

Neighborhood Health 2020 – Executive Summary

Background

Since 2000, the City of Topeka has measured the “health” of its neighborhoods to determine priorities for planning and investment decisions. Based on a medical treatment theme, 5 “vital signs” are used as indicators of the overall “health” classification of a neighborhood. Health ratings provide insight and measure progress which in turn can be used to improve neighborhood conditions. Many investment programs have been based on the health ratings including the Neighborhood Revitalization Program, SORT program, Pedestrian Master Plan, and other community initiatives.

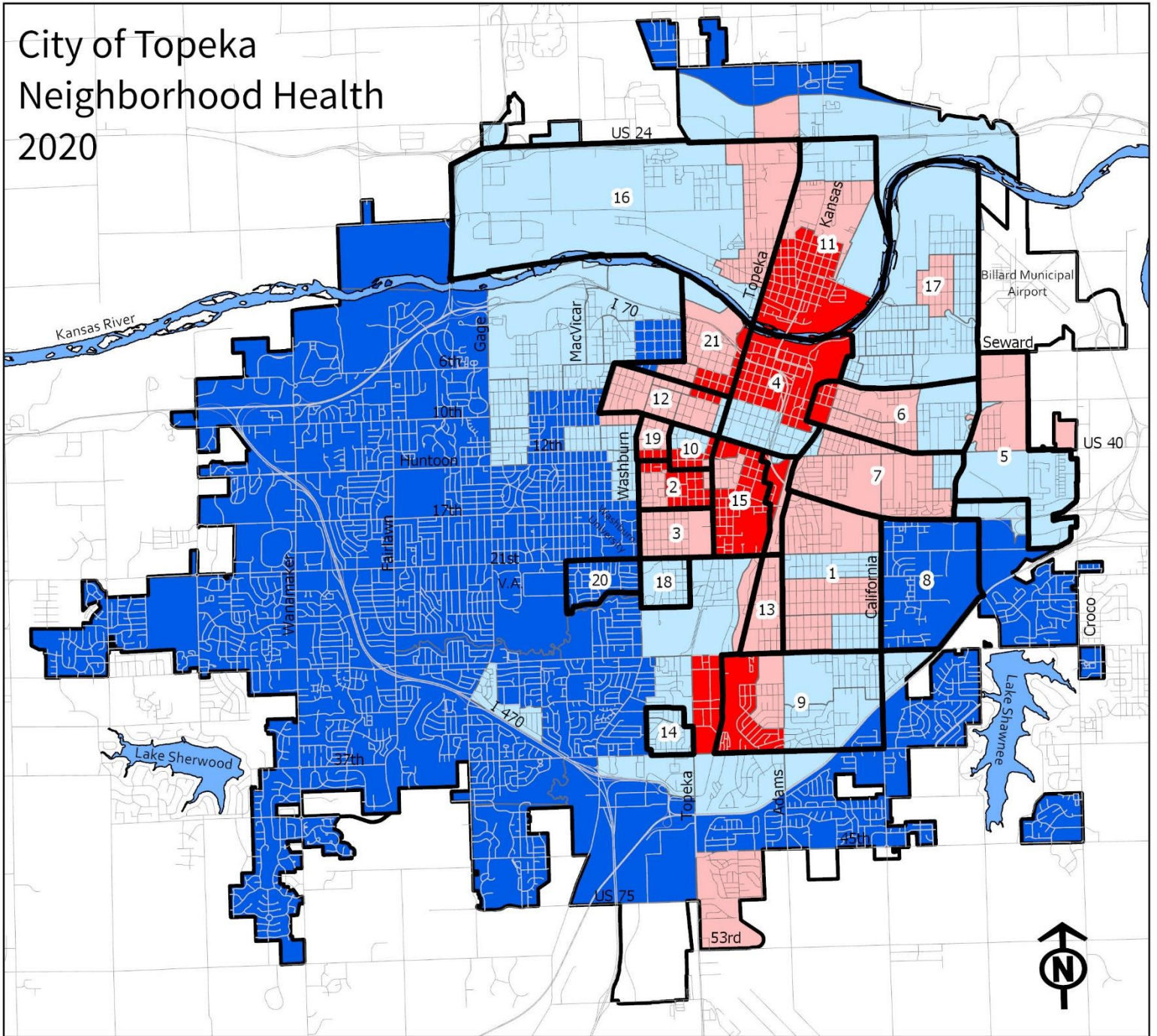
Each vital sign contains a score ranging from the most desirable condition (4 points) to the least desirable conditions (1 point). The average scores for all five vital signs are used to determine the block group/neighborhood’s overall health as shown below:

