DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY Federal Emergency Management Agency

OMB No: 1660-0072 Expiration Date: 04-30-2026

BRIC DIRECT TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE REQUEST FORM

Subpage to BRIC DTA Webpage: https://www.fema.gov/grants/mitigation/building-resilient-infrastructure-communities/direct-technical-assistance This form is for requesting non-financial direct technical assistance offered through the Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) program provided by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). Eligible communities request hazard mitigation assistance by completing this form. Each community or group of communities may only submit one request, **COMMUNITY DETAILS AND CONTACT INFORMATION** What community or communities do you represent in this BRIC DTA application? The River Valley School District is pursuing a BRIC DTA application for assistance in developing a BRIC subapplication. The River Valley School District is located in Sauk and Iowa Counties in Wisconsin and River Valley High School is located at 1660 Varsity Blvd, Spring Green, WI 53588. The Village of Spring Green & multiple villages and townships are all at least partially located within the River Valley School District. The Village of Spring Green, where the school facilities are located, is situated on the banks of the Wisconsin River. Please see the attached Technical Memorandum for further detail about the community. Point of Contact Name: Community Phone Number: Preferred Email Address: Loren Glasbrenner (608) 588-2551 Iglasbrenner@rvschools.org Community Address: 660 W. Daley Street State, Territory, or Tribal Government: ZIP/Postal Code: City/Town: Spring Green Wisconsin 53588 Are you federally recognized Tribal Government(s)/entity? ☐ Yes X No Are you a non-federally recognized Tribal Government(s)/entity? ☐ Yes X No Does your community have or participate in a Hazard Mitigation Plan? X Yes Unsure □ No Name the Hazard Mitigation Plan in which your community or communities participates: The Village of Spring Green has participated in the Sauk County Natural Mitigation Plan 2019-2024, however, the River Valley School District has not participated in the Hazard Mitigation Plan. The River Valley School District plans to participate in the upcoming Hazard Mitigation Plan update, along with the Village of Spring Green. **ELIGIBILITY** To be eligible for BRIC DTA, you must represent one or more of the options below. Please check all that apply. Federally recognized Tribal Nation Government(s) City Non-Federally recognized Tribal Nation Government(s) Township County/Parish Group of two or more communities that fit the above criteria Special District Government HAZARD IDENTIFICATION Please check the box that describes the nature of the hazard(s) your community is facing. Please check all that apply. X Extreme Heat Avalanche Severe Winter Weather □ Dam Failure ▼ Flood Storm Surge Drought X Hail ☐ Subsidence Earthquake Hurricane Wind ▼ Tornado Erosion Landslide Tsunami Wildfire Expansive Soils X Lightning X Extreme Cold Sea Level Rise X Pandemic

