



**U.S. Department  
of Transportation**



# Utilizing DOT Data and Mapping Tools for Stronger Grant Applications

September 19, 2023

# Getting to know our audience

## *Poll Question 1*

### **Please indicate which type of organization you represent**

- State government agency (or entity)
- Local government agency (or entity)
- Indian Tribe
- U.S. Territory
- Regional planning agency
- Transit agency
- Academic institution
- For-profit organization
- Non-profit organization
- Other

# Getting to know our audience

## *Poll Question 2*

### **Please indicate your organization's experience with USDOT discretionary funding**

- My organization has never applied for a DOT discretionary grant
- My organization has applied for one or more DOT discretionary grants but has not been funded
- My organization has applied and been selected for one or more DOT discretionary grants
- Not sure

# Getting to know our audience

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## *Poll Question 3*

**Please indicate if your organization is located in an urban or rural area**

- Urban area
- Rural area



# Today's Agenda

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- What's new on the DOT Navigator
- Overview of DOT mapping and data tools
- DOT equity data tools spotlight
  - STEAP
  - ETC Explorer
- Tips for preparing for grant success Q&A
- Open and upcoming DOT funding opportunities

# Today's Speakers



U.S. Department  
of Transportation



Aubrei Barton  
Transportation  
Policy Analyst  
USDOT Office of  
the Secretary



Linsey Callaghan  
Community Planner  
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Mariia Zimmerman  
Strategic Advisor for  
Technical Assistance  
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Solutions, USDOT

# What's New on the DOT Navigator



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# Navigator has a new look!



## Search Technical Assistance Resources

At DOT, “technical assistance” includes programs, processes, and resources that provide targeted support to a community, region, organization, or other beneficiary to help them access and deploy federal funding and build local capacity to develop, design, and deliver transportation plans and projects.

View and search the table below to find existing technical assistance resources and programs funded or managed by DOT that can provide deeper levels of assistance, technical information, best practices, and training.

Keywords

▼ Advanced options

Stakeholder Type(s)

Select All

☐ Contractor

☐ Local Government

☐ Other

☐ Regional/Metro Planning Orgs (MPO)

☐ State DOT

☐ Transit Agency

☐ Tribal Government

☐ U.S. Territory

Resource Type(s)

Select All

☐ Direct Support

☐ Fact Sheet

☐ Grant

☐ Guidance Document

☐ Report

☐ Resource Center

☐ Toolkit

☐ Training

☐ Video/Webinar

Transportation Mode(s)

Select All

☐ Air (airports, aviation, drones)

☐ Bicycle

☐ Electric or Autonomous Vehicles

☐ Highway

☐ Intelligent Transportation and Data Systems

☐ Micromobility (bike share, scooters, etc.)

☐ Pedestrian

☐ Ports

☐ Railway

☐ Transit

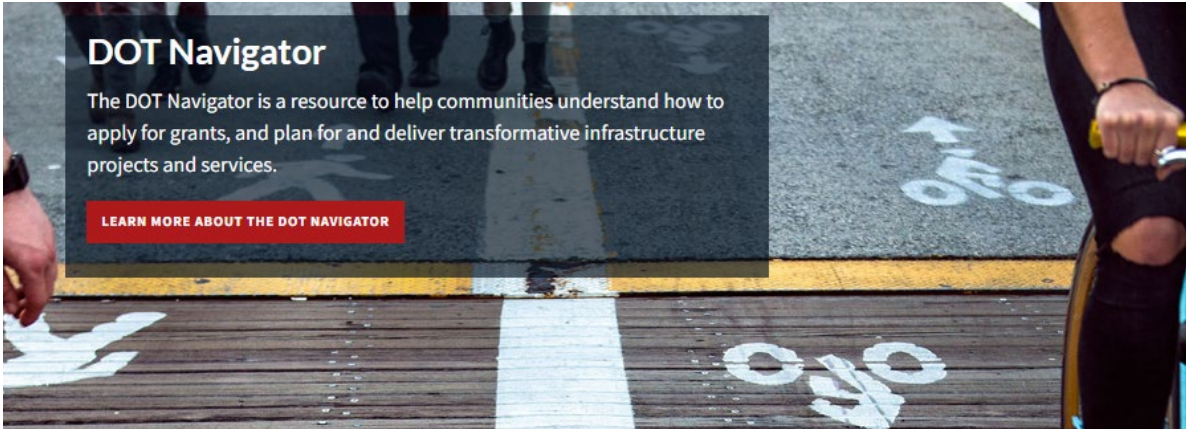
Apply

<https://www.transportation.gov/dot-navigator>

DOT Navigator


The DOT Navigator is a resource to help communities understand how to apply for grants, and plan for and deliver transformative infrastructure projects and services.

LEARN MORE ABOUT THE DOT NAVIGATOR




Spotlight on Technical Assistance Resources

Check out the featured technical assistance resources below and view a [searchable list of technical assistance resources](#).



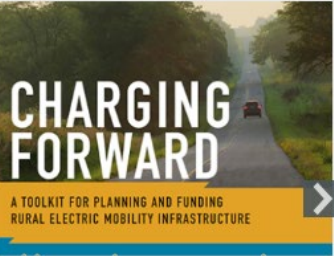
DOT Discretionary Grants Dashboard: Search Opportunities

Search grants that can help meet transportation infrastructure needs



USDOT Project Delivery Center of Excellence

Explore resources to deliver infrastructure projects—on time, task, and budget



Toolkit for Planning and Funding Rural EV Infrastructure

Access the toolkit to help rural communities scope, plan, and fund EV charging...

SEARCH TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE RESOURCES

8

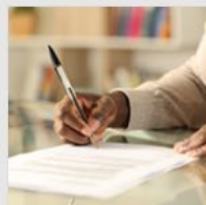




# Re-Organized to Make It Easier to Find Resources

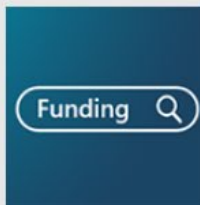
## Focus on Helping to Develop Strong Discretionary Grant Applications

### What Do You Want to Do?



#### PREPARE A SUCCESSFUL GRANT APPLICATION

Get planning tips, checklists, and information on applying for federal grants



#### FIND FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Search grant opportunities to meet your community's transportation needs



#### GET TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE RESOURCES

Find resources to get funding and build capacity to do transportation projects



#### LEARN ABOUT FUNDING AND MATCH

Learn about USDOT grant funding, including match requirements and flexibilities



#### ACCESS DATA AND MAPPING TOOLS

Access data and mapping tools to help write a strong grant application



#### LEARN ABOUT THE BIPARTISAN INFRASTRUCTURE LAW

Get information to help access BIL funding programs

### Spanish

- [Solicitud de subvenciones del USDOT](#)
- [Visión general de fondos del DOT y financiamiento](#)
- [Comprendiendo los requisitos no federales de pareo](#)
- [Herramientas federales para identificar comunidades desfavorecidas](#)
- [Financiamiento federal para transporte: Lista de cotejo de preparación de subvenciones "grants" discrecionales para posibles solicitantes durante el año fiscal 2023](#)
- [Lista de cotejo para solicitudes de subvención que alcancen una fuerza laboral de transporte sólida y un plan laboral](#)
- [Uso de Fondos del DOT para la Participación Pública](#)
- [¿Es el financiamiento federal el adecuado para mi organización?](#)

Sign Up to Get Our Bi-Weekly Email Bulletins to Stay in the Know about new technical assistance resources, trainings and funding opportunities across a range of transportation topics!

# Overview of DOT Mapping and Data Tools



U.S. Department  
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# National Policy Priorities reflected in NOFOs

Check the Program's Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) to learn about how policy priorities may be reflected in application requirements and in merit criteria

- Examples of Policy Priorities from FY2023 NOFOs include
  - (a) Climate Change and Environmental Justice Impact Consideration
  - (b) Racial Equity and Barriers to Opportunity
  - (c) Labor and Work
  - (d) Critical Infrastructure Security and Resilience
  - (e) Domestic Preference Requirements
  - (f) Civil Rights and Title VI
- Programs with a specific focus, ie. Safety or Climate, may require applicants to make the case for how project aligns with program goals or demonstrates need and benefit of proposed project
- In addition, some programs require environmental risk assessment and/or an economic analysis (typically a Benefit Cost Analysis or BCA)

*DOT Discretionary Grant Programs that Require a Benefit-Cost Analysis*  
Many DOT discretionary grant programs require a BCA for projects seeking federal funding, particularly those involving construction projects. Those programs include:

- *Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Grant Program*
- *National Infrastructure Project Assistance program (Mega)*
- *Nationally Significant Multimodal Freight and Highway Projects Grants Program (INFRA)*
- *Rural Surface Transportation Grant Program (Rural)*
- *Reconnecting Communities Pilot (RCP) Program*
- *Bridge Investment Program - FHWA*
- *Promoting Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient, and Cost-Saving Transportation Program (PROTECT) (Resilience Improvement Grants and Community Resilience and Evacuation Route Grants only) - FHWA*
- *Port Infrastructure Development Program (PIDP) Grants (Large Projects only) - MARAD*
- *Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements (CRISI) Program - FRA*
- *Federal-State Partnership for Intercity Passenger Rail (FSP-National Grants only) - FRA*

<https://www.transportation.gov/grants/dot-navigator/what-is-a-benefit-cost-analysis> -



# New Data and Mapping Tools Navigator Page

<https://www.transportation.gov/grants/dot-navigator/data-and-mapping-tools>

DOT Navigator Home

Find Grant Opportunities >

Search Technical Assistance  
Resources

Grant Application Resources >

Data & Mapping Tools >

Overview

General Data and Mapping

Climate, Air Quality, &  
Sustainability

Equity

Safety

Specialized Data

Transportation Analysis

Funding and Match  
Requirements >

Webinars

Bipartisan Infrastructure Law  
Funding

Find Transportation Contacts  
Near You

## Data and Mapping Tools

The data and mapping tools on the web pages linked below and in the left-navigational menu are meant to provide a high-level overview and guidance on resources that may be useful in writing a strong discretionary grant application and developing transportation projects that meet the needs of the community they serve.

Data can be a powerful tool to clearly and concisely describe a project's anticipated impacts when preparing a grant application, designing a project, and engaging with the public. Do not assume that those reviewing your grant application know details about the demographics, socioeconomic status, or other important indicators of who resides, works, or travels through the project area. Use data to tell the story about community need and impacts.

Generally, you want to use the data that is available at a scale most aligned with your community or the project area, such as census block group or tract, and to utilize the most recent data available. When possible, provide a citation for your data (the source and year).

This is not an exhaustive list of tools but highlights some of the frequently used federal data resources and those aligned most with [USDOT Policy Priorities](#) that are referenced across all Department of Transportation discretionary grant programs.



### General Dataset and Mapping Tools

[General Dataset and Mapping Tools](#) provides an interactive way to explore and analyze population characteristics of a geographic area to help identify the need for a project, including to identify populations that may be covered by Title VI and Civil Rights federal requirements.



