

Environmental Justice Effects

- Humboldt County has a [poverty rate of almost 20%](#), nearly double the state's poverty rate (12%).
- Humboldt County has a [median household income](#) (\$48,000) that's just over half of the state's (\$75,000). The Samoa peninsula, where a coal terminal would likely be built, has an even [lower household median income](#) (\$43,000) than the county as a whole.
- Humboldt County has a [death rate 40% higher than the state average](#). Death rates due to all types of chronic illness and disease potentially impacted by coal dust and PM 2.5 are also substantially higher than average:

Cause of Death	Humboldt County's Rate Compared to Statewide Average
All Causes	+40%
Cancers	+27%
Lung Cancer	+34%
Coronary Heart Disease	+24%
Chronic Lower Respiratory Disease	+71%
Infant Mortality	+44%

- Numerous schools, homes, health care facilities, and other facilities with sensitive populations are located near the rail tracks in many parts of the corridor.

Bottom Line

Our area already suffers from high poverty rates and high rates of chronic illnesses that are likely to be exacerbated by coal dust and diesel exhaust. Locating a coal terminal in Humboldt County creates a significant environmental justice issue.