



MaKara Rumley
Environmental Attorney



GreenLaw is dedicated to preventing air and water pollution that endangers human health and degrades Georgia's natural resources. GreenLaw achieves these goals by providing free high quality legal and technical assistance to environmental organizations and community groups throughout Georgia. By providing these critical services, GreenLaw succeeds in compelling government and industry to take the steps necessary to protect Georgia's citizens and the environment. In all its work, *GreenLaw champions the belief that every Georgian, young and old, rich and poor, has the right to breathe clean air, drink clean water, live in healthy communities, and enjoy our state's natural beauty.*

What are Key Environmental Justice Issues?

- Disproportionate burden in terms of pollution impacts on impoverished and/or minority communities
- Unfair treatment (e.g. lack of enforcement)
- Lack of involvement in decision-making
- Community that is burdened is not the same community that benefits



<http://www.wsbtv.com/videos/news/pollution-points-found-in-poor-areas/vGhxC/>

The Patterns of Pollution:

A Report on Demographics and Pollution in Metro Atlanta

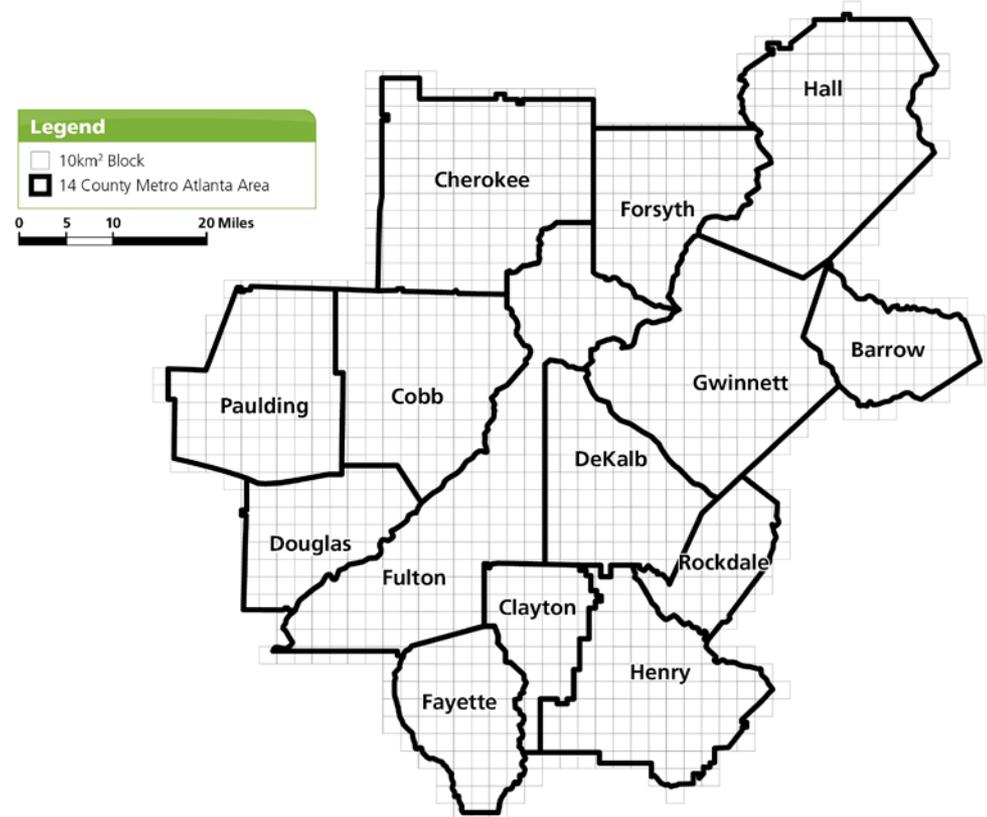

GreenLaw

Fulton County EJ Zoning Amendment

- Considers impacted communities before granting new permits to pollute.
- No new staff needed to be hired to implement additional review standards.
- Positive feedback from the community.
- Potential results: improved health and quality of life.

