



**FORWARD  
PINELLAS**  
Integrating Land Use & Transportation



# ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTIC REPORT

2050 Long Range Transportation Plan



**FORWARD  
PINELLAS**  
Integrating Land Use & Transportation

# Environmental Justice

## 2020 Demographic Analysis Report

Developed by Forward Pinellas in its role as the Pinellas County Metropolitan Planning Organization for its  
2050 Long Range Transportation Plan

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## Table of Contents

Introduction	5
Demographic Context	5
Populations for Environmental Justice (EJ) Analysis	5
Minority Population Analysis	8
Areas with High Black or African American Population Alone	8
Areas with High Hispanic or Latino Population (All Races)	9
Areas with High Asian American Population	11
Areas with High American Indian and Alaska Native Population	12
Areas with High Native-Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander Population	12
Low Income Population Analysis	13
Analysis of Level of Poverty	14
Areas with High Black or African American Population below the Poverty Level	14
Areas with High Hispanic or Latino Population below the Poverty Level	17
Areas with High Asian American Population below the Poverty Level	17
Areas with High American Indian and Alaska Native Population below the Poverty Level	18
Areas with High Native-Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander Population below the Poverty Level	18
Areas with High White Alone Population below the Poverty Level	19
Summary Analysis	19
Age Analysis	19
<b>List of Tables</b>	
Table 1 - Census Tracts with a Black or African American Population Over 50% in 2020	8
Table 2 - Census Tracts with an Hispanic or Latino Population Greater Than 15% in 2020	10
Table 3 - Census Tracts with an Asian Population Greater than 10% in 2020	12
Table 4 - Poverty Thresholds for 2020 by Size of Family and Number of Related Children Under 18 Years	14
Table 5 - Census Tracts with more than 50% of Black or African American Population below the Poverty Level	16
Table 6 - Census Tracts with more than 50% Hispanic or Latino Population below the Poverty Level	17
Table 7 - Census Tracts with more than 50% of Asian Population below the Poverty Level	18
Table 8 - Census Tracts with more than 25% of the White Population below the Poverty Level	19
Table 9 - Summary Data Analysis for Pinellas County Florida in 2020	19
Table 10 - Census Tracts in Pinellas County Florida Where Median Age Exceeds 65 Years	20

List of Figures

Figure 1 – Map of Equity Emphasis Areas	7
Figure 2 - Total Percentage of Black or African American Population by Census Tract	9
Figure 3 - Total Percentage of Hispanic or Latino Population by Census Tract	11
Figure 4 - Total Percentage of Asian Population by Census Tract	13
Figure 5 - Median Age by Census Tract	21

## **Introduction**

This report provides a summary population analysis conducted to determine the broad geographic location, total number, and the percentage of the population groups address by the U.S. Department of Transportation Order on Environmental Justice, and Executive Order 12898 (Feb. 11, 1994). These groups are: Black or African American, Hispanic or Latino, Asian American, American Indian and Alaskan Native, Native-Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander, and Low-Income. In addition, the following communities were also included in the analysis: limited English-speaking communities, communities with limited vehicle access directly tied to lower income levels, and communities that meet all of the above listed criteria. The areas of the county with high concentrations of these populations will be known as Equity Emphasis Areas (EEAs). The analysis advances the tenets of the Environmental Justice legislation focused on Title VI of the 1964 Civil Rights Act. The purpose of the legislation is to ensure nondiscrimination in federally funded activities by identifying and addressing, as appropriate, disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects of its programs in minority and low-income populations. This demographic analysis will be used to develop two maps depicting EEAs in relation to selected federally funded projects in the 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). The objective is to anticipate the transportation and community impact of selected federally funded roadway, bicycle and pedestrian, and transit enhancements included in the 2050 LRTP.

## **Demographic Context**

The base data for this analysis was gathered from the 2015-2020 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-Year Estimates at the Census Tract level. Census Tracts are defined by the Census Bureau as small, relatively permanent statistical subdivisions of a county for the purpose of presenting data. Census Tracts are amongst the lowest common denominator of data.

According to the ACS population, the estimated population increased by nearly 25,675 people since 2015 to 974,996 in 2020. The ACS population profile indicates that there were slightly more females than males in Pinellas County, and the median age of residents continued to increase from 46.3 in 2010 to and 47.1 in 2015 and 47.9 in 2017. The average household size increased slightly from 2.28 in 2015 to 2.30 in 2020. The owner-occupied rate is 68.1% between 2016-2020. In 2020, 14.2% of all housing units were vacant in Pinellas County.

## **Populations for Environmental Justice (EJ) Analysis**

As part of the Forward Pinellas Environmental Justice analysis, it was important for staff to look at previous means of identifying EJ areas and determine how they might be improved for future analysis. In the past, our agency conducted a population analysis utilizing American Community Survey (ACS) 5-Year Estimates to identify Environmental Justice areas as part of our compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act, Executive Order 12898 for Environmental Justice, and the U.S. Department of Transportation Order on Environmental Justice. This population analysis determined the broad geographic location, total number, and percentage of population groups meeting the targeted demographics for race and income. Specifically, groups identified as: Black or African American, Hispanic or Latino, Asian American, American Indian and Alaskan Native, Native-Hawaiian and other {pacific Islander, and Low-Income. The analysis was documented in the Forward Pinellas Environmental Justice 2015 Demographic Analysis Report, and the data therein was used in prioritization for our Long Range Transportation Planning efforts, as well as for our Transportation Improvement Program. While these metrics have been effective in the past, we felt it necessary to update these areas of equity emphasis as part of our internal equity review, to specifically reflect communities that have been historically marginalized in Pinellas County. These communities include minority communities and low-income communities as included in the EJ Report with the addition of the following: limited English-speaking communities, communities with limited vehicle access directly tied to lower income levels, and communities that meet all of the above listed criteria. The inclusion of these additional populations was based on feedback received from listening sessions with the public and industry best-practices.

