

Environmental Justice is Racial Justice.

Equitable development:

General Iron's impact on environmentally overburdened on Chicago's Southeast side

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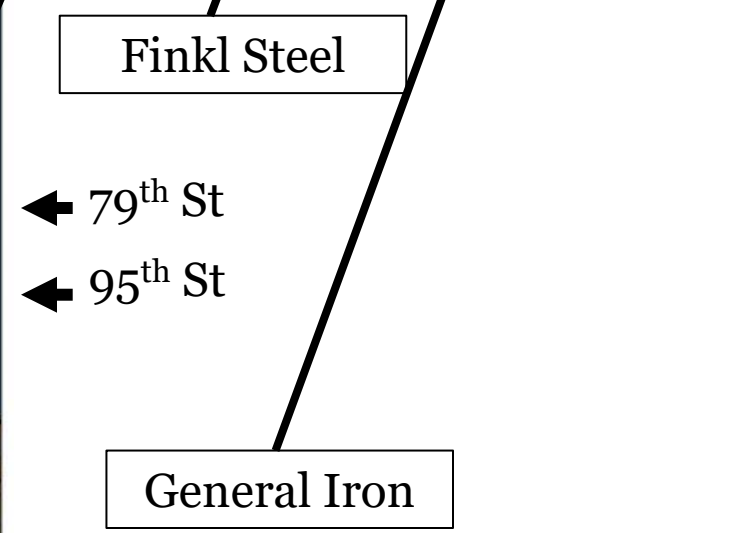
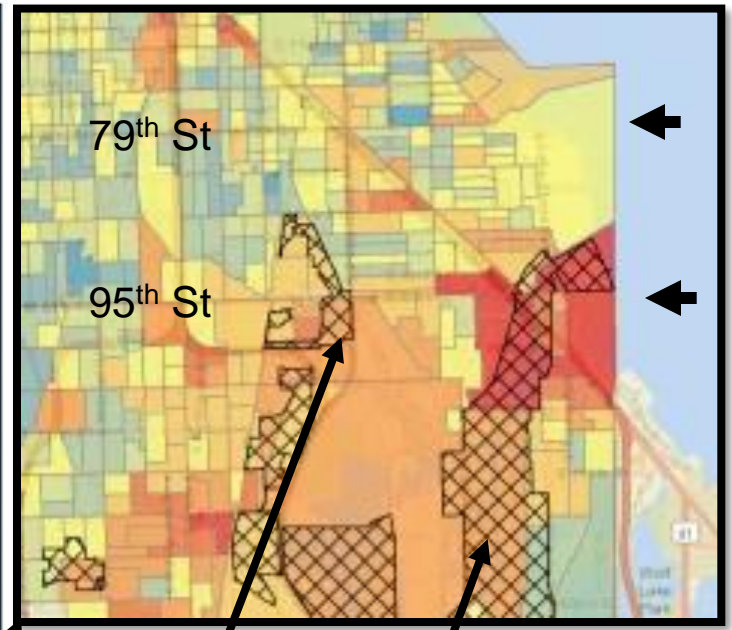
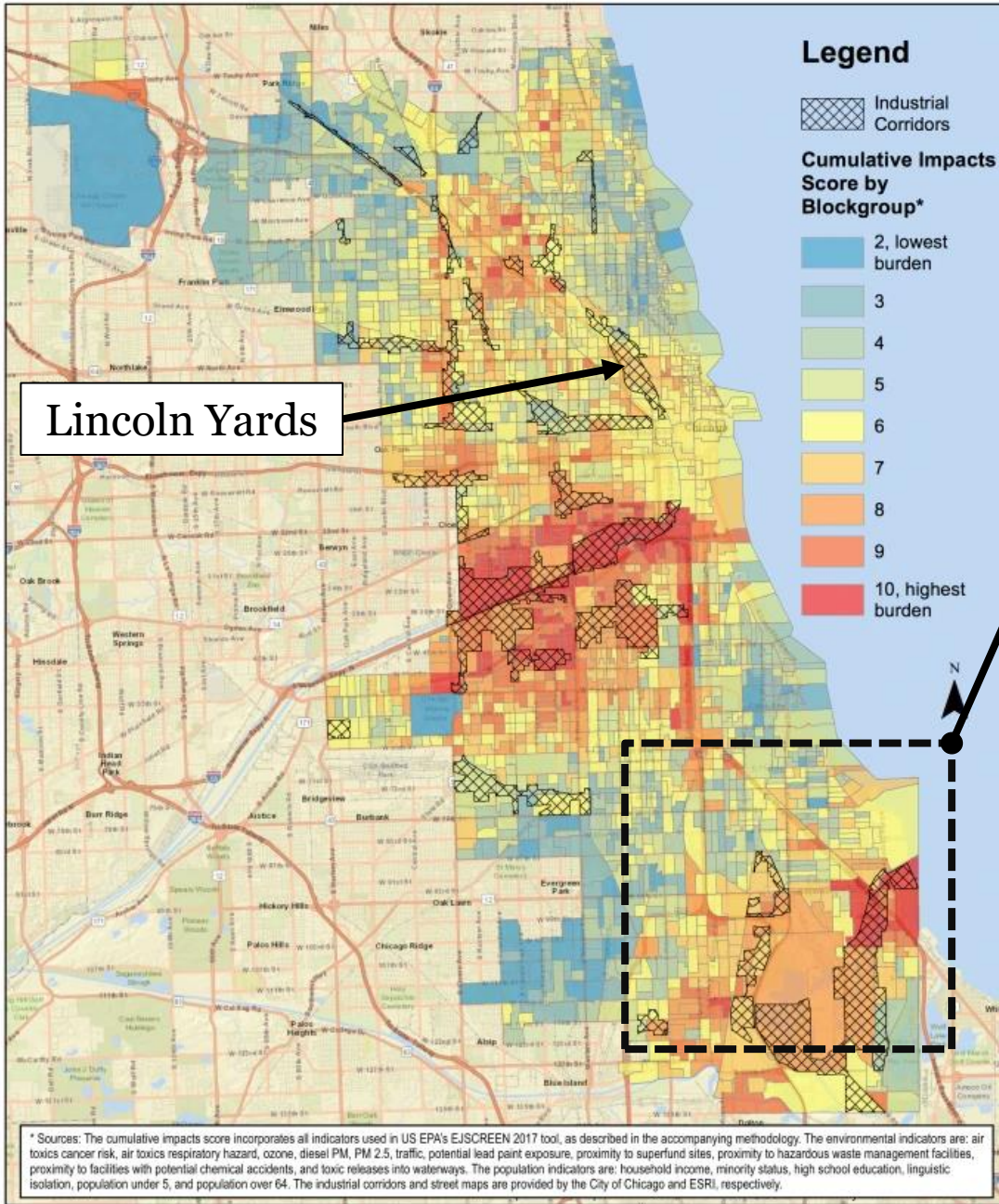
Equitable Development: SE Side- Environmentally Overburdened



Chicago's southeast side

- Home to generations of steel workers- residents who built downtown Chicago.
- The area is already environmentally overburdened.
- The 10th ward has 8 landfills, many of them toxic.
- A number of current and proposed projects are toxic & impact the health of nearby residents (e.g. General Iron & Confined Disposal Facility (CDF)).

