

# Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE August 10, 2018

TO Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

SUBJECT **Equity Indicators Draft Report**

Following the August 1 City Council briefing, Councilmember Kingston requested an electronic version of the Equity Indicators findings with links to the data and an explanation of how the scores were calculated. In response to this request, I have attached the following two documents and offer a brief explanation of the methodology used in the report.

The first document is an electronic version of the report distributed at the City Council briefing. As you will see in the report, each indicator provides a table that includes a definition, the rationale for using the indicator, the baseline ratio, the static score, and data sources. The second document is the master score sheet provided by UTD, the local data partner on this project. Similar to the first the report, the spreadsheet contains definitions for the indicators, the specific data sources used, and the data used in the individual calculations of the ratios and scoring.

Neither of these reports have actual links to the raw data sets as requested by Councilmember Kingston. The project does not provide the raw data, however it does provide the list of sources. The data sources, findings, and the City University of New York's (CUNY) methodology will be available to the public so the results can be replicated by people interested in working with the indicators.

I would like to note that most of the data used in the report was pulled from publicly available, administrative data sets such as the American Community Survey, which can be found at [www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov). There are a limited number of data sets that were obtained from private databases that UTD purchased, and are therefore protected by data use agreements and will not be publicly available. These specific sources (e.g. health data from the DFWHC Foundation) will be noted in the final report so that people can purchase or make data requests from the host agency/organization, if they so choose.

To summarize the methodology, the Equity Indicator tool compares the outcomes between two population groups (e.g. two racial/ethnic or socioeconomic groups) for each indicator and provides a score from 1 to 100 based on the size of the disparity, or ratio, between the two groups. A score of 100 represents full equity (no disparity). The final report will also include an appendix providing a conversion table used to calculate the scores for each ratio.

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Typically, the two groups being compared represent the most and least advantaged for that particular indicator. However, in some instances, indicators compare outcomes between two groups that have experienced historic or systemic disparities, even if the data does not indicate they are the least or most advantaged. For example, the criminal justice indicators compare outcomes for Dallas' White and Black populations, even though Asians typically have the best outcomes in this area. These methodological exceptions will also be noted in the final report.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me at (214) 670-3309.



Theresa O'Donnell  
Chief of Resilience

#### Attachments

c: T.C. Broadnax, City Manager  
Larry Casto, City Attorney  
Craig D. Kinton, City Auditor  
Billerae Johnson, City Secretary  
Preston Robinson, Administrative Judge  
Kimberly Bizer Tolbert, Chief of Staff to the City Manager  
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Jon Fortune, Assistant City Manager  
Joey Zapata, Assistant City Manager  
M. Elizabeth Reich, Chief Financial Officer  
Nadia Chandler Hardy, Chief of Community Services  
Raquel Favela, Chief of Economic Development & Neighborhood Services  
Directors and Assistant Directors

Theme	Topic	#	Indicator name	Unit of Analysis	Type	Ratio note	2018			
							Numerator	Denominator	Result (H/I)	Score
Economic Opportunity	Business Development	1	Business establishments	Neighborhood	Ratio	White:Hispanic	0.08	0.02	4.000	27
		2	Business ownership	Person Race	Ratio	White:Black	2.32	0.89	2.620	36
		3	Business revenue	Neighborhood	Ratio	Other:Hispanic	353627.18	77364.26	4.571	23
	Employment	4	Job opportunities	Neighborhood	Ratio	Other:Black	43136.00	2537.00	17.003	1
		5	Jobless rate Adults with high growth, high pay	Person Race	Ratio	Black:White	27.70	17.80	1.556	58
	Income	6	jobs	Person Race	Ratio	Asian:Hispanic	27.40	7.30	3.753	29
		7	Average Full Time Income	Person Race	Ratio	White:Hispanic	87319.02	31077.59	2.810	35
		8	Average Hourly Wage	Person Race	Ratio	White:Hispanic	38.18	15.57	2.452	37
	Poverty	9	Household Income	Person Race	Ratio	White:Black	117015.72	48198.36	2.428	38
		10	Child Poverty	Person Race	Ratio	Black:Asian	39.20	11.70	3.350	31
		11	Concentrated Poverty Full-time employees living in	Neighborhood	Ratio	Black:White	20.10	2.70	7.444	11
12		poverty	Person Race	Ratio	Black:White	8.50	1.30	6.538	14	
Education	Early Education	13	Early Education Enrollment	Person Race	Ratio	White:Asian	64.40	33.80	1.905	44
		14	Early Education Enrollment	Neighborhood	Ratio	Above 185% Poverty:Below 100	52.47	43.14	1.216	75
	Elementary and Middle School	15	Kindergarten Readiness	Person Race	Ratio	White:Hispanic	79.20	63.70	1.243	73
		16	Academic Performance	Person Race	Ratio	White:Black	90.40	59.40	1.522	60
		17	Quality	Person Race	Ratio	White:Black	56.90	21.60	2.634	36
		18	Teacher Tenure	Neighborhood	Ratio	White:Hispanic	7.39	6.17	1.198	76
	High School	19	College Readiness	Race	Ratio	White:Black	70.50	26.10	2.701	36
		20	Graduation rates	Person Race	Ratio	White:Black	94.00	89.20	1.054	90
	Education of General Population	21	Suspensions	Race	Ratio	Black:White	336.80	90.70	3.713	29
		22	Low educational attainment	Race	Ratio	Hispanic:White	44.90	4.40	10.205	1
23		Impact of education	Race	Ratio	Black:White	8.50	1.30	6.538	14	
24		College-educated population	Race	Ratio	Asian:Hispanic	66.00	11.00	6.000	16	
Housing and Neighborhood	Affordability of Housing	25	Home loan denial rates	Person Race	Ratio	Black:White	17.30	8.90	1.944	43
		26	Housing Burden	Race	Ratio	Black:White	41.90	29.10	1.440	64
		27	Home Ownership	Race	Ratio	White:Black	56.90	27.80	2.047	40
	Community Resources	28	Libraries	Neighborhood	Ratio	White:Hispanic	0.78	0.65	1.200	75
		29	Parks	Neighborhood	Ratio	White:Hispanic	4.21	3.48	1.210	75
		30	Amenities	Neighborhood	Ratio	White:Hispanic	5.21	2.26	2.305	38
		31	Overcrowding	Neighborhood	Ratio	Hispanic:White	15.34	1.18	13.000	1

Theme	Topic	#	Indicator name	Unit of Analysis	Type	Ratio note	2018			
							Numerator	Denominator	Result (H/I)	Score
Justice and Government	Quality of Housing	32	Building quality	Neighborhood	Ratio	Above 185% Poverty:Below 100	57.10	20.10	2.841	35
		33	Utility Expenses	Person Race	Ratio	Black:Asian	11.34	4.71	2.408	38
		34	Internet coverage	Race	Ratio	Black:Asian	31.90	5.30	6.019	16
	Services	35	Service Satisfaction	Person Race	Ratio	White:Black	3.06	2.89	1.059	89
		36	Street quality	Neighborhood	Ratio	Other:Hispanic	3.49	3.09	1.129	79
	Government	37	Voter Turnout	Neighborhood	Ratio	Above 185% Poverty:Below 100	65.10	42.30	1.539	59
		38	Representation in government	Person Race	Ratio	White:Hispanic	1.88	0.37	5.081	20
		39	Trust in government	Person Race	Ratio	White:Asian	3.12	3.00	1.040	92
		40	Fines and Fees	Person Race	Ratio	Black:White	417.00	333.00	1.252	73
	Incarceration	41	Jail admission rates	Person Race	Ratio	Black:White	0.06	0.02	3.000	34
		42	Juvenile incarceration rates	Person Race	Ratio	Black:White	1516.30	338.20	4.483	24
	Law Enforcement	43	Arrest rates	Race	Ratio	Black:White	4224.50	1657.60	2.549	37
		44	Police force diversity	Race	Ratio	White:Hispanic	1.73	0.51	3.392	31
		45	Traffic stops	Race	Ratio	Black:White	16.90	10.90	1.550	58
		46	Property Crime Victimization Rate	Neighborhood	Ratio	Black:Hispanic	3343.70	2250.40	1.486	61
	Victimization	47	ER Utilization Rate for Injuries	Person Race	Ratio	Black:Asian	7673.30	2180.30	3.519	30
48		Violent Crime Victimization Rates	Neighborhood	Ratio	Black:White	1628.80	431.50	3.775	29	
Public Health	Behavioral Risk Factors	49	Consumption of Unhealthy foods	Person Race	Ratio	Black:Hispanic	31.70	13.00	2.438	38
		50	Physical activity	Person Race	Ratio	Black:White	81.10	52.20	1.554	58
		51	Smoking rates	Person Race	Ratio	Black:Hispanic	19.30	2.60	7.423	11
	Health Care	52	Delivery of preventative care	Person Race	Ratio	Hispanic:Black	55.90	24.60	2.272	39
		53	Health insurance	Race	Ratio	Hispanic:White	33.20	8.10	4.099	27
		54	Hospital quality	Neighborhood	Ratio	100	89.83	83.30	1.078	85
	Population Health	55	Chronic Diseases	Person Race	Ratio	Black:Asian	1626.50	600.30	2.709	36
		56	Mortality	Person Race	Ratio	Black:Asian	966.11	381.16	2.535	37
		57	Mental health	Person Race	Ratio	Black:Asian	1128.57	344.56	3.275	32
	Maternal and Child Health	58	Prenatal Care	Person Race	Ratio	White:Black	69.30	47.70	1.453	63
		59	Teen Pregnancy	Person Race	Ratio	Hispanic:White	3.85	0.81	4.753	22
		60	Child Asthma	Person Race	Ratio	Black:Asian	231.48	30.03	7.708	10
	Access to Services and Opportunities	61	Access to goods and services	N'Hood Race	Ratio	White:Black	6.63	1.37	4.839	22
		62	Commuting time	Person Race	Ratio	Black:White	28.43	24.78	1.147	78



Theme	Topic	#	Indicator name	Unit of Analysis	Type	Ratio note	2018			
							Numerator	Denominator	Result (H/I)	Score
Transportation and Infrastructure	Opportunities	63	Transit connectivity	N'Hood Race	Ratio	White:Black	6.51	3.92	1.661	54
	Access to Transportation	64	Cost burden	N'Hood Race	Ratio	Hispanic:White	12.70	11.60	1.095	82
		65	Transit coverage	N'Hood Race	Ratio	White:Black	6.81	6.03	1.129	79
		66	Trasnportation Availability	N'Hood Poverty	Ratio	White:Black	0.77	0.25	3.127	33
	Quality of Transportation	67	Capacity	N'Hood Race	Ratio	White:Black	79.50	63.30	1.256	73
		68	Consistency of Service	N'Hood Poverty	Ratio	Black:White	1.90	1.50	1.267	72
	Built and Natural Environment	69	Private Vehicle Availability	N'Hood Race	Ratio	White:Black	0.70	0.57	1.228	74
		70	Residential Vacancies	N'Hood Poverty	Ratio	Below 100% Poverty:Over 185	5.53	1.38	4.007	27
		71	Structures in floodplain	N'Hood Poverty	Ratio	Below 100% Poverty:Over 185	4.80	2.30	2.087	40
		72	Home Energy Deficiency Score	N'Hood Race	Ratio	Hispanic:Other	3.76	2.82	1.333	69

