

Justice40 Initiative Primer

Robin Lisowski | Slipstream

May 9, 2023

**Accelerate
climate
solutions.
For everyone.**



The Justice40 Initiative: Summary

40% of **benefits** from certain federal investments in climate and clean energy will go to **disadvantaged communities (DACs)**



Sources: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/environmentaljustice/justice40/>
and <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/01/27/fact-sheet-president-biden-takes-executive-actions-to-tackle-the-climate-crisis-at-home-and-abroad-create-jobs-and-restore-scientific-integrity-across-federal-government/>

The Justice40 Initiative: Authorization



Created by Executive Order 14008: Tackling the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad and signed January 27, 2021

The Justice40 Initiative: What It Says

(114,180 views)

<https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2021/02/01/2021-02177/tackling-the-climate-crisis-at-home-and-abroad>

Sec. 223. Justice40 Initiative. (a) Within 120 days of the date of this order, the Chair of the Council on Environmental Quality, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, and the National Climate Advisor, in consultation with the Advisory Council, shall jointly publish recommendations on how certain Federal investments might be made toward a goal that 40 percent of the overall benefits flow to disadvantaged communities. The recommendations shall focus on investments in the areas of clean energy and energy efficiency; clean transit; affordable and sustainable housing; training and workforce development; the remediation and reduction of legacy pollution; and the development of critical clean water infrastructure. The recommendations shall reflect existing authorities the agencies may possess for achieving the 40-percent goal as well as recommendations on any legislation needed to achieve the 40-percent goal.

(b) In developing the recommendations, the Chair of the Council on Environmental Quality, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, and the National Climate Advisor shall consult with affected disadvantaged communities.

(c) Within 60 days of the recommendations described in subsection (a) of this section, agency heads shall identify applicable program investment funds based on the recommendations and consider interim investment guidance to relevant program staff, as appropriate and consistent with applicable law.

(d) By February 2022, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, in coordination with the Chair of the Council on Environmental Quality, the Administrator of the United States Digital Service, and other relevant agency heads, shall, to the extent consistent with applicable law, publish on a public website an annual Environmental Justice Scorecard detailing agency environmental justice performance measures.

The Justice40 Initiative: Initial Implementation

Interim Guidance was issued by OMB July 20, 2021

- Clarifies that Justice40 applies to federal agencies responsible for covered programs
- Includes
 - Interim definition of disadvantaged communities
 - Covered programs
 - Examples of benefits of covered programs
 - Calculating benefits
 - Reporting
 - Pilot to maximize benefits to disadvantaged communities (21 pilots)

The Justice40 Initiative: What is a Disadvantaged Community (DAC)?

Community

- A group of individuals living in geographic proximity to one another or
- A geographically dispersed set of individuals (such as migrant workers or Native Americans), where either type of group experiences common conditions

The Justice40 Initiative: What is a Disadvantaged Community (DAC)?

Disadvantaged – a combination of variables that may include but are not limited to:



- Low income, high and/or persistent poverty
- High unemployment and underemployment
- Racial and ethnic residential segregation, particularly where the segregation stems from discriminate by government entities
- Linguistic isolation
- High house cost burden and substandard housing
- Distressed neighborhoods
- High transportation cost burden and/or low transportation access
- Disproportionate environmental stressor burden and high cumulative impacts
- Limited water and sanitation access and affordability
- Disproportionate impacts from climate change
- High energy cost burden and low energy access
- Jobs lost through the energy transition
- Access to healthcare
- Geographic areas within Tribal jurisdictions


The Justice40 Initiative:


What is a Disadvantaged Community (DAC)?




- The order initiates the development of a screening tool, building off EPA's EJSCREEN, to identify disadvantaged communities
- The Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool (CEJST)
 - Beta tool released February 18, 2022
 - Public comment period was open until April 25, 2022
 - 1.0 Version of the tool released November 22, 2022
- Purpose is to help federal agencies identify disadvantaged communities that are “marginalized, underserved, and overburdened by pollution”
- Tool has socioeconomic, economic, and climate information about communities
- Uses publicly-available, national datasets
- EO 14008 amended January 27, 2023 requires agencies use CEJST by October 2023