Cumulative Burden of Environmental Exposures & Population Vulnerability in Chicago



Environmentally Overburdened



Chicago's southeast side has **3 of the top 5 air polluting companies:**

#1: Finkl Steel- #1 air polluter in Cook County- relocated to the SE side, after being displaced by the Lincoln Yards development. Also, a southside house caught on fire, after an explosion at Finkl.

 CBS Chicago NEWS WEATHER SPORTS VIDEO BEST OF MORE

CBS2
ON AIR

illinois.pd
42

South Side House Catches Fire After Explosion At Nearby Finkl Steel Plant; 'They Saw Fireballs' -CBS2, 04-17-19

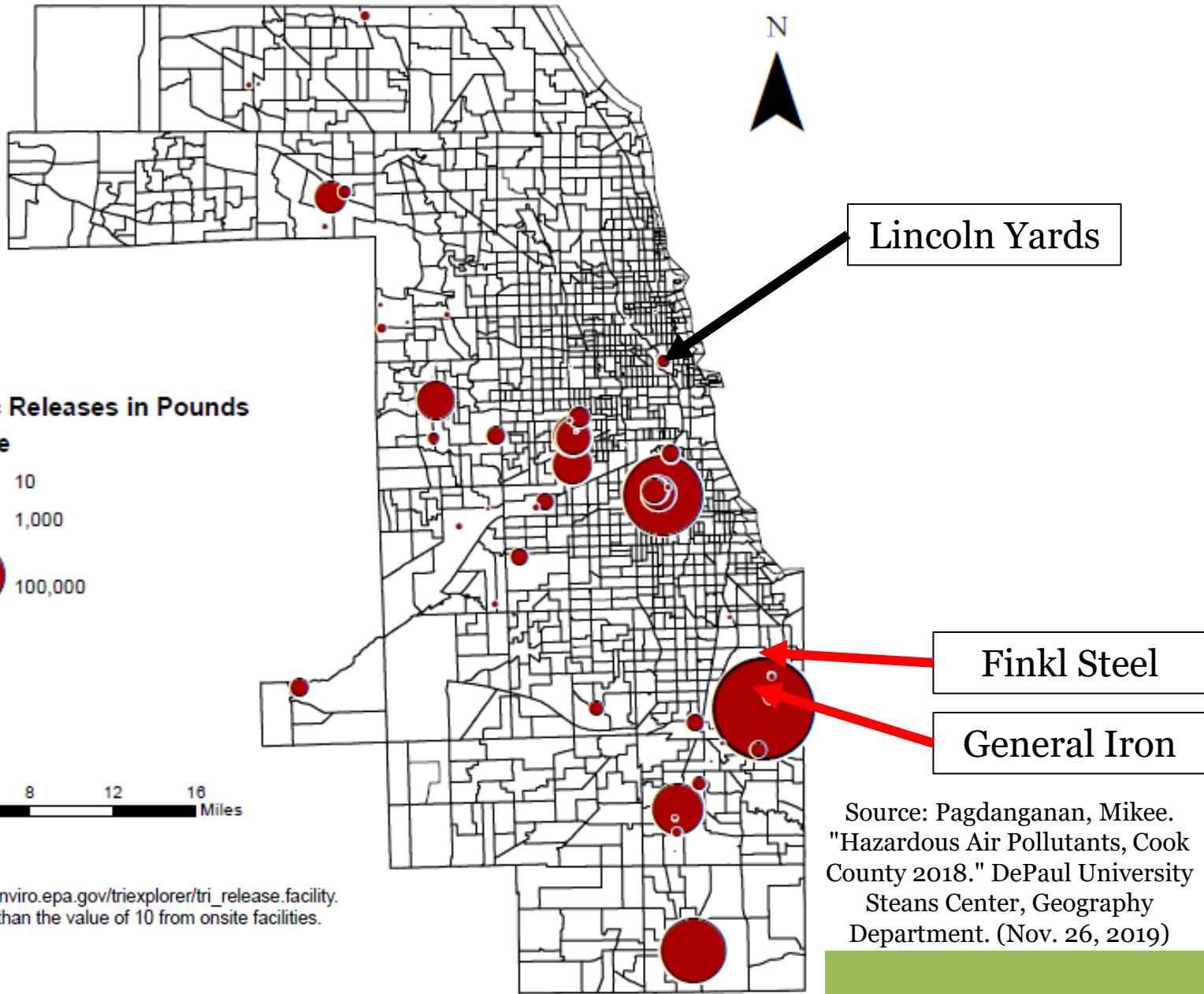
<https://chicago.cbslocal.com/2019/04/17/explosion-house-fire-finkl-steel-burnside/>

#2 Arcelormittal (Riverdale)

#4 Ford Motor Company

Source: Pagdanganan, Mikee. "Hazardous Air Pollutants, Cook County 2018." DePaul University Steans Center, Geography Department. (Nov. 26, 2019) Pg. 2

Hazardous Air Pollutants, Cook County 2018



*Source from https://enviro.epa.gov/triexplorer/tri_release.facility.
Excluding data less than the value of 10 from onsite facilities.

