



















STATUS	STATE	REGION	COMPONENTS	YEAR ENACTED
 Not Enacted	Alabama	Southeast		
	Environmental justice (EJ) community definitions identify the specific, quantifiable thresholds that designate a geographical area as an EJ community. These definitions account for multiple factors, including both environmental and socioeconomic stressors, that may contribute to persistent environmental health disparities.			
 Not Enacted	Alaska	West		
	Environmental justice (EJ) community definitions identify the specific, quantifiable thresholds that designate a geographical area as an EJ community. These definitions account for multiple factors, including both environmental and socioeconomic stressors, that may contribute to persistent environmental health disparities.			
 Not Enacted	Arizona	Southwest		
	Environmental justice (EJ) community definitions identify the specific, quantifiable thresholds that designate a geographical area as an EJ community. These definitions account for multiple factors, including both environmental and socioeconomic stressors, that may contribute to persistent environmental health disparities.			
 Not Enacted	Arkansas	Southeast		
	Environmental justice (EJ) community definitions identify the specific, quantifiable thresholds that designate a geographical area as an EJ community. These definitions account for multiple factors, including both environmental and socioeconomic stressors, that may contribute to persistent environmental health disparities.			



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 Enacted	California "Disadvantaged communities" are the 25% highest scoring census tracts from CalEnviroScreen, which includes areas burdened by combinations of poverty, high unemployment, air and water pollution, presence of hazardous wastes, and/or high incidence of asthma and heart disease, as well as all Tribal lands.	West		2012
	Establishing Policies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SB 535 (2012) • SB 535 Disadvantaged Communities 			
 Enacted	Colorado "Disproportionately impacted communities" are census block groups where over 40% of households are low income or non-Hispanic White, 50% of households are housing cost-burdened, 20% are linguistically isolated, and/or those with a history of environmental racism or cumulative environmental health disparities, measured as the 20% highest scoring census tracts in Colorado EnviroScreen or federally-designated disadvantaged communities; the definition also includes all Tribal lands and Mobile Home Communities.	West		2023
	Establishing Policies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HB 21-1266 (2021) • HB 23-1233 (2023) 			



STATUS	STATE	REGION	COMPONENTS	YEAR ENACTED
 Enacted	Connecticut			
	<p>"Environmental justice communities" are census block groups where at least 30% of the population is living below 200% of the federal poverty level, or municipalities that are the most fiscally and economically distressed, based on tax base, personal income, and residents' need for public services.</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CT Gen Stat § 22a-20a (2012) 	Northeast		2012
 Not Enacted	Delaware			
	<p>Environmental justice (EJ) community definitions identify the specific, quantifiable thresholds that designate a geographical area as an EJ community. These definitions account for multiple factors, including both environmental and socioeconomic stressors, that may contribute to persistent environmental health disparities.</p>	Southeast		
 Not Enacted	Florida			
	<p>Environmental justice (EJ) community definitions identify the specific, quantifiable thresholds that designate a geographical area as an EJ community. These definitions account for multiple factors, including both environmental and socioeconomic stressors, that may contribute to persistent environmental health disparities.</p>	Southeast		




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 Not Enacted	Georgia			
	Environmental justice (EJ) community definitions identify the specific, quantifiable thresholds that designate a geographical area as an EJ community. These definitions account for multiple factors, including both environmental and socioeconomic stressors, that may contribute to persistent environmental health disparities.	Southeast		
 Not Enacted	Hawai'i			
	Environmental justice (EJ) community definitions identify the specific, quantifiable thresholds that designate a geographical area as an EJ community. These definitions account for multiple factors, including both environmental and socioeconomic stressors, that may contribute to persistent environmental health disparities.	West		
 Not Enacted	Idaho			
	Environmental justice (EJ) community definitions identify the specific, quantifiable thresholds that designate a geographical area as an EJ community. These definitions account for multiple factors, including both environmental and socioeconomic stressors, that may contribute to persistent environmental health disparities.	West		



