



NOAA
FISHERIES

Community Environmental Justice Explorer User Guide

08.30.24 version

Introduction to the User Guide

Welcome to the Community Environmental Justice Explorer Tool!

This resource provides information on how to use the tool. Upon opening the tool, you will see the **Explorer Tool** main page. Use the **Filter Bar** at the top of the page to filter the data by different selections or to reset all selections to their defaults. This will cause the data visualizations on the main Explorer Tool page to update to match your selections, as well as the data visualizations on the other data tabs. The Filter Bar acts as the driver's seat of the Tool and filters data across the tabs. The **other data tabs** can be accessed through the bottom navigation menu.

To learn more about the tool or download data, visit the **About** tab, accessed through the bottom navigation menu. If you have additional questions, please visit the [tool web page](#) or contact the Social Indicators Team at nmfs.social.indicators@noaa.gov.

Tool Web Page

[Community Environmental Justice Explorer](#)

Contact Us

nmfs.social.indicators@noaa.gov

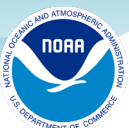


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Tool Overview

Basic Tool Features

1. Use the **Filter Bar** at the top to query data by community and other filters or to reset filters.
2. Explore the **Data Visualizations** as they change based on filter selections.
3. Click the **Tabs** at the bottom to explore other information.
4. Visit the **About** tab to learn more and download data.



NOAA FISHERIES | Community Environmental Justice Explorer

This tool helps managers, researchers, and the public understand coastal fishing community well-being and resilience to change, with a focus on supporting environmental justice analysis.

Filter Bar: Region (All), Community Search, Fishing Type (All), Environmental Justice Concerns (All)

Explorer Tool: Overall Community Risk Score. Community ranked by overall risk score from high to low. The top indicator components that contribute to the risk score for each community are listed.

Community	Indicator Components
Abbeville, LA	Comm Fishing, EJ, & Economic Issues
Akutan, AK	Comm Fishing & EJ Issues
Anacortes, WA	Rec Fishing
Anna Maria, FL	Rec Fishing & Gent Issues
Apalachicola, FL	Rec Fishing & Econ Issues
Astoria, OR	Comm & Rec Fishing
Atlantic Beach, NC	Rec Fishing & Econ Issues
Atlantic City, NJ	Comm Fishing & EJ Issues
Avalon, NJ	Rec Fishing & Gent Issues
Avila Beach, CA	Comm & Rec Fishing
Bandon, OR	Rec Fishing & Econ Issues
Barnegat Light, NJ	Comm Fishing, Rec Fishing, & Gent Issues
Bayou La Batre, AL	Comm Fishing & EJ Issues
Beaufort, NC	Comm Fishing & Econ Issues
Belhaven, NC	Rec Fishing, EJ, & Econ Issues
Bethel Island, CA	Rec Fishing, EJ, & Econ Issues
Bodega Bay, CA	Comm Fishing
Bokeelia, FL	Rec Fishing & Econ Issues

Risk Score Composition by Indicator Component:

- Fishing: 42.5%
- EJ: 22.7%
- Economic: 14.7%
- Gentrification: 20.1%

Average Risk Score by Indicator Component:

- Commercial Engagement: ~1.5
- Commercial Reliance: ~1.5
- Recreational Engagement: ~1.5
- Recreational Reliance: ~1.5
- Environmental Justice: ~2.5
- Economic: ~1.5
- Gentrification: ~1.5

Map of Coastal Communities: Shows community locations along the US coast.

Climate Change Risk Indicators:

- Sea Level Rise Risk: ~1.5
- Storm Surge Risk: ~1.5

Tabs: Explorer Tool, Environmental Justice, Economic, Gentrification, Crosstabulation, About

4 About + data download



Filter Bar

Filter Bar for All Tabs

Select filter options to filter data visualizations.

Note: Selections made in the Filter Bar apply across all tabs (except for the About tab).

Community Search

Use the “Community Search” box to filter data by community.

- Type a community name into the “Community Search” box and select it.
- **Note:** More than one community can be selected at a time, and communities listed under the box can be removed individually.



Reset – Click the Reset button to reset the Filter Bar, including community names and other filters.

Region – Use the dropdown menu to filter by region name. **Note:** More than one region can be selected at a time.

Fishing Type – Use the dropdown menu to filter by Fishing Type. **Note:** More than one selection can be made at a time.

Environmental Justice Concerns – Use the dropdown menu to filter by Environmental Justice Risk. **Note:** More than one selection can be made at a time.

Tabs

Explorer Tool – Click the main Explorer Tool tab to view data visualizations for:

- Number of Communities by Region
- Overall Community Risk Score
- Risk Score Composition by Indicator Component
- Average Risk Score by Indicator Component
- Map of Coastal Communities
- Climate Change Risk Indicators

Environmental Justice

Click the Environmental Justice tab to view indicator graphs and details.

Economic

Click the Economic tab to view indicator graphs and details.

Gentrification

Click the Gentrification tab to view indicator graphs and details.

Crosstabulation

Click the Crosstabulation tab to view overall risk score, component scores, and index scores.

About

Click the About tab to learn more about the tool, visit the web page, and download data.

Explorer Tool

Environmental Justice

Economic

Gentrification

Crosstabulation

About




Explorer Tool

Explore the Tool's Main Page, including the
Overall Community Risk Score and Components



NOAA
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Explorer Tool Main Page



Community Environmental Justice Explorer

This tool helps managers, researchers, and the public understand coastal fishing community well-being and resilience to change, with a focus on supporting environmental justice analysis.

