

Equity, Environmental Justice & Air Quality



DEPARTMENT
OF ENERGY &
ENVIRONMENT



GOVERNMENT OF THE
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
MURIEL BOWSER, MAYOR

Defining Equity

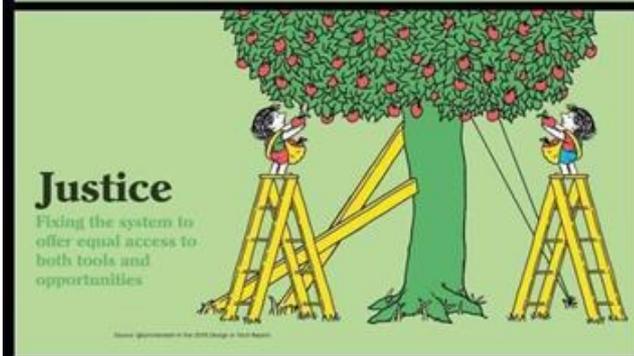
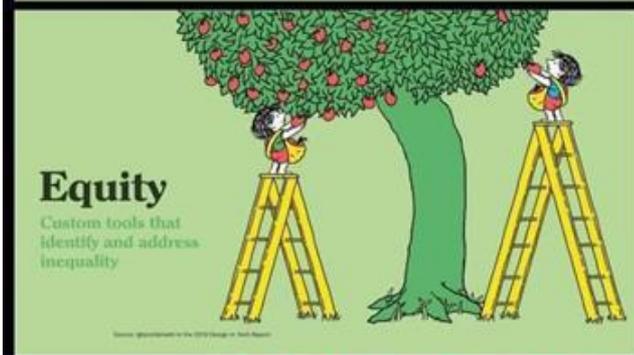
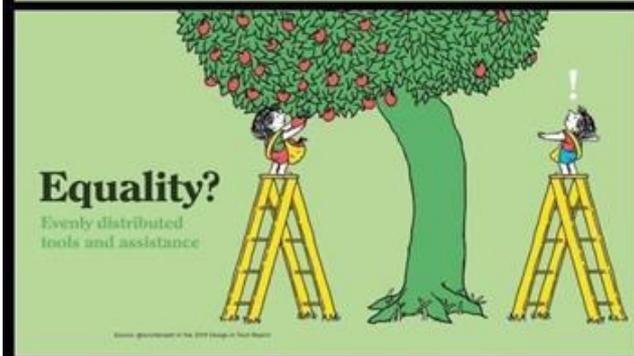
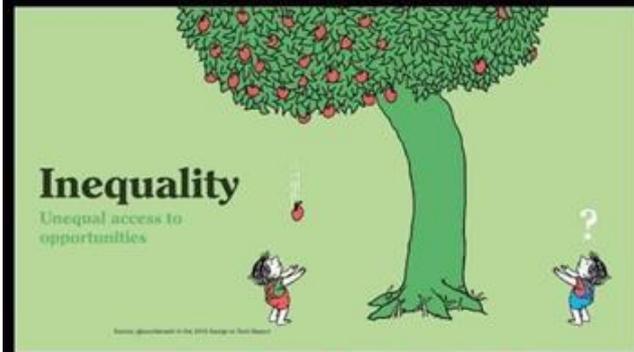
What comes up for you when you hear advancing equity in your agency?

