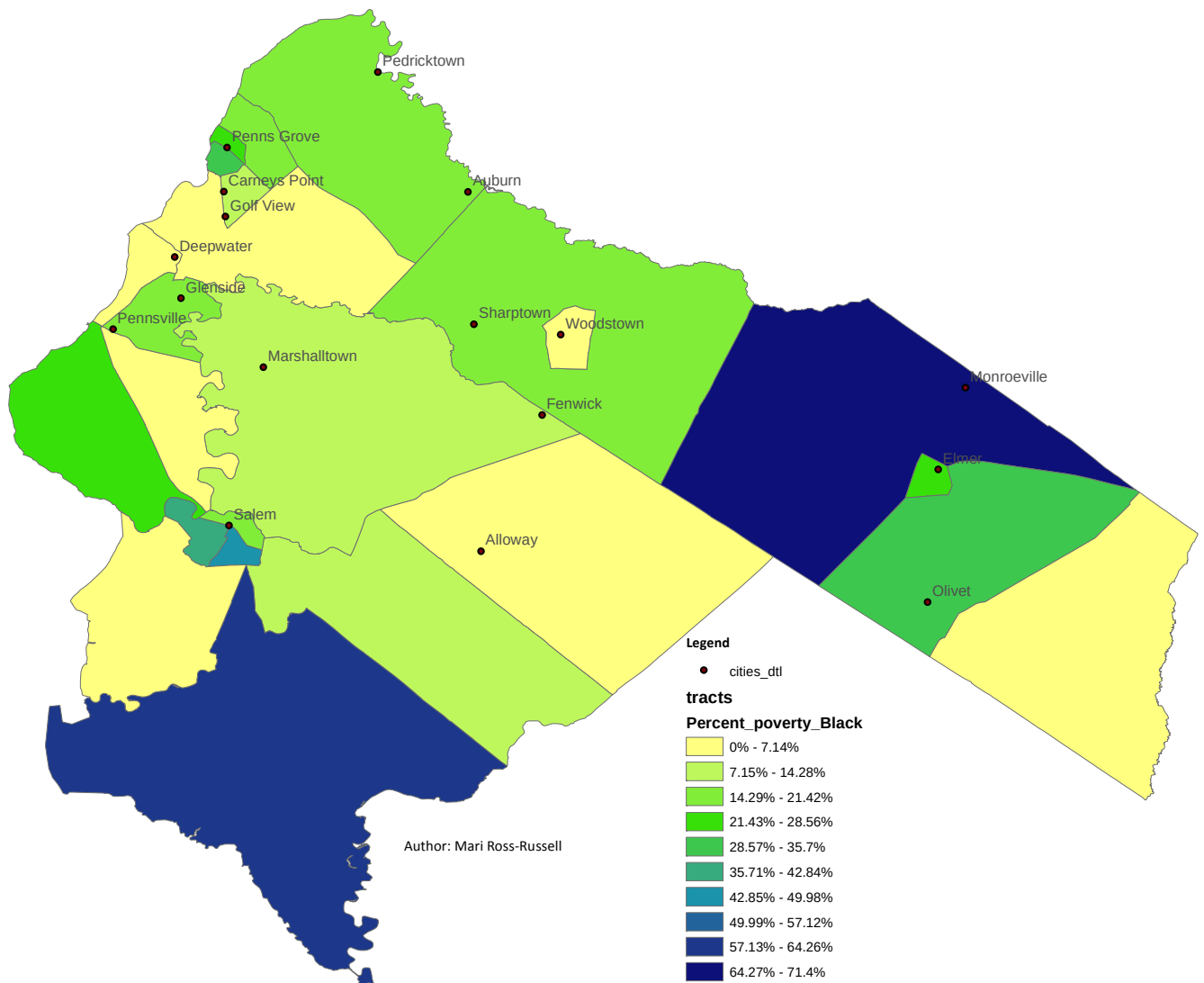
Source: ArcMap 10.2

Figure 5. Percentage of the Black population residing in Salem County at or below 100% of the Federal Poverty level as compared to the total population by census tract, 2012



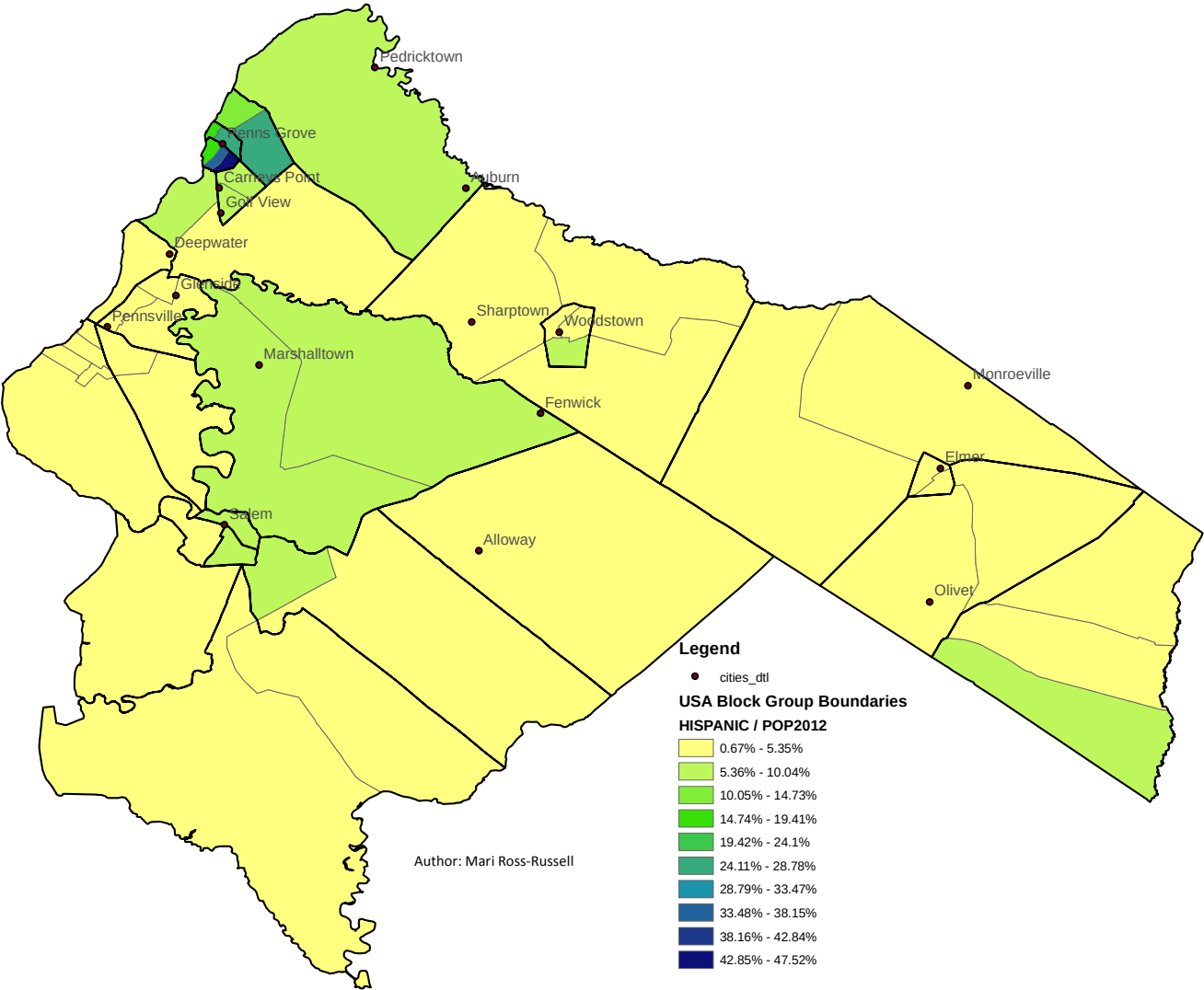
Source: Census Table S1701

Figure 6. Percentage of the Black population alone, who reside in Salem County at or below 100% of the Federal Poverty level by census tract, 2012



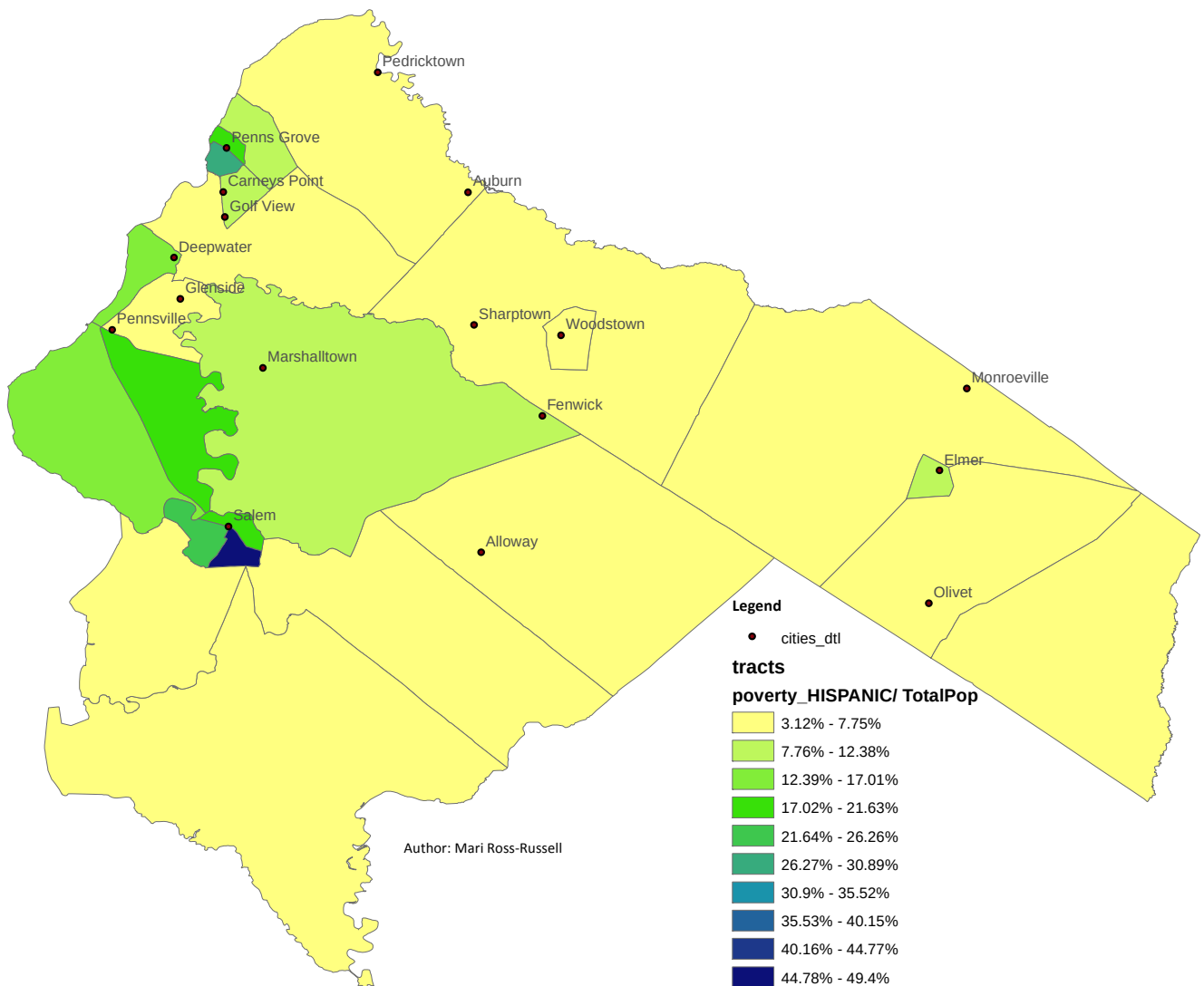
Source: Census Table S1701

Figure 7. Percentage of the Hispanic population residing in Salem County by block group, 2012



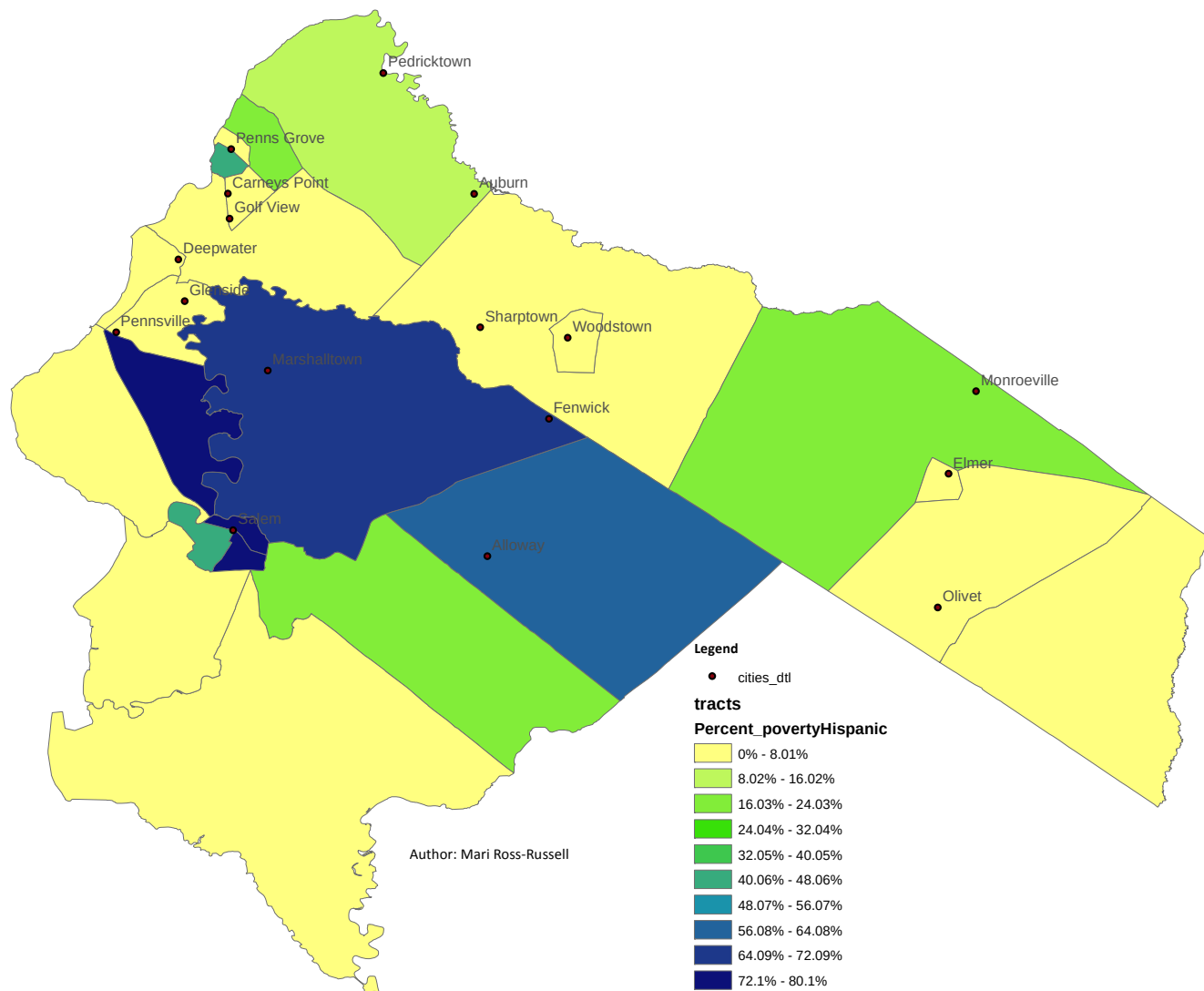
Source: ArcMap 10.2

Figure 8. Percentage of the Hispanic population residing in Salem County at or below 100% of the Federal Poverty level as compared to the total population by census tract, 2012



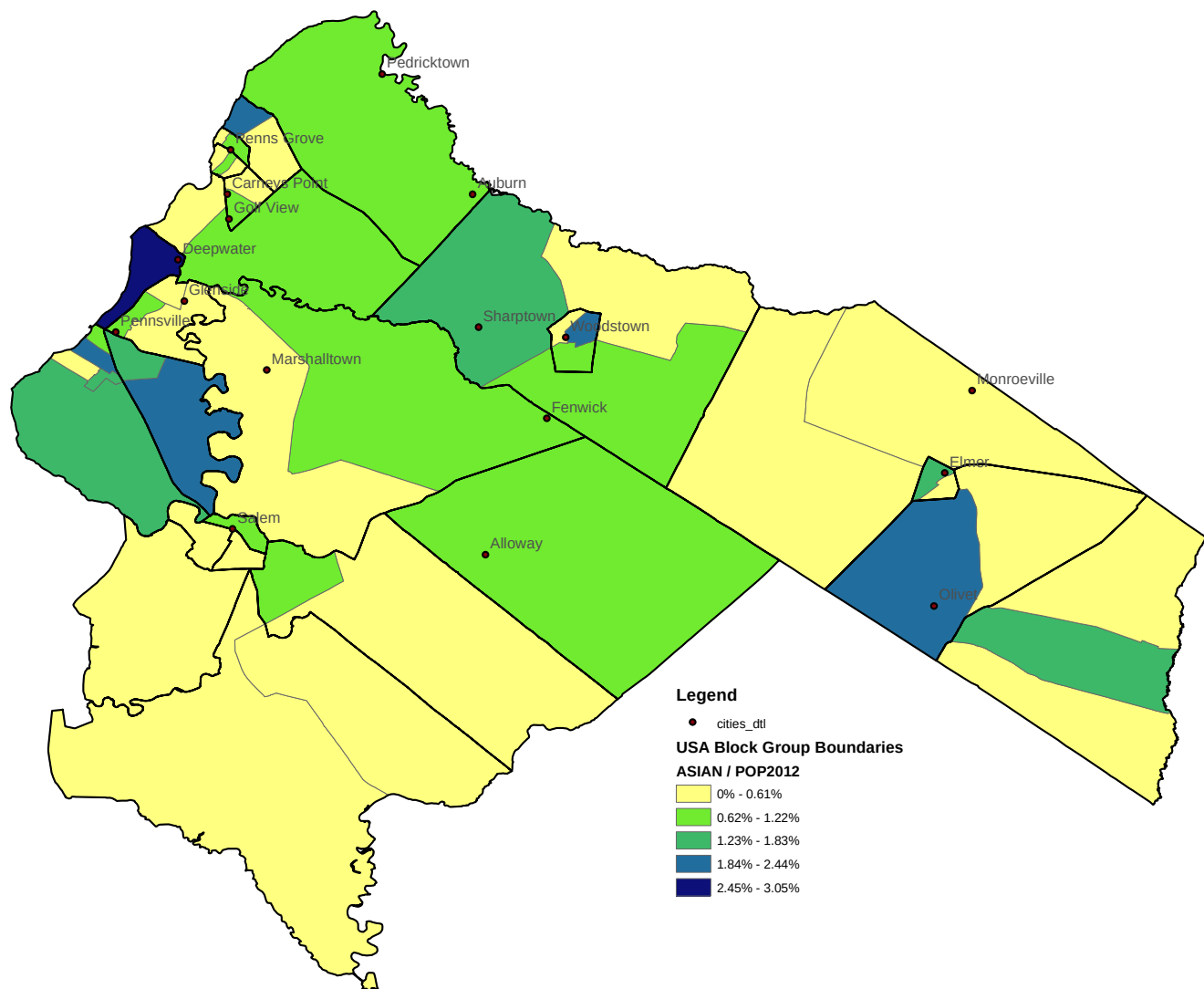
Source: Census Table S1701

Figure 9. Percentage of the Hispanic population alone, who reside in Salem County at or below 100% of the Federal Poverty level by census tract, 2012



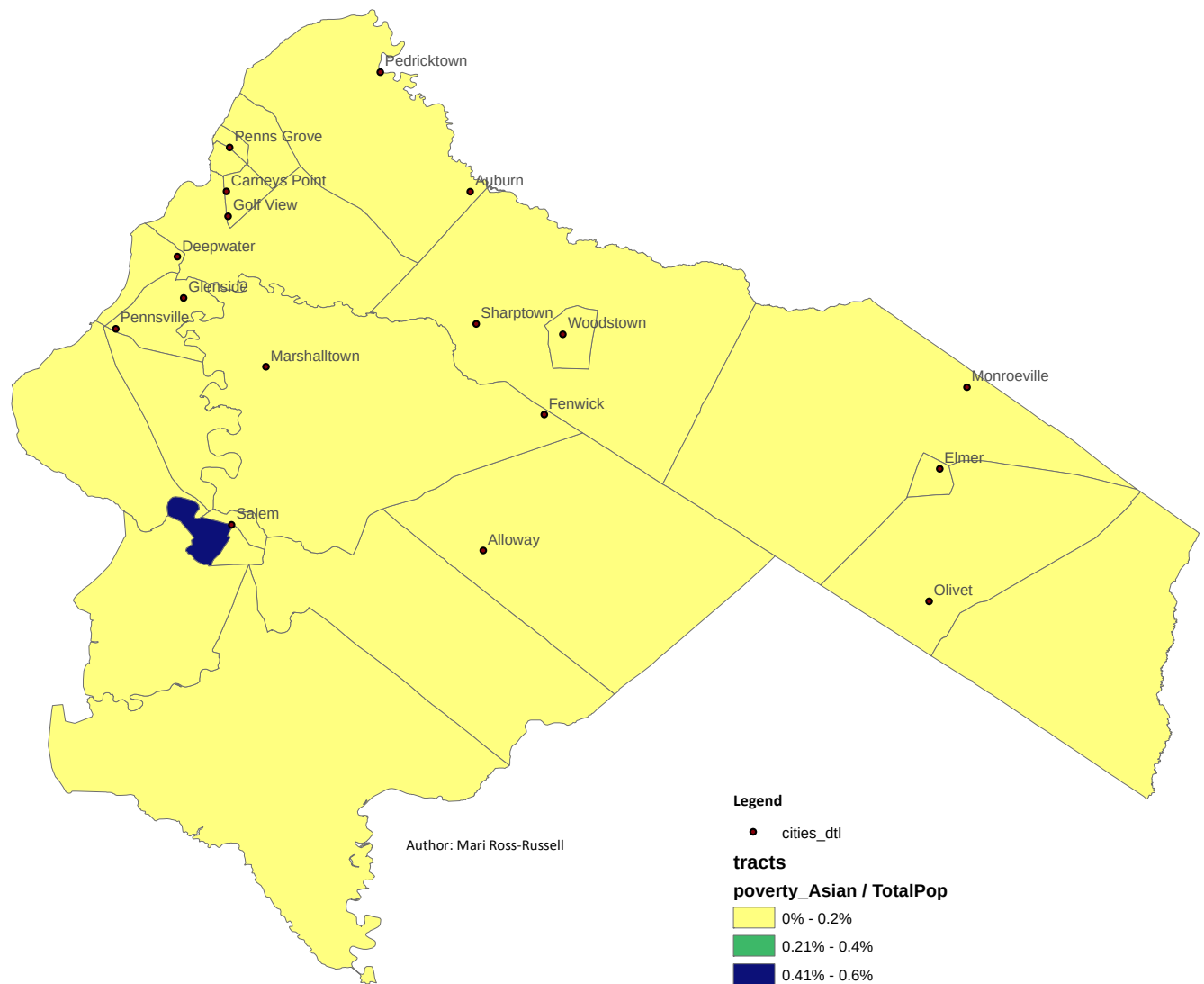
Source: Census Table S1701

Figure 10. Percentage of the Asian population residing in Salem County by block group, 2012



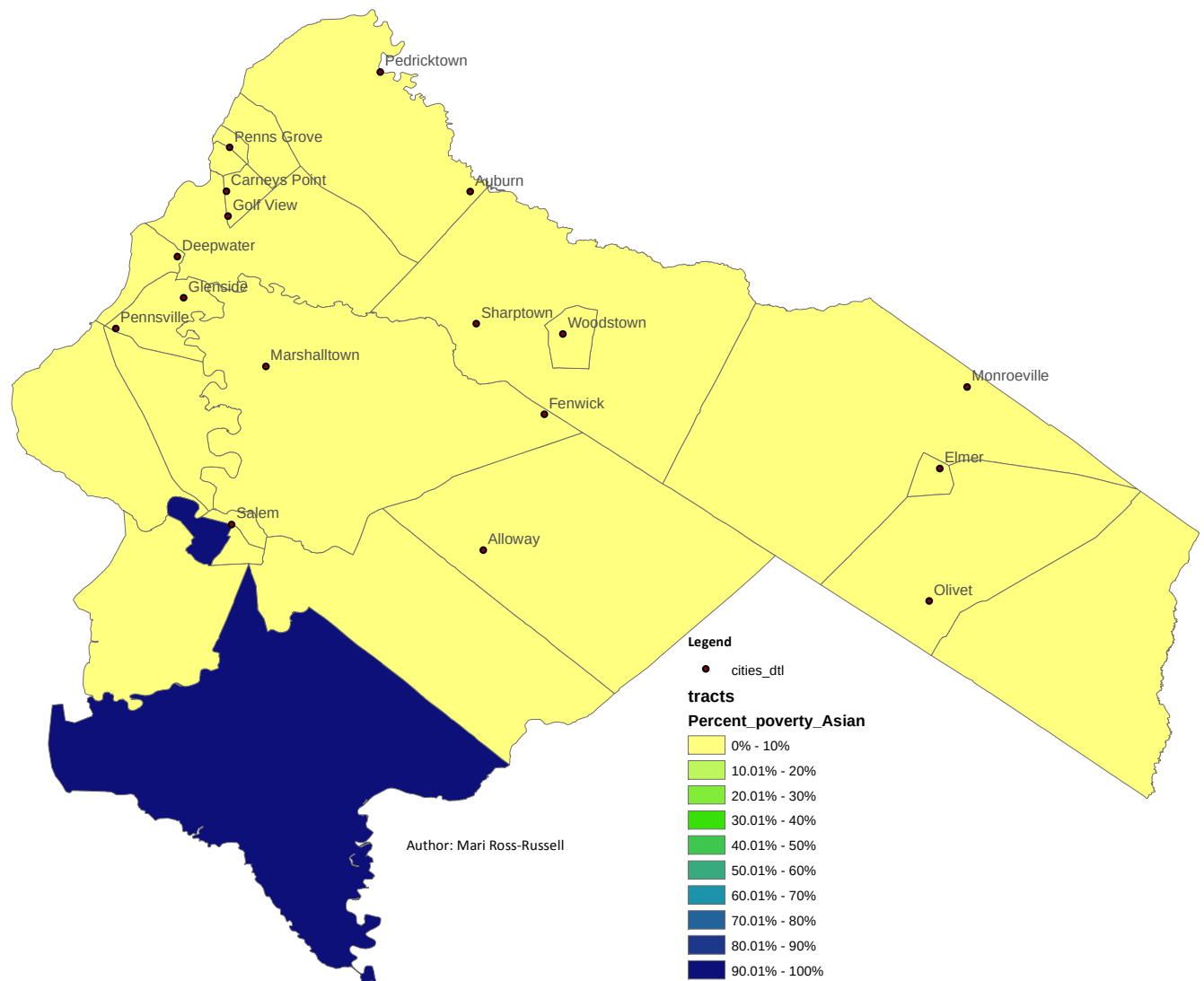
Source: ArcMap 10.2

Figure 11. Percentage of the Asian population residing in Salem County at or below 100% of the Federal Poverty level as compared to the total population by census tract, 2012



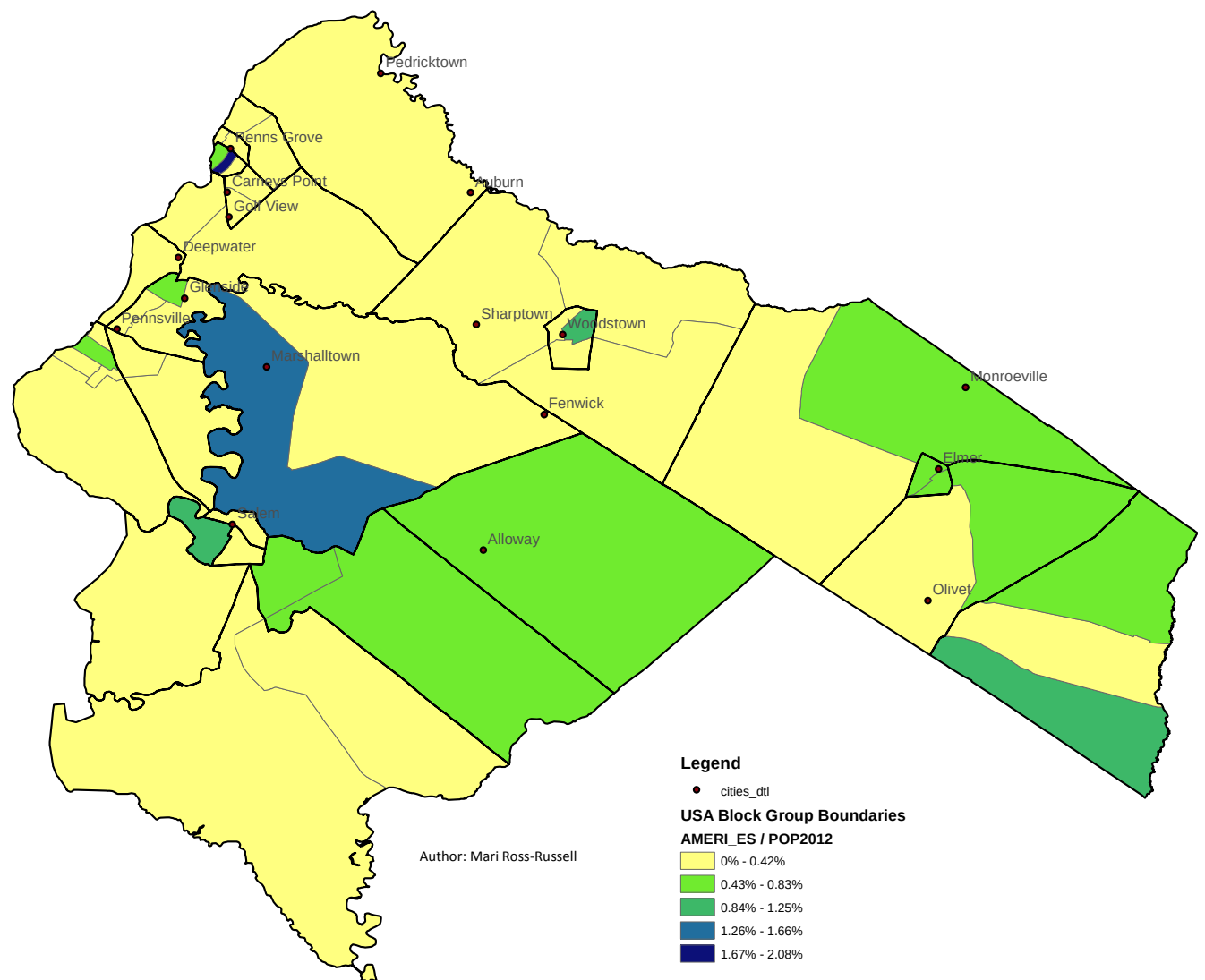
Source: Census Table S1701

Figure 12. Percentage of the Asian population alone, who reside in Salem County at or below 100% of the Federal Poverty level by census tract, 2012



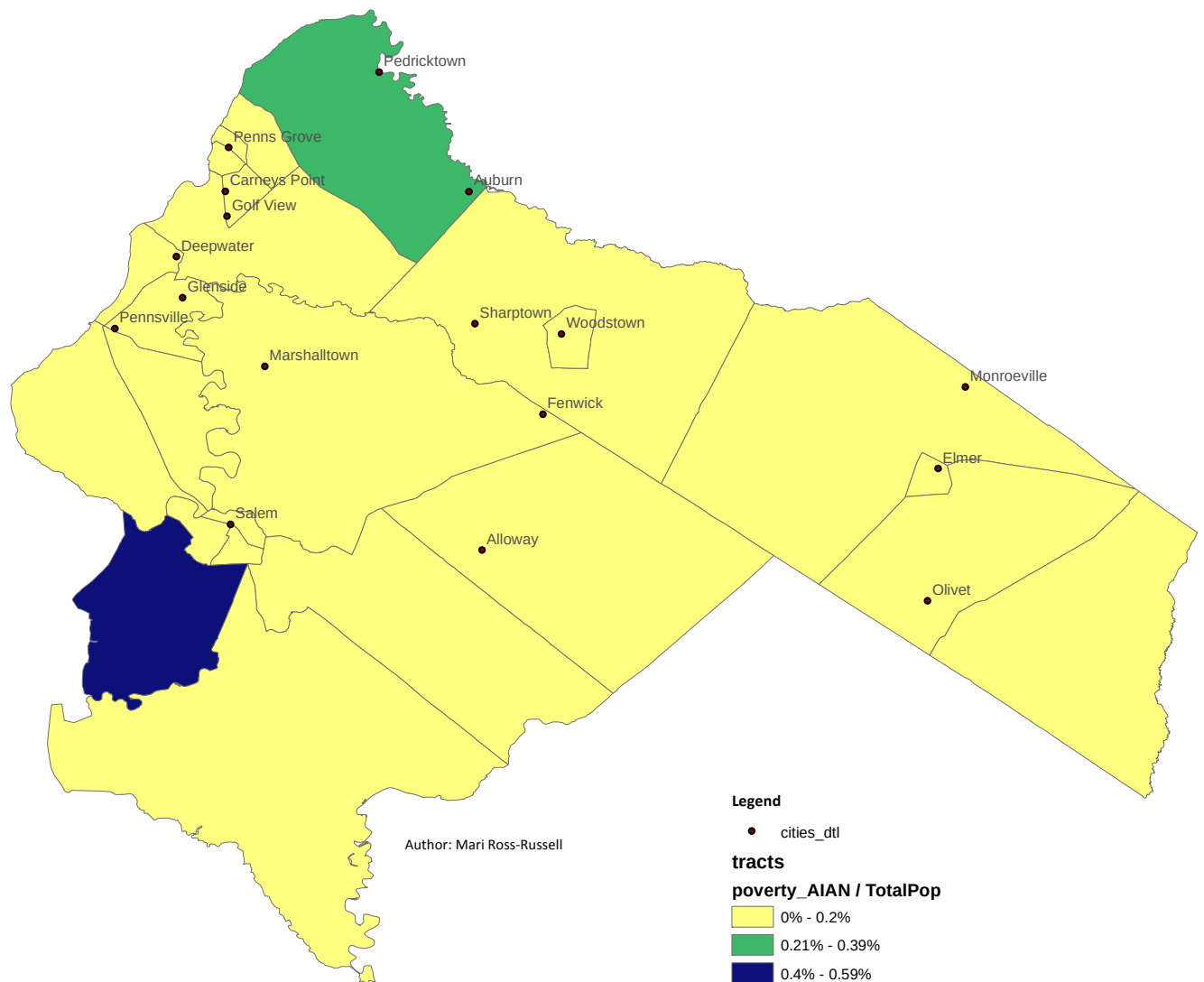
Source: Census Table S1701

Figure 13. Percentage of the Native American and Aleutian Islander population residing in Salem County by block group, 2012



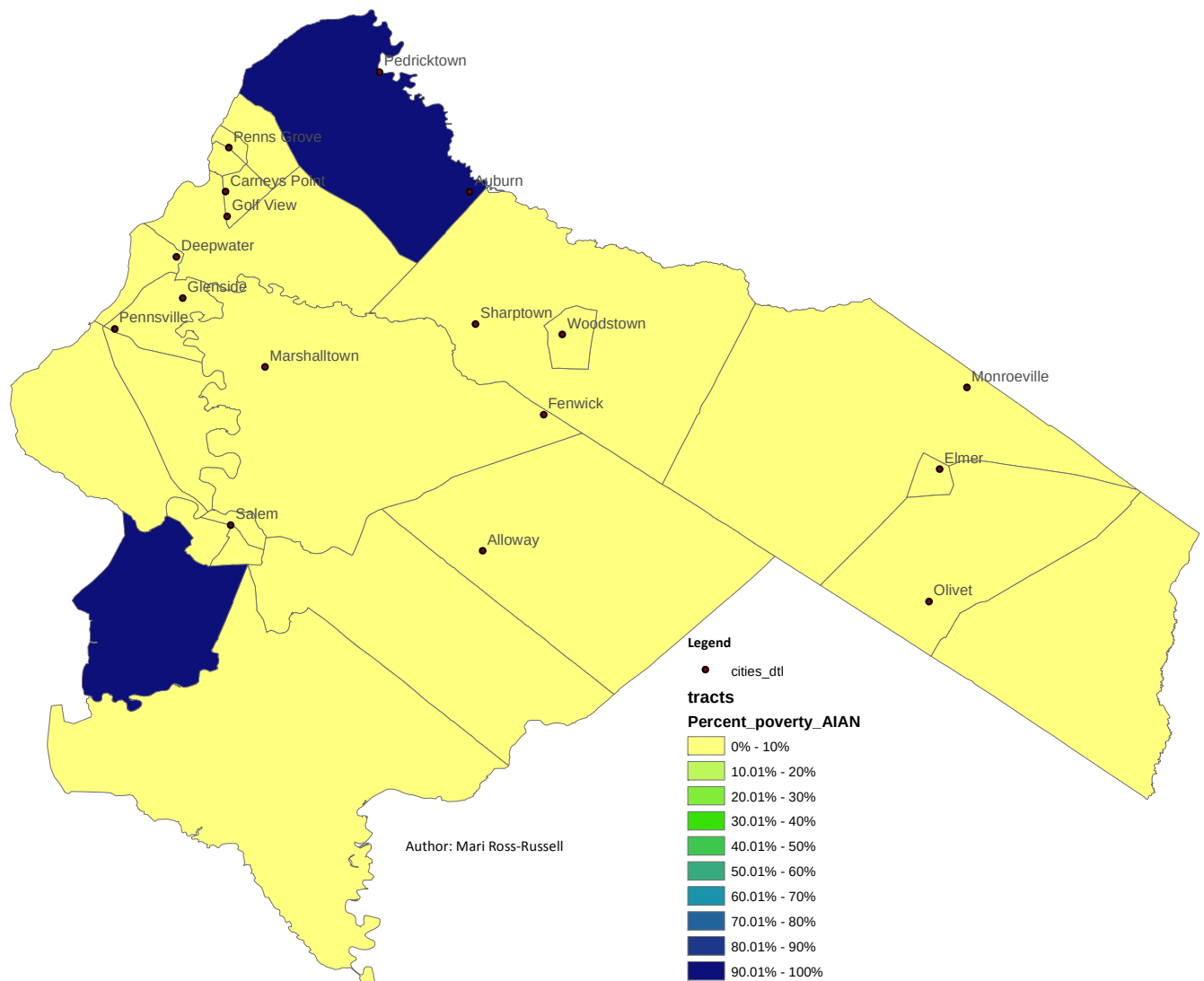
Source: ArcMap 10.2

Figure 14. Percentage of the Native American and Aleutian Islander population residing in Salem County at or below 100% of the Federal Poverty level as compared to the total population by census tract, 2012



