In Denver County, 1 in 2 kids and 1 in 3 adults are Latino.

Latino communities vary in their access to quality child care and education, affordable housing, transportation options, green space, healthy food options, and healthcare - all of which are necessary to stay healthy and thrive. These differences in opportunity result in health disparities that are evident between different populations and geographic areas.

Latinos in your county face more socio-economic barriers and poor health outcomes than non-Latino Whites.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Latino</th>
<th>Non-Latino</th>
<th>White</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Children in Poverty</td>
<td>20.23%</td>
<td>6.25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Median Household Income</td>
<td>$60,228</td>
<td>$92,491</td>
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<tr>
<td>No High School Diploma</td>
<td>30.36%</td>
<td>6.42%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Uninsured Population</td>
<td>19.35%</td>
<td>4.91%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Teen Birth Rates (per 1,000 pop.)</td>
<td>98.80</td>
<td>23.90</td>
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<tr>
<td>Asthma Prevalence (state)</td>
<td>10.8%</td>
<td>12.9%</td>
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<td>Infant Mortality (per 1,000 birth)</td>
<td>5.0</td>
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<td>Mortality - Cancer (per 100,000 pop.)</td>
<td>141.7</td>
<td>132.2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Motor Vehicle Crash Death Rate (per 100,000 pop.)</td>
<td>13.8</td>
<td>6.7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Youth Obesity (state)</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>7%</td>
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</table>
Cost-Burdened Households

In Denver County, of people are disproportionately burdened by higher housing costs (greater than 30% of household income). In your county, 50.43% of housing is renter-occupied. Of households spending more than 30% of household income on housing costs, 44.71% are rental households.

Severely Cost-Burdened Housing

In Denver County, 15.43% of people are severely cost-burdened, meaning they pay more than 50% of their annual income on housing. These families have less expendable income for healthy food, transportation, preventative healthcare, childcare, tutoring, higher education, museums, professional development, investing in small business, etc.

Substandard Housing

In Denver County, 34.93% of housing units have one or more substandard conditions (lacking complete plumbing facilities, lacking complete kitchen facilities, with more than 1 occupant per room, and housing cost burden among renters and owners).

Hours per Week at Average Wage to Afford 2-Bedroom

In order to afford the average-priced 2-bedroom home in Denver County, a person would have to work 45.45 hours per week at average wage.

Mortgage Lending

In Denver County, there are 347.49 home purchase loan originations per 100,000 population. Of the total number of home purchase loan originations, 11.95% were for Latinos compared to 80.44% for non-Latino Whites, and 9.65% were for under $120,000 compared to 66.34% for over $200,000.
**Schools**

Latinos in underserved communities lack access to quality early education and education, thus are robbed of the crucial foundation required to avoid poverty, unemployment, and other social and economic barriers throughout the lifespan. LEARN MORE

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**No High School Diploma**

In Denver County, 9.97% of persons aged 25 and older do not have a high school diploma (or equivalency). There are disparities by census tract, which is a good indicator there are other disparities in health, social, and economic outcomes. Interventions to improve high school graduation rates need to begin in the early years.

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**Head Start Centers & Preschool Enrollment**

In Denver County, there are 14.25 Head Start program facilities per 10,000 children under age 5.

Of preschool age children, 53.38% are enrolled in public or private nursery / preschool. Enrollment varies by census tract, ranging from 0.00% to 100.00%.

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**High School Graduation & Dropouts**

In Denver County, the high school graduation rate is 71.0%. 2,253 of the population ages 16-19 are not in school and not employed.

**4th-Graders Scored "Not Proficient" in Reading**

In Denver County, 62.7% of children in grade 4 are scoring "not proficient" or worse in reading.

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**Free & Reduced Price Lunch**

In Denver County, 59.5% of public school students are eligible for Free/Reduced Price lunch. This assesses vulnerable populations which are more likely to have multiple health access, health status, and social support needs.

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- Read about how San Antonio is funding an all-day preschool program for low-income kids.
- Watch a video about how one school district is working to because trauma-sensitive.
Transportation

Latino communities are burdened by auto-dependent transportation networks; lack of safe streets, sidewalks, and bike lanes; and lack of frequent and reliable transit. LEARN MORE

Transportation Cost Burden

In Denver County, the average household is spending 15% of their annual income on transportation costs. In some areas, residents are spending up to 21%. When families spend more on transportation, they have less at the end of the month for groceries, medications, housing, and professional development.

Households with No Motor Vehicle

In Denver County, 9.82% of households do not have a motor vehicle. In your county, 6.40% of workers travel to work by walking or biking, and 5.48% commute by public transit.

Pedestrian-Motor-Vehicle Crash Mortality

In Denver County, pedestrians are killed by people driving at a rate of 2.4 per 100,000 population.

