



North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality  
December 17, 2021

# Automated Solutions LLC

## Draft Environmental Justice Report

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## 1 Introduction

Environmental justice is the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income, with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies (US EPA). This evaluation examines the demographic and environmental conditions in Iredell County, census tracts 604, 605, 610.03, and 611.02, and the one-mile radius around the property boundary of the Automated Solutions facility. Finally, the demographics of the entire state of North Carolina are also considered as they compare to the county and the local census tract and radius settings.

The primary goal of this Draft EJ Report is to encourage comments and suggestions from the surrounding community, industry, and environmental groups throughout the comment period. Public comments will be considered throughout the remainder of the comment period to inform the Final EJ Report.

## 2 Environmental Justice Evaluation

The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ or Department) has assessed the permit application and the demographics of the communities in the area surrounding the facility. Accordingly, this Draft EJ Report includes:

- Pertinent permit application information submitted by Automated Solutions
- Facility emissions overview
- Study of area demographics [determined by utilizing the US EPA Environmental Justice tool (EJSCREEN) <https://ejscreen.epa.gov/mapper/> and current, available census data. <https://data.census.gov/cedsci/>]
- Comparison of local area demographics to the county and statewide census data
- County health assessment
- Sensitive receptors in the surrounding area
- Local industrial sites (using the NCDEQ Community Mapping System: <https://ncdenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=1eb0fbe2bcfb4cccb3cc212af8a0b8c8>)
- Outreach recommendations

Demographics for Iredell County and the state are compared to the local (census tracts and project radius) level data to identify any disparities surrounding the project area using standard environmental justice guidelines from the EPA and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documentation. Certain areas will be flagged for having the potential for environmental justice concerns using criteria set out in more detail in Section 5, Regional and Local Settings.

## 3 Proposed Project

Automated Solutions, LLC – Plant #3 submitted permit application No. 4900339.21A for a new facility located in Statesville, Iredell County, North Carolina. The application was complete on October 20, 2021, and the facility requested a 2-step processing procedure per North Carolina

Rule 15A NCAC 02Q .0501(b)(2). The permit will require the submittal of a first time Title V application within 12 months of startup.

Automated Solutions has applied for the installation and operation of a polyethylene (PE) foam extruder with a scrap reprocessing operation. The PE foam is used to protect packaged items such as furniture and/or used in the construction industry. Manufacture of PE foam involves melting PE in an extruder. A blowing agent is injected into the melted PE and mixed in the extruder. At the exit end of the extruder is a die. When the PE blowing agent mixture exits the die, the mixture rapidly expands creating PE foam. Any PE scrap is recycled back into the PE foam extruder.

The facility will be a minor source for Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) for all criteria pollutants and will be a minor source of Hazardous Air Pollutants (HAPs) for any single HAP and a minor source for combined HAPs. The facility will have a facility-wide VOC emission limitation of less than 250 tons per year to avoid PSD. The majority of VOC emissions result from when the blowing agent mixture is released at the exit of the die where the mixture rapidly expands creating the foam. The facility conservatively assumed that all (100%) of the blowing agent is released as VOCs.

*Table 1. Estimated Potential Emissions*

<b>Emission Scenario</b>	<b>CO (tpy)</b>	<b>NO<sub>x</sub> (tpy)</b>	<b>VOC (tpy)</b>	<b>PM (tpy)</b>	<b>PM<sub>10</sub> (tpy)</b>	<b>PM<sub>2.5</sub> (tpy)</b>	<b>SO<sub>2</sub> (tpy)</b>	<b>Total HAPs (tpy)</b>
Proposed Potential To Emit	1.5	5.1	<250	2.1	1.0	1.0	0.3	1.0

Additional technical discussion is available in the permit review as well as the application.

## 4 Geographic Area

As proposed, Automated Solutions will be located at 2020 West Front Street, Statesville, NC 28677 (Figure 1). The highest off-site ambient air impacts will occur at the plant fence line. A one-mile radius was used to evaluate the local demographics and socioeconomics to appropriately include the surrounding community and help inform the DAQ's public outreach efforts. The one-mile buffer around the facility is located entirely within Iredell County.

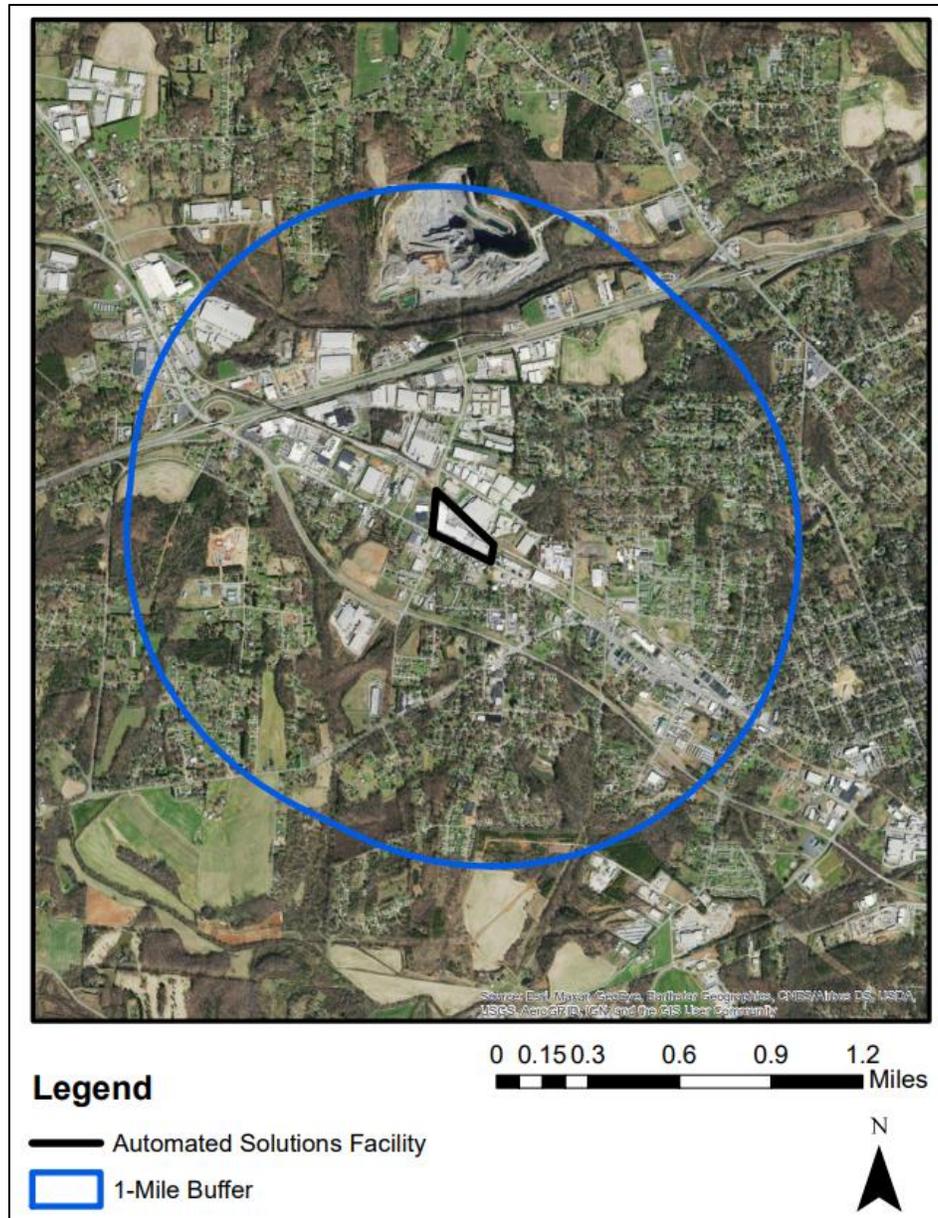


Figure 1. Facility location with the one-mile radius.

Iredell County is designated as a Tier 3 county by the NC Department of Commerce 2021 rankings. According to the Department of Commerce, Tier 1 counties encompass the 40 most distressed counties based on average unemployment rate, median household income, percentage growth in population, and adjusted property tax per capita. Tier 2 counties encompass the next 40 counties based on this ranking system. The Automated Solutions facility is located within Census Tract 604 and the one-mile radius enters census tracts 605, 610.03, and 611.02 (Figure 2). Census tracts are small, relatively permanent statistical subdivisions of a county with a unique numeric code (US Census Bureau). Neither the county nor the census tracts encompass land within a state-designated tribal statistical area.

