Ventura County
Air Pollution
Control District

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Michael Villegas
Air Pollution Control Officer

April 27, 2018

Laura Zaremba-Schmidt
California Air Resources Board
9480 Telstar Avenue #4
El Monte, California 91731

SUBJECT: INITIAL AB 617 COMMUNITY RECOMENDATIONS AND ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY TO DEVELOP AN INITIAL LIST OF CANDIDATE COMMUNITIES IN VENTURA COUNTY

Ms. Zaremba-Schmidt:

On March 8, 2018 (VCAPCD) staff met with our most active local social/environmental justice organization the Central Coast Alliance United for a Sustainable Economy (CAUSE). CAUSE has recently been actively opposing a proposed gas turbine power plant in Oxnard based on environmental justice issues. In addition, on April 9, 2018 VCAPCD staff participated in a local Community Environmental Justice workshop sponsored by CAUSE and the California Environmental Justice Alliance. On April 19, 2018, the VCAPCD conducted our initial public workshop on the implementation of AB 617, Community Air Protection Program.

To identify an initial list of recommended communities, VCAPCD staff has focused on:

- CalEnviroScreen 3.0
- U.S. EPA's EJSCREEN mapping tool
- VCAPCD information on permitted facilities in and nearby disadvantaged/burdened communities identified via CalEnviroScreen 3.0 or EJSCREEN
- Community/public input

VCAPCD staff's initial areas of focus in using CalEnviroScreen 3.0 were air emission related information (ozone, PM 2.5, diesel particulate), pesticide application information, and health factors (asthma, low birth weight and cardiovascular disease). CalEnvroScreen 3.0 data for several census tracts in the Oxnard area is attached. The pesticide application rates, asthma scores and cardiovascular disease are elevated in these census tracts. Staff believes these elevated scores need to be studied further prior to making a final recommendation on inclusion in the Community Air Protection Program. With regard to the asthma scores, staff has contacted the local Medi-Cal provider for Ventura County, Gold Coast Health Plan, and requested information on the utilization of medical services related to asthma by enrollees in the Oxnard area as compared to enrollees in other areas of Ventura County. Gold Coast Health Plan staff was receptive to our request for information, but noted a response would take some time.

VCAPCD staff's review of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) EJSCREEN mapping tool has determined that this tool will need to be evaluated in more detail prior to utilizing the information. The EJSCREEN Environmental Justice index data is concerning as Oxnard has an ozone EJ index of 94th percentile (state) and Simi Valley has an ozone EJ index of 21st percentile (state). Currently, Oxnard has an ozone design value of 61 ppb (8-hour average) and Simi Valley has a design value of 77 ppb (8-hour average). However, staff's initial review shows that the EJSCREEN environmental and demographic indicators seem reasonable. EJSCREEN reports for Oxnard and Simi Valley are attached.

VCAPCD staff has also reviewed our air toxics information from our AB 2588 "Hot Spots" program. Staff focused on core (non-industrywide) facilities located in the initial list of recommended communities. The current AB 2588 information does not identify any core sources with a cancer risk of over 10 in a million, or acute or chronic indices of greater than 1.0. Staff is currently in the process of hiring a replacement for our toxics engineer. As soon as this new hire is on-board we will begin the AB 2588 work of prioritizing facilities using our updated prioritization procedures and focusing on core facilities located in the initial list of recommended areas. On November 8, 2016, VCAPCD adopted updated prioritization guidelines to implement the Cal-EPA Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment's updated Health Risk Assessment Guidelines for use by California air districts.

In addition, VCAPCD staff reviewed the results of the University of Southern California's Environmental Justice Screening Method (EJSM); however, the results were not as relevant to Ventura County as to other Southern California counties. However, EJSM displayed similarity with CalEnviroScreen 3.0 results.

The initial list of recommended communities will include the following census tracts (maps attached):

- 6111002905 Oxnard (North West area)
- 6111003201 Oxnard (North area)
- 6111009100 Oxnard (Colonia area)
- 6111004902 Oxnard (North East area)
- 6111004704 Oxnard (South East area)
- 6111004715 Oxnard (South area)
- 6111004400 Port Hueneme
- 6111002400 Ventura (Downtown area)
- 6111002300 Ventura (Avenue area near Hwy 33)
- 6111002200 Ventura (Avenue area East)
- 6111006100 Newbury Park
- 6111000400 Santa Paula (North East area)*
- 6111000500 Santa Paula (South of Hwy 126)*

- 6111000302 Fillmore area*
- 6111000200 Piru area*
- 6111005002 El Rio area*

* Areas are included based on community/public input received at the April 9, 2018 local Community Environmental Justice workshop sponsored by CAUSE and the California Environmental Justice Alliance. These areas were included in CalEnviroScreen 2.0 as potential disadvantaged/burdened communities.

This initial list will be refined and prioritized by VCAPCD staff. It is the intention of VCAPCD staff to submit a prioritized list to the California Air Resources Board, by July 31, 2018. At that time boundaries may be delineated using areas not based on census tracts. For example, the Oxnard census tracts could be consolidated into a larger area, if appropriate.

To refine and prioritize the initial list of candidate communities VCAPCD will consider:

- CalEnviroScreen 3.0
- U.S. EPA's EJSCREEN mapping tool
- VCAPCD information on permitted facilities in and nearby potential communities
- VCAPCD emission inventory information contained in our databases for both criteria and toxics pollutants from stationary sources in and nearby potential communities
- CARB emission inventory for criteria pollutants from mobile sources (as available)
- Monitoring data from the California Department of Pesticide site at Rio Mesa High School in Ventura County (El Rio area, just north of Oxnard)
- Potential input from health care entities
- Community input

As stated above, with regard to the asthma scores staff has contacted the local Medi-Cal provider for Ventura County, Gold Coast Health Plan, and requested information on the utilization of medical services by enrollees in the Oxnard area as compared to enrollees in other areas of Ventura County. Staff will also be seeking input from the County Public Health Department on this issue.

Staff will be meeting with the Oxnard Inter-Neighborhood Council Organization's Executive Committee on May 9, 2018 to seek additional public input and schedule additional community meetings. Staff will also be working with local community groups, environmental groups, and environmental justice groups, such as CAUSE, for assistance in obtaining additional community input.

Please contact me at 805/645-1440 or mike@vcapcd.org if you have any questions regarding this matter.

