HOW TO USE THE POPULATION INDICATORS TOOL IN THE UDS MAPPER
# ACRONYMS USED IN THIS LESSON

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Acronym</th>
<th>What It Stands For</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ACS</td>
<td>American Community Survey</td>
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<tr>
<td>CDC</td>
<td>Centers for Disease Control and Prevention</td>
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<tr>
<td>FPL</td>
<td>Federal Poverty Level</td>
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<tr>
<td>HRSA</td>
<td>Health Resources and Services Administration</td>
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<tr>
<td>UDS</td>
<td>Uniform Data System</td>
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<tr>
<td>ZCTA</td>
<td>ZIP Code Tabulation Area</td>
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</table>
Enables you to do cold spot analysis by finding areas of potential need based on common indicators of health status.

About the data:
- Total population (not the patient population)
- Drawn from different sources, at several geographic levels, and are updated annually (if underlying data are updated)
- See [https://www.udsmapper.org/knowledge-base.cfm](https://www.udsmapper.org/knowledge-base.cfm) for the most current data source dates
- All data are displayed by ZCTA
- Data that are not available from the source at the ZCTA level were imputed based on U.S. Census population data
POPULATION INDICATORS: DATA AND SOURCES (1)

- ACS 5-year estimates, natively by ZCTA
  - % of Population in Poverty (at or below 100% FPL)
  - % of Population Low-Income (at or below 200% FPL)
  - % of Population Not Employed
  - % of Households with Limited English Proficiency
  - % of Population with Less Than High School Education
  - % of Population with a Disability

- ACS 1-year estimates, natively by county (imputed)
  - % of Population Uninsured
POPULATION INDICATORS: DATA AND SOURCES (2)

- HRSA Area Resource File, natively by county (imputed)
  - Low Birth Weight Rate

- CDC WONDER, natively by county (imputed)
  - Age-Adjusted Mortality Rate

- CDC Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), natively by county (imputed)
  - % of Adults Ever Told They Have Diabetes
  - % of Adults Ever Told They Have High Blood Pressure
  - % of Adults Who Are Obese
  - % of Adults with No Dental Visit in the Past Year
  - % of Adults Who Have Delayed or Not Sought Care Due to High Cost
  - % of Adults with No Usual Source of Care
  - % of Adults Who Smoke
  - % of Adults Who Binge Drink
CLEAR COLORED LAYERS FROM THE MAP

- Population Indicators are best visualized with a clear map background

- Before displaying Population Indicators data on the map, you should remove other colorful data layers including the Main Maps
  - Open the **Main Maps** tool, click **No Main Map Selected**
How to Open the Population Indicators Tool

- Click on the **Population Indicators** icon (looks like a group of people) in the Tool Box in the upper right corner of the map.
- If you only see a blue bar with a few tool buttons, click the white, downward-pointing arrow to reveal the tools.
To Use the Population Indicators Tool

- You must be close in to the map to activate the indicators.
- If you start at the default level, **zoom in** three times.
The hashmarks in each slider indicate the range of values that the map displays.

The color in each slider shows the range of the data for the geographic area you are currently seeing on the screen and will change as you move around the country.

The number range under each slider bar shows your indicator's set value (left number) and the maximum value of that dataset for the nation.
TURN ON A POPULATION INDICATOR

- Every indicator’s sliding circle is automatically set to the national average for that indicator.
- When you first turn on an indicator, the colored areas are ZCTAs with values indicating equal to or higher need than the national average.
USE REASONABLE BENCHMARKS

- Because you can set your own values in this tool, it is important to use reasonable benchmarks when looking for “high” need
  - By default, indicators are set to the national average

- Stating that an area has high need may be false – it must be compared to a tangible value rather than a user-selected number
WHERE TO FIND BENCHMARKS

- Benchmarks other than the national average include published targets (Healthy People 2020) or state or regional averages

- While you may use any benchmark, state rates are available on the UDS Mapper site: https://www.udsmapper.org/benchmarks.cfm
Set appropriate benchmark

- As we see in the Benchmarks table, 9.9% of Ohioans have less than a high school education
- People with this education level may find it difficult to find employment that offers health insurance
Turn off education level indicator and turn on the high blood pressure indicator

- As we see in the Benchmarks table, Ohio has a high blood pressure prevalence of 34.7%
Turn education level indicator back on to look for overlapping cold spots of need based on multiple indicators

- **Blue areas**: at least 10% of population with less than high school education
- **Purple areas**: at least 35% high blood pressure prevalence
- **Blended areas**: at least 10% of population less than high school education AND at least 35% high blood pressure prevalence

Because blended colors do not appear in the legend, we recommend that you not turn on more than two indicators at a time, as colors will blend and become confusing.
**DOWNLOADING POPULATION INDICATORS DATA**

- The Population Indicators data are available to view in the **Data Table** and can be downloaded
  - The data will only be available for the ZCTAs that are selected in the Explore Service Area tool

- To visually determine the rate in a specific ZCTA, gradually move the **slider button** and note when the ZCTA becomes unfilled
  - For example, if you move the slider setting for Adults with No Usual Source of Care, Est. (%) from 10 to 11, and you see a ZCTA become unfilled, you know that 10% of adults in that ZCTA have no usual source of care
Proceed to the next lesson to continue learning how to use the UDS Mapper
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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