Santa Barbara County Association of Governments | Planning Division

2025 Regional Environmental Justice Communities Technical Appendix

2029-2060 Regional Transportation Plan – Sustainable Communities Strategy

SBCAG

SANTA BARBARA COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS

June 2026

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1. Background

Federal regulations require that regional transportation planning meet the spirit and intent of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. § 2000d et seq.), which states that, "no person in the United States shall, on the ground of race, color, or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance." As such, Title VI established the groundwork by ensuring that all federally funded programs or activities avoid creating disproportionate impacts on the low-income population and People of Color (POC), which are the core indicators to identify environmental justice (EJ) communities.

The State of California has enacted several bills to further address and prevent disproportionate impacts on EJ communities. Senate Bill (SB) 535 (2012) led to the designation of "Disadvantaged Communities" using CalEnviroScreen, as developed by the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA). SB 1000 (2016) mandates local jurisdictions in California with disadvantaged communities to incorporate an Environmental Justice Element or EJ-related goals and objectives into their General Plans.

Within this state framework, the Santa Barbara County Association of Governments (SBCAG) develops its own Regional EJ Communities ("2025 Regional EJ Communities") definition to support the development of the upcoming 2029-2060 Regional Transportation Plan-Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP-SCS). The methodology is structured to account for the region's marginalized populations and to provide a stratified basis for identifying EJ communities. New enhancements in the 2025 Regional EJ Communities—nine new variables and a more robust methodology—to comprehensively capture additional areas (e.g., New Cuyama, Orcutt, etc.) in Santa Barbara County. Additionally, some grant programs allow applicants to reference a regional definition of disadvantaged communities, such as the Active Transportation Program (ATP). The purpose of identifying the regional EJ communities is twofold:

1. The investments planned for can be assessed to determine if they have a disproportionate impact on disadvantaged segments of the population.
2. The results may be used to inform future decision-making regarding investments in the transportation network.

The SBCAG Technical Planning Advisory Committee (TPAC) and Subregional Planning Committees reviewed and made recommendations throughout the entirety of the 2025 Regional EJ Communities updating process.

2. Methodology

Building on the previous 2019 Regional EJ Communities, SBCAG has conducted literature reviews on documents from other agencies and developed a comprehensive inventory of EJ variables shown in Table 1. The list consists of around 85 variables across seven categories (e.g., built environment, transportation, housing, population, etc.) from eight agencies including SBCAG; these agencies are the San Luis Obispo Council of Governments (SLOCOG), Metropolitan Transportation Commission - Association of Bay Area Governments (MTC-ABAG), Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG), Public Health Alliance of Southern California's Healthy Place Index (HPI), the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD)-California Tax Credit Allocation Committee (CTCAC)'s Opportunity Areas, and UCSB's Equity Matters report. Methodologies in the literature reviews range from complex statistical formulas to simple index scoring and regional averaging. Most of the variables are related to socioeconomic conditions of the people due to the main purpose of EJ analysis, which is the low-income and minority population. Note that the number of variables in the table below does not represent an exhaustive list of all variables found in the literature reviews, due to limiting factors such as geographical coverage and data availability in the region.

Table 1 – Summary of Researched EJ Variables

CATEGORY	SBCAG	SCAG	SLOCOG	MTC-ABAG	HPI	CTCAC/ HCD	UCSB	TOTAL
Built Environment			1		2		1	**4**
Economic					2	1	1	**4**
Education	2	2	3	1		4	2	**14**
Environmental					2	3		**5**
Housing	3	4	3	5	5	1	4	**25**
Population	5	4	5	4	2	5	6	**31**
Transportation		1			1			**2**
Total	**10**	**11**	**12**	**10**	**14**	**14**	**14**	**85**

1. EJ Definition

From a list of EJ variables found in literature reviews, SBCAG has reviewed and narrowed down to 17 variables to be utilized in the 2025 Regional EJ Communities updating process. The variables are selected based on the adopted 2019 Regional EJ Communities, state policies (e.g., SB 535, AB 828, etc.), literature reviews, and, most importantly, local knowledge. The proposed EJ variables are shown in Table 2. Furthermore, it is important to note that the proposed EJ variables did not include SB 535's Disadvantaged Communities derived from CalEnviroScreen due to its emphasis on the environmental factors (e.g., air quality, toxic sites, etc.), which do not have as strong an impact as demographics in the region. For instance, SB 535 Disadvantaged Communities (i.e., top 25

percentile of CalEnviroScreen) does not include the New Cuyama, Isla Vista, or Santa Ynez communities. The 2025 Regional EJ Communities are more focused on disadvantaged socioeconomic characteristics (e.g., low-income households, minority population, etc.) related to infrastructure, economic vulnerability, and demographics at the block group level. Most variables were obtained from the American Community Survey (ACS), and traffic collisions from the California Statewide Integrated Traffic Records System (SWITRS) and the University of California, Berkeley's Transportation Injury Mapping System (TIMS).

Table 2 – Summary of EJ Variables

No.	Variable	Category	Region
	Total Population (2023)	Countywide	443,968
	Total Households (2023)	Countywide	148,960
	Total Traffic Collisions (2013-2023)	Countywide	11,614
1	*Zero Vehicles Households (Carless)* Carless households are often linked to socioeconomic disadvantage and limited mobility. Historically, the overwhelming majority of zero vehicle households statewide have been carless, rather than car free (Brown, 2017).	Infrastructure	6.2%
2	Households without Complete Plumbing Facilities^ Occupied housing units without complete plumbing facilities may be tied to economic disadvantage and poor housing stock/infrastructure.	Infrastructure	0.3%
3	Households without Complete Kitchen Facilities^ Occupied housing units without complete kitchen facilities may be tied to economic disadvantage, cost burden, and lack of housing availability.	Infrastructure	1.8%
4	Severe and Fatal Traffic Injury Area^ Individuals and households who live in these areas may be at higher risk for traffic injuries, particularly if access to their community requires the use of high-injury and fatality corridors.	Infrastructure	9.3%
5	Households without High-Speed Internet^ Households without access to high-speed internet may be experiencing economic and/or spatial disadvantage.	Infrastructure	8.0%
6	Population with no High School Diploma	Economic Vulnerability	4.1%
7	Households Receiving Public Assistance^	Economic Vulnerability	2.9%
8	*Severely Rent-Burdened (>50% Income) Households*	Economic Vulnerability	27.2%

9	*Severely Overcrowded (>1.5 Persons/Room) Households^*	Economic Vulnerability	3.8%
10	Population without Health Insurance^	Economic Vulnerability	9.1%
11	*Population with Income below Poverty Level*	Economic Vulnerability	13.1%
12	*Limited English Population*	Economic Vulnerability	5.6%
13	Single Parent Households^ Single-parent households are often at greater risk of economic disadvantage and displacement as compared to two-parent households (Nieuwenhuis and Maldonado, 2018).	Demographics	7.8%
14	Children under 15^	Demographics	18.6%
15	Elderly Population (75+)	Demographics	7.1%
16	*People of Color (Hispanic/Latino + Minorities)^*	Demographics	58.5%
17	Disabled Adult Population (20-64)	Demographics	8.7%

Notes: ^New Variables for the 2029-2060 RTP-SCS Update; *Primary Variables*

The EJ variables are categorized into infrastructure, economic vulnerability, and demographics categories. Regional statistics of each variable are also included in the table for better understanding. For instance, in 2023, there were approximately 6% of households with no vehicles out of approximately 149,000 households in the region. In addition to the regional statistics, Appendix 1 – Maps of Socioeconomic Indicators in Santa Barbara County includes maps of the EJ variables mentioned in the table above.

2. Methodology Description

There are five different methodologies explored in the process to ensure their representation, comprehensiveness, and flexibility. Appendix 2 - Explanation of Methodologies of EJ Communities provides a detailed explanation of the methodologies. Below is a summary of each methodology used to identify EJ communities in the region:

1. Method 1: Use the Adopted 2025-2050 RTP-SCS EJ Communities

This methodology uses the existing RTP-SCS household and population scoring framework and variables. This method is simple and familiar but requires significant weighting to prevent large-value variables from dominating scoring.

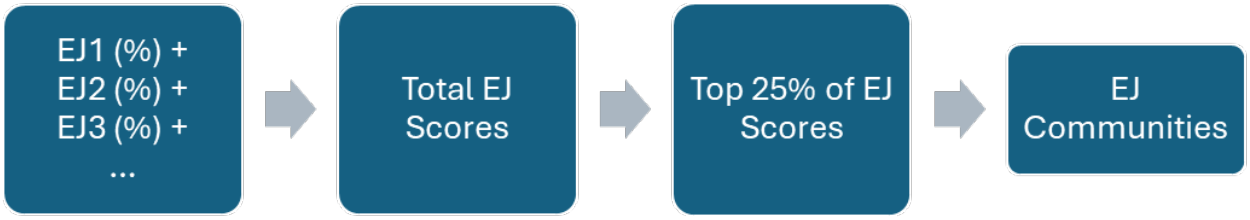
$$\textbf{HH Score}_{BG1} = \frac{\textit{No Veh HH} + \textit{Limited English HH} + \textit{Severely Cost Burdened HH} + \textit{Low Income HH}}{\textit{Households}_{BG1}}$$

$$\textbf{POP Score}_{BG1} = \frac{\textit{Disabled POP} + \textit{Low income POP} + \textit{No HSD POP} + \textit{NH Minority POP} + \left(\frac{\textit{Hispanic POP}}{4}\right) + \textit{Elderly POP} + \textit{Under 18 POP}}{\textit{Population}_{BG1}}$$

$$\textbf{Total EJ Score}_{BG1} = \textit{HH Score}_{BG1} + \textit{POP Score}_{BG1} \quad | \quad \textbf{EJ Communities} = \textit{Top 25\% of EJ Scores}$$

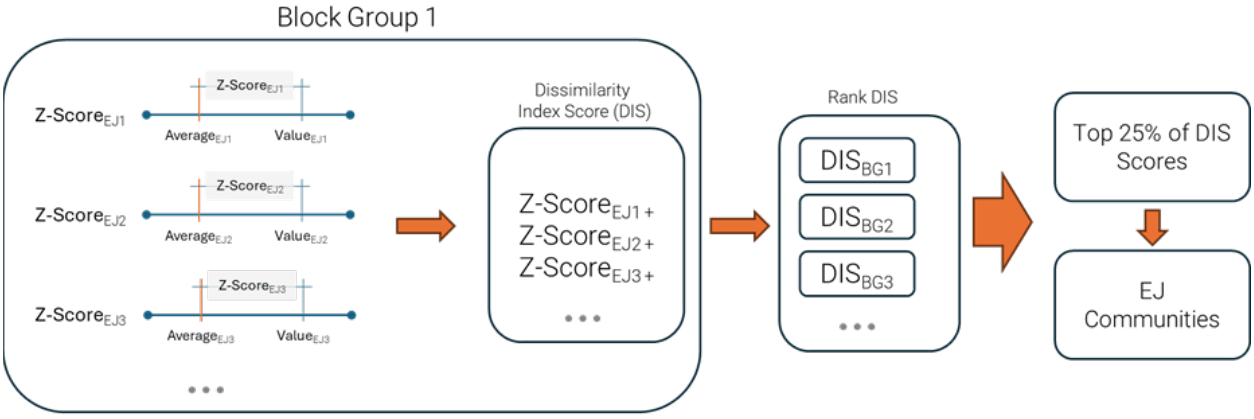
2. Method 2: Re-apply the Adopted 2025-2050 RTP-SCS EJ Communities

This methodology converts each variable to a percentage of its base and sums them into a composite score, identifying the top 25% as EJ communities, similar to the previous method but with additional variables.



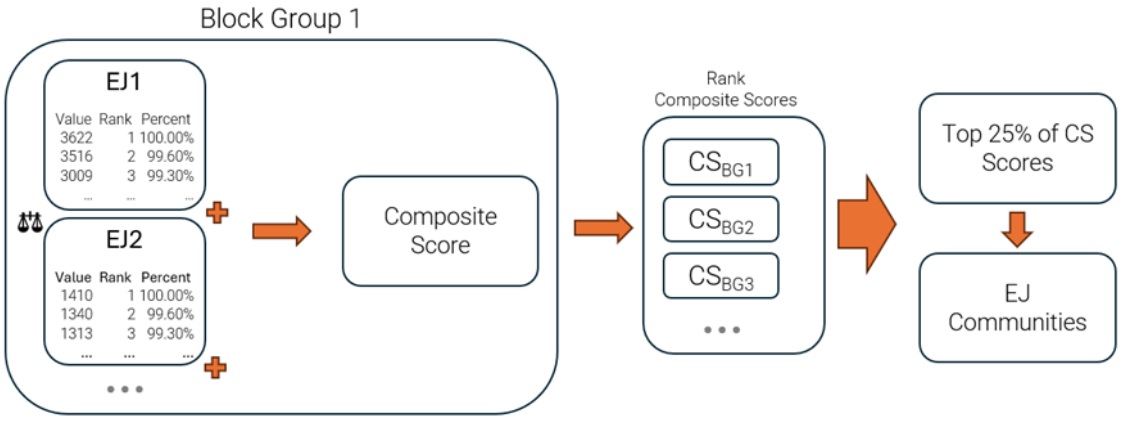
3. Method 3: Dissimilarity Index Method

This methodology standardizes variables relative to their deviation from the county average to identify the most statistically distinct block groups. Effective at highlighting relative disadvantage, but more complex and sensitive to outliers.