Go to: www.menti.com

Use code: 56 2653 8



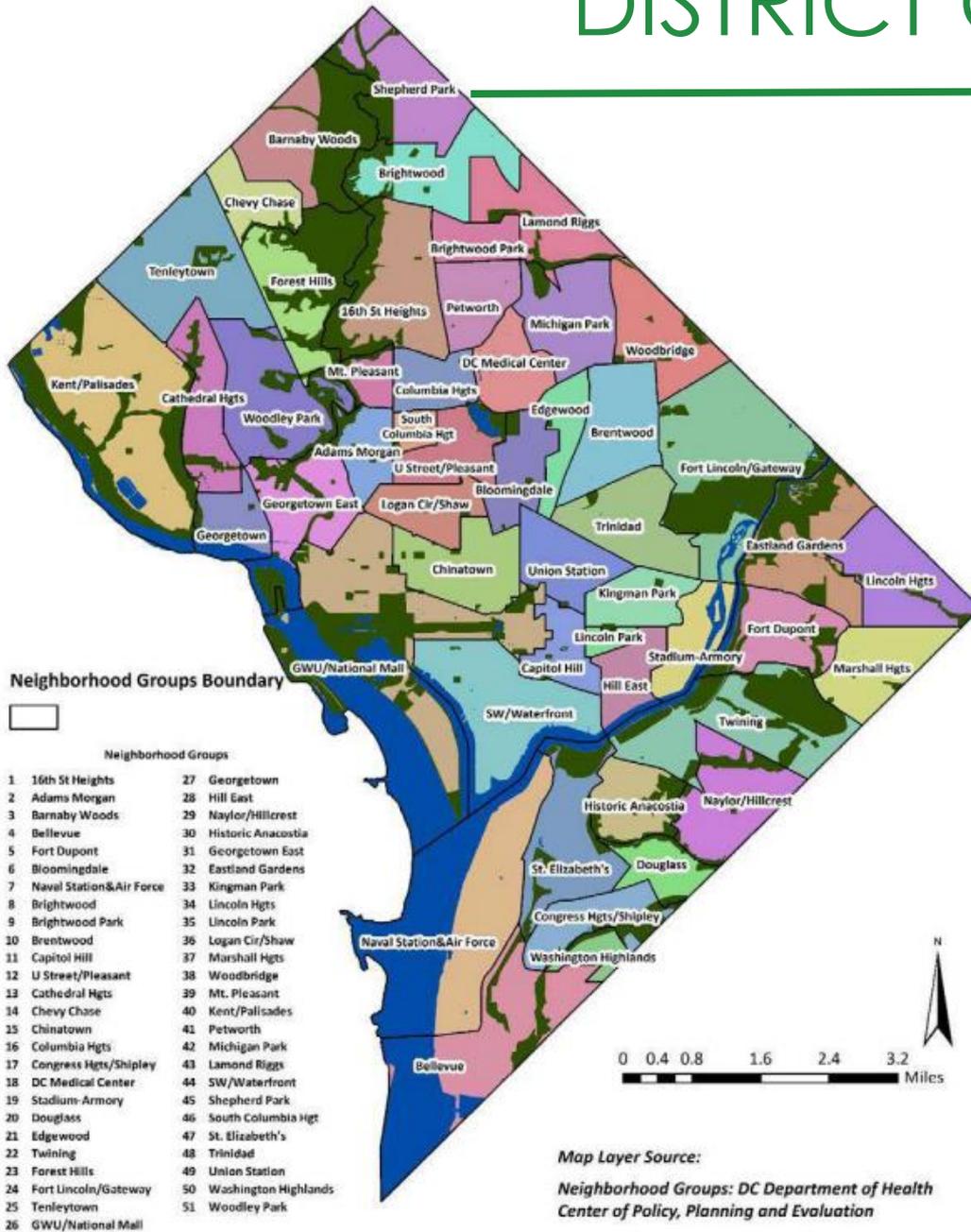
CLEAN AIR FOR ALL



Courtesy of John Maeda, Design in Tech Report



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA



- 705,000 people
- 68 sq mi/170 km
- 46% black, 37% white, 11% Latinx, 4% Asian
- 14% foreign born
- \$82,605 average HH income
- 16% poverty rate

Map Layer Source:

Neighborhood Groups: DC Department of Health
Center of Policy, Planning and Evaluation



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA



White:
\$284,000

The net worth of white households in DC is 81 times higher than black households.ⁱⁱ



Between **2007** and **2014**, the median household income in DC increased by **\$10,000** but remained flat for black households.ⁱⁱⁱ

There are
43,000
D.C. residents who qualify as "extremely low-income."

91% of "extremely low-income" families are African-American.^{iv}



108,732

DC residents lived below the poverty line in **2012**.

115,119

residents lived below the poverty line in **2017**.^v



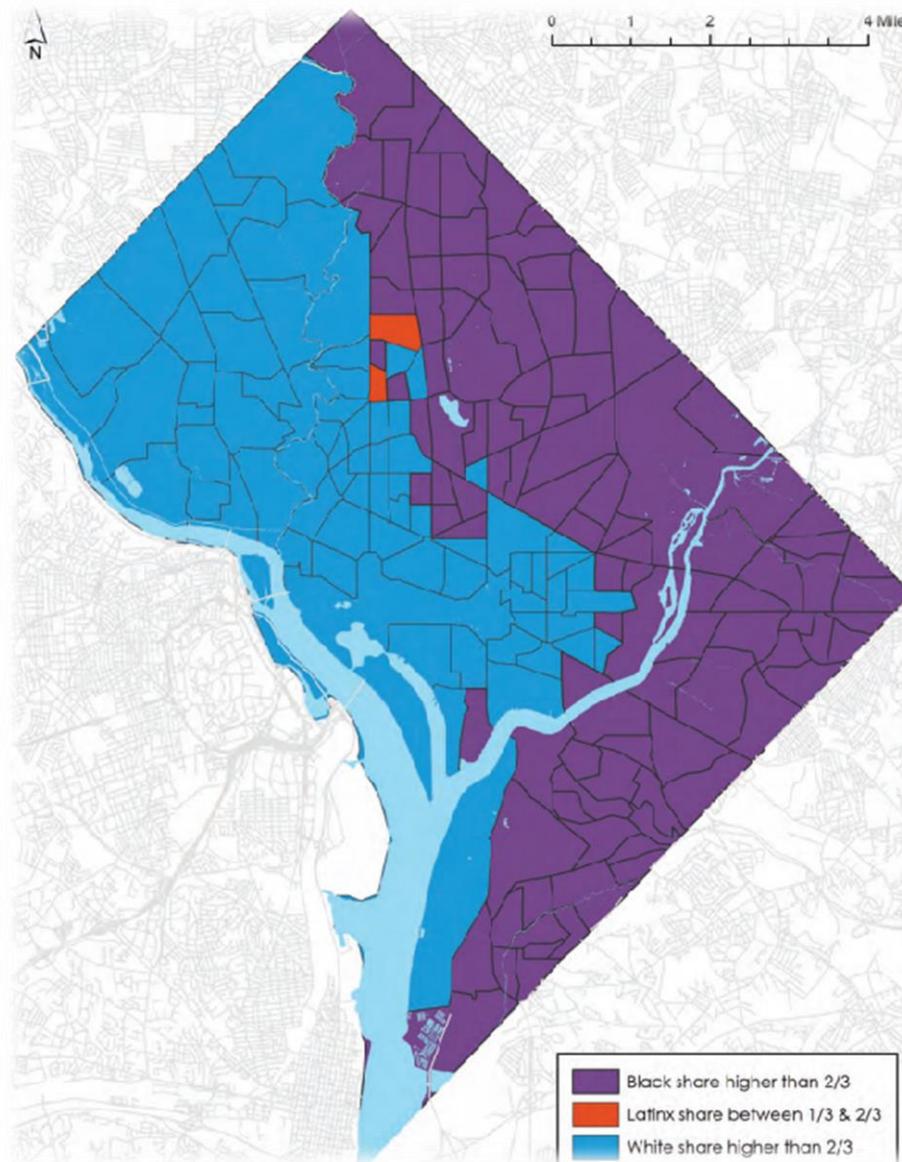
DC has the highest food assistance program use percentage in the U.S.^{vi}



DC has a **\$22,803** median student loan balance, the highest among any U.S. metropolitan area.^{vii}