### Climate Change, Air Quality, and Sustainability Analysis Tools

[Climate Change, Air Quality, and Sustainability Analysis Tools](#) provides resources for measuring transportation greenhouse gas emissions and air quality impacts, and incorporating climate adaptation and resilience features as they relate to a proposed project.



### Equity and Justice40 Analysis Tools

[Equity and Justice40 Analysis Tools](#) provides resources to identify a disadvantaged community that may face transportation burdens or be impacted by climate change, pollution, environmental hazards, and other social or economic impacts to analyze how a potential project may reduce those identified inequities. These tools can also be useful for analysis needed to address Title VI and Civil Rights compliance.



### Safety Analysis Tools

[Safety Analysis Tools](#) provides resources to help analyze and convey safety benefits and risks, demonstrate safety needs in a community, and communicate the overall impact of a proposed project.



### Specialized Data Resources

[Specialized Data Resources](#) provides information often needed to prepare a benefit-cost analysis and examine recommended monetized values, and other resources specific to intelligent transportation systems.



### Transportation Analysis Tools

[Transportation Analysis Tools](#) provides resources to better understand, plan for, and convey trends around efficiencies—including connectivity, access, and frequency—across a transportation system.





# Mapping and Dataset Tools Resource Page

*Good applications maximize chances of award success*

- Use data to tell your story
  - Most recent data and for trends over time (cite: source and year)
  - Federal + **state and local data** + qualitative/lived experience
- For some grant applications, you may need or want to include a map
- Use data at the appropriate and/or most available scale

## General Tools:

- **Smart Location Mapping:** Can be used to compare neighborhoods conditions and prioritize investments. Access to jobs and workers via transit and equitable access to jobs and services are among the types of benchmarks that can be analyzed using this tool.
- **State-Level GIS Resources:** Maintained by Purdue University, this catalog of resources by state-level organizations. In some cases, state-level GIS warehouses may offer more specific and user-friendly data layers of Federal sources, such as Census data.
- **TIGERweb:** Can be used to associate an address with census geography based on its location can be used to determine if your project is located in an urban area.
- **US Census Data:** This new platform is helpful for data users who need basic data, as it is much quicker than searching through tables for a variety of high-level estimates.

### U.S. Census Data

[Data.census.gov](https://data.census.gov) is the platform to access data and digital content from the U.S. Census Bureau. The vision for data dissemination through data.census.gov is to improve the customer experience by making data available from one centralized place so that data users spend less time searching for data content and more time using it.

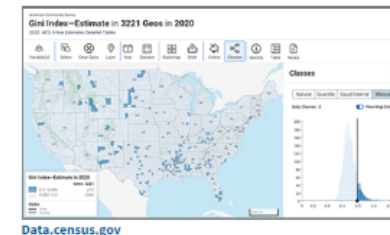
Data previously released on American FactFinder (AFF) are now being released on the U.S. Census Bureau's new dissemination platform.

**User Information:** Learn how to access and use Census Bureau data through the [How-To](#) videos and in-depth courses, webinars, and tutorials.

**Identifies:** The Census provides information on the nation's people, places, and economy, providing data about our country's population size and growth and detailed portraits of the changing characteristics of our communities.

**Limitations:** Currently, data.census.gov data goes back only as far as the 2000 Census.

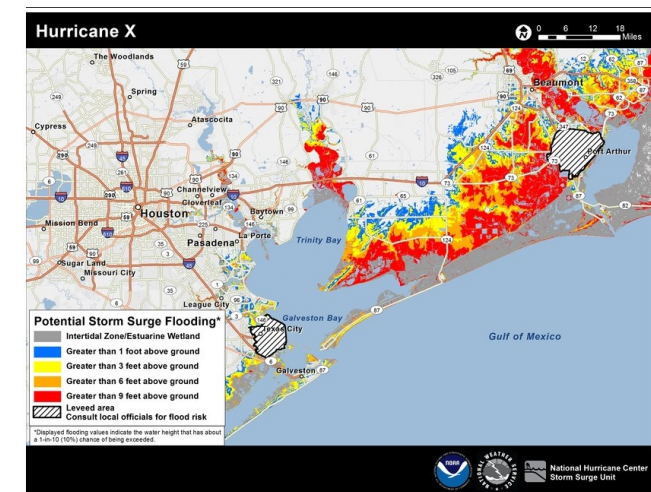
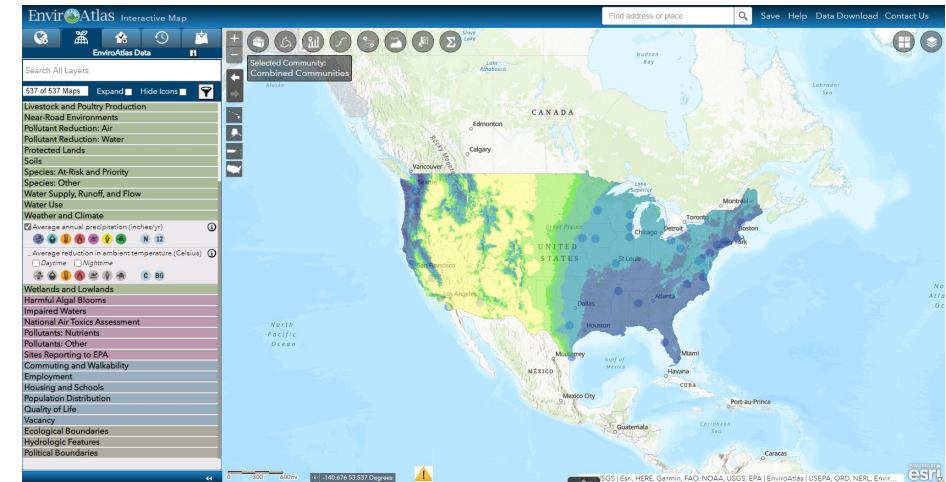
[Access data.census.gov.](https://data.census.gov)



# Climate Change, Air Quality, and Sustainability Tools

Many DOT discretionary grants include merit criteria associated with climate change

- **EnviroAtlas:** EPA tool that states, communities, and citizens can use to help inform policy and planning decisions that impact the places where people live, learn, work and play. Can be used to identify health, climate, and equity impacts to help tell a compelling grant narrative.
- **Potential Storm Surge Flooding Map:** The Potential Storm Surge Flooding Map shows geographical areas where inundation from storm surge could occur and how high above ground the water could reach in those areas.
- **Social Vulnerability Index:** Includes databases to help emergency response planners and public health officials identify and map communities that will most likely need support before, during, and after a hazardous event.





# Greenhouse Gas and Emissions Reduction Tools

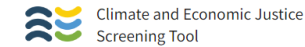
- **CMAQ Emissions Calculator Toolkit:** Provides projections of emissions reductions association with various types of transportation projects, including pedestrian improvements, EV and alternative fueling infrastructure, managed lanes, and adaptive traffic control.
- **Energy Emissions Reduction and Policy Analysis Tool (EERPAT):** A screening tool to compare, contract, and analyze various greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction policy scenarios for the transportation sector at a state-level. It estimates GHG emissions from surface transportation (accounting for both fuel and electric vehicles).
- **Infrastructure Carbon Estimator:** A spreadsheet tool that estimates lifecycle energy and greenhouse gas emissions from the construction and maintenance of transportation facilities. The tool is maintained by the Minnesota Department of Transportation.
- **Transit Bus Electrification Tool:** Excel-based spreadsheet tool that allows users to estimate the partial lifecycle GHG emission savings associated with replacing standard bus fleets with low-emission or zero-emission transit buses.
- **Transit Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Programmatic Assessment and Emissions Estimator:** A spreadsheet-based tool that allows users to estimate the partial lifecycle GHG emissions generated from the construction, operation, and maintenance phases of a project across select transit modes.

# Determining Disadvantaged Community Status

*The Justice40 Initiative seeks to deliver 40% of the overall benefits of investments in climate, clean energy, and related areas to disadvantaged communities.*

- **Areas of Persistent Poverty & Historically Disadvantaged Communities:** Lists U.S. Census tracts that qualify as Areas of Persistent Poverty & Disadvantaged Communities.
- **Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool (CEJST):** Developed by CEQ to identify communities that meet the statutory grant program definition of "Historically Disadvantaged Community."
- **Environmental Justice (EJ) Screen:** Developed by EPA, this tool combines environmental and demographic socioeconomic indicators into EJ Indexes.
- **Equitable Transportation Community Explorer (ETC):** Developed by DOT to explore the cumulative burden communities experience as a result of underinvestment in transportation across several factors.
- **PLACES:** developed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, provides model-based, population-level analysis and community estimates of health measures across the United States.
- **Screening Tool for Equity Analysis of Projects (STEAP):** a GIS screening tool project-level screening tool developed by FHWA.

September 2023 USDOT Navigator Webinar



[Explore the map](#) [Methodology & data](#) [About](#) [Contact](#)

## Explore the map

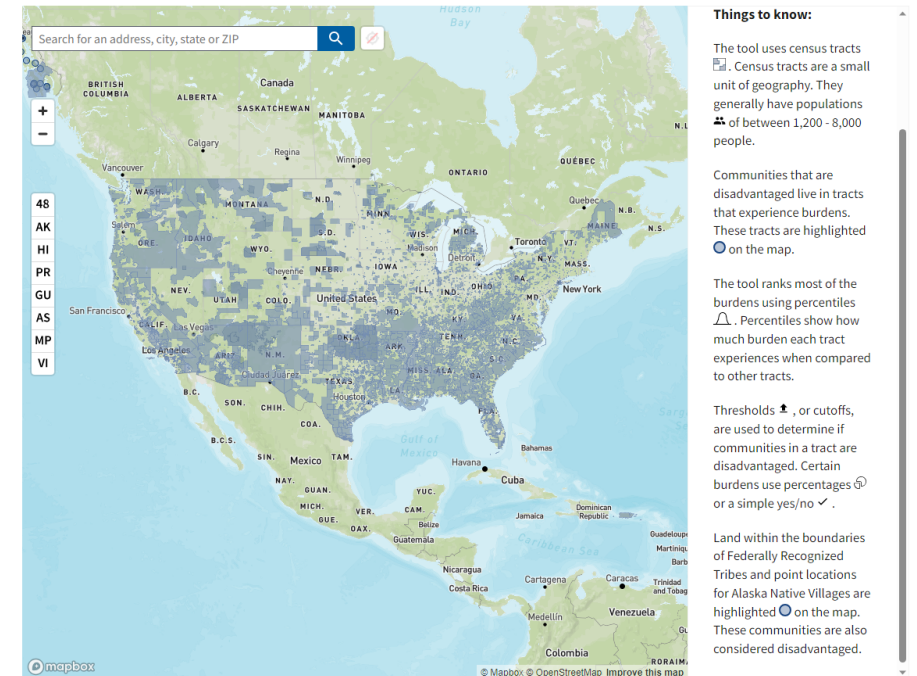
[Share data sources with CEQ](#)

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.