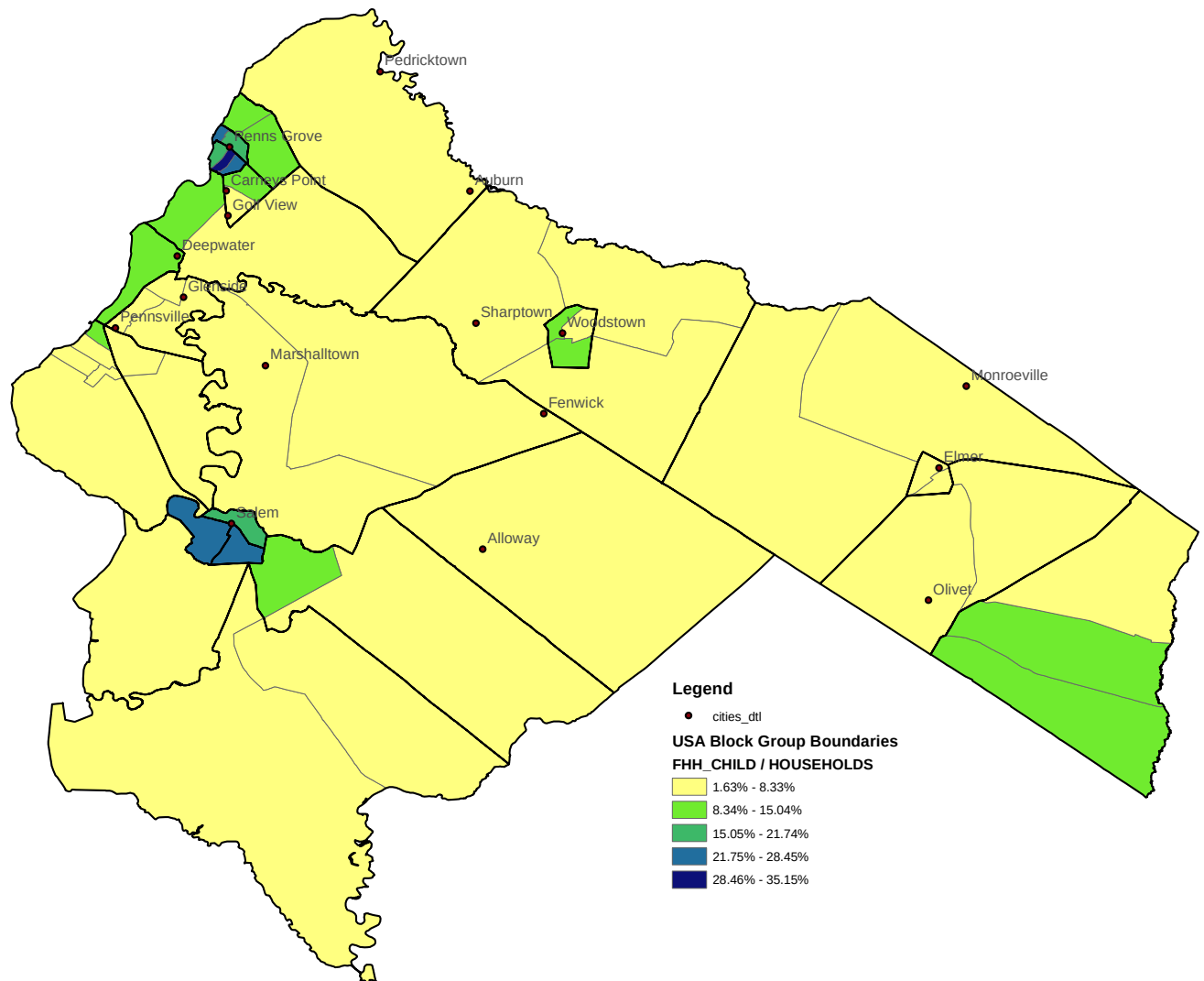
Source: Census Table S1701

Figure 15. Percentage of the Native American and Aleutian Islander population alone, who reside in Salem County at or below 100% of the Federal Poverty level by census tract, 2012



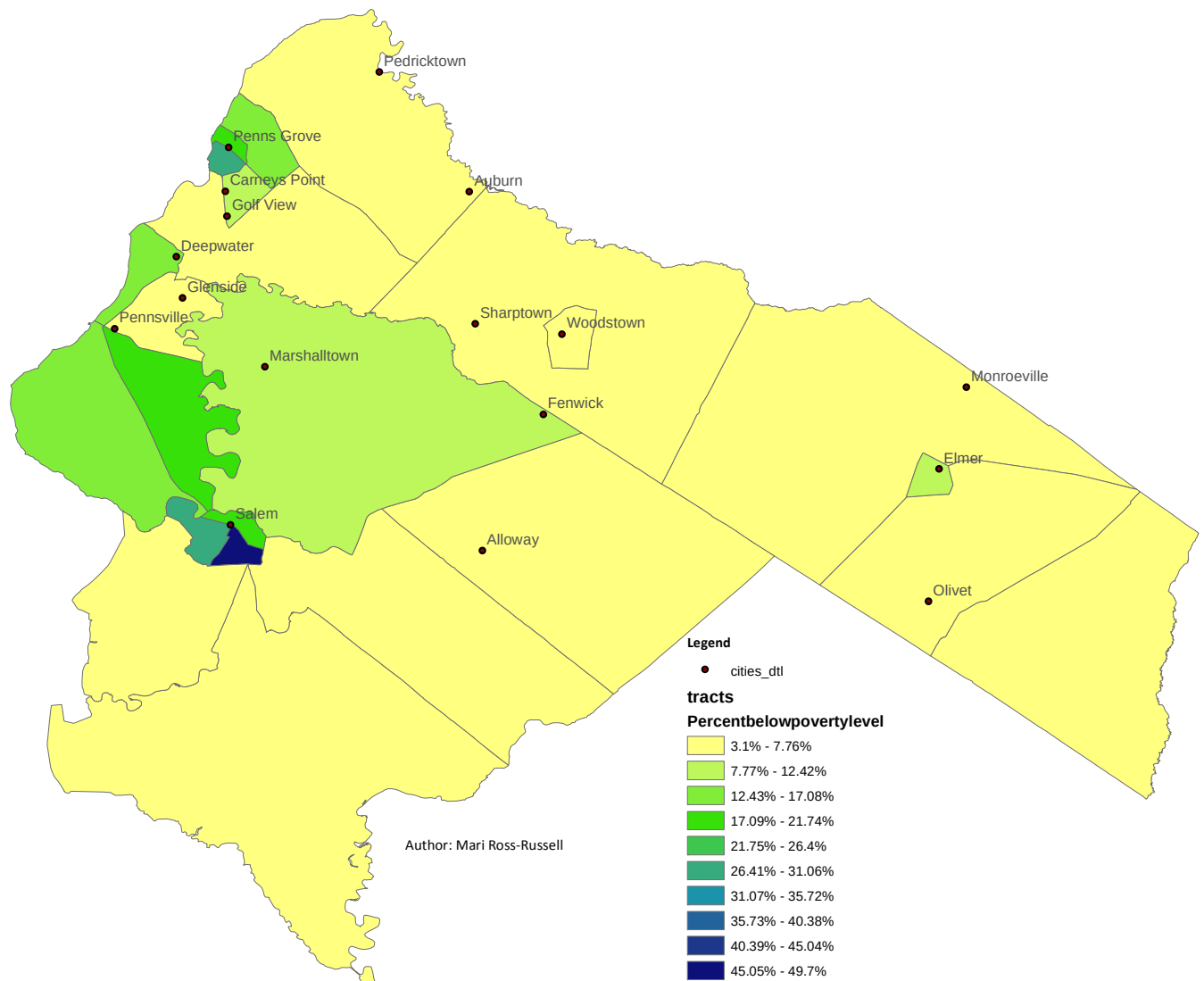
Source: Census Table S1701

Figure 16. Percentage of female headed households with children by block group, 2012



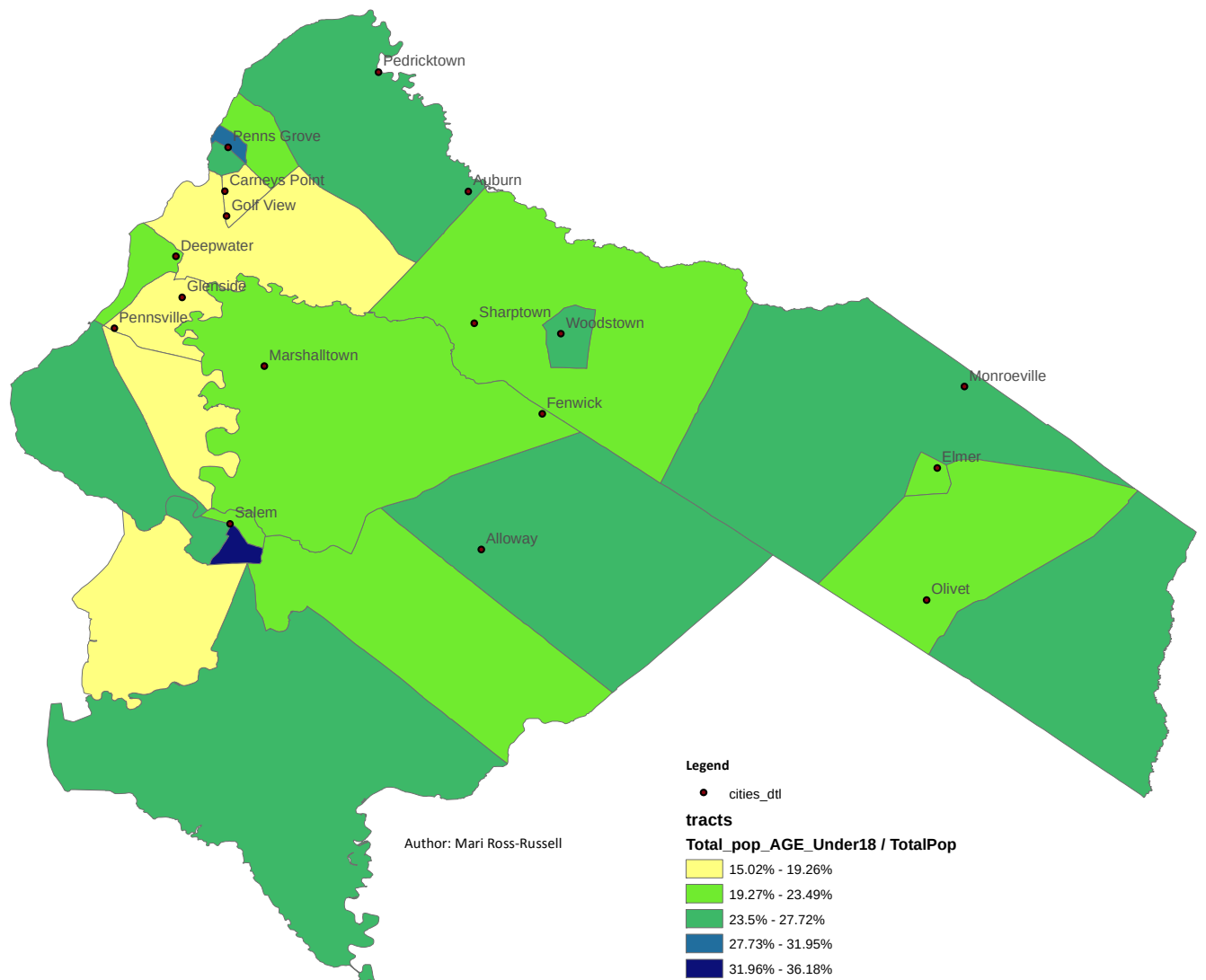
Source: ArcMap 10.2

Figure 17. Percentage of the total population within Salem County at or below 100% of the Federal Poverty level by census tract, 2012



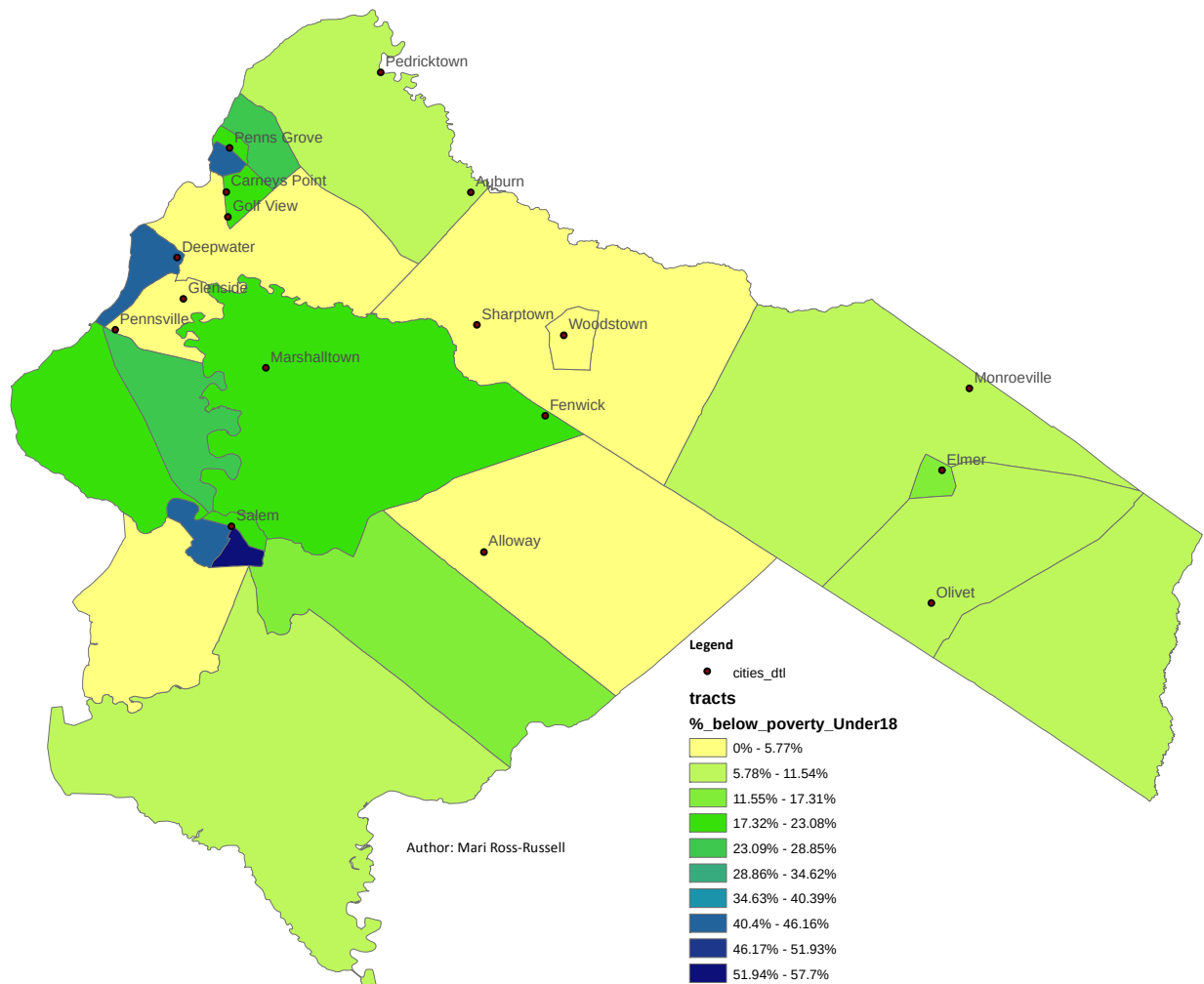
Source: Census Table S1701

Figure 18. Percentage of the total population within Salem County under the age of 18 by census tract, 2012



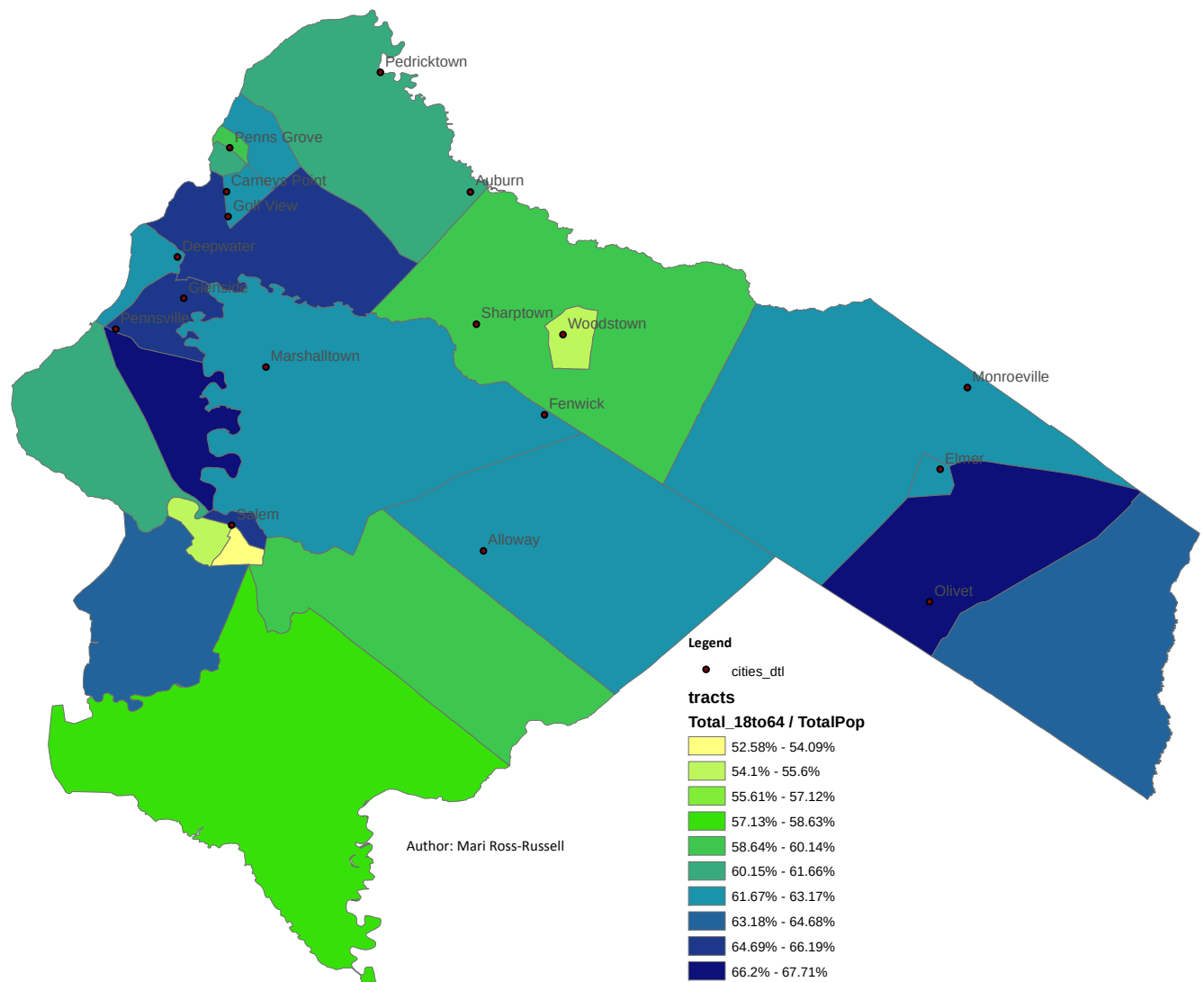
Source: Census Table S1701

Figure 19. Percentage of the population age 18 and under within Salem County at or below 100% of the Federal Poverty level by census tract, 2012



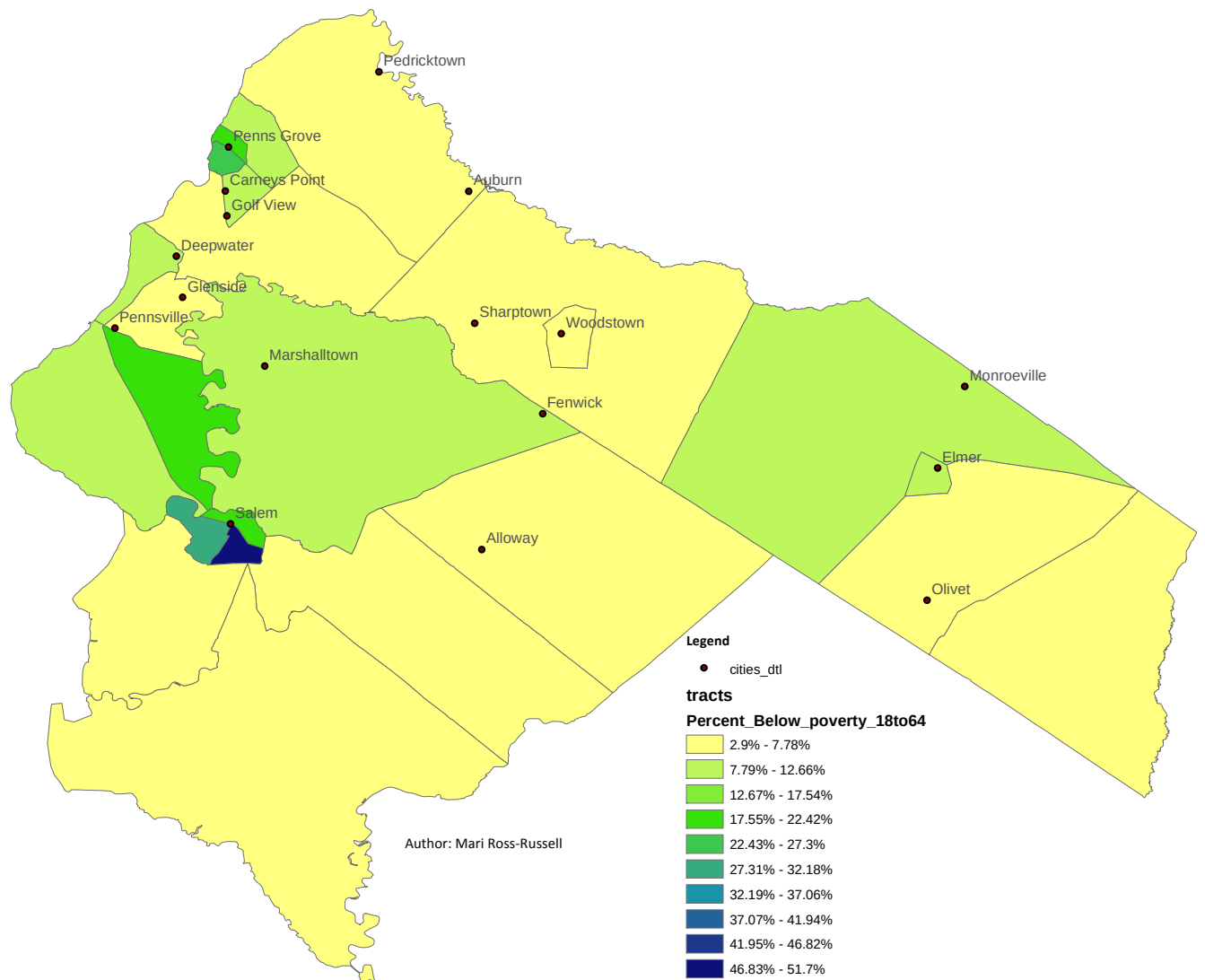
Source: Census Table S1701

Figure 20. Percentage of the total population within Salem County between the ages of 18 to 64 by census tract, 2012



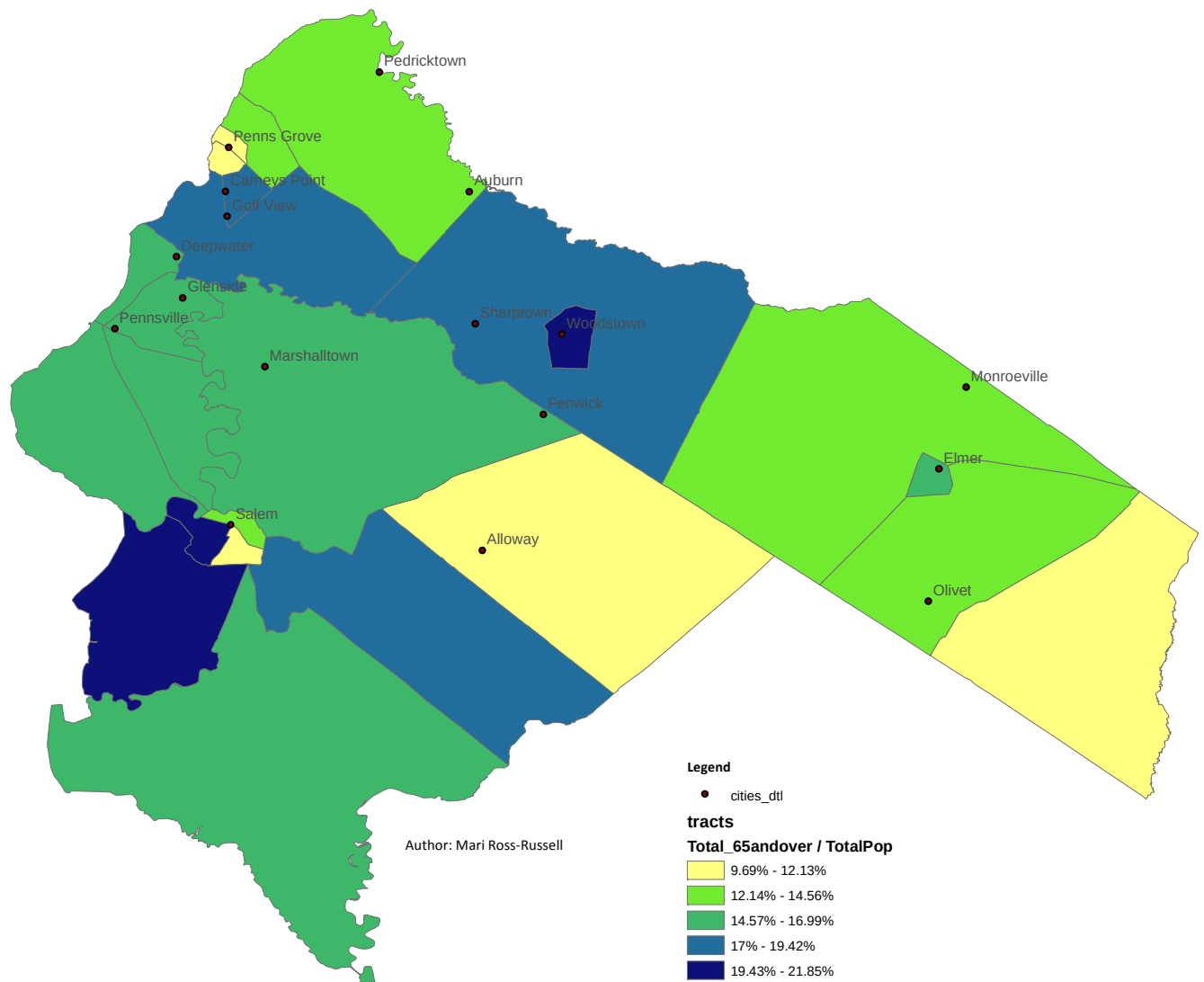
Source: Census Table S1701

Figure 21. Percentage of the population age 18 to 64 within Salem County at or below 100% of the Federal Poverty level by census tract, 2012



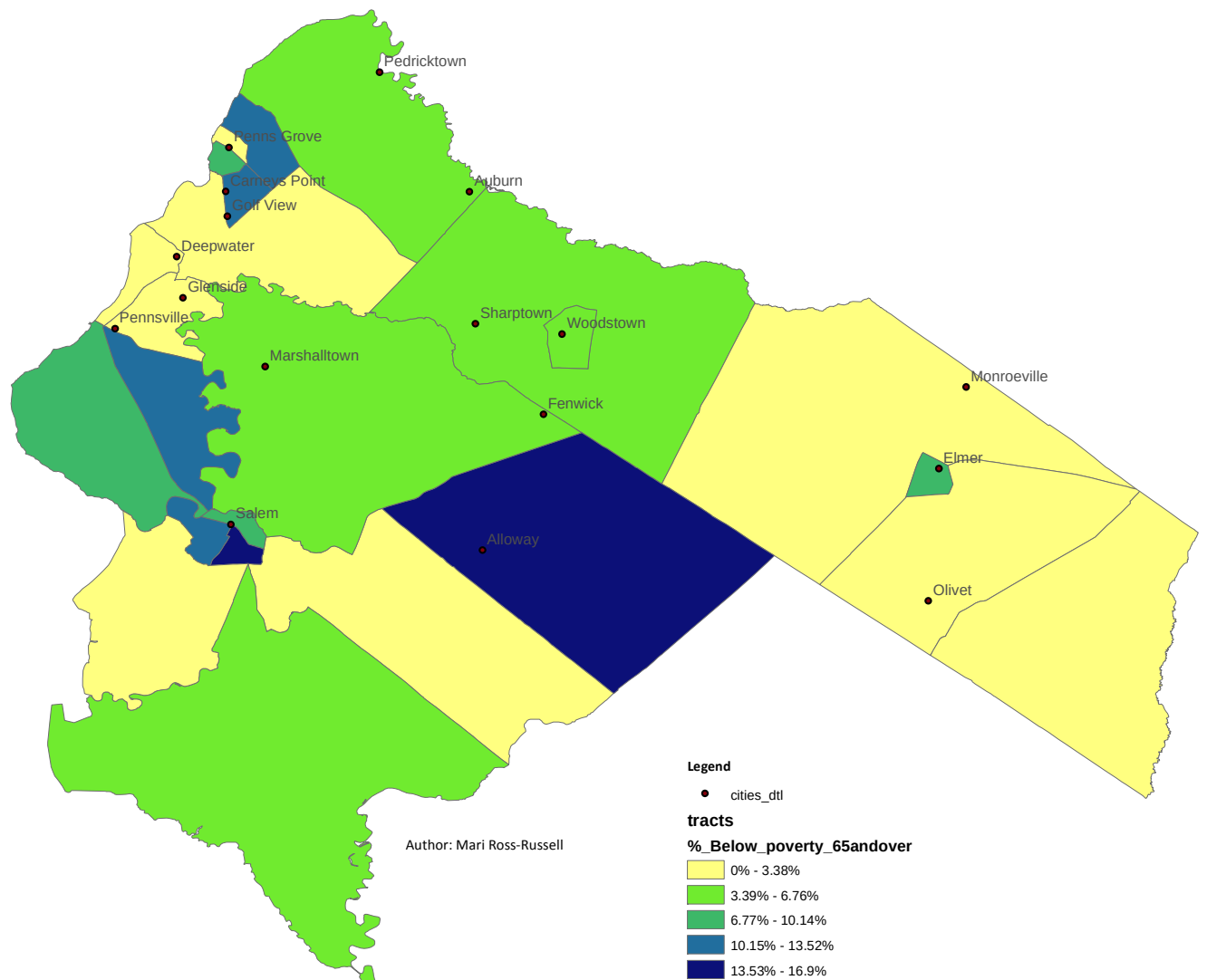
Source: Census Table S1701

Figure 22. Percentage of the total population within Salem County between the age 65 and over by census tract, 2012



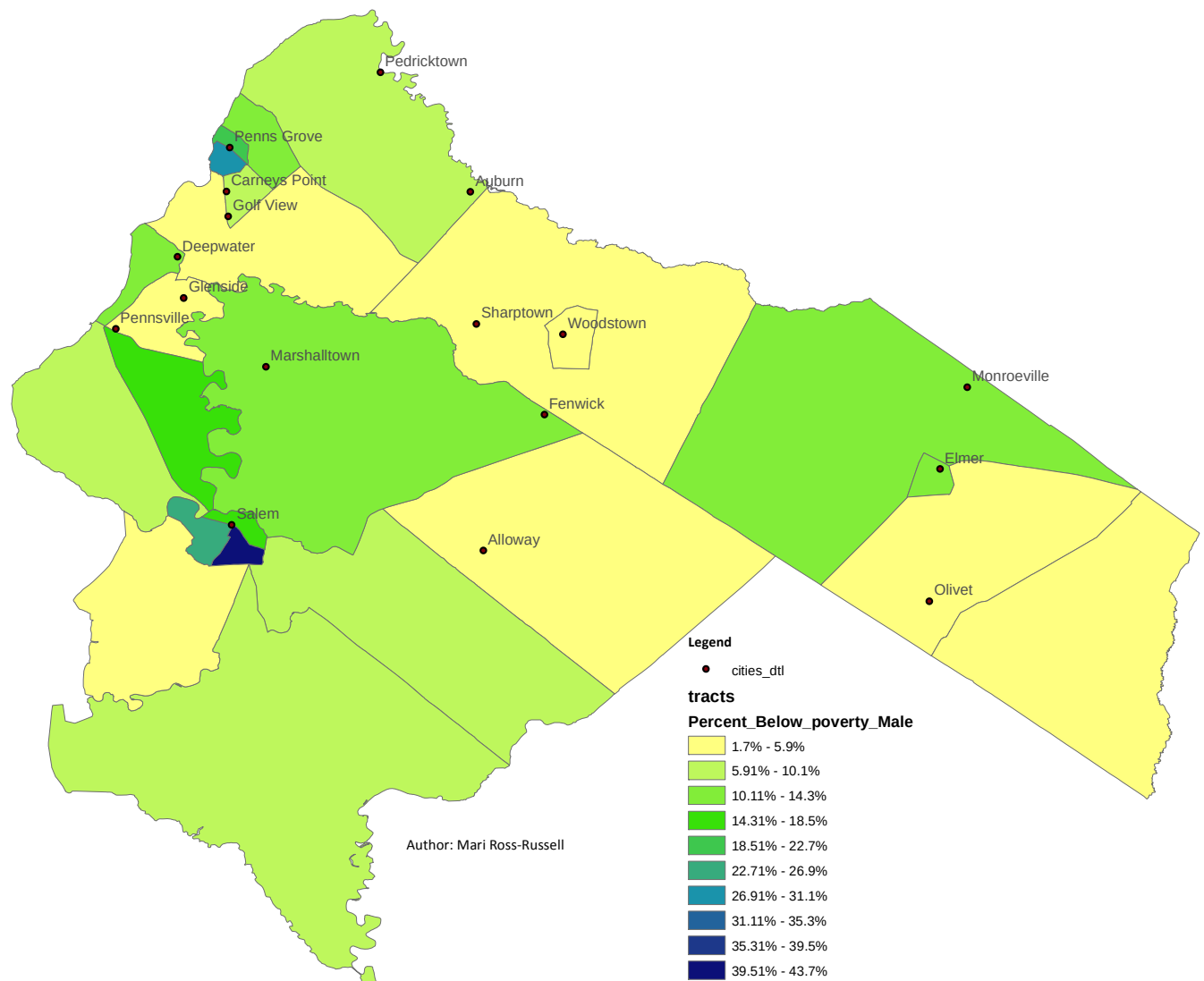
Source: Census Table S1701

Figure 23. Percentage of the population age 65 and over within Salem County at or below 100% of the Federal Poverty level by census tract, 2012



