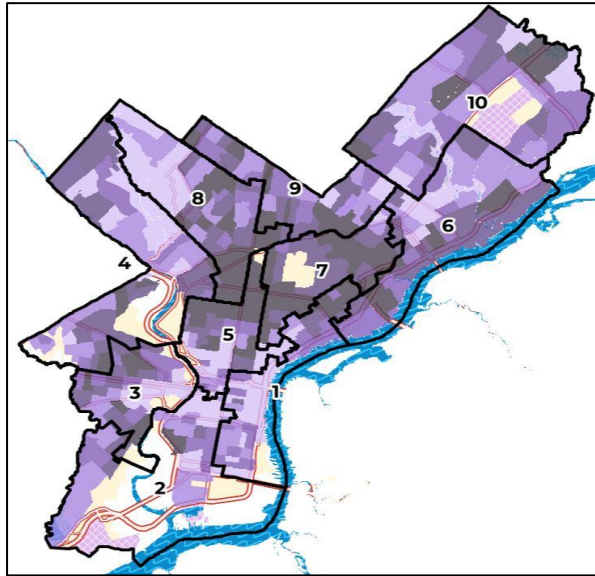




Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities



User Guide: Disability Characteristics in the City of Philadelphia Map

Second Edition 2023

About this Guide

This guide is to showcase the new accessible improvements to the city of Philadelphia's Disability Characteristics Map that was publicly launched in 2022.

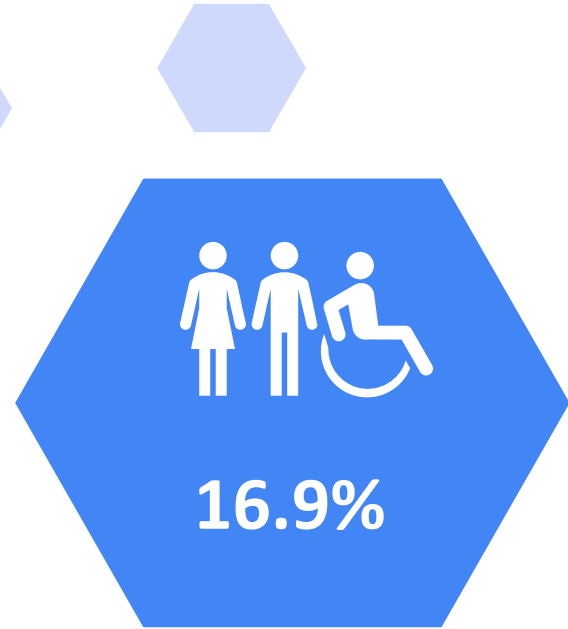
While it considered one of the most accessible data maps in the world, the city of Philadelphia is committed to continuing to find ways to improve the accessibility of this map.

The map is meant to be informative for all people; and a representation of the diversity of our great city leading with disability data.

Community trainings on the map are available by request to the Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities.

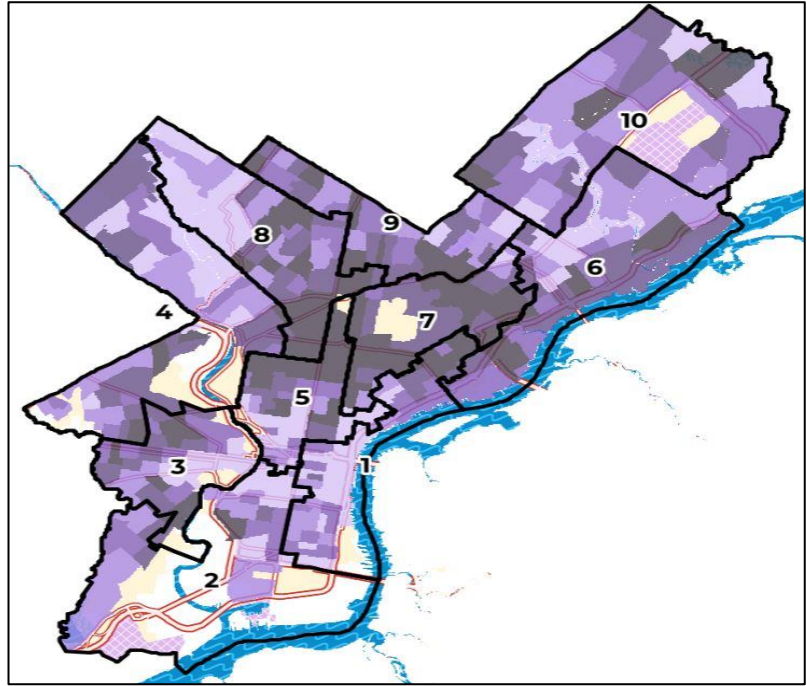
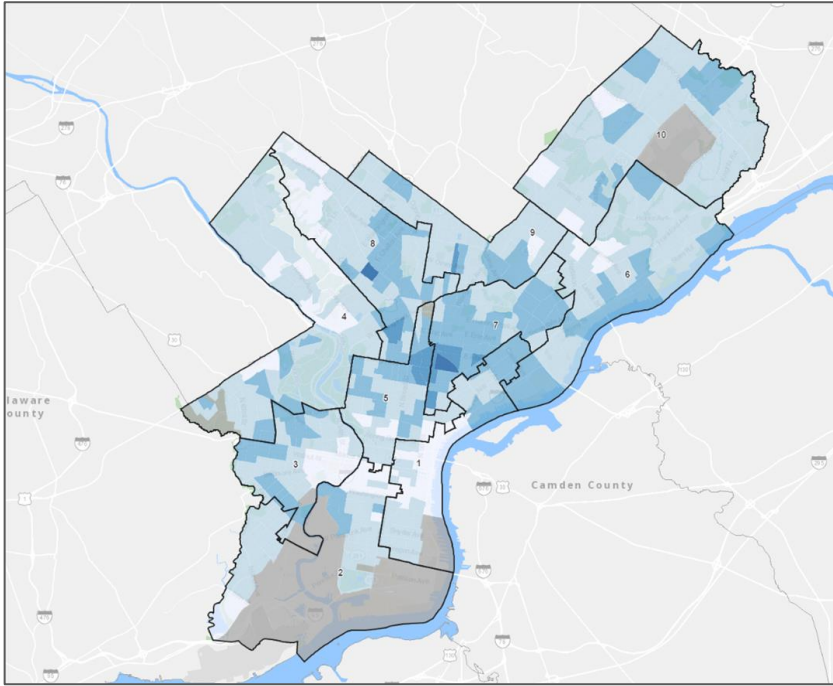
Why Does it Matter?