Reset

FILTER BAR for All Tabs

Region: (All)

Community Search: _____

Fishing Type: (All)

Environmental Justice Concerns: (All)

Northeast
1,849 Communities

Southeast
1,423 Communities

West Coast
1,222 Communities

Alaska
351 Communities

Pacific Islands
44 Communities

EXPLORER TOOL

Overall Community Risk Score

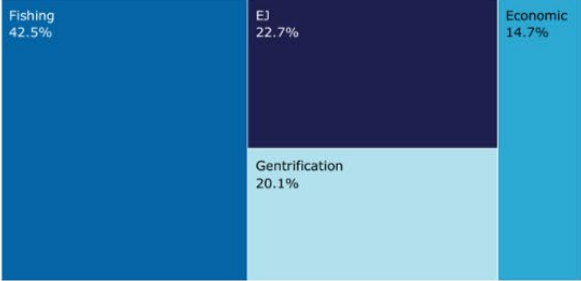
Community ranked by overall risk score from high to low. The top indicator components that contribute to the risk score for each community are listed.

Community	Top Indicator Components
Abbeville, LA	Comm Fishing, EJ, & Economic Issues
Akutan, AK	Comm Fishing & EJ Issues
Anacortes, WA	Rec Fishing
Anna Maria, FL	Rec Fishing & Gent Issues
Apalachicola, FL	Rec Fishing & Econ Issues
Astoria, OR	Comm & Rec Fishing
Atlantic Beach, NC	Rec Fishing & Econ Issues
Atlantic City, NJ	Comm Fishing & EJ Issues
Avalon, NJ	Rec Fishing & Gent Issues
Avila Beach, CA	Comm & Rec Fishing
Bandon, OR	Rec Fishing & Econ Issues
Barnegat Light, NJ	Comm Fishing, Rec Fishing, & Gent Issues
Bayou La Batre, AL	Comm Fishing & EJ Issues
Beaufort, NC	Comm Fishing & Econ Issues
Belhaven, NC	Rec Fishing, EJ, & Econ Issues
Bethel Island, CA	Rec Fishing, EJ, & Econ Issues
Bodega Bay, CA	Comm Fishing
Bokeelia, FL	Rec Fishing & Econ Issues

Overall Community Risk Score
N/A (0), Low (1), Medium (2), MedHigh (3), High (4)

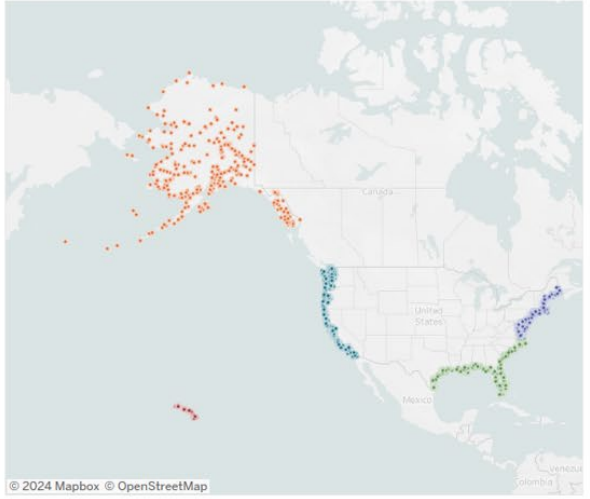
Risk Score Composition by Indicator Component

The proportion of each indicator component that contributes to the overall risk score.



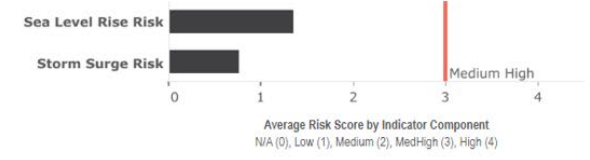
Average Risk Score by Indicator Component
N/A (0), Low (1), Medium (2), MedHigh (3), High (4)

Map of Coastal Communities



Average Risk Score by Indicator Component
N/A (0), Low (1), Medium (2), MedHigh (3), High (4)

Climate Change Risk Indicators



Explorer Tool

Environmental Justice

Economic

Gentrification

Crosstabulation

About

Explorer Tool
This is the main page that a user sees and explores when they first open the Tool.



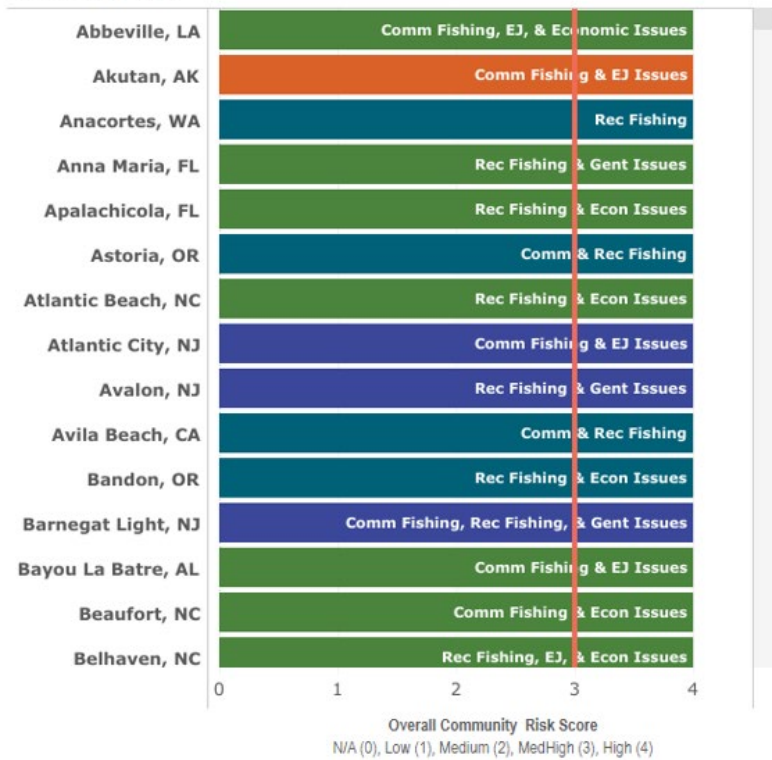
Explorer Tool – Data Visualizations (part 1)



EXPLORER TOOL

Overall Community Risk Score

Community ranked by overall risk score from high to low. The top indicator components that contribute to the risk score for each community are listed.



