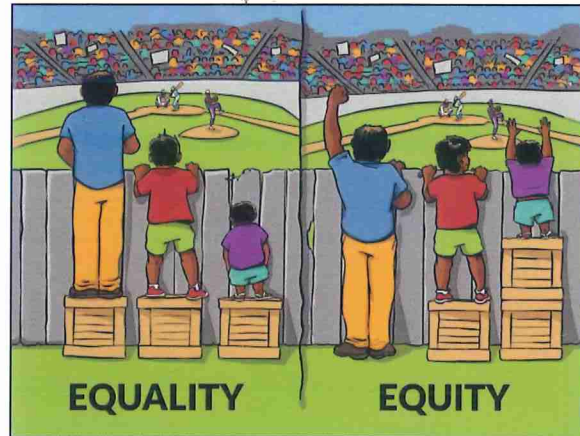


HEALTH EQUITY: UNDERSTANDING THE CONDITIONS FOR HEALTH FOR ALL

The health equity work of the Lawrence-Douglas County Health Department is rooted in the following:

- Health equity for all: **Everyone deserves a fair and just opportunity to be as healthy as possible.**
- Health inequities are conditions produced by the social, political and economic factors at play in a society. **They are avoidable** and are not fixed in an individual's DNA or hardwired into a population.
- In equity, not equality. (From artist Angus Maguire)
- That health equity is an **ethical and human rights principle** that motivates us to eliminate health inequities and disparities.



Health equity in Douglas County is all of our work. The work is too big for one person, organization or agency to pursue on its own. A critical piece of improving the health of all of our populations is shared learning around and a shared understanding of the health disparities that exist in Douglas County today.

The Root Cause of Health Disparities

America leads the world in medical research and medical care. For all the resources spent on healthcare, Americans should be the healthiest people in the world. Yet on some important indicators, like average life expectancy, the United States is not even in the top 25. Health

The Drivers of Health Outcomes



needs to be thought of as something more than what is provided in a doctor's office. Health starts long before any one illness.

needs to be thought of as something more than what is provided in a doctor's office. Health starts long before any one illness.

Foundational to our work is the understanding that a person's health is primarily influenced by the environmental conditions, social relationships and institutional structures that exist where we live, work, learn and play. It is imperative to examine the factors and conditions that are present at the time of birth and can occur, and compound, over the course of a lifetime and to understand

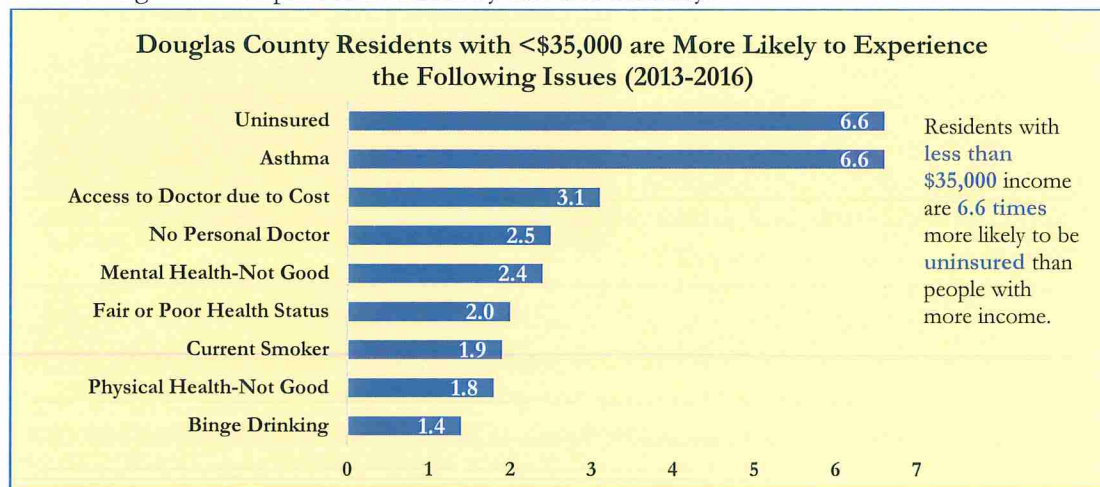
how those factors shape individual choice and behavior.

A commitment to health equity requires constant monitoring. We cannot just look at the average levels of health for a population. *You will miss key parts of the story if you focus only on the average.* Disparities and inequities can hide easily. This is why LDCHD has committed to an annual health equity report that compares how more or less advantaged groups within a population are faring. (Full report at www.LDCHealth.org.)

Health disparities are occurring in Douglas County today. This is a statement of fact. *Lawrence's abolitionist history and spirit of progressiveness do not protect us from the lingering negative effects that social exclusion, marginalization, discrimination and disadvantage have left on various groups and populations.* **People who love data and analytics know one thing: They are not just numbers.** Behind the numbers are people in our community. They are us. They are our friends, our families and our neighbors.

Income Matters

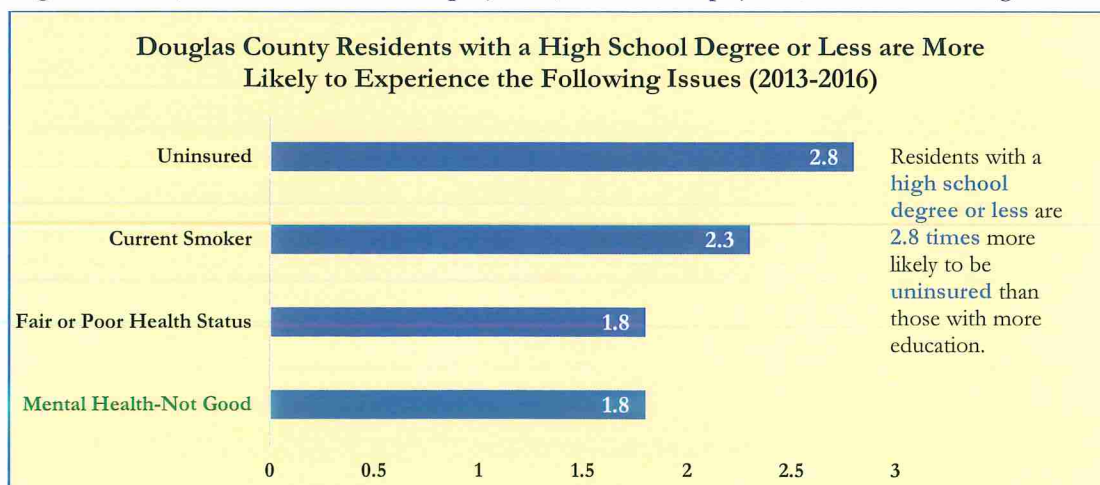
Income and health are strongly linked. At the most basic level, a minimum level of income is required to afford basic living necessities. Intergenerational wealth can dramatically affect future generations' health, and there are significant disparities in wealth by race and ethnicity.



Source: Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, Kansas Department of Health and Environment

Education Matters

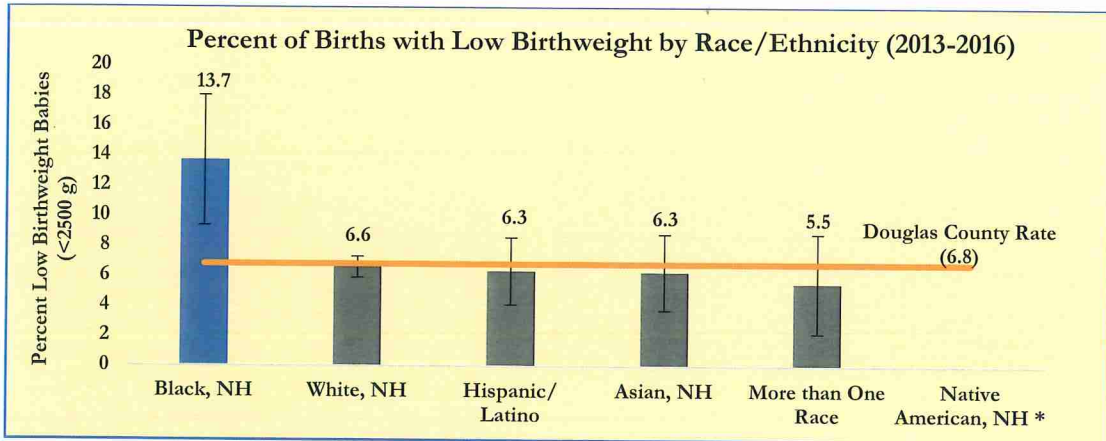
A society dedicated to offering education for those of a young age sets the foundation for the development of capabilities and opportunities throughout a person's life. Academic achievement fosters cognitive and non-cognitive skills, which are linked to employment, income and physical/mental well being.



