



Contextualizing Poverty in Communities

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Objectives

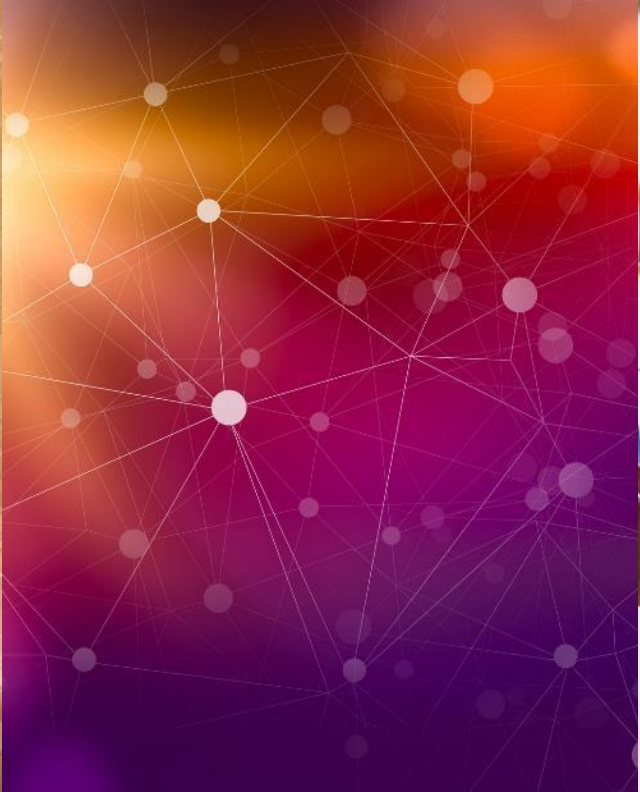
Improve understanding of complex systems

Improve understanding of SDoH and how they connect to community benefit orgs

High level understanding of poverty in America

Improve understanding of the impact of adverse childhood experiences and trauma on SDoH





Chris Espersen, MSPH,
PCHM, CCE – HAP
Leadership Summit, 2019

“Most Americans think whether individuals are healthy or not is solely their choice. Social determinants of health are not a patient’s fault.”

Complex Systems



Tame Vs. Wicked Problems

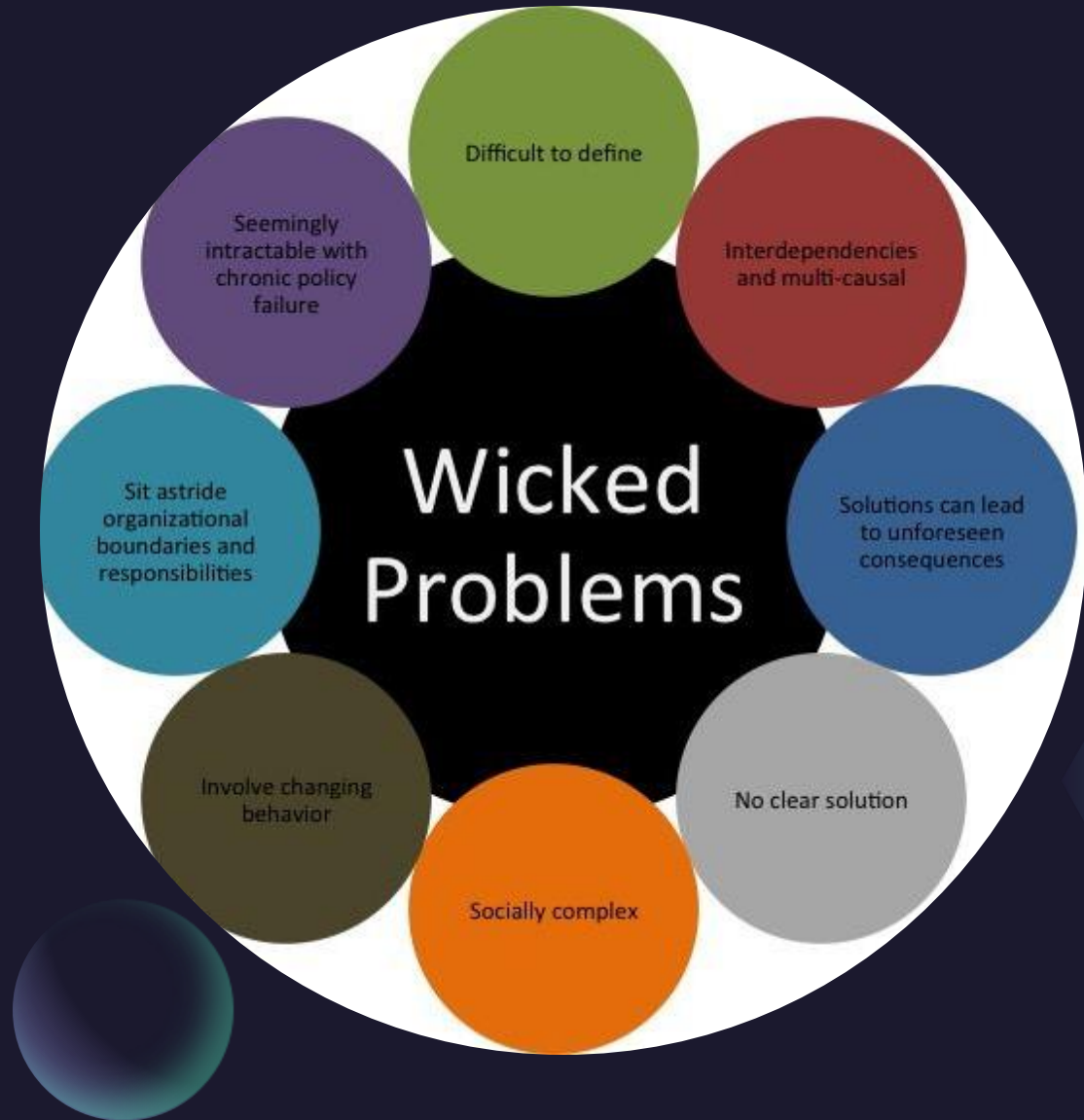
Tame Vs Wicked Problems

- “A tame problem may be complicated but is resolvable through unilinear acts, and it is likely to have occurred before.”
- --Keith Grint (2010)



Wicked Problems

- Complex
- More than “just complicated”
- Cannot be removed from its environment, solved, and returned without affecting the environment
- No cause and effect
- Often no “stopping point”
- Examples – homelessness, poverty, crime