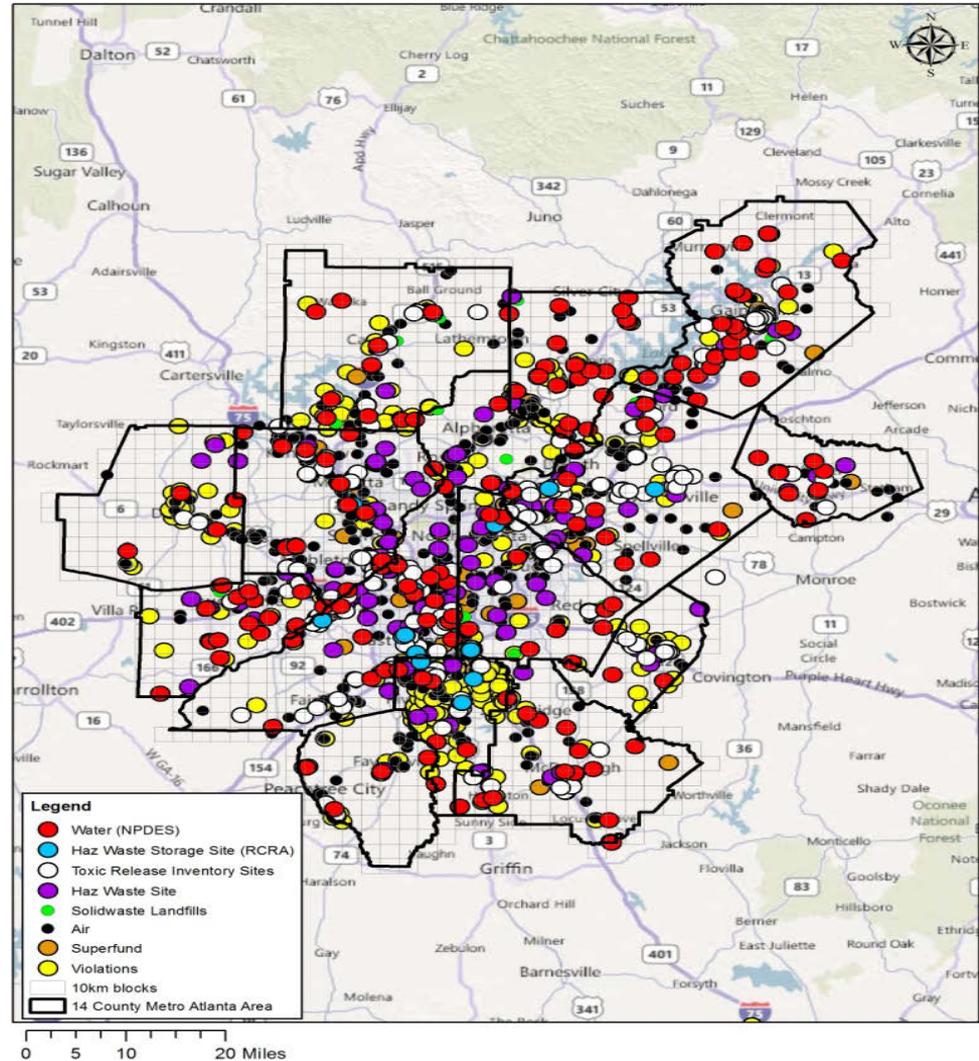
Our Methodology

- **Study Grid**
- 10 square km grid
- Common spatial scale
- Finer resolution than census blocks

