

**ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE  
PLANNING INFORMATION  
and  
BENEFITS & BURDENS ANALYSIS**

**FOR THE 2015 - 2018  
TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM**



## ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE PLANNING INFORMATION

Formed in July 2003, the Lebanon County Metropolitan Planning Organization (LEBCO MPO) quickly became familiar with the multitude of state and federal requirements pertaining to the transportation planning process. Using Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Executive Order 12898 of 1994, and the Federal Highway Administration's 1998 Order on Environmental Justice requirements as a starting point, the LEBCO MPO has established a collaborative effort to ensure that adequate public involvement opportunities are available to all residents of Lebanon County and to avoid, minimize, or mitigate any adverse human health and environmental effects on the general public and particularly on minority and/or low-income populations during the transportation planning and programming process. Concerns over Limited English Proficiency (LEP – Executive Order 13166) are also being addressed by the LEBCO MPO.

The creation of a proactive public involvement process that reaches out to the broad spectrum of residents in Lebanon County will continue to evolve as the LEBCO MPO proceeds through the planning process. The following steps have been taken to comply with the aforementioned requirements:

### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

- On May 29, 2003, in preparation of becoming an MPO, staff of the Lebanon County Planning Dept. attended a Title VI Workshop sponsored by the Bureau of Equal Opportunity (BEO). Follow-up training and information was provided by BEO at PennDOT Planning Partners' Meetings over the years, and on January 12, 2012 BEO staff visited the LEBCO MPO and provided comments on how we can improve our processes. The LEBCO MPO staff also attended EJ benefits and burdens training by FHWA on April 18, 2012.
- As a part of the information packets for their initial meetings, copies of Publication No. FHWA-EP-00-013, *An Overview of Transportation and Environmental Justice* were distributed to members of the LEBCO MPO Technical Planning Committee and Policy Board and discussed.
- On September 4, 2003, the LEBCO MPO adopted the 8-page *Transportation Planning Process Public Involvement Policy* that addressed Federal Regulations, Public Involvement, a Demographic profile of Lebanon County, the MPO's Transportation Planning Process, Public Notice & Accessibility, Public Education and Public Involvement Goals and Methods of Public Education and Public Outreach and Involvement. That document has been updated and is now called the LEBCO MPO Public Participation Plan (PPP). The PPP has been updated periodically since then.
- All meetings of the LEBCO MPO Policy Board and Technical Planning Committee are advertised in one newspaper of general circulation at least 72 hours prior to each meeting. Ads include notification that, upon request, accommodations will be provided for persons with special language or transportation needs. Every meeting notice also includes information on how to file a complaint or how to obtain additional information from the LEBCO MPO. Additionally, all meetings are held in the City-County Municipal

Building, which is handicap accessible and situated on Lebanon Transit (LT) bus routes and is well within walking distance for many residents, especially minority and low-income populations.

- In addition to public advertisements, advance notices of MPO meetings are sent to each municipality and key agencies in Lebanon County. A yearly calendar of MPO meetings is also widely distributed throughout the county and posted on the LEBCO MPO web site.
- Based upon the 2000 and 2010 Census information, MPO staff analyzed and compiled demographic information to quantify and identify minority and low-income populations within the county. This information was displayed in tables and mapped using Census Bureau mapping capabilities. We have now done the same thing for the 2010 Census information (copies are attached).
- On April 25, 2004, staff of the Lebanon County Planning Department (LCPD), an Hispanic interpreter provided by the county, and a PennDOT staff person participated in the City of Lebanon's Unity Day event and operated a table to provide information on the LEBCO MPO, the transportation planning and programming process, and the 2005-2008 TIP. Notices, in Spanish and English, of the Public Comment Open House were distributed with free Pennsylvania maps. Also provided were informational packets explaining the responsibilities of the MPO and outlining TIP projects. Since the MPO planning process was still a new concept in the county at that time, most questions asked of the staff and interpreter dealt with the responsibilities of the MPO and transportation planning in general, rather than specific projects. Since then and up until several years ago, the LEBCO MPO regularly used Radio Omega to reach out to the Hispanic community in Lebanon County regarding transportation planning and programming and transportation project development. Unfortunately, Radio Omega went off the air. However, now the LCPD has a full time staff member, Luis Rodriguez, who speaks fluent Spanish, and Luis assists the MPO in any transportation matter where interpretation in Spanish is needed.
- Because the bulk of Lebanon's minority population, as well as many of its low-income families, lives in and around the City of Lebanon, it was decided to hold the Public Comment Open Houses in downtown Lebanon with access to Lebanon Transit (LT) bus service. Two separate Open House sessions were held, one in the afternoon and one in the evening, to hopefully facilitate increased attendance by all residents of the county.

#### **CURRENT INFORMATION:**

- As a part of the FFY 2015-2018 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Public Comment Process and PennDOT's program update guidance, copies of the required TIP information and the MPO's updated Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) were made available at public libraries in the following Lebanon County communities - Lebanon, Annville, Fredericksburg, Richland, Myerstown, and Palmyra; at the offices of each municipality in Lebanon County; and at the Lebanon County Planning Department, Room 206, Municipal Building, Lebanon, PA.

