

# Kentucky's Distressed Black Census Tracts

source: 1990 US Census

What is a Census Tract?  
Census tracts are small, relatively permanent statistical subdivisions of a county. Census tracts are delineated for all metropolitan areas and other densely populated counties by local census statistical area committees following Census Bureau guidelines. Block Numbering Areas (BNAs) are designated by State Agencies and the Census Bureau for the remaining counties using similar guidelines. The major difference between census tracts and BNAs is that BNAs typically contain fewer people. Census tracts usually have between 2,500 and 8,000 people, and, when first delineated, are designed to be homogeneous with respect to population characteristics, economic status, and living conditions. The spatial size of census tracts varies widely depending on the density of settlement. Neither census tracts nor BNAs cross county boundaries.

What is Poverty?  
The data on poverty status were derived from 1989 income data as recorded on the 1990 US Census. The total income of each family or unrelated individual in the sample was compared to an appropriate poverty threshold to determine the poverty status of that family or unrelated individual. If the total income was less than the corresponding cutoff, the family or unrelated individual was classified as "below the poverty level." The total number of persons below the poverty level was the sum of the number of persons in families with incomes below the poverty level and the number of unrelated individuals with incomes below the poverty level. The poverty threshold for a family of four persons was \$12,674 in 1989; the poverty threshold for one person (unrelated individual) was \$6,310 in 1989.

What is Per Capita Income?  
"Per Capita Income" is the mean income computed for individuals 15 years and older. It is derived by dividing the total income of all persons 15 years and older by the total population. "Total Income" is the sum of all income from wage or salary income; net nonfarm self-employment income; interest, dividend, or net rental or royalty income; social security or railroad retirement income; public assistance or welfare income; and retirement and disability income. The following sources are not included as income: money received from the sale of property (unless as a business); the value of income "in-kind" from food stamp, public housing subsidies, medical care, or employer contributions, etc.; money borrowed; tax refunds; exchange of money between relatives living in same household; insurance payments; and gifts and any lump-sum income (inheritances).

What is Unemployment?  
All civilians 16 years old and older are classified as unemployed if they (1) were neither a "at work" nor "with a job but not a work" during the week prior to completing US Census survey, and (2) were looking for work during the last four weeks, and (3) were available to accept a job. Also included as unemployed are civilians who did not work at all during the prior week and were waiting to be called back to a job from which they had been laid off. Examples of job seeking include: registering at a public or private employment office; meeting with prospective employers; investigating possibilities for starting a professional practice or opening a business; placing or answering advertisements; writing letters of application; and being on a union or professional register.