The Justice40 Initiative: CEJST

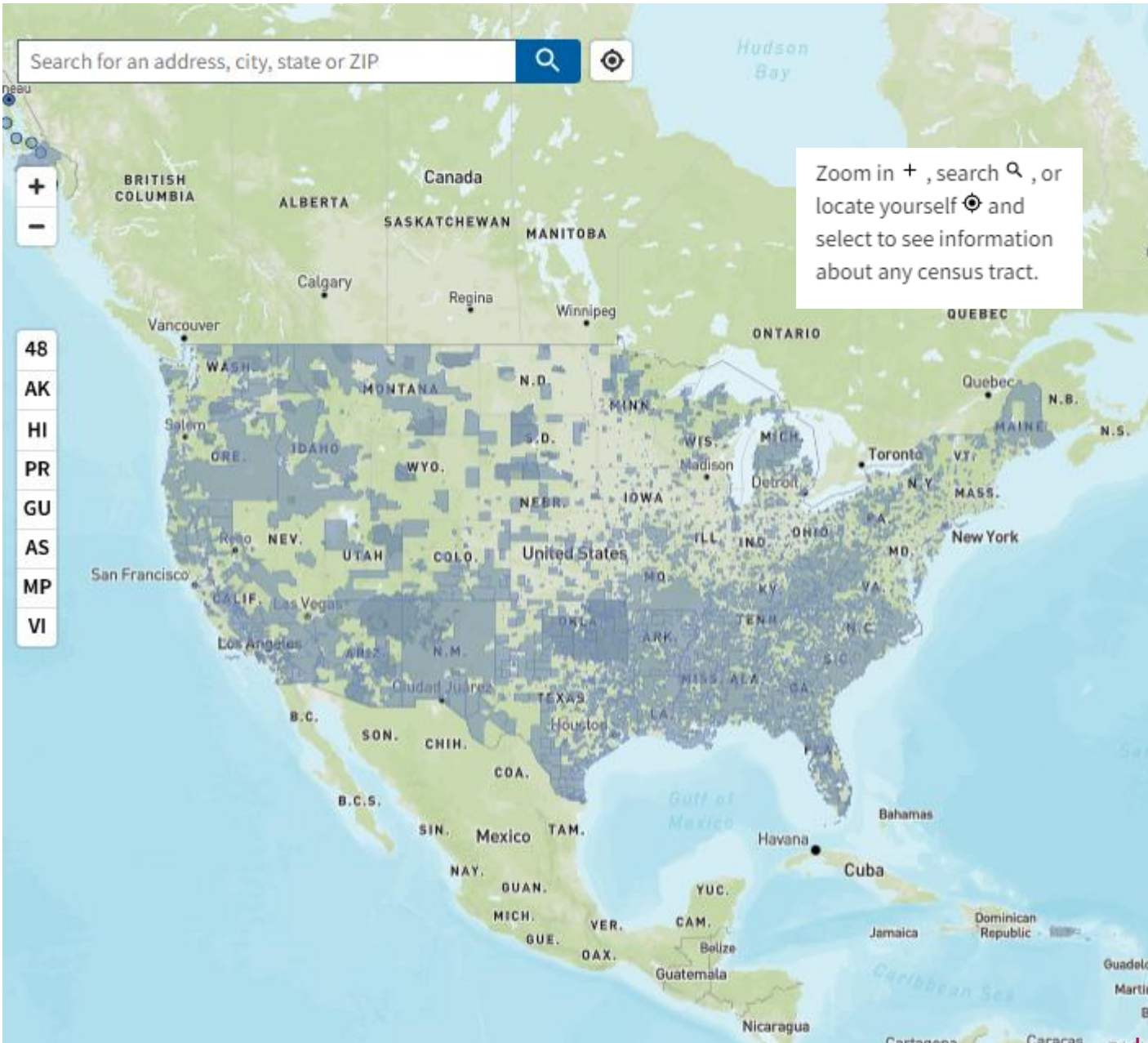
The tool uses census tracts . Census tracts are a small unit of geography. They generally have populations  of between 1,200 - 8,000 people.

The tool ranks most of the burdens using percentiles . Percentiles show how much burden each tract experiences when compared to other tracts.

Communities that are disadvantaged live in tracts that experience burdens. These tracts are highlighted  on the map.

Thresholds , or cutoffs, are used to determine if communities in a tract are disadvantaged. Certain burdens use percentages  or a simple yes/no .

Land within the boundaries of Federally Recognized Tribes and point locations for Alaska Native Villages are highlighted  on the map. These communities are also considered disadvantaged.



Explore the map

Census tracts that are overburdened and underserved are highlighted as being disadvantaged on the map. Federally Recognized Tribes, including Alaska Native Villages, are also considered disadvantaged communities.