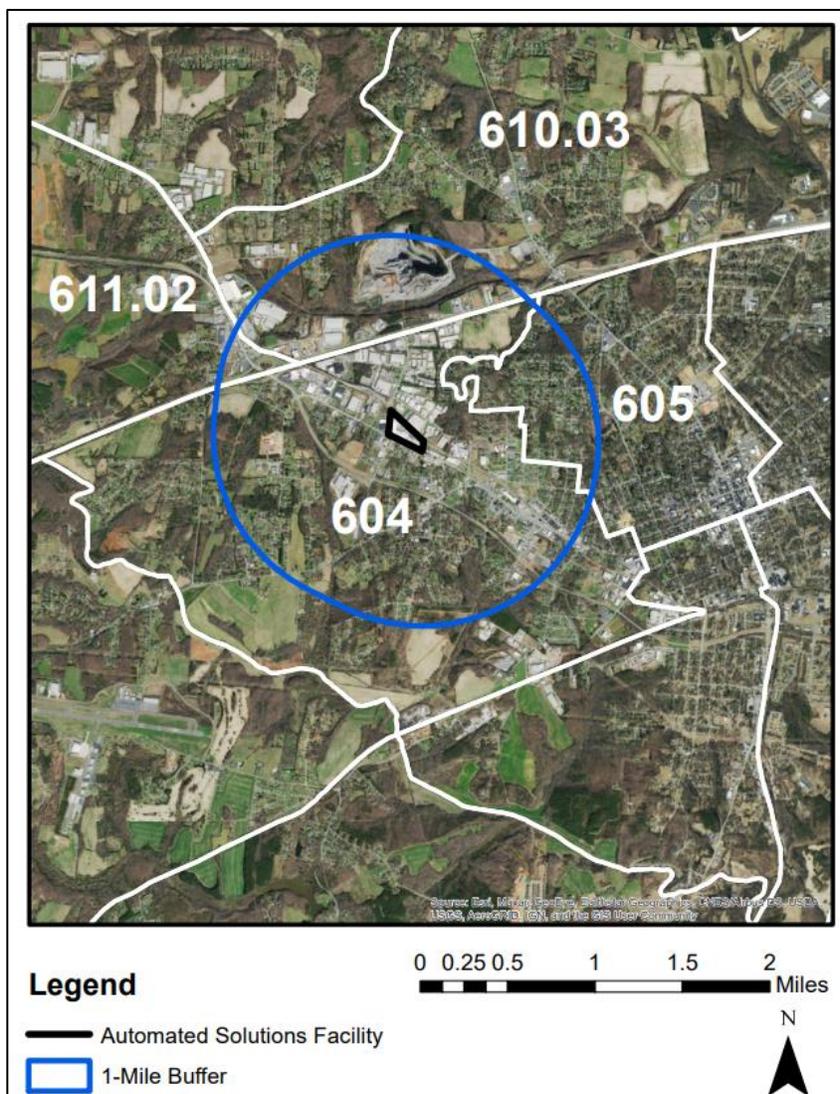


Figure 2. Census Tracts surrounding the facility location.

## 5 Regional and Local Settings

The following sections on race and ethnicity, age and sex, disability, poverty, household income, and Limited English Proficiency (LEP) populations are based on U.S. Census Bureau data, first at a state and county level (regional setting), and then at a census tract- and project-radius level (local setting). The surrounding census tracts included are those that overlap into the one-mile radius. Demographics of the county will be compared to the local level data to identify any disparities surrounding the project area. Using standard environmental justice guidelines from the EPA and NEPA documentation, the following conditions will be flagged as communities with the potential for environmental justice concerns:

1. 10% or more in comparison to the county or state average
2. 50% or more minority
3. 5% or more in comparison to the county or state average for poverty

For example, if a census tract has 35% of the population classified as low income but the county consists of 30% low income, the census tract would exceed the county average by 16.7% and thus be flagged as a potential area of concern. For this report, census data from 2010, 2020 and census data estimates from 2011-2015 and 2019 were used. 2010 and 2020 Census Bureau data is real data gathered every ten years, whereas the estimates from the more recent years are modeled based on the real data. For the data gathered from the 2019 and 2011-2015 estimates, the margin of error (MOE) has been included. This value is a measure of the possible variation of the estimate around the population value (U.S. Census Bureau). The Census Bureau standard for the MOE is at the 90% confidence level and may be any number between 0 and the MOE value in either direction (indicated by +/-).

## 5.1 Race and Ethnicity

### Regional Setting

According to the 2020 US Census Data Table P2: Hispanic or Latino, and Not Hispanic or Latino by Race, North Carolina's population totaled 10,439,388 individuals (Table 2). The three most common racial groups across the state were White (60.5%), Black or African American (20.2%), and Hispanic or Latino (of any race) (10.7%).

Iredell County had a total population of 186,693 individuals (Table 2). The two most common racial or ethnic groups in Iredell County were White (not Hispanic or Latino) (73.1%) and Black or African American (11.4%). The population of White (not Hispanic or Latino) was greater than 10% different when compared to the state.

**Table 2. Regional Setting - Race and Ethnicity**

Race and Ethnicity	North Carolina		Iredell County	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total Population	10,439,388	100.0%	186,693	100.0%
White (not Hispanic or Latino)	6,312,148	60.5%	136,393	<b>73.1%</b>
Black or African American	2,107,526	20.2%	21,255	11.4%
American Indian or Alaska Native	100,886	1.0%	437	0.2%
Asian	340,059	3.3%	4,718	2.5%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	6,980	0.1%	58	0.0%
Some other Race	46,340	0.4%	656	0.4%
Two or More Races	406,853	3.9%	7,399	4.0%
HISPANIC OR LATINO (of any race)	1,118,596	10.7%	15,777	8.5%

Source: US Census Bureau, 2020 Census,  
 All **bolded and orange** highlighted cells indicate a difference that is greater than 10% different when compared to the State.

## Local Setting

According to the 2020 US Census Data Table 9: Hispanic or Latino, and Not Hispanic or Latino by race or ethnicity, the largest population within Census Tract 604 was Black or African American (43.8%). Black or African American was greater than 10% different when compared to the county and the state (Table 3). The largest population within Census Tract 605 was White (not Hispanic or Latino) at 55.4%. Black or African American and Some other Race were greater than 10% different when compared to the county and the state. The largest population within Census Tract 610.03 was White (not Hispanic or Latino) at 74.5%, which was greater than 10% different compared to the state. The largest population within Census Tract 611.02 was White (not Hispanic or Latino) at 74.3%, which was greater than 10% different compared to the state. Asian was greater than 10% different when compared to the county and the state.

Within the one-mile project radius, the largest population was White (not Hispanic or Latino) at 48%. Black or African American and Some other Race were greater than 10% different when compared to the county and the state.

**Table 3. Local Setting - Race and Ethnicity**

Race and Ethnicity	Project Area - 1 Mile		Census Tract 604		Census Tract 605		Census Tract 610.03		Census Tract 611.02	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total Population	3,616	100.0%	4,042	100.0%	4,342	100.0%	3,848	100.0%	3,329	100.0%
White (not Hispanic or Latino)	1,739	48.0%	1,495	37.0%	2,404	55.4%	2,868	<b>74.5%</b>	2,474	<b>74.3%</b>
Black or African American	1,435	<b>40.0%</b>	1,771	<b>43.8%</b>	1,286	<b>29.6%</b>	506	13.1%	288	8.7%
American Indian or Alaska Native	8	0.0%	15	0.4%	6	0.1%	10	0.3%	6	0.2%
Asian	23	1.0%	30	0.7%	42	1.0%	52	1.4%	152	<b>4.6%</b>
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	0.1%
Some other Race	7	0.0%	11	0.3%	26	<b>0.6%</b>	10	0.3%	13	0.4%
Two or More Races	74	2.0%	153	3.8%	180	4.1%	144	3.7%	118	3.5%
HISPANIC OR LATINO (of any race)	329	9.0%	567	<b>14.0%</b>	398	9.2%	258	6.7%	276	8.3%

Source: US Census Bureau, 2020 Census; EJSSCREEN Census 2010 (for Project Area - 1 mile)

All **bolded and orange** highlighted cells indicate a difference that is greater than 10% when compared to the State

All **bolded and blue** highlighted cells indicate a difference that is greater than 10% when compared to both the County and the State

## 5.2 Age and Sex

### Regional Setting

According to the 2010 US Census Data Table P 12: Sex by Age, and Table P13: Median Age, North Carolina had a total population of 9,535,483 individuals (Table 4). The median age for females (38.7) was slightly older than the median age for males (36).

