



North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality

November 3, 2023

Anson Gas Producers, LLC.

Draft Environmental Justice Report

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Table of Contents

Table of Contents	3
List of Figures	4
List of Tables	5
Executive Summary	6
Objective.....	6
Key Findings	6
1. Introduction	8
2. Environmental Justice Evaluation Approach	8
2.1 Sociodemographic Indicators.....	8
Race and Ethnicity.....	9
Age and Sex.....	9
Disability.....	9
Limited English Proficiency	10
Educational Attainment	10
Poverty and Low-income	10
3. Proposed Project	11
4. Geographic Area	12
5. Sociodemographic Analysis	17
5.1 Race and Ethnicity	18
Potential for EJ Concerns	18
Results	19
5.2 Age and Sex	22
Potential for EJ Concerns	22
Results	22
5.3 Disability	24
Potential for EJ Concerns	24
Results	24
5.4 Limited English Proficiency.....	25
Potential for EJ Concerns	25
Results	25
5.5 Educational Attainment.....	26
Potential for EJ Concerns	26

Results	26
5.6 Poverty and Low-Income.....	28
Potential for EJ Concerns	28
Results	28
6. Health & Cumulative Impacts.....	30
6.1 County Health Outcome Ranks	30
6.2 CDC/ATSDR EJ Indexes.....	31
6.3 Local Industrial Sites	34
7. Local Sensitive Receptors	34
8. Conclusion	36
Key Findings.....	36
Recommendations	37
Appendix	38
Appendix A: U.S. Census Data Sources.....	38
Appendix B: Additional Data Sources	38
Appendix C: Sociodemographic Indicators and EPA EJScreen ACS Report	38
Age & Sex.....	38
Race & Ethnicity.....	39
Disability	41
Limited English Proficiency.....	43
Educational Attainment.....	45
Poverty and Low-Income.....	47
EPA EJScreen ACS Report	47
Appendix D: County-Level Health Rankings	51
Appendix E: CDC Environmental Justice Index Model.....	51
Appendix F: Limitations.....	52
Census Data	52
Cumulative Impacts and Health	52

List of Figures

Figure 1. Anson Gas Producers, LLC. facility with a one-mile radius in the DEQ Community Mapping	15
Figure 2. Census tracts within a one-mile radius of Anson Gas Producers, LLC. facility	16
Figure 3. Race & Ethnicity percentage comparisons to the County and State	20
Figure 4. Minority percentage comparisons to the County and State.....	21

Figure 5. Poverty percentage comparisons to the County and State 29
Figure 6. NC County Health Outcome Ranks for 2023 30
Figure 7. NC County Health Factors Ranks for 2023 31
Figure . Project area and census tracts within the one-mile radius and corresponding CDC Environmental Justice Index scores 33
Figure 9. EJScreen Environmental Justice Indexes for a one-mile radius around Anson Gas Producers, LLC. 33
Figure 10. NC DEQ Community Mapping Tool Snapshot of the One-Mile Project Area Radius 34
Figure 11. EPA EJScreen Snapshot of Potential Sensitive Receptors within the One-Mile Project Area Radius 35

List of Tables

Table 1. Facility Emissions Overview 12
Table 2. Geographic area summary of the facility 14
Table 3. Race and Ethnicity percentage comparisons to the County and State 19
Table 4. Minority percentage comparisons to the County and State 21
Table 5. Median Age & Sex for North Carolina and Anson County 22
Table 6. Median Age & Sex for census tracts within a one-mile radius of Anson Gas Producers, LLC. 22
Table 7. Age percentage comparisons to the County and State 23
Table 8. Disability percentage comparisons to the County and State 24
Table 9. Limited English Proficiency percentage comparisons to the County and State 25
Table 10. Educational Attainment percentage comparisons to the County and State (Populations between 18-24 years) 26
Table 11. Educational Attainment percentage comparisons to the County and State (Populations age 25 years and over) 27
Table 12. Poverty percentage comparisons to the County and State 28
Table 13. List of Permits, Incidents, and Sites within the One-Mile Project Area Radius 34
Table 14. List of Sensitive Receptors within the One-Mile Project Area Radius 35

Executive Summary

Objective

The primary goal of this Environmental Justice Report is to encourage comments and suggestions from the surrounding community, industry, and environmental groups throughout the comment period for the Anson Gas Producers, LLC. Air Permit. Using available 2021 American Community Survey 5-year estimates, the report provides recommendations for appropriate enhanced public outreach and engagement to facilitate public input. Specifically, this report highlights census tracts within a one-mile radius of Anson Gas Producers, LLC. and the potential for environmental justice concerns.

Key Findings

Based on this report's analysis and using NC DEQ Potentially Underserved Block Groups (on the basis of Race/Ethnicity and Poverty) and standard EJ guidelines established by the U.S. EPA and in the NEPA documentation, the potential environmental justice concerns for particular populations have been identified as follows:

- **Race and Ethnicity:**
 - *Total minority populations* – The overall minority population in Anson County, the project radius, and three of five census tracts within a one-mile radius of the facility (9204, 9205.01, and 9800).
 - *Specific minority populations* – Black or African American populations in the project radius and all five census tracts within a one-mile radius of the facility.
- **Tribal Communities:**
 - There are no state or federally recognized tribes or Urban Indian Organizations in Anson County. However, the Metrolina Native American Association serves Anson county.
- **Age and Sex:**
 - Populations of individuals 5 years or younger in three census tracts within a one-mile radius of the facility (9203.02, 9204, and 9205.01).
 - Populations of individuals 65 years or older in the census tract containing the facility (9203.01).
- **Limited English Proficiency:** The Spanish-speaking population and Chinese-speaking population with limited-English proficiency in the census tract containing the facility (9203.01) and one census tract within a one-mile radius of the facility (9800), respectively. However, based on the four-factor analysis outlined in the [DEQ Language Access Plan](#)¹, enhanced language-related outreach is not warranted.
- **Disability:** Populations living with a disability in two census tracts of five within a one-mile radius of the facility (9203.01 and 9800).
- **Education:** Populations of individuals at least 18 years and older whose highest educational attainment is “less than a high school graduate degree” in all five census tracts within a one-mile radius of the facility.
- **Poverty:** Populations experiencing “poverty 200% below the poverty level” in the project area and four of five census tracts within one-mile of the facility (9203.01, 9203.02, 9204, and 9205.01)
- **Cumulative Impacts:** Two census tracts (9204 and 9205) within the project area have a “High” Environmental Justice Index score.

¹ <https://www.deq.nc.gov/ej/limited-english-proficiency-plan/download>

Recommendations

Based on the sociodemographic indicator analysis, the Environmental Justice Program recommends the following outreach and engagement for the Anson Gas Producers, LLC. Air Permit public commenting period:

- A one-page fact sheet with public comment period information.
- Mailed or emailed public notices and one-page fact sheets to local sensitive receptors and the Town of Polkton.
- Consultation with community leaders and the Metrolina Native American Association about other outreach contacts and recommendations including known local places of worship and community centers.
- Evaluate options to distribute one-page fact sheets in higher traffic areas of the community such as community centers.
- Arrange voicemail line to receive public comments.

1. Introduction

The North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (NC DEQ) and its Environmental Justice Program maintains an ongoing interest in integrating equitable protections for human health, vulnerable communities, the environment, and civil rights into its programs.

The Environmental Justice Program at NC DEQ works to ensure 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.

The term environmental justice describes situations where multiple factors, including both environmental and socio-economic stressors, may act cumulatively to affect health and the environment and contribute to persistent environmental health disparities and overburden communities. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) defines overburdened communities as a minority, low-income, tribal or indigenous populations, or geographic locations in the United States that potentially experience disproportionate environmental harms and risks.² Disproportionality can result in greater vulnerability to environmental hazards, lack of opportunity for public participation, or other factors. Increased vulnerability may be attributable to an accumulation of negative environmental, health, economic, or social conditions within these populations or places.

The primary goal of this Environmental Justice Report is to encourage comments and suggestions from the surrounding community, industry, and environmental groups throughout the comment period for the Anson Gas Producers, LLC. Air Permit. Using available 2021 American Community Survey 5-year estimates, the report provides recommendations for appropriate enhanced public outreach and engagement to facilitate public input. Specifically, this report highlights census tracts within a one-mile radius of the facility and the potential for environmental justice concerns.

2. Environmental Justice Evaluation Approach

NC DEQ has assessed the current permit conditions and the demographics of the communities in the area surrounding the facility. Accordingly, this Draft EJ Report includes:

- Permit information and facility history overview
- 2023 county distress ranking as determined by the NC Department of Commerce
- Sociodemographic analysis of census tracts within the one-mile radius and potential EJ concerns based on a comparison of local area demographics to both County and Statewide census data
- Presence or absence of state or federally recognized tribes or Urban Indian Associations
- County health assessment from the County Health Rankings and Roadmaps and potential cumulative impacts
- Local sensitive receptors
- Conclusions and outreach recommendations

2.1 Sociodemographic Indicators

The Environmental Justice Program examined the following sociodemographic indicators:

- Race and Ethnicity
- Age and Sex

² *EJ 2020 Glossary*. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). <https://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/ej-2020-glossary>

- Disability
- Limited English Proficiency (LEP)
- Educational Attainment
- Poverty and Low-income

The sociodemographic indicators examined are in alignment with DEQ's policy that no person shall, on the grounds of race, color, Tribal affiliation, national origin, sex, age, or disability be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of or be subjected to discrimination under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1987, the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and all other pertinent nondiscrimination laws and regulations.

Demographics for the state of North Carolina and its counties are compared to the census tracts on a local geographic scale using data available through the U.S. Census Bureau. See Appendix A for descriptions of all U.S. Census source data used in this report. Demographics for the one-mile radius around Dura-Supreme, LLC – which will be referred to as the project area in this report – are provided through EPA's EJScreen.³ See Appendix C for the full EJScreen ACS 2017-2020 report for the project area.

Race and Ethnicity

To analyze potential EJ concerns based on race, color, national origin, and ethnicity, the Environmental Justice Program examined populations in the following U.S. Census-defined race and ethnicity categories:

- White (Not Hispanic)
- Black or African American
- Hispanic or Latino
- American Indian or Alaska Native
- Asian
- Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander
- Some Other Race
- Two or More Races

Age and Sex

To analyze potential EJ concerns based on age and sex, the Environmental Justice Program examined populations of two different age categories for both males and females. The populations of ≤5 years old and ≥65 years old were examined because the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) considers these age ranges as vulnerable.⁴

Disability

To analyze potential EJ concerns based on disability status, the total population with a disability was examined.

To analyze potential EJ concerns regarding accessibility to public information and public hearings concerning public health or environmental impacts of programs, policies, and activities the types of difficulties experienced by the total population with a disability was also examined.

³ EPA's *Environmental Justice Screening and Mapping Tool (Version 2.2)*. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). <https://ejscreen.epa.gov/mapper/>

⁴ *Sensitive Populations and Chemical Exposure*. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Agency for Toxic Substances Disease Registry (ATSDR). <https://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/emes/public/docs/Sensitive%20Populations%20FS.pdf>

Limited English Proficiency

Spanish-, French-, Chinese-, Vietnamese-, and Arabic-speaking populations are the top 5 non-English languages spoken in North Carolina.⁵ In North Carolina, the largest limited English proficiency (LEP) population is Spanish-speaking, making up approximately 3.5% of the state population and approximately 75% of the entire LEP population in North Carolina (American Community Survey 2011-2015). The next largest language groups are Chinese-speaking (approximately 3.5% of the LEP population), Vietnamese-speaking (approximately 3.3% of the LEP population), and other Asian Language-speaking (approximately 2% of the LEP population).

To analyze potential EJ concerns regarding accessibility to public information concerning public health or environmental impacts of programs, policies, and activities, these six identified populations with LEP were examined.

For this EJ report, populations that speak English “Less than very well,” as categorized in the U.S. Census Bureau, are considered populations with LEP.

Educational Attainment

To analyze potential EJ concerns based on socioeconomic status, populations with varying levels of educational attainment (bachelor’s degree and higher and high school degree and lower) for adults of 25 years or older were examined.

Poverty and Low-income

To analyze potential EJ concerns based on income levels, populations below the poverty level and the ratio of people 200% below the poverty level were examined. The poverty level for 2019 was defined as having a household income less than \$12,490 for a household with one individual, with an additional \$4,420 per individual added to a household. The U.S. Census Bureau considers a household to be all individuals that occupy a housing unit as their usual place of residence.⁶ Analyzed poverty data from the U.S. Census Bureau considered total populations in poverty as a count of individuals, which had already been determined on a household level according to these guidelines.

