



ALBANY PARK

2022

COMMUNITY ASSESSMENT



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VISION

We believe that residents in the City of Chicago are experiencing a public health crisis caused by institutional and structural racism and further exacerbated by COVID-19.

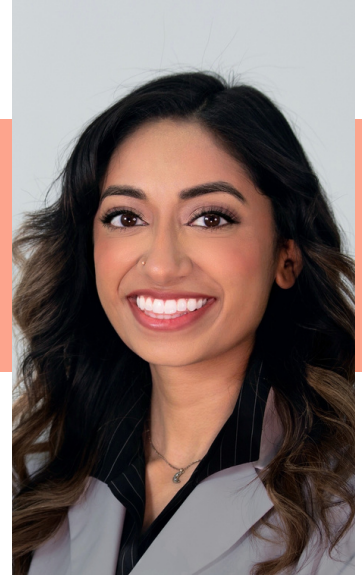
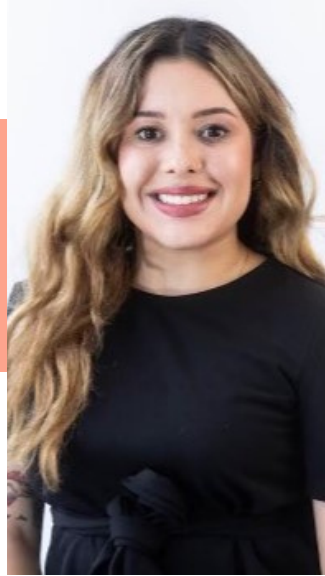
We believe that all people, with a focus on the greater northwest side of Chicago, should have a fair and just opportunity to lead a long healthy life in their community.

As we endeavor in this work, we seek to be culturally competent, responsive and data-driven while also accounting for lived experiences in our decision making. Additionally, we seek to have a clear anti-racist lens to the work, innovate and collaborate with our residents, and provide a blueprint for other communities nationwide.

We believe that in order to achieve our vision, our work must focus on transforming the existing health system through removing barriers and increasing access to health resources, programs, and interventions. Through these objectives, we strive for a more community-led and community driven model of health that increases the quality of life and life expectancy of the community.



MESSAGE FROM OUR LEADERS



In Albany Park and North Park, when we join together as neighbors, we thrive. Now is the time to redress inequities and create actions that build on the lessons of resilience from the pandemic to increase the quality of life and life expectancy in our communities. Now is the time to transform our health system by removing barriers and increasing access to health resources, programs, and interventions. At its heart, this change will be driven by community intelligence and involvement.

Thomas Applegate

Executive Director

Dalia Aragon

Housing Health & Safety Director

Erika Geraldino

Housing Health & Safety Organizer

Kaanan Raja

Health & Safety Organizer

MESSAGE FROM OUR LEADERS

North River Commission staff values the importance of community voice and community involvement in the improvement and development of Albany Park and neighboring areas. This past summer, we kicked off our Healthy Chicago Equity work in Albany Park by engaging with residents who attended our Lot Jams summer concerts. We took the opportunity to connect with residents: We asked them to take a short survey to tell us what health equity means to them, and identify health challenges, needs, and priorities for Albany Park. We've learned so much about the needs of our community thanks to people providing us with a minute of their time. For us, this was a reminder that the best way to improve our community is by engaging with one another. Even a minute shared can help us shape the future.

NRC also conducted five focus groups with various community organizations and social service providers including HANA Center, Latino Union, 20th District Youth Council, seniors at Mayfair Commons, and service providers of North River Commission. The biggest lesson learned from our focus groups with people accessing community resources was that there are not nearly enough resources available to meet their needs. We also learned how important it is to hear directly from community members because they are the best messengers. It is not always easy to connect with those who need the most support because they do not have the means to attend meetings and be part of the conversation. However, when accommodations are made, the results can be life-altering.

North River Commission engaged Albany Park residents and used community intelligence to prioritize and work toward neighborhood needs. For this Healthy Chicago Equity Zones work, we focused on collecting qualitative data to understand the health challenges of the residents in Albany Park that existing data does not capture. Our survey captured demographics, and we developed questions to help us better understand health inequities related to housing, neighborhood planning, health and human services, food access, public safety, and environment. We were also able to hear directly from community members on what they believed were the most critical health issues, with the majority of the participating stakeholders identifying housing and public safety having the highest impact on their health and well-being. Some of the challenges we encountered while navigating this work were related to consolidating qualitative data received by the community with the quantitative data provided by the city and other data sources. The stories and information provided by the community were not always reflective of existing data, but it was also data that was current. This gave us insight into the long-term impacts of COVID-19 on residents of Albany Park.

PROCESS



With the guidance of Northwest Center as regional lead and the deep experience of the Healthy Northwest community leads – Palenque LSNA, North River Commission and Metropolitan Family Services – the community assessment process has engaged residents, mobilized stakeholders, and tackled difficult questions about the role that health plays in our everyday lives.

Through Northwest Center’s (NWC) leadership, the Northwest Region’s approach to health equity work is thoughtful, deliberate, and inclusive. Careful yet flexible planning has allowed the community leads in this region to engage residents from all walks of life – youth, immigrants, seniors, workers, and more. To do this successfully, Northwest Center utilizes a “Train the Trainer” model; this model consists of the regional lead leading initial focus groups, workshops, and data collection, then fine-tuning these processes with lessons learned. Then, NWC turns to community leads and trains these organizations in best practices and useful techniques to engage their community areas. The tools learned and refined in this initial stage become the prototype for community leads, while staying flexible enough to adapt to the individual characteristics and community engagement traditions of the other Northwest communities.

The model used in the Northwest Region blended best practices in health equity planning with quality-of-life planning, a model that empowers local communities to take a comprehensive assessment of community needs. Our methodology was asset-based, rather than deficit based. This means each community inventoried their strengths and built strategies on top of key assets to address challenges such as a lack of affordable housing, health outcome disparities and a rise in public safety challenges. Northwest Center was assisted by Teska Associates, Inc., a community planning firm that had facilitated quality-of-life plans in Albany Park and Logan Square/Hermosa; and Kathleen Gregory Consulting LLC, a firm with deep experience in health and human service assessment and strategic planning.

PROCESS

The first phase of this endeavor is the focus group stage, where community leads communicate the concepts of health equity to their communities, get feedback on the critical health equity challenges residents face, find out available resources, and assess gaps in programs and services that are needed. Focus groups with non-profit leaders, block club members, school principals, houses of worship, community residents, youth, seniors, and others contextualized the data and dispelled misconceptions about health equity in the community.

Each community lead also administered a survey of residents to determine the key health equity challenges, gaps and opportunities in their service area. The workshop phase delved into discussions on health equity challenges in each priority issue and identifying current service providers. Workshops progressively narrowed on priority issue areas using both quantitative and qualitative data. Strategies and projects take center stage and top priority issue areas were solidified.

Each community lead put together a group of stakeholders composed of partner organizations, residents, and groups that filled gaps identified through the focus group and surveys. The first workshop in each community focused on interpreting the data – the results of the focus groups, community survey and third party data such as the Chicago Health Atlas. The workshop also identified challenges and gaps in services across the seven priority areas identified in Healthy Chicago 2025. The second workshop focused on reviewing the challenges identified in the first workshop and brainstorming strategies and projects for each of the priority areas.

The top three most impactful priority areas were selected to focus on during the third workshop. The participants reviewed and refined the strategies and projects identified in the second workshop. By the end of the third workshop, the groups selected the top priority area to focus on during the action planning phase in early 2023. It was noted that all of the priority areas are intersectional – e.g. public safety involved health and human services, particularly mental health, and safe and affordable housing has deep impacts on health care as one of the key drivers of social determinants of health. Through cross-community lead meetings, all four areas decided to focus regionally on three of the priority areas – housing, health and human services, and public safety. Each community will delve into at least one of these priority areas during the action planning phase next year.

HEALTHY CHICAGO 2025



Healthy Chicago 2025 is a community health needs assessment, improvement plan and a community-driven movement to address social inequities, with the primary goal being to close the life expectancy gap between Black and White communities that has risen to 8.8 years in Chicago, and nearly double that between some specific communities.

The five-year plan seeks to address social conditions that have been created by decades of segregation and systemic racism, the effects of which are laid bare by COVID-19. It includes specific proposals to increase access to healthy foods, quality healthcare and housing, and create safe spaces for all Chicagoans to live, work and play.

The Healthy Chicago 2025 assessment was led by CDPH in collaboration with the Partnership for Healthy Chicago, a coalition of over 40 stakeholders representing the broad spectrum of Chicago’s public health system. Every five years CDPH works with partners on a plan to improve community health and well-being, and the 2025 plan builds off the original Healthy Chicago plan and Healthy Chicago 2.0.

ALBANY PARK



Bright Spots

Albany Park is one of the most diverse communities in America. The neighborhood is a quintessential melting pot, with a dynamic array of businesses representing Mexican, South American, Filipino, Korean, Indian, Cambodian, Somali, Romanian, and Middle Eastern cultures.

When North River Commission conducted a focus group of seniors, many reported that they loved their neighborhood and enjoy walking around in their community.

-  **20** Grocery Stores & Food Markets
-  **18** Childcare
-  **11** Public Parks
-  **6** Mental Healthcare Centers
-  **0** Hospitals
-  **9** Public & Private Schools K-12

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

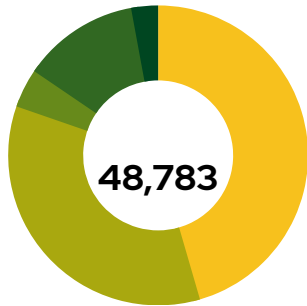
Keep a look out for this lightbulb and post-it notes! We will be dissecting certain pieces of this community assessment and taking an opportunity to clarify some terms. We hope that these are helpful as you navigate this document.

Zero Hospitals?!

While Albany Park has virtually zero hospitals, it has access to nearby hospital systems including Swedish Hospital, part of NorthShore University HealthSystem. Many residents said that they use Swedish Hospital and report having a good experience with the services.

ALBANY PARK

Population



- 45.5% Hispanic or Latino
- 34.8% White
- 4.2% Black
- 12.6% Asian or Pacific Islander
- 2.9% Other

Life Expectancy



RESIDENT CONCERNS

In several focus groups, residents stated that they have a dire need for affordable housing. However, they recognized that previous attempts at new development have been shut down. A resident stated:

"People do not understand that affordable housing is for people working in the area, there is a negative stigma about affordable housing developments because many relate affordable housing with criminals and such. There has to be more education on how wrong this is and the harm thinking like this does to people who are going to become homeless."

"I worry for my parents because they have to work more and stretch out [their income in order to afford] groceries. It makes me feel like I should get a job and maybe not spend so much time doing things like the youth council".

-Albany Park Student



CHALLENGES

When asked in a focus group what is something that burdens their family, students in Albany Park stated that they felt pressure to forgo extracurricular activities in order to obtain a job to help their parents make ends meet. While many students are capable of navigating a part time job and going to school, they are also missing out on scholarship opportunities. Many students later are unable to apply for a sports or arts scholarships due to their lack of experience from having to work a job.

OVERVIEW OF DATA COLLECTION EFFORTS

SURVEYS

Overview

Based on the problems and solutions identified by the community in each issue area, we then developed surveys to further inform the work. The surveying took two forms: soft polling and online surveying. Ultimately, there are pros and cons to each method and the data is presented separately for your viewing.

Soft Polling

Soft Polling began and finished during the summer months at various Albany Park events, most notably the Lot Jams, a series of outdoor music events. The method of soft polling was to ask residents at events to pick an issue area, and vote using tallies or post-its on which problem and solution named in the focus groups most resonated with them. This soft polling method allowed us to continue conversations with our community residents on this process and engage in further dialogue about these issue areas.

It also allowed us to engage our population who may face barriers to digital surveying because of the digital divide that we know exists in our community. However, it also means that our data collection methods were not as rigid as online surveying and there is potential for bias in the sample. The soft polling method could mean that folks voted multiple times in an issue area, voted for multiple issue areas, and could also introduce bias because they are voting in front of a community health worker and other residents, and are seeing in real-time which problems and solutions others are voting for. This may influence decision-making at the time of surveying.



Online Surveying

After the soft polling phase ended, we began online surveying using SurveyMonkey. The survey consisted of just a few short questions. The online surveying phase allowed for greater data rigidity but shorter interactions with our residents. We received 107 responses on the survey from July 2022 to December 2022. We asked participants of our stakeholder workshops, event attendees, youth program participants, and participants who came into our office for income support services to take the survey.

Focus Groups

A series of focus groups were conducted from August 2022 through November 2022. These focus groups were based on the issue areas shown above as a part of the Healthy Chicago 2025 Plan: Housing, Health & Human Services, Environment, Public Safety, Food Access, and Neighborhood Planning and Development. We asked various groups of stakeholders in the community, including HANA Center, Latino Union, Mayfair Commons, 20th District Youth Council, and North River Commission staff what problems they saw in each issue area and what solutions they would want to see.



Chicago Health Atlas

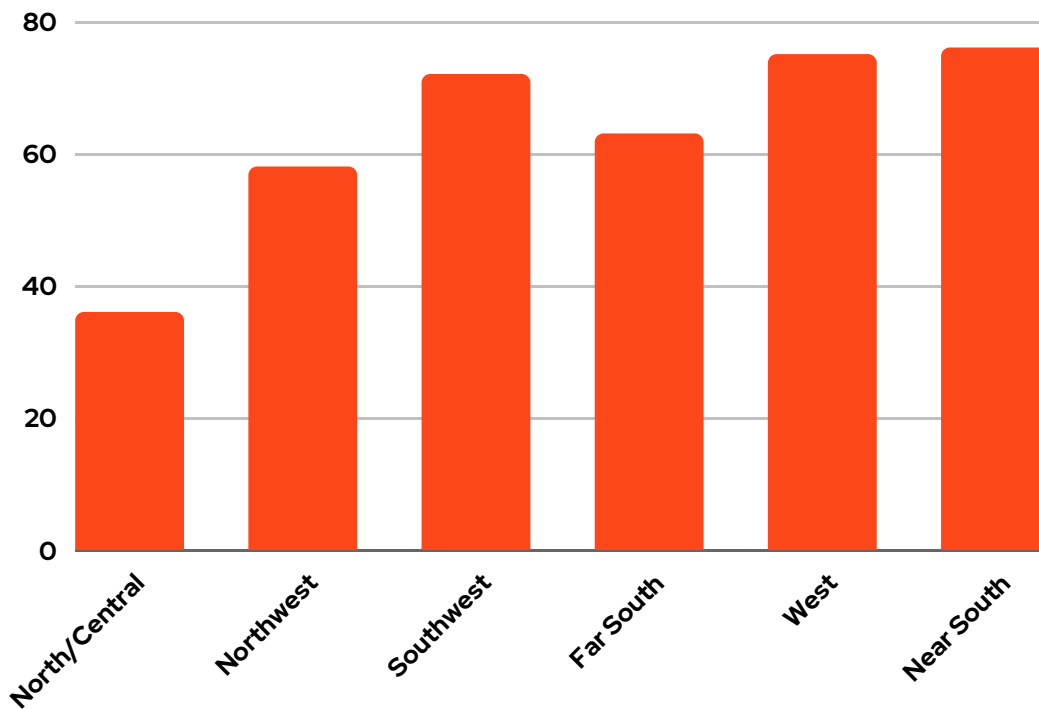
The Chicago Health Atlas is a publicly available portal that combines several data sources into one easily accessible, public portal. It was developed by the Chicago Department of Public Health, PHAME Center at UIC and Metopio, with support from the Otho S.A. Sprague Memorial Institute.