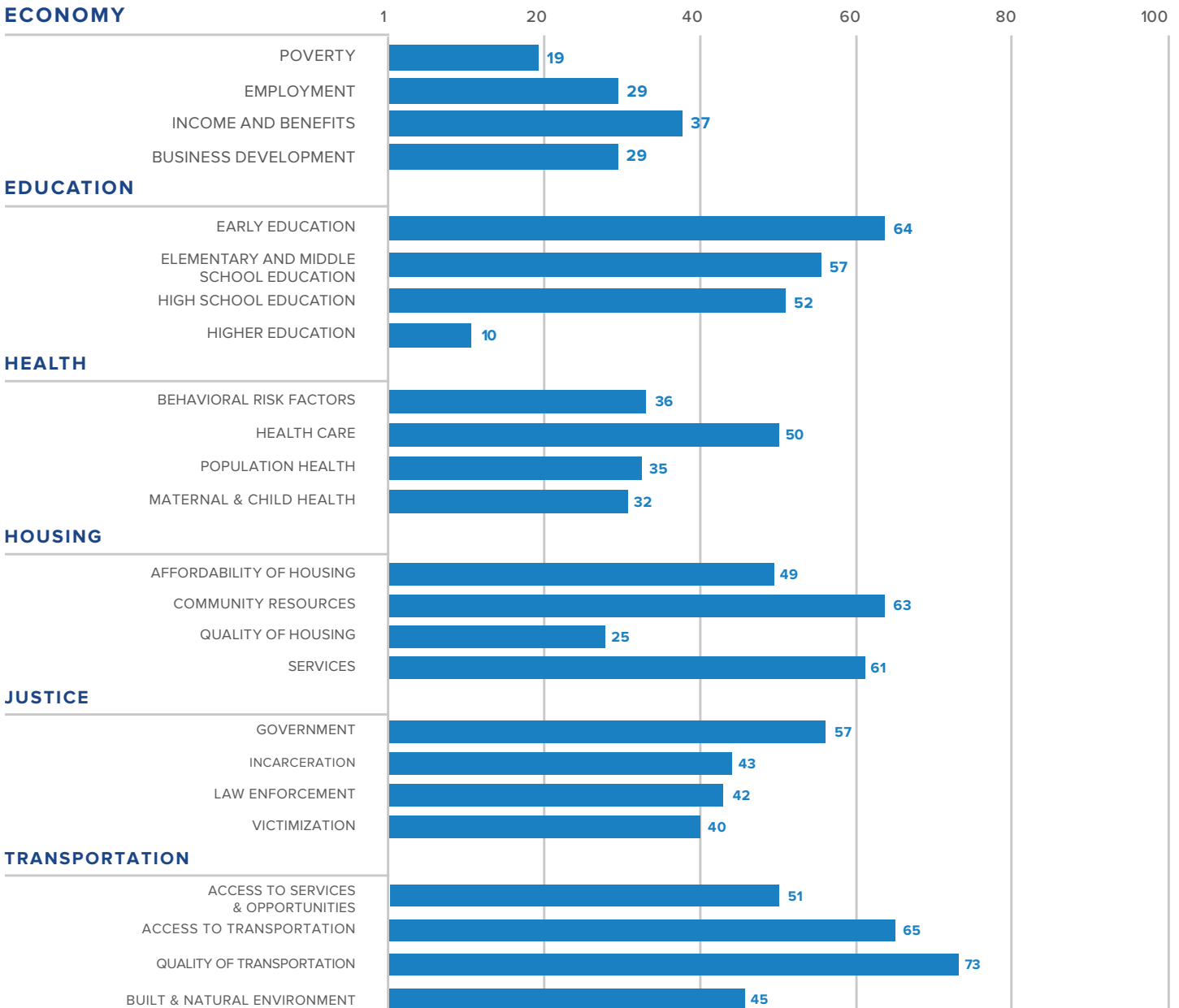
# OVERVIEW OF SCORES

The 2018 Dallas Equity Score is **44** out of a possible **100**. Disparities are most pronounced in the **Economic Opportunity** theme (28), followed closely by **Public Health** (38). The next three themes are somewhat less inequitable and score similarly – **Education** (46), **Justice and Government** (46), and **Housing and Neighborhood Quality** (49). **Transportation and Infrastructure** (59) is the most equitable theme, although certain indicators within this theme lag.



Topic scores range from a high of 73 (Access to Transportation) to a low of 10 (Education of General Population). Nearly two-thirds of the topics scored 50 or below, with five topics scoring below 30, indicating significant disparities across most areas.

## 24 Topic Scores



At the indicator level, scores range from 1 to 93. Of the 72 equity indicators, the median score is 38, meaning 50% of the city's equity indicators are in or near the bottom third of the equity scale.

Overall, four indicators scored 10 or below, three of which received the least equitable score possible:

<b>Indicator 4</b>	<b>Job Opportunities</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Indicator 22</b>	<b>Low Educational Attainment</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Indicator 31</b>	<b>Overcrowding</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Indicator 60</b>	<b>Child Asthma</b>	<b>10</b>

On the other end of the scale, five indicators scored above 80, indicating much less disparity:

<b>Indicator 64</b>	<b>Cost Burden (Transportation)</b>	<b>82</b>
<b>Indicator 54</b>	<b>Hospital Quality</b>	<b>85</b>
<b>Indicator 35</b>	<b>Service Satisfaction</b>	<b>89</b>
<b>Indicator 20</b>	<b>Graduation Rates</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>Indicator 39</b>	<b>Trust in Government</b>	<b>93</b>

Complete findings for each of the 24 topics and 72 indicators are provided in the rest of this section.

# ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

Economic Opportunity scores the lowest of all six themes and underscores the immense challenges confronting Hispanic and African American residents seeking to improve their economic status. When taken together, the topics and indicators within this theme depict an entrenched and expanding economic divide. A recent study by the Communities Foundation of Texas, Dallas Economic Opportunity Assessment, reports the average household income for the highest quintile in Dallas County increased by 5% from 2006 to 2015. By stark contrast, the average household income for the lowest quintile declined by 7% during this same period. This growing disparity between the haves and the have-nots has swollen the ranks of the working poor, created barriers to economic mobility, and denied thousands of residents the abundant opportunities of a prosperous region.

**Theme Score**  
**28**  
 Out of 100

Business Development	29	Business Establishments	27
		Business Ownership	36
		Business Revenue	23
Employment	29	Job Opportunities	1
		Jobless Rate	58
		Adults with High-Growth, High-Paying Jobs	29
Income	37	Average Full-Time Income	35
		Average Hourly Wage	37
		Household Income	38
Poverty	19	Child Poverty	31
		Concentrated Poverty	11
		Full-Time Employees Living in Poverty	14





## Business Development

According to the Dallas Regional Chamber, 97% of businesses in Dallas-Fort Worth employ fewer than 100 people. Small, entrepreneurial businesses provide a viable opportunity for women and people of color to build wealth and financial equity. From a neighborhood perspective, they can also provide local employment opportunities and much-needed goods and services for residents. This topic includes the indicators Business Establishments, Business Ownership, and Business Revenue, measured by race/ethnicity of individuals or neighborhoods, all of which show relatively large racial and ethnic disparities. These disparities point to a need to explore more inclusive economic models and non-traditional business development programs that can facilitate local economic development in underserved communities and enable business ownership by underrepresented groups.



### Indicator 1: Business Establishments

<b>Definition</b>	Ratio between the number of businesses per capita in White and Hispanic neighborhoods
<b>Rationale</b>	Retail and commercial establishments provide essential goods and services, as well as employment opportunities, to residents. The number of businesses present in a neighborhood is indicative of the economic health of the area and strength of private markets.
<b>Baseline Ratio</b>	White (W): 0.08    Hispanic (H): 0.02    W-to-H ratio = 4.00
<b>Static Score</b>	27
<b>More Findings</b>	White neighborhoods also have almost three times as many business establishments (0.08) as Black neighborhoods (0.03). Racially diverse neighborhoods have 0.06 businesses per capita.
<b>Data Sources</b>	2016 ESRI Business Analyst Business Data

### Indicator 2: Business Ownership

<b>Definition</b>	Ratio between self-employment income as a percentage of household income for Whites and Blacks
<b>Rationale</b>	Self-employment and business ownership represent opportunities for residents to overcome barriers in the traditional labor force and increase earnings. Personal wealth, access to capital, entrepreneurial skills, and educational attainment may be factors that limit success in this indicator.
<b>Baseline Ratio</b>	White (W): 2.32%    Black (B): 0.89%    W-to-B ratio = 2.62
<b>Static Score</b>	36
<b>More Findings</b>	Minimal variation exists between Asian- and Hispanic-headed households (2.02% and 2.03%, respectively). The percentage of self-employment income in male-headed households, 2.52%, is almost twice that of female-headed households (1.32%).
<b>Data Sources</b>	2016 American Community Survey 1-Year Public Use Microdata Sample

### Indicator 3: Business Revenue

<b>Definition</b>	Ratio between annual business revenue per capita in racially diverse and Hispanic neighborhoods
<b>Rationale</b>	Business revenue is an indicator of economic health and activity in a neighborhood. High business revenues may reflect the amount of disposable income of area residents.
<b>Baseline Ratio</b>	Racially diverse (RD): \$353,627.18    Hispanic (H): \$77,364.26    RD-to-H ratio = 4.57
<b>Static Score</b>	23
<b>More Findings</b>	Businesses in White neighborhoods produced about \$227,500 in revenue per capita, while businesses in Black neighborhoods produced about \$130,900. Businesses in the top income group produced more than two and a half times the revenue (\$264,576.80) as businesses in neighborhoods in the bottom income group (\$95,178.37).
<b>Data Sources</b>	2016 American Community Survey 1-Year Public Use Microdata Sample

## Employment

Although the DFW metropolitan area consistently generates some of the highest job growth in the country, job opportunities and access to those jobs are not distributed equitably across the city, as evidenced by the Job Opportunities indicator, which earned the lowest possible score of 1. Neighborhoods with diverse populations have access to the greatest number of jobs within a 30-minute transit ride, while African American and Hispanic neighborhoods have access to a fraction of those opportunities. Racial/ethnic disparities exist on an individual level according to the other two indicators, Jobless Rate and Adults with High-Growth, High-Paying Jobs.



