

Planning Sustainable Rural Transportation Systems



*Environmental Justice Considerations
In Transportation & Sustainability
Planning*

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Planning Sustainable Rural Transportation Systems



- The PTRC
- Environmental Justice
- The Data
- Our Methodology

- Practical Applications
 - Transportation
 - Sustainability
- What's Next?

The Piedmont Triad Regional Council

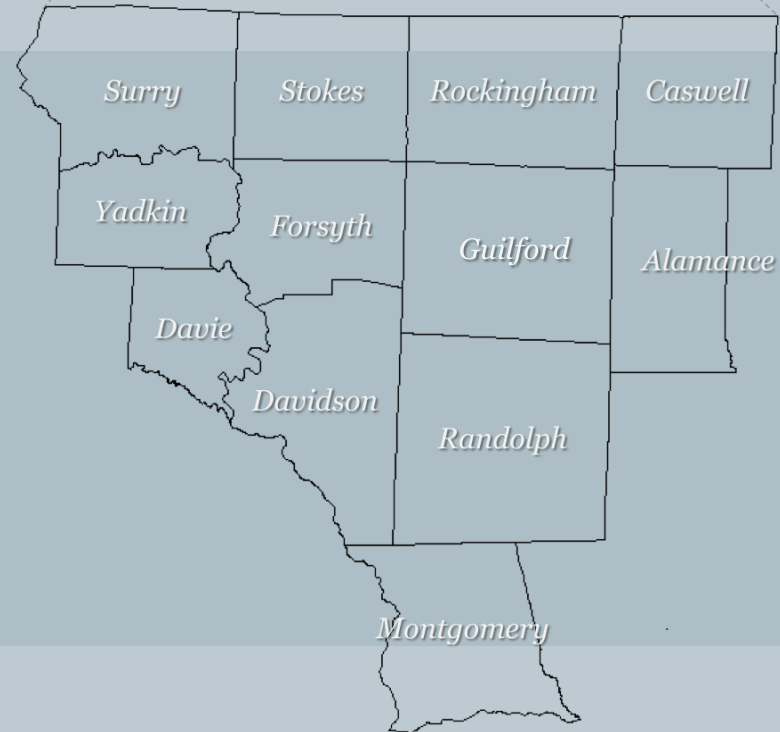
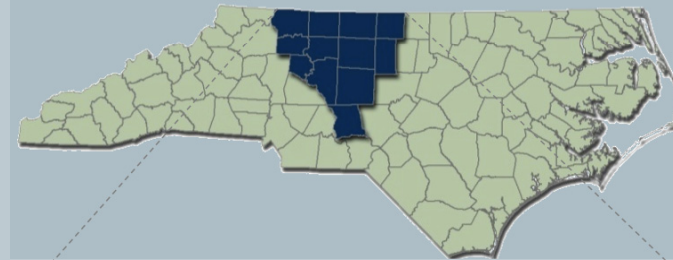


New & Improved Region

- Established in 1968
 - Re-formed July, 2011
 - 72 Member Governments

Coordination is Key

- 4 Highway Divisions
- 4 MPOs
- 2 RPOs
- 1.6 million citizens
 - 16% of NC population



Defining Environmental Justice



Framework of Federal Law & Policies

- Title VI Civil Rights Act (1964)
- National Environmental Policy Act (1969)
- Civil Rights Restoration Act (1987)
- Executive Order 12898 (1994)
- DOT Order on Environmental Justice (1997)
- FHWA Order on Environmental Justice (1999)

Evolving to Meet Contemporary Expectations

Defining Environmental Justice



"Each Federal agency shall make achieving environmental justice part of its mission by identifying and addressing, as appropriate, disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects of its programs, policies, and activities on minority populations and low-income populations."

- Executive Order 12898, 1994

Key Principles

- Avoid, minimize & mitigate disproportionate effects
- Encourage participation in decision-making process
- Prevent denial or delay of project benefits



Identifying Vulnerable Populations

Data Sources

Decennial Census

*American
Community
Survey*

LEHD Survey

EPA

State

Primary Data

- Population
- Income
- Poverty
- Race & ethnicity

Secondary Data

- Age
- Educational attainment
- Linguistic isolation
- Head of household
- Households without a vehicle
- Proximity to environmental risk
- Health & wellness data





