

# *DENVER REGIONAL EQUITY ATLAS*

MAKING THE CASE: EMPOWERING  
PEOPLE AND COMMUNITIES TO  
ADDRESS A CHANGING REGION

[denverregionalequityatlas.org](http://denverregionalequityatlas.org)

Rocky Mountain Land Use Institute

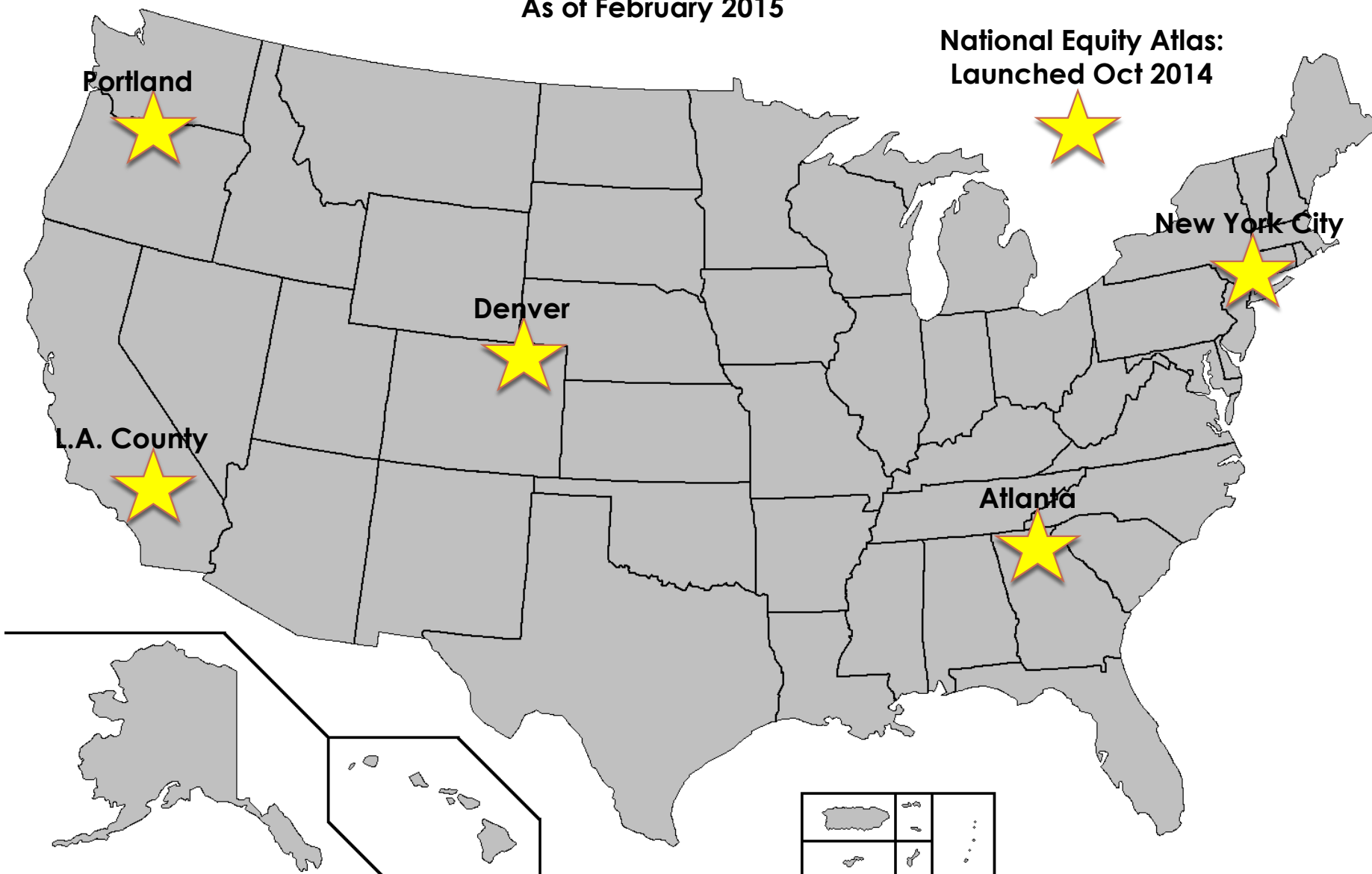
Conference: March 13, 2015

Jennifer Newcomer, The Piton Foundation

# PLACES WITH EQUITY ATLASES

As of February 2015

National Equity Atlas:  
Launched Oct 2014



# DENVER REGIONAL EQUITY ATLAS 1.0



## THE DENVER REGIONAL EQUITY ATLAS

Mapping Access to Opportunity at a Regional Scale



MileHighConnects

Released April 2012

Showcase geographic  
interrelationship between:

- Housing
- Jobs
- Education
- Health
- Transportation Access

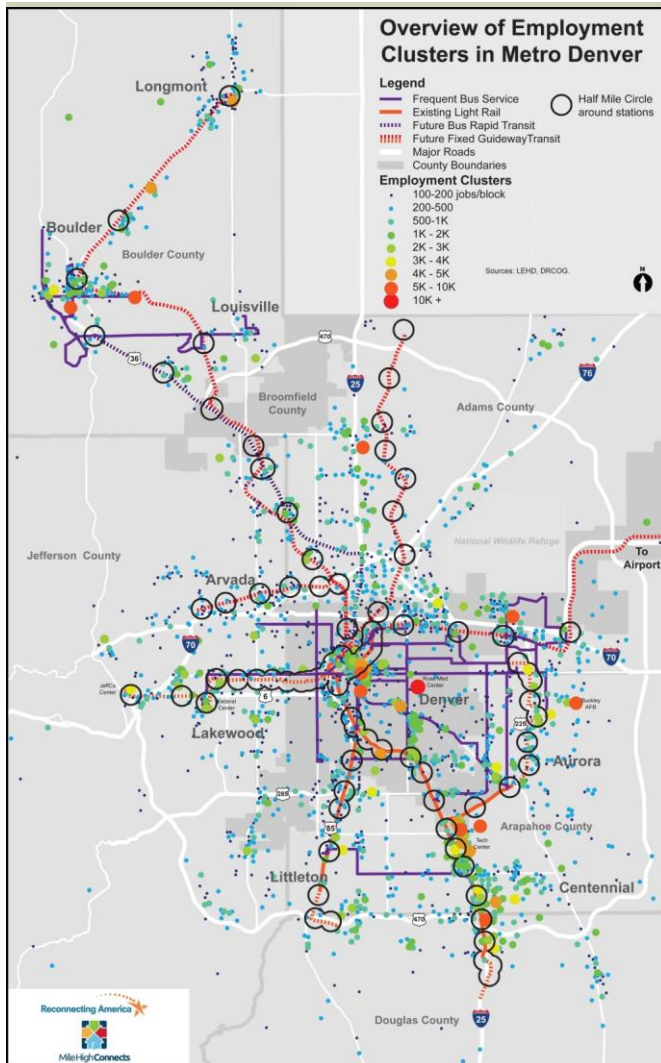
Highlight social equity disparities

Tell the story



# DENVER'S FASTRACKS

## THE OPPORTUNITY & CHALLENGE



- \$7.8 billion investment
- 70 new stations
- 45,000 HHs
- 58.1% have less than a bachelors degree
- 40% will earn under 60% AMI

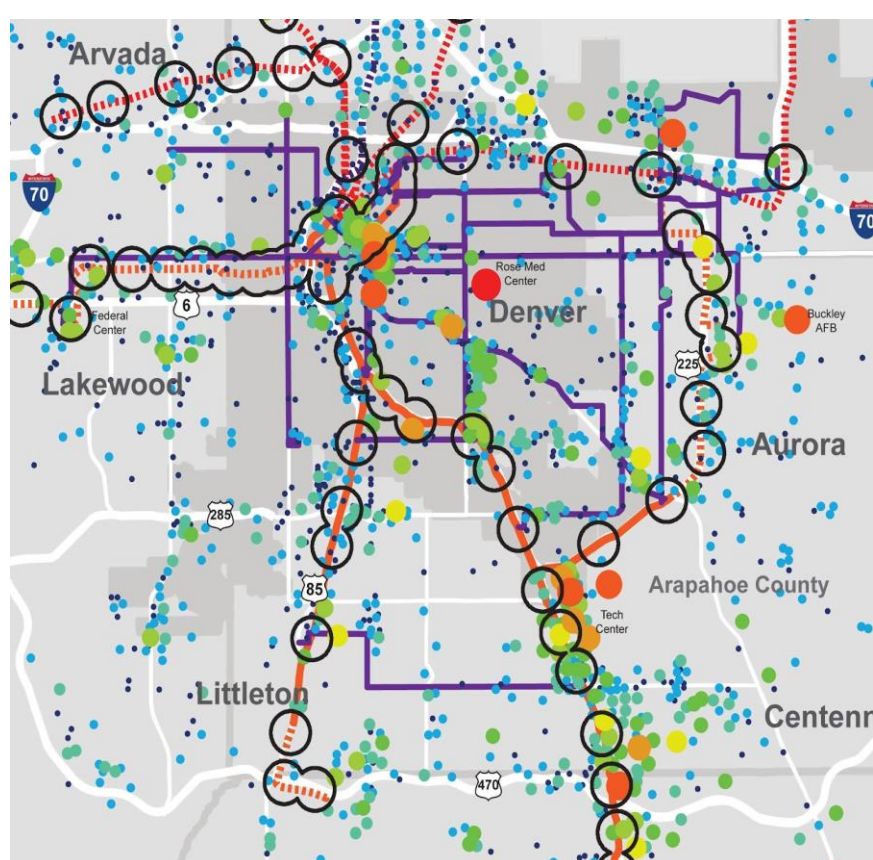
***Who Will Benefit?***

# KEY FINDINGS

1. The region is interdependent.
2. Poverty is a regional issue.
3. New transit service will improve access to opportunity, but gaps will remain.
4. We need affordable housing strategies.
5. This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for the region.