Health Classifications (Composite)	
Healthy – optimal conditions	(3.4 – 4.0)
Out Patient – favorable conditions	(2.8 – 3.2)
At Risk – emerging negative conditions	(2.0 – 2.6)
Intensive Care – seriously distressed conditions	(1.0 – 1.8)
Vital Signs	Source
Poverty Level	<i>2015-2019 US Census Bureau 5-Year American Community Survey</i>
Public Safety	<i>2019-2020 Topeka Police Department and City of Topeka Planning Department</i>
Residential Property Values	<i>2020 Shawnee County Appraiser’s Office</i>
Single Family Home Ownership	<i>2020 Shawnee County Appraiser’s Office and City of Topeka Planning Department</i>
Unsafe Structures	<i>2020 City of Topeka Property Maintenance Division</i>

The resulting health maps and data show neighborhoods by **Census Block Groups** – Geographic areas used by the U.S. Census Bureau to provide neighborhood-level data. Some block groups overlap established neighborhood boundaries and the neighborhoods may contain more than one block group. Health ratings are calculated for each block group as a composite of all five vital signs.

The original Health Map was established in 2000 and updated in 2003, 2007, 2011, 2014, 2017, and 2020.

City of Topeka Neighborhood Health 2020



NIAS

1. Central Highland Park
2. Central Park
3. Chesney Park
4. Downtown
5. East End
6. East Topeka North
7. East Topeka South
8. Highland Acres
9. Highland Crest
10. Historic Holiday Park
11. Historic North Topeka East
12. Historic Old Town
13. Jefferson Square
14. Likins Foster
15. Monroe
16. North Topeka West
17. Oakland
18. Quinton Heights Steele
19. Tennessee Town
20. Valley Park
21. Ward Meade

Health Status

- Healthy
- Out Patient
- At Risk
- Intensive Care

Public Safety (Part 1 Crimes per 100 Residents)

- Healthy (0 - 12)
- Out Patient (13 - 18)
- At Risk (19 - 28)
- Intensive Care (29+)

2019-2020 Topeka Police Dept. & Census Bureau's 2015-2019 American Community Survey

Single-Family Home Ownership

- Healthy (70 - 100%)
- Out Patient (50 - 69%)
- At Risk (34 - 49%)
- Intensive Care (0 - 33%)

2020 Shawnee County Appraiser's Office & Topeka Planning Department

Poverty (% of Persons Below Poverty)

- Healthy (0 - 9%)
- Out Patient (10 - 18%)
- At Risk (19 - 30%)
- Intensive Care (31 - 100%)

Census Bureau's 2015-2019 American Community Survey

Number of secured and unsafe structures per 100 properties

- Healthy (0 - 0.25)
- Out Patient (0.26 - 0.75)
- At Risk (0.76 - 1.75)
- Intensive Care (1.76+)

