



Healthy Communities Transformation Initiative (HCTI)

Healthy Communities Index (HCI) Core Indicators*

Indicators	Description	Data Source(s)	Primary Domain
Core: Priority			
Access To Parks And Open Space	Average number of parks within 1/2 mile of the neighborhood <u>OR</u> percent of neighborhood within 1/2 mile of parks and open space.	U.S. Census / Local Data	Natural Areas
Adult Educational Attainment	Proportion of neighborhood adults, aged 25 or older, with a high school diploma or higher degree of educational attainment.	U.S. Census	Educational Opportunities
Age of Housing	Proportion of homes constructed prior to 1980.	U.S. Census	Housing
Business Retention	Rate of increase or decrease in the number of neighborhood businesses from the previous year.	U.S. Census	Economic Health
Chronic School Absence	Proportion of students chronically absent from neighborhood schools (i.e., missing more than 10%).	U.S. Census / National Center for Education Statistics and/or Local Data	Health Systems and Public Safety
Commute Mode Share	Proportion of neighborhood residents who commute to work by transit, bicycle, foot, or carpool.	U.S. Census	Transportation
Excessive Housing Cost Burden	Proportion of neighborhood households whose gross housing costs are 35% or more of their income.	U.S. Census	Housing
Food Desert	Share of neighborhood without access to affordable or good-quality fresh food (low income/low access).	USDA	Neighborhood Characteristics
High School Graduation Rate	Rate of high school graduation at neighborhood schools.	Local Data	Educational Opportunities
Household Transportation Costs	Proportion of household income residents pay for transportation.	HUD Location Affordability Index (LAI)	Transportation
Local Business Vitality	Proportion of small (0-4 employees), locally-owned businesses in the neighborhood.	U.S. Census	Economic Health





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Long-Term Unemployment	Proportion of working age residents (aged 16 and older) out of work for more than 12 months.	U.S. Census	Employment Opportunities
Low Birth Weight	Proportion of neighborhood infants born with low birth weight (<2500 grams).	Local Data	Health Systems and Public Safety
Motor Vehicle Collisions	Annual incidence of motor vehicle collision injuries and fatalities per 10,000 residents for all modes of transportation on public roadways and right-of-ways.	Local Data	Health Systems and Public Safety
Offsite Alcohol Outlets	Number of stores selling alcohol for “off-site” consumption per 10,000 residents.	U.S. Census	Neighborhood Characteristics
Pedestrian Connectivity	Measure of how well sidewalks and streets are connected and intersections spaced to allow residents to easily walk or bike around the neighborhood.	EPA Smart Location Database (SLD)	Transportation
Public Assisted Households	Proportion of neighborhood households receiving public assistance (i.e., Supplemental Security Income (SSI), cash public assistance and/or Food Stamps/SNAP).	Local Data	Employment Opportunities
Preschool Enrollment	Proportion of three and four year-olds enrolled in preschool.	U.S. Census / Local Data	Educational Opportunities
Preventable Hospitalizations	Age-standardized hospitalization rate for conditions where appropriate out-patient care could have prevented or reduced need for hospital admission.	Local Data	Health Systems and Public Safety
Reading Proficiency	Proportion of third or fourth grade students meeting or exceeding “proficient” reading levels on standardized assessment in neighborhood schools.	Local Data	Educational Opportunities
Residential Mobility	Proportion of residents, age one year and older, living the same house as one year ago.	U.S. Census	Social Cohesion
Residential Proximity to Traffic	Proportion of a residential neighborhood located near heavy traffic roadways.	U.S. Census / Federal Highway Administration	Environmental Hazards
School Proximity to Traffic	Proportion of neighborhood schools located near roads with a high volume of traffic.	U.S. Census / Federal Highway Administration / National Center for Education Statistics / Local Data	Environmental Hazards



Indicators	Description	Data Source(s)	Primary Domain
Toxic Releases From Facilities	Proportion of neighborhood located close to industrial facilities reporting toxic air emissions.	EPA Toxic Release Inventory (TRI)/EPA Risk Screening Environmental Indicators (RSEI)	Environmental Hazards
Transit Accessibility	Proportion of the neighborhood within a half-mile of a well-served transit station.	EPA Smart Location Database (SLD)	Transportation
Travel Time to Work	Average amount of time (in minutes) it takes a neighborhood resident to commute to work.	U.S. Census	Employment Opportunities
Tree Cover	Proportion of tree canopy within the neighborhood.	USGS Land Cover Dataset	Natural Areas
Vacancy Rate	Proportion of vacant residential properties.	U.S. Census	Housing
Violent Crime	Annual rate of reported incidents of violence per 1000 residents.	FBI Uniform Crime Reporting / Local Data	Health Systems and Public Safety
Voter Participation	Proportion of voting eligible population who voted in last election.	Local Board of Elections	Social Cohesion
Walkability	Score of how pedestrian-friendly a neighborhood is, i.e., walkable to amenities and common destinations.	Proprietary /Local Data/ EPA Smart Location Database	Neighborhood Characteristics
Core: Optional Indicators			
Access to Mainstream Financial Services	Proportion of un- and underbanked households within a neighborhood.	CFED Bank On	Economic Health
Blood Lead Levels in Children	Proportion of tested neighborhood children with a blood lead level over 5ug/dL.	Local Data	Housing
Employment Rate	Proportion of neighborhood residents employed (Based on working age of 15- 64 years).	U.S. Census	Employment Opportunities
Proximity to Brownfield Sites	Proportion of the neighborhood within 1 km of a Brownfield site.	U.S. Census / EPA Cleanups	Environmental Hazards
Proximity to Superfund Sites	Proportion of neighborhood within 1km of an active Superfund site.	U.S. Census with Center for International Earth Science Information Network Data	Environmental Hazards
School Readiness Scores	Proportion of kindergarteners ready for first grade.	Local Data	Educational Opportunities



Demographic and Contextual Measures

Indicator	Description	Data Source
Concentrated Poverty	Proportion of residents below the poverty level.	U.S. Census
Income Inequality	Measure of inequality based on the dispersion of household income within the community.	U.S. Census (Gini Index)
Life Expectancy	Count of years of potential life lost per capita.	Local Data
Park Quality	Proprietary city park score that integrates and evaluates park acreage, land share, spending per resident, playgrounds, and park proximity.	Trust for Public Land Park Score
Racial/Ethnic diversity	Measure of the extent to which several racial/ethnic groups are present in the community.	U.S. Census

Note: A cumulative ranking of the core HCI Indicators provides a single measure for which neighborhoods within a city can compare themselves to each other. Only core indicators are used in the ranking process; Demographic and Contextual Measures were created to help provide a better sense of the conditions, challenges, and opportunities within each neighborhood.