

The Social Vulnerability Index and Louisiana Region 4



Planning for Vulnerable Populations

SVI Overview

- Every community must prepare for and respond to hazardous events, whether a natural disaster like a tornado or disease outbreak, or a human-made event such as a harmful chemical spill.
- Factors, including poverty, lack of access to transportation, and crowded housing may weaken a community's ability to prevent human suffering and financial loss in a disaster. These factors are known as **social vulnerability**

What is the SVI?



- CDC created databases to help emergency response planners and public health officials identify and map communities that will most likely need support before, during, and after a hazardous event.
- SVI uses U.S. Census data to determine the social vulnerability of every census tract. Census tracts are subdivisions of counties/parishes.
- The SVI ranks each tract on 16 social factors and groups them into four(4) related themes.
- Each tract is “mapped” and receives a separate ranking for each of the four themes, as well as an overall ranking.

SVI Themes

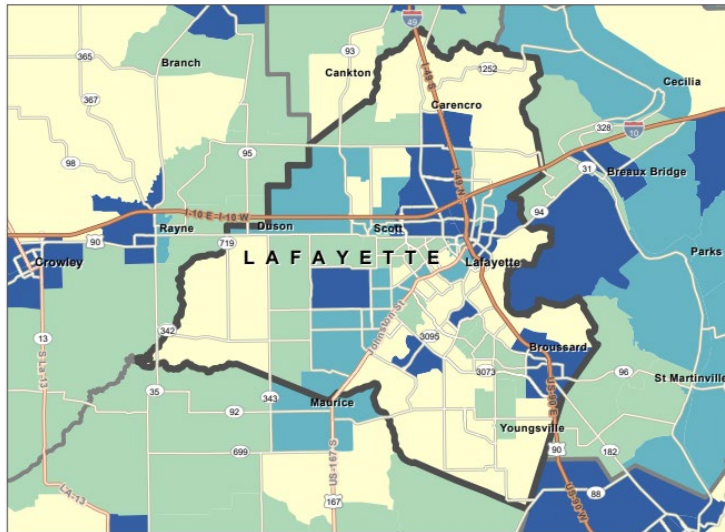
- **Socioeconomic Status:**
 - Poverty, Unemployed, Per Capita Income, No High School Diploma
- **Household Composition/Disability:**
 - Aged 65 and Over, Aged 17 and Younger, Single-parent Household, Aged 5 and over with a Disability.
- **Race/Ethnicity/Language:**
 - Minority, English Language Ability
- **Housing/Transportation:**
 - Multi-unit, Mobile Homes, Crowding, No Vehicle, Group Quarter

Example – Lafayette Parish

Overall Ranking

CDC/ATSDR Social Vulnerability Index 2020
LAFAYETTE PARISH, LOUISIANA

Overall Social Vulnerability¹



Legend: Highest (Top 4th), Vulnerability (SVI 2020), Lowest (Bottom 4th), Data Unavailable³



Social vulnerability refers to a community's capacity to prepare for and respond to the stress of hazardous events ranging from natural disasters, such as tornadoes or disease outbreaks, to human-caused threats, such as toxic chemical spills. The **CDC/ATSDR Social Vulnerability Index (CDC/ATSDR SVI 2020)** County Map depicts the social vulnerability of communities, at census tract level, within a specified

county. CDC/ATSDR SVI 2020 groups **sixteen census-derived factors** into **four themes** that summarize the extent to which the area is socially vulnerable to disaster. The factors include economic data as well as data regarding education, family characteristics, housing, language ability, ethnicity, and vehicle access. Overall Social Vulnerability combines all the variables to provide a comprehensive assessment.

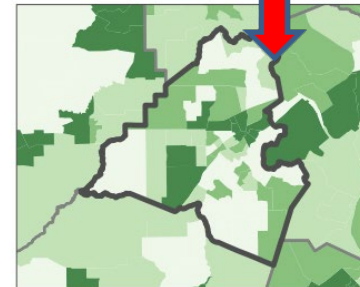
4 Themes Ranked

CDC/ATSDR SVI 2020 – LAFAYETTE PARISH, LOUISIANA



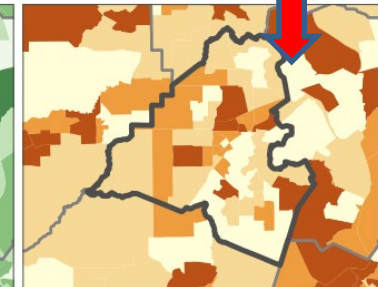
CDC/ATSDR SVI Themes

Socioeconomic Status⁵



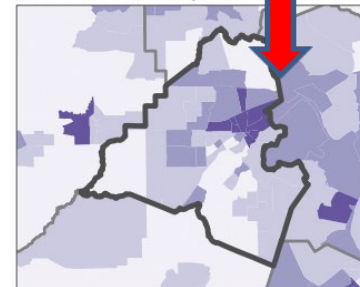
Legend: Highest (Top 4th), Vulnerability (SVI 2020), Lowest (Bottom 4th)

