



Using the Greater Chicago Food Depository Community Census Data Map

General Information

Thank you for your interest in the interactive, online GCFD Community Data Map! To get the most out of this tool, please take a few moments to review the notes below.

The map features data at the census tract level, indicating an area with a typical average population around 4,000-6,000, and at the Chicago Community Area level. This allows us to have a better idea of possible indicators of need for food assistance at the local level.

There are tradeoffs, however. To get reliable estimates at this small geography, the U.S. Census must average data across five years and error margins are larger. All the data in this map is from the 2019-2023 U.S. Census American Community Survey 5-year estimates.

Please note that depending on your internet connection, it might take a while for the map layers to load!

In this document, you'll find details on how to navigate the map functions, visualize the data available, and use the scroll, search, and measure functions.

If you feel like any data are missing, or have any further questions, please don't hesitate to reach out the Research and Evaluation team!

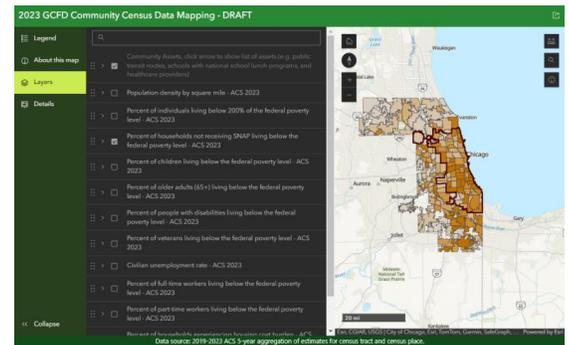
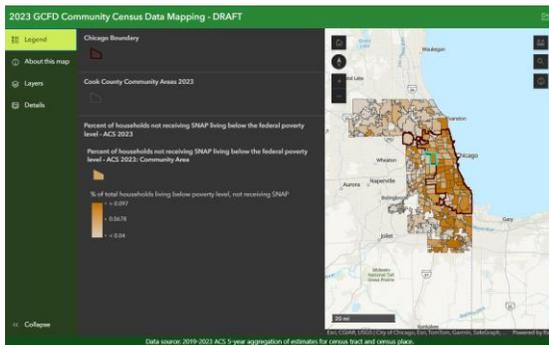
Link to map: <https://gcf.d.maps.arcgis.com/apps/instant/sidebar/index.html?appid=ab4929a93dbb438496eb2ff63c85a710>

This was last updated 2/19/2025. For more information, please contact the Research and Evaluation and Business Analytics Team.

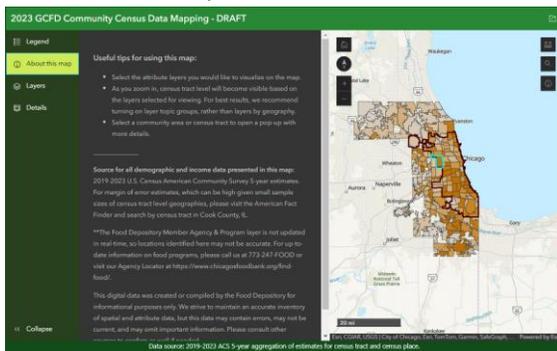
The sidebar

There are 4 tabs in the sidebar, Legend, About this map, Layers, and Details.

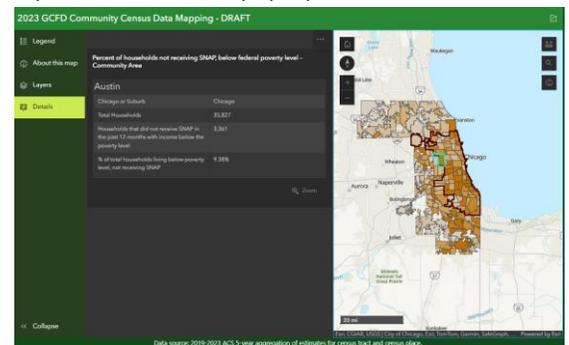
- Legend:** the legend shows the visible layers and what the colors and scales represent. Please take special note of the scales for each layer, as they are unique to each type of data symbolized.
- Layers:** use this tab to turn on or off specific layers that you'd like to view on the map. Each layer represents a different data attributes such as child poverty rates or unemployment rates.