Iredell County had a total population of 159,437 individuals. The median age for females (39.9) was slightly higher than the median age for males (37.8), both older than the median age for the state.

*Table 4. Regional Setting - Age Groups and Sex*

Age	North Carolina						Iredell County					
	Number			Percent			Number			Percent		
	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both Sexes	Male	Female	Both Sexes	Male	Female
Total Population	9,535,483	4,645,492	4,889,991	100%	49%	51%	159,437	78,491	80,946	100%	49%	51%
<b>Median Age</b>	37.4	36	38.7				38.9	37.8	39.9			

Source: US Census Bureau, 2010 Census

### Local Setting

According to the 2010 US Census Data Table P 12: Sex by Age, and Table P13: Median Age, Census Tracts 605, 610.03, and 611.02 all had slightly older median ages than the state and the county (Tables 5 and 6).

*Table 5. Local Setting - Age Groups and Sex*

Age	Census Tract 604						Census Tract 605					
	Number			Percent			Number			Percent		
	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female
Total Population	4,066	1,909	2,157	100%	47%	53%	4,103	2,032	2,071	100%	50%	50%
<b>Median Age</b>	36.4	34.7	37.9				38	35.5	41.2			

Source: US Census Bureau, 2010 Census

**Table 6. Local Setting - Age Groups and Sex (cont'd)**

Age	Census Tract 610.03						Census Tract 611.02					
	Number			Percent			Number			Percent		
	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female
Total Population	3,572	1,715	1,857	100%	48%	52%	3,085	1,535	1,550	100%	50%	50%
<b>Median Age</b>	40.7	39	42.7				40.5	39.2	41.6			
Source: US Census Bureau, 2010 Census												

## Project Radius

EJSCREEN identified a population of 3,616 individuals within the one-mile radius surrounding the facility. There was a slightly lower percentage of males than females in this area. EJSCREEN data does not provide the median age (Table 7).

**Table 7. Project Radius - Age Groups and Sex**

Age	Project Area - 1 Miles					
	Number			Percent		
	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female
Total Population	3,616	1,685	1,931	100%	47%	53%
<b>Median Age</b>						
Source: US Census Bureau, 2010 Census. Obtained through EJSCREEN 2019						

## 5.3 Disability

### Regional Setting

According to the 2019 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Table S1810 Disability Characteristics from the US Census Bureau, the state of North Carolina had an estimated total population of 10,060,249 noninstitutionalized citizens. Of those individuals, an estimated 13.4% (MOE +/- 0.1%) had a disability. American Indian and Alaskan Native had the highest estimated disability rate of 18.2% (MOE +/- 0.8%). Black or African American and White (not Hispanic or Latino) had the next highest population estimates with disabilities in North Carolina, at 14.6% (MOE +/-0.2%) and 14.5% (MOE +/- 0.1%), respectively (Table 8).

Iredell County had an estimated total population of 22,073 noninstitutionalized citizens. Of those, an estimated 12.7% (MOE +/- 0.6%) had a disability. The largest population of disabled civilians was American Indian and Alaska Native (30.8%, MOE 17.0%), followed by Black or African American (13.7%, MOE +/- 1.5%). American Indian and Alaska Native, Some other Race, and Hispanic or Latino (of any race) were all greater than 10% different when compared to the state.

**Table 8. Regional Setting – Disability**

Subject	North Carolina						Iredell County					
	Total		With a Disability		Percent with a Disability		Total		With a Disability		Percent with a Disability	
	Estimate	Margin of Error +/-	Estimate	Margin of Error +/-	Estimate	Margin of Error +/-	Estimate	Margin of Error +/-	Estimate	Margin of Error +/-	Estimate	Margin of Error +/-
Total civilian noninstitutionalized population	10,060,249	2,163	1,352,783	8,378	13.4%	0.1	174,408	188	22,073	1,100	12.7%	0.6
<b>RACE AND HISPANIC OR LATINO ORIGIN</b>												
White (not Hispanic or Latino)	6,357,724	2,614	919,485	7,082	14.5%	0.1	132,589	254	17,484	920	13.2%	0.7
Black or African American	2,144,532	5,119	312,780	4,850	14.6%	0.2	21,145	466	2,897	328	13.7%	1.5
American Indian and Alaska Native	120,813	1,815	22,048	842	18.2%	0.8	425	214	131	114	<b>30.8%</b>	17.0
Asian	290,103	1,968	15,414	800	5.3%	0.3	4394	195	246	91	5.6%	2.0
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	6,694	677	638	183	9.5%	2.7	125	173	0	29	0.0%	24.1
Some other Race	313,224	7,444	16,846	1,231	5.4%	0.4	2740	554	293	179	<b>10.7%</b>	5.9
Two or more races	265,791	6,168	29,353	1,430	11.0%	0.4	3803	576	388	127	10.2%	2.8
Hispanic or Latino	942,342	855	59,694	2,120	6.3%	0.2	13320	35	1,062	294	<b>8.0%</b>	2.2
<b>Disability Type</b>												
hearing difficulty	X	X	375,385	4,061	3.7%	0.1	X	X	6,441	488	3.7%	0.3
vision difficulty	X	X	263,064	4,326	2.6%	0.1	X	X	4,173	567	2.4%	0.3
cognitive difficulty	X	X	511,243	5,636	5.4%	0.1	X	X	7,408	579	4.5%	0.4
ambulatory difficulty	X	X	716,908	6,389	7.6%	0.1	X	X	11,566	659	7.0%	0.4

Source: US Census Data, 2019 ACS 5-Year Estimates

All **bolded and orange** highlighted cells indicate a difference that is greater than 10% when compared to the State

## Local Setting

According to the 2019 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Table S1810 Disability Characteristics from the US Census Bureau, Census Tract 604 had an estimated total population of 3,924 noninstitutionalized citizens (Table 10). Of those individuals, an estimated 16.3% (MOE +/- 4.1%) had a disability. The subjects with the largest population of disabled civilians were Asian (38.5%, MOE +/- 20.0%), followed by Two or more Races at 30.0% (MOE +/- 27.7%) and Black or African American at 18.6% (MOE +/- 6.5%). White (not Hispanic or Latino) was greater than 10% different compared to the county. All other subjects with percentages were greater than 10% different compared to the county and the state.

Census Tract 605 had a total population of 3,632 noninstitutionalized citizens. Of those individuals, an estimated 14.5% (MOE +/- 3.5%) had a disability. The subjects with the largest population of disabled civilians were White (not Hispanic or Latino) (17.4%, MOE +/- 4.7%), followed by Black or African American at 11.3% (MOE +/- 6.0%) and Hispanic or Latino at 11.0% (MOE +/- 13.4%). White (not Hispanic or Latino) and Hispanic or Latino were greater than 10% different compared to the county and the state.

Census Tract 610.03 had a total population of 4,120 noninstitutionalized citizens. Of those individuals, an estimated 14.3% (MOE +/- 4.3%) had a disability (Table 11). The subject with the largest population of disabled civilians was American Indian and Alaska Native (59.7%, MOE +/- 12.0%), followed by Hispanic or Latino at 16.9% (MOE +/- 19.8%), and White (not Hispanic or Latino) at 14.5% (MOE +/- 4.1%). American Indian and Alaska Native and Hispanic or Latino were greater than 10% different compared to the county and the state.

Census Tract 611.02 had a total population of 3,347 noninstitutionalized citizens. Of those individuals, an estimated 10.6% (MOE +/- 3.8%) had a disability. The subject with the largest population of disabled civilians was Two or more Races (63.6%, MOE +/- 63.6%), followed by White (not Hispanic or Latino) at 12.1% (MOE +/- 4.4%), and Black or African American at 9.5% (MOE +/- 12.5%). Two or more Races were greater than 10% different compared to the county and the state.