Automobile Debt in Collections and Delinquency Rate

In Denver County, 27.00% of population have automobile debt in collections, and the automobile or retail debt delinquency rate is 2.95% compared to 3.99% for the nation.

- Watch a video about how a city official pushed for more funding for buses.
- Read about a mobility advocacy group that conducted a transit equity analysis.
U.S. Latino kids face unhealthy neighborhood food environments with fewer grocery stores and more fast food.

**Food Desert**

In Denver County, 17 of census tracts are food deserts, meaning 78,385 people are living in food deserts.

**Low Food Access & Food Insecure Population & Children**

In Denver County, 10.79% of the population has low food access, defined as living more than 1/2 mile from the nearest supermarket, supercenter, or large grocery store.

In your county, 11.90% of households are food insecure (unable to meet food needs during at least 7 months of the year). Among children, 16.80% are food insecure. These indicators provide measures of healthy food access and environmental influences on dietary behaviors.

**Fast Food Restaurant Rate**

In Denver County, there are 92.05 fast food establishments per 100,000 people.

**Population Receiving SNAP Benefits**

In Denver County, 11.6% of the population is receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits.

**Grocery Store Rate**

In Denver County, there are 15.50 grocery stores per 100,000 population.

- Watch a video how a nutrition leader pushed for school food pantries!
- Watch a video about a filmmaker who helps bodegas improve healthy food and drink options.
Environment

Latino communities often face the cumulative impacts of environmental burden. LEARN MORE

Environmental Justice Index

The Environmental Justice Index (EJI) ranks census tracts on environmental, social, and health factors. A higher score means the community experiences more severe cumulative burdens across these factors, such as air pollution, water pollution, and high-volume roads. In Denver County, the EJI score varies from 0.03 to 0.93.

Additionally, the Social Vulnerability Index Score is 0.58. Your area’s score shows a HIGH level of vulnerability to hazardous events, such as natural disasters or disease outbreaks.

Expected Annual Loss in Agriculture

In Denver County, the expected annual loss per capita in agriculture values due to natural hazards, such as thunderstorms, hurricanes, floods, wildfires, and tornadoes, is $0. The total expected annual loss per capita is $86.07 compared to $104.47 for the nation.

Air Toxics Exposure Cancer Risk Rate & Respiratory Hazard Index

In Denver County, the cancer risk associated with air toxics exposure is 28.44 per 1 million population. The rate varies from 23.94 in one census tract to 64.99 in another census tract.

The Respiratory Hazard Index Score for Denver County is 0.37. Scores over 1.0 indicate a potential for adverse health effects.

Expected Annual Fatalities

In Denver County, the annual fatality rate resulting from natural hazards is expected to be 0.18 per 100,000 people.

Expected Annual Building Damage Per Capita

In Denver County, the annual per capita damage to buildings from natural hazards is expected to be $72.30.

Crop Damage Per Capita

- Denver County, CO ($0)
- Colorado ($4.43)
- United States ($13.67)

Property Damage Per Capita

- Denver County ($72.30)
- Colorado ($67.93)
- United States ($60.54)

- Watch a video about a Latino park ranger changing the system to attract more Latinos to parks.
- Watch a video about a bike advocacy group that fought to protect their trail.
Social Economic Status

A history of multi-level racism, discrimination, and segregation contributes to an inequitable distribution of resources and services, like affordable housing and childcare, a widening socioeconomic gap, and disparities in mental and physical health outcomes among Latinos. LEARN MORE

Median Household Income

In Denver County, the median household income is $78,177.

Population Below Poverty Level

In Denver County, 11.60% of individuals are living in households with income below the Federal Poverty Level (FPL). Poverty creates barriers to access including health services, healthy food, and other necessities that contribute to poor health status.

No High School Diploma

In Jackson County, there are 9.97% of persons aged 25 and older do not have a high school diploma (or equivalency). Higher educational attainment is linked to positive health, social, and economic outcomes.

Firearm Death Rate

In Denver County, the firearm death rate during 2016-2020 was 13.7 per 100,000 population, compared to 10.1 during 2010-2014.

Children Below Poverty Level

In Denver County, 16.01% of children aged 0-17 are living in households with income below the Federal Poverty Level. Poverty, unemployment, and lack of educational achievement affect access to care and a family's and community's ability to engage in healthy behaviors.

- Read about how past discriminatory mortgage lending practices impact health and wealth today.
- Read about the violent child death problem in America and how to prevent it.
Opportunity

Many Latinos live in neighborhoods that lack access to opportunity, such as quality schools, affordable housing and transportation, and internet, which threatens their ability to stay healthy and thrive.