Source: Pagdanganan, Mikee.
"Hazardous Air Pollutants, Cook County 2018." DePaul University Steans Center, Geography Department. (Nov. 26, 2019)

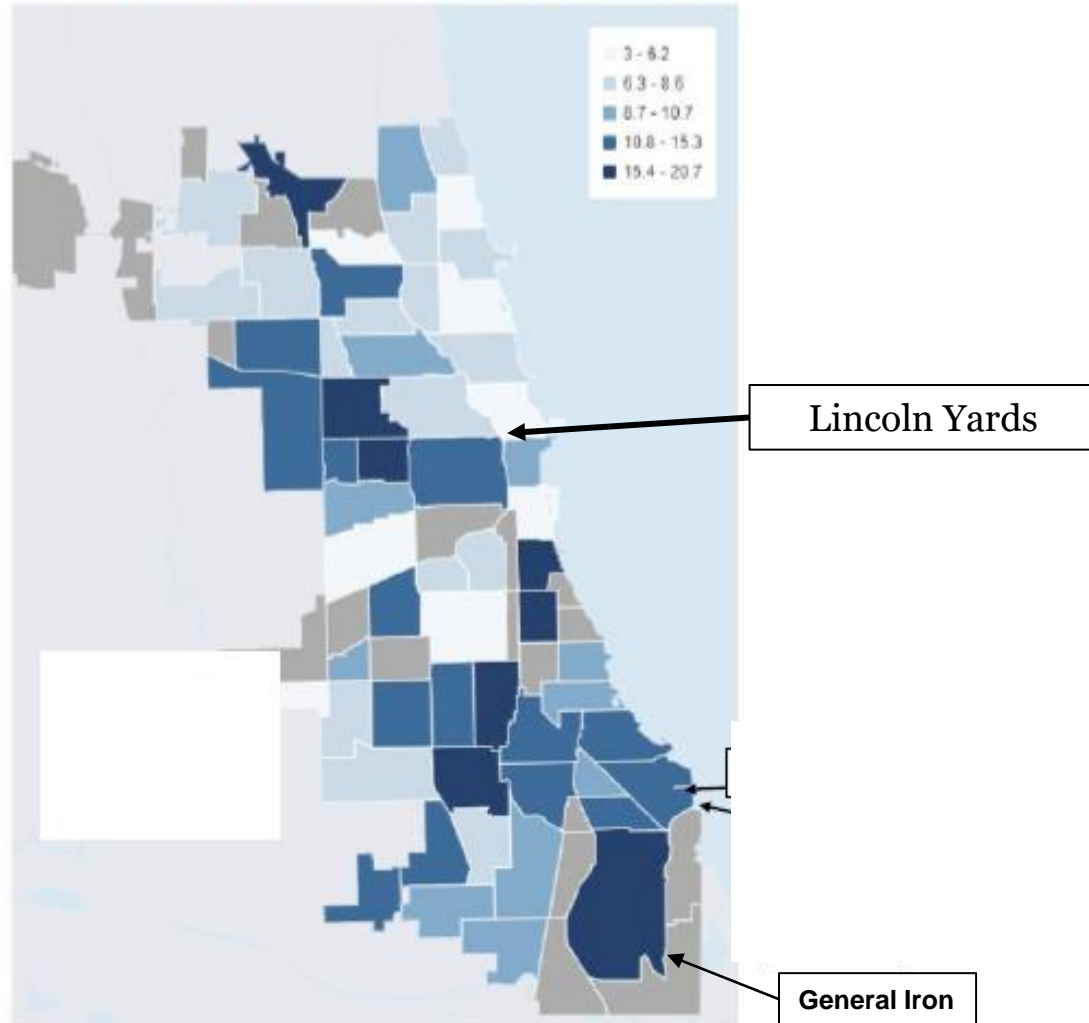
Equitable Development: SE Side- Health Impacts



- The southeast side is already environmentally overburdened, exposed to numerous contaminants, and have high cancer and asthma rates.
- Air pollution, environmental burdens, & cancer and asthma rates as well as divestment are concentrated in African American and Latino communities.

Asthma

ADULTS WHO HAVE BEEN DIAGNOSED WITH ASTHMA, 2015-2017



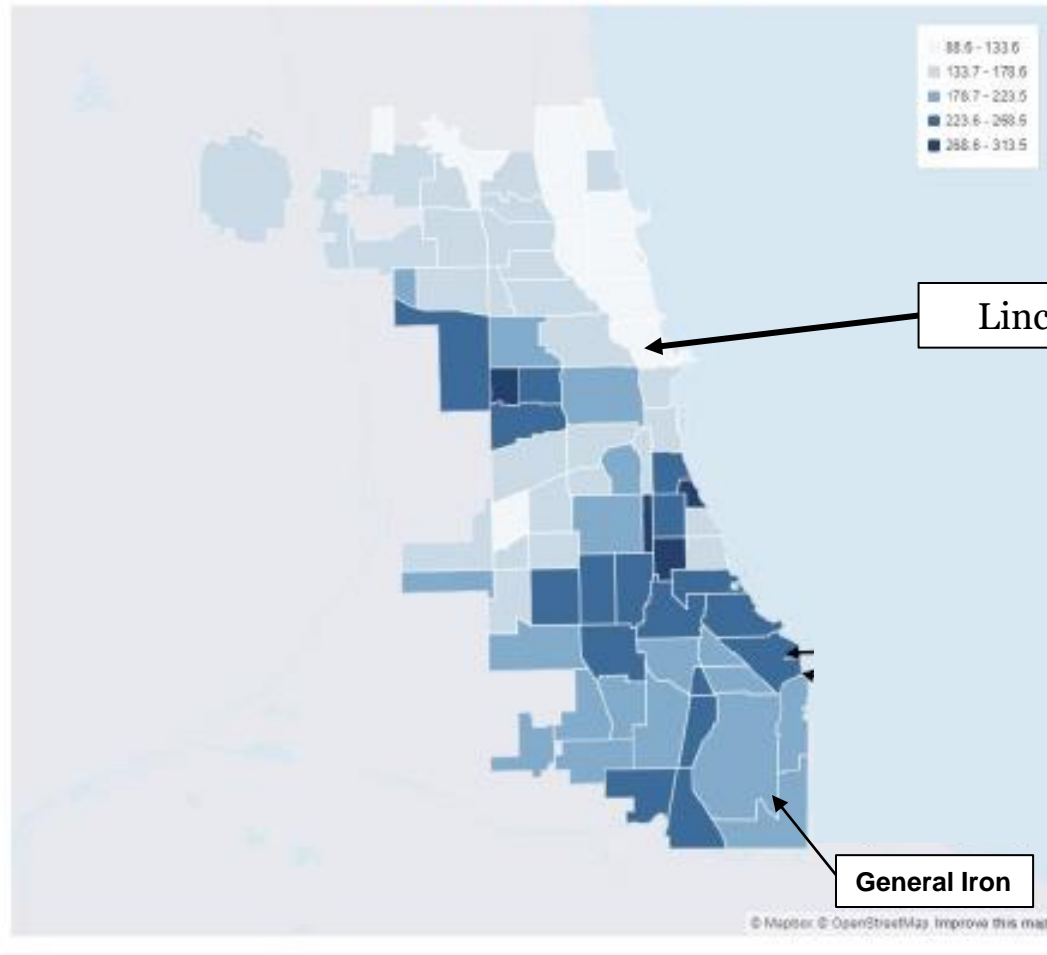
Asthma rates for nearby, impacted community areas: Chicago's asthma rate for 2017 was 9.1.