- The documents were also provided to the staff (Ms. Lucy Fletcha) at the Hispanic Outreach Center at Webster Manor at 1012 Brock Drive, Lebanon, PA and to the Hispanic outreach person (Ms. Leticia Perez) at The Salvation Army in Lebanon at 1031 Guilford Street. They agreed to explain and discuss it with members of the Hispanic/Latino community as requested.
- Radio Omega, Lebanon's Hispanic/Latino 93.1 FM radio station ceased to operate in mid-2009; therefore, the LEBCO MPO could not use their service to announce the availability of the TIP/LRTP at the Hispanic Outreach Center or to encourage people to get involved in providing comments on needed transportation improvements in Lebanon County. However, Louis Torres talked about the TIP on his late Sunday afternoon Spanish radio program on WLBR, 1270 AM radio. Each and every Sunday afternoon for the last 27 years, Mr. Torres has reached out to the Hispanic/Latino community through music and local news.
- The LCPD staff was intending to follow the same steps for the 2015-2018 TIP when it came to meeting with the community, via Unity Day. However, Unity Day was cancelled this year. If the opportunity presents itself in the future, the LEBCO MPO will attend Unity Day events to share transportation information and to obtain input on transportation needs, issues and opportunities.
- In April and May, the Executive Director of the Lebanon County Human Services Community Action Partnership (CAP) was also provided with copies of the draft plan and TIP and a written notice, in both English and Spanish, announcing the Public Comment Open House on June 02, 2014 from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. and from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. The Executive Director distributed the notices where appropriate throughout the social services community and to individuals as appropriate.
- In May, the local cable company's (COMCAST's) Public Service Bulletin Board (Channel 3) ran a notice of the Public Comment Open House. It was run in both English and Spanish for two weeks.
- On June 2, 2014, two (2) Public Comment Open House sessions will be held in Room 207 (County Commissioners' Meeting Room) in the Lebanon Municipal Building which is centrally located in the City of Lebanon and within Lebanon County. It is accessible by public transportation. If needed, an interpreter was available at each of these sessions to assist the Hispanic community to understand the transportation planning process and to provide an opportunity to record public comment from this segment of the community; however, he was not needed.
- In early June, the MPO Technical Planning Committee will review this and other appropriate documents and will help with the responses to the public comments received during the 30-day comment period and prior to that time. The comments and responses will be forwarded to the Policy Board for review and approval at the June 19, 2014 MPO meeting. The Policy Board meeting will be open to the public and will be duly advertised in the Lebanon Daily News.

- It is also important to note that the LEBCO MPO adopted its first Title VI / Environmental Justice Implementation Plan on July 27, 2006 and does annual updates and status reports to remain current on these important outreach efforts.

## FINDINGS: 2015 – 2018 TIP IMPACTS

- An assessment of the benefits and burdens of the LEBCO MPO FFY 2015 – 2018 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) was completed to identify significant projects and to analyze the location of these projects relative to the location of minority and low-income populations.
- From the attached 2000 and 2010 Census information, it is very clear that the vast majority of minority, low-income and elderly populations within Lebanon County are concentrated in the City of Lebanon. The following transit projects will benefit these same residents:
  - SRTP Ridesharing Efforts in FFY 2015 (highway funded)
  - SRTP Ridesharing Efforts in FFY 2016 (highway funded)
  - SRTP Ridesharing Efforts in FFY 2017 (highway funded)
  - SRTP Ridesharing Efforts in FFY 2018 (highway funded)
  - LT Paratransit Vans (2) in FFY 2015
  - LT Bus Replacement in FFY 2017 (highway flex)
  - LT Bus Replacement in FFY 2018 (highway flex)
  - LT Operating Assistance in FFY 2015
  - LT Operating Assistance in FFY 2016
  - LT Operating Assistance in FFY 2017
  - LT Operating Assistance in FFY 2018
- The LEBCO MPO continues to place most of its highway and bridge funds on bridge rehabilitation and replacement projects and roadway resurfacing projects scattered throughout the county, which we believe to be “EJ neutral”, since the impacts to nearby residents will be minimal to non-existent since no rights-of-way will need to be acquired.
- The TIP also contains several line items for future work that has yet to be identified.
- The above transit projects represent a very large percentage (70%) of the number of TIP transit projects, but they add up to over 97% of the transit funds. And while it is safe to say that a good deal of the benefits of transit service will rest with City of Lebanon residents, it must also be said that the percentage of LT ridership that comes from EJ populations is not known.
- The TIP contains no new capacity-adding highway projects. Therefore, there are no benefits or burdens derived from this type of project. And since the road resurfacing and routine maintenance projects are scattered throughout the county on various state and federal roads, they are “EJ neutral”. In fact, there is little opportunity to spend state and federal highway/bridge dollars in minority and low-income communities, because these concentrations of people reside within the City of Lebanon where few federal routes and state routes (SRs) exist, and the newest and largest category of federal funds (National Highway Performance Program)(NHPP) from MAP-21 can not be used in the vast majority of areas where EJ populations reside in Lebanon County.

- Deficient bridges on the TIP are widely scattered throughout the county as well, with none of them being located in areas of minority and low-income concentrations.
- None of the county's top 25 crash cluster locations occur at intersections or along roadway segments in areas of minority and low-income concentrations. And the two new safety projects that were added to this TIP are located along US Route 422 in Jackson Township and Myerstown Borough where few minority, low income and elderly residents live because it's a commercially-zoned corridor.
- In conclusion, it is clear that the ongoing LEBCO MPO public involvement efforts and the resultant 2015 – 2018 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) demonstrate some benefits to EJ and non-EJ communities. We see no burdens to EJ and non-EJ communities. Low-income and minority populations are not disproportionately impacted in a negative way. We believe they are beneficiaries of the transportation planning and programming process in Lebanon County. And the LEBCO MPO and the Lebanon County Planning Department will continue to work cooperatively with other public and private partners in order to continue to advance environmental justice and Title VI principles throughout the county.