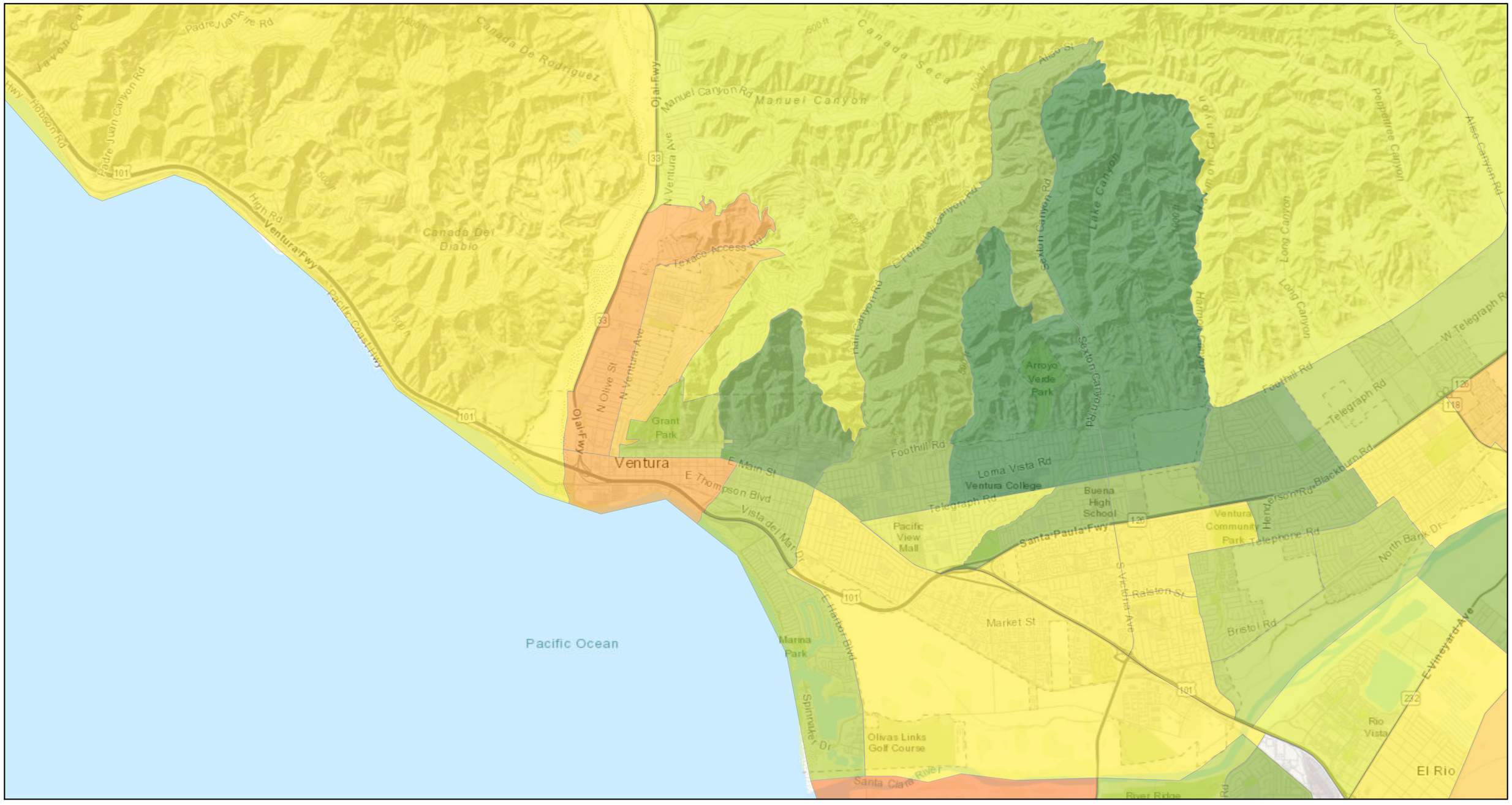
Sincerely,

Michael Villegas
Air Pollution Control Officer

Attachments:

1. CalEnviroScreen 3.0 data for several Oxnard census tracts
2. CalEnviroScreen 3.0 map of Oxnard area
3. CalEnviroScreen 3.0 map of Ventura Avenue area
4. CalEnviroScreen 3.0 map of Newbury Park area
5. EJSCREEN Report – central Oxnard
6. EJSCREEN Report – central Simi Valley

CalEnviroScreen 3.0 Results



April 25, 2018

CalEnviroScreen 3.0 Results

- 1 - 10% (Lowest Scores)
- 11 - 20%
- 21 - 30%
- 31 - 40%
- 41 - 50%
- 51 - 60%
- 61 - 70%
- 71 - 80%
- 81 - 90%

