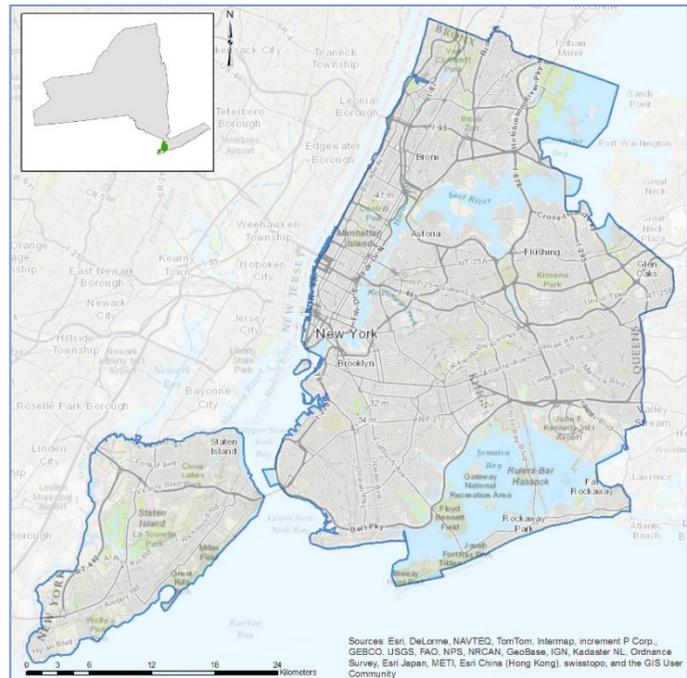




New York, NY and surrounding area

Towns and cities rely on clean air, clean water, green space, and other natural amenities for economic sustainability and quality of life, yet their benefits are not always fully understood or considered in local decisions. EPA and its partners are producing EnviroAtlas to help communities better use environmental assets for public good.

EnviroAtlas includes an online interactive mapping application that anyone can use. The interactive map contains over 200 maps available for the U.S., as well as 100+ fine-scale maps for selected U.S. communities about existing and potential benefits from the local natural environment. The EnviroAtlas community component is based on 1-meter resolution land cover data. Information derived from these data is summarized by census block groups; more spatially explicit map layers are also provided. This fact sheet highlights some of the many community data layers available for the featured area of New York, New York.



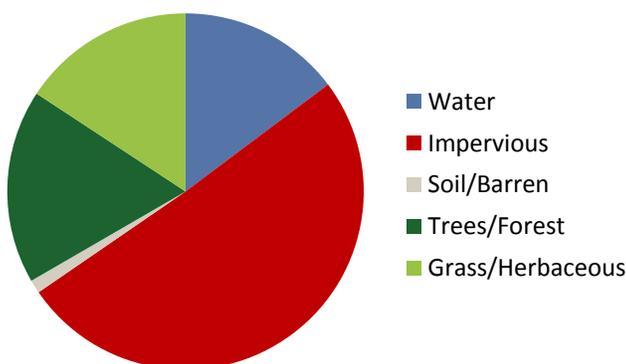
Background

The New York, New York area was chosen as an EnviroAtlas community because it offers multiple opportunities to leverage existing research and community engagement activities. It has also received high sustainability and heat vulnerability ratings that can be evaluated from a green infrastructure perspective. The EnviroAtlas boundary for the New York area was determined using the 2011 municipal area from NAVTEQ. The area measures 901 square kilometers, and encompasses

6,382 census block groups.

The New York area is in the Northern Piedmont, Northeastern Coastal Zone, and Atlantic Coastal Pine Barrens ecoregions. However, the area is completely urbanized and little resembles the natural state of any of these ecoregions. The community has a very diverse economy and is a hub for international business and commerce. The largest employers include the City of New York, Metropolitan Transportation Authority, New York City Health and Hospitals, Corp., and JP Morgan Chase & Co. The demographics of the New York community area indicate that the potential exists for income and other disparities in the distribution of environmental assets.

Percent Land Cover in Community Area



New York Area Demographics 2010 Census	
Total population	8,175,131
Under 13 years old	15.51%
Over 70 years of age	8.51%
Other than white/non-Hispanic	66.69%
Below twice the U.S. poverty level	37.30%

EnviroAtlas includes demographic maps that can help screen for potential health and well-being disparities resulting from disproportionate distribution of “green infrastructure.”