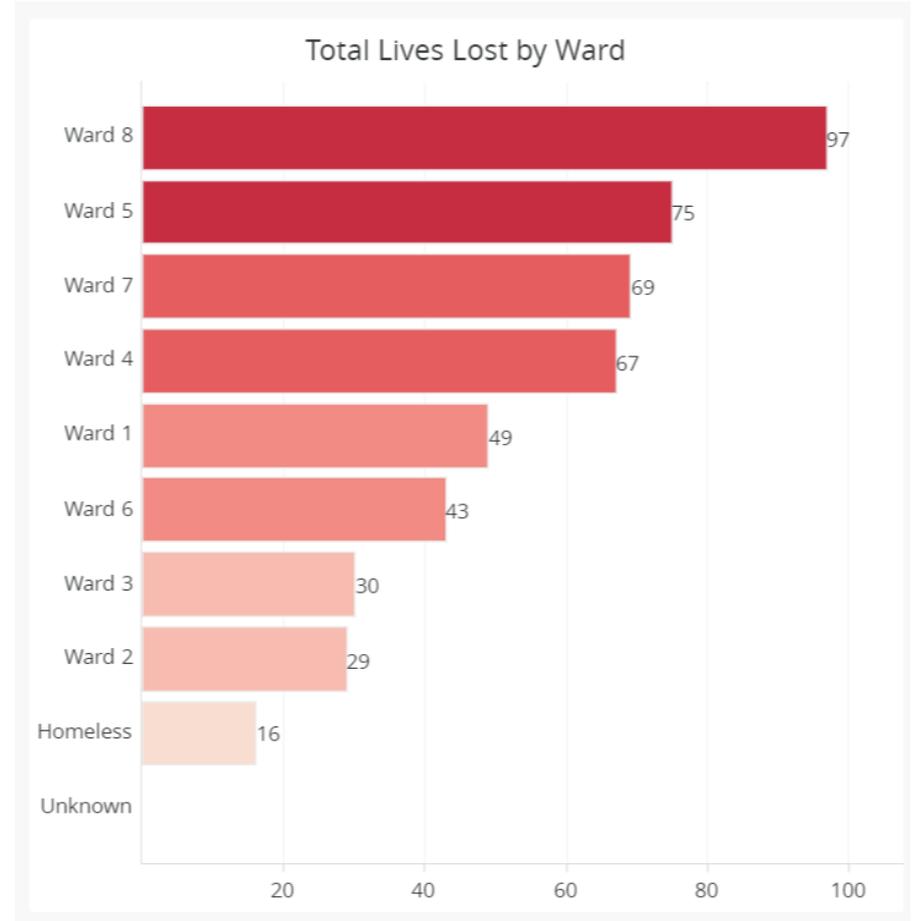
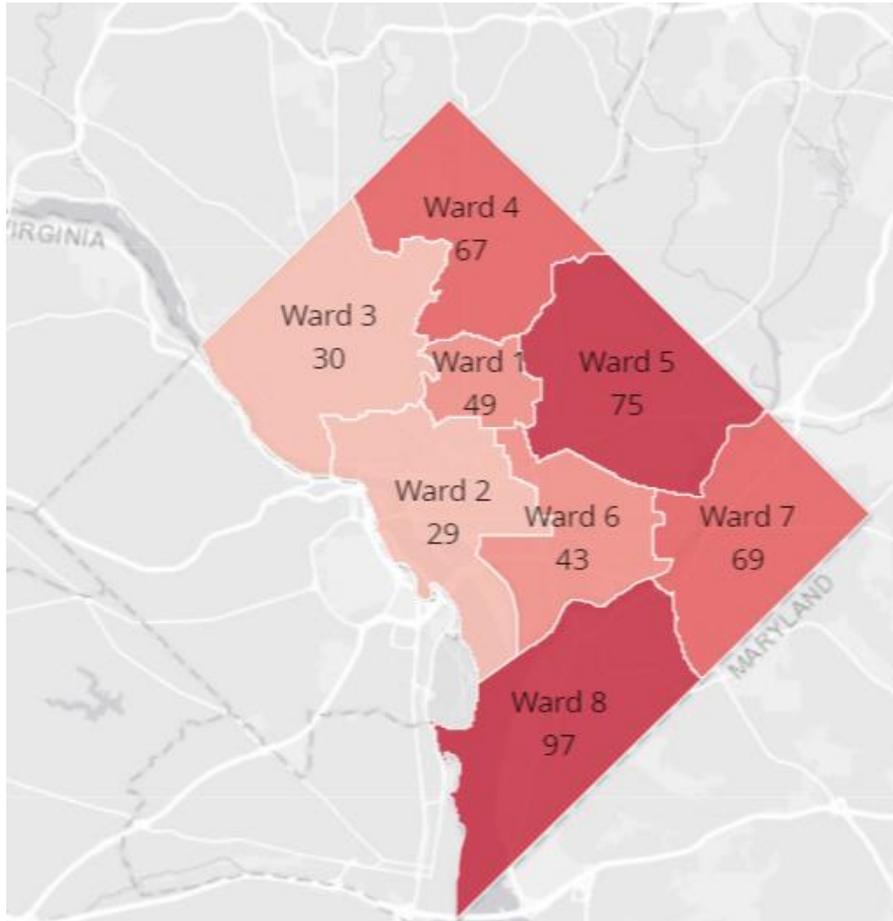
2018 D.C. RACIAL SEGREGATION MAP