1:72,224

0 0.75 1.5 3 mi

0 1 2 4 km

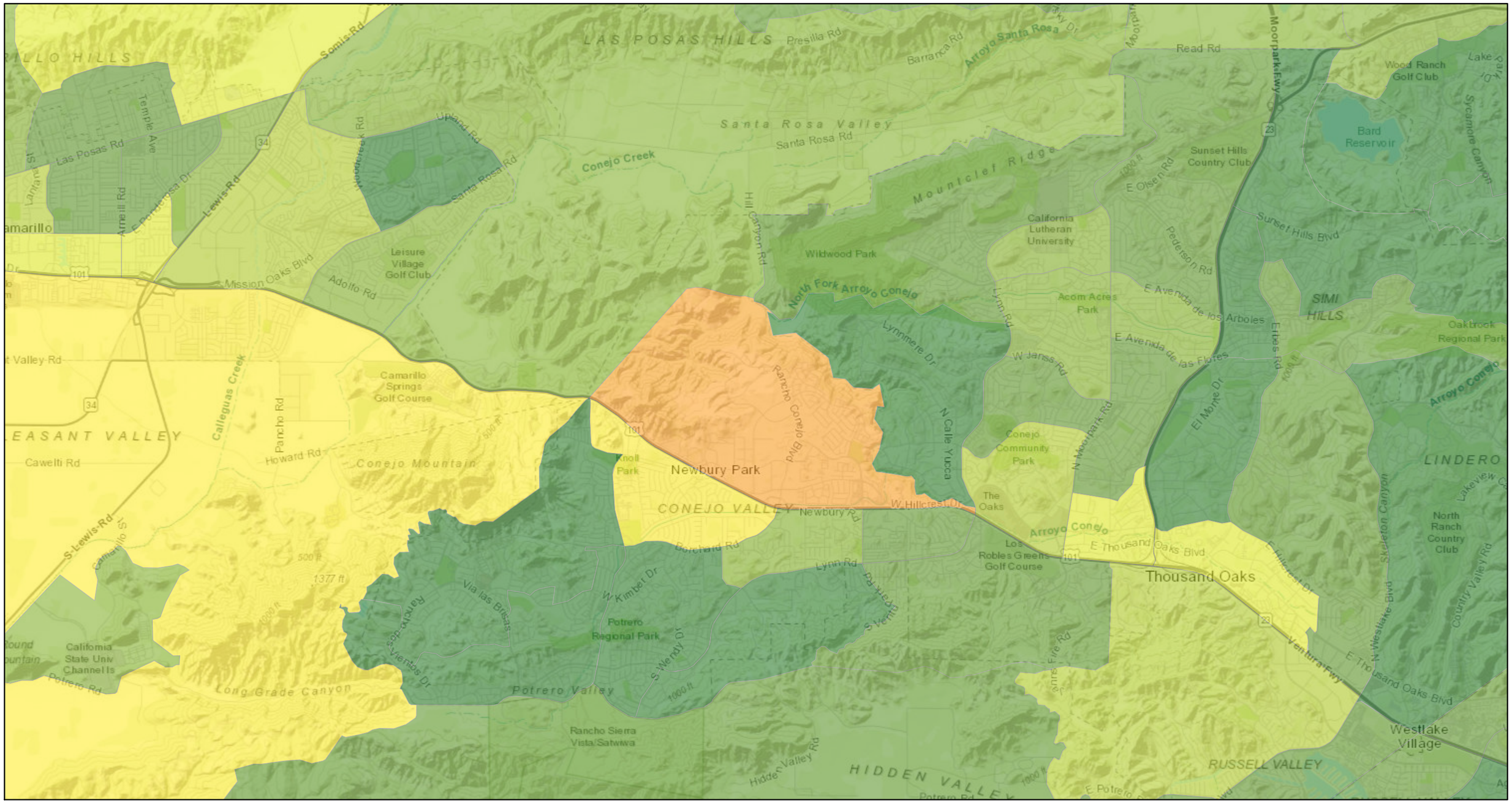
Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, Intermap, increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBase, IGN, Kadaster NL, Ordnance Survey, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), swisstopo, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community

Web AppBuilder for ArcGIS

City of Ventura, Bureau of Land Management, Esri, HERE, Garmin, INCREMENT P, USGS, METI/NASA, NGA, EPA, USDA | OEHHA |

Census Tract	Total Population	California County	Approx Zip Code	Nearby City (to help approximate location only)	CalEnviroScreen 3.0 Score	CalEnviroScreen 3.0 Percentile Range	Ozone Pctl	PM2.5 Pctl	Diesel PM Pctl	Drinking Water Pctl	Pesticides Pctl	Tox. Release Pctl	Traffic Pctl	Cleanup Sites Pctl	Ground-water Threats Pctl	Haz. Waste Pctl	Imp. Water Bodies Pctl	Solid Waste Pctl	Pollution Burden Pctl	Asthma Pctl	Low Birth Weight Pctl	Cardiovascular Disease Pctl	Education Pctl	Linguistic Isolation Pctl	Poverty Pctl	Unemployment Pctl	Housing Burden Pctl	Pop. Char. Pctl
6111004902	5091	Ventura	93030	Oxnard	58.75	**96-100% (highest scores)**	40	41	41	64	100	32	69	0	55	88	97	90	**90**	96	44	98	99	98	95	37	57	**91**
6111009100	5279	Ventura	93030	Oxnard	57.83	**96-100% (highest scores)**	40	41	40	30	97	42	35	65	93	74	0	89	**79**	95	68	97	96	91	91	92	59	**98**
6111002905	5478	Ventura	93030	Oxnard	50.56	**86-90%**	40	41	28	73	100	30	38	92	92	78	91	79	**94**	92	89	92	61	49	34	16	23	**71**
6111004715	5020	Ventura	93033	Oxnard	45.27	**81-85%**	40	41	56	85	100	77	17	96	89	67	81	93	**98**	29	52	26	79	72	71	61	59	**53**
6111003201	4577	Ventura	93030	Oxnard	43.71	**81-85%**	40	41	40	30	78	40	46	6	32	43	0	33	**39**	96	67	98	100	99	92	82	99	**99**
6111004704	1469	Ventura	93033	Oxnard	40.84	**76-80%**	40	41	36	87	100	49	32	39	68	72	97	68	**91**	31	45	28	93	92	69	57	NA	**55**

