

PEOPLE

OPPORTUNITY

NATURE

BELONGING

The Statewide Health Assessment

Environmental Health | Lecture 2: Opportunity

In this lecture

- Introduction
- Workplace Environments
- Transportation
- Housing

By the end of this lecture you will:
Understand how the opportunities we have impact our environmental health

Introduction

- Inequitable opportunities impact our health
- The data exposes inequities that lead to poor health



Opportunity and Environmental Health

The opportunities we have in our environments impact health outcomes.



Not all populations could access this survey, so respondents are not a representative sample of the state.

State strength	Agreed or strongly agreed	Neutral	Disagreed or strongly disagreed
Availability of jobs	78.7%	14.6%	6.7%
Social programs for families	70.1%	20.0%	9.9%
Support from local health and state departments	69.5%	20.2%	10.3%
Strong educational system	67.4%	17.2%	15.5%
Many people have health insurance	66.4%	18.7%	15.0%
Access to transportation	40.3%	23.7%	36.0%

(MDH, 2023)

Employment inequities are linked to health inequities

- 2018 study looked at workplace environments and health outcomes for black vs white workers
(McCluney, 2018)
 - Physical and mental health effects
- Structural racism continues to generate employment inequities in our state.
 - A 2020 report by the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis explored how cumulative disadvantages create a challenging employment landscape for people in Minnesota who identify as Black, Indigenous, or as a person of color.



- Transportation is necessary for daily activities
- Miles traveled correlates with health
- Spending less time in cars and having more options is good for our health
- In the early months of the pandemic, the volume of vehicles on Minnesota roadways dropped in some areas by 30% to 50%.

IN 2020...

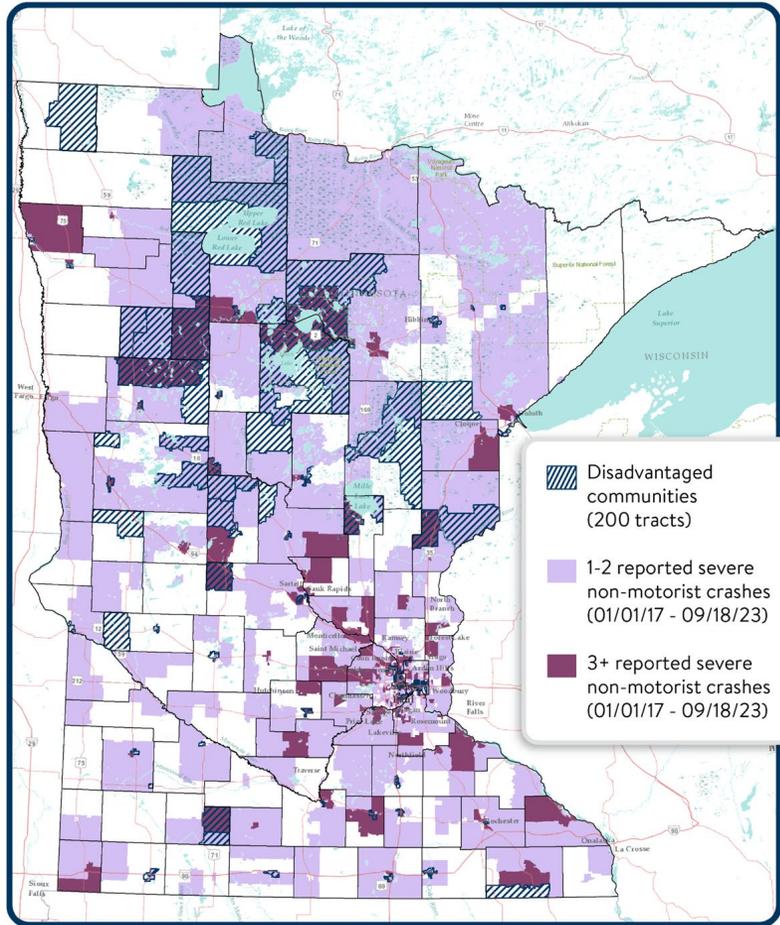
More people were counted^x walking and biking outside than during each of the previous three years.



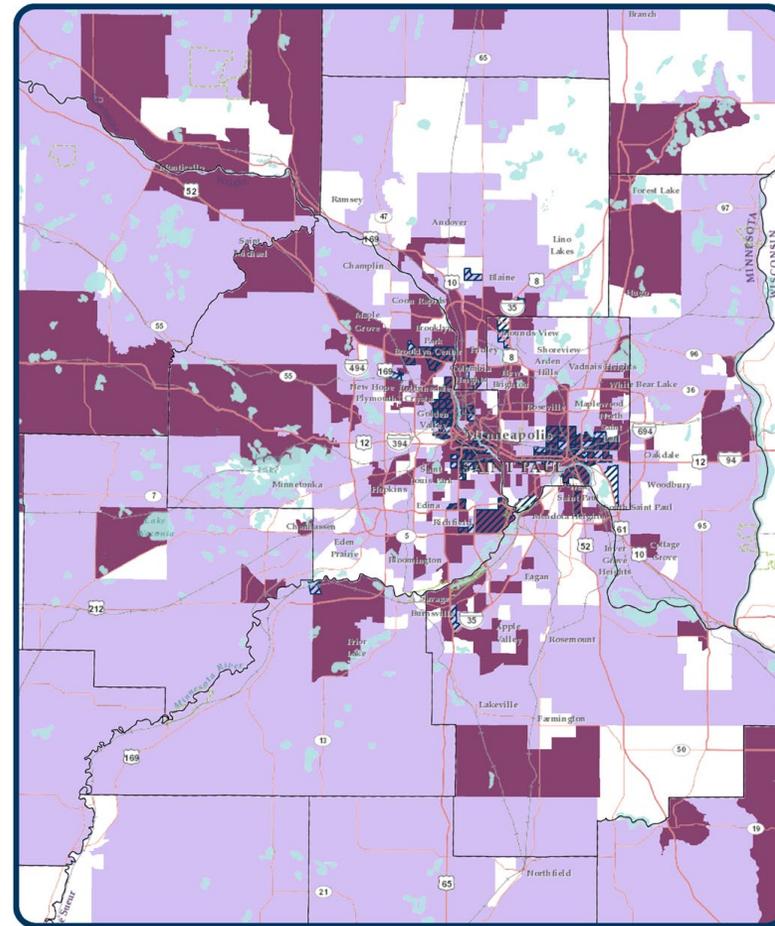
Non-motorist traffic safety in the Metro area and Greater MN

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Non-motorist traffic safety by MN community census tracts 2017-2023



Non-motorist traffic safety by MN community census tracts - Twin cities metro area, 2017-2023



- Housing instability leads to many negative outcomes that impact health physically and mentally.
- Homeownership provides stability and control, and the ability to build wealth.
- The gap in homeownership in Minnesota, based on race, is one of the widest in the nation.
- Housing conditions and safety

Four broad housing issues impact health:

- ① The availability of stable housing;
- ② The cost of housing;
- ③ Safety conditions inside a home; and
- ④ The safety of neighborhoods.¹⁴⁴

Environmental opportunities such as workplace environments, transportation, and housing can make significant impact on health in MN

Q: Using what you learned from this lecture, how do you think the opportunities you've experienced have impacted your health?





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Partnership

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For any addition questions ask:

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