



What is a Disadvantaged Community?

Community Change Grants can only be awarded to projects that benefit a disadvantaged community. EPA defines a disadvantaged community as a community that meets at least one of the following:

1 A geographically defined community labeled as disadvantaged on the [EPA IRA Disadvantaged Communities Map](#). More instructions on how to use the map are below.

2 A community that falls into one of the two following categories:



A farmworker community comprised of individuals with no fixed work address, who travel from their permanent residence to work in agriculture on a temporary or seasonal basis. Verification documentation from an authorizing governmental body or through similar means is required for this category.



A Disadvantaged Unincorporated Community (DUC), which is defined as a place that lacks fixed boundaries and shares common characteristics and conditions (for example, absence of permanent water, sewer services, or acceptable housing). This includes all areas defined as [Colonias](#) by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Applicants can direct any questions on DUC verification to CCGP@epa.gov.

Out of the \$2 billion in funding, \$650 million will give priority to applications from five Target Investment Areas (TIA) EPA has identified to help ensure that communities with unique circumstances, geography, and needs can equitably compete for funding. The five TIAs are shown below.



\$50M

Disadvantaged
Unincorporated
Communities



\$150M

Tribes in
Alaska



\$300M

Tribal
Communities
(lower 48 states)



\$100M

Southern Border
Communities

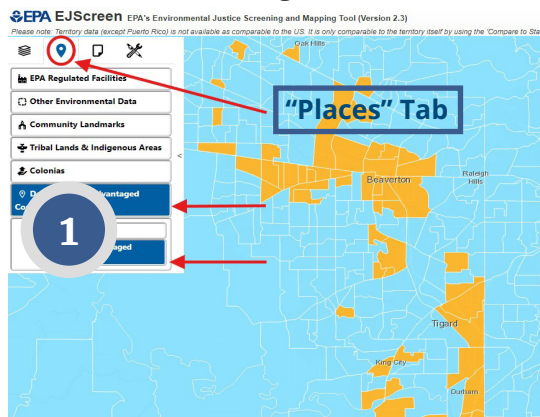


\$50M

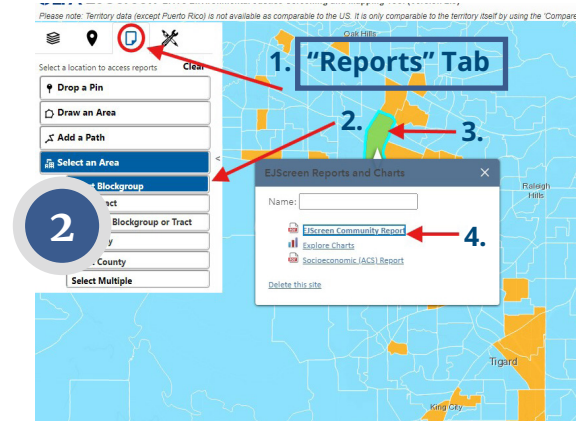
U.S.
Territories

How to Use the EPA IRA Disadvantaged Communities Map

The following map and instructions may be used by CCG Track I and Track II applicants to confirm their project will help a disadvantaged community and to learn more about why the community is considered disadvantaged.



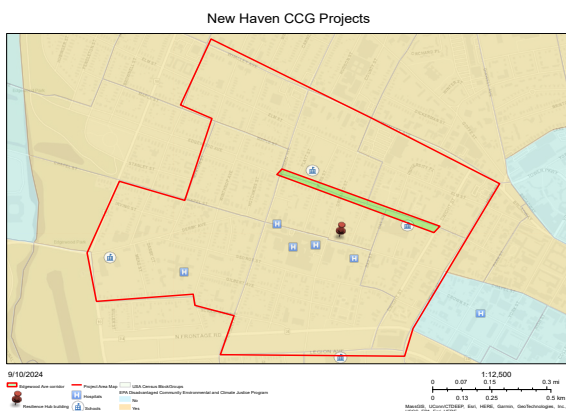
1. Within EJScreen, EPA's IRA Disadvantaged Community layer is located under the "Places" tab. Click the "Designated Disadvantaged Communities" category, and then select "EPA IRA Disadvantaged Communities." A menu will pop up in the top right. Unclick "EPA IRA Data 2.0" and click on "EPA Disadvantaged Communities Environmental and Climate Justice Program".



2. To learn more about what makes the community disadvantaged, generate an EJScreen community report. Click the "Reports" tab and then "Select an Area" and then "Select Block Group" or "Select Multiple." Click on the disadvantaged community, and when the pop-up appears, select "EJScreen Community Report."

Track I Application – Project Area Map

Track I applications must submit a Project Area Map that defines which specific census block groups are designated as disadvantaged within the Project Area. Project Area Maps are not required for Track II applications, but can be a useful addition. A Project Area Map should include:



1. The Project Area with an outlined boundary.
2. Main streets, landmarks, or both.
3. Community assets (e.g., parks or play areas, schools, community center).
4. Jurisdictional boundaries, including incorporated and unincorporated areas.
5. Any other attributes that may provide important context about the Project Area.

For instructions on creating a Project Area Map, read Appendix A of the NOFO or watch the "Defining Disadvantaged Communities" webinar, found here: <https://communitychangeta.org/videos>.



For further questions regarding disadvantaged communities mapping, please contact EJ_TechAssist@epa.gov or call 1(800) 540-8123.

For questions regarding the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO), please contact CCGP@epa.gov.



<http://bit.ly/CCGTA>