CalEnviroScreen 3.0 Results



April 25, 2018

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- 51 - 60%
- 71 - 80%

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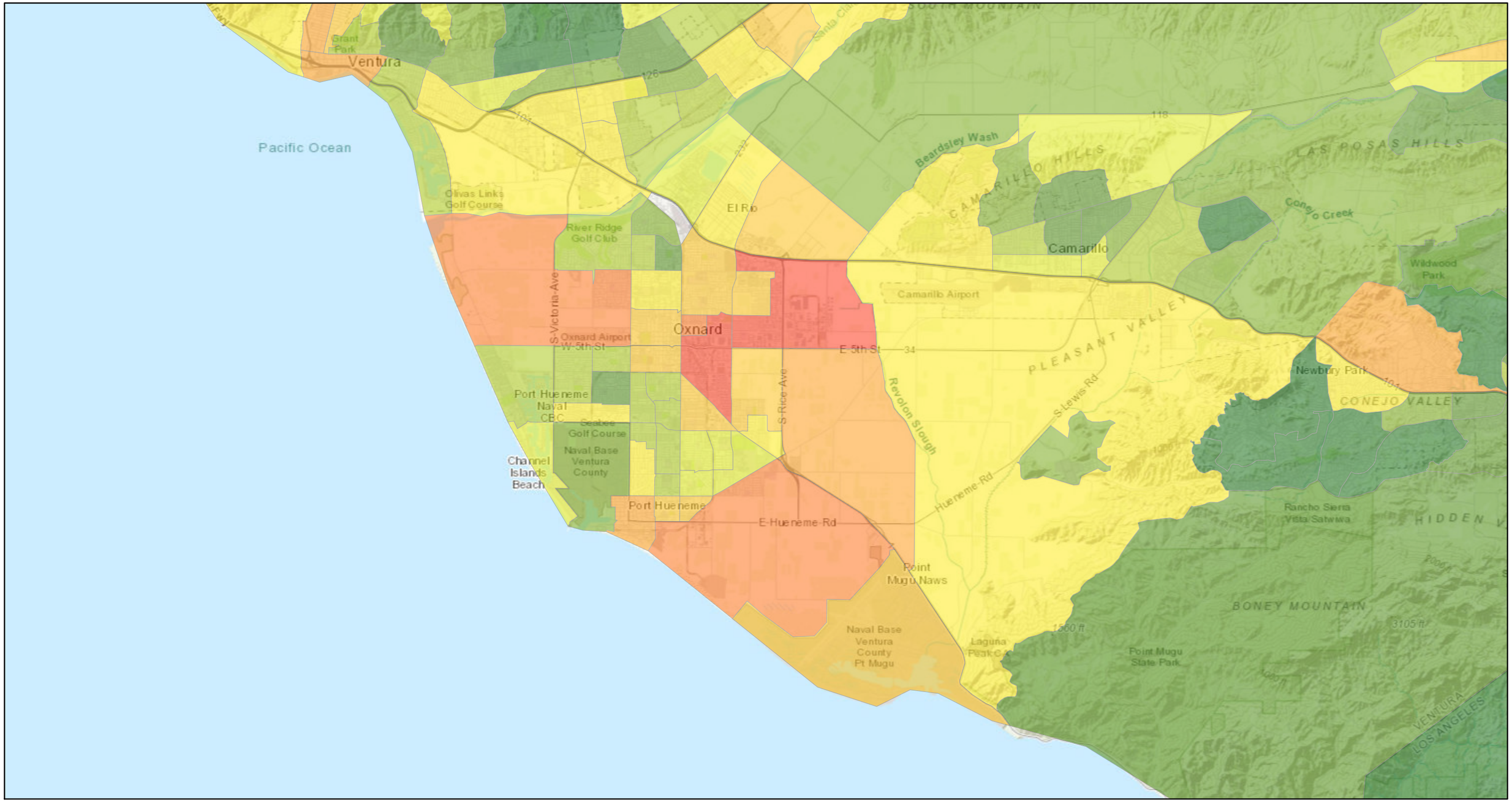
0 0.75 1.5 3 mi

0 1 2 4 km

CalEnviroScreen 3.0 Results



April 25, 2018

CalEnviroScreen 3.0 Results

- 1 - 10% (Lowest Scores)
- 11 - 20%
- 21 - 30%
- 31 - 40%
- 41 - 50%
- 51 - 60%
- 61 - 70%
- 71 - 80%
- 81 - 90%
- 91 - 100% (Highest Scores)

1:144,448

0 1.5 3 6 mi

0 2.25 4.5 9 km

Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, Intermap, increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBase, IGN, Kadaster NL, Ordnance Survey, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), swisstopo, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community

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SB 535 Disadvantaged Communities List

CalEnviroScreen 3.0 Top 25% census tracts

Note: The Disadvantaged Communities (DAC) list also includes census tracts with > 95% pollution burden percentile scores and no CalEnviroScreen score. The DAC list includes 1983 census tracts scoring above the 75th percentile for the CalEnviroScreen 3.0 score and 22 census tracts without a CalEnviroScreen scc but have a pollution burden score over the 95th percentile.

Additional information on SB 535 is available at:
http://www.calepa.ca.gov/EnvJustice/GHGInvest/
Information on CalEnviroScreen is available at:
http://oehha.ca.gov/calenviroscreen

Variable Name	Description	CalEnviroScreen Category
Census Tract	Census Tract ID from 2010 Census	
Total Population	2010 population in census tracts	
California County	California county that the census tract falls within	
Approximate Zip Code	Postal ZIP Code that the census tract falls within	
Nearby City	City or nearby city the the census tract falls within	
Longitude	Longitude of the centroid of the census tract	
Latitude	Latitude of the centroid of the census tract	
CES 3.0 Score	CalEnviroScreen Score, Pollution Score multiplied by Population Characteristics Score	
CES 3.0 Percentile Range	Percentile of the CalEnviroScreen score, grouped by 5% increments, above 75th percentile is a DAC.	
Ozone	Amount of daily maximum 8 hour Ozone concentration	Pollution Burden (Exposures Indicator)
Ozone Pctl	Ozone percentile	Pollution Burden (Exposures Indicator)
PM2.5	Annual mean PM 2.5 concentrations	Pollution Burden (Exposures Indicator)
PM2.5 Pctl	PM2.5 percentile	Pollution Burden (Exposures Indicator)
Diesel PM	Diesel PM emissions from on-road and non-road sources	Pollution Burden (Exposures Indicator)
Diesel PM Pctl	Diesel PM percentile	Pollution Burden (Exposures Indicator)
Drinking Water	Drinking water contaminant index for selected contaminants	Pollution Burden (Exposures Indicator)
Drinking Water Pctl	Drinking water percentile	Pollution Burden (Exposures Indicator)
Pesticides	Total pounds of selected active pesticide ingredients (filtered for hazard and volatility) used in production-agriculture per square mile in the census	Pollution Burden (Exposures Indicator)
Pesticides Pctl	Pesticides percentile	Pollution Burden (Exposures Indicator)
Tox. Release	Toxicity-weighted concentrations of modeled chemical releases to air from facility emissions and off-site incineration (from RSEI)	Pollution Burden (Exposures Indicator)
Tox. Release Pctl	Toxic release percentile	Pollution Burden (Exposures Indicator)
Traffic	Traffic density, in vehicle-kilometers per hour per road length, within 150 meters of the census tract boundary	Pollution Burden (Exposures Indicator)
Traffic Pctl	Traffic percentile	Pollution Burden (Exposures Indicator)
Cleanup Sites	Cleanup sites, sum of weighted EnviroStor cleanup sites within buffered distances to populated blocks of census tracts	Pollution Burden (Environmental Effects Indicator)
Cleanup Sites Pctl	Cleanup sites percentile	Pollution Burden (Environmental Effects Indicator)
Groundwater Threats	Groundwater threats, sum of weighted GeoTracker leaking underground storage tank sites within buffered distances to populated blocks of census tracts	Pollution Burden (Environmental Effects Indicator)
Groundwater Threats Pctl	Groundwater threats percentile	Pollution Burden (Environmental Effects Indicator)
Haz. Waste	Sum of weighted hazardous waste facilities and large quantity generators within buffered distances to populated blocks of census tracts	Pollution Burden (Environmental Effects Indicator)
Haz. Waste Pctl	Hazardous waste percentile	Pollution Burden (Environmental Effects Indicator)
Imp. Water Bodies	Impaired water bodies, sum of number of pollutants across all impaired water bodies within buffered distances to populated blocks of census	Pollution Burden (Environmental Effects Indicator)
Imp. Water Bodies Pctl	Impaired water bodies percentile	Pollution Burden (Environmental Effects Indicator)
Solid Waste	Sum of weighted solid waste sites and facilities (SWIS) within buffered distances to populated blocks of census tracts	Pollution Burden (Environmental Effects Indicator)
Solid Waste Pctl	Solid waste percentile	Pollution Burden (Environmental Effects Indicator)
Pollution Burden Score	Pollution Burden variable scaled with a range of 0-10. (Used to calculate CES 3.0 Score)	
Pollution Burden Pctl	Pollution burden percentile	
Asthma	Age-adjusted rate of emergency department visits for asthma	Population Characteristics (Sensitive Populations)
Asthma Pctl	Asthma percentile	Population Characteristics (Sensitive Populations)