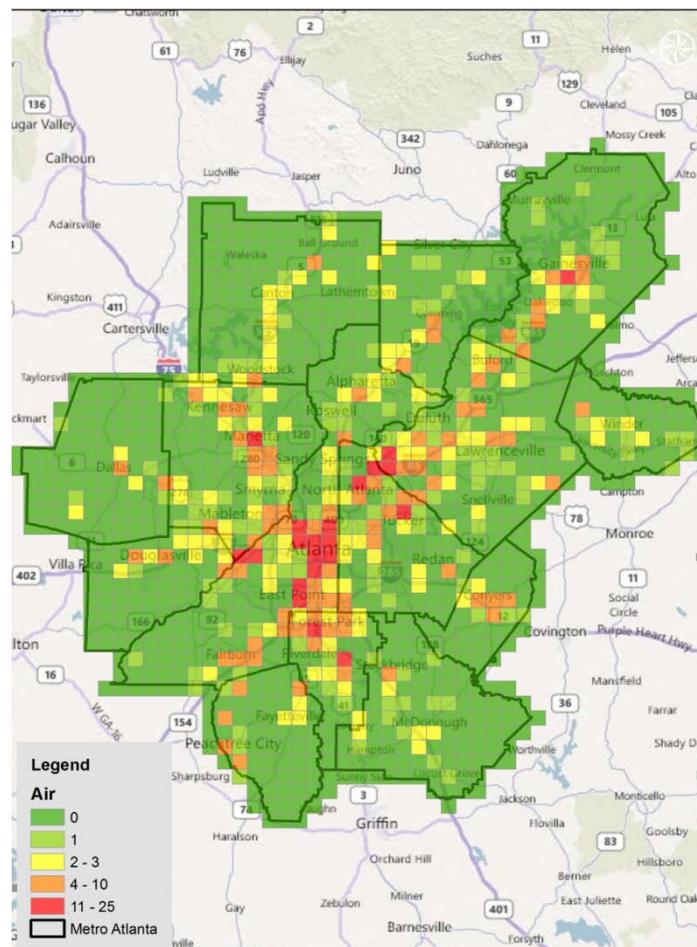
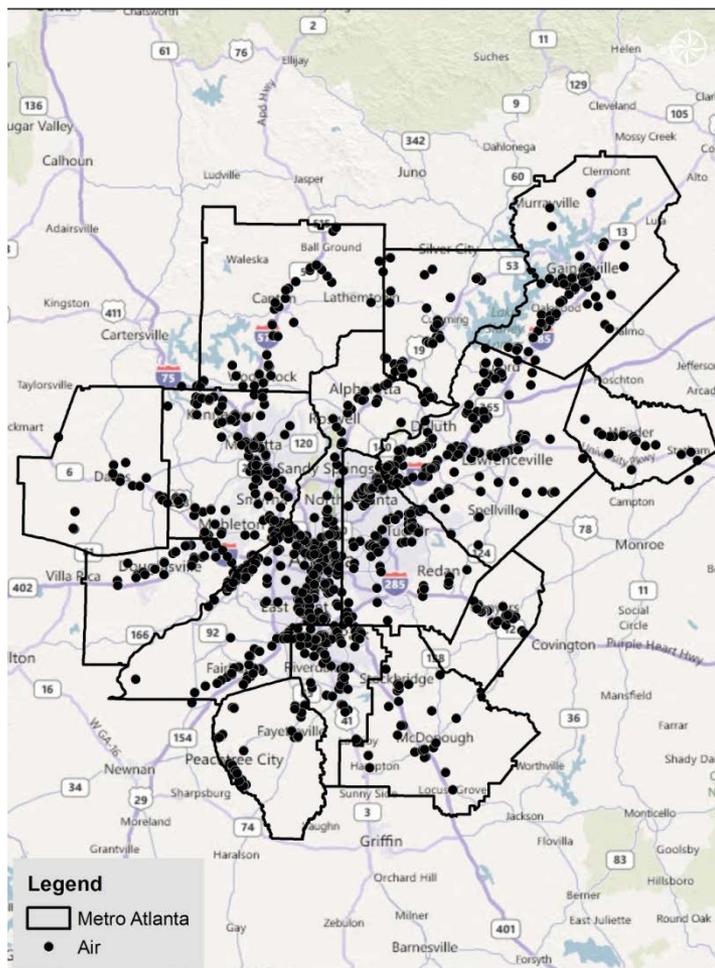


Identify Pollution Point Locations and give each a value of 1.