Overall Community Risk Score

- As with the other data visualizations, the graphs on this page dynamically update as Filter Bar selections change.
- This bar graph (left on the Explorer Tool tab) displays the overall risk score by community. This new composite indicator incorporates data from multiple indicator categories into a single value across communities.
- Within each bar, the top 3 indicator categories that contribute to the score are listed, left to right.
- Slide the bar up and down to see listed communities.
- For more information on how this score is developed, visit [Social Indicators Supporting Information](#).

Number of Communities by Region

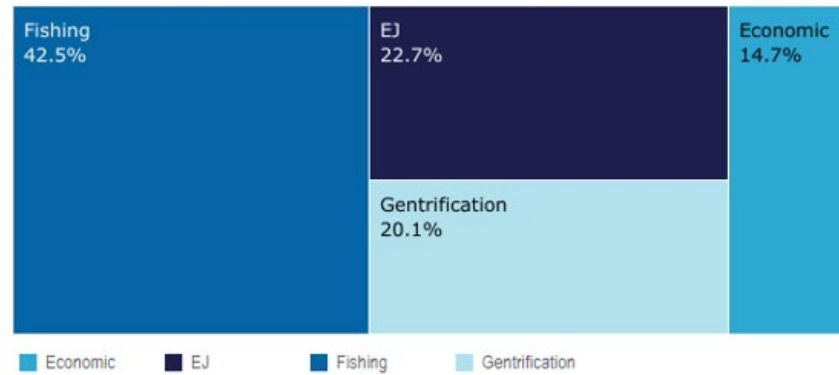
This visual (below the Filter Bar) shows the number of communities by region. By selecting filters in the Filter Bar (a specific region or community names), the data displayed in the visual will update.

Explorer Tool – Data Visualizations (part 2)

Risk Score Composition by Indicator Component – This tree map (top center of the Explorer Tool tab) shows the percentage of the indicator categories that contribute to the overall risk score. As new communities are selected, the graph will update.

Risk Score Composition by Indicator Component

The proportion of each indicator component that contributes to the overall risk score.



Average Risk Score by Indicator Component





The average risk score for individual community indicators.



Average Risk Score by Indicator Component – This bar graph (bottom center of the Explorer Tool tab) shows the individual components of the indicator categories in the above tree map. The colors between the two graphs are coordinated to match the individual indicators to the categories in which they belong. The red line represents a medium-high value (3), to be used as a reference.

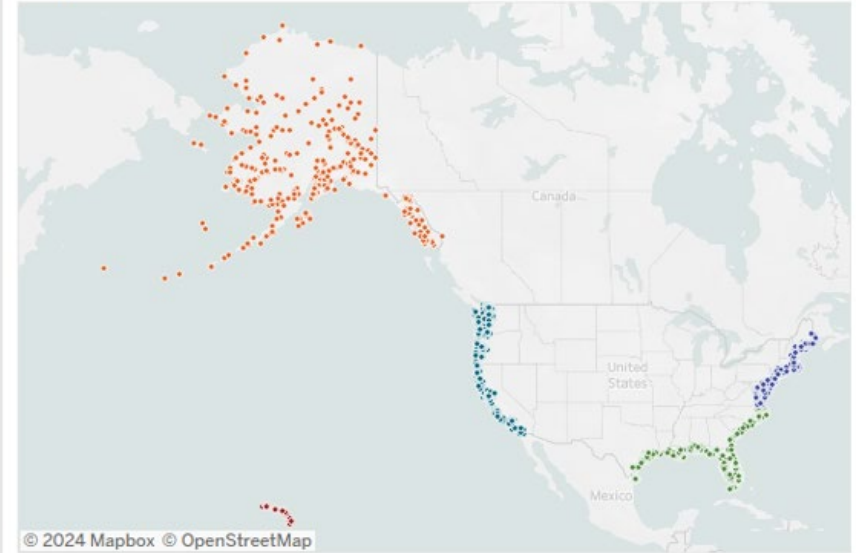
Explorer Tool – Data Visualizations (part 3)

Map of Coastal Communities – View communities color-coded by region in this interactive map (top right of the Explorer Tool tab). Select and unselect communities to zoom into and out of a single community.

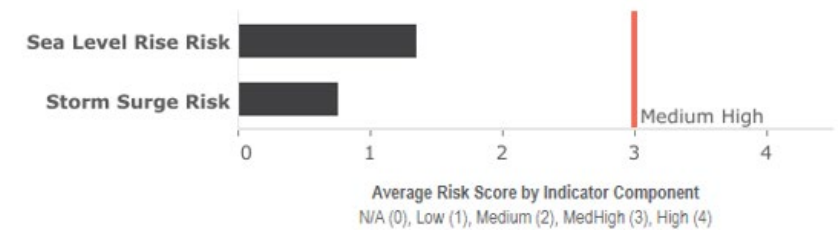
Interact with the map by using the icons that appear in the top left when the cursor hovers over the map. Use the top two icons to zoom in () and out (). Use the home icon () to return the map to the default setting. Use the bottom icon () to view different options to select communities.

Climate Change Risk Indicators – This bar graph (bottom right of the Explorer Tool tab) shows sea level risk and storm surge risk. While these indicators are not incorporated into the overall risk score, they are included here as reference information. This graph also has a red line representing medium-high (3), to be used as a reference.

Map of Coastal Communities



Climate Change Risk Indicators



Explorer Tool – Example 1

Selecting Communities from a Single Region using the Filter Bar

To replicate this example, click on the dropdown button to select region(s) of interest (e.g., the Northeast as pictured) by checking the boxes before the region name(s).

NOAA FISHERIES | Community Environmental Justice Explorer
 This tool helps managers, researchers, and the public understand coastal fishing community well-being and resilience to change, with a focus on supporting environmental justice analysis.

