

# 7<sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT

## 2018 FOOD ENVIRONMENT BRIEF



### OVERVIEW

The Department of Planning and the Johns Hopkins Center for a Livable Future collaborate to examine the Baltimore food environment through research, analysis and mapping in order to inform the work of the City's Baltimore Food Policy Initiative (BFPI). Please refer to *Baltimore City's Food Environment: 2018 Report* for more in-depth information.

### HEALTHY FOOD PRIORITY AREA

Healthy Food Priority Areas show where four factors related to food access overlap. The four criteria listed below determine if an area is a Healthy Food Priority Area. These areas were previously referred to as "food deserts."

#### KEY FINDINGS

- The 7th District has the fourth highest proportion of residents living in a Priority Area of all council districts with 37%, compared to 23.5% citywide.
- Over 15,000 (43%) Black residents live in Priority Areas, compared to only 630 (9%) White residents.
- Children are the most likely of any age group to live in Priority Areas.

#### RESIDENT PERSPECTIVE

*"The MTA bus has been the most used mode for the many years I was without a personal car. It left me very limited in the amounts of food I could purchase at once meaning I would have to make several visits within a short time frame or go without some items."*

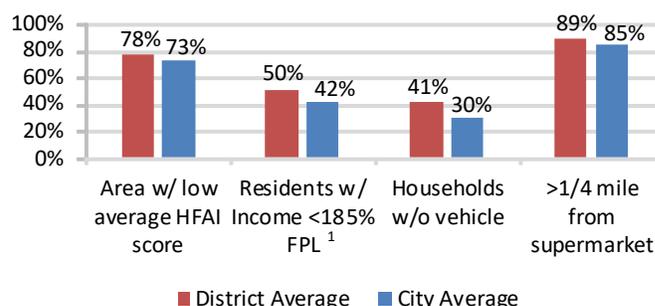
Sheena Ham

2017 Resident Food Equity Advisor, District 7

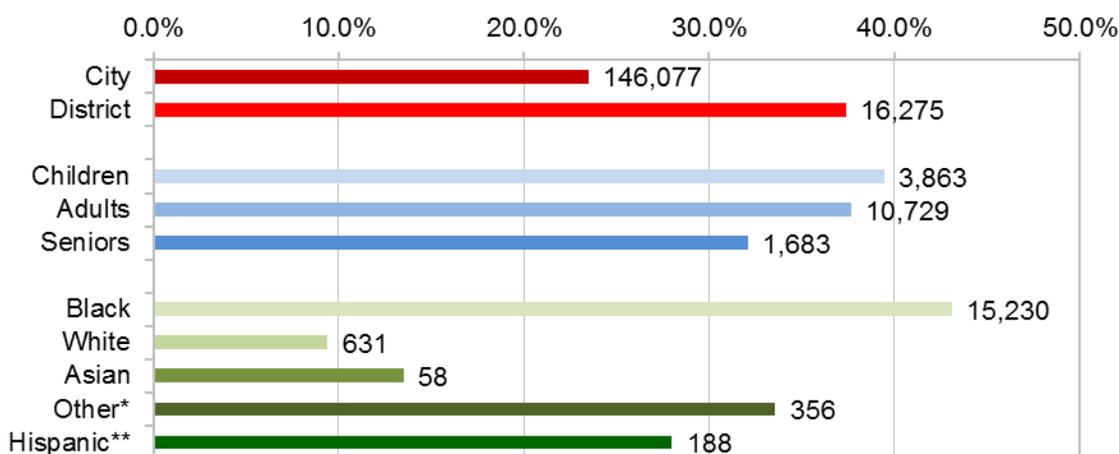
#### PRIORITY AREA FACTORS

1. The average Healthy Food Availability Index (HFAI) score is in the lowest tier
2. The median household income is at or below 185% of the Federal Poverty Level
3. Over 30% of households do not have a vehicle available
4. The distance to a supermarket is more than ¼ mile

#### HEALTHY FOOD PRIORITY AREA FACTORS BY PERCENT OF 7<sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT RESIDENTS