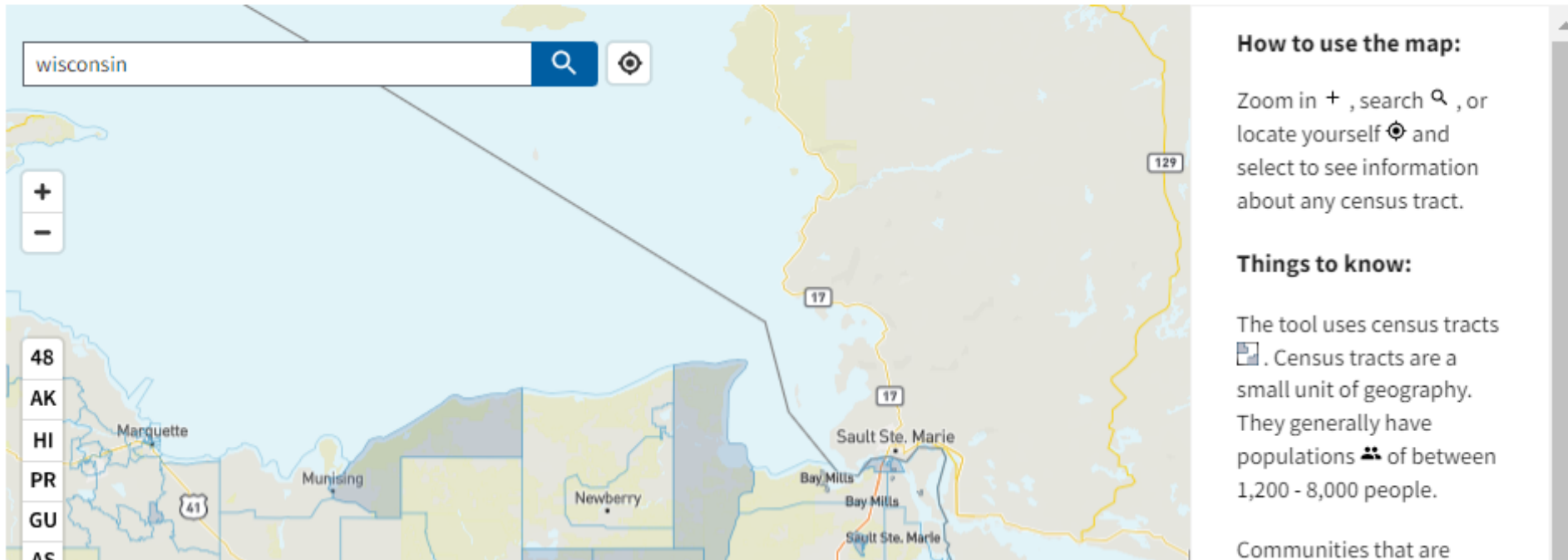
Zooming in and selecting shows information about each census tract.

Share data sources with CEQ

The Justice40 Initiative: CEJST

Get the data ↓

Download the data with documentation and shapefile from the [downloads](#) page.



How to use the map:

Zoom in + , search 🔍 , or locate yourself 📍 and select to see information about any census tract.

Things to know:

The tool uses census tracts 🗺️. Census tracts are a small unit of geography. They generally have populations 👥 of between 1,200 - 8,000 people.

Communities that are

<https://screeningtool.geoplatform.gov/en/#6.93/45.861/-85.551>

Downloads

Version 1.0 file formats

View [release notes](#) ▾

The dataset used in the 1.0 version of the tool, along with a codebook, and information about how to use the list of communities (.pdf) are available for download:

[Communities list data](#) ⬇ (.xlsx 35.6MB)

[Communities list data](#) ⬇ (.csv 42MB)

[Shapefile](#) ⬇ (Codebook included with shapefile 356.8MB unzipped)

[Technical support document](#) 📄 (.pdf 4.4MB)

[Instructions to Federal agencies on using the CEJST](#) 📄 (.pdf 228.4kB)

[How to use the list of communities](#) 📄 (.pdf 687.9kB)