- About this map:** this tab includes information on the data sources for the map, as well as useful tips on how to use the map.



- Details:** when you select a census tract or community area on the map, a pop-up will show in the sidebar with more details based on the layer in view. If you have multiple layers turned on, multiple pop-ups will be available, however the top-most layer will be the first pop-up viewed.



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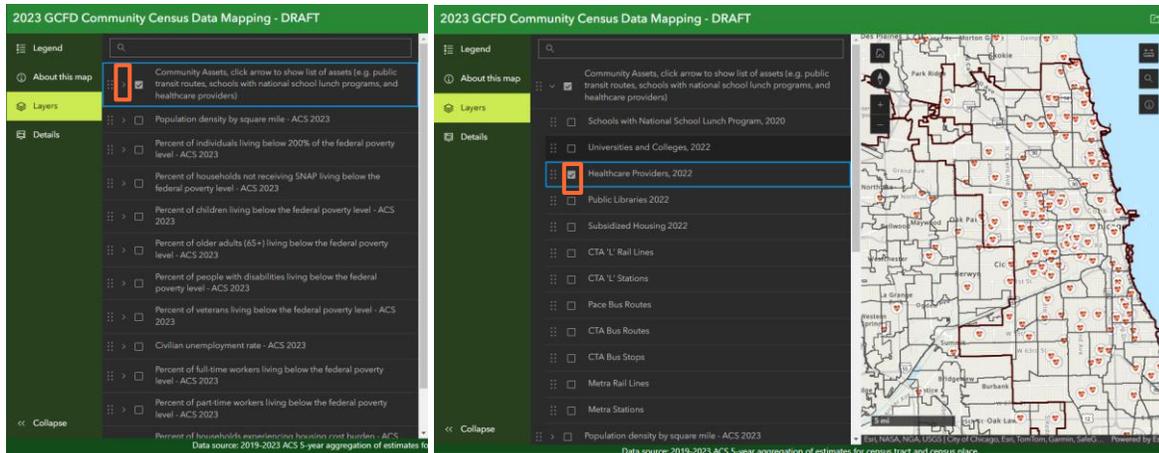


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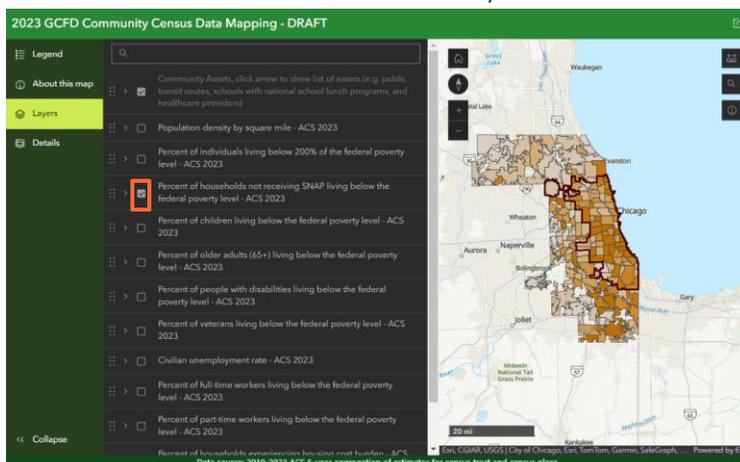
Visualizing the data

Each layer represents data you can visualize on the map. Currently, we have 12 community asset layers and 12 census data layers available.

- **Community Assets** - layers that show locations of schools with national school lunch programs, universities and colleges, healthcare providers, local library locations, transportation stops and routes, and more.
 - a. To view these layers, click on the arrow to expand the list and check the box next to the asset layer you'd like to view on the map.
 - b. Please note, that the box must remain checked next to the layer that says **Community Assets**.



- **Census Data** – layers that show census data at the census tract and community area level such as unemployment rates, or percent of children living below the federal poverty level.
 - a. To view these layers, check the box next to the layer you'd like to view on the map.
 - i. Only select one Census Data layer at a time.
 - ii. You may view Community Asset layers at the same time as Census Data layers.
 - b. Zoom in to see the census tracts, zoom out to see the community areas.
 - c. Click on a census tract or community area to view the detail pop-up in the sidebar.