City of Topeka Property Maintenance Division

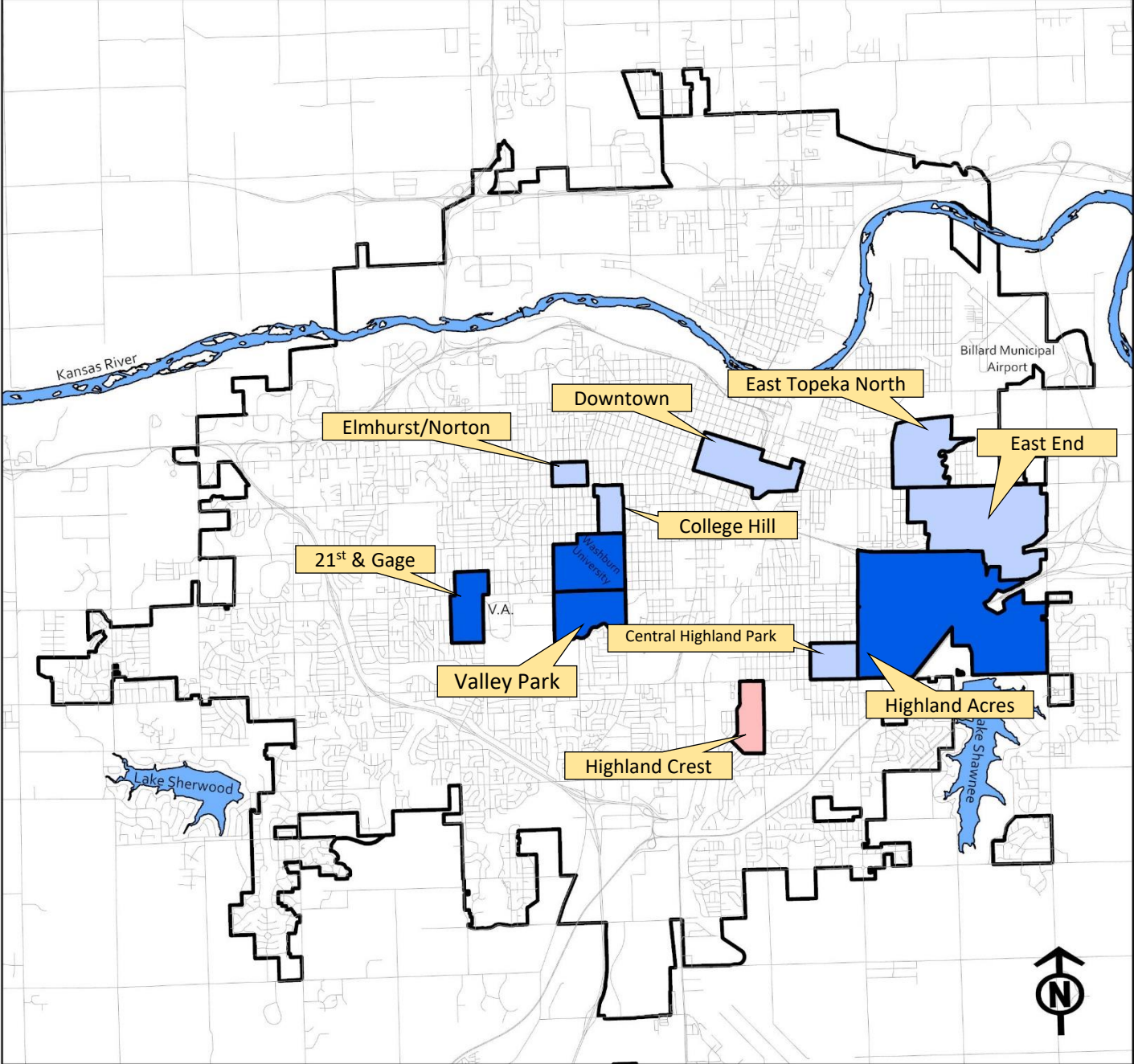
Residential Property Values

- Healthy (\$111,872+)
- Out Patient (\$72,694 - \$111,871)
- At Risk (\$43,195 - \$72,693)
- Intensive Care (\$0 - \$43,194)