Social Determinants of Health



SDoH

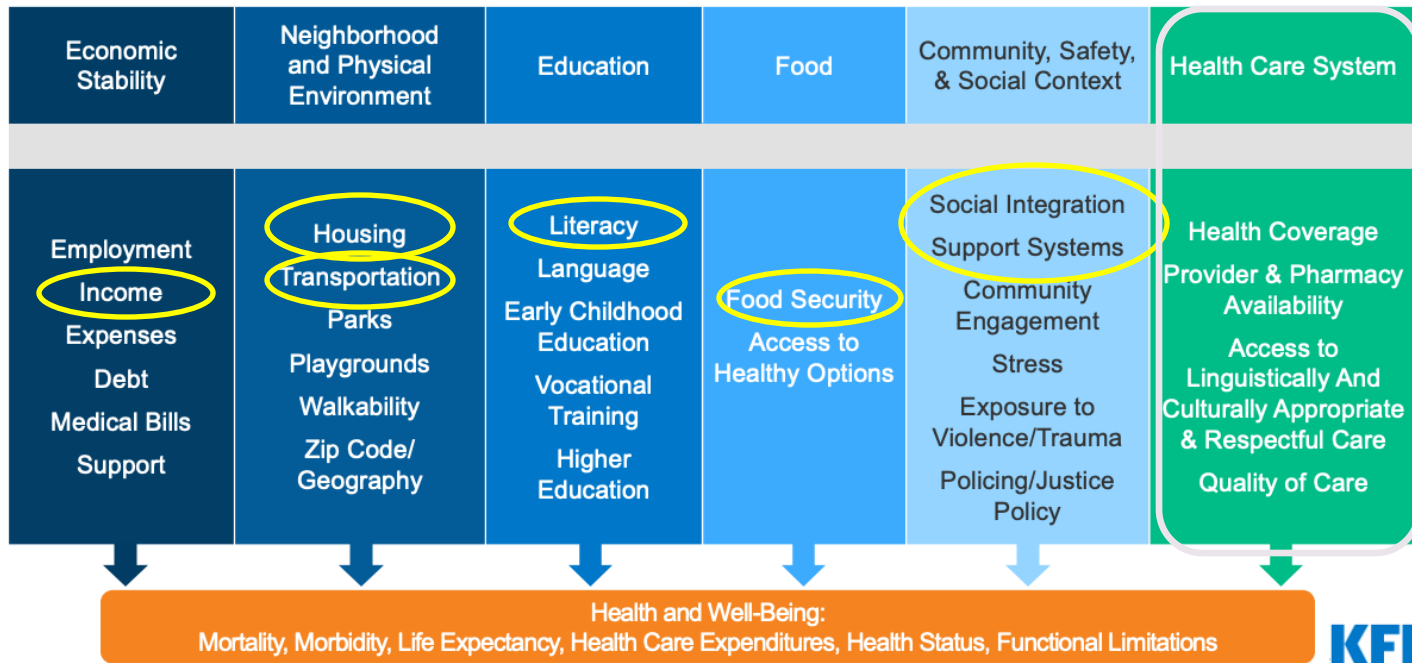


What are the Social Determinants of Health?

Social determinants of health are the conditions in which people are **born, grow, live, work, and age**. They include factors like socioeconomic status, education, neighborhood and physical environment, employment, and social support networks, as well as access to health care

Figure 1

Social Determinants of Health



<https://www.kff.org/coronavirus-covid-19/issue-brief/implications-of-covid-19-for-social-determinants-of-health/>

Some specific examples

Children born to parents who have not completed high school are more likely to live in an environment that poses barriers to health such as lack of safety, exposed garbage, and substandard housing. They also are less likely to have access to sidewalks, parks or playgrounds, recreation centers, or a library.



Evidence also shows that stress negatively affects health across the lifespan.



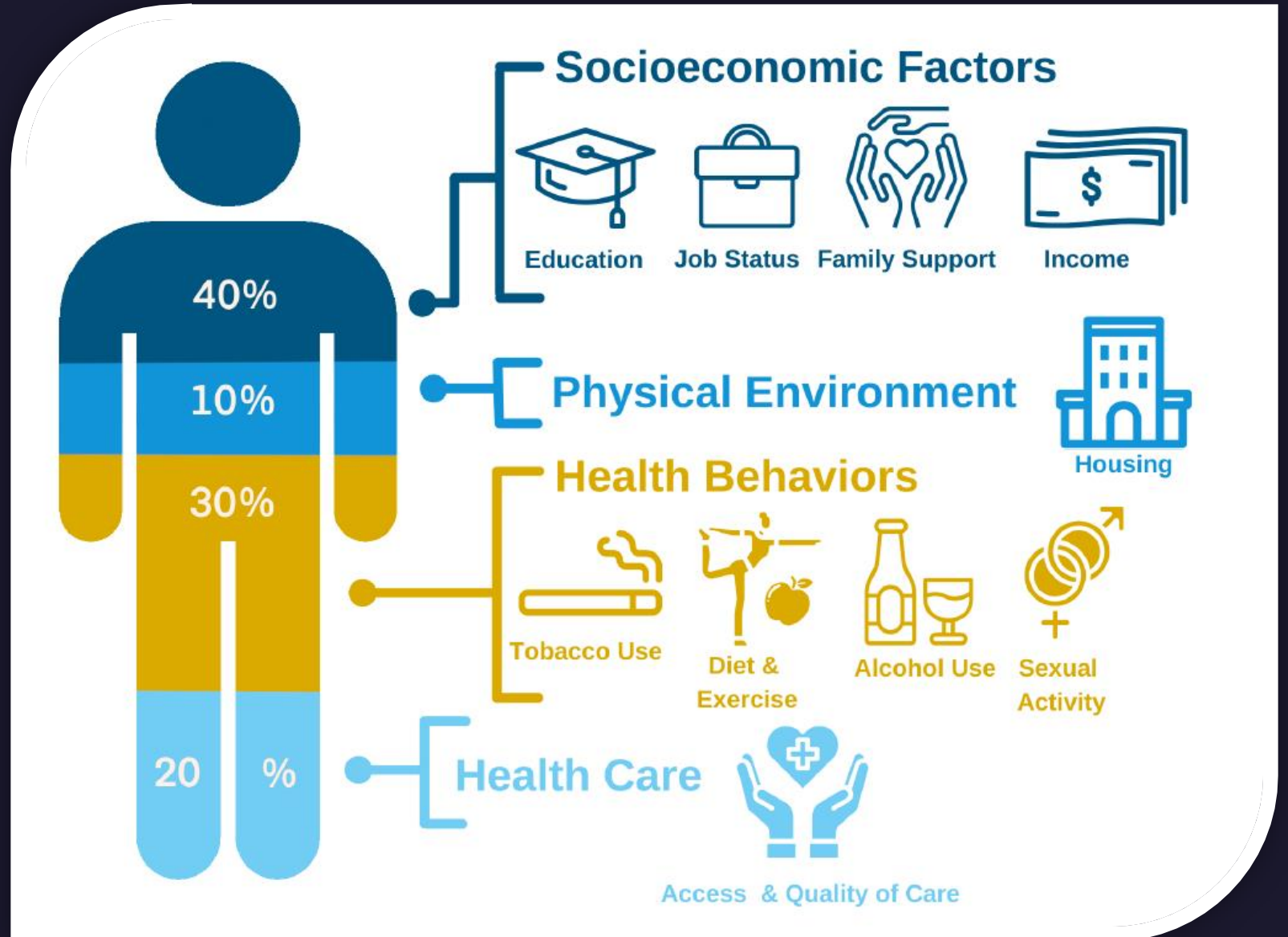
Environmental factors may have multi-generational impacts.



Addressing social determinants of health is not only important for improving overall health, but also for reducing health inequities that are often rooted in historical social and economic disinvestment.

How much does health care actually affect health?