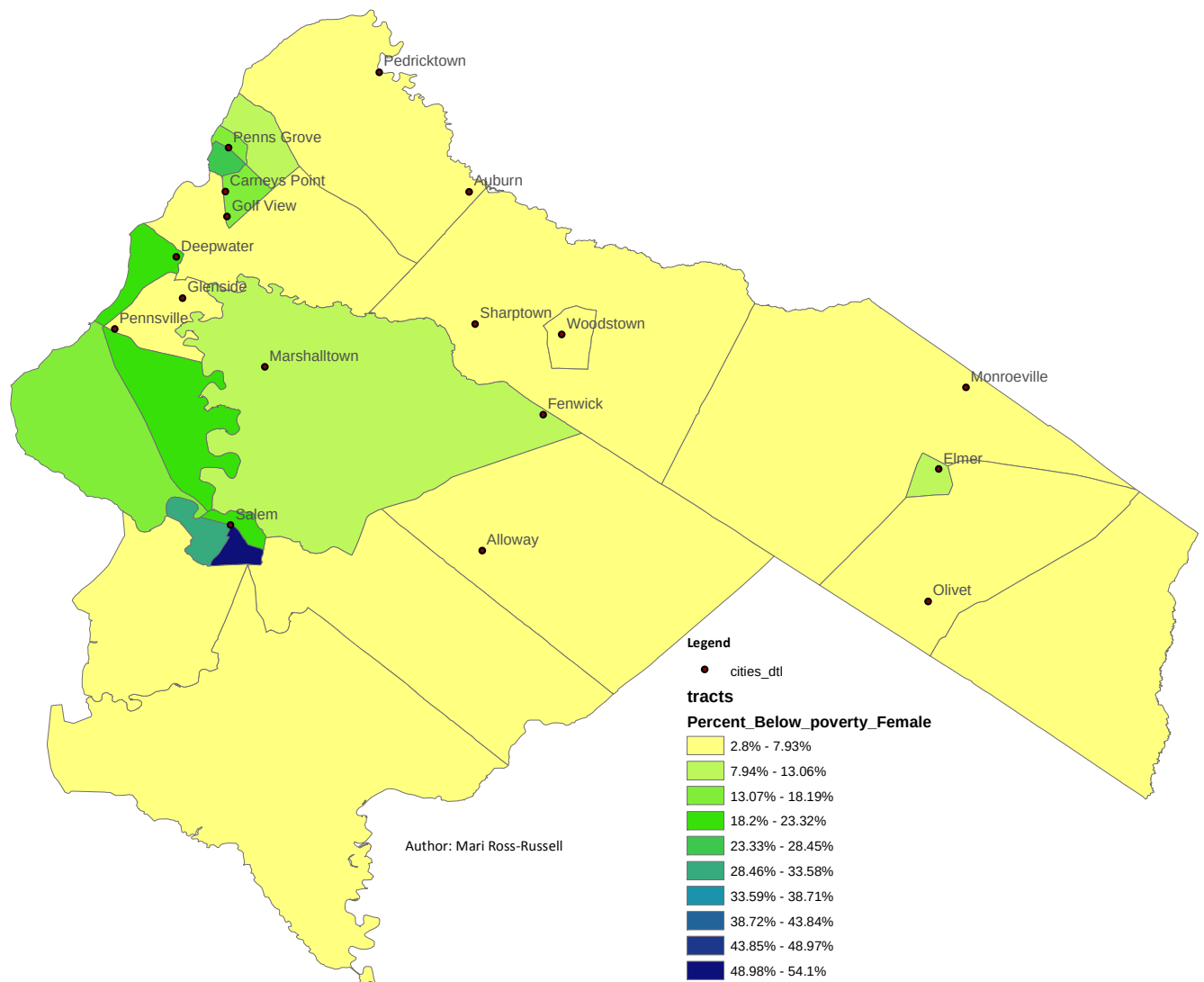
Source: Census Table S1701

Figure 24. Percentage of the male population within Salem County at or below 100% of the Federal Poverty level by census tract, 2012



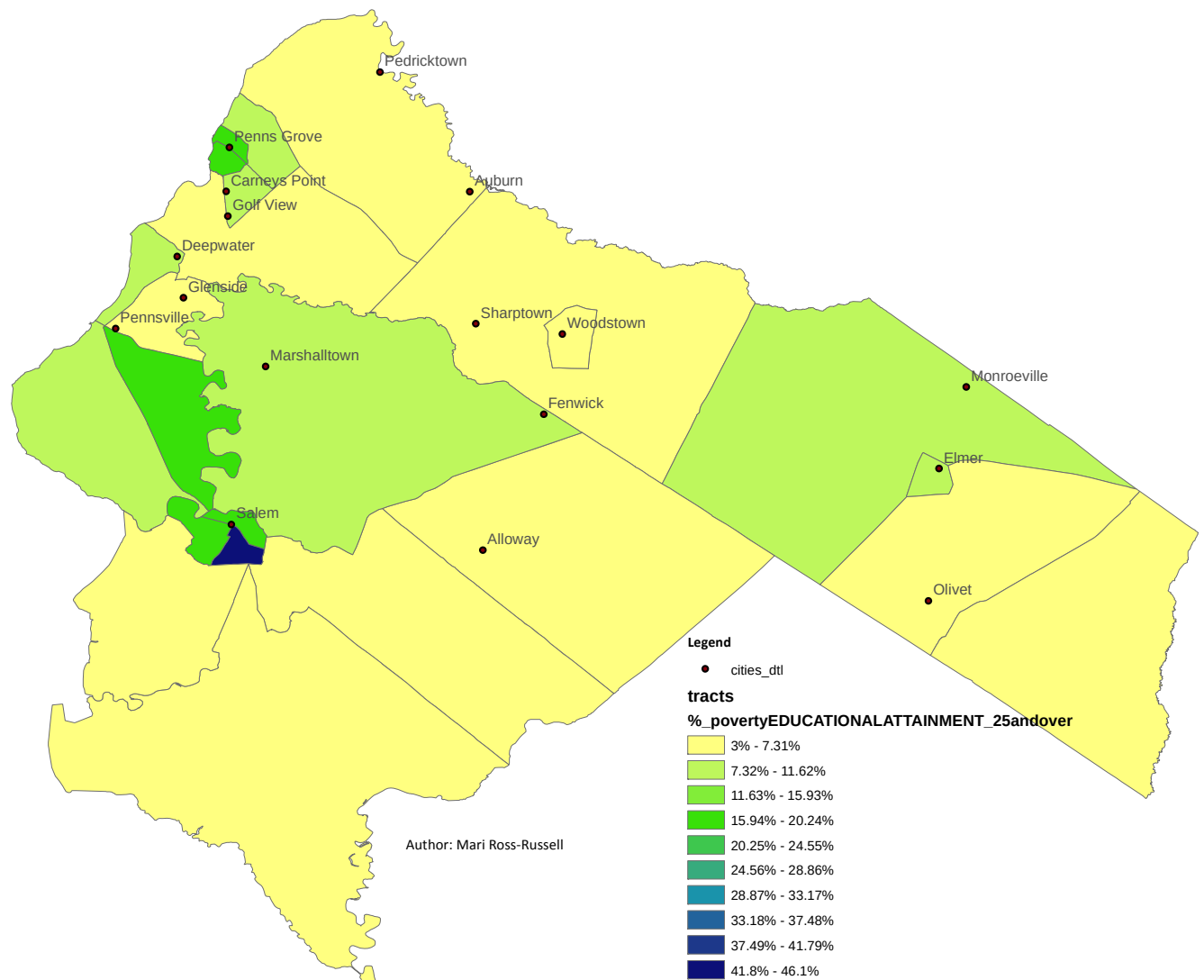
Source: Census Table S1701

Figure 25. Percentage of the female population within Salem County at or below 100% of the Federal Poverty level by census tract, 2012



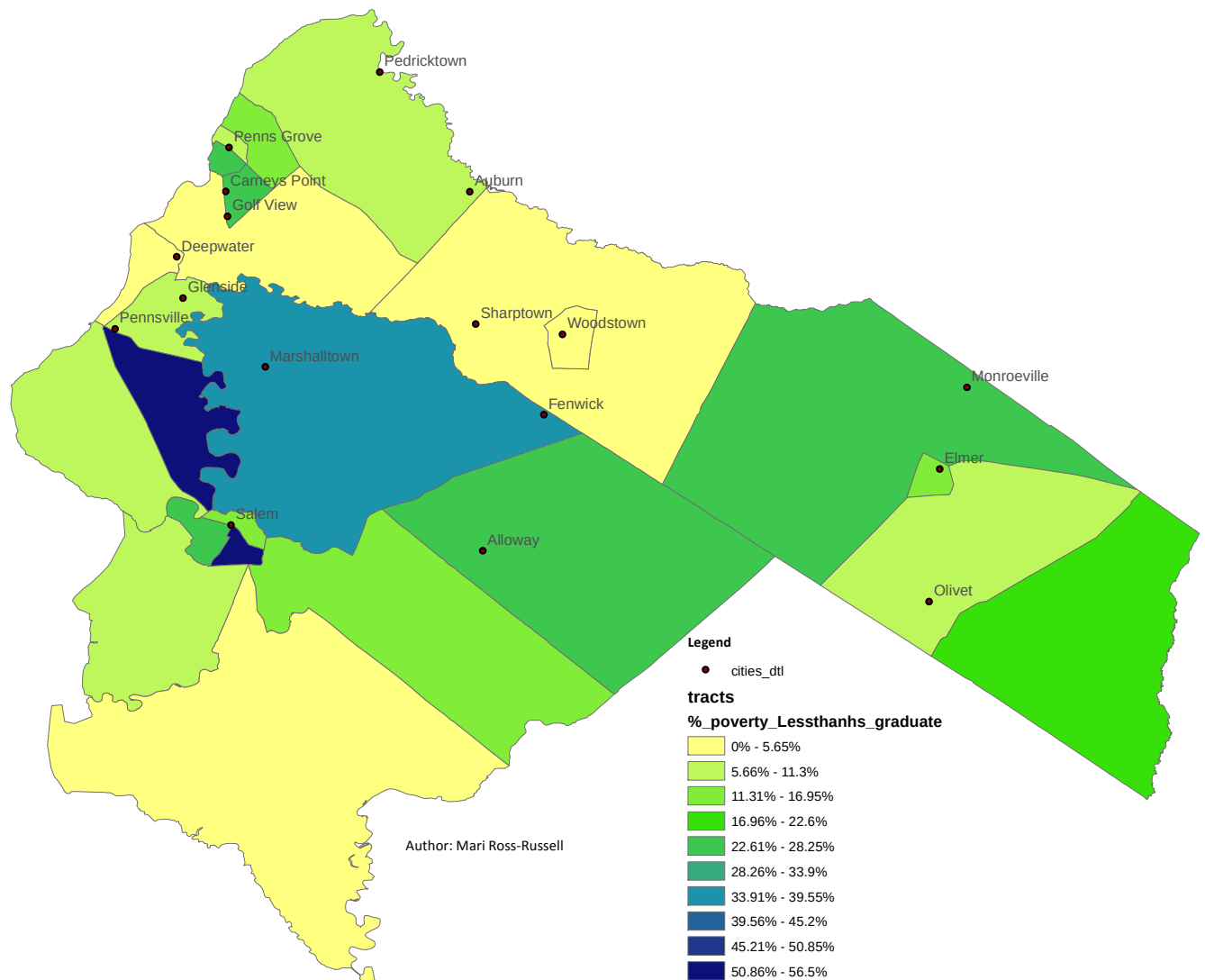
Source: Census Table S1701

Figure 26. Percentage of the population age 25 and over within Salem County by educational attainment and poverty status by census tract, 2012



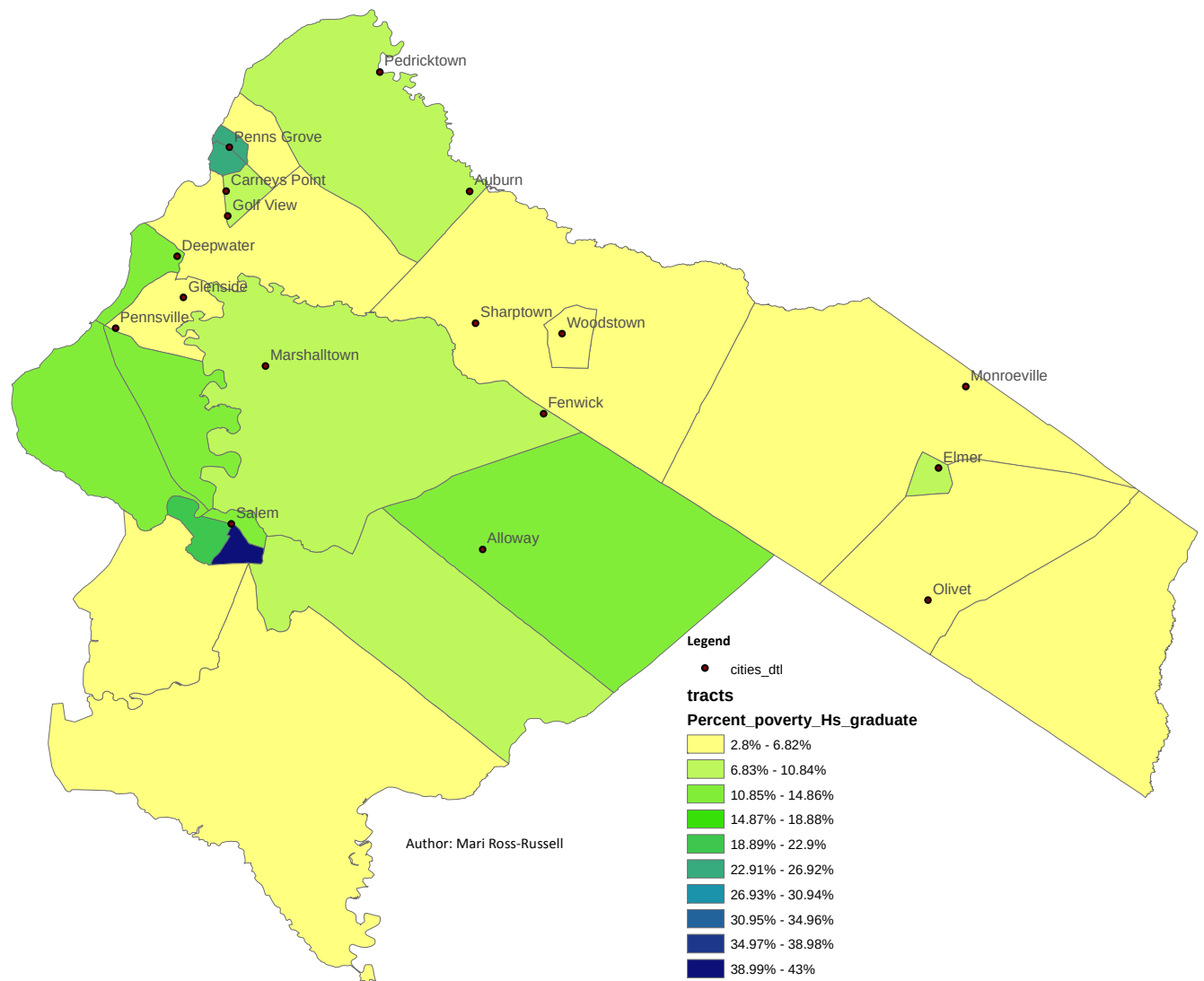
Source: Census Table S1701

Figure 27. Percent of population 25 and over for whom Poverty Status has been determined by Educational Attainment-with less than a High School Diploma by census tract within Salem County, 2012



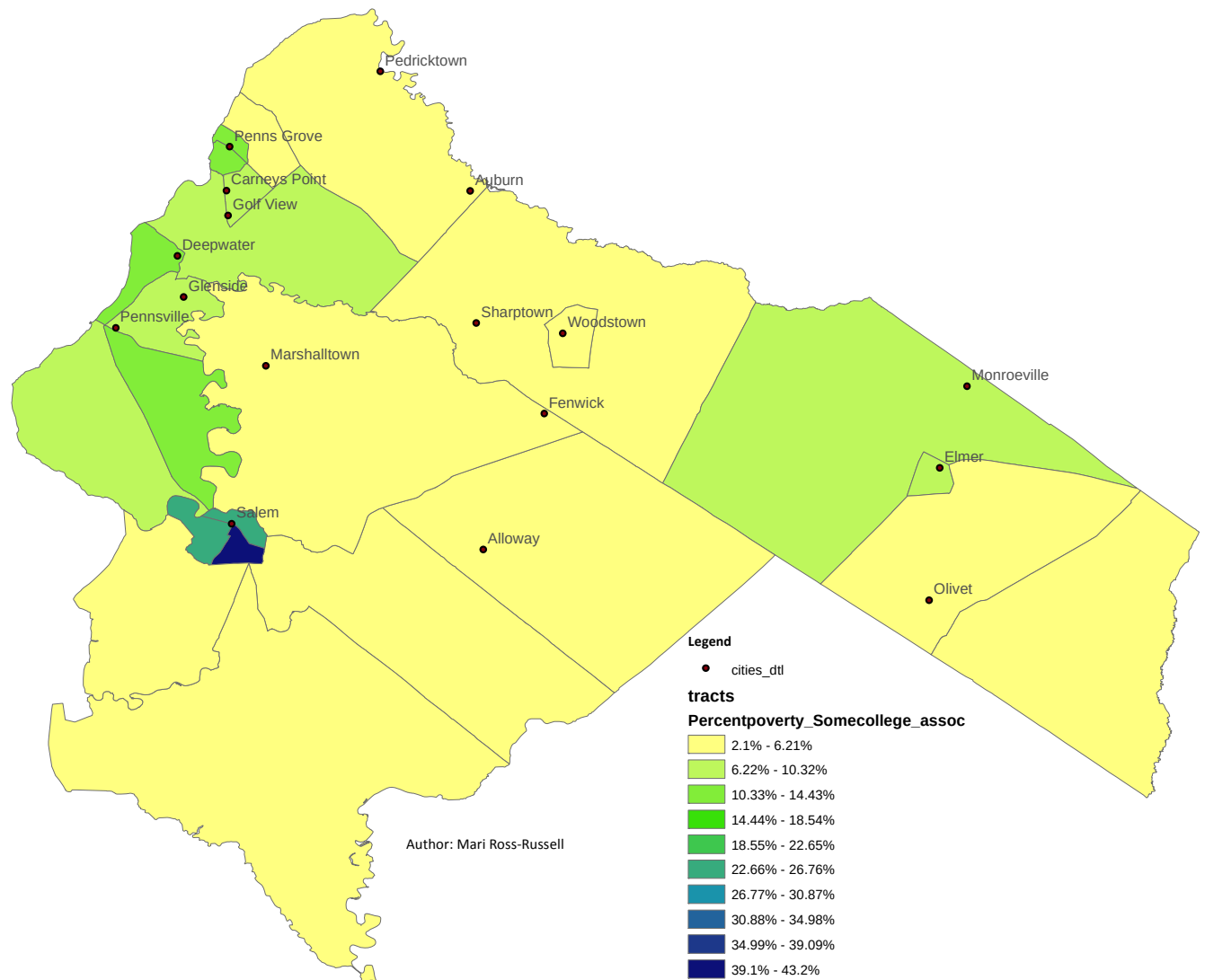
Source: Census Table S1701

Figure 28. Percent of population 25 and over for whom Poverty Status has been determined by Educational Attainment-with a High School Diploma by census tract within Salem County, 2012



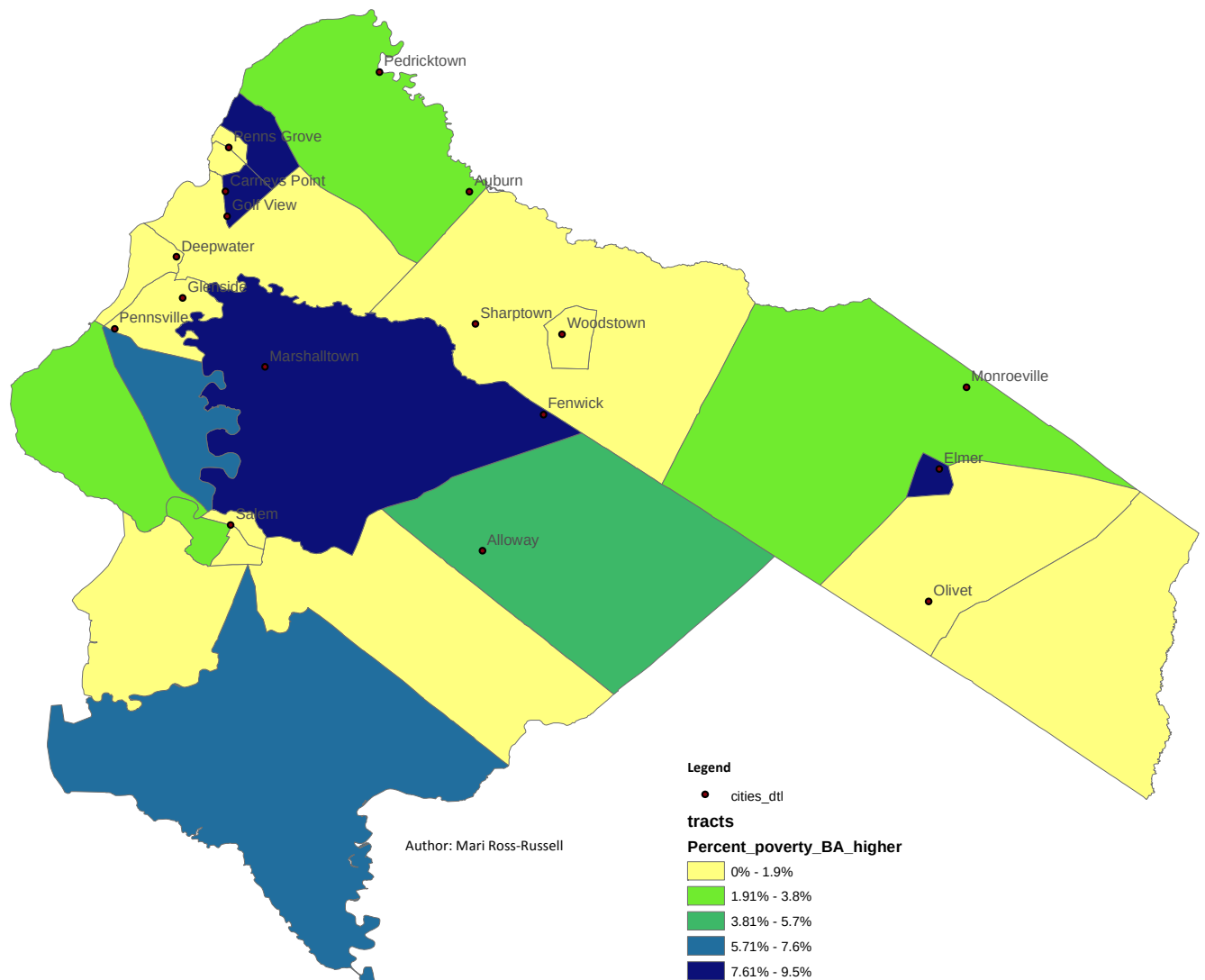
Source: Census Table S1701

Figure 29. Percent of Population 25 and over for whom Poverty Status has been determined by Educational Attainment-with some college and or an Associate's degree by census tract within Salem County, 2012



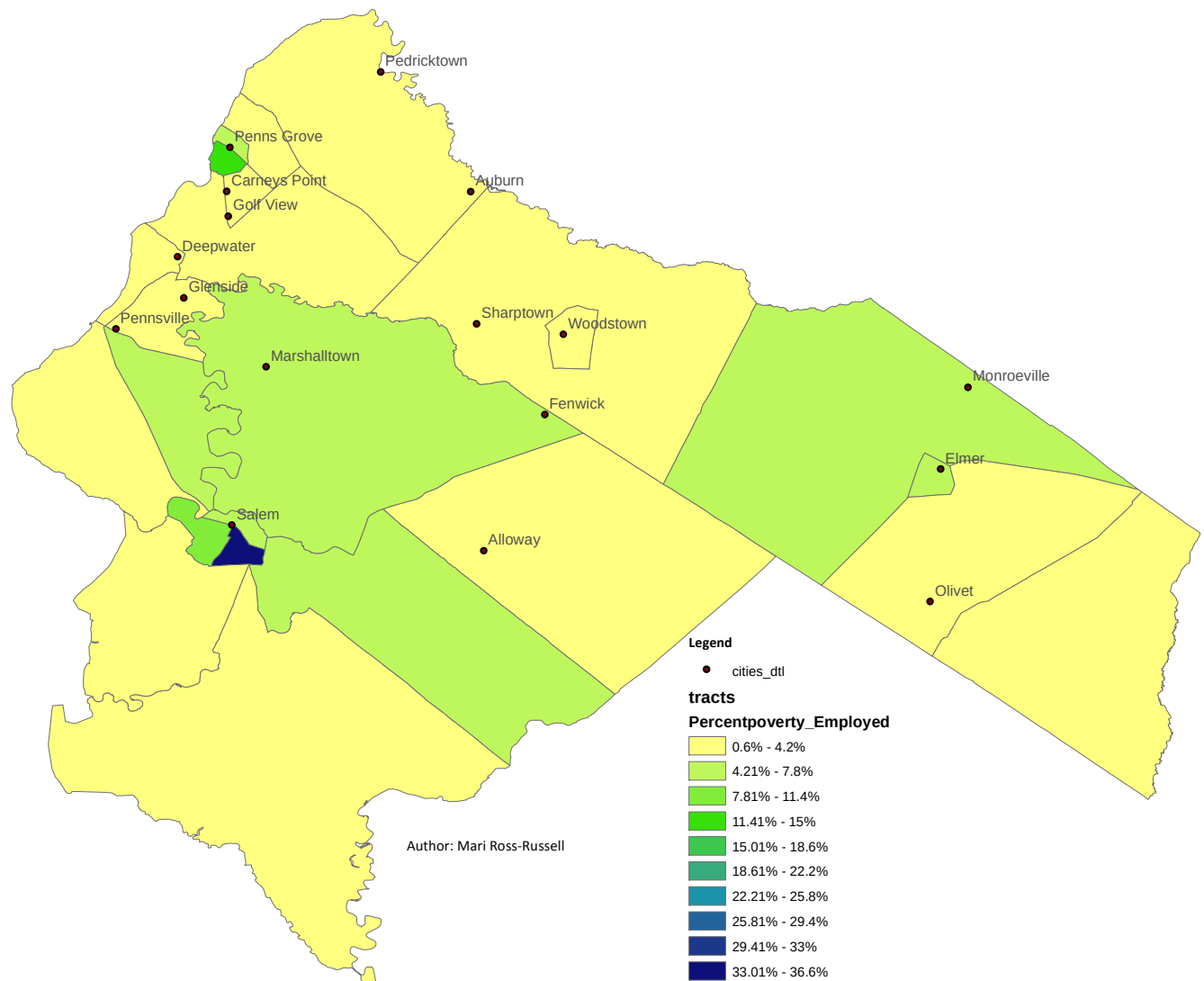
Source: Census Table S1701

Figure 30. Percent of Population 25 and over for whom Poverty Status has been determined by Educational Attainment-with a Bachelor's degree or higher by census tract within Salem County, 2012



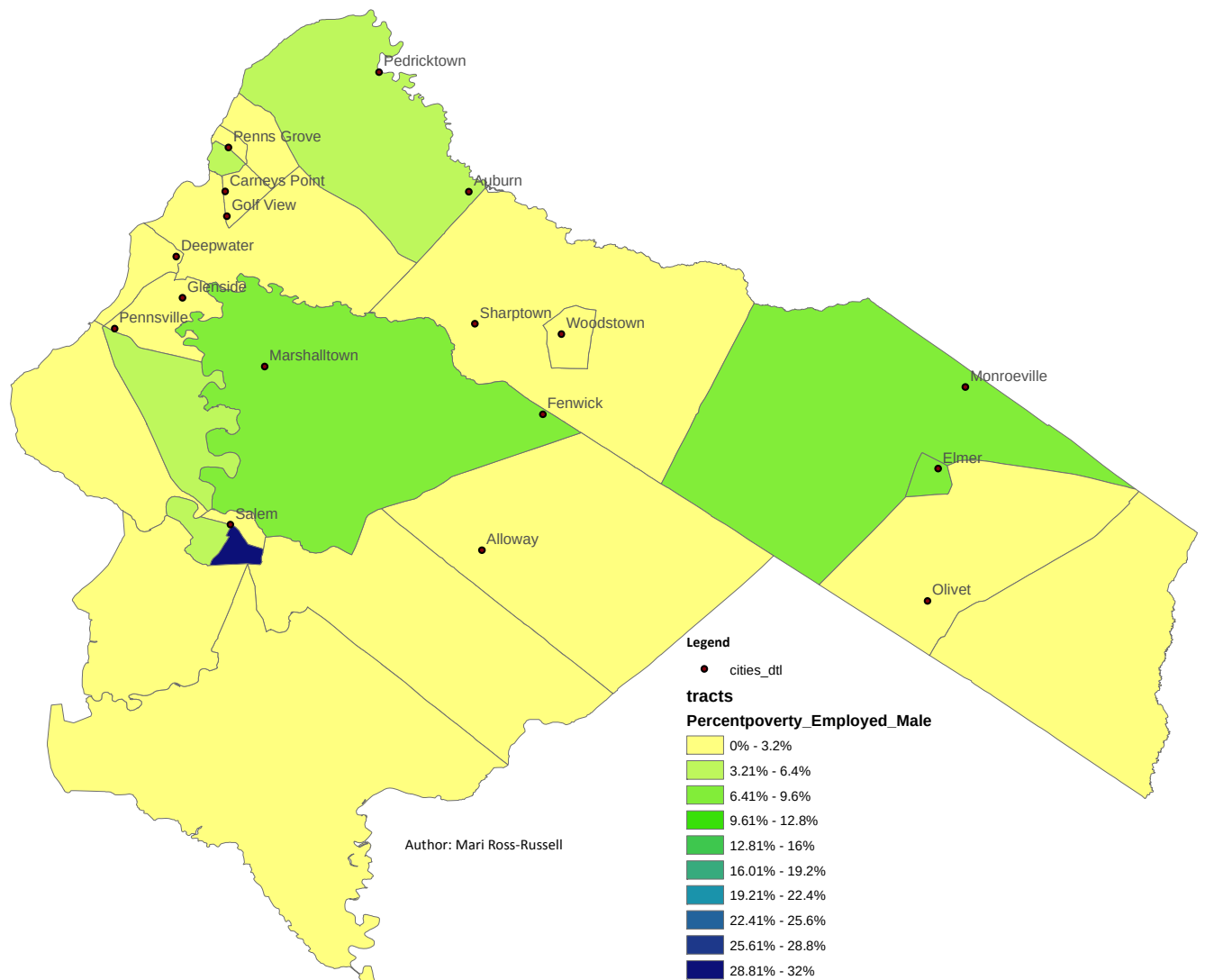
Source: Census Table S1701

Figure 31. Percentage of the employed population at or below 100% of the Federal Poverty level by census tract within Salem County, 2012



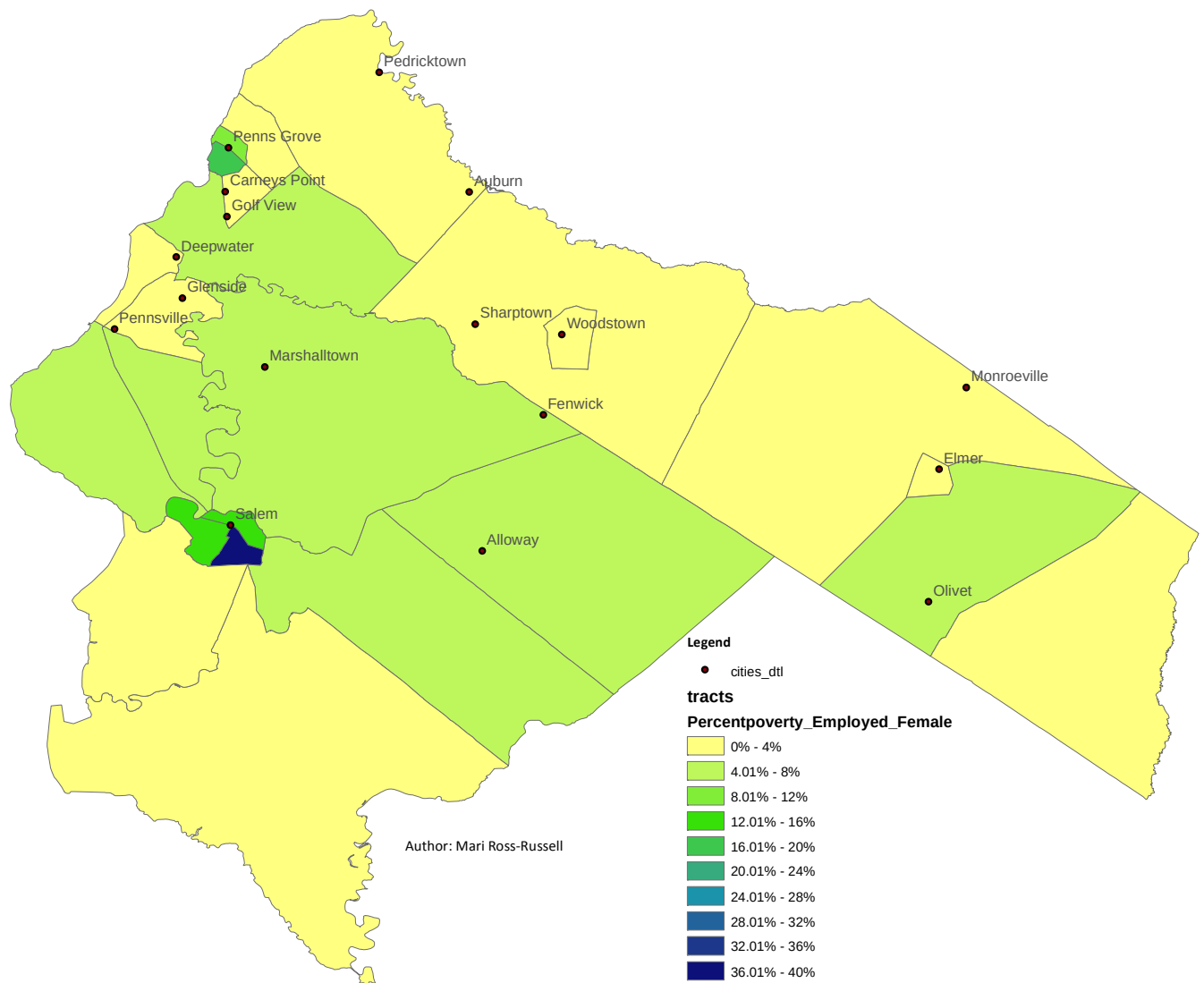
Source: Census Table S1701

Figure 32. Percentage of the employed male population at or below 100% of the Federal Poverty level by census tract within Salem County, 2012



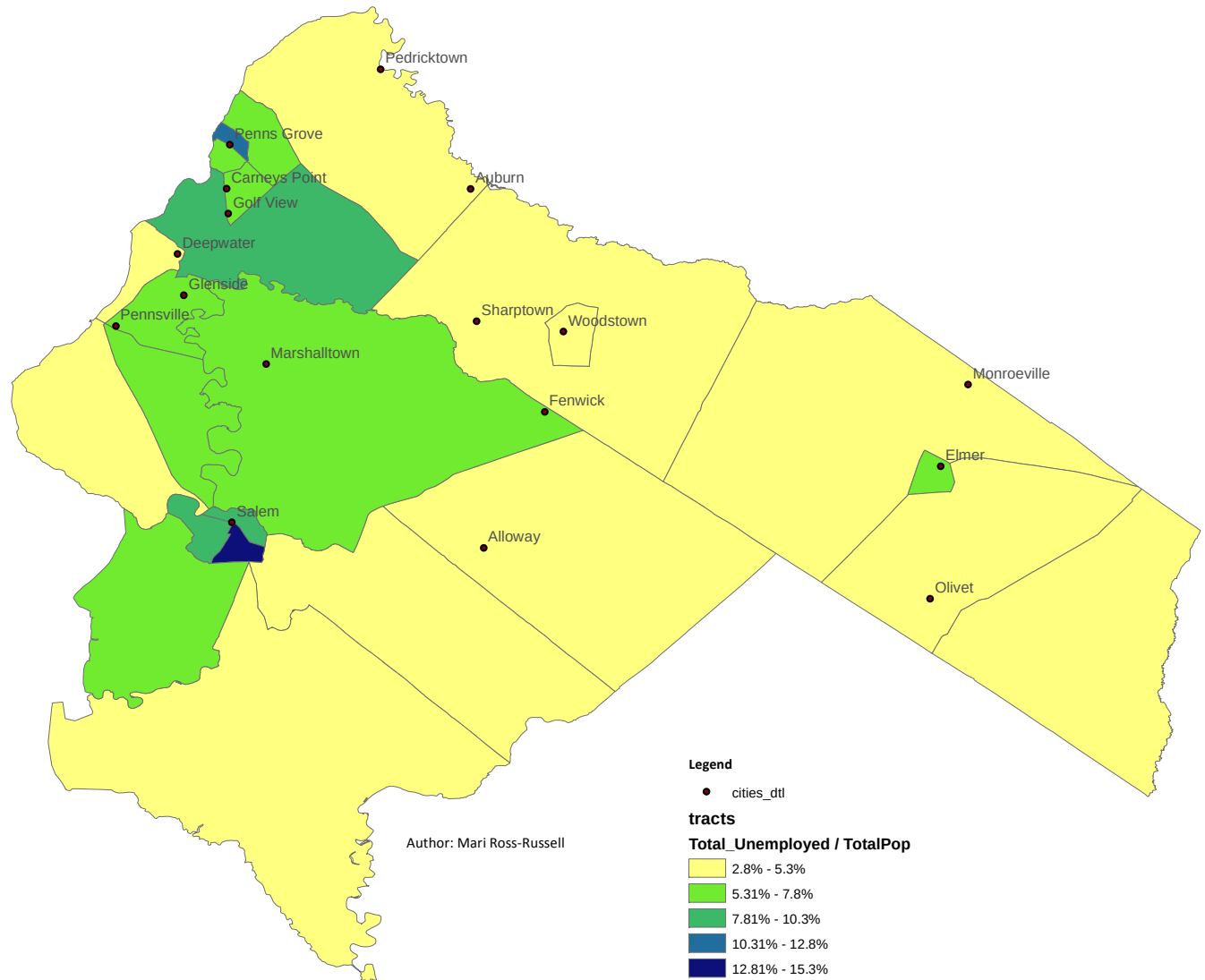
Source: Census Table S1701

Figure 33. Percentage of the employed female population at or below 100% of the Federal Poverty level by census tract within Salem County, 2012



