Equity Tracker
Updates on Development

Equity Advisory Committee
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Overview

- **Introduction**
  - Recap: Elements of the Equity Tracker project
  - Questions from Feb EAC meeting
  - Feedback on members engagement

- **Data**
  - Organization & selection overview
  - Ways to measure & track disparities

- **Context & Solutions**

- **Draft webpages**

Elements of the Equity Tracker project

Primary goals

- Measure life outcome disparities between communities
- Track performance over time in closing equity gaps
- Publicly hold PSRC & its partners accountable

Key takeaways from peer reviews

- Foundation based on VISION 2050
- Systematic & rigorous evaluation of data
- Uses: first info provision, then data sharing
- Provide context & solutions for data

Via Google link for members

Puget Sound Regional Council

Questions? Ask anonymously below:

- What about data from supportive service providers e.g., DSHS, human service nonprofits, etc.? What about data from public housing authorities and nonprofit developers for low-income tenants and low-income homeowners? What about data from transitional and permanent supportive housing organizations?
- Mapping the themes with UN 17 sustainable development goals?
- How about free public electric wheelchair and/or bicycle infrastructure?
- Having a short commute to everything you need is a privilege (5-min living). Can we marry supportive services with public transit e.g. yoga class on the ferry ride, wifi on

Questions from Feb EAC Meeting

Via Zoom chat

- *Brenda Fantroy-Johnson:*
  Is it possible to track in areas where it may be difficult to track (where the majority of the population is white)?
- *Chris Stearns:*
  Suggestion: add in: criminal justice system
  Would PSRC be open to including criminal justice system in the tracker? Incarceration has a significant and lasting effect on life outcomes and community health.
  I think that the most basic data point may be equity/bias in detentions, arrests, charging, sentencing in the regional criminal justice system. But there are myriad other outcomes like health care, mental health, as well as economic indicators like loss of household and individual incomes, lack of access to jobs and housing due to criminal records, and lack of accumulation of wealth
- *Dionne Bonner:*
  I'm also thinking about the long term use of a tracker like this. So

many life details change how are updates incorporated and communicated to collaborators etc..
- *Ben Sung Henry:*
  My question is around data. How do you decide which datapoints to include? Is there a framework you're using that has found, these datapoints (health outcomes, educational attainment, incarceration rates, employment, etc.) are reliable indicators of an equitable society?
  Also, will the data be cross-tabbed, like a single data point like educational attainment, broken down by race, gender, disabilities, etc.
- *Jewel Sheperd-Sampson:*
  I like that idea as well Lucretia. Having a short video showing how to use the system could condense information as well.
- *Laurenna Sayles:*
  Yes, a visual about how to use the system is a great idea. Especially for different populations and those w/ language barriers.

Feedback on members engagement

Via Zoom polls

1. **About which parts of the Equity Tracker project would you want to know more?**
    (14 out of 16 in attendance at start of meeting responded)

    - **Data, context, solutions (9)**
    - **User experience (7)**
    - **Foundation on VISION 2050 (6)**
    - **Systematic data evaluation (6)**
    - **Uses: provide info, share data (5)**

2. **How would you like to be involved?**
    (13 out of 16 in attendance at start of meeting responded)

    - **Test using draft product (10)**
    - **Respond to surveys & provide feedback on specific materials (9)**
    - **Conduct deep dives with PSRC staff into components (9)**
    - **Receive period updates & overviews (6)**
    - **Other ideas (2)**

Organize & select outcome metrics

Based on

VISION 2050

Themes (8)

Climate | Economy | Environment | Growth and Development | Housing | Public Services | Regional Collaboration and Health | Transportation

There are specific goals & policies related to each theme. Outcome metrics can help us measure progress & understand if goals are being met & if policies are working.

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Themes (8)

| Climate | Economy | Environment | Growth and Development | Housing | Public Services | Regional Collaboration and Health | Transportation |

There are specific goals & policies related to each theme. Outcome metrics can help us measure progress & understand if goals are being met & if policies are working.