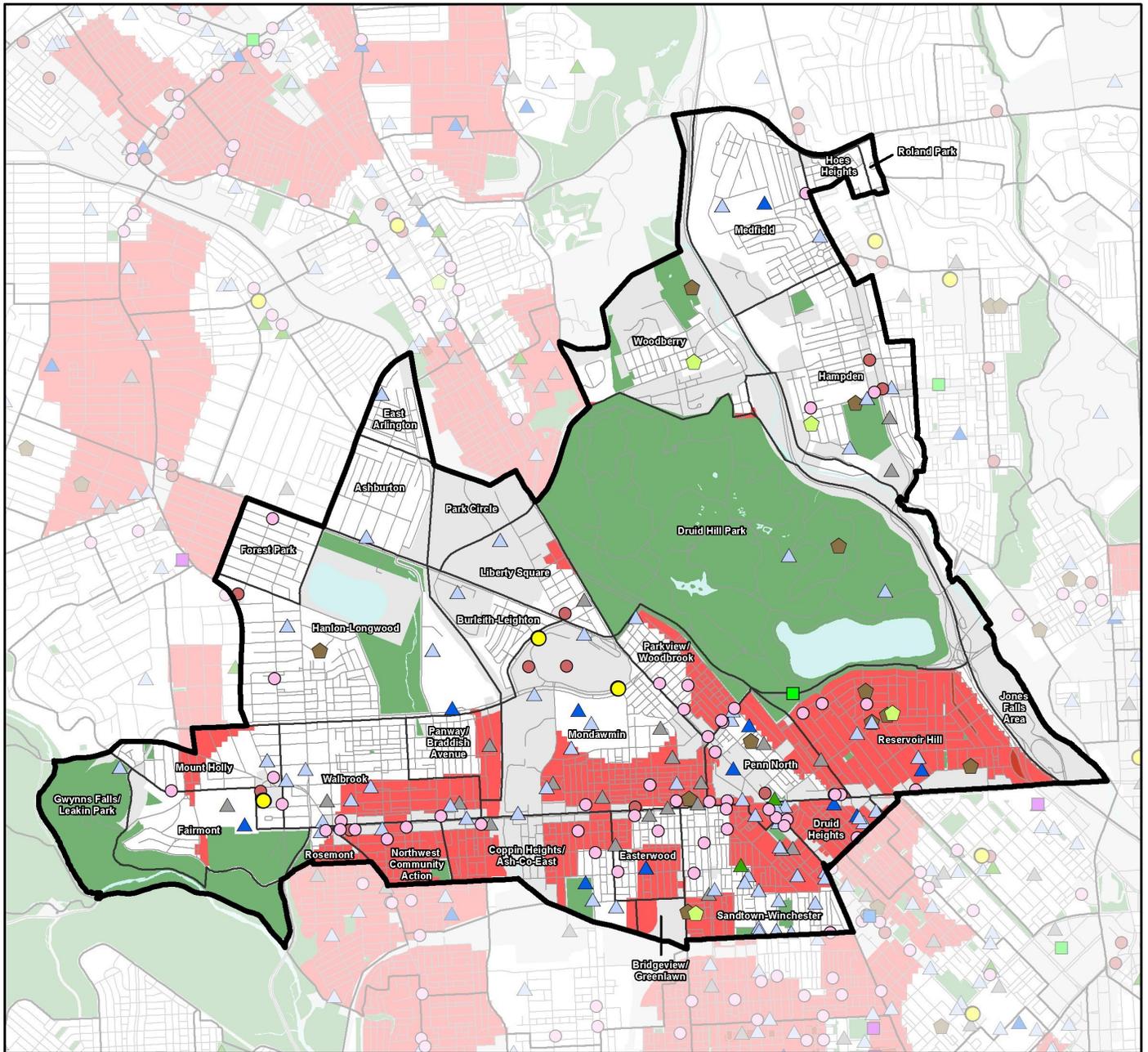


### PERCENT OF EACH POPULATION GROUP LIVING IN A HEALTHY FOOD PRIORITY AREA<sup>2</sup>



**How to read this graph (example):**  
Of all the children living in the 7th District, 3,863 (39.5%) live in a Healthy Food Priority Area.

# 2018 FOOD ENVIRONMENT MAP - DISTRICT 7



## 2018 Food Environment Map - District 7

■ Healthy Food Priority Areas

Council Boundaries

Neighborhood Boundaries

Harbor, Lakes, & Streams

Parks

Non-Residential

— Streets

### Food Retail

● Supermarkets (3)

● Small Grocery & Corner Stores (51)

● Convenience Stores (11)

■ Farmers Markets (1)

■ Public Markets (0)

■ Virtual Supermarkets (0)

### Nutrition Assistance

▲ After School Meal Sites (30)

▲ Kids' Summer Meal Sites (68)

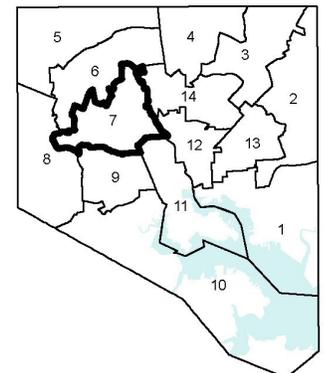
▲ Senior Meal Sites (2)

▲ Food Pantries and Meal Sites (48)

### Urban Agriculture

◆ Urban Farms (4)

◆ Community Gardens (11)





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Baltimore  
Development Corporation

## FOOD RETAIL

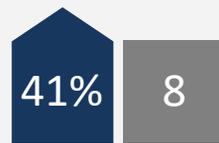
Healthy Food Availability Index (HFAI) scores show the quantity and variety of staple food groups and healthy options. Scores range from 0-28.5. HFAI awards stores points based on the presence of a market basket of staple foods and whether healthy options of common foods are available (i.e. whole grain bread).