Our Methodology

Select the Data

- *Source, time frame*

Select the Geography

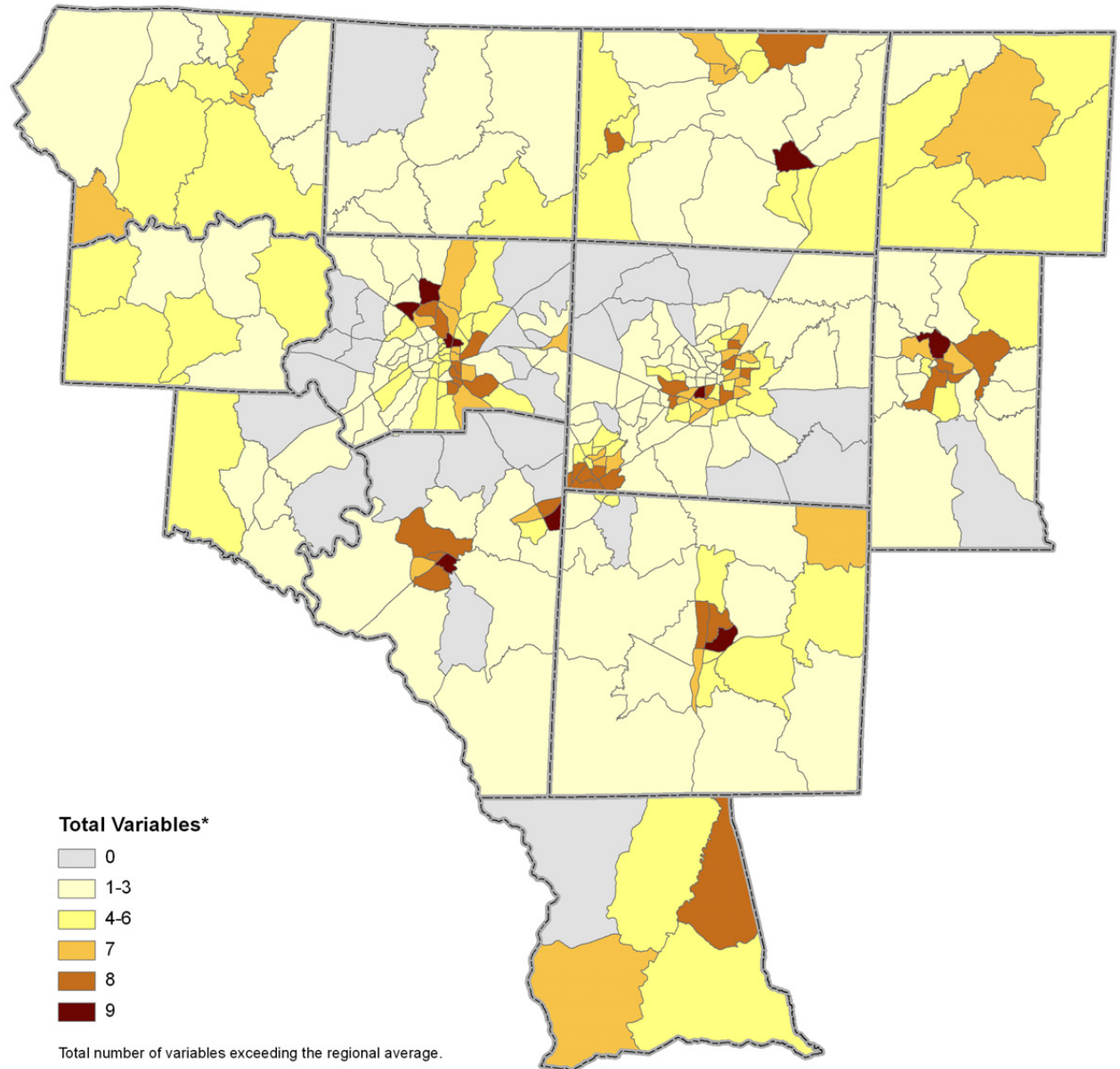
- *Tract vs. Block vs. Block Group*

Calculate Averages

- *County vs. Region*

Analyze & Map

- *Patterns?*



Practical Applications

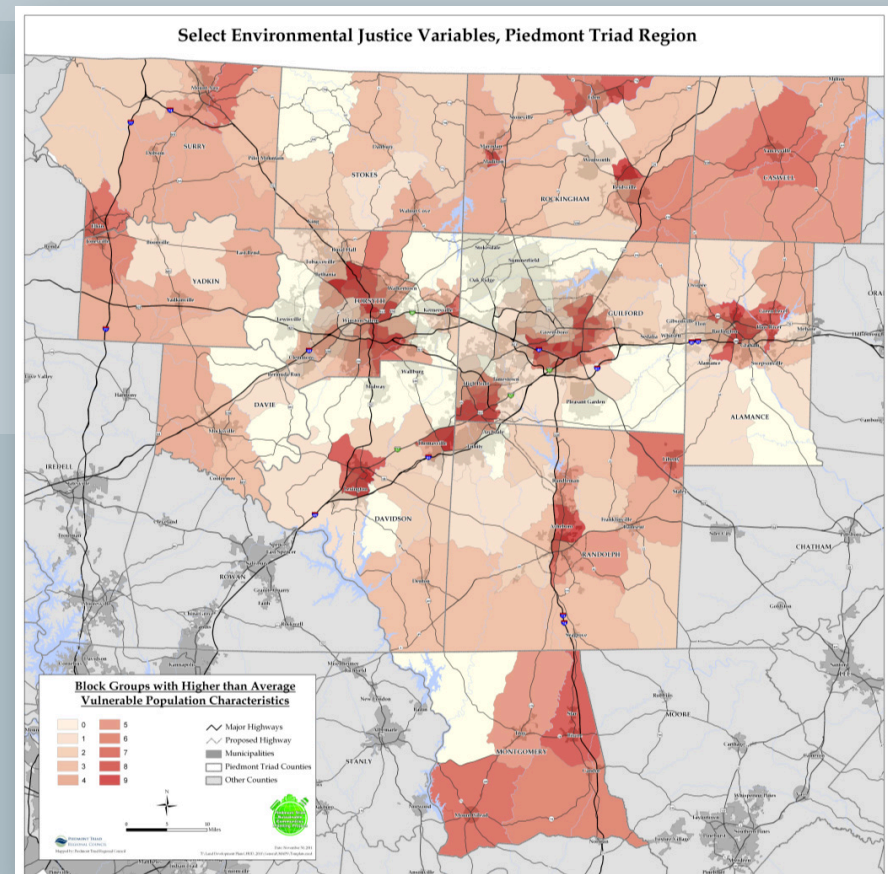


Transportation

- Multi-modal Comprehensive Plans
- Locally Coordinated & Transit Development Plans
- Project Prioritization
- Project Development & Permitting

Sustainable Communities

- Target Public Outreach
- Identify & Prioritize 'Sustainability Centers'