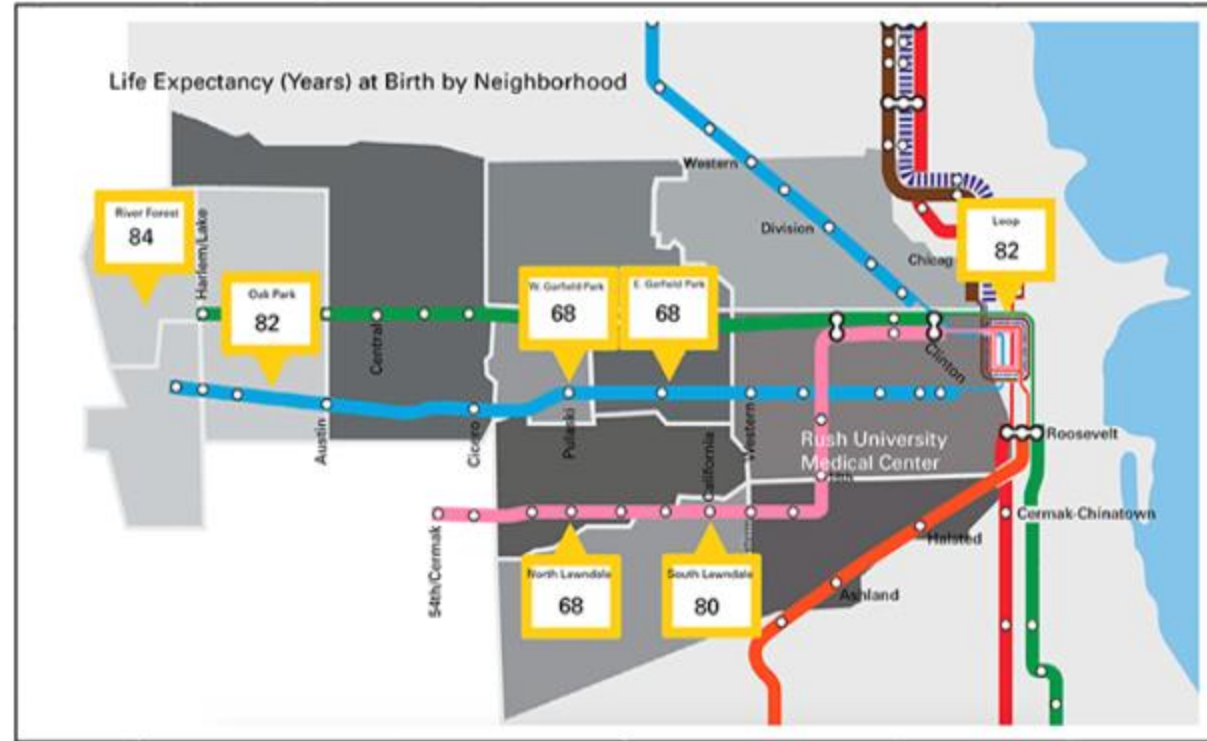
UCLA Health



Chicago

Life Expectancy Along the Chicago Transit Authority Tracks

This map illustrates the significant variation of life expectancy among communities that are close to each other, all of which are near the Rush University Medical Center campus.

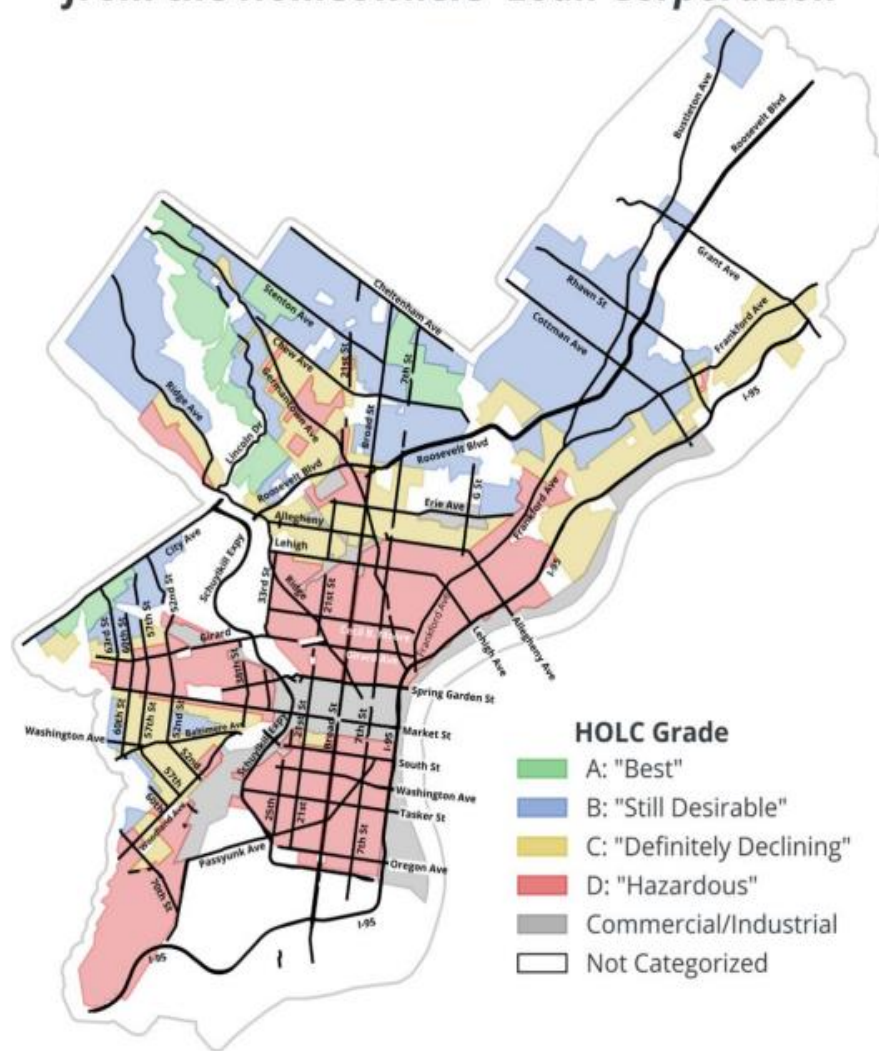


Source: The authors. Based on 2017 Chicago Data. Chicago Health Atlas. Accessed March 18, 2021. <https://www.chicagohealthatlas.org/>.

NEJM Catalyst (catalyst.nejm.org) © Massachusetts Medical Society

The Process of Entering the “Stream”; One Example

1937 "Redlining" Map of Philadelphia
from the Homeowners' Loan Corporation



Sources: HOLC map via 'Mapping Inequality'

FHA, in its 1939 "Underwriting Manual," appraisers are warned that neighborhood property values are reliant upon consistency in "social and racial occupancy." A particularly helpful way to conduct healthier lending, the book notes, is to insure white neighborhoods that are separated from black or mixed-race areas by physical impediments like waterways or railroad tracks.

Why is this
such an issue
in the US with
the amount
we spend?