For this analysis, we first collected data from the US Census American Community Survey data sets. These areas were isolated to the census tract level since these aggregated geographies tend to be more accurate than lower-level census block groups. In addition, some of the data we wanted to analyze was not available at the census block group level and to be consistent across our analysis, the tract level was used. Once the ACS data sets were pulled and joined to their

associated census tracts, we then calculated the countywide averages for each of the primary metrics we wanted to analyze. These are shown below:

- Percent of No Vehicle Households: 7.78%
- Percent of Limited English-Speaking Households: 12.7%
- Percent Minority Population: 22.15%
- Percent of Population Below Poverty: 14.7% (20% was used for analysis to account for fixed income households)

These populations collectively equate to a geographic area encompassing 32% of the county landmass. From here we used this data to isolate Pinellas County into the following EEAs, based on census tracts that were above the countywide averages listed above.

Selected Emphasis Areas:

1. Above Average Minority Population
2. Minority No Vehicle Access and Population Below Poverty Above Average
3. Minority Limited English-Speaking Households Above Average
4. Areas with All Equity Emphasis Criteria (Listed Above) Above Average

These EEAs for Pinellas County are mapped in **Figure 1** and will be used during the development of the 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan. For additional information on the identification and analysis of the EEAs, please refer to the Forward Pinellas Equity Assessment, available here: <https://forwardpinellas.org/projects/equity/>.



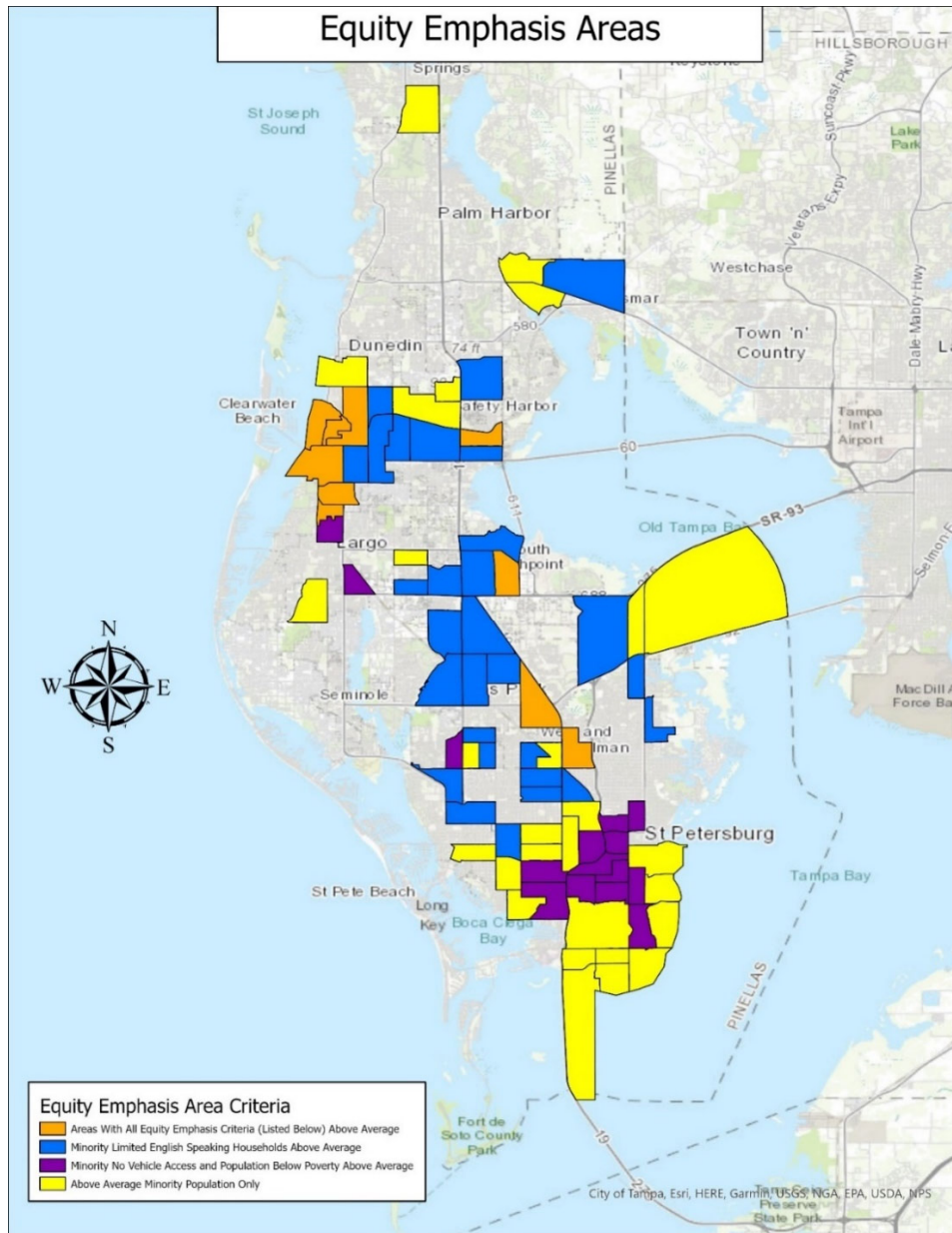


Figure 1: Map of Equity Emphasis Areas for 2050 L RTP

## DETAILED DEMOGRAPHIC ANALYSIS

In order to identify areas that may have specific concentrations of populations that could benefit from targeted consideration in the transportation planning process, Forward Pinellas conducted a further evaluation of minority and low-income populations, above and beyond the identification of the EEAs. The analysis will help direct public outreach methods during the development of the 2050 LRTP and may impact the selection of mobility solutions for implementation.