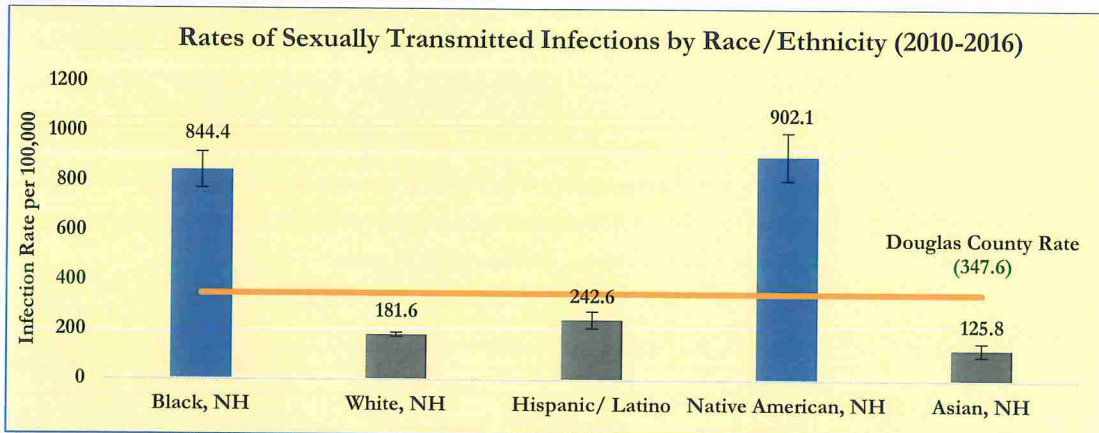
Source: Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, Kansas Department of Health and Environment

Race Matters

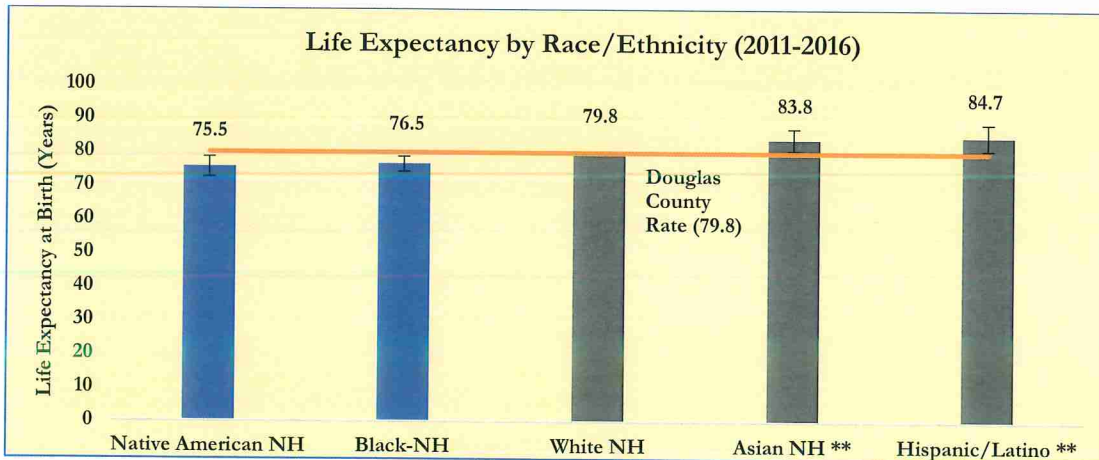
Health inequities for various racial and ethnic groups are pervasive and difficult to address. Even when socioeconomic status is controlled for, health inequities by race/ethnicity persist. Additionally, disparities by race/ethnicity exist in the areas of income and education, which are primary drivers of health.



Source: Bureau of Epidemiology and Public Health Informatics, Kansas Department of Health and Environment



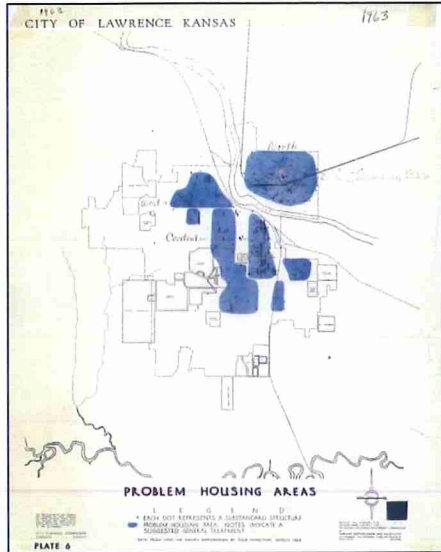
Source: EpiTrax; Bureau of Epidemiology and Public Health Informatics, Kansas Department of Health and Environment



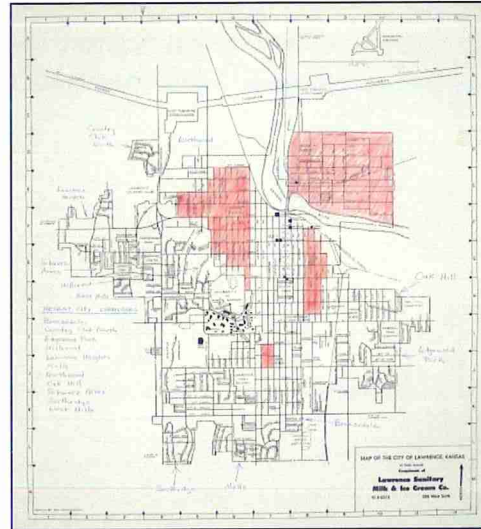
Source: Bureau of Epidemiology and Public Health Informatics, Kansas Department of Health and Environment

Place Matters

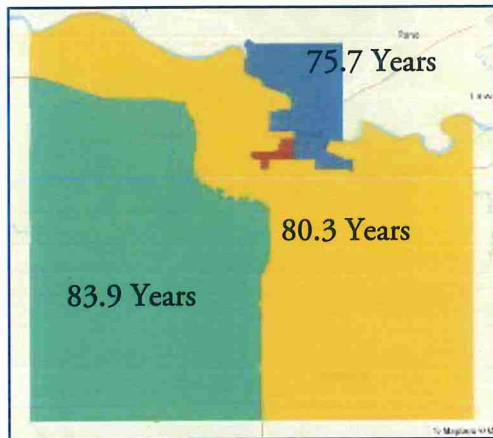
Where we live affects how long we live. Historical Lawrence maps illustrate the importance of this. The left one identifies substandard housing in 1963. On the right, the red areas indicate neighborhoods that African Americans were shown homes to rent or buy from 1964.



The Douglas County Historical Society, Watkins Museum of History



The Kenneth Spencer Research Library, University of Kansas



The difference in the blue area (North Lawrence and parts of East Lawrence) and the green area (rural West Douglas County) in life expectancy are statistically different from the county average, which is 80.3 years.

LDCHD 2018-2023 Strategic Priorities:
 Affordable Housing • Food Security & Healthy Built Environment • Behavioral Health • Poverty & Jobs

Start the Conversation.

We all own health equity in Douglas County.

We must be engaged and conscientious of the inequities that are occurring on our watch. We are asking **you** to be a part of this conversation so we **can understand the conditions for health equity.**

For questions or comments contact: info@ldchealth.org.



HEALTH EQUITY

JUNE 10, 2019

The public health charge

2



World Health Organization and
Dr. Karen DeSalvo, former Assistant Secretary U.S. DHHS

A newborn in Douglas County
can expect to live **79.8** years.

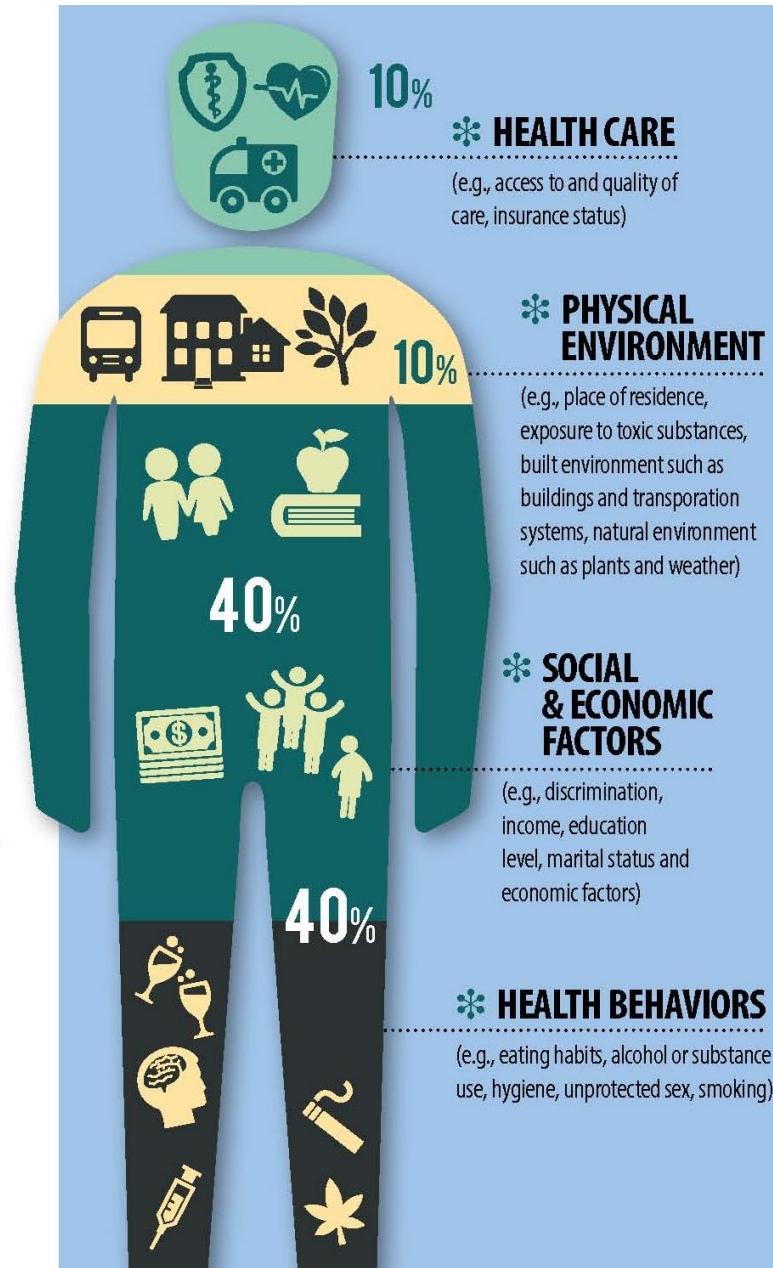
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This Photo by Unknown Author is licensed under [CC BY-NC-ND](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/4.0/)