### Get the data

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





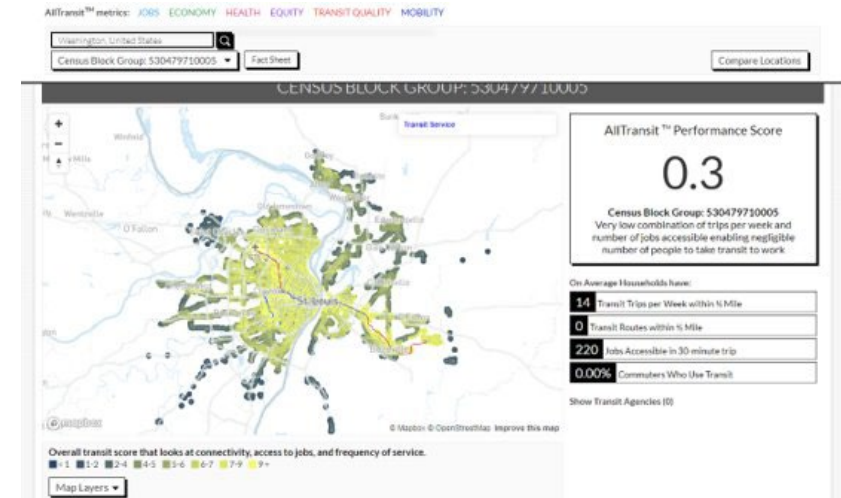
# Analyzing safety benefits, risks and impacts

Most DOT discretionary grant programs have merit criteria addressing safety

- **Crash Modification Factors (CMF) Clearinghouse:** A clearinghouse of crash modification factors that can reduce the expected number of crashes.
- **Crash Report Sampling System (and the Fatality Analysis Reporting System):** A sample of police-reported crashes to tabulate data on the attributes of crashes occurring across the country. The Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS) is a related database of crashes where a fatality occurred. Relatedly, the Fatality and Injury Reporting System Tool (FIRST) allows a user to query both the CRSS and the FARS data in a user-friendly way.
- **Our Nation's Roadway Safety Crisis:** A NHTSA-based tool to visualize roadway safety, by showing hotspots of fatal crashes.
- **Roadway Safety Data Dashboards:** An FHWA tool to give state and local highway agencies access to roadway fatality data in an easy-to-use interface.

# General Transportation Mapping Tools

- **AllTransit:** Used to analyze the social benefits of transit projects through the lenses of health, equity, and economic development.
- **Bureau of Transportation Statistics:** Provides maps, charts, tables and analysis on freight flows, flight performance, transportation economics, and noise exposure. Information can be used to make planning, travel and investment decisions conditions.
- **EV Charging Justice40 Map Tool:** Designed for energy infrastructure planning and analysis, especially evaluating the many factors influencing siting decisions.
- **Highway Environmental Planning Geographic Information System (HEPGIS):** This tool combines several data sources to produce various layers for transportation and equity analyses.
- **Long-Term Bridge Performance (LTBP) InfoBridge:** A bridge performance portal, enabling researchers to understand the performance and conditions of highway bridge assets.
- **National Household Travel Survey:** Provides comprehensive data on travel and transportation patterns in the United States. It is the only source of national data that allows one to analyze trends in personal and household travel.
- **Sustainable Highways Self-Evaluation Tool (INVEST):** Provides a numeric means for measuring sustainability, assessing improvement options, and tracking continuous progress.
- **The National Transit Database (NTD):** The repository of data about the financial, operating and asset conditions of American transit systems. Also includes detailed transit profiles, national trends, and time series data.



# Equity Data Tools Spotlight - Screening Tool for Equity Analysis of Projects (STEAP)



U.S. Department  
of Transportation

# Screening Tool for Equity Analysis of Projects (STEAP)

If you're applying for Federal grants, be sure to use STEAP or other tools to best TELL YOUR STORY:

- To better tell your story when applying for Federal grants, you can use equity analysis tools to identify who and what characteristics are in your project/study area including:
  - Title VI – Race, Color and National Origin
  - Environmental Justice – Minority and Low-income Populations
  - Limited English Proficiency
  - Households and Housing Units
- Tool Accessibility (For Beginner, Intermediate, or Advanced Users)
  - Simple and Easy to Use Tool to Create Buffer Analysis



# Screening Tool for Equity Analysis of Projects

Using this tool or others will provide you:

- Easy to use **graphic user interface**
  - You can specify your project location/area on a map to perform a project buffer analysis. Select an **area or roadway to screen specific project locations** anywhere in the United States
- Produces an **Equity/Project Analysis Report**
  - Title VI and EJ population summaries, employment, education, housing, and other information surrounding your identified project location
- Tool Availability
  - Web application on **FHWA's HEPGIS website**  
(<https://hepgis.fhwa.dot.gov/fhwagis/buffertool/>)

# HEPGIS Website -

(<https://hepgis.fhwa.dot.gov/fhwagis/buffertool/>)

U.S. Department of Transportation  
Federal Highway Administration

Planning, Environment, Realty (HEP)  
**HEPGIS**  
Help | About | Sources | Contact

Alternative Fuel Corridors | Highway System | Fatal Crashes | **2020 Census & Equity Analysis** | MPO & Air Quality | Border Flows / FAF4 | **Project Equity-STEAP V2** | What's New

Find Map | Find Location | Points Of Interest Map | Print Map | Print Table | Download Table | Email Page | Accessible Version | Downloads

### National Highway System

Map Scale: 1 : 19,972,972 Width: 5,084 Miles

Powered by TransCAD for the Web

For information and comments about this web site, contact Supin Yoder

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# Zoom In to Your Project Location/Area



U.S. Department of Transportation  
Federal Highway Administration

Screening Tool for Equity Analysis of Projects (STEAP)

Planning, Environment, Realty (HEP)

[HEPGIS](#) | [Help](#) | [About](#) | [Sources](#) | [Contact](#)

☒ 1. Zoom to a Location

Type a city name...

☐ 2. Select Major Roads

Left-Click to Select, Right-Click to Erase

☐ Or Draw A Line

Do not select/draw more than 25 miles

3. Choose:

Distance: within  Miles

and within  Miles (optional)

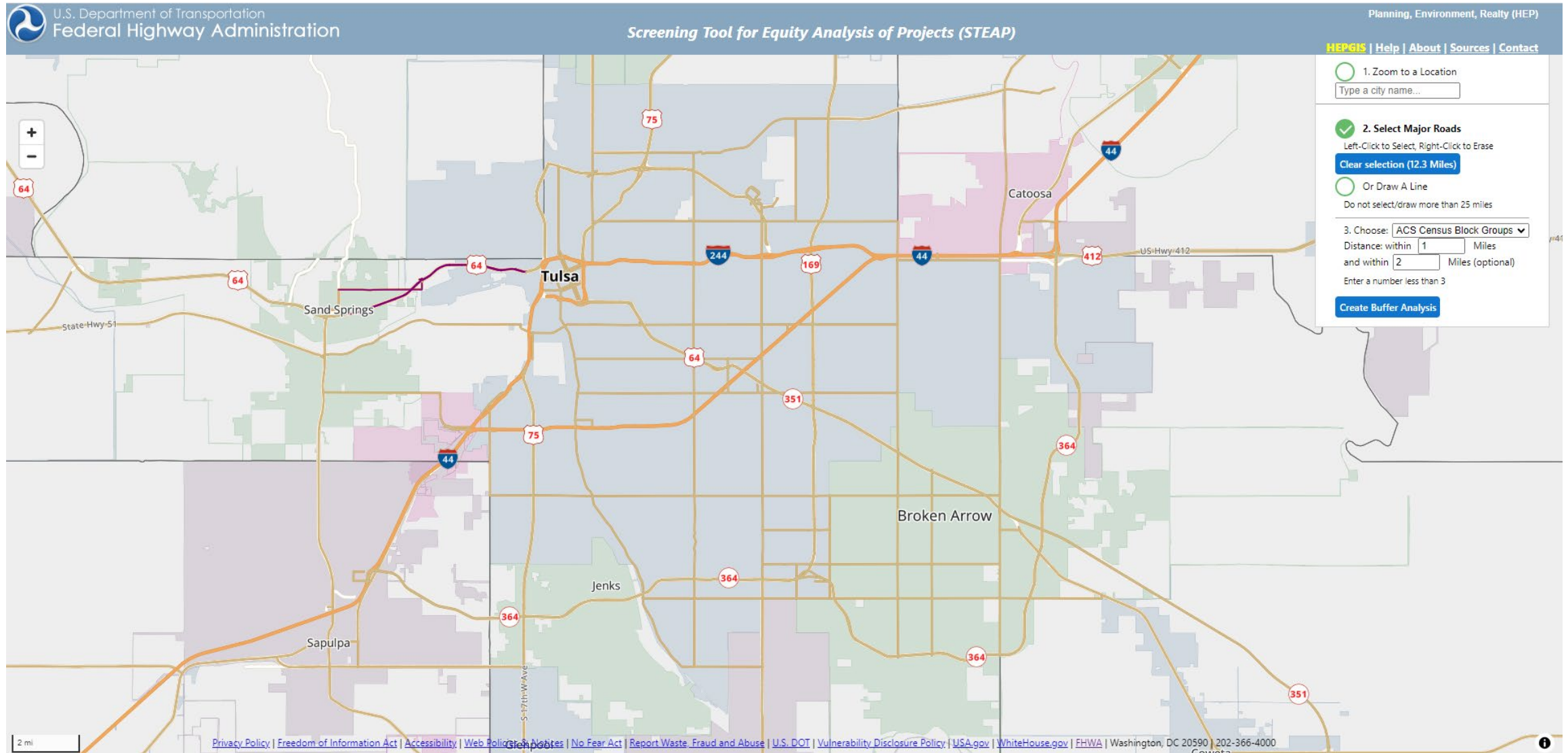
Enter a number less than 3

[Create Buffer Analysis](#)