### Indicator 4: Job Opportunities

<b>Definition</b>	Ratio between the number of jobs within a 30-minute commute of racially diverse and Black neighborhoods (measured from the center of the neighborhood)
<b>Rationale</b>	Job proximity impacts how quickly and easily individuals can secure and maintain employment. Long commute times increase transportation costs (gas, wear and tear, public transit) and opportunity costs (time), making certain job opportunities less accessible to low-income or transit-dependent populations.
<b>Baseline Ratio</b>	Racially diverse (RD): 43,136      Black (B): 2,537      RD-to-B ratio = 17.00
<b>Static Score</b>	1
<b>More Findings</b>	White neighborhoods have access to 33,229 job opportunities within a 30-minute commute, 13 times what Black neighborhoods can access in the same amount of time. Hispanic neighborhoods have access to just 5,522 jobs, a little more than twice that of Black neighborhoods. Lastly, neighborhoods in the top income group can access 34,605 jobs, more than four times that of neighborhoods in the bottom income group (7,720) and, surprisingly, more than seven times that of neighborhoods in the middle income group (4,929).
<b>Data Sources</b>	2015 Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics (LEHD) Origin-Destination Employment Statistics (LODES) + DART and Fort Worth Transportation Authority GTFS datasets

### Indicator 5: Jobless Rate

<b>Definition</b>	Ratio between the percentage of Black and White adults (aged 25-64) who are unemployed or not in the labor force
<b>Rationale</b>	Compared to the unemployment rate, the jobless rate provides a more complete picture of adults not participating in the formal economy because it captures both the unemployed and discouraged individuals who are no longer looking for work.
<b>Baseline Ratio</b>	Black (B): 27.68%      White (W): 17.84%      B-to-W ratio = 1.55
<b>Static Score</b>	58
<b>More Findings</b>	The jobless rate for women (27.58%) is almost twice the rate for men (15.71%). The jobless rates for Asian and Hispanic adults are 22.75% and 20.19%, respectively.
<b>Data Sources</b>	2016 American Community Survey 1-Year Public Use Microdata Sample

### Indicator 6: Adults with High-Growth, High-Paying Jobs

<b>Definition</b>	Ratio between the percentage of Asian and Hispanic adults (aged 25-64) in high-growth, high-paying jobs
<b>Rationale</b>	Employment in high-growth, high-paying jobs indicates labor force competitiveness in the 21st-century knowledge economy.
<b>Baseline Ratio</b>	Asian (A): 27.40%      Hispanic (H): 7.30%      O-to-H ratio = 3.75
<b>Static Score</b>	29
<b>More Findings</b>	22.60% of White adults are in high-growth, high-paying jobs, but only 12.60% of African American adults are, less than half the percentage of Asians. Women outperform men slightly, at 16.50%, compared to 14.80%.
<b>Data Sources</b>	2016 American Community Survey 1-Year Public Use Microdata Sample

## Income

During the past three decades, the nation has seen the wealth divide increase between White households and African American and Hispanic households. This disparity is evident in all three indicators in the Income topic – with scores ranging from 35 to 37 – and falls along both racial and gender lines. For both the Average Full-Time Income and the Average Hourly Wage indicators, the most substantial inequities occur between White and Hispanic adults, while in Household Income, the greatest disparity occurs between White and African American families.



Indicator 7: Average Full-Time Income

<b>Definition</b>	Ratio between the average annualized income for White and Hispanic adults (aged 25-64) employed full-time (30+ hours per week)
<b>Rationale</b>	Wages are the main source of income for most people, and higher income typically allows for greater opportunity and quality of life.
<b>Baseline Ratio</b>	White (W): \$87,319.02      Hispanic (H): \$31,077.59      W-to-H ratio = 2.81
<b>Static Score</b>	35
<b>More Findings</b>	White adults earn more than twice what Black adults earn (\$39,195.21), and 1.22 times what Asians earn (\$71,806.99). On average, men make over \$18,000 a year more than women.
<b>Data Sources</b>	2016 American Community Survey 1-Year Public Use Microdata Sample

Indicator 8: Average Hourly Wage

<b>Definition</b>	Ratio between the average estimated hourly wage for White and Hispanic adults (aged 25-64)
<b>Rationale</b>	This indicator includes earnings for full-time and part-time employees, providing a wider representation of income for the total labor force.
<b>Baseline Ratio</b>	White (W): \$38.18      Hispanic (H): \$15.57      W-to-H ratio = 2.45
<b>Static Score</b>	37
<b>More Findings</b>	The average estimated hourly wages for White adults and for men (x) are at least x times higher than for all other groups observed.
<b>Data Sources</b>	2016 American Community Survey 1-Year Public Use Microdata Sample

Indicator 9: Household Income

<b>Definition</b>	Ratio between the median income for White and Black households
<b>Rationale</b>	Average full-time income and average hourly wages are measures for individuals. Household income reflects all the income available to a family, including children and those members who are not in the labor force.
<b>Baseline Ratio</b>	White (W): \$117,015.72      Black (B): \$48,198.36      W-to-B ratio = 2.43
<b>Static Score</b>	38
<b>More Findings</b>	Hispanic-headed households earn slightly more than Black-headed households at \$54,728.58, while Asian-headed households earn much more at \$92,103.18. Households headed by men earn 27% more than households headed by women (about \$91,000 and \$72,000, respectively).
<b>Data Sources</b>	2016 American Community Survey 1-Year Public Use Microdata Sample

## Poverty

Since 2000, the number of people living in poverty in Dallas increased by almost 40%, outpacing a population growth of only 7.6%. Dallas' poverty rate in 2016 was almost 23%, higher than any large city in Texas and considerably higher than the national average at 15.1%. Today, about 30% of Hispanics and African Americans (240,870 individuals) live below the poverty line. Dallas is ranked third in child poverty among major U.S. cities, and the Child Poverty indicator demonstrates this affects children differently based on race: nearly 40% of African American children live in poverty, more than three times the percentage of Asian and White children. The other two indicators – Concentrated Poverty and Full-Time Employees Living in Poverty – also reveal immense racial disparities.



### Indicator 10: Child Poverty

<b>Definition</b>	Ratio between the percentage of Black and Asian children (aged 0-17) living at or below the poverty threshold
<b>Rationale</b>	Children are particularly susceptible to the harmful effects of poverty, particularly in the areas of physical health, social and emotional development, and educational achievement.
<b>Baseline Ratio</b>	Black (B): 39.20%    Asian (A): 11.70%    B-to-A ratio = 3.35
<b>Static Score</b>	31
<b>More Findings</b>	Almost 31% of Hispanic children live in poverty, compared to a little less than 13% of White children. Poverty rates are similar for boys (28%) and girls (26.9%)
<b>Data Sources</b>	2016 American Community Survey 1-Year Public Use Microdata Sample

### Indicator 11: Concentrated Poverty

<b>Definition</b>	Ratio between the percentage of Black and White residents living in neighborhoods where 40% or more of the population lives at or below the poverty threshold
<b>Rationale</b>	Neighborhoods with concentrated poverty exhibit common characteristics of disinvestment and decline, including blighted structures and vacant lots, higher incidence of crime, reduced social cohesion, and lack of essential services such as grocery stores.
<b>Baseline Ratio</b>	Black (B): 20.10%    White (W): 2.74%    B-to-W ratio = 7.34
<b>Static Score</b>	11
<b>More Findings</b>	Approximately 11% of both Asians and Hispanics live in neighborhoods of concentrated poverty.
<b>Data Sources</b>	2012-2016 American Community Survey 5-Year Summary File

### Indicator 12: Full-Time Employees Living in Poverty

<b>Definition</b>	Ratio between the percentage of Black and White adults (aged 25-64) employed full-time (30+ hours per week) and living at or below the poverty threshold
<b>Rationale</b>	This indicator demonstrates that many jobs provide insufficient income to enable workers to meet an individual's basic needs for daily living, including safe and decent housing, transportation, and food. The working poor often work more than one full-time job and/or rely on government assistance to survive.
<b>Baseline Ratio</b>	Black (B): 8.50%    White (W): 1.30%    B-to-W ratio = 6.54
<b>Static Score</b>	14
<b>More Findings</b>	7.4% of Hispanic adults live in poverty despite working full-time, compared to 2.4% of Asian adults. The same is true for 3.9% of men and 5.5% of women.
<b>Data Sources</b>	2016 American Community Survey 1-Year Public Use Microdata Sample

# EDUCATION

Educational attainment is directly tied to higher lifelong earnings and improved quality of life. The topics and indicators presented in this theme reveal differences in educational outcomes for students as well as the outcomes observed in the education of the general population. These educational attainment and student achievement gaps call for rigorous exploration into whether a high school education is enough to successfully compete in Dallas' 21st-century economy. A recent study by the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas, *Regional Talent Pipelines: Collaborating with Industry to Build Opportunities in Texas*, underscores this question by reporting a protracted trend of job polarization that leaves low-skilled workers with fewer and fewer opportunities. The report emphasizes the need for state-level entities to develop and support career pathways to middle-wage jobs through education and training beyond a high school diploma, such as community college degrees, industry certifications, internships and mentoring, or other workforce credentials.

Theme Score  
**46**  
 Out of 100

Early Education	64	Early Education Enrollment by Race	44
		Early Education Enrollment by Income	75
		Kindergarten Readiness	73
Elementary & Middle School Education	57	Elementary and Middle School Academic Performance	60
		Elementary and Middle School Quality	36
		Elementary and Middle School Teacher Tenure	76
High School Education	52	College Readiness	36
		Graduation Rates	90
		Suspensions	29
Education of General Population	10	Low Educational Attainment	1
		Impact of Education	14
		College-Educated Population	16





## Early Education

The formative years of a child’s life create the foundation for social and emotional learning, as well as readiness for formal educational instruction. Participation in a quality early childhood education program not only improves performance throughout a child’s academic career, but also provides positive social outcomes for children as they mature into young adults. Although programs such as Head Start have proven to have significant benefits on multiple levels, not all families eligible for these programs take advantage of the resources available. For example, the first indicator in this topic, Early Education Enrollment by Race, reveals White and African American students are nearly twice as likely to participate in early education programs as their Hispanic or Asian counterparts. The other two indicators document Early Education Enrollment by Income and Kindergarten Readiness.



### Indicator 13: Early Education Enrollment by Race

<b>Definition</b>	Ratio between the percentage of White and Asian children (aged 3-4) enrolled in public or private nursery or pre-K
<b>Rationale</b>	Participation in early childhood education programs is associated with improved educational outcomes.
<b>Baseline Ratio</b>	White (W): 64.40%    Asian (A): 33.80%    W-to-A ratio = 1.91
<b>Static Score</b>	44
<b>More Findings</b>	African American children are also almost twice as likely to be enrolled in early education programs as their Hispanic peers (about 60% and 36%, respectively). Boys and girls are enrolled at similar rates (about 47% and 49%).
<b>Data Sources</b>	2016 American Community Survey 1-Year Public Use Microdata Sample

### Indicator 14: Early Education Enrollment by Income

<b>Definition</b>	Ratio between the percentage of children (aged 3-4) in the top and bottom income groups enrolled in public or private nursery or pre-K
<b>Rationale</b>	Participation in early childhood education programs is associated with improved educational outcomes.
<b>Baseline Ratio</b>	>185% of poverty threshold (T): 52.47%    <100% of poverty threshold (B): 43.14%    T-to-B ratio = 1.22
<b>Static Score</b>	75
<b>More Findings</b>	About 45% of children in the middle-income group are enrolled in early education programs.
<b>Data Sources</b>	2016 American Community Survey 1-Year Public Use Microdata Sample

### Indicator 15: Kindergarten Readiness

<b>Definition</b>	Ratio between the percentage of White and Hispanic children testing as kindergarten-ready in Dallas public schools
<b>Rationale</b>	Kindergarten readiness assesses whether a child is prepared academically, socially, and emotionally to be successful in a traditional learning environment. Disparities in kindergarten readiness may be a predictor of educational disparities later in life.
<b>Baseline Ratio</b>	White (W): 79.20%    Hispanic (H): 63.70%    W-to-H ratio = 1.24
<b>Static Score</b>	73
<b>More Findings</b>	White children also showed substantially higher kindergarten readiness (79.20%) than their Black peers (64.60%). Girls showed slightly higher readiness than boys (67.7% and 62.2%, respectively).
<b>Data Sources</b>	2015-16 Texas Education Agency Texas Public Education Information Resource Public Kindergarten Readiness Data

## Elementary and Middle School Education

Educational performance at the elementary and middle school level is a strong predictor of academic success during a student’s high school and college years, and the impact of teacher proficiency and the quality of the learning environment on performance cannot be overstated. In this topic, the indicators are Elementary and Middle School Academic Performance, Elementary and Middle School Academic Quality, and Elementary and Middle School Academic Teacher Tenure. The performance and quality indicators show White and Asian students have better academic outcomes and are more likely to attend schools that meet established educational standards than their Hispanic or African American counterparts.



