

**Pennyrile Area Development District
Socioeconomic Profiles
FY2026**



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THIS DOCUMENT WAS PREPARED IN COOPERATION WITH THE KENTUCKY TRANSPORTATION CABINET

SOCIOECONOMIC PROFILES

Introduction

The Pennyrile ADD Transportation Planner will develop a plan to encourage participation by minority and low-income populations in the public involvement process and include subject populations in the transportation planning process, including but not limited to committee membership, county committees, meeting with various civic groups, neighborhood meetings, or other methods of contacting, informing, and obtaining input from subject populations.

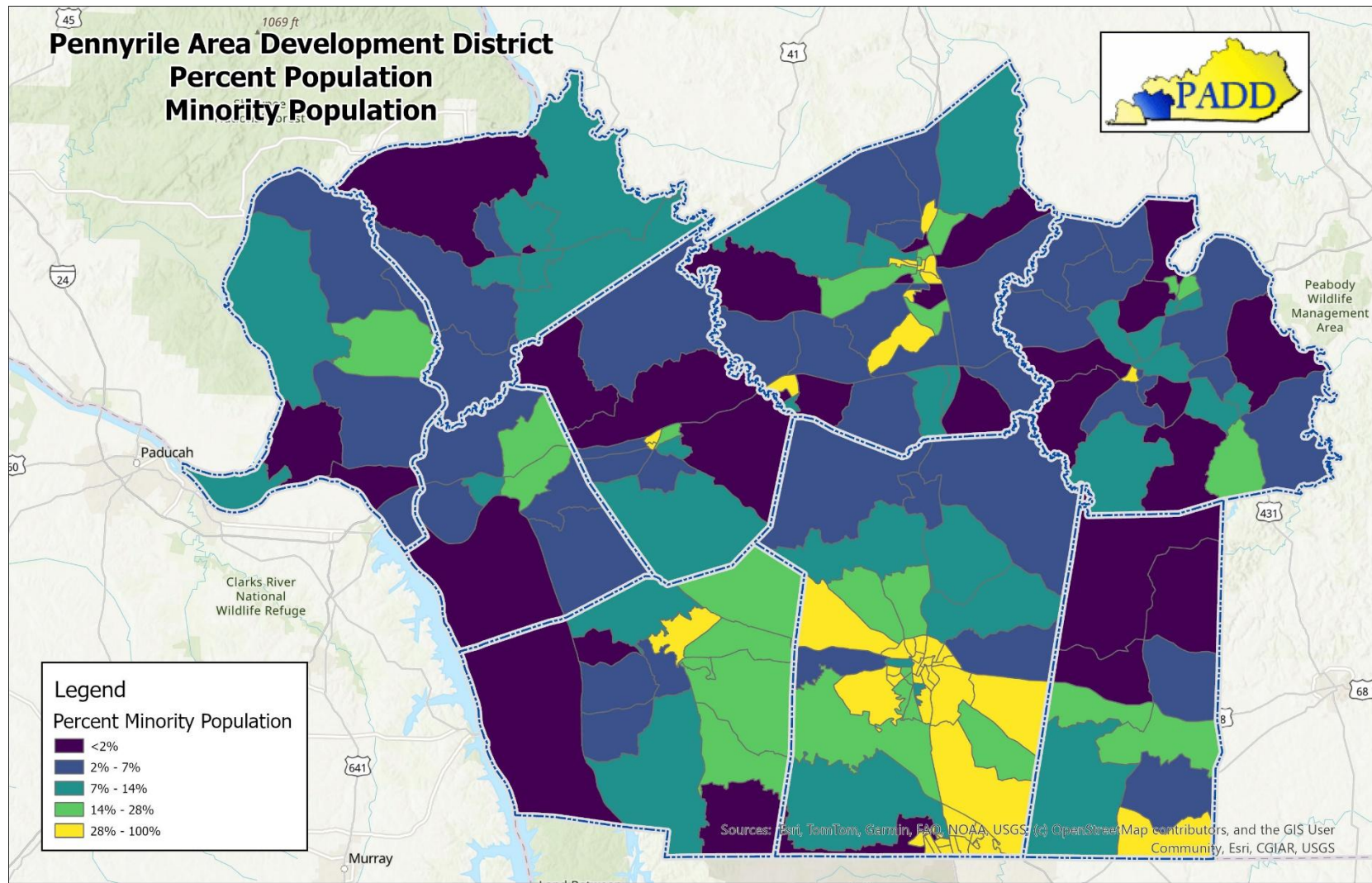
Title VI was enacted as part of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. It prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, and national origin in programs and activities receiving federal financial assistance. Public Outreach activities will include efforts to involve the traditionally underserved groups (i.e. minorities, elderly, low-income persons) in the transportation planning process. These potentially underrepresented populations may also be youth of the community, persons with disabilities, senior citizens, and others who may be too busy to attend public meetings. These efforts may include, but not limited to the following:

- Identifying areas in the region with concentrations of minority, elderly, and low-income populations
- Including organizations that deal directly with minority groups on the Stakeholder lists
- Posting notification of meetings, public hearings, and open houses in county health departments, senior centers, local community centers, post offices and churches
- Publishing notification of meetings, public hearings, and open houses in Spanish
- RTC Advisory members to include representatives from low-income housing authorities, directors from senior citizen centers, public transportation representatives, etc.
- Including speakers/guests at committee meetings to discuss public transportation issues, pedestrian issues for minority and low-income populations in their communities

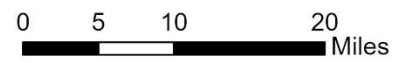
Demographic Information

The following maps are “heat maps” for the potential underserved populations in the Pennyrile ADD region that involve minority, elderly, poverty and disabled. These socioeconomic maps may be used to identify the areas with the highest percentage of underserved populations so extra efforts can be made to reach those areas when soliciting public input or planning public meetings.

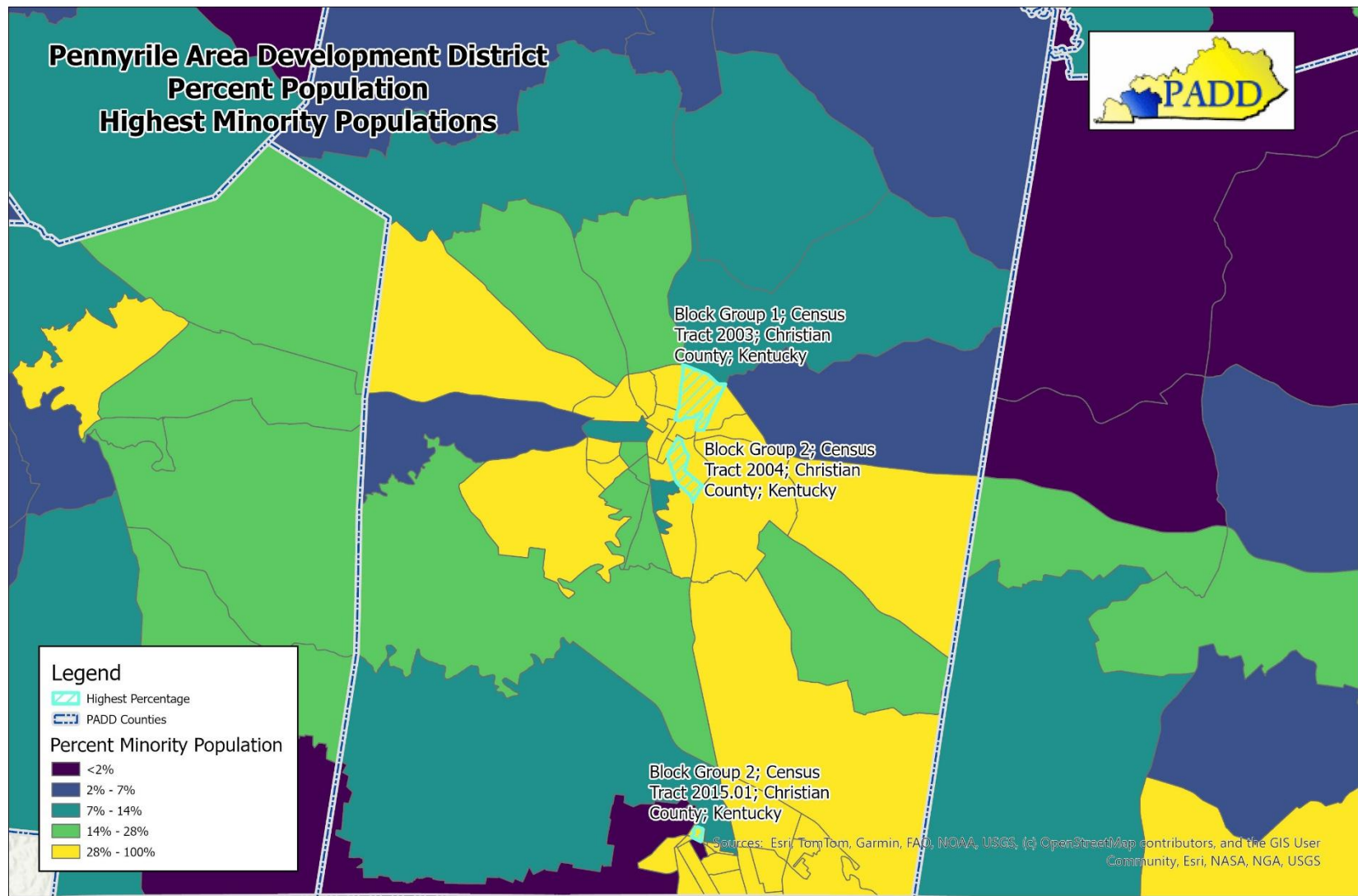
The Kentucky percentages are used as a reference threshold in each of the census data categories utilized for these heat maps. Areas that are up to 25% higher than the State percentage of the population group are considered just above the threshold and areas that are 25% or higher are considered significantly above the threshold. These heat maps are shown with the “hotter” colors indicating higher percentages than the State average. These maps also indicate the 2020 Census Tract boundaries



