Fair Housing Assessment

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Section V

Racially/Ethnically Concentrated Areas of Poverty

Identification of R/ECAPs or groupings of R/ECAP tracts

Regional context

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) defines a Racially or Ethnically Concentrated Area of Poverty (R/ECAP) as a census tract where: (1) the non-white population comprises 50 percent or more of the total population and (2), the percentage of individuals living in households with incomes below the poverty rate is either (a) 40 percent or above or (b) three times the average poverty rate for the metropolitan area, whichever is lower.

Using 5-year data from the 2010 American Community Survey (ACS), there are 23 census tracts in Kansas City Metropolitan Statistical Area (KC-MSA) that meet the criteria for R/ECAPs, as defined by HUD: 15 in Kansas City, Missouri, and eight in Kansas City, Kansas. The R/ECAPs in Kansas City, Kansas are concentrated in the northeast and two other areas north of the Kansas River and east of I-635. The Kansas City, Missouri, tracts are located in the northeast and east, south to I-435. The population in these areas is primarily black and Hispanic, with low incomes.

The number of R/ECAPs declined from 2000 when, using data from the 2000 Census, there were 30 R/ECAPs defined by HUD for the Kansas City MSA, with 19 tracts in Kansas City, Missouri, and 11 tracts in Kansas City, Kansas. The number of R/ECAP census tracts in 2000 was also larger than that defined by HUD for 1990, where there were 24 census tracts meeting the R/ECAP criteria — 18 tracts in Kansas City, Missouri, and six in Kansas City, Kansas.

Figure 1: Comparison of R/ECAPs by Decade

| 1990 R/ECAPs | 2000 R/ECAPs | 2010 R/ECAPs | Figure 1: Comparison of R/ECAPs by Decade |
This trend in R/ECAPs runs counter to overall economic trends in the region. At the time of the 2000 Census, the Kansas City area economy was experiencing a boom with its unemployment rate near a record low at 3.0 percent, compared to 4.5 percent in 1990 and 8.5 percent in 2010. One might reasonably expect the number of R/ECAPs to therefore be the lowest in 2000, rather than the highest. This is especially true because the region had experienced extraordinarily low unemployment rates since the last quarter of 1998, creating an extremely tight labor market that was producing rising wages for all, even those in the lowest income groups, at the time of the 2000 Census. As a result, the MSA’s overall poverty rate was only 8.6 percent in 1999 (the year income data was collected in the 2000 Census) compared to 12.4 percent in 2010 when the economy was struggling to recover from the Great Recession, according to 1-year ACS data. Since 2010, the poverty rate has stayed high, at 12.6 percent in 2014, the last year for which data is available for analysis.

This inconsistency of R/ECAPs with the overall state of the economy is due to the inconsistency allowed in the poverty criterion. In metropolitan Kansas City, a poverty rate three times the MSA average is typically below 40 percent. The exception was 2011, when the region’s poverty rate was 13.4 percent. Using three times the MSA average results in vastly different poverty thresholds to meet the criterion for an R/ECAP, ranging from 25.8 percent in 1999 to 40.2 percent in 2011. Notably, when overall poverty is lower, the range of poverty rates experienced in individual census tracts are compressed, so that more tracts meet the R/ECAP poverty criterion.

To interpret how the geography of R/ECAPs change over time, one must use criteria with consistent levels. The maps below show what the R/ECAP areas would be if the 40 percent criterion for census tract poverty were maintained in all time periods, along with the 50 percent non-white criterion. Also shown is the result when these criteria are applied to the most recent census tract data available, 2014 ACS 5-year data, which covers the period from 2010-2014. The outlines of the HUD-defined tracts are shown for reference, while the tracts defined using consistent criteria across time are shown in color.

As can be readily seen above, the change in the number of R/ECAPs would now follow overall economic trends. It may be surprising that the post-recession 2014 data shows more R/ECAPs than the 2010 data, when the region was near the bottom of the recession. This is because the
2010 data used by HUD actually covers the five-year period from 2006 to 2010, and 2006, 2007 and 2008 were the years with the lowest poverty rates of the decade, as determined using the ACS 1-year data. Given that the Great Recession didn’t have its maximum impact on people’s lives until 2011, as determined by poverty rates, the 2014 5-year data better reflects the region’s poverty experience in a post-recession world. Therefore, we adopt the ACS 2014 5-year data as our base for the data analysis in this Assessment of Fair Housing.