### Indicator 16: Elementary and Middle School Academic Performance

<b>Definition</b>	Ratio between the percentage of White and Black elementary students achieving “Approaches Grade Level” status or above in all test subjects
<b>Rationale</b>	Student achieving “Approaches Grade Level” status or above (“Meets Grade Level” or “Masters Grade Level”) are likely to succeed in the next grade, though some may require targeted academic intervention. Students who “Did Not Meet Grade Level” are unlikely to succeed without significant, ongoing academic intervention.
<b>Baseline Ratio</b>	White (W): 90.40%      Black (B): 59.40%      W-to-B ratio = 1.52
<b>Static Score</b>	60
<b>More Findings</b>	Almost 70% of Hispanic students and about 82% of Asian students achieved at least an “Approaches Grade Level” status. Female students were more likely than male students to have this status or higher (71.9% compared to 66.2%).
<b>Data Sources</b>	2016-17 Texas Education Agency Texas Academic Performance Reports Data

### Indicator 17: Elementary and Middle School Quality

<b>Definition</b>	Ratio between the percentage of publicly educated White and Black children in Dallas who attend a state-designated “Post-Secondary Readiness” campus
<b>Rationale</b>	This indicator is an assessment of a school’s ability to prepare students for successful transition to high school
<b>Baseline Ratio</b>	White (W): 56.93%      Black (B): 21.57%      W-to-B ratio = 2.64
<b>Static Score</b>	36
<b>More Findings</b>	Only 25% of Hispanic students attend campuses with “Post-Secondary Readiness” status, compared to 42% of Asian students.
<b>Data Sources</b>	Texas Education Agency Final 2016 Accountability Ratings by Distinction Designation

### Indicator 18: Elementary and Middle School Teacher Tenure

<b>Definition</b>	Ratio between average teacher tenure at public school campuses located in White and Hispanic neighborhoods
<b>Rationale</b>	High teacher turnover rates may lead to teacher shortages or the hiring of less experienced teachers, which could impact student achievement. High teacher turnover also increases recruitment, hiring, and training costs for schools.
<b>Baseline Ratio</b>	White (W): 7.39      Hispanic (H): 6.17      W-to-H ratio = 1.20
<b>Static Score</b>	76
<b>More Findings</b>	Minimal variation is observed in teacher tenure between any two groups. However, it is notable that average teacher tenure across all groups is less than seven years.
<b>Data Sources</b>	2016-17 Texas Education Agency Texas Academic Performance Reports Data

## High School Education

Students who do not graduate from high school, or those who are not college-ready, will lack the academic preparation to capitalize on the many economic opportunities that exist in the thriving North Central Texas economy. Indicators in this topic, therefore, cover College Readiness, Graduation Rates, and Suspensions. While four-year high school completion rates for White and Asian students are only nominally higher than those of African American or Hispanic students, White students are nearly three times as likely to be rated college-ready as their African American peers. African American students also have higher suspension rates than White or Asian students.



### Indicator 19: College Readiness

<b>Definition</b>	Ratio between the percentage of White and Black students rated college-ready in either English or math
<b>Rationale</b>	This indicator is a measure of potential post-secondary academic success and/or workforce readiness.
<b>Baseline Ratio</b>	White (W): 70.50%      Black (B): 26.10%      W-to-B ratio = 2.70
<b>Static Score</b>	36
<b>More Findings</b>	White students are more than twice as likely as their Hispanic peers to be college-ready (70.5% compared to 32.2%). A little more than half (54.7%) of Asian students are considered college-ready.
<b>Data Sources</b>	2016-17 Texas Education Agency Texas Academic Performance Reports Data

### Indicator 20: Graduation Rates

<b>Definition</b>	Ratio between the percentage of White and Black students graduating, obtaining a GED, or remaining enrolled after four years of high school education
<b>Rationale</b>	A high school diploma or equivalent is linked to better employment opportunities as well as admissions to post-secondary academic institutions and training programs.
<b>Baseline Ratio</b>	White (W): 94.00%      Black (B): 89.20%      W-to-B ratio = 1.05
<b>Static Score</b>	90
<b>More Findings</b>	Graduation rates are similar across race/ethnicity and gender.
<b>Data Sources</b>	2016-17 Texas Education Agency Texas Academic Performance Reports Data

### Indicator 21: Suspensions

<b>Definition</b>	Ratio between the number of in-school or out-of-school suspensions per 1,000 enrolled students for Black and White students
<b>Rationale</b>	Suspensions and expulsions may contribute to lower academic performance and behavioral problems. They may also adversely impact whether a student graduates from high school.
<b>Baseline Ratio</b>	Black (B): 336.80      White (W): 90.70      B-to-W ratio = 3.71
<b>Static Score</b>	29
<b>More Findings</b>	Suspension rates for Black students are significantly higher than for all other racial/ethnic groups. About 27 Asian students and 142 Hispanic students are suspended per 1,000 enrolled. Male students are more than twice as likely as female students to be suspended (249 compared to 120).
<b>Data Sources</b>	2015-16 Texas Education Agency Discipline Action Group Summary Report Data

## Education in the General Population

Education among Dallas' adult population scores the lowest of all 24 topics in this report; moreover, the Low Educational Attainment indicator earns the lowest possible score of 1. This, along with the additional indicators in this topic, Impact of Education and College-Educated Population, reveals the tremendous educational disparity among population groups and identifies the substantial impact education has on income. For example, Asians are the most likely of any racial/ethnic group to have at least a bachelor's degree, with more than 66% of adults holding a bachelor's degree or higher. In sharp contrast, only 11% of Hispanic adults have the same.



### Indicator 22: Low Educational Attainment

<b>Definition</b>	Ratio between the percentage of Hispanic and White adults (aged 25-64) who do not have a high school diploma or equivalent
<b>Rationale</b>	Lower educational attainment makes it more likely that a person will only be eligible for low-skill employment and low-wage income.
<b>Baseline Ratio</b>	Hispanic (H): 44.90%    White (W): 4.40%    H-to-W ratio = 10.21
<b>Static Score</b>	1
<b>More Findings</b>	Hispanic adults are also more than four times as likely as Black adults (9.9%) and nearly four times as likely as Asian adults (12.5%) to not have a high school diploma or equivalent.
<b>Data Sources</b>	2016 American Community Survey 1-Year Public Use Microdata Sample

### Indicator 23: Impact of Education

<b>Definition</b>	Ratio between the percentage of Black and White adults (aged 25-64) with a high-school diploma or higher who are employed full-time (30+ hours per week) and living below the poverty threshold
<b>Rationale</b>	This indicator provides insight into whether factors other than educational attainment impact economic success.
<b>Baseline Ratio</b>	Black (B): 8.50%    White (W): 1.30%    B-to-W ratio = 6.54
<b>Static Score</b>	14
<b>More Findings</b>	7.4% of Hispanic adults and 2.4% of Asian adults who have a high school diploma and are employed live below the poverty threshold. This indicator reflects the largest disparity between men and women in this topic: 3.9% and 5.5%, respectively.
<b>Data Sources</b>	2016 American Community Survey 1-Year Public Use Microdata Sample

### Indicator 24: College-Educated Population

<b>Definition</b>	Ratio between the percentage of Asian and Hispanic adults (aged 25-64) with a bachelor's degree or higher
<b>Rationale</b>	Educational attainment is a strong predictor of employment opportunities, income, and wealth.
<b>Baseline Ratio</b>	Asian (A): 66.00%    Hispanic (H): 11.00%    A-to-H ratio = 6.00
<b>Static Score</b>	16
<b>More Findings</b>	Only 21% of Black adults have a bachelor's degree or higher, compared to 60% of White adults.
<b>Data Sources</b>	2016 American Community Survey 1-Year Public Use Microdata Sample

# HOUSING AND NEIGHBORHOOD QUALITY

Affordable housing prices are one of Dallas' competitive advantages nationally, and distinct neighborhood character is one of the city's defining features in the region. Although neighborhood appeal is often a matter of individual preference, most people can agree on the basic components of a wholistic neighborhood, such as housing affordability, housing quality, and the availability of goods, services, and community resources. The Mayor's Task Force on Poverty recently released maps illustrating the significant correlation between race, income, and geographic location. Economic segregation in Dallas strongly reflects racial segregation and highlights the impact of decades of disinvestment in Black and Hispanic neighborhoods, culminating in substantial inequities in basic housing conditions, neighborhood quality, and access to amenities.

Theme Score  
**49**  
 Out of 100

Housing Affordability	49	Home Loan Denial Rates	43
		Housing Cost Burden	64
		Homeownership	40
Community Resources	63	Libraries	75
		Parks	75
		Cultural and Recreational Amenities	38
Quality of Housing	25	Overcrowding	1
		Building Quality	35
		Utility Expenses	38
Services	61	Internet Coverage	16
		Service Satisfaction	89
		Street Quality	79





## Housing Affordability

Owning a home is the largest investment most Americans will ever make, and homeownership is still the most reliable way to build wealth for individuals and families. Therefore, this topic looks at Home Loan Denial Rates, Housing Cost Burden, and Homeownership. Access to reasonable credit is a key factor in purchasing a home, but if a person or family cannot secure financing for a home, they are locked out of homeownership opportunities, including the ability to build equity and secure stable living arrangements. The term “housing cost-burdened” refers to people who pay more than 30% of their household income on rent or mortgage payments. In Dallas, the housing cost burden falls disproportionately on Black-, Hispanic-, and female-headed households, which pay well over this 30% threshold, leaving relatively little income available for other essential needs such as transportation, child care, health care, or food.



