LITERACY FOR THE PHILANTHROPIC COMMUNITY

REDEFINING



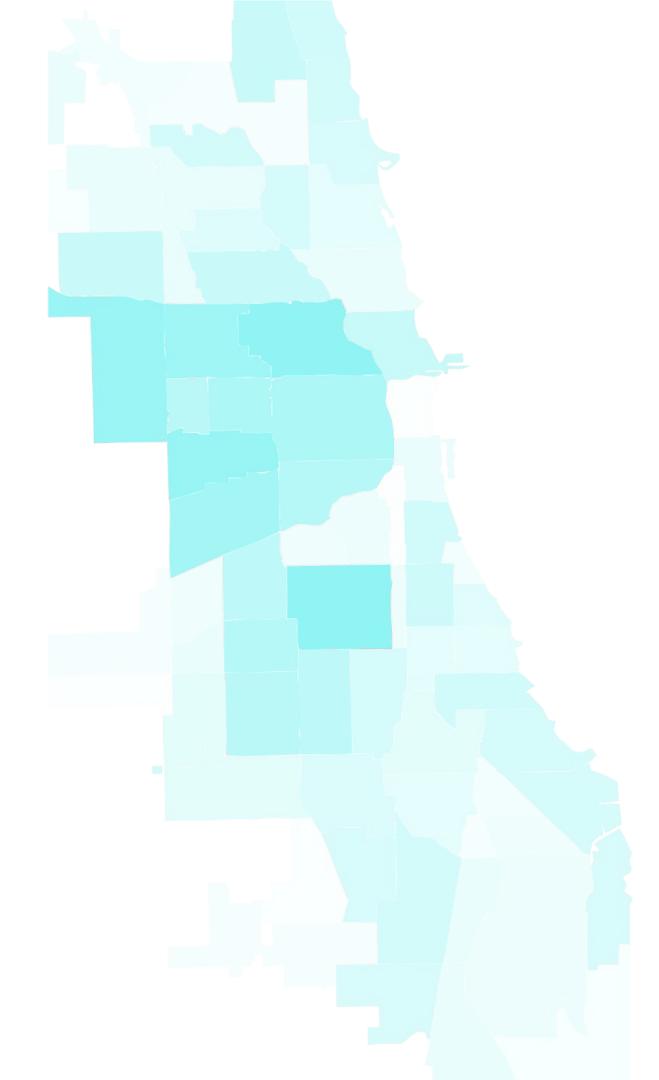
Co-presented with





Ken Bigger

Executive Director kbigger@ChicagoLiteracyAlliance.org





At the CLA, we believe that literacy can be a powerful tool – but it has to be equitably accessible to all.

We support more than 100 of Chicago's literacy and education organizations, with a special focus on capacity building, alignment, and advocacy. We collaborate with our members and stakeholders throughout Chicago's communities to build collective, community-centered solutions towards a 100% literate Chicago.



What We Know: "Learning Loss"

- Nationwide, Black people have died from COVID-19 at **1.4x** the rate of white people. Hispanic or Latinx people have died at **1.2x** the rate of white people.
- In Chicago, COVID-19 deaths have been clustered on the South and West sides of the city, and the majority of deaths in these areas have been African Americans.
- Deficit-based terminology, such as "learning loss", has become common in discussions about the disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on Black and Brown communities.



(The COVID Tracking Project, 2021; Kim & Bostwick, 2020; Children's Literacy Initiative, 2021)



What We Know: Achievement Gap

- Nationwide, 82% of Black fourth grade students and 77% of Hispanic fourth grade students do not have proficient reading levels, compared to **55%** of white students.
- In CPS schools with less than **50%** of students receiving free or reduced lunches, **81%** of students meet or exceed average NWEA scores. In schools where over half of students are receiving free or reduced lunches, only **52%** of students meet or exceed average NWEA scores.



