



What is the purpose of the Energy Justice Dashboard (BETA)?

The Department of Energy (DOE) and the Biden-Harris administration have made it clear that those impacted by pollution need to be the first to benefit from clean energy solutions, and that equity will serve as their North Star. On his first day in office, President Biden signed *Executive Order 13985, Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through the Federal Government*, which he followed a week later, on January 27, with *Executive Order 14008, Tackling the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad*. Executive Order 14008 established the Justice40 Initiative, a government-wide initiative to deliver 40% of the overall benefits of certain federal investments to disadvantaged communities, including investments in clean energy, energy efficiency, clean transportation, affordable and sustainable housing, training and workforce development, the remediation and reduction of legacy pollution and the development of critical clean water infrastructure.

With the Energy Justice Dashboard (BETA) DOE is working to better understand how the Department's costs are distributed to overburdened and underserved communities that have been left behind and unheard from for too long.

What is included on the Energy Justice Dashboard (BETA)?

The Energy Justice Dashboard (BETA) includes all grants, cooperative agreements, and contracts created in DOE's procurement system that were either awarded or modified on or after October 1, 2019 with a place of performance in the United States. This includes awards made prior to October 1, 2019 if the awards were modified for any reason. Data from the National Nuclear Security Administration and Energy Information Administration are included as these agencies utilize the DOE procurement writing system. Data from Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) are not represented in the Dashboard.

Awards coded as "loans" may be included in a future iteration of the Energy Justice Dashboard (BETA), as the Loan Programs Office disperses loans supporting equity efforts. The spend represented on the Dashboard does not include miscellaneous obligations (public utility services, legal settlements/court directive, lease agreements, third party drafts, etc.).

Contract, grant, and cooperative agreement are listed under Funding Category. What are these three categories?

A **contract** is a mutually binding legal relationship obligating the seller to furnish the supplies or services (including construction) and the buyer to pay for them. Contracts include (but are not limited to) awards and notices of awards; job orders or task letters issued under basic ordering agreements; letter contracts; orders, such as purchase orders, under which the contract becomes effective by written acceptance or performance; and bilateral contract modifications. Contracts do not include grants and cooperative agreements. (See Federal Acquisition Regulation §2.101 *Definitions*.)

A **grant** is a legal instrument between the federal government and a State, a local government, or other recipient when the principal purpose of the relationship involves public purpose and substantial involvement is NOT expected from the federal government to carry out the activity contemplated in the agreement. (See 31 U.S.C. 6304)

A **cooperative agreement** is a legal instrument between the federal government and a State, a local government, or other recipient when the principal purpose of the relationship involves public purpose and



substantial involvement is expected from the federal government to carry out the activity contemplated in the agreement. (See 31 U.S.C. 6305)

Grants and cooperative agreements do not include loans, subsidies, direct federal government cash assistance to an individual, insurance, and loan guarantees. (See 31 U.S.C. 6302)

How are disadvantaged communities defined?

For purposes of EO 14008, disadvantaged communities are communities that experience disproportionately high and adverse economic, human health, climate-related, environmental, and other cumulative impacts.

There is no indicator on the Energy Justice Dashboard (BETA) for disadvantaged communities. Why?

Currently, the Dashboard showcases spending for ALL DOE grants, cooperative agreements, and contracts (except for BPA and FERC) across the United States and its territories. The Dashboard will evolve to showcase spending in disadvantaged communities.

How is J40 Relevance determined?

J40 Relevance categories originated through EO 14008, and include investments in clean energy, energy efficiency, clean transportation, affordable and sustainable housing, training and workforce development, the remediation and reduction of legacy pollution and the development of critical clean water infrastructure. J40 Relevance was determined by searching the award descriptions in DOE grants, cooperative agreements, and contracts. DOE program offices confirmed the relevance during their quality reviews prior to the Dashboard launch.

What is the source for the Dashboard procurement and financial data?

The Department's Integrated Data Warehouse aggregates from the agency's procurement and financial management systems and is the primary source of data used for the Dashboard.

How are costs defined and are they appropriated or non-appropriated?

Costs are defined as the price or expense of the resources used to produce a program, project, or activity. The financial data included in the Dashboard includes both appropriated and non-appropriated information (an example of a non-appropriated resource is non-federal reimbursable work or revenues received).

Why are there negative numbers represented in the cost amounts?