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Source: PeADD-ACS-2026.aprx



Updated June 2026



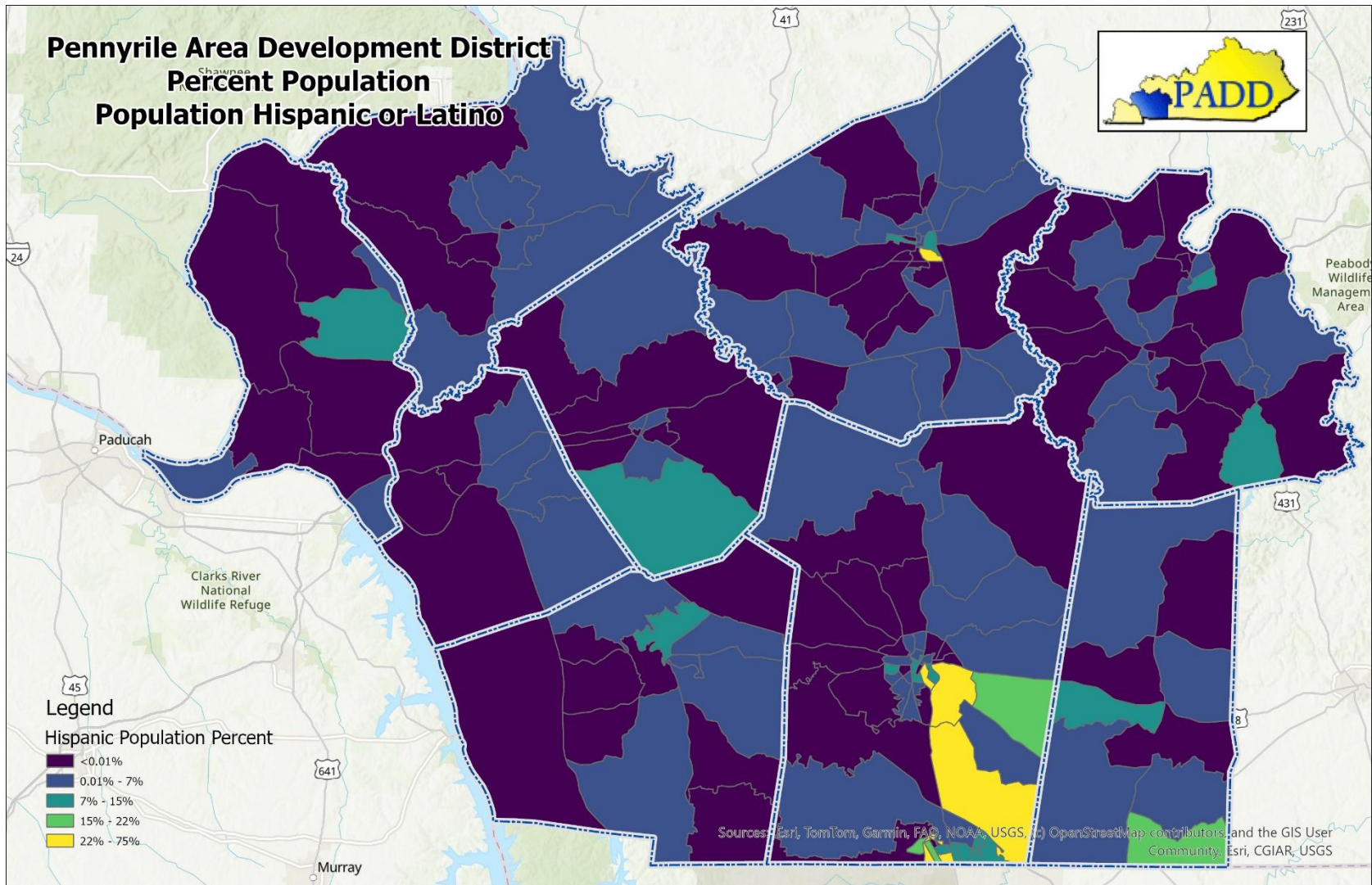
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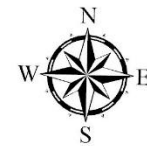
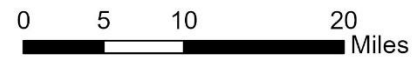
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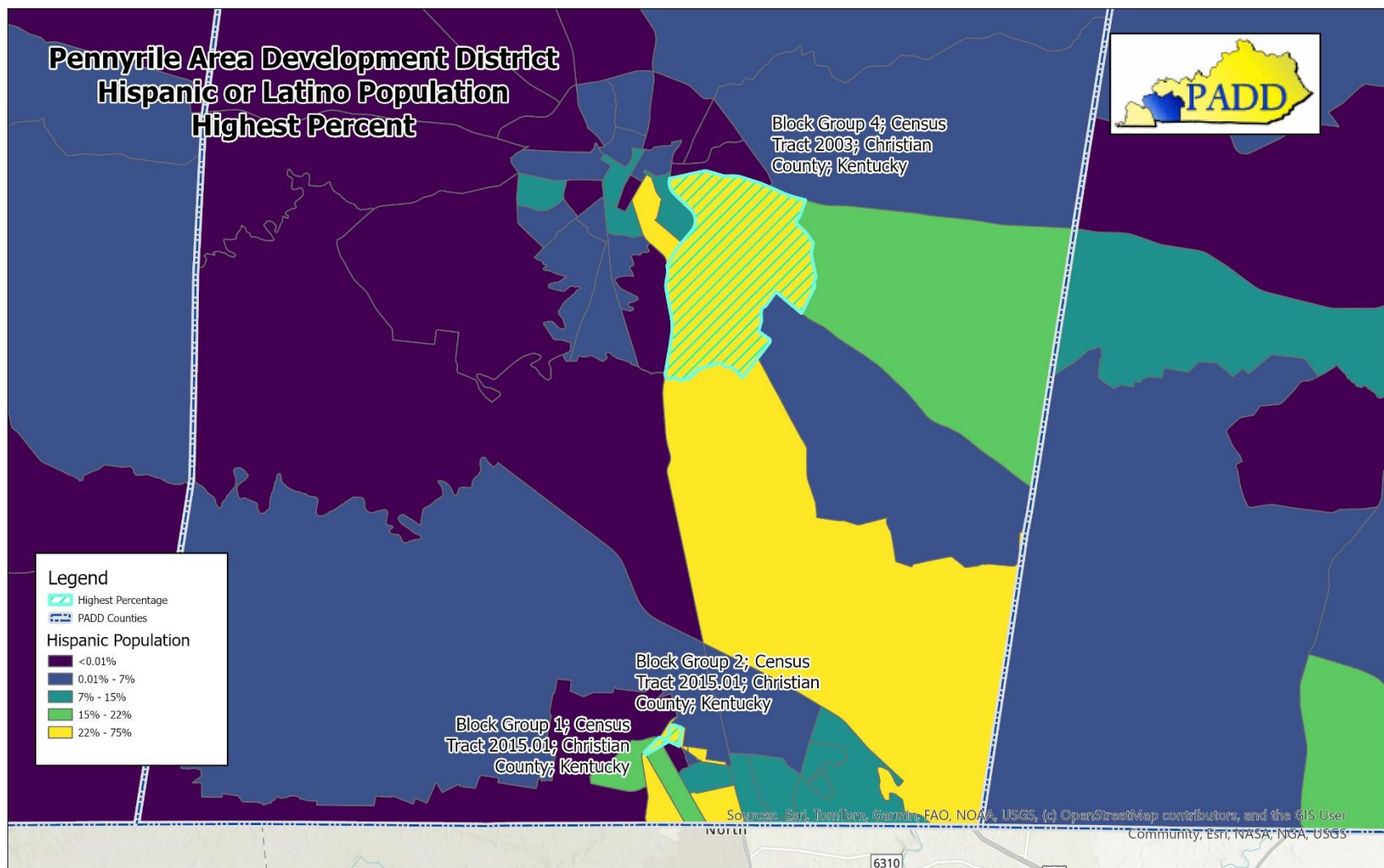
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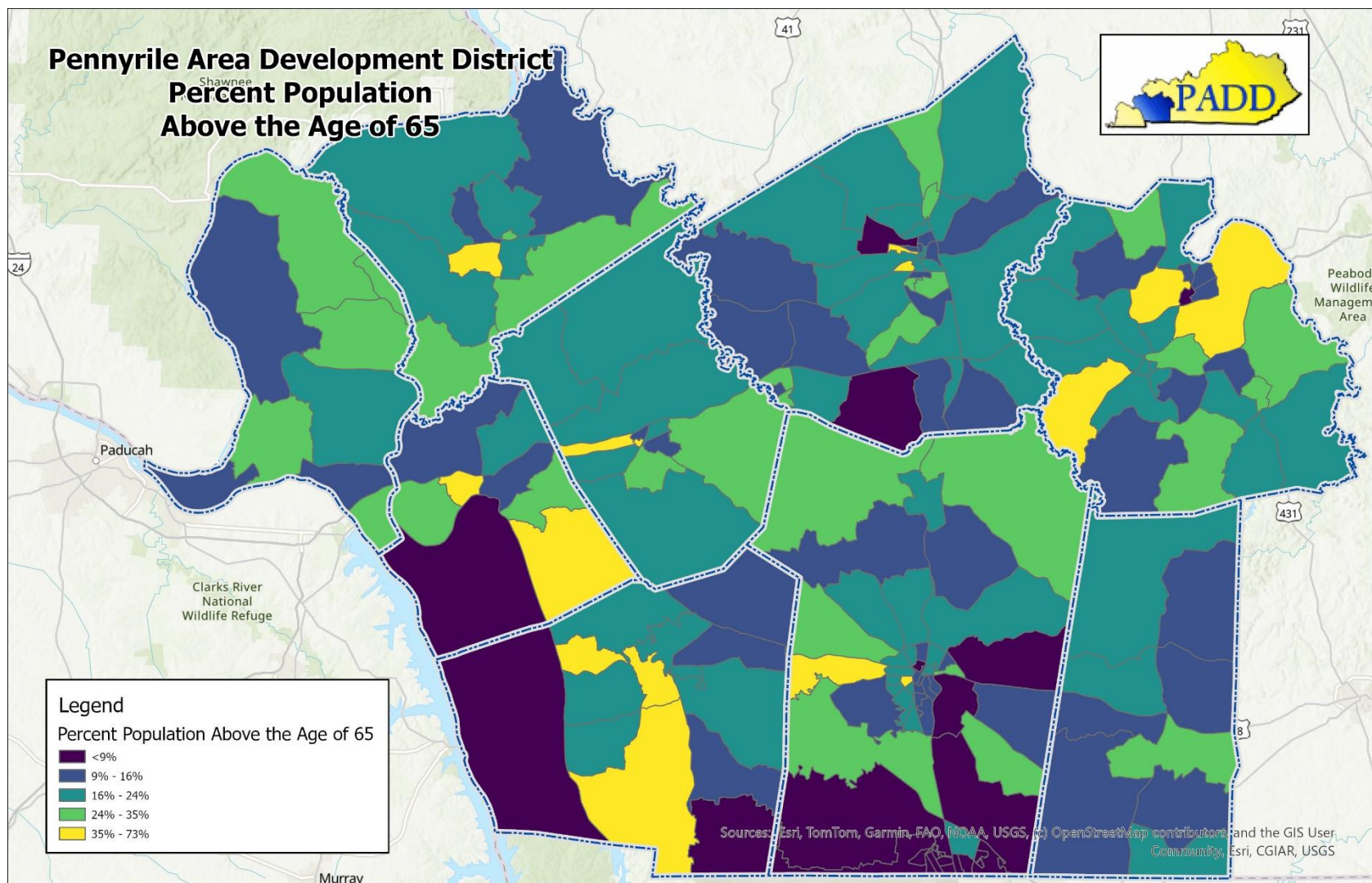
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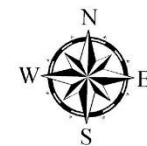
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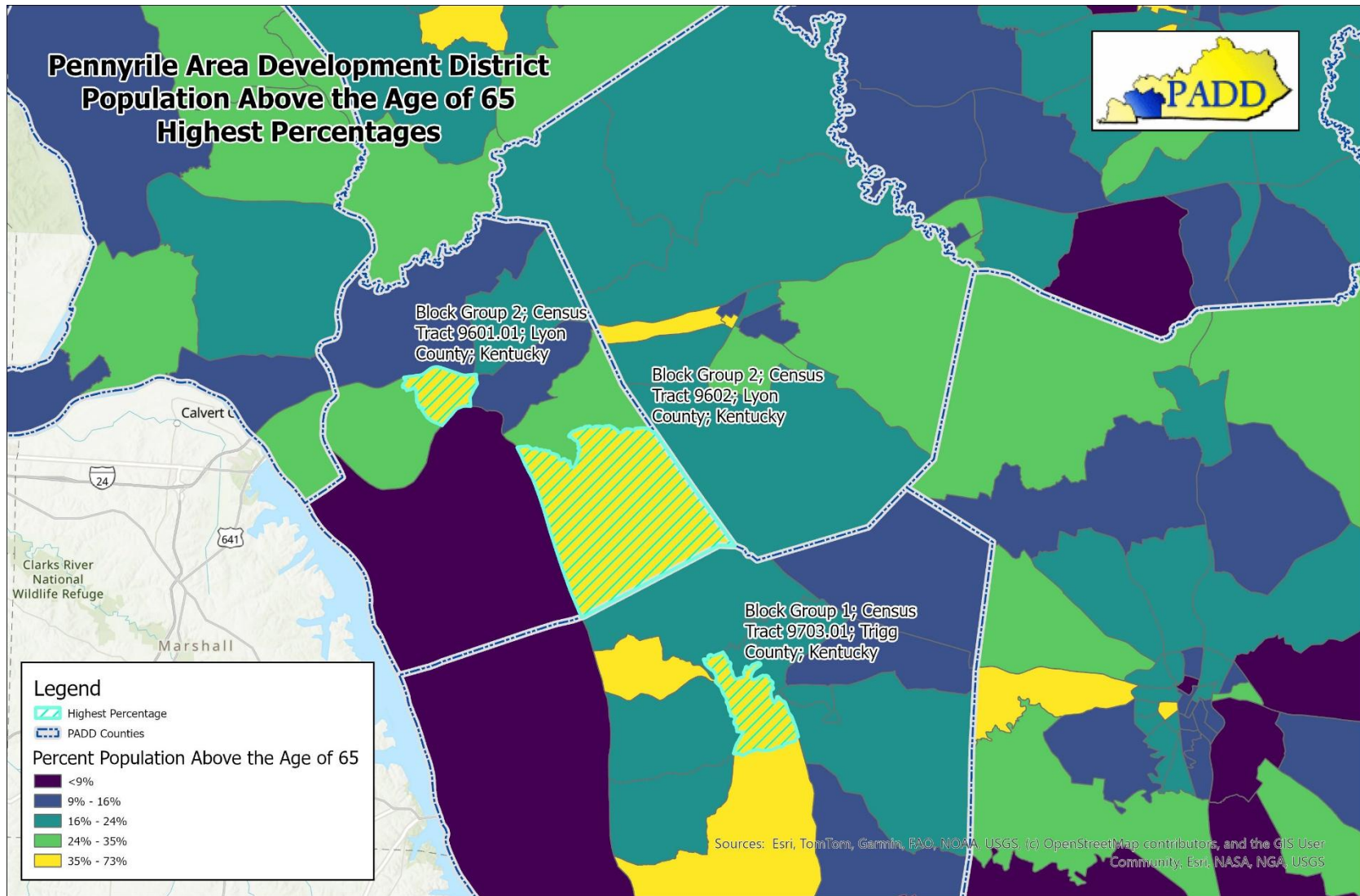
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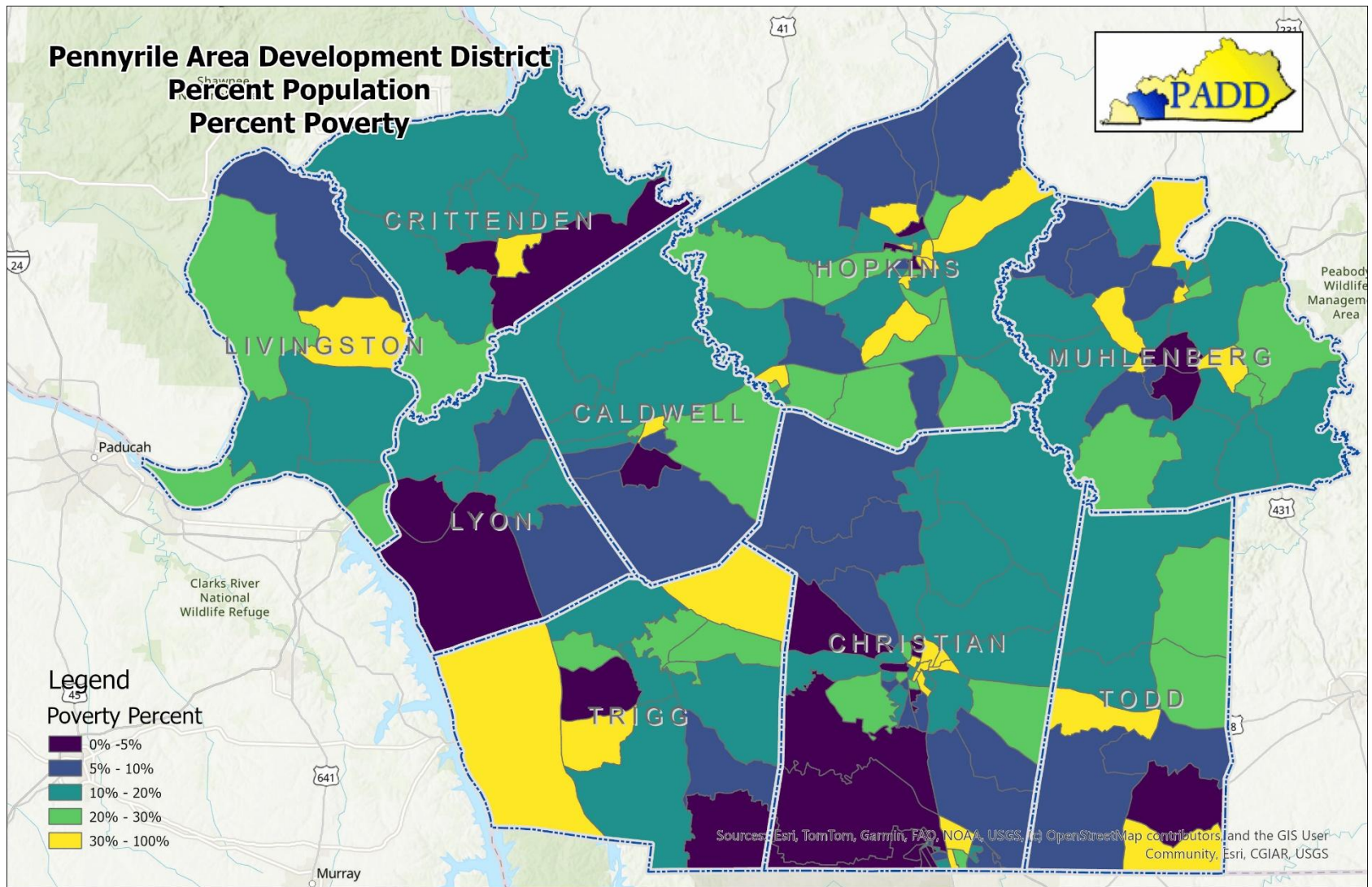
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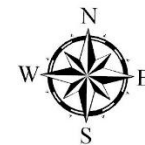
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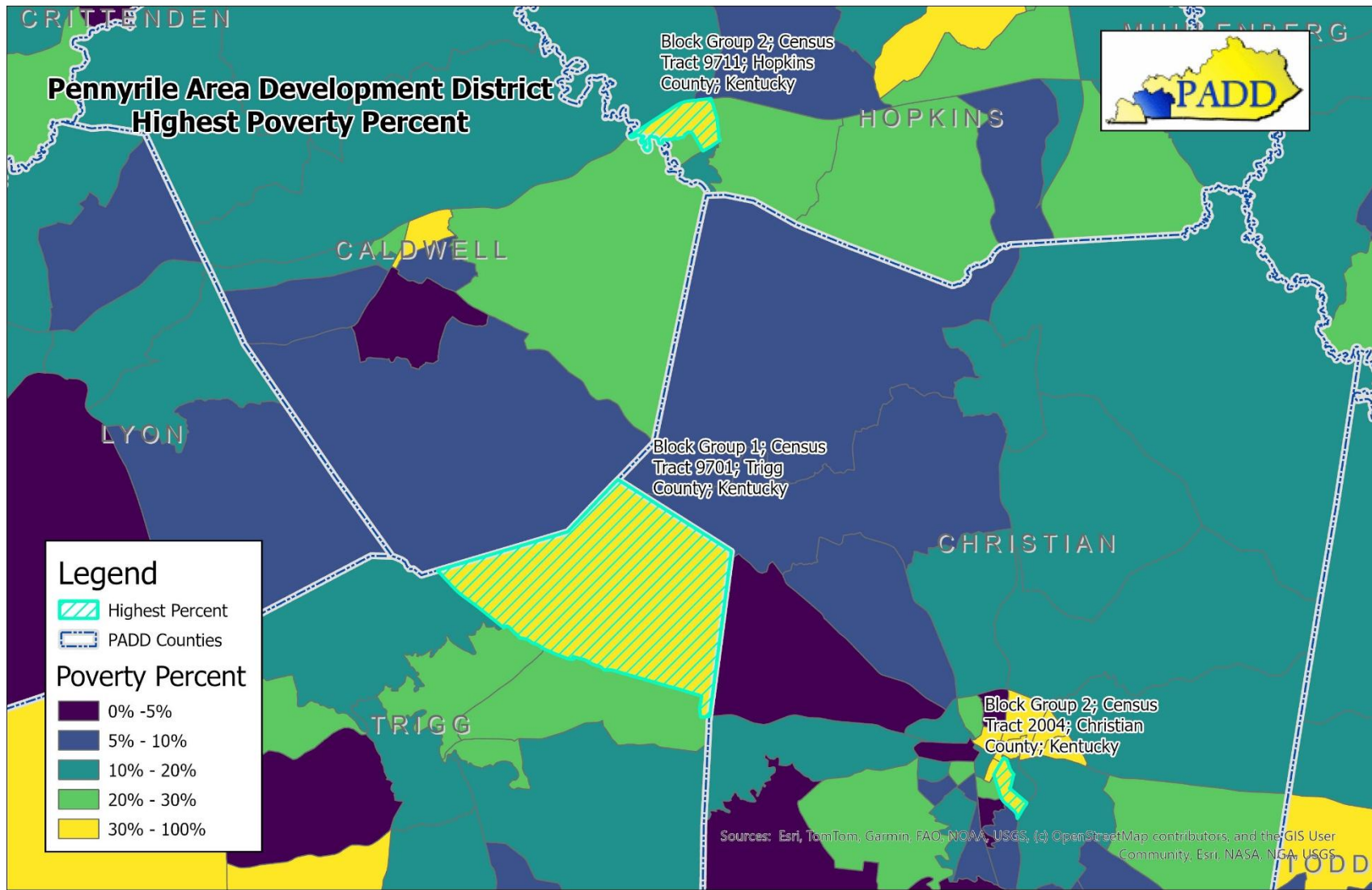
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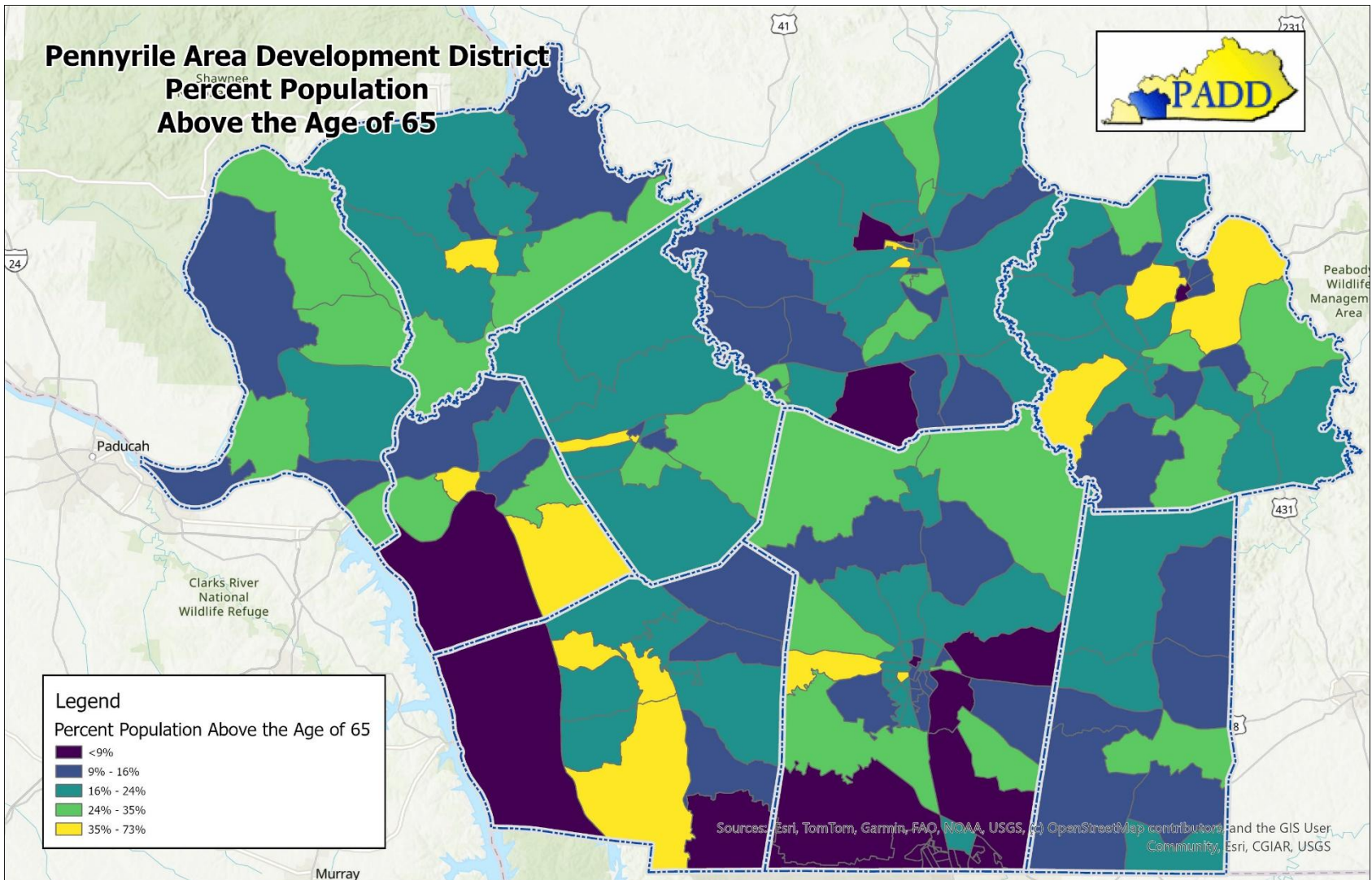
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0 2.75 5.5 11 Miles



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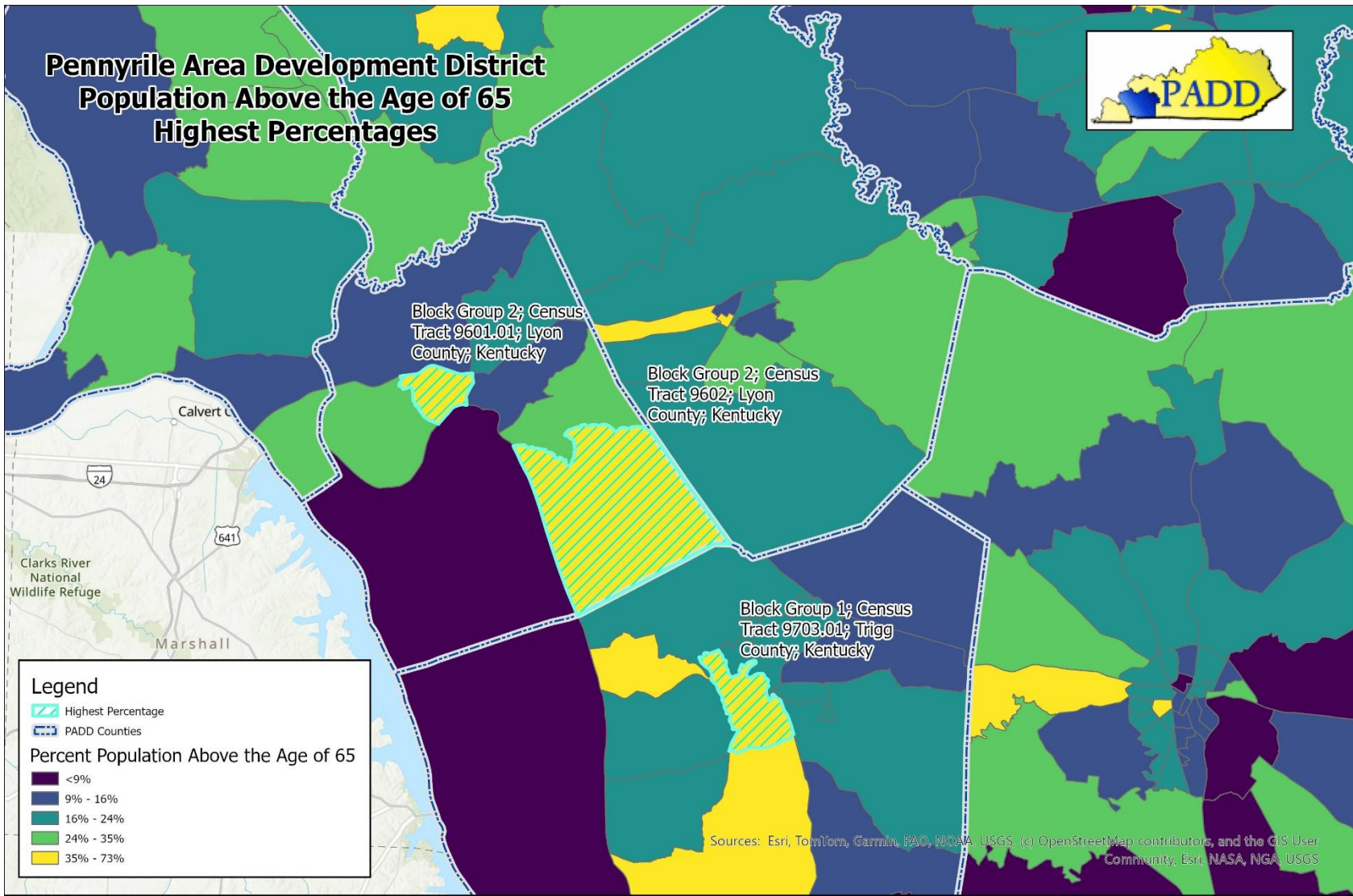
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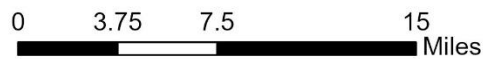
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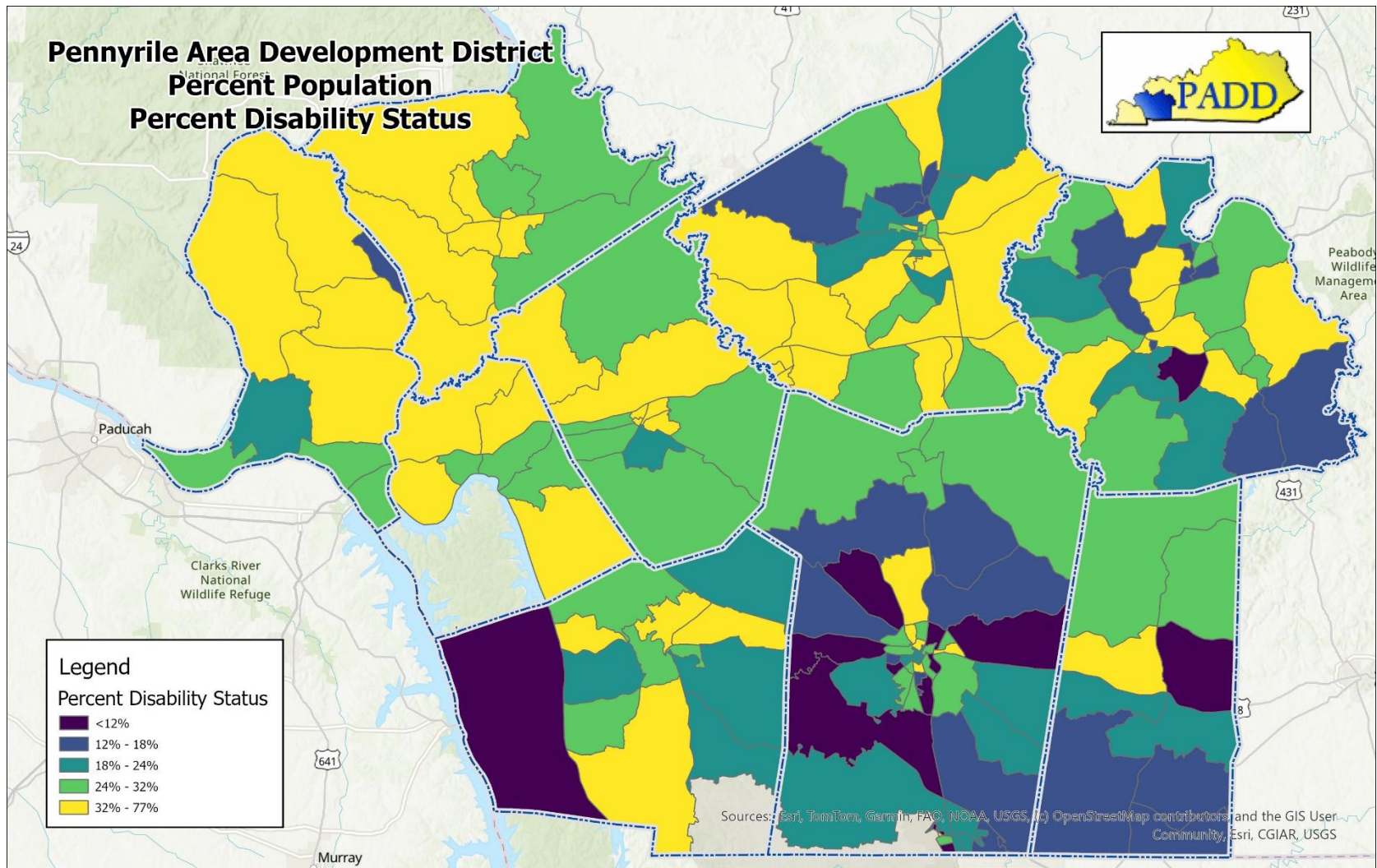
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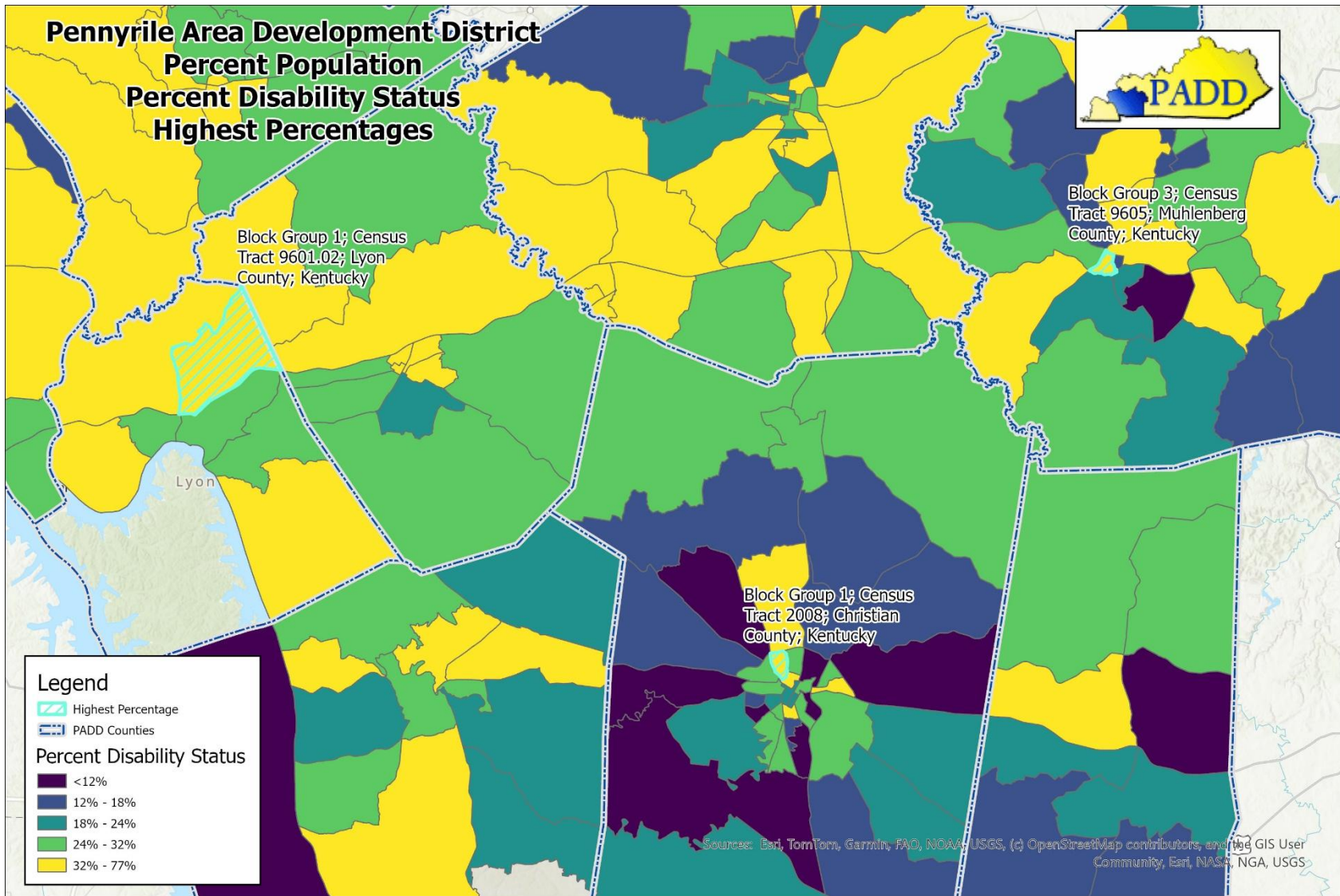
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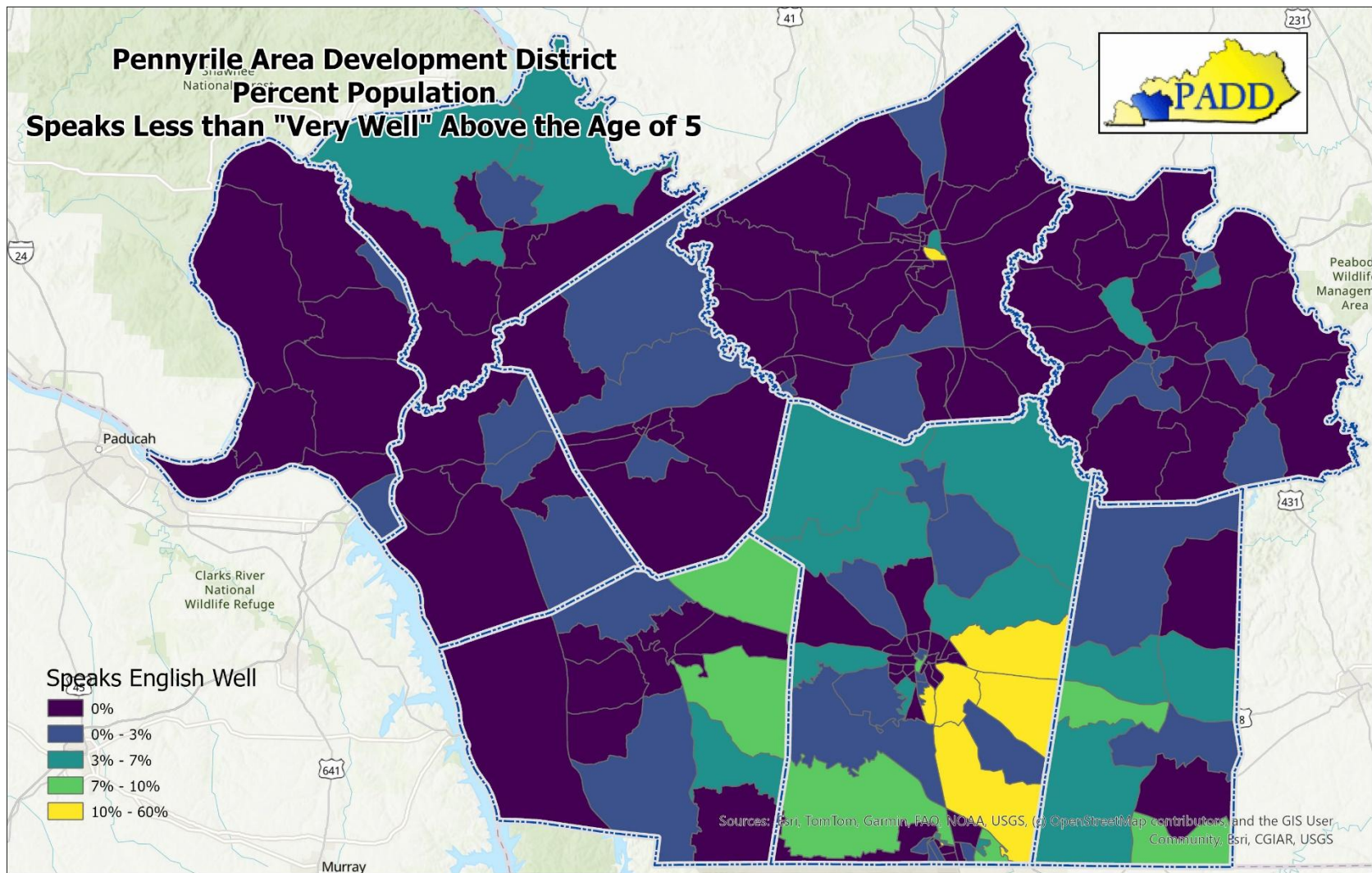
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0 4.25 8.5 17 Miles



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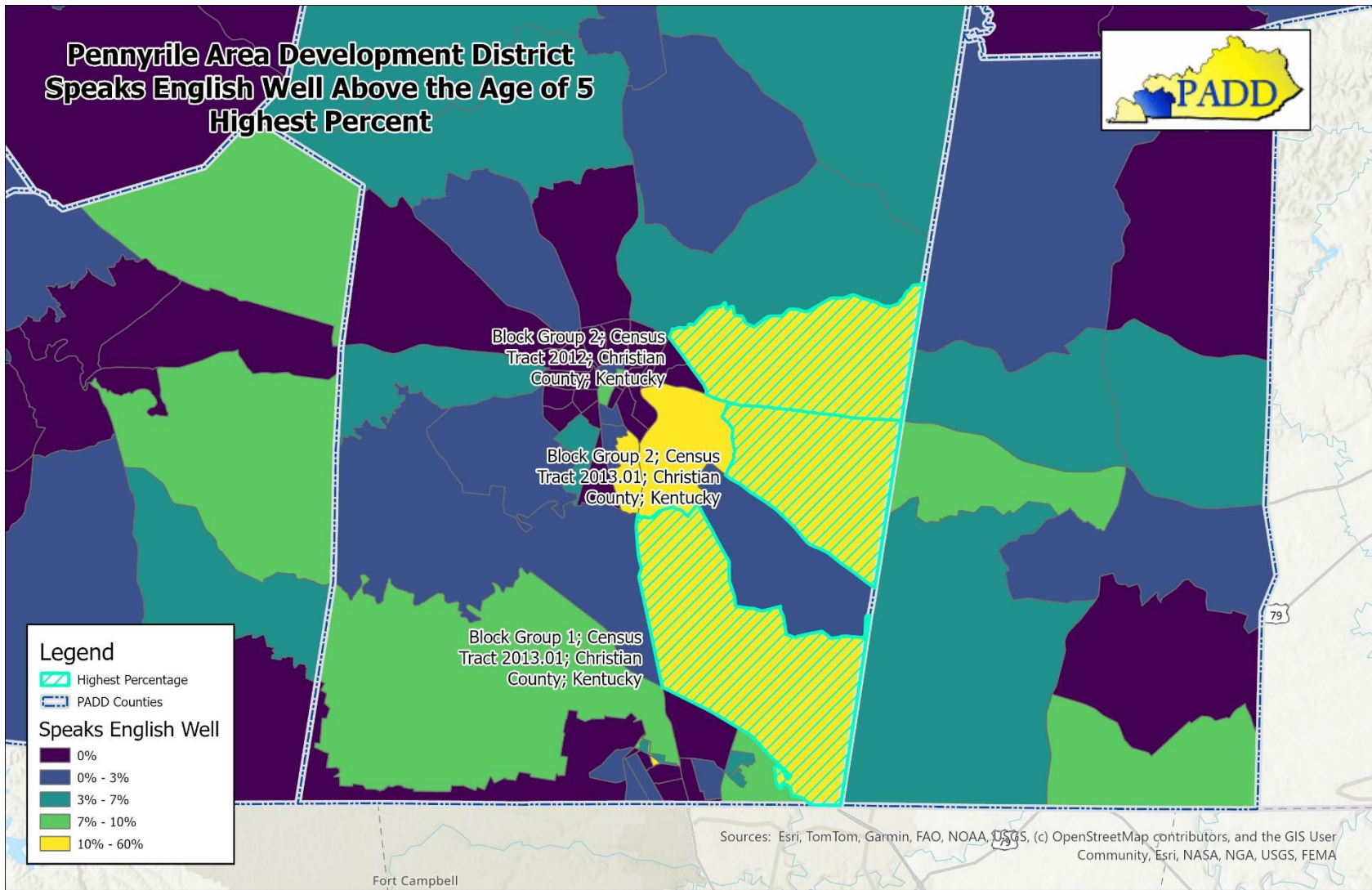
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Updated June 2026