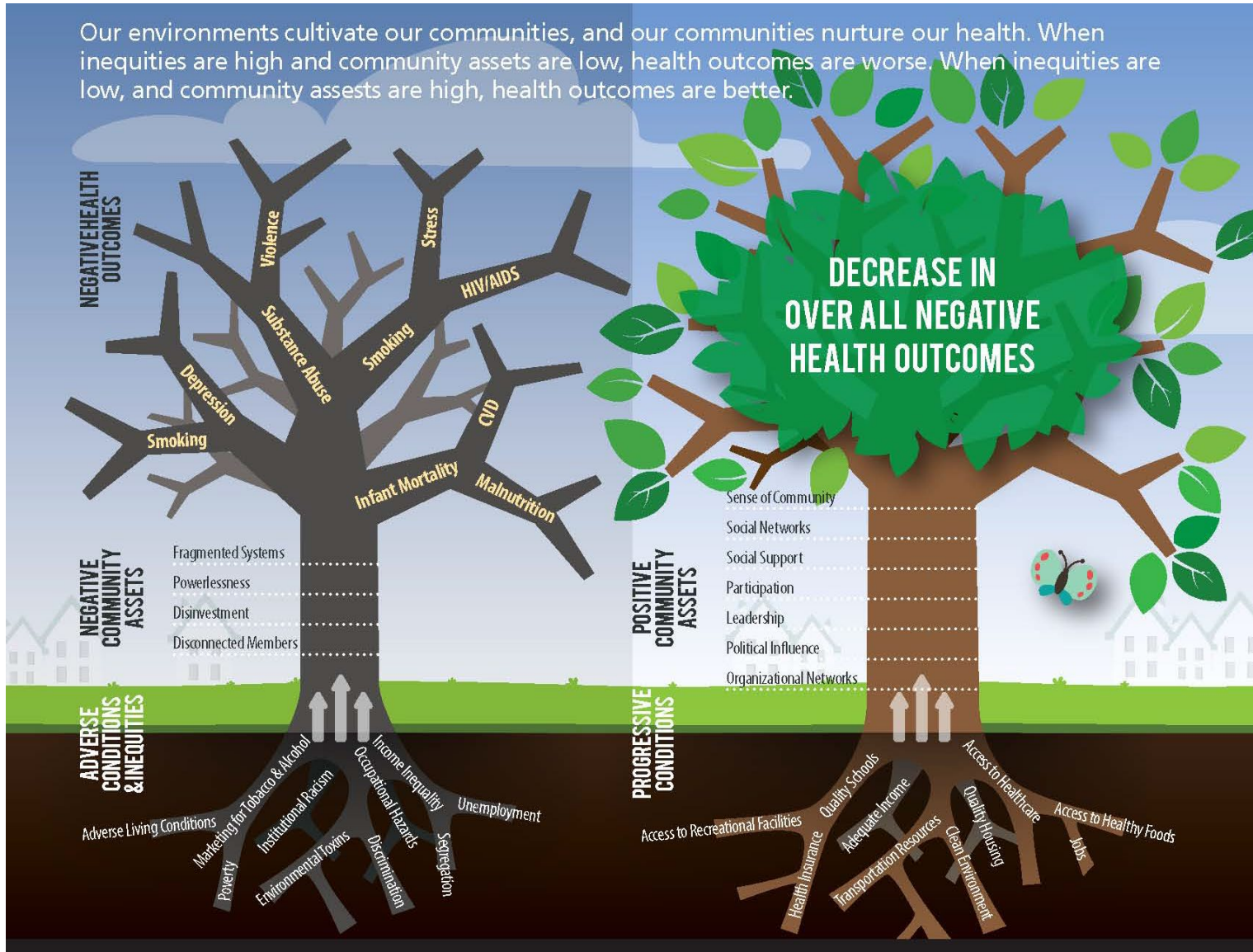
Factors driving our personal health

PERCENTAGE
CONTRIBUTING TO
OVERALL HEALTH



Factors driving our community's health

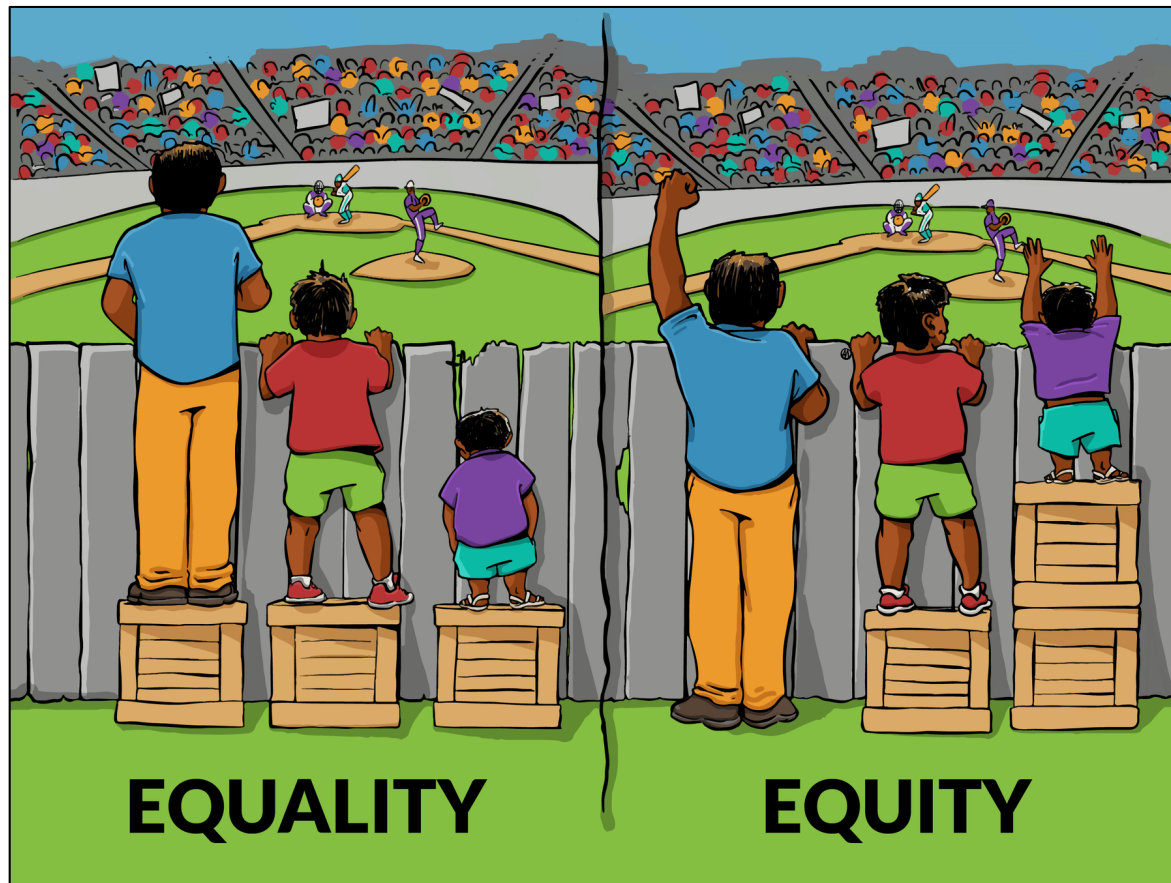
Our environments cultivate our communities, and our communities nurture our health. When inequities are high and community assets are low, health outcomes are worse. When inequities are low, and community assets are high, health outcomes are better.



Health Equity means...

6

A fair & just opportunity to be as healthy as possible.