Household Characteristics⁶



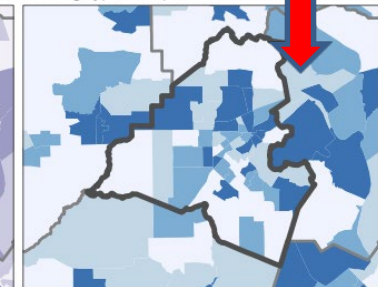
Legend: Highest (Top 4th), Vulnerability (SVI 2020), Lowest (Bottom 4th)

Racial and Ethnic Minority Status⁷



Legend: Highest (Top 4th), Vulnerability (SVI 2020), Lowest (Bottom 4th)

Housing Type/Transportation⁸



Legend: Highest (Top 4th), Vulnerability (SVI 2020), Lowest (Bottom 4th)

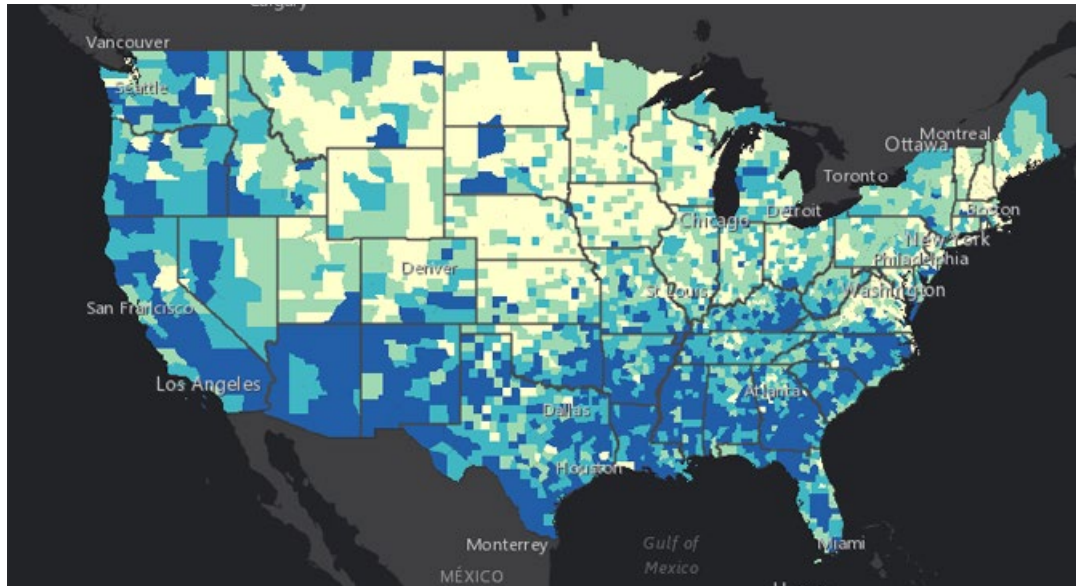
Data Sources: ¹CDC/ATSDR/GRASP, U.S. Census Bureau, Esri® StreetMap™ Premium.
Notes: Overall Social Vulnerability: All 16 variables. ²Census tracts with 0 population. ³The CDC/ATSDR SVI combines percentile rankings of US Census American Community Survey (ACS) 2016-2020 variables, for the state, at the census tract level. ⁴Socioeconomic Status: Below 150% Poverty, Unemployed, Housing Costs Burden, No High School Diploma, No Health Insurance. ⁵Household Characteristics: Aged 65 and Older, Aged 17 and Younger, Civilian with a Disability, Single-Parent Household, English Language Proficiency. ⁶Race/Ethnicity: Hispanic or Latino (of any race); Black and African American, Not Hispanic or Latino; American Indian and Alaska Native, Not Hispanic or Latino; Asian, Not Hispanic or Latino; Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander, Not Hispanic or Latino; Two or More Races, Not Hispanic or Latino. ⁷Housing Type/Transportation: Multi-Unit Structures, Mobile Homes, Crowding, No Vehicle, Group Quarters.
Projection: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 15N.
References: Flanagan, B.E., et al., A Social Vulnerability Index for Disaster Management. *Journal of Homeland Security and Emergency Management*, 2011. 8(1).
CDC/ATSDR SVI web page: <https://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/placeandhealth/svi/index.html>.

SVI Can Factor into:

- Allocate emergency preparedness funding by community need.
- Estimate the amount and type of needed supplies like food, water, medicine, and bedding.
- Decide how many emergency personnel are required to assist people.
- Identify areas in need of emergency shelters.
- Create a plan to evacuate people, accounting for those who have special needs, such as those without vehicles, the elderly, or people who do not understand English well.
- Identify communities that will need continued support to recover following an emergency or natural disaster.