⁵ Tippet, R. (2016, April 21). Hola, xin chào, bonjour: Many languages heard in NC homes. *UNC Chapel Hill Carolina Population Center*. <https://carolinademography.cpc.unc.edu/2016/04/21/hola-xin-chao-bonjour-many-languages-heard-in-nc-homes/>

⁶ Household Definition. (n.d.). In *US Census Bureau Glossary*. <https://www.census.gov/glossary/?term=Household>

3. Proposed Project

Anson Gas Producers, LLC submitted an application (No. 0400062.22A) for an air quality permit to construct and operate a facility that will accept landfill gas from the adjacent active landfill at the Anson County Waste Management Facility and process it into renewable natural gas (RNG). This gas is comprised of mostly methane that has a heating value comparable to pipeline natural gas. Anson Gas Producers, LLC and the Anson County Waste Management Facility have different ownerships and are considered separate Title V facilities.

Upon initial startup, the facility plans to compress the RNG into specially designed mobile trailers and transport it to a pipeline injection station. Once injected, the RNG will be distributed to end users as a substitute for fossil fuel-derived natural gas.

The facility will be comprised of the following:

Emission Source ID No.	Emission Source Description	Control Device Description
ES-RNG_Plant	Landfill Gas to Renewable Natural Gas Processing Plant consisting of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One booster blower (4,000 standard cubic feet per minute) • Dehydration/Chiller System • VOC Removal System • One Carbon Vent System (1,785 standard cubic feet per minute) 	Hydrogen Sulfide Treatment System (Iron Chelate Medium) Hydrogen Sulfide Polishing System One candlestick flare (4,000 standard cubic feet per minute of landfill gas)

Anson Gas Producers, LLC will not be subject to any National Emissions Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP) or New Source Performance Standards (NSPS) federal regulations. The open flare shall be designed and operated in accordance with 40 CFR 60.18 "General Control Device and Work Practice Requirements." Toxic air pollutant (TAP) emissions were evaluated for this facility, and those of benzene, hydrogen chloride, and vinyl chloride were above the Toxics Permitting Emissions Rates (TPERs) in 15A NCAC 02Q .0711. Dispersion modeling performed for these three TAPs showed each was less than their respective Acceptable Ambient Limit (AAL).

Expected actual emissions of regulated pollutants after controls from Anson Gas Producers, LLC during normal operation are provided in Table 1.

Table 1. Facility Emissions Overview

Pollutant	Expected Actual Emissions (tons/year)
Carbon Monoxide (CO)	2.89
Nitrogen Oxides (NOx)	0.60
Particulate Matter (PM10/PM2.5)	0.16
Sulfur Dioxide (SO2)	0.04
Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC)	2.03
Total Hazardous Air Pollutants (HAP)	<1.00
Highest Individual HAP Hydrogen chloride (HCl)	0.10

Due to concerns regarding the presence of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) at the Anson County Waste Management Facility’s landfill, the air quality permit for Anson Gas Producers, LLC will include a state-enforceable-only condition for the disclosure of information relating to emissions of fluorinated chemicals. Additionally, the permit will include a condition requiring an initial sampling test of the inlet landfill gas for the presence of PFAS.

4. Geographic Area

NC DEQ defines a Potentially Underserved Community by examining the race/ethnicity and poverty criteria for each block group. The block group is then compared to both the county and the state and is classified by the Department as a Potentially Underserved Block Group if it meets the following criteria for race/ethnicity and poverty:

- **Race/Ethnicity:** Share of nonwhites and Hispanic or Latino (of any race) is over fifty percent OR share of nonwhites and Hispanic or Latino (of any race) is at least ten percent higher than County or State share. AND
- **Poverty:** Share of population experiencing poverty is over twenty percent AND share of households in poverty is at least five percent higher than the County or State share.

These selections occur on a block group level⁷ and this dataset is a selection of the 2019 ACS data from the data tables B03002—Hispanic or Latino Origin by Race—and S1701—Poverty Status in the Past 12 Months. Learn more about [NC DEQ's Potentially Underserved Block Groups 2019 - Overview](https://arcgis.com) (arcgis.com).

The proposed Anson Gas Producers, LLC. facility is located at 375 Dozer Drive, Polkton, NC 28135. Anson Gas Producers, LLC. is in census tract 9203.01 in Anson County and by NC DEQ’s definition, is not located in a Potentially Underserved Community. According to the NC Department of Commerce 2023 County Tier

⁷ Block groups are statistical divisions of census tracts, are generally defined to contain between 600 and 3,000 people and are used to present data and control block numbering. A block group consists of clusters of blocks within the same census tract that have the same first digit of their four-digit census block number.

Designations for County Distress Rankings, Anson County is a Tier 1 county (on a scale of Tiers 1-3 with Tier 1 being the most distressed), which is categorized as the most distressed. Anson County has an economic distress rank of 12 out of 100 (with a rank of 1 being most economically distressed and 100 being least economically distressed).

County tiers in the state are calculated by the NC Department of Commerce using four factors: average unemployment rate, median household income, percentage growth in population, and adjusted property tax base per capita. Tier 1 encompasses the 40 most distressed counties, Tier 2 encompasses the next 40, and Tier 3 encompasses the 20 least distressed counties. Visit the [NC Department of Commerce's County Distress Rankings](#) for more details on county tier calculations.

According to EPA's EJScreen, the project area is in the 50th percentile for broadband internet gaps in the state (See Appendix C).⁸ This means 50% of areas in the state have more broadband internet gaps.

Demographics for the project area and census tracts intersecting the project area were analyzed for this report. Table 1 and Figures 1 and 2 summarize the geographic area and census tracts within a one-mile radius of Anson Gas Producers, LLC.

⁸ EPA defines broadband gaps as areas with the lowest rate of households with a broadband internet subscription.

Table 2. Geographic area summary of the facility

GEOGRAPHIC AREA SUMMARY	
Facility Address	375 Dozer Drive, Polkton, NC 28135
Geographic Coordinates	35.001662689927954, - 80.16504451543699
Facility located in a PUC (Yes/No)	No
PUC located within a one-mile radius of facility (Yes/No)	Yes
County	Anson County
State- or Federally- recognized tribes or Urban Indian Organizations	No. However, the Metrolina Native American Association serves Anson County.
2023 County Tier for County Distress Rankings	Tier 1
2023 Economic Distress Ranking out of 100	12
Census Tract with the facility	9203.01
Census Tracts within a one-mile radius of the facility	9203.02
	9204
	9205.01
	9800

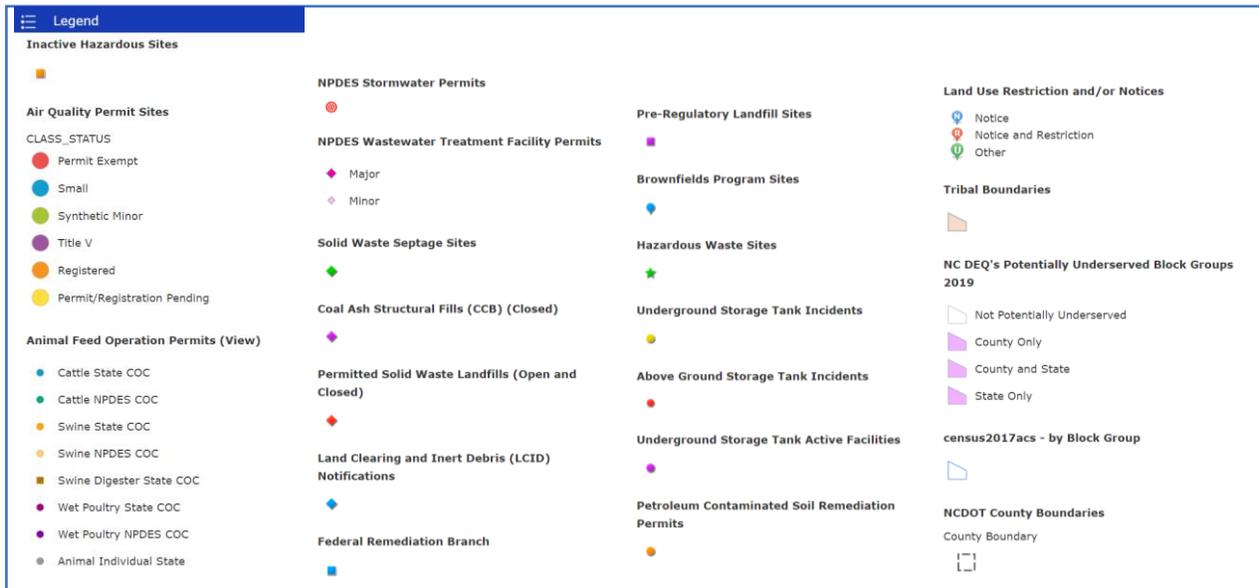
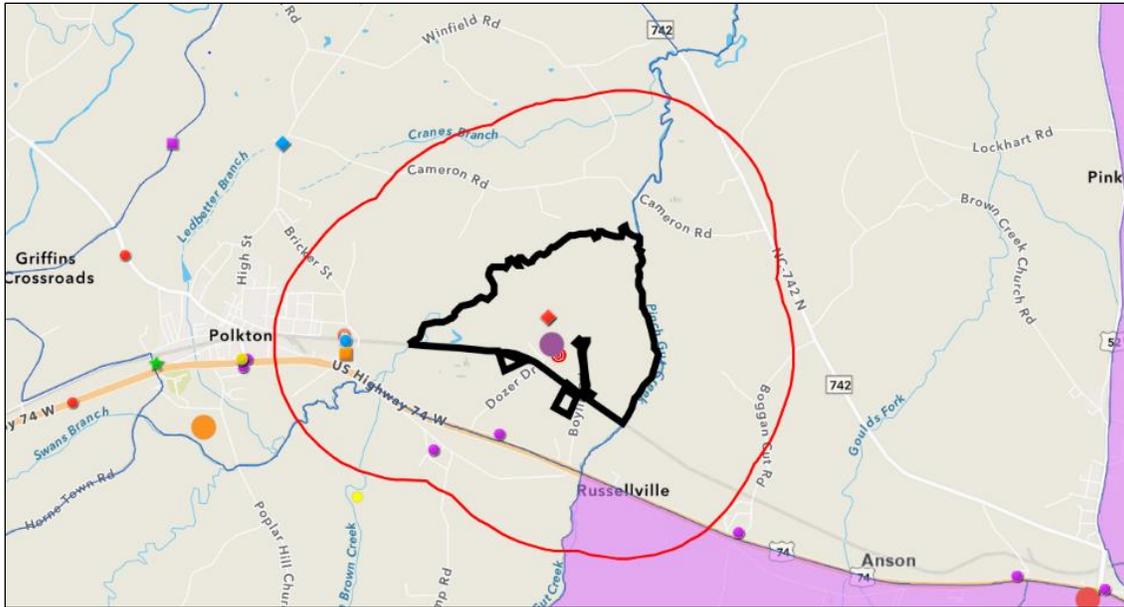


Figure 1. Anson Gas Producers, LLC. facility with a one-mile radius in the DEQ Community Mapping