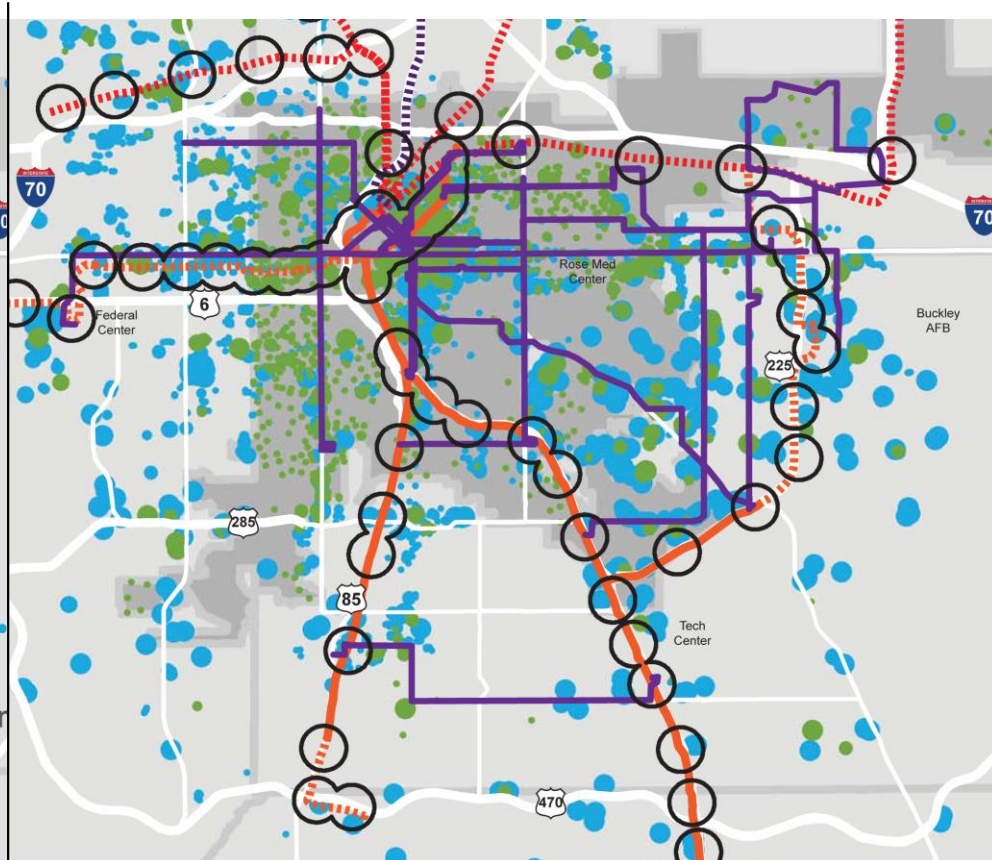


# ATLAS 1.0 LIMITATIONS



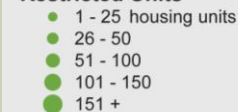
**Jobs**

## Employment Clusters

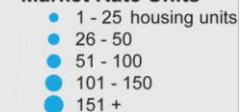


**Affordable Housing**

## Restricted Units



## Market Rate Units



Sources: City and County of Denver & Community Strategies Institute, DRCOG.



# DENVER REGIONAL EQUITY ATLAS 2.0



## DENVER REGIONAL EQUITY ATLAS

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[MAP](#) [BACKGROUND](#) [TOPIC AREAS](#) [FUNDING](#) [AUDIENCE](#) [CONTRIBUTORS](#) [HELP](#) [CONTACT](#)



### Background

The Denver Regional Equity Atlas is a tool to help raise awareness among a wide range of stakeholders about the benefits and opportunities that a robust public transportation network can create. This interactive tool provides users with the ability to create maps that depict the region's major origins and destinations in relation to the current and future transit network, and also generate reports on demographic, economic and other data of the region or particular communities. The Atlas emphasizes the need to ensure access to opportunity for everyone in the region, especially improving connections for the region's most economically disadvantaged residents. The future transit network will better connect people to jobs, healthcare providers, schools, grocery stores, parks and other essential destinations, but there are challenges in ensuring that the people who use and need access to public transportation the most have the opportunity to live, work, learn and play in transit-oriented communities.