(National Center for Education Statistics, 2019; Chicago Public Schools, 2019)

OPPORTUNITY GAP







ACHIEVEMENT GAP



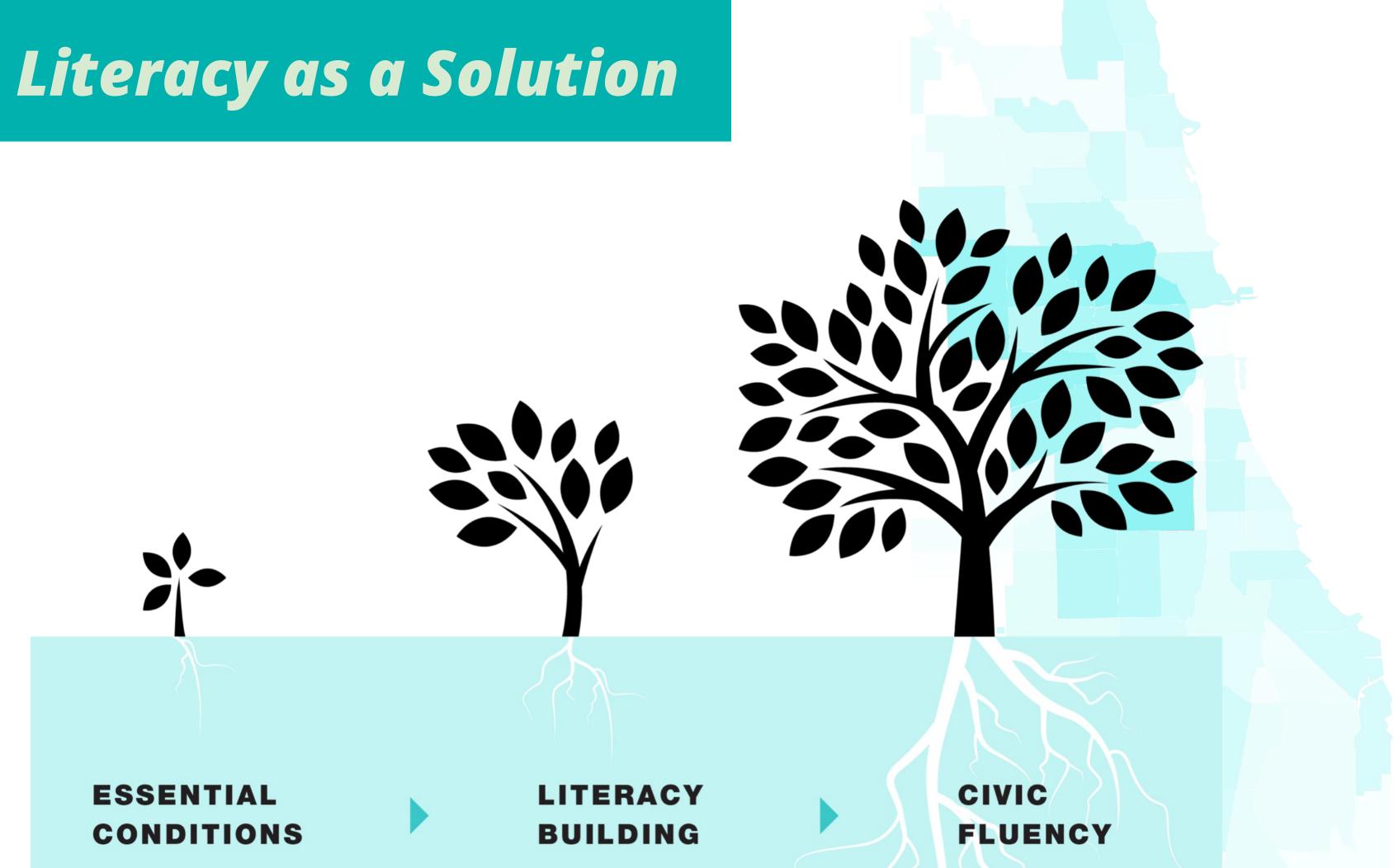




- In the U.S., nearly **70%** of incarcerated adults have lower than average literacy.
- Low literacy leads to fewer and lower paying job opportunities.
- Low literacy creates difficulties accessing appropriate health services and establishing relationships with health providers, and fear of stigma can cause patients to conceal poor understanding of health information.

