Toward achieving environmental justice, various tools are presently available to assess burdens in these communities. The White House Council on Environmental Quality in 2022 released a beta version of the Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool (CEJST) for review. Here, a community is defined as disadvantaged if the census tract is above the threshold for one or more environmental or climate indicators and is above the threshold for the socioeconomic indicators. Another tool, EPA’s EJScreen tool is a mapping and screening tool that provides EPA with a nationally consistent dataset and approach for combining environmental and demographic indicators. The EPA, Federal agencies, and other partners, such as state and local governments, use EJScreen for a broad array of screening, outreach, and analytical purposes related to EPA program implementation (in alignment with CEJST where appropriate) and policy development. CEJST defines and maps disadvantaged communities for the purpose of informing how Federal agencies guide the benefits of certain programs, including the Justice40 Initiative.[[1]](#footnote-1) EJScreens most recent release in 2022 now includes underground storage tanks as a new indicator which reflects the importance of this topic to future EJ considerations.

1. (The White House 2022) [↑](#footnote-ref-1)