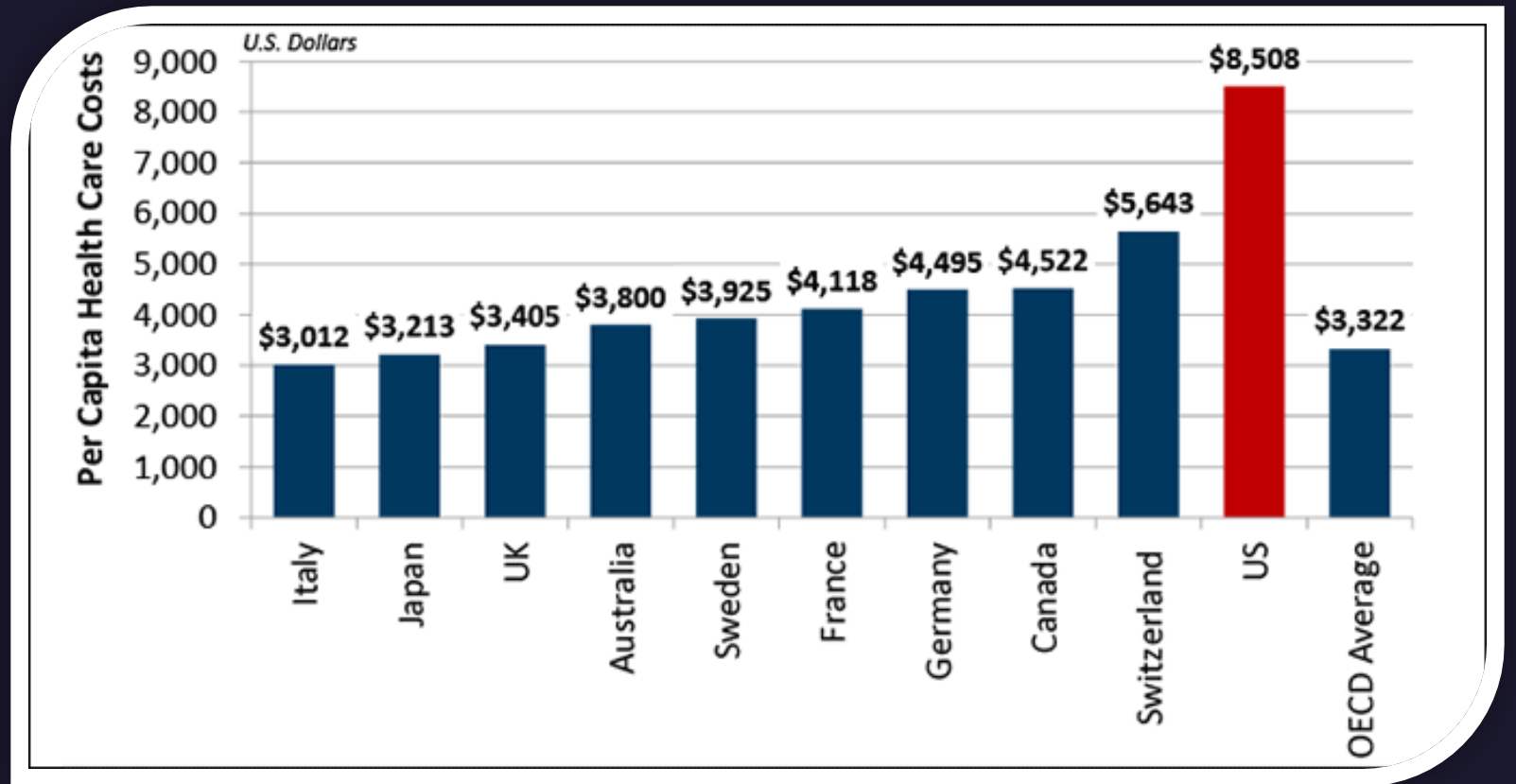
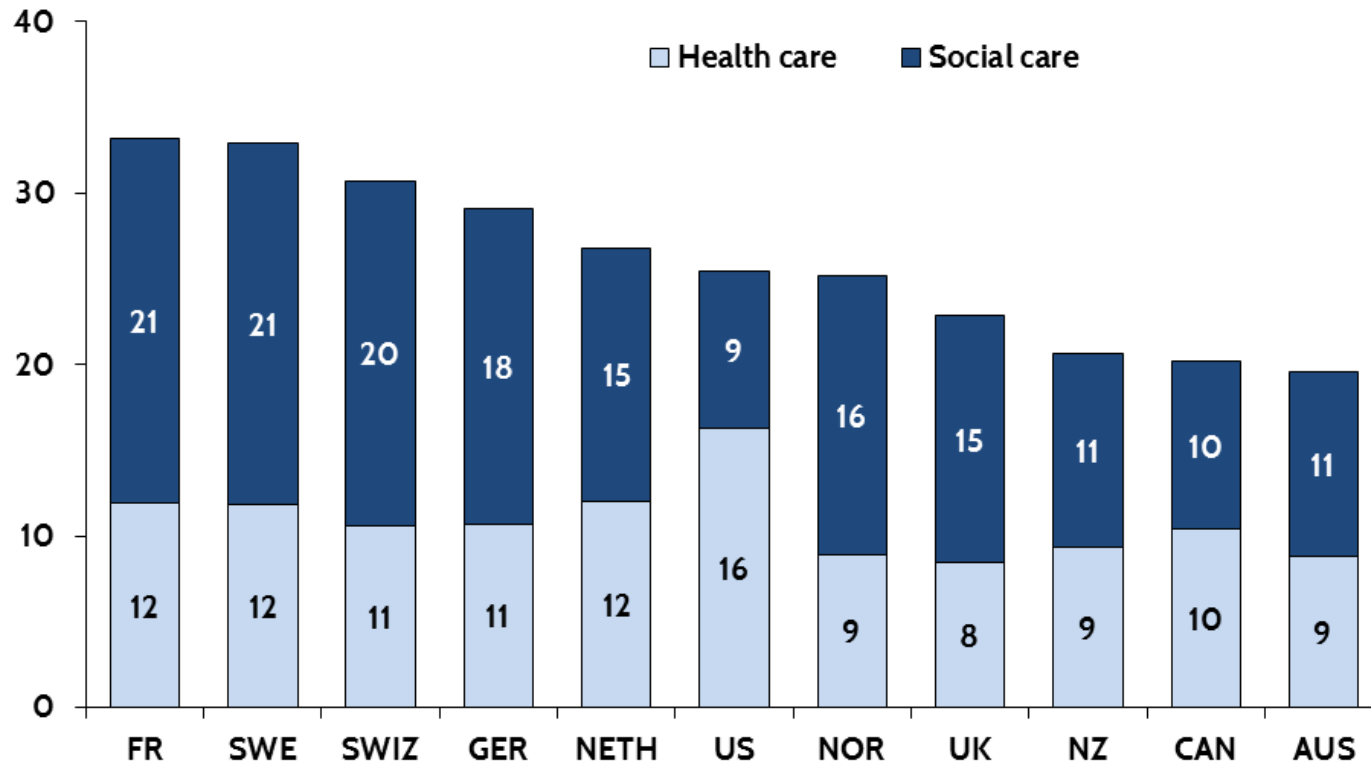


Exhibit 8. Health and Social Care Spending as a Percentage of GDP

Percent



Notes: GDP refers to gross domestic product.

Source: E. H. Bradley and L. A. Taylor, *The American Health Care Paradox: Why Spending More Is Getting Us Less*, Public Affairs, 2013.

Where do we spend our gross domestic product (GDP)?