- County Outline

Non-Distressed Census Tracts

Distressed Census Tracts

Severely Distressed Census Tracts

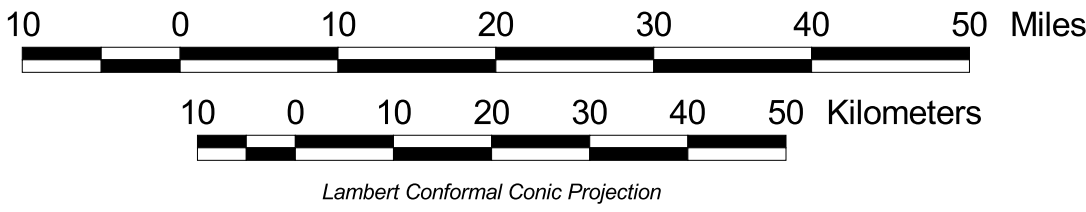
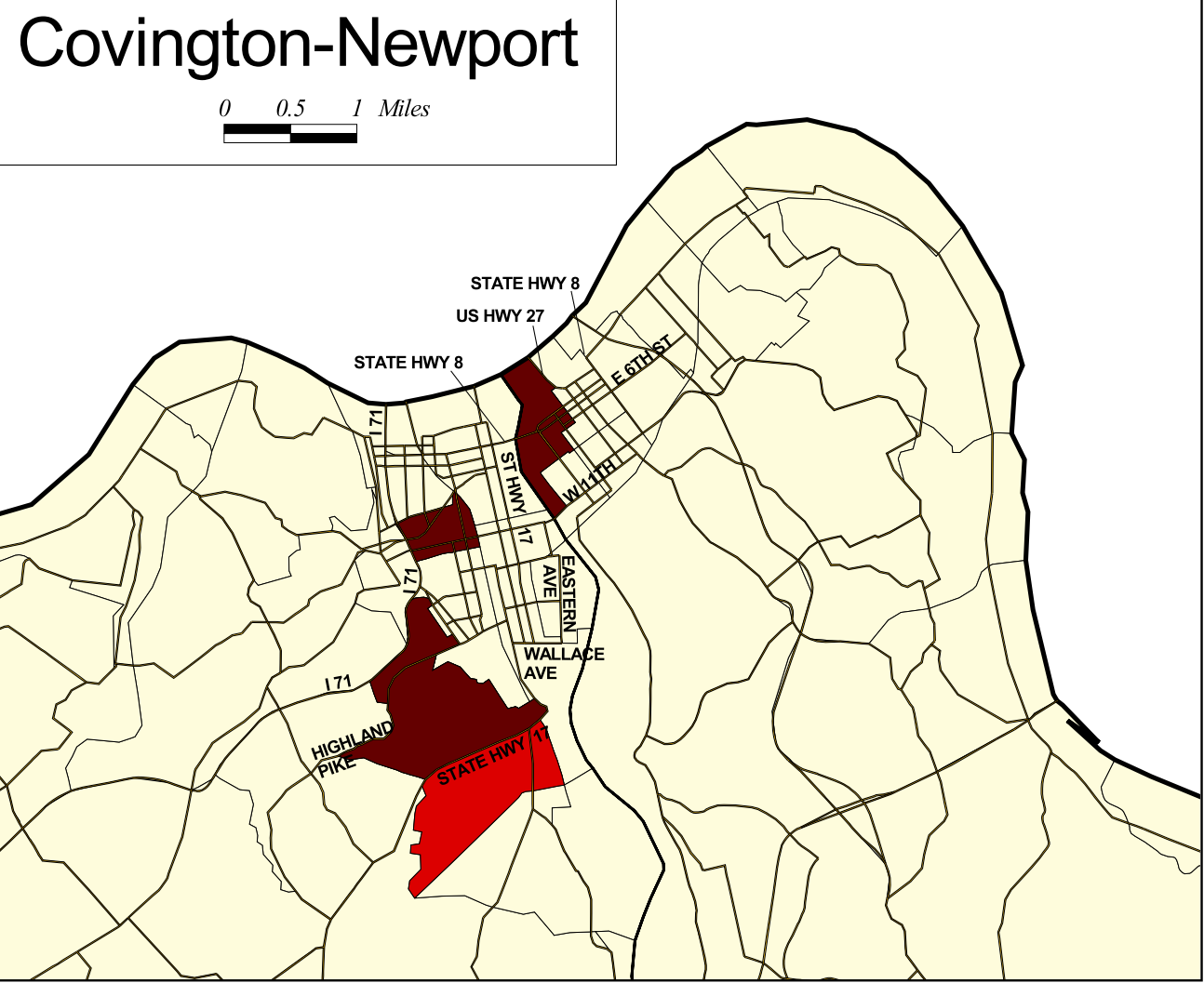
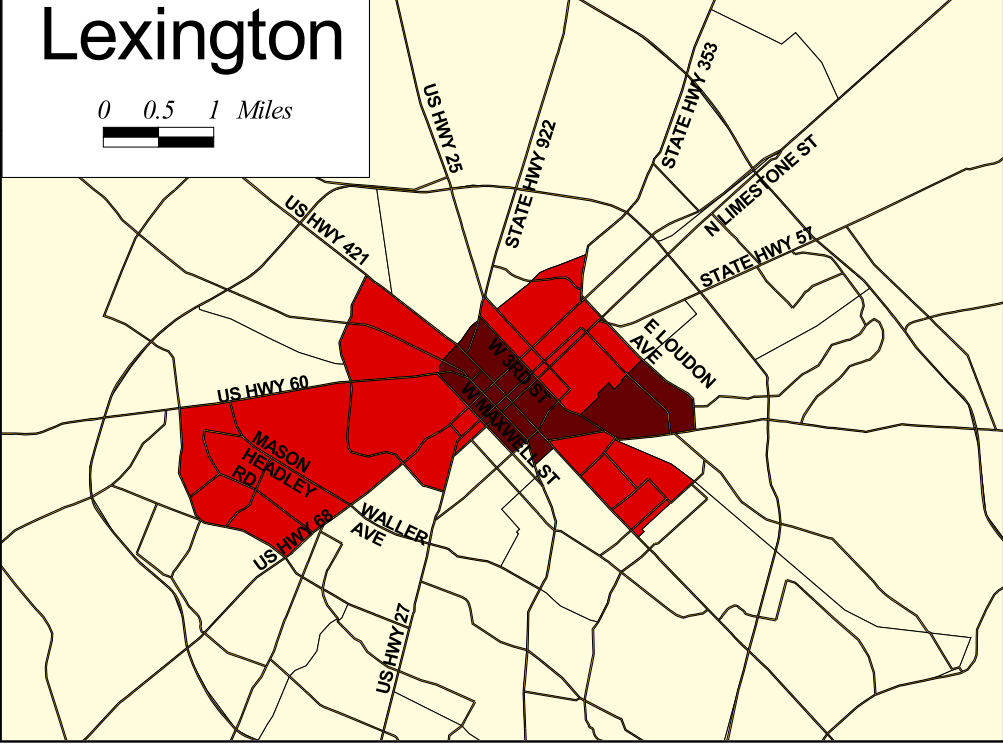
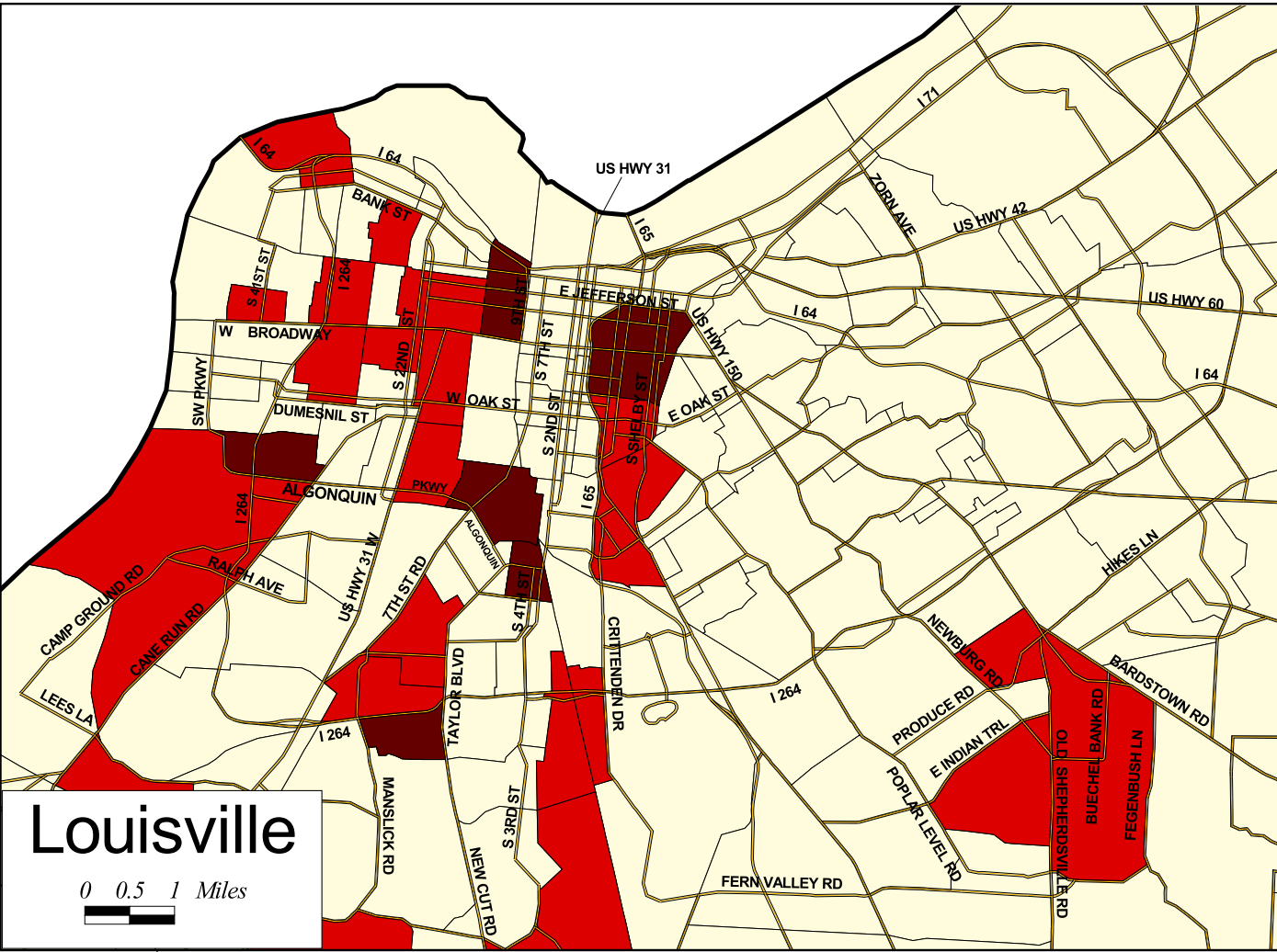
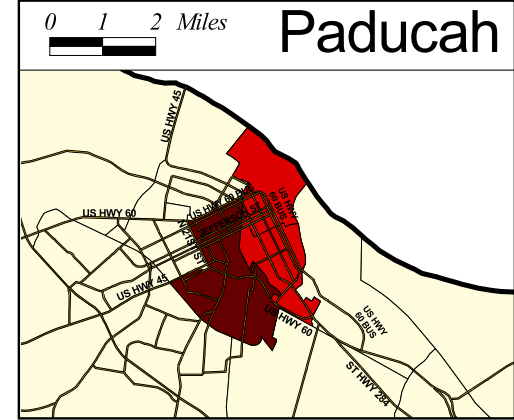
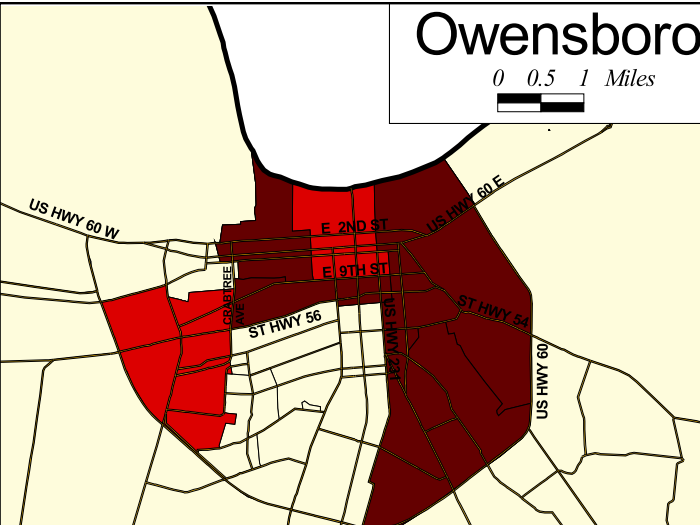
