

Title: Selected socioeconomic indicators in Chicago, 2006 – 2010

Brief Description: This dataset contains a selection of six socioeconomic indicators of public health significance and a “hardship index,” by Chicago community area, for the years 2006 – 2010. The indicators are the percent of occupied housing units with more than one person per room (i.e., crowded housing); the percent of households living below the federal poverty level; the percent of persons aged 16 years or older in the labor force that are unemployed; the percent of persons aged 25 years or older without a high school diploma; the percent of the population under 18 or over 64 years of age (i.e., dependency); and per capita income. Indicators for Chicago as a whole are provided in the final row of the table.

Description: CDPH calculated the indicators using census tract-level estimates obtained from the U.S. Census Bureau 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-year estimates, tables B01001, B15002, B17017, B19301, B19313, B23001, and B25014. A community area’s per capita income was estimated by dividing the aggregate income of the census tracts within the community area (from table B19313) by the number of residents. The hardship index is a score that incorporates each of the six selected socioeconomic indicators according to the method described in *An Update on Urban Hardship* (see footnote 2 on page 53 of http://www.rockinst.org/pdf/cities_and_neighborhoods/2004-08-an_update_on_urban_hardship.pdf). Scores on the index can range from 1 to 100, with a higher index number representing a greater level of hardship. The scores are standardized according to the data for the 77 community areas, and therefore cannot be compared to scores generated for other jurisdictions.

According to U.S. Census Bureau 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-year estimates, 3.1% of occupied housing units in the U.S. had more than one person per room; 13.0% of households were living below the federal poverty level; 7.9% of persons aged 16 years or older in the labor force were unemployed; 15.0% of persons aged 25 years or older did not have a high school diploma; 37.1% of the population was under 18 or over 64 years of age; and per capita income was \$27,334.

Disclaimers: The population counts and socioeconomic measures used in the calculations are estimates, and this potential source of error should be taken into account when considering the precision of the indicators. Methods and data sources are not identical to those used in CDPH reports distributed prior to November 2011.

Data owner: Epidemiology and Public Health Informatics, Chicago Department of Public Health (CDPH).

Time period: 2006 – 2010

Frequency: Updated as new data becomes available.

Related applications: N/A