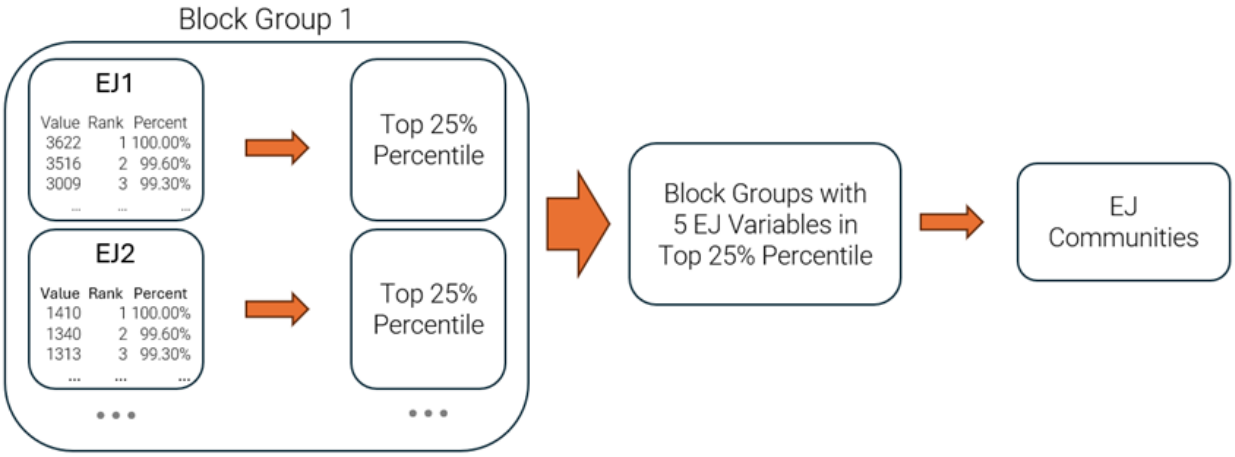
4. (Selected) Method 4: Weighted Composite Index Method

In this methodology, each variable is ranked across block groups and assigned a percentile score (0–100). These percentiles are then summed up to create a composite score. Block groups in the top quartile (or top 25% score) are designated as EJ communities. Weighting allows SBCAG to place importance on different EJ indicators. In this analysis, weights were informed by the primary and secondary variable classifications discussed in the Results section.



5. Method 5: Percentile Selection Method

This methodology examined each variable independently. Block groups in the top 25th percentile for a given variable were "flagged." Block groups were then ranked on the number of flagged variables they contained.



After evaluation and recommendation from SBCAG's Technical Planning Advisory Committee (TPAC), Method 4: The Weighted Composite Index Method is selected due to its clarity, flexibility, and effectiveness in capturing disadvantaged communities in the SBCAG region. Detailed information and maps on the aforementioned methodologies can be found in Appendix 2 - Explanation of Methodologies of EJ Communities.

3. Results

This section provides an existing conditions analysis and a summary of the EJ communities. The region is distinguished by the North County and Southcoast subregions with distinct socioeconomic characteristics and is home to eight incorporated cities and various unincorporated areas.

From the 17 EJ variables identified in the Table 4, at the advice of TPAC, SBCAG identified six primary variables and prepared additional analyses with the selected method. In each, the identified primary variables on income below the poverty level, POC, zero vehicle households, severely cost-burdened renters, and severely overcrowded households, and the limited English-speaking population were assigned a value of one. All other variables were considered 'secondary' and tested at weights of zero (or excluded), 0.25, 0.5, and 1 (full weight) to assess their impact on the results of EJ communities. With TPAC's review and recommendation, Method 4 with secondary variables weighted at 0.5 (or 50%) was selected because of its representation and consistency, as compared to the previous 2019 methodology and other tested methodologies.

1. Existing Conditions

To better understand how the region has changed over time, Table 4 provides regional statistics of each EJ variable in 2014 and 2023. Most variables have improved over the years. Noticeably, three EJ variables have changed the most, which are households without high-speed internet (-9.4%), population without health insurance (-8.2%), and POC (5.3%).

Table 3 – Historical Trends of EJ Variables

No.	Variable	2014	2023	Difference
1	*Zero Vehicles Households (Carless)**	6.9%	6.2%	-0.7%
2	Households without Complete Plumbing Facilities^	0.4%	0.3%	-0.1%
3	Households without Complete Kitchen Facilities^	2.3%	1.8%	-0.5%
4	Severe and Fatal Traffic Injury Area^	9.0%	11.0%	2.0%
5	Households without High-Speed Internet^	17.4%*	8.0%	-9.4%
6	Population with no High School Diploma	2.0%	4.1%	2.1%
7	Households Receiving Public Assistance^	2.6%	2.9%	0.3%
8	*Severely Rent-Burdened (>50% Income) Households***	29.3%	28.3%	-1.0%
9	*Severely Overcrowded (>1.5 Persons/Room) Households^**	3.8%	3.8%	0.0%
10	Population without Health Insurance^	17.3%	9.1%	-8.2%
11	*Population with Income below Poverty Level**	16.6%	13.1%	-3.5%
12	*Limited English Population**	5.7%	5.6%	-0.1%
13	Single Parent Households^	9.8%	7.8%	-2.0%
14	Children under 15^	18.8%	18.6%	-0.2%
15	Elderly Population (75+)	6.6%	7.1%	0.5%
16	*People of Color (Hispanic/Latino + Minorities)^**	53.2%	58.5%	5.3%
17	Disabled Adult Population (20-64)	7.6%	8.7%	1.1%

Notes: ^ Proposed new variables in 2025 EJ analysis; *Primary Variables*; *Variable not available until 2017, **variable not available until 2022, alternative variable used for reference

2. Regional EJ Communities

With TPAC's recommendation, the secondary variables were weighted at 0.5, or 50%. This allows for the prioritization of select variables, while still including a wide array of EJ indicators. The 50% weight to secondary variables yielded results that SBCAG and TPAC believe are an accurate depiction of relative need and disadvantage in the County. The table below shows the number of EJ community block groups, the estimated percentage of population within the identified EJ communities, and the percentage of the total population by subregions and local jurisdictions.

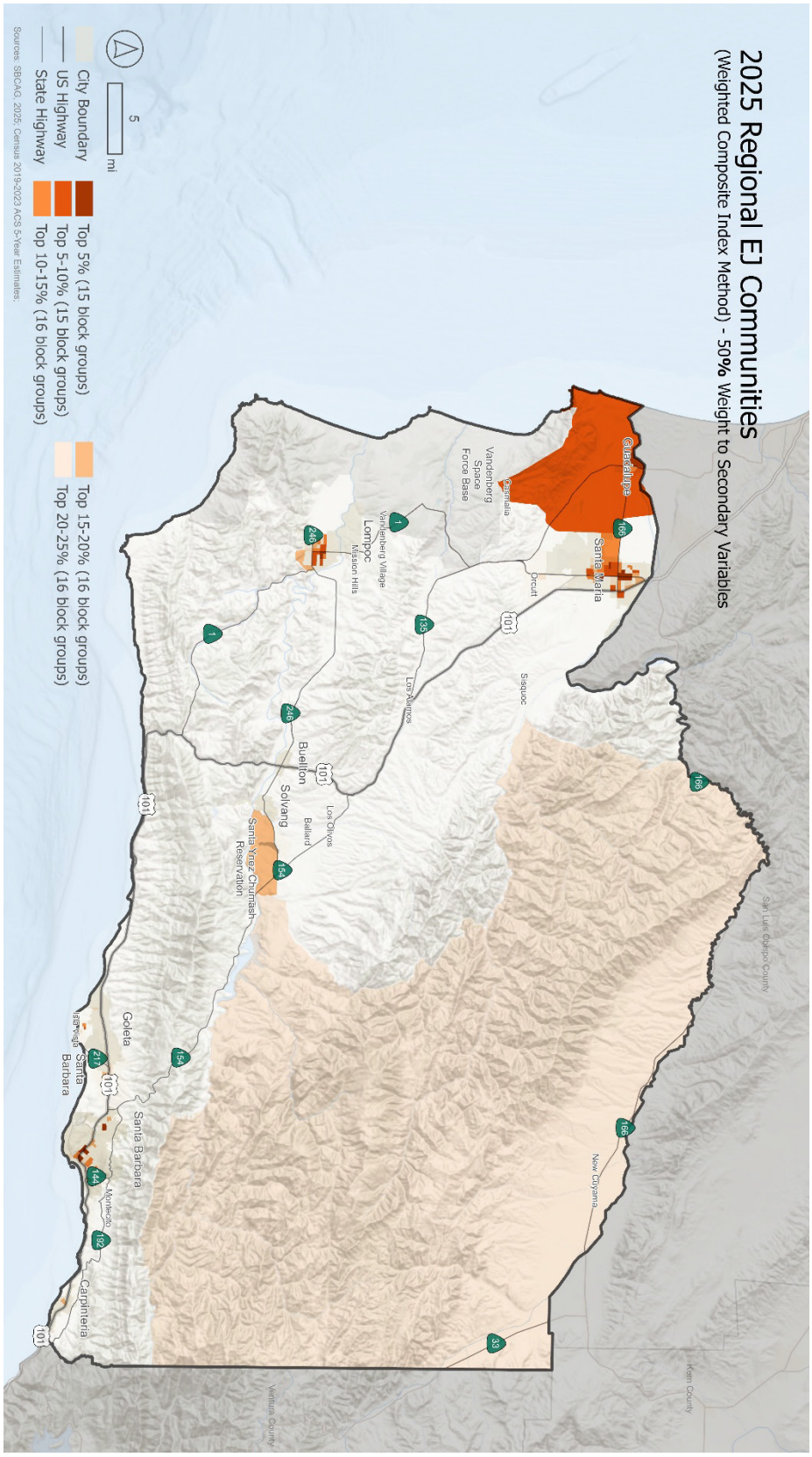
Table 4 – Summary of EJ Communities

	Community	EJ Block Group	EJ Population (%)	Total Population (%)
Subregion	Cuyama Valley	1	0.2%	0.2%
	Lompoc Valley	14	5%	13%
	Santa Maria Valley	34	16%	35%
	South Coast	27	8%	47%
	Santa Ynez Valley	1	0.2%	5%
Local Jurisdiction	Buellton	0	0%	1%
	Carpinteria	1	0.3%	3%
	Goleta	4	1%	7%
	Guadalupe	3	1%	2%
	Lompoc	14	5%	10%
	Santa Barbara	18	5%	20%
	Santa Maria	30	14%	25%
	Solvang	0	0%	1%
	Unincorporated	7	4%	31%

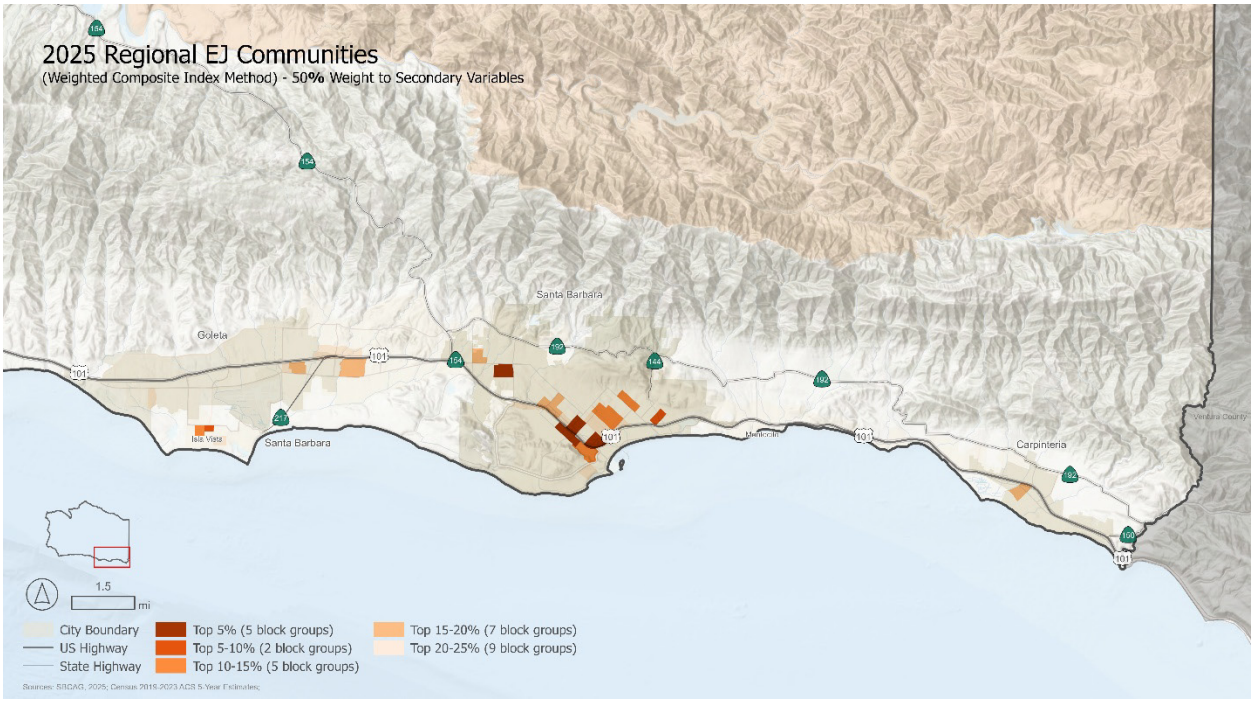
Most EJ community block groups are in the North County (65%) as compared to the South Coast (35%). The Santa Maria Valley alone contains almost half of the County's EJ block groups (44%). The expanded variable list has led to the addition of some new EJ community areas, most notably the Cuyama Valley subregion. The estimated population in the EJ communities is also useful in understanding the magnitude of the vulnerable population. For instance, the Cities of Guadalupe, Santa Maria, and Lompoc have approximately 50% of their population in the identified EJ communities, while only about a quarter of the population in the City of Santa Barbara lives in the identified EJ communities.