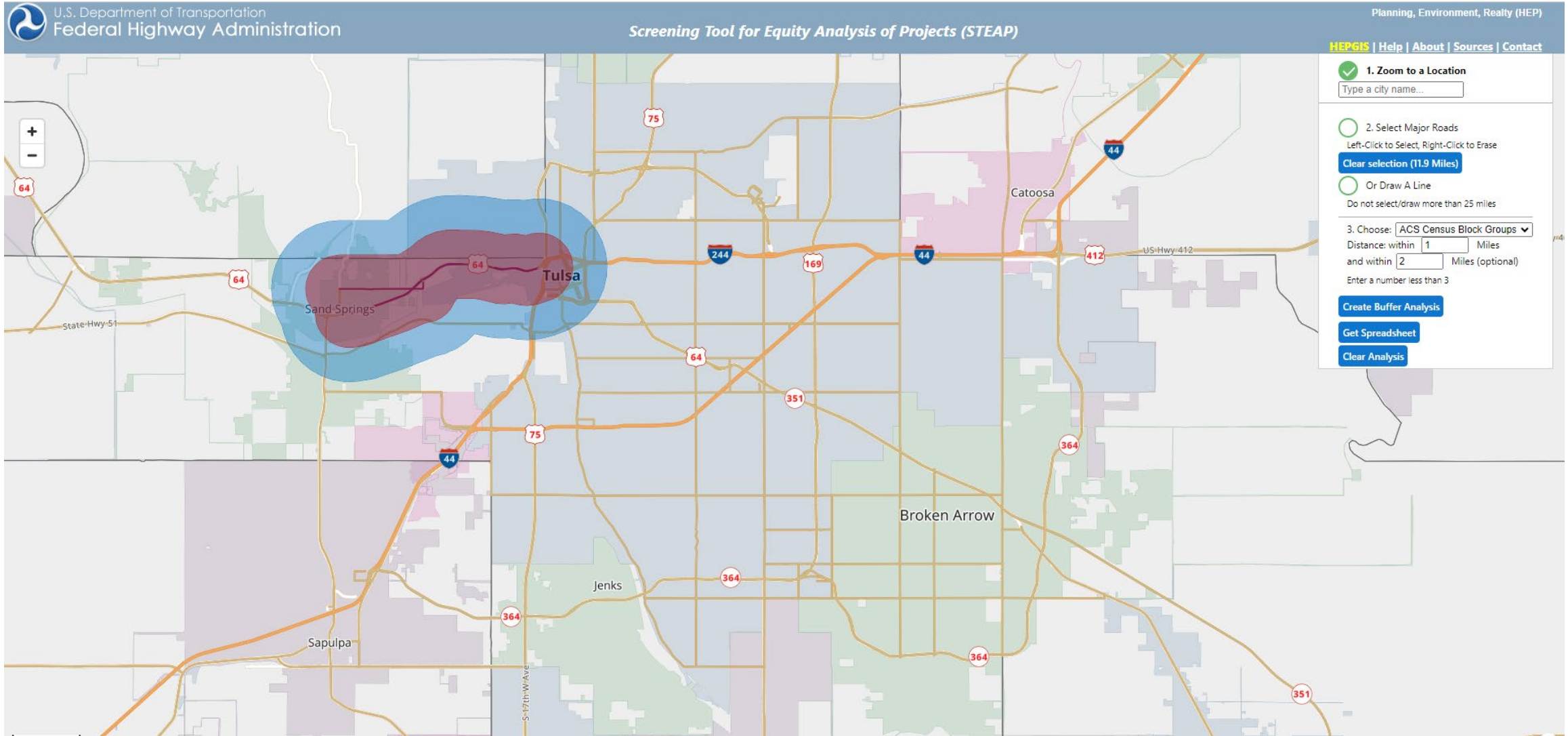


# Select the Affected Roads Your Project is Located



<https://hepgis.fhwa.dot.gov/fhwagis/buffertool/>

# Specify a Mileage Buffer Surrounding Your Project



# Retrieve an Equity Analysis Report for Your Project

U.S. Department of Transportation  
Federal Highway Administration

Planning, Environment, Realty (HEP)

Screening Tool for Equity Analysis of Projects (STEAP)

HEPGIS | Help | About | Sources | Contact

1. Zoom to a Location  
Type a city name...

2. Select Major Roads  
Left-Click to Select, Right-Click to Erase  
Clear selection (12.3 Miles)  
Or Draw A Line  
Do not select/draw more than 25 miles

3. Choose: ACS Census Block Groups  
Distance: within 1 Miles  
and within 2 Miles (optional)  
Enter a number less than 3  
Create Buffer Analysis  
Get Spreadsheet  
Clear Analysis

Report Size: Larger ↑ Smaller ↓ Close X

1e040ae.pdf 2 / 15 100%

### 1.0 Miles Buffer Analysis Summary Report

	Buffer Estimates	Percent	City/Town Tulsa OK	County Tulsa OK	State Oklahoma
<b>General Buffer Area Statistics</b>					
Land Area (in square miles)	15		198	570	
Population	20,299		402,441	596,873	3,751,351
Housing Units	9,887		187,543		1,664,378
Households	8,325		163,368		1,460,450
Families	4,678		92,343		
<b>Population by Race</b>					
Total	20,299	100%	402,441	596,873	3,751,351
Population Reporting One Race	18,461	91%	91%		
White	13,184	65%	63%		72%
Black	3,250	16%	15%		7%
American Indian	1,581	8%	5%		
Asian	152	1%	3%		2%
Pacific Islander	5	0%	0%		0%
Some Other Race	289	1%	5%		
Population Reporting Two or More Races	1,838	9%	9%		6%
<b>Population by Ethnicity</b>					
Total	20,299	100%	402,441	596,873	3,751,351

<https://hepgis.fhwa.dot.gov/fhwagis/buffertool/>



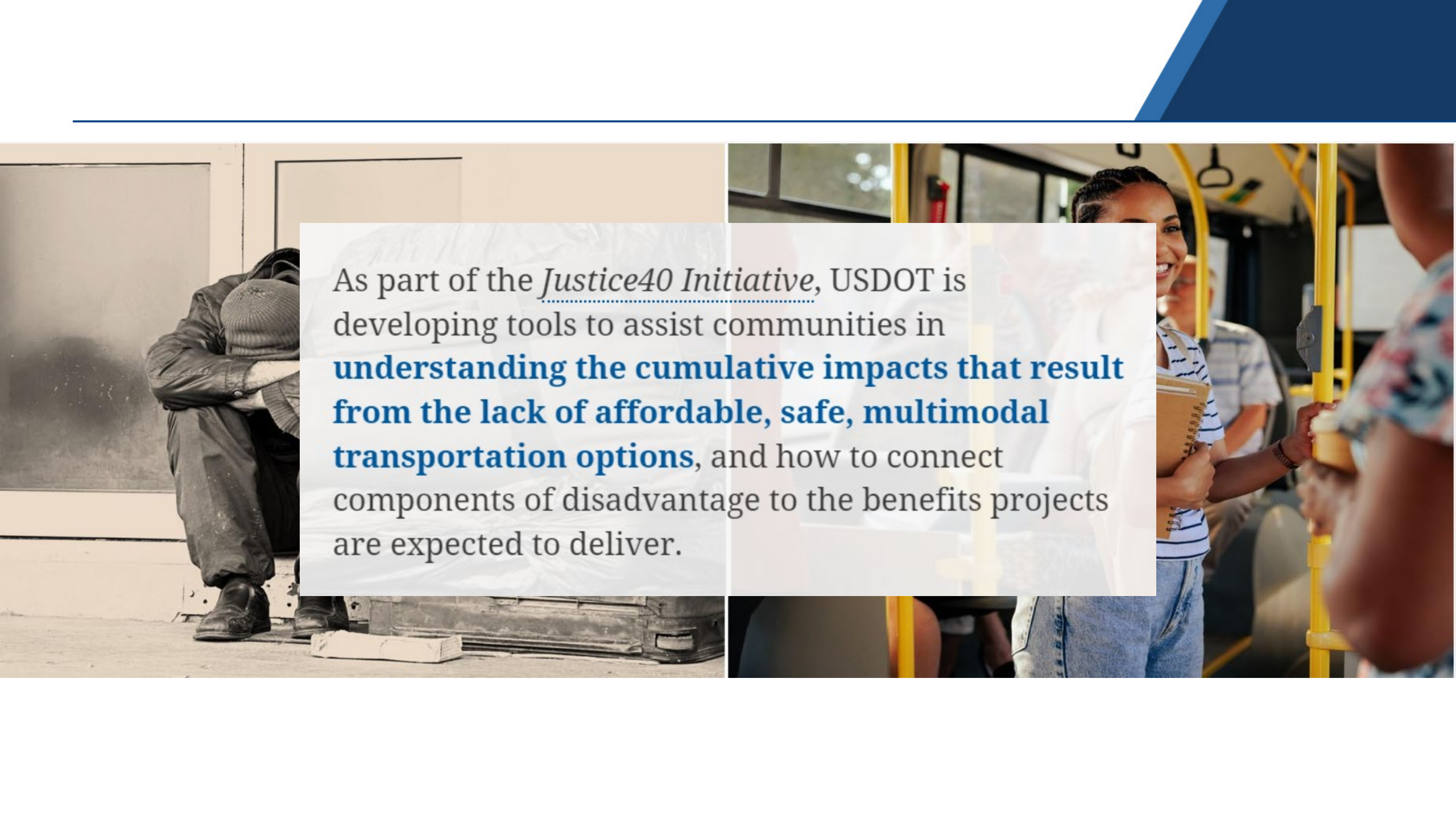
# Questions on STEAP Use and Functionality

**Contact: Brian Gardner at**  
**[brian.gardner@dot.gov](mailto:brian.gardner@dot.gov) or Supin Yoder**  
**at [supin.yoder@dot.gov](mailto:supin.yoder@dot.gov).**

# Equity Data Tools Spotlight— ETC Explorer



U.S. Department  
of Transportation



As part of the *Justice40 Initiative*, USDOT is developing tools to assist communities in **understanding the cumulative impacts that result from the lack of affordable, safe, multimodal transportation options**, and how to connect components of disadvantage to the benefits projects are expected to deliver.





When decision makers at all levels have the tools to reverse or mitigate the causes of disadvantage, the result is a **higher quality of life and economic prosperity in all communities.**





# How to Navigate the ETC

## USDOT Equitable Transportation Community (ETC) Explorer

ETC Explorer - Homepage

ETC Explorer - National Results

ETC Explorer - State Results

ETC Explorer- Add Your Data (National and State Results)

Transportation Insecurity Analysis Tool

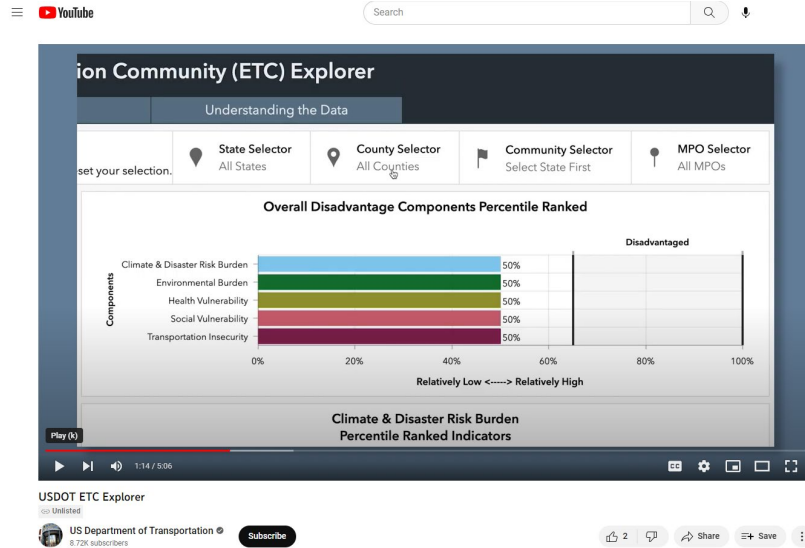
Understanding the Data

## Welcome to the USDOT Equitable Transportation Community (ETC) Explorer

\*If viewing on a laptop and the dashboard does not display properly- right click on your desktop, select display options, and adjust the zoom to an appropriate resolution (usually 100%).

The Justice40 initiative, created by the Biden-Harris Administration through Executive Order 14008 Tackling the Climate Crises at Home and Abroad, is a key component in U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) efforts to confront and address decades of underinvestment. When decision makers at all levels have the tools to understand how a community is experiencing disadvantage and can identify projects that create benefits that will reverse or mitigate those causes, the result is a higher quality of life and economic prosperity in communities across the country.