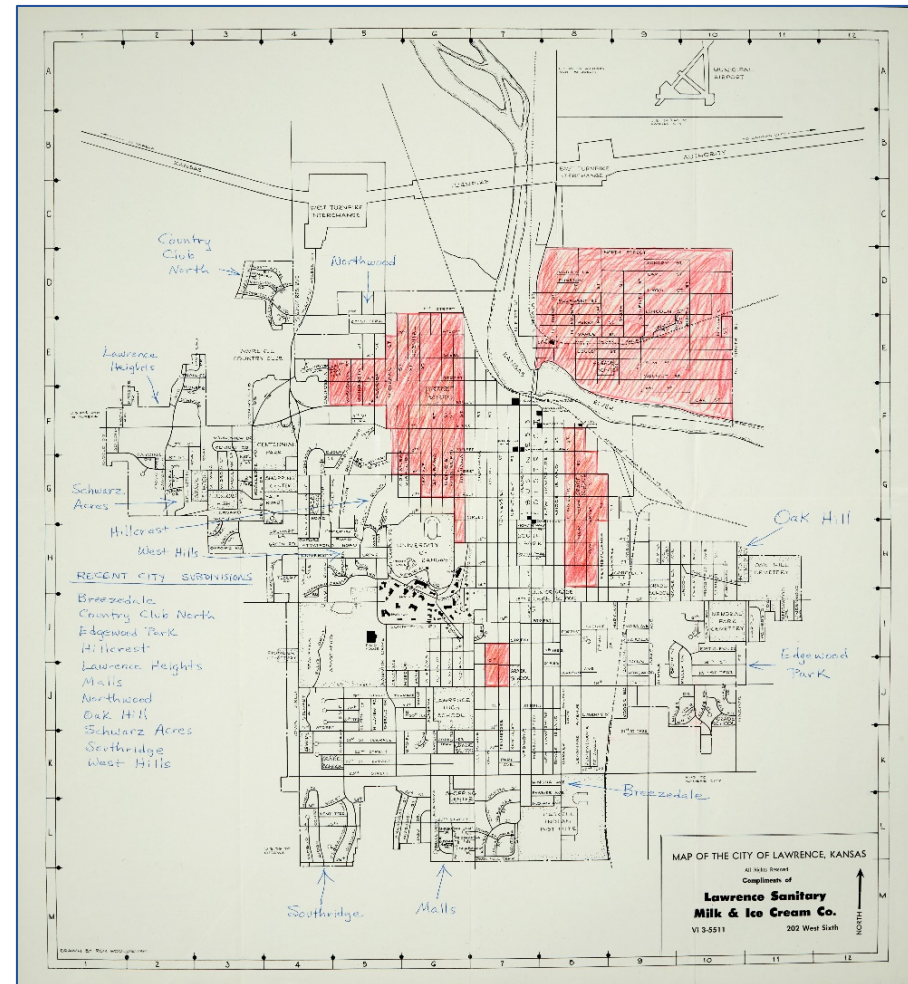
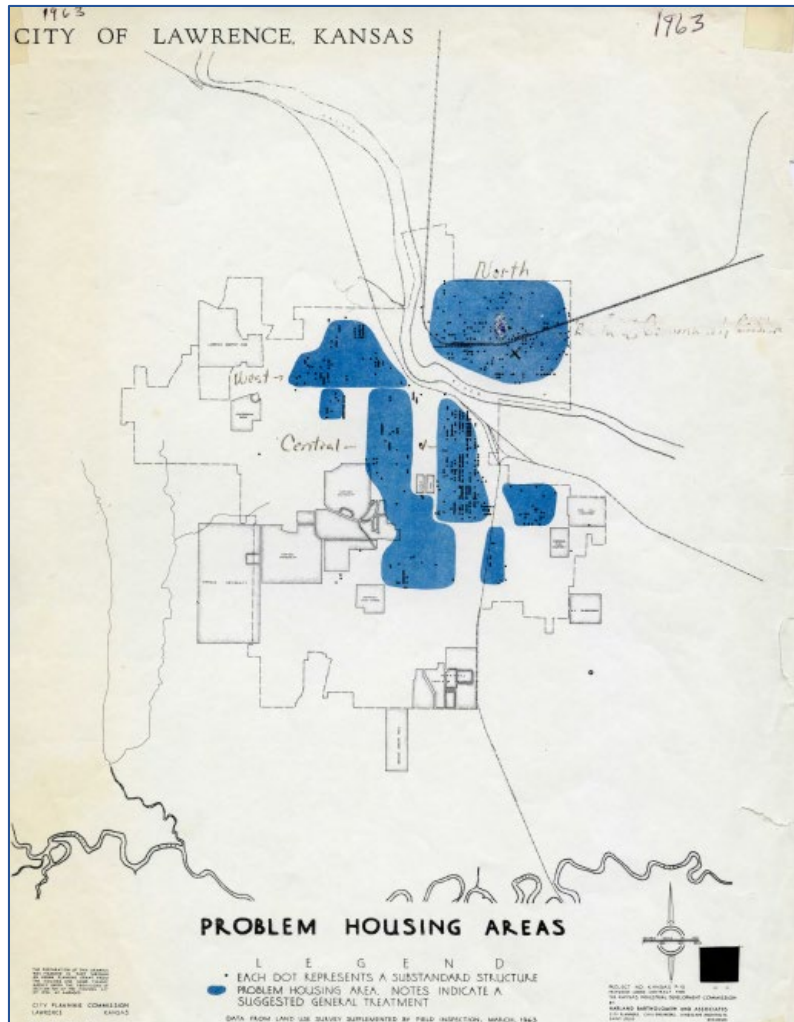


Interaction Institute for Social Change, Angus Maguire

Differing perspectives

	Strength	Problem
Our community has a fair criminal justice system	Baldwin City Lecompton > \$75K income	< \$5K income Black/African American
People are free from the threat of violence	Baldwin City Eudora < \$5K income	Other
People are treated fairly and without discrimination	Baldwin City Eudora Lecompton Unincorporated DG	\$5-15K income Black/African American Other
People do not experience hunger	Lecompton	<\$25K income Black/African American
Healthy foods are available and affordable	Unincorporated DG	Baldwin City Latino

Legacy of racism and discrimination



The Kenneth Spencer Research Library, University of Kansas Libraries

The Douglas County Historical Society, Watkins Museum of History

High School Graduation

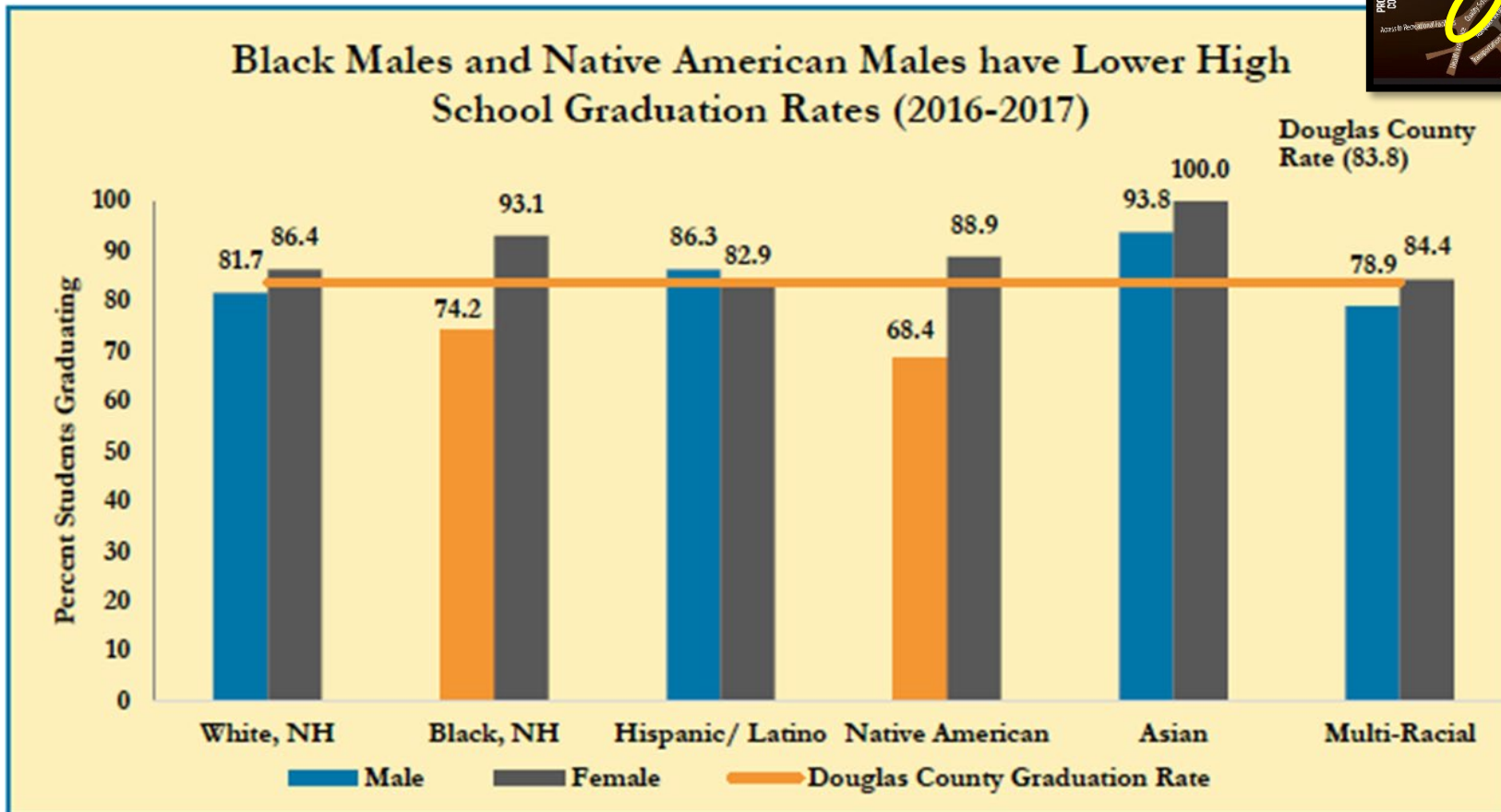
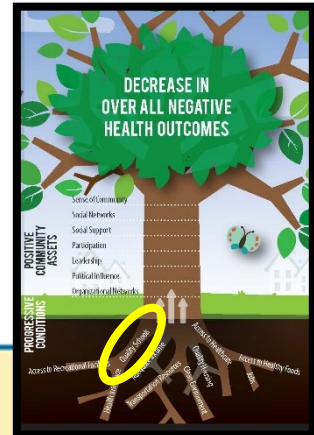