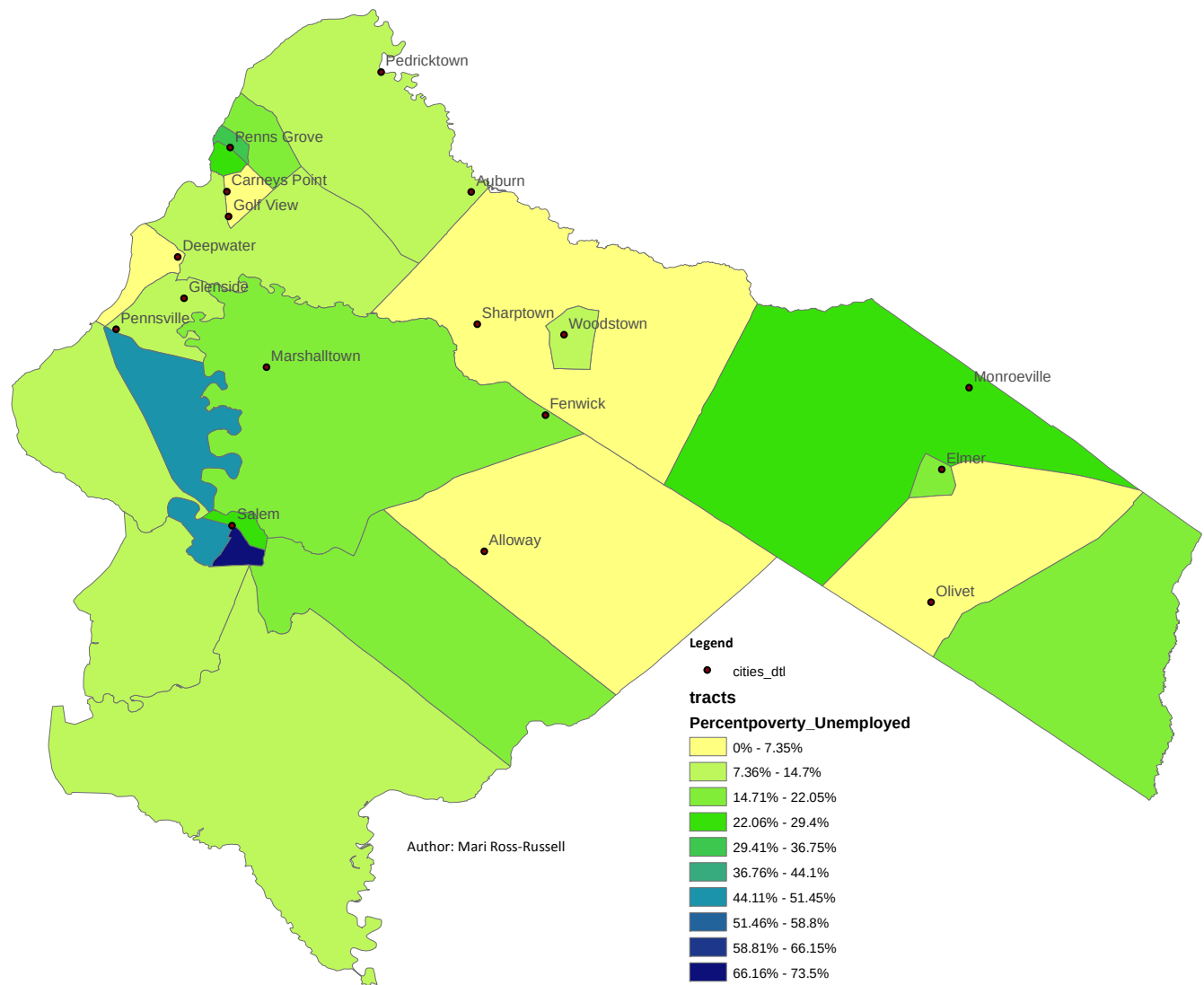
Source: Census Table S1701

Figure 34. Unemployed percentage of the total population within Salem County by census tract, 2012



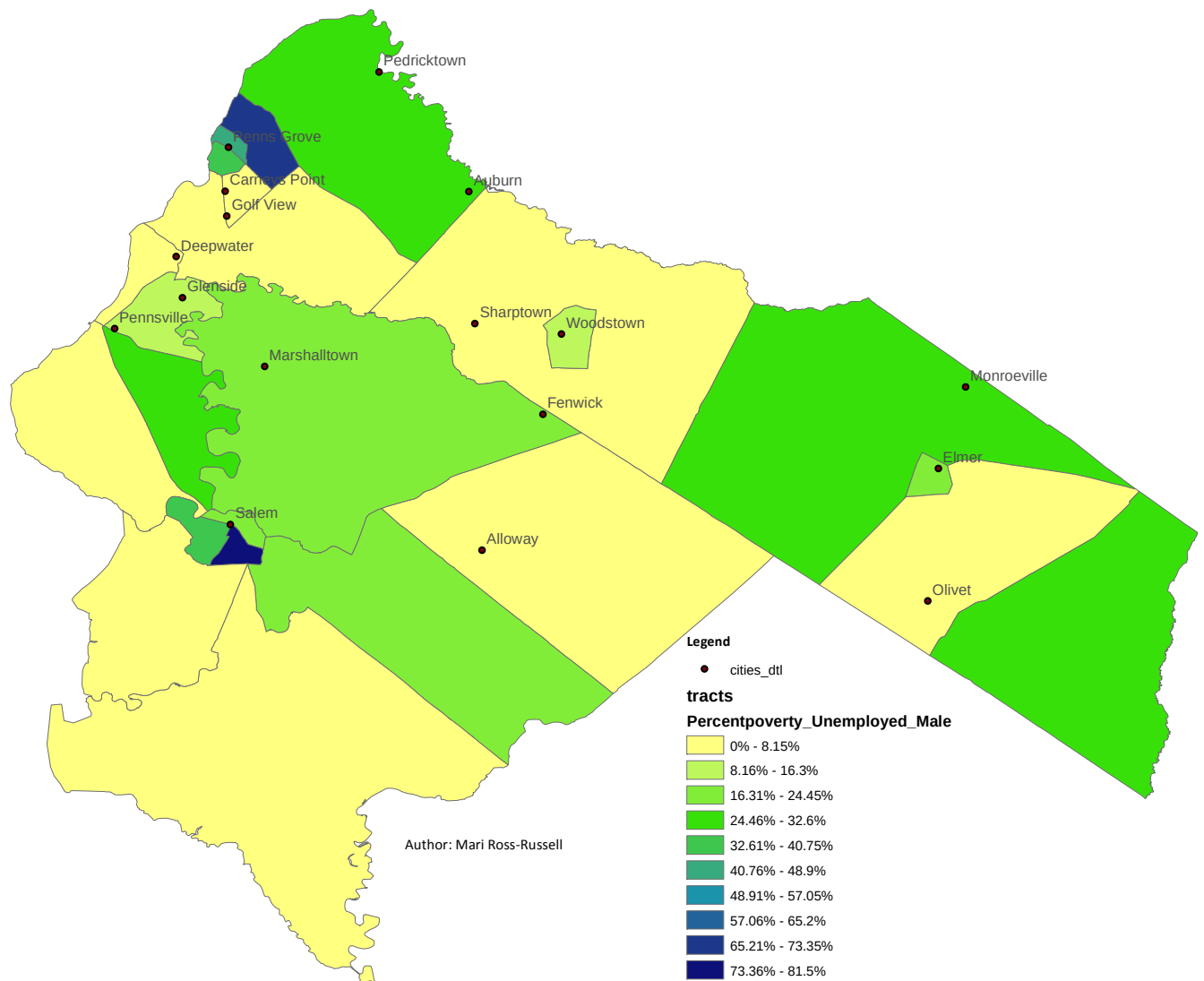
Source: Census Table S1701

Figure 35. Unemployed population at or below 100% of the Federal Poverty level within Salem County by census tract, 2012



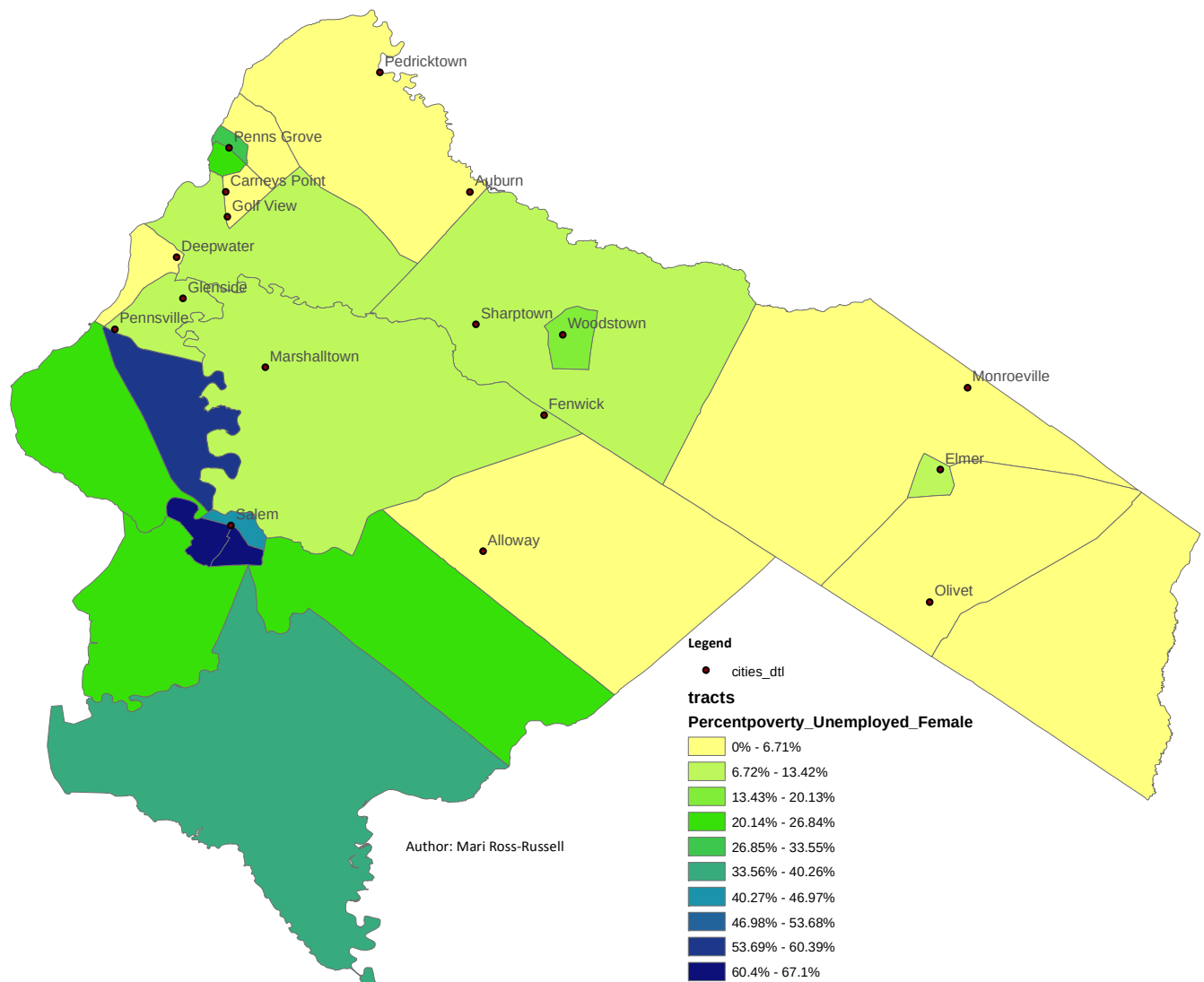
Source: Census Table S1701

Figure 36. Unemployed male population at or below 100% of the Federal Poverty level within Salem County by census tract, 2012



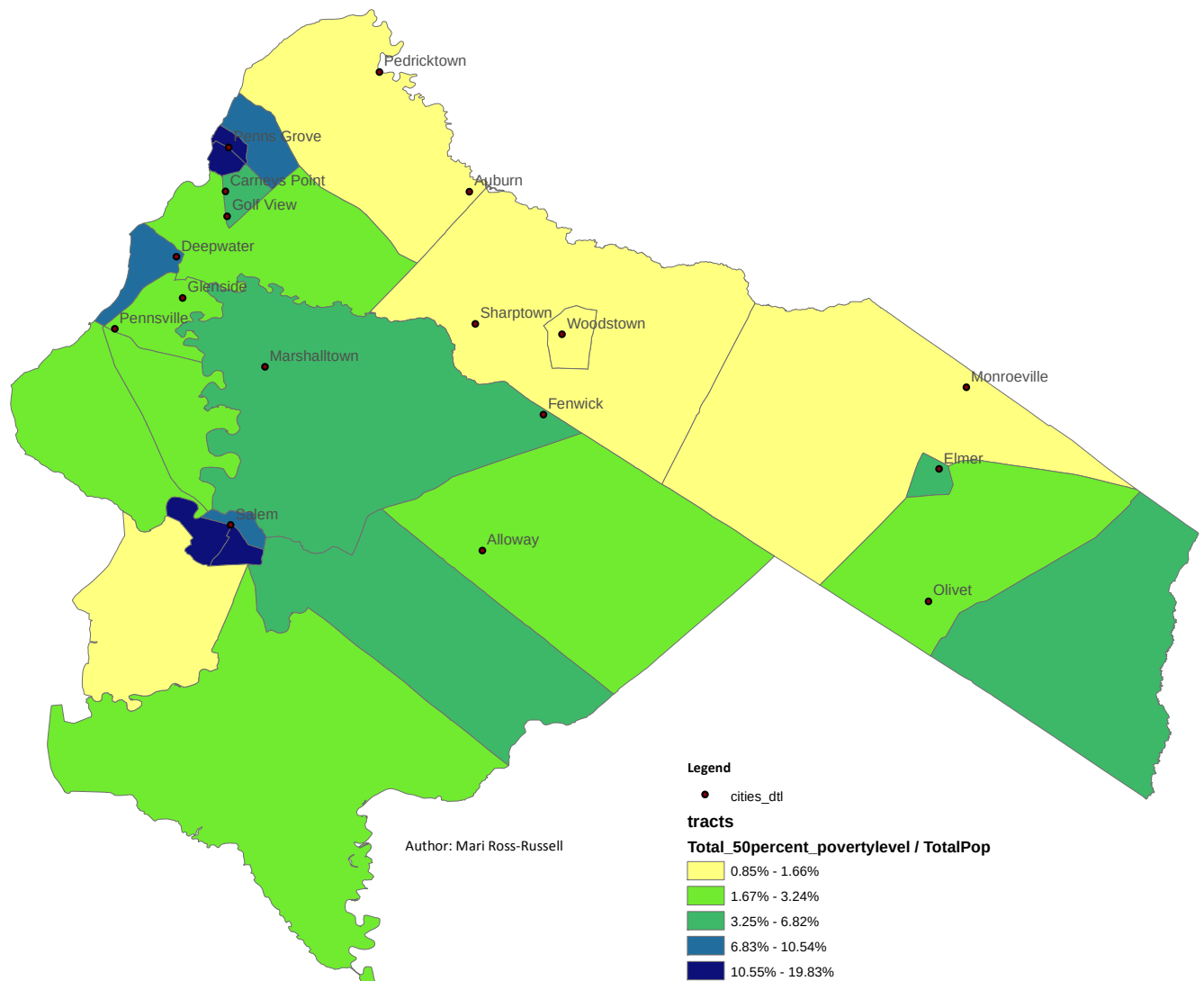
Source: Census Table S1701

Figure 37. Unemployed female population at or below 100% of the Federal Poverty level within Salem County by census tract, 2012



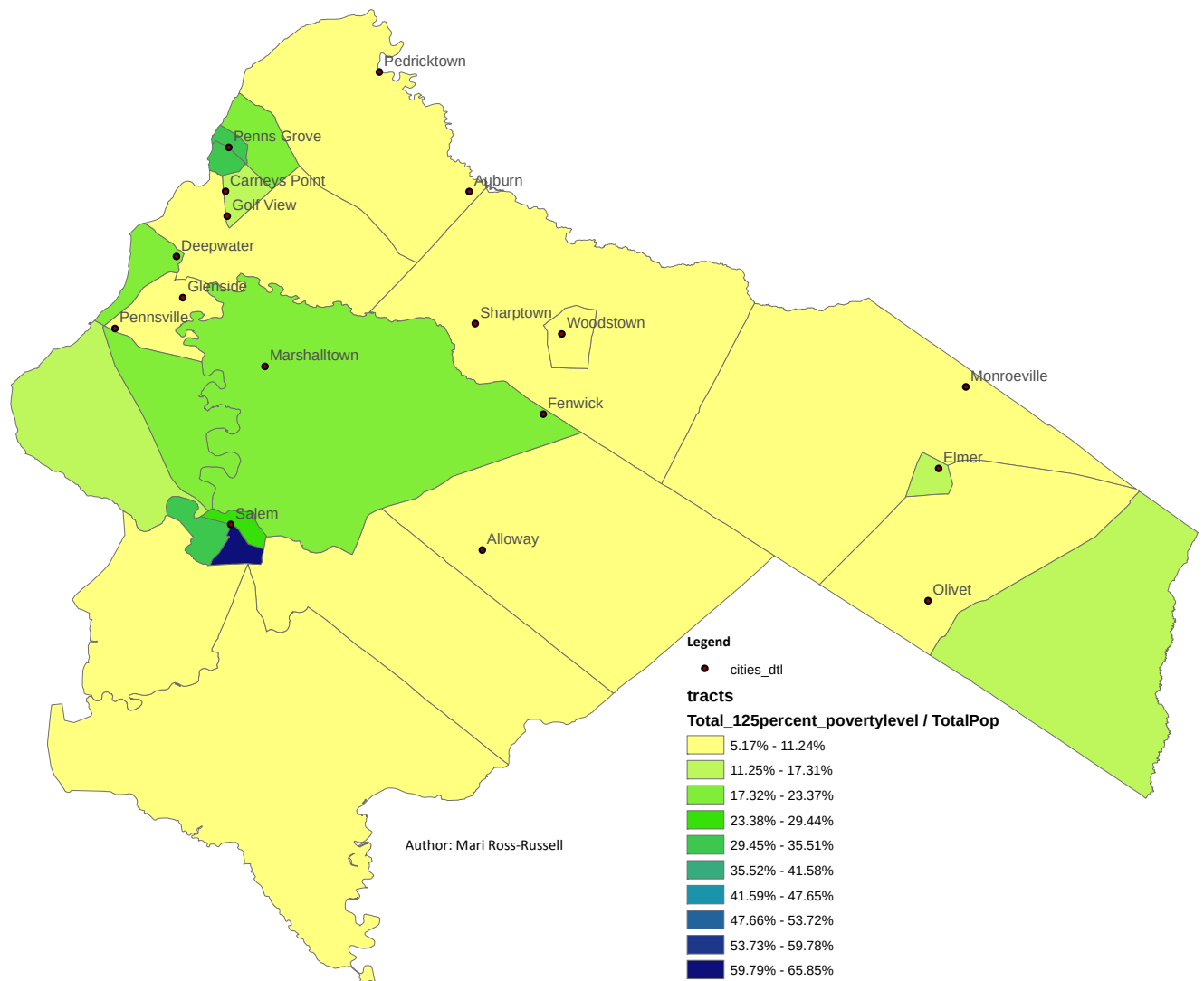
Source: Census Table S1701

Figure 38. Percentage of the population at or below 50% of the Federal Poverty level within Salem County by census tract, 2012



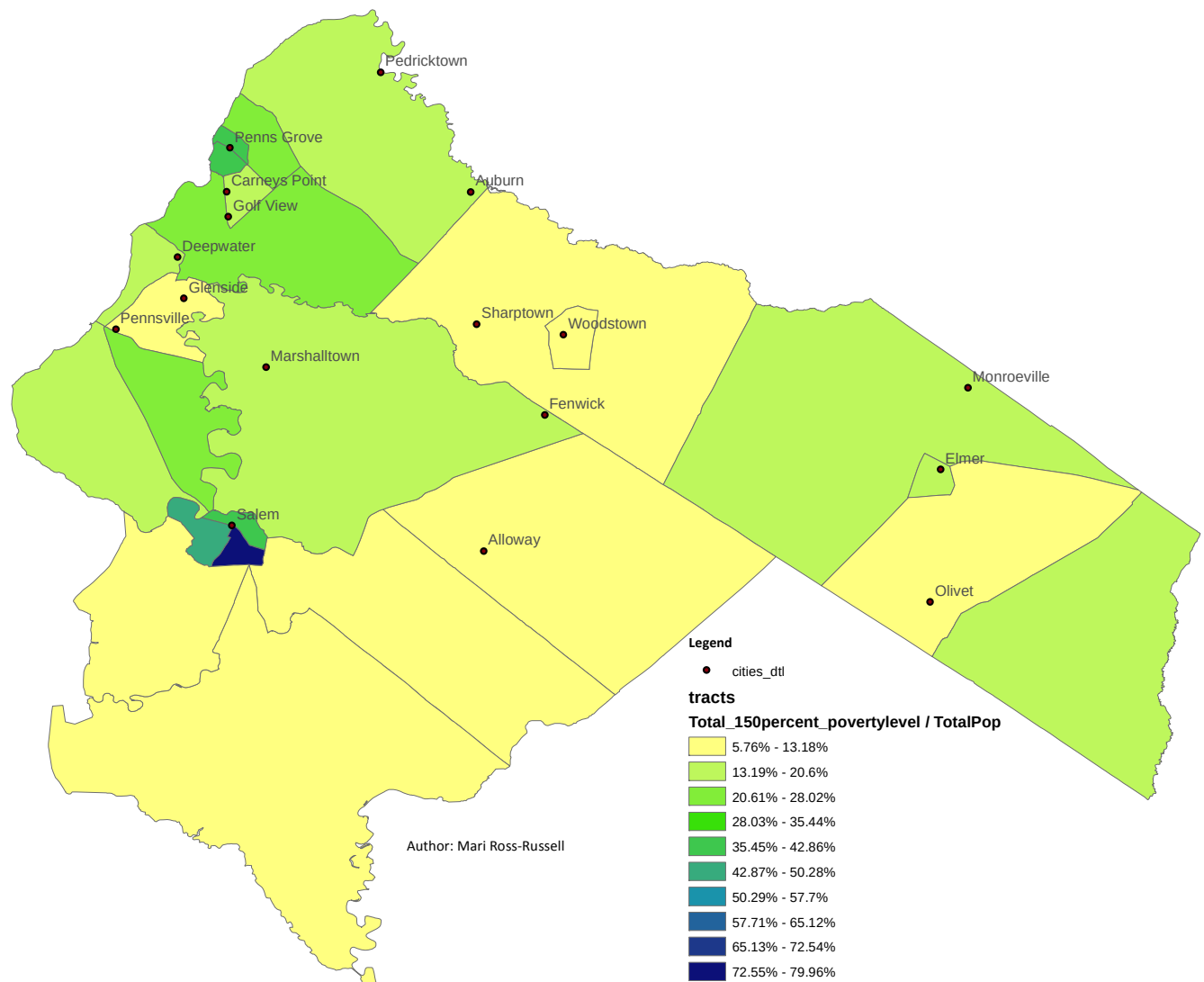
Source: Census Table S1701

Figure 39. Percentage of the population at or below 125% of the Federal Poverty level within Salem County by census tract, 2012



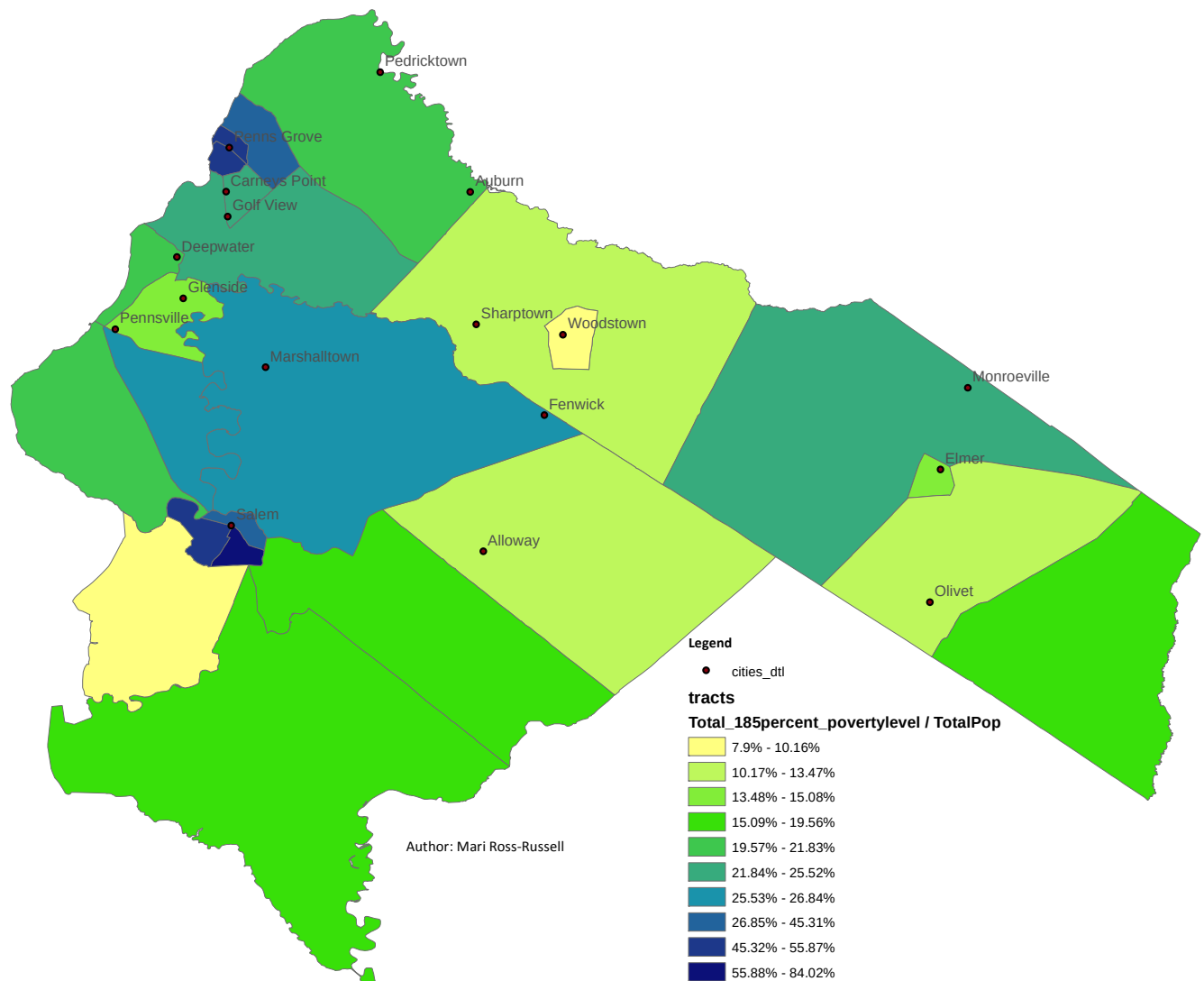
Source: Census Table S1701

Figure 40. Percentage of the population at or below 150% of the Federal Poverty level within Salem County by census tract, 2012



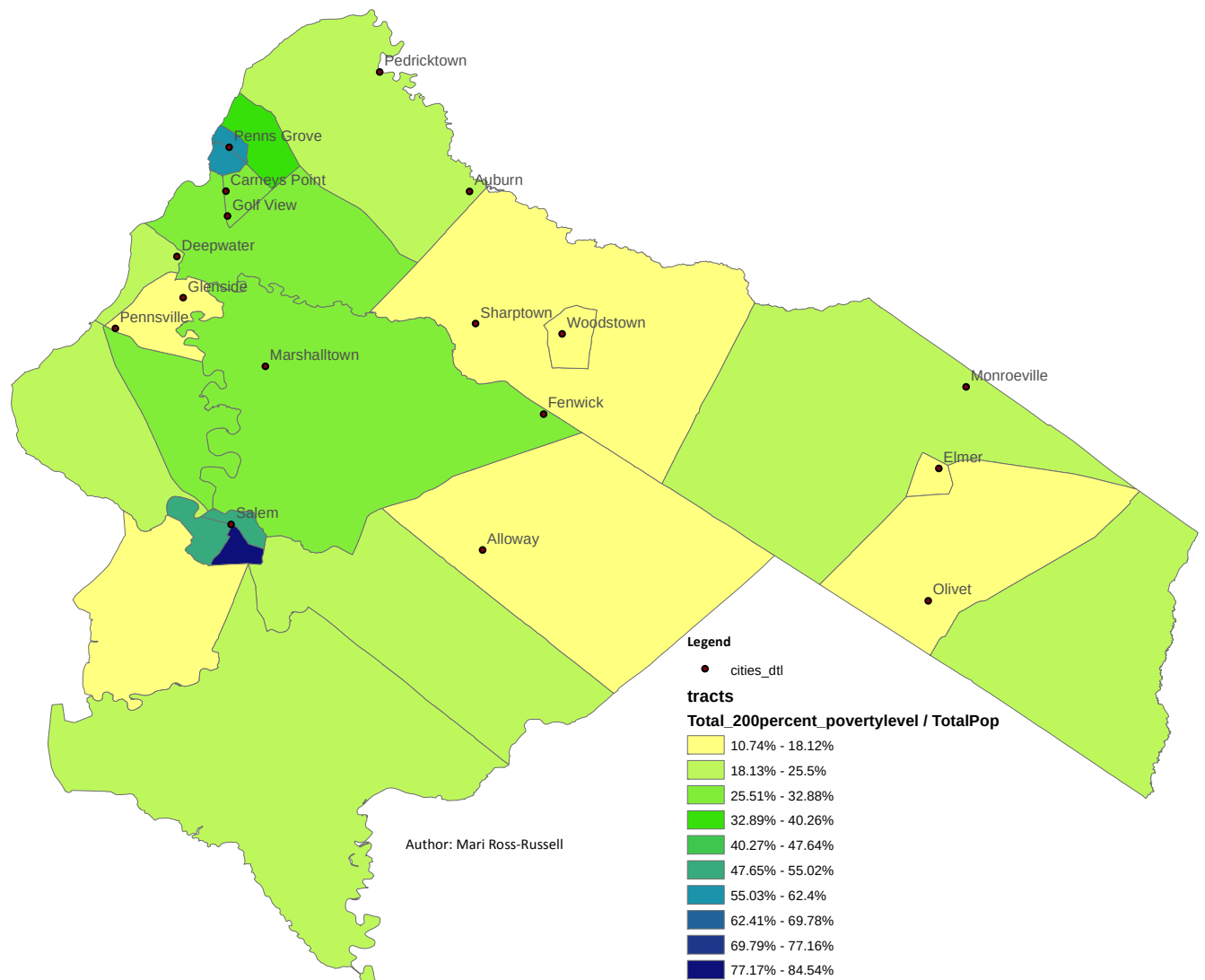
Source: Census Table S1701

Figure 41. Percentage of the population at or below 185% of the Federal Poverty level within Salem County by census tract, 2012



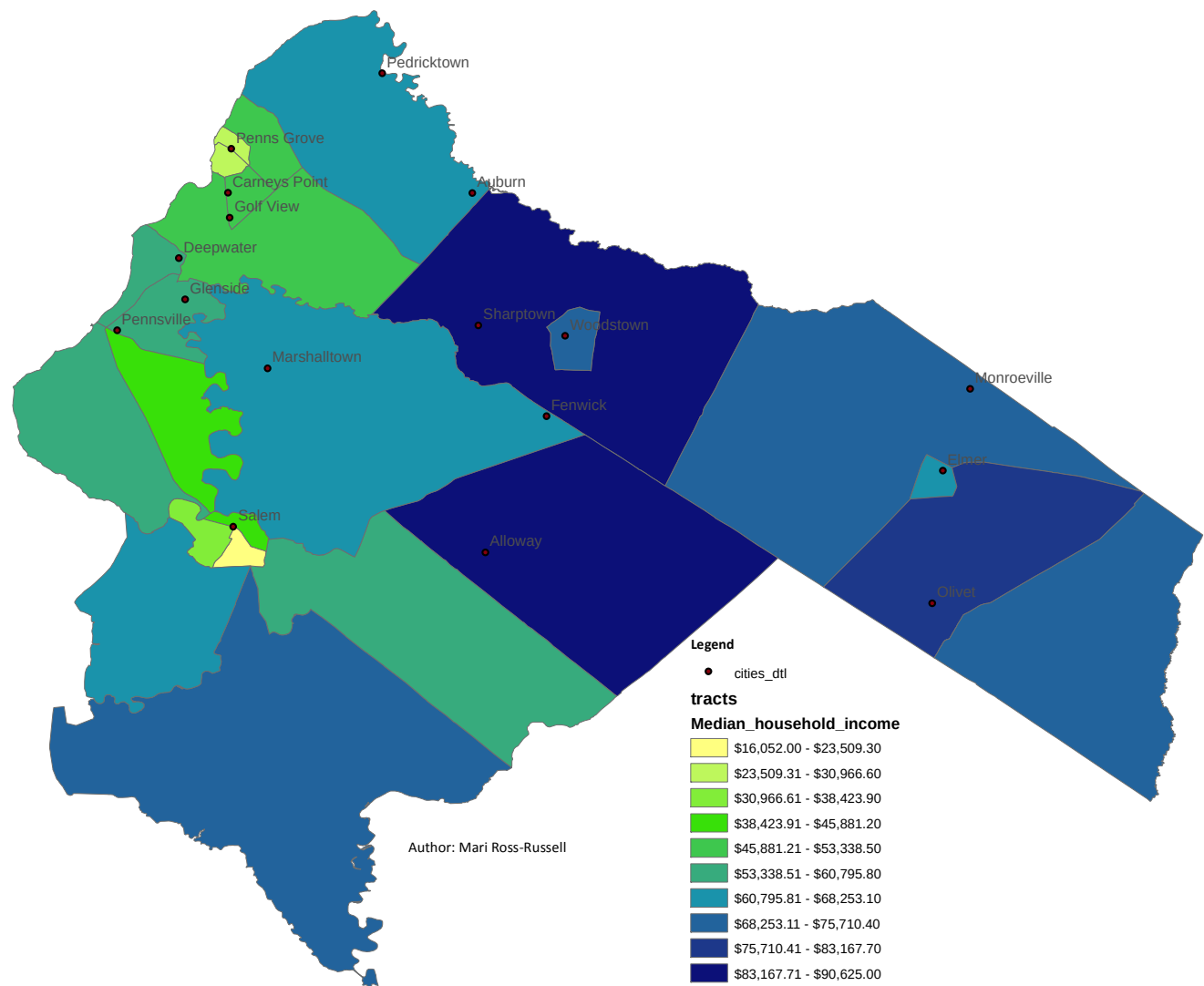
Source: Census Table S1701

Figure 42. Percentage of the population at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty level within Salem County by census tract, 2012