- **16.9% percent** of Philadelphia residents are disabled (Approx. 246,000)
- **The City of Philadelphia has the highest disability rate of large U.S. cities and is one of the poorest large cities.**
- American cities with high rates of disabilities tend to have higher poverty rates.
- **Racism, Ableism, and Poverty are interconnected; ensuring accessibility can address all 3.**





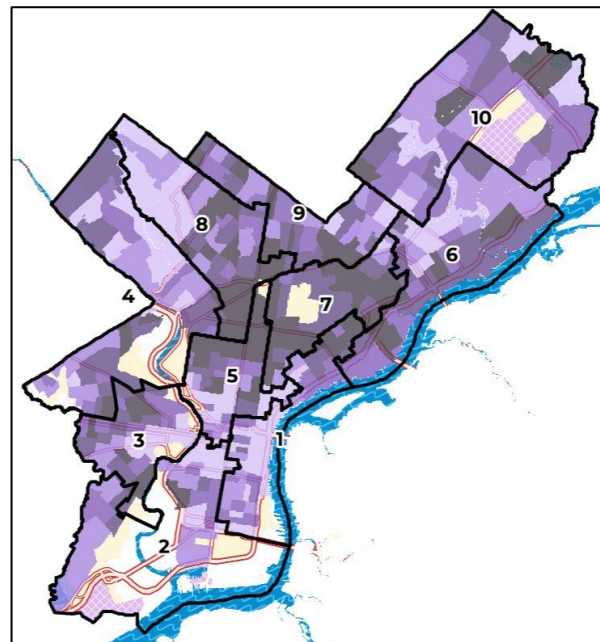
What it was...Where it is



Land Acknowledgment

Welcome to the City of Philadelphia's Disability Representation Map.

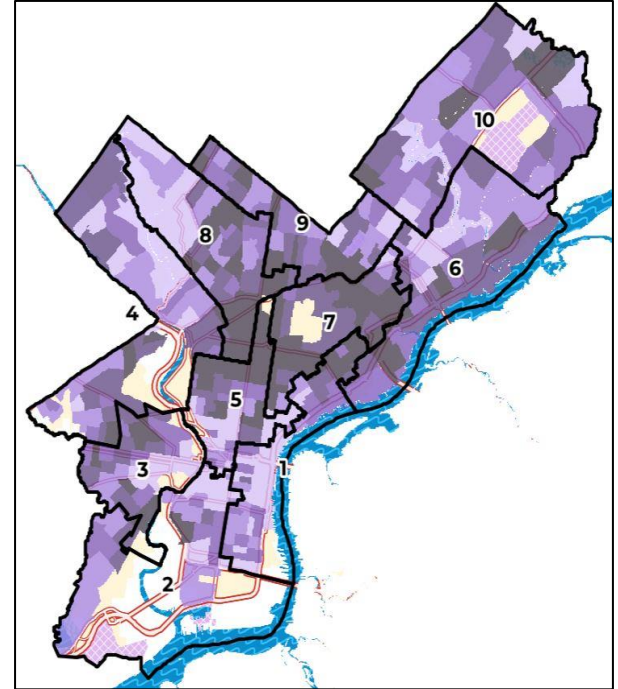
With humility and reverence, the Mayor's Office of People with Disabilities recognizes Philadelphia as part of Lënapehòkink, the ancestral homelands of the Lenape peoples. A long history of broken treaties, forced migrations, and fraudulent agreements, such as the Walking Purchase of 1737, displaced many of the Lenape from this land. We strive to honor and to pay respect to Lenape ancestors, past and present, by building a more accessible, equitable, and inclusive space for all.



Data Acknowledgment

The data presented in this tool was sourced directly from the United States Census Bureau's American Community Survey 2017-2021 5-Year Estimates and adopts the language used in subject tables S1810 and S1811.

We recognize that the some of the language used to classify data related to disability status, race, national origin, and gender identity is antiquated and does not best reflect the rich diversity of our city.



This map Utilizes GIS. What is GIS?

GIS is a spatial system that creates, manages, analyzes, and maps all types of data.

A geographic information system (GIS) is a system that creates, manages, analyzes, and maps all types of data. GIS connects data to a map, integrating location data (where things are) with all types of descriptive information (what things are like there). This provides a foundation for mapping and analysis that is used in science and almost every industry. GIS helps users understand patterns, relationships, and geographic context. The benefits include improved communication.