Figure 22

Data Source: Kansas State Department of Education, KSDE Data Central

Poverty

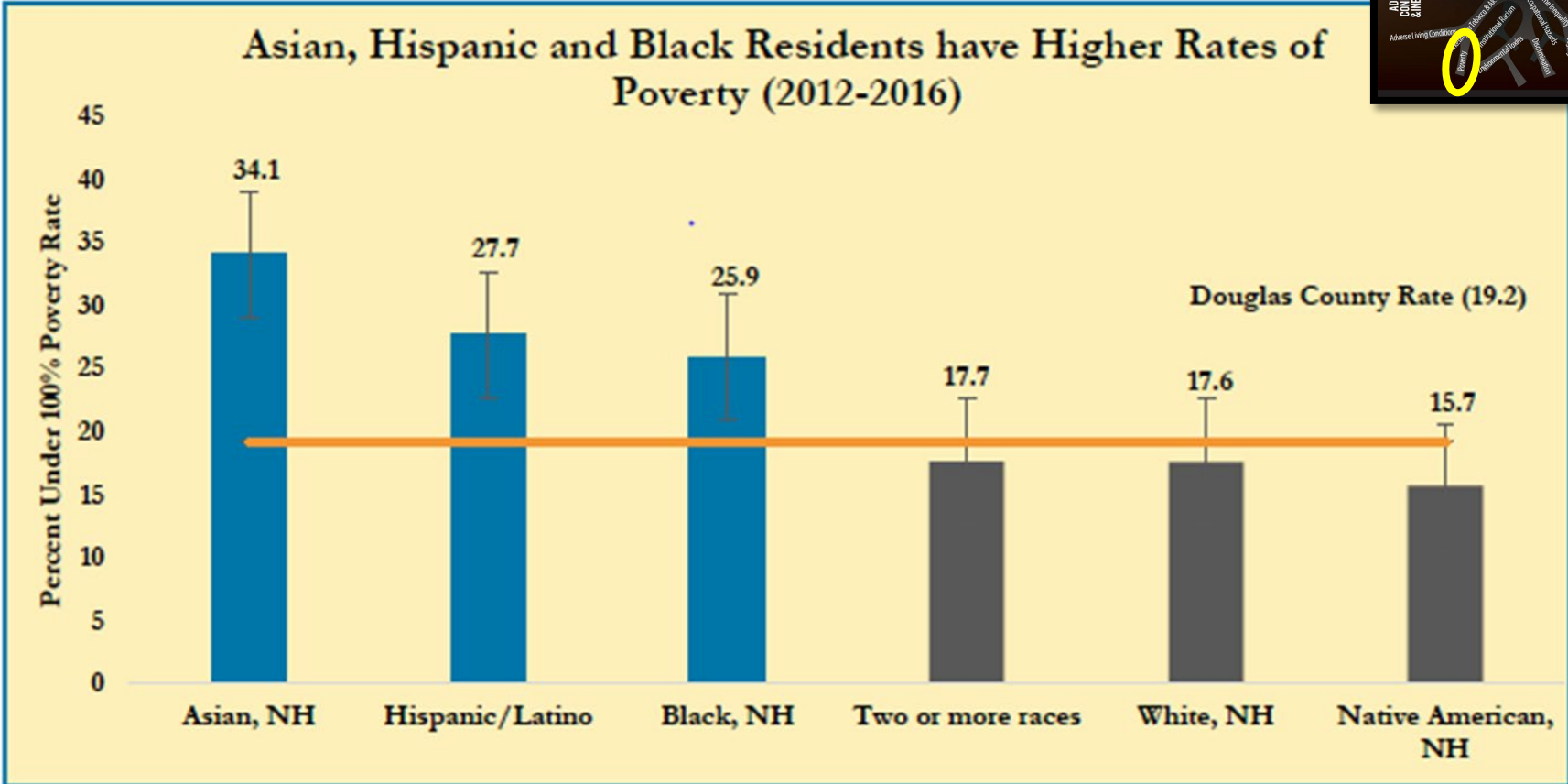
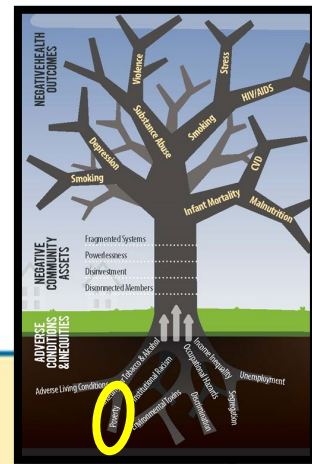
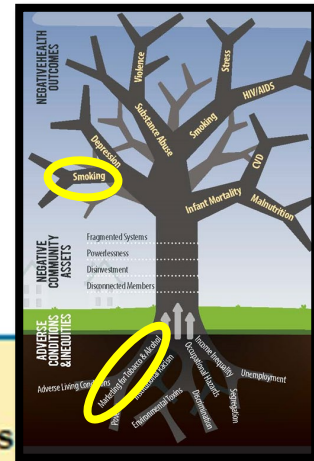


Figure 19
 Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, ACS 2011-2015 (Table S1701)

Smoking during pregnancy



Smoking During Pregnancy is Higher among Multi-Racial Populations than Whites; Lower among Hispanics than Whites (2012-2016)