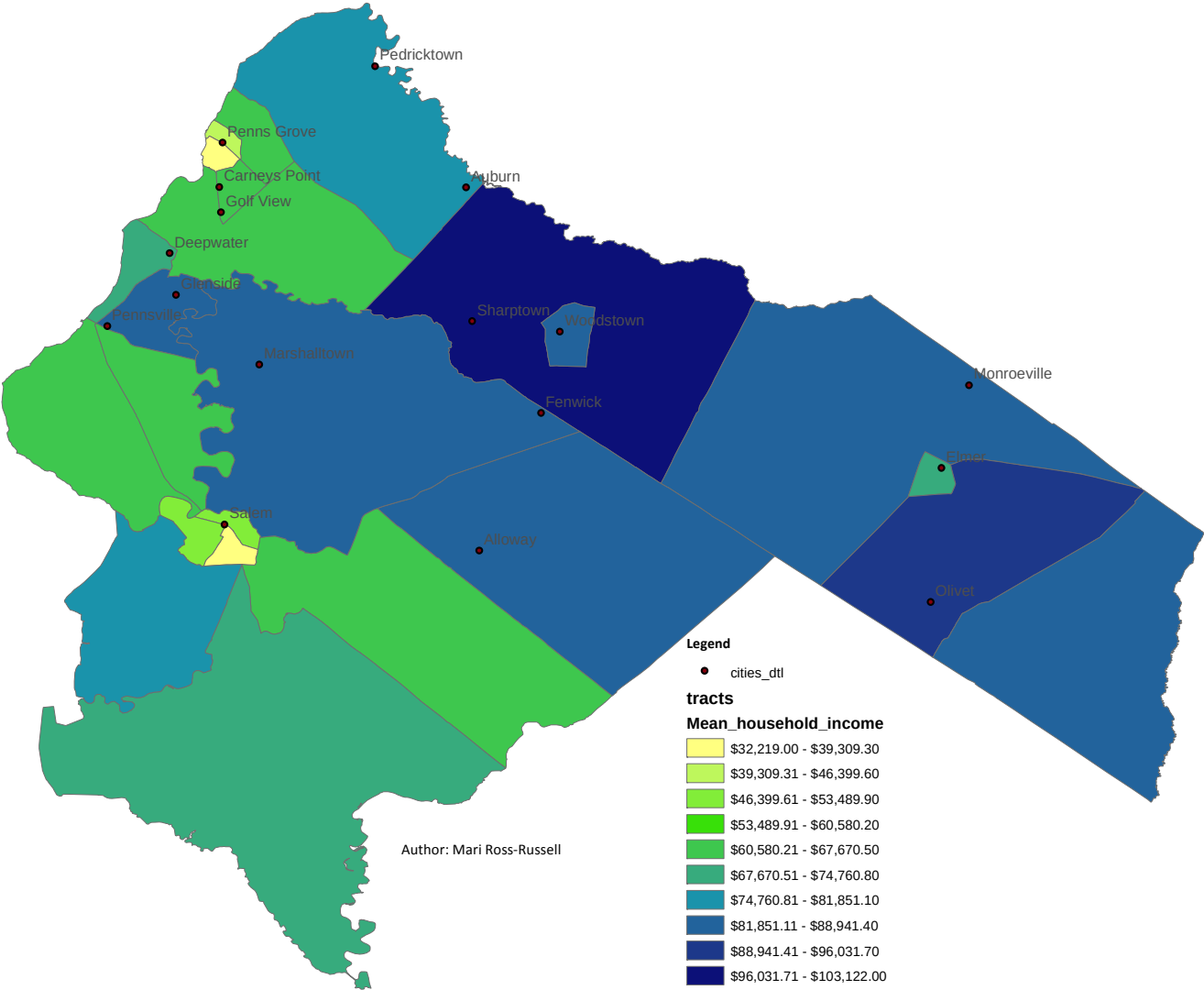
Source: Census Table S1701

Figure 43. Median (mid-point) household income for Salem County by census tract, 2012



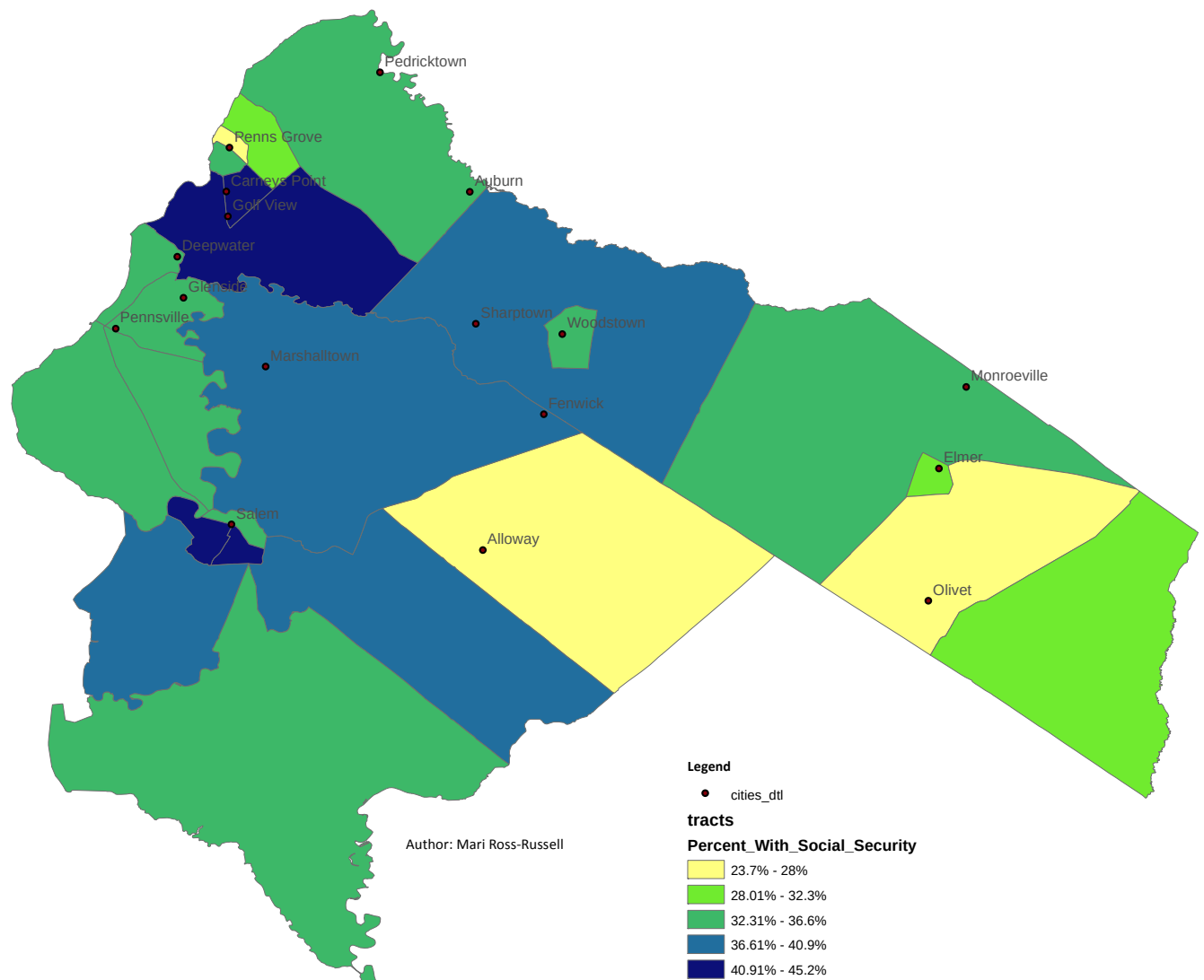
Source: Census Table DP03

Figure 44. Mean (average) household income for Salem County by census tract, 2012



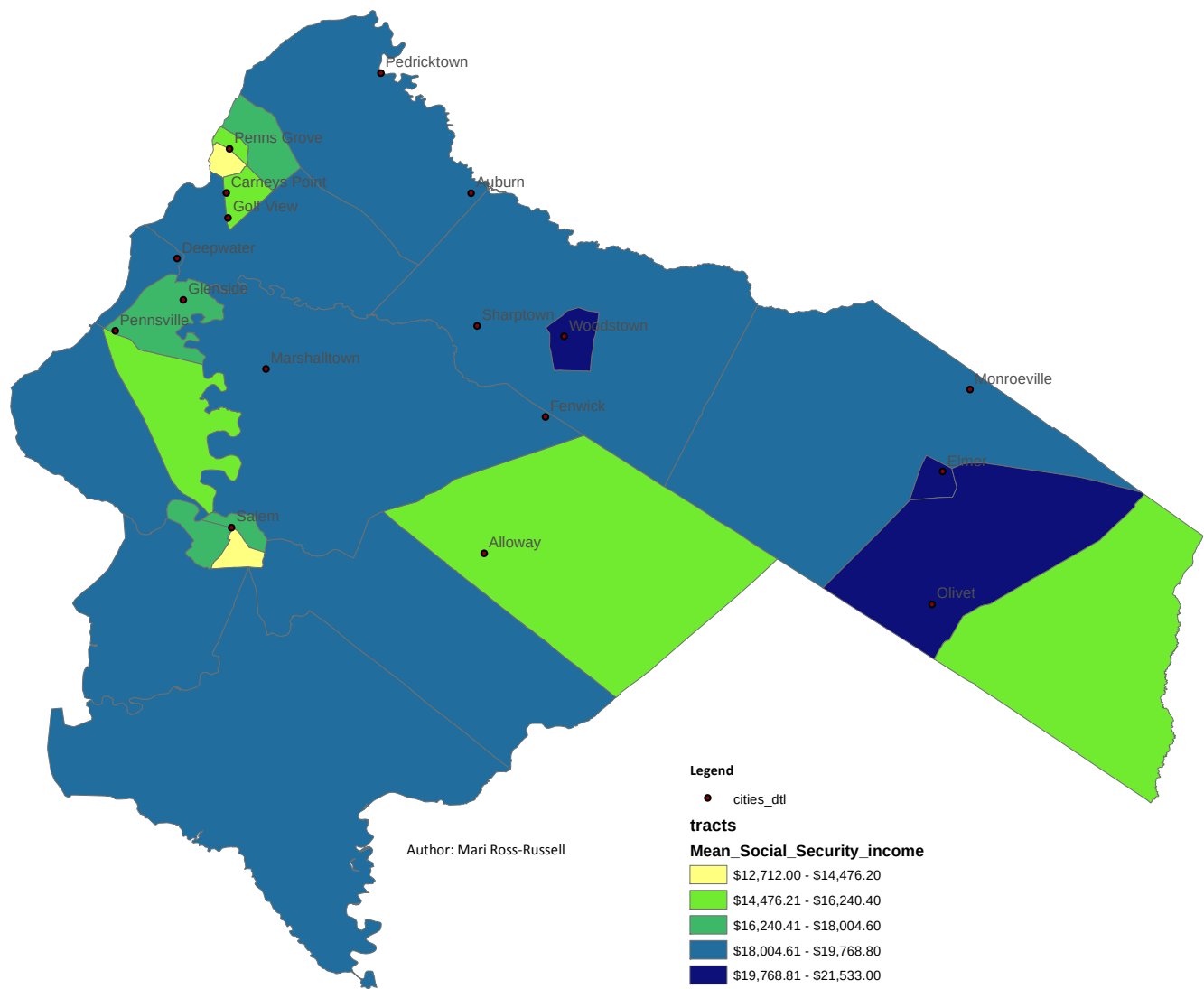
Source: Census Table DP03

Figure 45. Households with social security income in Salem County by census tract, 2012



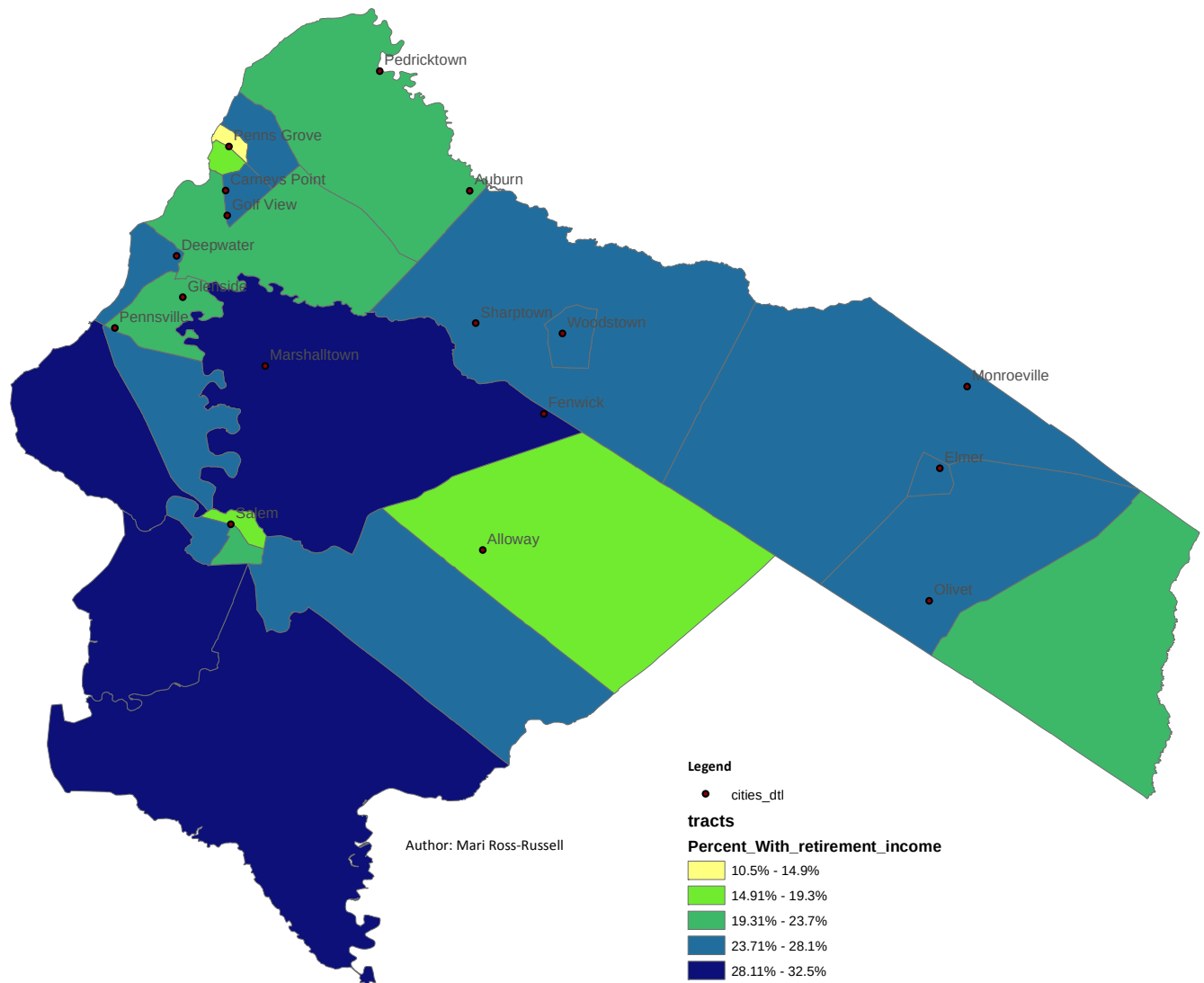
Source: Census Table DP03

Figure 46. Mean (average) social security income by household in Salem County by census tract, 2012



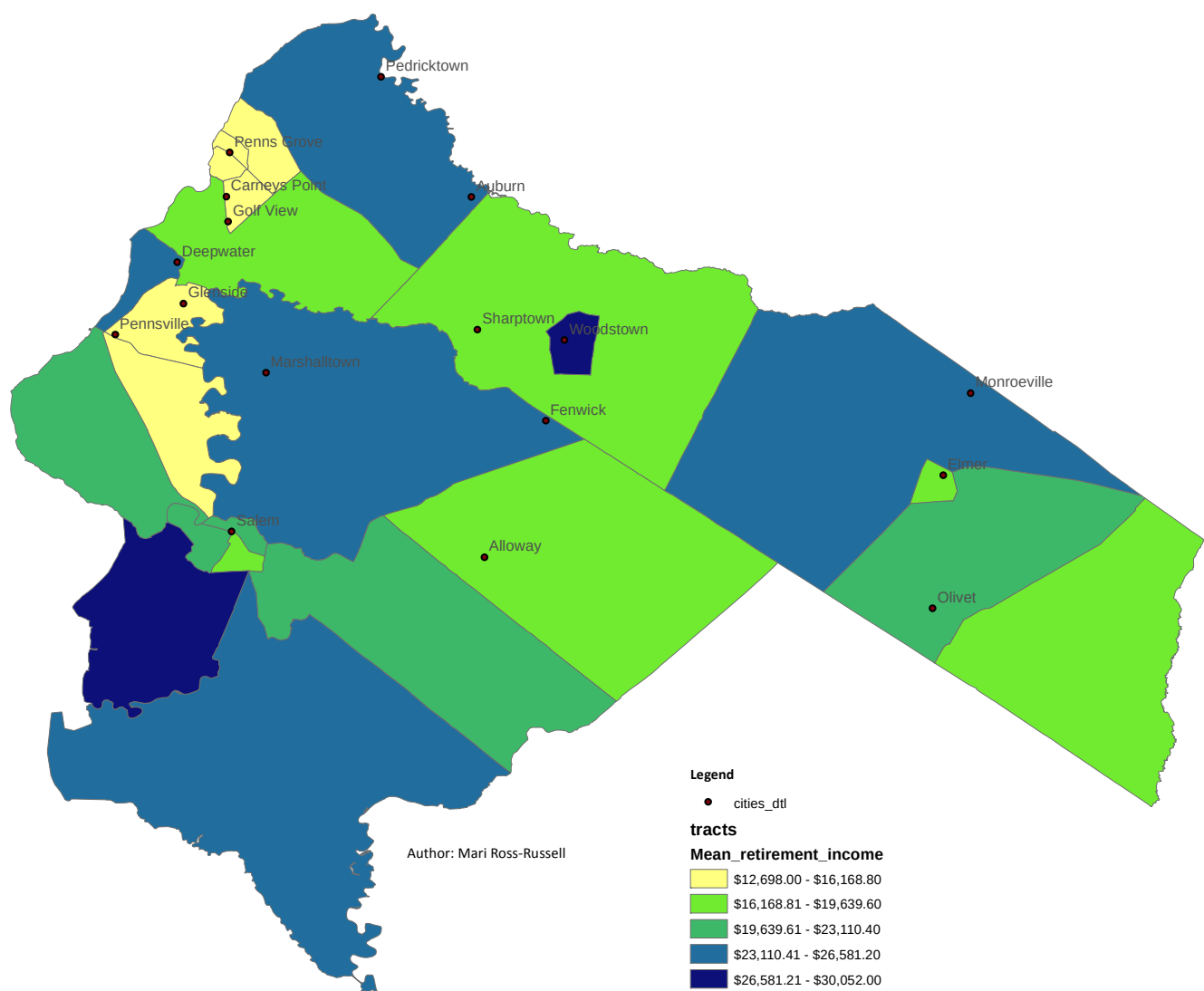
Source: Census Table DP03

Figure 47. Households with retirement income in Salem County by census tract, 2012



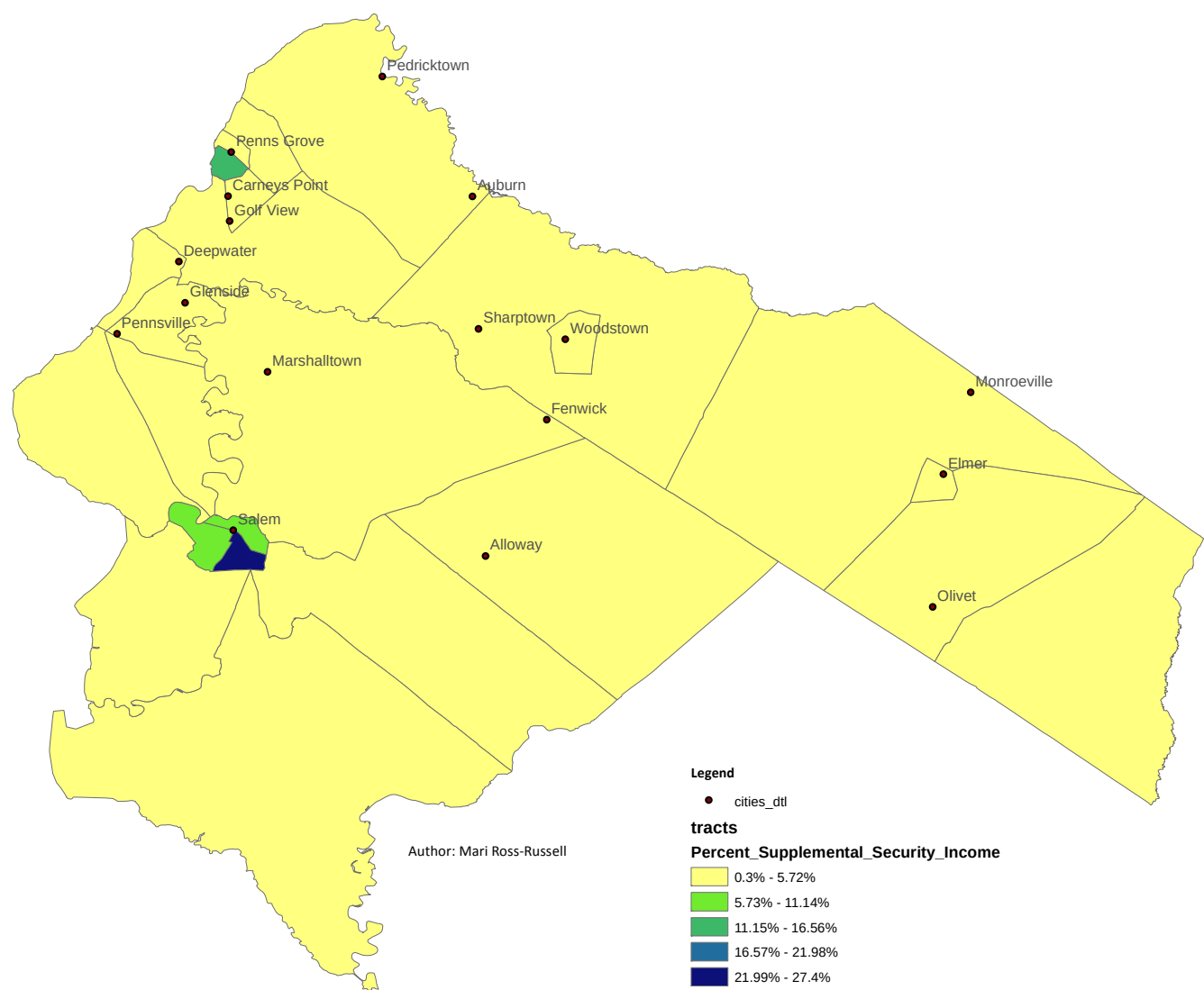
Source: Census Table DP03

Figure 48. Mean (average) retirement income by household in Salem County by census tract, 2012



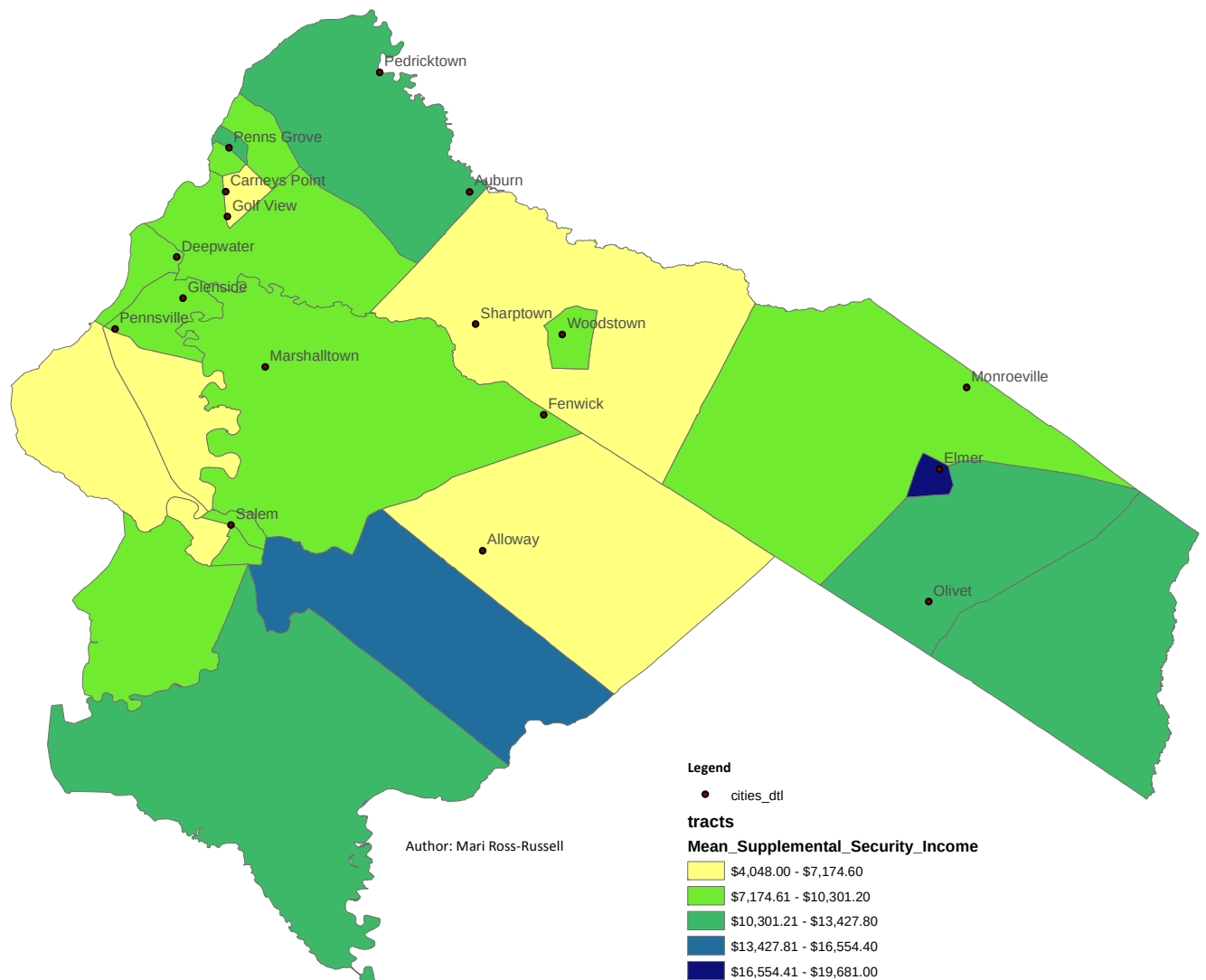
Source: Census Table DP03

Figure 49. Households with supplemental security income in Salem County by census tract, 2012



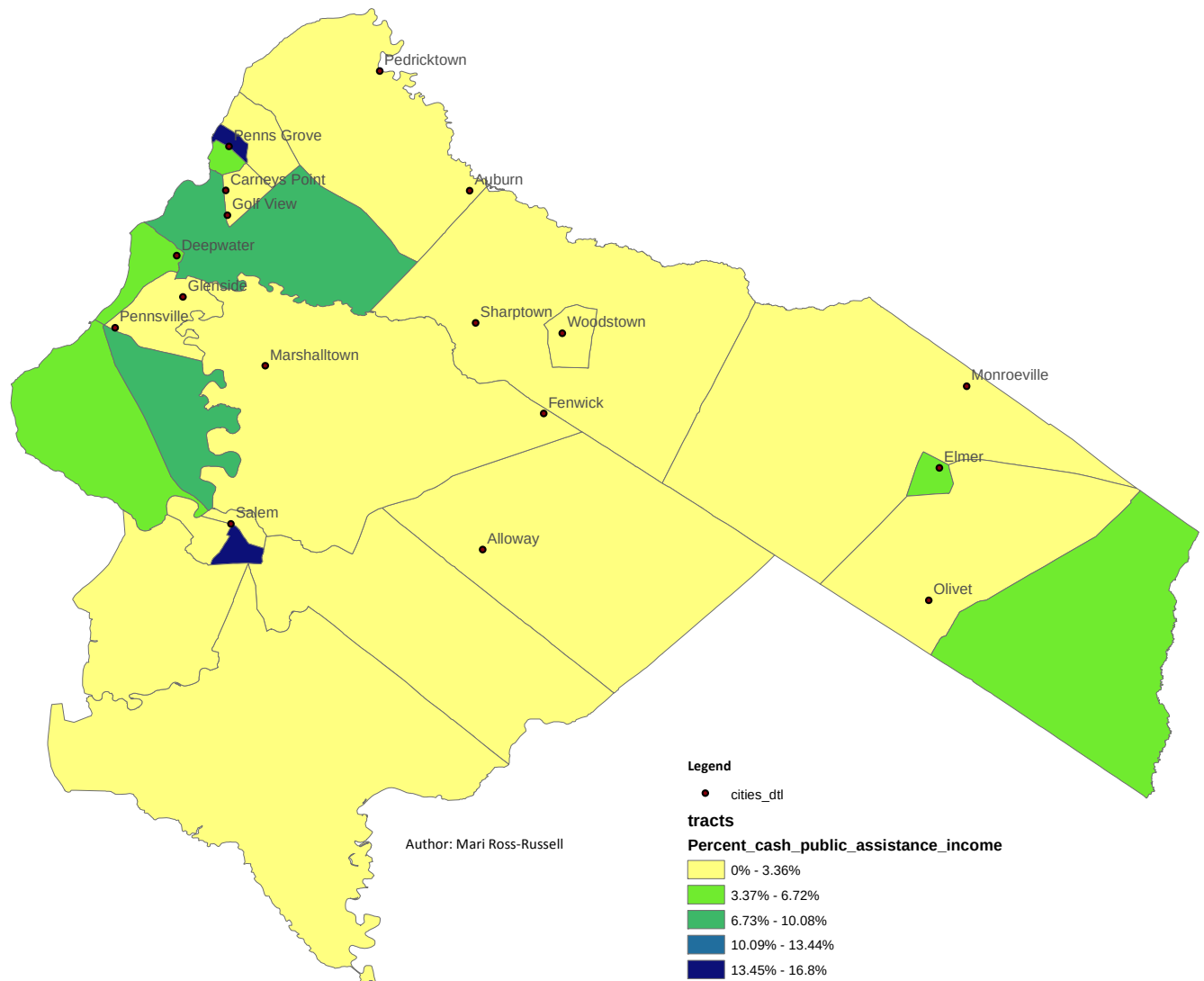
Source: Census Table DP03

Figure 50. Mean (average) supplemental security income by household in Salem County by census tract, 2012



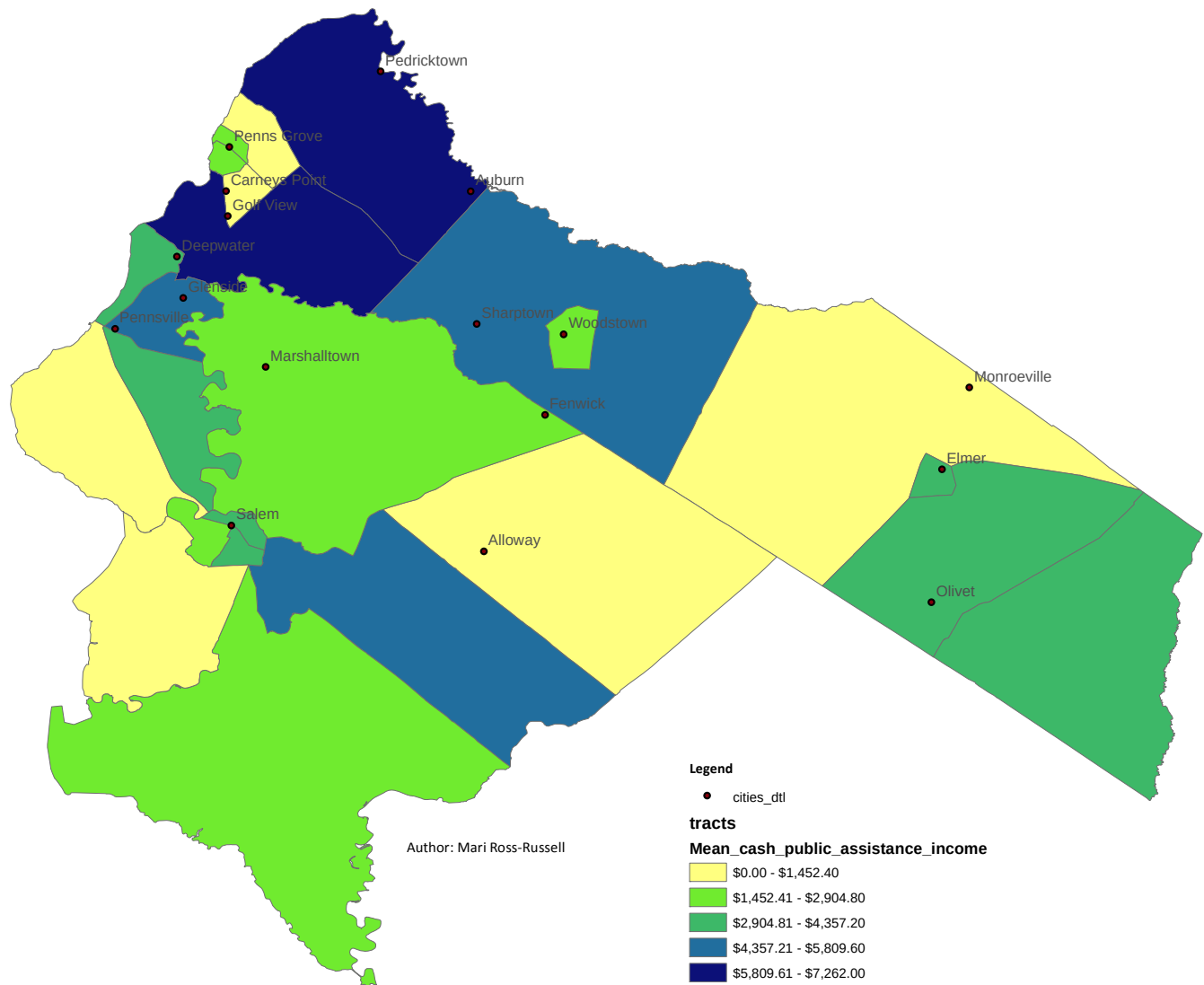
Source: Census Table DP03

Figure 51. Households with public assistance income in Salem County by census tract, 2012



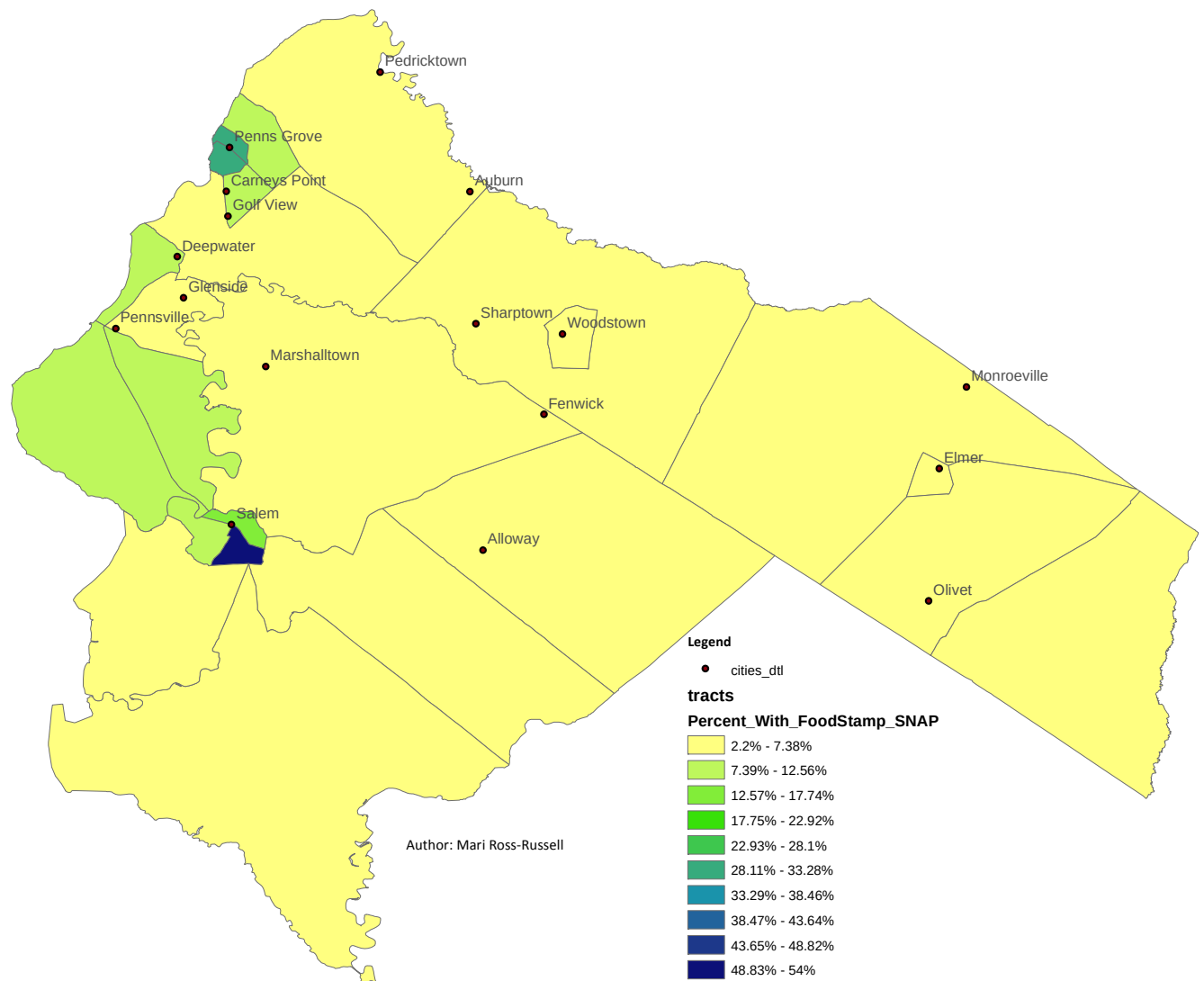
Source: Census Table DP03

Figure 52. Mean (average) public assistance income by household in Salem County by census tract, 2012