Low Birth Weight	Percent low birth weight	Population Characteristics (Sensitive Populations)
Low Birth Weight Pctl	Low birth weight percentile	Population Characteristics (Sensitive Populations)
Cardiovascular Diesease	Age-adjusted rate of emergency department visits for heart attacks per 10,000	Population Characteristics (Sensitive Populations)
Cardiovascular Diesease Pctl	Cardiovascular disease percentile	Population Characteristics (Sensitive Populations)
Education	Percent of population over 25 with less than a high school education	Population Characteristics (Socioeconomic Factors)
Education Pctl	Education percentile	Population Characteristics (Socioeconomic Factors)
Linguistic Isolation	Percent limited English speaking households	Population Characteristics (Socioeconomic Factors)
Linguistic Isolation Pctl	Linguistic isolation percentile	Population Characteristics (Socioeconomic Factors)
Poverty	Percent of population living below two times the federal poverty level	Population Characteristics (Socioeconomic Factors)
Poverty	Poverty percentile	Population Characteristics (Socioeconomic Factors)
Unemployment	Percent of the population over the age of 16 that is unemployed and eligible for the labor force	Population Characteristics (Socioeconomic Factors)
Unemployment Pctl	Unemployment percentile	Population Characteristics (Socioeconomic Factors)
Housing Burden	Percent housing burdened low income households	Population Characteristics (Socioeconomic Factors)
Housing Burden Pctl	Housing burden percentile	Population Characteristics (Socioeconomic Factors)
Pop. Char. Score	Population Characteristics variable scaled with a range of 0-10. (Used to calculate CES 3.0 Score)	
Pop. Char. Score Pctl	Population characteristics percentile	

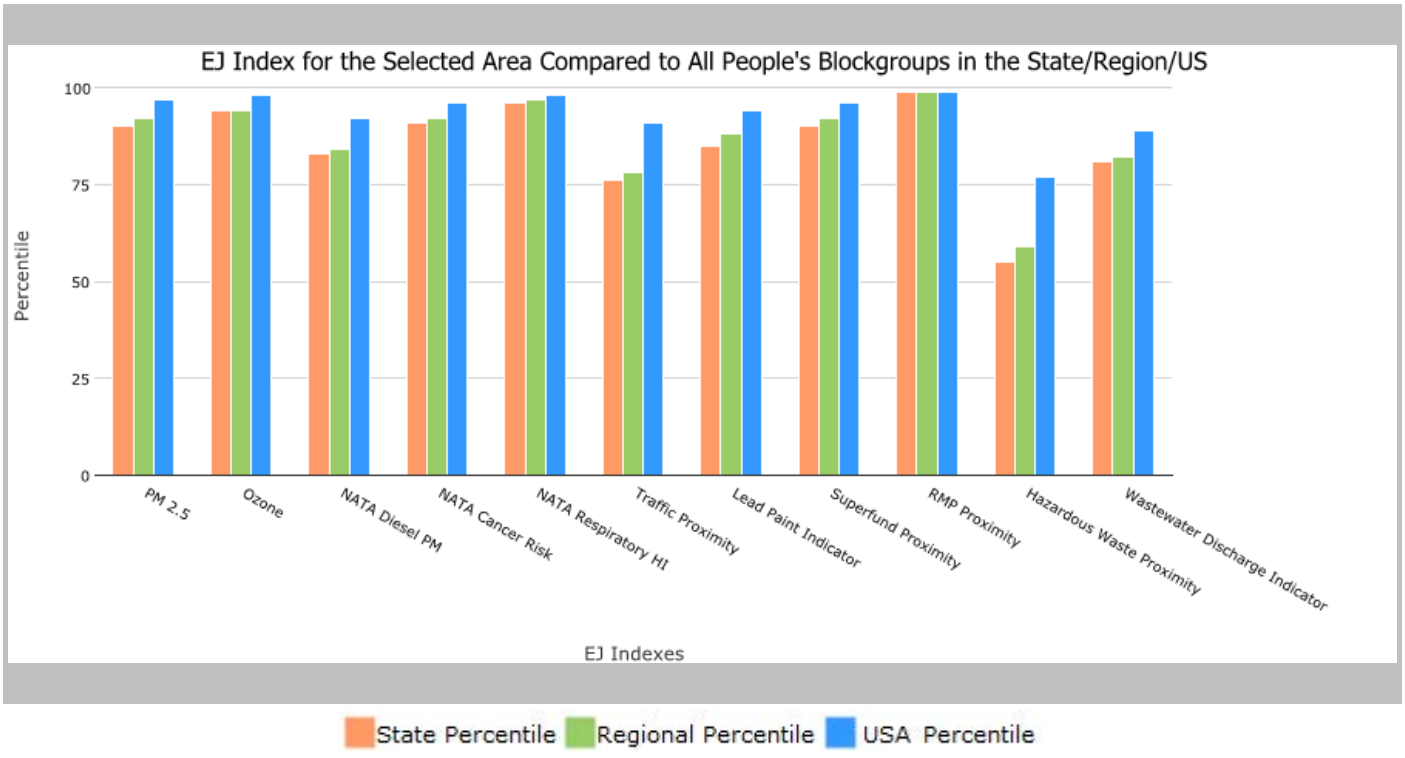
EJSCREEN Report (Version 2017)