The first phase of the Equity Atlas was completed in April 2012 and is available on the [Mile High Connects](#) website. This static document captures a snapshot of the region at one point in time (2011). The Equity Atlas is being used by practitioners and community members alike as a tool to explore the relationship between different issue areas (housing, education, jobs and health), guiding investment decisions, grant making and community outreach. The Atlas has received national attention for its innovative approach to visually representing the region's opportunities and challenges in relation to transit, and several other regions are now considering developing their own equity atlases.

[Registered users](#) can view, create, save, and share [maps here](#).



# PARTNERS



Mile High Connects  
Opportunity for all through transit

## DENVER REGIONAL EQUITY ATLAS



DRCOG  
DENVER REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS  
We make life better!



THE PITON FOUNDATION

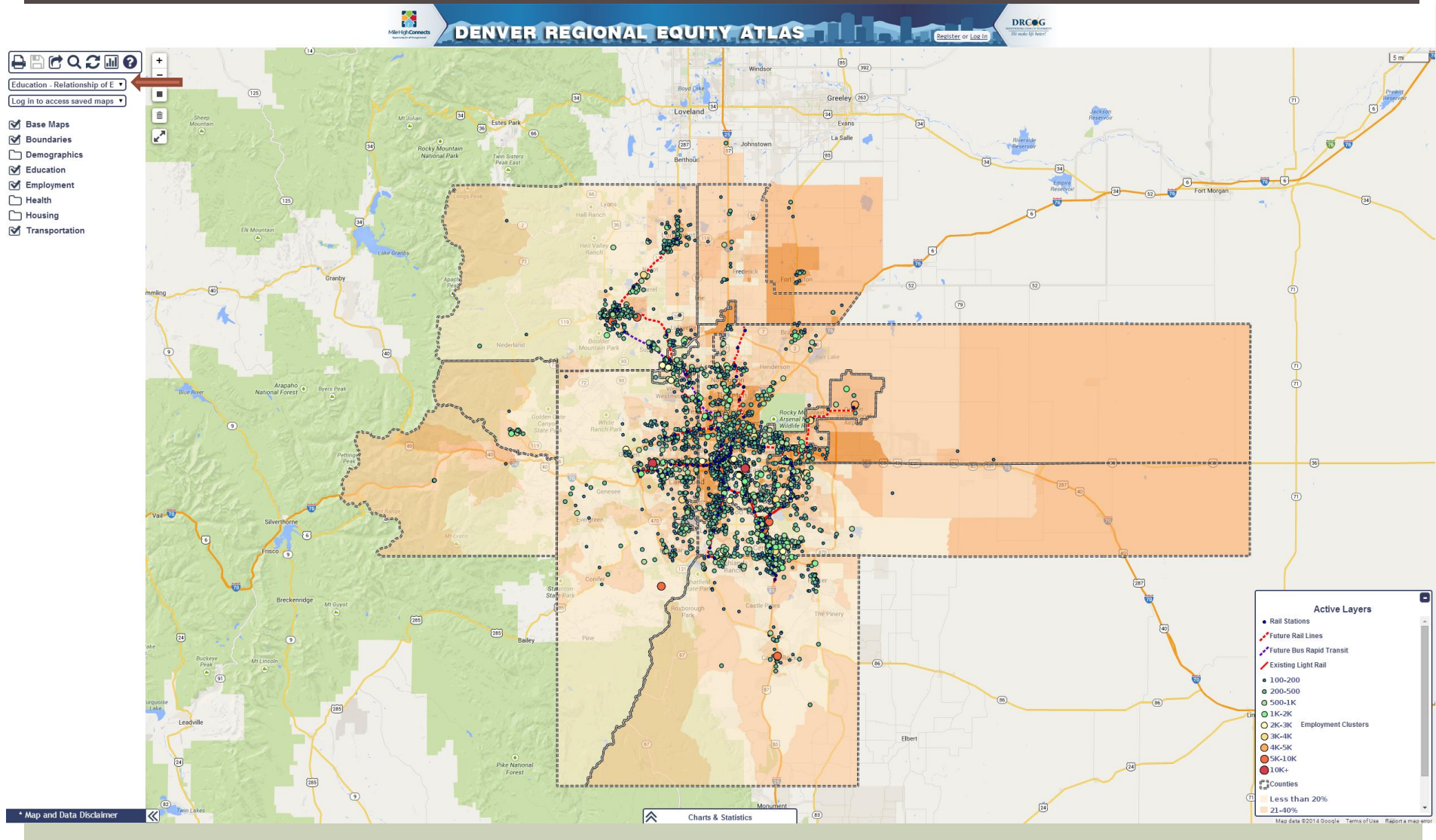




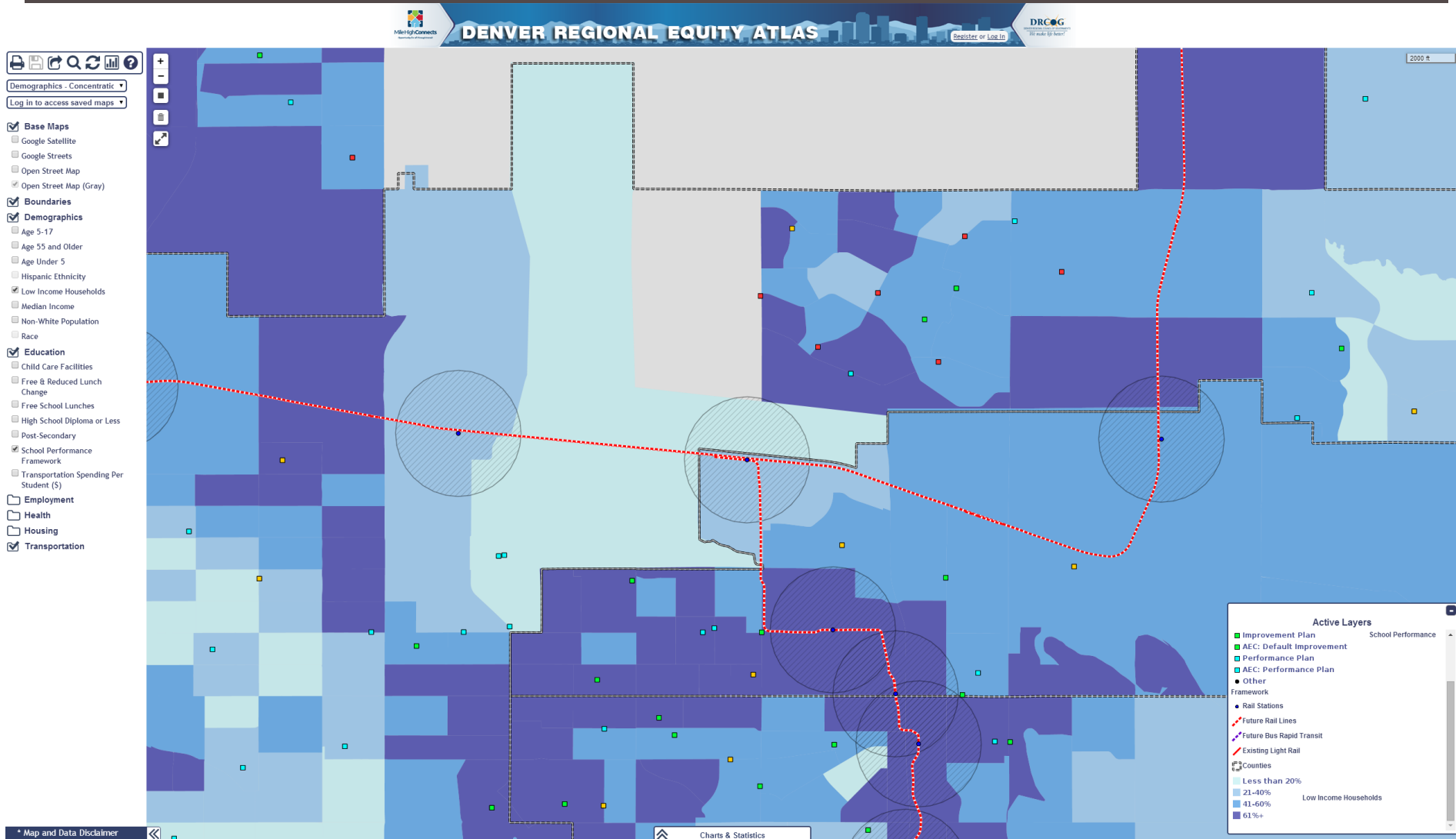
# KEY FEATURES

1. Recreate original maps
2. Select specific map layers to display
3. Ability to zoom to a neighborhood scale
4. Select Census tracts or counties for additional statistics
5. Share, embed or print maps

