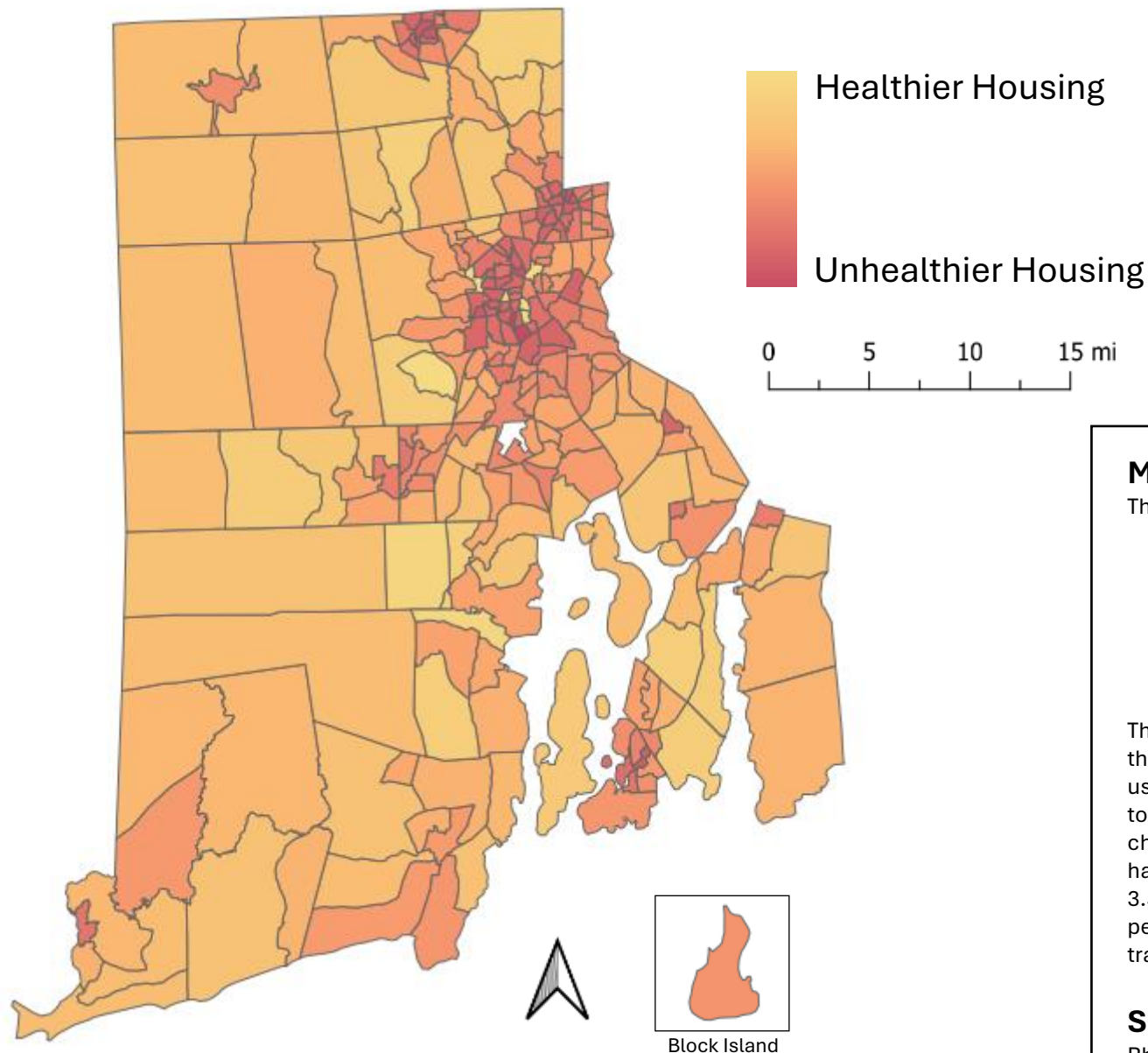


Map of Childhood Lead Exposure, Asthma, Family Income, and Older Housing



RILDS
RHODE ISLAND LONGITUDINAL DATA SYSTEM

Method:

This map is a composite analysis of 4 key indicators of unhealthy housing:

- Percent of children younger than 6 years of age with blood lead levels greater than or equal to 3.5 micrograms of lead per deciliter (mcg/dL)
- Rate of asthma-related emergency department visits for children younger than 18
- Percent of housing units built before 1978
- Family income levels

The study was calculated using census tract data. Census tract data is information captured by the US federal government's census, broken down by geographic areas that are coded with the use of US postal ZIP codes. The results were standardized, averaged, and ranked from healthiest to unhealthiest. Blood lead levels greater than or equal to 3.5 mcg/dL are higher than most children's blood lead levels in the United States. Census tracts are considered unhealthier if they have a higher percentage of children with elevated blood lead levels (greater than or equal to 3.5mcg/dL), a higher rate of children's emergency department visits related to asthma, a higher percentage of older homes, and lower median family income, when compared to other census tracts.

Sources:

Rhode Island Department of Health Asthma & Lead Data (2018-2022), US Census Bureau 5-year American Community Survey (ACS, 2018-2022).