1 mile Ring Centered at 34.204014,-119.170887, CALIFORNIA, EPA Region 9

Approximate Population: 31,594

Input Area (sq. miles): 3.14

Selected Variables	State Percentile	EPA Region Percentile	USA Percentile
EJ Indexes			
EJ Index for PM2.5	90	92	97
EJ Index for Ozone	94	94	98
EJ Index for NATA* Diesel PM	83	84	92
EJ Index for NATA* Air Toxics Cancer Risk	91	92	96
EJ Index for NATA* Respiratory Hazard Index	96	97	98
EJ Index for Traffic Proximity and Volume	76	78	91
EJ Index for Lead Paint Indicator	85	88	94
EJ Index for Superfund Proximity	90	92	96
EJ Index for RMP Proximity	99	99	99
EJ Index for Hazardous Waste Proximity	55	59	77
EJ Index for Wastewater Discharge Indicator	81	82	89



This report shows the values for environmental and demographic indicators and EJSCREEN indexes. It shows environmental and demographic raw data (e.g., the estimated concentration of ozone in the air), and also shows what percentile each raw data value represents. These percentiles provide perspective on how the selected block group or buffer area compares to the entire state, EPA region, or nation. For example, if a given location is at the 95th percentile nationwide, this means that only 5 percent of the US population has a higher block group value than the average person in the location being analyzed. The years for which the data are available, and the methods used, vary across these indicators. Important caveats and uncertainties apply to this screening-level information, so it is essential to understand the limitations on appropriate interpretations and applications of these indicators. Please see EJSCREEN documentation for discussion of these issues before using reports.

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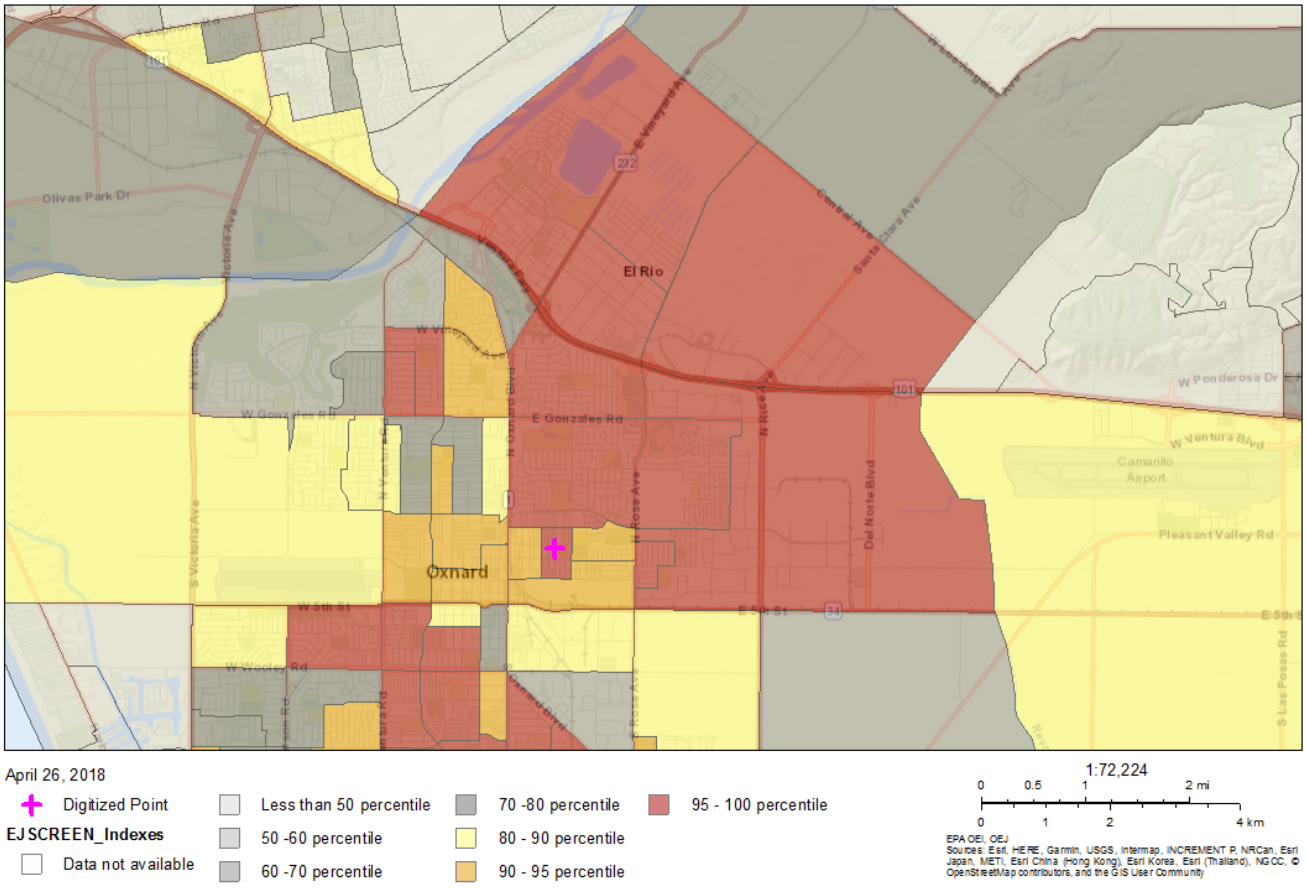


Sites reporting to EPA	
Superfund NPL	0
Hazardous Waste Treatment, Storage, and Disposal Facilities (TSDF)	0

EJSCREEN Report (Version 2017)

