An official website of the United States government Here's how you know

This tool has been updated. The 1.0 version of the tool was released on Nov 22, 2022.

Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool

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In January of 2021, President Biden issued Executive Order 14008 . The order directed the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) to develop a new tool. This tool is called the Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool. The tool has an interactive map and uses datasets that are indicators of burdens in eight categories: climate change, energy, health, housing, legacy pollution, transportation, water and wastewater, and workforce development. The tool uses this information to identify communities that are experiencing these burdens. These are the communities that are disadvantaged because they are overburdened and underserved.

Federal agencies will use the tool to help identify disadvantaged communities that will benefit from programs included in the Justice40 Initiative . The Justice40 Initiative seeks to deliver 40% of the overall benefits of investments in climate, clean energy, and related areas to disadvantaged communities.

Federal agencies should also use the following:

- Memorandum on Using the CEJST for the Justice40 Initiative
- Instructions to Federal agencies on using the CEJST

CEQ will update the tool each year based on public feedback, research, and the availability of new data. The current version of the tool is version 1.0. Sign-up for updates from CEQ.

Help improve the tool

How to use the tool

The tool shows information about the burdens that communities experience. It uses datasets to identify indicators of burdens. The tool shows these burdens in census tracts. Census tracts are small units of geography. Census tract boundaries for statistical areas are determined by the U.S. Census Bureau once every ten years. The tool utilizes the census tract boundaries from 2010. This was chosen because many of the data sources in the tool currently use the 2010 census boundaries. The tool also shows land within the boundaries of Federally Recognized Tribes and point locations for Alaska Native Villages.

The tool ranks most of the burdens using percentiles. Percentiles show how much burden each tract experiences compared to other tracts. Certain burdens use percentages or a simple yes/no.

A community is considered to be disadvantaged if they are located within a census tract that meets the tool's methodology or are on land within the boundaries of Federally Recognized Tribes.

Using the map

Zoom in and select any census tract to see if it is considered disadvantaged.

Download the CEJST tutorial (.pdf 9.6 MB)

Using the data

The tool's data is available for download. This data can be used to filter by state or county.

Download the spreadsheet tutorial (.pdf 5.4 MB)

Get involved

Help improve the tool

Send feedback

Have ideas for the tool? Contact the Council on Environmental Quality's (CEQ).

Contact

Join the open source community

The tool's code is open source, which means it is available for the public to view and contribute to it.

Check it out on GitHub

How you can help improve the map

- Provide general feedback on the CEJST website
- Suggest new data sources .
- Any other questions? Email: Screeningtool-Support@omb.eop.gov.

The Council on Environmental Quality plans to issue a Request for Information in 2023. This will give the public time to use the tool before providing comments.

Contact

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Sign up for updates

More information

Whitehouse.gov

Freedom of Information Act (FOIA)

Privacy Policy

Help improve the tool

Find a contact at USA.gov

Want to contribute?

Check out the code on GitHub

Council on Environmental Quality

Help improve the tool