SOCIAL VULNERABILITY INDEX



Albany Park residents are 58.4% more socially vulnerable than residents living in the Loop

SOCIAL VULNERABILITY INDEX

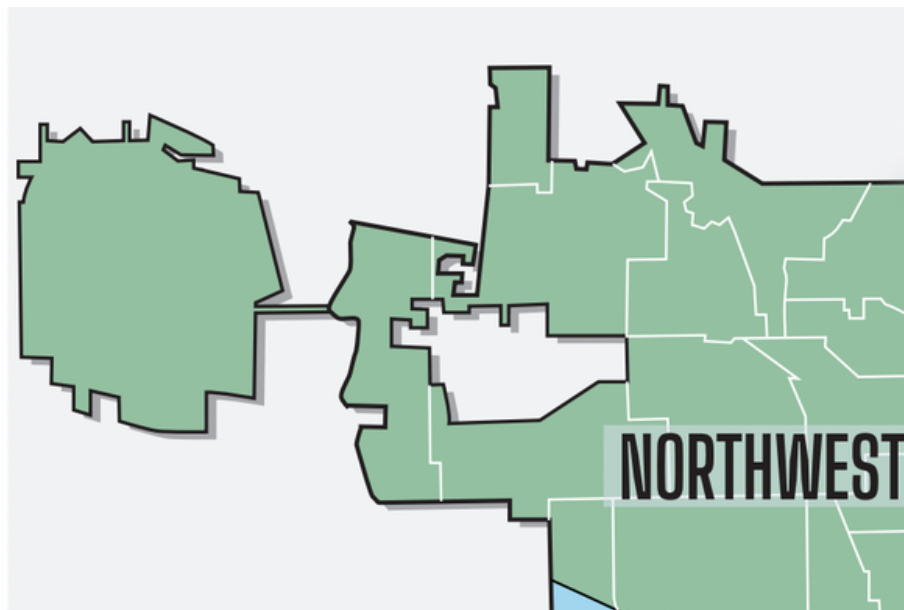


SO WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

Social Vulnerability Index measures a community's preparedness for an unexpected event (e.g. natural disaster, a pandemic.. And so on). We see Northwest here with the second lowest social vulnerability index in the city. So it seems that we would be in good shape if, say, a pandemic were to hit. What is Social Vulnerability? Every community must prepare for and respond to hazardous events, whether a natural disaster like a tornado or disease outbreak, or a human-made event such as a harmful chemical spill. A number of factors, including poverty, lack of access to transportation, and crowded housing may weaken a community's ability to prevent human suffering and financial loss in a disaster. These factors are known as social vulnerability.

COVID-19 IMPACTS AND THE NORTHWEST SIDE

THE NORTHWEST SIDE



When examining the 28 indicators we were asked to compile by the City of Chicago, the data told a story of the differences between neighborhoods in the Northwest side. When looking at the data on a regional level, the Northwest side often scores high on health outcomes, comparable to the North/Central neighborhoods and region. However, looking at the data in the Northwest side broken down by neighborhood tells a much different story. Some neighborhoods have very excellent outcomes comparatively, while others face disparate outcomes due to structural racism, displacement and historical disinvestment in these communities. It's important to note that much of the information disseminated by CDPH was not immediately made available in culturally appropriate languages for residents in Albany Park.

The full effects of this historical disinvestment in our Northwest side communities was fully shown during the COVID-19 pandemic. Our communities faced some of the highest case and death rates in the city and state, with Albany Park being hit significantly hard. This caused our community to reevaluate what health equity could mean for us and how it could be achieved.

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Health and Human Services was one of the top voted problem areas that community stakeholders indicated as a top priority that needs focused attention on. The mission of health and human services across the city is to enhance the health and well-being of all residents by providing accessible and cost-effective health care services and access to resources.

Quotes from Albany Park Residents



I don't want to leave. I've lived in this [low-income senior] building longer than I have lived anywhere else. I love Albany Park. I don't get health care in this community, but it's OK, I can go somewhere else."

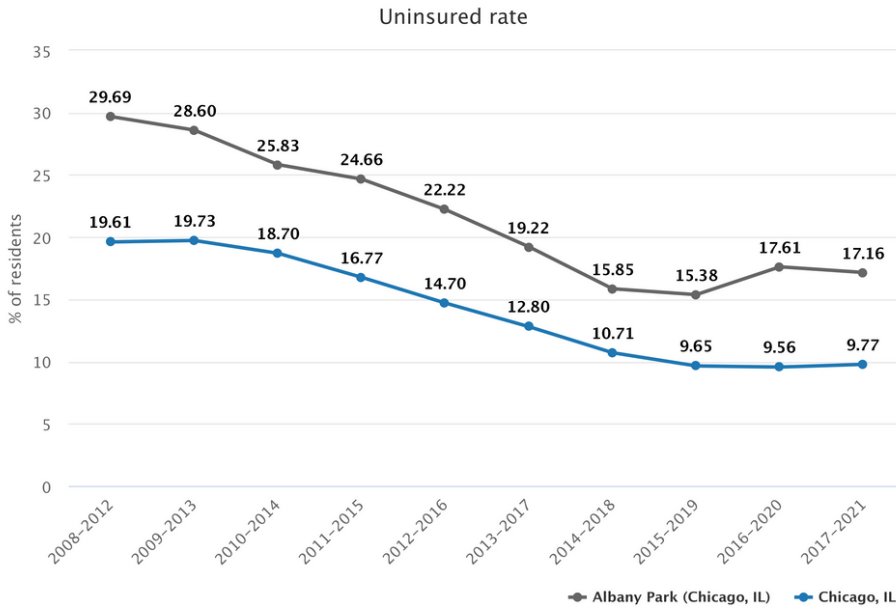
"I'm afraid of getting a high bill for medical services or even use my insurance."

The Albany Park area is one of the most disadvantaged areas for affordable healthcare facilities. The lack of language-appropriate treating medical centers and scarce number of mental health facilities adds to the overwhelming challenges that already exist within Albany Park. One of the biggest obstacles that the community of Albany Park and the surrounding areas are facing currently is the lack of readily available health care. Most residents in Albany Park have to be put on a months-long waitlist in order to access service of care.

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

UNINSURED RESIDENTS

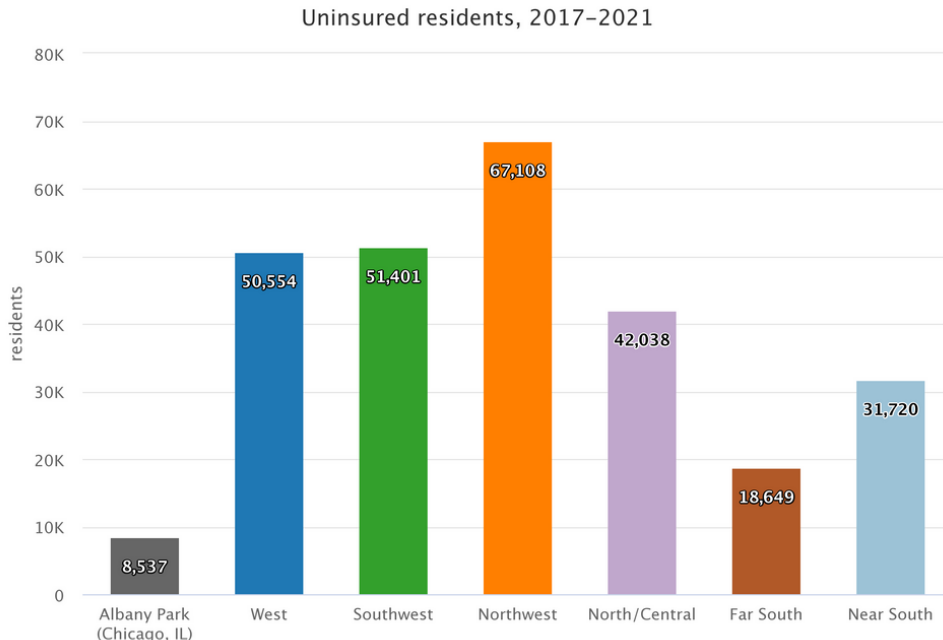
Uninsured residents in Albany Park



Unlike Chicago as a whole, Albany Park saw an increase of uninsured people in the last 5-7 years.

Created on Chicago Health Atlas | chicagohealthatlas.org | Data source: American Community Survey (Tables B27001/C27001)
 Uninsured rate: Percent of residents without health insurance (at the time of the survey).

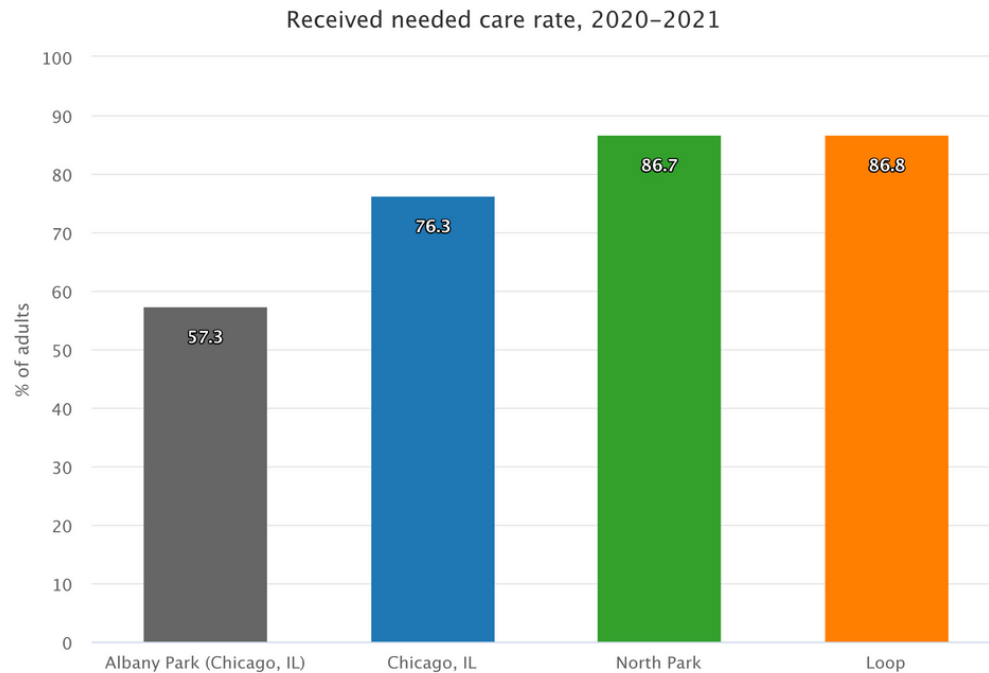
Uninsured residents by region



Created on Chicago Health Atlas | chicagohealthatlas.org | Data source: American Community Survey (Tables B27001/C27001)
 Uninsured residents: Number of residents without health insurance.

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

RECEIVED CARE RATE



Created on Chicago Health Atlas | chicagohealthatlas.org | Data source: Chicago Department of Public Health, Healthy Chicago Survey
Received needed care rate: Percent of adults who report that it is "usually" or "always" easy to get the care, tests or treatment they needed through their health plan.

That was a lot of graphs...

Yep! So what do they all mean? In this case, we felt it was important to know where a community stands in comparison to other parts of the city. As you can see, Albany Park and North Park are significantly different even though they are next door to each other. These discrepancies show that there are drastic health disparities that need to be observed in greater detail (neighborhood by neighborhood or block by block) than we typically do.

FOOD ACCESS

Food access is a topic that affects everyone's lives in the Albany Park community. Many residents and stakeholders reported that inflation has increased the need of food pantry resources. However, the area doesn't have many food pantry options. Many residents stated that they are given processed or culturally irrelevant food. If there is produce, the quality is below standards and the amount of visits they are allowed is very limited. Many felt frustrated because food pantries in nearby neighborhoods provided their residents with fresh vegetables, milk, and fruit. They felt that if it's possible to provide these pantries in other areas of the city, Albany Park should have access as well.

Quotes from Albany Park Residents



"During the pandemic, Albany Park families received free food that was mainly canned goods while others in Lakeview and Lincoln Park were receiving food that included fresh veggies, fruit, and milk".

"We do not have many pantries in our area."

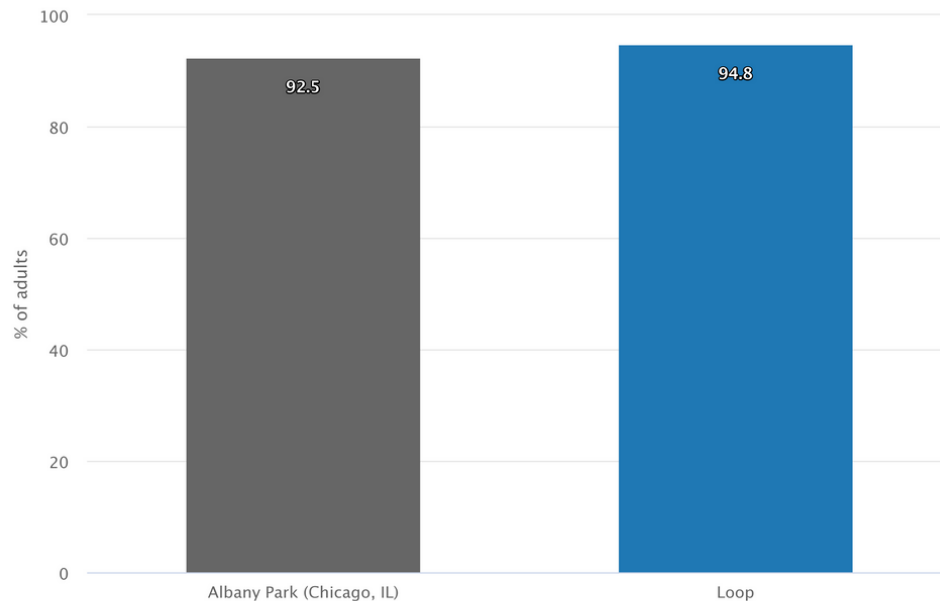
"The food has gotten too expensive, it's unaffordable."