(NCES, 2014; Ridzi & Doughty, 2017; Palumbo, 2017)





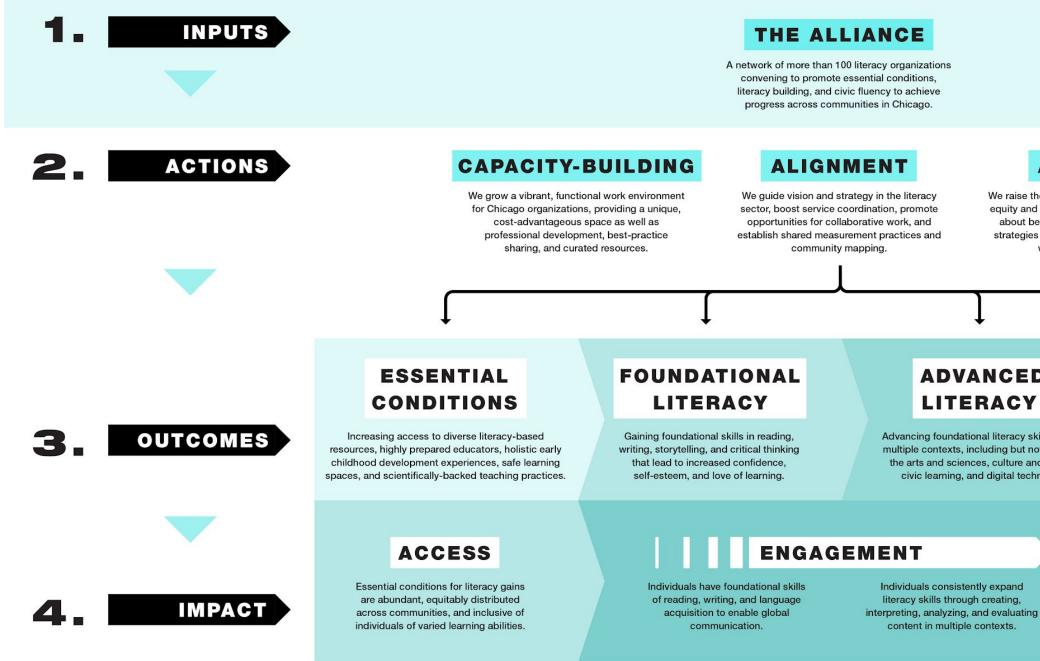


The **Equity Through Literacy Framework** are guiding our efforts to:

- **address** the opportunity gaps facing Chicago's communities
- **align** CLA member services for greater impact
- **advocate** for equitable policies and distribution of resources
- **co-design** meaningful partnerships within communities
- communicate a cohesive, comprehensive literacy impact narrative around the value proposition of literacy as a tool for social progress



HOW THE WORK OF THE CLA HELPS DRIVE **MORE EQUITABLE COMMUNITIES**







ADVOCACY

We raise the visibility of literacy as a core issue of equity and justice, driving regional conversations about best practices and pursuing long-term strategies like advancing policy, building public will, and mobilizing funding.

ADVANCED LITERACY

Advancing foundational literacy skills through multiple contexts, including but not limited to the arts and sciences, culture and identity, civic learning, and digital technology.

CIVIC **FLUENCY**

Leveraging advanced literacy skills for employment readiness, financial agency, civic participation, access to social services and health care, and the capacity to learn.

AGENCY

Outcomes of literacy gains become and community participation.

PROGRESS

Community members are able to participate in a just and equitable society that is inclusive of all individuals, cultures, and communities.

HOW THE WORK OF THE CLA HELPS DRIVE MORE EQUITABLE COMMUNITIES





A network of more than 100 literacy organizations convening to promote essential conditions, literacy building, and civic fluency to achieve progress across communities in Chicago.



CAPACITY-BUILDING

We grow a vibrant, functional work environment for Chicago organizations, providing a unique, cost-advantageous space as well as professional development, best-practice sharing, and curated resources.



We guide vision and strategy in the literacy sector, boost service coordination, promote opportunities for collaborative work, and establish shared measurement practices and community mapping.



ESSENTIAL

FOUNDATIONAL

THE ALLIANCE

ALIGNMENT

ADVOCACY

We raise the visibility of literacy as a core issue of equity and justice, driving regional conversations about best practices and pursuing long-term strategies like advancing policy, building public will, and mobilizing funding.



ACTIONS

CAPACITY-BUILDING

We grow a vibrant, functional work environment for Chicago organizations, providing a unique, cost-advantageous space as well as professional development, best-practice sharing, and curated resources.