The regional EJ communities are visualized in the maps below. Block groups are visualized based on their composite score values. Those with the top 5% score designation can be understood as the most disadvantaged, as shown in the legend. Included in the parentheses are the number of block groups within each EJ group. For example, there are 15 block groups in the top 5% across the county. Additional information about the selected methodology used to identify the regional EJ communities can be found in Appendix 2.

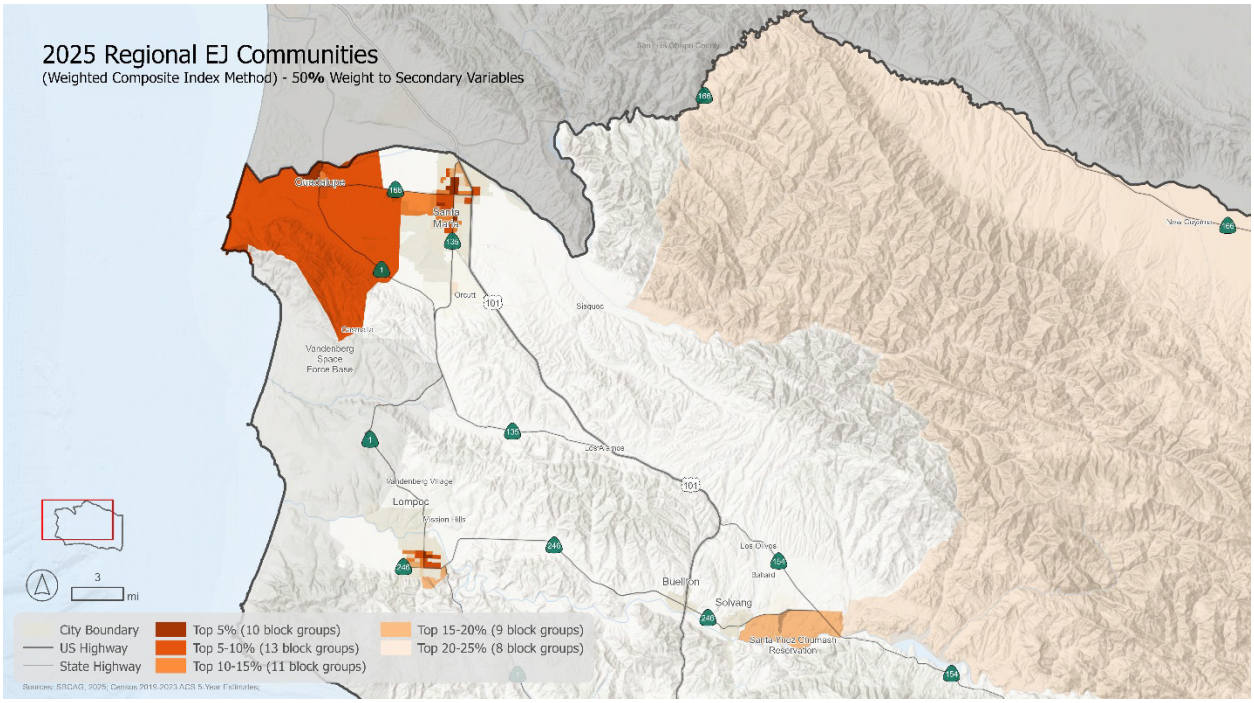
Map 1 – Regional EJ Communities



Map 2 – Regional EJ Communities (Southcoast)



Map 3 – Regional EJ Communities (North County)



Note that sections four and five below will be analyzed later using the outputs from the transportation demand model during the development of the 2029-2060 RTP-SCS.