Learn more at: [What is GIS? | Geographic Information System Mapping Technology \(esri.com\)](https://www.esri.com/arcgis/resources/articles/what-is-gis/)

Project History & Previous Uses

- The initial version of this map was created in 2019 as a tool to assist the Philly Counts' People with Disabilities Subcommittee in strategic planning around methods to promote participation in the 2020 Census within the disabled community.
- Since then, the map was adapted into a publicly accessible tool, in partnership with the Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities, and Philly Counts and publicly launched in 2022.
- In 2023 the map underwent an accessible overhaul and update in partnership with the [U.S. Access Board](#), the [Mayor's Commission on People with Disabilities](#) and the [Environmental Systems Research Institute \(ESRI\)](#)
- The following user guide outlines the functionality of the map, and step-by-step instructions for various features and new updates that make **this map one of the most accessible data maps available.**

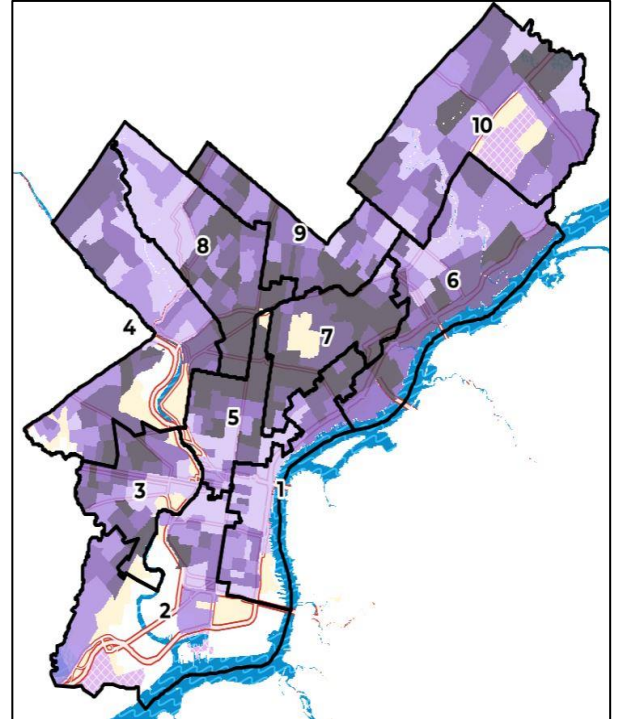


Overview & Accessing the Map

The **Disability Characteristics in the City of Philadelphia Map** can be accessed online at <https://www.phila.gov/departments/mayors-office-for-people-with-disabilities/resources/>

There is no account or subscription required to access the map.

The map is digital and interactive, allowing the user to explore disability characteristics by census tract, with a collection of additional geographic overlays. The default overlay is Philadelphia Council Districts.



Data Source for the Map

The data displayed in this map was pulled directly from the **American Community Survey 2017-2021 5-Year Estimates Subject Tables on Disability Characteristics**.

With recent changes to how the U.S. Census Bureau reports data, this remains the best, most up-to-date dataset available on disability characteristics across the City of Philadelphia.

[How Disability Data is collected from The American Community Survey \(census.gov\)](https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/data.html)



Disability Representation within the Map

The American Community Survey ask about **six disability types**:

- Hearing difficulty
- Vision difficulty
- Cognitive difficulty
- Ambulatory difficulty
- Self-care difficulty
- Independent living difficulty

Respondents who report anyone of the six disability types are considered to have a disability.



Major changes to the Map in 2023

- Splash Page with land acknowledgment and data acknowledgement
- Accessible Layout
- Accessible Base Map
- Accessible Symbolology/Colors
- Accessible Data Format
- Making this one of the most accessible GIS Maps in the World.

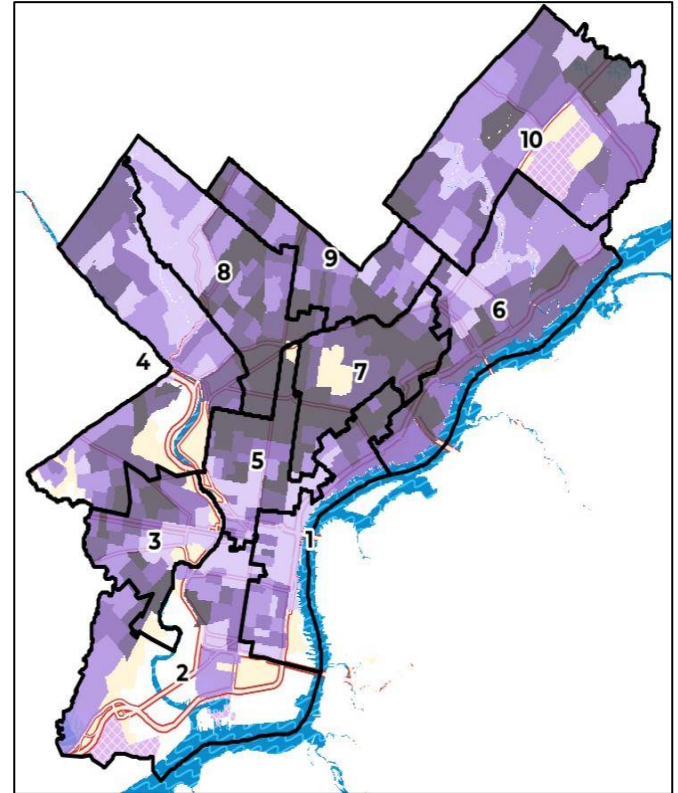


Geographic Overlays

Additional geographic overlays include:

- Philadelphia Neighborhoods
- Philadelphia Zip Codes
- Pennsylvania House Districts
- Pennsylvania Senate Districts
- United State Congressional Districts