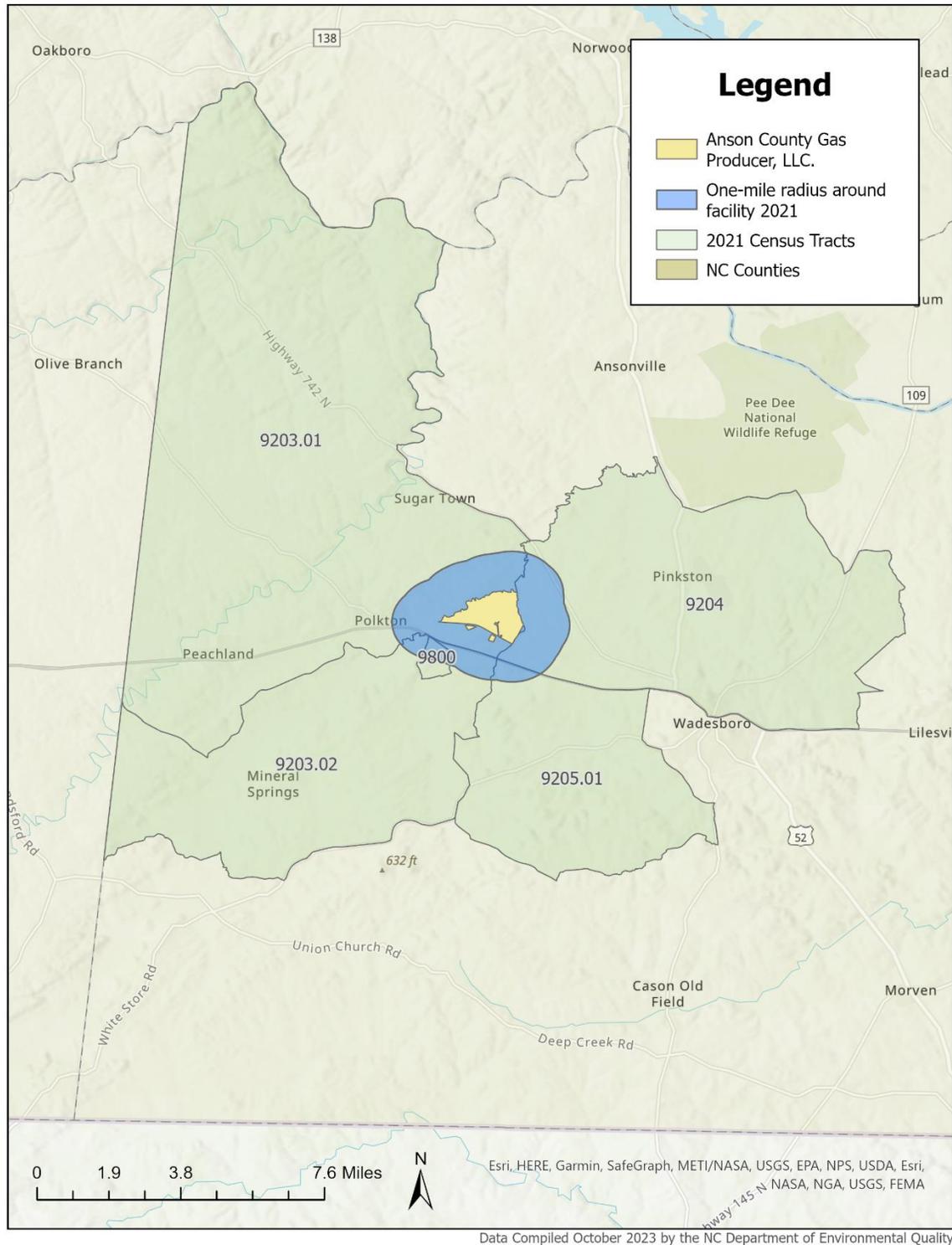


Figure 2. Census tracts within a one-mile radius of Anson Gas Producers, LLC. facility

5. Sociodemographic Analysis

Using standard environmental justice guidelines from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documentation, the following conditions are highlighted as communities with the potential for EJ concerns:

1. A 10% or more difference when compared to the county or state for race and ethnicity, age and sex, disability, and educational attainment (up to high school or equivalent level);
2. A 50% or more minority (non-white) population;
3. Share of population experiencing poverty is 20% or more;
4. Percentage increase of 5% or more compared to the county or state average for poverty;
5. At least 5% of the population or 1,000 people (whichever is smaller) speaks English less than very well.

The U.S. Census Bureau uses and provides margins of error which is used as an indicator of potential sampling errors and relative reliability. A larger margin of error corresponds to a larger degree of uncertainty. Estimates and margins of error and DEQ calculated confidence intervals for sociodemographic indicators are provided in Appendix C as available through the U.S. Census Bureau.

5.1 Race and Ethnicity

Potential for EJ Concerns

- The minority population in Anson County is greater than 50% and 10% higher when compared to the state. The minority population is also greater than 50% in the project radius and three census tracts (9204, 9205.01, and 9800) and 10% higher when compared to the county or state (Table 3; Figure 4).
- The project radius and all five census tracts have Black or African American populations greater than 10% higher when compared to the county or state. In Anson County, this population is greater than 10% higher when compared to the state (Table 2; Figure 3).
- The project radius and two census tracts (9203.01 and 9205.01) have a Hispanic or Latino population greater than 10% higher when compared to the county (Table 2; Figure 3).
- The project radius and census tract 9800 have an American Indian or Alaska Native population and Asian population greater than 10% higher when compared to the county or state (Table 2; Figure 3).
- Census tract 9800 has a Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander population greater than 10% higher when compared to the County and State (Table 2; Figure 3).
- Two census tracts (9203.01 and 9204) have populations identifying as “Some Other Race” greater than 10% higher when compared to the county or state (Table 2; Figure 3).
- The project radius and census tract 9203.01 have a population identifying as “Two or More Races” greater than 10% higher when compared to the County and State (Table 2; Figure 3).

Results

Table 3. Race and Ethnicity percentage comparisons to the County and State

RACE & ETHNICITY (%)								
	NORTH CAROLINA (n=2672)	ANSON COUNTY (n=9)	PROJECT AREA	Census Tract 9203.01	Census Tract 9203.02	Census Tract 9204	Census Tract 9205.01	Census Tract 9800
White (Not Hispanic)	62.06	44.32	41.00	64.16	67.25	24.05	26.36	40.76
Black or African American	20.84	47.99*	45.00*	24.07*	28.20*	73.81**	66.27**	48.69*
Hispanic or Latino	9.81	4.23	6.00+	7.71+	4.56	0.00	7.38+	3.08
American Indian or Alaska Native	0.95	0.17	1.00+	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.62**
Asian	3.01	0.92	1.00+	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.08**
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0.06	0.04	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.62**
Some other Race	0.32	0.16	0.00	0.25+	0.00	0.51**	0.00	0.00
Two or More Races	2.95	2.17	4.00**	3.81**	0.00	1.63	0.00	3.16+
Total Population	10,367,022	22,388	1,843	4,433	461	2,753	922	1,298

Source: US Census Bureau, 2021 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-year estimate

All **bolded*** cells indicate a percentage increase of 10% or more for non-white populations in the county or group of census tracts compared to the **state**.

All cells **bolded+** indicate a percentage increase of 10% or more for non-white populations in the group of census tracts when compared to the **county**.

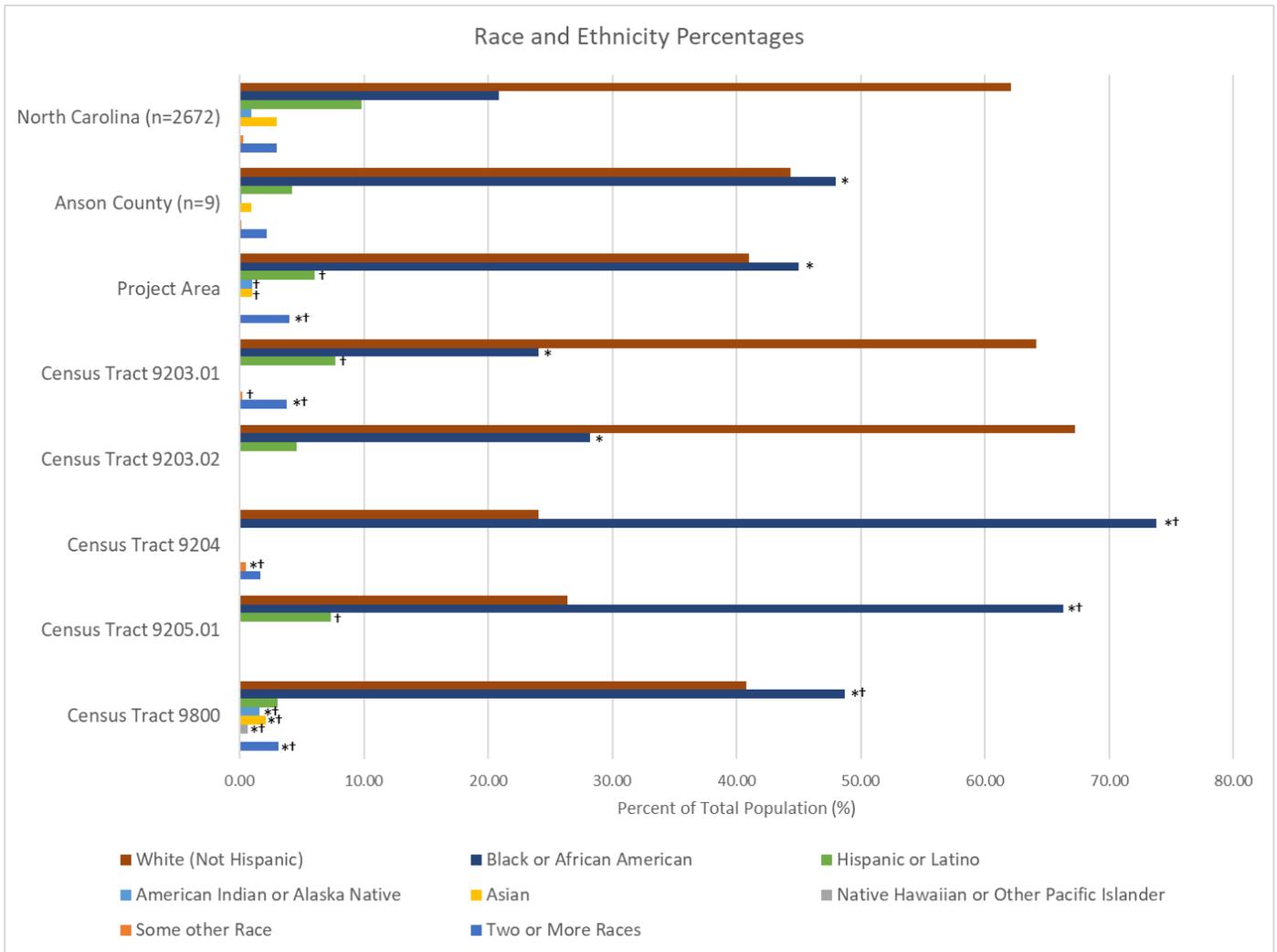


Figure 3. Race & Ethnicity percentage comparisons to the County and State

Table 4. Minority percentage comparisons to the County and State

MINORITY (%)								
	NORTH CAROLINA (n=2672)	ANSON COUNTY (n=45)	PROJECT AREA	Census Tract 9203.01	Census Tract 9203.02	Census Tract 9204	Census Tract 9205.01	Census Tract 9800
Minority	37.94	55.68*	57.00*	35.84	32.75	75.95*†	73.64*†	59.24*†
Total Population	10,367,022	22,388	1,843	4,433	461	2,753	922	1,298

Source: US Census Bureau, 2021 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-year estimate

All **bolded*** cells indicate a percentage increase of 10% or more in the county or group of census tracts compared to the **state**.

All cells **bolded†** indicate a percentage increase of 10% or more in the group of census tracts when compared to the **county**.

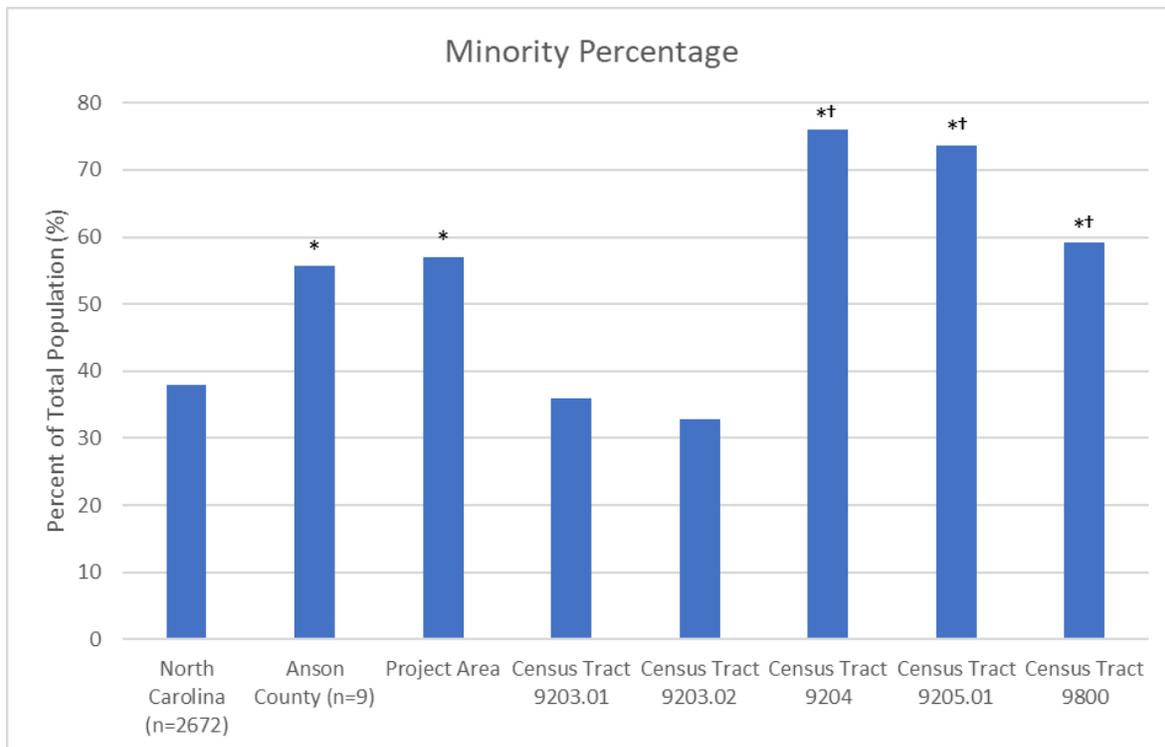


Figure 4. Minority percentage comparisons to the County and State

5.2 Age and Sex

Potential for EJ Concerns

- Three census tracts (9203.01, 9204, and 9105.01) have a population of individuals who are of age 5 years or younger, that are greater than 10% higher when compared to the County or State (Table 6).
- Census tract 9203.01 has a population of individuals who are 65 years or older, that is greater than 10% or higher when compared to the County and State (Table 6).