1 mile Ring Centered at 34.204014,-119.170887, CALIFORNIA, EPA Region 9

Approximate Population: 31,594

Input Area (sq. miles): 3.14

Selected Variables	Value	State Avg.	%ile in State	EPA Region Avg.	%ile in EPA Region	USA Avg.	%ile in USA
Environmental Indicators							
Particulate Matter (PM 2.5 in µg/m^3)	8.85	10.6	15	9.9	31	9.14	38
Ozone (ppb)	39.7	40.8	46	41.8	37	38.4	72
NATA* Diesel PM (µg/m^3)	0.732	0.973	42	0.978	<50th	0.938	<50th
NATA* Cancer Risk (lifetime risk per million)	39	44	31	43	<50th	40	<50th
NATA* Respiratory Hazard Index	2.7	2.1	79	2	80-90th	1.8	80-90th
Traffic Proximity and Volume (daily traffic count/distance to road)	310	1200	46	1100	51	590	70
Lead Paint Indicator (% Pre-1960 Housing)	0.36	0.29	62	0.24	68	0.29	66
Superfund Proximity (site count/km distance)	0.14	0.17	70	0.15	75	0.13	76
RMP Proximity (facility count/km distance)	8	1.1	99	0.98	99	0.73	99
Hazardous Waste Proximity (facility count/km distance)	0.013	0.13	5	0.12	9	0.093	10
Wastewater Discharge Indicator (toxicity-weighted concentration/m distance)	0.0026	16	72	13	73	30	73
Demographic Indicators							
Demographic Index	71%	49%	80	47%	82	36%	89
Minority Population	93%	61%	84	59%	86	38%	92
Low Income Population	50%	36%	71	36%	71	34%	76
Linguistically Isolated Population	22%	10%	85	9%	87	5%	94
Population With Less Than High School Education	41%	18%	85	17%	87	13%	95
Population Under 5 years of age	8%	7%	64	7%	64	6%	68
Population over 64 years of age	9%	12%	37	13%	37	14%	28

* The National-Scale Air Toxics Assessment (NATA) is EPA's ongoing, comprehensive evaluation of air toxics in the United States. EPA developed the NATA to prioritize air toxics, emission sources, and locations of interest for further study. It is important to remember that NATA provides broad estimates of health risks over geographic areas of the country, not definitive risks to specific individuals or locations. More information on the NATA analysis can be found at: https://www.epa.gov/national-air-toxics-assessment.

For additional information, see: www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice

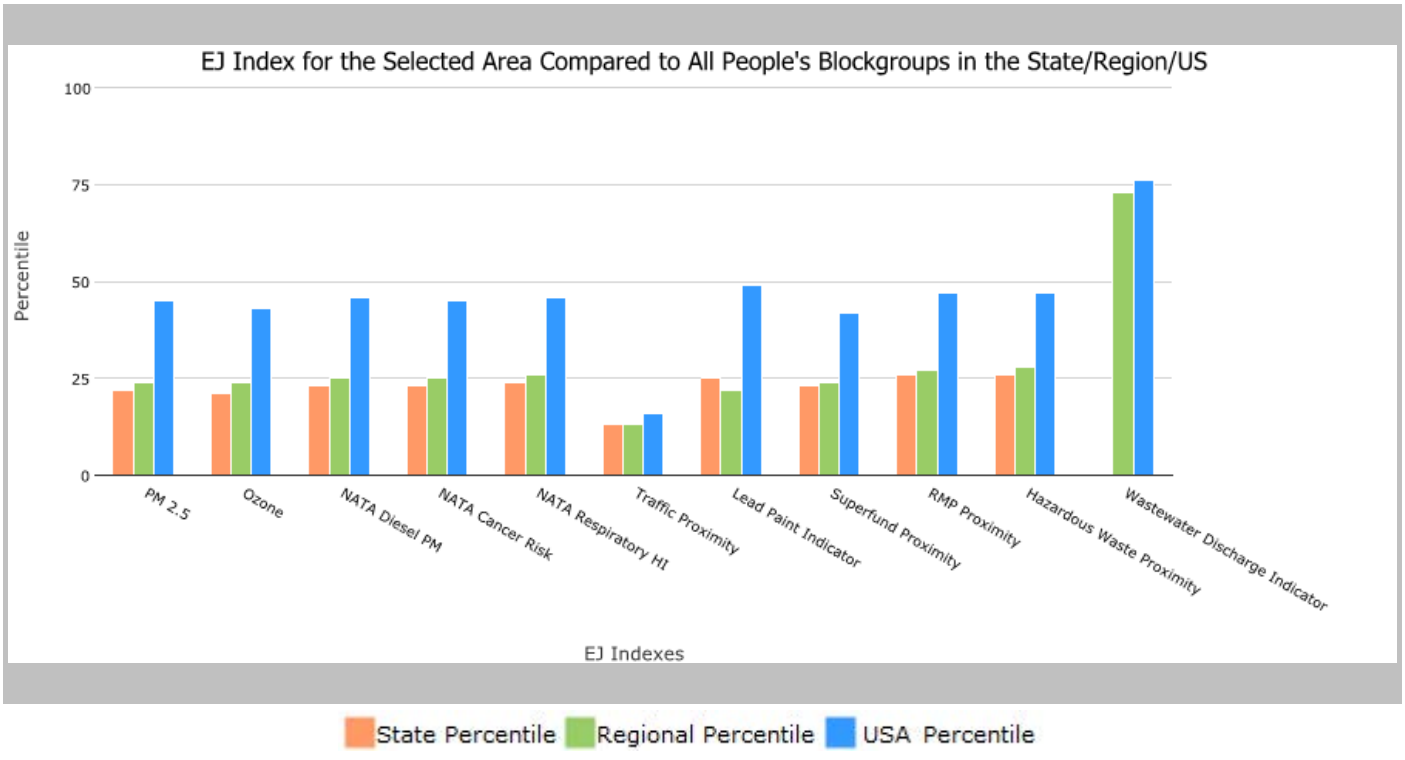
EJSCREEN Report (Version 2017)

1 mile Ring Centered at 34.284331,-118.701565, CALIFORNIA, EPA Region 9

Approximate Population: 15,314

Input Area (sq. miles): 3.14

Selected Variables	State Percentile	EPA Region Percentile	USA Percentile
EJ Indexes			
EJ Index for PM2.5	22	24	45
EJ Index for Ozone	21	24	43
EJ Index for NATA* Diesel PM	23	25	46
EJ Index for NATA* Air Toxics Cancer Risk	23	25	45
EJ Index for NATA* Respiratory Hazard Index	24	26	46
EJ Index for Traffic Proximity and Volume	13	13	16
EJ Index for Lead Paint Indicator	25	22	49
EJ Index for Superfund Proximity	23	24	42
EJ Index for RMP Proximity	26	27	47
EJ Index for Hazardous Waste Proximity	26	28	47
EJ Index for Wastewater Discharge Indicator	N/A	73	76