4. Transportation Performance Measurement (To be analyzed)

1. Background

2. Methodology

3. Results

1. Average Travel Time

2. Journey-to-Work Mode Share

3. Access to Transit

4. Access to Amenities

5. Air Quality Performance Measurement (To be analyzed)

1. Background

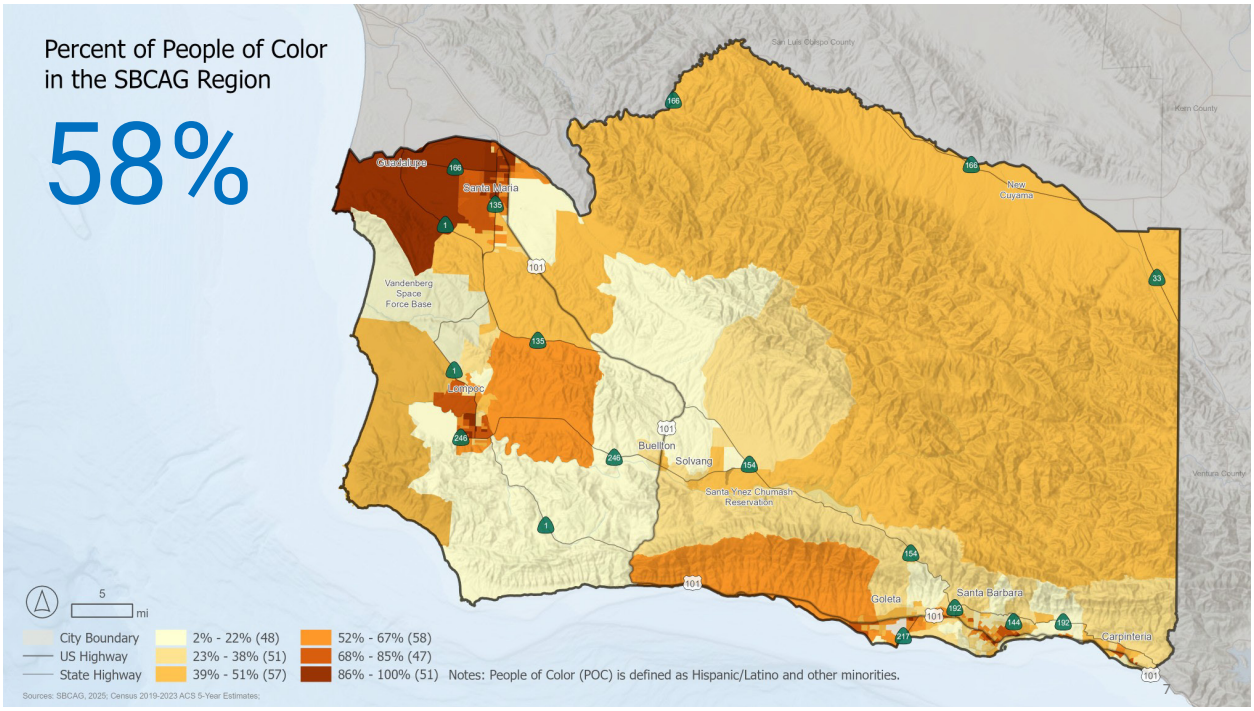
2. Methodology

3. Results

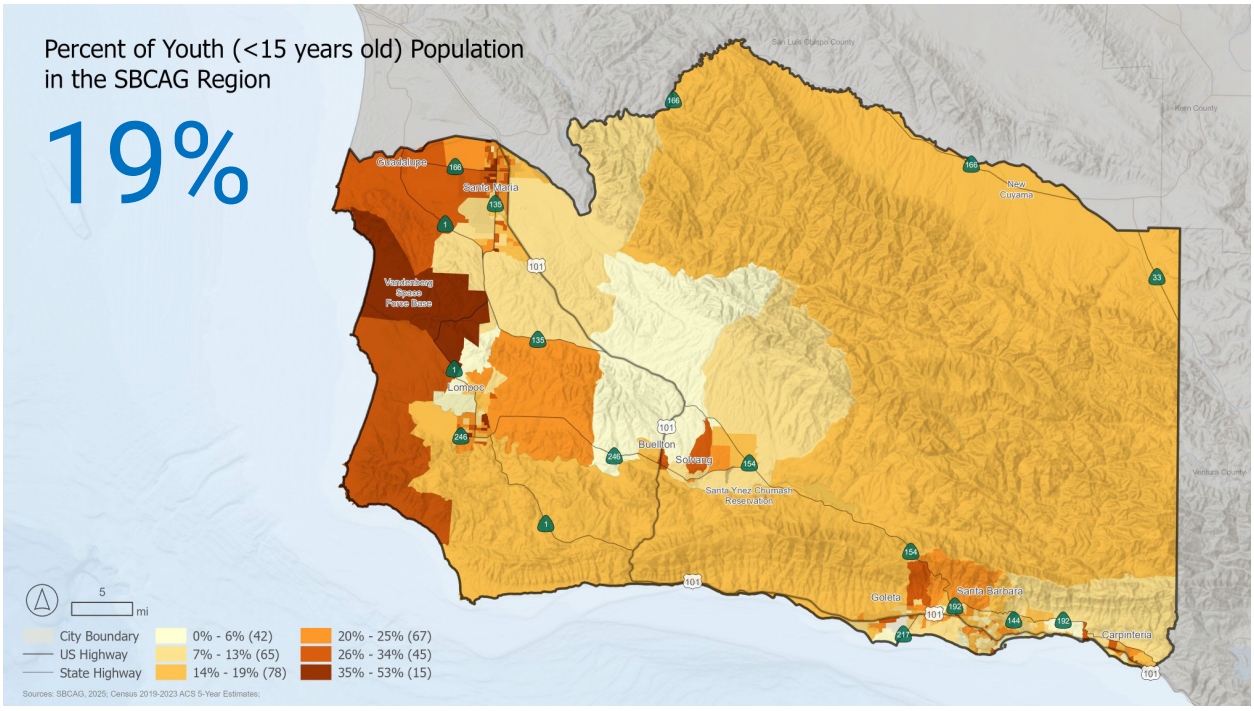
1. Proximity to Freeway

Appendix 1 – Maps of EJ Variables in Santa Barbara County

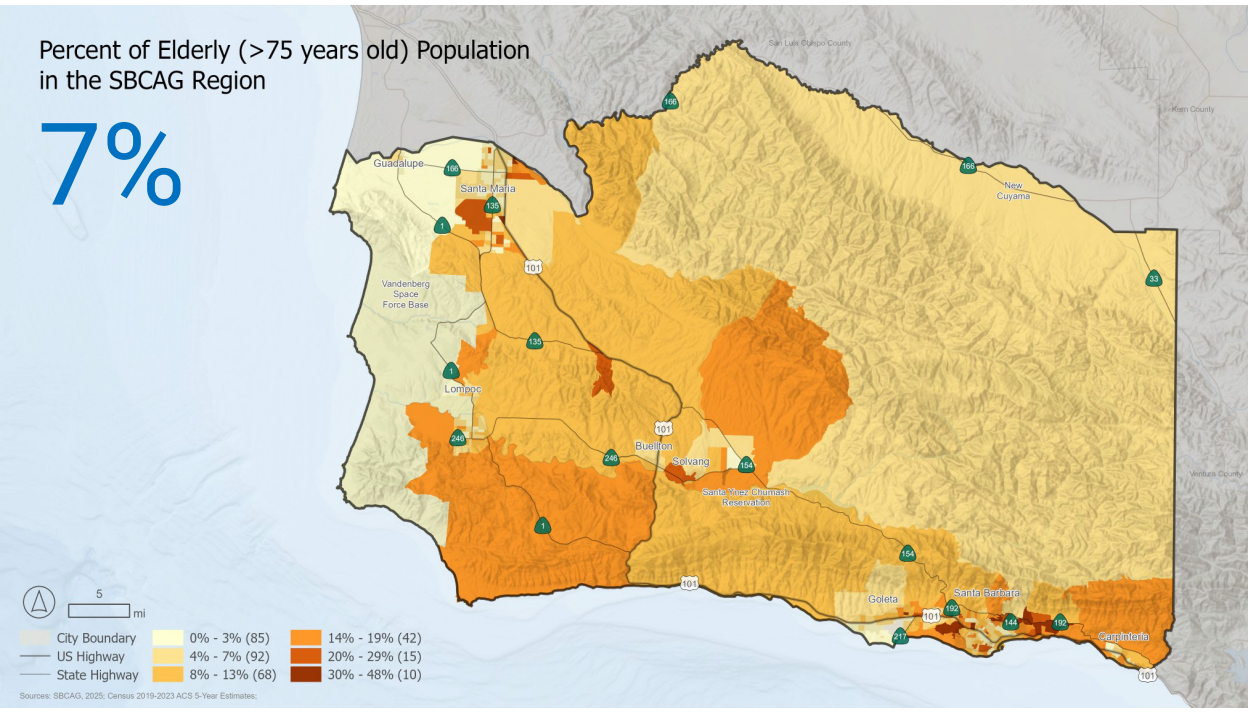
Percent of People of Color



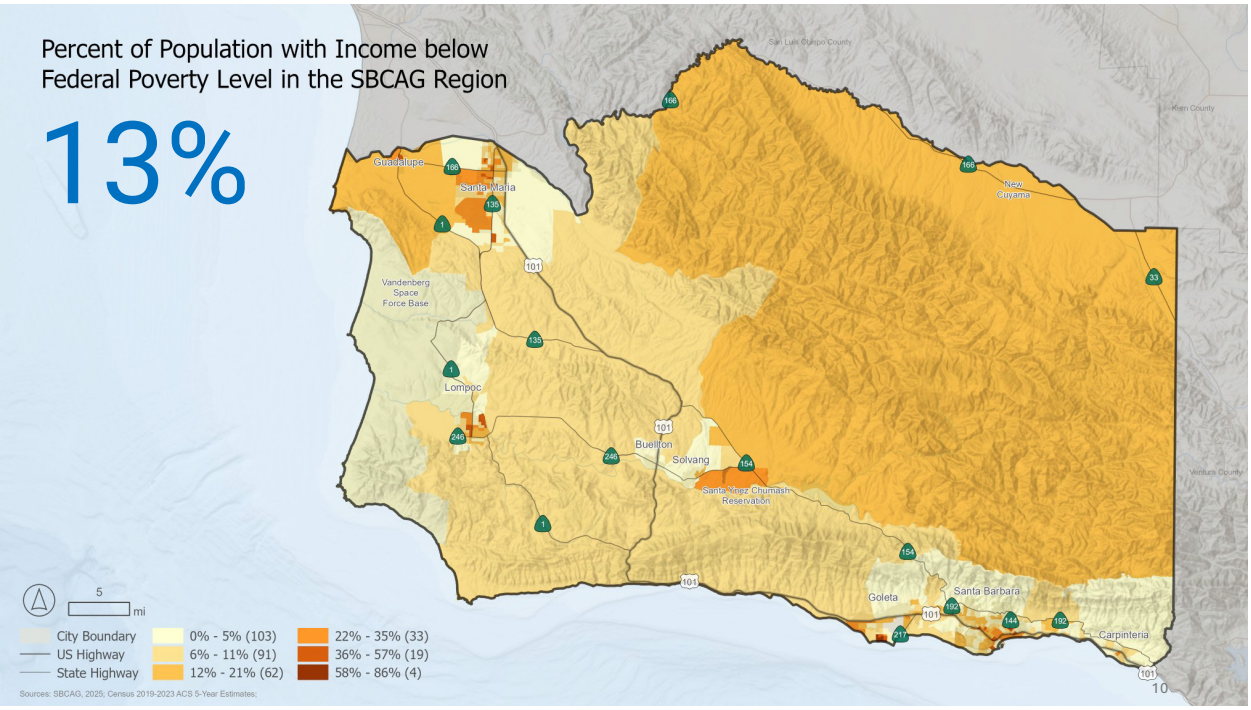
Percent of Youth (<15 years old) Population



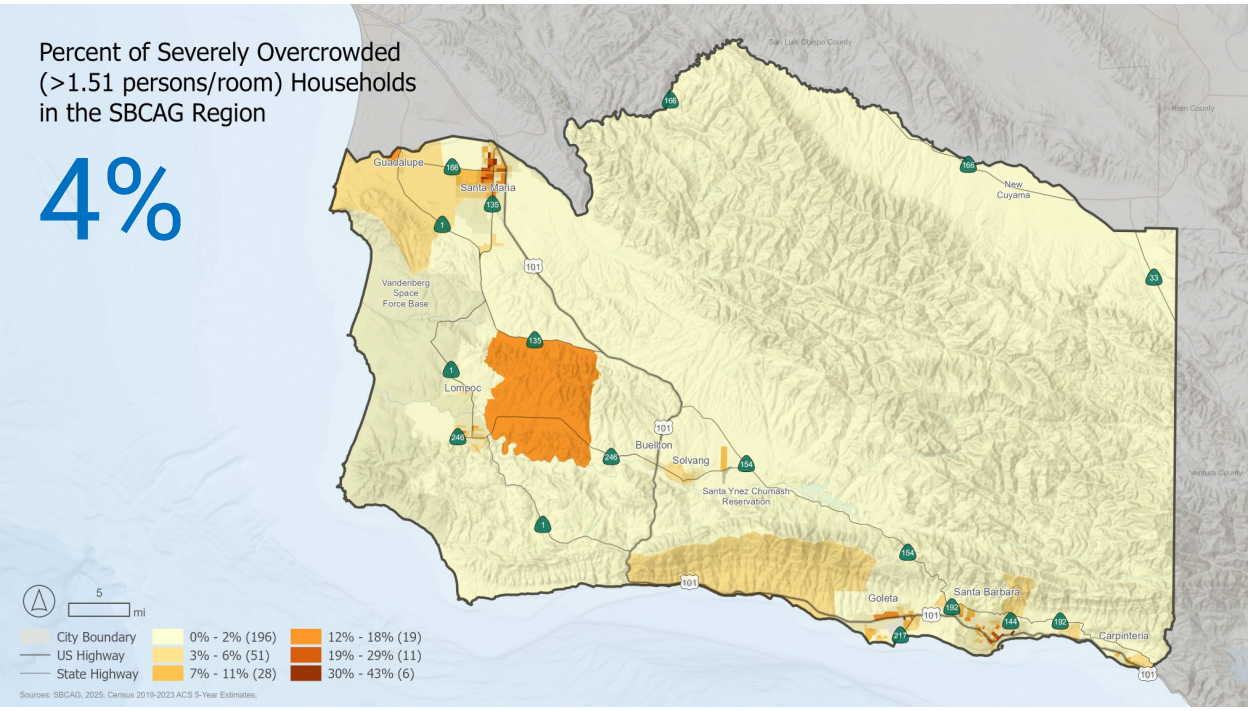
Percent of Elderly (>75 Years Old Population



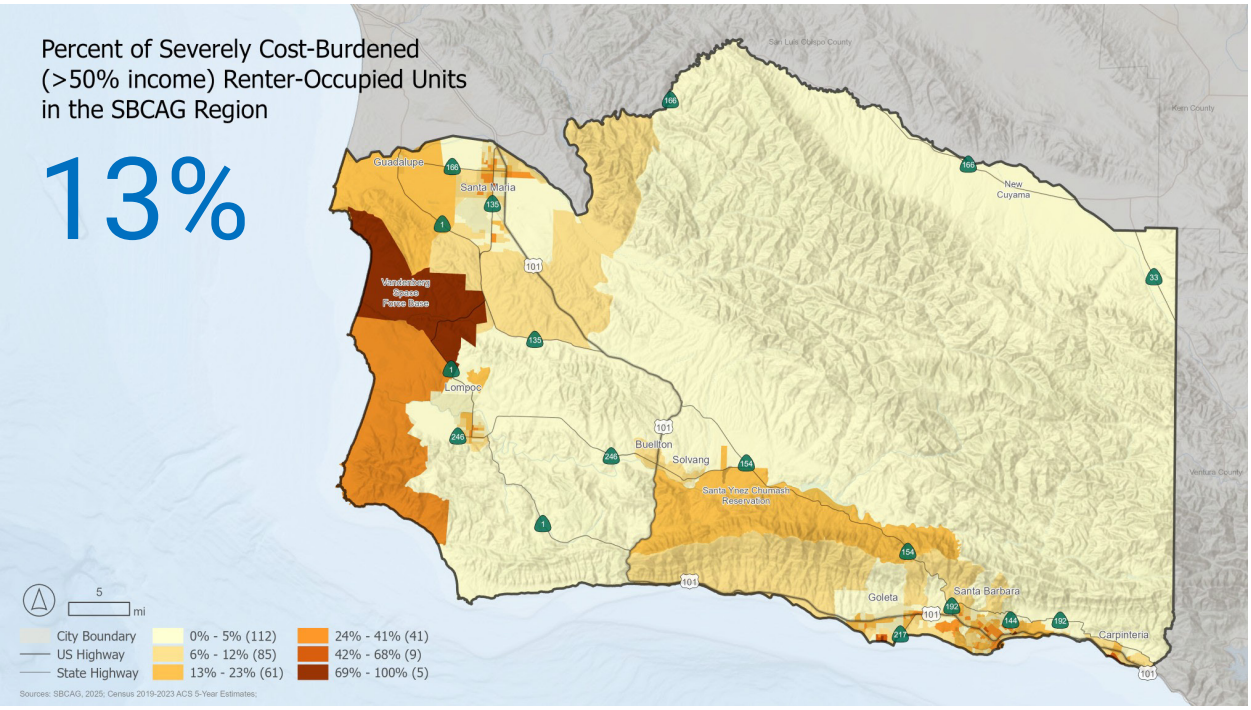
Percent of Population with Income below Federal Level



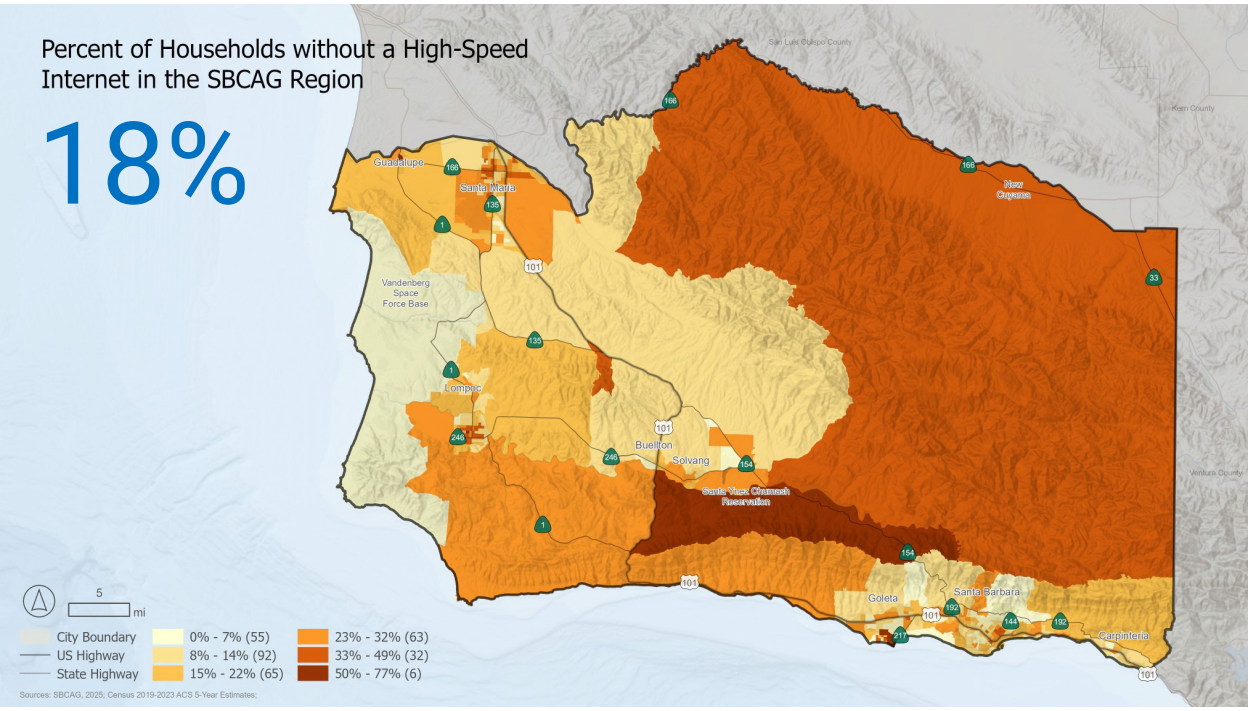
Percent of Severely Overcrowded (>1.51 persons/room) Households



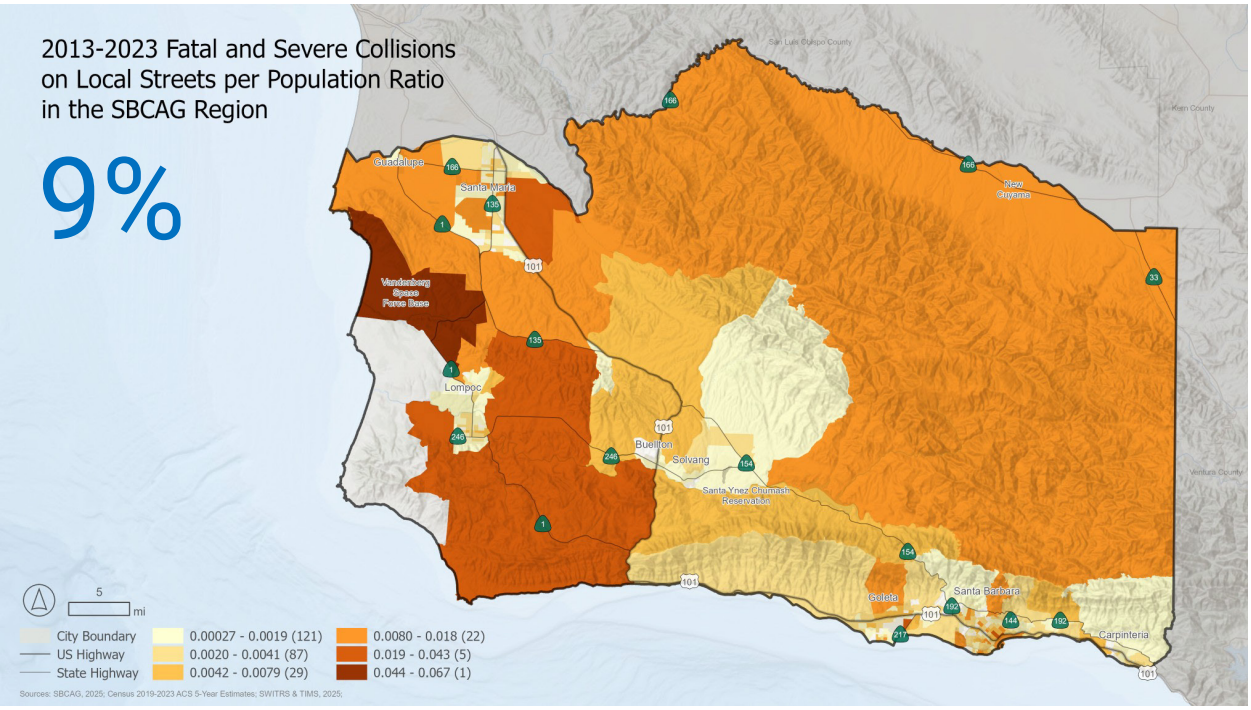
Percent of Severely Cost-Burdened (>50% Income) Renter-Occupied Units