** commercial corridors or partner agency service areas are not Geographic overlays.*

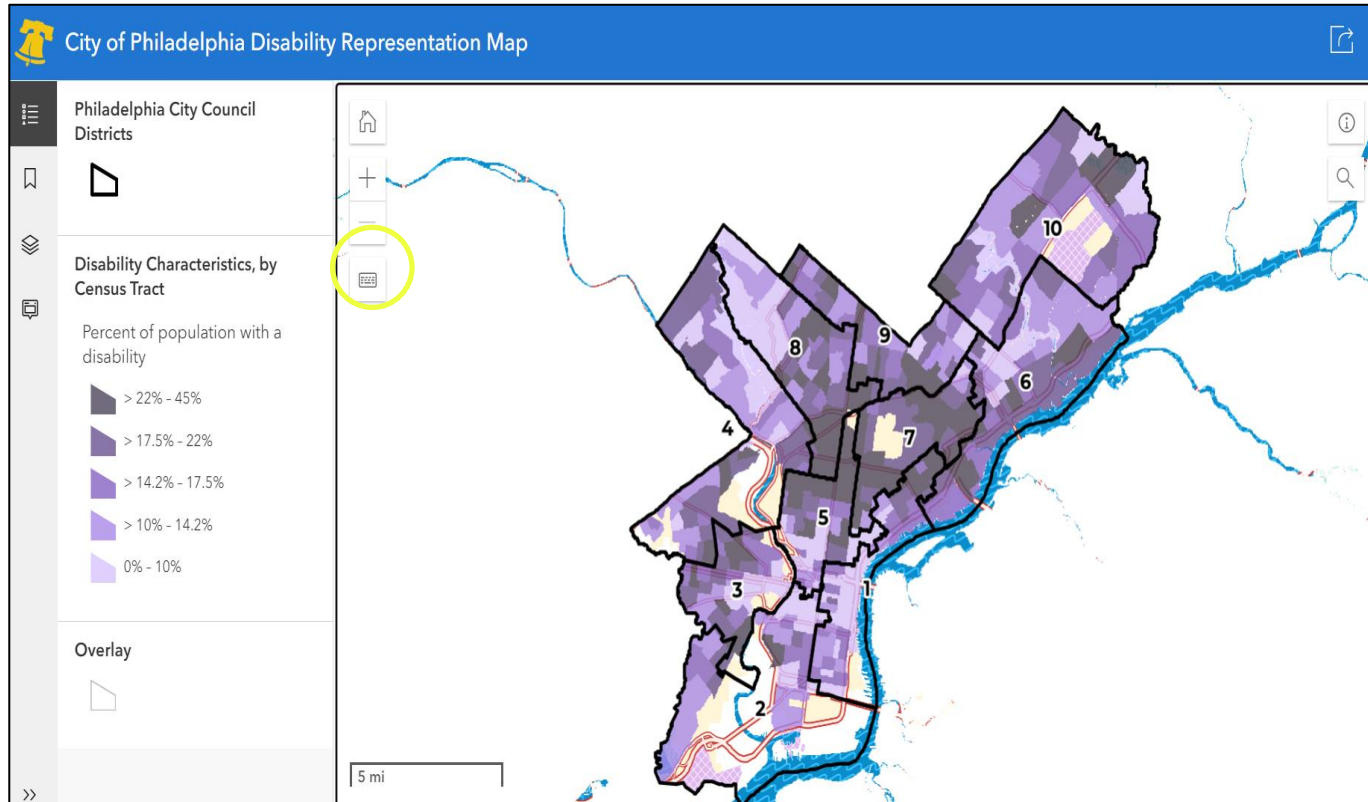


Navigating the Map

When you first access the map, your screen will look similar to the image, right.

To navigate and move around the map, simply click and hold your mouse button while dragging the mouse in the opposite direction of where you would like to view.

You can also use the keyboard to navigate as well.



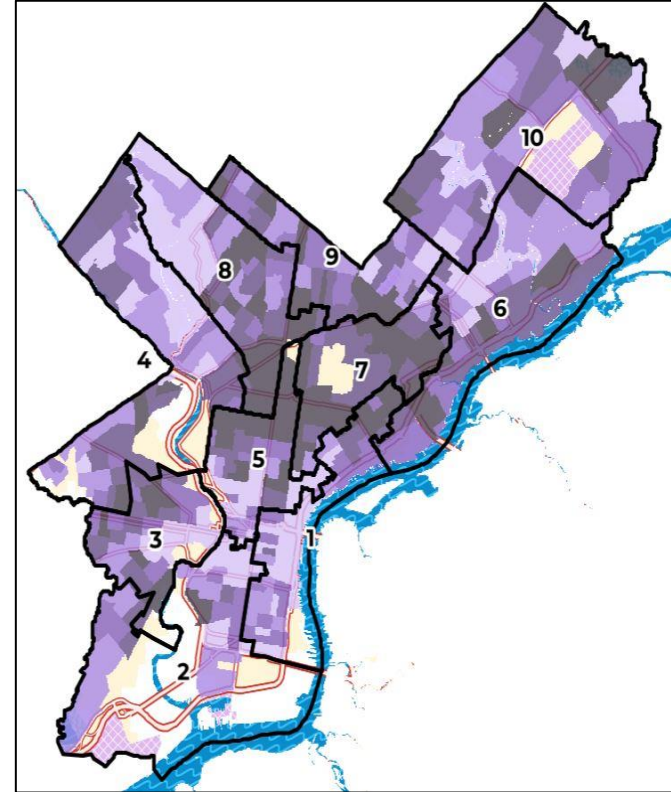
What do the Colors in the Map represent?

The data in the map is gradient levels of purple and show the percent of population with a disability.

The Darker the purple, the higher the rate of disability.

The Lighter the purple, the lower the rate of disability.

