Background

Imperial County extends over 4,284 square miles in the southeastern corner of California. It is bordered on the south by Mexico, on the east by Arizona, on the west by the Coyote and Fish Creek Mountains (which are in San Diego County), and on the north by Riverside County. The Salton Trough runs approximately northwest to southeast through the center of the County and extends into Mexico. The elevation in Imperial County ranges from about 230 feet below sea level at the Salton Sea in the north to more than 2,800 feet on the mountain summits to the east.

Imperial County's population is about 184,500 and its principal industries are farming and retail trade. Most of the population, farming, and retail trade exist in a band of land that, on average, comprises less than one-fourth the width of the County, stretching from the south shore of the Salton Sea to the Mexican border. It is non-attainment for Ozone, PM10, and PM2.5.

Air District Recommendation

Based on the air quality history in the Imperial County, the Imperial County Air Pollution Control District (Air District) is recommending the City of Westmorland and the City of Calexico as part of the Community Air Protection Program.

As part of the Air District recommendation requirements, an initial technical assessment was conducted using CalEnviroScreen 3.0 to support the Air District's recommendation to include the Westmorland and Calexico SB 535 Disadvantaged Communities as part of the AB 617 Community Air Protection Program. The CalEnviroScreen 3.0 tool calculates the Cumulative Impacts of census tracks within these communities by using the pollution burden and population characteristics. Furthermore, the Cumulative Impact of each census track compared to the rest of the State of California's census tracks and the results are given on a percentile basis. The higher the percentile the higher the Cumulative Impact of the area as compared to the rest of the state.

The Westmorland Disadvantaged Community encompasses six census tracks with an average Cumulative Impact in the 81 to 85 percentile as compared to the rest of the State of California. As seen in Table 1 below.

Table 1.

Westmorland Disadvantaged Community					
Census Track	Population	Percentile			
6025010102	5007	81 - 85			
6025010200	2640	81 - 85			
6025010300	933	81 - 85			
6025010400	7162	86 - 90			
6025010500	6593	76 - 80			
6025010700	4322	76 - 80			

Note: Total Population is 26,657 (6 Census tracts)

Imperial County Air Pollution Control District April 30, 2018

The Calexico Disadvantaged Community encompasses nine census tracks with an average Cumulative Impact in the 86 to 90 percentile as compared to the rest of the State of California. As seen in Table 2 below.

Table 2.

Calexico Disadvantaged Community						
Census Track	Population	Percentile				
6025011100	3685	86 - 90				
6025011300	10460	86 - 90				
6025011400	4580	96 - 100				
6025011500	6232	91 -95				
6025011600	6310	86 - 90				
6025011900	10966	86 - 90				
6025012001	3831	76 - 80				
6025012100	6937	86 - 90				
6025012200	7804	91 -95				

Note: Total Population is 60,805 (9 census tracks)

Westmorland Description

Westmorland is located in the Imperial Valley in Southeastern California, is a small community sits along state Highway 86 with a population of approximately 2,014 residents. Westmorland is 12 miles south of the Salton Sea, 87 miles southeast of Palm Springs, 122 miles east of San Diego, 192 miles southeast of Los Angeles, 261 miles west of Phoenix, Arizona, and 31 miles north of Mexicali, Mexico.

Westmorland is surrounded by Residential and agricultural areas which lie within 33 feet and 1,312 feet of the monitoring site. The 2010 Census recorded a 2,225 population and the median household income is \$27,083. The income inequality of Westmorland, CA (measured using the Gini index) is 0.509 which is higher than the national average. In 2016, the unemployment rate in the City of Westmorland was of 16% versus the unemployment rate of 5.6% in the State of California. In addition, residents with income below the poverty level in 2016 was 34.9% versus 19.1% in the state of California.

The Air quality in Westmorland (zip 92281), California is 55 on a scale to 100 (higher is better). This is based on new measures of hazardous air pollutants from the EPA, called the National Air Toxics Assessment. This analysis models respiratory illness and cancer risk down to the zip code level, providing better detail and insight than the previous analysis based solely on results from air monitoring stations.