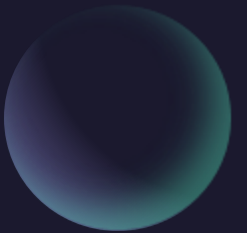
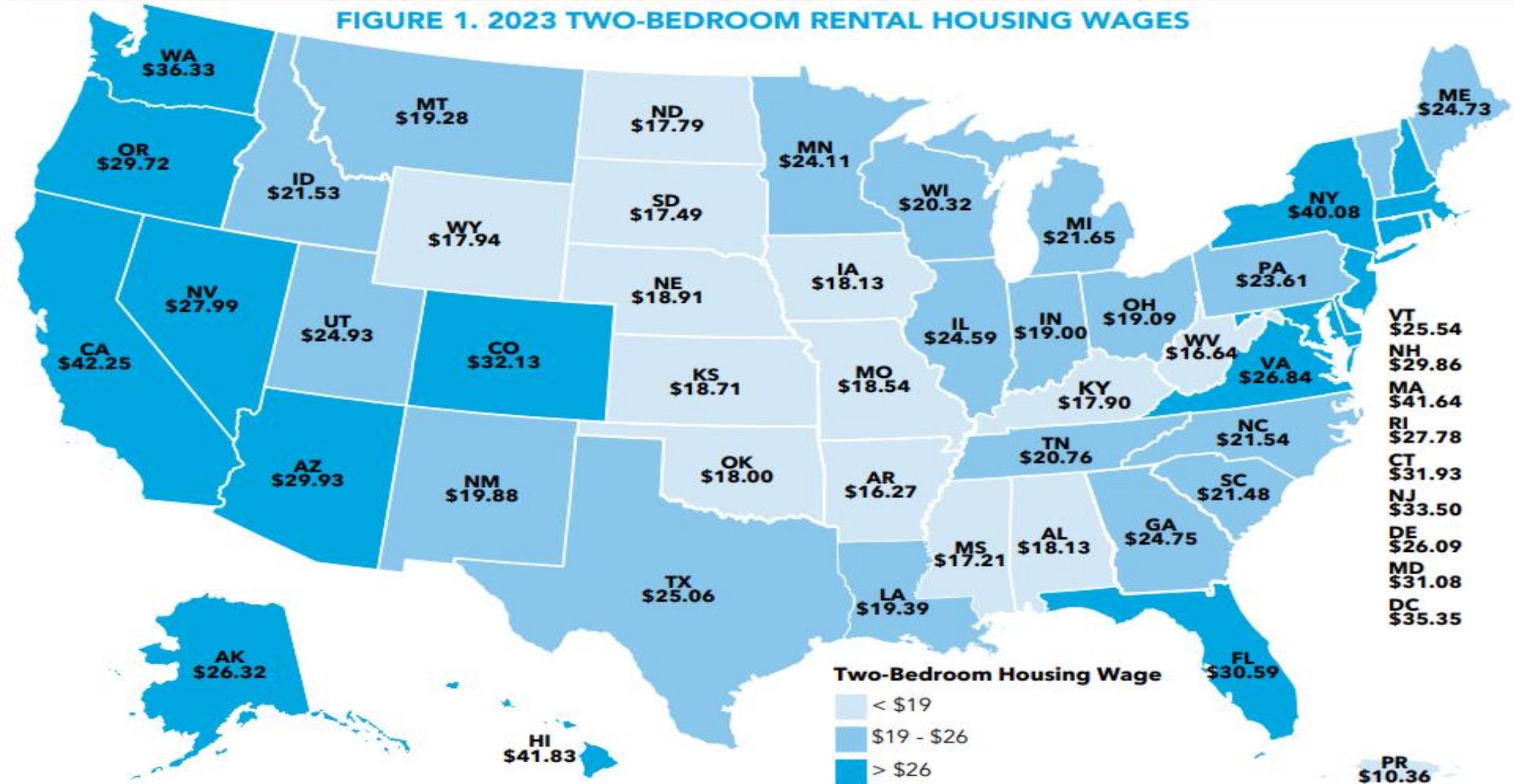


FIGURE 1. 2023 TWO-BEDROOM RENTAL HOUSING WAGES

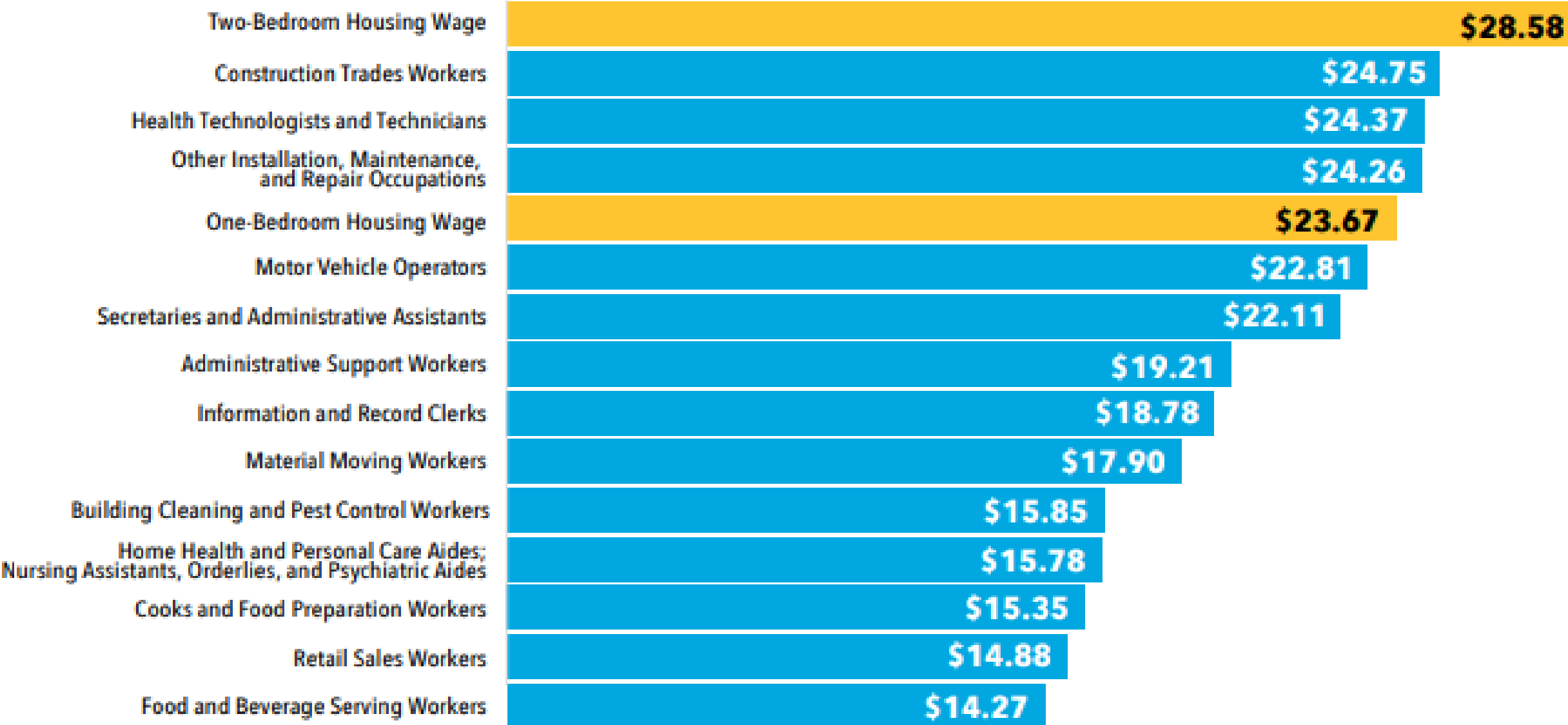


This map displays the hourly wages that a full-time worker must earn (working 40 hours per week, 52 weeks per year) in every state, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico in order to afford Fair Market Rent for a **TWO-BEDROOM RENTAL HOME**, without paying more than 30% of income.

