Caltrans

TRANSPORTATION EQUITY INDEX 1.0

About EQI

Developed in collaboration with internal and external partners, the Caltrans Transportation Equity Index (EQI) is a spatial screening tool designed to identify transportation-based priority populations. This innovative tool integrates transportation and socioeconomic indicators into three screens. All screens reflect low-income and Tribal land status.

Transportation-Based Priority Populations

Communities that are most burdened by and receive the fewest benefits from the transportation system.

Traffic Exposure

Communities that are the most burdened by high exposure to traffic and crashes.

Access to Destinations

Communities that have the greatest gaps in multimodal access to destinations.

Innovation

Other screening tools, such as CalEnviroScreen and the federal Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool, analyze equity from a broader environmental justice perspective, whereas the EQI uniquely utilizes transportation and socioeconomic indicators to identify transportation-based priority populations at a Census block level. The EQI can be used in addition to existing tools by applying a transportation-focused lens and intersectional equity analysis to further our understanding of the multiple factors that impact communities.

Development Timeline

2021
Development begins

2023
Beta testing

2020
Conceptualize EQI to operationalize the Caltrans Equity Statement

2022-2023
Solicit feedback through public info sessions

2024
Launch version 1.0

Use Cases

Caltrans is exploring how to apply the EQI to specific use cases. The department anticipates implementing the tool to promote equitable outcomes in project planning, development, and design.

Learn More

🌐 dot.ca.gov/EQI   ✉ CaltransEQI@dot.ca.gov   🗺 GIS Tool