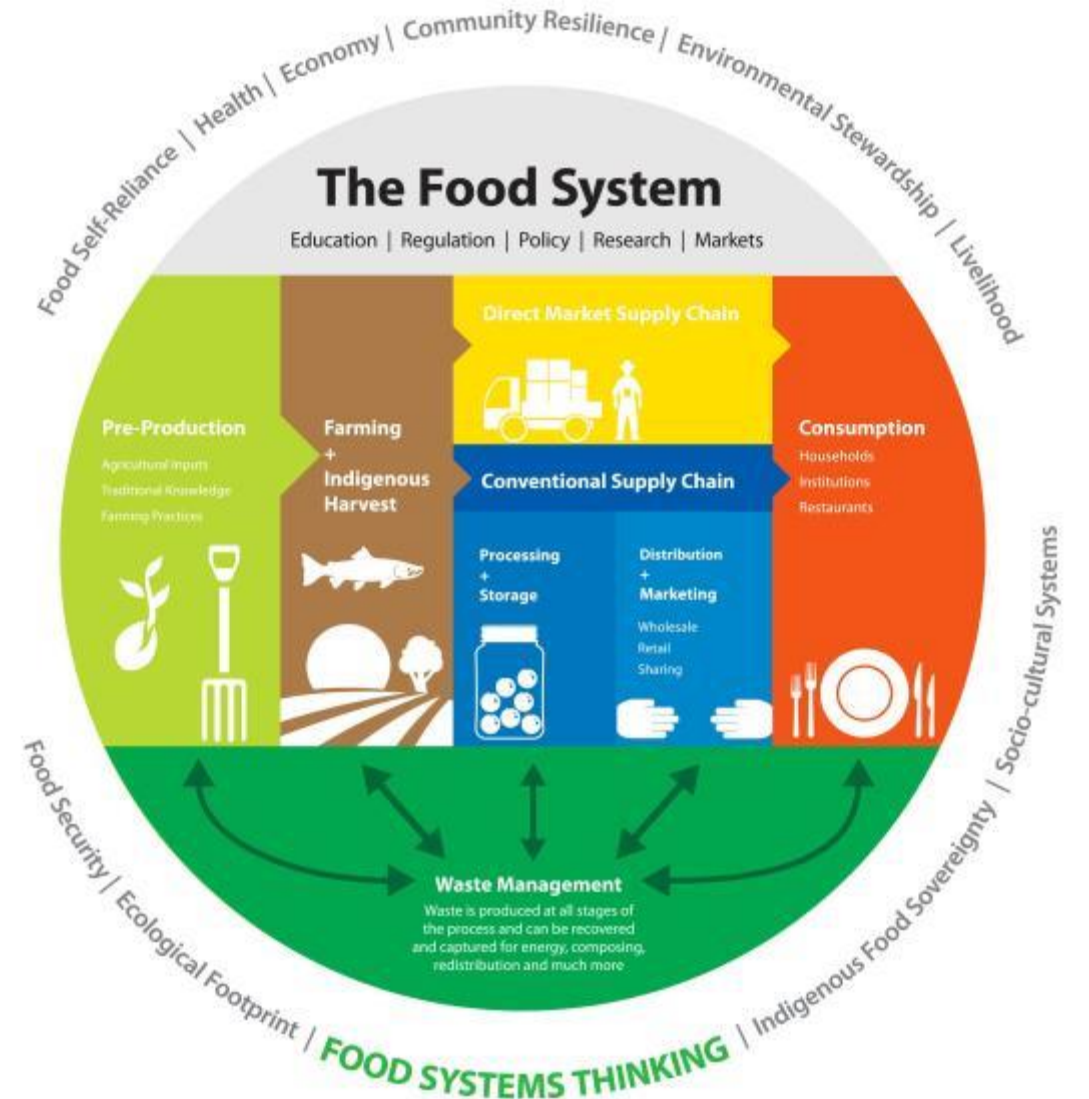WhyHunger

OxfamAmerica

Johns Hopkins University

Food Systems and Structural Racism

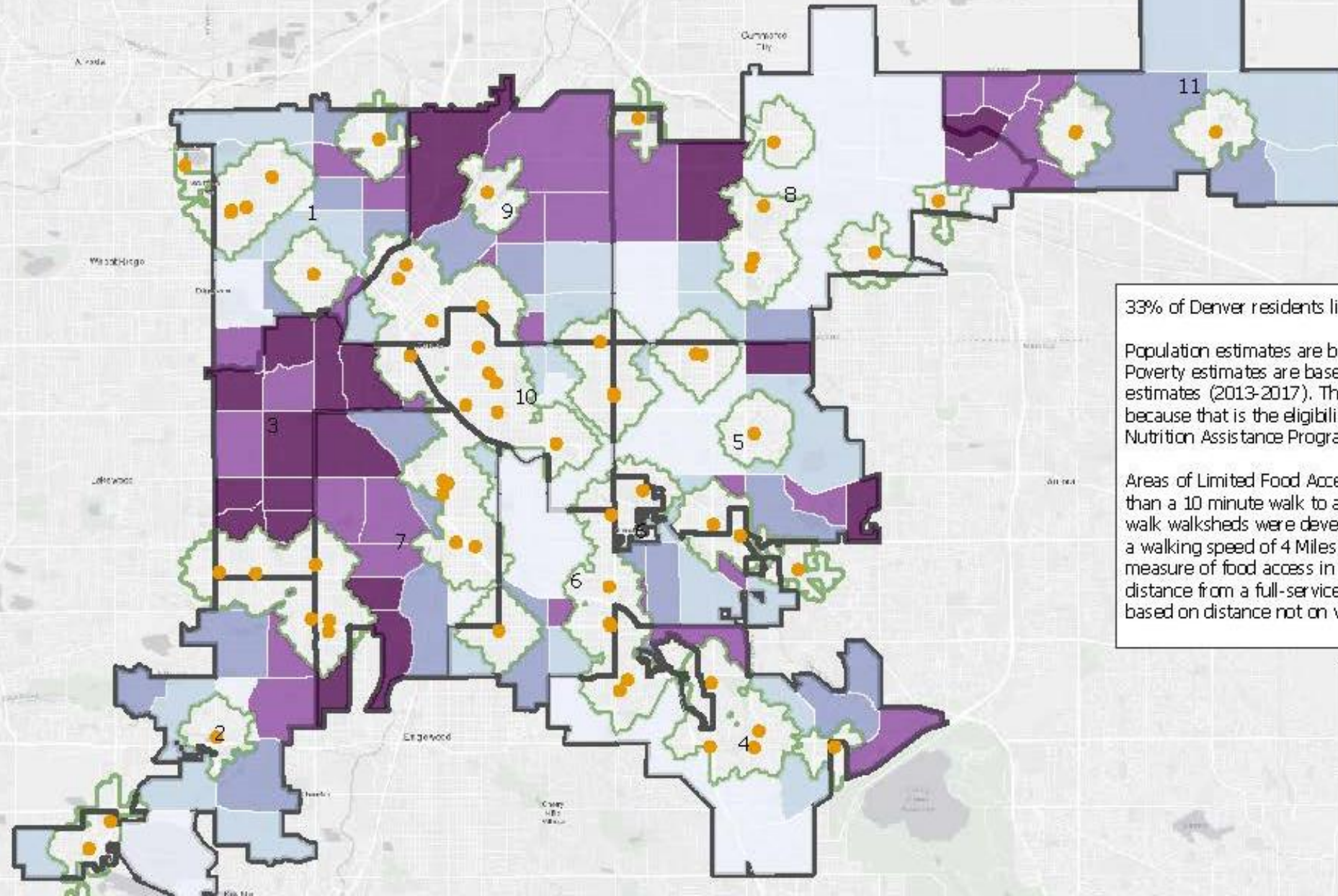Beyond GDP: Measuring Wellbeing and Quality of Life in a Time of COVID-19
June 8, 2020

Photo source: American Progress

Source: Southwest British Columbia Bio-Region Food System Design Project

Areas Of Limited Food Access in Denver With Concentration of 185% Poverty

33% of Denver residents live in an Area of Limited Food Access.

Population estimates are based on the 2010 census, while 185% Poverty estimates are based on American Community Survey 5-year estimates (2013-2017). The level of 185% poverty was chosen because that is the eligibility requirement for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program.

Areas of Limited Food Access represent areas of Denver that are more than a 10 minute walk to a full-service grocery store. The 10-minute walk walksheds were developed along the Denver sidewalk network at a walking speed of 4 Miles per hour. This is different than the previous measure of food access in Denver, which was based on a 1/4 mile distance from a full-service grocery store, "as the crow flies" (i.e. only based on distance not on where walking is actually possible).