### HFAI SCORE RANGE:

	(19.1 - 28.5)	HIGH
	(9.6 - 19)	MEDIUM
	(0 - 9.5)	LOW

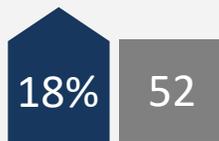
## HIGHER HFAI SCORES IN SNAP AND WIC STORES<sup>3</sup>

### WIC: Women, Infants and Children



Only 8 small grocery and corner stores (out of 51 small stores in the district) accept WIC and SNAP benefits, yet analysis shows a 41% increase in HFAI score compared to stores of the same size that only have SNAP.

### SNAP: Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (formerly food stamps)



Stores that accept SNAP have an HFAI score 18% higher than stores of the same size that do not accept nutrition benefits. 52 (out of 62) small grocery, corner, and convenience stores accept SNAP, yet most only carry the minimum stocking requirements.

## STORE CATEGORIES

Number	Avg HFAI Score	The retail food environment includes various store types, and stores within each format can serve as sources of healthy affordable food.
<b>SMALL GROCERY AND CORNER STORES</b>		
		There are 51 stores in this category, an above average number of small stores compared to most other districts. The average HFAI score for these stores is 7.8, which is below the Priority Area threshold, and considerably below the citywide average.
<b>CONVENIENCE STORES</b>		
		<b>Discount:</b> 4 discount stores sell a variety of non-perishable and some perishable foods, yet overall HFAI scores are very low. All four accept SNAP but none WIC, which may mean they are not accessible to all shoppers, especially those with children.
		<b>Pharmacy:</b> Overall, pharmacies have an average score of 9, which is low, but many have the potential to carry more staple foods, perhaps by connecting specific healthy foods to medical needs.
		<b>Chain Convenience:</b> The 3 stores have an average HFAI score of 10.5, indicating some may carry healthy food, but not significant amounts. This is higher than the small grocery and convenience stores on average in this district.
<b>SUPERMARKETS</b>		
		Overall, supermarkets provide the widest variety of healthy staple foods. The 3 supermarkets are run by 3 different operators, and while similar in basic stocking, may vary significantly in features not scored or measured by this analysis, such as quality or affordability.



## FOOD AND NUTRITION ASSISTANCE

### Sites

#### SUMMER MEALS



Nearly 40% of children in the district live in Priority Areas. The 7th District served the second most summer meals of any district—147,769 across 68 sites in 2016.



#### AFTER SCHOOL MEALS

30 after school meals sites serve the 7th District, out of 268 sites citywide.



#### FOOD PANTRIES AND MEAL SITES

There are 48 sites that are served by the Maryland Food Bank, out of 425 sites citywide.



#### SENIOR MEALS

There are 2 Eating Together sites serving 43 seniors. 32% of seniors in the district live in Priority Areas.

## URBAN AGRICULTURE



#### FARMERS MARKETS

The Druid Hill Farmers Market serves the district. The market accepts SNAP and some vendors accept WIC benefits.



#### URBAN FARMS

There are 4 urban farms, the most of any district.



#### COMMUNITY GARDENS

The 17 community gardens spread throughout the district may provide opportunities for household-level food access.

## HEALTHY FOOD ENVIRONMENT STRATEGY

Food environment mapping and analysis inform and guide BFPI’s work. The 2018 food environment analysis led BFPI to update its guiding Healthy Food Environment Strategy. The following citywide goals have applications at the state, city, and neighborhood levels. These maps and analyses are used to inform, create, and evaluate food policies. Together, BFPI agencies implement the following strategies:

- Support resident-driven processes to guide equitable food policy, programs and resources
- Improve small grocery, corner, convenience stores
- Retain and attract supermarkets
- Increase the ability of the public markets to anchor the healthy food environment
- Implement supply chain solutions that support healthy food distribution and small businesses
- Maximize the impact of federal nutrition assistance and meal programs
- Support urban agriculture, emphasizing historically disenfranchised populations and geographies
- Address transportation gaps that impact food access

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

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### FOOD ENVIRONMENT REPORT

<https://planning.baltimorecity.gov/baltimore-food-policy-initiative/food-environment>

#### FOOTNOTES:

1. Chart displays 185% of Federal Poverty Level by count of residents adjusted for household size. Priority Area poverty calculations are based on household Median Income.
2. \*Per US Census categories, “Other” is a combination of American Indian, other, Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, and “Two or More”.  
\*\*Hispanic is an ethnic classification that includes all races. There may be overlap between Hispanic and other racial categories.
3. Percent increases are based on citywide averages as data by district is limited.