### Minority Population Analysis

#### *Areas with High Black or African American Population Alone*

Approximately 10.15% (97,062) of the estimated Pinellas County population for whom poverty status was determined in 2020 was Black or African American. The population is scattered throughout the county with concentrations in census tracts ranging from 0.3% to 94.45% of the total census tract population. The Black or African American population made up 10.45% (96,133) of the population whom poverty status was determined in 2015. **Table 1** below highlights those census tracts with a Black or African American population exceeding 50% of the census tract population. This threshold was chosen to highlight those census tracts with the highest concentrations of the minority group. **Figure 2** displays the geographical distribution of the Black or African American population throughout Pinellas County.

**Table 1**

Census Tract	Total Population	Black or African American Population	Percentage of Black or African American Population
201.09	2847	1635	57.43
201.1	1686	1292	76.63
202.01	5476	3381	61.74
202.02	4057	2295	56.57
202.06	4585	2776	60.55
202.08	1997	1407	70.46
205	4222	2986	70.72
206	3929	2658	67.65
207	3266	3085	94.46
208	4701	4041	85.96
212	2954	2430	82.26
220	3703	2558	69.08
262	2247	1588	70.67
287	1930	1805	93.52



Total Percentage of Black or African American Population by Census Tract in Pinellas County, FL in 2020

- Less than 10%
- 10% - 20%
- 20% - 40%
- 40% - 60%
- 60% - 80%
- Over 80%

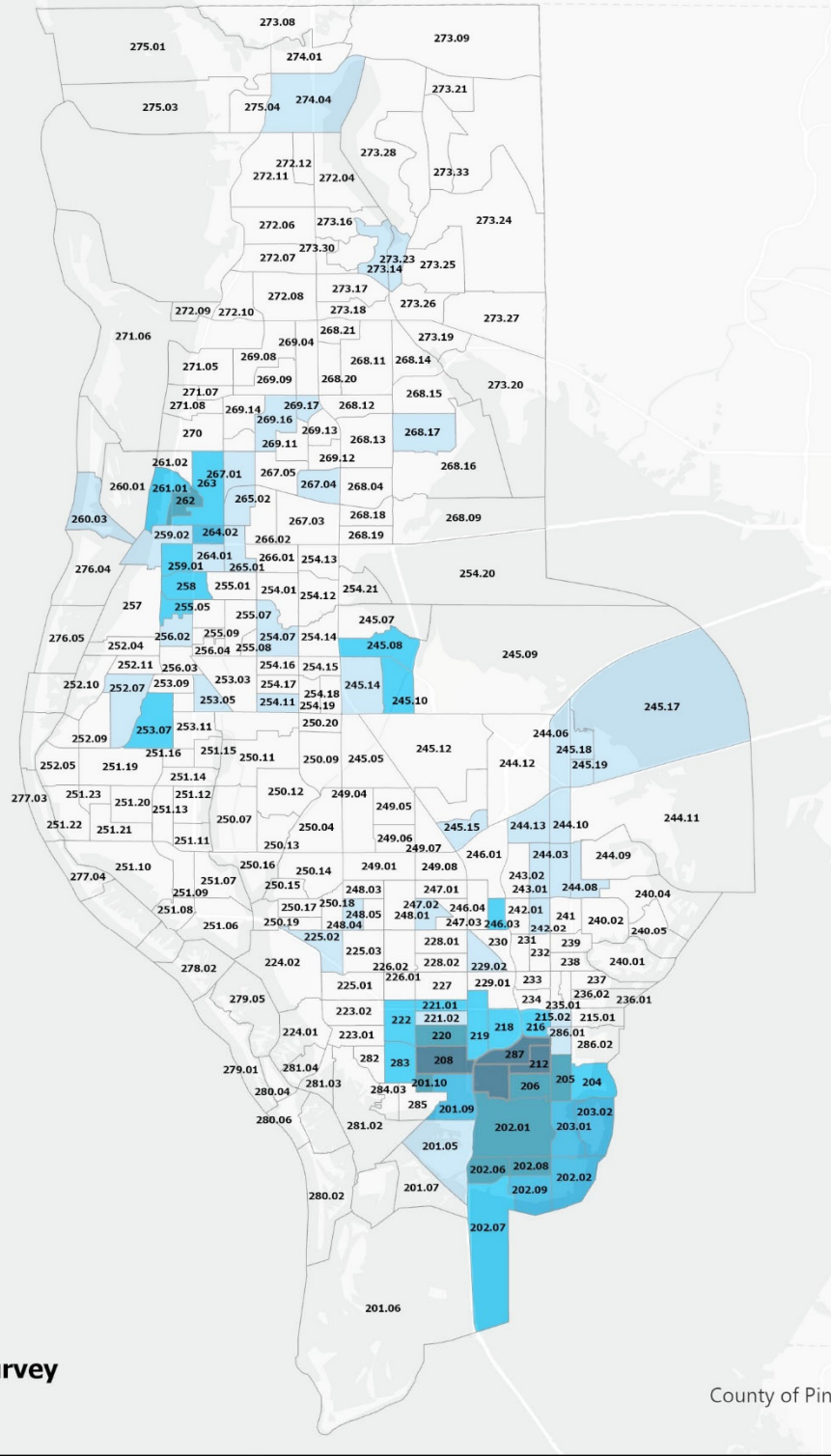


Figure 2

**Areas with High Hispanic or Latino Population (All Races)**

The Hispanic or Latino population comprises people belonging to different racial groups. This group accounted for approximately 8.7% (81,038) in 2015, approximately 8% (73,241) in 2010, and 9.9% (96,064) in 2020. **Table 2** below highlights those census tracts with a Hispanic or Latino population exceeding 20% of the census tract population. This

