CalSAT Frequently Asked Questions

The following frequently asked questions (FAQs) provide information about the California SB/DVBE Atlas Tool (CalSAT).

Why is DGS mapping procurement activities for certified firms in disadvantaged communities?

The COVID-19 pandemic presents a significant challenge to small businesses with many at risk of shutting down. CalSAT will help DGS certification and outreach programs compare state contracting activity in disadvantaged and non-disadvantaged communities, identify certification gaps, and help shape targeted outreach efforts in those disadvantaged communities to support SB/DVBEs with their post -pandemic economic recovery and future growth.

What map does CalSAT use to display the information?
CalSAT overlays SB/DVBE GIS locations, purchase order count, and SB/DVBE dollars spent on the [CalEnviroScreen map](#) of disadvantaged communities as developed by Office of Environmental Hazardous Health Assessment (OEHHA) to support environmental justice efforts.

How does CalEnviroScreen determine if a community is disadvantaged?
CalEnviroScreen identifies communities (census tracts) that face multiple burdens of pollution, health vulnerabilities and socioeconomic disadvantage. The tool uses a combination of environmental, health, and socioeconomic factors (i.e., high poverty, high unemployment, linguistic isolation, severe housing burden, low educational attainment) to rank and determine if a community is disadvantaged.

How is diversity considered in CalSAT?
The CalEnviroScreen is the key map used by CalSAT. While CalEnviroScreen does not include race and ethnicity indicators in identifying disadvantaged communities, it takes a holistic look at communities' health, socio-economic risks and vulnerable populations, and uses a complementary [race/ethnicity/age analysis](#) that shows disparities in the racial makeup of disadvantaged communities, with the highest percentage of people of color living in disadvantaged communities.

What are the dots on the map showing?
CalSAT uses blue dots to show SB/DVBEs located in disadvantaged communities and yellow dots to show SB/DVBEs located in non-disadvantaged communities. The size of the dots is proportional to the size/frequency of the data displayed. For example, a larger blue dot may indicate a larger count of SB/DVBEs located in a disadvantaged community. The user can hover over a dot to get additional information or access the accompanying data table to get the specific data at the county or city of Census Designated Places (CDP) level.

What are Census Designated Places (CDP)?

Census Designated Places (CDPs) are city-like unincorporated communities that are closely settled, locally recognized, and identified by name.

What are Census Tracts?

Census tracts are small subdivisions of a county used as a geographically stable units to represent statistical data and the locations of communities across California. The average size census tract has a population around 4,000 people. There are 8,000 census tracts in California.

How often is CalSAT Data Updated?

CalSAT is updated quarterly with SB/DVBE procurement and certification data. The CalEnviroScreen map of census tracts is updated every few years. The current tool uses CalEnviroScreen 4.0.

How Do I Look Up More Information About A Firm I Found In The CalSAT Tool?

For more information about a particular certified firm, you can search using their Certification ID number at www.caleprocure.ca.gov. From the top of the page, choose Quick Links, Find Certified Firms (SB/DVBE).