Monitoring Station

The Westmorland monitoring station was installed in 1994 and commenced measuring ozone in 1998. Located below sea level, its absolute location is latitude 33° 1' 57" and longitude 115° 37' 25". Its relative location is 570 Cook Street in Westmorland. The site is the second northernmost station within the Imperial County monitoring network. Residential and agricultural areas lie within 10 meters and 400 meters of the site, respectively. The site originally monitored both O3 and PM10 concentrations, but in November 2012, the station experienced an electrical fire and the O3 monitor was placed out of commission.

Calexico Description

Calexico is about 122 miles (196 km) east of San Diego and 62 miles (100 km) west of Yuma, Arizona. Calexico shares a border with the densely populated city of Mexicali, Mexico. Most of the population, commercial activity, and farming operations occur in this relatively narrow land area comprising approximately one-fourth the width of the county.

The area contains relatively few major emission sources, but may experience significant vehicular traffic, particularly near Calexico, given proximity to an international port entry into the United States. Emission sources consist of geothermal power generation, food processing, plaster manufacturing, and other light industrial facilities. Imperial Valley agriculture produces a variety of crops including hay, vegetables, and dairy products. Beyond the urban and rural areas of Imperial County are large expanses of open desert and the Salton Sea with little human activity.

According to the 2016 Census, Calexico has a population of 40,232 and the unemployment rate in the City of Calexico was of 25.1% versus the unemployment rate of 5.5% in the State of California. In addition, residents with income below the poverty level in 2016 was 34.9% versus 19.1% in the state of California. Median household income in Calexico in 2016 was \$40,067 where as in California it was \$67,739.

Monitoring Station

The Calexico-Ethel monitoring station was installed in 1994 and is operated and maintained by CARB. Located above sea level, it has an absolute location of latitude 32°40' 34" and longitude 115° 28' 59". Its relative location is 1029 Belcher Street within the property boundary on the southeast corner of the Calexico High School football field parking lot. To the north is located an athletic sports field used for football, baseball, and track. The monitoring station is surrounded by a suburban neighborhood directly to the south, southeast, and southwest and is approximately 0.75 miles (1.2 kilometers) directly north of the international border crossing. The site currently records measurements for ozone (O3), CO, NO2, SO2, PM2.5, PM10, Pb, and toxics.

Imperial County Air Pollution Control District April 30, 2018

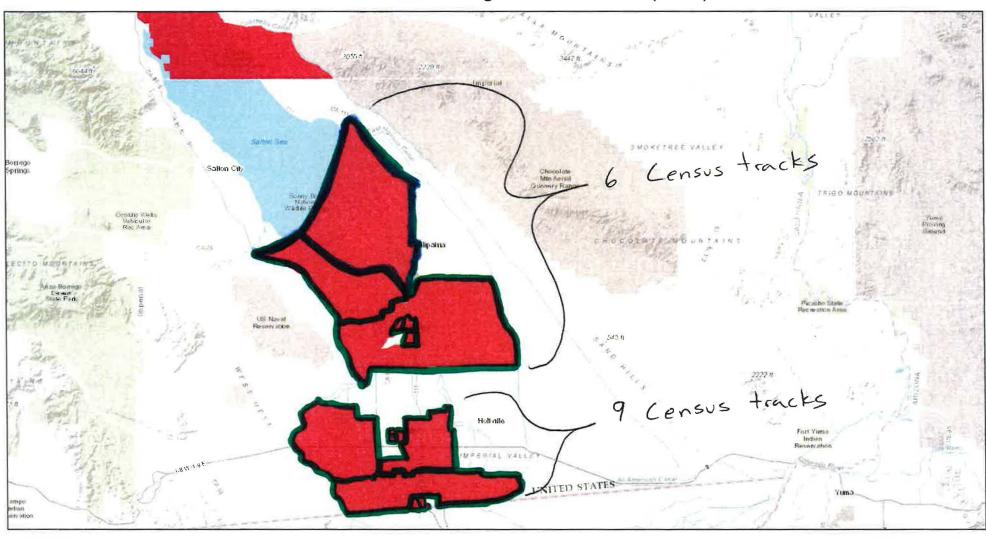
Air District Relationships and Outreach

The Air District maintains a good relationship with the Imperial County Board of Director's, City Mayors, City Active leaders, and Environmental group leaders as these members are key stakeholders in Advisory Committee, Technical Committees, and Air District Committees in general. As outreach approach, the Air District maintains an updated list server where all stakeholders and the community are informed of Air District current events. The Air District will also utilized media (radio and television), workshops, local newspapers, and public meetings to disseminate all information for the Community Air Protection recommendations for 2018. Once the recommendations are final, the Air District will notify the community and key stakeholders by going to the Air District Board and announcing the outcome and next steps.

