Demographics of the SECOORA Region

People and vulnerabilities in the communities we serve
SECOORA Region

Geographic Boundary:
• “Coastal Zone + 1” county inland

Counties:
• 131 total
• FL: 67, GA: 18, SC: 16, NC: 30

Tribal Areas:
• 10 Tribal Census Tracts
• 10 State-Designated Tribal Statistical Areas

Population: 26.57M people

Cities: 26 over 100,000 population

Hartwell et. al 2013: CZMP_counties_2009.shp
U.S. Census Bureau data.
Tribal Areas

• 10 Tribal Census Tracts
• 10 State-Designated Tribal Statistical Areas
• Some places of historical significance near Charleston

https://www.wassamasawtribe.com/places-of-historical-significance/

USCB 2019: Current Tribal Census Tract National.
Esri Federal Data using NGDA data from Census Bureau:
State Designated Tribal Statistical Areas feature layer.

Note: Brighton & Big Cypress tracts = largest polygons near those labels. Many smaller dots nearby are part of Miccosukee tract.
Gullah Geechee Cultural Heritage Corridor

Coastal North Carolina to Florida
## Racial demographics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Racial Affiliation/Identity</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>White alone</td>
<td>75.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black or African American alone</td>
<td>18.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian alone</td>
<td>2.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two or more races</td>
<td>2.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Indian &amp; Alaska native alone</td>
<td>0.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Native Hawaiian &amp; other Pacific Islander alone</td>
<td>0.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Identify as Hispanic of any race</td>
<td>23.9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Linguistic demographics

Speaks English less than “very well”

- 32.5% or higher
- 23.4% to 32.4%
- 13.2% to 23.3%
- 8.2% to 13.1%
- 3.5% to 8.1%
- Less than 3.5%

*U.S. estimate is 8.3%.*
Income demographics

• 2022 Federal Poverty Levels
  • $15,225 per year for 1 person under 65 with no children
  • $65,129 for 9+ people with 1 related child under 18

• 31.8% of the population* are at or below 2x Federal Poverty Level

• Threshold for “low income” for Climate & Economic Justice Screening Tool (CEJST) = 2x Federal Poverty Level

2022 Poverty Thresholds.

*Population for whom poverty status is determined, ~25.2M people.
2022 ACS 5-year estimates.
Climate & Economic Justice Screening Tool

U.S. Council on Environmental Quality

- EO 14008, designed to work with Justice40 Initiative

“Disadvantaged” & “Not Disadvantaged” Census Tracts

- Disadvantaged = categories of burden
  - Climate change, energy, health, housing, legacy, pollution, transportation, water and wastewater, workforce development
  - 65th pct low income + 90th pct of another category, or
  - Federally-recognized Tribes
  - “Low income” = 200% Federal Poverty Level

https://screeningtool.geoplatform.gov/
Climate Vulnerability Index

Source: Environmental Defense Fund
- 184 indicators → overall metric of social & climate vulnerability

Baseline vulnerabilities:
- Health
- Social & economic
- Infrastructure
- Environment

Climate change risks:
- Extreme events
- Social & economic
- Health

https://climatevulnerabilityindex.org
Looking ahead

• Use tools to inform outreach & engagement efforts
• Work toward achieving equitable service delivery goals in project implementation
• Continue to communicate with other IOOS Regional Associations on these tools & this topic
Questions

• My contact info: theo@secoora.org