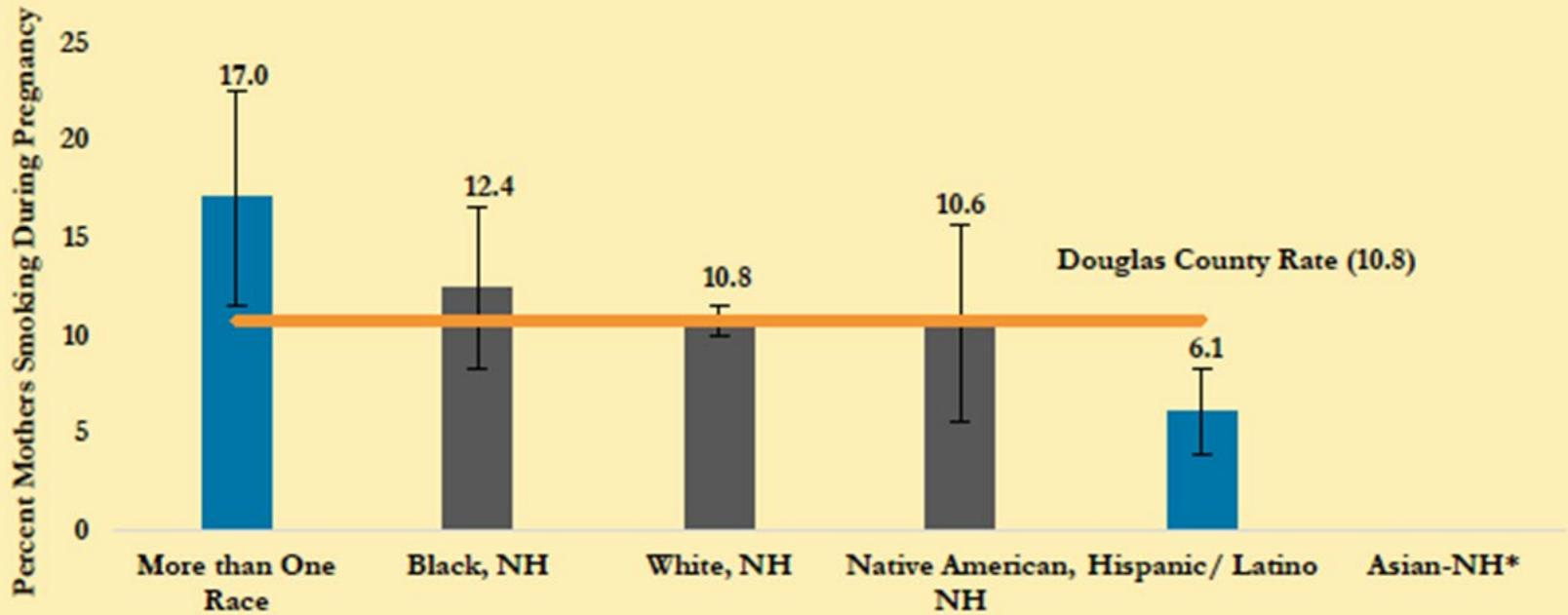


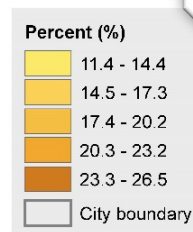
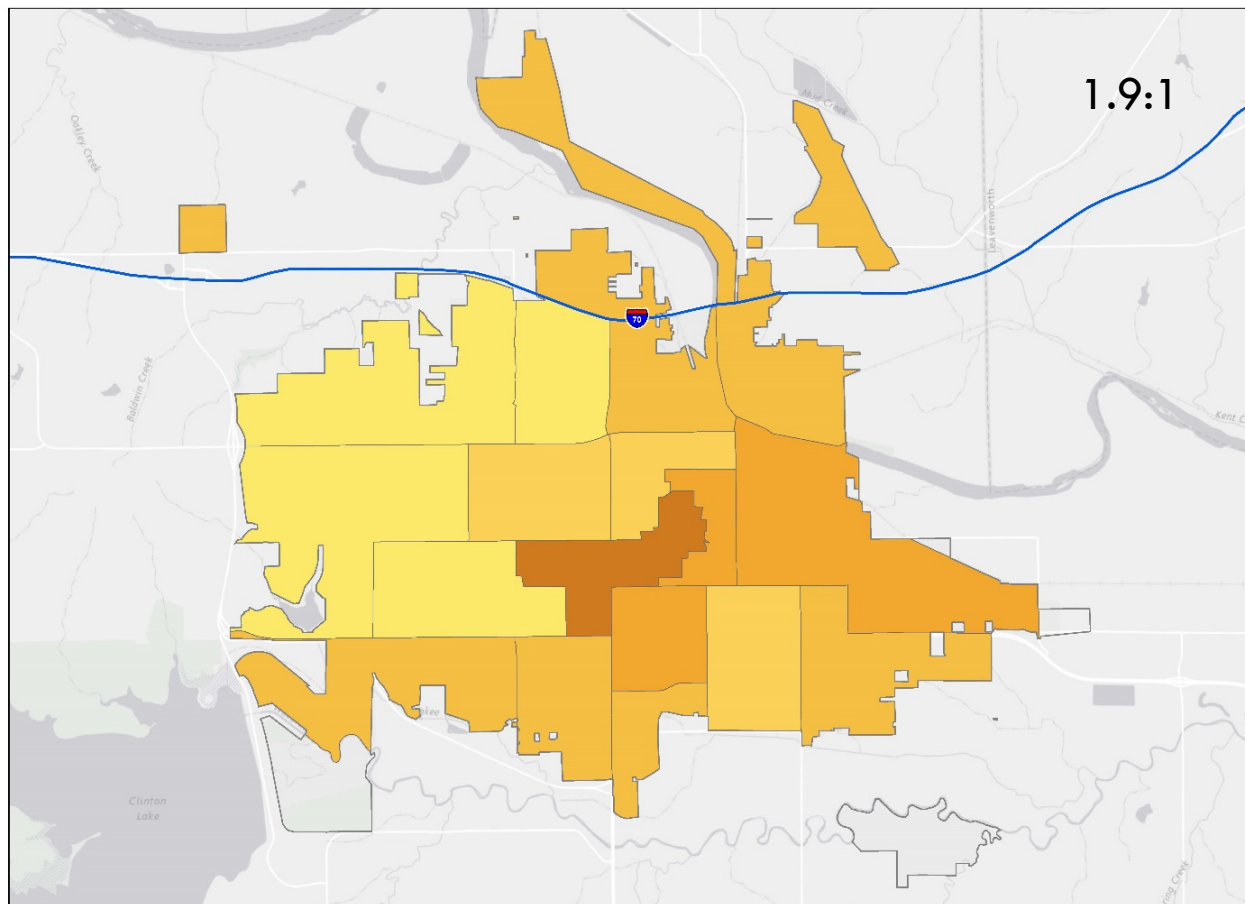
Figure 36

Data Source: Bureau of Epidemiology and Public Health Informatics, KDHE

* Asian Population Suppressed.

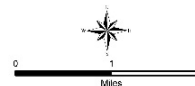
Smoking

Current smoking among adults aged ≥18 years by census tract, Lawrence, KS, 2014

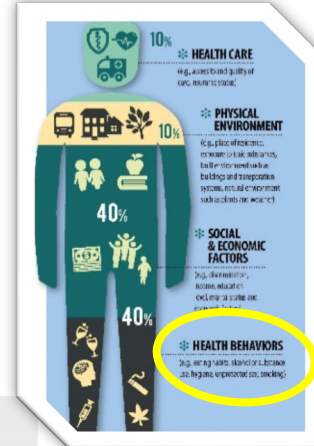
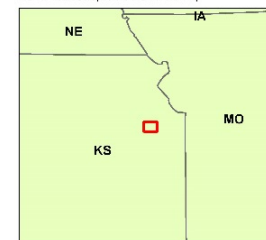


Classification:
Jenks natural breaks (9 classes) based on data for all 500 cities' census tracts. Legend depicts only those data classes within this map extent.

Census tracts with population less than 50 were excluded from the map.

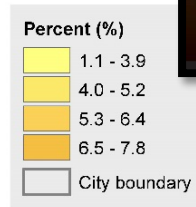
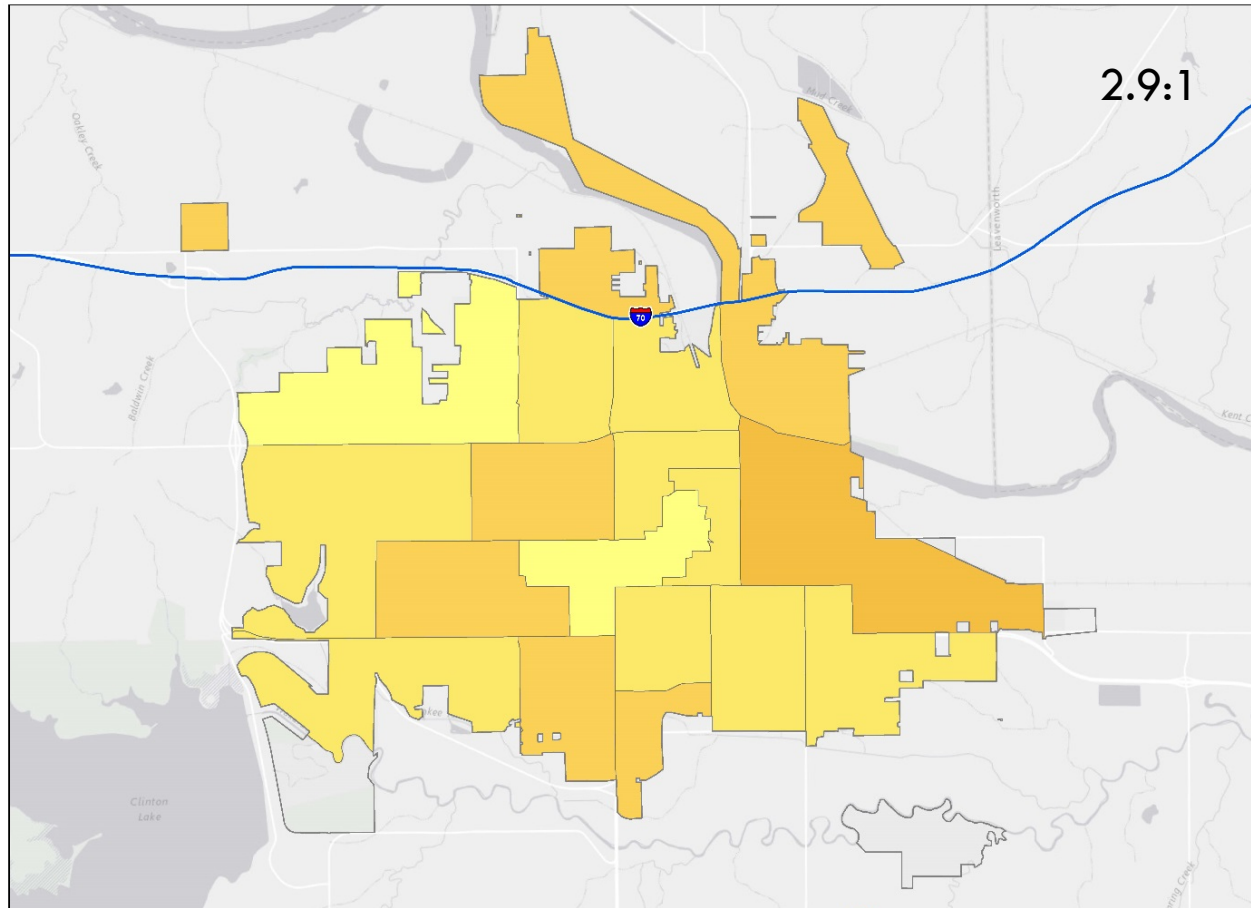


Data sources:
CDC BRFSS 2014, US Census Bureau 2010 Census, ACS 2010-2014.



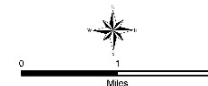
COPD

Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease among adults aged ≥ 18 years by census tract, Lawrence, KS, 2014

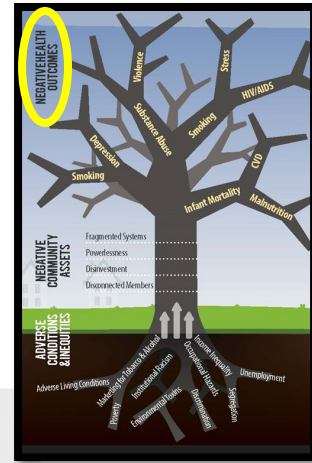
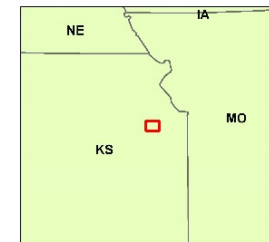


Classification:
Jenks natural breaks (9 classes) based on data for all 500 cities' census tracts. Legend depicts only those data classes within this map extent.

Census tracts with population less than 50 were excluded from the map.