## Race and Hispanic or Latino: 2000 Geographic Comparison Table GCT-P-6

Geographic Area	Total Population	Race										Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	Percent of Total - Hispanic or Latino
		One race											
		Total	White	Black or African American	American Indian and Alaska Native	Asian	Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	Some Other Race	Two or More Races				
Lebanon County	120,327	119,193	113,662	1,548	157	1,067	43	2,716	1,134	5,969	4.96%		
<b>TRACT</b>													
Tract 1	4,693	4,633	4,181	165	5	50	6	226	60	454	9.67%		
Tract 2	4,690	4,642	4,255	123	12	51	12	189	48	379	8.08%		
Tract 3	4,166	4,024	2,964	211	23	57	0	769	142	1,398	33.56%		
Tract 4	7,383	7,256	6,400	191	23	61	5	576	127	1,275	17.27%		
Tract 5	3,529	3,476	3,115	100	6	30	2	223	53	513	14.54%		
Tract 20	2,639	2,619	2,591	5	6	8	0	9	20	24	0.91%		
Tract 21	4,526	4,505	4,442	12	5	11	0	35	21	70	1.55%		
Tract 22	4,969	4,943	4,839	57	9	25	0	13	26	58	1.17%		
Tract 23	2,958	2,832	2,767	18	7	15	1	24	26	64	2.24%		
Tract 24	2,279	2,264	2,256	0	4	2	1	1	15	17	0.75%		
Tract 25	4,518	4,465	4,310	49	1	56	5	44	53	81	1.79%		
Tract 26	2,148	2,130	2,074	22	1	26	1	6	18	29	1.35%		
Tract 27.01	5,372	5,333	5,175	30	8	85	0	35	39	133	2.48%		
Tract 27.02	5,257	5,199	4,871	88	5	39	0	196	58	437	8.31%		
Tract 28	6,338	6,316	6,249	18	6	23	1	19	22	48	0.76%		
Tract 29	3,171	3,158	3,091	46	0	14	0	7	13	30	0.95%		
Tract 30	4,429	4,397	4,338	27	0	10	0	22	32	46	1.04%		
Tract 31	3,832	3,825	3,805	8	0	7	0	5	7	14	0.37%		
Tract 32	3,335	3,312	3,201	37	1	47	0	26	23	64	1.92%		
Tract 33	2,619	2,602	2,484	52	5	14	1	46	17	148	5.65%		
Tract 34	2,429	2,415	2,340	43	2	19	0	11	14	43	1.77%		
Tract 35	4,205	4,163	3,957	47	3	111	4	41	42	109	2.59%		
N. Cornwall Twp. (partial) & W.													
Tract 36	3,034	2,969	2,748	61	7	39	0	114	65	251	8.27%		
Tract 37	2,946	2,933	2,884	11	1	22	0	15	13	37	1.26%		
Tract 38	6,771	6,729	6,621	9	0	85	0	14	42	86	1.27%		
Tract 39	7,096	7,025	6,863	64	8	65	1	24	71	85	1.20%		
Tract 40	5,458	5,422	5,341	29	2	39	0	11	36	32	0.59%		
Tract 41	2,151	2,130	2,091	13	0	19	3	4	21	18	0.84%		
Tract 42	3,486	3,476	3,409	12	7	37	0	11	10	26	0.75%		

(X) Not applicable

Source: U. S. Census Bureau,  
Census 2000 Summary File 1, Matrix P8

NOTE: for information on confidentiality protection, nonsampling error and definitions, see <http://factfinder.census.gov/home/endentnotes/expsf1u.htm>

**Data Classes**

Percent:

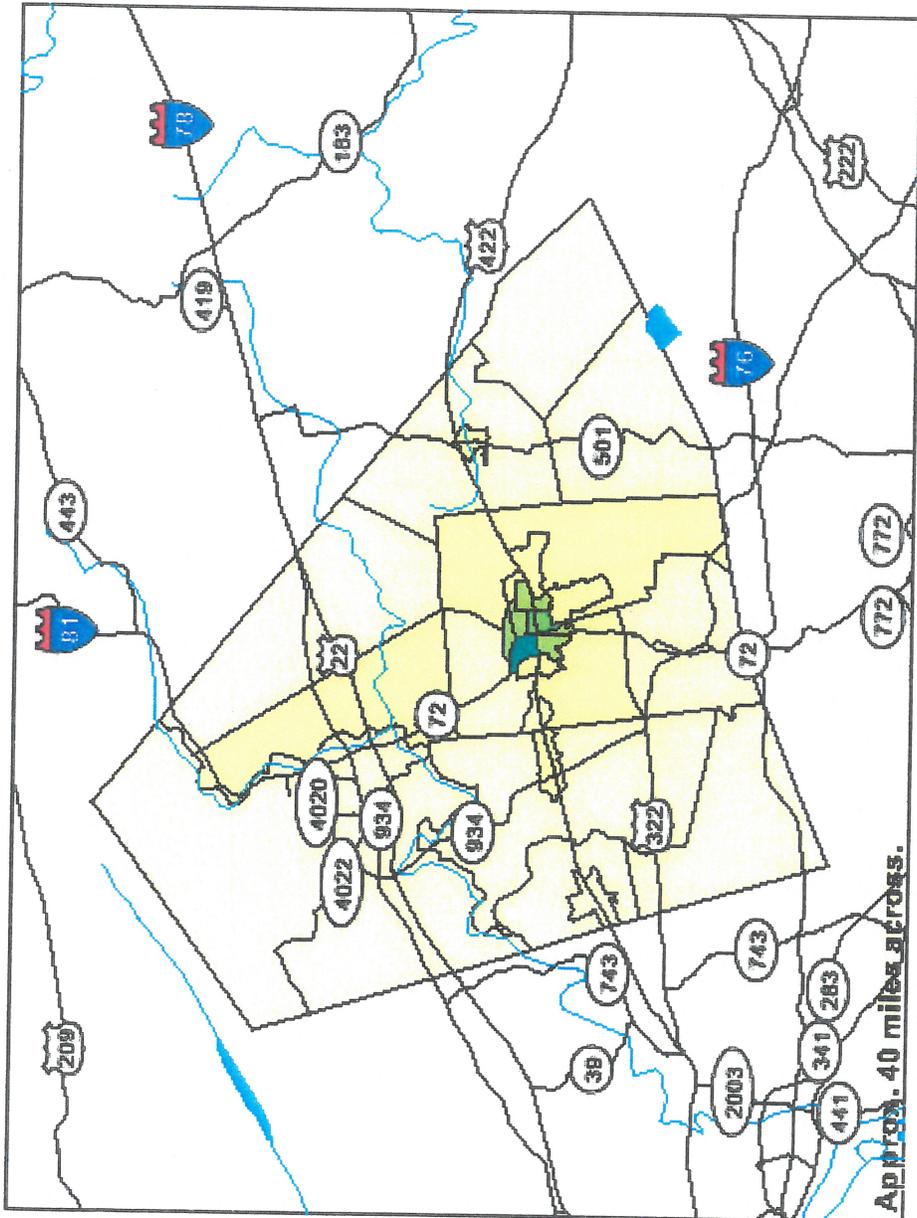
- 0.0 - 1.0
- 1.1 - 2.0
- 2.1 - 3.1
- 3.2 - 4.1
- 4.2 - 5.1