BRIC DTA SUPPORT
Through BRIC DTA, FEMA can provide support for hazard mitigation planning, mitigation project assistance, and BRIC application-specific needs.
Please indicate a primary direct technical assistance need: BRIC Sub-Application Development
If "Other" is selected, explain further:
Please briefly describe any disasters your community has experienced in the past seven years: In the past seven years, the River Valley School District faced challenges including severe winds causing tree damage and power outages, increased extreme temperature days, and the socio-economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. While not in the past seven years, flash flooding in 2008 & 2013 led to road closures and significant damage. These events highlight the community's vulnerability to natural & societal crises, underscoring the need for proactive disaster preparedness. Securing FEMA DTA would enhance the ability to mitigate future disasters & increase resilience.
Please provide a brief description of the community's need for BRIC DTA and any challenges you have faced: River Valley faces pressing needs for BRIC DTA amid climate change impacts & resource constraints common to rural communities. The community encounters significant socio-economic challenges, including significant vulnerable populations, & lack of funding for infrastructure improvements. Because of this, grants are essential for pursuing climate-resilient structures, crucial for community safety & well-being. DTA would provide the resource assistance to pursue these funds. Please see Section 3 of Technical Memo for detail.
Please provide a brief description of proposed deliverables and timelines, including duration of technical assistance: The goal is to develop a BRIC subapplication for a community tornado safe room & extreme temperature shelter within a duration of approximately 3 months. This would be achieved through collaboration with community partners including the River Valley Commons (community non-profit organization) and the Village of Spring Green. This effort aims to enhance community safety & resilience by providing a safe room during tornadoes & extreme weather events, addressing the urgent need for improved community infrastructure.
PREVIOUS FEMA ASSISTANCE
Have you received a subaward (Project, Advance Assistance, Capability and Capacity Building) under BRIC, the Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) grant program, the Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) grant program, or the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) within the past 5 years?
Yes No Idon't know
DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITIES
Social vulnerability refers to the potential negative effects on communities caused by external stresses on human health. Such stresses include natural or human-caused disasters, or disease outbreaks. More information and resources regarding the Social Vulnerability Index can be found here https://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/placeandhealth/svi/index.html .
Please briefly describe the social vulnerability within your community is potentially facing or has recently faced below: While the Village of Spring Green and River Valley School District is not identified by the Justice40 CEJST as being a disadvantaged community, there are significant populations of residents who are influenced by several external stresses and social vulnerability factors that can exacerbate the impacts of disasters. Vulnerable populations, particularly the elderly, face heightened risks during disasters, exacerbated by extreme temperatures and climate change impacts. Data from the CDC's Social Vulnerability Index (SVI) and FEMA's National Risk Index highlight significant vulnerabilities, especially in housing type & transportation. Notably, Spring Green's Census Tract 55111000800 exhibits a relatively high level of vulnerability to cold waves, tornadoes, & strong winds. However, limited funds constraints hinder the construction of a new, safer facility. Through DTA, the community is striving to address these vulnerabilities by enhancing emergency preparedness and community resilience, especially for the most vulnerable of the community. Please see Section 5 of the attached Technical Memo for further detail.
Is your community 3,000 or fewer individuals? X Yes No
Are you designated as a disadvantaged community as defined by Executive Order14008, including Tribal Nation Government(s)?
☐ Justice40 🕱 No 🔲 I don't know
POINT OF CONTACT ACKNOWLEDGEMENT
By checking this box I confirm that if selected the community or communities referenced in this form agree to: a) sign a Memorandum of Understanding with FEMA before non-financial technical assistance can begin and b) actively participate in BRIC DTA according to a BRIC DTA Plan developed in conjunction with FEMA.

River Valley School District Direct Technical Assistance Technical Memorandum

2/29/2024

Technical Memorandum	River Valley
List of Figures	2
Executive Summary	3
Section 1: Community of River Valley School District	3
Section 2: Community Disasters	4
Section 3: Community Need - Direct Technical Assistance	4
Section 4: Proposed Deliverables and Timelines	5
Section 5: Social Vulnerability Within The Community	5
Appendix:	7

List of Figures

Figure 1 - Aerial Map - Spring Green, Wisconsin

Executive Summary

The River Valley School District is seeking FEMA Building Resilient Infrastructure & Communities Direct Technical Assistance (DTA) through the FY 2023 grant program. The River Valley School District is interested in pursuing a future community safe room project application that would consist of a multi-purpose concrete community tornado safe room attached to the River Valley High School that would provide near-absolute life safety to residents of the Village of Spring Green and students of River Valley School District. FEMA DTA would be crucial for the Spring Green Community, as it lacks the resources to effectively pursue these funds.

Section 1: Community of River Valley School District

The River Valley School District is located in Sauk and Iowa Counties in Wisconsin. The School District is located at 660 Varsity Blvd, Spring Green, WI 53588. The Villages of Spring Green, Plain, Arena, and Lone Rock and the Townships of Arena, Spring Green, Bear Creek, Franklin, Clyde, Wyoming, and Buena Vista are all at least partially located within the River Valley School District. The Village of Spring Green, where the school facilities are located, is situated on the banks of the Wisconsin River, as shown in Figure 1. The Village of Spring Green has a population of 1,538 people, according to the American Community Survey.¹



Figure 1: Aerial map showing the location of the River Valley School District, within Sauk County. (Google Earth)

FY2023 3 @Buss2024

¹ United States Census Bureau. "American Community Survey 2022 5-Year Estimates Data Profiles DP05: ACS Demographic and Housing Estimates for the Village of Spring Green, WI."

Section 2: Community Disasters

Notably, the community has grappled with strong winds that wrought havoc by uprooting trees, downing branches, and causing power outages. These events underscore the vulnerability of the region to severe weather events, highlighting the importance of proactive disaster preparedness and mitigation efforts.