Indicator 25: Home Loan Denial Rates

<b>Definition</b>	Ratio between the home loan denial rates for Black and White applicants
<b>Rationale</b>	Access to credit determines most individuals' ability to purchase a home and build wealth through equity.
<b>Baseline Ratio</b>	Black (B): 17.30%      White (W): 8.90%      B-to-W ratio = 1.94
<b>Static Score</b>	43
<b>More Findings</b>	Hispanic applicants are nearly 1.5 times more likely than White applicants to be denied for a home loan (11.8%), and the denial rate for Asian applicants is 13.2%. Minor variations are observed between gender groups.
<b>Data Sources</b>	2016 Home Mortgage Disclosure Act Data, Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council

Indicator 26: Housing Cost Burden

<b>Definition</b>	Ratio between the percentage of Black and White households whose housing costs exceed 30% of household income
<b>Rationale</b>	Households paying more than 30% of income on rent or mortgage payments have less disposable income for other basic necessities.
<b>Baseline Ratio</b>	Black (B): 41.90%      White (W): 29.10%      B-to-W ratio = 1.44
<b>Static Score</b>	64
<b>More Findings</b>	All groups struggle with housing cost burden to some extent, but more than 40% of female and Hispanic-headed households are housing cost-burdened, compared to 36.6% of Asian-headed households and just 29.6% of male-headed households.
<b>Data Sources</b>	2016 American Community Survey 1-Year Public Use Microdata Sample

Indicator 27: Homeownership

<b>Definition</b>	Ratio between the percentage of White and Black households who own or are buying their home
<b>Rationale</b>	Homeownership continues to be the primary vehicle to build wealth. Additionally, mortgage payments are often more predictable and stable than rental payments.
<b>Baseline Ratio</b>	White (W): 56.90%      Black (B): 27.80%      W-to-B ratio = 2.05
<b>Static Score</b>	40
<b>More Findings</b>	Asian and Hispanic households have similar homeownership rates at 45%.
<b>Data Sources</b>	2016 American Community Survey 1-Year Public Use Microdata Sample

## Community Resources

While there are some differences in access to basic urban amenities such as parks and libraries, even greater disparity is observed in access to cultural amenities. Residents who live in White or racially diverse neighborhoods enjoy access to a greater number of cultural institutions, such as those found in the Arts District, than those who live in predominantly African American or Hispanic neighborhoods. A typical White neighborhood can access more than five cultural and recreational amenities within a 30-minute transit ride, while African American and Hispanic neighborhoods have access to less than half that amount within the same commute time.



### Indicator 28: Libraries

<b>Definition</b>	Ratio between the number of libraries within a 30-minute commute of White and Hispanic neighborhoods via public transit
<b>Rationale</b>	Libraries are community assets that promote literacy and provide free computer resources, internet access, and opportunities for social interaction.
<b>Baseline Ratio</b>	White (W): 0.78    Hispanic (H): 0.65    W-to-H ratio = 1.20
<b>Static Score</b>	75
<b>More Findings</b>	Similar variation is observed between White and Black neighborhoods (0.67).
<b>Data Sources</b>	COD/ESRI GTFS

### Indicator 29: Parks

<b>Definition</b>	Ratio between the number of parks within a 30-minute commute of White and Hispanic neighborhoods via public transit
<b>Rationale</b>	Parks are community assets that provide numerous advantages linked to physical and emotional health, environmental benefits, and opportunities for social interaction.
<b>Baseline Ratio</b>	White (W): 4.21    Hispanic (H): 3.48    W-to-H ratio = 1.21
<b>Static Score</b>	75
<b>More Findings</b>	Similar variation is observed between neighborhoods in the three income groups. Neighborhoods in the bottom income group can access 4.80 parks, compared to 3.77 and 3.82 in the middle and top groups, respectively. Black neighborhoods can access 4.12 parks, resulting in a White-to-Black ratio of 1.02.
<b>Data Sources</b>	COD/ESRI GTFS

### Indicator 30: Cultural and Recreational Amenities

<b>Definition</b>	Ratio between the average number of cultural and recreational facilities within a 30-minute commute of White and Hispanic neighborhoods via public transit
<b>Rationale</b>	Cultural and recreational facilities are community assets that provide educational and leisure opportunities, encourage artistic expression, and promote individual and community well-being.
<b>Baseline Ratio</b>	White (W): 5.21    Hispanic (H): 2.26    W-to-H ratio = 2.31
<b>Static Score</b>	38
<b>More Findings</b>	White neighborhoods have more than double the number of cultural and recreational amenities as Black neighborhoods (2.45). As with parks, neighborhoods in the middle-income group can access the fewest number of amenities (2.75), compared to 3.50 for the bottom income group and 4.18 for the top.
<b>Data Sources</b>	2016 ESRI Business Analyst/COD/ESRI GTFS

## Quality of Housing

The quality of a home impacts not only its property value, but the safety and health of its occupants. Faulty electrical systems spark fires, inadequate plumbing contaminates the water supply, and leaking roofs can quickly weaken and damage an entire structure. Poor environmental conditions, such as pest infestations and mold, have been linked to asthma and other chronic health issues. Deteriorating housing can also cause neighborhood property values to decline as vacant structures and blighted properties become fire hazards, havens for drug houses, and attractive shelters for individuals experiencing homelessness.



Indicators in this topic include Overcrowding, Building Quality, and Utility Expenses. Findings reveal Hispanic families are 11 times more likely to live in overcrowded conditions than their White peers, and homes located in White neighborhoods exhibit better structural quality in general than buildings in African American or Hispanic neighborhoods.

### Indicator 31: Overcrowding

<b>Definition</b>	Ratio between the percentage of Hispanic and White households with more than two individuals per room
<b>Rationale</b>	Overcrowding poses risks to individual and public health, and it could indicate a family lacks resources to secure adequate shelter. While overcrowding may be reflective of cultural norms or personal preference, it tends to occur more frequently in neighborhoods with poor socioeconomic conditions.
<b>Baseline Ratio</b>	Hispanic (H): 15.34%      White (W): 1.18%      H-to-W ratio = 13.00
<b>Static Score</b>	1
<b>More Findings</b>	Asian and Black households experience overcrowding at rates of nearly 7% and 5%, respectively.
<b>Data Sources</b>	2016 American Community Survey 1-Year Public Use Microdata Sample

### Indicator 32: Building Quality

<b>Definition</b>	Ratio between the percentage of residential parcels rated Good or better in neighborhoods in the top and bottom income groups.
<b>Rationale</b>	Dwellings with poor structural integrity can impact physical health and safety, as well as emotional wellbeing.
<b>Baseline Ratio</b>	>185% of poverty threshold (T): 57.10% < 100% of poverty threshold (B): 20.10%      T-to-B ratio = 2.84
<b>Static Score</b>	35
<b>More Findings</b>	Nearly 60% of residential parcels in White and racially diverse neighborhoods are rated as Good or better, compared to only 36% and 37.7% in Black and Hispanic neighborhoods, respectively.
<b>Data Sources</b>	2016 Dallas Central Appraisal District Data

### Indicator 33: Utility Expenses

<b>Definition</b>	Ratio between the percentage of household income Black and Asian households spend on electricity, gas, heating fuel, and water utilities
<b>Rationale</b>	Households paying more for utility expenses have less disposable income for other basic necessities.
<b>Baseline Ratio</b>	Black (B): 11.34%      Asian (A): 4.71%      B-to-A ratio = 2.41
<b>Static Score</b>	38
<b>More Findings</b>	White households spend double the percentage of household income (11.06%) on utilities as Asians. Hispanic households spend a little less than 10%, and female-headed households spend a little more than 12%, about 1.5 times what male-headed households spend (8.27%).
<b>Data Sources</b>	2016 American Community Survey 1-Year Public Use Microdata Sample

## Services

Availability and quality of basic services such as access to the internet or the pavement condition of neighborhood streets significantly influences the desirability of a neighborhood and impacts quality of life for all residents who live there. Indicators in this topic include Internet Access, Service Satisfaction, and Street Quality. While municipal services scored relatively high, lack of internet access scored significantly lower, revealing an important disparity given the considerable reliance people have on the internet for communication, education, entertainment, and social connections and employment opportunities.



### Indicator 34: Internet Access

<b>Definition</b>	Ratio between the percentage of Black and Asian households without paid or unpaid internet access
<b>Rationale</b>	Internet access is a basic 21st-century need for education and employment, as well as entertainment and social interaction.
<b>Baseline Ratio</b>	Black (B): 31.90%    Asian (A): 5.30%    B-to-A ratio = 6.02
<b>Static Score</b>	16
<b>More Findings</b>	27% of Hispanic households lack internet access, compared to 8% of White households.
<b>Data Sources</b>	2016 American Community Survey 1-Year Public Use Microdata Sample

### Indicator 35: Service Satisfaction

<b>Definition</b>	Ratio between the average composite satisfaction score reported by White and Black individuals on the City's annual community survey (scale of 1 to 4)
<b>Rationale</b>	Positive perceptions of the provision of public services imply satisfaction with government service delivery.
<b>Baseline Ratio</b>	White (W): 3.06    Black (B): 2.89    W-to-B ratio = 1.06
<b>Static Score</b>	89
<b>More Findings</b>	Little variation is observed in the perception of municipal services.
<b>Data Sources</b>	2016 City of Dallas Direction Finder Survey

### Indicator 36: Street Quality

<b>Definition</b>	Ratio between the average pavement condition index scores in racially diverse and Hispanic neighborhoods
<b>Rationale</b>	Pavement condition impacts not only neighborhood property values, but the safety of drivers and pedestrians using the street. Additionally, as pavement condition deteriorates, it becomes increasingly expensive to repair, impacting future public infrastructure investments.
<b>Baseline Ratio</b>	Racially diverse (RD): 3.49    Hispanic (H): 3.09    RD-to-H ratio = 1.13
<b>Static Score</b>	79
<b>More Findings</b>	Little variation is observed in street pavement condition between neighborhood categories.
<b>Data Sources</b>	City of Dallas Street Conditions Survey

# JUSTICE AND GOVERNMENT

A recent report by the Dallas Police Department showed Hispanic youth are seven times more likely to be subject to juvenile curfew enforcement than White youth. Topics and indicators covered in this theme reveal similar disparities for youth, as well as adults. Seemingly simple contacts with the police, such as traffic stops, or involvement in the criminal justice system for minor offenses can and do have life-altering impacts. Family disruption, the financial impact of fees and fines, time served in detention or incarceration that deprives an individual of attendance at work or school, or the stigmatization of having a record are just a few of the effects on individuals and their families. Beyond individuals, if neighborhoods develop reputations for high crime or dangerous conditions, residents and businesses may begin to leave, an exodus triggering a cycle of disinvestment and decline.

Theme Score  
**46**  
 Out of 100

Government	57	Voter Turnout	59
		Representation in Government	20
		Trust in Government	92
Incarceration	43	Fines and Fees	73
		Jail Admission Rates	31
		Juvenile Detention Rates	24
Law Enforcement	42	Arrest Rates	37
		Police Force Diversity	31
		Traffic Stops	58
Victimization	40	Property Crime Victimization Rates	61
		ER Utilization Rates for Injuries	30
		Violent Crime Victimization Rates	29





## Government

Civic participation in government is a cornerstone of representative democracy. However, individuals and groups often experience barriers to participation, excluding them from important decisions that impact their lives and prosperity. Voter participation rates in Dallas are low, particularly in local elections, and older, more affluent White residents vote at much higher rates than their younger non-White counterparts. The median age of a municipal election voter in Dallas is 62, while the median age of Dallas residents is 33. In this topic, the Voter Turnout indicator shows the greatest disparity between residents of neighborhoods in the top and middle-income groups; the former is more than 1.5 times as likely to participate in elections as the latter.