We guide vision and strategy in the literacy sector, boost service coordination, promote opportunities for collaborative work, and establish shared measurement practices and community mapping.

OUTCOMES

ESSENTIAL CONDITIONS

Increasing access to diverse literacy-based resources, highly prepared educators, holistic early childhood development experiences, safe learning spaces, and scientifically-backed teaching practices.

FOUNDATIONAL LITERACY

Gaining foundational skills in reading, writing, storytelling, and critical thinking that lead to increased confidence. self-esteem, and love of learning.



ACCESS

Essential conditions for literacy gains are abundant, equitably distributed across communities, and inclusive of individuals of varied learning abilities.

ENGAGEMENT

Individuals have foundational skills of reading, writing, and language acquisition to enable global communication.

content in multiple contexts.

ADVOCACY

We raise the visibility of literacy as a core issue of equity and justice, driving regional conversations about best practices and pursuing long-term strategies like advancing policy, building public will, and mobilizing funding.

ADVANCED LITERACY

Advancing foundational literacy skills through multiple contexts, including but not limited to the arts and sciences, culture and identity, civic learning, and digital technology.

CIVIC **FLUENCY**

Leveraging advanced literacy skills agency, civic participation, access to social services and health care, and the capacity to learn.

Individuals consistently expand literacy skills through creating, interpreting, analyzing, and evaluating

AGENCY

Outcomes of literacy gains become present through personal agency and community participation.

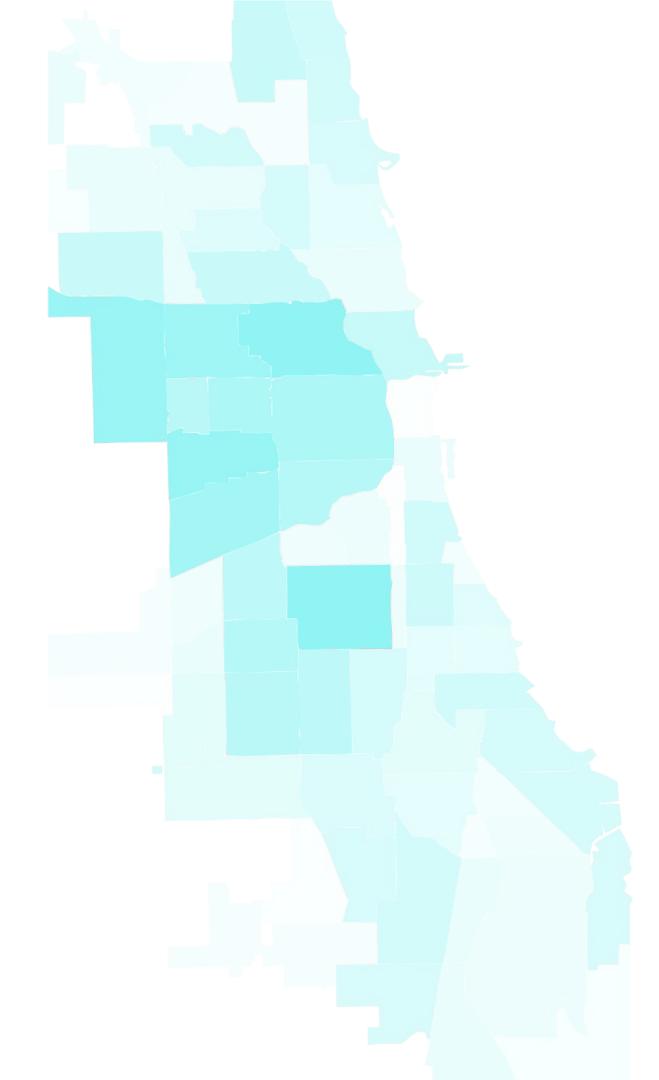
PROGRESS

Community members are able to participate in a just and equitable society that is inclusive of all individuals, cultures, and communities.



Kaitlyn Childs

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Chicago Community Area Access Scores

The Access Score represents each Chicago Community area's need for access to literacy resources. It is the average of six variables that have been normalized to range from 0 to 100**.