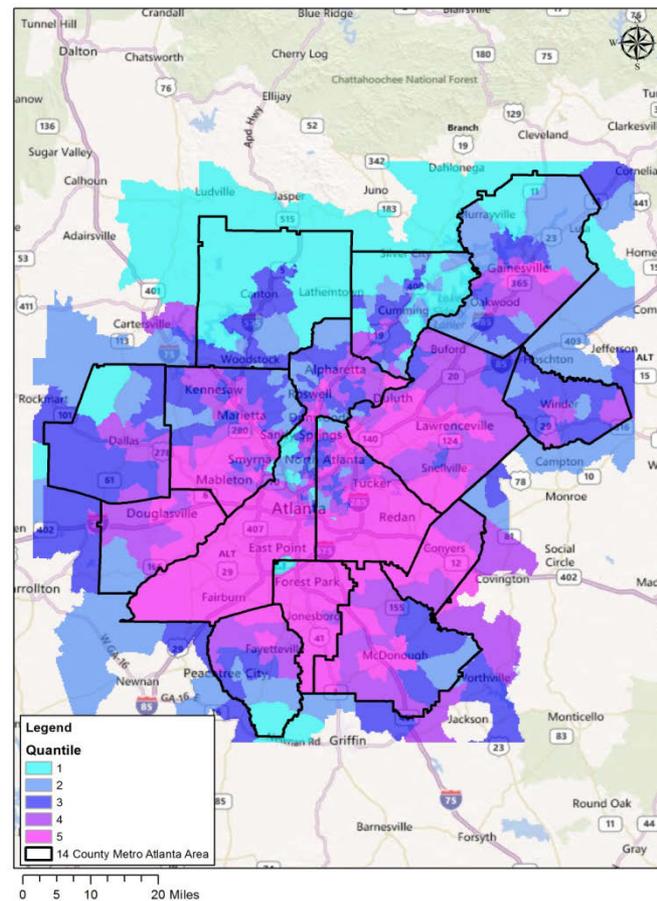
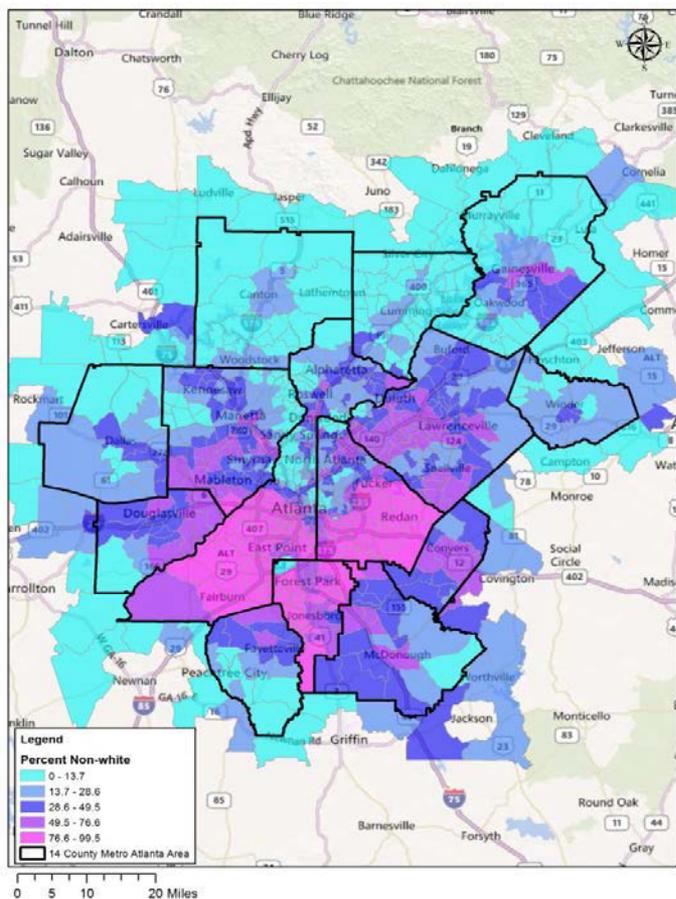
- Permitted Air Pollution Locations
- NPDES Permit Locations
- Hazardous Waste Inventory (HIS) Sites
- CERCLA or “Superfund” Sites
- Toxic Release Inventory (TRI) Sites
- RCRA Hazardous Waste Storage Sites
- Active solid waste landfills
- Permit violations and enforcement actions taken by EPA or EPD for the violation of environmental laws.