Share data sources with CEQ 📄

Methodology & data

Downloads

Previous versions

The Justice40 Initiative: CEJST

Census tract 2010 ID	County Name	State/Territory	Percent Black or African American alone	Percent American Indian or Alaska Native	Total categories exceeded	Identified as disadvantaged without considering neighbors	Identified as disadvantaged based on neighbors and relaxed income threshold only	Identified as disadvantaged due to tribal overlap	Identified as disadvantaged	Percentage of tract that is disadvantaged by area	Share of neighbors that are identified as disadvantaged	Total
71518	Adams County	Wisconsin	0	0	0	FALSE	FALSE		FALSE	0	42	
71519	Adams County	Wisconsin	0	0.01	0	FALSE	FALSE		FALSE	0	80	
71520	Adams County	Wisconsin	0	0	3	TRUE	FALSE	FALSE	TRUE	100	50	
71521	Adams County	Wisconsin	0.01	0	1	TRUE	FALSE	FALSE	TRUE	100	71	
71522	Adams County	Wisconsin	0.01	0	3	TRUE	FALSE		TRUE	100	40	
71523	Adams County	Wisconsin	0.1	0.02	2	TRUE	FALSE		TRUE	100	33	
71524	Adams County	Wisconsin	0.02	0	0	FALSE	FALSE		FALSE	0	16	
71525	Ashland County	Wisconsin	0.01	0.6	1	TRUE	FALSE	FALSE	TRUE	100	40	
71526	Ashland County	Wisconsin	0	0.06	0	FALSE	FALSE		FALSE	0	66	
71527	Ashland County	Wisconsin	0.01	0.05	2	TRUE	FALSE		TRUE	100	20	
71528	Ashland County	Wisconsin	0	0.02	0	FALSE	FALSE		FALSE	0	57	
71529	Ashland County	Wisconsin	0	0.03	2	TRUE	FALSE	FALSE	TRUE	100	33	
71530	Ashland County	Wisconsin	0	0	2	TRUE	FALSE		TRUE	100	42	
71531	Ashland County	Wisconsin	0.01	0.05	1	TRUE	FALSE	FALSE	TRUE	100	37	
71532	Ashland County	Wisconsin	0	0	0	FALSE	FALSE		FALSE	0	22	
71533	Barron County	Wisconsin	0	0	0	FALSE	FALSE		FALSE	0	0	
71534	Barron County	Wisconsin	0	0.02	0	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	0	16	
71535	Barron County	Wisconsin	0	0.01	0	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	0	0	
71536	Barron County	Wisconsin	0.1	0	0	FALSE	FALSE		FALSE	0	0	
71537	Barron County	Wisconsin	0	0	0	FALSE	FALSE		FALSE	0	0	
71538	Barron County	Wisconsin	0	0	0	FALSE	FALSE		FALSE	0	0	
71539	Barron County	Wisconsin	0.01	0	0	FALSE	FALSE		FALSE	0	0	
71540	Barron County	Wisconsin	0	0	0	FALSE	FALSE		FALSE	0	0	
71541	Barron County	Wisconsin	0	0	0	FALSE	FALSE		FALSE	0	0	
71542	Barron County	Wisconsin	0	0	0	FALSE	FALSE		FALSE	0	0	
71543	Bayfield County	Wisconsin	0.02	0.4	1	TRUE	FALSE	FALSE	TRUE	100	25	
71544	Bayfield County	Wisconsin	0.01	0.01	0	FALSE	FALSE		FALSE	0	16	
71545	Bayfield County	Wisconsin	0	0.03	0	FALSE	FALSE		FALSE	0	60	
71546	Bayfield County	Wisconsin	0	0.02	0	FALSE	FALSE		FALSE	0	14	
71547	Bayfield County	Wisconsin	0	0	0	FALSE	FALSE		FALSE	0	33	
71548	Bayfield County	Wisconsin	0	0	0	FALSE	FALSE		FALSE	0	28	
71549	Brown County	Wisconsin	0.03	0.02	2	TRUE	FALSE		TRUE	100	57	
71550	Brown County	Wisconsin	0.03	0.02	1	TRUE	FALSE		TRUE	100	60	
71551	Brown County	Wisconsin	0.04	0.03	0	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	4	16	
71552	Brown County	Wisconsin	0.14	0.07	2	TRUE	FALSE		TRUE	100	25	
71553	Brown County	Wisconsin	0.05	0.04	0	FALSE	FALSE		FALSE	0	57	
71554	Brown County	Wisconsin	0	0.01	0	FALSE	FALSE		FALSE	0	0	
71555	Brown County	Wisconsin	0.08	0	2	TRUE	FALSE		TRUE	100	80	
71556	Brown County	Wisconsin	0.01	0	0	FALSE	FALSE		FALSE	0	40	
71557	Brown County	Wisconsin	0.03	0.03	2	TRUE	FALSE		TRUE	100	60	
71558	Brown County	Wisconsin	0.23	0.09	2	TRUE	FALSE		TRUE	100	66	
71559	Brown County	Wisconsin	0.05	0.01	2	TRUE	FALSE		TRUE	100	66	
71560	Brown County	Wisconsin	0.04	0.03	0	FALSE	FALSE		FALSE	0	71	
71561	Brown County	Wisconsin	0.16	0.05	3	TRUE	FALSE		TRUE	100	62	
71562	Brown County	Wisconsin	0.08	0.05	3	TRUE	FALSE		TRUE	100	40	
71563	Brown County	Wisconsin	0.03	0.05	0	FALSE	FALSE		FALSE	0	25	
71564	Brown County	Wisconsin	0.05	0.05	0	FALSE	FALSE		FALSE	0	60	

The Justice40 Initiative: Identifying DACs in CEJST

CEJST uses datasets as indicators of burdens. The burdens are organized into categories.

