

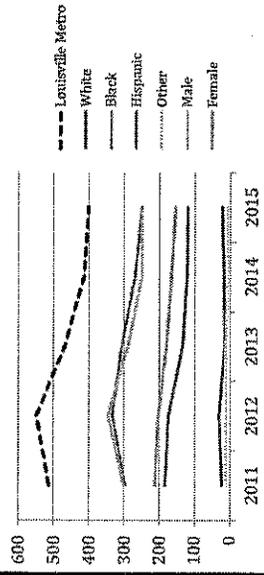
ASTHMA

Inpatient Admissions for Asthma, 2011-2015

	Count	Percent of Admissions
Louisville Metro	2350	100.00%
Black Male	881	37.49%
Black Female	578	24.60%
White Male	452	19.23%
White Female	283	12.04%
Hispanic Male	72	3.06%
Hispanic Female	35	1.49%
Other Male	32	1.36%
Other Female	17	0.72%

Data Source: 2011-2015 Kentucky Health Claims Data, Office of Health Policy, Kentucky Department of Public Health
 Data is based on inpatient admissions to hospitals for those aged 10 and under, not unique patients.

Number of Inpatient Admissions for Asthma, 2011-2015

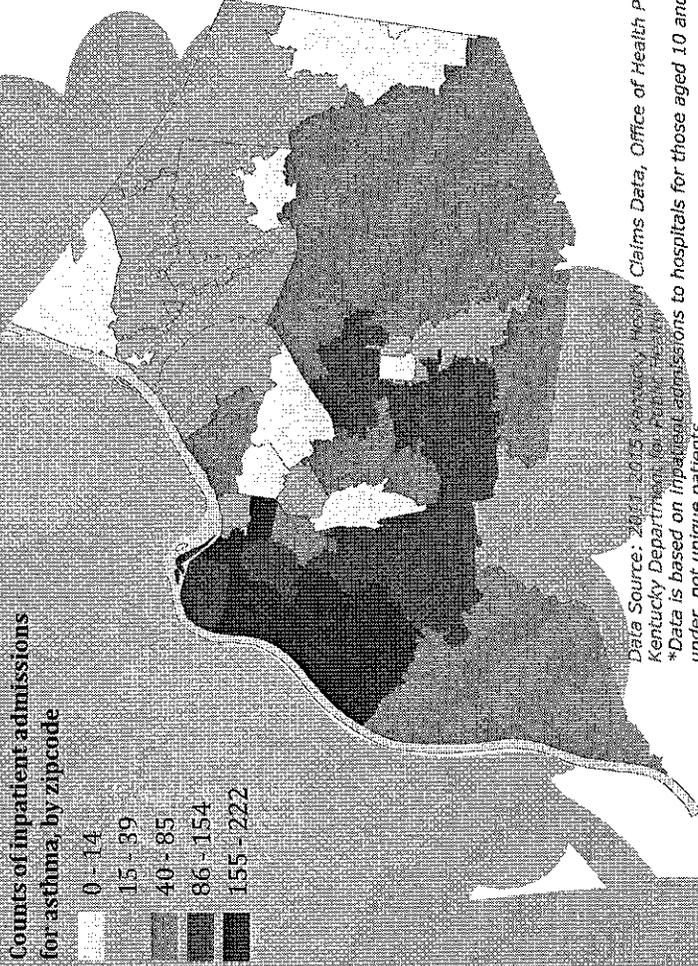
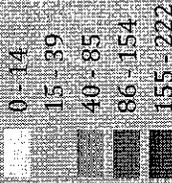


Data Source: 2011-2015 Kentucky Health Claims Data, Office of Health Policy, Kentucky Department of Public Health
 Data is based on inpatient admissions to hospitals for those aged 10 and under, not unique patients.

Asthma

Data Source: 2011-2015 Kentucky Health Claims Data, Office of Health Policy, Kentucky Department of Public Health
 Data is based on inpatient admissions to hospitals for those aged 10 and under, not unique patients.

Counts of inpatient admissions for asthma, by zipcode



Data Source: 2011-2015 Kentucky Health Claims Data, Office of Health Policy, Kentucky Department of Public Health
 *Data is based on inpatient admissions to hospitals for those aged 10 and under, not unique patients.
 *Data excludes cases where zipcode was a PO Box or no zipcode was assigned.

Currently there is not a county-wide system that tracks how many children have asthma. The best comparison we have is inpatient hospital admissions, which track the number of times someone is admitted to the hospital for an asthma-related problem.

These visits tend to be predominantly from Black children, although it is hard to know if there are more Black children with severe asthma problems or if a few children are repeatedly going to hospitals for acute care (for a mix of both).

Overall, inpatient visits have been decreasing with time, potentially as a result of more residents obtaining insurance and primary care through the Affordable Care Act.

Health Outcomes

Root Causes



ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY



NEIGHBORHOOD DEVELOPMENT



HOUSING

ASTHMA

What is asthma?

"Asthma is a chronic (or lifelong) lung disease that makes it harder to move air in and out of your lungs."¹ People with asthma have it all of the time, but only experience symptoms or attacks when they come into contact with things that bother their lungs.² Common asthma symptoms include:

- wheezing (a whistling sound when you breathe),
- chest tightness,
- shortness of breath, and
- coughing.³

How does asthma affect health and quality of life?

We want a city where every person can breathe easy.

There is no cure for asthma but individuals with asthma can manage the disease by limiting exposure to things that bother the lungs, also known as asthma triggers. The things that trigger asthma are different for everyone, but some common triggers include:

- dust,
- air pollution, and
- secondhand smoke.⁴

When someone with asthma comes into contact with one of these triggers, it can make it hard to breathe or cause other symptoms.⁴ Asthma can be controlled by taking medicine exactly as prescribed by a physician.

Asthma affects the well-being of families and communities. Having symptoms all of the time can affect a person's ability to concentrate, as well as their ability to sleep. The combination of fear from not being able to breathe and feeling like you cannot control your asthma can lead to higher levels of stress and anxiety. When asthma and its symptoms are not managed it may limit everyday activities like going to school, work, social events, or playing sports.⁵

As a leading cause of childhood hospitalization and school absences, asthma can affect academic performance.⁴ When children have to miss school, this may also mean that their parents have to miss work to stay at home and take care of them.⁴ Frequent missed work days among parents who are paid hourly or have used all of their sick leave can also widen the opportunity/financial gap.⁶