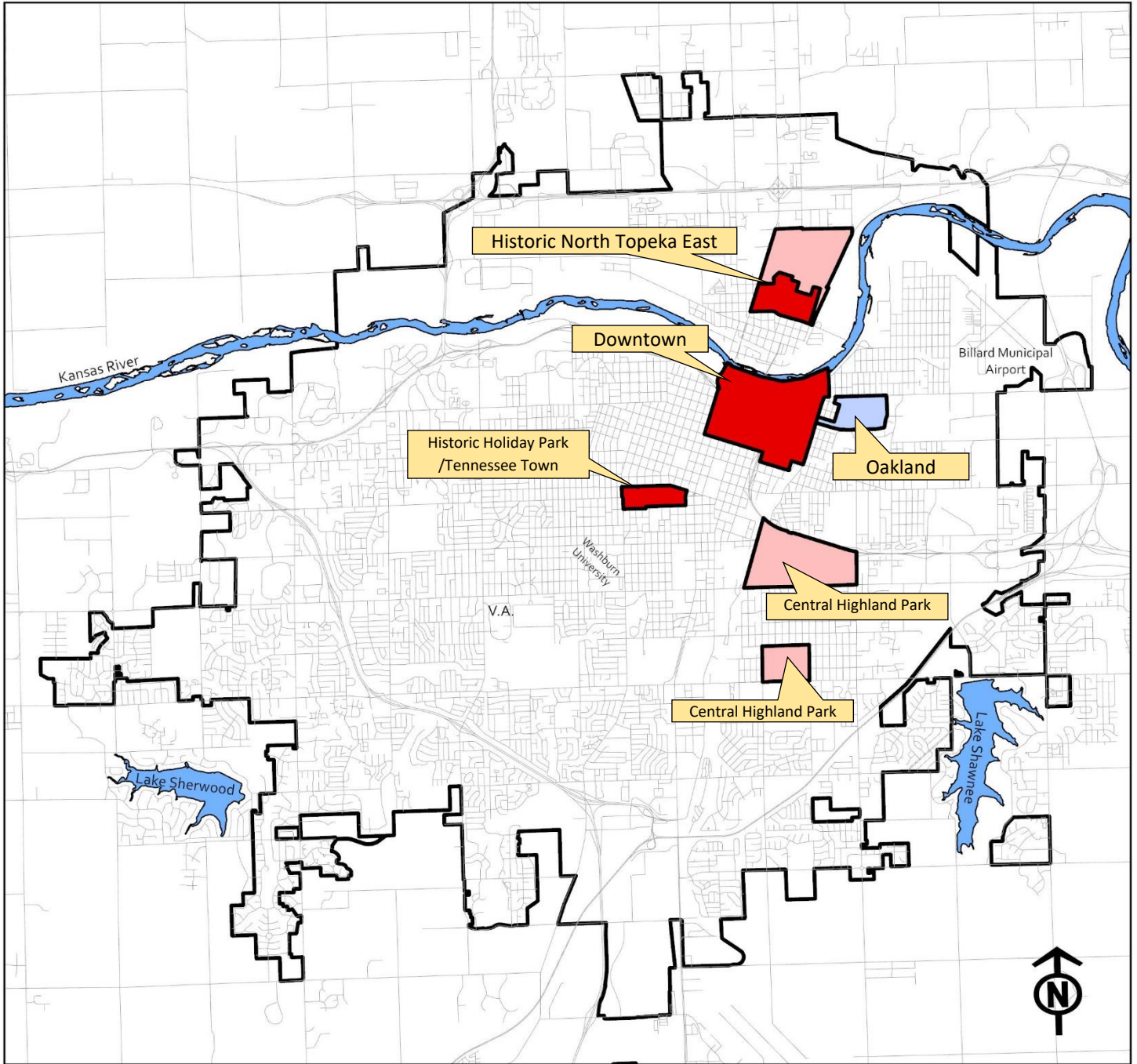
2020 Shawnee County Appraiser's Office

"Better" Health Rating 2017 - 2020

(Color Change)



"Worse" Health Rating 2017 - 2020 (Color Change)



Neighborhood Highlights

The 2020 Neighborhood Health Ratings showed improvement in 11 block groups and a decline in 7 block groups which impacted 11 Neighborhood Improvement Associations (NIAs). Block groups do not perfectly overlap with NIA's and this can result in multiple Health Ratings being associated with an NIA. The following highlights those neighborhoods that changed their health rating for "better" or "worse", since the last update in 2017.