Pollution Score Example

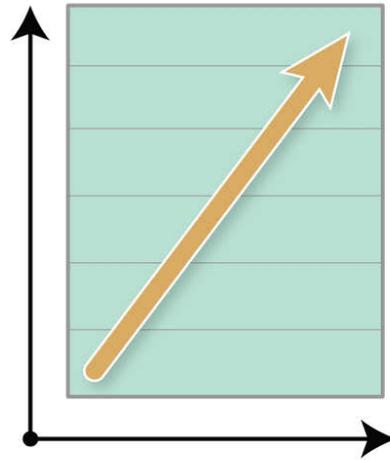


Demographic Data

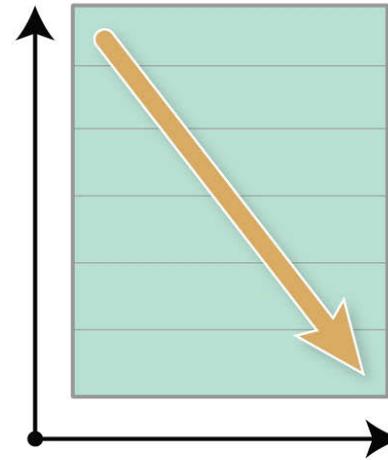


Results

**Direct
Correlation**



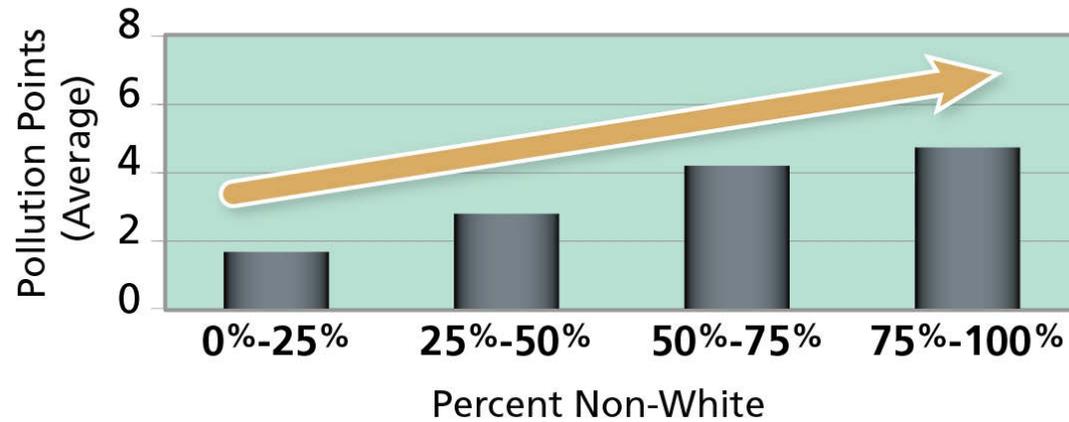
**Indirect
Correlation**



Results



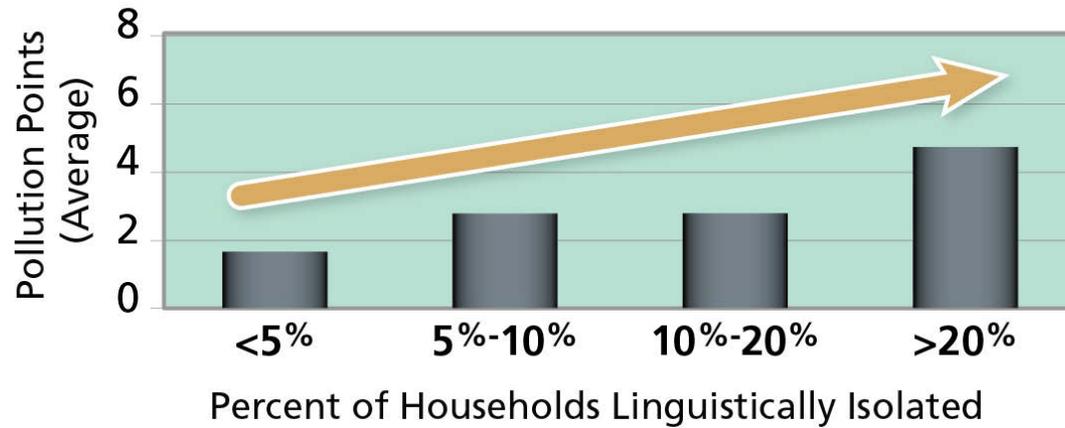
Prevalence of Pollution Points Compared to Non-white Population