The Westmorland and Calexico areas have already been identified by SB 535 as Disadvantage Communities. By selecting these areas as part of the AB 617 Community Air Protection Program, the Air District will do its part to identify options to lower the overall pollution burden of these areas. The end result will be that various environmental entities will work together to reduce the overall Cumulative Impacts of the Westmorland and Calexico areas.

Attachments to follow.

SB 535 Disadvantaged Communities (2017)*



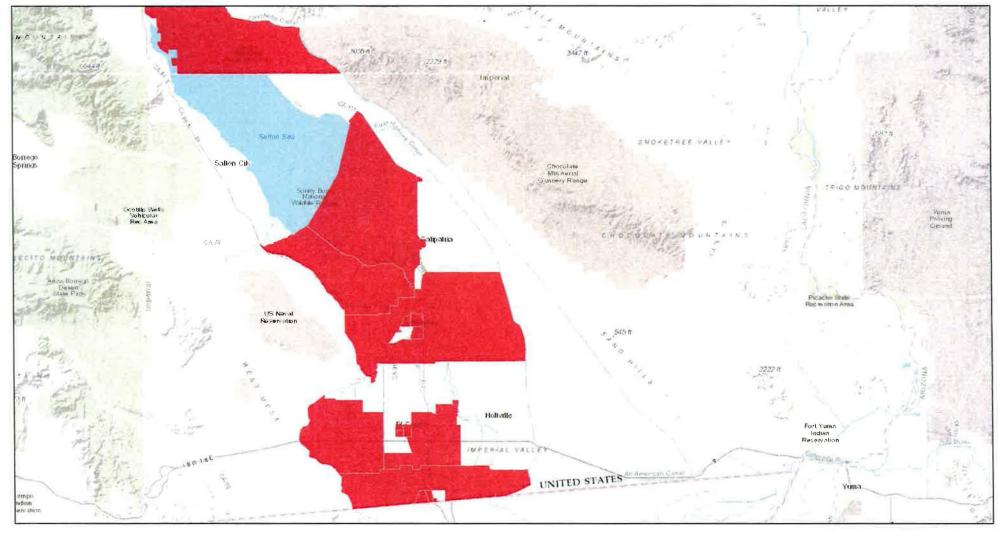
April 27, 2018

* Those census tracks falling within the highest 25 percent of CalEnviro Screen Scores,

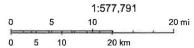


Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, Intermap, increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBase, IGN, Kadasler NL, Ordnance Survey, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), swisstopo, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community

SB 535 Disadvantaged Communities (2017)



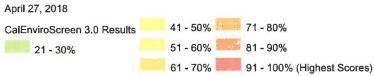
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Imperial Air District CalEnviroScreen 3.0 Results