**Features**

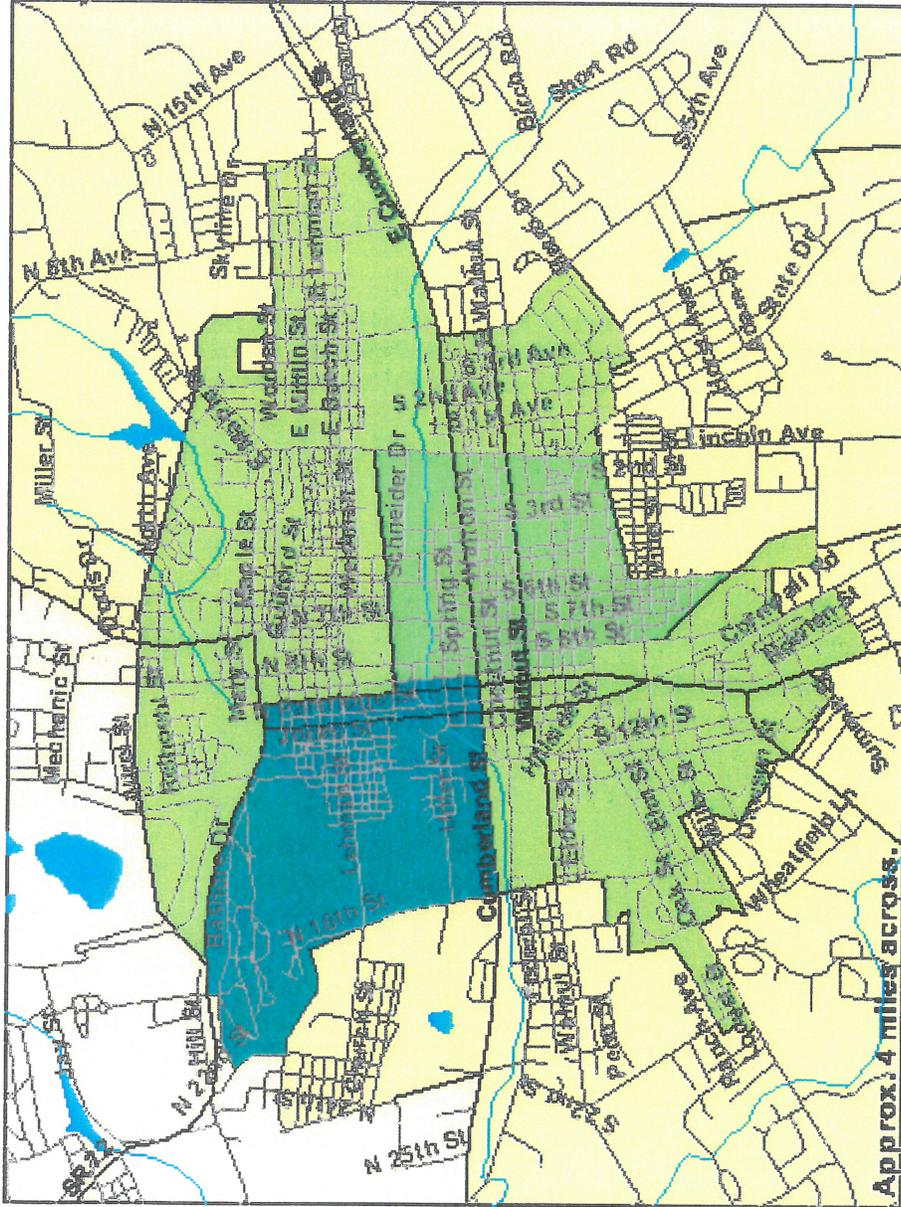
Major Road

- Stream/Waterbody
- Stream/Waterbody

Items in this text are not visible at this zoom level



TM-P004B Percent of Persons Who Are Black or African American Alone  
 Census 2000, SF1 - Lebanon County Census Tracts