26 October 2023

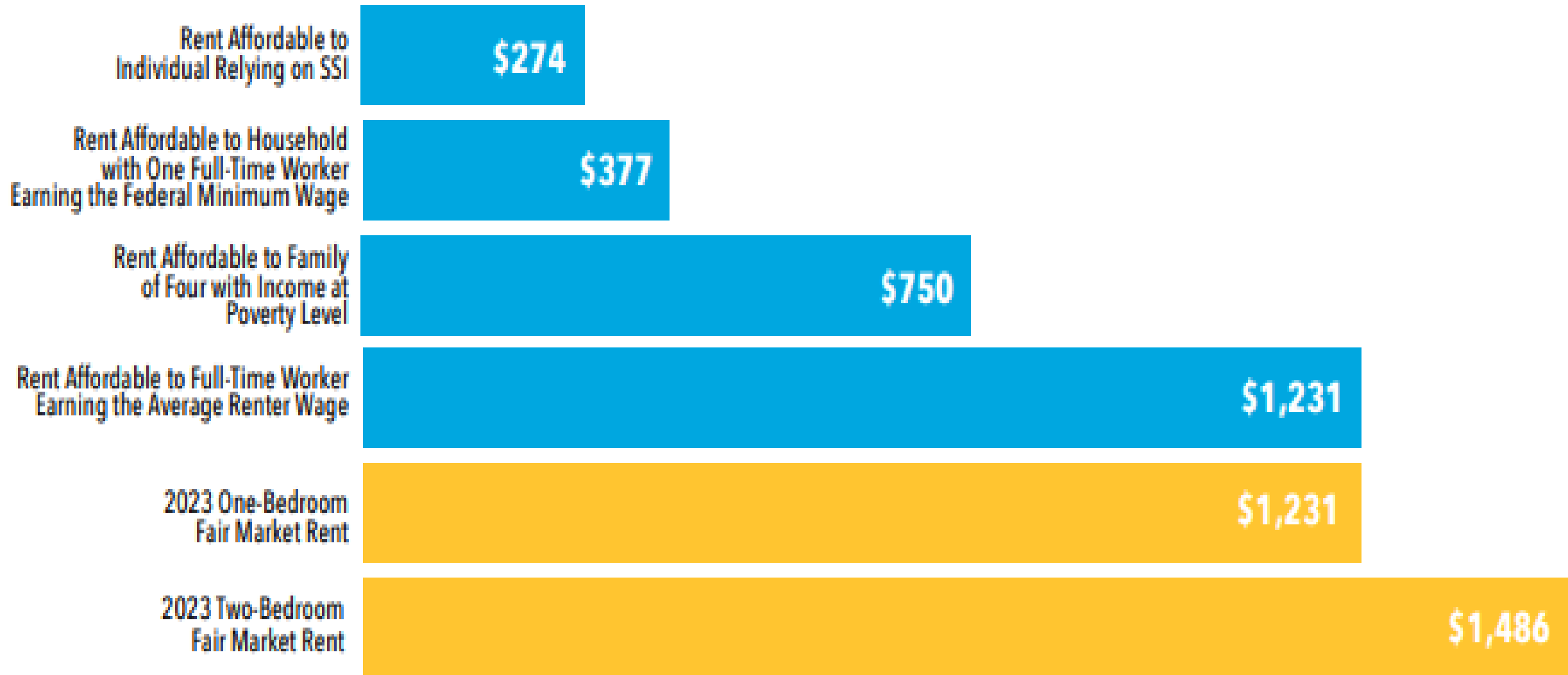
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FIGURE 3. 13 OF THE 20 LARGEST OCCUPATIONS IN THE UNITED STATES PAY MEDIAN WAGES LESS THAN THE TWO-BEDROOM HOUSING WAGE



Source: NUHC calculation of weighted-average HUD Fair Market Rent. Occupational wages from May 2022 BLS Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics, adjusted to 2023 dollars. Social Determinants of Health - J.Koppel - Copyrighted

FIGURE 4. RENTS ARE OUT OF REACH



Source: NLIHC calculation of weighted-average HUD Fair Market Rent. Affordable rents based on income data from BLS QCEW, 2021 adjusted to 2023 dollars; and Social Security Administration, 2023 maximum federal SSI benefit for individual.

Poverty

Poverty, By America – Matthew Desmond 2023

Every year:

- \$11 billion in overdraft fees
- \$1.6 billion in check cashing fees
- \$9.8 billion in payday loan fees
 - “Even with multiple extensions, most borrowers pay up. Lenders extort because they can.”
- A \$375 loan can easily wind up costing \$520 in fees.

**TOTAL \$61 MILLION
A DAY COLLECTED
BY PEOPLE LIVING
IN POVERTY**

- This does not count annual revenue collected by pawnshops, title loan services and rent-to-own schemes

Black and Hispanic Children 2-3 times more likely to live in poverty than white children

	Total Number of Children	Number of children in poverty	Percentage of children in poverty
All Races	72,936,000	11,149,000	15.3%
White Alone*	35,902,000	3,162,000	8.8%
Black Alone	11,187,000	3,056,000	27.3%
Hispanic**	18,647,000	4,168,000	22.4%
Asian Alone	4,199,000	371,000	8.8%
	812,352	224,933	27.7%
	147,643	33,479	22.7%

