New Resources for People-Centered, Place-Based Research in the Twin Cities Region

An Overview of the Equity Considerations dataset
Tonight’s Presentation

• Overview of the Equity Considerations dataset
  o Why we developed it
  o What’s in it now
  o What’s next

• How we’re spreading the word & next steps
  o Inreach & outreach
  o Tool development

• Q&A/discussion
Today’s research frames tomorrow policy

Are narratives and research tools that center concentrated poverty effective in advancing regional equity?
Rethinking Areas of Concentrated Poverty (2019-2020)

• Listen
  – Council, incl. EAC
  – Jurisdictions
  – Other users

• Reflect
  – Tangible harms on neighborhoods
  – Shift narrative, center engagement

• Respond
  – Equity Considerations

Read the digital report
Themes from Listening Sessions

Important to have shared understanding of equity landscape
- Advance regional understanding
- Council research is an important part of this

Investments versus displacement
- Tension felt especially by local government staff
- Policies/tools that support equitable development
- More data needed on capital flows and investments

Don’t reinforce deficit-based narrative
- Balance with concentrated affluence and root causes
- Go beyond poverty rates; include other characteristics
- Provide more specific, disaggregated data

Research needs to reflect all voices
- Use mixed methods
- Lived experience is also valued information: engagement
- Co-own data/results; make products easy to use
Response: Develop New Tools & Approaches

Rethinking Areas of Concentrated Poverty

Place is an important dimension of equity, but how we frame this discussion matters.

Matt Schneider, Kathryn Rose Turner & Amy Remsa
Community Development Research Team | July 13, 2020

Read the digital report
Why we stopped identifying ACP50s

A starting point…
• Snapshot measure of residential segregation (HUD)
• Intended to highlight the disproportionate exposure of BIPOC residents to high-poverty areas

But…
• Rightful objections from the start by advocates and organizers
• Implies that BIPOC people living together is necessarily problematic
• Stigmatizes communities and their residents; tangible harms
• "Spatial shorthand" can substitute for real engagement
From ‘Rethinking’ to Equity Considerations

2020
Published ‘Rethinking’ digital report & initial dataset (without ACP50s)
- EAC presentation (July)
- Metropolitan Council presentation (Sept)

2021
Full Equity Considerations dataset & User Guide published (Feb)
Inreach & outreach
Technical assistance
Tool development

2022
Planned update to dataset (Q1)
From ‘Rethinking’ to Equity Considerations

2020
- Published ‘Rethinking’ digital report & initial dataset (without ACP50s)
  - EAC presentation (July)
  - Metropolitan Council presentation (Sept)

2021
- Full Equity Considerations dataset & User Guide published (Feb)
- Inreach & outreach
- Technical assistance
- Tool development

2022
- Planned update to dataset (Q1)
Principles of Equity Considerations data

- Integrate topics
- Characteristics of residents
- Characteristics of neighborhood
- Disaggregate wherever possible
- Trends, including historic data, forecasts

Developed from User Input
Powerful pairing: data & engagement

Alone, this (or any) dataset is incomplete and inadequate for advancing regional equity.

“…without pairing our data with community engagement, without pursuing qualitative methods, without tapping into and bringing forward the wisdom of community members themselves—there would be limits to our shared understanding and therefore to the ideas and policies and decisions that could improve the lives of people through place-based strategies.”
"This is a great resource, but what do I do with it?"

General tips and considerations

Conversations with users

Resources for effective engagement

Annotated list of possible use cases

Data sources and limitations

Link to website/resources
Equity Considerations dataset overview

Over 300 fields of data for the region’s census tracts

- Geographies
- Expanded demographics
- Migration
- Disability status
- Socioeconomic characteristics
- Housing stock, costs/affordability
- Land use
- Environment and climate
- Amenities
- Employment
- Transportation and commuting

Link to website/resources
Add parity, refocus on systems’ outcomes

- Same systems that create concentrated poverty also produce concentrated affluence
- Shifts focus from concentrated poverty to these patterns across places
- Recommend consistently pairing these fields

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concentrated Affluence</th>
<th>current</th>
<th>past</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Concentrated Poverty</td>
<td>current</td>
<td>past</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Make historic data accessible, relevant