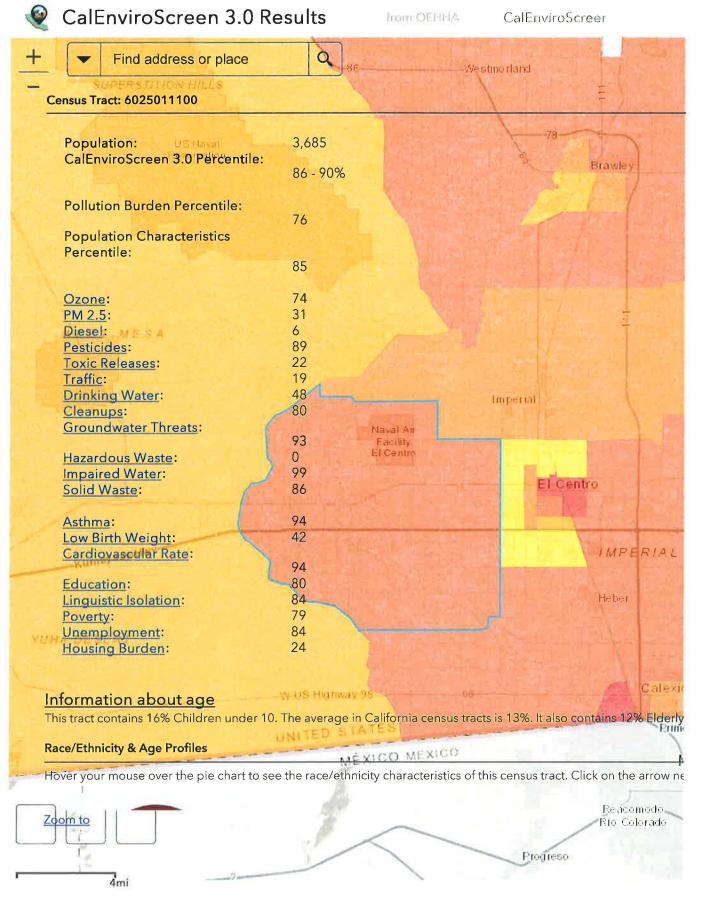


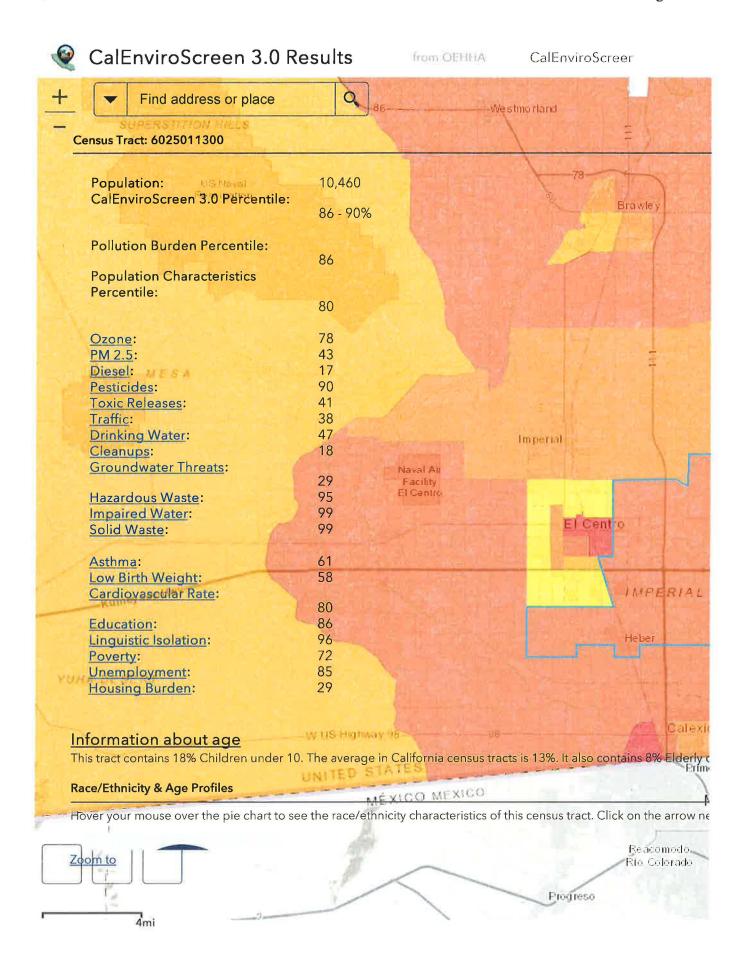


