

2ND 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

- 17% of residents in the 2nd District live in a Priority Area, compared to 23.5% citywide. Priority Areas are clearly geographically concentrated in the district.
- Over 6,500 (22%) Black residents live in Priority Areas, compared to under 500 (5%) White residents.
- Children are the most likely of any age group to live in Priority Areas.

RESIDENT PERSPECTIVE

"I have seen so many friends and family members suffer from diseases such as diabetes and hypertension due to an unhealthy diet. It can be really hard to eat right in Baltimore because many lack the education, exposure, finances and time to do so."

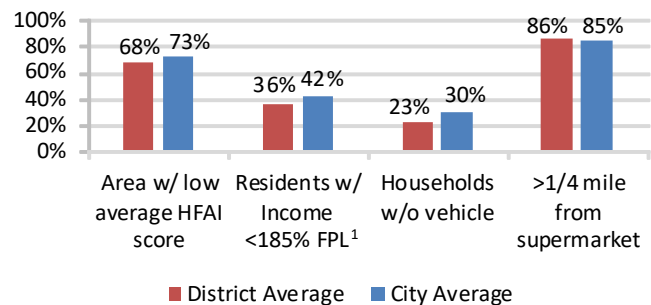
Mary Brown-Bey

2017 Resident Food Equity Advisor, District 2

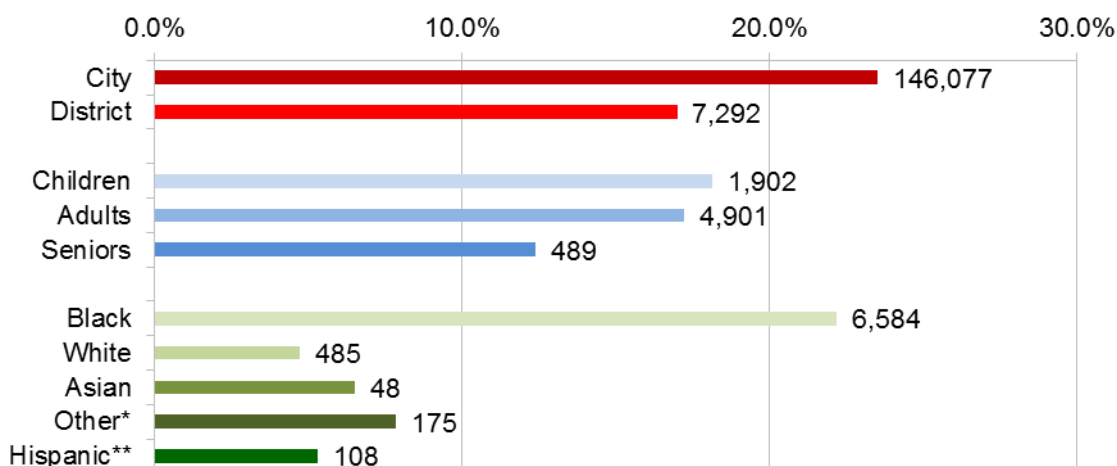
PRIORITY AREA FACTORS

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 2ND DISTRICT RESIDENTS



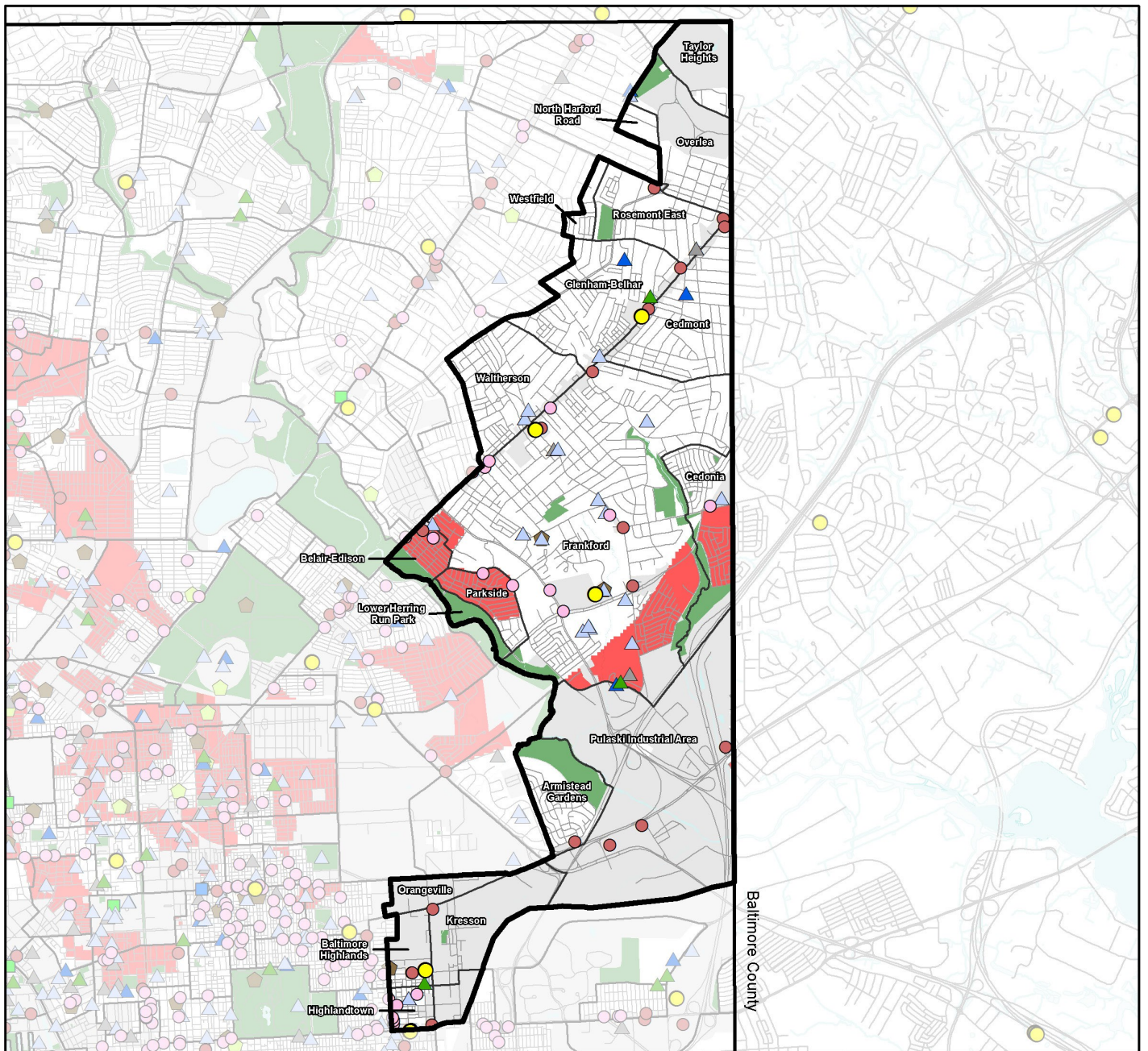
PERCENT OF EACH POPULATION GROUP LIVING IN A HEALTHY FOOD PRIORITY AREA²



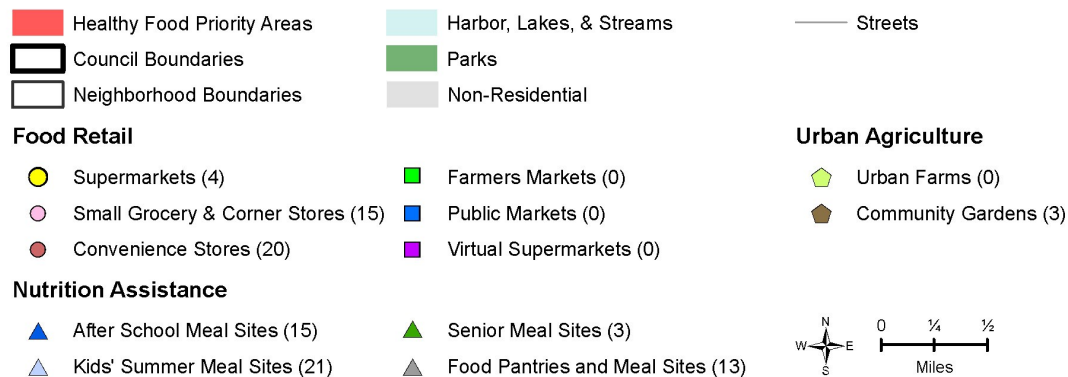
How to read this graph (example):

Of all the children living in the 2nd District, 1,902 (18%) live in a Healthy Food Priority Area.

2018 FOOD ENVIRONMENT MAP - DISTRICT 2



2018 Food Environment Map - District 2








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FOOD RETAIL

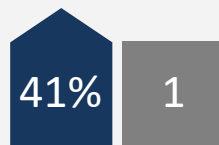
Healthy Food Availability Index (HFAI) scores show the quantity and variety of staple food groups and healthy options. Scores range from 0-28.5. HFAI awards stores points based on the presence of a market basket of staple foods and whether healthy options of common foods are available (i.e. whole grain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

HFAI SCORE RANGE:

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

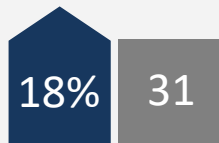
HIGHER HFAI SCORES IN SNAP AND WIC STORES³

WIC: Women, Infants and Children