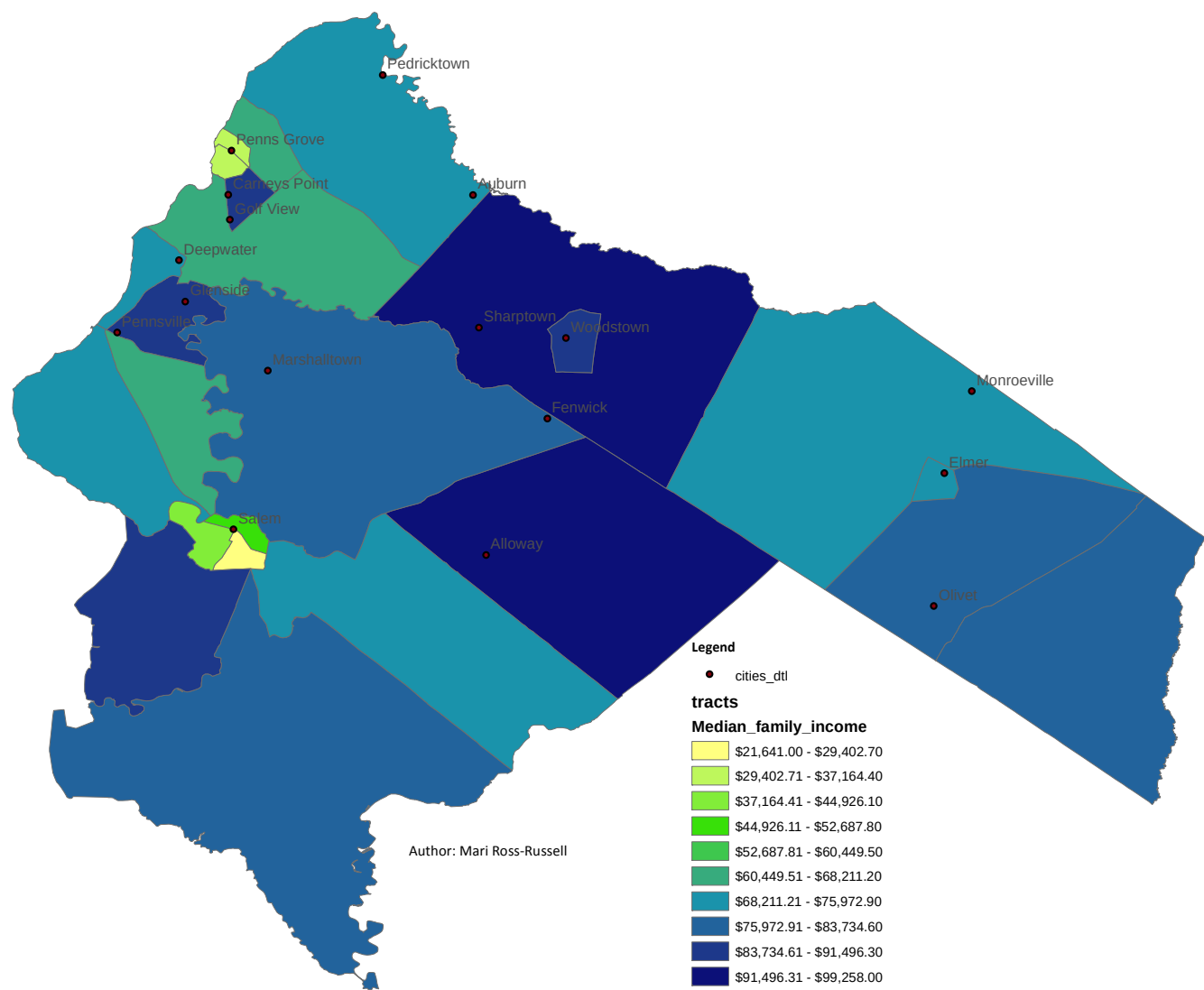
Source: Census Table DP03

Figure 53. Households with Food Stamp/Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program (SNAP) in Salem County by census tract, 2012



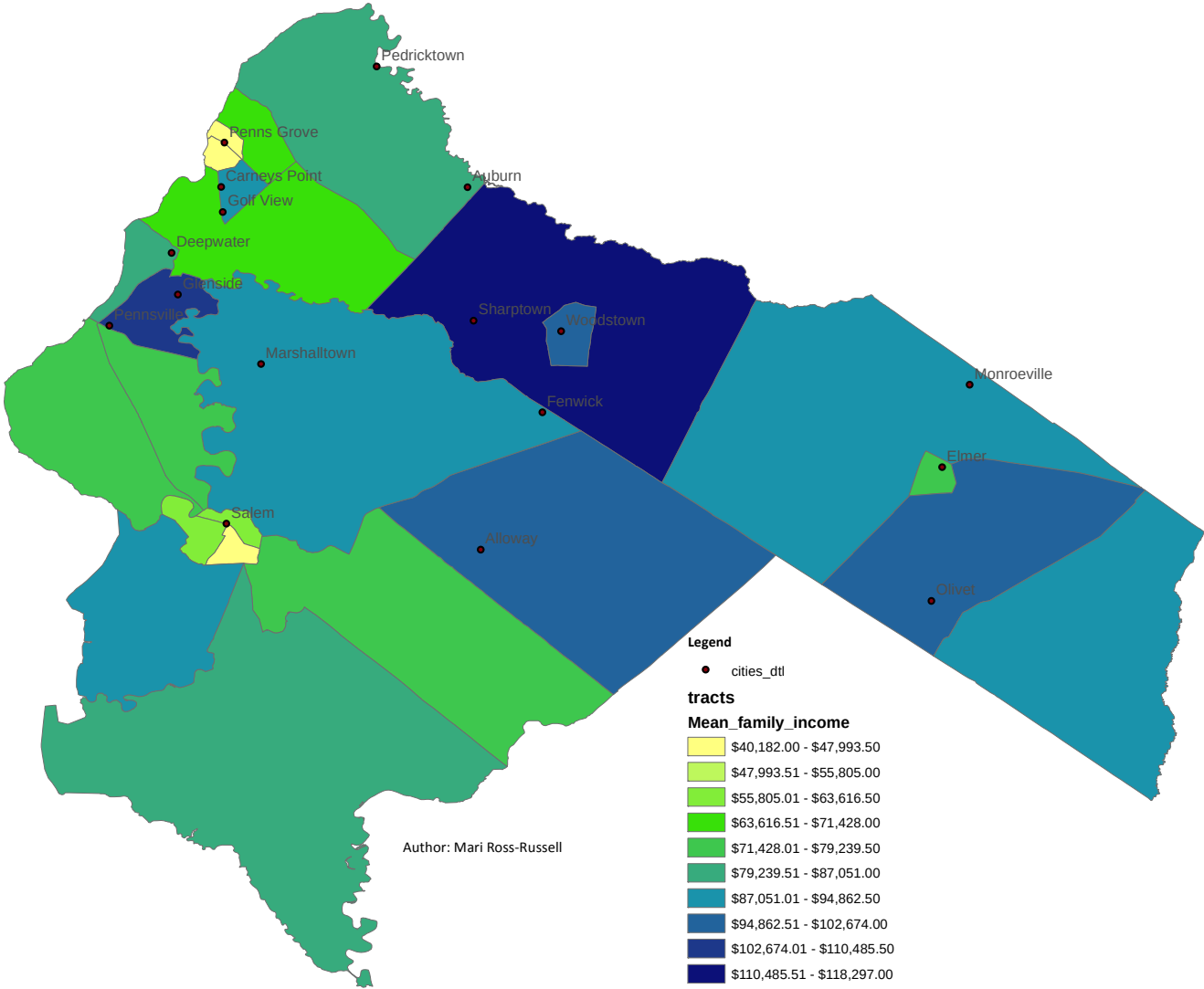
Source: Census Table DP03

Figure 54. Median (mid-point) family income by census tract for Salem County, 2012



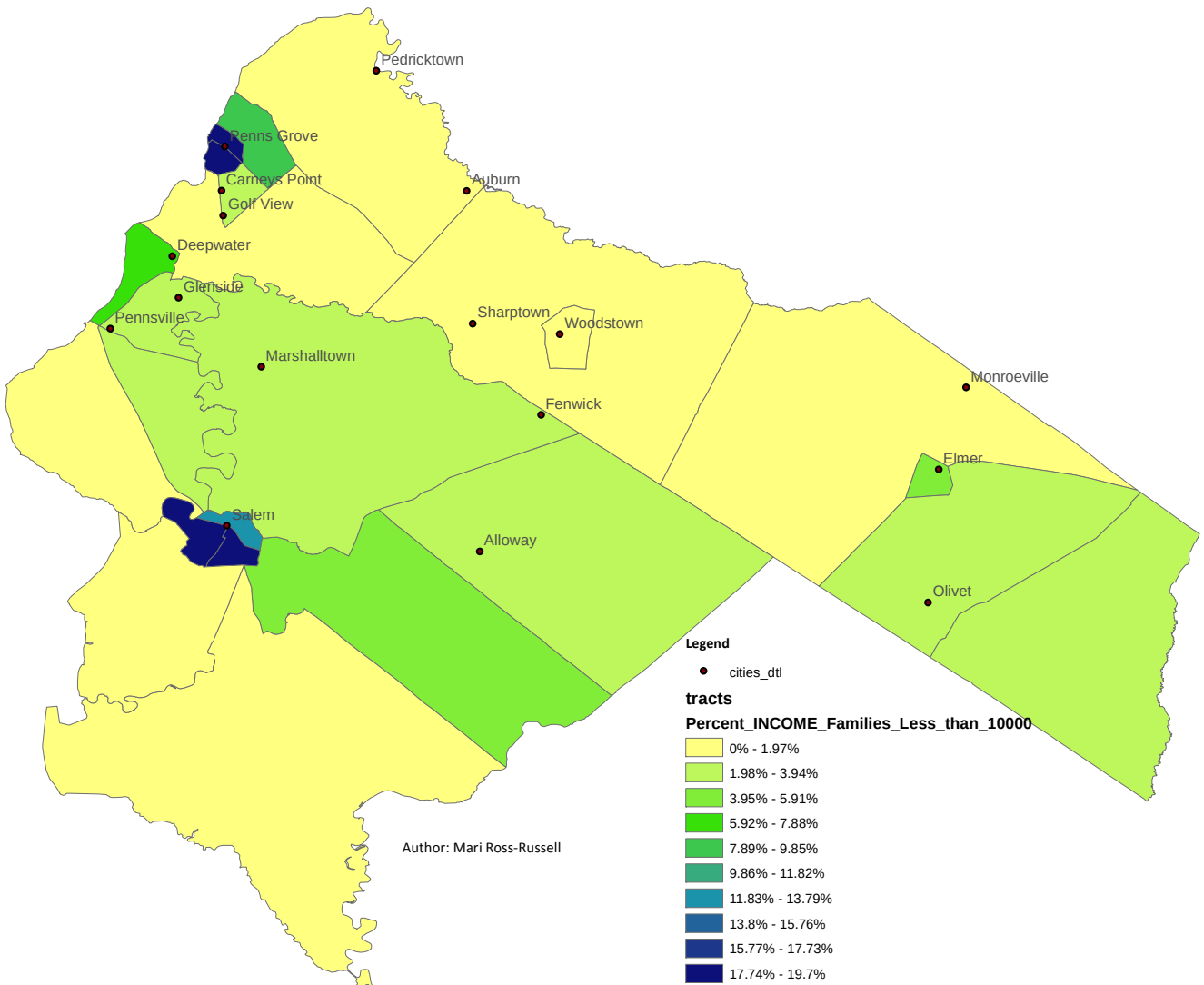
Source: Census Table DP03

Figure 55. Mean (average) family income by census tract for Salem County, 2012



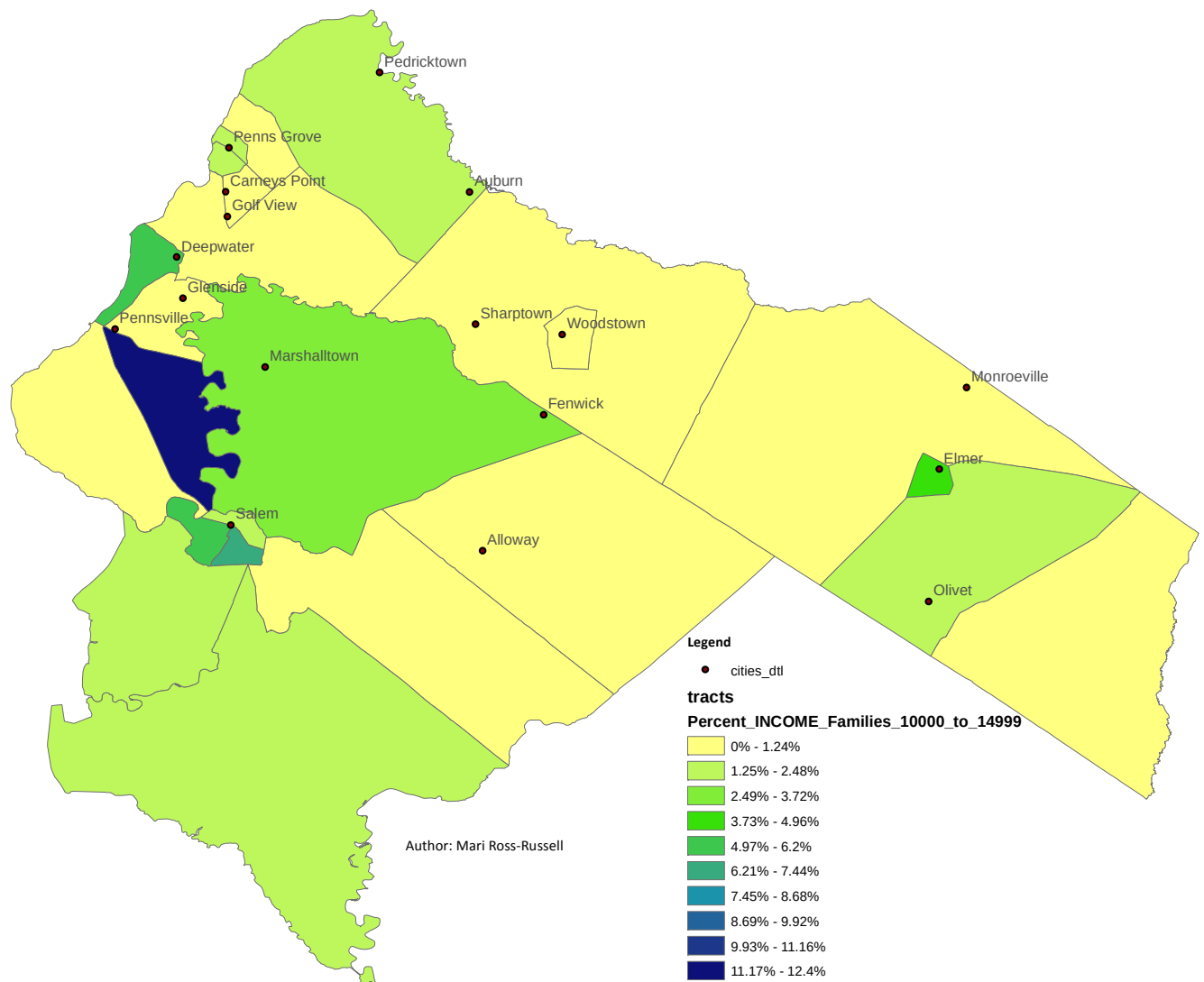
Source: Census Table DP03

Figure 56. Percentage of families within Salem County with income less than \$10,000 by census tract, 2012



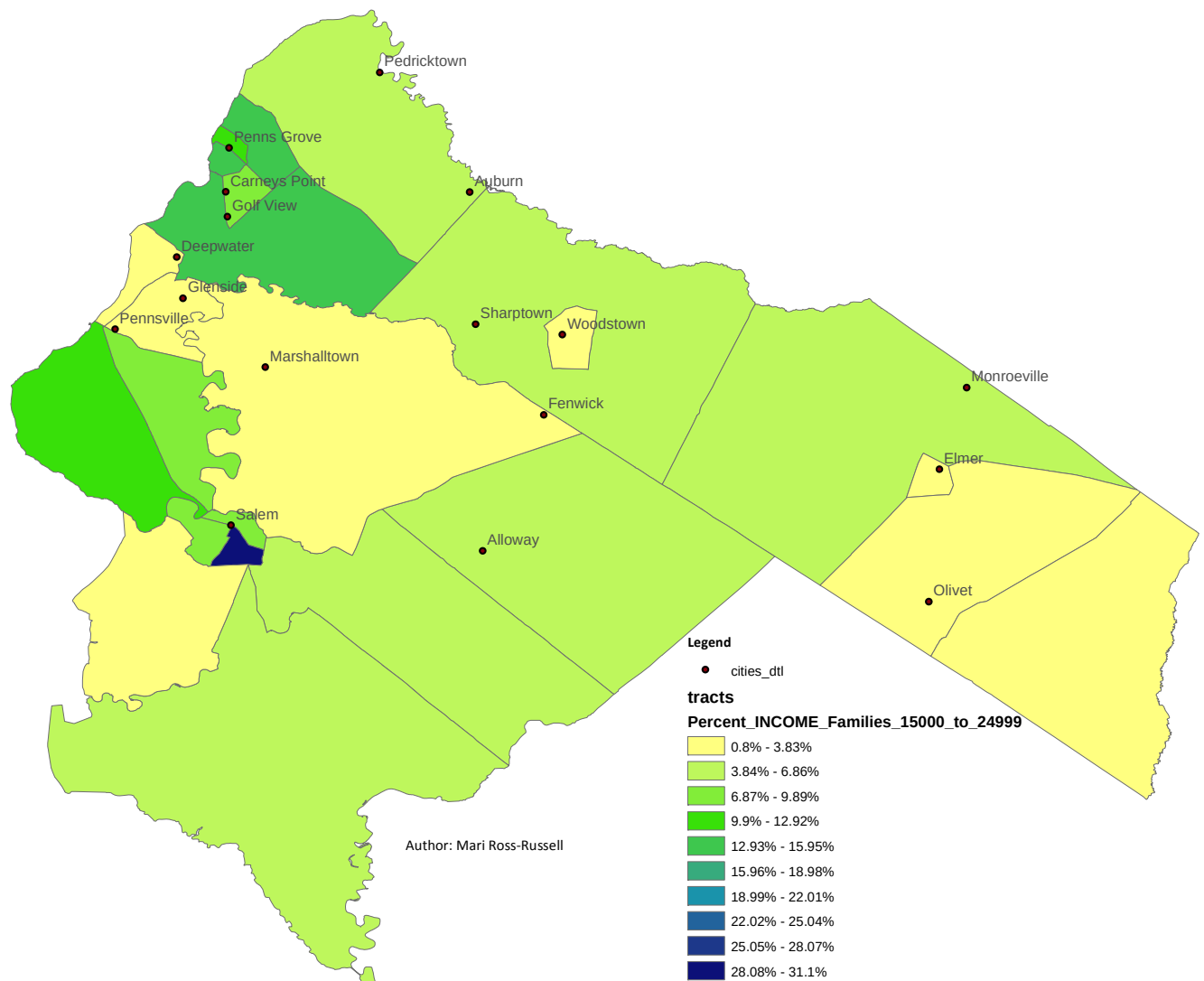
Source: Census Table DP03

Figure 57. Percentage of families within Salem County with income between \$10,000 and \$14,999 by census tract, 2012



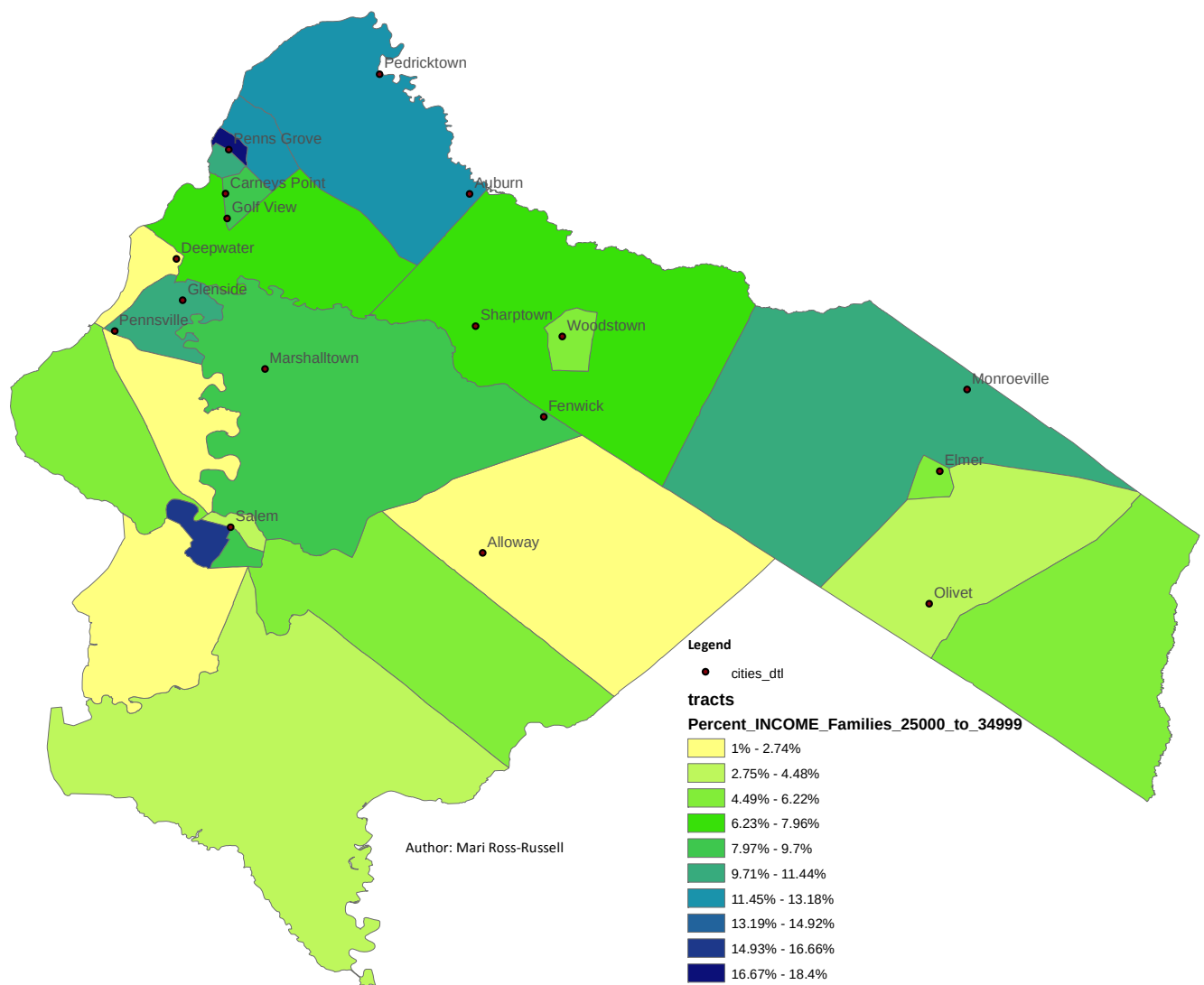
Source: Census Table DP03

Figure 58. Percentage of families within Salem County with income between \$15,000 and \$24,999 by census tract, 2012



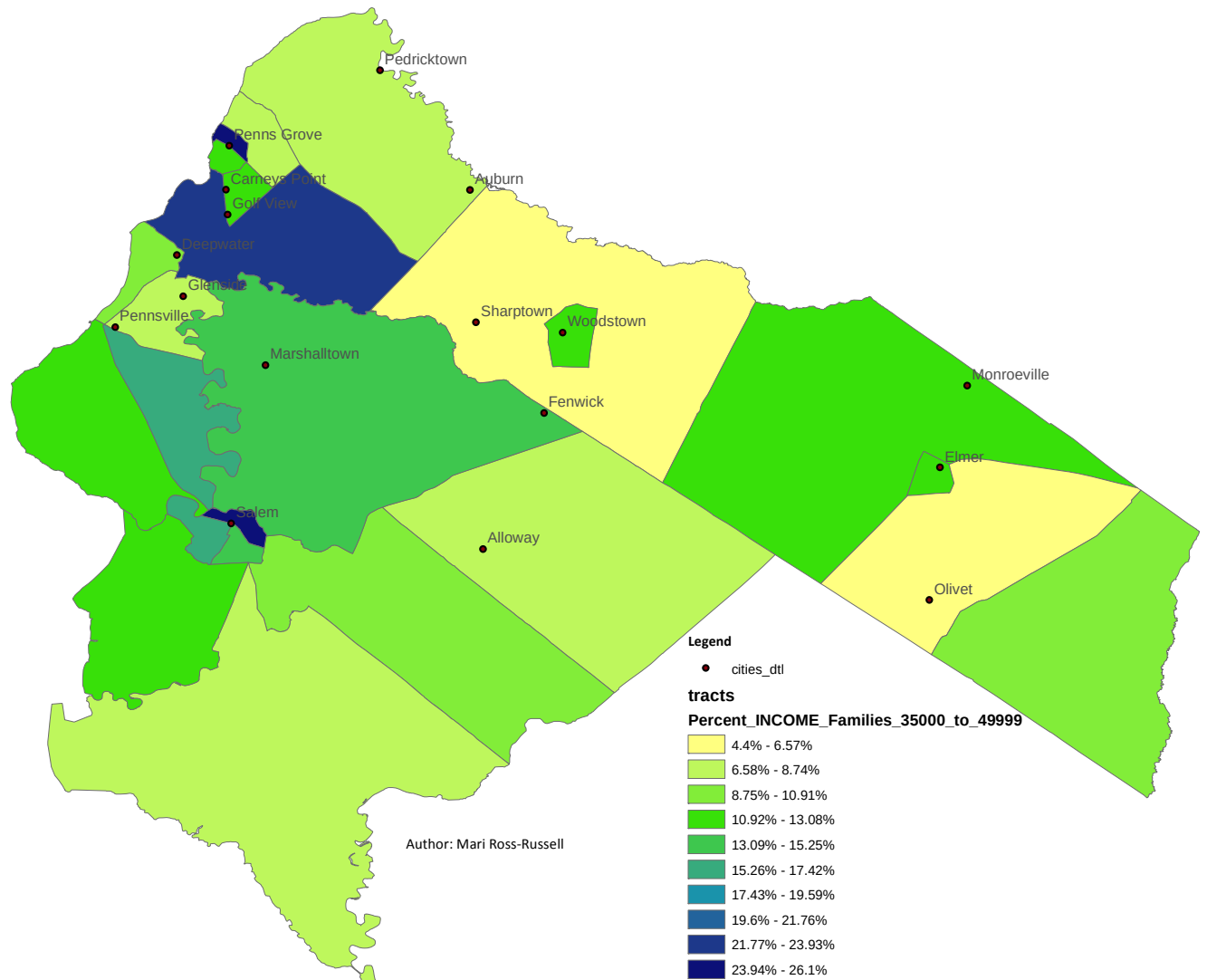
Source: Census Table DP03

Figure 59. Percentage of families within Salem County with income between \$25,000 and \$34,999 by census tract, 2012



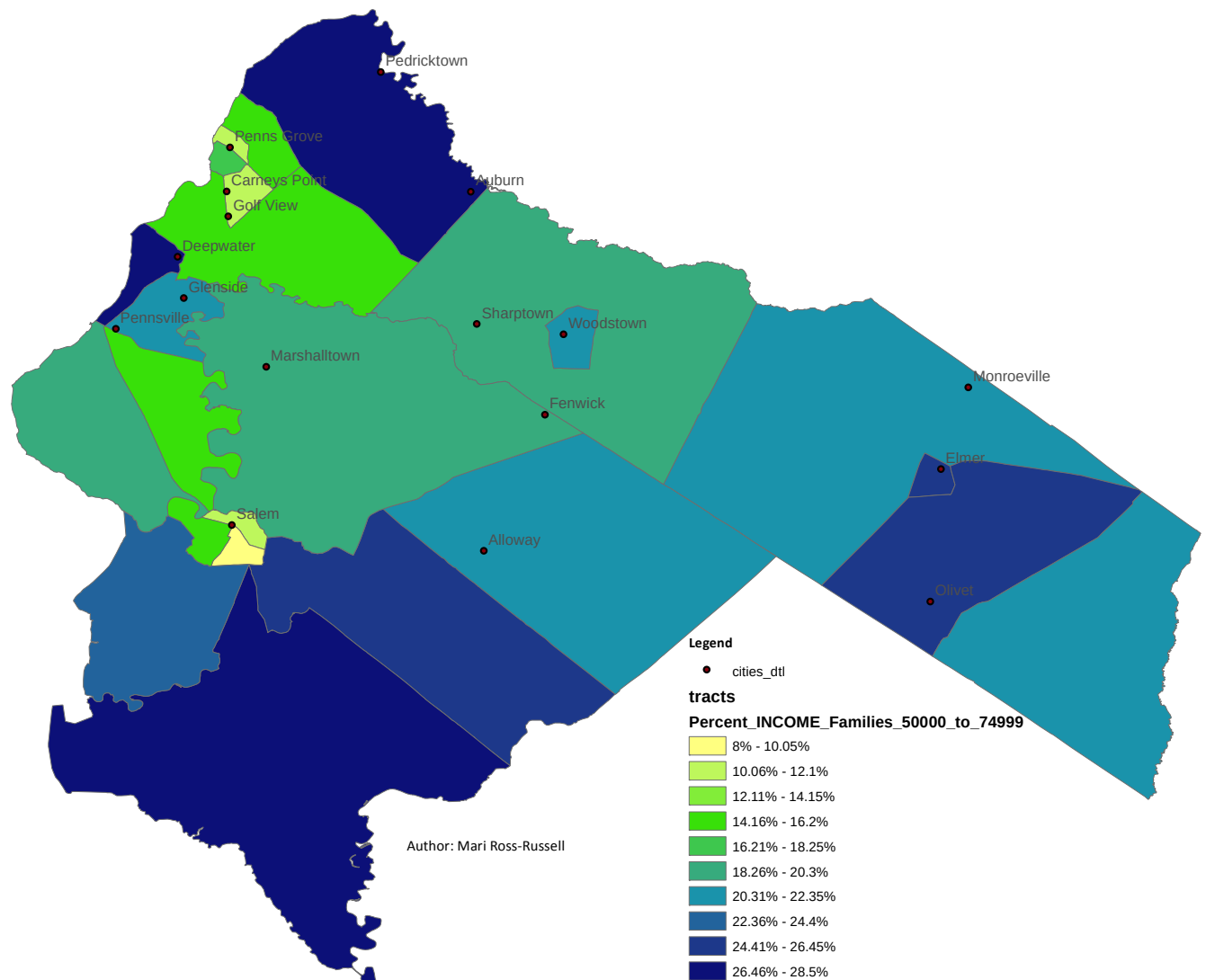
Source: Census Table DP03

Figure 60. Percentage of families within Salem County with income between \$35,000 and \$44,999 by census tract, 2012



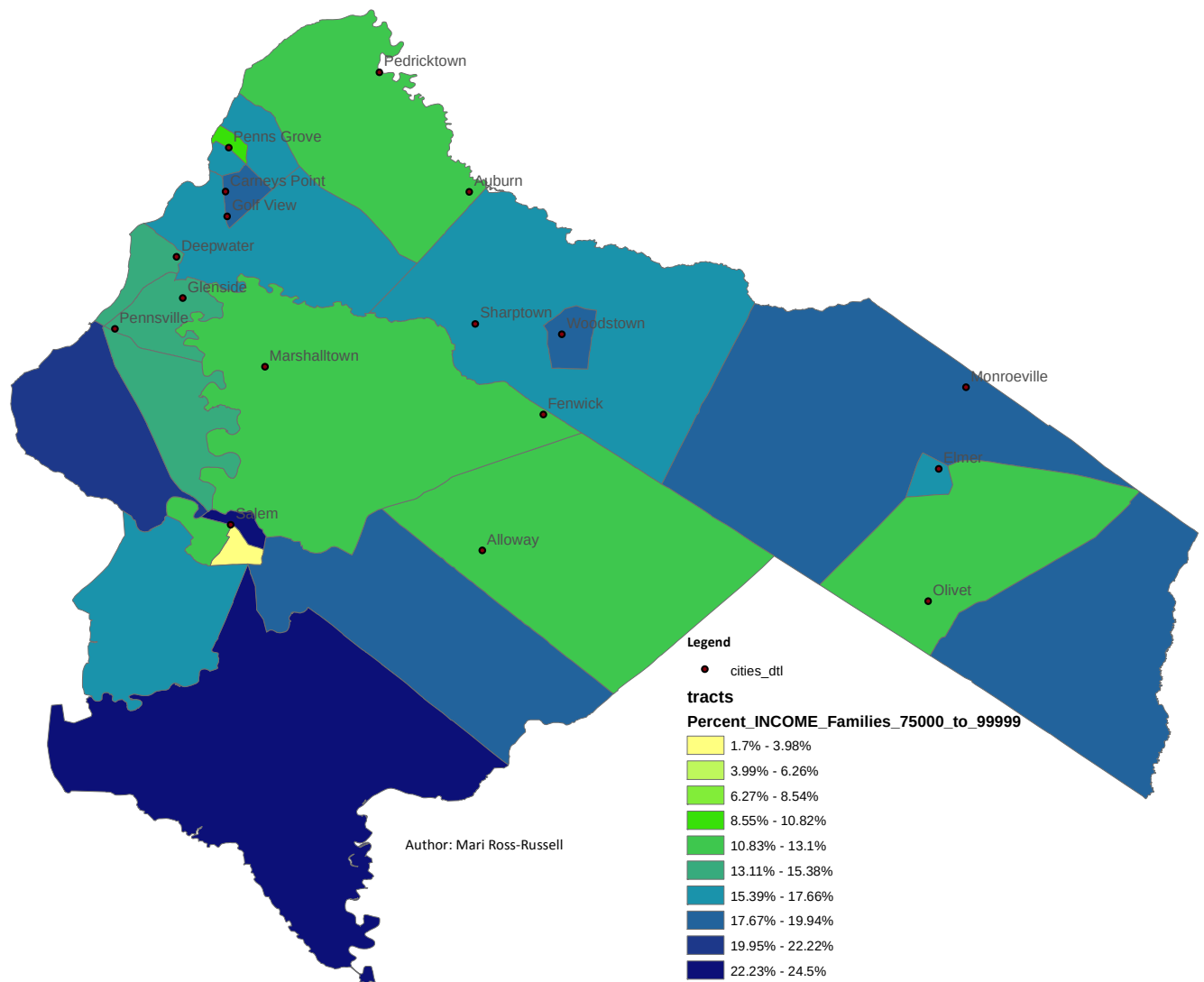
Source: Census Table DP03

Figure 61. Percentage of families within Salem County with income between \$50,000 and \$74,999 by census tract, 2012



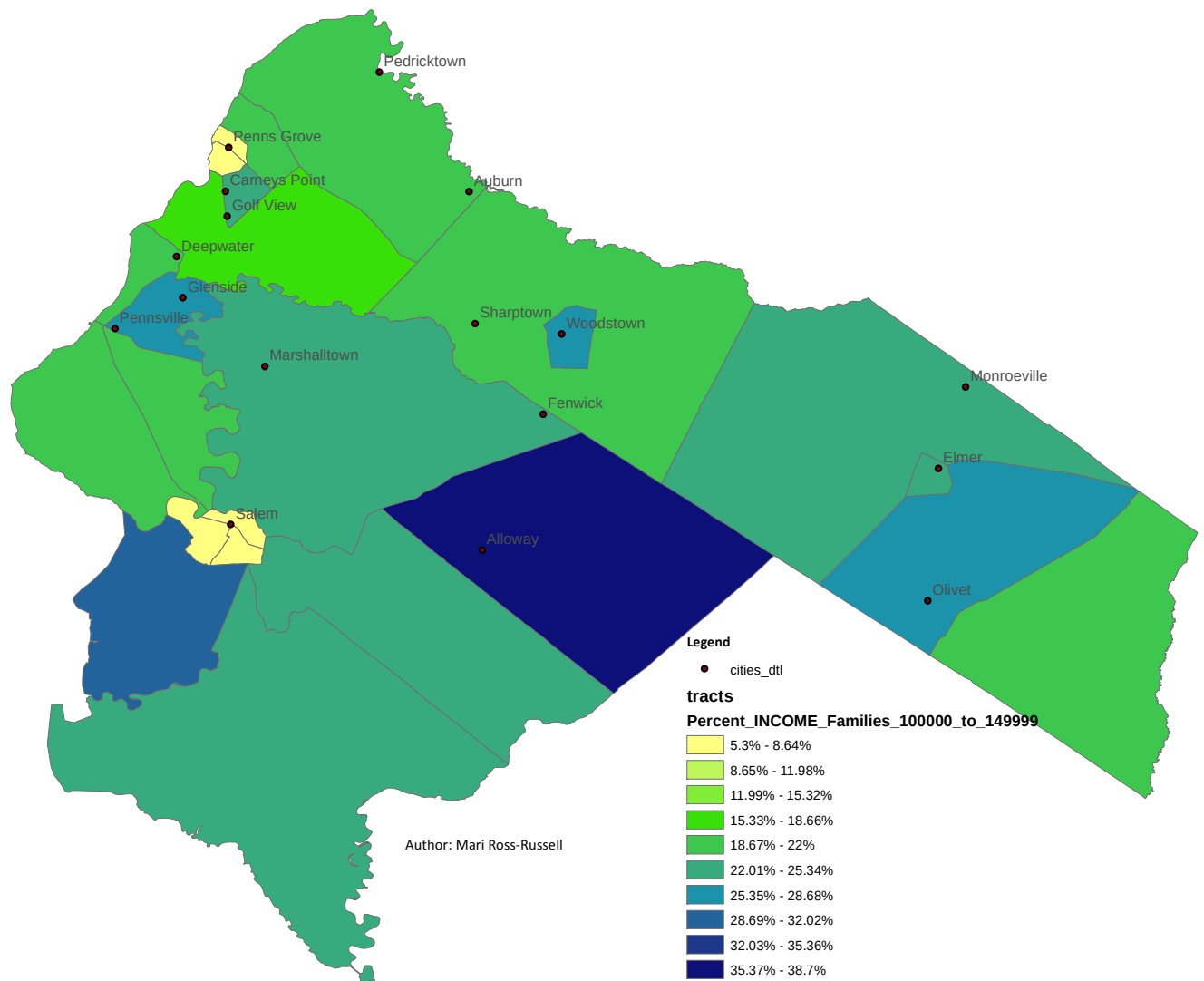
Source: Census Table DP03

Figure 62. Percentage of families within Salem County with income between \$75,000 and \$99,999 by census tract, 2012