Legend

Areas of Limited Food Access With Poverty Concentration

Percent Population Below 185% Poverty

Lowest Concentration of Poverty

Highest Concentration of Poverty

● Full Service Grocery Stores

Denver neighborhoods at higher risk for food insecurity are generally the same neighborhoods with more racially and ethnically diverse populations

**Geographic distribution of those people "at-risk" in Denver - 8 SES variables**

- Household poverty
- Median household income
- Unemployment
- Pops. employed in professional occupations
- Household owner occupancy
- Pops. with HS diploma
- Pops. with at least a bachelor's degree

At Risk Rank

- 8
- 7
- 6
- 5
- 4
- 3
- 2
- 1
- 0

DENVER
PUBLIC HEALTH & ENVIRONMENT
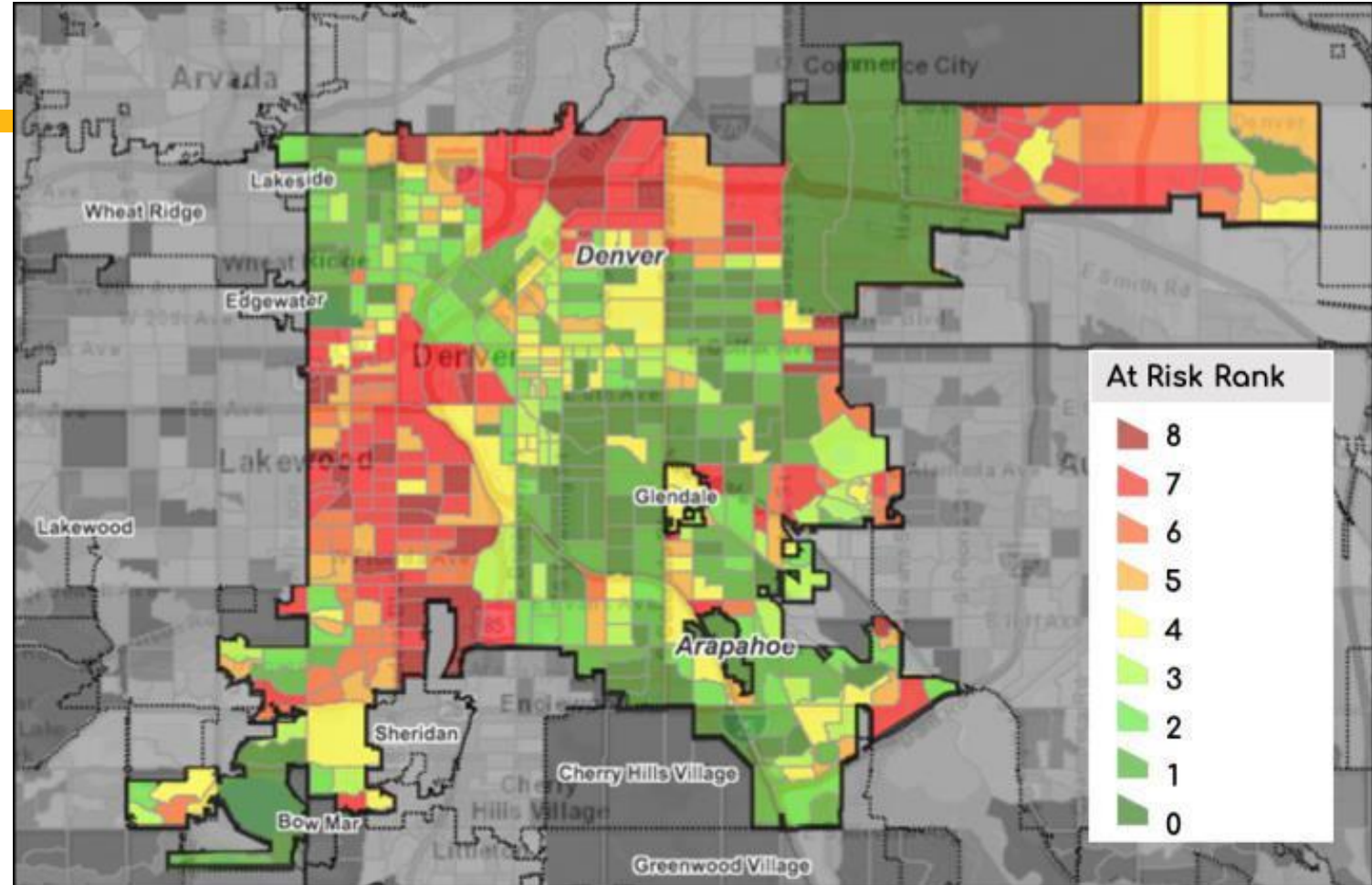
Child food insecurity is tied to a complex web of SES indicators

Geographic distribution of child well-being index - 11 indicator index

- o Adults w/o HS diploma
- o Births to women w/o a HS diploma
- o Children in single-parent families
- o Child poverty
- o Kindergarten readinesss
- o Overweight or obese children
- o Teen births
- o Unemployment
- o Violent crime
- o 3rd garders not at reading grade level
- o 9th garders chronically absent

2019 Child Well-Being Index

Areas with Fewer Obstacles to Success   Areas with Multiple Obstacles to Success

It is the culmination of factors that present significant challenges to children and families.
The child with fewer obstacles to overcome in everyday experiences is likely to have more opportunities for both academic and life success.

Eleven indicators that measure differences in education, health, and community opportunities were statistically aggregated to provide a snapshot of opportunity for Denver children by neighborhood.
These indicators include:

- Births to Women without a High School Diploma;
- Teen Births;
- Overweight or Obese Children;
- Kindergarten Readiness;
- Third Graders NOT Reading at Grade Level;
- Ninth Graders Chronically Absent;
- Adults without a High School Diploma;
- Children in Single-Parent Families;
- Child Poverty;
- Violent Crime; and
- Unemployment.
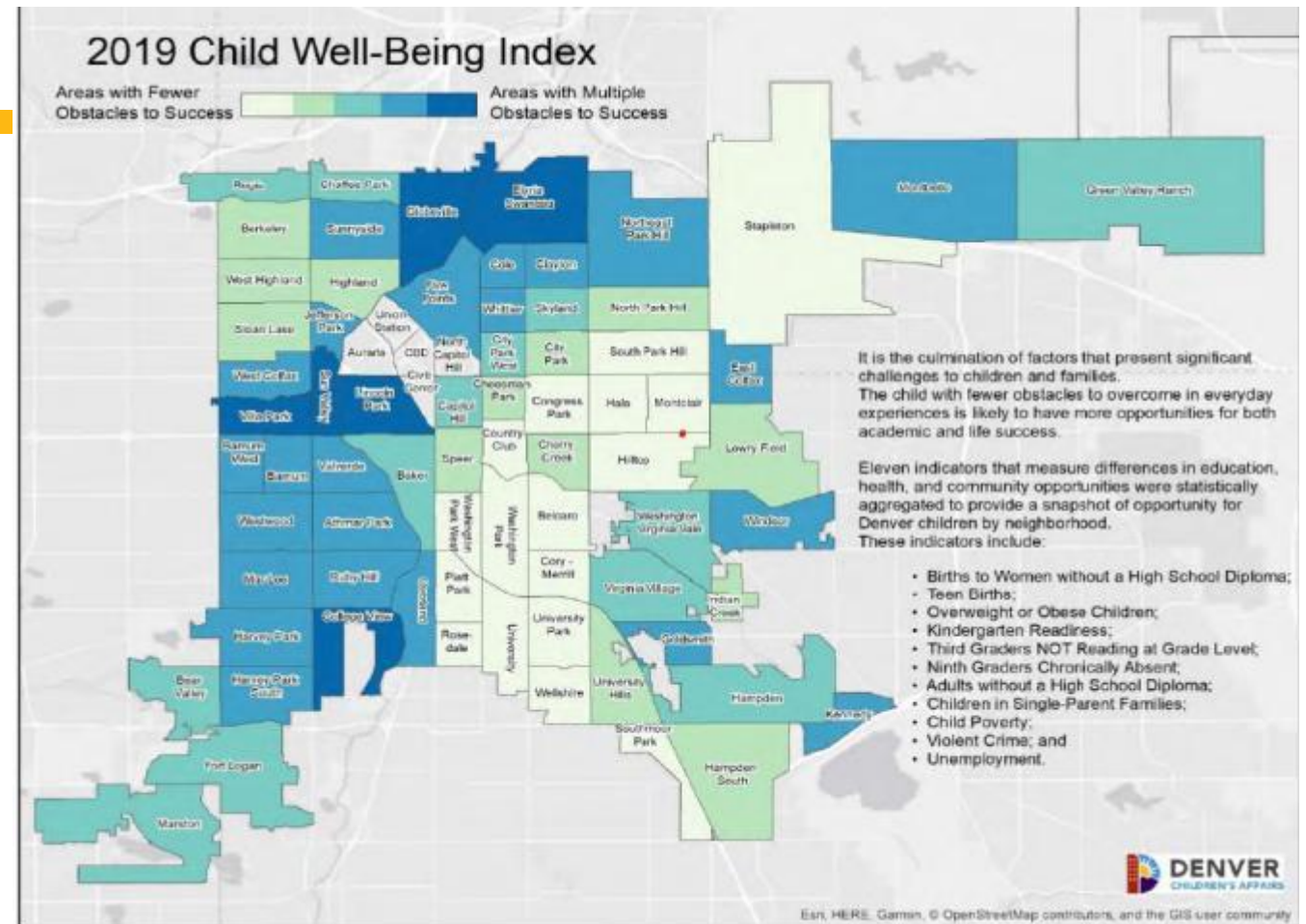
Sale up to **85%**
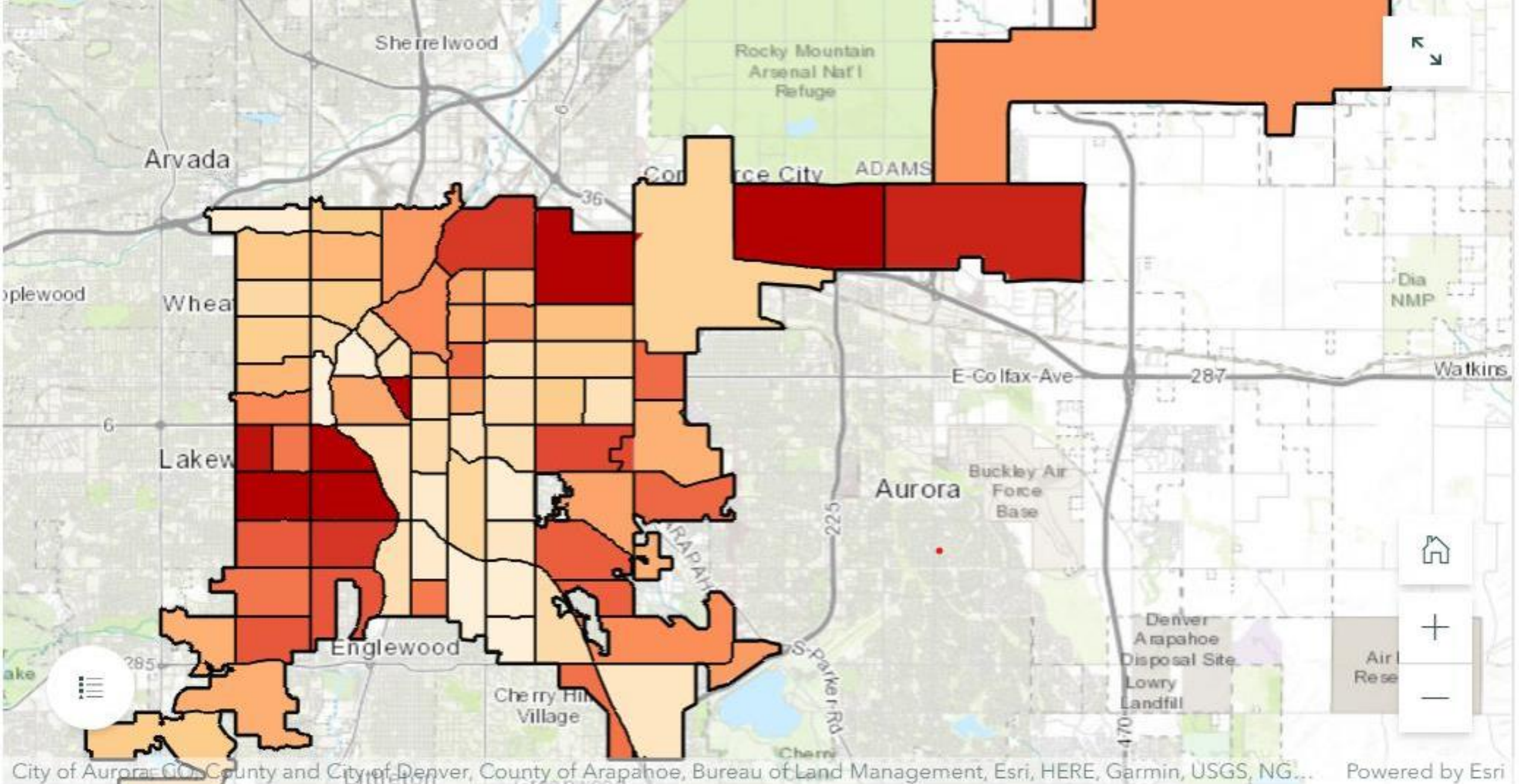
Cumulative COVID-19 Case Rate per 1,000 persons by Denver Neighborhood

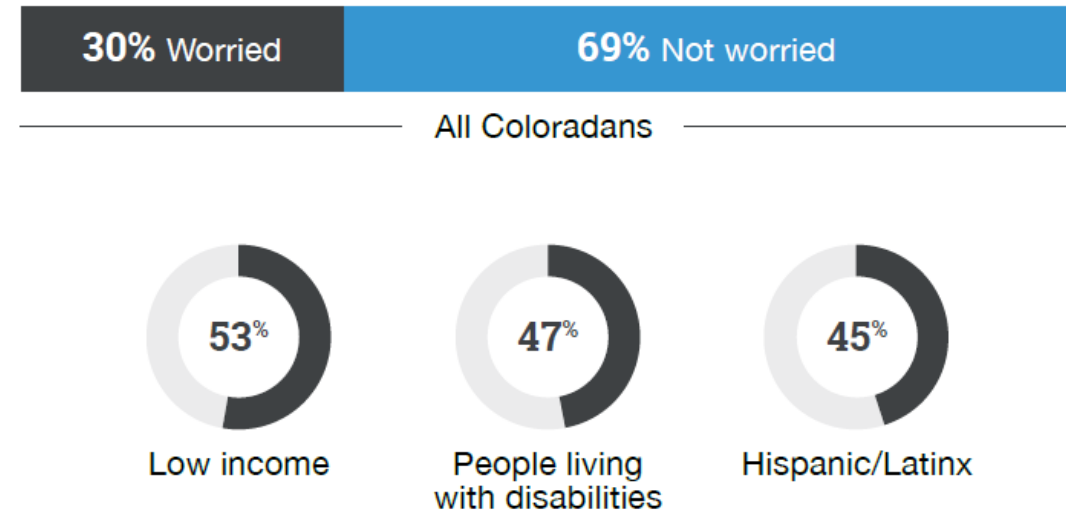# Recent findings from a Colorado Health Foundation study – April 2020

More Coloradans are having difficulty paying for basic necessities like food and utilities.

The people who are struggling to make ends meet went up by 16% after the coronavirus.

19%
Difficulty before

35%   **+16%**
Difficulty now
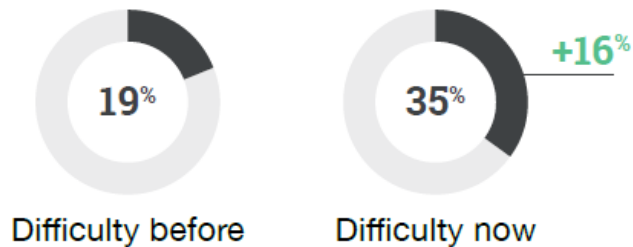
Many Coloradans are worried about paying for food.

People living on low income (making $30,000 or less), Hispanic people and those with disabilities are the most concerned.

| 30% Worried | 69% Not worried |

All Coloradans

53%
Low income

47%
People living with disabilities

45%
Hispanic/Latinx

"Ensuring that no Coloradan goes hunger must be a priority for our state." - CHF

Complete Neighborhood Food Environments

"Community-defined set of food amenities that together provide for the food needs of all community members, integrating the culture and values of each neighborhood"

- Denver Food Vision 2017

Food in Communities Priorities & Opportunities

1. Support Farmers and Food Businesses

2. Increase Community Food Production - add farms, greenhouse, garden into every community

3. Improve Food Pantry Services, Outreach, and Access to Services

4. Improve Transportation Options to Get To/From Food

5. Develop or Expand Mobile Markets and Mobile Groceries - Co-locate food access points (transit, housing, schools, library)

6. Improve Food Options at School - Integrate agriculture & nutrition education into currently existing programs

7. Increase Food Rescue and Distribution

8. Support local food businesses by developing a local food hub for fresh produce, and donated, rescued and value-added food

9. Increase coordination, collaboration, communication, and integration of currently existing programs to better serve communities.

Mondi Mason

Want to:
    Share an idea?
    Ask a question?
    Get more information?

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City and County of Denver, Department of Public Health & Environment