Child Opportunity Index

In Denver County, the Child Opportunity Index Score is 34.52, where 1 is the lowest and 100 is the highest. The index combines data from 29 neighborhood-level indicators to determine how far apart neighborhoods are in terms of opportunity for children. The score in your county varies by census tract, ranging from low opportunity (1) to opportunity hoarding (100).

Location Affordability

In your county, the average median-income household is spending 46.44% of their annual income on transportation and housing combined, and the average low-income household (below poverty level) is spending 97.35% of their annual income on transportation and housing combined.

Broadband Access

In Denver County, 99.97% of population have access to broadband internet (download speed >= 25 Mbps) and 99.91% have access to high speed internet of 100 Mbps or higher download speed.

School Segregation Index and School Funding Adequacy

In Denver County, the School Segregation Index is 0.21. Higher values represent more segregation. The School Funding Adequacy Gap is $-4,657.

Jobs Reachable by Transit

In Denver County, 91.73% of population are living within ½ mile of a transit stop, but only 25.1% jobs are reachable within a 45-minute transit and walking commute.

- Read about how the Child Opportunity Index highlights inequities for Latino kids.
- Read about symptoms of inadequate transportation, such as cost burden.
Healthcare
Latino families face inequities in access to mental and physical health care across all stages of the healthcare spectrum—prevention, diagnosis, treatment, and hospice. LEARN MORE

Uninsured Population
In Denver County, 9.56% of population are uninsured.

Access to Primary Care and Prenatal Care
In Denver County, there are 132.35 primary care physicians per 100,000 population.

In your county, of women do not obtain prenatal care during their first trimester of pregnancy.

Access to Mental Health Providers
In Denver County, there are 698 mental health care providers per 100,000 population.

30-Day Hospital Readmissions
In Denver County, 17.4% of Medicare fee-for-service beneficiaries are readmitted to a hospital within 30 days of an initial hospitalization discharge.

Access to Dentists Rate
In Denver County, there are 81 dentists per 100,000 population.

Medical Debt in Collections
In Denver County, 13.54% of the population have medical debt in collections. There are disparities by race/ethnicity with 9.7% of the white population having medical debt in collections and 19.11% of the non-white population.

- Read about a pediatrician who created a trauma-informed, school-based intervention.
- Read about 9 strategies to improve intersection of transportation and dialysis.
Latinos face disparities in numerous chronic and infectious diseases. LEARN MORE

### Diabetes

- **Percentage of Adults Age 20+ with Diagnosed Diabetes**
  - Age-Adjusted, 2019
  - Denver County, CO (6.5%)
  - Colorado (6.6%)
  - United States (9.0%)

In Denver County, 6.5% of adults aged 20 and older have been diagnosed with diabetes.

### Heart Disease

- **Heart Disease Mortality, Age-Adjusted Death Rate**
  - Per 100,000 Pop.
  - Denver County (135.5)
  - Colorado (126.5)
  - United States (164.8)

In Denver County, 135.5 of adults aged 18 and older have been diagnosed with coronary heart disease.

### Obesity

- **Percentage of Adults Who Have Obesity**
  - BMI > 30.0, 2017
  - Denver County (19.6%)
  - Colorado (23.5%)
  - United States (29.0%)

In Denver County, 19.6% of adults aged 20 and older self-report that they have a Body Mass Index (BMI) greater than 30 (the medical definition of having obesity).

### Depression-Medicare

- **Percentage of Medicare Beneficiaries with Depression**
  - Denver County (18.4%)
  - Colorado (16.5%)
  - United States (18.4%)

In Denver County, 18.4% of Medicare fee-for-service population have been diagnosed with depression.

### Asthma Prevalence

- **Percentage of Adults Age 18+ with Current Asthma**
  - Denver County (10.00%)
  - Colorado (9.8%)
  - United States (9.2%)

In Denver County, 10.00% of adults aged 18 and older have been diagnosed with asthma.

### Cancer Incidence

- **Cancer Incidence Rate**
  - Per 100,000 Pop.
  - Denver County (404.0)
  - Colorado (396.4)
  - United States (449.4)

In Denver County, the cancer incidence rate is 404.0 cases per 100,000 population per year.

### Premature Death Mortality

- **Years of Potential Life Lost, Rate per 100,000 Population**
  - Denver County (6,996)
  - Colorado (6,323)
  - United States (7,296)

In Denver County, 6,996 years of potential life lost before age 75 per 100,000 population for all causes of death.

### Medicare Beneficiaries with Alzheimer's

- In Denver County, 10.5% of the Medicare fee-for-service population have been diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease.

### Coronary Heart Disease Mortality

- In Denver County, the rate of death due to coronary heart disease is 63.5 per 100,000 population.