Even with the above adjustment in the R/ECAP definition and data, however, these boundaries do not accurately represent the large areas of racial and ethnic concentrations of poverty that actually exist in the Kansas City region. They represent the very highest levels, yet there are many areas with poverty and/or racial and ethnic percentages that fall just below one or both of the criteria.

This can be seen in the maps below that look at racial and ethnic concentrations and poverty rates separately. In these maps, the categories are defined in terms of average racial concentrations for the core of the central cities, the regional average and the suburban average. For purposes of this study, the core areas were defined as inside the I-635 loop of Kansas City, Kansas, and inside the I-435 loop in the Jackson County portion of Kansas City, Missouri. The suburban areas are defined as the rest of the MSA outside of those core areas. Also, to better identify concentrations in suburban areas where census tracts tend to be large, these maps were prepared using block group data.

**Map 1: Minority Population by Block Group**

![Map 1: Minority Population by Block Group](image-url)
Many parts of Kansas City, Missouri, and Kansas City, Kansas, have extremely high concentrations of race and ethnicity, exceeding 60 percent. These concentrations occur not only in the cores of both cities, but also extend into their outer neighborhoods, to the southeast in Kansas City, Missouri, and to the west along State Avenue in Kansas City, Kansas. Most of the areas with minority concentrations between 50 and 60 percent are immediately adjacent to the highest concentrations area, with some exceptions along I-35 in Johnson County, Kansas.

Poverty shows similar concentrations in the core parts of the region, though poverty is not as homogeneously concentrated as race. Moreover, there are pockets of relatively high poverty in several suburban locations. It is worth noting that there are now more persons in poverty living in the suburbs than in the central cities proper.

When poverty and racial/ethnic data are combined to show areas with high levels of both minority and poverty concentrations simultaneously, the map below of concentration areas emerges. To better reflect the idea of concentration, one additional criterion was added, that of including only those census tracts having a total population density of at least 1 person per acre. This is because there are some census tracts with very few people in them that cover larger geographic areas and dominate the map. While some of these tracts have a high proportion of residents who are people of color or with low incomes, the fact that they are low-density tracts makes it misleading to characterize them as “concentrated.”
Those areas categorized as having “very high” levels of both poverty and minority concentrations are census tracts that meet the R/ECAP criteria of 50 percent or greater non-white populations and 40 percent or greater poverty rates. Those areas that have poverty and minority concentrations that exceed the regional average are categorized as having “high” levels of poverty and minority concentrations, while those exceeding suburban averages were categorized as having “moderate” levels.

Map 3: Areas of Concentration by Race/Ethnicity and Poverty

Because these criteria use minimum levels for inclusion in a category, each group’s average level of racial/ethnic and poverty concentrations is much higher. For example, the areas with “very high” concentrations — minimum 50 percent non-white and 40 percent in poverty — actually have populations with overall averages of 80 percent non-white populations and 48 percent of residents in poverty.

Table 1: Average Level of Poverty and Racial Ethnic Concentration

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level of Poverty and Racial/Ethnic Concentration</th>
<th>Poverty Rate</th>
<th>Percent Minority</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Very High</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>61%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Similarly, the areas classified as having “high” concentrations of minorities and poverty are more than 60 percent non-white on average, and have nearly 30 percent poverty rates. As such, they generally exceed the R/ECAP criterion for racial and ethnic concentration and, while not reaching the R/ECAP poverty threshold, still are experiencing poverty rates that, on average, are about 2 ¼ times the regional average.

Those areas classified as “moderate” generally have poverty and racial/ethnic concentrations that are closest to the regional averages. Areas of moderate concentrations of poverty and people of color have an overall poverty rate of 16 percent and a minority percentage of 27 percent, compared to 13 percent and 26 percent, respectively, for the MSA.