Data sources:
CDC BRFSS 2014, US Census Bureau 2010 Census, ACS 2010-2014.



Sexually Transmitted Diseases

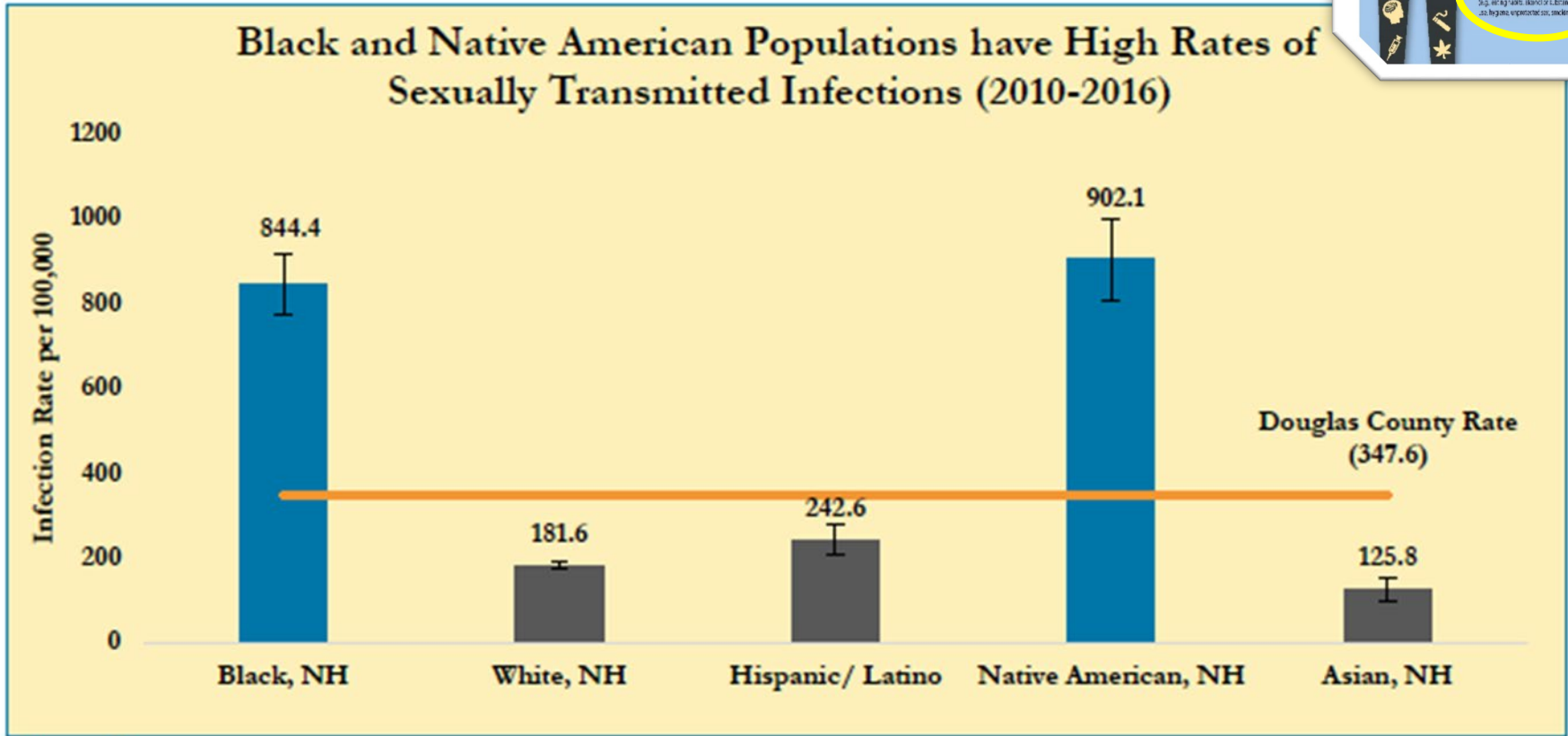
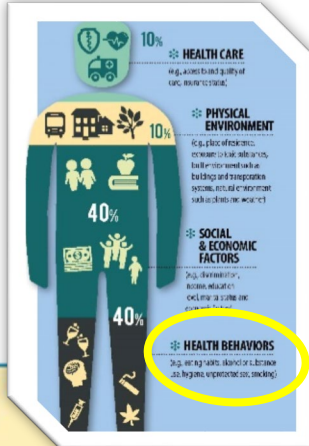
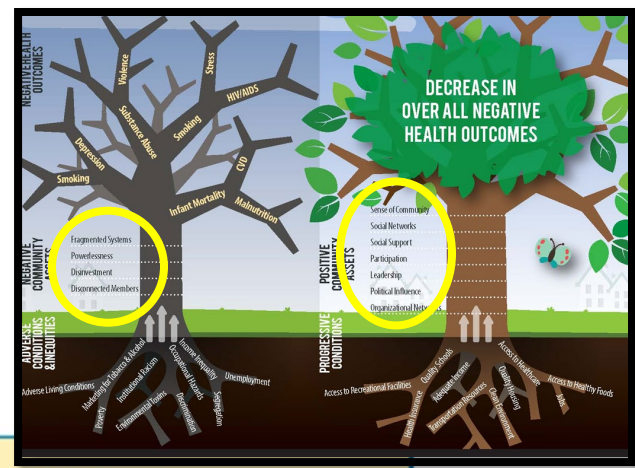


Figure 46

Data Source: EpiTrax, Bureau of Epidemiology and Public Health Informatics, KDHE

* Includes chlamydia, gonorrhea, and syphilis.

Teen Birth



Percent of All Births Occurring to Teens 15-19 Years is Higher in Black, Multi-Racial and Hispanic Populations (2012-2016)

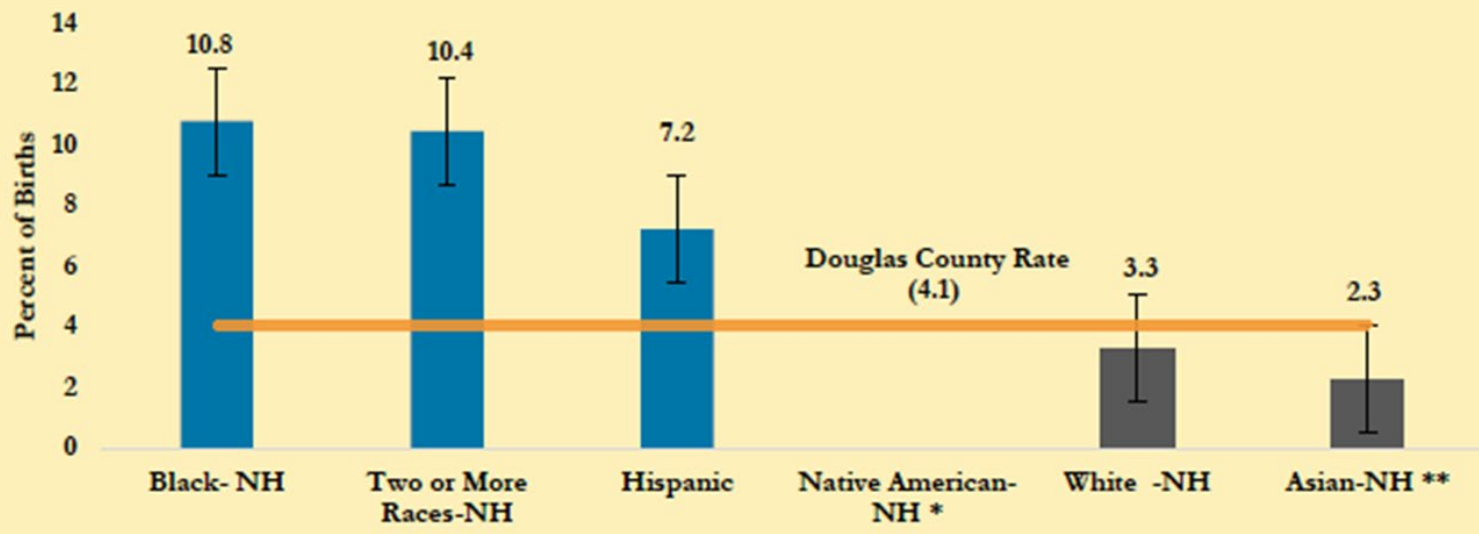
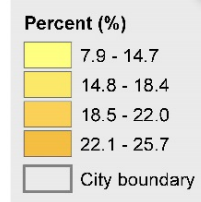
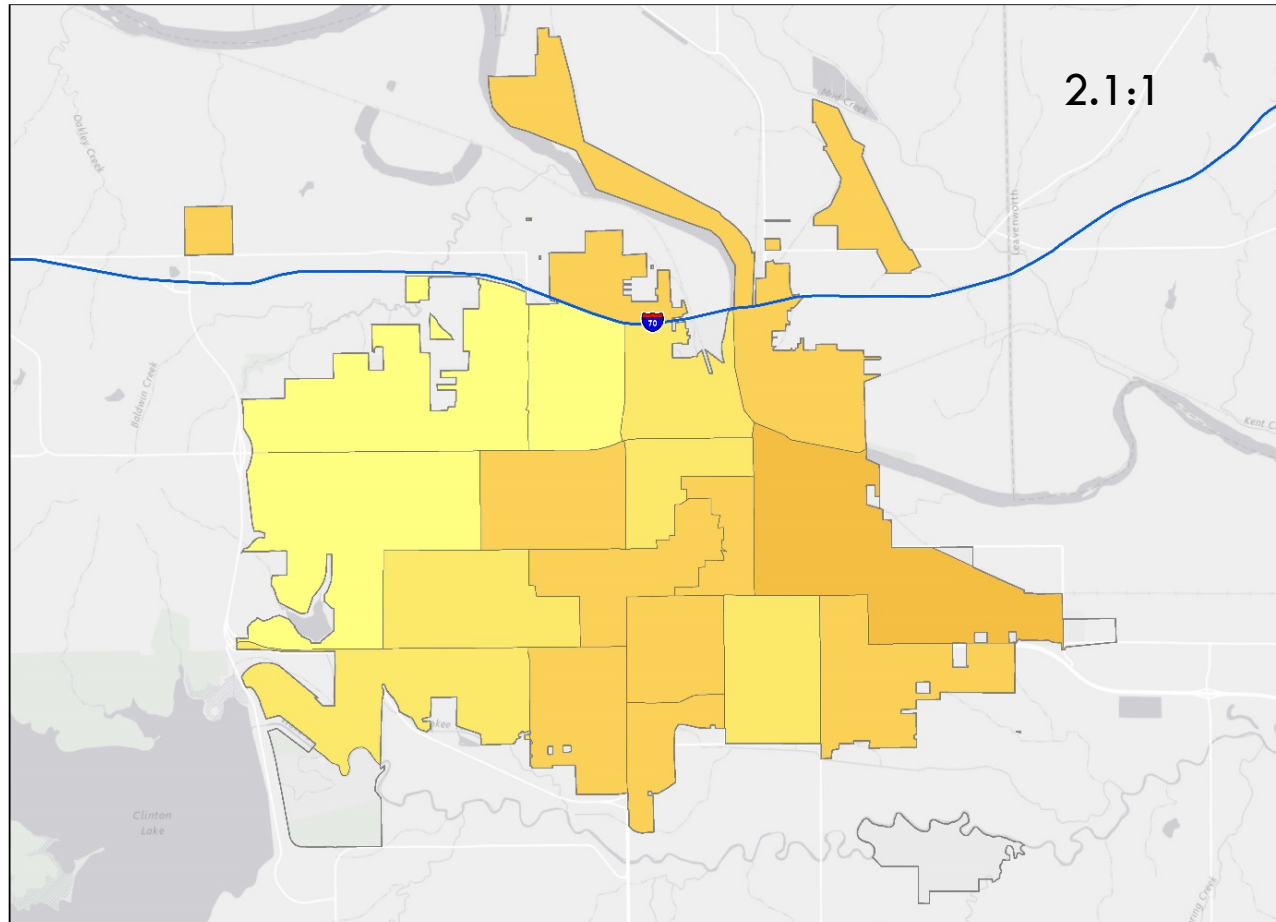