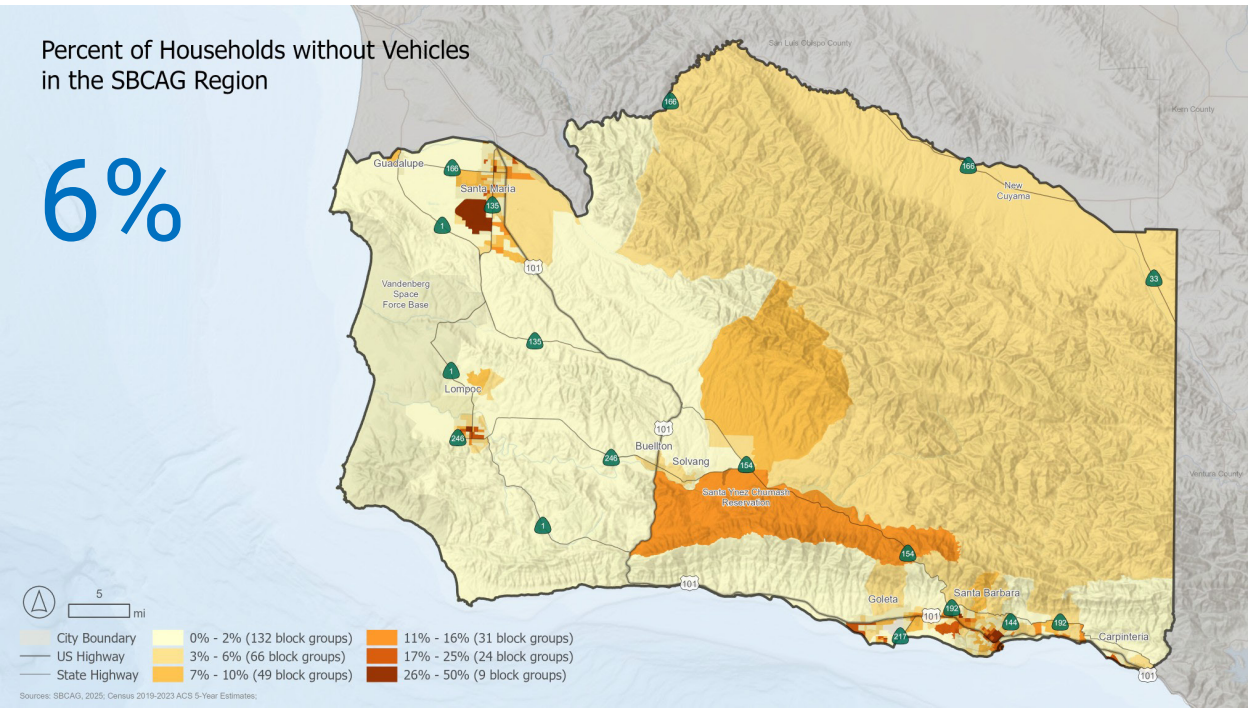
Percent of Households without a High-Speed Internet



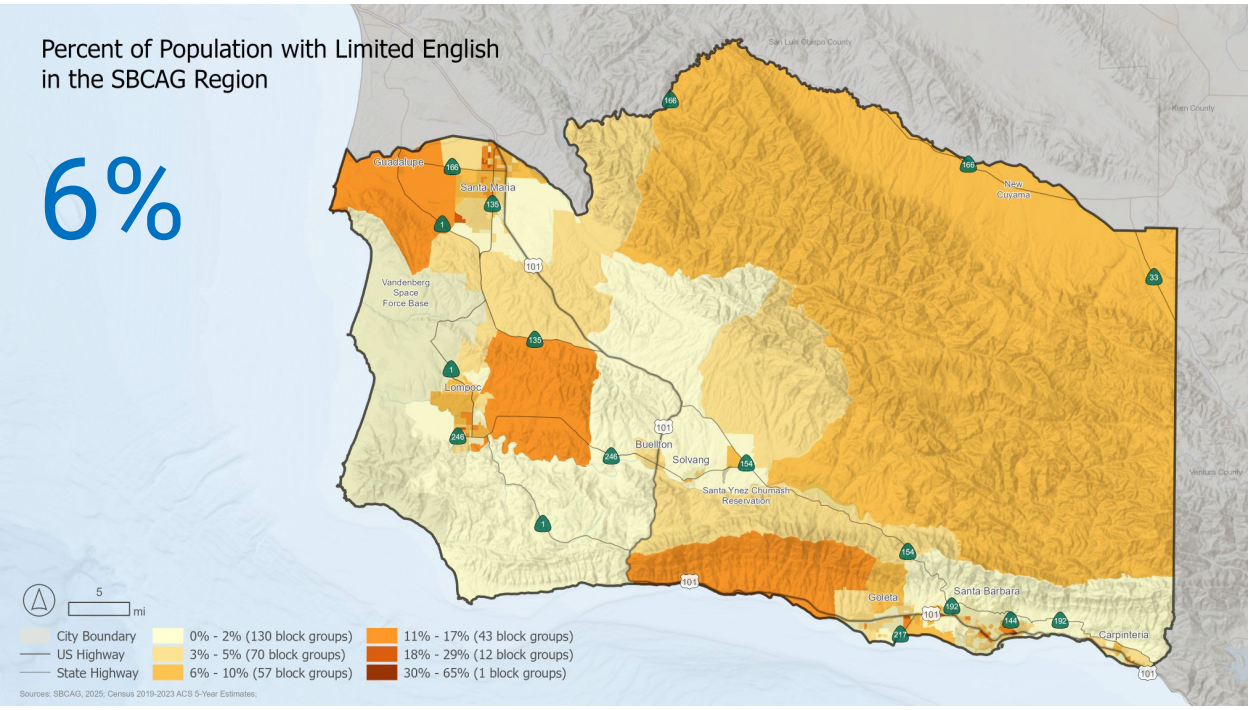
Ratio of 2013-2023 Fatal and Severe Collisions on Local Streets per Population



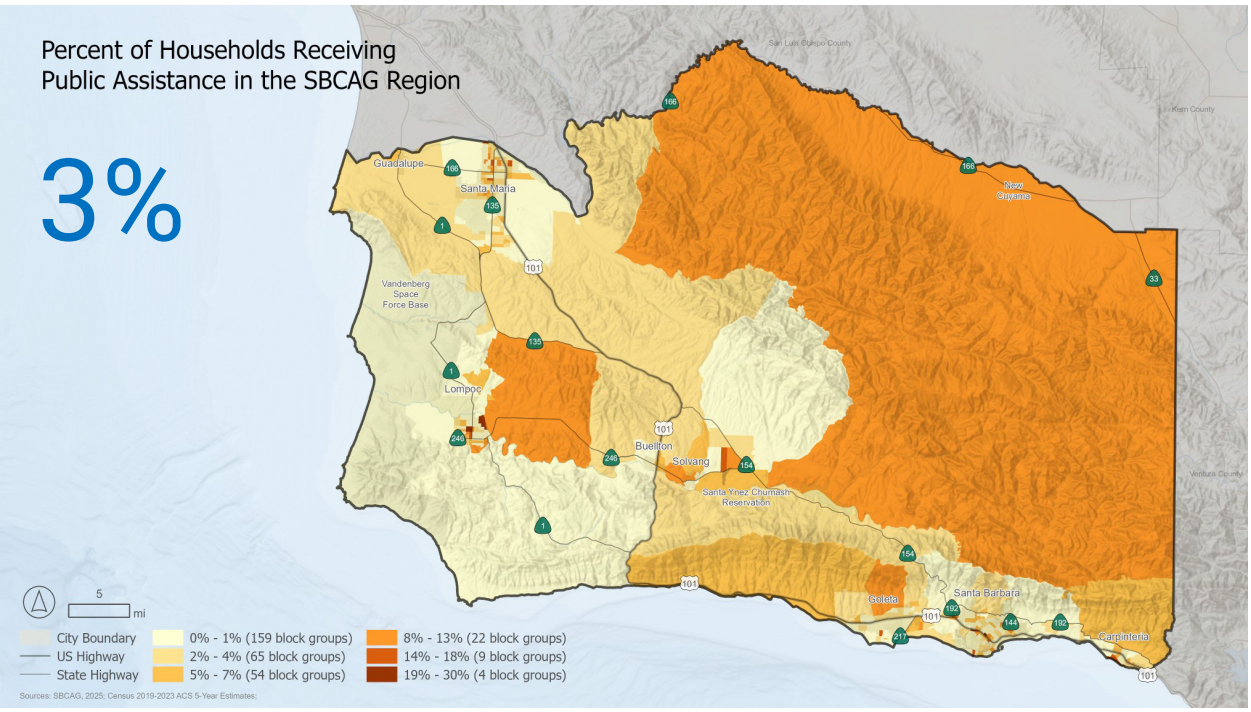
Percent of Households without Vehicles



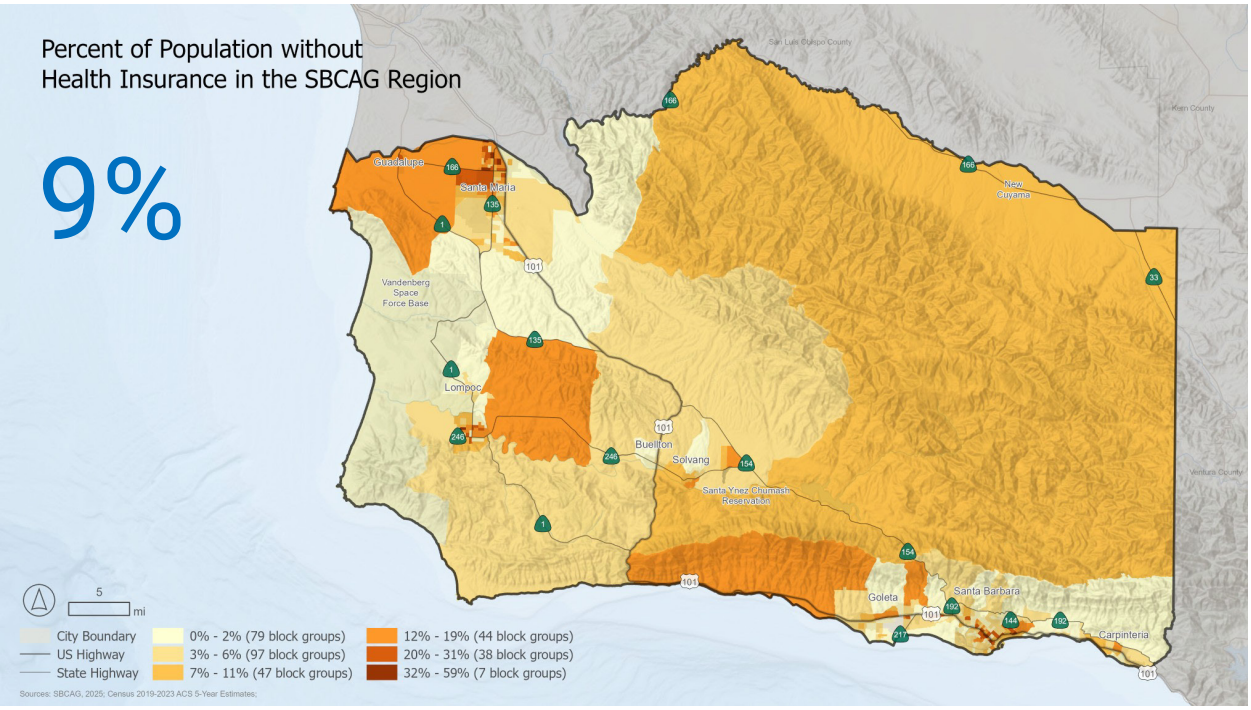
Percent of Population with Limited English