The U.S. DOT Equitable Transportation Community (ETC) Explorer is an interactive web application that uses 2020 Census Tracts and data, to explore the cumulative burden communities experience, as a result of underinvestment in transportation, in the following five components: Transportation Insecurity, Climate and Disaster Risk Burden, Environmental Burden, Health Vulnerability, and Social Vulnerability. It is designed to complement the White House Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) Climate & Economic Justice Screening Tool (CEJST) by providing users deeper insight into the Transportation disadvantage component of CEJST, and the ETC Explorer's Transportation Insecurity component, which will help ensure the benefits of DOT's investments are addressing the transportation related causes of disadvantage. USDOT's ETC Explorer is not a binary tool indicating whether a census tract is considered disadvantaged; it is a dynamic tool that allows every community in the country to understand how it is experiencing burden that transportation investments can mitigate or reverse.



## Video Tutorial

## Downloadable User Guide

### Departamento de Transporte de los Estados Unidos

### Guía del Usuario del Explorador Equitable Transportation Community (ETC)

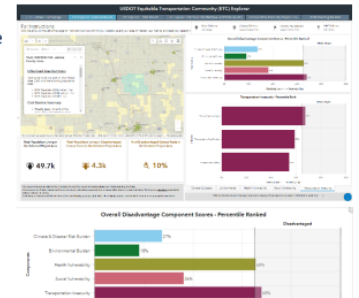
#### Acerca de Justicia40

La [Administración Biden-Harris creó la iniciativa Justicia40](#) para abordar la falta de inversión histórica en las comunidades desfavorecidas. La iniciativa aportará recursos a las comunidades más afectadas por el cambio climático, la contaminación y los peligros ambientales.

Bajo la iniciativa [Justicia40 \(J40\)](#), el Departamento de Transporte de los Estados Unidos (USDOT) fijó como meta que el 40% de los beneficios generales de muchas de nuestras subvenciones, programas e iniciativas --que abordan las brechas en la infraestructura de transporte y servicios públicos-- fluyan directamente hacia comunidades desfavorecidas.

#### Acerca del Explorador

El Explorador ETC del USDOT está diseñado para complementar la [Herramienta de Detección de Justicia Climática y Económica \(CEJST\)](#) del Consejo de Calidad Ambiental de la Casa Blanca (CEQ). El propósito del



# USDOT Equitable Transportation Community (ETC) Explorer

[ETC Explorer - Homepage](#)[ETC Explorer - National Results](#)[ETC Explorer - State Results](#)[ETC Explorer- Add Your Data \(National and State Results\)](#)[Transportation Insecurity Analysis Tool](#)[Understanding the Data](#)

## For Instructions:

Click the arrow on the left of the page for instructions on how to find your location, select your area of interest, view metrics, and reset your selection.

State Selector  
All States

County Selector  
Select State First

Community Selector  
Select State First

MPO Selector  
All MPOs



Zoom to Pan ... 1 of 13

Tract 06001401400 - Alameda  
County, California

### Urbanized Area Summary

Tract contains all or a portion of an Urban Area (UZA) with the following population sizes:

- UZA Population 50k or Less - No
- UZA Population 200k or Less - No
- UZA Population 200k+ - Yes

### Cost Burden Summary

- Poverty Level - 47.44% of the population in the tract are at or below the poverty level

Total Population Living in  
the Selected Project Area

 30.7k

Total Population Living in Disadvantaged  
Census Tracts in the Selected Project Area

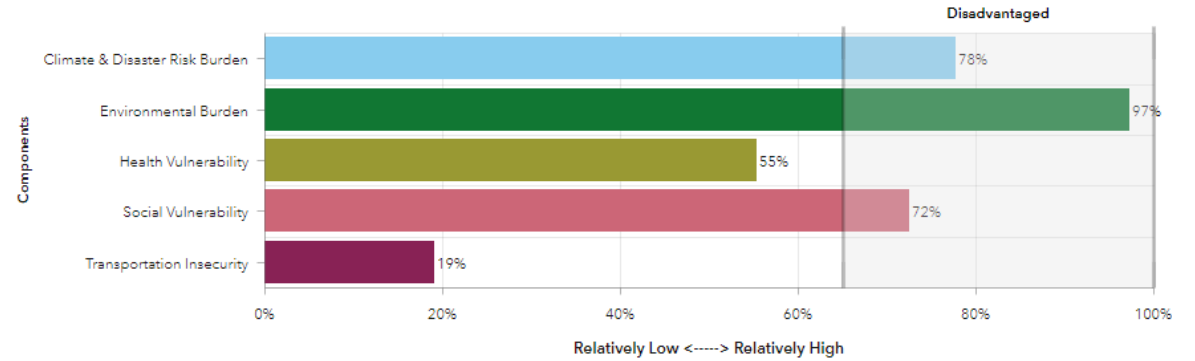
 27k

% of Disadvantaged Census Tracts in  
the Selected Project Area

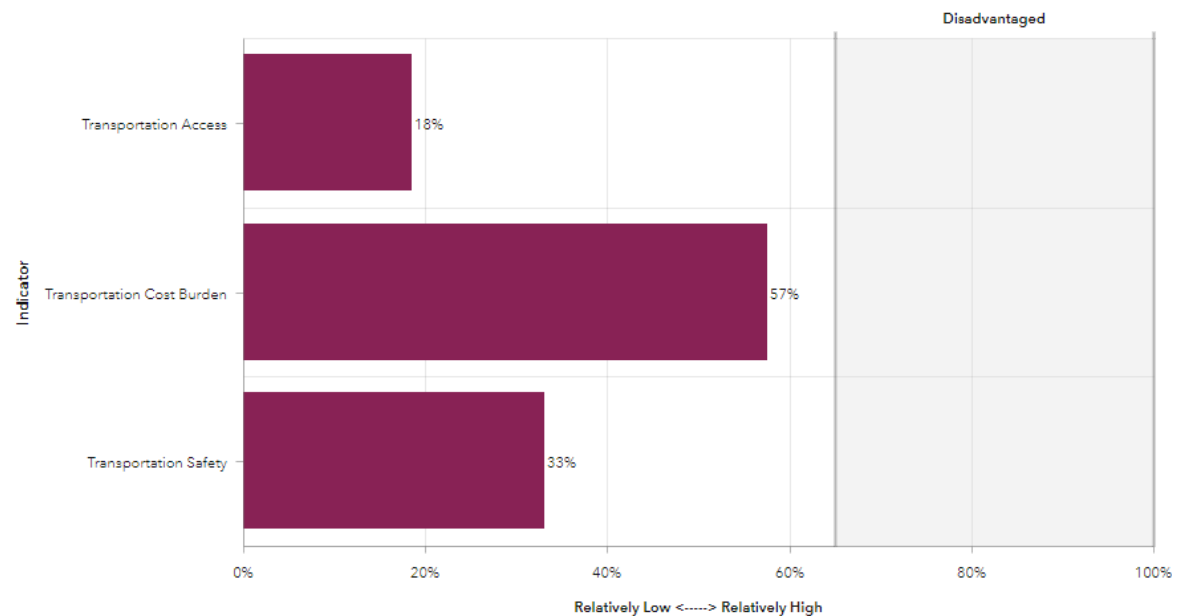
 77%

- Component Scores are distinct from Indicator Scores. For more information please see - Understanding the Data.  
- Index scores for Alaska, Hawaii and the territories are calculated separately due to unavailable data for certain indicators. The Explorer [visualizes](#) unavailable indicator data as '0' values.  
- If viewing on a laptop and the dashboard does not display properly- right click, select display options, and adjust the zoom to an appropriate resolution.

## Overall Disadvantage Component Scores - Percentile Ranked



## Transportation Insecurity - Percentile Rank

[Climate & Disaster](#)[Environmental](#)[Health Vulnerability](#)[Social Vulnerability](#)[Transportation Insecurity](#)

Click on the tab above to change component category. Once selectors are used, click button to reset map ----->





# Search and Selection Features

## USDOT Equitable Transportation Community (ETC) Explorer

ETC Explorer - Homepage

## ETC Explorer - State Results

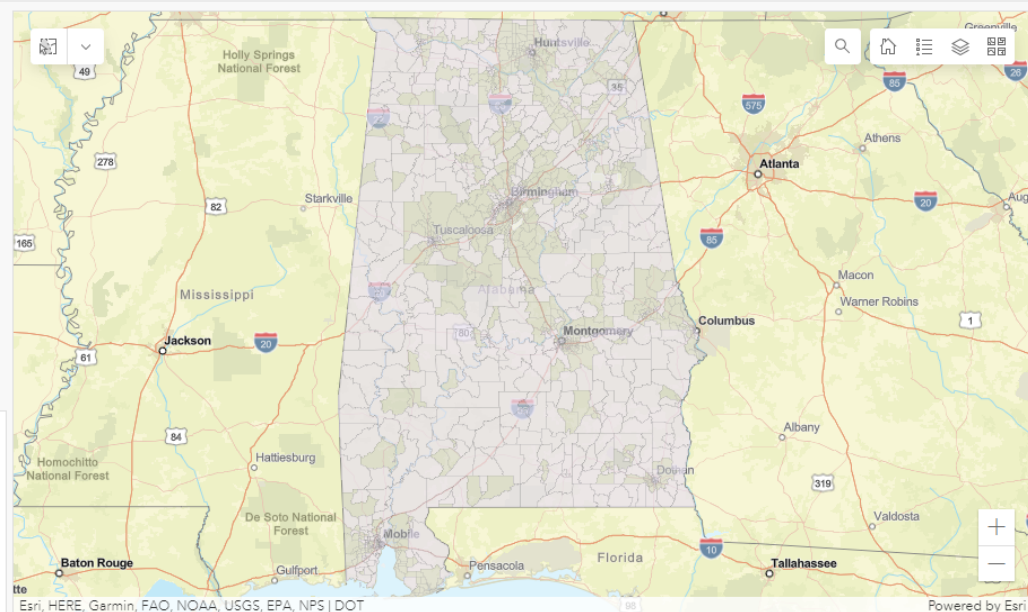
## ETC Explorer- Add Your Data (National and State Results)

Transportation Insecurity Analysis Tool

## Understanding the Data

For Instructions:

Click the arrow on the left of the page for instructions on how to find your location, select your area of interest, view metrics, and reset your selection.



