Publicly Available Resources for Understanding Health Disparities in Chicago
Compiled by the Lindau Laboratory at the University of Chicago

Chicago Health Atlas
- This resource was created by the City Tech Collaborative and the Chicago Department of Public Health. It allows users to search health-related data by indicator or area and view the data over time and across communities. In October 2020, City Tech Collaborative was named one of the winners of the Chicago Innovation Awards and also received the Wintrust Chicago Neighborhood Award for the Chicago Health Atlas. The Chicago Health Atlas has also been expanded upon in light of the pandemic to include links to COVID-19 data and testing sites, data on underlying health conditions that have been linked to COVID-19, and a map of essential businesses and resources.
- Source: https://www.chicagohealthatlas.org/

MAPSCorps
- MAPSCorps is a nonprofit organization that engages local youth to take an annual census of data on community businesses and organizations. MAPSCorps collects data on several communities across the US, including Chicago, and strives to close the information gap, promote community health, and make local resources accessible. MAPSCorps data can be requested on its website and is also published on the Chicago Health Atlas portal.
- Source: https://mapscorps.org/

VCU Life Expectancy Maps
- This resource was created by Virginia Commonwealth University’s Center on Society and Health with the support of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. This series of life expectancy maps is meant to serve as a resource and raise awareness of the factors that influence health. There are maps for 21 different cities across the US, one of which is Chicago.
- Source: https://societyhealth.vcu.edu/work/the-projects/mapschicago.html

City Health Dashboard
- This resource is a community-level health data visualization tool. It was created by the Department of Population Health at NYU Langone Health, department chair and principal architect, Marc N. Gourevitch, MD, MPH, and the Robert F. Wagner School of Public Service at NYU. The City Health Dashboard was launched in 2018 and expanded upon in 2020 to include data for over 750 US cities.
- Source: https://www.cityhealthdashboard.com/

Sinai Community Health Survey 2.0
- This survey was conducted by the Sinai Urban Health Institute (SUHI) across nine different Chicago communities to provide data on health outcomes, factors, and disparities in these areas. The original Sinai Community Health Survey was first
December, 2020

implemented in 2002 and evolved to the Sinai Community Health Survey 2.0 by 2017. SUHI reports its findings in its 2017 Health Snapshots Report.

- Source: https://www.sinaisurvey.org/; https://e1f1cf29-5109-4b10-8346-eee7ed0dfa10.filesusr.com/ugd/6b5ac9_bee17298461e4e00862737df7b304ca4.pdf
- Information and results of this survey can also be found on the Chicago Health Atlas:
  o https://www.chicagohealthatlas.org/sinaisurvey

The Death Gap: How Inequality Kills - David A. Ansell, MD, MPH

- Dr. Ansell is the Senior Vice President for Community Health Equity at Rush University Medical Center and has been practicing medicine in Chicago for much of his medical career. The Death Gap, published in 2017, details Ansell’s experience serving the poorest communities in Chicago, highlights health disparities, and links health to income and other factors.
- This book must be purchased and so is not quite a “publicly available” resource. Ansell gave a TED Talk at TEDxChicago called “How Inequality Kills” that discusses much of the work and themes from his book:
  o https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wVu6c8RGf8Q&feature=emb_logo

Mapping the Disparities That Bred an Unequal Pandemic - Jeremy Deaton and Gloria Oladipo

- This article was published in Bloomberg CityLab on September 30, 2020. CityLab is a partnership between Bloomberg Philanthropies, the Aspen Institute, and the Atlantic. Through CityLab, experts and leaders in various sectors explore and come up with solutions to urban challenges. This article includes figures and maps that show the geographic disparities across Chicago that have led to the health inequalities in the context of COVID-19.

Big Cities Health Coalition Inventory Data Platform

- Big Cities Health Coalition (BCHC) represents the health leaders of the largest urban health departments in the US and allows them to jointly address health issues, promote the health of those in their cities, and advance health equity. The Chicago Department of Public Health is a member of BCHC. BCHC provides a data platform that allows users to examine a wide variety of indicators and policies across its member cities.

Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning
The CMAP is a planning organization that serves northeastern Illinois with addressing and implementing policies on quality-of-life issues. The CMAP provides some data on the areas it serves, like community snapshots. Most of the data is general, such as demographic or transportation data, and not health-specific.

Source: https://www.cmap.illinois.gov/data

A Profile of Health and Health Resources Within Chicago’s 77 Community Areas - Juliet Yonek and Romana Hasnain-Wynia

This comprehensive report presents information on Chicago demographics, health data, available health care resources, and social determinants of health. This resource explores the different communities of Chicago in depth, covers a wide range of health issues, includes helpful figures and tables, and is overall a good resource for understanding the demographics and health disparities of Chicago.

Source: https://www.csu.edu/nac/documents/ProfileofHealthandHealthResourcesWithinChicagos77Communities.pdf

Community Need Index

This resource was created by Dignity Health and IBM Watson Health. It uses five different barrier scores (income, culture, education, insurance, and housing) and averages them to provide a community need index score between 1 to 5 for every populated zip code in the US. A score of 1 represents the least need while a score of 5 represents a population with the most need.