Results

Table 5. Median Age & Sex for North Carolina and Anson County

MEDIAN AGE & SEX						
	NORTH CAROLINA (n=2672)			ANSON COUNTY (n=9)		
	Male	Female	Both	Male	Female	Both
Median Age	39.5	41.8	40.7	39.0	41.9	40.3
Total (%)	48.88	51.12		50.47	49.53	

Source: US Census Bureau, 2021 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-year estimate
All **bolded*** cells indicate a percentage increase of 10% or more in the county compared to the **state**.

Table 6. Median Age & Sex for census tracts within a one-mile radius of Anson Gas Producers, LLC.

MEDIAN AGE & SEX									
	Census Tract 9203.01			Census Tract 9203.02			Census Tract 9204		
	Male	Female	Both	Male	Female	Both	Male	Female	Both
Median Age	37.2	47.6	41.9	30.7	36.0	31.2	25.6	31.3	28.3
Total (%)	50.24	49.76		52.28	47.72		42.79	57.21*†	
	Census Tract 9205.01			Census Tract 9800					
	Male	Female	Both	Male	Female	Both			
Median Age	44.1	36.6	39.3	42.7	37.5	42.0			
Total (%)	48.26	51.74		75.65*†	24.35				

Source: US Census Bureau, 2021 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-year estimate
All **bolded*** cells indicate a percentage increase of 10% or more in the group of census tracts compared to the **state**.
All cells **bolded†** indicate a percentage increase of 10% or more in the group of census tracts when compared to the **county**.

Table 7. Age percentage comparisons to the County and State

AGE (%)								
	NORTH CAROLINA (n=2672)	ANSON COUNTY (n=9)	PROJECT AREA	Census Tract 9203.01	Census Tract 9203.02	Census Tract 9204	Census Tract 9205.01	Census Tract 9800
Below 5 Years Old	5.84	5.01	1.00	3.41	5.64⁺	11.59*⁺	11.39*⁺	0.00
Above 65 Years Old	16.29	18.72*	9.00	20.55*⁺	12.15	12.97	9.98	4.70
Source: US Census Bureau, 2021 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-year estimate								
All bolded* cells indicate a percentage increase of 10% or more in the group of census tracts compared to the state .								
All cells bolded⁺ indicate a percentage increase of 10% or more in the group of census tracts when compared to the county .								

5.3 Disability

Potential for EJ Concerns

- Anson County has a population living with a disability greater than 10% higher when compared to the State (Table 7).
- Two census tracts (9203.01 and 9204) have a population living with a disability greater than 10% higher when compared to the County or State (Table 7).

Results

Table 8. Disability percentage comparisons to the County and State

DISABILITY (%)							
	NORTH CAROLINA (n=2672)	ANSON COUNTY (n=9)	Census Tract 9203.01	Census Tract 9203.02	Census Tract 9204	Census Tract 9205.01	Census Tract 9800
Population with a Disability	13.22	18.43*	22.87*†	14.32	16.96*	4.34	0.00
Type of Difficulty							
Hearing	27.72	27.18	26.33	46.03*†	32.98*†	0.00	0.00
Vision	19.02	10.68	13.81†	12.70†	15.20†	32.50*†	0.00
Cognitive	37.94	43.13*	48.13*†	22.22	23.77	100.00*†	0.00
Ambulatory	51.76	54.85	36.79	31.75	57.39*	32.50	0.00
Self-care	18.76	22.40*	15.98	0.00	25.91*†	32.50*†	0.00
Independent Living	34.21	36.79	37.77*	22.22	30.62	0.00	0.00
Source: US Census Bureau, 2021 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-year estimate							
All bolded* cells indicate a percentage increase of 10% or more in the group of census tracts compared to the state .							
All cells bolded† indicate a percentage increase of 10% or more in the group of census tracts when compared to the county .							

5.4 Limited English Proficiency

Potential for EJ Concerns

- Census tract 9203.01 has a population of Spanish-speaking households with limited-English proficiency greater than 5% or higher when compared to the County (Table 8).
- Census tract 9800 has a population of Chinese-speaking households with limited-English proficiency greater than 5% or higher when compared to the County (Table 8).

Results

Table 9. Limited English Proficiency percentage comparisons to the County and State

LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENCY (%)							
	NORTH CAROLINA (n=2672)	ANSON COUNTY (n=9)	Census Tract 9203.01	Census Tract 9203.02	Census Tract 9204	Census Tract 9205.01	Census Tract 9800
Speak only English	87.93	94.64	93.13	100.00	99.42	91.68	94.22
Spanish	3.12	0.98	1.87*	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.54
Other Asian and Pacific Island Languages	0.26	0.10	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other Indo-European Languages	0.25	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Chinese (including Mandarin, Cantonese)	0.16	0.07	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.16**
Vietnamese	0.10	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Arabic	0.11	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
French, Haitian, or Cajun	0.11	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Population 5 Years and over	9,773,018	21,266	4,282	435	2,434	817	1,298
Source: US Census Bureau, 2021 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-year estimate							
All bolded* cells indicate a percentage increase of 10% or more in the group of census tracts compared to the state .							
All cells bolded** indicate a percentage increase of 10% or more in the group of census tracts when compared to the county .							

5.5 Educational Attainment

Potential for EJ Concerns

- Census tract 9204 and 9800 have a population between 18 and 24 years of age with less than a high school graduate degree greater than 10% higher when compared to the County and State (Table 9).
- Anson County has a population of age 25 years and over with the highest educational attainment being less than a high school graduate degree greater than 10% higher than the state (Table 10).
- Three census tracts (9203.01, 9205.01, and 9800) have a population of age 25 years and over with the highest educational attainment being less than a high school graduate degree greater than 10% higher than the county and state (Table 10).

Results

Table 10. Educational Attainment percentage comparisons to the County and State (Populations between 18-24 years)

EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT (%)							
	NORTH CAROLINA (n=2672)	ANSON COUNTY (n=9)	Census Tract 9203.01	Census Tract 9203.02	Census Tract 9204	Census Tract 9205.01	Census Tract 9800
Less than High School Graduate	11.89	8.05	6.31	0.00	22.17*†	0.00	21.05*†
Population age 18-24 years	979,831	1,764	333	25	415	17	95
Source: US Census Bureau, 2021 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-year estimate							
All bolded* cells indicate a percentage increase of 10% or more in the group of census tracts compared to the state .							
All cells bolded† indicate a percentage increase of 10% or more in the group of census tracts when compared to the county .							

Table 11. Educational Attainment percentage comparisons to the County and State (Populations age 25 years and over)

EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT (%)							
	NORTH CAROLINA (n=2672)	ANSON COUNTY (n=9)	Census Tract 9203.01	Census Tract 9203.02	Census Tract 9204	Census Tract 9205.01	Census Tract 9800
Less than 9th grade	4.13	4.61*	7.58*+	0.00	1.36	10.48*+	8.23*+
9th to 12th grade, no diploma	6.84	12.92*	14.17*	6.89	6.98	22.96*+	17.71*+
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	25.23	82.48*	39.67*	57.40*	44.21*	28.04*	36.16*
Bachelor's degree	33.02	11.75	8.47	4.59	14.35+	21.26+	3.99
Population age 25 years and over	7,084,876	16,003	3,141	2,631	1,547	649	1,203
Source: US Census Bureau, 2021 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-year estimate							
All bolded* cells indicate a percentage increase of 10% or more in the group of census tracts compared to the state .							
All cells bolded+ indicate a percentage increase of 10% or more in the group of census tracts when compared to the county .							

5.6 Poverty and Low-Income

Potential for EJ Concerns

- Anson County has a population below the poverty level and 200% below the poverty level greater than 10% higher when compared to the state (Table 11; Figure 5). Anson County also has a population 200% below the poverty level greater than 20% (Table 11; Figure 5).
- The project area and four census tracts (9203.01, 9203.02, 9204, and 9205.01) have a population 200% below the poverty level greater than 20% (Table 11; Figure 5). The population for these census tracts is also greater than 10% higher when compared to the county or state (Table 11; Figure 5).

Results

Table 12. Poverty percentage comparisons to the County and State

POVERTY (%)								
	NORTH CAROLINA (n=2672)	ANSON COUNTY (n=9)	PROJECT AREA ⁹	Census Tract 9203.01	Census Tract 9203.02	Census Tract 9204	Census Tract 9205.01	Census Tract 9800 ¹⁰
Below Poverty Level	13.98	18.29*		11.21	0.00	43.95⁺	22.56⁺⁺	0.00
200% Below the Poverty Level	32.99	47.26*	38.00*	38.47*	42.08*	68.65⁺⁺	57.59⁺⁺	0.00
Total Population for whom Poverty Status is Determined	10,098,330	20,893	1,843	4,417	461	2,753	922	0
Source: US Census Bureau, 2021 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-year estimate								
All bolded* cells indicate a percentage increase of 10% or more in the group of census tracts compared to the state .								
All cells bolded⁺ indicate a percentage increase of 10% or more in the group of census tracts when compared to the county .								

⁹ EPA's EJScreen ACS 2017-2020, 5-year estimates data reports the low-income population percentage for a one mile radius. Low-income is defined by the EPA as the percent of a block group's population in households where the household income is less than or equal to twice the federal poverty level. Neither the "total population for whom poverty status is determined" nor population percentage for those "below poverty level" are reported for the one-mile radius EJScreen report.

¹⁰ Table S1701 "Poverty Status in the Last 12 Months" of the 2021 American Community Survey 5-year estimates reports 0% for "Below Poverty Level", "200% Below the Poverty Level", and "Total Population for whom Poverty Status is Determined" for some census tracts. Due to reporting limitations affecting sample size and potential margins of error, this may not be an accurate representation of the poverty percentage in these census tracts. See Appendix F for more details.

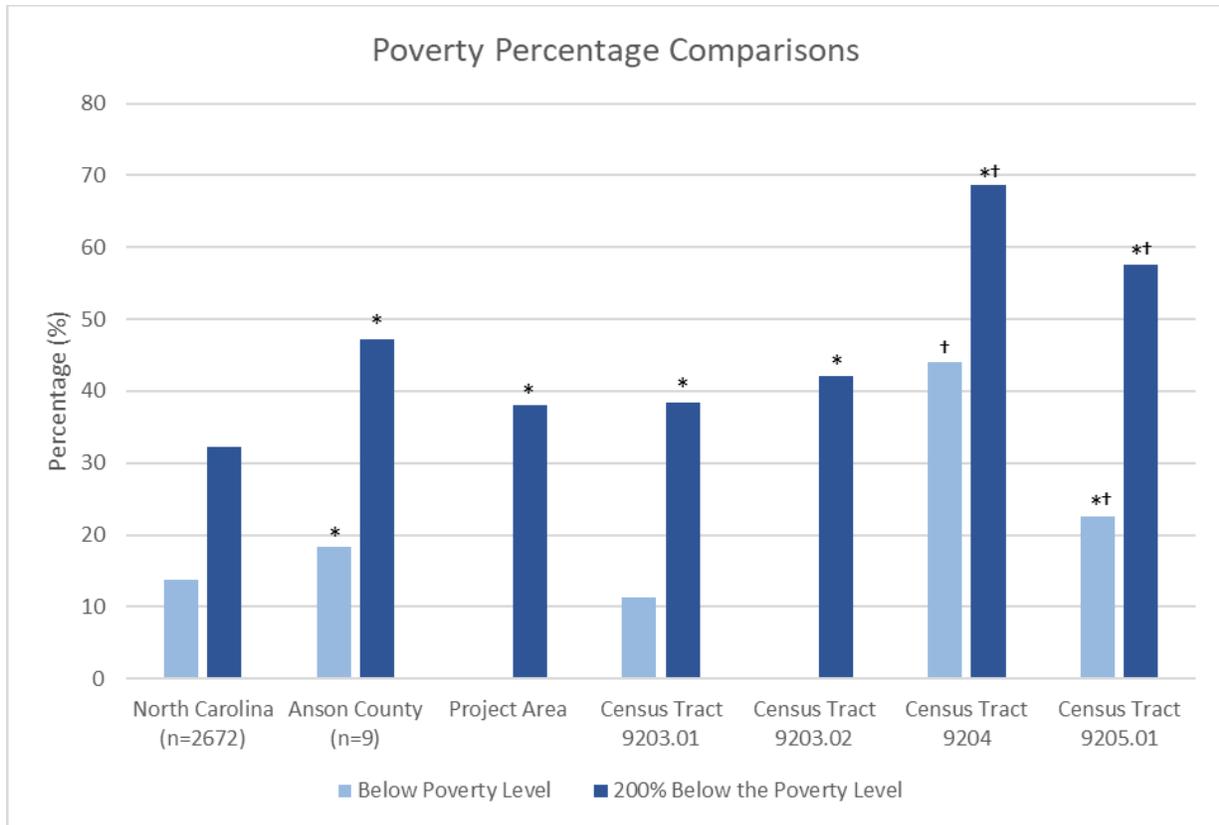


Figure 5. Poverty percentage comparisons to the County and State

6. Health & Cumulative Impacts

6.1 County Health Outcome Ranks

For this report, the Environmental Justice Program examined how sensitive populations (specifically the census tracts identified in Section 4) compared to the rest of the state’s health outcomes and health factors. 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). This 2023 County Health Rankings National Data¹¹ is based on health outcomes (such as lifespan and self-reported health status) and health factors (such as environmental, social, and economic conditions). Figures 6 and 7 display rankings for all 100 counties in North Carolina. A ranking of 100 signifies the least healthy county.

