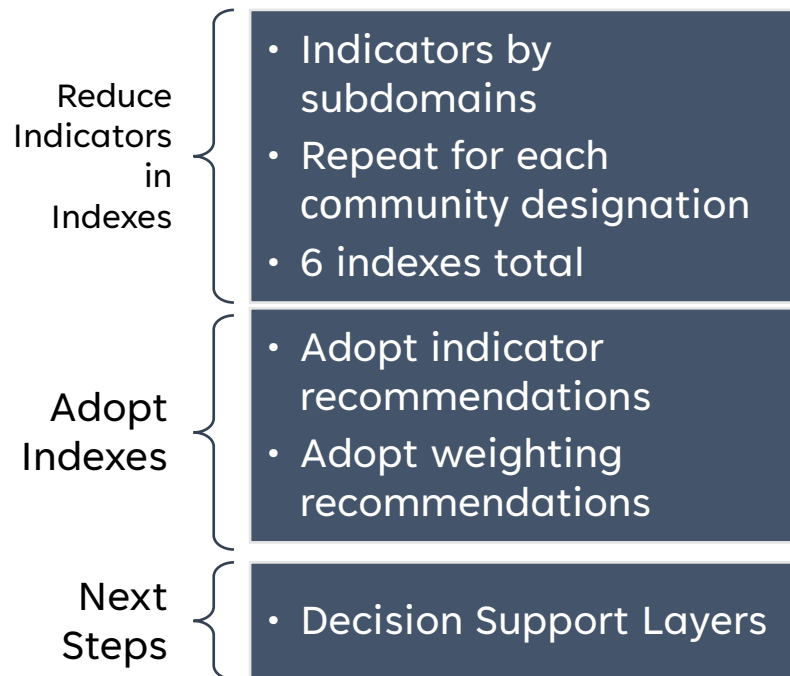




OREGON EJ MAPPING TOOL UPDATES

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE MAPPING TOOL INDEXES OVERVIEW



Indicator Considerations

- EJC adopted [indicator criteria](#)
- Indicator references in [HB 4077](#)
- [Statistical relationship with life expectancy](#)
- Correlation with other indicators
- Variation in indicator scores
- Contribution to the sub-index
- Community input
- Subject matter expert input
- Opportunities to improve conditions

LIFE EXPECTANCY AT BIRTH RESOURCES

The following resources provide additional context about why life expectancy at birth correlation is being used for indicator recommendations.

Life Expectancy at Birth Mapping

[Life Expectancy: Could where you live influence how long you live?](#)

Life Expectancy at Birth Quote: Robert Wood Johnson

When we talk about the opportunity to live a long life, there are a lot of factors at play: we call these **social determinants of health**. In short, these are conditions relating to where people live and work, such as economic status; access to education, employment, and housing; quality healthcare; and food insecurity, among many others. Health starts at home, at school, and at work—sometimes long before any illness appears.

One in five Americans live in neighborhoods with high rates of crime, pollution, inadequate housing, lack of jobs, and limited access to nutritious food. Here are a few ways in which social determinants of health affect these communities:

SUBDOMAINS

The subdomains adopted for the EJMT reflect the definition of “Environmental Justice Communities” in HB4077 and is consistent with other state EJ mapping tools.

Environmental Exposures

Environmental Hazards

Climate Change Risk

Built Environment

Human Health

Demographic & Social Factors

EJMT NEXT STEPS



ENVIRONMENTAL EXPOSURES SUBDOMAIN BY INDEXES

Dropped Indicators

None

Indicator	Statewide
Air Quality Index (AQI) Unhealthy Days	✓
Cancer Risk for Diesel Particulate Matter (PM)	✓
Drinking Water Contaminants Index	✓
Transportation Noise Pollution	✓
Lead Exposure Index	✓
Cancer Risk minus Diesel PM	✓
Permitted Air Pollution Sites	✓
TOTALS BY SUBDOMAIN	7

ENVIRONMENTAL HAZARDS SUBDOMAIN BY INDEXES

Dropped Indicator

Cleanup Sites

Landslide Risk

Indicator	Statewide
Cleanup Sites	—
Earthquake Risk	✓
Groundwater Threats	✓
Hazardous Material Storage	✓
Hazardous Waste Facilities	✓
Impaired Water Bodies	✓
Landslide Risk	—
Residential Buildings in Wildfire Burn Areas	✓
Wastewater Discharge	✓
TOTALS BY SUBDOMAIN	7

DROPPED INDICATOR RATIONALE – ENVIRONMENTAL HAZARDS

Cleanup Sites

- Cleanup Sites are included in Groundwater Threats and are too highly correlated (96% explained) to keep in the EJMT.

Landslide Risk

- The indicator needs to be improved and reevaluated. Landslide Risks only count buildings inside landslide zones. It does not capture travel disruptions caused by landslide related road closures.

