

# Environmental Justice



**ENVIRONMENTAL  
QUALITY**

**WASTE MANAGEMENT & RADIATION CONTROL**

# What is it?

Environmental justice is the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people

with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies

and the equitable distribution of environmental benefits.



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& RADIATION CONTROL**

# What is it?

Fair treatment: no group of people bears a disproportionate share of negative consequences from industrial, governmental, and commercial operations or policies.



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# What is it?

## Meaningful involvement:

- \* People have an opportunity to participate in decisions about activities that may affect their environment and/or health
- \* The public's contribution can influence the regulatory agency's decision
- \* Community concerns will be considered in the decision-making process
- \* Decision-makers will seek out and facilitate the involvement of those potentially affected.



# UDEQ

EPA established goal in 2022-2026 Strategic Plan to take decisive action to advance EJ concepts in programs, policies, and activities

UDEQ EJ committee

DAQ applying for grants



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# Environmental Justice Populations

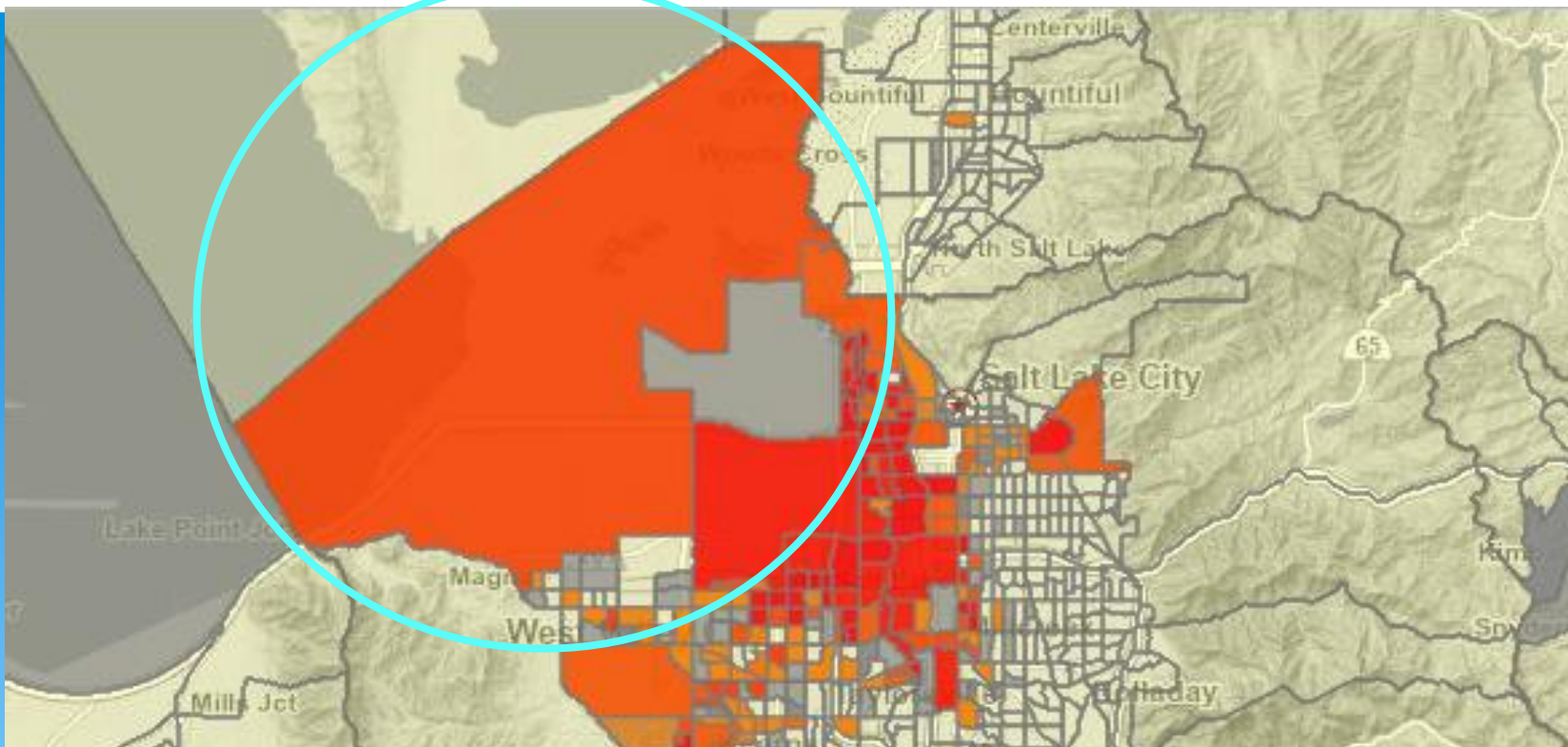
- \* UDEQ still establishing thresholds – likely 80%
- \* Indexes considered:
  - \* People of color
  - \* Low income
  - \* Unemployment
  - \* Language
  - \* Education level
  - \* Age
- \* Prioritize areas above the threshold for multiple indexes