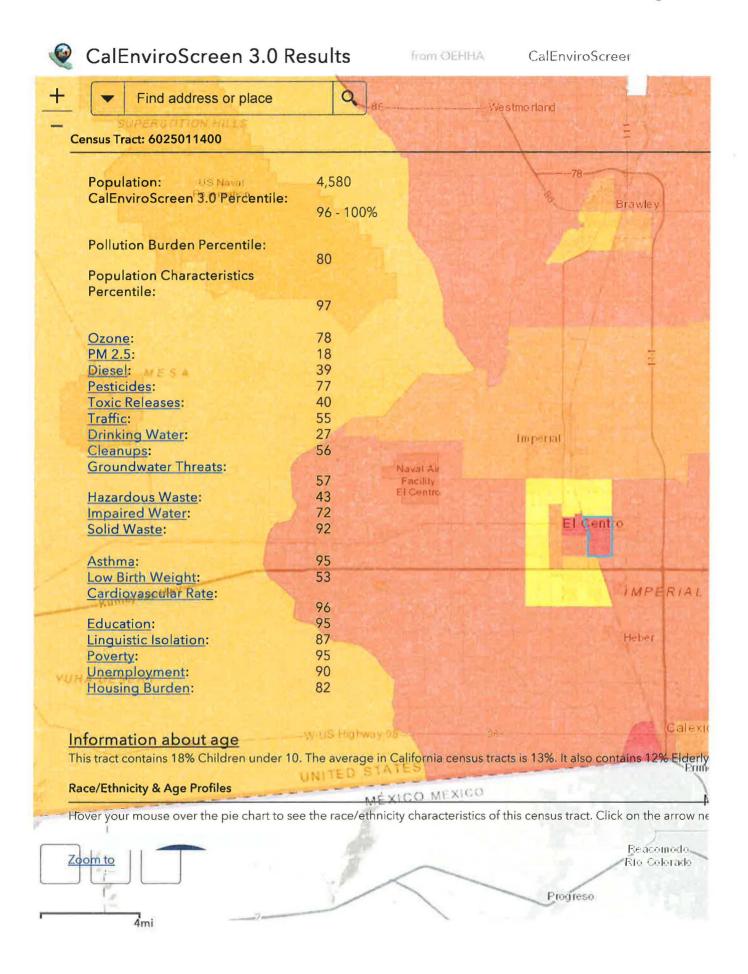
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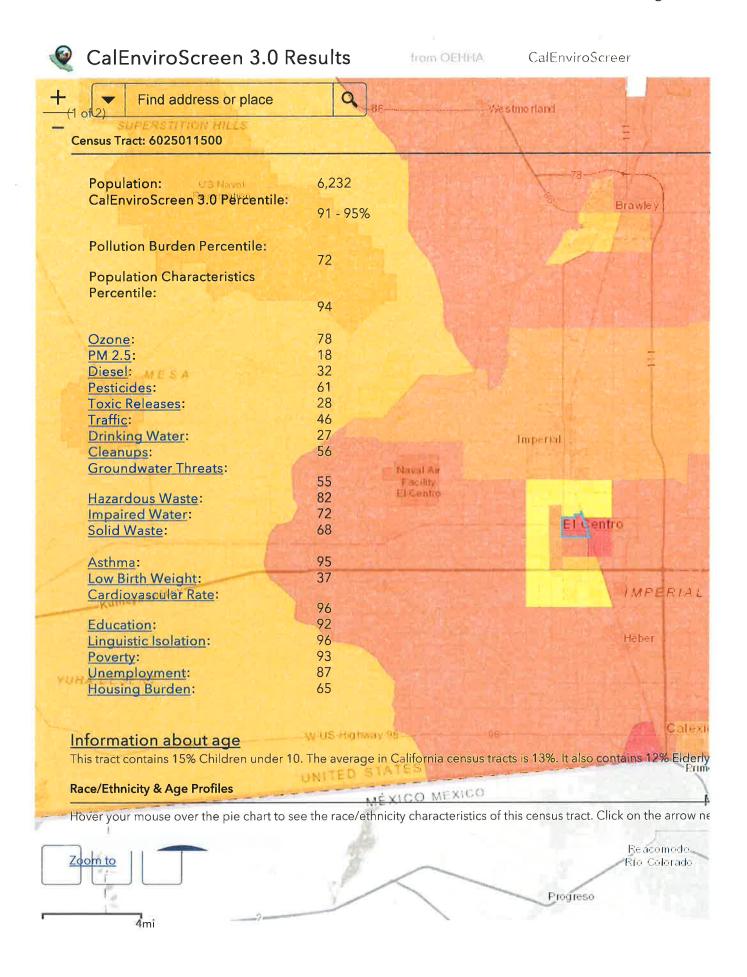