STATUS	STATE	REGION	COMPONENTS	YEAR ENACTED
 Enacted	Illinois			
	<p>"Environmental justice communities" are the 25% highest scoring census block groups based on factors including environmental hazards, income, race, health, and other environmental and socioeconomic criteria used by the U.S. EPA's EJScreen; communities are also able to request self-designation as an EJ community.</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 20 ILCS 3855/1-56 (2017) 	Midwest		2017
	Indiana			
 Not Enacted	<p>Environmental justice (EJ) community definitions identify the specific, quantifiable thresholds that designate a geographical area as an EJ community. These definitions account for multiple factors, including both environmental and socioeconomic stressors, that may contribute to persistent environmental health disparities.</p>	Midwest		
	Iowa			
 Not Enacted	<p>Environmental justice (EJ) community definitions identify the specific, quantifiable thresholds that designate a geographical area as an EJ community. These definitions account for multiple factors, including both environmental and socioeconomic stressors, that may contribute to persistent environmental health disparities.</p>	Midwest		




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 Not Enacted	Kansas			
	Environmental justice (EJ) community definitions identify the specific, quantifiable thresholds that designate a geographical area as an EJ community. These definitions account for multiple factors, including both environmental and socioeconomic stressors, that may contribute to persistent environmental health disparities.	Midwest		
 Not Enacted	Kentucky			
	Environmental justice (EJ) community definitions identify the specific, quantifiable thresholds that designate a geographical area as an EJ community. These definitions account for multiple factors, including both environmental and socioeconomic stressors, that may contribute to persistent environmental health disparities.	Southeast		
 Not Enacted	Louisiana			
	Environmental justice (EJ) community definitions identify the specific, quantifiable thresholds that designate a geographical area as an EJ community. These definitions account for multiple factors, including both environmental and socioeconomic stressors, that may contribute to persistent environmental health disparities.	Southeast		




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	Maine			
	"Frontline communities" are defined as those people and communities that experience the consequences of climate change first and to a greater degree than others.			
<div> Enacted</div>	The Department of Environmental Protection must also define "environmental justice populations," taking into consideration, at a minimum, median household income, race, ethnicity, and English language proficiency.	Northeast		2022
	Establishing Policies			
	<div><div></div><div>• LD 2018 (2022)</div></div>			
	Maryland			
	"Overburdened communities" are the 25% highest scoring census tracts in 3 or more of 21 environmental health indicators, related to pollution exposure, proximity to environmental hazards, and health outcomes.			
<div> Enacted</div>	"Underserved communities" are census tracts where at least 25% of residents are low-income, 50% are nonwhite, or 15% have limited English proficiency	Southeast		2022
	Establishing Policies			
	<div><div></div><div>• SB 528 - Climate Solutions Now Act of 2022 (2022)</div></div>			



STATUS	STATE	REGION	COMPONENTS	YEAR ENACTED
 Enacted	Massachusetts "Environmental justice populations" are neighborhoods where the median household income is 65% or less of the statewide median, minorities comprise 40% or more of the population, 25% or more of households lack English proficiency, or minorities comprise 25% of the population and the median household income does not exceed 150%. Establishing Policies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> S.9 - Creating a next-generation roadmap for Massachusetts climate policy (2021) 	Northeast		2021
 Not Enacted	Michigan Environmental justice (EJ) community definitions identify the specific, quantifiable thresholds that designate a geographical area as an EJ community. These definitions account for multiple factors, including both environmental and socioeconomic stressors, that may contribute to persistent environmental health disparities.	Midwest		



STATUS	STATE	REGION	COMPONENTS	YEAR ENACTED
 Enacted	Minnesota "Environmental justice areas" are census tracts where at least 40% of the population is nonwhite, 40% have limited English proficiency, 35% of households have an income of less than 200% of the federal poverty level, or those located within "Indian Country".	Midwest		2023
	"Disadvantaged communities" are communities defined as disadvantaged by the federal agency disbursing federal funds, or as "environmental justice areas" as defined by the state.			
	Establishing Policies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HF 7 (2023) • HF 4942 (2024) 			
 Not Enacted	Mississippi Environmental justice (EJ) community definitions identify the specific, quantifiable thresholds that designate a geographical area as an EJ community. These definitions account for multiple factors, including both environmental and socioeconomic stressors, that may contribute to persistent environmental health disparities.	Southeast		
 Not Enacted	Missouri Environmental justice (EJ) community definitions identify the specific, quantifiable thresholds that designate a geographical area as an EJ community. These definitions account for multiple factors, including both environmental and socioeconomic stressors, that may contribute to persistent environmental health disparities.	Midwest		