FOOD ACCESS

EASY ACCESS TO FRUITS & VEGETABLES

LOW FOOD ACCESS

Easy access to fruits and vegetables rate, 2020–2021

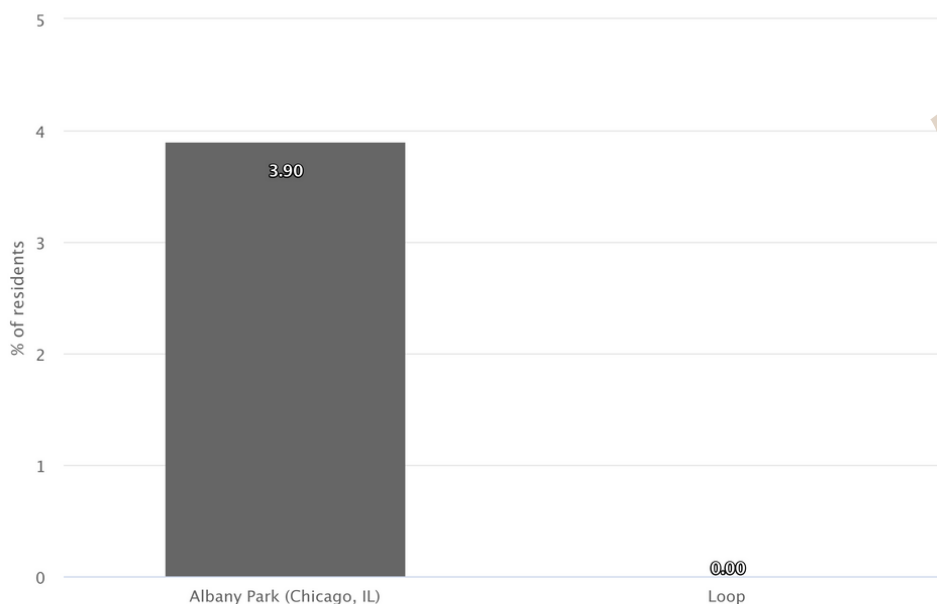


Created on Chicago Health Atlas | chicagohealthatlas.org | Data source: Chicago Department of Public Health, Healthy Chicago Survey
 Easy access to fruits and vegetables rate: Percent of adults who reported that it is very easy for them to get fresh fruits and vegetables.



Albany Park's cultural diversity lends itself to having more access to fruits and vegetables. Various cultures have very specific dietary needs which creates a great market for culturally diverse grocery stores.

Low food access, 2019



Created on Chicago Health Atlas | chicagohealthatlas.org | Data source: USDA, Economic Research Service, Food Access Research Atlas (Food Access Research Atlas)
 Low food access: Percent of residents who have low access to food, defined solely by distance: further than 1/2 mile from the nearest supermarket in an urban area, or further than 10 miles in a rural area.

However, while 3.90% of residents find it hard to access food, residents in the Loop report 0%. The idea that we can have the same amount of food access is possible as we continue to see the Loop has greater access to significantly more resources.



PUBLIC SAFETY

Most residents within the Albany Park community expressed that while they appreciate the diversity and culture within the community, they do not feel safe. Many expressed the lack of streetlights within their communities as their priority safety concern. They note that many children have to use public transportation before or after school and their walks are not well-lit enough to feel safe. Furthermore, unreliable CTA transportation and longer waiting times can expose residents, especially children, to violence. Many residents state there is a current lack of trust regarding police officers. While some have voiced the need for more sufficient training among police officers to de-escalate violent situations, others are looking for solutions that do not involve police presence altogether. Finally, many residents report a lack of resources towards violence prevention programs as a contributing factor for increased violence in Albany Park.

Quotes from Albany Park Residents



"The streets on my block are not well-lit."

"We feel unsafe while waiting for the train to get back home."

"There's increased gun violence and not enough violence prevention initiatives."

"We need better resources for residents who experience violence."

"Insufficient police accountability and the amount of training they receive to de-escalate situations."

"We need a support group for victims of gun violence."

PUBLIC SAFETY

Through the use of community intelligence from focus groups and the expertise of NRC's steering committee, as an organization, we use programming to address public safety through the use of community intelligence from focus groups and the expertise of NRC's steering committee. Projects include community engagement to increase awareness and address social determinants of health and safety, violence prevention programs, a mental health campaign directed by youth, and housing assistance and health equity work in order to promote safety and security.

WE ASKED OUR COMMUNITY GROUPS:



- 10% Few to no programs/areas for children to attend
- 5% Lack of knowledge of where to get help
- 10% No sense of community
- 35% More organizations with resources for mental health and domestic violence services
- 35% No mediators to connect to these services
- 10% Residents don't call 911 when crime happens



- 26% Education campaign on available resources in Albany Park
- 26% After school programs for youth
- 11% Community run sports
- 21% More social workers in Albany Park
- 16% Public safety workshops (self defense, neighborhood watch, etc)

ENVIRONMENT

When asked about their opinion on the environment, community members raised concerns about the lack of trees, parks, and general green space in the community. Residents also expressed concerns about the community's urban forest and woodlands slowly deteriorating. They stated that mature trees are dying and no one is taking proactive actions. Stakeholders also cited concerns regarding the increased pollution due to the the amount of vehicular traffic, and concerns about dangerous levels of lead in their drinking water due to lead service lines.

Quotes from Albany Park Residents



"Many branches from trees that are on the street cover the sewer system, causing flooding on the streets."

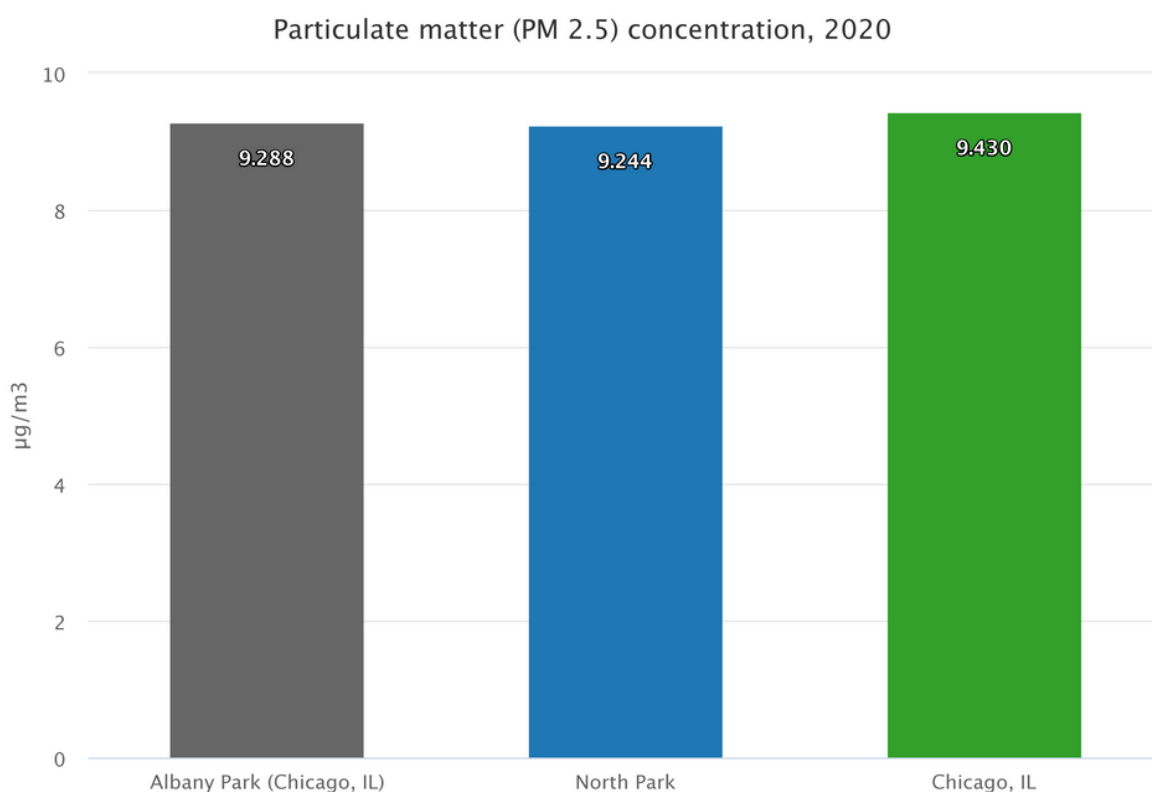
"There are many rats in the streets because we do not have enough garbage cans."

"Public littering is so bad that it clogs the drains. When it rains, the sewers are draining incorrectly which causes massive flooding."

In comparison to the entire northwest region, Albany Park was the only community that had established environmental work. Confluence is a planning project to improve and activate a series of sites at Lawrence Avenue and the Chicago River; it establishes a stronger neighborhood gateway for Albany Park. The project will create a platform for lively economic activity, a space for authentic cultural expression, and a catalyst that spurs investment on Lawrence Avenue - a vital neighborhood commercial corridor.

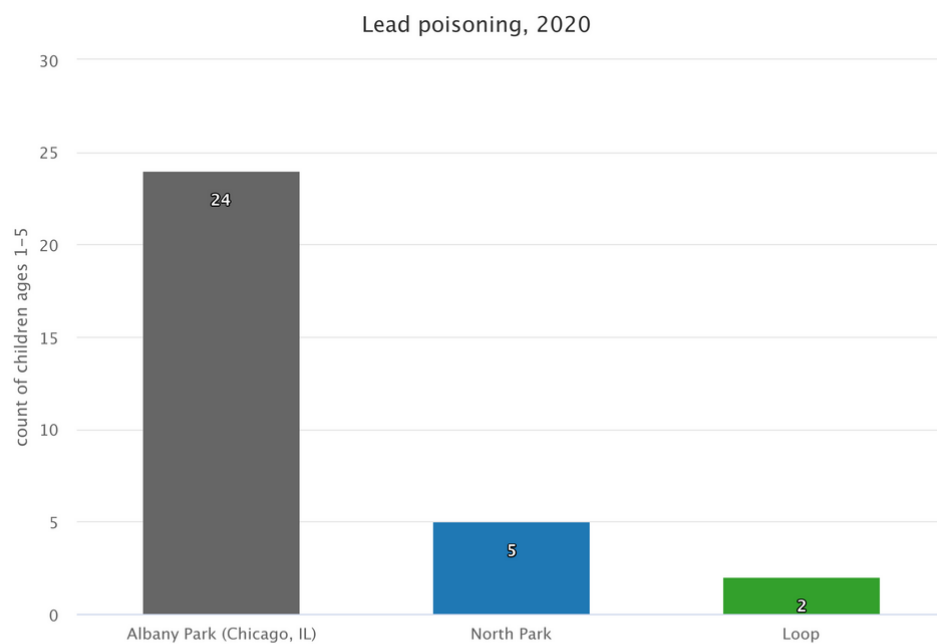
ENVIRONMENT

Particulate matter 2.5 (PM 2.5) are particles smaller than 2.5 microns in diameter and are one of the most dangerous pollutants to public health. These tiny particles can be breathed in and penetrate deep into the alveoli of the lungs. Below is a graph of the annual average concentration in micrograms per cubic meter.



Created on Chicago Health Atlas | chicagohealthatlas.org | Data source: Environmental Protection Agency, EJSCREEN (EJSCREEN)
Particulate matter (PM 2.5) concentration: Annual average concentration in micrograms per cubic meter. PM 2.5, or particulate matter smaller than 2.5 microns in diameter, is one of the most dangerous pollutants because the particles can penetrate deep into the alveoli of the lungs.

ENVIRONMENT



Created on Chicago Health Atlas | chicagohealthatlas.org | Data source: Chicago Department of Public Health, Lead Poisoning Prevention Program
 Lead poisoning: Children ages 1-5 with blood lead level at or above 5 micrograms per deciliter

IMPORTANT!
 As you can see, the northwest area is the overall second lowest area in terms of lead poisoning. However, when looked at closely, many of these lead poisoning incidents specifically occur in Albany Park