Filter Bar: Region: Northeast, Community Search: [Empty], Fishing Type: (All), Environmental Justice Concerns: (All)

Region: Northeast
1,849 Communities

EXPLORER TOOL

Overall Community Risk Score
 Community ranked by overall risk score from high to low. The top indicator components that contribute to the risk score for each community are listed.

Community	Top Indicator Components
Atlantic City, NJ	Comm Fishing & EJ Issues
Avalon, NJ	Rec Fishing & Gent Issues
Barnegat Light, NJ	Comm Fishing, Rec Fishing, & Gent Issues
Brooklyn/Sheepshead Bay, ..	Rec Fishing, EJ, & Gent Issues
Cape May, NJ	Comm & Rec Fishing
District 2/Cape Charles/Birdsnest..	Rec Fishing & Econ Issues
District 6/Accomac (Accomack County..	EJ & Econ Issues
Lewes, DE	Rec Fishing
Montauk, NY	Rec Fishing & Gent Issues
Narragansett/Point Judith, RI	Rec Fishing
Ocean City, MD	Rec Fishing
Orient, NY	Rec Fishing & Gent Issues
Point Lookout, NY	Rec Fishing & Gent Issues
Point Pleasant Beach, NJ	Rec Fishing
Reedville/District 5 (Northumberland ..	Comm Fishing
Sea Isle City, NJ	Rec Fishing & Gent Issues
Stonington, ME	Comm Fishing
Vinalhaven, ME	Comm Fishing & Econ Issues

Risk Score Composition by Indicator Component
 The proportion of each indicator component that contributes to the overall risk score.

Indicator Component	Proportion
Fishing	42.7%
EJ	20.9%
Economic	13.3%
Gentrification	23.1%

Average Risk Score by Indicator Component
 The average risk score for individual community indicators.

Indicator Component	Average Risk Score
Commercial Engagement	~1.5
Commercial Reliance	~1.2
Recreational Engagement	~1.5
Recreational Reliance	~1.2
Environmental Justice	~1.8
Economic	~1.5
Gentrification	~1.8

Map of Coastal Communities

Climate Change Risk Indicators

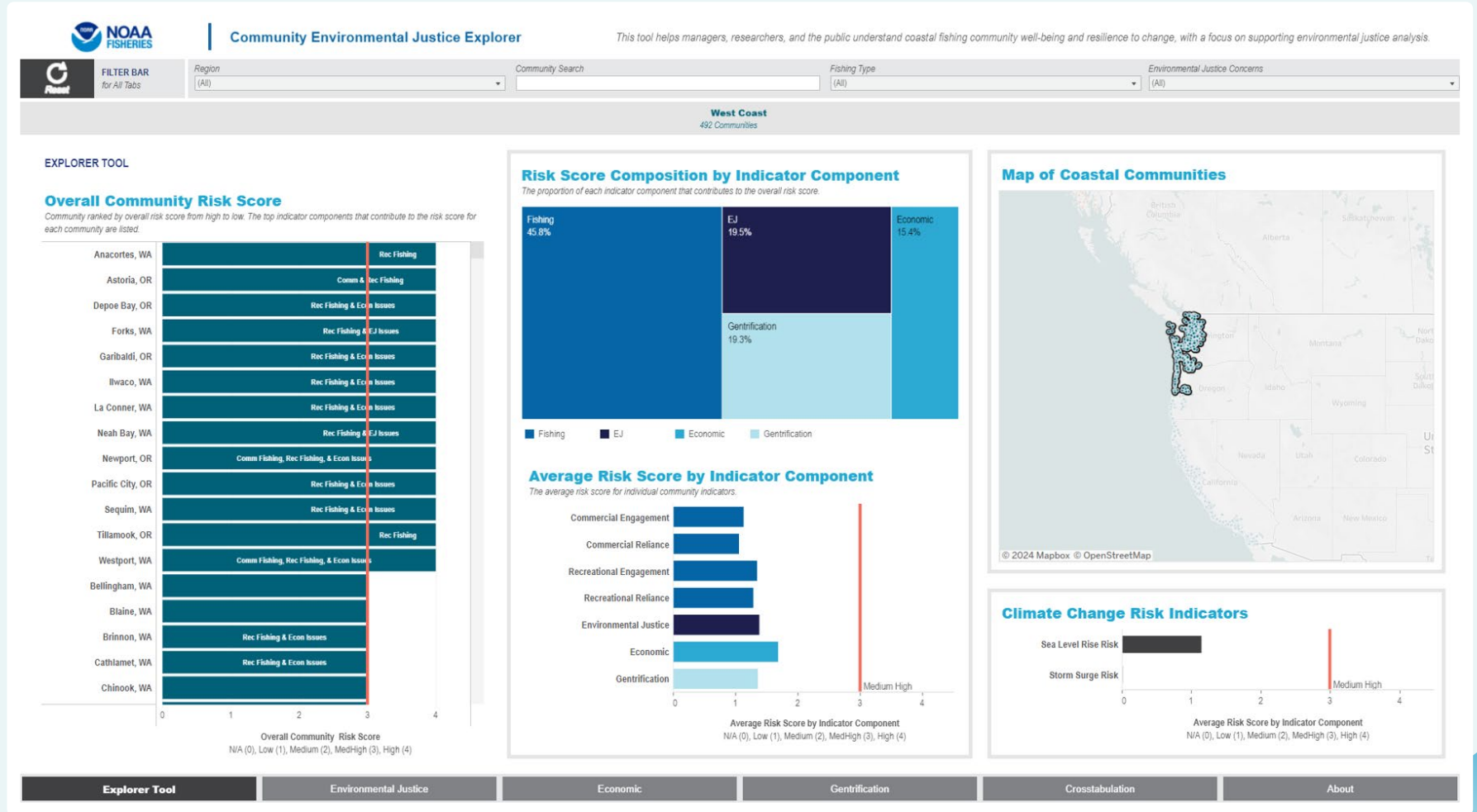
Risk Indicator	Average Risk Score
Sea Level Rise Risk	~1.5
Storm Surge Risk	~1.2