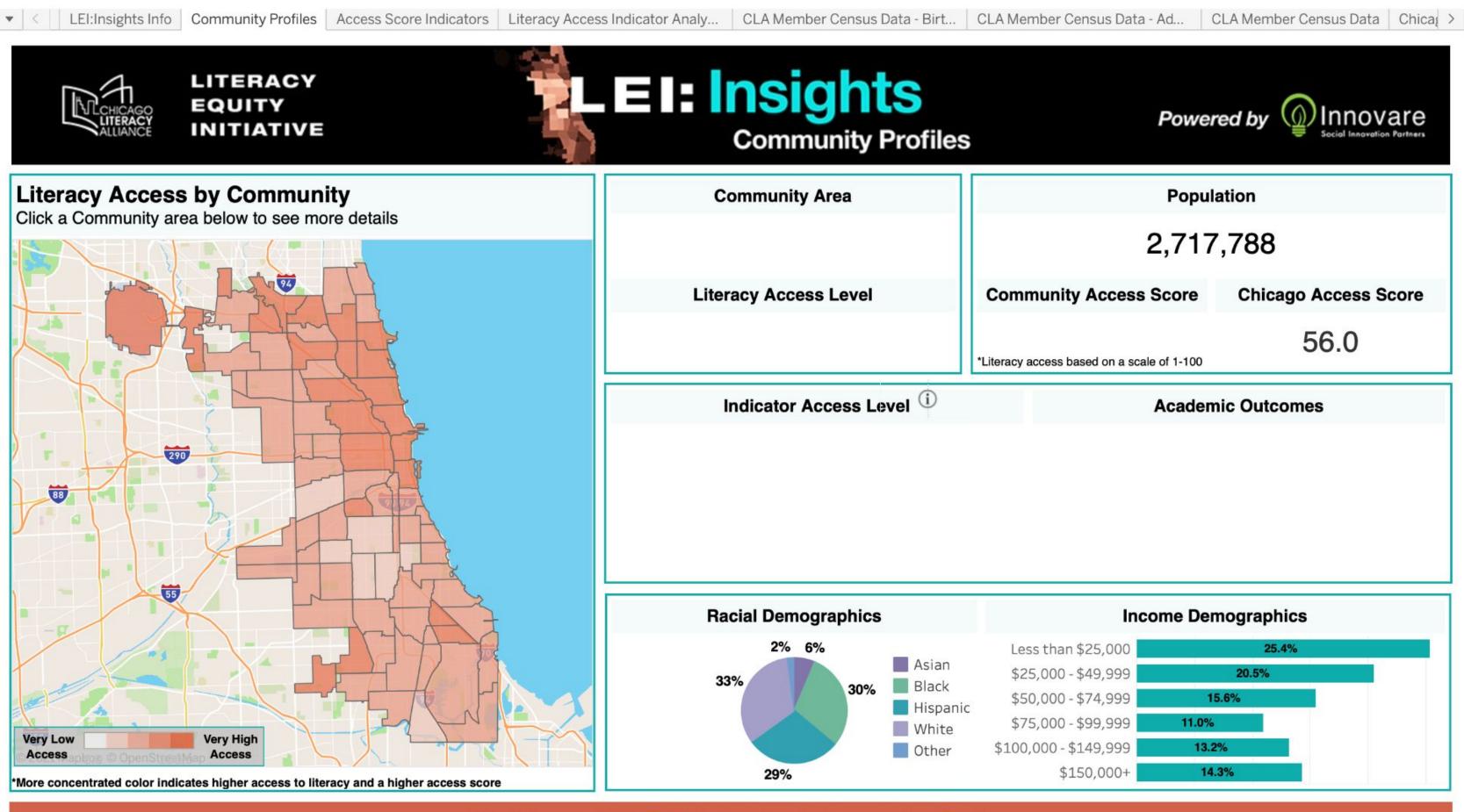
The six variables are

- % of residents with a Bachelor's Degree or higher education level 1.
- 2. % of residents unemployed (aged 16+)*
- % of households below poverty* 3.
- **5**Essentials scores 4.
- Early childhood education access 5.
- Distance from the center of the Community Area to the nearest CPL library* 6.