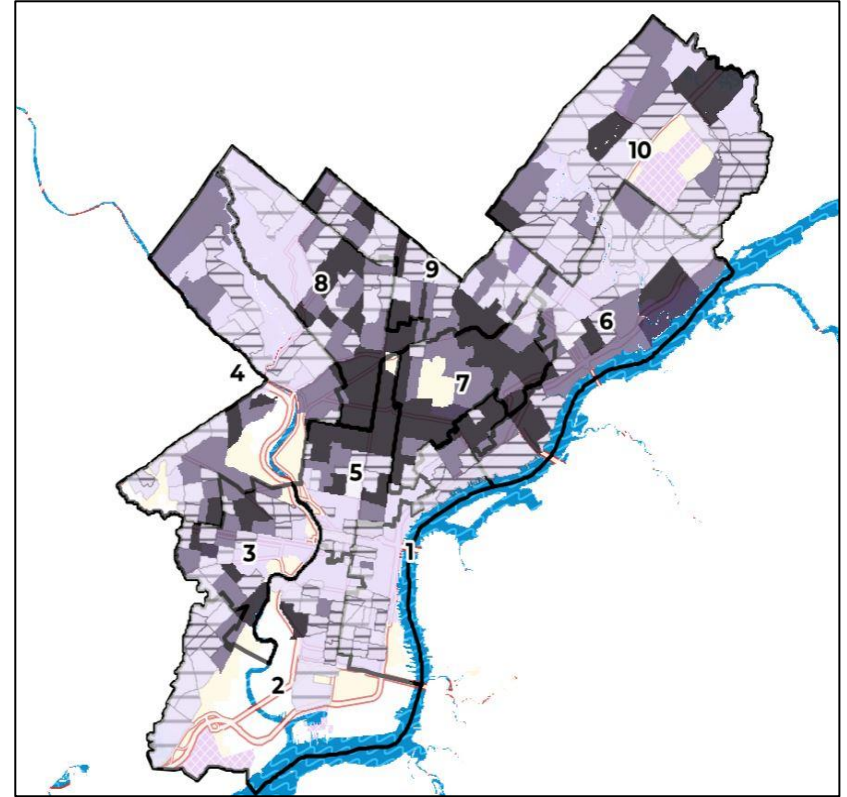
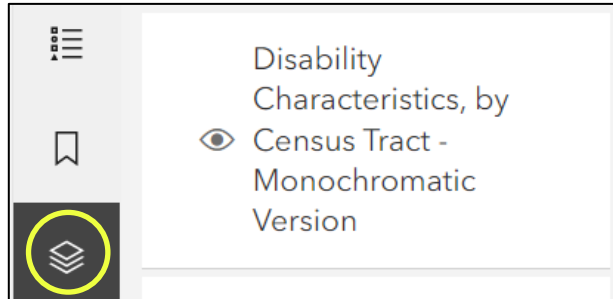
*We are always working to find the best way to represent the data accessibly therefore there may be future changes to how we show the data in symbols and colors.



New Feature: Monochromatic View

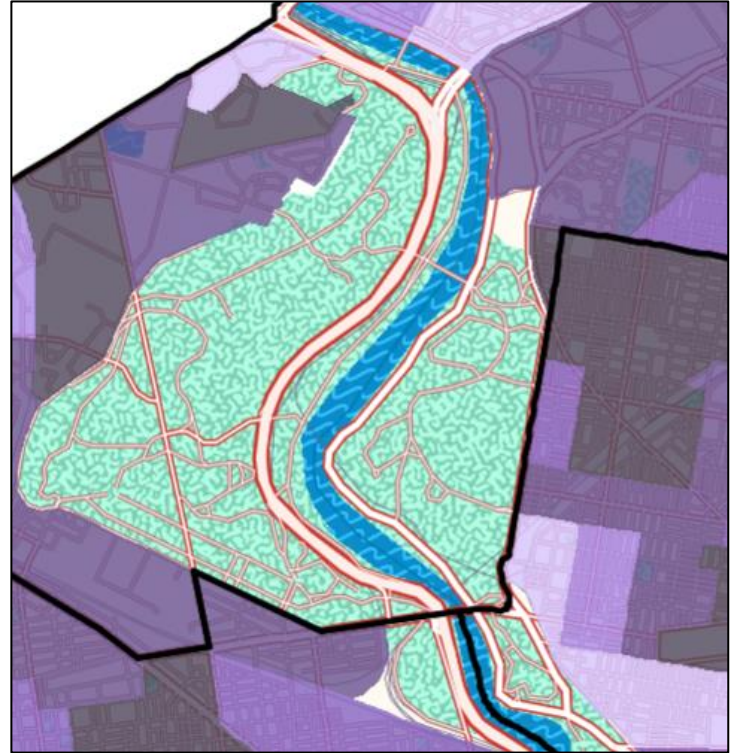
You can now view the map in the **monochromatic layer** that allows those with monochromatic color blindness to view the same data but with texture lines added that are bolder as the population size increases making it easier to differentiate the lighter shaded areas.

*We recommend using the color or the monochromatic layer at one time.



Non-Data related areas of the map.

This new version of the map helps show non-data related areas across the city in textures to better showcase our city's landscape. This includes nonresidential areas, waterways, roadways and recreation areas.



Zooming In & Out

To zoom in and out on the map, you can use one of two methods, listed below:

1. Using your mouse dial, scroll up to zoom in and scroll down to zoom out.
2. In the top left corner of the map, click on the + to zoom in and the - to zoom out.
3. The keyboard function to zoom in or out is (+ -)
4. **You can also search an address. *New feature.**