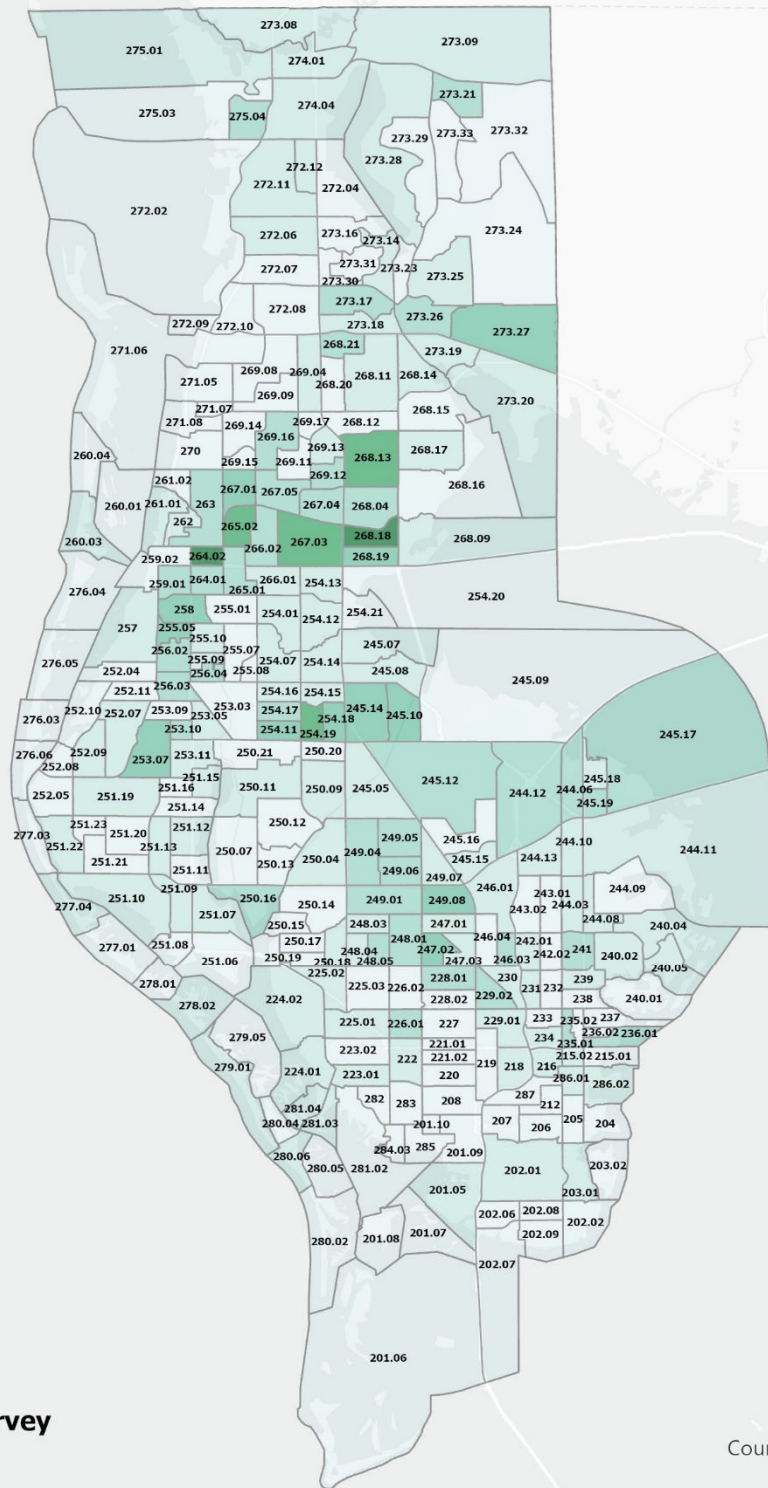
threshold was chosen to highlight those census tracts with the highest concentrations of the minority group. **Figure 3** displays the geographical distribution of the Hispanic or Latino population.

**Table 2**

Census Tract	Total Population	Hispanic or Latino Population (All races)	Percentage of Hispanic or Latino Population
245.1	6031	1598	26.50
245.14	5977	1510	25.26
247.02	2354	572	24.30
249.08	3366	885	26.29
254.11	1762	393	22.30
254.18	3348	721	21.54
254.19	4611	1447	31.38
255.05	2431	499	20.53
258	4177	840	20.11
264.02	3594	1331	37.03
265.02	4003	1127	28.15
267.01	4855	1237	25.48
267.03	7197	2176	30.23
268.13	4481	1403	31.31
268.18	4242	1693	39.91
268.19	2700	662	24.52
273.27	5193	1280	24.65

Total Percentage of Hispanic or Latino Population by Census Tract in Pinellas County, FL in 2020

- Less than 7.0%
- 7.1% - 13%
- 14% - 20%
- 21% - 27%
- 28% - 33%
- Over 34%



Source: 2015-2020  
American Community Survey

Figure 3

**Areas with High Asian American Population**

Asian Americans accounted for 3.5% (33,532) of the population in 2020, an increase from 3.2% (29,338) in 2015. **Table 3** below highlights those census tracts that have an Asian population above 10%. This threshold was chosen to highlight those census tracts with the highest concentrations of the minority group. Figure 6 displays the geographical distribution of the Asian population throughout Pinellas County.

