Community Economic Integration Methodology

Community economic integration is defined by Minnesota Housing in two tiers based on median family income and access to jobs.

Economic integration points are available for communities outside of rural areas as defined in the new rural/tribal designated areas category.

For applicants to be awarded 7 or 9 points for community economic integration, the proposed housing needs to be located in a community (census tract) with the median family income meeting or exceeding the region's 40th percentile for 7 points, and 80th percentile for 9 points, based on data published in the American Community Survey (ACS) for 2013. For each region, the 40 percent of census tracts with the lowest incomes are excluded from receiving points. The census tract must also meet or exceed a regional threshold for low and moderate wage jobs² within five miles based on data published by the Local Employment Dynamics program of the US Census for 2011. In the Twin Cities metro, the 10 percent of census tracts with the fewest low and moderate wage jobs within five miles are excluded, and in Greater Minnesota, the 20 percent of census tracts with the fewest low and moderate wage jobs are excluded³. To promote economic integration, the criteria identify higher income communities that are close to low and moderate wage job centers.

This document includes maps of the census tracts that meet the following two tiers of community economic integration as well as a list of census tracts by county for each tier. Maps 1 and 2 display the census tracts that meet these criteria and the corresponding tables show the total number of jobs to achieve the threshold and both the 40^{th} and 80^{th} percentile for median family income by region. Interactive tools will be made available to assist applicants and staff in determining their location in these areas, through the community profiles at www.mnhousing.gov Policy & Research > Community Profiles.

¹ For the purpose of assessing income and access to jobs, Minnesota Housing is defining three regionalcategories 1) Twin Cities 7 County Metropolitan Area, 2) Counties making up Greater Minnesota MSAs, including: Duluth, St. Cloud, Rochester, Mankato/North Mankato, Grand Forks, and La Crosæ, and four Twin Cities MSA counties outside of the 7 county metro, and 3) Balance of Greater Minnesota. The purpose of the regional split is to acknowledge that incomes and access to jobs varies by region. A higher income community close to jobs in the metro is very different than a higher income community close to jobs in rural Greater Minnesota.

² Low and moderate wage jobs are those with a monthly earning less than or equal to \$3,333, using LED data from the US @nsus (2011).

³ In the case where an urban-sized Census tract (less than 25 square miles) is completely surrounded by a census tract that meets this eligibility, it is also identified as having access to jobs.

First Tier Community Economic Integration – 9 Points

Meet or exceed the 80th percentile of median family income and meet or exceed the 20th percentile of low and moderate wage jobs within 5 miles in Greater Minnesota and the 10th percentile of low and moderate wage jobs within 5 miles in the Twin Cities Metro.

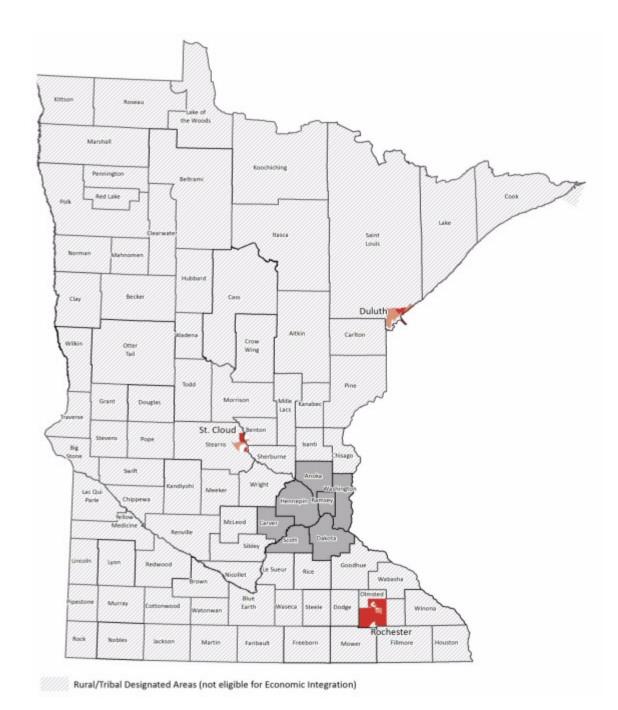
Second Tier Community Economic Integration – 7 Points

Meet or exceed the 40th percentile of median family income (but less than the 80th percentile) and meet or exceed the 20th percentile of low and moderate wage jobs within 5 miles in Greater Minnesota and the 10th percentile of low and moderate wage jobs within 5 miles in the Twin Cities Metrα

Table 1 – Jobs and Median Family Income Thresholds by Region:

Community Economic Integration (Twin Cities Metro on next page)	Non Metro MSAs
Jobs within 5 miles / 20 th percentile	3,839
Med Family Income / 40 th percentile	\$65,077
Med Family Income / 80 th percentile	\$81,279

MAP 1 – CENSUS TRACTS MEETING REGION'S 40^{TH} AND 80^{TH} PERCENTILE THRESHOLDS FOR MEDIAN INCOME & 20^{TH} PERCENTILE FOR LOW AND MODERATE WAGE JOBS WITHIN 5 MILES (OUTSIDE OF RURAL/TRIBAL AREAS)



MAP 2 – TWIN CITIES 7 COUNTY METRO DETAIL - CENSUS TRACTS MEETING REGIONS 40^{TH} AND 80^{TH} PERCENTILE THRESHOLDS FOR MEDIAN INCOME & 10^{TH} PERCENTILE FOR LOW AND MODERATE WAGE JOBS WITHIN 5 MILES



Twin Cities 7 County Metro

	TWITT CITIES 7 Country Wictio
Jobs within 5 miles / 10 th percentile	17,976
Med Family Income / 40 th percentile	\$73,214
Med Family Income / 80 th percentile	\$107,647

Census Tract Listing by County for Economic Integration

(* denotes tract achieves first tier)

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