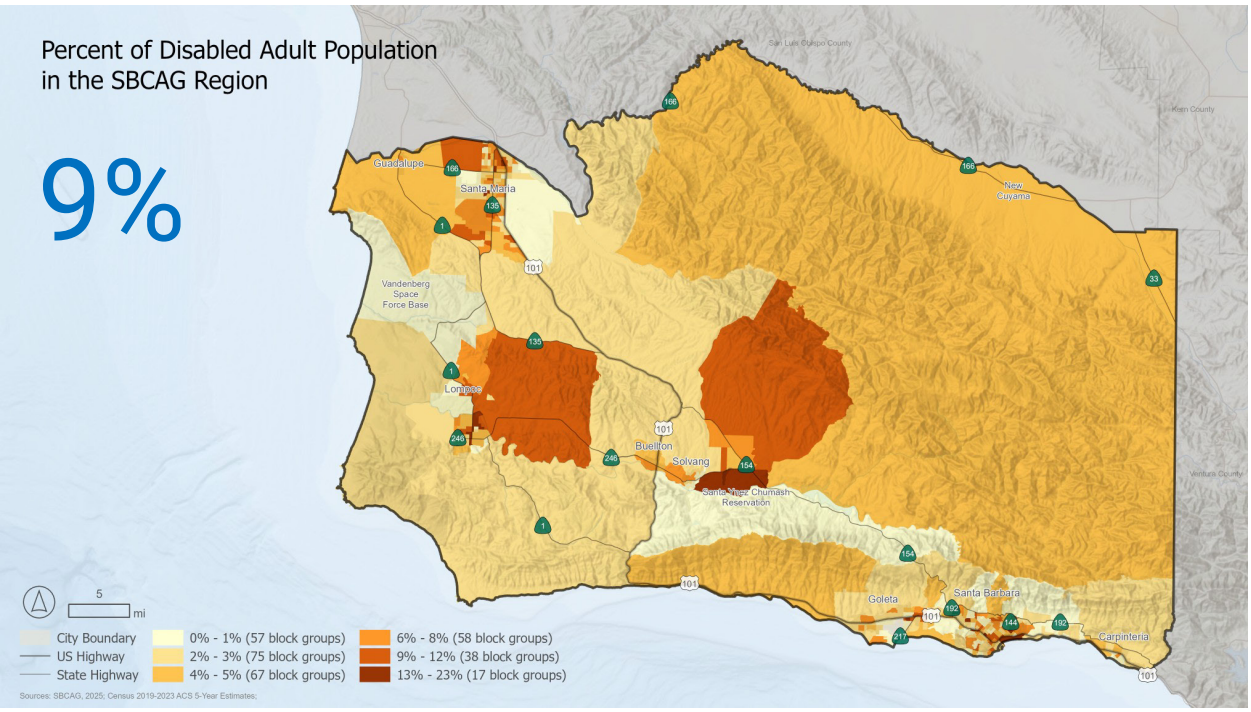
Percent of Households Receiving Public Assistance



Percent of Population without Health Insurance



Percent of Disabled Adult Population



Appendix 2 – Explanation of Methodologies of EJ Communities

Staff evaluated four alternative approaches to defining Environmental Justice (EJ) communities in Santa Barbara County. Each approach applies to the same set of proposed EJ indicators and differs in how those indicators are normalized, weighted, and aggregated. The objective was to assess the statistical properties of each methodology, the extent to which they capture known disparities, and their ease of interpretation for planning and policy decisions.

1. Use the recently adopted 2025-2050 RTP-SCS EJ communities as a reference that grouped variables in household and population categories, calculated and combined scores for each category, and selected the top 25 percent of scores as EJ communities
2. Apply proposed EJ variables with the adopted EJ method
3. Apply proposed EJ variables with the dissimilarity index method
4. Apply proposed EJ variables with the weighted composite index method by calculating an index score for each variable, adding them up, and selecting the top 25 percent scores
5. Apply proposed EJ variables with the percentile selection method by ranking percentile for each variable, identifying the top 25th percentile for each variable, and selecting top-25th-percentile areas with at least five overlapping EJ variables

The table below presents the share of block groups, population, households, and EJ indicator groups captured by each method. For example, M2 captured 25% of block groups, 30% of the countywide population, and 55% of the limited English Population in the County.

No.	Variable	M2	M3	M4 (0.5)	M5
	Block Groups	25%	25%	25%	25%
	Population	30%	27%	30%	27%
	Households	26%	24%	27%	24%
1	*Zero Vehicles Households (Carless)*	48%	47%	52%	45%
2	Households without Complete Plumbing Facilities^	34%	56%	43%	55%
3	Households without Complete Kitchen Facilities^	34%	38%	44%	25%
4	Severe and Fatal Traffic Injury Area^	29%	34%	29%	32%
5	Households without High-Speed Internet^	38%	36%	38%	36%
6	Population with no High School Diploma	38%	32%	41%	40%
7	Households Receiving Public Assistance^	45%	46%	45%	43%
8	*Severely Rent-Burdened (>50% Income) Households*	46%	44%	42%	39%
9	*Severely Overcrowded (>1.5 Persons/Room) Households^*	69%	64%	70%	64%
10	Population without Health Insurance^	58%	52%	56%	54%
11	*Population with Income below Poverty Level*	55%	50%	50%	46%
12	*Limited English Population*	55%	49%	51%	52%
13	Single Parent Households^	46%	42%	46%	42%
14	Children under 15^	40%	35%	40%	37%
15	Elderly Population (75+)	15%	15%	16%	16%
16	*People of Color (Hispanic/Latino + Minorities)^*	44%	37%	42%	39%
17	Disabled Adult Population (20-64)	36%	36%	42%	38%

Notes: **^** Proposed new variables in 2025 EJ analysis; *Primary Variables*

Sources: 2019-2023 American Community Survey (ACS); California Statewide Integrated Traffic Records System (SWITRS)

The following sections provide detailed descriptions of each methodology, along with preliminary maps illustrating the general results.

Method 1: Use the Recently Adopted 2025-2050 RTP-SCS EJ Communities as A Reference

The existing Environmental Justice Communities methodology sums population and household variables over their respective denominators to create a household and a population score for each block group. The scores are then combined to create an EJ score – and the top 25% of EJ block group scores are considered to be Regional Environmental Justice Communities.

$$\boldsymbol{HH\ Score_{BG1}} = \frac{No\ Veh\ HH + Limited\ English\ HH + Severely\ Cost\ Burdened\ HH + Low\ Income\ HH}{Households_{BG1}}$$

$$\boldsymbol{POP\ Score_{BG1}} = \frac{Disabled\ POP + Low\ income\ POP + No\ HSD\ POP + NH\ Minority\ POP + \left(\frac{Hispanic\ POP}{4}\right) + Elderly\ POP + Under\ 18\ POP}{Population_{BG1}}$$

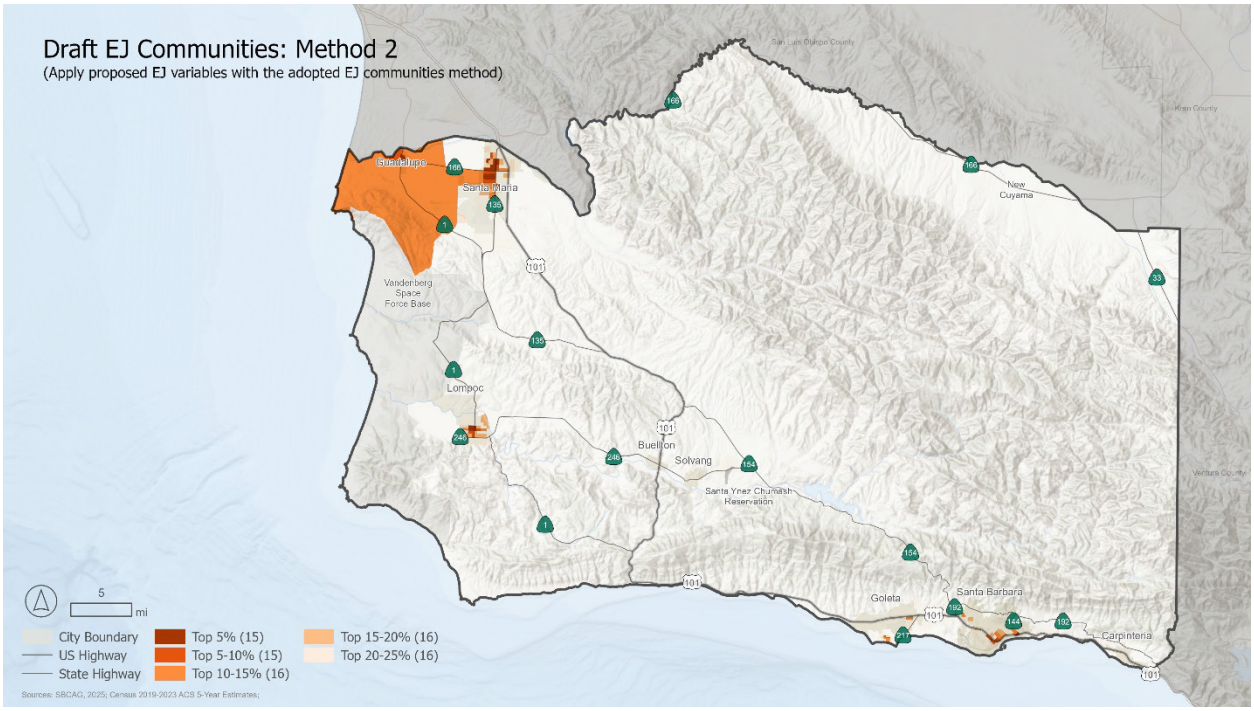
$$\boldsymbol{Total\ EJ\ Score_{BG1}} = HH\ Score_{BG1} + POP\ Score_{BG1} \quad | \quad \boldsymbol{EJ\ Communities} = Top\ 25\%\ of\ EJ\ Scores$$

While this methodology is simple to use and communicate, it does allow variable indicators with larger magnitudes (values) to dominate scoring. To address this, the Non-White Hispanic Population variable was weighted down (divided by four, or multiplied by 0.25).

As staff expand the range of variables for the 2029 RTP-SCS update, a new methodology has been identified as the preferred approach.

Method 2: Re-apply the Adopted 2025-2050 RTP-SCS EJ Communities Method

This method builds directly on the approach adopted in the 2025–2050 RTP–SCS, but uses the updated list of proposed variables. Each variable is converted into a proportion (%) of its base (population, households, or housing units). The proportions are then summed to produce a composite score for each block group. Block groups with scores in the top quartile (25%) are designated as EJ communities.

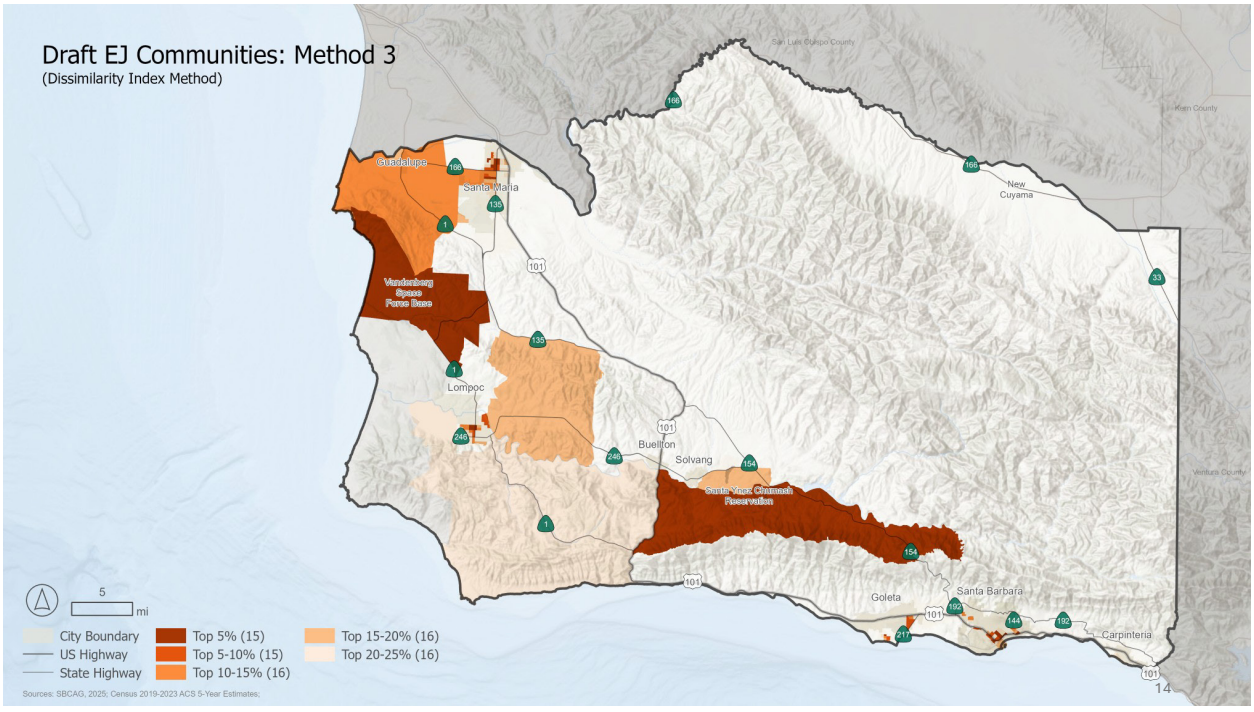


Methodology Strengths: transparent, replicable, and easy to communicate.

Limitations: the additive structure allows large-magnitude indicators (e.g., percent people of color at 70%) to overshadow small but important ones (e.g., limited English at 2%), reducing the relative influence of less prevalent disparities.