Additionally, the COVID-19 pandemic has compounded existing vulnerabilities within the community. Economic strains resulting from the pandemic-induced recession have heightened financial challenges for residents, while disruptions to social networks have exacerbated feelings of isolation and stress. The lack of a sufficiently large community center further complicates pandemic response efforts, as there is limited space to accommodate CDC social distancing recommendations for essential activities such as testing and community meetings.

While not within the seven-year timeframe, the memory of flash flooding that beset Spring Green in both 2008 and 2013, looms large. The resultant inundation and road closures underscore the recurrent threat of natural disasters in the region, emphasizing the imperative of bolstering resilience and preparedness initiatives. In light of these past experiences, securing FEMA Direct Technical Assistance through the FY2023 BRIC grant program would enable the River Valley School District to fortify its capacity to mitigate, respond to, and recover from future disasters, safeguarding the well-being and resilience of the community.

Section 3: Community Need - Direct Technical Assistance

River Valley's need for BRIC Direct Technical Assistance (DTA) is critical in addressing pressing challenges exacerbated by climate change impacts and resource constraints common to rural communities. The community encounters significant socio-economic challenges, including significant vulnerable populations, & lack of funding for infrastructure improvements. These challenges are further amplified by the escalating effects of climate change, leading to more frequent and severe weather events that exacerbate existing vulnerabilities.

Limited financial and staffing resource restrictions pose a significant obstacle to addressing these infrastructure challenges. Securing grants through the BRIC program is vital for overcoming these funding barriers and ensuring the safety and well-being of Spring Green residents.

BRIC DTA offers invaluable resource assistance to navigate the complex process of securing funding for critical infrastructure projects. By providing technical expertise and guidance, DTA empowers communities like Spring Green to effectively pursue available funding opportunities and develop robust grant applications. With DTA support, the River Valley School District can access the resources needed to bolster its resilience against climate change impacts and enhance community safety for current and future generations.

In summary, BRIC DTA is essential for River Valley School District to address its infrastructure needs in the face of climate change and resource constraints. By leveraging technical assistance to pursue funding opportunities, the community can work towards replacing aging infrastructure with climate-resilient alternatives, ultimately safeguarding the safety and well-being of its residents.

Section 4: Proposed Deliverables and Timelines

The goal of this Direct Technical Assistance is to develop a BRIC subapplication for a multi-purpose community tornado safe room & extreme temperature shelter. The River Valley School District believes this would require approximately 3 months of assistance. The application development would be achieved through collaboration with important community partners including the River Valley Commons (non-profit organization) and the Village of Spring Green. This effort aims to enhance community safety & resilience by providing a safe room during tornadoes & extreme weather events, addressing the urgent need for improved community infrastructure.

Over the proposed three month engagement, the project will focus on achieving several critical milestones toward establishing a BRIC subapplication for a multi-purpose community tornado safe room and extreme temperature shelter. The first milestone entails conducting an Occupancy Study to determine the size requirements of the safe room based on population data. Concurrently, the project will enter the Conceptual Schematic Design phase, collaborating with architects and engineers to develop the layout and features of the shelter. These efforts will ensure that FEMA requirements are being met and the application will be eligible for consideration in a future BRIC grant cycle.

As progress continues, efforts will culminate in the development of a comprehensive BRIC application. This process involves synthesizing data from the Occupancy Study and design considerations into a compelling narrative that highlights the urgent need for the safe room and its benefits for community safety and resilience. Close collaboration with community partners and stakeholders will be integral to integrating their insights and support into the application.

Through rigorous planning, consultation, and collaboration, the project aims to submit a finalized BRIC application that effectively communicates the vision and garners support for funding. This application will articulate the commitment to enhancing community resilience and safeguarding the well-being of residents in the face of natural disasters and extreme weather events. Achieving these milestones lays the groundwork for realizing a vital infrastructure project that will serve as a cornerstone of safety and resilience for the community.

Section 5: Social Vulnerability Within The Community

While the Village of Spring Green and River Valley School District is not identified by the Justice40 CEJST as being a disadvantaged community, there are significant populations of residents who are influenced by several external stresses and social vulnerability factors that can exacerbate the impacts of disasters. The community holds significant populations of vulnerable populations, particularly those residing in nursing homes and assisted living shelters. These individuals, often elderly or disabled, face heightened challenges during emergencies, such as tornadoes, floods, and extreme weather events. Elderly individuals often face greater health risks associated with temperature extremes, including heat stress, dehydration, and exacerbation of pre-existing medical conditions. Moreover, many elderly residents may live alone or have limited access to resources, making them particularly susceptible to the impacts of extreme heat or cold. The pursuit of a safe room project would prioritize the well-being of elderly community members by providing a designated, climate-controlled space where they can seek refuge and protection from extreme temperatures during emergencies.

In addition to the most vulnerable subpopulations of Spring Green, the entire community has a measured vulnerability to a number of natural hazards. A copy of the EJSCREEN reports for a 1 mile ring around the River Valley School District is included in the Appendix. To further describe the population impacted and associated vulnerability/risk, various data-sources were utilized:

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Social Vulnerability Index (SVI) Link: https://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/placeandhealth/svi/index.html:
 - The 2020 Nationwide Overall SVI score for Sauk County is 0.2292, which indicates an overall low level of vulnerability. The 2020 Statewide Overall SVI score for Sauk County is 0.6620, which indicates a medium to high level of vulnerability. However, there are census-tracts within the County and proposed project impact area that have higher SVI scores. The Census Tract that the Village of Spring Green is located in, Census Tract 55111000800, has a 2020 Statewide Overall SVI Score of 0.3837. This score indicates a low to medium level of vulnerability.² A map showing the overall Sauk County SVI and the Sauk County SVI fact sheet are included in the Appendix.
 - The 2020 Statewide Housing Type & Transportation Score for the Village of Spring Green's Census Tract 55111000800 is 0.6999, which indicates a medium to high level of vulnerability.
- FEMA National Risk Index Link: https://hazards.fema.gov/nri/: Although the National Risk Index for the 55111000800 Census Tract is relatively low at 49.86, the specific Hazard Risk Rating for a Cold Wave is relatively high at 93.2. Additionally, the Census Tract's Hazard risk Rating for Strong Winds and Tornadoes are relatively high at 85.3 and 79.2, respectively.³
- FEMA Resilience Analysis and Planning Tool (RAPT) Link:
 https://www.fema.gov/emergency-managers/practitioners/resilience-analysis-and-planning-tool:
 The Community Resilience Challenges Index Percentile for Census Tract 55111000800, in Spring Green, WI is 15 of 100.

©Buss2024

² Center for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC)/Agency for Toxic Substances & Disease Registry (ATSDR) Social Vulnerability Index (SV), https://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/placeandhealth/svi/interactive_map.html

³ FEMA National Risk Index, Census Tract 55111000800, Sauk County, WI, https://hazards.fema.gov/nri/map

River Valley Technical Memorandum

Appendix:

EPA EJ Screen Community Report

EJScreen Community Report

This report provides environmental and socioeconomic information for user-defined areas, and combines that data into environmental justice and supplemental indexes.

Spring Green, WI

1 mile Ring Centered at 43.180186,-90.077384 Population: 1,749 Area in square miles: 3.14

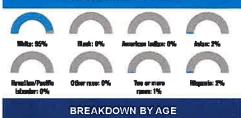


LANGUAGES SPOKEN AT HOME

LANGUAGE	PERCENT		
English	97%		
Spanish	2%		
Other Asian and Pacific Island	1%		
Total Non-English	3%		

COMMUNITY INFORMATION \$37,756 **78 years**

BREAKDOWN BY RACE



From Ages 1 to 4	8%
From Ages 1 to 18	22%
From Ages 18 and up	78%
From Ages 65 and up	23%

LIMITED ENGLISH SPEAKING BREAKDOWN

Speek Spanish	108%
Speak Other Indo-European Languages	0%
Speak Asian-Pacific Island Languages	0%
Speak Other Languages	8%

Notes, Numbers may not sum to but a side to rounding. Hispanic population can be of any race, Source U.S. Ceneus But ear, American Community Survey (ACS) 2017-2021, Life expectancy data comes from the Center of to Design Controll.

EPA EJ Screen Community Report

Environmental Justice & Supplemental Indexes

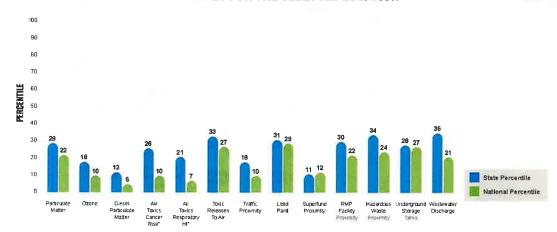
The environmental justice and supplemental indexes are a combination of environmental and socioeconomic information. There are thirteen El indexes and supplemental indexes in ElScreen reflecting the 13 environmental indicators. The indexes for a selected area are compared to those for all other locations in the state or nation. For more information and calculation details on the El and supplemental indexes, please visit the ElScreen website.

EJ INDEXES

The EI indexes help users screen for potential EI concerns. To do this, the EI index combines data on low income and people of color populations with a single environmental indicator.



≡

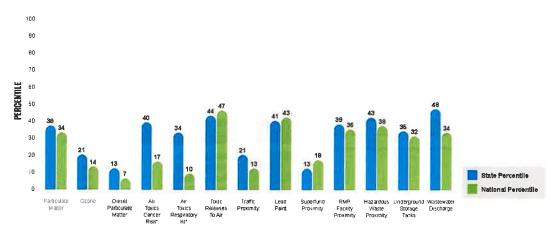


SUPPLEMENTAL INDEXES

The supplemental indexes offer a different perspective on community-level vulnerability. They combine data on percent low-income, percent linguistically isolated, percent less than high school education, percent unemployed, and low life expectancy with a single environmental indicator.

SUPPLEMENTAL INDEXES FOR THE SELECTED LOCATION

=



These percentiles provide perspective on how the selected block group or buffer area compares to the entire state or nation.

Report for 1 mile Ring Centered at 43.180186,-90.077384

EPA EJ Screen Community Report

EJScreen Environmental and Socioeconomic Indicators Data

SILECTED VARIABLES	VALUE	STATE	PERCENTILE IN STATE	USA AVERAGE	PERCENTILE IN USA
POLLUTION AND SOURCES					
Particulate Matter (µg/m³)	7.95	7.98	41	90.8	43
Ozone (ppb)	57	50.6	24	61.6	18
Diesel Particulate Matter (µg/m³)	0.0775	0.179	15	0.261	9
Air Texics Cancer Risk* (lifetime risk per million)	20	19	12	25	5
Air Todos Respiratory Hi*	0.2	0.21	7	0.31	4
Textic Releases to Air	1,500	8,100	50	4,600	67
Traffic Proximity (daily traffic count/distance to road)	9.6	320	20	210	15
Lead Paint (% Pre-1960 Housing)	0.33	0.4	48	0.3	61
Superfund Proximity (site count/lun distance)	0.025	0.12	15	0.13	24
RMP Facility Proximity (facility count/km distance)	0.14	0.59	37	0.43	43
Hazardous Waste Proximity (facility count/km distance)	0.42	1.4	44	1.9	47
Underground Storage Tanks (count/lun²)	0.43	3.3	38	3.9	38
Wastewater Discharge (toxicity-weighted concentration/m distance)	0.00059	0.028	55	22	44
SOCIOECONOMIC INDICATORS					
Demographic index	9%	24%	16	35%	8
Supplemental Demographic Index	8%	12%	31	14%	24
People of Color	5%	21%	28	39%	13
Low Income	13%	28%	23	31%	24
Unersployment Rate	2%	4%	40	6%	31
Limited English Speaking Households	0%	1%	0	5%	0
Less Than High School Education	7%	8%	57	12%	44
Under App 5	6%	5%	60	6%	59
Over Age 64	23%	18%	76	17%	76
Low Life Expectancy	20%	19%	62	20%	52

Dives justicular, means are recent developer from the first section of a control mean from the first of the first section of a control mean from the first section of a control mean from the first section of a control mean from the first section of the first sec

Schools	
Places of Workillp	

Selected location contains American Indian Reservation Lands*	No
Selected location contains a "Justice40 (CEIST)" disadvantaged community	No
Selected location contains an EPA IRA disadvantaged community	No

Report for 1 mile Ring Centered at 43.180186,-90.077384

Sites reporting to EPA within defined area:

EPA EJ Screen Community Report

EJScreen Environmental and Socioeconomic Indicators Data

HEALTH INDICATORS						
INDICATOR	VALUE	STATE AVERAGE	STATE PERCENTILE	US AVERAGE	US PERCENTILE	
Low Life Expectancy	20%	19%	62	20%	52	
Heart Disease	6.2	5.0	62	6.1	54	
Asthma	9.3	9.9	26	10	33	
Cancer	7.7	6.6	81	6.1	84	
Persons with Disabilities	12.4%	12.1%	56	13.4%	49	

CLIMATE INDICATORS							
INDICATOR	WALUE-	STORE AVERAGE	STATE PERCENTILE	A2 WA ISTORE	US PERCENTILE		
Flood Risk	14%	9%	79	12%	76		
Wildfire Risk	0%	0%	0	14%	0		

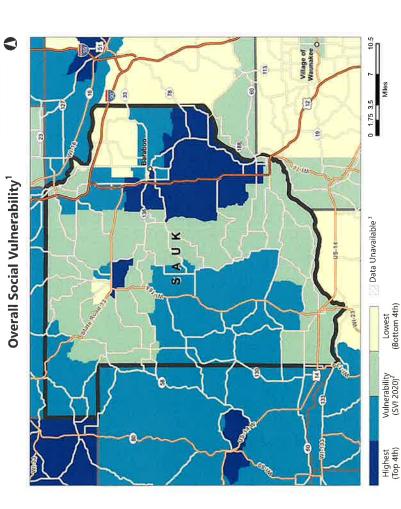
CRITICAL SERVICE GAPS							
INDICATOR WALER STATE AVERAGE STATE PERCENTILE OF AVERAGE OF PERC							
Breadband Internet	15%	14%	62	14%	63		
Lack of Health Insurance	6%	6%	64	9%	44		
Housing Burden	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		
Transportation Access	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		
Food Desert	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	NA		

Report for 1 mile Ring Centered at 43.180186,-90.077384

www.epa.gov/ejscreen

CDC/ATSDR Social Vulnerability Index 2020

SAUK COUNTY, WISCONSIN



⋝ Δ ₹

Social vulnerability refers to a community's capacity to prepare for and respond to the stress of from natural disasters, such as tornadoes or disease outbreaks, to human-caused threats, such as toxic chemical spills. The CDC/ATSDR Social spills. The CDC/ATSDR Social Vulnerability Index (CDC/ATSDR SVI 2020)* County Map depicts the social vulnerability of communities, at census tract level, within a specified ranging events hazardous

family language **four themes** that summarize the extent to which the area is socially vulnerable to disaster. The factors include economic data as well as data ability, ethnicity, and vehicle access. Overall Social Vulnerability combines variables to provide a county, CDC/ATSDR SVI 2020 groups comprehensive assessment. education, housing, regarding characteristics, the

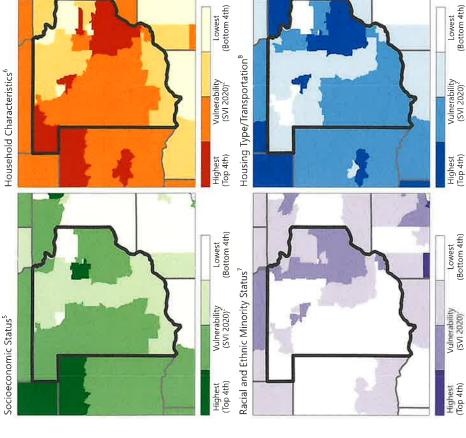


ATSDR Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry





CDC/ATSDR SVI Themes



Data Sources: CDC/AISDR-GRASP, U.S. Census Bursus Est is StreetMapTM Premium

West: Donal Social Mirradian Will to Sounder Census racts with 0 population? The CDC/AISDR SVI combines percentile ranknings of U.S. Census American Community
Survey (ACS), 2016-2020 vanishles, for the state at the census attact level Social Social Solid Solid Sources and Social Social Social Solid Solid Social Social Solid Solid Social Solid Solid Social Solid So

(Bottom 4th)

(Bottom 4th)