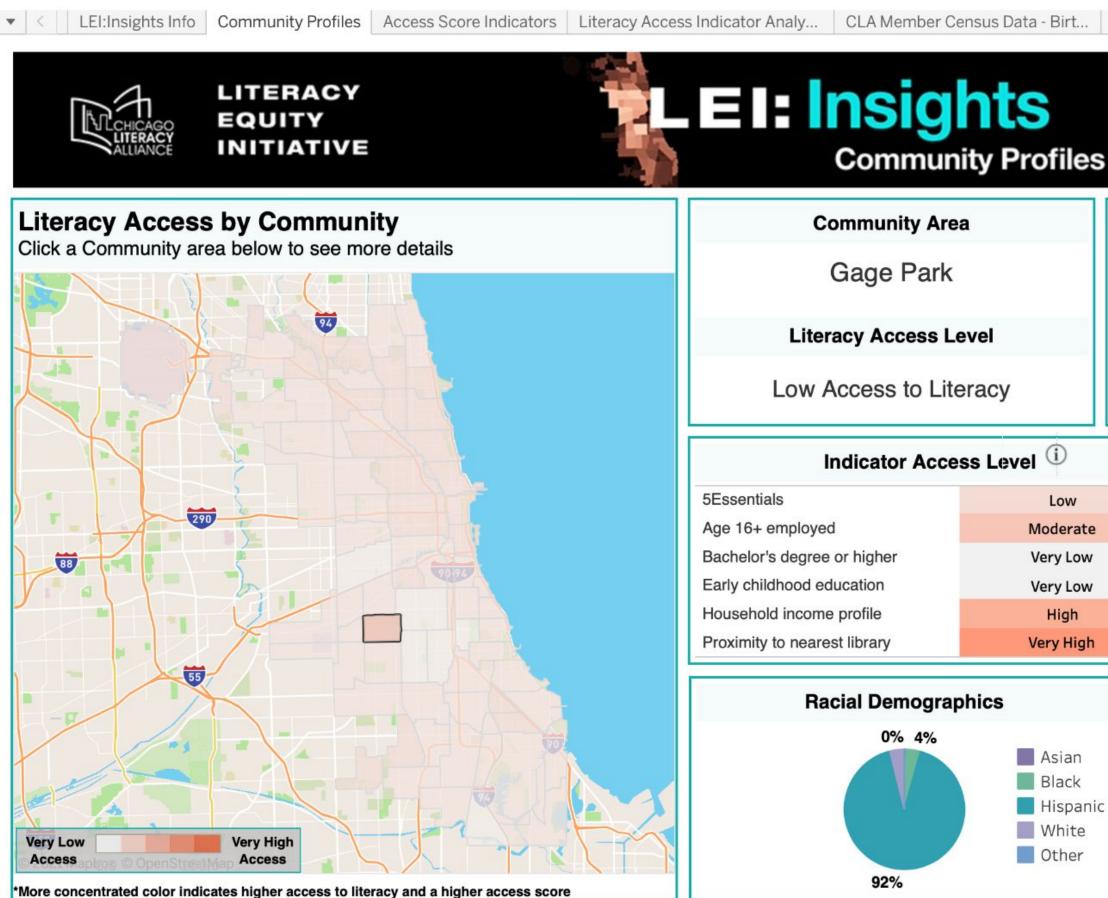
Lower scores indicate lower access to literacy resources, higher scores indicate higher access to literacy resources.

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What do you think? Click here to share your feedback.