### Indicator 37: Voter Turnout

<b>Definition</b>	Ratio between the percentage of eligible voters participating in elections in neighborhoods from the top and bottom income groups
<b>Rationale</b>	Voter participation rates in local elections greatly influences the outcome of those elections. Dallas has a majority minority population that could, theoretically, influence governmental representation as well as policy outcomes
<b>Baseline Ratio</b>	>185% of poverty threshold (T): 65.10%      <100% of poverty threshold (B): 42.30%      T-to-B ratio = 1.54
<b>Static Score</b>	59
<b>More Findings</b>	Voter turnout is 20% higher in White neighborhoods (70.5%) than Black (48.4%) or Hispanic (49.7%) neighborhoods. In racially diverse neighborhoods, voter turnout is about 58%. In neighborhoods in the middle-income group, turnout is about 47%.
<b>Data Sources</b>	2016 Dallas, Denton and Collin County Election Department Data

### Indicator 38: Representation in Government

<b>Definition</b>	Ratio between the proportion of White and Hispanic individuals represented on boards and commissions compared to their proportion in the general population.
<b>Rationale</b>	Board and commission membership offers residents an opportunity to actively participate in their local government. Diversity in government increases residents' trust in and perceptions of the legitimacy of the organization and may lead to more equitable policy outcomes for represented groups.
<b>Baseline Ratio</b>	White (W): 1.88      Hispanic (H): 0.37      W-to-H ratio: 5.08
<b>Static Score</b>	20
<b>More Findings</b>	African American residents are appointed at a rate 0.82 times their representation in the general population, and females are also appointed in lower proportions than their representation in the overall population (a rate of 0.74).
<b>Data Sources</b>	Dallas City Secretary data, provided upon request

### Indicator 39: Trust in Government

<b>Definition</b>	Ratio between the average composite trust score reported by White and Asian individuals on the City's annual community survey (scale of 1 to 4)
<b>Rationale</b>	Trust in government is linked to public confidence in governance and satisfaction with service delivery.
<b>Baseline Ratio</b>	White (W): 3.12      Asian (A): 3.00      W-to-A ratio: 1.04
<b>Static Score</b>	92
<b>More Findings</b>	Trust scores show little disparity across race/ethnicity and gender.

## Incarceration

According to the Dallas County Sheriff's Department, the average daily jail population in 2017 was 6,500 people. Although jail admission rates in Dallas County have been decreasing for the past 25 years, the average length of stay has risen more than three-fold, from eight days to more than 27 days (Vera Institute of Justice 2017). One factor contributing to this phenomenon could be the affordability of bail – studies suggest 40% of all misdemeanor defendants are held until their cases are resolved because they cannot afford bail (McCullough 2018). In that vein, this topic examines Fines and Fees, Jail Admission Rates, and Juvenile Detention Rates – according to every indicator, African American residents fare the worst.



### Indicator 40: Fines and Fees

<b>Definition</b>	Ratio between the average cost (fines and fees) paid by Black and White defendants in cases adjudicated guilty by the City's municipal courts
<b>Rationale</b>	Inability to pay fines and fees may increase the likelihood of a defendant remaining in detention or taking on debt on secure their release.
<b>Baseline Ratio</b>	Black (B): \$417.31      White (W): \$332.94      B-to-W ratio = 1.25
<b>Static Score</b>	73
<b>More Findings</b>	Hispanic defendants experience almost identical outcomes to Black defendants, spending an average of \$416 on fines and fees. On average, Asian defendants spend only \$275.
<b>Data Sources</b>	2016 Dallas City Attorney's Office Data

### Indicator 41: Jail Admission Rates

<b>Definition</b>	Ratio between the number of individuals booked per 100,000 residents for Black and White adults
<b>Rationale</b>	Incarceration limits employment and housing opportunities, contributes to negative physical and emotional health outcomes, and weakens family cohesion.
<b>Baseline Ratio</b>	Black (B): 6,200      White (W): 1,800      B-to-W ratio = 3.44
<b>Static Score</b>	31
<b>More Findings</b>	Men are four times more likely than women to be booked into jail.
<b>Data Sources</b>	2016 Dallas County Sheriff's Department Data

### Indicator 42: Juvenile Detention Rates

<b>Definition</b>	Ratio between the number of juveniles detained per 100,000 juvenile residents (aged X to Y) for Black and White juveniles
<b>Rationale</b>	The long lasting and damaging effects of juvenile detention include negative impacts on mental and physical well-being and increased risk of recidivism and/or dropping out of school.
<b>Baseline Ratio</b>	Black (B): 1,516.30      White (W): 338.20      B-to-W ratio: 4.48
<b>Static Score</b>	24
<b>More Findings</b>	About 519 Hispanic juvenile defendants are detained per 100,000 residents (a ratio of 2.92). 2.6 times as many male juvenile defendants (955) are detained as female juvenile defendants (365).
<b>Data Sources</b>	2016 Dallas County Juvenile Department Data

## Law Enforcement

The relationship between communities and the law enforcement agencies sworn to protect them is one of the defining issues of our time. How law enforcement engages with people of color is an area of particular importance, as negative interactions can have long-lasting impacts. Indicators in this topic include Arrest Rates, Police Force Diversity, and Traffic Stops Resulting in Searches. The current demographic breakdown of the Dallas Police Department shows a lack of officer diversity when compared to the overall population. Specifically, White officers are represented at a rate 1.73 times their representation in the general population, while Hispanics are underrepresented at a rate of 0.51.



### Indicator 43: Arrest Rates

<b>Definition</b>	Ratio between the number of arrests per 100,000 residents for Black and White individuals
<b>Rationale</b>	An arrest, even when it does not result in conviction, may negatively impact individuals financially because of bail costs and court fees, or in lost employment opportunities because of an arrest record. An arrest also increases the likelihood of interaction with law enforcement in future.
<b>Baseline Ratio</b>	Black (B): 4,224.50      White (W): 1,657.60      B-to-W ratio = 2.55
<b>Static Score</b>	37
<b>More Findings</b>	The arrest rate for men is more than four times the arrest rate for women (3,724 to 751).
<b>Data Sources</b>	2016 Dallas Police Department Arrest Data

### Indicator 44: Police Force Diversity

<b>Definition</b>	Ratio between the proportion of White and Hispanic individuals serving in the Dallas Police Department compared to their proportion in the general population.
<b>Rationale</b>	Police officer diversity is an effective way to build public trust and relationships, opening communication channels and increasing effectiveness of community policing efforts.
<b>Baseline Ratio</b>	White (W): 1.73      Hispanic (H): 0.51      W-to-H ratio: 3.39
<b>Static Score</b>	31
<b>More Findings</b>	Asians and women are represented in the police department in lower numbers than their proportion in the general population (0.63 and 0.53, respectively). Black individuals are about proportionally represented at a rate of 1.07.
<b>Data Sources</b>	2016 Dallas Police Department Annual Report

### Indicator 45: Traffic Stops Resulting in Searches

<b>Definition</b>	Ratio between the percentage of traffic stops of Black and White drivers that result in a vehicle search
<b>Rationale</b>	Traffic stops are the most common interaction between police and residents and these first interactions can and do lead to additional issues.
<b>Baseline Ratio</b>	Black (B): 16.90%      White (W): 10.90%      B-to-W ratio = 1.55
<b>Static Score</b>	58
<b>More Findings</b>	African Americans are searched during traffic stops 1.6 times more often than Hispanics (10.40%), and nearly three times more often than Asians (6.20%).
<b>Data Sources</b>	2016 Dallas Police Department Racial Profiling Report

## Victimization

Victimization rates and types lend insight into the frequency and type of crime different groups experience while residing in or visiting Dallas. Indicators in this topic include Property Crime Victimization Rates, Emergency Room Utilization Rates for Injuries, and Violent Crime Victimization Rates. African American neighborhoods report somewhat more property crime victimization (burglary, larceny-theft, motor vehicle theft) and considerably more violent crime victimization (murder, rape, robbery, aggravated assault) than other racial/ethnic groups. As in the Law Enforcement and Incarceration topics, Asians report property crime and violent crime victimization at lower rates than other racial/ethnic groups.



### Indicator 46: Property Crime Victimization Rates

<b>Definition</b>	Ratio between the number of property crimes per 100,000 residents reported in Black and Hispanic neighborhoods
<b>Rationale</b>	Property crime rates shape residents' perceptions of public safety and personal safety in their own neighborhoods.
<b>Baseline Ratio</b>	Black (B): 3,343.65    Hispanic (H): 2,250.40    B-to-H ratio = 1.49
<b>Static Score</b>	61
<b>More Findings</b>	The difference in property crime reporting rates across different income groups is less than 17%.
<b>Data Sources</b>	2016 Dallas Police Department Incident Data

### Indicator 47: Emergency Room Admissions for Injuries

<b>Definition</b>	Ratio between emergency room (ER) check-ins (for injury and effects of drugs/poison) per 100,000 residents for Blacks and Asians
<b>Rationale</b>	Emergency room utilization for injuries and drug overdoses may be linked to violence and victimization.
<b>Baseline Ratio</b>	Black (B): 7,763.29    Asian (A): 2,180.31    B-to-A ratio = 3.56
<b>Static Score</b>	30
<b>More Findings</b>	African American residents also have injury-related utilization rates greater than double those of Hispanic residents (3,800) and nearly three times those of White residents (2,817). The rates for men and women are similar at 5,975 and 5,452, respectively (a ratio of 1.10).
<b>Data Sources</b>	2016 Dallas-Fort Worth Hospital Council Foundation Data

### Indicator 48: Violent Crime Victimization Rates

<b>Definition</b>	Ratio between the number of violent crimes per 100,000 residents reported by Black and White neighborhoods
<b>Rationale</b>	Violent crime in neighborhoods strongly impacts the personal safety of residents and may create a perception of dangerous conditions that spurs neighborhood decline and disinvestment.
<b>Baseline Ratio</b>	Black (B): 1,628.82    White (W): 431.49    B-to-W ratio = 3.78
<b>Static Score</b>	29
<b>More Findings</b>	Residents who live in neighborhoods below 100% of the poverty threshold report three times the number of violent crimes (1,631) as neighborhoods in the middle (1,060) and top (531) income groups.
<b>Data Sources</b>	2016 Dallas Police Department Incident Data

# PUBLIC HEALTH

Public health outcomes in Dallas are inextricably linked to race and socioeconomic status. Research on the social determinants of health has long established that race, education levels, poverty, personal and safety, are reliable predictors of a person's health and well-being. Moreover, community health is heavily impacted by the adverse conditions present in neighborhoods of concentrated poverty, and as demonstrated in previous themes, geographic location is tied closely to race and poverty. Through her research on adverse community environments, Wendy Ellis of the Milken Institute School of Public Health found that more than 35% of Dallas' children experience extreme economic hardship, compared to the national rate of 25%. The topics and indicators in this theme begin to explore how race, ethnicity, and poverty intersect with access to quality physical and behavioral health services, as well as important community health indicators.

