

Portland State University

**PDXScholar**

---

TREC Project Briefs

Transportation Research and Education Center  
(TREC)

---

4-2019

# Addressing Changing Demographics in Environmental Justice Analysis

Aaron Golub

*Portland State University, [agolub@pdx.edu](mailto:agolub@pdx.edu)*

Follow this and additional works at: [https://pdxscholar.library.pdx.edu/trec\\_briefs](https://pdxscholar.library.pdx.edu/trec_briefs)



Part of the [Transportation Commons](#), [Urban Studies Commons](#), and the [Urban Studies and Planning Commons](#)

**Let us know how access to this document benefits you.**

---

## Recommended Citation

Golub, A., Addressing Changing Demographics in Environmental Justice Analysis. Project Brief, summary of FHWA-HEP-19-021. Portland, OR: Transportation Research and Education Center (TREC), 2019.

This Report is brought to you for free and open access. It has been accepted for inclusion in TREC Project Briefs by an authorized administrator of PDXScholar. Please contact us if we can make this document more accessible: [pdxscholar@pdx.edu](mailto:pdxscholar@pdx.edu).

# ADDRESSING CHANGING DEMOGRAPHICS IN ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE ANALYSIS

Neighborhoods are rapidly changing as populations shift. What are best practices for considering changing demographics when conducting an environmental justice analysis during transportation decision-making?

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY  
APRIL 2019

Addressing Changing  
Demographics in  
Environmental Justice  
Analysis, State of  
Practice  
(#2019-1331)

Aaron Golub, Portland  
State University

Download Final Report:  
[http://trec.pdx.edu/  
research/project/1331](http://trec.pdx.edu/research/project/1331)



Since 1994, every Federal agency has a mandate to develop a strategy for identifying and addressing disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects on low-income populations and minority populations. In transportation planning this means including those communities' voices in the planning process, and evaluating the social impacts early on.

A new report from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), prepared by Portland State University and ICF International, provides an in-depth analysis of national demographic trends and a synthesis of best long-range planning practices borne out of five case studies

## Questions to Consider When Implementing Environmental Justice

### Local Trends

- Is your community addressing the issue of demographic change when engaging the public?
- Is your community aware of demographic changes to date that may have already shifted community composition?
- Do recent trends suggest the community is likely to shift over the lifecycle of a transportation plan or investment?
- If it will change, how will you address that at later decision points?

### Impacts of Planned Investments

- Is your community considering how planned investments could result in local demographic change?
- Has your community developed a process to evaluate impacts of investments on neighborhood change?
- Do investments address the needs of EJ populations and are there scenarios considering community change?

*This research was conducted by the Transportation Research and Education Center (TREC) at Portland State University, and funded through a grant from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA).*

*TREC is home to the National Institute for Transportation and Communities (NITC), the Initiative for Bicycle and Pedestrian Innovation (IBPI), and other transportation programs. We produce timely, practical research for transportation decision makers and support future professionals through curriculum development and student research.*