Results



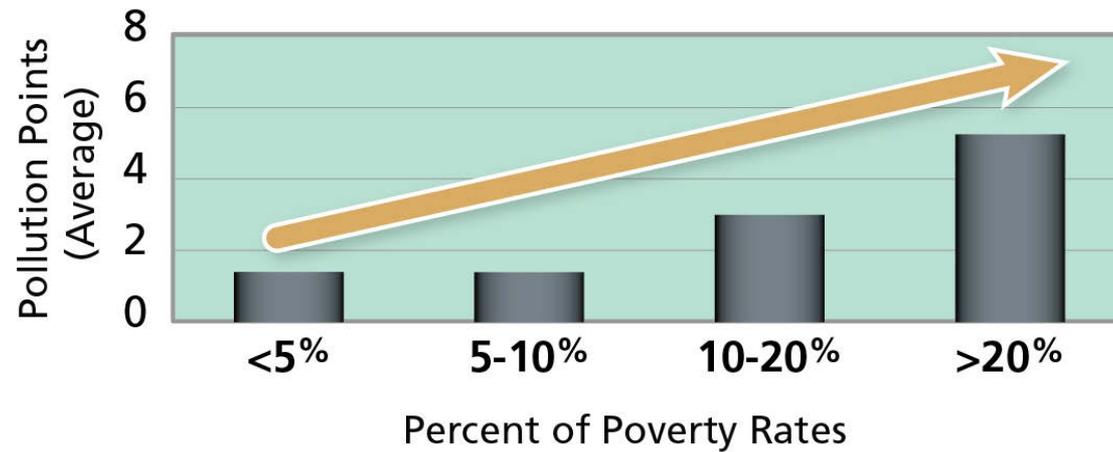
Prevalence of Pollution Points Compared to Linguistic Isolation Rate



Results



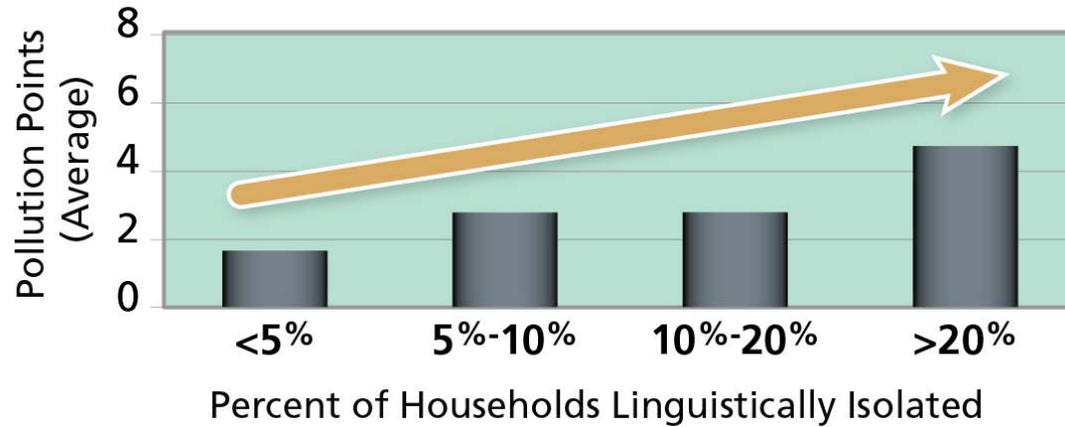
Prevalence of Pollution Points Compared to Poverty Rate



