

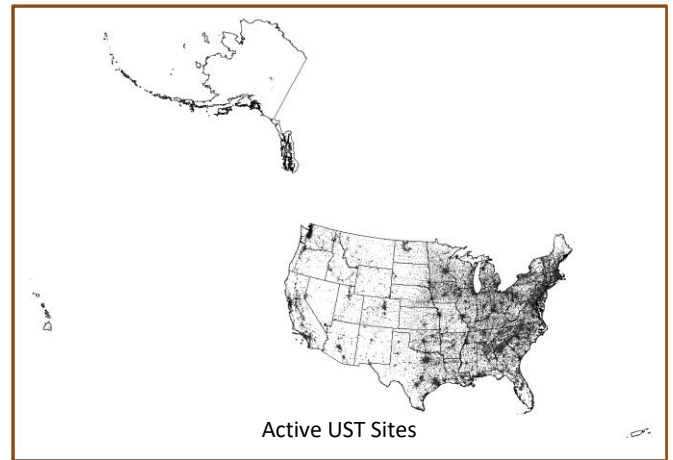
## Population Surrounding 181,291 Active UST Facilities

Underground Storage Tank (UST) sites exist in thousands of communities across the U.S. ranging from remote to large urban settings. Many of these sites are in economically distressed communities. To help describe who benefits from EPA's UST Program, the Agency used **2015-2018 American Community Survey populations data and UST Sites as of late-2018 to mid-2019** depending on that state to summarize the population living within 3, 1, and ¼ miles of Active UST facilities.

### Population within 0.25 Mile of Sites:

Approximately 53 million people live within 0.25 mile of an active UST facility (roughly 16% of the U.S. population) including approximately:

- 17% of all children in the U.S. under the age of 5
- 15% of all children in the U.S. under 18
- 23% of all blacks in the U.S.
- 23% of all Hispanics in the U.S.
- 23% of all minorities in the U.S.
- 23% of all households in the U.S. below the poverty level
- 22% of all people with less than a high school education in the U.S.
- 30% of the linguistically isolated people in the U.S.



### Population within 1 Mile of Sites:

Approximately 229 million people live within 1 mile of an active UST facility (roughly 70% of the U.S. population) including approximately:

- 72% of all children in the U.S. under the age of 5
- 70% of all children in the U.S. under 18
- 82% of all blacks in the U.S.
- 79% of all Hispanics in the U.S.
- 81% of all minorities in the U.S.
- 74% of all households in the U.S. below the poverty level
- 73% of all people with less than a high school education in the U.S.
- 77% of the linguistically isolated people in the U.S.

### Population within 3 Miles of Sites:

Approximately 297 million people live within 3 miles of an active UST facility (roughly 91% of the U.S. population) including approximately:

- 92% of all children in the U.S. under the age of 5
- 92% of all children in the U.S. under 18
- 95% of all blacks in the U.S.
- 90% of all Hispanics in the U.S.
- 93% of all minorities in the U.S.
- 89% of all households in the U.S. below the poverty level
- 89% of all people with less than a high school education in the U.S.
- 84% of the linguistically isolated people in the U.S.

## Demographics of Near-Site Populations:

While there is no single way to characterize communities located near our sites, the population within a ¼ mile is *more minority, low income, linguistically isolated, and less likely to have a high school education* than the U.S. population as a whole.

**TABLE 1: Proportions of Key Demographics in the Total Near Site Population and the Total U.S. Population**

	Population within 0.25 mile of All Sites	Population within 1 mile of All Sites	Population within 3 miles of All Sites	U.S. Population
Minority	55.5%	45.5%	40.4%	39.6%
Below poverty level	18.6%	14.5%	13.4%	13.7%
Linguistically isolated	8.9%	5.6%	4.7%	5.1%
Less than a High School Education	16.7%	13.0%	12.3%	12.5%

## Methodology:

A 3-, 1- or ¼- mile buffer ring was placed around each site's latitude/longitude location. American Community Survey (ACS) 2015-2018 census data was then identified for each block group with a centroid that fell within the 3-, 1- or ¼- mile area.

Data used includes: (1) UST information as of late-2018 to mid-2019 depending on the state; and (2) ACS 2015-2018 census data. Site data included 181,291 Active UST facilities in the 50 U.S. states with accurate locational data.