**Theme Score**  
**38**  
 Out of 100

Health Care	50	Use of Preventative Care	39
		Health Insurance	27
		Hospital Quality	85
Population Health	35	Chronic Diseases	36
		Mortality	37
		Mental Health	32
Maternal and Child Health	32	Prenatal Care	63
		Teen Pregnancy	22
		Child Asthma	10
Behavioral Risk Factors	36	Consumption of Unhealthy Foods	38
		Physical Activity	58
		Smoking Rates	11





## Health Care

The health of a community can be assessed according to a variety of factors, including health insurance coverage, use of preventative health services, and the quality of these services. Health insurance enrollment among Hispanic residents has significantly increased during the past few years; however, Hispanics are still four times more likely than Whites not to have health insurance. Disparities also exist in the use of preventative care services with White residents more likely to use preventative care services than their African American or Hispanic counterparts. The Hospital Quality indicator scores minimally higher in White neighborhoods than African American neighborhoods.



### Indicator 49: Use of Preventative Care

<b>Definition</b>	Ratio between the percentage of Hispanic and Black residents who report they do not have a regular doctor
<b>Rationale</b>	Individuals who have a regular doctor are more likely to receive preventative care and are less likely to be hospitalized for preventable conditions.
<b>Baseline Ratio</b>	Hispanic (H): 55.90%      Black (B): 24.60%      H-to-B ratio = 2.27
<b>Static Score</b>	39
<b>More Findings</b>	Hispanics are also more than twice as likely as Whites (26.9%) to report not having a regular doctor. Men are 20% more likely than women to report not having a regular doctor (41.3% compared to 34.4%).
<b>Data Sources</b>	2015 Texas Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS)

### Indicator 50: Health Insurance

<b>Definition</b>	Ratio between the percentage of Hispanics and Whites without health insurance
<b>Rationale</b>	Lack of health insurance reduces access to preventative care, increases health care costs, and can result in poor health outcomes.
<b>Baseline Ratio</b>	Hispanic (H): 33.20%      White (W): 8.10%      H-to-W ratio = 4.10
<b>Static Score</b>	27
<b>More Findings</b>	19% of African Americans do not have health insurance coverage, compared to 12% of Asians.
<b>Data Sources</b>	2016 American Community Survey 1-Year Public Use Microdata Sample

### Indicator 51: Hospital Quality

<b>Definition</b>	Ratio between the average Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) linear score for the three closest hospitals via public transit from neighborhoods in the middle and bottom income group
<b>Rationale</b>	Poor hospital quality may lead to subpar treatment and adverse health outcomes. Perceptions of hospital quality may also influence individuals' decisions to use a nearby hospital when seeking medical attention.
<b>Baseline Ratio</b>	100-185% of poverty threshold (M): 89.83      <100% of poverty threshold (B): 83.30      M-to-B ratio = 1.08
<b>Static Score</b>	85
<b>More Findings</b>	The linear score for hospitals closest to White neighborhoods is 91.2, minimally better than hospitals closest to Black or Hispanic neighborhoods (87.6 and 86.9, respectively).
<b>Data Sources</b>	2016 U.S. Department of Health and Human Services AHRQ Data

## Population Health

The indicators in this topic – Hospital Admissions for Chronic Diseases, Mortality Rates, and Hospital Admissions for Psychiatric Care – provide insight into the overall health of the community and of particular populations. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, young African Americans are more likely than youth of other races to die from conditions typically associated with older White residents, like heart disease and stroke. Some chronic illnesses such as breast cancer and HIV-related diseases also have different mortality impacts on African Americans than Whites. This topic illustrates similar trends in Dallas, where the mortality rate for African Americans is 1.25 times higher than for White residents, nearly twice as high as the rate for Hispanics, and more than 2.5 times higher than the rate for Asians.



Indicator 52: Hospital Admissions for Chronic Diseases

<b>Definition</b>	Ratio between the number of hospital admissions for chronic diseases per 100,000 residents for Blacks and Asians
<b>Rationale</b>	Chronic diseases like heart disease or diabetes place a tremendous burden on a person's long-term physical, emotional, and financial well-being. Disparities in health outcomes also point to disparities in other areas, such as access to preventative health care, availability of healthy food, or environmental conditions.
<b>Baseline Ratio</b>	Black (B): 1,626.46      Asian (A): 600.28      B-to-A ratio = 2.71
<b>Static Score</b>	36
<b>More Findings</b>	Hispanics have hospital admission rates for chronic diseases similar to Asians (about 617 per 100,000 residents), while Whites have much higher rates (about 1,083). Women are admitted to the hospital for chronic diseases about 30% more often than men.
<b>Data Sources</b>	Texas Department of State Health Services; Center for Health Statistics, Texas Hospital Inpatient Discharge Public Use Data File, 2016

Indicator 53: Mortality Rates

<b>Definition</b>	Ratio between the age-adjusted death rate per 100,000 residents for Blacks and Asians Note: An age-adjusted rate is the rate that would have existed if the population under study had the same age distribution as the "standard" population.
<b>Rationale</b>	Disparities in mortality rates indicate disparities in access to or quality of preventative physical and mental health care services and healthy living habits.
<b>Baseline Ratio</b>	Black (B): 966.11      Asian (A): 381.16      B-to-A ratio = 2.53
<b>Static Score</b>	37
<b>More Findings</b>	Whites have the second highest age-adjusted death rate at 771 per 100,000 residents, followed by Hispanics at 504. For men, the mortality rate is 41% higher than for women.
<b>Data Sources</b>	Centers for Disease Control Compressed Mortality Database, 2016

Indicator 54: Hospital Admissions for Psychiatric Care

<b>Definition</b>	Ratio between the number of hospital admissions for psychiatric care per 100,000 residents for Blacks and Asians
<b>Rationale</b>	Poor mental health often leads to other negative outcomes, such as poor physical health, decreased social interaction, and reduced productivity at work or home. Disparities in hospital admissions for psychiatric care may indicate disparities in access to preventative mental health care.
<b>Baseline Ratio</b>	Black (B): 1,128.57      Asian (A): 344.56      B-to-A ratio= 3.28
<b>Static Score</b>	32
<b>More Findings</b>	Whites have the second highest admissions rate at 795 per 100,000 residents, followed by Hispanics at 516. Women are admitted for psychiatric care at a 23% higher rate than men.
<b>Data Sources</b>	Texas Department of State Health Services; Center for Health Statistics, Texas Hospital Inpatient Discharge Public Use Data File, 2016

## Maternal and Child Health

Prenatal care, teen pregnancy, and childhood asthma are important gauges of the health of Dallas' most vulnerable residents, and disparities in this topic are some of the largest in this report. Prenatal care helps prevent complications during pregnancy and ensures the health of the mother and child. Teen pregnancy, the highest area of inequity in this theme, is particularly concerning because of the emotional stress and additional health risks for mothers and babies. Disparities in child asthma rates were also high and revealed that African American children are eight times more likely than Asian children to suffer from this chronic illness.



### Indicator 55: Prenatal Care

<b>Definition</b>	Ratio between the percentage of live births for which White and Black mothers sought prenatal care in the first trimester
<b>Rationale</b>	Prenatal care is important for the health of both the mother and child and can prevent complications during pregnancy and birth.
<b>Baseline Ratio</b>	White (W): 69.30%      Black (B): 47.70%      W-to-B ratio = 1.45
<b>Static Score</b>	63
<b>More Findings</b>	54% of Hispanic women used prenatal health care services in the first trimester.
<b>Data Sources</b>	Texas Center for Health Statistics Vital Statistics, 2015

### Indicator 56: Teen Pregnancy

<b>Definition</b>	Ratio between the percentage of live births to Hispanic and White mothers younger than 16
<b>Rationale</b>	Children born to mothers under the age of 16 are more likely to suffer from health complications such as low birth weight, and teenage mothers and children are less likely to receive necessary prenatal and follow-up care. Teenage mothers are also much more likely to drop out of high school, limiting their future economic success.
<b>Baseline Ratio</b>	Hispanic (H): 3.85%      White (W): 0.81%      O-to-H ratio = 4.75
<b>Static Score</b>	22
<b>More Findings</b>	2.92% of children are born to African American mothers under the age of 16.
<b>Data Sources</b>	Texas Center for Health Statistics Vital Statistics, 2015

### Indicator 57: Child Asthma

<b>Definition</b>	Ratio between the asthma rate for Black and Asian children (aged 0-18)
<b>Rationale</b>	Asthma is one of the leading causes of school absenteeism and emergency room visits for children. It is also commonly linked to environmental factors and could be indicative of housing quality.
<b>Baseline Ratio</b>	Black (B): 231.48      Asian (A): 30.03      B-to-A ratio = 7.71
<b>Static Score</b>	10
<b>More Findings</b>	The rate of asthma for Black children is four times greater than the rate of asthma for White children (50.73) and Hispanic children (55.60). Boys have an asthma rate almost twice that of girls (154.87 and 85.38, respectively).
<b>Data Sources</b>	Texas Department of State Health Services; Center for Health Statistics, Texas Hospital Inpatient Discharge Public Use Data File, 2016

## Behavioral Risk Factors

Risky health behaviors are the actions of individuals that result in poor health outcomes for those individuals. Health research on behavioral risk factors identifies two broad categories for behavioral risk: behavioral excesses (e.g. overuse of tobacco or alcohol or consumption of fast food) and behavioral deficits (e.g. lack of physical activity). While these behaviors are influenced by personal preferences, access to resources such as healthy food and recreational facilities also impact these outcomes.



The indicators examined in this topic – Consumption of Fast Food, Physical Activity, and Smoking Rates – show disparities in behavioral risk factors across population groups. African Americans are much more likely to report eating fast food than their White or Hispanic counterparts. They are also more likely than their White and Hispanic counterparts to report smoking or engaging in lower levels of physical activity.