"Better" Health Rating Highlights

Healthy

21st & Gage (27:11)

- Back to "Healthy"; second consecutive health improvement
- Reduction in poverty and number of secured/unsafe structures
- Increase in average residential property value

Highland Acres (31:3)

- First time receiving a "Healthy" health rating
- Significant reduction in crimes per 100 people
- Reduction in number of secured/unsafe structures

Valley Park (16:11)

- Returned to "Healthy" for first time since 2007
- Reduction in poverty rate

Out Patient

Central Highland Park (13:3)

- Southeast section of the neighborhood, bounded by Indiana, 26th, California, and 29th
- Returned to "Out Patient" for first time since 2011
- Reduction in poverty rate

College Hill (18:1)

- Returned to "Out Patient" health category
- Massive 26 percentage point drop in poverty

Downtown (40:2)

- First time receiving an "Out Patient" rating
- Reduction in poverty and number of secured/unsafe structures
- Increase in owner occupancy rates
- South section of Downtown bounded by 6th, Tyler, 10th, and Branner

East End (31:1)

- Returned to "Out Patient" for 3rd time out of last 4 health ratings
- Reduction in poverty and number of secured/unsafe structures
- Increase in average residential property value

East Topeka North (11:1)

- First-ever "Out Patient" health rating
- Reduction in poverty rate, crimes per 100 people, and secured/unsafe structures

Elmhurst/Norton (21:3)

- Returned to “Out Patient” for first time since 2011
- Reduction in poverty and number of secured/unsafe structures

At Risk

Hi Crest - West (29:1)

- Best-ever score and first-ever “At-Risk” health rating
- Reduction in number of part 1 crimes per 100 people
- Northeast section of Hi-Crest, west of SE Adams and north of SE 35th

“Worse” Health Rating Highlights

Intensive Care

Downtown (40:1)

- First time falling into the “Intensive Care” health rating since 2007
- Increase in the number of secured/unsafe structures
- “Other” Downtown block group (40:2) saw first-ever “Out Patient” health rating

Historic Holiday Park/Tennessee Town/Central Park (4:1)

- Dropped to “Intensive Care” health rating for first time since 2007
- Block group overlaps three neighborhoods; area bounded by Tyler, 12th, Washburn, and 13th
 - Largest jumps occurred in poverty rate and secured/unsafe structures; slight uptick in crimes per 100 people

Historic North Topeka East (8:3)

- Dropped to “Intensive Care” health rating since 2007
- Increase in the number of secured/unsafe structures
- Slight decrease in owner-occupancy rates

At Risk

Central Highland Park (12:2 & 13:4)

- Northern section (12:2) north of 21st fell back to “At Risk” for 6th time in 7 health ratings
 - Increase in the number of secured/unsafe structures
- Southwest section (13:4) west of Indiana and south of 26th dropped to “At Risk” for first time since 2000
 - Increased secured/unsafe structure, poverty rate, and crimes per 100 people
- These block groups tend to fall on the border of “At Risk” and “Out Patient”. Small changes will impact composite health scores.

Historic North Topeka East (8:2)

- Area between Independence and Garfield Park (8:2) dropped to “At Risk” for 4th time in 7 ratings
 - Big jump in secured/unsafe structures
 - Increase in poverty rate

Out Patient

Oakland (10:3)

- Fell back to “Out Patient” which it has been 6 of the 7 health ratings
- Very slight increase in the number of secured/unsafe structures and poverty rate

SORT (Stages of Resource Targeting)

Since 2003, the City of Topeka has used a targeted approach for reinvestment in its most distressed neighborhoods. SORT (Stages of Resource Targeting) annually combines \$300,000 to \$500,000 of the City's federal housing allocation with \$1.4 to \$1.7M of local infrastructure funds to strategically reinvest into a 4-5 block target area, primarily within an *At Risk/Intensive Care* neighborhood. The funding implements neighborhood plans developed by the City and Neighborhood Improvement Associations (NIA). Below are the neighborhoods and their census block group Target Areas that have been selected for SORT between 2000 and 2020 and composite scores over the same period.