## IMPORTANT Caveats:

- Data collected represent a national look at the characteristics of the population in communities surrounding our sites. While some of the data point to possible Environmental Justice (EJ) characteristics of the population, this is not an EJ analysis.
- Proximity to a site does not necessarily represent risk of adverse health effects. The risk of exposure to contamination varies significantly across all sites.
- Data are a snapshot in time only, the site and population information will change over time (can be updated every year when new census data comes out and compared over time in 5-year intervals).
- Used best available information, but data collected are estimates only, for the following reasons:
  - ❖ Used a single latitude and longitude location to model site boundaries based on acreage, not the actual site boundaries.
  - ❖ Used centroid points of the census block groups which under-estimates the population in some cases, and over-estimates in others.

## Footnote to Use When Citing Data:

U.S. EPA, Office of Land and Emergency Management 2020. Data collected includes: (1) UST information as of late-2018 to mid-2019 depending on the state; and (2) population data from the 2015-2018 American Community Survey.

**TABLE 2: Detailed Data on the Population within 0.25, 1 and 3 miles of Active UST facilities**

Below are data on the demographic characteristics of the population surrounding active UST facilities. The table indicates whether certain population demographics near sites are above (in bold) or below (in italics) the U.S. average.

Demographics	Population Within 0.25 Mile of Sites (Approximate)		Population Within 1 Mile of Sites (Approximate)		Population Within 3 Miles of Sites (Approximate)		US Population (Approximate)	
	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number
<b>Race</b>								
White	<i>60.0%</i>	32,006,708	<i>68.1%</i>	155,585,074	<i>71.7%</i>	213,177,032	<i>72.7%</i>	237,188,538
Black	<b>17.8%</b>	9,471,843	<b>14.9%</b>	34,056,588	<b>13.2%</b>	39,231,192	12.7%	41,281,123
Asian	<b>8.3%</b>	4,454,653	<b>6.6%</b>	15,134,653	<b>5.8%</b>	17,295,157	5.4%	17,581,234
Native American	<i>0.7%</i>	348,940	<i>0.6%</i>	1,445,094	<i>0.7%</i>	1,996,491	0.8%	2,707,577
Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	<b>0.2%</b>	123,550	<b>0.2%</b>	470,935	<b>0.2%</b>	549,184	0.2%	583,021
Other	<b>13.0%</b>	6,944,749	<b>9.6%</b>	21,861,299	<b>8.5%</b>	25,134,882	8.3%	26,948,478
<b>Ethnicity</b>								
Hispanic (any race)	<b>26.8%</b>	14,286,268	<b>21.1%</b>	48,147,362	<i>18.5%</i>	54,959,471	<i>18.7%</i>	60,867,275
Non-Hispanic (any race)	<i>73.2%</i>	39,064,175	<i>78.9%</i>	180,406,281	<b>81.5%</b>	242,424,467	<b>81.3%</b>	265,422,696
<b>Minority</b>								
Minority	<b>55.5%</b>	29,612,256	<b>45.5%</b>	103,946,482	<b>40.4%</b>	120,053,305	39.6%	129,080,779
<b>Income</b>								
Households below the poverty level	<b>18.6%</b>	3,808,056	<b>14.5%</b>	12,310,096	<i>13.4%</i>	14,792,588	13.7%	16,567,346
Households with a ratio of income to poverty level of two and over	<i>59.2%</i>	30,563,863	<i>66.2%</i>	147,496,052	<b>68.2%</b>	197,806,364	<i>67.7%</i>	215,350,011
<b>Education</b>								
Less than a high school education	<b>16.7%</b>	5,963,910	<b>13.0%</b>	19,978,927	<i>12.3%</i>	24,623,575	12.5%	27,526,286
<b>Linguistically isolated</b>								
Linguistically isolated households	<b>8.9%</b>	1,817,378	<b>5.6%</b>	4,743,409	<i>4.7%</i>	5,155,166	5.1%	6,149,144
<b>Age</b>								
Under 5 years of age	<b>6.4%</b>	3,431,344	<b>6.3%</b>	14,495,239	<b>6.2%</b>	18,449,044	6.1%	19,994,488
Under 18 years of age	<i>21.5%</i>	11,488,327	<i>22.7%</i>	51,896,507	<b>22.9%</b>	67,968,269	<i>22.8%</i>	74,241,185
Over 64 years of age	<i>13.1%</i>	6,981,408	<i>14.4%</i>	32,836,560	<i>14.9%</i>	44,426,537	15.3%	49,879,204
<b>Total</b>		<b>53,350,443</b>		<b>228,553,643</b>		<b>297,383,938</b>		<b>326,289,971</b>