Comparatively, South Chicago has an asthma rate of 14.4. South Deering has an asthma rate of 20.7. Hegewisch and East Side data were not available.

Source: Chicago Health Data. "Asthma: Adults who have been diagnosed with asthma." Chicago Health Atlas. Website accessed: 08/01/19. <https://www.chicagohealthatlas.org/indicators/asthma>

Cancer deaths

PEOPLE WHO DIED DUE TO CANCER



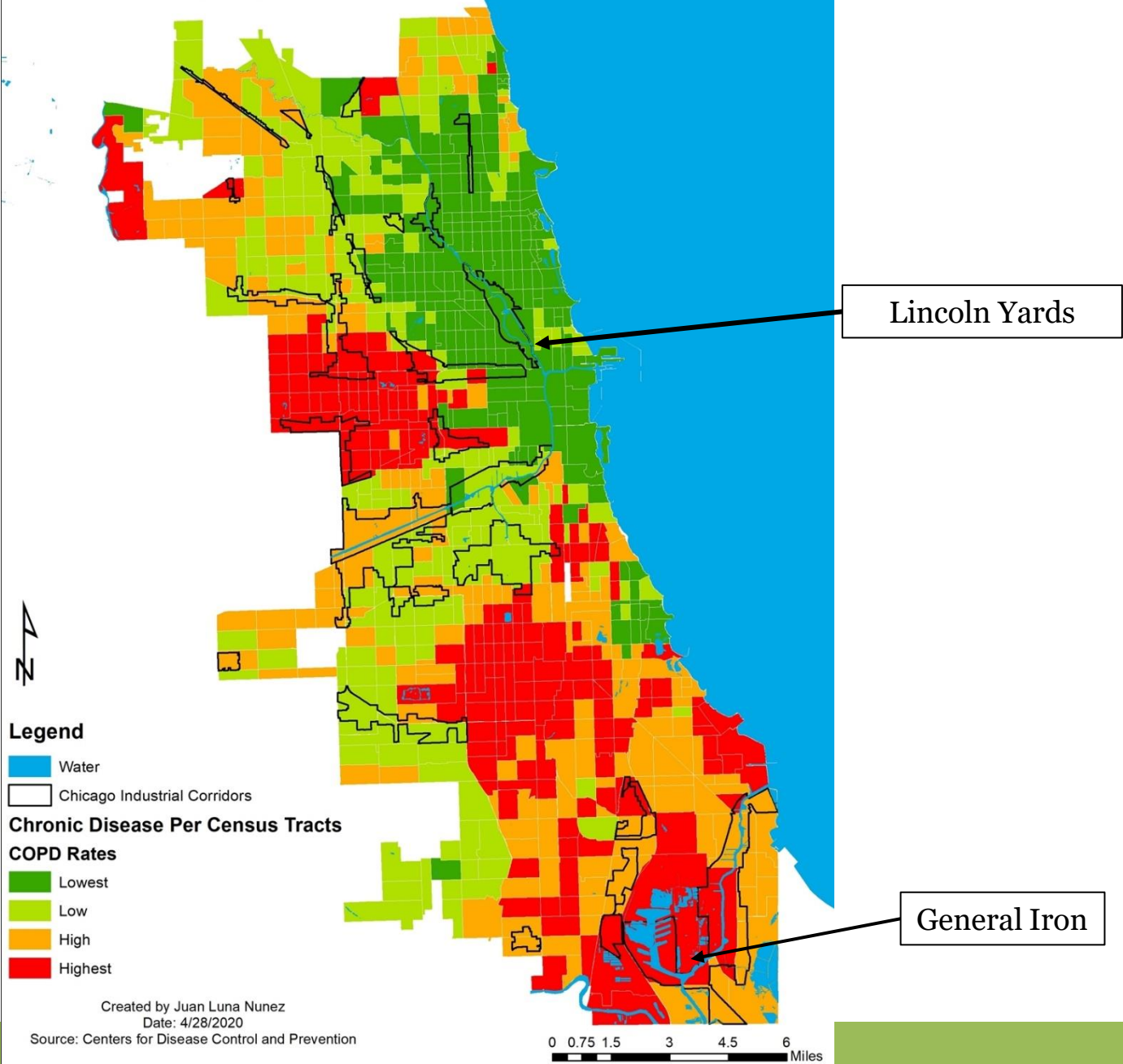
Cancer death rates for nearby, impacted community areas:

Chicago's cancer death rate for 2017 was 179.2.

Comparatively, South Chicago has a cancer death rate of 229.0. South Deering has a cancer death rate of 220.5. East Side and Hegewisch had cancer death rates of 189.0 and 197.9 respectively.

Source: Chicago Health Data. "Cancer deaths: People who died due to cancer." Chicago Health Atlas. Website accessed: 08/01/19. <https://www.chicagohealthatlas.org/indicators/cancer-deaths>