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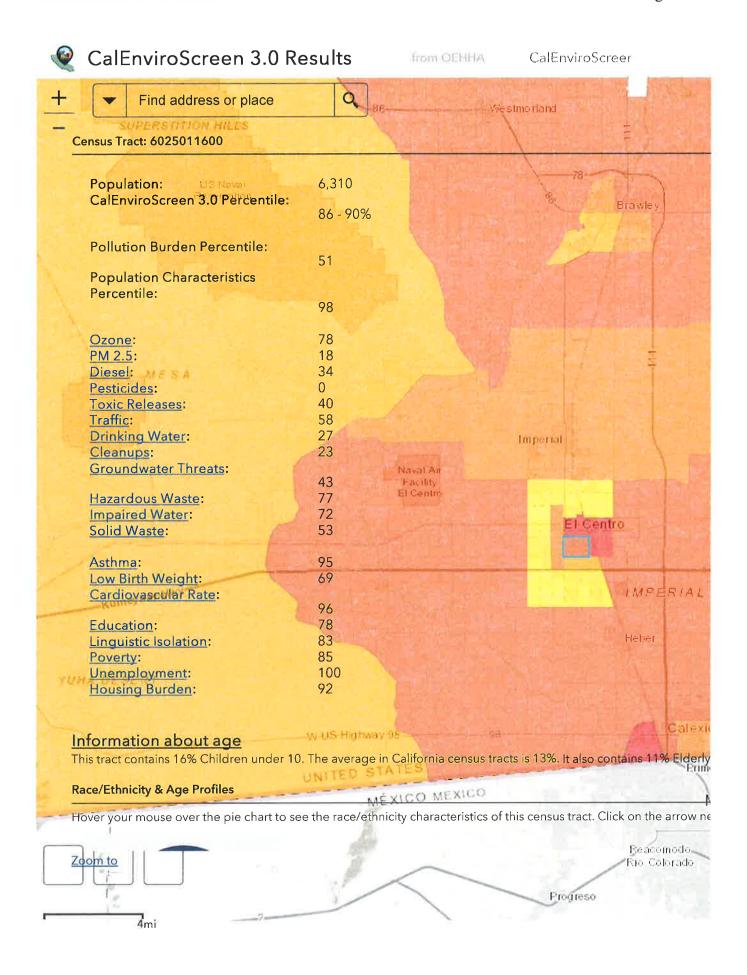