Figure 30
 Data Source: Bureau of Epidemiology and Public Health Informatics, KDHE
 * Native American Population Suppressed. ** Interpret with caution.

Physical Activity

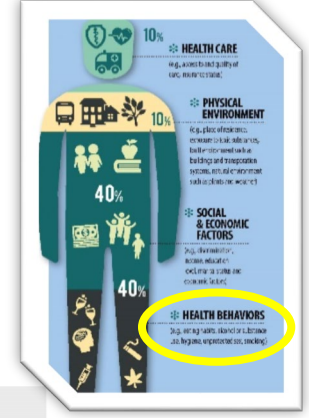
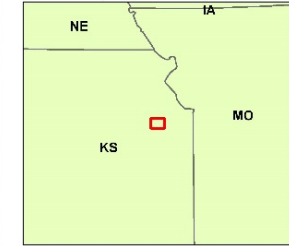
No leisure-time physical activity among adults aged ≥ 18 years by census tract, Lawrence, KS, 2014



Classification:
 Jenks natural breaks (9 classes) based on data for all 500 cities' census tracts. Legend depicts only those data classes within this map extent.
 Census tracts with population less than 50 were excluded from map.

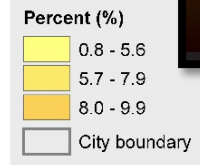
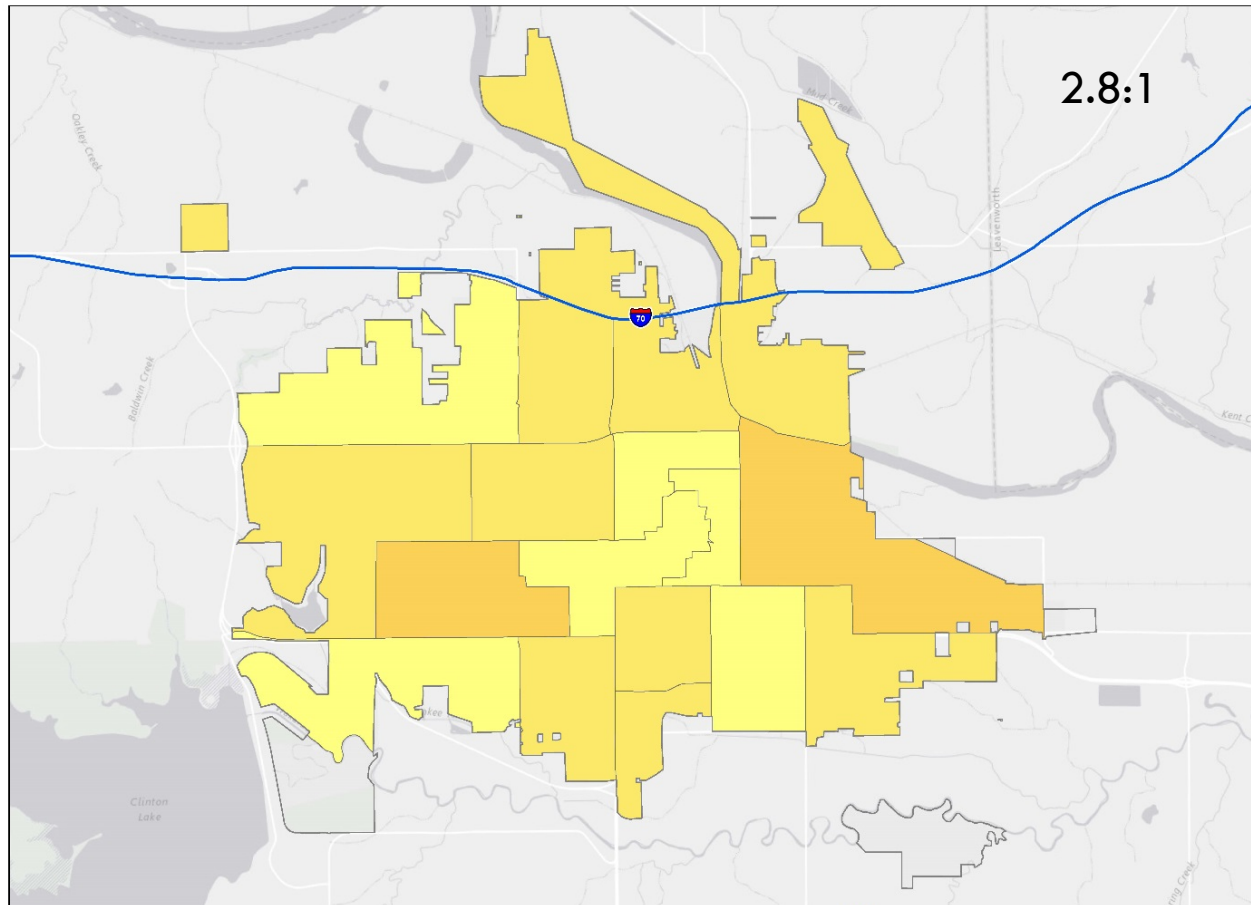


Data sources:
 CDC BRFSS 2014, US Census Bureau 2010 Census, ACS 2010-2014.



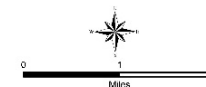
Diabetes

Diagnosed diabetes among adults aged ≥ 18 years by census tract, Lawrence, KS, 2014

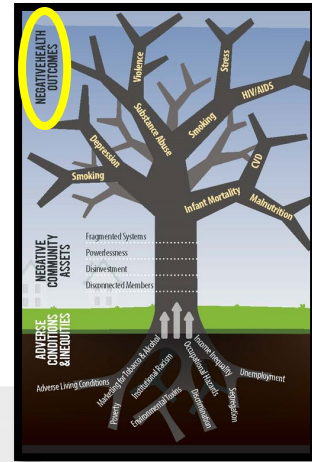


Classification:
Jenks natural breaks (9 classes) based on data for all 500 cities' census tracts. Legend depicts only those data classes within this map extent.

Census tracts with population less than 50 were excluded from the map.



Data sources:
CDC BRFSS 2014, US Census Bureau 2010 Census, ACS 2010-2014.



**A newborn in Douglas County
can expect to live 79.8 years.**

19



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BUT...

BUT...79.8 really means



75.4



76.5



85.0

Our Community Health Plan

21

Planning and
implementation
Focus



**Discrimination
and racism**

Healthy Foods and Physical Activity

Poverty and Jobs

Behavioral Health

Affordable Housing

A tool to track effort and progress

22



www.ldchealth.org/HealthierTogether