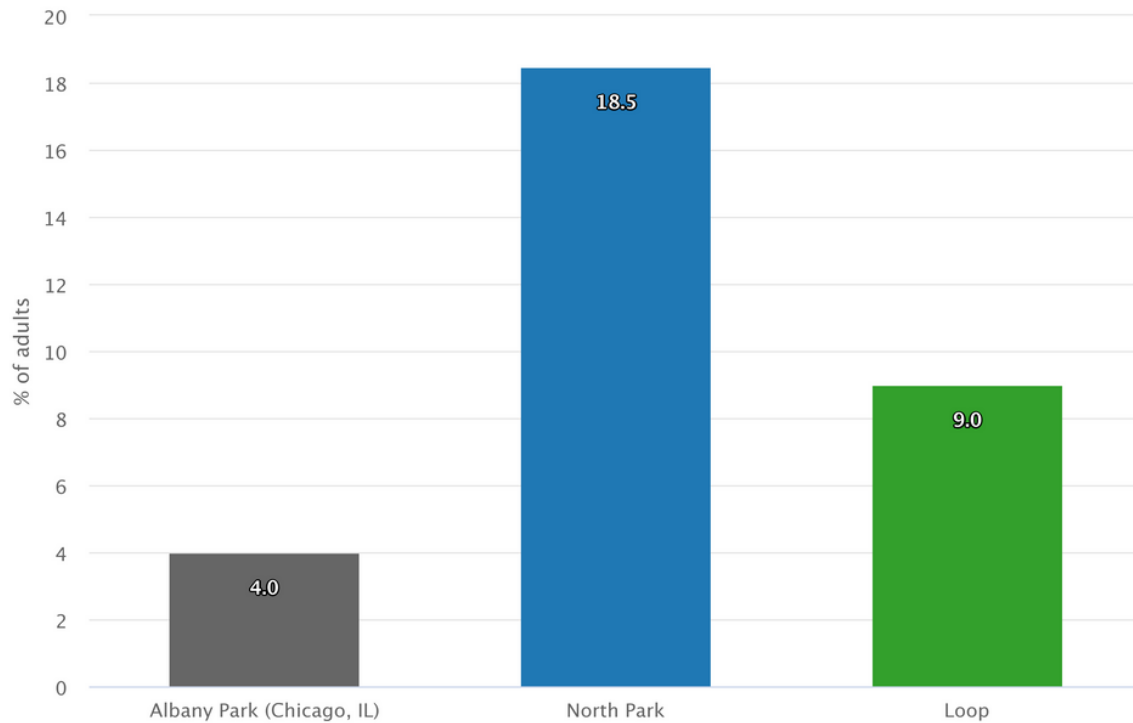


Lead poisoning rate (% of children ages 1-5), 2020



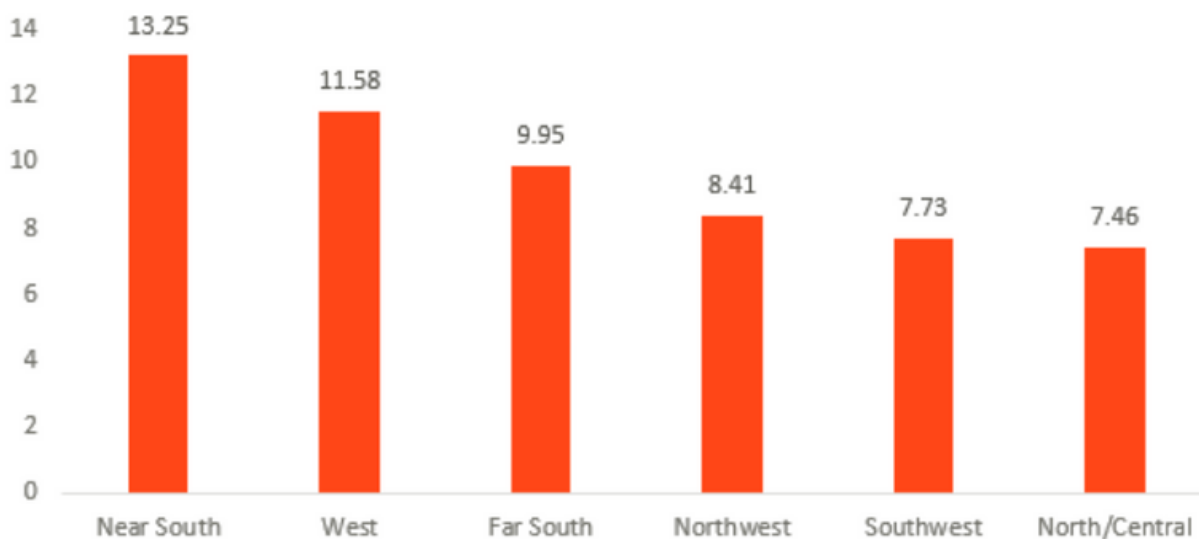
ENVIRONMENT

Adult asthma rate, 2016–2018



Created on Chicago Health Atlas | chicagohealthatlas.org | Data source: Chicago Department of Public Health, Healthy Chicago Survey
Adult asthma rate: Percent of adults who reported that a doctor, nurse or other health professional has diagnosed them with asthma, and they currently have asthma.

Adult asthma rate (% of adults), 2020–2021



HOUSING

A common theme among focus groups, surveyees, and workshop attendees is how unaffordable housing has become within the Albany Park area. Many residents voiced their concerns about the disappearance of affordable housing. Increasing rent costs, exclusionary eligibility criteria, and lack of well-paying jobs limit many community members from accessing basic life necessities such as preventative healthcare services, access to healthy foods, and more. Albany Park residents highlighted that the cost of living is starting to outpace the current earning wage, making it increasingly challenging to stay in their community.

30%

Households spending more than 30% of income on rent are considered rent-burdened

50%

Households spending more than 50% of income on rent are considered severely rent-burdened

Moreover, residents report unsafe housing conditions, such as mold and lead that can ultimately lead to health hazards for all tenants. Focus group members also voiced issues such as increased gentrification, overcrowding, and decreased pro bono services to prevent eviction. Furthermore, tenants are experiencing severe hardships such as landlord discrimination towards undocumented individuals, unsafe housing conditions for elderly individuals, mandates for high credit scores, and complicated rental applications. Agencies such as NRC are therefore combating these issues via programs such as direct housing assistance services, organizing housing fairs to assist low income residents, financial education, and more.

HOUSING

DATA COLLECTED FROM COMMUNITY MEMBERS:



- 10% Unsafe housing
- 10% No rent control
- 60% Affordability of housing
- 10% No month to month leases
- 5% Credit barriers
- 5% Undocumented people unable to apply



- 10% Landlord/Tenant rights workshops
- 5% Persuade banks to loan to undocumented people and offer them subsidies workshops
- 50% Affordable housing
- 10% Affordable mortgage payments with lower interest rates
- 10% Home repair funds
- 5% Flexible insurance
- 10% Financial coaching/Credit building workshop

NEIGHBORHOOD PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

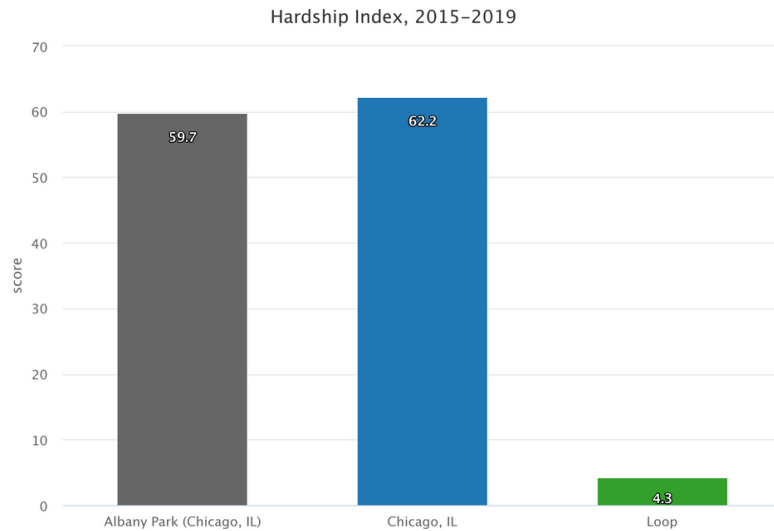
When asked by focus groups about their primary concerns involving neighborhood development, many residents were split on their priorities. While some individuals shared safe recreation spaces as a priority within the community, others have rated creating safe bike lanes and increased local public services as of greater importance. Additionally, many residents state they are concerned about community members not being centrally involved in projects built in Albany Park. Many express there is a lack of knowledge on how to get involved in these projects. Therefore, we encourage you to voice your concerns and participate by joining neighborhood associations, contacting your local aldermen and more.

Quote from Albany Park Resident



“People do not understand that affordable housing is for people working in the area. There is a negative stigma about affordable housing developments because many relate affordable housing with criminals and such. There has to be more education on how wrong this is and the harm thinking like this does to people who are going to become homeless.”

NEIGHBORHOOD PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

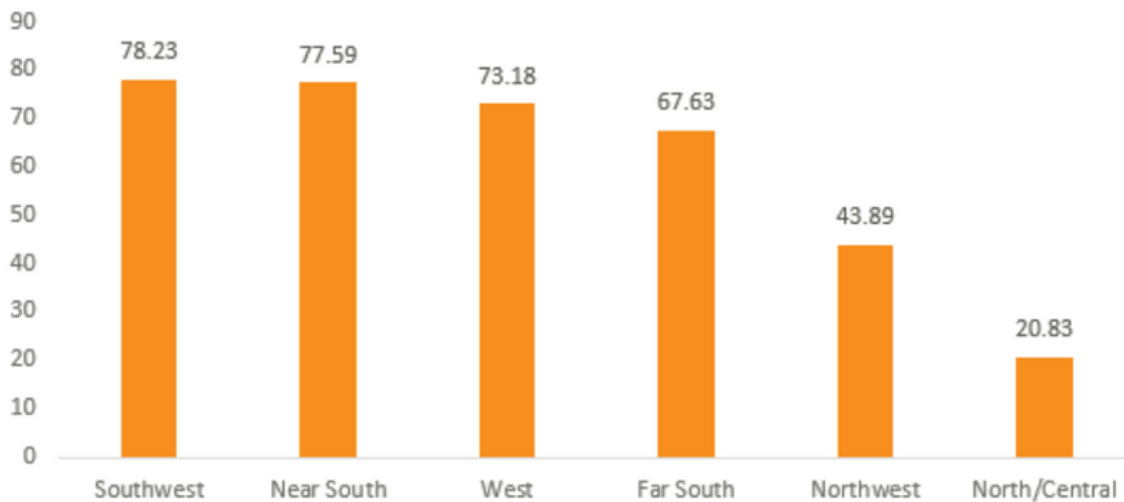


Created on Chicago Health Atlas | chicagohealthatlas.org | Data source: American Community Survey (Calculated by Metopio)
 Hardship Index: The Hardship Index is a composite score reflecting hardship in the community (higher values indicate greater hardship). It incorporates unemployment, age dependency, education, per capita income, crowded housing, and poverty into a single score that allows comparison between geographies. It is highly correlated with other measures of economic hardship, such as labor force statistics, and with poor health outcomes. See technical notes for details.

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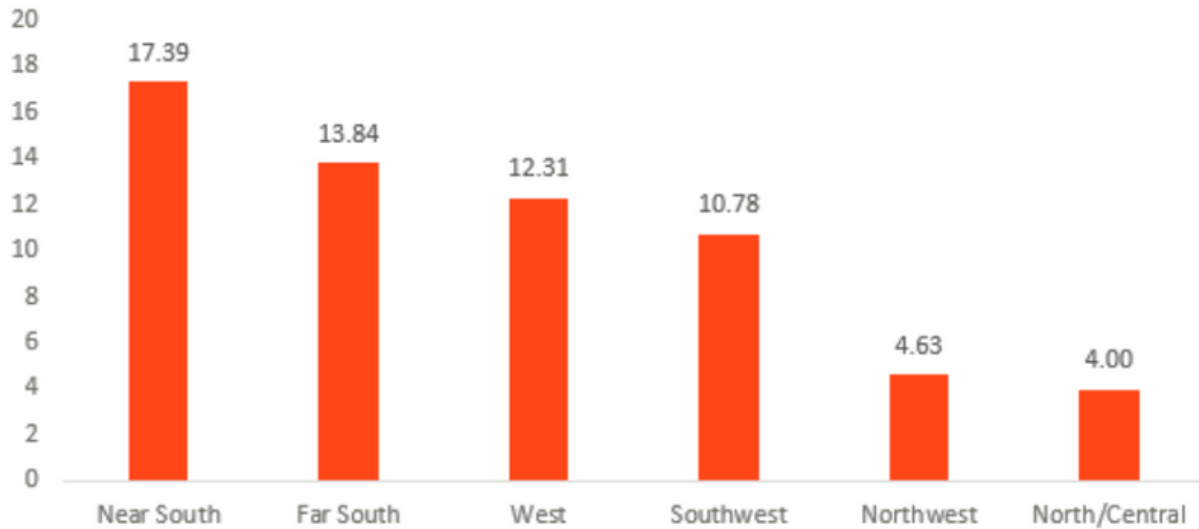


