

Justice40 (January 2021)

- **Justice40** is established by [Executive Order 14008](#) (“Tackling the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad”) – a written directive from the President regarding operations of federal government.
- **Summary:** The order creates a government-wide Justice40 Initiative with the goal of delivering **40 percent of the overall benefits of relevant federal investments to disadvantaged communities** and tracks performance toward that goal through the **establishment of an Environmental Justice Scorecard.**

Interim Implementation Guidance (July 2021)

[M-21-28 \(whitehouse.gov\)](https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-action/interim-implementation-guidance)

- Federal agencies developing **definition of “disadvantaged community”** (further guidance expected)
- Federal agencies identifying **Covered Programs and benefits** ([August 2022 inaugural list](#))
- Federal agencies establishing **methodology for calculating benefit** that flows from covered program and accrues in disadvantaged community (awaiting)
- Federal agency heads responsible for **reporting** ([Scorecard “vision” in public comment](#) until 11/3/22)
- Identifies **pilot programs**, including 6 EPA:
 - [Drinking Water State Revolving Fund](#) (includes [BIL SRF Memo](#))
 - [Clean Water State Revolving Fund](#) (includes [BIL SRF Memo](#))
 - [Reducing Lead in Drinking Water](#)
 - [Superfund](#)
 - [Brownfields](#)
 - [Diesel Emissions Reductions Act Program \(DERA\)](#)

Covered Programs List (August 2022)

[Justice40-Covered-Programs-List v1.1 07-15-2022.pdf \(whitehouse.gov\)](#)

- EPA – 73 (6 “pilot” programs)
- Forest Service – 17
- Fish & Wildlife Service and National Park Service – 11
- Department of Energy - 146

VT Environmental Justice Law - Benefits Accounting

- **By July 1, 2024**, goal of the covered agencies to direct investments proportionately in environmental justice focus populations (income, race/ethnicity, limited English proficiency).
- **September 15, 2023** - ANR, consulting with the Interagency EJ Committee and EJ Advisory Council, issue **guidance** on how covered agencies will determine which investments provide **environmental benefits to environmental justice focus populations**.
- **February 15, 2024** – review past three years and generate **baseline spending reports** including:
 - (A) where investments were made, if any, and which geographic areas, at the municipal level and census block group, where practicable, received environmental benefits from those investments; and
 - (B) a description and quantification of the environmental benefits as an outcome of the investment.
- **January 15, 2026** - issue **annual spending reports** including:
 - (A) where investments were made and which geographic areas, at the municipal level and census block group, where practicable, received environmental benefits from those investments; and
 - (B) the percentage of overall environmental benefits from those investments provided to environmental justice focus populations.

Relevant Tools

- [Climate & Economic Justice Screening Tool](#)
 - The tool primarily developed for Justice40 Implementation, to help identify disadvantaged communities based on burden and demographic indicators
- [EJ SCREEN](#)
- [ANR Natural Resources Atlas](#)
- [US Census Bureau Data](#)
- VT Municipal Vulnerability Index (part of Global Warming Solutions Act)
- Vermont EJ Mapping Tool (part of VT EJ Law/Act 154)