SORT Year	NIA	Target Area Block Group	Health Score						
			2000	2003	2007	2011	2014	2017	2020
2003	East Topeka South	11:3	1	1.4	1.4	1.8	2.2	2.2	2.2
		12:1	1.4	2.2	2.0	2.0	1.8	2.4	2.6
2003	Monroe	40:3	1.6	1.4	1.4	1.8	1.4	1.4	1.8
2003/2017	Tennessee Town	4:1	1.8	1.4	1.8	2.0	2.4	2.2	1.4
		5:3	1.4	1.8	2.0	2.8	2.6	2.2	2.4
2005/2009	Chesney Park	4:4	1.6	1.6	1.8	2.4	2.4	2	2.4
2005/2020*	East Topeka North	11:2	2	2.0	2.0	1.8	1.8	2.2	2.2
		11:3	1	1.4	1.4	1.8	2.2	2.2	2.2
2005/2011/ 2015	Hi-Crest	29:1	1.4	1.0	1.4	1.6	1.6	1.8	2
		29:2	1.4	2.2	1.6	1.8	1.8	1.6	1.6
		29:4	1.4	1.6	1.4	1.8	1.6	1.2	1.2
2005	Old Town	5:1	2	2.2	2.0	2.0	1.8	2.2	2.2
		5:3	2	1.8	2.0	2.8	2.6	2.2	2.4
2007/2019	Central Park	4:2	2	2.4	2.2	2.4	2.6	2.4	2.4
		4:3	2.2	1.6	1.6	2.2	1.8	1.6	1.4
2008	Historic Holliday Park	5:2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.4	2.6	2.8	2.8
2009	Ward Meade	6:1	2	2.2	2.6	2.8	3.0	2.4	2.4
		6:3	1.8	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2	2.4
2011	Central Highland Park	13:3	2.2	2.6	2.4	2.8	2.6	2.6	3
2013	Historic North Topeka East	8:4	1.8	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.6	1.4	1.8
2013	Oakland	10:1	3	3.2	2.8	3.2	3.4	3.2	3
		10:2	3	3.0	3.2	3.0	2.8	3	2.8
		10:3	2.8	3.0	3.2	2.8	2.8	3.4	3
2015	North Topeka West	7:1	2.6	2.2	2.2	2.0	2.0	2.2	2.6
2017	Quinton Heights-Steele	15:1	2.8	2.6	3.0	2.4	2.0	3	2.8
Average Score			1.9	2.0	2.0	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.3

*2020 SORT Grant Recipient – Planning phase still ongoing during Neighborhood Health Update

** Census Tract Block Groups 5:3 and 11:3 are duplicated in two neighborhoods. Block Group 5:3 had a different boundary alignment in the year 2000.

While the SORT Planning Process begins in the SORT Year, implementation of infrastructure projects and housing investment does not happen until two years after. Due to this, improvements to the Health Score should not be expected until several years after the SORT Year. In years where the SORT year falls between Neighborhood Health Scores, the implementation may not be reflected in the Health Score for two Neighborhood Health cycles.

Target Area Analysis

Neighborhoods that received SORT were evaluated based upon their Target Area Health Scores before and after SORT implementation. Since 2000, 76% (19) of NIA Target Areas that received SORT funds saw a positive or neutral change in Health Scores and a 20% increase in their actual Health Score. Over this same period, 24% experienced a decrease in Health Scores, and a 3% decrease in their actual Health Score. Areas that were not SORT target areas realized a 3% decline in average health scores since 2003. This indicates a targeted investment strategy is a factor that leads to improved Health Scores for most SORT target areas.

SORT Target Area Analysis

SORT Year	NIA	Target Area Block Group	% Change 2003 to 2020	Before SORT	After SORT	% Change
2003	East Topeka South	11:3*	57%	1.20	1.96	63%
		12:1	18%	1.80	2.16	20%
2003	Monroe	40:3	29%	1.50	1.56	4%
2003/2017	Tennessee Town	4:1	0%	1.60	1.96	23%
		5:3*	33%	1.60	2.40	50%
2005/2009	Chesney Park	4:4	50%	1.60	2.20	38%
2005/2020	East Topeka North	11:2	10%	2.00	2.00	0%
		11:3*	57%	1.20	1.96	63%
2005/2011/2015	Hi-Crest	29:1	100%	1.34	1.77	32%
		29:2	-27%	1.75	1.67	-5%
		29:4	-25%	1.52	1.37	-10%
2005	Old Town	5:1	0%	2.10	2.04	-3%
		5:3*	33%	1.90	2.40	26%
2007/2019	Central Park	4:2	0%	2.20	2.45	11%
		4:3	-13%	1.80	1.75	-3%
2008	Historic Holiday Park	5:2	27%	2.20	2.65	20%
2009	Ward Meade	6:1	9%	2.27	2.65	17%
		6:3	20%	1.93	2.10	9%
2011	Central Highland Park	13:3	15%	2.50	2.73	9%
2013	Historic North Topeka East	8:4	29%	1.52	1.60	5%
2013	Oakland	10:1	-6%	3.12	3.10	-1%
		10:2	-7%	3.00	2.90	-3%
		10:3	0%	2.92	3.20	10%
2015	North Topeka West	7:1	18%	2.20	2.40	9%
2017	Quinton Heights-Steele	15:1	8%	2.63	2.80	6%
		Total (Avg.)	11%	2.01	2.23	14%
Control Groups	Area	Total Block Groups	% Change 2003 to 2020.	Before SORT Avg.	After SORT Avg.	% Change
1	SORT Neighborhoods/Non-Target	18	1%	2.6	2.64	2%
2	Non-SORT/At-Risk	18	-3%	-	-	-
3	All other Citywide	58	-3%	-	-	-