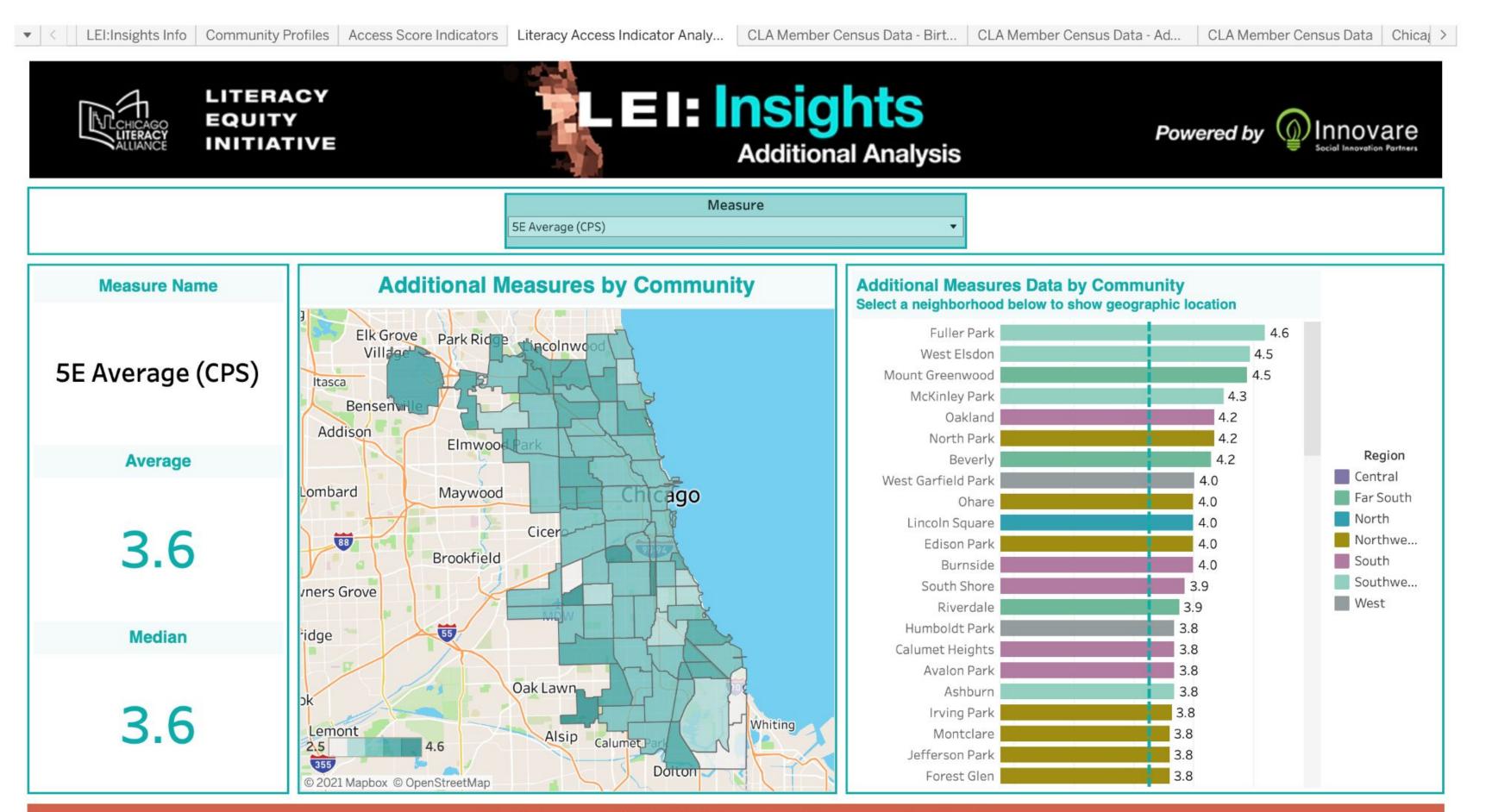
What do you think? Click here to share your feedback.

CL	A Member Census Data - Ad	CLA Member Census Data Chica	ų I			
5	Powe	red by Innovare				
	Рори	lation				
	39,	302				
C	Community Access Score	Chicago Access Score				
	36.4	56.0				
*Li	teracy access based on a scale of 1-100		-			
	Acader	nic Outcomes				
	% Meeting NWEA Growth	64.2%	6			
	% Meeting NWEA Attainme	nt 60.9%	6			
	% Freshman on Track	87.2%	6			
	% Students Meeting College	e Readiness 32.1%	6			
	Income De	mographics				
	Less than \$25,000	27.9%				
	\$25,000 - \$49,999	31.4%				
С	\$50,000 - \$74,999	19.6%				