### Total Population Living in the Selected Project Area

 4.9M

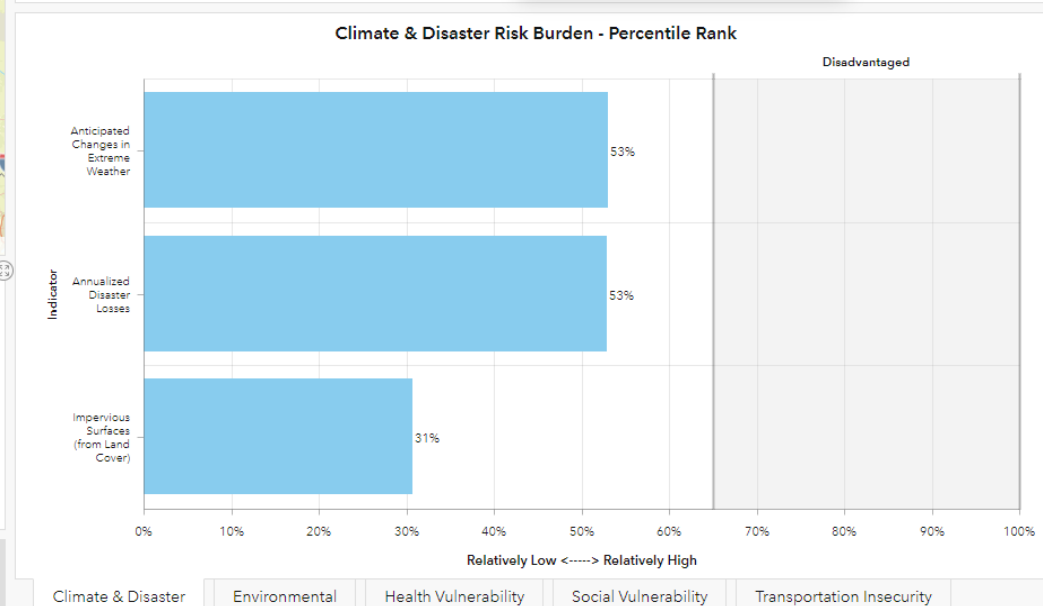
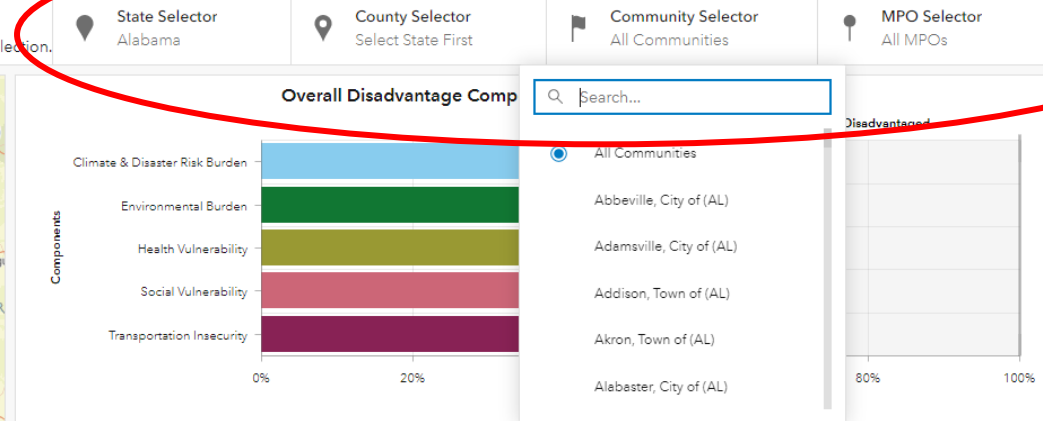
### Total Population Living in Disadvantaged Census Tracts in the Selected Project Area

 2.3M

### % of Disadvantaged Census Tracts in the Selected Project Area

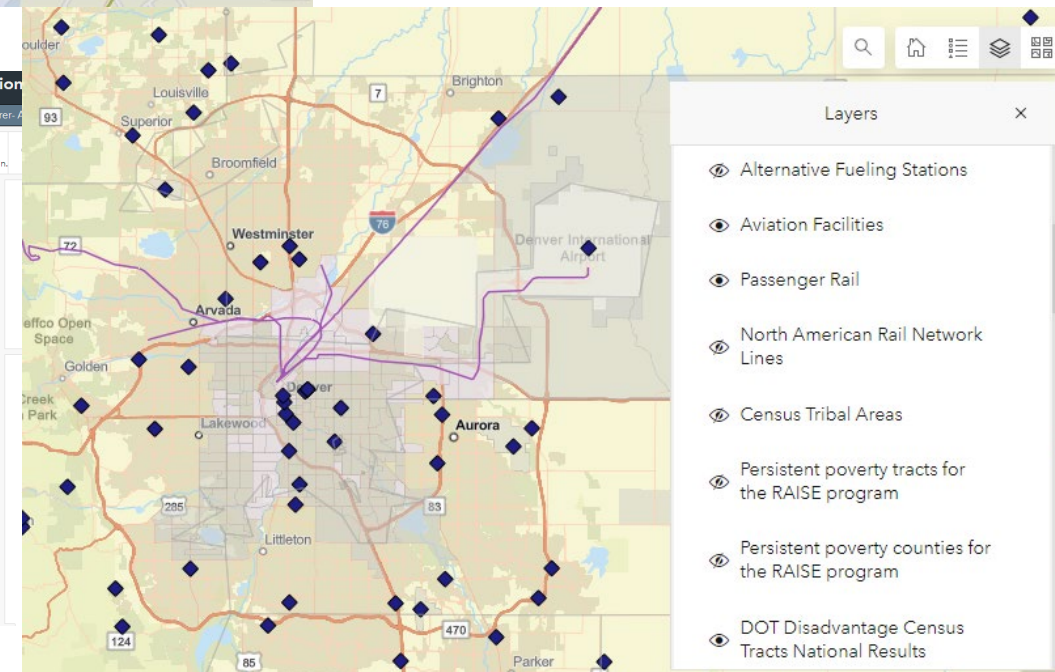
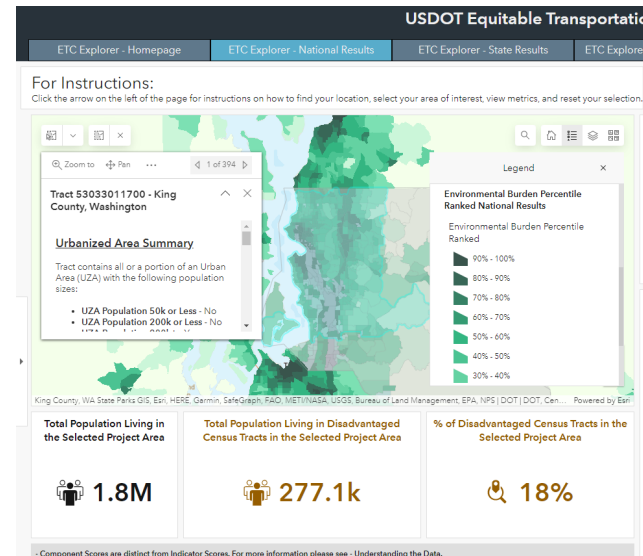
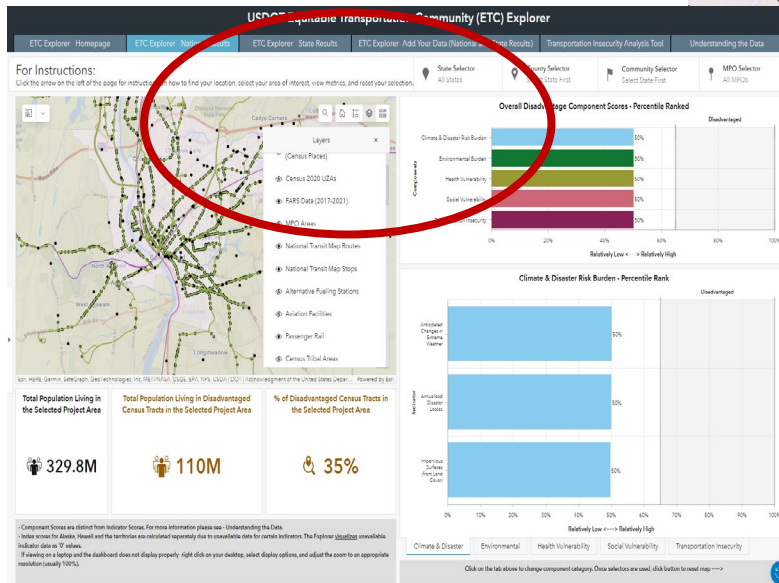
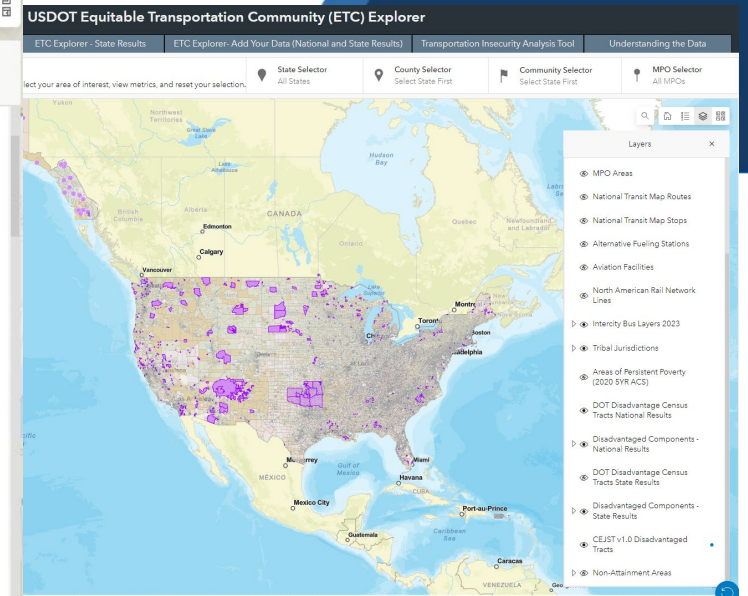
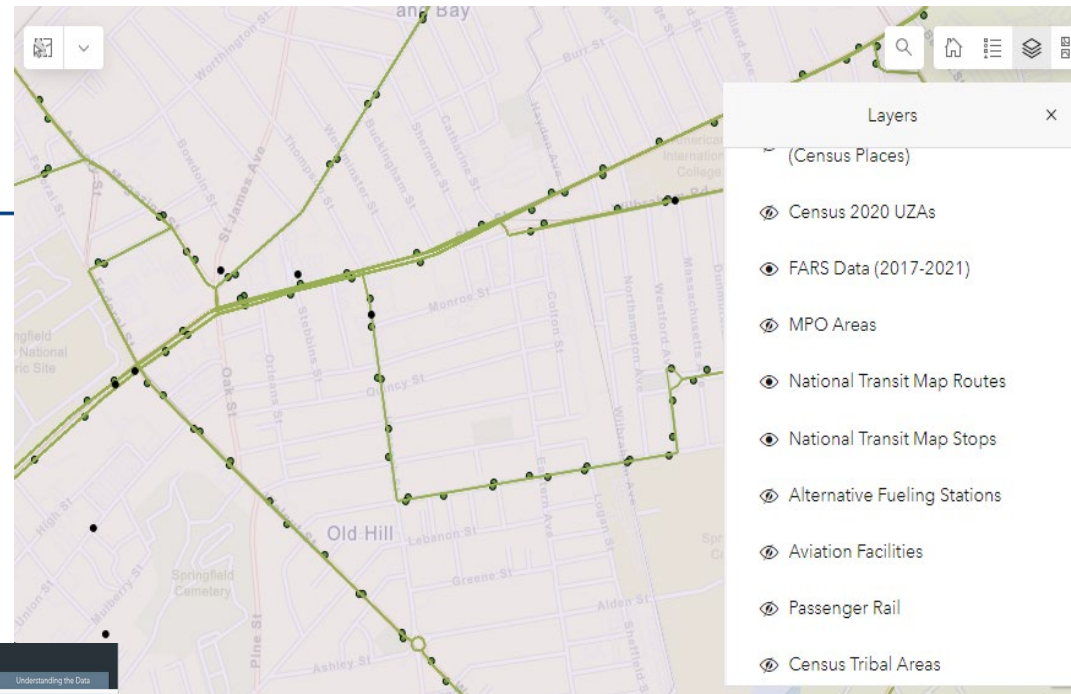
 51%

- Component Scores are distinct from Indicator Scores. For more information please see - Understanding the Data.
- Index scores for Alaska, Hawaii and the territories are calculated separately due to unavailable data for certain indicators. The Explorer [visualizes](#) unavailable indicator data as '0' values.
- If viewing on a laptop and the dashboard does not display properly- right click on your desktop, select display options, and adjust the zoom to an appropriate resolution (usually 100%).