**Table 3**

Census Tract	Total Population	Asian Population	Percentage of Asian Population over 10%
228.02	3854	510	13.23
229.02	2994	354	11.82
230	3038	654	21.53
242.01	3185	468	14.69
245.05	7095	1532	21.59
245.15	2235	226	10.11
245.17	3162	319	10.09
247.01	3190	631	19.78
249.04	3281	372	11.34
249.06	3775	379	10.04
250.09	3820	450	11.78
250.11	5132	524	10.21
250.21	2793	593	21.23

***Areas with High American Indian and Alaska Native Population***

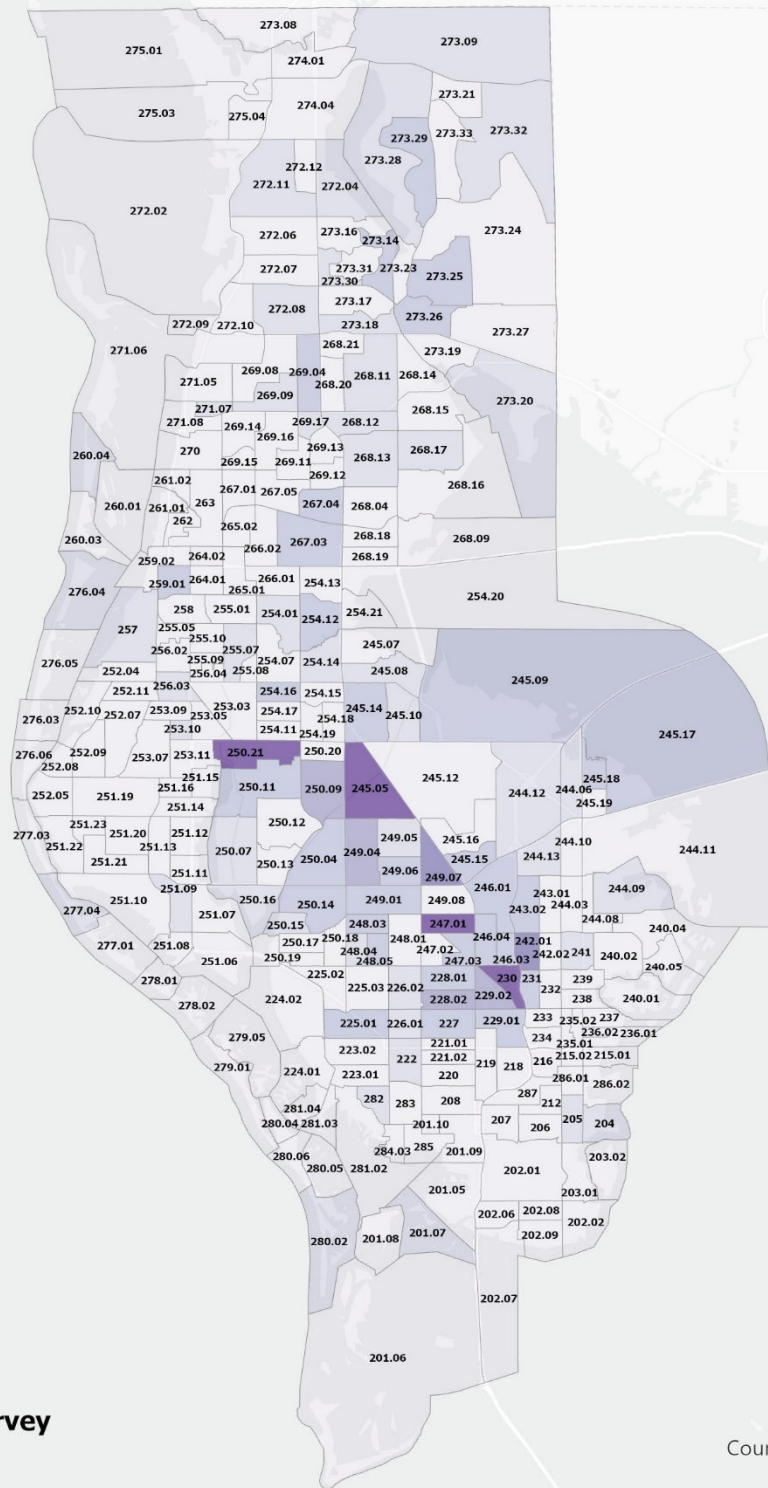
The American Indian and Alaska Native population accounted for 0.25% (2,466) of the population in 2020 compared to 0.3% (2,355) in 2015. While this group is included in the total numbers for determining minority EJ areas, a separate analysis is not included due to the very small numbers of the population.

***Areas with High Native-Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander Population***

Native-Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islanders accounted for about 0.1% of the total population of Pinellas County in 2020, or approximately 913 people. This is an increase from 663 people identified in this group in 2015. Due to such small numbers and percentages, a separate analysis is not included for this population.