**Data Classes**

Percent
0.0 - 1.0
1.1 - 2.0
2.1 - 3.1
3.2 - 4.1
4.2 - 5.1

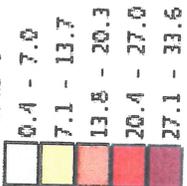
**Features**

- Major Road
- Screen
- Stream/Waterbody
- Stream/Waterbody

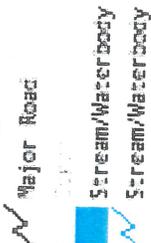
TM-P004B Percent of Persons Who Are Black or African American Alone  
 Census 2000, SF1 - Lebanon County Census Tracts, Zoomed to City of Lebanon

**Data Classes**

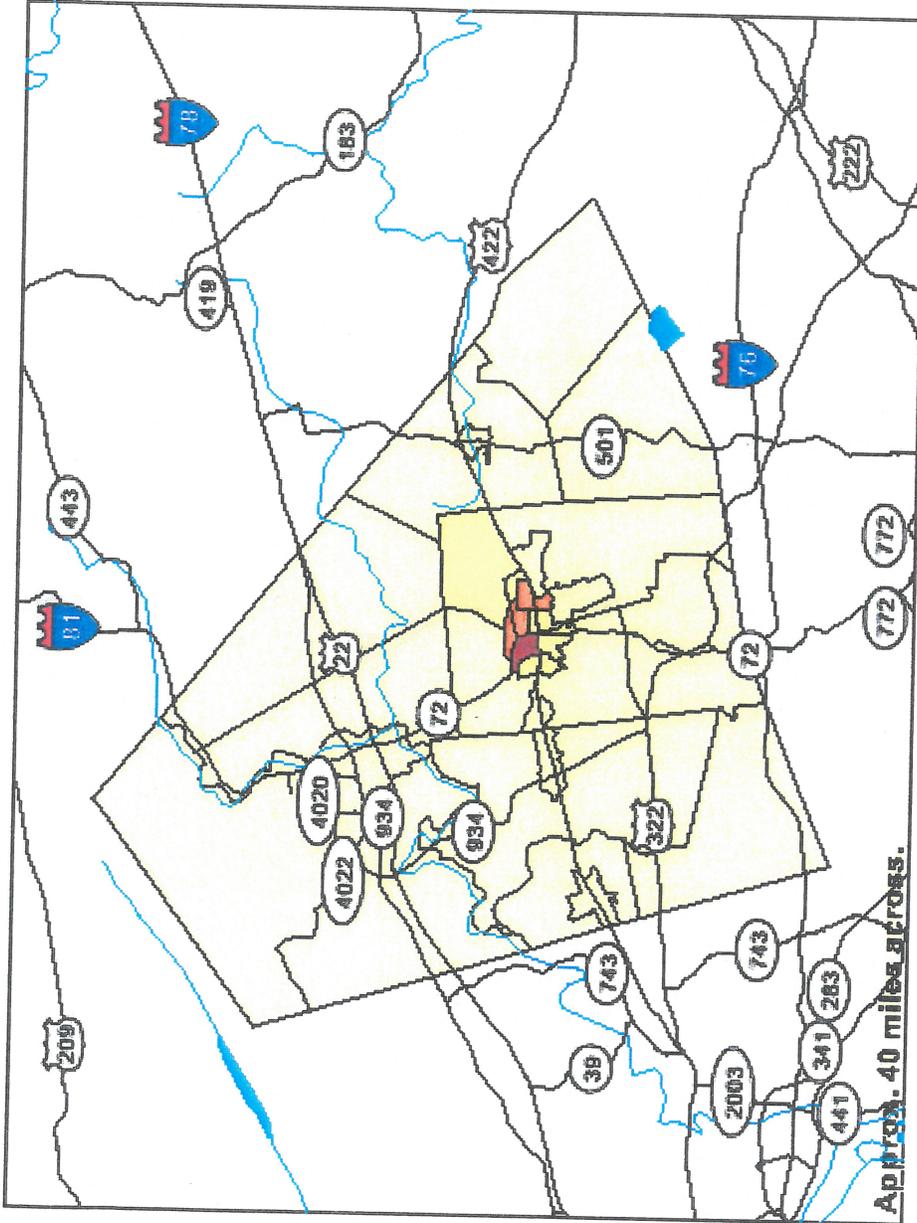
Percent



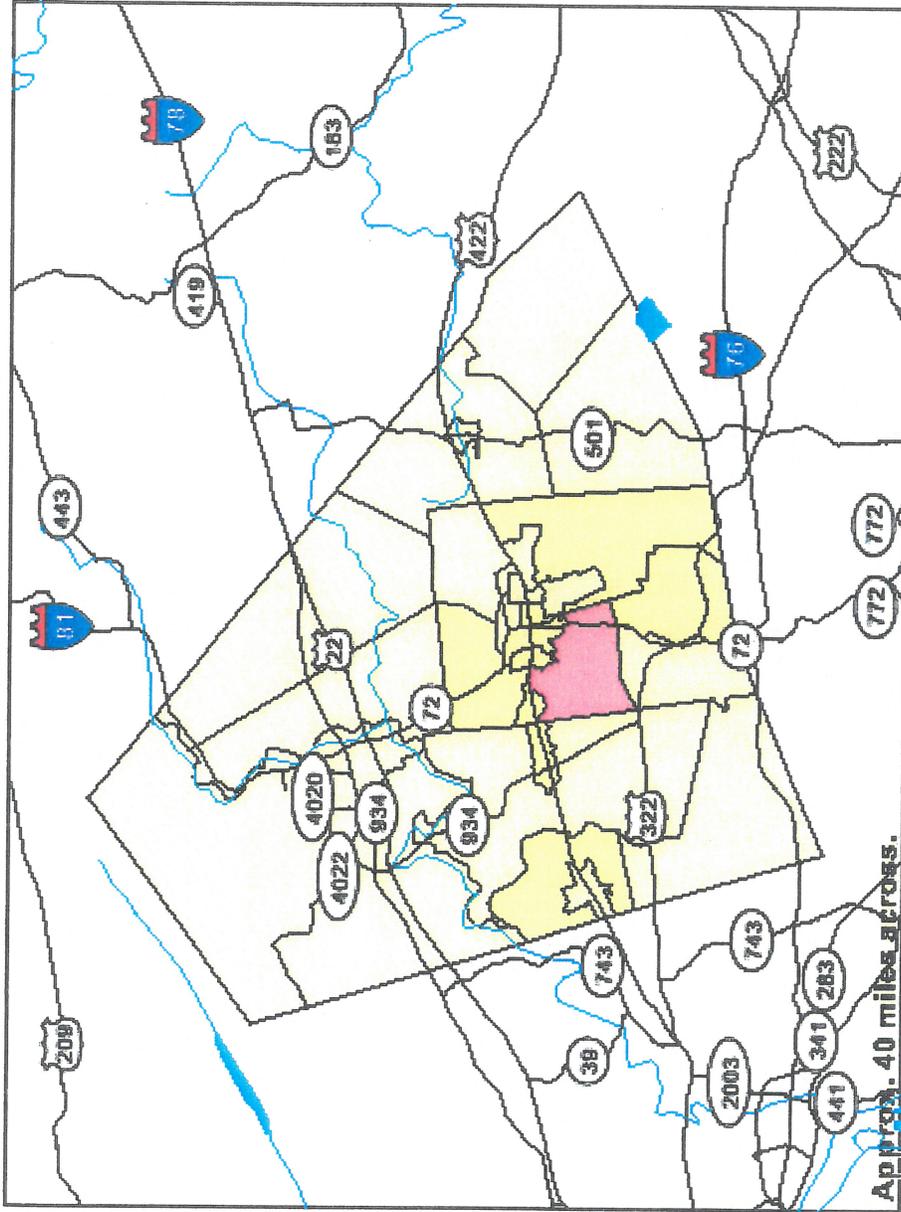