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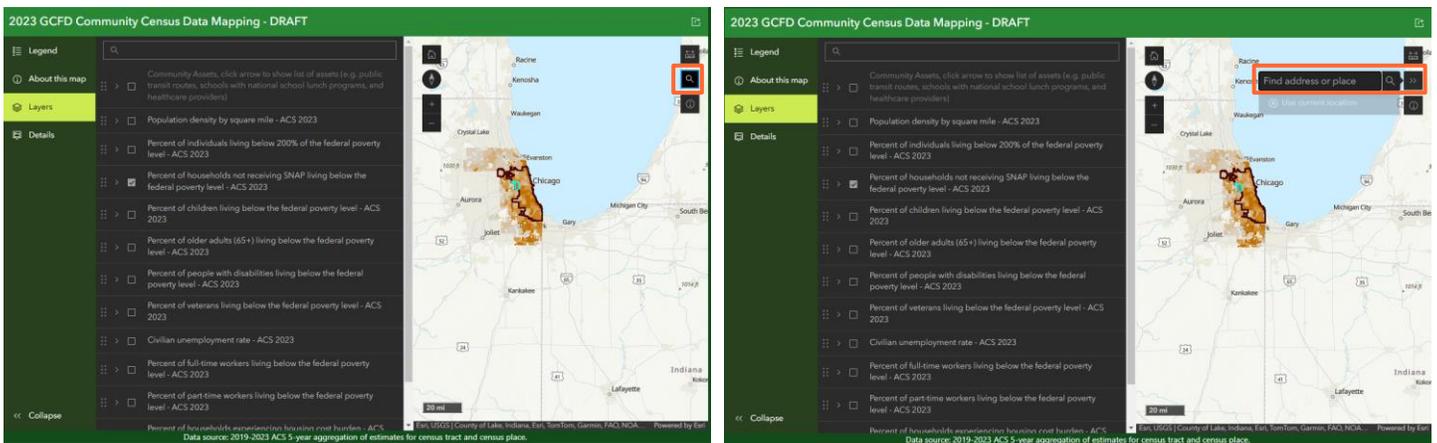
Zooming In and Out

To zoom in or out of the map, use the scroll wheel on your mouse. If you are using a track pad, scroll up or down with two fingers (or how you'd typically scroll through a window). Alternatively, use the - and + buttons on the upper left of the map

Search Tool

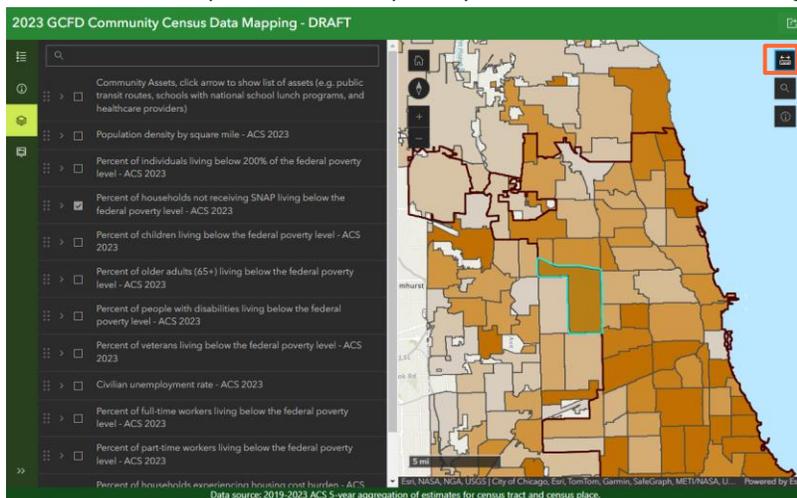
The magnifying glass in the upper left corner of the map allows you to input an address.

Press “enter” or select the magnifying glass to the left and the map will zoom to that location.



Measuring Tool

- Use the mouse to “measure” the area (sq. mi) of a parcel, the distance between points, or the coordinates of a specific location.
- After choosing which measurement tool on the top of the menu that pops up (“Area”, “Distance”, and “Location”), use your mouse to click the points on the map that you are interested in measuring. Double-click to complete the measurement.



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