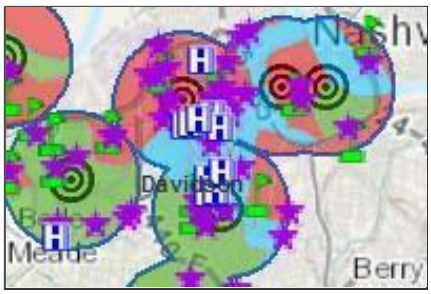
Tennessee Site-Specific Investigation Map

Map



Tags

Chemical, Hazard, Site, Investigation, TDH, EPHT, ATSDR, Environment, Brownfield, Superfund, Risk, Assessment

Summary

A site-specific investigation protects people who may be at risk of chemical exposure and takes action to keep them safe. Hazardous substances can be harmful to people. Hazardous substances can cause in illness, injury, or death. Site-specific investigations can: (1) prevent ongoing and future exposures and resultant health effects from hazardous waste sites and releases, (2) mitigate the risks of human health effects at toxic waste sites with documented exposures, and (3) provide helpful, plain-language resources for the public such as fact sheets, public health assessments, health consultations, exposure investigations, and or health advisories.

Description

Tennessee maintains a Cooperative Agreement with the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry to protect the people from exposure to hazardous substances. Through our Partnership to Promote Localized Efforts to Reduce Environmental Exposure(APPLETREE) [http://health.tn.gov/environmental/index.htm] TN receives federal funding from the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registryto provide health-based risk assessment and environmental public health education. The site-specific investigations done by Environmental Epidemiology Program (EEP) since 2002 were cataloged to create this database.

ATSDR's Geospatial Research, Analysis & Services Program (GRASP) has created a tool to help public health officials and emergency response planners identify and map the communities that will most likely need support before, during, and after a hazardous event. The Social Vulnerability Index (SVI) indicates the relative vulnerability of every U.S. Census tract. Census tracts are subdivisions of counties for which the U.S. Census collects statistical data. Data from the 2010 U.S. Census was used to determine the SVI. The SVI ranks the tracts on 14 social factors, including; unemployment, lack of vehicle access, crowded housing, then further groups them into four related themes. Thus, each tract receives a ranking for each Census variable and for each of the four themes - as well as an overall ranking.

The four themes are:

- Socioeconomic status - Comprising income, poverty, employment, and education
- Household composition and disability - Comprising age, single parenting, and disability
- Minority status and language - Comprising race, ethnicity, and English-language proficiency

- Housing and transportation - Comprising housing structure, crowding, and vehicle access

Esri ArcGIS 10.3 software was used to calculate the number of schools, hospitals, and child care facilities within 0.25, 0.5, and 1 mile buffer around all investigated hazardous sites.

Limitations with our site-specific data:

- includes only work done by TDH
- not all sites have documents created for them
- may not include work done by TDEC, EPA, ATSDR, or others
- does not include work done prior to 2002
- may not include all available environmental data or health information
- does not include work done on/for federal sites or tribal lands

Credits

Tennessee Department of Health; Social Vulnerability Index: CDC/ATSDR/Division of Health Studies/Geospatial Research, Analysis & Services Program. Retrieved April 30, 2010 from ftp://ftp.cdc.gov/pub/ATSDR/census-svi/SVI_Database; School dataset was created by GIS Services, Office for Information Resources, State of Tennessee from data created and maintained by the Tennessee Department of Education; Childcare locations dataset was created and maintained by Tennessee Department of Human Services.

Use limitations

Access to the records within this dataset requires permission from the Tennessee Department of Health. Tennessee Department of Health bears no responsibility for how the provided data are represented or interpreted by those who access this information.User should understand the limitations of the geocoding process. All users must read and fully comprehend metadata prior to data use.