

Inclusive Healthy Places Framework

Public spaces can support more equitable health outcomes, so long as they are shaped and sustained with both health and inclusion in mind. The Framework is a set of measurable indicators supporting the four guiding principles of inclusion and health equity for the public space context. In addition to the principles, drivers, and indicators shown here, the Framework includes 158 suggested metrics corresponding with the indicators.

The Framework supports a working definition of inclusion as an outcome, a process, and a tool for change.

The Framework is built around four guiding principles for shaping and assessing public space projects. Only one principle addresses physical space, reflecting the need for practitioners to look beyond physical design and placemaking to create change. The context, process, and sustainability associated with public space design have to be considered.

Principle 1: Context

Recognize community context by cultivating knowledge of the existing conditions, assets, and lived experiences that relate to health equity.

Principle 2: Process

Support inclusion in the processes that shape public space by promoting civic trust, participation, and social cohesion.

Principle 3: Design & Program

Design and program public space for health equity by improving quality, enhancing access and safety, and inviting diversity.

Principle 4: Sustain

Foster social resilience and capacity of local communities to engage with changes in place over time by promoting representation, agency, and stability.