Cost amounts may appear as negative numbers due to refunds or returned costs in individual fiscal years. Costs may be returned for various reasons including returned costs as a result of closeout audits.



How often is the Dashboard data updated?

Dashboard data is refreshed the second week of the month after the accounting period closes. The data reflects costs as of the last day of the accounting month. For example, looking at the Dashboard data in May will show DOE costs for the April accounting period ending April 30th.

How are the Equity Layers defined and from where did they come?

Layer	Details
No Layers	No layer chosen.
Minority Population*	The percent of individuals in a tract (statistical subdivisions of a county that aim to have roughly 4,000 inhabitants) who list their racial status as a race other than white alone and/or list their ethnicity as Hispanic or Latino. That is, all people other than non-Hispanic white-alone individuals. The word "alone" in this case indicates that the person is of a single race, not multiracial.
Low Income Population*	The percent of a tract's population in households where the household income is less than or equal to twice the federal "poverty level."
Energy Burden**	The average annual housing energy costs divided by the average annual household income. Annual housing energy costs are based on household annual expenditures for electricity, gas (utility and bottled), and other fuels (including fuel oil, wood, etc.).
Air Toxin Cancer Risk	Lifetime cancer risk from inhalation of air toxics
Respiratory Hazards	Air toxics respiratory hazard index (ratio of exposure concentration to health-based reference concentration)
Ozone Level	Ozone summer seasonal avg. of daily maximum 8-hour concentration in air in parts per billion
Diesel Particulate Matter	Diesel particulate matter level in air, µg/m3
All Particulate Matter	PM2.5 levels in air, µg/m3 annual avg
Lead Paint	Percent of housing units built pre-1960, as indicator of potential lead paint exposure
Traffic Proximity	Count of vehicles (AADT, avg. annual daily traffic) at major roads within 500 meters, divided by distance in meters (not km)
Risk Facilities	Count of RMP (potential chemical accident management plan) facilities within 5 km (or nearest one beyond 5 km), each divided by distance in kilometers
Hazardous Disposal Sites	Count of hazardous waste facilities (TSDFs and LQGs) within 5 km (or nearest beyond 5 km), each divided by distance in kilometers
Cleanup Sites	Count of proposed or listed NPL - also known as superfund - sites within 5 km (or nearest one beyond 5 km), each divided by distance in kilometers
Water Discharge Sites	RSEI modeled Toxic Concentrations at stream segments within 500 meters, divided by distance in kilometers (km)
COVID-19 Fatalities***	Displays rank quantile of cumulative deaths, per county, attributed to COVID-19, since Jan 1, 2020.
Award Details	Displays each DOE award as a map pinpoint or as a grey disk



	with the number of awards in that location (when zoomed out). This layer can be switched on and off.
Cost Heat Map	Aggregated costs by location on the map. Areas of warmer colors indicate higher volume of DOE costs while areas of cooler colors indicate a lower volume of DOE costs. The colors are relative to the zoom level and to the other cost amounts displayed in that geographic view. For example, when the map is displaying the entire U.S., Lexington, KY is a light purple color as the costs in that location are compared against costs across the U.S.; however, when we zoom in completely, Lexington, KY is a bright red color as the costs in Lexington are much higher compared to the other locations displayed on the map. When most zoomed in, a static legend will display showing fixed ranges of dollar amounts each color represents.

Unless otherwise noted, all layers derive from the Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) [EJSCREEN’s Environmental Indicators](#). Layers with a single asterisk (*) are from the EPA [EJSCREEN Demographic Indicators](#). The layer with the double asterisks (**) stems from the Department of Energy’s [Low-Income Energy Affordability Data \(LEAD\) Tool](#). The layer with the triple asterisks (***) depicting COVID-19 fatalities is sourced from the National Center for Health Statistics, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention [Provisional COVID-19 Death Counts in the United States by County](#).

How is a Minority Serving Institution defined?

A minority serving institution (MSI) is an educational entity recognized by the Office of Civil Rights (OCR), U.S. Department of Education, and identified on the OCR’s Department of Education U.S. accredited postsecondary minorities institution list. The list used for the Energy Justice Dashboard (BETA) is based on 2020 data from the U.S. Department of Education. It includes institutions that qualify for MSI funding and those receiving MSI funding.

Where can questions, feedback, or problems be submitted about the Dashboard?

Contact the Energy Justice Dashboard (BETA) Team at j40groupmailbox@hq.doe.gov.