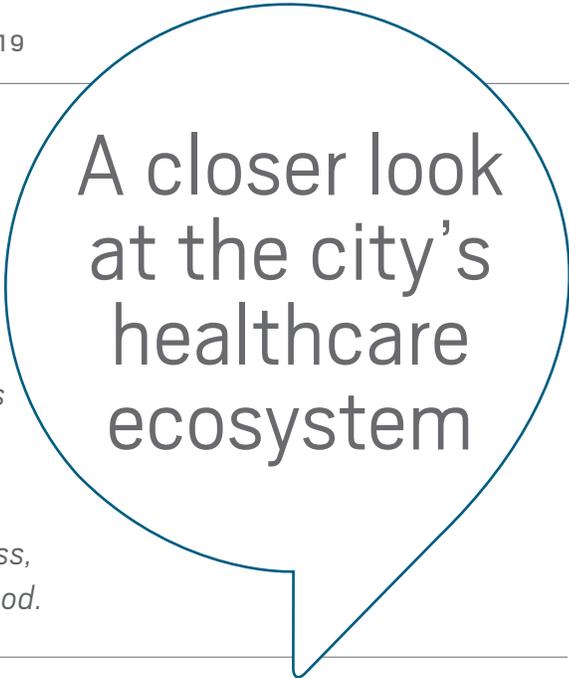


Conversation Guide

Access to healthcare

Chicago's healthcare system is rich with talented professionals and leading medical technology, making it one of the most advanced in the country. But, who really has access to it?

The city has significant health-related shortcomings to address, namely the vast differences in health outcomes by neighborhood.



A closer look
at the city's
healthcare
ecosystem

In selecting this topic, your Table will discuss health and healthcare Chicago. Keep these points in mind:

- 91 percent of city residents were insured in 2016, according to figures recently released by the [U.S. Census' American Community Survey](#). Just

9.6 percent, or about 256,000 people, remain uninsured in the city.

- According to UIC's Tale of Three Cities report, Health outcomes are improving across Chicago, but inequalities between blacks and whites are either stagnant or widening on major indicators

of mortality like heart disease, stroke, and mortality in general

- During the past three decades, the black mortality rate has been 130% times the white rate.
- Black Chicagoans die younger too. Because many of these deaths are preventable, health

experts refer to them as "premature." The black premature mortality rate is 13,642 years of potential life lost per 100,000 residents, three times the white rate of 5,698.

- There is just [one trauma center](#) on the South Side of Chicago.

Here are some [resources](#) to assist you as you prepare to discuss healthcare for those who live and work in the Chicago area.

- [Article outlines the lack of trauma centers in blighted Chicago communities, despite high need for them](#)
- [A 2017 report details Chicago's racial, ethnic disparities](#)
- [Addressing health disparities on the West Side](#)
- [Improving health on the South Side](#)

Here are some [suggested questions](#) for your Table discussion:

1. What do you think of the Affordable Care Act and how it affects Chicagoans?
2. How do you think access to adequate healthcare affects a city?
3. Do you have thoughts on the pros and cons of a single payer healthcare system?
4. How can we address ailments and deaths that could be prevented by the individual?