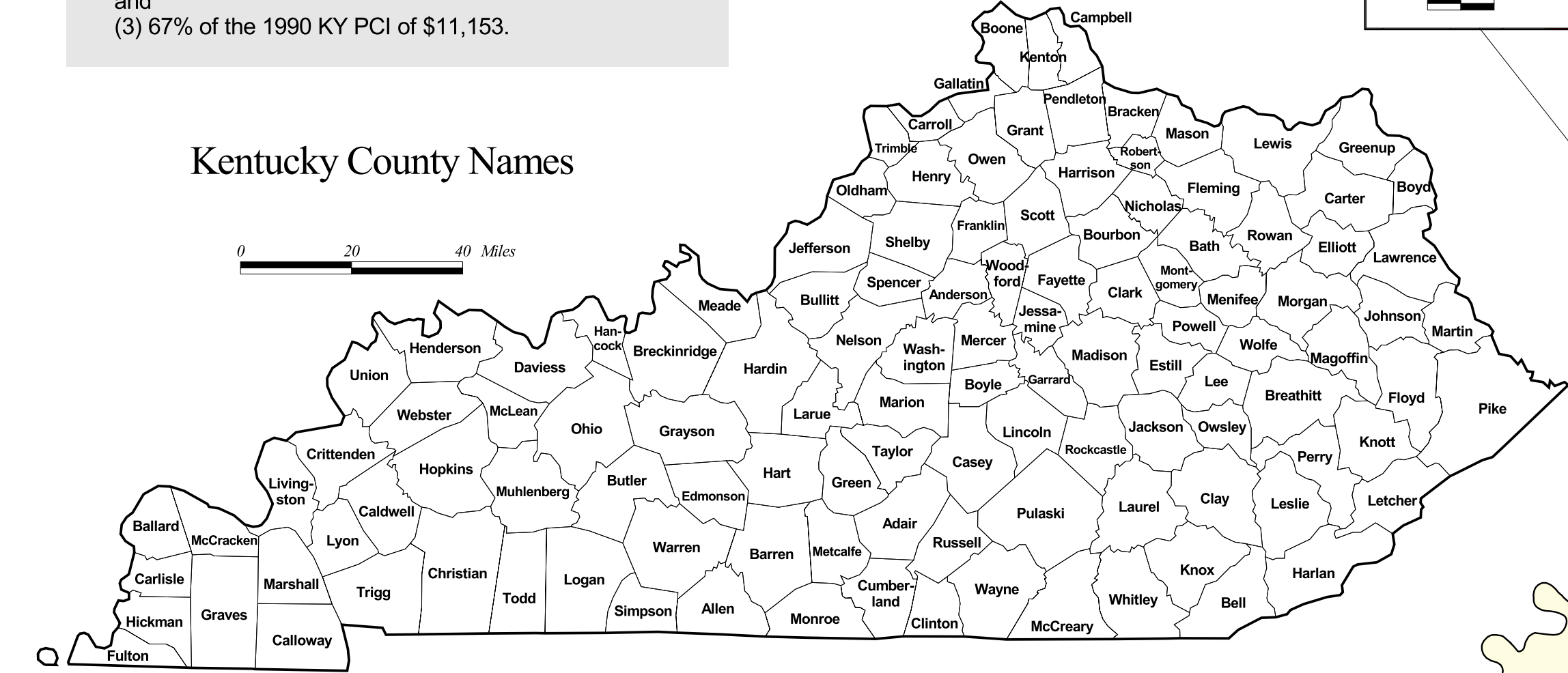
Two measures of Distress were evaluated for all Census Tracts with a Black Population Greater than 50 Black Residents. Both Measures, Distressed and Severely Distressed, were derived from the Black Population only; hence, this is distress among the Black Population.

Distressed Census Tracts have:  
(1) 150% of the 1990 KY Poverty rate of 19.0%, and  
(2) 150% of the 1990 KY Unemployment Rate of 7.4%, and  
(3) 67% of the 1990 KY PCI of \$11,153.

Severely Distressed Census Tracts have:  
(1) 200% of the 1990 KY Poverty Rate of 19.0%, and  
(2) 200% of the 1990 KY Unemployment Rate of 7.4%, and  
(3) 50% of the 1990 KY PCI of \$11,153.

For example: Severely Distressed Census Tracts have a Black Population greater than 50 residents. This population has Poverty Rate of 38.0%; an Unemployment Rate of 14.8%; and a PCI of less than \$5,577.

## Kentucky County Names



Lambert Conformal Conic Projection

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