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 Not Enacted	Montana Environmental justice (EJ) community definitions identify the specific, quantifiable thresholds that designate a geographical area as an EJ community. These definitions account for multiple factors, including both environmental and socioeconomic stressors, that may contribute to persistent environmental health disparities.	West		
	Nebraska Environmental justice (EJ) community definitions identify the specific, quantifiable thresholds that designate a geographical area as an EJ community. These definitions account for multiple factors, including both environmental and socioeconomic stressors, that may contribute to persistent environmental health disparities.	Midwest		
 Enacted	Nevada "Historically underserved communities" are census tracts where at least 20% of households have limited English proficiency, 50% of households are low-income, or which has a poverty rate of at least 25%; or are communities located on qualified tribal land; or are public schools in which 75% or more of students are eligible for free or reduced-price lunches. Establishing Policies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AB 349 (2021) 	West		2021




STATUS	STATE	REGION	COMPONENTS	YEAR ENACTED
 Not Enacted	New Hampshire	Northeast	Environmental justice (EJ) community definitions identify the specific, quantifiable thresholds that designate a geographical area as an EJ community. These definitions account for multiple factors, including both environmental and socioeconomic stressors, that may contribute to persistent environmental health disparities.	
 Enacted	New Jersey	Northeast	<p>"Overburdened communities" are census block groups where at least 35% of households are low-income, 40% have limited English proficiency, or 40% of residents are minorities or members of a State recognized tribal community.</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N.J.S.A. 13:1D-157 (2020) 	2020
 Enacted	New Mexico	Southwest	<p>"Disproportionately impacted communities" are communities or populations of people for which multiple burdens, including environmental and socioeconomic stressors, inequity, poverty, high unemployment, pollution, or discrimination, may act to persistently and negatively affect their health, well-being, and environment; includes tribal communities, communities of color, low-income rural communities, native people, people of color, women, immigrants, youth, formerly incarcerated people, LGBTQ people, and people with disabilities.</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SB 112 (2021) 	2021




STATUS	STATE	REGION	COMPONENTS	YEAR ENACTED
 Enacted	New York "Disadvantaged communities" are the 35% highest scoring census tracts based on 45 indicators related to environmental burdens, climate change risks, population characteristics, and health vulnerabilities, as well as all tracts containing federally designated reservations or State-recognized Nation-owned land.	Northeast		2019
	Establishing Policies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • S6599 - Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (2019) • Disadvantaged Communities Criteria 			
 Enacted	North Carolina "Underserved populations" are census block groups where (1) at least 50% of residents are non-White or which have a non-White population 10% higher than the county or state share; and (2) where 20% of the population is experiencing poverty and the share of households in poverty is at least 5% higher than the county or state share.	Southeast		2022
	Establishing Policies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental Justice and Equity Advisory Board Charter (2022) 			
 Not Enacted	North Dakota Environmental justice (EJ) community definitions identify the specific, quantifiable thresholds that designate a geographical area as an EJ community. These definitions account for multiple factors, including both environmental and socioeconomic stressors, that may contribute to persistent environmental health disparities.	Midwest		

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 Not Enacted	Ohio Environmental justice (EJ) community definitions identify the specific, quantifiable thresholds that designate a geographical area as an EJ community. These definitions account for multiple factors, including both environmental and socioeconomic stressors, that may contribute to persistent environmental health disparities.	Midwest		
	Oklahoma Environmental justice (EJ) community definitions identify the specific, quantifiable thresholds that designate a geographical area as an EJ community. These definitions account for multiple factors, including both environmental and socioeconomic stressors, that may contribute to persistent environmental health disparities.	Southwest		
 Enacted	Oregon "Environmental justice communities" are communities of color, low-income communities, communities experiencing health inequities, tribal communities, rural, remote, or coastal communities, communities with limited infrastructure, and other communities traditionally underrepresented in public processes and adversely harmed by environmental and health hazards. Establishing Policies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HB 4077 (2022) 	West		2022

