

# **Inclusion of Socially Vulnerable Populations and Communities in Resilience Planning**

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*Jeanne Herb, Executive Director*

*Matthew Campo, Senior Research Specialist*

*Dr. Jennifer Whytlaw, Senior Research Specialist*

*Andrew Wainwright; MCRP Candidate*

**Bloustein School of Planning & Public Policy**

# Populations Vulnerable to Climate Change

- Elderly
- Children
- Poor
- Urban residents
- Compromised health and lack of mobility
- Outdoor workers



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wV9mU5dUkPA&feature=youtu.be>

## Deaths of 8 nursing home patients raise concerns about Florida's elderly

The home had no air conditioning because of Hurricane Irma, but it is across the street from an air-conditioned hospital.



### Key Message 2: Most Vulnerable at Most Risk

Climate change will, absent other changes, amplify some of the existing health threats the nation now faces. Certain people and communities are especially vulnerable, including children, the elderly, the sick, the poor, and some communities of color.



# Social Vulnerability

“The degree to which a community exhibits certain social conditions, including high poverty, low percentage of vehicle access, or crowded households, may affect that community’s ability to prevent human suffering and financial loss in the event of disaster”

➤ People AND communities

SVI Indicator	Population Estimate	% Coastal Population
Persons below poverty line	616,792	13%
Limited English Proficiency	338,059	7%
Age 65 + over	678,790	15%
Minorities	2,261,377	49%
• <i>Black/African Americans</i>	715,516	15%
• <i>Hispanic/Latino</i>	1,074,837	23%
People w/ disabilities	524,089	11%

*Note: NJ's 239 Coastal Municipalities*

## Socially Vulnerable Populations: Past, Present, and Future

### Vulnerable Populations in Vulnerable Areas

Vulnerable Populations in Vulnerable Areas			
Point in Time		Affected Population	SV $\geq$ .75
Past (Sandy Surge)		697,919	205,487 (29%)
Present (100-Year Floodplain)		821,131	226,479 (28%)
Future (2050)	MHHW 3 ft.	469,492	113,111(24%)
	MHHW 7 ft.	778,933	218,886 (28%)

*Note: NJ's 239 Coastal Municipalities*

## Considering other Stressors

	Number of facilities	Number of facilities in high SVI areas
239 coastal municipalities	748	247
Present (100 year floodplain)	261	111 (45%)

*Note: NJ's 239 Coastal Municipalities*

## Take Home Message:

- 1. Relatively high presence of SVI indicators in coastal zone.**
  - *SVI populations are concentrated in certain locations (urban centers) indicating greater vulnerability in certain areas.*
- 2. When planning for the future, it is important to consider:**
  - *Past, present and future scenarios (knowing that past scenarios will occur more frequently;*
  - *Key areas or populations that are especially vulnerable to SLR and more frequent flooding;*
  - *Other stressors faced by those populations:*
    - ✓ *Other climate hazards*
    - ✓ *Other potential stressors such as pollution*
- 3. Resilience planning is an opportunity to:**
  - *Take a comprehensive approach that considers the impact of SLR on people, communities, ecosystems and infrastructure.*
  - *Improve the overall condition of a community by considering other stressors.*