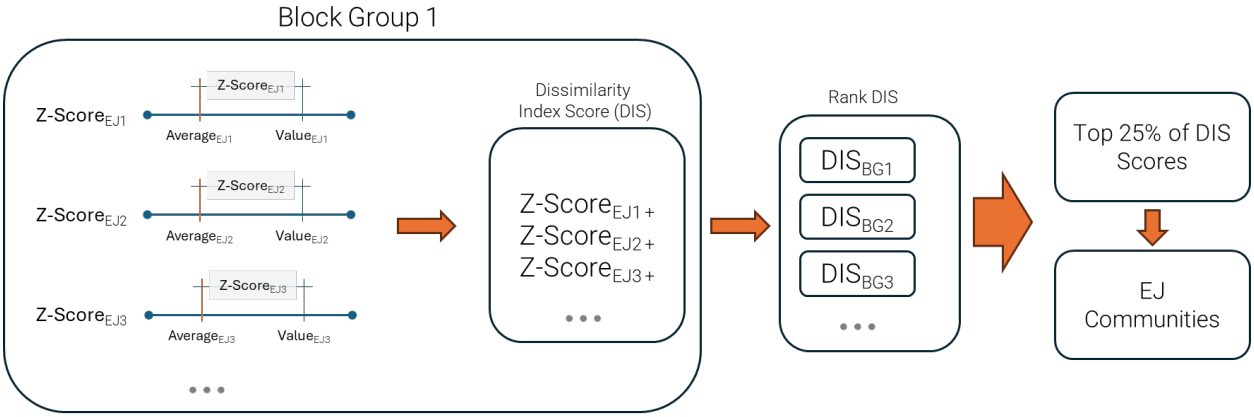
Method 3: Dissimilarity Index Method

This method evaluates relative disadvantage by comparing each block group's values to county averages. For every variable with an indicator above the county average, a z-score is calculated to measure the standardized deviations from the county average. These standardized scores are then summed to form a composite, which is ranked across block groups. The top quartile (25%) of block groups is designated as EJ communities.



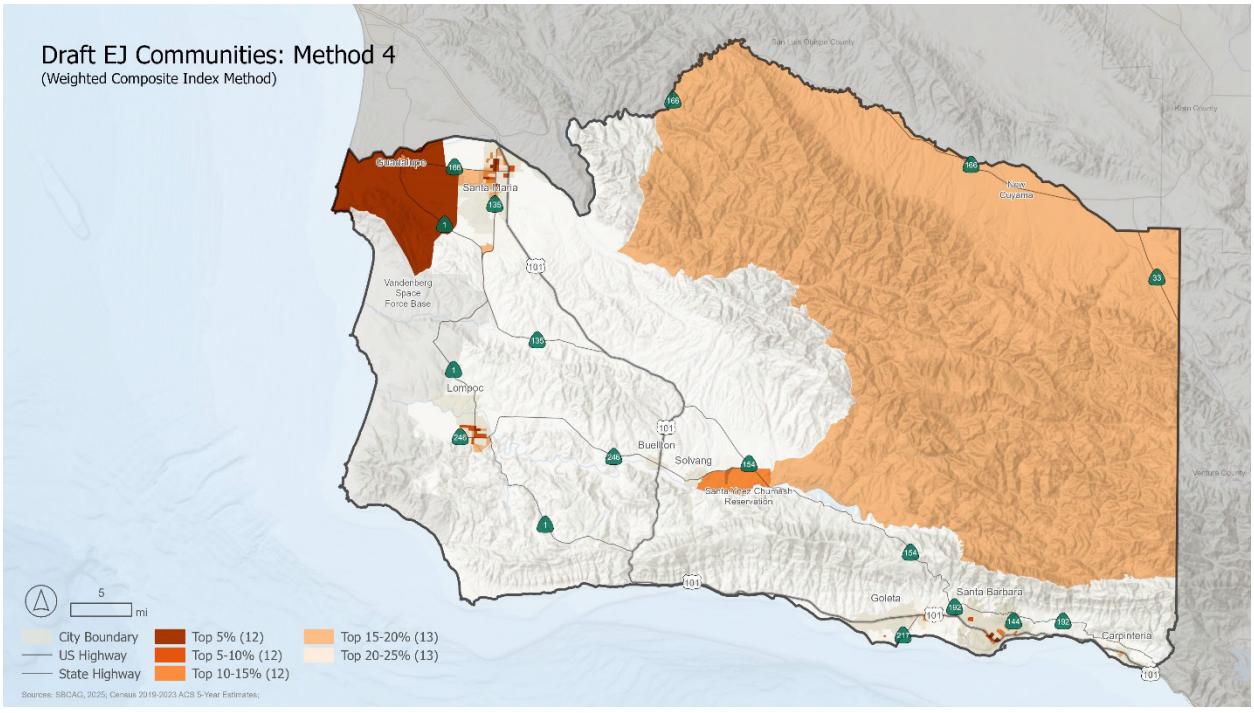
Methodology Strengths: removes dominance of high-magnitude variables, highlights block groups that deviate most from regional norms, is commonly used in neighborhood-level segregation and inequality research.

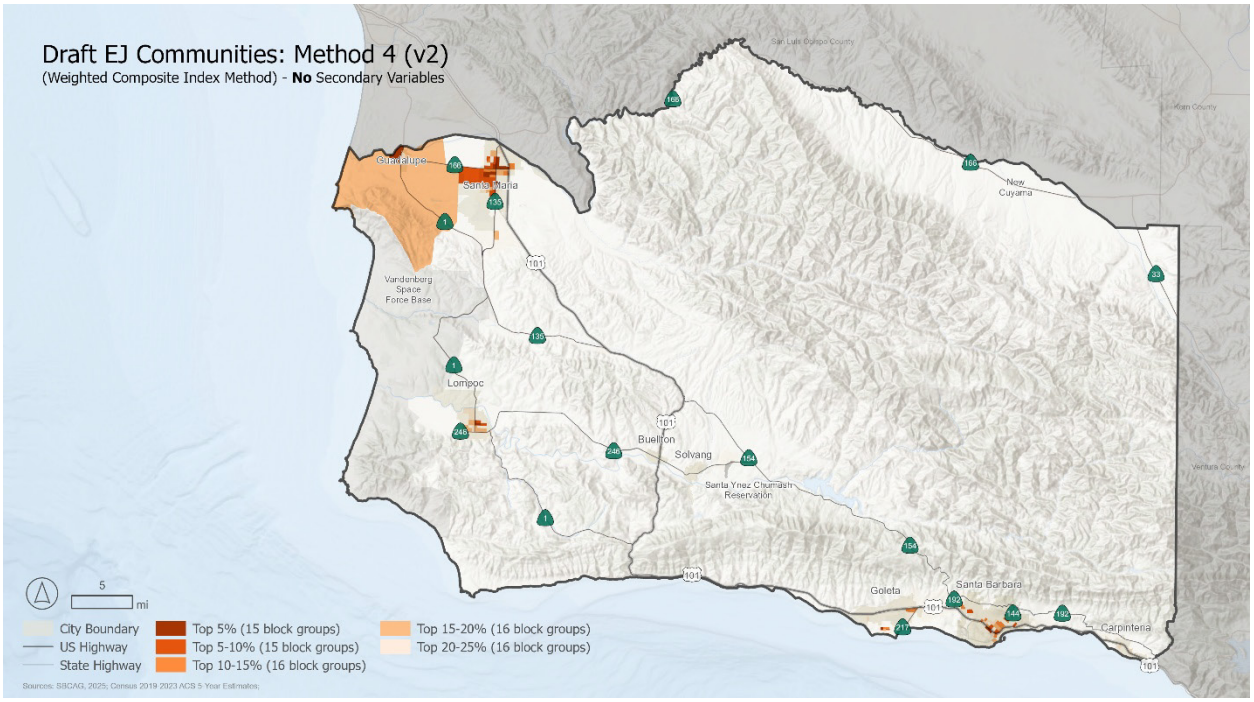
Limitations: assumes equal weight across all indicators, more complex to explain, sensitive to statistical outliers, which can elevate block groups that differ strongly on one indicator (e.g., small or rural areas).

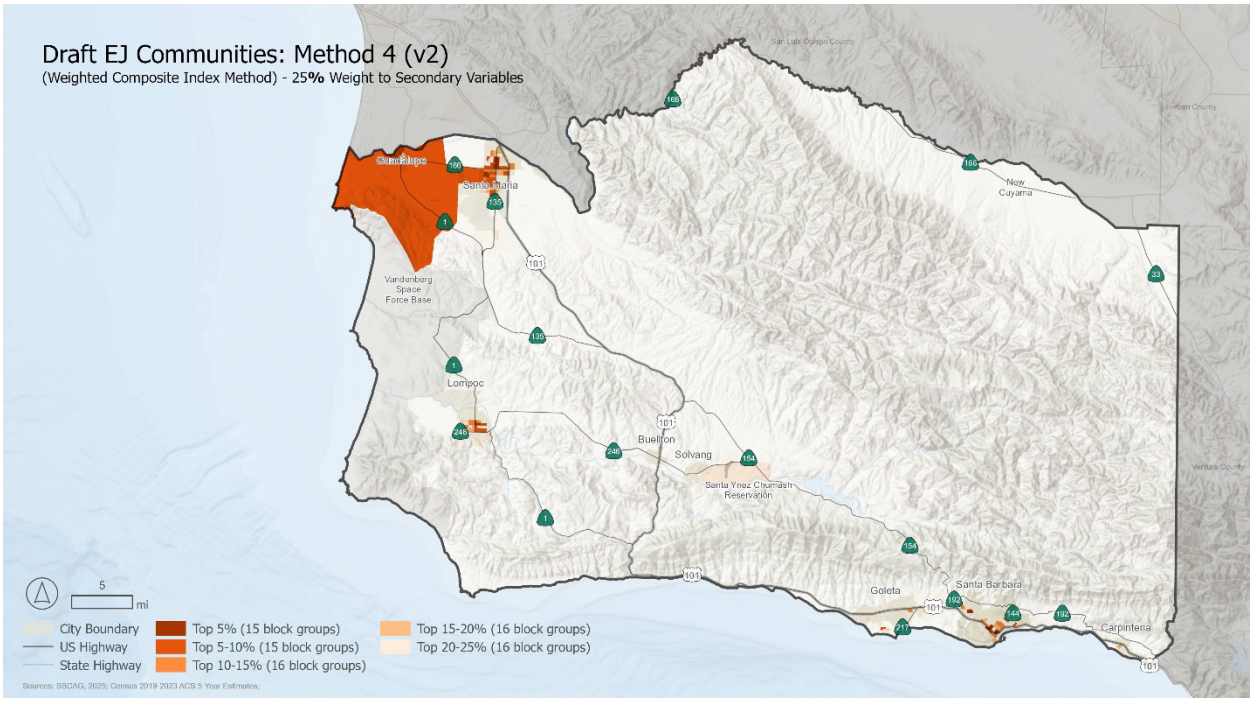


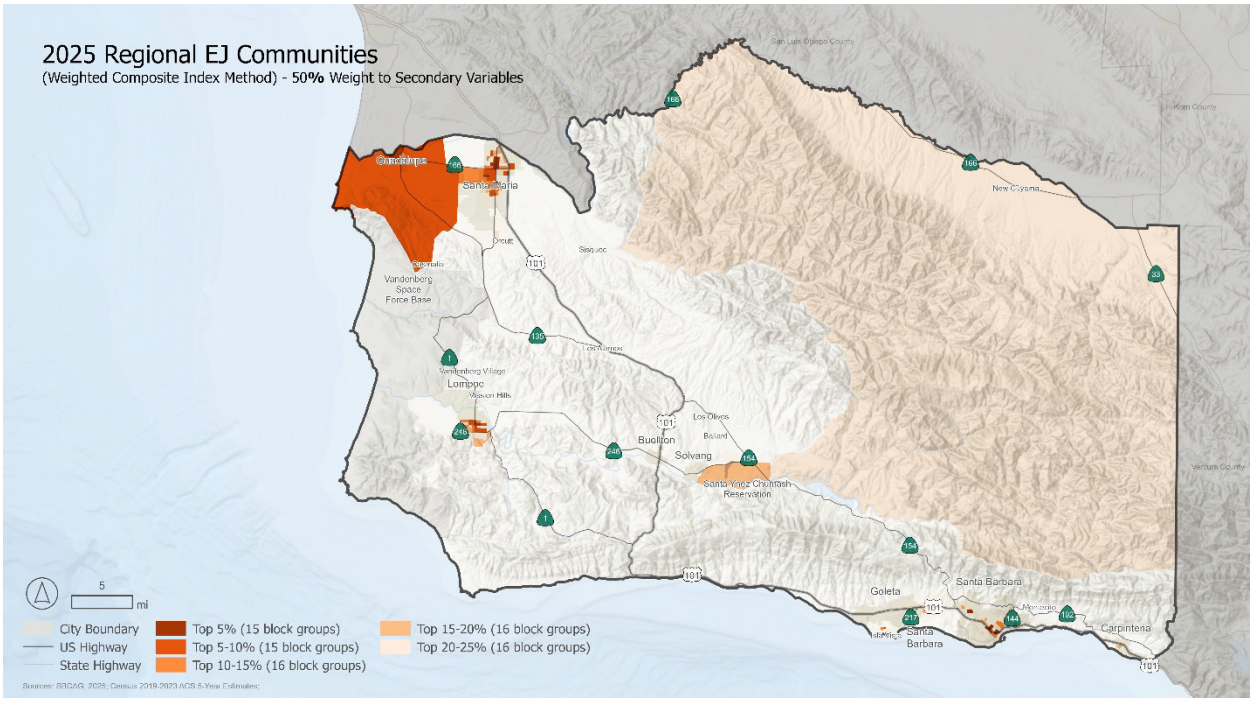
Method 4: Weighted Composite Index Method