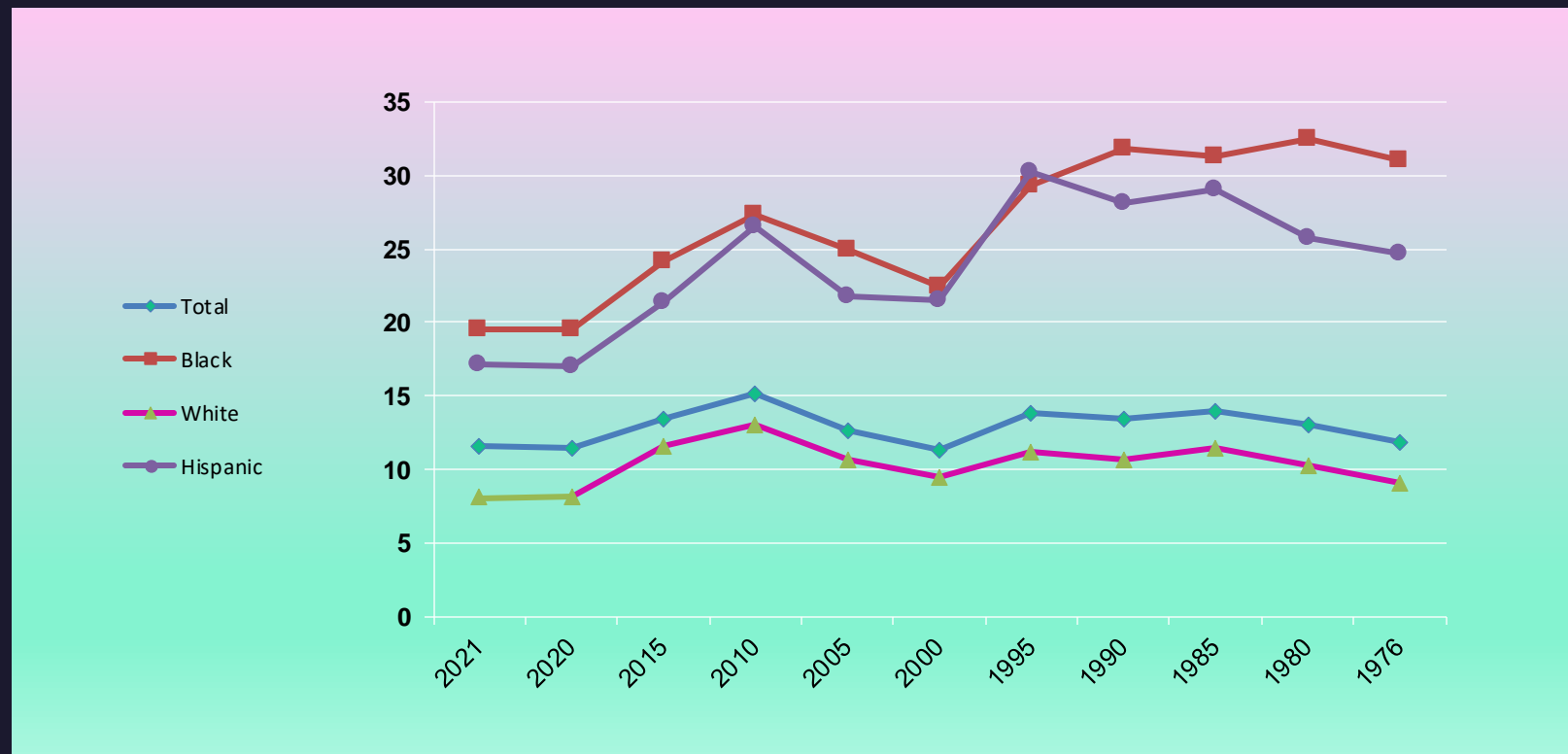
* White alone, not Hispanic

** Hispanics may be of any race.

*** Data from U.S. Census Bureau, 2021 American Community Survey, 1-Year Estimates

Percentage of U.S. Persons Below Poverty Level, by Race and Ethnicity: 1976 to 2021

Year	Total	Black	White	Hispanic
2021	11.6	19.5	8.1	17.1
2020	11.4	19.5	8.2	17.0
2015	13.5	24.1	11.6	21.4
2010	15.1	27.4	13.0	26.6
2005	12.6	24.9	10.6	21.8
2000	11.3	22.5	9.5	21.5
1995	13.8	29.3	11.2	30.3
1990	13.5	31.9	10.7	28.1
1985	14.0	31.3	11.4	29.0
1980	13.0	32.5	10.2	25.7
1976	11.8	31.1	9.1	24.7



No significant learning occurs outside of significant relationships.

Dr. James Comer



WAYS IN WHICH A COMMUNITY HELPS PEOPLE IN POVERTY

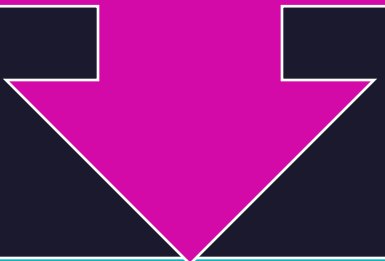
ENABLING:

I give to you because you are in need and I have the resources to help. I do not expect anything in return although I often wonder what you are going to do to change your situation.



WAYS IN WHICH A COMMUNITY HELPS PEOPLE IN POVERTY

CHANGING:



I still give to you but I am frustrated that you are not doing anything to change your situation. I try harder and try to change you so that you can overcome your problems.

WAYS IN WHICH A COMMUNITY HELPS PEOPLE IN POVERTY

JUDGING:

I am frustrated and decide that I am not going to help you anymore or at all. It seems to me that you are doing nothing to help yourself. I don't understand why you won't change.

AN ALTERNATIVE APPROACH: EMPOWERING

I am not going to judge you or try to change you. I realize that your situation is complicated, and my easy solutions may not work. I will support you in your journey, but I will not just give to you. I will help provide the resources that you need to make your own changes. I know that financial resources are only part of the problem and that you may need other resources including physical, emotional, intellectual, spiritual and relational.



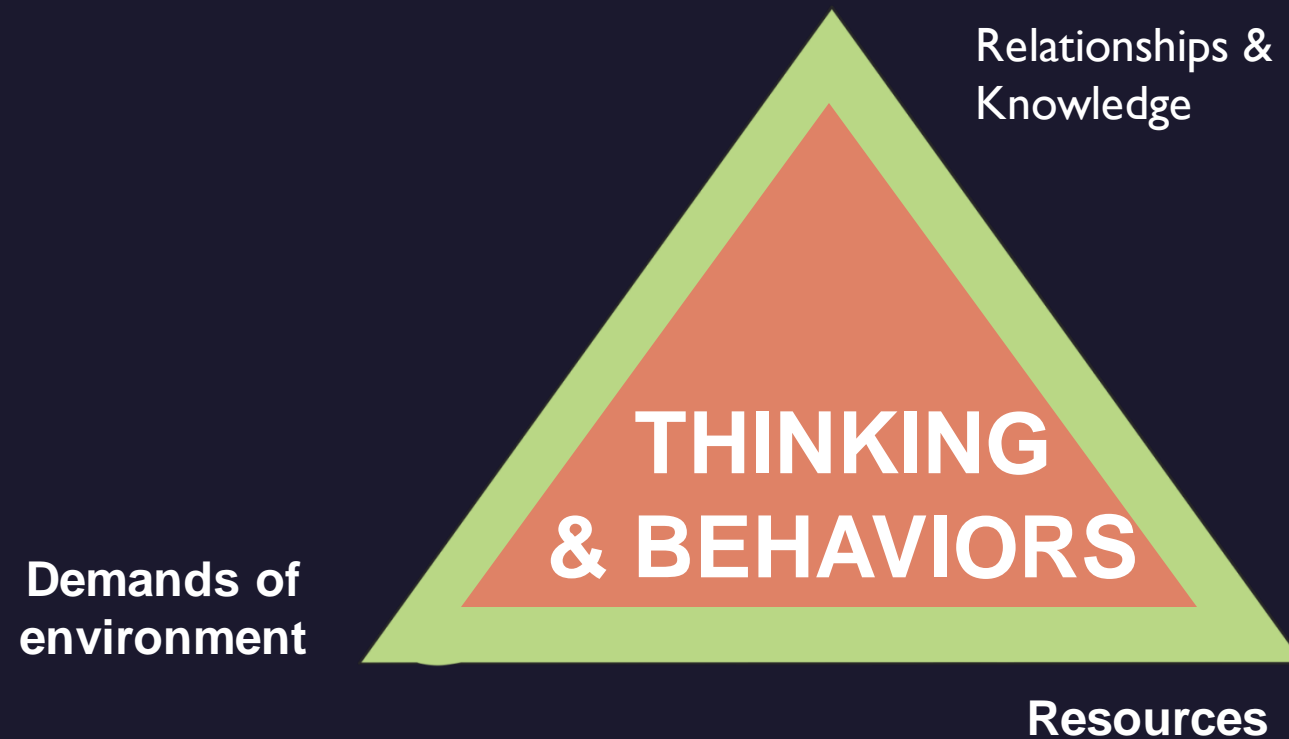
MENTAL MODELS

- Are internal pictures of how the world works
- Exist below awareness
- Are theories-in-use, often unexamined
- Determine how we act
- Can help with or interfere with learning

For a dialogue to occur, we must suspend our mental models.