Average of Hardship Index, 2015-2019

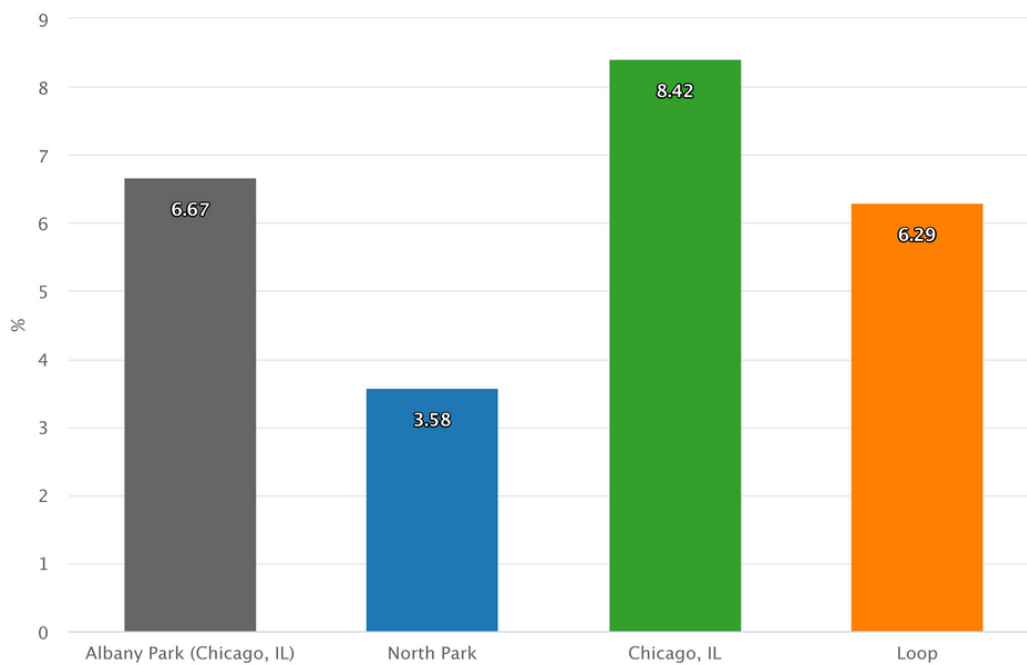


NEIGHBORHOOD PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

Unemployment rate (%), 2016-2020



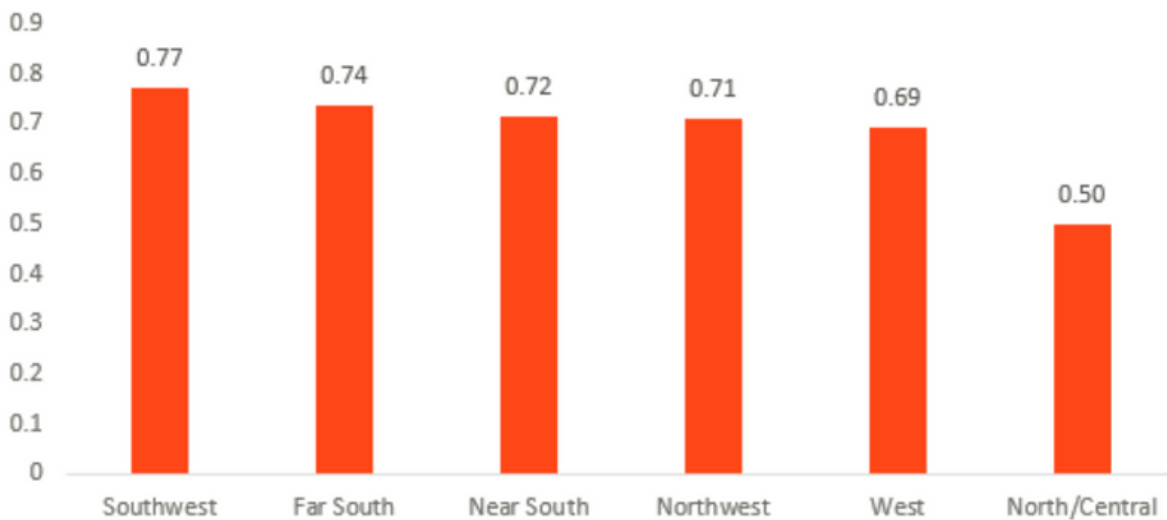
Unemployment rate, 2017-2021



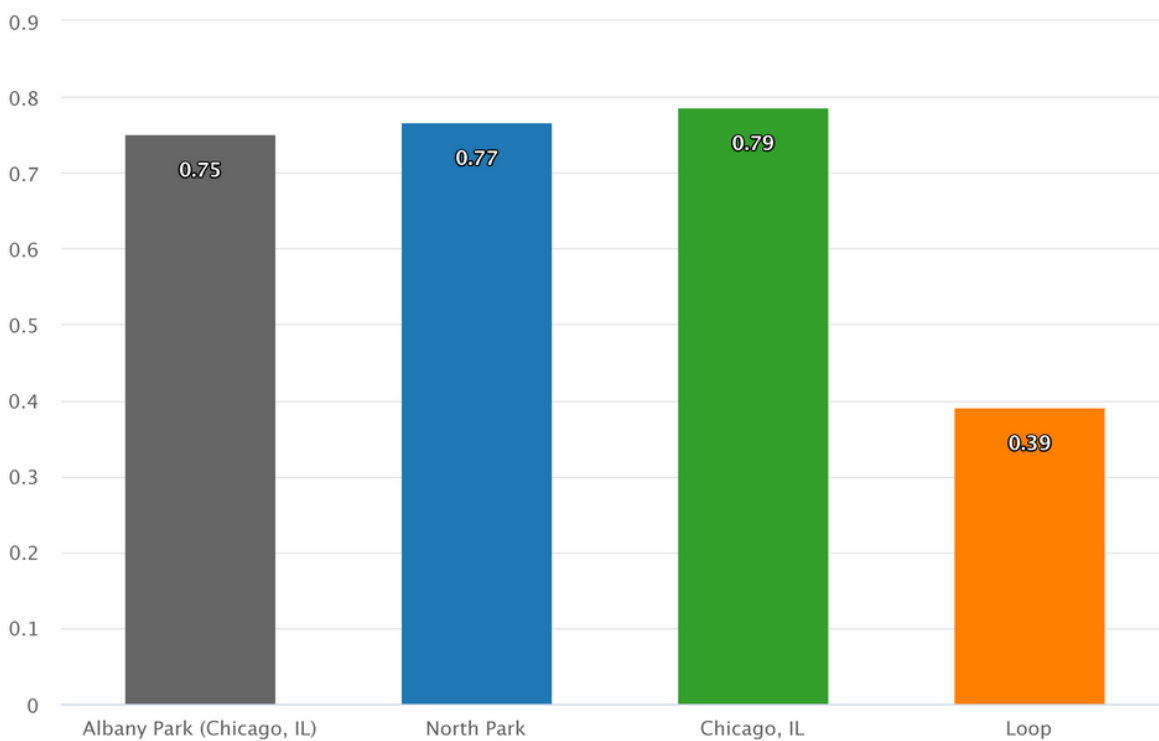
Created on Chicago Health Atlas | chicagohealthatlas.org | Data source: American Community Survey (Tables B23025, B23001, and C23002)
 Unemployment rate: Percent of residents 16 and older in the civilian labor force who are actively seeking employment.

NEIGHBORHOOD PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

Economic Diversity Index, 2016-2020

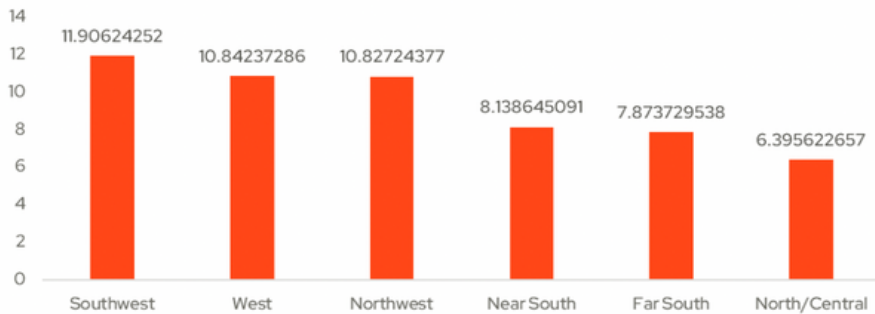


Economic Diversity Index, 2017-2021



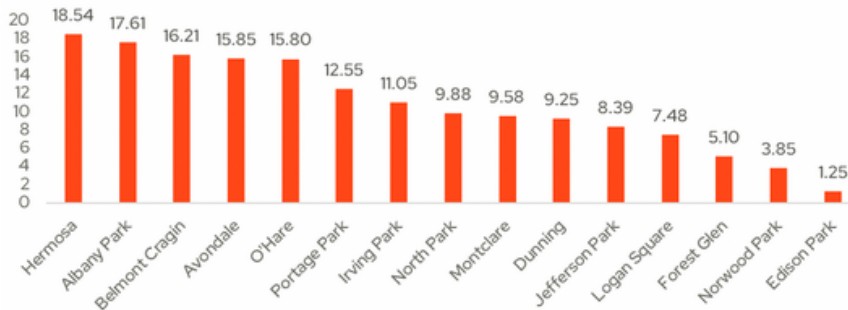
Created on Chicago Health Atlas | chicagohealthatlas.org | Data source: American Community Survey (Table B17026 (Calculated by Metopio))
 Economic Diversity Index: The Economic Diversity Index measures the probability that any two residents of an area, chosen at random, belong to different family income levels, measured as multiples of the Federal Poverty Level. A score of 0 represents a perfectly homogenous community; the higher the score, the more economically diverse the area. The highest possible score is 0.833, not 1.

Uninsured rate

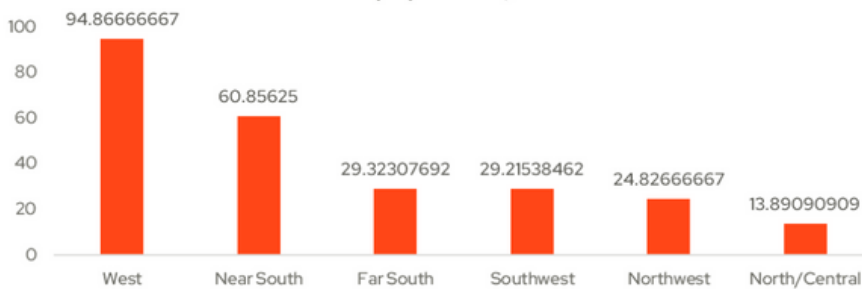


Percent of residents without health insurance (at the time of the survey).

Uninsured rate (% of residents), 2016-2020

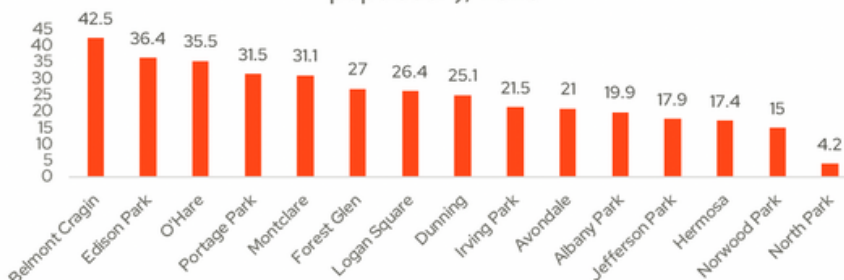


Opioid-related overdose mortality rate (per 100,000 population)

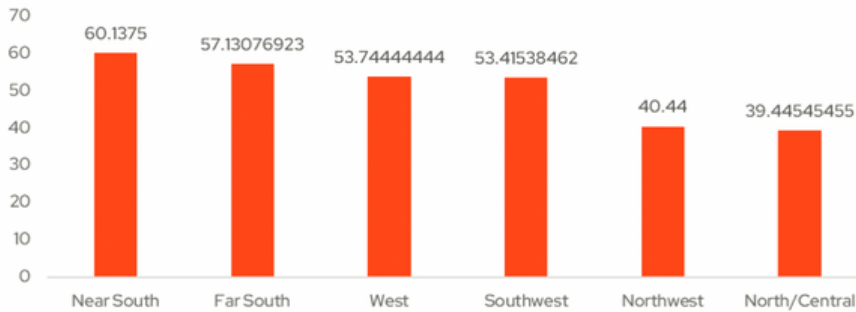


Age-adjusted rate of opioid-related overdose deaths among Chicago residents per 100,000 population.

Opioid-related overdose mortality rate (per 100,000 population), 2020

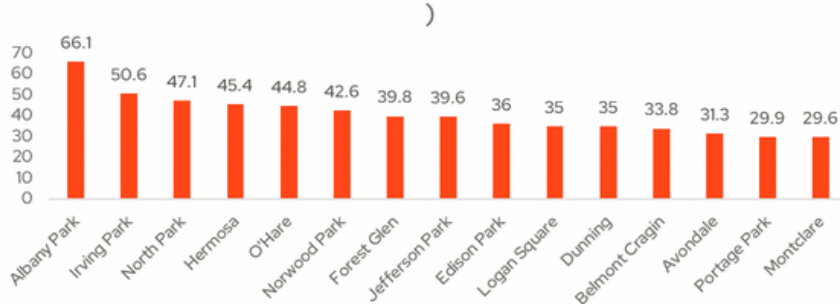


Stroke mortality rate (per 100,000) by region

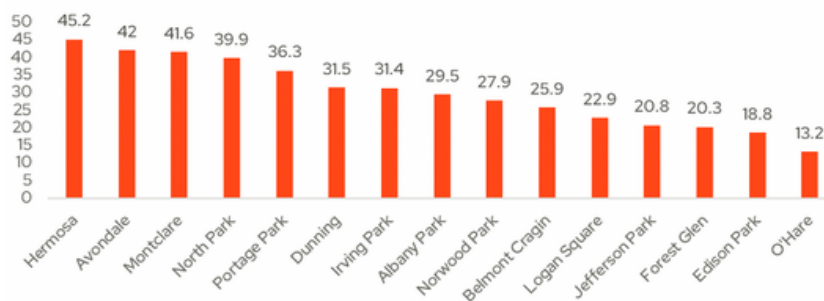


Age-adjusted rate of people who died due to stroke.

Stroke mortality rate (per 100,000 population), 2015-2019

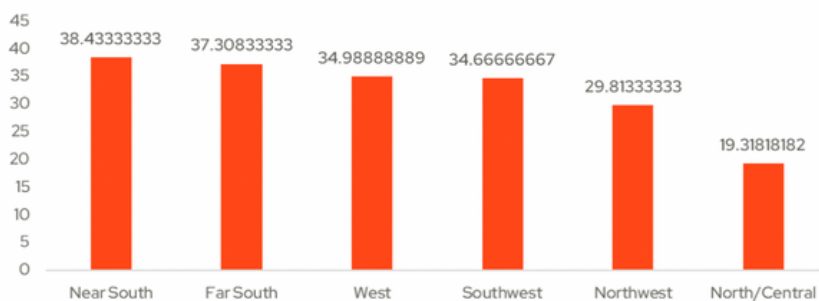


Adult obesity rate (% of adults), 2016-2018

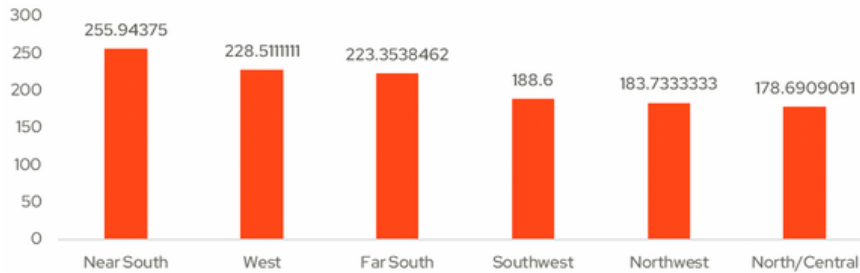


Percent of adults who reported a height and weight that yield a body mass index of 30 or greater.

Adult Obesity Rate (% of adults)

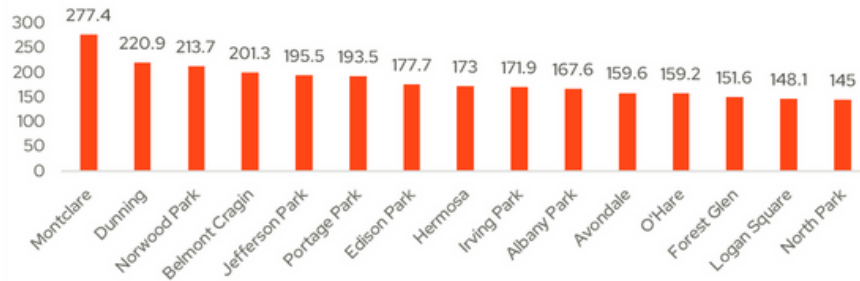


Heart disease mortality rate (per 100,000 population), 2015-2019

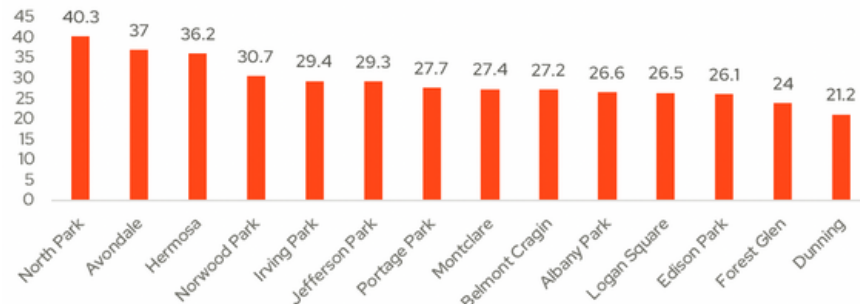


Age-adjusted rate of people who died due to heart disease.

Heart disease mortality rate (per 100,000 population), 2015-2019



Hypertension rate (% of adults), 2016-2018



Percent of adults who reported that a doctor, nurse or other health professional has diagnosed them with high blood pressure (excludes borderline high, pre-hypertensive or hypertension diagnosed only during pregnancy).