A census tract is identified as disadvantaged in one or more categories **if** the census tract is at or above the threshold for one or more of the environmental or climate indicators **and** the census tract is above the threshold for socioeconomic indicators.

Federally Recognized Tribes, including Alaska Native Villages, are also considered disadvantaged communities.

Categories of Burden

1. Climate change
2. Clean energy and energy efficiency
3. Clean transit
4. Affordable and sustainable housing
5. Reduction and remediation of legacy pollution
6. Critical clean water and waste infrastructure
7. Health burdens
8. Training and workforce development

A census tract that is completely surrounded by DACs and is at or above the 50% percentile for low income is also considered disadvantaged.

Source: <https://screeningtool.geoplatform.gov/en/methodology#3/36.24/-86.8>

The Justice40 Initiative: Methodologies by Category of Burden

Climate change

Communities are **identified as disadvantaged** if they are in census tracts that:

ARE at or above the 90th percentile for [expected agriculture loss rate](#) OR [expected building loss rate](#) OR [expected population loss rate](#) OR [projected flood risk](#) OR [projected wildfire risk](#)

AND are at or above the 65th percentile for [low income](#)

Energy

Communities are **identified as disadvantaged** if they are in census tracts that:

ARE at or above the 90th percentile for [energy cost](#) OR [PM2.5 in the air](#)

AND are at or above the 65th percentile for [low income](#)

Legacy pollution

Communities are **identified as disadvantaged** if they are in census tracts that:

Have at least one [abandoned mine land](#) OR [Formerly Used Defense Sites](#) OR are at or above the 90th percentile for [proximity to hazardous waste facilities](#) OR [proximity to Superfund sites \(National Priorities List \(NPL\)\)](#) OR [proximity to Risk Management Plan \(RMP\) facilities](#)

AND are at or above the 65th percentile for [low income](#)

Transportation

Communities are **identified as disadvantaged** if they are in census tracts that:

ARE at or above the 90th percentile for [diesel particulate matter exposure](#) OR [transportation barriers](#) OR [traffic proximity and volume](#)

AND are at or above the 65th percentile for [low income](#)

Health

Communities are **identified as disadvantaged** if they are in census tracts that:

ARE at or above the 90th percentile for [asthma](#) OR [diabetes](#) OR [heart disease](#) OR [low life expectancy](#)

AND are at or above the 65th percentile for [low income](#)

Housing

Communities are **identified as disadvantaged** if they are in census tracts that:

Experienced [historic underinvestment](#) OR are at or above the 90th percentile for [housing cost](#) OR [lack of green space](#) OR [lack of indoor plumbing](#) OR [lead paint](#)

AND are at or above the 65th percentile for [low income](#)

Water and wastewater

Communities are **identified as disadvantaged** if they are in census tracts that:

ARE at or above the 90th percentile for [underground storage tanks and releases](#) OR [wastewater discharge](#)

AND are at or above the 65th percentile for [low income](#)

Workforce development

Communities are **identified as disadvantaged** if they are in census tracts that:

ARE at or above the 90th percentile for [linguistic isolation](#) OR [low median income](#) OR [poverty](#) OR [unemployment](#)

AND more than 10% of people ages 25 or older have a [high school education](#) (i.e. graduated with a high school diploma)

Source: <https://screeningtool.geoplatform.gov/en/methodology#3/36.24/-86.8>

The Justice40 Initiative: CEJST Socioeconomic Indicators

1. Census tract information and demographics (new, information only – not part of methodology)
2. Low income
3. Expected agriculture loss rate
4. Expected building loss rate
5. Expected population loss rate
6. Project flood risk (new)
7. Project wildfire risk (new)
8. Energy cost
9. PM2.5 in the air
10. Asthma
11. Diabetes
12. Heart disease
13. Low life expectancy
14. Historic underinvestment (new)
15. Housing cost
16. Lack of green space (new)
17. Lack of indoor plumbing (new)
18. Lead paint
19. Abandoned mine land (new)
20. Formerly used defense sites (new)
21. Proximity to hazardous waste facilities
22. Proximity to Risk Management Plan (RMP) facilities
23. Diesel particulate matter exposure
24. Transportation barriers (new)
25. Traffic proximity and volume
26. Proximity to Superfund sites
27. Underground storage tanks and releases (new)
28. Wastewater discharge
29. Linguistic isolation
30. Low median income
31. Poverty
32. Unemployment
33. High school education
34. Tribes

Source: <https://screeningtool.geoplatform.gov/en/methodology#3/36.24/-86.8>

The Justice40 Initiative: What are Covered Programs?