Click on the tab above to change component category. Once selectors are used, click button to reset map ---->

# Data Layers







Alligator River Detour Route

## Case Study- Alligator River Bridge, NC

# US DOT Equitable Transportation Community (ETC) Explorer

[Homepage](#)[ETC Explorer - National Results](#)[Map Viewer](#)[Understanding the Data](#)

## For Instructions:

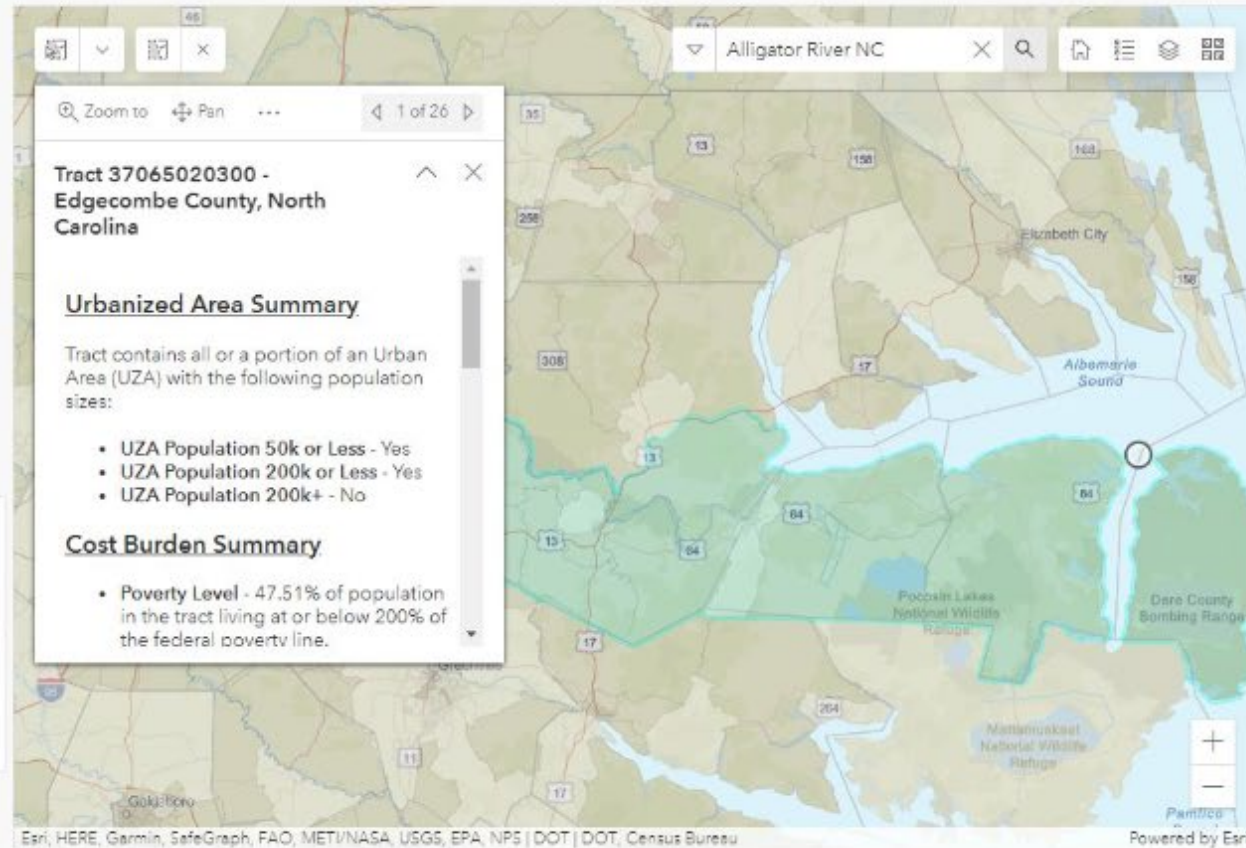
Click the arrow on the left of the page for instructions on how to find your location, select your area of interest, view metrics, and reset your selection.

State Selector  
All States

County Selector  
All Counties

Community Selector  
Select State First

MPO Selector  
All MPOs



Total Population Living in the Selected Project Area

96.1k

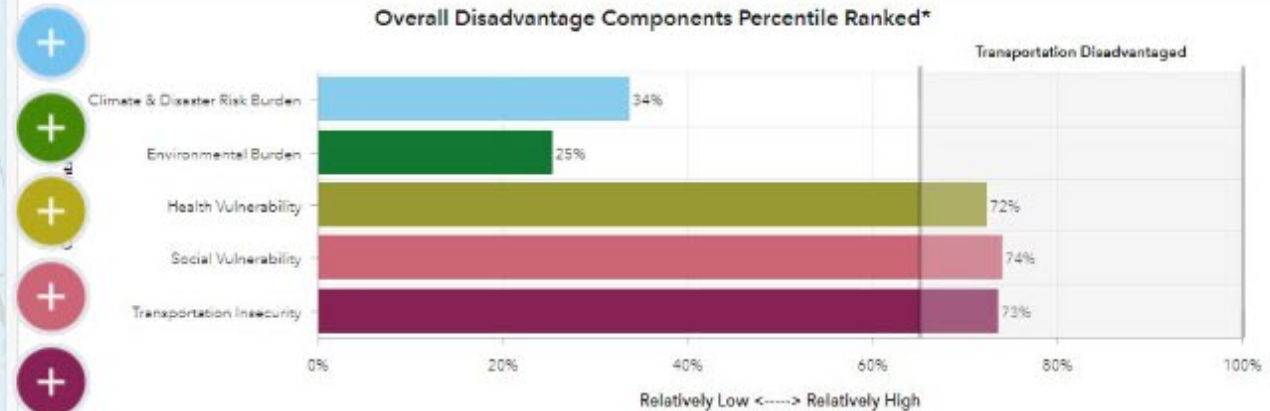
Total Population Living in Disadvantaged Census Tracts in the Selected Project Area

64.2k

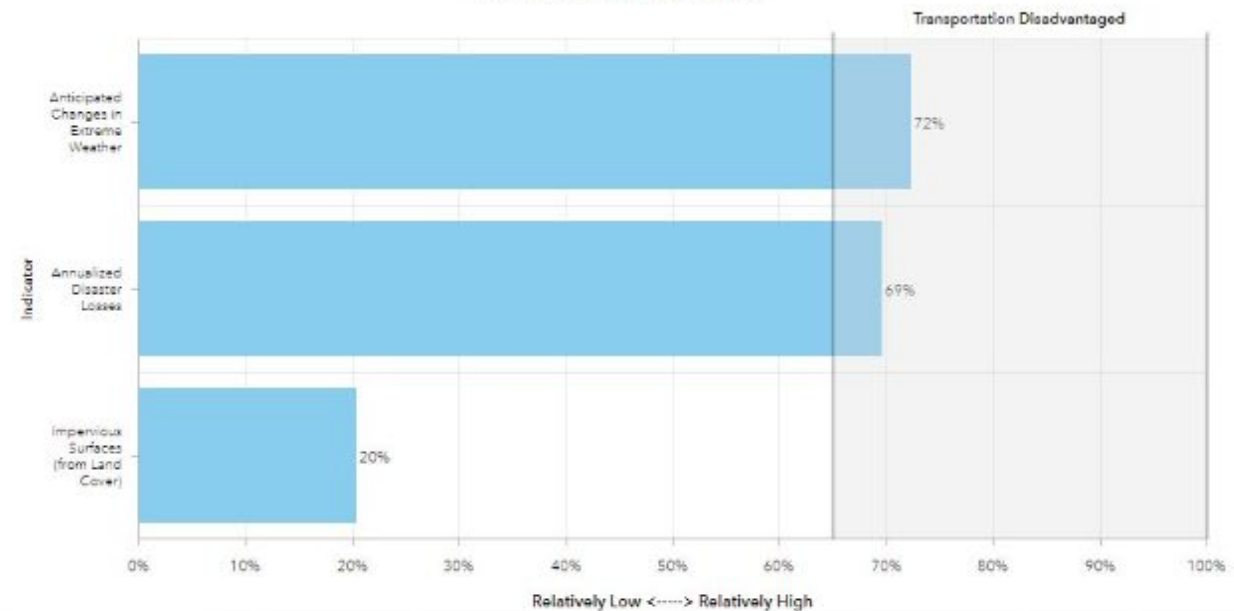
% of Disadvantaged Census Tracts in the Selected Project Area

69%

## Overall Disadvantage Components Percentile Ranked\*



## Climate & Disaster Risk Burden Percentile Ranked Indicators

[Climate & Disaster](#)[Environmental](#)[Health Vulnerability](#)[Social Vulnerability](#)[Transportation Insecurity](#)





# Benefits

- Evacuation routes are available during extreme weather events and people are able to regularly access hospitals and health facilities quickly, which increases safety;
- Employees can maintain employment by arriving to work on-time helping to reduce unemployment and poverty;
- Extensive detours or idling times are minimized reducing emissions generated which can improve asthma rates;
- Marine and land freight delays are avoided improving the economic competitiveness of the region through the reduction of supply chain issues and lost revenue.
- In addition to increasing the reliability and resilience of the transportation infrastructure the new bridge will include-
- New dedicated bike and pedestrian infrastructure allowing for increased active transportation opportunities which are known to have a positive influence on high blood pressure and diabetes.
- Broadband infrastructure which will increase- access to training, and employment opportunities helping to eliminate poverty; hazard information which will improve the efficiency of hurricane evacuations; and new business creation resulting in wealth creation within communities.





