

# Beyond GDP: The Ongoing Search to Measure “Wellbeing”



- OLLI Fall Term 2022
- Wednesdays, 1-3pm
- Sept. 14 thru Nov. 2
- Co-facilitators:

**David Carlson,**  
EEE Forum founder  
and  
**Paul Belanger,**  
EEE Forum webmaster

# SDG Indicator Crisis and Response 😊

## Session #5 Outline

- OLLI Announcements
- Highlights from Session #4 – SD history, public health disparities
- 3 state Beyond GDP programs—VA, HI, and AZ
- SDG Indicators and rankings for nations, states, and cities
- 5-minute break
- Guest presentation and Q&A: *see next slide*
- Looking ahead to Session #6 (Oct. 19<sup>th</sup>)



***AFTER COVID:***  
**Food Insecurity, Climate Change,  
NEW Challenges**

**A FOCUS ON LOCAL FOOD ACCESS &  
SUSTAINABILITY**

**BEYOND GDP. -- OCTOBER 12, 2022**

**PATRICIA IWASAKI, MSW. -- ADJUNCT INSTRUCTOR, "FOOD SYSTEMS, FOOD JUSTICE"**

**GRADUATE SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK, UNIVERSITY OF DENVER**

# Some State-level Beyond GDP Programs

- [Maryland \(Genuine Progress Indicator\)](#) 2010-
- [Oregon Shines](#) (Tracking Our Progress, 1989-2009)
- [Minnesota Milestones](#) (1991-2001, 2009-2011)
- [Minnesota Compass](#) (2010--)
- [New Jersey Sustainable State](#) (1995-2007)
- [Virginia Performs](#) (2003-2017)
- [Hawai'i 2050 Sustainability Plan](#) (2005--)
- [Arizona Indicators](#) (2007--)

## Economy

Goal: Be a national leader in the preservation and enhancement of our economy.

Personal Income	↑	
Employment Growth	↑	
Poverty	→	
Unemployment	↑	
Business Climate	→	
Workforce Quality	↑	
Economic Diversity	→	
Innovation/Entrepreneurship	↑	

## Health and Family

Goal: Inspire and support Virginians toward healthy lives and strong, resilient families.

Adoption	→	
Child Abuse and Neglect	↑	
Foster Care	↑	
Health Insurance	↑	
Health Risk Factors	↑	
Mortality and Longevity	→	
Teen Pregnancy	↑	

## Education

Goal: Elevate the levels of educational preparedness and attainment of our citizens.

School Readiness	↓	
3rd Grade Reading	↓	
4th Grade Reading/Math	↑	
High School Graduation	↑	
High School Dropout	↑	
College Graduation	↑	
Educational Attainment	↑	

## Public Safety

Goal: Protect the public's safety and security, ensure a fair & effective system of justice, and provide a prepared response to emergencies & disasters of all kinds.

Crime	↑	
Emergency Preparedness	↑	
Juvenile Intakes	↑	
Recidivism	→	
Traffic Fatalities	↑	

## Transportation

Goal: Ensure Virginia has a transportation system that is safe, allows the easy movement of people and goods, enhances the economy, and improves our quality of life.

Infrastructure Condition	→	
Land Use	→	
Multimodal Transportation	→	
Traffic Congestion	→	

## Government and Citizens

Goal: Be recognized as the best-managed state in the nation.

Bond Rating	↑	
Civic Engagement	→	
Consumer Protection	↓	
Government Operations	↑	
Internet Access	↑	
Taxation	↑	
Voter Registration and Turnout	→	

## Natural Resources

Goal: Protect, conserve and wisely develop our natural, cultural and historic resources.

Air Quality	↑	
Energy	→	
Historic Resources	→	
Land Preservation	↑	
Solid Waste & Recycling	→	
Water Quality	↑	

VIRGINIA  
PERFORMS  
(2003 – 17)  
*“Measuring  
What Matters to  
Virginians”*



## Hawai'i 2050 Sustainability Plan

This recently-updated Plan lists pertinent legislation and aligns the state's goals, policies, and actions with the SDGs across **8 focus areas** (with 38 strategies and 250 recommended actions).