**Features**



Items in this text are not visible at this zoom level



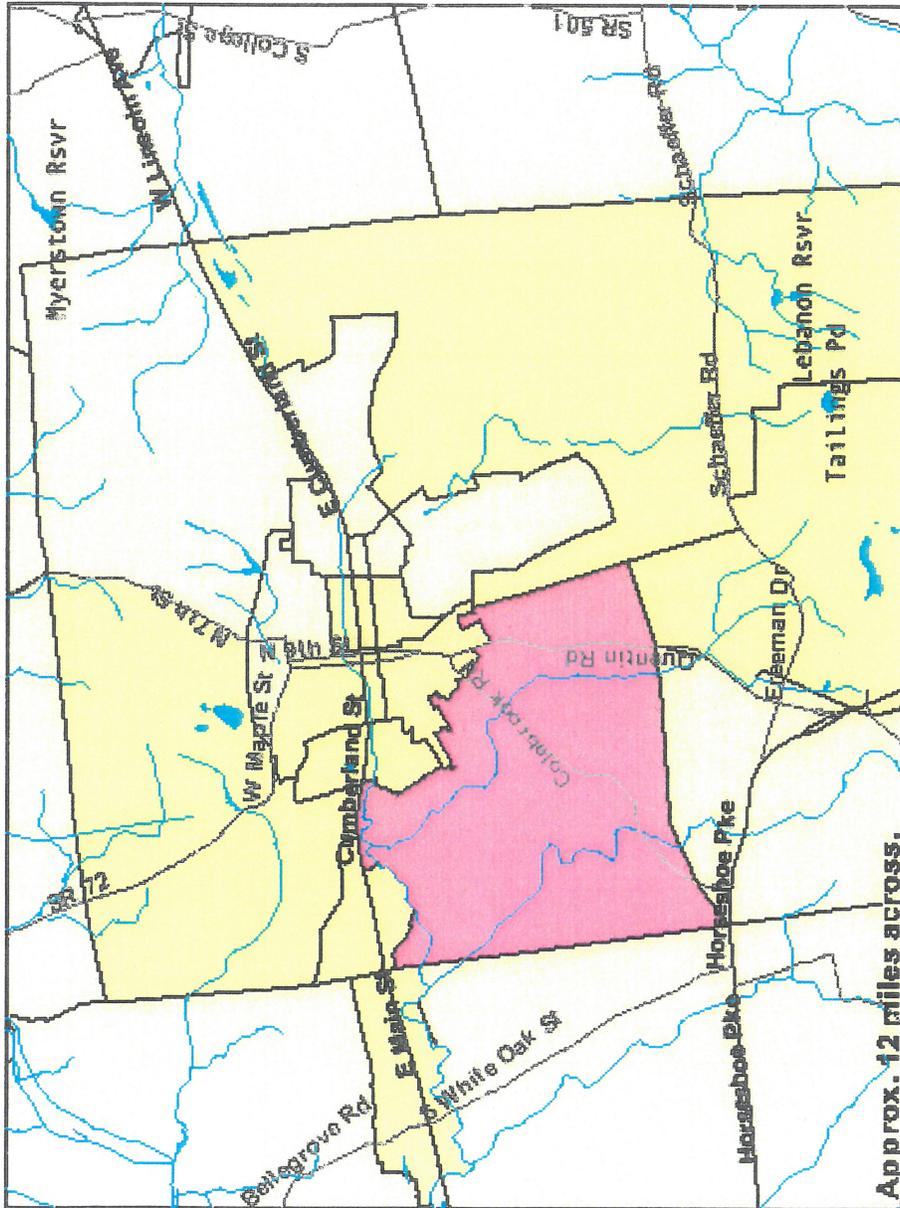
TM-P004H Percent of Persons Who Are Hispanic or Latino (or any race)  
Census 2000, SF1, Lebanon County Census Tracts



TM-P004D Percent of Persons Who Are Asian Alone  
Census 2000, SF1 - Lebanon County Census Tracts

**Data Classes**

- Percent:
- 0.1 - 0.9
  - 1.0 - 1.8
  - 1.9 - 2.6
- Features
- Major Road
  - Street
  - Stream/Waterbody
  - Stream/Waterbody



Approx. 12 miles across.