Data Source:
American Community Survey & DC GIS



CORONAVIRUS TOTAL LIVES LOST BY WARD



ASTHMA RATES BY WARD

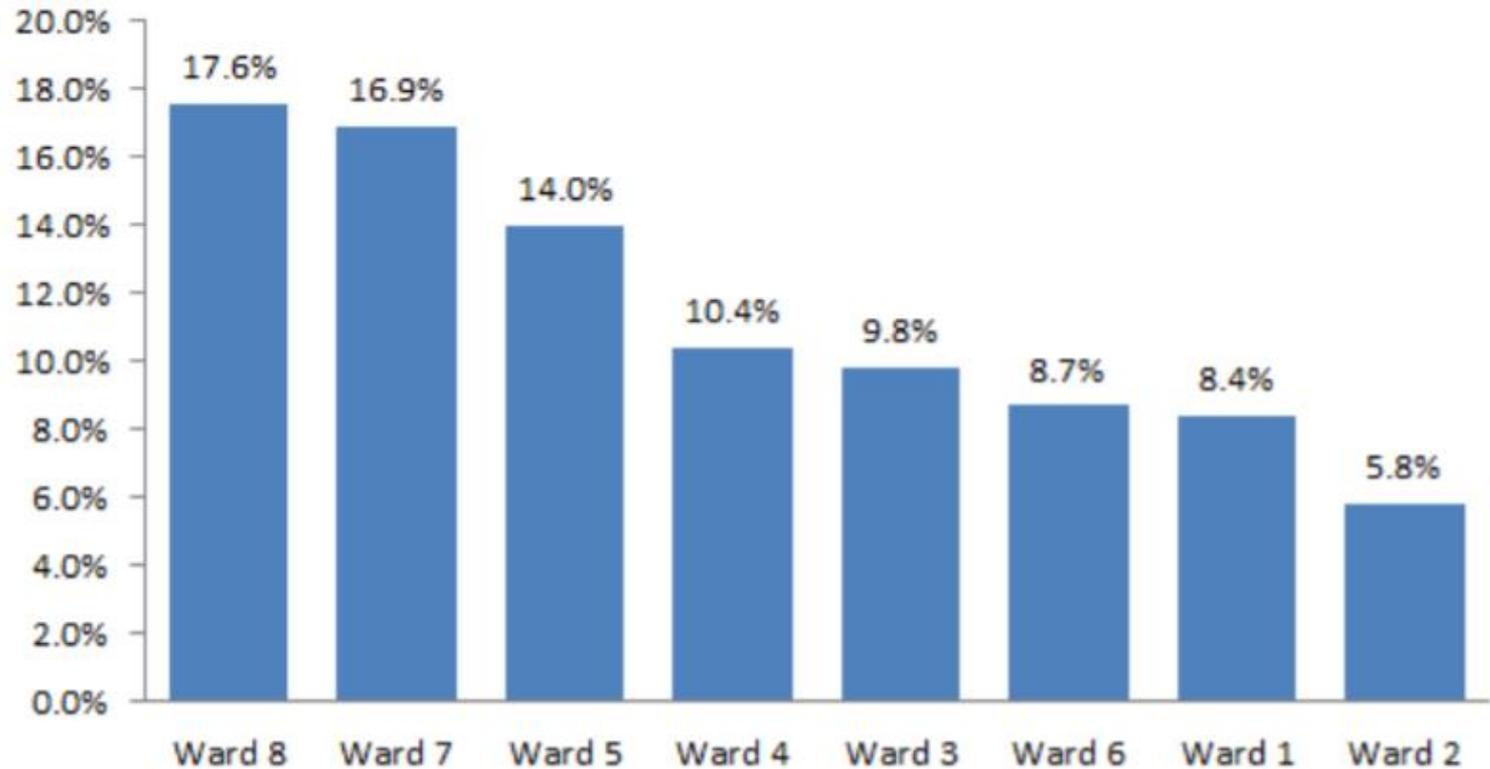


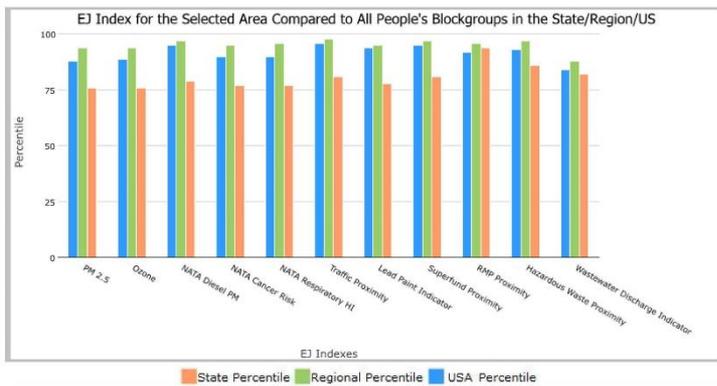
Figure 2: Current Asthma Rates Among District Adults, Ranked by Ward, BRFSS, 2014⁶



EJ SCREEN

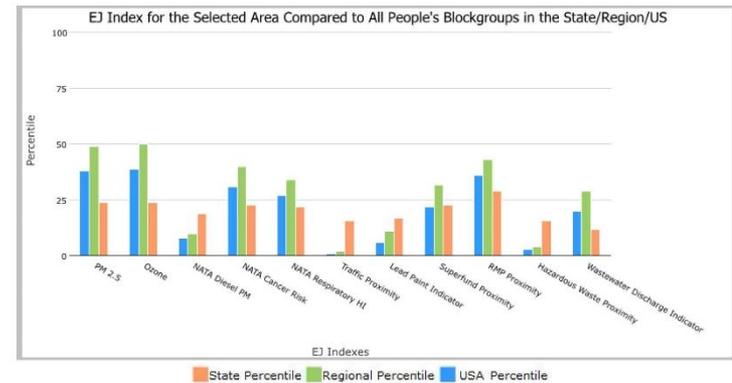
IVY CITY (Ward 5)

Selected Variables	State Percentile	EPA Region Percentile	USA Percentile
EJ Indexes			
EJ Index for PM2.5	76	94	88
EJ Index for Ozone	76	94	89
EJ Index for NATA ¹ Diesel PM	79	97	95
EJ Index for NATA ¹ Air Toxics Cancer Risk	77	95	90
EJ Index for NATA ¹ Respiratory Hazard Index	77	96	90
EJ Index for Traffic Proximity and Volume	81	98	96
EJ Index for Lead Paint Indicator	78	95	94
EJ Index for Superfund Proximity	81	97	95
EJ Index for RMP Proximity	94	96	92
EJ Index for Hazardous Waste Proximity	86	97	93
EJ Index for Wastewater Discharge Indicator	82	88	84



GEORGETOWN (Ward 2)

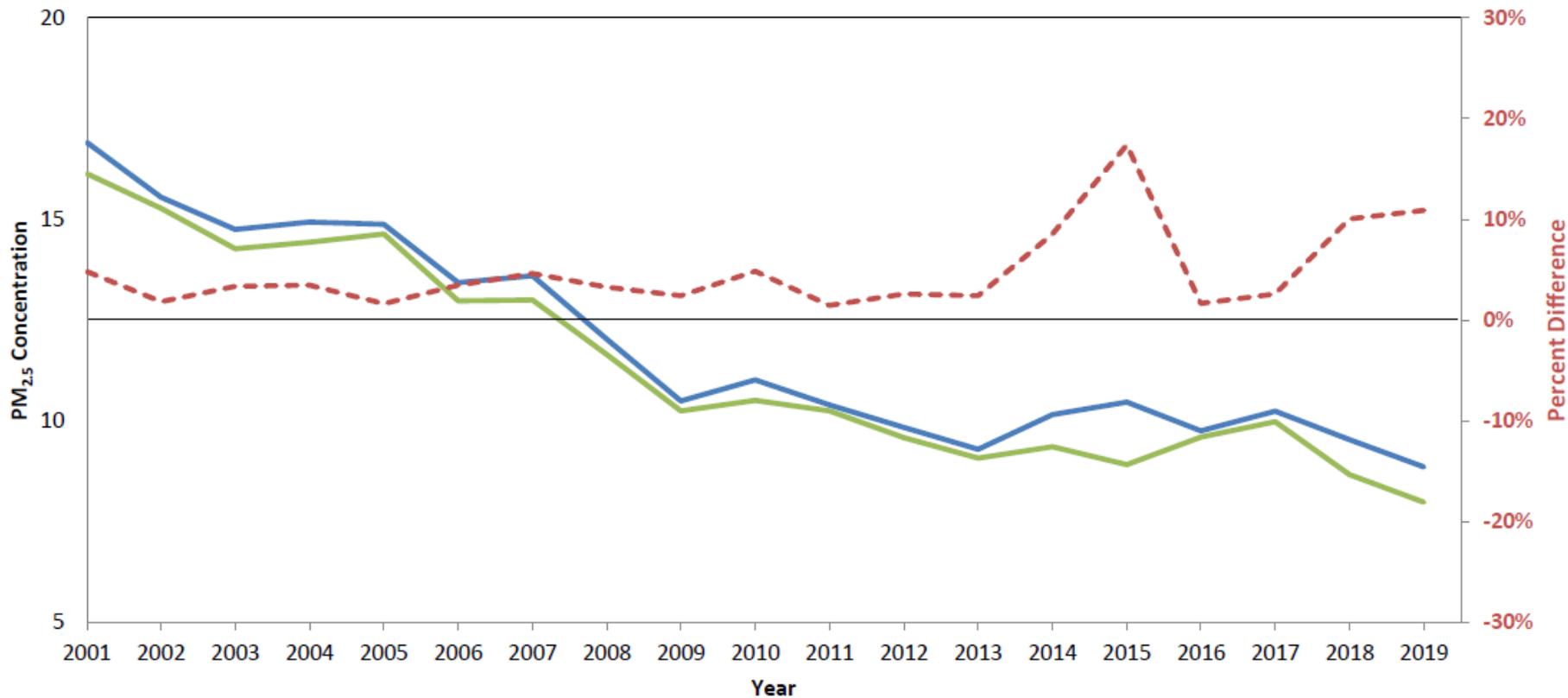
Selected Variables	State Percentile	EPA Region Percentile	USA Percentile
EJ Indexes			
EJ Index for PM2.5	24	49	38
EJ Index for Ozone	24	50	39
EJ Index for NATA ¹ Diesel PM	19	10	8
EJ Index for NATA ¹ Air Toxics Cancer Risk	23	40	31
EJ Index for NATA ¹ Respiratory Hazard Index	22	34	27
EJ Index for Traffic Proximity and Volume	16	2	1
EJ Index for Lead Paint Indicator	17	11	6
EJ Index for Superfund Proximity	23	32	22
EJ Index for RMP Proximity	29	43	36
EJ Index for Hazardous Waste Proximity	16	4	3
EJ Index for Wastewater Discharge Indicator	12	29	20



Annual PM_{2.5} Air Quality; 2001-2019

Ward 7 Monitor Vs. McMillan

— Ward 7 Monitor — McMillan - - - Percent Difference

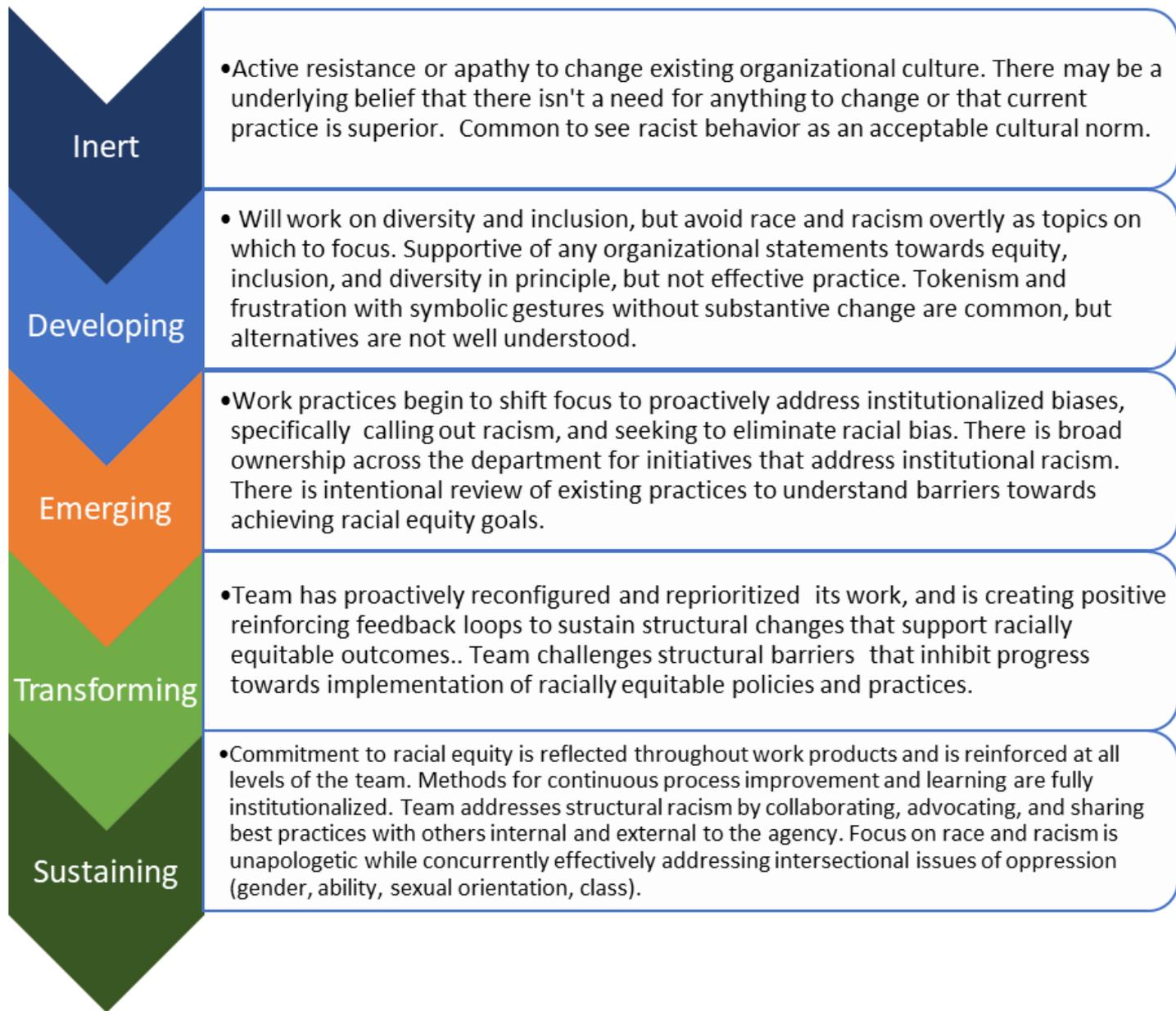


RACIAL EQUITY IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT

- **Normalize**: Use a shared racial equity framework and operate with urgency and accountability
- **Organize**: Build internal organizational capacity and partner with other institutions and communities
- **Operationalize**: Implement racial equity tools and use data to drive strategies that work
- **Visualize**: Work toward a vision of racial equity informed by those who have been most impacted by our history of inequity

Courtesy of Government Alliance on Racial Equity (GARE)





Equity Work Highlights at DOEE

Year Milestone

2015	First Equity & Engagement lead hired; EJ Workgroup started
2017	Accepted into 100% Renewable & Equitable Cities project Launches Ward 7 Equity Advisory Committee
2018	Forms Equity Impact Committee and begins work on Racial Equity Impact Assessment (REIA)
2019	Sustainable DC 2.0 released with Equity section formally calling for REIA Equity Workgroup formed
2020	Draft REIA created and summer trainings take place



REIAP Organizational Strategies

Organizational Strategy	REIAP Objective
Additional Racial Equity Training	Aligned analysis of race, systemic racism
Equity Committee Agenda	Institutionalization of internal supports and accountability for organizational practices
Equity Statement	Mandate to pursue racial equity work with clear understanding of why
Organizational Assessment	Identification of barriers and opportunities for advancing racial equity work
Data Development	Disaggregated data by race is needed for the Data Analysis component of the REIAP.
Community Engagement Practice	Prepares staff for required component of REIAP.



Equity Committee

- **Action Steps**

- A clear charge focused on supporting DOEE in the development of these strategies and considerations.
- Cross-departmental representatives with competencies and functions that can enable deep review of systems level changes.
 - Alignment on purpose and racial equity definition
- Clearly defined roles between leadership, management and the EC to advance initiatives with accountability
 - Development of a joint change management workplan with Leadership to advance initiatives across the organization.
 - Regular review and assessment of progress on workplan items
 - Identification of staffing needs for effective implementation of initiatives
- Cultivation and coordination of department wide ongoing racial equity professional development
- Deployment, adaptation, and updates to the REIAP across DOEE.



INCORPORATING EJ OPPORTUNITIES

Rulemaking

Meaningful
Engagement

EJ Analysis &
Training

Permitting

Meaningful
Engagement

EJ Analysis

Enhanced
Requirements

Monitoring

EJ Analysis

EJ Program
Measures

Citizen Science

Enforcement

EJ Targeting

Supplemental
Environmental
Projects

Fine Enhancement

Outreach

Training and
Education

Partnerships with
community groups

Workforce
Development
(GZEP, Green
Fellows)

Regional
organizations and
workgroups

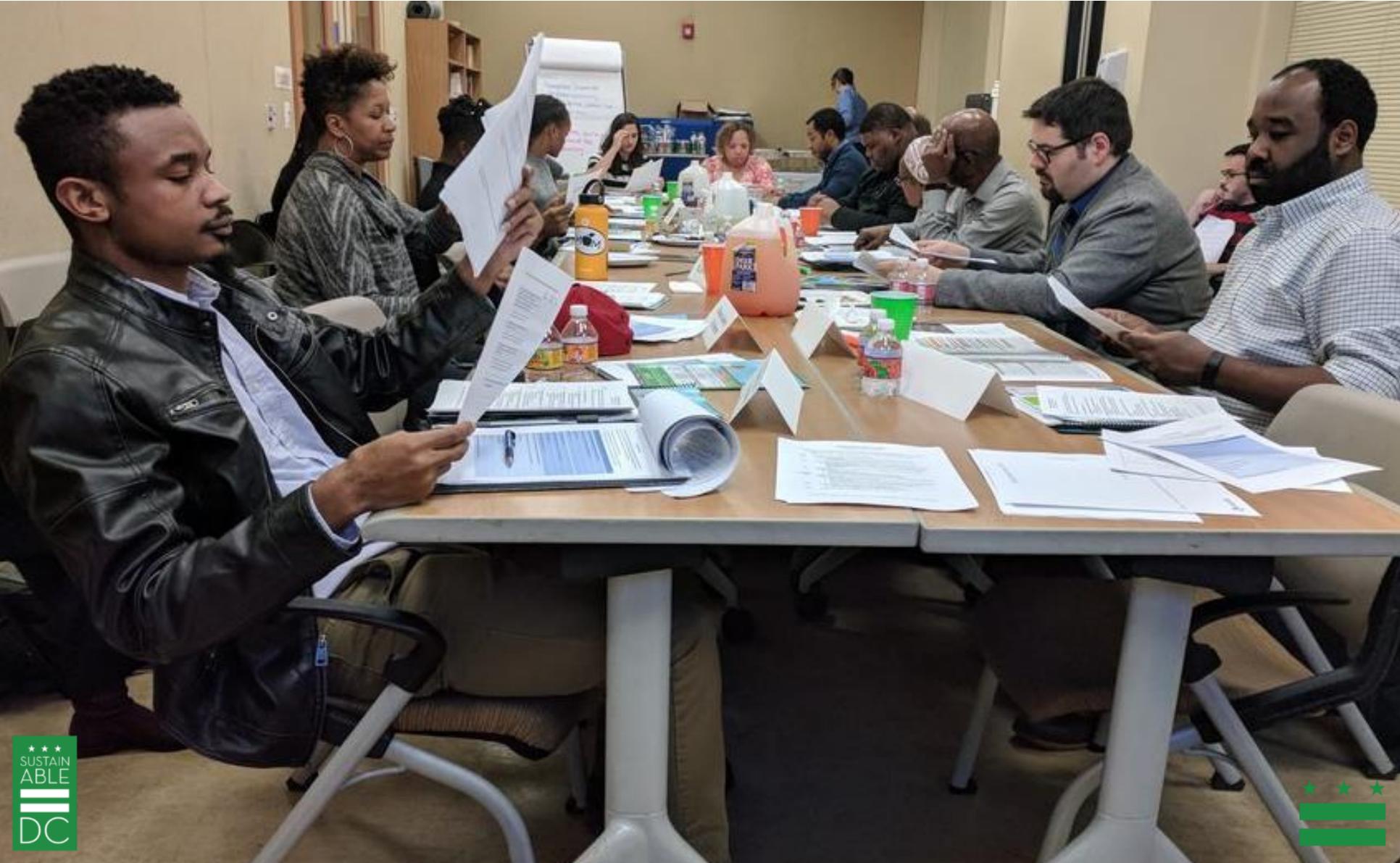
Racial Equity Achieves Change (REACH) Act of 2020