Total Percentage of Asian  
Population by Census Tract in Pinellas County, FL in 2020

- Less than 3.6%
- 3.7% - 7.2%
- 7.3% - 11%
- 12% - 14%
- 15% - 18%
- Over 19%



Source: 2015-2020  
American Community Survey

County of Pinellas,

Figure 4

Low-Income Population Analysis

Low-income population refers to a person whose household income is at or below the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Poverty Guidelines. The guidelines are issued each year by the Department of Health and Human Services

for administrative purposes and are a simplified version of the Poverty Thresholds used by the U.S. Census. Poverty Thresholds are a measure of need, which do not vary geographically, and are adjusted by such factors as family size, and number of children less than 1 year of age, and for farm and non-farm residents. **Table 4** demonstrates the poverty levels used by the US Census Bureau. Based on age, sex, family size or household role, and their income, individuals were classified below, at, or above the poverty level. This analysis considered only individuals below poverty level. Poverty statistics are used by federal agencies to assess the need or eligibility for various public assistance programs. The U.S. Census Bureau uses in its tables the population alone for whom poverty status is determined. Then adjustments are made for determination of poverty based on the criteria described above. The resulting population is reported by age group as below or above the poverty level.

**Table 4**  
**Poverty Thresholds for 2020 by Size of Family and Number of Related Children Under 18 Years**

Size of family unit	Weighted average thresholds	Related children under 18 years								
		None	One	Two	Three	Four	Five	Six	Seven	Eight or more
One person (unrelated individual):	13,171									
Under age 65.....	13,465	13,465								
Aged 65 and older.....	12,413	12,413								
Two people:	16,733									
Householder under age 65.....	17,413	17,331	17,839							
Householder aged 65 and older....	15,659	15,644	17,771							
Three people.....	20,591	20,244	20,832	20,852						
Four people.....	26,496	26,695	27,131	26,246	26,338					
Five people.....	31,417	32,193	32,661	31,661	30,887	30,414				
Six people.....	35,499	37,027	37,174	36,408	35,674	34,582	33,935			
Seven people.....	40,406	42,605	42,871	41,954	41,314	40,124	38,734	37,210		
Eight people.....	44,755	47,650	48,071	47,205	46,447	45,371	44,006	42,585	42,224	
Nine people or more.....	53,905	57,319	57,597	56,831	56,188	55,132	53,679	52,366	52,040	50,035

Source: US Census Bureau

***Analysis of Level of Poverty***

The information for the low-income population group was retrieved from the 2015-2020 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates for poverty status in the last twelve months. The analysis included people of all age groups. The per capita income data was included in the analysis to compare the relationship of the population in the census tract with the group below the poverty level being analyzed. The analysis also included an overview of the median income at the household level for the analysis group as a matter of reference.

The average low-income population by census tract in Pinellas County was 11.6% compared with a rate of about 12.1% in 2010 and 14.36% in 2015. Looking at poverty level from an age perspective, while the average census tract has a poverty level of about 11.6%, the average poverty level by census tract for those under 18 years of age is 15.7%, compared with 11.0% for those aged 18-65 and with 10.2% for those over 65 years of age.

***Areas with High Black or African American Population below the Poverty Level***

Approximately 10.3% (99,798) of the estimated Pinellas County population in 2020 were Black or African American. Poverty status was determined for 97,062 of this group in the 2015-2020 American Community Survey (ACS). Of the 97,062 in this group in Pinellas County for whom a poverty status determination was made, 21,165 (22%) were determined to be below the poverty level. The median household income for this group is \$41,768 while the median income for Pinellas

County is \$56,419 countywide. **Table 5** illustrates those census tracts with the highest concentrations of Black or African American population below the poverty level.



**Table 5**

Census Tract	Total Population	Population Black Alone	Population Black Alone Below Poverty	Percentage of Black or African American over 50% Below Poverty Line	Income per capita census tract
215.02	1262	180	120	66.7	\$ 32,245.00
216	2086	679	411	60.5	\$ 31,893.00
224.01	3222	5	3	60	\$ 53,364.00
233	2277	129	75	58.1	\$ 47,014.00
235.01	2344	65	46	70.8	\$ 42,049.00
236.01	1506	66	66	100	\$ 41,099.00
236.02	1391	14	14	100	\$ 52,923.00
238	2579	8	8	100	\$ 72,991.00
244.09	3067	9	9	100	\$ 65,190.00
245.12	3395	136	112	82.4	\$ 30,642.00
248.05	2883	65	65	100	\$ 26,211.00
249.04	3281	22	22	100	\$ 26,835.00
249.05	7521	484	257	53.1	\$ 23,119.00
249.07	4025	322	253	78.6	\$ 23,516.00
250.15	2500	29	20	69	\$ 33,982.00
250.18	1926	133	68	51.1	\$ 23,978.00
250.19	2128	143	143	100	\$ 22,444.00
251.13	3148	2	2	100	\$ 32,461.00
251.14	3109	66	59	89.4	\$ 30,941.00
251.2	3682	15	15	100	\$ 46,068.00
251.21	4910	146	120	82.2	\$ 38,840.00
252.07	7478	1471	937	63.7	\$ 25,076.00
254.17	2637	25	25	100	\$ 26,453.00
254.19	4611	64	64	100	\$ 25,059.00
259.02	2089	249	211	84.7	\$ 50,710.00
269.13	3331	201	120	59.7	\$ 34,894.00
269.14	4139	51	51	100	\$ 36,080.00
272.07	4688	4	4	100	\$ 36,865.00
272.11	4568	81	81	100	\$ 32,386.00
273.08	3725	118	80	67.8	\$ 31,004.00
273.21	1816	9	9	100	\$ 33,519.00
273.23	3332	351	208	59.3	\$ 34,949.00
278.02	2981	12	12	100	\$ 40,440.00
280.04	1934	5	5	100	\$ 48,224.00
280.06	1655	10	10	100	\$ 55,856.00
284.03	2990	37	20	54.1	\$ 42,060.00
286.02	2243	106	92	86.8	\$ 60,983.00
287	1930	1805	977	54.1	\$ 13,634.00

Source: US Census Bureau

**Areas with a High Hispanic or Latino Population below the Poverty Level**

In 2020, this group accounted for 9.9% (96,064) of the population in Pinellas County. Poverty status was determined for 79,802 of the total group. Of this, 14,076 (15%) Hispanic and Latino persons were determined to be under the poverty level. The median household income for this group is \$49,848, compared to \$56,419 countywide. Table 6 illustrates those census tracts with the highest concentrations of Hispanic or Latino population below the poverty level.