Table 9. Local Setting - Disability

Subject	Census Tract 604						Census Tract 605					
	Total		With a Disability		Percent with a Disability		Total		With a Disability		Percent with a Disability	
	Estimate	Margin of Error +/-	Estimate	Margin of Error +/-	Estimate	Margin of Error +/-	Estimate	Margin of Error +/-	Estimate	Margin of Error +/-	Estimate	Margin of Error +/-
Total civilian noninstitutionalized population	3,924	358	641	144	<b>16.3%</b>	4.1	3,632	338	525	141	<b>14.5%</b>	3.5
RACE AND HISPANIC OR LATINO ORIGIN												
White (not Hispanic or Latino)	1,420	392	214	100	<b>15.1%</b>	7.7	2,130	245	370	103	<b>17.4%</b>	4.7
Black or African American	1,747	266	325	113	<b>18.6%</b>	6.5	1,147	308	130	75	11.3%	6.0
American Indian and Alaska Native	33	50	0	12	0.0%	53.6	0	12	0	12	-	**
Asian	26	61	10	22	<b>38.5%</b>	20.0	0	12	0	12	-	**
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	0	12	0	12	-	**	0	12	0	12	-	**
Some other Race	344	247	51	56	<b>14.8%</b>	12.4	16	27	0	12	0.0%	76.9
Two or more races	80	63	24	31	<b>30.0%</b>	27.7	149	100	11	19	7.4%	12.4
Hispanic or Latino	596	263	55	54	<b>9.2%</b>	8.3	228	101	25	29	<b>11.0%</b>	13.4
Disability Type												
hearing difficulty	X	X	129	60	3.3%	1.5	X	X	110	53	3.0%	1.5
vision difficulty	X	X	113	67	<b>2.9%</b>	1.7	X	X	27	31	0.7%	0.8
cognitive difficulty	X	X	72	51	2.0%	1.4	X	X	175	86	<b>5.1%</b>	2.5
ambulatory difficulty	X	X	425	113	<b>11.6%</b>	3.4	X	X	326	113	<b>9.5%</b>	3.1

Source: US Census Data, 2019 ACS 5-Year Estimates,

All **bolded and orange** highlighted cells indicate a difference that is greater than 10% when compared to the state

All **bolded and blue** highlighted cells indicate a difference that is greater than 10% when compared to both the county and the state

All **green and bolded** highlighted cells indicate a difference that is greater than 10% when compared to the county

Table 10. Local Setting - Disability (cont'd)

Subject	Census Tract 610.03						Census Tract 611.02					
	Total		With a Disability		Percent with a Disability		Total		With a Disability		Percent with a Disability	
	Estimate	Margin of Error +/-	Estimate	Margin of Error +/-	Estimate	Margin of Error +/-	Estimate	Margin of Error +/-	Estimate	Margin of Error +/-	Estimate	Margin of Error +/-
Total civilian noninstitutionalized population	4,120	265	590	168	<b>14.3%</b>	4.3	3,347	276	356	125	10.6%	3.8
RACE AND HISPANIC OR LATINO ORIGIN												
White (not Hispanic or Latino)	2,946	395	427	110	14.5%	4.1	2,474	436	299	111	12.1%	4.4
Black or African American	632	269	89	78	14.1%	13.2	453	238	43	52	9.5%	12.5
American Indian and Alaska Native	124	169	74	107	<b>59.7%</b>	12.0	0	12	0	12	-	**
Asian	48	75	0	12	0.0%	44.4	221	187	0	12	0.0%	14.6
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	0	12	0	12	-	**	0	12	0	12	-	**
Some other Race	194	202	0	12	0.0%	16.4	0	12	0	12	-	**
Two or more races	52	63	0	12	0.0%	42.7	22	37	14	21	<b>63.6%</b>	63.6
Hispanic or Latino	437	325	74	107	<b>16.9%</b>	19.8	177	139	0	12	0.0%	17.8
Disability Type												
hearing difficulty	X	X	193	70	<b>4.7%</b>	1.7	X	X	62	48	1.9%	1.4
vision difficulty	X	X	64	55	1.6%	1.3	X	X	92	72	<b>2.7%</b>	2.1
cognitive difficulty	X	X	272	121	<b>6.9%</b>	3.1	X	X	92	66	2.9%	2.1
ambulatory difficulty	X	X	264	112	6.7%	2.9	X	X	205	105	6.4%	3.2

Source: US Census Data, 2019 ACS 5-Year Estimates,

All **bolded and orange** highlighted cells indicate a difference that is greater than 10% when compared to the state

All **bolded and blue** highlighted cells indicate a difference that is greater than 10% when compared to both the county and the state

All **green and bolded** highlighted cells indicate a difference that is greater than 10% when compared to the county

## 5.4 Poverty

### Regional Setting

According to the Census Table S1701, Poverty Status in the Past 12 Months, 2019 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, from the US Census Bureau, North Carolina had an estimated population of 9,984,891, with 14.7% (MOE +/- 0.2%) below the poverty level (Table 11). Across all subjects, Some Other Race had the highest percent living below the poverty level at 27.2% (MOE +/- 1.2%). The next three subjects with the highest poverty level were Hispanic or Latino at 26.4% (MOE +/- 0.6%), American Indian and Alaska Native at 24.9% (MOE +/- 1.3%), and Black or African American at 22.5% (MOE +/- 0.4%). Households below 200 percent of the federal poverty level<sup>1</sup> are calculated by multiplying the percentage point by the poverty level for the number of individuals in that household. For example, to calculate 200% of the poverty level for a household of four in 2021<sup>2</sup>, that would be \$53,000 (2.0 x \$26,500).

Iredell County had an estimated population of 173,761 with 10.9% (MOE +/- 0.9%) living below the poverty level. Across all subjects, Black or African American had the highest percent living below the poverty level at 23.7% (MOE +/- 2.9%), followed by Hispanic or Latino (20.9%, MOE +/- 5.7%) and Some other Race (20.5%, MOE +/- 8.5%). Black or African American had estimates greater than 10% different when compared to the state (Table 12).

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.thebalance.com/federal-poverty-level-definition-guidelines-chart-3305843>

<sup>2</sup> The poverty level for a household of four in 2021 is an annual income of \$26,500. To calculate the poverty level for larger families, add \$4,540 for each additional person in the household. For smaller families, subtract \$4,540 per person.

**Table 11. Regional Setting – Poverty**

Subject	North Carolina						Iredell County					
	Total		Below poverty level		Percent below poverty level		Total		Below poverty level		Percent below poverty level	
	Estimate	Margin of Error +/-	Estimate	Margin of Error +/-	Estimate	Margin of Error +/-	Estimate	Margin of Error +/-	Estimate	Margin of Error +/-	Estimate	Margin of Error +/-
Population for whom poverty status is determined	9,984,891	1,988	1,467,591	17,844	14.7%	0.2	173,761	316	18,982	1,544	10.9%	0.9
RACE AND HISPANIC OR LATINO ORIGIN												
White	6,320,337	2,990	644,440	10,085	10.2%	0.2	132,209	308	10,393	1,083	7.9%	0.8
Black or African American	2,116,769	5,452	475,973	8,126	22.5%	0.4	21,133	463	5,013	609	<b>23.7%</b>	2.9
American Indian and Alaska Native	120,328	1,846	29,981	1,608	24.9%	1.3	425	214	-	29	0.0%	7.9
Asian	285,786	2,021	30,707	2,034	10.7%	0.7	4,394	195	382	238	8.7%	5.4
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	6,630	675	1,360	332	20.5%	4.6	125	173	-	29	0.0%	24.1
Some other Race	311,206	7,397	84,699	4,639	27.2%	1.2	2,683	524	550	262	20.5%	8.5
Two or more races	262,580	6,121	54,627	2,414	20.8%	0.8	3,764	571	536	252	14.2%	5.9
Hispanic or Latino	940,295	1,251	248,474	6,013	26.4%	0.6	13,104	185	2,745	754	20.9%	5.7
All individuals below:												
200 percent of poverty level	3,420,476	24,183					49,366	1,928				
Source: US Census Data, 2019 ACS 5-Year Estimates All <b>bolded and orange</b> highlighted cells indicate a difference that is greater than 5% when compared to the State												

## Local Setting

According to the Census Table S1701, Poverty Status in the Past 12 Months, 2019 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, from the US Census Bureau, Census Tract 604 had an estimated population of 1,079 with 27.5% (MOE +/- 8.5%) living below the poverty level (Table 12). The total population for whom poverty status is determined as well as Black or African American, Asian, and Some other Race had poverty levels higher than 5% different when compared to both the county and the state.