- **Covered programs are federal programs that are in the Justice40 scope because investments fall in 1 or more of 7 areas where investments benefit disadvantaged communities**
- **The 7 covered areas are:**
 - Climate change
 - Clean energy and energy efficiency
 - Clean transit
 - Affordable and sustainable housing
 - Training and workforce development
 - Remediation and reduction of legacy pollution
 - Development of critical clean water and wastewater infrastructure
- **[Full list of covered programs updated April 21, 2023](#)**
- **Justice40 covered programs are required to engage stakeholders & ensure community stakeholders are meaningfully engaged are meaningfully involved in determining benefits**

Justice40 Initiative: Measuring Results

Environmental Justice Scorecard

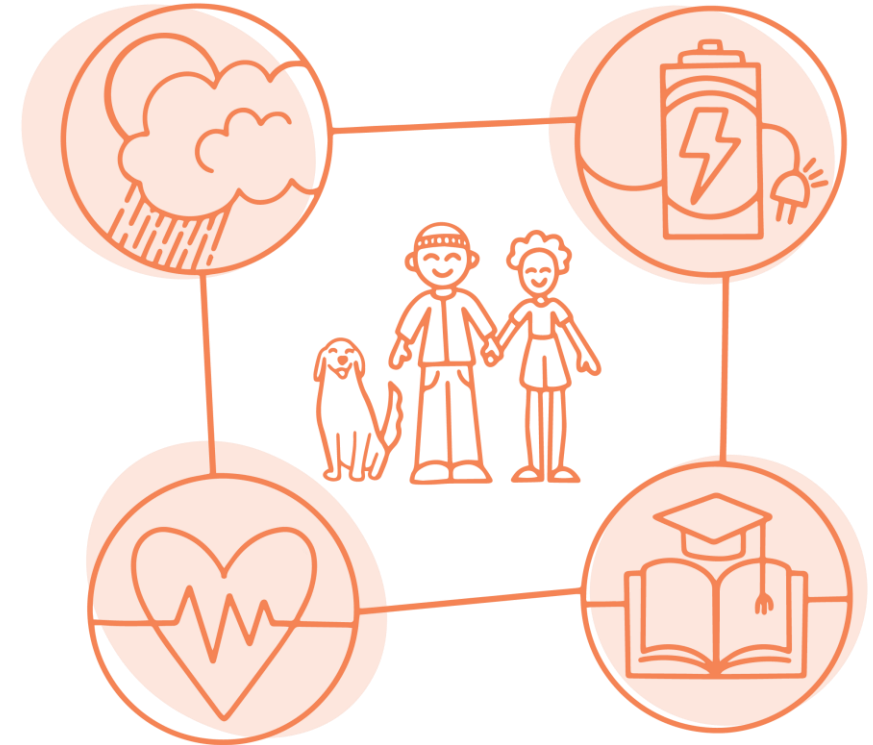
- Section 223 (d) of Executive Order 14008 requires that covered programs report on how benefits are directed to DACs with an Environmental Justice Scorecard
- RFI released in August 2022 and comments were due November 3, 2022 (there were 44)



Justice40 Initiative: Environmental Justice Scorecard

Environmental Justice Scorecard Status

- Information about what federal agencies are doing to advance environmental justice
- Phase One Scorecard is published:
 - Baseline assessment of 24 federal agencies in 2021 and 2022
 - Advancing Justice40
 - Implementing and enforcing environmental and civil rights laws
 - Embedding environmental justice throughout the federal government



View Agency Progress

Select an agency below to view its baseline assessment and progress on environmental justice.

 AmeriCorps	 Appalachian Regional Commission	 Delta Regional Authority	 Denali Commission
 Department of Agriculture	 Department of Commerce	 Department of Defense	 Department of Education
 Department of Energy	 Department of Health & Human Services	 Department of Homeland Security	 Department of Justice
 Department of Labor	 Department of Transportation	 Department of the Interior	 Environmental Protection Agency
 General Services Administration	 Housing and Urban Development	 National Aeronautics and Space Administration	 National Science Foundation
 Small Business Administration	 Tennessee Valley Authority	 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	 Veterans Affairs

Justice40 Initiative: Phase 1 Environmental Justice Scorecard

<https://ejscorecard.geoplatform.gov/scorecard/>

Justice40 Initiative: Phase 1 Environmental Justice Scorecard for DOE

Scorecard > Department of Energy



Department of Energy

1000 Independence Ave. SW
Washington, DC 20585
(202) 568-5000
[energy.gov](https://www.energy.gov)

This page provides information on environmental justice for communities across the United States.

