

Using EPA’s EJSCREEN

A Step by Step Guide to Finding Demographic Information

You can quickly find demographic information using EJSCREEN, EPA’s Environmental Justice screening and mapping tool (version 2018). The online tool allows you to examine geographic, environmental, and population data. This step-by-step guide is just one way to use EJSCREEN. For more detailed instructions, visit EPA’s [EJSCREEN](https://ejscreen.epa.gov/mapper/) website.

1

OPEN EJSCREEN MAPPER <https://ejscreen.epa.gov/mapper/>

Locate your site by:

Address, [go to section 2](#)

Selecting an area on the map, [go to section 3](#)

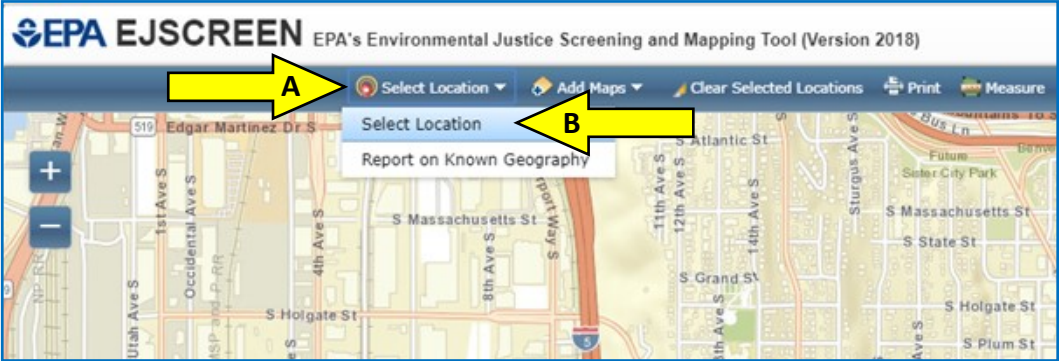
Census tract, [go to section 4](#)