Out of the 100 counties in the state, Anson County has a health outcome rank of 95 and a health factors rank of 91. This means Anson County is healthier than 5% and 9% of the state for each respective ranking category and would be categorized as “Least Healthy” on a percentile ranking for each category.

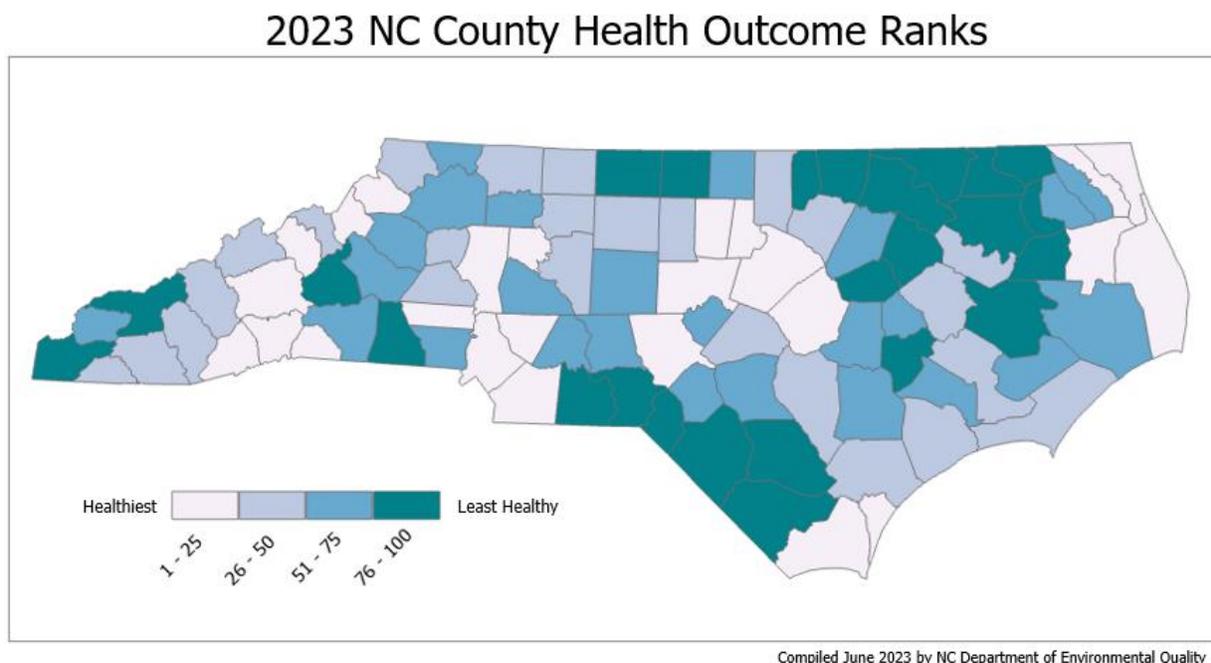


Figure 6. NC County Health Outcome Ranks for 2023

¹¹ University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute. 2022 Environmental Justice Index. <https://www.countyhealthrankings.org/explore-health-rankings/rankings-data-documentation>.

2023 NC County Health Factors Ranks

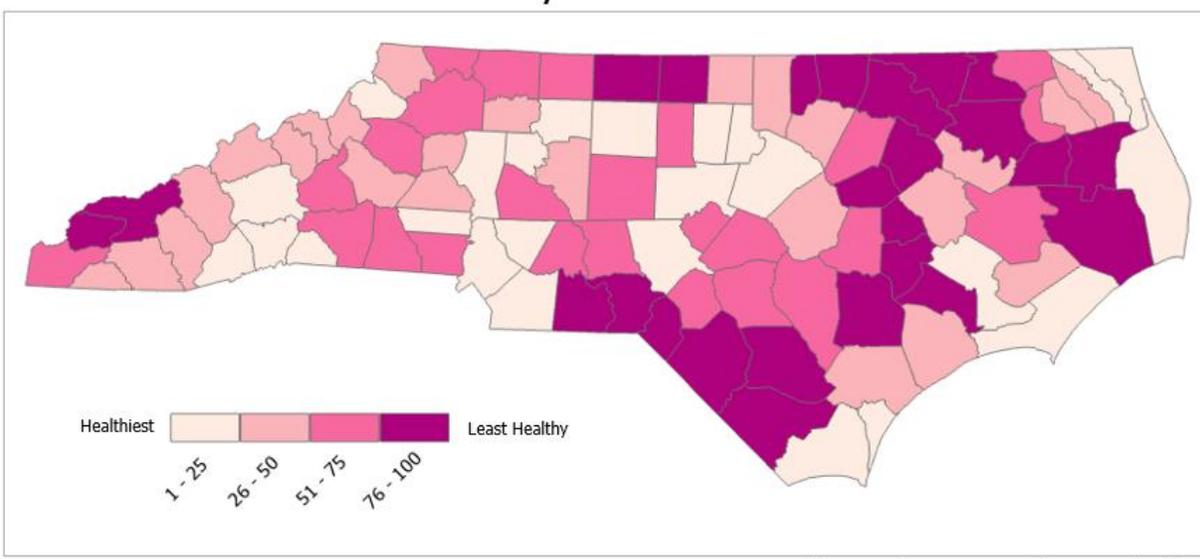


Figure 7. NC County Health Factors Ranks for 2023

6.2 CDC/ATSDR EJ Indexes

Cumulative impacts are the combined, environmental burdens, pre-existing health conditions, and social factors which may harm human health.¹² At this time, there is no formal, standardized method to assess cumulative impacts. However, cumulative impacts that may affect public health and quality of life are a frequently raised concern among communities across the nation.

Environmental Justice Index (EJI) scores were sourced from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR).¹³ The EJI is intended to evaluate the cumulative impacts of environmental injustice on health by ranking census tracts based on combined social, environmental burden, and health vulnerability indicators. Social vulnerability indicators include racial/ethnic minority status, socioeconomic status, household characteristics, and housing type. Environmental burden indicators include air pollution, potentially hazardous and toxic sites, built environment, transportation infrastructure, and water pollution. Health vulnerability is determined based on pre-existing chronic disease burden. The CDC's EJI delivers a single score for each census tract to identify areas most at risk for the health impacts of environmental burden (See Appendix E for more information on the CDC's EJI Model). More information on the indicators can be found in the CDC's EJI Technical Documentation.¹⁴

¹² *Federal Health Agencies Unveil National Tool to Measure Health Impacts of Environmental Burdens.* (2022). Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). <https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2022/p0810-environmental-burdens.html>

¹³ *2022 Environmental Justice Index.* Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Agency for Toxic Substances Disease Registry (ATSDR). Accessed July 12, 2023. <https://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/placeandhealth/eji/index.html>.

¹⁴ *EJI Technical Documentation.* Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and Agency for Toxic Substances Disease Registry. Accessed July 12, 2023. https://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/placeandhealth/eji/technical_documentation.html

For EJ scores in this analysis, the Environmental Justice Program used the variable representing the percentile score of the health variables model, environmental burden index, and social vulnerabilities model (RPL_EJI in the CDC's EJ Technical Documentation) which is a value between 0 and 1.

According to the CDC's EJ, census tract 9203 – where the Anson Gas Producers, LLC. facility would be located according to 2019 tracts utilized in CDC EJ analysis – has a moderate EJ rank of 0.6723 (Figure 8). This means 67% of census tracts in the state are less vulnerable than census tract 9203.01 and that 23% of census tracts in the state are more vulnerable. Adjacent census tracts 9204 and 9205 within the one-mile radius of the facility have high EJ ranks at the 89th or 85th percentiles respectively. This means that the overall EJ for all census tracts within one mile of the proposed facility are above the 60th percentile and are more vulnerable than 60% of North Carolina's population.

Figure 9 displays the EJ Index generated using EJScreen and represents data from within the one-mile radius of the facility. The EJ Index combines data related to the listed environmental indicators and demographic data, in order from left to right in Figure 9: particulate matter, ozone, diesel particulate matter, air toxics cancer risk, air toxics respiratory hazards index (HI), toxic releases to the air, traffic proximity, lead paint, superfund proximity, Risk Management Program (RMP) facility proximity, hazardous waste proximity, underground storage tanks, and wastewater discharge. The EJ Index analyzes the relative potential environmental justice concern for the area as compared to the state, as well as the U.S., in the form of a percentile from 0 to 100. The higher the EJ Index, the higher the percentile, and the more vulnerable an area. More information on the EJScreen Environmental Justice Indexes can be found on EPA's website.¹⁵

The area within one mile of the facility is in the top 25th percentile in the state for 3 out of 12 of the EJ Indexes (Air Toxics Respiratory HI, Lead Paint, and RMP facility). This means at least 75% of other areas in the state have lower EJ Indexes, and are therefore less vulnerable, compared to the area near the facility (Figure 9).

The area within one mile of the facility is in the top 25th percentile in the nation for the Air Toxics Respiratory Health Index. This means at least 75% of other areas in the nation have lower EJ Indexes, and are therefore less vulnerable, compared to the area near the facility (Figure 9).

Overall, the area within one mile of the facility is in the top 50th percentile in the state and nation for 10 out of 12 EJ Indexes.

¹⁵ EJScreen EJ Index Metadata: <https://www.epa.gov/ejscreen/ej-and-supplemental-indexes-ejscreen#What>
Page | 32

CDC's Environmental Justice Index (EJI) for NC Census Tracts

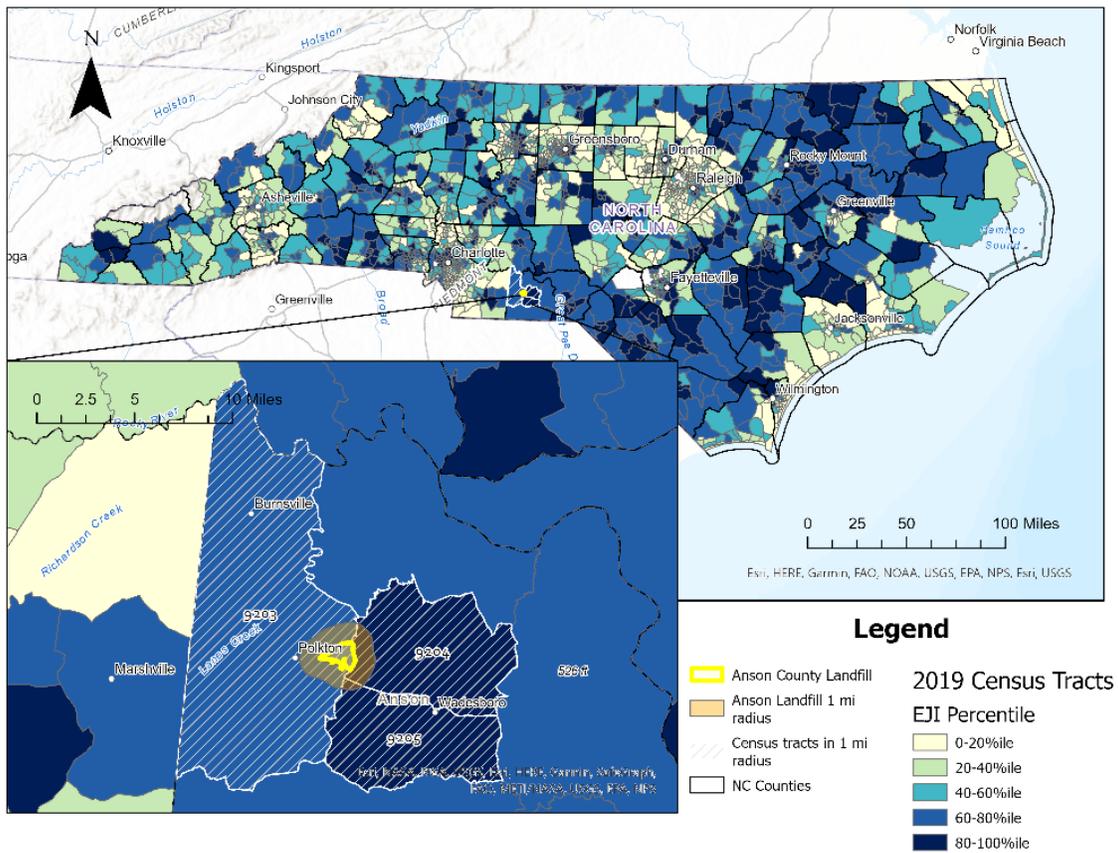


Figure 8. Project area and census tracts within the one-mile radius and corresponding CDC Environmental Justice Index scores