* Census Tract Block Groups 5:3 and 11:3 are duplicated in two Neighborhoods. Block Group 5:3 had a different boundary alignment in the year 2000.

Intensive Care	1.0 - 1.8
At Risk	1.9 - 2.6
Out Patient	2.7 - 3.3
Healthy	3.4 - 4.0

"Before SORT" = Avg. score of "Health Years" before "Implementation Year"

"After SORT" = Avg. score of "Health Years" after "Plan Year"

Neighborhood Improvement Associations and Other “At Risk” and “Intensive Care” Block Groups

Block Group		2000	2003	2007	2011	2014	2017	2020
45th & Topeka	37:3	3.6	2.6	3.4	3.4	2.6	2.2	2.4
Central Highland Park	12:2	2.4	2.0	2.0	2.2	2.2	2.8	2.6
Central Highland Park	13:1	2.5	3.0	3.4	3.2	2.8	3	3
Central Highland Park	13:2	2.4	2.4	2.8	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.4
Central Highland Park	13:3	2.2	2.6	2.4	2.8	2.6	2.6	3
Central Highland Park	13:4	2.6	3.0	2.8	2.8	2.8	3.2	2.6
Central Park	4:2	2.0	2.4	2.2	2.4	2.6	2.4	2.4
Central Park	4:3	2.2	1.6	1.6	2.2	1.8	1.6	1.4
Chesney Park	4:4	1.6	1.6	1.8	2.4	2.4	2	2.4
College Hill	18:1	Out Patient	3.2	3.6	3.2	2.8	2.4	2.8
College Hill	18:2	Healthy	3.4	3.6	4.0	3.4	3.2	3.6
College Hill	18:3	Healthy	3.8	4.0	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.4
College Hill	18:4	Healthy	3.6	3.8	3.4	3.8	3.6	3.6
Downtown	40:1	1.6	1.6	1.4	2.0	2.4	2	1.8
Downtown	40:2	1.8	2.2	2.0	2.4	2.0	2.2	2.8
East End	9:4	3.2	3.2	3.0	2.8	2.8	2.6	2.6
East End	31:01	2.4	2.6	2.2	2.8	2.8	2.4	3
East Topeka North	11:1	1.6	2.2	2.2	2.0	2.2	2.2	2.8
East Topeka North	11:2	2.0	2.0	2.0	1.8	1.8	2.2	2.2
East Topeka North	11:3	1.0	1.4	1.4	1.8	2.2	2.2	2.2
East Topeka South	11:3	1.0	1.4	1.4	1.8	2.2	2.2	2.2
East Topeka South	12:1	1.4	2.2	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.4	2.6
East Topeka South	31:2	2.0	2.2	1.8	2.0	2.0	2.2	2.6
Elmhurst	18:1	Out Patient	3.2	3.6	3.2	2.8	2.4	2.8
Elmhurst	21:1	At Risk	2.8	2.6	2.4	2.4	2.2	2
Elmhurst	21:2	Out Patient	2.8	3.4	3.4	2.6	3	3
Highland Acres	31:3	2.8	3.2	2.8	3.0	2.6	3	3.4
Highland Crest	29:1	1.4	1.0	1.4	1.6	1.6	1.8	2
Highland Crest	29:2	1.4	2.2	1.6	1.8	1.8	1.6	1.6
Highland Crest	29:4	1.4	1.6	1.4	1.8	1.6	1.2	1.2
Highland Crest	30:011	3.2	2.6	2.6	3.0	2.6	3.2	2.8
Highland Crest	30:012	3.2	2.6	2.6	2.8	2.8	2.8	3
Historic Holliday Park	4:1	1.8	1.4	1.8	2.0	2.4	2.2	1.4
Historic Holliday Park	5:2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.4	2.6	2.8	2.8