2

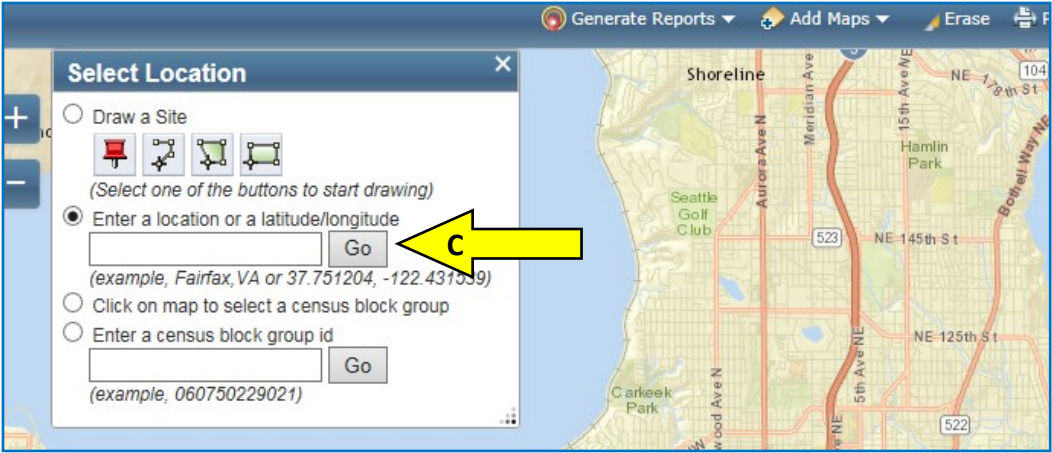
LOCATING YOUR SITE BY ADDRESS

A. Click on the “Select Location” button at the top of the page.

B. Then click on “Select Location”

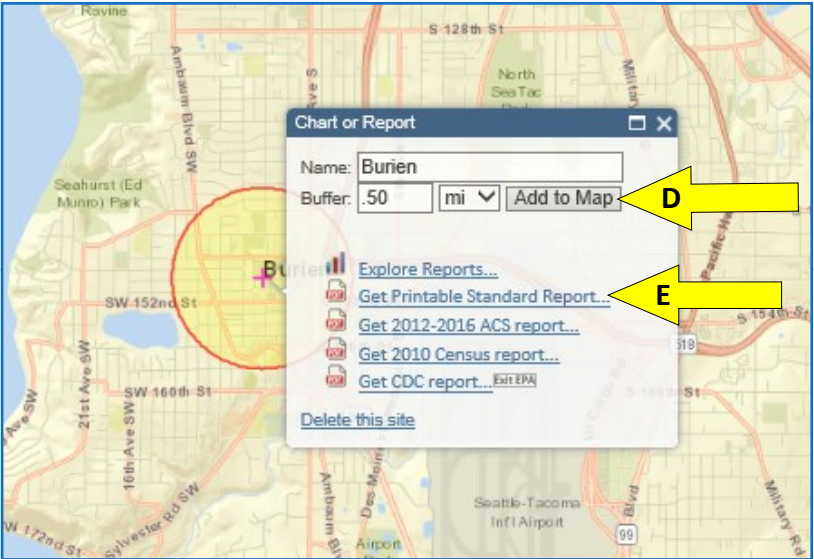


C. In the pop up box, enter an address, city, county, or latitude/longitude and click on “GO”



D. You can select a buffer around your site (the default is 1 mile). A .25 to .5 mile buffer is recommended. However, this will depend on the area affected by your project. Enter the desired buffer distance and click on “Add to map.” Your buffer will appear as a yellow shape on the map.

E. Generate a summary report for the selected area by choosing “Get Printable Standard Report” from the pop up box. Go to Step 6 in this guide to interpret your report.



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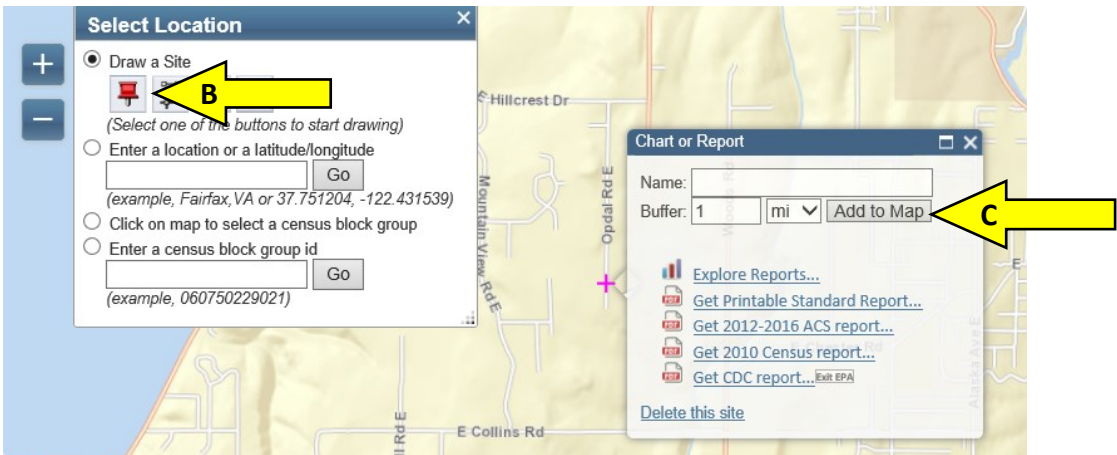
3 LOCATING YOUR SITE BY SELECTING AN AREA ON THE MAP