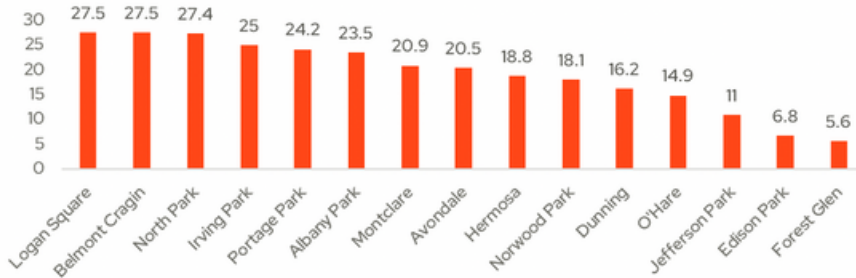
Hypertension rate (% of adults)



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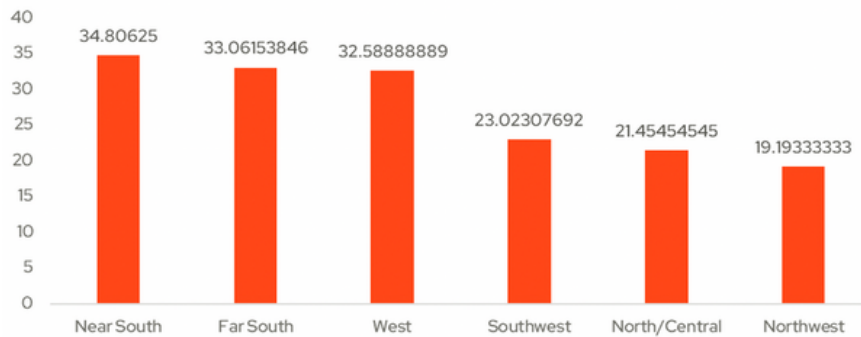
INDICATORS

Diabetes mortality rate (per 100,000 population), 2015-2019

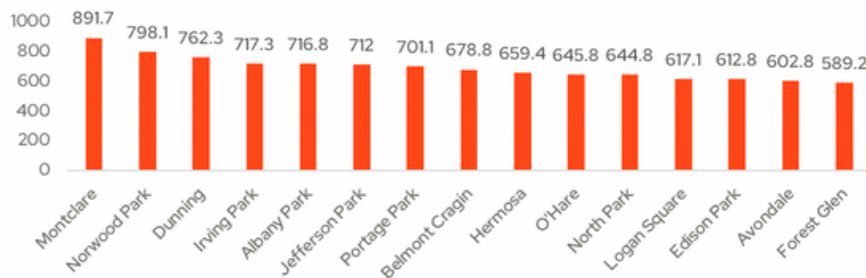


Age-adjusted rate of people who died due to diabetes.

Diabetes mortality rate (per 100,000)

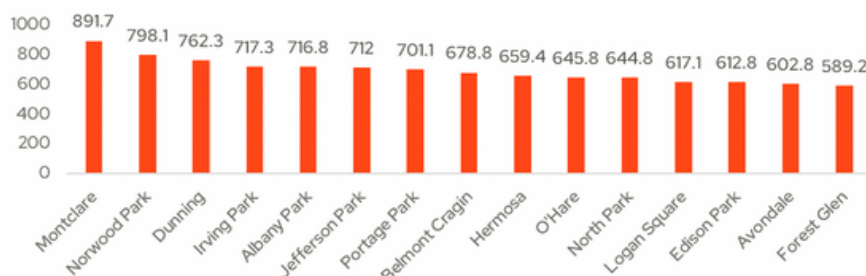


All-cause mortality rate (per 100,000 population), 2015-2019



Age-adjusted rate of all deaths due to any cause of death.

All-cause mortality rate (per 100,000 population), 2015-2019



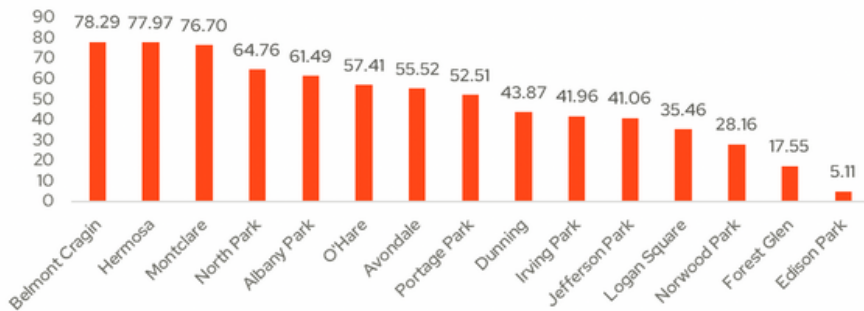
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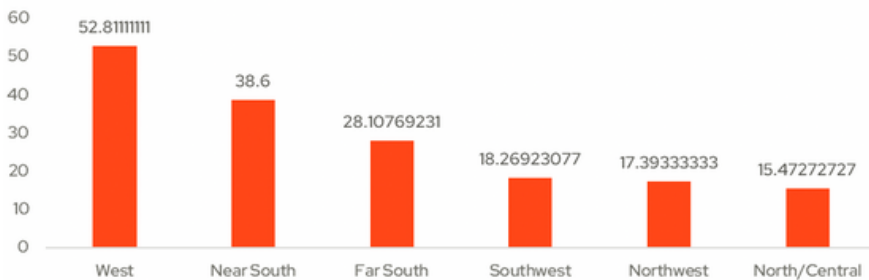
Social Vulnerability Index



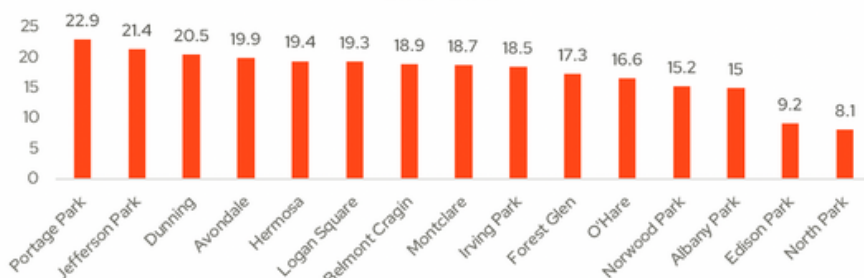
Social Vulnerability Index (percentile), 2018



Drug overdose mortality rate (per 100,000 population), 2015-2019



Drug overdose mortality rate (per 100,000 population), 2015-2019

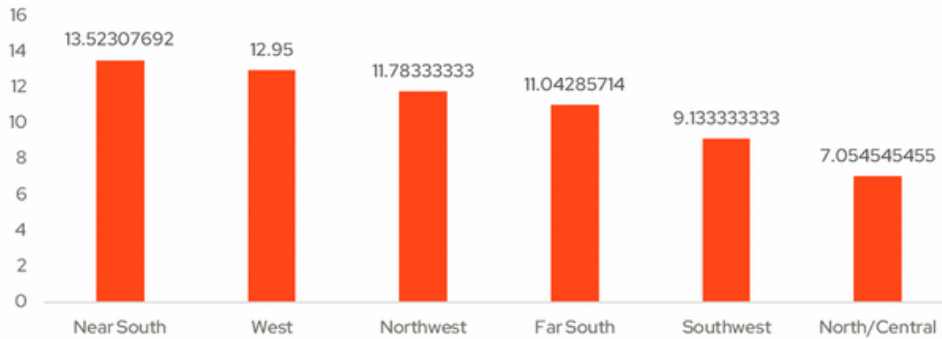


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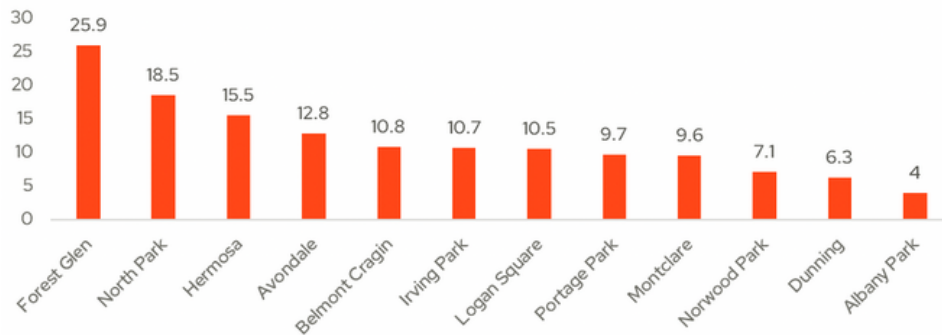
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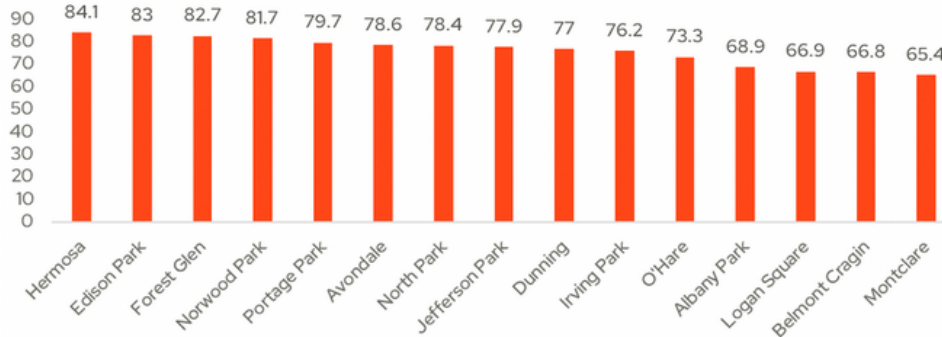
Adult asthma rate (% of adults), 2016-2018



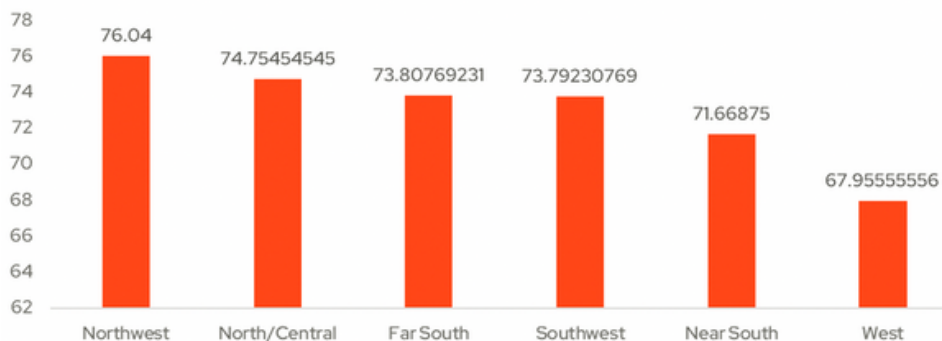
Adult asthma rate (% of adults), 2016-2018



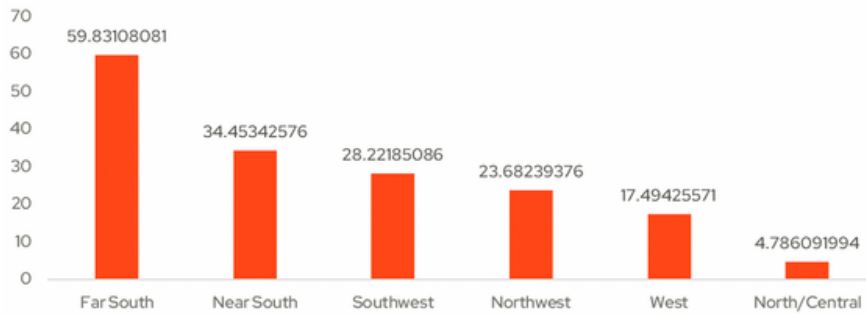
Primary care provider rate (% of adults), 2016-2018



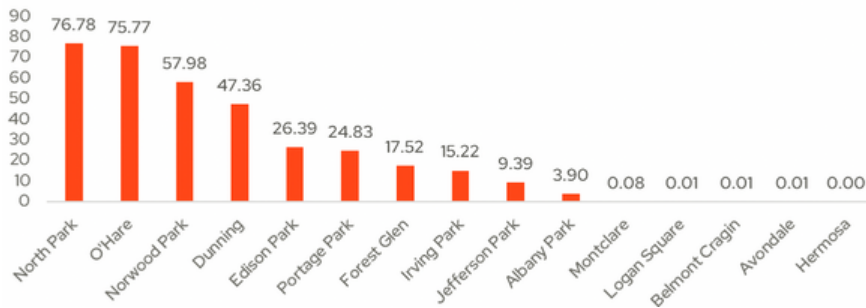
Primary care provider rate (% of adults), 2016-2018



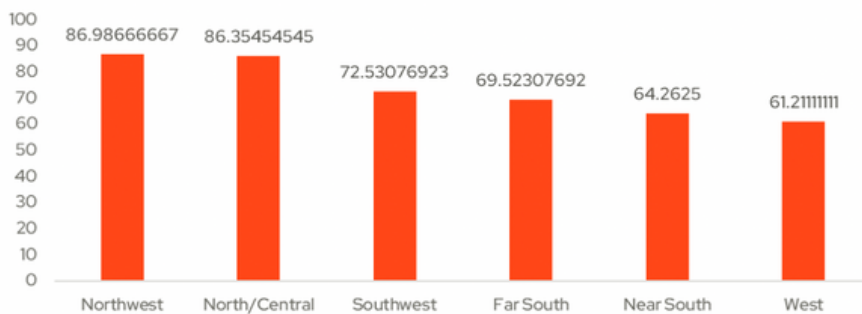
Low food access (% of residents), 2019



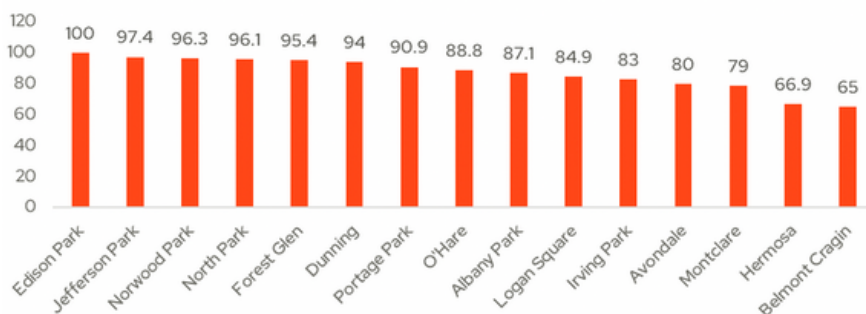
Low food access (% of residents), 2019



Neighborhood safety rate (% of adults) by region

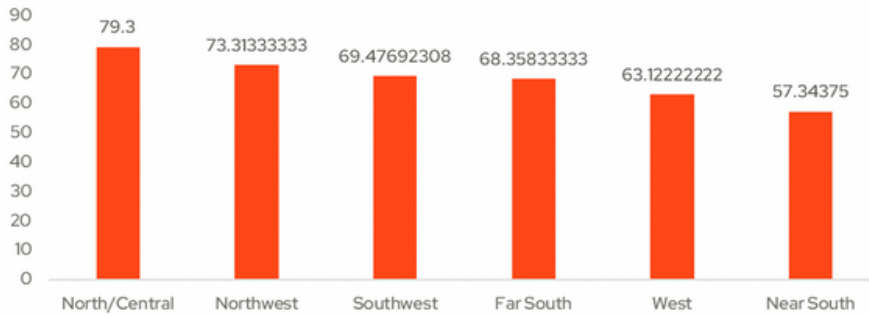


Neighborhood safety rate (% of adults), 2016-2018



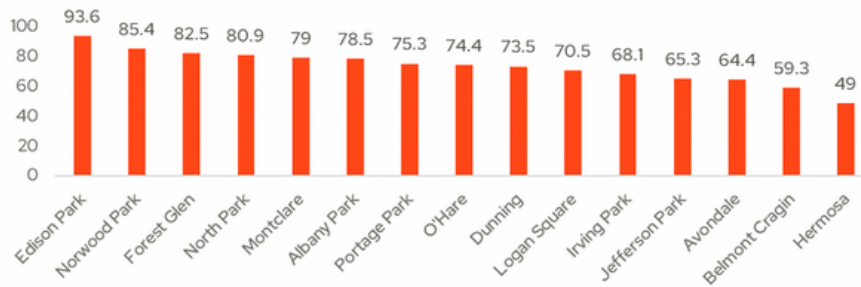
Percent of adults who report that they feel safe in their neighborhood 'all of the time' or 'most of the time'.