Chronic Disease Rates



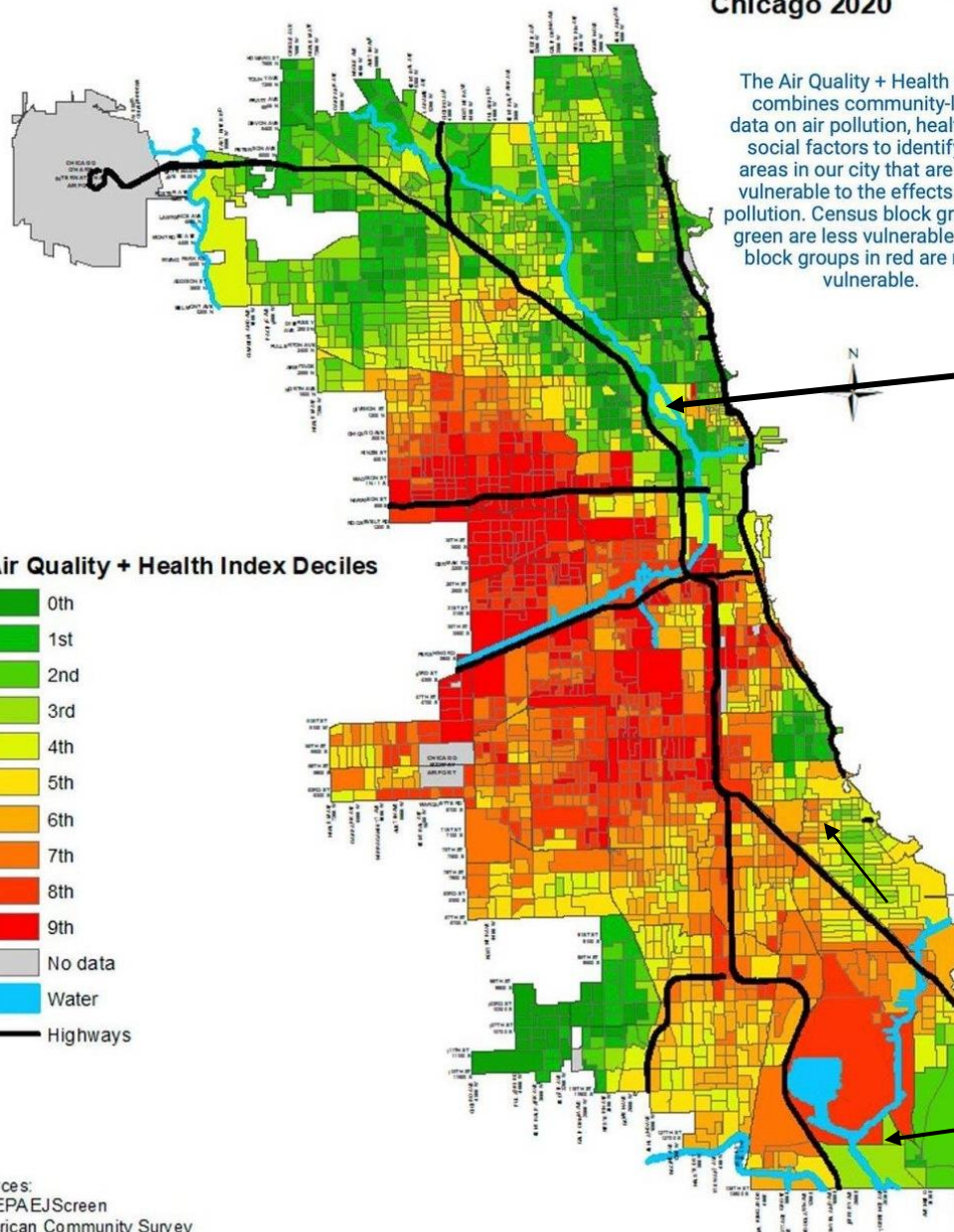
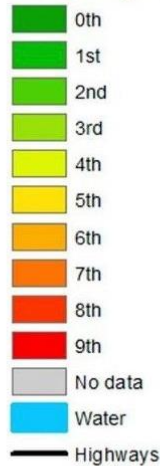
Air Quality and Health Index, Chicago 2020

The Air Quality + Health Index combines community-level data on air pollution, health, and social factors to identify the areas in our city that are most vulnerable to the effects of air pollution. Census block groups in green are less vulnerable, while block groups in red are more vulnerable.

Lincoln Yards



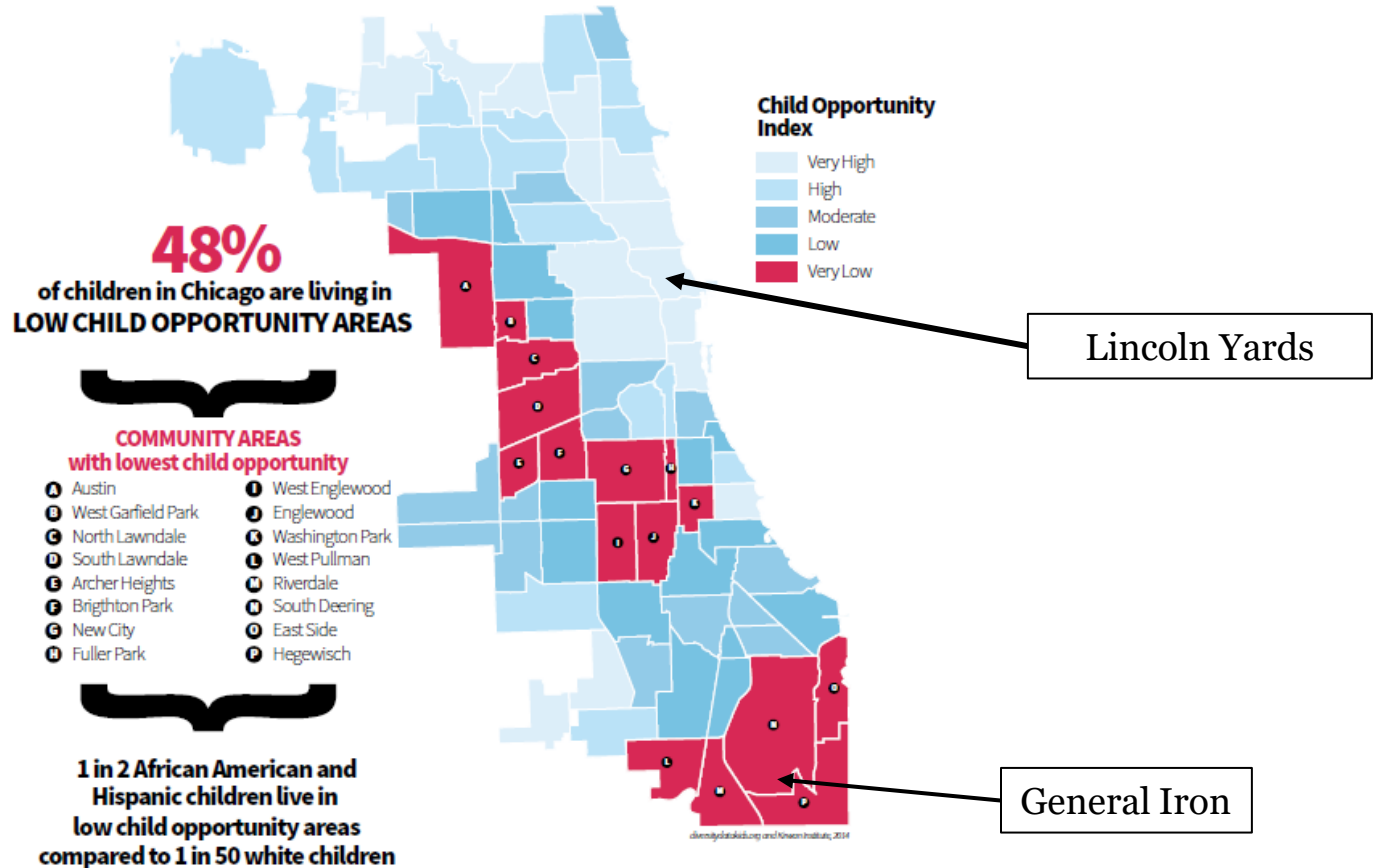
Air Quality + Health Index Deciles



General Iron

Sources:
 US EPA EJScreen
 American Community Survey
 US CDC 500 Cities
 IDPH Vital Statistics
 Various years combined, 2011-2018

Created by Office of Epidemiology,
 Chicago Department of Public Health, January, 2020



The Child Opportunity Index measures community characteristics that influence a child's health and development. These features are organized into three overarching domains of opportunity: educational, health and environmental, and social and economic. All of these factors are combined into a relative, composite measure of overall opportunity for children living within a particular community.