Gather potential outcome metrics from peer review (150+)

Organize & select outcome metrics

Based on

VISION 2050

Themes (8)

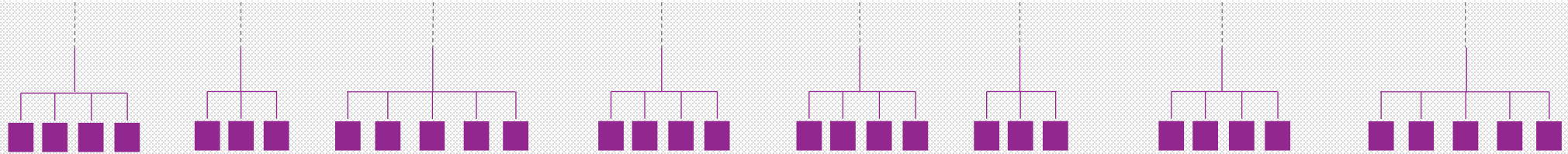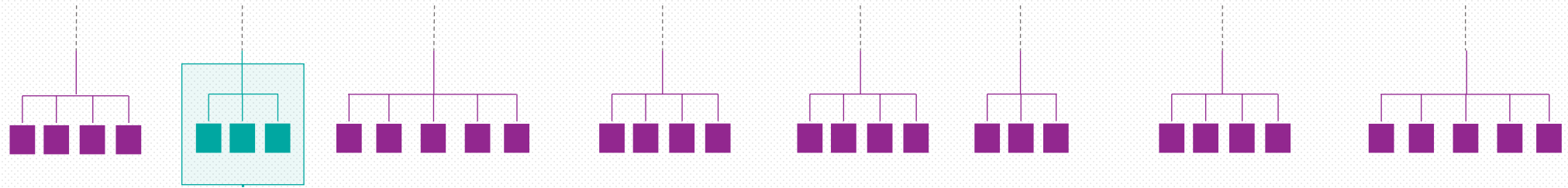| Climate | Economy | Environment | Growth and Development | Housing | Public Services | Regional Collaboration and Health | Transportation |

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Gather potential outcome metrics from peer review (150+)

Select outcome metrics

Detailed information about the outcome metrics, evaluation criteria, & the selection process will be described in forthcoming documentation.

Kindergarten readiness | Educational attainment | Median income | and others…

Next steps: analyze and visualize data

Measure & track disparities

Based on foundational work in

VISION 2050 & the Draft Regional Transportation Plan (RTP)

To measure & track disparities in the RTP, six equity demographics were identified

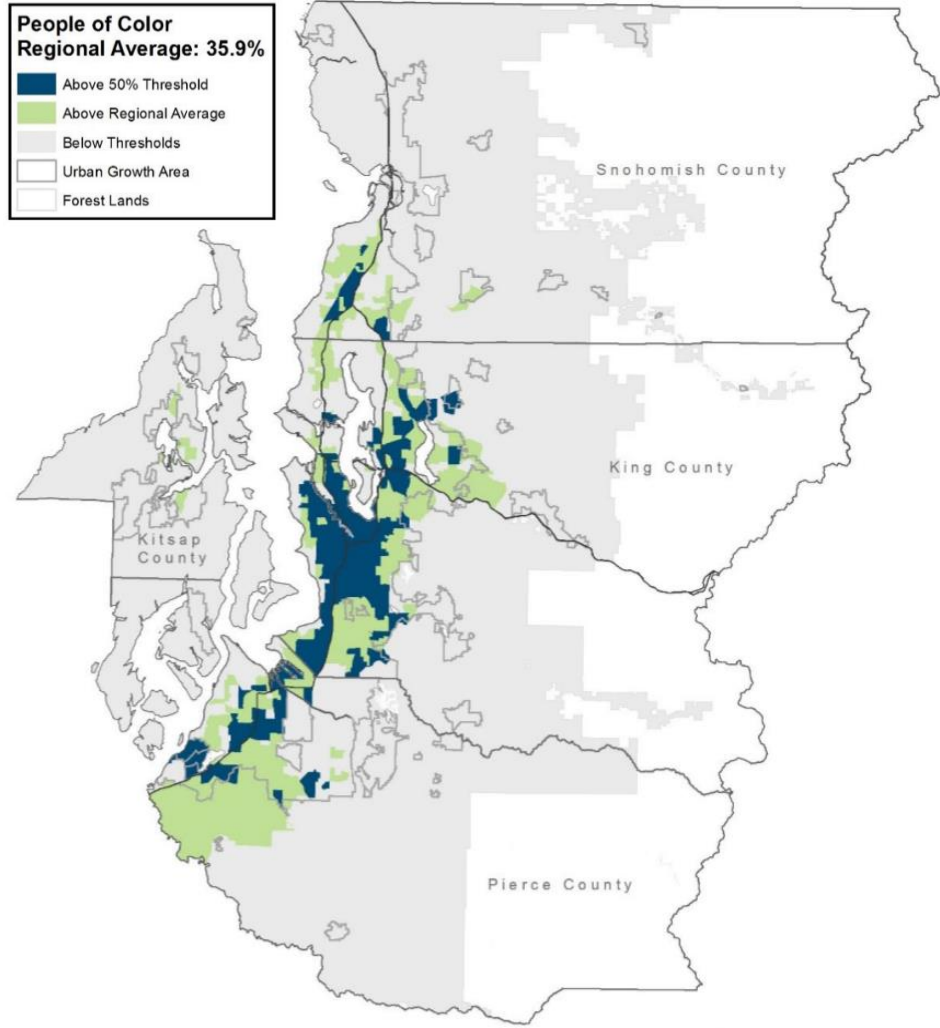|		
People of Color	**People with Low Incomes**	**People with Disabilities**
Youth **(Ages 5-17)**	**Older Adults** **(Age 65+)**	**People with limited English proficiency** **(LEP)**

