

# ELEMENTS OF ENVIRNOMENTAL JUSTICE.





**Fair treatment** 



**Addressing disparities** 



**Closing gaps** 



### **DEFINING EJ.**

#### US EPA WASHINGTON STATE

**Environmental justice (EJ)** is the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income with respect to the development, implementation and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations and policies.

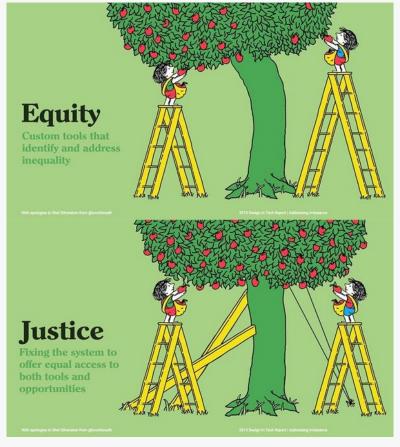
Environmental justice means the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, rules, and policies.

Environmental justice includes addressing

disproportionate environmental health impacts in all laws, rules, and policies with environmental impacts by prioritizing vulnerable populations and overburdened communities, the equitable distribution of resources and benefits, and eliminating harm.

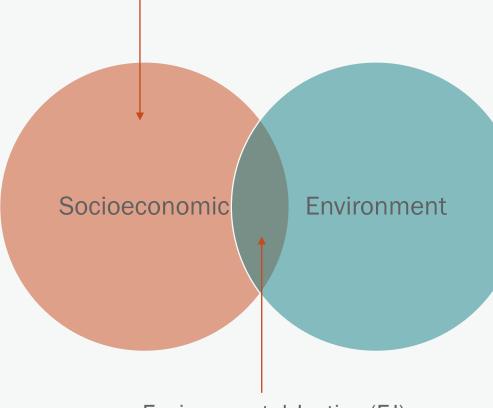


## **Key Definitions**





#### Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI)



Environmental Justice (EJ)



#### **Environmental exposures**

- Diesel emissions
- •Ozone
- •Particulate matter 2.5 (PM2.5)
- Toxic releases from facilities
- Traffic density

#### **Environmental effects**

- Lead risk and exposure
- Proximity to hazardous waste generators/facilities
- Proximity to Superfund sites
- Proximity to facilities with highly toxic substances
- Wastewater discharge

#### Sensitive populations

- Cardiovascular disease
- •Low birth weight infants

#### Socioeconomic factors

- Poor educational attainment
- Housing burden
- Linguistic isolation
- Poverty
- •Race (People of color)
- •Transportation expense
- Unemployment

## **EJ at the State Level**

#### Laws

- 2021 Healthy Environment for All (HEAL) Act (SB 5141)
- 2021 Climate Commitment Act (CCA, SB 5126)
- 2021 Supporting Emergency Shelters and Housing through Local Planning and Development Regulations (HB 1220)

#### Rules and Funding

- Funding guidelines (HEAL Act, CCA, Ecology grants)
- Model Toxics Control Act Rulemaking (2018-2023)





## **HEAL Act**

#### **COVERS 7 STATE AGENCIES**

**Puget Sound Partnership** 

#### Departments of:

- Health
- Agriculture
- •Commerce
- Ecology
- Natural Resources
- Transportation

#### MANDATES EJ ASSESSMENTS

- Developing certain agency rules
- Adopting or developing new grant or loan programs
- Designing or awarding capital projects, grants, or loans of \$12 million or more
- Designing or awarding transportation projects, grants, or loans of \$15 million or more
- Developing agency request legislation





## **Nexus with Public Ports**



Image credit: The Oregonian



- Community engagement
- Communications
- Facilities
- Cargo movement
- Tenant programs
- Current/future land use
- Funding/grants
- Permitting
- And more...