A. Click on “Select Location” at the top of the page and select “Select Location.”

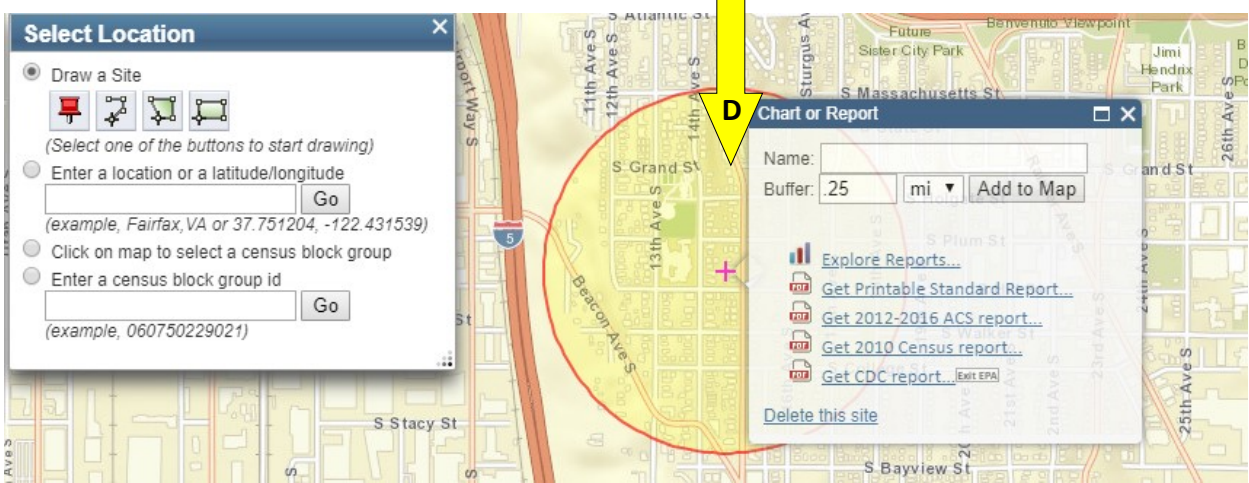


B. Use the push pin tool to choose an exact location (your selection will appear as an +).

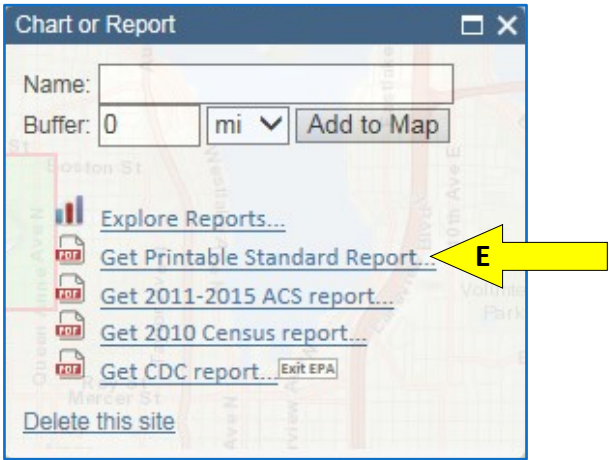
C. You can select a buffer around your site (the default is 1 mile). A .25 to .5 mile buffer is recommended, however, this will depend on the area affected by your project. Enter the desired buffer distance and click on “Add to map.”



D. The buffer will appear as a shaded yellow area on the map.



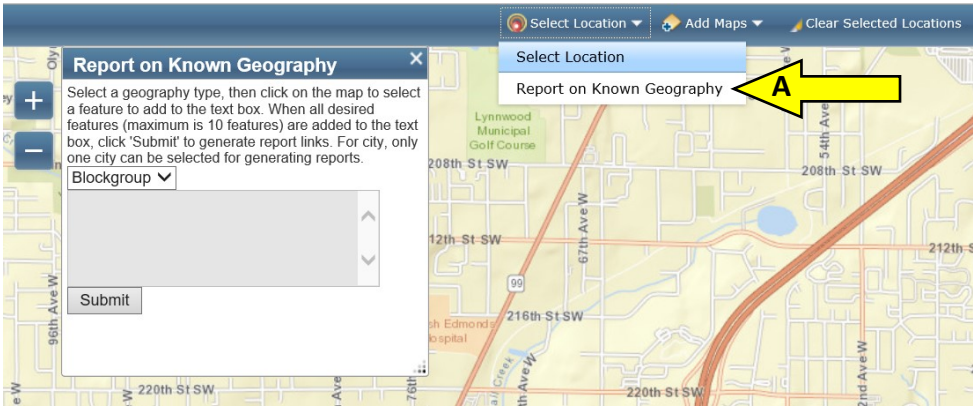
E. To generate a summary report for the selected area, choose “Get Printable Standard Report” from the pop up box. Go to Step 5 in this guide to save and interpret your report.



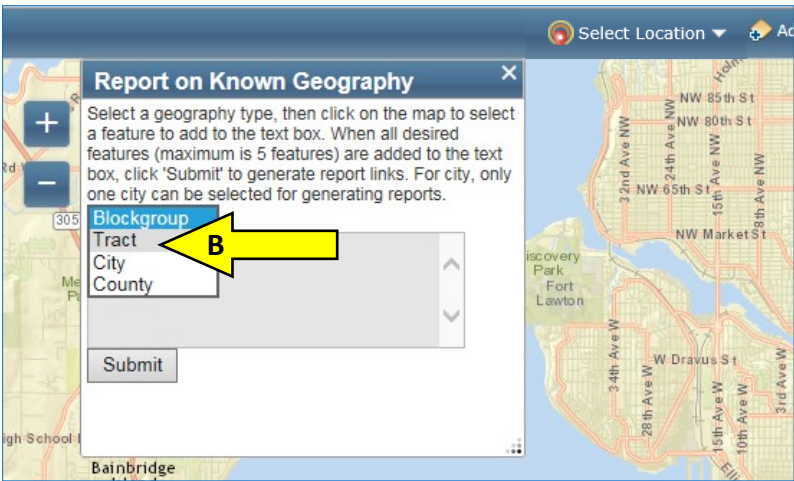
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4 SEARCHING BY CENSUS TRACTS