- Establishes the Office of Racial Equity, led by the new Chief Equity Officer
- Creates a new Racial Equity Impact Assessment for D.C. Council legislation
- Requires training for all DC government employees on racial equity
- Creates a Racial Equity Tool to ensure the District government is accountable
- Establishes a Commission to advance racial equity into the future

Approved funding: \$1.32 million



Questions?





THANK YOU!



The Clean Air Act

The EPA has various discretionary authorities that give, or may give, it opportunities to promote environmental justice under programs implementing the Clean Air Act.

Standard setting (e.g., new source performance standards, standards for solid waste incinerators, hazardous air pollutant standards, national ambient air quality standards [NAAQS], and mobile source standards);

NAAQS implementation;

Permitting (e.g., the new source review preconstruction permit program and the title V operating permit program);

Provisions relating specifically to **Native American communities** and **federally recognized Indian tribes**; and

Miscellaneous (e.g., accident prevention authorities, **radiation**, **indoor air pollution**, information authorities).

THE BASES FOR AND PURPOSES OF THE CLEAN AIR ACT

- Scientific Basis: Air pollution causes damage to human health and the environment
- Economic Basis: Externalities won't be addressed without enforcing legal requirements
- Legal Basis: The Constitution gives Congress the power to regulate interstate commerce

- Purpose: To prevent and reduce air pollution that harms human health or the environment
- Purpose: To support state air pollution control programs
- Purpose: To initiate & accelerate national R&D

Implications for Permitting

Dictionary

Search for a word



per·mit¹



verb

/pər'mit/

give authorization or consent to (someone) to do something.
"the law permits councils to monitor any factory emitting smoke"

Similar:

allow

let

authorize

sanction

grant

grant someone the right



noun

/'pɜrmit/

an official document giving someone authorization to do something.
"he is only in Britain on a work permit"

Similar:

authorization

license

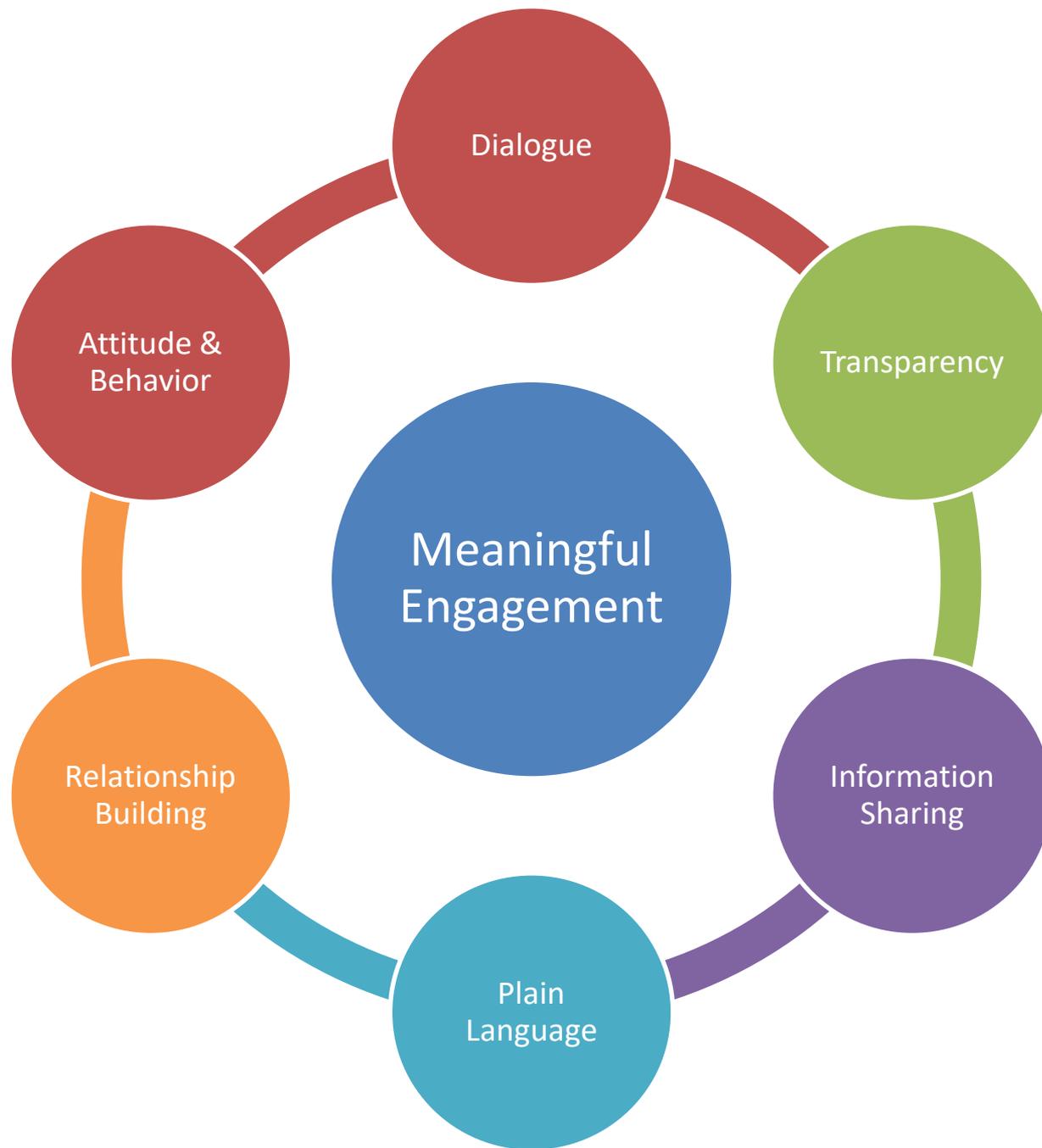
pass

voucher

ticket

warrant





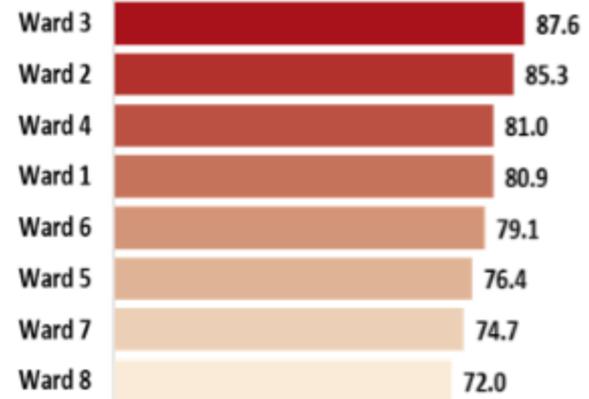
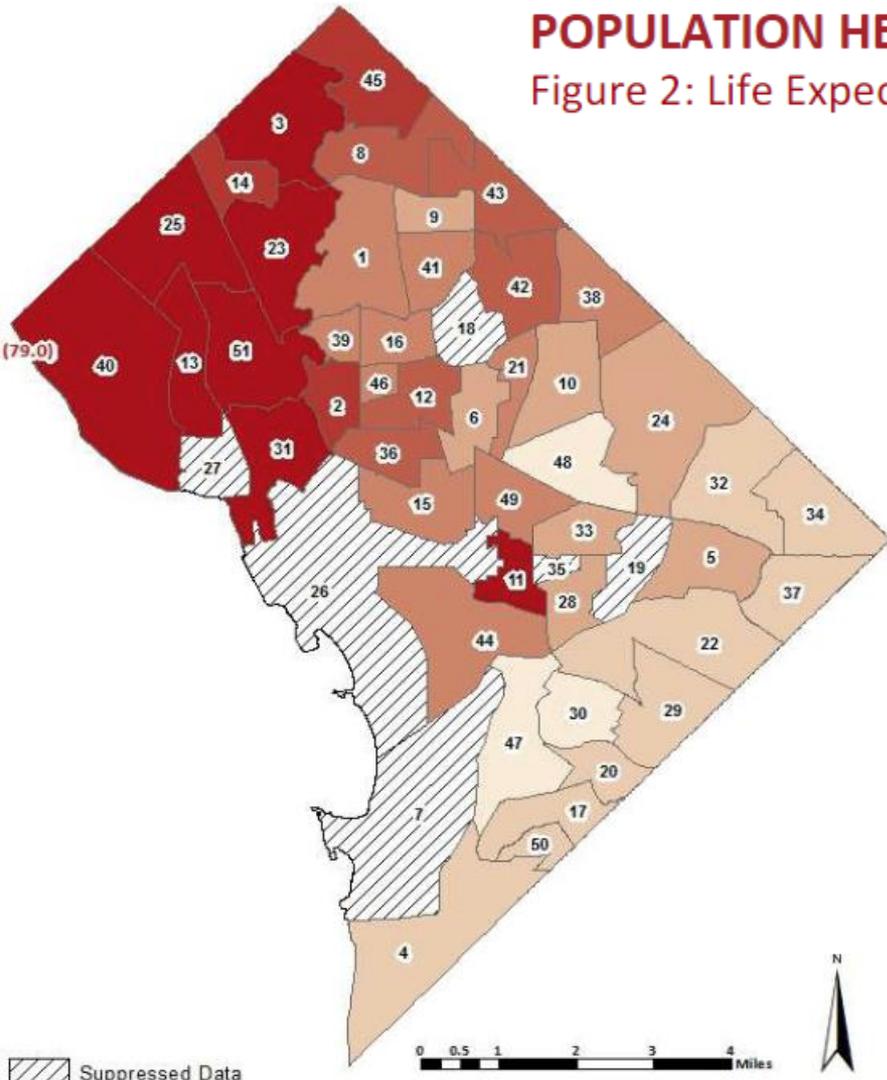
DC AUTHORITIES

- District of Columbia Home Rule Act of 1973 (D.C. Official Code §§ 1-201.01 — 1-207.71)
- D.C. Air Pollution Control Act of 1984 (D.C. Official Code §§ 8-101.01 — 8-101.06)
- D.C. Air Quality regulations (D.C. Municipal Regulations, Title 20, Chapters 1-15)



LIFE EXPECTANCY

POPULATION HEALTH OUTCOMES by Neighborhood Group
Figure 2: Life Expectancy at Birth (2011-2015) Years



Suppressed Data

DATA SOURCE: DC Department of Health
Center for Policy, Planning and Evaluation