CLIMATE CHANGE RISKS SUBDOMAIN BY INDEXES

Dropped Indicators

Extreme Snow Events

Indicator	Statewide
Days Below 32°F	✓
Days with Max Temp $\geq$ 90th Percentile	✓
Drought	✓
Extreme Snow Events	—
Fire Weather Index Events	✓
Flood Risk	✓
Heat Index Days > 90°F	✓
Wildfire Risk	✓
TOTALS BY SUBDOMAIN	7

DROPPED INDICATOR RATIONALE – CLIMATE CHANGE RISKS

Extreme Snow Events

- Extreme snow events are critical drivers of regional hydrology, ecosystem function, and the global climate system. They contribute significantly to annual snowpack and water supply, often over 20-45% in mountainous areas.

BUILT ENVIRONMENT SUBDOMAIN BY INDEXES

Dropped Indicators

Preservation of
Affordable Housing

Indicator	Statewide
Access to Healthcare (Distance to Healthcare)	✓
Community Design Index	✓
Digital Equity / No Internet Access	✓
Food Insecurity	✓
Park Access	✓
Preservation of Affordable Housing	—
Traffic Injuries & Fatalities	✓
Urban Tree Canopy	✓
TOTALS BY SUBDOMAIN	7

Community Design Index combines walkability index, impervious surfaces, and population density.

DROPPED INDICATOR RATIONALE – BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Preservation of Affordable Housing

- Subsidized housing is deeply intertwined with environmental justice by providing shelter to low-income families and individuals. However, subsidized housing is often located near high-pollution areas such as industrial sites and busy transportation corridors. More research is required to determine how affordable housing location and safety addresses environmental justice concerns.

HUMAN HEALTH SUBDOMAIN BY INDEXES

Dropped Indicators

None

Indicator	Statewide
*Cancer Prevalence Excluding Skin Cancer	✓
Diabetes Prevalence	✓
Diseases of the Circulatory System	✓
Diseases of the Respiratory System	✓
Frequent Mental Distress	✓
Populations with a Disability	✓
Preterm Births	✓
TOTALS BY SUBDOMAIN	7

*We are exploring whether cancer mortality can be used to track prevalence because it is a better measure of inequities in access to early screening and quality of treatment.

DEMOGRAPHIC & SOCIAL FACTORS SUBDOMAIN BY INDEXES

Dropped Indicators

Civic Disengagement

Disconnected Youth

Vulnerable Employment

Indicators Requiring

Vote*

Inheritance Proxy

No Vehicle Households

Uninsured Population

Indicator	Statewide
65+ Living Alone (Social Isolation)	✓
Adults Without a College Degree	✓
Below 150% of the Federal Poverty Level	✓
Civic Disengagement	—
Disconnected Youth	—
Inheritance Proxy (Generational Wealth)	*
Limited English Proficiency	✓
No Vehicle Households	*
Population Under 5 Years Old	✓
Uninsured Population	*
Vulnerable Employment	—
TOTALS BY SUBDOMAIN	8

DROPPED INDICATOR RATIONALE – DEMOGRAPHIC & SOCIAL FACTORS

Dropped indicators for any of the subdomains may be considered as a Decision Support layer not tied to any of the indexes.

Civic Disengagement

- Census participation is linked to voting and informal volunteering, such as helping neighbors or community organizing.
- The Methodology WG is not satisfied the link between Census response and civic engagement is strong enough to elevate the indicator above others submitted for the subdomain.

Disconnected Youth

- Disconnected you are frequently from underserved communities and disproportionately face severe environmental risks.
- The relationship between disconnected youth and lower life expectancy is weaker than other indicators submitted for the subdomain.
- Disconnected youth contributes less to the index score than most indicators submitted for the subdomain.

Vulnerable Employment

- Natural resource workers; particularly in agriculture, mining, and forestry; face severe environmental justice concerns, including disproportionate exposure to toxic chemicals, hazardous working conditions, and climate-related health risks.
- The relationship between vulnerable employment and lower life expectancy is weaker than most indicators submitted for the subdomain.
- Vulnerable employment contribute less to the index score than other indicators submitted for the subdomain.

SUPPORT FOR INDICATORS REQUIRING EJ COUNCIL VOTE DEMOGRAPHIC & SOCIAL FACTORS

Inheritance Proxy (Ability to Accumulate Generational Wealth)

- Generational wealth and environmental justice are deeply intertwined, as historical disinvestment and systemic racism have left marginalized communities with high pollution burdens, fewer health resources, and diminished ability to build transferable assets.
- Green gentrification with limited opportunities to transfer wealth creates an “environmental paradox” where communities finally gain environmental improvements, only to be forced out by the resulting higher cost of living.

No Vehicle Households

- Access to a car in the United States is critical to finding employment and commuting to work, going to school, seeing doctors, or simply getting groceries.
- Low-income communities often face a "double burden": higher exposure to traffic-related air pollution and limited access to reliable transportation.
- Low-income residents rely more on walking, biking, and public transit, yet this group experiences a disproportionate number of traffic-related injuries and fatalities.

