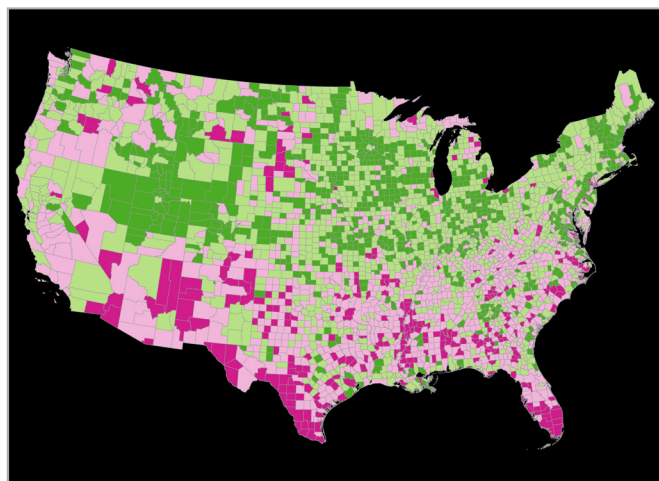




How Resilient are Communities to Disasters?



The U.S. Census Bureau's Community Resilience Estimates (CRE) provide an easily understood metric for how at-risk every neighborhood in the United States is to the impacts of COVID-19. Since the beginning of the pandemic, the negative effects of COVID-19 have been strongly correlated to certain individual and household characteristics. By using granular data from the Census Bureau, the CRE maps the risk assessment of local populations down to the neighborhood level and allows national and community leaders to more efficiently respond to the COVID-19 emergency.

Coordinating vaccine distribution between the federal, state, and local governments requires an unparalleled view of vulnerable populations. Information from the CRE can be utilized by policymakers to perform vaccine distribution, know where to provide education on public health standards, and pinpoint areas that are at the greatest risk of inequitable outcomes.

The Census Bureau is positioned to provide the most accurate and timely measures for an individually focused, community resilience indicator. We use detailed demographic and economic data about individuals to build these estimates. Similar measures from other institutions rely exclusively on publicly available data which results in higher error, especially for rural areas. Therefore, given our advanced statistical capabilities and having the richest data sources, the Census Bureau can produce estimates with the most granularity, highest statistical quality, and the broadest coverage while still protecting privacy.



Risk Factors

1. Living in a household where the income-to-poverty ratio is greater than 130 percent.
2. Single or zero caregiver household—only one or no individuals living in the household who are age 18-64.
3. Unit-level crowding of more than .75 people per room or household.
4. Under-employed households—less than two employed adults (18-64) or one employed adult (age 18-64) in a single adult (age 18-64) household.
5. Communication barrier defined as either linguistically isolated or no one in the household over the age of 16 with a high school diploma.
6. Disability posing constraint to significant life activity.
7. No health insurance coverage.
8. Aged 65 or over.
9. No vehicle access.
10. No broadband Internet access.

Western Pennsylvania Risk Mapped at the Census Tract Level