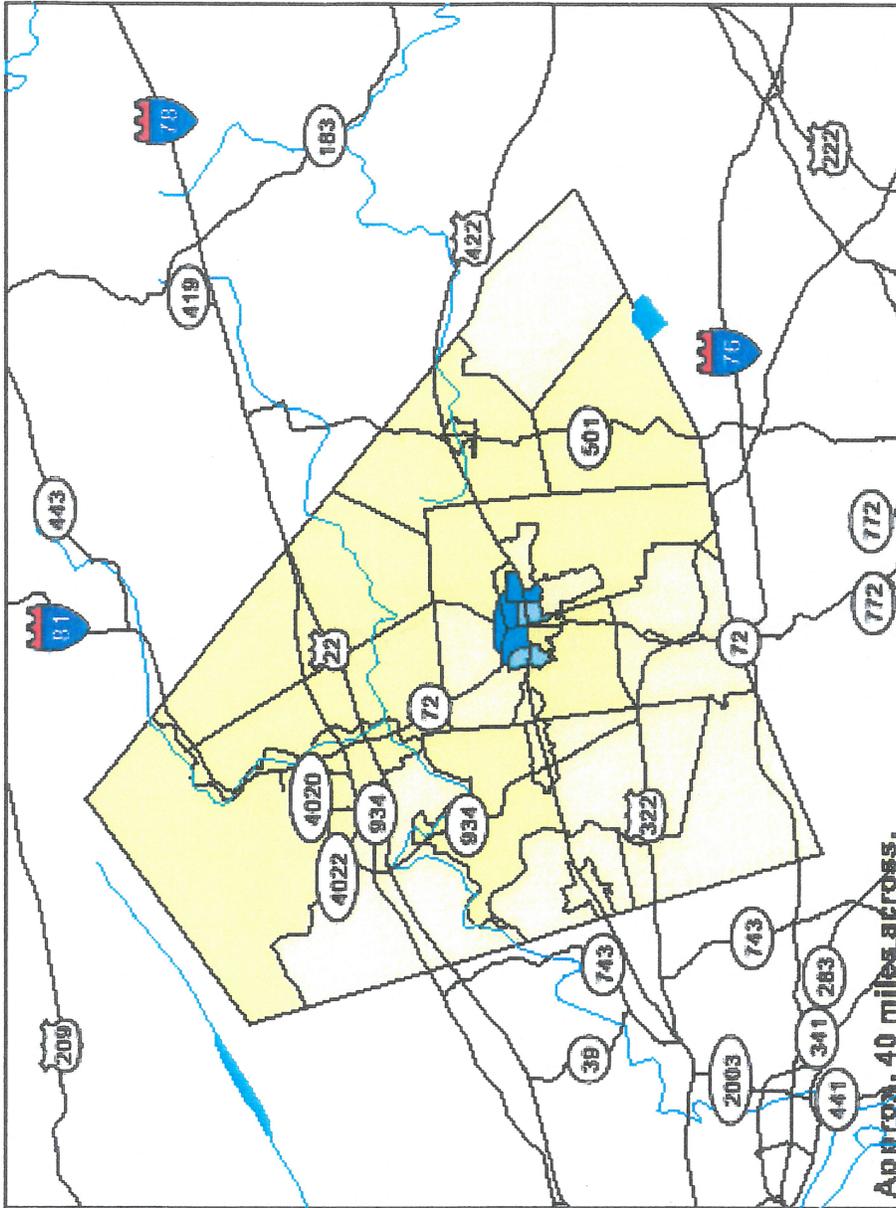
TM-P004D Percent of Persons Who Are Asian Alone  
Census 2000, SF1 - Lebanon County Census Tracts, Zoomed to City of Lebanon