- 1. Promote a sustainable Economic Recovery*
- 2. Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions*
- 3. Improve Climate Resilience*
- 4. Advance Sustainable Communities*
- 5. Advance Equity*
- 6. Institutionalize Sustainability Throughout Government*
- 7. Preserve the Natural Environment*
- 8. Perpetuate Traditional Ecological Knowledge and Values*



# ARIZONA INDICATORS

*A Project Managed by Morrison Institute for Public Policy*

- Began in 2007 by Arizona State University with several community partners. Still ongoing.
- Purpose: to serve as a central resource for data and insights to help support policy making and public awareness of the state's competitiveness and other issues.
- [Arizona Indicators](#) presents interactive data visualizations and mapping tools, public opinion data, and timely policy analysis.

## **Broad content areas**

1. Economy
2. Public Finance
3. Education
4. Innovation
5. Sustainability
6. Culture
7. Health
8. Human Assistance
9. Criminal Justice
10. Transportation



- Goal 1: No poverty
- Goal 2: Zero hunger
- Goal 3: Good health and wellbeing
- Goal 4: Quality education
- Goal 5: Gender equality
- Goal 6: Clean water and sanitation
- Goal 7: Affordable and clean energy
- Goal 8: Decent work and economic growth
- Goal 9: Industry, innovation, and infrastructure
- Goal 10: Reduced inequalities
- Goal 11: Sustainable cities and communities
- Goal 12: Responsible consumption and production
- Goal 13: Climate action
- Goal 14: Life below water
- Goal 15: Life on land
- Goal 16: Peace, justice, and strong institutions
- Goal 17: Partnerships for the goals

# ***Our Common Future (aka, The Brundtland Report) 1987*** **--a definition of “sustainable development”**



Gro Harlem  
Brundtland,  
U.N. World  
Commission  
Chair

***Sustainable development*** is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

It contains within it two key concepts:

- the concept of ‘needs’, in particular the essential needs of the world’s poor, to which overriding priority should be given; and
- the idea of limitations imposed by the state of technology and social organization on the environment’s ability to meet present and future needs.

[Our Common Future](#) (p. 41)