Easy access to fruits and vegetables (% of adults)

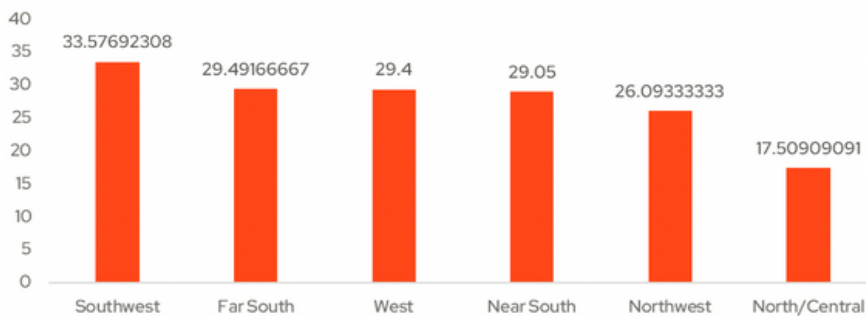


Percent of adults who reported that it is very easy for them to get fresh fruits and vegetables.

Easy access to fruits and vegetables rate (% of adults), 2016-2018

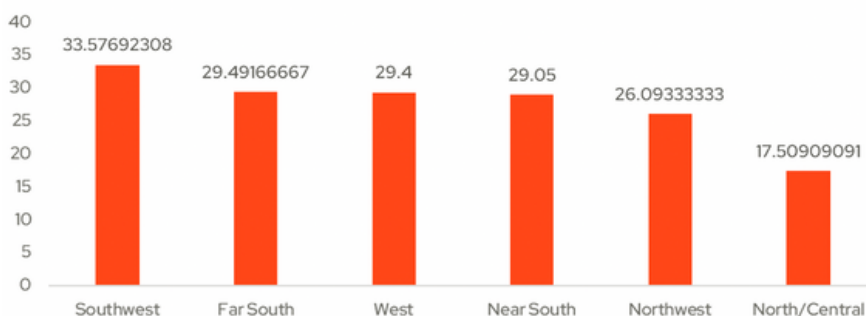


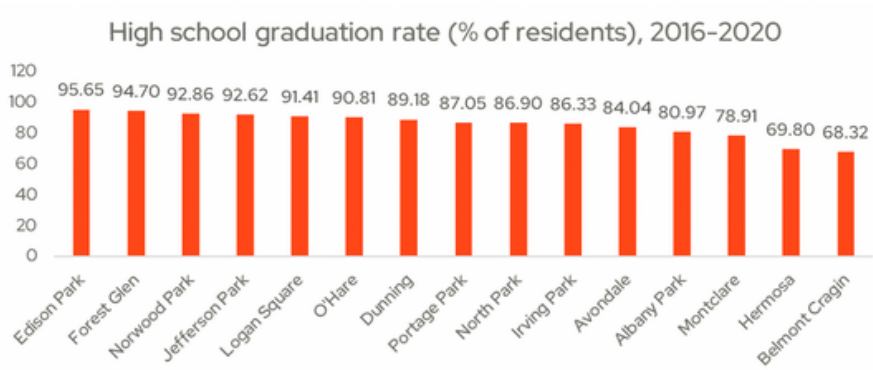
Adult physical inactivity rate (% of adults)



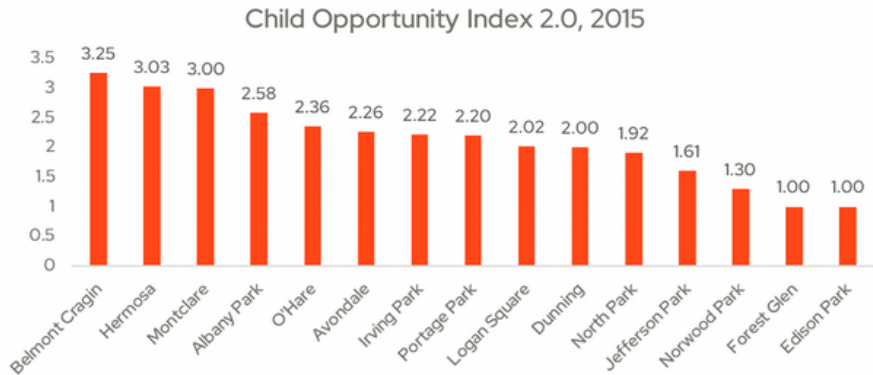
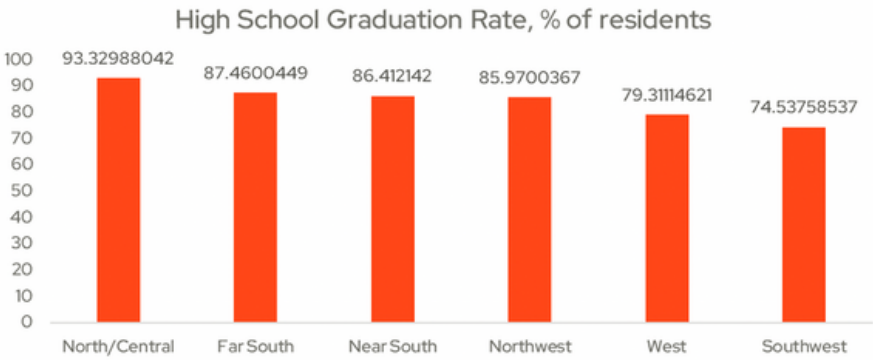
Percent of adults who reported that they did not participate in any physical activities or exercises in the past month.

Adult physical inactivity rate (% of adults)

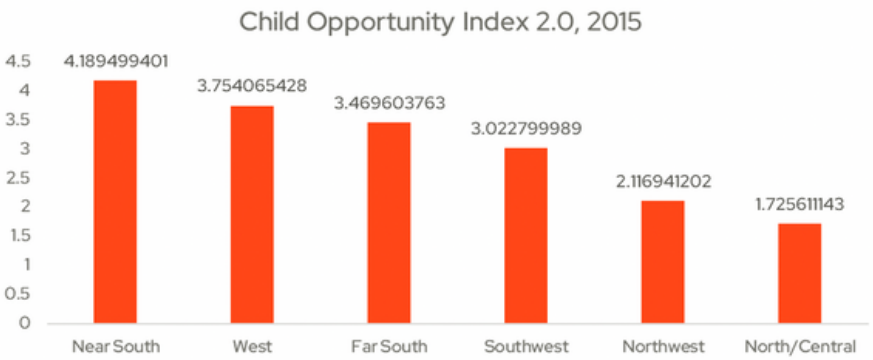


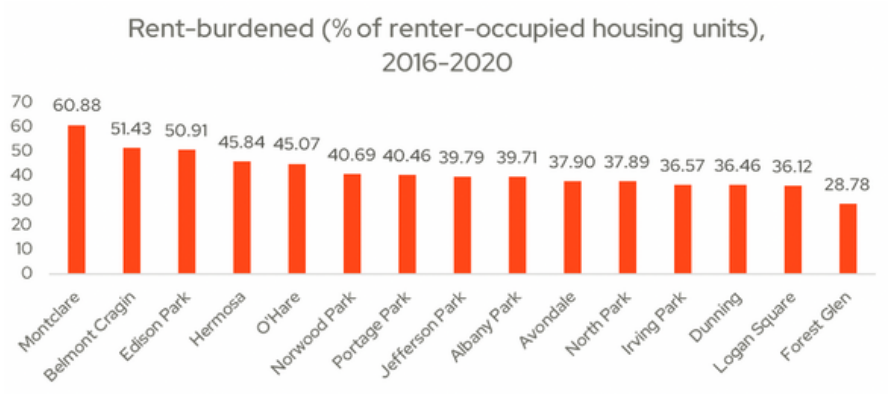


Residents 25 or older with at least a high school degree: including GED and any higher education

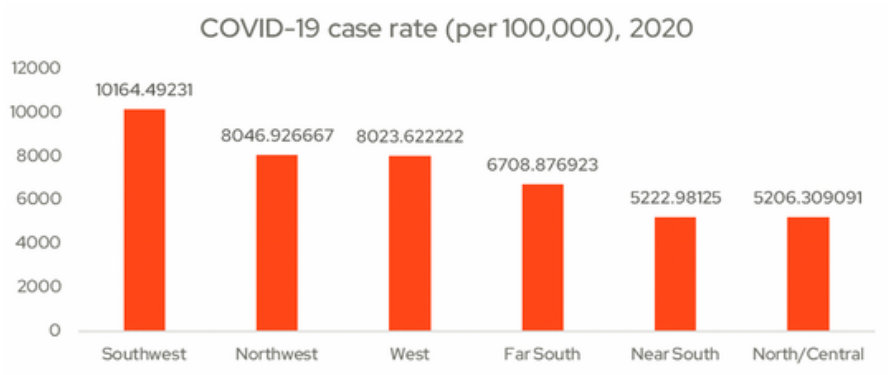
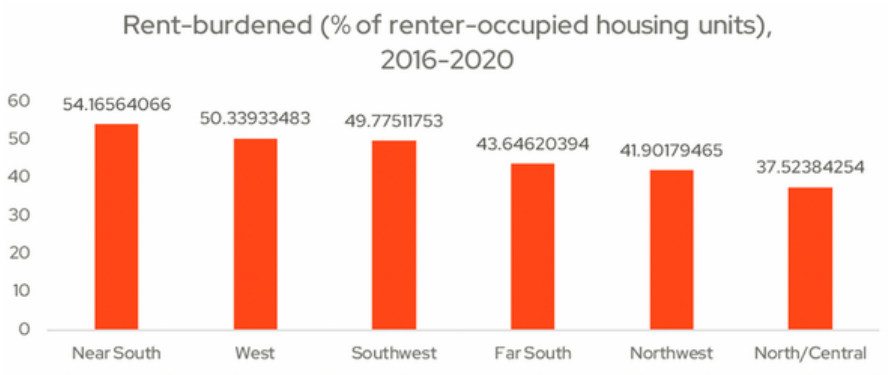


A composite index that captures neighborhood resources and conditions that matter for children's healthy development scored as Very Low (5), Low (4), Moderate (3), High (2), and Very High (1)

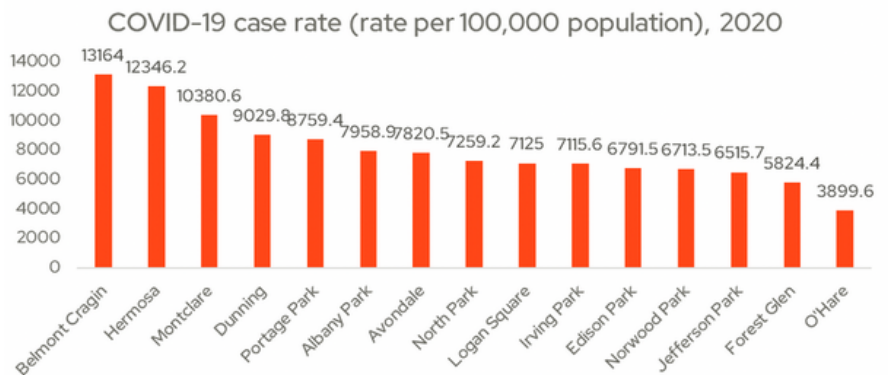




Households spending more than 30% of income on rent are considered rent-burdened. Rent costs do not include utilities, insurance, or building fees.



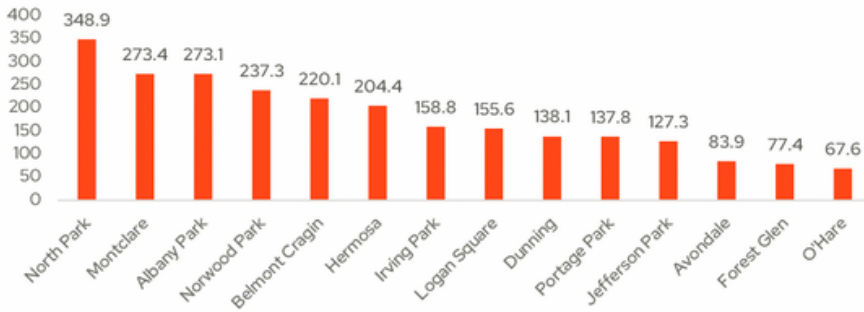
PCR and antigen positive cases per 100,000 population.



