

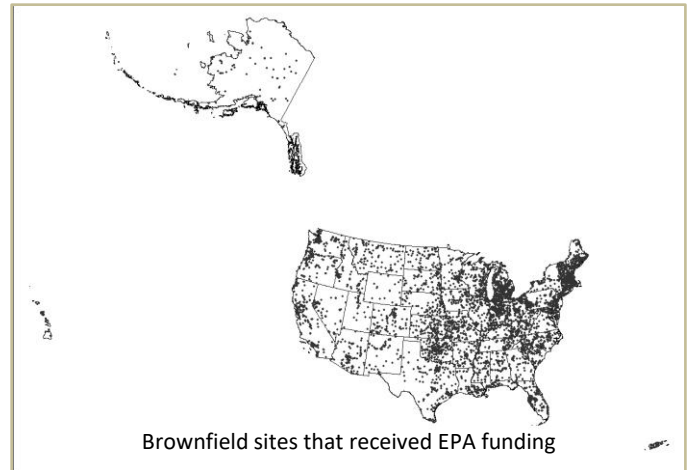
Population Surrounding 27,030 Brownfields Sites

Brownfields sites exist in thousands of communities across the U.S. ranging from remote to large urban settings. Many of these sites are in economically distressed communities. To help describe who benefits from EPA's Brownfields Program, the Agency used **2015-2018 American Community Survey populations data and FY 2019 Brownfields** to summarize the population living within 3, 1, and ½ miles of Brownfield sites that received EPA funding.

Population within 0.5 Mile of Sites:

Approximately 27 million people live within 0.5 mile of a Brownfields site (roughly 8% of the U.S. population) including approximately:

- 9% of all children in the U.S. under the age of 5
- 8% of all children in the U.S. under 18
- 15% of all blacks in the U.S.
- 10% of all Hispanics in the U.S.
- 11% of all minorities in the U.S.
- 14% of all households in the U.S. below the poverty level
- 12% of all people with less than a high school education in the U.S.
- 13% of the linguistically isolated people in the U.S.



Population within 1 Mile of Sites:

Approximately 58 million people live within 1 mile of a Brownfields site (roughly 18% of the U.S. population) including approximately:

- 19% of all children in the U.S. under the age of 5
- 17% of all children in the U.S. under 18
- 30% of all blacks in the U.S.
- 22% of all Hispanics in the U.S.
- 24% of all minorities in the U.S.
- 27% of all households in the U.S. below the poverty level
- 23% of all people with less than a high school education in the U.S.
- 26% of the linguistically isolated people in the U.S.

Population within 3 Miles of Sites:

Approximately 143 million people live within 3 miles of a Brownfields site (roughly 44% of the U.S. population) including approximately:

- 45% of all children in the U.S. under the age of 5
- 43% of all children in the U.S. under 18
- 58% of all blacks in the U.S.
- 51% of all Hispanics in the U.S.
- 53% of all minorities in the U.S.
- 53% of all households in the U.S. below the poverty level
- 50% of all people with less than a high school education in the U.S.
- 57% of the linguistically isolated people in the U.S.

Demographics of Near-Site Populations:

While there is no single way to characterize communities located near our sites, this population is *more minority, low income, linguistically isolated, and less likely to have a high school education* than the U.S. population as a whole.

TABLE 1: Proportions of Key Demographics in the Total Near Site Population and the Total U.S. Population

	Population within 0.5mile of All Sites	Population within 1 mile of All Sites	Population within 3 miles of All Sites	U.S. Population
Minority	55.2%	53.6%	47.8%	39.6%
Below poverty level	22.1%	20.1%	16.3%	13.7%
Linguistically isolated	7.4%	7.2%	6.5%	5.1%
Less than a High School Education	17.8%	16.8%	14.2%	12.5%

Methodology:

A circular site boundary, equal to the site acreage, was modeled around the latitude/longitude for each site and then a **3-, 1- or ½- mile** buffer ring was placed around the site boundary. American Community Survey (ACS) 2015-2018 census data was then identified for each block group with a centroid that fell within the **3-, 1- or ½- mile** area.