Healthy 3.4 – 4.0

Out Patient 2.8 – 3.2

At Risk 2.0 – 2.6

Intensive Care 1.0 – 1.8

Historic North Topeka East	8:2	2.8	2.6	2.8	2.6	2.4	3.2	2.6
Historic North Topeka East	8:3	2.2	2.2	1.8	2	2.2	2.2	1.8
Historic North Topeka East	8:4	1.8	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.6	1.4	1.8
Historic Old Town	5:1	2.0	2.2	2.0	2.0	1.8	2.2	2.2
Historic Old Town	5:3	2.0	1.8	2.0	2.8	2.6	2.2	2.4
Historic Old Town	21:1	2.6	2.8	2.6	2.4	2.4	2.2	2
Jefferson Square	15:3	3	2.8	2.8	2.6	2.4	2.6	2.6
Likins Foster	28:2	2.2	3	3.2	3.2	2.8	2.8	2.8
Monroe	40:3	1.6	1.4	1.4	1.8	1.4	1.4	1.8
Monroe	40:4	2.4	2.2	2.2	2.8	2	2.6	2.2
North Topeka West	7:1	2.6	2.2	2.2	2.0	2.0	2.2	2.6
Norton	18:1	Out Patient	3.2	3.6	3.2	2.8	2.4	2.8
Norton	18:3	Healthy	3.8	4	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.4
Norton	18:4	Healthy	3.6	3.8	3.4	3.8	3.6	3.6
Norton	21:1	At Risk	2.8	2.6	2.4	2.4	2.2	2
Norton	21:2	Out Patient	2.8	3.4	3.4	2.6	3	3
Norton	21:3	Healthy	3.4	3.2	3	2.6	2.6	3
Norton	21:4	Out Patient	3.6	3.2	3	3.2	3.6	3.6
Oakland	9:1	3.6	3.8	3.8	3.0	2.6	3	3.2
Oakland	9:2	2.4	3.0	2.8	3.2	3.2	2.6	2.6
Oakland	9:3	3.0	3.4	3.4	2.8	3.4	3	3
Oakland	10:1	3.0	3.2	2.8	3.2	3.4	3.2	3
Oakland	10:2	3.0	3.0	3.2	3.0	2.8	3	2.8
Oakland	10:3	2.8	3.0	3.2	2.8	2.8	3.4	3
Oakland	10:4	3.0	2.8	3.0	3.0	3.0	2.8	3
Quinton Heights Steele	15:1	2.8	2.6	3	2.4	2	3	2.8
Randolph	18:4	Healthy	3.6	3.8	3.4	3.8	3.6	3.6
Randolph	21:3	Out Patient	3.4	3.2	3.0	2.6	2.6	3
Randolph	21:4	Out Patient	3.8	3.2	3.0	3.2	3.6	3.6
Tennessee Town	4:1	1.8	1.4	1.8	2.0	2.4	2.2	1.4
Tennessee Town	5:3	1.4	1.8	2.0	2.8	2.6	2.2	2.4
Valley Park	16:11	3.2	3.6	3.6	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.4
Ward Meade	6:1	2.0	2.2	2.6	2.8	3.0	2.4	2.4
Ward Meade	6:2	1.0	1.4	1.6	2.2	2.0	1.6	1.6
Ward Meade	6:3	1.8	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2	2.4

Healthy 3.4 – 4.0

Out Patient 2.8 – 3.2

At Risk 2.0 – 2.6

Intensive Care 1.0 – 1.8

City of Topeka Neighborhood Health 2020

Block Groups

