

Connecticut Environmental Justice Screening Tool

What is the Connecticut Environmental Justice Screening Tool?

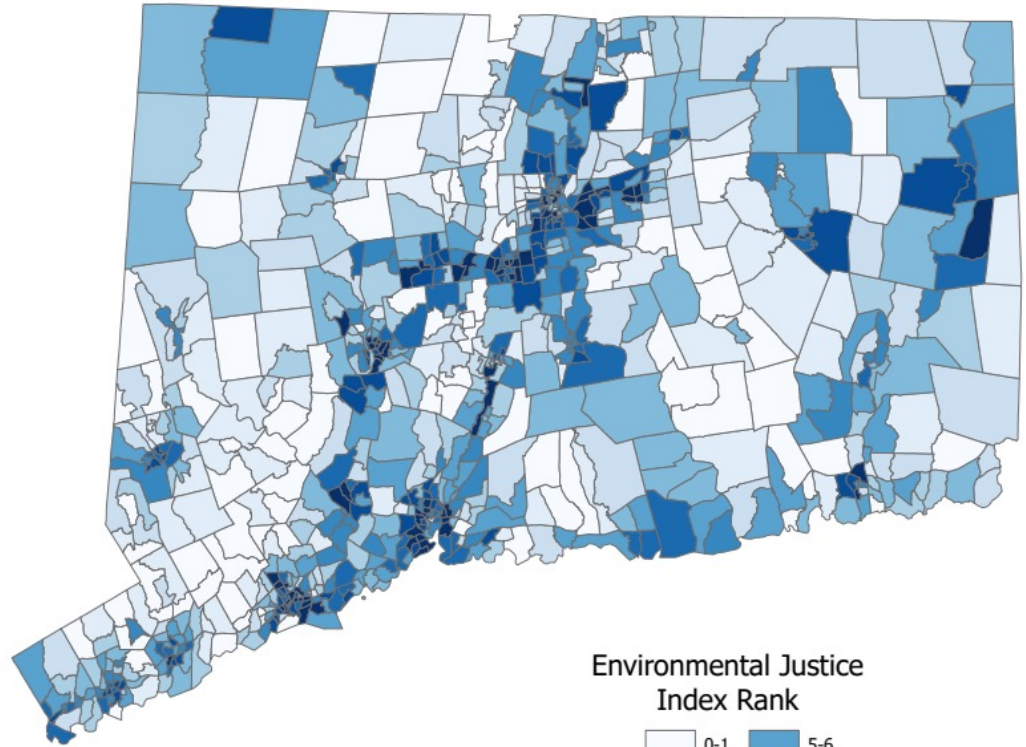
This tool helps identify communities with high pollution burdens, health sensitivities, and/or social stressors and potential opportunities for addressing environmental health impacts. The tool is based on various indicators represented as separate map layers, each showing the geographic distribution of pollution and chronic diseases.

How to Read the Map

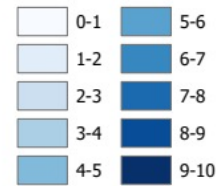
Each indicator has a ranking for each census tract, from 0-10, that represents a particular type of pollution, health, or social impact. Public health data is ranked by town.

**Darker areas =
Higher rankings =
Higher potential impact**

Darker areas represent higher potential cumulative impacts of pollution, health sensitivity, and vulnerable populations for the Environmental Justice Index or **EJ Index Score.**



Environmental Justice Index Rank



Disclaimer	<p>This Screening Tool <u>DOES</u>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Identify potential sources of pollution. ✓ Identify areas that present potential hazards in the event of an accident or emergency. ✓ Identify census tracts near potential pollution sources. ✓ Identify the degree to which a community, by census tract, is burdened by environmental harms and impacts. 	<p>This Screening Tool <u>DOES NOT</u>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✗ Does not reflect actual exposures to pollution. ✗ Does not indicate the overall pollution burden nor reflect the number of individuals that may be affected by pollution. ✗ Does not establish causal associations between environmental risks and health. ✗ Does not provide information about an individual person's health status or environment. ✗ Does not release private addresses, information, or names.
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For more information on the Environmental Justice Screening Tool or CIRCA, contact circa@uconn.edu or use the QR code to the right. This tool was funded by the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative.



How are the Scores on the EJ Screening Tool Calculated?

- Each data layer is called an **indicator** and represents a type of pollution, health impact, or social vulnerability.
- Indicators are organized into four categories, which are then used to calculate two composite (combined) categories.
- These two composite categories are multiplied to get the final **Environmental Justice Index Score**.
- The final score represents the cumulative environmental health impact for each census tract in Connecticut.

Overall Score	Environmental Justice Index Score = Pollution Burden x Sensitive Populations			
Composite Category	Pollution Burden $\frac{0.5 \times \text{average}(PPS) + \text{average}(PPE)}{1.5}$		Sensitive Populations $\frac{\text{average}(SF) + \text{average}(HS)}{2}$	
Category	Potential Pollution Sources (PPS)	Potential Pollution Exposure (PPE)	Socioeconomic Factors (SF)	Health Sensitivity (HS)
Indicator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brownfield sites • Proximity to Superfund Sites • Impervious Surfaces • Incinerators • Landfills • Housing Lead Risk • Municipal Transfer Stations • Potentially Contaminated/Clean-Up Sites • Recycling Processing Facilities • Significant Environmental Hazards • Underground Storage Tanks • Facilities Managing Hazardous Chemicals • Wastewater Discharges 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diesel PM Emissions • Noise • Ozone • Particulate Matter 2.5 • Facilities Releasing Toxics • Major Sources of Air Pollution • Minor Sources of Air Pollution • Minor Air Pollution Facilities • Traffic Density 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing Burden • Linguistic Isolation • Poverty levels • Unemployment • Race/Ethnicity • Educational Attainment • Median Income • Population Age < 5 • Population Age > 65 • No Health Insurance • Mobile Homes • Multi-unit Housing • Rent-ownership Ratio • Public Transportation Use • Single Parent Households • Food Insecurity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Asthma Emergency Dept. Visit Rate • Cardiovascular Disease Mortality Rate • Emergency Dept. Visits for Chronic Lung Disease • Childhood Elevated Lead Levels • Diabetes Mortality Rates • Population with Disability • Emergency Dept. visits from Heat Stress • Low Birthweight Rate of Infants • Declined Mental Health • Depression Rates • EPA Cancer Risk • EPA Respiratory Hazard Risk

Who Can Use The Tool?	Why Use The Tool?	How To Access The Tool
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Community groups ✓ Advocacy organizations ✓ Government agencies ✓ Teachers and students ✓ Everyone! 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Address environmental justice issues ✓ Inform government decisions ✓ Facilitate dialogue and collaboration between policymakers and community members 	<p>Freely accessible online via</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Phone ✓ Tablet ✓ Computer



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