Census Tract 605 had an estimated population of 3,632 individuals, with 8.6% (MOE +/- 4.0%) living below the poverty level. None of the estimates in this census tract had poverty levels higher than 5% different when compared to the county nor the state.

Census Tract 610.03 had an estimated population of 4,120 individuals, with 12.5% (MOE +/- 4.4%) living below the poverty level (Table 13). The total population for whom poverty status is determined as well as Hispanic or Latino had poverty levels higher than 5% different when compared to the county. Black or African American, and Some other Race had poverty levels higher than 5% different when compared to both the county and the state.

Census Tract 611.02 had an estimated population of 3,339 individuals, with 9.7% (MOE +/- 6.2%) living below the poverty level. Asian, and Hispanic or Latino had poverty levels higher than 5% different when compared to both the county and the state.

**Table 12. Local Setting- Poverty**

Subject	Census Tract 604						Census Tract 605					
	Total		Below poverty level		Percent below poverty level		Total		Below poverty level		Percent below poverty level	
	Estimate	Margin of Error +/-	Estimate	Margin of Error +/-	Estimate	Margin of Error +/-	Estimate	Margin of Error +/-	Estimate	Margin of Error +/-	Estimate	Margin of Error +/-
Population for whom poverty status is determined	3,924	358	1,079	323	<b>27.5%</b>	8.5	3,632	338	314	148	8.6%	4.0
RACE AND HISPANIC OR LATINO ORIGIN												
White	1,420	392	65	50	4.6%	3.5	2,130	245	91	42	4.3%	2.0
Black or African American	1,747	266	866	292	<b>49.6%</b>	14.9	1,147	308	191	143	16.7%	11.6
American Indian and Alaska Native	33	50	0	12	0.0%	53.6	0	12	0	12	-	**
Asian	26	61	26	61	<b>100.0%</b>	60.4	-	12	-	12	-	**
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	-	12	-	12	-	**	-	12	-	12	-	**
Some other Race	344	247	118	143	<b>34.3%</b>	35.9	16	27	-	12	0.0%	76.9
Two or more races	80	63	4	7	5.0%	10.6	149	100	-	12	0.0%	20.8
Hispanic or Latino	596	263	87	135	14.6%	22.8	228	101	32	54	14.0%	22.7
All individuals below:												
200 percent of poverty level	2,268	352					1,063	271				

Source: US Census Data, 2019 ACS 5-Year Estimates

All **bolded and orange** highlighted cells indicate a difference that is greater than 5% when compared to the State

All **bolded and blue** cells indicate a difference that is greater than 5% when compared to the county and the State.

**Table 13. Local Setting- Poverty (cont'd)**

Subject	Census Tract 610.03						Census Tract 611.02					
	Total		Below poverty level		Percent below poverty level		Total		Below poverty level		Percent below poverty level	
	Estimate	Margin of Error +/-	Estimate	Margin of Error +/-	Estimate	Margin of Error +/-	Estimate	Margin of Error +/-	Estimate	Margin of Error +/-	Estimate	Margin of Error +/-
Population for whom poverty status is determined	4,120	265	517	191	<b>12.5%</b>	4.4	3,339	275	325	212	9.7%	6.2
RACE AND HISPANIC OR LATINO ORIGIN												
White	2,946	395	112	102	3.8%	3.4	2,466	438	26	25	1.1%	1.0
Black or African American	632	269	291	184	<b>46.0%</b>	35.5	453	238	-	12	0.0%	7.4
American Indian and Alaska Native	124	169	0	12	0.0%	24.2	0	12	0	12	-	**
Asian	48	75	-	12	0.0%	44.4	221	187	221	187	<b>100.0%</b>	14.6
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	-	12	-	12	-	**	-	12	-	12	-	**
Some other Race	194	202	114	169	<b>58.8%</b>	53.7	-	12	-	12	-	**
Two or more races	52	63	-	12	0.0%	42.7	22	37	-	12	0.0%	65.6
Hispanic or Latino	437	325	114	169	<b>26.1%</b>	32.9	177	139	78	91	<b>44.1%</b>	50.1
All individuals below:												
200 percent of poverty level	1,199	338					921	304				

Source: US Census Data, 2019 ACS 5-Year Estimates

All **bolded and orange** highlighted cells indicate a difference that is greater than 5% when compared to the state

All **bolded and blue** cells indicate a difference that is greater than 5% when compared to the county and the state

All **green and bolded** highlighted cells indicate a difference that is greater than 10% when compared to the county

## 5.5 Household Income

### Regional Setting

The following table (Table 14) was compiled using data from the Census Table S1901, Income in the Past 12 Months (in 2019 Inflation-Adjusted Dollars) 2019 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates for North Carolina. The North Carolina household income range with the highest percent was for \$50,000 to \$74,999, at 18.0%. The state median household income was \$54,602 and the mean income was \$76,940.

The household income range for Iredell County with the highest percent was \$50,000 to \$74,999 at 13.1% (MOE +/- 0.9%). The median income was \$60,955 and the mean income was \$85,338, both higher than that of the state. Household income ranges above \$150,000 were greater than 10% different when compared to the state.

**Table 14. Regional Setting - Household Income**

Subject	North Carolina		Iredell County	
	Households		Households	
	Estimate	Margin of Error +/-	Estimate	Margin of Error +/-
Total	3,965,482	10,327	66,369	597
Less than \$10,000	6.4%	0.1	4.4%	0.5
\$10,000 to \$14,999	5.0%	0.1	4.3%	0.5
\$15,000 to \$24,999	10.3%	0.1	9.3%	0.8
\$25,000 to \$34,999	10.3%	0.1	9.5%	0.7
\$35,000 to \$49,999	13.9%	0.1	13.1%	0.9
\$50,000 to \$74,999	18.0%	0.1	19.1%	1
\$75,000 to \$99,999	12.4%	0.1	13.3%	0.9
\$100,000 to \$149,999	13.1%	0.1	14.1%	0.8
\$150,000 to \$199,999	5.1%	0.1	<b>6.2%</b>	0.6
\$200,000 or more	5.4%	0.1	<b>6.6%</b>	0.5
Median income (dollars)	54,602	231	60,955	1,578
Mean income (dollars)	76,940	352	85,338	2,024
Per Capita Income	30,783	154	33,194	806

Source: US Census, 2019 ACS 5-Year Estimates.  
 All **orange and bolded** highlighted cells indicate a difference that is greater than 10% when compared to the state

## Local Setting

The household income range for Census Tract 604 with the highest percent was \$35,000 to \$49,999 at 16.0% (MOE +/- 5.8%) (Table 15). The median income was \$31,365 and the mean income was \$42,235. The income range less than \$10,000 to \$49,999 had a greater than 10% difference when compared to both the county and the state.

The household income range for Census Tract 605 with the highest percent was \$25,000 to \$34,999 at 18.0% (MOE +/- 6.9%). The median income was \$44,149 and the mean income was \$63,428. The income ranges \$15,000 to \$34,999 and \$75,000 to \$99,999 had a greater than 10% difference when compared to both the county and the state.

The household income range for Census Tract 610.03 with the highest percent was \$50,000 to \$74,999 at 23.8% (MOE +/- 6.7%). The median income was \$53,479 and the mean income was \$65,212. The income ranges \$10,000 to \$14,999 and \$35,000 to \$74,999 had a greater than 10% difference when compared to both the county and the state.

The household income range for Census Tract 611.02 with the highest percent was \$75,000 to \$99,999 at 19.2% (MOE +/- 7.2%). The median income was \$49,853 and the mean income was \$65,526. The income ranges \$150,000 to \$199,999 had a greater than 10% difference when compared to the state. The income ranges \$15,000 to \$24,999, \$35,000 to \$49,999, and \$75,000 to \$99,999 had a greater than 10% difference when compared to both the county and the state.

The household income range for the one-mile radius with the highest percent was \$25,000 to \$50,000 at 30%. EJSCREEN data provides different income ranges that cannot be readily compared in the same manner (Table 16).