Data used includes: (1) Brownfields site information from ACRES as of the end of FY2019; and (2) ACS 2015-2018 census data. Site data from FY2019 included 27,030 brownfields sites in the 50 U.S. states and Puerto Rico with accurate locational data.

IMPORTANT Caveats:

- Data collected represent a national look at the characteristics of the population in communities surrounding our sites. While some of the data point to possible Environmental Justice (EJ) characteristics of the population, this is not an EJ analysis.
- Proximity to a site does not necessarily represent risk of adverse health effects. The risk of exposure to contamination varies significantly across all sites.
- Data are a snapshot in time only, the site and population information will change over time (can be updated every year when new census data comes out and compared over time in 5-year intervals).
- Used best available information, but data collected are estimates only, for the following reasons:
 - ❖ Used a single latitude/longitude location to model site boundaries based on acreage, not the actual site boundaries.
 - ❖ Used centroid points of the census block groups which under-estimates the population in some cases, and over-estimates in others.

Footnote to Use When Citing Data:

U.S. EPA, Office of Land and Emergency Management 2020. Data collected includes: (1) Brownfields site information from ACRES as of the end of FY2019; and (2) population data from the 2015-2018 American Community Survey.

TABLE 2: Detailed Data on the Population within 1 and 3 miles of Brownfields sites

Below are data on the demographic characteristics of the population surrounding Brownfields. The table indicates whether certain population demographics near sites are above (in bold) or below (in italics) the U.S. average.

Demographics	Population Within 0.5 Mile Of Sites (Approximate)		Population Within 1 Mile Of Sites (Approximate)		Population Within 3 Miles Of Sites (Approximate)		US Population (Approximate)	
	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number
Race								
White	58.1%	15,638,339	59.9%	34,546,523	65.5%	93,602,934	72.7%	237,188,538
Black	23.1%	6,201,980	21.4%	12,307,983	16.8%	24,056,713	12.7%	41,281,123
Asian	5.6%	1,503,760	5.7%	3,291,821	6.3%	9,038,520	5.4%	17,581,234
Native American	0.9%	243,408	0.8%	485,261	0.8%	1,135,308	0.8%	2,707,577
Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	0.2%	55,421	0.2%	118,212	0.2%	301,725	0.2%	583,021
Other	12.1%	3,259,885	11.9%	6,883,504	10.3%	14,784,172	8.3%	26,948,478
Ethnicity								
Hispanic (any race)	23.6%	6,353,368	23.7%	13,642,541	21.8%	31,120,342	18.7%	60,867,275
Non-Hispanic (any race)	76.4%	20,549,425	76.3%	43,990,763	78.2%	111,799,030	81.3%	265,422,696
Minority								
Minority	55.2%	14,842,020	53.6%	30,870,490	47.8%	68,355,975	39.6%	129,080,779
Income								
Households below the poverty level	22.1%	2,315,031	20.1%	4,448,196	16.3%	8,789,452	13.7%	16,567,346
Households with a ratio of income to poverty level of two and over	54.0%	14,057,470	56.8%	31,688,960	63.3%	88,003,590	67.7%	215,350,011
Education								
Less than a high school education	17.8%	3,175,051	16.8%	6,417,523	14.2%	13,651,973	12.5%	27,526,286
Linguistically isolated								
Linguistically isolated households	7.4%	774,252	7.2%	1,593,318	6.5%	3,519,340	5.1%	6,149,144
Age								
Under 5 years of age	6.5%	1,745,059	6.4%	3,716,098	6.3%	8,980,213	6.1%	19,994,488
Under 18 years of age	22.0%	5,917,366	22.1%	12,730,423	22.1%	31,646,138	22.8%	74,241,185
Over 64 years of age	12.7%	3,409,966	13.2%	7,596,590	14.4%	20,605,911	15.3%	49,879,204
Total		26,902,793		57,633,304		142,919,372		326,289,971