This analysis highlights the fact that racial/ethnic and poverty concentrations do not combine to create a binary variable — in which a tract either is or is not a R/ECAP — but that concentrations are distributed continuously, both numerically and geographically across many parts of the region. Much larger areas of the cores of both Kansas City, Missouri, and Kansas City, Kansas, have high degrees of racial/ethnic and poverty concentrations than the R/ECAPs alone suggest. In addition, despite having no officially defined R/ECAPs, suburban communities do have areas within them that contain relatively high concentrations of people of color and poverty, and these need to be evaluated for their capacity to provide access to opportunity. Rather than showing only the tip of the iceberg, as the official R/ECAP definition does, these maps more completely document the contours of the entire iceberg and show how widespread the issue of racially and ethnically concentrated poverty is in the Kansas City region. Therefore, many of the tabulations in the rest of the analysis sections are performed using the above categories describing the areas with concentrations of people of color and poverty. In all cases, the category of “very high” is reserved for those areas meeting the R/ECAP definition of at least 50 percent persons of color and 40 percent poverty rate, so that the two terms may be considered synonymous.

**Local Context**

**Kansas City, Missouri** — Kansas City, Missouri, is one of two communities with census tracts that meet the criteria for R/ECAPs. They are all in the Jackson County portion of the city, and generally all east of Troost Avenue, except for one tract in the midtown area that extends to Main Street. There are four main clusters of these areas of highest poverty and minority concentrations: (1) the Westside, (2) the Northeast, (3) the Heart of the City area, and (4) south Kansas City inside the I-435 loop. Surrounding these areas of very high poverty and minority concentrations are areas that still have high levels of concentration, again, largely east of Troost, though there are scattered pockets north of the Missouri River as well. North of the river is where most of the areas of moderate concentration areas are found in Kansas City, though there are also some areas south of the river, generally bordering Troost, with moderate concentrations.

**Kansas City, Kansas** — Kansas City, Kansas, is the other community with census tracts that meet the criteria for R/ECAPs. All are inside the I-635 loop, with one cluster north of I-70 in eastern Kansas City, Kansas, and two more tracts south of I-70, one in the Rosedale neighborhood and one in Argentine. Adjacent to these areas and filling in the space between them are large areas with high levels of poverty and minority concentrations. These areas extend into central
Wyandotte County, as well. Areas of moderate concentration are limited within the city of Kansas City, Kansas, existing mainly in central Wyandotte County.

**Leavenworth** — The city of Leavenworth has significant areas of high racial/ethnic and poverty concentrations. These include the downtown area, the neighborhood north of Leavenworth High School, and neighborhoods in the south part of the city surrounding the Veterans Administration Hospital and University of Saint Mary.

**Independence** — Independence mainly has areas of moderate concentration of poverty and people of color, mainly focused west of Noland Road, but also stretching to areas generally west and along Missouri Highway 291. Interspersed within these areas, however, are a few places where concentrations reach high levels.

**Blue Springs** — The areas of poverty and minority concentrations in Blue Springs are entirely moderate in nature. Most areas are south of I-70 along or near Missouri Highway 7. There is one area north of I-70.

### Disproportionate Distribution of Protected Classes

**Race/Ethnicity — Regional Context**

Blacks and Hispanics most disproportionately reside in R/ECAPs. Based on 2014 ACS 5-year data, blacks make up only 12 percent of the region’s population, but comprise 46 percent of the population in areas with very high concentrations of poverty and race/ethnicity. Hispanics, account for 8 percent of the region’s population, but comprise 28 percent of population in the areas with the highest poverty and racial/ethnic concentrations. Asians also disproportionately reside in such areas, though to a lesser degree, comprising 3 percent of their population compared to 2 percent of the total population in the region. All in all, 80 percent of the people living in R/ECAPs are people of color, while they make up only 26 percent of the region’s total population. Conversely, whites compromise a disproportionately low share of R/ECAP population — only 20 percent — when whites are 74 percent of the region’s overall population.
As the concentrations of minorities and people living in poverty move from very high to high, Asians are no longer disproportionately represented, but blacks and Hispanics remain so, comprising 36 percent and 19 percent respectively. It is not until the concentrations of people of color and poverty become moderate that their representation in such areas is no longer disproportionate, matching their regional averages. Areas with low concentrations of minorities and poverty are disproportionately white, as whites account for 85 percent of residents.

