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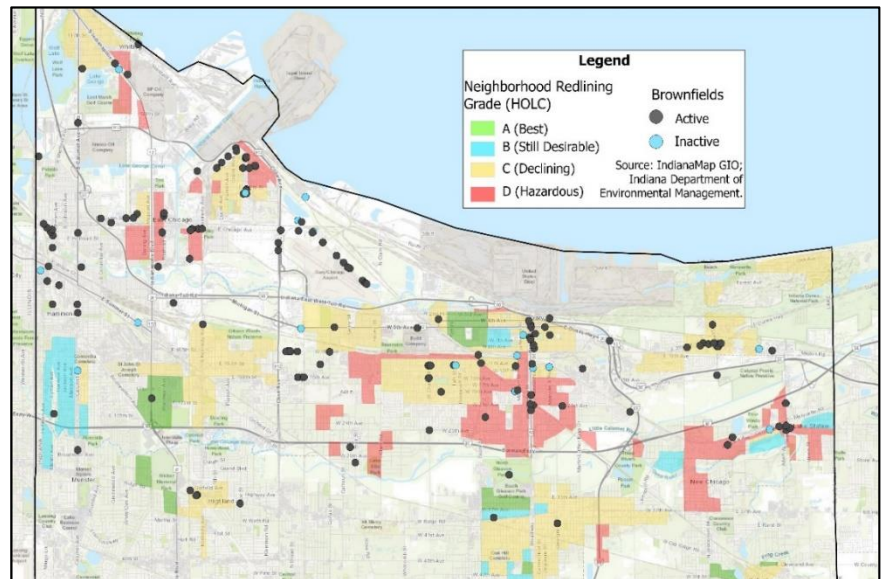
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**FAIR HOUSING CENTER RELEASES NEW REPORT  
ON ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS ON INDIANA’S HOUSING AND COMMUNITIES**

INDIANAPOLIS – Today, the Fair Housing Center of Central Indiana (FHCCI) releases its newest report, [\*The State of Fair Housing in Indiana – Highlighting Housing Impacts From Our Changing Environment\*](#). This report provides an overview of many pressing issues our communities and neighborhoods are facing, or will be facing in the future, due to environmental and climate changes across Indiana.

***Gary Home Owners’ Loan Corporation Grades (Redlining Map) with Brownfield Sites***

The report dives further into why environmental hazards occur, which groups are most at risk, and how housing is at the center of it all, including Superfund and brownfield sites, tree density, lead exposure, environmental racism, and more.



“Unfortunately, the more our climate and environment changes, the more our housing stock, homeowners, our unhoused populations, and renters, are negatively impacted,” explained Brady Ripperger, Deputy Director of Administration & Advocacy at the FHCCI.

“Housing should always be a priority when discussing environmental topics.”

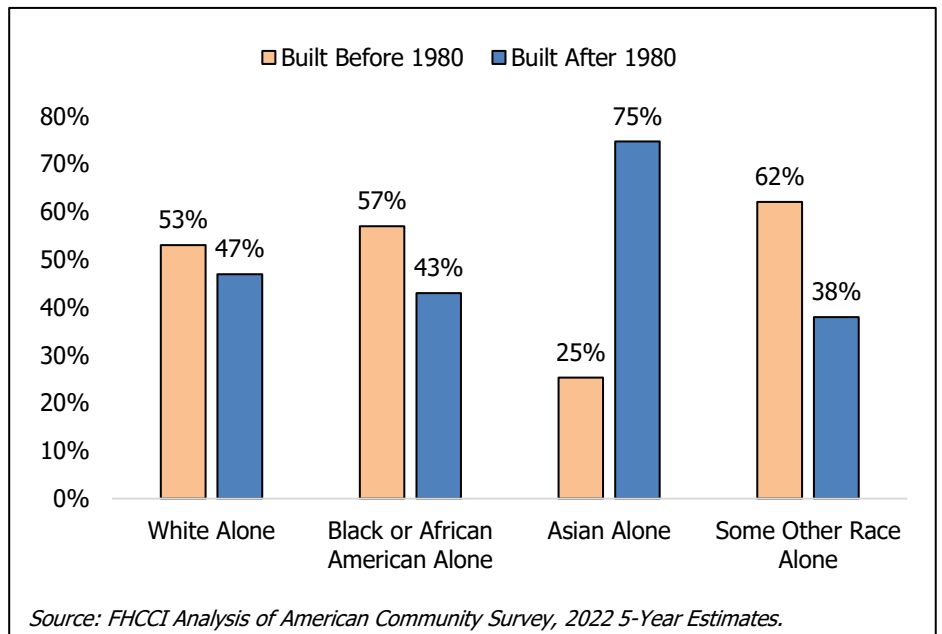
**Key Findings:**

- Indiana contains 54 Superfund sites, but only 20 have been cleaned and returned to usable land. When the FHCCI overlaid redlining maps and locations of the Superfund sites, many of the sites are located in formerly redlined neighborhoods. For example, Black Americans are 75% more likely to live near a company, industrial, or service facility.
- Like Superfund sites, brownfields are also prevalent in formerly redlined neighborhoods, where communities of color mostly reside today. About half of these sites are located within two miles or less of HUD-funded public housing.
- Gary and Indianapolis, Indiana, two cities with Indiana’s most diverse populations, have some of the worst air quality in the country, due to industrial plants and traffic pollution, especially in communities of color.

- Hoosiers may experience airborne lead exposure due to leaded gasoline being used to fuel small aircraft at regional airports. For example, the Purdue University Airport is located in West Lafayette and approximately 29.3% of residents that live within 500 meters of the airport’s runway identify as Asian, despite Asians making up 21.1% of West Lafayette’s population. Similarly, 9.2% of residents that live within 500 meters of the airport’s runway identify as non-white Hispanics, despite this group making up only 4.9% of West Lafayette’s population.
- The lack of tree coverage can be linked to formerly redlined neighborhoods and is associated with worse heat exposure and worsened health quality for those neighborhoods’ mostly Black and Brown residents.
- Indiana’s housing stock is aging, with 15% being built before 1939, including both home-owned and rental properties. When we look at the demographics of those occupying housing built before or after 1980, only a majority of Asians (75%) live in housing built *after* 1980. Most of all other racial groups live in housing built *before* 1980: Some other race alone (62%), Black or African American alone (57%), and white alone (53%).
- As Indiana’s climate becomes warmer and sees higher risks of flooding, nearly 800,000 Hoosiers are at risk of being negatively affected and more than 270,000 Hoosiers live in an area that has been projected to be at risk of inland flooding. 32% of households in floodplain areas are families with children and 25% are households with seniors.

**Indiana Housing Units Built Before and After 1980 by Race**

“The FHCCI’s research shows that Black and Brown communities and families with minor children are at higher risk of environmental racism and injustices overall,” explained Amy Nelson, Executive Director of the FHCCI. “Many of these symptoms are effects from historic redlining and other discriminatory housing practices. It’s our responsibility to undo these effects and ensure environmental justice for all Hoosiers.”



To download the full report, visit the [FHCCI’s News Page](#) or our [Reports Page](#).

In recent years, the FHCCI has released the following consumer-driven housing reports through its *The State of Fair Housing in Indiana* series:

- [Unstable Land: The Fair Housing Challenges for Manufactured Housing Residents](#) (2024)
- [A Review of Fair Housing Complaints in Indiana 2019-2023](#) (2024)
- [Mortgage Lending Update for Marion County 2021-2022](#) (2024)
- [Who Owns Indy’s Houses: A Review of the Largest Single-Family Home Investors](#) (2023)
- [No Way Home: Tenant Screening Barriers to Housing](#) (2023)
- [Our Changing Neighborhoods: The Impact of Investors, Foreclosures, and Mortgage Lending](#) (2022)
- [At What Cost? Rents, Burdens, Evictions, and Profits in Marion County](#) (2022)
- [FHA & VA Mortgage Lending in Marion County 2018-2021](#) (2022)
- [Mortgage Lending in Marion County 2018-2020](#) (2022)
- [Fair Housing Complaint Filing 2000-2018](#) (2020)

The Fair Housing Center of Central Indiana (FHCCI) is a private, nonprofit fair housing organization based in Indianapolis, Indiana. Its mission is to ensure equal housing opportunities by eliminating housing discrimination through advocacy, enforcement, education and outreach. For more information, visit: [www.fhcci.org](http://www.fhcci.org)

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