- Supporting Regional Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing





What's Next?

Updating...

- Maps
- Reports

Expanding...

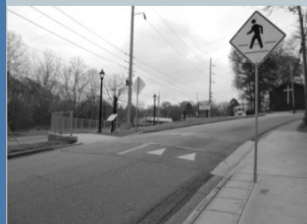
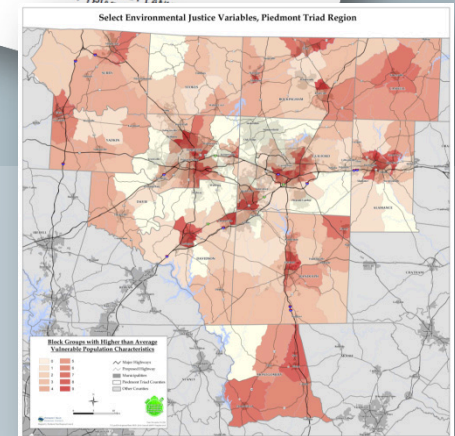
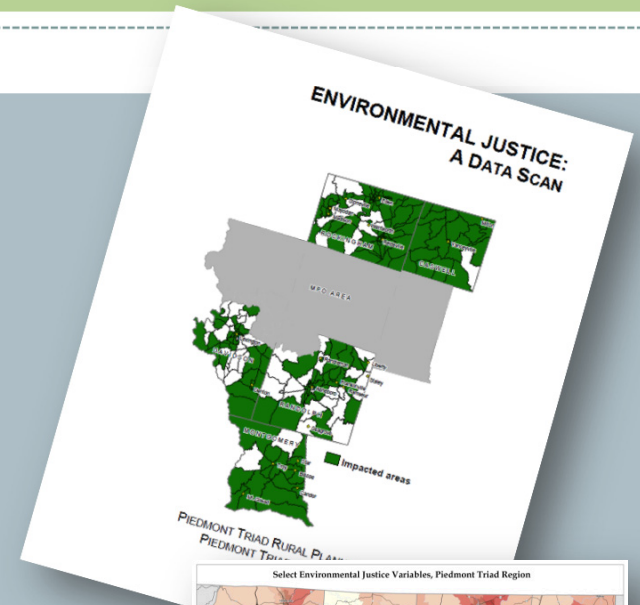
- Data
- Methodology
- Applications

Sharing...

- Interactive mapping

Facts are stubborn things, but statistics are more pliable.

- Mark Twain



Thank You!



PIEDMONT TRIAD REGIONAL COUNCIL

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