What is a cognitive frame?



Source: Albert Bandura

A COGNITIVE MODEL

KEY POINTS

Economic class is relative.

Economic class is a continuous line, not a clear-cut distinction.

Generational poverty and situational poverty are different.

This work is based on patterns within the environments of economic class. All patterns have exceptions.

People bring with them the hidden rules of the class in which they were raised.

KEY POINTS

Schools and businesses operate from middle class norms and use the hidden rules of middle class.

In order to build relationships of mutual respect between economic classes, we need to be aware of more than one set of hidden rules.

The more we understand how class affects us and are open to hear how it affects others, the more effective we can be.

In order to achieve, one may have to give up relationships (at least for a time).

Adverse Childhood Experiences & Trauma

The three types of ACEs include

ABUSE



Physical



Emotional



Sexual

NEGLECT



Physical



Emotional

HOUSEHOLD DYSFUNCTION



Mental Illness



Mother treated violently



Divorce



Incarcerated Relative



Substance Abuse









Possible Risk Outcomes:

BEHAVIOR



Lack of physical activity



Smoking



Alcoholism



Drug use



Missed work

PHYSICAL & MENTAL HEALTH



Severe obesity



Diabetes



Depression



Suicide attempts



STDs



Heart disease



Cancer



Stroke



COPD



Broken bones

Poor Health Engagement and SDoH

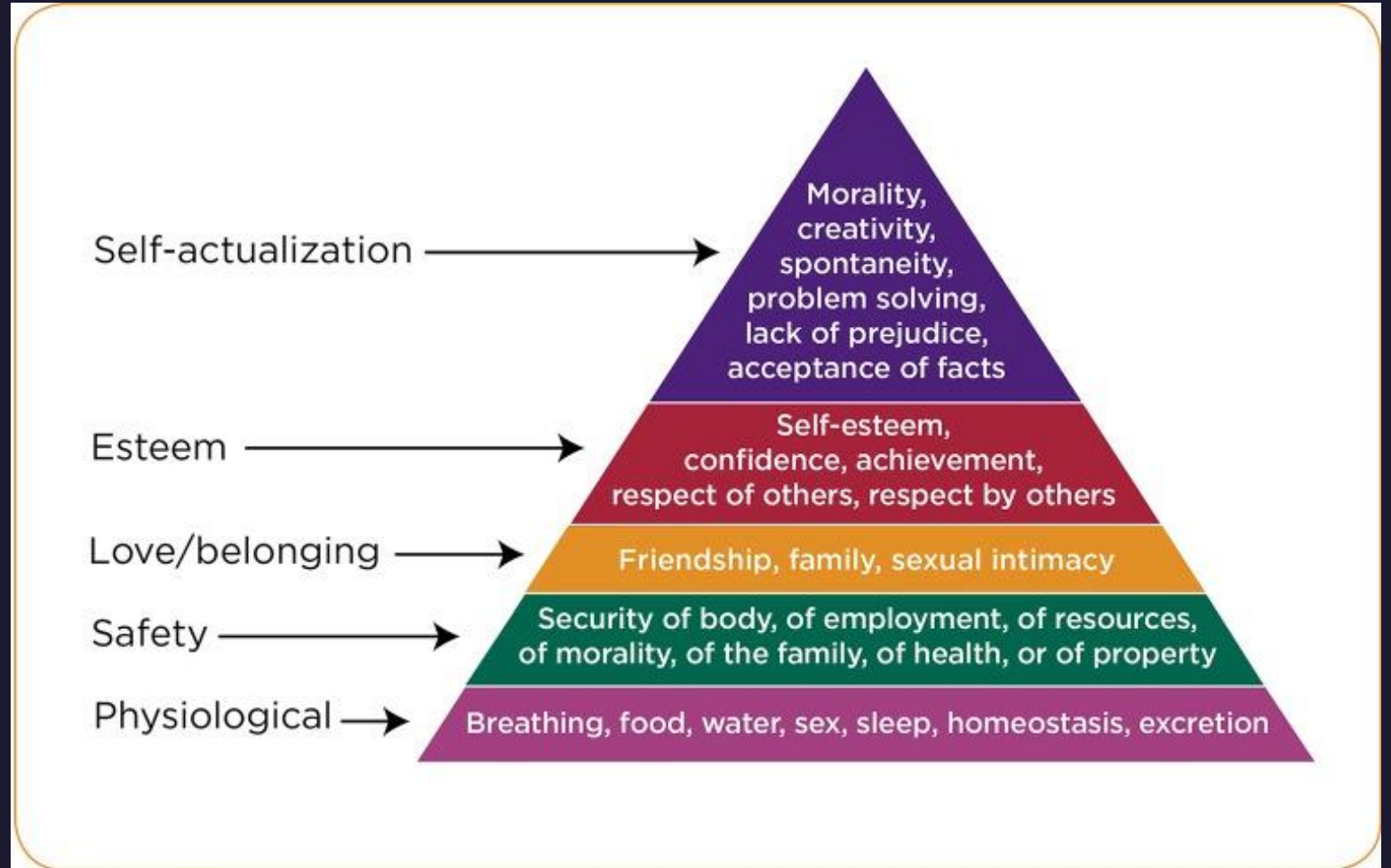
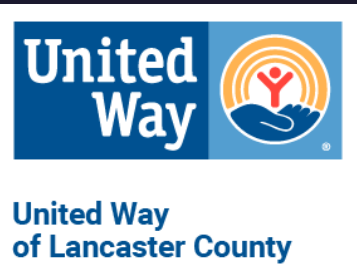


Figure 2. Maslow's hierarchy of needs. Adapted from Maslow (1954).

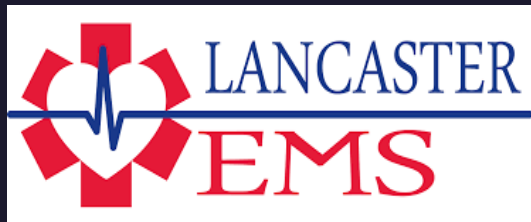
Refresh Lancaster



Lancaster County
Homelessness Coalition



The Frederick





Summary

Social determinants cannot be treated in isolation as they are part of the complexity of community. Our personal experiences influence our daily interactions and without examination, through data and reflection, will potentially lead to lower health outcomes for patients experiencing high social needs.

Thank You

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