Navigation: Explorer Tool | Environmental Justice | Economic | Gentrification | Crosstabulation | About

Explorer Tool – Example 2

Selecting Communities Using the Map's Area Selection Function

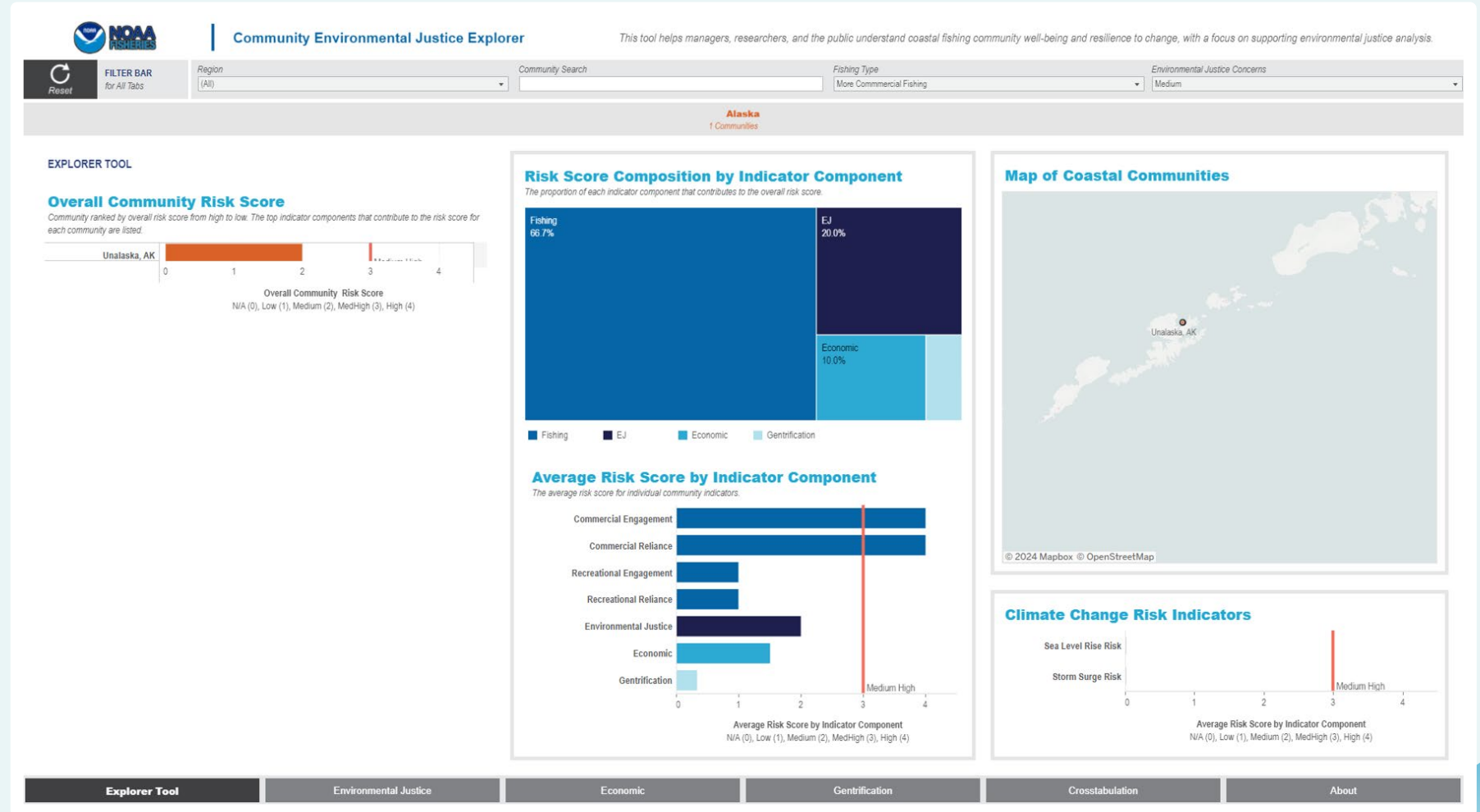
To replicate this example, use the rectangular selection tool on the map to draw an area and select the communities. The visualizations will update accordingly.



Explorer Tool – Example 3

Selecting Communities Using the Map's Zoom In Function

To replicate this example, zoom in on the map and click a community to select. The visualizations will update accordingly.

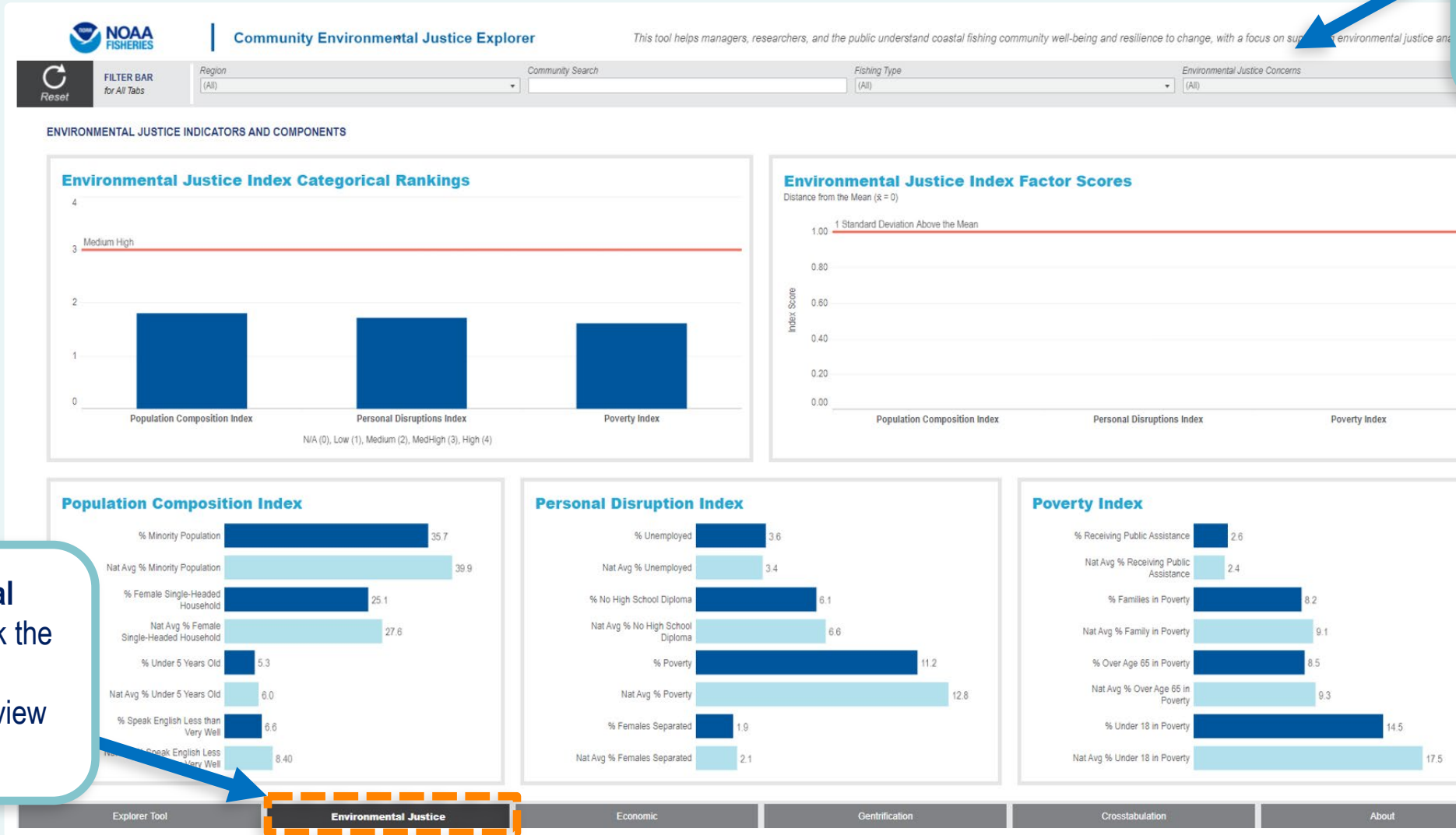


Other Data Tabs

Explore Supporting Data Visualizations:
Environmental Justice, Economic, Gentrification, and Crosstabulation

Environmental Justice

Filter Bar –
Filter data to update the visualizations.



Environmental Justice – Click the Environmental Justice tab to view index details.

Economic

Filter Bar –
Filter data to update the visualizations.

NOAA FISHERIES | **Community Environmental Justice Explorer** | This tool helps managers, researchers, and the public understand coastal fishing community well-being and resilience to change, with a focus on supporting environmental justice analysis.

Filter Bar: Region (All), Community Search, Fishing Type (All), Environmental Justice Concerns (All)

ECONOMIC INDICATORS AND COMPONENTS

Economic Categorical Rankings

Distance from the Mean ($\bar{x} = 0$)

1.00 1 Standard Deviation Above the Mean

0.00

Index Score

Labor Force Index Housing Characteristics Index

N/A (0), Low (1), Medium (2), MedHigh (3), High (4)

Economic Index Factor Scores

Distance from the Mean ($\bar{x} = 0$)

1.00 1 Standard Deviation Above the Mean

0.00

Index Score

Labor Force Index Housing Characteristics Index

Labor Force Structure Index Variables

% Females Employed	52.1
Nat Avg % Females Employed	55.4
% Population in Labor Force	60.6
Nat Avg % Population in Labor Force	63.4
% Households Receiving Social Security	36.4
Nat Avg % Households Receiving Social Security	31.4

Housing Characteristics Index Variables

Median Gross Rent	1,392
Nat Avg Median Gross Rent	1,096
Median Mortgage	2,082
Nat Avg Median Mortgage	1,621
Median Number of Rooms	5.7
Nat Avg Median Number of Rooms	5.5
% Mobile Homes	7.0
Nat Avg % Mobile Homes	6.0