### Indicator 58: Consumption of Fast Food

<b>Definition</b>	Ratio between the percentage of Black and Hispanic individuals who report eating fast food two or more times per week.
<b>Rationale</b>	High rates of consumption of fast food may lead to a variety of adverse health outcomes, including an increased risk of obesity, diabetes, stroke, and coronary heart diseases.
<b>Baseline Ratio</b>	Black (B): 31.70%      Hispanic (H): 13.00%      B-to-H ratio = 2.44
<b>Static Score</b>	38
<b>More Findings</b>	Whites are also more than twice as likely as Hispanics to report eating fast food at least two times per week (28.5%).
<b>Data Sources</b>	2015 Texas Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS)

### Indicator 59: Physical Activity

<b>Definition</b>	Ratio between the percentage of Black and White individuals who report being inactive or insufficiently active
<b>Rationale</b>	Regular physical activity has numerous health benefits, including reducing the risk of cardiovascular disease, diabetes, colon and breast cancer, and depression. Disparities in physical activity may indicate a lack of leisure time or limited access to recreational facilities.
<b>Baseline Ratio</b>	Black (B): 81.10%      White (W): 52.20%      B-to-W ratio = 1.55
<b>Static Score</b>	58
<b>More Findings</b>	60% of Hispanics report being physically inactive.
<b>Data Sources</b>	2015 Texas Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS)

### Indicator 60: Smoking Rates

<b>Definition</b>	Ratio between the percentage of Black and Hispanic individuals who report smoking every day.
<b>Rationale</b>	Cigarette smoking greatly increases an individual's risk for lung cancer, coronary heart disease, and stroke. Cigarette smoking is the leading preventable cause of death in the U.S.
<b>Baseline Ratio</b>	Black (B): 19.30%      Hispanic (H): 2.60%      B-to-H ratio = 7.42
<b>Static Score</b>	11
<b>More Findings</b>	Whites are almost five times more likely than Hispanics to report smoking every day (12.6%).
<b>Data Sources</b>	2015 Texas Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS)

# TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Efficient and accessible public transportation connects people to jobs, educational opportunities, health care, goods and services, and other necessities that may not be available close to home. A groundbreaking study by the Center for Transportation Equity, Decisions, and Dollars (CTEDD) at the University of Texas at Arlington demonstrates the immense disparities in transit access for transit-dependent residents of Dallas. The Resilient Dallas Strategy has used this study to understand the transportation barriers to employment opportunities as well as access to essential services for low income and transit dependent residents. Topics and indicators in this theme demonstrate similar deficiencies of the current transit system that exclude transit-dependent and low-income residents from the full range of opportunities that improve economic and social mobility and increase well-being.

Theme Score  
**59**  
 Out of 100

Access to Services and Opportunities	51	Access to Goods and Services	22
		Commuting Time	78
		Transit Connectivity	54
Access to Transportation	65	Cost Burden	82
		Transit Coverage	79
		Transit Availability	33
Quality of Transportation	73	Capacity	73
		Consistency of Service	72
		Private Vehicle Availability	74
Built and Natural Environment	45	Residential Vacancies	27
		Structures in Floodplain	40
		Home Energy Deficiency Score	69





## Access to Services and Opportunities

When measuring access to services and opportunities, it is important to measure proximity to essential services and the time spent reaching them, particularly for transit-dependent populations. If residents are unable to easily access healthy food or adequate health care, arrive to work or school in a reasonable amount of time, or find reliable child care, their physical, social, and economic well-being is diminished. Indicators covered in this topic are Access to Goods and Services, Commuting Time, and Transit Connectivity. The Access to Goods and Services indicator, for example, examines the average number of grocery stores, drug stores, and clothing stores within a 30-minute transit ride and reveals significant disparities in access to these essential services by transit.



### Indicator 61: Access to Goods and Services

<b>Definition</b>	Ratio between the average number of grocery, drug, and clothing stores within 30 minutes of White and Black neighborhoods via public transit
<b>Rationale</b>	Reasonable access to basic necessities is essential to residents' health and well-being.
<b>Baseline Ratio</b>	White (W): 6.63      Black (B): 1.37      B-to-W ratio = 4.84
<b>Static Score</b>	22
<b>More Findings</b>	White neighborhoods also have access to almost twice as many goods and services as Hispanic neighborhoods.
<b>Data Sources</b>	2016 ESRI Business Analyst/GTFS

### Indicator 62: Commuting Time

<b>Definition</b>	Ratio between the average commute times (in minutes) for Black and White employed adults (aged 25-64)
<b>Rationale</b>	Commute time can affect health outcomes, earning potential, and the amount of time an individual can dedicate to other needs.
<b>Baseline Ratio</b>	Black (B): 28.43      White (W): 24.78      B-to-W ratio = 1.15
<b>Static Score</b>	78
<b>More Findings</b>	Minimal variation is observed in commute times between all groups.
<b>Data Sources</b>	2016 American Community Survey 1-Year Public Use Microdata Sample

### Indicator 63: Transit Connectivity

<b>Definition</b>	Average percent of DART neighborhoods accessible within a 60-minute transit ride at least 50% of the time between 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.
<b>Rationale</b>	
<b>Baseline Ratio</b>	White (W): 6.51%      Black (B): 3.92%      W-to-B ratio = 1.66
<b>Static Score</b>	54
<b>More Findings</b>	
<b>Data Sources</b>	GTFS

## Access to Transportation

DART operates the longest light rail system in North America, but despite this extensive system length, the agency only ranks 15th of the top 20 agencies in the U.S. for average daily boardings per mile. These low ridership numbers illustrate Dallas area residents are not using the system in proportion to the significant investment of public dollars in it. Indicators in this topic examine Cost Burden, Transit Coverage, and Transportation Frequency (during peak hours) to identify potential disparities in access to public transit.



### Indicator 64: Cost Burden

<b>Definition</b>	Ratio between the percentage of income Hispanic and White households spend on transportation
<b>Rationale</b>	After housing, transportation is the largest household cost, although costs may vary depending on the mode of transportation.
<b>Baseline Ratio</b>	Hispanic (H): 12.69%      White (W): 11.62%      H-to-W ratio = 1.09
<b>Static Score</b>	82
<b>More Findings</b>	Minimal variation is observed in transportation costs between all groups.
<b>Data Sources</b>	2016 ESRI Business Analyst

### Indicator 65: Transit Coverage

<b>Definition</b>	Ratio between the average area (in square miles) covered by a 30-minute transit commute from White and Black neighborhoods
<b>Rationale</b>	Residents in larger areas of coverage by transit can potentially access more jobs, services, and amenities than those in smaller coverage areas.
<b>Baseline Ratio</b>	White (W): 6.81      Black (B): 6.03      W-to-B ratio = 1.13
<b>Static Score</b>	79
<b>More Findings</b>	Minimal variation is observed in transit coverage between all groups.
<b>Data Sources</b>	GTFS

### Indicator 66: Transit Frequency (Peak Morning Hours)

<b>Definition</b>	Ratio between the number of trips available on Monday between 6 a.m. and 9 a.m. per working commuter in White and Black neighborhoods
<b>Rationale</b>	Frequency of public transit during peak hours increases access to employment opportunities.
<b>Baseline Ratio</b>	White (W): 0.77      Black (B): 0.25      W-to-B ratio = 3.13
<b>Static Score</b>	33
<b>More Findings</b>	Hispanic neighborhoods experience similar outcomes to Black neighborhoods (0.27 trips). White neighborhoods also have more than twice the number of trips available to racially diverse neighborhoods (0.35 trips).
<b>Data Sources</b>	2016 American Community Survey 1-Year Public Use Microdata Sample

## Quality of Transportation

The quality of the public transit system and its competitiveness with the private automobile may also account for low ridership. If the transit system doesn't have adequate capacity to serve the volume of riders who want to commute or doesn't connect riders to destinations at convenient times, ridership will suffer. Indicators within this topic measure Transit Frequency (throughout the day) and Consistency of Service, as well as households' access to private cars. Scores for these three indicators are relatively consistent and high, but given that collected qualitative information conflicts with these observed outcomes, these indicators warrant further examination.



Indicator 67: Transit Frequency (Full Day)

<b>Definition</b>	Ratio between the average number of trips available on Mondays between 6 a.m. and 9 p.m. in White and Black neighborhoods
<b>Rationale</b>	Frequency and convenience of public transit options increases access to employment opportunities, goods and services, and other amenities.
<b>Baseline Ratio</b>	White (W): 79.50      Black (B): 63.30      W-to-B ratio = 1.26
<b>Static Score</b>	73
<b>More Findings</b>	Transit frequency in Hispanic neighborhoods is similar to that in White neighborhoods (80.50 trips).
<b>Data Sources</b>	GTFS

Indicator 68: Consistency of Service

<b>Definition</b>	Ratio between the proportion of average trips per hour between 6 a.m. and 9 a.m. (peak) to average trips per hour between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. (off-peak) in White and Black neighborhoods
<b>Rationale</b>	Consistency of transit availability during both peak and non-peak hours extends options for people who work shifts outside of 9-5.
<b>Baseline Ratio</b>	Black (B): 1.94      White (W): 1.52      B-to-W ratio = 1.28
<b>Static Score</b>	72
<b>More Findings</b>	Hispanic neighborhoods have 1.85 times as many peak hour trips as off-peak hour trips, and racially diverse neighborhoods have 1.79 times as many.
<b>Data Sources</b>	GTFS

Indicator 69: Private Vehicle Availability

<b>Definition</b>	Ratio between the average number of vehicles available per person (aged 16+) in White and Black households
<b>Rationale</b>	The number of vehicles available to a household may indicate transit dependence.
<b>Baseline Ratio</b>	White (W): 0.70      Black (B): 0.57      W-to-B ratio = 1.23
<b>Static Score</b>	74
<b>More Findings</b>	Minimal variation is observed in availability of private vehicles between all groups.
<b>Data Sources</b>	2016 American Community Survey 1-Year Public Use Microdata Sample

## Built and Natural Environment

This topic with indicators of – Residential Vacancies, Structures in a Floodplain, and Home Energy Deficiency Scores – has the lowest scores in the Transportation and Infrastructure theme. These indicators explore the sustainability and quality of neighborhoods, and data reveals impoverished neighborhoods have residential vacancy rates more than four times higher than those of more affluent neighborhoods. Dallasites living in communities at or near poverty level are also more likely to live in residences built in floodplains, which are low-lying areas next to creeks and rivers that are prone to flooding.



### Indicator 70: Residential Vacancies

<b>Definition</b>	Ratio between the percentage of residential addresses identified as vacant by the U.S. Postal Service in neighborhoods from the bottom and top income groups
<b>Rationale</b>	Neighborhoods with high numbers of vacant or abandoned structures typically indicate higher levels of blight and disinvestment.
<b>Baseline Ratio</b>	<100% of poverty threshold (B): 5.53%      >185% of poverty threshold (T): 1.38%      B-to-T ratio = 4.01
<b>Static Score</b>	27
<b>More Findings</b>	4% of residential structures in Black neighborhoods are identified as vacant, compared to only 1.3% in White neighborhoods.
<b>Data Sources</b>	U.S. Postal Service Vacancy Data, 2016 Q4

### Indicator 71: Structures in a Floodplain

<b>Definition</b>	Ratio between the percentage of residential structures built in a 100-year floodplain in neighborhoods from the bottom and top income groups
<b>Rationale</b>	Dwelling units within the 100-year floodplain are subject to higher insurance premiums and lower property values because of the increased risk of flooding, which has an inequitable economic impact on homeowners.
<b>Baseline Ratio</b>	<100% of poverty threshold (B): 4.80%      >185% of poverty threshold (T): 2.30%      B-to-T ratio = 2.09
<b>Static Score</b>	40
<b>More Findings</b>	3.9% of residential structures in African American neighborhoods are located within the 100-year floodplain, while only 2.2% of residential structures in White neighborhoods are similarly located.
<b>Data Sources</b>	2016 Dallas Central Appraisal District and Texas Commission on Environmental Quality Data

### Indicator 72: Home Energy Deficiency Scores

<b>Definition</b>	Ratio between the average estimated home energy deficiency score for homes in Hispanic and racially diverse neighborhoods
<b>Rationale</b>	
<b>Baseline Ratio</b>	
<b>Static Score</b>	
<b>More Findings</b>	
<b>Data Sources</b>	