To analyze outcomes, the RTP identified Equity Focus Areas (EFAs) with higher proportions of members of these groups.

Equity Focus Areas (EFAs): place-based

Identify EFAs

- Categorize places based 50% threshold & regional average
- Focus on areas above these proportions

Use EFAs in analysis

- Calculate average outcome metrics for people in EFAs
- Compare to averages of region or non-EFAs

Example of Equity Focus Areas (People of Color)

People of Color
Regional Average: 35.9%

- Above 50% Threshold
- Above Regional Average
- Below Thresholds
- Urban Growth Area
- Forest Lands

Snohomish County

King County

Kitsap County

Pierce County

Image: PSRC Draft Regional Transportation Plan (1/13/2022); Figure 1, Appendix F, page 13

Place-based analysis

- EFA method is place-based
- Average outcome metrics are calculated for everyone, not just members of specific groups

Person-based analysis

- Grouping by people instead of places could improve measure of disparities
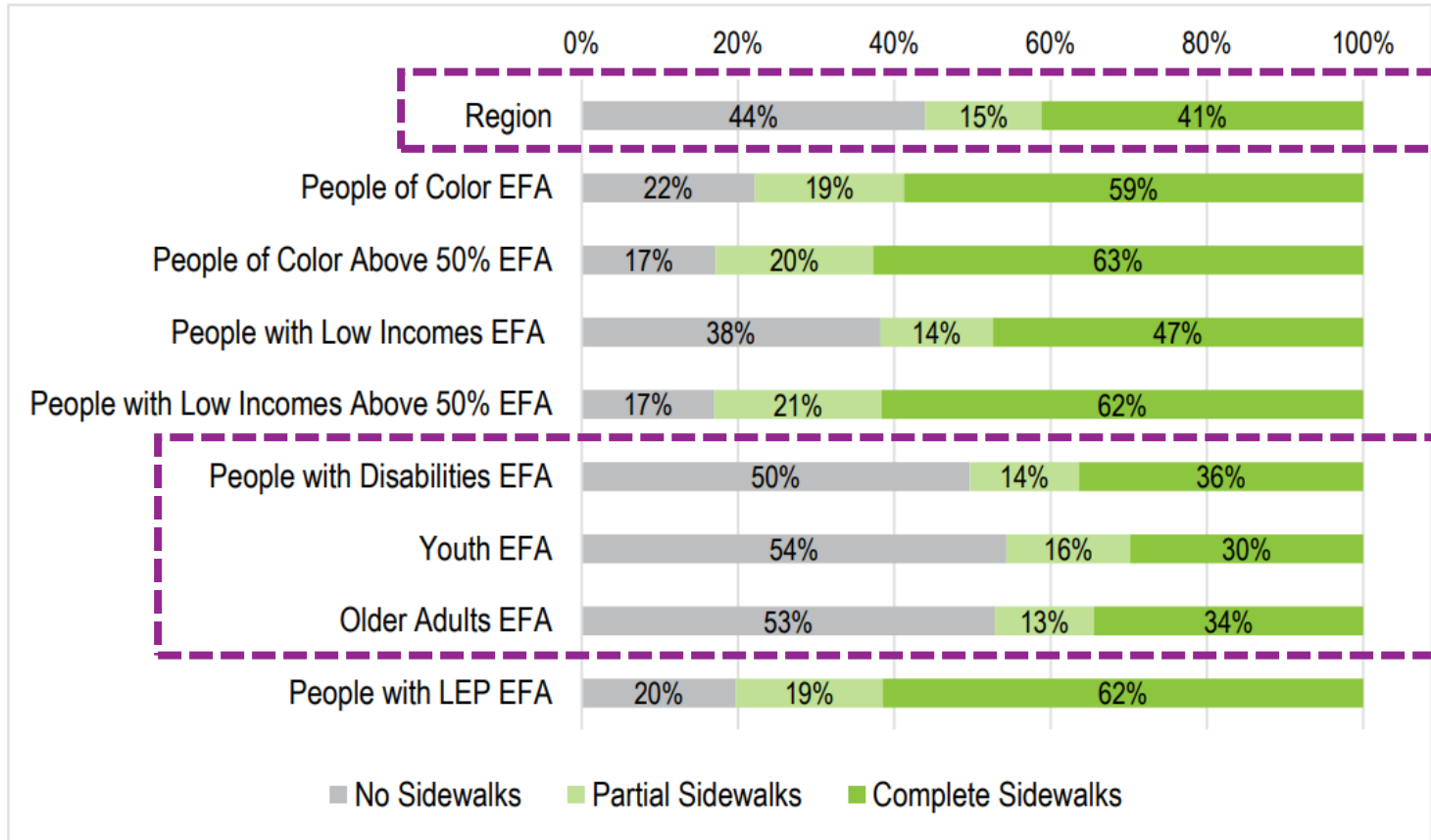- Wherever possible, this would shift analysis to person-based