**QT-P35. Poverty Status in 1999 of Families: 2000**

Census Tract	Municipality	Number of Families		Percent Below Poverty Level
		All Income Levels	Below Poverty Level	
Lebanon County		32,890	1,770	5.4
Census Tract 1	Lebanon City	1,029	137	13.3
Census Tract 2	Lebanon City	1,185	60	5.1
Census Tract 3	Lebanon City	960	161	16.8
Census Tract 4	Lebanon City	1,915	268	14.0
Census Tract 5	Lebanon City	1,015	157	15.5
Census Tract 20	Union & Cold Spring Twps.	762	41	5.4
Census Tract 21	Bethel Twp.	1,233	75	6.1
Census Tract 22	Swatara Twp. & Jonestown Boro.	1,412	71	5.0
Census Tract 23	E. Hanover Twp.	783	24	3.1
Census Tract 24	N. Annville Twp.	641	33	5.1
Census Tract 25	Annville Twp.	918	14	1.5
Census Tract 26	Cleona Boro.	648	18	2.8
Census Tract 27.01	N. Lebanon Twp. (West)	1,641	24	1.5
Census Tract 27.02	N. Lebanon Twp. (East)	1,535	67	4.4
Census Tract 28	Jackson Twp.	1,834	85	4.6
Census Tract 29	Myerstown Boro.	824	38	4.6
Census Tract 30	Millcreek Twp. & Richland Boro.	1,206	40	3.3
Census Tract 31	Heidelberg Twp.	1,079	44	4.1
Census Tract 32	S. Lebanon Twp. (South)	935	54	5.8
Census Tract 33	S. Lebanon Twp. (Avon)	586	9	1.5
Census Tract 34	S. Lebanon Twp. (S. Hills)	670	18	2.7
Census Tract 35	N. Cornwall Twp. (partial)	1,160	50	4.3
Census Tract 36	N. Cornwall Twp. (partial) & W. Lebanon Twp.	843	95	11.3
Census Tract 37	S. Annville Twp.	879	31	3.5
Census Tract 38	N. Londonderry Twp.	2,034	41	2.0
Census Tract 39	Palmyra Boro.	1,918	75	3.9
Census Tract 40	S. Londonderry Twp.	1,598	13	0.8
Census Tract 41	Mt. Gretna Boro & W. Cornwall Twp.	676	16	2.4
Census Tract 42	Cornwall Boro.	971	11	1.1

Data Set: Census 2000 Summary File 3

NOTE: Data based on a sample except in P3, P4, H3, and H4. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions see <http://factfinder.census.gov/home/en/datanotes/exp33.htm>.



Approx. 40 miles across.

**Data Classes**

Percent:

- 0.8 - 4.0
- 4.1 - 7.2
- 7.3 - 10.4
- 10.5 - 13.5
- 13.7 - 16.8

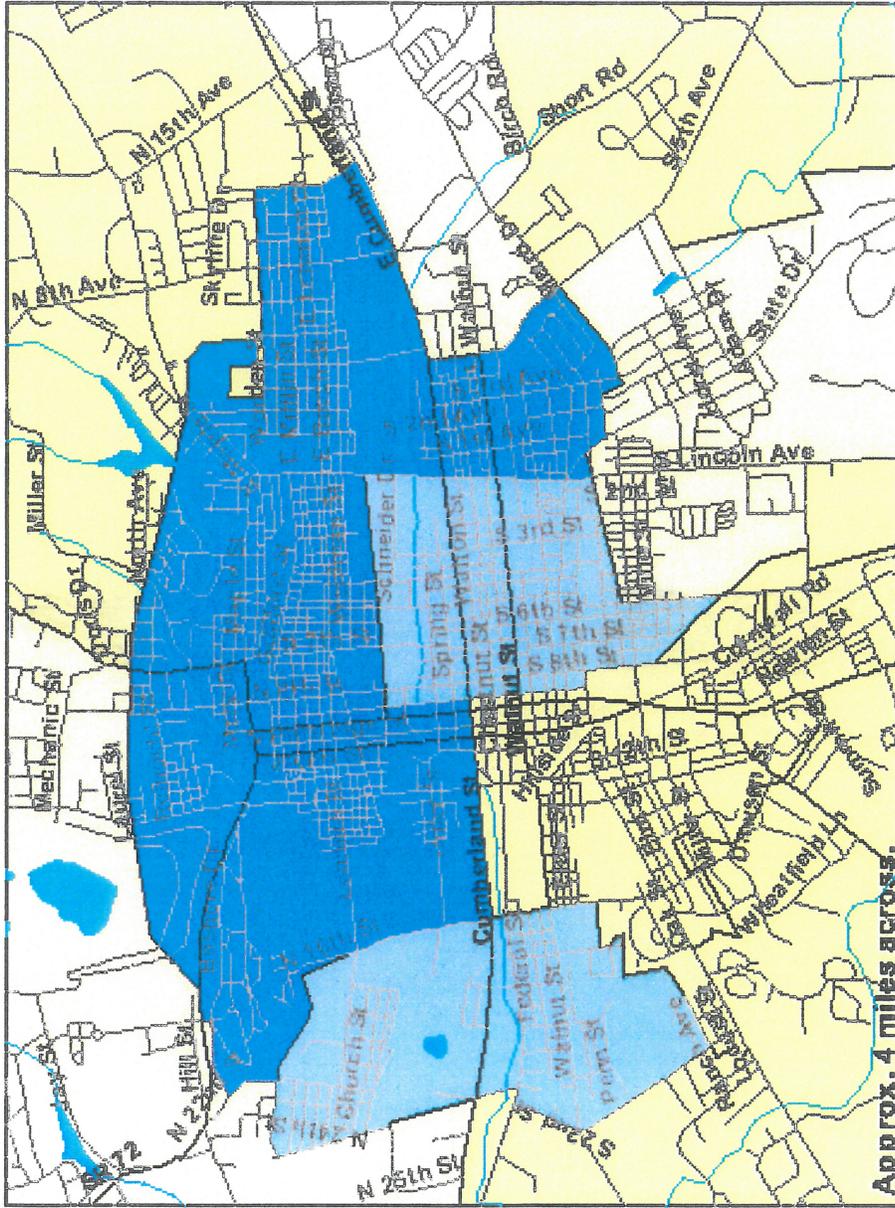
**Features**

Major Road

- Stream/Waterbody
- Stream/Waterbody

Items in this text are not visible at this zoom level

TM-P069 Percent of Families Below the Poverty Level in 1999-2000  
 Census 2000, SF 3 - Lebanon County Census Tracts



TM-069 Percent of Families Below Poverty Level in 1999-2000  
 Census 2000, SF 3 - Lebanon County Census Tracts, Zoomed to City of Lebanon