A. Under the “Select Location” menu select “Report on Known Geography”

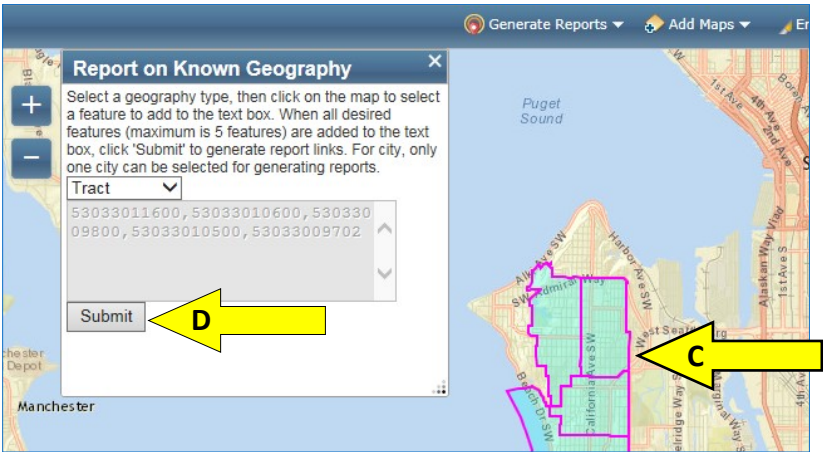


B. Then select “Tract” (or Blockgroup, City, or County).

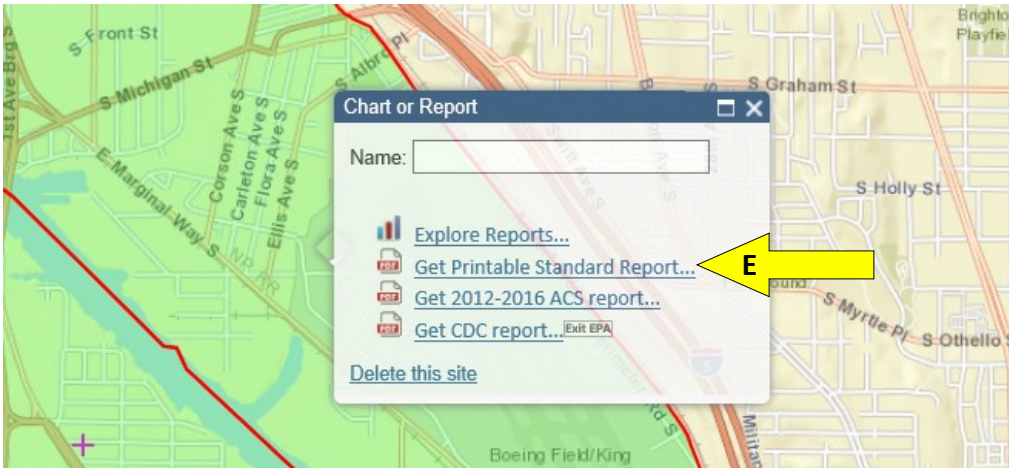


C. Select the desired census tract(s) by pointing and clicking on the map (limit of 10).

D. Enter your selection by clicking “Submit”



E. To generate a summary report for the selected area, choose “Get Printable Standard Report” from the pop up box. Go to Step 5 in this guide to save and interpret your report.




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5 SAVING YOUR REPORT

A. To save the report, click “Save as PDF” at the top left hand corner of the report page.

Save as PDF

A

United States Environmental Protection Agency

EJSCREEN Report (Version 2017)
Tract: 53033005900
WASHINGTON, EPA Region 10
Approximate Population: 7,705
Input Area (sq. miles): 0.76

Selected Variables	Percentile in State	Percentile in EPA Region
EJ Indexes		
EJ Index for Particulate Matter (PM 2.5)	29	30

6 READING YOUR REPORT

A. Scroll to the end of your report (page 3) to find the “Demographic Indicators” table. You will use the “%ile in State” column to screen for potential demographic considerations in your project area.