While the R/ECAPS have high minority concentrations, by definition, it is also important to understand what proportion of the region’s minorities live in them, given their relatively small geographic area. In fact, the areas with the highest concentrations of race/ethnicity and poverty are home to 12 percent of all blacks in the region and 11 percent of Hispanics. The plurality of blacks and Hispanics actually live in the areas of high concentration that are adjacent to or surround the R/ECAPs, at 47 percent and 37 percent respectively. Taken together, nearly 60 percent of blacks and nearly 50 percent of Hispanics live in areas with high or very high concentrations of poverty and race/ethnicity, compared to only 10 percent of whites. Conversely, nearly 80 percent of whites live in areas with low poverty and minority concentrations, compared to 28 percent and 38 percent of blacks and Hispanics, respectively. Meanwhile, the geographic distribution of Asians across areas of concentrated poverty and minorities closely mirrors that of the general population.
Race/Ethnicity — Local Context

**Kansas City, Missouri** — Blacks and Hispanics are disproportionately located in areas of concentration in Kansas City, Missouri. While blacks comprise 30 percent of the city’s overall population, they make up 49 percent of population in its areas of very high concentration of poverty and minorities and 51 percent in areas with high concentrations. Similarly, Hispanics make up 10 percent of the city’s population but 26 percent in the areas with very high concentrations.

Looking at the areas with very high concentrations alone, the proportion of residents that are black or Hispanic is in line with the regional average, at 75 percent in the city versus 74 percent for the region. However, Kansas City, Missouri, residents in very high concentration areas are somewhat more heavily weighted toward blacks. There is significant variation across the four main clusters of tracts with the highest poverty and minority concentrations, though:

1. The Westside is an historically Hispanic neighborhood.
2. The Northeast is more racially mixed.
3. The Heart of the City area is largely black.
4. The area of south Kansas City inside the I-435 loop is also largely black.
The weighting toward blacks is especially true for areas with high concentrations of poverty and minorities. In these areas, a majority of residents are black, compared to a little over a third for the metro overall. Conversely, Hispanics account for only 11 percent of the residents in areas with high levels of racial/ethnic and poverty concentrations, compared to 19 percent for the region. This contributes to the fact that black residents outnumber Hispanic residents by about two to one in the city as a whole.
Examining the geographic distribution of racial and ethnic groups in Kansas City, Missouri, reveals that 84 percent of blacks live in areas with above-average concentrations of poverty and minorities — that is, in areas with at least moderate concentrations — compared to 42 percent of whites and 72 percent of Hispanics. All of these figures are substantially higher than those for the Kansas City metro as a whole, which are 72 percent, 62 percent and 22 percent for blacks, Hispanics and whites, respectively.

**Figure 6: Concentration Area Shares of Racial/Ethnic Groups | Kansas City, Missouri**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>White</th>
<th>Black</th>
<th>Hispanic</th>
<th>Asian</th>
<th>Other</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Very High</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>58%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>34%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>57%</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Kansas City, Kansas** — Kansas City, Kansas, is the only jurisdiction in this assessment that is majority minority, as whites make up only 40 percent of the total population. Yet, whites remain the plurality, as about a quarter of the population of Kansas City, Kansas, is black and a little over a quarter is Hispanic. Unlike Kansas City, Missouri, these two groups are close in size for every level of concentration. In the areas with very high concentrations of poverty and people of color, blacks slightly outnumber Hispanics, at 39 percent to 35 percent. But in the much larger areas with high concentrations, Hispanics outnumber blacks, comprising 34 percent of the population compared to 28 percent for blacks. These figures indicate that blacks and Hispanics are disproportionately located in areas with very high or high levels of concentration, even though Kansas City, Kansas, is majority minority. Blacks’ degree of overrepresentation in such areas relative to city averages is, however, significantly less than in Kansas City, Missouri, or the region overall.
Examining the geographic distribution of racial and ethnic groups in Kansas City, Kansas, reveals that 91 percent of Hispanics live in areas with above-average concentrations of poverty and minorities compared to 85 percent of blacks and 63 percent of whites. Again, all of these figures are substantially higher than those for the region.

**Leavenworth** — The city of Leavenworth has no areas meeting the R/ECAP criteria, and so no areas with very high concentrations of poverty and minorities. However, it has a substantial number of areas with high concentrations. Those areas are disproportionately black and, to a lesser extent, Hispanic. Blacks comprise 21 percent of the areas with high levels of poverty and minority concentrations, compared to 14 percent for the city overall. Hispanics make up 8 percent of the residents in high concentrations areas of the city, compared to 6 percent overall.
Residents of areas with moderate concentrations are distributed among racial and ethnic groups almost exactly as the city averages.