Summary Quick Facts

The concentration of underserved population within the Pennyryle Area Development District (PeADD) is consistent with, or higher than, that of statewide trends. There were some percentages below the state average however this had a direct correlation to the overall small populations within these counties.

The Pennyryle Area Development District is composed of nine (9) counties: Listed by population from largest to smallest.

- | | | |
|---------------|-------------|---------------|
| 1. Christian | 4. Trigg | 7. Livingston |
| 2. Hopkins | 5. Caldwell | 8. Crittenden |
| 3. Muhlenberg | 6. Todd | 9. Lyon |

Minority Population

This file is **ACS Table B03002 (Hispanic or Latino Origin by Race)**, which is commonly used to calculate the minority population. For this analysis, minority population is defined as all persons who are not Non-Hispanic White alone.

Minority Population			
	Total Population	Minority Population	Percent Minority
Kentucky	4,534,824	838,942	18.50%
PeADD	213,963	41,930	19.60%
Caldwell County	12,618	1,297	10.30%
Christian County	72,069	26,056	36.20%
Crittenden County	8,979	556	6.20%
Hopkins County	45,119	5,899	13.10%
Livingston County	8,903	521	5.90%
Lyon County	8,900	1,126	12.70%
Muhlenberg County	30,591	2,472	8.10%
Todd County	12,469	2,044	16.40%
Trigg County	14,315	1,959	13.70%

Narrative Analysis

The nine-county region is predominantly non-Hispanic White; however, the distribution of minority populations varies considerably across counties. Christian County stands out as the most diverse county in the region, with minorities comprising 36.2 percent of the population. More than one in three residents belongs to a racial or ethnic minority group, making Christian County substantially more diverse than neighboring counties. This diversity is influenced in part by the presence of the Fort Campbell military community, which attracts residents from a wide range of racial, ethnic, and cultural backgrounds.

A second tier of diversity is found in Todd County (16.4%), Trigg County (13.7%), Hopkins County (13.1%), and Lyon County (12.7%). In these counties, minority residents represent between one-eighth and one-sixth of the total population. These communities may experience increasing demand for culturally responsive services, multilingual outreach, and programs that address the needs of diverse populations.

Caldwell County (10.3%) occupies the middle of the regional distribution, with approximately one in ten residents identifying as a minority. While less diverse than Christian County and several neighboring counties,

Caldwell County still reflects a growing level of demographic diversity compared with historical patterns in many rural Kentucky communities.

The lowest minority population shares are found in Muhlenberg County (8.1%), Crittenden County (6.2%), and Livingston County (5.9%). These counties remain the least diverse within the region, with more than 90 percent of residents identifying as non-Hispanic White. Nevertheless, even in these counties, minority populations contribute to the social, cultural, and economic fabric of their communities.

Overall, the data indicate that the region's diversity is concentrated primarily in Christian County, while most of the remaining counties exhibit relatively modest but gradually increasing minority populations. These demographic patterns have implications for community planning, healthcare delivery, workforce development, educational programming, and efforts to ensure equitable access to services across the region.

Hispanic or Latino Population

This file is **ACS Table B03002 (Hispanic or Latino Origin by Race)**, which provides data on residents who identify as Hispanic or Latino regardless of race. Hispanic or Latino persons may be of any racial background and are considered an ethnic category rather than a racial group. This analysis examines the size and distribution of the Hispanic or Latino population across the Pennyrile Area Development District (PeADD) region and compares local patterns to those observed statewide.

Hispanic or Latino Population			
Geography	Total Population	Hispanic or Latino Population	Percent Hispanic or Latino
Kentucky	4,534,824	226,741	5.00%
PeADD	213,601	9,985	4.70%
Caldwell County	12,627	189	1.50%
Christian County	72,139	6,289	8.70%
Crittenden County	8,787	166	1.90%
Hopkins County	45,130	1,274	2.80%
Livingston County	8,787	216	2.50%
Lyon County	8,387	184	2.20%
Muhlenberg County	30,810	616	2.00%
Todd County	12,566	667	5.30%
Trigg County	14,229	384	2.70%

Narrative Analysis

The Hispanic or Latino population remains a relatively small but increasingly important demographic group throughout the nine-county Pennyrile region. Overall, Hispanic residents account for approximately 4.7 percent of the region's population, a proportion that is very similar to Kentucky's statewide average of 5.0 percent. However, the distribution of Hispanic populations varies considerably among counties.

Christian County stands out as the region's primary center of Hispanic population concentration. Hispanic or Latino residents account for 8.7 percent of the county's population, nearly double the statewide average and substantially higher than any other county in the region. With more than 6,200 Hispanic residents, Christian County contains nearly two-thirds of the region's total Hispanic population. The county's role as a regional employment center, combined with the influence of the Fort Campbell military community, has contributed to a more diverse population and the growth of Hispanic households over time.

Todd County represents a second tier of Hispanic population concentration, with Hispanic residents comprising 5.3 percent of the population. Todd County is the only other county in the region that exceeds the statewide average. The county's agricultural economy and workforce needs have historically attracted Hispanic workers and families, making this population an increasingly important contributor to local economic and community stability.

Moderate Hispanic population shares are found in Hopkins County (2.8%), Trigg County (2.7%), Livingston County (2.5%), and Lyon County (2.2%). While these percentages remain below both the regional and statewide averages, they indicate established Hispanic communities that contribute to the labor force, school enrollment, and cultural diversity of these counties. As these populations continue to grow, local governments and service providers may encounter increasing demand for bilingual communication, language assistance, and culturally responsive programming.

Muhlenberg County (2.0%), Crittenden County (1.9%), and Caldwell County (1.5%) have the smallest Hispanic population shares within the region. Although Hispanic residents represent less than three percent of the population in each of these counties, they remain an important component of local demographic change and economic activity. Even relatively small Hispanic populations can have meaningful impacts in rural communities where overall population growth is limited.

Overall, the data indicate that Hispanic population growth within the Pennyriple region is concentrated primarily in Christian County and, to a lesser extent, Todd County. The remaining counties maintain smaller but established Hispanic populations that contribute to workforce development, community vitality, and demographic diversity. These patterns have implications for educational services, workforce initiatives, healthcare access, community outreach, and long-term planning efforts designed to serve increasingly diverse populations across the region.

Population Below Poverty Level

This file is **ACS Table B17021 (Poverty Status of Individuals in the Past 12 Months by Living Arrangement)**. The table provides the total population for whom poverty status was determined and the number of persons living below the federal poverty level. Using those figures, the poverty rate for each county can be calculated.

Population Below Poverty Level			
	Population for Whom Poverty Status Determined	Population Below Poverty	Percent in Poverty
Kentucky	4,534,824	730,107	16.10%
PeADD	204,301	36,994	18.11%
Caldwell County	12,458	1,887	15.10%
Christian County	67,311	11,526	17.10%
Crittenden County	8,754	1,551	17.70%
Hopkins County	43,786	8,748	20.00%
Livingston County	8,837	1,702	19.30%
Lyon County	7,331	699	9.50%

Muhlenberg County	29,342	5,391	18.40%
Todd County	12,258	2,560	20.90%
Trigg County	14,224	2,930	20.60%

Narrative Analysis

Poverty remains a significant challenge throughout the nine-county region, with most counties reporting poverty rates well above 15 percent. The data indicates substantial variation in economic conditions across the region, highlighting areas where residents may face greater barriers to financial stability, housing security, healthcare access, and workforce participation.

Todd County reports the highest poverty rate in the region, with 20.9 percent of residents living below the federal poverty level. Closely following are Trigg County (20.6%) and Hopkins County (20.0%), where approximately one in five residents experiences poverty. These elevated rates suggest persistent economic challenges and may contribute to increased demand for public assistance programs, affordable housing, food assistance, healthcare services, and workforce development initiatives.

High poverty levels are also evident in Livingston County (19.3%) and Muhlenberg County (18.4%). In these counties, nearly one-fifth of residents live below the poverty threshold, indicating that economic hardship affects a substantial share of the population. Such conditions can have long-term implications for educational attainment, health outcomes, and overall community well-being.

Moderately high poverty rates are observed in Crittenden County (17.7%) and Christian County (17.1%). Although Christian County's poverty rate is slightly lower than several neighboring counties, it contains the largest number of residents living in poverty in absolute terms, with more than 11,500 individuals below the poverty line. As the region's most populous county, Christian County faces significant service demands related to economic hardship despite its middle-range poverty percentage.

Caldwell County reports a poverty rate of 15.1 percent, lower than most counties in the region but still indicative of meaningful economic need. Approximately one in seven residents lives below the poverty level, suggesting continued demand for programs that support employment, income stability, and access to essential services.

Lyon County stands apart as the county with the lowest poverty rate, at 9.5 percent. While poverty remains a concern for nearly 700 residents, Lyon County's rate is substantially lower than those observed elsewhere in the region and less than half the rate reported in several neighboring counties.

Overall, the data reveal that poverty is a widespread issue across western Kentucky, with seven of the nine counties reporting poverty rates exceeding 15 percent and four counties approaching or exceeding 20 percent. These findings underscore the importance of coordinated regional strategies focused on economic development, workforce training, educational opportunities, affordable housing, and access to healthcare and social services. The concentration of poverty in counties such as Todd, Trigg, Hopkins, Livingston, and Muhlenberg suggests that targeted investments in these communities may be particularly important for improving long-term economic outcomes and quality of life.