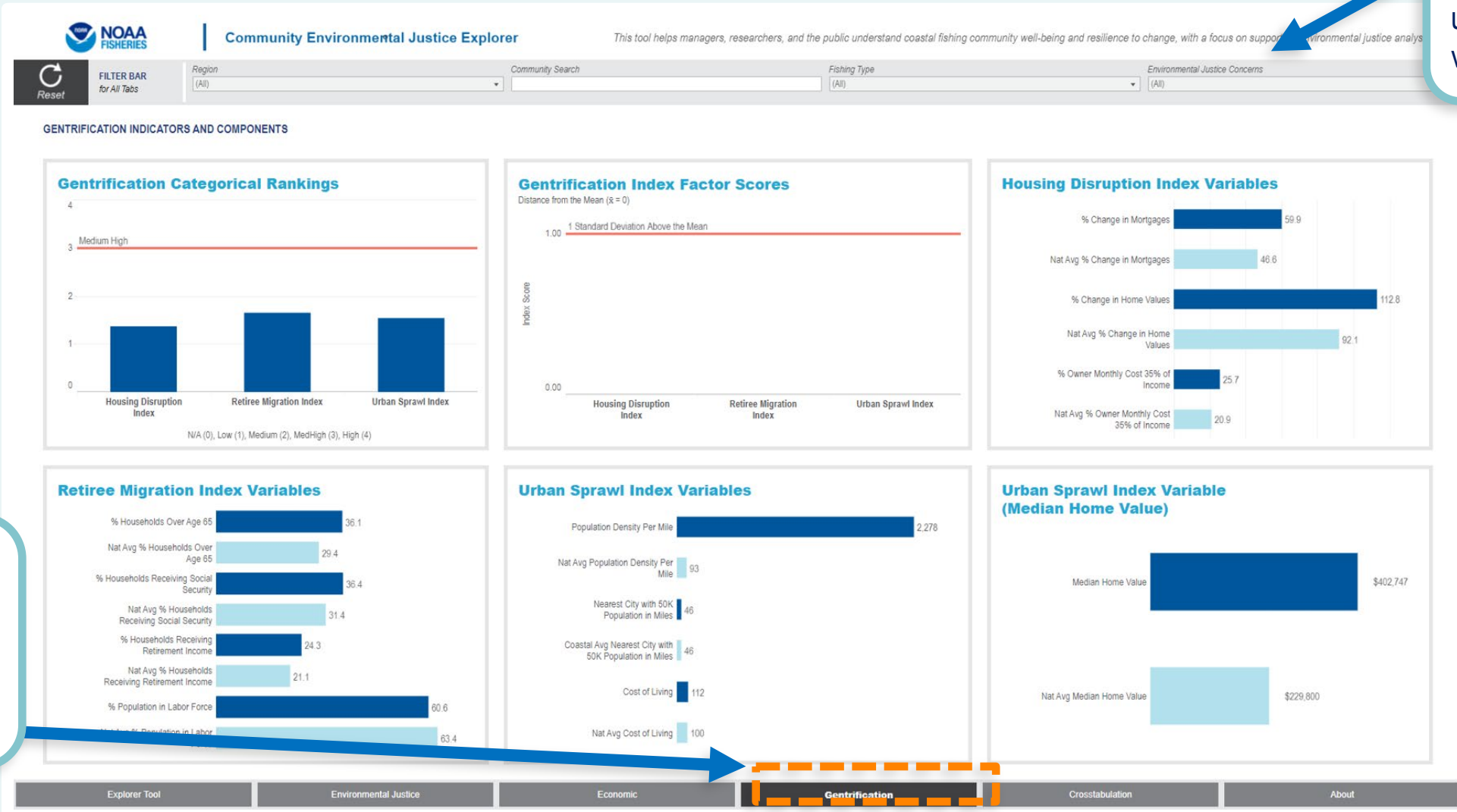
Explorer Tool | Environmental Justice | **Economic** | Gentrification | Crosstabulation | About

Economic –
Click the Economic tab to view index details.



Gentrification

Filter Bar –
Filter data to update the visualizations.



Gentrification –
Click the Gentrification tab to view index details.



Crosstabulation

Filter Bar –
Filter data to update the visualizations.

NOAA FISHERIES | **Community Environmental Justice Explorer** | This tool helps managers, researchers, and the public understand coastal fishing community well-being and resilience to change, with a focus on supporting environmental justice analysis.

Region: (All) | Community Search: | Fishing Type: (All) | Environmental Justice Concerns: (All)

SOCIAL INDICATOR CATEGORICAL RANKINGS (2020)
NA (0), Low (1), Medium (2), MedHigh (3), High (4)

	Overall Vulnerability Score	Fishing Score	Environmental Justice Score	Economic Score	Gentrification Score	Commercial Engagement Index	Commercial Reliance Index	Recreational Engagement Index	Recreational Reliance Index	Poverty Index	Population Composition Index	Personal Disruption Index	Labor Force Index	Housing Characteristics Index	Housing Disruption Index	Retiree Migration Index	Urban Sprawl Index	Sea Level Rise Risk Index	Storm Surge Risk Index	
Alaska																				
Adak, AK	3	2.25	4.00	0.50	0.00	3	4	1	1	4	4	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Akhiok, AK	2	1.25	2.33	1.50	0.00	1	2	1	1	1	2	4	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Akiachak, AK	2	1.50	4.00	1.50	0.00	2	2	1	1	4	4	4	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Akiak, AK	2	1.00	3.67	1.00	0.33	1	1	1	1	4	4	4	3	2	0	1	0	0	0	
Akutan, AK	4	2.50	3.67	2.50	0.33	4	4	1	1	4	4	4	3	1	4	1	0	0	0	
Alakanuk, AK	2	1.25	4.00	3.00	0.33	2	1	1	1	4	4	4	2	4	1	0	0	0	0	
Alatna, AK	1	0.50	1.33	2.00	0.00	1	1	0	0	0	2	2	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Alcan Border, AK	1	0.50	0.67	2.00	0.00	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Aleknagik, AK	2	1.25	3.00	1.00	0.00	1	2	1	1	2	3	4	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Aleneva, AK	1	0.50	1.67	2.00	0.00	1	1	0	0	0	4	1	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Allakaket, AK	2	1.00	3.67	0.50	0.00	1	1	1	1	4	3	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Ambler, AK	2	1.00	4.00	1.00	0.00	1	1	1	1	4	4	4	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Anaktuvuk Pass, AK	2	1.00	4.00	2.00	0.33	1	1	1	1	4	4	4	1	3	1	0	0	0	0	
Anchor Point, AK	2	1.75	1.67	3.00	0.67	2	1	2	2	2	1	2	3	3	2	0	0	0	0	
Anchorage, AK	2	2.50	1.33	1.50	0.33	4	1	4	1	1	2	1	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	
Anderson, AK	2	1.00	1.00	2.00	0.67	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	2	0	0	0	0	
Angoon, AK	2	1.50	3.33	2.50	0.67	2	2	1	1	4	3	3	1	4	2	0	0	0	0	
Aniak, AK	2	1.25	3.67	2.00	0.67	1	1	1	2	4	3	4	1	3	2	0	0	0	0	
Anvik, AK	2	1.50	3.00	0.50	0.00	1	2	1	2	2	4	4	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	
Arctic Village, AK	2	1.00	4.00	1.50	0.00	1	1	1	1	4	4	4	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Atka, AK	1	1.00	2.00	0.50	0.00	1	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Atmautluak, AK	2	1.25	4.00	1.00	0.00	1	2	1	1	4	4	4	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Atkasuk, AK	2	1.00	4.00	2.00	0.33	1	1	1	1	4	4	4	1	3	1	0	0	0	0	
Attu Station, AK	1	0.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Badger, AK	1	0.50	1.00	1.50	0.00	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	
Barrow (Utqiagvik), AK	2	1.00	2.67	2.00	0.00	1	1	1	1	1	4	3	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	
Bear Creek, AK	1	0.50	1.00	0.50	0.33	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	
Beluga, AK	1	0.50	1.00	0.50	0.00	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Bethel, AK	2	1.50	3.00	1.50	0.33	1	1	1	1	2	4	3	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	