- Number of racially restrictive covenants by census tract
- Provided by Mapping Prejudice Project
- Share of census tract by Home Owners Loan Corporation (HOLC) "grades"
- Minneapolis and Saint Paul
### Demographics: Percent African American

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percent sub-Saharan African</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>25.0% or more</td>
<td>10.0% to 24.9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Demographics: Percent sub-Saharan African

Migration: When moved into current home

At least half the population moved into current home…

Migration: When moved into current home (renters)

At least half the population moved into current home...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>After 2015</th>
<th>2011-2015</th>
<th>2006-2010</th>
<th>2005 or before</th>
<th>(no renters)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Migration: When moved into current home (homeowners)

At least half the population moved into current home…

| After 2015 | 2011-2015 | 2006-2010 | 2005 or before (no homeowners) |

Socioeconomics: Median household income

Change, 2010-2014 period to 2015-2019 period
- Gain, 50% or more
- Gain, 25% to 49%
- Gain, 10% to 24%
- Gain, under 10%
- Loss, under 10%
- Loss, 10% or more

Housing: Estimated market value

Change, 2014 to 2019
Gain, 50% or more
Gain, 25% to 49%
Gain, 10% to 24%
Gain, under 10%

Source: Analysis of MetroGIS Regional Parcel Dataset in Metropolitan Council’s Equity Considerations dataset (2021).
Socioeconomics: Median gross rent

Change, 2010-2014 period to 2015-2019 period

- Gain, 50% or more
- Gain, 25% to 49%
- Gain, 10% to 24%
- Gain, under 10%
- Loss, under 10%
- Loss, 10% or more

Patterns: Rent change and residential construction

Environment: Heat wave temperatures

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Temperature in degrees Fahrenheit</th>
<th>100 or more</th>
<th>95.0 to 99.9</th>
<th>90.0 to 94.9</th>
<th>85.0 to 89.9</th>
<th>Under 85.0</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Source: Analysis of Metropolitan Council’s Land Surface Temperature data in Metropolitan Council’s Equity Considerations dataset (2021).</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Patterns: Heat waves and BIPOC residents

Amenities: Proximity to libraries

The average tract resident lives this far from the closest library:

- Less than 0.5 miles
- 0.50-0.99 miles
- 1.00-1.99 miles
- 2+ miles

Source: Analysis of Metropolitan Council’s landmark data in Metropolitan Council’s Equity Considerations dataset (2021).
What’s next in data development

**Early 2022**
- Updated census data (2020 Census + American Community Survey)
- Additional geographies
- Mortgage loans and home sales
- Businesses (especially smaller immigrant businesses)
- Climate vulnerability (tree canopy, paved surfaces)
- Additional amenities

**Early 2023**
- School demographics
- Trends in home values and ownership
- Public health info
- Your ideas here!
Spreading the Word: Inreach & Outreach

- Over a dozen presentations to Council staff & policymakers
  - All divisions
  - All departments in CD-MTS planning + Metro HRA
  - TAB, MPSOC, BIPOC Council workgroup

- Jurisdiction staff, Hennepin County planners, SWLRT

- Minnesota Climate Adaptation Partnership, Hamline Affordable Housing program, APA Minnesota Chapter (Nov)
Examples of Equity Considerations Use

The Water Resources group (ES) is using *Equity Considerations* in their project to create a Priority Waters list for region. The data helped identify the near areas that meet certain characteristics related to transportation, environmental, and social equity.

The LCA team (CD) created "Project Data Profiles" for LCA applicants. These profiles compile data such as ethnic backgrounds of nearby residents, housing cost burden, job wages, and transportation modes to provide applicants with more context about their project area. These data points help grantees answer application questions about community impacts, particularly the new equity scoring criteria for LCDA and TOD grants.
Notes from last July’s discussion

Deeper understanding of investment impact

- Data on capitol flows within and across community borders

More qualitative research

- Engage community organizations
- Find ways to allow community members to contribute their wisdom, lived experience

Make data easier to use

- Interactive web-based tools
- Clear, plain language resources
Questions?
Contact us

Matt Schroeder | Principal Researcher
matt.schroeder@metc.state.mn.us

Krysten Ryba-Tures | Senior Researcher
krysten.ryba-tures@metc.state.mn.us