Tools



Washington Tracking Network



**EJScreen** 

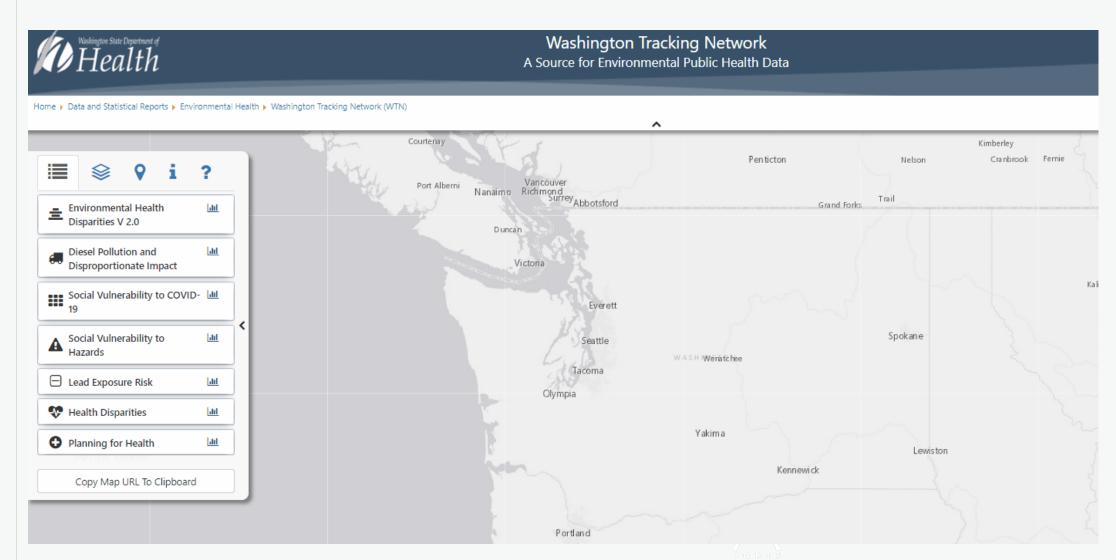


**EJ Index** 

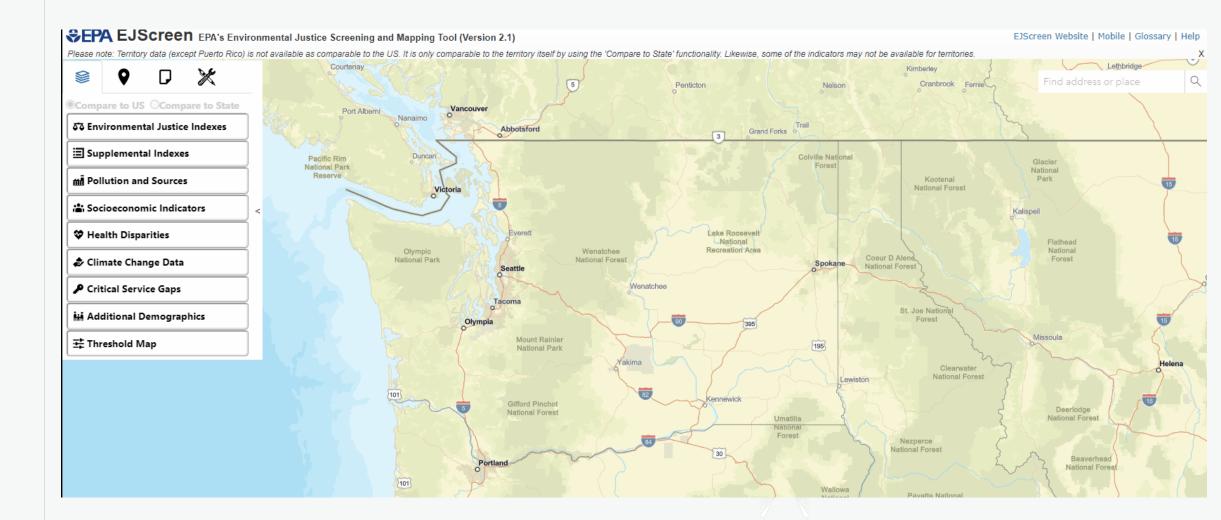
**EJ Baseline** 



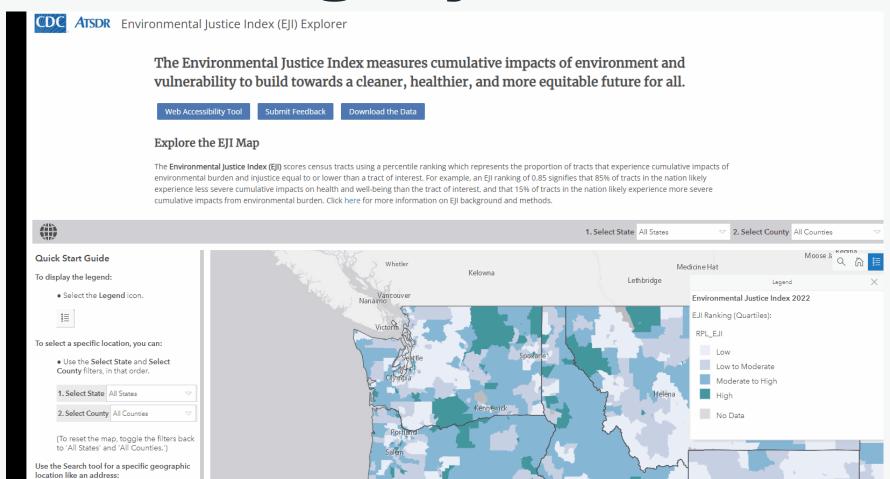
## Washington Environmental Health Disparities Map



## **EPA EJSCREEN**



## Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry El Index



### **Case Studies**

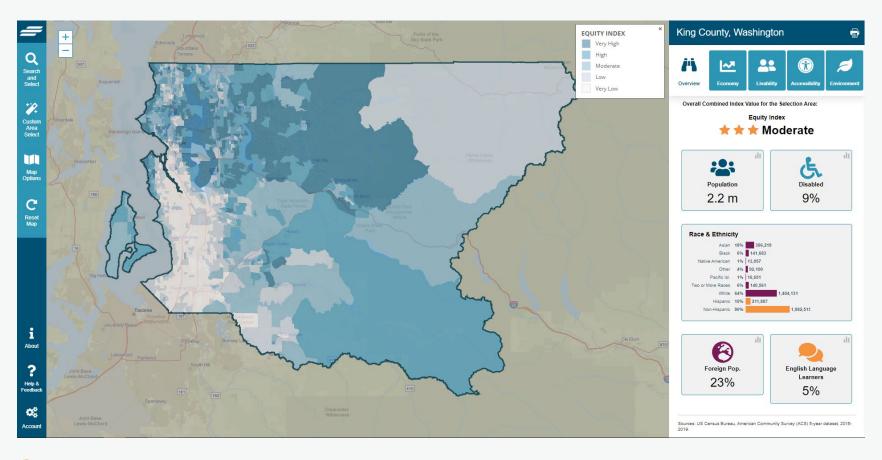


Image credit: Port of Vancouver USA

Image credit: Port of Tacoma



## **Port of Seattle Equity Index**









**Develop an EJ baseline** 



**Inform community outreach** 





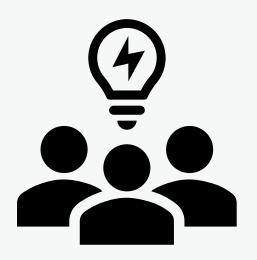
**Funding nexus** 



First-mover advantage



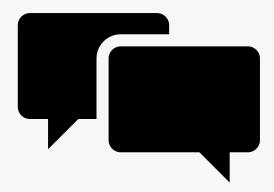
#### **Shaping the conversation**



### **Building relationships**



## **Sharpening thinking** and communications





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