2000 (8 MDGs)  
vs 2015's 17  
SDGs

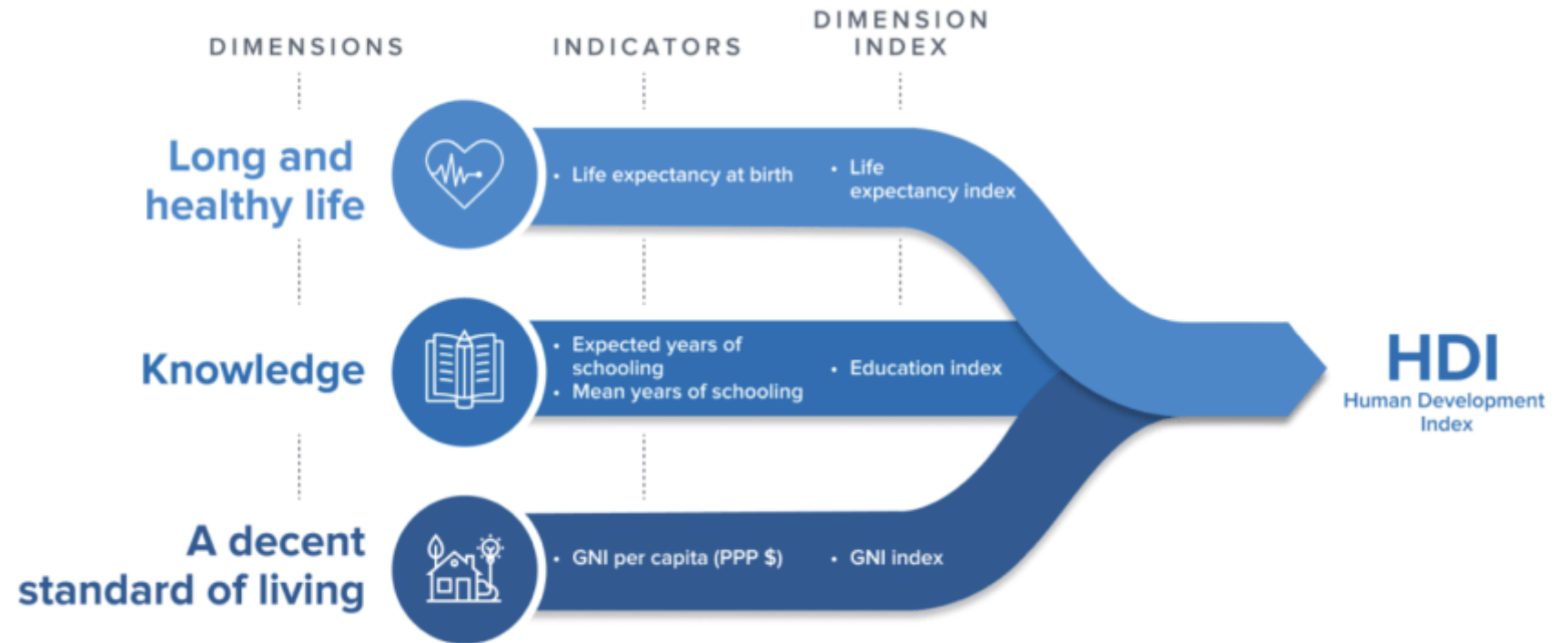


# The Human Development Index (UN Development Programme)

## HDI Dimensions and Indicators



**Mahbub  
ul Haq,  
Pakistani  
Economist**



For more about HDI, visit [Human Development Index \(UNDP, 1990\)](#).

Latest HDI rankings by the UN Development Programme. For more information, visit [UNDP HDI data.](#)

The United States ranks 21<sup>st</sup> out of 191 countries.

Rank	Country	HDI Value	Change from 2020
1	 Switzerland	0.962	▲ 0.006
2	 Norway	0.961	▲ 0.002
3	 Iceland	0.959	▲ 0.002
4	 Hong Kong, China (SAR)	0.952	▲ 0.003
5	 Australia	0.951	▲ 0.004
6	 Denmark	0.948	▲ 0.001
7	 Sweden	0.947	▲ 0.005
8	 Ireland	0.945	▲ 0.002
9	 Germany	0.942	▼ -0.002
10	 Netherlands	0.941	▲ 0.002
11	 Finland	0.940	▲ 0.002
12	 Singapore	0.939	▲ 0.000
13	 Belgium	0.937	▲ 0.009
13	 New Zealand	0.937	▲ 0.001
15	 Canada	0.936	▲ 0.005
16	 Liechtenstein	0.935	▲ 0.002
17	 Luxembourg	0.930	▲ 0.006
18	 United Kingdom	0.929	▲ 0.005
19	 Japan	0.925	▲ 0.002
19	 Korea (Republic of)	0.925	▲ 0.003
21	 United States	0.921	▲ 0.001
22	 Israel	0.919	▲ 0.002

# It's not your genetic code. It's your zip code!

## Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Colorado



Dr. Sheila Davis

Director

Office of Health Equity

Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment

October 5, 2022

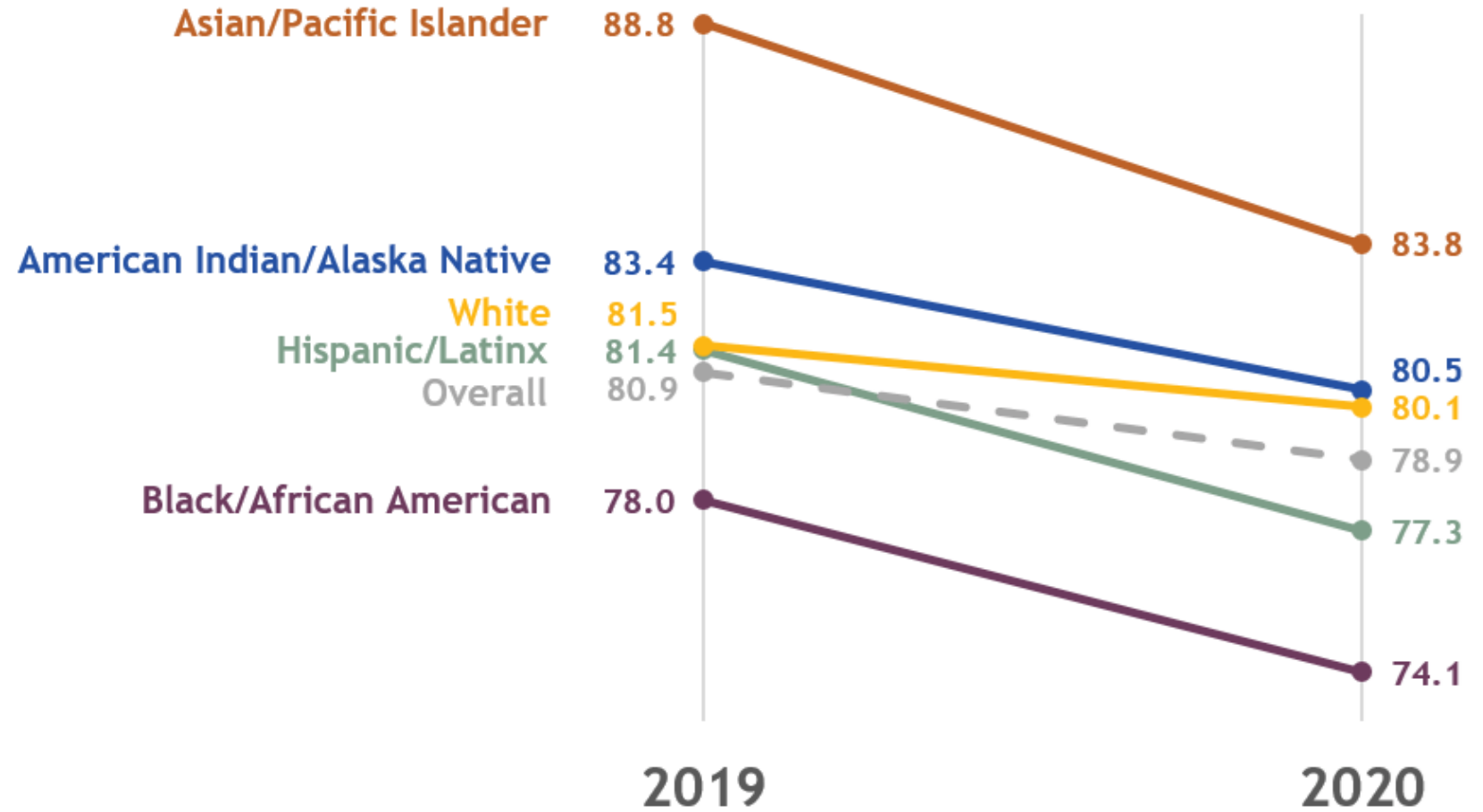


**COLORADO**  
Department of Public  
Health & Environment

# Changes in Life Expectancy

## Years of Expected Life: 2019-2020

Colorado experienced declines in life expectancy across all racial and ethnic groups between 2019 and 2020. These declines were most pronounced among all Communities of Color and due mainly to COVID-19, but also delaying care, and increases in drug and alcohol-related deaths.



# SDG Indicator Crisis

- Soon after the SDGs and targets were agreed to in September 2015, the UN Statistical Commission endorsed a preliminary set of 231 indicators to track progress toward the SDGs.
- The UN-led Inter-Agency and Expert Group subsequently determined that reliable global data and consensus statistical methodologies were available for only 98 of the 231 indicators (40%).

# The Sustainable Development Solutions Network responds!



Jeffrey Sachs,  
SDSN  
Director

- The SDSN has been operating since 2012 under the auspices of the UN Secretary-General. The SDSN is building national and regional networks of knowledge institutions, solution-focused thematic networks, and the SDG Academy, an online university for sustainable development.
- Since 2016, SDSN and its collaborators worldwide have rigorously developed dashboards and indexes based upon SDG indicators to track progress toward reaching each SDG by 2030.

# Recent SDSN Reports: Nations, U.S. States & Cities



[2022 SD Report--  
SDSN](#)



[2021 US SD Report--SDSN](#)



[2019 US Cities SD Report--SDSN](#)

# 2022 SDSN global report – Highlights ☹️

- Peace, diplomacy, and international cooperation are fundamental conditions for the world to progress on the SDGs towards 2030 and beyond.
- For the second year in a row, the world is no longer making progress on the SDGs.
- A global plan to finance the SDGs is needed.
- At mid-point on the way to 2030, policy efforts and commitments supporting the SDGs vary significantly across countries, including among G20 countries.
- Rich countries generate negative international spillovers notably through unsustainable consumption; Europe is taking actions.
- The COVID-19 pandemic forced data providers to innovate and build new forms of partnerships; these should be leveraged and scaled up to promote SDG impacts by 2030 and beyond.

# Recent SDSN reports: progress rankings & index scores\* for nations and U. S. states

Nations (2020 report)

#1 Sweden (84.7)

#31 United States (76.4)\*

#166 Central African Congo (38.5)



Nations (2022 report)

#1 Finland (86.5)

#41 United States (74.6)

#163 South Sudan (39.0)

U.S. States (2018 report)

#1 Massachusetts (61.0)

#15 Colorado (52.2)

#50 Louisiana (31.2)



U.S. States (2021 report)

#1 Vermont (60.4)

#13 Colorado (53.6)

#50 Mississippi (30.5)

*\*For example, on average, the U.S. was 76.4% of the way toward reaching the best possible outcomes across the 17 SDGs in 2020.*

# 2019 SDSN report: progress rankings & index scores for the 105 largest U. S. cities and MSAs<sup>^</sup>

- #1 San Francisco-Oakland, CA (69.7)
- #2 San Jose-Sunnyvale-Santa Clara, CA (67.9)
- #3 Washington-Arlington-Alexandria, DC-VA-MD-WV (66.7)
- #4 Seattle-Tacoma-Bellevue, WA (66.0)
- #5 Madison, WI (65.9)

...

- #22 Denver-Aurora-Lakewood, CO (54.5)
- #68 Colorado Springs, CO (46.1)

...

- #104 Jackson, MS (30.5)
- #105 Baton Rouge, LA (30.3)

<sup>^</sup> *Metropolitan Statistical Areas*

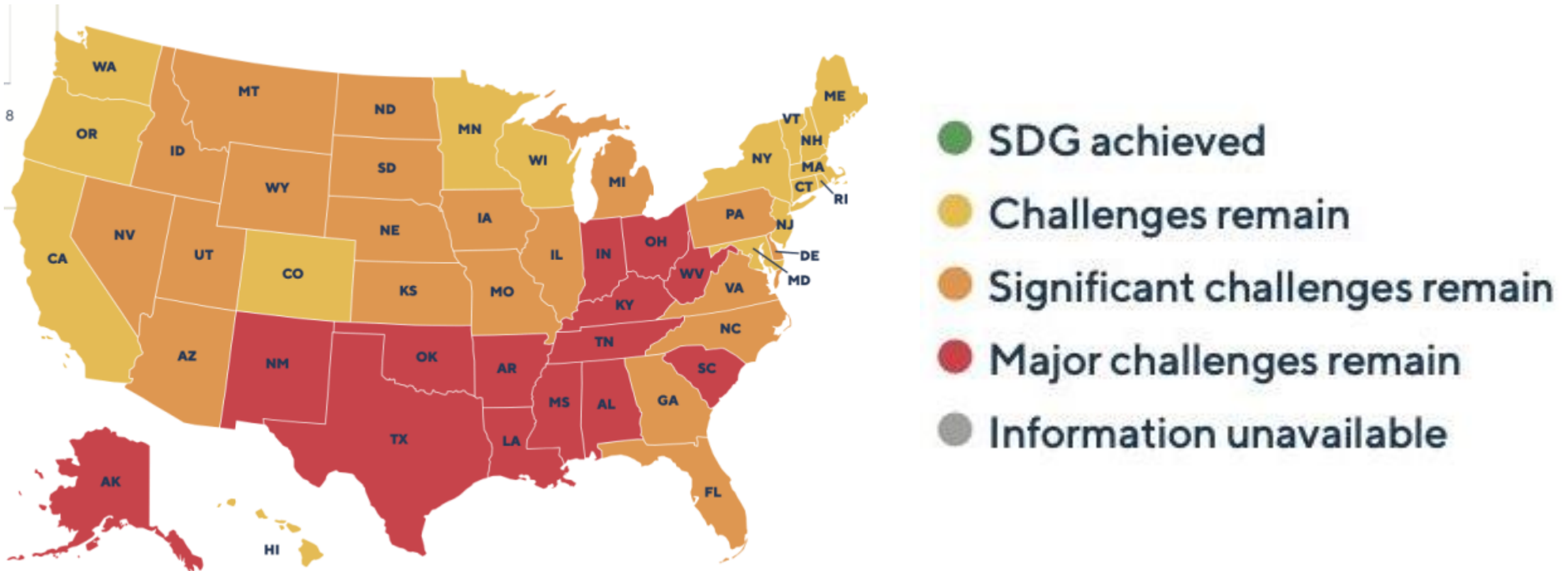
# 2021 SDSN U.S. States Report – Highlights

- No state has met the SDGs, and none are currently “on track” to achieve the SDGs by 2030. 😞
- All states are stagnating on the SDGs. 😞
- Every state has at least 20% of indicators going in the wrong direction. If SDG progress were scored as an exam, nearly 2/3 of state and indicator values would be getting an 'F'. 😞
- However, there are 81 indicators where at least one state is on track for SDG achievement, which demonstrates that while progress thus far is unacceptably slow, there are bright spots across the country and achievement is within reach. 😊

Rank	State	Score	Trend	Rank	State	Score	Trend
1	Vermont	60.4	→	26	Montana	44.8	→
2	Massachusetts	58.8	→	27	Nevada	44.7	→
3	Washington	58.2	→	28	Kansas	44.5	→
4	Minnesota	57.1	→	29	Pennsylvania	43.7	→
5	Maine	56.2	→	30	North Dakota	43.2	→
6	Oregon	55.5	→	31	Arizona	42.9	→
7	New Hampshire	54.8	→	32	Wyoming	42.3	→
8	Hawaii	54.5	→	33	Florida	41.9	→
9	Maryland	54.3	→	34	Georgia	41.4	→
10	California	54.1	→	35	North Carolina	40.4	→
11	New York	53.9	→	36	Missouri	40.4	→
12	Connecticut	53.8	→	37	South Carolina	39.5	→
13	Colorado	53.6	→	38	Tennessee	39.5	→
14	New Jersey	52.4	→	39	Ohio	39.1	→
15	Rhode Island	52.3	→	40	Kentucky	38.2	→
16	Wisconsin	51.2	→	41	Texas	38.1	→
17	Idaho	49.6	→	42	New Mexico	37.7	→
18	Delaware	48.4	→	43	Alaska	36.9	→
19	Michigan	48.3	→	44	Indiana	36.8	→
20	Virginia	48.2	→	45	Alabama	34.3	→
21	Nebraska	47.4	→	46	Oklahoma	33.7	→
22	Utah	47.0	→	47	Arkansas	32.8	→
23	Iowa	46.6	→	48	Louisiana	31.2	→
24	South Dakota	46.3	→	49	West Virginia	30.9	→
25	Illinois	46.2	→	50	Mississippi	30.5	→

Figure 1: State rankings on 2021 US state Sustainable Development Report

# 2021 Status of SDG Progress by States toward 2030

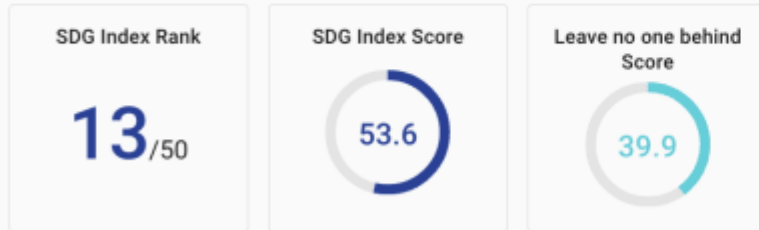


# Colorado



OVERVIEW

INDICATORS



## SDG Dashboards and Trends

Click on a goal to view more information.



Dashboards: ● SDG achieved ● Challenges remain ● Significant challenges remain ● Major challenges remain ● Information unavailable  
Trends: ↑ On track or maintaining SDG achievement ↗ Moderately improving → Stagnating ↓ Decreasing .. Trend information unavailable

↑ On Track      → Stagnating  
↗ Moderately increasing      ↓ Decreasing

In the next slide, let's focus on SDG #2 (Zero Hunger) and its indicators.

Go to [Colorado SDG Dashboard](#) and click on SDG #2.

Challenges remain  
Score stagnating or increasing at less than 50% of required rate

Visualize on map

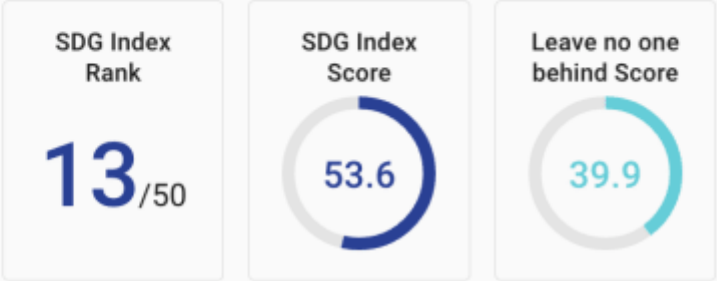
Description  
End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture.

- Indicators
- Obesity
  - Food Insecurity
  - WIC (Women, Infants, and Children) Coverage
  - Low Grocery Access
  - Pesticide Exposure
  - Rural Infrastructure
  - Elderly Food Insecurity

# Colorado



OVERVIEW INDICATORS



## SDG Dashboards and Trends

Click on a goal to view more information.



Dashboards: ● SDG achieved ● Challenges remain ● Significant challenges remain ● Major challenges remain ● Information unavailable

Trends: ↑ On track or maintaining SDG achievement ↗ Moderately improving → Stagnating ↓ Decreasing ● Trend information unavailable

↑ On Track      ↗ Moderately increasing      → Stagnating      ↓ Decreasing

In the next slide, let's see the quantitative metric for the indicator, "food insecurity."

*Click on the indicator.*

SDG 2 · INDICATOR  
**Food Insecurity**  
% of households, 3-years average

● Challenges remain  
↑ On track or maintaining SDG achievement

VALUE 9.10  
YEAR 2018



Visualize on map

**Description**  
Percent of households experiencing food insecurity

**Long-Term Objective**  
Best value set according to SDG mandate to end hunger  
The long-term objective for this indicator is a value of 0.

**Reference**  
Economic Research Service, US

# Colorado



OVERVIEW INDICATORS

SDG Index Rank

**13**/50

SDG Index Score

**53.6**

Leave no one behind Score

**39.9**

## SDG Dashboards and Trends

Click on a goal to view more information.

1 NO POVERTY →	2 ZERO HUNGER →	3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING ↓	4 QUALITY EDUCATION ↗	5 GENDER EQUALITY →	6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION →
7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY →	8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH ↗	9 INDUSTRY INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE →	10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES →	11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES ↓	12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION →
13 CLIMATE ACTION ↗	14 LIFE BELOW WATER ●●	15 LIFE ON LAND →	16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS ↓	17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS ●●	

Dashboards: ● SDG achieved ● Challenges remain ● Significant challenges remain ● Major challenges remain ● Information unavailable

Trends: ↑ On track or maintaining SDG achievement ↗ Moderately improving → Stagnating ↓ Decreasing ●● Trend information unavailable

The quantitative metric for the indicator, “food insecurity,” is “Percent of households experiencing food insecurity”!

↑ On Track      ↗ Moderately increasing      → Stagnating      ↓ Decreasing

# Leave No One Behind: A Central SDG Promise

- **Leave no one behind (LNOB)** is the central, transformative promise of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- It represents the unequivocal commitment of all UN Member States to eradicate poverty in all its forms, end discrimination and exclusion, and reduce the inequalities and vulnerabilities that leave people behind and undermine the potential of individuals and of humanity as a whole.

# Leave No One Behind Indicators and Trends

## 2021 SDSN Report for U.S. States

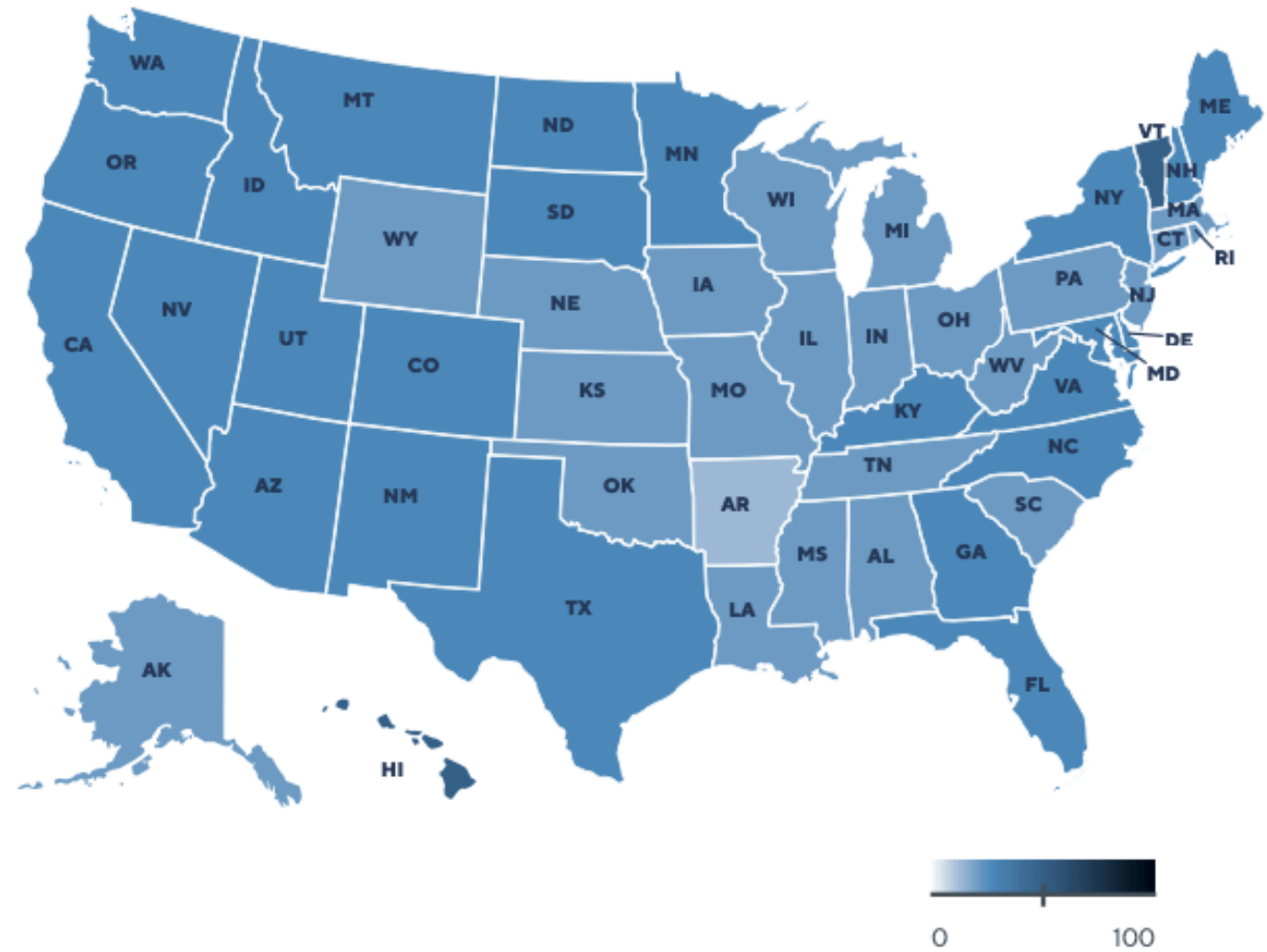
 On Track
  Stagnating  
 Moderately increasing
  Decreasing

Indicator	Goal	Trend	Average Score (out of 100)
Racial disparity in homelessness	11		0.0
Racial disparity in school suspension	4		3.0
Racial disparity in youth incarceration	16		3.0
Racial disparity in child poverty	1		6.0
Racial disparity in police involved fatalities	16		7.0
Disability employment disparity	8		10.0
Wage gap	5		16.0
Pollution burden	10		19.0
Affordable housing	1		26.1
Concentration of neighborhood poverty	10		28.0
Percent of people with low food access	2		31.0
Women in government	5		32.0
Disability Support	10		40.0
Energy burden	7		42.0
Elderly food insecurity	2		43.0
Rural infrastructure	2		45.0
Racial disparity in toxic air burden from factories	12		65.0
Racial disparity in rent burden	10		69.0
Youth not in employment, education or training	8		69.0
LGBT inclusion	5		69.0
Racial disparity in broadband access	9		99.9

# U.S. State 2021 rankings for Leave No One Behind

Rank	State	Score	Trend
1	Vermont	51.2	→
2	Hawaii	49.6	→
3	New Hampshire	45.6	→
4	Maine	44.2	↗
5	Idaho	43.7	→
6	Maryland	42.0	→
7	Oregon	41.7	→
8	Minnesota	40.9	→
9	Washington	40.6	→
10	Colorado	39.9	→
11	Montana	39.2	→
12	Virginia	38.6	→
13	Wyoming	38.5	→
14	North Dakota	38.5	→
15	Utah	37.9	→
16	New York	37.6	→
17	South Dakota	36.8	→
18	Delaware	36.6	→
19	Massachusetts	35.9	→
20	California	35.4	→
21	Iowa	35.1	→
22	Kentucky	34.9	→
23	New Jersey	34.7	→
24	Nevada	34.7	→
25	Nebraska	34.5	→
26	Rhode Island	34.4	→
27	Wisconsin	34.4	→
28	Connecticut	34.2	→
29	Illinois	33.6	→
30	New Mexico	33.1	→
31	Arizona	33.1	→
32	Ohio	32.5	→
33	Florida	32.2	→
34	Kansas	31.9	→
35	Missouri	31.7	→
36	Tennessee	31.3	→
37	North Carolina	31.0	→
38	Georgia	30.9	→
39	Michigan	30.5	→
40	Alaska	30.0	→
41	Texas	29.5	→
42	South Carolina	29.3	→
43	Alabama	28.9	→
44	Pennsylvania	28.9	↓
45	Louisiana	27.6	→
46	Indiana	27.4	→
47	West Virginia	27.4	↓
48	Arkansas	24.9	→
49	Oklahoma	24.8	↓
50	Mississippi	24.3	→

# Leave No One Behind scores by state



# Week #6 (October 19<sup>th</sup>) -- Guest Presentation: “Regenerative Economics and the SDGs”



**Brenna  
Simmons-St. Onge**

Executive Director

[The Alliance Center](#)



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