# Overview of Indices

Tool Owner	 <b>Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool (CEJST)</b> <b>White House Council on Environmental Quality</b>	 <b>Equitable Transportation Community (ETC) Explorer</b> <b>US Department of Transportation</b>
Design Intent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Helps federal agencies identify disadvantaged communities that will benefit from programs included in the Justice40 Initiative.</li> <li>✓ <b>Highlights disadvantaged census tracts across US states and territories for the purpose of calculating benefits to disadvantaged communities under Justice40.</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Helps applicants explore the cumulative burden communities experience that may be associated with transportation</li> <li>✓ <b>Complements CEJST by providing users deeper insight into transportation disadvantage and other forms of disadvantage.</b> Index and dashboard provide data and dashboard tools that allow users to understand how a community or project area, which may span multiple census tracts, is experiencing transportation disadvantage.</li> </ul>
Index Calculation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>30+ data elements</b> across <b>8 categories of disadvantage</b>: climate change, energy, health, housing, legacy pollution, transportation, water and wastewater, workforce development</li> <li>• <b>Two-factor threshold (climate/environmental/other burden, and socioeconomic)</b> for each of the 8 categories of disadvantage: communities considered disadvantaged if they meet percentile rank-based thresholds for at least one of the categories of burden, or if they are on land within boundaries of <b>Federally Recognized Tribes</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>40+ data elements</b> across <b>5 categories of disadvantage</b>: Transportation Insecurity, Health Vulnerability, Climate/Hazard Risk Component, Environmental Burden, Socioeconomic Vulnerability</li> <li>• <b>One cumulative score for disadvantage</b> across 5 components, Individual variables are normalized using a min-max ranking. These are then added together to create Components. Component scores are added together to rank census tracts. Tracts scoring above the 65 percentile of the cumulative score are disadvantaged.</li> </ul>
Data Sources	<b>2010 Census Tracts</b> and data from sources including NOAA, USDOT, FEMA, EPA, Census, BIA, MRLC, DHS, CDC, DOI, and First Street Foundation.	<b>2020 US Census Tracts</b> and data from sources including NOAA, USDOT, FEMA, EPA, Census, BIA, MRLC, DHS, CDC, DOI, and Esri.

**Webpage:**

[www.transportation.gov/equity-Justice40](http://www.transportation.gov/equity-Justice40)

**Justice40 Email Address:**

[Justice40@dot.gov](mailto:Justice40@dot.gov)

# Preparing for Grant Success



U.S. Department  
of Transportation

# Some Essential Tips for Grant Competitiveness

For more insights visit: <https://www.transportation.gov/grants/dot-navigator/grant-application-resources>

- **Carefully Read the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for the Program and visit the Program Website**
  1. Explore the Frequently Asked Questions and Watch Webinars – additional details provided, and often updated
  2. Some NOFOs and Program Pages include additional resources or application requirements for things like doing a Benefit Cost Analysis (BCA), Non-Federal Match Requirements and Eligibilities, Obligation and Expenditure dates
- **Be strategic and understand program differences, set-asides, etc.**
  1. If recycling an application, make sure to tweak it to address the specific program requirements for the current year.
  2. Remember that the map tools can be used to determine eligibility *and/or* competitiveness, depending on the program.
- **Be realistic about project and grant readiness – many programs will be available again next year**
  - <https://www.transportation.gov/grants/dot-navigator/federal-funding-right-fit-my-organization>
  - *If unsuccessful, request an application debrief from USDOT*

# Some Essential Tips for Grant Competitiveness (2)

## Do not delay!

1. Obtain a Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) number;
2. Register with the System for Award Management (SAM) at [www.SAM.gov](http://www.SAM.gov);
3. Create a Grants.gov username and password; and
4. The E-Business Point of Contact (POC) at your organization must respond to the registration email from Grants.gov and login at Grants.gov to authorize you as an Authorized Organization Representative (AOR). Please note that there can be more than one AOR for an organization.

*This process can take multiple weeks to complete.*

*Technology and internet glitches happen – avoid submitting at the last minute!*

<https://www.transportation.gov/grants/dot-navigator/grant-application-resources>

DOT Navigator Home

Find Grant Opportunities >

Search Technical Assistance Resources

Grant Application Resources >

- Overview
- DOT Discretionary Grant Process
- Navigating Grant Program Applications
- Evaluation Criteria
- Grant Preparation Checklist
- Workforce and Labor Plan Checklist
- Climate Change Application Checklist
- How to Submit Applications on Grants.gov
- What is a Benefit-Cost Analysis?
- Tools to Determine Disadvantaged Community Status
- Eligible Applicants from Previous Rounds of Funding

Funding and Match Requirements >

Webinars

Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Funding

Find Transportation Contacts Near You

ROUTES Home

Related Links

### Grant Application Resources

The following USDOT resources provide checklists and information to help you prepare and apply for federal grants and maximize your chances of award success.

#### USDOT Discretionary Grant Process

What's the process to apply for federal grants? Find out in this overview of the [USDOT Discretionary Grant Process](#).

#### Maximizing Award Success

##### Navigating Grant Program Applications

[Maximizing Award Success: Navigating Grant Program Applications](#) gives tips on how to writing a grant application that maximizes your chances of winning an award.

#### Evaluation Criteria

[Maximizing Award Success: An Introduction to Evaluation Criteria](#) helps potential grant applicants understand how DOT uses evaluation criteria to select winning applications.

#### Grant Preparation Checklist

The [Fiscal Year 2023 Discretionary Grant Preparation Checklist for Prospective Applicants](#) is intended to help local governments prepare for the year ahead and chart a strategic pathway to take advantage of historic infrastructure investments of over \$32 billion available in new fiscal year 2023 Budget Authority.

#### Workforce and Labor Plan Checklist

The [Grant Application Checklist for a Strong Transportation Workforce and Labor Plan](#) outlines the key components of a strong job quality and workforce plan and includes a checklist of considerations for each component.

#### Climate Change Application Checklist

The [Checklist for a Strong Climate Change Mitigation, Adaptation and Resilience Grant Application](#) notes core components of a strong application for grants associated with climate change, including reducing transportation greenhouse gas emissions and addressing climate resilience and adaptation.

Spanish

- [Solicitud de subvenciones del USDOT](#)
- [Visión general de fondos del DOT y financiamiento](#)
- [Comprendiendo los requisitos no federales de cargo](#)
- [Herramientas federales para identificar comunidades desfavorecidas](#)
- [Financiamiento federal para transporte: Lista de cotejo de preparación de subvenciones "grants" discrecionales para posibles solicitantes durante el año fiscal 2023](#)
- [Lista de cotejo para solicitudes de subvención que alcancen una fuerza laboral de transporte sólida y un plan laboral](#)
- [Uso de Fondos del DOT para la Participación Pública](#)
- [¿Es el financiamiento federal el adecuado para mi organización?](#)





# Q&A on Preparing for Grant Success

# Open and Upcoming Funding Opportunities



U.S. Department  
of Transportation

# FY 2023 Thriving Communities Program (TCP)

- **Opportunities for Capacity Builders – up to \$22M available**
  - **TCP National Program** funds organizations to provide technical assistance, planning, and capacity building support at a national scale
  - **New TCP Regional Pilot Program** funds local or regional governments and non-profits to provide technical assistance, planning, and capacity building support to communities within their jurisdictions
  - See Notice of Funding Opportunity # *DOT-TCP-FY23-01. Applications due November 28, 2023*
  - *Upcoming webinar: September 20 at 3:30-4:30 p.m. ET*
- **Opportunity for communities to receive technical assistance, planning, and capacity building support**
  - Submit a Letter of Interest through the DOT TCP webform by November 15<sup>th</sup>
  - *Upcoming webinar: September 27 at 3:00-4:00 p.m. ET*
- Register at <https://www.transportation.gov/grants/thriving-communities/webinars>



Scan the QR  
code to learn  
more!



**THRIVING  
COMMUNITIES**  
PROGRAM

# Open & Upcoming Funding Opportunities

PROGRAM (and approximate funding availability)	DEADLINE FOR APPLICATION
<a href="#"><u>FY23 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods (RCN) Grant Program</u></a> (OST/FHWA: \$3.35B)	September 28, 2023 <i>NOFO amendment published August 21<sup>st</sup></i>
<a href="#"><u>FY 23 Strengthening Mobility and Revolutionizing Transportation (SMART) Grants Program</u></a> (OST: \$100M)	October 10, 2023
<a href="#"><u>FY 23 Pilot Program for Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) Planning</u></a> (FTA: \$13.4M)	October 10, 2023 <i>This year's NOFO include match flexibility for qualifying applications</i>
<a href="#"><u>FY23 Thriving Communities Program</u></a> (OST: \$22M)	NOFO applications – November 28, 2023 Letters of Interest – November 15, 2023
<b>FY22/23 National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (NEVI) Reliability and Accessibility Grant Program</b> (FHWA: \$100 M)	November 13, 2023
<b>FY23 Bridge Investment Program</b> (FHWA: \$2.5B)	Anticipate Large Bridge NOFO release in October 2023
<b>FY23 All Stations Accessibility Program</b> (FTA: \$350M)	Anticipate release in October 2023
<b>FY24 RAISE Program</b> (OST: \$1.5B)	Anticipate release in November 2023



[DOT Navigator Home](#)[Grant Application Resources](#) >[Technical Assistance Resources](#)[Learn About the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law](#)[Find Transportation Contacts Near You](#)[ROUTES Home](#)


### Related Links

- [FHWA Tribal Funding Opportunities](#)
- [EV Funding Opportunities](#)
- [National Roadway Safety Strategy](#)
- [J40 Initiative](#)

## DOT Discretionary Grants Dashboard

The DOT Discretionary Grants Dashboard provides communities with an overview of discretionary grant opportunities that can help meet their transportation infrastructure needs. Designed with all communities in mind, the Dashboard identifies grant programs with rural and Tribal set-asides or match waivers available. The Dashboard also includes Federal grant programs outside of DOT that may be of particular interest to rural communities. An updated Rural Grant Applicant Toolkit will soon be published to help rural communities harness the Dashboard. The Dashboard is updated weekly.

[The DOT Navigator](#) is a resource to help communities understand the best ways to apply for grants, and to plan for and deliver transformative infrastructure projects and services.

 [Download CSV](#)

Keywords

Eligible Activities

- Any - ▾

Eligible Applicants

- Any - ▾

Agency/Office

- Any - ▾

Transportation Type

- Any - ▾

Match Waiver

- Any - ▾

Rural Set-Aside

- Any - ▾

Tribal Set-Aside

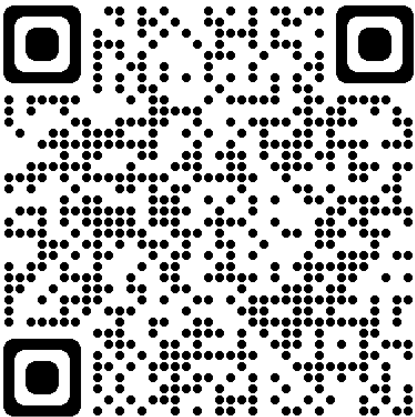
- Any - ▾

Status

- Any - ▾

Apply

*Visit the Dashboard!*



<https://www.transportation.gov/grants/dashboard>

Questions? Email us at [USDOTassist@dot.gov](mailto:USDOTassist@dot.gov)

[Sign up](#) to receive email updates with the latest information on the Thriving Communities Program, upcoming DOT Navigator webinars, and other DOT grant technical assistance resources.

**The December Navigator webinar will feature information on Benefit-Cost Analysis.** Information will be shared with subscribers and on the [Navigator webinars page](#).



# Questions?

## Stay Connected

Receive email updates about the latest information on DOT grant technical assistance resources.

**SUBSCRIBE FOR UPDATES**



U.S. Department  
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