Components of the Child Opportunity Index

Educational

- Adult educational attainment
- Student (school) poverty rate
- Reading proficiency rate
- Math proficiency rate
- Early childhood education neighborhood participation patterns
- High school graduation rate
- Proximity to high-quality early childhood education centers
- Proximity to early childhood education centers of any type

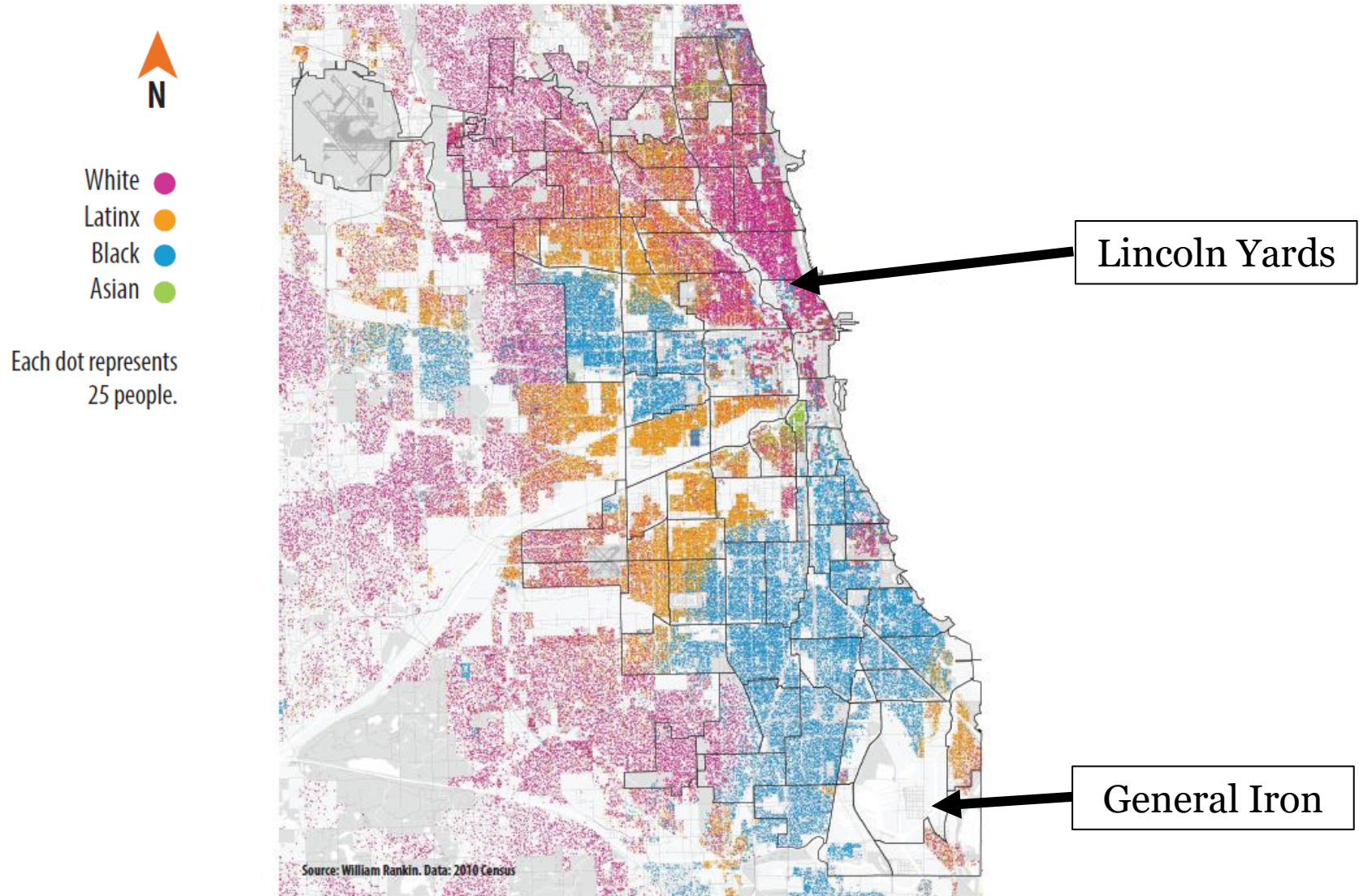
Health & Environmental

- Retail healthy food index
- Proximity to toxic waste release sites
- Volume of nearby toxic release
- Proximity to parks and open spaces
- Housing vacancy rates
- Proximity to health care facilities

Social & Economic

- Neighborhood foreclosure rate
- Poverty rate
- Unemployment rate
- Public assistance rate
- Proximity to employment

THE RACIAL AND ETHNIC COMPOSITION OF CHICAGOLAND, 2010



Hendricks, Kasey; Amanda E Lewis, Ivan Arenas, & Deana G. Lewis, "A Tale of Three Cities: The State of Racial Justice in Chicago Report." University of Illinois: Institute for Research on Race and Public Policy. (May 19, 2017) , p. 23

Equitable Development: SE Side- Health Impacts



Pollution and Covid-19

- The same southeast side communities that are environmentally overburdened, are the same communities more negatively impacted by Covid-19.
- Companies, like RMG, who pollute our air, land, and water, ***make the population less able to fight and survive when health challenges come up, like Covid-19***, which disproportionately affect people with pre-existing conditions (like asthma, cancer, heart disease).