# RECREATE ORIGINAL MAPS

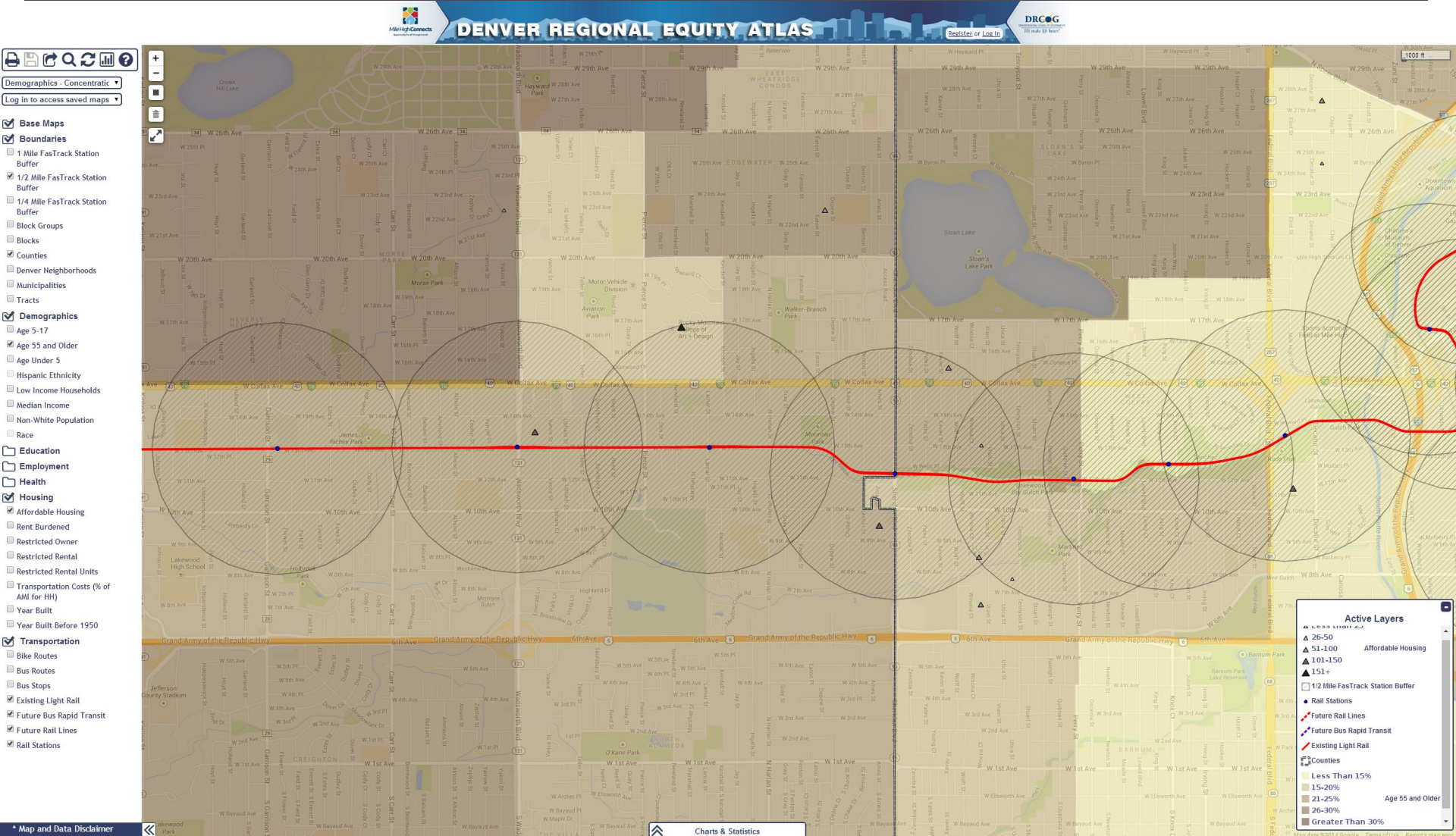


# SELECT SPECIFIC MAP LAYERS





# NEIGHBORHOOD SCALE





# ADDITIONAL STATISTICS



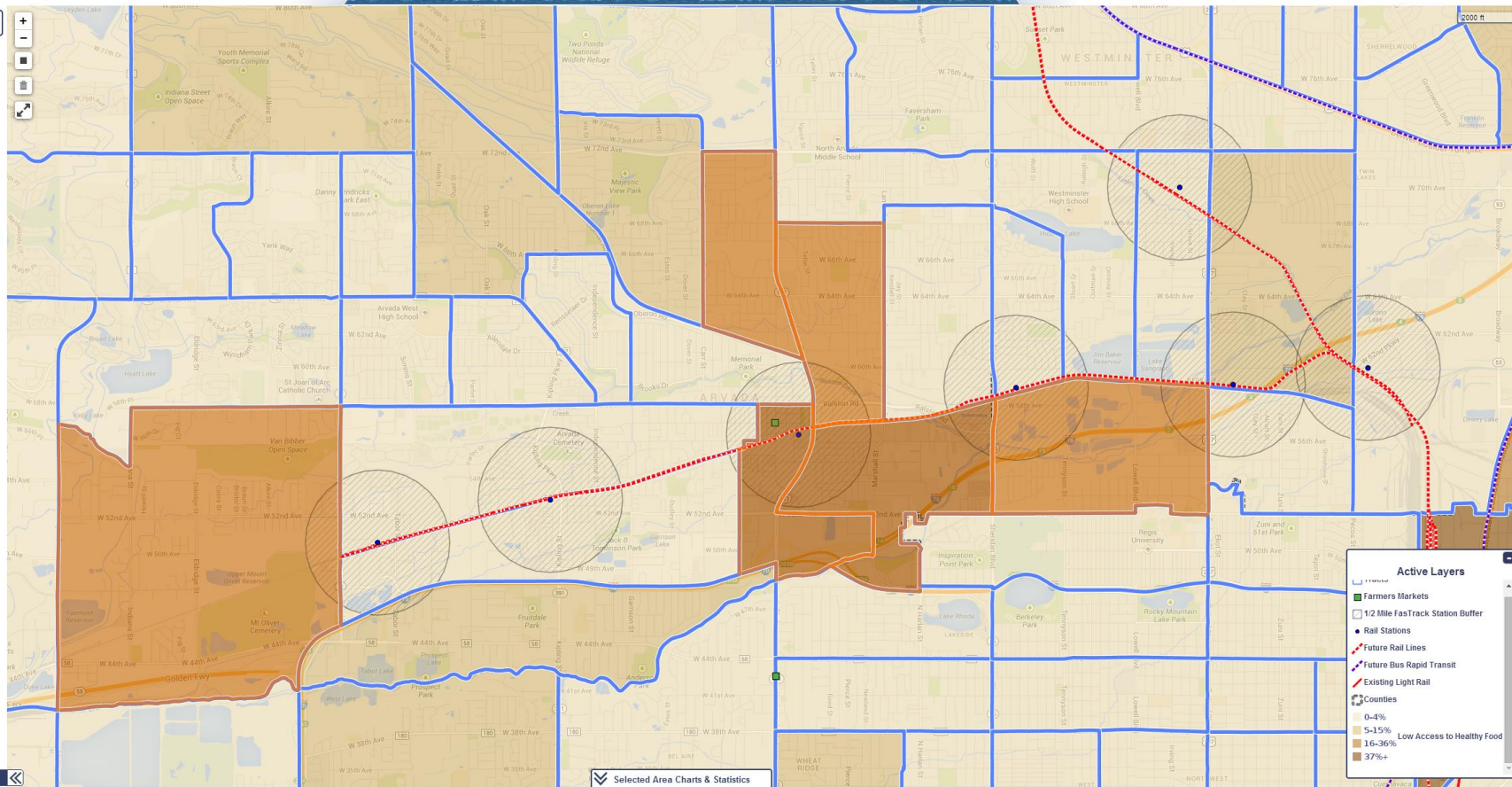
## DENVER REGIONAL EQUITY ATLAS

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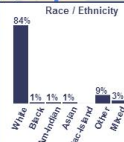
Demographics - Concentric  
Log in to access saved maps

- ☒ Base Maps
- ☒ Boundaries
- ☐ Demographics
- ☐ Education
- ☐ Employment
- ☒ Health
  - ☐ Adult Asthma Rate
  - ☐ Adult Obesity Rate
  - ☐ Blocks by Area (8 acre)
  - ☒ Farmers Markets
  - ☐ Health Facilities
  - ☐ Hospitals
  - ☐ Local and Regional Parks
  - ☐ Low Access to Healthy Food
  - ☐ Trauma Centers
- ☐ Housing
- ☒ Transportation
  - ☐ Bike Routes
  - ☐ Bus Routes
  - ☐ Bus Stops
  - ☒ Existing Light Rail
  - ☒ Future Bus Rapid Transit
  - ☒ Future Rail Lines
  - ☒ Rail Stations

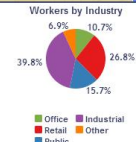


\* Map and Data Disclaimer

Summary Statistics	
Population	19,394
Avg. Household Size	2.69
Jobs	11,323
Commute - Carpool	849
Commute - Drive Alone	7,368
Commute - Bike / Walk	304
Commute - Transit	406