EJ INDEXES FOR THE SELECTED LOCATION

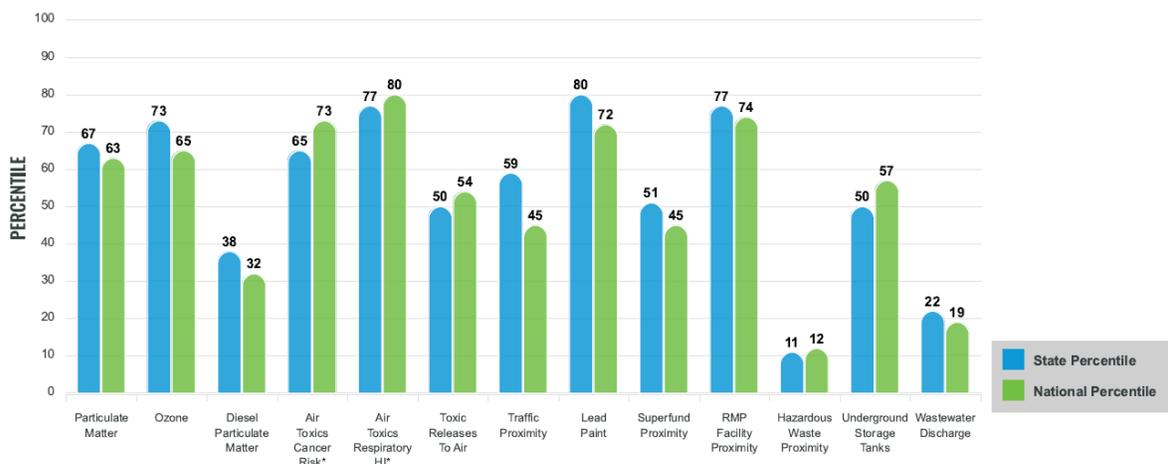


Figure 9. EJScreen Environmental Justice Indexes for a one-mile radius around Anson Gas Producers, LLC.

6.3 Local Industrial Sites

According to the DEQ Community Mapping System, there are a total of 12 permits, 0 incidents, and 3 sites and active facilities within the one-mile radius of Anson Gas Producers, LLC. as of October 16th, 2023 (Figure 10; Table 12).

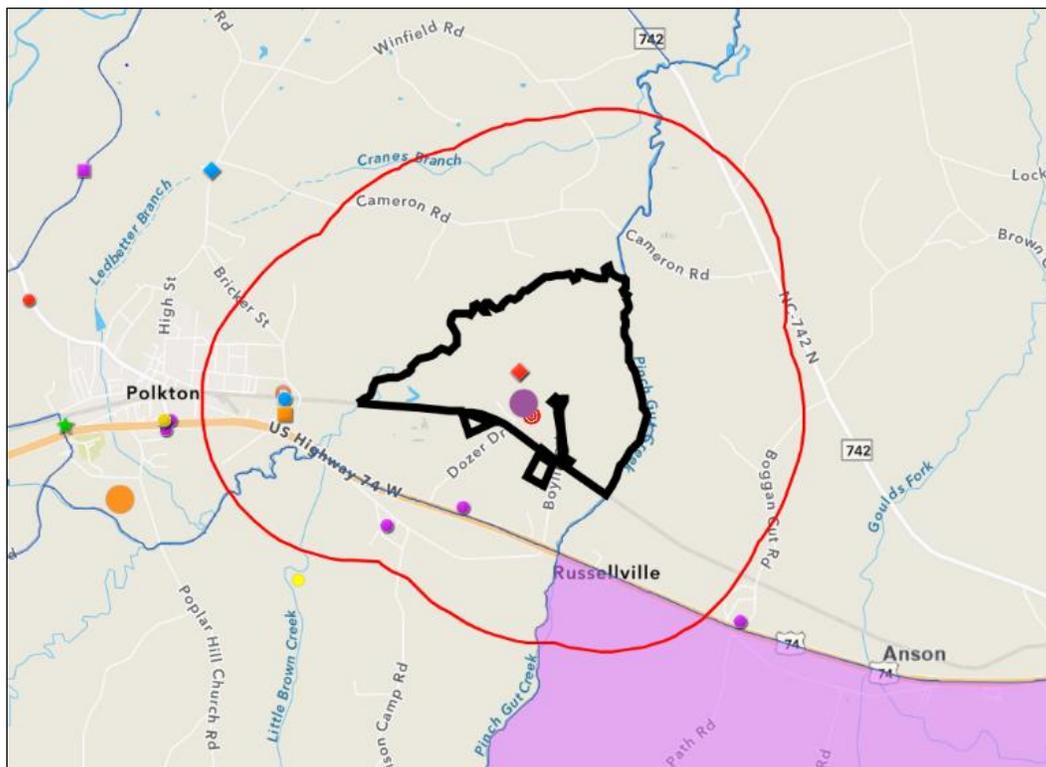


Figure 10. NC DEQ Community Mapping Tool Snapshot of the One-Mile Project Area Radius

Table 13. List of Permits, Incidents, and Sites within the One-Mile Project Area Radius

List of Permits, Incidents, and Sites		
Type	Quantity	Details
Permits	12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air Quality Permits—1 • NPDES Stormwater Permits—9 • Permitted Solid Waste Landfills (Open & Closed)—2
Sites and Active Facilities	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brownfields Program Sites—1 • Underground Storage Tank Active Facilities—2

7. 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 and near the one-mile radius surrounding the facility location, the following EPA EJScreen-identified and NC DEQ-identified sensitive receptors are listed below (Table 13; Figure 11):

Table 14. List of Sensitive Receptors within the One-Mile Project Area Radius

Sensitive Receptor Type	Name
SCHOOLS & DAYCARES	Peachland-Polkton Elementary School
	Anson Middle School
	Anson New Technology School
	South Piedmont Community College
PLACES OF WORSHIP	Brown Creek Church
	Unity Chapel Church
	Polkton Church of Christ
	Poplar Springs Baptist Church
HEALTHCARE	Atrium Health Anson
PRISON	Anson Correctional Institution - Female

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

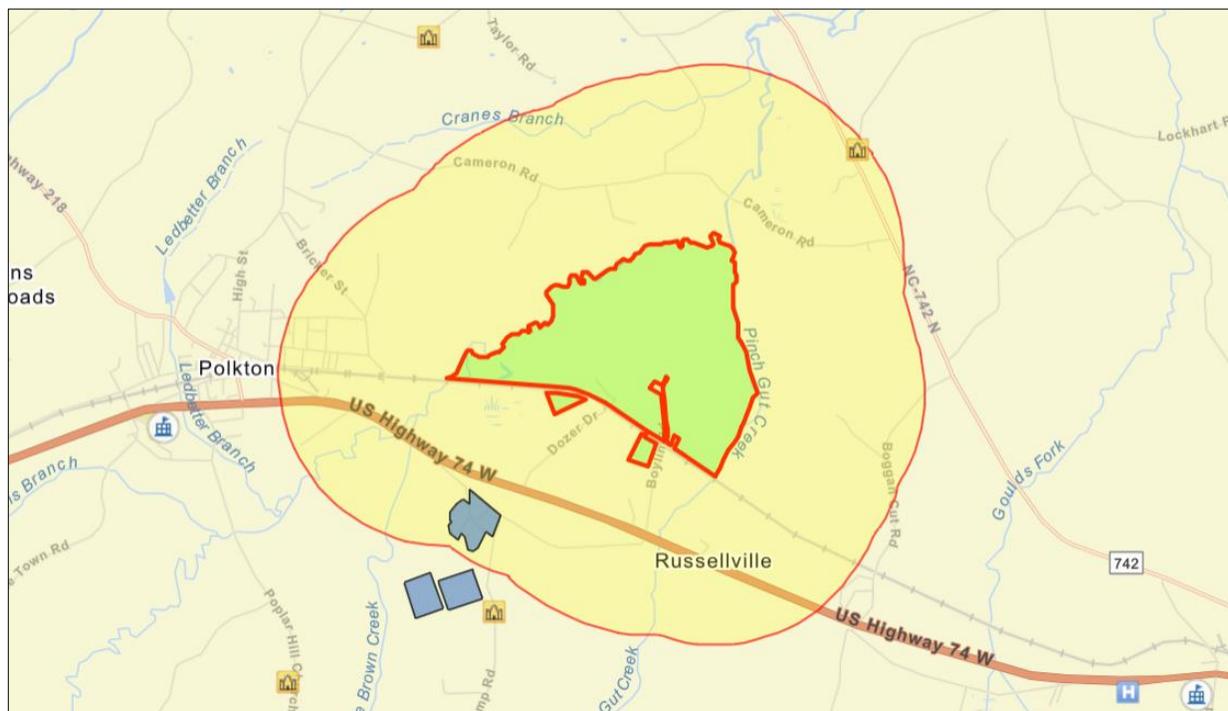


Figure 11. EPA EJScreen Snapshot of Potential Sensitive Receptors within the One-Mile Project Area Radius

8. Conclusion

If an affected community has a large percentage of LEP individuals (typically greater than 5%), the Department will implement appropriate LEP measures. These measures may include having a bilingual DEQ staff member or interpreter present at public hearings or information sessions, disseminating Department information sheets or public notices in multiple languages, distributing media notices in different languages, or communicating with community organizations and leaders to determine other appropriate measures to reach LEP individuals.

Key Findings

Based on this report's analysis and using NC DEQ Potentially Underserved Block Groups (on the basis of Race/Ethnicity and Poverty) and standard EJ guidelines established by the U.S. EPA and in the NEPA documentation, the potential environmental justice concerns for particular populations have been identified as follows:

- **Race and Ethnicity:**
 - *Total minority populations* – The overall minority population in Anson County, the project radius, and three of five census tracts within a one-mile radius of the facility (9204, 9205.01, and 9800).
 - *Specific minority populations* – Black or African American populations in the project radius and all five census tracts within a one-mile radius of the facility.
- **Tribal Communities:**
 - There are no state or federally recognized tribes or Urban Indian Organizations in Anson County. However, the Metrolina Native American Association serves Anson county.
- **Age and Sex:**
 - Populations of individuals 5 years or younger in three census tracts within a one-mile radius of the facility (9203.02, 9204, and 9205.01).
 - Populations of individuals 65 years or older in the census tract containing the facility (9203.01).
- **Limited English Proficiency:** The Spanish-speaking population and Chinese-speaking population with limited-English proficiency in the census tract containing the facility (9203.01) and one census tract within a one-mile radius of the facility (9800), respectively. However, based on the four-factor analysis outlined in the [DEQ Language Access Plan](#), enhanced language-related outreach is not warranted.
- **Disability:** Populations living with a disability in two census tracts of five within a one-mile radius of the facility (9203.01 and 9800).
- **Education:** Populations of individuals at least 18 years and older whose highest educational attainment is “less than a high school graduate degree” in all five census tracts within a one-mile radius of the facility.
- **Poverty:** Populations experiencing “poverty 200% below the poverty level” in the project area and four of five census tracts within one-mile of the facility (9203.01, 9203.02, 9204, and 9205.01)
- **Cumulative Impacts:** Two census tracts (9204 and 9205) within the project area have a “High” Environmental Justice Index score.

Recommendations

Based on the sociodemographic indicator analysis, the Environmental Justice Program recommends the following outreach and engagement for the Anson Gas Producers, LLC. Air Permit public commenting period:

- A one-page fact sheet with public comment period information.
- Mailed or emailed public notices and one-page fact sheets to local sensitive receptors and the town of Polkton.
- Consultation with community leaders and the Metrolina Native American Association about other outreach contacts and recommendations including known local places of worship and community centers.
- Evaluate options to distribute one-page fact sheets in higher traffic areas of the community such as community centers.
- Arrange voicemail line to receive public comments.

Appendix

Appendix A: U.S. Census Data Sources

All data for this report accessed from data.census.gov and collected at a census tract level for all tracts in North Carolina. Data is from 2021 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-year estimates.

Dataset ID	Name
B03002	“Hispanic or Latino Origin by Race”
S0101	“Age and Sex”
S1810	“Disability Characteristics”
C16001	“Language Spoken at Home for the Population 5 Years and Older”
S1501	“Educational Attainment”
S1701	“Poverty Status in the Last 12 Months”

Appendix B: Additional Data Sources

DATA SOURCES			
Organization	Source	Date Accessed	Year Published
NC Department of Commerce	2023 County Distress Rankings	8/15/23	2023
University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute	2023 County Health Rankings National Data	6/13/23	2023
Centers for Disease Control & Prevention	Environmental Justice Index	8/10/23	2022

Appendix C: Sociodemographic Indicators and EPA EJScreen ACS Report

The tables below display estimates and margins of error as available from the U.S. Census Bureau 2021 ACS 5-year estimates and calculations performed for each sociodemographic indicator. Calculations are displayed as averages and upper and lower confidence intervals.

Age & Sex

	AGE								
	NORTH CAROLINA (n=2672)				ANSON COUNTY (n=9)				
	Estimate	Average	95% CI (+/-)		Estimate	Average	95% CI (+/-)		
			Lower	Upper			Lower	Upper	
≤5 Years	605,299	222.31	216.08	228.53	1,122	124.67	64.53	184.81	
≥65 Years	1,688,354	631.08	617.40	644.75	4,191	465.67	210.12	721.22	
	SEX								
	Male	5,067,666	1896.58	1863.44	1929.72	11,299	1255.44	797.67	1713.22
	Female	5,299,356	1983.29	1949.46	2017.13	11,089	1232.11	709.50	1754.72

AGE					
	Census Tract 9203.01	Census Tract 9203.02	Census Tract 9204	Census Tract 9205.01	Census Tract 9800
	Estimate	Estimate	Estimate	Estimate	Estimate
≤5 Years	151	26	319	105	0
≥65 Years	911	56	357	92	61
SEX					
Male	2,227	241	1,178	445	982
Female	2,206	220	1,575	477	316

Race & Ethnicity

RACE & ETHNICITY								
	NORTH CAROLINA (n=2672)				ANSON COUNTY (n=9)			
	Estimate	Average	95% CI (+/-)		Estimate	Average	95% CI (+/-)	
			Lower	Upper			Lower	Upper
White	6,433,921	2407.90	2354.14	2461.67	9,923	1102.56	566.41	1638.70
Black or African American	2,160,554	808.59	775.23	841.95	10,744	1193.78	672.42	1715.13
Hispanic or Latino	1,016,730	380.51	364.05	396.98	948	105.33	15.86	194.81
American Indian and Alaska Native	98,911	37.02	28.45	45.58	38	4.22	-0.57	9.01
Asian	312,111	116.81	106.38	127.24	205	22.78	-4.14	49.70
Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander	6,060	2.27	1.74	2.79	8	0.89	-0.85	2.63
Some Other Race	33,426	12.51	11.13	13.89	36	4.00	0.04	7.96
Two or More Races	305,309	114.26	109.79	118.74	486	54.00	8.93	99.07
Total Population	10,367,022				22,388			

RACE & ETHNICITY					
	Census Tract 9203.01	Census Tract 9203.02	Census Tract 9204	Census Tract 9205.01	Census Tract 9800
	Estimate	Estimate	Estimate	Estimate	Estimate
White	2,844	310	662	243	529
Black or African American	1,067	130	2,032	611	632
Hispanic or Latino	342	21	0	68	40
American Indian and Alaska Native	0	0	0	0	21
Asian	0	0	0	0	27
Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander	0	0	0	0	8
Some Other Race	11	0	14	0	0
Two or More Races	169	0	45	0	41
Total Population	4,433	461	2,753	922	1,298

Disability

DISABILITY										
	NORTH CAROLINA (n=2672)					ANSON COUNTY (n=9)				
	ESTIMATE	MOE (+/-)	Average	95% CI (+/-)		ESTIMATE	MOE (+/-)	Average	95% CI (+/-)	
				Lower	Upper				Lower	Upper
Population with a Disability	1,344,612	±10,182	503.22	492.72	513.73	3,849	±406	427.67	183.95	671.38
Type of Difficulty										
Hearing	372,754	±10,182	139.50	135.81	143.20	1,046	±200	116.22	46.12	186.33
Vision	255,734	±5,138	95.71	92.63	98.79	411	±159	45.67	16.11	75.22
Cognitive	510,091	±5,030	190.90	185.88	195.92	1,660	±364	184.44	65.46	303.43
Ambulatory	696,002	±6,637	260.48	254.20	266.76	2,111	±314	234.56	94.74	374.37
Self-care	252,311	±7,806	94.43	91.51	97.35	862	±212	95.78	41.45	150.11
Independent Living	459,937	±4,298	172.13	167.65	176.62	1,416	±322	157.33	57.80	256.87
Total civilian noninstitutionalized population	10,168,317	±2,084				20,888	±390			

DISABILITY										
	Census Tract 9203.01		Census Tract 9203.02		Census Tract 9204		Census Tract 9205.01		Census Tract 9800	
	Estimate	MOE (+/-)	Estimate	MOE (+/-)	Estimate	MOE (+/-)	Estimate	MOE (+/-)	Estimate	MOE (+/-)
Population with a Disability	1014	±218	63	±40	467	±173	40	±46	0	±13
Type of Difficulty										
Hearing	267	±144	29	±26	154	±84	0	±13	0	±13
Vision	140	±87	8	±12	71	±87	13	±26	0	±13
Cognitive	488	±183	14	±23	111	±109	40	±46	0	±13
Ambulatory	373	±133	20	±31	268	±124	13	±26	0	±13
Self-care	162	±90	0	±13	121	±68	13	±26	0	±13
Independent Living	383	±146	14	±23	143	±71	0	±13	0	±13
Total civilian noninstitutionalized population	4,433	±443	440	±203	2,753	±497	922	±210	0	±13

Limited English Proficiency

LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENCY										
	NORTH CAROLINA (n=2672)					ANSON COUNTY (n=9)				
	Estimate	MOE (+/-)	Average	95% CI (+/-)		Estimate	MOE (+/-)	Average	95% CI (+/-)	
				Lower	Upper				Lower	Upper
Speak only English	8,593,424	±998	3216.10	3162.63	3269.57	20,126	±290	2236.22	1357.30	3115.14
Spanish	305,140	±8,073	114.20	107.13	121.27	209	±76	23.22	-6.43	52.87
Other Asian and Pacific Island Languages	25,015	±4,797	9.36	8.08	10.64	22	±43	2.44	-2.35	7.24
Other Indo-European languages	24,422	±1,695	9.14	7.80	10.48	2	±5	0.22	-0.21	0.66
Chinese (incl Mandarin, Cantonese)	15,899	±1,811	5.95	5.06	6.84	15	±21	1.67	-1.60	4.93
Vietnamese	14,730	±1,242	5.51	4.36	6.67	0	±25	0.00		
Arabic	10,633	±1,811	3.98	3.22	4.74	0	±25	0.00		
French, Haitian, or Cajun	10,624	±1,456	3.98	3.02	4.94	0	±25	0.00		
Total Population 5 Years and over	9,773,018	±998				21,266	±31			

LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENCY										
	Census Tract 9203.01		Census Tract 9203.02		Census Tract 9204		Census Tract 9205.01		Census Tract 9800	
	Estimate	MOE (+/-)	Estimate	MOE (+/-)	Estimate	MOE (+/-)	Estimate	MOE (+/-)	Estimate	MOE (+/-)
Speak only English	3,988	±413	435	±413	2,420	±450	749	±229	1,223	±335
Spanish	80	±69	0	±69	0	±13	0	±13	7	±13
Other Asian and Pacific Island Languages	0	±13	0	±13	0	±13	0	±13	0	±13
Other Indo-European languages	0	±13	0	±13	0	±13	0	±13	0	±13
Chinese (incl Mandarin, Cantonese)	0	±13	0	±13	0	±13	0	±13	15	±21
Vietnamese	0	±13	0	±13	0	±13	0	±13	0	±13
Arabic	0	±13	0	±13	0	±13	0	±13	0	±13
French, Haitian, or Cajun	0	±13	0	±13	0	±13	0	±13	0	±13
Total Population 5 Years and over	4,282	±420	435	±204	2,434	±446	817	±194	1,298	±365

Educational Attainment

EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT								
	NORTH CAROLINA (n=2672)				ANSON COUNTY (n=9)			
	ESTIMATE	Average	95% CI (+/-)		ESTIMATE	Average	95% CI (+/-)	
			Lower	Upper			Lower	Upper
Less than High School Graduate	116,457	43.58	41.66	45.51	142	15.78	-3.69	35.25
Population age 18-24 years	979,831				1,764			
Less than 9th grade	292,419	109.44	105.01	113.86	737	81.89	33.75	130.03
9th to 12th grade, no diploma	484,267	181.24	175.70	186.77	2,067	229.67	131.58	327.75
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	1,787,594	669.01	654.19	683.83	13,199	1466.56	916.20	2016.91
Bachelor's degree	2,339,163	875.44	847.85	903.02	1,881	209.00	116.99	301.01
Population age 25 years and over	7,084,876				16,003			

EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT					
	Census Tract 9203.01	Census Tract 9203.02	Census Tract 9204	Census Tract 9205.01	Census Tract 9800
	Estimate	Estimate	Estimate	Estimate	Estimate
Less than High School Graduate	21	0	92	0	20
Population age 18-24 years	333	25	415	17	95
Less than 9th grade	238	0	21	68	99
9th to 12th grade, no diploma	445	27	108	149	213
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	1,246	225	684	182	435
Bachelor's degree	266	18	222	138	48
Population age 25 years and over	3,141	392	1,547	649	1,203

Poverty and Low-Income

POVERTY										
	NORTH CAROLINA (n=2672)					ANSON COUNTY (n=9)				
	Estimate	MOE (+/-)	AVERAGE	95% CI (+/-)		Estimate	MOE (+/-)	AVERAGE	95% CI (+/-)	
				Lower	Upper				Lower	Upper
Below Poverty Level	1,379,672	±18,811	516	501	532	3,822	±650	425	177	673
200% Below the Poverty Level	3,258,214	±27,203	1,219	1,190	1,248	9,873	±837	1,097	602	1,592
Total Population for whom Poverty Status is Determined	10,092,759	±2,436				20,893	±389			

POVERTY										
	Census Tract 9203.01		Census Tract 9203.02		Census Tract 9204		Census Tract 9205.01		Census Tract 9800	
	Estimate	MOE (+/-)	Estimate	MOE (+/-)	Estimate	MOE (+/-)	Estimate	MOE (+/-)	Estimate	MOE (+/-)
Below Poverty Level	495	±209	298	±13	1,210	±490	208	±177	0	±13
200% Below the Poverty Level	1,699	±403	1,028	±150	1,890	±543	531	±306	0	±13
Total Population for whom Poverty Status is Determined	4,417	±441	3,409	±226	2,753	±497	922	±210	0	±13

EPA EJScreen ACS Report

The following ACS 2017-2021 report shows the demographics and information provided through EPA EJScreen for the one-mile radius around Dura-Supreme, LLC.

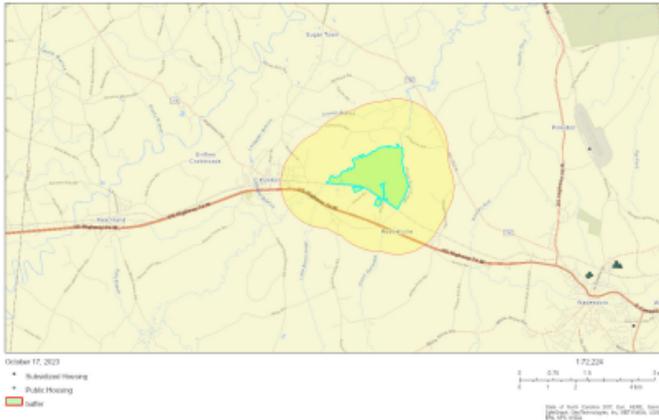
EJScreen Community Report

This report provides environmental and socioeconomic information for user-defined areas, and combines that data into environmental justice and supplemental indexes.

