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 46th District has the second lowest proportion of residents living in a Priority Area of all legislative districts with 16%, compared to 23.5% citywide.
- Racial disparities persist with nearly 13,500 (32%) of Black residents living in Priority Areas, compared to under 3,700 (6%) White residents.
- Children are the most likely of any age group to live in Priority Areas.

RESIDENT PERSPECTIVE

“I observe the contributions my Latinx neighbors make to the food environment including Latinx – owned food business, culturally relevant foods, and daily food practices that connect many Latinx residents to homelands to which they may never return.”

Katie Miller
2017 Resident Food Equity Advisor, District 46

PERCENT OF EACH POPULATION GROUP LIVING IN A HEALTHY FOOD PRIORITY AREA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Population Group</th>
<th>City District</th>
<th>District Average</th>
<th>City Average</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Children</td>
<td>10,712</td>
<td>146,077</td>
<td>6,143</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adults</td>
<td>18,360</td>
<td>15,505</td>
<td>3,669</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seniors</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1,993</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black</td>
<td>13,476</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>10,116</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>199</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other*</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic**</td>
<td>968</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

How to read this graph (example):
Of all the children living in the 46th District, 6,143 (27%) live in a Healthy Food Priority Area.
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:**

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

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**STORE CATEGORIES**

The retail food environment includes various store types, and stores within each format can serve as sources of healthy affordable food.

### SMALL GROCERY AND CORNER STORES

- **Number:** 113
- **Avg HFAI Score:** 10.7

District 46 has 113 stores in this category; a high number compared to most districts. Many of these stores are clustered in the neighborhoods around Patterson Park. The average HFAI score for these stores is 10.7, which is above citywide average and may be related to the prevalence of ethnic, particularly Latinx stores.

### CONVENIENCE STORES

- **Number:** 33
- **Avg HFAI Score:** 9.1

**Chain Convenience:** The 33 stores have an average HFAI score of 9.1, indicating some may carry healthy food, but not significant amounts.

- **Number:** 9
- **Avg HFAI Score:** 9.2

**Discount:** District 46 has 9 discount stores that sell a variety of non-perishable and some perishable foods, yet the overall HFAI score is low. All 9 stores accept SNAP but none WIC, which may mean they are not accessible to all shoppers.

- **Number:** 11
- **Avg HFAI Score:** 11.3

**Pharmacy:** Overall, pharmacies have an average score of 11.3. Many have the potential to carry more staple foods, perhaps by connecting specific healthy foods to medical needs.

### PUBLIC MARKETS

- **Number:** 2
- **Avg HFAI Score:** 11.3

Public markets like Cross Street and Broadway Markets provide opportunities for small food business incubation, employment, and food access.

### SUPERMARKETS

- **Number:** 12
- **Avg HFAI Score:** 28.0

Overall, supermarkets provide the widest variety of healthy staple foods. The 12 supermarkets are run by 10 different operators, and while similar in basic stocking, may vary in features not scored or measured by this analysis, such as quality or affordability.
FOOD AND NUTRITION ASSISTANCE

**SUMMER MEALS**
Nearly 22,500 kids live in the 46th District, 27% of whom live in Priority Areas. The district served almost 238,000 summer meals across 118 sites in 2016.

**AFTER SCHOOL MEALS**
46 after school meals sites serve the 46th District.

**FOOD PANTRIES AND MEAL SITES**
There are 57 sites across the 46th District that are served by the Maryland Food Bank.

**SENIOR MEALS**
Nearly 10,000 seniors live in the 46th District, 15% of whom live in Priority Areas. There are 12 Eating Together sites in the district serving 301 seniors.

**VIRTUAL SUPERMARKET**
The Virtual Supermarket primarily serves senior and disabled housing sites. There are 4 sites in the 46th District.

**URBAN AGRICULTURE**

**FARMERS MARKETS**
There are 7 farmers markets in the 46th District. All markets accept SNAP and WIC.

**URBAN FARMS**
There are 3 urban farms in the 46th District.

**COMMUNITY GARDENS**
The 10 community gardens in 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 refine 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 and 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

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.

Updated 08/27/2019
2018 Food Environment Map - District 46

2018 Food Environment Map - District 46
Nutrition Assistance

- Healthy Food Priority Areas
- Legislative Boundaries
- Neighborhood Boundaries
- After School Meal Sites (46)
- Kids' Summer Meal Sites (118)
- Harbor, Lakes, & Streams
- Parks
- Non-Residential
- Senior Meal Sites (12)
- Food Pantries and Meal Sites (57)