About the Department of Energy (DOE)

The mission of the Department of Energy (DOE) is to ensure America's security and prosperity by addressing its energy, environmental, and nuclear challenges through transformative science and technology solutions.

Justice40 Initiative

As part of President Biden's [Justice40 Initiative](#), the federal government is working toward the goal that 40 percent of the overall benefits of certain federal investments reach disadvantaged communities that are marginalized and overburdened by pollution and underinvestment. In particular, the President's Justice40 Initiative applies to federal investments that address climate change, clean energy and energy efficiency, clean transit, affordable and sustainable housing, training and workforce development, remediation and reduction of legacy pollution, and the development of critical clean water and wastewater infrastructure.

This Phase One Scorecard provides an update on initial progress made by the **Department of Energy (DOE)** in implementing the Justice40 Initiative. Future versions of the Environmental Justice Scorecard will provide additional information and updates on the benefits of Justice40 covered programs.

For more information on DOE's Justice40 covered programs, please contact energyjustice@hq.doe.gov.

Phase One Scorecard metrics and highlights in Fiscal Year 2022 include:

- **146** Justice40 covered program(s)
- **Over 100** funding announcement(s) covered under the Justice40 Initiative
- **\$21,800,000,000** in funding made available from Justice40 covered programs¹
 - The \$25 million Renewables Advancing Community Energy Resilience opportunity required local community engagement to develop inclusive methodologies, investigate energy community needs, and identify vulnerabilities in technology development, demonstration, and deployment.
 - The \$13 million Community Geothermal Heating and Cooling Design and Deployment opportunity funds community coalitions in developing systems that supply at least 25% of the community's heating and cooling loads. This opportunity supports disadvantaged communities subject to high heating and cooling costs.
 - Announced opportunities to help provide electric power to Tribal government buildings that are otherwise unelectrified – integrating energy systems and energy infrastructure. DOE focused on installing clean energy systems and efficiency measures in Tribal government buildings, deployed community clean energy generation, and integrated energy systems for autonomous operation during emergencies.
- Made program modifications for Justice40 covered programs such as:
 - The Office of State and Community Energy Programs' Weatherization Enhancement and Innovation program specified four focus areas: place-based initiatives, multi-family housing, single family housing, and workforce development. This opportunity specifies: disadvantaged communities that are disproportionately impacted by high energy burdens, individuals underrepresented in the clean energy industry, and growing community partnerships. In 2022, DOE announced 21 project selections totaling \$37 million in investment.
 - The Vehicle Technologies Office prioritized benefits to disadvantaged communities through approximately \$27 million included in a program-wide announcement for clean mobility solutions, community engagement, outreach, technical assistance and training, community-driven electric charging deployment, and workforce development.
 - American-Made Equitable and Affordable Solutions to Electrification Prize offered \$2.4 million in cash prizes and technical assistance vouchers to innovators to make the electrification process faster and more affordable for homeowners across all housing types.

¹ This funding amount describes examples of the funding that was made available in Fiscal Year 2022 through Justice40 covered programs. The amount does not represent the total funding that benefits disadvantaged communities. The funding was made available through grants, notices of funding opportunity, and other funding announcements. These funding announcements were from Justice40 covered programs that were funded through discretionary and mandatory appropriations, as well as supplemental appropriations, such as those enacted under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (Pub. L. 117-58). The Justice40 Initiative sets a goal that 40 percent of overall benefits from certain federal investments flow to disadvantaged communities.

Institutionalizing Environmental Justice

Since the start of the Biden-Harris Administration, federal agencies have been working to institutionalize environmental justice into all aspects of their work, including by implementing Executive Order 14008. The following information highlights some of the work the Department of Energy (DOE) has done from January 2021 to September 2022.

Environmental and Civil Rights Protection

Federal agencies are advancing environmental justice by carrying out their responsibilities under the law to identify and address disproportionate and adverse public health and environmental, climate-related, and cumulative impacts on communities with environmental justice concerns. Agencies are working to ensure that all communities experience the protection of our country's bedrock environmental laws. The following information reflects some of the environmental and civil rights work the **Department of Energy (DOE)** has done from January 2021 to September 2022.

For more information, please visit [DOE's Environmental Justice Documents and Publications](#).

National Environmental Policy Act

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requires federal agencies to consider and disclose the environmental, health, and community impacts of certain decisions or actions before taking them. Environmental reviews help ensure the public is informed about potential actions, and give communities an opportunity to participate in the government's decision-making process. Environmental reviews also ensure that federal agencies consider ways to protect and enhance public health and the environment, and advance environmental justice in their decision-making. The following information highlights some work the **Department of Energy (DOE)** has done from January 2021 to September 2022.