**Figure 9: Racial/Ethnic Shares of Population in Areas of Concentration | Leavenworth**

Examining the geographic distribution of racial and ethnic groups in Leavenworth reveals that nearly three-quarters of blacks live in areas with above-average concentrations of poverty and minorities, as do nearly two-thirds of Hispanics, compared to a little over half of whites.

**Figure 10: Concentration Area Shares of Racial/Ethnic Groups | Leavenworth**

**Independence** — The city of Independence also has no areas meeting the R/ECAP criteria, and so no areas with very high concentrations of poverty and minorities. While it only has a limited number of areas with high concentrations, residents of those areas are disproportionately Hispanic and African-American. Hispanics comprise 8 percent of city but nearly double that, at
15 percent, are in areas with high levels of poverty and minority concentrations. Similarly, blacks make up 5 percent of the city’s population but 11 percent of the people in high concentrations areas. As in Leavenworth, residents of areas with moderate concentrations are distributed among racial and ethnic groups almost exactly the same as the city’s averages.

**Figure 11: Racial/Ethnic Shares of Population in Areas of Concentration | Independence**

Examiining the geographic distribution of racial and ethnic groups in Independence reveals that 62 percent of blacks and 59 percent of Hispanics live in areas with above-average concentrations of poverty and minorities, compared to 45 percent of whites.

**Figure 12: Concentration Area Shares of Racial/Ethnic Groups | Independence**

**Blue Springs** — The city of Blue Springs has only areas of moderate concentration of poverty and minorities, which are areas defined as being above suburban averages. Nonetheless, it is still
the case that blacks are disproportionately represented in them, comprising 9 percent of their population when they are only 6 percent of the total Blue Springs population.

**Figure 13: Racial/Ethnic Shares of Population in Areas of Concentration** | Blue Springs

Examine the geographic distribution of racial and ethnic groups in Blue Springs reveals that 34 percent of blacks and 26 percent of Hispanics live in areas with above-average concentrations of poverty and minorities, compared to 21 percent of whites.

**Figure 14: Concentration Area Shares of Racial/Ethnic Groups** | Blue Springs

**Race/Ethnicity — Conclusion**

The general pattern of people of color disproportionately residing in areas with higher than average poverty and racial/ethnic concentrations remains consistent across the communities,
from those with the largest numbers of minority populations to those with the fewest. Communities differ in their degree of concentration of poverty and minorities, but not in the pattern people of color disproportionately residing in each community’s areas of highest concentration. Of course, this is in part by design, since the areas of concentration were defined based on race and ethnicity. It should not be a surprise then, that they show a consistent relationship across communities with different levels of concentration. Yet the areas defined provide a useful analytical tool with which to judge whether other protected classes are also geographically clustered according to the intersection of race and ethnicity with poverty. This is the task to which we now turn.

National Origin

Examining national origin, the areas with the highest concentration of immigrants generally fall just outside the R/ECAPs themselves, but well within the areas with high concentrations of poverty and minorities. In Kansas City, Missouri, the foreign-born are largely clustered in the Old Northeast and Heart of the City and, to a lesser extent, the West Side. In Kansas City, Kansas, they mostly reside in ..., as well as Argentine. Independence, Blue Springs, Leavenworth.

Map 5: National Origin | R/ECAP Scale
The above map was generated using the 2006-10 American Community Survey data provided by HUD. Updating this using data from the 2010-14 ACS produces a slightly different set of five-largest nationalities. As with the earlier data, those from Mexico top the list nationalities represented by the foreign born living in the Kansas City region by a 5:1 margin compared to the next highest nationality, which is India. Residents who were born in Vietnam, China and the Philippines (instead of Korea) round out the top five nationalities for the metropolitan area.

