What is Environmental Justice?
Environmental Justice (EJ) is the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people, regardless of race, ethnicity, income, national origin, or educational level with respect to the development, implementation and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations and policies and is derived from an Executive Order signed by President Clinton in February of 1994.

To identify where people live who meet the low income or minority population threshold in Douglas County the U.S. Census Bureau block group data is utilized.

Environmental Justice Analysis
This data provides opportunities to evaluate transportation options for all residents across race and income levels.

- **Low-moderate income households**
  - People who have low-moderate income may not have the resources to own/maintain a personal vehicle, which on average costs $6,060 - $8,743 per year, and need to rely on public transit or others to provide rides.¹
  - The low/moderate income data reflects block groups where household income was 51 percent or more of the population residing in households earning less than 80 percent of the area’s median income.² This data is updated every five years unless there is a change to the census tracks and block group boundaries. The City of Lawrence Neighborhood Resources Division of the Planning and Development Services Department uses this data. Various housing rehabilitation program funds and Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds are targeted toward these areas.

- **Minorities**
  - There is a link between ethnicity and pedestrian deaths. Minority populations are less likely to own a vehicle and more likely to walk, bicycle and/or use public transportation, resulting in greater exposure to the dangers of the street.³
  - The minority data is from the most up-to-date US Census Bureau American Community Survey (ACS) 5-year estimates. The US Census Bureau collects demographic data for one race and a combination of races. The Census one race data was used to depict areas within Douglas County that have a minority population within the 99% Confidence Interval average population residing in Lawrence and Douglas County. Essentially, a confidence interval indicates a range of values that’s likely to encompass the true value in our community. With a 99% mean confidence interval we are 99% sure that the interval contains all of the values.

To learn more about the Environmental Justice analysis visit: [https://lawrenceks.org/mpo/environmental-justice](https://lawrenceks.org/mpo/environmental-justice).

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² Utilizing data for driving 10,000 miles per year.
³ For FY2021, the Lawrence median income is $84,500. [https://www.huduser.gov/portal/datasets/il/il2021/2021MedCalc.odn](https://www.huduser.gov/portal/datasets/il/il2021/2021MedCalc.odn)
Environmental Justice data is from the U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey (ACS) 5-year estimate block group data. The low/moderate income data reflects block groups where household income was 51 percent or more of the population residing in households earning less than 80 percent of the area’s median income. This data is updated by the Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Department every five years unless there is a change to the census tracks and block group boundaries. The City of Lawrence Neighborhood Resources Division of the Planning and Development Services Department uses this data. The minority data is from the most up-to-date ACS 5-year estimates. See the map source on the left to see the years of the data.

DISCLAIMER NOTICE
The map is provided “as is” without warranty or any representation of accuracy, timeliness or completeness. The burden for determining accuracy, completeness, timeliness, merchantability and fitness for or the appropriateness for use rests solely on the requester. The City of Lawrence makes no warranties, express or implied, as to the use of the map. There are no implied warranties of merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose. The requester acknowledges and accepts the limitations of the map, including the fact that the map is dynamic and is in a constant state of maintenance, correction and update.

Note: All EJ Zones in Douglas County are in or near the City of Lawrence.

Date Exported: 7/20/2021

Low-Moderate Income Block Groups
99% Confidence Interval Minority Block Groups
Water

Date Created: 6/24/20
Source: U.S. Census; 2018-2014 ACS (5-yr est.) for minority & U.S. Census; 2015-2011 ACS (5-yr est.) for income from HUD
Produced: Lawrence-Douglas County MPO