Explorer Tool | Environmental Justice | Economic | Gentrification | **Crosstabulation** | About

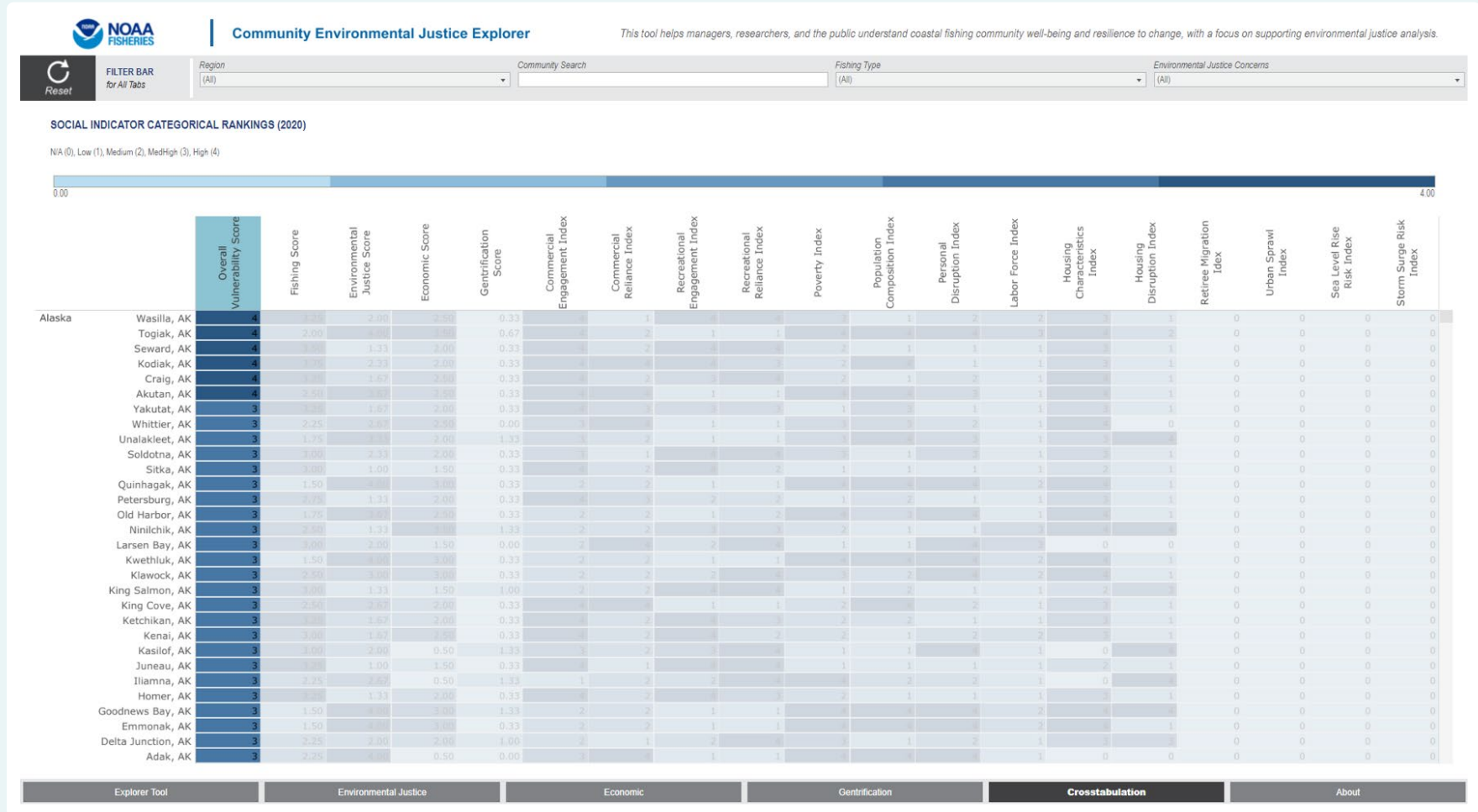
Crosstabulation –
Click the Crosstabulation tab to view overall risk score, component scores, and index scores.



Crosstabulation – Example

Sorting the Crosstabulation Table

To replicate this example, click on a column, such as “Overall Risk Score,” and, in the pop-up window, click to sort community name in ascending or descending order by the measure values. This will sort the table accordingly.



About

Learn More About the Tool and Download Data

About

About the Tool
Read this section for a brief description of the tool, users, and uses, as well as what information is available on the web page.

About the Tool
NOAA Fisheries launched the Community Environmental Justice Explorer, a new social indicators tool, to allow users to explore and analyze environmental justice concerns for more than 4,600 U.S. coastal communities using detailed dashboard visualizations.

The tool provides accurate, reliable, and detailed information to identify environmental justice concerns and describe social conditions in fishing communities. This information supports the development of research priorities and decision-making needed to promote vibrant and resilient coastal communities and economies.

NOAA Fisheries is committed to equitably serving all communities in our stewardship of ocean resources by adopting equity and environmental justice (EEJ) principles, including building upon ongoing partnerships and efforts with underserved and underrepresented communities.

Learn More
To learn more about the Community Environmental Justice Explorer tool, select the icon below.

Download Data
To download data, select the icon below.

Get Data

Explorer web page

Learn More – Click the icon above to visit the web page and read more about the tool and data.

Download Data – Click the icon above to download data in 2 format options (Excel or CSV).

Explorer Tool | Environmental Justice | Economic | Gentrification | Crosstabulation | About