Results

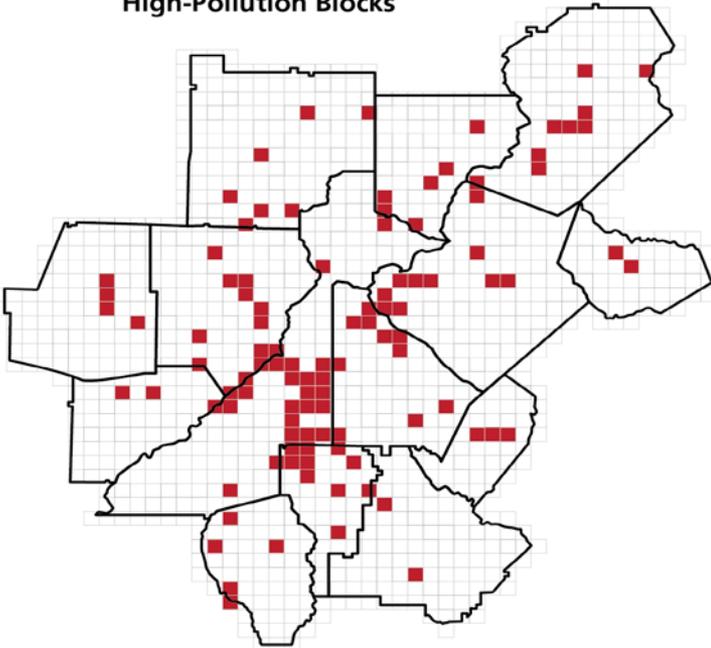


Prevalence of Pollution Points Compared to Linguistic Isolation Rate



Results

High-Pollution Blocks

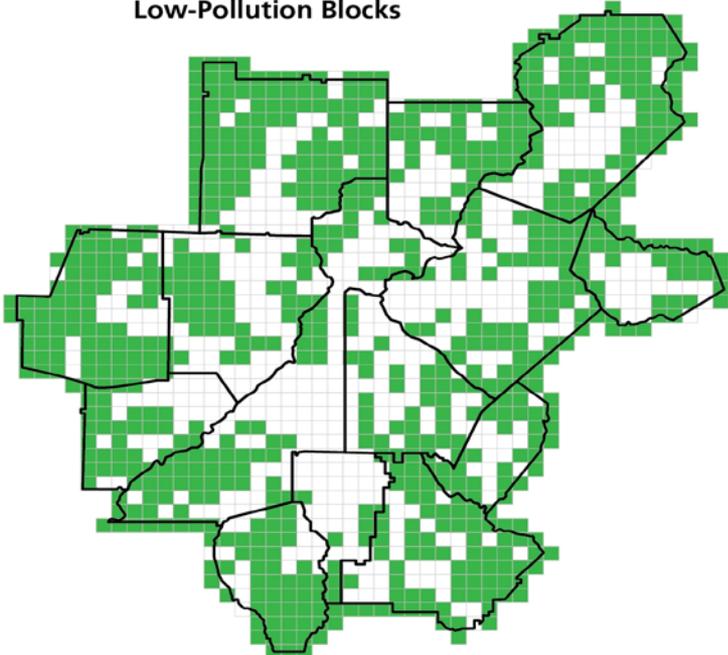


Legend

- High-Pollution Blocks - Upper Quantile
- 10km² Block
- 14 County Metro Atlanta Area



Low-Pollution Blocks

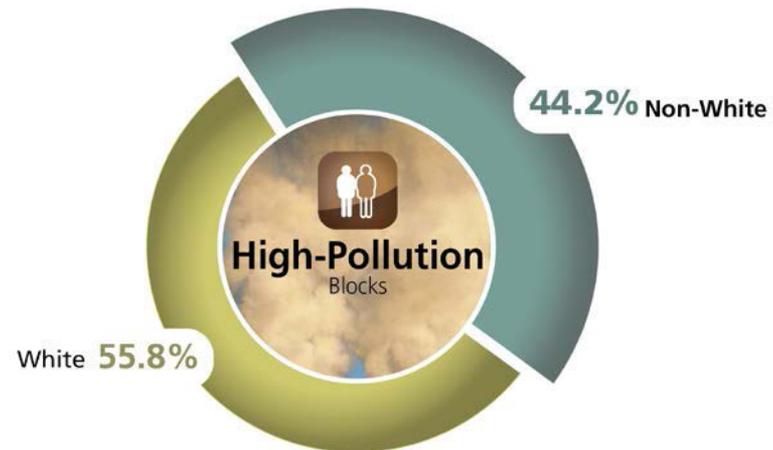
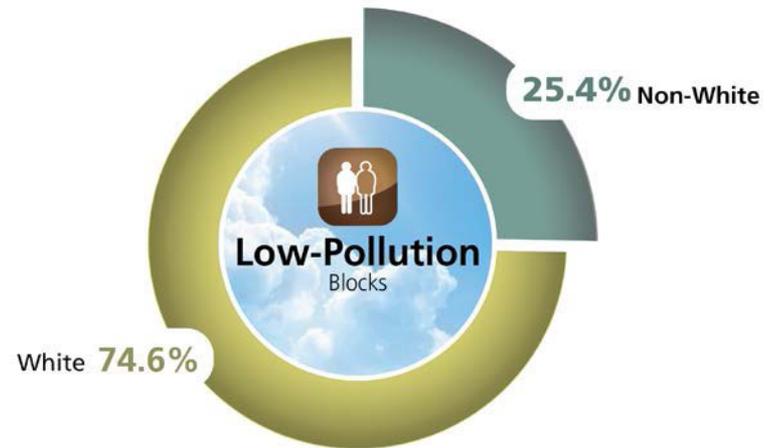