UDEQ interactive map: <https://enviro.deq.utah.gov/>

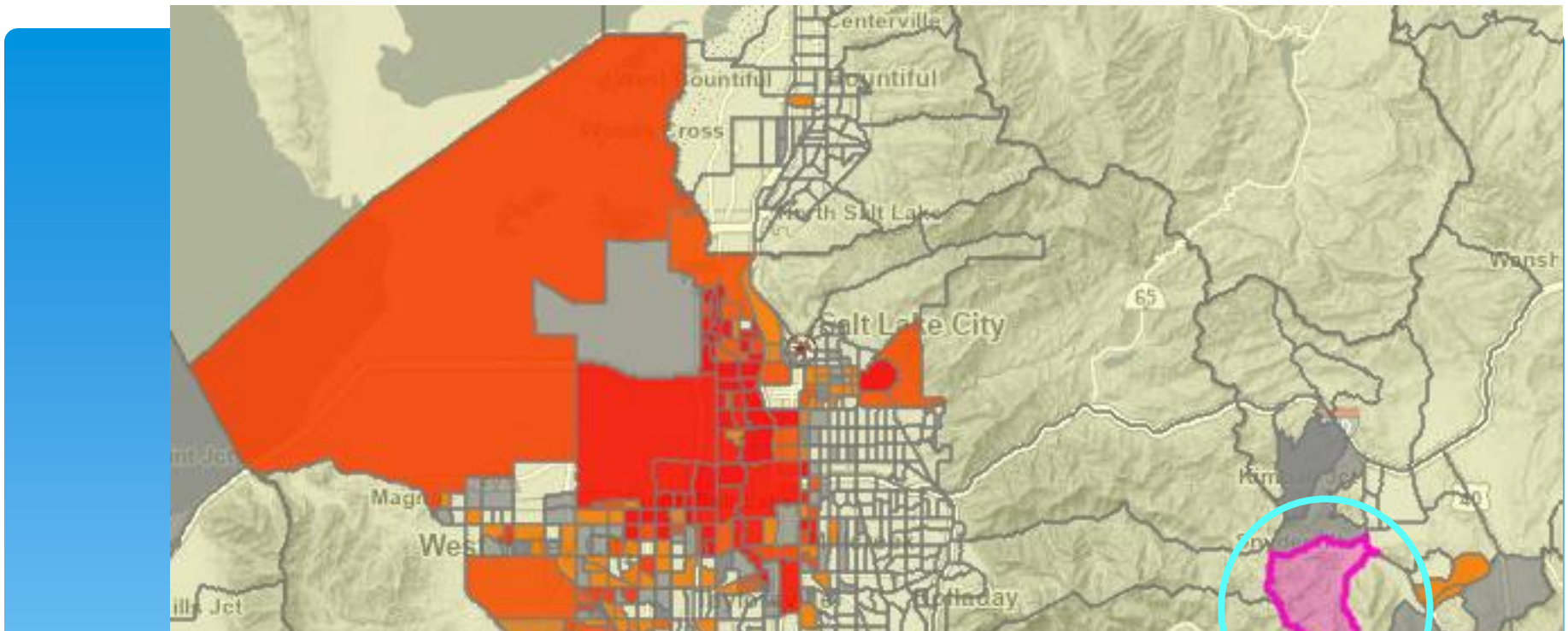


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Census Block Group	490351139061
EJ Indicator	Primary EJ Index: TSDF Sites (%ile)
EJ Index	92%ile
Hazardous Waste Proximity	1.1 facilities/km distance (73%ile)
Demographic Index	47% (91%ile)
People of Color	47% (90%ile)
Low Income	47% (86%ile)
Less than High School Education	23% (93%ile)
Linguistic Isolation	1% (65%ile)
Under Age 5	11% (82%ile)
Over Age 64	11% (58%ile)
Unemployment Rate	2% (37%ile)



Census Block Group	490439643051
EJ Indicator	Primary EJ Index: TSDf Sites (%ile)
EJ Index	68%ile
Hazardous Waste Proximity	0.13 facilities/km distance (22%ile)
Demographic Index	9% (12%ile)
People of Color	3% (3%ile)
Low Income	16% (31%ile)
Less than High School Education	1% (10%ile)
Linguistic Isolation	0% (55%ile)
Under Age 5	0% (1%ile)
Over Age 64	13% (69%ile)
Unemployment Rate	4% (67%ile)





# Potential future impacts

- \* Prioritizing inspections in EJ communities
- \* Performing EJ analyses before issuing permits
  - \* Requiring facilities to perform EJ impact analyses
- \* Improving community outreach
  - \* publishing public notices in multiple languages/providing translation services
  - \* holding additional public hearings in EJ communities
  - \* connecting with local groups in EJ communities



# Questions? Suggestions?

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