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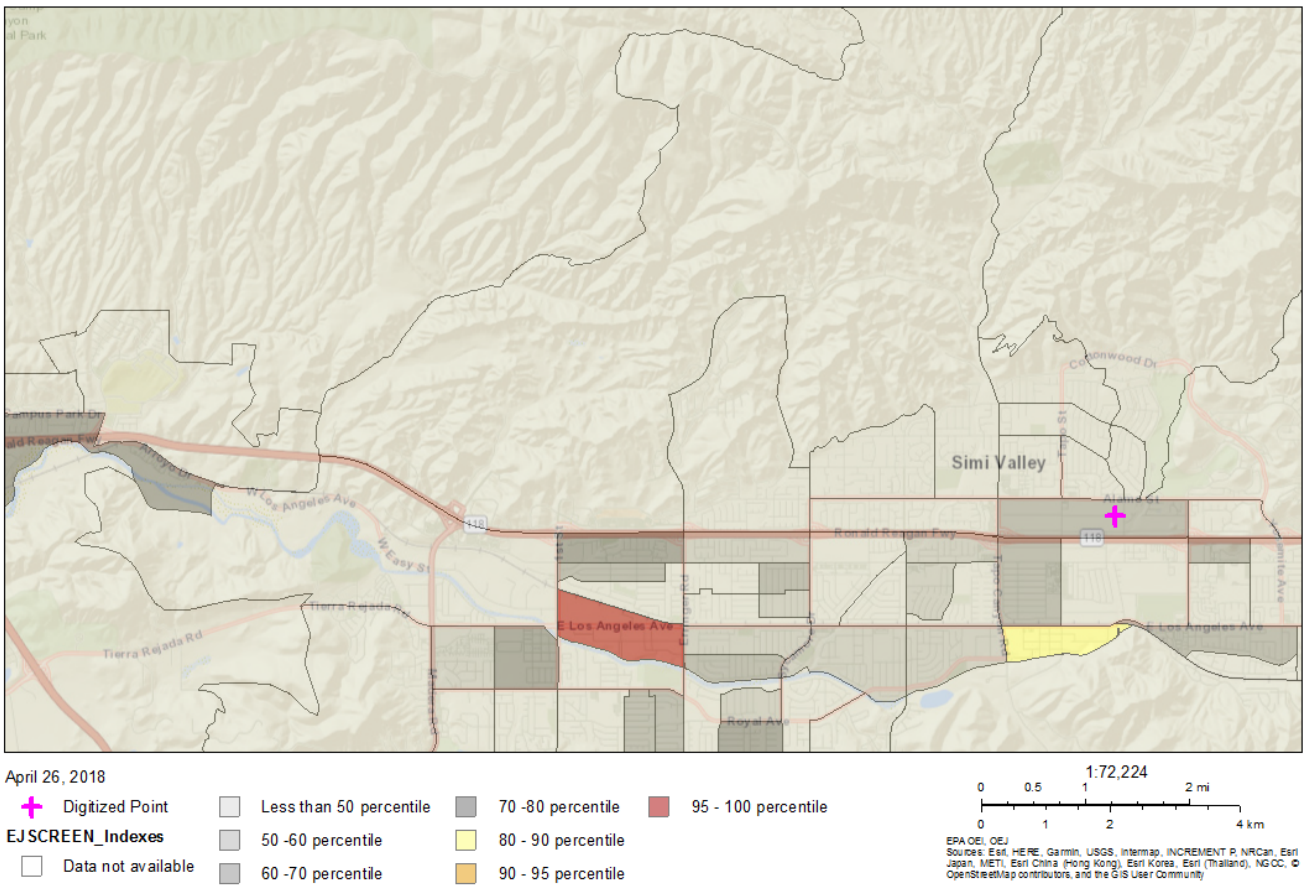

Sites reporting to EPA	
Superfund NPL	0
Hazardous Waste Treatment, Storage, and Disposal Facilities (TSDF)	0

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Approximate Population: 15,314

Input Area (sq. miles): 3.14

Selected Variables	Value	State Avg.	%ile in State	EPA Region Avg.	%ile in EPA Region	USA Avg.	%ile in USA
Environmental Indicators							
Particulate Matter (PM 2.5 in µg/m^3)	9.55	10.6	24	9.9	39	9.14	56
Ozone (ppb)	45.2	40.8	77	41.8	68	38.4	93
NATA* Diesel PM (µg/m^3)	0.445	0.973	20	0.978	<50th	0.938	<50th
NATA* Cancer Risk (lifetime risk per million)	37	44	28	43	<50th	40	<50th
NATA* Respiratory Hazard Index	1.3	2.1	17	2	<50th	1.8	<50th
Traffic Proximity and Volume (daily traffic count/distance to road)	1400	1200	77	1100	78	590	90
Lead Paint Indicator (% Pre-1960 Housing)	0.097	0.29	36	0.24	45	0.29	36
Superfund Proximity (site count/km distance)	0.044	0.17	26	0.15	31	0.13	38
RMP Proximity (facility count/km distance)	0.16	1.1	15	0.98	21	0.73	30
Hazardous Waste Proximity (facility count/km distance)	0.022	0.13	14	0.12	17	0.093	23
Wastewater Discharge Indicator (toxicity-weighted concentration/m distance)	0	16	N/A	13	59	30	40
Demographic Indicators							
Demographic Index	30%	49%	24	47%	26	36%	50
Minority Population	37%	61%	23	59%	27	38%	58
Low Income Population	23%	36%	35	36%	34	34%	35
Linguistically Isolated Population	3%	10%	33	9%	38	5%	65
Population With Less Than High School Education	9%	18%	37	17%	39	13%	46
Population Under 5 years of age	6%	7%	43	7%	43	6%	47
Population over 64 years of age	13%	12%	61	13%	60	14%	50

* The National-Scale Air Toxics Assessment (NATA) is EPA's ongoing, comprehensive evaluation of air toxics in the United States. EPA developed the NATA to prioritize air toxics, emission sources, and locations of interest for further study. It is important to remember that NATA provides broad estimates of health risks over geographic areas of the country, not definitive risks to specific individuals or locations. More information on the NATA analysis can be found at: https://www.epa.gov/national-air-toxics-assessment.

For additional information, see: www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice