

NDDOT's Commitment to Environmental Justice

What is Environmental Justice?

Environmental Justice (EJ) is the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income, with respect to government agency programs, policies, or activities. In this case, we are concerned with a NDDOT project.

Identify Environmental Justice Area

The project is located along I-29 at the Carlisle Interchange between the towns of Bowesmont and Joliette in North Dakota. The EJ study area is a geographic area where the proposed project has potential for human health or environmental effects. The study area used for this Environmental Justice analysis is a 2-mile buffer to the project limits, including any required detours. The buffer was extended from the typical quarter mile buffer to capture a more detailed analysis as the project is located in a very rural area with a very small population.

Are Readily Identifiable Minority or Low-Income Populations within the Study Area?

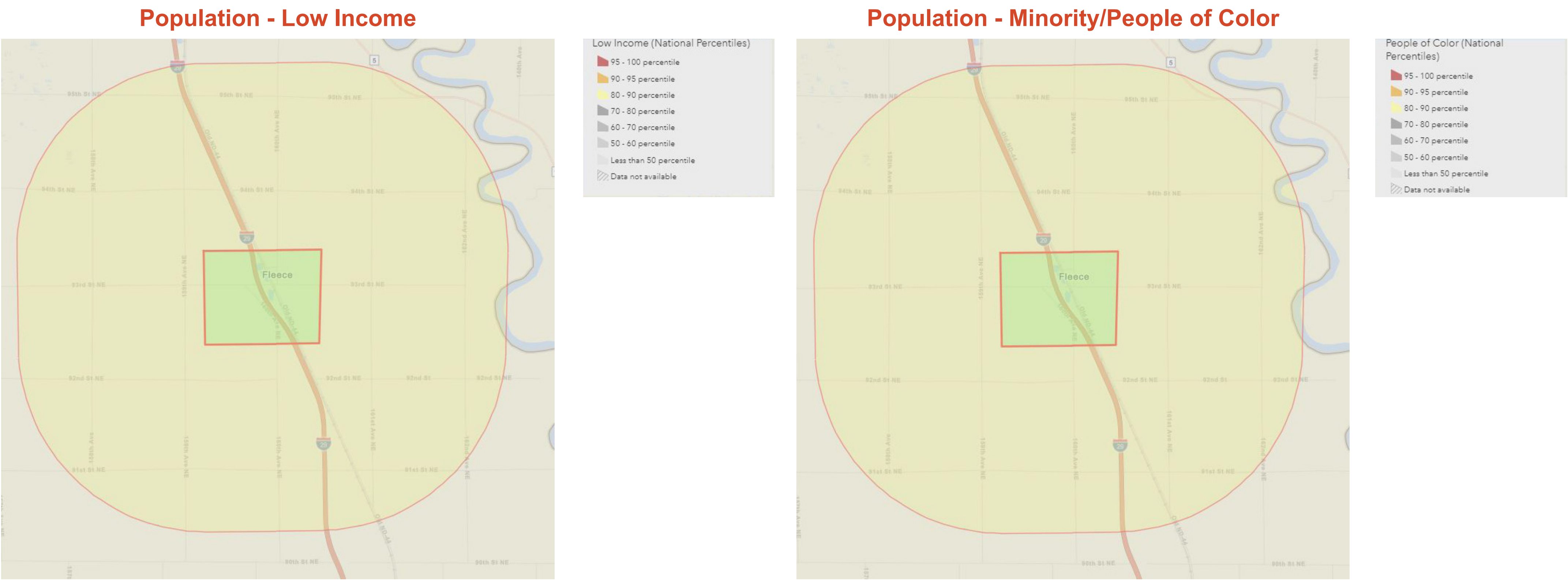
No. The EJ study area was investigated for the presence of readily identified low income and/or minority populations; community facilities that serve low income and/or minority populations; and businesses that are owned by, employ, and/or serve low income and/or minority populations. The investigation included review of demographic data.

How will an Environmental Justice Study Influence Decision-Making?

The presence of low income and/or minority populations within the project area requires an evaluation of potential project impacts and the need to ensure that any impacts are sufficiently addressed through avoidance, minimization, mitigation, and/or benefits such that there are no substantial adverse impacts to any populations.

Carlisle Interchange Structure Replacement

I-29 and 93rd Street NE
Pembina County, ND



Demographic	Project Study Area (including 2-mile buffer)	Pembina County
Minority Population	14%	10%
Low-Income Population	23%	25%

Comparing the percentages of Minority and Low-Income Populations indicate that there is no significant difference between the study area and Pembina County. This result indicates that this Environmental Justice Analysis should be sufficient enough for the proposed project and thus no further in-depth reviews of the surrounding community is warranted.



Executive Order 12898, Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-income Populations, dated February 11, 1994, directed “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 programs, policies, and activities on minority populations and low-income populations in the United States. The proposed project has federal funding and federal permit requirements and is considered a federal project for purposes of compliance with the Executive Order.”

FHWA Order 6640-23A FHWA Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations establishes policies and procedures for the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) to use in complying with Executive Order 12898. FHWA issued Order 6640-23A on June 14, 2012.