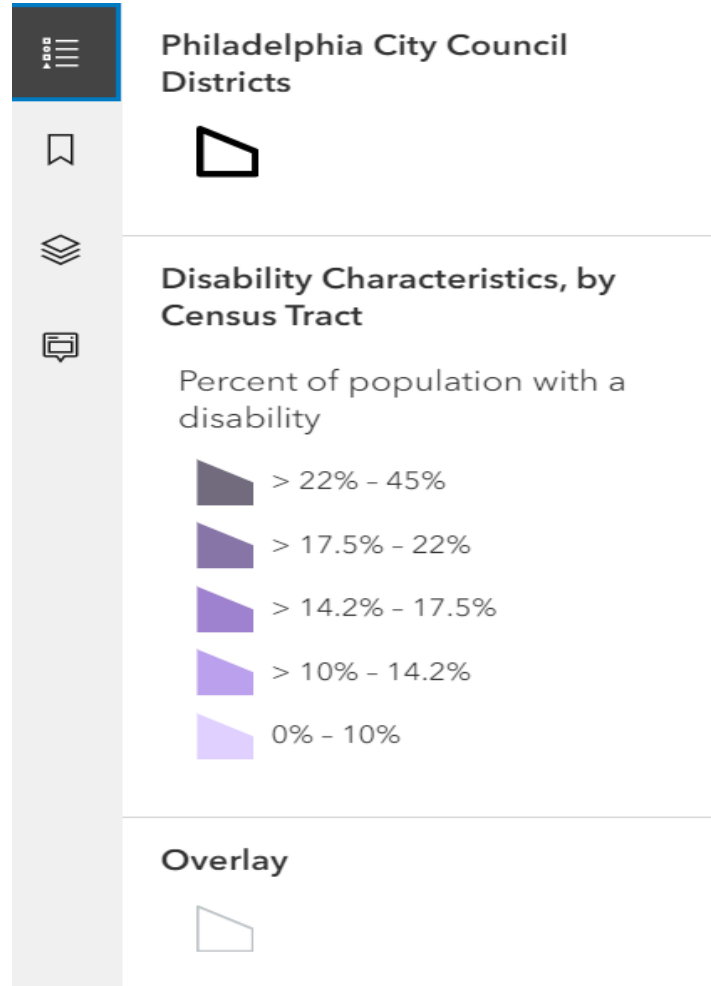
+	Zoom in at the center
-	Zoom out at the center

Displaying the Legend

If at any time you would like to display the map legend, simply click on the first button on the left of the toolbar in the upper left of the screen.

The legend will display in a pop-up window.

Tip: Displaying the legend will close any other pop-up windows on the upper right of the screen.



Changing Geographic Overlays

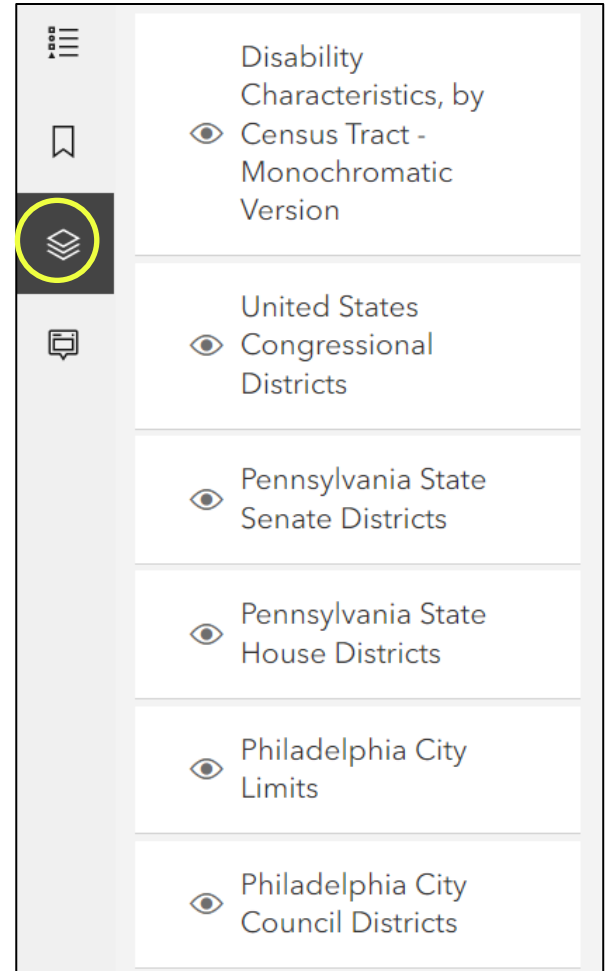
To change the active geographic overlay, click on the second button from the left on the toolbar in the upper left corner of the map.

(When hovering over the icon with your mouse, it should display the text “Layers”.)

From the pop-up menu in the upper right of the screen you can toggle overlays on and off by clicking on them. (The first 7 layers listed are overlays.)

Tip: The map works best when only one geographic overlay is selected at a time.

The New Monochromatic layer is the first layer.

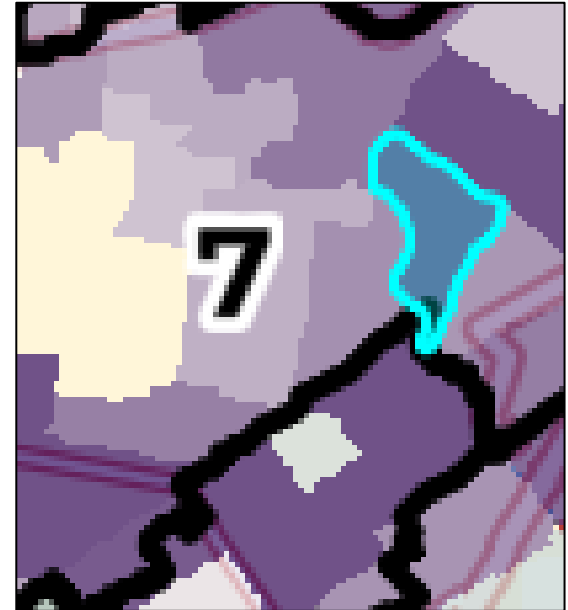


Exploring Disability Characteristics Data

Once you have selected your desired geographic overlay, simply click into an area on the map to display data related to:

- Total Population
- Pop. with a Disability
- Pop. with a Disability by Age
- Pop. with a Disability by Race
- Pop. with a Disability by Hispanic Origin
- **Cross Disability Representation *New**

The data listed includes counts and percentages. **All data is now done in narrative form for all areas.**



Census Tract Example: Census Tract 293

Disability Status

Approximately 995 (± 337) residents living in Census Tract 293 have a disability, representing **33.10%** ($\pm 9.00\%$) of the total population of Census Tract 293.