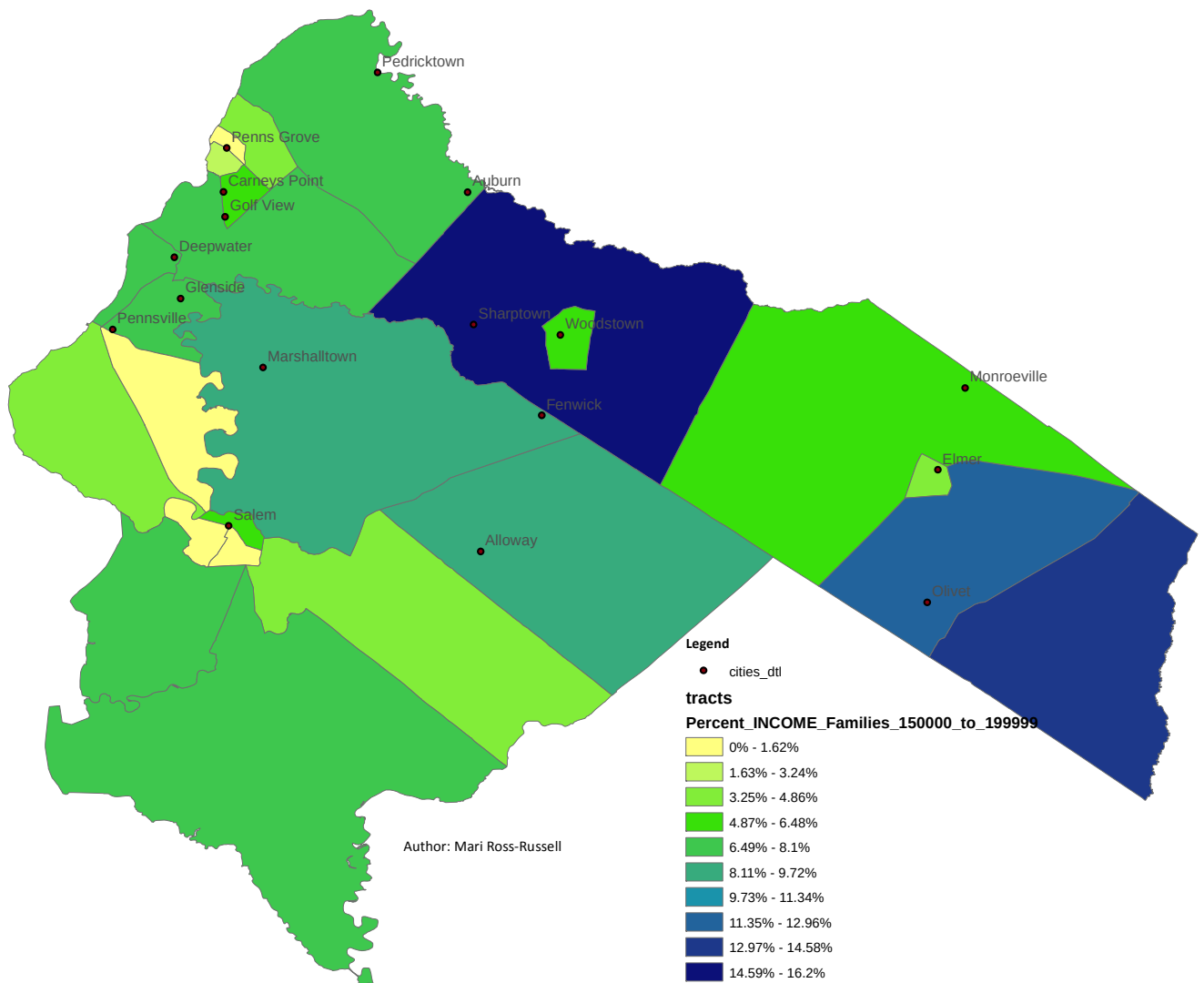
Source: Census Table DP03

Figure 63. Percentage of families within Salem County with income between \$100,000 and \$149,999 by census tract, 2012



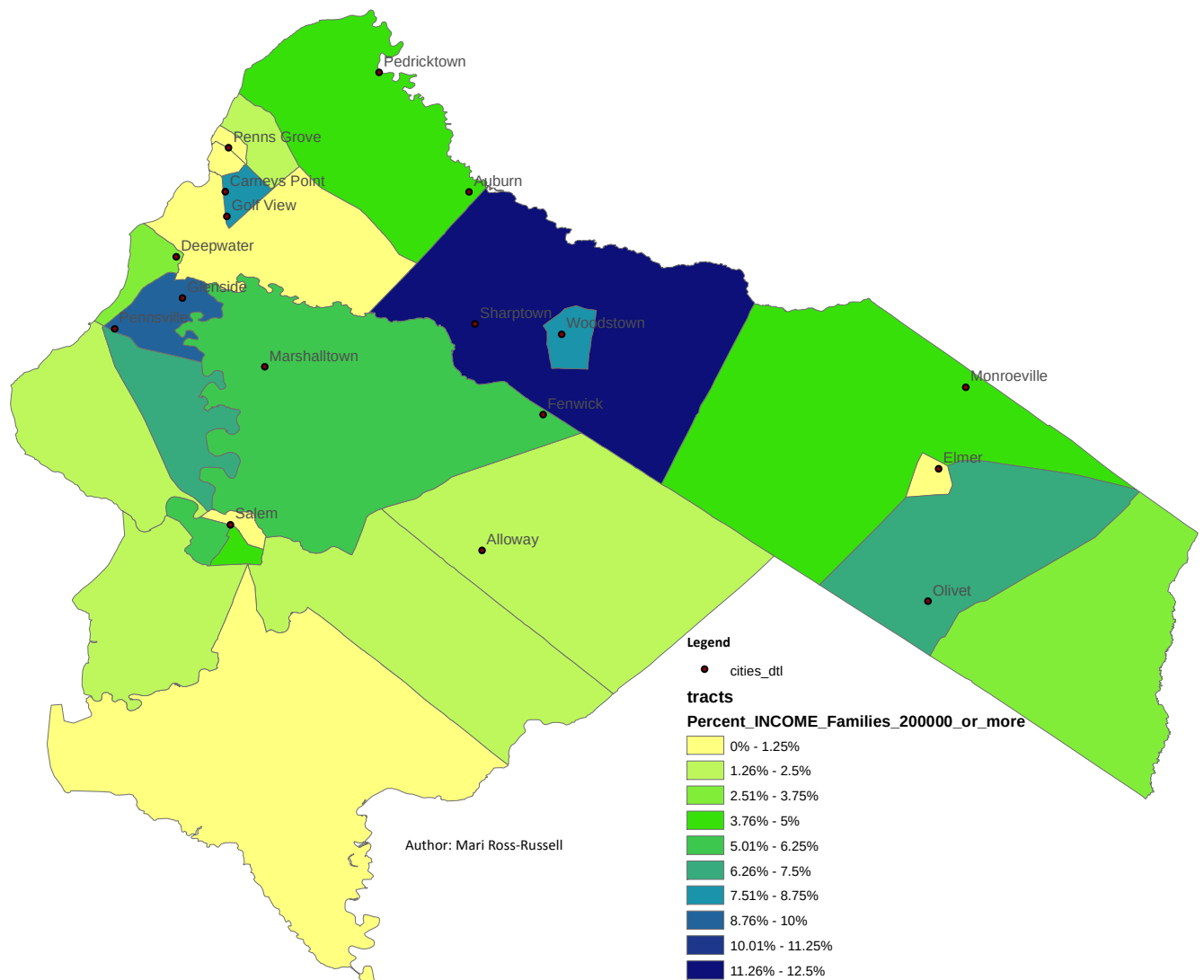
Source: Census Table DP03

Figure 64. Percentage of families within Salem County with income between \$150,000 and \$199,999 by census tract, 2012



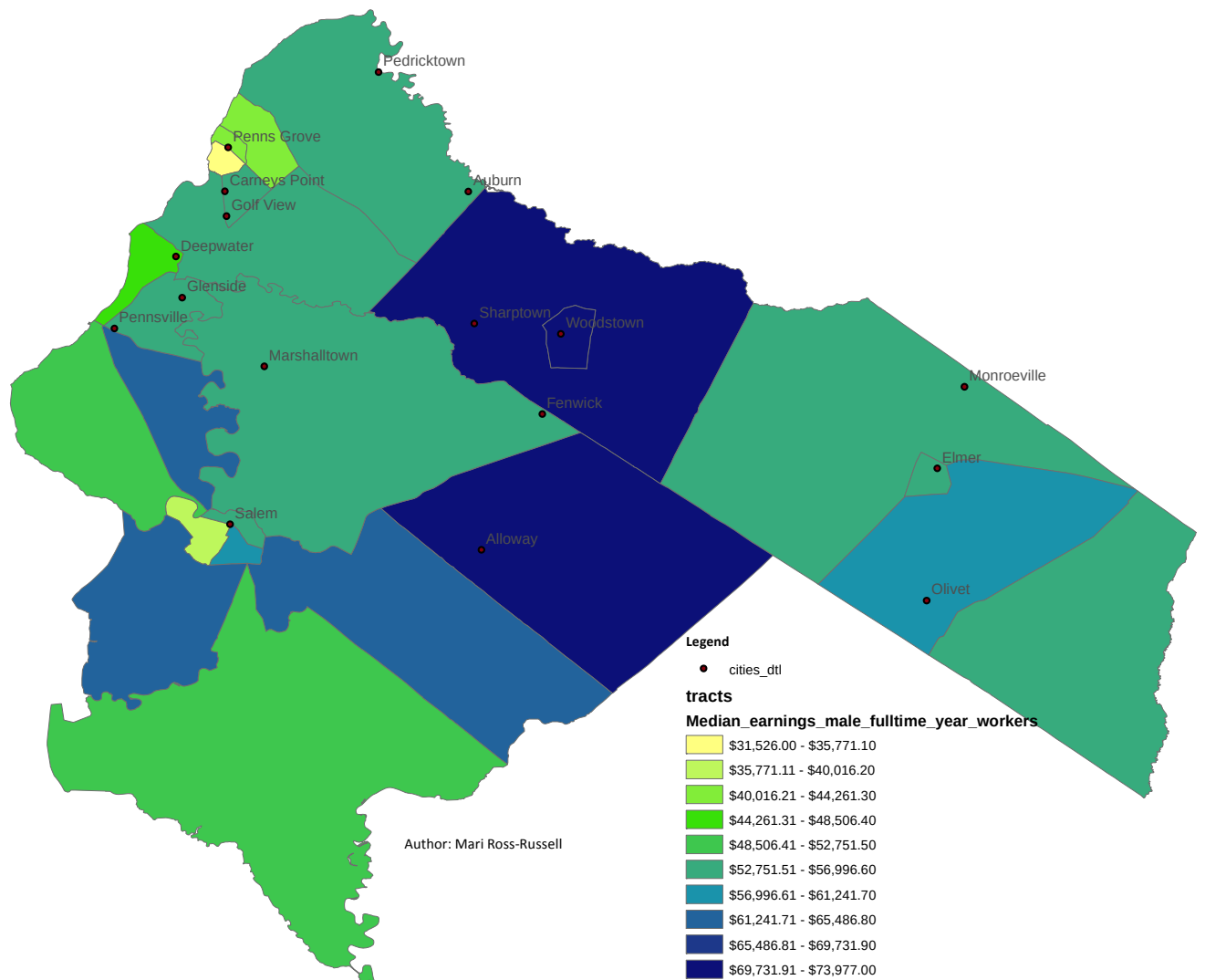
Source: Census Table DP03

Figure 65. Percentage of families within Salem County with income between \$200,000 and over by census tract, 2012



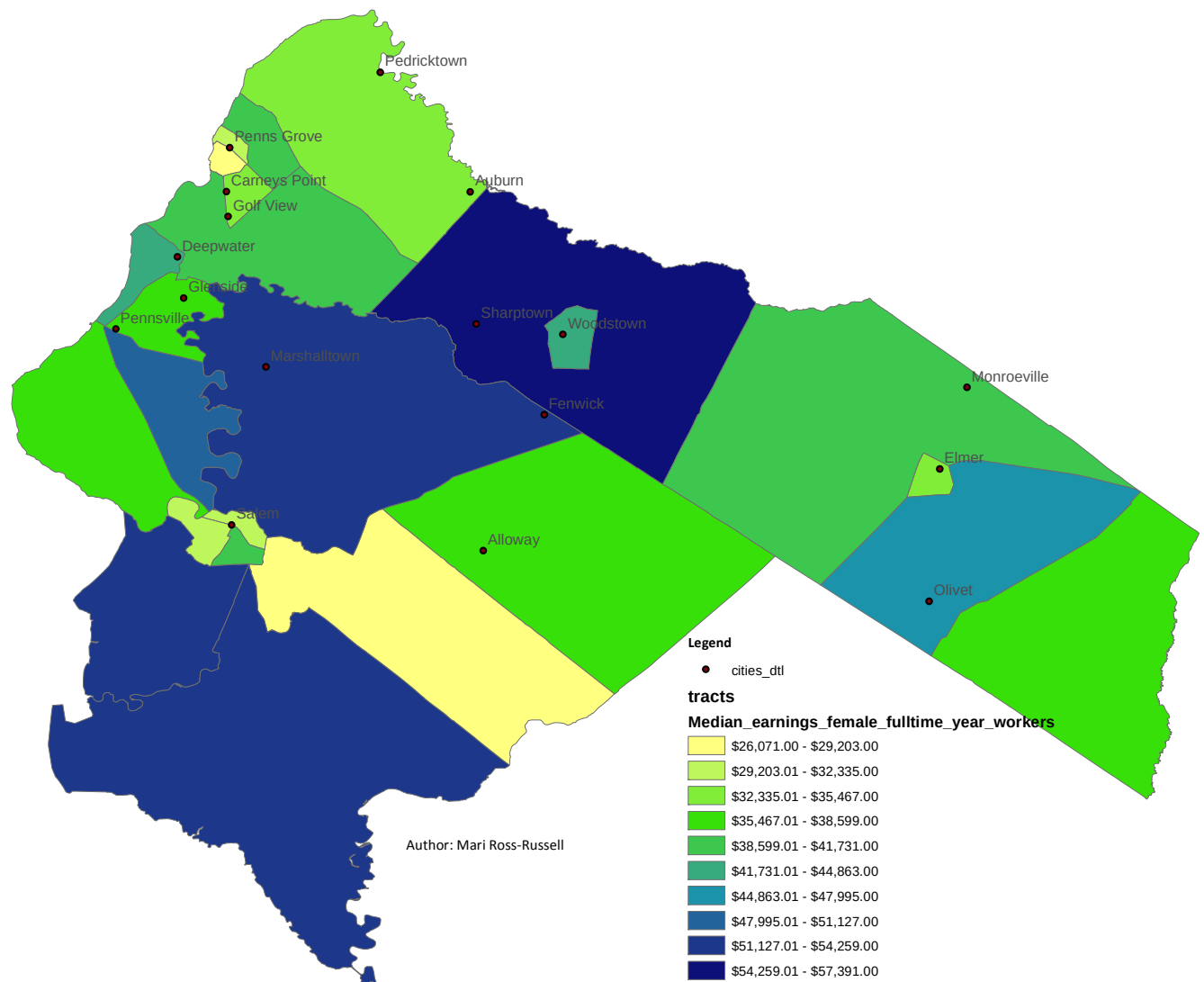
Source: Census Table DP03

Figure 66. Median (mid-point) earnings for males who worked full-time for the whole year (12 months) in Salem County by census tract, 2012



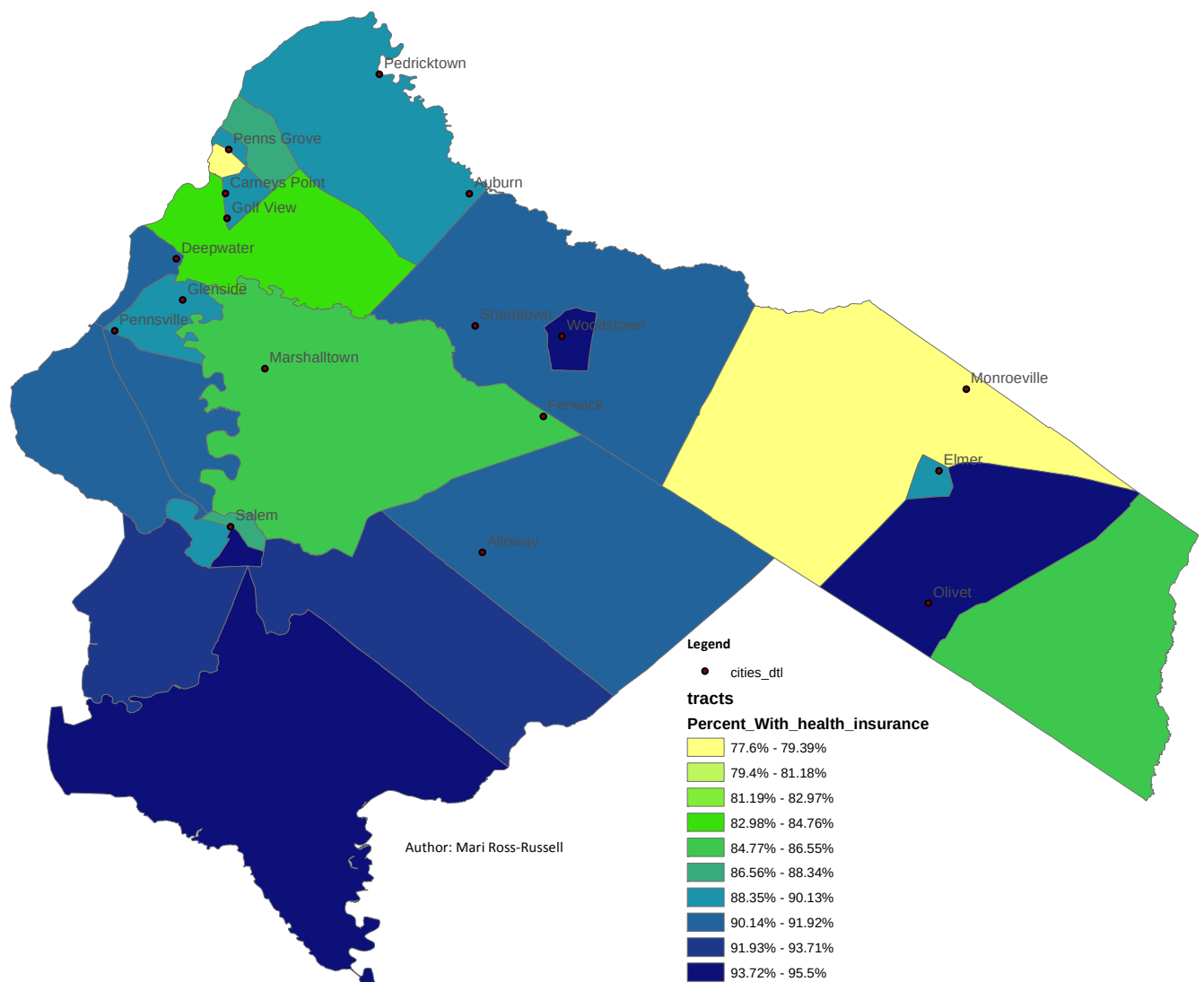
Source: Census Table DP03

Figure 67. Median (mid-point) earnings for females who worked full-time for the whole year (12 months) in Salem County by census tract, 2012



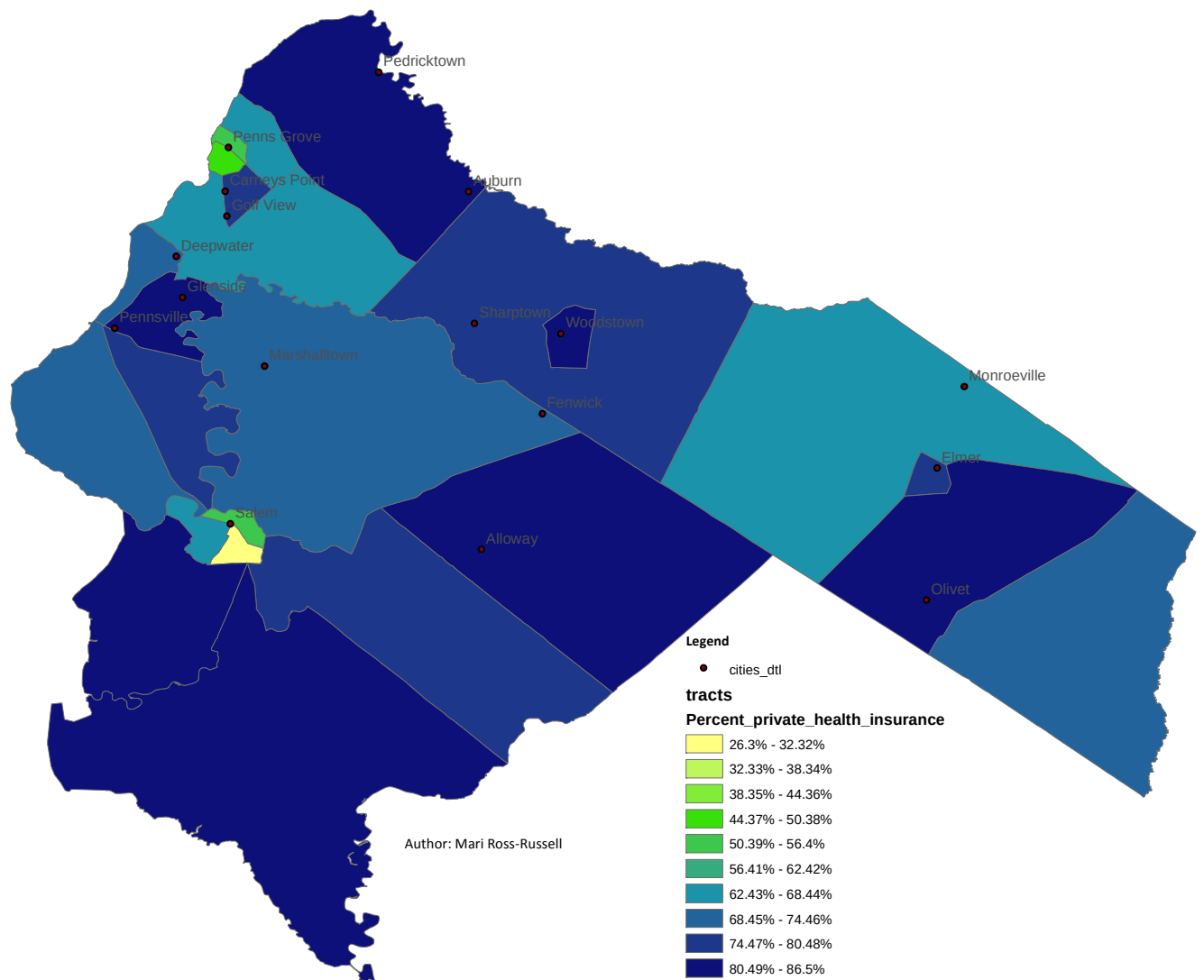
Source: Census Table DP03

Figure 68. Percentage of the population with health insurance within Salem County by census tract, 2012



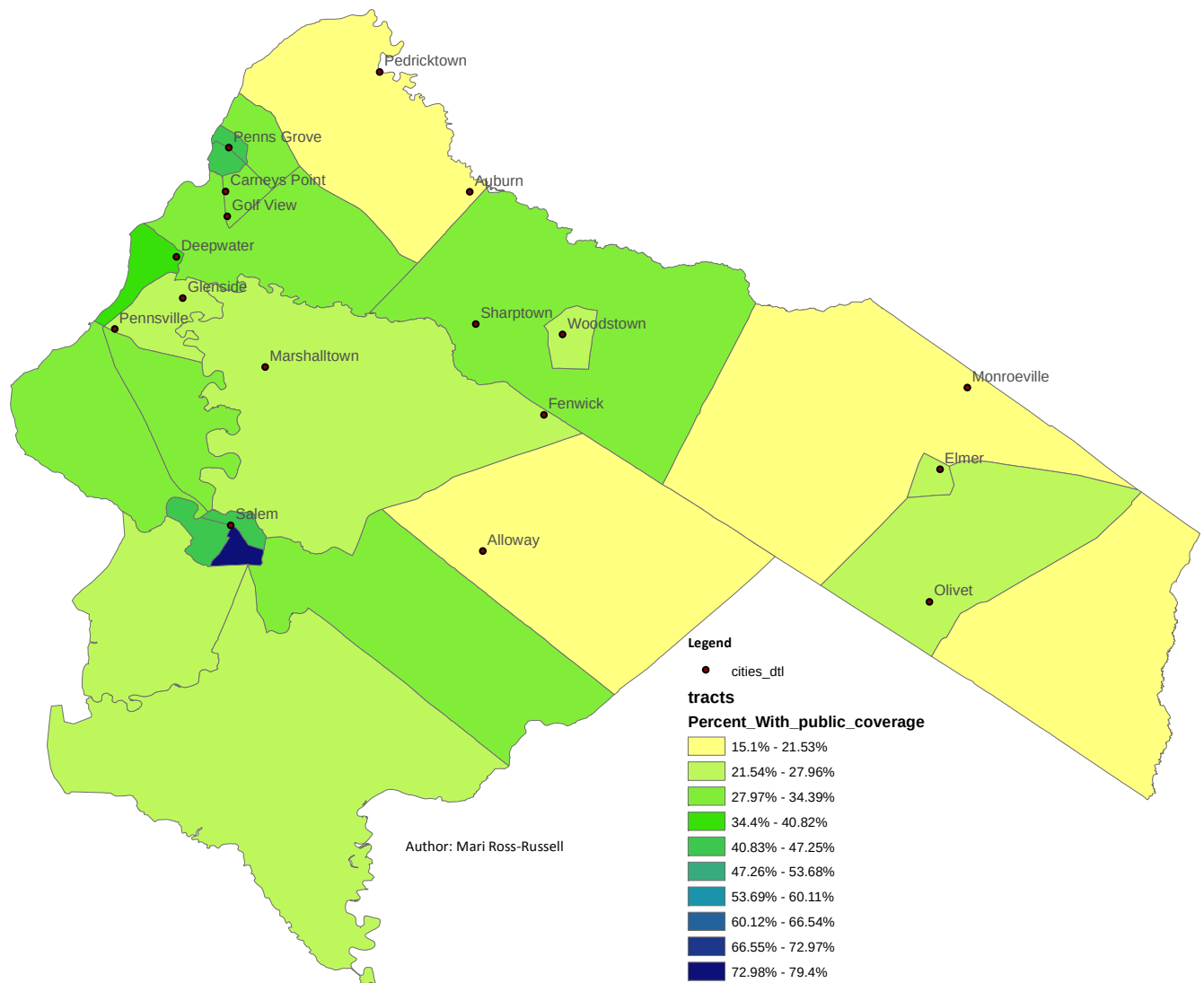
Source: Census Table DP03

Figure 69. Percentage of the population with private health insurance within Salem County by census tract, 2012



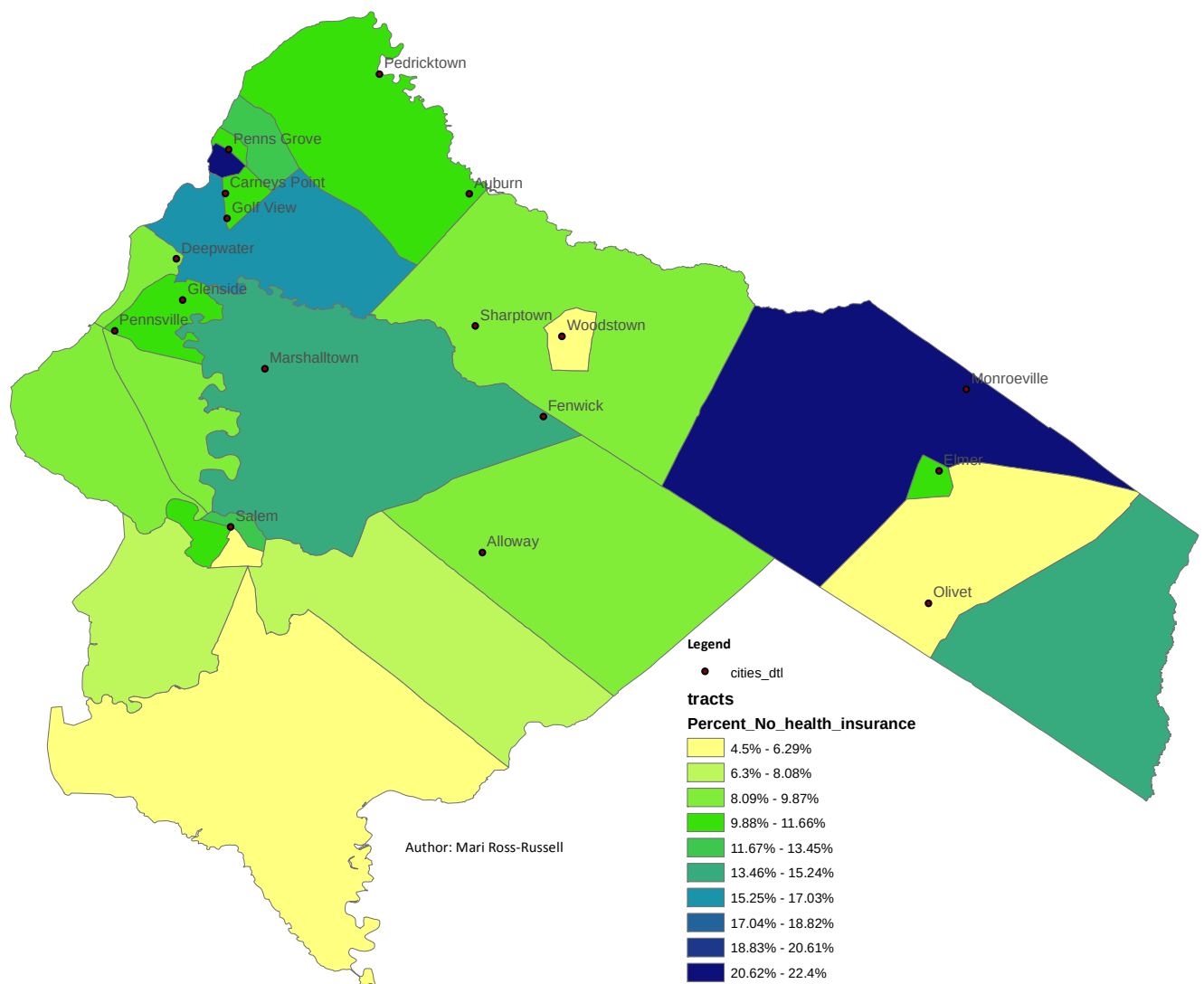
Source: Census Table DP03

Figure 70. Percentage of the population with public health insurance within Salem County by census tract, 2012



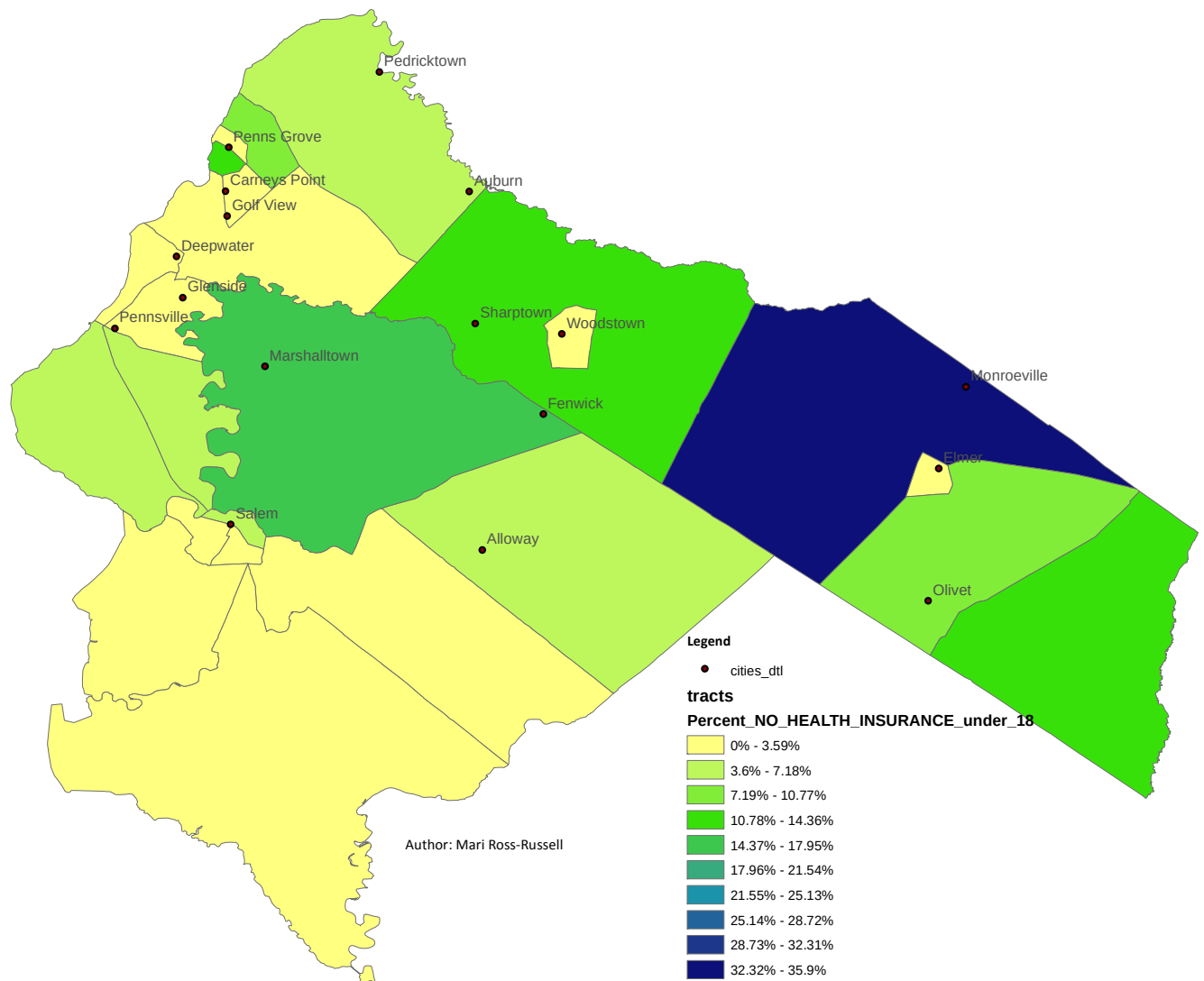
Source: Census Table DP03

Figure 71. Percentage of the population with no health insurance within Salem County by census tract, 2012



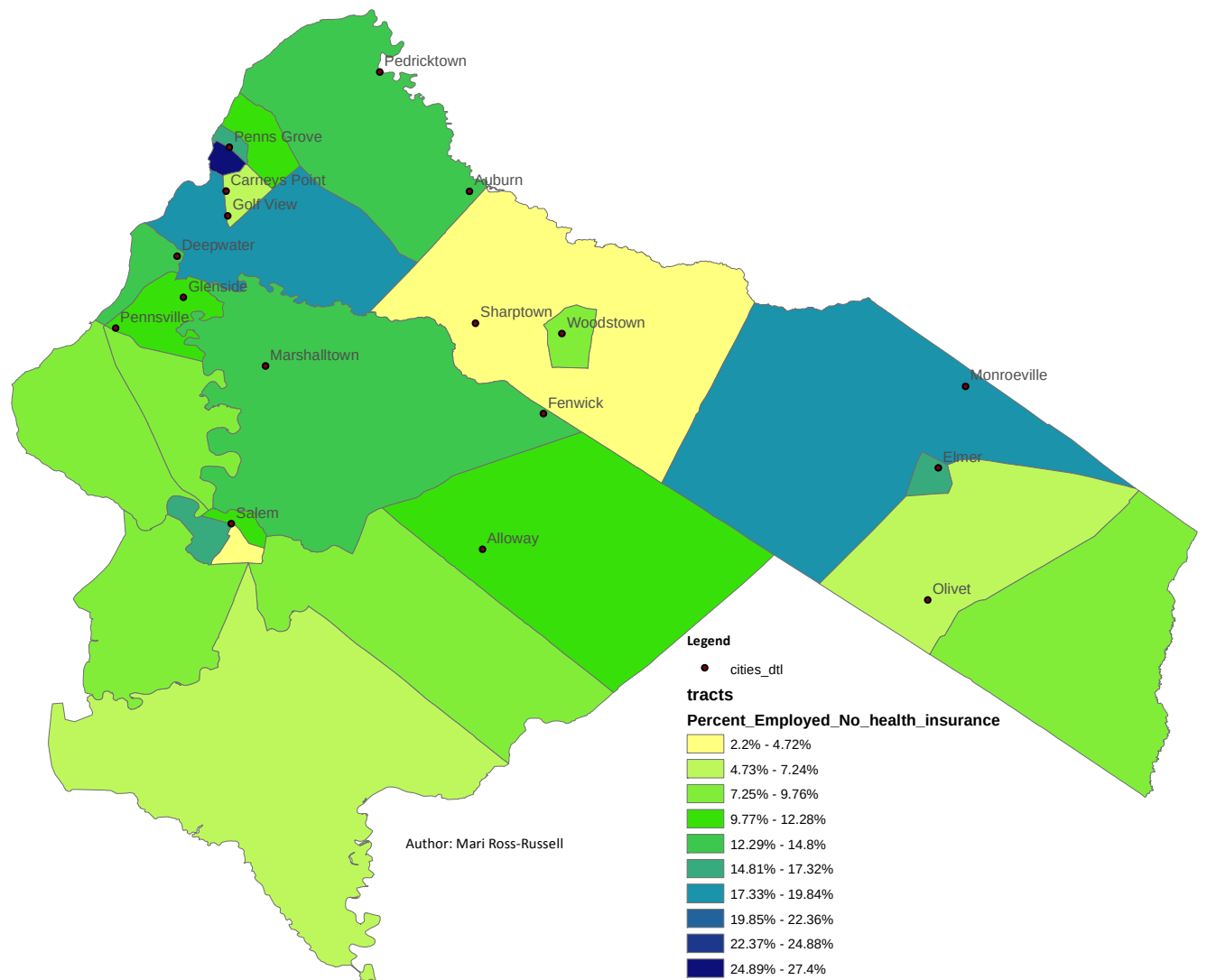
Source: Census Table DP03

Figure 72. Percentage of the population under 18 with no health insurance within Salem County by census tract, 2012