Legend

- Low-Pollution Blocks - Lower Quantile
- 10km² Block
- 14 County Metro Atlanta Area



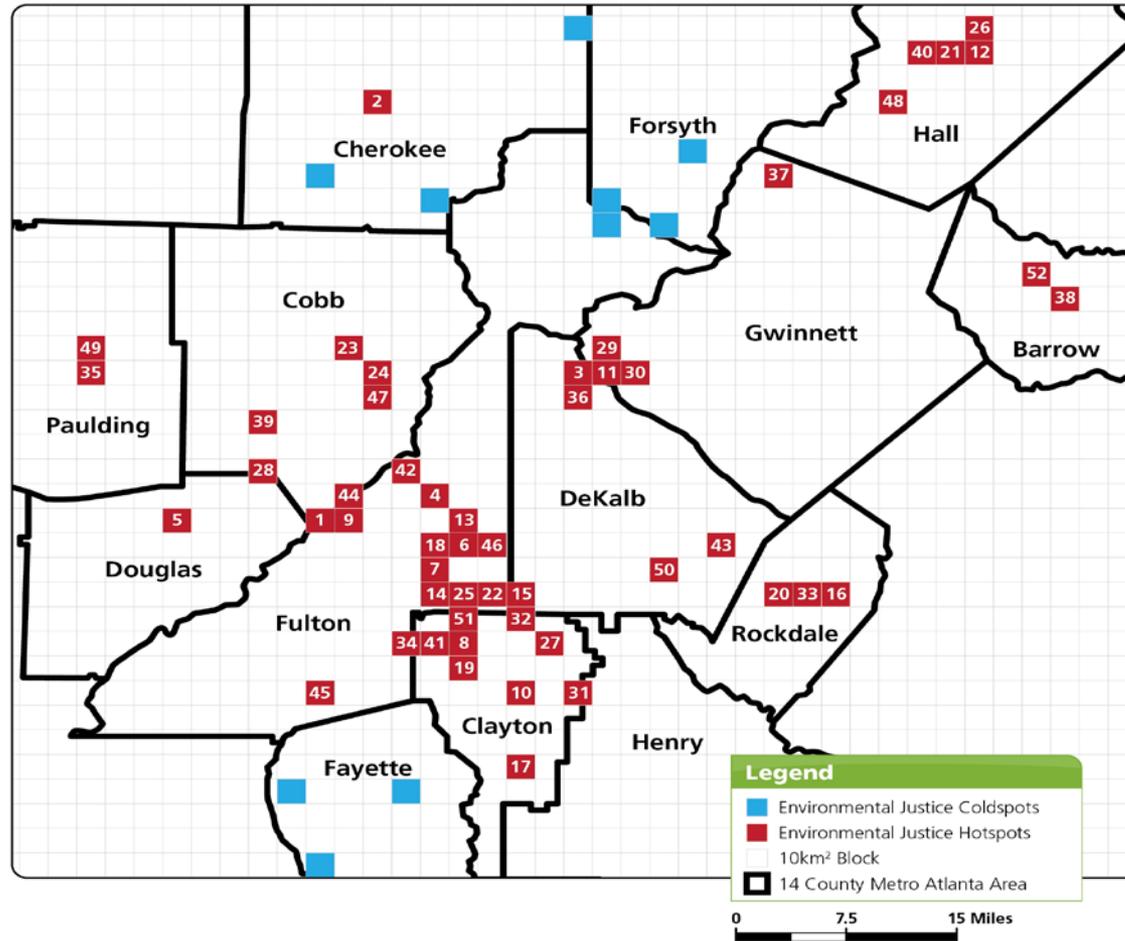
Results



*Regional Average of Non-White Population = 31.9%

Results

Environmental Justice Hotspots



Southeastern Environmental Justice Laws and Policies