STATUS	STATE	REGION	COMPONENTS	YEAR ENACTED
 Enacted	Pennsylvania "Environmental justice areas" are the 20% highest scoring census tracts from PennEnviroScreen, which includes components related to pollution burden, such as environmental exposures and effects, and population characteristics, such as indicators related to health outcomes and socioeconomic factors. Establishing Policies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental Justice Public Participation Policy (2018) 	Northeast		2018
	Rhode Island "Environmental Justice Focus Areas" are census tracts where the median household income is less than 65% of statewide median income, at least 40% of the population are minorities, at least 25% of households lack English proficiency, or at least 25% of the population are minorities and the municipality's median household income does not exceed 150% of statewide median income. Establishing Policies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RIDEM Environmental Justice Policy (2023) 			
	South Carolina Environmental justice (EJ) community definitions identify the specific, quantifiable thresholds that designate a geographical area as an EJ community. These definitions account for multiple factors, including both environmental and socioeconomic stressors, that may contribute to persistent environmental health disparities.			
 Not Enacted		Southeast		

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 Not Enacted	South Dakota	Midwest		
	Environmental justice (EJ) community definitions identify the specific, quantifiable thresholds that designate a geographical area as an EJ community. These definitions account for multiple factors, including both environmental and socioeconomic stressors, that may contribute to persistent environmental health disparities.			
 Not Enacted	Tennessee	Southeast		
	Environmental justice (EJ) community definitions identify the specific, quantifiable thresholds that designate a geographical area as an EJ community. These definitions account for multiple factors, including both environmental and socioeconomic stressors, that may contribute to persistent environmental health disparities.			
 Not Enacted	Texas	Southwest		
	Environmental justice (EJ) community definitions identify the specific, quantifiable thresholds that designate a geographical area as an EJ community. These definitions account for multiple factors, including both environmental and socioeconomic stressors, that may contribute to persistent environmental health disparities.			
 Not Enacted	Utah	West		
	Environmental justice (EJ) community definitions identify the specific, quantifiable thresholds that designate a geographical area as an EJ community. These definitions account for multiple factors, including both environmental and socioeconomic stressors, that may contribute to persistent environmental health disparities.			

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 Enacted	Vermont			
	<p>“Environmental justice focus populations” are census block groups in which the annual median household income is less than 80% of the State median household income, at least 6% of the population are people of color or Indigenous people, or at least 1% of households have limited English proficiency.</p>	Northeast		2022
	Establishing Policies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SB 148 (2022) 			
 Enacted	Virginia			
	<p>"Environmental justice communities" are geographic areas in which the percentage of the population of color is higher than the statewide share, or are census block groups in which at least 30% of the population has an annual household income less than 80% of the area's median income and 200% of the federal poverty level.</p>	Southeast		2020
	Establishing Policies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SB 406 (2020) 			
 Enacted	Washington			
	<p>"Overburdened communities" are areas that (1) receive a 9 or 10 ranking out of 10 on the Washington Environmental Health Disparities (EHD) Map, are census block groups in the 90th percentile on the U.S. EPA's EJScreen, or are on Tribal land; (2) have an elevated level of at least one criteria air pollutant; and (3) meet the threshold for at least one of 8 indicators related to air pollution exposure, health impacts, or vulnerability.</p>	West		2021
	Establishing Policies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RCW 70A.02.010 (2021) 			

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 Not Enacted	West Virginia	Southeast		
	Environmental justice (EJ) community definitions identify the specific, quantifiable thresholds that designate a geographical area as an EJ community. These definitions account for multiple factors, including both environmental and socioeconomic stressors, that may contribute to persistent environmental health disparities.			
 Not Enacted	Wisconsin	Midwest		
	Environmental justice (EJ) community definitions identify the specific, quantifiable thresholds that designate a geographical area as an EJ community. These definitions account for multiple factors, including both environmental and socioeconomic stressors, that may contribute to persistent environmental health disparities.			
 Not Enacted	Wyoming	West		
	Environmental justice (EJ) community definitions identify the specific, quantifiable thresholds that designate a geographical area as an EJ community. These definitions account for multiple factors, including both environmental and socioeconomic stressors, that may contribute to persistent environmental health disparities.			