Ecosystem Services Overview

In EnviroAtlas, the benefits humans receive from nature are grouped into seven categories that demonstrate the interconnectedness of these ecosystem services:

- Clean air
- Clean and plentiful water
- Natural hazard mitigation
- Climate stabilization
- Recreation, culture, and aesthetics
- Biodiversity conservation
- Food, fuel, and materials (data available only for communities with farm land)

Examples of some of the data included in EnviroAtlas are detailed below:

Access to Parks

Parks provide access to green space, encourage physical activity, and improve the livability and aesthetics of urban areas. Those who live closer to parks may be more likely to receive the multiple benefits associated with this proximity.

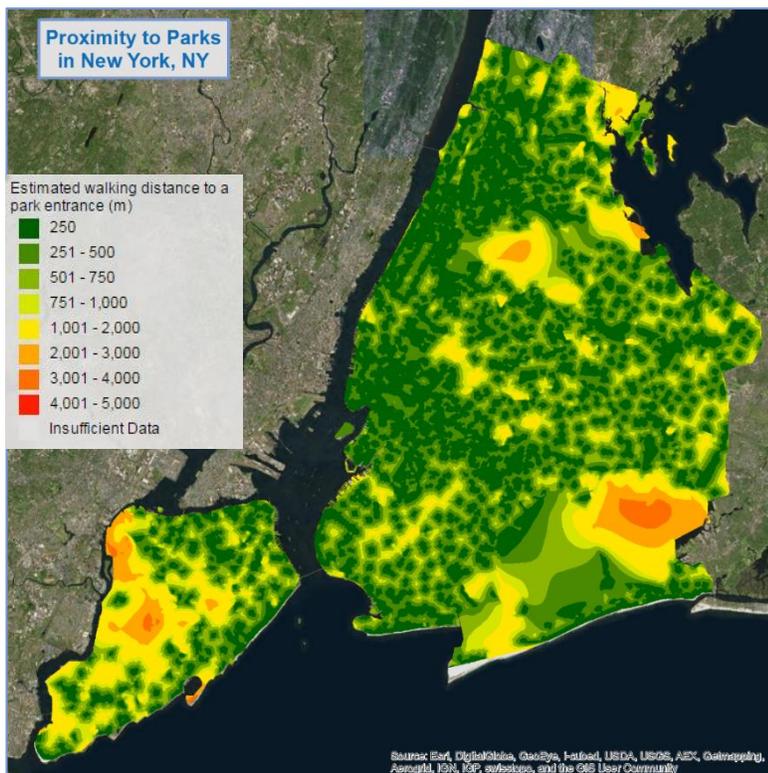
- An estimated 60 percent of the New York area is located within easy walking distance (500 meters) of a park entrance (dark and medium green areas in figure at right).
- An estimated 16 percent of the New York population does not have a park entrance within 500 meters (yellow to red areas in figure at right).

Near-Road Environments

Studies indicate that the capacity of trees to filter air may

EnviroAtlas Tools and Features

- Learn more about and download EnviroAtlas data: <https://www.epa.gov/enviroatlas/enviroatlas-data>
- Search our data layers and access their fact sheets: <https://www.epa.gov/enviroatlas/enviroatlas-dynamic-data-matrix>
- Explore data for the New York community area in our interactive mapping application: <https://www.epa.gov/enviroatlas/enviroatlas-interactive-map>
- Use our Eco-Health Relationship Browser to explore ecosystems, the services they provide, and their benefits to human health and well-being: <https://www.epa.gov/enviroatlas/enviroatlas-eco-health-relationship-browser>
- Contact us with questions about EnviroAtlas: <https://www.epa.gov/enviroatlas/forms/contact-enviroatlas>



reduce the health impacts of vehicular pollution. In EnviroAtlas, you can find analyses of tree coverage near busy roads.

- An estimated 82 percent of the New York area population lives within 300 meters of a busy roadway.
- 73 percent of the estimated New York population lives within 300 meters of a roadway that has little to no tree coverage.

EnviroAtlas combines maps, graphs, and other analysis tools, fact sheets, and downloadable data into an easy-to-use, web-based educational and decision-support tool. EnviroAtlas helps users understand the connections between the benefits we derive from ecosystem services and the natural resources that provide them. For more information, please visit www.epa.gov/enviroatlas.