Communities in close proximity to transit corridors, agricultural areas, and historically redlined neighborhoods show increased asthma rates among adults. These areas tend to have higher concentrations of traffic, congestion, and pollution, which have been tied to asthma and other health impacts.

Data from the Centers for Disease Control reveals a concentration of asthma cases in Miami’s urban core and along the US1/I-95 transit corridors, which are characterized by a high concentration of impervious surfaces, higher than average ambient temperatures, and high rates of traffic. In addition, elevated rates of asthma cases are found in Homestead, where the use of pesticides from agricultural production facilities can impact air quality conditions.

Asthma rates correlate directly with HOLC Grades. ‘D’ grade neighborhoods that historically have faced a lack of investment have the highest rates of asthma incidence, while ‘A’ grade neighborhoods have the lowest asthma rates.

Neighborhoods that were historically redlined continue to experience environmental inequities, including higher ambient temperatures, lower tree canopy coverage, and higher exposure to pollutants, which collectively contributes to undesirable health outcomes like increased asthma rates. A heightened awareness of the need to improve conditions for historically marginalized communities has driven policies such as increasing tree canopy to reduce temperatures and promote better air quality.

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