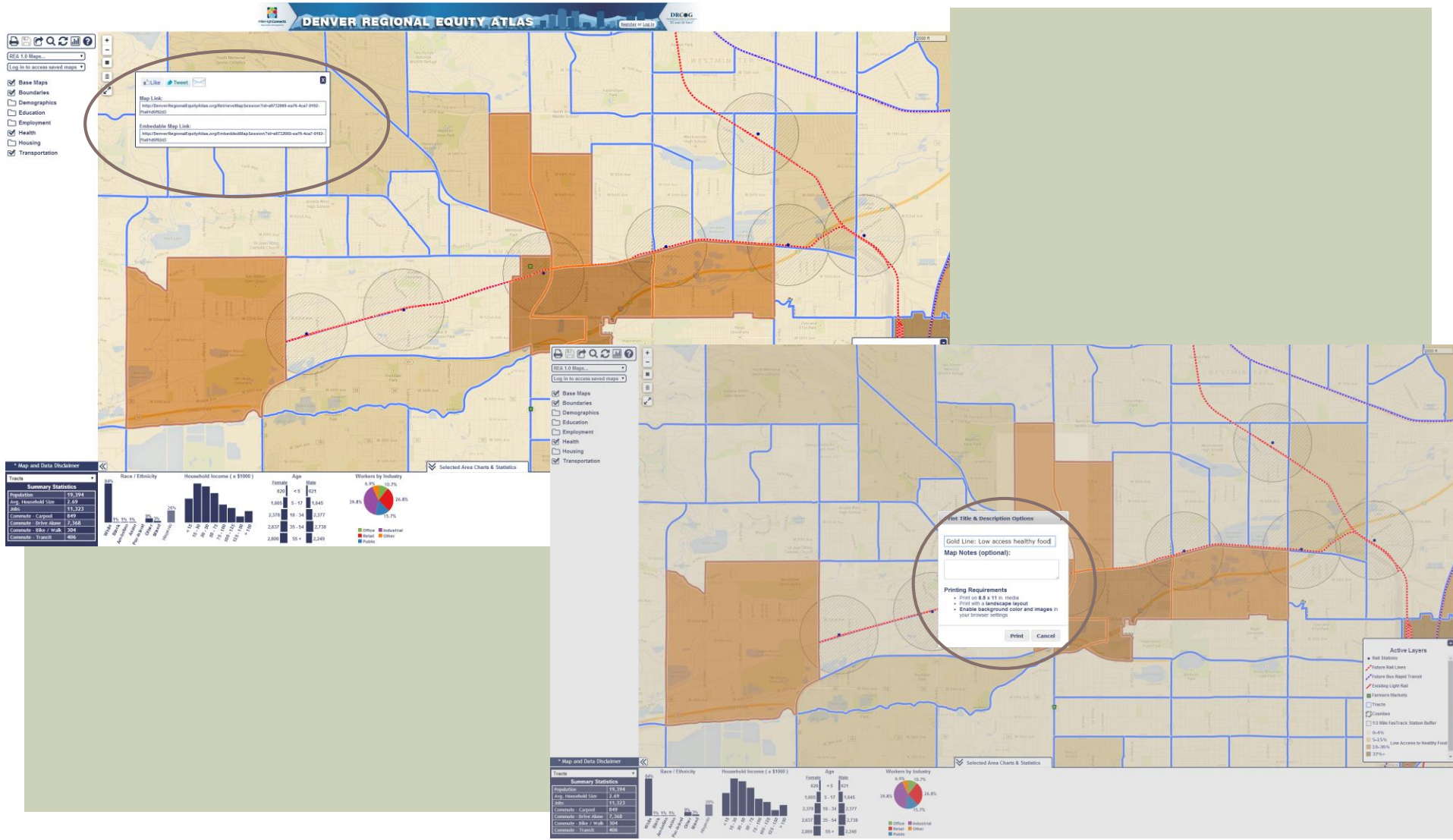


Age	
Female	Male
620 < 5	621
1,605 5 - 17	1,645
2,378 18 - 34	2,377
2,637 35 - 54	2,738
2,800 55 +	2,249



Selected Area Charts & Statistics

# SHARE, EMBED, OR PRINT



# ACTIVITIES SINCE LAUNCH

1. Established formal MOU for stewardship
2. Conducted trainings, including listening and learning from users
3. Outreach to drive people to the site
4. Feedback identified opportunities for enhancements

# MOVING FORWARD

1. Launching time series elements/data updates
2. Continue to receive feedback to inform future enhancements
3. Evaluation tool for Mile High Connects and others?



# QUESTIONS?

[www.denverregionalequityatlas.org](http://www.denverregionalequityatlas.org)

[www.drcog.org](http://www.drcog.org)

[www.milehighconnects.org](http://www.milehighconnects.org)

[www.piton.org](http://www.piton.org)

[www.reconnectingamerica.org](http://www.reconnectingamerica.org)

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Mile High Connects  
Opportunity for all throughout

## DENVER REGIONAL EQUITY ATLAS

**DRCOG**  
DENVER REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS  
*We make life better!*

THE PITON FOUNDATION



**Reconnecting America**  
People • Places • Possibility