Commentary: COVID-19 Racial Disparities

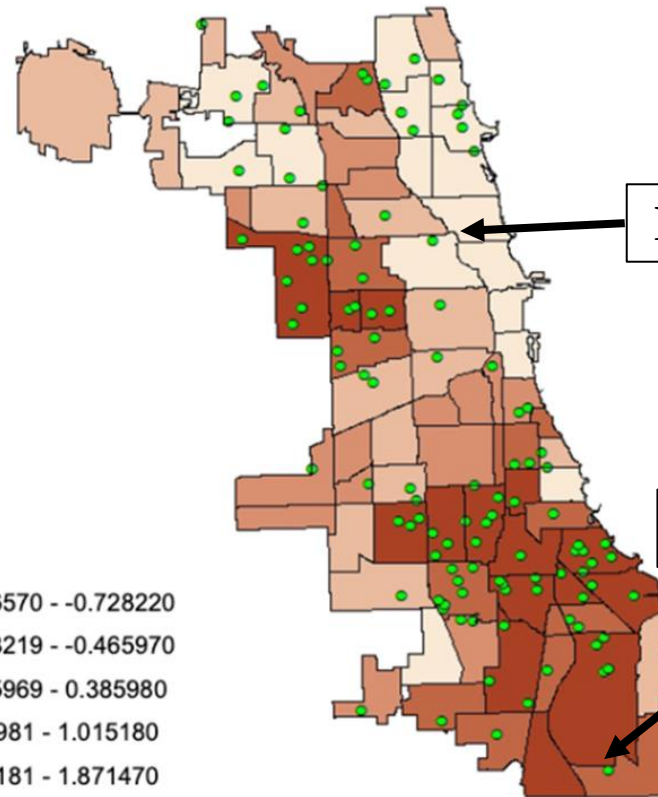
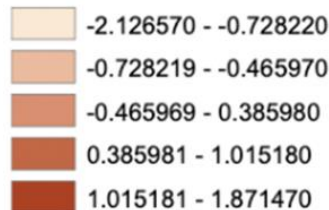
Alexis Grant and Jeni Hebert-Beirne, PhD, SPH Collaboratory for Health Justice | Posted on April 23, 2020



Risk scores by zip code

As of April 6, 2020

Locations of COVID-19 fatalities represented by green dots



Lincoln Yards

General Iron

While we may all be in this pandemic together, public health professionals knew, communities of color would bare a disproportionate burden of the effects of COVID-19. To track the effects of systemic racism, public health experts examine data on infection and hospitalizations by race/ethnicity. On Monday, April 6, we finally saw these figures for Chicago, and they were not surprising.

Source: <https://publichealth.uic.edu/news-stories/commentary-covid-19-racial-disparities/>

CHICAGO COVID-19: New Case Counts by Zip code

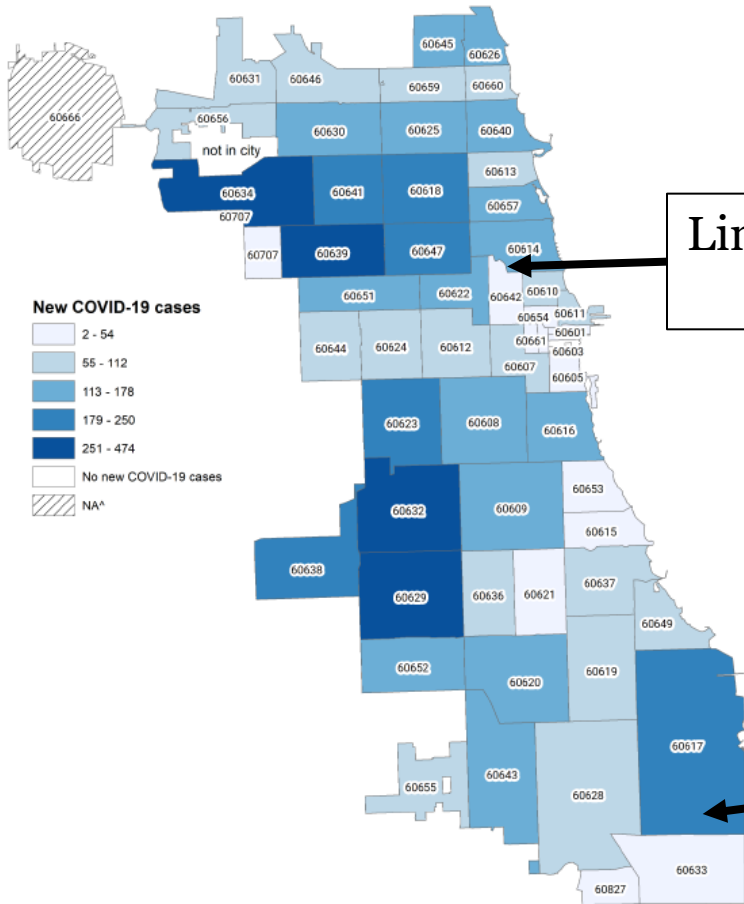
January 7, 2021

Newly Confirmed COVID-19 Cases by Chicago zip code n=7,217
week ending January 2, 2021

CHICAGO COVID-19: Test Positivity by Zip code

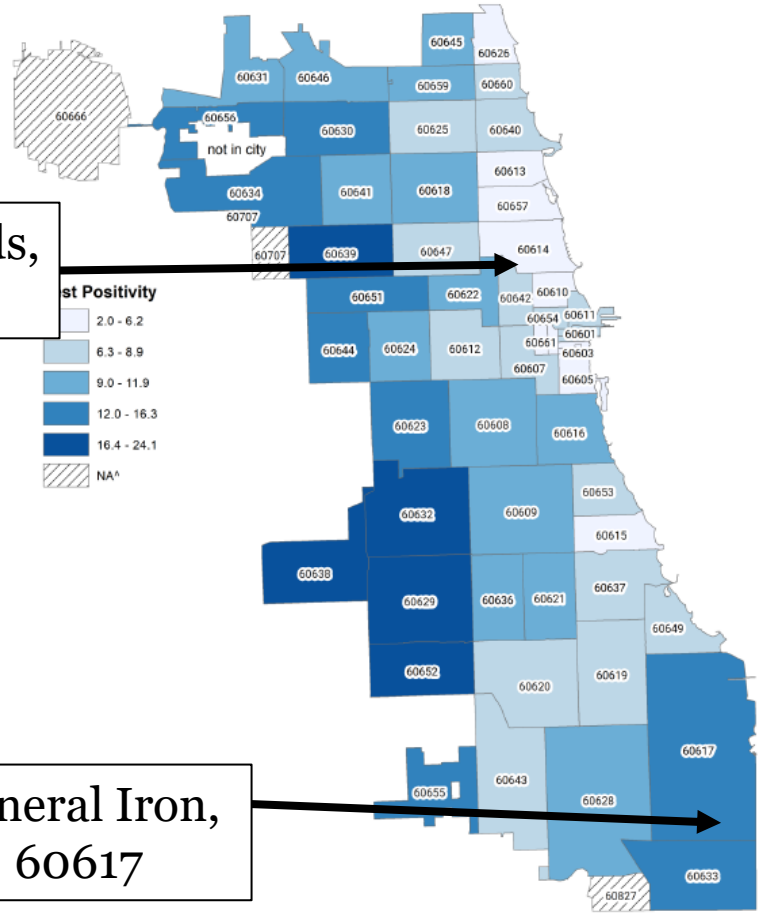
January 7, 2021

COVID-19 Test Positivity by Chicago zip code
Week ending Saturday January 2, 2021