This distribution varies by community, however. For example, Kansas City, Kansas, has nearly a 15:1 ratio of those born in Mexico to its next-highest nationality, which is Vietnam. Blue Springs is the only community where those of Mexican origin isn’t the largest component of its foreign-born population. There, China represents the largest foreign-born group.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Kansas City MSA</th>
<th>Independence</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mexico</td>
<td>43,933</td>
<td>Mexico</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>8,712</td>
<td>El Salvador</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vietnam</td>
<td>4,813</td>
<td>Philippines</td>
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<td>China</td>
<td>4,719</td>
<td>Dominican Republic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philippines</td>
<td>3,613</td>
<td>Guatemala</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Kansas City, MO</th>
<th>Leavenworth</th>
<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mexico</td>
<td>11,264</td>
<td>Mexico</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vietnam</td>
<td>2,396</td>
<td>Korea</td>
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<tr>
<td>Philippines</td>
<td>980</td>
<td>Germany</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cuba</td>
<td>912</td>
<td>China</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>911</td>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Kansas City, KS</th>
<th>Blue Springs</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mexico</td>
<td>15,011</td>
<td>China</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>El Salvador</td>
<td>1,074</td>
<td>Mexico</td>
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<tr>
<td>Burma</td>
<td>1,015</td>
<td>Philippines</td>
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<tr>
<td>Honduras</td>
<td>987</td>
<td>Other Eastern Asia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Laos</td>
<td>617</td>
<td>India</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Examining the distribution of the foreign born by continent for the region overall reveals that, 46 percent come from Latin America (principally Mexico), 31 percent from Asia (principally from India, Vietnam and China), 10 percent from Europe (mainly from Germany and the United Kingdom) and 10 percent from Africa (principally from Ethiopia, Kenya and other eastern African countries). Those born in North America and Oceania together comprise only 3 percent of the foreign born population in the region.

This distribution varies significantly depending on the level of poverty and minority concentration, however. Fully 70 percent of the foreign-born living in areas with very high concentrations are from Latin America, while only 16 percent are from Asia and only 2 percent from Europe. In areas with high concentrations, the figures are nearly identical – 67 percent of the foreign born are from Latin America, 16 percent from Asia, and 5 percent from Europe. By
contrast, Asian-born individuals comprise the plurality of the foreign born living areas with low poverty and minority concentrations at 46 percent. Those with Latin American origins still comprise a significant 27 percent share of the foreign born in such areas, though this is 20 points lower than their overall metropolitan average. Conversely, the 16 percent European share in areas with low concentrations is 6 points higher than their regional share of the foreign born.

Only those born in Africa are distributed relatively evenly across the region’s areas of poverty and minority concentrations. Similarly to the race data, moderately concentrated areas tend to most resemble the overall regional averages.

![Distribution of the foreign born within areas by level of poverty and minority concentration](image)

Organizing the same data by population group rather than by area type shows, unsurprisingly, that those born in Latin America have the highest proportion of individuals living in areas with high or very high levels of poverty and minority concentrations, at 64 percent, while North Americans, Europeans and Asians have the lowest, at 17 percent, 19 percent and 23 percent respectively.
Somewhat surprising is that those of African origin experience the second highest proportion, as half live in areas with high or very high concentrations of poverty and minorities. But this is exactly because those born in Africa have a distribution that is closest to the regional average for the foreign born overall. That average, 44 percent living in areas with high or very high concentrations, indicates that those born in Africa have only a slight weighting toward areas with high or larger concentrations.
Local Context

![Bar chart for Kansas City, MO]

The chart shows the distribution of poverty levels in Kansas City, MO, categorized by region. The categories are Total, Very High, High, Moderate, and Low. The regions are Latin America, Asia, Africa, Europe, Northern America, and Oceania.

- **Latin America**:
  - Total: 27%
  - Very High: 10%
  - High: 43%
  - Moderate: 20%
  - Low: 31%

- **Asia**:
  - Total: 17%
  - Very High: 31%
  - High: 38%
  - Moderate: 16%
  - Low: 10%

- **Africa**:
  - Total: 20%
  - Very High: 38%
  - High: 16%
  - Moderate: 10%
  - Low: 31%

- **Europe**:
  - Total: 51%
  - Very High: 9%
  - High: 55%
  - Moderate: 32%
  - Low: 42%

- **Northern America**:
  - Total: 38%
  - Very High: 14%
  - High: 42%
  - Moderate: 14%
  - Low: 25%

- **Oceania**:
  - Total: 30%
  - Very High: 25%
  - High: 28%
  - Moderate: 18%
  - Low: 20%
Blue Springs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Very High</th>
<th>High</th>
<th>Moderate</th>
<th>Low</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latin America</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>54%</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>59%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asia</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Africa</td>
<td>0%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Europe</td>
<td>74%</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern America</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oceania</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The same appears to be true for those who have limited English proficiency.

**Map 6: Limited English Proficiency | R/ECAP Scale**