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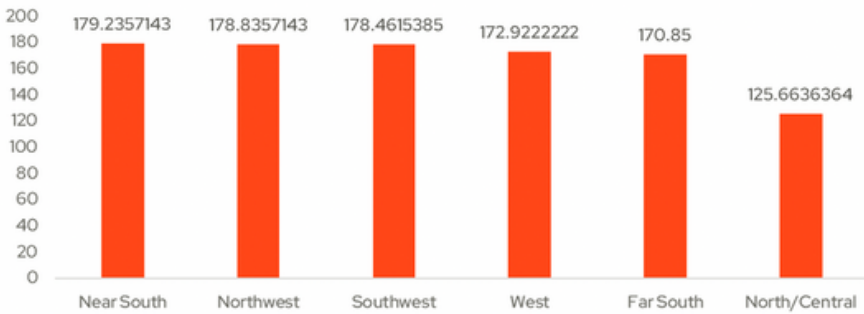
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COVID-19 death rate (rate per 100,000 population), 2020

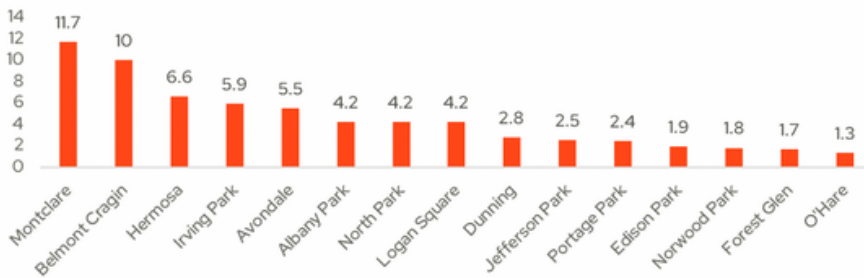


Rate of COVID-19 related deaths per 100,000 population

COVID-19 death rate per 100,000, 2020

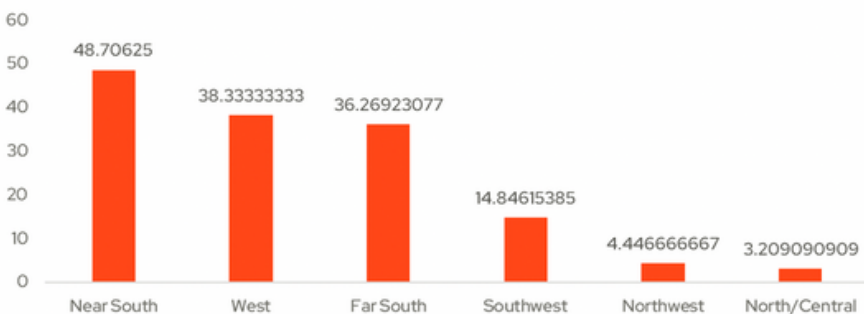


Homicide mortality rate (per 100,000 population), 2015-2019

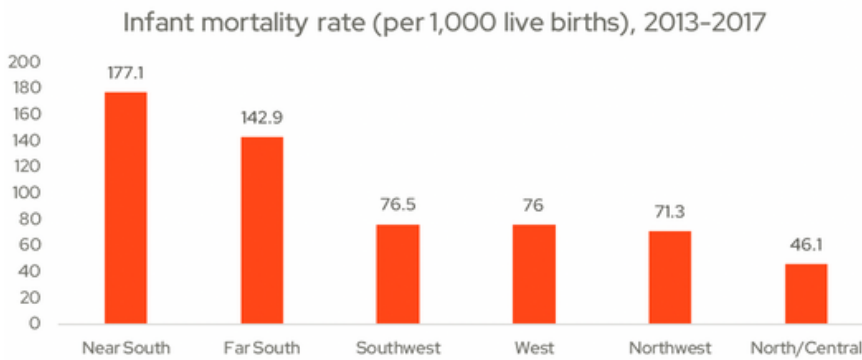
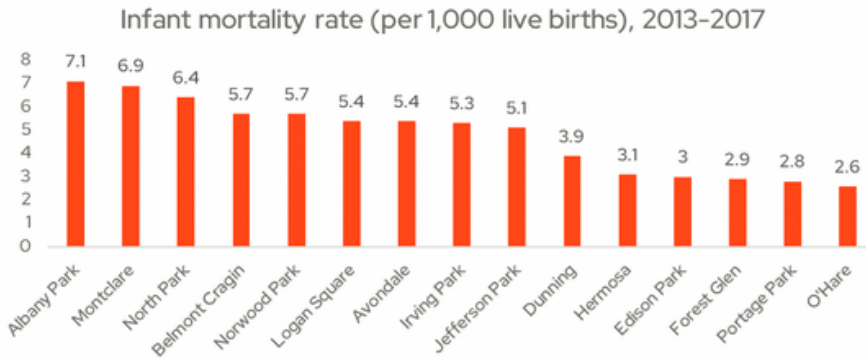


Age-adjusted rate of people who died due to homicide.

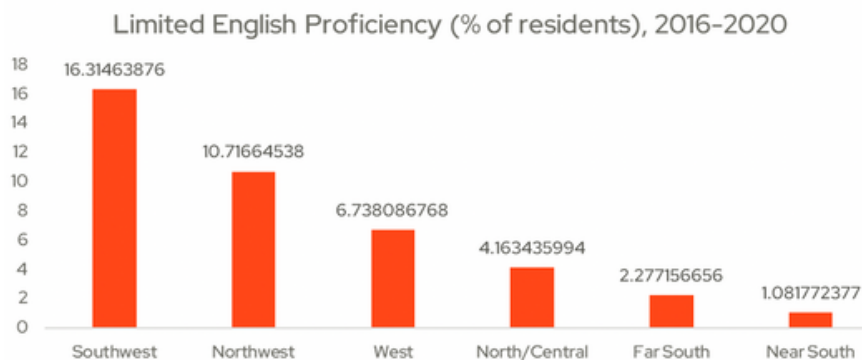
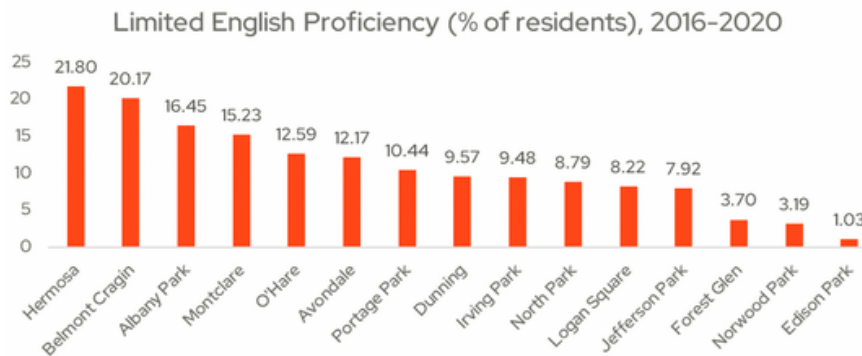
Homicide mortality rate (per 100,000), 2015-2019



Rate of infant deaths.



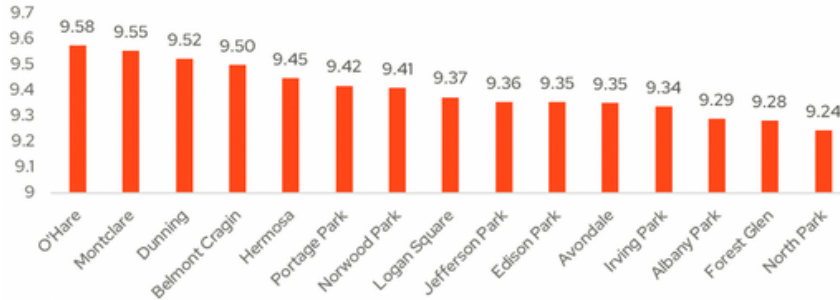
Percentage of residents 5 years and older who do not speak English 'very well'.



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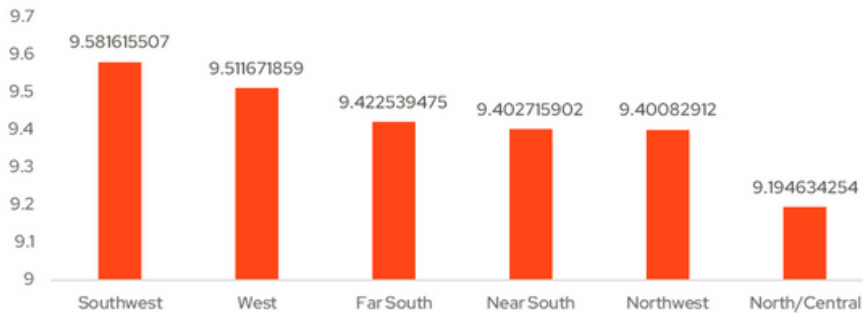
INDICATORS

Particulate Matter (PM 2.5) concentration, 2020

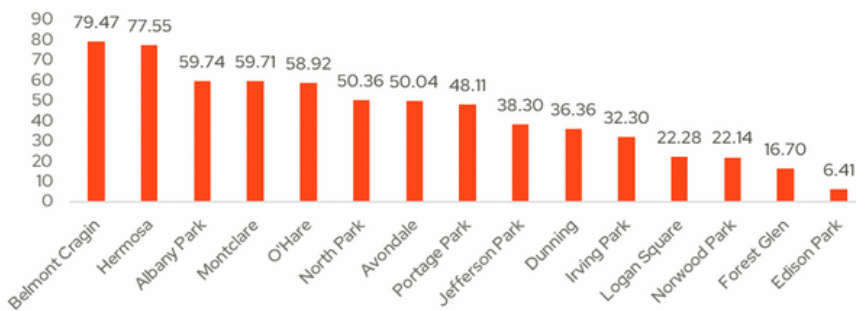


Annual average concentration in micrograms per cubic meter. PM 2.5, or particulate matter smaller than 2.5 microns in diameter, is one of the most dangerous pollutants because the particles can penetrate deep into the alveoli of the lungs.

Particulate Matter (PM 2.5) concentration, 2020

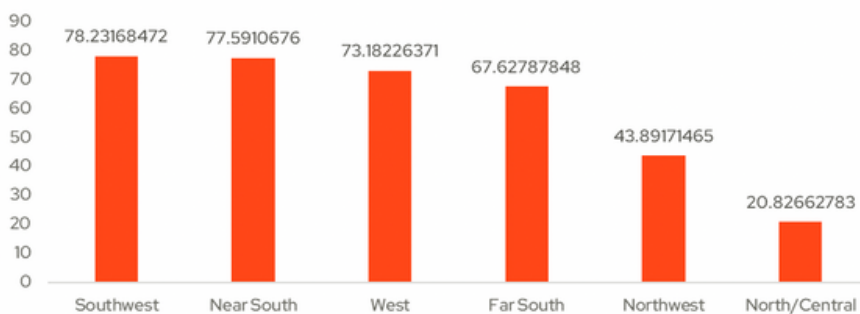


Hardship Index (score), 2015-2019



The Hardship Index is a composite score reflecting hardship in the community (higher values indicate greater hardship). It incorporates unemployment, age dependency, education, per capita income, crowded housing, and poverty into a single score that allows comparison between geographies. It is highly correlated with other measures of economic hardship, such as labor force statistics, and with poor health outcomes. See technical notes for details.

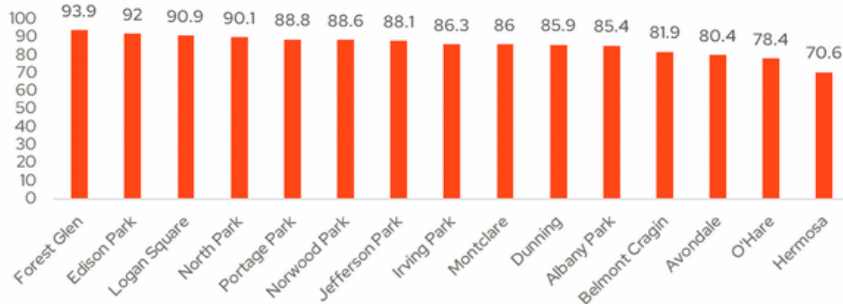
Hardship Index (score), 2015-2019



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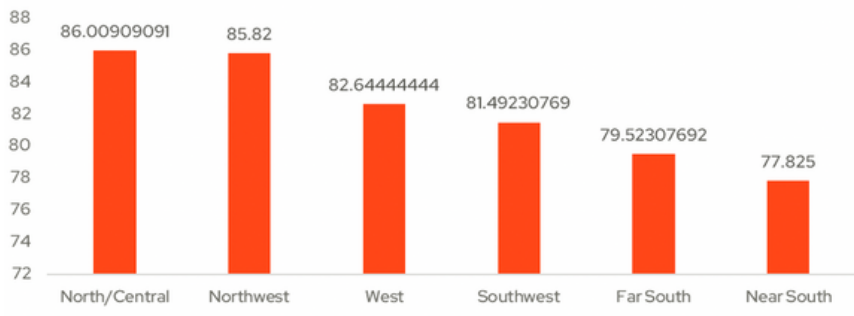
INDICATORS

Received needed care rate (% of adults), 2016-2018

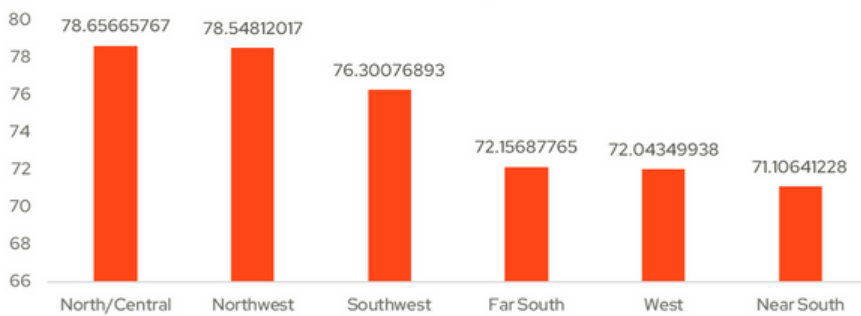


Percent of adults who report that it is 'usually' or 'always' easy to get the care, tests or treatment they needed through their health plan.

Received needed care rate (% of adults), 2016-2018

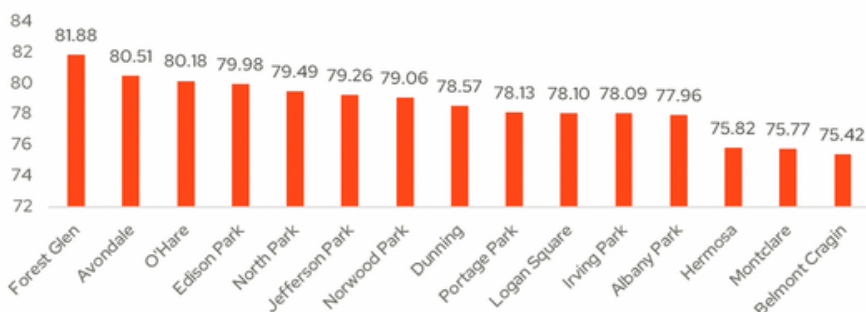


Life expectancy, 2020



The average number of years a person may expect to live.

Life expectancy, 2020





North River Commission would like to express its appreciation to our Healthy Chicago Equity Zones Steering Committee whose input and expertise was instrumental in the prioritization of health issue areas and completion of this community assessment. Below, is the list of those community stakeholders committed to this project, such as:



We thank you for your continued support in our efforts to contribute to the community assessment.