Selected Variables	Value	State Avg.	%ile in State	EPA Region Avg.	%ile in EPA Region	USA Avg.	%ile in USA
Environmental Indicators							
Particulate Matter (PM 2.5 in µg/m³)	7.11	7.23	46	7.54	34	9.53	10
Ozone (ppb)	30.7	33.9	28	36.1	16	42.5	3
NATA* Diesel PM (µg/m³)	1.84	1.4	78	1.06	80-90th	0.938	90-95th
NATA* Cancer Risk (lifetime risk per million)	54	40	87	39	80-90th	40	90-95th
NATA* Respiratory Hazard Index	5	2.8	92	2.8	90-95th	1.8	95-100th
Traffic Proximity and Volume (daily traffic count/distance to road)	360	450	73	380	74	600	72
Lead Paint Indicator (% Pre-1960 Housing)	0.26	0.23	67	0.23	68	0.29	58
Superfund Proximity (site count/km distance)	0.056	0.17	55	0.12	61	0.12	54
RMP Proximity (facility count/km distance)	0.62	0.61	69	0.63	68	0.72	65
Hazardous Waste Proximity (facility count/km distance)	1.2	1.9	63	1.5	69	4.3	68
Wastewater Discharge Indicator (toxicity-weighted concentration/m distance)	0.39	0.062	99	0.038	99	30	94
Demographic Indicators							
Demographic Index	40%	29%	76	29%	78	36%	63
Minority Population	44%	30%	78	27%	82	38%	63
Low Income Population	36%	29%	68	32%	62	34%	58
Linguistically Isolated Population	12%	4%	90	3%	92	4%	86
Population With Less Than High School Education	12%	9%	73	10%	71	13%	59
Population Under 5 years of age	8%	6%	69	6%	69	6%	70
Population over 64 years of age	17%	14%	71	14%	70	14%	70

B. Use the **80th percentile*** as the threshold to help determine if there are potential EJ considerations (with the exception of “Linguistically Isolated Population” - please see Section 7 for instructions on this indicator).

Demographic Indicators							
Demographic Index	60%	29%	93	29%	94	36%	81
Minority Population	69%	29%	94	26%	95	37%	79
Low Income Population	51%	30%	84	33%	81	35%	77
Linguistically Isolated Population	15%	4%	92	3%	94	5%	89
Population With Less Than High School Education	25%	10%	91	10%	92	14%	83
Population Under 5 years of age	11%	6%	89	6%	89	6%	89
Population over 64 years of age	8%	13%	27	13%	25	14%	25

In the table above, there are several demographic indicators above the 80th percentile (Demographic Index, Minority Population, Low Income Population, etc.). This means your project area may have considerations that can affect fair treatment and meaningful involvement. See **Section 7** of this guide for information on some ways to address environmental justice in your project planning.

For help, contact Millie Piazza, Environmental Justice Coordinator (millie.piazza@ecy.wa.gov), your public involvement staff, or your program’s EJ advisors.

*EPA uses the 80th percentile as a starting point for the purpose of considering environmental justice concerns in an area (https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2016-06/documents/ejtg_5_6_16_v5.1.pdf, Page 43).

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Consider the following practices to remove barriers to meaningful involvement.

Minority Population	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Consider meeting venues familiar to community members. This could include informal settings where people would feel more comfortable engaging with Ecology staff.• Identify events and meetings organized by the community. These are often good opportunities where you can introduce yourself and share project information.• Work with local leaders and groups to learn about effective ways to reach and engage their community.• Ask the community how they would like to receive information.
Low Income Population	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Plan your meetings and outreach so that they are accessible to as many community members as possible.• Hold meetings at locations that are close to transit lines.• Post hard copies of materials at local community centers and libraries.• When possible, provide food and childcare free of charge at public meetings.• Hold meetings at times when more people might be available to attend (such as the evening or weekend).
Linguistically Isolated Population	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Review your EJSCREEN report to see if there are people who are Linguistically Isolated. This is the exception to the 80th percentile threshold guidance. If the report indicates there is a linguistically isolated population, you should find out how many individuals speak English “less than very well” and which languages are spoken.• To find more information about the linguistically isolated populations to determine if translation is needed, use the American Fact Finder (US Census) database to determine which languages are spoken.• If the Census data indicate there are non-English speaking language groups that make up 5% or 1,000 people in your intended audience, then you should consider translating vital written documents and working with interpreters.
Less Than High School Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Plain talk all written material and web content.• Consider using video or audio clips of project summaries and other information to convey your message.• Focus on graphics to communicate, and reduce the amount of text.
Population over Age 64	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provide audio clips of information.• Choose venues that are along transit routes.• Choose venues with parking lots that are close to the building to reduce the distance people need to walk to get to the meeting.• Provide presentations on large screens, limit the amount of text, and use large font sizes.• Provide hard copies of information at local libraries or community spaces.