Use of Equity Focus Areas (EFAs)

Example of EFA application

Figure 23. Percentage of Sidewalks on Arterials by Completeness, 2018

	No Sidewalks	Partial Sidewalks	Complete Sidewalks
Region	44%	15%	41%
People of Color EFA	22%	19%	59%
People of Color Above 50% EFA	17%	20%	63%
People with Low Incomes EFA	38%	14%	47%
People with Low Incomes Above 50% EFA	17%	21%	62%
People with Disabilities EFA	50%	14%	36%
Youth EFA	54%	16%	30%
Older Adults EFA	53%	13%	34%
People with LEP EFA	20%	19%	62%

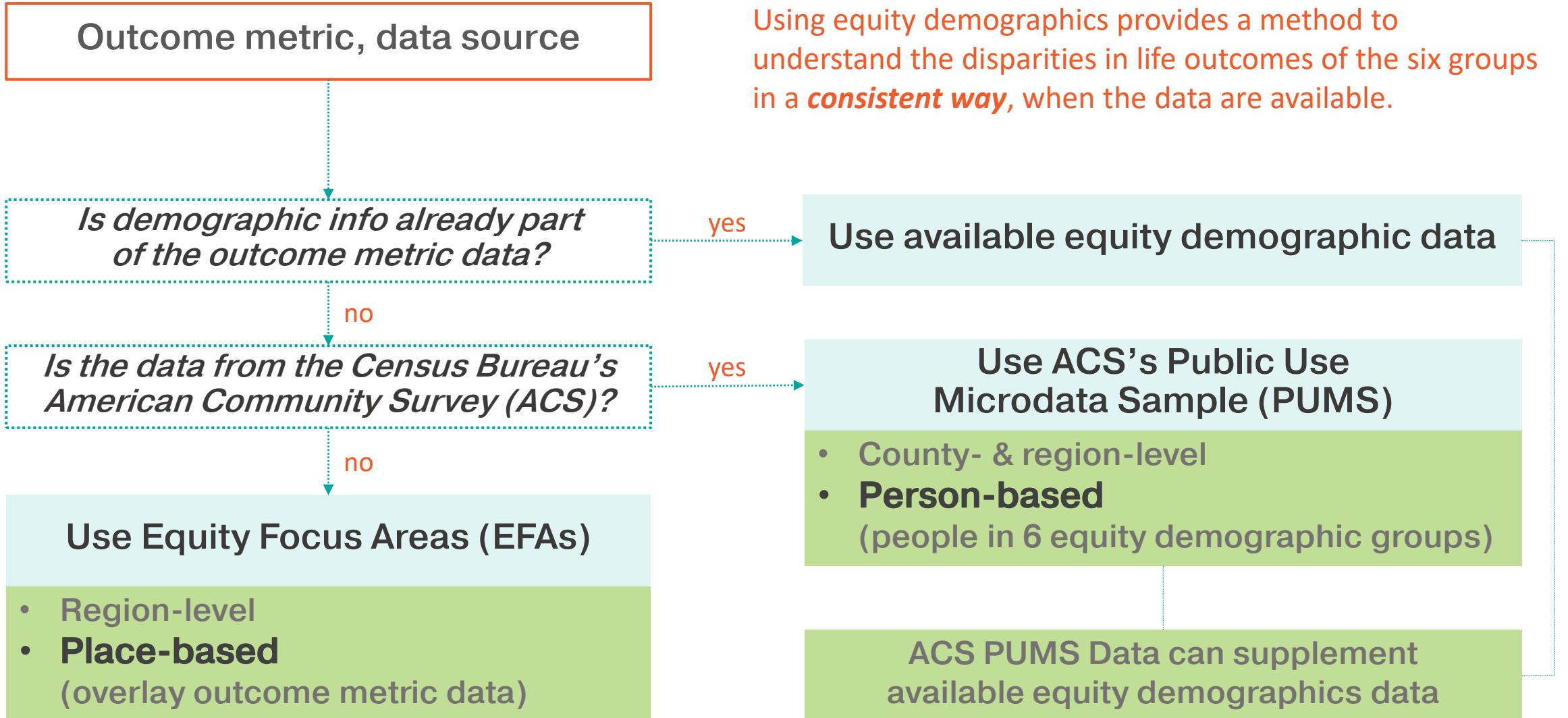■ No Sidewalks ■ Partial Sidewalks ■ Complete Sidewalks

Sidewalks on arterials
- Compare EFAs to Region
- People with Disabilities, Youth, & Older Adults EFAs have more arterials with no sidewalks

Image: PSRC Draft Regional Transportation Plan (1/13/2022); Figure 23, Appendix F, page 45

Place-based & person-based approaches

Outcome metric, data source

Using equity demographics provides a method to understand the disparities in life outcomes of the six groups in a *consistent way*, when the data are available.

Is demographic info already part of the outcome metric data? — yes → **Use available equity demographic data**

no

Is the data from the Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS)? — yes → **Use ACS's Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS)**

- County- & region-level
- **Person-based**
(people in 6 equity demographic groups)

no

Use Equity Focus Areas (EFAs)

- Region-level
- **Place-based**
(overlay outcome metric data)

ACS PUMS Data can supplement available equity demographics data

Census PUMS person-based approach

Median Income by County and Disability Households, 2019

In the PUMS dataset, the disability person-level variable indicates whether an individual has one of the six disability types recognized by the Census Bureau. These include difficulties with:hearing, vision, cognitive, ambulatory, self-care, and independent living. Respondents who report anyone of the six disability types are considered to have a disability. Because median income is a household-level variable, households with at least one individual with at least one of the six disability types listed above are categorized as disability households in this analysis.

Context

Data will be preceded by regional context

- Explain importance of different life outcomes

- Describe how selected data can provide insights

- Point to root causes of disparities

User experience: draft webpages & survey

Will solicit ideas from members on how to add personal stories to complement planning/policy info

Solutions

Data will be followed by ideas for solutions

- Include available resources on tackling disparities
- Offer examples of community efforts

User experience: draft webpages & survey

Will solicit ideas from members to crowdsource available resources for solutions & connect with organizations working on closing equity gaps

Information will be emailed to EAC members early next week

User experience feedback

Equity Tracker draft webpages

Navigate through the draft webpages (total of 4)

Please do not share web links with anyone. These pages are for review by EAC members only.
Please do not quote or reference information presented. All draft material is subject to change.

Online survey

Instructions will help guide you through the webpages

Survey questions will prompt you to find specific information and provide your thoughts about your experience

Thank you!

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