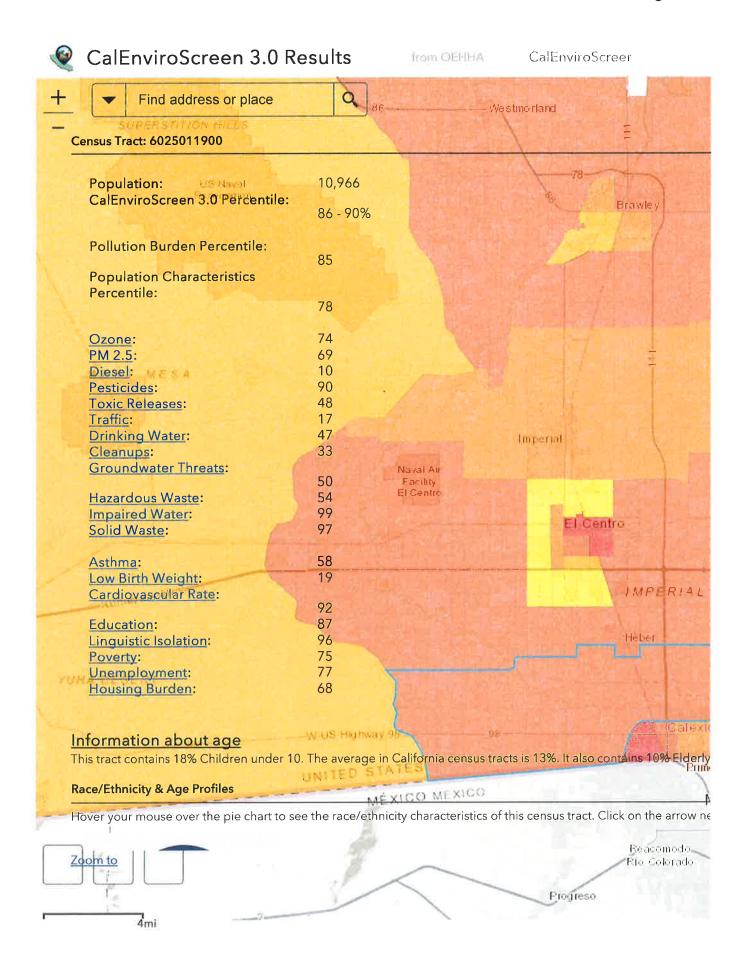


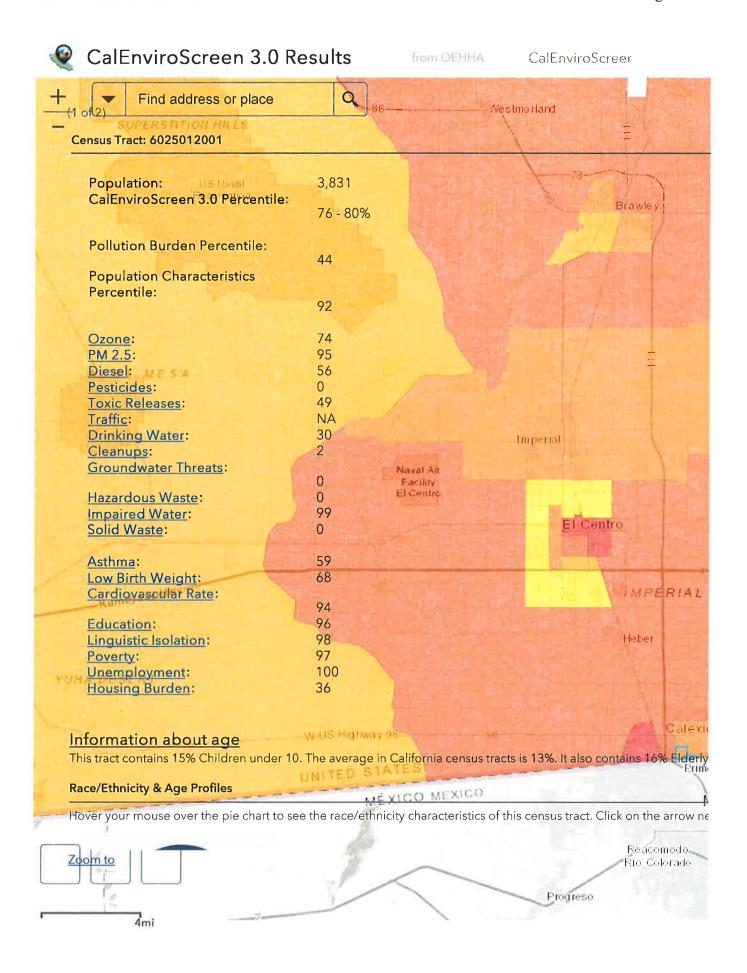


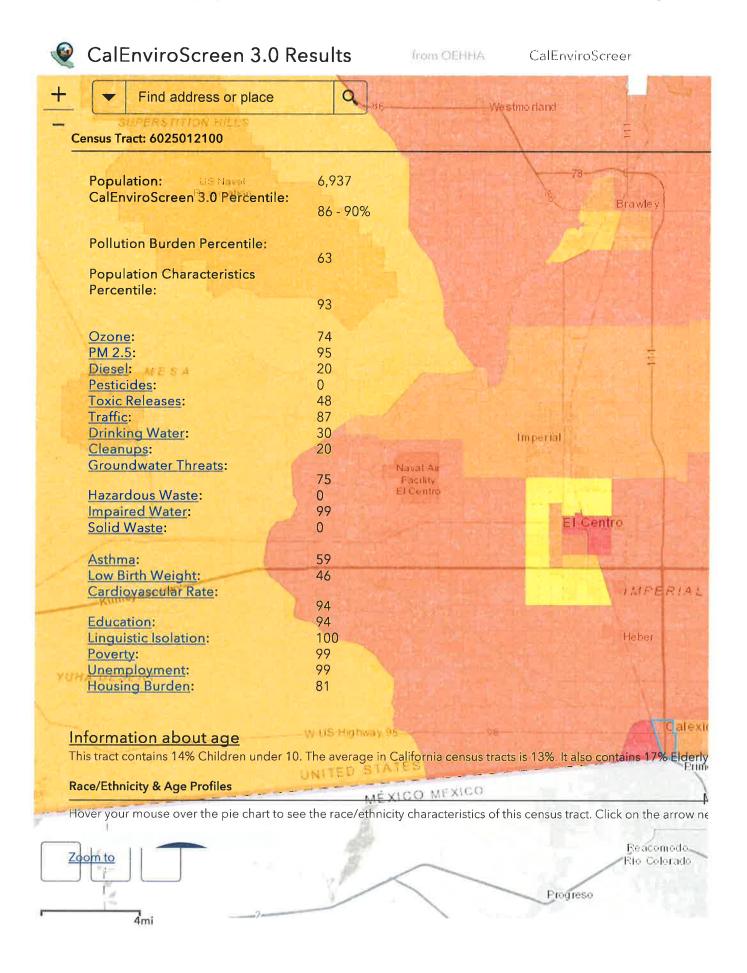


