Oregon EJ Mapping Tool Decision Points

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Decision Points: Why are they important?

Composite indices are complex and there are many options for the EJ Council to choose from that will determine how the Oregon EJ Mapping Tool is structured and how the information is displayed.



HB 4077, sections 10-12 include language that will help guide the EJ Council through the decision-making process, but the content leaves a lot of room for flexibility.



All environmental justice mapping tools get evaluated, critiqued, and scrutinized. Therefore, it is important to have a rationale that supports each decision made in the development of the Oregon EJ Mapping Tool.

DECISION POINTS 1-10

• Data standardization (percentiles, z- Indicator domain selection #1 #6 scores, other) Geographic units (tracts, grids, • Indicator selection - community listening session priorities and data gaps etc.) #7 #2 Geographic designations • Sensitivity analysis results - revisit Geographic comparisons indicator selection and data gaps #3 #8 Domain/indicator weighting • EJ community thresholds/flags #4 #9 Domain aggregation • EJ mapping tool visualizations & (multiplicative, additive, etc.) reporting #5 #10

April 11, 2024

Domain Selection

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE MAPPING DECISION POINT 1

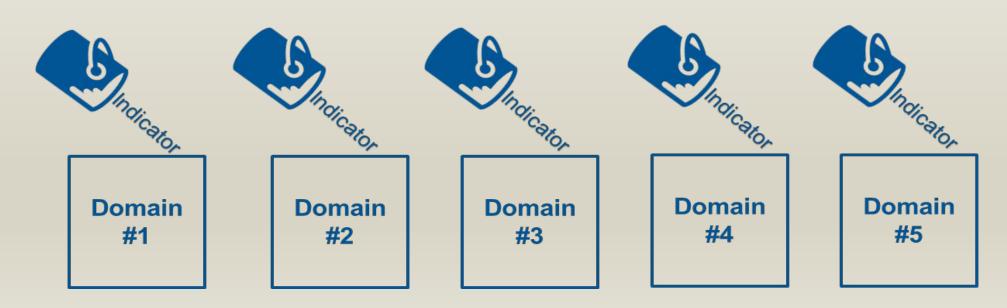
ADOPTION DATE: APRIL 11, 2024

APRIL 11, 2024 RECORDING LINK

DECISION POINT #1: INDICATOR DOMAIN SELECTION

Why use indicator domains?

- Establish criteria for selecting indicators
- Control indicator weighting
- Flag content areas driving the index score



CalEnviroScreen/ Washington EHD Map/ MiEJScreen

Pollution Burden

- Environmental Exposures
- Environmental Effects

Population Characteristics

- Sensitive Populations
- Socioeconomic Factors

Colorado EnviroScreen

Pollution Burden

- Environmental Exposures
- Environmental Effects
- Climate Vulnerability

Population Characteristics

- Sensitive Populations
- Socioeconomic Factors

DECISION POINT #1: INDICATOR DOMAIN SELECTION

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HB 4077, Section 10:

- 1. XXXX
- 2. "Environmental burden" means the environmental and health risks to communities caused by the combined historic, current and projected future effects of
 - a. Exposure to conventional pollution and toxic hazards in the air or in or on water or land;
 - b. Adverse environmental conditions caused or made worse by other contamination or pollution; and
 - c. Changes in the environment resulting from climate change, such as water insecurity, drought, flooding, wildfire, smoke and other air pollution, extreme heat, loss of traditional cultural resources or foods, ocean acidification and increases in infectious disease.
- 3. "Environmental justice" means the equal protection from environmental and health risks, fair treatment and meaningful involvement in decision making of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, immigration status, income or other identities with respect to the development, implementation and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations and policies that affect the environment in which people live, work, learn and practice spirituality and culture.
- 4. "Environmental justice community" includes communities of color, communities experiencing lower incomes, communities experiencing health inequities, tribal communities, rural communities, coastal communities, communities with limited infrastructure and other communities traditionally underrepresented in public processes and adversely harmed by environmental and health hazards, including seniors, youth and persons with disabilities.

DECISION POINT #1: INDICATOR DOMAIN SELECTION

The Environmental Justice Mapping Tool Methodology Workgroup recommends the following indicator domains and subdomains:

Oregon Environmental Justice Mapping Tool

Place (Community Burdens & Benefits)

- Environmental Exposures
- Environmental Effects
- Climate Change Risks
- Built Environment

People (Vulnerable Populations & Opportunities)

- Human Health Disparities
- Demographic and Social Factors

Methodology Rationale:

The domains are intentionally broad, and the structure is easy for users to follow.

DECISION POINT #1: INDICATOR DOMAIN SELECTION

Environmental exposures, toxic hazards, climate change risks, human health, demographics and social factors, and community benefits are directly mentioned HB 4077.

The built environment is indirectly mentioned in HB 4077 in the definition of EJ communities as "communities with limited infrastructure."

Oregon natural resources agencies whose primary focus is the built environment will be better equipped to contribute to and use the EJ Mapping Tool with the inclusion of a built environment subdomain.

Federal grants from the Inflation Reduction Act and Bipartisan Infrastructure Law prioritize built environment investments that advance environmental justice in communities, improve health and equity, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

ADOPTED DECISION POINT 1

Oregon Environmental Justice Mapping Tool

Place (Community Burdens & Benefits)

- Environmental Exposures
- Environmental Effects
- Climate Change Risks
- Built Environment

People (Vulnerable Populations & Opportunities)

- Human Health Disparities
- Demographic and Social Factors