Anson County, NC

1 mile Ring around the Area
Population: 1,843
Area in square miles: 9.70

A3 Landscape



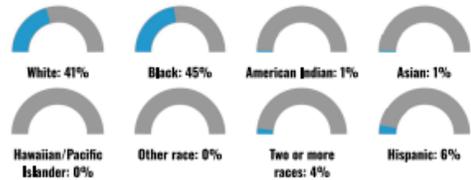
COMMUNITY INFORMATION



LANGUAGES SPOKEN AT HOME

LANGUAGE	PERCENT
No language data available.	

BREAKDOWN BY RACE



BREAKDOWN BY AGE



LIMITED ENGLISH SPEAKING BREAKDOWN



Notes: Numbers may not sum to totals due to rounding. Hispanic population can be of any race. Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (ACS) 2017-2021. Life expectancy data comes from the Centers for Disease Control.

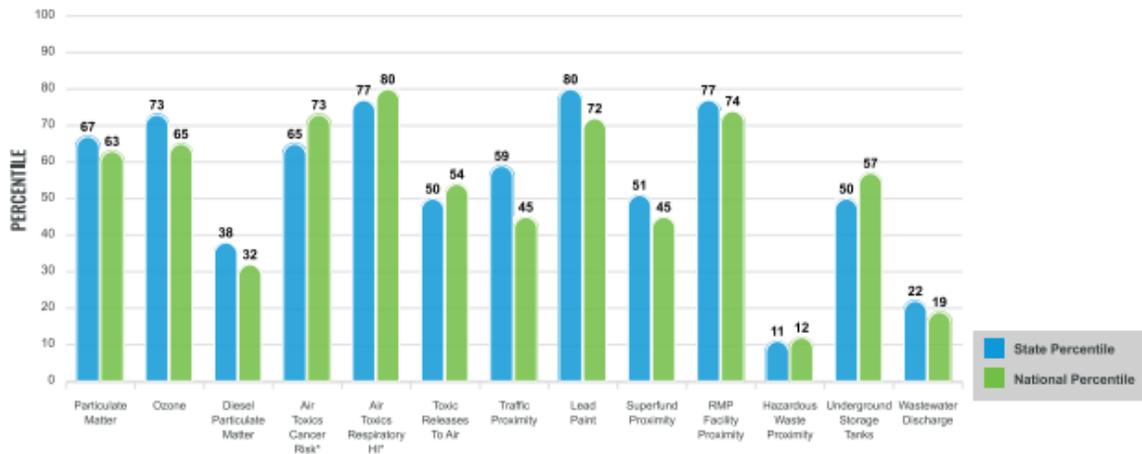
Environmental Justice & Supplemental Indexes

The environmental justice and supplemental indexes are a combination of environmental and socioeconomic information. There are thirteen EJ indexes and supplemental indexes in EJScreen reflecting the 13 environmental indicators. The indexes for a selected area are compared to those for all other locations in the state or nation. For more information and calculation details on the EJ and supplemental indexes, please visit the [EJScreen website](#).

EJ INDEXES

The EJ indexes help users screen for potential EJ concerns. To do this, the EJ index combines data on low income and people of color populations with a single environmental indicator.

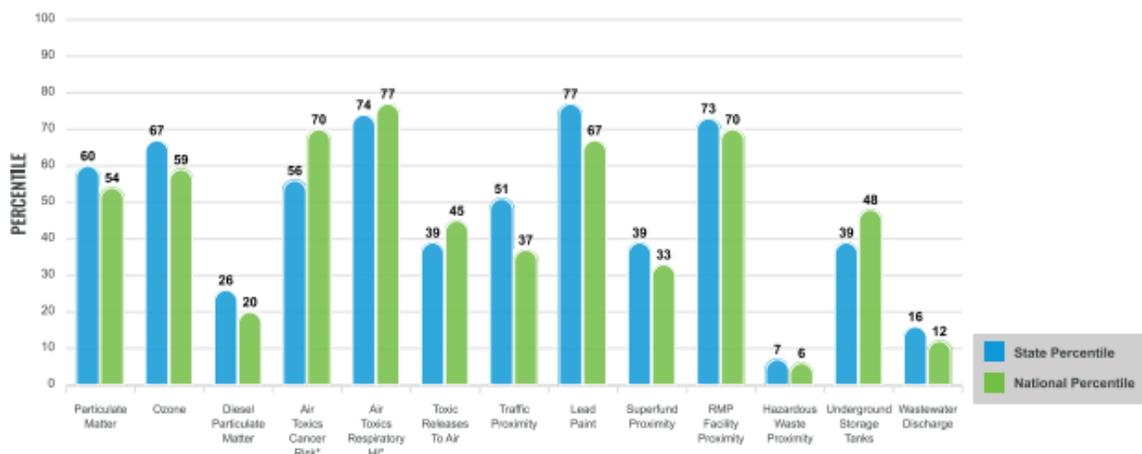
EJ INDEXES FOR THE SELECTED LOCATION



SUPPLEMENTAL INDEXES

The supplemental indexes offer a different perspective on community-level vulnerability. They combine data on percent low-income, percent linguistically isolated, percent less than high school education, percent unemployed, and low life expectancy with a single environmental indicator.

SUPPLEMENTAL INDEXES FOR THE SELECTED LOCATION



These percentiles provide perspective on how the selected block group or buffer area compares to the entire state or nation.

Report for 1 mile Ring around the Area

EJScreen Environmental and Socioeconomic Indicators Data

SELECTED VARIABLES	VALUE	STATE AVERAGE	PERCENTILE IN STATE	USA AVERAGE	PERCENTILE IN USA
POLLUTION AND SOURCES					
Particulate Matter ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)	8.26	7.8	59	8.08	51
Ozone (ppb)	61.9	61.7	70	61.6	56
Diesel Particulate Matter ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)	0.105	0.168	25	0.261	18
Air Toxics Cancer Risk* (lifetime risk per million)	30	27	28	25	52
Air Toxics Respiratory HI*	0.4	0.34	55	0.31	70
Toxic Releases to Air	310	3,100	36	4,600	39
Traffic Proximity (daily traffic count/distance to road)	32	79	48	210	31
Lead Paint (% Pre-1960 Housing)	0.21	0.17	67	0.3	48
Superfund Proximity (site count/km distance)	0.03	0.081	37	0.13	28
RMP Facility Proximity (facility count/km distance)	0.72	0.26	91	0.43	83
Hazardous Waste Proximity (facility count/km distance)	0.036	0.52	6	1.9	6
Underground Storage Tanks (count/km ²)	0.75	3.9	40	3.9	44
Wastewater Discharge (toxicity-weighted concentration/m distance)	2.1E-06	0.25	17	22	11
SOCIOECONOMIC INDICATORS					
Demographic Index	35%	36%	55	35%	58
Supplemental Demographic Index	12%	15%	39	14%	46
People of Color	59%	37%	76	39%	71
Low Income	38%	34%	59	31%	66
Unemployment Rate	5%	6%	60	6%	59
Limited English Speaking Households	6%	2%	89	5%	79
Less Than High School Education	25%	12%	88	12%	87
Under Age 5	1%	5%	15	6%	14
Over Age 64	9%	18%	20	17%	23
Low Life Expectancy	21%	21%	55	20%	67

*Diesel particulate matter, air toxics cancer risk, and air toxics respiratory hazard index are from the EPA's Air Toxics Data Update, which is the Agency's ongoing, comprehensive evaluation of air toxics in the United States. This effort aims to prioritize air toxics, emission sources, and locations of interest for further study. It is important to remember that the air toxics data presented here provide broad estimates of health risks over geographic areas of the country, not definitive risks to specific individuals or locations. Cancer risks and hazard indices from the Air Toxics Data Update are reported to one significant figure and any additional significant figures here are due to rounding. More information on the Air Toxics Data Update can be found at: <https://www.epa.gov/oaqps/air-toxics-data-update>.

Sites reporting to EPA within defined area:

Superfund	0
Hazardous Waste, Treatment, Storage, and Disposal Facilities	0
Water Dischargers	2
Air Pollution	1
Brownfields	1
Toxic Release Inventory	2

Other community features within defined area:

Schools	0
Hospitals	0
Places of Worship	1

Other environmental data:

Air Non-attainment	No
Impaired Waters	Yes

Selected location contains American Indian Reservation Lands*	No
Selected location contains a "Justice40 (CEJST) disadvantaged community	Yes
Selected location contains an EPA IRA disadvantaged community	Yes

Report for 1 mile Ring around the Area

EJScreen Environmental and Socioeconomic Indicators Data

HEALTH INDICATORS					
INDICATOR	HEALTH VALUE	STATE AVERAGE	STATE PERCENTILE	US AVERAGE	US PERCENTILE
Low Life Expectancy	21%	21%	55	20%	67
Heart Disease	6.3	6.5	44	6.1	56
Asthma	9.2	9.4	44	10	30
Cancer	5.2	6.2	24	6.1	29
Persons with Disabilities	21.2%	14%	87	13.4%	88

CLIMATE INDICATORS					
INDICATOR	HEALTH VALUE	STATE AVERAGE	STATE PERCENTILE	US AVERAGE	US PERCENTILE
Flood Risk	6%	10%	45	12%	46
Wildfire Risk	0%	9%	0	14%	0

CRITICAL SERVICE GAPS					
INDICATOR	HEALTH VALUE	STATE AVERAGE	STATE PERCENTILE	US AVERAGE	US PERCENTILE
Broadband Internet	13%	16%	50	14%	57
Lack of Health Insurance	9%	11%	38	9%	61
Housing Burden	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Transportation Access	Yes	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Food Desert	Yes	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Footnotes

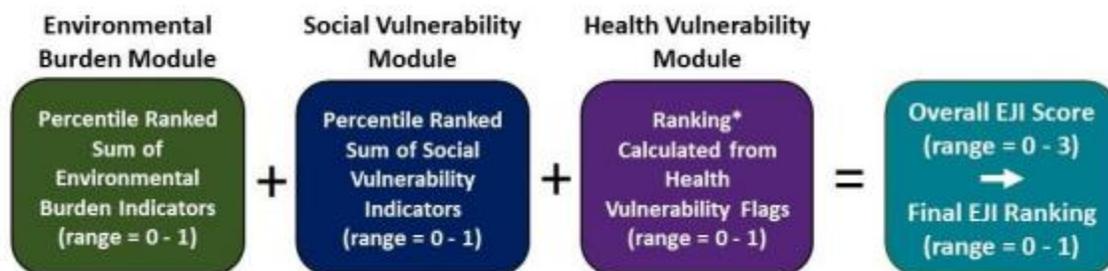
Report for 1 mile Ring around the Area

Appendix D: County-Level Health Rankings

County health ranks and corresponding quartiles for both the health outcomes and health factors categories were taken from the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute 2023 County Health Rankings National Data

Appendix E: CDC Environmental Justice Index Model

Ranking calculated by multiplying the sum of health vulnerability flags (n = 5) by 0.2 to produce a number between 0 - 1. Note: Due to a lack of scientific evidence supporting a specific weighting scheme, all modules are weighted equally in calculating the Overall EJ Score. This method of equal weighting for all modules aligns with that used by the Environmental Justice Screening Method (Sadd et al., 2011). Overall EJ Scores are percentile ranked to produce a final EJ Ranking with a range of between 0 - 1



Appendix F: Limitations

Census Data

Census data is collected at a national level every 10 years. Data used in this report was collected between 2020 - 2021. For each sociodemographic indicator described, the most recent available data since 2021 at a census tract level was utilized. Since not all data from the 2021 census has been published, all data utilized was collected before 2021 to maintain comparability at the tract level. Specific data tables and years available are listed in Appendix A.

Furthermore, reporting affects sample size which then affects interpretation of data. The U.S. Census Bureau uses and provides margins of error which is used as an indicator of potential sampling errors and relative reliability. A larger margin of error corresponds to a larger degree of uncertainty. Margins of error for sociodemographic indicators are provided in Appendix C as available through the U.S. Census Bureau.

- Data available through EJScreen is not compatible with all categories of data from U.S. Census Bureau data. Therefore, not all comparison tables contain the project area percentages or estimates.
- Data retrieved through EPA EJScreen is based on a one-mile radius of Anson Gas Producers, LLC. whereas U.S. Census Bureau data is based on census tracts. As such, the evaluated populations will differ.
- A significantly smaller portion of census tract 9205.01 is included within the one-mile radius of Anson Gas Producers, LLC. compared to other intersecting census tracts. Despite this, the census tract is still included in the analysis as it is still within proximity of the facility.

For more information about census data collection methods and sources, please visit www.data.census.gov.

Cumulative Impacts and Health

As previously mentioned, there is no standardized methodology to assess for cumulative impacts at this current time. This analysis does however examine the factors that may contribute to cumulative impacts. However, this analysis does not establish or imply any direct causal link between the environmental source exposures used in this analysis and health outcomes.