Population Age 65 and Older

The **ACS Table B01001 (Sex by Age)** allows analysis of the population age 65 and older for the nine counties.

Population Age 65 and Older			
	Total Population	Population 65+	Percent 65+
Kentucky	4,534,824	784,525	17.30%
PeADD	213,963	38,049	17.78%
Caldwell County	12,618	2,704	21.40%
Crittenden County	8,979	1,891	21.10%
Christian County	72,069	9,168	12.70%
Hopkins County	45,119	8,597	19.10%
Livingston County	8,903	1,995	22.40%
Lyon County	8,900	2,193	24.60%
Muhlenberg County	30,591	6,170	20.20%
Todd County	12,469	2,118	17.00%
Trigg County	14,315	3,213	22.40%

Narrative Analysis

The nine-county region exhibits a relatively mature population profile, with substantial variation in the concentration of older adults. The highest percentages of residents age 65 and older are found in Lyon County (24.6%), Trigg County (22.4%), and Livingston County (22.4%), where nearly one-quarter of all residents are seniors. These counties are likely to experience elevated demand for aging-related services, including healthcare, transportation assistance, caregiver support, and aging-in-place programs.

A second tier of aging counties includes Caldwell County (21.4%), Crittenden County (21.1%), and Muhlenberg County (20.2%). In each of these counties, approximately one in five residents is age 65 or older, indicating a significant senior population that may influence workforce availability, healthcare utilization, and community service needs.

Hopkins County (19.1%), while slightly younger than the regional leaders, contains the largest number of older adults in absolute terms, with nearly 8,600 residents age 65 and older. Because of its larger population base, Hopkins County may face substantial service demands even though its percentage of seniors is lower than several neighboring counties.

Todd County (17.0%) has a comparatively younger age structure, though older adults still represent a meaningful share of the population. Christian County (12.7%) stands apart as the youngest county in the region. Its considerably lower proportion of seniors is likely influenced by the presence of a larger working-age population and military-affiliated residents associated with the Fort Campbell area.

Overall, the data indicate that much of the region is aging faster than many urban areas, with six of the nine counties having at least one-fifth of their population age 65 and older. The concentration of seniors is especially pronounced in the more rural counties, suggesting that future planning efforts should consider increasing needs for healthcare access, senior housing, transportation, caregiver support, and other services that help older adults remain independent in their communities.

Population with a Disability

This file is **ACS Table C21007 (Age by Veteran Status by Poverty Status by Disability Status)**. The table allows calculation of the share of the population with a disability among individuals for whom disability status was determined. For consistency with your previous narratives, the percentages below represent the proportion of the population included in this table who are reported as having a disability.

County	Population with a Disability		
	Population in Universe	Population with Disability	Percent with Disability
Kentucky	4,534,824	974,987	21.50%
PeADD	149,744	41,472	27.70%
Caldwell County	9,580	3,053	31.90%
Christian County	43,695	9,763	22.30%
Crittenden County	6,689	2,413	36.10%
Hopkins County	33,806	10,548	31.20%
Livingston County	6,889	2,135	31.00%
Lyon County	6,124	2,291	37.40%
Muhlenberg County	22,909	6,025	26.30%
Todd County	8,949	1,968	22.00%
Trigg County	11,103	3,276	29.50%

Narrative Analysis

The Pennyriple Area Development District (PeADD) exhibits a substantially higher prevalence of disability than Kentucky as a whole. While approximately 21.5 percent of Kentucky residents represented in this dataset report a disability, the rate rises to 27.7 percent across the nine-county Pennyriple region. This suggests that residents within the region may experience greater health, mobility, and independent living challenges than are observed statewide, increasing demand for healthcare, transportation assistance, accessible housing, and supportive community services.

Lyon County (37.4%) and Crittenden County (36.1%) have the highest disability rates in the region. In both counties, more than one-third of the population reports a disability. These exceptionally high rates may reflect older population structures, economic factors, and health conditions commonly associated with rural communities. Such concentrations suggest a heightened need for accessibility improvements, healthcare resources, and support services targeted toward individuals with disabilities.

A second tier of counties with elevated disability prevalence includes Caldwell County (31.9%), Hopkins County (31.2%), and Livingston County (31.0%). In each of these counties, nearly one-third of residents report a disability. These rates significantly exceed the statewide average and indicate that disability-related considerations should remain an important component of local planning efforts, particularly in healthcare delivery, workforce participation initiatives, and transportation planning.

Trigg County (29.5%) and Muhlenberg County (26.3%) also exceed the statewide disability rate. While somewhat lower than the highest-ranking counties, disability remains a significant characteristic of the population in both communities and may influence demand for supportive services and accessible infrastructure.

The lowest disability rates in the region are found in Christian County (22.3%) and Todd County (22.0%). Although these counties have the smallest percentages of residents with disabilities among the nine counties analyzed, both still exceed 20 percent and remain slightly above the statewide average. Christian County's younger population profile and larger urbanized areas may contribute to its comparatively lower disability prevalence.

Overall, the data indicate that disability is a significant demographic characteristic throughout the Pennyrile region. Every county exceeds 20 percent, and most exceed the statewide rate. The concentration of residents with disabilities across the region highlights the importance of ensuring equitable access to healthcare, housing, transportation, employment opportunities, emergency services, and community programs. As the population continues to age, disability-related needs are likely to become an increasingly important consideration in regional and local planning efforts.

Population Speaking English Less Than Very Well

This file is **ACS Table B16004 (Age by Language Spoken at Home by Ability to Speak English)** and is commonly used to measure the population that speaks English less than very well, often referred to as the Limited English Proficiency (LEP) population.

For this analysis, the LEP population includes persons age 5 and older who speak a language other than English at home and report speaking English well, not well, or not at all.

Population Speaking English Less Than Very Well			
	LEP Population	Population Age 5+	Percent LEP
Kentucky	136,045	4,534,824	3.00%
PeADD	3,939	199,268	1.98%
Caldwell County	27	11,861	0.20%
Christian County	2,292	65,357	3.50%
Crittenden County	214	8,493	2.50%
Hopkins County	424	42,501	1.00%
Livingston County	5	8,406	0.10%
Lyon County	31	8,647	0.40%
Muhlenberg County	150	28,943	0.50%
Todd County	492	11,559	4.30%
Trigg County	304	13,501	2.30%

Narrative Analysis

The nine-county region exhibits relatively low levels of limited English proficiency overall, reflecting the predominantly English-speaking nature of western Kentucky. However, notable differences exist among counties, suggesting varying needs for language access services and multilingual outreach.

Todd County has the highest concentration of residents who speak English less than very well, with approximately 4.3 percent of the population age five and older meeting the definition of limited English proficiency. This comparatively high rate indicates a greater need for translation services, bilingual educational resources, and culturally responsive community outreach efforts.

Christian County ranks second, with 3.5 percent of residents speaking English less than very well. Although the percentage is modest, Christian County has the largest LEP population in absolute numbers, with more than 2,200 residents affected. The county's diverse population and connections to the Fort Campbell military community likely contribute to its greater linguistic diversity. As a result, healthcare providers, schools, workforce agencies, and social service organizations may encounter a broader range of language needs than elsewhere in the region.

Moderate levels of limited English proficiency are found in Crittenden County (2.5%) and Trigg County (2.3%), where approximately one in forty residents may experience challenges communicating in English. These counties may benefit from targeted language-access strategies, particularly in public-facing services.

The remaining counties report relatively low LEP rates. Hopkins County (1.0%) has a larger population base and therefore still serves several hundred residents with limited English proficiency, despite a lower percentage. Muhlenberg County (0.5%), Lyon County (0.4%), Caldwell County (0.2%), and Livingston County (0.1%) report the smallest shares of LEP residents, indicating that language barriers affect a comparatively small portion of their populations.

Overall, the data suggest that limited English proficiency is concentrated primarily in Todd and Christian Counties, with smaller but meaningful populations present in Crittenden and Trigg Counties. While most counties in the region remain overwhelmingly English-speaking, demographic changes and increasing diversity may continue to expand the need for language-access services, multilingual communications, and culturally appropriate outreach programs in the future.

Conclusion

The socioeconomic analysis indicates that underserved populations within the Pennyryle Area Development District are not evenly distributed but are concentrated in specific census block groups throughout the region. Christian County contains the region's largest concentrations of minority, Hispanic, and limited English proficiency (LEP) populations, while Todd County also exhibits elevated Hispanic, LEP, and poverty rates. Rural counties such as Lyon, Livingston, Crittenden, Caldwell, and Trigg have some of the highest percentages of older adults and persons with disabilities, with several counties reporting more than one-fifth of their population age 65 or older and disability rates exceeding 30 percent. Poverty is also concentrated in portions of Todd, Trigg, Hopkins, Livingston, and Muhlenberg Counties, where approximately one in five residents lives below the federal poverty level.

The census block group maps demonstrate that many of these populations overlap geographically, creating areas where multiple transportation barriers may exist. These identified block groups should be prioritized for public outreach efforts through partnerships with community organizations, senior centers, housing authorities, schools, healthcare providers, faith-based organizations, and bilingual service providers. Providing accessible meeting locations, translated materials, alternative participation opportunities, and targeted communications in these areas will help ensure that traditionally underserved populations have meaningful opportunities to participate in the transportation planning process. Using census block group data to guide outreach efforts supports Title VI and environmental justice objectives while promoting equitable access to transportation planning and decision-making throughout the Pennyryle region.