**Table 6**

Census Tract	Total Population	Population Latinos Below Poverty	Percentage of Latinos Below the Poverty Line	Income per capita census tract
205	4146	226	85.9	\$ 19,334.00
212	2903	35	56.5	\$ 16,394.00
216	2086	146	57.7	\$ 31,893.00
245.18	1213	98	100	\$ 29,549.00
246.04	2474	131	95.6	\$ 19,398.00
254.17	2637	199	55.9	\$ 26,453.00
258	4177	479	57	\$ 19,029.00
260.03	1440	53	50.5	\$ 69,833.00
262	2164	116	71.2	\$ 15,633.00
268.19	2700	368	55.6	\$ 28,812.00
271.08	2276	72	83.7	\$ 31,126.00
273.08	3725	179	54.7	\$ 31,004.00
273.3	2539	101	54.3	\$ 31,176.00
273.33	3689	87	54.7	\$ 29,592.00

Source: US Census Bureau

**Areas with High Asian Population below the Poverty Level**

Asian Americans accounted for 3.4% (33,532) of the population in 2020, and the poverty status was determined for 33,249 people in this group. It was determined that 3,931 Asian Americans were living below the poverty level, or just under 12% of the group. The median household income for this group in \$57,230 in 2015 and \$59,586 in 2020 compared with \$56,419 countywide. Table 7 illustrates those census tracts with the highest concentrations of Asian population below the poverty level.

**Table 7**

Census Tract	Total Population	Population Asian Alone	Population Asian Alone Below Poverty	Percentage of Asian Population Below Poverty Level	Income per capita census tract
269.09	4892	184	94	51.1	\$ 22,070.00
250.11	4885	524	270	51.5	\$ 41,356.00
245.08	5164	205	107	52.2	\$ 27,398.00
267.05	3094	67	35	52.2	\$ 30,798.00
205	4146	231	149	64.5	\$ 19,334.00
264.02	3594	51	34	66.7	\$ 13,978.00
261.01	2553	64	43	67.2	\$ 40,385.00
202.01	5353	71	49	69	\$ 33,128.00
267.04	3458	281	246	87.5	\$ 47,833.00
255.05	2324	45	40	88.9	\$ 18,806.00
203.01	3458	10	10	100	\$ 31,462.00
212	2903	8	8	100	\$ 16,394.00
245.16	2020	31	31	100	\$ 33,369.00
247.02	2347	6	6	100	\$ 22,730.00
254.19	4611	62	62	100	\$ 25,059.00
255.09	4074	16	16	100	\$ 21,762.00
271.07	1664	61	61	100	\$ 20,253.00
272.09	1135	12	12	100	\$ 37,613.00
272.1	5046	14	14	100	\$ 32,656.00
280.06	1655	1	1	100	\$ 55,856.00
287	1930	12	12	100	\$ 13,634.00

Source: US Census Bureau

***Areas with High American Indian and Alaska Native Population below the Poverty Level***

The American Indian and Alaska Native population accounted for 0.25% (2,466) of the population in 2020. Poverty status was determined for 2,436 in this group, with 539, or 22%, determined to be below the poverty level. The median income for this group countywide was \$50,156, compared to \$56,419 for all persons countywide. While this group is included in the total numbers for determining low-income EJ areas, a separate analysis is not included due to the very small numbers of the population.

***Areas with High Native-Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander Population below the Poverty Level***

Native-Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islanders accounted for about 0.1% of the total population of Pinellas County in 2020, or approximately 913 people compared to approximately 931 people in 2015. Poverty status was determined for 900 people in this group, finding that 81, or 9%, of the group is below the poverty level. The median income for this group is \$53,250, compared to \$56,419 countywide. While this group is included in the total numbers for determining low-income EJ areas, a separate analysis is not included due to the very small numbers of the population.

**Areas with High White Alone Population below the Poverty Level**

Pinellas County is 80% White with a total population of 776,810, according to the 2020 American Community Survey (ACS). Poverty status was determined for 703,229 people in this group. Of this group, 66,865 people were determined to be below the poverty level, approximately 10% of the White population. The median income for this group was \$59,453, compared to \$56,419 countywide. **Table 8** illustrates those census tracts where more than 25% of the white population is below the poverty level.

**Table 8**

Census Tract	Total Population	Population White Alone	Population White Alone Below Poverty	Percentage of White Alone Population Below Poverty Level	Income per capita census tract
256.04	1576	1094	282	25.8	\$ 23,037.00
271.07	1664	1543	404	26.2	\$ 20,253.00
247.01	3190	2055	570	27.7	\$ 18,209.00
267.03	7081	4357	1226	28.1	\$ 24,065.00
264.02	3594	798	228	28.6	\$ 13,978.00
255.05	2324	1104	396	35.9	\$ 18,806.00
245.1	3272	897	334	37.2	\$ 12,770.00
246.03	3338	922	396	43	\$ 13,779.00
206	3922	615	379	61.6	\$ 24,632.00
207	3230	77	49	63.6	\$ 22,285.00
212	2903	326	223	68.4	\$ 16,394.00