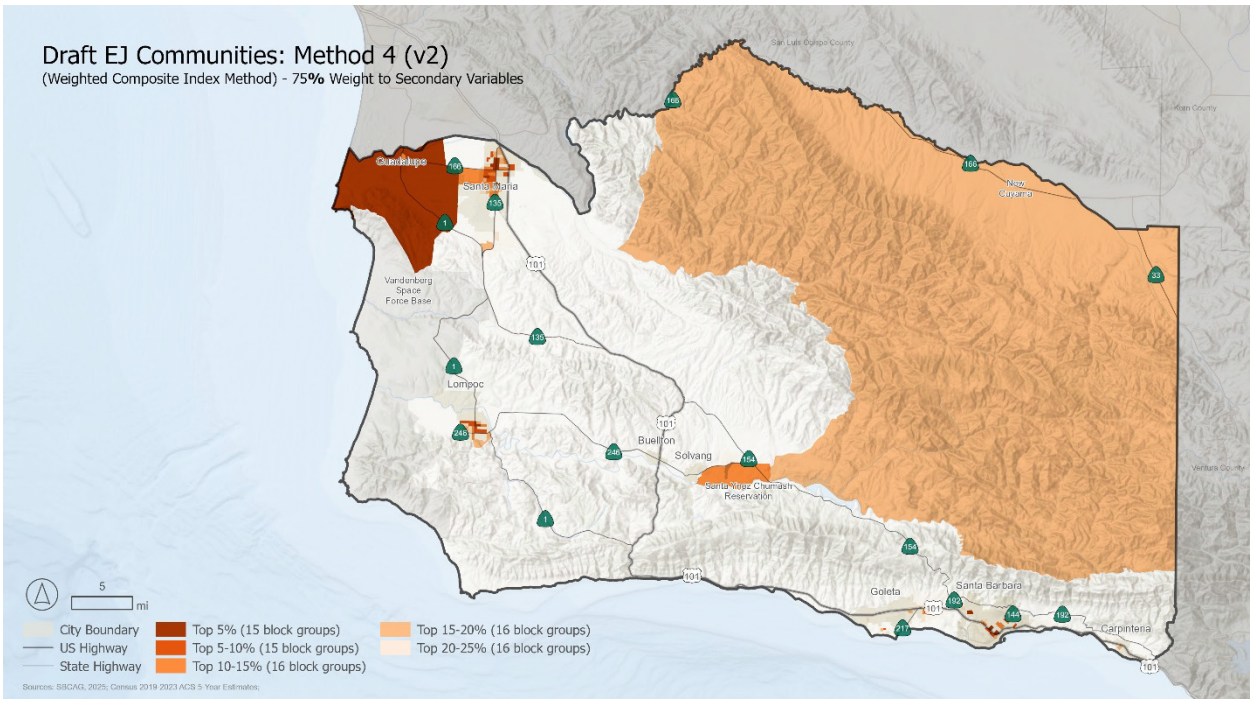
In this methodology, each variable is ranked across block groups and assigned a percentile score (0–100). These percentiles are then summed up to create a composite score. Block groups in the top quartile are designated as EJ communities. To test the flexibility of this framework, staff experimented with weighting schemes—for example, applying a 10% higher weight to households experiencing poverty (to emphasize core economic hardship) and a 10% lower weight to severe/fatal collisions (since these often occur in sparsely populated rural areas).

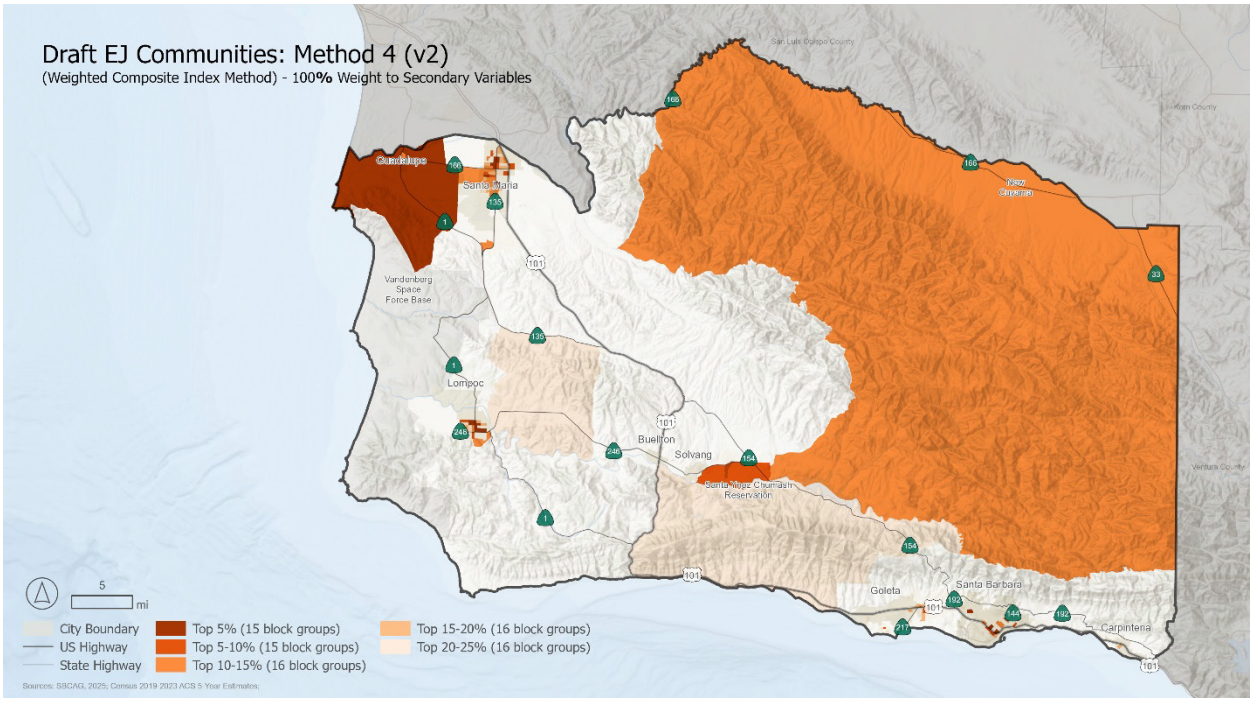



Draft EJ Communities: Method 4 (v2)
(Weighted Composite Index Method) - No Secondary Variables
Guadalupe
Santa Maria
Vandenberg Space Force Base
Lompoc
Buellton
Solvang
Santa Ynez Chumash Reservation
New Cuyama
Goleta
Santa Barbara
Carpinteria
5
mi
City Boundary
US Highway
State Highway
Top 5% (15 block groups)
Top 5-10% (15 block groups)
Top 10-15% (16 block groups)
Top 15-20% (16 block groups)
Top 20-25% (16 block groups)


Draft EJ Communities: Method 4 (v2)
(Weighted Composite Index Method) - 25% Weight to Secondary Variables
Guadalupe
Santa Maria
Vandenberg Space Force Base
Lompoc
Buellton
Solvang
Santa Ynez Chumash Reservation
New Cuyama
Goleta
Santa Barbara
Carpinteria
5
mi
City Boundary
US Highway
State Highway
Top 5% (15 block groups)
Top 5-10% (15 block groups)
Top 10-15% (16 block groups)
Top 15-20% (16 block groups)
Top 20-25% (16 block groups)

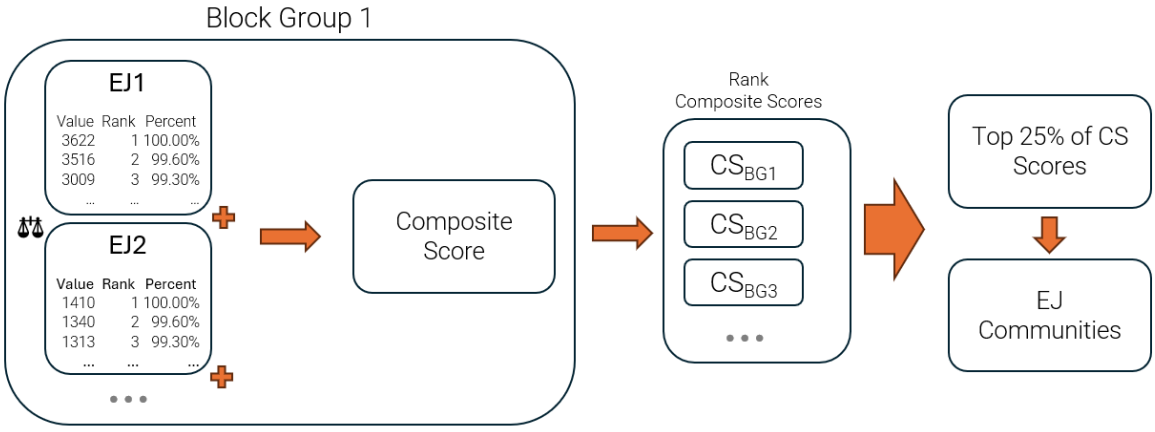

2025 Regional EJ Communities
(Weighted Composite Index Method) - 50% Weight to Secondary Variables
Guadalupe
Santa Maria
Orcutt
Vandenberg Space Force Base
Vandenberg Village
Lompoc
Mission Hills
Los Olivos
Buellton
Ballard
Solvang
Santa Ynez Chumash Reservation
New Cuyama
Goleta
Santa Barbara
Montecito
Carpinteria
Santa Barbara
5
mi
City Boundary
US Highway
State Highway
Top 5% (15 block groups)
Top 5-10% (15 block groups)
Top 10-15% (16 block groups)
Top 15-20% (16 block groups)
Top 20-25% (16 block groups)


Draft EJ Communities: Method 4 (v2)
(Weighted Composite Index Method) - 75% Weight to Secondary Variables
Guadalupe
Santa Maria
Vandenberg Space Force Base
Lompoc
Buellton
Solvang
Santa Ynez Chumash Reservation
New Cuyama
Goleta
Santa Barbara
Carpinteria
5
mi
City Boundary
US Highway
State Highway
Top 5% (15 block groups)
Top 5-10% (15 block groups)
Top 10-15% (16 block groups)
Top 15-20% (16 block groups)
Top 20-25% (16 block groups)



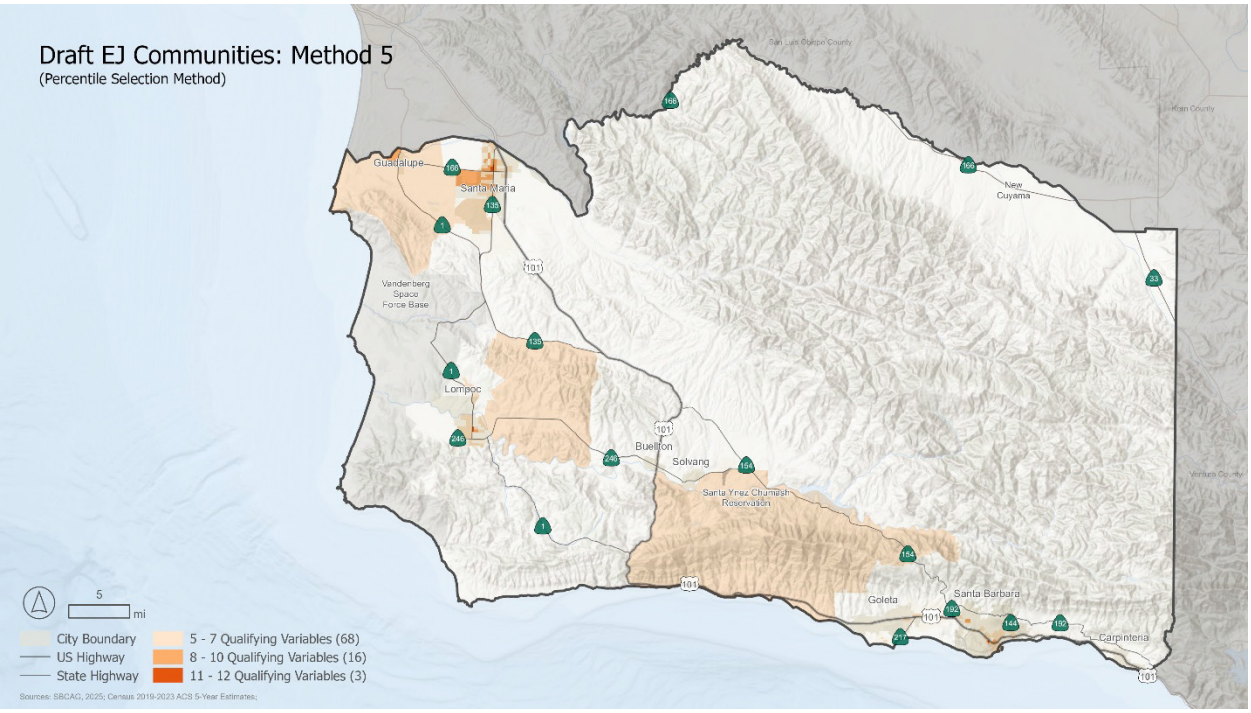
Methodology Strengths: flexible and interpretable, reduces the influence of raw scale differences, and allows policy-informed weighting.

Limitations: compresses differences between extreme and moderate values, meaning areas with severe disparities may not be distinguished as sharply from those with moderate disadvantages.



Methodology 5: Percentile Selection Method

In this approach, each variable is examined independently. Block groups in the top 25th percentile for a given variable are "flagged." Block groups were then ranked on the number of flagged variables they contained.



Methodology Strengths: Shows relative disadvantage, gives importance to numerically small but impactful variables.

Limitations: Cutoff can cause moderate (but above-average disparity) variables to go unrecognized.