Uninsured Population

- Uninsured populations are disproportionately concentrated in low-income, minority communities that face higher exposure to environmental hazards like pollution and toxic sites. This intersection creates a cycle where these communities have higher rates of chronic illness, such as cancer, and reduced access to healthcare.
- Higher rate of health insurance is strongly correlated with longer life expectancy ($r^2 = 0.46$).

EJ MAPPING TOOL DEMOGRAPHIC & SOCIAL FACTORS ADOPTION PROCESS



Motion to Adopt Demographic
& Social Factors subdomain
with desired two indicators

- 1: Inheritance Proxy
- 2: No Vehicle Households
- 3: Uninsured Population



Second Motion



Debate

Amendments can be made by
motion and seconding the
amendment motion



Motion to Close Debate



Vote

EJ MAPPING TOOL DEMOGRAPHIC & SOCIAL FACTORS INDICATOR ADOPTION



Mike Oxendine motioned to Adopt
Demographic & Social Factors
subdomain in the Statewide Index
with the two indicators:

- 1: Inheritance Proxy**
- 2: Uninsured Population**



Nikita Vincent seconded the Motion



Debate

No amendments made



Aparna Rajagopal-Durbin motioned to close
debate which was seconded by J'reyesha Brannon



Motion Passed

EJ MAPPING TOOL STATEWIDE INDEX ADOPTION PROCESS



Motion to Adopt Statewide Index



Second Motion



Debate

Amendments can be made by
motion and seconding the
amendment motion



Motion to Close Debate



Vote

EJ MAPPING TOOL STATEWIDE INDEX ADOPTION MOTION



J'reyesha Brannon motioned to Adopt Statewide Index.



Mike Oxendine seconded the motion



Debate

No amendments or debate



Motion to Close Debate



Motion passed

EJMT ENGAGEMENT

Here is a list of EJ Mapping Tool events and meetings since 4/1/2026 with upcoming events included.

4/1/2026

Columbia River Gorge
Commission

Staff Engagement

4/20/2026

African American/Black
Resilience Breakfast hosted
by Beyond Toxics

*Listening session
information collected

4/22/2026

Northwest Portland Area
Indian Health Board Staff
Briefing

5/15/2026

Oregon Climate Action
Commission Presentation
(Public Meeting)

Upcoming 5/29/2026

Coalition of Communities of
Color Energy Convening
(Internal to CCC only)

Tentative Early June

State Agency
Air Quality EJMT Briefing
(State Agencies only)

EJMT ENGAGEMENT NEXT STEPS

Listening sessions are available for any organization willing to host a meeting.

Presentations are led by EJMT leads with an opportunity for participants to share how they would like the tool to be used.

EJMT
Presentation
Invitation

- EJC members, State Agencies, and others invite EJMT staff to present at listening sessions

Host
Listening
Sessions

- Hosting organizations will provide participant accommodations and invite participants for EJMT presentation and information gathering

Report Out
Findings

- EJMT staff will report out on EJMT listening session results from listening session activities
- Activity results are collected through virtual survey requesting information about EJMT usage.

BEYOND TOXICS LISTENING SESSION

Beyond Toxics served as the host for the April 20, 2026 listening session in Eugene, Oregon.

PRO Regional
Resilience
Forum
Collaboration

- EJC staff presented to the PRO Regional Resilience Forums inviting partnerships with CBOs to host listening sessions

Beyond Toxics
Invitation

- Beyond Toxics staff reached out to EJMT staff regarding presenting at their African American/Black Resilience breakfast

Listening
Session Co-
development

- Beyond Toxics and EJMT staff codeveloped the listening session presentation and participant feedback mechanism (MS Forms)

Participant
Recruitment
and Hosting

- Beyond Toxics secured a space and catering for the listening session and invited their participants
- EJC Member Nikita Vincent was already on their invitation list

Report Out
Findings

- EJMT staff reported out EJMT listening session results from listening session activities via email to the EJC
- Activity results are collected through virtual survey requesting information about EJMT usage.

RESOURCES

[EJ Mapping Tool project page](#)

[Adopted Decision Points](#)

[Indicator Selection Criteria](#)

[EJMT Indicator Subdomain Comparisons as of 4/8/2026](#)

[Hot Spot Analysis DRAFT as of 3/31/2026 – Statewide](#)

[Hot Spot Analysis DRAFT as of 3/31/2026 – Coastal](#)

[Hot Spot Analysis DRAFT as of 3/31/2026 – Remote](#)

[Hot Spot Analysis DRAFT as of 3/31/2026 – Rural](#)

[Hot Spot Analysis DRAFT as of 3/31/2026 – Small City](#)

[Hot Spot Analysis DRAFT as of 3/31/2026 – Large City](#)



THANK YOU

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