Source: US Census Bureau

**Summary Analysis**

**Table 9** below, illustrates the poverty status and median income for each population group countywide.

**Table 9**

Population Group	Total Population Whose Status Determined	Population Below Poverty Level	Percent of Population Below Poverty Level	Median Income for Population Group
Black or African American	955568	97062	22%	\$41,768
Hispanic or Latino	94663	14076	15%	\$49,848
Asian	33249	3931	12%	\$59,586
American Indian or Native Alaskan	2436	539	22%	\$50,156
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	900	81	9%	\$53,250
White Alone	703229	66865	10%	\$59,453

Source: US Census Bureau

**AGE ANALYSIS**

As previously stated, the median age of residents continued to increase from 46.3 in 2010 to and 47.1 in 2015 and 47.9 in 2017. Due to the increasing median age of residents in Pinellas County, a separate analysis for age is included in this document. **Table 10** displays those census tracts where the median age of the residents exceeds 65. Figure 7 illustrates the geographical distribution of the median age by census tract throughout the county. This analysis can help identify those areas where a large segment of the population may face mobility challenges and could benefit from additional consideration during the transportation planning process.

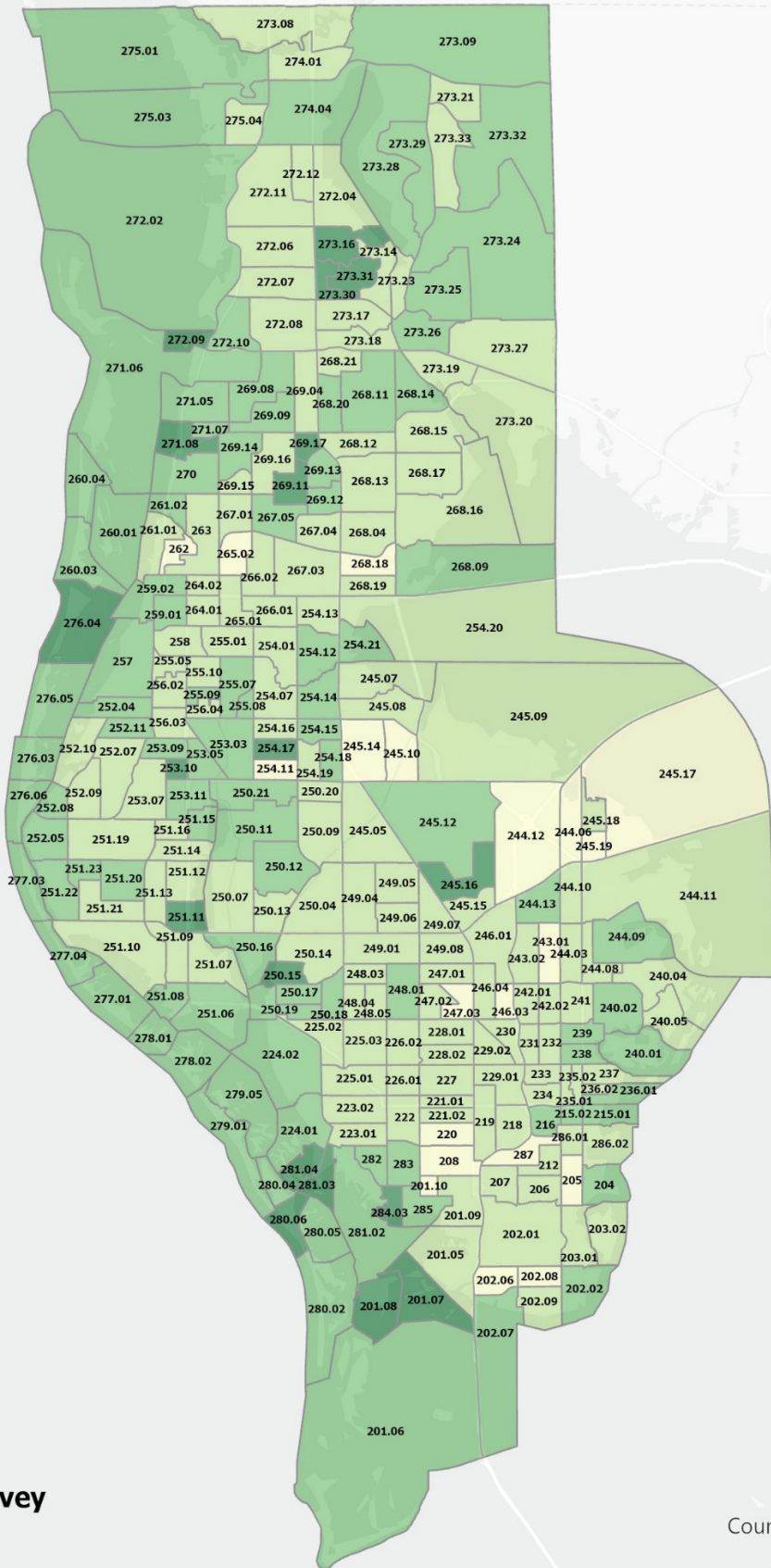
**Table 10**

Census Tract	Median Age
201.07	68.8
201.08	66.4
245.16	75
250.15	69.1
251.11	69.5
253.1	67.9
254.17	68.7
269.11	66.7
269.17	65.6
271.08	72.3
272.09	65.9
273.16	66.3
273.3	73.9
273.31	67.3
276.04	68.1
280.06	70.7
281.03	66.4
281.04	67.6
284.03	67.5

Source: US Census Bureau

# Pinellas County Median Age By Census Tract in 2020

- Less than Age 35
- Age 35 - Age 50
- Age 50 - Age 65
- Over Age 65



Source: 2015-2020  
American Community Survey

County of Pinellas

Figure 5