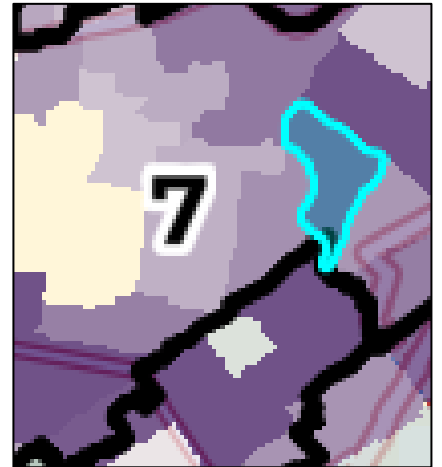
Of the 995 disabled residents living in Census Tract 293, approximately 559 residents have one disability.

Approximately 436 residents have two or more disabilities.

Disability Types

Of the 995 disabled residents living in Census Tract 293, approximately 55 residents have a hearing disability. Approximately 378 residents have a vision disability. Approximately 396 residents have a cognitive disability. Approximately 633 residents have an ambulatory disability. Approximately 109 residents have a self-care disability. Approximately 180 residents have an independent living disability.

Census Tract 293,
Philadelphia County, PA



Census Tract Example Continued: Census Tract 293

Race and Ethnicity:

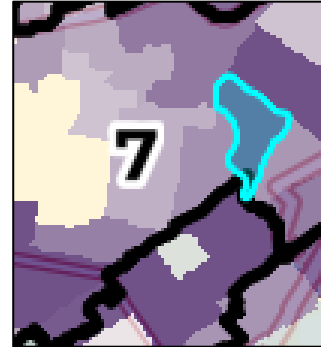
Of the 995 disabled residents living in Census Tract 293, approximately 88 residents are Black or African American, alone. Approximately 392 residents are White, alone. Approximately 0 residents are Asian, alone. Approximately 0 residents are American Indian and Alaskan Native, alone. Approximately 0 residents are Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander, alone. Approximately 502 residents are Some Other Race, alone. Approximately 13 residents are Two or More Races.

Across all races, approximately 529 residents are Hispanic or Latino.

Age and Gender:

Of the 995 disabled residents living in Census Tract 293, approximately 0 residents are under 5 years old. Approximately 106 residents are 5 to 17 years old. Approximately 89 residents are 18 to 34 years old. Approximately 551 residents are 35 to 64 years old. Approximately 198 residents are 65 to 74 years old. Approximately 51 residents are 75+ years old.

Of the 995 disabled residents living in Census Tract 293, approximately 568 are female. Approximately 427 are male.

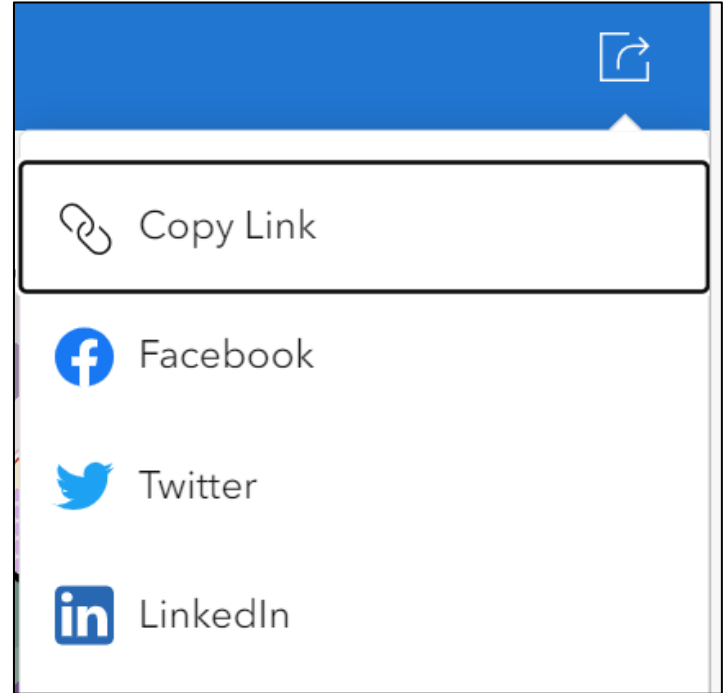


Sharing the Map

Because the map is publicly accessible, you can easily share it via a link using the built-in share tool.

To share the map, simply click on the first button from the right on the toolbar in the upper right corner of the map. (When hovering over the icon with your mouse, it will display the text “Share” and open the drop down menu.)

You can share the map easily with the link and to Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn.



Map Engagement



City Council, City Departments and City Leadership

- Unique district layer of map allows for district specific data.
- Utilize data to include and prioritize residents with disabilities.
- Better understand the accessibility needs of residents.
- Increase accessible engagement within the community and city.

Residents and Community Partners

- People with disabilities are the leading representation of the map.
- Data can be used to better understand Philadelphia's diversity.
- Community organizations can use the data in their work and funding requests.
- **30-member focus group with collaboration of the U.S. Access Board helped with the new updates to ensure accessibility.**

From Federal Government leadership to 5th grade classrooms, this map is ensuring that understanding and utilizing disability data is in reach of all people. Connect with the Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities to learn more about how this map is changing the city and the world!

Using the Map to Guide Equitable Board Recruitment efforts:



- The Map has helped guide conversations around recruitment for the [Mayor's Commission on People with Disabilities](#) and other local and state boards.
Understanding disability representation can change outcomes.



- Desired to ensure that the process was engaging, accessible and equitable for those that traditionally are missed in board recruitment efforts.



- Saw significant growth in the applicant pool with direct lived experience and intersectional identities that align with the diverse representation of Philadelphia's disability community.