Only 1 small grocery and corner store (out of 15 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. 31 (out of 35) 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.
SMALL GROCERY AND CORNER STORES		
15	9.1	There are 15 stores in this category. The average HFAI score for these stores is 9.1, which is below the Priority Area threshold and comparable to the citywide average.
CONVENIENCE STORES		
9	9.1	Chain Convenience: District 2 has 9 chain convenience stores with an average HFAI score of 9.1, indicating it carries a low amount of healthy food.
7	8.8	Discount: 7 discount stores sell a variety of non-perishable and some perishable foods, yet overall HFAI scores are very low. All 7 stores accept SNAP but none WIC, which may mean it is not accessible to all shoppers, especially those with children.
4	10.8	Pharmacy: Overall, pharmacies have an average score of 10.8. Many have the potential to carry more staple foods, perhaps by connecting specific healthy foods to medical needs.
SUPERMARKETS		
4	27.5	Overall, supermarkets provide the widest variety of healthy staple foods. The 4 supermarkets are run by 4 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.



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FOOD AND NUTRITION ASSISTANCE

Sites



SUMMER MEALS

18% of children in the 2nd District live in Priority Areas. Over 79,000 summer meals were served across 21 sites in 2016.



AFTER SCHOOL MEALS

15 after school meals sites serve the 2nd District, out of 268 sites citywide.



FOOD PANTRIES AND MEALS SITES

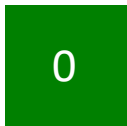
There are 13 sites that are served by the Maryland Food Bank, out of 425 sites citywide.



SENIOR MEALS

There are 3 Eating Together sites serving 65 seniors. 12% of seniors in the district live in Priority Areas.

URBAN AGRICULTURE



FARMERS MARKETS

The 2nd District does not have any farmers markets.



URBAN FARMS

There are no urban farms in the 2nd District.



COMMUNITY GARDENS

The 4 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 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.