New COVID-19 cases

- 2 - 54
- 55 - 112
- 113 - 178
- 179 - 250
- 251 - 474
- No new COVID-19 cases
- NA[^]



Test Positivity

- 2.0 - 6.2
- 6.3 - 8.9
- 9.0 - 11.9
- 12.0 - 16.3
- 16.4 - 24.1
- NA[^]

Lincoln Yards,
60614

General Iron,
60617

*Please note that 7,217 COVID-19 cases out of 7,261 COVID-19 cases had a valid Chicago zip code.
[^]Zip codes with no population.
 Data Source: Providers reporting to CDPH through the Illinois National Electronic Disease Surveillance System



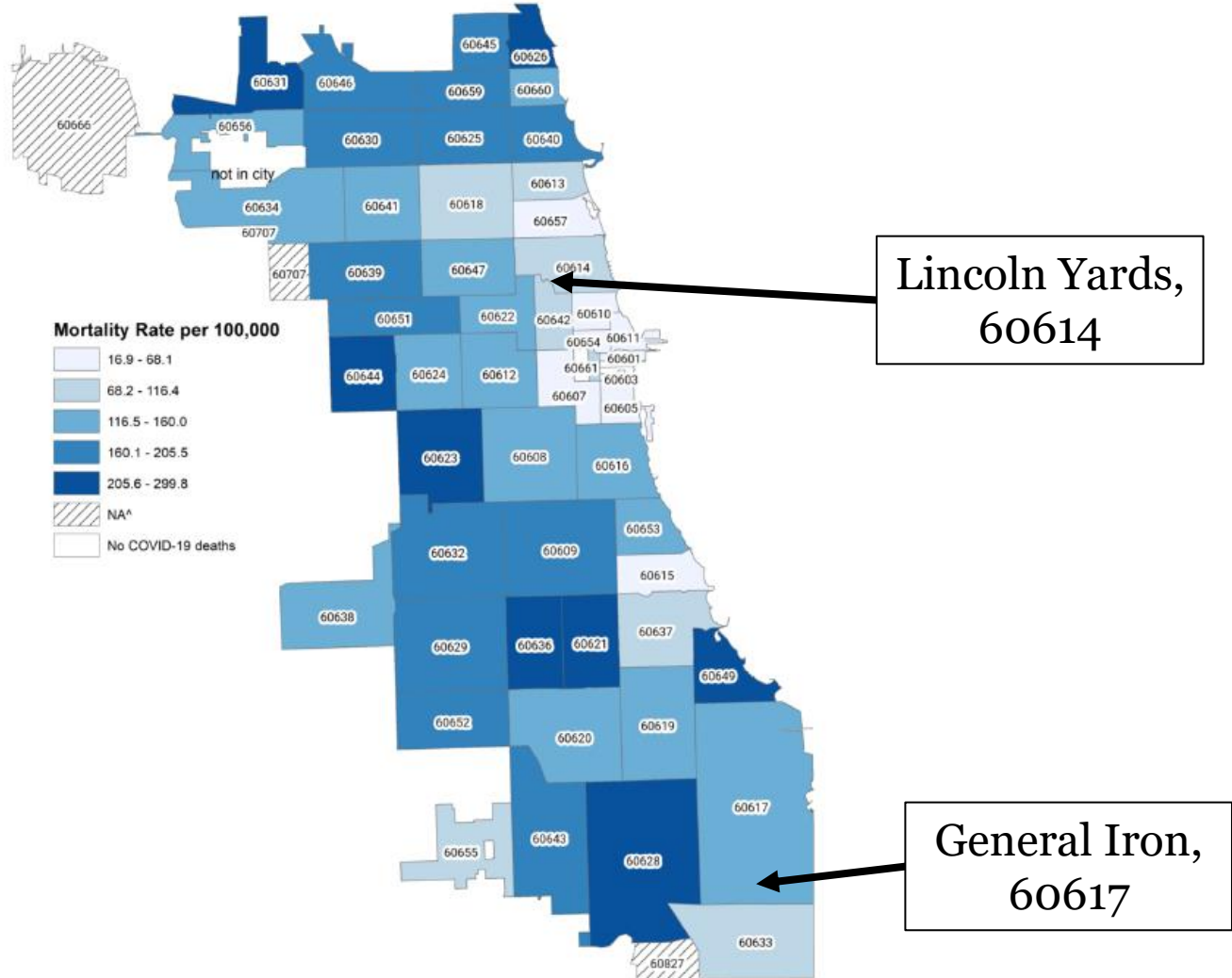
[^]Zip code with no population, zip codes extend beyond Chicago boundary
 Data Source: Providers reporting to CDPH through the Illinois National Electronic Disease Surveillance System



CHICAGO COVID-19: Mortality Rates by Zip code

January 7, 2021

COVID-19 Mortality Rate per 100,000 population by zip code among Chicago residents N=4,206* through January 6, 2021



Note: *The map includes 4,206 of the 4,258 COVID-19 deaths confirmed by laboratory testing and zip codes with mortality rates shown.
 ^Rates for zip codes with very small underlying populations or where population extend outside the city are not shown.
 Data Source: Illinois National Electronic Disease Surveillance System, Cook County Medical Examiner's Office, IDPH Vital Records
 There are deaths from COVID-19 that remain unreported or under investigation that are not reflected on this map.

Equitable Development: SE Side- Environmentally Overburdened



General Iron

- Lincoln Park residents have been complaining for years about the environmental impacts of General Iron, esp. air & noise pollution.
 - The company has had a number of EPA violations.
 - It would greatly increase truck traffic and significantly increase air pollutant emissions from diesel trucks.
 - ✦ From 200 trucks to 1400 trucks a week on local roads.
- Both companies (RMG & General Iron) had fatalities last 2 years, raising questions on worker safety conditions.

Summary



- We are tired of being the dumping ground for the City.
- We are fighting environmental racism.
 - *(See previous maps for disparities, along racial/ethnic lines).*
- We urge the City of Chicago to deny the RMG Recycling Permit.