**Table 15. Local Setting - Household Income**

Subject	Census Tract 604		Census Tract 605		Census Tract 610.03		Census Tract 611.02	
	Households		Households		Households		Households	
	Estimate	Margin of Error +/-	Estimate	Margin of Error +/-	Estimate	Margin of Error +/-	Estimate	Margin of Error +/-
Total	1,691	118	1,727	136	1,621	113	1,296	107
Less than \$10,000	<b>15.2%</b>	6.1	7.0%	3.2	3.4%	2.8	4.5%	3.6
\$10,000 to \$14,999	<b>10.2%</b>	4.6	2.1%	2.7	<b>5.9%</b>	3.8	0.5%	0.8
\$15,000 to \$24,999	<b>11.5%</b>	4.3	<b>14.4%</b>	6.4	8.0%	3.3	<b>15.8%</b>	6.8
\$25,000 to \$34,999	<b>14.8%</b>	6	<b>18.8%</b>	6.9	7.5%	3	10.3%	4.8
\$35,000 to \$49,999	<b>16.0%</b>	5.8	10.2%	4.5	<b>20.8%</b>	7.7	<b>19.1%</b>	7.8
\$50,000 to \$74,999	15.6%	6.2	16.3%	6	<b>23.8%</b>	6.7	13.6%	4.9
\$75,000 to \$99,999	11.8%	5	<b>15.7%</b>	5.1	12.5%	4.7	<b>19.2%</b>	7.2
\$100,000 to \$149,999	2.7%	2.5	8.7%	4.1	12.4%	3.8	9.3%	4.9
\$150,000 to \$199,999	2.2%	2.4	4.5%	2.9	3.3%	2.2	<b>5.2%</b>	6.1
\$200,000 or more	0.0%	2	2.3%	1.8	2.5%	1.8	2.4%	3.1
Median income (dollars)	31,365	9,662	44,149	11,343	53,479	5,245	49,853	8,412
Mean income (dollars)	42,235	5,568	63,428	6,923	65,212	6,441	65,526	7,714
Per Capita Income	19,460	2,439	28,557	3,193	26,376	2,481	26,200	3,445

Source: US Census, 2019 ACS 5-Year Estimates.  
All **orange and bolded** highlighted cells indicate a difference that is greater than 10% when compared to the state  
All **blue and bolded** highlighted cells indicate a difference that is greater than 10% when compared to the state and the county

**Table 16. Project Radius - Household Income**

Subject	1 mile		
	Number	Percent	MOE
Number of Households	1,519	100%	120
Per Capita Income (dollars)	20,773		
Household Income			
<\$15,000	320	21%	89
\$15,000-\$25,000	220	14%	73
\$25,000-\$50,000	460	30%	150
\$50,000-\$75,000	268	18%	97
\$75,000+	251	16%	79

Source: EJSCREEN 2019

## Per Capita Income

Per Capita Income data was obtained through the Census Table B19301, Per Capita Income in the Past 12 Months (In 2018 Inflation-Adjusted Dollars), 2019 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates. The North Carolina per capita income estimate was \$30,783. The estimate for Iredell County was \$33,194. The estimate for Census Tract 604 was \$19,460, the estimate for Census Tract 605 was \$28,557, the estimate for Census Tract 610.03 was \$26,376, the estimate for Census Tract 611.02 was \$26,200.

The EJSCREEN analysis also provided the Per Capita Income estimate for the one-mile radius surrounding facility site, which was \$20,773. All Per Capita Income estimates—except for Iredell County—were lower than that of the state.

## 6 Limited English Proficiency (LEP)

Per the Safe Harbor Guidelines, should an LEP Group be identified during the permit application process, written translations of vital documents for each eligible LEP language group that constitutes 5% or includes 1,000 members (whichever is less) of the population of persons eligible to be served or likely to be affected or encountered. If there are fewer than 50 persons in a language group that reaches the 5% trigger, then DEQ will not translate vital written materials, but instead will provide written notice in the primary language of the LEP language group of the right to receive competent oral interpretation of those written materials, free of cost. The safe harbor provisions apply to the translation of written documents only. Safe harbor guidelines are based on EPA guidance for LEP persons and implemented by DEQ when deemed appropriate. Only languages where an estimated population of greater than 0 who reside in a Limited English-speaking household are included in this analysis. All census tracts had Limited English proficiency households that were less than 5% of the total population (Table 17).

**Table 17. Limited English Proficiency**

Household Language by Household Limited English Speaking Status	Census Tract 604			Census Tract 605			Census Tract 610.03			Census Tract 611.02		
	Estimate	Margin of Error +/-	Percent	Estimate	Margin of Error +/-	Percent	Estimate	Margin of Error +/-	Percent	Estimate	Margin of Error +/-	Percent
<b>Total:</b>	1691	118	100.0%	1727	136	100.0%	1621	113	100.0%	1296	107	100.0%
English only	1434	149	84.8%	1587	151	91.9%	1495	117	92.2%	1106	141	85.3%
Spanish:	240	98	14.2%	131	82	7.6%	99	77	6.1%	144	73	11.1%
Limited English speaking household	77	70	4.6%	9	14	0.5%	60	67	3.7%	31	32	2.4%
Not a limited English speaking household	163	75	9.6%	122	81	7.1%	39	39	2.4%	113	74	8.7%
Other Indo-European languages:	0	12	0.0%	9	14	0.5%	12	17	0.0%	14	21	1.1%
Limited English speaking household	0	12	0.0%	0	12	0.0%	0	12	0.0%	0	12	0.0%
Not a limited English speaking household	0	12	0.0%	9	14	0.5%	12	17	0.0%	14	21	1.1%
Asian and Pacific Island languages:	17	23	0.0%	0	12	0.0%	15	24	0.9%	32	43	2.5%
Limited English speaking household	0	12	0.0%	0	12	0.0%	15	24	0.0%	32	43	2.5%
Not a limited English speaking household	17	23	0.0%	0	12	0.0%	0	12	0.0%	0	12	0.0%

## 7 Educational Attainment

### Regional Setting

The following data was obtained through the US Census Bureau Table S1501, American Community Survey 2019 5-Year Estimates (Table 18). Iredell County had considerably higher percentages of individuals who graduated from high school (or equivalent) while also having considerably lower percentages of individuals who had attained a Bachelor's degree or higher when compared to the state (Table 18).

**Table 18. Regional Setting- Educational Attainment (above 25 years old)**

Subject	North Carolina				Iredell County			
	Number		Percent		Number		Percent	
	Estimate	MOE +/-	Estimate	MOE +/-	Estimate	MOE +/-	Estimate	MOE +/-
Total Above 25	6,983,859	1,636			120,685	101		
Less than 9th grade	314,545	4,322	4.5%	0.1	4,776	546	4.0%	0.5
9th to 12th grade, no diploma	538,851	6,801	7.7%	0.1	8,191	667	6.8%	0.6
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	1,791,532	12,844	25.7%	0.2	34,094	1,040	<b>28.3%</b>	0.9
Bachelor's degree or higher	2,182,853	16,331	31.3%	0.2	34,306	1,109	28.4%	0.9

Source: US Census, 2019 ACS 5-Year Estimates.  
All **orange and bolded** highlighted cells indicate a difference that is greater than 10% when compared to the state

### Local Setting

The following data was obtained through the US Census Bureau Table S1501, American Community Survey 2019 5-year Estimates. Census Tract 604 had a higher percentage of individuals who had attained less than 9<sup>th</sup> grade, 9<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grade (no diploma), and High school graduate (includes equivalency) when compared to the county and the state (Table 19). The percentage of individuals who attained a bachelor's degree or higher was considerably lower when compared to the county and the state.

Census Tract 605 had a higher percentage of individuals who had attained a 9<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grade (no diploma) education when compared to the county and the state. The percentages for all other educational attainment subjects were lower when compared to the county and the state.

Census Tract 610.03 had a higher percentage of individuals who had attained a less than 9<sup>th</sup> grade education when compared to both the county and the state. The percentages for all other educational attainment subjects were lower when compared to the county and the state.

Census Tract 611.02 had a higher percentage of individuals who had attained high school graduate (includes equivalency) when compared to both the county and the

state (Table 20). The percentages for all other educational attainment subjects were lower when compared to the state.

The educational attainment within the project radius had a higher percentage of individuals who had attained less than 9<sup>th</sup> grade, 9<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grade (no diploma), and high school graduate (includes equivalency) when compared to both the county and the state (Table 21). The percentage of individuals who had attained a bachelor's degree or higher was lower when compared to the county and the state.

**Table 19. Local Setting- Educational Attainment (above 25 years old)**

Subject	Census Tract 604				Census Tract 605			
	Number		Percent		Number		Percent	
	Estimate	MOE +/-	Estimate	MOE +/-	Estimate	MOE +/-	Estimate	MOE +/-
Total Above 25	2,740	274			2,846	253		
Less than 9th grade	186	118	<b>6.8%</b>	4.2	84	64	3.0%	2.2
9th to 12th grade, no diploma	489	111	<b>17.8%</b>	4.2	322	122	<b>11.3%</b>	4.1
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	1,041	236	<b>38.0%</b>	6.8	591	122	20.8%	4.6
Bachelor's degree or higher	138	69	5.0%	2.5	644	154	22.6%	4.9

Source: US Census, 2019 ACS 5-Year Estimates.  
 All **orange and bolded** highlighted cells indicate a difference that is greater than 10% when compared to the state  
 All **blue and bolded** highlighted cells indicate a difference that is greater than 10% when compared to the state and the county

**Table 20. Local Setting- Educational Attainment (cont'd)**

Subject	Census Tract 610.03				Census Tract 611.02			
	Number		Percent		Number		Percent	
	Estimate	MOE +/-	Estimate	MOE +/-	Estimate	MOE +/-	Estimate	MOE +/-
Total Above 25	2,768	164			2,188	201		
Less than 9th grade	177	82	<b>6.4%</b>	3	75	74	3.4%	3.3
9th to 12th grade, no diploma	171	76	6.2%	2.7	150	72	6.9%	3.2
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	685	157	24.7%	5.3	853	159	<b>39.0%</b>	7.9
Bachelor's degree or higher	424	131	15.3%	4.6	327	143	14.9%	6

Source: US Census, 2019 ACS 5-Year Estimates.  
 All **orange and bolded** highlighted cells indicate a difference that is greater than 10% when compared to the state  
 All **blue and bolded** highlighted cells indicate a difference that is greater than 10% when compared to the state and the county

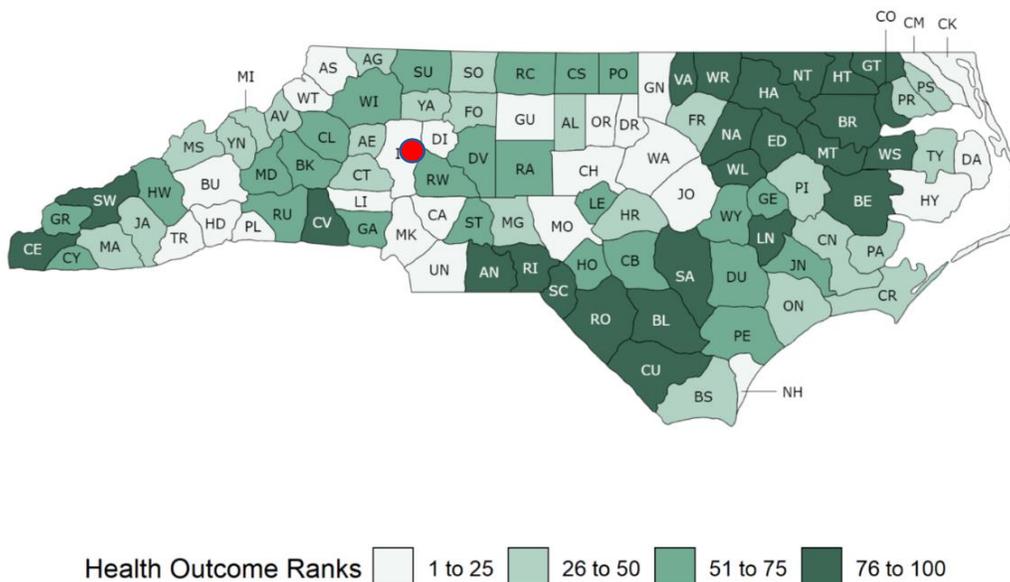
**Table 21. Project Radius - Educational Attainment (above 25 years old)**

Subject	Project Radius			
	Number		Percent	
	Estimate	MOE +/-	Estimate	MOE +/-
Total Above 25	2,418	224		
Less than 9th grade	149	78	<b>6.0%</b>	
9th to 12th grade, no diploma	326	91	<b>14.0%</b>	
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	846	179	<b>35.0%</b>	
Bachelor's degree or higher	306	115	13.0%	

Source: EJSCREEN 2019  
 All **orange and bolded** highlighted cells indicate a difference that is greater than 10% when compared to the state  
 All **blue and bolded** highlighted cells indicate a difference that is greater than 10% when compared to the state and the county

## 8 County Health

The University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute, in collaboration with the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, calculated County Health Rankings for all the States in the United States ([www.countyhealthrankings.org](http://www.countyhealthrankings.org)). This ranking is based on health outcomes (such as lifespan and self-reported health status) and health factors (such as environmental, social, and economic conditions). According to this 2021 report, out of all 100 counties in North Carolina (with 1 indicating the healthiest), Iredell County ranks 15<sup>th</sup> in health outcomes and 17<sup>th</sup> in health factors.



*Figure 3. County Health Rankings for Health Factors in North Carolina provided by University of Wisconsin Public Health Institute.*

According to the NC DEQ Community Mapping System Environmental Justice Tool, the health outcome causes of death in this particular location are higher than the state averages overall, except for diabetes, which is lower than the state average. The hospitalizations due to asthma in this area is 183 per 100,000 individuals, as compared to the state at 90 per 100,000 individuals. Finally, the number of primary care physicians in this area (8.136 per 10,000 residents) is higher than the state average (4.812 per 10,000 residents).

**Table 22. Health Outcomes**

Cause of Death	Project Area	North Carolina
Cancer	172	169.1
Heart Disease	170.1	163.7
Stroke	52.4	43.1
Cardiovascular Disease	239.3	221.9
Diabetes	21.8	22.8
Source: CMS EJ Tool 2020		

## 9 Local Sensitive Receptors

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency suggests that sensitive receptors include, but are not limited to, hospitals, schools, daycare facilities, elderly housing, and convalescent facilities. These are areas where the occupants are more susceptible to the adverse effects of exposure to toxic chemicals, pesticides, and other pollutants. Extra care must be taken when dealing with contaminants and pollutants in close proximity to areas recognized as sensitive receptors. For instance, children and the elderly may have a higher risk of developing asthma from elevated levels of certain air pollutants than healthy individuals aged between 18 and 64.

Within the one-mile radius surrounding the facility location, the following sensitive receptors were identified (Figure 4):

- Statesville Housing Authority Public Housing: Oaktree Village
- N B Mills Elementary
- Statesville Housing Authority Public Housing: Summit Village
- First Church of the Nazarene
- Monticello Church
- Gospel Tabernacle
- Westminster Church of God
- South River Baptist Church at Bristol Drive
- Calvary Church
- Living with Hope Ministry
- Front Street Baptist Church

Additional sensitive receptors may be identified during the remainder of the permit application process.

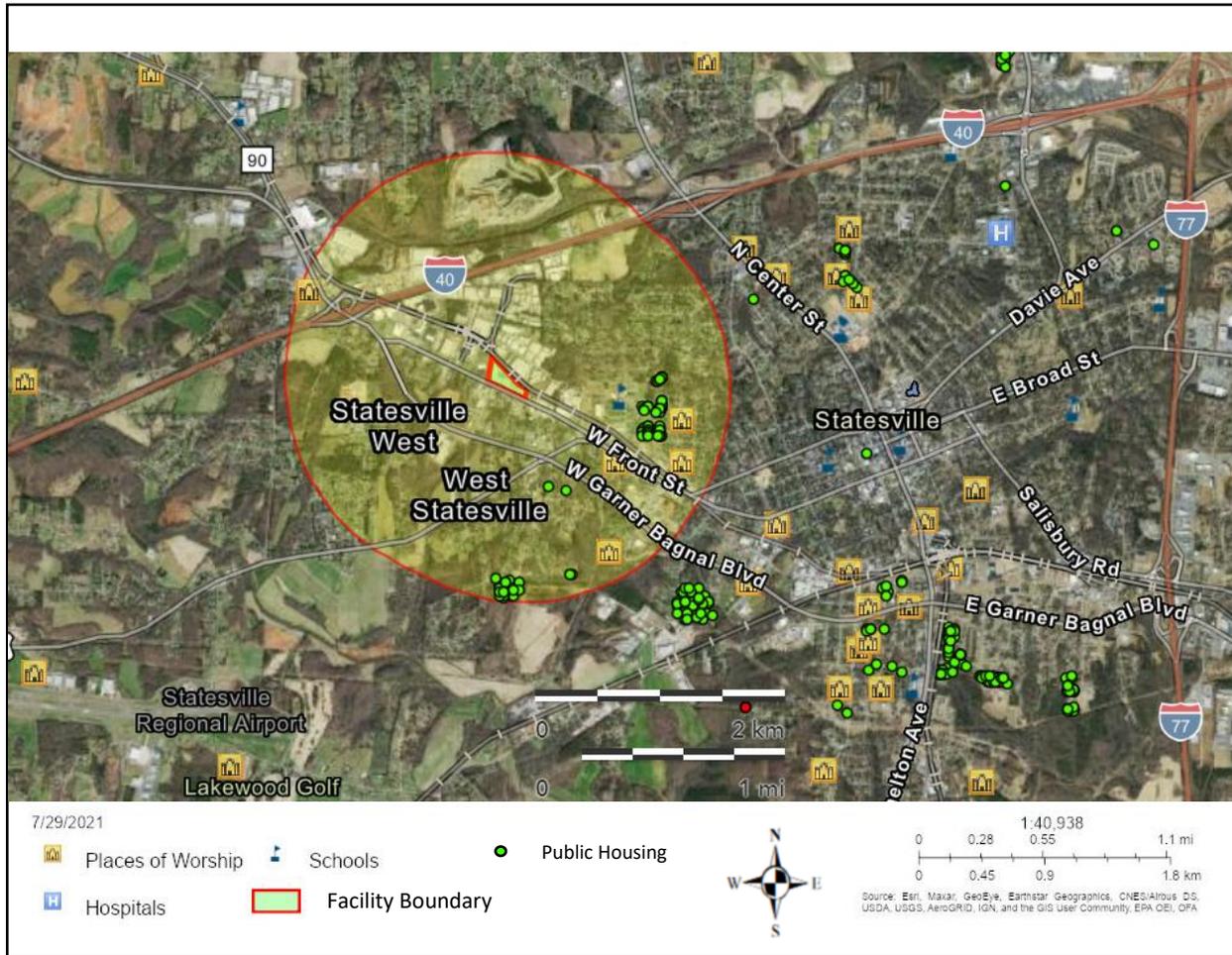


Figure 4. Sensitive receptors surrounding Automated Solutions.

## 10 Local Industrial Sites

According to the NC CMS/EJ Tool, within the one-mile radius of the facility, there are 67 permits or incidents (as of November 3, 2021) (Figure 5).

- 9 Air Quality Permitted sites (2 Synthetic Minors, 1 Registered, 1 Permit Exempt, 5 Small)
- 1 Land Clearing and Inert Debris (LCID) Notifications
- 4 Brownfields Program Sites
- 6 Hazardous Waste Site
- 29 Underground Storage Tank Incidents
- 8 Underground Storage Tank Active Facilities
- 10 Land Use Restriction and/or Notices

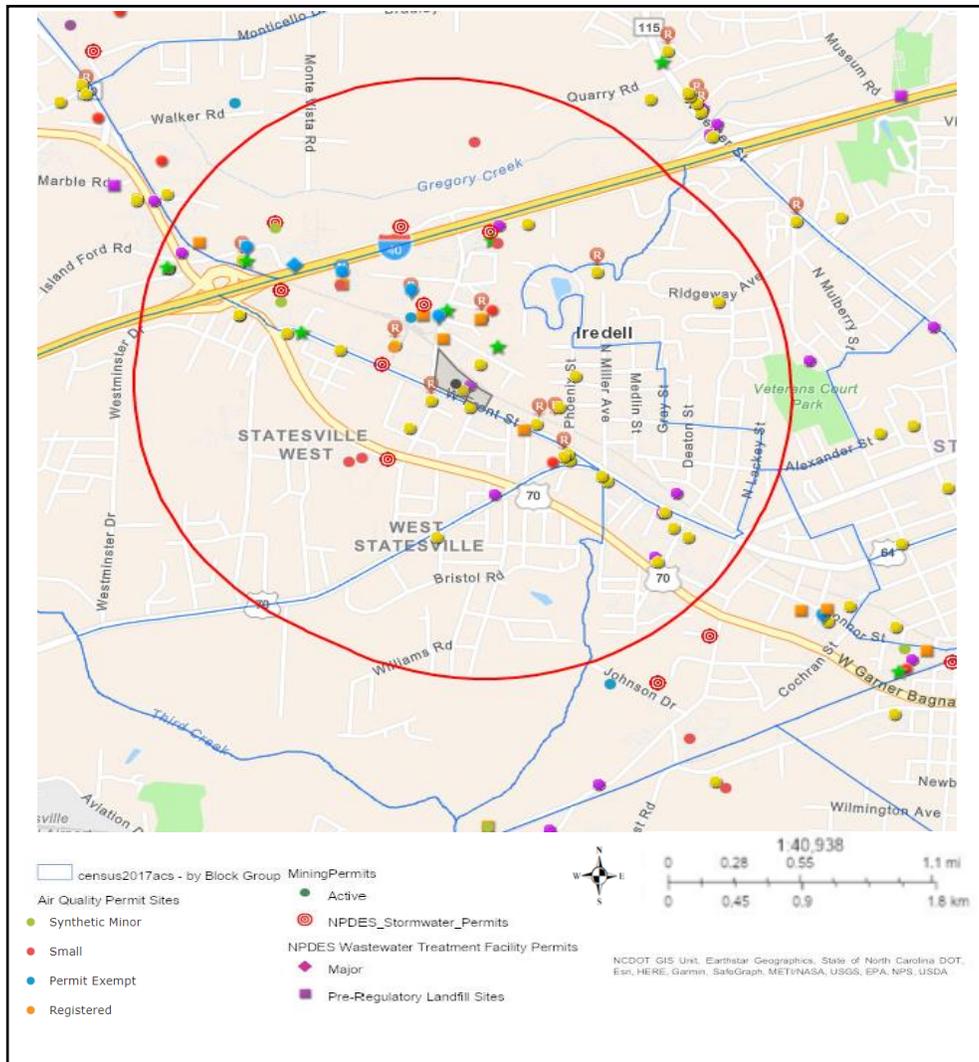


Figure 5. Permitted facilities and incidents with the one-mile radius surrounding the facility.

## 11 Conclusion

Environmental justice is the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income, with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies (US EPA). This Draft EJ report examined the demographic and environmental conditions in North Carolina and the one-mile radius around the Automated Solutions Facility encompassing Census Tracts 604, 605, 610.03, and 611.02 in Iredell County. Potential emissions rates outlined in the permit application and county level health data are included, as well as data from the NCDEQ Community Mapping System. It is important to keep in mind that based on the available data, the following limitations of this report: census data is from 2010—except for Race and Ethnicity data which is from 2020—and may be outdated; the more recent census data through 2019 are estimates; EJSCREEN does not provide all of the data categories that were used in this analysis so the census tract and county data cannot be compared to the radius used surrounding the facility boundary for all criteria; census tracts can still be large areas and do not allow for exact locations of each population; and the Department cannot determine which populations are in that small amount of overlap around the facility.

The Department assessed the available demographic and socioeconomic data of the community surrounding the Automated Solutions Facility regarding its permit application. The county, the project area data from the radius used, and the census tracts generally exceed the state estimates for Black and African American and Asian individuals present. The area also showed generally elevated poverty rates—except in census 605--when compared to the state and the county. All LEP groups identified were less than 5% of the total population—in all census tracts.

Iredell County ranks 15<sup>th</sup> in health outcomes and 17<sup>th</sup> in health factors. The project area performed worse than the state average for all death rates—except diabetes—that are included in the DEQ EJ Tool. There were 67 permits or incidents recorded within one mile of the proposed facility.

Based on this Draft EJ Report, the following outreach is recommended:

- Consult the list of sensitive receptors while considering additional outreach options that may best fit this community's needs.
- Provide project information to officials in the Town of Statesville.
- Consult known community leaders for additional outreach options and recommendations.