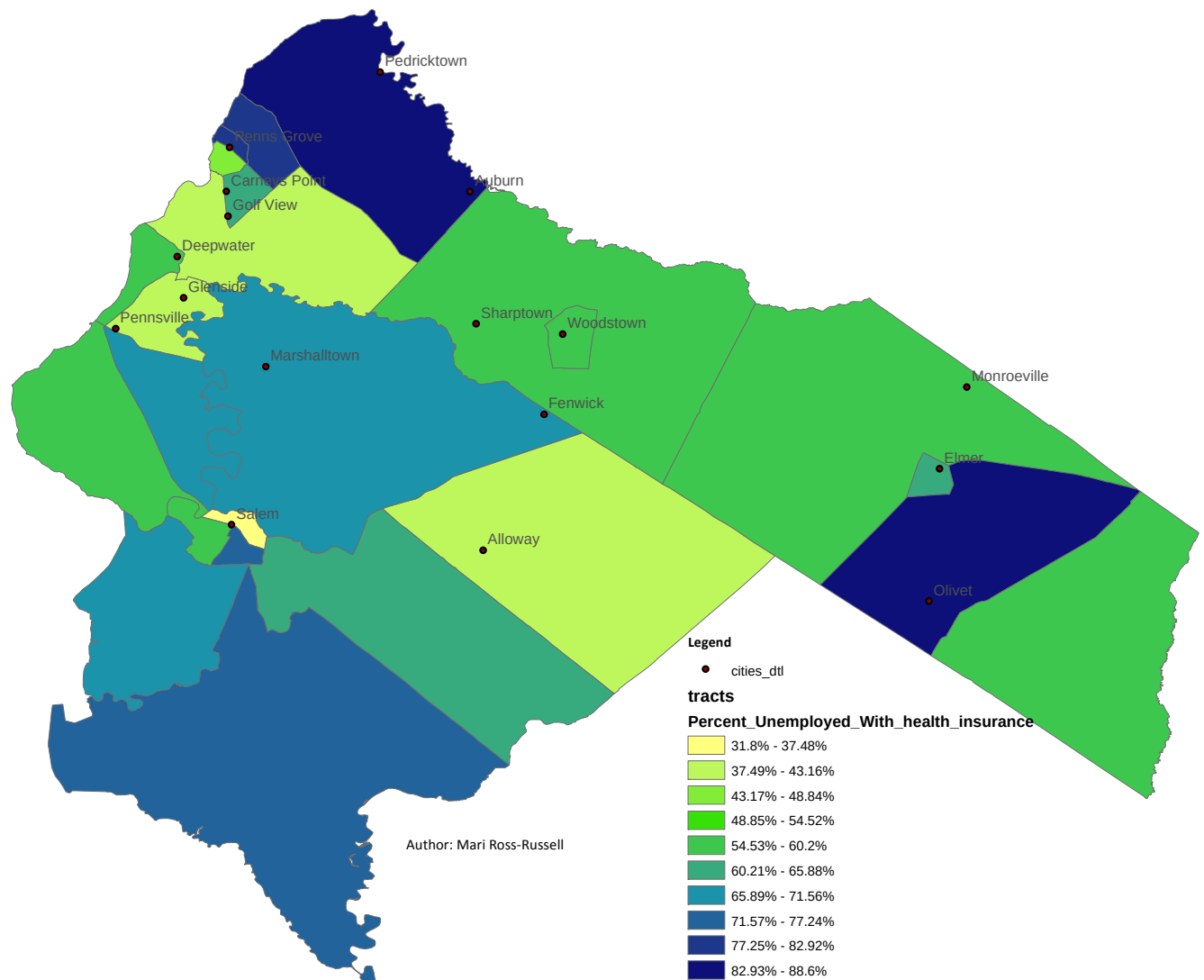
Source: Census Table DP03

Figure 73. Percentage of the employed population with no health insurance within Salem County by census tract, 2012



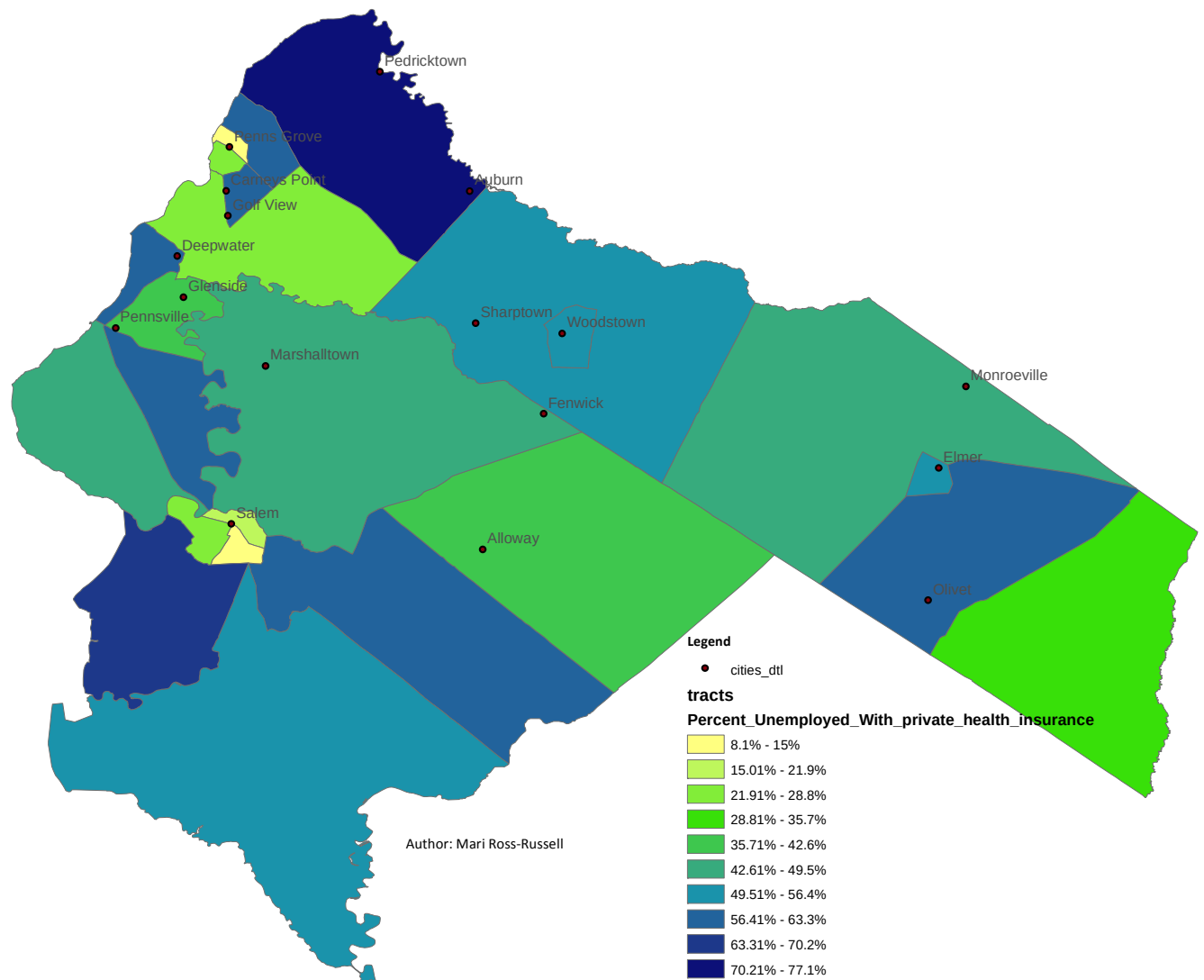
Source: Census Table DP03

Figure 74. Percentage of the unemployed population with health insurance within Salem County by census tract, 2012



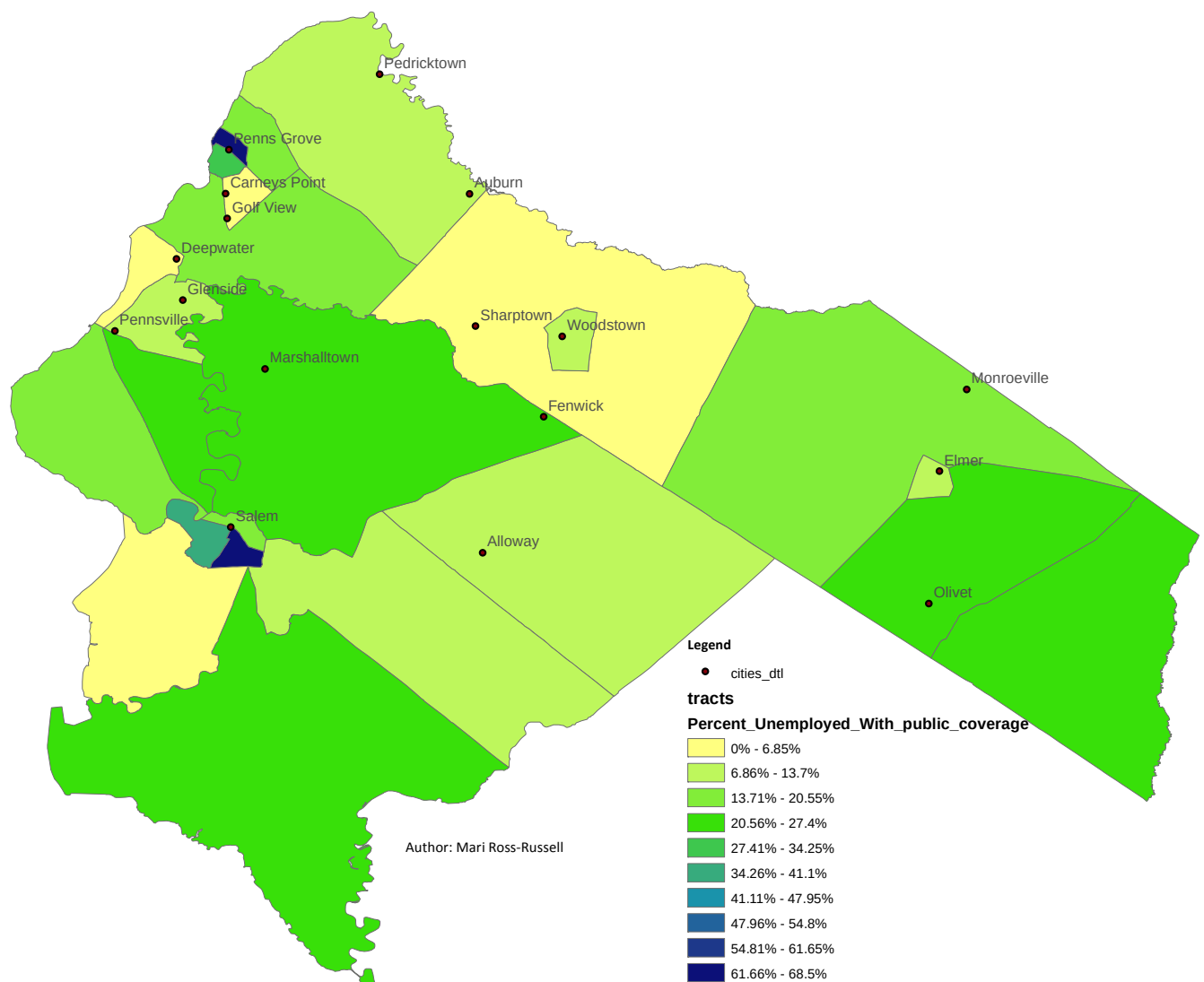
Source: Census Table DP03

Figure 75. Percentage of the unemployed population with private health insurance within Salem County by census tract, 2012



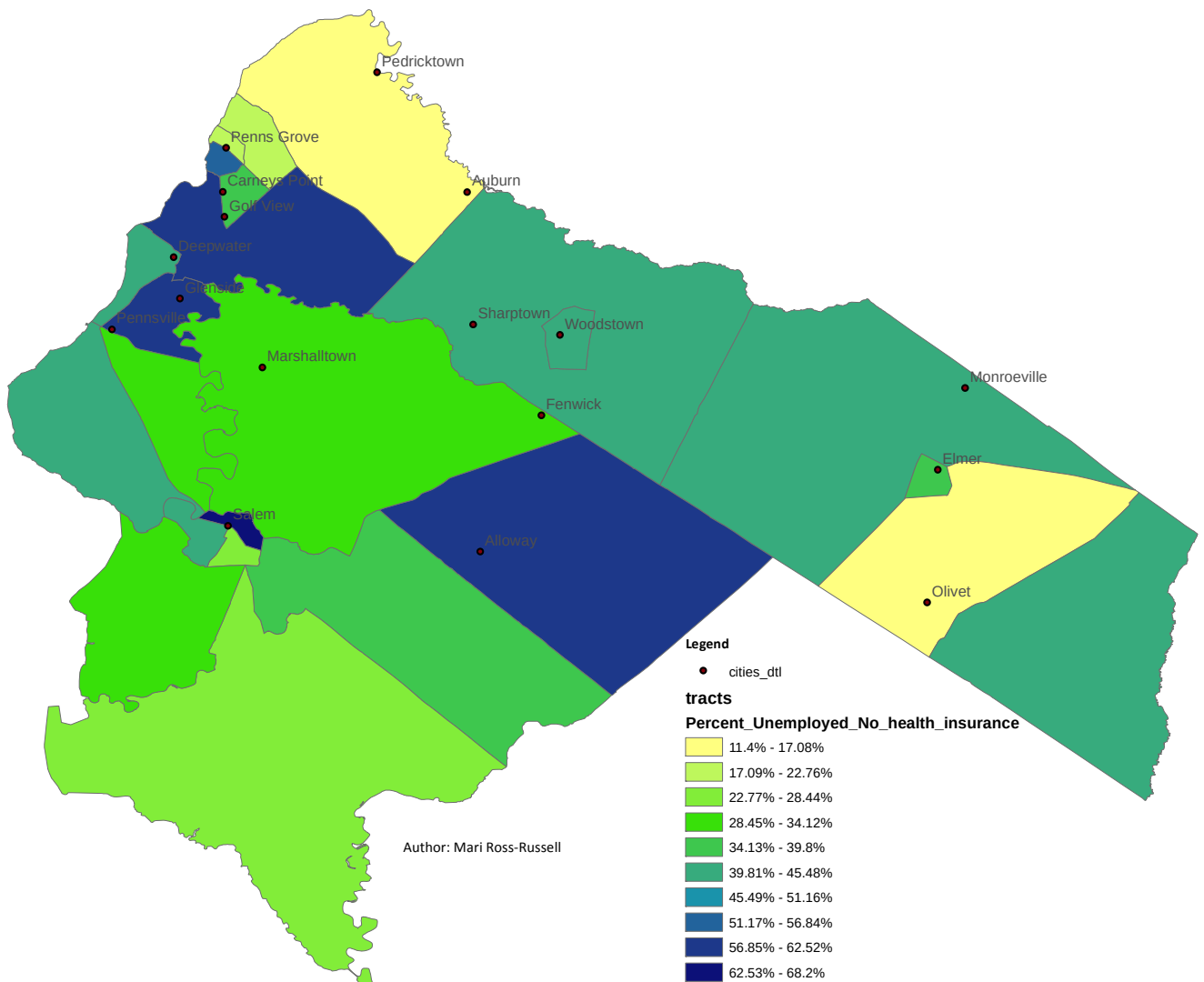
Source: Census Table DP03

Figure 76. Percentage of the unemployed population with public health insurance within Salem County by census tract, 2012



Source: Census Table DP03

Figure 77. Percentage of the unemployed population with no health insurance within Salem County by census tract, 2012



Source: Census Table DP03

Glossary

The Census Bureau classifies **earnings** from longest job (or self-employment) and other **employment earnings** into three types:

1. Money wage or salary income is the total income people receive for work performed as an employee during the income year. This category includes wages, salary, armed forces pay, commissions, tips, piece-rate payments, and cash bonuses earned, before deductions are made for items such as taxes, bonds, pensions, and union dues.
2. Net income from nonfarm self-employment is the net money income (gross receipts minus expenses) from one's own business, professional enterprise, or partnership. Gross receipts include the value of all goods sold and services rendered. Expenses include items such as costs of goods purchased, rent, heat, power, depreciation charges, wages and salaries paid, and business taxes (not personal income taxes). In general, the Census Bureau considers inventory changes in determining net income from nonfarm self-employment; replies based on income tax returns or other official records do reflect inventory changes. However, when respondents do not report values of inventory changes, interviewers will accept net income figures exclusive of inventory changes. The Census Bureau does not include the value of saleable merchandise consumed by the proprietors of retail stores as part of net income.
3. Net income from farm self-employment is the net money income (gross receipts minus operating expenses) from the operation of a farm by a person on their own account, as an owner, renter, or sharecropper. Gross receipts include the value of all products sold, payments from government farm programs, money received from the rental of farm equipment to others, rent received from farm property if payment is made based on a percent of crops produced, and incidental receipts from the sale of items such as wood, sand, and gravel. Operating expenses include items such as cost of feed, fertilizer, seed, and other farming supplies; cash wages paid to farmhands; depreciation charges; cash rent; interest on farm mortgages; farm building repairs; and farm taxes (not state and federal personal income taxes). The Census Bureau does not include the value of fuel, food, or other farm products used for family living as part of net income. In determining farm self-employment income, the Census Bureau considers inventory changes in determining net income only when they are accounted for in replies based on income tax returns or other official records which reflect inventory changes; otherwise, the Census Bureau does not take inventory changes into account.

Educational Attainment-Data on **educational attainment** are derived from a single question that asks, "What is the highest grade of school...has completed, or the highest degree...has received?"

The single educational attainment question now in use was introduced in the CPS beginning January 1992, and is similar to that used in the 1990 Decennial Census of Population and Housing. Consequently, data on educational attainment from the 1992 CPS are not directly comparable to CPS data from earlier years. The new question replaces the previous two-part question used in the CPS that asked respondents to report the highest grade they had attended, and whether or not they had completed that grade.

The questions on educational attainment apply only to progress in "regular" schools. Such schools include graded public, private, and parochial elementary and high schools (both junior and senior high schools), colleges, universities, and professional schools, whether day schools or night schools. Thus, regular schooling is that which may advance a person toward an elementary school certificate or high

school diploma, or a college, university, or professional school degree. Schooling in other than regular schools was counted only if the credits obtained are regarded as transferable to a school in the regular school system.

Educational attainment data are needed for use in assessing the socioeconomic condition of the U.S. population. Government agencies also require these data for funding allocations and program planning and implementation. These data are needed to determine the extent of illiteracy rates of citizens in language minorities in order to meet statutory requirements under the Voting Rights Act. Based on data about educational attainment, school districts are allocated funds to provide classes in basic skills to adults who have not completed high school.

Data on educational attainment were derived from answers to Question 11 on the 2013 ACS, which was asked of all respondents. Educational attainment data are tabulated for people 18 years old and over. Respondents are classified according to the highest degree or the highest level of school completed. The question included instructions for persons currently enrolled in school to report the level of the previous grade attended or the highest degree received.

The educational attainment question included a response category that allowed people to report completing the 12th grade without receiving a high school diploma. Respondents who received a regular high school diploma and did not attend college were instructed to report "Regular high school diploma." Respondents who received the equivalent of a high school diploma (for example, passed the test of General Educational Development (G.E.D.)), and did not attend college, were instructed to report "GED or alternative credential." "Some college" is in two categories: "Some college credit, but less than 1 year of college credit" and "1 or more years of college credit, no degree." The category "Associate's degree" included people whose highest degree is an associate's degree, which generally requires 2 years of college level work and is either in an occupational program that prepares them for a specific occupation, or an academic program primarily in the arts and sciences. The course work may or may not be transferable to a bachelor's degree. Master's degrees include the traditional MA and MS degrees and field-specific degrees, such as MSW, MEd, MBA, MLS, and MEng. Instructions included in the respondent instruction guide for mailout/mailback respondents only provided the following examples of professional school degrees: medicine, dentistry, chiropractic, optometry, osteopathic medicine, pharmacy, podiatry, veterinary medicine, law, and theology. The order in which degrees were listed suggested that doctorate degrees were "higher" than professional school degrees, which were "higher" than master's degrees. If more than one box was filled, the response was edited to the highest level or degree reported.

The instructions further specified that schooling completed in foreign or ungraded school systems should be reported as the equivalent level of schooling in the regular American system. The instructions specified that certificates or diplomas for training in specific trades or from vocational, technical or business schools were not to be reported. Honorary degrees awarded for a respondent's accomplishments were not to be reported.

Employed – This category includes all civilians 16 years old and over who either (1) were "at work," that is, those who did any work at all during the reference week as paid employees, worked in their own business or profession, worked on their own farm, or worked 15 hours or more as unpaid workers on a family farm or in a family business; or (2) were "with a job but not at work," that is, those who did not work during the reference week but had jobs or businesses from which they were temporarily absent

due to illness, bad weather, industrial dispute, vacation, or other personal reasons. Excluded from the employed are people whose only activity consisted of work around the house or unpaid volunteer work for religious, charitable, and similar organizations; also excluded are all institutionalized people not inmates of institutions (penal, mental facilities, homes for the aged) and people on active duty in the United States Armed Forces.

Family-A **family** is a group of two people or more (one of whom is the householder) related by birth, marriage, or adoption and residing together; all such people (including related subfamily members) are considered as members of one family. Beginning with the 1980 Current Population Survey, unrelated subfamilies (referred to in the past as secondary families) are no longer included in the count of families, nor are the members of unrelated subfamilies included in the count of family members. The number of families is equal to the number of family households, however, the count of family members differs from the count of family household members because family household members include any non-relatives living in the household.

Family Households – A family consists of a householder and one or more other people living in the same household who are related to the householder by birth, marriage, or adoption. All people in a household who are related to the householder are regarded as members of his or her family. A family household may contain people not related to the householder, but those people are not included as part of the householder's family in tabulations. Thus, the number of family households is equal to the number of families, but family households may include more members than do families. A household can contain only one family for purposes of tabulations. Not all households contain families since a household may be comprised of a group of unrelated people or of one person living alone – these are called nonfamily households. Families are classified by type as either a “marriedcouple family” or “other family” according to the sex of the householder and the presence of relatives. The data on family type are based on answers to questions on sex and relationship that were asked of all people.

Female Householder, No Husband Present – A family with a female householder and no spouse of householder present.

A **household** consists of all the people who occupy a housing unit. A house, an apartment or other group of rooms, or a single room, is regarded as a housing unit when it is occupied or intended for occupancy as separate living quarters; that is, when the occupants do not live with any other persons in the structure and there is direct access from the outside or through a common hall.

A household includes the related family members and all the unrelated people, if any, such as lodgers, foster children, wards, or employees who share the housing unit. A person living alone in a housing unit, or a group of unrelated people sharing a housing unit such as partners or roomers, is also counted as a household. The count of households excludes group quarters. There are two major categories of households, "family" and "nonfamily". (See definitions of Family household and Nonfamily household).

Health Insurance-A person was considered covered by **health insurance** at some time during the year if he or she was covered by at least one of the following types of coverages:

1. Employer/union
2. Privately purchased (not related to employment)
3. Medicare
4. Medicaid
5. Military health care (military, CHAMPVA, VA, Indian Health Services)

6. Someone outside the household
7. State Children's Health Insurance Program
8. Other

An individual can have more than one type of coverage during the year.

Definitions of the major types of health insurance coverage are available in the health insurance section http://www.census.gov/acs/www/Downloads/data_documentation/SubjectDefinitions/2013_ACSSubjectDefinitions.pdf.

Individuals for Whom Poverty Status is Determined – Poverty status was determined for all people except institutionalized people, people in military group quarters, people in college dormitories, and unrelated individuals under 15 years old. These groups were excluded from the numerator and denominator when calculating poverty rates.

Low birth weight (LBW) is defined as a [birth weight](#) of a liveborn infant of less than 2,500 g (5 pounds 8 ounces) regardless of gestational age.

Mean (average) income is the amount obtained by dividing the total aggregate income of a group by the number of units in that group. The means for households, families, and unrelated individuals are based on all households, families, and unrelated individuals, respectively. The means (averages) for people are based on people 15 years old and over with income.

Median income is the amount which divides the income distribution into two equal groups, half having incomes above the median, half having incomes below the median. The medians for households, families, and unrelated individuals are based on all households, families, and unrelated individuals, respectively. The medians for people are based on people 15 years old and over with income.

For each person in the sample 15 years old and over, the CPS asks questions on the amount of money income received in the preceding calendar year from each of the following sources:

1. Earnings
2. Unemployment compensation
3. Workers' compensation
4. Social security
5. Supplemental security income
6. Public assistance
7. Veterans' payments
8. Survivor benefits
9. Disability benefits
10. Pension or retirement income
11. Interest
12. Dividends
13. Rents, royalties, and estates and trusts
14. Educational assistance
15. Alimony

16. Child support
17. Financial assistance from outside of the household
18. Other income

It should be noted that although the income statistics refer to receipts during the preceding calendar year, the demographic characteristics, such as age, labor force status, and family or household composition, are as of the survey date. The income of the family/household does not include amounts received by people who were members during all or part of the income year if these people no longer resided in the family/household at the time of interview. However, the CPS collects income data for people who are current residents but did not reside in the household during the income year.

Data on consumer income collected in the CPS by the Census Bureau cover money income received (exclusive of certain money receipts such as capital gains) before payments for personal income taxes, social security, union dues, medicare deductions, etc. Therefore, money income does not reflect the fact that some families receive part of their income in the form of noncash benefits, such as food stamps, health benefits, rent-free housing, and goods produced and consumed on the farm. In addition, money income does not reflect the fact that noncash benefits are also received by some nonfarm residents which often take the form of the use of business transportation and facilities, full or partial payments by business for retirement programs, medical and educational expenses, etc. Data users should consider these elements when comparing income levels. Moreover, readers should be aware that for many different reasons there is a tendency in household surveys for respondents to underreport their income. Based on an analysis of independently derived income estimates, the Census Bureau determined that respondents report income earned from wages or salaries much better than other sources of income and that the reported wage and salary income is nearly equal to independent estimates of aggregate income.

For more information and the definitions of the source incomes, please refer to **Appendix A, Definitions and Explanations**, from the **Current Population Reports, Consumer Income, P60-200** [PDF - 30K]. http://www.census.gov/acs/www/Downloads/data_documentation/SubjectDefinitions/2013_ACSSubjectDefinitions.pdf.

Per capita income is the average income computed for every man, woman, and child in a particular group. The Census Bureau derived per capita income by dividing the total income of a particular group by the total population in that group (excluding patients or inmates in institutional quarters).

Poverty definition: Following the Office of Management and Budget's (OMB's) Directive 14, the Census Bureau uses a set of money income thresholds that vary by family size and composition to detect who is poor. If a family's total income is less than that family's threshold, then that family, and every individual in it, is considered poor. The poverty thresholds do not vary geographically, but they are updated annually for inflation with the Consumer Price Index (CPI-U). The official poverty definition counts money income before taxes and excludes capital gains and noncash benefits (such as public housing, medicaid, and food stamps).

Poverty statistics are based on a definition developed by Mollie Orshansky of the Social Security Administration (SSA) in 1964¹ and revised in 1969 and 1981 by interagency committees. This definition was established as the official definition of poverty for statistical use in all Executive departments by the Bureau of the Budget (BoB) in 1969 (in Circular No. A-46); after BoB became The Office of Management and Budget, this was reconfirmed in Statistical Policy Directive No. 14.

The original poverty definition provided a range of income cutoffs or thresholds adjusted by such factors as family size, sex of the family head, number of children under 18 years old, and farm-nonfarm residence. At the core of this definition of poverty was the economy food plan, the least costly of four nutritionally adequate food plans designed by the Department of Agriculture. It was determined from the Department of Agriculture's 1955 Household Food Consumption Survey that families of three or more people spent approximately one-third of their after-tax money income on food; accordingly, poverty thresholds for families of three or more people were set at three times the cost of the economy food plan. Different procedures were used to calculate poverty thresholds for two-person families and people living alone in order to compensate for the relatively larger fixed expenses of these smaller units. For two-person families, the cost of the economy food plan was multiplied by a factor of 3.7 (also derived from the 1955 survey). For unrelated individuals (one-person units), no multiplier was used; poverty thresholds were instead calculated as a fixed proportion of the corresponding thresholds for two-person units. Annual updates of these SSA poverty thresholds were based on price changes of the items in the economy food plan.

As a result of deliberations of a Federal interagency committee in 1969, the following two modifications to the original SSA definition of poverty were adopted:

2

1. The SSA thresholds for nonfarm families were retained for the base year 1963, but annual adjustments in the levels were based on changes in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) rather than on changes in the cost of foods in the economy food plan.
2. The farm thresholds were raised from 70 to 85 percent of the corresponding nonfarm levels. The combined impact of these two modifications resulted in an increase in the tabulated totals for 1967 of 360,000 poor families and 1.6 million poor people.

In 1981, three additional modifications in the poverty definition recommended by another interagency committee were adopted for implementation in the March 1982 CPS as well as the 1980 census:

1. Elimination of separate thresholds for farm families.
2. Elimination (by averaging) of separate thresholds for female-householder families and "all other" families (earlier termed "male-headed" families).
3. Extension of the detailed poverty threshold matrix to make the largest family size category "nine people or more".

For further details, see the section, "Changes in the Definition of Poverty," in Current Population Reports, Series P-60, No. 133.

The poverty thresholds are increased each year by the same percentage as the annual average Consumer Price Index (CPI). The poverty thresholds are currently adjusted using the annual average CPI-U (1982-84 = 100). This base year has been used since 1988. From 1980 through 1987, the thresholds were adjusted using the CPI-U (1967 = 100). The CPI (1963 = 100) was used to adjust thresholds prior to 1980.

For further information on how the poverty thresholds were developed and subsequent changes in them, see Gordon M. Fisher, "The Development and History of the Poverty Thresholds," Social Security Bulletin, vol.55, no.4, Winter 1992, pp. 3-14.

Poverty statistics in American Community Survey (ACS) products adhere to the standards specified by the Office of Management and Budget in Statistical Policy Directive 14. The Census Bureau uses a set of dollar value thresholds that vary by family size and composition to determine who is in poverty. Further, poverty thresholds for people living alone or with nonrelatives (unrelated individuals) vary by age (under 65 years or 65 years and older). The poverty thresholds for two-person families also vary by the age of the householder. If a family's total income is less than the dollar value of the appropriate threshold, then that family and every individual in it are considered to be in poverty. Similarly, if an unrelated individual's total income is less than the appropriate threshold, then that individual is considered to be in poverty.

How the Census Bureau Determines Poverty Status

In determining the poverty status of families and unrelated individuals, the Census Bureau uses thresholds income cutoffs) arranged in a two-dimensional matrix. The matrix consists of family size (from one person to nine or more people) cross-classified by presence and number of family members under 18 years old (from no children present to eight or more children present). Unrelated individuals and two-person families are further differentiated by age of reference person (householder) (under 65 years old and 65 years old and over).

To determine a person's poverty status, one compares the person's total family income in the last 12 months with the poverty threshold appropriate for that person's family size and composition (see example below). If the total income of that person's family is less than the threshold appropriate for that family, then the person is considered "below the poverty level," together with every member of his or her family. If a person is not living with anyone related by birth, marriage, or adoption, then the person's own income is compared with his or her poverty threshold. The total number of people below the poverty level is the sum of people in families and the number of unrelated individuals with incomes in the last 12 months below the poverty threshold.

Since ACS is a continuous survey, people respond throughout the year. Because the income questions specify a period covering the last 12 months, the appropriate poverty thresholds are determined by multiplying the base-year poverty thresholds (1982) by the average of the monthly inflation factors for the 12 months preceding the data collection. See the table in Appendix A titled "Poverty Thresholds in 1982, by Size of Family and Number of Related Children Under 18 Years (Dollars)," for appropriate base thresholds. See the table "The 2013 Poverty Factors" in Appendix A for the appropriate adjustment based on interview month.

For example, consider a family of three with one child under 18 years of age, interviewed in July 2013 and reporting a total family income of \$14,000 for the last 12 months (July 2012 to June 2013). The base year (1982) threshold for such a family is \$7,765, while the average of the 12 inflation factors is 2.39719. Multiplying \$7,765 by 2.39719 determines the appropriate poverty threshold for this family type, which is \$18,614. Comparing the family's income of \$14,000 with the poverty threshold shows that the family and all people in the family are considered to have been in poverty. The only difference for determining poverty status for unrelated individuals is that the person's individual total income is compared with the threshold rather than the family's income.

¹ For a detailed discussion of the original SSA poverty thresholds, see Mollie Orshansky, *Counting the Poor: Another Look at the Poverty Profile*, *Social Security Bulletin*, vol. 28, no. 1, January 1965, pp. 3-29 (reprinted in *Social Security Bulletin*, vol. 51, no. 10, October 1988, pp. 25-51); and *Who's Who Among the Poor: A Demographic View of Poverty*, *Social Security Bulletin*, vol. 28, no. 7, July 1965, pp. 3-32.

² Poverty thresholds for 1959-1967 were recalculated on this basis, and revised poverty population figures for those years were tabulated using the revised thresholds. These revised 1959-1967 poverty population figures have been published in Census Bureau reports issued since August 1969 (including the present report). Because of this revision, poverty statistics from documents dated before August 1969 are not comparable with current poverty statistics.

Public assistance income: Public assistance income includes general assistance and Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF). Separate payments received for hospital or other medical care (vendor payments) are excluded. This does not include Supplemental Security Income (SSI) or noncash benefits such as Food Stamps. The terms “public assistance income” and “cash public assistance” are used interchangeably in the 2012 ACS data products.

Retirement, survivor, or disability income: Retirement income includes: (1) retirement pensions and survivor benefits from a former employer; labor union; or federal, state, or local government; and the U.S. military; (2) disability income from companies or unions; federal, state, or local government; and the U.S. military; (3) periodic receipts from annuities and insurance; and (4) regular income from IRA and Keogh plans. This does not include Social Security income.

Social Security income: Social Security income includes Social Security pensions and survivor benefits, permanent disability insurance payments made by the Social Security Administration prior to deductions for medical insurance, and railroad retirement insurance checks from the U.S. government. Medicare reimbursements are not included.

Supplemental Security Income (SSI): Supplemental Security Income (SSI) is a nationwide U.S. assistance program administered by the Social Security Administration that guarantees a minimum level of income for needy aged, blind, or disabled individuals. The Puerto Rico Community Survey questionnaire asks about the receipt of SSI; however, SSI is not a federally-administered program in Puerto Rico. Therefore, it is probably not being interpreted by most respondents in the same manner as SSI in the United States. The only way a resident of Puerto Rico could have appropriately reported SSI would have been if they lived in the United States at any time during the past 12-month reference period and received SSI.

Unemployed – All civilians 16 years old and over are classified as unemployed if they (1) were neither “at work” nor “with a job but not at work” during the reference week, and (2) were actively looking for work during the last 4 weeks, and (3) were available to start a job. Also included as unemployed are civilians who did not work at all during the reference week, were waiting to be called back to a job from which they had been laid off, and were available for work except for temporary illness. Examples of job seeking activities are:

- Registering at a public or private employment office
- Meeting with prospective employers
- Investigating possibilities for starting a professional practice or opening a business
- Placing or answering advertisements
- Writing letters of application
- Being on a union or professional register

Civilian Labor Force – Consists of people classified as employed or unemployed in accordance with the criteria described above.

Unemployment Rate – The unemployment rate represents the number of unemployed people as a percentage of the civilian labor force. For example, if the civilian labor force equals 100 people and 7 people are unemployed, then the unemployment rate would be 7 percent.

All people who were **not employed** during the reference week but were available for work (excluding temporary illness) and had made specific efforts to find employment some time during the 4-week period ending with the reference week are classified as unemployed. Individuals who were waiting to be recalled to a job from which they had been laid off need not have been looking for work to be classified as unemployed. People waiting to start a new job must have actively looked for a job within the last 4 weeks in order to be counted as unemployed. Otherwise, they are classified as not in the labor force.