### Inadequate Social and Emotional Support

- In Denver County, 22.00% of adults aged 18 and older report that they receive insufficient social and emotional support.
PLACES: Local Health Measures

Diabetes, Prevalence Among Adults Age 18+ by Tract
- Over 13.0%
- 10.1% - 13.0%
- 8.1% - 10.0%
- Under 8.1%
- No Data or Data Suppressed

Coronary Heart Disease, Prevalence Among Adults Age 18+ by Tract
- Over 8.0%
- 6.1% - 8.0%
- 4.1% - 6.0%
- Under 4.1%
- No Data or Data Suppressed

Cancer, Prevalence Among Adults Age 18+ by Tract
- 7.1% - 100.0%
- 5.6% - 7.0%
- 4.1% - 5.5%
- 0.1% - 4.0%
- No Data or Data Suppressed

Asthma, Prevalence Among Adults Age 18+ by Tract
- Over 12.0%
- 10.1% - 12.0%
- 8.1% - 10.0%
- Under 8.1%
- No Data or Data Suppressed
Need More Data?
You can supplement this report with more local data and/or advocate for better data collection.

**Supplement with Local Data**

**Community Needs Assessments**
Community groups that get Community Development Block Grant program funds have to do a community needs assessment every few years to identify lower-income people’s needs. This can give local context for social and economic barriers that impact self-sufficiency and health.

**Community Health Needs Assessments**
Per the Affordable Care Act, tax-exempt hospitals have to do a community health needs assessment every three years and adopt an implementation strategy to meet the needs identified. These reports can provide an important local context into inequities in health outcomes.

**Equity Reports**
Some communities do studies to assess racial and/or economic inequities in education, housing, transportation, economic opportunity, safety, justice, and health. This can give local context into inequities in living conditions.

**Advocate for Better Data Collection**

**Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs)**
ACEs, like abuse and neglect, are a root cause of many of today’s critical public health challenges.

We need leaders to screen for ACEs, recognize toxic stress as a biological health condition, and push for a robust toxic stress research agenda to identify biomarkers and develop confirmatory diagnostic criteria to screen patients for toxic stress.

Learn more on ACEs [here](#).
Learn more on toxic stress [here](#).

**Transportation Insecurity/Precarity**
There is little data on the symptoms and social, economic, and health consequences of inadequate transportation.

Similar to the National Nutrition Monitoring and Related Research Act of 1990, which led to measures to capture and monitor food insecurity, we need a national act to support the development of a measure to collect data on and monitor transportation insecurity/precarity.

Learn more [here](#).

**Violent Child Death**
Guns and traffic crashes are the leading causes of death for American youth ages 1-19.

To address these issues, we need comprehensive and multi-layered public health approaches to define and monitor the problems and identify risk and protective factors, which means we need better data collection for violent child death.

Learn more [here](#).

You can push federal, state, and local leaders for more equitable data collection on:

- Diversity in clinical trials
- Clinical trial access
- Cancer health disparities
- Maternal and pregnancy health
- Mental health access
- ACEs and toxic stress
- Gun violence
- Traffic violence
- Transportation insecurity
- SDOH screening
- Infection control
- Access to federal aid programs
- Anti-racism policies
- Childcare deserts
- Climate change

You can also push federal, state, and local leaders to better collect and disaggregate data by race/ethnicity, income, education, gender, and age. Learn more at [salud.to/betterdata](http://salud.to/betterdata).
You Know the Issues. Now What?

Share This Report!

Email this report to colleagues and community leaders; share it on social media; and bring printed copies to school or community meetings.

Email This Report!

Explore case studies and stories of successful change-makers.

Explore research and resources to help you build your case.

Email Salud America! at saludamerica@uthscsa.edu.
## Sources

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<td>Hours per Week at Average Wage to Afford 2-Bedroom</td>
<td><a href="https://nlihc.org">National Low Income Housing Coalition</a>. 2021.</td>
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<td>Transportation Cost Burden</td>
<td>Center for Neighborhood Technology. 2022.</td>
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<td>Social Vulnerability Index</td>
<td>Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the National Center for Health Statistics, CDC - GRASP. 2020.</td>
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<td>Location Affordability</td>
<td>Partnership for Sustainable Communities (HUD, DOT, and EPA), Location Affordability Portal. 2019.</td>
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<td>School Finance Indicators Database, SFID - School Finance Indicators Database. 2020.</td>
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<td>Jobs Reachable by Transit</td>
<td>Environmental Protection Agency, EPA - Smart Location Database. 2021.</td>
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<td>30-Day Hospital Readmissions</td>
<td>Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, CMS - Geographic Variation Public Use File. 2020.</td>
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<td>Diabetes</td>
<td>Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion. 2019.</td>
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<td>Centers for Medicare &amp; Medicaid Services, Centers for Medicare &amp; Medicaid Services - Chronic Conditions. 2018.</td>
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Report card powered by the Center for Applied Research and Engagement Systems (CARES), University of Missouri.