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Introduction

This report presents an overview of the findings for selected socioeconomic characteristics in the Wendell H. Ford Airport Access Study. The purpose of this study is to provide an alignment for improved access to the Wendell H. Ford Airport in Perry County. Currently, the primary access to the airport is from KY 15 (MP 22.9) via the Wendell Ford Terminal Drive, which is a county road.

The information in this report outlines 2011-2015 American Community Survey (ACS) statistics in and near the project area using tables, charts, and maps. The data presented in this document is intended to highlight areas of concern that will require additional analysis should any project be advanced to future phases. Statistics are provided for minority, elderly, poverty status, limited English proficiency (LEP), and disabled populations for the nation, state, region, county and block groups located within the project area.

This information is intended to aid the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC) in making informed and prudent transportation decisions in the project area, especially with regard to the requirements of Executive Order 12898: Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Poverty status, Populations (signed February 11, 1994). Executive Order 12898 states:

“...each Federal agency shall make achieving environmental justice part of its mission by identifying and addressing, as appropriate, disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects of its policies, and activities on minority populations and poverty status, populations...”

The project study area is located in Perry County near the Breathitt County line. According to the 2010 census, the county has a total area of 343 square miles. Perry County was founded in 1820. Both the county and county seat are named for Commodore Oliver Hazard Perry. The county seat is Hazard. According to the 2011-2015 ACS, Perry County has a population of 28,041 persons.

Perry County is composed of 8 census tracts. The planning study area is composed of the following Census Tract Block Groups (BG):

- Census Tract 9703, Block Group 2
- Census Tract 9710, Block Group 4
What is Environmental Justice?

The U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) outlines three primary Environmental Justice Concepts as:

1. To avoid, minimize, or mitigate disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects, including social and economic effects, on minority populations and poverty status, populations.
2. To ensure the full and fair participation by all potentially affected communities in the transportation decision-making process.
3. To prevent the denial of, reduction in, or significant delay in the receipt of benefits by minority population and poverty status, populations.

The U.S. DOT order defines minority as:

1. Black (a person having origins in any of the black racial groups of Africa);
2. Hispanic (a person of Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Central or South American, or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race);
3. Asian American (a person having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, the Indian subcontinent, or the Pacific Islands); or
4. American Indian and Alaskan Native (a person having origins in any of the original people of North America and who maintains cultural identification through tribal affiliation or community recognition).

A minority population is “any readily identifiable groups of minority persons who live in geographic proximity, and if circumstances warrant geographically dispersed/transient persons…”

Low-income, is defined in U.S. DOT Order (5610.2) as “a person whose median household income is at or below the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) poverty guidelines.” A low-income, population is “any readily identifiable group of low-income, persons who live in geographic proximity, and, if circumstances warrant, geographically dispersed/transient persons…”

A disproportionately high and adverse effect on a minority or low-income population means an adverse effect that:

1. Is predominately borne by a minority population and/or low-income population or
2. Will be suffered by the minority population and/or low-income population and is appreciably more severe or greater in magnitude than the adverse effect that will be suffered by the non-minority population and/or non-low-income population.

Elderly and disabled populations (also used in this analysis) are not specifically recognized under the definition of an Environmental Justice community. However, the U.S. DOT specifically encourages the early examination of potential population of the elderly, children, disabled, and other populations protected by the Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and related nondiscrimination statuses.

Limited English proficiency (LEP) is a term used in the United States that refers to a person who is not fluent in the English language, often because it is not their native language. Both LEP and English-language learner (ELL) are terms used by the Office for Civil Rights, a sub-agency of the U.S. Department of Education.
Methodology

The data was collected using the method outlined by the KYTC document “Methodology for Assessing Potential Environmental Justice Concerns for KYTC Planning Studies”. The demographics of the affected area should be defined using U.S. Census Bureau data and the percentages for minorities, poverty status, elderly, LEP, and disabled populations should be compared to the Census tracts and block groups, the county as a whole, the entire state and the United States.

The primary source of data for this report is the 2011-2015 US Census Bureau American Community Survey including tables:

- B01001 - Sex by Age
- B03002 - Hispanic or Latino Origin by Race
- B16004 - Age by Language Spoken at Home by Ability to Speak English for the Population 5 Years and Over
- B17021 - Poverty Status of Individuals in the Past 12 Months by Living Arrangement
- C21007 - Age by Veteran Status by Poverty Status in the Past 12 Months by Disability Status

The data presented in this document is intended to highlight areas of concern that will require additional analysis should any project be advanced to future phases.

The Census tables in this report include the total number and percentages for minorities, elderly, low-income, LEP, and disabled population levels for the census tract block groups, county, region, state, and nation. This report uses the population percentages for Perry County as the reference threshold for identifying target populations. The county numbers were selected as the reference threshold because the project is completely within the county limits. The county numbers most likely provide a better snapshot of the overall population characteristics in the study area as opposed to the United States or state percentages.

The methodologies used in this planning document are appropriate for identifying areas of concern in small urban areas and potential project corridors. However, during future phases of project development a more detailed and robust analysis would be required for the NEPA documentation when assessing the potential for adverse and disproportionate impacts to poverty status, and minority populations.
Study Findings

Population by Persons of Racial Minority Origin

Racial minorities in the United States make up 37.68% of the population, but in Kentucky that percentage drops significantly to just 14.45%. The KRADD Region and Perry County display a lower percentage of racial minorities than that of the state with 2.83% and 4.14%, respectively. Block Group (BG) 2 of Census Tract (CT) 9703 has a minority population above the percentage for the county.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Total Population</th>
<th>Minority Population</th>
<th>Minority Population (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>316,515,021</td>
<td>119,256,743</td>
<td>37.68%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kentucky</td>
<td>4,397,353</td>
<td>635,199</td>
<td>14.45%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KRADD</td>
<td>111,296</td>
<td>3,154</td>
<td>2.83%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perry County</td>
<td>28,041</td>
<td>1,162</td>
<td>4.14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Census Tract 9703 BG2</td>
<td>1,788</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>5.03%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Census Tract 9710 BG4</td>
<td>1,153</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>3.82%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: US Census Bureau, 2011-2015 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates Table B03002
Wendell H. Ford Airport Access Study
Percent Minority Population
Block Group Level

Source: Kentucky State Data Center
Census 2015 American Community
Survey 5 Year Data (2011-2015)
Table B03002 - Hispanic or Latino
Origin by Race

This map was produced in cooperation with the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet
Perry County has a higher percentage (14.43%) of Persons Age 65 Years and Older than both the state (14.39%) and the U.S. (14.10%). Block Group (BG) 4 of Census Tract (CT) 9710 has a considerably higher percentage (17.61%) of elderly persons when compared to the other block group in the study area. Block Group (BG) 2 of Census Tract (CT) 9703 has a lower percentage of elderly persons.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Total Population</th>
<th>Population Age 65 Years and Older</th>
<th>Population Age 65 Years and Older (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>316,515,021</td>
<td>44,615,477</td>
<td>14.10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kentucky</td>
<td>4,397,353</td>
<td>632,975</td>
<td>14.39%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KRADD</td>
<td>111,296</td>
<td>17,069</td>
<td>15.34%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perry County</td>
<td>28,041</td>
<td>4,047</td>
<td>14.43%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Census Tract 9703 BG2</td>
<td>1,788</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>3.13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Census Tract 9710 BG4</td>
<td>1,153</td>
<td>203</td>
<td>17.61%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: US Census Bureau, 2011-2015 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates Table B01001
Wendell H. Ford Airport Access Study
Percent Population Age 65 Years and Older
Block Group Level

Project Area
Population % 65 Years and Older
- 2.12% - 13.92%
- 13.93% - 25.72%
- 25.73% - 37.52%
- 37.52% - 40.33%

Block Group 2, Census Tract 9703, Perry County, Kentucky
Block Group 4, Census Tract 9710, Perry County, Kentucky

Source: Kentucky State Data Center
Census 2015 American Community Survey 5-Year Data (2011-2015)
Table B01001 - Sex by Age

This map was produced in cooperation with the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet
Population by Persons below Poverty Level

The percentage of persons living below the poverty level in Kentucky (18.90%) is higher than that of the United States (15.47%). The Region and Perry County has a higher percentage than that of the nation and state with 29.74% and 25.42%, respectively. Block Group (BG) 2 of Census Tract (CT) 9703 has a poverty level (29.39%) above the percentage for the county.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Total Population</th>
<th>Population Below Poverty</th>
<th>Population Below Poverty (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>308,619,550</td>
<td>47,749,043</td>
<td>15.47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kentucky</td>
<td>4,263,217</td>
<td>805,841</td>
<td>18.90%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KRADD</td>
<td>107,598</td>
<td>32,004</td>
<td>29.74%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perry County</td>
<td>27,125</td>
<td>6,894</td>
<td>25.42%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Census Tract 9703 BG2</td>
<td>1,531</td>
<td>450</td>
<td>29.39%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Census Tract 9710 BG4</td>
<td>1,147</td>
<td>224</td>
<td>19.53%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: US Census Bureau, 2011-2015 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates Table B17021
Population by Disability Status

According to 2011-2015 American Community Survey numbers, Kentucky had 20.73% percent of its population age 18 years and older with some type of disability. This is higher than the national percentage (15.08%). Perry County also reports a higher percentage of disabled persons (32.66%) than does the state and nation. Data shows Block Group (BG) 2 of Census Tract (CT) 9703 with 21.46% and BG 4 of CT 9710 with 26.72% of disabled persons, both below the percentage for the county.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Total Population Age 16-64 Years</th>
<th>Disability Status Population Age 16-64</th>
<th>Disability Status Population 18 Years and Older</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>235,378,737</td>
<td>35,484,493</td>
<td>15.08%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kentucky</td>
<td>3,260,338</td>
<td>675,930</td>
<td>20.73%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KRADD</td>
<td>84,387</td>
<td>29,172</td>
<td>34.57%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perry County</td>
<td>21,303</td>
<td>6,958</td>
<td>32.66%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Census Tract 9703 BG2</td>
<td>1,011</td>
<td>217</td>
<td>21.46%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Census Tract 9710 BG4</td>
<td>947</td>
<td>253</td>
<td>26.72%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: US Census Bureau, 2011-2015 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates Table C21007
Population by Persons with Limited English Proficiency

Persons with Limited English Proficiency (LEP) in the United States make up 8.57% of the population, but in Kentucky that percentage decreases to just 2.12%. The KRADD Region and Perry County have an even lower percentage of persons with LEP than that of the state and United States with 0.39% being reported for the region and 0.46% for the county. There are no persons with limited English proficiency in the study area.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Total Population Age 5 Years and Older</th>
<th>Population with Limited English Proficiency Age 5 Years and Older</th>
<th>Population with Limited English Proficiency Age 5 Years and Older (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>296,603,003</td>
<td>25,410,756</td>
<td>8.57%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kentucky</td>
<td>4,120,902</td>
<td>87,159</td>
<td>2.12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KRADD</td>
<td>104,738</td>
<td>407</td>
<td>0.39%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perry County</td>
<td>26,267</td>
<td>122</td>
<td>0.46%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Census Tract 9703 BG2</td>
<td>1,622</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Census Tract 9710 BG4</td>
<td>1,117</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.00%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: US Census Bureau, 2011-2015 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates Table B16004
Wendell H. Ford Airport Access Study
Percent Speak English Less Than 'Very Well' Age 5 Years and Older Block Group Level

Block Group 2, Census Tract 9703, Perry County, Kentucky
Block Group 4, Census Tract 9710, Perry County, Kentucky

Source: Kentucky State Data Center
Census 2015 American Community Survey 5 Year Data (2011-2015)
Table B16004 - Age by Language Spoken at Home by Ability to Speak English for the Population 5 Years and Over

This map was produced in cooperation with the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet
Conclusion

Minority populations (5.03%) in Block Group 2 Census Tract 9703 are less than double that of the region (2.83%).

Persons age 65 and older (17.61%) in Block Group 4 Census Tract 9710 are more than the county, region, state and nation.

The populations below the poverty level in both Block Groups are considerably higher than that of the state and nation.

Block Group 4 Census Tract 9710 persons with a disability (26.72%) are more than that of the state and nation.

No persons with Limited English Proficiency are identified in the study area.

During future phases of project development a more detailed and robust analysis would be required for the NEPA documentation when assessing the potential for adverse and disproportionate impacts to those with disabilities, poverty status, and minority populations.
Appendix: Methodology from KYTC

Updated: September 2014

Methodology for Assessing Underserved Populations including Environmental Justice, Title VI, Age and Disability considerations in conjunction with KYTC Planning Studies

Cover Page
Title: Insert specific study type/area
Subtitle: Socioeconomic Study
Date:
Author:

Analysis
Environmental Justice (EJ) refers to the fair treatment of all people regardless of race, color, national origin or income. Specifically, agencies must demonstrate meaningful involvement with the above stated groups with respect to development, implementation and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations and policies. EJ analysis is undertaken for any study that may result in impacts on a minority and/or low income population that has a federal nexus (funding or approval).

The methodologies used in this planning document are appropriate for identifying possible areas of concern in small urban areas and potential project corridors. However, during future phases of project development a more detailed and robust analysis would be required for the NEPA documentation when assessing the potential for adverse and disproportionate impacts to low-income and minority populations.

Additionally KYTC works to identify potential populations of the Elderly, Disabled, Limited English Proficiency and Limited Transportation Options that may be impacted in or near the Affected Community (AC) should highway improvements take place in the future.

Examples of these studies include, but are not limited to:
• Corridor Studies
• Traffic Studies
• Small Urban Area Studies
• Feasibility Studies
• Interchange Justification Studies
• Interchange Modification Reports

(AC) with potential EJ impacts are determined by locating populations of minority, low-income, disabled or elderly and calculating their percentage in the area relative to a reference community of comparison (COC).

Communities of comparison:
• The county percentage
• Kentucky percentage
• Block groups within reasonable proximity of the study area

The demographics of the study area should be defined using block group data accessed via the American Community Survey 5 year data. KYTC will work in conjunction with the State Data Center to provide pertinent spatial data on a yearly basis for the following, as the update schedule allows:
• Minority
• Low-income
• Elderly (65+)
• Disabled populations
• Limited English Proficiency