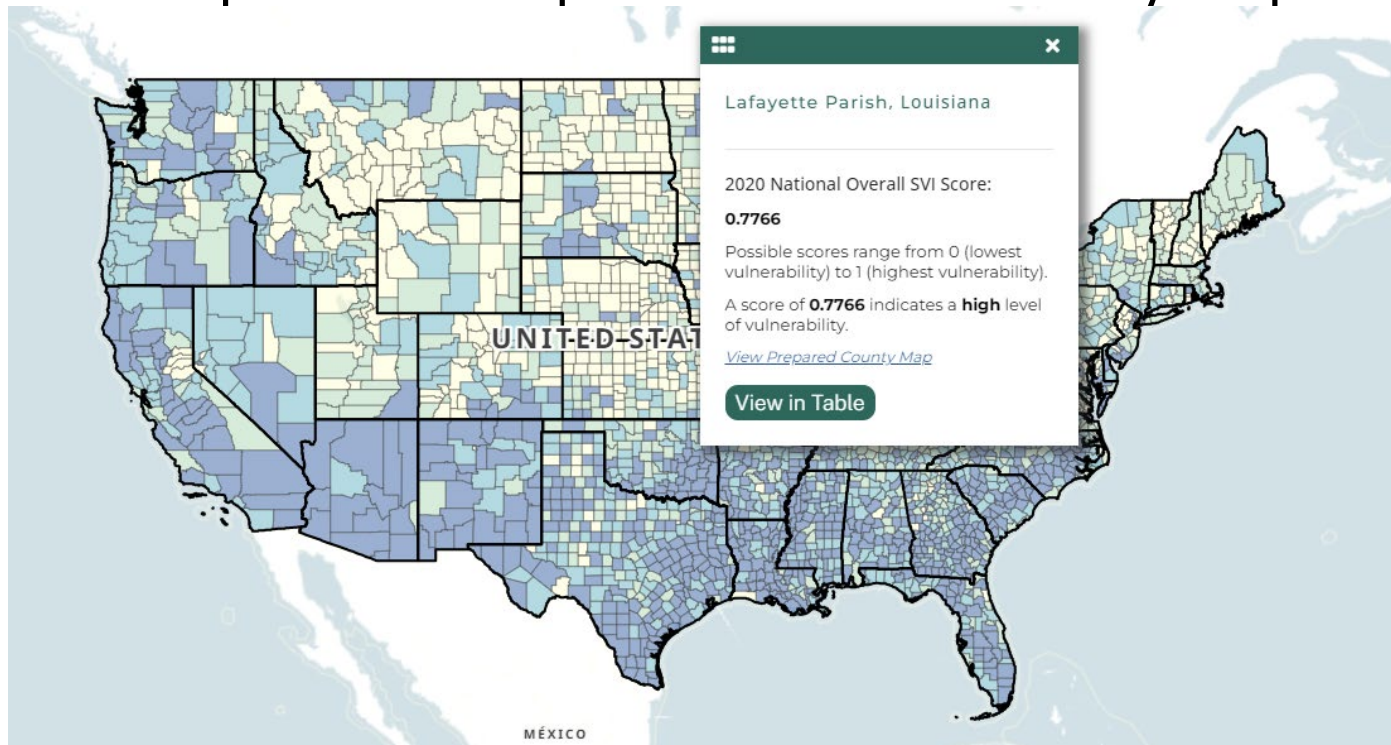
Accessing SVI

- Home page <https://svi.cdc.gov/>



Navigating

- Go to...
 - <https://svi.cdc.gov/> > Prepared County Maps >
 - Complete the drop-downs > View County Map



Region 4 - SVI by Parish

- Acadia
 - https://svi.cdc.gov/Documents/CountyMaps/2020/Louisiana/Louisiana2020_Acadia.pdf
- Evangeline
 - https://svi.cdc.gov/Documents/CountyMaps/2020/Louisiana/Louisiana2020_Evangeline.pdf
- Iberia
 - https://svi.cdc.gov/Documents/CountyMaps/2020/Louisiana/Louisiana2020_Iberia.pdf
- Lafayette
 - https://svi.cdc.gov/Documents/CountyMaps/2020/Louisiana/Louisiana2020_Lafayette.pdf
- St Landry
 - https://svi.cdc.gov/Documents/CountyMaps/2020/Louisiana/Louisiana2020_St.%20Landry.pdf
- St Martin
 - https://svi.cdc.gov/Documents/CountyMaps/2020/Louisiana/Louisiana2020_St.%20Martin.pdf
- Vermillion
 - https://svi.cdc.gov/Documents/CountyMaps/2020/Louisiana/Louisiana2020_Vermillion.pdf