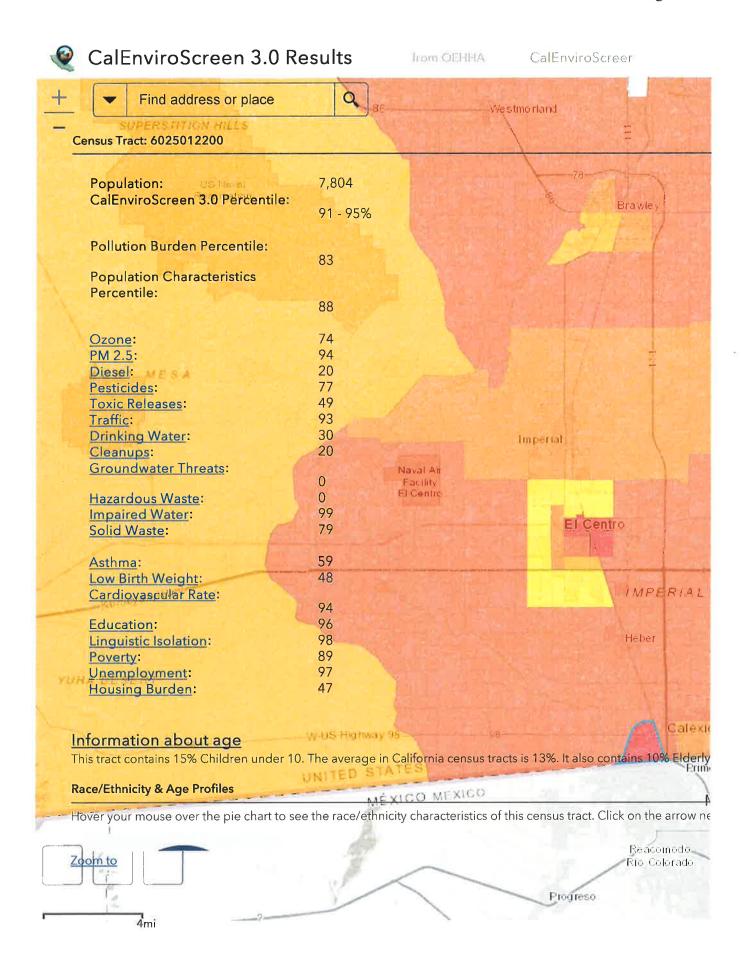




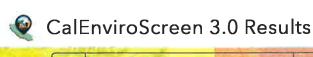








Westmorland



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