Phase One Scorecard metrics and highlights include:

- DOE has a NEPA policy or guidance that takes into account environmental justice. In addition, input from communities with environmental justice concerns is being used to inform the process around guidance and Environmental Assessment and Environmental Impact Statement engagement.
- **9** project modification(s) where environmental justice concerns were raised during the NEPA process
 - All projects on Tribal lands have received a Categorical Exclusion (CX) Determination where such determination would be responsive to environmental justice concerns raised.
 - DOE's State and Community Energy Programs worked under NEPA to develop categorical exclusions for Weatherization Readiness activities.
 - DOE's Environmental Management Office (EM) continues to ensure environmental justice is reflected in its NEPA documents and processes.
- **3** training(s) on environmental justice considerations during NEPA reviews

Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and Environmental Justice

Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 requires that no person be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subject to discrimination under any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance on account of race, color, or national origin. Title VI requires federal agencies to ensure that programs or activities receiving federal funding, including those that affect human health or the environment, do not use discriminatory criteria, methods, or practices. The following information includes updates from January 2021 to September 2022 from the **Department of Energy (DOE)** on Title VI that are related to environmental justice.

Phase One Scorecard metrics and highlights include:

- **1** open Title VI investigation(s) or compliance review(s) related to environmental justice
- **11** internal training(s) on Title VI civil rights and environmental justice

Centering Environmental Justice in Decision-Making

Federal agencies work to ensure that the voices, perspectives, and lived experiences of communities are heard and reflected in the priorities, policies, and decision-making of the federal government. Agencies also take steps to respect Tribal sovereignty and ensure government-to-government consultation on federal policies. The following information highlights work the **Department of Energy (DOE)** has done from January 2021 to September 2022 to center environmental justice in its decision-making.

Phase One Scorecard metrics and highlights include:

Source: <https://ejscorecard.geoplatform.gov/scorecard/department-of-energy/>

DOE's highlights

DOE's Office of Economic Impact and Diversity established the Office of Energy Justice Policy & Analysis to conduct policy analysis, research and evaluation, and technical assistance on federal energy policy and programs to advance equity and environmental justice. The Office leads the Department's Justice40 Initiative implementation and established three department-wide Communities of Practice and Working Groups to provide internal capacity building and guidance: Justice40 Community of Practice; Stakeholder Engagement Community of Practice; and Energy and Environmental Justice Working Group.

DOE's Office of State and Community Energy Programs was charged with establishing an Office of Community Engagement that will serve as the center point for the Department's outreach and engagement with communities.

DOE's Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy created the Equity Community of Practice (ECOP), an informal staff group that shares an interest in energy equity and environmental justice. The ECOP meets monthly to hear from outside stakeholders and experts, discuss best practices and methodologies, identify collaboration opportunities, share data sources, and maintain awareness of external energy equity and justice efforts.

Justice40 Initiative: DOE Investment in Practice

Community Benefits Plans

- In proposals, awarded projects
- Address 4 main and connected areas
 1. Community and Labor Engagement
 2. Investing in American Workforce
 3. Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, & Access (DEIA)
 4. Justice40

Justice40 Metrics (minimum)

1. Decrease energy burden in disadvantaged communities (DACs)
2. Decrease environmental exposure and burdens for DACs
3. Increase parity in clean energy technology (e.g., solar, storage) access and adoption in DACs.
4. Increase access to low-cost capital in DACs.
5. Increase clean energy enterprise creation and contracting (MBE/DBE) in DACs.
6. Increase clean energy jobs, job pipeline, and job training for individuals from DACs.
7. Increase energy resiliency in DACs.
8. Increase energy democracy in DACs.

Example FOA: <https://eere-exchange.energy.gov/Default.aspx#Foald1ebf6711-062f-4ff1-a25f-e72bb3b1532f>



Q&A

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Resources List

1. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/environmentaljustice/justice40/>
2. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/01/27/fact-sheet-president-biden-takes-executive-actions-to-tackle-the-climate-crisis-at-home-and-abroad-create-jobs-and-restore-scientific-integrity-across-federal-government>
3. <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2021/02/01/2021-02177/tackling-the-climate-crisis-at-home-and-abroad>
4. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/M-21-28.pdf>
5. <https://www.epa.gov/ejscreen>
6. <https://screeningtool.geoplatform.gov/en/#3/33.47/-97.5>
7. https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/M-23-09_Signed_CEQ_CPO.pdf#:~:text=Agencies%20shall%20use%20best%20efforts%20to%20transition%20to,investments%20that%20fall%20under%20the%20Justice40%20Interim%20Guidance.
8. https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/Justice40-Covered-Programs-List_v1.4_04-20-2023.pdf
9. <https://www.regulations.gov/document/CEQ-2022-0004-0001>
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