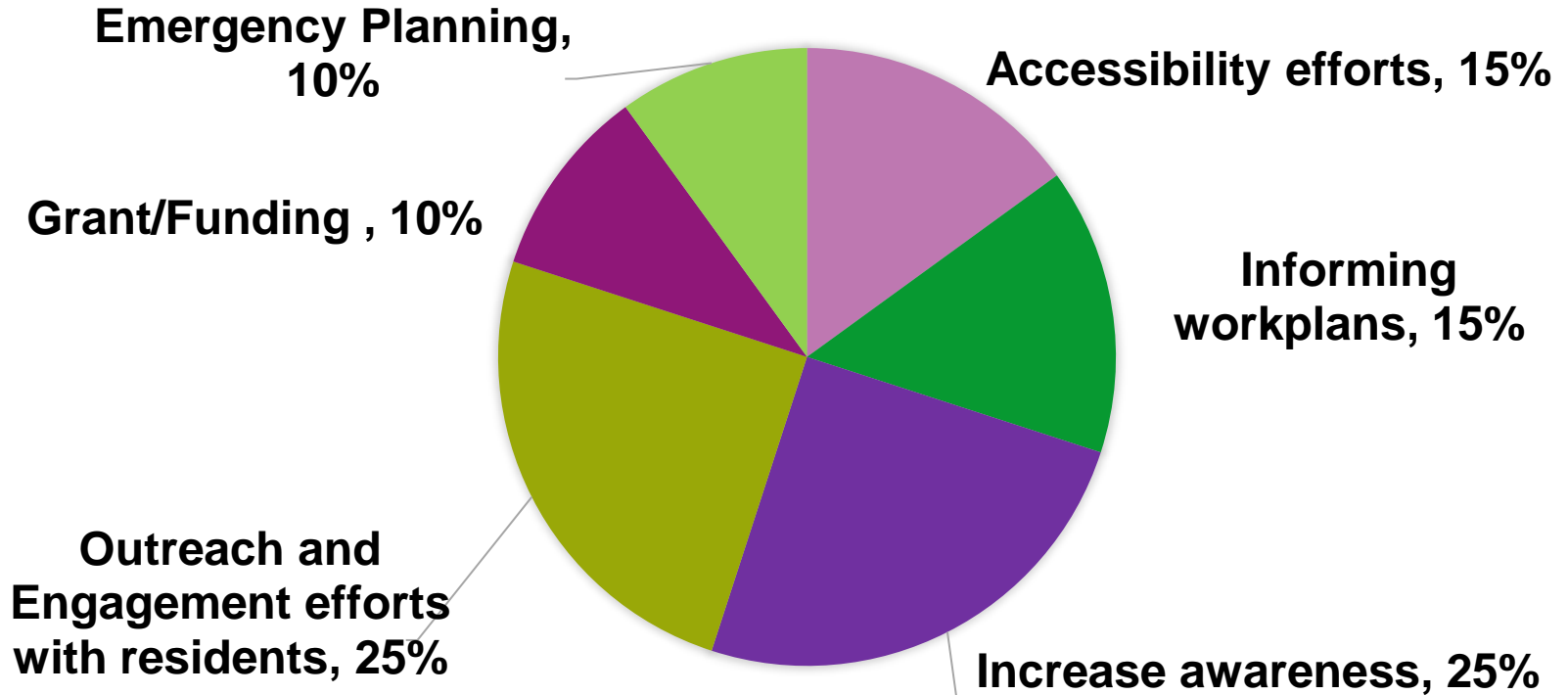
- Decreased "ally" applications. (allyship is vital and needed however there is a fidelity in the lived experiences of people that cannot be duplicated.)

Changing Conversations Changes Outcomes

Many departments have begun using the map to change their policies, practices, programs and plans to be more equitable and accessible. This includes efforts related to the city's [Hazard Mitigation Plan](#), the [Operations Transformation Fund](#), the [Rec for All Plan](#) and the [Streeterly License Guide and Regulations](#).



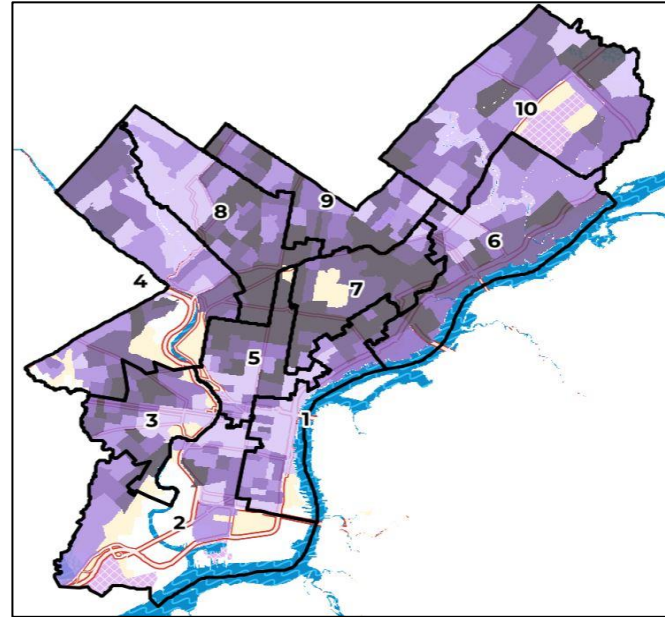
Uses of the Map Internally and Externally since launch:



Projects built with people are different than projects built for people.

***“Representation matters
because there is a richness to
disability you are probably not
aware of.”***

–Elsa S. Henry



The Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities and the City's Commissioners' Office would like to acknowledge the efforts of those who were instrumental in the creation of this map to support our efforts to ensure that the City of Philadelphia and are our world are inclusive and equitable.

Connect with us!

[Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities](#)

Office: Phone: 215-686-2798

ADA Requests: ADA.Request@phila.gov

Amy Nieves, Executive Director
Amy.Nieves@phila.gov

Changing Conversations Changes our City and World:

[The Philadelphia Disabilities Characteristics Map](#)



[Sign Up for the MOPD Newsletter](#)