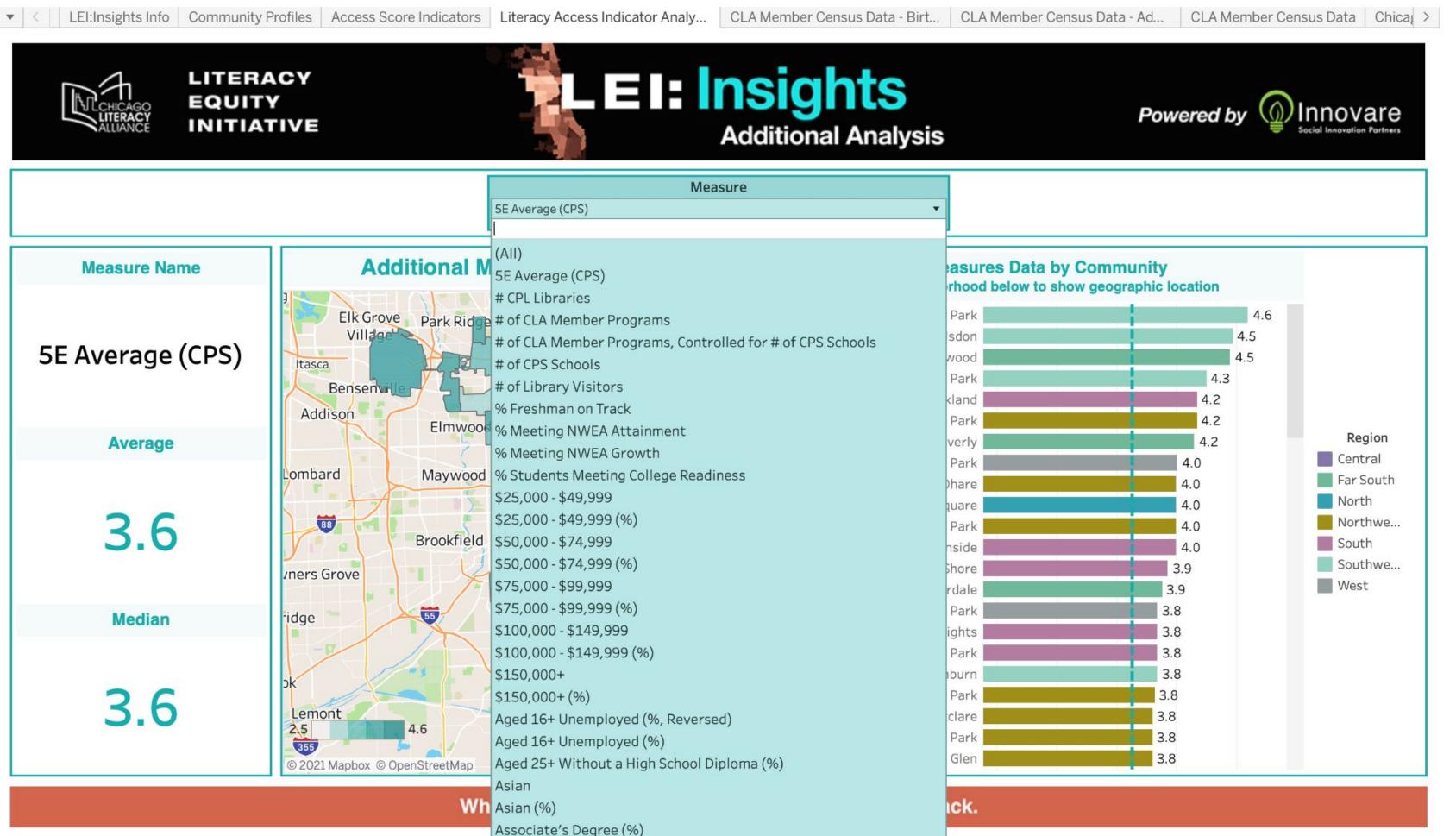
\$75,000 - \$99,999 \$100,000 - \$149,999

0,000 - \$149,999 8.2% \$150,000+ 3.0%

9.9%



What do you think? Click here to share your feedback.



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years and up	23	Austin Belmont Cragin	6	Media literacy	11	BRUNSON CARVER G	
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Services Provi	ded	Grand Boulevard	6	Online learning tools	21	GUNSAULUS	
		Lincoln Park	6	Publishing	8	LOWELL	
Book access and distribution	19	Lincoln Square	6	Social and emotional learning	44	MARQUETTE	
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Social emotional learning	18	Chatham	5			BELMONT-CRAGIN	
Varying learning abilities	11	Chicago Lawn	5	Workforce development	11	BOONE	

What do you think? Click here to share your feedback.

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What do you think? Click here to share your feedback.



Panelists:



Jurema Gorham Founder and Executive Director Burst Into Books



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