

Student Resource VI

Parks and Community Gardens and Social Justice

Studies have revealed that white and wealthy population communities predominantly have more green space. Having access to green space is an environmental justice issue. Strategies are implemented in many cities to increase green space in the neighborhoods focusing mainly on areas with no or very less parks. <http://ced.berkeley.edu/downloads/research/LUP.parks.pdf>

Mapping Parks and Community Garden Locations Using Online Mapping

Enter the Parks and Community Garden latitude and longitude into an Excel file.

Open ArcGIS online and add the Parks and Community Garden data into ArcGIS.

Given the location of parks and community gardens, compare data layers from the webpages below to investigate if the location and availability of recreation near your school could be related to race or ethnicity.

In ArcGIS Online, bring in the following layers:

2012 USA Population Density

Now that we've considered factors that affect Social Justice and explored parks and community gardens in your community, please write three paragraphs, double-spaced in response to this question:

How does the condition and availability of Parks and Community Gardens relate to social justice?

Using ArcGIS online, bring up data layers and then find the answer to these questions. In ArcGIS Online, use the "Add" button to add the layers. Search for them by choosing "In ArcGIS Online". You may have to look at the Attribute table.

1. 2012 USA Population Density (Mature Support) – This data is mapped by block group and county depending on how close up you are (an **area**). – Which block group (number) in (*insert your location*) has the highest population density in 2010?
2. USA Wildfire Activity – This data is mapped as a **point**, i.e. the location of the fire. What is the closest currently occurring fire to (*insert your location*)? And, how far away is it?
3. 2012 USA Median Household Income (Mature Support) – This information is by block group and is represented by an **area**. What is the US median income?
4. 2012 USA Median Age (Mature Support) – This data is by block group. – What is the range of median age for the block that (*insert your school here*) is in?